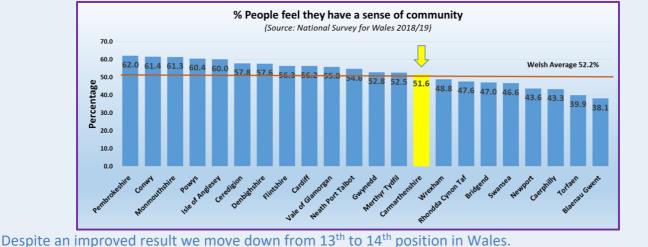


Sense of Community survey results have increased in Carmarthenshire *from 47.7% to 51.6%*

The **'Sense of Community'** is derived from three questions; *People feel they belong to their local area; People in the area from different backgrounds get on and People in the area treat each other with respect'.*



Why it is important

- Social isolation puts individuals at greater risk of cognitive decline with one study concluding that lonely people have a 64% increased chance of developing clinical dementia
- Loneliness amongst young people has been shown to increase the likelihood of poor physical & mental health, the risk of becoming involved in criminal activity and reduce future employment opportunities
- Social networks and friendships not only have an impact on reducing the risk of early death and illnes, but they also help individuals to recover when they do fall ill.

Success Measure

76.1% People who feel safe 7th Highest in Wales Source: National Survey for Wales



Explaining the Results

- The number of <u>National Survey for Wales</u>, participants **feeling safe** has reduced from **78.7%** to **76.1%** but remains 7th place. This result was derived from four questions; people feeling safe at home, walking in the local area, and when travelling in the dark which will be available in due course.
- According to the 2018/19 <u>National Survey for Wales</u>, **51.6%** of participants felt they had a 'Sense of Community', this is an improvement on previous year of 47.7%. This result was derived from three questions; People feel they belong to their local area; People in the area from different backgrounds get on and People in the area treat each other with respect'. The breakdown for each of these questions at Local Authority level have not been published as yet. Despite an improved result, we have moved from 13th to 14th position in Wales.



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Progress Made

- We have continued to develop and improve how Children's Services provide information, advice and assistance (IAA) to support families, such as the new <u>Family Information Service (FIS</u>) website and the Dewis Directory of services which continues to be promoted.
- We have supported the Community Cohesion National Delivery Plans principles:-
 - Supported Llanelli Tenants Network with organising a multi-cultural event
 - Supported migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and settled communities in the integration process
 - Supporting communities in preventing hostility and extremism
- Safeguarding arrangements in Carmarthenshire have been further developed to ensure meaningful conversations with adults at risk take place at the earliest opportunity and continue until the appropriate outcomes have been achieved.
- In support of the Police Force's Rural Crime Strategy, a new Rural Crime Board was established. which encouraged improved information sharing and awareness between rural communities and partners
- A new initiative "Ask for Angela" was launched in partnership with the Police and licensing department, which allows customers in licensed premises, who could be feeling threatened or unsafe on a date, to get help by approaching the bar and "Asking for Angela."
- We continue to fund our proactive Financial Exploitation Safeguarding Scheme (FESS) projects through proceeds of crime (POCA) confiscations resulting from their enforcement activity. This money has funded new No Cold Calling Zones, the installation of True Call units to vulnerable consumers and the launch of the Buy With Confidence Approved Trader scheme, ensuring the public feel safer in their homes and communities



The Financial Exploitation Safeguarding Scheme (FESS) project helps to refund some of the losses incurred by consumers



Executive Board Member For Community Safety **Cllr Cefin Campbell**



View our **detailed progress here** against this objective



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