Case study: Fife Council Participatory Budgeting
https://delib.fifedirect.org.uk

Project Detail
Fife Council chose Dialogue App to present ideas for their 2013/14 budget to the public. Their highly publicised dialogue generated a substantial amount of traffic over a short amount of time, and helped the Council understand the views of the community.

The benefits of using Dialogue App
Having an online dialogue made it easy for Fife Council to publicise the website through the local press, emails to interest groups, offline events and social media. They used the Twitter hashtag #fcbudget to generate interest, and also posted information about the discussion on their Facebook page.

Dialogue App allowed the Council to run their discussion both online and offline. Citizens were able to complete paper questionnaires which Council staff then manually entered into the online discussion.

Participants in the budget discussion read and rated the ideas put forward by the Council. They also added their own ideas, and read and rated each others' ideas and commented on the different discussions and ideas within the dialogue.

Participatory budgeting empowered ‘Fifers’ to have a direct impact on how the Council proceeds with the 2013/14 budget. The Council created a comprehensive report on all ideas, ratings and comments, thus maintaining transparency after the dialogue had closed.

“I really like the fact that people like me can be part of this. I have opinions and use services but this is the first time I have been asked what I think.”
Fife Budget Dialogue Participant