

### Key findings

This report provides a summary of the key findings from the ninth Hampshire Perspectives survey “Facing the Future”, which aimed to consider where further information, advice or support may be required to help Hampshire residents recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Between 11 and 23 May 2021 almost 722 residents shared their perspective in two areas - people’s confidence in the future now lockdown measures have started to ease, and the roll out of rapid flow coronavirus testing in England.

Overall, the survey showed that:

- comparisons to the first Hampshire Perspectives survey in September show decreasing levels of concern about the pandemic and increasing confidence that life can soon return to some form of normality.
- however, respondents remain wary of people not following government guidance, and the effects on the national and local economy.
- as restrictions ease, there is confidence in using outdoor hospitality, shops and public services, but continuing nervousness about public transport and leisure facilities in particular. This seems to stem primarily from concerns that the virus is not yet in abeyance and the vaccine rollout is incomplete. As such, many would prefer the ‘hands’ ‘face’ space’ ‘air’ guidance to be retained.
- the survey also asked about rapid flow testing. Around half of respondents had not yet taken a rapid flow test. There are several reasons for this, mostly relating to a perceived lack of risk – notably that people felt they didn’t need to if they’d been vaccinated or didn’t have symptoms. However, those who were not intending to get a test also noted perceptions of poor reliability.

The survey findings have been shared directly with the County Council’s Public Health, public transport and economy teams, as well as with the Covid Recovery Group and Elected Members.

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*Formed in September 2020, Hampshire Perspectives is the County Council’s online residents’ forum – a diverse group of people who share their views to help the County Council to shape services and make decisions that are right for local residents. As yet, the forum is not fully representative of the Hampshire population, so findings are indicative, rather than generalisable to the county as a whole. For further information contact [insight@hants.gov.uk](mailto:insight@hants.gov.uk)*