

# Ceredigion Public Services Board Well-being Survey

## Engagement Feedback Report

November 2021



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## Background

Between 10<sup>th</sup> August and 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021, the Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) engaged with residents on well-being in the county to complete the Assessment of Local Well-being. The survey was conducted on a regional basis, along with Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, and the questions were standardised to allow for identification of wider regional issues affecting West Wales.

## Response Rate

There were a total of **405** responses to the survey, **39** in Welsh, **366** in English. There were also **741** written comments and suggestions made, and although it's not possible to include them all verbatim in this report, it does provide a selection to demonstrate the differing viewpoints.

## Methodology

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 health pandemic, the survey was made available online and advertised through PSB partners networks and social media. Paper copies were also available, along with an easy read version, and respondents could also provide their responses via the telephone on request. A stakeholder list was created to ensure all partners and local groups were informed of the survey.

The PSB will use the feedback of residents, businesses and other groups to help inform the Assessment of Local Well-being and subsequently the five year Well-being Plan.

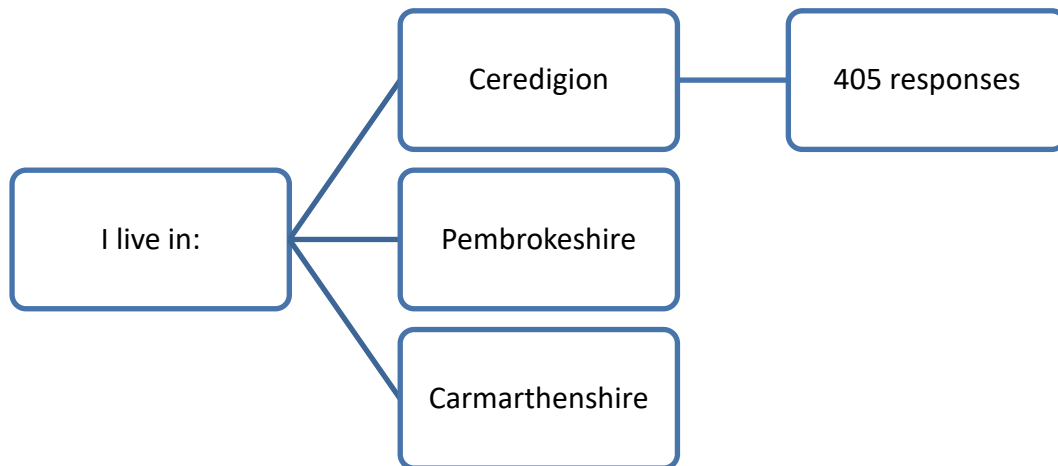
It is important to note that the Well-being Survey was only one part of the engagement activity designed to support the Assessment of Local Well-being. In addition, there were also a number of workshops held with various groups across the county, and hosted by PSB partners. The aim of these were to delve into more detail the issues affecting well-being in the county and to their group. The structure of these sessions used the Three Horizons approach to futures thinking where the first question discussed where we are here and now, the second discussed the transitional period between where we are now and where we want to get to, and the final question discussed where we want to get to, i.e. the Ceredigion we want to create in the future. Further details of the approach taken to the engagement can be found in the Regional Methodology and the Engagement Toolkit.

The paragraphs that follow provide a summary of the findings.

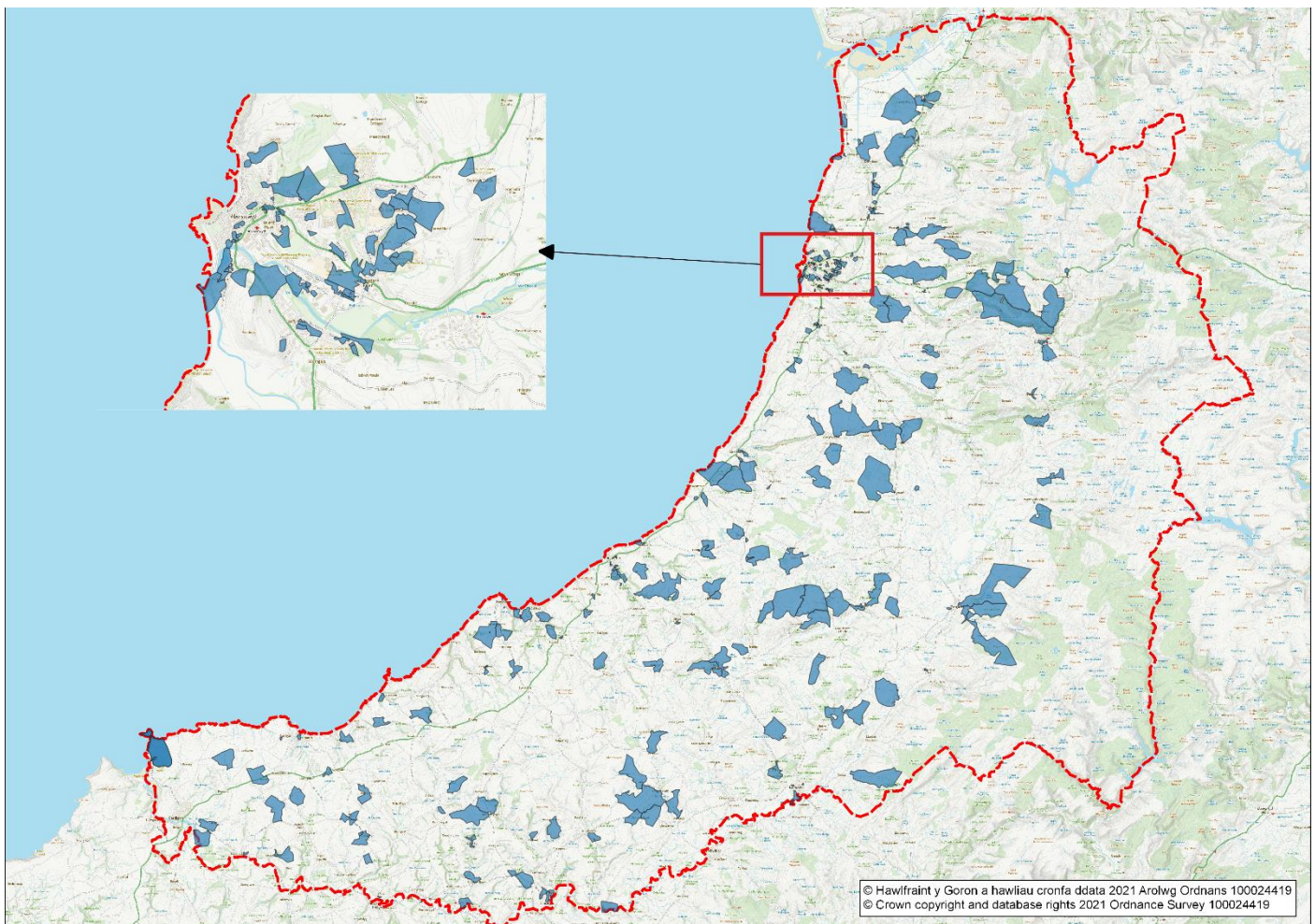


## Q1. I live in Ceredigion

The first question respondents were asked on our Well-being Survey, was which county they lived, to differentiate data between the regions. Out of 1,333 responses, 405 (30%) said that they lived in Ceredigion.

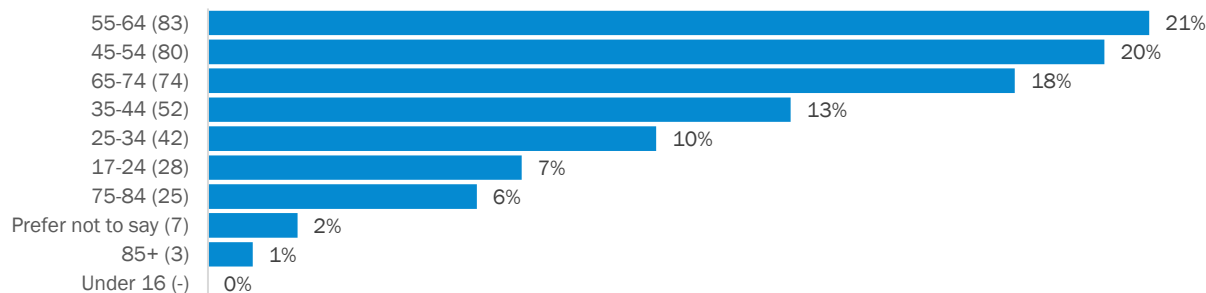


## Q2. Please specify your home postcode without using any spaces (e.g. SA154EA)



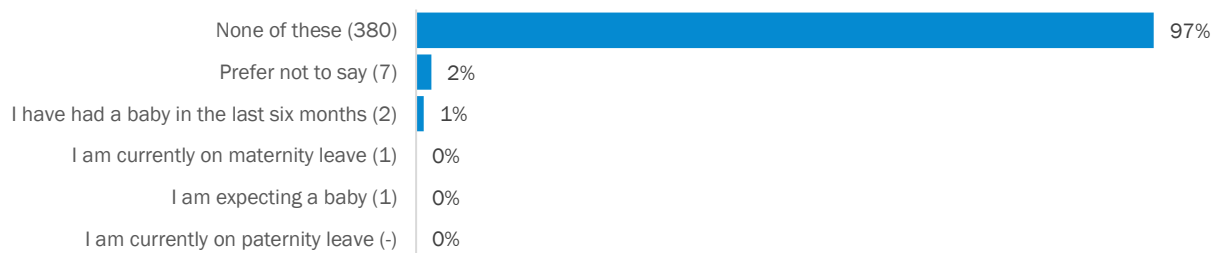
The map above demonstrates where responses have come from in Ceredigion. The second question of the Survey asked respondents to note down their full postcode. A total of approximately 225 different postcodes were noted down for this question. Even though there were 405 responses in total, we must take into account that some people may live in the same postcode area. It is clear from looking at the map above that responses have come from all areas across Ceredigion.

### Q3. What is your age group?



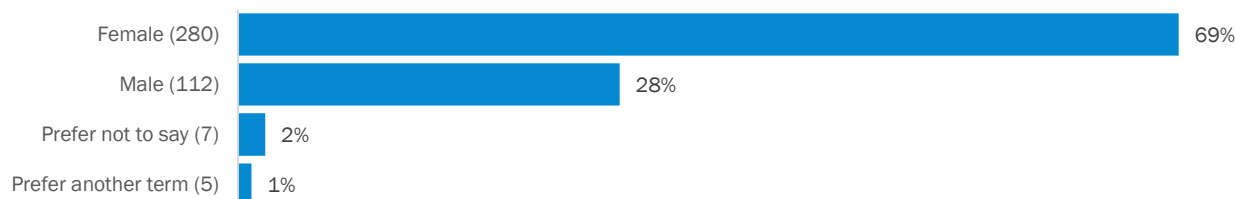
The majority of respondents to our Well-being Survey were aged between 55 and 64 years of age (21%). Very close behind this was the 45 to 54 age group (20%). 18% of responses were from those aged 65 to 74 and 13% from those aged 35 to 44. Just 1% of responses were from those aged 85+. 2% of respondents preferred not to say what their age group was. There were no responses from under 16 year olds, although there were other surveys that were more suitable for this age group.

### Q4. Pregnancy and maternity/paternity: Please indicate if any of the following apply to you?



Most of the respondents to the survey (97%) were not pregnant, hadn't had a baby in the last six months and weren't on maternity or paternity leave. 2% of respondents preferred not to say and 1% of respondents had a baby in the last six months.

### Q5. Sex: How would you describe yourself:



#### Please specify 'prefer another term'

- Genderfluid
- Genderfluid
- Nonbinary
- Gender Fluid (they/Them)
- Genderfluid

The majority of respondents to our Well-being Survey described themselves as female (69%) with 28% describing themselves as male. 2% of respondents preferred not to say how they'd described themselves and 1% preferred another term. The majority of those who preferred another term noted 'Genderfluid' as the term they preferred.

### Q6. Disability: Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least another 12 months?



20% of our respondents said that their day-to-day activities were limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least another 12 months.

76% said that their day-to-day activities were not limited because of health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least another 12 months.

16 respondents (4%) preferred not to disclose this information.

### Q7. Gender reassignment: Is your present gender the same as the one assigned to you at birth?



Almost 90% of respondents (89%) to our well-being survey said that their gender was the same as the one assigned at birth.

8% answered no to this question, meaning that their gender was not the same as the one assigned at birth and 3% preferred not to say.

### Q8. Caring Responsibilities: Do you provide regular, unpaid, substantial care for a relative, friend or neighbour who is unable to manage at home without help because of sickness, age or disability?



80 of our respondents (20%) said that they had caring responsibilities and provided regular, unpaid, substantial care for a relative, friend or neighbour who is unable to manage at home without help because of sickness, age or disability.

Almost 80% of respondents (77%) noted that they did not have caring responsibilities and 3% preferred not to disclose this information.



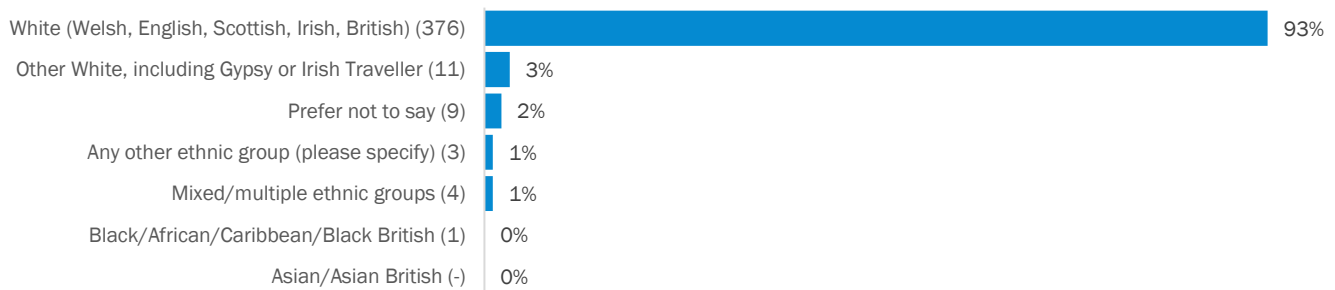
## Q9. Sexual Orientation: What is your sexual orientation?



Most respondents to our Well-being Survey noted that they were heterosexual/straight (82%). 7% preferred not to say.

5% of respondents said they were bisexual, 2% said they were a gay woman/lesbian or other and just 5 respondents (1%) said they were a gay man.

## Q10. Ethnic Group: What is your ethnic group?



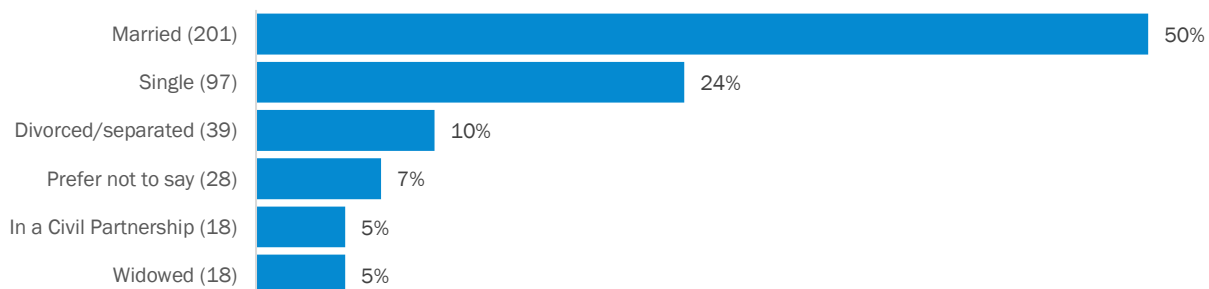
### Please specify 'any other ethnic group'

- Northern Irish
- Greek, Jewish welsh
- Welsh Canadian with history of British ethnic family (Scottish, Irish, English and Welsh) only

Over 90% of respondents noted that they identified as being 'White (Welsh, English, Scottish, Irish, British)' (93%). 3% noted that they identified as 'Other white, including Gypsy or Irish Traveller) and 2% preferred not to say. Just 4 respondents or 1% said that they identified as mixed/multiple ethnic groups.

3 respondents or 1% identified as another ethnic group and noted how they identified which can be seen in the list above.

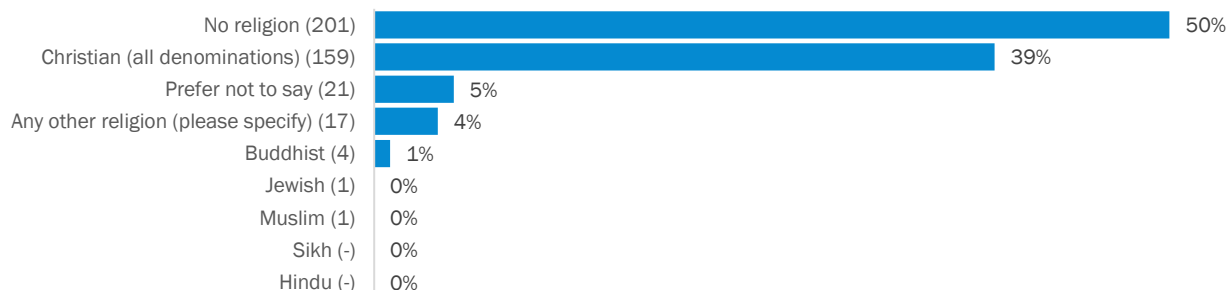
## Q11. Marriage and civil partnership: Are you?



Exactly half of the respondents to our Well-being Survey said that they were married (50%). Second to this was 'single' with 97 respondents noting this (24%). 10% of respondents noted that they were divorced or separated and 7% preferred not to say.

Equally 10% of respondents were either in a civil partnership (5%) or widowed (5%).

### Q12. Religion: What is your religion?

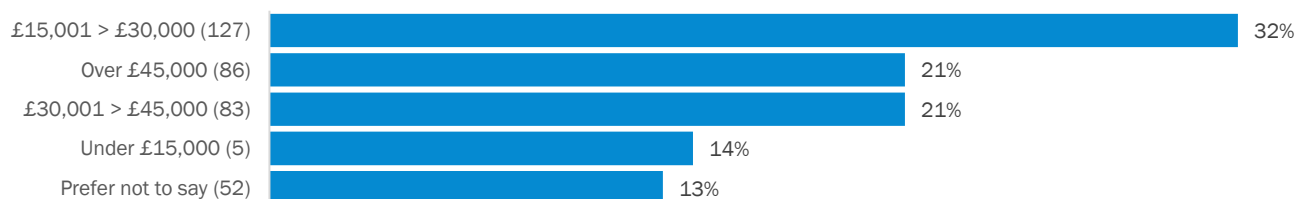


### Please specify any other religion:

- Pagan
- Spiritualist
- Pagan
- Pagan
- Pagan
- Quaker
- Pagan
- Roman Catholic
- Panentheist
- Pagan
- Pagan
- Pagan
- Tolkienism
- Spiritual
- Pagan
- letsism
- Spiritualism

Half of our respondents noted that they had no religion (50%) and 39% said they were Christian (all denominations). 5% respondents preferred not to say and 4% noted another religion, which the responses for can be seen in the list above. 4 respondents (1%) said they were Buddhist.

### Q13. Household Income: Approximately how much income comes into your household each year?



Most of our respondents noted their household income as between approximately %15,001 and £30,000 (32%). Second to this was household income of over £45,000 (21%) and £30,001 to £45,000 (21%). 14% of respondents not their households income as being under £15,000 and 13% of respondents preferred not to disclose this information.



### Q14. Welsh Language: Can you understand, speak or write Welsh?



Over half of our respondents said that they could understand spoken Welsh (54%). Able to speak Welsh and able to read Welsh both received 44% of votes, whilst 38% said they could write Welsh. 37% of respondents chose 'none of the above' meaning that they cannot understand, speak, read or write in the Welsh language.

### Q15. What is your main language?



English was the main language of the most of the respondents to our Well-being Survey (81%). Welsh was the main language for 17% of respondents and 2% listed another language, which can be seen in the list below.

#### Please specify your other 'main language':

- German
- English but Learning Welsh slowly
- German
- German
- Prefer not to say
- Polish
- Russian
- Main language English. Basic Welsh

### Q16. Do you volunteer?

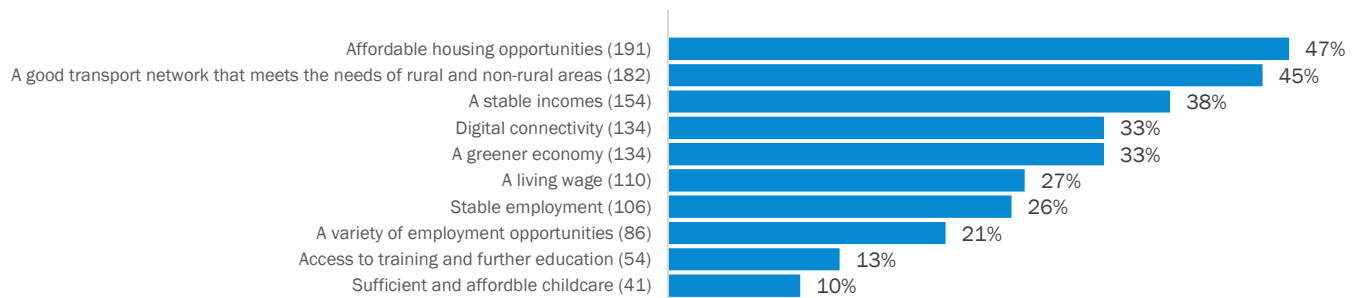


The majority of our respondents noted that they do not volunteer (66%). With this said 34% said they do volunteer.

### Q17 Please tell us in what capacity you volunteer and for how many hours per month?



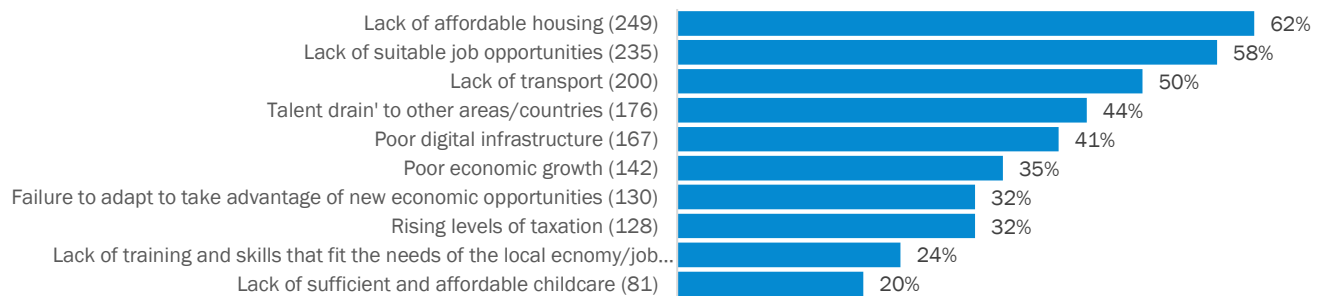
## Q18. Which three things do you value most in a prosperous community?



The top three answers respondents chose when asked which three things they valued most in a prosperous community were affordable housing opportunities (47%), shortly followed by a good transport network that meets the needs of the rural and non-rural areas (45%) and a stable income (38%).

The least common answer to this question was sufficient and affordable childcare (10%). We know that childcare prices are on the rise. The majority of our responses to this survey have come from people over the age of 45, and they are less likely to need sufficient and affordable childcare.

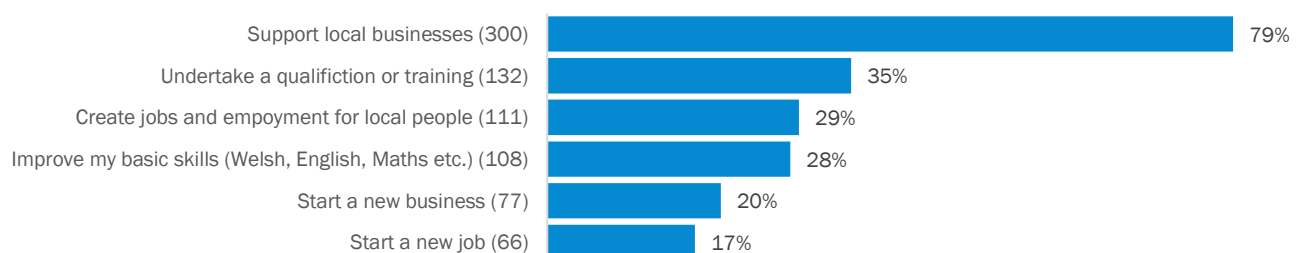
## Q19. Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about prosperity in the county?



Thinking about the future, lack of affordable housing (62%) was the thing that concerned respondents the most about prosperity in the county, with lack of suitable job opportunities coming second (58%). These responses relate to our findings in the Assessment itself, house prices have been rising and the cost of living has also been increasing. There needs to be more affordable houses in Ceredigion but also job opportunities that correlate with high house prices and high costs of living.

According to our survey the thing that least concerned our respondents about future prosperity was lack of sufficient and affordable childcare, but this was still chosen by 20% of respondents. Again, the age demographics of respondents will have had an effect on this topic.

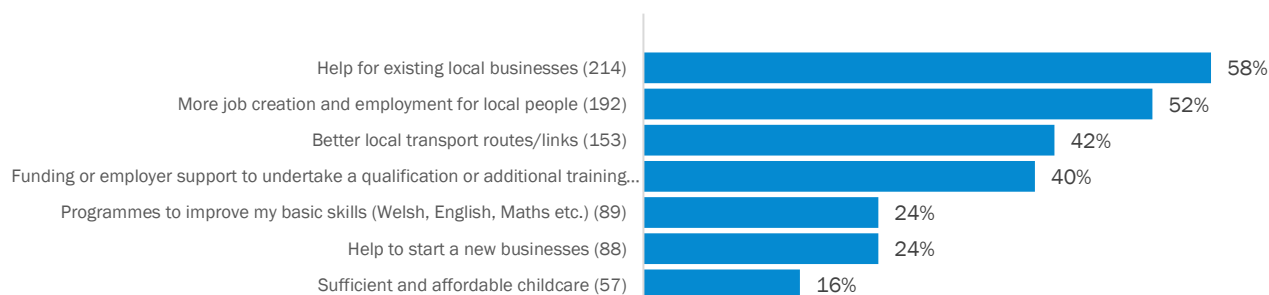
## Q20. What would you consider doing to improve your own or your community's economic circumstances?



When asked what would you consider doing to improve their own or communities economic circumstances, by far the most popular answer was support local businesses (79%). This is a recurring theme seen throughout our Well-being Survey. We know that Ceredigion has many opportunities to buy and sell all kinds of produce locally and respondents want to do more of this.

Quite far behind this, the second most popular answer was undertake a qualification or training (35%).

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



Coinciding with the above responses, it is no surprise that when asked about what support would need to be in order, help for existing local businesses came out on top (58%). Secondly, was more job creation and employment for local people (52%). Again, quite surprisingly, sufficient and affordable childcare was the least popular response (16%), but this could be due to the demographics of respondents and because we've seen an increase in those being able to work flexibly.

### Q22. Any other comments

There were 51 written comments provided by respondents for this section of the survey, 13% of total respondents. No clear trends came from these responses as a lot of different topics were mentioned.

One thing that was mentioned possibly slightly more often than anything else was digital connectivity. We know that around 12% of households in Ceredigion do not have access to the internet. Additionally, we know that there are many not-spots in Ceredigion that have difficulty receiving a reliable phone and internet connection.

Another topic mentioned was more opportunities to access further training and education. Ceredigion has an ageing population, we know that the older generations often find worth and a sense of purpose if when they complete courses or training to improve their skills.

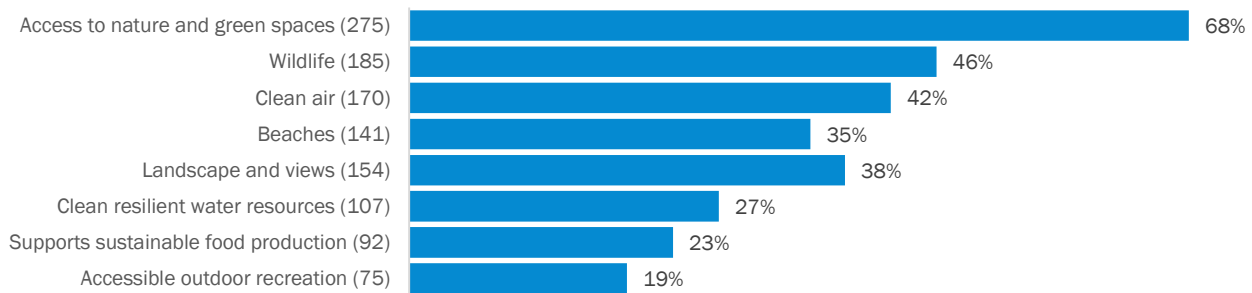
Supporting local businesses also comes out in these written responses with a participant noting that we cannot continue as we are and must make changes so that people can support businesses locally.

Below are a sample of comments taken from the 51 written responses provided for this section of the survey.

Sample comments	
"A prosperous Ceredigion relies heavily on good digital connectivity. Why are some rural parts of the county still without any digital connections at all."	"Better digital connectivity – I'd either be working remotely out of county (job level and opportunities) or starting a business reliant in better connectivity and public transport links."
"Flexible opportunities to access learning outside of working hours."	"Opportunities for varied and interesting education both academic and practical."
"More investment is needed in local businesses start up, as well as the arts, to help improve social mobility."	"We must think about new ideas on how to support local businesses instead of continuing to do the same thing."
"Raise living wages or force landlords to charge rent that is affordable."	"Decent healthcare, public transport, bring back the markets."

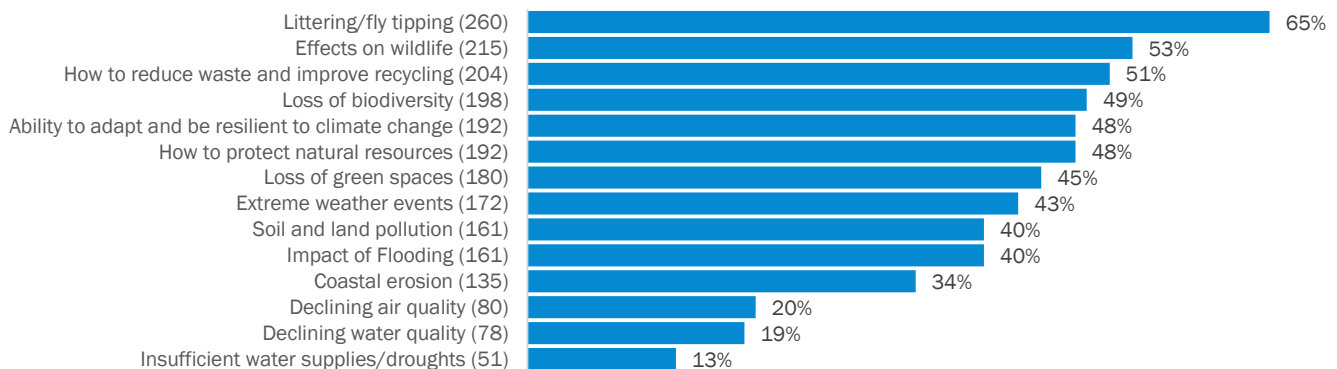


## Q23. Which three things do you value the most about your local environment??



Respondents to our Well-being Survey noted that access to nature and green spaces was by far one of the three things they valued most about their local environment (68%). In second and third position were wildlife (46%) and clean air (42%).

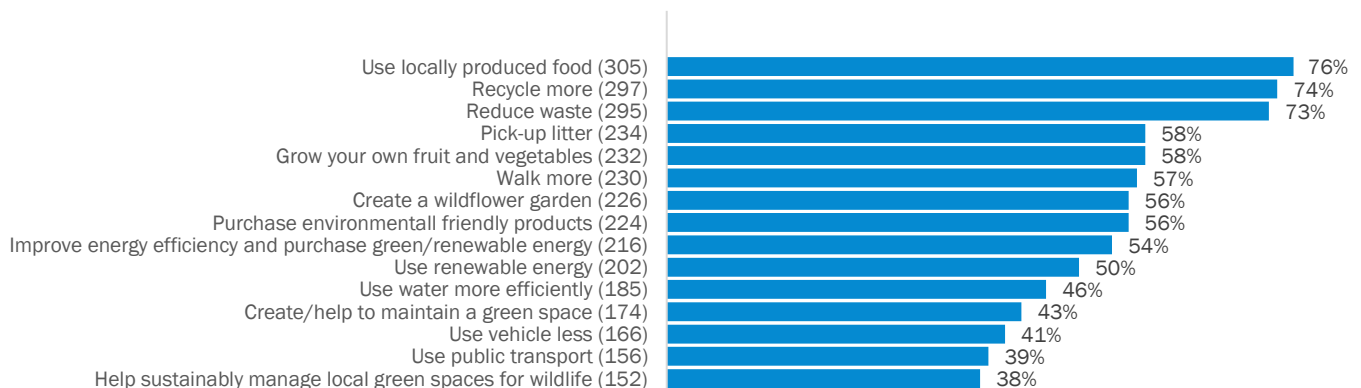
## Q24. Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your local environment?



Quite surprisingly the thing that concerned our respondents the most about their local environment in future was littering/fly tipping (65%), we are now far more aware of the effects littering/fly tipping can have on our environment and wildlife. This also coincides with the fact that the second most selected answer was effects on wildlife (53%). Our awareness around how things that we as humans can affect our wildlife and the future of habitats.

The least popular answer was concerns around insufficient water supplies/droughts (14%).

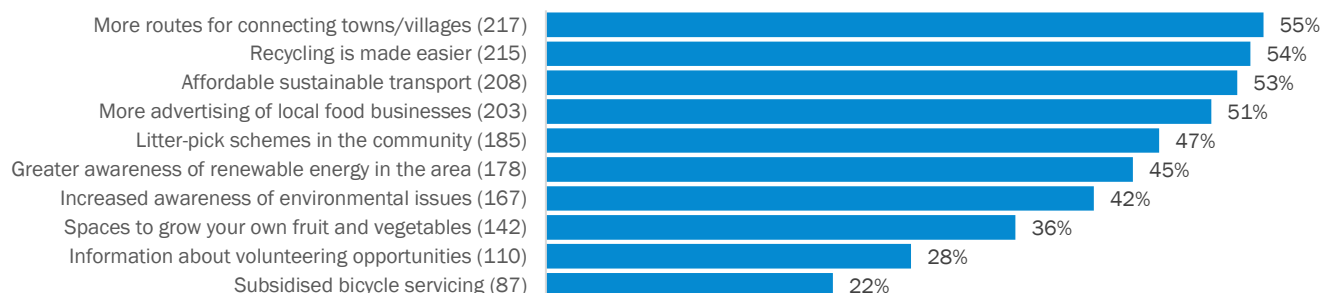
## Q25. What would you consider doing to improve your local environment?



When asking what our respondents would consider doing to improve their local environment, there were three clear stand out top answers. Use locally produced food (76%), recycle more (74%) and reduce waste (73%) were the top

answers. Respondents were given the option to choose all options that applied from the list, as seen above and it is clear that many respondents chose multiple options as the lowest chosen answer which was help sustainably manage local green spaces for wildlife still received 38% of votes.

## Q26. What support would need to be in place to do these things?



Respondents believed that the support that would need to be in place to enable them to do the above things were to have more routes for connecting towns/villages (55%), for recycling to be made easier (54%) and affordable sustainable transport (53%). Ceredigion has an excellent track record for recycling but respondents believe that there are things that could be done to make the process easier. We know that transport to and from the most rural areas of Ceredigion are quite poor, therefore it is no surprise that the majority of respondents want more routes to connect areas and affordable sustainable transport.

## Q27. Any other comments

A total of 65 respondents provided a written comment for this section of the Well-being Survey, 16% of total respondents. The topic mentioned most was how transport links could be improved in Ceredigion. As previously mentioned transport link between rural areas is known to be fairly poor and increasing the amount of public transport available would make things much easier for some.

Not only this, many comments relate to improving roads in and out of the county. Ceredigion’s roads are mostly B and C roads with only one dual carriageway in the County. Respondents believe that things would be safer and easier if roads were improved.

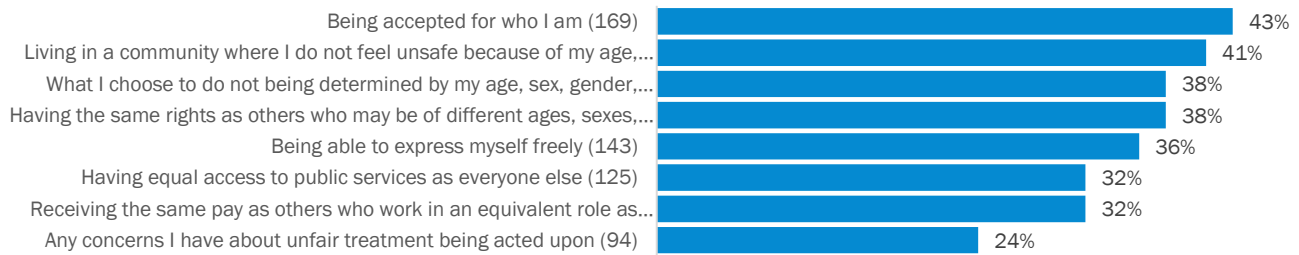
Additionally, maintaining and improving cycle paths and cycle routes away from vehicle traffic would mean that people are more likely to choose greener transport.

The samples below have been taken from the 65 written comments provided by respondents in this section of the Well-being Survey.

Sample comments	
“I already do most of these things – lack of public transport is my biggest issue as I cannot manage without my car currently although I would use a bus if there was a bus.”	“There is no public transport available apart from Bwcabus, although very valuable, is not a regular bus service.”
“Maintain the cycle paths which nobody does.”	“Existing cycle routes are not maintained. Separate cycle paths away from traffic.”
“Better roads out of the County.”	“Maintenance of existing rights of ways, i.e. Bridleway and footpaths. Many are overgrown, inaccessible / difficult to use. This is due to ground conditions (boggy/overgrown/difficult to open gates).”
“I already do most of these things – lack of public transport is my biggest issue as I cannot manage without my car currently although I would use a bus if there was a bus.”	“There is no public transport available apart from Bwcabus, although very valuable, is not a regular bus service.”

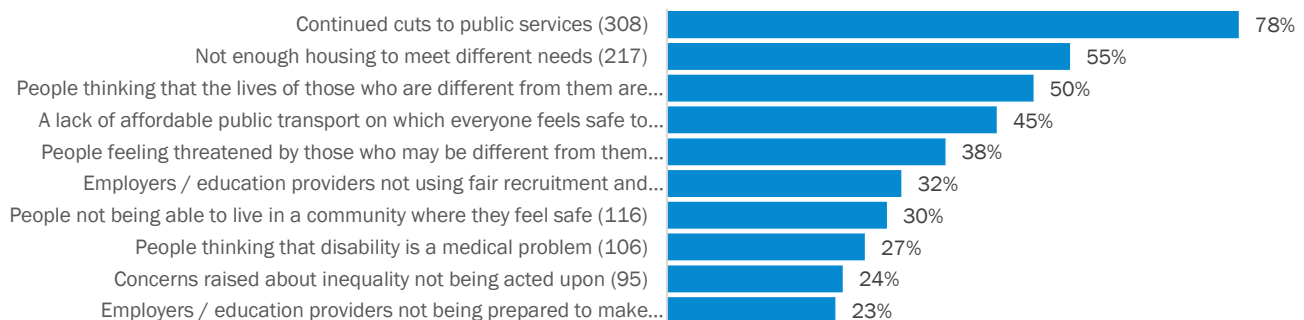


## Q28. Which three things do you value the most about living in a society which strives to be equal for all?



Our Well-being Survey asked which three things our respondents valued the most about living in a society which strives to be equal for all. The top three answers were, being accepted for who I am (43%) and living in a community where I do not feel unsafe because of my age, sex, gender, race, background, belief or disability / non disability (41%). It should be noted that, as seen in the graph above all responses to this question were fairly evenly distributed.

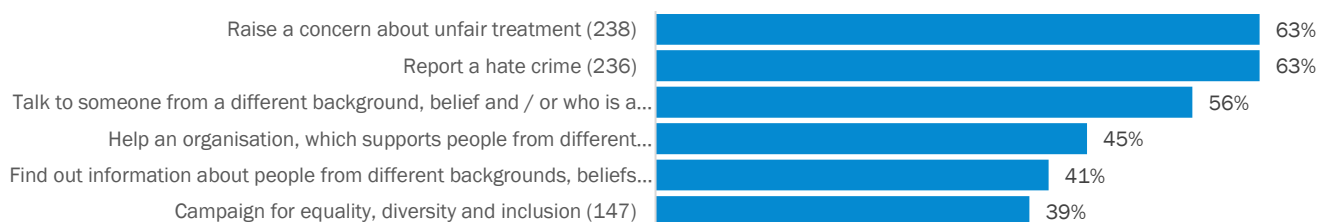
## Q29. Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your community becoming fairer for everyone?



By far the thing that concerned our respondents the most about their community becoming fairer for everyone in future was the continued cuts to public services (78%). Public services are something that everyone uses, it is a clear concern to our respondents that there could be cuts to public services, which may affect how easily we can access these services in future.

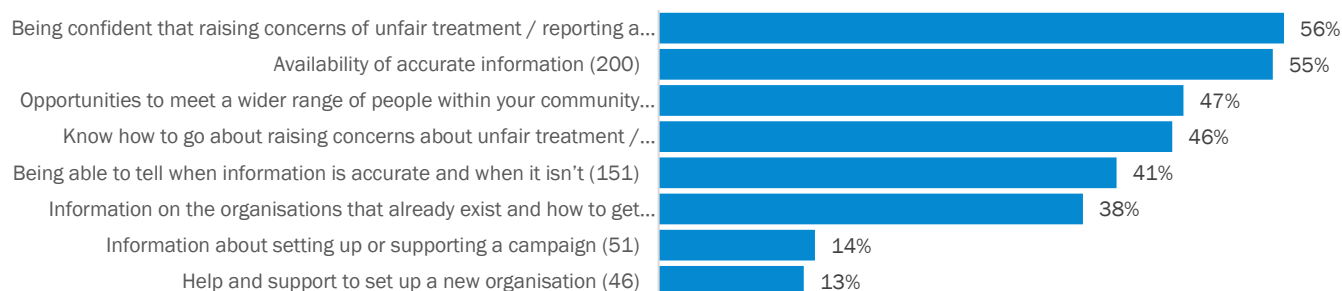
Two other concerns were not enough housing to meet different needs (55%) and people thinking that the lives of those who are different from them are less valuable than their own (50%). Housing to meet different needs is a theme seen often throughout the responses to our Well-being Survey. As we have an ageing population and the number of people aged 65+ will increase in future we may see an increased need for housing that meets the needs of older people.

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



The responses to the question what would you consider doing to help make things fairer for everyone in your community were all fairly evenly selected. For example, the least selected option for this question was campaign for equality, diversity and inclusion (39%) and the most selected options were raise a concern about unfair treatment (63%) and report a hate crime (63%).

### Q31. What support would need to be in place to do these things?



Respondents noted that being confident that raising concerns of unfair treatment / reporting a hate crime would not have negative consequences for me or my family (56%) was the most popular thing that needed to be in place to enable them to do the above. This could mean that respondents need to be made aware of the opportunities on how to report a hate crime or unfair treatment and to be ensured that there would be no negative consequences from this.

### Q32. Any other comments

There were just 27 written responses to this section of the Well-being Survey, relating to an Equal Ceredigion, just 7% of all respondents.

There were no clear themes that could be identified from these written comments. Although, a few comments did relate to how people feel that they are not treated equally as a non-Welsh speaker. Recurring themes such as suitable housing and affordable housing were also mentioned in the written comments.

Unfortunately some of our written comments from our respondents do also note that they have been subject to hate crimes, abuse and bullying. But, on the other hand there are comments which note that they live in a friendly, accepting community. It is clear that there are some disparities between communities.

Below are a sample of comments taken from the 27 written responses from this section of the Well-being Survey.

Sample comments	
"I am concerned that as a non-Welsh speaker the LA is prejudiced against my needs."	"There is a constant 'Anti-English' sentiment underlying much of the politics and some policies in place in West Wales."
"Access to housing that meets the need of my mental health condition."	"I am disabled and have been victimised and bullied all my life and living here has not changed anything. I cannot go shopping without some form of intimidation, health appointments are the same."
"I live in an inclusive village that welcomes and supports all well."	"In my job I often feel discriminated against for being English."
"Very nasty people live in this village and I have suffered criminal damage and abusive behaviour."	"If we really want to build a fairer society we need to ensure that there are house available for all."





## Q33. Which three things do you value the most in relation to your physical health and/or mental well-being?



The three things that our respondents valued the most in relation to their physical health and/or mental well-being were feeling healthy and happy (41%), being able to do the things I want to do to keep me active and happy (31%) and having access to health and care services when I need them as close as possible to home or available through technology (28%).

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



When thinking ahead over the next ten years, not having access to healthcare or other support that I need, as close to home as possible or available through technology was the thing that concerned our respondents the most (56%). This is no surprise when we consider that Ceredigion is a very rural county, for example average travel times to a GP surgery are very high. As well as this, we know that Ceredigion's 65+ population is going to continue increasing, as we get older we are more likely to have some sort of health issue, this could put increasing pressures on our healthcare services, making it difficult to access.

Secondly our respondents were concerned about not being able to spend time outdoor or in nature and green spaces, in future (52%). This could be due to worries over climate change and/or developments reducing the amount of outdoor, green spaces available or because of worries around getting older and not being able to get out as much.

### Q35. Looking ahead, what could you do to improve your own physical and/or mental wellbeing?

211 (52%) respondents answered the open-ended question which asked what they could do to improve their own physical and/or mental well-being, with a written response.

“Exercise more” or similar comment on taking exercise, staying active or keeping fit was mentioned by 37% of respondents.

17% commented on staying connected or socialising with friends, family or community groups, with comments including “getting to know more people locally...” and “...meet with friends”.

The next most prevalent theme was looking after own wellbeing with 9% commenting on this, including “self-care”, self-motivation or personal time management and text answers including “help myself more...” and “make time for myself...”.

This was followed by improved work/life balance (7%), accessing green space or spending time outdoors (6%) and improving or maintaining a healthy diet (6%).

Below are some sample comments taken from these open-ended responses.

Sample comments	
“Exercise even more in social settings”.	“Stay connected”.
“Exercise more”.	“Better work life balance, increased self-care – exercise and managing weight”.
“Join more exercise classes”.	“Walk in green spaces more”.
“Socialise with people”.	“Better balance of work and relaxation”.

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

189 (47%) gave a text answer for the question what, if anything would need to be in place to enable them to do the above.

13% of these respondents commented a greater availability of or access to leisure and exercise classes that are appropriate, affordable or free. Comments included “better access to gyms in the more rural areas...”, “more exercise classes...” and “access to facilities at a reasonable cost”.

13% commented on improved or improved access to healthcare services (including primary care, secondary care, mental health services and dental services) such as “...a better health service...”, “regular free health and dentistry checks” and “better access to GP...”.

A comment relating to support – being listened to and supported, improved social care support, or support from employers, was given by 8% of those giving a text answer to this question.

Better personal time management, self-motivation or willpower (comments related to the individual or ‘self’) was mentioned by 7%.

5% of those in Ceredigion who gave a text answer to this question mentioned local community groups, activities or courses. 5% commented on money, including more money, security of income and higher wages or pension.

Below are some sample comments taken from the written responses given to this question.

Sample comments	
"Facilities to remain open and well-maintained."	"Better access to GP. More opportunities to discuss ways to improve my health with health professionals, and have regular health checks."
"More classes locally available so I can join in, get fit and meet people."	"Care and support when it's needed."
"Access to low cost gym and health facilities."	"A close community of support."
"Better provision of services."	"Self-motivation."

### Q37. Any other comments

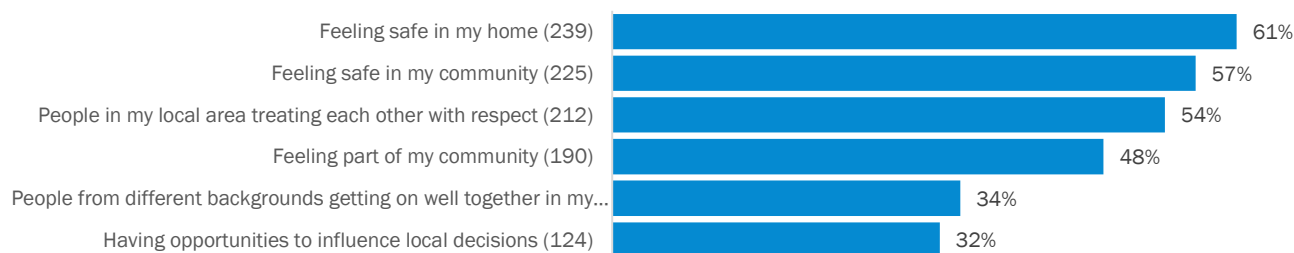
When asked for any other comments, this was less commonly answered than the previous two questions with 59 (15%) text responses. It was felt that the answers to this question were predominantly a reiteration of previous points, very specific/ personal or very broad/ unrelated to the topic of health and wellbeing. Therefore, there were no clear themes and no further analysis was performed on the answers to this question.

Below are a sample of comments taken from the written responses to this section of the Well-being Survey.

Sample comments	
"Get the leisure centres and swimming pools open again."	"The health service needs to be better funded."
"Sport and exercise facilities and opportunities are greatly lacking."	"Have more green spaces in housing developments."
"Importance of green spaces to exercise and promote good mental health."	"I need to improve my diet and learn how to budget better."

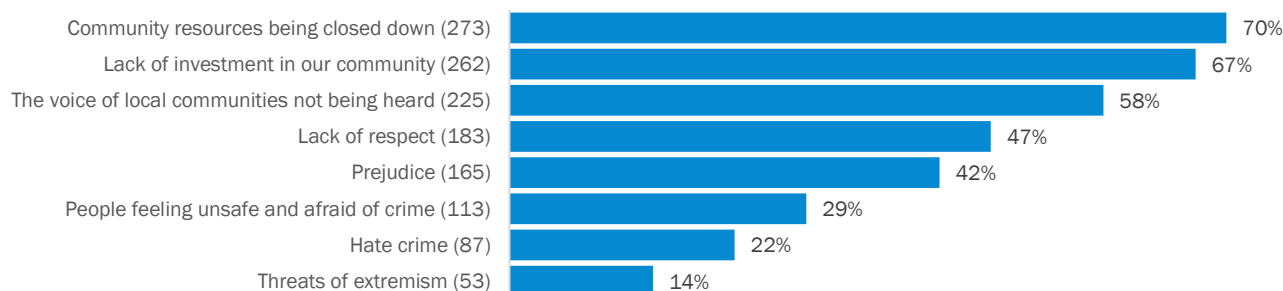


## Q38. Which three things do you value the most in relation to the community that you live in?



When asked which three things they valued the most in relation to the community that they lived in, the majority of respondents said feeling safe in their home (61%). A close second to this was feeling safe in their community (57%). The third most popular answer was people in their local area treating each other with respect (54%).

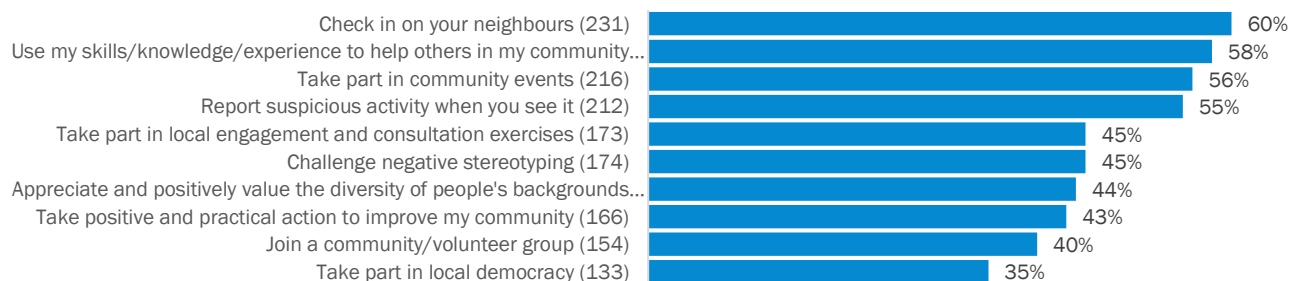
## Q39. Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about community cohesion?



Community resources being closed down (70%) was the thing that concerned our respondents the most about community cohesion. Lack of investment in our community was the second most common thing that concerned our respondents (67%). The COVID-19 pandemic has had major effects on community resources and funding for such things, and the pandemic is likely to continue having an effect on these things in the future. Our respondents think that investing in our communities and ensuring that resources are not closed down are most important.

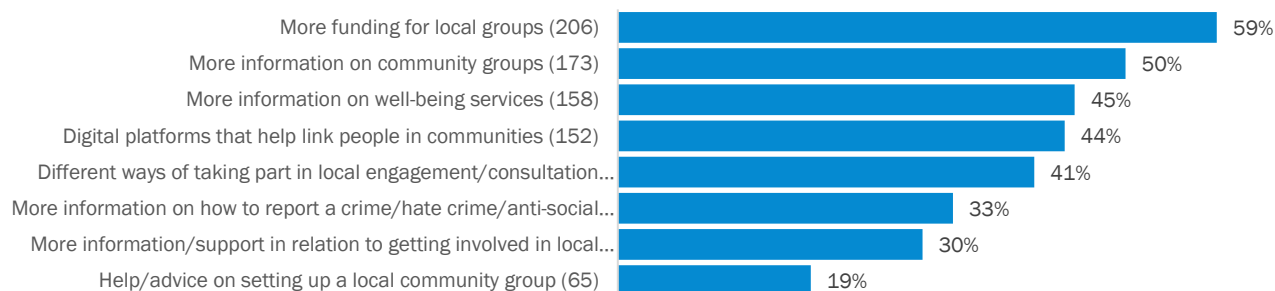
At the other end of the scale threats of extremism was the thing that concerned respondents the least (14%).

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



Respondents are most likely to check on their neighbours (60%), use their skills/knowledge/experience to help others in their community (58%) and take part in community events (56%) in order to help achieve good community cohesion in their neighbourhood. Ceredigion is known for having fairly good community cohesion and known for having high percentages of people feeling safe in their communities and feeling like people in their communities get on well. This is reflected in these responses.

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



In order for respondents to be able to do the things noted in the question above, more funding for local groups (59%) and more information on community groups (50%) were noted most. Local and community groups are one way that we can ensure cohesive communities in Ceredigion where people are coming together to discuss matters and resolve where possible.

Help/advice on setting up a local community group was the least common answer (19%).

## Q22. Any other comments

26 (6%) respondents supplied this section of the Well-being Survey with a written comment. Again, there was a variety of topics discussed in the open-ended comments and no clear front runner.

A fair few of the written comments for this section note that the respondents is already doing the things noted in the previous questions. This said, respondents are calling for more opportunities locally to be made available to them, so they can do more. One comment mentions that there is no community hall in their village, a space like this could be essential to ensure that the area has good community cohesion, where people can discuss matters.

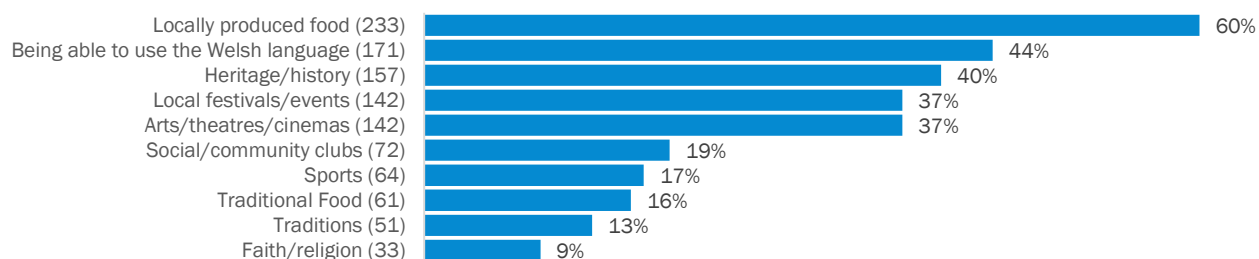
Additionally, time is something that people struggle with, with a few comments noting that if they have a full-time job and children it can be difficult to do more things in our communities to be cohesive.

### Sample comments

"Again, I do a lot of these things already."	"Somewhere for our community to get together. There is no community hall in the village."
"I already do a lot for my local community."	"More time – full-time job (where I support others), family duties and supporting member of my family by caring means that I don't have much time to volunteer."
"I do all the above already as does my family."	"More time – as a parent who works full time it's difficult to make time for anything else. There is a huge resource in recently retires people that we could call upon to help with community resilience."
"There are things I used to do but I can't now. I contributed when I could."	"I already run community groups I can't do more!"

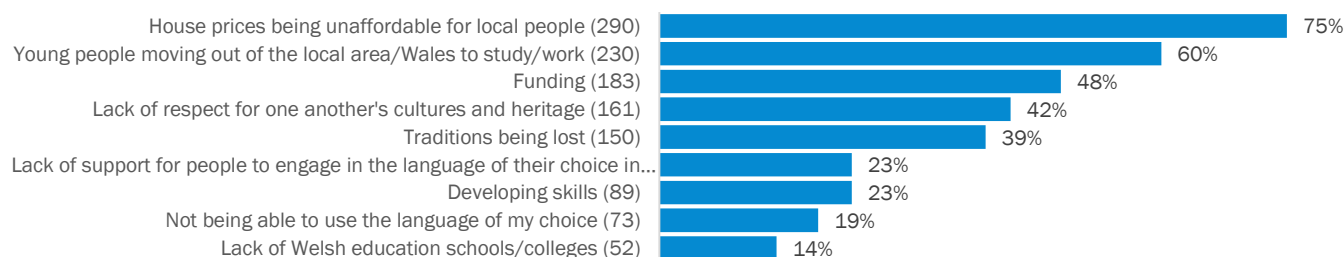


**Q43. Which three things do you value the most in relation to your County's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language?**



When asked which three things our respondents value the most in relation to the County's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language, the top three answers were as followed. Locally produced food (60%), being able to use the Welsh language (44%) and heritage/history (40%). Faith/religion was the least selected answer (9%).

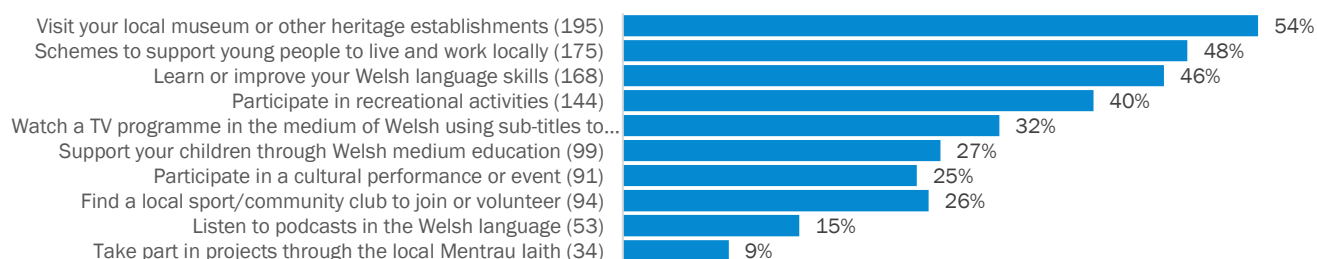
**Q44. Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your County's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language?**



By far the thing that most concerned our respondents about the County's vibrant community and thriving Welsh language in future was house prices being unaffordable for local people (75%). Coming second was young people moving out of the local area/Wales to study/work (60%). This does not come as a surprise as Ceredigion has seen a sharp increase in house prices, we know that if people cannot afford to buy a house here, they are very likely to move elsewhere.

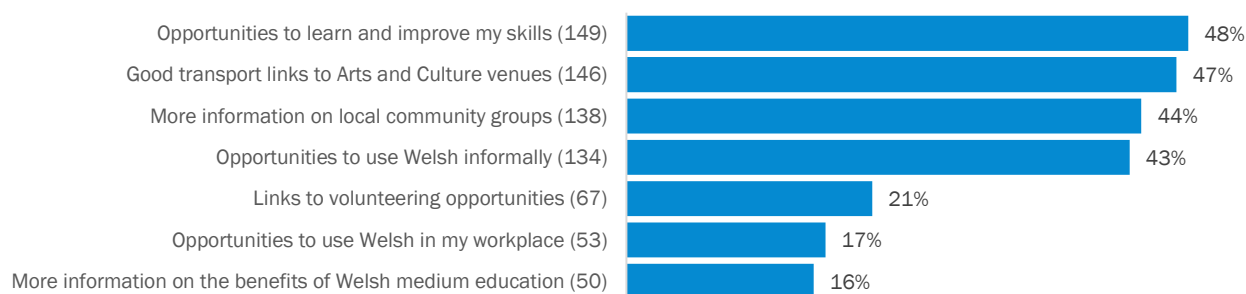
The thing that concerned respondents the least was lack of Welsh education schools/colleges (14%). Ceredigion's education system is one of its major assets, a majority of Ceredigion's schools are Welsh medium or bilingual and therefore it isn't out of the ordinary for respondents being less concerned about this.

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



In order to help achieve a vibrant community with a thriving Welsh language, our respondents are most likely to visit their local museum or other heritage establishments (54%), closely followed by schemes to support young people to live and work locally (48%). Again, this relates to the concerns around local people moving elsewhere because of unaffordable house prices. Respondents were least likely to take part in projects through the local Mentrau Iaith (9%).

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



According to our respondents, the support needed to enable us to do the above would be opportunities to learn and improve skills (48%) and good transport links to Arts and Culture venues (47%). In Ceredigion, there has been a decrease in the number of people participating in arts, culture or heritage activities at least three times a year, providing good transport link to such events could alleviate this. Additionally, more information on local community groups (44%) and opportunities to use Welsh informally (43%) were also ranked highly as things that would need to be in place to do the above.

## Q47. Any other comments

When asked for any other comments, there were 56 written responses in total. 14% of all respondents to this survey have provided a written comment for this section. These written comments mentioned a variety of topics. This said, a majority of comments (around 23%) related to issues with the non-Welsh speaking community. It is clear that some of our respondents do not feel welcomed in their community because they are either non-Welsh speakers or Welsh learners. Some respondents also feel that there is too much emphasis on the Welsh language and that English should be valued just as much.

Additionally, many comments related to needing more opportunities to learn the Welsh language in Ceredigion, and specifically opportunities for adults to learn the Welsh language. Learning a new language can be daunting prospect and as mentioned in some comments being able to learn Welsh in less formal environments would be beneficial. Some written comments relate to not having enough opportunities to use the Welsh language, Welsh learners can often feel less confident to speak Welsh around fluent Welsh speakers and more encouragement is needed.

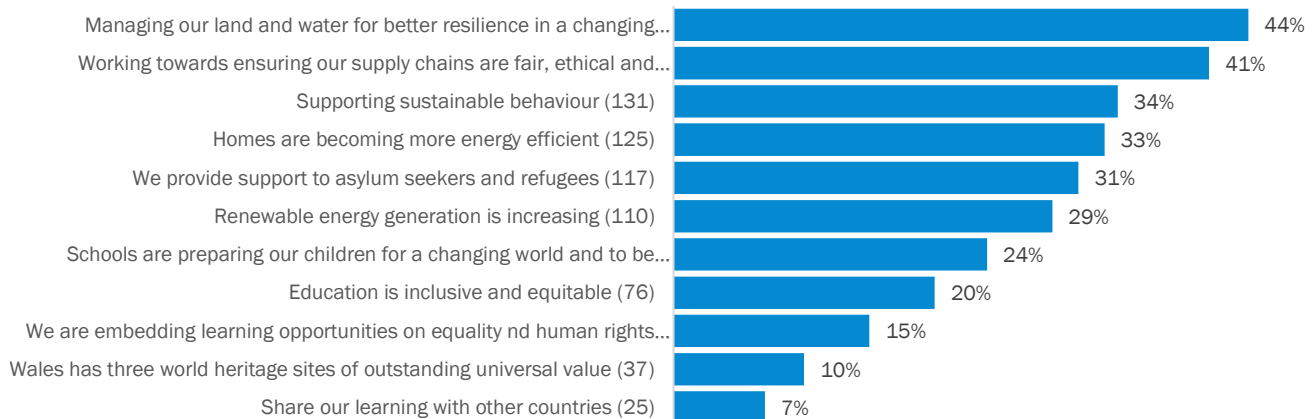
Below are a sample of comments taken from the 56 written comments.

Sample comments	
"Need more support and access to learning Welsh and free courses."	"I would really like to learn Welsh, it would be great if this could be done at a local level e.g community hall or local pub, rather than going to a college or doing an online course. By doing it at a local social venue it becomes easier to practice among the local Welsh speaking community and would develop better social cohesion."
"Run Welsh events in local Community Centres e.g The Hub in Penparcau, it's a Wellbeing space. I find it frustrating that I can't use Welsh in my community and that it's difficult to walk to other communities safely."	"Respect for Welsh learners."
"Learning Welsh is becoming a necessity however given that I am not good at language, I need to be able to make the time to learn."	"Free Welsh lessons."
"To value English as much as Welsh."	"It's equally important to remember that choosing not to speak Welsh should be a valued option."



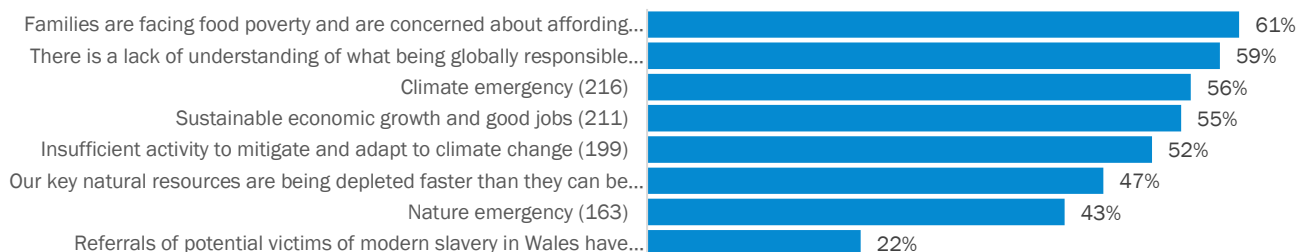


## Q48. Which three things do you value the most in your county's global responsibility?



When asked in our Well-being Survey what three things do you value the most in your county's global responsibility, the top three answers were; managing our land and water for better resilience in a changing climate (44%), working towards ensuring our supply chains are fair, ethical and sustainable (41%) and supporting sustainable behaviour (34%).

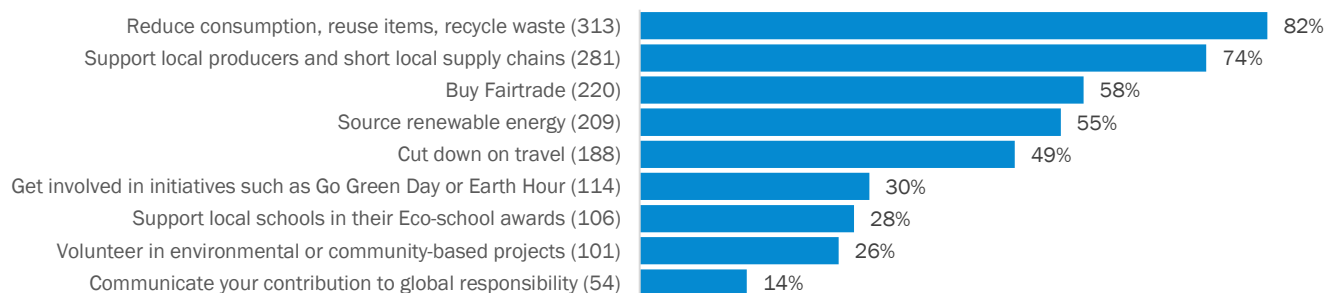
## Q49. Looking ahead, what concerns you the most about your county's global responsibility?



When referring to a globally responsible Ceredigion, the thing that concerns our respondents most about the future is that families are facing food poverty and are concerned about affording food (61%). We know that poverty is increasing in Ceredigion and specifically child poverty has seen one of the biggest increases. It is clear that our respondents are aware of these changes and fear that this could only get worse in future.

Closely following the above was that there is a lack of understanding of what being globally responsible means (59%). The thing that respondents were least concerned about was that the referrals of potential victims of modern slavery in Wales have increased in recent years, although it should be noted that this still had 84 votes (22%).

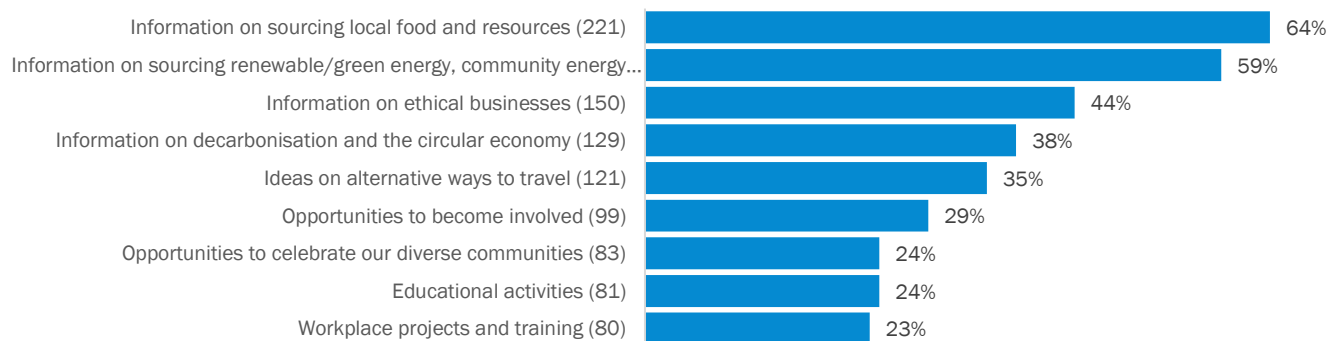
## Q50. What could you do to help your community be globally responsible?



To help their community be globally responsible, the vast majority of respondents noted that they would reduce consumption, reuse items and recycle waste (82%). Ceredigion already has a good track record of levels of reducing, reusing and recycling items, continuing to do this and/or increasing this will be beneficial for Ceredigion.

Secondly, respondents would support local producers and short local supply chains (74%). We know that Ceredigion has a rich food culture and there are many opportunities for people to buy locally. Respondents were least likely to communicate their contribution to global responsibility (14%).

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



By far the most common thing that respondents believed would need to be in place in order to do the things above were have more information on sourcing local food and resources (64.4%) and information on sourcing renewable/green energy, community energy opportunities and energy from waste possibilities (59.2%). It is clear that more emphasis is need on advertising opportunities to do these thing in Ceredigion.

## Q52. Any other comments

A total of 55 written comments were provided for this section of the survey, 14% of all respondents. By far, the most common written comments related to buying local produce. As noted previously, we know that Ceredigion has a very rich food culture and it is important to support the local businesses in order to be more globally responsible.

Additionally, making local produce more affordable to people was also mentioned many times in the written comments. We know that the general cost of living is increasing and with this food prices are rising. There is a lot of competition from supermarket chains that sell produce at a much lower cost. If local produce is more affordable, people are more likely to buy it.

A few comments from this section also related to cycle paths being improved and being more accessible across the County. We know that being more globally responsible can be done by using greener transport, but roads and paths need to be safe in order to do this.

Below are some sample comments taken from the 55 written responses for this section of the survey.

### Sample comments

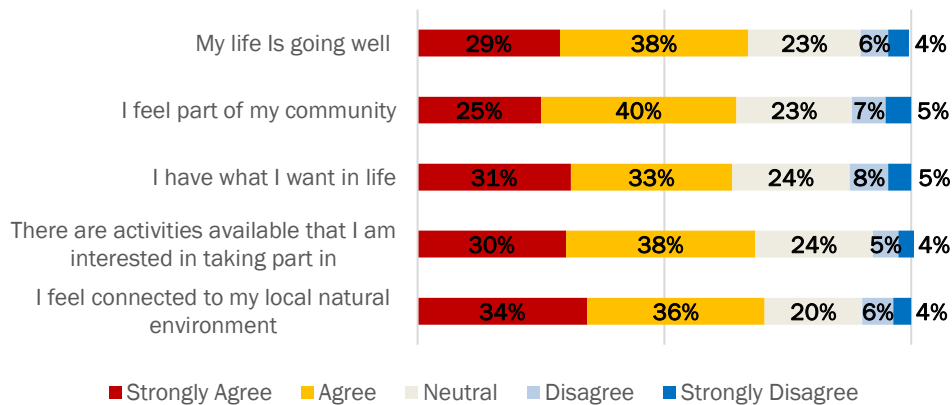
"In order to support local businesses and fair trade enterprises prices need to be competitive."	"Lack of local meat and vegetables, support local businesses."
"Supporting local is essential, but must compete with Tesco/Asda/Morrisons."	"Support and promote local farmers to produce our food. Promote organic which is good for our health and the environment."
"Affordable local produce."	"Instead of just providing info – incentivise these things! Money is a barrier to being able to e.g. buy locally produced foods – it's cheaper in Lidl."
"More cycle paths or shared use paths are essential for encouraging more people to walk/ cycle."	"We definitely need safer roads for cyclists here."

# SCHOOLS SURVEY

As part of our engagement with the public we engaged with primary and secondary school pupils in Ceredigion on our **Schools Survey** to ensure that the voices of future generations were represented. Overall, we had 212 responses to the schools survey, 156 completed the survey in English and 58 participated in Welsh. The survey was structured around the four well-being themes; economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being. The following section provides an overview of the main results.

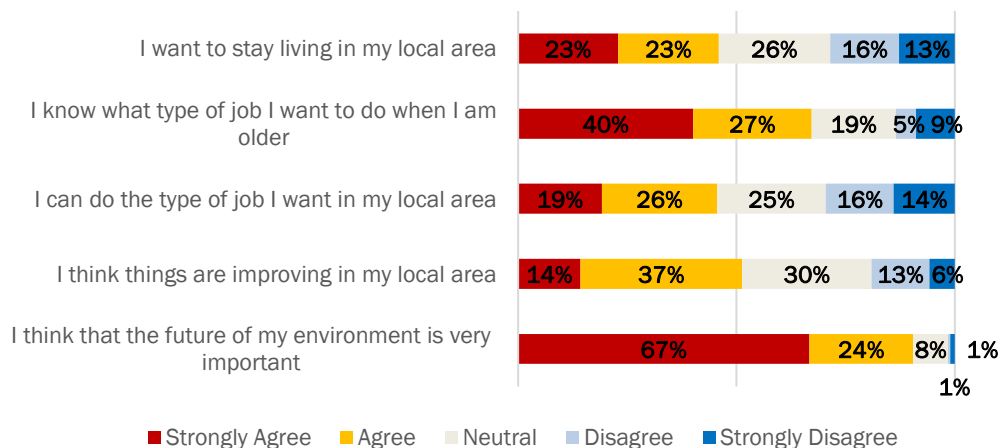
When pupils were asked questions on how their life was going, the answers that gained the most positive response were in relation to **general well-being** and the **environment**. The majority of respondents (71%) felt that *their life is going well*, 11% neither agreed nor disagreed with this statement, whilst 8% of respondents disagreed with the statement. Similarly, 71% of respondents felt *connected to the environment*, 10% were unsure, whilst 9% did not feel any connection. Respondents felt less strongly about there **being activities available that they were interested in**, 67% felt that there were, 24% neither agreed nor disagreed, whilst 9% disagreed.

## Q.2 Your life now



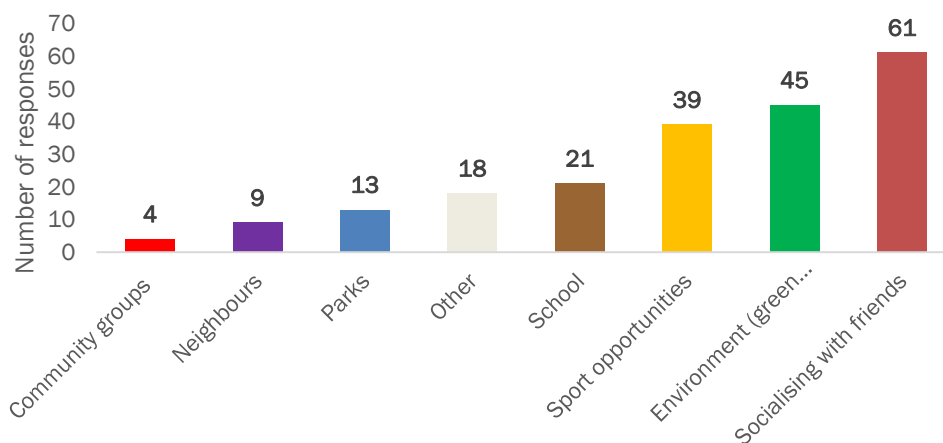
Interestingly, Welsh respondents felt more optimistic about their life in general, compared to those who participated in English. This was particularly acute when respondents were asked if they *felt part of their community*, 77% of Welsh respondents either strongly agreed or agreed with this statement, whilst just over half (59%) of English respondents agreed. This trend is also seen in national surveys, such as the National Survey for Wales, which could be due to a number of factors. For example, respondents may feel connected to their area through using the Welsh language in everyday life.

## Q.3 Your life in the future



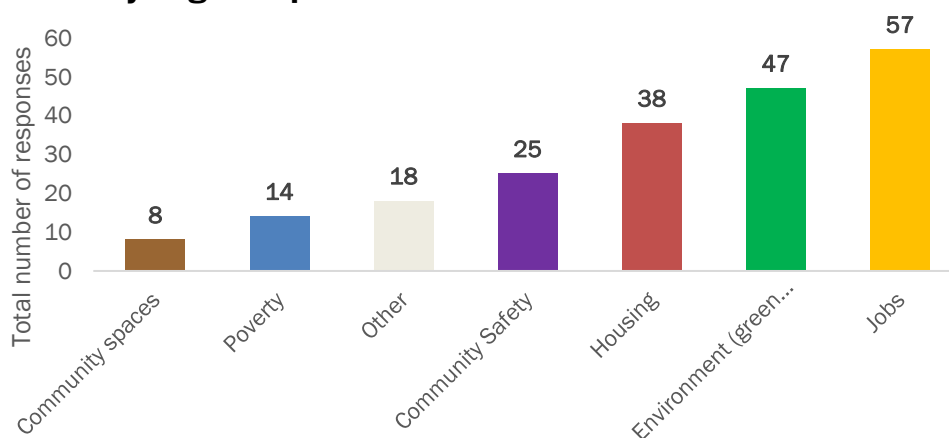
When pupils were asked questions in relation to their life in the future, again, the value of the **environment** was reflected very strongly, with 91% of participants agreeing that the *future of the environment is very important*. Overall, this statement gained the highest proportion of agreement amongst participants. Over half of the respondents (67%) knew the **type of job** they wanted to do, however, only 45% believed that they could work their desired job in their local area. There were variations in responses when pupils were asked if they wanted to **stay living in their local area**, just under half wanted to stay (46%), whilst 26% were unsure and 29% wanted to leave

#### Q.4 What are the best things about your community?



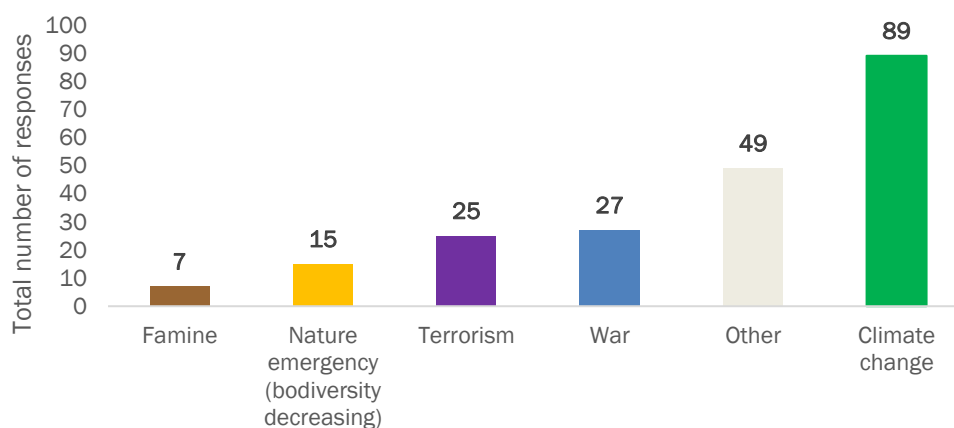
Out of the eight options provided, on average, **socialising with friends** was noted by participating pupils as the best thing about their community, with 61 respondents selecting this answer. This was followed by the **environment** (45 responses), **sports opportunities** (39 responses) and **school** (21 responses). **Community groups**, **neighbours** and **parks** were less valued by participants. In Ceredigion, we know that there the provision of parks and play spaces needs improving (particularly in the more rural communities), which may have influenced the findings.

#### Q.5 What are your biggest concerns about your local area as you grow up?



Pupils participating in the survey were most concerned about **jobs** in their local area in the future, with 57 respondents selecting this response. This is a common theme across our engagement with the public (during the general well-being survey and the stakeholder events), whereby the lack of job opportunities and high paid jobs were identified as key challenges by the participants. Following on from jobs, were concerns relating to the **local environment** and **housing**, again, these concerns were raised throughout our engagement with the public. Participants were less concerned about the future of **community spaces** and **poverty** in their local area.

## Q.6 What are the biggest challenges facing the world right now?



When asked about the biggest challenges facing or world at present, **climate change** was by far the most common response, 89 participants identified this as the greatest challenge. This indicates that pupils participating in the survey were more concerned about the impact of climate change on a global scale, than on a local scale. The 'other' category was the second most common response, the majority of comments in this section related to the impact of **COVID-19**. This was followed by **war** (27 responses) and **terrorism** (25 responses).

# STAKEHOLDER EVENTS

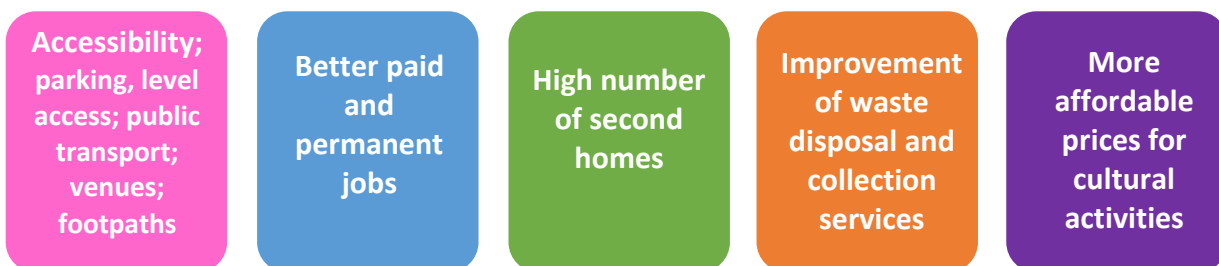
## Background

Between July and October, Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) held stakeholder events to capture the views of the local community on well-being, particularly the harder to reach groups and those with protected characteristics. Six stakeholder events were held with the following groups; Ceredigion Disabled Peoples Forum, Ceredigion Children & Young Peoples Services Provider Forum, Give Us Support (RAY Ceredigion), Equalities Working Group, Ceredigion Carers Alliance and the Armed Forces Community. There was approximately 90 people that participated in the stakeholder events. The sessions were centred on the four pillars of well-being; social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being. This summary provides an overview of the discussions at each of the events, highlighting the key issues raised and includes some sample commentary.

## Ceredigion Disabled People's Forum

A stakeholder event was held virtually with Ceredigion Disabled Peoples Forum on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2021, thirteen people attended to give their views on well-being issues specifically relating to disabilities in Ceredigion. Capturing the voices of people with disabilities was key to ensuring that everyone's voices are heard in the Assessment, as it will help us to plan and design services to meet future needs over the next 5 years.

### Overview of main points raised during the stakeholder event with the Ceredigion Disabled Persons Forum



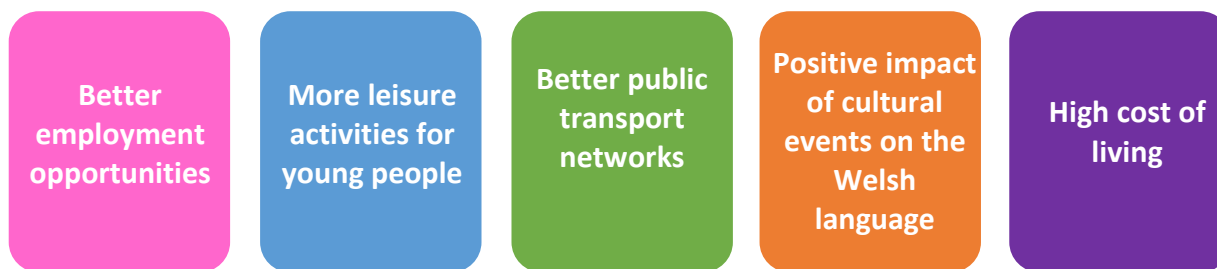
**Accessibility** was by far the most discussed topic during the session. The disabled community expressed the need for better access to the towns, shops, footpaths (particularly the Aberaeron to Llanechaeron path), disabled toilets, nightclubs, restaurants and certain venues such as Aberystwyth Art Centre. The lack of adequate public transport, the Safe Zones (introduced in Ceredigion to keep people safe as businesses re-opened after the first lockdown), lack of level access and scarcity of disabled parking were barriers to accessing these venues and services. Participants also highlighted that shopping locally was important to them, and suggested whether local deliveries (which started in lockdown) could be encouraged as online shopping was far easier than going in to town.

## Ceredigion Children & Young People Services Provider Forum

**Ceredigion Children & Young People Services Provider Forum** virtual stakeholder event was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2021, twenty-eight people participated in this event, voicing their opinion on well-being issues specifically related to children and young people's services in Ceredigion. It is positive that this session was very well attended, particularly as the Assessment and subsequent Local Well-being Plan will need to ensure that the needs of our younger population and future generations are met.



## Key points raised in relation to well-being during the Children and Young People Services Provider Forum stakeholder event



This event provided an important insight into the key challenges and assets of Ceredigion in relation to children and young people. The need for **greater employment opportunities** in Ceredigion to retain the younger population was prevalent throughout the session. Participants highlighted that better paid and higher skilled jobs were required, in addition to jobs with career progression (instead of seasonal work at minimum wage). Participants were concerned about the **high cost of living** for younger people, particularly because it makes it difficult for them to afford a house in their local area.

The **lack of and affordability of leisure activities for younger people** was a common concern, participants noted that community pubs are declining, arts and cultural activities are often too expensive, and that there was a lack of community spaces for people to meet within rural areas. A suggestion was put forward to utilise the village halls to provide activities in rural areas, the Arts of Well-being Compassionate Communities Project was used as a good example of a well-received event.

The lack of **public transport networks** shared concern amongst the attendees, who expressed deep dissatisfaction with the recent reduction of the T1 bus service which has prevented some of the children and younger people accessing their services. The need to improve the rural transportation link was a priority for them.

Cultural events such as the Eisteddfod, Royal Welsh and Young Farmers Clubs were seen as being very **important to the maintenance of the Welsh language and thriving culture** of Ceredigion. Participants raised their concerns about the **high levels of littering** and suggested integrating environmental activities into the school curriculum on the damaging impacts of littering. However, it was made very clear through the school's well-being survey that children and young people have a great appreciation for the environment in Ceredigion.

## Give Us Support

A stakeholder event was held face-to-face with **Give Us Support** (GUS) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2021, which was facilitated by RAY Ceredigion. Four attendees contributed to the discussion on young people's well-being in Ceredigion. This session was structured slightly differently compared to the other stakeholder events to help facilitate the discussion, whereby 3-4 questions were asked on each well-being theme. The following provides an overview of the key results.

On the whole, the young people in attendance did not want to stay living in their local area. Participants wanted to **seek work or education opportunities** (University/ Apprenticeships) outside of the county or move to be closer to their family. Future concerns were raised over **poverty, finding a job** and **housing**. On the whole, the young people participating felt that they were part of their community, however, again, the **lack of activities and spaces to socialise** locally was a common concern.

The future of **community safety** was raised as a concern by half of the young people in attendance. A comment included, "Feel safe now but worried about my safety in the future". This concern was shared across the different forms of engagement on well-being (stakeholder events, PSB workshops, well-being survey and Have Your Say Ceredigion).

The majority of the young people in attendance felt that they were **connected to their local environment**. Concerns were raised on the future of the environment because of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, global warming, over-population and littering.

### Key points raised at the Give Us Support stakeholder event



## Youth Council

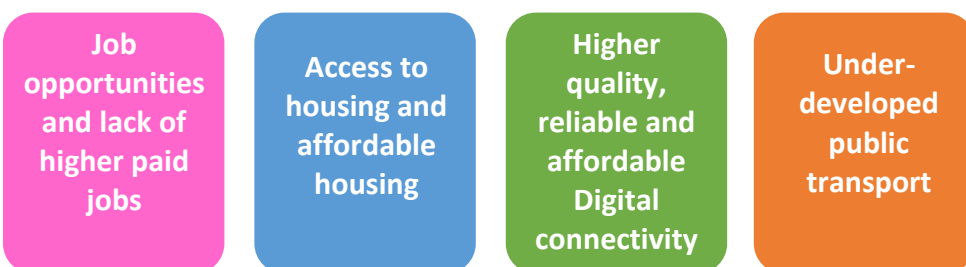
The **Youth Council** held their stakeholder event with 17 young people in attendance. The following provides an overview of the key points raised during the event.

**Job opportunities, housing, transport, digital connectivity** and **future needs** were the topics which stimulated the greatest discussion during the stakeholder event. Again, job opportunities in Ceredigion were viewed as largely negative, the **lack of higher paid jobs** and opportunities available were raised as concerns. Housing was seen in a similar light, **unaffordable housing, long waiting-list for council housing, lack of understanding on the buying process** and **lack of support for younger people to buy**, were some of the concerns raised.

Again, the younger people in attendance felt that the **public transport network is underdeveloped**, which limits job opportunities. Greater availability of bus times, better bus networks in the rural communities and a rail network linking the north to the south of Ceredigion were put forward as suggestions.

When asked about their future needs, **better quality, consistent and more affordable digital connectivity** was the most prevalent answer given. Increasing the **minimum wage** was also highlighted, in addition to **improving transport links** to enable better access to job opportunities.

### Key points raised at the Youth Council stakeholder event



## Corporate Equalities Working Group

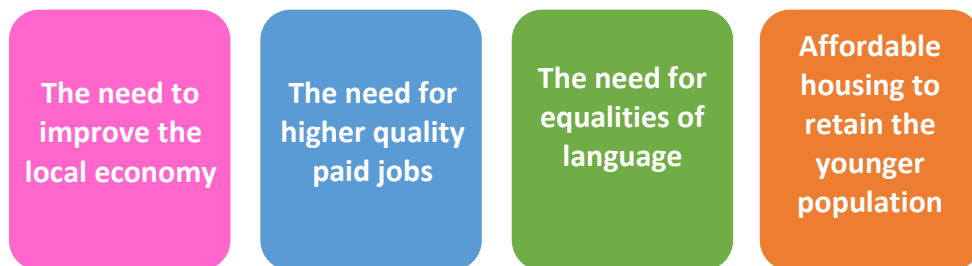
A stakeholder event was held with the **Corporate Equalities Working Group** on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2021, nine people attendant this event to give their views on well-being in Ceredigion in terms of equalities.

Overall, participants felt that **equalities has improved** in Ceredigion since the last Assessment of Local Well-being. This was expressed largely as a result of the new services that the local authority has put in place, these included but were not limited to; establishment of Porth Y Gymuned, creation of a larger Community Cohesion Team and development of Well-being Centre. However, it was felt that the pandemic has had a significant negative impact on

play and social opportunities for children and young people, especially for people with disabilities. In order for Ceredigion to become a more equal place, the Corporate Equalities Group would like to see more **affordable housing, affordable and accessible transport, better disability access and flexible working**.

The top concern was in relation to improving the local economy to create **higher paid and higher skilled jobs** to retain the younger population and address the **ageing population** crisis.

### The key future challenges to well-being and equalities identified by the Corporate Equalities Working Group

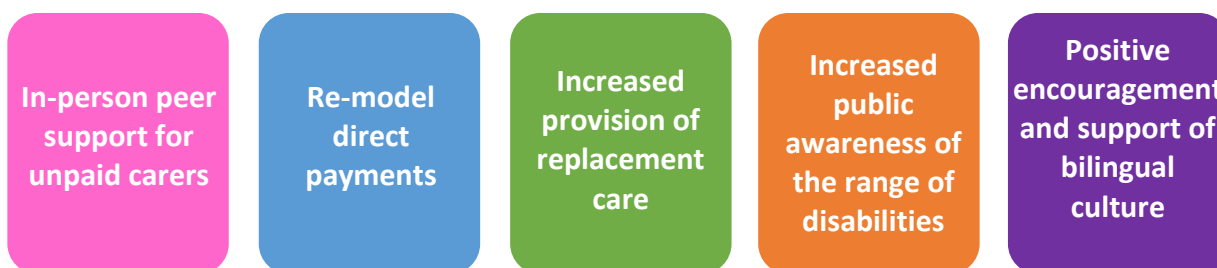


## Ceredigion Carers' Alliance

The PSB ran a stakeholder event with **Ceredigion Carers Alliance** on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2021. Eleven members of the Carers Alliance contributed their views on what needs to change to secure well-being for future generations. The **lack of replacement care** and the detrimental impact on unpaid carer's ability to work, attend training and spend time with family was raised as a significant concern. Again, the need for **appropriate and affordable housing** was highlighted as it not only impacts the cared for but also the unpaid carer. The Carer Alliance members expressed their deep concerns on the **limited earning ability** of unpaid carers, as often working hours are reduced, or work is discontinued altogether. Not only does this limit their earning potential in the present time, but in the future due to the loss of earnings through their pension. Allowing unpaid carers to **access services in their language of choice** is a realm important to them.

Again, **greater accessibility** to the natural environment was important to members, a suggestion was made to provide beach wheelchairs that would allow the cared for person to use. The **impact of climate change and extreme weather** on the cared for persons economic well-being was raised, for example, hotter summers has meant that carers are finding it challenging to keep those they care for cool, many reporting an increase in energy costs.

### Key suggestions put forward to secure the well-being of carers and cared for person in the future



## Armed Forces Group

A regional stakeholder event was held with the **Armed Forces Group** so that members had the opportunity to voice their views on what needs to change to secure the well-being of future generations.

Again, the need for **higher paid jobs** in West Wales was raised, often the jobs veterans seek are lower paid in the community than what was paid for their skill set in the Armed Forces. Members highlighted need for **greater support and advice on transferring from the Armed Forces into the local labour market** (e.g. advice on how to fill in CV's,

types of suitable jobs available). **Integrating back into the community** was important to veterans, as was the appreciation for the environment and outdoor spaces. Members felt that there needed to be **more investment in usable outdoor spaces** in their local communities.

Need for  
higher paid  
jobs

Greater  
support for  
veterans  
joining the  
local labour  
market

Importance  
of integrating  
back into the  
community

More  
investment in  
useable  
outdoor spaces

## Town and Community Councils

**Housing affordability** is a major challenge for the young and old – house prices are rising significantly in the county and local people are concerned about second homes. There is a shortage of suitable housing for first time buyers and last time buyers who will buy for the last time. There are no options for older people to buy smaller houses that are cheaper to run. Many older people experience housing poverty.

Impact on **Welsh language and culture** as a result of properties being bought up by those from outside Ceredigion and not local people. Important that the Welsh language is protected for future generations, and one of helping to do that is to celebrate the language.

**Job opportunities** – a greater variety of jobs are required in the county, along with larger sized businesses. Business support – greater support to entrepreneurs and smaller businesses is needed.

**Green economy** - there's opportunities in Ceredigion to develop a green economy. Need to focus on the agriculture economy and look at different structures within Ceredigion.

**Environment** – people value the environment in communities. Cleanliness and waste collection is very important. We also need to keep water and land clean. Attitudes to the local environment are an asset - people are very proud of the environment in Ceredigion and want to be a part of it.

**Population change** – greater partnership working is needed to keep people in the county.

**Feeling safe** - Many people don't feel safe within their community, particularly in Aberystwyth which doesn't feel as safe as what it did ten years ago. Anti-social behaviour has become a big concern within communities in Ceredigion, particularly drug misuse in Aberystwyth. However, many people have felt safer in Ceredigion during the pandemic rather than in other areas.

## Key points raised at the Town and Community Council events

Housing  
affordability  
for younger  
people and  
local people

Protecting the  
Welsh  
language for  
future  
generations

High number  
of second  
homes

Improvement  
of waste  
disposal and  
collection  
services

More  
affordable  
prices for  
cultural  
activities

# HAVE YOUR SAY CEREDIGION

Our Have your Say Ceredigion site offered participants the option to write and comments on 'ideas' for Ceredigion.

By far the thing that was mentioned the most here was the **loss of green spaces** in Ceredigion and how this could affect many different things. Some of the things that concerned people around the loss of green spaces were the loss of biodiversity, wildlife, flowers. Additionally, green spaces can provide an area for someone to walk, exercise and improve their mental health.

Another 'idea' mentioned was that **empty properties** could either be used to help businesses start up or could be used instead of building new housing developments and therefore losing green spaces.

## Key suggestions put forward to secure the well-being of carers and cared for person in the future



Loss of Green  
Spaces



Use of Empty  
Properties

# PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

## Young People (17-24 year olds)

Young people aged between 17 and 24 years old made up 7% of all responses to our Well-being Survey, there were 28 responses from this age cohort in total.

In order to help make things fairer for all, young people would be most likely to talk to someone from a different background, belief and/or who is a disabled person (75%), compared to 56% of all respondents. Additionally, younger people would be more likely to report a hate crime (71%) compared to 63% of total respondents.

Many of the other responses from younger people corresponded to what the top responses were throughout the survey. This said, younger people were more likely to consider recycling more (79%) compared to 74% of total respondents, in order to improve their local environment. Younger people were less likely to consider reducing waste (64%) compared to 73% of all other respondents.

## Welsh Language (those who can understand spoken Welsh)

Over half (54%) of respondents to our Well-being Survey noted that they could understand spoken Welsh, 215 respondents. 147 respondents said that they could **not** speak, read, write or understand Welsh (37%).

There were differences between these two groups in some answers, especially those around the Welsh language. Over 53% of the respondents who could understand spoken Welsh said that they would consider participating in schemes to support young people to live and work locally in order to achieve a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, this is compared to 30% of those who could not speak, read, write or understand Welsh.

19% of respondents who could understand spoken Welsh believed that a lack of Welsh education school/colleges was something that concerned them the most about the county's vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, in future. This is compared to 3% of those who could not speak, read, write or understand Welsh.

## Ethnic Groups

11 respondents (3%) said that their ethnic group was 'Other white, including Gypsy or Irish Traveller', 4 (1%) respondents were mixed/multiple ethnic groups, 3 identified as being another ethnic group (Northern Irish, Greek Jewish Welsh, White Canadian) and 1 respondents (0%) said their ethnic group was Black/African/Caribbean/Black British.

Similar trends are seen in the results from the ethnic minorities as is seen in the overall survey results. For example, the majority of respondents from ethnic minorities said that they would consider reducing waste (89%), recycling more (89%) and use locally produced food (89%) to improve their local environment.

72% of responses from ethnic minorities said that prejudice was something that concerned them the most about their community in future, compared to 42% of total respondents. 72% of responses from ethnic minorities also noted that they would like to learn or improve their Welsh language skills, compared to 46% of total respondents.

## Respondents with a disability or health problem

Out of the 405 survey respondents, 82 (20%) had a health problem or disability which limits their day-to-day activities. Overall, the top three answers provided by respondents with a disability or health related problem were similar to the total responses, however, in some areas, such as the economic and health sections, the order of the most common responses varied.

Respondents with a disability or health problem placed a higher value on *a good transport network* (54%) compared to 45% total respondents. Public transport can be a lifeline to people with disabilities and health problems, as some may not own a car or won't be able to drive. We know that public transport in Ceredigion has experienced service cuts in recent years and some routes have been discontinued, which has disproportionately affected this group. This group were also more concerned about *not being able to get support when unwell and unable to look after themselves* (52%), compared to 33% total respondents. This is unsurprising, as people with disabilities or health problems may already have a greater awareness of their health implications, and how these may deteriorate as they get older.

## **Pregnancy and Maternity**

1 respondent noted that they were expecting a baby, 2 respondents noted that they had a baby in the last six months and 1 respondent noted that they were currently on maternity leave.

Unsurprisingly, the majority of these respondents (3 out of 4 or 75%) noted that sufficient and affordable childcare was something that would need to be in place in order for them to improve their prosperity, compared to just 16% of total respondents. Additionally, the majority of these respondents (75%) noted that schools preparing our children for a changing world and to be leaders of change was one of the top three things they valued the most about being globally responsible, compared to 24% of all respondents.

## **Gender**

Our well-being survey had significantly more female participants compared to males. Out of the 405 survey respondents, 280 (69%) were female, 112 (28%) were male, whilst 5 (1%) preferred another term.

When considering a prosperous community, male participants placed a greater value on income security than females, with 48% selecting a stable income compared to 34% of females. In terms of healthcare, more males (54%) were concerned about not being able to access healthcare or other support, as close to home as possible or available through technology, than females (33%).

The majority (80%) of respondents who preferred another term for their gender were concerned about employer/education providers not being prepared to make reasonable adjustments for employees of different ages, sexes, gender, races, background, beliefs and/or who are disabled, in future. This is compared to 24% of females and 16% of males. 100% of the respondents that preferred another term for their gender, valued people in their local area treating each other with respect more than males (50%) and females (50%).

## **Gender Reassignment**

32 respondents (8%) noted that their gender was not the same gender as was assigned at birth. Many of the responses from this group did reflect the overall results from the well-being survey. There were some anomalies in terms of being equal and in terms of community cohesion, as discussed below.

In terms of making things fairer for all, those who noted that their gender was not the same gender as was assigned at birth were more likely to report a hate crime (72%) compared to 58% of total respondents. Coinciding with this, this characteristic were more likely to raise a concern about unfair treatment (66%) compared to all respondents (56%), in order to make things fairer for all.

In order to achieve good community cohesion, those who noted that their gender was not the same gender as was assigned at birth, thought that more information on well-being services was needed in Ceredigion (53%), compared to 39% of total respondents.

## **Sexual Orientation**

A total of 41 respondents noted that they were not heterosexual/straight. There were 21 respondents (5%) who noted that they were bisexual, 7 respondents (2%) were gay women/lesbian, 8 respondents (2%) said other and 5 respondents (1%) said they were a gay man.

In order to achieve good community cohesion, those who noted that they were not heterosexual/straight were far more likely to challenge negative stereotyping (71%) compared to 43% of total respondents. Additionally, these respondents thought that we should appreciate and positively value the diversity of people's backgrounds and circumstances more (63%) compared to 42% of all responses.

63% of respondents who noted that they were not heterosexual/straight that they would need to feel confident that raising concerns of unfair treatment/reporting a hate crime would not have negative consequences for them or their family, in order to make things fairer for all, compared to 51% of all responses. Also in terms of striving to be equal to all, those who were not heterosexual/straight were more likely to want to talk to someone from a different background, belief and/or who is a disabled person (73%), compared to 52% of all respondents.



## **Marriage and Civil Partnerships**

Half of respondent's to the survey, noted that they were married (50%), 24% noted that they were single, 10% were divorced/separated, 5% were in a Civil Partnership and 5% were widowed.

One area where there were some differences between these groups were regarding a healthier Ceredigion. Those who were widowed were most concerned about not having access to healthcare or other support, as close to home as possible or available through technology (61%), this is compared to 57% of those who were married or in a civil partnership, 56% of those who were divorced or separated and 40% of those who were single.

## **Religion and Beliefs**

Most of our respondents noted that they either had no religion (50%) or that they were Christian (all denominations) (29%). 1 respondents said that they were Jewish (0%), 1 said that they were Muslim (0%), 4 respondents (1%) noted that they were Buddhist and 17 respondents said that they were part of another religion (4%).

The majority of respondents who noted that they were either Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist or other (74%) said that being accepted for who they are, was one of the things they valued most about living in an equal society, this was compared to 41% of those who noted that they were Christian or had no religion.

Additionally, in order to achieve good community cohesion, 42% of those who were Christian or had no religion would challenge negative stereotyping, compared to 65% of those who noted that they were either Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist or other.

