



## Let's Talk About Well-Being

# Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board Well-Being Assessment

## Engagement Report



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## **Background**

This Engagement Report forms a key aspect of the Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board (PSB) “Our Vale-Ein Bro” Well-being Assessment. This report provides a detailed analysis of the answers given by respondents to the PSB’s ‘Let’s Talk about well-being’ Surveys and various engagement events held across the Vale of Glamorgan. Engagement has been undertaken in partnership with the Cardiff Public Services Board and with the Cardiff and Vale Integrated Health and Social Care Partnership as part of the new duties outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations Act and the Social Services and Well-being Act. The central focus of this engagement activity has been to develop a picture and an understanding of the most important aspects of life in the Vale of Glamorgan that contribute to both individual and collective well-being.

The report is structured on the four key aspects of well-being that have been assessed through our let’s talk about well-being survey; these are:

- Social Well-being
- Economic Well-being
- Environmental Well-being
- Cultural Well-being

This structure has provided the most accessible means through which to report the findings of our engagement activities. The information gathered through our engagement has directly informed the development of the four evidence reports and of our well-being assessment, which evaluate:

- Having a Healthy and Active Future
- Being Part of Safe and Inclusive Communities
- Maximising Opportunities and Attainment
- Our Environment

Our analysis will then inform the future development of our well-being plan, which will be consulted on in 2017/18.

## **Methodology**

### **Survey Design**

The Well-being of Future Generations Act stipulates that in its assessment of the well-being of the Vale of Glamorgan the PSB must assess the social, cultural, economic and environmental aspects of well-being. The questions in our survey as such, have been structured to develop a detailed overview of the various aspects of life in the Vale of Glamorgan that contribute to well-being. Key to constructing this overview has been a balance of both open and closed questions, in each section of the survey respondents were offered the opportunity to expand upon the answers given by explaining their answers through open questions. These expanded explanations culminated in an opportunity for respondents to reflect, and build on, answers given throughout the survey through two extended open questions.

The assessment has also been informed by the 2016 School Super Survey undertaken by the Vale of Glamorgan Children and Young People's Partnership. The super survey was undertaken through the autumn term and received 1,100 responses from secondary schools and 260 responses from primary schools. The survey asked questions from a range of topics including feelings about school, community safety, young carers and sport/play and contained approximately 160 questions. A number of the questions used in our let's talk about well-being survey were included in the super survey to allow comparison of results between adults and children and young people. Findings from the super survey have been woven into our well-being assessment.

Alongside the let's talk about well-being survey, as part of the engagement work undertaken to inform the Population Needs Assessment (PNA), two public surveys, one for Adults and one for children and young people, and a survey for professionals and organisations working with people in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan to provide care and support or advice have been undertaken. Questions from these surveys were also included in the school super survey to ensure a joined up approach to all engagement activities undertaken.

The adult survey was available both online and in paper copy between 14<sup>th</sup> September and 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Awareness of the survey was raised through press releases, Council, Health and Third Sector organisation websites, and 4,000 hard copies placed in public locations across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. Alongside the Adult survey, the Children and Young People's survey was developed in conjunction with a group of young people, and made available online. Awareness of the survey was raised via Twitter and 'the sprout', a news and events website in Cardiff, but accessed across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. The findings of the PNA have been incorporated throughout our well-being assessment, and have informed our findings.

## Engagement Events

In addition to our Let's Talk about well-being survey, we attended and held a number of engagement events across the Vale of Glamorgan.

Between July and September 2016 we attended the following events:

- Penarth Festival
- Flying Start Fun Day (Barry)
- St Athan Family Fun Day
- The Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show (Fonmon)
- Festivale (Barry)
- A day based at a Barry Island Beach Hut
- LBGT Coffee Morning
- Vale Youth Forum
- Vale 50+ Strategy Forum AGM
- International Older Peoples Day (Barry)
- Dewis launch/Well-being event for stakeholders (Barry)

At these events, alongside the promotion of the survey, we utilised an interactive display methodology using a graffiti wall to prompt respondents to make comments and give feedback on the different aspects they felt important to their well-being. The graffiti wall was used in conjunction with hand-out post cards to ask three questions:

- What's good about where you live?
- What could be better?
- What services are important to your health and well-being?

These questions were developed following our initial engagement event at the Penarth Festival. Although the answers provided at this event provided some useful information with 22 people speaking with us, the questions were found to be complex and replaced with the above. In addition to our three questions, the postcards asked respondents their age, gender and post code to allow for analysis by demographics and area. We also used 'Let's talk' branded bubbles at a number of events to encourage, and aid, engagement with young families.

In addition to the three surveys that have informed the Population Needs Assessment, bespoke focus group interviews were undertaken with local residents. Twenty six focus groups were carried out across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, in total providing a rich source of information about local needs and assets. Third sector organisations across Cardiff and the Vale were also invited to participate in the collection of views from local residents. Complementing the focus groups, three half day workshops were held in November. Each workshop focused on the key themes of the assessment and utilised initial information

available from the surveys, quantitative datasets and focus group engagement to identify the main findings, outstanding data gaps and additional data sources.

Further to our summer consultation period, between January and February 2017 we consulted on our draft well-being assessment. During this period we undertook a variety of engagement activities to encourage feedback on our assessment. These activities included:

- A brief online survey, asking if we had considered the right themes in our assessment.
- A Facebook conversation with residents of the Vale to prompt discussions about the assessment's findings.
- Attending both the Vale Youth Forum and 50+ Executive Forum to brief the groups on the findings, initial priorities and receive feedback.
- Holding two Council Member briefing sessions.
- Attending Council Scrutiny and Community Liaison Committees
- Holding three assessment drop-in sessions in libraries in our three community areas.
- Hosting a stakeholder workshop, enabling a range of stakeholders to engage with the findings of the assessment and provide feedback on the assessment and initial priorities identified by the PSB.

During this consultation period, we have also had detailed feedback from the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner and Welsh Government. This feedback has directly informed the further development of our well-being assessment.

## Reaching Our Communities

The let's talk about well-being survey was made available both online and in hard copy, and was promoted by all PSB partners. The survey was launched on the 15<sup>th</sup> June and closed 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016; in total 808 responses were received. In order to maximise responses and promote awareness of the survey across the county a range of distribution methods were used:

- Hard copies of the survey were made available in all Council reception areas, all major Vale of Glamorgan libraries, and in Llandough University Hospital.
- Post Cards and ballot boxes were distributed to all Council buildings and Llandough University Hospital.
- The survey was promoted through social media via the Vale Council Twitter and Facebook accounts, a combined audience of (figures). PSB members also promoted the survey through their social media feeds.
- Our well-being survey was hosted on both the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board websites.

Recognising that engagement with our survey may have been limited to those able to access the survey online or from locations where the survey was made available, we undertook a great deal of engagement events across the Vale to ensure engagement with people and groups from a diverse range of different age groups and backgrounds. Through the use of our graffiti wall and postcards we were able to gather a wide spectrum of responses that would have not necessarily have been reflected through our survey. Although the responses gathered through our engagement events may not be considered as statistically robust as those received through our survey, in many cases these responses have supported, and further illustrated the reasoning behind our results. Overall, the responses received through our engagement events have been extremely positive with respondents identifying plenty that they liked about life in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Our postcards were used alongside our graffiti wall at all events we attended. Through utilising our postcards we had a total of 162 responses, in particular 61 were completed at Festivale, an event organised by the Council's Housing Service and is specifically for social housing tenants. Further, our postcards were also used to collect responses and prompt discussions in our engagement with the Vale Youth Forum and Vale 50+ Strategy Forum.

The postcards were also used to compliment the three surveys completed to inform the Population Needs Assessment. A total of 1,278 adult surveys were completed and 145 surveys completed by professionals and organisations working with people in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan to provide care, support or advice. Although the surveys received a good response rate, fewer responses were received from the Vale of Glamorgan compared with Cardiff. Fewer responses were received from older people aged over 75. The findings from postcards and the three surveys have directly informed the development of both the

Cardiff and Vale Population Needs Assessment and the Vale of Glamorgan Well-being Assessment.

We received varied interest in our engagement activities on the publication on our draft well-being assessment. While we received good interest in the draft assessment at our Barry drop-in session, our Penarth and Cowbridge sessions were less well attended. In total, we engaged with approximately 30 people through our sessions. The majority of people we engaged with agreed with the findings outlined in the assessment and with the initial priority areas that have been set by the Public Services Board. This positive feedback was further supported through our engagement with the Vale Youth Forum and Vale 50+ Executive Forum. Both groups were supportive and provided good feedback on the assessment.

In addition to these engagement activities, we held a stakeholder workshop on the draft well-being assessment. The workshop was well supported, with over 30 delegates from a wide array of organisations from Housing Associations to Town and Community Councils attending. Overall, the feedback received through the workshop was positive with stakeholders concurring with assessments findings and noting support for the initial priorities. It was also clear through these discussions that stakeholders were keen to see what would be included in our well-being plan.

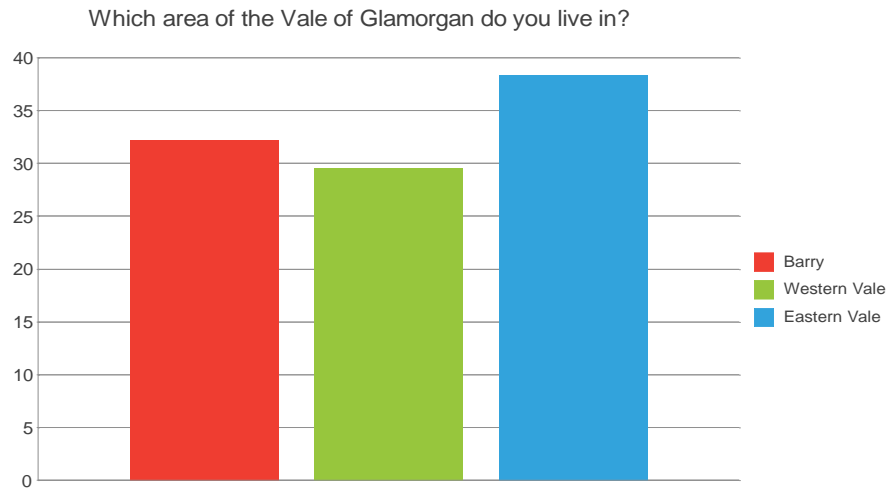
While we had good interest in our engagement activities on the draft well-being assessment, we received limited engagement with our survey. Through our consultation period it became clear, that due to the requirement of having to engage with the detail of the assessment to provide feedback, that consultation on the assessment would prove challenging. Recognising the limitations of our survey on the draft assessment we concurrently hosted a Facebook conversation through the Council's Facebook page. The conversation focused on specific aspects of the assessment to encourage further dialogue; our posts received multiple "likes" and "comments" from residents.

In total, across all methods used, we have engaged with over 1,000 residents across the Vale of Glamorgan. The majority of the information that follows is taken from the 'Let's Talk about well-being' survey but has sought to weave our findings from various engagement events and activities throughout.

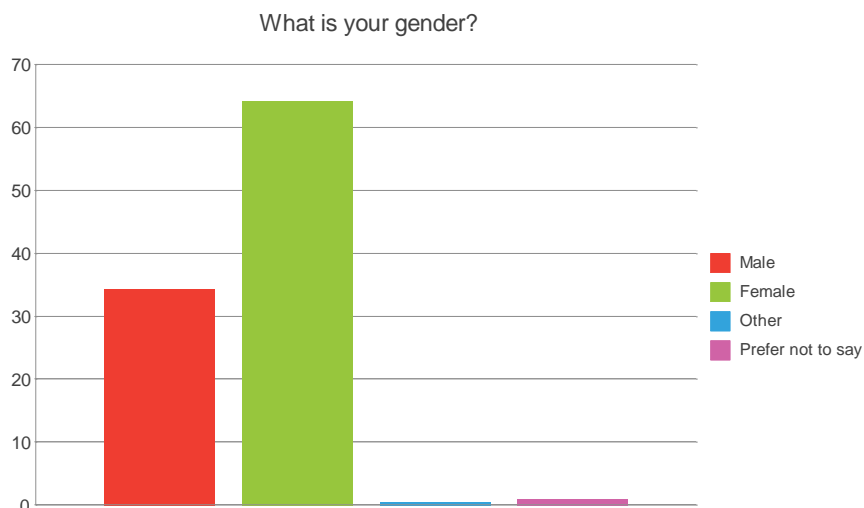


## Demographic

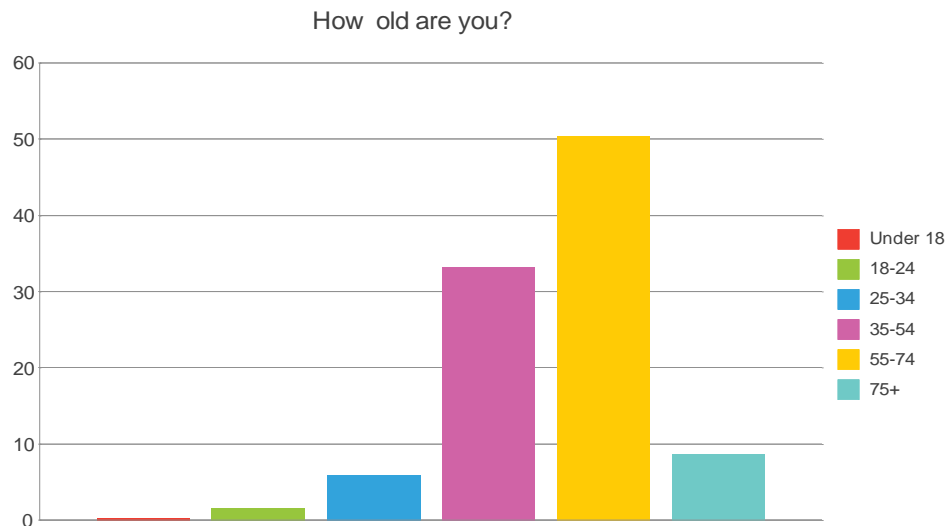
808 people completed the Let's Talk about well-being survey. Of these, 228 (32.2%) were from Barry, 271 (38.3%) from the Eastern Vale, and 209 (29.5%) from the Western Vale. 100 respondents chose not to say where they lived.



Of respondents, 743 chose to answer a question on their gender. The majority, 477 (64.2%) identified as 'Female', 255 (34.3%) as 'Male', 7 (0.9%) preferred not to say, while 4 (0.5%) identified as 'Other'.

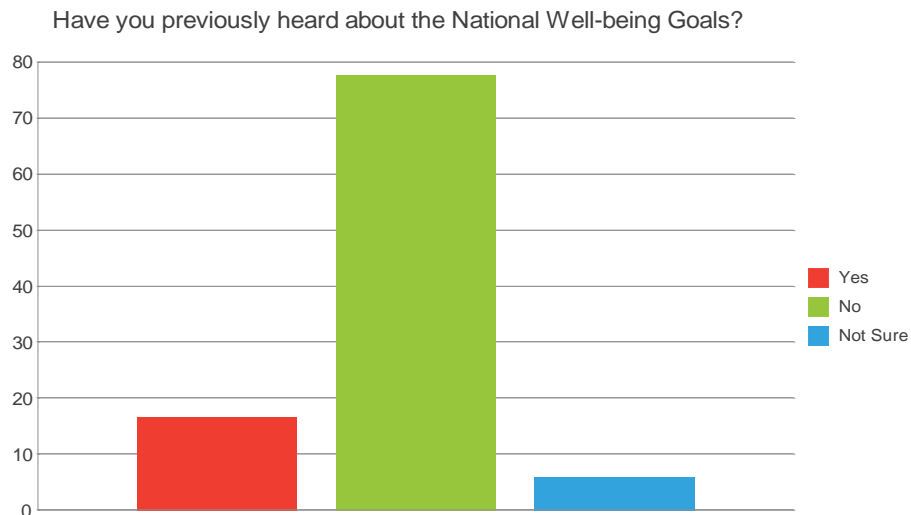


When asked about their age, 746 of respondents provided an answer. Of these just over half, 375 (50.3%) were aged between 55-74. 248 (33.2%) of respondents were aged 35-54. 65 (8.7%) respondents were aged over 75. 44 (5.9%) respondents were aged between 25-34. 12 (1.6%) respondents were aged 18-24, and 2 (0.3%) of respondents were aged under 18.

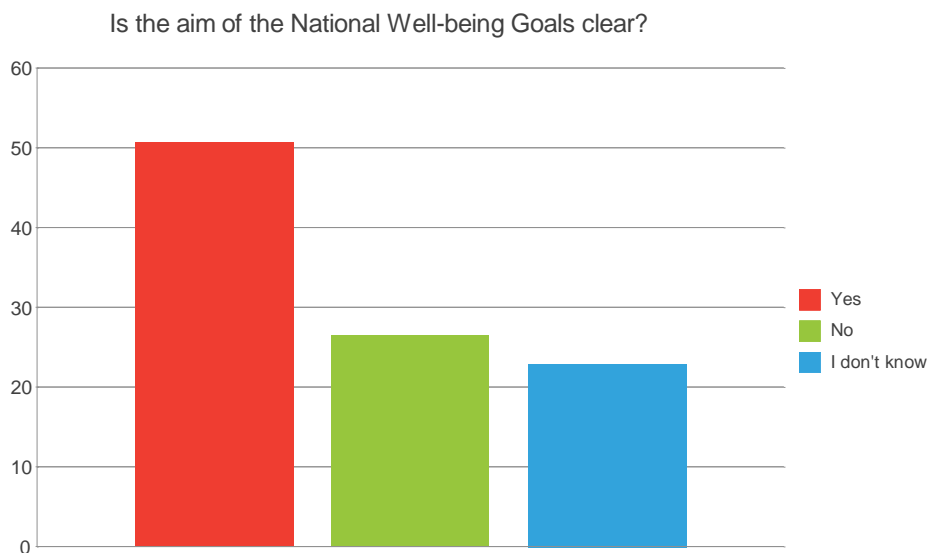


## Understanding the Well-being of Future Generations Act

Respondents were asked whether they had previously heard of the national well-being goals and to assess whether they felt if the aim of the goals was clear. Of the 803 respondents who answered these questions, the majority 623 (77.6%) answered that they had not previously heard of the national well-being goals.



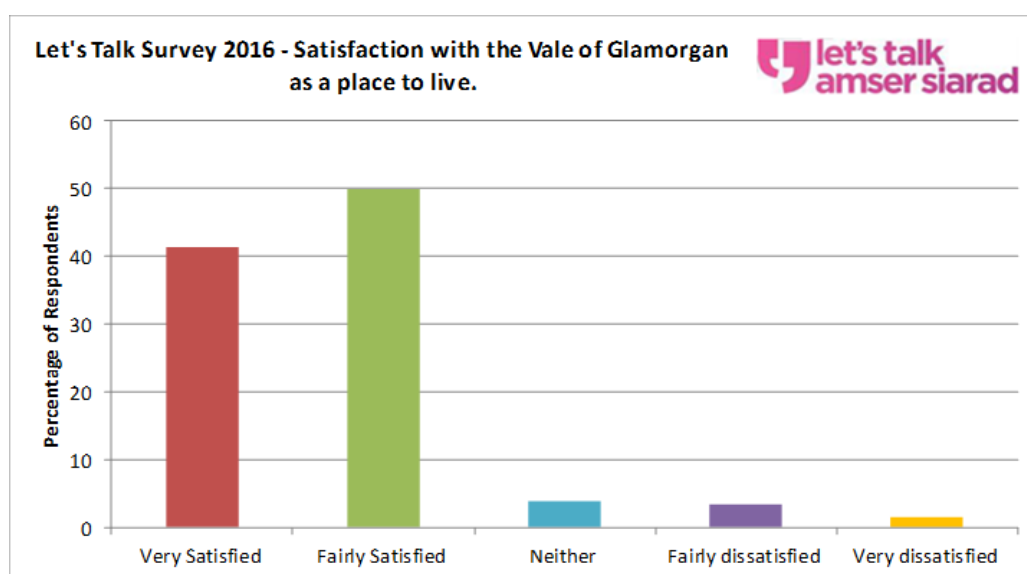
Despite not having previously heard of the goals, 404 (50.6%) of respondents felt that the aim of the national well-being goals was clear.



## Social Well-being

### **Overall how satisfied are you with the Vale of Glamorgan as a place to live?**

Respondents were asked to assess their satisfaction with the Vale of Glamorgan as a place to live. Of the 784 answers, the highest proportion of respondents answered that they were either “very” or “fairly satisfied”. 325 (41.5%) of respondents answered that they were “very satisfied”, while 392 (50%) of respondents answered that that they were “fairly satisfied” with the Vale of Glamorgan as a place to live. Only 26 (3.3%) of respondents answered that they were “fairly dissatisfied” with the Vale of Glamorgan as a place to live and 11 (1.4%) that they were “very dissatisfied”.

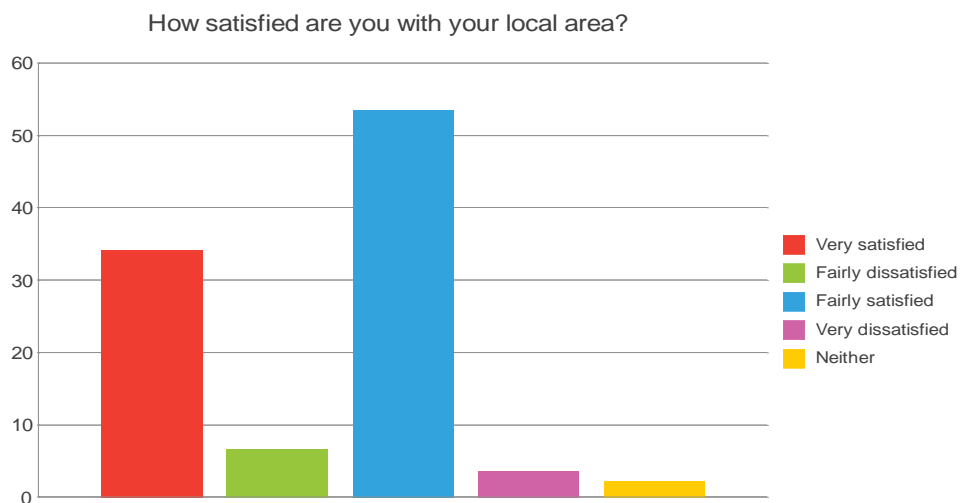


When disaggregated by the three areas of the Vale of Glamorgan; Barry, Western and Eastern Vale there is little disparity in the level of satisfaction between the three areas. The majority of respondents across the three areas answered that they were either “very” or “fairly” with the Vale of Glamorgan as a place to live; the Eastern Vale can be noted as the area in which respondents were most satisfied with as a place to live.

A sense of satisfaction with life in the Vale of Glamorgan was raised consistently by respondents during our engagement activities. With many respondents valuing the opportunities to enjoy the surroundings and local scenery of the Vale. Other common themes raised by respondents included living in good proximity to friends, living in a good neighbourhood and valuing people and the local community.

### How satisfied are you with your local area?

In addition to their assessment of the Vale of Glamorgan as a whole, respondents were asked to consider their satisfaction with their local area. When asked about their local area, respondents answered that they were either “fairly” or “very” satisfied. Of the 787 answers to this question, the highest proportion 451 (53.5%) of respondents answered that they were “fairly satisfied”, while 268 (34.1%) that they were “very satisfied”. In comparison, only 53 (6.7%) of respondents answered that they were “fairly dissatisfied” and 28 (3.6%) that they were “very dissatisfied” with their local area. 17 (2.2%) of respondents answered that they were neither satisfied of dissatisfied with their local area.



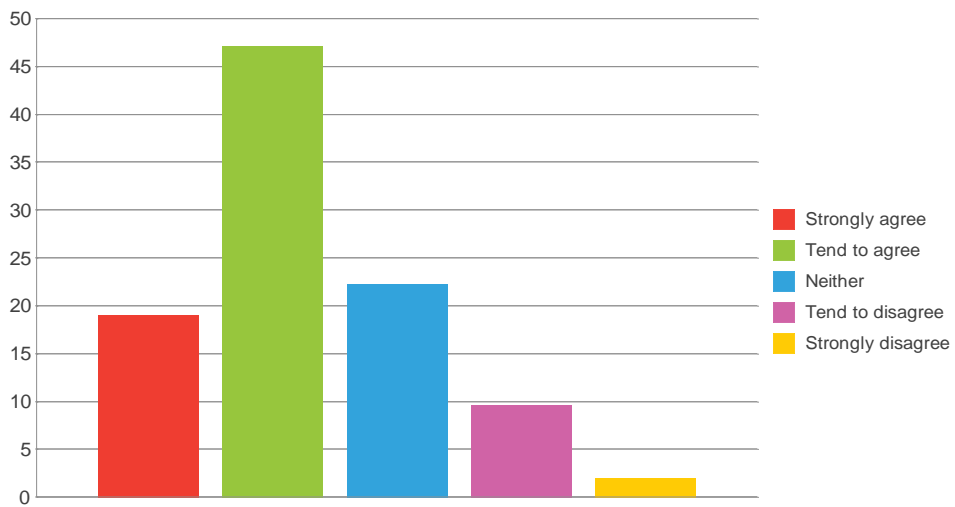
### To what extent do you belong to your community?

When asked the extent to which respondents thought they belonged to their communities, of the 788 answers given, the highest proportion, 371 (47.1%) of respondents answered that they “tend to agree” that they belonged to their community. 175 (22.2%) of respondents answered that they “neither” belonged nor did not belong to their local communities. Of respondents, 76 (9.6%) answered that they “tend to disagree” that they belonged to their communities, and 16 (2%) answered that they “strongly disagree” that they belonged to their communities.

From the answers given to this question it can be suggested that a large proportion of the respondents to the survey were positive in their analysis of belonging to their communities. Very few respondents noted that they felt that they did not belong to their communities.

When divided by the three different areas of the Vale of Glamorgan there is very little disparity between the areas. Only in Barry was there a significant proportion who disagreed that they belonged to their area. In Barry, 30 (13.2%) “tend to disagree” and 14 (6.1%) “strongly disagree” that they belonged to their area.

To what extent do you agree that you belong to your community



Answers to this question were supported by common answers to one of our extended open question asked in the survey. Respondents highlighted the importance of feeling part of the community when detailing the most important factors to their well-being.

**Open Question:** Having considered the previous sections, what do you consider to be the most important factor(s) in your well-being?

**Example Comments:**

- Strong communities and community contact, plus good environment and access to cultural activities and institutions such as galleries, libraries, theatre and cinema.
- Access to the local community
- Access to community groups, family and friends. Access to a gym and outdoor spaces.

## How safe or unsafe do you feel in the following situations?

	Very unsafe		Unsafe		Safe		Very Safe	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
In everyday life in the Vale of Glamorgan	8	1	19	2.5	428	56.2	307	40.3
At home in the daylight	8	1	5	0.7	297	38.7	457	59.6
At home after dark	15	2	53	6.9	405	52.9	293	38.3
When walking alone in your town/village in the daylight	10	1.3	24	3.4	377	49.2	355	46.3
When walking alone in your town/village after dark	35	4.6	189	25	417	55.2	114	15.1
When travelling by bus in daylight	5	0.7	17	2.5	337	50	315	46.7
When travelling by bus after dark	20	3.2	144	23	226	47.3	68	14.2
Cycling in the Vale of Glamorgan during the day	40	8.4	144	30.1	226	47.3	68	14.2
Cycling in the Vale of Glamorgan after dark	128	27.5	192	41.3	122	26.2	23	4.9
When travelling by train during the day	4	0.6	14	2.1	340	51.1	307	46.2
When travelling by train after dark	29	4.6	164	26	318	50.4	120	19
On roads as a driver in the day	13	1.8	32	4.5	408	56.7	266	37
On roads as a driver after dark	18	2.5	71	10	424	59.6	198	27.8

When asked to assess how safe or unsafe they felt in certain situations, respondents were on the whole positive about community safety in the Vale of Glamorgan. When asked if they felt safe about “everyday life in the Vale of Glamorgan” the majority of respondents, 428 (56.2%), answered that they felt “safe”, and 307 (40.3%) that they felt “very safe”.

Although it is clear from the table above that most respondents selected “Safe” or “Very safe” in answer to the questions, there are a number of answers that should be highlighted. When asked if they felt safe cycling during the day, a significant number of respondents, 144 (30.1%) answered that they felt “Unsafe”. This answer was echoed by respondents answering the question of cycling in the dark, the highest proportion of respondents answering this question 192 (41.3%) answered that they felt “Unsafe” and 128 (27.5%) that they felt “Very Unsafe”. Respondents also noted feeling “unsafe” when travelling by train after dark, 164 (26%) of respondents answered that this activity felt unsafe.

When answering questions on community safety in the school super survey, 94% of primary school pupils and 93% of secondary pupils answered that they felt either safe or very safe during the day. The percentages of pupils feeling safe reduced however, when asked how they felt in the evening; 82% of primary school pupils and 76% of secondary school pupils reported feeling safe or very safe.

### How much of a problem are the following in your area?

	Not a problem		A small problem/rare occurrence		A problem/frequent occurrence		A serious problem/everyday occurrence		I don't know	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Vandalism/graffiti	247	32.4	411	53.9	76	10	7	0.9	21	2.8
People using drugs	243	32	221	29.1	85	11.2	43	5.7	162	22
People dealing drugs	291	38.6	155	20.6	64	8.5	37	4.9	206	27.4
People being rowdy or drunk in public	248	32.8	341	45.1	97	12.8	36	4.8	34	4.5
Deliberate fires	494	65.6	140	18.6	20	2.7	7	0.9	92	12.2
Noisy neighbours	427	56	230	30.2	63	8.3	30	3.9	12	1.6
Doorstep selling/unwanted callers	174	22.8	406	53.2	147	19.3	28	3.7	8	1
Littering/ Fly tipping	137	17.9	290	38	217	28.4	97	12.7	23	3

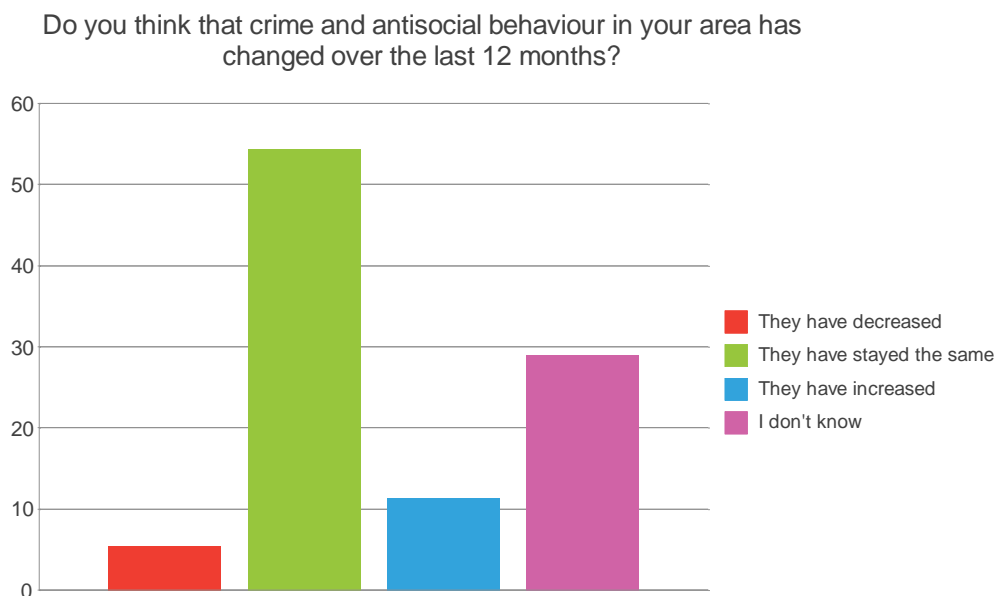
When analysing how much of a problem certain issues were in their areas, respondents were largely positive, with few respondents noting serious or frequent problems in their areas. Responses that stood out were, when asked about vandalism/graffiti in their area, the highest proportion 411 (53.9%) answered that this was a “small/problem/rare occurrence” in their area. When asked about doorstep selling/unwanted callers, the highest proportion of respondents 406 (53.2%) highlighted that this was a “small/problem/rare occurrence” in their areas. And when asked about people being rowdy or drunk in public the highest proportion of respondents 341 (45.1%) answered that this was a “small/problem/rare occurrence”. It is worth noting, that when asked if doorstep selling/unwanted callers was a problem in their area, 147 (19.3%) respondents answered that this was a “problem/frequent occurrence”.



## Do you think that crime and antisocial behaviour in your area has changed over the last 12 months?

Respondents were asked to assess whether they thought that crime and antisocial behaviour had changed in their areas over the last 12 months. Of the 762 respondents who answered this question, the highest proportion 414 (54.3%), answered that crime and antisocial behaviour “have stayed the same”. While 220 (28.9%) of respondents answered that they did not know if crime and antisocial behaviour has changed, 87 (11.4%) answered that they thought crime and antisocial behaviour had increased, and only 41 (5.4%) of respondents answered that they thought that crime and antisocial behaviour had decreased in their area.

Many respondents engaged with at our events or through our postcards noted a lack of crime and feeling safe as a positive aspect of life in the Vale. For other respondents however, there was dissatisfaction with antisocial behaviour, this was particularly raised by respondents attending Festivale.



The issue of community safety was raised as a prevalent subject for respondents answering the question of which services or support are important to maintaining or improving well-being. In answering the question, respondents highlighted the importance that community safety and feeling safe can have on overall well-being.

**Open Question:** What services or support do you think are important to maintaining or improving your current level of well-being

**Example Comments:**

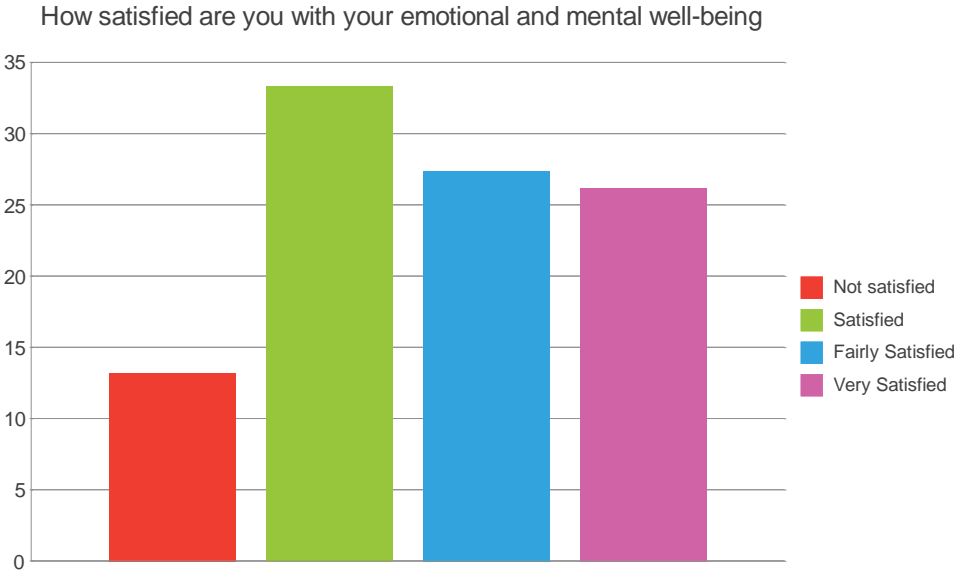
- Feeling that I am safe and belong.
- Greater presence of police/police community support officers
- More community policing day and night on the street

- More police patrols at night. Clamp down on noise and drunks in public and anti-social behaviour
- Street lighting. More police walking around.
- A better police presence and response to tackle drug dealing in Penarth as this would reassure me and make me feel safer in my environment and protect my children.

When undertaking our consultation on the draft well-being assessment, the Vale Youth Forum emphasised a possible link between anti-social behaviour and a lack of youth facilities and activities in the Vale of Glamorgan. The forum suggested that more could be done to protect youth facilities in the Vale, which could in-turn have an impact upon anti-social behaviour across the Vale of Glamorgan.

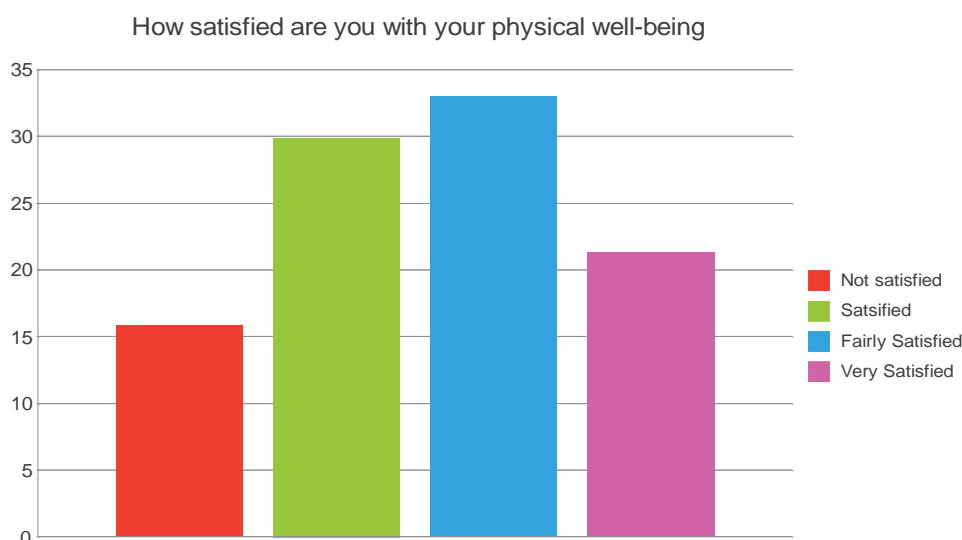
**How satisfied are you with your emotional and mental well-being?**

When asked to assess their satisfaction with their emotional and mental well-being, 706 respondents provided an answer. The answers given were fairly evenly distributed between “Satisfied”, “Fairly Satisfied” and “Very Satisfied”. 253 (33.3%) of respondents answered that they were “Satisfied” with their emotional and mental well-being, 208 (27.4%) that they were “Fairly Satisfied” and 199 (26.2%) that they were “Very Satisfied”. It is worth noting however, that 100 (13.2%) of respondents answered that they were “Not Satisfied” with their emotional and mental well-being.



### How satisfied are you with your physical well-being?

Similarly, when asked to assess their satisfaction with their physical well-being answers were fairly evenly distributed between “Satisfied”, “Fairly Satisfied” and “Very Satisfied”. Of the 733 answers given to this question, 242 (33%) of respondents answered that they were “Fairly Satisfied” with their physical well-being; 219 (29.9%) answered that they were “Satisfied”, and 156 (21.3%) that they were “Very Satisfied”. Despite this split, 116 (15.8%) of respondents answered that they were “Not satisfied” with their physical well-being.



Although generally satisfied with their physical, emotional and mental well-being, respondents highlighted a number of issues in their answers to our open questions. Prevalent comments focused on the topics of: concerns with the built environment, access to services and community safety.

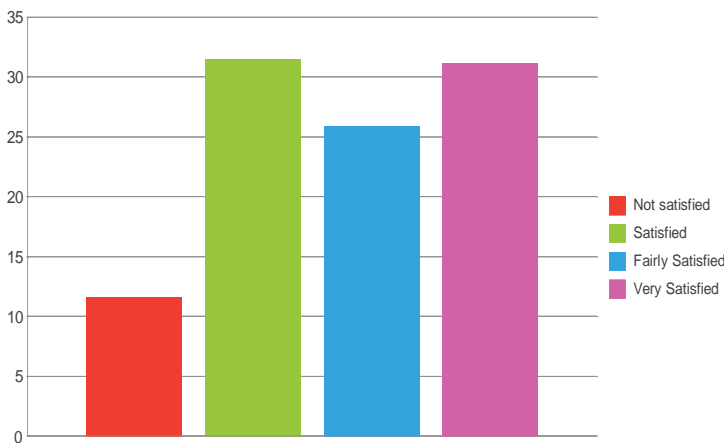
<b>Open Question:</b> If you have any further comments on the above ( <b>Physical, Emotional and Mental Well-being</b> ) please note them here
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Concerns with the built environment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I enjoy walking and many of the roads around the Vale are badly overgrown and some bridleways are no longer accessible.</li> </ul>
<b>Access to services</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Difficult to get doctors' appointments when needed. If referred to a specialist, waiting lists are too long.</li> <li>I think that educational activities, online and at the Vale centre are underestimated for their therapeutic benefits, which impact both mental and physical well-being.</li> </ul>
<b>Community safety</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A few problems have occurred in my area which has affected my mental well-being regarding how secure I feel.</li> <li>Our mental well-being is affected by drug use and parking by youths outside the property during evening/night. This is an ongoing problem.</li> </ul>

Reflecting these answers, respondents engaged through our Graffiti Wall and Postcard activities highlighted the importance that access to GP services, ambulances services and hospitals more generally, as important factors in maintaining their health and well-being. The importance of a healthy diet, access to sports and leisure activities and family activities and support were also noted by respondents as critical factors to their health and well-being.

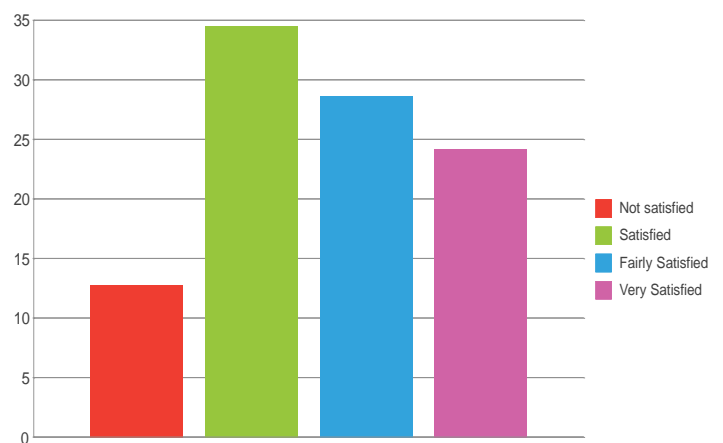
When this data is disaggregated by gender there is a commonality in the answers given. More female than male respondents answered these questions, with 472 female respondents answering the question on their emotional and mental well-being, and 454 female respondents answering the question on their physical well-being. In comparison, 251 male respondents answered the question on their emotional and mental well-being, and 243 male respondents answered the question on their physical well-being. In answering these questions, more male than female respondents answered that they were “very satisfied” with their emotional and mental well-being. 78 (31.1%) of male respondents and 114 (24.3%) of female respondents selected “very satisfied” as an answer.

When this information is broken down by the differing age groups, there is little variation between the groups, with the highest proportion of all groups recording being either “satisfied” or “fairly satisfied” with both their emotional and mental well-being and their physical well-being.

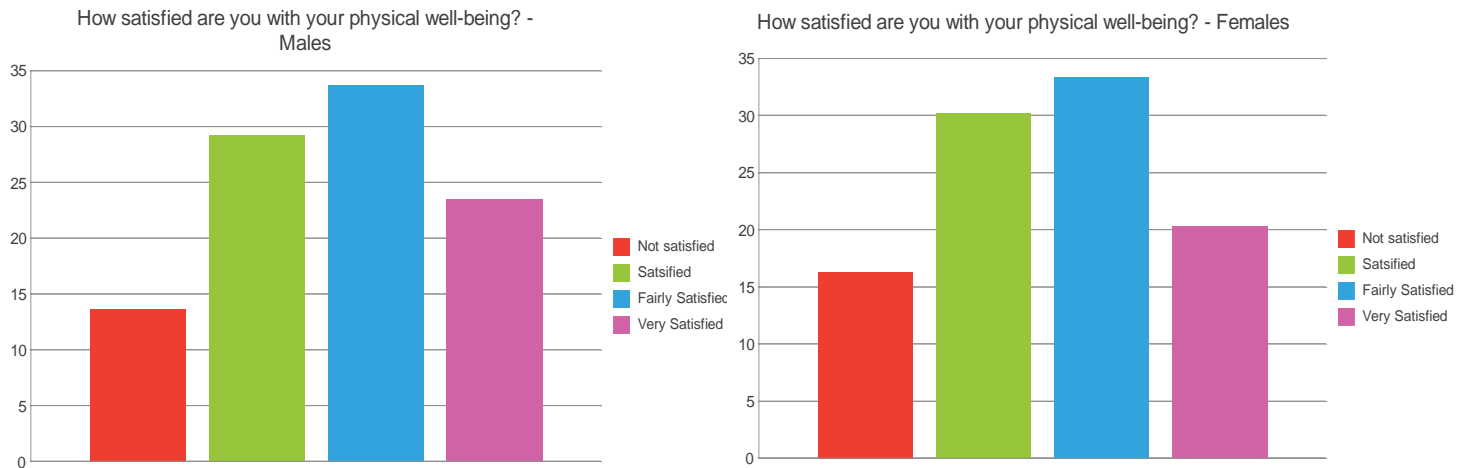
How satisfied are you with your emotional and mental well-being? - Males



How satisfied are you with your emotional and mental well-being? - Females



When asked to assess their physical well-being, there was little disparity between the answers given by gender. The highest proportion of both male and female respondents answered that they were “fairly satisfied” with their physical well-being. 151 (33.3%) of female respondents, and 82 (33.7%) of male respondents selected this answer.

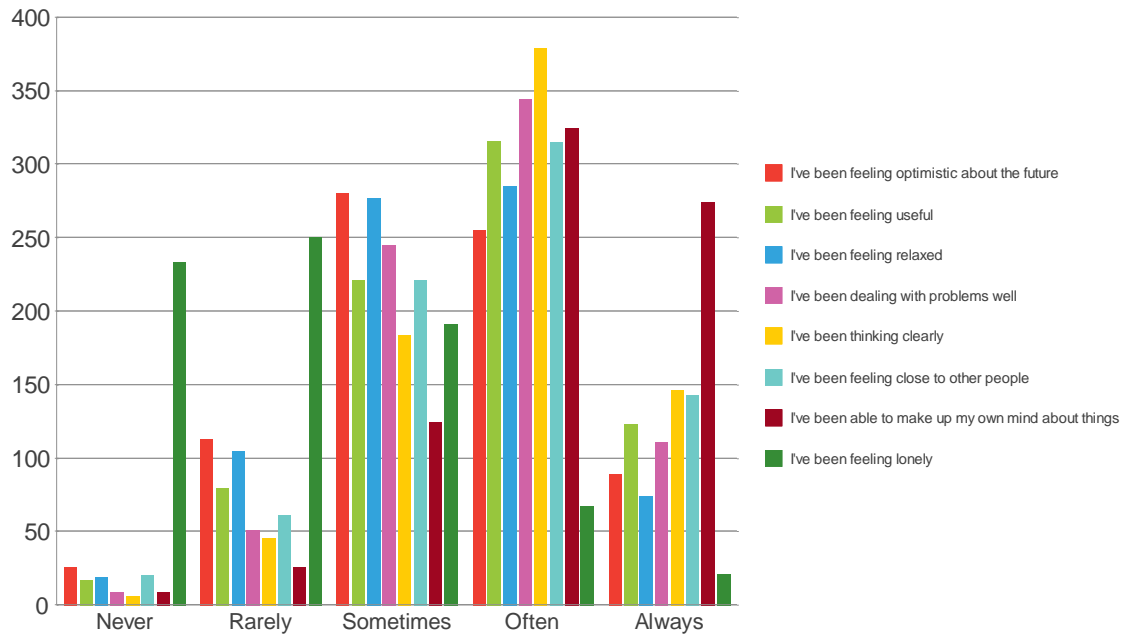


### Statements about Feelings and thoughts

Against this question respondents were asked to tick the description that best fit their thoughts and feelings over the last two weeks. Of the questions asked, the highest proportion, 379 respondents answered that they had often “been thinking clearly”. A high proportion, 274 answered that they were always “able to make my own mind about things”. And 280 respondents answered that they had sometimes “been feeling optimistic about the future”. In answering the question of whether respondents had been “feeling lonely”, a high proportion, 250 respondents, answered that they rarely felt lonely, and 233 respondents that they never felt lonely.

#

## Statements about feelings and thoughts



When asked to assess the services and support that are important to maintaining and improving well-being, many respondents noted that their health, and access to healthcare services were an essential aspect to both maintaining and improving their well-being. Reflecting the answers given to the question of feelings and thoughts many answers highlighted the importance of mental health services.

**Open Question:** What services or support do you think are important to maintaining or improving your current level of well-being?

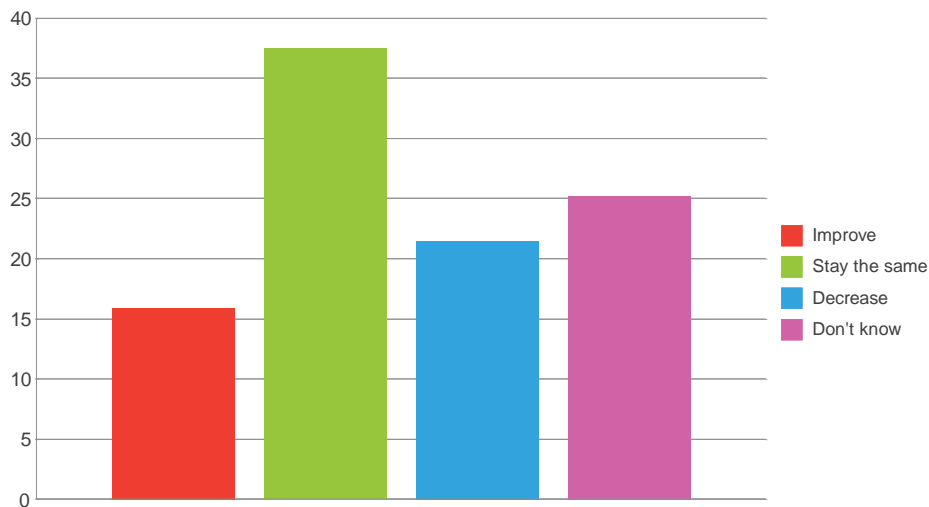
**Example Comments:**

**Health and healthcare services**

- If mental health services could be improved i.e. involvement of families in the treatment of the affected person.
- Mental health support, counselling, one to one support, entry into gym support, empathetic staff across the board can make a big difference to a person's life.
- Prompt access, assessment and treatment of any health problems. Support and availability of groups for active pensioners including adult learning/education.
- NHS services, green open spaces, good transport links, environmental cleanliness

## How do you think your social well-being will change over the next 5 years?

How do you think your social well-being will change over the next 5 years?



Of the 762 respondents who answered this question on future social well-being, the highest proportion answered that their social well-being would “stay the same”. 286 (37.5%) of respondents answered that their social well-being would “stay the same”, 192 (25.2%) answered they didn’t know if their social well-being would change, 163 (21.4%) answered their social well-being would “decrease” and 121 (15.9%) that their social well-being would “improve”.

When assessing their future well-being, more respondents answered that their social well-being would stay the same or improve than those who answered that their social well-being would decrease over the next 5 years.

When disaggregated by differing age groups then there is little disparity between the answers given. More respondents aged over the age of 55 however, answered either that their social well-being would “decrease” or “stay the same” than “stay the same” or “improve”. While more respondents aged under the age of 55 answered that their social well-being would “improve” or “stay the same” than “decrease” or “stay the same”.

Respondents were varied in their assessment of how their social well-being might change over the next 5 years. This response was supported, and expanded on through the extended answers given by respondents to this question. When expanding on their answers, respondents highlighted a number of issues; prevalent answers were to do with: age and becoming socially isolated, having the time to partake in activities, the UKs exit from the EU and general economic concerns.

<b>Open Question:</b> How do you think your social well-being will change over the next 5 years
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Age and Social Isolation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advancing old age brings about negative thoughts – there should be more emphasis in involving senior citizens in discussions, courses, volunteering etc.</li> <li>• The older I get the more remote society becomes. Modern technology advances don't help.</li> </ul>
<b>Time to partake in activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a young family at the moment and that can be isolating and limits what I can do with my time.</li> <li>• Family commitments do not currently give me the option for any 'me time' hence I am always running around here, there and everywhere trying to keep everybody happy/make sure all ok and hold down a demanding 55hr a week job.</li> </ul>
<b>United Kingdom's exit from the European Union</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I think normally I would have been more optimistic but the referendum results have marked a significant change in confidence for the future, concerns with work opportunities and general cohesiveness of communities around us.</li> <li>• Very apprehensive about changes due to Brexit and fears for community unrest and neighbourhood disputes.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Concerns</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We plan to have another child so emotionally we are and will be great, financially we will struggle and work is very uncertain with huge organisational re-structuring.</li> <li>• I really need to work. I have nine years to go before I can retire and claim my pension; I wasn't expecting to finish work ten years early. I have had difficulty adjusting.</li> </ul>

Despite the negative analysis of future social well-being, the importance of community and of feeling part of the community was highlighted by respondents in their answers to the question of the factors that are most important to a person's well-being. In their answers respondents noted the importance that having access to community services and of feeling a part of the community in general, can have on a person's well-being.

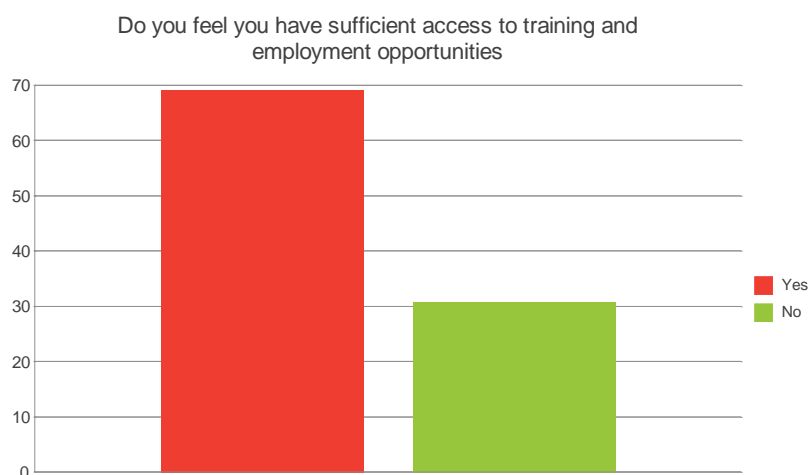
<b>Open Question:</b> Having considered the previous sections, what do you consider to be the most important factor (s) in your well-being?
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Feeling a part of the community</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong communities and community contact, plus good environment and access to cultural activities and institutions such as galleries, libraries, theatre and cinema.</li> <li>• Access to the local community.</li> <li>• Access to community groups, family and friends. Access to gym and outdoor spaces.</li> </ul>



## Economic Well-being

### Do you feel you have sufficient access to training and employment opportunities?

Respondents were asked to assess whether they feel they have sufficient access to training and employment opportunities in the Vale of Glamorgan. Of the 581 respondents who answered this question, the majority of respondents, 402 (69.2%) answered that they do have sufficient access to opportunities. In contrast, 179 (30.8%) answered that they did not feel they had sufficient access to training and employment opportunities.



Despite this positive analysis, it must be noted that these figures may be affected by the high levels of retirees who responded to our survey. Further, when asked to expand on their answers through this open question, respondents provided a more balanced analysis. A number of respondents noted their dissatisfaction with their access to training and employment opportunities, while others noted good help and support in accessing these opportunities. The importance of having access to adult learning opportunities was raised as an important aspect of well-being by stakeholders attending our workshop on the draft well-being assessment. Stakeholders emphasised the importance these opportunities can play not only in upskilling, but also as a means of tackling social isolation.

<b>Open Question:</b> Do you feel you have sufficient access to training and employment opportunities?
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>The effect of part-time contracts</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budgets are constantly being cut. As a temporary member of staff I don't have access to a training budget.</li> <li>Because of my part-time working, I don't qualify for NVQ or QCF.</li> </ul>
<b>Financial costs of training</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is difficult to get financial support for further training as I am in work. A lot of the training opportunities are aimed at individuals who are not currently in work or who have low or no</li> </ul>

academic qualifications.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training is limited by costs – not necessarily supported financially from employer and personal disposable income to support is limited.</li> </ul>
<b>Age restricted opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a lack of work based funding opportunities for over 25s.</li> <li>• Many training opportunities are only funded for younger people. Training is expensive.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Concerns</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Despite public sector cuts, I feel my employer offers a good overall package to support me.</li> <li>• I work for an organisation that is ready and willing to invest in training opportunities for staff.</li> </ul>
<b>Accessible training provision</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I was made redundant 18 months ago and assistance to train and find work was available and easy to access.</li> <li>• I was made redundant in January 2015 and had so much support from Careers Wales in terms of help with my CV and support etc, which helped me get my job.</li> </ul>

### Housing Tenure

As illustrated in the table below, the highest proportion of respondents answered that they either owned their properties outright or with a mortgage. This is uniform across the Vale of Glamorgan, with all three areas, Barry, Eastern and Western recording home ownership outright or with a mortgage. Similarly across all age ranges there is uniformity in the answers given by respondents to the question of housing tenure. In addition, it is interesting to note that housing was rarely raised as an issue in our Graffiti wall and postcard engagement activities.

Which of the following best describes your housing tenure?				
	Barry	Eastern	Western	Total Vale
Owned Outright %	48.6	52.6	55.8	50.7
Owned Outright	367	141	116	624
Owned with a mortgage %	34.3	34.3	30.3	33.6
Owned with a mortgage	259	92	63	414
Rented from the local authority %	2.6	1.9	2.4	2.4
Rented from the local authority	20	5	5	30
Rented from a housing association %	2.1	1.1	1.4	1.8
Rented from a housing association	16	3	3	22
Privately rented %	6.8	6.3	4.3	6.3
Privately rented	51	17	9	77
Living with parents %	3.6	1.9	3.8	3.2
Living with parents	27	5	8	40
Other %	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Other	15	5	4	24

**Please rate your current level of concern with being able to afford the following**

In order to develop a picture of the level of affordability across the Vale of Glamorgan, respondents were asked to assess their level of concern with being able to afford certain aspects of life in the Vale of Glamorgan. Respondents were able to select multiple options in their assessment of affordability. Of those who answered this question, 104 (23.2%) indicated that they were “very concerned” by being able to achieve a “decent standard of living”, and 258 (3.2%) of respondents indicated that they were “fairly concerned” by future energy costs.

Affordability				
Please rate your current level of concern with being able to afford the following				
Totals	Not concerned at all	Not very concerned	Fairly concerned	Very Concerned
Housing %	22.1	12.4	14.4	18.0
Housing costs (rent/mortgage)	314	187	159	81
Energy costs %	10.3	16.1	23.3	21.4
Energy costs e.g. gas, electricity, coal	146	243	258	96
Transport %	14.0	19.0	17.4	14.5
Transport (personal and public)	200	287	192	65
Food %	23.2	17.6	10.9	7.8
Food (regular meals)	330	266	121	35
Social or leisure %	15.9	19.1	15.2	15.1
Social or leisure activities	227	289	168	68
Decent standard of living %	14.5	15.8	18.8	23.2
Decent standard of living	207	238	208	104
Totals	1424	1510	1106	449

Interestingly when these answers are broken down by the differing age ranges there is a disparity in the answers given by the different age groups. There is a commonality in the answers given by respondents aged between 35 and 74, these respondents were “very concerned” with their ability to afford a “decent standard of living”; in contrast for those aged over 75, these respondents were “very concerned” by their ability to afford “social or

leisure activities". While for those respondents aged between 25 and 34, the primary concerns for affordability were with "housing costs", this group were "very concerned" with their ability to afford costs associated with housing.

The disparity in answers given by different age groups continues when examining how respondents answered the question of being "fairly concerned" with costs. The highest proportion of respondents aged over 34 answered that they were "fairly concerned" by 'energy costs'; while those aged 34 and under answered that they were "fairly concerned" with being able to afford a 'decent standard of living'.

It is worth noting that of respondents aged between 74 and 35, the answer most given was that this group was "not very concerned" with their ability to afford "transport" costs. While for those aged 75 and over the answer most given was that this group is "not very concerned" with their ability to be able to afford "social or leisure activities". Although this contradicts the answers given by the 75 and over group to the "very concerned" answer, it is relevant to illustrate a difference in affordability even within this group. For the 25-34 age group, this group answered that they were "not very concerned" with their ability to afford food costs.

Similarly, for the 75 and over age group and the 35-54 age group, respondents answered that they were "not concerned at all" by food costs. Interestingly, for the 55-74 age group, respondents answered that they were "not concerned at all" by "housing costs"; this is reflective of the high levels of home ownership amongst survey respondents. For those aged 25-34, respondents answered that they were "not concerned at all" with their ability to afford "social or leisure activities".

The disparities between the different age groups are illustrated through the notable answers highlighted in the tables below:

Affordability				
Please rate your current level of concern with being able to afford the following				
Age	Level of concern	no	Percentage	Concern
75+	Very concerned	11	17.2	Social or Leisure activities
75+	Fairly concerned	22	34.4	Energy Costs
75+	Not very concerned	21	32.8	Social or Leisure activities
75+	Not concerned at all	40	61.5	Food (regular meals)

Affordability				
Please rate your current level of concern with being able to afford the following				
55-74	Very concerned	39	10.4	Decent standard of living
55-74	Fairly concerned	128	34.7	Energy Costs
55-74	Not very concerned	145	39.1	Transport (personal and public)
55-74	Not concerned at all	209	56.9	Housing Costs

Affordability				
Please rate your current level of concern with being able to afford the following				
35-54	Very concerned	44	17.8	Decent standard of living
35-54	Fairly concerned	85	35.3	Energy Costs
35-54	Not very concerned	99	40.9	Transport (personal and public)
35-54	Not concerned at all	81	33.1	Food (regular meals)

Affordability				
Please rate your current level of concern with being able to afford the following				
25-34	Very concerned	14	31.8	Housing Costs
25-34	Fairly concerned	17	38.6	Decent standard of living
25-34	Not very concerned	21	47.7	Food (regular meals)
25-34	Not concerned at all	7	14	Social or Leisure activities

Despite not reflecting in the survey any severe concerns with the ability to afford certain aspects of life in the Vale of Glamorgan, when answering the open question assessing the most important factors that influence your well-being, having to not worry about personal finances was highlighted by respondents as an important factor in well-being.

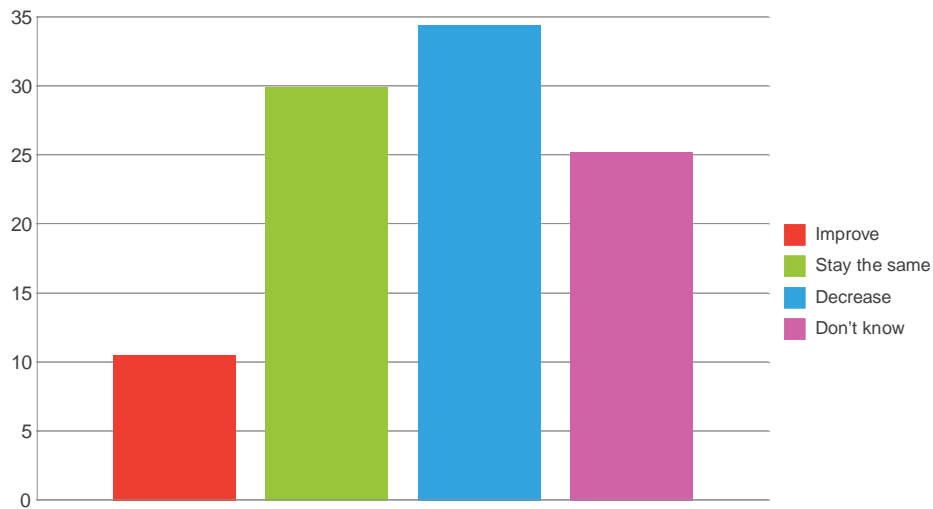
<b>Open Question:</b> Having considered the previous sections, what do you consider to be the most important factor(s) in your well-being
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Personal Finances</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affordable housing for my children.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic factors, as these have an impact on all aspects of my life, determining my mental and sometimes physical health, and dictate what level of well-being I have.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having not to worry about finances. I spend so much time worrying about employment, salaries etc that I feel opportunities to relax and enjoy myself pass me by. Also activities are so expensive to participate in that families cannot afford them.</li> </ul>

### **Do you think your economic well-being will change over the next 5 years?**

When asked about how their economic well-being would change over the next five years, the highest proportion answered that they thought their economic well-being would decrease. Of the 755 respondents who answered this question: 260 (34.4%) answered that their economic well-being would “decrease”, 226 (29.9%) that their economic well-being would “stay the same and 190 (25.2%) that they didn’t know whether their economic well-being would change over the next 5 years. Only 79 (10.5%) of respondents who answered this question thought their economic well-being would “improve”.

In their analysis of whether their economic well-being would change over the next 5 years respondents were largely negative. It may be noted however, that these results could be influenced by the high levels of retired respondents. Further, the survey was conducted in the weeks leading up-to and including the United Kingdom’s referendum on its membership of the European Union; as such answers given may have been reflective of current economic uncertainties rather than a long term economic analysis.

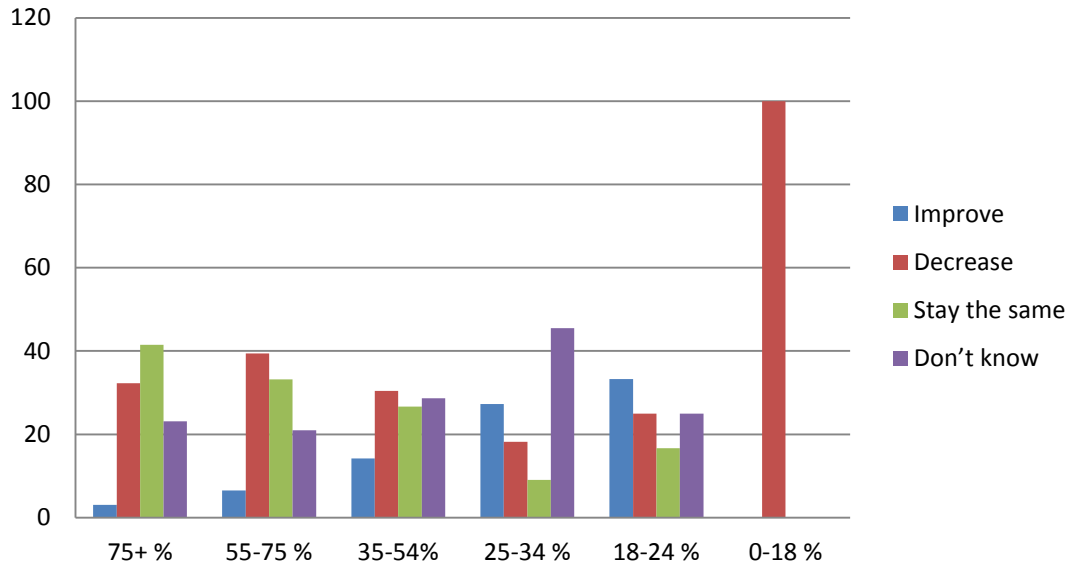
Do you think your economic well-being will change over the next 5 years?



When disaggregated by age, there are differences in the answers given across the age groups. For those aged over 75, the highest proportion, 27 (41.5%), of answers stated that economic well-being would “stay the same”. Of those aged 55-75, the highest proportion 146 (39.4%) answered that their economic well-being would “decrease” over the next 5 years; this is also the case for those aged 35-54, 75 (30.4%) of respondents from this age group answered that their economic well-being would “decrease”.

In contrast, for those aged 25-34, the highest proportion of respondents, 20 (42.5%) answered that they did not know if their economic well-being would change over the next 5 years; while the highest proportion of those aged 18-25, 4 (33.3%) answered that their economic well-being would improve.

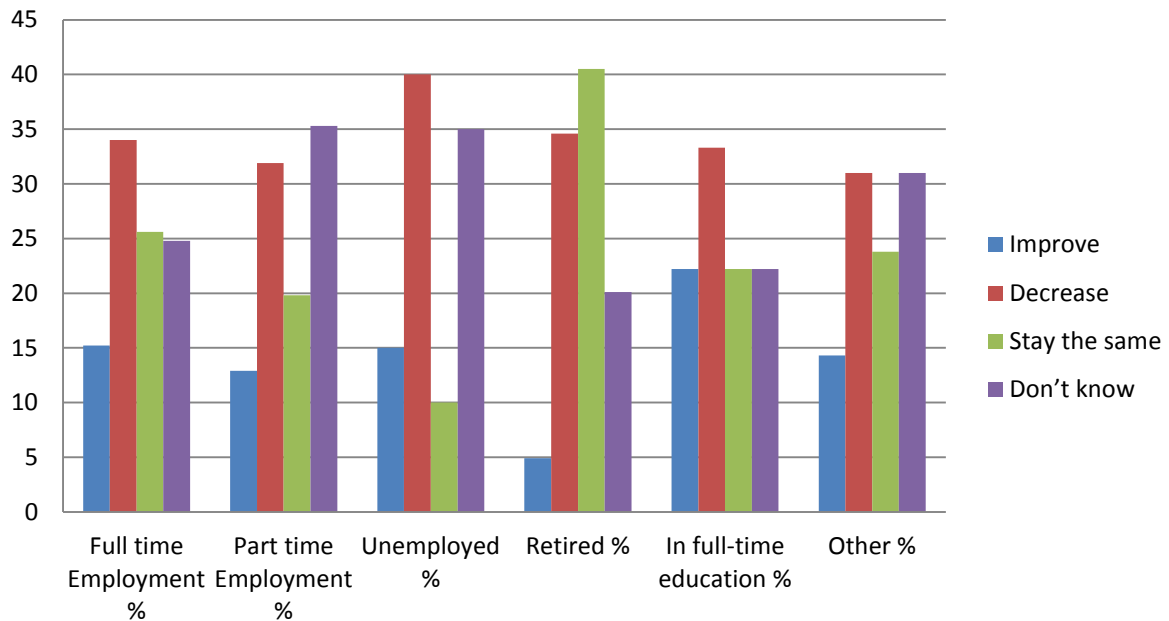
By Age - Do you think your economic well-being will change over the next 5 years?



When reviewed by employment status, there is an interesting split between the different groups. Of those respondents in full-time employment, the highest proportion, 86 (34%) answered that their economic well-being would “decrease”. This answer was echoed by those who identified that they were unemployed, of these respondents, the highest proportion, 8 (40%) answered that their economic well-being would decrease. In contrast, the highest proportion of respondents who identified as retired answering this question, 125 (40.5%) answered that their economic well-being would “stay the same” over the next 5 years.



By Employment Status - Do you think your economic well-being will change over the next 5 years?



Expanding on the overall analysis to the question of how economic well-being might change over the next five years, respondents noted a number of prevalent issues that may cause their economic well-being to decrease over the next 5 years.

<b>Open Question:</b> Do you think your economic well-being will change over the next 5 years? Please explain your answer
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Costs of living</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available income will decrease against rising costs and demands</li> <li>• Limited income, increasing outgoings seems to be a fact of modern life that I can do nothing about.</li> <li>• I have a very small income, which is constantly being stretched to accommodate increases in most things.</li> </ul>
<b>Pensions/low interest rates/savings</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As I am a pensioner, if the costs of living index rises, inflation etcetera, my money may not stretch as far.</li> <li>• As my savings dwindle and prices increase my well-being will decrease</li> <li>• Living on savings which are diminishing even more rapidly with such low interest rates. Private rent is too high.</li> </ul>
<b>United Kingdom's exit from the European Union</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wales heavily relies on EU subsidy and funding. This is unlikely to improve through the current Barnett Formula calculation of funds once the UK has left the EU.</li> <li>• Decrease, inflation and the uncertain of leaving the EU will undoubtedly cause some "roller coaster" effects with the economy for a while.</li> <li>• I think that the cost of living is now going to increase with the current Brexit in force and my wages are not likely to as we haven't had pay rises for a good few years. I can see myself being worse off in the future not better off as I am trying to own/run a house by myself.</li> </ul>

<b>Welfare Reform</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decrease, with not being able to get work, JSA is not increasing, Housing benefit has decreased and cost of living will rise.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decrease, I am in receipt of a small pension supplemented by ESA, current reforms may affect me.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decrease, we get housing benefit which goes down by approximately £20 per year which in effect means that we have had no rise in our income over the past three years.</li></ul>

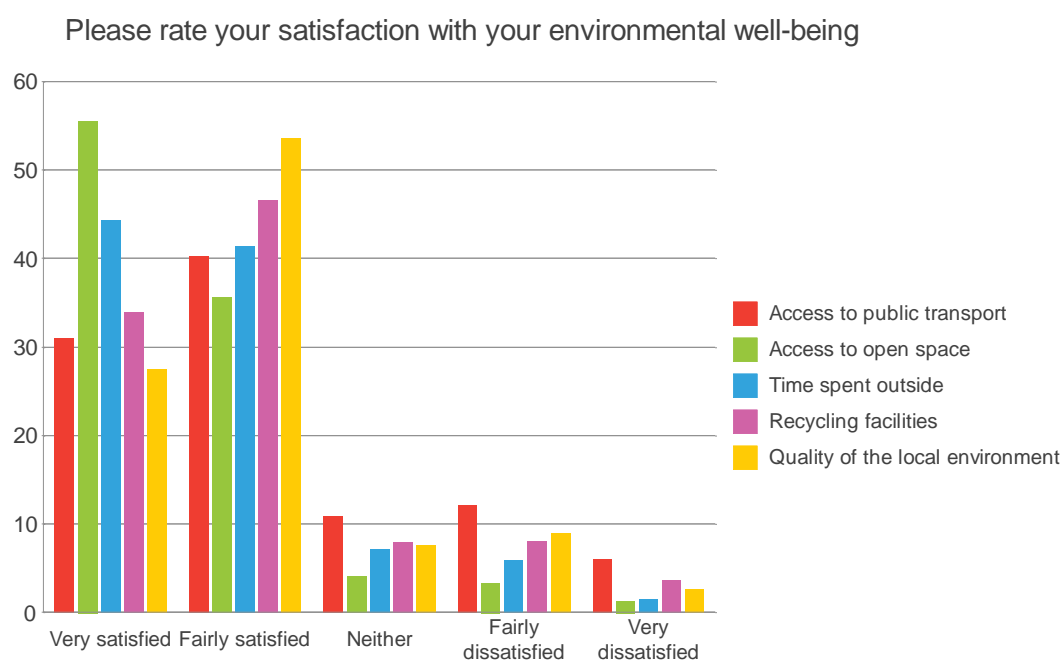
## Environmental Well-being

### Please rate your satisfaction with your environmental well-being

Of the answers given to the question of satisfaction with environmental well-being, the highest proportion of answers given against being very satisfied was for “access to open space” 416 (55.5%) respondents gave this answer. 386 (53.6%) of respondents answered that they were fairly satisfied with the “quality of the local environment”. In comparison, 90 (12.1%) of respondents answered that they were fairly dissatisfied, and 44 (5.9%) that they were very dissatisfied, with their “access to public transport”.

In their assessment of environmental well-being respondents were on the whole satisfied. This is particularly prevalent in respondents assessment of their “access to open space” and the “quality of the local environment”. Few respondents answered that they were dissatisfied with their environmental well-being; however, respondents did note dissatisfaction with “access to public transport”, although raised as an issue, this reflects a small number of our overall respondents.

When broken down by age and area there is little discrepancy between the answers given by respondents to the question of satisfaction with environmental well-being. It may be noted however, that respondents in the Western Vale recorded a higher rate of dissatisfaction with “access to public transport” than the other areas of the Vale of Glamorgan; this may be reflective of the rurality of this area. Of the 206 respondents from the Western Vale who rated their satisfaction with “access to public transport” 37 (18%) answered that they were “fairly dissatisfied” and 24 (11.7%) “Very dissatisfied”.



The dissatisfaction with “access to public transport” noted by respondents in their analysis of environmental well-being was also raised as a prevalent issue in the open responses to this question. In addition, respondents highlighted dissatisfaction with littering and dog fouling, current planning policies and procedures and recycling provision in the Vale of Glamorgan.

<b>Open Question:</b> Please rate how satisfied you are with your environmental well-being?
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Public transport</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living in a rural environment I find that public transport links, particularly in the evening are poor and means that as a family we are entirely reliant on our own vehicles.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus service is available but schedules and connection are not conducive to traveling to work without significantly increasing travel time. Train service is good but requires 10 minute drive and a 30 minute walk to get there.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vale of Glamorgan public transport is rated on a scale of dire to diabolical. My train commute to northern Cardiff takes an hour to go 9.5 miles. Disruption/dangerous overcrowding is so frequent you assume it’s going to happen on every journey.</li> </ul>
<b>Littering/dog fouling</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog fouling and litter are a constant concern.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main concern is on local streets, rubbish is on pavement and kerbs.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rubbish and dogs mess is a problem. People put rubbish out on the wrong day, put food waste in black bags which then get broken open and the rubbish goes everywhere, put their recycling out unsecured so it blows around on windy days and some irresponsible dog owners don’t pick up after their dogs.</li> </ul>
<b>Planning policies and procedures</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban and urban fringe green space is disappearing its becoming more difficult to ‘step out of the door’ and find space to breath.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local environment being destroyed by building houses on Greenfield sites.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blocked rights of way and styles not suitable for even slight mobility problems.</li> </ul>
<b>Recycling provision</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I think it would be better to separate recycle, rather than putting everything in one box.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities to recycle in public bins not just at home would be better.</li> </ul>

Further through our engagement activities, access to transport services was also raised as an important issue in respondents’ answers to the question of the services and support that are most important to maintaining and improving well-being in the Vale of Glamorgan. Respondents highlighted that having access to good transport services can directly affect their personal well-being.

**Open Question:** What services or support do you think you are important to maintaining or improving your current level of well-being?

**Example Comments:**

**Transport services**

- Improvements need to be made to the public transport system, increased and improved train and bus times to make travel to larger areas, access to jobs and activities achievable and sustainable.
- Public transport and maintaining roads so you can travel around the area.
- Improved public transport and a safer way of cycling.
- Having a bus pass, regular bus service, being close to a train station. Good selection of shops in town and restaurants.

Transport provision was consistently raised as an issue in our consultation and engagement activities. Through our Graffiti Wall and Postcard activities having improved access to public transport services, in particular, the frequency of trains and buses was an issue common to all three areas of the Vale of Glamorgan. Also, for stakeholders engaged with at the Wellbeing and DEWIS launch event the importance that access to public transport can play to people's well-being also highlighted. Additionally, when consulting on our draft well-being assessment, the Vale 50+ Executive noted that they were very pleased that the environment had been raised throughout the assessment; however, the forum voiced concern with transport provision in the Vale. Of particular concern was the potential effects of poor transport links leading to social isolation for older people.

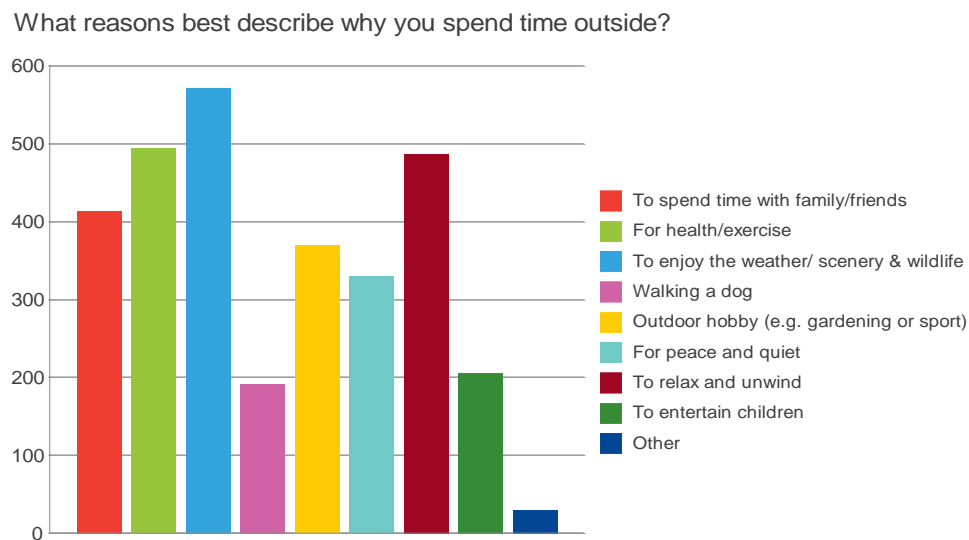
Concern for the environment was also raised as a prevalent issue by stakeholders who attended our workshop on the draft assessment. Stakeholders reiterated the important link between the environment and the other aspects of well-being; in particular discussing the importance of the role of County Council and Town and Community Council procedures in ensuring the protection of the environment through sustainable developments. Concerns were also raised over a perceived loss of the environment in the Vale of Glamorgan due to an increasing number of developments across the county. This issue was also raised by a number of participants interacting with our community drop-in sessions.

### What reasons best describe why you spend time outside?

Against this question, respondents were asked to tick all answers that were relevant to why they spent time outside. Of the answers given, 571 respondents selected “to enjoy the weather/scenery and wildlife” as the primary reason for spending time outside. Further prevalent answers selected were; “for health/exercise” 494 respondents selected this answer, and “to relax and unwind” 486 respondents selected this answer.

In contrast, the least prevalent answers given for why respondents spent time outside were for “walking a dog”, 191 respondents selected this answer, and “to entertain children” 206 respondents gave this answer as a reason for spending time outside.

When answering the question of what services are important to health and well-being, respondents engaging with our Graffiti Wall and postcard activities highlighted the importance that good access to the environment and to a clean environment can have to their well-being.

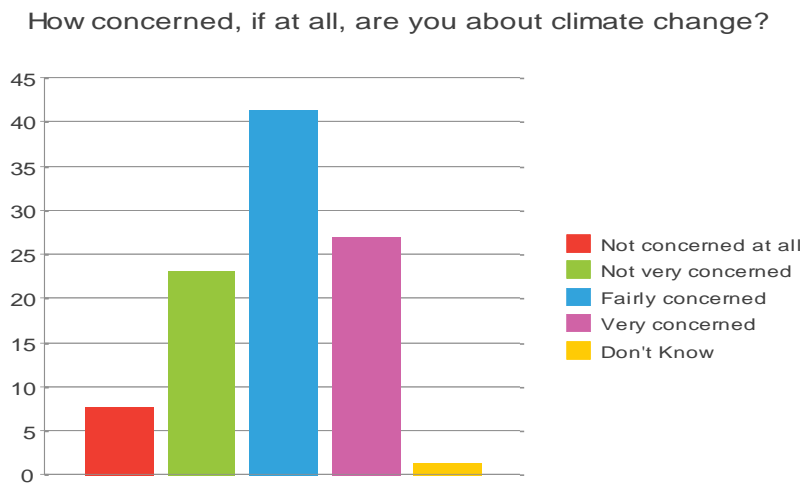


### How concerned, if at all, are you about climate change?

Of the 748 respondents who answered this question evaluating their concerns with climate change, the highest proportion, 309 (41.3%) of respondents answered that they were “fairly concerned” about climate change. The second highest answer given by respondents was that they were “very concerned” by climate change, 201 (26.9%) gave this answer. In comparison, 172 (23%) respondents answered that they were “not very concerned” by climate change and only 56 (7.5%) that they were “not concerned at all” by climate change.

Through this question respondents clearly exemplified their level of concern with climate change. Higher numbers of respondents answered that they were concerned with climate change than not concerned. It is clear that in the Vale of Glamorgan climate change is

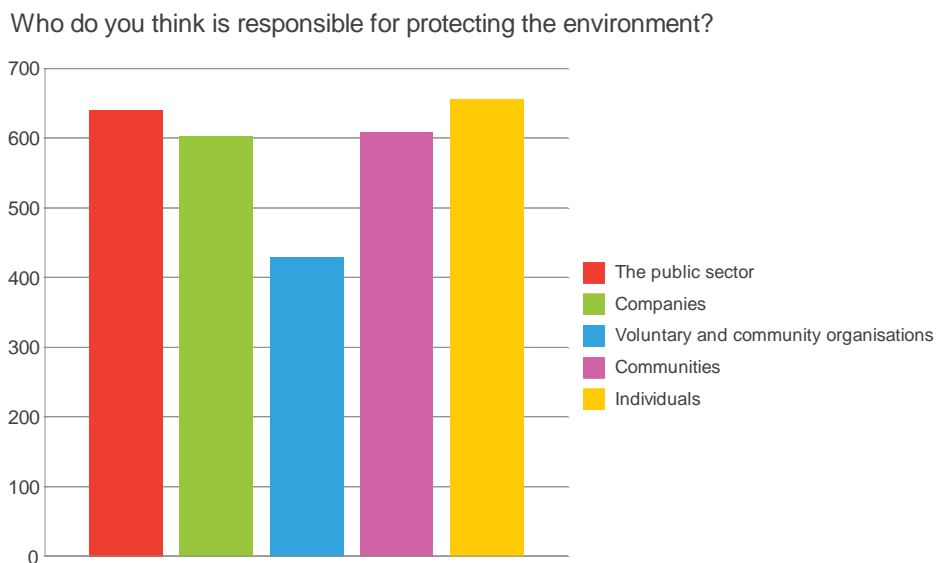
judged to be a concern. This was further reflected by respondents' answers to the question of who is responsible for protecting the environment.



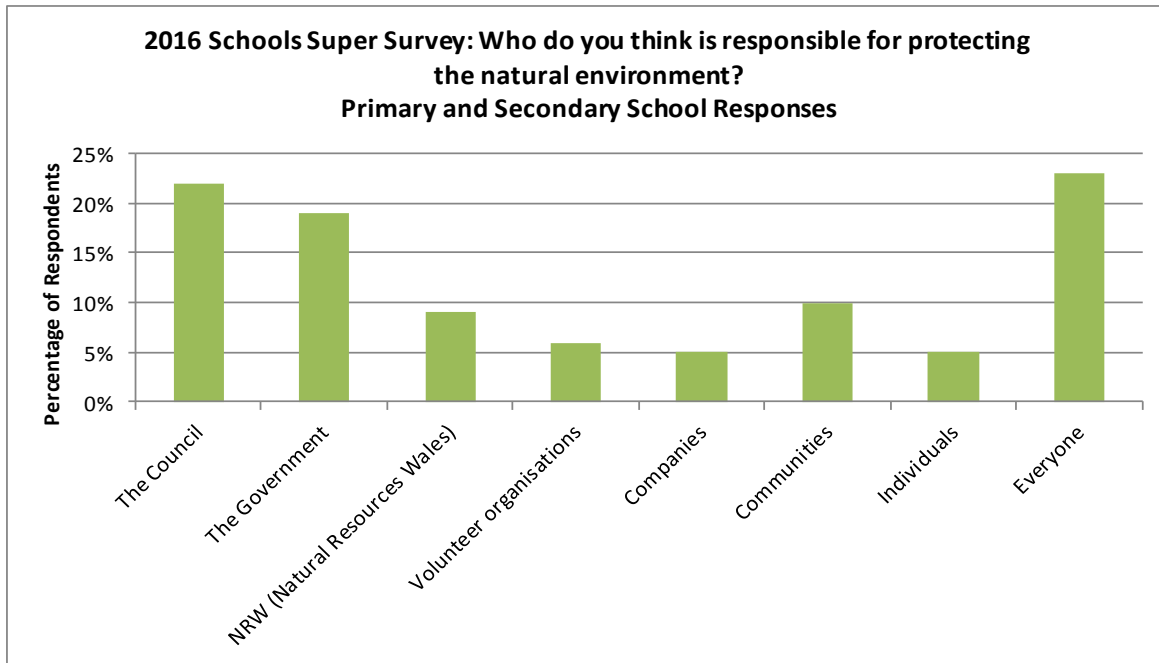
**Who do you think is responsible for protecting the environment?**

When answering this question respondents were asked to tick all answers that applied. As illustrated by the graph below, respondents selected the majority of the options available, selecting: the public sector (640), companies (602), communities (609) and Individuals (655) as being responsible for the protection of the environment. The least selected option was voluntary and community organisations, this option was selected 430 times by respondents.

Overall, respondents concluded that all bodies have a responsibility for protecting the environment in the Vale of Glamorgan.



When this question was asked to Primary and Secondary School pupils through the schools super survey similar results were reflected. Survey results indicated that children and young people are concerned with climate change and that they feel the primary responsibility for protecting the environment lies with everyone.



### **How will environmental well-being change in the next 5 years?**

Despite the level of concern with climate change, and an understanding that protecting the environment is a collective responsibility, respondents were negative in their assessment of future environmental well-being. More respondents answered that their environmental well-being would remain the same or decrease rather than increase. The highest proportion of respondents, 257 (34.2%) answered that they did not know whether environmental well-being would change over the next 5 years. It is worth noting that 221 (29.4%) of respondents answered that their environmental well-being would stay the same and 200 (26.6%) of respondents, that their environmental well-being would decrease over the next 5 years. Few respondents, only 73 (9.7%) answered that they thought that environmental well-being would improve over the next 5 years.





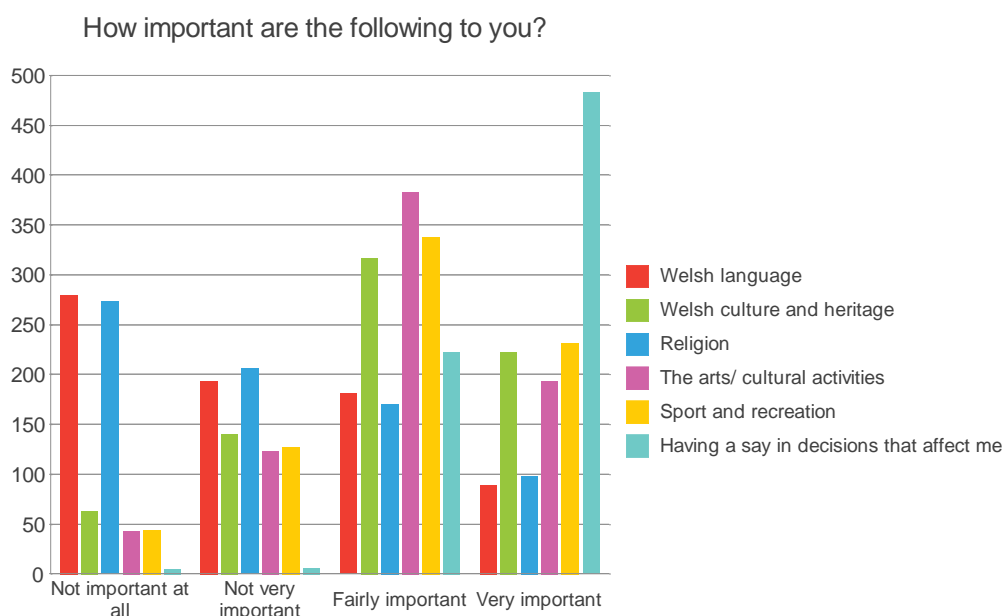
Echoing concerns raised answering the questions of environmental satisfaction and concerns with climate change, the most prevalent environmental issues noted by respondents were ensuring environmental protection through planning policies and procedures, and a concern with taking climate change seriously.

<b>Open Question:</b> How do you think your environmental well-being will change over the next 5 years?
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Planning policies and procedures</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Because economic development and fragmented planning processes aren't always compatible with sustainable management of natural resources – dealing with the environment and biodiversity are thought of as an add-on with extra costs rather than built in at strategic level to enhance development and well-being.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decrease, more development of green spaces, increased traffic and related pollution, increasing strain on public services.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decrease, planned local housing developments will increase traffic and the feeling of well-being is likely to decrease. There will be too many people in a small village with too few amenities.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate Change</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The environment is one of the Vale's biggest assets and a major draw for people in the area. It needs to be protected into the future.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leaving the EU means we no longer abide by EU law which sets limits on emissions to air, water and land. This is very concerning as large regulated industry sites that have large emissions may see their limits relaxed.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This should be high on everyone's agenda, but greater education is the key; more focus on this is essential at all levels.</li> </ul>

## Cultural Well-being

### How important are the following to you?

For this question respondents were able to select a different level of importance against a range of cultural aspects. Of the 716 respondents who answered the question of how important “having a say in decisions that affect me” the majority, 483 (67.5%) answered that this is very important to their Cultural Well-being. Conversely, of the 744 respondents who answered the question of how important “Welsh language” was to their well-being, 280 (37.6%) answered that this is not important at all. Similarly, of the 747 respondents who answered the question of how important “Religion” was to their cultural well-being, 273 (36.5%) answered that it was not important at all.



Similarly ‘having a say in decisions that affect me’ was identified as being important to children and young people through the school super survey, 71% of primary school pupils and 85% of secondary school pupils stated that is fairly or very important ‘to have a say in decisions that affect me’. Through the same survey, 23% of secondary school pupils said that adults and decision makers never value their views, ideas and opinions, 46% felt that they sometimes did, 25% that they often did, and 7% that they always did.

Reflecting on their answers, respondents expanded to explain why they felt certain activities were not important to their cultural well-being.

<b>Open Question:</b> How important are the following cultural activities to you?
<b>Example Comments:</b>
<b>Welsh Language</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given the current economic climate, and the region in which we are based, I feel that there is unnecessary spend on organisations such as the Council having to produce bilingual information for some formats of information.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More Welsh language classes are needed especially reading skills for older people.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Welsh Language Act in good economic times was a cultural step in the wrong direction and in bad economic times should have been rescinded.</li> </ul>
<b>Sports and Leisure</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The local leisure centres are not value for money – in fact, more expensive than private membership.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With reductions in Sports Wales funding they are now focusing more and more on “medal” sports and less on participation. Outdoor pursuits as a result have all but been kicked into touch.</li> </ul>

### How regularly do you take part in the following activities?

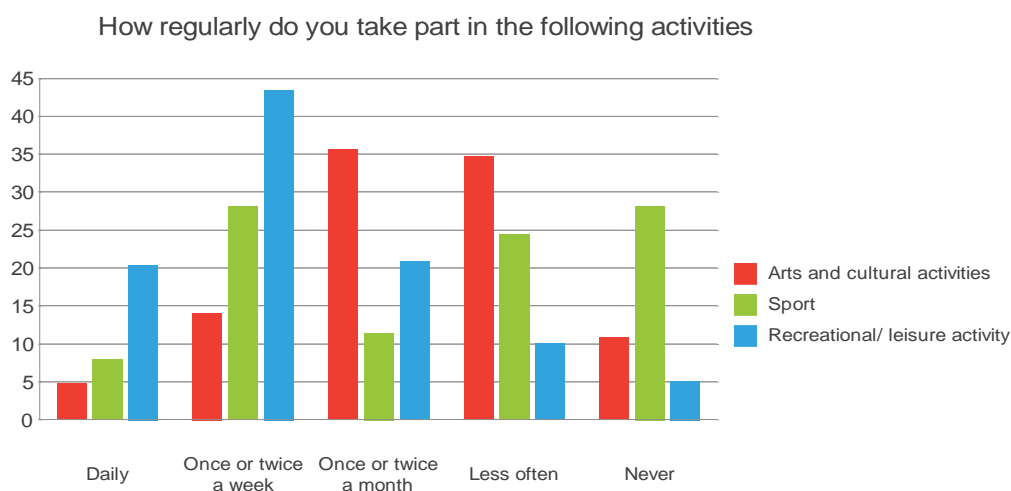
When asked how regularly respondents took part in:

- Arts and culture
- Sports
- Recreational/ leisure activities

The highest proportion, 318 (43.5%) answered that they take part in “recreational/leisure activities” once or twice a week. Interestingly, of the 720 respondents who answered the question on sport, more respondents answered that they partake in sport “less often” or “never” than monthly, weekly or daily.

Overall, there are low numbers of participation in both “sport” and in “arts and cultural activities”. These low numbers however, may be a reflection of the lack of a strict definition within the survey of what was meant by “sport” and “arts and cultural activities”, and therefore these activities may have been self-defined by participants. This is particularly relevant when these results are compared to the results of the question of cultural importance.

When asked about cultural importance, high numbers of respondents answered that both “sports and recreation” and “the arts/cultural activities” were “fairly important” and “very important” to their cultural well-being. Of the answers given to the question of cultural importance, the highest proportion of respondents 383 selected “the arts/cultural activities” as “fairly important” to their cultural well-being.



When split by differing age ranges, a variety of answers were given. Of those aged 55-74, 130 (36.2%) answered that they partook in arts and cultural activities “once or twice” a week. Similarly, 158 (43.4%) answered that they partook in recreational activities “once or twice” a week. Despite these answers, 111 (31.3%) answered that they “never” partook in sports.

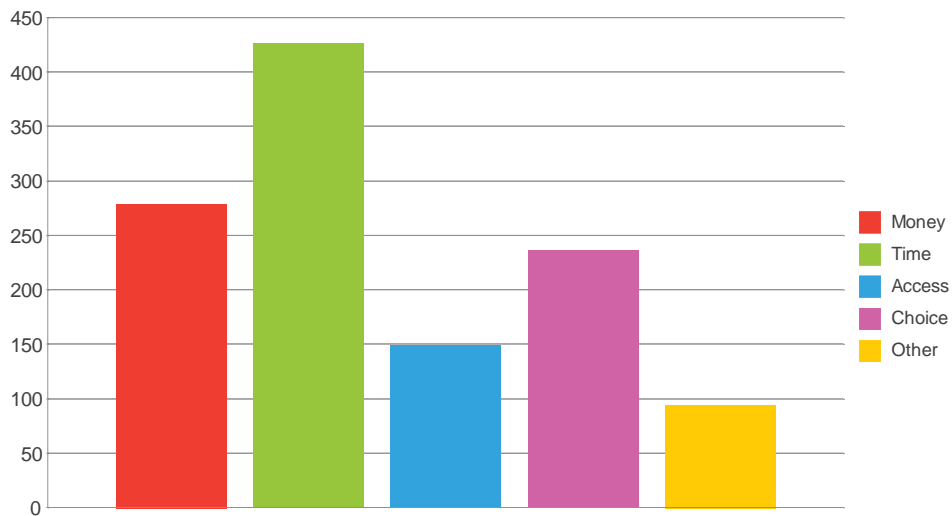
In contrast, of respondents aged 35-54, 117 (48%) answered that they partook in recreational activities “once or twice” a week and 72 (29.6%) of respondents that they took part in sports “once or twice” a week. 94 (38.8%) of respondents aged 35-54 answered that they partook in arts and cultural activities “less often”.

Of the answers given by those respondents aged 25-34, 18 (40.9%) answered that they partook in arts and cultural activities “once or twice” a week; additionally, 19 (43.2%) answered that they partook in recreational activities “once or twice” a week. 14 (31.8%) of respondents aged 25-34 answered that they partook in sport “less often”.

### What factors stop you participating?

Against this question respondents were able to select multiple factors that prevented their participation. Of the 1184 answers given, the majority of respondents, 426 selected “time” as the most significant factor preventing participation. 279 selected money as a factor preventing participation, and 236 selected choice as a factor preventing participation.

What factors stop you participating more?

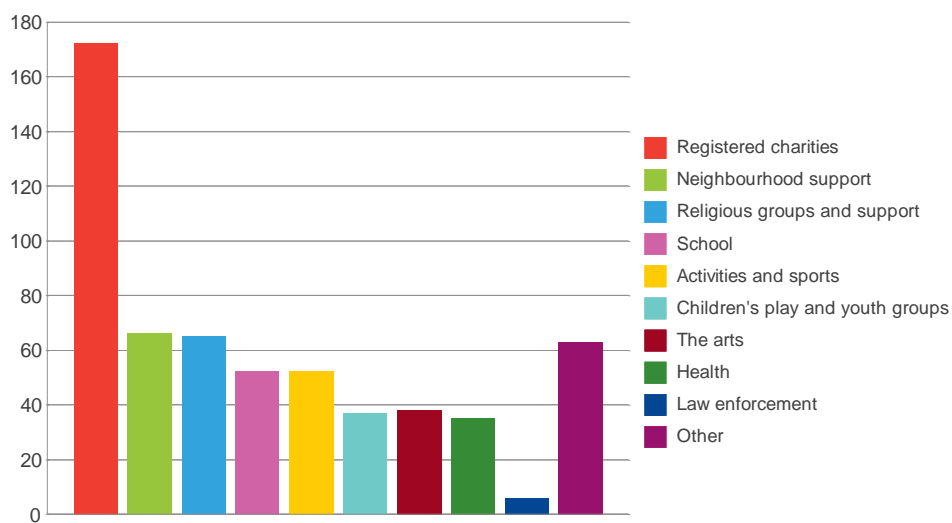


Answers to this question have illustrated that despite being raised as an issue in other answers to the survey that “access” has not been highlighted as the most prevalent issue preventing participation.

**Do you currently volunteer for any of the following?**

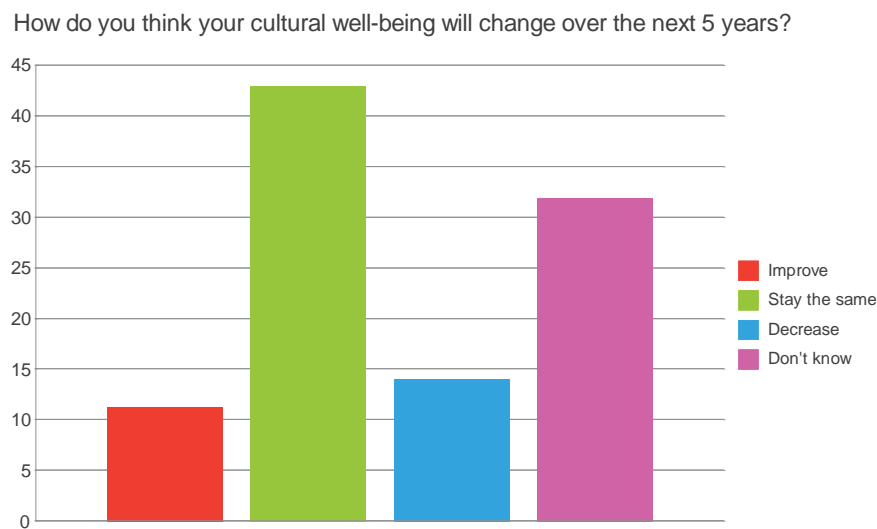
For this question respondents were asked to tick all answers that applied. Of the 586 answers given to this question, the highest proportion of respondents 172 answered that they volunteered for “registered charities”. The second option most selected by respondents was volunteering for “neighbourhood support” 66 of respondents selected this option and 65 answered that they volunteered for “religious groups and support”.

Do you currently volunteer for any of the following?



### How do you think your cultural well-being will change over the next 5 years?

Of the 742 respondents who answered this question assessing how cultural well-being might change over the next 5 years, the highest proportion of respondents answered that their cultural well-being would “stay the same”. Of respondents: 318 (42.0%) of respondents answered that their cultural well-being would “stay the same”, 237 (31.9%) answered that they did not know, 104 (14%) that it would “decrease” and only 83 (11.2%) that it would “improve”.



Respondents were largely uncertain about their cultural well-being, most answered that their cultural well-being would stay the same or that they did not know about their future well-being. There is little to say whether respondents thought that their cultural well-being might improve or worsen over the next 5 years.

Although overall respondents were uncertain of how their cultural well-being would change over the next five years, when expanding on their answers, respondents were largely negative in their assessment. Prevalent responses highlighted issues around the decline in the levels of funding for cultural schemes, and worries about continued personal access to cultural activities.

**Open Question:** How do you think your cultural well-being will change over the next 5 years?

**Example Comments:**

**Decline in levels of funding**

- Funding and opportunities for arts and cultural activities is decreasing and public awareness is low. It is taken for granted and will be soon eroded.
- Arts/Music events rely on some type of public funding subsidy (Arts Council etc) – these are likely to be reduced.
- Further austerity is likely to hit cultural well-being. Again this comes from the national government.

**Maintaining access to opportunities**

- As I age I will be less able to travel into Cardiff to enjoy concerts, opera etcetera and there is little opportunity in the immediate vicinity.
- This will likely depend on my physical and mental capabilities.
- As an active member of Barry U3A, I hope to maintain the varied interest this gives.

## Summary

The Well-being Assessment, informed by our various engagement activities, is a continual process which will culminate in the publication of the “Our Vale- Ein Bro” Well-being Plan in April 2018, clearly setting out the PSB’s well-being objectives and priorities for action and how they have been determined. As part of our continued assessment, the cross-cutting ‘Let’s talk’ engagement brand will continue to be used to promote a number of on-going engagement activities across the Vale of Glamorgan. Our brand will continue to be utilised as a means of promoting public, stakeholder and partners engagement with the development and finalisation of our Well-being Assessment and Well-being Plan.

In responding to our engagement activities, respondents have highlighted a number of key aspects of life in the Vale of Glamorgan that are important contributors to well-being:

- Overall, respondents noted that they were satisfied with life in the Vale of Glamorgan, with the majority of respondents answering that they were ‘very’ or ‘fairly’ satisfied with life.
- Respondents tended to agree that they belonged in their areas, and highlighted the importance of local communities and community facilities to their well-being.
- Respondents were not overly concerned with safety in their areas, although noted that feeling safe and visible police services are important aspects of well-being.
- Maintaining personal health and having good access to healthcare services were highlighted by respondents as important aspects of well-being. This was a recurring theme noted by respondents throughout our engagement activities.
- Although no severe concerns with the ability to afford certain aspects of life in the Vale of Glamorgan were raised, respondents reflected through their answers to extended survey questions the having not to worry about finances was an important contributor to well-being.
- The unknown aspects, and future effects of the United Kingdom’s exit from the European Union was highlighted repeatedly by survey respondents as an important factor in their future economic, social, environmental and economic well-being. Overall, respondents were negative in their analysis of future economic well-being.
- A clear theme raised by respondents throughout our engagement process was the importance of the environment to well-being. Respondents emphasised that having access to the environment of the Vale of Glamorgan, and ensuring the protection of this environment were important to respondent’s well-being.
- Transport provision was continually raised as an issue that affects people’s well-being in the Vale of Glamorgan. Many respondents noted dissatisfaction with current provision in the Vale and suggested that improved services could have a beneficial impact on well-being.



- Respondents provided a fairly balanced analysis of the impact of culture and cultural activities on well-being. Being able to have a say in decisions that have an effect on people's lives however, was highlighted as important for the majority of survey respondents.

The findings of our engagement activities have been woven with our in-depth study of a range of different sources, including statistical and academic research, to consider the state of well-being across the Vale of Glamorgan and within particular communities. Our engagement activity, and our assessment as a whole, has sought to recognise that well-being can depend on many different factors. The inclusion of specific comments given in response to the survey highlights the range of experiences which impact on an individual's well-being, and exemplifies how different one person's experience can be from the majority. The diversity of this experience has been captured in our engagement findings and our assessment has sought to illustrate the variety of factors that influence both individual and collective well-being, and highlight how well-being can be maintained and improved across the Vale of Glamorgan.