

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

A. NEWTOWN - A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK?

1. Community Facilities

Satisfaction with community facilities in Newtown:

Extremely Satisfied: 1.9%

Satisfied: 49.1%

Neutral: 24.5%

Dissatisfied: 22.6%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 1.9%

Provision for younger people:

Extremely Satisfied: 1.9%

Satisfied: 17.9%

Neutral: 24.5%

Dissatisfied: 42.5%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 11.3%

Provision for older people

Extremely Satisfied: 3.8%

Satisfied: 27.4%

Neutral: 45.3%

Dissatisfied: 16.0 %

Extremely Dissatisfied: 4.7%

Provision for disabled people

Extremely Satisfied: 3.8%

Satisfied: 10.4%

Neutral: 53.8%

Dissatisfied: 21.7 %

Extremely Dissatisfied: 4.7%

Suggested improvements / other comments on community facilities and activities:

- More places to go and creative activities for young people. (7)
- More shops / high street stores - reduce travel outside Newtown. (5)
- Need more integrated activities (3)
- More activities for younger kids such as soft play etc (3)
- More independent restaurants and cafes. (3)
- More activities for the elderly (2)
- Skills provision for young people. (2)
- More youth facilities / clubs (2).
- More things for children. (2)
- More support for community events. Large community hall with a good kitchen and plenty of parking. (2)
- Better public transport (2)
- More for families to do - attractions, facilities or events (2)
- Pedestrian/cyclist improvements (2)
- Need a free, dedicated community centre with a range of activities for all ages.
- Toilet facilities for the disabled
- More music, sports and arts events for 500+ people.
- Better planning. Better collaboration, partnership & investment.
- Community facilities far more than just Halls.
- Need a Newtown events coordinator. Not enough for young people and children.
- Riverside Venue, with catering, information provision, booking facilities, function room, canoe and bike hire, alongside a new children's play park
- Welcoming to all community members / different backgrounds and religion
- Services for aging community. Tackle social isolation e.g. lunch clubs at a community café.
- Decent playgrounds and indoor soft play. Decent well-kept play park with disabled swings etc too
- Teenage and disabled friendly, e.g. drop-in centres. Community spaces on ALL the estates.
- More shops & tourist attractions. Open up the canal again like Llangollen.
- More bus routes near sheltered accommodation. Perhaps a community minibus.
- Better use of Dolerw Park.
- Better modern night life / culture not pubs, especially for young people; music, arts, DJs etc.
- Provide people with occupations and skills, not entertainment. E.g. boat building, shelter building, wild cooking etc.
- Children's play area in the park needs updating.
- Clean the public toilets.
- Better access for disabled into council facilities.
- Interesting outdoor play areas, e.g. splash park, crazy golf/pitch and park.
- Clear information on what's on to attract tourists
- More sports / range of activities for young people.

- Better treatment of teenagers - all tarred with same brush.
- Need a central register of activities. Need places with shelters young people can meet at. Dog friendly cafes / shops
- Activities for adults, support groups for transgender / non-binary people.
- More exercise / health activities e.g. outdoor fitness machines.
- Pryce Jones needs to get up and running again, shops, cafes, kids' sports, could be a real community hub.
- Less pubs. More family run businesses. More facilities for helping people, i.e. the baby groups at the library.
- Tree planting on Broad or High Street. Encourage socialisation e.g. outside eating. Support Open Newtown.
- Better food options and re-investment in local facilities. Local business tax to provide more facilities.
- Make more of our green spaces along river e.g. family facilities.
- Need to attract and support small shops to regenerate our town centre
- New cycle lanes with all new Roads. BMX parks for kids.
- More activities for adults as well as young and elderly people.
- Reinstall youth centres in town and the estates.
- Accessible activities for older people and more publicity of activities currently available for the over 60s.
- We need more hotels and more rooms bookable for events and meetings.
- More quality independent shops and pubs - big scale and with a big cash injection Needs radical thinking. Incentives for shop keepers.
- Winter play facilities for children. Work with disabled groups to improve their experience / access to facilities.
- Stop closing community areas down. Fewer old people's homes.

2. Health, care and wellbeing

Satisfaction with facilities to support health, care and well-being in Newtown:

Extremely Satisfied: 2.8%

Satisfied: 23.6%

Neutral: 23.6%

Dissatisfied: 33.0%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 14.2%

What facilities that support your health, care and well-being do you particularly value?

- Hospitals (4)
- Dentist (4)
- Ponthafren do a fantastic job but needs more funding. (4)
- Pharmacy (3)

- GP surgery (2)
- The Sports centre/ Leisure centre (2)
- NHS but they are so limited (2)
- walking opportunities (2)
- None (2)
- Opticians (2)
- Doctors (1)
- Midwives
- Counselling
- Green spaces / hills access.
- Nurses and doctors, decent waiting times.
- Physio, children's health and midwifery.
- Newtown medical practise
- LHB looking at hubs is good. River access is good.
- Green spaces, walks, River, cycle / pushchair friendly walks
- Medical practice, park street clinic
- Squash courts, yoga and leisure activities.
- Specialists who visit Newtown Hospital
- We have most of the facilities that we need.
- Physiotherapy self-referral facility.
- Underused hospital
- Access to medical centres.
- Midwifery-led birth unit
- Newtown Birth Centre and it's midwives
- Newtown Doctors Surgery, RSH Shrewsbury
- Mental health services. Montgomery GPs
- Local doctors' surgery (needs shorter waiting times). Being able to see visiting consultant at Newtown hospital.
- Hospital to serve the area. Other hospitals are too far away.
- Emergency hospital close by. Being able to get a doctor's appointment when needed. Having a dentist to go to in town.
- Community mental health team.
- Park Street GP
- Quick access to doctors/medical advice.
- The health Centre is amazing. The mummy and me gym classes at Maldwyn are great. And the health visitors follow up care is great.
- Dentist NHS.
- health visitors, NIFC.
- x ray and physio dept at Newtown Hospital.
- Park Runs.
- The river - great place to exercise and relax.
- CMHT
- Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Drama therapy, yoga
- There is good access to mental health charities and volunteering opportunities in the community.

- Quick and effective services if there is an urgent reason.
- The doctor's surgery & ambulance service. Walking Newtown's efforts to make it much easier to go for local walks from town.
- GP services are vital but appointment waiting times are not acceptable
- Places for children to play that are safe.

Suggested improvements / other comments on facilities to support your health, care and well-being:

- A&E in hospital (5)
- More Dentist (4)
- Shorter waiting times (6)
- More funding to local services. (4)
- More and better access to mental health services. (3)
- More / better access to Doctors surgeries. (3)
- More Doctors (2)
- Closer services. (2)
- Hospital for the area (2)
- LGBTQIA support services / groups. (2)
- More / better access to health services in Newtown. (2)
- Alternative Therapy Centre on NHS - homeopathic, osteopath, reflexology - preventative medicine & dietary advice.
- Develop Rural Regional Health Centre & Wellbeing Hub. Develop social prescribing network.
- Attracting more health professionals to area.
- Focus on prevention. More active travel, outdoor activities for schools. Clean air zones and dark skies at night.
- More support groups. Closer access to services like in Gobowen.
- A proper hospital and GP's surgery with short waiting times.
- More facilities.
- Community ambulance for appointments. Collaboration between public and third sector.
- More Doctors and Dentists with shorter waiting times.
- Electric bike schemes, electric charging points EVERYWHERE. Biofuels and battery swapping stations. Sustainable energy and community energy schemes.
- More leisure activities and health spas
- Stop rollout of 5G internet for health reasons.
- More NHS Dentists
- 24-hour access to A&E local.
- Town centre provisions
- More outdoor activities / leisure facilities to encourage exercise.
- Closer access to A&E and Doctors Surgeries with a range of specialists.
- Health services that are accessible to disabled people.
- More doctors and better parking in surgery.
- More elderly outreach services.
- More mental health support groups and more community clubs such as walking, arts and games clubs.
- More mum and baby health/exercise classes or events.

- More / better access to mental health support services, esp. for young people.
- More activities to tackle social isolation - like the Open Doors at Hope Church.
- Sexual health clinic.
- Improve Ambulance waiting times. Shorter waits to see GP.
- Newtown development by the North Powys Wellbeing Team.
- Community transport for health services. Better support services / groups.
- More meeting places / activities for young people.
- Low cost available facilities
- More places to sit and relax along the river. GPs should prescribe time to join the walking / park run groups.
- More Dentists and GPs to reduce waiting times.
- Better playground facilities, a central cafe hub in the park and better waterside access.
- 24-hour minor injuries unit
- Renovate leisure centre.

3. Supporting businesses

Satisfaction with provision for business growth in Newtown

Extremely Satisfied: 23.6%

Satisfied: 39.6%

Neutral: 34.9%

Dissatisfied: 0.0%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 0.0%

Suggested improvements / other comments on business provision (for example about property, skills, training)

- Lower business rates. (7)
- More skills development. (4)
- More Training opportunities. Fun training brings people together. (3)
- Reuse vacant buildings for business incubators. (3)
- More work placement and apprenticeships (3)
- More funding / courses at the college. (2)
- Incubator / spaces for new businesses. (2)
- Better / more parking. Lower car parking charges. (2)
- Emulate Shrewsbury indoor market. Reduce rents and attract small businesses
- Need cheap or free car parks for workers in the Town.
- Clean up the town, add more seating and flower beds.
- Encourage a large market on market days.
- Business rates tied to economic performance. Development of new industrial units that are fit for 21st century.
- More active Chamber of Trade that reflects local businesses.

- Don't allocate more industrial space. Diversify farming sector and create resilient industries & economy. Create a USP for the town to attract new business. Create BID.
- Promote Business Wales services.
- Business incubators and a Business Improvement District, Skills training.
- Start-up / business relocation incentives; land, incubators, BID.
- Retail support & development.
- More publicity for Newtown businesses
- More support from NLTC for start-ups.
- Focus on re-use of buildings than new purpose-built buildings. Encourage active use of town centre.
- College should co-ordinate with businesses to understand what skill are required.
- More support for small businesses.
- Closer university access.
- More smaller units for start-ups.
- Welsh Government focus on Newtown, not just A55
- Support existing and new businesses
- Pedestrianising broad Street.
- More / better range of shops.
- Re-use industrial units and retail shops in town centre.
- More / better range of shops not just restaurants and cafes
- Develop Pryce Jones building as business hub / incubator. Encourage better maintenance of industrial areas.
- Support for Small Businesses.
- Reduce rents on High Street.
- Financial support for new businesses and shops.
- Better HE to retain professionals.
- Co-operative industrial area. Bring back the WDA or a smaller Newtown and surrounding area version.
- Being more accepting of different businesses that want to come into the town.
- Locally owned / co-operative business properties. Reduce rents.
- Invest in a 'New High Street'
- More training for the older generation.
- Better signage on industrial estates

4. Town Centre Experience

Satisfaction with shopping experience in Town Centre

Extremely Satisfied: 2.8%

Satisfied: 24.5%

Neutral: 23.6%

Dissatisfied: 34.9%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 11.3%

Are there any improvements you would like to see within the shopping area of the Town Centre of Newtown?

- Fewer empty shops. (14)
- Better mix of shops (8)
- Entice non-charity shops, create quaint market town feel. Fewer charity shops. (8)
- More independent food shops such as plastic free, veg shop, fruit and clothing shops (8)
- More / free parking. (5)
- More independent business. (5)
- Pedestrianise the high street and town centre (4)
- Fewer betting shops and pubs need more leisure. (3)
- Clean up town centre. More bins and empty them regularly. Streets kept cleaner and weeds, flower borders etc maintained. (3)
- Reduce shop rents (3)
- Better selection of clothes shops (3)
- Make streets more attractive. (3)
- More shops to town (3)
- Fewer hairdresser (3)
- Better range /bigger name shops. (2)
- More pop ups and children's clothes shops (2)
- More chains and better mix of shops e.g. bookshop, Toy shop, Quality clothing for all ages (2)
- A good hardware store please.
- Better support for shops
- Develop a 'whole town centre' experience; attract more visitors, clean tidy streets, Neat and tidy flower beds and container displays.
- Mix of independent shops + community uses with reduced rents for projects e.g. a repair cafe or upcycling shop.
- Improve retail experience and social interaction. Wider / greener streets. High Street market, farmers markets and use of Market Hall.
- More chains.
- Reduced rates for Local producers.
- Encouragement for local businesses to start up and to move to improved premises.
- Lower business rates.
- More / variety of family venues to encourage families to come into town in the evening;
- Encourage M&S in.
- Too many food establishments.
- Compulsory purchase of privately-owned business properties. Charge tenants' rates which reflects % of profit margins.
- More shops being opened e.g. local produce.
- More independent shops and places like Newtopia.
- More independent businesses and some more 'chains'.
- Brand name clothes shops.
- Business promotion events in partnership with NLTC - more support for small & independent businesses.
- More investment to attract shops.
- Create vibrant centre, build local business support.
- Recognise limited spending power amongst local population.

- More floral decoration & improve bottom of Crescent Street.
- Better bus routes to shops. Better access for disabled people.
- More shops, fewer empty spaces.
- An art shop.
- Fewer pubs, more family run businesses & chains
- Pedestrianisation main roads to encourage outdoor dining, leisure and coffee shops
- Better quality shopping experience. Repurpose town centre properties.e.g. accommodation and more restaurants.
- Zero waste shop.
- Focus on supporting, training and encouraging employees.
- Better mix and less vacant shops; see Bearlane.
- Better mix of shops - unique items or men's clothing!
- Create incentives for local people to set up and run shops with reduced business rates if they live in Newtown.
- More better-quality shopping options. E.g., toy shop, plus size and children's clothing, the deli is lovely but does not have enough choice, eco-friendly
- Local loyalty card to be used in shops to encourage local shops.
- It was a shame to see Dorothy Perkins and Burtons close. There is a reduced clothing range for men now.
- Better variety to avoid travelling to Shrewsbury
- Trees on main streets. On street dining. Area where musicians can play. Free / cheaper parking. More pop-up shops/ galleries etc in empty premises.
- More charity shops are far better than empty premises.
- Poor quality shops. Too many charity shops and takeaways

Satisfaction with accessibility of Town Centre

Extremely Satisfied: 6.6%

Satisfied: 50.0%

Neutral: 20.8%

Dissatisfied: 15.1%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 5.7%

Suggested improvements / other comments on getting around the town:

- Free parking would make the town centre more attractive and encourage customers. (9)
- More parking with wider spaces. (7)
- More / better disabled parking and access. (4)
- Lighting and signage of all routes also gives safer feel in evenings. (4)
- Pedestrianise Broad street during day. (3)
- Better crossing points for disabled people, Improve pavements. (3)
- Better and safer pedestrian and cycle routes (3)
- Improve parking and public transport (More frequent bus & train services) (2)
- Better parking enforcement on pavements. (2)

- Better, clearer route between the station and the town centre. (2)
- Improve walks, street furniture/surfaces a bit slippy and more benches.
- "Need a Zebra crossing on Milford road by the roundabout.
- One-way layout, more pavement seating. Better walking / cycle routes along river to connect with housing estates. Encourage active travel.
- Elevate prominence of railway station. Make centre low carbon.
- Better bus services.
- Improve street lighting around pathways
- Good access to toilets. Deliver what people want in town centre. Accommodate Mobility scooters.
- Gravel car park needs resurfacing
- Sundays Parking should be free. Should about what we have.
- Better parking enforcement, especially by Ponthafren.
- All of the existing routes into the town centre to be made pleasant and well-lit at night.
- Cheaper parking.
- Charge disabled parking. Cheaper parking.
- Free parking for first 2 hours
- Resurface gravel car park.
- Bus services (local and long distance) should all call at the railway station.
- Better disabled access in centre and Cinema.
- Cycling routes are improving.
- Affordable parking & cleaner town
- More disabled parking at Bridge end.
- Pedestrianise or make one-way (e.g. Severn Street and Shortbridge St). Cycle / walking routes could be improved to housing and industrial estates.
- More electric hook ups, NLTC manage parking so they can use the funds in Newtown only.
- Businesses validate parking tickets / pay for parking if spend high enough.
- More bus services for the hospital.
- Free parking for local businesses and workers
- Local bus services are very good considering the rurality of our location.
- We need a regular shuttle bus round town. Hop on hop off. Free of charge ideally.
- More bus services out of town.

5. Travel

Satisfaction with provision for walking and cycling in Newtown:

Extremely Satisfied: 15.1%

Satisfied: 50.9%

Neutral: 17.9%

Dissatisfied: 10.4%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 2.8%

Suggested improvements / comments on walking and cycling in Newtown:

- A Bike Hub, with lockers, showers, secure bike store and changing facilities and better sign posted. (8)
- Better and signed cycle routes / clear where pedestrians take priority. A leaflet showing all cycle routes. (4)
- Celebrate and advertise our scenic routes our current green assets / walking groups. Shout about it and encourage cycling everywhere. (3)
- Need to improve and maintain routes (3)
- Better lighting and fencing around walking and cycling routes. (3)
- Should have cycle routes throughout town and any new road. (3)
- Clean up alleys/passages for walking and cycling lanes. (3)
- Great cycling / walking routes already. (2)
- Good provision but better promotion of routes (walking and cycling) (2)
- More / better pedestrian crossings. (2)
- Partial pedestrianisation of Town Centre (2)
- The path is Dolerow needs to be re-paved.
- Become the most active travel/ healthy town in Wales. BID needed.
- Control vegetation/ bushes etc to side of cycle path by canal to be cut more than once a year.
- Divide cycling and walking routes.
- Concerted effort to reduce car use and encourage people to walk, cycle or use public transport within town.
- Grants to encourage people on benefits or students to cycle. Attention to the climate. Make bike routes on the roads, police officers riding bikes to set the pace.
- Tarmac the riverside path from Gogwlydre lane to the pump house.
- Pedestrianise streets
- Maybe a path around the outside of Dolerw.
- More dog mess bits on canal road on the river path.
- Safe crossing place/ speed limiters on road by the police station linking the trehafren path to the river path.
- pedestrian priority at Pelican crossings; better walking route from railway station to bus station and town centre
- Better way marking.
- Cheaper / better lit car parking.
- More / better / clearly marked routes on Newtown Borders.
- Extend cycle route along railway to Caersws and old railway onwards to Llangurig. More family friendly routes. More e-cycle charging points.
- Better / more routes from Treowen, Vaynor and Dyffryn. More incentives e.g. better covered bike parking (covered) in town, subsidised bike hire and more taxation on cars.
- More bike parks, trails and footpaths - link up Milford road with Trehafren fields. Solar powered streetlights along the Trehafren Fields. Ongoing maintenance.
- Celebrate the walking/cycle route from Vaynor/Trehafren to town
- Cycle tracks/BMX parks for kids.
- Ban parking on pavements.
- Completion of new walking cycling bridge would be great.

Satisfaction with the provision of public transport:

Extremely Satisfied: 1.9%

Satisfied: 24.5%

Neutral: 41.5%

Dissatisfied: 20.8%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 3.8%

Suggested improvements / other comments on travel:

- More frequent buses might discourage care use. (9)
- Frequent/Hourly train services. (3)
- Train times to be later/ evening train connections to access music events. (2)
- More frequent services to outer lying villages from Newtown such as Bettws, Tregynon etc. (2)
- Electric car clubs with incentives like free parking / solar charging points/ electric hooks ups? (2)
- More public transport. (2)
- Testing station very important. Car clubs to increase access to transport and sustainably.
- Don't lose what we have.
- More information on public transport
- Community transport schemes for all.
- Bus routes extended into industrial areas.
- Electric minibuses
- More public transport especially for older people and young people e.g. crescent St.
- Mostly good.
- NLTC electric buses, free to access and circulating between the residential areas, all of the industrial estates and the centre of town.
- Build a train station in Llanidloes
- Cycle chargers perhaps
- Celebrate staff at railway station who are very helpful.
- More bus stops better links
- Local bus service is always late (up to an hour)
- bus and rail services poorly integrated; local bus services should use electric vehicles and be routed via railway station
- Hourly train service to Shrewsbury/ Aberystwyth and last train should be later.
- Need more routes to outer areas of town like Morrisons, pound stretcher etc and transport on Sundays.
- Hourly buses to hospital and Tesco
- Increase height of train platform for safer access for wheelchairs / buggies
- Central government investment in bus services
- Make Bus timetable easier to understand.
- Regular, reliable hospital public transport from all rural communities and towns.
- Public transport geared towards working commuters. 2 hourly is not regular enough.

- Needs to be more regular, easier access to other areas and cheap enough.
- The hourly train service is a great improvement though timetables e.g. from London do not always show all the trains.

6. Housing Provision

Satisfaction with housing provision for younger people:

Extremely Satisfied: 2.8%

Satisfied: 13.2%

Neutral: 48.1%

Dissatisfied: 23.6%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 11.3%

Satisfaction with housing provision for elderly people:

Extremely Satisfied: 2.8%

Satisfied: 25.5%

Neutral: 54.7%

Dissatisfied: 12.3%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 2.8%

Satisfaction with housing provision for disabled people:

Extremely Satisfied: 0.9%

Satisfied: 19.8%

Neutral: 62.3%

Dissatisfied: 11.3%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 4.7%

Satisfaction with housing provision for people on low incomes:

Extremely Satisfied: 2.8%

Satisfied: 17.0%

Neutral: 49.1%

Dissatisfied: 21.7%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 7.5%

Suggested improvements / other comments on housing provision:

- More affordable homes for local people are needed. (6)
- Build more social housing (6)
- More appropriate family homes and affordable housing for young people to rent and buy - need more employment opportunities with better wages. (5)
- More affordable housing and rental properties that haven't got extensive fees to take up rents. (2)
- More affordable housing needed and help to buy schemes (2)
- More housing for elderly to free up bigger houses
- Improve provision
- Improve quality, affordability and energy efficiency of private stock. More co-operative housing. Better planning for re-use of land.
- More starter homes.
- More regular checks in council houses to keep everything running.
- More sheltered accommodation, upskilling, jobs and childcare to retain younger people.
- Community-focussed planning to reuse buildings. Encourage guerrilla gardening and home improvement. Council should offer mortgages, reinvesting interest in more stock.
- Higher density development close to the town centre. Consideration of how the land around the bypass is zoned.
- More sheltered accommodation like Llys Glan yr Afon close to town centre
- More space in housing estates.
- More accessible / affordable housing for young people.
- Need more flats for young people. Need more places like Llys glan or afon
- More housing with young people with training on independent living.
- House prices are cheaper than surrounding areas.
- More support should be offered to younger people who are working but are still unable to afford accommodation.
- A house locally has been empty for approx. three years, how can the council allow this.
- Too much social housing. It's everywhere. Town needs a mixture of housing situations
- Too many empty houses, still building more?
- Fewer buy to lets.
- Cheaper housing. Lower social housing rents.
- Schemes to get homeless and disabled people into safe housing.
- More quality affordable housing for youngsters - encourage buying rather than renting.
- More flats to rent for young people, rather than flats to buy
- More / flexible options for social housing, especially for disabled people.
- More stringent delivery of affordable housing in planning - housing should be affordable. Less focus on homes for elderly.
- More social housing bungalows needed.
- Safer accommodation for homeless
- Private rent on estates to be capped at local authority rates.

7. Safety

Feeling of Safety in Newtown generally:

Extremely safe: 4.7%

Very safe: 33.0%

Somewhat safe: 34.9%

Not so safe: 15.1%

Not at all safe: 5.7%

Feeling of Safety in Newtown Town Centre:

Extremely safe: 5.7%

Very safe: 35.8%

Somewhat safe: 32.1%

Not so safe: 14.2%

Not at all safe: 3.8%

Suggested improvements / other comments on safety:

- More well monitored CCTV in town. (8)
- More Police (or PCSOs) on foot, giving confidence to the public. (8)
- More and better street lighting and on footpath e.g. on the black path on Trehafren and throughout all the estates. (7)
- Feel safe through daytime, but not at night, especially with recent attacks. (3)
- More action on drug usage/operations / crime. Reduce number of drug dealers. (3)
- More police presence in evenings / nights / weekends. (2)
- Address night-time drinking culture in Town. (2)
- Reduce violent attacks on passers-by at night-time. Make it safer to walk around at dark evening/ night. (2)
- More things for youth to do.
- Increases CCTV presence outside town centre (such as car parks).
- More surveys with all population to assess safety and get more ideas.
- Address county lines /drug problem that is escalating.
- Obvious places to go to be safe or indicate if a problem.
- More front-line police.
- Prevent the rollout of 5G.
- Improve town centre safety.
- Streetlights from Vaynor to Trehafren, and in the fields.
- More 20mph roads and more street crossings.
- More action against offenders, more Police presence as possible during busy drinking periods.
- Tackle anti-social behaviour by drunks at night. Reduce drunks and drug takers on streets.

- More places for young people to meet so as not to intimidate others.
- More lights in the evening and at night, especially in alley ways around town.
- Drugs and knives amnesty events/boxes. Show proactive approaches to safety.
- Stop people drinking in the streets and by the Robert Owen memorial. Stop people loitering outside The Monty Club leering at people as they walk past.
- Address County lines / drug problems in town.
- Street Pastors do a great job on Saturday nights.
- CCTV switched back on. Lampposts switched back on in residential areas.
- Clean up litter / broken glass.
- CCTV that works.
- More community pride.

8. A Clean town

Cleanliness in Newtown generally:

Extremely clean: 0.0%

Very clean: 3.8%

Somewhat clean: 48.1%

Not so clean: 30.2%

Not at all clean: 12.3%

Cleanliness in Newtown town centre:

Extremely clean: 0.0%

Very clean: 8.5%

Somewhat clean: 49.1%

Not so clean: 25.5%

Not at all clean: 9.4%

Suggested improvements / other comments on cleanliness:

- Maybe more better litter/ recycling bins with more regular emptying/ over weekend/ bank holidays. (19)
- More bins outside of the town centre such as the park and around McDonalds and other fast food outlets. Fast food establishments should organize litter picks. (4)
- Encourage a sense of pride and place. People take ownership of littering and more activities to show the young the way for the future (this is happening in schools) (5)
- Support existing and good volunteer litter picks as they do a great job. (3)
- Better garden maintenance/ Better grass cutting and tree cutting back. (2)

- There used to be council employees to keep the town clean
- Getting better
- Litter picking Tidy up the industrial estates, especially down near the college.
- A machine to sweep the streets
- Reinforce the good recycling practices already set up in homes. Authorities make sure recycling is done.
- More bins and recycling bins
- more public bins more public information films and drives to persuade folk to bin their litter
- More and bigger bins, especially near McDonald's. Maybe underground bins in the car park.
- More litter picks and bin emptying early in the morning, before tourists arrive (especially weekends, Sat & Sun)
- Food outlets should make less packaging. Community skip days sponsored by the fast food retailers.
- Green places scheme will help.
- Funding for more regular bin emptying. Return of recycling bins to Dolerw car park.
- More flowers and fauna - seek award the prettiest town
- Empty bins more often especially in parks / on paths
- More signs encouraging people to use bins.
- All fast food outlets should be taxed to fund clean-up squads.
- Litter picking along river to be more routine, plus some notices about importance of river cleaning.
- Newtown's streets are generally clean and tidy. Upsurge in fly tipping is a direct result of short-sighted restrictions on accessing Potters.
- Micro-plastic education. Campaign table on market day for kids. Discounts / money back on returning packaging, work with businesses. Label all plastic packaging with warning notices.
- More waste bins and more frequency of emptying in town centre. Competitions for schools with prizes for the highest collection of cans etc.
- Litter in town centre could be better
- Less rubbish and litter in the parks, especially down by Trehafre.
- More support and awareness for clean-up days to encourage others to get involved. Recycling needs more promotion.
- And a rubbish collection more than once every 4 weeks!!
- Vandal proof litter bins. More dog poo bins on the Trehafren and Vaynor fields (and other walking areas). Catch vandals and put them on litter picking duties instead of relying on volunteers.
- Volunteers help clear up Dolerw Park and other places; more street sweepers replacing that infernally noisy machine.
- Empty bins on the football fields area more regularly
- Bring back street cleaning. Ppc
- Town Centre appears clean, but the housing estates and factory estates are a visible mess.
- Put recycling bins next to bins. Makes sure all people have all the bins they need to prevent fly tipping.
- Encourage youngsters on benefits as part of getting income clean up the area
- An increase of bins along the main road and in housing estates - that are regularly changed. More dog bins along river paths. More CCTV cameras turn them on.

- Street cleaner.
- Too many windows been broken in shops
- Parks often littered, bins overflowing, broken glass etc, recycling bins would help as well as normal bins, also recycling bins along walkways (Trehafren fields)
- More power washing. Action should be taken against negligent dog owners
- Footpaths along the river & Canal are a disgrace. Cleaning up relies on volunteers. The roundabout at top of town is a mess. Longbridge, halfpenny bridge and around Gas street need overhaul.
- Clean up of broad street/main streets to improve appearance.
- Again, got worse over last 5 years due to increased consumerism (higher disposable incomes and more tourism)
- Make cleaner town the responsibility of local traders and local council, with funds directly from Welsh Government bypassing the local authority.
- Sadly, litter picking is needed regularly around our social housing estates.
- Broken Glass in the high street. People dumping household rubbish in public bins, so the council just removed the bin?
- Keep Newtown tidy campaign on town and schools, Fine people for dropping litter.
- Better system for cleaning up dog muck!
- There are good bin facilities, they just don't seem to be collected as often as they need to be (especially in the main car parks).
- that the Town Council should assume some responsibility for cleaning the town at weekends, when bins become full and overflow, looking messy for visitors and local people alike.
- Make rubbish disposal easier.
- Streets could be cleaner, and vegetation needs much more attention i.e. weeds everywhere and flower borders poor.
- Have covered this earlier but jet washing the pavements making shop owners care for the pavements outside their establishment.

9. Future Development

There are proposals for more housing and more employment in Newtown. Do you have any comments on what Newtown should be considering as the town develops in the future?

- More and Better permanent employment opportunities. Better range/Better wages. Encourage young people into employment. (6)
- Families and teenagers need more facilities. Everyone gets in their cars and leaves town to travel to places for family time. (3)
- Mixture of housing. Town needs all sorts of housing situations to create a balance, not just social housing. (5)
- More green fields/ park for younger children/ spaces to enjoy fresh air/ Playgrounds should be suitable for adults as well as children and more tree planting. (3)
- Families and teenagers need more facilities. Everyone gets in their cars and leaves town to travel to places for family time. (3)
- More housing for the elderly (2)
- Reuse and renovate existing buildings instead of building new. (2)
- Community space / growing space for all new housing developments and outdoor space for staff to relax, away from desks (2)

- More housing and employment with infrastructure. (2)
- More housing - ensure health and education are funded for people moving into the area. (2)
- Better public transport. Electric car charging points/cycle hire/ better cycle routes. Road infrastructure able to cope with extra traffic. (2)
- New Hospital with Maternity and A&E Facilities/ more doctors. (2)
- Jobs for young people to encourage them to stay in area. (2)
- More choice/ events needed especially music & the food festival or spring festival. More events utilising open spaces in town. (2)
- Subsidised activities for young people and all ages.
- Bring in the artists and creative spaces and more uses for our community spaces
- The Town needs a B&Q or a Wilkos or similar. Also, a Marks and Spencer Food.
- Housing for disabled
- Invest in infrastructure with increases in population. Look to build between the by-pass in the town.
- Retain heritage and protect green spaces. Balance environment and wellbeing with economy.
- Plan long term for a balanced, resilient, vibrant and visible town. Town partnership look at longer term needs and then enable investment to meet this plan. Town dressing statement celebrate architecture to inform a new development. Future proof for climate change and schools, hospitals, housing, industry. This should be enshrined in SPG.
- More housing - ensure health and education are funded for people moving into the area. (2)
- More activities for low income folk
- More affordable housing with parking. Retain young people. More elderly means bigger demand for carers - make sure there is training for that and perhaps community provision for childcare.
- Plenty of places for people to meet and play, as well as live.
- A mixture sizes of homes is needed and in the town centre as well as the edges of town. New approaches are needed on how transport and sustainability are assessed.
- More of bigger retail chains to help with significant employment.
- More pubs.
- Town centre with more going on businesses and leisure for all ages.
- Prevent the rollout of 5G.
- If landlords did not raise rents once a lease expires.
- Go for sustainable businesses.
- Encourage more to be out and about in town. Increase footfall.
- Food festival throughout Newtown, within the housing estates. Create sense of community they can be proud of. Need a community hall in town to sell very low-cost basic meals every day.
- No more Carbuncles, taller than surrounding buildings e.g. New flats on back lane.
- Play areas for children.
- Road infrastructure able to cope with extra traffic.
- New bridges across the river to allow vehicle access from Llanllwchaiarn and Milford road.
- Need to look at employment e.g. more apprenticeships, enabling disabled people to work more easily.
- "Hireable function venues. professional work apprenticeships (old and young people). Raise awareness of opportunities which already exist. Use green spaces for more events in the summer.

- Town centre is key to not killing off the town as it expands. We need to attract retail businesses into the town centre
- They should consider giving more support to those that are working.
- Views of residents should be taken into account, not just overlooked and dismissed.
- Housing and employment to be kept in balance
- Ensure industrial areas are fully used.
- More single occupancy housing. Develop LGBTQIA+ friendly areas and support groups to prevent isolated.
- Taking advantage of potential places for businesses on the bypass
- No more fast food restaurants.
- Encourage family run businesses. Support for youths, new parents and those with health issues prioritised. Focus on new businesses to generate employment.
- Employment that is not seasonal or reliant on tourists or weather.
- Need more retail units. Reuse buildings such as St David's Church, The chapel by the car wash, Ladywell House etc. Improve the look of Newtown and provide adequate housing provision.
- Maintain existing properties and provide green areas and places for all ages to meet.
- More employment will address ageing population. Large employers need to be courted to move into the area, working alongside PCC and WG.
- No more housing until there are more doctors, dentists, support services etc. Just putting more pressure on people and funds.
- To have more doctors with expanding town.
- Would like a shop like B&M or Wilkinson's that sells practical things and more variety of shops.
- Encourage shopping in town/ support new businesses and young people/local business.
- Grow organically, take the lead from developments like the market hall and stop giving planning permission to kebab shops!
- Need more funding to schools and health services.
- More executive as well as affordable housing to encourage new entrepreneurs and businesspeople to invest in the town.
- If Newtown prospers it should contribute to the community having a sense of ownership and pride in their town.
- Support people with mental health issues get back into work.
- Balance housing need with infrastructure provision.
- More diverse shops, free or lower charge parking, more facilities for performing arts i.e. studio, more facilities for young adults
- There are lots of micro-businesses, so it would benefit the town if some of those could grow and employ more people.
- Big investment in 1: the high street 2: music venues 3: playground and public park 4: making more of our beautiful riverside venues.
- Don't allow chains in - especially fast food. Build local businesses up.
- Better use or replacement of large empty buildings (mostly churches).
- More housing near the town centre.

B. GREEN NEWTOWN

10. Open spaces

Visiting public open spaces in Newtown:

Extremely often: 25.5%

Very often: 26.4%

Often: 23.6%

Not so often: 15.1%

Not at all: 3.8%

Which Public Open Spaces do you visit?

- Dolerw Park/fields (49)
- Riverside locations, it is lovely to walk by the river (31)
- Trehafren hill/fields/riverside/park (15)
- Park (12)
- Canalside walk (10)
- Town Park (7)
- River/ field areas by Vaynor and Trehafren (9)
- Woodland/ Riverside walks to Llanllwchaiarn etc. (3)
- All of them. (2)
- Newtown Park. (2)
- Nature reserve (2)
- Little Triangles.
- Old Church.
- Town Hall Grounds
- Riverside in Vaynor and riverside path from Vaynor into the town centre. Millennium wood / canal path from the town to Llanllwchaiarn.
- Woodlands near to Garth Owen.
- River Severn path.
- millennium woods.
- Dolerw Park walks by canal to Nature park. Playground on Maesyrrhandir. Middle hill walks. Used to regularly use area behind Garth Owen and do use green area around Maesyrrhandir.
- Cycle routes
- Canal walk from Newtown to Pwll Penarth
- I regularly access all of Newtown's open spaces. Dolerw is particularly nice.
- All sidewalks, Town Hall Grounds, kids play area.
- Riverside football pitches.
- Trehafren fields along the river path all the way up and around the nature park
- Hills in Mochdre
- Garthowen hill
- Farmland when walking.
- Barn fields park. Pwll Penarth nature reserve. Gregynog Hall.
- Path along the Severn
- The park near the school.
- Woodland on Lonesome Lane.
- Treowen fields.

- Skate park walked everyday play park after school most days.
- Fach wen pool and Traynor.
- The Park by council offices.
- Running routes
- Town Hall Grounds.
- The play parks with my daughter.

Satisfaction with open space provision:

Extremely Satisfied: 14.2%

Satisfied:49.1%

Neutral: 15.1%

Dissatisfied: 12.3%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 3.8%

Suggested improvements / other comments (for example, your favourite open space, favourite activities?):

- Upgrade playgrounds. A better kid's playground. How many 70-year olds will use the BMX track. (3)
- Favourites = Dolerw and walking and wildlife watching/ park is impressive. (3)
- The river path again needs tidying up. Learn from Shrewsbury make it a desirable place for people to go. (3)
- Maintenance and improvement of Dolerw Park (3)
(Should be cut more regularly and cleared of cuttings. Improve path in Dolerw Park. Especially for children to ride bikes/scooters on. Add extra bins and benches. Lots of people do drug deals; there some people I know have been violently attacked there so I don't go there.)
- Natural parks, nature trails, wooden parks and activities etc to go with surroundings (2)
- Control dog mess, dog owners need to be more responsible and be fined if they're not. (2)
- Regularly emptied/ More bins/recycling. (2)
- Trehafren fields - nice open spaces. (The planned trails on Trehafren hill and play parks will be welcomed) (2)
- More benches please. (2)
- Maintenance of vegetation badly needed/cut grass. (2)
- More leisure activities/ picnic places along river, make use of the beautiful riverside similar to Shrewsbury. (2)
- The Old Church
- I would like to see the activities developed in the open spaces. I like walking, but also just sitting in the open spaces.
- Don't build on green spaces. Protect the natural environment. It's so therapeutic just being in nature and we are lucky.
- Continued improvement. More wildlife balanced against public access, great play. Loads more opportunities for people to learn and connect.

- More wildlife and plants species if possible.
- Activity trails and marked out pitches for rounders etc.
- Hanging out with friends in the fields near the river
- The river is a great resource and used by so many people.
- The play park is disgusting, and the park doesn't feel safe with the number of drinkers who are down there on a sunny day.
- Plenty of dog walking/ free space.
- Lighting.
- Resurfacing of pathways
- Walking. Only available morning and afternoon as feel uncomfortable in these areas come evening.
- Dolerw is great as it is. Kids can just kick a football around without worrying of damaging anything e.g. flowerbeds.
- Paint and light Dolerw bridge.
- Support Open Newtown to bring new life to our green spaces. Annual community music and arts event in Dolerw.
- Make dog breeding license based
- Could be promoted as a destination for visitors
- Dog mess and vandal proof bins. Community skips to stop fly tipping.
- A circular path around Dolerw would be nice
- Better quality children's areas. More exciting equipment. Family activities - e.g. pitch & putt, Sand play areas with diggers.
- More public toilets around park.
- Stop building on regularly walked sites
- Remove excess goal posts on Trehafren fields. Leave space grow for wildlife.
- Better management as proposed by Open Newtown
- Outdoor exercise classes
- Have the miniature railway available more often
- Maintain and clean open spaces up. Employ dedicated litter pickers and road sweepers.
- Improve access and visibility of river and clean up. More free activities set up for parents with children and the public.
- Could be better kept and have more facilities e.g. eating/cooking areas, showers, launches on river.
- Ensure spaces are retained forever. Consistent and regular funding needed to keep maintaining the land, paths access etc.
- Keep leaving longer grass areas to develop. Open Newtown have a great vision for these areas and are doing a good job
- More access to the Severn - it would be wonderful if more of its great length was accessible to walkers.
- Lots of lovely green open space. The river and river path is lovely.
- The effects of Open Newtown taking charge of the open spaces remains to be seen. So far so good I would say.

11. Wildlife

Satisfaction with support and encouragement to wildlife in Newtown:

Extremely Satisfied: 6.6%

Satisfied: 35.8%

Neutral: 34.0%

Dissatisfied: 17.0%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 2.8%

Are there any specific areas that support local wildlife that you can tell us about?

- River areas for birds and wildfowl/ otters/ meadow areas. (6)
- Trehafren fields - Bullfinches around Mochdre and kingfishers on the Severn near Trehafren regularly. (2)
- Nature reserve. (2)
- The wildlife has enough space around Newtown without taking our Public Parks.
- So many opportunities involving all the groups and lots of individuals to be had
- Love watching the otters if lucky - and seeing the kingfishers.
- Areas around estates which are allowed to grow a bit wild. Also, Heron and otter. Have witnessed kite flying over Maesyrrhadi several times and seen starlings coming into roost. Loads of wildlife just out of town around Abermule and beyond Mochdre. Invite it in.
- Have seen Herons, woodpeckers and kingfishers along the riverbank. Lots of small mammals to be found along canal path.
- I've seen hedgehogs in the early hours of the morning coming and going up our street at night from my bedroom window.
- Reduce litter everywhere.
- My own back garden.
- Species Habitat (Llandinam group) build shelters for owls and bats and recommend areas to support newts. Also, Mont Wildlife Trust.
- Otters, hedgehog rescue, vet services. Excellent river for diversity.
- 'Greening' of area of Dolerw park.
- Some of the flower beds have bee friendly plants.
- Garthowen hill.
- Manage/reduce seagull populations.
- See squirrels and rabbits in the park. I love that.
- Volunteers cleaning the river.
- The edible Newtown areas and the nature reserves are teeming with wildlife.
- The wildflowers along the bypass are beautiful and should be encouraged. Planting within the town parks has improved. A mixture of wild and lawn flowers.
- Nature trail on way to Llanllwchaearn.
- The recent changes made to the green spaces have been fantastic with a well-balanced approach to the needs of wildlife and the public.
- The canal areas and down by the nature reserve.
- Pen Dinas community Garden. Open Newtown and the green spaces- tree planting and sowing wild flowers.

- Wildlife thrives along the river. By Vaynor we have kingfishers, otters, bats, owls etc. Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust support & encourage wildlife and the River Severn custodians volunteer. More should be done to permanently subsidise these.
- River Severn.

Suggested improvements / other comments:

- More trees /shrubs /wild areas/patches of wildflowers/wildlife corridors/bird boxes/rewilding of the smaller areas/planting bigger trees in the green belt bits (for rooks, buzzards and starlings to roost) (6)
- Tidy up / cut back overgrowth by river, park & at Penarth nature reserve. (2)
- Hubs for viewing otters', birds etc. (2)
Trehafren fields could have hubs for viewing otters etc.
Hubs along river to watch for otters, birds' ducks etc.
- Create varied habitats/ wildlife centre, within green spaces to encourage, protect and nurture different wildlife. Bird care and river care. (2)
- Involving youngsters and school students to look out for wildlife: (2)
Invite art gallery to do a wildlife theme, design games for children to look out for wildlife, perhaps a spotter's guide workbook, provide wildlife guides to schools, build bird watching huts.
Community apiary - youngsters from schools can learn how to look after them.
- The verges are cut too often. A total ban on round up and other dangerous weedkillers should be enforced.
- Engagement & Consultation.
- Plan for the town management of natural resources. River habitat vital but this demands Newtown instigates / supports a catching based approach. Need towns tree policy / ambitions.
- Open Newtown is helping.
- Be great to see Forest / River School provision in Newtown.
- Open Newtown have got this one - provided they get ongoing support and input from the community
- Prevent the rollout of 5G - Research "cryptochromme" for the effect of 5G on birds, bees and mammalian life.
- Control dog mess.
- Would like riverbanks to be more natural to encourage wildlife.
- More bird/bat boxes, bug hotels.
- Protect green sites from development.
- Don't cut the wild meadow on Trehafren fields.
- Anti-seagull nesting devices in known nesting locations; clean up food waste in litter.
- Maybe have a nature reserve Dolerw or Trehafren but maybe it would get wrecked?
- Beehives on businesses, more trees around estates, more encouragement for residents to have 'wild' areas
- Let them just get on with it. Set out the guiding principles and let the experts get on with it with well-funded support well into the future.

- More shops, better choices - goods produced locally. Better, cheaper public transport. Better, more local healthcare facilities.
- More leisure and educational facilities to encourage people to recycle, live healthier lifestyles and protect the environment. More community interaction events.
- Roundabouts (inc those on the by-pass) verges, areas of parks should be managed as wildflower mini meadows. Plant the native narcissus pseudo narcissus and/ or Tenby daffodil.
- need plants to support specific species. Planning buddleia is a magnet for butterflies and would be perfect for children and taking part in the big butterfly count.
- Slightly overgrown areas for bees and butterflies due to their importance.

12. Climate Change

The Town Council recently declared a climate emergency. What changes would you like to see in the town to tackle climate change?

- More sustainable travel- e.g. car share schemes, electric car & campervan pools, communal school bus/bike, car-free zones, electric car charging ports, traffic free days, car share scheme, walking bus for children, cheaper public transport etc, promote scheme for cycling, park and ride scheme, shuttle bus around town and easier parking to stop people circling the town. (17)
- Better / more recycling bins around the Town. (11)
- Control plastic waste – e.g. provide id cards to under 21s and give a penny for bottles brought back and less plastic in takeaways and supermarkets. (8)
- Encouraging efficient buildings - e.g. Insulate all buildings, use natural ventilation and renewables, green buildings, incentives to increase efficiency of home boilers and insulation (discounted improvements), new houses built should be environmentally positive (e.g., carbon-zero, well-insulated, efficient boilers, solar panels etc.), rooftop solar panels on public buildings.(7)
- Water bottle refill points. (6)
- More efficient waste collection / recycling. Not go abroad to landfill. (6)
- Planting more trees (5)
- Encourage recycling and awareness on recycling, on everyone doing their bit to help the planet. e.g.TV screen in town advertising recycling, public speaking platform on market days and Saturdays. (5)
- Zero waste shops- e.g. more plastic free options, teaching people to reuse plastics they have, A no-packaging food facility in at least one supermarket (4)
- More long grass and wildflower meadows. (2)
- More renewable energy: e.g. wind turbine trees, small hydro scheme on the river, Solar powered community facilities. (4)
- Encourage local produce- subsidised locally grown and produced goods. (4)
- Pick up litter/ less litter/emptying bin. (2)
- Community power schemes, e.g. hydro. (2)
- More involvement with action groups.
- Nobble the fast food outlets and supermarkets.
- Recycling ideas / drop of shop. E.g batteries. Hold recycling classes. Teach people how to reuse. Recycling information board showing what happens to refuse.
- Reduce carbon use: e.g. by looking at how housing, transport, energy and land use can reduce carbon use, work with other Councils to make a bigger impact, limited idling areas

- Green powered lighting, shops selling loose / refillable goods, exercise bikes & other gym equipment generating power for the town.
- Enact plan proposed by 100+ community members - community-orientated solutions for energy, resources, food and land, transport. TC plan should have active enabling role. TC use powers in Emergency Planning Act. NLTC should adopt TAN 6 ONE PLANET principles for the entire population, including rural hinterland.
- More rallies
- More education on waste and rubbish produced.
- More pub beer gardens so you can cool down.
- Use small shops to reduce bulk buying of packaging etc.
- Introduction of zero-waste shops. More windfarms.
- The cycling lanes are quite good in Newtown but could be improved (safety), and could be improved when travelling out of Newtown
- Building a bridge to connect estates so they can walk into town without needing to walk alongside the main Llanidloes road
- Upcycling workshops
- Library of things - shared library for rarely used items
- Reduce wasted water in pipes. Reduce food waste with schemes to provide wasted food for good use e.g. community kitchen
- Solar powered community facilities.
- More information to inform others and encourage involvement. events on subject such with stalls with leaflets and activities. More promotion for litter pick up days. Support local business to reduce waste. More trees to be planted and clear recycling bins!
- More places to take recycling that is cheap
- The Town Council is a Very Small Fish in a Big Pond and cannot influence Climate Change
- Public safety is more important.
- More to help reduce plastic waste - recycling options in town centre bins etc. More renewable energy options around town.
- Encourage local businesses to use more environmentally friendly products.
- Recycling points, banning plastic bottles, renewable only energy to town council buildings / projects.
- Invest in renewable and waste less
- Incentives to switch to electric cars along with infrastructure to support it.
- Pedestrianise town centre. Improve bus links to out of town locations. Bike lanes within town roads. Improve/clean up pedestrian routes.
- More help and funding to retrofit housing stock to make them more efficient and cheaper.
- Much increased use of solar power. Increased energy storage.
- Lights off schemes overnight and weekends for businesses.

C. NEWTOWN - A DESTINATION

13. Tourism facilities

Adequate facilities for tourists who visit Newtown

Yes: 14.2%

No: 58.5%

Neutral: 23.6%

Suggested improvements / other comments on tourism facilities (for example, what kind of events and activities you would like to see more of?)

- Greater diversity of events to draw people to town: e.g. Outdoor music events in the park, street theatre, community events similar to the food festival, Veterans day, market and welcome people, more activities on Sundays, continental food fairs, biodiversity/ sustainability gatherings, music and arts from other cultures, street parties, workshops, art shows, return of fun days e.g. mid wales stampede and live band festivals, celebrate local historical figures, spring festival, decent farmers market - e.g. Ludlow, (12)
- Dedicated Tourist Information Centre (TIC): Town needs a better TIC to promote Newtown Brand, develop a town centre experience. TIC with evening and weekend opening hours, better tourism information, regular guided town walks, good leaflets and signage. (7)
- Make more of river- e.g. riverside restaurants, play park planned but a water park like in Shrewsbury would be welcome. With better access to riverside activities. (5)
- More family-oriented facilities and events to attract children & families. Music festival/ jazz folk, crazy golf. (5)
- More and better accommodation: Successful hotel/ b&b businesses so people stay in Newtown. Silence Town Clock to aid local B&Bs. (5)
- More events on green spaces: Music and arts festivals, cycling and river sports. Football golf, frisbee golf, crazy golf, larger play areas, sports, nature areas to visit, adventure park like go ape. Cycle Sportives. (3)
- Arts / music festival in dolerw park. Install required infrastructure. Large all-weather geodome for year-round play and visitor facilities
- Focus identity on our great open spaces. Add heritage trails, experienced based weekend breaks. Encourage train tourism to town.
- Have a place where tourists would be attracted to see:
- Open Newtown have this one. Need to keep getting the community involved.
- TIC could do with investment to grow.
- Improve riverside area to attract tourists.
- Better connections.
- Celebrate history but need fun things for young people.
- Reopen the canals for all.
- Proposed hub would help.
- No more events we have enough.
- More signs perhaps: Am often asked where cafes, charity shops and pubs giving meals etc.
- More vibrancy equals more tourists.
- Public toilets in town centre. More rubbish bins (and someone to empty them)
- Better opening hours for museums.
- Support open Newtown plans.
- Better parking for Textile Museum. More museums and galleries
- Sign posts for tourist attractions.
- Clean public toilets.

- Better shops and restaurants.
- More attractions in centre. Dog friendly cafes/ shops. Better range of shops, cafes & pubs. Floral displays on each road into town and throughout town.
- Get rid of groups of youngsters on the streets.
- Newtown history museum. More advertising for exhibitions at the art gallery.
- More family events on at weekends in Dolerw.
- Cycle hire, live music events, more festivals (a history/heritage festival? Craft / wool festival?)
- Unique attractions e.g. Shrewsbury flower show. Expand the food festival. Something else on an annual basis. Make more of Welsh rally.
- Stop Carnival.
- No evening restaurants that aren't pubs or curry houses. More lighting for walks along river/canal.
- Events and activities to make most the scenery/history and a base for exploring.
- Cycle races, car rallies and races, foot races: 5K, 10k 1/2 and full marathons. Park Running. Boot Camp - outdoor fitness. Fitness machines in the park - outside.
- I always support the WRC, it's the highlight of my year.
- More teen friendly 'dewi den' equivalent, climbing walls, trampolines etc.
- More / bigger seasonal events, more tourist facilities.
- More to encourage visitors to stop off on train journeys.
- The music evening at the food festival had a great atmosphere - more regular in the summer months.
- Tidy up town.

14. Canal / Rivers

Visiting the river / canal in Newtown for leisure purposes

Extremely often: 15.1%

Very often: 22.6%

Often: 25.5%

Not so often: 14.2%

Not at all: 12.3%

Improvements could be made to the river / canal for enjoyment?

Yes: 63.2%

No: 10.4%

Neutral: 17.9%

Suggested improvements / other comments:

- More seating (e.g. benches and picnic table, more single/twin seats.) / picnic areas/ tea and coffee huts/ice-cream shops but include signage to encourage people to clean up their litter and provide recycling bins. (10)
- Better maintenance of vegetation: e.g. cut back overgrown riverbanks, so the river can be seen and for anglers (6)
- Information about what wildlife is in the area e.g. Information boards on the history/ecology of the river and canal. (2)
- Keep a lot of it wild for exploration and ensuring biodiversity. (2)
- Regular rubbish checks, litter picking once a day and more bins near the river. (4)
- Easier and more accessible from around the town and clearer. (2)
- Would be nice to see people with boats, canoes on the river, set up Canoe camp/fishing area and clean it (4)
- Support Open Newtown proposals. (4)
- Better signage. (4)
- Work to improve and restore canal system /heritage, back to Newtown. Develop a plan of works showing how this will happen. (3)
- Better lighting (2)
- Adding Kayak/boat access/ boating experience is a great start. (2)
- More access points to the river bank. (2)
- New canal basin near Aberbechan linked to restored canal to Welshpool. (2)
- Cleaner areas, less rubbish (2)
- The canal needs cleaning up so people can actually see it. (2)
- Would love to see the canal brought closer/back to Newtown. (2)
- Open the canal it would bring lots of tourists, canal a great asset. (2)
- Montgomery canal restored to Newtown = tourism and business benefits along the upper Severn Valley. Restore the Montgomeryshire Canal to the town (perhaps more realistically Llanllwchaearn). (2)
- Develop the riverside area. Make more of river in Town Centre. (2)
- Open them, sign post them, praise them
- Repair paths along canal - path falling away by Aberbechan
- Connect call to place to by the old house and under the old bridge nearby.
- Visitor Centre celebrating canal / former lime kilns.
- Clear recycling bins.
- Wider path to accommodate walkers and cyclists.
- Make the river navigable from Penarth weir to Dolerw Park. Extend canal towards Welshpool. Water activities in Dolerw Park - wave surfing, angling, water skiing, a boating lake. Ice skating in winter. Add terminus for the Montgomeryshire canal.
- Open Canal to Welshpool. Add business opportunities
- Building a bridge to connect estates so they can walk into town through the park/along the river.
- Clear bushes at areas along river by cinema.
- Crack down on public drinking.
- Mulch / bark paths in muddy areas on the river side to improve access.
- Soften flood preventions on river with tree planting.
- Signs that are vandalised replaces with cameras to catch culprits.
- Make it navigable.

- Lighting path within a mile of town.
- Water bottle filling stations
- More discreet rat traps.
- More vigilance on dog fouling
- Access to river within green areas.
- More clearly defined spaces to access and look at the river in between more dense areas for wildlife.
- More access to the Severn - more accessible to walkers. Powys can boast that it has the source of the Severn, Wye and Rheidol.
- Better planting on banks, easier access to the water for paddling etc, other plans already in Open Newtown vision.
- The river access is pretty good. The canal towpath needs improvement
- Open up river by the elephant so that people can sit in the banks and enjoy a drink in the good weather.

15. Newtown's Culture & Heritage

Newtown has a unique heritage

Yes: 66.0%

No: 11.3%

Neutral: 19.8%

Satisfaction that aspects, features and historic buildings are looked after and will be preserved

Extremely Satisfied: 5.7%

Satisfied: 29.2%

Neutral: 36.8%

Dissatisfied: 13.2%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 5.7%

Satisfaction with facilities for Heritage and the Arts

Extremely Satisfied: 5.7%

Satisfied: 34.9%

Neutral: 0.0%

Dissatisfied: 14.2%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 2.8%

Suggested improvements / other comments on Newton's Culture & Heritage

- Heritage trails, guided walks and talks/presentation on heritage (3)
- Better and more promotion of our heritage. (5)
- More work to showcase our heritage assets - a town trail, regular walks by local history enthusiasts, walking festival (Town walks) that teach people about the area. (3)
- Use Pryce Jones building, e.g. exhibition on making of world-famous products there. (2)
- Repurpose beautiful but deteriorating former churches - hireable function venue, or for indoor climbing, or for community events. (2)
- More promotion of Robert Owen museum. (2)
- St David's and other historical places of worship (Baptist church) need improving/ made more welcoming an attractive. St Davids' Church is the pinnacle building of the town and an eyesore. (2)
- Use spare spaces creatively and use short term leases
- More cultural / creative opportunities for young people. Do more with Bethel Chapel / St Davids Church, Old Flannel factory. Improve Robert Owen museum. Pryce Jones building need investment
- Celebrate industrial heritage
- More events like the one to celebrate Newtown's triple harpist.
- Greater signage
- Stop youngsters congregating. Signs about Cae r Fendith the field of blessing. Same with old mound in the park Info board.
- Celebrate strong musical heritage. Opportunities for bands & musicians, including practice spaces. Stop doorman / security policy on performances.
- More inspirational exhibitions in art galleries.
- Research into famous people of Newtown is important.
- Educate people Newtown about the town's history and archaeology.
- Newtown seems to celebrate its heritage already.
- Make residents more aware of Pryce Jones building/Laura Ashley.
- More tags for phone scanning on attractions / the town's historical buildings.
- Raise awareness of our culture and heritage.
- The WHSmith museum needs better advertising.
- History not sufficiently remarkable to attract people. More 'accessible' art exhibitions. Restore Theatre Hafren's tower. More use of theatre on Canal Road. Repeat Leaping Lights.
- A general museum showcasing town would be good at agricultural house. War history, buildings' history, Abermule rail crash, roman site found under Tesco, POW camp, wool industry, Laura Ashley etc.
- Improve Barclays bank, Robert Owen garden, St David's church, church opposite the Cenotaph and Grapes Hotel.
- Increase awareness of facilities
- Turn the old library building into Cultural and Heritage hub.
- Local people's amateur art exhibitions.

- Promote in schools with competitions and education outreach projects
- The town council are doing really well at promoting local history through the buildings and talks it supports.
- More open spaces for performing arts.
- Replace 1960s buildings like Store 21, Ladywell shopping centre with more sympathetic buildings. Preservation of character of the conservation area should be upheld by planners.
- Raise awareness of museums, opening times and prices.
- A Robert Owen festival. Highlight origin as a 'new town'. Improve awareness of and access to Motte and Bailey site
- Acknowledge the history of Newtown i.e. Robert Owen. But also look at other attractions.

16. Living in Newtown

Satisfaction with experience of living in Newtown

Extremely Satisfied: 13.2%

Satisfied: 47.2%

Neutral: 0.0%

Dissatisfied: 14.2%

Extremely Dissatisfied: 1.9%

What do you like most about Newtown?

- People & Place so friendly/approachable (17)
- Location: e.g. beautiful and rural surrounding, countryside and access to countryside, its situation nestled in the hills around the River Severn. (13)
- The open spaces: e.g. parks and fields, riverside, green spaces, Dolerw, riverside path, Newtown Integrated Family Centre (11)
- Community spirit: friendly with a good community focus, community leaders/champions, community events, great place to work. (7)
- Environment: e.g. the overall feeling of peace/quiet and welcome/ Lovely environment to just sit and relax. (5)
- Safe place: e.g. safe for children, low crime rate and safe environment (5)
- I have enough facilities to suit my needs. (3)
- Shops: Local shops, market hall refurbished (3)
- Its history/ unique historical town. (2)
- Quiet rural town with nice walks / cycle routes along river / canal / access to all places by walking. (2)
- So much to do for young kids. Choice of schools and nurseries. And the variety of baby and toddler groups that are available. (2)
- Ideally situated for all things like beach, countryside, city life and Snowdon. (2)
- The new bypass. (2)

- My allotment.
- Its setting and it's potential.
- Newtown's uniqueness, Newtown has a lot going for it but NTLC must have a greater awareness of issues with change, e.g. county lines
- Clean and well maintained.
- It's not a village.
- Projects like Open Newtown, Ponthafren, Cultivate etc. Love the friendly CPO.
- I love our heritage and its place in history in industry. It's also my hometown so I love it.
- It's not overpopulated, community feel. Idea of sowing all the wildflowers along the verges.
- Nice place to live; we have clean air, attractive buildings and lots of green spaces. The people are nice too!
- It's a beautiful little town, close to being a great little town.
- A service centre.
- Affordable prices. Family lives nearby.
- I've always found it a lovely, friendly and welcoming town.
- People's dedication and determination to better Newtown e.g. litter and becoming greener. I love the range of social clubs that are now available for all ages.
- Close to family
- lack of high-rise buildings and a sense of openness
- The rural nature of the town.
- Friendly people and lots of things going on.
- Work, theatre and community choir.
- We welcome all people of all races and cultures
- It could be a great destination.
- Beautiful Welsh countryside and being surrounded by brilliant places to walk and explore.
- It can be quiet in certain areas.
- Quiet at night.
- Quite nice buildings and friendly atmosphere. Traffic better now by-pass built.
- That you know lots of people as it makes you feel safe.
- Currently great, potential to be fantastic.
- I work in Newtown and live in Llanidloes.
- Being able to access services without having to travel far.
- Community and the fact it is growing and there is an optimistic feel to the town.
- It's very friendly and has everything you need for a small town.
- Interesting buildings, lots of open space.
- The views
- Nice size town. Big enough for good facilities like a cinema, library, doctor's surgery, sports centre but not too big.
- It's a small friendly, generally safe place with most facilities needed to live a good life.
- It has lots of potential to make it a fabulous little market town.

What do you like least about Newtown?

- The uncleanliness: e.g. rubbish, lack of rubbish bins/ littering/ Public urination. (14)
- Anti-Social activities: Drug use/ Anti-social car driving/ too many druggies/ vandalism/ lack of action on vandals. (13)

- Negativity of people: e.g. Negativity, prejudice & objections to new ideas by some sections of the community, negative comments on FB when groups are really trying to drive improvements, people don't like change (10)
- Lack of safety: e.g. not enough policing in the evenings/ Increasing crime/ Petty crimes and petty people/rising violence (7)
- Not enough leisure activities in the town: Not enough things to do in evening except drink, too few opportunities for young people, having to travel for family activities, park equipment is dated and limited. (6)
- Lack of interesting/variety shops. (5)
- Dog muck (4)
- Lack of facilities: Not enough facilities needed visitors and local people. (3)
- Lack of ambition and community spirit: Some care more than others, wanting others to be more empowered and proactive. Gossiping, some people are 'stuck in their ways' which can cause problems. (3)
- Boring: shops and cafes generally are quite boring, not much which makes Newtown special. (2)
- Too many charity shops. (2)
- Trash from fast-food outlets. (2)
- Town looks old and abandoned with so many empty stores. (2)
- Fly tipping, especially on the estates. (2)
- Too far from other things (Having to travel to Shrewsbury for everything.) (2)
- The lack of community - seems to lack central events or occasions that draw us together. (2)
- Decline, Potential Brexit pressures on agricultural community. (2)
- Business rates too high.
- Too many eateries
- Need more clothes shops.
- The education of the people.
- Newtown's' ambitions are a long way from its potential. Need this plan.
- Still not pedestrian in town centre
- Not enough emphasis placed on our history
- Newtown Chamber of Trade.
- School: e.g. High school lacks forward thinking.
- Lacks inspiration for tourism.
- That it's not a big enough like a city.
- Access to health care.
- Negativity and lack of community caused by lack of spaces to gather off 'peak' times. No Dance hall, Whist clubs, proper social clubs on the estate.
- Lack of strategic thinking holds the town back.
- Meant be the shopping hub of mid Wales. Lost that passion and settled to be an average town. Welshpool are now beating in the retail due to their development.
- All the pubs opening late. Music after midnight.
- Dogs mess, littering. Some of the road crossings (market St to park St across New Church street).
- Doctors waiting times too long.
- Lack of shops and few job opportunities

- McDonalds
- Parking
- Estate culture
- Lack of cultural diversity and limited music events.
- Mess and litter after-market day on Tuesday. Charges for the car parks.
- Complacency amongst activities and businesses which put them at risk.
- Supermarkets bleeding town centre dry.
- Poverty
- Lack of public transport on a Sunday.
- NLTC raising Council Tax. Too much charged for too little improvement. Slow decline.
- A little support for people who are trans and non-binary.
- Not enough opportunities for young people
- Big Drugs problems. Worries me about my children's futures in the town.
- Feeling unsafe. Antisocial behaviour. Feral children. Generally grubby looking streets. Rubbish, glass and dog mess everywhere.
- No decent shops and expensive parking.
- Newtown looks miserable.
- Trying to be something it isn't. New ideas leaving other important issues behind - e.g. Bike hire whilst town is dirty and unkempt. Events do not bring people to local shops.
- The very small minority who just seem to want to block any progress and are fearful of risk and change.
- Having a McDonald's and a KFC facing each other as you drive through town.
- Not enough LGBTQIA / Autism support groups.
- Lack of respect from some residents.
- Lack of good quality independent venues and shops.
- It's a one-horse town and the horse is not fit for purpose.
- No USP.
- The traffic lights.
- Too many empty buildings and shops. Not enough investment.
- The deterioration in upkeep of cleanliness and vegetation in recent years.

17. Other Ideas

The Town Council is keen to support groups who have ideas to improve the town. Please let us know here if you have an idea you would like to develop.

- Supporting music and arts festival in Newtown and the development of contemporary nightlife. Bring back music in the park/town hall grounds. It works well at the food festival etc, would be great as a standalone music event. The facilities are available. (3)
- More community-based events: e.g. Newtown Food festival is a classic example of community together - lots of people commented that there should be more events like this. example Party in the park, Family fun days, etc. (2)
- Free parking in town. (2)
- Make good use of By-pass: (3)

- Now we have a bypass (and traffic in town is MUCH better) we need to encourage people to stop and enjoy the area - whereas previously people viewed getting past Newtown as a trial.
- We have a wealth of outdoor attractions - fishing, walking, cycling, wildlife etc - as well as several decent museums, shops, cafes, restaurants and pubs. We need to promote these benefits and attractions far more widely than we do currently - otherwise the by-pass may end up making Newtown a ghost town, rather than the magnet for tourism and business that it could, and should, be.
- Brown sign on bypass showing attraction in towns, parks, historical sites, river etc, pubs, cafes.
- Proper central community centre - e.g. in Old co-op building. Run subsidised activities from there. Soft Play centre needed.
- Connect together & celebrate
- Residents parking on Crescent Street.
- Uniquely placed to lead in Wales as the most resilient, vibrant and healthy town. Potential. Need leaders to achieve this; need a more strategic partnership emerging for the town.
- Walk/cycle/bus/train/electric vehicle promotion.
- Magik Incorporated happy to support further development work.
- Hope Open Newtown snowballs. Need a team of strong community development workers long term to engage with the hard to reach. Link into the work being done to look at rural poverty in Wales - multi agency working.
- Turn one of the industrial units into a trampoline park or large-scale soft play
- Community hub open in the holidays and people and child friendly.
- More retail shops in the high street and more tourist attractions. Open the canal again and make the town like Llangollen.
- Paint iron bridge.
- Earlier closing of the pubs and nightclub.
- I am also keen to reduce car use for short journeys within town; need more people on streets.
- Community projects.
- Clean the public toilets.
- Make Newtown a regional centre based on service and tech.
- Develop adequate housing for local residents and improve access to facilities.
- Free parking on half days to attract people to the town centre, although facilities would need to improve.
- A footbridge to connect Trehafren fields to Dolerw park so that it makes a circuit. It would be great for runners and dog walkers who both regularly use the fields. Currently, you have to walk to the dead-end part of Dolerw park and turn around. It would get far more use if it was a circuit.
- Making Newtown carbon neutral by 2030.
- Willing to help with community choir outreach proposals.
- We need a way to connect the two shopping precincts we have.
- We need to remove all the unhappiness that is visible in the town (County Lines etc) and send everyone back to where they came from!
- "I would love to discuss ways to maintain our existing property and how new areas should be designed."
- I believe that the land adjacent to the school and the river needs to be maintained as a green space and would benefit from investment.

- For example, replacing the current miniature railway with a larger track that runs from a station and engine shed on its current site over the river and along the riverbank might be a valuable attraction if run regularly.
- "I would expect it would attract usage from children attending the nearby school as well as visiting tourists. "
- See my comments re trees in the town centre.
- Developing Cycling training / racing routes etc- cycling is super popular and events bring in people and put places on the map as venues
- Developing access to the River Severn route"
- Community Theatre Event
- Provide more opportunities for 13-18 year olds to be active not idol and give them responsibilities. Don't close/ knock down youth centres, open more up! If they have pride in their environment, they will respect it.
- I am soon starting a group exercise class that is different, I am the only instructor of Burl exercise in Wales currently, and this is a new and different way of exercising that would take off very well with 18 + age group. It's also a way of getting Newtown more fit and active whilst having fun and a safe comfortable space to do so. 07855355256 taz.colucci@hotmail.com
- See previous response re high street
- Already stated what might help promote the town. But the bypass may be having an adverse effect on the place. I for one am considering moving in the next six to twelve months.
- Make Newtown a centre for generating and storing green energy