

Festivals consultation 28 January – 20 March 2016

Comment areas within responses	Number of responses including comment area	%
Approach is inconsistent regarding supporting religious events	3	7.14%
Why are religious festivals being supported	1	2.38%
Support for continued funding of Leicester at the Cross	10	23.81%
Comments regarding the quality of/spend on Christmas activities/decorations	10	23.81%
Concern on relative level of spend on Christmas compared with Diwali	9	21.43%
Concern on the level of Diwali funding	12	28.57%
Budget should be allocated more equally between communities	15	35.71%
Why have Black History Month and not a shorter period?	1	2.38%
Charge for events	1	2.38%
Expenditure on festivals is too high	2	4.76%
Expenditure on festivals is too low	1	2.38%
Proposals are supported	4	9.52%

A total of 42 responses was submitted with comments (excluding two which included no comment). The main area of comment was that the review should allocate budget more equally between the festivals and events of all the City's communities (15 responses, 35.71% of responses).

Specifically this focussed on the level of budget allocated to Diwali (12 responses, 28.57%) and in particular how this compares against the level of budget for Christmas activities/decorations (9 responses, 21.43%).

Ten comments (23.81%) commented on the level of funding and quality of the Christmas event and decorations.

The continued support for funding of Leicester at the Cross was raised in 10 responses (23.81%). Three responses (7.14%) felt there was an inconsistency in the approach to funding religious events and one stated that religious events should not be funded.

Four responses (9.52%) supported the proposals.

Response to the consultation process

The comments from the consultation were incorporated into the final report and changes to the funding of the following externally delivered festivals were made:

- Let's Dance – Increase from £3,000 to £4,000
- Indian Summer – Increase from £3,000 to £4,000
- Leicester at the Cross – Funding of £2,500 agreed for 2017/18