

Newsletter

Welcome to the second Mendip Strategic Partnership (MSP) newsletter

Since the publication of the Spring newsletter, the MSP has:

- Reviewed its membership to ensure that it is as representative as possible of local communities
- Completed an information gathering exercise to help it determine priority issues for Mendip. This information includes the findings from the Great Cake of Life Challenge – more below
- Set up a multi agency task group to turn the information into a long term vision for the district, and to develop shorter term actions to help achieve that vision.

Recent Events

The Great Cake of Life Programme of Community Engagement June /July 2003



The **Great Cake of Life Challenge** is a programme of community engagement that took place during June and July 2003. It was made up of ten events at venues across the District, listed below.

The events were designed and delivered by a project group with representatives from the Mendip Strategic Partnership, including Mendip Primary Care Trust, Mendip Housing Ltd, Mendip District Council, Somerset County Council and Mendip Environment Forum.

A total of 1004 people came along and took part in the events. Attendance figures at each venue are shown below:

Urban

Frome	324
Glastonbury	67
Shepton Mallet	162
Street	196
Wells	94

Rural

Chilcompton	42
Draycott	12
Evercreech	49
Godney	19
Nunney	39

Themes

People taking part in the events were asked to consider what was important to them now and in the future under the following headings:

- A place to live
- A job to do
- Things to do
- Getting around
- Feeling safe
- Ways to learn
- Staying well
- Food
- Environment
- Energy and Waste
- Sense of Community
- Anything Else

Findings

The Great Cake of Life Challenge involved a number of techniques to gather information about people's views and aspirations. Most of the activities involved people writing comments in their own words. Some of the key issues are listed below:

What causes concern

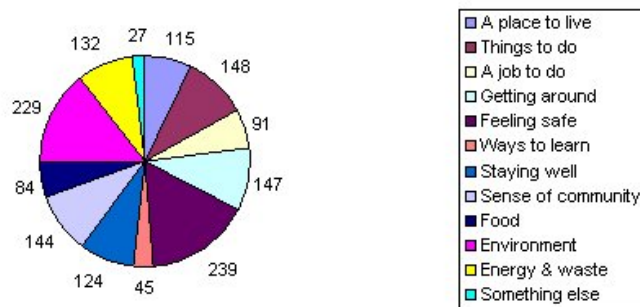
- Amount and speed of traffic
- State of the environment – built and natural
- Lack of police presence
- Vandalism and graffiti
- Lack of things to do, particularly for young people
- Lack of affordable homes

What people value

- The countryside and natural environment
- Parks and open spaces
- Leisure facilities, parks, theatres, cinemas
- Sense of community, particularly in villages
- Recycling, with calls for expanding recycling services to include plastics

The last activity that people were asked to do was select up to four of the themes as their particular priorities, using sticky dots and a 12 segmented 'cake'. The chart below illustrates the distribution of dots for all ten events. From this it would appear that 'feeling safe' and 'the environment' are of particular importance to those taking part in the events:

Final Great Cake - Mendip



What happens next

All partners have received the full reports from the Great Cake consultations and the MSP has set up a multi-agency task group to use this data, and other information, to help develop a long term vision for the district. The task group will also develop actions to achieve the vision. These will need to be actions that the whole Partnership can sign up to and will ultimately form the Community Plan for Mendip.

The full reports, including comments in people's own words, are available on the MSP website www.mendipstrategicpartnership.org.uk

Members of the Mendip Strategic Partnership

Board Member	Role /Job Title	Representing
Penny Baker	<i>Chair of Mendip Association of Chambers of Commerce</i>	Mendip Association of Chambers of Commerce
Cathy Bakewell	<i>Leader of Somerset County Council</i>	Somerset County Council
Ron Ballantine	<i>Chair of Mendip Primary Care Trust, Trust Executive</i>	Mendip Primary Care Trust
Ian Bennett	<i>Principal - Strode College</i>	Further Education Sector
Gaynor Clarke	<i>Job Centre Plus</i>	Employment/Benefits Agencies
Peter Chapman	<i>Chief Executive of Mendip Housing Ltd</i>	Registered Social Landlords
Penny Church	<i>Manager Frome and District Citizens Advice Bureau</i>	Voluntary Agencies
Nick Cottle	<i>Glastonbury Town Councillor</i>	Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC)
Richard Dixon	<i>Vice Chairman - Mendip Environment Forum</i>	Mendip Environment Forum
Pam Iles	<i>Chair of Mendip Head Teachers Group</i>	Head Teachers of Mendip Schools Group
Kathryn d'Inverno	<i>Non-Executive Director - Mendip PCT</i>	Social Forum
Graham Livings	<i>Trustee - Victim Support</i>	Voluntary Agencies
Zena Pollard	<i>Personal Account Manager Barclays Bristol & North</i>	Mendip Economy Forum
Elaine Pugsley	<i>Link Project Manager - NCH</i>	Young Families
Jim Shearer	<i>Chief Superintendent of Police</i>	Avon and Somerset Police
Harvey Siggs	<i>Portfolio Holder - Corporate Finance and Resources</i>	Mendip District Council
Ian Wallace	<i>Director- Young Somerset</i>	Young People's Organisations

Contact Us

For more information about the Mendip Strategic Partnership or if you would like to join our mailing list, please contact:

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www.mendipstrategicpartnership.org.uk

