

Whiteley Parish Council Residents' Questionnaire 2008

A summary of the results

During May 2008 a survey was sent to 2811 households in the Postal Address File for Whiteley. 1002 completed surveys were returned providing an overall response rate of 37%.

A survey for young people was also included, 196 completed surveys were returned.

The following is a brief summary of the results; the full report together with a detailed analysis of the results may be viewed and downloaded from the Parish Council website www.whiteleypc.info Hard copies are available to view at Meadowside Leisure Centre.

The Parish Council will be developing an action plan in partnership with other agencies to address the issues raised by the survey.

Whiteley transport and travel issues

The first section of the survey asked about transport and travel in and out of Whiteley.

The survey results shows that the majority of trips are made by car although over half of respondents walk or cycle when convenience shopping or using the post office. Those using public transport are likely to be accessing education, training or shopping.

Respondents regularly access the following facilities which involve travelling out of Whiteley: healthcare, other than doctors (82%), street market (79%) and library (73%).

54% of respondents would like more information about public transport services in the area, preferred sources of information being leaflets/timetables sent to the home and through a website. Older respondents prefer leaflets

sent to the home, younger (under 54) wish to see web based information.

Improvements to bus services to Southampton (38% of respondents) and Fareham (37%) are considered to be the most important. Other destinations respondents felt should be developed include Portsmouth (20%); Swanwick (17%) and Locks Heath (13%).

65% of respondents thought a 'yellow bus' service to take primary aged children to school would be a good idea.

22% of respondents (213) said that they would be interested in a car share scheme in Whiteley and 12% (111) are interested in a car club scheme.

Local road management

Leafy Lane

Three-quarters of the respondents (73%) do not want changes to the current arrangements for Leafy Lane, while 18% would prefer peak time closure of the road.

Of respondents living in the Leafy Lane area, 57% would like to see peak time road closure, 20% no changes to the current arrangements, and 19% permanent closure of the road.

Rookery Avenue and Yew Tree Drive

90% of all respondents support the opening of Yew Tree Drive or Rookery Avenue or both roads to all traffic. 14% wish to see peak time closures to prevent commuter rat-running.

95% of Winchester-based respondents support the road openings. The opening of either Rookery Avenue only or Yew Tree Drive only are supported by 6% and 3% respectively.



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86% of Fareham respondents support the road openings. The opening of either Rookery Avenue only or Yew Tree Drive only are supported by 21% and 6% respectively.

5% of respondents feel that both roads should be open to buses only (Fareham respondents 7%, Winchester 2%).

3% of respondents wish both Rookery Avenue and Yew Tree Drive to remain closed to general traffic (Fareham respondents 5%, Winchester 1%).

Local development

This section aimed to identify the needs of residents and the level of support for various plans for development in Whiteley. Possible developments include 3000 new houses including affordable homes in North Whiteley and redevelopment of Whiteley Village.

97% of respondents feel that the provision of open spaces to be a very, or fairly important aspect of any development in North Whiteley, with 96% believing that cycle paths and footpaths are important. 95% of respondents consider additional access roads to be a priority.

If the development option for North Whiteley was brought forward respondents feel the provision of the following should be important priorities: additional access roads (41%); primary schools (18%); secondary school (16%) and open spaces (10%). These four categories accounted for 85% of all responses to this question.

The three facilities respondents would most like to be included in any future development of Whiteley Village are crèche / nursery (56%), restaurants / pubs (53%) and a post office (44%).

Three-quarters of respondents (75%) felt that 'resident population level' is the appropriate level of services that Whiteley Village should offer should it be redeveloped, with 17% thinking that wider area level of service would be more appropriate.

The survey asked how supportive respondents were to the provision of affordable housing in Whiteley, 37% are supportive with the remainder not that supportive or not supportive at all.

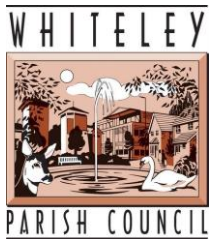
7% or 64 respondents have someone currently living with them who is in need of affordable housing; one, two and three bedroom houses were required.

Living in Whiteley

80% of respondents find out what is happening in Whiteley through information on notice boards. 90% of respondents have access to the Internet either at home or at work.

When respondents were asked what they most like about living in Whiteley, more than two-fifths (43%) of respondents feel that it is the natural setting, countryside and woodlands. Respondents also like the peace and quiet (18%), family-friendly community (18%), good access to major cities and their amenities (11%) and low crime rates and feeling of safety (10%).

The least liked aspects of living in Whiteley include access (33%) and traffic congestion (27%) which accounted for 60% of all answers. There were some differences between respondents according to where they lived. Respondents from the Winchester side of Whiteley were much more likely to choose traffic congestion than the Fareham respondents (36% vs. 19%), but less likely to choose access (27% vs. 39%).



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Respondents were asked what they would most like to see happen in Whiteley in the future, over two-fifths (44%) wish to see improved access and reduced traffic, a further quarter (23%) want to see more schools.

Men are more likely to want improved access and reduced traffic congestion than women (53% vs. 39%); with women more likely to want more schools (28% vs. 16%).

Respondents in the younger age groups are more likely to want greater provision of schools, whereas older respondents are more likely to want improved access and reduced traffic congestion.

When asked what they would least like to see happen in Whiteley in the future, over half of respondents (59%) said that they do not want to see any more development or 'uncontrolled' development, with a further quarter saying that they do not want to see the access and traffic congestion situations continue.

Young peoples' questionnaire

Those returning the survey attend a number of schools in the area including Whiteley Primary (32%), Swanmore College of Technology (16%) and Henry Cort Community College (12%).

Spending time with family (72%) and friends (69% at home and 63% 'hanging around'), watching television and films (71%) and playing computer games (70%) are the most popular things for young people to do in their spare time. Just over half (55%) also take part in sports.

Girls are more likely to spend time with their family and go to friends' houses, boys are more likely to play computer games, watch television or take part in sports. Most activities

become less popular as the respondent gets older, with the exceptions of 'hanging around with friends', 'visiting friends houses' and 'going to the cinema'.

The most popular things about living in Whiteley are the parks (25%) and countryside / woodlands (20%). Parks are more popular with respondents under 7, with the countryside / woodlands getting more popular as respondents get older.

The least liked aspects about living in Whiteley are 'nothing to do' (25%) and 'traffic / roads' (19%). Complaints about there being 'nothing to do' increase as respondents get older, with boys being more likely to complain.

Young people are generally unaware of public transport links, with the most well known services being to Fareham. However, there is a desire amongst half of respondents to get more information about public transport services, with a website (45%) and leaflets (33%).

The services to Fareham are seen as the most important to improve.

Respondents would like to see the development of a youth club (59%) with some interested in the provision of a community café (47%) or an internet café (40%). Interest in all the suggestions is highest in the two middle groups between 7 years old and 15, falling away in the eldest age group (16 to 18).

A swimming pool, more leisure facilities and other 'activities for teenagers' are the most demanded future developments. 'More development' and the 'removal of woodlands, parks and open spaces' are things that young people do not want to see happen in Whiteley.