

Citizens' Voice

Welcome to the February edition of Citizens' Voice, the newsletter for the Citizens Panel.

Next Survey

June 2005 on 'How to keep you informed of Council Services'

Latest result - December 2004 on Civic Services; an incredible 76% response rate! Full results in the next edition of Citizens' Voice.



Contact

If you have any comments about this newsletter or about the Panel, please contact:

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NEWSROUND

Licensing Focus Groups - 26, 27 and 28 October 2004

There was an enthusiastic response from those of you who were invited to attend one of three structured Focus Group sessions on the Licensing Act 2003. The views of Panel Members have been incorporated into the District Council's recently published Licensing Policy. Copies are available by contacting the Licensing section on 01629 761288 or on the District Council's website: www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Housing Strategy Evening Workshop

5 January 2005

40 Panel Members from the northern area of the district (Bakewell to Hathersage) were invited to attend a workshop at the Agricultural Business Centre, Bakewell, to seek the views of residents on a new housing strategy for the district. Housing issues are also covered in this month's questionnaire and the issue remains the most important to members of the panel.

Cashless Payment Facility

Lunchtime Discussion

21 January 2005

Thanks to those of you who attended this lunchtime discussion dealing specifically with 'SmartCard' technology. More details together with a list of dates for drop-in surgeries on the issues can be found overleaf.

Household Travel Survey September 2004

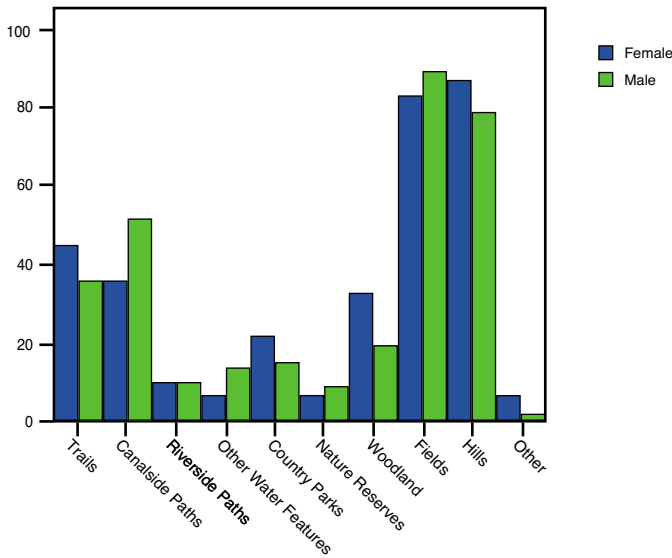
Each year central government allocates a large amount of money to the Derbyshire County Council to provide services for Derbyshire residents. In September 2004 Panel Members completed a questionnaire on travel. These results will form part of the monitoring process that will determine how well the money has been spent, where to spend the money in future years, and to give support to bid for funding in future years. The results for Derbyshire Dales are detailed below.

Panel	Year	% Using Cars	% Travelling to work	Average number of journeys (by mile)
Derbyshire Dales	2002	68%	26%	2to3
	2004	72%	26%	3+

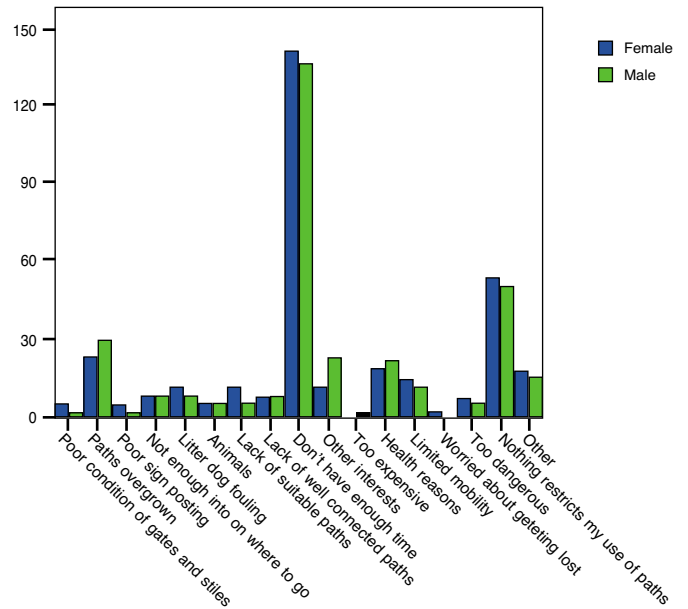
Accessing the Countryside Survey - September 2004

Headline Results: Out of 1000 questionnaires sent out, 752 replies (75%) were returned – another excellent response rate. Here are the main results so far with more details to follow in the next issue of Citizens' Voice.

What type of countryside to you enjoy most?



What is the main reason why you don't use paths and trails?



SMART CARD SURGERIES: MARCH 2005 - OPEN INVITATION TO PANEL MEMBERS

The District Council will be hosting a series of informal surgeries across the district on the facilities to be offered by the introduction of 'Smart Card' technology.

The method proposed is that all Council Taxpayers **not** currently paying by direct debit would be issued with a personal 'Smart Card'. Customers would be able to make payments by cash at Post Offices and Pay Point Networks; village shops and garages, across the district. If you think this issue could affect you a friend or a neighbour, then please come along to one of the sessions listed below, or contact Lyn Williams, Customer Contact Manager on 01629 761100.

WIRKSWORTH

DATE

Tuesday 1 March
Thursday 3 March

TIME

12 – 2pm
12 – 2pm

LOCATION

Wirksworth Town Hall
Wirksworth Town Hall

BAKEWELL

DATE

Tuesday 8 March
Thursday 10 March

TIME

12 – 2pm
12 – 2pm

LOCATION

Agricultural Business Centre
Agricultural Business Centre

MATLOCK

DATE

Tuesday 15 March
Thursday 17 March

TIME

12 – 2pm
12 – 2pm

LOCATION

St. Joseph's Church Hall
St. Joseph's Church Hall

ASHBOURNE

DATE

Tuesday 22 March

TIME

10 – 4pm

LOCATION

Empire Rooms