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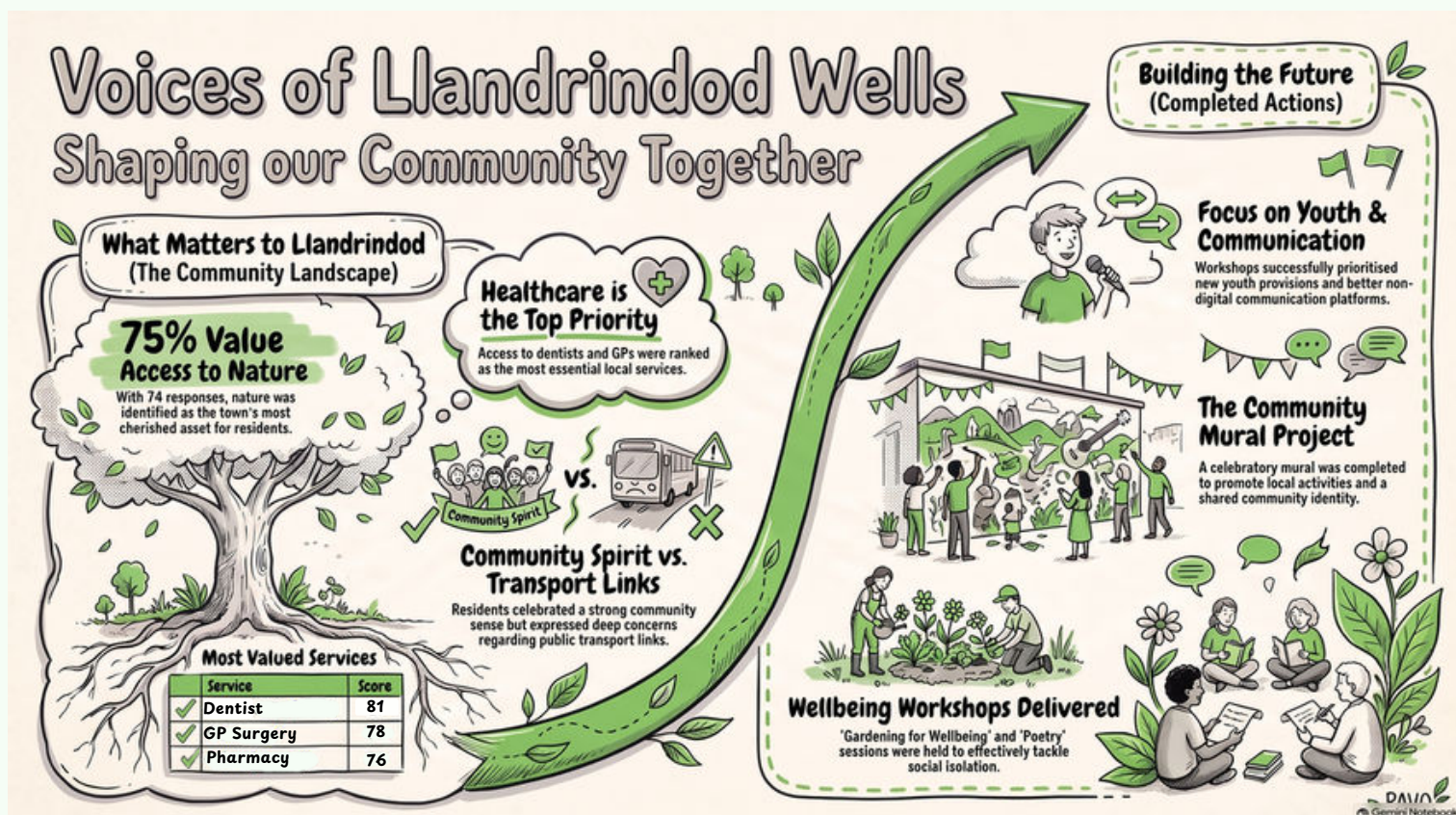
Powys

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**Community
Conversations**

LLANDRINDOD WELLS AREA



What matters most to people in Llandrindod Wells?

Llandrindod Wells and surrounding areas are places with strong community spirit, valued green spaces and a wide range of people and organisations working to make a difference.

People value the town's natural surroundings, local events and activities, and the places where people can meet and connect. However, there are also real concerns about the future. People spoke about access to health services, transport, activities for young people, the rising cost of living and the loss of local shops and community spaces.

This report brings together what local people told us through the Shaping the Future of Powys Communities survey, community events and follow-up focus groups. It highlights the priorities identified by local people and opportunities for communities, organisations and partners to work together.

At a glance

99 people from across the Llandrindod Wells area shared their views in a Powys-wide survey

People told us they love:

- Access to nature
- A strong sense of community
- Local events and activities

People were also concerned about isolation and whether everyone has the opportunity to take part in community life

The biggest concerns were:

- Public transport
- Access to health and care services
- The future of local shops and amenities
- The rising cost of living
- Affordable housing and employment

Focus groups were held at:

Llandrindod Community Fair | 20 November 2025 | Metropole Hotel | 40 attendees
PAVO Office & Celf Centre | 20 January & 25 March 2026 | 17 participants

Five priorities for the future

1 Supporting young people

Young people need more opportunities, with concerns about a lack of youth provision, places to meet and accessible, affordable activities.

There were also concerns about:

- Mental wellbeing and social isolation
- Access to evening activities and transport
- Skills, training and apprenticeship opportunities
- Local role models and volunteering opportunities

Follow-up conversations highlighted that many activities already exist. The challenge is making sure young people and families know what is available

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- improve information about local activities where young people can meet and connect
- support projects that improve wellbeing
- involve young people in volunteering and community life
- develop practical skills and enterprise opportunities
- work together to make activities easier to access and offer taster sessions

2 Better communication and connection

Better communication could also help address isolation and make it easier for new residents or people attending alone to feel welcome

People often do not know what is already happening in their community. Llandrindod Wells has many groups, activities and spaces, but:

- Information can be difficult to find and quickly becomes out of date
- Communication should not rely solely on social media or online channels

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- share information across local organisations
- improve promotion of activities and community spaces
- use both digital and printed communications
- create simple ways for people to find local groups and support
- work together on a shared approach to promoting community life

3 Improving transport and access

Transport affects almost every part of community life, particularly for people in rural areas or without access to a car.

Key concerns included:

- Access to health and care services
- Getting to evening activities
- Connecting rural and outlying areas
- Making it easier to take part in community life

Community transport providers also highlighted the challenges of finding volunteer drivers and meeting the costs of running services

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- work together to identify gaps in local transport
- promote existing community transport more widely
- support the recruitment of volunteer drivers
- connect transport planning with local activities and services

4 Protecting local services, spaces and businesses

Local services and places help communities stay connected. People were concerned about the loss or closure of:

People highlighted the pressure created by high rents and business rates, which can lead to empty shops and fewer services in the town

- Shops, banks and other local amenities
- Health and care services
- Community centres and hubs
- Sports and leisure facilities
- Historic buildings
- Local businesses

People also recognised that some existing community spaces are not always well used or promoted.

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- identify and promote underused community spaces
- work together to protect valued local facilities
- support local businesses and community venues
- make better use of libraries and existing buildings
- gather local evidence about services and spaces at risk

5 Valuing volunteers and building community capacity

People recognised the contribution of volunteers and community organisations, while highlighting the growing pressures they face, including:

- The cost of volunteering
- Finding and retaining volunteers
- Access to training
- Short-term funding
- Limited staff capacity
- Promoting of volunteering opportunities

Volunteers need to be recognised and supported, with more opportunities for people to share their time and skills

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- celebrate and recognise volunteers
- improve information about volunteering opportunities
- create easier ways for people to offer their skills and time
- provide accessible training and support
- encourage young people to get involved
- share skills and resources between organisations

What happened next?

Following the Community Conversations, local people agreed to focus on **community connection, wellbeing and supporting young people**. A small financial resource was made available through PAVO, funded by the UK Government's Social Prosperity Fund.

Celf o Gwmpas supported young people to create a community mural celebrating the town through their eyes, while **Arlais Wellbeing CIC** delivered wellbeing workshops including gardening and poetry activities.

Looking ahead

The Community Conversations showed that Llandrindod Wells and the surrounding areas have many strengths. There are committed volunteers, active organisations, community spaces and a wide range of activities. The challenge is to build on these strengths while making sure that more people know what is available and are able to take part.

The priorities identified through this work provide a clear starting point for community organisations, town and community councils, volunteers and public services to work together. By building on local strengths and addressing shared challenges collectively, Llandrindod Wells can continue to develop as a connected, resilient and thriving community.

This project was funded by the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Find out more about the project and read the full report:
pavo.org.uk/news/community-conversations-what-you-told-us/

If you'd like more detailed information about the contents of this report, please get in touch at info@pavo.org.uk