

Upper Kent LAP Report (from meeting July 2014)

Key points of interest from the meeting included:

1. Upper Kent LAP Profile (based on the 2011 census)

In summary this showed:

- In 2011, the population of Upper Kent LAP was 4,117, the smallest in South Lakes at just 3.4% of the district's population. However, this was an increase of 6.4% since 2001.
- Data showed that 20-24 year olds recorded the largest decrease of 53.9% between 2001 and 2011. The age range which saw the largest increase was 75- 84 year olds, 52.5% over the ten year period.
- Kentmere parish has the largest proportion of second and holiday homes in the LAP (11.8% and 3.9% respectively).
- The average house price in the LAP is £320,982, while the average household income is £36,943.
- Almost one in three households (30.4%) are considered to be in fuel poverty, where a household spends more than 10% of its income on fuel to maintain an adequate heating regime. Overall, South Lakeland's proportion at 23.2% is the second highest of the eight district LAPs. Whinfell ward has the highest proportion of households in fuel poverty.
- In comparison with South Lakeland, there is a lower proportion of full-time employees in the LAP but it has the highest proportion of self-employed residents of all eight LAPs.

2. Quality of Life Survey 2014

4482 residents received surveys; 1686 responded (38%)

A salutary thought for all parishes:

- The results suggested that a high number (68%) of respondents believed that they cannot influence decisions affecting the local area.

3. LAP Priorities

2014-15 priorities were agreed as:

- Communication (between Parishes and community, LAP and Parishes and local authorities)
- Highways
- Broadband/ mobile reception
- Housing/ CIL/ Neighbourhood Plans (LDNP, SLDC, CCC) – including permitted development for barns
- Young people provision/ representation
- Environment
- Emergency plans (Formalising arrangements in a simple listing)