

IN THIS MONTH'S
SURVEY:

- Participation in swimming
- Your views on our residents magazine, "The NEWS"

DON'T FORGET TO
RETURN YOUR
QUESTIONNAIRE
BY:

MONDAY 15TH
DECEMBER.

IN THIS
NEWSLETTER

What we have done
with your views:

- On-line Information
- Ageing positively
- British values

Have your say on:

- Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Derbyshire Constabulary
- NEDDC budget

NEWS AND UPDATES:

The Place Survey
NEDDC Energy Advice Centre
Home Improvement Agency
The Readers Panel

Viewpoint North East

NOVEMBER 2008

Feedback: On-line Information

North East Derbyshire District Council is always exploring new ways of communicating and sharing information with its residents to make it easier for everyone to access the information they need. So in the July 2008 survey we asked you for your views on the ways we might do this.

You said:

The vast majority of respondents to the survey (79%) had never used social networking websites nor video sharing websites (71%). However, about a fifth in each case thought it would be a good idea for the Council to use techniques like these.

We did:

Clearly these are web tools that the majority do not currently use so we will be taking this information into account when making plans for extending the council's current web services.

You said:

Most respondents (80%) had not heard of the YOURSpace part of the NEDDC website. A further fifth (20%) had heard of it but never used it.

We did:

YOURspace has been part of our website for some time now and has been promoted within our residents magazine, "The NEWS". As such a large proportion of Panel members not heard of it we need to re-focus our marketing of this particular communication channel. Amongst other things we will be promoting YOURspace in secondary schools in the area and with local community groups.

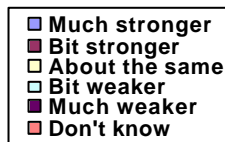


Feedback— British Values

The Ministry of Justice is promoting discussion to help develop a British statement of values which the Government intends to launch. The Government believes it is important to be clearer about what it means to be British and to be part of British society. We wanted the citizens of North East Derbyshire to be able to contribute to this discussion.

You said: Panel members who responded were most likely to feel a sense of belonging to England or Britain than their religion or ethnic group. Their sense of belonging to Britain has tended to stay the same over the last 5 years but, if anything, it may

have got weaker rather than stronger.



When asked which values were most important for living in Britain, the most popular choices were:

Respect for the law	59%
Tolerance and politeness towards others	36%
Justice and fair play	36%
Pride in our country	33%
Freedom of speech/expression	32%
Freedom to criticize the views and beliefs of those in power	28%

We did: These results have been sent to the Ministry of Justice for comparison with results from other areas of the country. Look out for comparisons in the next newsletter.

Feedback: Ageing Positively

The 'Ageing Positively in North East Derbyshire' plan has been developed in response to the fast changing needs and priorities of North East Derbyshire's older population. Reflecting national trends the number of older people in the district is growing fast as more people become older and those who are older are living longer.

You said:

You were asked to choose from a list three things that should be priorities for inclusion in the 'Ageing Positively in North East Derbyshire' plan. The most common choices were; improving and maintaining health and wellbeing (49%), crime and safety (43%) and living independently (40%).

It was then put to the panel that currently 50+ is used to define an 'older' person. The majority of respondents, however, felt this group should be 60+ (49%) or even 70+ (41%). Only 5% felt it should be 50+.

Nearly half (49%) intend to stay living in their current house when they are older.

The vast majority had heard of Equity Release schemes (89%) and to a lesser extent Telecare and community alarms (39%). Although most had heard of equity release, only a small proportion (12%) thought they would use this type of service.

Looking after the garden (71%) and getting rid of large unwanted pieces of furniture (71%) were issues that most people thought they would need help with when they were older. There was also a sizeable market for help finding reliable workmen (69%) and doing odd jobs around the house (59%).

North East Derbyshire District Council, in conjunction with Derbyshire County Council, intend to develop a forum for older people in the district. Two-fifths (39%) of respondents claimed they would attend such meetings, a further 37% were unsure. Most (62%) would prefer the meeting to be held locally.

We did:

The information gathered in this section has been collected to assist in developing the Ageing Positively Plan and to help develop a forum for older people within the neddc area. The ageing Positively Plan can be found on our website at: www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/housing/strategic-housing-service/ageing-positively

To receive a paper copy of the Plan or if you are interested in getting involved by attending the occasional local meeting, please ring: **Valerie Durkin on 01246 217291.**

North East Derbyshire have also developed a fact-sheet on services for older people. We have enclosed a copy with your questionnaire. For more copies please call Valerie on the number above.

Derbyshire County Council has also launched a Trusted Trader Register. To find out more ring: **Call Derbyshire on 08456 058058**



Update: The Place Survey

Around 4,000 copies of the Place Survey have now been sent out to homes in the district. The survey is a major new consultation which all local authorities are required to carry out to capture the views of our residents about their neighbourhood.

If you have received a copy of the survey please complete it and return it in the freepost envelop-

providing—we really would like to hear your views.

A big thank you to the 800 residents of North East Derbyshire who have already returned their completed questionnaires.

A reputable national research agency called Ipsos-MORI are undertaking the survey on our behalf so if you have any concerns or have lost your copy of the



questionnaire or return envelope, please contact their helpdesk on:

FREEPHONE: 0808 238 5402

or email: having.your.say@ipsos-mori.com

Update: Home Improvement Agency

North East Derbyshire now has its own handy van service offering householders free safety, security and energy efficiency checks and practical household tasks. The service is run by local councils, the police, health and voluntary groups. The service can be contacted on 01246 345748.

The service is available for those who are older, vulnerable or disabled.



Update: Readers Panel

Do you get cross with badly laid out leaflets? Jargon that you can't understand?

Then the Readers Panel could be for you.....

Earlier this year we asked if you would like to become a member of our Readers Panel to help us improve our leaflets, forms and pages on our website. Fourteen people have now volunteered to take part and those members are about to be sent their first survey – looking at some of the pages of our website.

We still really need more volunteers to take part though so that we can spread the work around and get more people's views.

If you think you'd like to take part, please email me on: consultation@ne-derbyshirederbyshire.gov.uk or call Debbie Whitehead on **01246 217018**

Have Your Say.....on other public services

Also included with your November questionnaire were two opportunities to have your say about local public services.

The **Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service** are asking your views on how they allocate their budget for the forthcoming financial year. Please complete this questionnaire and return it with the main Citizens' Panel survey in the freepost envelope provided.

There is also a letter of invitation to the annual **Police Authority and Derbyshire Constabulary** budget consultation events. These events are taking place across Derbyshire during November and December so to book your place, complete the reply slip and return it directly to police headquarters in the special envelope enclosed.

Please take these opportunities to have your say.

To see the report with the full findings from the July 2008 survey please visit:

www.askderbyshire.gov.uk/neddc

If you have any queries about this survey or want to inform us about a chance of circumstance or address, please contact me:

Debbie Whitehead
Consultation Officer
North East Derbyshire District Council

consultation@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

01246 217018

Please complete your questionnaire and return it in the pre-paid envelope by

Monday 15th December.

