

## **Northallerton School Questionnaire Evaluation**

The Northallerton and Villages Community Questionnaire was distributed to young people attending Northallerton College. To date 332 forms have been returned.

The forms asked how satisfied people were with various issues / services in and around the town. Based on the replies received by the young people the following demonstrates, in order of priority, what they are least and most satisfied with.

### Least satisfied

1. Retail area
2. Sport and recreation
3. Local employment opportunities
4. Public transport services and parking
5. Access to services
6. Community facilities
7. Local services (shops, post offices etc)
8. Education (schools and adult learning)
9. Crime and safety
10. Environment, buildings, landscape
11. Housing

### Most satisfied

More detailed information with regards these issues are as follows:

#### *Retail area*

The main issue for young people appears to be that Northallerton lacks the variety needed in terms of shopping facilities. There is a need for more clothes shops that are appealing to young people, rather than them having to travel to Middlesbrough, Darlington or York.

#### *Sport and recreation*

Young people are not satisfied with sporting facilities in the area. This was mainly an issue for people living in villages and not having access to playing fields or sports clubs. Other comments included the need for a skatepark, student discounts to be introduced at the leisure centre and an astroturf pitch.

#### *Local Employment Opportunities*

This mainly related to more advertising and access to jobs for under 16's (weekend and evenings) and better employment opportunities all round in and around Northallerton.

#### *Public transport services and parking*

There were a lot of comments about the lack of public transport to and from the villages into towns. Buses need to be more regular and reliable. There was also a need identified for buses to be in operation on an evening, and to transport people to and from nightclubs in the area. Some people were concerned that bus services were expensive. There were references made to the lack of parking in Northallerton especially on a Saturday.

#### *Access to services*

The centred mainly around transport issues again, lack of leisure activities in the town, i.e. cinema, arcades and appropriate retail outlets, especially in the villages.

#### *Community facilities*

People requested the need for a cinema, a community facility in their village, and access to IT facilities

#### *Local services (shops, post offices etc)*

Many young people were concerned about the lack of local services available in their villages, i.e post office, pub. One suggestion was an internet café in Northallerton town centre.

#### *Education (schools and adult learning)*

One comment was that the education system needed improving, however there wasn't any further information as to how.

#### *Crime and safety*

Comments included that more security was required mainly in Northallerton but also in Osmotherly and Brompton. Suggestion that there is a drugs problem in Brompton. Lighting at night is poor in Brompton. More police presence required in Northallerton.

#### *Environment, buildings, landscape*

People wanted to see their villages kept as it is i.e. rural. Requirement for more environmental schemes, and more litter bins as rubbish is a problem. There are too many empty buildings and the landscapes could be improved, although there wasn't any suggestions on how this could be achieved. More planting of foliage was also suggested.

#### *Housing*

There wasn't any real concerns regarding housing, although someone mentioned that they didn't want any new housing developments in Northallerton.