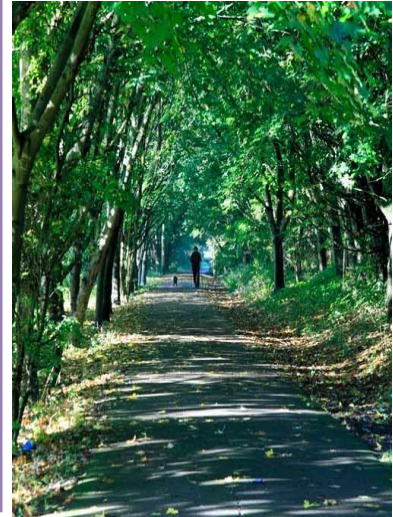


Radstock Town Centre Regeneration Action Plan

Engagement Report
October 2022



Bath & North East
Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

Radstock Town Centre Regeneration Action Plan

Report of Public consultation & engagement 7th – 15th October 2022

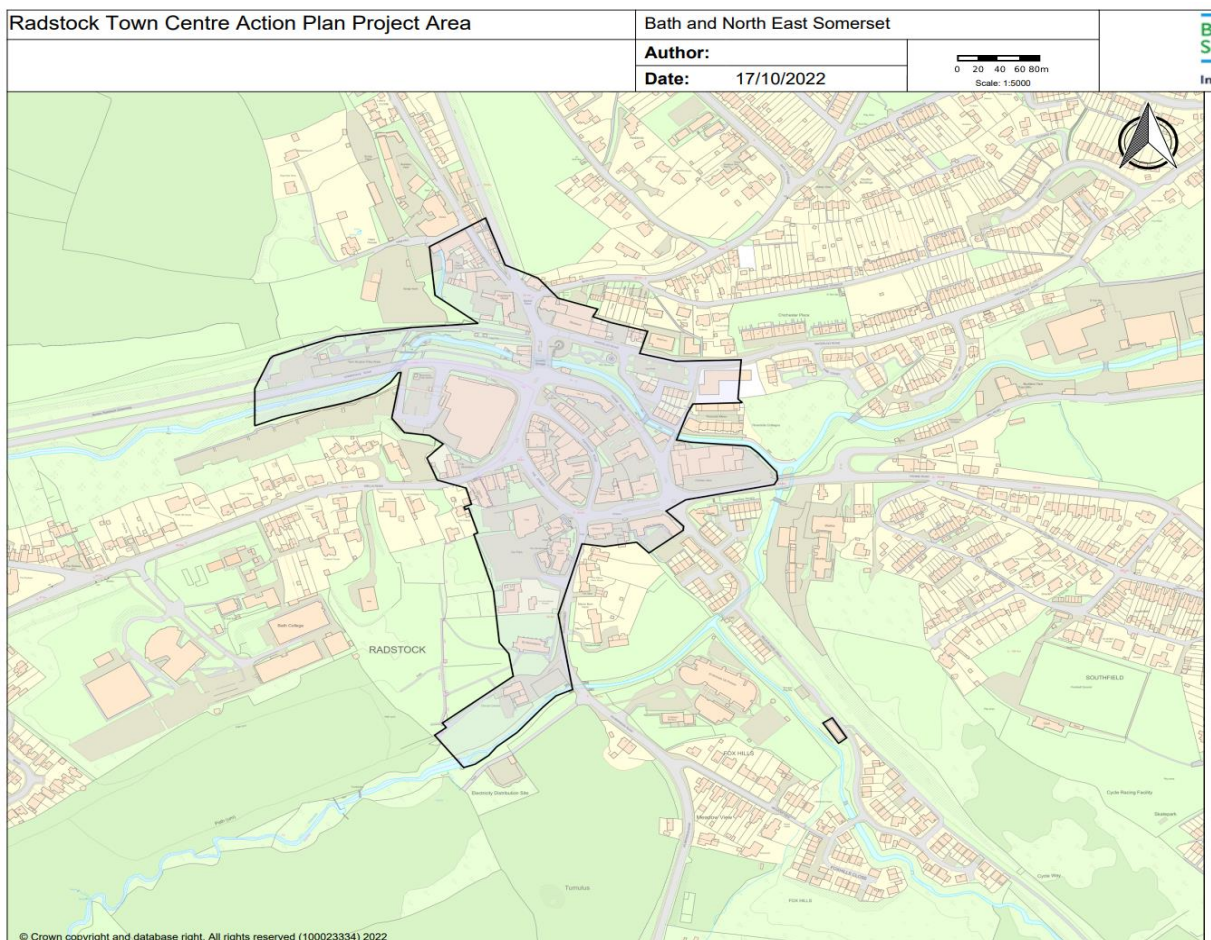
1. Introduction

Bath and North East Somerset Council has been successful in obtaining funding from the West of England Combined Authority Housing Regeneration Enabling Fund to prepare a regeneration action plan for Radstock Town Centre, working in partnership Radstock Town Council, landowners and stakeholders. This will facilitate delivery and access funding to support the infrastructure needs arising in communities including in response to strategic growth.

Radstock Town Centre Regeneration Action Plan developed by March/April 2023 and will identify opportunities, agree priority projects & access project funding. The Action Plan will be guided by the existing Local Plan and feed into the new Local Plan.

Housing and employment growth planned for the town and surrounding area means more reliance on the town centre facilities. The focus in Radstock will be on improvements to the vitality and viability of the Town Centre.

Project scoping took place early part of 2022 in partnership with Radstock Town Council, B&NES officers & members & informed engagement.



2. Consultation Engagement Sessions

Drop-in public engagement events were held in Radstock. The times and venues were as follows:

- 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm, Wednesday 7th September 2022, The Library, Radstock (for businesses)
- 10am – 1pm, Saturday 1st October 2022, The Library, Radstock
- 10am – 1pm, Tuesday 4th October 2022, Outside the Library, The Street

Due to the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the events planned for the 10th & 13th September were postponed until 1st & 4th October.

The Radstock Town Centre Area Action Plan online engagement was open between the 5th of September and the 14th of October 2022. Details of the engagement were published on the B&NES and Radstock Town Council websites (**Appendix 1**)

The public were informed about the engagement events through articles published by the media, posters, B&NES & Radstock Town Council social media channels, email and through local radio (Capitol).

Posters detailing the consultation were displayed in locations in the town centre and included the time, date and location of the drop-in engagement events. Details about the events were also published on the B&NES & Town Council websites, B&NES & Town Council social media channels, B&NES press release and shared through word-of-mouth. The press release was circulated to the Journal, Guardian, Nub News & Somer Valley FM (**Appendix 1**).

3. Pre-Consultation

The scoping document has been developed over the past year through a process of baseline evidence gathering and engagement with B&NES officers & members which looks at the types of project areas that could be tested through the Action Plan (**Appendix 2**).

Councillors and the Combined Authority were briefed verbally on the scoping document progress and involved in the press release that went out to publicise the engagement events.

This scoping document is the focus for this public engagement, the results of which will inform the development of the Radstock Town Centre Regeneration Strategy and Delivery Plan. This will be developed by March 2023.

4. Consultation Responses Assessment

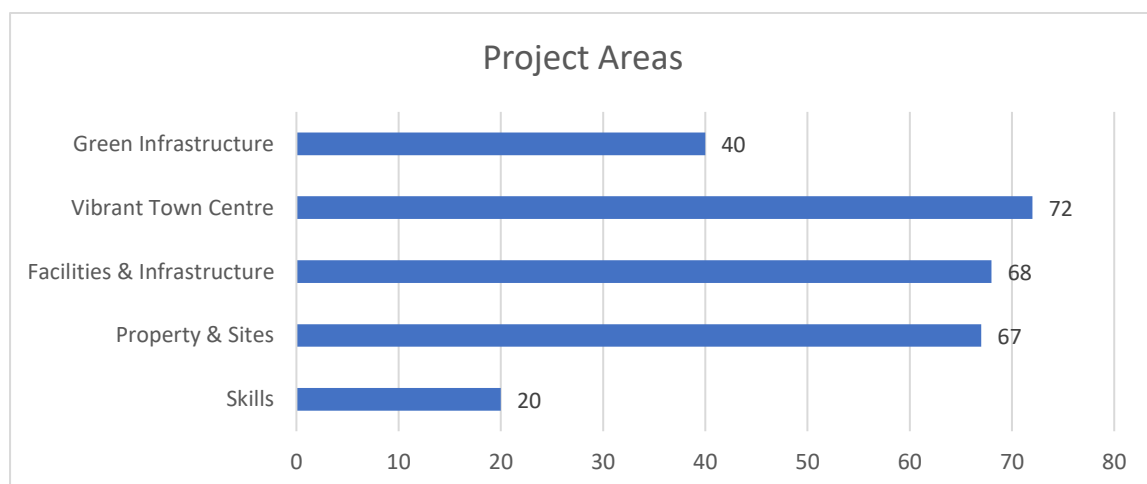
Approximately 100 responses came from attendees at the engagement events in September and October 2022. 63 responses were made via the online survey on the Town Council website.

Engagement Events

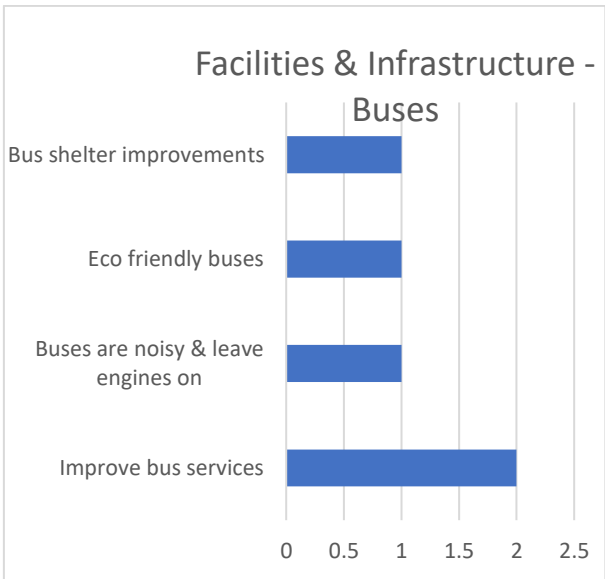
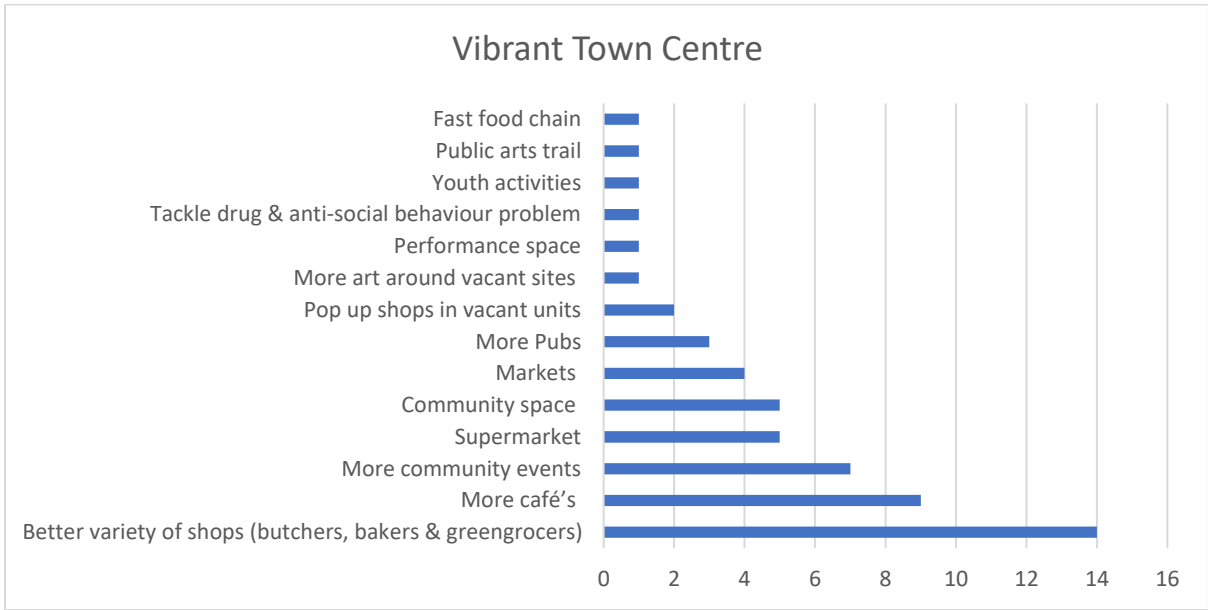
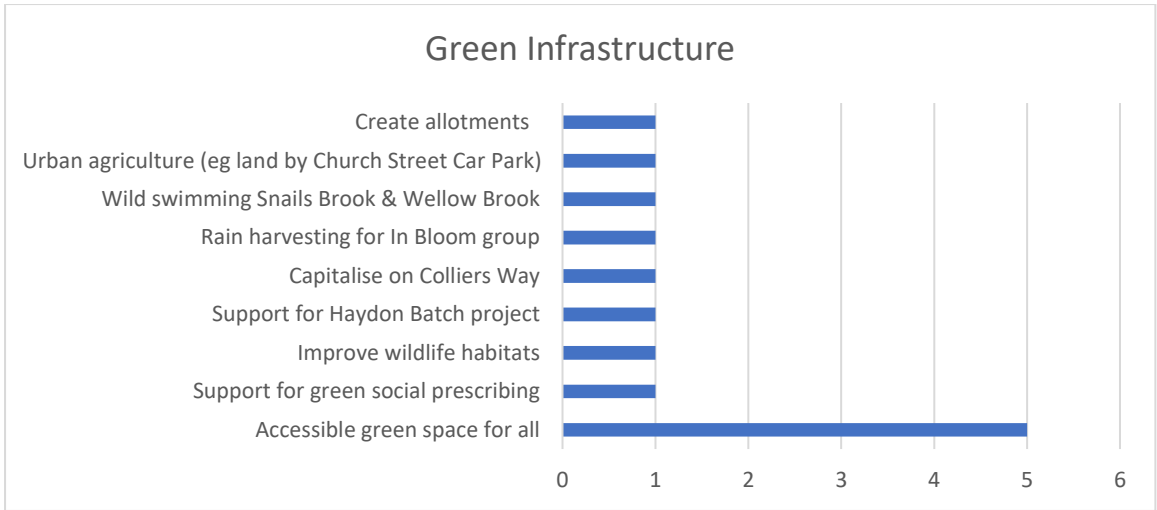
Display boards (**Appendix 3**) at the engagement events and the online survey invited stakeholders to provide feedback on project ideas, what might bring more people to Radstock, what uses and improvements would they like to see on vacant sites and if there were any other improvements they'd like to see in the project area.

Responses from the engagement events, comments put on the boards in the library and feedback from the online survey are shown in the following tables. Some people added more than one comment. People were asked to choose the 3 project areas that they supported.

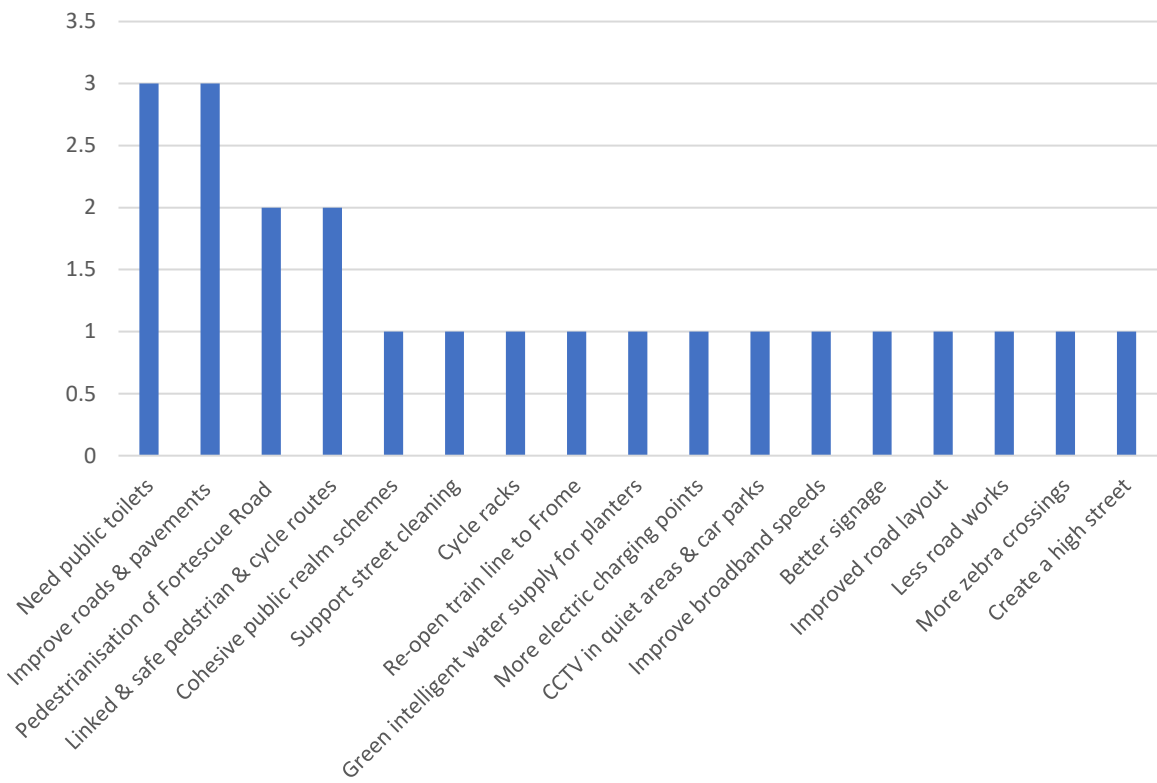
The following table shows the support for each of the five project areas:



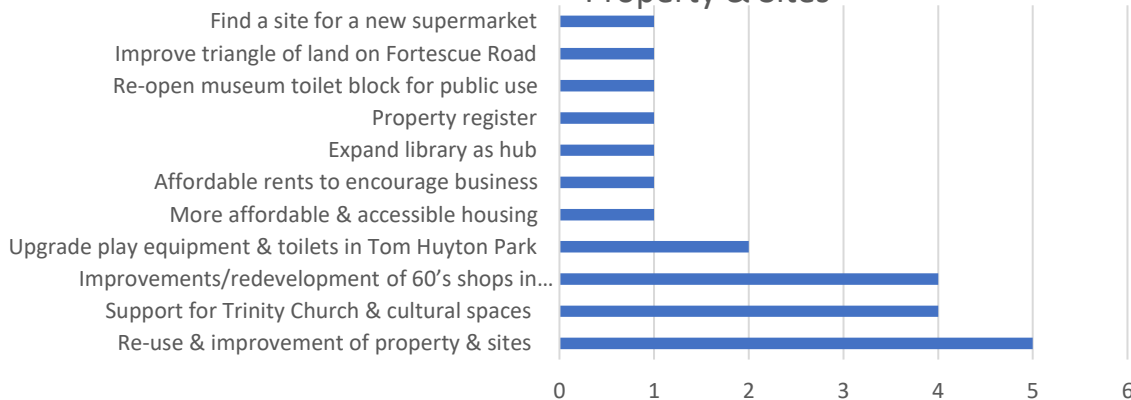
Comments & project ideas received for each of the project areas are shown in the following tables:

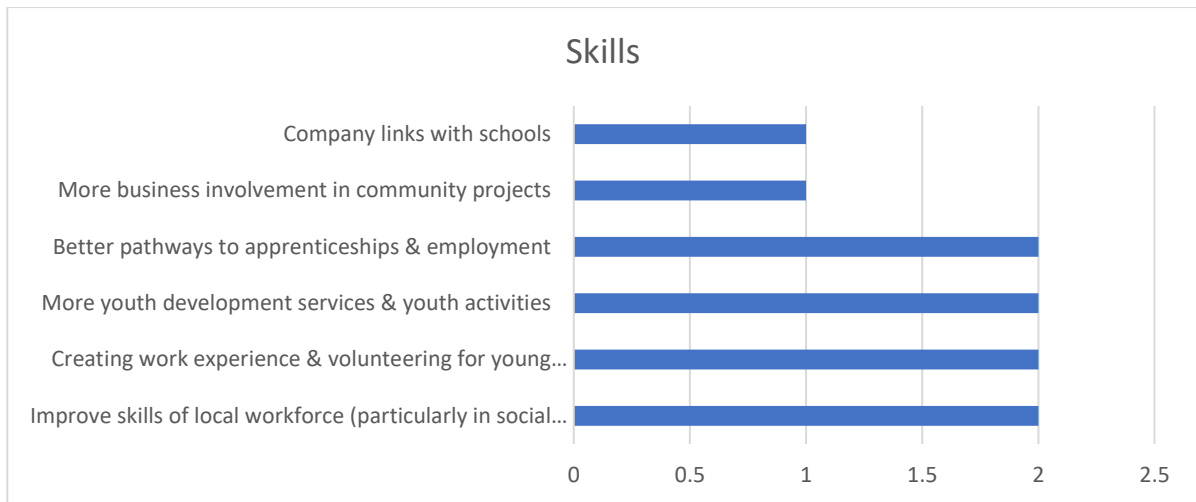


Facilities & Infrastructure - Other



Property & Sites

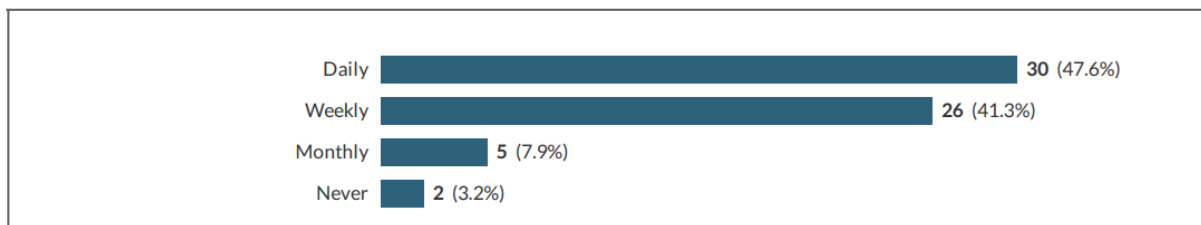




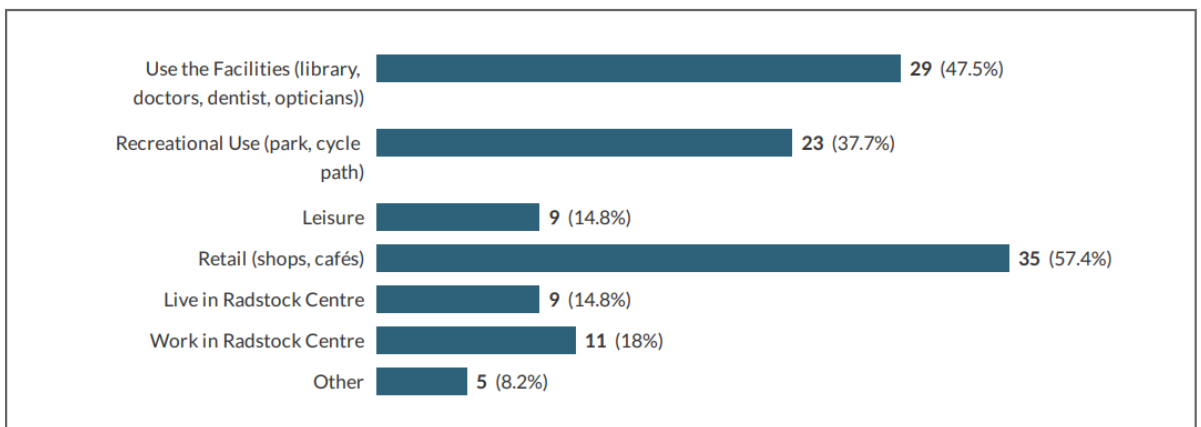
Online Survey

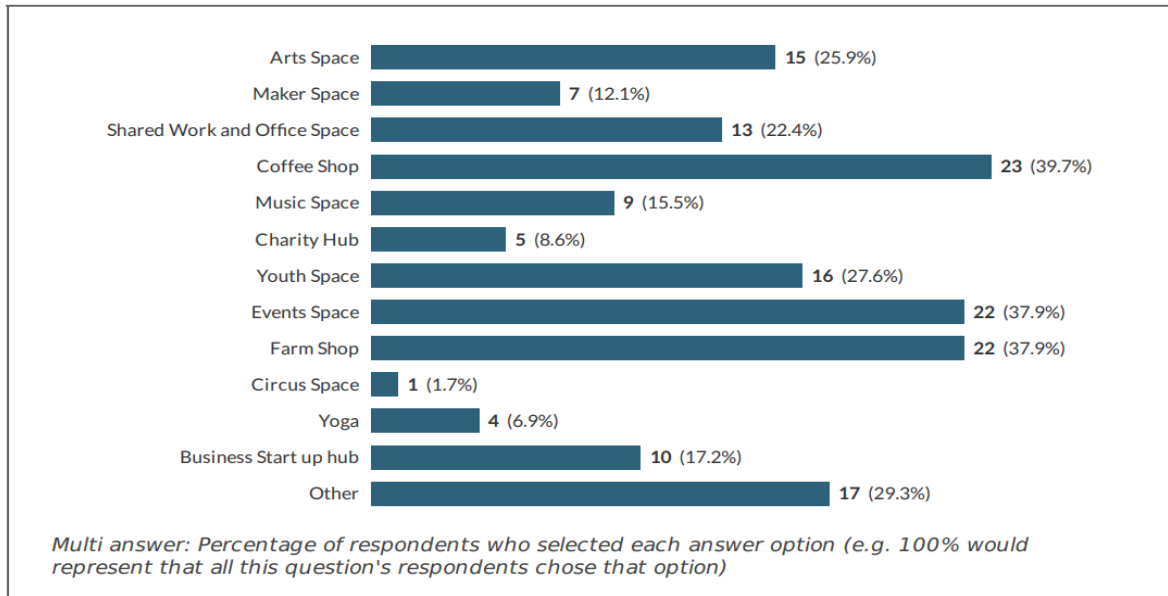
An online survey was available on Radstock Town Council website from the 5th September until 15th October 2022. This asked the same questions as on the engagement boards with an addition by the town Council on where people travelled from to visit the town centre and what the purposes of their visit was. There was also a question specifically focused on cultural events. There were 63 responses and the feedback is included in the tables above. The following tables show responses to the additional questions:

How often do you visit Radstock's Town Centre?



Why do you visit Radstock's Town Centre?





People taking part in the engagement wanted to see more accessible green space in the town, a better variety of shops, cafes & pubs, more community events & event space, a review of car parking, improvements to bus services and infrastructure, accessible public toilets, improvements to roads, pavements & the 1960's row of shops in Fortescue Road, re-use & redevelopment of vacant sites and improvement of skills in the workforce.

5. Next Steps

The projects ideas will be considered and included in the Radstock Town Centre Regeneration Action Plan where feasible. The Action Plan will be developed by the end of 2022 and further consultation will take place in early 2023. The Regeneration Team will then identify funding and partners to facilitate the delivery of priority projects.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Press & Advertising

Appendix 2 – Radstock Town Centre Regeneration Action Plan Scoping

Appendix 3 – Display Boards