CITY OF MUTARE

2026 BUDGET CONSULTATION REPORT

As we prepare the 2026 budget, the City of Mutare does not want to leave any resident or any person behind in the development programming for the city. The City of Mutare resorted to multiple consultation platforms i.e. newspapers (notices in The Herald and The Manica Post), radio broadcasts (Diamond FM), road shows, WhatsApp platform, digital google survey forms, the Chatbot and physical meetings with sector-specific & ward-based stakeholder groups. The proposed tariff and other ancillary related reports can be accessed through these platforms.

Worth noting is the involvement of resident's representatives, led by The United Mutare Residents & Ratepayers Trust **(UMRRT),** who did a door-to-door exercise gathering residents input through questionnaires. UMRRT worked with all other stakeholder groups in coordinating a budget consultation and data gathering process which produced impressive results.

Comment from UMRRT

"2026 budget consultation process: A case of working collaborative advocacy

Introduction:
In the past, the relationship between City of Mutare and residents has been characterized by discord stemming from suspicions, accusations and counter accusations. For most who lived in the city then, the budget making period had become a battleground to settle old scores and grudges between council employees, councilors, residents and different pressure groups to the detriment of service delivery and subsequent development. 2018-19 was a turning point that redefined the form of engagements in Mutare's local governance. The council in its wisdom introduced an open-door policy which resulted in the formation of the budget committee/ multi-stakeholder committee. This was a masterstroke which resulted in council coming to the table with different stakeholders to redefine the direction the city was going to take. Mutare has never been the same since then. The fights have been getting fewer as the city continues to embrace a combination of TECHNOLOGY AND COLLABORATIVE ADVOCACY for the benefit of the residents, business and other stakeholders.

2026 Budget consultations:
The 2026 budget consultations were done between 20 October and 11 November. The process combined old and new methods, exhibiting innovation that ensured as many people as possible had been reached. Community meetings, radio and newspaper adverts, public announcements and door-to-door consultations were among the many approaches that council used to reach a wider audience than the previous years. The total number of residents consulted on the 2026 budget was just above 25000, a sharp increase from last year which was just above 5000 in a city of over 250 000 residents. In All this the Multi-stakeholder committee played a leading role. A culmination of years of trust building, collaborative engagements and joint decision making.

Door-to-door consultations:
A total of 50 enumerators were engaged and trained in the use of smart phones and online questionnaires in data collection. City council's IT department lead this process which took one day. The enumerators were deployed across the 19 wards of Mutare for an effective period of 12 days (10 data collection and 2 mop-ups). All the data was uploaded in real-time to a central system manned by councils IT department. Reports could be generated by the click of a button. 5 supervisors were deployed across the city for back-checks and verifications, sometimes offering enumerators back-up support where it was required.

Community meetings:
This traditional method of meeting in council halls and other public places was deployed with equally impressive results. The multi-stakeholder committee led from the front in mobilizing cluster meetings that they represent. Residents' associations were deployed into the wards with physical attendance surpassing the previous years. The collaboration is finally bearing fruits that will drive sustained development in the city.

Key result:
+25000 residents reached

Lessons
- The city of Mutare should invest more in improving cooperate image amongst residents and business communities.
- Council should provide more platforms for engagements with residents throughout the year
- Any form of collaboration should be structured, results oriented and traceable for the benefit of the city"

1. PRESS (NEWSPAPERS)

Council advertised the full structure of the proposed tariff in two newspaper publications (the Manica Post dated 26 September 2025 and the Herald dated 4 October 2025) and made a copy available for inspection as mandated by sections 219 and Section 288 of the Urban Councils Act [Chapter 29:15], as read with Section 47 of the Public Finance Management Act [Chapter 22:19]. The objection period closed on 6 November 2025.

Only two objections were lodged: one from Mr. E. Tembenuka and another from Commuter Omnibuses Associations.

a) Mr Tembenuka's objection:
- He objected to the lease renewal fees for rented accommodation set at US$25-00 and proposed a reduced fee of US$3-00.
- He opposed the rental accommodation adjustment for Murahwa (OTS) from US$12-00 to US$15-00, recommending a downward revision to US$10-00.
- He objected to the proposed US$50-00 charge for a change of name on rented accommodation, suggesting a fee of US$15-00.
- He raised concerns about the Special Road Rate, arguing that it constituted double taxation since road-related charges fall under ZINARA.

His objection was considered in full council held on Friday 21 November 2025 and the same will be forwarded to the Minister of Local Government and Public Works with recommendations.

b) Commuter Omnibuses Associations lodged an objection to the proposed operating licences, parking fees, and rank discs. However, we made effort to reach out and understand their concern. During an engagement held on 4 November 2025, it became clear that the associations had misinterpreted aspects of the proposed tariffs. Following the clarification the objection fell off.

2. QUESTIONNAIRES

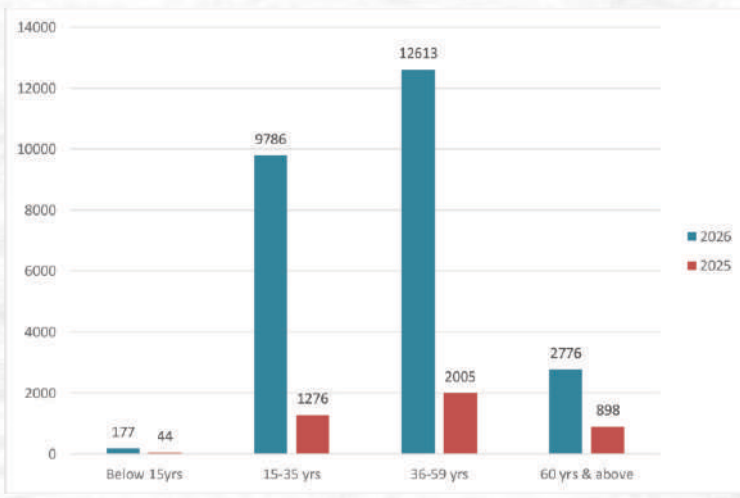
City of Mutare conducted comprehensive stakeholder consultations through both physical and digital questionnaires, utilizing Google Forms to enhance accessibility and participation. Questionnaires were made available in English and Shona to accommodate diverse stakeholder groups. A total of 13,300 physical questionnaires and 20,234 digital questionnaires were distributed, amounting to 33,534 in total. The dispatch period commenced on 14 October 2025, with submissions closing on 6 November 2025. The exercise yielded 25,353 responses, representing a commendable response rate of 76%, reflecting strong stakeholder engagement in the budget consultation process. The questionnaires were also distributed via a door-to-door approach.

Below is the outcome of the questionnaire's responses and outcome.

Question 1

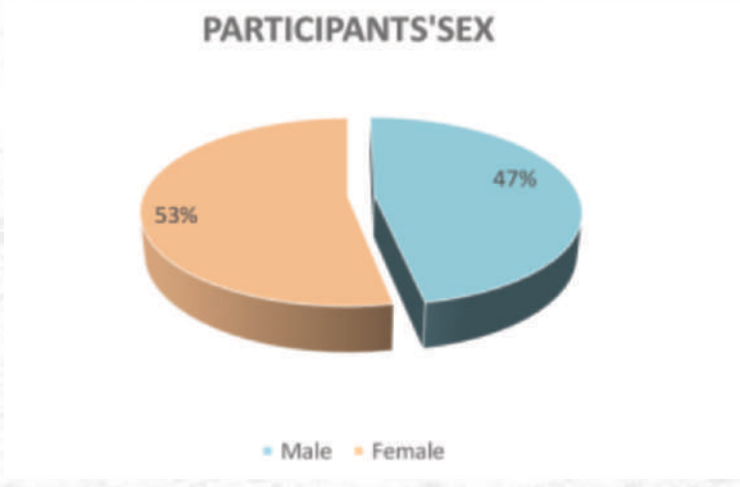
Most of the total respondents of 25,353, were between 36-59 years (49.75%).

Q1	Age Groups	No. of People 2026	2025	2024	% Change (2025 to 2026)
	Below 15 years	177	44	136	302%
	15-35 years	9,786	1,276	1,180	667%
	36-59 years	12,613	2,005	1,456	529%
	60 years & above	2,776	898	510	209%
	Total	**25,353**	**4,223**	**3,282**	**500%**



Stakeholder participation increased significantly between 2025 and 2026 across all age groups, rising from **4,223** to **25,353** participants. The largest growth was recorded in the 15-35 and 36-59 age groups, with increases of 667% and 529% respectively, while those below 15 years and those 60 years and above saw rises of 302% and 209%. These improvements highlight the success of the City's inclusive consultation strategies in broadening demographic reach and ensuring more representative input into the 2026 budget consultation process.

Q2 Participants' Sex



The consultation process showed a significant rise in gender participation from 2025 to 2026, with women increasing from 1,279 to 13,437 and men from 1,280 to 11,916. Women recorded the largest growth, surpassing men in overall participation for 2026. This active involvement of women and the high response rate highlights strengthened gender inclusivity and the extensiveness of this year's budget planning process.

Q3 Participants 'status

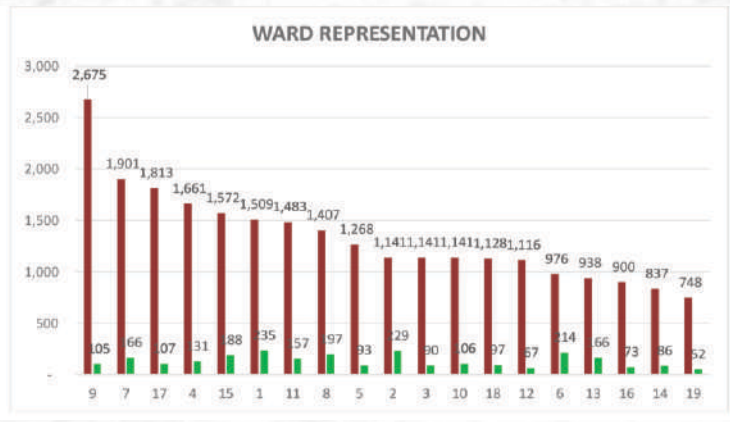
The City of Mutare recorded a substantial increase in participation from Persons with Disabilities, rising from **228** individuals in 2025 to **1,521** in 2026.

- This sharp increase reflects improved outreach efforts and greater inclusivity within the consultation process. Feedback from participants emphasized the need to enhance accessibility, inclusion and equity across municipal services and infrastructure. This issue related to
- Provision of adequate medication for Persons with Disabilities in municipal clinics
- Improving access to public toilets for persons with disabilities
- Promotion of inclusive sporting activities within the city.
- Exemption from waiting list on stand allocations for Persons with Disabilities to advance inclusion and equity.
- Adoption of assistive and inclusive technologies (e.g., inverse systems).
- Implementation of inclusive education practices in all council schools.
- Use of disability-friendly posters, notices, and communication materials.
- Introduction of rates rebates for Persons with Disabilities to enhance affordability and participation. (Which of these submissions were included as part of budget recommendations

Q 4 Ward Representation

Below is an analysis of respondents from each ward comparing to prior year ward-based consultations.

Ward	No of People 2026	2025	2024	% Change 2026 & 2025
9	2,675	105	164	2448%
7	1,901	166	217	1045%
17	1,813	107	184	1594%
4	1,661	131	248	1168%
15	1,572	188	177	736%
1	1,509	235	179	542%
11	1,483	157	167	845%
8	1,407	197	171	614%
5	1,268	93	217	1263%
2	1,141	229	245	398%
3	1,141	90	218	1168%
10	1,141	106	103	976%
18	1,128	97	153	1063%
12	1,116	67	72	1566%
6	976	214	251	356%
13	938	166	181	465%
16	900	73	74	1133%
14	837	86	207	873%
19	748	52	54	1338%
Total	**25,353**	**2,559**	**3,282**	



Ward-level participation increased dramatically from **2,559** participants in 2025 to **25,353** in 2026, reflecting the effectiveness of the City's enhanced consultation strategies. Ward 9 recorded the highest engagement in 2026 with **2,675** participants, compared to only **105** in 2025, while several other wards-such as Wards 12, 19, 5, and 17-also registered increases exceeding 1,000%. This sharp rise across all wards marks a major improvement from previous years, when ward meetings typically attracted only 10-20 participants. The substantial growth is largely attributed to the adoption of diverse and more inclusive methods, particularly the door-to-door consultation approach, which significantly broadened community reach and accessibility.

Issues of major concern by stakeholders during ward-based consultations
- Need for road rehabilitation and maintenance to improve accessibility and mobility.
- Need for improved water supply to ensure provision safe water.
- Rehabilitation and maintenance of sewer infrastructure to enhance sanitation and environmental health.
- Installation and rehabilitation of street and tower lights to improve public safety and visibility.
- Provision and maintenance of recreational facilities to promote community well-being.
- Curbing corruption among council employees to enhance transparency and accountability.
- Control of illegal mining activities to protect water sources and the environment.
- Development of effective drainage systems to prevent flooding and waterlogging.
- Establishment of adequate vending sites to support informal traders.
- Construction of disability-friendly infrastructure to promote inclusivity.
- Improvement in drug availability within council clinics.
- Opening of council clinics during weekends to increase access to health services.
- Replacement of non-functional water meters to ensure accurate billing and monitoring.
- Repair and maintenance of rented council accommodation to improve living conditions.
- Reduction of water losses and non-revenue water through improved water management.
- Expansion of clinics and schools to meet growing community needs.
- Addressing traffic congestion around the Flyover area.
- Construction of footbridges and link roads to enhance connectivity and pedestrian safety.
- Development of social and cultural centres, including art galleries, to promote community engagement and cultural preservation.

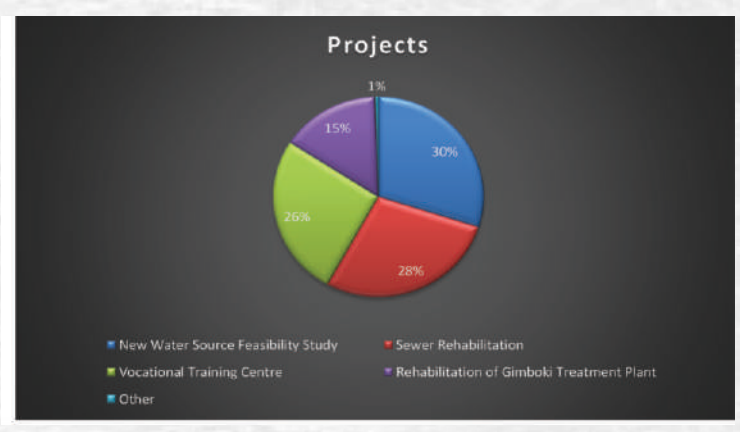
Q 5 Sector Representation

Sector	No. of People		% Change
Resident	12,079	765	1479%
Informal Sector	5,046	359	1306%
Rate Payer	1,730	268	546%
Youth	1,161	114	918%
Churches	927	141	557%
Business Community	837	177	373%
Schools	793	144	451%
SMES	648	73	788%
Women	625	125	400%
The Elderly	536	86	523%
Other	335	48	598%
Sports, Art and Culture	190	1,743	-89%
Persons with Disabilities	156	53	194%
Workers Union	145	53	174%
Residents Associations	89	40	123%
Media	56	34	65%
Total	**25,353**	**4,223**	

Sector representation in the consultation process expanded markedly from **4,223** participants in 2025 to **25,353** in 2026, reflecting significantly improved stakeholder outreach. The highest growth was recorded among residents, whose participation rose from **765** to **12,079**, followed by the informal sector with an increase from **359** to **5,046**. Strong gains were also noted among youth, SMEs, women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, all of whom recorded substantial percentage increases. Although most sectors experienced major growth, participation from the Sports, Arts and Culture sector declined compared to 2025. Overall, the sharp rise across almost all sectors highlights the success of the City's inclusive engagement strategies and the broadened stakeholder reach achieved in the 2026 consultation process.

Q6. Devolution Projects Rollover

Project	No. of People	%
New Water Source Feasibility Study	7,586	29.92
Sewer Rehabilitation	7,129	28.12
Vocational Training Centre	6,617	26.10
Rehabilitation of Gimboki Treatment Plant	3,883	15.32
Other	138	0.55
Total	**25,353**	**100**



The majority of participants expressed support for the rolling over of devolution projects into 2026. The new water source feasibility study emerged as the most favoured project, with 7,586 participants endorsing it. Additionally, approximately 2% of participants proposed the funding of new projects under the devolution program, including road construction, establishment of clinics and schools, and the construction of a bridge across the Nyamauru River, reflecting community priorities for infrastructure development and service delivery.

Comment:
As of 21 November 2025, council had not yet received any devolution disbursements. This has resulted in the postponement of projects that had been budgeted for under that allocation. Consequently, priority should be given to payment of outstanding creditors for roads construction which remain unpaid due to non-disbursement of devolution funds. New proposed projects will be considered in the suggested order after paying off creditors for roads already completed.

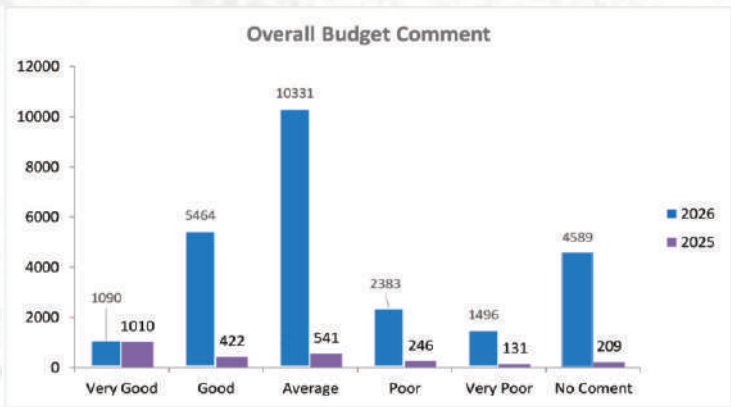
Q7. Proposed 2026 Projects

Project	No. of People	%
Rehabilitation Centre (Drug and Substance Abuse)	3,383	13.34
Water Pipes Renewal (St. Joseph Main Line and Chikomo Ring main)	3,206	12.64
Road Resealing (Dangamvura Comm Route)	3,177	12.53
Additional blocks for Gimboki & Chikanga 2 Primary Schools	2,652	10.46
Mobile Asphalt Plant (Tar making machine)	2,299	9.07
Construction of 2 Tower Lights	2,282	9.00
Dumpsite feasibility study and relocation	2,136	8.43
Vocational Training Centre	1,854	7.31
Community Halls Renovations - Mutare Hall, Moffat Hall	1,532	6.04
Construction of Sporting facilities - Dangamvura Swimming Pool and Combat Sporting Facility (Mixed Martial Arts)	1,523	6.01
Rehabilitation of Main Park	1,309	5.16
Total	**25,353**	**100**

Regarding the proposed 2026 projects, 3,383 participants (representing 13.34% of total respondents) expressed support for the establishment of a Rehabilitation Centre for Drug and Substance Abuse. This was followed by the Water Pipes Renewals project, covering the St. Joseph main line and Chikomo Ring Mains, which received support from 3,206 participants. Other stakeholders highlighted additional priorities for the Council, including the resealing of the road from TM Chikanga to ZRP Chikomo, servicing of the Federation Stands, construction of a footbridge connecting Areas 15 and 16, as well as the renovation of Dangamvura Hall, clinics, and other community facilities, reflecting a broad range of infrastructure and service delivery needs.

Q8. Overall Assessment of Budget Performance

Comment	No. of People 2026	2025	%	% Change
Average	10,331	1,010	40.75	9.23
Good	5,464	422	21.55	11.95
No Comment	4,589	541	18.10	7.48
Poor	2,383	246	9.40	8.69
Very Poor	1,496	131	5.90	10.42
Very Good	1,090	209	4.30	4.22
Total	**25,353**	**2,559**	**100**	

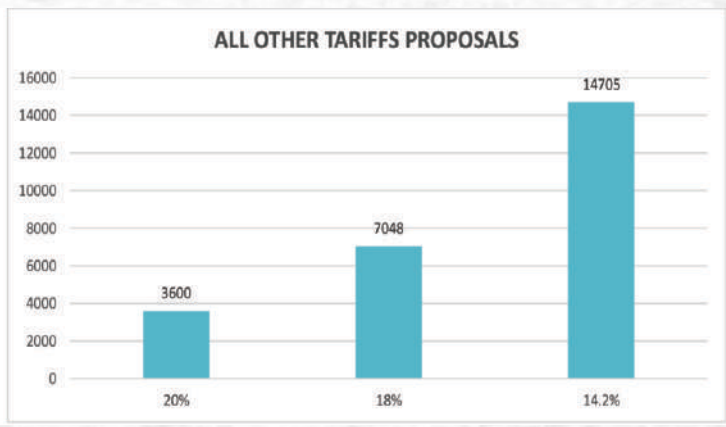


Assessment of the overall budget performance showed that 67% of participants (16,885) viewed it positively, 15% (3,879) expressed negative feedback, while 18% (4,589) did not comment, indicating generally favourable public perception with some areas for improvement. This is confirmation that residents appreciate efforts being put to improve general service delivery in the city.

Q9. Tariff Review Percentage (%)

a) All Other Tariffs

All Other Tariffs Review Proposal	No. of People	%
Minimum (14.2%)	14,705	58.00
Moderate (18%)	7,048	27.80
Optimum (20%)	3,600	14.20
Total	**25,353**	**100.00**

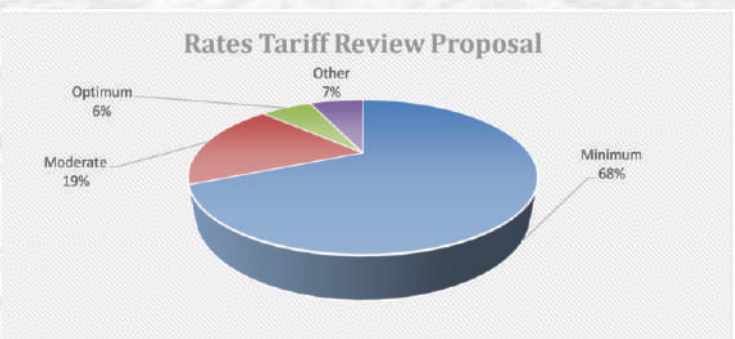


Key
Minimum (14.2%) *= Maintain current service levels (no improvement, but prevent decline)*
Moderate (18%) *= Allow for modest service improvements and partial infrastructure upgrades*
Optimum (20%) *= Enable full cost recovery, infrastructure renewal, and enhanced service quality*

Most participants, 14,705 individuals (14.2%), supported a 14.2% tariff review implementation. Other participants either had no comments or proposed alternative increments of 0%, 2%, 5%, and 10%, reflecting diverse views on the proposed tariff adjustments.

b) Rates Tariff Proposal Review

Rates Tariff Review Proposal	No. of People	%
Minimum (27%)	17,362	68.48
Moderate (35%)	4,689	18.49
Other	1,697	6.69
Optimum (40%)	1,605	6.33
Total	**25,353**	**100**



Most participants, 17,362 individuals (68%), favoured a 27% tariff review for rates. Other participants either did not comment or suggested alternative increments ranging from 0% to 25%, with a few proposing as high as 73%, reflecting a wide range of opinions on the proposed rate adjustments. The others' analysis was as follows:

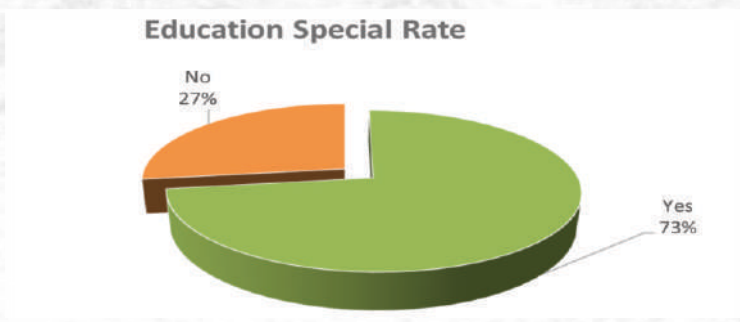
Other Preferences	No. of People	%
0%	355	20.92
1%	3	0.18
2%	5	0.29
3%	4	0.24
5%	96	5.66
6%	3	0.18
7%	2	0.12
10%	61	3.59
14%	1	0.06
15%	1	0.06
20%	15	0.88
21%	1	0.06
24%	2	0.12
25%	2	0.12
50%	1	0.06
73%	1	0.06
Reduce the current tariff	39	2.30
Other	1105	65.11
Total	**1697**	**100.00**

For the "Other" category of participants, some did not provide any comments, while others raised issues unrelated to the proposed rates tariff increase, road maintenance, the scrap road levy, and other matters under discussion.

Q10. Education Special Rate Proposals
The City of Mutare is facing a growing gap between the number of pupils and the availability of education facilities. Up to 2024, the Council had made progress in constructing and upgrading schools using revenue from the Education Levy. However, the levy was discontinued in 2025, significantly slowing down these efforts.

To address this, Council proposed reintroducing an Education Special Rate in 2026 with the following monthly charges:
- $1 per high-density residential property
- $2 per low-density residential property
- $6 per SME (Small and Medium Enterprise)
- $12 per commercial, institutional, or industrial property

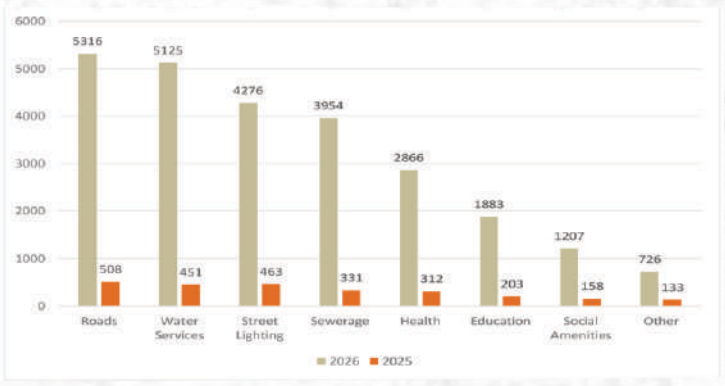
Response	No. of People	%
Yes	18,470	72.85
No	6,883	27.15
Total	**25,353**	**100**



A total of 18,470 participants supported the revival of the education special rate. Others suggested alternative funding measures for educational facilities, including resuscitating beer halls, enhancing revenue collection strategies, and engaging the government for the disbursement of devolution funds

Q11. Service Delivery Areas to be Improved

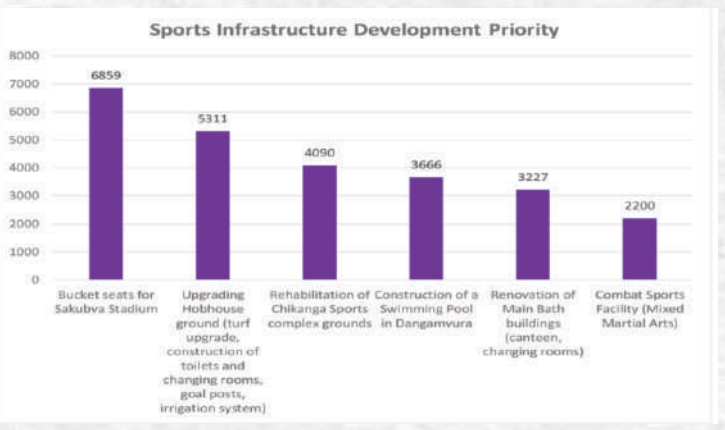
Area	No of People 2026	2025	% Change
Roads	5,316	508	946%
Water Services	5,125	451	1036%
Street Lighting	4,276	463	824%
Sewerage	3,954	331	1095%
Health	2,866	312	819%
Education	1,883	203	828%
Social Amenities	1,207	158	664%
Other	726	133	446%
Total	**25,353**	**2,559**	



Service delivery priorities showed a substantial increase in participation from 2,559 responses in 2025 to 25,353 in 2026, indicating heightened community engagement in identifying key municipal needs. Roads emerged as the most frequently cited area for improvement, rising from 508 responses in 2025 to 5,316 in 2026, followed closely by Water Services, which grew from 451 to 5,125 responses. Significant increases were also recorded across Sewerage, Street Lighting, Health, Education, and Social Amenities, each registering growth rates exceeding 800% or more. While most participants focused on core service delivery areas, others highlighted additional needs such as improved fire services, security, emergency response, library services, and home ownership initiatives. This overall rise demonstrates stronger public involvement and a clearer articulation of community priorities in the 2026 consultation process

Q12. Sports Infrastructure Development

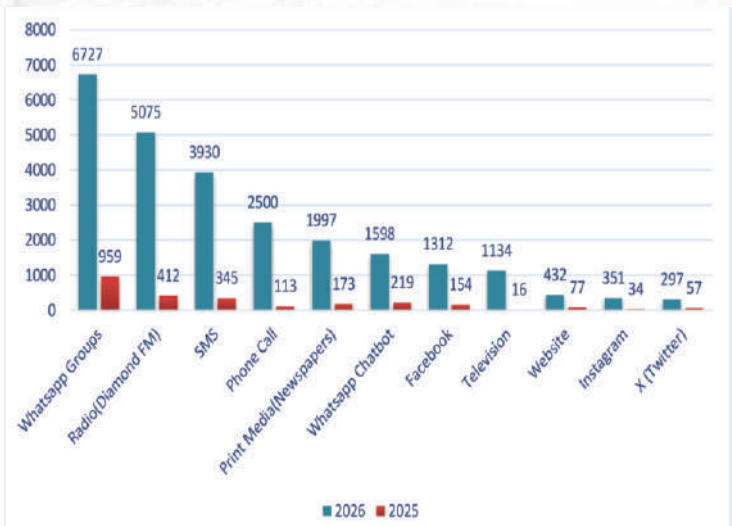
Project	No. of People	%
Bucket seats for Sakubva Stadium	6,859	27.05
Upgrading Hobhouse ground (turf upgrade, construction of toilets and changing rooms, goal posts, irrigation system)	5,311	20.95
Rehabilitation of Chikanga Sports complex grounds	4,090	16.13
Construction of a Swimming Pool in Dangamvura	3,666	14.46
Renovation of Main Bath buildings (canteen, changing rooms)	3,227	12.73
Combat Sports Facility (Mixed Martial Arts)	2,200	8.68
Total	**25,353**	**100**



Bucket seats for Sakubva Stadium emerged as the top priority, supported by 6,859 participants (27.05%), followed by the upgrading of Hobhouse Ground with 5,311 participants (20.95%). Other participants expressed preference for improvements to rugby grounds and the roofing of Sakubva Stadium

Q13. Communication Platform Preference

Platform	No. of People 2026	2025	% Change
Whatsapp Groups	6,727	959	601%
Radio (Diamond FM)	5,075	412	1132%
SMS	3,930	345	1039%
Phone Call	2,500	113	2112%
Print Media (Newspapers)	1,997	173	1054%
Whatsapp Chatbot	1,598	219	630%
Facebook	1,312	154	752%
Television	1,134	16	6988%
Website	432	77	461%
Instagram	351	34	932%
X (Twitter)	297	57	421%
Total	**25,353**	**2,559**	



WhatsApp Groups remained the most preferred platform, with 6,727 participants in 2026 as compared to 959 participants in 2025. Significant growth was also recorded across other platforms, including Radio (Diamond FM), SMS, Phone Calls, and Print Media, each exceeding 1,000% percentage changes. Television recorded the highest percentage increase, moving from 16 to 1,134 participants. Participants also emphasized the need for more inclusive and assistive technologies for Persons with Disabilities, while recommending additional communication approaches such as face-to-face meetings, fliers, roadshows, workshops, ward visits, outreach, door-to-door engagements, and feedback through Councillors and Council Management. This broad uptake highlights the effectiveness of the City's multi-channel communication strategy in 2026.

Q15. Any Other Information on the Budget Consultation

Key recommendations included:
- Accelerating the process of home ownership for residents in council-rented accommodation.
- Prioritizing the development of effective drainage systems across the city to prevent flooding and improve sanitation.

3. PHYSICAL MEETINGS
For physical meetings (Stakeholders and Ward based meetings), 1,068 people were consulted.

3.1 SECTOR STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS
City of Mutare carried out consultations with the multi-stakeholders committee members and their constituencies which included, Business Community (ZNCC, CZI & CFMT), Churches, Residents and Ratepayers Associations (MRRA & UMMRT), Schools and Creches, Women (Women Coalition), Youth, Media, Informal Traders Associations (MITA), People with Disabilities, Workers Union, Sports, Retailers Association, Government Institutions, SMEs, Civil Societies and the Elderly.

Junior Council and Mutasa Rural District Council were also consulted as important stakeholders.

The above meetings started on the 22nd of October 2025 and the outcomes from these consultative meetings are detailed below.

DATE	SECTOR	CONCLUSION
22/10/2025	Youth & Sports	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
22/10/2025	MRRA	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
23/10/2025	Retailers Association	The sector did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
24/10/2025	Media	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
24/10/2025	Government Institutions	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
24/10/2025	Women & Civil Societies	The sectors did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
24/10/2025	Mutasa Rural District Council (MRDC)	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
24/10/2025	Education: Schools, Creches & Tertiary Institutions	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
24/10/2025	Churches	The sector did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
27/10/2025	Persons With Disabilities	The sector did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
27/10/2025	Junior Council	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff
28/10/2025	SMEs, ZNCC & CMFT	The sectors did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
31/10/2025	CZI	The sector did not object to the 2026 proposed tariff

Out of 13 sector meetings, 9 sectors approved the proposed 2026 tariff, representing an approval rate of 69%, indicating strong sectoral support for the proposed adjustments.

6.3.2 WARD BASED BUDGET CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Ward-based consultations commenced on 20 October 2025, with a total of 24 meetings held across 19 wards. Wards 1, 2, 10, and 13 each held two meetings due to their geographical characteristics, ensuring comprehensive stakeholder engagement across all areas.

The outcome of the ward meetings is detailed below:

DATE		WARD	CONCLUSIONS
20/10/2025	1	Garikai Phase 1	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
20/10/2025	1	Makaz (Natview)	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
20/10/2025	2	Mr Paraffin	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
20/10/2025	2	Sakubva Clinic	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
22/10/2025	3	Sakubva Tennis Court	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
20/10/2025	4	Sakubva Beit Hall	Residents did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
27/10/2025	5	Boys Club	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
22/10/2025	6	Haarlem Hall Chikanga	Residents did not agree to the proposed 2026 tariff
20/10/2025	7	Dangamvura Beit Hall	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
20/10/2025	8	Dangamvura Polyclinic	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
20/10/2025	9	Chako Corner Store	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
26/10/2025	10	Hillsview	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
26/10/2025	10	Fern Valley Clinic	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
25/10/2025	11	Mutare Junior	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
21/10/2025	12	Baring Primary School	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
22/10/2025	13	Magada Shops	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
22/10/2025	13	Pazvidhina Chikanga Extension	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
21/10/2025	14	Chikanga Hall	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
26/10/2025	15	Gimboki Clinic	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
21/10/2025	16	Murahwa Primary School	Residents did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
22/10/2025	17	Haarlem Hall Hobhouse	Residents did not object to the proposed 2026 tariff
22/10/2025	18	Federation Office	Residents did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
22/10/2025	18	Waterview School	Residents did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff
26/10/2025	19	Pamashed (Acid Shops)	Residents did not agree to the 2026 proposed tariff

Out of the 24 ward-based meetings held across 19 wards, 19 meetings approved the proposed tariff, reflecting an approval rate of 79% and demonstrating strong community support for the proposed adjustments.

The overall proposed budget received strong support during the consultative meetings, with 28 approvals and 9 objections, resulting in 76% of the consulted wards approving the proposed tariff. This indicates a broad consensus across wards and sectors.

6.3.3 CONCLUSION

The overall outcome of the consultations demonstrates that a collaborative stakeholder budget engagement process was successfully conducted. Findings indicated that:

- 58% of respondents supported the 14.2% All Tariffs review.
- 68.48% of respondents supported the 27% Rates Tariff review.
- 72.85% of respondents supported the Education Special Rate.
- 76% of stakeholders across sectors and wards expressed agreement with the proposed 2026 tariff, indicating broad-based consensus and active participation in the budget planning process.

Mutare city council adopted the 2026 budget in the same form it was approved by residents and made recommendations to the Hon Minister of local government and public works for consideration and approval. The budget is now ready for submission to the ministry where it will be subjected to further analysis to check compliance with legislation before it can be approved by the minister. This budget is expected to strengthen the foundation for transformation of public services in Mutare.