

**Scottish Public Opinion Monitor Wave 17
COSLA topline DRAFT v1**

Technical details:

- This presents the topline results from Scotland
- Results are based on a survey of 1,006 respondents (adults aged 16+) conducted by telephone
- Fieldwork dates: 29th November- 5th December 2013.
- Data are weight by: age, sex and working status using census data; tenure using SHS data; and public-private sector employment using Scottish Government Quarterly Public Sector Employment series data
- Where results do not sum to 100%, this may be due to computer rounding, multiple responses, or the exclusion of “don’t know” categories
- Results are based on all respondents (1,006) unless otherwise stated.

COSLA – Local Democracy

COSL A1 Thinking about your local area to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

<i>Base:</i>	%	%	%	%	%
	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
I would like more say in how local services are provided in my area	42	40	12	4	3
I would get more involved in my community if it was easier to participate in decisions that affect it	40	37	15	5	2
I feel part of how decisions affecting my community are made	13	22	34	27	4
When people like me get involved in the local community they can change the way their area is run	29	41	17	9	3
I am too busy to get involved in local politics and decision making	14	33	31	18	4

COSLA 2 Now thinking about how local series such as schools and roads maintenance are currently delivered, which if the following two statements comes closest to your view

<i>Base:</i>		%
	Local services should be delivered in the same way for all of Scotland's communities	27
	Local services should be delivered in ways that meet the needs of local people in their area	71
	Don't Know	1

COSL A3 And to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements

<i>Base:</i>		%	%	%	%	%
		Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
A	Central government controls more decisions about local public services than it did in the past	22	32	22	7	17
B	It is clear who makes decisions about local services in my area	16	28	32	18	5

COSL A4 Thinking about council services such as care for older people or planning and how they are financed. Roughly what proportion of council services would you say are paid for by your council tax at the moment

<i>Base:</i>		%
	Less than a quarter	28
	Between quarter and a half	29
	Between half and three quarters	15
	More than three quarters	6
	Don't know	22

COSL A5 **And to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

<i>Base:</i>		% Strongly agree	% Tend to agree	% Tend to disagree	% Strongly disagree	% Don't know
A	It is easy to see how my taxes are used to provide the local services I get	8	23	32	31	6
B	I would be willing to pay more council tax if I was certain the money raised was spent on local services such as schools and care for older people	29	36	15	18	3
C	I think councils have enough money to deliver the services my community needs	24	25	22	22	6

COSL A6 **Thinking about the future of local services to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements**

<i>Base:</i>		% Strongly agree	% Tend to agree	% Tend to disagree	% Strongly disagree	% Don't know
A	More public services should be delivered by local councils if it improves people's lives	57	36	3	1	3
B	Decisions about public services that affect me and my family tend to be taken too far away from where I live	29	32	26	8	7
C	Councils would be better if they were organised around my local area more than they are today	31	40	18	5	6
D	More people would vote in local elections if it was clearer how their vote made a difference to local services	60	30	5	2	3
E	More people would vote in local elections if it was clearer how their vote influenced how much council tax they pay	51	36	8	2	3