

Summary and analysis of second questionnaire

The following is the result of the Easingwold Steering Group's gathering of statistical information to inform their snapshot of the area, in order to identify what is already available and where gaps are in service provision for the area.

A smaller sub group developed a community questionnaire to find out more in terms of what the communities see as a priority for their area. This was posted out to every residence and business in the Easingwold area during week commencing 15th July 2002. Residents from the Easingwold and surrounding villages were urged to complete and return the questionnaire as information gained would be used to develop an action plan as well as using information already gathered through other consultation exercises undertaken in the area.

Assistance was given by Hambleton District Council to analyse the data collected. 1,924 completed and returned questionnaires were analysed using SNAP survey software.

Demographics

1. Easingwold, with the highest population, provided the greatest number of returns accounting for 36.0% of surveys. The next highest levels of return were Huby (6.9%) and Stillington (6.1%).
2. The length of time respondents have lived in the area represented all time scales with the largest majority having lived in their town/village more than 16 years (30.0%). The highest proportion to have lived in the area for the shortest period of time are the 36-45 age group.
3. Demographics for Hambleton show a slightly larger population of women (51%) to men (49%). The survey, however, was completed more often by women (57.7%) than men (37.9%).
4. Easingwold and its surroundings have an ageing population based on the responses given. More than half the respondents (50.6%) were aged 56 and above which might account for almost 40% of respondents stating they were retired.
5. Over half of all respondents (50.9%) were employed in some way, the majority in full-time employment (29.5%) which does not account for those who are self-employed.
6. Only 0.6% of respondents are in some form of education.

Health

7. The majority of residents responding to Q6 have at some point in the last 12 months had contact with the medical services (86.2%).
8. 90.5% of those who have had contact with the medical services are satisfied with the level of service and its provision.
9. The change or improvement to health services most often referred to was for an increase in NHS dental healthcare (31.2%) closely followed by the need for a GP surgery in every village (23.7%)
10. Whilst satisfaction was high this did not prohibit views being made as to how services could be improved. Issues that were stated most often include:
 - Longer surgery hours including weekend provision
 - Easier/quicker appointments to see GP to reduce waiting times
 - More GPs

Crime

11. The crimes and anti-social behaviour that caused most response to Q9 were theft (39.3%) and vandalism (32.6%) with men having a slightly higher concern about levels of theft and vandalism. A quarter of respondents linked the use of drugs with a need to steal.
12. Almost a fifth of all respondents (19.9%) were not concerned about crime in their area and more than three-quarters stated there were no areas in which they felt unsafe. The level of concern about crime rises with age.
13. Only 9.1% stated in Q11 that the police provided a good service in the area whilst 36.7% gave the police a poor rating possibly because it is felt that there are insufficient numbers of police men and women patrolling locally. Men are more critical of the police presence than women. 71.7% of those who gave a poor rating want to see more street policing.
14. Youths are often quoted as the cause of the levels of anti-social behaviour. 36.9% of respondents to Q12 believe that the provision of young person activities will help solve the problem. More women than men believe the provision of youth facilities would help.

Environment

15. Litter is not considered a problem in most areas with 63.3% answering Q13 stating it was not an issue.
16. The maintenance of footpaths is the biggest single issue regarding the protection and enhancement of the look of the area with 51.7% of respondents to Q14 selecting that category.

Appendix 7

17. 94.5% of respondents to Q15 are willing to separate waste in order to recycle materials. 65.9 % who are willing to separate waste are satisfied with the level of recycling facilities. People in Huby and Sutton-on-the-Forest are the least satisfied with provisions for recycling.
18. Age is not a barrier as more than 90% of people aged 66+ are prepared to separate waste for recycling.
19. The majority (53.7%) of respondents to Q17 selected starter homes as the most needed form of housing in the area.
20. There is little demand for different leisure activities in the area. Only sports activities was thought of as beneficial with 35.1% answering Q18 thinking it would be useful.
21. More women than men would like increased arts and sports facilities in the community.
22. Over 60% of each of the following age groups (16-25, 26-35 and 36-45) stated they would benefit from sports activities provided locally. This figure drops incrementally over the older age groups.
23. The proximity to the services listed in Q19 and Q20 appears to account for satisfaction levels. The distance to travel to a swimming pool may then be the reason for a 38.6% dissatisfaction score. The dissatisfaction with the lack of a local swimming pool reduces in the older age groups whilst the satisfaction with supermarkets improves.

Work and education

24. 47.3% of respondents to Q23 are interested in some form of further education.
25. Computing related training was the most popular form of further study (43.9%).
26. Interest in studying reduces in the older age groups yet each age group shows most interest in computer related training.
27. More women than men want job related and craft/design based courses. Men appear more interested in learning about computers.
28. A lack of local jobs is the main factor affecting the likelihood of undertaking any form of study or working in the area. This affects the 26-55 ages most.
29. Childcare appears to affect women more than men as women were more likely to select this option in Q27 and also state in Q28 that an increase in childcare help is the most important element to help them study or work in the area.
30. Improved transport (43.9%) was most important overall to assist people to work or study in the area.

Transport

31. 73.8% of respondents to Q29 believe that their town or village suffers from traffic problems.
32. Speed problems are the main concern selected 70.2% of times to Q30. The other issues of concern are parking (54.0%) and heavy vehicles (41.2%).
33. 50.6% of respondents want to see speed limits enforced and of those half want traffic calming measures introduced.
34. 41.7% of respondents to Q33 don't use public transport. The most popular option for encouraging people to use public transport is greater frequency (59.0%).

Conclusion

Only minor differences were achieved when comparing age groups and gender with the full survey. The main points for Easingwold and its surrounding villages appear to be:

- Increased NHS dental healthcare
- Theft and mugging are the main crime concerns
- Police do not provide a good service
- Most people believe want more street policing
- The lack of a swimming pool should be addressed
- There is a need for improved transport in the area especially the frequency of public transport
- Speeding is the main traffic problem

The survey achieved a confidence interval of $\pm 2\%$ on the main percentage figures quoted above.