

Lorraine
Beavers








MP Blackpool North & Fleetwood

PRIDE IN
FLEETWOOD

Consultation Results



How many people responded?

-  315 survey responses
-  664 social media comments
-  92 consultation sheets
-  42 suggestions slips
-  30 emails

★ **Total = 1,143** ★

We also visited local schools & colleges, and ran focus groups with young people to ensure their voices were heard too!

Fleetwood, you are amazing!
When I fought for this funding, I told everybody that our town was bursting with talent, ideas, compassion & pride. You proved that it was all true.

You voiced the needs & hopes of our community with passion while recognising the challenges we face. Your focus throughout was on building a better Fleetwood for residents & how this could support the local economy by encouraging visitors & investment.

Your suggestions prioritised building on existing **Community Assets**, developing **Tourism & Commercial** opportunities & improving the **Industry & Connectivity** of Fleetwood.

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Lorraine Beavers MP
Blackpool North & Fleetwood

PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU - BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

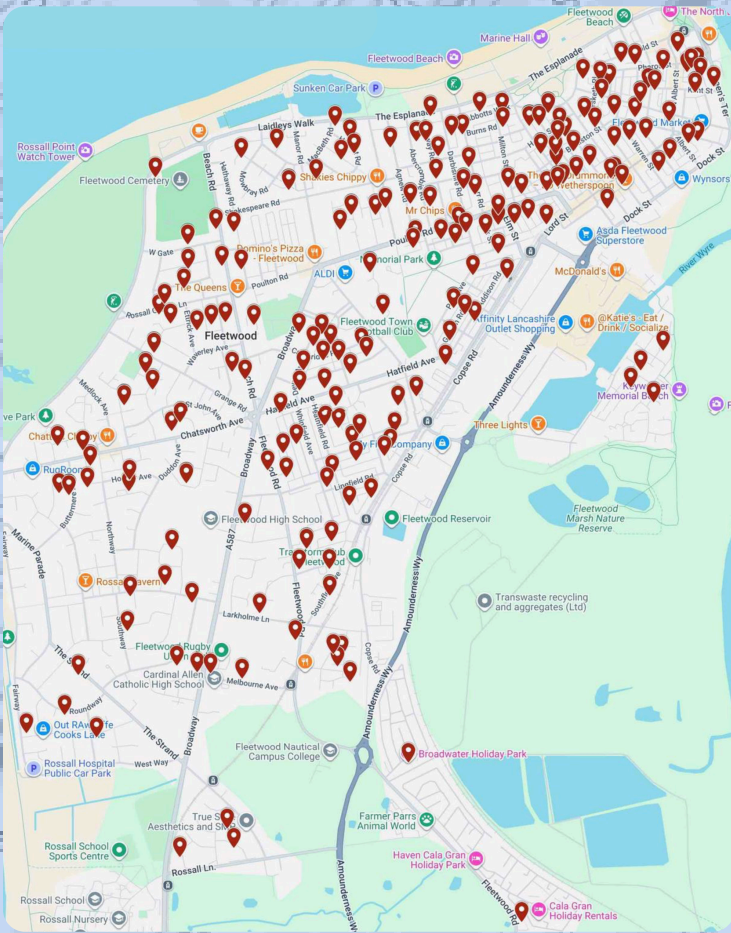


Who responded?

From surveys & consultation sheets we collected 368 postcodes & 388 ages.

From the postcode data, we can see that the majority of respondents live in, or near Fleetwood. Respondents from across Lancashire & beyond also brought the voices of tourists, & those who have moved away.

Of the 388 ages we collected, 55% were under the age of 55, with our youngest respondent aged just 7 years old!



Under 18 years = 16
18 to 25 years = 14
26 to 35 years = 41
36 to 45 years = 75
46 to 55 years = 66
56 to 65 years = 91
66 years & over = 85

Community Assets



SEND Support

Improving support for people with SEND was widely called for. Respondents felt that the lack of activities & support for children & adults with additional needs in the community increased isolation & harmed wellbeing. Many also believed improving local provision & facilities would encourage visitors to Fleetwood & boost the local economy. Suggestions included:

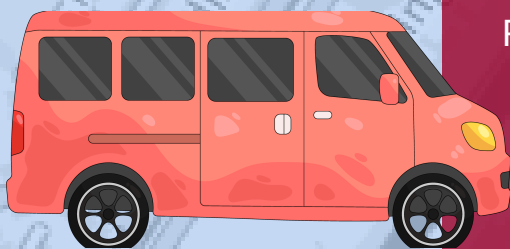
- SEND School.
- SEND services – e.g., holiday clubs/extra curricular activities with visitors/tourists able to pay for access.
- Accessible play facilities (indoor & outdoor).
- Improved socialisation spaces/support groups for families – particularly low-income, isolated, and home-schooling families (indoor & outdoor).

Education

Responses from all ages highlighted the barriers to education faced by people in Fleetwood & the negative impacts this has on the community.

Suggestions included:

- New campus offering practical courses.
- Community education hub with facilities.
- Community skill sharing to upskill residents & allow people to explore career choices.
- Community minibus for educational visits, allowing young people & adults to gain a practical understanding of different industries & settings.
- Community work experience support e.g., incentives for local companies/organisations





Community Assets



Community Hub

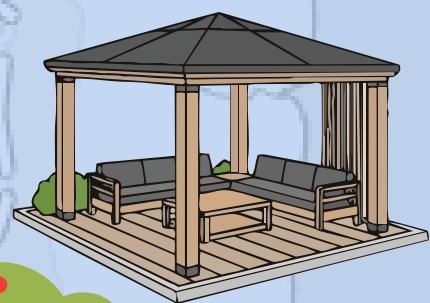
Improving support for everybody in the community was spoken of as a priority. Some proposed repurposing disused building/s into a community social space. Others felt that supporting existing organisations/hubs should be the priority. Suggestions included:

- Re-purposing existing buildings e.g., hub/homeless shelter/rehab facility.
- Multi-use, accessible hub with space for groups/classes.
- Arts/music facilities & exhibition/performance space.
- Multi-purpose youth hub with games/snooker/sport facilities.
- Providing ongoing funding/facilities/equipment to established organisations.

Green Spaces

It was widely agreed that more green spaces & trees would improve wellbeing, accessibility & socialisation in people of all ages. Respondents also felt this would make Fleetwood more attractive and help attract visitors. Suggestions included:

- Secure dog park.
- Community orchard.
- Green "corridors" between local areas.
- More flowers & trees, including on verges/in planters.
- Community planting schemes.
- Improved maintenance of Memorial Park.
- Improved shelter & seating.



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Tourism & Commerce

Family Entertainment Venues

Respondents discussed the lack of family venues in Fleetwood, how this drives spending outside-of-area, isolates those who struggle to travel, & reduces visitor numbers. Suggestions included:

- Soft-play or similar for young families.
- Activities for older children e.g., trampoline parks, climbing centres, or bowling.
- Large leisure facilities to draw in visitors & support locals.
- Music venues and/or event spaces which could also be used by local music/dance/drama groups.
- Maximising the potential of Marine Hall including a public cafe/bar.

Leisure Amenities

Visitors & residents felt access to simple amenities would be a low-cost way to increase tourism while benefitting the community.

- Motorhome park with charging points & facilities.
- Public showers for visitors to the beach.
- Air pumps for paddleboards.
- Water fountains.
- Storage lockers.



Pier site & Prom

Respondents felt improving the promenade & revitalising the pier site would increase tourism & benefit residents.

- Pier site & promenade to be tidied & made accessible.
- Pier site development e.g., board walk/jetty, entertainment complex.
- Increased retail opportunities e.g., ice cream/coffee stalls on promenade to serve visitors.

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Tourism & Commerce

Lord Street & Beyond

Respondents reported a lack of diversity in local shopping opportunities, poor accessibility, & a need to improve appearance. Suggestions included:

- Bringing a more uniform appearance to shop fronts & a Victorian-style canopy to improve access in bad weather.
- Improving accessibility by repairing surfaces & pedestrianisation (with the exception of trams).
- Highlighting existing architecture & heritage.
- Increased diversity of shops & supporting independent businesses.
- Maximising the potential of the existing market by increasing offerings, opening hours & facilities.

New Business

Supporting new businesses was widely suggested, with many discussing how to help local young people establish new businesses.

- Reduced rent schemes.
- Community competitions for start-up investment.
- Support packages for young people.
- Increased availability of small spaces/pop-up shops.
- Focus on increasing diversity of shops/venues.

Affinity

Improving Affinity is outside of the scope of this project but the suggestions reflect community needs & include.

- Improved transport connections to town centre.
- Introduction of family venues e.g., soft play, trampoline park, bowling.
- Increased diversity of shops & venues.
- Regular themed events e.g., Christmas markets



Industry & Connectivity

Industry

Respondents spoke about the decline of industry over past decades & how this decline has impacted the community, local economy, & employment opportunities. There were calls to revitalise existing industries & to maximise opportunities such as the port including:

- Revitalising & repurposing the port.
- Investing in maritime & fishing infrastructure.
- Encouraging investment from manufacturing/engineering companies.
- Attracting industry related to defence e.g., manufacturing.
- Training campuses linked to specific industries/skills to build community skill-base & attract employers.

Connectivity

Respondents felt poor connectivity negatively impacted industry, employment, & education. It was widely agreed that supporting connectivity was vital to Fleetwood's future. Suggestions included:

- Re-opening the railway with capacity for passengers & light freight.
- Re-opening the port/docks for passenger/leisure use & industry use e.g., off-shore energy infrastructure & maintenance, & fishing.
- Ensuring the future of the ferry & building on this existing service.
- Improving road links to the motorway.
- Foot and/or road bridge to Knott End.



Young People

To ensure that we listened to local young people (under 21), focus groups & visits were carried out at local schools & colleges. Local organisations also provided feedback from young people engaged in youth clubs & support services and consultation forms asked for the respondents age too.

Overall, young people reported a lack of suitable indoor & outdoor facilities. They felt that there was little space available for socialising with friends safely & that existing services needed improved signposting.

Young people also spoke frequently about a lack of employment opportunities & hoped that new employers could be encouraged. They also hoped for more opportunities to visit different employers/industries to gain experience & help them make career choices.

Youth Spaces

Whether indoor or outdoor, young people asked for safe spaces in which to socialise. They felt there were few options open to them & that this impacted their families too. Their suggestions included:

- Improved outdoor seating & shelter.
- Hub with themed areas e.g., quiet, gaming, film etc.
- Leisure activities e.g., air hockey, pool, badminton, table tennis.
- Educational facilities e.g., equipped kitchen/art studio for courses to gain skills in different areas.
- Improved leisure amenities e.g., water fountains & beach lockers.

