

All themes: Feedback from people with learning disabilities.

Access statement: if using a screen reader please open the [Large Print Plain Text version](#).

People with learning disabilities were invited to workshops across Devon to take part in the Community Survey. These workshops were held in: Exeter, Exmouth, Honiton, Ottery St Mary, Barnstaple, Bideford, Tiverton, Okehampton, Newton Abbot, Chudleigh, Kingsteignton, Tavistock, Totnes, Kingsbridge and Dartmouth.

All participants ranged in age from 24 to 68.

78 people took part but not everyone answered all the questions due to complexity and time.

To aid participation, the questions and answers were modified slightly from the standard survey. People were given the options of 'yes', 'no' and 'not sure' rather than the five options of 'agree strongly' to 'disagree strongly'. People were also asked to comment.

Involvement and Influence	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
I like to get involved in decisions about services...	21	1	1	Some people would like more involvement but feel they don't get the chance.
When I give feedback I feel I am listened to...		20	1	People did not feel they were listened to and did not get feedback: "Just because I have a disability doesn't mean I don't have anything to say".
I like to get involved in decisions about my area...	22			
I can see changes from feedback...		20	1	"When do we get feedback?"

Access to Information	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
It is easy to find information I need...		32	9	"I need help". "I need information on posters or leaflets and in colour".
It is easy for me to understand the information I need...		22	6	"Sometimes".
It is easy to find information about care...		25		
It is easy to find information about health...	20	1	7	"Sometimes, but someone else looks".
I know what to do if there is a major emergency...	9	21	12	"I would call 999". "I would need my support staff to help".

Access to Services	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
It is easy to get training...	12	29	2	<p>8 people said they struggle without support staff to enrol them and tell them about things. They enjoyed courses when they were able to get on them.</p> <p>“I used to do lots, but not now”.</p>
It is easy to recycle rubbish...	27	12	20	<p>“I need help”.</p> <p>“I don’t have room to recycle”.</p> <p>“Recycling is confusing – it would be easier if there were pictures on the boxes”.</p> <p>“The leaflets are confusing”.</p>
It is easy to use social care...	6	17	15	<p>“Most people rely on their support for social care”.</p>

Getting Around	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
It is easy to use public transport...	29	35	5	<p>“It is okay if you know the route. Travel training would help”.</p> <p>“I need help from the staff”.</p> <p>“On public holidays it is very hard to get around”.</p> <p>“I need someone with me when I travel”.</p> <p>“Some drivers pull away before you are ready”.</p>
It is safe to use paths...	23	36	4	<p>“I need staff with me”.</p> <p>“Lots of people park on the pavements”.</p> <p>“They are not too bad”.</p>
It is safe to use roads...	24	6		
It is easy to get to parks...	45	12		<p>“I run around the park with my running group”.</p> <p>“I go for a walk sometimes”.</p> <p>“I need staff to take me”.</p> <p>“We go with staff”.</p> <p>“I am not allowed to use my support time to go to the park”.</p>

Using Computers and Smart-phones	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
I can use the internet...	29	38	1	<p>“I need help to use a computer”.</p> <p>“Someone hacked in to my Facebook account and sent horrible messages”.</p> <p>“I use it to play games and read stories”.</p>
I have a computer or smart phone I can use...	14	34	1	<p>“I need help from staff”.</p> <p>“The computer is just for staff”.</p>
There is a computer locally I can use...	26	7	4	<p>“I would need support to use one if I knew where there was one”.</p> <p>“There is one but I don’t know how to use it”.</p>

Community Support and Independence	Yes	No	Not sure	
I can get help from family and friends...	23	1	8	
I know how to care for myself...	10	7	10	
It is easy to use community facilities...	28	9	2	<p>“I need staff to take me”.</p> <p>“He doesn’t have any planned activities all week and only goes if staff take him”.</p>
I have good social contacts...	36	5	2	<p>“My family are a long way off”.</p> <p>“It would be nice to have genuine friends, not just paid staff or volunteers”.</p>
There are lots of ways for me to get a job...		34		<p>“We cannot get paid work”.</p>

Feeling Safe and Respected	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
I feel safe outside in my local area after dark...	4	50	3	<p>“Yes if staff are with me”.</p> <p>“I don’t like the dark”.</p> <p>“I don’t feel safe in the dark”.</p>
I feel safe outside during daylight...	58	1	2	<p>“I need to be with someone when I go out or I don’t feel safe”.</p> <p>“I only go out with support”.</p>
People in the community treat me with respect...	39	10	20	<p>“The bus drivers are very nice”.</p> <p>“Sometimes people stare at me, I hate it”.</p> <p>“Sometimes people in shops don’t treat me well. They are different if staff are with me”.</p>
I feel safe and respected when people look after me...	40			

Priorities for the Council	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
More council tax...	3	3	20	
Volunteers and charities could run more services...	11	22	6	
Private companies could run more services...	3	47	5	
The council has made good decisions about cuts...	3	22	6	
Cuts have not affected me...	9	23		
More cuts will not affect me...	5	26	13	

Which services are a priority?	Yes	No	Not sure	Comments
Helping people live a healthy life...	55			
Protecting people from harm...	47			
Dealing with rubbish and recycling...	47		1	
Supporting people with care needs...	45			
Jobs for local people...	45			
Supporting families and children...	45	1	1	
Supporting charities...	43	2		
Roads...	36	10		
Public and Community transport...	32	17		
Countryside and environment...	31	20		
Culture and heritage...	29	22	3	
Libraries...	28	12	9	"Don't use the library".
Protecting people from rogue traders...	26	18		

Community Action

Number of people who get involved in community activities or are 'resilient' (able to look after themselves)...

Buy things from local shops	31
Help someone be active	25
Look after myself	21
Reuse or recycle	21
Stay fit and healthy	21
Get involved in consultations	17
Looking after others	11
Help someone with computer	5
Give someone a lift	2