

Angus Citizens' Panel NEWS

March 2006

Welcome to the March 2006 edition of the Angus Citizens' Panel newsletter, which has details of the surveys we want you to help us with this time, plus feedback on some recent surveys.

SURVEY ON VOLUNTEERING

This month we are asking you to help the Volunteer Centre Angus by completing a survey on your experience of volunteering.

The centre wants to know whether you are a volunteer at the moment and whether you have volunteered in the past. They also want to find out about the work you do as volunteers, how much time you spend and what inspires you to volunteer.

To help promote volunteering, the centre wants to know how you find out about volunteering, what stops you volunteering, what encourages you to volunteer and what you enjoy about it. Your answers will help improve the services the centre provides and the survey can also be completed online at www.angus.gov.uk/panel.

CHILD PROTECTION SURVEY

Following the successful survey you completed last year for the Angus Child Protection Committee, the committee now wants your views on the next stage in their work.

The committee is interested in the experience of people who have reported concerns about children. They want to know what types of concern are reported and whether the public are confident that the right action is being taken when concerns are reported.

The committee also want to know what you think about the various agencies working to protect children. Perhaps most important of all, the committee want to know about what prevents you reporting concerns and what they can do to stop this happening. The survey can also be completed online at www.angus.gov.uk/panel.

PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP SURVEYS

The analysis of the 350 questionnaires returned to the Angus Public Partnership (Health) Group (PPG) is still going on but the initial findings are already showing clear trends. They are highlighting that whilst people are happy with getting doctors appointments on the day of contact, they are less

happy at not being able to make an advance appointment so easily. People have been keen to emphasize that keeping and upgrading Stracathro is good for the community, as are the opening of new health centres.

Concerns have been expressed about the provision of the Out of Hours services, but praise has also been given to NHS 24. You also told us about the things you value most. Regular comments mentioned the quality of care and staff, provision of local services, including GPs and dental care, and the fact that it is mostly free.

The PPG members look forward to publishing the full results of the survey in the not too distant future.

SEXUAL HEALTH AND RELATIONSHIPS

Your views on sexual health and relationships were taken on board by NHS Tayside and are now included in the Sexual Health and Relationships Strategy for Tayside. The strategy was approved by the NHS Tayside Board in late November. The full strategy and the background documents are available on the NHS Tayside web-site at http://www.nhstayside.scot.nhs.uk/about_nhstay/publications/index.shtml

OLDER PEOPLES' HOUSING STRATEGY

You might also remember helping us with the Older Peoples' Housing survey last year. We are pleased to be able to tell you that your answers have helped in the drafting of the Older Peoples' Housing Strategy Consultation document.

The strategy is passing through the final stages of preparation at present and is due to be issued in late March. The consultation will be available from www.angus.gov.uk/hys and ACCESSLine (08452 777 778). So watch the local press for further details!

OTHER SURVEYS

Unfortunately we cannot tell you about all of the consultations that take place, however, you can find details of all exercises on the Have Your Say section of the Angus Council web-site www.angus.gov.uk/hys, or via ACCESSLine.

Thank you again for all the help you have given in the past. Your answers have helped to improve the services that are provided by Angus Council and its partners.