

Budget 2024 Local Property Tax Public Consultation Process

1. Executive Summary

The public consultation process can be summarised as follows:

- The total number of completed surveys was 97
- The largest single group of respondents were Dublin City Council Home Owners (87 or 89.7%)
- 81.4% (or 79 respondents) indicated that they were aware that Councillors had the power to vary the basic rate of the LPT
- 62.9% (or 61 respondents) wished for the LPT to be maintained at its current rate of -15%

- 37.1% (or 36 respondents) wished for the LPT to be varied from its current rate of -15%
- Of those who wished to vary the rate,
 5.6% wanted a lesser reduction than 15%.
- Of those who wished to vary the rate, 25% wanted the basic rate to remain unchanged.
- Of those who wished to vary the rate,
 69.4% wanted to increase the rate above the basic rate

2. Background

The Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations 2014 requires that Dublin City Council consult with the public in its administrative area in relation to its consideration of the setting of a local adjustment factor. Dublin City Council is further required to have regard, in its consideration of a report summarising the written submissions received from the public consultation process.

3. Public Notice

Dublin City Council placed an advertisement, on Friday 18th August in the Irish Independent, and in the City Gazette on Thursday 24th August giving notice of the consideration of setting a local adjustment factor and seeking completion of an online survey on this issue. The notice was in compliance with the prescribed format as indicated in the regulations. The consultation period extended from Friday 18th August to Sunday 17th September.

The public were further notified of the consultation via:

- www.dublincity.ie
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter & Instagram)
- Email notification to our elected members

4. Management of Consultation Process

Dublin City Council utilises a cloud-based software for managing, publicising and archiving its consultation activity for the LPT Public Consultation. The software (Citizen Space) hosted a web application which has been designed with a view to allowing organisations to run their consultation processes more efficiently and effectively.

The consultation process was managed using:

- Password-protected administration area allowing staff of the City Council to add, edit and report on consultations;
- A front-end website allowing the public to search for, share and participate in consultations that are being run by Dublin City Council;
- An online survey system for securely collecting consultation responses from users.

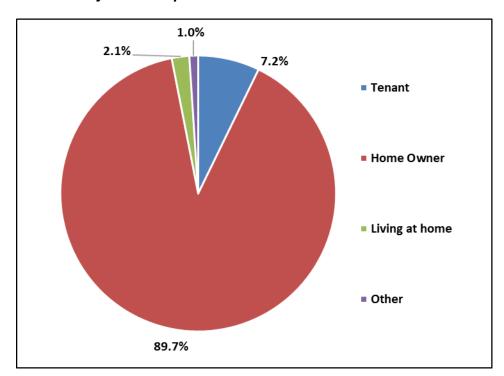
The use of this tool supported the protection by Dublin City Council of the integrity of responses.

5. Response to Consultation Phase

97 surveys were completed during the consultation process. Of this number 96 (99% of respondents) were Dublin City residents, with the balance of 1 (1%) not being resident in the City.

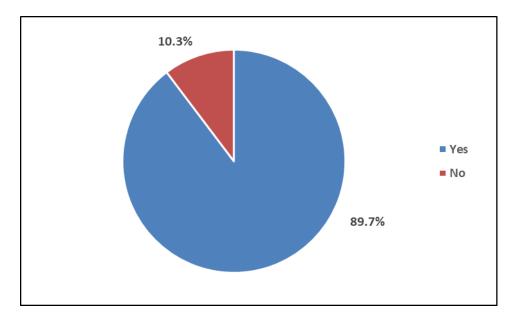
6. Analysis of Survey results

6.1 Analysis of Respondents



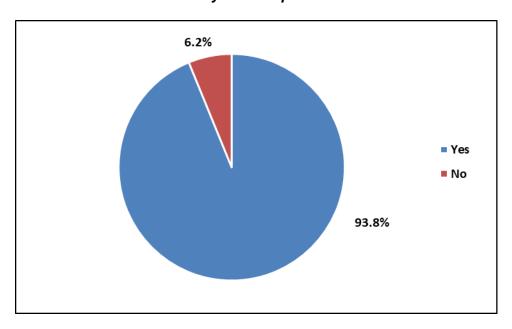
The largest single group of respondents were Home Owners who comprised 87 (or 89.7%) of the total, followed by Tenants who comprised 7 (or 7.2%).

6.2 Are you required to pay the Local Property Tax



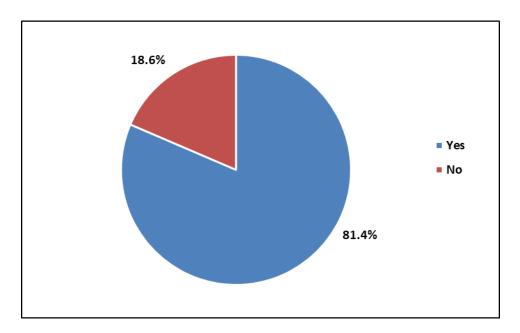
A total of 87 (89.7%) respondents are required to pay the Local Property Tax

6.3 Are you aware that the Local Property Tax payments are used to fund some of the essential services that Dublin City Council provides to its citizens?



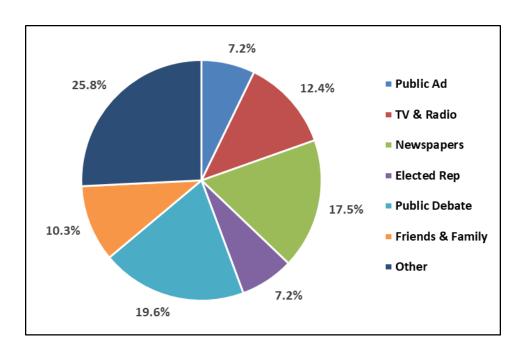
A total of 91 (93.8%) are aware that the LPT is used to fund essential services.

6.4 Are you aware that City Councillors can increase or decrease the basic rate of the LPT by up to 15%?



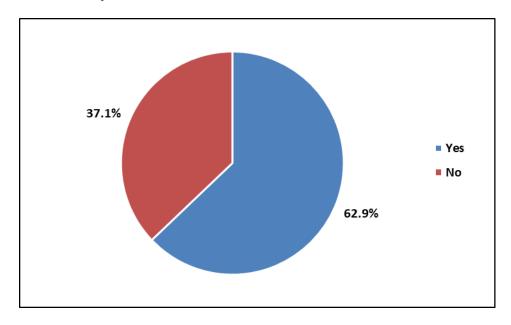
A total of 79 (81.4%) are aware that our councillors can vary the basic rate of the LPT.

6.5 How did you hear about this consultation?



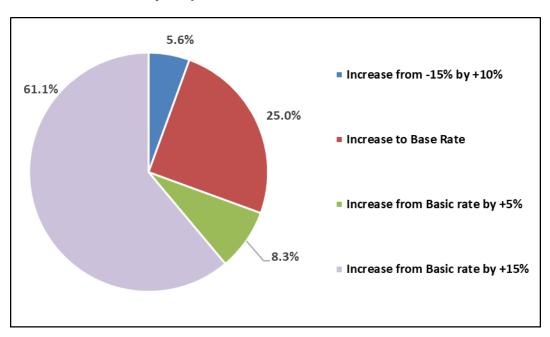
A total of 97 respondents answered this question. Of those that answered, 19 (19.6%) heard of the survey by Public Debate, followed by 17 (17.5%) who heard of the survey by newspaper advertisement. A total of 25 selected 'other'; this covered areas such as the Social media/internet & common knowledge.

6.6 Would you like the elected members to retain the current reduction of -15% on the base rate for the year 2020?



A total of 61 (62.9%) respondents indicated that they would like the current reduction to remain in place. A total of 36 (37.1%) respondents indicated they would like to vary the current reduction.

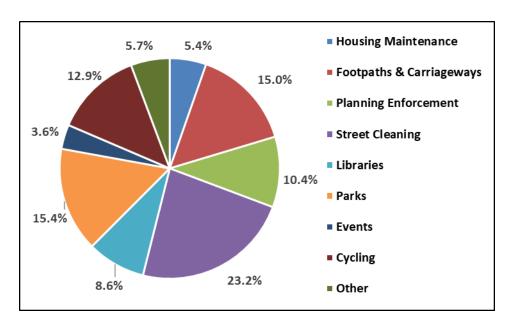
6.7 You have indicated in the previous question that you would like to increase the rate. Please indicate your preferred increase



A total of 36 people responded to this question. Of those respondents 5.6% expressed a preference to vary the rate by having a lesser reduction than -15%. 25% of respondents expressed a preference to leave the basic rate unchanged. The balance of respondents, 69.4%, indicated they would like to increase the rate above the basic rate.

The most popular option was to increase the basic rate by +15%, a total of 22 respondents expressed a preference for this option.

6.8 If the Elected members voted to vary the rate by a lesser amount that the current reduction and additional income became due to the City Council, what area would like to spend it on?



For this question respondents could select multiple options. The top 3 preferences were Street Cleaning (23.2%), Parks (15.4%), and Footpaths & Carriageways (15%). In the category of 'Other' areas such as climate action, public realm and Zebra crossings were referenced.

7.0 Summary

In summary:

The total number of completed surveys was 97

- The largest single group of respondents were Dublin City Home Owners (87 or 89.7%)
- 89.7% (or 87 respondents) were required to pay the LPT.
- 93.8% (or 91 respondents) are aware that the LPT is used to fund essential services
- 81.4% (or 79 respondents) are aware that the elected members can vary the rate of the LPT
- 62.9% (or 61 respondents) wished for the LPT to be remain at its current rate of -15%
- 37.1% (or 36 respondents) wished for the LPT to be varied from its current rate of -15%
- Of those who wished to vary the rate, 5.6% wish to have a lesser reduction than -15%
- Of those who wished to vary the rate, 25% wished to leave the base rate unchanged.
- Of those who wished to vary the rate, 69.4% wanted an increase of above the base rate
- Of those who indicated a preference to vary the rate from its current -15%, the most popular option was to increase above base rate by +15%.
- If additional money accrued for any variation to the LPT the most popular options to spend this money on were 1) Street Cleaning, 2) Paths, 3) Footpaths & Carriageway.

Kathy Quinn
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Monday, 2nd October 2023