



EATON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
QUESTIONNAIRE ANALYSIS
REPORT

APRIL 2017

EATON, CHESHIRE EAST CW12

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This report will take you through the findings of our Neighbourhood Planning Questionnaire and outline the next steps for the Plan. It will outline what a Neighbourhood Plan is, who the team are and the progress we have made so far and what the next steps are.

So what's it all about?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a legal document introduced by the government to allow residents to have a say about their area – it's not simply about trying to stop inappropriate development but allowing residents to have their say on how the neighbourhood will change over the coming years. It provides the evidence to engage with external bodies about the future of our village.

We anticipate that that this plan will take 18-24 months to draw up and agree, and we will be following a clearly defined process overseen by Cheshire East.

Who's on the team?

The Eaton Neighbourhood Planning Team was formed by the Parish Council in early 2016 and is made up of the following group of volunteers: John Goodwin, Tamsin MacCormack, Andy Mitchell, Neil Thorpe, Steve Waltho and John Bradburn.

The story so far.....

The first task was to define and agree the extent of the Plan's boundary and get this approved. This area "designation" was completed on 28th October 2016 and then work began in earnest to obtain everyone's opinions on all aspects of the village. This was done through a detailed questionnaire that was delivered and collected across the neighbourhood almost entirely by hand. The response rate was an incredible 72.5% (150 residents), the highest within Cheshire East so far. A big thank you to everyone who made the effort to reply, we really appreciate it.

The next step was for local IT expert Mike Lyne to collate all these anonymous questionnaires and present them in a meaningful way – this was no easy task! These findings were then analysed in early 2017 and form the basis of this report and the feedback presentation.

What happens next?

From this report a draft Neighbourhood Plan will be created and external agencies will be engaged to provide specialist consultancy on matters such as landscape planning, transport issues and planning policies. There will be further engagement on the draft plan with villagers and then a final version will be submitted to Cheshire East. The Council will then conduct a referendum of the inhabitants of Eaton and we will need at least 50% to approve the plan for it to become officially adopted and to carry weight in matters such as planning decisions.

SECTION A: Likes and Dislikes

This section of the report deals with the aspects of Eaton that respondents like and dislike, with the rural quiet nature of the village been most appreciated and the noise and speed of the A536 being most disliked.

A1. What do you like about Eaton?

The majority of respondents liked the safe and rural nature of the village. The smallness of the village and its community activities were highlighted by residents as a real positive with hubs such as The Plough supporting a strong sense of community. As this was a multiple answer option many respondents rated several topics.

Topic	<i>Number saying highly important</i>	Topic	<i>Number saying highly important</i>
Rural character	125	Good main road connections	58
Relatively secure & crime free	116	Hedgerows	55
Peace & quiet	110	Gardens	53
Green spaces around village	103	The Church	53
The Plough Inn	73	Eaton's history	36
The residents I know	70	Nearness to the Pennines	26
Trees	69	The Waggon & Horses	19
Footpaths & rights of way	67	Other	16

Some of the 'other' popular responses within this question were:

Popular comments:	
Green belt	Friendliness of residents
Character of village	War Memorial
Proximity to Manchester	Church Yard
No big housing estates	Small community
Safe for children to play	Semi-rural
WI	Unspoilt
Distance/green fields between village and Congleton	Millennium Park
Community activities	Bus service
Animals grazing in fields/by Plough	Village Hall

A2. What do you dislike about Eaton?

Not surprisingly the main dislikes in the village were the roads. The A536 – its noise and busyness and serious concerns as to how The Link Road will change the complexion of the village. Additional concerns were also raised about School Lane becoming ever more of a rat run.

Poor communications services both mobile and broadband were raised by residents, and the state of the footpaths and drains also concerned people. A number of respondents also mentioned the lack of a village shop.

Of the 146 responses to this question the table overleaf shows the main concerns shared by the village:

Concern	Total number	%	Concern	Total number	%
A536 - speeding	16	11%	Poor mobile	4	3%
A536 - busy/pollution	15	10%	Bypass - will change village	3	2%
Rat run/speeding on School Lane	13	9%	House vibrates - weight of traffic	3	2%
Noisy main road	12	8%	Flying of model planes	3	2%
No village shop	11	8%	Trees/footpaths not maintained	2	1%
Poor broadband	8	5%	A536 - difficult to cross (Church to village)	2	1%
A536 generally	7	5%	Lack of footpaths towards Macc	2	1%
Encroaching quarry	6	4%	State of drains and road surface in Beechwood	2	1%
A536 - dangerous	5	3%	Getting into Congleton	2	1%
Drains not maintained regularly	4	3%			

In addition to the main concerns, respondents also raised a number of individual dislikes about the village:

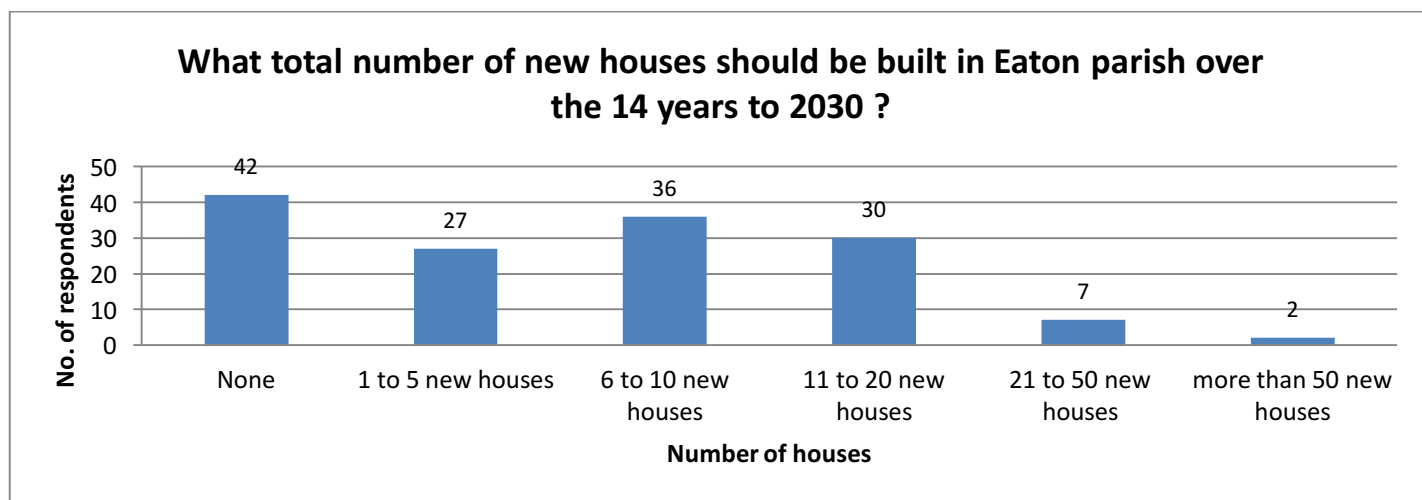
Popular comments:	
Grass cuttings left	Road damage
Being ruled by Cheshire East	Road too close to village
Residents discouraging children from playing on the Beechwood Green	Lack of affordable housing for younger/older people
Ladera development	On-road parking
Knowing your neighbours	Speed limit too high
Loss of green fields	Street lighting
Speed limit not far enough towards Macc	Bus service/shelters
Difficult getting into Congleton	Hedgerows blocking paths
More control over speed limits round Eaton	Terrible local schools
No mains gas	Worry about getting engulfed by Congleton
Lost its family connections	Comments on quarry plans ignored
Lack of safe walking routes	Lack of young families
Verges being damaged	Fly tipping

SECTION B: Planning and Development

Within this part of the report the quantity and nature of any housing development in the village is considered. The majority of respondents favoured low or no housing development and were gravely concerned about the retention of green gap. There was no real consensus on the type or location of any future development.

B1. What total number of new houses should be built in Eaton parish over the 14 years to 2030?

Over 90% of respondents wanted fewer than 20 houses built in the village in the next 14 years.



B2. If there is new housing in Eaton parish, what should be the maximum size of a single development?

If housing development were to take place, then over 50% favoured a sub 5 property/ development cap and 85% favoured no more than 10 properties within a single development.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
1 to 5 houses	75	52.8%
6 to 10 houses	46	32.4%
11 to 20 houses	16	11.3%
21 to 50 houses	3	2.1%
over 50 houses	2	1.4%

B3. In considering any new housing development, what are the most important factors to take into account?

The retention of green fields was the most important factor for people when considering possible future development, with meeting the housing needs of the region very low down the agenda.

Most important factors	<i>Number saying highly important</i>
Retention of green fields	123
Effect on existing houses in Eaton	100
Traffic generated	100
Not too high a density of houses	95
Type of housing built	93
Meeting housing needs of region	23
Other:	18

Retaining the character of the village, being aware of flooding issues and ensuring locals and young families could afford the properties were also cited by residents as important.

B4. If any housing development to meet local needs is permitted, where should it be:

Feedback varied in this area with responses as diverse as infill within the village to areas surrounding the quarry and Link Road. The character of the village, the need not to overwhelm existing properties and concerns around flooding were all raised.

	Yes		No	
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Adjacent to the existing village of Eaton	58	71.6%	23	28.4%
Away from the existing village of Eaton	52	68.4%	24	31.6%
At least 100m from existing houses	45	69.2%	19	29.2%
Among existing houses in the village	38	50.7%	36	48.0%

Popular comments:

Doesn't need to be all crammed together	Near quarry?
Not in village due to effect on drainage (flooding)	Near the new road
Shouldn't sprawl/merge into neighbouring areas	Existing views should be maintained
Current drainage issues need to be considered	Protect character at heart of village
Top of Crauford - bungalows for the elderly	Keep as much green field as possible
Depends on what is proposed as to what is best for community	Further towards Macclesfield or Congleton - better able to provide services
Designs should be sympathetic to existing character	

B5. If there is to be additional residential accommodation in the parish of Eaton, should it be:

Small and medium sized family homes and bungalows underpinned by the conversion of redundant buildings were the most favoured options, with no support for apartments or flats and little support for holiday lets in the village.

Type of additional residential accommodation	Yes	No
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Total number</i>
Maximum two storeys	98	12
Small or medium sized family homes	85	14
Bungalows	68	15
Redundant buildings converted for: open sale	66	16
Realistically priced starter homes	63	36
Executive homes	42	28
Affordable homes to purchase or rent	39	40
Sheltered accommodation for older people	38	35
Accommodation for disabled people	37	29
Houses for single people	23	45
Redundant buildings converted for: holiday lets	12	56
Apartment blocks/ flats	0	80

B6. Should all new homes have provision for off-road parking?

All respondents agreed that any new dwellings should have a provision for off-road parking.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	140	100.0%
No	0	0.0%

B7. Should any redundant buildings in Eaton parish be converted for:

The majority of replies wanted to see local families living in any converted buildings within the village, with much less support for the development of business premises or tourist lets.

	Yes		No	
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Local families to live in	96	89.7%	11	10.3%
For open sale	65	76.5%	20	23.5%
Workshops	33	40.2%	49	59.8%
Small office units	24	29.6%	57	70.4%
Holiday lets/tourism	15	18.8%	65	81.3%

B8. Are there any areas of green space within or around Eaton village which are important to protect?

The majority of people felt there were key green areas around the village that were important to protect.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	107	90.7%
No	11	9.3%

The key green fields within and abutting the village were seen as important to preserving the character of the area as were the woods and fields around Back Lane and to the south of the village and north of Moss Lane.

Popular comments:		
Green land already in village	Between Back Lane and Macc road	Fields at top of Crauford
Spaces between the houses now and the lanes	Plenty of housing options in the village (not spread out into green belt)	Fields behind main road (views of cloud)
Village green	Behind old school/top of Crauford	Fields behind the Plough
Only build on village outskirts	Remaining 'Antrobus' land	Fields between park and Plough
Surrounding fields	Beechwood	Round the lanes
Back Lane	Widen roadside land by paths	Church and grounds
Areas close to village	North of Moss Lane and beyond	Quaker burial ground
Boundary fields with Congleton	All farmland	Between Plough and substation
All	Millennium park	Village Hall
Fields and woods		

B9. Are there any buildings, monuments, natural features or other objects in the parish which are worth protecting?

There was almost complete agreement amongst respondents that the special buildings and features we currently have needed to be protected.

	<i>Total number of respondents agreeing</i>		<i>Total number of respondents agreeing</i>
The Church	137	Woods - please list	55
The Plough Inn	129	Old mileposts or road signs - please list below	55
Listed houses (3 so far)	102	Special trees - please list	42
The Quaker graveyard	97	Ponds - please list	33

With the following specific areas and features highlighted for protection:

Popular comments:		
All with Tree Preservation Orders	Cranberry Moss (woodland by Moss Lane),	Open Quaker graveyard to the public again
Oak tree behind school and on School Lane	New plantation - beech trees along School Lane + hedgerows	Pond in School Lane next to the quarry
Woods on Bebbington Lane	The 3 rows of cottages	Hedgerows
Back Lane, Cocks Moss Lane & School Lane	Local history and environment is vitally important	Pond in School Lane next to the quarry
Chestnut tree in park	Woods opposite Smithy Farm development	Existing buildings and/or natural features
All chestnut trees	Trees in Village Hall grounds	Phone box
All woods	Rook tree behind school house	Old school
Sandy Lane woods	Community Hall	Screening Tarmac site
Diamond oaks behind the Plough	Village green	The lanes
Victorian Diamond Jubilee trees	All oak trees and beech trees	War Memorial
Mill stones		

B10. Have you any other comments on Planning and Development in Eaton parish?

There was strong opposition to development in the core of the village, but also grave concerns about development joining the village up to Congleton. Facilities were felt not to be able to support much further development and there were worries about the role of the quarry in the village's future. The comments followed the same themes and have been aggregated for analysis into:

Popular comments:	
Ribbon development north of Smithy Farm would destroy character of village to be restricted.	Development should only be considered outside of the existing village centre
Smaller units, like at Smithy Farm are ideal	Don't want any housing development
Development needs to be balanced to facilities/infrastructure available	Reduce traffic and limit/protect building on greenfield sites
Include traffic volume and speed reduction	Keep Eaton separate from Congleton
Keep it small and in proportion	Develop Lower Heath before Eaton
If large scale, need more schools	Link Road should have started on East side of village not West
For the quarry not to take out School Lane for sand	Take into account/preserve unique identity
Encourage young people and families into the village	

Section C: Environment

Section C deals with various aspects of the environment within the village, including diverse topics such as litter and fly-tipping, refuse collections, and renewable energy considerations. The section also explores the visual aspect of the village, street lighting and noise considerations from the A536 and others sources of noise and pollution.

C1. Do you see any problems with litter, rubbish or fly tipping in Eaton?

Of the 144 residents who responded to the question, 88 (62%) say that there is a problem with litter and 56 (38%) do not think we have a problem with this. The majority of those that see a problem with this make comment of litter/fly tipping on the lanes within the village, and particularly on School Lane. Litter from cars on the A536 is also an issue.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	88	61.1%
No	56	38.9%

Popular comments:

Fly tipping - School Lane	Cocksmiss Lane
Fly tipping - by the quarry	Fly tipping - Bebbington, Fords Lane, etc.
Fly tipping - Back Lane	School Lane (opposite pond)
Litter - A536	Tyres at Bebbington/Fords Lane (entrance to Kennel Cottage Wood)

C2. How do you rate the Council refuse and recycling collection services?

There were 148 residents who responded to this question of whom 106 (72%) said that the service is very good, 39 residents (26% of respondents) said it is average and only 3 (2%) reported that the service is poor.

The overall opinion is that the Council do a really good job. However, some of the comments received include "Green Bins to be collected in Winter", and a couple of residents stated that that the "Collections are sometimes missed".

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Very Good	106	71.6%
Average	39	26.4%
Poor	3	2.0%

C3. How could the noise and nuisance of traffic on the A536 Congleton to Macclesfield road through the village be reduced?

The residents were given multiple options for the answer to this question, and of the 139 (97%) who responded 114 would like the speed limit reducing, 96 are also in favour of a smoother road surface and 17 would like to see speed bumps, although other comments received suggest that this would be a bad idea.

Of the additional comments received 20 residents stated that speed cameras or speed indicators should be deployed, others stated that countdown markers to the speed limit signs should be incorporated. Three other residents stated that The Link Road should go to the North of the village or the A536 be diverted around the village.

The A536 is a major source of concern within the village, which needs to be resolved. The overwhelming view is that resurfacing and enforceable speed reduction should be carried out.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
A lower speed limit	114	42.4%
A smoother road surface	96	35.7%
Other - please list	42	15.6%
Speed bumps	17	6.3%

Popular comments:		
Speed camera	No speed humps/bumps	30 MPH Limit on A536
Ban bypass on Congleton side of village	Traffic calming	Speed warning indicators

C4. Apart from traffic are there any other sources of annoying noise in Eaton?

There were 125 residents who responded with 90 (72%) stating there are no further problems with noise. However, 35 residents (28%) said that there is a problem, with many of these (21) complaining about the noise of model aircraft flying in the field to the south of the village. Other complaints range from noisy neighbours and dog barking (5) and noise from the quarry (5).

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	35	28%
No	90	72%

Popular comments:	
Model aircraft south of village	My neighbour
Dogs barking/general neighbour noise	Quarry
Rookery	Refuse/grass cutting etc. before 8am

C5. Are there any other forms of pollution in Eaton that should be addressed?

There were only 22 responses to this question, so it appears we do not have any major pollution issues. However, of the responses received, 5 stated the quarry was a source of pollution, 5 refer to vehicle pollution, others to dog mess on the lanes and individual comments regarding river pollution and checks on oil tanks.

Popular comments:	
Rookery	Stop quarry expansion
Traffic	Quarry - treatment/resin plant, odours etc
Discourage coal burning fires	Regular checks on oil tanks to ensure no leakage into drainage systems
Vehicle pollution	Probable increase in water pollution from future building, quarry, etc
Lorries going to Ladera	

C6. Should there be more or less street lighting in Eaton?

The overall opinion is that the existing street lighting within the village is adequate with 118 residents (82%) of the respondents stating no change, 17 residents (12%) requesting more lighting and 9 (6%) wanting fewer lights.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
More	17	11.8%
Less	9	6.3%
No change	118	81.9%

C7. Do you have any suggestions for how we can reduce our carbon footprint in Eaton?

Some 29 residents, which is 19% of the total receiving questionnaires, responded to this, with a varied range of suggestions, from investing in solar energy and other small scale electric generation through wind turbines, to car sharing, free bus travel, cycle routes, LED lighting and the preservation of trees and woodland.

Popular comments:	
Don't increase traffic	New properties to have solar panels as standard
Communal composting area to reuse on communal flower beds	Reduce use of coal fires
Reduce traffic	Solar farming
More regular Bus Time Table	Renewable energy
Bus Service to Barn Road shops (Tesco/M&S + Boots)	Heat pump for village hall
Cycle Route on A34 from Eaton to Marton and from Eaton to Congleton	Everyone to do their bit i.e. LED lighting
Reduce street lighting	Replace existing streetlights with LED
Look at the energy sources we are currently using	Close School Lane to through traffic
Small scale electricity generation (solar panels, small turbines) in communal space	

C8. Are there any eyesores in the village which you would like to see removed?

This question was replied to by 97 residents of whom 83 (86%) say that we do not have any eyesores. Some 14 residents (14% of respondents) said that there were eyesores; of these 3 referred to the signs on the green in front of The Plough, 2 mentioned the quarry, 2 stated that the trees and hedges are out of control and some gardens were in need of major attention.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
No	83	85.6%
Yes	14	14.4%

Popular comments:	
Hedges on main A536 not cut regularly or maintained	Boards on green opposite Plough
Trees out of control in village, overhanging branches from trees not maintained by local council	Tarmac entrance on School Lane
Trees too high	Ladera lodges
Pond by School Lane/Back Lane	Quarry

C9. Are there any special views from Eaton which should be preserved?

Of the 60 residents who thought that there are views worth preserving, many referred to the view towards The Cloud from various view points within the village. The views from the churchyard and Millennium Park towards Congleton and Congleton Edge were mentioned frequently, as were the green fields within the village, with mentions also for Sutton Common, the Dane Valley, and the Quaker burial ground.

Popular comments:	
The Cloud	Over the Dane
Open countryside	Quaker burial ground
Cloud from footpath on Macc Road and church yard	Congleton Edge/Mow Cop from park
Views of Congleton from playing fields	Croker Hill and Macc Forest
All views	Field behind Plough and b+b

C10. Should there be any large wind turbines in the village?

There were 143 residents who responded to this, which is 95% of all responses received and of these 126 (88%) did not want wind turbines and 17 (5%) said yes to the turbines. As such, the conclusion is that there is little desire for wind turbines in the village

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	17	11.8%
No	126	87.5%

C11. Should there be any Solar Panels in the village?

Some 139 residents responded to this question with 102 (73%) saying no to solar panels and 37 (27%) saying yes to solar panels. The support for solar panels is greater than that for wind turbines. However, a large majority again did not want these.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	37	26.4%
No	102	72.9%

C12. Should Fracking for gas or oil be allowed in the village?

We had 141 residents' responses to this question, which is 94% of all returned questionnaires. Of these, 133 residents (94%) are opposed to fracking in the village, with 8 residents (6%) in favour.

The conclusion being is that the village is generally opposed to fracking in and around Eaton

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	8	5.6%
No	133	92.4%

C13. Do you have any other comments on the environment within the Parish

Seventeen residents responded to this question and apart from issues covered under previous sections, 4 wanted to see no more quarrying, there was a request for volunteers to go litter picking, farmers to maintain wildlife habitats and to keep land tidy, stop slurry spreading and use injection methods, and the establishment of green belt land from the village to the proposed Link Road.

Popular comments:	
Flooding on Back Lane	Plastic in the River Dane
Volunteers should keep the village litter free	Slurry spreading (replace by injection)
Only allow turbines, solar panels, fracking if they don't cause problems for nearby homes	Farmers/landowners to maintain wildlife habitats and keep land tidy
Small turbines are OK - as are solar panels if no impact on agriculture	

Section D: Safety and Security

Section D relates to safety and security within the village, and covers topics such as highway safety issues, personal safety, and the resident's opinions regarding crime and anti-social behaviour.

D1. Are there any places in the Parish where you feel safety is an issue?

Of the 91 residents who that said safety was an issue, 61 referred to the A536 as being the major safety issue, with the crossing of the road causing the greater concerns and vehicle access to the road also being an issue.

Other problems also relate to traffic, with 15 residents being concerned about the speed of cars on the country lanes. Other comments refer to a lack of footpaths on the A536 towards Macclesfield (3), crossing the A34 (2) and the footpaths on the A536 being poorly maintained.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	91	70.0%
No	39	30.0%

Popular comments:	
Crossing A536	The A536 !
Crossing main road - from Plough to Church	Speed of traffic on School Lane
Bends on A536 towards Cocksmiss	Turning right out of village
Speed of traffic on A536	Cocksmiss Lane

D2. Are you concerned about any of the following in the village?

The general opinion of the residents is that they have no real concerns with any of the options provided, with in excess of 90% of the residents stating they do not have any concerns regarding 6 out of the 9 options provided. The 2 items that cause most concern in the village are burglary/housebreaking - 47 residents, and leaving your home unattended - 29 residents. This is still only 34% & 21% respectively of the total respondents. There were 16 residents (12% of respondents) that were concerned about walking alone at night.

Although there are a number of residents who have concerns regarding the issues raised, most respondents feel that they have no concerns.

Security concerns	Yes		No	
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Burglary/housebreaking	47	35.6%	85	64.4%
Leaving your home unattended	29	23.2%	96	76.8%
Walking alone at night	16	13.2%	105	86.8%
Feeling safe in your home	12	9.8%	110	90.2%
Vandalism	9	7.4%	112	92.6%
Anti-social behaviour	7	5.8%	113	94.2%
Walking alone in the daytime	6	5.1%	112	94.9%
Drug dealing	6	5.1%	111	94.9%
Violence	5	4.3%	111	95.7%

D3. How could road safety be improved in the village?

There were 148, out of the 150 residents who returned the questionnaire, who responded to this section, which once again gave multiple options together with a rating for each of these from low to high importance. A reduced speed limit on the A536 was the highest rating option with only 9 residents giving this a low importance rating. Some 69 residents also thought that pedestrian crossings on the A536 was of high importance. Also, 68 residents think that an enforceable speed limit along School Lane is of high importance and 64 residents think that having speed enforcement cameras on the A536 is highly important. The residents also feel that the need for speed cameras on the A34 and parking restrictions are of least importance

Again, the need for reduced enforceable speed limits, together with pedestrian crossings on the A536 are very important, with restrictions on the A34, parking restrictions, and neighbourhood speed-watch initiatives being of least importance.

	High importance		Medium importance		Low importance	
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Speed limit of 30mph through village, along A536 Congleton to Macclesfield road	103	78.6%	19	14.5%	9	6.9%
Pedestrian crossing on A536	69	60.0%	28	24.3%	18	15.7%
Enforced speed restriction on School Lane	68	55.3%	37	30.1%	18	14.6%
Speed cameras on A536 Congleton to Macclesfield road	64	52.5%	29	23.8%	29	23.8%
Better pavements	44	42.3%	31	29.8%	29	27.9%
Average speed cameras on the A536 road	43	43.4%	25	25.3%	31	31.3%
Parking restrictions	24	25.0%	27	28.1%	45	46.9%
Speed cameras on A34 Alderley Edge road	21	22.8%	23	25.0%	48	52.2%
Neighbourhood speed watch on A536	21	25.3%	33	39.8%	29	34.9%

Popular comments:

Move Congleton bus stop to green opposite Macc bus stop	Make pavement into Congleton a 'shared space' between pedestrians and bicycles
Enforce speed limit	Speed limit on Moss Lane
Weight restrictions on lorries	Better maintained footpaths
No speed humps on School Lane	20MPH limit on School Lane
Speed bumps	Restrict School Lane access
Footpath to Congleton unsuitable for pushchair	Footpath from Church to Congleton
School Lane parking obstructs larger vehicles	Make crossing the A536 safer
Residents park off the road	Traffic island by church?

D4. Are there any other safety and security issues in Eaton Parish?

Popular comments:

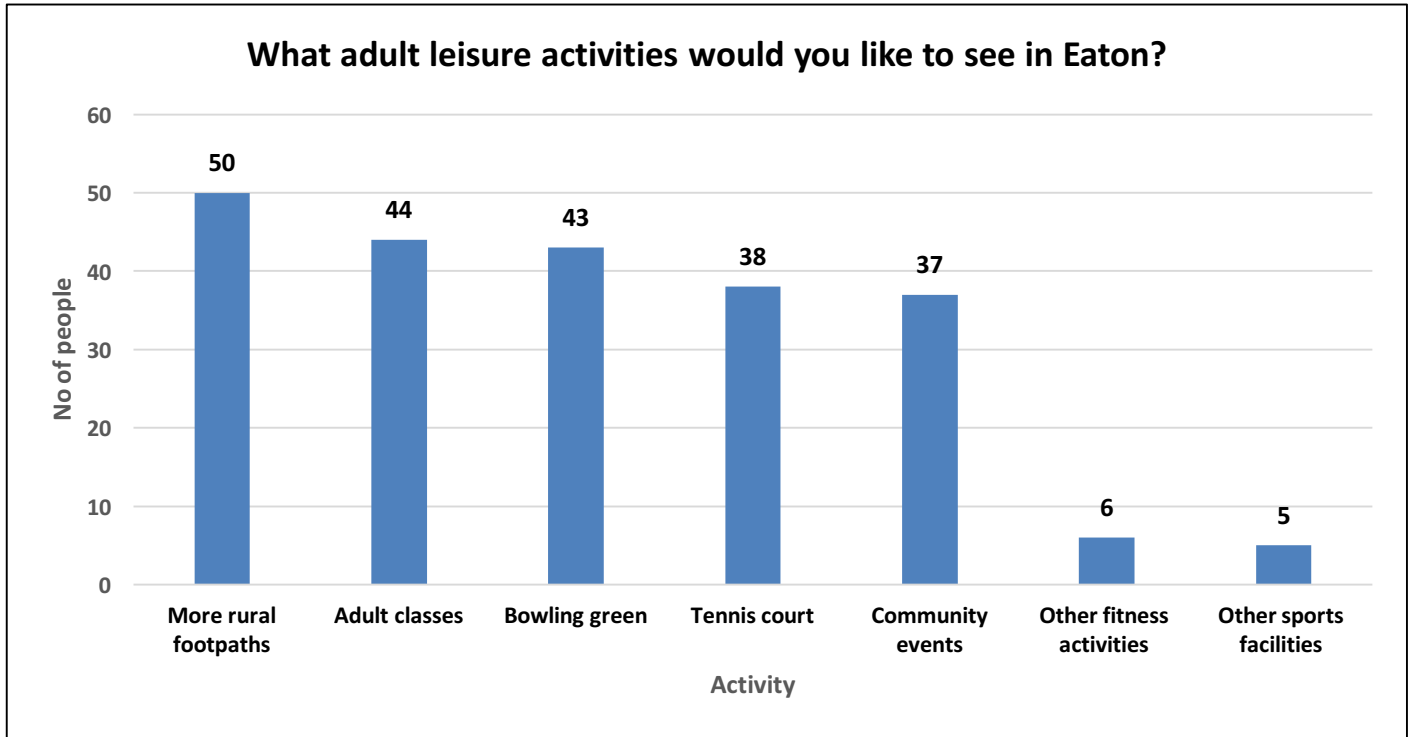
Wall outside 19 School Lane leaning into pavement
Recent burglaries
Occasionally teenagers take over play area in park

SECTION E: Leisure activities in Eaton

Section E asks the residents to name any additional facilities to be considered within the village and asks for their views on the current facilities.

E1. What adult leisure activities would you like to see in Eaton?

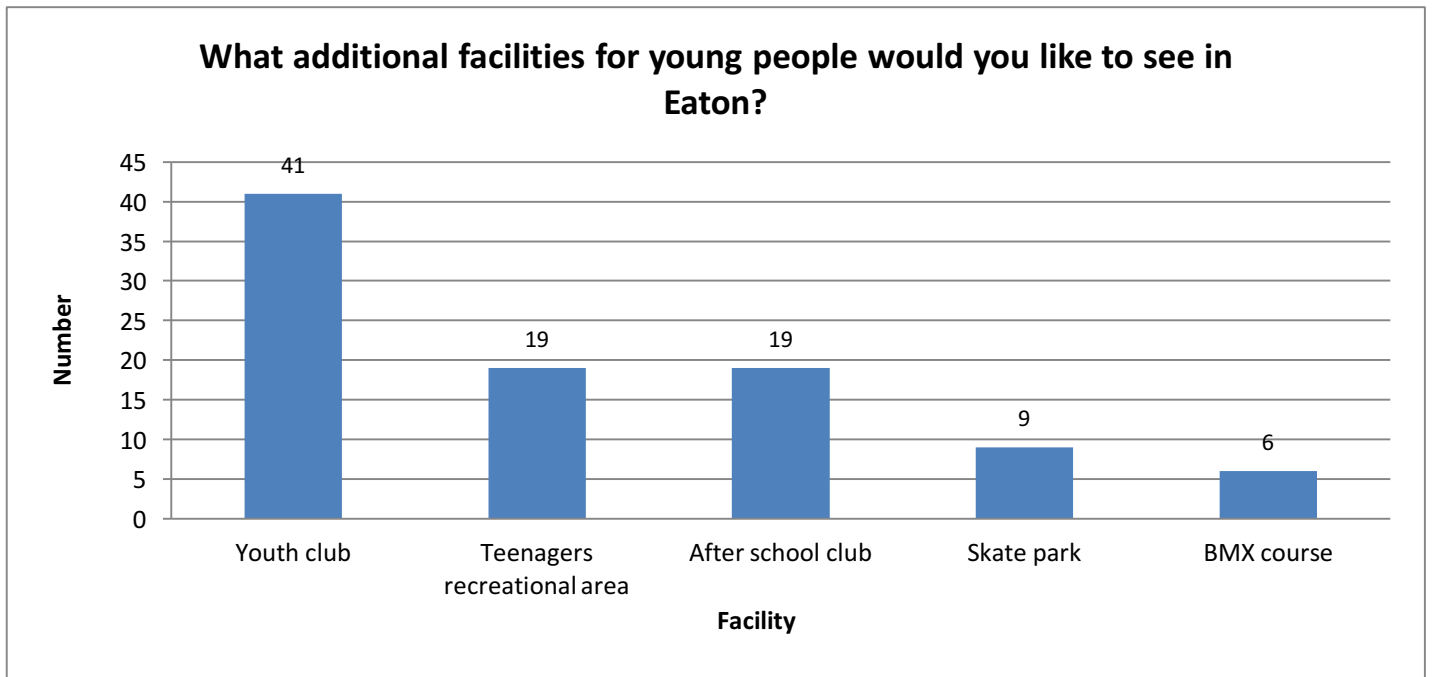
The most popular requested additional leisure facilities were more rural footpaths, adult classes and a bowling green. A tennis court and more community events were also popular requests.



Popular comments:	
Football ground	Historical Society
Running track	Secure dog-exercising area
More bridal paths	Gym/studios for Zumba, dance, etc.
Outdoor gym	Multi-exercise equipment in park
BBQ	Space for small rugby/football pitch
There are excellent facilities in Congleton and Macc, and frequent community events in Eaton	

E2. What additional facilities for young people would you like to see in Eaton?

Some 40% of respondents to this question would like a youth club to be made available to young people in the village, followed by an after-school club and teenagers' recreation area.



Popular comments:

Park improvements	Vicar to start youth group
Activities for older kids in park	Eaton is not big enough for a teenager recreational area
None of the above	Path round the outside of the park

E3. How often do you use, for leisure, local Rights of Way (footpaths) or lanes, in the parish

A good number of residents (over 30%) use the village footpaths on a daily basis – however, the same number only use them occasionally, very few residents never use the footpaths.

A larger number of residents use the lanes on a daily basis, with the majority of residents using the lanes on at least a weekly basis, very few residents never use the lanes.

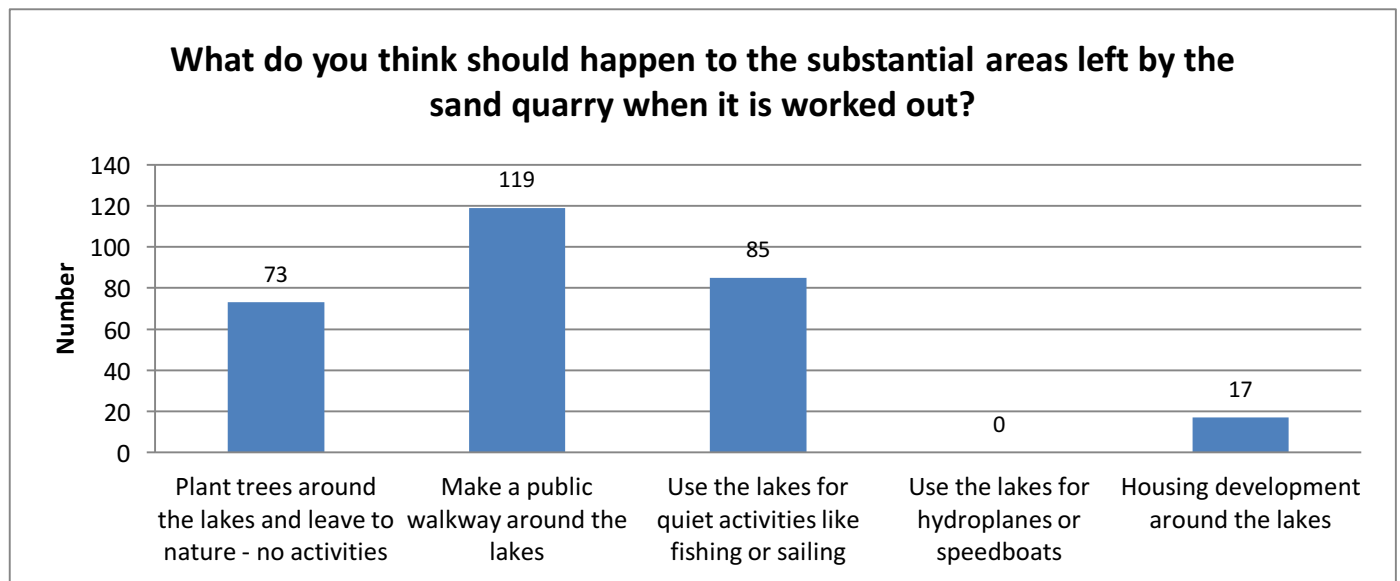
Footpaths	Total number	%
Daily	38	30.4%
Weekly	31	24.8%
Monthly	10	8.0%
Occasionally	38	30.4%
Never	8	6.4%

Lanes	Total number	%
Daily	56	44.1%
Weekly	32	25.2%
Monthly	14	11.0%
Occasionally	21	16.5%
Never	4	3.1%

E4. What do you think should happen to the substantial areas left by the sand quarry when it is worked out?

The majority of residents would like to see public walkways constructed around the lakes, and/or the lakes to be used for quiet recreational activities like fishing or sailing (of course, the two are not mutually exclusive).

Nearly 25% of residents would prefer for trees to be planted around the lakes, and leaving them to nature. Only a small percentage of residents would like to see houses developed around the lakes.

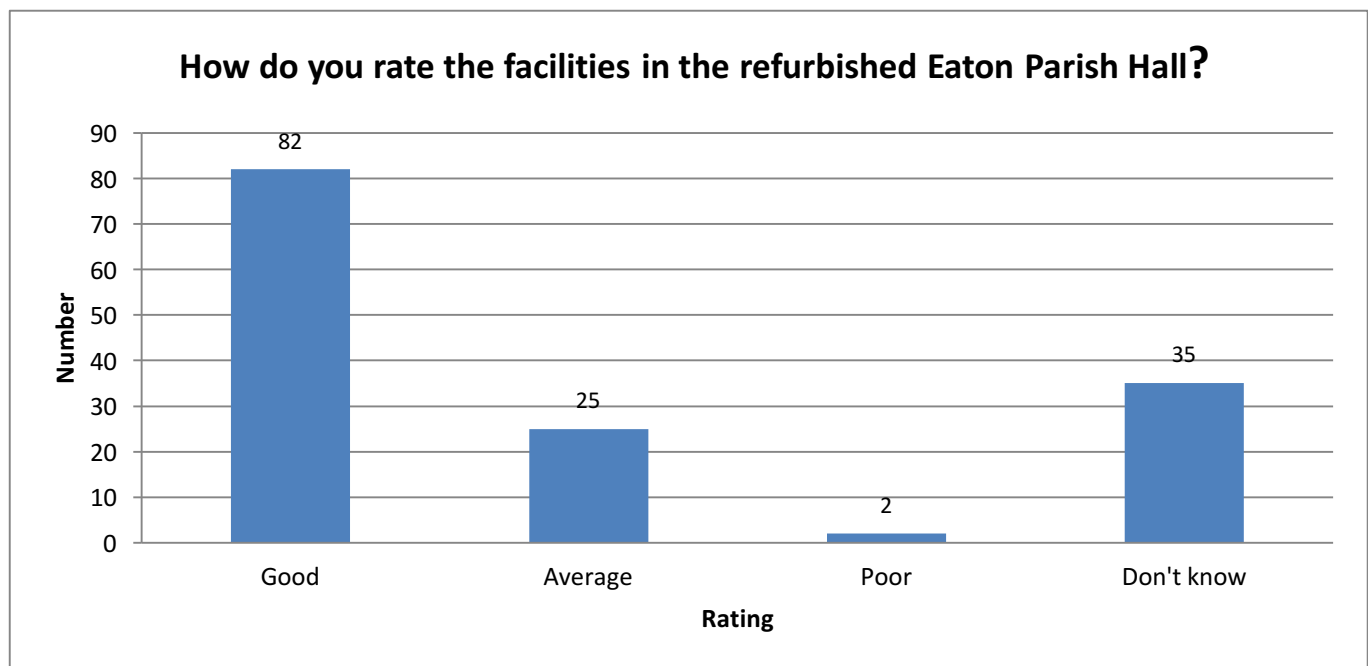


Popular comments:

Seating areas around lake for bird watching (Hides)	Bridle path
Like Astbury Mere	Cycle way
Educational centre	Steep-sides - difficult to get out

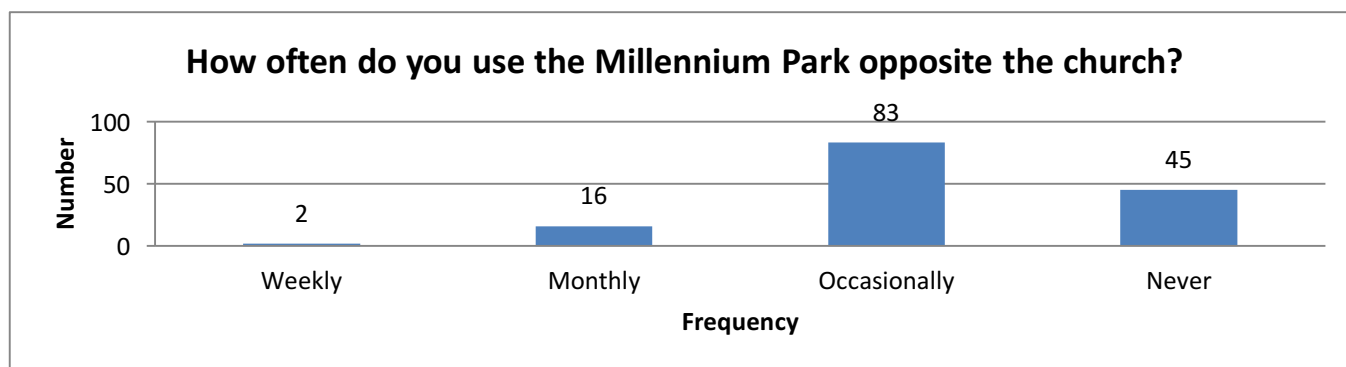
E5. How do you rate the facilities in the refurbished Eaton Parish Hall?

The majority of residents rate the facilities in the hall as 'good', since the refurbishment. It is possible that the nearly 25% of residents who answered 'don't know' have not seen the facilities since the hall has been refurbished.



E6. How often do you use the Millennium Park opposite the church?

Most residents use the park on at least an occasional basis, with a smaller number using it more frequently. This is unsurprising, considering the small percentage of young people in the village.



E7. Do you use the fortnightly mobile library service?

Fewer than 5% of residents use the library service. However, it should be noted that this may be a valuable service to those residents who may find it difficult to travel to Congleton.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	6	4.2%
No	136	95.8%

E8. Do you have any other ideas for improving leisure facilities in Eaton?

A variety of improvements were suggested, including “more activities” in the Parish Hall, such as yoga and keep fit classes.

Popular comments:	
Evening keep-fit classes for yoga or dance	Walking group
Activities suitable for older children in the Millennium Park	Use the hall & grounds, and Millennium Park
Adapt playground equipment for un-aided use by small children	Improve park (more picnic tables, more equipment, maybe a toilet)
More safer walking areas	Don't bring hordes of people into Eaton
Golf course on surrounding fields	More activities in the Parish Hall
Guide/scout camp	Craft events
Don't see the mobile library service any more	More safer walking areas

SECTION F: Economic Development and Enterprise

This section asks Eaton residents to consider future usage and development of areas within the village along with working from home and visiting other local towns.

F1. Do you think that there should be any small scale commercial developments in or around Eaton to provide jobs?

The overwhelming majority of residents do not want to see the development of any small offices or workshops, and would prefer for the village to be kept residential.

Small offices	Total number	%
No	90	73.2%
Yes	33	26.8%

Small workshops	Total number	%
No	84	63.2%
Yes	49	36.8%

Popular comments:	
Business parks should be kept in Congleton near to the new bypass	Offices/workshops should not spoil view or be noisy
Keep village residential - plenty of areas around Congleton for offices/workshops	Would create more traffic/deliveries

F2. Is there anything which prevents you from working from home in Eaton, if you would like to?

Over 30% of residents responded that there were factors that prevented them from being able to work from home. The majority of those who specified reasons, cited either poor broadband speed, poor mobile signal, or both, as the reasons they are unable to work from home.

	Total number	%
No	80	66.7%
Yes	40	33.3%

Popular comments:	
Poor broadband	Nature of job
Poor mobile signal	Planning rules
Access for deliveries	

F3. Which town do you generally visit for shopping and other services?

The majority of residents (67%) visit Congleton for shopping and other services. Over 30% also visit Macclesfield, with smaller numbers visiting Sandbach, Wilmslow and Knutsford, and other, more distant locations.

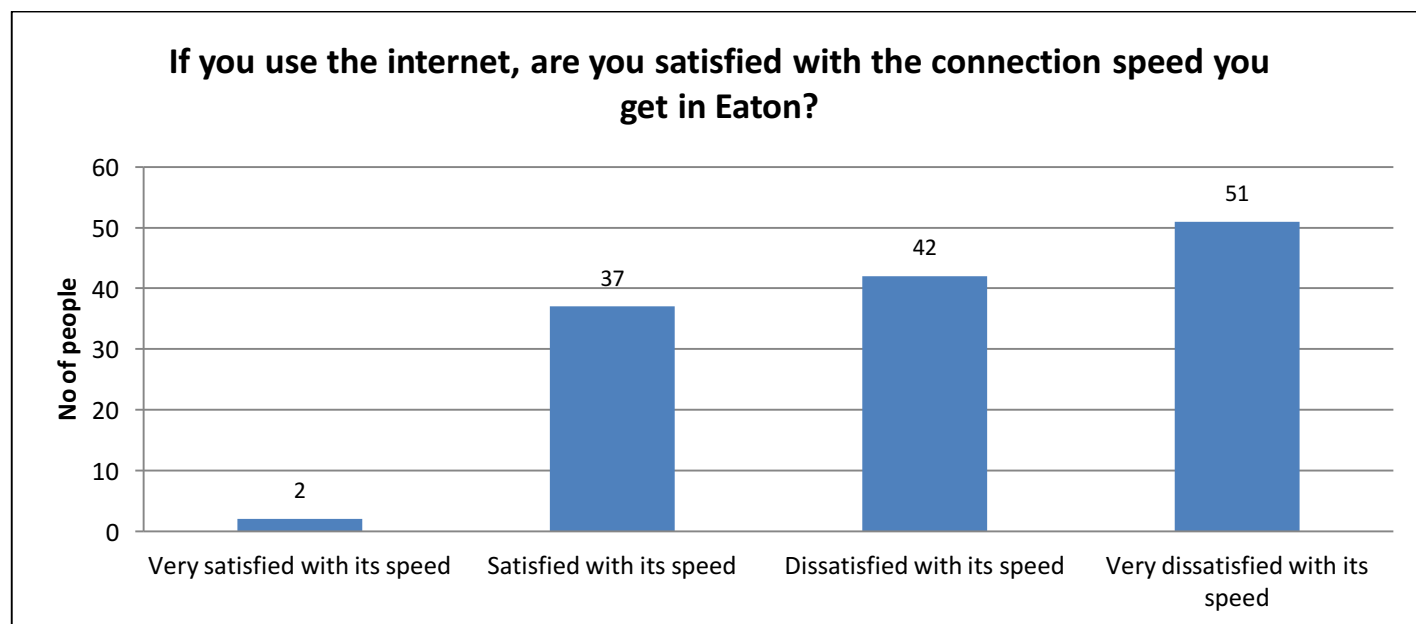
Other Popular locations:	
Sandbach	Hanley/Stoke
Wilmslow	Handforth Dean
Knutsford	Manchester

Section G: External services

This section describes the residents' feelings about the standard of services such as internet, mobile phone, landline phone and waste collection, provided to Eaton by external suppliers.

G1. If you use the internet, are you satisfied with the connection speed you get in Eaton?

Of the 132 residents who answered this question, 93 (70%) were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the internet speed they receive in Eaton. 37 people (28%) were satisfied with their internet speed. Only 2 people were very satisfied with their internet speed and these two may subscribe to a satellite internet service.



Popular comments:

Very slow to non-existent	Fibre has increased speed - but still behind national average
Have contacted MP	Fibre would be good

G2. If you don't use the internet, what is the reason?

Some 16 people (11% of the total 150 replies) replied that they don't use the internet, of whom 11 people don't want to use it. Just 5 people said they don't know how to use it, which suggests that they might use it if they knew how.

	<i>Total number</i>
Don't want to	11
Don't know how to	5

G3. If you don't know how to use the internet, but would like to, would you be interested in lessons in Eaton?

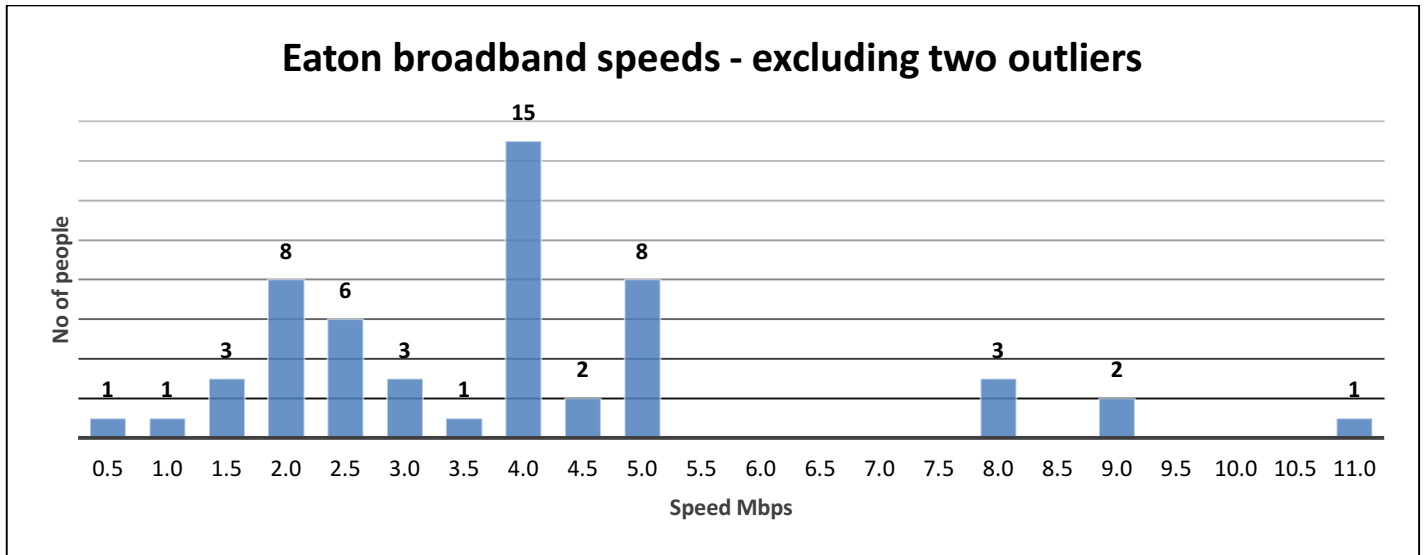
Seven people replied that they would be interested in lessons held in Eaton on how to use the internet.

G4. If you can measure your broadband internet speed, what speed do you normally get on a weekday evening?

Fifty-six people replied with a measure of the normal internet speed they get in Eaton. These speeds range from 0.5Mbps (Megabits per second) to 11Mbps, with two outliers having 32Mbps and 54Mbps. These two are presumably the two who replied to question G1 that they are very satisfied with their speeds. Perhaps they have arranged for individual satellite-based internet connections.

The median speed is 4Mbps which is reported by 15 people. Apart from the two outliers, only one person reports getting more than the Governments stated target minimum connection speed of 10Mbps. 98% of the reporting residents get less than this target minimum.

Clearly the broadband internet service to Eaton currently falls well short of today’s acceptable standard.



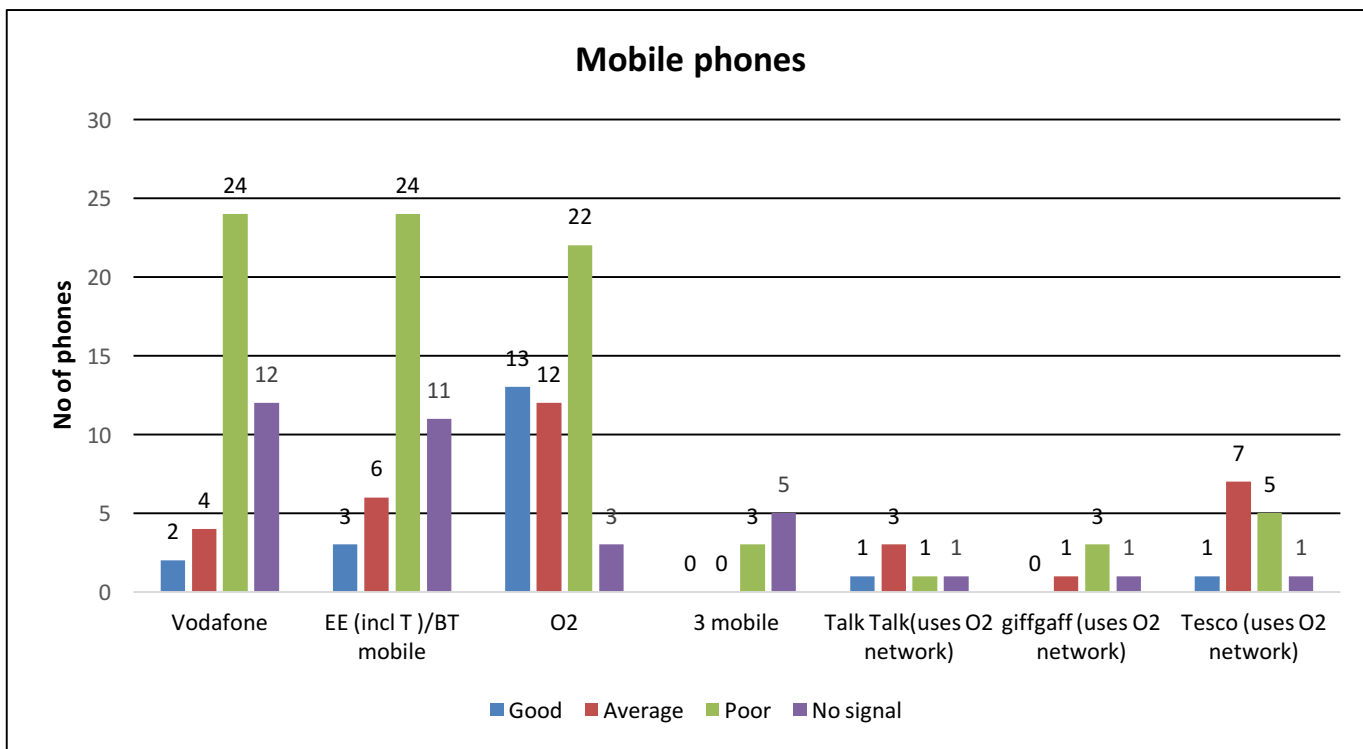
G5. If you have a mobile phone, how good is the signal inside your house in Eaton?

Some 134 people replied to this question and several replied about up to three phones or service providers each. These may be phones owned by others in the household who didn’t return questionnaires, or the respondents may be owners of several phones, or they may have been replying about other service providers they had tried. Discounting one response, the 134 people replied about 162 phones/service providers.

Of the 162 phones replied about, 24 (15%) received no signal at all in their Eaton home. A further 82 phones (51%) had poor service in Eaton. Only 33 (20%) gave average service and 20 phones (12%) were reported to give good service.

Four main service providers were reported on: Vodafone, BT mobile (includes EE, T and Virgin), O2 (includes Tesco, Talk Talk, and giffgaff who use their network) and 3 mobile. Of these, O2, and those providers who use its network, gave the best service to those who reported (75 phones), but even so, only 20% reported a good service and 31% reported an average one against 41% who reported a poor service and 8% reported no service, from O2 and its associates.

Vodafone gave the worst service with only 5% good and 10% average against 57% poor and 29% no service. BT mobile/EE were hardly any better with 7% good and 14% average against 55% poor and 25% no signal. There were only 8 reports on 3mobile, all of which were poor or no signal. In summary, the mobile phone service in Eaton is inadequate with O2 and its associates being the best of a bad bunch, and with Vodafone and BT mobile/EE giving an unacceptable service.



Popular comments:
Virgin (on EE) - not rated
Seems to have got worse recently
Could be better

G6. If you use a landline telephone, is the service adequate and reliable?

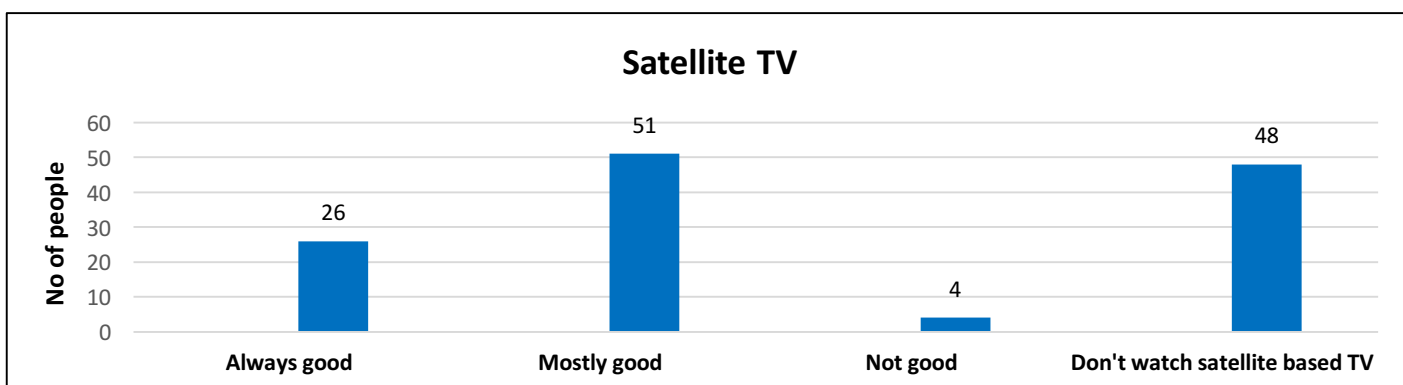
Around 87% of the 90 people who replied said that their landline phone service is of good quality, but 13% (12 people) said it is not good enough. We didn't ask for comments on this, so we don't know the reasons. 93% thought their landline phone service is reliable. Four people reported that they don't have a landline phone.

Of good quality	Total number	%
Yes	78	86.7%
No	12	13.3%

Reliable	Total number	%
Yes	99	92.5%
No	8	7.5%

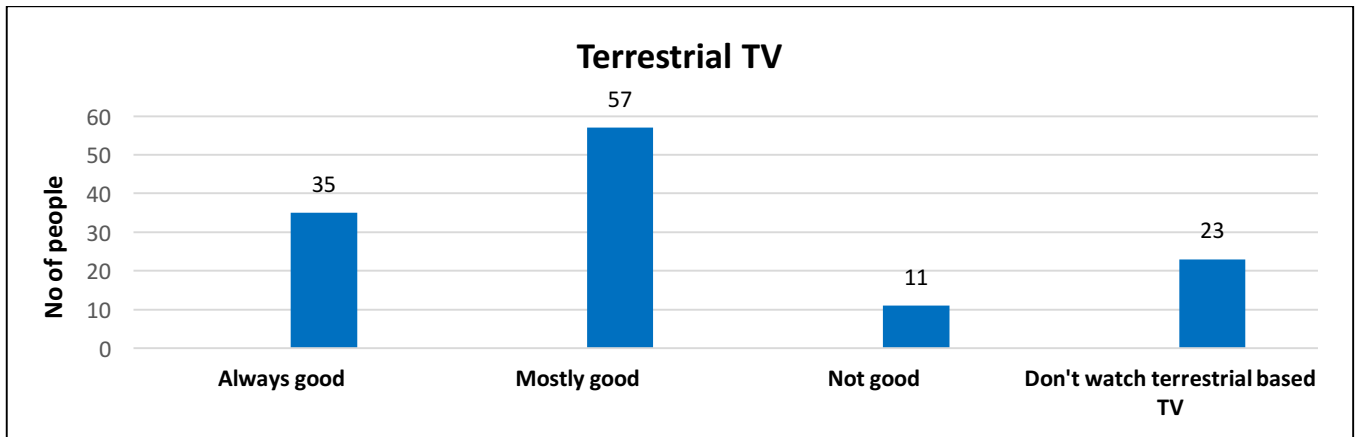
G7. If you watch satellite transmitted TV (e.g. Sky or Freesat) in Eaton, is the signal quality good?

There were 48 people (37% of those who replied) who said that they don't watch any satellite based television. Of the 82 people who do watch satellite based TV, 77 people (94%) said the signal they get is always or mostly good.



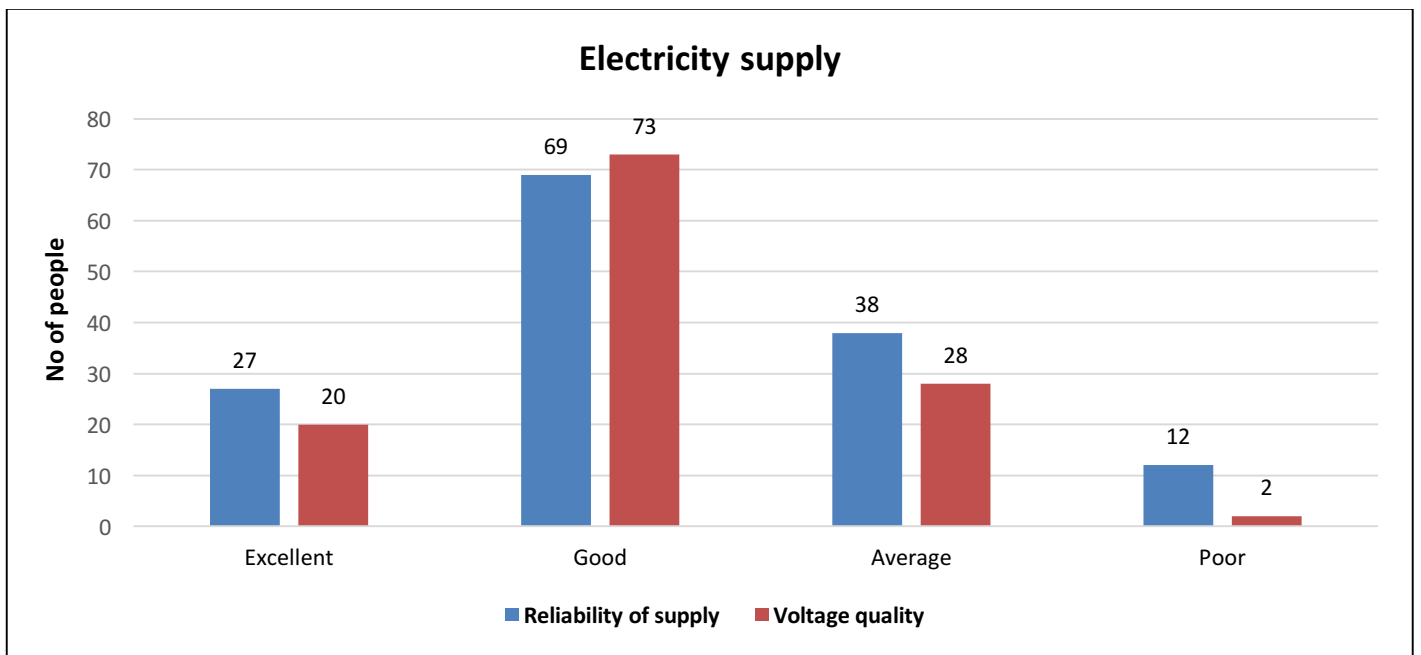
G8. If you watch terrestrial TV (ie from a land based transmitter – e.g. Freeview/DVB) is the signal quality good?

Of the 103 people who watch terrestrial TV, 92 people (90%) said that the signal quality was always or mostly good, but 11 people found the signal not good.



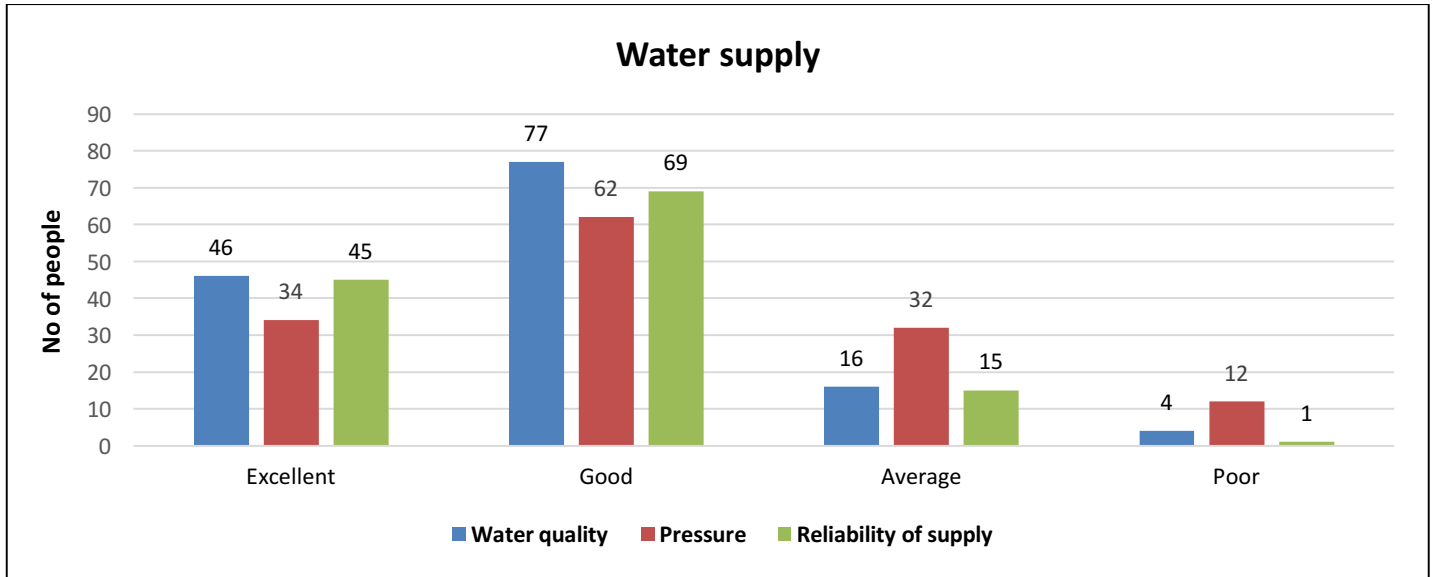
G9. How are the quality and reliability of your mains electricity supply?

Of the 146 people who replied, 92% (134 people) thought that the reliability of their mains electricity supply was excellent to average, while only 8% (12 people) thought it was poor. Almost everyone thought that the voltage quality was acceptable.



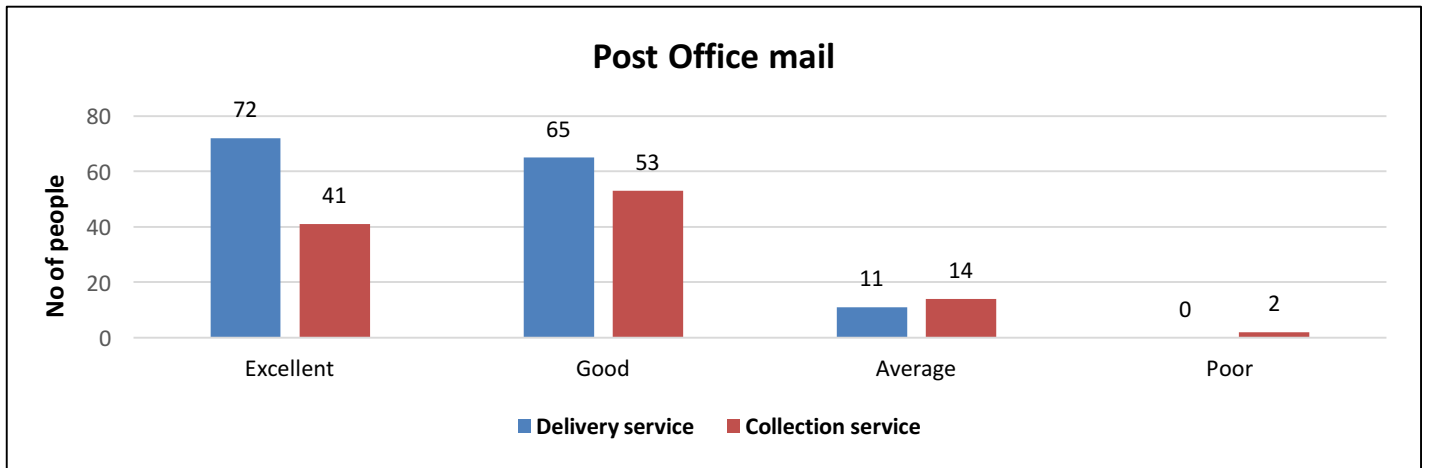
G10. How are the quality and reliability of your mains water supply?

Over 97% (139 people) of the respondents thought that the water quality was excellent to average and only 3% (4 people) thought it poor. Water pressure was excellent to average for 91%, but not so for 9% (12 people). Reliability of supply was excellent to average for 99% of respondents. Perhaps there is a water pressure issue in some parts of Eaton.



G11. What do you think about the Post Office mail delivery and collection service in Eaton?

The mail delivery service was excellent to average for 100% of those who replied (148 people). For two people the collection service was inadequate.



G12. Do you have any other suggestions or comments about External Services in Eaton parish?

Respondents made the following comments about external services in Eaton:

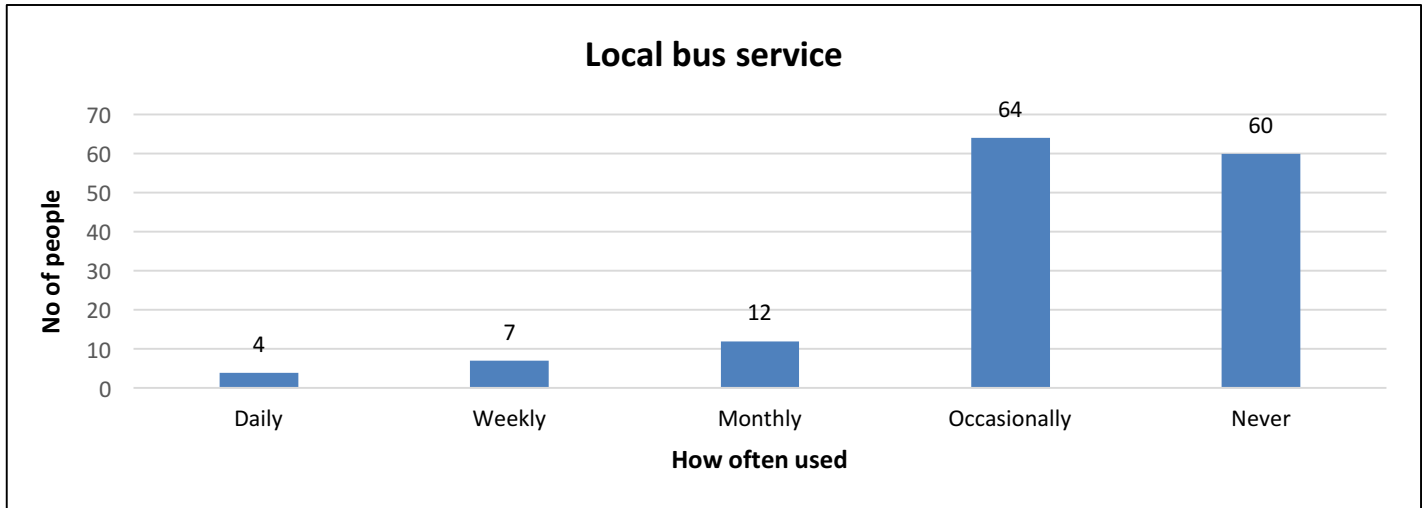
Popular comments:
Gully emptying could be improved
Street cleaning could be improved
No more masts (health implications)
Too many power cuts/dips
Mail not delivered as early as it was. Prefer 8-9am

Section H: Transport

This section covers the bus service in Eaton and the issues faced by cyclists in the area.

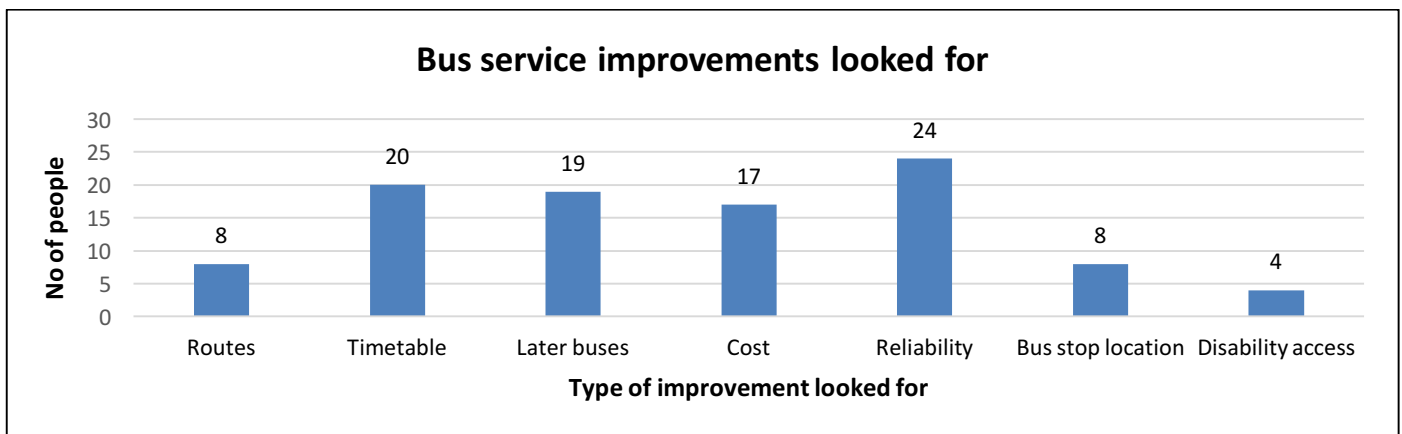
H1. How often do you use the local bus service?

Some 147 people replied and of those 60 people (41%) never use the bus and 64 people (44%) only occasionally use it. There are 11 people (8%) who are regular daily or weekly users and another 12 people (8%) use the bus service monthly.



H2. Would you like to see improvements to the bus services with regard to:

The main requests for improvement were for reliability (23%), timetable (19%), later buses (18%) and cost (16%). There were also requests for route improvements, change in bus stop location and disability access. In all there were requests for 104 improvements in the bus service from 53 people. Since only 23 people use the service regularly, it may be that the bus company would get more custom from the occasional- and never- users if they were able to make some of the changes requested.



Popular comments:

Bus doesn't stop (11 people made this comment)	A bus shelter that provides visibility
Bus to Barn Road	Unable to cross road to get to the other bus stop
Next stop indicators on buses - impossible to see where you are in the dark	Possible route to Marton (Davenport Arms)

H3. If you use the bus service, where do you travel to?

86% of the bus journeys are to Macclesfield or Congleton, with 8% to Crewe and 6% to Sandbach. Some travellers may change buses at one of these in order to go on to other destinations.

H4. If you cycle, do you encounter problems on the roads in and around Eaton?

71% (91 people) of the respondents said they do not cycle. Of the 34 people who do cycle, 22 people (65%) said that they do experience problems when they cycle around Eaton.

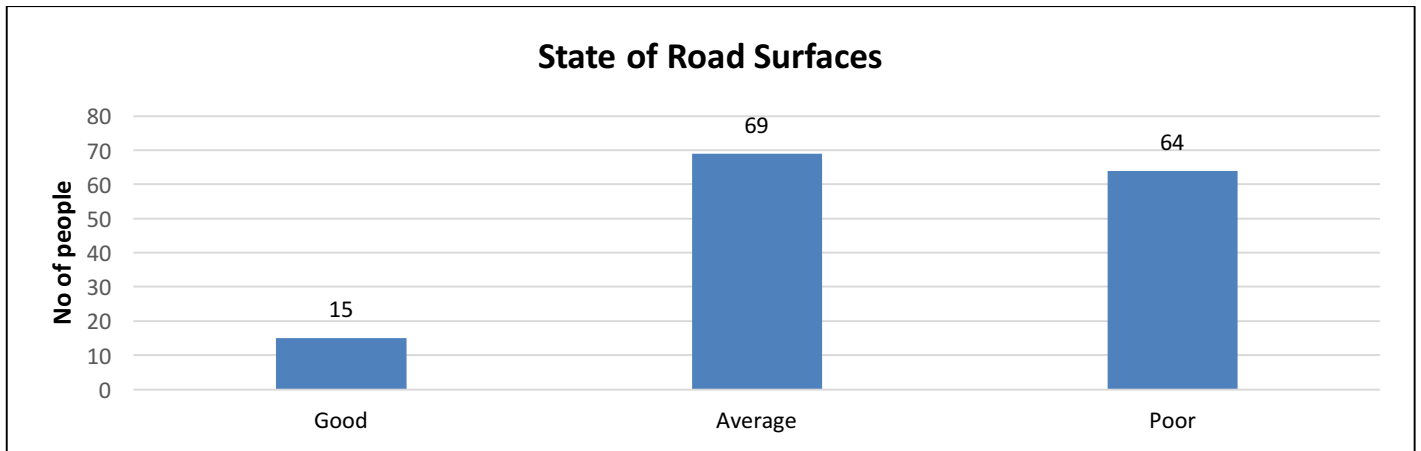
Popular comments:

Potholes	School Lane used as a cut-through - not wide enough
Speed of traffic	Poorly maintained path into Congleton (road too busy too cycle safely)
Roads too busy	Non-residents (Ladera) going too fast round the lanes

Section I: Roads and Highways

This section covers the condition, maintenance and signage of the roads around Eaton.

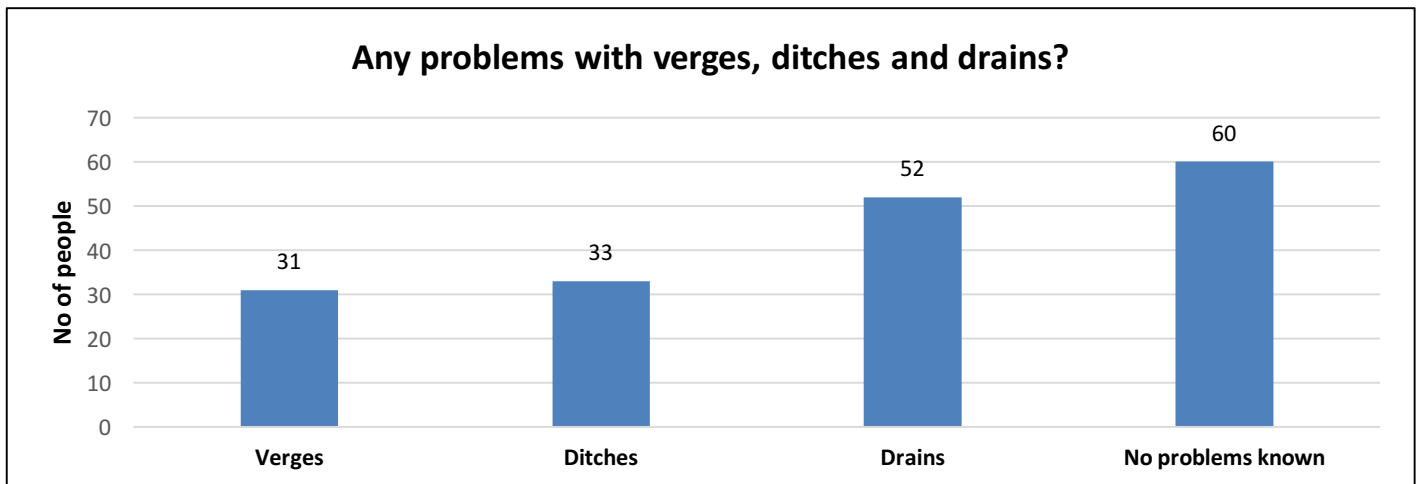
I1: What do you think of the state of the road surfaces?



Popular comments:	
Back Lane is very poor	Maintenance almost non-existent
Crumbling roads and potholes	Noisy road surface

I2: Do you know of any problems with the maintenance of verges, ditches and drains?

Blocked drains were complained about by 4 residents and poor maintenance of the hedges & verges on A536, the verges on School Lane & Back Lane badly being churned up were commented on.



Popular comments:
Ditches and drains round Back Lane are poor
Drains and gullies not emptied often enough
Damage caused by lorries going to Ladera

I3: Are there any problems with the maintenance of public mown grass areas and planted areas in Eaton?

The two main comments made were that grass wasn't collected after mowing and that verges require "t.l.c." but no specific areas were named.

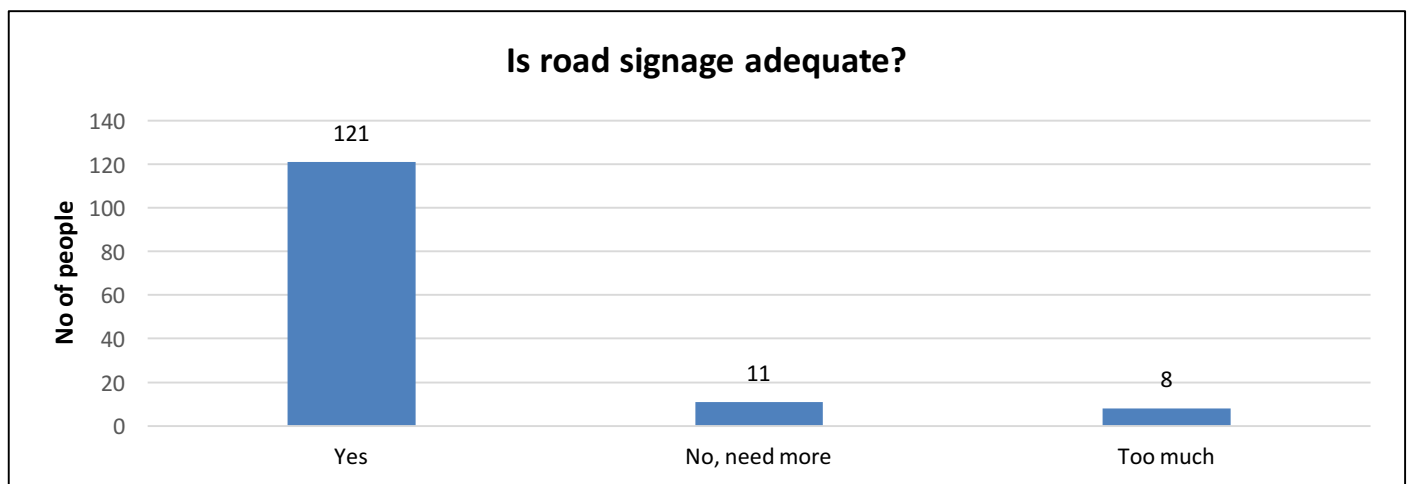
	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	16	11.3%
No	126	88.7%

Popular comments:

- Cuttings not collected up
- Need tidier verges along the A536
- Large trees on green not trimmed
- 6:30am is too early for grass cutting

I4: Is road signage adequate in the parish?

The status quo seems to suit the majority.



Popular comments:

- Dirty roads signs coming into village from Macc
- Main village sign obscured by too many other signs
- 30MPH sign to north of School Lane slipped

I5: What do you think of the standard of winter gritting and snow clearance in the parish?

Some 85% of the respondents were happy with winter gritting and snow clearance in Eaton.

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Good	33	23%
Average	88	62%
Poor	22	15%

I6: Are extra salt bins needed around the roads of Eaton in the winter?

The sites commented on by those who replied yes were various but particularly Crauford Road, School Lane heading away from the village and near to the church:

	<i>Total number</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	53	47.7%
No	58	52.3%

Popular comments:	
School Lane - field end	Near Church
Crauford Road	One on each major road
Top of Beechwood	

I7: Do you have any other comments on Roads and Highways in Eaton?

The main concerns were, understandably, referring to the younger and older residents, especially to the older residents who cannot use the bus due to the speed of the traffic as they dare not cross the A536 to get to the bus stop. The younger residents wear bright clothing in winter because they are scared of the speeding traffic. Also mentioned were the following views that heavy lorries should not use School Lane through the village and that street cleaning is not regular enough.

Popular comments:
Deterioration of Back Lane due to Ladera lorries
Moss Lane in urgent need of resurfacing
Widening/resurfacing of passing places on School Lane
Heavy traffic vibrates the houses
Signs often dirty/algae ridden
Ban heavy lorries on School Lane through the village

Section J: Do you have any other comments on the Eaton Neighbourhood Plan process or content, and should anything else be included in the Eaton plan?

This is a catch-all section to allow residents to raise any issues or ideas which were not brought up in the rest of the questionnaire.

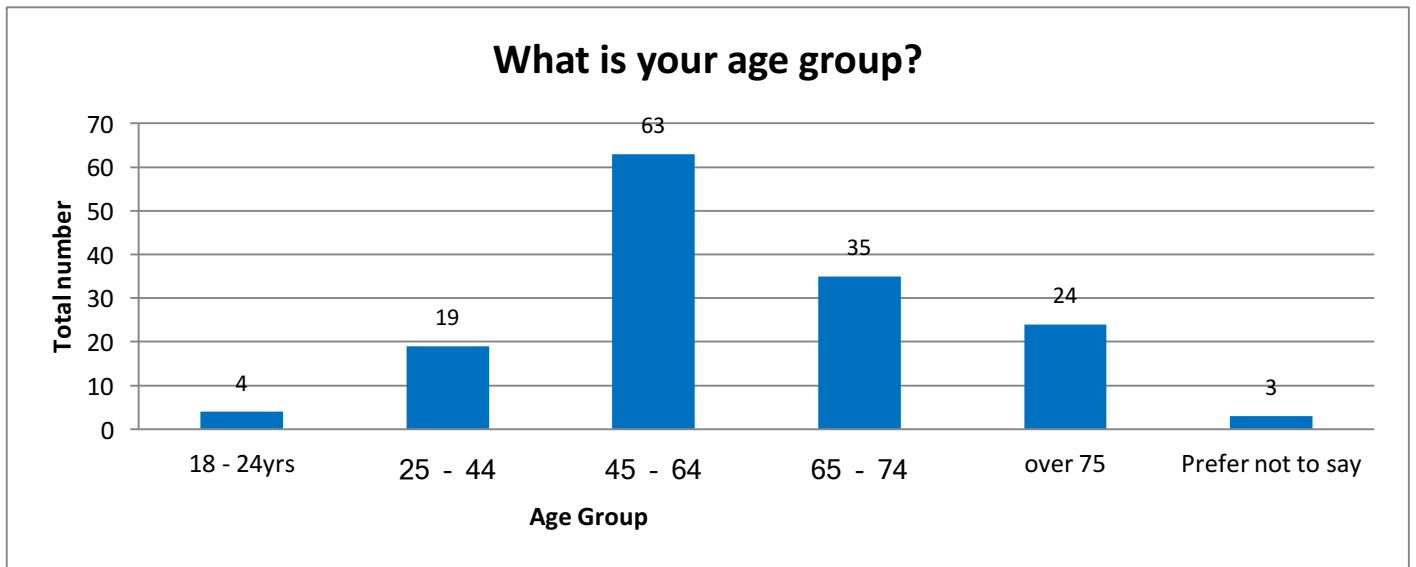
Popular comments:
Excellent plan, please keep me (us) informed...thank you
Eaton does not have the infrastructure to cope with development
Protect remaining green fields. Don't let village merge into Congleton
Prefer fields to be used for solar energy. Executive homes preferable - around quarry
I find that Cheshire East totally disregard any wishes of the residents
Mains sewage would be nice

Section K: Demographics

This section summarises the age-groups of adults and children, length of residence and occupation types and occupation locations of the residents who answered the questionnaire.

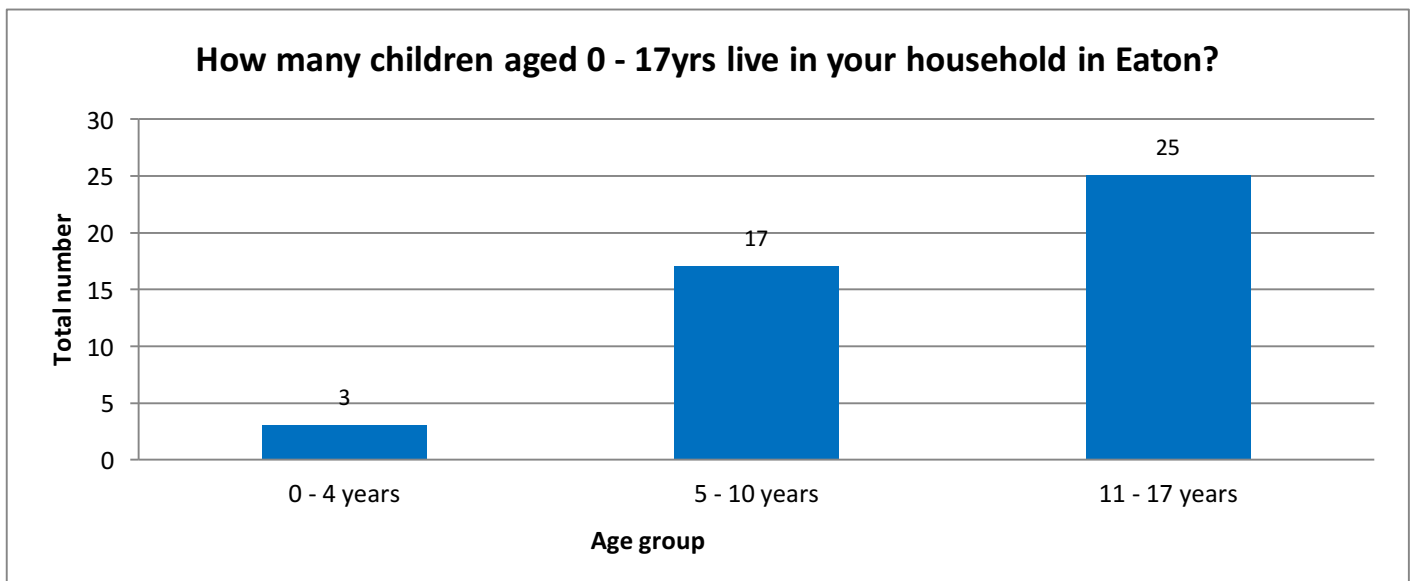
K1. What is your age group?

Most residents who completed the questionnaire completed this question. Nearly half are between the ages of 45-64 and nearly 40% are aged 65 and over.



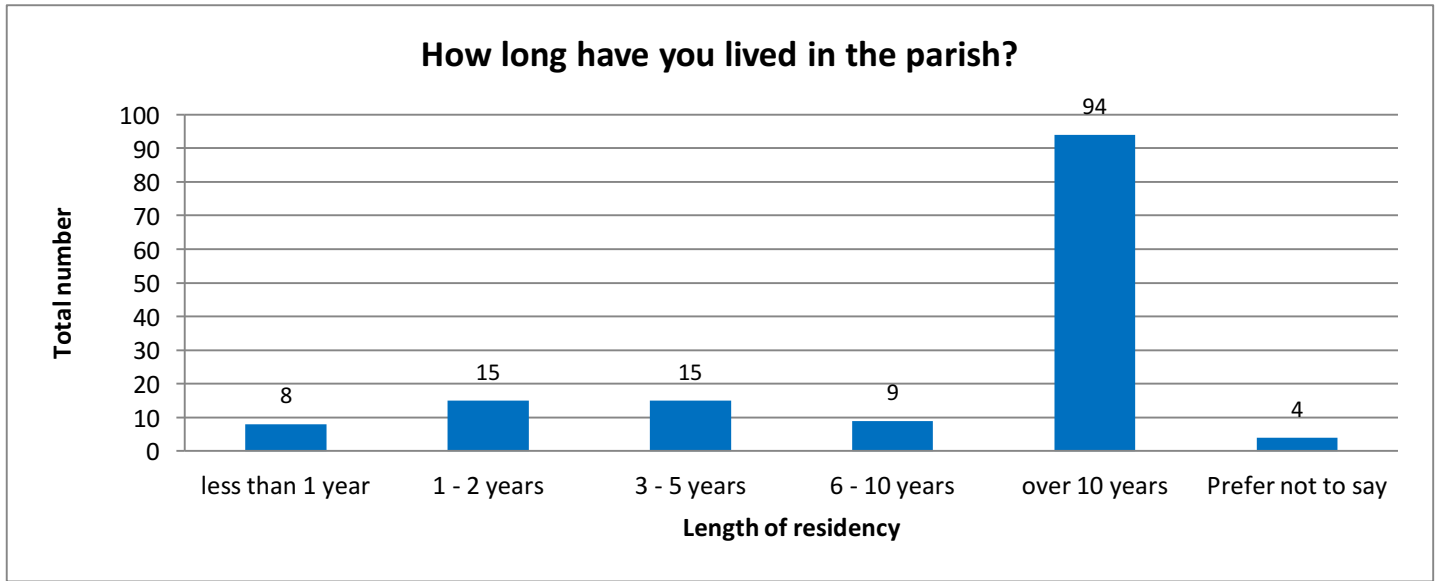
K2. How many children aged 0 - 17yrs live in your household in Eaton?

There are 45 children under the age of 18 within the Plan area, with 55% of these being 12 and over. These numbers seem higher than we thought, so there may have been duplication of answers



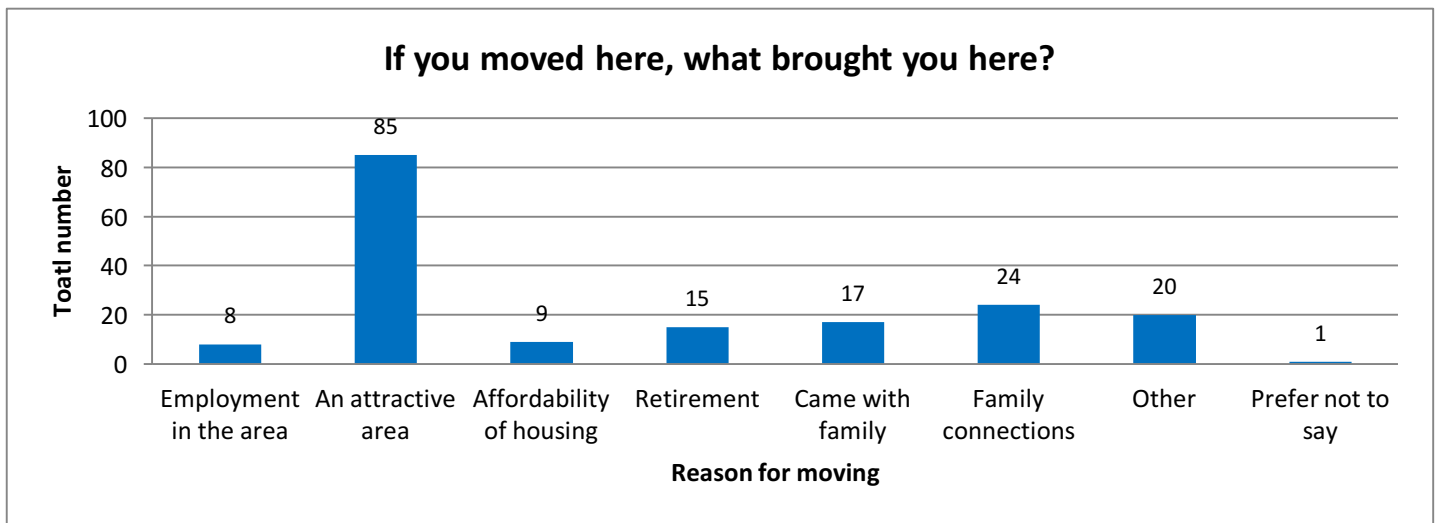
K3. How long have you lived in the parish?

Most residents who completed the questionnaire completed this question. Nearly two-thirds have been in the Parish for over 10 years. This shows a well-established population.



K4. If you moved here, what brought you here?

The majority of the residents chose Eaton for its attractiveness and also because of family connections.



K5. Is your dwelling in the parish your main residence?

Most residents who completed the questionnaire completed this question. Some 98% of the respondents have their dwelling as their main residence.

	Total number	%
Yes	144	98.0%
No	2	1.4%
Prefer not to say	1	0.7%

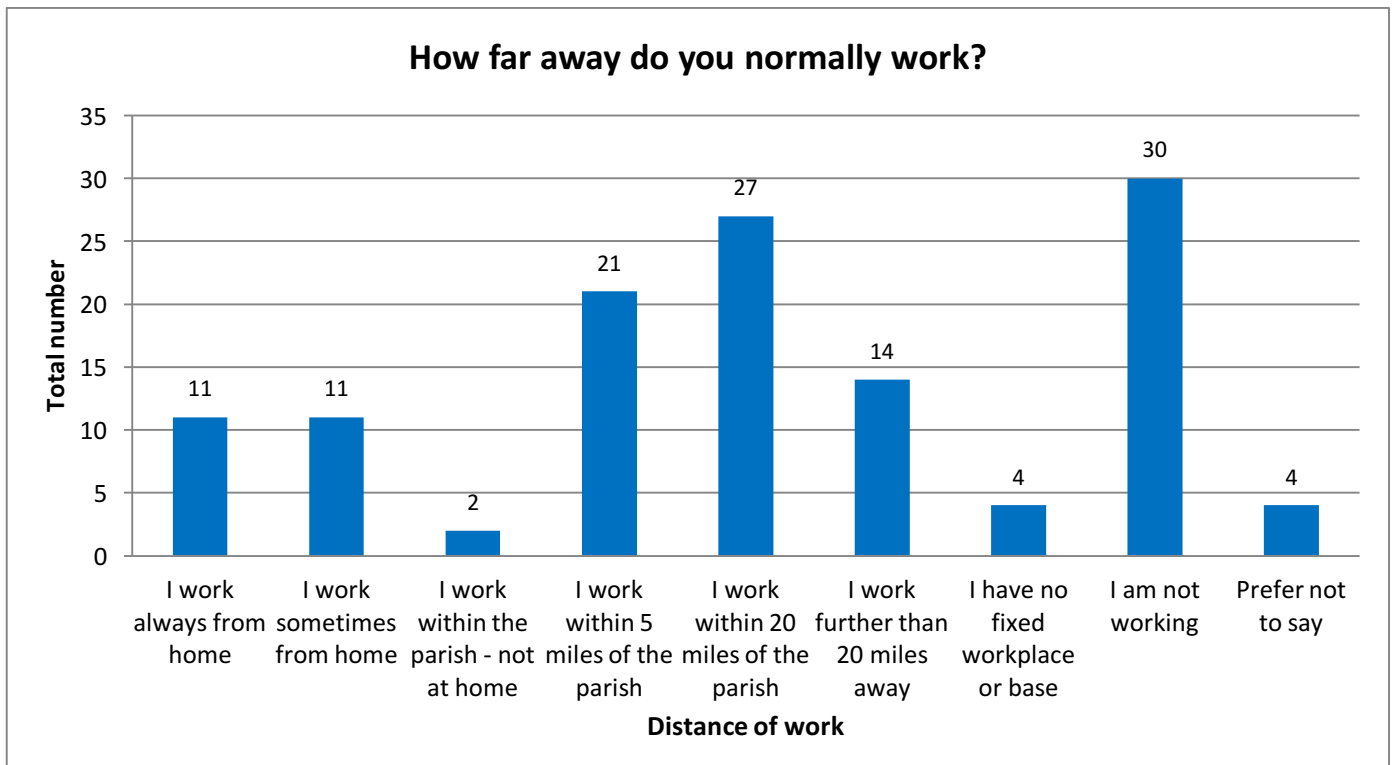
K6: What is your employment status?

Most residents who completed the questionnaire completed this question. Some 40% of the respondents are retired, with 27% in full-time employment and a further 16% self-employed.

	Total number	%
Retired	63	40.4%
Employed full time (30+ hours per week)	43	27.6%
Self employed	25	16.0%
Employed part time	13	8.3%
Unpaid volunteer	6	3.8%
Prefer not to say	3	1.9%
Unwaged homemaker	2	1.3%
Full or part-time student	1	0.6%
Unemployed	0	0.0%

K7. How far away do you normally work?

Most residents who completed the questionnaire completed this question. The vast majority of the residents that work do so within 5-20 miles of Eaton.



Thanks and please keep in touch

We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to the development of the Plan so far; if you feel like you would like to join the team please email us at plan.eaton@gmail.com

For copies of this report and the latest news on the Plan please visit our newly revamped website www.eatoncheshire.co.uk

Please continue to be involved in the Neighbourhood Plan and help us to shape the future of your village.