

## Full Council 24 May 2022

### Public Questions

#### Question from Ms Goudie

*According to a DICD survey taken, 96% of Teignbridge residents have never been asked by TDC for their opinion regarding a proposed council tax raise and the redevelopment of the historical Alexandra theatre building.*

*The truth is as follows: as regards to Teignbridge residents being in favour of a council tax increase - 96% of residents are not in favour. TDC have claimed 65% have said that they are.*

*With regards to the Alexandra proposal 96% of Teignbridge residents are not in favour. TDC have claimed 80% are in favour. In fact seven thousand residents are against the Newton Abbot market project. Furthermore the TDC budget consultation report claims 22% of residents agree to a further increase in council tax - a complete contradiction to other claims.*

*It has been established that this survey is in fact undemocratic, nonsensical and misleading.*

*Please provide details of the survey including how many people were asked, the age and profession of the residents as most TDC surveys in general do not show any details, given the quantity of the population.*

#### **Response from Executive Member for Economy & Jobs**

In June 2020, public engagement was undertaken prior to submitting the application to the Future High Street Fund for the Newton Abbot Markets Quarter proposal, the summary findings are available here [Market Quarter - feedback - Teignbridge District Council](#) which are based on the 877 respondents.

The Council have not undertaken a survey of all residents regarding the future of the Alexandra Cinema building and nor are we required to. Securing a sustainable future for all Council properties, including the Market Hall and Alexandra Cinema, is far more complex and has been fully considered based on the Future High Street Fund reports to Full Council dated [22 April 2021](#) and [22 February 2022](#). A steering group has been appointed and stakeholder engagement is currently underway to bring forward a preferred design for the Newton Abbot Markets Quarter and a public exhibition of the preferred design will be held prior to planning application submission later this year.

The council tax consultation took place between 16 December 2021 and 25 January 2022. The results were fed back to Executive and Full Council meetings in February 2022. The results show that 28% disagreed with a council tax increase of £5 (2.78%) meaning 72% didn't disagree. The public, residents and businesses were asked to comment on our website during this time and it was communicated via TDC social media, residents and business newsletters, voluntary and community organisations via the Teignbridge CVS.