

**Boston Borough Council  
Boston Plan For 2040  
Consultation Report  
Published**



## Introduction to this consultation

1. This report details the responses received for the Boston Plan for 2040 consultation undertaken between 15th January 2025 and 16th February 2025.
2. The exercise was performed to seek residents' views on the Boston Plan for 2040 and the direction of Boston's future. The Boston Plan is a collaborative vision for the entire borough, encompassing all 19 parishes and the historic town of Boston. It reflects a shared commitment to ensuring that Boston grows, develops, and diversifies in ways that meet the needs, aspirations, and priorities of its people.

## Methodology

3. A media release was issued to local newspapers to promote the consultation and social media activity was ongoing throughout the consultation period, including polls. The consultation was also promoted at events and locations throughout the borough. These were advertised on Boston Borough's website.
4. A link to the electronic questionnaire was made available on the Council's website and in the Boston Bulletin. It was also promoted to residents on a flyer containing a QR Code to the consultation which was handed out at an event in the town. It was also available in large print, 'read aloud' on the website and in different languages.
5. The consultation was shared with a range of partners and stakeholders including parish councils, community and voluntary groups, schools and Boston College, local shops and businesses, and Boston Town Board. It was also publicised in the Market Place, village halls and shops, GP surgeries, post offices and at the Celebrate Boston and Boston Brilliance events.
6. It should be noted that base data has been rounded to the nearest number (so may add up to between 99% and 101%).

## Response Rate

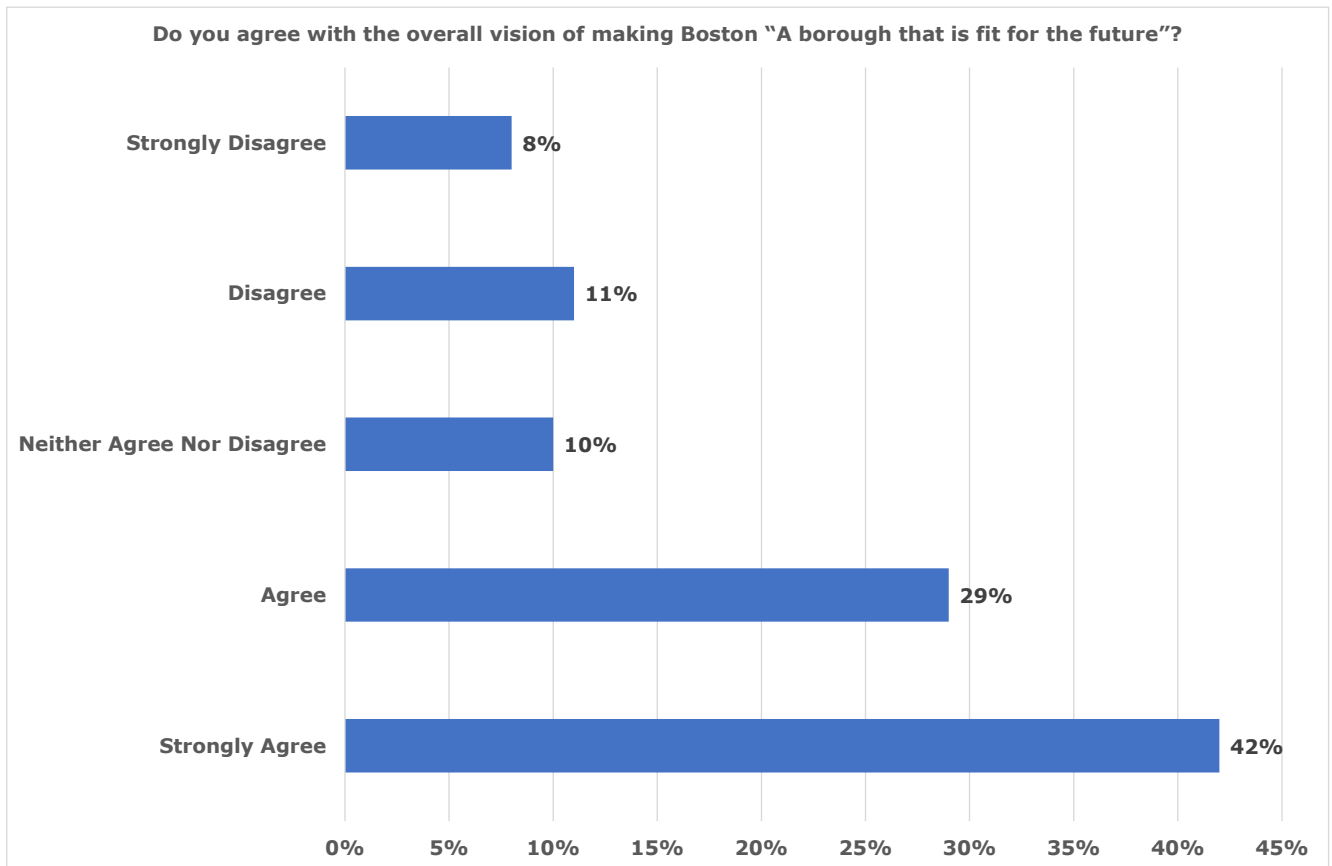
7. 135 electronic responses were received. Comments which are inappropriate for publication due to their nature (e.g. defamatory or offensive) have been redacted for publication but have been previously available to Cabinet Members for full visibility in decision making.

## Results and Analysis

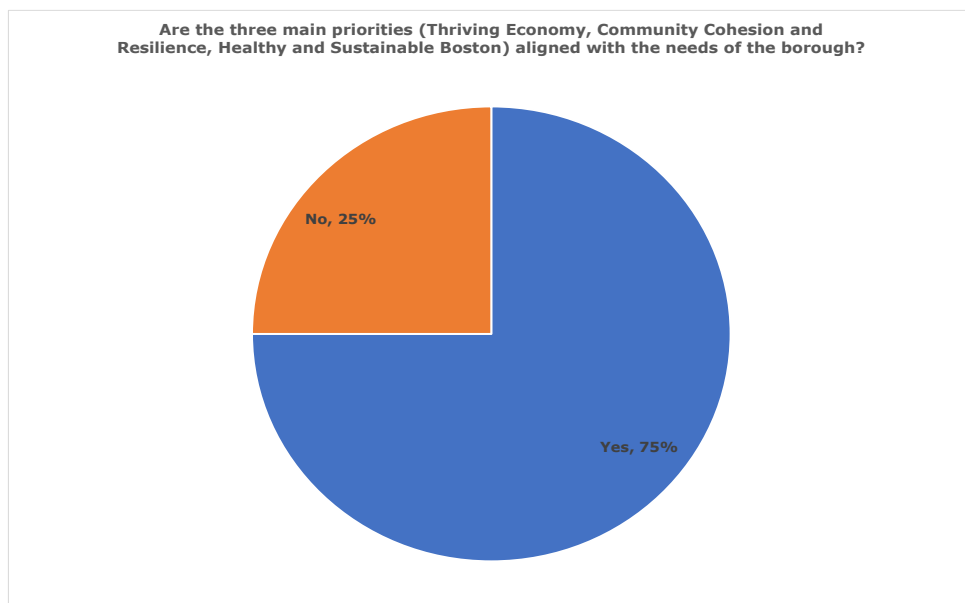
### **Vision and Priorities**

8. All respondents were asked if they agreed with the overall vision of making Boston 'A borough that is fit for the future'. The chart below shows that 71% of all respondents 'Strongly Agreed'(42%) or 'Agreed' (29%) with the overall vision. It also shows that 10% of all respondents 'Neither agreed nor disagreed', with the

remaining 19% either 'Disagreeing' (11%) or 'Strongly Disagreeing' (8%) that the overall vision of making Boston 'A Borough that is fit for the future'.



9. The pie chart below shows that three quarters (75%) of all respondents considered that the three main priorities (Thriving Economy, Community Cohesion and Resilience, Healthy and Sustainable Boston) aligned with the needs of Boston, with the remaining 25% considering they did not.

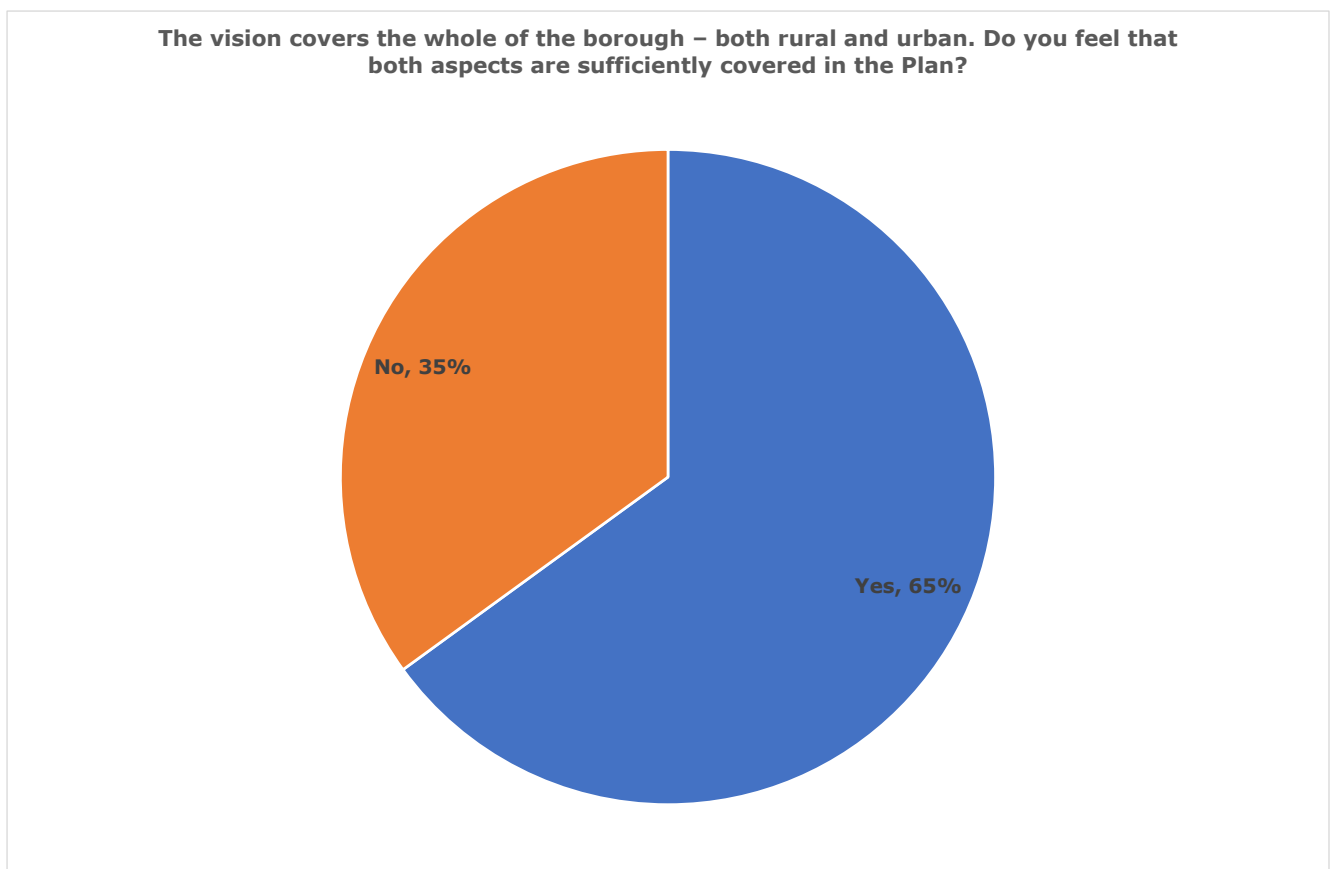


Those respondents that considered the three main priorities did not align with the needs of Boston were asked why they thought they did not. A couple of respondents thought that a thriving economy was important but would not be possible due to Boston having a low skilled workforce and shops disappearing. A number of respondents said that a bypass in Boston was a priority as it would improve infrastructure in and around the town. A further respondent thought that the Council was not committed to the priorities, and another felt the Plan did not have much detail in it about surrounding villages. There were a few comments about the town being run down. A full list of comments are included below:

- The Council is not committed to these and letting Boston go downhill
- Rosegarth is a complete waste of money
- Should be focusing on cleaning up the streets, making people feel safer
- Thriving economy, healthy and sustainable and bypass to reduce traffic
- Economy, I agree with. Healthy and sustainable. Not cohesive communities. It needs to be around wealth and facilities, building on our history, attracting tourism. The whole vision and values are dull, lack ambition and aren't future focussed.
- Immigrants take priority over Boston people. This needs to change.
- Sort out traffics in Boston
- We can't spend our way out of this problem and 2040 is too far away.
- Safety and perception of safety should be included
- Sadly, the EU influx has made it difficult for the young people to thrive as they are always last in the queue. You will never achieve unity in this town as they simply don't want to mix, there will also be a them and us
- Sustainable is just a buzz word of the moment it's irrelevant.
- The environmental input is not a concern compared to knife crime and the increase of young people carrying knife in Boston
- Developing and sustainable Boston
- Transport improvements badly needed
- Low skilled workforce with wages driven down by migration. Exploitation of this is where wealth comes from, and those people don't invest in the area only themselves
- The actual issues are being ignored through a woke view on the problems. Cocaine is running the town; drug addicts are being pandered to and everyone seems scared to tackle the problems in case it's no Politically Correct
- You cannot have a thriving economy when there is nothing left in the town to attract visitors. The more eastern European shops and barbers that open is putting people off coming to the town. There is too much money laundering and counterfeit goods being sold. When I talk to people in other towns they are saying the same thing, there is nothing to come into Boston for as the best shops have gone, people hanging about in groups which again puts people off by not feeling safe.
- All the shops have disappeared. So how do you get a thriving economy.
- Although I live in the borough, I live approx. seven miles south from the centre of Boston and the Plan doesn't provide much detail around surrounding villages
- The subjects are far too vague and woolly.

- Education and training needs further work regarding aspirations.
- The town is dead. It's been run into the ground with high shop rents high business rates all in a town that looks like a third world country. The money gets spent wrong on. Pointless \*\*\*\*. Areas full of drinkers drug users that have rushed to the area for land work, and we are told to accept the way they act.
- Traffic and transportation is a priority

10. All respondents were advised that the vision covered the whole of the borough – both rural and urban and were asked if they felt that both aspects were sufficiently covered in the Plan. The pie chart below shows that 65% of all respondents considered both aspects were sufficiently covered in the plan, with the remaining 35% of all respondents considering both aspects were not sufficiently covered in the plan.



Those respondents that considered both aspects were not sufficiently covered in the plan were asked why they thought this. A large majority of respondents considered that rural aspects had not be sufficiently covered in the plan and some felt that public transport had not been adequately addressed, particularly in rural areas. A full list of reasons are listed below.

- Very little detail in the plan
- Rural problems are different to urban ones
- Too much money being spent on garden near bus station, need new public toilets, especially for the elderly

- The rural areas always get less priority
- Very poor rural access to good public transport not adequately addressed
- Not enough for agriculture one of the main businesses of the county
- Boston is dead for lots of reasons. Do not let rural parts suffer the same.
- No mention at all of the needs of villages in the plan. Rural communities appear to have been ignored. Household numbers may be less than in the town, but I'm pretty sure our council tax bands bring a high proportion of funds - while giving us less access to community resources funded by our Council Tax payment
- Town centre is sorely neglected. The Rosegarth St project is taking emphasis away from an already dying town centre
- Too town centre focussed
- Too many cars, huge traffic
- You are doing the wrong parts of Boston up
- Not really seen anything that is in the villages
- All of these lovely new facilities are very hard to reach from rural areas, car parking is poor and public transport is non-existent in the evenings or Sundays and poor the rest of the time
- This change should have been implemented before the unchecked and punitive migrants were moved in. You are attempting to now polish the proverbial.
- Reference to specific rural needs
- The urban environment is very poorly maintained, and I don't see any plans to improve the maintenance
- Rural forgotten, urban run by people who have little idea
- What would attract anyone to the Urban areas? Decay, fly tipping, boarded up shops, the thousands of barber shops? Rural areas...what year will they all have full fibre broadband?
- The rural areas are being forgotten.
- It seems very town and large industry orientated. There are a lot of small villages, where the town problems are overspilling including crime, social cohesion, safety and lack of small businesses like shops.
- Better public transport. You advertise Saturday markets however there are very few buses running on a weekend making it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to go into town.
- The Plan, as drafted, seems very Boston Town centric
- Rural areas are always left behind
- The rural areas are often left out. Sometimes feel neglected as parish councils are not active
- The wording is a bit wishy washy. I certainly think that the priority needs to be in the centre of Boston itself, as growth will expand outwards naturally.
- Rural areas are hardly mentioned, a cycle routes are far from a priority.
- the very rural areas are forgotten, transport, fibre broadband are needed
- Not much for parish, poor use of land building regulations, which are fixed not flexibility
- Plan not sufficiently clear
- The Boston Plan has not been publicized in detail
- We need a better bus service to fit all

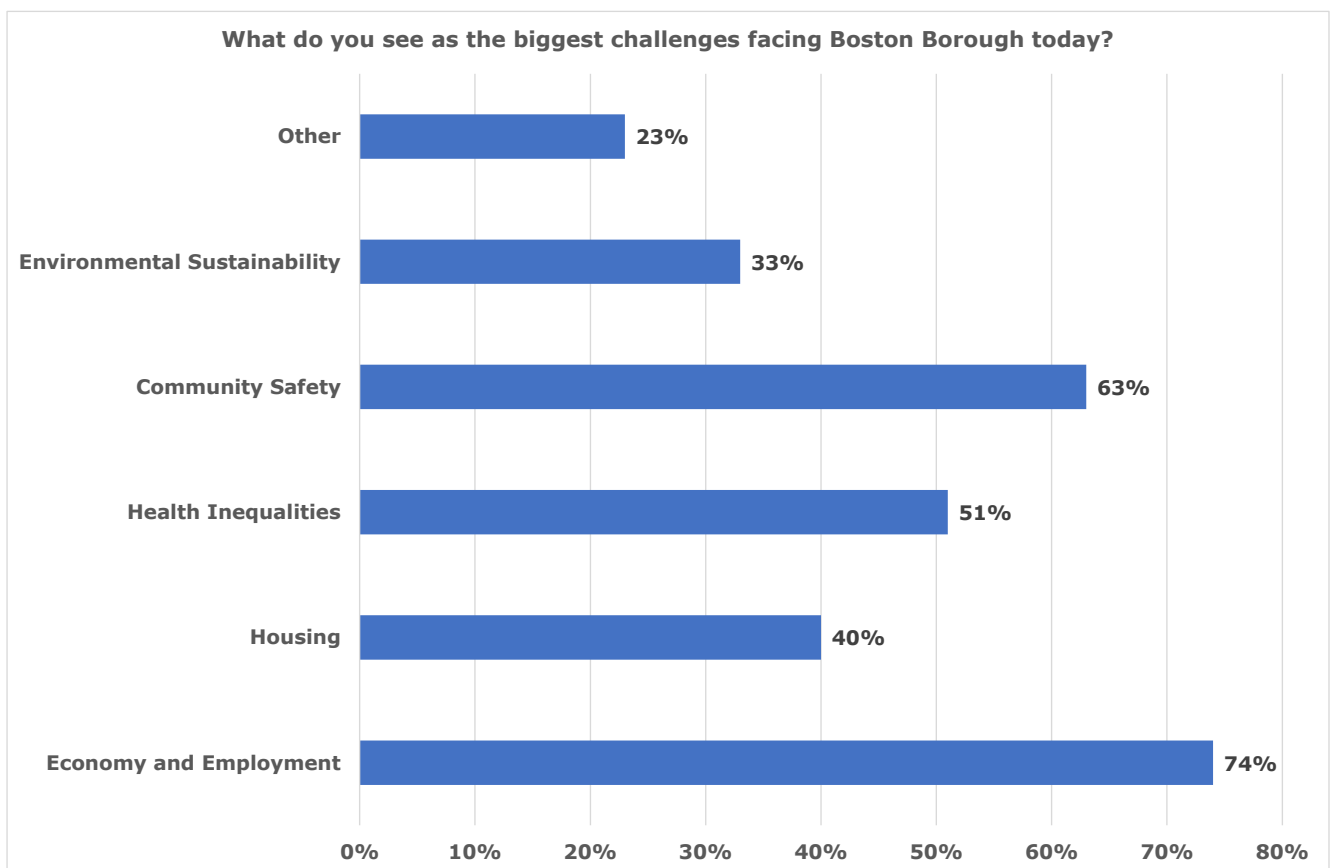
- Please consider small villages like Wyberton

### Key Challenges

11. The chart below shows what all respondents thought the biggest challenges facing Boston today were:

- Economy and Employment (74%)
- Community Safety (63%)
- Health Inequalities (51%)
- Housing (40%)
- Environmental Sustainability (33%)
- Other (33%)

*(Please note that the percentages in the chart below do not add up to 100% due to the question being a multiple-choice question)*



Those respondents that selected 'Other', were asked to specify what they thought the biggest challenges facing Boston today were. There were numerous comments about traffic and transport being the biggest challenges facing Boston. Three respondents thought that crime and anti-social behaviour were the biggest challenges and two other respondents commented that the town needed more health services such as GP surgeries and dentists. Reference was also made to the lack of shops and jobs being a challenge facing Boston today and that Boston needed to attract young people with well paid jobs. A full list is included below.

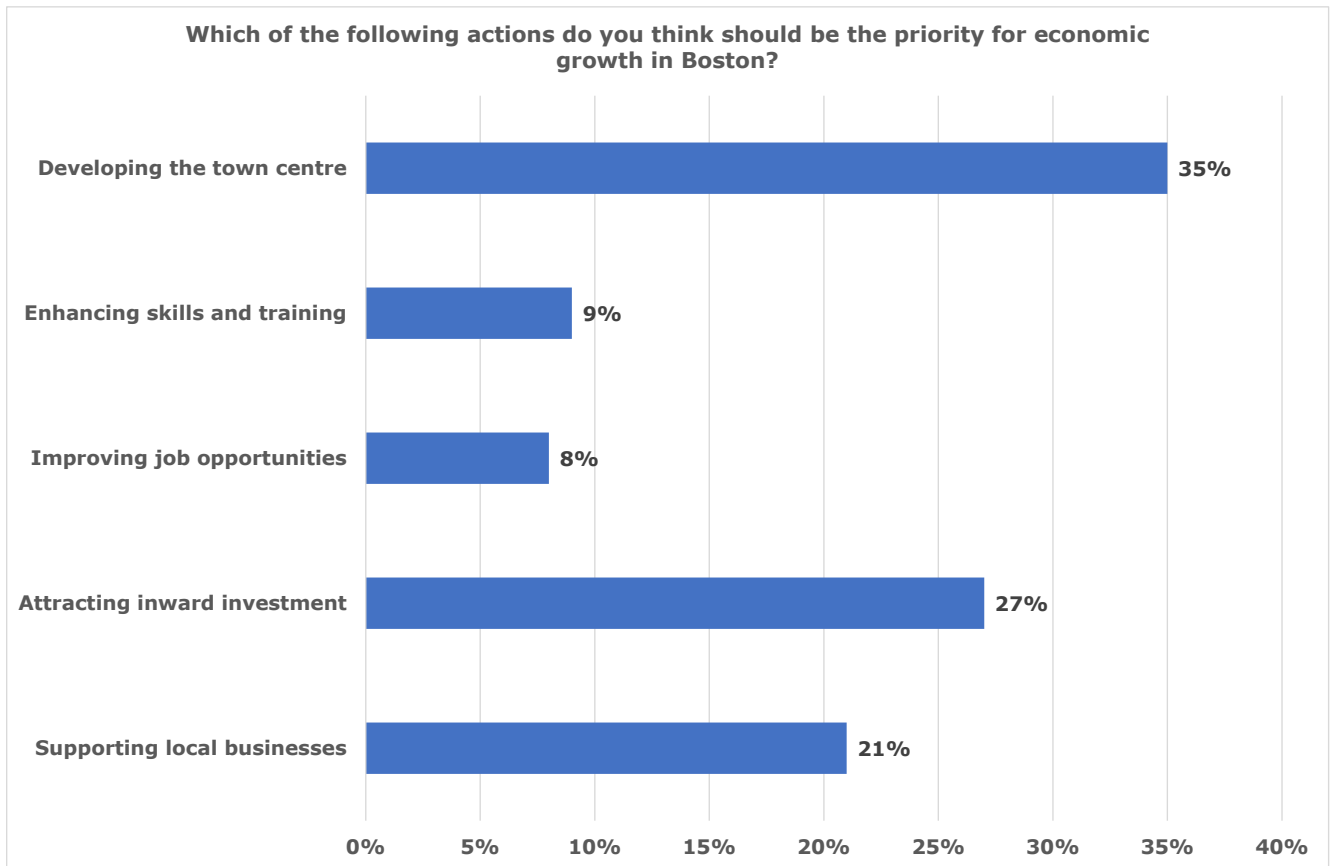
- Too many immigrants and dodgy shops.

- Foreigners. Too many of them
- Lack of shops and reasons to go into town, lack of public toilets, poor roads, expensive car parking
- Crime & Anti-social Behaviour as well as "money laundering" businesses
- Flood defences under investment
- Criminality,
- Historical listed buildings going to ruin, Town landlords over pricing, Loitering, and feeling unsafe
- Central town regeneration and improvement
- The town is deficient in access to health services there are not enough GP practices or dentists for the population, also the town needs at least one more junior school.
- Too many illegal immigrants, useless politicians, and police
- Need to bring in wealth, jobs, attract young people with well paid jobs. Bring in tourism so businesses can thrive
- Retail opportunities - rent is too high - Council Tax and Business Rates are too high for the area.
- Traffic
- Traffic
- Poverty which in turn leads to alcohol problems and associated crime as stated in your "plan"
- Skills
- You need more doctors dentists schools stop building houses unless the builders agree to set up new health hubs
- Discrimination
- Transport, bypass essential
- Lack of accessible and inclusive playgrounds.
- Excessive use of personal motorised transport
- Devolution and how Boston Borough will be represented in the future
- Places for teenagers to hangout in and people out and about past nine at town
- Transport systems. Roads. Footfall.
- Transport, i.e., gridlocked roads and planning that allows all the major retail development in one area of the town that is already gridlocked
- Population increase, no infrastructure increase
- Education and training
- Small business support and growth
- Transport shopping
- Better bus service and better shopping experience

## **Economic Growth**

12. All respondents were provided with a list of actions and were asked what they thought should be the priority for economic growth in Boston. The chart below shows that 35% of all respondents considered that 'Developing the Town Centre' should be a priority for economic growth in Boston, 27% of all respondents thought 'Attracting inward investment' should be a priority, 21% thought 'Supporting local

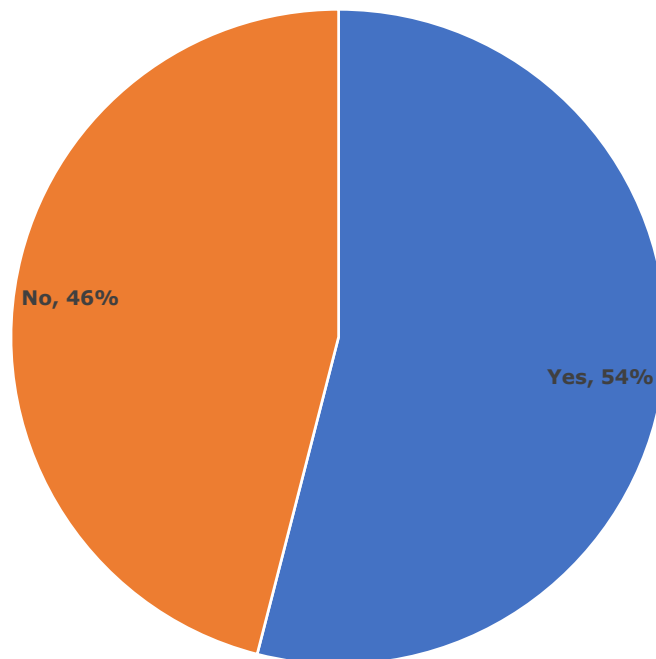
businesses' 9% of all respondents thought 'Enhancing skills and training', with the remaining 8% considering 'Improving job opportunities should be the priority for economic growth in Boston.



### Regeneration

13. The pie chart below shows that just over half (54%) of all respondents thought the regeneration plans (e.g. Rosegarth Square, new leisure facilities, Mayflower development) would have a positive impact on the borough, with the remaining 46% of all respondents stating they 'did not' think the regeneration plans would have a positive impact on the borough.

**Do you feel the regeneration plans (e.g., Rosegarth Square, new leisure facilities, Mayflower development) will have a positive impact on the borough?**



Those respondents that 'did not' think the regeneration plans would have a positive impact on the borough were asked why they thought this. One respondent felt that the bland architectural style of Rosegarth Square did not fit in with the historic nature of the town. Some respondents thought it was not good value for money and would attract certain types of people. A couple of other respondents thought the town needed regenerating and supporting first. A full list is detailed below.

- Excessive cost for no notable gain
- Waste of money. Retail units going empty in town centre, so why build more?
- Waste of money. There's nothing there and no reason to go there
- Will be a place for people to sit and drink rather than outside the stump
- Boston has lost its original identity and struggling a new identity.
- people need something to visit Boston for, I would not visit Boston for anything the new development has to offer
- They detract from the real need to improve the existing town centre and the "look" of the town overall.
- I don't doubt that there will be a positive impact on those that use the facilities but the bland architectural style (rosegarth square) that doesn't fit with the historic nature of the town will ultimately detract from the sightliness, having a passive negative impact on the majority of the people of the town
- There's a lot of places redeveloped in the town that are empty
- Rosegarth square is nothing more than a vanity project reflecting the previous Tory led council, it should have been cancelled and funding sought

elsewhere for a more effective project. In ten years,' time the area will again be dirty, and rubbish strewn as it is now.

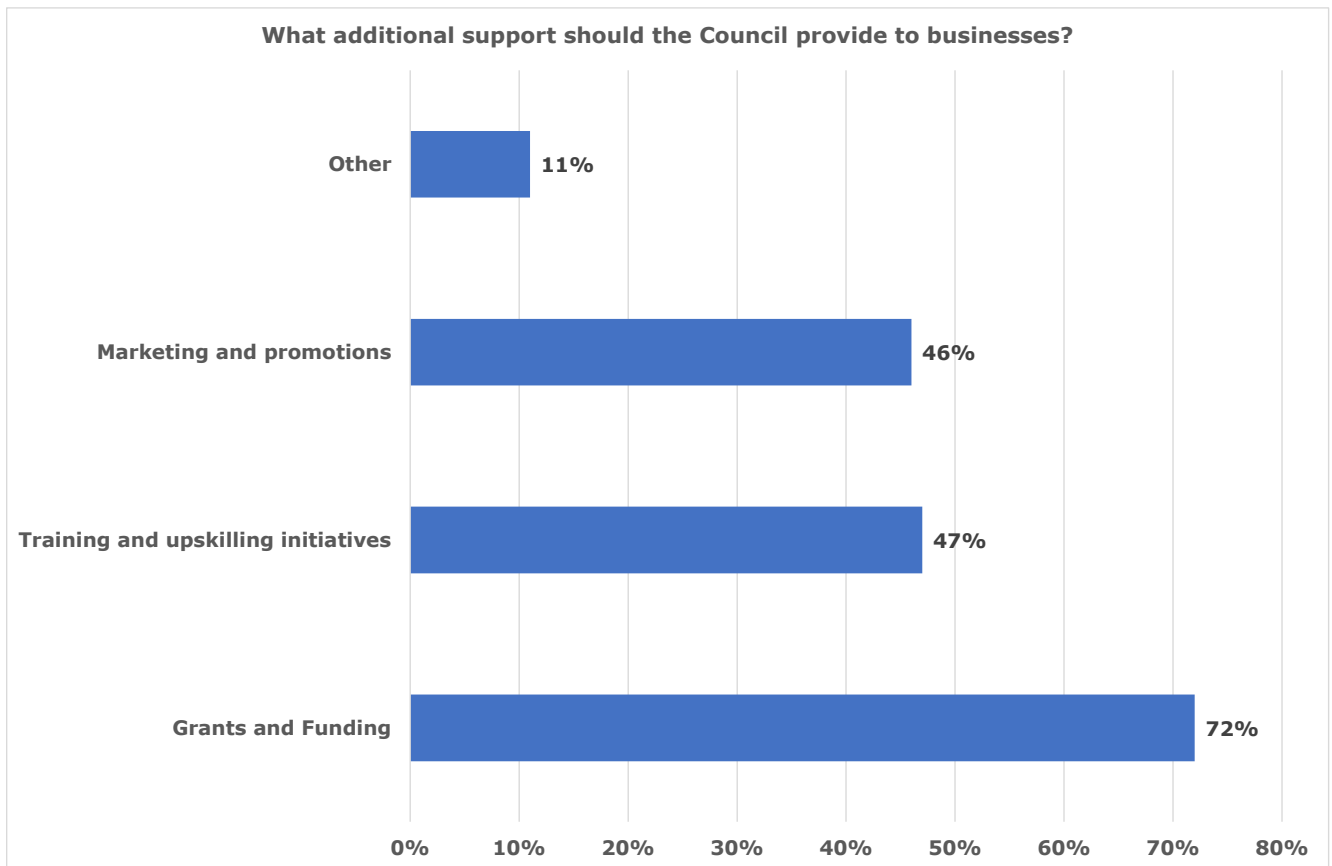
- The Town centre wants supporting first
- It is a waste of money, will be full of homeless migrants and crime
- It is understandable that you have to use the grant GIVEN by Government has to be used. However, people are not going to cross the town to walk around a park type area. It will fill with certain members of the community, the same ones that have taken over the town centre, this will mean that the same residents not attending the town centre will not attend the new park. You will have to employ a better , neater, higher standard of enforcement officers, not the slovenly ones walking around the town talking to each other nonstop.
- I think the new leisure facilities will. The square will just be used as another crash pad and end up filthy
- Too far out of town?
- Residents don't see the value for money.
- Diverting funding/marketing/promo away from the town centre
- Too much focus on housing - with NO supporting infrastructure
- More space for the nationals to go and drink and make it unwelcoming for others to use
- You are doing the wrong parts of Boston up
- Our 'visitors' will still take over the Market Place
- Making one bit shiny new doesn't solve the state of the rest of it.
- People don't like coming into town now as it lacks shops and proper amenities.
- Rosegarth square is a vanity project, and the mayflower development is of no use if people can't get to it or afford to use it
- The population barely uses the present facilities, what good will these be in a ghetto?
- Wrong side of the river
- Feel that they will be heavily damaged when money could be used elsewhere
- Only to some extent as the majority of people will not see any direct benefit
- People would probably prefer the town centre to be regenerated not somewhere where most people won't go, yes to the leisure centre. You need to think about what people need not a place like Rosegarth that people already see as a place for the drunks and druggies to assemble
- Wrong place
- Because they will not encourage people into the town, its high street shops we need not barbers or cafes or charity shops actual shops like before with M&S, Oldrids etc. Where people want to go on a weekend or day off to spend their money.
- People don't use West Street because they don't feel safe.
- We already have a well-used park in Boston we should be building accommodation to suite single people targeting the homeless
- Rosegarth square is a completely pointless waste of money.
- Rosegarth pointless waste of finances, what even is mayflower development
- We have a Town Park that cried out for improvement and amenities. Essentially just building a new one to that will degrade due to lack of funding

- Rosegarth Square is a false flagship that will attract further anti-social behaviour which will not be addressed, the same as the other areas.
- Need to have more partners involved, concerned about empty retail units once built
- I will not go there. My 16-year-old daughter hates going into the town centre. Traffic too bad to go that side of town anyway. My only hope is that the square will move the groups of foreign nationals away from the historic centre.
- It's another green area ,nothing to bring in visitors to spend money and help lift the town.
- Still nothing to do in town! No entertainment for younger children or reasons to visit
- Another "hangout" place for the undesirables.
- It will not attract people into the town as not solving the problems people perceive of the town centre
- I'm In-between, yes it will have a positive impact but more needs to be done in regard to supporting business and rates within the town
- Because they are window dressing. Supporting the history and heritage of the town will encourage tourism
- Needed leisure, not shops, needed toilets in town centres not there.
- there are areas of the borough that need investment before building new facilities that may not be required.
- Will just encourage vandalism and large groups to gather.
- Rosegarth Square is costing an enormous amount of money for a place where people simply walk through to get to their destination.
- Don't support any of economic targets
- They do little to solve the challenges we have in the town
- As above Boston is a dead town. Rents to high shops are crap. Who wants to come somewhere that is just kebab shops barbers and charity shops.
- Square - cosmetic but Market Place area is depressing!
- Wrong place you are spending money on it should be the market place you should be putting money into it
- Get a bypass
- Same people will treat it like a toilet and littering

### **Business Support**

14. All respondents were given a list of four options of additional support the Council could provide to businesses and were asked which they thought the Council should provide. The chart below shows that 72% of all respondents thought the Council should provide 'Grants and Funding' , 47% thought they should provide @Training and Upskilling Initiatives, 46% of all respondents thought the Council should provide 'Marketing and Promotions', with the remaining 11% suggesting 'Other' additional support the Council could provide to businesses.

*(It should be noted that the percentages in the chart below do not add up to 100% due to the question being a multi-choice question)*



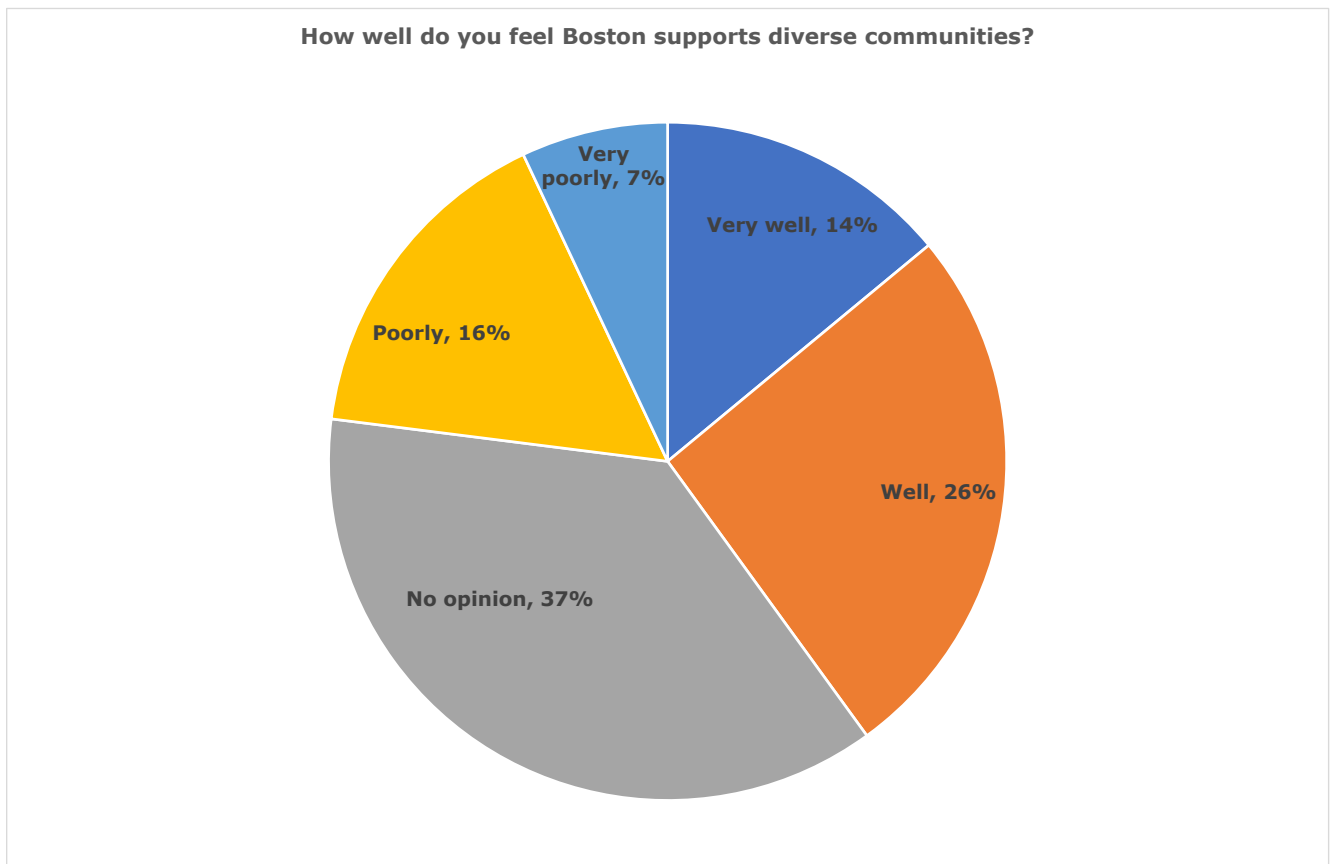
Those respondents that selected 'Other' were asked to specify what additional support they thought the Council could provide to businesses. A few respondents thought that the Council could reduce business rates and rents to encourage people into the shops. One respondent thought that returning the market place back into short term parking would encourage shoppers back to the town. Another thought encouraging integration by offering those of different nationalities language and local cultural awareness and to offer insight and local support to those that had just arrived from other countries. A full list of suggestions and comments are included below.

- Reduced rent to encourage shops to open
- Easier "planning" support for change to residential Market Square properties. Commercial will continue to decline so regenerate with residential developments to maintain a lifeblood in the town centre. PLUS, more residents in an area should lead to less ASB.
- Non-discriminatory practice
- Better shopping facilities are needed in the town, more unique shops which are affordable for both people and the business owner
- An encouragement to provide visually appealing and inviting appearance to all shops.
- Diversify stores, less European food shops, and more smaller artisan shops, less repeating shop for example less phone shops food shops and charity shops
- Bypass
- Way more complicated than this space allows

- Encouraging more integration by offering immigrants language/local culture awareness. Encouraging local. People to offer insight and support to immigrants
- All above plus listed to the local businesses and provide more attractive parking , not just for Christmas!!!! Businesses need support all year round
- Help for local entrepreneurs set up lovely shops in the town centre. There are no shops I use anymore. It would be lovely to be more like Louth.
- Business Rate support, to encourage new businesses into the town centre
- reduce the costs of doing business in the town before offering money, free parking, reduce business rates etc., grants ,training, marketing are useless if there are no businesses
- Return Market Place short term parking to encourage shoppers back. Also, the once thriving market is about dead!

### Inclusivity

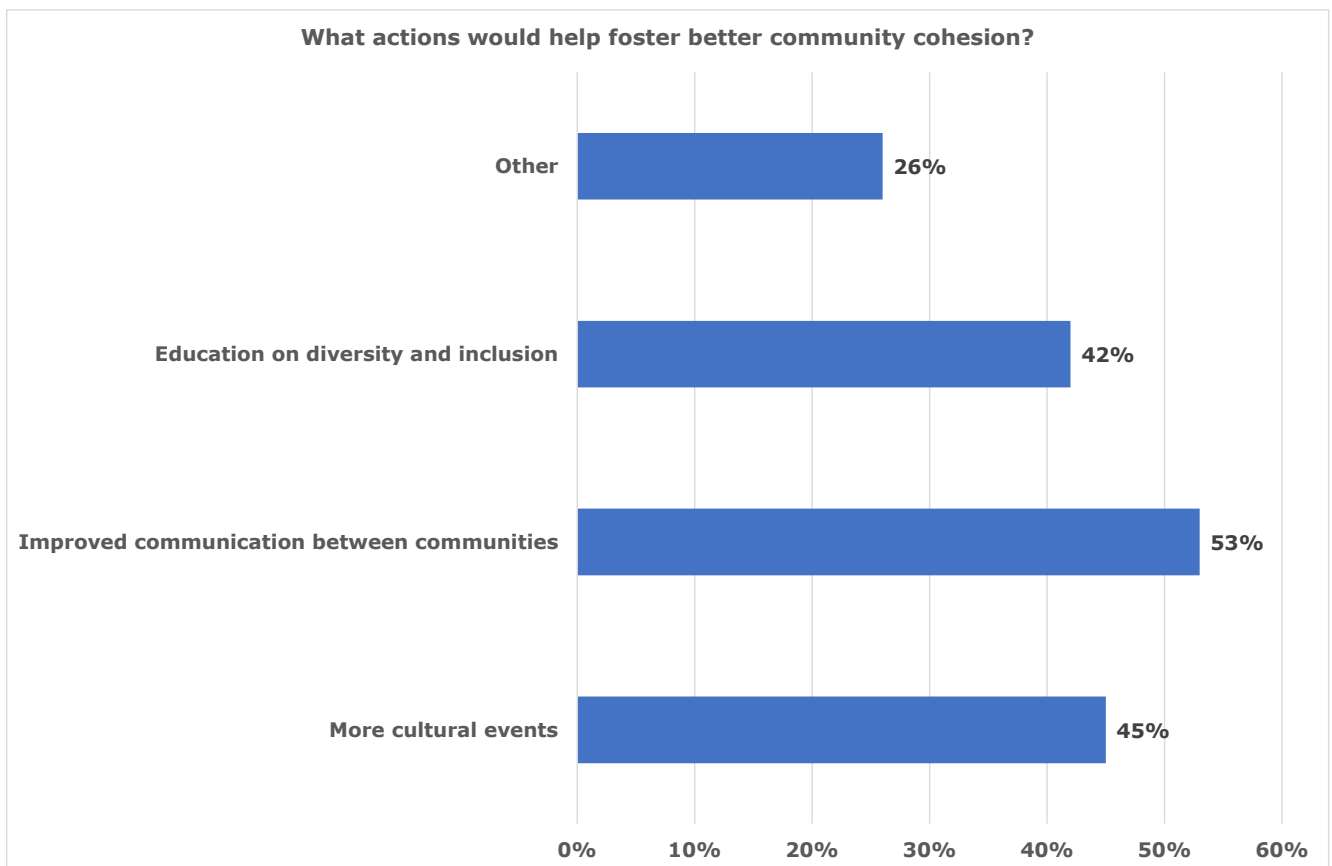
15. The pie chart below shows that 14% of all respondents thought Boston supported diverse communities 'Very well', 26% thought it supported diverse communities 'Well' and 37% stated they had 'No opinion'. It also shows that 23% of all respondents thought that Boston supported diverse communities 'Poorly' (16%) or 'Very poorly' (7%).



16. All respondents were given a list of actions and were asked to select what actions they considered would help foster better community cohesion. The chart below shows that:

- Just over half (53%) of all respondents considered that 'Improved communication between communities' would help foster better community cohesion
- 45% of all respondents considered that 'More cultural events' would help foster better community cohesion
- 42% of all respondents considered that 'Education on diversity and inclusion' would help foster better community cohesion, and
- 26% considered there were 'Other' actions that would help foster community cohesion

*(It should be noted that the percentages in the chart do not add up to 100% due to the question being a multi-choice question)*



Those respondents that selected 'Other', were asked to specify what actions they considered would help better community cohesion. The majority of responses were general comments as opposed to suggestions and were about those that came from other European countries. There were a few suggestions such as more events and ideas to support and encourage local businesses to want to participate. One respondent suggested setting up a group for all cultures to come together and another suggested educating communities on cultural expectations. A further

respondent thought there should be more emphasis on attracting all those that did not speak English to learn the English language. Unfortunately, there were a number of negative comments too. A full list of comments are included below.

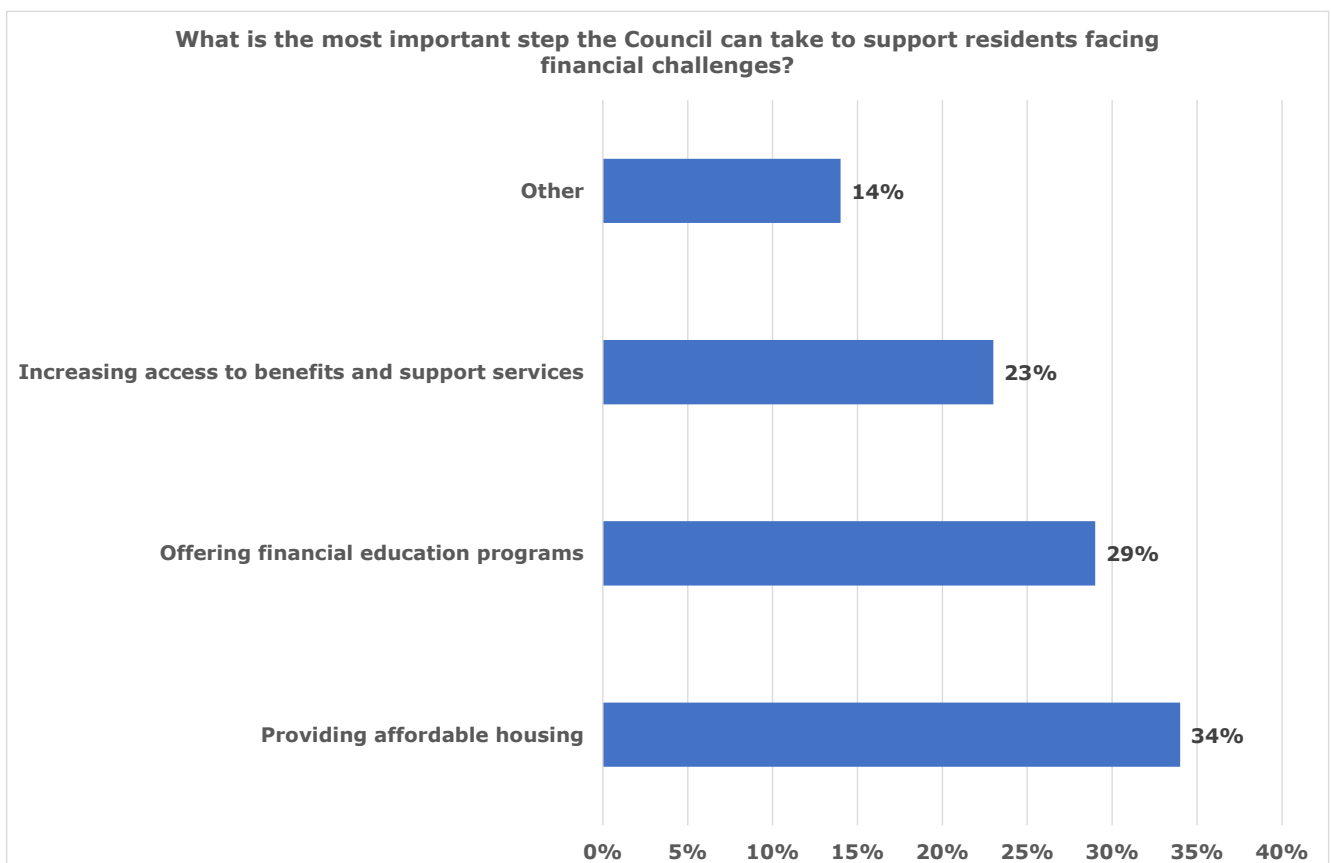
- Getting empty shops back up and running and helping struggling businesses
- We don't need to waste more money on this
- Tell those that are not from here to live by our rules or go back.
- Get rid of the foreigners and the homes
- It's hard to say anything positive regarding the influx of multinational workers taking over the town centre
- Too much time and money spent on Eastern Europeans , asylum seekers rather than the needs of local people
- Expedite plans for removal of illegal stays
- More safety is needed, I don't feel safe in Boston
- Positive encouragement for those born outside of the UK to actively make the effort to integrate and support British values and beliefs. Not to remain in isolated insular communities.
- Focus on assimilation
- Would be nice to have more focus to the heritage side
- ...this town used to be lovely
- Too much time is spent on this. If people move here, they should integrate with the local community and tax payers money shouldn't be wasted on this.
- Education for communities on cultural expectations such as appropriate rubbish disposal, spitting, street drinking, etc
- It's far too late to address the issues
- Less foreign criminals resident in the Borough
- Sort out traffic
- Stop pandering to certain quarters and make it clear poor behaviour will not be tolerated. Current situation does no one decent any favours.
- Celebrating the English culture would be nice. Let the strangers know where they are and what we are about. Cultural events just show us the differences. If we want to be in a place with a different culture or ethos, we can go on holiday. I have completed education on diversity and inclusion. It's about excusing barbaric customs and teaching English people that they are bad.
- If it hasn't happened by now, it is unlikely to do so, so there is nothing you can do to make people come together
- More events, local ideas to support and encourage local businesses to want to participate. At the moment English people are the minority in their town.
- Better publicity of local events that are held by local minority. Lots of events is being spoken about but only after they have already happened.
- Deportation of foreign criminals, explaining that leaving rubbish fly tipped everywhere isn't acceptable,
- Police the incoming communities to reach the standards expected in our society rather than adjusting them to allow unacceptable behaviour.
- I don't think they want cohesion. They want their own nationality events. I have no interest in that. They come to work, make money, claim benefits . A minority will mix, but they are the ones who came 20 years ago. In my

village we have a Polish car part business. It has high fences all around, they don't speak to local people or employ local British people

- Setting up a group from all cultures to come together.
- The insistence that the English language is used in official documents, when I have lived overseas, I did not expect the authorities to speak my language nor provide translators
- Remove foreign language signs and get the non-English speaking community speaking English. The more communities we have, the less cohesion - same as every other town/city in history.
- More emphasis on attracting all immigrants to get a good grasp of our language, especially mothers
- Not having it forced that we need to accept their ways. If we go and move to their county, we have to adapt to their way of living not the other way round
- Indigenous population need help too !!!

### Financial Resilience

17. The chart below shows that 34% of all respondents considered 'Providing affordable housing' to be the most important step the Council could take to support residents facing financial challenges, 29% considered 'Offering financial education programmes' to be the most important step, 23% of all respondents considered 'Increasing access to benefits and support services' the most important step, with the remaining 14% of all respondents considering 'Other' steps were the most important the Council could take to support residents facing financial challenges.



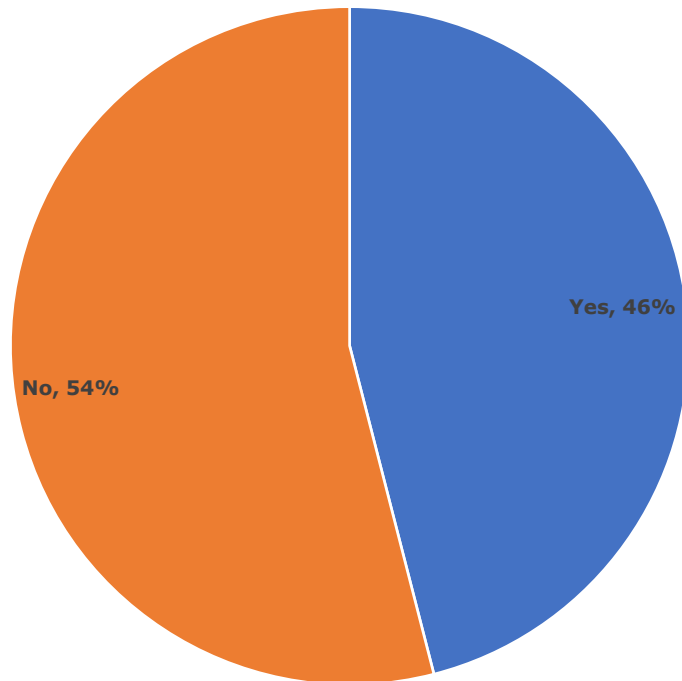
Those respondents that selected 'Other' were asked to specify what they thought was the most important step the Council could take to support residents facing financial challenges. There were numerous suggestions made such as educating people on how to look after their money, increasing employment opportunities, providing more information about the support that was available, encouraging people to work and lowering Council Tax.

- Make sure its genuine and not someone fleecing the system. Giving people too much help, makes them lazy.
- Provide education for people to learn how to look after the money that they have. Can more people quit smoking to save money and put food on the table etc
- Support Indigenous population
- Stop wasting our money on these stupid plans , fix the roads
- Increase employment opportunities and provide affordable housing. Encouraging people to be on benefits is counter productive
- Sift out the immigrants who have not paid into the British economy
- Traffic
- Giving real locals the first option and not offering so much to immigrants and especially those who are illegal
- Encouraging everyone into work.
- Provide more information about support that is available, educate and encourage people to work (when possible).
- There are plenty of employment opportunities in the area. Instead of throwing money and sympathy towards those that make it the life to live on hand outs, drive them into employment
- Cut the rates on houses, brown bin charges have gone up, but we are now being told we can only put certain items in the bin, the rest has to go in the green bin. Garden waste is anything which is grown in the garden, not just grass cuttings and hedge cuttings.
- Lower the Council Tax, and look harder into illegal HMO
- All of the above, however, there are many agencies providing these services already so potentially just a 'signposting' role for the Council,
- Push to improve wages.
- Provide short term support, roof, food, clothing, not money
- There are plenty of Government benefits options available. I don't feel the Council should be involved.
- Reduction in tax for those struggling. Reduce budget. Councillors should volunteer and only claim actual expenses are not paid large allowances!
- Reduce Council Tax and not 400% pay increase for a start

### **Community Safety**

18. The pie chart below shows that 46% of all respondents felt safe living in Boston, with the remaining 54% of all respondents considering they 'did not'.

**Do you feel safe living in Boston?**



Those respondents that stated they 'did not' feel safe living in Boston were asked why not. Numerous respondents said that they felt unsafe because of the high crime rates, anti-social behaviour, drugs, street drinking and groups hanging out in the town centre. A few respondents said there had been an increase in burglaries and knife crime. A couple of others said they felt unsafe as there had been assaults on women and a further respondent said that her and her husband had been attacked in broad daylight. There were some comments about there being a lack of police presence in Boston. A full list of reasons why respondents 'did not feel safe' are included below.

- Knife crime by immigrants
- Drugs and crime and lack of things
- Town centre is not visibly policed
- Increases in street level crime and street violence. Increased burglary. Anti-social behaviour the list goes on
- Too many unknowns around town. Not safe for our women.
- Foreigners drinking in the streets, urinating everywhere, and making people feel uncomfortable
- I'm speaking on behalf of my wife. She doesn't feel safe walking around Boston alone due to the groups of men that regularly stare at her and feel uncomfortable
- Some areas are no go, people drinking, men in groups, do not go near town after 3pm
- I have seen the crime stats

- ASB, intimidation in town centre, especially at night.
- Criminality!
- My husband and I were attacked in daylight in the town centre, my parents have also been subject to abuse.
- Personally, I feel safe, but I am aware of many older friends and relatives who feel the large number of non-British residents intimidating and a definite reason to not come into the town.
- Vandalised run-down property, loitering around town centre and the Stump, witnessed this very one too many times
- Hardly any cameras and large groups of males hanging around
- Crime is getting worse in the area and into the countryside with little being done to sort it
- Too many groups of foreigners
- In the area I live yes. In the town centre with huge groups of largely foreign men no I don't.
- The street lighting being off in the evenings is awful, there's been an increase in break ins and anti-social behaviour.
- Loud gangs of men in town.
- I do not often feel unsafe, but many times are approached at night by drunk or stoned people who shout or have asked things, once claiming I owe them money. I have always just kept walking and it's all fine but that might not always be possible.
- I have frequently been abused in town by foreigners, just because I dress differently to them
- It is a scary town, full of criminals
- Gangs of youths hanging around the town and a lot of on street drinking and big groups of EU nationals hanging round the town centre
- The town is intimidating with groups of individuals grouped together taking over public spaces, street drinking, ASB and substance misuse.
- Traffic and too many \*\*\*\*
- Too many 'visitors'
- Too many men hanging round on streets. Too many overcrowded badly behaved households.
- The town has become more hostile to LGBT people and there is so much of a drink problem (due to poverty) there are many drunk, unhappy, and aggressive people around the town at all times.
- The stranger content is high. I don't know who these people are or where they are from so I can't gauge their intentions because, as we all know, different peoples have different standards and sensibilities.
- Too much crime
- Minimal night time economy, therefore perception of fear of crime. Lack of people using town centre because they don't feel safe due to groups of people hanging around the town centre.
- Too many people hot bedding, so hanging around with nothing else to do in crowds in the town centre
- Not enough police and the police we do have don't really investigate those crimes that affect the general population, i.e. house breaking, unruly behaviour

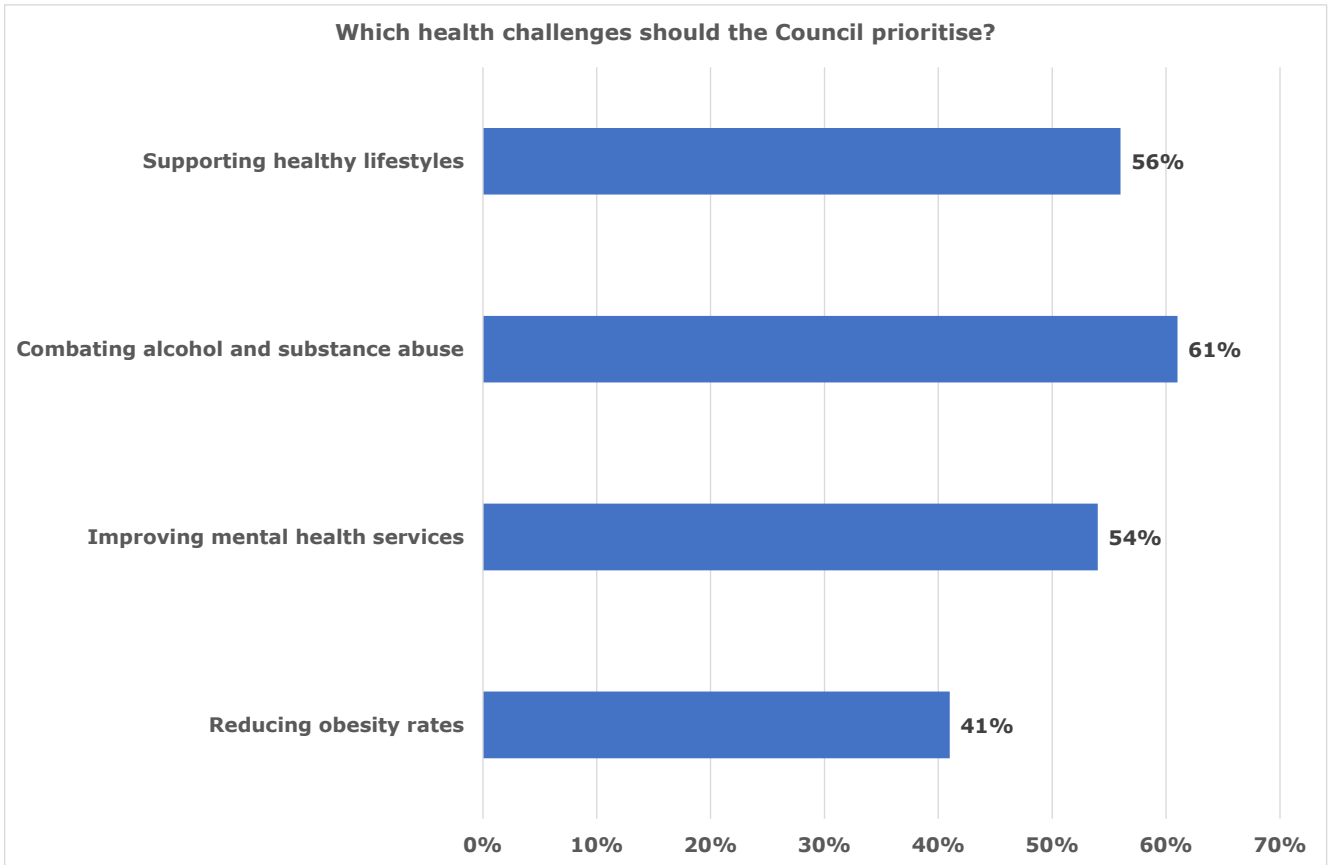
- Town centre has lots of home housing and single men in groups are intimidating
- When we came here 16 years ago Boston was very different, now with the crime it has changed so much and influx of people is doesn't feel the same, wouldn't go out in the evening
- Rather go to Spalding or Sleaford to shop at a weekend
- Lack of police presence in town
- there's too many migrants that now wonder the town all day not just night intimidating people, they don't speak English and you feel unsafe in your back yard.
- I don't actually live in Boston but in a local parish so that question is irrelevant
- No, the street lights are turned off too early and are not bright. There is barely any CCTV camera in town, which is needed for everybody's safety. There are many females that have been sexually assaulted and touched by groups of men when walking past in town. I have had three family members affected by this behaviour. My own mother was approached by three non-English-speaking men that was about to grab her as she walked into her house. My father scared them away at door. There is too many people here that do not share same morals and respect about crime and young children are starting to behave this way, that parks are not safe anymore.
- Too many incidents have happened in the recent years especially the crime within youths. I feel more 'unsafe' for my children as be how I am afraid to let them out and about.
- Police not working at all
- Too much crime and uneasy feeling when out. Wouldn't go into town after around 6pm
- Foreign career criminals operating unchecked in the town and two-tier Policing policies
- Boston is lost. We are turning blind eyes to convicted burglars, thieves, and robbers (this is factual) who sit begging outside banks and pamper to them. I have firsthand witnessed one of your community workers talking to two of aforementioned, then one got the call to pick up his drugs, and she waited for him to come back, and continued laughing and joking with them. That is the definition of lawlessness when a person in authority allows crime to happen in their presence and accepting it
- Too much crime
- I feel unsafe in some areas of the town centre. My daughter was shouted at, and cat called outside Boots. They had drunk men approach them in the park. I don't go to west street. My daughter will not go into town alone. We have local crime, but the police do not have staff to attend. Vehicles not taxed, licensed, screaming around small lanes. No PCSO. We just put up with crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Not enough police presence.
- We used to be able to go out at any time of the day. Now the town is not safe at night, we are being kept away from areas because of offensive people causing problems.
- Street drinking, groups hanging around, dark dirty streets and lack of police visibility

- I don't live in Boston; I live in the Borough but generally feel safe when visiting Boston during the day.
- A lot of people that move into Boston work and then leave the country, they harass people in the streets and at town centre
- I experience feelings of intimidation from men encountered on the street. Unreported street assaults and overt drug trafficking are also observed.
- There is no visible policing people are drinking in public places groups of men stand around the market place which is intimidating for people There is drug problems and housing issues that see many homeless around the town
- It's extremely touchy subject and we are made to feel like we can't speak up about it, but the town centre has become a hub for a certain part of the community that can make you feel uncomfortable walking through town and can be quite intimidating the certain members of the public
- There are some places I feel uncomfortable walking alone
- No police, too many with no income leads to crime. HMOs groups of young men.
- Too many groups of noisy people about
- Too many men/ groups of man walking around. Unsafe for women. Street lights not on late at night.
- High crime rate for stabbing
- Centre like a ghost town. Whiff of cannabis about. Large, gathered groups. Intimidating to women and elderly.
- There are many people in the area selling or under the influence of drugs, far too much crime (thefts, etc.) and no police taking meaningful action.
- Police don't do anything. Amount of stabbing that don't get mentioned drugs are rife. My barber is from Iraq a very big guy but ever so nice and even he says he doesn't feel safe in Boston
- Town centre intimidating to walk through. Avoid particularly at night!
- Too many people hanging around on street corner's taking drugs and alcohol
- Scared of the dark!
- High crime rates

### **Health Initiatives**

19. The chart below shows what health challenges all respondents thought the Council should prioritise. They are as follows:
- 'Combating alcohol and substance abuse' (61%)
  - 'Supporting healthy lifestyles' (56%)
  - 'Improving mental health services' (54%), and
  - 'Reducing obesity rates' (41%)

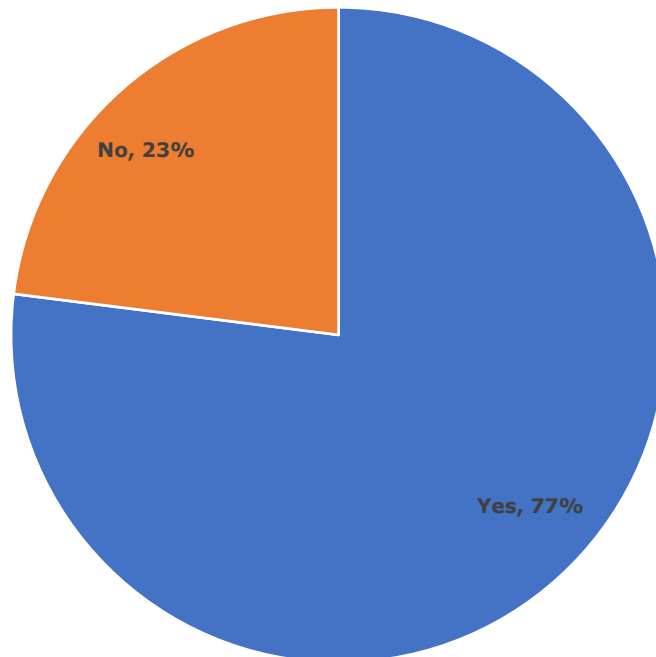
*(It should be noted that the percentages in the chart below do not add up to 100% due to the question being a multi-choice question)*



### **Green Spaces**

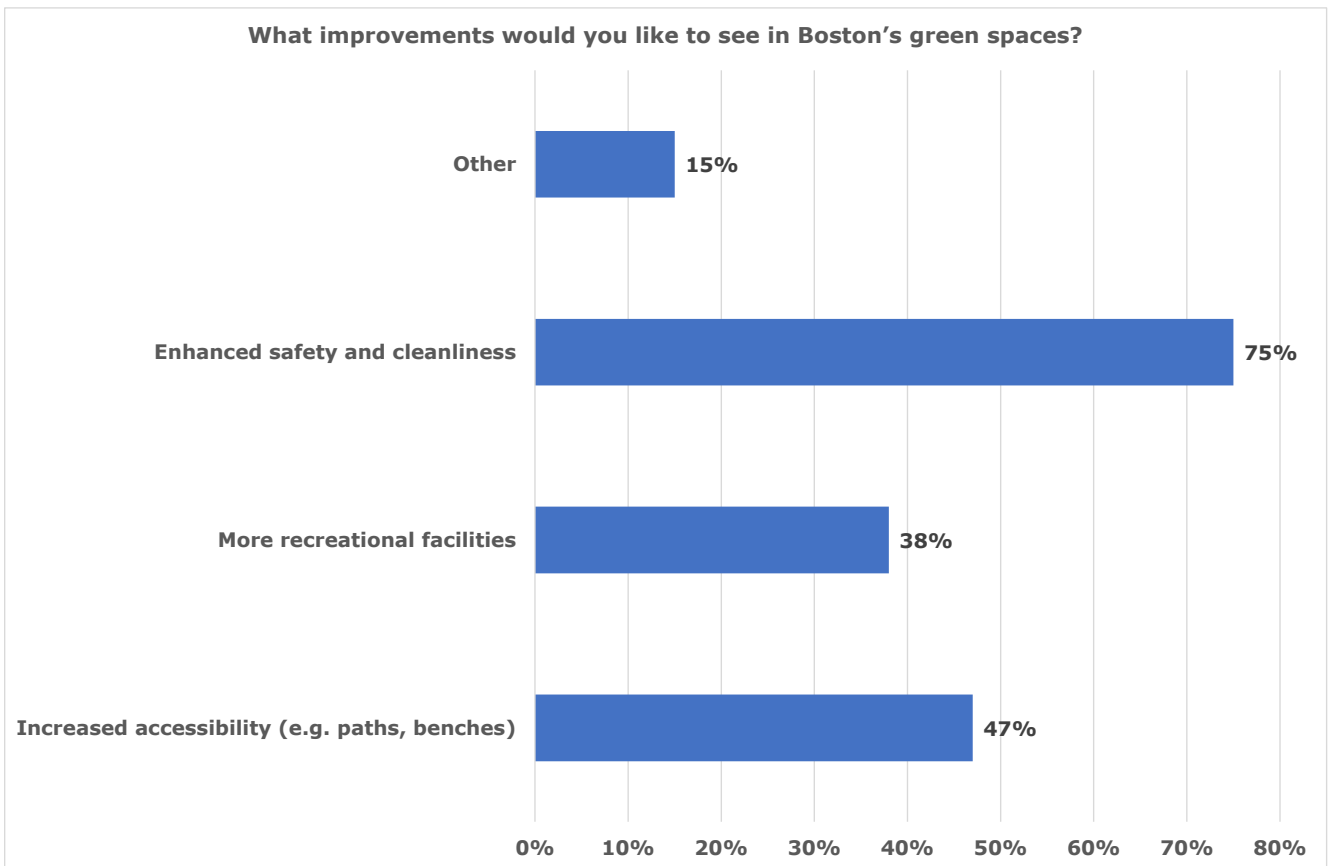
20. The pie chart below shows that over three quarters (77)% of all respondents stated they had adequate access to green spaces, with the remaining 23% stating they did not.

**Do you have adequate access to green spaces within a 10-minute walk from your home?**



21. All respondents were asked what improvements they would like to see in Boston's green spaces. The chart below shows that three quarters of respondents (75%) would like to see 'Enhanced safety and cleanliness', 47% would like to see 'Increased accessibility (e.g. paths, benches)', and 38% would like to see 'More recreational facilities'. 15% of all respondents selected 'Other' as they would like to see something else.

*(It should be noted that the percentages in the chart below do not add up to 100% due to the question being a multi-choice question)*



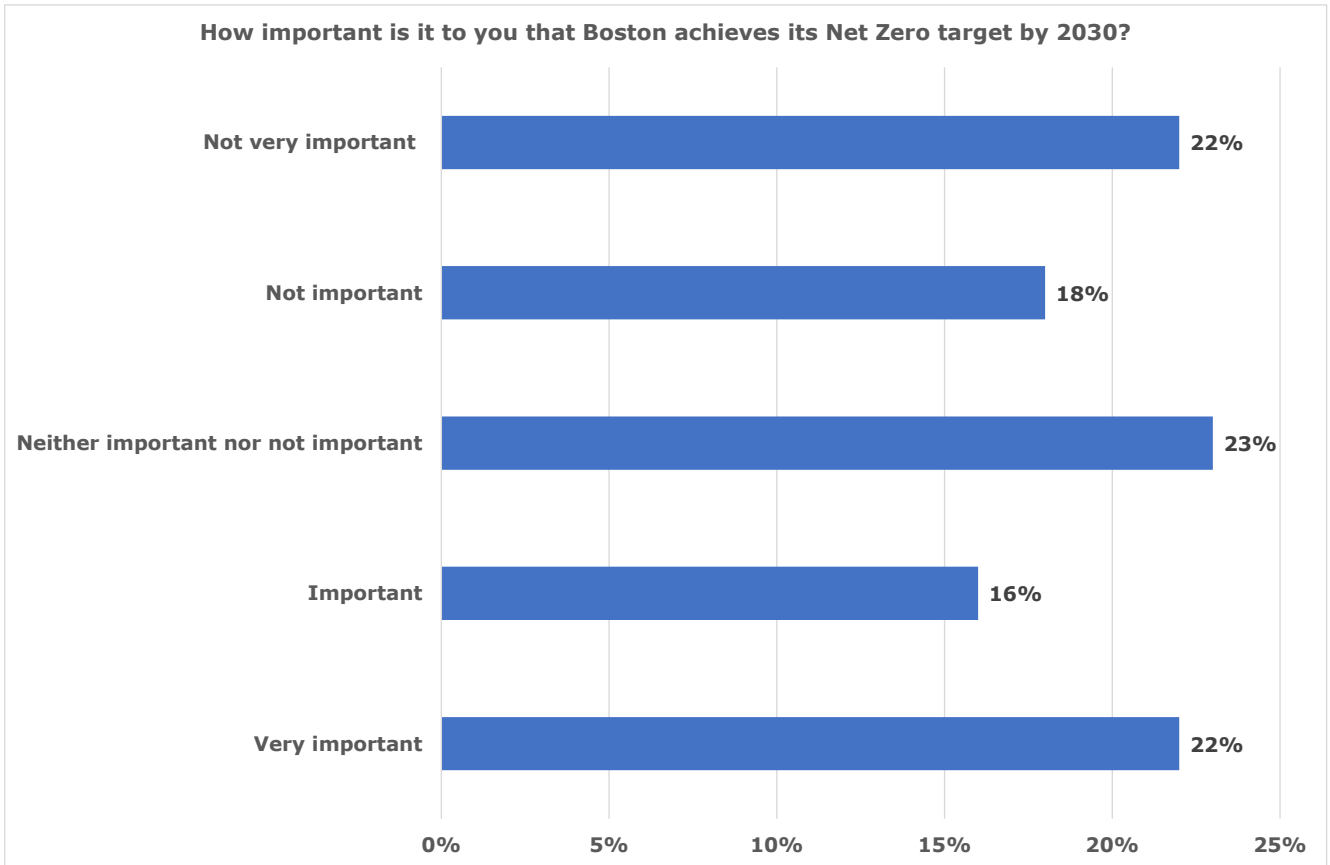
Those respondents that selected 'Other' were asked to specify what improvements they would like to see in Boston's green spaces. There were a mixture of improvements suggested such as a skatepark, public toilets, more things for groups of people to do (i.e. mum's walking group and running groups) and maintenance in some of the green areas. One respondent thought Boston needed at least one fully accessible and inclusive playground and another thought that more bins were needed. A further respondent said that dog fouling was a problem, so more cleanliness was needed. A full list of suggestions are listed below

- Anything for the kids to do. Skatepark. Great if you like that sort of thing. Football pitches in the park?
- Look after the spaces that we have. I own house on riverside, there's a pathway which leads to Witham country park, a gem of the town. Unfortunately, the fencing that backs on to the river has nettles which are protruding on to the walkway, it's a real eye sore and makes it challenging for cyclist and pedestrians to safely share the pathway. Please look into this and look after the lovely aspects of the town.
- More bins, dog on leads enforcement
- More promotion of green spaces available
- Cleanliness.... Dog fouling is at its extreme, absolutely disgusting
- CCTV, law enforcement
- More events in the park for people to enjoy
- More family events for English people
- Bypass
- Traffic, mainly JAW, change lights timing

- Benches were taken out to supposedly stop street drinking and nuisance people hanging around. It didn't work as police patrols disappeared.
- Maintenance in some green areas is poor and needs improvement
- Public toilets
- More groups doing stuff together, walking group for young folk, running group, mum's walking group. We need more groups for everybody to join in.
- At least one fully accessible and inclusive playground. Not bits and bobs of accessible equipment and call it accessible and inclusive playground. One fully accessible and inclusive playground to bring all the children together and there's no discrimination.
- Could the Council collaborate or promote the lost footpaths initiative undertaken by the Ramblers. Having looked at the map there a plenty of lost public footpaths that could be reinstated, especially those in villages.
- More bee friendly place all year round
- Rapidly remove people living in tents.
- More trees and benches

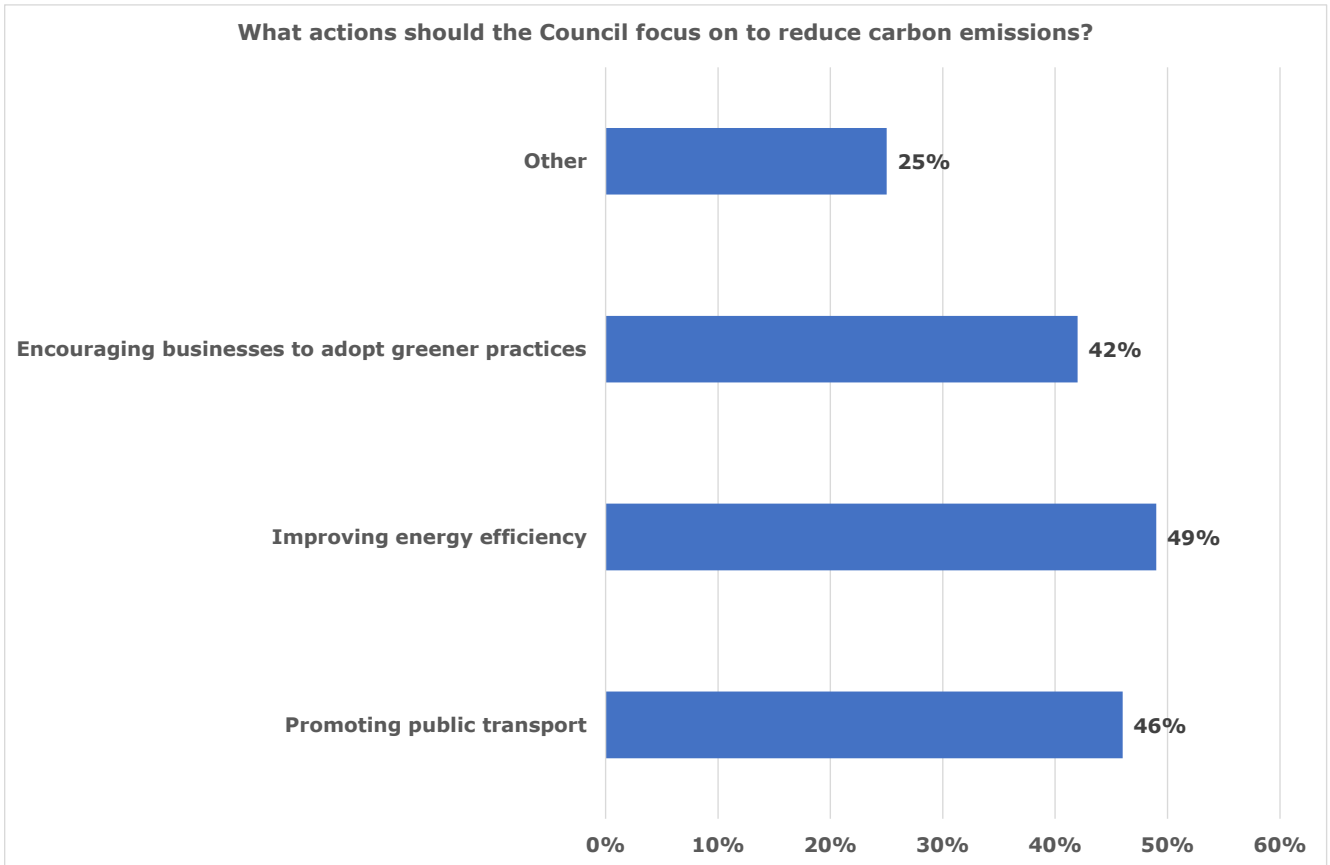
## **Sustainability**

22. The chart below shows that 22% of all respondents thought it was 'Very important' that Boston achieved its Net Zero target by 2030, 16% of all respondents thought it was 'Important', 23% thought it was 'Neither important nor not important', 18% of all respondents thought it was 'Not important', with the remaining 22% stating it was 'Not very important'.



23. All respondents were given a list of options the Council could focus on to reduce carbon emissions and were asked what actions they thought the Council should focus on. The chart below shows that 49% of all respondents thought that the Council should focus on 'Improving energy efficiency', 46% thought it should focus on 'Promoting public transport', 42% of all respondents thought the Council should focus on 'Encouraging businesses to adopt greener practices' and 42% of all respondents thought that the Council should focus on 'Other' options.

*(It should be noted that the percentages in the chart below do not add up to 100% due to the question being a multi-choice question)*



Those respondents that selected 'Other' were asked to specify what they thought the Council could focus on to reduce carbon emissions. A number of negative comments were made such as carbon emissions not being a priority and the cost of it not being affordable. Other respondents commented that a bypass in Boston would help to lower pollution and that public transport needed improving. A full list of comments are listed below.

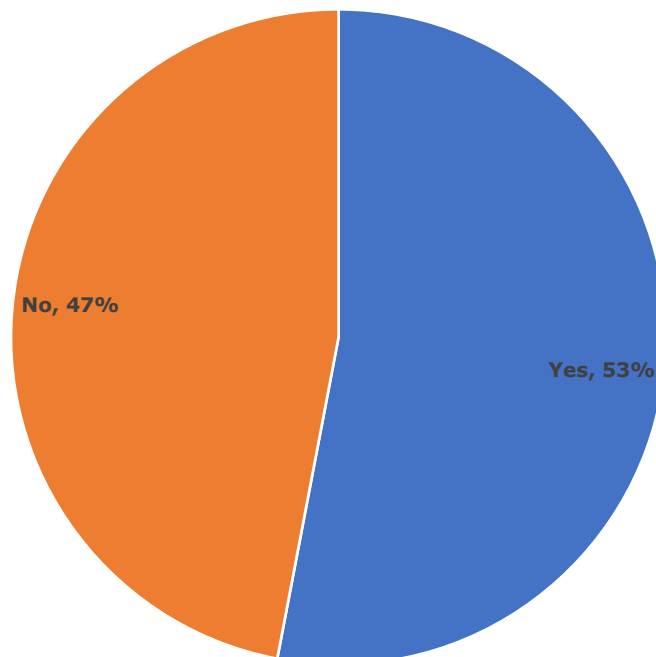
- Carbon emissions is farcical based in the size our of country compared to others. All it does is increase costs to everybody.
- Create a safe cycling network
- Too late, reductions are important, but more time and resources should be put into "dealing with" the changes that are now imminent, i.e.: rising sea levels & more severe weather. Greater funding for IDBs as they are the people that will be vital in coming years.
- Improving public transport, I understand that is not a feasible solution as very expensive, but it would be nice to have ability to take public transport to place of employment.
- Bypass
- This for me is most certainly not a priority. There are so many other factors which the BBC needs to address before considering the lunacy of "carbon neutral".
- Improving cycling accessibility and safety within the borough.
- I would do nothing; this town is an absolute filthy mess; too many people live here
- Better paths and cycle options

- Bypass of Boston, lowers the pollution
- Sort out stand still traffic
- Stop pushing what people can't afford. Improve public transport so it's actually usable to get out of town.
- Get rid of it all together
- Increasing public transport provision at night and weekends, especially in villages, promoting something that doesn't exist for many is a pointless waste of money, those that have access to it already use it, they don't need it "promoting"
- None. Carbon isn't the problem. We are being impoverished by globalists. What the UK does makes no difference at all
- Give up this ludicrous plan,
- Improve cycle infrastructure. Improve Boston to Kirton cycle path by extending across Mill Hill to village. Use 'wrong direction bike lanes on roads like High Street and Thorold Street to legalise informal bike routes'
- Bypass
- Not really interested in reducing carbon emissions
- Reducing carbon emissions within Boston is pointless on the greater scale of the world
- We do enough as it is.
- Provide safe paths for cycling, safe places to lock bikes as they seems to disappear as fresh rolls in the bakery!
- None, carbon emissions are not a problem
- No comment
- Improve roads through Boston. I do most shopping on the north side of the town. I do nothing on the south and west. I therefore travel further to Skegness, using more fossil fuel and almost all of my money is spent in Skegness rather than Boston because of that. Better town centre shops so that I don't need to travel to other towns.
- I fully support a reduction in emissions but believe that the target date is too ambitious without enforcing greener practices rather than leading.
- Sorting out the road network
- We seem to have lost our minds, e.g. I have an old diesel car, it is reasonably economical, if I replace it with a new electric car, I add to the eco/green disaster as my carbon footprint grows massively.
- Improving bus routes across the whole area.
- Carbon zero is pointless
- Faster throughput of traffic flow would reduce carbon emissions. Build the much-needed bypass or ring road!
- Speak to America and China

### **Overall Feedback**

24. The pie chart below shows that 53% of all respondents considered that the Boston Plan 'did' reflect the needs and aspirations of the borough's residents, with the remaining 47% considering it 'did not'.

**Do you feel the Boston Plan reflects the needs and aspirations of the borough's residents?**



Those respondents that considered the Boston Plan 'did not' reflect the needs and aspirations of the borough's residents were asked why not. There were a number of reasons why respondents considered the Boston Plan 'did not' reflect the needs and aspirations of the borough's residents such as it lacked vision, it always came with raising taxes, it should focus more on local residents rather than those that had come from other European countries, Boston needed investment, employment and tourists and there was too much focus on housing for certain individuals.

- Total loss of care about the place
- It lacks vision and needs of the residents, Rosegarth is an example of wasted opportunity
- The local community has less interest in environmental issues and more interest in creating a safer cleaner town
- Most people want a lot of immigrants sent back.
- indigenous population overlooked.
- Has anyone taken any feedback on board previously?
- The most obvious problem for the area, i.e. the "Us and Them" situation regarding large scale immigration is not actively addressed.
- Because it always comes with raising our taxes
- It should focus more on local residents, rather than immigrants all the time. The borough needs investment, decent employment, and tourists to increase wealth in the area, which will allow more business to flourish.
- Not realising the conditions given for receiving the grant they would prefer building regeneration. A stop on the amount of cigarette, booze, and vaping shops. The promoting of independent shops in those buildings that are

- renovated etc. The park area will just be one street smoking ashtray, and everyone accept yourselves knows that. Take your heads out of the sand.
- Boston Borough Council will always do what it wants.
  - Too much focus on housing for immigrants and community cohesion- which most immigrants don't even want
  - Just patching sinking ship
  - The plan needs to look at more getting more of the empty units in the town centre filled and combat the a.s.b that happens at night times as this puts a lot of people off coming into town to enjoy the night time economy we have here
  - Are u watching Facebook and posts??? Maybe time to start
  - While there seems to be much more sense being spoken than previous council admins there still seems too little importance being put on the health and welfare of towns folk. Communities have suffered greatly through overcrowded properties, noise, mess etc in once, nice family areas and now we seem to be resigned to living in noisy filth.
  - Because most people can't see the point of it . Unfortunately, it will probably be taken over by the homeless or other sections of the town
  - Again, not sufficient space to talk about this, it's not that simple
  - It is just an exercise in looking like we care about a community, whilst actually not addressing any of the real-life problems that they are experiencing.
  - Could be improved
  - It only goes so far and mainly concentrates on the town of Boston
  - As you cannot please everyone there will always be something not quite right
  - The Council members are out of date, you have stopped looking and listening at what local people want.
  - It reflects the egos of councillors.
  - The environmental concern about emissions is not something that Boston residents are concerned about. Boston knife crime and health is concern. Housing is a concern.
  - I don't know if the residents have particularly big aspirations, however by creating a thriving town I think that would inspire people to contribute positively to the city and be good citizens to the borough
  - Your telling people what they want not asking them...this is WEF WHO agenda not the everyday man in the street
  - Completely out of touch, with the focus on ticking boxes rather than tackling the real problems because that would mean upsetting the minorities and criminals, and it's easier to let the majority of honest working-class people suffer as they aren't allowed to be upset
  - Need more diverse industries
  - I mean yes and no. Some good parts, some bad.
  - The plan goes against what is really needed in this town.
  - No shops (except barbers, betting shops, takeaways and the like). Bring back M&S etc., and I don't mean a food only store.
  - In the main, the Council will have more knowledge of what Boston Town requires but feel the villages may have been a little overlooked.

- Because the scope is too limited
- Seems very biased to the town itself
- Maybe no Council in place.
- Greater pride in the town needed. Too many weeds, damaged railings, scruffy in places. Doesn't show the town in its best light.
- Economic activity in the town centre has reduced, access to doctors/medical services have reduced, population has expanded greatly, infrastructure has not grown with that population, council services have reduced as the cost has gone up, this is as this person sees it.
- I don't believe in it.
- Because it's very idealistic.
- It's outside of the Council's control, but the watering down of British people in Boston, has watered down community cohesion which results in lost heritage. It's too late for Boston. Perhaps put the funds towards defending another local town from becoming overrun before it's too late.
- Local plan needs better publicity and explanation
- Cannot answer as have no idea what is in the plan except the three projects that have already started with inadequate public consultation
- The Council are out to line their own pockets. Increase Council Tax for less services each year that get poorer and poorer. No street lighting in most housing estate unless their social housing areas and then you wonder why crime is high
- Aspirational language but light on timetable and delivery. We need more infrastructure before more housing - schools, surgeries, dentists etc.
- The residents of Boston did not get asked about how to spend the levelling up funds on
- There needs to be a technical college for more qualified trades persons and convalescence home to free up beds in pilgrim hospital

### **Additional Comments**

25. All respondents were asked if there was anything else they would like to share or suggest regarding the Boston Plan. Two respondents felt that the Council should invest in historic buildings with architecture. Some respondents thought that the Council should be supporting and encouraging small businesses and quality shops into the town. A couple of respondents mentioned the traffic and the need for a bypass and a further two respondents commented that the Council should tidy up what Boston already had. One respondent suggested the Council should look back at the 2016 Boston Plan that had not been actioned. A full list of comments are listed below.
- A small thermonuclear airburst might improve things!
  - Just the usual bypass etc
  - It's a standard government document, boring, long winded, and dry making too hard to read. The local community would benefit from a more easily digestible format
  - I think it's been created by people talking the talk whilst looking through rose-tinted glasses whilst smoking something that should be legalised.

- Any improvement is positive. Can you put flyers through doors, so this reaches more people, the more people involved the better. Can you provide links to help with reporting fly tipping to help tackle the regular issue in town?
- So much money being spent in one area, some staffed public toilets, a central post office, more shops, cheaper car parking, bring back the market by reduced rent
- Stop trying to achieve the old rejuvenation ideas, modern ideas are the way forward. No-one wants to go back to pre-internet days of shopping and communicating.
- No reference for plans to mitigate the influx of criminality to the area/ address the failings of the GLA
- Make Boston something worth visiting, better shops - less food, phone and vape shops!
- People love this town because of its history, we should be investing in buildings with architecture that emphasise our rich past, while making sure that all those original character buildings are given priority when it comes to renovations. I'd love to see more of an emphasis on creating a tourism industry focused on this history. marketing ourselves to Bostonians across the pond, or anyone else who might be interested in our slice of English history.
- I think there needs to be more of a focus on keeping our historical buildings clean and beautiful, Boston is starting to look run down. Rent for businesses in the town is extortionate and the places being offered do not reflect the price, landlords need to keep accountable for their prices and conditions of the buildings. Walking through the historical market town is scary and ugly, I've lived here all my life and the significant change from when I was a child only 15-20 years ago is staggering and scary. We used to come into town all the time, and now? What is there to see? There's nothing. We need the residents of Boston to actually want to go into town and feel safe whilst doing so.
- Rather than the stupid Rosegarth street our money would be better spent on tidying up the town centre, the Council should also be warning owners of empty premises in the town centre that they must keep their empty properties in a good state of repair and prosecute those that don't, there are far too many ugly, rundown and empty properties in the town. If these properties are left in the state, they are then they should be compulsory taken over and turned into cheap housing and accommodation for the homeless and those living in poverty.
- Boston was once thriving and an enjoyable town to visit
- Stop wasting our Council Tax on housing migrants , just remember charity begins at home
- Very little about tourism.
- Educating the community. I have come here from London 10 years ago. Boston is 20 years behind that in its racist views, comments lack of embracing change and moving forward.
- More retail opportunities and encouraging larger brands

- Improve the river banks, make it accessible for walks as a promenade, make the port a tourist attraction with boat trips
- Sort out traffic this is ongoing problem from years
- Aim to get what we already have tidied and back to some sense of what the town once was....nice....and then move on to focus on fancy projects. There is more to the town than the bit in the middle and locals are leaving in droves because of the state of it and how some are allowed to live and behave.
- Consultation with people that put forward good ideas have been ignored
- It is a long document mostly telling us what the problems are and what you want the outcomes to be with virtually nothing about what you are actually going to do (or want to do).
- Maybe take another look at the approved 2016 plan that never happened.
- Naming the plan 2040 is misleading, the goals of the plan are ongoing, and it will never reach perfection by a certain date, instead it will evolve over time.
- Reduce the flood risk of the area and increase the overall cleanliness of the streets. investing in a full-time road sweeper
- Fleshing out of the detail in the empty sections regarding integration etc
- Nan on hmso housing within half a mile of schools, mental health support increased and encourage less car use maybe bike lanes
- Encourage young people to stay, give them a chance to work, not just made to feel they are surplus to requirements. Try to change the them and us problem. Stop the foreign food shops opening as a money laundering exercise, give everyone a chance. So sadly after 16 years of living in Boston we are moving as there is nothing left for us here in Boston. The lack of clearing of up of rubbish around the town we are 27 days into the year and I'm still seeing remains of fireworks. It's awful, it's a poor excuse for a town.
- More funding to reduce/subsidise business rates, to encourage shops to trade in Boston town centre, and ample free parking to encourage people to return to shopping in our town, rather than travel to the likes of Springfields
- Yes, have a town meeting to discuss it.
- We need more community groups out and about doing stuff together.
- Health challenges! There is so many houses being built however there are no new GP's being open or new schools. The town should attract medical staff that would like to come and stay in Boston. I know it's general NHS problem, but Boston should make more effort to support local communities to have better access to medical health and support.
- More focus on quality shops in the town centre. Making spaces suitable for small businesses. I don't think the amount of charity shops / phone shops/ betting places is proportionate to quality retail. More activities for families (glo golf is great and exciting) maybe more eateries in town centre, and refurbishment of pavements
- Trying asking people what they want for the town...it isn't higher bills and net zero fantasy
- Start policing the town and take it back from the criminals. Stop making criminals victims and show that our town will not tolerate anti-social

behaviour and that honest people will then start to feel safe to venture out again. Everyone knows what the town has become, everyone says that won't come into town and no amount of 'Community Cohesion' babble will change this. We haven't been voted as the fourth worst coastal town in Britain without substance behind it. Creating a bedsit city won't change that, will just encourage further problems

- All funding mentioned in document was obtained by previous administration. You need to employ more economic development staff. Oops sorry you've lost good staff already!
- I don't know where to start. The decline is horrendous. All of these festivals/ music/ cultural events are fine, but I don't go to them. I want lovely basic shops, like somewhere I can try school shoes on buy lovely food, sit outside a cafe or a Marks and Spencer's and look out at the stump. I had the chance to look at the old Cheers shop inside, and the first floor has a wonderful view. It would make a beautiful high-end cafe. The owner gave up after crime and having all of his tools stolen defeated him. Get rid of the spongers, the crime, the first, the low-class shops, the shoplifters, more police, cheaper business rates, business grants. Heritage shop fronts restored, cheap parking, better transport and fewer immigrants of a very low skill set. I could go on. I sit in the Skegness m&s cafe looking at a car park and wish I could do the same outside the old m&s in Boston. Looking out on our wonderful stump.
- Yes, like I said previously a fully accessible and inclusive playground. Not just one piece of equipment here and another piece of equipment in another playground. It is fair on children with disabilities to have to travel here and there for things. Improve children's childhood. Include them all in playgrounds please. All Children have the right to play, not just able children.
- Why are we still having double decker buses running around the back streets in the town with only 1 or 2 people on them, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> coming from them is more than it should be for a small number of passengers. Bring back the 12-seater buses we used to have and cleaner to run on electric or Hybrid.
- The Council's plan refers to almost an abundance of green space, but I disagree on this matter when compared to other boroughs in Lincolnshire. Lincoln, the Wolds, and Skegness has fantastic green spaces and Country Parks whereas those living to the south of Boston have to travel significant distances to enjoy these areas. It seems farmland can be sold for housing and/or renewable energy projects but never to provide any good public access land for enjoyment. The roads to the walks along the coast/rivers are really poorly maintained. For shopping/facilities I would rather travel to Spalding where the parking is free.
- Stop the numbers of HMOs one next to me is a nightmare, 4 cars with one parking space, now the house opposite is being turned into one. You may not live in Boston but making it a grotty place.
- Greater focus on what the public want is vital. Better publicity for meetings. Weekend meetings would be better attended. I am often unaware of any meeting taking place.

- The internet, A.I., the telephone and zoom meetings will never replace the human need for face-to-face interaction. Council officers, Drs, banks, and councillors please take note.
- More communication with public
- I'd like to see much better support and increased facilities for small businesses to start, grow and thrive.
- Ignore the negative moaning you seem to get whenever you post a positive initiative on various social media platforms unless they are a constructively critical comment or suggestions.
- Nonspecific ref. action.
- Get a better council for the town
- Cleaning the town better
- More transport options for those who are unable to get to a bus stop that is a mile away.

### WhatsApp Poll Results

	Number of votes
<b>Which area of focus is most important to you for Boston's future?</b>	
Thriving economy	6
Healthy and sustainable Boston	0
Community cohesion and resilience	0
<b>What do you think is the best way to support economic growth in Boston?</b>	
Attracting new businesses	4
Regenerating the town centre	2
Enhancing skills and training	2
Supporting existing businesses	2
<b>How well do you feel Boston supports its diverse communities?</b>	
Very well	0
Well	1
Neutral	1
Poor	5
<b>What should be the top priority for a healthier and more sustainable Boston?</b>	
Creating more accessible green spaces	0
Promoting active travel (walking/cycling)	2
Tackling climate change and reducing emissions	2
Improving access to health services	1

## Facebook Poll Results

	Number of votes
<b>Which area of focus is most important to you for Boston's future?</b>	
Thriving economy	127
Healthy and sustainable Boston	56
Community cohesion and resilience	38
<b>What do you think is the best way to support economic growth in Boston?</b>	
Attracting new businesses	93
Regenerating the town centre	79
Enhancing skills and training	18
Supporting existing businesses	71
<b>How well do you feel Boston supports its diverse communities?</b>	
Very well	0
Well	26
Neutral	14
Poor	26
<b>What should be the top priority for a healthier and more sustainable Boston?</b>	
Creating more accessible green spaces	9
Promoting active travel (walking/cycling)	18
Tackling climate change and reducing emissions	7
Improving access to health services	164
<b>The vision covers the whole of the borough – both rural and urban. Do you feel that both aspects are sufficiently covered in the Plan?</b>	
Yes	5
No (please explain why) - comments below	19
<p>The rural strategy is the missing link. Transport in from rural areas takes two forms. It could be public transport, but currently that is very gappy and infrequent. No good if you rely on it to travel to and from Boston for work or need significant shopping. Improving access for cyclists and walkers is nice but that caters far more for leisure than everyday activities. So, that leaves motor vehicles, where cheap or free accessible parking becomes vital if you want to draw people in to the town centre...you know, the kind of accessible parking you find by out of town supermarkets. Stop thinking of the rural areas as some kind of theme park!</p>	
<p>In all honesty the plan is rather woolly and doesn't really outline the distinct how you intend to achieve the objectives. From the rural perspective it doesn't really include us. Rural areas left to get on with it with very little support as usual. Public transport is woeful</p>	
<p>Access to transport for vulnerable people (no buses on Saturdays) and one each weekday run from the tattershall rd areas at 9.30 am ish and back again from Boston bus station at 12.30 when they can be bothered to turn up not good for disabled and elderly</p>	

Boston borough council draft plan is very town centre biased, the rural part seems to have been pushed to one side. I'm afraid this seems to be an ongoing problem with Boston borough council, town gets majority of resources, rest of Borough left out, this needs addressing before the final 2040 plan.
Lack of infrastructure, travelling time by road to A1 etc , Slow sporadic rail/ bus service . Not even a footpath cycle path on A52 and other roads despite the space

### Next Door Poll Results

	Number of votes
<b>Which area of focus is most important to you for Boston's future?</b>	
Thriving economy	7
Healthy and sustainable Boston	5
Community cohesion and resilience	1
<b>What do you think is the best way to support economic growth in Boston?</b>	
Attracting new businesses	8
Regenerating the town centre	8
Enhancing skills and training	0
Supporting existing businesses	4
<b>How well do you feel Boston supports its diverse communities?</b>	
Very well	4
Well	1
Neutral	3
Poor	4
<b>What should be the top priority for a healthier and more sustainable Boston?</b>	
Creating more accessible green spaces	3
Promoting active travel (walking/cycling)	2
Tackling climate change and reducing emissions	2
Improving access to health services	14

### Facebook stats

- Views (of related posts on Facebook): 61,356
- Reach (unique users who saw a post): 40,052
- Engagement (likes, comments, shared etc): 2,790
- Link clicks: 204

### Instagram stats

- Views: 1,002
- Reach: 849
- Interactions (likes, comments, shared etc): 17