

Poole Opinion Panel Feedback



The Poole Opinion Panel Newsletter

Autumn 2013

Welcome to the latest issue of the Poole Opinion Panel Feedback newsletter. This issue tells you about the results from the April-May 2013 Poole Opinion Panel survey. 797 Panel members took part giving a response rate of 47%.

Parks and Open Spaces

We asked you a series of questions about parks and open spaces to understand how you used parks in Poole and what you thought about them, particularly Poole Park and Hamworthy Park.

Overall, Poole Park is used far more by respondents than Hamworthy Park but levels of satisfaction were high for both parks:

- More than half of you (52%) said you used Poole Park regularly (i.e. you visited once a month or more often), while only 12% visited Hamworthy Park regularly
- The most popular reasons for using Poole Park were 'Relaxing' (67%), 'Family Outings' (49%), and 'Walking/Walking Dog' (49%)
- These were also the top reasons for using Hamworthy Park: 'Relaxing' (53%), 'Walking/Walking Dog' (46%), 'Family Outing' (45%)
- Only a few of you (11%) said you infrequently, or never, visited Poole Park, mainly because you didn't have the time, were not interested, and preferred to go to other locations
- By contrast, 60% of you said you infrequently, or never, visited Hamworthy Park mainly because you preferred other locations and had no interest in the park
- Most of you were satisfied with Poole Park (92%) and Hamworthy Park (74%)
- In terms of improvements, you said there should be more seating, more toilets, and better toilet facilities at Poole Park and a better café. Similarly, you highlighted toilets as the main facilities in need of improvement at Hamworthy Park, along with a better café
- The lakes, fountain, miniature railway, and entrance pillar/gates were identified as the most important heritage features in Poole Park

In addition, 46% of you said that you regularly used other parks in Poole. While 47% said that you would use parks and open spaces in Poole more often if they had better facilities and improved cleanliness (33%).

Electoral Wards

We asked you to describe where you lived to help us understand the distinct communities in Poole and also to understand whether you were aware of the electoral wards in Poole.

From the responses we identified that:

- 44% of you knew which electoral ward you lived in
- 40% of you said you did not know which ward you lived in
- 16% of you chose the incorrect ward for your area

Sport and Leisure

In the last survey we asked you some questions about Sport and Leisure facilities in Poole:

- 62% of you felt that the **number** of Sport and Leisure facilities available in Poole met your needs, while 16% disagreed
- 59% of you felt that the **quality** of Sport and Leisure facilities available in Poole met your needs, while 18% disagreed
- 57% of you felt that Sport and Leisure facilities in Poole met the needs of **people with disabilities**, while 17% disagreed
- 67% of you said you, or anyone in your household, were not members of a sports club

In addition, we asked you to consider whether any sports were underprovided in Poole, particularly with the 2012 Olympics in mind. 71% felt that there were no sports that were underprovided.

Those of you who did, felt that Athletics, Swimming, Cycling, and Tennis were the most underprovided sports in Poole.

Local Healthwatch and NHS Complaints

In the last survey we asked you about two healthcare services in Poole to find out whether you had heard of them and, if so, where you had heard of them.

15% of you had heard of 'Local Healthwatch' before the survey, primarily through a local newspaper (45%) and conversations with friends, family, and/or colleagues (39%).

Slightly more of you (17%) had heard of 'Help with NHS Complaints' before the survey. This was mainly through conversations with friends, family, and/or colleagues (40%) and a local newspaper (32%).

People in the 60-64 and 75+ age groups were more likely to have heard of both services.

Taking part in future surveys

Did you know you can now take part in Poole Opinion Panel surveys on-line? If you would like to receive surveys via email in the future, please email research@poole.gov.uk with your name, email address and the reference number from this survey.