



Welcome to the latest issue of the Poole Opinion Panel Feedback newsletter. This issue tells you about the results from March 2012 Poole Opinion Panel survey, that 793 of you took part in giving a response rate of 45%.

Beach Master Plan and Beach Huts Consultation

Leisure services wanted to know your views on their aims and ideas for the future of Poole's beaches. They also asked for the views of the general public through their leaflet 'Let's go to the beach'.

95% of you, and 96% of the general public, said that you agreed with the Council's aim to conserve, improve and invest in the Poole's beaches. Just over half of you (51%) and 69% of the general public said that you would like Poole's beaches to have different areas for different activities.

The Council's initial ideas, relating to transport (such as a water taxi, more parking and improved transport links) were liked. Improvements and updates to amenities such as toilets, seats and lighting were also liked. Activities (such as bike hire, and a zip wire) were also among the more popular ideas. When asked about how to make travelling to the beach easier, the most popular suggestion from both you and the general public was a better or improved bus service. Other popular suggestions were a 'Park and Ride service' or a 'shuttle service'.

When thinking about who should fund the improvements to Poole's beaches, 34% of you, and 44% of the general public felt that the improvements should be funded by a combination of Business Investors, users of beach activities, and Council Tax payers.

Leisure Services said "We had over 800 written comments on your likes/dislikes for the proposed ideas. The over-riding messages supported income generation while keeping the natural surroundings, providing affordable family facilities and not over-commercialising. We have used this feedback to adjust some of the proposed ideas to help shape a Draft Supplementary Planning Document".

"This sets out the standards for co-ordinated and controlled design-led improvements on the beaches for the next 25 years. Once shared with councillors and officers, it is anticipated that this draft document will gain approval for a statutory public consultation exercise to take place in November".

New members needed

We are looking for more people to join the Poole Opinion Panel – particularly those aged under 45. If you know anyone who is interested in joining, please ask them to complete the application form on-line at www.boroughofpoole.com/pop or telephone us on 01202 633086, thank you.

Beach Huts

The results of the Beach Huts Lettings Policy Consultation have now been analysed and are to be shared with Leisure Services. The results are to be presented to Cabinet on 16 October, and a summary and full report will be available on-line at the beginning of October. We will include a summary of the results and outcome in the next edition of Feedback.

Reducing Poole's Carbon Footprint

We wanted to identify your energy usage behaviour and recycling habits, along with what energy saving devices you use in the home. We also wanted to discover what would encourage you to change your behaviour to be more environmentally friendly.

Your recycling habits revealed that recycling was a very popular activity, with the majority of you (over 90%) 'always' recycling products such as paper, card, glass and plastic bottles and aluminium cans.

When asked about your energy saving devices in your home, the majority of you had double glazing (92%), and loft insulation (85%). Most of you have at least some energy saving light bulbs in your home (68% yes, 29% partly).

The biggest incentive for you behaving in a 'greener' fashion was if it resulted in saving money (68%). The least popular was if penalties were imposed (10%).

Contacting the Council

When contacting the Council, most of you did so by telephone (67%), followed by email (20%) and visiting in person (19%).

25% of you indicated that you used the Council website at least once a month.

With regards to your experience of contacting the Council, 78% of you 'find it easy to have your enquiries sorted out to your satisfaction' and 77% of you felt that your queries are dealt with efficiently'.

Strategic Car Parking Review

Could you spare some time to talk about Poole's car parking? As part of a review of Poole's car parking, we are holding a workshop with residents on the evening of the 10th October 2012. We would like to hear views from a wide range of people, whether you use car parking for shopping, work or leisure.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact us by the **21st September 2012**, with your name, survey reference number and contact details, on 01202 633086 or email research@poole.gov.uk. Spaces at the workshop are limited, so we will contact you to confirm your place.

An opportunity to represent Poole Residents

Local HealthWatch is to be introduced for April 2013 as a consumer champion in all matters relating to health and social care, building on the work of the LINK (Local Involvement Network), which it will replace. We are inviting two members of the Poole Opinion Panel to represent the public as part of the interview panels. You will need to be available on the afternoon of the 8th October for a briefing session and for the two days of the tender interviews, either on 13th/14th November or 21st/22nd November. If you are interested or would like further information contact Hilary Evans by email h.evans@poole.gov.uk

or call 01202 633067 by 21st September.

Want to find out more about the Poole Opinion Panel and other consultations?



visit

www.boroughofpoole.com/pop