

Key Findings from “Our Community” Survey 2010

West Cheshire – bid to be the
Nº 1 place to live in the world



Tell me a bit about your area?

- Population of 326,000
- Ageing population, over 85 age group forecast to double in next 20 years
- Mix of urban, suburban, rural – and we have 5 Area Partnership Boards



What do you think makes somewhere a good place to live?

Our residents say...

- The level of crime (66%)
- Health Services (46%)
- Clean Streets (43%)
- Shopping facilities (34%)
- Affordable decent housing (32%)



Chester and Rural West APBs also say:

- Public transport

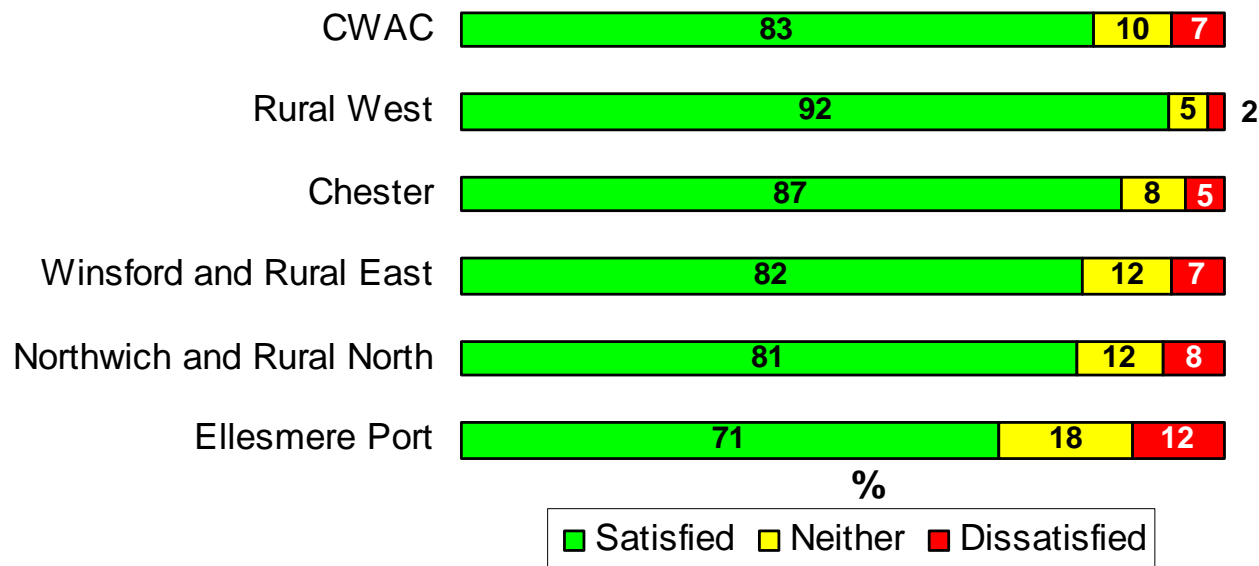
Northwich & Rural North and Rural West APBs also say:

- Education Provision



Are your residents happy with where they live?

Respondents satisfaction with their local area overall



Would you say there is a good community spirit?

Mixed views:

- 63% feel they strongly belong to their immediate neighbourhood
 - 82% in Rural West and 58% in Ellesmere Port
 - 74% aged 65+ and 42% aged 18-34
- 85% feel that in their local area, people from different backgrounds get on well together
 - 90% in Winsford & Rural East and 81% in Ellesmere Port
 - 91% aged 65+ and 78% aged 18-34



An 'environmentally friendly' place to live?

- Actions 'always taken' to be environmentally friendly:
 - Recycle as much waste as possible (91%)
 - Turn out lights when not in use (80%)
 - Use energy saving light bulbs (67%)
- 78% of respondents thought that reducing carbon emission across West Cheshire was important.



You mentioned the level of crime...do residents feel safe?

- Generally, most residents feel safe during the day (93%)
 - However, differences in feeling safe after dark:
 - West Cheshire – 54% feel safe
 - Rural West – 71% feel safe
 - Ellesmere Port – 36% feel safe.
 - Place has bigger impact than age or gender



Do you know why people feel unsafe?

Key issues include:

- Groups of young people hanging around
- Lack of Police presence
- Fear of being mugged, harassed or experiencing anti-social behaviour
- Fear of violent crime such as assault or knife crime
- Drunk people in the streets
- Poor street lighting
- Certain people feel more vulnerable, particularly older people and women



You also said health services were important...how healthy are your residents?



- Generally, most people feel that their health is good (70%)
 - 73% in Rural West and 67% in Winsford and Rural East
 - 90% 18-34 year olds and 57% 65+ year olds
- Generally, most people feel that their diet is good (71%)
 - 78% in Rural West and 59% in Ellesmere Port
- 61% of people said that they had felt happy most of the time over the last 4 weeks
 - 66% in Rural West and 52% in Ellesmere Port



What do you feel are the main challenges facing your area?

- People are generally happy with their local area, but over a quarter think it has got worse in the last 2 years
- Almost 70% feel they can't influence decisions about their local area
- Fear of crime and anti-social behaviour key concerns. Not aware of actions taken to address issues
- Health inequalities across West Cheshire
- Some significant differences in perceptions of residents from different geographical areas



Just to sum up, what are the best points about living in West Cheshire?

- The majority of people are satisfied with their local area (83%) and satisfied with their home (91%).
- In comparison to 2008 Place survey results, many national indicators have improved.
- The majority feel they are treated with respect by local public services and also treated with respect and consideration by people in their local area.



And what do you feel most needs improving?

Our residents say...

- Road and pavement repairs (61%)
 - Activities for teenagers (45%)
 - The level of traffic congestion (31%)
 - Job prospects (27%)
 - Public transport (26%)
 - The level of crime (26%)
 - Clean streets (26%)
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- Rural West and Winsford and Rural East - improvements in public transport
 - Chester and Ellesmere Port - improvements in the level of crime, and along with Northwich and Rural North, clean streets



Is West Cheshire the No 1 place to live in the world?

Not this year...keep trying

The best place to live is Vienna!



Contact...

Beverley Wilson

(Research, Intelligence & Consultation Manager)

Beverley.wilson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Tel: 01244 972176

Helen Pickin

(Research Officer)

Helen.pickin@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Tel: 01244 977148

cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk



Cheshire West
and Chester