

Life in Lancashire 2003

Lancaster District

Research study for Lancashire County Council
Conducted by MORI

Fieldwork September to December 2003

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Introduction

Background and Objectives

This report presents the findings of a survey carried out by the MORI Local Government Research Unit for Lancashire County Council. The document reports on the latest views of Lancashire residents about Lancashire County Council, the services it provides and quality of life in the county. It also examines how views have changed since 2000, when the baseline Lancashire County Council residents' survey was conducted by MORI.

More specifically, this representative survey of Lancashire residents is intended to provide robust information on residents' attitudes towards living in Lancashire which can be used for comparisons with the 2000 baseline survey, as well as on-going monitoring. Topics covered include:

- satisfaction with the local area as a place to live;
- quality of life;
- social cohesion;
- usage of, and satisfaction with, local services;
- local transport; and
- corporate priorities.

Methodology

MORI carried out 2,447 interviews with Lancashire residents (aged 18+) in 192 randomly selected enumeration districts (EDs) across the County. Within each ED, quotas were set using 2001 Census data to reflect the population profile of that neighbourhood.

The data are weighted by sex, age, working status, ethnicity and area.

All interviews were carried out face-to-face in respondents' homes between 15 September and 9 December 2003.

Presentation and Interpretation of Data

It should be remembered at all times that a sample and not the entire population of Lancashire residents has been interviewed. In consequence, all results are subject to sampling tolerances, which means that not all differences are statistically significant.

Where percentages do not sum to 100, this may be due to computer rounding, the exclusion of "don't know" categories, or multiple answers. Throughout the volume an asterisk (*) denotes any value of less than half a per cent.

In the computer tables, reference is made to "net" figures. This represents the balance of opinion on attitudinal questions, and provides a particularly useful means of comparing the results for a number of variables. In the case of a "net satisfaction" figure, this represents the percentage satisfied on a particular issue or service, less the percentage dissatisfied. For example, if a service records 40% satisfied and 25% dissatisfied, the "net satisfaction" figure is +15 points.

For some questions the district level data only has a small base size so any differences may not be statistically significant. This means that the service questions, which require users, have not been compared by district since the base would be too small. Statistics for the district are presented with those of Lancashire overall where possible.

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Understanding the Profile of Lancashire

This report makes reference to how people's views differ across the various areas of the County. When making these comparisons it is important to bear in mind the profile of the population being considered. Some significant demographic differences between districts are highlighted in the table below.

| | Age | | | | Social Class | | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 18-24 % | 25-44 % | 45-64 % | 65+ % | AB % | C1 % | C2 % | DE % |
| Lancashire | 14 | 36 | 29 | 21 | 21 | 29 | 16 | 34 |
| Burnley | 18 | 34 | 35 | 13 | 9 | 24 | 17 | 49 |
| Chorley | 10 | 41 | 31 | 18 | 28 | 33 | 13 | 26 |
| Fylde | 6 | 32 | 35 | 27 | 35 | 35 | 11 | 18 |
| Hyndburn | 13 | 31 | 25 | 32 | 11 | 22 | 18 | 47 |
| Lancaster | 14 | 36 | 28 | 22 | 17 | 33 | 19 | 31 |
| Pendle | 18 | 40 | 23 | 20 | 17 | 28 | 13 | 40 |
| Preston | 16 | 41 | 29 | 14 | 22 | 27 | 14 | 37 |
| Ribble Valley | 11 | 38 | 30 | 22 | 16 | 39 | 14 | 31 |
| Rossendale | 13 | 36 | 25 | 27 | 8 | 19 | 13 | 60 |
| South Ribble | 19 | 39 | 25 | 18 | 21 | 30 | 23 | 26 |
| West Lancs. | 13 | 39 | 31 | 17 | 34 | 21 | 16 | 29 |
| Wyre | 11 | 27 | 32 | 30 | 23 | 35 | 16 | 27 |

Comparison with Baseline Survey

The report also makes frequent comparisons between the results of the 2003 study and the baseline study conducted in 2000 to point out what has changed or what has stayed the same.

Comparisons with Other Authorities

Where appropriate, the report includes comparisons between Lancashire's results and those of other authorities (taken from the MORI Local Government database). These findings are intended to provide context to the results; they should not be seen as 'league tables'. The data is MORI copyright and should not be released to a third party without MORI's written approval.

Publication of the Data

As with all our studies, findings from this survey are subject to our standard Terms and Conditions of Contract. Any press release or publication of the findings of this survey requires the advance approval of MORI. Such approval will only be refused on the grounds of inaccuracy or misrepresentation.

Summary of Findings

Quality of Life

- Satisfaction with Lancashire as a place to live
 - The majority of residents are happy to be living in Lancashire (88% satisfied overall with Lancashire as a place to live).
 - Lancaster residents are close to county average for satisfaction with Lancashire and their local area.
- Positive aspects of life in Lancashire
 - Few respondents in Lancashire (3%) say there are 'no good things' about the area.
 - Lancaster's most positive aspects are peace and quiet (33%) and access to the countryside/coast (29%).
- Negative aspects of life in Lancashire
 - No single aspect stands out across the county, 24% say there are 'no bad things' about living in the area.
 - Lancaster residents are twice as likely to cite too much traffic as one of the bad things about where they live (18%).

Improving Quality of Life

- Broad themes
 - Across Lancashire curbing antisocial behaviour and crime, and reducing traffic and transport problems are seen as the things that would improve quality of life most.
 - The top priorities for improving quality of life in Lancaster are reducing traffic and transport problems and reducing crime and disorder.
- Crime and disorder
 - Across Lancashire the most commonly cited ways of reducing crime and disorder are providing a more visible police presence (71%), providing more things for youngsters to do (42%) and tackling the drugs problem (35%).
- Activities for young people
 - The most commonly cited actions for the County Council in providing activities for young people are to provide more youth centres for meeting people their own age (66%) and more leisure centres (60%).

- Traffic and transport priorities for Lancashire County Council
 - improving existing roads, street lighting and bridges (37%)
 - public transport to be prioritised for improvement (33%)
 - improvements to pedestrian facilities (25%)
 - improving road safety and providing safe routes to schools (23%)
 - least likely to favour building new roads (12%)
 - reducing delays to traffic is the key priority in Lancaster (57%)
- The most frequently mentioned methods of curbing illegal drug taking are:
 - stricter punishments for illegal drug dealers (62%)
 - stricter punishment for users (42%)
 - drug awareness education in schools (34%)
 - better facilities for young people generally (29%)

Community Cohesion

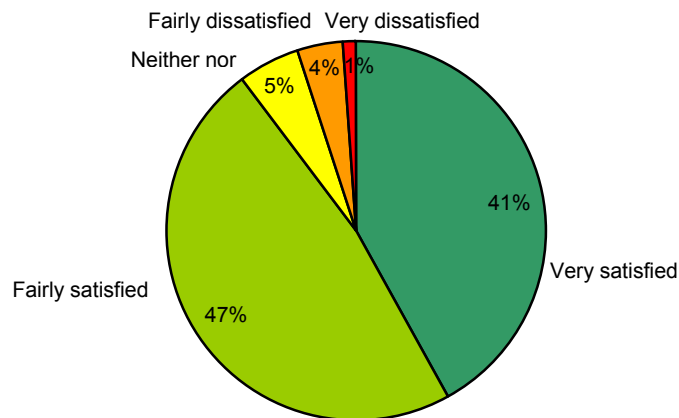
- People get on well together
 - 60% of Lancashire residents agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together, only 15% say they disagree.
- Looking out for one another
 - 85% agree that their neighbourhood is a place where neighbours look out for each other.
- Knowing and trusting each other
 - The majority of residents claim to know (95%) or trust (93%) people in their neighbourhood. However residents are more likely to say that they trust (58%) than know (42%) *many* of their neighbours.

Quality of Life

Satisfaction in Lancashire

The majority of residents report that they are happy to be living in Lancashire. Overall, almost nine in ten (88%) are satisfied with Lancashire as a place to live, including two in five who are very satisfied (41%).

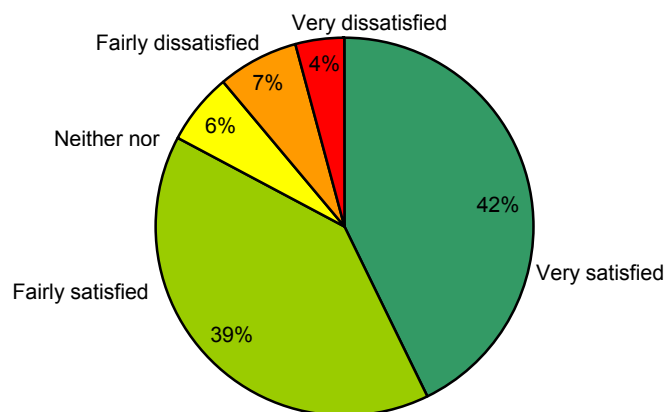
Q Thinking about Lancashire, on the whole, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with it as a place to live?



Base: All respondents (2,447)
Source: MORI

Satisfaction with the local area

Q Thinking about this area, on the whole, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with it as a place to live?

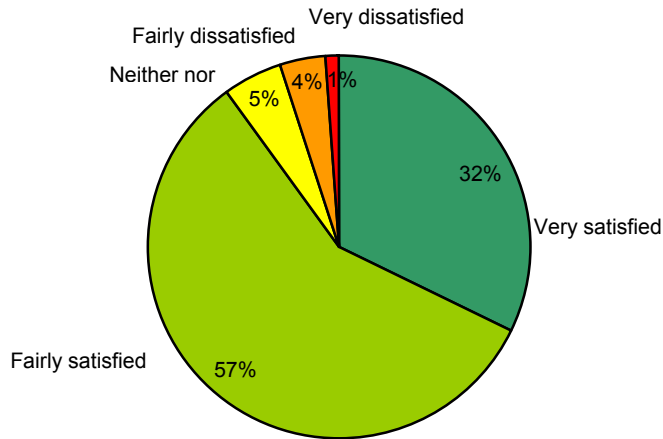


Base: All respondents (2,447)
Source: MORI

Satisfaction in Lancaster

Overall, almost nine in ten (89%) are satisfied with Lancashire as a place to live and just over three-quarters satisfied with their local area (77%).

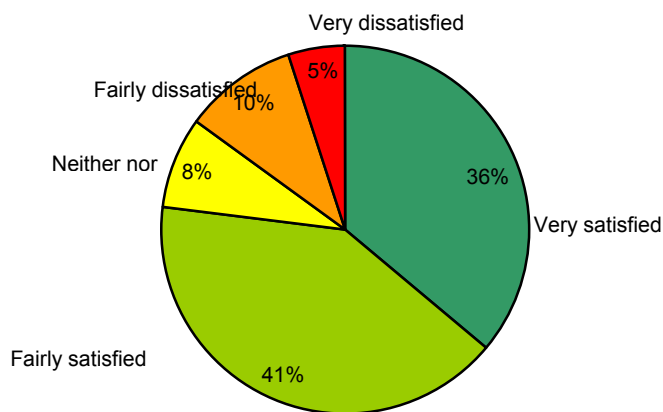
Q Thinking about Lancashire, on the whole, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with it as a place to live?



Base: All Lancaster residents (296) Source: MORI

Satisfaction with the local area

Q Thinking about this area, on the whole, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with it as a place to live?



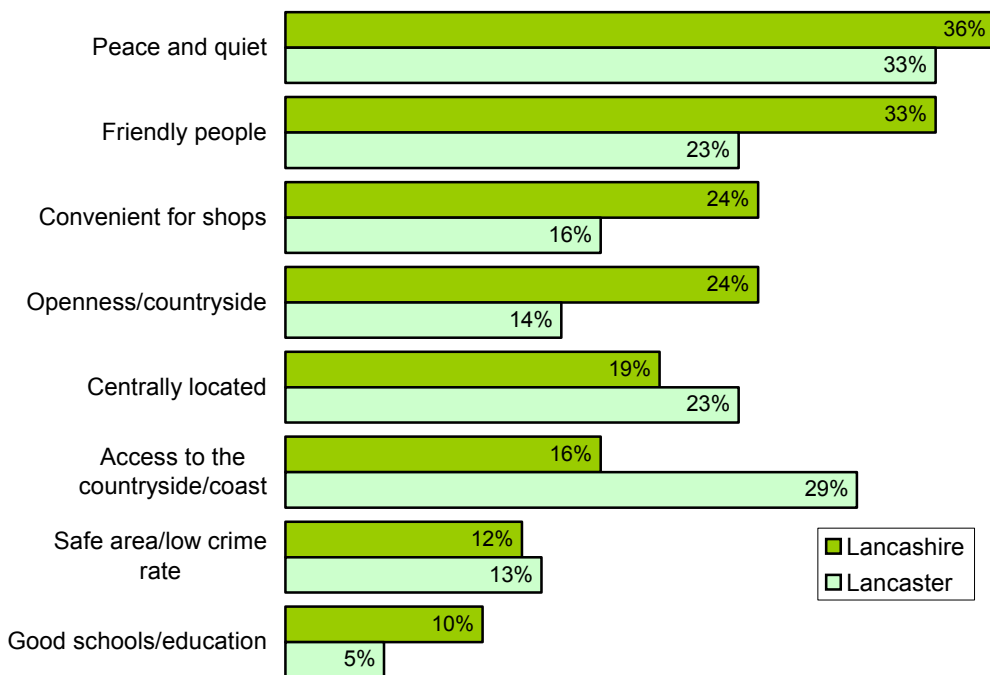
Base: All Lancaster residents (296) Source: MORI

Positive Aspects of Life in Lancashire

Lancashire residents give a variety of reasons why they are happy to be living in the area. Very few (3%) say that there are 'no good things' about the area.

Residents across the County are most likely to emphasise **peace and quiet, friendly people, openness/greenery and convenience for shops** as positive aspects of their area. Important changes since 2000 are that those mentioning convenience for shops as a positive aspect of the area has decreased by 11% and those citing adequate transport had decreased by 3%. On the positive side, those reporting that access to countryside has increased by 4% and percentages of those citing friendly people, openness and countryside and good education have all stayed the same since 2000.

Q Which three or four things, if any, would you say are good things about living in this area?



Base: All respondents; Lancashire (2,447), Lancaster (296)

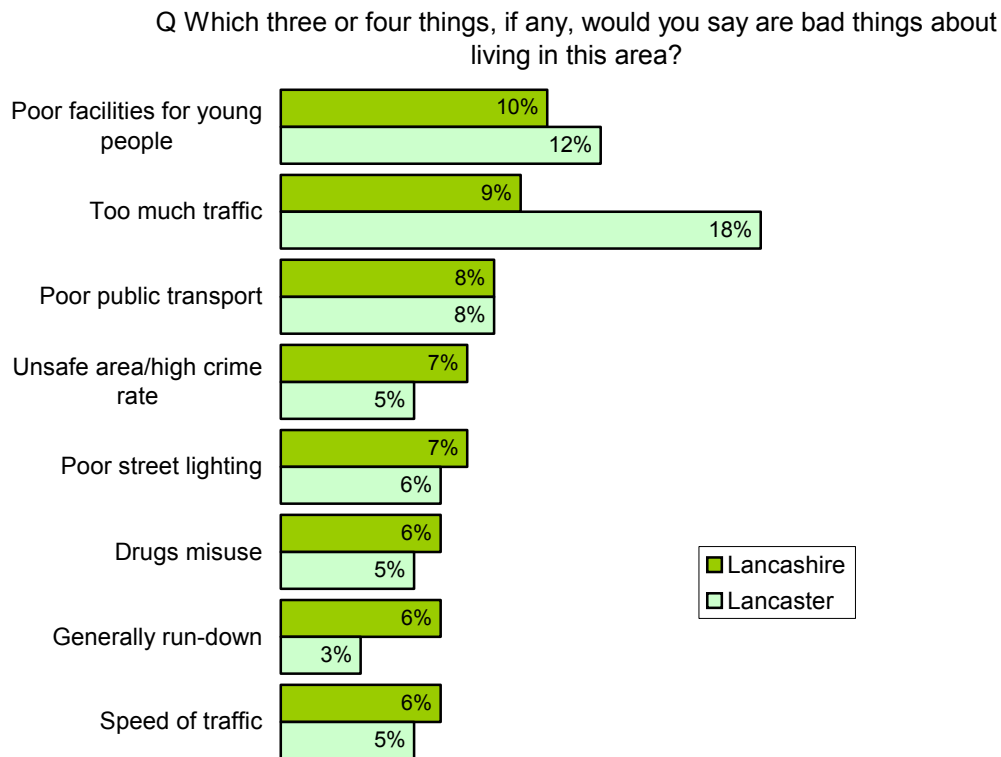
Source: MORI

In Lancaster, **access to the countryside/coast** (29%) is seen as a key good thing about the area, with residents nearly twice as likely to mention it as residents across the county.

Negative Aspects of Life in Lancashire

No single aspect stands out across the county as the one particularly negative factor. Indeed, almost one in four (24%) of residents say that there are 'no bad things' about living in the area and in 2003, Lancashire residents cite fewer negative aspects of life in Lancashire than in 2000.

The most frequently mentioned negative aspects overall are **poor facilities for young people** (10%), **volume of traffic** (9%), **poor public transport** (8%), **unclean streets** and **high crime rate**. This is largely similar to the 2000 baseline survey, however poor facilities for young people and high crime rates were not key negative aspects in the 2000 survey.



Base: All respondents; Lancashire (2,447), Lancaster (296)

Source: MORI

In Lancaster, residents are twice as likely to mention **too much traffic** (18%) compared to Lancashire averages.

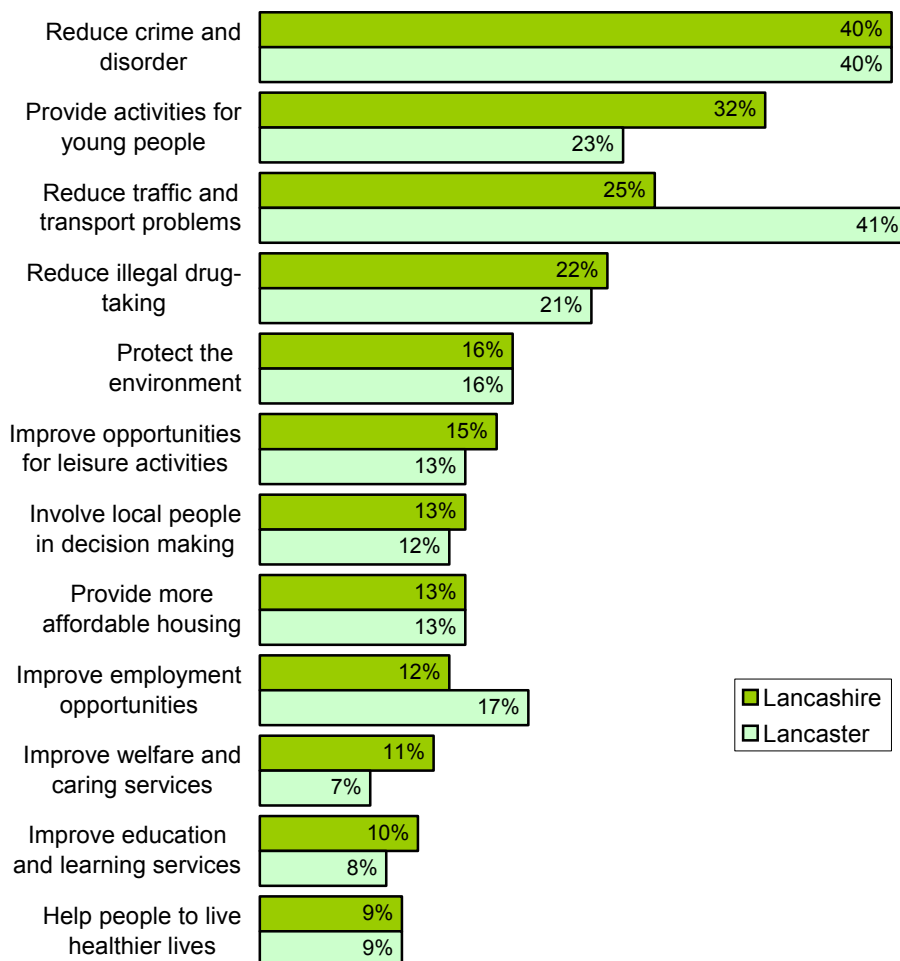
Improving Quality of Life

Quality of Life: Broad Themes in Lancashire

When residents are asked what factors would improve quality of life, there is heavy emphasis on curbing **anti-social behaviour** and **crime**. **Reducing traffic and transport problems** is also cited by one in four (25%) residents. These findings broadly reflect perceived 'bad things' about areas.

Although quality of life data is not directly comparable with the baseline survey, due to a change in question wording, findings indicate some changes since 2000. As this time, although improving youth services and reducing crime were also high priorities, better road and pavement maintenance and safer roads were deemed to be more important than reducing traffic and drug abuse problems.

Q Thinking now about your quality of life, which two or three of the following things, if any, are the most important to improve your own quality of life?



Base: All respondents; Lancashire (2,447), Lancaster (296)

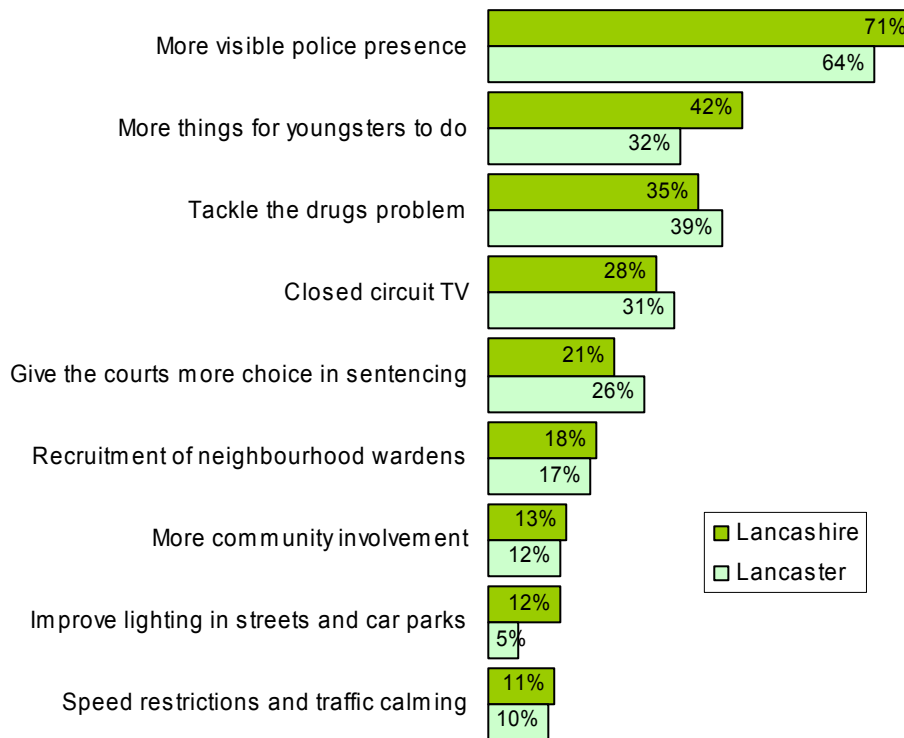
Source: MORI

In Lancaster, **reducing traffic and transport problems** (41%) is the priority given by most people and is the only district to do so. **Reducing crime and disorder** (41%) is also seen as important.

Key Quality of Life Themes: Crime and Disorder in Lancashire

When presented with a list of possible ways in which to reduce crime and disorder, the most commonly cited action is to **provide a more visible police presence** (71%). Other key perceived important aspects are **providing more things for youngsters to do** (42%) and **tackling the drugs problem** (35%). This suggests that Lancashire residents associate youngsters having insufficient leisure activities with illegal drug-taking and crime and disorder problems in their area.

Q In your opinion, which two or three, if any, of the following should Lancashire County Council do in order to reduce crime and disorder?



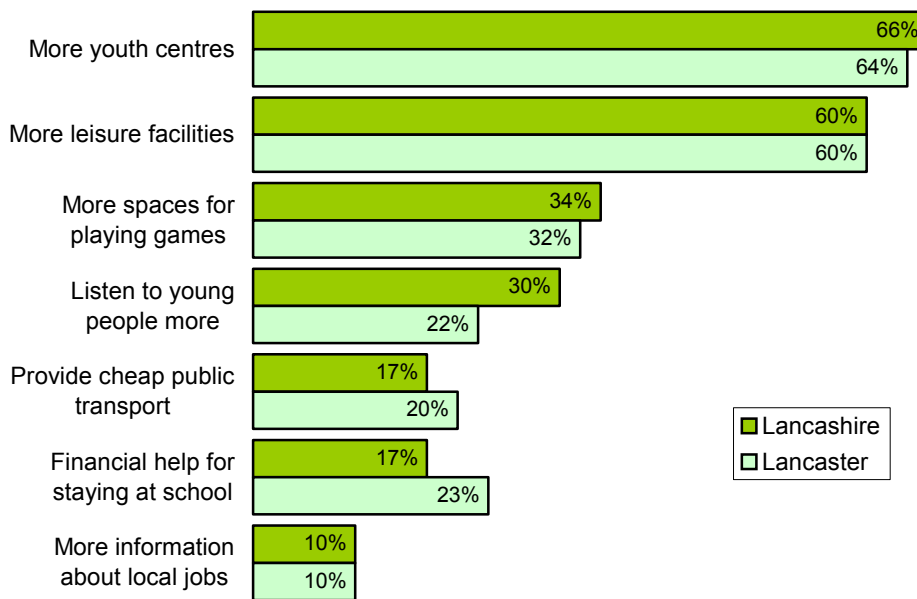
Base: All respondents giving “reduce crime and disorder” as a key priority; Lancashire (985), Lancaster (117)
Source: MORI

As across Lancashire, a **more visible police presence** (64%) is seen as the most important way to reduce crime and disorder.

Key Quality of Life Themes: Activities for Young People in Lancashire

When asked what the County Council should do to provide activities for young people, the most commonly cited actions are to **provide more youth centres for meeting people of their own age** (66%) and **more leisure centres** (60%).

Q In your opinion, which two or three, if any, of the following should Lancashire County Council do in order to provide activities for young people?



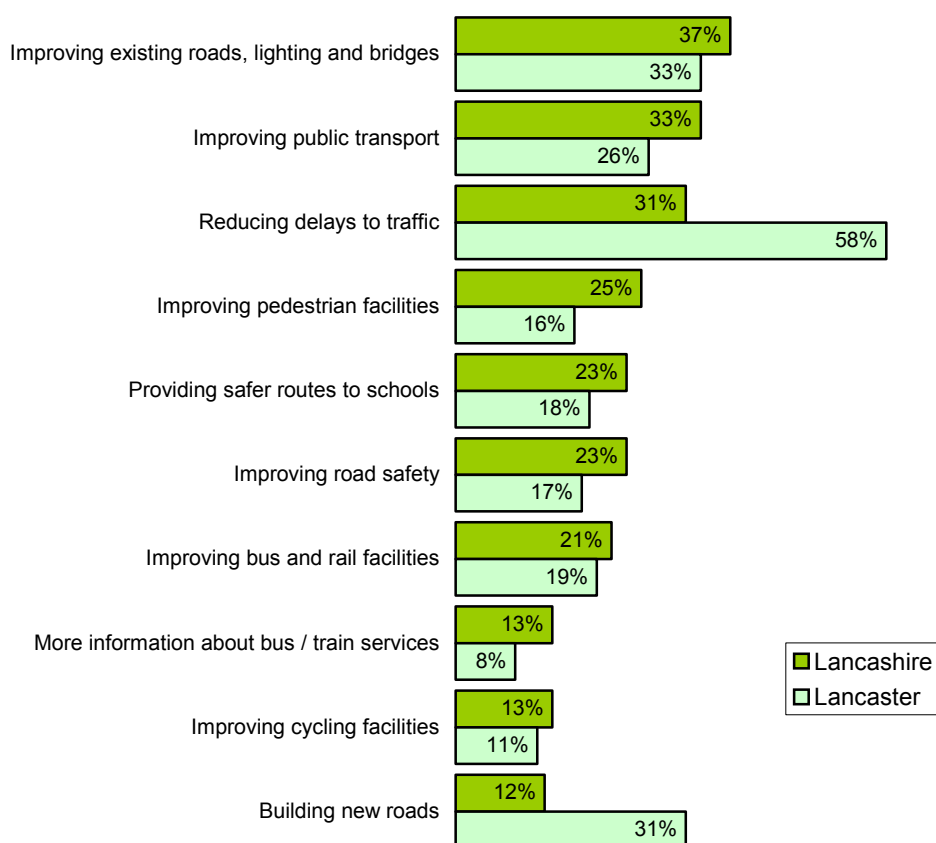
Base: All respondents giving "provide activities for young people" as a key priority; Lancashire (771), Lancaster (69)
Source: MORI

Lancaster priorities are similar to those of the whole county.

Key Quality of Life Themes: Traffic and Transport in Lancashire

In terms of transport priorities, residents are most likely to want the County Council to prioritise **improving existing roads, street lighting and bridges** (37%) and least likely to favour **building new roads** (12%). A third (33%) of residents would like **public transport** to be prioritised for improvement, and a quarter (25%) would like to see improvements to **pedestrian facilities**. Road safety is also a salient issue, with around one in four (23%) residents mentioning improving **road safety** and providing **safe routes to schools**. Reducing delays to traffic is most important in Lancaster with residents nearly twice as likely to mention it than the Lancashire average.

Q In your opinion, which two or three local transport issues do you think should be the main priorities for Lancashire County Council?



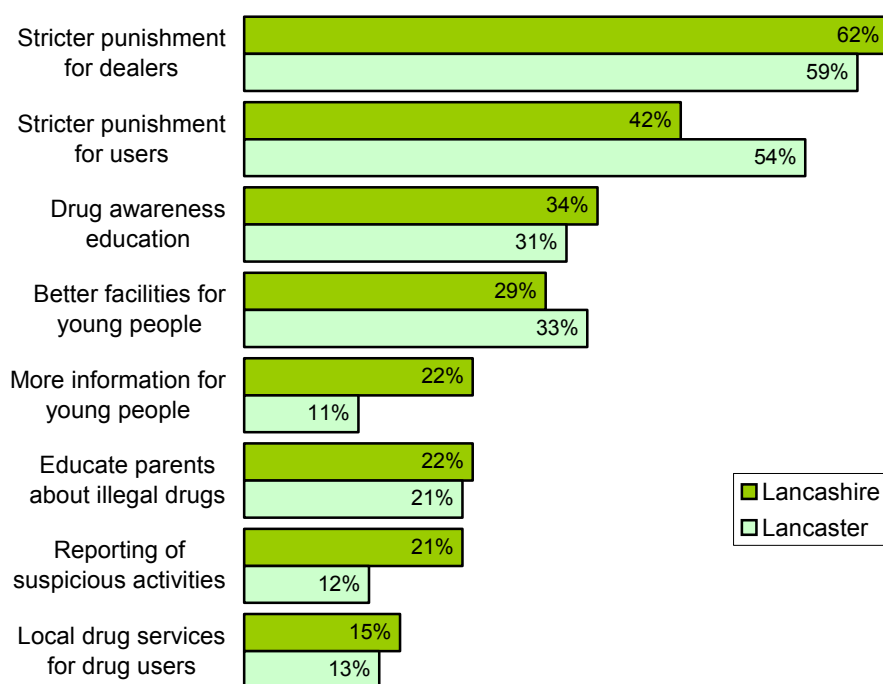
Base: All respondents; Lancashire (2,447), Lancaster (296)
Source: MORI

Lancaster residents are nearly twice as likely to give **reducing delays to traffic** (58%) as a main transport priority, and are more than twice as likely to mention **building new roads** (31%).

Key Quality of Life Themes: Illegal Drug-Taking in Lancashire

The most frequently mentioned course of action for curbing illegal drug-taking is the introduction of **stricter punishments for illegal drug dealers** (62%). Other important actions are seen to be **stricter punishment for users** (42%), **drug awareness education in schools** (34%) and **the better facilities for young people generally** (29%).

Q In your opinion, which two or three, if any, of the following should Lancashire County Council do in order to reduce illegal drug-taking?



Base: All respondents giving "reduce illegal drug taking" as a key priority Lancashire (555), Lancaster (62)
Source: MORI

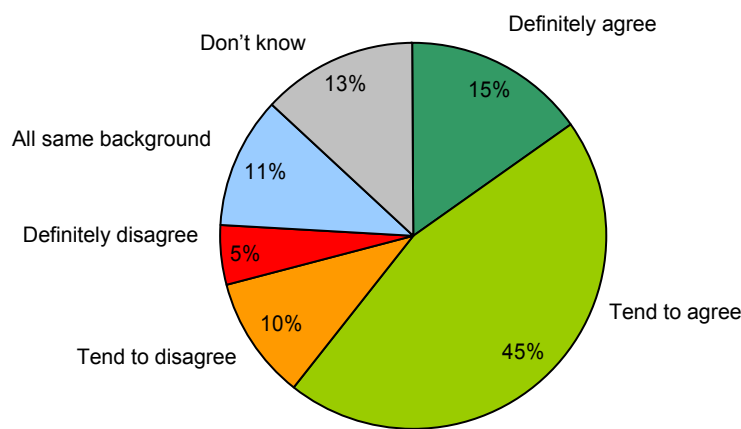
In Lancaster, opinions are similar to those across the county, but more likely to mention **stricter punishments for users** (54%).

Community Cohesion

People Get on Well Together in Lancashire

Almost two thirds (60%) of Lancashire residents agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together. Only 15% say they disagree.¹

Q "This is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together"



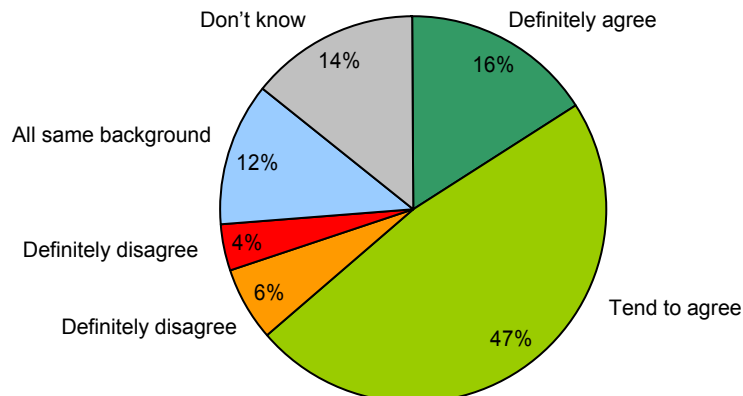
Base: All respondents (2,447)

Source: MORI

People Get on Well Together in Lancaster

In Lancaster only 10% disagree with the statement.

Q "This is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together"



Base: All Lancaster residents (296)

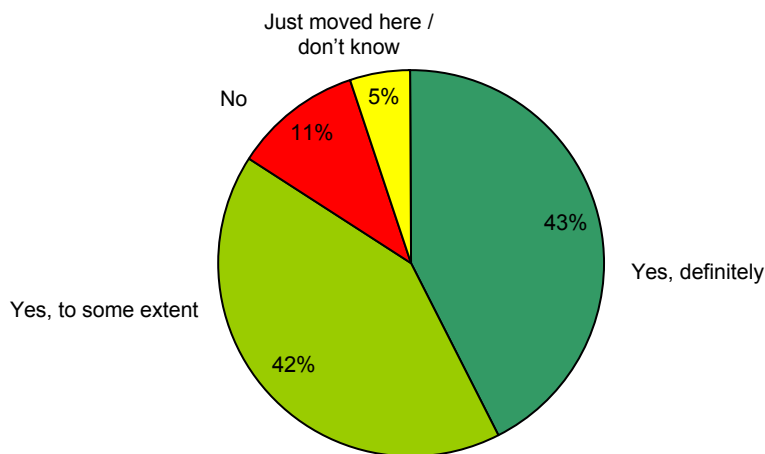
Source: MORI

¹ This broadly reflects the rest of the UK according to the Citizenship Survey 2003, conducted on behalf of the Home Office.

Looking Out for One Another in Lancashire

Over four in five residents (85%) agree that their neighbourhood is a place where neighbours look out for each other.²

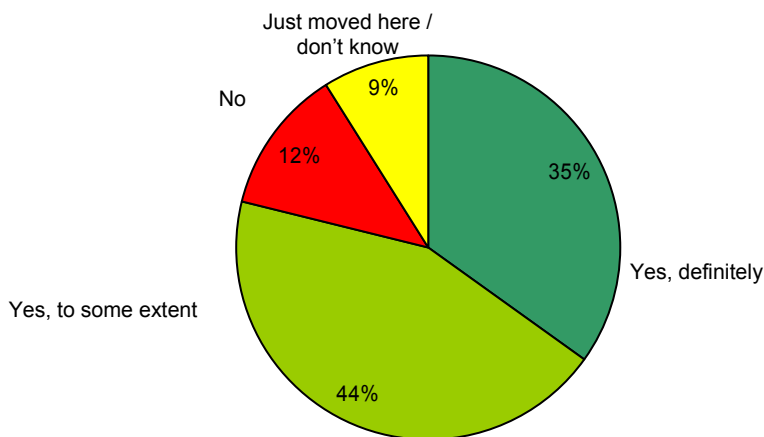
Q Would you say this neighbourhood is a place where people look out for each other?



Base: All respondents (2,447)
Source: MORI

Looking Out For One Another in Lancaster

Q Would you say this neighbourhood is a place where people look out for each other?



Base: All Lancaster residents (296) Source: MORI

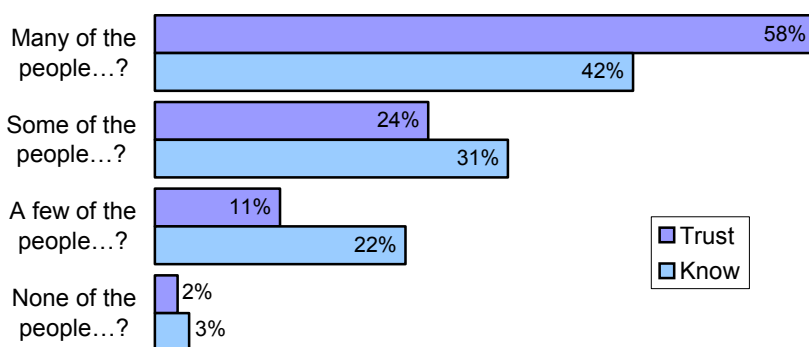
Lancaster figures are very close to those for the whole county.

² This broadly reflects the rest of the UK according to the Citizenship Survey 2003, conducted on behalf of the Home Office.

Knowing and Trusting Each Other in Lancashire

The majority of residents claim to know (95%) or trust (93%) people in their neighbourhood. However residents are more likely to say that they trust (58%) than know (42%) *many* of their neighbours³.

Q Would you say that you know / trust?

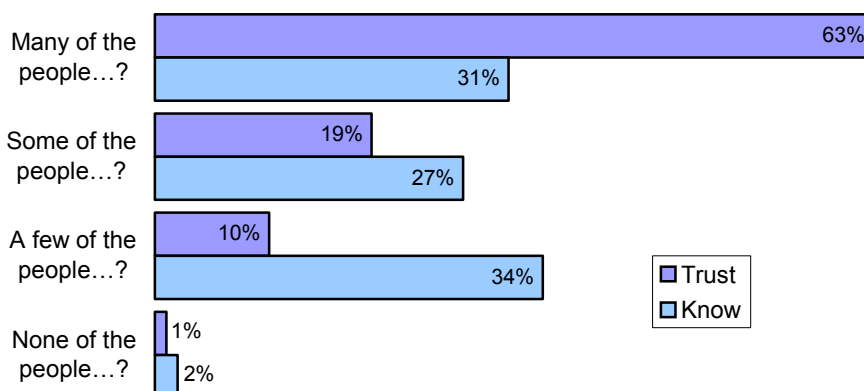


Base: All respondents (2,447)

Source: MORI

Knowing and Trusting Each Other in Lancaster

Q Would you say that you know / trust?



Base: All Lancaster residents (296)

Source: MORI

In Lancaster, respondents are less likely to say they know many of the people in their neighbourhood (31%).

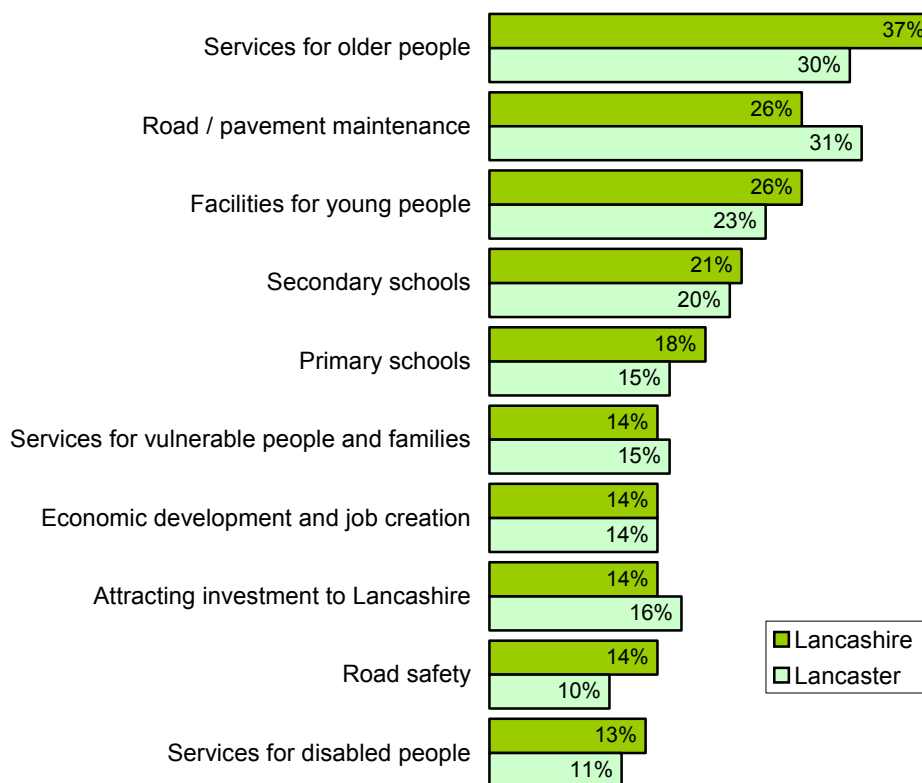
³ Comparison with findings from the Citizenship Survey 2003 indicates that Lancashire residents are more likely to know and trust “many” of the people in their area, and less likely to know and trust “a few” or “none” in their area than residents in the UK overall.

County Council Services

Importance of services in Lancashire

Residents consider the most important County Council services to be **services for older people** (37%), **facilities for young people** (28%) and **road/pavement maintenance** (28%). This is entirely consistent with services considered most important in 2000. The only significant change in importance attributed to services since 2000 is for **secondary schools** and **primary schools**, with residents now more likely to say that they are among the most important services.

Q Which three or four of the services on the list do you think are most important for people in this area?



Base: All respondents; Lancashire (2,447), Lancaster (296) Source: MORI

Priorities in Lancaster are similar to those of Lancashire as a whole.

Satisfaction with Services

Universal services in Lancashire

Satisfaction with most universal services – and all services related to roads and traffic – has improved since 2000.

Residents remain most satisfied with **street lighting**, with more than three-quarters (77%) of residents saying that they are at least ‘fairly satisfied’.

In contrast, there is greatest dissatisfaction with **road maintenance** (41% dissatisfied) **pavement maintenance** (39%) and **traffic calming measures** (38%). This is not unusual in our experience. However, residents are now *less dissatisfied* with all of these services than in 2000.

Other improvements in net satisfaction since 2000 are for **road safety**, the **local road system** and traffic management.

Q *How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?*

| | Satisfied % | Dissatisfied % | Net satisfied ± | Change Since 2000 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Street lighting | 77 | 17 | +60 | +1 |
| Traffic management | 56 | 22 | +34 | +7 |
| Local road system | 56 | 23 | +33 | +11 |
| Road safety | 50 | 28 | +22 | +13 |
| Trading standards | 20 | 3 | +17 | -6 |
| Pavement maintenance | 47 | 39 | +8 | +13 |
| Road maintenance and repairs | 45 | 41 | +5 | +7 |
| Traffic calming measures | 39 | 38 | * | +9 |
| Economic development and job creation | 15 | 14 | +1 | -1 |

Base: All residents (2,447)

Source: MORI

Other services in Lancashire

Among service users, there is highest overall satisfaction with **libraries** (94%), and **registration of births, deaths and marriages** (89%). Most impressively, the County's **primary schools** and **pre-school facilities** are particularly well regarded, with nine out of ten users (90%) at least 'fairly satisfied' with each. This shows a significant increase in satisfaction with pre-school facilities since 2000. **Adult education** (86%) and **museums** (87%) and **tourism services** (86%) are also rated highly by those who use them.

Other services recording high satisfaction levels include **household waste disposal sites** (86%) and **recycling facilities** (88%). Indeed, satisfaction with recycling facilities has improved since 2000, as has usage of this service.

Although **facilities for young people** remain among the lowest rated services in Lancashire, a significant improvement in users' satisfaction with this service (+13 points) deserves recognition.

Other services that are rated somewhat higher than in 2000 are **planning services** (+19 points), **cycle facilities** (+11 points) and **bus services** (+6 points). However, there has been a significant decrease in net satisfaction with **welfare rights** (-15 points) and **services for older people** (-13 points).

Thinking about *all* the services provided by Lancashire County Council, the majority of residents (50%) think that these services have stayed about the same over the past two years. However, more residents think that the services have *got better* than think that they have got worse (25% vs 11%).

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?

| | Satisfied % | Dissatisfied % | Net satisfied ± | Change since 2000 |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Libraries | 94 | 4 | +90 | +4 |
| Registration of births, deaths and marriages | 89 | 3 | +86 | +6 |
| Primary schools | 90 | 5 | +85 | +1 |
| Pre-school facilities | 90 | 6 | +84 | +10 |
| Museums | 87 | 6 | +82 | -6 |
| Tourism services | 86 | 4 | +82 | +2 |
| Adult education | 86 | 7 | +79 | +1 |
| Recycling facilities | 88 | 8 | +79 | +7 |
| Household waste disposal sites | 86 | 9 | +78 | -5 |
| County Information Centres | 79 | 4 | +74 | -5 |
| Local taxis | 83 | 9 | +74 | -3 |
| Countryside recreation | 81 | 9 | +72 | -2 |
| Secondary schools | 81 | 11 | +70 | -6 |
| Footpaths, bridleways and rights of way | 80 | 13 | +67 | +1 |
| Support for the arts | 76 | 12 | +63 | +8 |
| Welfare rights | 76 | 17 | +59 | -15 |
| Youth service** | 70 | 14 | +55 | +29 |
| Services for disabled people | 68 | 18 | +51 | +12 |
| Local bus services | 72 | 22 | +50 | +6 |
| Services for people with learning difficulties | 69 | 21 | +47 | +7 |
| Services for older people | 68 | 24 | +44 | -13 |
| Local train services | 67 | 23 | +44 | -5 |
| Support for children with special needs | 67 | 25 | +42 | -7 |
| Cycle facilities (e.g. cycle paths) | 61 | 26 | +35 | +11 |
| Planning services* | 61 | 26 | +35 | +19 |
| Support for local businesses* | 54 | 27 | +28 | -2 |
| Services for people with mental health problems* | 58 | 30 | +28 | +4 |
| Facilities for young people | 57 | 32 | +25 | +13 |
| Services for vulnerable children and families** | 49 | 27 | +22 | +6 |
| Services for young offenders** | 30 | 35 | -5 | -41 |
| Base: All users | | | | |
| Source: MORI | | | | |
| *: n<100; **: n<50 | | | | |

Comparisons with MORI Normative Data

The table below shows where Lancashire has **high, about average and below average satisfaction scores** in the context of MORI's comparative data.

| Lancashire County Council compared with MORI Normative Data | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| High or Above Average Satisfaction | About Average Satisfaction |
| Nursery schools | Secondary schools |
| Primary schools | Services for older people |
| Recycling | Street lighting |
| Libraries | Road and pavement maintenance |
| Services and facilities for the disabled | |
| Bus services | |
| Adult education | |
| Facilities for young people | |

Source: MORI

Lancashire is not significantly **below average** compared with similar authorities surveyed by MORI for any services.

Trends

The table below shows which services were **rated better**, **rated about the same** and **rated worse** in terms of satisfaction scores in 2003 in comparison to the 2000 baseline survey.

| Satisfaction with Lancashire County Council Services in 2003 Vs. 2000 | | |
|---|---|--|
| Rated better | Rated about the same | Rated worse |
| Road and pavement maintenance | Primary schools | Welfare rights |
| Cycle facilities | Adult education | Services for older people |
| Road safety | Tourism services | Secondary schools |
| Local Road System | Countryside recreation | Services for people with special needs |
| Traffic management and calming | Footpaths, bridleways and rights of way | Museums |
| Bus services | Local taxi services | Household waste disposal sites |
| Recycling facilities | | Local train services |
| Nursery schools | | County information centres |
| Services for people with learning difficulties | | |
| Services and facilities for disabled people | | |
| Support for the arts | | |
| Registration of births, deaths and marriages | | |
| Libraries | | |
| Facilities for young people | | |

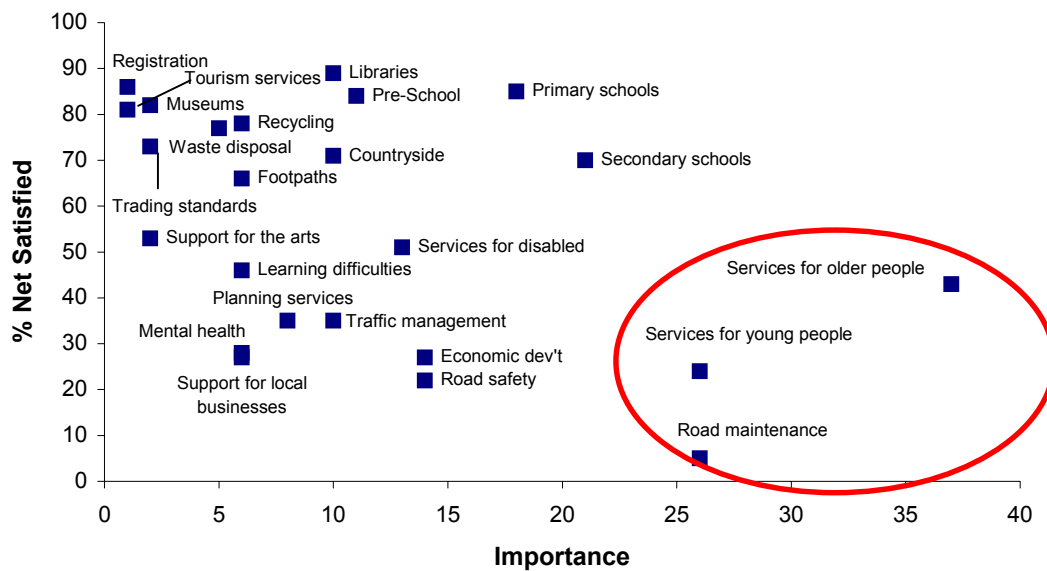
Source: MORI

Service Improvement Priorities

The chart below plots satisfaction with services against the importance given to that service area by residents. The further to the right a service is, the more important it is to residents, and the further up, the higher the net level of satisfaction with the service. Services to focus on are in the bottom right hand quadrant; they are seen as important, but are poorly rated.

The services that are priorities for improvement are: **services for older people**, **maintenance of roads and pavements** and **facilities for young people**. These are of high importance but are given low satisfaction ratings.

Importance vs Service Satisfaction



Base: All respondents (importance), all service users (satisfaction)

Service Usage

The most significant shift in County Council service usage since 2000 is for **recycling facilities**, which are now used by nearly two-thirds of Lancashire residents (64%). Despite this increase, **household waste disposal sites** remain widely used (62%). There has been a slight fall in the number of residents using **library services** since 2000, however libraries are still used by three in five (61%) residents.

Q Which of these services have you or your family benefited from in the last 12 months?

| | % Using the service | Change since 2000 (+/-%) |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Recycling facilities | 64 | +13 |
| Household waste disposal sites | 62 | +2 |
| Libraries | 61 | -4 |
| Local bus services | 57 | -1 |
| Local taxis | 50 | -5 |
| Footpaths, bridleways and rights of way | 45 | -1 |
| Countryside recreation | 43 | +1 |
| Local train services | 30 | -4 |
| Primary schools | 25 | +1 |
| Cycle facilities | 21 | -1 |
| Secondary schools | 21 | +2 |
| Museums | 20 | +1 |
| Adult education | 17 | 0 |
| Registration of births, deaths and marriages | 15 | +1 |
| Pre-school facilities or nursery schools | 12 | -2 |
| Tourism services | 11 | -2 |
| Services for older people | 9 | +1 |
| Facilities for young people | 8 | -3 |
| County Information Centres | 8 | -1 |
| Support for the arts | 7 | -2 |
| Welfare rights | 7 | -1 |
| Services and facilities for disabled people | 7 | +2 |
| Support for children with special needs | 4 | 0 |
| Trading standards | 4 | 0 |
| Planning services | 4 | 0 |
| Services for people with mental health | 4 | +1 |
| Services for people with learning difficulties | 4 | +1 |
| Economic development and job creation | 3 | 0 |
| Support for local businesses | 3 | 0 |
| Youth service | 2 | 0 |
| Services for vulnerable families and children | 2 | +1 |
| Services for young offenders | 1 | 0 |

Base: All residents (2,447)

Source: MORI

Social Services

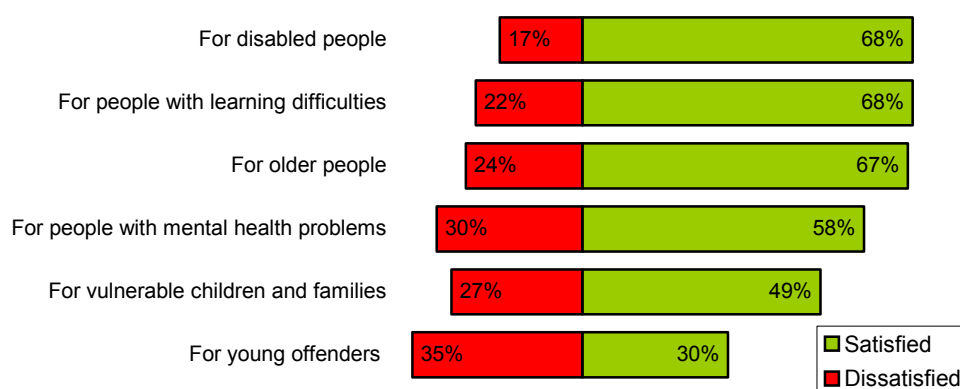
Introduction

This section looks at satisfaction with Social Services in Lancashire. Satisfaction figures are based on *user perceptions* of each of the service areas, unless otherwise stated. Services for people with mental health problems, for people with learning difficulties, for vulnerable children and families and for young offenders all have a small number of users. To this extent satisfaction scores must be interpreted with caution.

Overview for Lancashire

Satisfaction with Lancashire's **services for disabled people** (68%) is high, as is satisfaction with services for people with **learning difficulties** (69%) and services for **older people** (68%). Of all social services, satisfaction with services for **young offenders** is lowest, having dropped somewhat (-31%) since the 2000 baseline survey.

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?



Base: All users (21-219)
Source: MORI

Overall, users are more likely to say that social services have improved (26%) than got worse (19%) over the past few years. This shows a marked improvement since 2000, when only 15% residents said that social services had improved overall.

Education Services

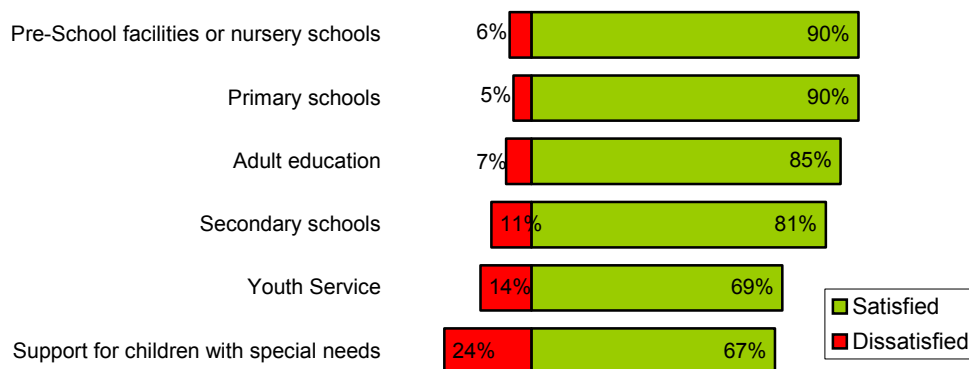
Introduction

This section looks at satisfaction with education services in Lancashire. Satisfaction figures are based on *user perceptions* of each of the service areas, unless otherwise stated. Youth services have a small number of users, so satisfaction scores must be interpreted with caution.

Overview for Lancashire

Although there has been a slight fall in satisfaction with secondary schools since 2000, primary education (90%), nursery education (90%), adult education (86%) and secondary schools (81%) are particularly well regarded among users in Lancashire, and receive higher satisfaction ratings than those in many other similar authorities. As is often found across the country, users of secondary education are slightly less satisfied than those using primary education. Very few people use the youth service, however findings indicate that satisfaction with the youth service has improved somewhat since 2000 (an increase of 20 percentage points).

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?



Base: All users (37-611)
Source: MORI

Education services are generally perceived to have improved or stayed the same. Almost one in four (38%) users think that education services have *got better* over the last two years or so, 39% think that they have stayed the same and only 10% think that they have got worse.

Leisure & Cultural Services

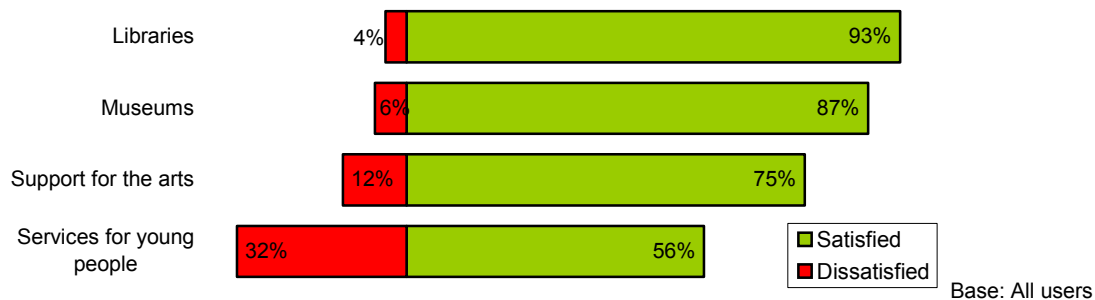
Introduction

This section looks at satisfaction with leisure and cultural services in Lancashire. Satisfaction figures are based on *user perceptions* of each of the service areas.

Overview for Lancashire

Lancashire's **libraries** (93% satisfied) and **museums** (87% satisfied) are highly rated. As is the case elsewhere in Britain, facilities for young people are rated low in relation to other leisure services. However, satisfaction with these has significantly increased (plus nine percentage points) since 2000.

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?



(162-1,493)
Source: MORI

Overall, almost one in four (38%) users of leisure and cultural services think that the services that they use have *got better* over the last two years or so and less than one in seventeen (6%) say they have got worse. Just under a half (46%) of users say that leisure and cultural services have 'stayed the same'.

Environmental Services

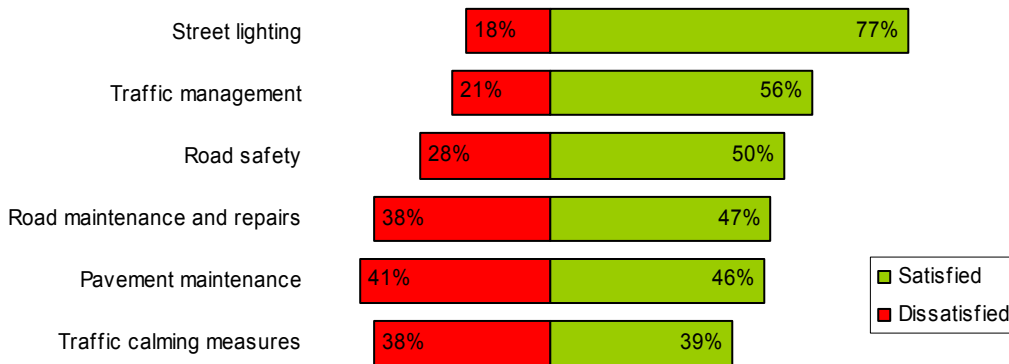
Introduction

This section looks at satisfaction with environmental services in Lancashire. Satisfaction figures are based on *user perceptions* of each of the service areas. In addition, this section covers a number of universal services which are rated by all residents.

Overview for Lancashire

Among all residents, satisfaction with **street lighting** (77%) is particularly high. Satisfaction with **traffic management** (56% satisfied), **road safety** (50% satisfied) and **pavement maintenance** (47% satisfied) is somewhat lower, although all are rated slightly higher than in 2000.

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?

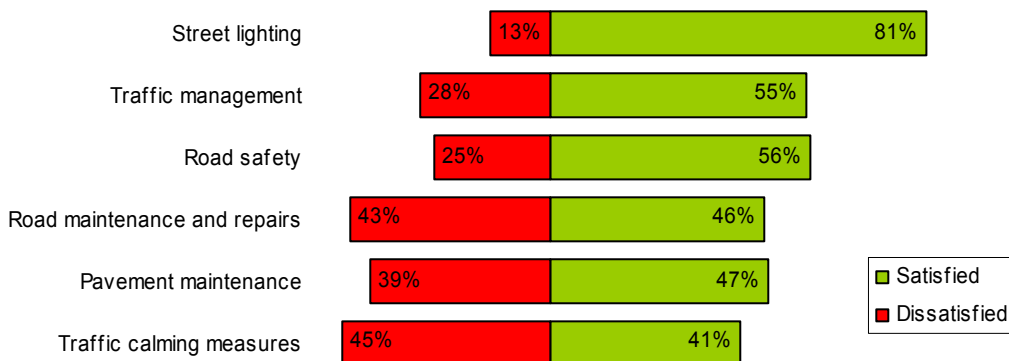


Base: All respondents (2,447)

Source: MORI

Overview for Lancaster

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?



Base: All Lancaster residents (296)

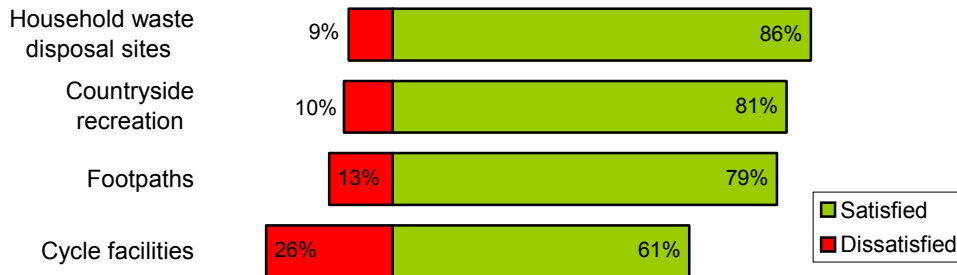
Source: MORI

Satisfaction figures in Lancaster are similar to county averages.

Environmental Services in Lancashire

Satisfaction with **recycling facilities** (88%) among users is particularly high, and has increased since 2000. Although satisfaction with cycle facilities (60%) is somewhat lower than satisfaction with other non-universal environmental services, this has also improved slightly since 2000.

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?



Base: All users (505-1,569)
Source: MORI

Overall, just under half (45%) of environmental service users think that services have *got better* over the last two years or so. A third (35%) think that they have stayed the same and only one in ten (9%) say that they have got worse. This shows a more positive picture than in 2000, when the majority (54%) of residents said that environmental services had stayed the same and only a quarter (25%) saw an improvement.

Local Transport

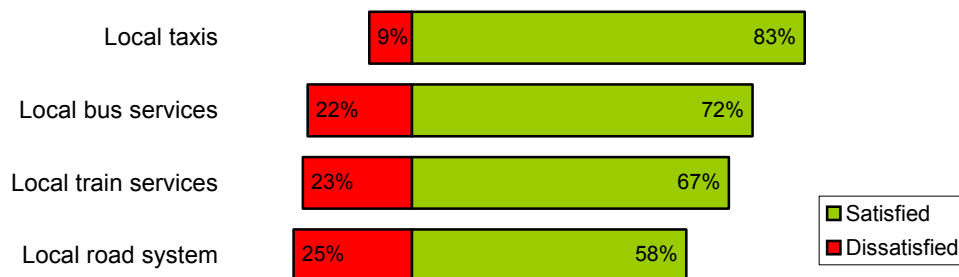
Introduction

This section looks at satisfaction with local transport services in Lancashire. Satisfaction figures are based on either users or all residents.

Overview for Lancashire

Local taxis remain the most satisfactory local transport service in Lancashire, with four out of five (83%) users satisfied. Whereas bus services are seen to have improved slightly (plus three percentage points to 72%), train service ratings have declined (minus three percentage points to 67%). Significant improvements can be seen in satisfaction with the local road system; less than half of road users (48%) were satisfied in 2000, and this has increased to nearly three in five (58%).

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way each of these services is provided in your local area?



Base: All users (737-2,207)
Source: MORI

Users of local transport services are rather divided as to whether services have improved or deteriorated over the past few years. Half (49%) say that services have 'remained the same', one in four (25%) say they have got better and one in five (19%) say they have got worse over the past few years. This is a slight improvement since 2000, when one in four (23%) said that services had got worse and one in five (19%) said that services had got better.

Other County Council Services

Introduction

This section looks at satisfaction with services in Lancashire not covered in preceding sections. Satisfaction figures are based on users or all residents.

Economic Development and Job Creation (all residents)

As in 2000, overall opinion on economic development and job creation in Lancashire is divided. One in seven (15%) residents say they are satisfied, and the same proportion (14%) say they are dissatisfied with this element of Lancashire County Council's work. Reflecting very low usage of this service, the majority (55%) of residents are unable to rate their satisfaction with economic development and job creation.

There are differences in satisfaction by area. In Burnley, where residents are most likely to give high importance to economic development and job creation, satisfaction is low with 18% residents dissatisfied and only 10% satisfied.

Support for Local Businesses (all residents)

The majority of residents (60%) are unable to rate their satisfaction with support for local businesses, reflecting low usage of this service. Among those who are able to rate support for local businesses, opinion tends to be more positive (14% satisfied) than negative (10% dissatisfied).

Trading Standards (all residents)

Very few people in Lancashire are *d*issatisfied with trading standards (3%) and one in five residents (20%) are satisfied.

Since 2000, satisfaction has increased slightly among users of trading standards, with four in five (80%) satisfied and only 7% dissatisfied (compared with 75% satisfied and 10% dissatisfied).

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (all users)

Nearly all (89%) of people who have used registration of births, deaths and marriages are satisfied with this service, and only 3% are dissatisfied. As in 2000, satisfaction with service is consistent across the county.

Planning Services (all users)

Three in five (61%) users are satisfied one in four (26%) are dissatisfied with planning services, giving a net satisfaction score of +35 points. This shows a marked improvement since 2000, when net satisfaction was only +17 points.

Welfare Rights (all users)

The majority (76%) of users of welfare rights are satisfied with the service and nearly one in six (17%) is dissatisfied, giving a net satisfaction score of +59 points. This shows a decline in satisfaction since 2000, when the net score was +73 points.

County Information Centres

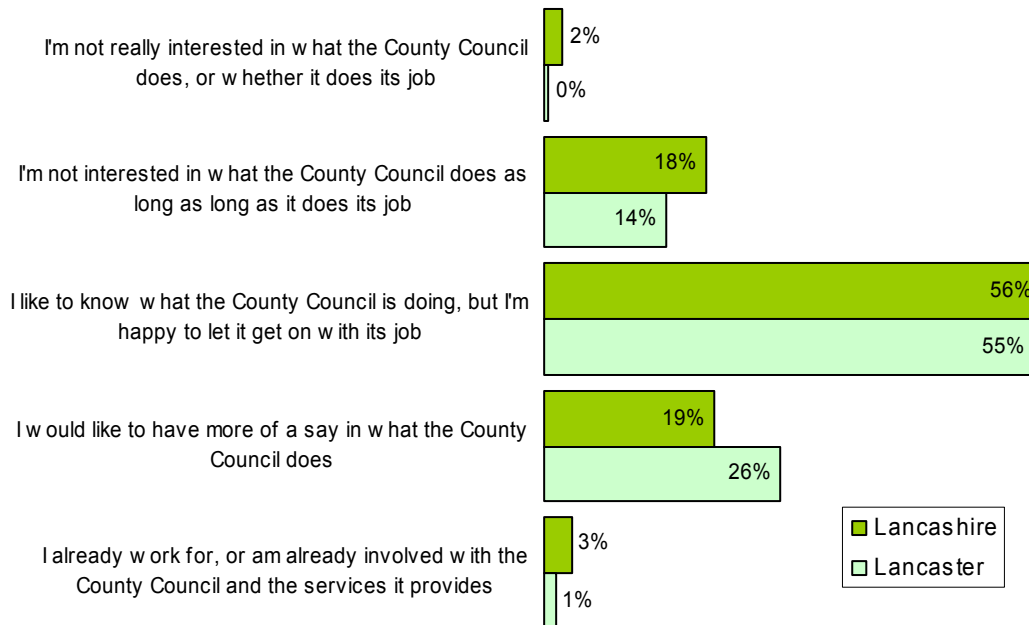
As in 2000, the vast majority of users of County Information Centres are happy with the service – the net satisfaction score of +74 points remains very high.

Participating in Local Government

Getting Involved

The majority of Lancashire residents (56%) want to know what the County Council is doing but are happy to let them get on with their job. One in five (19%) would like to have more say in what the County Council does. This level of interest in involvement with the County Council remains largely unchanged from the 2000 baseline survey. Lancaster residents are more likely to say that they would like more say in what the County Council does (26%).

Q Which of these statements comes closest to your own attitude towards Lancashire County Council?



Base: All respondents (2,447), Lancaster (296)
Source: MORI

Level of Interest In Getting Involved: Sub-Group Analysis

Interest in getting involved varies by sub-group:

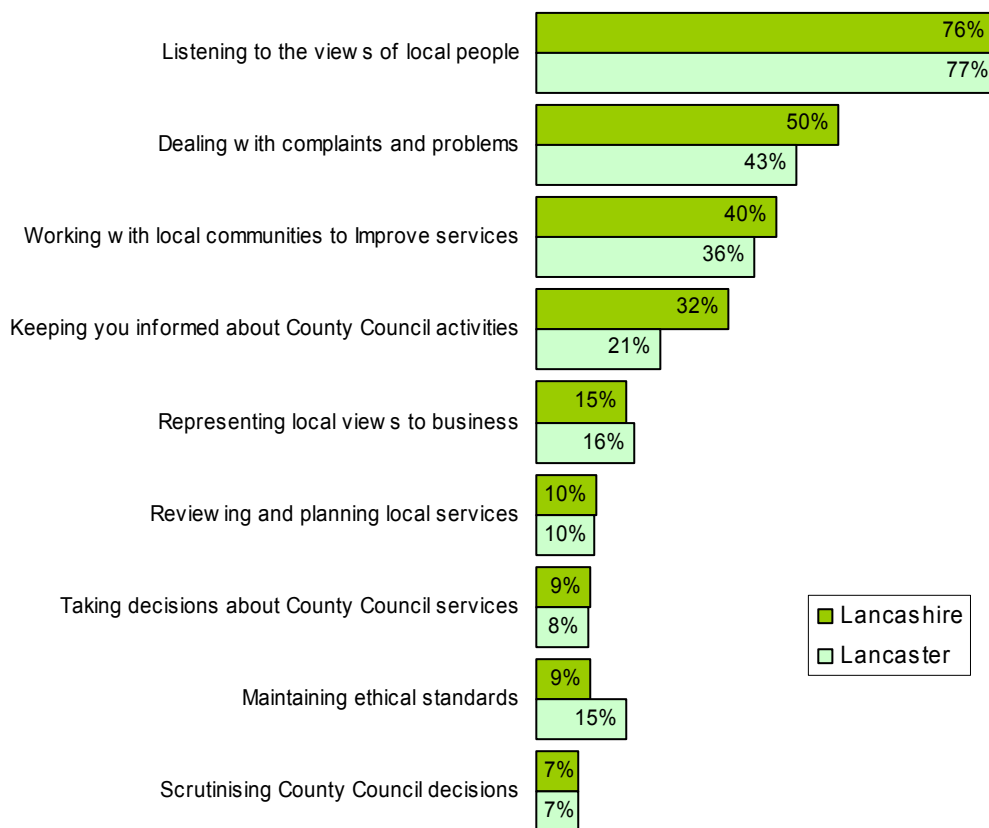
- Those who are dissatisfied with the County Council are more likely than average to want to get involved (39%), whereas those who are most satisfied tend to want to know what the County Council is doing without getting involved (64%);
- Reflecting the above, older residents (61% of those aged 65 or over) are more likely than average to say that they like to know what the County Council is doing but are happy to let it get on with its job;

- Residents aged 25-44 (23%) and from higher, AB, social classes (25%) are most likely to say that they would like to have more say in what the County Council does;
- Younger residents (5% of under 25s) are more likely than average to be uninterested in what the County Council does;
- People belonging to social class DE (27%) are more likely than average to say they are not interested in what the County Council does as long as it does its job.

Role of County Councillors

The most important functions of County Councillors are seen to relate to interacting and communicating with residents. Three in four residents (76%) say that one of the most important functions of a County Councillor is to **listen to the views of local people**, and half (50%) think it is important for County Councillors to **deal with complaints and problems**. Other important functions are thought to be **working with local communities** (40%) and **keeping residents informed** about County Council activities (32%). Residents of Lancaster have similar priorities to those of the rest of the county.

Q Which two or three of the following do you think it is most important for your local county councillors to do?



Base: All respondents (2,447), Lancaster (296)
Source: MORI

Appendices
