

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

A visitor levy in Wales

What do you think?

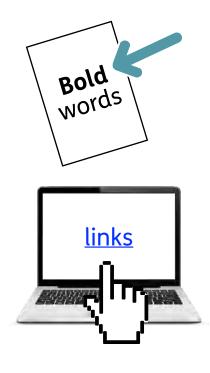




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In this Easy Read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after we have used them.

Some words are <u>blue and underlined.</u>

These are links that will go to another website which has more information.

Introduction



The Welsh Government is thinking about new rules that allow local councils to charge people who visit their area, like tourists. This is called a visitor levy.

Each council would use the money to improve their area and encourage more people to visit in the future.



Before we make a decision about the new rules, we want to know what you think about our ideas.



Please tell us what you think by reading this information and answering the questions.



We need your answers by Tuesday, 13 December 2022.

Visitors in Wales



Visitors are very important to Wales.

In 2019, visitors spent almost 6 billion pounds in the local areas they visited in Wales.



This helps local people and businesses.



Over 1 in 10 people in Wales have jobs to do with visitors.

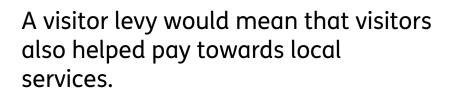


But having a lot of visitors can be difficult for some services, like ambulances and roads, because they are a lot busier.



Visitor levy

Local people already give money to their council to pay towards local services.





This would mean councils could spend more on those services to support local people and visitors.



This could make those areas better for everyone, and encourage even more visitors to come in the future.





At the moment, we are suggesting a visitor levy for visitors who stay overnight in Wales.

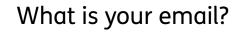
In the future, we could think about a visitor levy for people who come to Wales for the day.

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What is your name?



What is your telephone number?



What is your address?

What do you think?



A visitor levy would mean that local services were paid for by local people and visitors.

We think that this is fairer than just local people paying.



Question 1: Do you agree or disagree that councils should be able to set a visitor levy so that visitors can help pay more for local services, like local people already do?

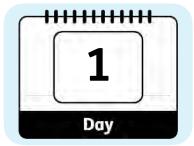


Agree





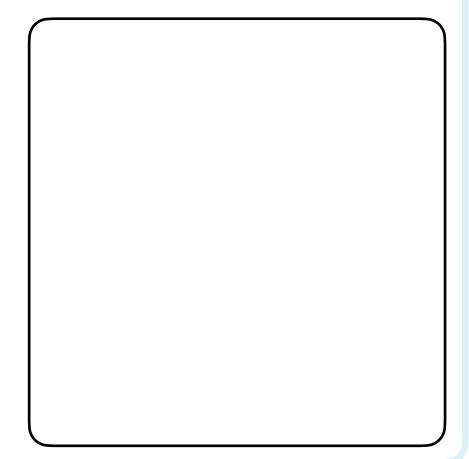
At the moment, we are only thinking about a visitor levy for people who stay overnight in Wales.



But in the future, we could have a visitor levy for people who just come for the day.



Question 2: What do you think about having a visitor levy for other things, like people who just come for the day?





We think that most of the rules for how the visitor levy works should be the same for all councils.



But it might be good for each local council to decide some rules themselves, like how much the visitor levy should be.



Question 3: Do you agree or disagree that it would be good for each local council to decide some rules themselves?



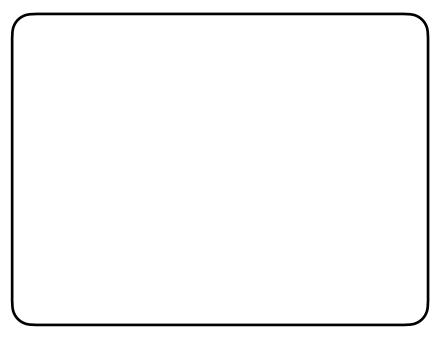
Agree



Disagree



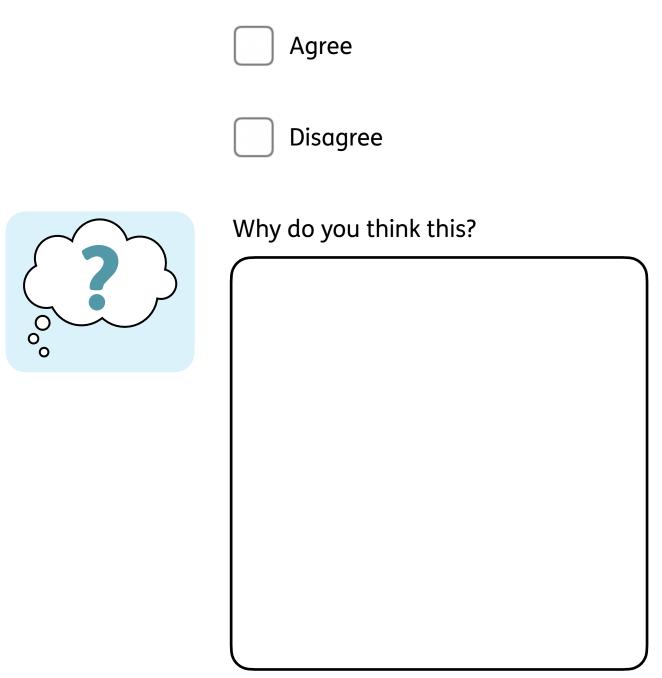
Question 4: Are there any other visitor levy rules which local councils should be able to control more?







Question 5: We think that places like hotels and B&Bs should collect the visitor levy from people and then send the money to the people like 10 the visitor levy. Do you agree or disagree with this?





Question 6: When should visitors pay the visitor levy?

When they get to the place they are staying

When they leave the place they have stayed



Before they get to the place they are staying, if they have paid for the place they are staying before they get there





Question 7: Do you agree or disagree that it should be up to places like hotels and B&Bs to collect and pay the visitors levy?



Disagree



Why do you think this? If you answered 'disagree', what should we do instead?

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Question 8: Do you agree or disagree that all visitors staying in places like hotels and B&Bs should have to pay the visitor levy, unless they are part of a group who do not have to pay the visitor levy?



Disagree



Question 9: Do you agree or disagree that these groups should not have to pay the visitor levy:



- a) Stays in Roma and Gypsy Traveller sites?
 - Agree

Disagree



b) Stays organised by the council to follow the law, like giving homeless people somewhere to sleep for a short time?







Disagree





c) Stays organised by the UK Government to follow the law, like giving refugees somewhere to stay?

Agree

Disagree

Why do you think this?



d) Stays organised by charities and other organisations to help people, like giving homeless people and refugees somewhere to stay?



Agree



Disagree





Question 10: Are there any other groups that you think shouldn't have to pay the visitor levy?

Please tick all you think shouldn't pay:

Children and young people



Stays where they are visiting to see a doctor



Disabled people

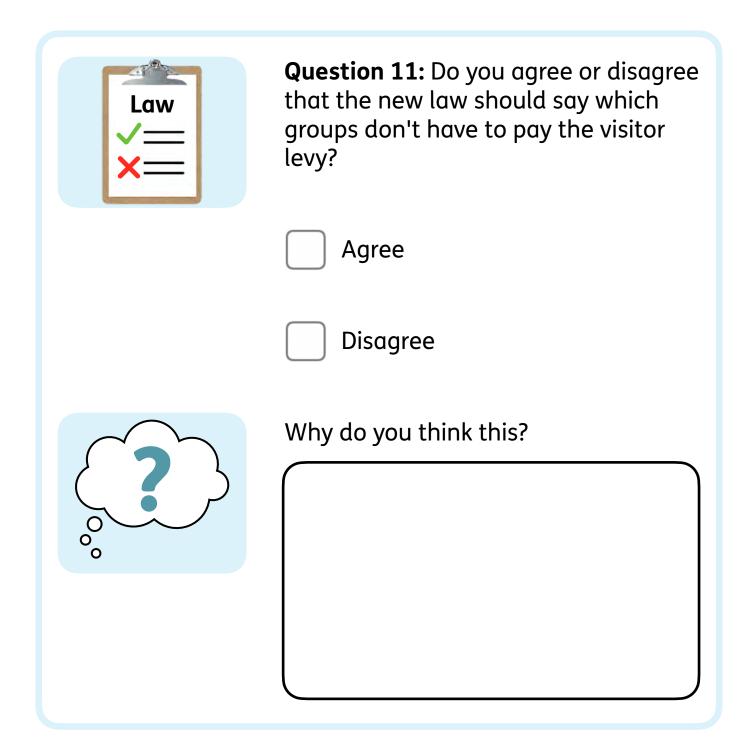
Others, please say:

Why do you think this?





Of the groups you picked, how do you think not charging them would work?





Rules

We think that all areas should have the same rules about who does and doesn't have to pay the visitor levy.

But there might be times we have not thought of where councils should make their own rules.



Question 12: Do you think that councils should be able to make their own rules?









Question 13: Do you agree or disagree that all **visitor accommodation** should have to charge the visitor levy?

Visitor accommodation is places where visitors pay to stay, like hotels, B&Bs and Airbnbs.









Question 14: Is there any type of visitor accommodation that you think should not have to charge the visitor levy?



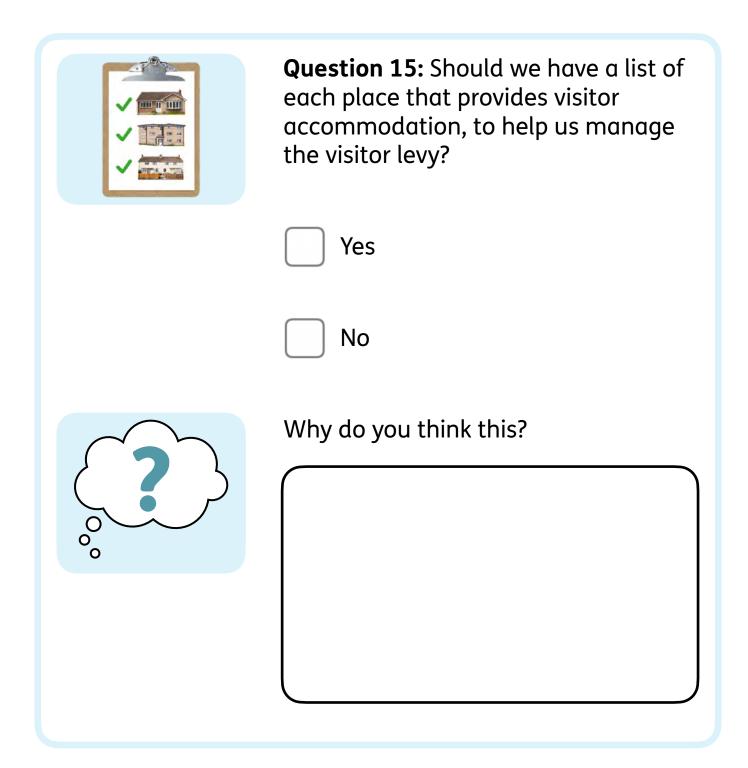
No



If you said yes, please tell us about what type of accommodation you think should not have to charge the visitor levy?



If you said no, please tell us why?





Licence

To have a visitor levy, we would need a list of all the accommodation in Wales.

One way of doing this would be to make all accommodation have a document called a licence, if they charge people to stay.

Then all accommodation with a licence would charge the visitor levy.

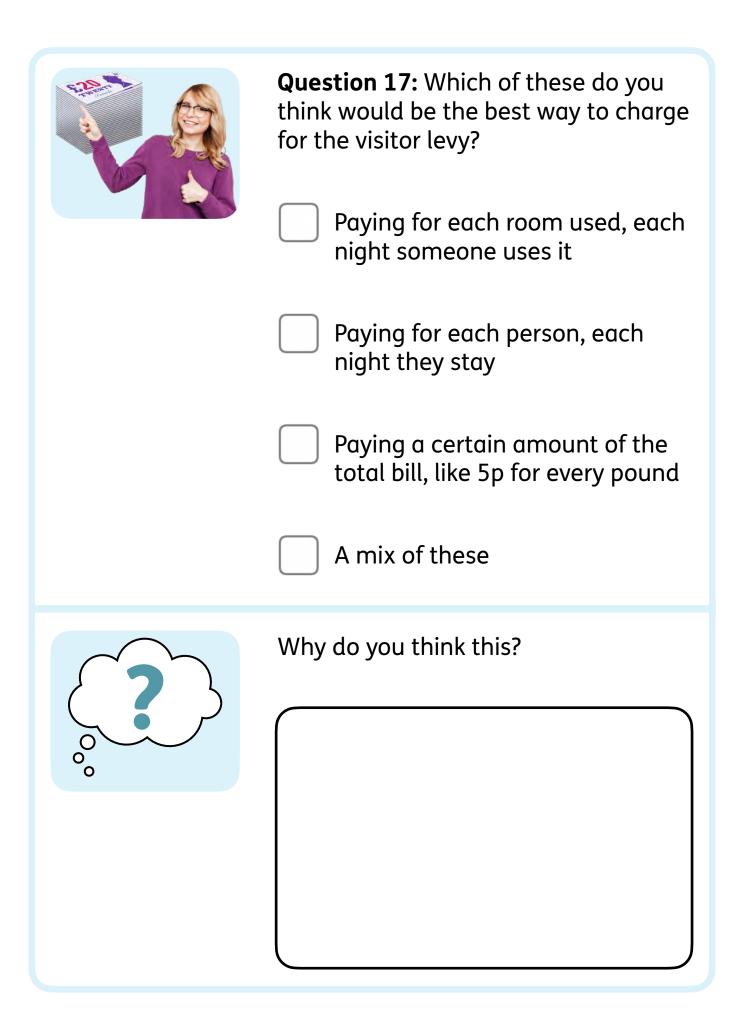


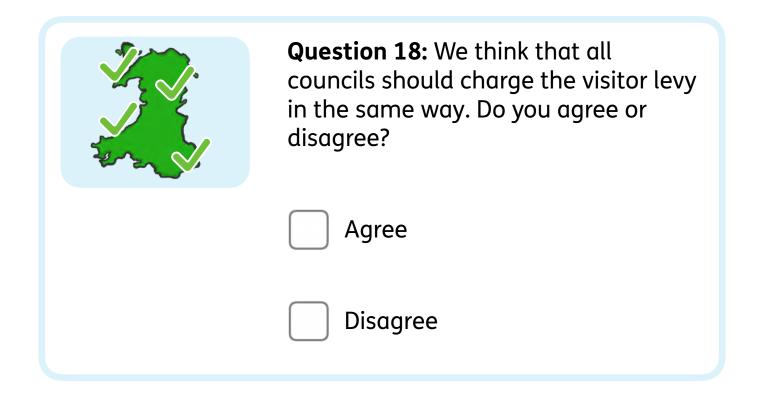
Question 16: Do you think that making accommodation get a licence is a good way of making a list of all the accommodation in Wales?



No











Question 19: Please tell us what you think about these ideas:

a) How do you think paying for rooms each night someone uses it would affect:

Companies and people that provide visitor accommodation?



The government organisation that collects tax?



Visitors?



- HOTEL
- b) How do you think paying for each person, each night they stay, would affect:

Companies and people that provide visitor accommodation?



The government organisation that collects tax?



Visitors?



c) How do you think paying a certain amount of the total bill, like 5p for every pound would affect:



Companies and people that provide visitor accommodation?



The government organisation that collects tax?



Visitors?



Question 20: When we choose which way to charge the visitor levy, what should we think about to make sure we charge a fair amount?

For example, places getting different amounts of visitors at different times of year.



Question 21: Should we charge more for more expensive accommodation, and less for cheaper accommodation?

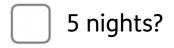
Yes

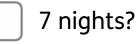
____ No





Question 22: Do you think that we should stop charging the visitor levy for people who stay in accommodation for longer than...





14 nights?

Another number of nights, please say:





Question 23: Should we charge the same amount across all of Wales?



____ No



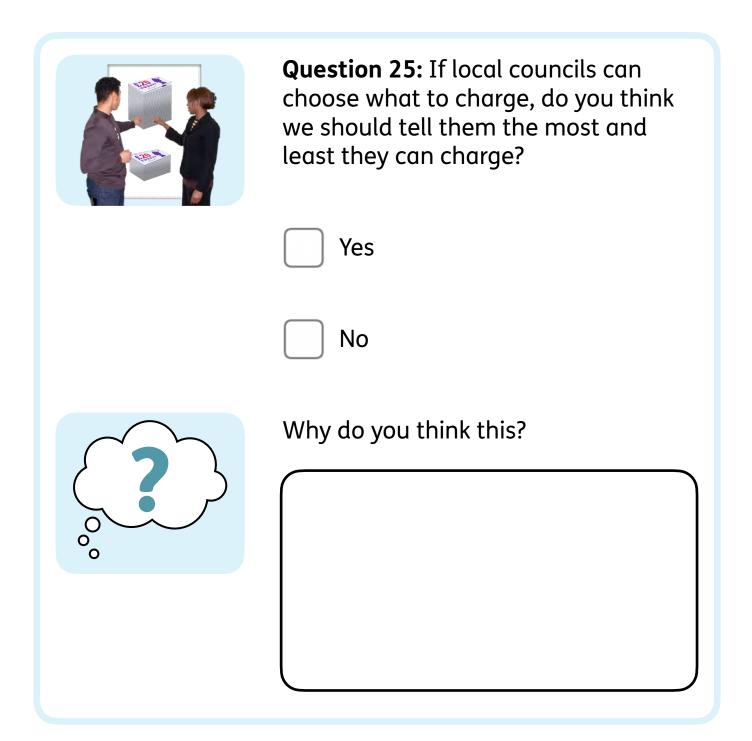


Question 24: If local councils choose how much to charge, should they charge the same amount in all parts of their area?





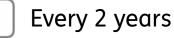


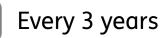


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Question 26: How often do you think we should check how much to charge for the visitor levy?

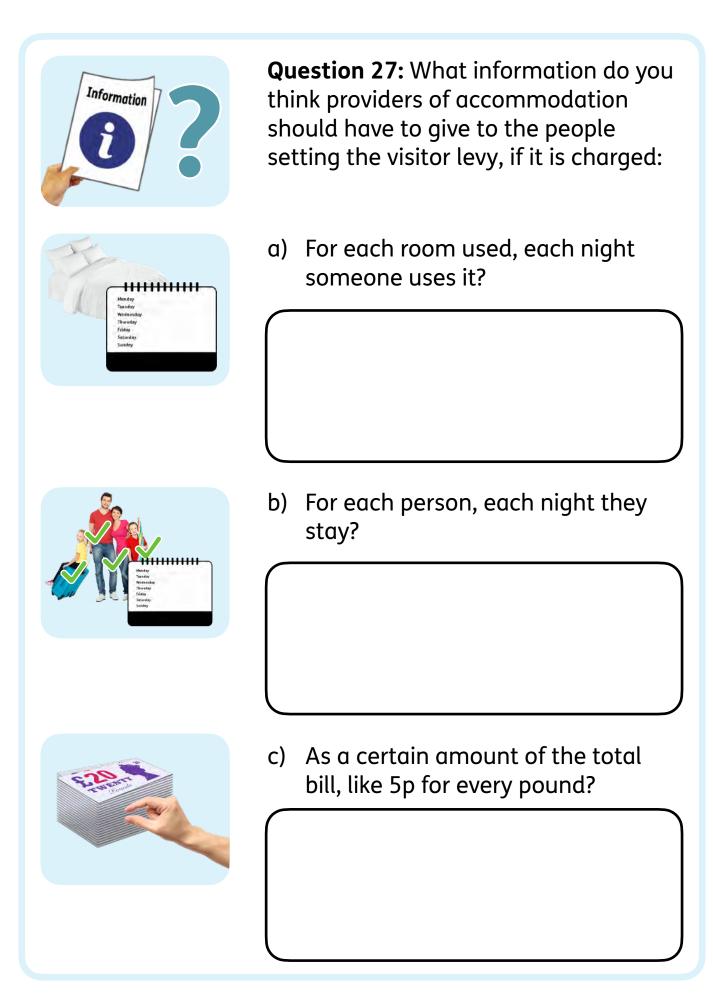






Every 5 years

Other, please say:





Question 28: What would providers of accommodation have to do, to get all the information they need to charge the visitor levy?

Like, having a member of staff changing computer systems.

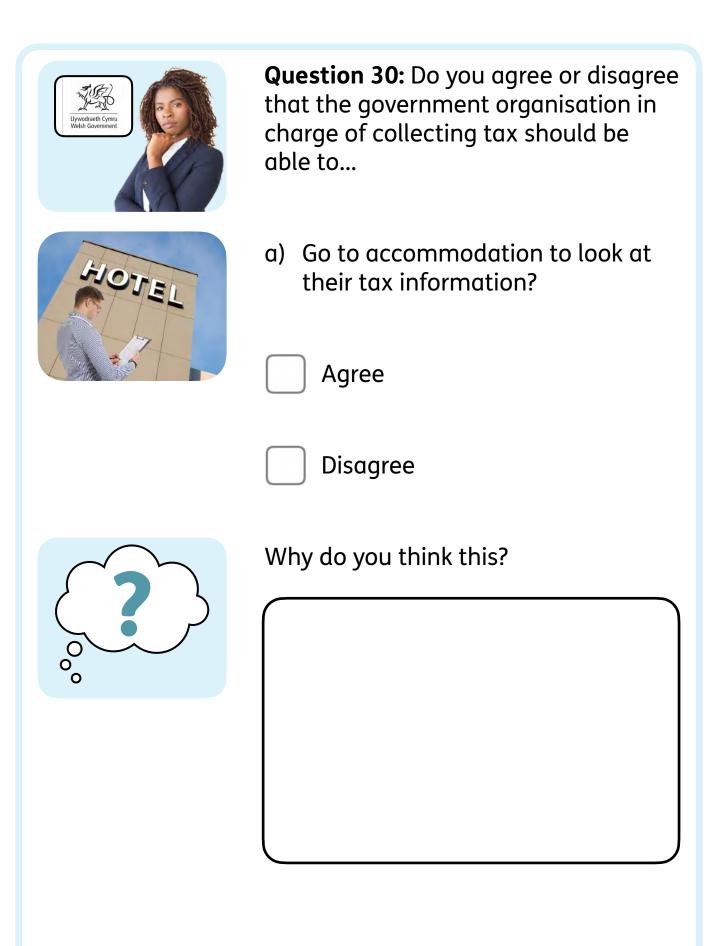


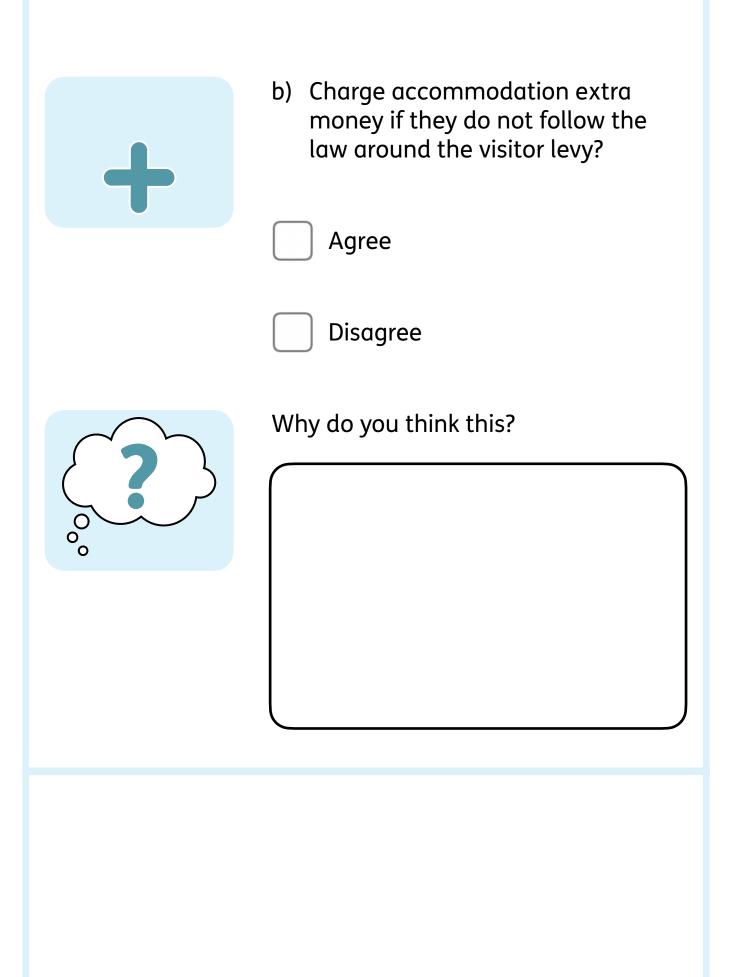
How could this information be collected? Like, could it be done when people book their rooms?



Question 29: How often should providers of accommodation have to send the people setting the visitor levy information about who they have charged?

Monthly
Four times a year
Twice a year
Once a year
Why do you think this?







c) Let accommodation not pay money sometimes, like if they owe a lot of money and might have to close down.

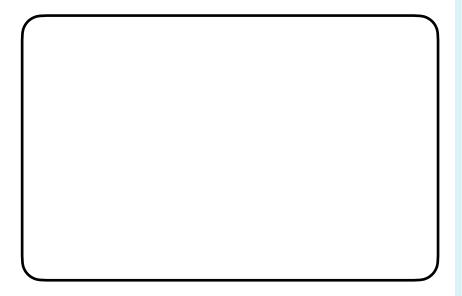




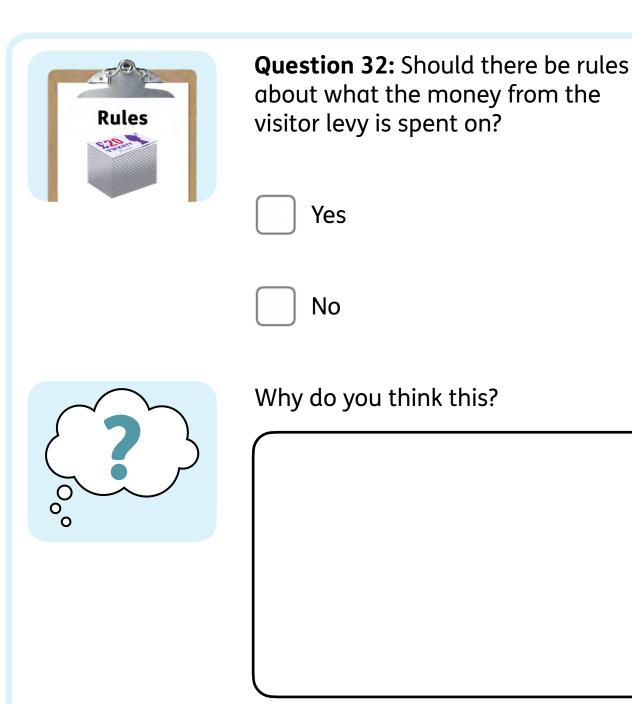




Question 31: How should the money from the visitor levy be spent?



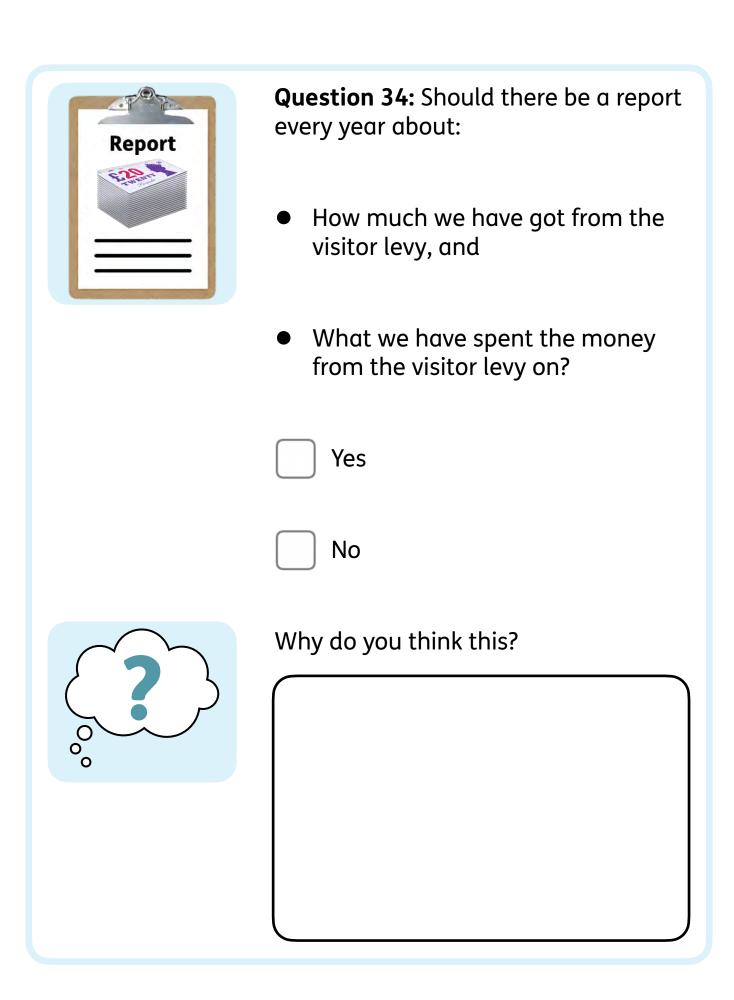






Question 33: How should local people be involved in deciding how to spend the money from the visitor levy?







Question 35: We think that we should ask all local councils the same questions about what they are doing with the visitor levy.

Do you agree or disagree with this?



Disagree



Question 36: What information should visitors get about the visitor levy?



Question 37: We think that local councils should be able to decide whether to have a visitor levy. Do you agree or disagree with this?





Coo



Should councils ask local people before they start a visitor levy?



____ No





Question 38: What should we do about people who have booked a place to stay before the visitor levy was started?

Why do you think this?





What can we do to make sure visitors don't try and avoid paying the visitor levy, if there is one?



Question 39: What would be the best way to do a visitor levy?



Run by local councils



Run by the Welsh Government

Run by local councils and the Welsh Government together

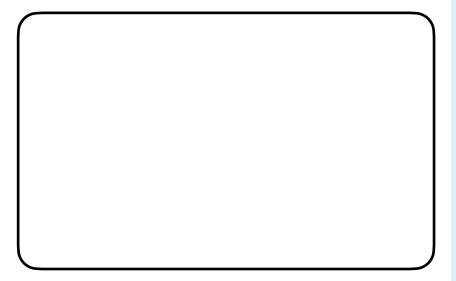
Question 40: Please tell us what you think about these ideas:



What would be good about local councils running a visitor levy?



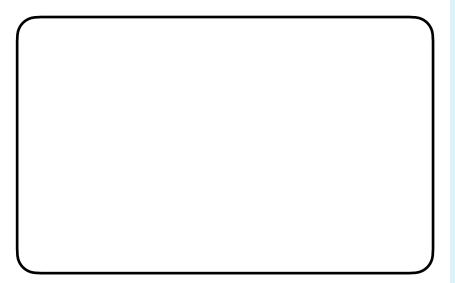
What would be bad about local councils running a visitor levy?





What would be good about the Welsh Government running the visitor levy?

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government What would be bad about the Welsh Government running the visitor levy?



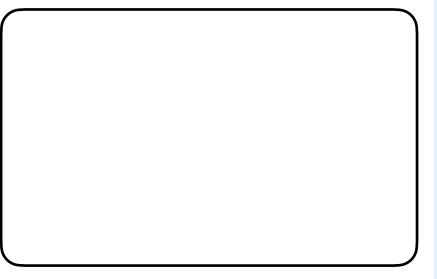


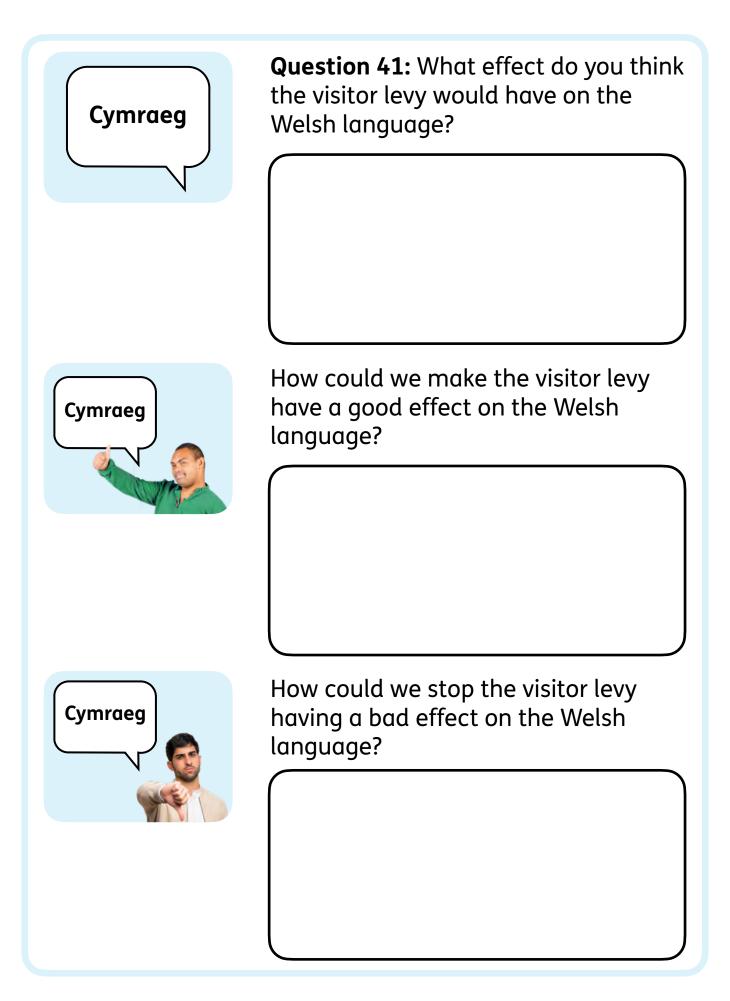
What would be good about local councils and the Welsh Government working together to run the visitor levy?





What would be bad about local councils and the Welsh Government working together to run the visitor levy?





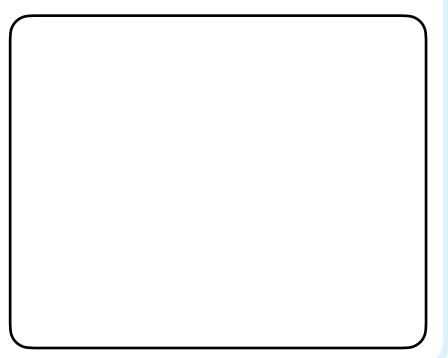


Question 42: Please tell us how the visitor levy could be changed to support people to:

- Use the Welsh language
- Treat the Welsh language the same as the English language



Question 43: Is there anything else you would like to tell us?



Next steps



Thank you for answering these questions.



Please send them back to us by Tuesday, 13 December 2022.



We will look at your answers and think about what to do next.



It might take some years to start a visitor levy.

For more information





You can find out more about the visitor levy at our website: <u>https://gov.wales/visitorlevy</u>

If you need more information please contact us by:

 Post: Visitor Levy Team Tax Strategy & Intergovernmental Relations
Welsh Government Cathays Park Cardiff
CF10 3NQ



• Email: VisitorLevy@gov.wales

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