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#### Winter 2015 Your views matter

# Living in Lancashire

Thank you for continuing to give us your views to help us make a difference. In this issue we'll tell you about what we found out in the last two surveys.

Last September we asked you some questions, on behalf of the Lancashire Fairness Commission, about making Lancashire a fair place.

You said that to make Lancashire a fair place for all children and young people the most important things are: access to health care, access to good quality local education, the affordability of living accommodation and the affordability of household bills.

You said that to make Lancashire a fair place to live the most important things are: affordability of household bills, access to jobs that pay a living wage, affordability of living accommodation and access to health care.

You said that to make Lancashire a fair place to age well the most important things are: affordability of household bills, support to live at home and access to health care.

## **Roads and streets**

Three-fifths of you said you are dissatisfied with the condition of road surfaces in your local area. Half of you also said you are dissatisfied with the condition of pavement surfaces in your local area.

## Sexual health

Three-fifths of you said that your GP surgery is the first place you would go to, to seek diagnosis or treatment, if you thought you might have an infection that is transmitted by sex.

Around four-fifths of you strongly agree that when you have sex you should consider protection against sexually transmitted infections and that it's important to use a condom when you have sex with someone for the first time.

#### Carers

A carer is someone who provides unpaid, often intensive, support to family or friends who could not manage without that support. About one in six of you are carers, but only one in ten of you who are a carer are supported by Social Services.

Over half of you who are carers feel that you need extra support, including information and advice about the support available for carers and an emergency care back-up scheme in case you can't carry out your caring role. A third of you who feel you need extra support said you don't know what support or services are available or how to access them and around a quarter said the person you care for doesn't want you to access any support.

### Local measures

Two-fifths of you said you are satisfied with the way Lancashire County Council runs things, but nearly a fifth of you said you are dissatisfied.

When we asked you what things most need improving in your local area you said road and pavement repairs, the level of traffic congestion, activities for teenagers and job prospects.

We're always pleased to hear from our members. You can contact us in any of the following ways. Living in Lancashire, Lancashire County Council, County Hall, Preston PR1 0LD freephone 0808 1443536 | www.lancashire.gov.uk/LiL | LivingInLancashire@lancashire.gov.uk