

Sheppey Proud:

Congratulations! All together there were 358 responses to the Sheppey Proud survey.

In the comments boxes (that are not able to be shown here) the highest responses were around the town centre, leisure, education and transport.

The biggest issues for people overall are:

- **The lack of shops and the way the town looks – not inviting**
- **More needs to be done to promote the town as a seaside resort**
- **Nothing to do – for young people, families and people who want to go out and eat and drink**
- **A perceived problem with Sheppey's secondary education**
- **General infrastructure – roads, broadband, healthcare**

Focus groups will meet now to discuss all these issues and others, assess the priorities and identify areas where influence can be realised. An Economic Development Plan is to be submitted by the end of January 2016 to The Dept. of Communities in Local Government. This will enable the team to prepare more detailed applications for further Coastal Community Funding that will be made available over the next five years.

The full general analysis is shown below:-

101 / 30%

- **What if anything stops you from shopping on the Island or engaging with the local business community?**

343 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

A poor range of shops/stores

259 / 76%

A poor range of shops/stores

259 / 76%

○ 2

Lack of vibrancy in the town

182 / **53%**

Lack of vibrancy in the town

182 / **53%**

○ 3

Parking and or transport

132 / **38%**

Parking and or transport

132 / **38%**

○ 4

Cleanliness

122 / **36%**

Cleanliness

122 / **36%**

○ 5

Competition from Sittingbourne or the mainland

113 / **33%**

Competition from Sittingbourne or the mainland

113 / **33%**

○ 6

Lack of commercial development

87 / **25%**

Lack of commercial development

87 / **25%**

○ 7

Customer Service

32 / **9%**

Customer Service

32 / **9%**

○ •

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119 / **35%**

- How would you like to see the town centre improved?

348 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Explore and create our own unique identity

214 / **61%**

Explore and create our own unique identity

214 / **61%**

○ 2

A market in the Town High Street

204 / **59%**

A market in the Town High Street

204 / **59%**

○ 3

Improve the cleanliness and litter in the Town

204 / **59%**

Improve the cleanliness and litter in the Town

204 / **59%**

○ 4

Improved security at night

132 / **38%**

Improved security at night

132 / **38%**

○ 5

More public toilets

129 / **37%**

More public toilets

129 / **37%**

- If you have been unsuccessful in gaining employment what have been the barriers?

146 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Unsuitable job opportunities

113 / **77%**

Unsuitable job opportunities

113 / 77%

○ 2

Transport
44 / **30%**

Transport

44 / 30%

○ 3

Gaps in employment
37 / **25%**

Gaps in employment

37 / 25%

○ 4

Age
30 / **21%**

Age

30 / 21%

○ 5

Lack of educational achievement
27 / **18%**

Lack of educational achievement

27 / 18%

○ 6

Disability
21 / **14%**

Disability

21 / 14%

○ 7

Criminal record
5 / **3%**

Criminal record

5 / 3%

○ •

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26 / **18%**

- If you are an Employer what have been the main barriers in finding suitable applicants?

84 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Motivation

55 / 65%

Motivation

55 / 65%

○ 2

Poor core skills such as communication, numeracy, computer skills etc.

47 / 56%

Poor core skills such as communication, numeracy, computer skills etc.

47 / 56%

○ 3

Lack of life skills i.e. Appearance, time-keeping, etc.

43 / 51%

Lack of life skills i.e. Appearance, time-keeping, etc.

43 / 51%

○ 4

Lack of local people having the basic qualifications

33 / 39%

Lack of local people having the basic qualifications

33 / 39%

○ 5

Lack of suitable skills or training for the post

33 / 39%

Lack of suitable skills or training for the post

33 / 39%

- How do you think we could improve Sheppey as a tourist attraction?

355 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Have our own unique attraction/s that would encourage visitors and tourists

264 / **74%**

Have our own unique attraction/s that would encourage visitors and tourists

264 / 74%

○ 2

Make the most of our rich history and heritage

261 / **74%**

Make the most of our rich history and heritage

261 / 74%

○ 3

Increase and improve the development of the Queenborough Harbour for visiting leisure craft

243 / **68%**

Increase and improve the development of the Queenborough Harbour for visiting leisure craft

243 / 68%

○ 4

Increase and improve the tourism development of Leysdown, Warden, Eastchurch or Minster to attract more visitors

223 / **63%**

Increase and improve the tourism development of Leysdown, Warden, Eastchurch or Minster to attract more visitors

223 / 63%

○ 5

Make the most of our green open spaces

212 / **60%**

Make the most of our green open spaces

212 / 60%

○ 6

Improve access facilities for water sports

197 / **55%**

Improve access facilities for water sports

197 / 55%

○ 7

Upgrade standards of accommodation

155 / **44%**

Upgrade standards of accommodation

155 / 44%

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352 / 99%

- What are your 3 main concerns that you feel impact on the better health care of the public?

342 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Full use of the community hospital 7 days a week

237 / 69%

Full use of the community hospital 7 days a week

237 / 69%

○ 2

Access to health care 7 days a week

207 / 61%

Access to health care 7 days a week

207 / 61%

○ 3

Free use of healthy activities

156 / 46%

Free use of healthy activities

156 / 46%

○ 4

Increased Out-patient services

147 / 43%

Increased Out-patient services

147 / 43%

○ 5

Regular exercise

131 / 38%

Regular exercise

131 / 38%

○ 6

Improving healthy eating

127 / 37%

Improving healthy eating

127 / 37%

○ 7

Reducing obesity

115 / 34%

Reducing obesity

115 / 34%

○ 8

Nursing and dementia care provision

111 / 32%

Nursing and dementia care provision

111 / 32%

○ 9

Local dialysis facilities

75 / 22%

Local dialysis facilities

75 / 22%

○ 0

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428 / 125%

- Do you think there are suitable and appropriate leisure facilities in the area of Sheerness and the rest of the Island? If not what other facilities would you like to see?

338 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

An improved Beachfields area offering facilities for residents and visitors

238 / 70%

An improved Beachfields area offering facilities for residents and visitors

238 / 70%

○ 2

Improvements to existing parks village greens across the Island

229 / 68%

Improvements to existing parks village greens across the Island

229 / 68%

○ 3

Improvements to the local swimming pool

208 / 62%

Improvements to the local swimming pool

208 / 62%

○ 4

Petting farm

158 / 47%

Petting farm

158 / 47%

○ 5

Mini golf

137 / 41%

Mini golf

137 / 41%

○ 6

Improved public tennis courts

111 / 33%

Improved public tennis courts

111 / 33%

○ 7

A skate park

99 / 29%

A skate park

99 / 29%

○ 8

Show less

210 / 62%

- How many more opportunities to attend an arts event would you like to see on Sheppey in the near future?

323 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

More – I'd like to attend if possible

121 / **37%**

More – I'd like to attend if possible

121 / **37%**

○ 2

Lots more – I'm really interested

100 / **31%**

Lots more – I'm really interested

100 / **31%**

○ 3

The same – there are enough opportunities already

62 / **19%**

The same – there are enough opportunities already

62 / **19%**

○ 4

Fewer – I'm not really interested

36 / **11%**

Fewer – I'm not really interested

36 / **11%**

○ 5

Fewer – there are too many

4 / **1%**

Fewer – there are too many

4 / **1%**

- What other cultural activities or spaces would you like to see established on the Island?

299 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Co-ordination and creation of a diary of events

100 / **33%**

Co-ordination and creation of a diary of events

100 / **33%**

○ 2

Outdoor performing area

76 / **25%**

Outdoor performing area

76 / 25%

○ 3

A multi-purpose art and cultural facility

53 / **18%**

A multi-purpose art and cultural facility

53 / 18%

○ 4

Creation of cultural trails and interpretation

36 / **12%**

Creation of cultural trails and interpretation

36 / 12%

○ 5

Establishing a community led arts organisation

34 / **11%**

Establishing a community led arts organisation

34 / 11%

- Which top concerns do you have relating to our natural environment?

352 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Maintaining our green spaces that will support conservation, the natural beauty of our Island, its wild life

283 / **80%**

Maintaining our green spaces that will support conservation, the natural beauty of our Island, its wild life

283 / 80%

○ 2

Cleanliness of beaches

244 / **69%**

Cleanliness of beaches

244 / 69%

○ 3

Maintaining our shore-line and coastal erosion

210 / **60%**

Maintaining our shore-line and coastal erosion

210 / **60%**

○ 4

Attracting renewable energy sources

116 / **33%**

Attracting renewable energy sources

116 / **33%**

○ 5

Flood risk

109 / **31%**

Flood risk

109 / **31%**

○ 6

Sea defences

109 / **31%**

Sea defences

109 / **31%**

○ 7

Climate Change

53 / **15%**

Climate Change

53 / **15%**

○ •

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162 / **46%**

- What improvements would you like to see made to our local transport system?

347 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Reducing payment for parking, especially Saturdays, to encourage more shoppers to Town

246 / 71%

Reducing payment for parking, especially Saturdays, to encourage more shoppers to Town

246 / 71%

○ 2

Improve our bus service and timetable to help more isolated areas

233 / 67%

Improve our bus service and timetable to help more isolated areas

233 / 67%

○ 3

Improve and increase off road cycle routes across the Island

211 / 61%

Improve and increase off road cycle routes across the Island

211 / 61%

○ 4

Improve the local train service for commuters, residents and visitors

197 / 57%

Improve the local train service for commuters, residents and visitors

197 / 57%

- Do you think our power and water supplies are adequate for the Island's potential growth?

323 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

No

206 / 64%

No

206 / 64%

○ 2

Yes

117 / 36%

Yes

117 / 36%

- Is there easy access to Broadband and mobile phone coverage in your area

285 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Yes

180 / **63%**

Yes

180 / 63%

○ 2

No

105 / **37%**

No

105 / 37%

- What improvements would you like to see for our roads, buildings, homes, utilities, communication etc.

334 out of 358 people answered this question

○ 1

Ensure that the level of house building is supported by adequate infrastructure i.e. shops, schools etc.

312 / **93%**

Ensure that the level of house building is supported by adequate infrastructure i.e. shops, schools etc.

312 / 93%

○ 2

A solution to the A2500 Lower Road traffic congestion

300 / **90%**

A solution to the A2500 Lower Road traffic congestion

300 / 90%

○ 3

Improved Junction 5 access to the Motorway