

# Carmarthenshire

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## 2021-22 Well-being Consultation and Involvement Report

### **Report on Involvement activity:**

- Regional well-being survey: results for Carmarthenshire
- Virtual Focus groups / workshops
- Consultation on the draft Assessment
- Feedback from statutory partners

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## Introduction & Context

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The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires each of the 22 Public Service Boards to develop and publish a Well-being Assessment. The Assessment will serve as a statement of well-being for each respective county area. In addition to the importance of reflecting quantitative data (e.g., from the Census and other official sources), the guidance stresses that significant engagement with people is critical in adequately making the assessment of well-being.

This report brings together the substantial body of engagement work undertaken in Carmarthenshire to help understand what really matters to people and so guide the development of a Well-being Plan for the County

## Outline of Approach and Involvement Methods

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In the interests of collaboration and making best use of scarce resources, the Public Service Boards of Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire, and Pembrokeshire have taken the decision to work together on their wellbeing assessments. This consistent, regional approach also assists organisations, who are part of the Public Service Board, but whose remit extends beyond Carmarthenshire.

The key components of the regional approach are:

- A survey directed at residents
- An agreed toolkit for undertaking direct involvement work through focus groups virtually or in less formal settings across the region

### Survey

A survey was developed, and a series of questions were formulated under the 7 National Goals of prosperous, resilient, equal, healthier, cohesive, vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and a responsive Carmarthenshire.

The survey was available in Welsh, English, Polish, Romanian, and Arabic. An Easy Read version of the survey was also available in Welsh and English.

The approach taken in Carmarthenshire was to develop a campaign, targeting potential respondents in the following ways:

- Hosted survey on the Carmarthenshire County Council consultation webpage
- Promotion through all Public Service Board partners and their employees

- Bilingual Facebook and Twitter posts and press releases
- Virtual conversations with local primary schools
- Conversations with young people through Youth Services and the Police & Crime Commissioner Youth Forum
- Mail-out and electronic newsletter to Carmarthenshire's Ageing Well Network (c. 2100 members)
- Liaison with partnerships such as the Carmarthenshire Disability Partnership and Community & Town Councils
- Due to the restrictions in place because of the COVID19 pandemic the promotion of this survey was mostly done virtually. All Town and Community Council clerks received emails regarding the consultation and the elected members were also asked to promote it within their communities.

Alongside the wider communication, specific efforts were made to involve the following seldom heard voices / networks:

- Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition and local representative groups
- Carmarthenshire LGBTQ+ Forum
- Llanelli Multi Cultural Network
- Carmarthenshire Carers Forum and young carers
- Local Authority Tenants
- Family service organisations and family centres
- Support groups for young families
- Leisure, recreation, and sports groups
- Local nature and conservation partnerships
- Organisations who represent rural areas, via the Local Action Group
- Students through University of Wales, Trinity St David
- Local businesses
- Network of organisations who have accessed funding through our Community Bureau

Extensive analysis of the survey features later in this report.

## Toolkit

A regional toolkit was prepared, including a county based and regional presentation, key areas of Well-being for the county, key questions, and a feedback form for sending back to a single point of contact in Carmarthenshire County Council.

The toolkit was used as part of the following involvement activities:

- CAVS Community Centres Network (25.08.2021)
- CAVS Food Producers Network (25.08.2021)
- Welsh Language Strategic Forum (20.09.2021)
- Healthy Environment Delivery Group (22.09.2021)
- Armed Forces stakeholders (22.09.2021)
- Armed Forces service users (29.09.2021)
- Carmarthenshire Disability Partnership (29.09.2021)
- Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic focus group (28.09.2021)
- Community & Town Council Liaison Forum (30.09.2021)
- CAVS Volunteer Organisers Network (5.10.2021)
- Dyfed Powys Police & Crime Commissioner Youth Forum (5.10.2021)
- West Wales Action for Mental Health, Mental Health & Well-being Network (6.10.2021)
- Youth Support Service – Ysgol Bro Dinefwr (13.10.2021)
- Primary schools

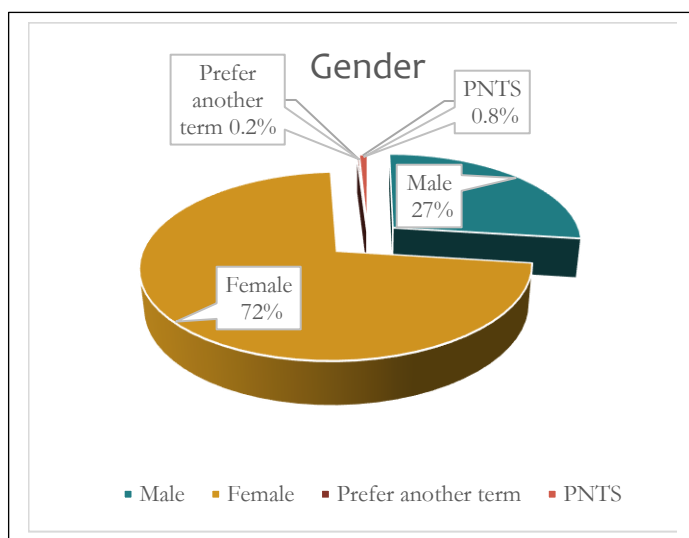
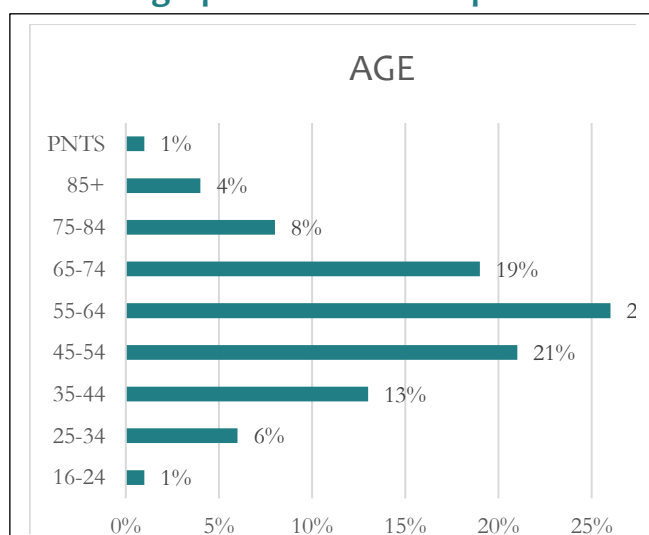
The approach to engagement was underpinned by an extensive media campaign which included press releases, social media posts etc.

## Regional Well-being Survey: Carmarthenshire Results

This section is structured by considering each survey question in turn. The ‘domains’ used within the survey have been retained for the purposes of this report.

Mention will be made of the views of different categories of respondent, to enable comparisons to be drawn. This process is known as the disaggregation of survey data: examining trends by age, gender and other demographic variables to enrich the analysis. Accordingly, proper weight has been given to the views of all those consulted and, in particular, ‘due regard’ given to free text (literal) responses.

### Demographic Profile of Respondents



The regional well-being survey attracted 1333 responses across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire.



A total of **609 Carmarthenshire residents** responded to the regional well-being survey. A fifth reside in each of Community Area 2 (22%) and Community Area 4 (23%). 19% are residents of Community Area 1, with fewer respondents from CA3 (12%), CA5 (12%) and CA6 (11%).

Two of the most important demographic characteristics for public policy are the age and sex structures. The age breakdown indicates that respondents are from an older age distribution: over half of survey respondents were of working age: 67% aged 16-64, with 32% of pensionable age (65 and over). In respect of age, the highest number of responses received were from the 55-64 cohort (26%), followed by 45-54 (20%) and 65-74 (19%). Finally, there is a significant female: male disparity, with 72% female respondents, 27% male (1% PNTS).

Results from other demographic questions are tabulated below.

Demographic Characteristic	Overall %
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	27%
Female	72%
PNTS	1%
<b>Age Groups</b>	
<16	0%
16-24	1%
25-34	6%
35-44	13%
45-54	21%
55-64	26%
65-74	19%
75-84	8%
85+	4%
PNTS	1%
Aged 16-64	67%
Aged 65+	21%
<b>Transgender</b>	
Yes	6%
PNTS	1%

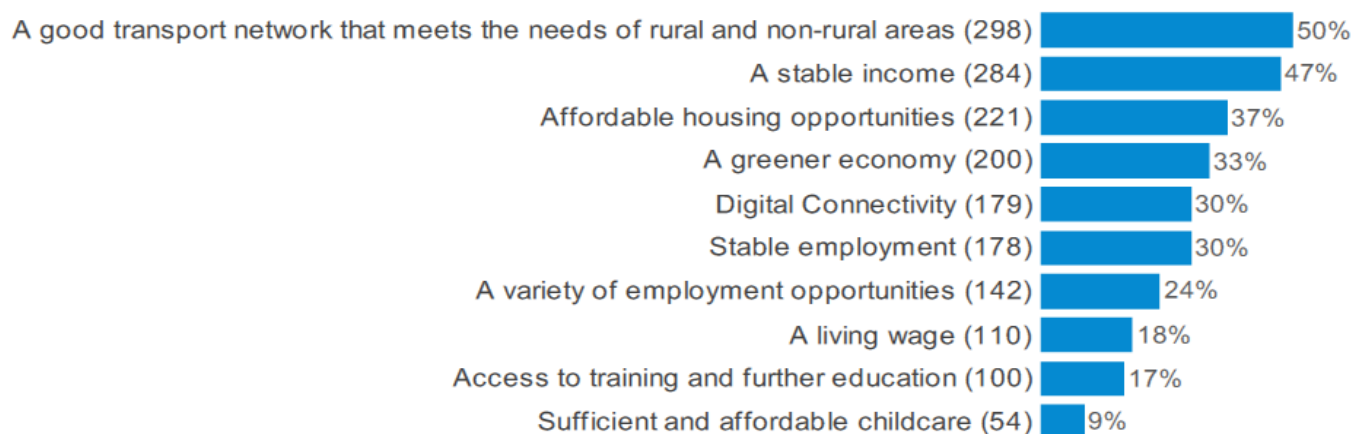
Demographic Characteristic	Overall %
<b>Relationship</b>	
Single	16%
Married	59%
Civil Partnership	3%
Divorced/Separated	11%
Widowed	8%
PNTS	4%
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	
Straight	91%
LGB	3%
Other	2%
PNTS	4%
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
White	97%
BME	1%
Other	1%
PNTS	1%
<b>Carers</b>	
Caring responsibilities	22%
PNTS	2%

Demographic Characteristic	Overall %
<b>Disability</b>	
Disabled	25%
PNTS	3%
<b>Religion</b>	
Yes	60%
PNTS	3%
<b>Income</b>	
less than £15k	17%
£15-£30,000	28%
£30-£45,000	17%
over £45,000	25%
PNTS	13%
<b>Welsh Language</b>	
Understand spoken Welsh	48%
Speak Welsh	37%
Read Welsh	34%
Write Welsh	30%
None of these	42%
<b>First Language</b>	
Welsh	22%
English	77%
Other	1%

## A Prosperous Carmarthenshire

### Q18) Which **three** things do you value most in a prosperous community?

The **three** main options that were chosen for Carmarthenshire are listed as follows: A good transport network that meets the needs of rural & non rural areas **50%**, A stable income **47%** and Affordable housing opportunities **37%**.



Probing the results of Q18 by demographic variable uncovers a variance on the basis of locality (community area).

Community Area 1		Community Area 2		Community Area 3	
A living wage	26%	Sufficient and affordable childcare	28%	A living wage	16%
A Greener economy	22%	Affordable housing opportunities	26%	Stable employment	14%
Good transport links that meets the needs or rural & non rural areas	21%	Access to training and further education	25%	A stable income	13%
Community Area 4		Community Area 5		Community Area 6	
Digital Connectivity	27%	Access to training and further education	16%	Access to training and further education	18%
Good transport links that meets the needs or rural & non rural areas	26%	A stable income	15%	Variety of employment opportunities	13%
Sufficient and affordable childcare	24%	Greener economy	12%	Greener economy	12%

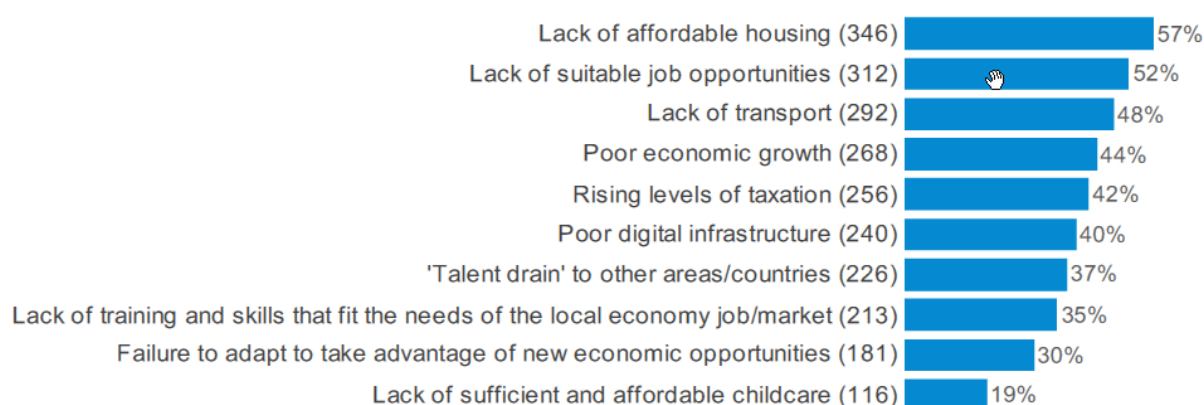
In the county, for those aged 16-64 having ‘a variety of employment opportunities’ scored highest (83%) whilst those aged 65+ thought it was more valuable to have a ‘good transport network that meets the needs of the rural and non-rural areas’ (43%). Females however noted that they would value ‘sufficient and affordable childcare’ (83%) whilst the males felt that a ‘greener economy’ (30%) would be of more value. Respondents on a higher income of



£45k+ valued 'sufficient and affordable childcare' (42%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k valued 'a living wage' (27%).

### Q19) Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about prosperity in the county?

What concerned respondents most about prosperity in the county was 'lack of affordable housing' (57%) which was followed by 'lack of suitable job opportunities' (52%) and 'lack of transport' (48%). The response to score least responses was 'lack of sufficient and affordable childcare' (19%).



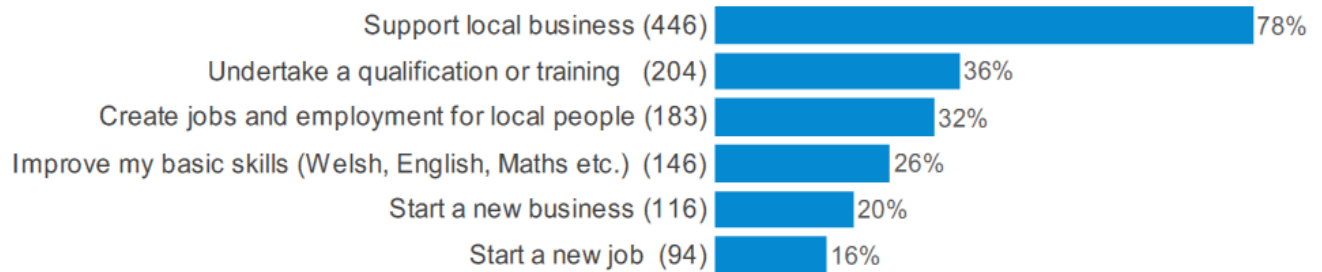
There was a variance in responses from the Community Areas regarding their concerns about prosperity in their county:

- Community Area 1 concerned about 'lack of sufficient and affordable childcare' (24%)
- Community Area 2 'poor digital infrastructure' (27%)
- Community Areas 3 'failure to adapt to take advantage of new economic opportunities' (15%)
- Community Area 4 'talent drain to other areas/countries' (24%)
- Community Area 5 'poor growth' (16%)
- Community Area 6 'failure to adapt to take advantage of new economic opportunities' (15%)

Respondents aged 16-64 were more concerned with 'a poor digital infrastructure' (72%) whilst those aged 65+ stated their concerns were 'lack of transport' (37%). Females however noted that their biggest concern was 'sufficient and affordable childcare' (80%) whilst the males felt that a 'poor economic growth' (31%) was the main concern for them. Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ also stated that 'poor digital infrastructure' was their main concern (30%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k were most concerned with 'lack of training and good skills that fit the needs of the local economy job/market' (20%).

**Q20) What would you consider doing to improve your own or your community's economic circumstances?**

Most respondents felt that they were best placed to 'support local businesses' (78%) in order to improve their own or their community's economic circumstances.



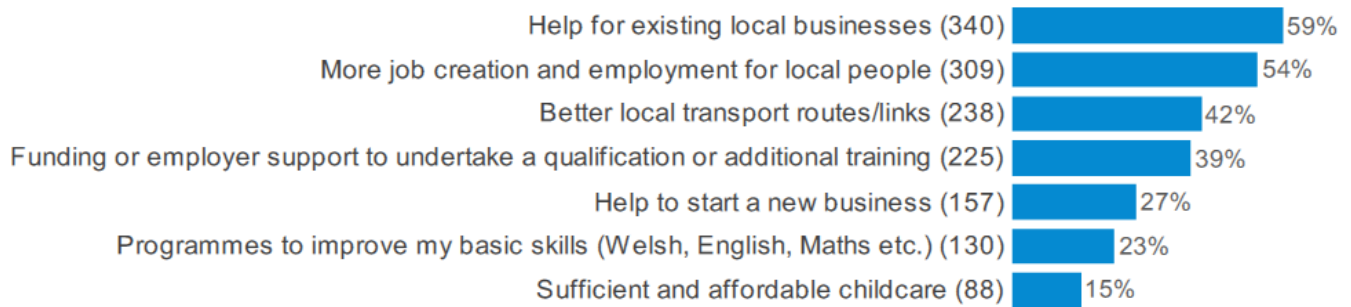
There was a variance in responses for what they would consider doing to improve their own or their community's economic circumstances from the Community Areas.

- Community Area 1 giving a higher % of responses for 'improving my basic skills' (22%)
- Community Area 2 'start new job' (24%)
- Community Area 3 'create jobs and employment for local people' (16%)
- Community Area 4 'start a new business' (26%)
- Community Area 5 'undertake a qualification or training' (15%) and
- Community Area 6 also stating 'improve my basic skills' (16%) was their biggest concern in relation to prosperity.

In order to improve their own or their community's economic circumstances respondents aged 16-64 stated that they would consider 'starting a new job' (95%) whilst those aged 65+ would consider 'supporting a local business' (32%). Most females however noted that would be prepared to 'undertake a qualification or training' (77%) whilst the males felt that they could 'create jobs and employment for local people' (34%) to improve their own or their community's economic circumstances. Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stipulated that 'starting a new job' (34%) was the main consideration for them whilst those on the lower income of under £15k interestingly enough stated 'create jobs and employment for local people' (22%) was the way to improve their own and their community's economic growth.

## Q21) What support would need to be in place to do these things?

Most respondents felt that they would need support such as ‘help for existing local businesses’ (59%) in order to improve their own or their community’s economic circumstances.



Once again there was a variance in responses for what support would be required in order to support respondents to improve their own or their own or their community’s economic circumstances from the Community Areas.

- Community Area 1 giving a higher % of responses for ‘funding or employer support to undertake a qualification or additional training’ (25%)
- Community Area 2 ‘better local transport routes/links’ (25%)
- Community Area 3 ‘more job creation and employment for local people’ (15%)
- Community Area 4 ‘help to start a new business’ (24%)
- Community Area 5 ‘sufficient and affordable childcare’ (18%) and
- Community Area 6 also asked for support in ‘programmes to improve my basic skills’ (15%) as their main support for improving their own and their community’s economic circumstances.

In order to improve their own or their community’s economic circumstances respondents aged 16-64 stated that they would consider ‘starting a new job’ (95%) whilst those aged 65+ would consider ‘supporting a local business’ (32%). Most females however noted that they would ‘undertake a qualification or training’ (77%) whilst the males felt that they could ‘create jobs and employment for local people’ (34%) to improve their own or their community’s economic circumstances. Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ also stated that ‘starting a new job’ (34%) was the main consideration for them, whilst those on the lower income of under £15k interestingly enough stated ‘create jobs and employment for local people’ (22%) was the way to improve their own and their community’s economic circumstances.

Q22) Any other comments on 'A Prosperous Carmarthenshire'?

Total of **53 comments** received, here are a few recurring or possibly useful comments

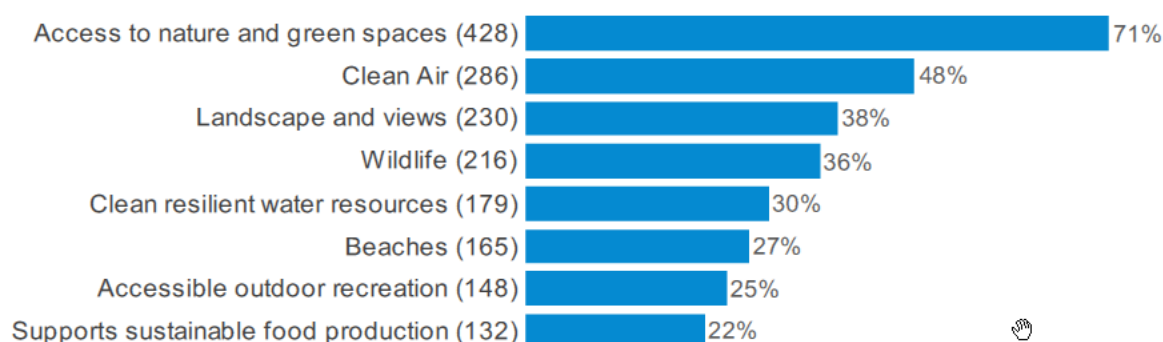


- Need for good public local transport
- Bypass for Llandeilo
- Support and encourage small businesses
- Better accessibility – transport and job opportunities
- Relaxation and different approach to planning permission for rural based businesses
- Subsidise villages to be self-sustaining
- Support young people to stay in the area
- Skilled jobs
- Improved Rural Broadband
- More affordable and eco-friendly homes
- More use of Welsh language in the community and jobs
- Too much Welsh language discrimination in jobs

## A Resilient Carmarthenshire

Q23) Which **three** things do you value most about your local environment?

The **three** main options that were chosen for Carmarthenshire are listed as follows: Access to nature and green spaces **71%**, Clean Air **48%** and Landscape and views **38%**.



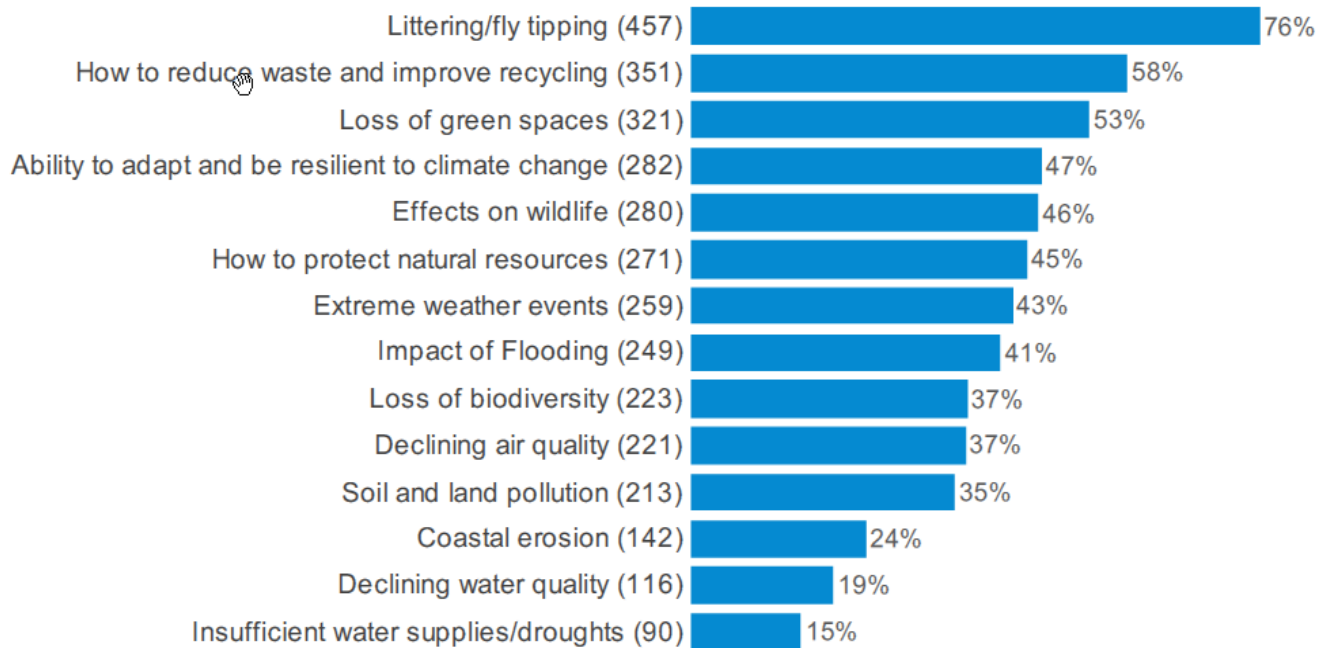
Probing the results of Q23 by demographic variable uncovers some similarities in responses but there is a variance on the basis of locality (community area).

Community Area 1		Community Area 2		Community Area 3	
Support sustainable food production	28%	Landscape and views	27%	Landscape and views	16%
Clean resilient water resources & wildlife	23%	Support sustainable food production	23%	Access to nature and green spaces	13%
Access to nature and green spaces	20%	Access to nature and green spaces	23%	Wildlife	12%
Community Area 4		Community Area 5		Community Area 6	
Clean Air	27%	Access to nature and green spaces	13%	Beaches	22%
Wildlife	26%	Beaches	13%	Accessible outdoor recreation	15%
Beaches	24%	Accessible outdoor recreation	12%	Clean resilient water resources	11%

In Carmarthenshire, 'beaches' (77%) was the highest scoring for those aged 16-64 whilst respondents aged 65+ thought it was more valuable to have a 'clean resilient water resources' (41%). Female respondents also noted that they would value 'beaches' (81%) whilst male respondents felt that 'landscape and views' (35%) would be of more value. Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ valued 'accessible outdoor recreation' (30%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k valued 'wildlife' (22%). Respondents that stated they were carers valued 'clean air' (27%) most about their local environment and those who stipulated they had a disability valued 'supporting sustainable food production' (31%). 'Clean air' and 'water resources' was valued by all age groups.

#### Q24) Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your local environment?

Carmarthenshire residents were mostly concerned with 'littering/fly tipping' (76%) in their local environment.



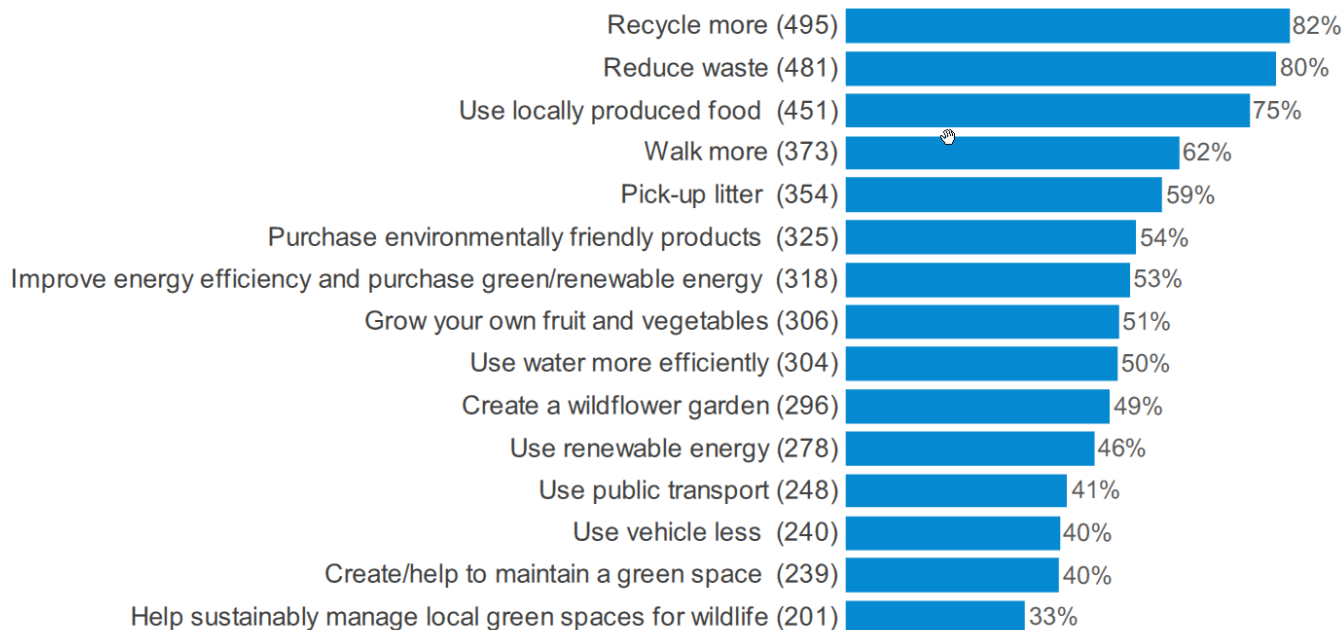
However, in the Community Areas there was a variance from the responses received.

- Community Area 1 were concerned with 'extreme weather events' (25%)
- Community Area 2 'impact of flooding' (29%)
- Community Area 3 'littering/fly tipping' (15%)
- Community Area 4 'declining water quality' (27%)
- Community Area 5 were also declined with 'declining water quality' (17%)
- Community Area 6 (20%) were both concerned mostly about 'coastal erosion'.

Respondents aged 16-64 were more concerned with the 'ability to adapt and be resilient to climate change' (74%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they were more concerned with 'how to reduce waste and improve recycling' (36%). Females were also concerned with 'ability to adapt and be resilient to climate change' (74%) whilst the male gender were mostly concerned with 'declining air quality' (32%). Respondents who had caring responsibilities main concern was 'coastal erosion' (25%) and those with disabilities were more concerned with 'insufficient water supplies/droughts' (30%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that 'declining air quality' was their main concern (37%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k were most concerned with 'effect on wildlife' (22%).

## Q25) What would you consider doing to improve your local environment?

Most Carmarthenshire residents would consider 'recycling more' (82%) to improve their local environment.



There was a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would consider doing to improve their local environment.

- Community Area 1 would consider 'create/help to maintain a play space' (25%)
- Community Area 2 'grow your own fruit and vegetables' (22%)
- Community Area 3 'help sustainably manage local green spaces for wildlife' (14%)
- Community Area 4 'use water more efficiently' (30%)
- Community Area 5 'walk more' (14%)
- Community Area 6 'cycle more' (15%).

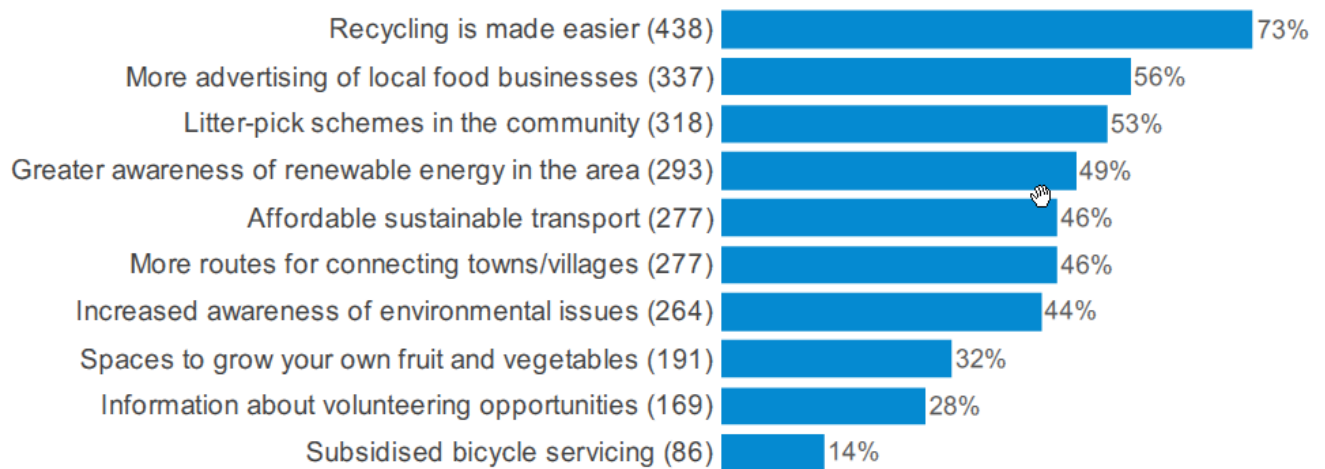
Respondents aged 16-64 would consider 'cycling more' (86%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would prefer to consider 'use public transport more' (42%). Female respondents would consider 'create/help to maintain a play space' (78%) whilst the male gender would consider 'cycling more' (33%) to improve their local environment.

Respondents with caring responsibilities would also consider 'create/help maintain a play space' (27%) and those with disabilities would consider 'use public transport' (29%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would consider 'cycle more' (37%) to improve their local environment whilst those on the lower income of under £15k would consider 'use public transport' (23%).



## Q26) What support would you need to be in place to improve your local environment?

Most respondents stated that to help support them to improve their local environment they would need support for 'recycling is made easier' (73%).



There was a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would support they needed to improve their local environment.

- Community Area 1 required support 'more advertising of local food businesses' (22%)
- Community Area 2 'more routes for connecting towns/villages' (23%)
- Community Area 3 'subsidised bicycle servicing' (15%)
- Community Area 4 'recycling made easier' (24%)
- Community Area 5 'litter-pick schemes in the community' (14%)
- Community Area 6 'information about volunteering opportunities' (16%).

Respondents aged 16-64 would like more support on 'information about volunteering opportunities' (80%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would like the support with 'affordable sustainable transport' (36%) to improve their local environment. Female respondents would like support on 'information about volunteering opportunities' (78%) to help improve their local environment whilst the male gender would like support on 'greater awareness of renewable energy in the area' (29%).

Respondents with caring responsibilities would like support with 'spaces to grow your own fruit and vegetables' (26%) and those with disabilities would like support for 'affordable sustainable transport' (31%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ (30%) and those on a lower income of £15k or less (24%) stated that support for 'subsidised bicycle servicing' would help them to improve their local environment.



Q27) Any other comments on 'A Resilient Carmarthenshire'?

Total of **75 comments** received, here are a few recurring or possibly useful comments



- Multi-user routes for including horse-riding, too much emphasis currently on walkers and cyclists
- Better maintained footpaths and byways and accessible to all
- A park and walk scheme
- Doorstep recycling is now easy – no excuse
- More accessible recycling centres
- More local bottle banks and green waste disposal
- Shortage of allotment spaces in some areas – introduce a ‘garden share’ scheme
- People are happy to volunteer to litter pick
- Anti-litter campaigns to help reduce litter
- Improve access to public transport
- More wildflower meadows in green spaces
- Improve areas with poor air quality
- Managing pollution from farming and industry

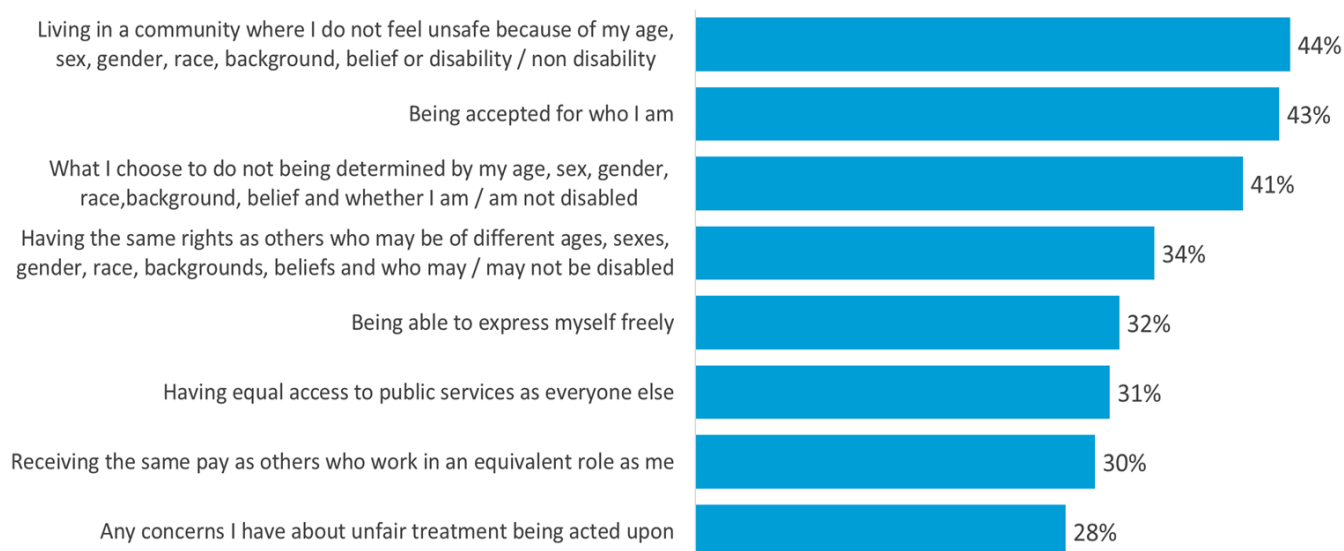
## A More Equal Carmarthenshire

Q28) Which **three** things do you value most about living in a society that strives to be equal for all?

The **three** main options that were chosen for Carmarthenshire are listed as follows: *Living in a community where I do not feel unsafe 44%, Being accepted for who I am 43% and What I choose to do not being determined by my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief and whether I am/am not disabled 41%.*

Community Area 1		Community Area 2		Community Area 3	
What I choose to do not being determined by my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief or whether I am/am not disabled.	23%	Being able to express myself freely	27%	Being able to express myself freely	15%
Being accepted for who I am	22%	Having equal access to public services as everyone else	24%	Any concerns I have about unfair treatment being acted upon	14%
Having equal access to public services as everyone else	22%	Being accepted for who I am	23%	What I choose to do not being determined by my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief and whether I am / am not disabled	13%
Community Area 4		Community Area 5		Community Area 6	
Living in a community where I do not feel unsafe	28%	What I choose to do not being determined by my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief or whether I am/am not disabled	13%	Having the same rights as others who may be of different ages, sexes, gender, race, backgrounds, beliefs and who may / may not be disabled	16%
Receiving the same pay as others who work in an equivalent role as me	25%	Having the same rights as others who may be of different ages, sexes, gender, race, backgrounds, beliefs and who may / may not be disabled	13%	Any concerns I have about unfair treatment being acted upon	15%
Having equal access to public services as everyone else	24%	Being accepted for who I am	13%	What I choose to do not being determined by my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief or whether I am/am not disabled	12%

Probing the results of Q28 by Community Areas and demography uncovers some similarities as well as a variance in responses.



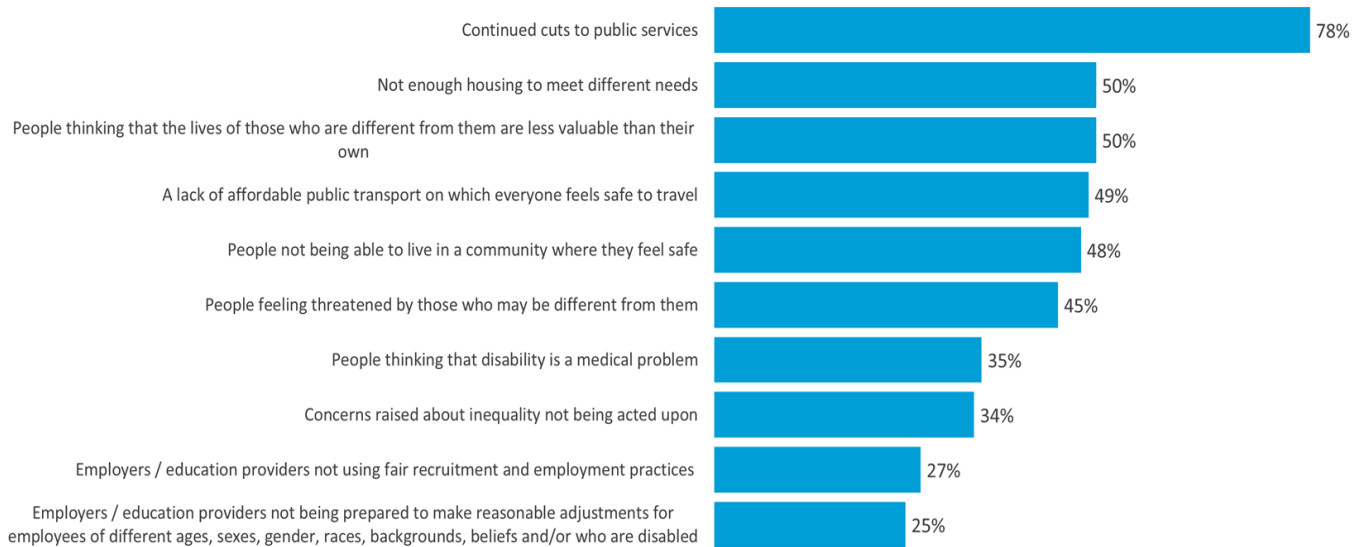
In Carmarthenshire, ‘receiving the same pay as others who work in an equivalent role as me’ (44%) was the highest scoring for those aged 16-64 whilst respondents aged 65+ put more value on ‘living in a community where I do not feel unsafe because of my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief or disability/non-disability’ (40%).

Female respondents also noted that what they would value most about living in a society striving to be equal for all would be ‘receiving the same pay as others who work in an equivalent role as me’ (83%) whilst male respondents felt that ‘being able to express myself freely’ (41%) would be of more value.

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ also stated that what they valued most about living in a society that strives to be equal for all was ‘receiving the same pay as others who work in an equivalent role as me’ (32%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k valued ‘being accepted for who I am’ (22%). Respondents that stated they were carers valued ‘living in a community where I do not feel unsafe because of my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief or disability / non disability’ (25%) and those who stipulated they had a disability valued ‘being accepted for who I am’ (30%). All respondents with Welsh language skills stated that they valued ‘receiving the same pay as others who work in an equivalent role as me’ as did all respondents aged 54 and under.

## Q29) Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your community becoming fairer for everyone?

Carmarthenshire residents were mostly concerned with ‘Continued cuts to public services (78%).



However, in the Community Areas there was a variance from the responses received of what concerns residents had about their community becoming fairer for everyone.

- Community Area 1 were mainly concerned with ‘Employers / education providers not being prepared to make reasonable adjustments for employees of different ages, sexes, gender, races, backgrounds, beliefs and/or who are disabled’ (22%)
- Community Area 2 ‘Not enough housing to meet different needs’ (25%)
- Community Area 3 ‘A lack of affordable public transport on which everyone feels safe to travel’ (15%)
- Community Area 4 ‘People thinking that disability is a medical problem’ (29%) and
- Community Area 5 (15%) and Community Area 6 (14%) were both concerned about ‘People not being able to live in a community where they feel safe’.

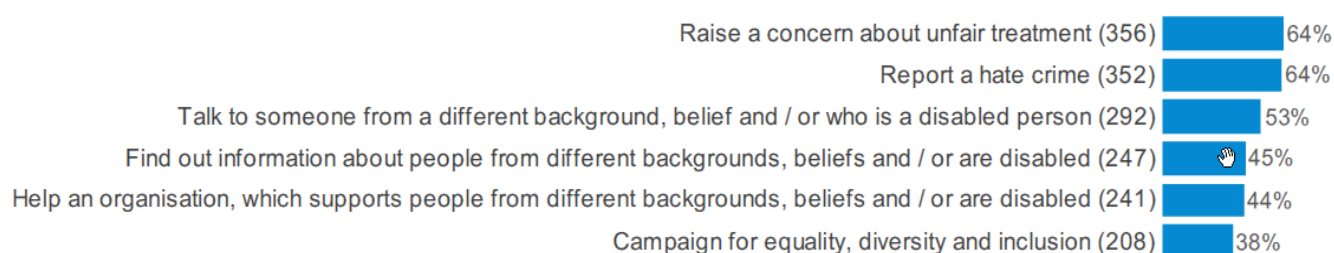
Respondents aged 16-64 were more concerned with the ‘People feeling threatened by those who may be different from them’ (75%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they were more concerned with ‘A lack of affordable public transport on which everyone feels safe to travel’ (35%). Females were concerned with ‘people thinking that disability is a medical problem’ (79%) whilst the male gender were mostly concerned with ‘continued cuts to public services’ (28%). Respondents who described themselves as LGB had concerns regarding ‘Employers / education providers not being prepared to make reasonable adjustments for employees of different ages, sexes, gender, races, backgrounds, beliefs and/or who are disabled’ (6%) whilst those who described themselves as BME had concerns regarding ‘people thinking that

the disability is a medical problem’ and ‘concerns raised about inequality not being acted upon’ (2%) for both responses.

Respondents who had caring responsibilities main concern was ‘Employers / education providers not being prepared to make reasonable adjustments for employees of different ages, sexes, gender, races, backgrounds, beliefs and/or who are disabled’ (28%) and those with disabilities were more concerned with ‘people thinking that the disability is a medical problem’ (38%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that ‘people feeling threatened by those who may be different from them’ (27%) was their main concern whilst those on the lower income of under £15k were more concerned with ‘people thinking that the disability is a medical problem’ (25%).

### Q30) What would you consider doing to help make things fairer for everyone in your community?

In order to make things fairer for everyone in their community most Carmarthenshire residents would consider ‘raising a concern about unfair treatment’ and ‘report a hate crime’ (64%).



There were some similarities in responses and some variance in the Community Areas as to what they would consider doing to make things fairer for everyone in their community.

- Community Area 1 ‘Help an organisation, which supports people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled’ (24%)
- Community Area 2 ‘Help an organisation, which supports people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled’ and ‘talk to someone from a different background, belief and/or who is a disabled person’ (20%)
- Community Area 3 ‘talk to someone from a different background, belief and/or who is a disabled person’ (13%),
- Community Area 4 ‘talk to someone from a different background, belief and/or who is a disabled person’ (26%)
- Community Area 5 ‘find out information about people from different backgrounds, beliefs and/or who are disabled’ (14%)

- Community Area 6 'Talk to someone from a different background, belief and / or who is a disabled person' (12%)

In order to make things fairer for everyone in their community respondents aged 16-64 would consider 'Find out information about people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled' and 'Help an organisation, which supports people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled' (78%) equally whilst those aged 65+ stated they would consider 'Talk to someone from a different background, belief and / or who is a disabled person' (30%). Most female respondents would consider 'Find out information about people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled' (81%) whilst the male gender would consider 'raise a concern about unfair treatment' (26%) to make things fairer for everyone in their community.

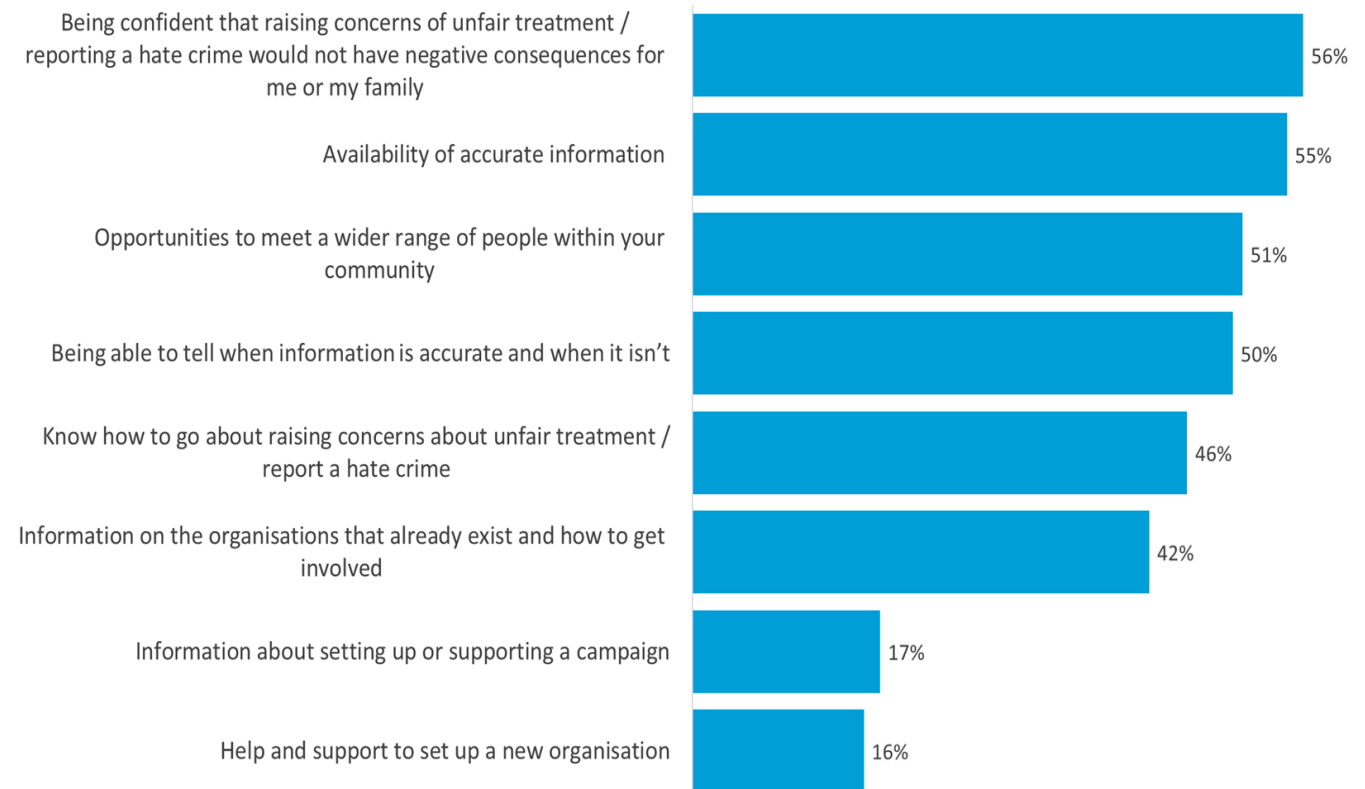
Respondents with caring responsibilities stated that they would also consider 'Talk to someone from a different background, belief and / or who is a disabled person' and 'raise a concern about unfair treatment' (24%) whilst respondents with disabilities would consider 'campaign for equality, diversity and inclusion' (32%).

Respondents who were LGB stated that they would consider 'Helping an organisation, which supports people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled' (6%) as did residents who stipulated they were BME (2%).

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would consider 'Helping an organisation, which supports people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled' (28%) to make things fairer for everyone in their community whilst those on the lower income of under £15k would consider 'Find out information about people from different backgrounds, beliefs and / or are disabled' (19%).

### Q31) What support would you need to be in place to make things fairer for everyone in your community?

Most respondents stated that to help support them to make things fairer for everyone in their community they would need support in 'Being confident that raising concerns of unfair treatment / reporting a hate crime would not have negative consequences for me or my family' (56%).



Once again there were similarities as well as a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would support they needed to make things fairer for everyone in their local community.

- Community Area 1 required support on 'Information on the organisations that already exist and how to get involved' (22%)
- Community Area 2 'Opportunities to meet a wider range of people within your community' (21%)
- Community 3 (15%) 'Opportunities to meet a wider range of people within your community' (22%)
- Community Area 4 'Information on the organisations that already exist and how to get involved' (27%)
- Community Area 5 'Information about setting up or supporting a campaign' (19%)
- Community Area 6 'Being confident that raising concerns of unfair treatment / reporting a hate crime would not have negative consequences for me or my family' (13%).



Respondents aged 16-64 would like more support on 'Information about setting up or supporting a campaign' (84%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would like the support with 'Being able to tell when information is accurate and when it isn't' (33%) to make things fairer for everyone in their local community. Female respondents would like support on 'Opportunities to meet a wider range of people within your community' (79%) to make things fairer for everyone in their community whilst the male gender would like support on 'Being able to tell when information is accurate and when it isn't' (32%).

Respondents who were LGB (7%) and transgender (13%) stated that they would need 'Help and support to set up a new organisation' as did residents who stipulated they were BME (4%).

Respondents with caring responsibilities would like support with 'Help and support to set up a new organisation' (29%) and those with disabilities would like support in 'Being able to tell when information is accurate and when it isn't' and 'Helping and supporting to set up a new organisation' (27%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would appreciate support on 'information about setting up or supporting a campaign' and those on a lower income of £15k or less stated that support for 'opportunities to meet a wider range of people within their community' (20%) would help them to make things fairer for their local community.

### Q32) Any other comments on 'A More Equal Carmarthenshire'?

Total of **34 comments** received, here are a few recurring or possibly useful comments

- Statutory organisations including the police and judiciary to operate fairly, openly and with no discrimination
- Recognising that misogyny is a hate crime
- A better reporting infrastructure and support for hate crime
- Police are far too tolerant and woefully under manned and resourced
- Recognising Sex rather than Gender
- Better access to NHS services
- Additional support for the Deaf community
- Better support and working opportunities for single parents
- Disabled friendly play equipment in parks
- Religious/faith beliefs being disregarded and pushed aside
- All people should be treated with respect - age, colour, race, gay, lesbian transsexual etc we are born equal.

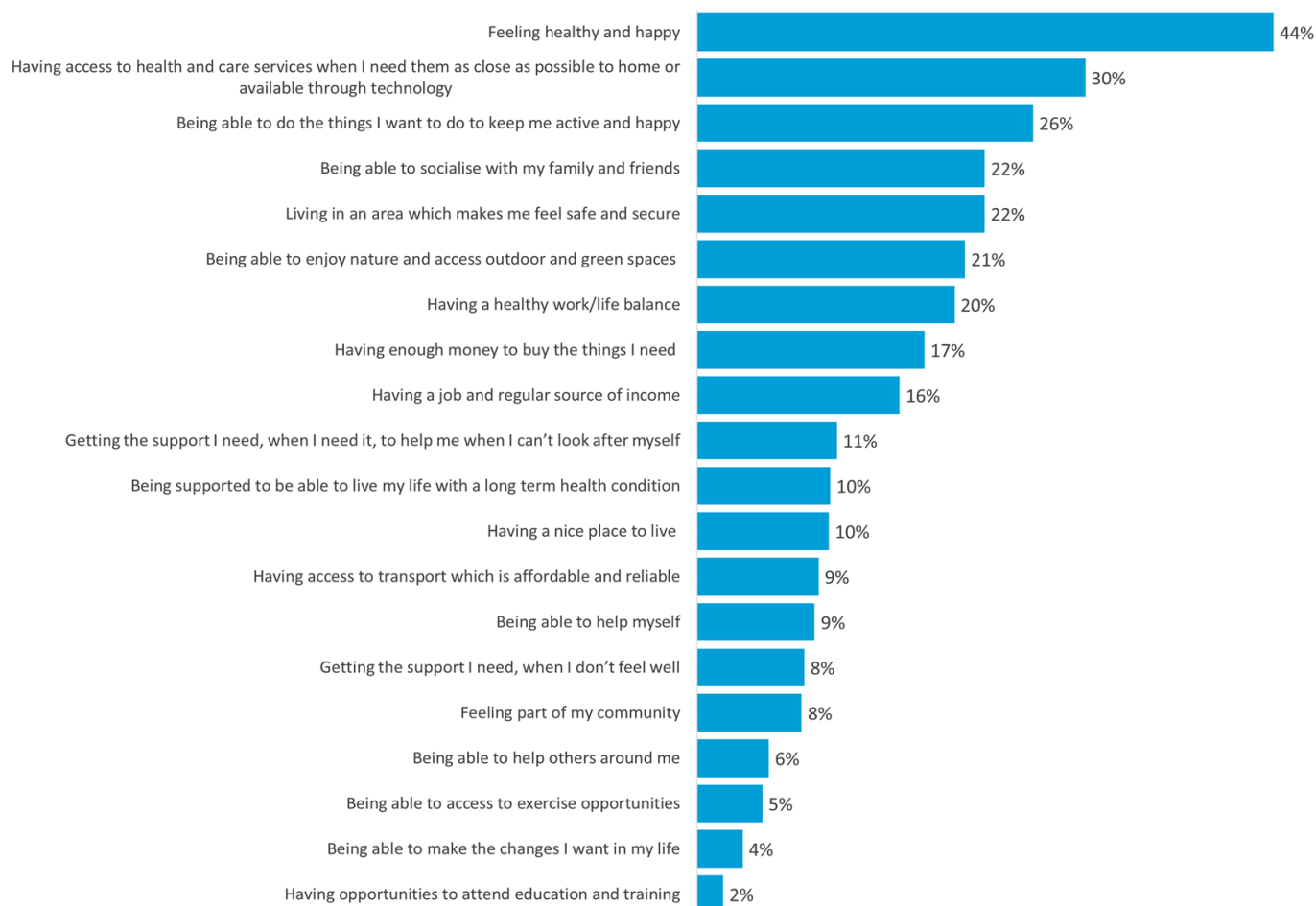




## A Healthier Carmarthenshire

Q33) Which **three** things do you value most in relations to your physical health and/or mental well-being?

The **three** main options that were chosen for Carmarthenshire are listed as follows: *Feeling healthy and happy 44%, Having access to health and care services when I need them as close as possible to home or available through technology 30% and Being able to do the things I want to do to keep me active and happy 26%.*



Probing the results of Q33 by Community Areas and demography uncovers a variance in responses.

Community Area 1		Community Area 2		Community Area 3	
Feeling part of my community	31%	Being able to make the changes I want in my life	43%	Getting the support I need, when I don't feel well	19%
Being able to help others around me	30%	Being able to access to exercise opportunities	37%	Having access to health and care services when I need them as close as possible to home or available through technology	17%
Getting the support I need, when I need it, to help me when I can't look after myself	30%	Having a nice place to live	30%	Having opportunities to attend education and training	17%
Community Area 4		Community Area 5		Community Area 6	
Having opportunities to attend education and training	42%	Having a job and regular source of income	13%	Being able to help others around me	18%
Being supported to be able to live my life with a long-term health condition	36%	Having enough money to buy the things I need	15%	Having access to transport which is affordable and reliable	16%
Getting the support I need, when I don't feel well	31%	Being able to socialise with my family and friends	14%	Being able to help myself	15%

In Carmarthenshire, 'Having a job and regular source of income' (99%) was the highest scoring for those aged 16-64 whilst respondents aged 65+ put more value on 'Getting the support I need, when I need it, to help me when I can't look after myself' (66%).

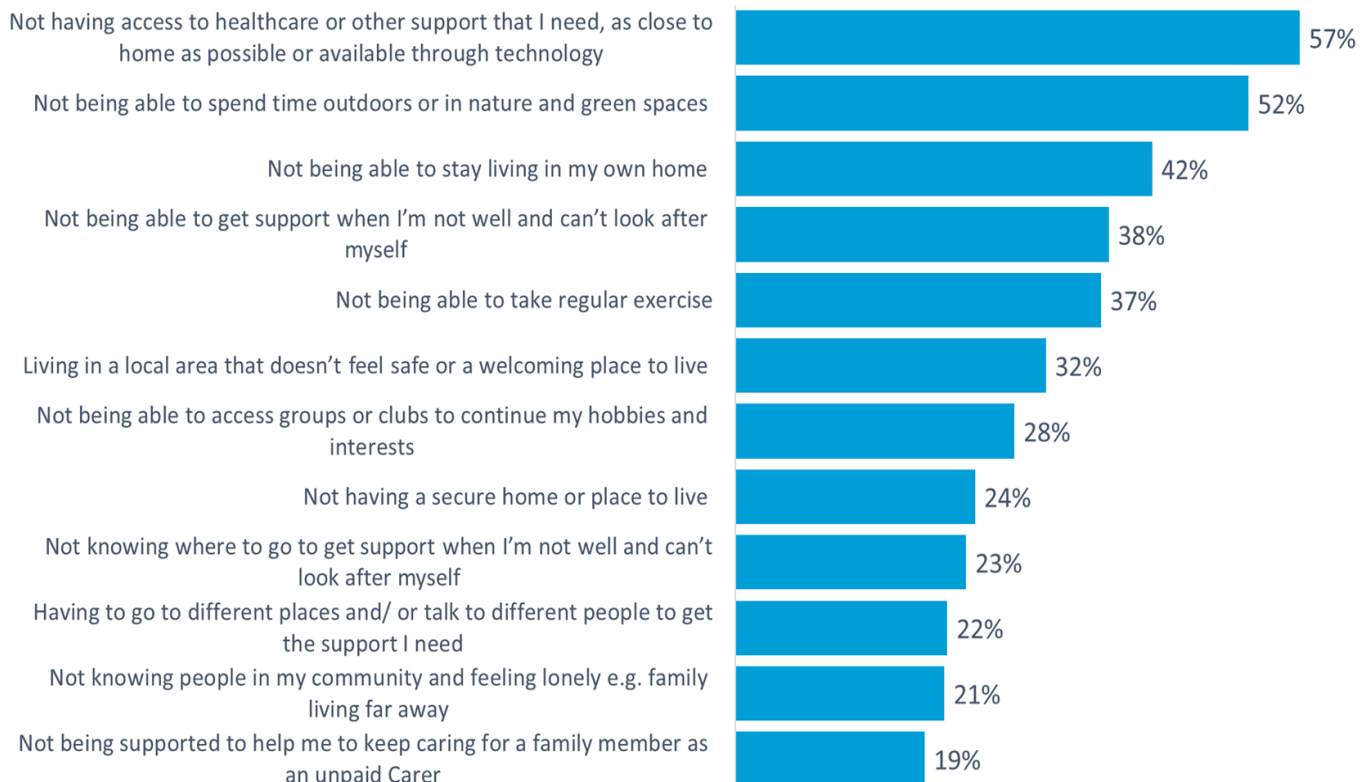
Female respondents also noted that what they would value most in relation to their physical and/or mental well-being would be 'Being able to enjoy nature and access outdoor and green spaces' (82%) whilst male respondents felt that 'Having a nice place to live' (42%) would be of more value to them.

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that what they valued most in relation to their physical health and/or mental well-being was 'being able to make the changes I want in my life' (43%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k valued 'being supported to be able to live my life with a long-term health condition' (35%). Respondents that stated they were carers also valued 'being supported to be able to live my life with a long-term health condition' (33%) as well as those who stipulated they had a disability (85%).

Respondents that were expecting or had a baby in the last 6 months valued 'Feeling part of my community' (2%) whilst those on maternity/paternity leave valued 'Having a nice place to live' (2%).

**Q34) Thinking ahead over the next ten years, what concerns you the most about being able to stay physically and/or mentally well?**

In relation to thinking ahead over the next years about their physical and/or mental well-being Carmarthenshire residents were mostly concerned with ‘Not having access to healthcare or other support that I need, as close to home as possible or available through technology’ (57%).



However, in the Community Areas there was a variance from the responses received of what concerns residents had regarding their physical and/or mental well-being over the next ten years.

- Community Area 1 were more concerned with ‘Not being able to access groups or clubs to continue my hobbies and interests’ (23%)
- Community Area 2 ‘Not having a secure home or place to live’ (24%)
- Community Area 3 ‘Not having access to healthcare or other support that I need, as close to home as possible or available through technology’ (15%)
- Community Area 4 ‘Having to go to different places and/ or talk to different people to get the support I need’ (31%)

- Community Area 5 'Not being supported to help me to keep caring for a family member as an unpaid Carer' (19%)
- Community Area 6 'Living in a local area that doesn't feel safe or a welcoming place to live' (16%).

Respondents aged 16-64 were more concerned with the 'Not having a secure home or place to live' (73%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they were more concerned with 'not being able to stay living in my own home' (50%). Females were concerned with 'Not knowing people in my community and feeling lonely e.g., family living far away' (77%) whilst the male gender were mostly concerned with 'Not being able to take regular exercise' (31%). Respondents who described themselves as LGB also had concerns regarding 'Not knowing people in my community and feeling lonely e.g., family living far away' (7%) whilst those who described themselves as BME had concerns regarding 'Not having a secure home or place to live' (2%).

Respondents who had caring responsibilities main concern was 'Not being supported to help me to keep caring for a family member as an unpaid Carer' (59%) and those with disabilities were more concerned with 'Having to go to different places and/ or talk to different people to get the support I need' (44%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that 'Living in a local area that doesn't feel safe or a welcoming place to live' (26%) was their main concern whilst those on the lower income of under £15k were more concerned with 'Having to go to different places and/ or talk to different people to get the support I need' (32%).

Q35) Looking ahead, what could you do to improve your own physical and/or mental well-being?

This section was analysed by the Hywel Dda University Health Board



## **Well-being Assessment Report November 2021:**

**Qualitative analysis of health and wellbeing questions within the regional Public Services Board well-being surveys in the Hywel Dda University Health Board area**  
**(Report Authors: Charlotte Peat; Anna Bird; Dr Joanne McCarty)**

### **Background**

The publication of a Public Services Board (PSB) Well-being Assessment is a requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Effectively involving people and communities is at the heart of improving well-being, therefore, engagement and consultation has been a key priority for PSB partners.

The three PSBs and the Regional Partnership Board worked collaboratively and developed a Regional Engagement and Consultation Framework. This provided a standardised approach to conducting the engagement and consultation activity for the Assessment of Local Wellbeing across the three PSB areas of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, and Pembrokeshire, and align with the work which is on-going to refresh the Population Needs Assessment.

An 'engagement led' approach was taken to ensure the views of our citizens are at the heart of the next set of PSB Well-being Plans. Engagement and Consultation are critical sources of information - they provide qualitative data which will help us to understand people's lived experiences, attitudes, and stories. Furthermore, this process will help identify gaps in the data and point to those groups that may be 'hidden' in numbers (for example, the homeless community). It will also complement the quantitative data gathered from the Well-being Survey, resulting in deeper and more 'nuanced' insights.

Engagement work with partners, stakeholders and citizens took place during August-October 2021 and initially focused on encouraging the completion of a Well-being Survey and targeted Focus Group discussions. Each PSB had its own survey, available in Welsh, English, Polish, Arabic and Romanian to reflect the most prevalent community languages. An Easy Read version was also developed, and citizens were able to complete the survey on-line or as a paper copy.

The Health Board, as a key statutory partner of the PSB, and provided specific support for the analysis of the Well-being Survey questions linked to “A Healthier Wales” which will contribute to the PSB Well-being Assessments, Population Needs Assessment and provide valuable insights to support the core work of the Health Board.

## **Methods**

The PSB ‘have your say’ wellbeing survey was carried out over 13 weeks and included an online survey and postal responses which were then inputted into the online database. The survey included three free-text answer boxes within the health and well-being section of the survey. These were questions 35 to 37 and these were included in this qualitative analysis. Respondents who completed the survey but did not input any free text for any of these three questions were not included in the analysis.

A thematic analysis was used and inductive coding with an iterative process of theme creation. Responses were assessed and grouped into initial themes. Once over half the responses had been looked at by two individuals, the common themes became clearer. These were used as the main themes in the analysis and each theme was assigned a ‘code’ or ‘keyword’. These themes were revisited over the remainder of the responses and informed by any new patterns emerging within the dataset. Any change was then reapplied to all responses.

No more than four themes were identified in any given answer for question 35, while no more than three themes were identified in any given answer for question 36. Hence, each answer for question 35 could be assigned up to four different ‘codes’ relating to four different themes and each answer for question 36 could be assigned up to three different ‘codes’.

Using Microsoft Excel™, the number of times each code had been assigned to the responses for each question could be counted. This was then extended to count the number of times each code, and hence theme, had occurred in subgroups of respondents – including those who answered ‘yes’ to having a disability, those aged 65 and over, and broken down into the three counties (Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire). This count was then expressed as a percentage of the total number of respondents who had entered any free text for that particular question and were in each of these subgroups.

As a quality control measure, a random 10% of the responses were independently coded using the same set of themes and corresponding codes/ keywords by a second person. This resulted in a very high level of agreement in coding.

## Findings

A total of 1333 surveys were completed regionally. 573 surveys did not include any text response to all of questions 35, 36 and 37. 716, 618 and 199 gave a text response for question 35, 36 and 37 respectively. Answers provided by respondents would often include multiple themes or different points. Each percentage given in the below findings refers to the number of people mentioning a comment relating to a theme, out of the total number of people who gave any text response to that question.

Themes are described below in order of prevalence for each question/ subgroup.

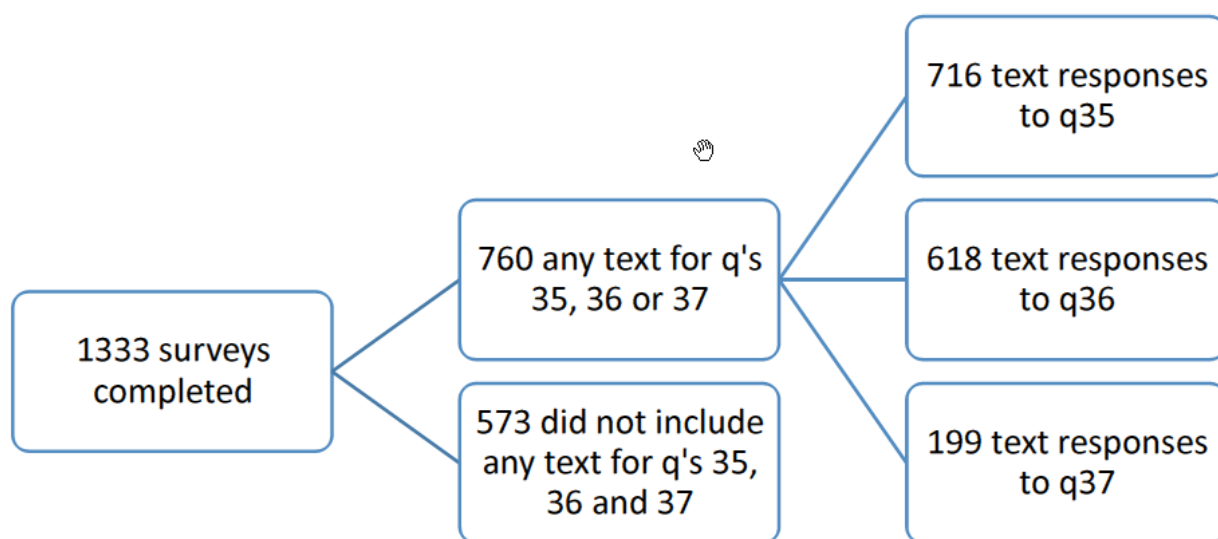


Figure 1. Flowchart of numbers of responses to question 35, 36 and 37

## Subgroups

Answer to questions 35 and 36 were then broken down into subgroups to identify any possible differences in answers to the whole survey population. This included looking at responses from those answering that they lived in each county (Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire), those regionally answering 'yes' to having a disability or long-term health problem, and those regionally aged 65 and above.

There were 320 text responses to question 35 from respondents who answered that they lived in Carmarthenshire.

51% of people living in Carmarthenshire who answered the survey mentioned more exercise, keeping fit or staying active.

13% commented on staying connected with friends, family or community groups, or socialising more, with answers including "...meet with family and friends regularly...", "...stay in touch/ see loved ones" and "...meet and get to know more people...".

This was followed by getting outdoors/ accessing green space (8%), looking after own wellbeing (e.g. self-care, self-motivation) at 8% and improving or maintaining a healthy diet (8%).

A better work/life balance or working less hours/ retiring was mentioned by 8% of those in Carmarthenshire who answered question 35.

Answers given did combine comments on exercising or staying active and accessing green spaces or getting outdoors. Examples include “keep visiting beaches and other local beauty spots for exercise and pleasure” and “...exercise and enjoy the beautiful natural environment around me”.

### Q36) What if anything would need to be in place for you to do these things?

273 of those who answered question 36 also answered that they lived in Carmarthenshire. 12% of these people commented on ‘routes’ which included walking, cycling and riding routes or areas that are safe and well maintained. Comments included “local footpaths maintained, most are impassable due to overgrowth, rubbish or landowners blocking them”, “more bridle paths...”, “well-lit paths”, “more cycle paths...” and “footpaths away from traffic”. 10% commented on improved or improved access to healthcare services (including primary care, secondary care, mental health services and dental services), such as “...effective mental health services”, “better accessibility to primary care services...” and “NHS dental care being available”.

A greater availability of, or access to, leisure and exercise classes that are appropriate, affordable or free was mentioned by 10% of those living in Carmarthenshire who gave a text answer to question 36. Comments included “cheaper/easier access to leisure centre facilities, especially the swimming pool”, “leisure centres open more” and “free or reduced fee access to gym/ classes etc”.

9% mentioned a comment relating to support – being listened to and supported, improved social care support, or support from employers.



Q37) Any other comments on 'A Healthier Carmarthenshire'?

Question 37 was less commonly answered than the previous two questions with 199 text responses. It was felt that the answers to this question were predominantly a reiteration of previous points, very specific/ personal or very broad/ unrelated to the topic of health and wellbeing. Therefore, there were no clear themes, and no further analysis was performed on the answers to this question by the Hywel Dda University Health Board.

Total of **84 comments** received, here are a few recurring or possibly useful comments

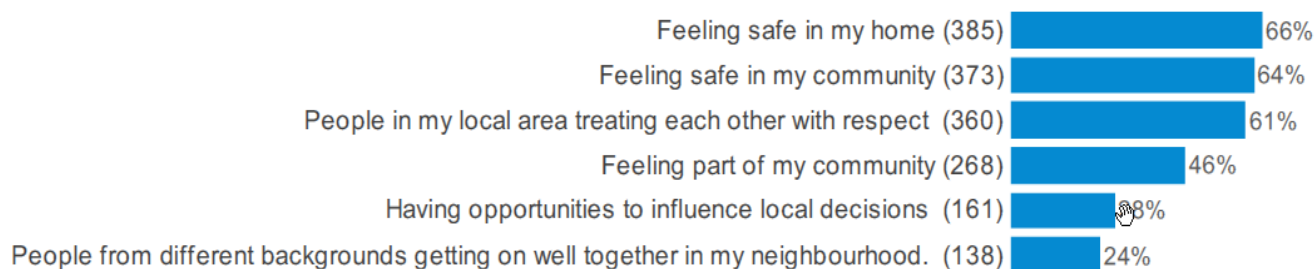


- Community volunteer transport services
- Improved public transport
- Getting to Hospital and GP appointments is a worry to many people
- Outdoor physical exercise is getting more challenging i.e., busier roads, larger and faster farm traffic, quiet electric cars and the threat of increased dog thefts
- Less focus on cycling and more consideration of other sports, horse riding, walking, swimming.
- Improved Green Spaces
- Accessible toilets in towns and villages
- Reduce waiting times with the NHS
- NHS to embrace technology
- Hospital access, GP and dental facilities need to be a priority for an ageing population.
- Improved access to GP services and therefore reduces the use of A&E
- How can it be conducive to healing for women having to accommodate males who identify as women in domestic refuges, rape crisis centres etc when those places exist because of male violence towards women and girls.
- Lack of mental health services
- More anti-alcohol & get up and walk campaigns

## A Carmarthenshire of Cohesive Communities

### Q38) Which **three** things do you value most about the community that you live in?

The **three** main options that the residents of Carmarthenshire valued most about the community that they lived in are listed as follows: *Feeling safe in my home 66%, Feeling safe in my community 64% and People in my local area treating each other with respect 61%.*



Probing the results of Q38 by Community Areas and demography once again uncovers some similarities as well as a variance in responses.

Community Area 1		Community Area 2		Community Area 3	
People from different backgrounds getting on well together in my neighbourhood.	23%	Feeling part of my community	26%	People in my local area treating each other with respect	15%
Feeling part of my community	23%	People from different backgrounds getting on well together in my neighbourhood.	26%	Having opportunities to influence local decisions	13%
Having opportunities to influence local decisions	23%	Having opportunities to influence local decisions	23%	Feeling safe in my home	13%
Community Area 4		Community Area 5		Community Area 6	
Feeling part of my community	25%	People in my local area treating each other with respect	15%	People from different backgrounds getting on well together in my neighbourhood.	18%
Having opportunities to influence local decisions	24%	Feeling safe in my home	14%	Feeling safe in my community	11%
Feeling safe in my home	24%	Feeling safe in my community	12%	People in my local area treating each other with respect	11%

In Carmarthenshire, ‘feeling safe in my community’ (71%) was the highest scoring for those aged 16-64 whilst respondents aged 65+ put more value on ‘feeling part of my community’ (35%).

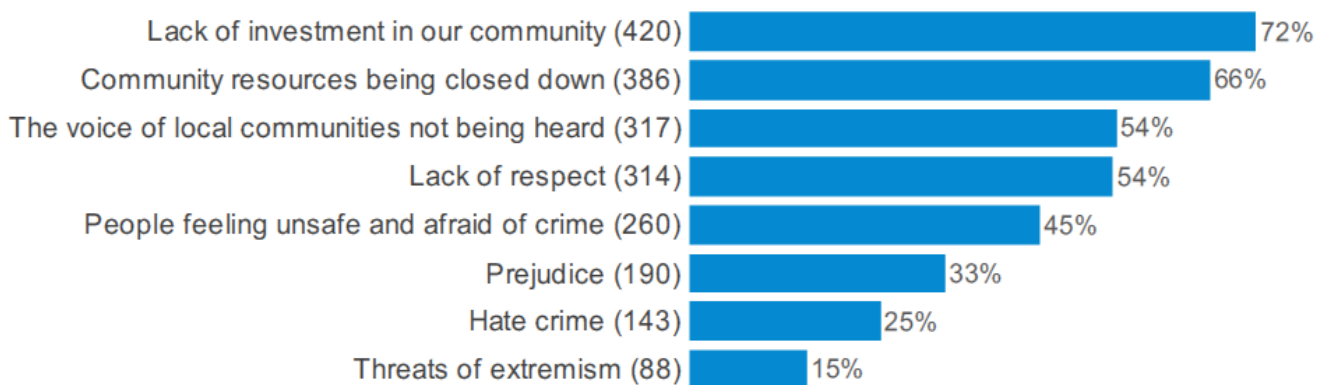
Female respondents noted that what they value most in relation to the community that they live in was ‘feeling safe in my own home’ (76%) whilst male respondents felt that ‘Having opportunities to influence local decisions’ (38%) was of more value to them.

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that what they valued most in relation to the community that they lived in was ‘Having opportunities to influence local decisions’ (29%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k valued ‘people from different backgrounds getting on well together in my neighbourhood’ (21%). Respondents that stated they were carers said that ‘feeling part of their community’ (24%) was valuable to them and people who had a disability (32%) and those from a BME (2%) background said that ‘people from different backgrounds getting on well together in my neighbourhood’ would be valuable to them in their community.

Respondents with a religious (70%) belief valued ‘feeling part of the community’ as did those whose first language was stipulated to be Welsh (26%).

### Q39) Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about community cohesion?

In relation to community cohesion Carmarthenshire residents were mostly concerned with ‘lack of investment in their communities’ (72%).



However, in the Community Areas there was a variance from the responses received of what concerns residents had regarding good community cohesion in their neighbourhood.

- Community Area 1 were more concerned with ‘prejudice’ (22%)
- Community Area 2 ‘lack of investment in our community’ (23%)
- Community Area 3 ‘threats of extremism’ (18%)

- Community Area 4 ‘prejudice’ (27%)
- Community Area 5 ‘people in my local area treating each other with respect’ (15%)
- Community Area 6 ‘threats of extremism’ (20%).

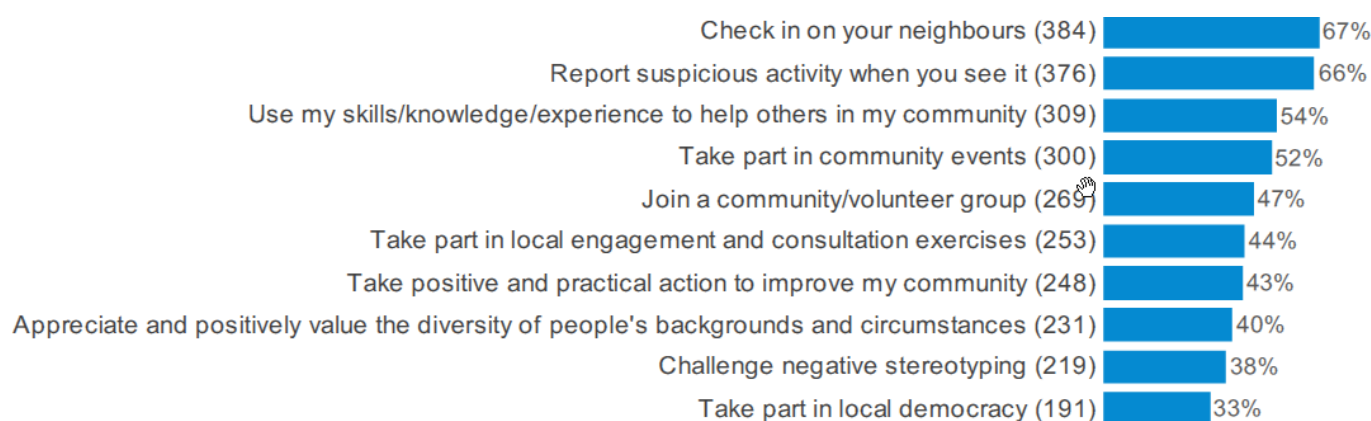
Respondents aged 16-64 were concerned with the ‘feeling part of their community’ (70%) whilst those aged 65+ (39%) and the male gender (29%) respondents stated they were more concerned with ‘the voice of local communities not being heard’. Female respondents were concerned with ‘threats of extremism’ (75%).

Respondents who described themselves as LGB also had concerns regarding ‘prejudice’ (7%) whilst those who described themselves as BME had concerns regarding ‘threats of extremism’ (2%).

Respondents who had caring responsibilities main concern was ‘the voice of local communities not being heard’ (25%) and those with disabilities were more concerned with ‘prejudice’ (31%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that ‘lack of investment in their communities’ (27%) was their main concern whilst those on the lower income of under £15k were more concerned with ‘Hate crime’ (22%). A total of 84% of respondents who stipulated their first language to be English were concerned with ‘prejudice’.

#### Q40) What would you consider doing to help achieve good community cohesion in your neighbourhood?

To achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhoods Carmarthenshire residents would consider ‘check in on their neighbours’ (67%).



There was a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would consider doing to achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood.

- Community Area 1 'use my skills/knowledge/experience to help other in my community' (23%)
- Community Area 2 would consider 'taking part in community events' (23%)
- Community Area 3 'report suspicious activity when you see it' (13%)
- Community Area 4 'join a community/volunteer group' (26%)
- Community Area 5 'check in on their neighbours' (13%)
- Community Area 6 'Take part in local democracy' (15%)

To achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood respondents aged 16-64 would consider 'take positive and practical action to improve my community' (79%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would consider 'reporting a suspicious activity when they see it' (34%). Most female respondents would consider 'take part in community events' (80%) whilst the male gender would consider 'report suspicious activity when they see it' (34%) to achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood.

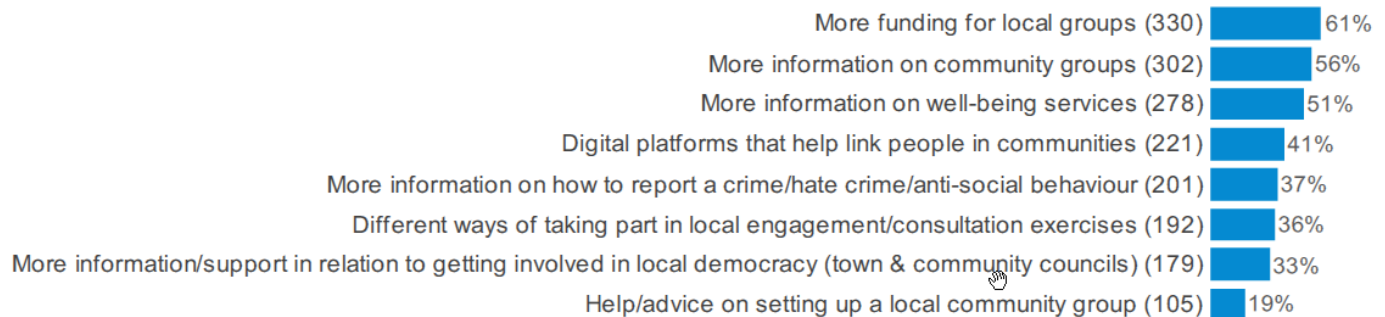
Respondents with caring responsibilities stated that they would also consider 'report suspicious activity when they see it' (25%) whilst respondents with disabilities would consider 'challenge negative stereotyping' (28%).

Respondents who were LGB stated that they would consider 'challenge negative stereotyping' (7%) and those that stipulated they were BME would consider 'taking positive and practical action to improve my community' (2%).

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would consider 'taking positive and practical action to improve my community' (32%) to make things fairer for everyone in their community whilst those on the lower income of under £15k would consider 'appreciating and positively valuing the diversity of people's backgrounds and circumstances' (19%).

#### Q41) What support would you need to be in place to do these things?

Most respondents stated that to help them achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood they would need support in 'more funding for local groups' (61%).



There was a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would support they needed to achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood.

- Community Area 1 'digital platforms that help link people in communities' (26%)
- Community Area 2 'more information on community groups' (21%)
- Community Area 3 'more information on how to report a crime/hate crime/anti-social behaviour' (15%)
- Community Area 4 'more information on well-being services' (26%)
- Community Area 5 'help/advice on setting up a local community group' (17%)
- Community Area 6 'more information/support in relation to getting involved in local democracy (town & community councils)' (16%).

Respondents aged 16-64 would like more support on 'different ways of taking part in local engagement/consultation exercises' (79%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would like the support with 'more information on how to report a crime/hate crime/anti-social behaviour' (36%) to achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood. Female respondents would also like support with 'more information on how to report a crime/hate crime/anti-social behaviour' (77%) whilst the male gender would like support with 'more information/support in relation to getting involved in local democracy (town & community councils)' (30%).

Respondents who were LGB stipulated that they would require support with 'help and advice on setting up a local community group' (9%) whilst those stating they were transgender (7%) and respondents from the BME community (2%) stated that they would benefit with support on 'more information/support in relation to getting involved in local democracy (town & community councils)'.

Respondents with caring responsibilities would like support with ‘more information on well-being services’ (27%) and those with disabilities would like support with ‘how to report a crime/hate crime/anti-social behaviour’ (28%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would appreciate support with ‘help/advice on setting up a local community group’ (34%) and those on a lower income of £15k or less stated that support regarding ‘more information on well-being services’ (21%) would help them to good community cohesion in their neighbourhood.

#### Q42) Any other comments on ‘A Carmarthenshire of Cohesive Communities’?

Total of **54 comments** received, here are a few recurring or possibly useful comments



- Lack of funding in communities, centres, and village halls
- Even distribution of support across communities and not only via community councils
- Bring back Day Centres and Meals on Wheels
- Don't have the time to be involved
- Digital platform is great – but there is a percentage that does not have access
- Improved Digital connectivity
- Negativity against English incomers to take part
- Better access to information
- Better promotion of existing national directories such as Dewis and Infoengine
- Mobility issues that prevent me from being as involved
- Involvement of foreigners in social projects not only as volunteers



## A Carmarthenshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Q43) Which **three** things do you value most in relation to your county's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language?

The **three** main options that the residents of Carmarthenshire valued most about their vibrant community and thriving Welsh language is listed as follows: *Locally produced food 55%, Being able to use the Welsh language 43% and Heritage/history 42%.*



Probing the results of Q43 by Community Areas and demography uncovers a variance in responses.

Community Area 1		Community Area 2		Community Area 3	
Heritage/History	23%	Being able to use the Welsh language	26%	Faith/religion	17%
Sports AND Traditions	22%	Social/community clubs	26%	Social/community clubs	15%
Arts/theatres/cinemas	22%	Local festivals/events	24%	Heritage/History	14%
Community Area 4		Community Area 5		Community Area 6	
Traditional food	33%	Sports	17%	Arts/theatres/cinemas.	16%
Traditions	33%	Social/community clubs	16%	Sports	15%
Being able to use the Welsh language	28%	Local festivals/events	15%	Locally produced food	13%

In Carmarthenshire, 'being able to use the Welsh language' (76%) was the highest scoring for those aged 16-64 whilst respondents aged 65+ put more value on 'faith/religion' (55%).



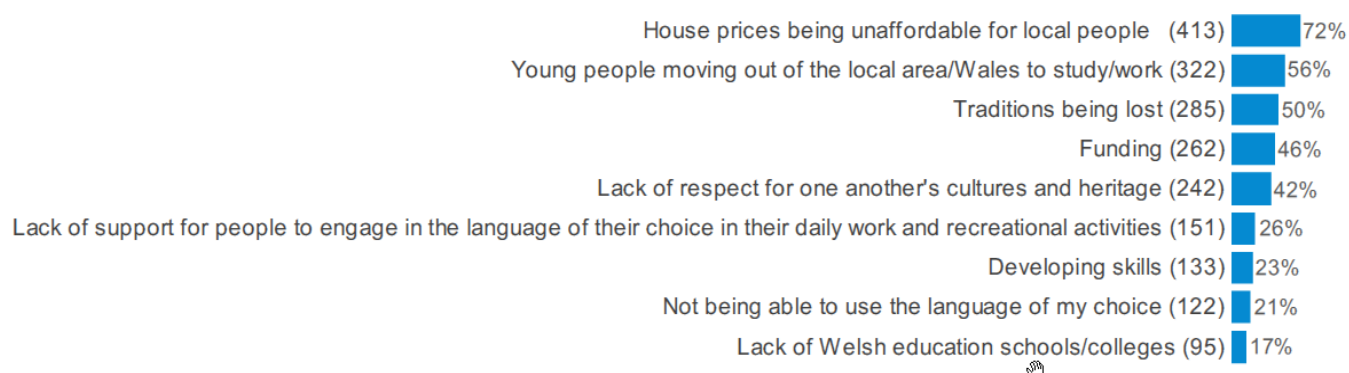
Female respondents noted that in relation to the county's vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language they valued 'local festivals/events' (79%) whilst male respondents felt that 'sports' (49%) was of more value to them.

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ also stated that what they valued most in relation to a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language was 'sports' (35%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k valued 'faith/religion' (22%). Respondents that stated they were carers (29%) and those from the BME community (2%) said that 'traditions' what was more valuable. Respondents that stipulated they a disability (39%) and those that indicated they were transgender (11%) valued 'faith/religion' in their communities.

Respondents that chose English as their first language valued 'heritage/history' (87%) and 'local festivals/events' (87%) in their vibrant communities, whilst those who had chosen Welsh as their first language valued 'being able to use the Welsh language' (47%) in relation to the county's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language.

#### Q44) Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your county's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language?

In relation to the county's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language Carmarthenshire residents were mostly concerned with 'house prices being unaffordable for local people' (72%).



Whilst there were some similarities in the Community Areas there was also a variance from the responses received of what concerns residents had regarding the county's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language.

- Community Area 1 were concerned with 'young people moving out of the local area/Wales to study/work' (24%)
- Community Area 2 'not being able to use the language of my choice' (27%)

- Community Area 3 ‘developing skills’ (16%)
- Community Area 4 ‘not being able to use the language of my choice’ (29%)
- Community Area 5 ‘funding’ (14%)
- Community Area 6 ‘funding’ (14%).

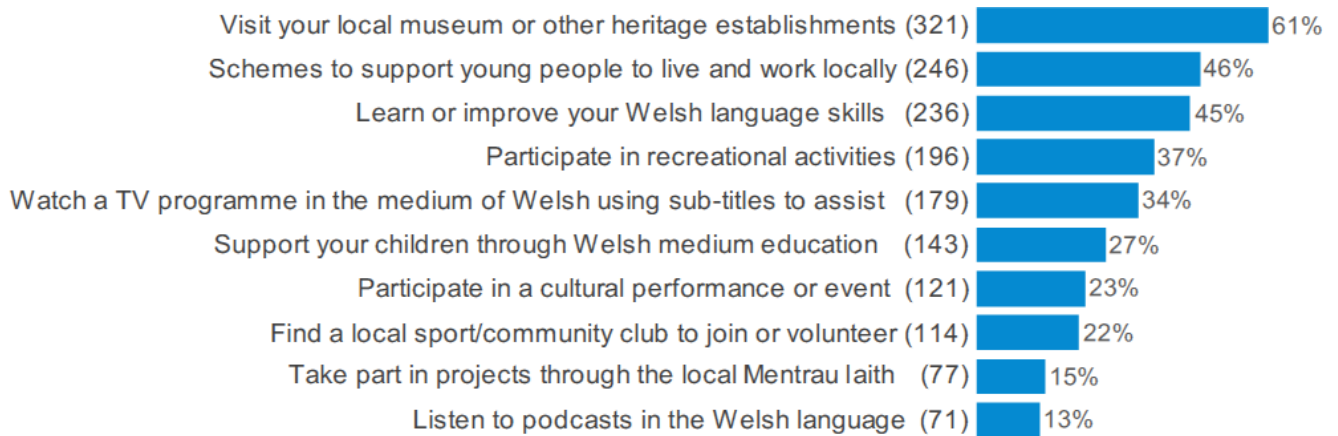
Respondents aged 16-64 were concerned with the ‘lack of Welsh education/schools’ (77%) whilst those aged 65+ were concerned about ‘not being able to use the language of my choice’ (34%). Female respondents were concerned about ‘young people moving out of the local area/Wales to study/work’ (76%) whilst the male respondents were concerned about ‘not being able to use the language of my choice’ (33%).

Respondents who described themselves as LGB were concerned about ‘lack of Welsh education schools/colleges’ (5%) and ‘lack of support for people to engage in the language of their choice in their daily work and recreational studies’ (5%) whilst those who described themselves as BME had concerns regarding ‘developing skills’ (2%). People from the transgender community were concerned about ‘lack of support for people to engage in the language of their choice in their daily work and recreational activities’ (9%).

Respondents who had caring responsibilities main concern was ‘developing skills’ (27%) and those with disabilities were more concerned with ‘not being able to use the language of their choice’ (29%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that ‘young people moving out of the local area/Wales to study/work’ (28%) was their main concern whilst those on the lower income of under £15k were more concerned with ‘traditions being lost’ (19%). A total of 86% of respondents who stipulated their first language to be English were concerned with ‘developing skills’ and respondents that stated they held a religion/belief were concerned about ‘lack of Welsh education schools/colleges’ (72%).

#### Q45) What would you consider doing to help achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language?

To help achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language Carmarthenshire residents would consider 'visit their local museum or other heritage establishment' (61%).



There was a high response to being able to 'learn or improve Welsh language skills' from the Community Areas as well as other variance as to what they would consider doing to help them achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language.

- Community Area 1 'learn or improve Welsh language skills' (23%)
- Community Area 2 would consider 'find a local sport/community club to join or volunteer' (27%)
- Community Area 3 'participate in a cultural performance or event' (14%)
- Community Area 4 'take part in projects through the local Mentrau Iaith' (33%)
- Community Area 5 'learn or improve Welsh language skills' (14%)
- Community Area 6 'learn or improve Welsh language skills' (14%)

To help achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language respondents aged 16-64 would consider 'take part in projects through the local Mentrau Iaith' (86%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would consider 'visiting their local museum or other heritage establishment' (34%). Respondents of the female gender would consider 'learning or improving their Welsh language skills' (77%) whilst the male respondents would consider 'taking part in projects through the local Mentrau Iaith' (27%) or 'participate in a cultural performance or event' (27%) in order to help them to achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language.

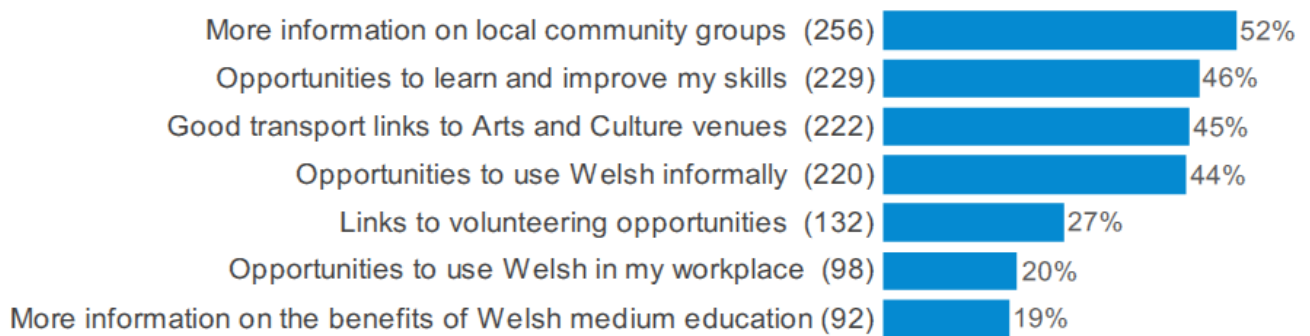
Respondents with caring responsibilities stated that they would consider 'take part in projects through the local Mentrau Iaith' (32%) whilst respondents with disabilities would consider 'watching a TV programme in the medium of Welsh using sub-titles to assist' (25%).

Respondents who were LGB stated that they would consider 'listening to podcasts in the Welsh language' (9%) as did respondents that noted they were BME (2%)

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would consider 'supporting their children through Welsh medium education' (43%) to help achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language whilst those on the lower income of under £15k would consider 'watching a TV programme in the medium of Welsh using sub-titles to assist' (17%). Respondents that stipulated English as their first language would consider 'learning or improving their Welsh language skills' (90%).

#### Q46) What support would you need to be in place to do these things?

Most respondents stated that to help them achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language they would need support in 'more information on local community groups' (52%).



There was a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would support they needed to achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood.

- Community Area 1 'opportunities to use Welsh informally' (21%)
- Community Area 2 'opportunities to use Welsh in the workplace' (27%)
- Community Area 3 'opportunities to use Welsh in the workplace' and 'good transport links to Arts and Culture venues' (12%)
- Community Area 4 'more information on local community groups' (26%)
- Community Area 5 'links to volunteering groups' (17%)
- Community Area 6 'more information on local community groups' (15%).

Respondents aged 16-64 would like more support on 'opportunities to use Welsh in the workplace' (85%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would like the support with 'good transport links to Arts and Culture venues' (39%) to help them achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language. Female respondents would like support with 'opportunities to use Welsh informally' (76%) whilst the male gender would like support with 'more information on the benefits of Welsh medium education' (34%).

Respondents who were LGBT stipulated that they would require support with ‘opportunities to use Welsh informally’ (6%) as did respondents stating that they were transgender (7%) whilst respondents from the BME community stated that they would benefit with support on ‘links to volunteering opportunities’ (2%).

Respondents with caring responsibilities would like support with 'opportunities to learn and improve my skills' (30%) and those with disabilities would like support with 'good transport links to Arts and Culture venues' (29%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would appreciate support with 'opportunities to use Welsh in the workplace' (33%) and those on a lower income of £15k or less stated that support regarding 'good transport links to Arts and Culture venues' (21%) would help them achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language.

87% of respondents who stipulated English as their first name stated they would like support with 'Opportunities to learn and improve my skills'.

Q47) Any other comments on 'A Carmarthenshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language'?

Total of **49 comments** received, here are a few recurring or possibly useful comments

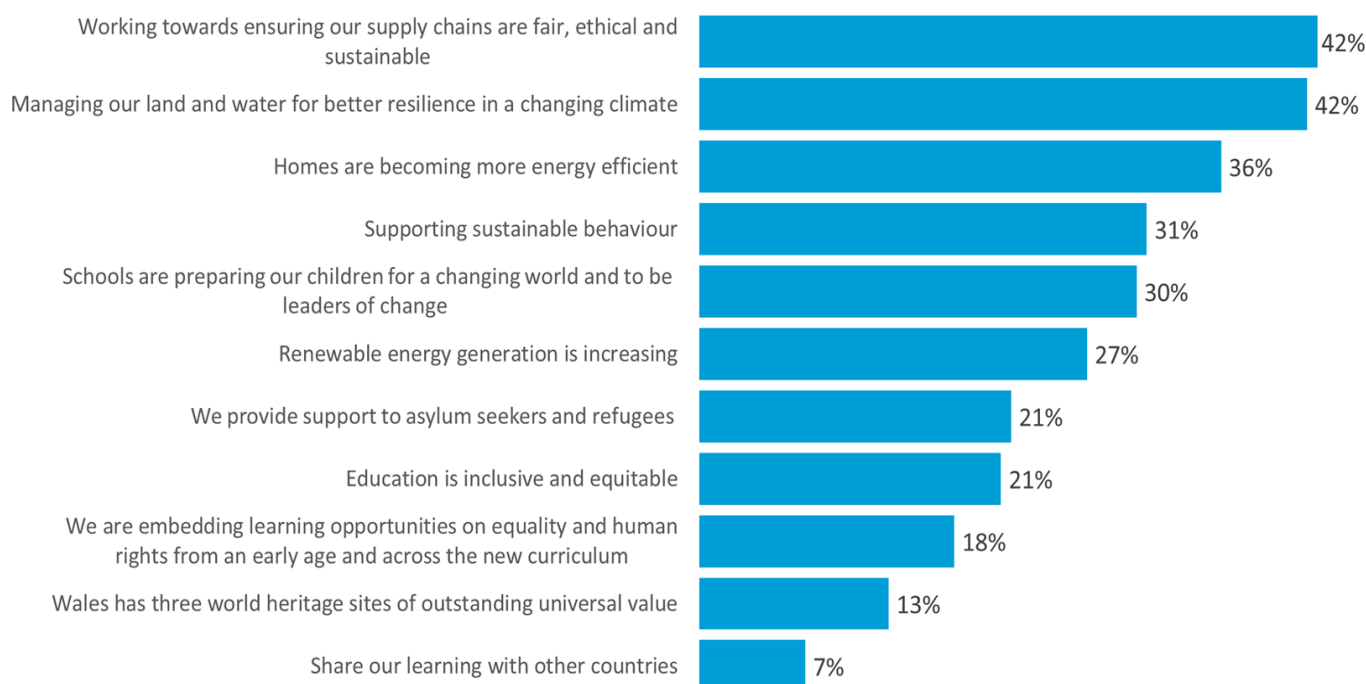
- To include Welsh in business can be expensive with little financial return in investment
- Welsh is a difficult language to learn unless done so from an early age
- More accessible and subsidised adult Welsh lessons
- Support groups for non-Welsh speaking parents helping with Welsh homework
- Too much pressure to speak Welsh
- Losing well qualified staff just because they cannot speak Welsh
- Need to ensure that workplaces nurture, use and develop young people's Welsh skills that have received Welsh Education
- This is a bilingual community. There should be no discrimination on either side
- There seems to be less opportunity to speak Welsh in our community in areas such as the Surgery, Chemist, Library, Hospital, local shops and on the buses
- The language is very important and should encourage more people to learn and use it.



## A Responsive Carmarthenshire

### Q48) Which **three** things do you value most in your county's global responsibility?

The **three** main options that the residents of Carmarthenshire valued most about their county's global responsibility are listed as follows: *Working towards ensuring our supply chains are fair, ethical and sustainable 42%, Managing our land and water for better resilience in a changing climate 42% and Homes are becoming more energy efficient 36%.*



Probing the results of Q43 by Community Areas and demography uncovers a variance in responses.

Community Area 1		Community Area 2		Community Area 3	
Share our learning with other countries	24%	Share our learning with other countries	38%	Wales has three World heritage sites of outstanding universal value	16%
Wales has three World heritage sites of outstanding universal value	23%	Wales has three World heritage sites of outstanding universal value	27%	Homes are becoming more energy efficient	15%
Working towards ensuring our supply chains are fair, ethical and sustainable	23%	Education is inclusive and equitable	25%	We provide support to asylum seekers and refugees	14%
Community Area 4		Community Area 5		Community Area 6	
We are embedding learning opportunities on equality and human rights from an early age	29%	Managing our land and water for better resilience in a changing climate	15%	We provide support to asylum seekers and refugees	15%

and across the new curriculum					
Homes are becoming more energy efficient AND Renewable energy generation is increasing	25% 25%	Homes are becoming more energy efficient	15%	We are embedding learning opportunities on equality and human rights from an early age and across the new curriculum	15%
Managing our land and water for better resilience in a changing climate	24%	Working towards ensuring our supply chains are fair, ethical and sustainable	14%	Supporting sustainable behaviour	13%

In Carmarthenshire, respondents aged 16-64 valued 'We are embedding learning opportunities on equality and human rights from an early age and across the new curriculum' (83%) whilst respondents aged 65+ put more value on 'Wales has three World heritage sites of outstanding universal value' (41%).

Female respondents noted that in relation to valuing the county's global responsibility they valued 'We are embedding learning opportunities on equality and human rights from an early age and across the new curriculum' (84%) whilst male respondents felt that 'renewable energy generation is increasing' (36%) was of more value.

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ also stated that what they valued most in relation to a county that was globally responsive was 'supporting sustainable behaviour' (32%) whilst those on the lower income of under £15k wanted to 'share our learning with others' (22%). Respondents that stated they were carers (26%) and those who stipulated they were disabled (29%) valued 'homes are becoming more energy efficient'. Respondents from the LGB (6%) and the BME community (3%) stipulated that they valued 'we provide support to asylum, seekers and refugees'.

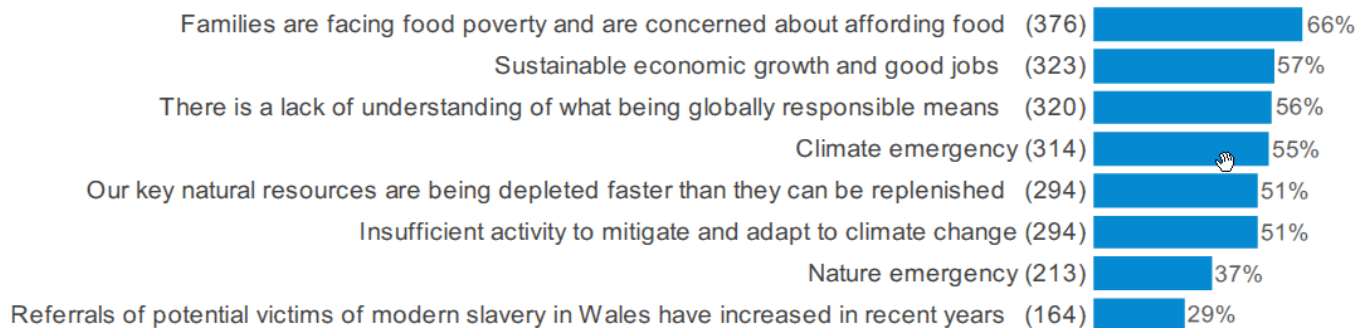
Respondents that stipulated they were transgender (10%) and those that stipulated they held a religion (73%) thought we should 'share our learning with other countries'.

Respondents that chose English as their first language valued 'managing our land and water for better resilience in a changing climate' (85%) and 'local festivals/events' (87%) in their vibrant communities, whilst those who had chosen Welsh as their first language valued 'sharing our learning with other countries' (38%) in relation to the county's global responsibility.



#### Q49) Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your county's global responsibility?

In relation to what concerns residents most about the county's global responsibility was 'families facing food poverty and that are concerned about affording food (66%).'.



However, in the Community Areas there was a variance from the responses received of what concerns residents had regarding the county's global responsibility even though some areas were in agreement with their responses.

- Community Area 1 were concerned with 'nature emergency' (23%)
- Community Area 2 'sustainable economic growth and good jobs' (24%)
- Community Area 3 'nature emergency' (15%)
- Community Area 4 'referrals of potential victims of modern slavery in Wales have increased in recent years' (25%)
- Community Area 5 'insufficient activity to mitigate and adapt to climate change' (13%)
- Community Area 6 'referrals of potential victims of modern slavery in Wales have increased in recent years' (15%).

Respondents aged 16-64 were concerned with the 'referrals of potential victims of modern slavery in Wales have increased in recent years' (73%) whilst those aged 65+ were concerned about 'our key natural resources are being depleted faster than they can be replenished' (35%). Female respondents were concerned about 'referrals of potential victims of modern slavery in Wales have increased in recent years' (77%) whilst the male respondents were concerned about 'sustainable economic growth and good jobs' (29%).

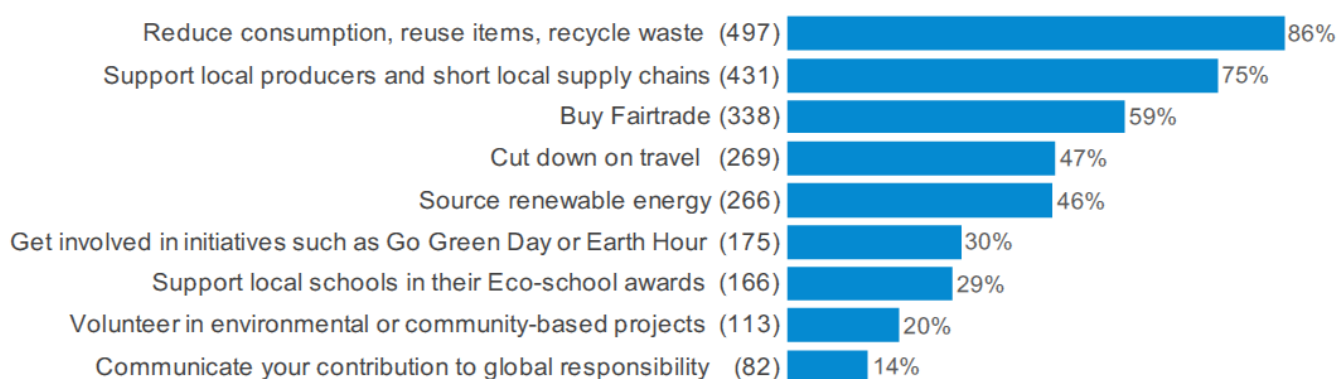
Respondents who described themselves as LGB were concerned about 'our key natural resources are being depleted faster than they can be replenished' (5%) whilst those who identified as BME had concerns regarding 'sustainable economic growth and good jobs' (2%). People from the transgender community were concerned about 'referrals of potential victims of modern slavery in Wales have increased in recent years' (8%).



Respondents who had caring responsibilities main concern was ‘there is a lack of understanding of what being globally responsible means’ (24%) and those with disabilities were more concerned with ‘referrals of potential victims of modern slavery in Wales have increased in recent years’ (28%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that ‘climate change’ (28%) was their main concern whilst those on the lower income of under £15k were more concerned with there is a lack of understanding of what being globally responsible means’ (19%). A total of 88% of respondents who stipulated their first language to be English were concerned with ‘insufficient activity to mitigate and adapt to climate change’ and respondents that stated they held a religion/belief were concerned about ‘sustainable economic growth and good jobs’ (63%).

#### Q50) What could you do to help your community be globally responsible?

To help achieve their community be globally responsible Carmarthenshire residents stated that they could ‘reduce consumption, reuse items, recycle waste’ (86%).



There was a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would consider doing to help their community be globally responsible.

- Community Area 1 ‘volunteer in environmental or community based projects’ (24%)
- Community Area 2 would consider ‘reduce consumption, reuse items, recycle waste’ (21%)
- Community Area 3 ‘buy Fairtrade’ (13%)
- Community Area 4 ‘communicate your contribution to global responsibility’ (28%)
- Community Area 5 ‘get involved in initiatives such as Go Green Day or Earth Hour’ (14%)
- Community Area 6 ‘communicate your contribution to global responsibility’ (17%)

To help their community be globally responsible respondents aged 16-64 would consider ‘get involved in initiatives such as Go Green Day or Earth Hour’ (83%) whilst those aged 65+ stated

they would consider ‘buy Fairtrade’ (33%). Respondent of the female gender would consider ‘communicate your contribution to global responsibility’ (83%) whilst the male respondents would consider ‘source renewable energy’ (29%) in order to help their community to be globally responsible.

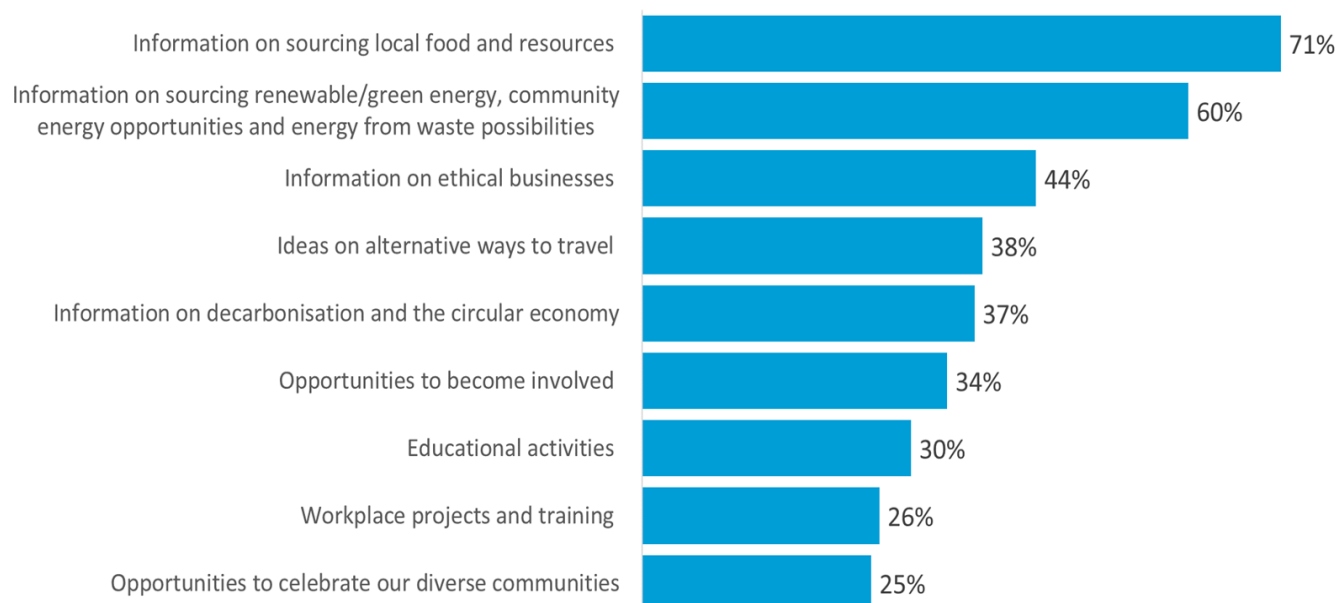
Respondents with caring responsibilities stated that they would consider ‘volunteer in environmental or community-based projects’ (23%) whilst respondents with disabilities would consider ‘communicate your contribution to global responsibility’ (32%).

Respondents who were LGB stated that they would consider ‘volunteer in environmental or community-based projects’ (5%) whilst those that stipulated they were BME said they would consider ‘communicate your contribution to global responsibility’ (2%).

Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ stated that they would consider ‘support local schools in their Eco-school awards’ (32%) to help achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language whilst those on the lower income of under £15k would consider ‘volunteer in environmental or community-based projects’ (22%).

#### Q51) What support would you need to be in place to do to these things?

Most respondents stated that to help their community be globally responsive they would need support in ‘information on sourcing local food and resources’ (71%).



There was a variance in the Community Areas as to what they would support they needed to achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood.

- Community Area 1 ‘information on decarbonisation and the circular economy’ (24%)

- Community Area 2 ‘workplace projects and training’ (26%)
- Community Area 3 ‘ideas on alternative ways to travel’ (14%)
- Community Area 4 ‘information on sourcing renewable/green energy, community energy opportunities and energy from waste possibilities’ (24%)
- Community Area 5 ‘information on ethical businesses’ **and** ‘opportunities to become involved’ (15%)
- Community Area 6 ‘opportunities to celebrate our diverse communities’ (15%).

Respondents aged 16-64 would like more support on ‘workplace projects and training’ (83%) whilst those aged 65+ stated they would like the support with ‘information on sourcing renewable/green energy, community energy opportunities and energy from waste possibilities’ (29%) to help them achieve a globally responsible community. Female respondents would like support with ‘opportunities to celebrate our diverse communities’ (81%) whilst the male gender would like support with ‘information on decarbonisation and the circular economy’ (30%).

Respondents who were LGB stipulated that they would also like support with ‘opportunities to celebrate our diverse communities’ (6%) as did respondents that identified as BME (3%), whilst respondents stating that they were transgender would like support with ‘workplace projects and training’ (10%).

Respondents with caring responsibilities would like support with ‘opportunities to become involved’ (24%) and those with disabilities would like support with ‘opportunities to celebrate our diverse communities’ (32%). Respondents on a higher income of £45k+ also stated that they would appreciate support with ‘opportunities to celebrate our diverse communities’ (29%) and those on a lower income of £15k or less stated that support regarding ‘opportunities to become involved’ (20%) would help them achieve a globally responsible.

## Q52) Any other comments on 'A Responsive Carmarthenshire'?

Total of **63 comments** received, here are a few recurring or possibly useful comments



- Introduce a 'one-stop shop' for all environmental issues and advice in every town centre
- Informing people of opportunities and using existing resources and better partnership working
- Introduce a community consultation panel to identify initiatives, test ideas
- Plans exist, just need access to funding
- Financial incentives for businesses to make local and sustainable produce more affordable
- Some affordable small trading estates where local machine shops or food producers could work from
- Encouraging companies to become Fairtrade themselves
- Grants for micro energy production
- Explore community based renewable energy schemes
- Reducing motor vehicle travel in rural community is difficult when we need to travel 10 miles to the nearest school, shop, work etc.
- For alternative ways to travel we need an integrated and affordable public transport network
- What about fair trade for our farmers?
- Educate people with basic skills on how to make spaces for wildlife in our gardens, vegetable growing, 'no mow' patches etc.
- Develop the old Debenhams Building it into affordable flats.
- Stop using green land for housing
- The world needs to look at the larger countries, changes in the UK and Wales only will not much difference

# Qualitative evidence collated at events

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## Welsh Language Strategic Forum

20.09.2021

### Economic Well-being

- The importance of a range of diverse jobs
- Need training for the future specifically in the digital field
- Need a range of jobs – there is an over-reliance of public sector jobs, but public sector investment is needed to create that diversity
- Digital and new skills – there is a special platform in the county to create further opportunities
- Need to develop Carmarthen as a digital centre – The Egin Phase 2 was mentioned and the potential of having units around the county to share the opportunities and expertise. It is possible to dovetail with the City Deal
- We talked about Digital Poverty and how to support young people and students to do their job. Similarly, consideration needs to be given to the people who have moved to the county and how the structure of the community is changing
- Similarly, in terms of mobile phone link and further back-to-back considerations – how can the City Deal support the rural agenda?
- Work flexibility offers us the opportunity now to fill skills gaps that exist in the county
- Can opportunities for community and social initiatives be promoted? More encouragement is needed to establish it and share more information
- The relationship between the Welsh language and the Economy needs to be looked at further
- Apprenticeships / Graduate Trainees

### Social Well-being

- The need to share information – ensuring continuous communication structures – needs to create a sense of community belonging and ownership. We need an ongoing conversation.
- A sense of community but only 50% - what is the reason for this? Similarly, why do only 19% of people think they have influence – what is people's impression of the public sector? These statistics underline the need for more engagement opportunities. Need to look after the local councils – can they fill a gap in terms of opportunities for discussion and engagement. Traditional structure is deteriorating – what is the impact of this on the Welsh language? The Welsh language is essential in cohesive communities – how do we assimilate migrants?
- A feeling of belonging and respect?

- Promoting the Welsh Language?
- How do we advertise the opportunities – how can we contribute to our communities / give something back?
- Does digital capacity kill our communities? Have we forgotten how to talk? Impact of this on sport – local rugby clubs losing younger groups of sports. And it's hard to create something new. The whole community needs to be involved.
- How can digital media be developed positively?
- Young people / teens – a particular challenge in terms of self-awareness. How do we get to the young people who don't usually step up? The Llandeilo area was mentioned and young people who fall between two stools? They need sharp and quick opportunities to express their views.

#### Cultural Well-being

- Llandeilo Heritage Centre – a dedicated member of staff to support that work. Links with Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales and the National Library – more opportunities to visit and locations important to local history and heritage.

## Healthy Environment Delivery Group

21.09.2021

- Nature Positive 2030 is due to be published soon and will be forwarded when available
- Importance of including the National Milestones and Indicators be fed into the well-being survey
- Very close to being in an environmental drought which is different to water company drought
- Consider local community into new developments to ensure community cohesion e.g. sports pitch, allotments, woods etc., other community type facility within the development e.g. could hospital be an energy asset, where buses can recharge batteries.
- Grid capacity across the county could be an issue for further expansion, this has been flagged up to the WG – was supported as an issue
- Non phosphate zones so that renewables can be installed
- Forest, wood, and trees – finding land next to large urban areas is difficult as owners are waiting for development to be granted.
- Forward Planning have commissioned a green and blue infrastructure strategy to determine what opportunities and needs there are within the county for developing more green and blue infrastructure. There is an assessment saying what currently exists, but this strategy would highlight what communities need e.g., amenity value, alleviating flood risk, connectivity of habitats etc. As part of this, three workshops will be conducted, internal stakeholder within authority, Councillors and 8 identified settlements.

## Armed Forces Community Stakeholders

22.09.2021

### **Economic Wellbeing:**

Veterans leave service looking for roles in community. Skills fit lesser paid than they are currently paid for the skill set in the Armed Forces (AF). Higher paid jobs in West Wales.

Some veterans can't always transfer skills into civilian community. Missed skills in CV, don't realise how much they learn in AF.

GIS schemes for employers. Knowing what companies could give that.

Resettlement CV writing, jobs in Health Board and Council. All on forms, no training on how to fill in form. Understanding what the roles in AF equate to in civvy-street.

Qualifications in military at NVQ level 3 titles rather than what I had to do to put that together and study.

In addition, their family moving feel impact of moving and stability. Having the transition from one post to another and be mindful.

Wife had to stop work for childcare experience – barriers to working struggle to get jobs compared to built-up areas. Some dependants don't like the prospect of moving to remote areas.

Elements for service children. Economic wellbeing for service children? Children should be supported into filling in applications, help with language to transfer. Once in employment supported to upskill, prepare for management role. Trying to offer 'try before you buy scheme for AF Community', to give them some experience. Only offer to veterans - could extend the offer to family members?

### **Social:**

Feeling of community – very close-knit community, wife of. Social detached/dislocated from an immediate support network. Especially for dual serving couples when one person leaves, especially with children and one perhaps is the primary carer in a new location.



Triple impacted when the non-serving ex serving was trying to integrate back into the community.

A lot of ignorance in AF Community as the help and support available in local area. Need to be aware that you are a member or dependant and that all the support and infrastructure support is available.

Service Children and awareness amongst parents – “didn’t know that my eldest is a service child – helpful to know this”. Need more awareness on what a service child is.

Consideration of use of the language = Veteran? Self-Identification of Veteran. Better - ‘Are you part of the armed forces community’?

Moved to Cross Hands with son and daughter in law. Parent groups difficult. Struggled with Welsh language. Struggled to get involved owing to the Welsh integration into Welsh speaking community.

Enrolled child into school but told ‘no’ because not a Welsh speaker. Support for Welsh Language education and positive action with integration with integration into Welsh Communities.

### **Cultural:**

Lucky in West Wales area with things that you can do as a family. There is so much to do, culturally diverse in West Wales. There is so much to do as a family. Don’t promote and advertise well. The opportunities that we have.

Summer months congested owing to the holiday traffic, great to have tourists but road infrastructure does not support the influx of tourists.

Haverfordwest 15 mins to work, in summer months plenty of things to do here but transport links are lacking which makes up for the lack of infrastructure. Lots of service personnel settle in West Wales.

### **Environmental:**

Lots to do and visit. Transport links future friendly.

More bus shelters along the routes.

Problem for serving personnel predominantly able to park, things are dictated to where you can park for somewhere to park. Difficult to park.

What is important to us as families how much we appreciated the outdoor space – think about outdoors spaces when you build houses. When build houses in the planning stage need to incorporate into planning stage. Think greener in future – infrastructure in the future.

Garden project in Links, having outdoors spaces that was quiet and not in town. Space to be quiet and think. People open up.

Much more investment into usable outdoor spaces, in the local communities. Veterans benefit well for meeting in outdoor spaces and can function well in outdoor spaces. When we design houses think about accessibility to houses.

Veterans can operate and maintain currency and deliver capability outside. Well versed to operating outside. Actively stay in 14sREW because of the green environment around them.

# Armed Forces Services Provider Group

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29 September 2021

## **Economic:**

Families Federation receive lots of phone calls - ARAP situation triggered PTSD. Had veterans walked out of jobs, economic impact on household, furlough ended. Lots of courses being run by charities to facilitate accessing work. However, colleges are not running courses as there is a minimum number required. This has impacted on courses available. People want to retrain, but courses not available.

Furlough ends completely – next month – IMPACT of the fall out is anticipated to be vast.

Citizen's advice – end of furlough. Prior to COVID not many claiming, but now since COVID encountering these issues stress and worry about finance. Support needed to get through transition period. Advice about finances debt, benefits.

H4H seeing increase vets and families struggling. ARAP and finance perspective, emergency grant for food and basic staples for families, changes in employment and mental health impact on families. Increase in psych services, delays in benefits PIP. National delay

ARAP – new service for refugees and their families, CBT with social and psych support.

VC Gallery – increase in veterans presenting with PTSD, psychosis, increase in this.

Alabare – concur with Families Foundation. Veterans in majority are unemployed at time. Delays with benefits and PIP, housing benefit applications delay, increase in homeless veterans owing to emergency provision in housing coming to an end.

## **Social:**

Factors: Quality affordable housing - massive issue. Ready to move on from supported housing but lack of accommodations to move onto. Issue- Finding employment to sustain their financial wellbeing.

What needs to change: -

- Veterans – affordable housing that meets the needs.
- Access to veterans focussed health care.
- Awareness of what the charities do are made aware to the general pop. Training and employment needed. Charities provide with accredited training, but employment is limited.
- Veteran friendly employers – big employers to get veterans into employment.
- PR campaign for veteran friendly employers. Making a proactive campaign.
- Jobs notice board in council that are armed forces friendly.

Town Council – not garrison community. Have lots of veterans in Llanelli area. Do what we can to support veterans. Work closely with Carmarthen County Council.

Lots of regeneration happening in Llanelli. Infrastructure investment. Drawing projects together and trying to highlight opportunities. Difficulties with Furlow coming to end – work together to ID opportunities. Need to work together with charities, to help veteran community. Need to share and market the opportunities to the veterans Community.

H4H – echo quality affordable housing. Housing adaptations delayed waiting lots. Impact on accessibility to community. Community hubs started. Integrated work with change step, etc. having a clinical presence, we look wholistically to see what we can sp. Veterans need companionship, regain social interaction, they are hesitant about re-joining community life, Integrated working partnership in supporting our Veterans is needed.

Future generations: VC Gallery – hub model and soft model approach. VC Gallery have multiple access points, through their various activities that they run. Presenting veterans with multiple complex needs. Wholistic assessments are best practice. Getting veterans into mind set for preparing and upskilling people is challenging; to get digital skills. Continually working with police, ambulance, and other agencies.

Service children – Families Federation – Need multi agency support. There is no joined up system, across the public sector authorities so the collateral damage is picked by third sector. Need a much more joined up approach for third sector. Multi agency approach with a system that has joined up information about service children that both public and third

sector can access. Service children may be on the radar of one local authority area, and then move on and drop off the radar in new area.

### **Cultural:**

Investment in long term in the creative arts industry and more dispersed investment. Major investment needed.

We don't have arts offers in LAs. In local theatres there are no outreach programs. Need to bring back art outreach programs, work with theatres more: not just selling tickets. Not funded, don't have capacity. Just selling shows.

Creative arts – is there scope for doing outreach by the Local Authority, not the arts council for Wales. Community arts have taken a hammering, a lot of arts orgs that deliver on the ground are cash strapped. They need some early funding to do progressive work over the long term.

Llanelli Town Council. – session with People Speak Up was good. Furnace Theatre, delivering across the region. Talking and engaging with community, capturing the story of communities. This is what needs to be celebrated. The story square- resource pack, talking to young people in Llanelli about heritage with WW1 and WW2. Provided resource packs with schools. Need to educate young people, culture, arts story telling stories e.g., Connect 2021 project – primary schools in Llanelli. Citizen-ship programs – what it is to be a good a citizen. A lot is about young person's identity with within community and how they feel within the community. Running through the Town Council is education around democracy, voting, WBOFG Act and what that means. Transition program to secondary school. More education at classroom level on culture and diversity. Need CLEVER Engagement with the arts institutes. Llanelli is one of 10 funding area in Wales. What does culture mean? Looking at culture in a very different way. Multicultural network in Carmarthenshire. Joint working and Joint resourcing are needed.

### **Environmental:**

Active travel network. Massive investment in cycle networks needed. Also, green housing. Sustainable living. Tidal lagoon in Swansea etc. Better ways of harnessing renewable energy.

Accessibility access to spaces to go and sustainability. Spaces are kept and preserved.

Energy advice – net zero target. Conflict between Carbon Neutral and financial impact it will have on highest carbon use homes (poorer Communities and private landlord investment). Huge issue not just for veterans but for communities. What can we do to mitigate this conflict? Inform people what their rights are.

Need much more well-run, well-lit in the wintertime, parks and play areas for all generations.

Families Federation- Funding under EU money 80 gardens. Protecting green spaces. Protected SSSI given designated areas. We lose capacity in councils to protect these areas. There are great employment opportunities in green spaces, which are great opportunity for veterans – e.g., rangers in countryside. Looking at new ways lets employ veterans from the Armed Forces Community, by creating outdoor careers to protect our environment.

Logistics and Engineering. Alternative providers for new energy providers building into tenders for suppliers to use with ‘communities of interest’. Scope for building capacity in employment

People feel comforted if veterans are employed within the community. Third sector underpins the statutory. At a strategic level - employment scheme in Dyfed, to have veterans’ specific jobs in the counties.

SSAFA – Veterans RN living alone. The Royal Naval Association started a scheme called SPARKO. Where veteran living alone can speak to someone else through SPARKO TV. It’s a new and innovative way of helping people.

## Carmarthenshire Disability Partnership

29.09.2021

### General feedback:

- It is difficult to get help when you need it. Members queries how do they find people who can support and help the disabled community
- Members noted that there are gaps where we are not functioning properly – we need to identify where people are falling through (either because of technology, general apathy etc)
- People don't listen – this is a comment based on previous experience and engagement. Members of the disabled community reach out regularly; however, they are not involved in decision making and their voices are often lost.

### Economic:

- Improvement in terms of local spend. Local businesses have worked hard during the pandemic to support their communities. Local services have improved in accessibility and flexibility. Members hope that local communities continue to support their local business after restrictions are lifted.
- General concern regarding empty buildings in town centres, could they be utilised as public service / voluntary sector hubs or could they provide opportunities as arts and craft hubs?

### Social:

- Due to the pandemic, many disabled people are still shielding. Safe spaces to socialise and re-build confidence are scarce. Underlying health problems are now compounded by psychological and mobility problems.
- There seems to be a general lack of awareness amongst other members of the public in terms of social distancing, mask wearing etc, and people should be reminded to take care.

### Cultural:

- Arts and crafts have been a lifeline for many disabled people during the pandemic. Members noted the ReConnecting project via the 50+ Leadership Group. Virtual classes have offered a wider range of opportunities and networks for the disabled community and there is a concern about the groups moving back to be face to face sessions. IT is an enabler not a disabler and there should continue to be those hybrid

opportunities for people. Transport remains an issue for disabled people wishing to attend these sessions and moving back to being face to face only further increases social isolation for disabled people.

#### **Environmental:**

- Members noted an improvement in air quality during the pandemic. Significantly less use of cars, does this provide an opportunity to refocus people on use of public transport / green transport. Safe walking and navigation spaces are needed. Environmental well-being impacts on happiness and supports people to re-build their confidence.
- Transport remains a key issue and the lack of public transport was highlighted. A key example was given in terms of public transport from Llanelli Town Centre to attend appointments at Prince Phillip Hospital. Could the co-ordination be improved between transport providers and the Health Board?
- Unfortunately, accessibility issues are still apparent in new builds and services. Members noted that there are always factors working against the disabled community. Example of a new 'Living Streets' project being established in Llanelli, which will undertake street audits to highlight accessibility issues in the infrastructure.



### **What does well-being mean to you?**

- Well-being is more than safe spaces. It means an understanding of what I can do to help me.
- Mental health is a specific concern and how to I ensure that I look after my mental health daily
- During the pandemic, Carmarthenshire Youth Council and Dr Mz have been really important to me in supporting me to look after myself
- Mental well-being has been so important during the last year and a half. We are so influenced by events around us; however, by not being able to socialise, we haven't been able to interact and learn from others

### **How can we help improve your well-being?**

- Young people need the tools to maintain their own well-being
- We need to be able to work through key issues
- I want to gain experience of living independently – being able to move after finishing my qualifications
- I want to take a year off after my GCSEs – building up my savings so that I can return to Coleg Sir Gâr
- I see an apprenticeship as my future career path
- I'm at university and it's important that I make my own way – it's a steep learning curve but I need to make my own mistakes. This includes financial independence
- It's important for me to know where I can access support

### **What concerns you about the future?**

- Our beaches
- Climate change
- Wildlife
- Pollution
- Mental health – we need the tools to recognise when things may be going wrong

## West Wales Action for Mental Health, Mental Health & Well-being Network

6.10.2021

Key areas of concern noted as part of the West Wales Action for Mental Health forums and discussions on the Well-being Assessments and the Population Needs Assessments, from Voluntary organisations, people with lived experience of mental health problems and carers.

- **Difficulties in accessing mental health support for some young people**, some young people still not meeting criteria for S- CAMHS but struggle to access any mental health specific community mental health support other than generic youth support and school counselling. Increase in the number of young people expressing mental health distress to voluntary sector services and young people with suicidal thoughts and feelings. Some parents are also struggling and families living so closely together over the last 18 months has caused some problems and difficulties, and relationship breakdowns.
- **Support for carers and families of people with mental health problems** in terms of mental health services engaging with families as part of the care and treatment support. Carers/families are often excluded from the support planning and discussions but are often the main source of crisis and acute support. Some Families/ carers have felt the impact of many face to face mental health services being closed and having to cope on their own without any direct support. Some Carers and families have found it very hard to be separated from family members due to lack of visiting on mental health hospital wards over the last 18 months and some of the wards and individuals have struggled with access to video calls.
- **Some people struggling with limited face to face support options** and accessing services via phone and video call and social media have been difficult for some people. Some of the reasons given for struggling with video calls, telephone calls etc is for some people who are hearing voices, seeing things, having delusions. It can be very difficult to work out what is real and what is not. Some people struggle with paranoia and feel people are talking about them, some struggle with the technology and lack confidence to use it. Some people don't have the IT equipment and/or poor internet connection. Some people do not have the financial means for a telephone and internet connection and many places with free Wi-Fi have been closed over the last 18 months and these may not be confidential places either. Some people have reported that the use of video meetings and calls has helped increase access to mental health and social activity support and they have learnt new skills. Some people have reported that for them due their anxiety

about leaving the home that video calls have helped with accessing things that would previously have been inaccessible.

- **Crisis support and support out of hours (9-5pm) reported by some people to be very** difficult to access at times and number of people reporting poor response as a result of going to A and E due to suicidal thoughts and feelings and no aftercare support. Difficulties with Crisis and Home Treatment Teams at times and some people reporting not meeting criteria for any ongoing mental health support, assessed by CRHT but no follow up. Although some people report excellent support and care during the last 18 months with face-to-face support and follow up support and calls. Twilight Sanctuary and A and E psychiatric liaison services helping but still more work on crisis support is needed to make it as accessible as possible. Also, the work with people in terms of care planning were known to services to help support crisis building and direct easy access to mental health support to help prevent crisis for everyone.
- Difficulty in **accessing face to face GP appointments** over the last 18 months for mental health support and difficulty of being able to discuss mental health needs over video or phone.
- Increased need for **mental health support for new parent/parents** and the impact the last 18 months has had on new parents and babies without access to face to face health visiting, new parent groups, family support and social activity.
- Increase in the **complexity and intensity** of the support needs of people coming forward for mental health support, so often a range of issues such as mental health and drug and alcohol issues, homelessness and mental health, and mental health and autism.
- Some **services still work in silo's separate** from each other in terms of experience for people receiving the support, so housing and mental health are very separate and learning disabilities and mental health are very separate for some people.
- A need for **outreach and befriending support** for all ages rather than people just coming into services and buildings for appointments and helps. Some people will need outreach and befriending support to build up confidence to go out and about again and take part in social activities. Some people are still very afraid and very isolated and not going out which has really contributed to mental health difficulties. Some people in rural areas and away from Llanelli and Carmarthen feel it is harder to access mental health support than in urban settings. This may be due to transport issues but also a lot of services, centres and hubs are in town centres and urban settings rather than being held in rural areas (and many community halls have been closed). There are many challenges with public transport and access to this to resolve and improve.

- **The importance of the statutory, voluntary and community mental health services** that have continued to offer face to face and group support (and the online and phone support etc), and the lifeline these have been for many people during the last 18 months. The importance of the different ways of offering support (face to face, phone, video etc) and how this helps reach a range of different people.
- For some people **peer support, and self-management** and the promotion and development of these is crucial for support services that look at the whole needs of the person and families/carers and offer hope and inspiration for recovery. Great to see more peer support developing including paid Peer Support roles in the NHS.
- Some people feel that social mobility and equality are worse over the last 18 months and the inequalities that have previously been identified have widened significantly.

### Brief presentation

Thank you to the Headteacher / Pupils for being so willing to meet us

The voices of children and young people are so important in the work that you are doing at the moment

We look across Carmarthenshire and gather information about what matters to people and their communities. This includes the things that matter to you now but also to the future. Different things will be important to us all

Our school pupils are our Future Generations, and we want to hear about your work as a school in terms of Wellbeing

If the school does a lot of work in terms of Wellbeing, and is happy to share evidence of that, that would be very useful

### **What makes you happy?**

- Sport and specifically running
- School work
- Reading and specifically the reading group at school
- Animals and specifically horses

### **What is important to you and your family?**

- Family, school and friends
- Family, animals and friends
- Animals, friends and school
- Family, friends and teachers

### **What is important to you for the future? When you are an adult**

- I hope to own a farm and care for animals
- I want to stay in Llanybydder and be a teacher
- I want to be a Vet
- I want to own a smallholding in the Llanybydder area
- Worried about climate change
- Don't like seeing the planes back in the air – enjoyed the quiet at the time of the pandemic
- Want to see less plastic and more recycling and reuse
- Want to see fewer factories across the world

### Any Other Comments

- The school uses spkr as an opportunity for the children to identify their first thing in the morning.
- They have recently created characters for the 4 Purposes of the New Curriculum in Wales. This is the character of a principled, informed Citizen, ready to be citizens in Wales and the world, Ysgol Llanybydder



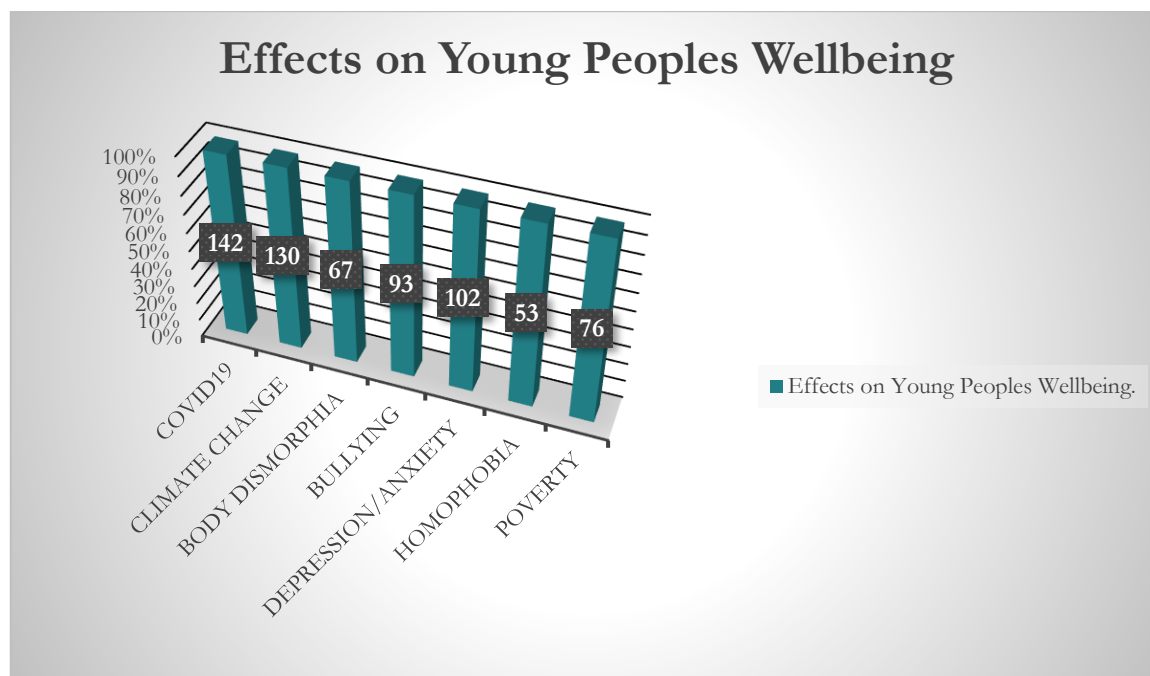
## Youth Support Service – Ysgol Bro Dinefwr

As a response to Carmarthenshire Assessment of Local Well-being, Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service took the opportunity to carry out a consultation with year 7 pupils at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2021. The consultation consisted of 160 pupils they were split into groups of 4 and every session consisted of 4 groups of 4 as we wanted them to discuss the topic with their peers as well as having their own opinions.

Unfortunately, we were unable to carry out the survey due to there being no Wi-Fi, but I think that this gave us further insight into the young people's perspective of Wellbeing, what effects their wellbeing and what help they would like to see.

It became clear early in the consultation that COVID19 had had a great impact on their lives, and I would like to add there was more negative than positive!

The main question we asked the young people was what affected their wellbeing. From discussions with us and their peers in their groups they wrote on flipchart paper their thoughts. From this I was able to draw themes and how often they were mentioned.



**Covid-19** has had a great impact on most of the young people. They felt isolated and very lonely. They did however enjoy the quality family time. Not being able to see their friends and for a very long time unable to leave the house due to the lockdown restrictions was

extremely difficult for them. They are still very concerned that we will have another lockdown in the future.

**Climate change** was also a big topic of discussion as they have very strong views on this, but I am not sure if it is what they genuinely think or whether it is what they have heard that has made them feel so strongly about it.

**Body dysmorphia** was also alluded to with boys and girls and how they feel about themselves.

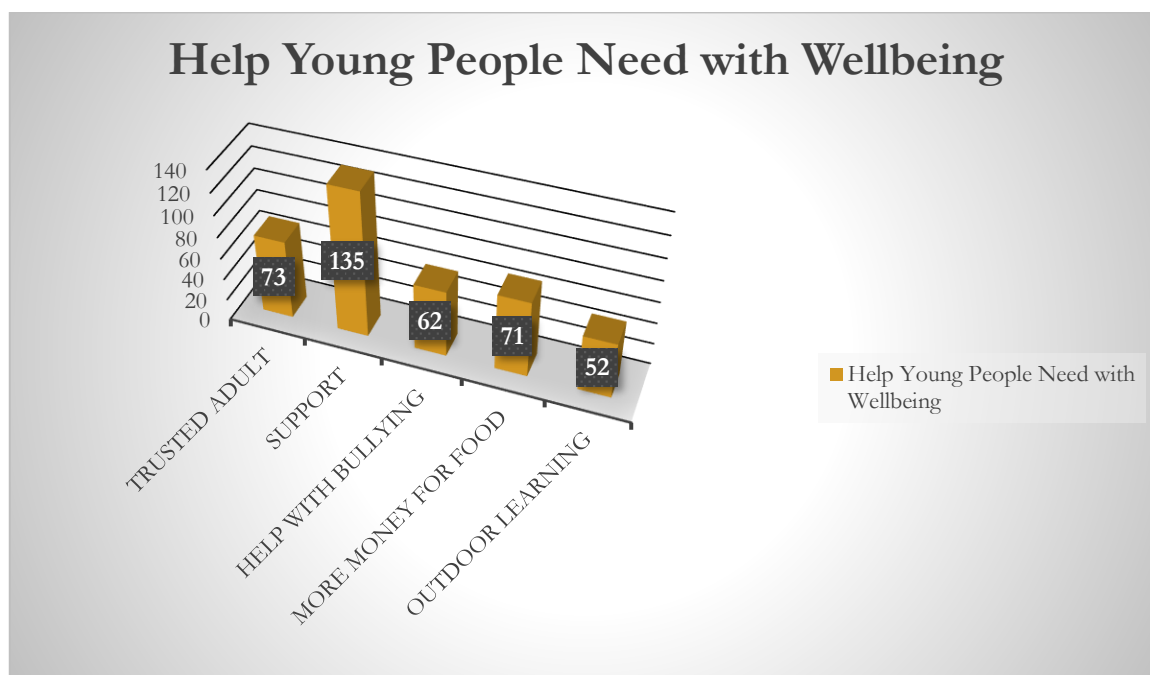
**Bullying** and cyber bullying over the social media platforms.

**Depression/Anxiety** has increased according to the young people as they feel that they have been in lockdown and not communicated with others. Fitting in with their peers was something that came to the fore.

## Homophobia

**Poverty** was another issue with some of the young people saying that their families needed more money for food and clothes. There was not enough money always for them all to eat.

Another question we asked was what help they felt they needed. From discussions with us and their peers in their groups they wrote on flipchart paper their thoughts. From this I was able to draw themes and how often they were mentioned.





Whilst discussing the help that the young people felt they needed it was clear to see that they all wanted one trusted adult that they could confide in.

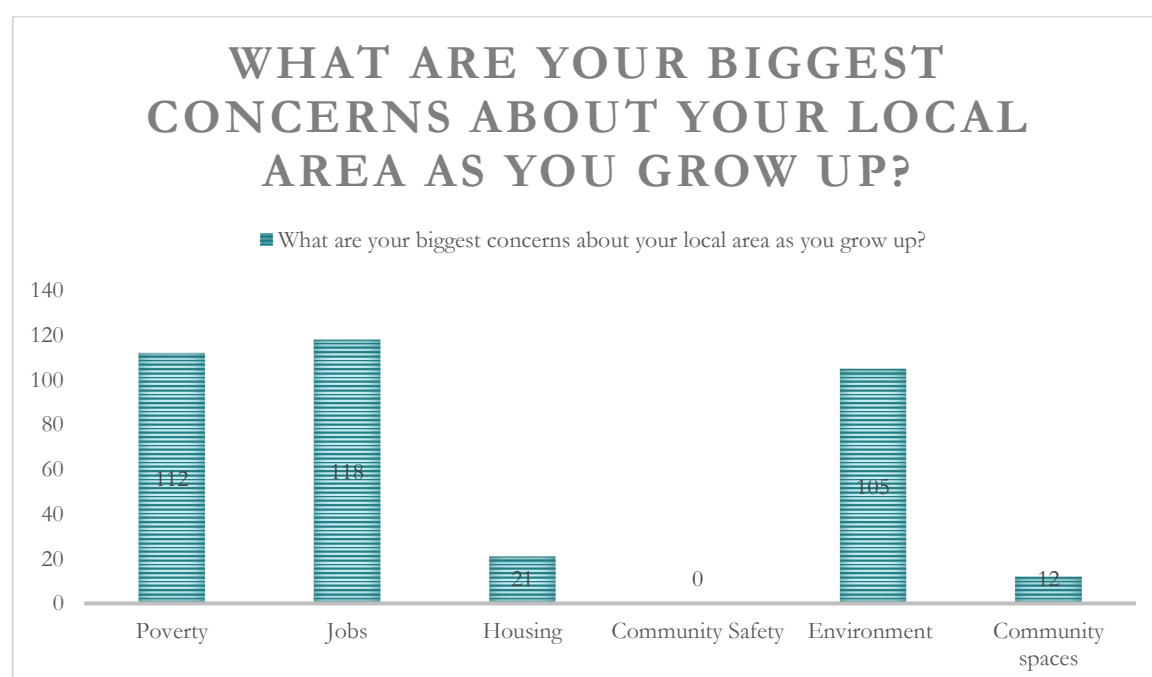
Support was the key with varying ideas from teachers, police, friends, family, and ChildLine, but they were very unsure on who to reach out to for support.

Help with bullying was also an issue as it all stemmed back to having a trusted person to talk to.

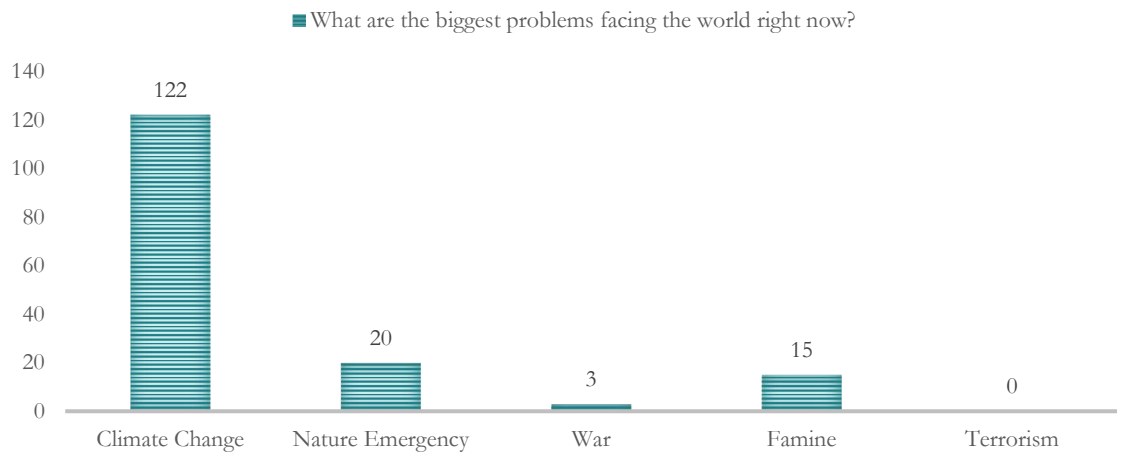
More money for food was quite disturbing as there were several young people quite concerned about this and the effects it was having on their family.

Outdoor learning the young people brought this to our attention also as they felt they could express themselves better and learn more.

When the survey was discussed with the young people it was clear that question 2 Your life now and question 3 Your life in the future were difficult for them. Their life now has changed so much that they couldn't grasp the context and their future they had no idea what they wanted to do. I spoke to some of the teachers at the school with regards to the young people and they were of the same view as myself. They have lost a big chunk of their life and education over the last couple of years and even though they were year 7 pupils they seemed much younger. It would have been more advantageous to have asked older pupils.



## WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS FACING THE WORLD RIGHT NOW?



It was great to have the opportunity to meet with the young people from year 7 at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr. It would have been advantageous to have had more time with them and to explain in greater detail then they would have been able to understand the questions better. We only had 15 mins for 4 groups of 4 in a round robin setting which didn't give us much time, but it was great to have some input from the young people. It would have also been advantageous maybe to get the input of the older pupils as they may have been able to answer the questions easier especially about their future.

## Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel

### What makes you happy?

- Reading
- Friends
- Peaceful Haven at school – a garden made through the Young Peacemakers project
- Football
- Good education
- Rules and understanding why they are there to help us
- Family
- Yoga at school through Pause and Movement
- School services
- Great teachers

### What is important to you and your family?

- Home
- Kindness
- Welsh Language
- Children's Rights – right to education and right to a safe home

### What is important to you for the future? When you are an adult

- Helping the community and the environment
- That this school is for my children
- Caring for our planet – 'There's no Planet B' (project and video with school)
- Recycling and reuse

### School projects

- Walking the global walk
- Young Peacemakers Award
- Dyfed Powys Police Charter
- There is no Planet B
- Twm y Llew – work with Trinity Saint David University

## Ysgol Gynradd Llandeilo / Llandeilo Primary School

### What makes you happy?

- Food
- Not being in physical pain
- Playing with pets
- Getting friends' company
- Being safe
- Buying things

### What is important to you and your family?

- Making fun things together
- Having fields for the animals
- Don't fall out
- Comfort of mum and dad

### What is important to you for the future? When you are an adult

- Having a job that makes People feel happy
- Help the community, volunteering
- Having time to relax and retire
- Make the planet more environmentally friendly

### Any Other Comments

The school provides dogs to comfort distressed children

The school uses a 'spkr' to give children the opportunity to identify if they are sad without having to speak

The school teaches themes such as kindness, empathy and relaxation to encourage well-being and care of the fellow human beings.

## Ysgol Gynradd Drefach

### What makes you happy?

- Friends, rugby and football, relaxing, watching Wales play rugby
- **What is important to you and your family?**
- Playing with siblings
- Working rugby with dad
- Friends living close by
- Go for a walk on the cycle track on the bikes
- Playing with the dogs
- Quarry in the park – have big slides in the park, Drefach Park better than Cross Hands
- **What is important to you for the future? When you are an adult**
- Driving a car,
- Watching television,
- Going with the children for walks to the park,
- Going with the children on the bikes
- Driving trucks
- Get a job to get something to do
- Getting work to get money
- Get money to buy toys for the children
- Having a house to live in

### Any Other Comments

- They like to have cuddles when they are sad, with a teacher or parents
- The school uses circle time to discuss issues relating to well-being
- A comments box used to be active at school but not since covid.

## Ysgol Gynradd Llangynnwr

### What makes you happy?

- Walking the dog
- Getting fresh air
- Getting on well with my siblings
- Playing games with dad
- Getting on the bike outside
- Playing with friends
- Working with friends at school
- Playing football
- Play netball at the Pod in Carmarthen. The coach is really nice
- Playing sport with a team – feeling free, no worries
- Improve their skills
- School trip
- Doing a good job
- Remembering everything you need in the morning
- Sleep well and wake up not tired

### What is important to you and your family?

- Children do well in school
- Children do their best
- Beach
- That they improve their sporting skills
- Going to see my grandparents
- Going for a walk
- That everyone is kind to each other
- That everyone is calm
- Leisure clubs or we would be stuck in the house with nothing to do

### What is important to you for the future? When you are an adult

- Get a good and important job
- Getting money to buy food
- Car to travel
- Get to see new places
- Having pets
- Getting better at things we do now – like football
- Going for a walk

### Any Other Comments

- The school does a lot of work on growth thinking
- Use spkr
- Mrs Jones is available for a chat when a child feels sad. Mrs Jones helps the children to think about a way of resolving their problems.

## Ysgol Gynradd Pen Rhos

### What makes you happy?

- Being comfortable
- Feeling safe
- Friends
- Playing games with my family
- Playing football
- Being with my friends at school
- Pets
- Working with friends at school

### What is important to you and your family?

- Time together
- Caring for each other and sharing
- That we do our best
- Time with Grandfather

### What is important to you for the future? When you are an adult

- Get a good job – want to go to the Army
- Get a good job – want to be a Teacher
- Get a good job – want to become an Engineer and work with my Grandfather
- Get a good job – want to be a Vet
- Be healthy and happy
- Exercise
- Looking After Our World
- Healthy eating
- Recycle

### Any other comments?

- The children love doing Yoga
- The School has a Gratitude Jar
- The children love doing a daily walking lap on the school grounds

## Carmarthenshire Assessment of Local Well-being

### Stakeholder Online Event Toolkit





## Contents:

### Introduction

#### Your Stakeholder Event

- Bi-lingual Meetings
- House Keeping
- Icebreakers
- Well-being of Future Generations Video
- Power Point Slideshow
  - Carmarthenshire Background
  - 4 main discussion points
    - Economic Well-being
    - Social Well-being
    - Cultural Well-being
    - Environmental Well-being
  - How to get further involved
    - Regional survey
    - Consultation on the draft Assessment of Local Well-being
    - Engagement and Consultation on the next Well-Being Plan
- Optional – how to use virtual whiteboards and online polls for your event.
- Optional – how to use online polls for your event
- Optional – virtual car park

#### Further Information and background resources

Essentials Guide – Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Carmarthenshire Factsheet

Carmarthenshire Public Services Board Website

Welsh Government website for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Future Generations Commissioner for Wales website

## **Introduction**

Thank you very much for either offering or considering running a stakeholder event for Carmarthenshire Public Services Board's Assessment of Local Well-being. The voice of key stakeholders is vital in producing the Assessment. The delivery of the stakeholder events needs to be across all the partners of Carmarthenshire Public Services Board.

Carmarthenshire Public Services Board needs to undertake an Assessment of Local Well-being to inform the writing of the next Well-being Plan. We want to gather the views of the people of Carmarthenshire over August and September of 2021. This will be via stakeholder events and also a regional survey, (that we are carrying out with our partners of Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire PSBs). We will use the information that we gather, alongside other data, to write the Carmarthenshire Assessment of Local Well-being.

The online event starts with a short video that gives a background to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. We then have a PowerPoint Presentation that gives the Carmarthenshire context, facts and background. The PowerPoint covers four main discussion points.

1. Economic Well-being
2. Social Well-being
3. Cultural Well-being
4. Environmental Well-being

The presentation finishes with an invitation for people to complete the Regional Well-being Survey.

In its simplest form the Stakeholder Event comprises the video and the PowerPoint presentation and is suitable for delivery via Microsoft Teams or Zoom. We have also given you the options of including icebreakers, online polls and virtual white boards. This means that you can adapt your stakeholder event to meet your IT set up and skills as well as tailoring the event to best suit your participants. The event should take an hour to an hour and a half.

Finally, we have provided a Well-being Session Record Form so that you can feedback on the discussion points, which will help to inform the writing of the Carmarthenshire Assessment of Local Well-being.

## **Bi-lingual Meetings**

The below stakeholder event toolkit has been put together so that the sessions can be delivered bilingually in Welsh and English. We advise that you follow your own organisation's policy on holding bi-lingual meetings.

- The short video on well-being is available in Welsh and English.
- The PowerPoint slides are bi-lingual, with Welsh and English text on each slide.

- The stakeholder toolkit is available in Welsh and English.

At Carmarthenshire County Council, we currently use Teams for most of our online meetings. Please contact the Translation Unit for support in organising simultaneous interpretation.

## Housekeeping

You may wish to set out some guidelines for your group with the following points:

- Use the hands up sign or the groups chat if you want to speak or ask questions.
- To put your microphone on mute to prevent any background noise.
- If you are suffering from bandwidth problems to try turning cameras off.
- To respect other people's points of view.
- To take part in a general discussion on well-being and not to share confidential or personal information.
- We hope that you will cover this session in a reasonable amount of time, but please feel to take a break if part of a larger meeting.
- To feel free to use the smiling face, thumbs up and clapping symbols to encourage the facilitator!

## Icebreakers

5-10 minutes

Please feel free to add an icebreaker at the start of your stakeholder event. This is an optional extra for use if you think that this will help the group to relax and get to know each other. Ideally, your group will be around 8 to 16 people. Bear in mind the time taken on icebreakers if the group is too large or not really being of use if there are just a few people at the event. We have suggested a couple of icebreakers below – or feel free to use your own icebreaker!

1. “Week in Three Words”  
Ask people to introduce themselves and to describe their week so far in just three words. You can then summarise by pointing out some of the words that reflect well-being.
2. “This made me laugh”  
Ask participants to share their names and something that has made them laugh in the last 24 hours. You can then reflect on happiness and well-being to help set the scene for the session.

## Well-being of Future Generations Video

3 minutes

Please make sure that you are sharing your screen and then launch either the Welsh or the English language video. The videos only last just over two minutes and give a concise and clear explanation of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. It's worth

checking with a colleague beforehand that the video's audio can be heard by others, as sometimes this can cause problems.

To improve accessibility, we recommend that you turn on the subtitles.

Link to Welsh language video on YouTube

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGGlcqx\\_6jA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGGlcqx_6jA)

Link to English language video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RuYzNgUZi98>

## **PowerPoint Presentation and Well-being Discussion** 45 minutes to 1 hour

The PowerPoint presentation gives a brief introduction to Carmarthenshire Public Services Board and the engagement event. We have not included details on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 already covered in the video. The slides are bi-lingual in Welsh and English. To maximise accessibility, the slides are presented in Arial font, left margin flush and without images and embellishments.

The core part of the PowerPoint covers 4 main discussion points –

- Economic Well-being
- Social Well-being
- Cultural Well-being
- Environmental Well-being

We introduce each theme and discussion point with three key facts relating to well-being in Carmarthenshire.

You will then need to facilitate a discussion on each theme, with two main questions for your group:

- What are the [one of economic, social, cultural, environmental] factors that are important to the well-being of your community?
- What needs to change to secure [one of economic, social, environmental, cultural] well-being for future generations (30-40 years)?

Please remember that you will need to capture the main points from your discussions. We recommend that you organise a meeting note or minute taker. You will need to fill out a Well-being Session Record Form, please see below for further details. You can also record the session on Teams and Zoom for transcription later if participants are happy for you to do so. Please ensure that you have sought their permission.

## **How to get further involved**

The slideshow finishes with invitations to:

- Take part in the regional survey, taking place now.

- Get involved in the consultation on the Draft Assessment of Local Well-being, autumn 2021.
- Get involved in the engagement and consultation for the next Carmarthenshire Local Well-being Plan, summer 2022.

It would be good to signpost attendees to further involvement opportunities for the Assessment of Local Well-Being

The online survey is taking place until 8 October 2021. Participation in the online survey is a great opportunity for people to contribute their individual views. Please go to the County Council Consultations Webpage for a link to the survey.

[Well-being Survey](#)

### **Optional - Virtual Whiteboards**

Whilst discussing the four main themes, you have the optional extra of using a virtual whiteboard on Teams or Zoom. This means that you, or a nominated scribe, can write down the key words. This can help with the overall discussion. The disadvantages are trying to capture too much information on the whiteboard and not being able to see people so clearly due to the whiteboard dominating your video conference screen.

Please see the below videos if you need instruction on how to use whiteboards

How to use the whiteboard in Microsoft Teams

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YBnojDFXo4k>

How to use the whiteboard in Zoom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQ4-wrwHAXk>

### **Optional - Online Polls**

This optional extra is a great way to get people to take part in your event, including the quieter members of the group.

We suggest asking a few simple multi-choice questions at the start and at the end of the PowerPoint presentation. After everyone has 'voted' the results will be shown and can generate a short discussion. Please remember to tick the anonymous response button so that people can vote confidentially.

### **Poll questions to ask at the start of your session.**

How would you rate well-being in your community? Please tick one of the following:

Very good

Good

Neutral

Bad  
Very Bad

What are the biggest challenges to well-being in Carmarthenshire at the moment? (Please tick the three most important).

Public Services  
People getting on well together in their communities  
Transport  
Accommodation  
Employment  
Tackling poverty  
Health  
Education  
Digital Connectivity  
Environment  
Climate Change  
Other

**Poll questions to ask at the end of your session.**

How do you feel about well-being in Carmarthenshire after this event? Please tick one of the following:

Very Optimistic  
Optimistic  
Neutral  
Pessimistic  
Very Pessimistic

What do you think will be the biggest challenges to well-being in Carmarthenshire over the next 20-40 years? (Please tick the three most important).

Public Services  
People getting on well together in their communities  
Transport  
Accommodation  
Employment  
Tackling poverty  
Health  
Education  
Digital Connectivity  
Environment  
Climate Change  
Other

Need help with setting up online polls? Check out the below videos.

How to use polls on Microsoft Teams using Microsoft Forms

[How to use the NEW built-in Polls in Microsoft Teams meetings - YouTube](#)

How to use polls on Zoom

[How to Create and Launch Polls in Zoom Meetings | Zoom Polls Tutorial - YouTube](#)

### **Optional – Virtual Car Park**

If a single topic or issue starts to dominate the stakeholder event, park it in the virtual car park. The issue can then be addressed later or a separate meeting if required. The virtual car park is also a good place to park any individual service requests that can be followed up after the stakeholder event.

### **Well-being Session Record Form.**

Please refer to the form for details.

We would be grateful if you could feedback on your event using the form. This means that there will be consistency in reporting and analysis. Please return your forms to [Llinos Evans](#).

### **Further Information and background resources**

[The Essentials. The Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)

Carmarthenshire Factsheet, included in the toolkit.

[Carmarthenshire PSB Website](#)

[Future Generations Commissioner for Wales website.](#)

[Any questions, please contact Llinos Evans - LlinEvans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](#)

## Consultation on the draft Well-being Assessment

Further to approval of the draft Well-being Assessment at the Public Services Board on 24 November 2021, the next phase of producing the Assessment was to consult with the public and stakeholders.

Our PSB Members and Statutory Consultees received a copy of the draft Assessment and an invitation to submit comments and suggestions.

All networks and forums who participated in the first involvement exercise received a copy of the draft Assessment and an opportunity to feedback via the online survey (1 December 2021 and 19 January 2022).

During the consultation period, the opportunity was taken to strengthen any areas as required, with partner involvement, based on the outcome of the PSB discussion of the draft Well-being Assessment. Partners also provided case studies of interventions which have been implemented in response to the challenges identified.

As part of the consultation, responses were received from:

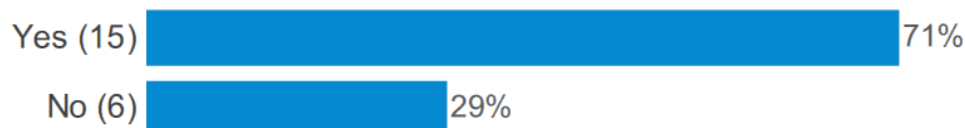
- Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales
- Welsh Government
- Natural Resources Wales (comments incorporated)
- Public Health Wales and Hywel Dda University Health Board
- Carmarthenshire County Council Place and Sustainability division
- Carmarthenshire County Council Integrated Services division
- Carmarthenshire County Council Housing division
- Carmarthenshire County Council Early Years and Childcare Team



## Carmarthenshire Draft Well-being Assessment Consultation responses

The consultation of the draft well-being assessment received 26 responses in total, 22 were from individuals and 4 responses received from organisations. Organisations that responded were Llanedi Community Council, CYCA, Early Years & Prevention Dept. Carmarthenshire County Council and one unknown organisation. The consultation was distributed to all town and community councils, electoral members, partner organisations and many network groups within the county.

### Do you think we have identified the correct matters in regard to the Carmarthenshire Context section?



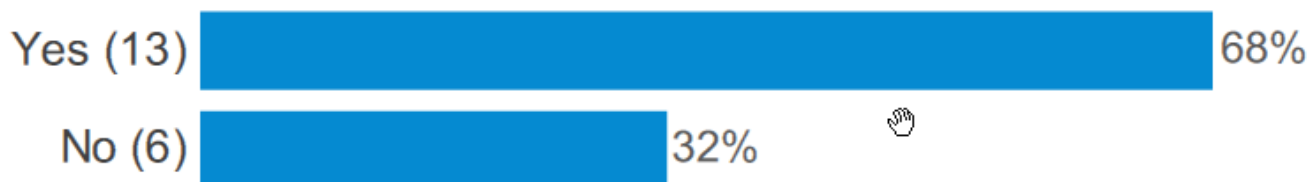
Comments received on the Carmarthenshire **‘Context’** chapter:

- It is such a strategic document it would not really be understood by the public.
- I feel the context seems pretty accurate although with only a slight increase in poverty, how does the county have almost a third of its population in poverty. This is something that needs to be addressed.

Which matters do you think we have missed in relation to the Carmarthenshire **‘Context’** section:

- Community Councils are not recognized as partner organizations
- We have 6 senses, you have completely missed out one of them, hearing and audition has been totally missed, noise and sound are key issues
- IT IS NOT WHAT IS MISSED ITS A LOT OF PAID FOR WORDS THE URGENT TODAY NEEDS COULD HAVE BEEN STARTED YEARS AGO

### Do you think we have identified the correct matters in regard to the ‘new beginnings’ section?



Comments received on the **'New Beginnings'** chapter:

- Respondents stated that the facts were clear and accurate

What matters do you think we have missed in relation to the **'New Beginnings'** section?

- Lack of opportunities for socializing and play
- Hearing is one of our most vital senses, there is nothing here in relation to new beginnings, noise and sound directly affects communication which are vital
- Following numerous consultations with parents/carers of children 0-7 years and professional working within the Early Years services (midwifery, Health Visiting, Speech and Language, education, childcare, education, family support) WG are investing in the Transformation of Early Years services across Wales.

Carmarthenshire has been involved in this as a Pathfinder for a number of years and is piloting an integrated way of working across maternity and Early Years services in the Cwm Gwendraeth area. It would be opportune to include this work within the New Beginnings chapter and or the childhood chapter as it will have a significant impact on the way we deliver these services to families across the region and is a direct response to what families are telling us they need from these services. A regional Maternity and Early Years strategy is being developed and will be finalised by 31st March 2022 which will provide the vision for maternity and Early years services for the next 5 years.

Do you think we have identified the correct matters in regard to the **'childhood'** section?



Comments received on the **'Childhood'** chapter:

- NEED TO DIFFERENTIATE THE DIFFERENCES IN EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AS OPPOSED TO MENTAL ILL HEALTH
- the comment on poverty and childhood obesity is interesting and one would consider the diet of those in poverty and those not in poverty to see where the problem lies.

What matters do you think we have missed in relation to the **'Childhood'** section?

- I am unsure if the voice of the child has been captured
- Lack of opportunities for socializing and informal play
- I am not sure 'obesity is more helpful to focus on than, for example, access to green spaces
- They're killing them with vaccines, wasn't that illegal?

- You've missed on of the key senses, good soundscapes for education and learning is a key issue
- access to outdoor spaces to play was not covered. especially in rural areas.

**Do you think we have identified the correct matters in regard to the 'youth' section?**



Comments received on the 'youth' section:

- I was disappointed not to see a specific priority (red) for youth. e.g. bullying
- homophobia is a real issue for young people
- NEED TO DIFFERENTIATE THE DIFFERENCES IN EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AS OPPOSED TO MENTAL ILL HEALTH
- the school curriculum seems to value academia over vocational, will there be any drive for including vocational learning within the curriculum
- Where the young people have identified bullying as a factor of well-being, it would have been interesting to see what type of bullying is being addressed, e.g. religion or race.

Which matters do you think we have missed in regard to the 'youth' section.

- Although young people have been consulted was this information drawn from a wide range?
- Lack of opportunities for socializing and creative outlets.
- Unless they survive this vaccine holocaust, they won't reproduce, bit of an issue there, heart attacks, blood kits, falling sperm counts, massive increase in still births, 1'800+ deaths from vaccines in UK alone
- For youth, what about the impact on hearing from in ear headphones? Tranquil spaces to de-stress etc, this is vitally important to good health
- A lot of youth programs and youth clubs have closed. There was no reference to community clubs and activities for youth.

Comments received on the 'adult' chapter:

- Suicide rates are a priority, but 'mental health' is only 'monitored' (yellow). Appears strange
- NEED TO DIFFERENTIATE THE DIFFERENCES IN EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AS OPPOSED TO MENTAL ILL HEALTH
- Poverty and in work poverty, needs addressing, and fly tipping is a problem- more police please!

**Do you think we have identified the correct matters in regard to the 'adult' section?**



Which matters do you think we have missed in relation to the **‘adult’** context:

- Again statistical data is great but were a wide range consulted?
- Concerned that 'obesity' isn't a helpful measure of health.
- flooding and climate change need higher priority. isolation and loneliness not identified. Transport
- Doctors silenced, undertaker from England, Maloney I think, observed no death increase until vaccine roll out, a common observation from his Field
- Nothing on noise at all, noise nuisance is a particular concern but noise from transport etc., which has a direct effect on well-being and health just isn't addressed
- Not enough on jobs. Quality of jobs, quantity, gender pay gap and ethnic mix of employed compared to national average.

Do you think we have identified the correct matters in regard to the **‘adult’** section?



Comments received on the **‘older people’** context:

- Insufficient support to older people to be digitally included in the way that suits them best.
- care homes should be available to all, at an affordable price.

Which matters do you think we have missed in relation to the **‘older people’** context:

- noise issues just not covered, I thought there had been a large increase in noise complaints, particularly during covid, where are these

**Themes to Focus on:**

**Theme 1:**

- Increase in jobs that pay well
- Poverty (both child and adult) as a root cause of exclusion, poor lifestyle, mental illness and low attainment
- healthy and active lifestyles for every age

- Child poverty/economic wellbeing
- Providing leisure alternatives to alcohol
- CYBER BULLYING/ RESULT OF COVID
- Tlodi / ardaloedd difreintiedig
- tackling obesity
- poverty and affordable housing
- Face to face appointments with GPs
- adult mental health
- Abolish Senedd
- noise and sound
- Childhood (particularly teenage years and transition from paediatric services)
- Loneliness
- Poverty and in work poverty
- Mental health
- Newid hinsawdd
- in work poverty
- Lower than average earnings
- Mental Health
- Prevention and Early Intervention for families who are in need
- YOUR PLAN 2023-28 WILL NOT ADDRESS URGENT NEEDS RIGHT NOW WHAT IS THAT PLAN ???STARTING TOMORROW

## Theme 2:

- More Green Space for everyone
- Mental health (including dementia) arising from loneliness, anxiety (eg from bullying, hate crime, domestic violence, etc) and leading to high levels of suicide and illness
- equal opportunities early start
- Environmental wellbeing
- Old people
- Families in poverty
- CHILDREN IN NEED. MORE FUNDING TO THIRD SECTOR TO ERADICATE CHILD POVERTY
- gor-dewdra
- tackling attitudes to drugs and alcohol
- climate and flooding
- Access to NHS dentists, good dental care is key to good health
- childhood and adolescent mental health
- No lockdowns
- tranquillity
- Mental Health
- Crime
- Affordable housing
- Obesity

- Tlodi
- poverty
- Loss of biodiversity
- Poverty
- Place based/strength based community development
- BAN ZERO HOURS CONTRACT...CREATE JOBS FOR ALL SCHOOL LEAVERS..WORKING IS THE BEST MEDICINE FOR WELL BEING(THE IN WORD SINCE COVID)

### **Theme 3:**

- Food Poverty
- Pollution of our environment with emphasis on water pollution (esp. by chemicals, silage, etc) and waste (fly tipping, litter, etc)
- economic recovery and growth
- Cultural wellbeing
- Children in poverty
- AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE
- amgylchedd
- disabled and elderly
- transport
- Allow businesses to start operating properly to generate more income and therefore more tax paid
- outdoor pursuits for adolescents to curb obesity issue
- No poison vaccines
- affordability
- Ageing
- Pandemic
- Mental Health and Dementia
- In work poverty
- Tai fforddiadwy
- children in care
- decrease in participation in arts, culture or heritage activities
- Hate Crime
- SORRY BUT HUGE PLANS THAT I HAVE READ SEEMS FAR FETCHED AND COSTLY WHERE I WOULD SPEND THIS MONEY FAR DIFFERENTLY WITH BETTER RESULTS . SO IF YOU CAN PULL IT ALL OFF WITH THE RIGHT OUTCOME GREAT HOWEVER STILL WAITING FOR ENERGY FROM THE SEA AS THE TIDE WILL COME IN AND THE TIDE WILL GO OUT THE WIND DOESNT ALWAYS BLOW

### **Effects of the draft Well-being Assessment on the Welsh language**

- Interestingly the number of Welsh speakers is declining which needs to be addressed
- I believe that the teaching of Welsh should receive even more emphasis - esp. for the 'over 30's. Notwithstanding the pandemic, it needs to be community based and include some 'face to face' input

- could encourage the use and learning of it more as it reports an increase in Welsh and a better well-being with it
- The Welsh language is a fundamental and integral part of life in Carmarthenshire as it is of great importance. The assessment needs to ensure it doesn't have any adverse effects on the use and accessibility to the Welsh language
- Little
- Possibly more Welsh language lessons would help a sense of community cohesion
- Rhaid gwneud y Gymraeg yn ganolog i bob dim - plethu yn naturiol yn hytrach na gorfodi
- Steps should be taken to improve levels of Welsh speaking in the county and monitoring isn't enough especially with the influx of people from England buying properties. Welsh speaking is only going to die if you continue to monitor it and not push it as a priority.
- none
- N/A
- You'll all die if you keep vaccinating
- The Welsh Language is in good hands, Welsh Education is enshrined in law, time to move on to better quality of life
- Good
- it seems that there is a language gap, with the Welsh speaking older population declining and the language with them and the likelihood that Welsh speaking youngsters will leave the county and possibly not return, what support is there for families to learn Welsh alongside their children.
- Hopefully improve support to those who choose Welsh education for their children but are English speakers
- Byddai galluogi pobl leol i aros yn yr ardal gyda swyddi addas, tai fforddiadwy ac ati yn cael effaith bositif ar y Gymraeg.
- Not an issue to me.
- This isn't very well explained --I don't really have enough information to answer this. I think there are more pressing priorities than the Welsh Language
- I don't understand this question

**Any comments on how the draft well-being assessment may affect people's use of the Welsh language.**

- More needs to be done to encourage the use of the language in every aspect of life
- Please see above (also poverty and pre-occupation with other issues - e.g. feeling unsafe to attend evening classes are other issues)
- Might improve the opportunity by making people aware of use and well-being links
- See above
- I am not aware of any obstacles to being bilingual.
- I don't know enough to comment
- Ffocws ar weithgarwch cymunedol - cynnig cyfleoedd trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg
- none
- N/A
- Doomed either way unless exit gov

- Time to focus and making this County into a place where our children can live with good jobs etc, rather than having to migrate to other countries
- None
- There are far more important issues to address, can we please let the language take care of itself, if people want it, they will use it; if not, they won't!
- As above. I think there are more pressing priorities than worrying about the Welsh Language. The funding could go to creating better jobs for all.
- It would be good to have more incentive to learn the Welsh language, especially within the education sector where we need more diversity of teachers.



## Welsh Government response to the consultation on the draft assessment of local well-being for Carmarthenshire, required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

Thank you for sight of Carmarthenshire PSB's Assessment of Local Well-being.

Welsh Government acknowledges that the preparation of an assessment and the supporting evidence is a significant undertaking and recognises the amount of work that has been accomplished. Covid-19 has brought huge challenges to the public sector and PSB partners have demonstrated real dedication and resolve in overcoming some truly testing situations over this period. PSBs are demonstrating that they too have a crucial role to play in the recovery from the pandemic, in considering the social, economic, environmental and cultural impacts on communities and co-ordinating the longer-term response. Given all of this, we also recognise that the assessments have been prepared during extraordinary circumstances and this has been taken into consideration when reviewing them.

Our focus has been on the main areas we consider will go towards providing you with a comprehensive view of the state of well-being in your area, ultimately equipping you with a good, clear understanding of the sort of priorities you as a PSB can target your collective efforts to best effect on in your well-being plan. These are the second round of assessments and it is hoped that there will be lessons learned from the first iteration, building on what happened previously.

We have structured our response to the consultation on your assessment in the same way as in 2017 which is as follows:

- **General comments** providing an overview of thoughts on the assessment;
- More **specific comments** on the way in which the analysis has been undertaken and presented and the way in which the statutory requirements have been met;
- A **final summary table** which identifies the areas we would suggest could benefit from further development. We are adopting a consistent approach to these matters which have been categorised as follows:
  - **Category A** – these are significant issues which we would hope would be addressed prior to publication of the well-being assessment. They might relate, for example, to compliance with the statutory requirements or a fundamental issue with the quality of the analysis
  - **Category B** – these are matters which are important and would support a better informed well-being plan and we would hope could be addressed alongside the development of the plan
  - **Category C** – these are matters which would strengthen the assessment but could be addressed over time.

We will be using the same approach in responding to each of the assessments.

## **Overall Thoughts**

This assessment demonstrates the commitment Carmarthenshire PSB has made to embrace the challenge of assessing well-being in the area. It engages well with most of the key areas identified in the statutory and non-statutory guidance and demonstrates good use of a range of evidence to support analysis.

Our evaluation identifies some areas for further development which, if addressed could strengthen the assessment. As an example, we would suggest including a specific section outlining the methodological approaches adopted, and providing more detail on these, which would add a greater level of robustness to the engagement process. In addition, it would also be useful to include a discussion on how the community areas have been decided upon and considered as part of the assessment (see relevant paragraph for more detail). We feel that further understanding at a more local level would benefit the assessment as a whole.

## **Comments on particular aspects of the Assessment**

### **Statutory Requirements**

The assessment refers to the relevant National Indicators and associated local indicators for the New Beginnings life stage, Adulthood life stage and Ageing Well life stage.

The PSB have chosen six community areas based on Upper Super Output Areas, allowing the PSB to build statistical information around these areas. The data is presented for the six areas throughout the assessment and, helpfully, comparisons are drawn between them,

However, we have a couple of queries on the approach that has been chosen to identify these. Firstly, we question whether this goes down to enough detail given that it is a USOA. Do they represent local communities within Carmarthenshire or are they too large? Would MSOA be more appropriate? A further understanding at a more local level might draw out the diversity of the area and enhance the ability to robustly assess the differences or similarities within Carmarthenshire.

The other point is that the communities are not given names, and therefore it is more difficult to identify these as real, cohesive communities. The assessment doesn't give much detail on the characteristics of the areas. Adding names and descriptions of the areas could make it easier for the reader to understand the characteristics of the communities and the status of well-being in those areas.

The following assessments and reviews do not immediately appear to have been used which the Act specifies the board must take into account when preparing the well-being assessment:

- UK Climate Change Risk Assessment;
- Sufficiency of Nursery education provision review;
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Plans;
- Combating Substance Misuse strategic assessment;
- Strategic Assessment relating to the Reduction of Reoffending.

## **Structure and Format**

The assessment has a clear and logical structure. Opening sections clearly set the scene for the assessment. There is a good initial summary which is effectively structured into four different life stages, as it was in the first assessment and this approach comes across as effective.

In the initial summary of themes under the four life stages, it is useful to note in the introductory paragraph of this section that the key themes are drawn from all of the evidence collected as part of the assessment.

Use of the PSB Futures Impact/Certainty Matrix is very effective and clearly sets out issues to be monitored, issues that require further research, and issues that are critical and need to be prioritised.

We would also suggest that the assessment would benefit from a more consistent approach to the presentation of data and overall format, for example:

- When presenting numbers in table format, we would recommend using right alignment rather than central alignment to make it easier to read and compare numbers;
- Figures / tables should be numbered and include titles, labels and sources, and should also be explained and cross-referenced in the main text;
- We would suggest choosing one chart type (i.e. line or bar chart) when both fields are continuous or discontinuous data (see Figures 5 and 6, for example).

## **Engagement**

The assessment demonstrates meaningful engagement, involvement and collaboration and uses the evidence from it to good effect. It is clear that evidence has been gathered using various methods (surveys, group discussions) and is presented and used to good effect. However, the assessment lacks a specific section outlining the methodological approaches adopted and providing more detail on these which would be beneficial.

## **Balance and Comprehensiveness**

The 'life course' model is helpful in terms of breaking down all of the information and ensuring that the

needs of younger and older people are considered. However, more consideration could be given to how socio-economic factors can be more effectively considered and discussed throughout the assessment. As an example, the assessment would be strengthened if it considered the impact of factors such as socio-economic disadvantage, racial diversity, disability and so on under each of the policy areas covered. Acknowledging these considerations through the assessment would deliver a richer level of understanding and help to ensure that efforts to actively tackle disadvantage are being maximised.

It would be useful to include a closing summary bringing together key themes / findings / priorities from each of the individual life stage chapters.

It is a strength that the assessment acknowledges and provides an overview of the range of cross-boundary and regional issues and challenges impacting on the county and the wider west Wales and mid Wales regions.

There is very little reference to Brexit and the impact that this will have on the area, both now and in the future. There could also be a greater emphasis placed on culture and the arts.

The WCPP reports that were produced [Well-being briefings for Public Services Boards | WCPP](#) could be helpful for both cultural and Brexit/covid aspects. This could help to add value where there are known gaps.

## **Reflective and Critical Approach**

It is helpful that gaps and limitations in the data and engagement are acknowledged in the main report, e.g. the impact of Covid not only on well-being but also on the quality of the data (recognising where it may not be accurate).

## **Quality of Analytical Approach**

The assessment draws on a broad range of quantitative and qualitative data and sources to build a rich picture of well-being across the county and to some extent within its communities (although as mentioned previously we wonder whether these might benefit from being more local).

Evidence has been demonstrated of the extent of the use of existing sources of data and insights to build the assessment. Overall sources are well-referenced throughout the report, with the exception of some parts of the analysis where the source of the data has not been included (see Youth section on p.43 onwards). There is also a need to ensure that the final version includes a reference section for further information.

The assessment's research methodology is briefly mentioned in individual chapters under 'Engagement responses', but this makes it difficult to get a sense of the overall methodological approach adopted. We

would suggest including a separate section (either as a stand-alone chapter or annex) to provide some background and an explanation of the engagement processes, along with a summary of the process of collecting, synthesising and analysing data and any limitations. The next steps section at the end includes a helpful overview of data limitations/gaps.

Overall, the assessment provides a clear picture of priorities that may link through to the plan.

## **Future Trends**

The assessment has utilised future trends and scenarios and considered their implications. The PSB Futures Impact/Certainty Matrix is effective and clearly sets out issues to be monitored, issues that require further research, and issues that are critical and need to be prioritised.

The way the assessment is presented makes it clear what the key priorities are across the different life stages.

## **Feedback from other policy areas**

Based on the feedback we have received from policy specialists across the Welsh Government, there are some very specific areas which we highlight for your consideration. For example:

- There does not appear to be evidence of engagement with representatives of childcare providers via their third sector organisations. This could support an understanding of issues in early development, particularly as a result of covid.
- The focus of the engagement to date in term of young people, seems to have been around children of school age. Expect that Carms will address the importance of drawing on the voice of those children who are 0-4yrs. One way to do this would be to link up with their PSB Pathfinder Coordinators - who will have been working on mapping and scoping their Early Years Systems and will have a wealth of information to draw upon which could help this process.
- The focus on domestic violence is welcome, but we would encourage the PSB to focus on the broader definition of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence as defined in Welsh law – this includes broader factors such as coercive control.

## Areas for development

<b>Category A</b>
<b>Category B</b>  Community Areas (see ‘Statutory Requirements’)  Methodological Approach (see ‘Engagement’)  Consideration of statutory reviews and assessments (see ‘Statutory Requirements’)  Formatting of Tables (see ‘Structure and Format’)  Reference section  A final chapter to bring together key themes / findings / priorities from each of the individual life stage chapters (see ‘Balance and Comprehensiveness’)  Brexit  More work on cultural aspects (see under ‘Balance and Comprehensiveness’)  Future Trends could be strengthened (see paragraph).
<b>Category C</b>

#### 1: Summary

- A clear, well presented well-being assessment demonstrating the commitment Carmarthenshire PSB has made to assessing well-being in its area.
- Structured in relation to stages of life, from ‘new beginnings’ to ‘ageing well’, which works well, is user-friendly and a helpful structure for encouraging inter-generational thinking.
- Regional collaboration a strong, positive feature of the work carried out.
- An honest appraisal of data and information, clarity on the information you have and don’t have, and regular reflection.
- Good use and mixture of types of data and information (quantitative and qualitative), with information and feedback from your engagement work incorporated throughout.
- Some good examples of best practice, including the table outlining how the PSB have applied the 5 ways of working and the use of the impact / certainty matrix.
- Section 3 highlights some areas that if further developed, would help to strengthen the assessment. These relate to: future trends, involvement, making connections between issues, the Welsh Language and maximising contribution to Wales’ well-being goals.
- Section 3 also outlines other (desirable) areas for consideration within the assessment.

#### 2: Evidence of good practice in the well-being assessment

##### Process and methodology

It’s positive to see the PSB’s collaborative work, locally and regionally to produce the assessment, sharing resources, expertise, data gathering and capacity. From this, you’ve identified 13 key regional well-being themes and identified cross-boundary well-being issues such as climate change, child poverty and housing affordability.

There is honest appraisal of the data shared throughout the assessment. For example, you state the number of children living in workless households has seen significant annual reductions in recent years, and the county is below the Welsh average of 13.5% (at 8.8%). And yet you (correctly) point out that while this is a positive trend, it should not be treated in isolation to the fact more children are living in poverty within your county, regionally and nationally in Wales.

You have engaged with a wide range of people and clearly drawn information from both quantitative and qualitative sources through the report. For example, on childhood obesity, the comparison of regional data on child engagement with sport is supplemented with qualitative views from children.

The table outlining how the PSB have applied the 5 ways of working is very helpful. For example, under ‘Long-term’ your examples include ‘Futures thinking questions included in the survey’ and ‘Consideration and analysis of future trends information where available’.

The use of the impact / certainty matrix is a strength, enabling you to provide an indicative assessment of the main themes you have identified. It’s also helpful to see assessment of your current performance

against Wales' national well-being indicators to help provide further insight into levels of well-being in your county. It's also helpful to see these included in each of the chapters.

There is honest reflection about the impact of Covid on the assessment, and how the PSB has sought to reference specific impacts of the pandemic separately (where possible), and recognition of the impacts of Covid as a data gap. You also note caution if information isn't up to date or pre-dates COVID-19, such as with some of your figures on demographics.

The assessment explores some interconnections between issues. For example, the 'New Beginnings' chapter identifies the importance of addressing social and economic inequality but also environmental inequality. There is also cross referencing with some of the issues presented between chapters, e.g. noting wildfires as a problem in both your community safety and environment chapters, and cross-referencing between the two.

The structure of the 'Ageing well' chapter works well, set out against the World Health Organisation framework of 8 domains to assist in the creation of age friendly communities. This demonstrates an approach that aligns with the statutory requirements and incorporates research frameworks from wider studies on well-being.

## Content

Highlighting the key issues up-front in the report is useful for readers and wider stakeholders who would want to understand the headlines. The topics and issues are explained clearly throughout, meaning the information and narrative is clear, accessible and easy to understand.

The 'Engagement Response' sections at the end of each sub-chapter are a useful way of ensuring resident voices are promoted throughout the report - these strengthen the overall narrative.

You demonstrate a good understanding of what data you have, and what data you don't have. There are a number of occasions in the assessment where it states a topic is 'an area we would like to research further.' It's helpful to see these highlighted under your 'next steps' section as fuel poverty, adult obesity, domestic abuse, and housing / homelessness.

It's positive to see 6,436 students (67%) across 12 schools in your county taking part in a School Health Research Network (SHRN) survey in 2017-18. Analysis and comparison with the results from the more recent September 2021 survey will be important, when available.

We welcome the reflection on some of your data and statistics in relation to the first well-being assessment. For example, despite the high number of households continuing to live in poverty, you noted this has reduced by 2% since the last Well-being Assessment.

The number of school leavers (1.8%) recorded as NEET is now half since the last assessment (3.4%). While still just above the Welsh average, you note this significant reduction could be attributed to the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework which focuses on early identification and targeted support. You also state the number of children looked after by the local authority in Carmarthenshire is the



lowest in Wales, a result of your continued focus on preventative work, with robust systems in place to keep children safe in the home. These are good [examples of preventative work in the area](#).

The ReConnecting project, through the 50+ Leadership Group, is clearly valued by members of the Carmarthenshire Disability Partnership, and highlighted the importance of arts and culture during the pandemic, and how access to digital opportunities supported mental health and well-being.

### [3: Areas that could be further developed](#)

#### **Important areas for consideration**

Building on the extensive work already undertaken for your well-being assessment, below are areas we consider to be important for your consideration. If developed further, they would help strengthen the assessment overall.

#### **Building on your use of future trends information**

It is good to see several references to the recently published Future Trends Report throughout the document. You have used the information to supplement local data and/or add some wider analysis, e.g.: *'Data presented in the Future Trends Report detail that by 2050 we are forecasted to see average summer temperatures rise by 1.34°C. This could cause an increase in rain by 5% throughout the year, concentrated more in winter as summers experience longer periods of drought.'*

To build on this, the assessment should also consider what the implications of the trends you highlight could be for your area. Using the example above, which areas and populations would be most vulnerable in Carmarthenshire to increased rainfall and/or drought? What could the potential impact be on homes, livelihoods or health and well-being? Are there implications for specific groups and communities?

Our recent report with Public Health Wales '[Inequality in a future Wales](#)' highlights that climate change could increase inequalities if the impacts on different groups in society are not factored in. To explore examples like this more fully, we would therefore encourage you to involve the people and communities who may be most affected, to ensure their voices are being heard. A better understanding of their concerns and priorities for action will help you plan your next steps.

Your assessment also references the links between future trends and inequalities in relation to work, noting: *'This shows a concerning trend that being in work does not necessarily pull households out of poverty.'* Along with climate change, the '[Inequality in a future Wales](#)' report also [looks at inequality in relation to trends on the future of work and demographic change, relevant to other areas of your assessment](#). Full consideration of the potential implications for inequality is necessary when making decisions to tackle future trends.

As discussed in our recent meeting, it can also be helpful to consider the impact of future trends in the short-term (3-5 years), medium term (10 years or so), and longer-term (up to the 25 years, a 'generation', as required by the Act). This can help you identify immediate risks or opportunities, and highlight the longer-term impacts that should shape those decisions. When thinking and acting for the long-term, *how* you do something is just as important as *what* you do.

We would welcome evidence that you have considered and prioritised the future trends most relevant to your area. You may find the impact / certainty matrix to be a useful tool here - we note you have already used it to assess the main themes in your assessment. Exploring two or three of the future trends you identify as significant for your area in more detail would strengthen the assessment overall. The PSB could also undertake this work as part of its preparation for the well-being plan and the setting of objectives/steps.

### **Your work on involvement**

The regional approach you've adopted includes your work on engagement, where you established an engagement group and survey sub-group. The assessment states a 'Regional Engagement and Consultation Framework' was produced, and is available on the PSBs website.

In our meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022, we highlighted that we were unable to locate the framework on your webpage and noted from you that a 'technical background document' is being produced, detailing your consultation and involvement work. We look forward to seeing both documents.

From the information you have presented, it's clear you have engaged with a wide range of people. For example, your work with service users and providers from the Armed Forces community who shared their concerns on mental health and the impact the pandemic has had on their educational and training opportunities. And your focus groups held with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities; EU (non-Welsh) citizens, rural and isolated communities, first language Welsh speakers, Gypsy / Traveller Communities, Syrian Refugees, LGBTQ+ people, disabled people and/or people with health conditions and young people.

It's good to see a wide range of methods, tools and approaches taken to your work on involvement. For example, you met virtually with seven local schools, with conversations structured around happiness, things that were important to them and their hopes for the future. These were clearly important discussions and revealed some telling feedback. This also links to the views and information captured in the 'Carmarthenshire Youth Council' in autumn 2020, where concerns included lack of suitable job opportunities, lack of affordable housing, training/skills, the environment and mental health.

It is reassuring to see your honest reflection on the '*voices which aren't currently being heard as part of the assessment*' as an area for improvement, and your intent to increase efforts to engage with these groups. Building on this, you could consider incorporating some lived experience into designing your well-being plan, enabling residents in Carmarthenshire to tell their story more fully.

Finally, you state '*This represents the beginning of an ongoing conversation about well-being in Carmarthenshire*' which is great to hear as the PSB shifts its focus from assessment to plan/objectives. Using and adopting strong, innovative involvement techniques that go beyond engagement and move more towards co-production will be important for PSBs in Wales.

### **Making the connections between the issues, data and information**

The assessment identifies some connections between issues, a benefit of structuring the assessment against age. For example, the report links mental well-being and ACEs with the ability to develop

relationships, cultural connections and sporting participation. And the 'New Beginnings' chapter identifies the importance of addressing social, economic and environmental inequality.

To highlight one example from the quantitative and qualitative information presented, there are clear links and connections between transport infrastructure, children's play, access to green space, physical activity and mental health, and reducing emissions.

As you state: *'One of the key ways to tackle levels of obesity in children is encouraging them to engage in physical activity'*, and yet road traffic is highlighted as the main barrier to children playing and hanging out by parents of year 5 and year 8 pupils. This also relates to your points on obesity and the mental health of children and young people. And, your comment that encouraging the use of the cleanest modes of transport, active travel and the creation of urban green space is *'likely to be key in reducing emissions in the future.'*

In moving from well-being assessment to plan, one of the key considerations that will help the PSB prioritise its objectives and steps will be identifying connections like these, that cut across the four dimensions of well-being.

### **Welsh language**

Your county has the most Welsh speakers compared to the rest of Wales, and you note the ability to speak Welsh is associated with higher subjective well-being. Despite this, you highlight a stark decline in the number of Welsh speakers in the county. For example, from 50.3% in 2001 to 43.9% in 2011. The assessment also highlights the challenges around Welsh-medium childcare settings, where numbers/places have decreased.

Building on the information set out, it would be helpful to include further analysis of what this data means for your area (now and in the longer-term), in conjunction with the national vision of 'Cymraeg 2050' to increase both the use of Welsh and number of Welsh speakers. Referencing any work that has been undertaken to better understand the reasons for the decline in your area would also be useful.

In moving to setting objectives and steps within your well-being plan, clear links should be made to Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and the local authority promotion strategy. Members of your Welsh Language Strategic Forum highlighted the importance of the relationship between the economy and the Welsh language, and connections could also be made here with your local skills providers.

### **Maximising the PSB's contribution to Wales' well-being goals**

Understanding the full definition of Wales' well-being goals can help ensure the assessment is considering the wide range of topics and themes of well-being within your area.

The table below sets out areas that could be explored further within the assessment, and/or taken into consideration for the well-being plan. It is appreciated that it may not be possible for all the information below to be fully considered / incorporated in your assessment. Instead, you may wish to choose some areas to compliment the extensive work you have already undertaken:

Equality and intersectionality	<p>Equality has been considered through the assessment. Building on your positive engagement work, the assessment could acknowledge how intersectionality affects people in Carmarthenshire, e.g. what is it like to be young and LGBTQ+ in Carmarthenshire? Ethnicity and gender-based oppression can also result in significant health inequalities. We also recommend ensuring all 'protected characteristics' outlined in the Equality Act are considered within the assessment.</p> <p>An ageing population will have implications on equality in your area, and disrupt how health and social care, employment and education, and pensions operate. These systems will need to adapt if they are to function in the long-term. Our '<a href="#">Inequality in a future Wales</a>' report explores future trends in relation to demographic change, the future of work and climate change, and is a helpful resource for considering the potential implications for inequality in these areas.</p>
Skills for the future	<p>It's good to see feedback through your engagement work on the importance of digital skills, and you have shared concerns on the continuing trend of young people moving out.</p> <p>We encourage you to consider the skills needed for the future, how they relate to your area, and the significance they may hold in respect of other areas of well-being. For example, the skills needed to transition to a low carbon economy. Summary analysis of our recent report is <a href="#">here</a>. It finds that across Wales there are significant skills gaps in green industries which must be addressed.</p>
Brexit and agriculture	<p>Could be considered further given agriculture is main land use in Carmarthenshire, in conjunction with potential implications of the <a href="#">Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS)</a>. WCPP's briefing: '<a href="#">The impacts of Covid-19 and Brexit on well-being</a>' is a helpful resource. Issues relating to sustainable land management skills (see our report linked above) are also relevant <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
Net Zero Wales and the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA)	<p>Welcome the information presented on the environment. Consideration should be given to what <a href="#">Wales' decarbonisation pathway</a> means for your area, and the <a href="#">Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA3) summary for Wales</a> is also a key document outlining the key risks and opportunities for Wales, not currently referenced.</p>
Llwybr Newydd: Wales's Transport Strategy	<p>Consideration of the three headline priorities and sustainable transport hierarchy within <a href="#">Llwybr Newydd</a> (the Wales Transport Strategy 2021), and progress/challenges in your area.</p>
Regional Skills Partnership	<p>Not clear if the links have been made with your local Regional Skills Partnerships. Your assessment will be a significant resource</p>

	for them. Similarly, their strategies and priorities will be key for your PSB. Please also see above points on skills.
<b>South West Wales Regional Economic Framework</b>	Recently <a href="#">published</a> in December 2021, an important resource for your PSB.
<b>The foundational economy</b>	And links to <a href="#">the Foundational Economy Challenge Fund</a> .
<b>Circular economy and consumption</b>	Referenced lightly in your waste sub-chapter, but could further explore what Wales' <a href="#">strategy for a circular economy</a> means for your area, e.g. helping communities share items, food waste, electric fleet etc. PSBs should be seeking ways to understand how a circular economy approach can help them meet a number of well-being priorities.
<b>Fair and local procurement</b>	Not explored in the assessment, but a key lever for change. Some analysis of your local economy/supply chains would strengthen the assessment.
<b>Tourism</b>	An important area that could be explored further, which links to your work with business, the environment and cultural/natural heritage.

### Other areas for consideration (desirable)

These are areas you might wish to amend / update to strengthen the assessment overall:

#### Environmental and cultural well-being reflected across age groups

There is occasional disparity between the extent to which the four dimensions of well-being are explored. For example, social and economic wellbeing are covered comprehensively across all four chapters, while environmental well-being is predominantly covered in 'Aging Well' and 'Adulthood', and cultural well-being in Adulthood.

Building on the information already set out, such as your section on 'play', are there any opportunities for you to further consider environmental and cultural well-being among young people in Carmarthenshire? The engagement with schools and young people suggests these are very important areas for them, and additional insight [would help strengthen the assessment](#).

#### Collaboration

Building on the collaborative approach taken to developing the assessment in the region, it would be beneficial if the assessment identified who all the partners were and how the collaboration was managed. This information would help for future learning, as cross-sector collaboration is a challenging but often effective means of delivering social change.

### Stakeholder list

It would be useful for future learning (internal and external to the PSB) if a list of stakeholders engaged with is included in your technical background document.

### Reflection on progress

It's positive to see some examples where you have compared progress with your first well-being assessment. The inclusion of further examples would be beneficial, if possible.

### Breakdown of the PSB area and 6 local communities

While trends are generally considered at the local authority level, some findings are then broken down by town, community area and ward. Going further, it would be helpful to see some deeper analysis of the community areas compared against each other. For example, the section on house prices could explore why increases in house prices have occurred, and why they are different in some areas than others (e.g. proximity to the coast, second homes / tourism, or transport links etc). It would also be useful, for example, to see how some elements of well-being might differ for those nearer to the coast and those more inland; or towns in comparison to more rural areas.

### Volunteering, inter-generational activities and knowledge sharing

Currently, 33.7% of Carmarthenshire adults volunteer and the links to well-being are clear. There are clear messages from your survey with older people that there is a desire to share knowledge and experience, providing opportunities for intergenerational connectivity, building community cohesion and improving well-being. This appears to be an important area for your county and the PSB could consider its role more fully in this area if it's not already.

### Fly-tipping

A significant concern for the area, with the total number of recorded instances being the second highest in Wales. It's also opposite to the trends seen in your neighbouring counties of Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, where they have seen a significant decrease in fly tipping instances. It would be helpful to know if any specific work, studies or action is being undertaken to help address this issue?

### Case studies

Welcome your suggestion that case studies will be added to the Assessment.

### Terminology

We encourage you to use the term 'seldom heard voices' or 'need to reach' as opposed to 'hard to reach' groups. And, the use of the term 'declined' in relation to progress against the national indicators suggests the percentage has got smaller, whereas it tends to show the situation has actually worsened, e.g. for loneliness (p87). Suggest considering revising this terminology.

### Mobility

On page 85, there is no information under the header 'mobility'.

## 4: Resources to help inform your next steps

Below are resources that can help inform your next steps, as you move from well-being assessment to well-being plan:

- Chapter 4 of the Future Generations Report: '[Setting Good Well-being Objectives](#)'
- The '[Future Generations Framework for Projects](#)'
- [Case studies](#) of how the Act is being implemented on the ground in Wales
- Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales: [Resources](#)