

Herefordshire Voice

September 2007

THE HEREFORDSHIRE
partnership 

The new survey

After a break of a few months, here is the 16th Herefordshire Voice survey. We hope you find it interesting.

What's in it?

Over the last few years, there has been a big move in central government towards greater involvement of communities in decision-making. The new survey is mainly focused on this, so includes questions on your views about getting involved in shaping the future of your local area and engaging with the Council process. There are also questions about respect and consideration for other people, and finally what you think about the Herefordshire Matters magazine. You will have noticed that a copy of a recent edition of the magazine was included with the survey. This is intended to help you answer the questions if you need it, but don't worry, we're not asking you to read the whole thing!

Welcome to our new members

We are always looking for new members of Herefordshire Voice, and over the last few months we have had a recruitment drive. We have placed adverts in the Herefordshire Matters magazine, the Odeon cinema magazine, and the Journal. In addition the recent Herefordshire Satisfaction Survey, which was sent to a random selection of households in the County, asked respondents whether they were interested in joining Herefordshire Voice. This has been very successful, and we would like to welcome all those for whom this is the first Herefordshire Voice survey.

If you know of anyone else who you think would like to get involved with Herefordshire Voice, please feel free to direct them to the Partnership's website, www.herefordshirepartnership.com or to the phone number at the bottom of the page.

Panel membership

As well as recruiting new members, we periodically have to remove from our database those who have been members for the longest. This is to avoid panelists from becoming "conditioned" through regularly answering questions and perhaps knowing more about Council services than a typical non-panel member. This is vital to ensure that the views expressed through Herefordshire Voice are as representative as possible of average residents of the County. For those of you who have been on the panel the longest (for four or five years), this is the last survey we will ask you to complete. If this applies to you, you will be informed after the current survey has closed. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the time and effort you have contributed to Herefordshire Voice, and for all the valuable information you have provided over the years.

Reports

The newsletter in August included a summary of the results of the previous survey, so we won't go into it again this time. Full reports of all Herefordshire Voice surveys can be found on the Partnership's website (see above for the address).

Future surveys

The next Herefordshire Voice is planned for February of next year. This survey will be one part of a larger ongoing consultation about a new planning and development framework for Herefordshire.

**I hope this survey is interesting to you, thank you for your help in completing it.
If you have any queries, please call Tony Cramp on 01432 383 615.**