

Culture - your views

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

16 January 2025 - 06 January 2026

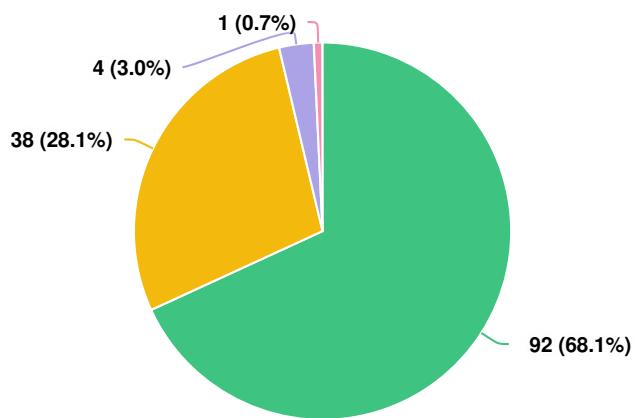
PROJECT NAME:

Let's Talk Culture



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 | What is your gender?



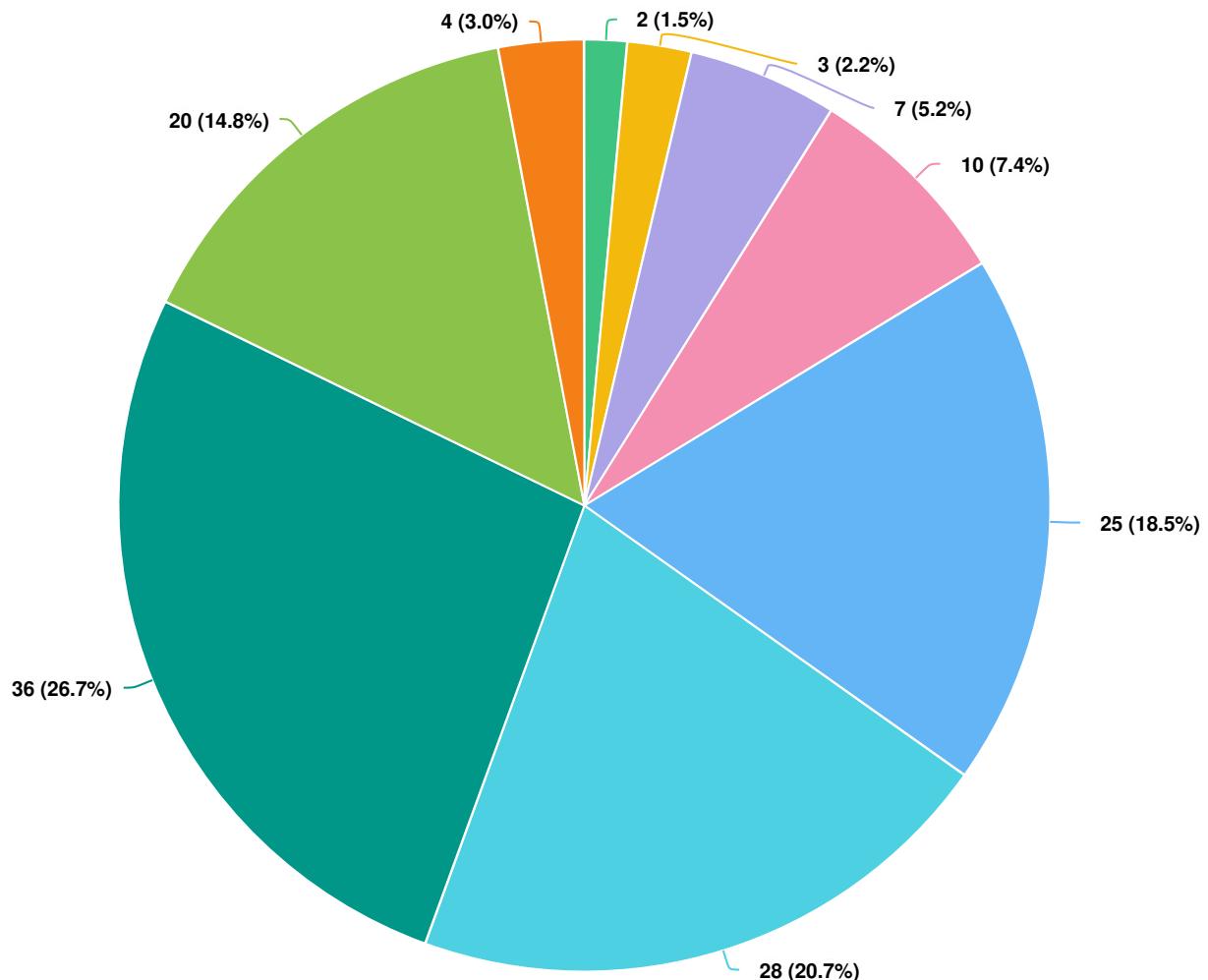
Question options

● Female ● Male ● Prefer to not say ● Prefer to self-describe

Mandatory Question (135 response(s))

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q2 | What age group do you fall within?

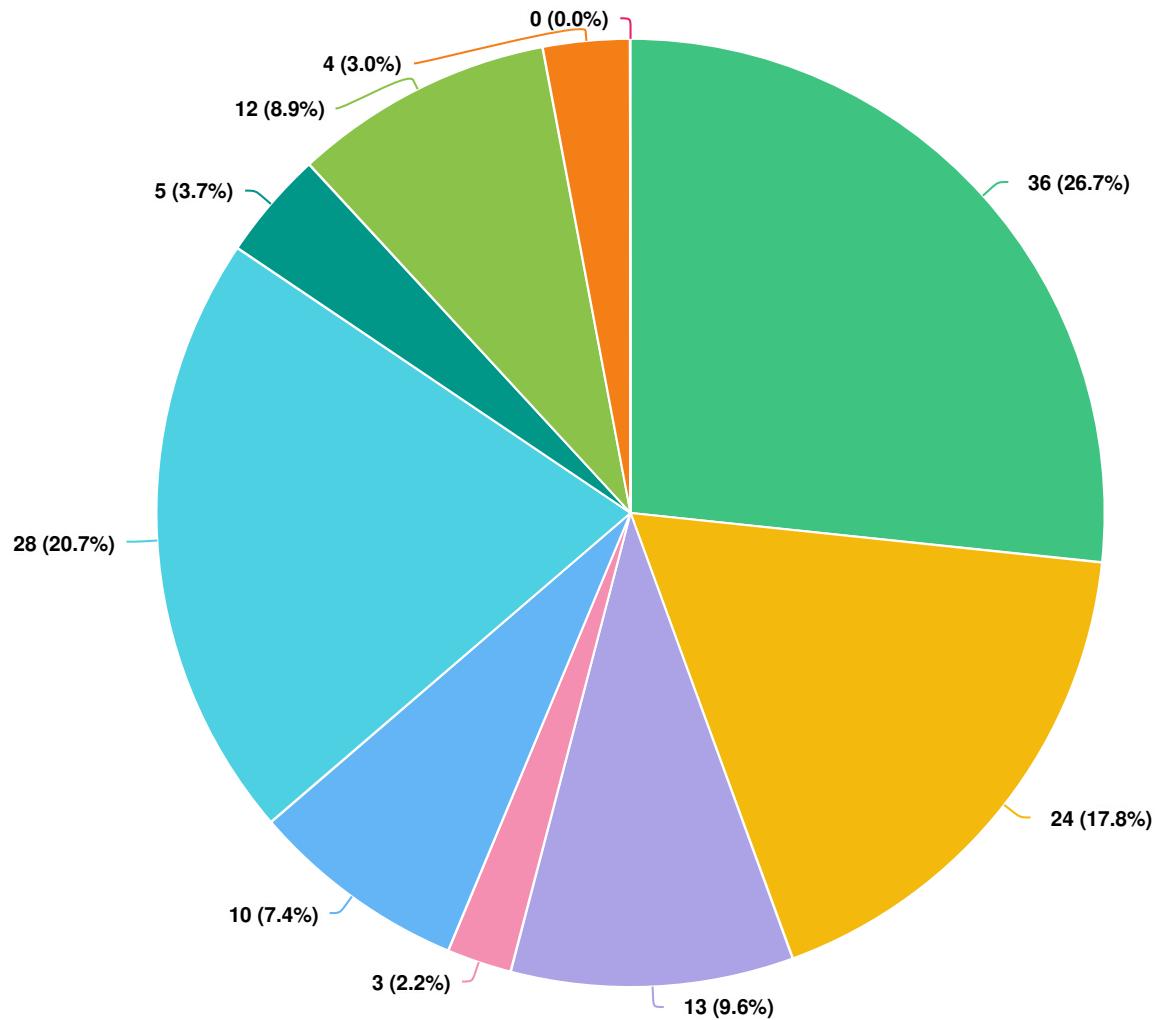


Question options

Under 18 18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 66-75 75+ Prefer not to say

*Mandatory Question (135 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question*

Q3 | Firstly, please can you tell us your nearest town or village. Your answer will enable us to identify any themes or popular views that emerge in specific areas of the county.



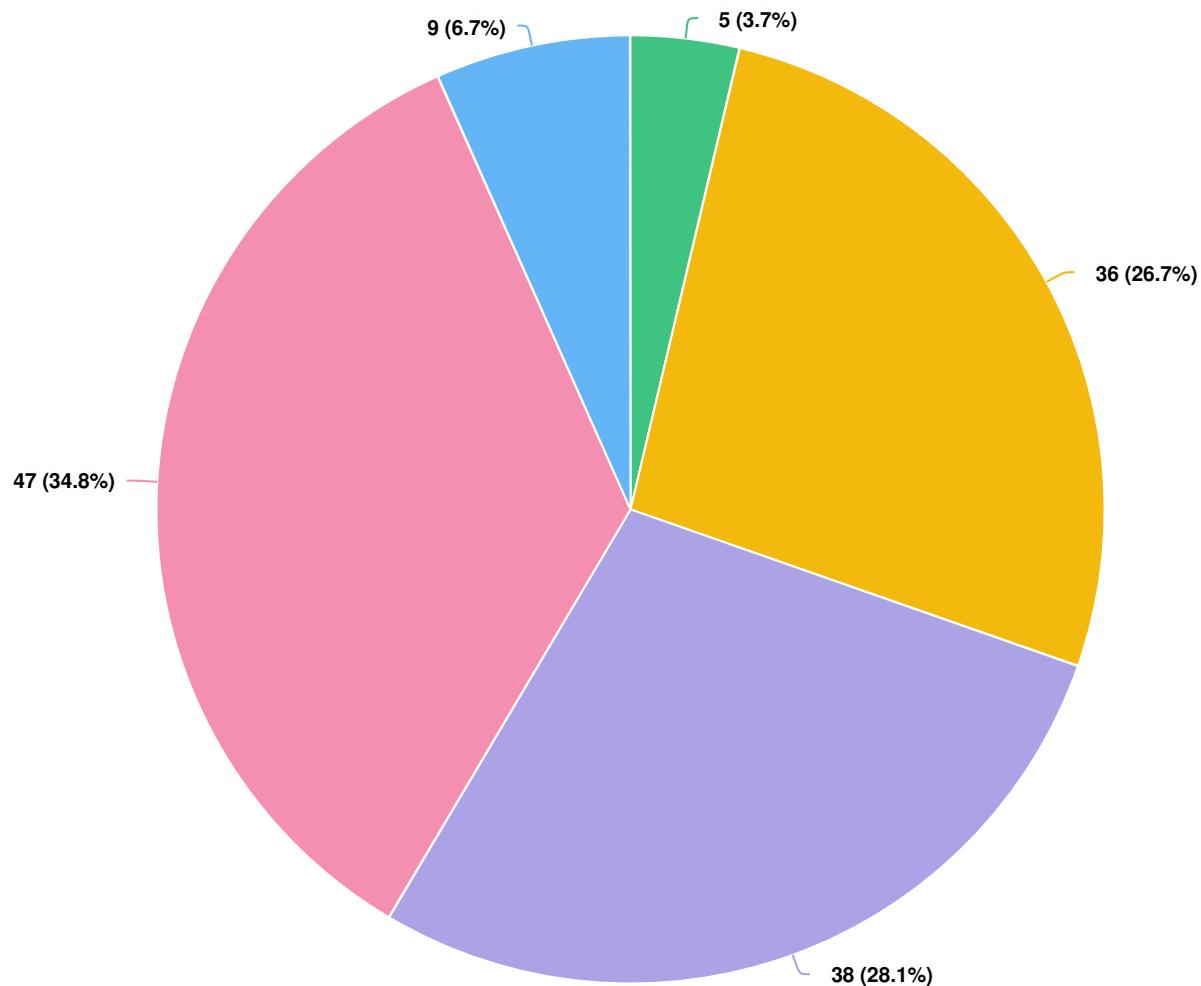
Question options

- Abergavenny
- Caldicot
- Chepstow
- Gilwern
- Magor with Undy
- Monmouth
- Raglan
- Usk
- Prefer not to say
- Tintern

Mandatory Question (135 response(s))

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q4 | How often do you take part or access a cultural activity in Monmouthshire? *This can include music, theatre, dance, art, crafts, history, etc



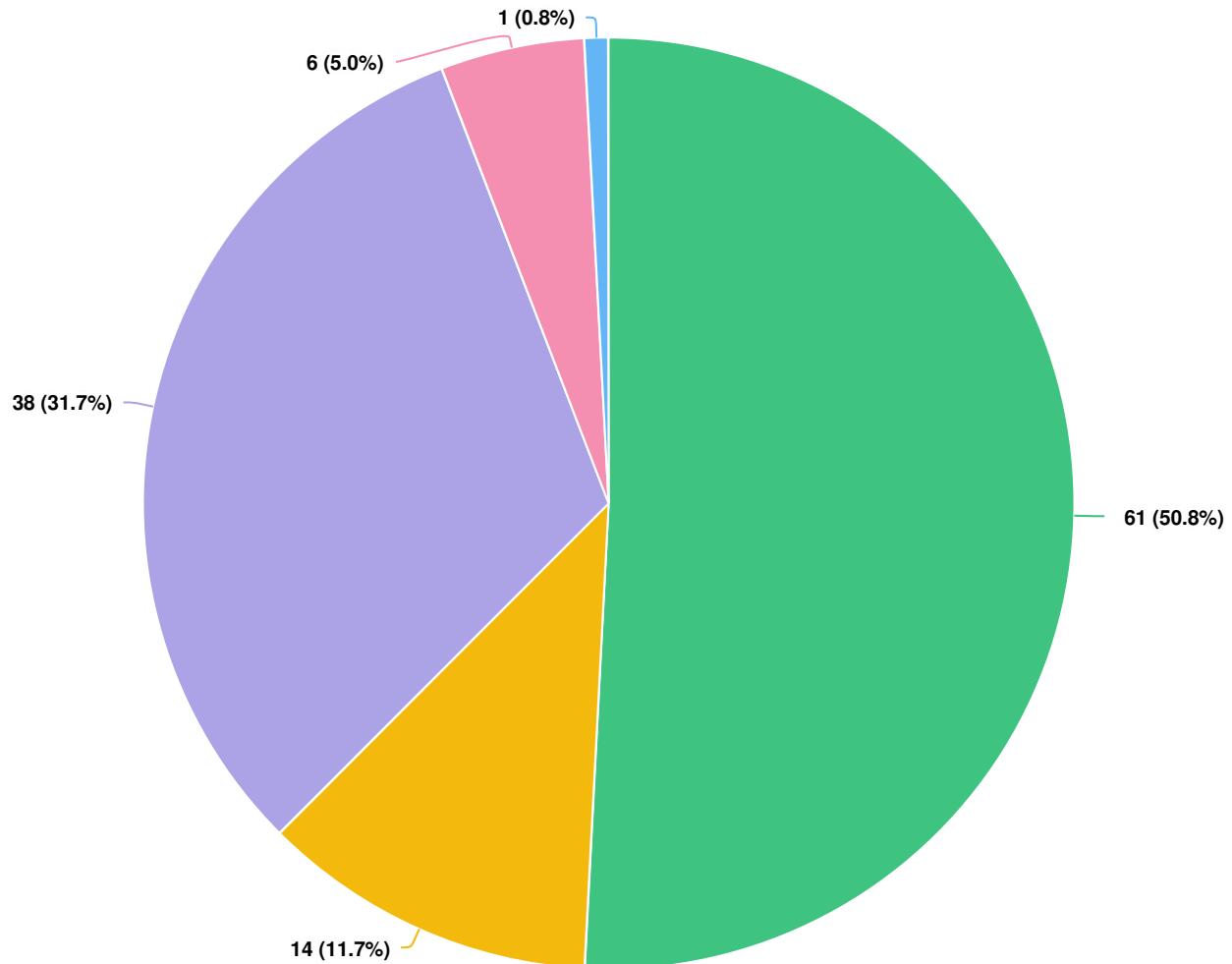
Question options

● Every day ● A couple of times a week ● A couple of times a month ● A few times in a year ● Never

Mandatory Question (135 response(s))

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q5 | If you participated in a cultural activity in the last month, where did it happen?



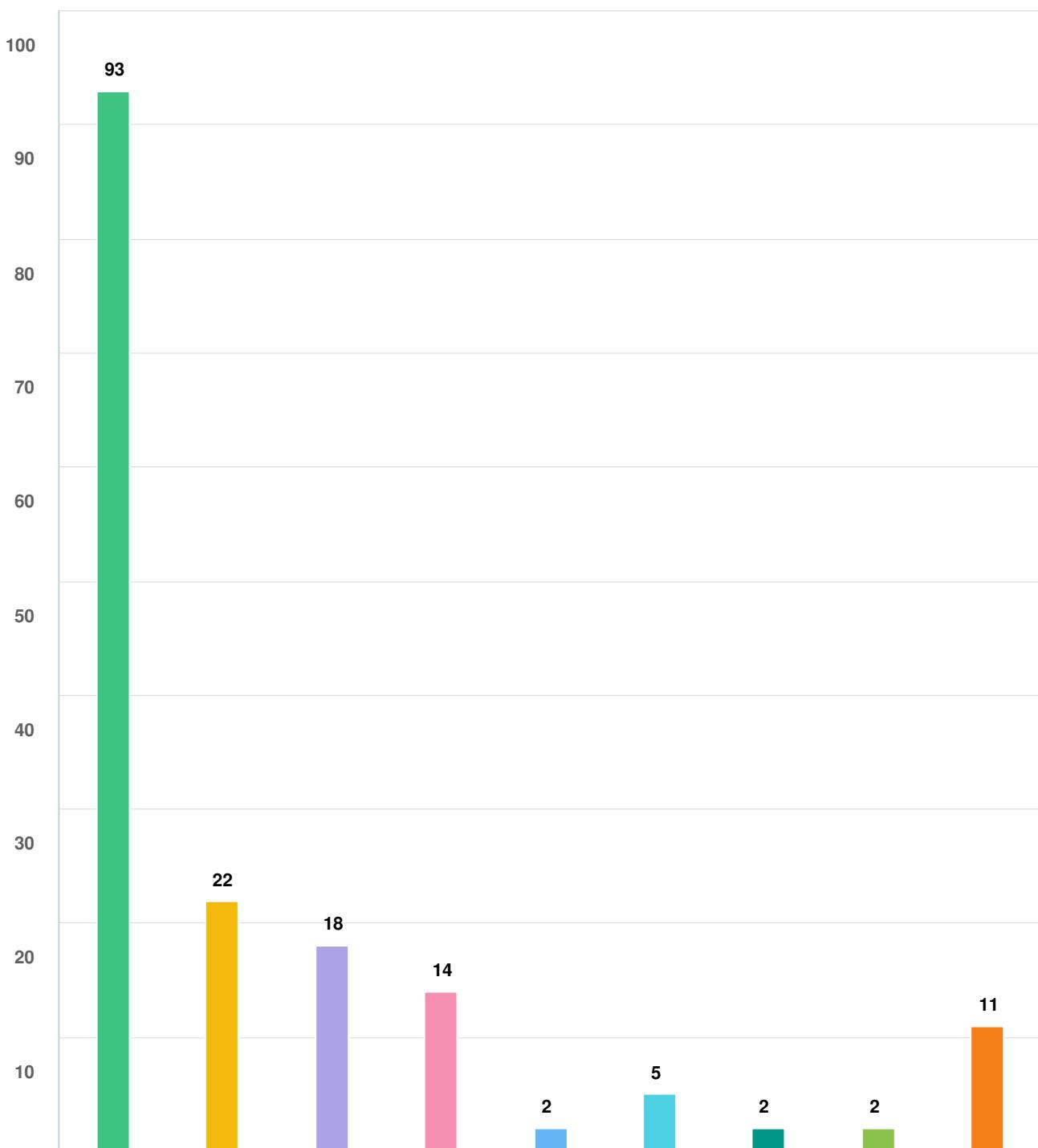
Question options

● My local village/town ● Elsewhere in Wales ● Within Monmouthshire ● Elsewhere in the UK ● Internationally

Optional question (120 response(s), 15 skipped)

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q6 | At the last cultural event you attended, how did you take part? Tick as many as apply.



Question options

- As an audience member
- As a volunteer
- As a performer
- As an artist
- As a technician
- As a venue host
- As a hospitality provider
- As a retail provider
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (128 response(s), 7 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q7 | Please let us know what encourages you to take part/access cultural activities. What are the things that motivate you?



Mandatory Question (135 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

**Q7 | Please let us know what encourages you to take part/access cultural activities.
What are the things that motivate you?**

Gives me a sense of well-being

Not at all : 2



Perhaps : 12



Somewhat : 36



Definitely : 85



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90

Makes me feel part of my community

Not at all : 2



Perhaps : 22



Somewhat : 38



Definitely : 73



10

20

30

40

50

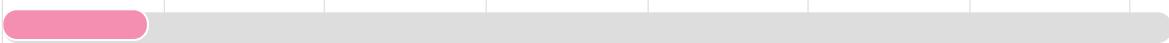
60

70

80

I can do this with family/friends

Not at all : 9



Perhaps : 18



Somewhat : 35



Definitely : 73



10

20

30

40

50

60

70

80

I can learn new things while having fun

Not at all : 6



Perhaps : 21



Somewhat : 35



Definitely : 73



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70

80

It's a formal way to learn

Not at all : 24



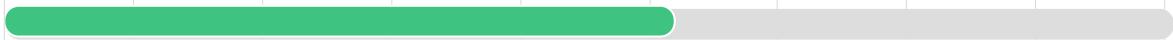
Perhaps : 39



Somewhat : 46



Definitely : 26



5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50

It's something I am very interested in

Not at all : 3



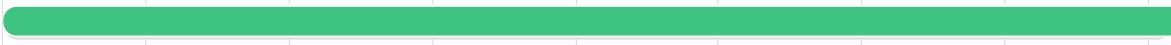
Perhaps : 17



Somewhat : 32



Definitely : 83



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90

It's affordable

Not at all : 4



Perhaps : 22



Somewhat : 56



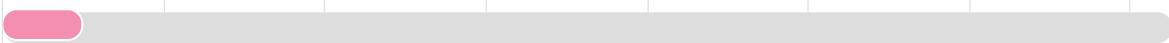
Definitely : 53



5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60

It supports the local economy

Not at all : 5



Perhaps : 15



Somewhat : 45



Definitely : 70



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20

30

40

50

60

70

80

I can make new friends with shared interests

Not at all : 13



Perhaps : 32



Somewhat : 35



Definitely : 55



5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60

Q8 | What do you think are our cultural strengths - what makes Monmouthshire Monmouthshire? Help us define what is special about Monmouthshire and how this impacts cultural activity, people and places.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 09:07 AM
The people - very important to keep making events that will keep people gathering together

Anonymous
10/31/2025 09:46 AM
History, sometimes food. Music

Anonymous
10/31/2025 09:52 AM
Amazing music heritage with Rockfield and Monnow Valley Studios
Historically significant

Anonymous
10/31/2025 09:55 AM
Landscape, history, heritage.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 12:00 PM
There's a vibrant participatory music scene, encouraging to all ability levels - with good performance spaces (mainly pubs)

Anonymous
10/31/2025 12:28 PM
the link between the countryside and art

Anonymous
10/31/2025 01:09 PM
history

Anonymous
10/31/2025 02:38 PM
Things that bring community engagement

Anonymous
10/31/2025 03:02 PM
Like-minded people who care not just about culture but about one another. Kindness and eschewing aggression in contact with others. A particular concern for Wales and Welshness (in both Welsh and English languages).

Anonymous
10/31/2025 03:58 PM
Historic buildings - connects us to our heritage Youth performances (such as Monmouth Comp, Mayhem theatre) - brings the community together and celebrates the talents of our young people Community events (such as Monmouth Carnival, Lantern Parade, Remembrance Parade etc) - brings the community together and events such as the Lantern Parade enables people to explore their creative side.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 08:45 PM
Monmouthshire feels split, north and south so don't really consider it to be one entity.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 08:52 PM
Monmouthshire is a vibrant and diverse area. In Monmouth itself we have cinemas theatres, and a host of cultural and artistic events, especially encouraged by U3A among others. It is sad to see the decline in literacy and in particular the downgrading of libraries. Libraries staffed by professionals provide the backbone to literacy which in turn allows one to access theatre and other cultural events. Above all they were free and inclusive. Fortunately we have enough people in the area to provide intellectual and cultural stimulation on a number of fronts,

Anonymous
11/01/2025 08:14 AM
It has (had) border influences with a crossover Welsh/English influence which makes it's heritage and culture a little different (though difficult to define). Strengths include youngish incomers combining with older valleys culture. A lot of very talented young people here!

Anonymous
11/01/2025 09:01 AM
Lots of artistic people, arts shops, food festival, film society, independent bookshop, community activities. Some of these activities promote a sense of place, connection to nature, Welsh heritage, but also some are more forward looking and celebrate diversity and connection to the world beyond Wales.

Anonymous
11/01/2025 09:09 AM
Museum Galleries community spaces Theatre

Anonymous
11/01/2025 09:42 AM
Variety and local venues

Anonymous
11/01/2025 10:49 AM
Museums, history, local art & craft groups

Anonymous
11/01/2025 12:10 PM
Castles, agriculture, its towns.

Anonymous
11/01/2025 12:24 PM
Monmouthshire's special character comes from the way its natural beauty, heritage, and creative communities all intertwine. The area's stunning green spaces — from rolling hills and community gardens to riverside walks and ancient castles — provide both inspiration and a

sense of wellbeing for residents and visitors alike.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 12:58 PM

Art workshops classes exhibitions. Writing opportunities..Music from choirs to participate in and listen to and orchestral. Enjoyment of landscape and walking.. Local WI and history groups for interesting talks, research, and friendship. Live theatre in a beautiful theatre building. Above all, peace and no huge crowds.

[REDACTED]

The strategy doesn't define 'culture', so i can't answer this

11/01/2025 12:59 PM

[REDACTED]

Diversity of talent within the population is impressive. Lots of good venues both closed and open

Anonymous

11/01/2025 01:44 PM

Our history and geography: castles, canals, mountains, religious sites and ruins, historic pubs and ghost stories. Our bands (Abergavenny town band to local pop/rock) and lively music scene.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 03:25 PM

Abergavenny has a varied programme of cultural events which take place at the Borough,Theatre, the Chapel, St Mary's and other local churches . These include concerts,plays talks on a variety of topics and now National Theatre Screenings.

[REDACTED]

It has a long history that is written in its beautiful landscape and towns. It straddles the cultural border between England and Wales, having a foot in both, and retaining its Marcher heritage. It incorporates a number of growing and increasingly affluent towns, which can support cultural events and thrive with them.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 07:51 PM

Church bell ringing Musical activities in churches such as choirs, organ and piano music

Anonymous

11/01/2025 11:54 PM

The people of Monmouthshire are at the centre of Welsh cultural activity and should not have a false national identity imposed upon them.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 03:31 PM

Local groups and historic locations.

Anonymous 11/02/2025 05:08 PM	The landscape, locally based producers and creatives, potential for recreational walking of all types
Anonymous 11/03/2025 07:33 AM	No comment
Anonymous 11/03/2025 10:06 AM	Variety of classes available
Anonymous 11/03/2025 02:59 PM	People are inspired by the landscape and history of Monmouthshire, and this creates a strong network of artists, musicians and performers.
Anonymous 11/03/2025 06:45 PM	As a tourist town Abergavenny welcomes visitors and tourists As a twinned town Abergavenny engages with Beaupreau in France and Ostringen in Germany with cultural exchanges Abergavenny is becoming a multi cultural town
Anonymous 11/06/2025 06:10 PM	No. Monmouthshire is a beautiful, rural county but doesn't seem to have much going for it culturally, except in what is safe and familiar. It is quite insular and 'conservative'. You would have to look very hard to find anything contemporary, edgy, provocative or 'cutting edge'. This lack is reinforced by the extraordinary absence of cultural or racial diversity. In the county, this bizarre and particular cultural flavour reinforces its obvious cultural insularity.
Anonymous 11/06/2025 06:26 PM	It is difficult to answer this question by taking Monmouthshire as a whole because apart from the obvious (rural landscapes, castles), the different parts of the county are so different from each other.
Anonymous 11/07/2025 03:03 PM	History
Anonymous 11/07/2025 04:22 PM	The people first - and the landscape second. We share characteristics with many places and it would be wrong to only think of the 'county level'. Our village (closest is Raglan but our orientation is towards Usk) is different from others close by and the same as others far flung. Richness and diversity is lost when homogenising or generalising. Your descriptors of where cultural activity happens is an example of that. What about places like 'home', the pub, the school, the street, the market ...??

Anonymous

11/08/2025 06:02 PM

Vibrant communities in small towns lend themselves to wide participation, instead of passively attending major events. It's fun, and a chance to meet up with friends, in addition to the actual 'culture' ingredient.

Anonymous

11/10/2025 05:00 PM

Monmouthshire is set in an historical and uniquely special landscape which enables our folk law, legends, history and culture to thrive.

Anonymous

11/12/2025 09:16 AM

Beautiful scenery and heritage as a filming location for major screen projects. History of literary inspiration and connection, eg Tolkien, Wordsworth, Arthur Machen. Links to major historical events and figures, eg Lord Nelson. Distinctive Georgian architecture in key towns. Music heritage, eg Rockfield Studios. Monmouthshire has been at the heart of Welsh and UK culture for generations, a border and a bridge.

Anonymous

11/14/2025 01:43 PM

Monmouth has gone from an industrial / farming area to a dormitory / retirement / cultural area in my lifetime . Monmouthshire has always responded well to change . Our Museums and castles , abbeys and historic buildings are famous. We have craft / sport activites for all ages.

Anonymous

11/15/2025 09:12 AM

Landscape, communities, creativity

Anonymous

11/15/2025 01:19 PM

Lots and lots of successful of local groups offering huge range of activities and covering very varied interests. Access to film and theatre and bigger cultural hubs.

Anonymous

11/17/2025 07:22 AM

Rich history and access to venues that enable families and friends to attend together

Anonymous

11/17/2025 08:09 PM

Scenery, towns, cultural vibrancy.

11/18/2025 12:47 AM

I dont know I never find out about things

Anonymous

11/18/2025 03:36 PM

Rich history in Museums & Castles. Rivers & scenery.

Anonymous
11/18/2025 08:25 PM
Landscape, history - contrasts: industrial v rural, Romans to 21st century

Traditional Architecture Design Codes- Please see my PDF Umbrella Representation emailed previously.

The sense of community and the beautiful countryside.

11/19/2025 09:33 PM

Anonymous Diversity

11/21/2025 03:20 PM

Anonymous
11/21/2025 03:39 PM

Several theatres, a lot of history, local societies and groups like drama and choirs. This attracts people to the area and gives current residents activities to participate in.

Anonymous
11/22/2025 11:19 AM
Lively cultural environment but also surrounded by beautiful
countryside with good transport links

Anonymous
11/23/2025 04:06 AM
It's an agricultural area right next to the South Wales coalfield that led industrial Britain. It has escaped the decline of the valleys where I was born. It's beautiful and rich in history

Anonymous Open - both the landscape and the people
11/23/2025 09:07 PM

Anonymous
11/24/2025 06:21 PM

Monmouthshire has a long history of supporting culture, whether it be music gigs, am dram, dance or comedy, whether it be on an amateur to professional basis. This should be supported going forward as it's importance cannot be underestimated.

Anonymous 11/26/2025 08:28 AM It needs improving!

Anonymous History Cultural Social
11/27/2025 11:40 AM

Anonymous The landscape - our appreciation of it shapes the way we interact,

11/27/2025 02:42 PM	appreciate the world around us, and create Informal community connections - in a rural area, that's culturally underfunded, serendipity and chance play a big part in how our cultural activity is shaped Musical heritage - particularly around the studios and the huge cultural ripple effect, and the perception of the area by modern music fans
Anonymous 11/27/2025 06:28 PM	Landscape, people, language
Anonymous 11/28/2025 01:21 PM	Variety of choice of local opportunities, from theatre to comedy, music, crafts, history etc all with access within walking/bus/cycling distance. Improved evening buses would help to access offers further afield
Anonymous 11/29/2025 05:25 PM	Monmouthshire has beautiful scenery and I appreciate the walks organised by Mark Langley, soon to be transferred to Chepstow Walkers, an innovative idea to organise walks by the County Council. MCC supports local initiatives: eg the Friends' groups for the green spaces in Abergavenny MCC supported the Eisteddfod in 2 MCC supports local groups with a pride in the Community eg Keep Abergavenny Tidy good links with Abergavenny Town Council and Wales in Bloom
Anonymous 12/01/2025 05:38 AM	Our boarder identity makes us and our history interesting. Links to feelings of belonging and loyalty across man made boarder. Rural life / our rivers / thriving sustainable farming / history of the boarders / food and craft / beautiful countryside
Anonymous 12/02/2025 07:01 PM	Good local theatres
Anonymous 12/02/2025 08:01 PM	What used to be special was the amount of children singing and playing instruments at school. That was before all the funding was cut to schools and music services. Chepstow School USED to be a Gwent Music Music Centre pre covid, with many different orchestras and ensembles there. Now, there are NONE. It is no longer a Music centre. The school has completely lost all of this wonderful emerging culture. It's gone. On your watch!
Anonymous 12/02/2025 08:20 PM	Open, friendly nature

Anonymous

12/05/2025 02:25 PM

Rich history, great food, beautiful landscapes. Lots of good outdoor activity and a really good balance of rural life and good travel links.

Anonymous

12/05/2025 03:22 PM

The communities of Monmouthshire and adjoining co-communities are special with our own histories and friendships. This is authentic culture of peoples living and working together across the imaginary boundaries between counties and countries. This is a genuine local culture, language and identity and not an assumed or imposed value of life from elsewhere. Monmouthshire is at the heart of Wales and all Welsh culture and the national identity should use Monmouthshire heritage and values as the model for all. Kindness and inclusivity are the hallmarks of our communities. We can do without the hostility offered by so many living outside our county. Unfortunately we are not at the heart of the considerations of our elected representatives in either of our Parliaments. We struggle to show our values without a voice.

Anonymous

12/05/2025 04:20 PM

Monmouthshire has culture, theatres, shops, cafes, restaurants (have you tried Creates in Church Street, Monmouth!!!) parks, community centres and so much more. There's always something happening.

Anonymous

12/05/2025 07:01 PM

The landscape, when I think of Monmouthshire I think of the landscape, rivers, castles, viewpoints

Anonymous

12/06/2025 08:37 AM

What makes Monmouthshire special is the country village feel, the rural areas and nature. All of which you are doing your best to destroy. We don't want to be Bristol. We don't want to be Newport. We want to be villages and nature. We don't want you to build houses everywhere and turn this county into the slums. Not everyone can and should live in Monmouthshire. Stop destroying this area. Stop taking land to build awful housing estate. Spend money in the town centres. Renovate buildings and convert existing empty buildings in the centres to house people. Not every one can and should have a house. Apartments are perfectly fine to live in. Especially if you can't afford your own home. Look at how other countries are doing this. You are slowly destroying nature and the special feel about Monmouthshire and you're going against what people from the area want. Please stop.

Anonymous

12/06/2025 09:38 AM

The history, the built environment and the landscape. People interested enough to organise events. A good smattering of museums.

Anonymous

12/06/2025 10:01 AM

I think you will find culture wherever you find people. Monmouthshire is no different in this but many of its people are living in fairly remote places so coming together to share in some activity that is not work but celebrates joy and beauty in life is incredibly important for wellbeing. Welsh people have for generations revered and celebrated the Arts and there is a need for this as a fabric to knit community together and make people stronger. The narrowing of the Elegant Monnow St has given town the "Cwmbran" effect and is the most destructive thing MCC has done culturally. Additionally the reduction in the roundabout size at st Thomas street horrendous leaving the cross without a pedestal that is of aesthetically pleasing proportions. This is also destructive of the culture that you talk about wanting to preserve? It has left a landmark statement reduced to an eye sore which will be damaged by heavy goods vehicles as they negotiate it. A huge example of failure is that dragonfly in Monmouth. There are local Monmouth Art groups and yet a woman from Newport is paid to design this? The ask from locals was to bring in old china to be incorporated!! I've nothing against the work but I'm afraid it was not created by a local artist or group of local artists it's an example of a city dweller brought out to decorate the rural town as she feels fitting.

Anonymous

12/06/2025 06:24 PM

Apart from the beautiful landscape, the varied cultural interests of residents

Anonymous

12/07/2025 02:33 PM

Cultural heritage is one of the most special aspects. It's more than just castles and buildings but the people and stories that took place in and around them

Anonymous

12/07/2025 08:30 PM

Dance Blast is a massive cultural highlight for Monmouthshire. What they do there is incredible, and not something you would get in other towns of this size. So many people within the community benefit by participating in classes - all ages, abilities. Professional choreographers and performers share their skills and offer so much to the participants. It really is a very special organisation and one that needs further support and investment so they can expand what they do and offer.

Anonymous

12/08/2025 12:25 PM

Local community groups

Anonymous

12/08/2025 02:54 PM

A bridge between England and Wales.

Anonymous

12/08/2025 03:29 PM

As a border community our history is rich and diverse - and this is all around us. We are an area with lots of artists and makers many of whom are inspired by the location.

Anonymous

12/08/2025 06:19 PM

as a boarder between countries and cultures there is space here to blend new ideas, and conjure new possibilities

Anonymous

12/09/2025 11:28 AM

Monmouthshire's farming heritage - sadly now under threat by Labour taxation plans.

Anonymous

12/10/2025 09:49 AM

Monmouth in particular has a rich musical history. Yes, Rockfield Studios has played a huge part in this... but did you know about Monnow Valley Studio - my studio also in Rockfield village? Formerly part of Rockfield Studios but independent for the last 35 years and still hosting some of the biggest rock stars in the world. We also lead the way in promoting cultural tourism in Wales - as a residential studio, our guests come to us because they want to stay in the same rooms as Sir Tom Jones, Ozzy Osbourne, Liam Gallagher, David Bowie etc. They want to recreate sleeve covers from iconic bands in our live room and live like a rock star, albeit for a weekend. We host intimate events with musicians and their fans as well as supporting the next generation of artists with recording and rehearsal space. In doing all this, we pump tens, if not hundreds of thousands of pounds into the local economy. Our guests spend money in the town, contract in catering, book tables in restaurants, frequent pubs, use taxis, hire live musicians, book hotels and b n bs for additional accommodation, plus enable us to employ local support staff.

Anonymous

12/10/2025 11:58 AM

A very diverse creative community in Monmouthshire. Some towns in Monmouthshire put on regular festivals, shows, special events and it enriches the local community and their experience of where they live.

Anonymous

12/13/2025 11:07 PM

The current strategy only lists a few festivals, it doesn't really demonstrate the breadth and depth of culture in Monmouthshire. There are lots of groups and multifunctional spaces of different kinds, with lots of local community members making culture a reality for everyone. Its the depth of community involvement in culture that makes Monmouthshire special and unlike other places.

Anonymous

12/15/2025 09:16 AM

History - lots of places to visit and enjoy. Helps with wellbeing

Anonymous It close to me history
12/15/2025 10:45 AM

Anonymous Wye Valley Very near F.O.P Monmouth is a very attractive town
12/15/2025 10:45 AM

[REDACTED] Being Welsh helps Many Volunteering Opportunities
12/15/2025 11:26 AM

Anonymous Difficult to say as it's a big county, very divided into North (Aber and Monmouth) and South (Caldicot and Chepstow)
12/15/2025 11:36 AM

Anonymous The community ans shared connections, a strong sense of purpose
12/15/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous Very caring
12/16/2025 11:31 AM

Anonymous Gets people together enjoying the company of others and makes people feel part of the community
12/16/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous I think Monmouthshire's Welsh heritage is crutial to it's identity. It has great industrial and agricultural heritage. Nant-y-glo, once in Monmouthshire, had one of the largest iron works in the world. Walking and outdoor activities are also key.
12/16/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous Beautiful buildings/history
12/18/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous Difficult to define
12/18/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous History of the town and rural crafts. Welsh culture and customs.
12/18/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous Beautiful buildings, clean, inviting, friendly people
12/18/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous It's a beautiful place to live in!
12/19/2025 11:51 AM

Anonymous

12/19/2025 11:57 AM

The countryside is beautiful. The mountains, steams and rivers provide endless inspiration for artists and creative people. Also there is great community spirit and a great sense of history.

Anonymous

12/19/2025 01:45 PM

Unspoiled Heritage and scenery - the Wye Valley, mountains, Mons & Brecon canal. Lovely old towns, old churches and castle, coastline, history and heritage, the range of different places and habitats to explore.

[REDACTED]

Trefi marchnad hanesyddol, cynefin naturiol gwefreiddiol

12/19/2025 01:07 PM

Optional question (101 response(s), 34 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q9 | What are the three most exciting things happening in your area, or that you are involved in that you regard as cultural at the moment?

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:07 AM

Food festival - theatre plays around the community - Thursday food festivals

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:46 AM

To get a cinema in Abergavenny - a proper one.

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:52 AM

Savoy theatre Rockfield studios Creative writing classes

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:55 AM

Abergavenny food festival My daughter working for a local sculptor
The local pub runs events - trellech

Anonymous

10/31/2025 10:23 AM

Occasional events in the village hall

Anonymous

10/31/2025 12:00 PM

Open mic events at The Queen's Head Micropub, Chepstow Acoustic Showcase evenings at Chepstow Art Space Forthcoming Gwyl Hwyl Casgwent - Welsh Fun Festival next summer

Anonymous

Wye valley River festival, Monmouth lantern parade, Monmouth

10/31/2025 12:28 PM

museum

Anonymous

Shakespeare in the castle

10/31/2025 01:09 PM

Anonymous

Raglan Day Raglan Festival Both enjoyable days

10/31/2025 02:38 PM

Anonymous

Abergavenny Borough Theatre, Art society, and just the buzz of Abergavenny on market days.

10/31/2025 03:02 PM

Anonymous

None

10/31/2025 08:45 PM

Anonymous

U3A provides a rich menu of experiences, the Blake Theatre provides an equally diverse range of options, as does the Savoy. I attend Monmouth History Society meeting on a monthly basis.

11/01/2025 08:14 AM

Anonymous

Potential for a circus/aerial dance hub of regional importance in Abergavenny in a building that combines with community cinema (funding/planning early stages). Project to gain gender equality of art books in libraries Embryonic project 'Art for Words' for artists to support other artists.

11/01/2025 09:01 AM

Anonymous

Food Festival Green Man festival Live events at Chapel and Melville Theatre

11/01/2025 09:09 AM

Anonymous

Art group Theatre

11/01/2025 09:42 AM

Anonymous

Bookish events,talks and film/book club Melville Centre Borough Theatre

11/01/2025 10:49 AM

Anonymous

Apart from film night & pub I cannot think of anything else in village.

11/01/2025 12:10 PM

Anonymous

Bonfire celebrations. Visit a castle when it's on a free day. Visit Abergavenny and Monmouth.

Anonymous 11/01/2025 12:24 PM	The festivals- such as Food festival Facilities- such as the castle grounds The rich range of shops and makers - market/ street market
Anonymous 11/01/2025 12:58 PM	Art,music and interest events at the Chapel Arts Centre in Abergavenny. Walking groups at different levels. Dance events at the Melville.
████████████████████ 11/01/2025 01:29 PM	We run the Usk Choral festival and are involved in musical / choral activities throughout Monmouthshire
Anonymous 11/01/2025 01:44 PM	The Abergavenny food festival although I strongly believe there should be a much larger emphasis on local producers and suppliers. I am looking forward to visiting the canal lantern walk advertised beginning at Llanfoist. The AM festival is a brilliant local community event.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 03:25 PM	Arst Society lectures National Theatre Screenings Local History Society
████████████████████ 11/01/2025 07:45 PM	Monmouth Medieval Festival Monmouth Show Volunteering at Goodrich Castle (just across the border in Herefordshire)
Anonymous 11/01/2025 07:51 PM	Bell ringing - I am part of a team which ring in my local church and we almost define the identity of the village. We are part of the Llandaff & Monmouth DACBR, an organisation for church bell and handbell method ringers in South Wale Welsh Traditional Music - I am a member of a tune group (part of a nationwide network supported bt CLERA). We meet in pubs and also perform in open gardens and churches. Morris Dancing - I am a member of Isca Morris who perform at many events in Monmouthshire including the Mari Llwyd in Chepstow (this event is mentioned in the consultation but does not mention morris dancing - it shoud)
Anonymous 11/01/2025 11:54 PM	Karaoke
Anonymous 11/02/2025 03:31 PM	Illustrated Gwent Wildlife talks, amateur dramatics, history talks.
Anonymous	Local festivals/shows, strong civic links to heritage and local history

11/02/2025 05:08 PM

Anonymous

I am unable to be involved

11/03/2025 07:33 AM

Anonymous

11/03/2025 02:59 PM

New management of the Melville Theatre - with the right funding, this could be a first-class arts centre. Discussions re: an arts festival in Abergavenny - the people are willing, the money is a problem!
Abergavenny Food Festival and Night Market

Anonymous

11/03/2025 06:45 PM

Chairman of Abergavenny and Beaupreau Twinning Association - looking forward to major celebration of 40 years twinning with Beaupreau in 2028, and football festival in Abergavenny in 2026.
Abergavenny Petanque club Abergavenny local history society

Anonymous

?

11/06/2025 06:10 PM

Anonymous

11/06/2025 06:26 PM

1. Local History activities (including talks, visits, walks, displays) through Local History Societies. 2. Activities in local library (poetry sessions, quiz nights, author events etc). 3. Quiz nights.

Anonymous

There is very little - I can't think of anything in Caldicot

11/06/2025 09:01 PM

Anonymous

May Fayre Frost Fayre Remembrance

11/07/2025 03:03 PM

Anonymous

11/07/2025 04:22 PM

WI - campaigning against violence against women and girls - protest banners - events. My own practice shared well beyond the county boundaries (I was showing in Australia earlier in 2025) Courses run by local artists - sharing talent

Anonymous

11/08/2025 06:02 PM

Multiple recorder groups to join and perform with Frequent classical concerts Film club every fortnight through the winter

Anonymous

11/10/2025 03:51 PM

development of the Usk Band

Anonymous

11/10/2025 05:00 PM

Linking Wales Coast Path to King Charles route in England.
Developing programme of access improvements with CADW to

enable better access and care of castles and SAM's. Clydach Ironworks Gateway Project Enabling volunteers to maintain their paths and promote legends/history and features in their communities as a result.

Anonymous
11/12/2025 09:16 AM

Monmouth local music and drama group for children, Sparrows run by Rhian Hathaway, bringing young people together for a high standard of music and drama. Shire Hall Monmouth museum collections. Monmouth Bee Festival.

Anonymous
11/14/2025 01:43 PM
Repositioning the Nelson Collection in to the Shire Hall . Creative crafts happening in the Rolls Hall Library (hub) The River / Medieval / Christmas Festivals .

Anonymous
11/14/2025 07:16 PM
The addition of NT live theatre shows at the Borough Theatre.
Melville arts centre and Danceblast Having a local cinema in
abergavenny

Anonymous Regenerating a market in another county Comedy nights Music
11/15/2025 09:12 AM venues

Anonymous
11/15/2025 01:19 PM
Pottery studio which I use twice a week in very rural location.
Theatrical events in Abergavenny Garden Club, History Group etc in local village hall.

Anonymous Caldicot Castle - events and activities
11/17/2025 07:22 AM

11/18/2025 12:47 AM Im lost to find out about anything going on

Anonymous 11/18/2025 03:36 PM Not much

Anonymous Local history societies give great talks - connecting present day to the past
11/18/2025 08:25 PM

Heritage construction/ reconstruction of long-lost buildings

Anonymous
11/19/2025 09:33 PM
The Savoy Theatre in Monmouth has some great things happening.
Lots of festivals.

Anonymous
11/21/2025 03:20 PM
Music, art, craft

Anonymous
11/21/2025 03:39 PM
Theatre Dance classes Food Festival

Anonymous
11/22/2025 11:19 AM
Borough Theatre, activities at community centre, u3a

Anonymous
11/23/2025 04:06 AM
Jazz for young people Dance blast The Gathering All bring culture to the marginalised

Anonymous
11/23/2025 09:07 PM
Food festival, all the amateur groups and performances in the area, Aberlaughs

Anonymous
11/24/2025 06:21 PM
A thriving amateur dramatics scene for both adults and children. The continuation of attracting professional artists, whether it be bands, comedians or theatrical companies.

Anonymous
11/26/2025 08:28 AM
Book events are great here. We need much more activity in theatre!
We need to create more family trails - I have ideas I have tried to share

Anonymous
11/27/2025 11:40 AM
I help at my local school and go on trips with pupils to learn about our area. I am a local councillor and we put on various activities within our area. I am a member of our local WI which promotes social activities

Anonymous
11/27/2025 02:42 PM
The Lantern Parade Monmouth Community Choir RIP Monmouth Festival, which was wonderful

Anonymous
11/27/2025 06:28 PM
Slow music jam in The Boat Penalt, winter light parade coming up, working as part of Wydwood Arts (-Forest of Dean - but thinking about place based arts in the context of the Forest and connecting with the places around us such as Monmouthshire and cross border contexts). As an artist I also go to Bristol to connect with artist

communities there.

Anonymous

11/28/2025 01:21 PM

The fab Monmouth lantern parade, the wonderful range of offers at our amazing local theatres and the stunning AONB bi-annual river festival

Anonymous

11/29/2025 05:25 PM

NT Live is being introduced to the Borough Theatre, bringing London productions to the provinces.

Anonymous

12/01/2025 05:38 AM

Volunteering for National trust

Anonymous

12/02/2025 08:01 PM

Gwent Music, Operasonic, Chepstow Art Space and The Corn Exchange. Also The Chepstow Community Music centre in Wyedean.

Anonymous

12/02/2025 08:20 PM

Good Crafts scene Live music Great Food

Anonymous

12/05/2025 02:25 PM

Usk Show, Usk Christmas Market, Usk Duck Race, Weekend Rumble. I love live music and a day that includes music, theatre, dance, etc would be a great way to bring everyone together. This could be combined with a larger event such as the Usk Show to highlight the rich history of Monmouthshire.

Anonymous

12/05/2025 03:22 PM

Karaoke. Association football. Skittles.

Anonymous

12/05/2025 04:20 PM

1) Theatre I've been a volunteer at Monmouth's Savoy Theatre for the past 14 years and love spending time there with the team. There's always a great programme of events with stage and film both extremely well represented and with something for everyone. 2) Community I also volunteer at Caerwent Village Hall helping out at Car Boot Sales, Christmas Shopping Night and other events. My husband has compered the Village Show for a number of years and we also run occasional quiz nights at the hall with my husband as quiz setter/quiz master and me as score keeper. 3) Volunteering Less "cultural" perhaps but I also volunteer at TogetherWORKS, Caldicot twice a week (Welsh conversation on Mondays and Knit & Natter on Wednesdays). All the above are important and help keep communities alive.

Anonymous 12/05/2025 07:01 PM	Theatre and comedy shows Museums and exhibitions Monmouth lantern parade
Anonymous 12/06/2025 08:37 AM	Nothing at the moment
Anonymous 12/06/2025 09:38 AM	Performance of 'The Messiah' St Cadoc's in Caerleon, and a Carol Concert in St Woolos Cathedral and the Magor Frost Fayre.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 10:01 AM	Annual Lantern Parade- brings young and old together with crafting ,music and lights to celebrate Christmas in a non religious way.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 06:24 PM	Abergavenny Symphony Orchestra Monmouth Choral Society
Anonymous 12/07/2025 02:33 PM	Plas Gunter Mansion - you should find out more about this £4m heritage and cultural project in development in the heart of Abergavenny - a community led heritage trust and funded with Heritage Fund, Welsh Govt and MCC funds. The themes it explores are closely tied with tolerances and reconciliation and sancturay - I'm Chair of the Trust ! https://www.plasguntersmansion.org.uk/
Anonymous 12/07/2025 08:30 PM	Dance Blast NT Live at the Borough Bookish talks
Anonymous 12/08/2025 12:25 PM	Theatre ,melville. Abergavenny Quiz, lines taproom ,Usk. Gwent wildlife talks, the grange, Usk.
Anonymous 12/08/2025 02:54 PM	Local archaeology / guided walks in local village (e.g. Caerwent) Singing (choirs).
Anonymous 12/08/2025 03:29 PM	TV/film filming - using our lovely landscape to bring stories to life. Art events - such as Art at Penallt Stories and writing about the area - such as Owen Sheers - inspiring things like to the Abergavenny Writing Festival
Anonymous 12/08/2025 04:11 PM	Teaching botanical painting at usk hub. Taking part there in sewing classes and wreath making. Teaching for kidzart charity in llandogo.

Anonymous 12/08/2025 06:19 PM	the river protection ritual activism
Anonymous 12/09/2025 11:28 AM	The Usk Agricultural show The charitable activities of the Llangybi Pumpkin Club The extended bus timetable that allows us greater freedom to travel (even if it still doesn't support an affordable night out)
Anonymous 12/10/2025 09:49 AM	I'm also a textile artist and have opened a quilting studio at Humble By Nature. In addition, I will be opening a retail and workshop space there in the spring. We will be hosting events ranging from beginner classes all the way to workshops by internationally renowned quilt artists as well as launching a membership guild affiliated to the Modern Quilt Guild in the USA.
Anonymous 12/10/2025 11:58 AM	Carol playing with the local brass band Arts festival at Caldicot castle Devauden festival
Anonymous 12/13/2025 11:07 PM	Bore coffi at Ty Croeso and it's related welsh speaking activities including a welsh festival in Chepstow. Live music across a range of venues, indoors and outdoors. Craft spaces like Chepstow Art Space where different crafts can be learnt regularly.
Anonymous 12/15/2025 10:45 AM	Shire Hall Church Musical shows
Anonymous 12/15/2025 10:45 AM	Girls Guides. Brownies (Scouts and Guides Magor) Knitting and nater (Baptist Chapel Magor)
Anonymous 12/15/2025 10:17 AM	Exerciser to keep fit meeting people Keeping Brain active
[REDACTED] 12/15/2025 11:26 AM	Volunteering
Anonymous 12/15/2025 11:36 AM	Writing group, Art Gallery Visit, Various groups at TogetehrWorks and events at the library
Anonymous 12/15/2025 01:45 PM	Yoga, Craft, Art

Anonymous
12/15/2025 01:45 PM
The chepstow festival of arts, the weekly abergavenny market, the abergavenny food festival.

Anonymous
12/15/2025 01:45 PM
None, Not aware of anything exciting happening, lack of accessible info unless it is word of mouth

Anonymous
12/16/2025 01:45 PM
Art lessons

Anonymous
12/16/2025 01:45 PM
I don't know as I work in Bristol and am not fully aware.

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
none

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
two great theatres/cinemas in town

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
General communication with visitors from elsewhere

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
Live shows at Blake Theatre or Savoy and U3A events

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
local panto

Anonymous
12/19/2025 11:51 AM
Planning for Christmas

Anonymous
12/19/2025 11:57 AM
Abergavenny Film Club Singing in the choir (based in Crickhowell but members from Monmouthshire too) Live events at the Borough Theatre, including live streaming of plays, opera etc from the National Theatre, ROH etc

Anonymous
12/19/2025 01:45 PM
This year I have started going back to theatre and musical event - visited Savoy Theatre for the first time. Newport Transporter bridge restoration - attended a talk, looking forward to visitors centre opening. Always interested in talks on local heritage e.g. Living Levels, discovered country park at Rogiet.

[REDACTED] Argaeledd adnoddau, nifer y digwyddiadau

12/19/2025 01:07 PM

Optional question (103 response(s), 32 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q10 | So we've asked about strengths, but what do you think could be better?

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:07 AM

There is loads of theatre - but based on views and others people thoughts - we need more scripted contemporary plays for teens

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:46 AM

State of Melville Theatre. Better Leisure centre in Abergavenny. An Arts Centre in Monmouthshire. Proper Art gallery

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:52 AM

Would love to see more music events and the old market hall being turned into a cultural centre with performance space. Rockfield should be more celebrated and local talent eg overmono invited to promote the area/perform. Understand that Monmouth festival was always great too

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:55 AM

Access for younger people into arts careers - where are the jobs? How do they find out? How can they get support to run their own business?

Anonymous

10/31/2025 10:23 AM

Improve road systems to ensure safe travel. Chepstow is described as a "Gateway to Wales" but there is little to make it welcoming to tourists. It has a castle and a river but these 2 potential attractions are not maximised. Road systems in Chepstow are in dire need of improvement. If the old bridge is to remain permanently closed then a new road system has to be created to replace it.

Anonymous

10/31/2025 12:00 PM

A number of cultural events used to be held at the castle in Chepstow (plays over the summer), and these have virtually disappeared, mainly, as I understand it, due to enormous cost increases to use the performance space in the castle. We do have Castell Roc at that venue, which is a great success and very welcome, but a very different beast from the gentler (and less expensive!) Shakespeare and children's performances of previous years.

Anonymous 10/31/2025 12:28 PM	More opportunities to be creative at affordable prices and for working people - so in the evenings or weekends.
Anonymous 10/31/2025 01:09 PM	the food festival needs a rethink
Anonymous 10/31/2025 02:38 PM	Community engagement with MCC More notice of events Some were in Raglan for community use. Renovate the existing Old School for community use and community events
Anonymous 10/31/2025 03:02 PM	Build community, not just houses. When housing is added, additions to infrastructure, amenities and services must be added. Just adding houses is like doubling your diet but not your clothes.
Anonymous 10/31/2025 03:58 PM	Anything to engage children and teenagers is always a positive thing. More suitable activities during the holidays especially for teenagers would be good. Events that are affordable for families. Particularly outdoor theatre events. It can be too expensive to justify attending when buying four tickets for some events.
Anonymous 10/31/2025 04:50 PM	Welsh Language provision. classes for everyone in evenings
Anonymous 10/31/2025 08:45 PM	Monmouthshire council seems to forget about anything south of Usk
Anonymous 10/31/2025 08:52 PM	Getting to events can be tricky as you get older, especially if you can't drive. No good having a rich but inaccessible venue.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 08:14 AM	Funding!! Always a challenge, especially with a cost of living crisis . I'd like to see a 'Battle of the Bands for under 25s and more inter-generational cultural activities. I think we are fortunate in that our council is generally more open to supporting culture in general than some other places (and of course we are generally a more affluent county). But those in more deprived areas - and in rural areas - do get left behind. Transport is a vital part of the picture! We desperately need more Exhibition space in the county, and staff to organise and promote Exhibitions - more support for artists to get paid is crucial too!
Anonymous	The Borough theatre seems to run nothing but tribute acts - I am sure

11/01/2025 09:01 AM	they bring in money, but it's not very varied. The cinema has a very mainstream offering and doesn't fill up, and yet there is clearly a demand for more interesting films as the film society continues and other venues show films.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 09:09 AM	Childrens activities
Anonymous 11/01/2025 09:42 AM	Communication between volunteer groups to share ideas and build a network
Anonymous 11/01/2025 10:49 AM	Unless you live in 1of the 4 big towns you are not informed or ignored. No news letters, leaflets or local magazines are sent to villages. Almost as if Council and towns don't want to bother with smaller places. Have a central website that tell you what groups & societies are available.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 12:10 PM	Build a bridge across the Raglan Castle to rejoin the village with its Castle. Making a safe walking route.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 12:24 PM	Support for local artists and makers: Sustained funding, shared workspaces, and more visibility for local talent would help nurture the creative economy and keep skills alive. Youth engagement: Expanding creative programmes for young people could encourage new generations to get involved and stay connected to their communities. Green and cultural integration: While Monmouthshire's landscape is a huge asset, more could be done to connect nature and culture — using green spaces for outdoor art, performances, and community projects.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 12:58 PM	More varied theatre at the Borough Abergavenny including plays by great dramatists. Transport links into rural valleys.
██ 11/01/2025 01:29 PM	Co-ordination of information about events and the provision of venues - fewer and fewer as the years go by
Anonymous 11/01/2025 01:44 PM	A better form of communication about upcoming events. A hub for information, an online one-stop-shop we can use to plan visits. Integrating storytelling, drama, dance and music to our historic sites and including local schools in creating exhibitions and or plays/concerts.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 03:25 PM

I would like to see screenings of Opera and Ballet.

[REDACTED]

11/01/2025 07:45 PM

We need more support at the county level for town and village enterprises. We need more joined-up communication between the Monmouthshire towns and villages - increased collaboration between the various groups in those towns. We need to do more to integrate the schools into our cultural activities.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 07:51 PM

Attract more young people

Anonymous

11/01/2025 11:54 PM

It could be better if we did not have to ignore our neighbouring communities across the imaginary border imposed by government. We are unique and not driven by ideals and culture remote from us.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 03:31 PM

Younger entertainment i.e. popular/rock music.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 05:08 PM

Focus on reversing the decline within town and village centres, creating centres for arts, walking and independent businesses.

Anonymous

11/03/2025 07:33 AM

More widespread

Anonymous

11/03/2025 10:06 AM

More evening as I work in week and weekends

Anonymous

11/03/2025 02:59 PM

There is a lack of funding and opportunity for independent theatre. The larger theatres are reliant on tribute bands and amateur musicals to remain financially viable. This means that 'straight' plays and other forms of drama are neglected. The cost of hiring a 200+ theatre is prohibitive if you know that you can only fill 50% capacity. However, 50% is still 100+ people who want to see a different type of entertainment. Ideally, there would be a studio space where new writing and smaller-scale productions could be performed. The Melville Theatre could provide this but needs investment to improve its lighting, sound and seating. Another major problem is the lack of affordable rehearsal space.

Anonymous 11/03/2025 06:45 PM	Provide funding for twinning activities and events, facilitating cultural exchanges
Anonymous 11/06/2025 06:10 PM	Create new venues, even if they are temporary - vacant shops, disused warehouse spaces, out-of-season parkland etc. Find someone with the vision and enthusiasm to help drive a completely new, vibrant energy. Stop relying on the kitsch, the twee, the utterly boring restatements of the past. Embrace new work, everywhere. Take risks!!!
Anonymous 11/06/2025 06:26 PM	1. Making it easier for local voluntary groups to publicise events around the county.
Anonymous 11/07/2025 03:03 PM	Publicity
Anonymous 11/07/2025 04:22 PM	the absence of a 'proper gallery space' in Monmouth - artist studios to rent - planning for live work spaces a serious attempt to promote creative industries through a broader and more challenging 'curriculum' - competitions and masterclasses, hosting major exhibitions everything feels a bit 'safe' and homogenous
Anonymous 11/08/2025 06:02 PM	Better support for Gwent Music - to nurture the next generation. 15 years ago Gwent Music was one of the outstanding music services in the UK, and all of our children benefited hugely from it (one is now a professional musician). It is still doing its very best, but is in a constant battle for resources.
Anonymous 11/10/2025 03:51 PM	Access for people with disability
Anonymous 11/10/2025 05:00 PM	More resources to enable action and promotion of same stories. Library of what promotion materials are already available and potential programmes of works, such as those developed for Offa's Dyke.
Anonymous 11/12/2025 09:16 AM	It's very disappointing that the cultural strategy was written using ChatGPT, when Monmouthshire is home to many highly engaged and literate human beings. It suggests that the council actually doesn't want to engage in culture. Also, there could be a better central website with a more useful and thorough database of upcoming

events. Monmouthshire could also be better at communicating its unique cultural heritage to foster a sense of pride in the town.

Anonymous

11/14/2025 01:43 PM

All areas in Monmouth are completely separate . As in there is no connection. This is a holiday area and is advertised in the media worldwide .Because everyone expects people to view there phones most events go unnoticed and there is a poor turnout. You need a Monmouthshire noticeboard for each are that we can all contribute to , not just the Council. You make every thing complicated .It is hard to fill in messages / give ideas / phone a person .

Anonymous

11/14/2025 07:16 PM

Keep the Baker st cinema going A youth theatre

Anonymous

11/15/2025 09:12 AM

More diversity at aber theatres, comedy spots, original music, variety of music, affordable art classes, evening events fir people working

Anonymous

11/15/2025 01:19 PM

Supporting arts organisations such as Mid Wales Opera that are struggling financially but are of the highest standard.

Anonymous

11/17/2025 07:22 AM

Greater range of activities at Caldicot Castle, making it a 'destination' location where there are improved cafe facilities and more of a space to sit, learn, etc.

Anonymous

11/17/2025 08:09 PM

More range of acts at the Borough theatre. Very poor at the moment, with just third rate acts. No variety.

11/18/2025 12:47 AM

Abergavenny could do with a venue for bands to play and diverse live music.Local boys Alabama 3 played Chepstow castle it would be great to see them in Abergavenny. I would also like to learn French if this is considered cultural.

Anonymous

11/18/2025 03:36 PM

More high quality art exhibitions & temporary history exhibitions. Some empty shops in high streets could have displays in windows.

Anonymous

11/18/2025 08:25 PM

You don't mention the importance of the Gwent levels! Prehistory, Roman, medieval and modern inhabitants and the unique levels habitat

[REDACTED] Ban on demolition of Old Builds constructed prior to 1950s.

11/19/2025 01:53 PM

Anonymous

11/19/2025 09:33 PM

More support for music. This support should start in school to enable the musical heritage to continue.

Anonymous

11/21/2025 03:20 PM

Many small communities in Monmouthshire means limited offering

Anonymous

11/21/2025 03:39 PM

Better facilities in local theatres Wider range of activities available like opera Better parking options like family parking spaces in car parks and more opportunities for free parking

Anonymous

11/22/2025 11:19 AM

Ensure future of theatre and cinemas through grants

Anonymous

11/23/2025 04:06 AM

More access for all so it's not a middle class activity

Anonymous

11/23/2025 09:07 PM

The quality of the Borough theatre facilities and the accessibility of it for local groups. The cost and uncooperative approach of the theatre make it almost unusable for amateur groups

Anonymous

11/24/2025 06:21 PM

Infrastructure and facilities. The Borough theatre, Abergavenny, for example. Probably the jewel in Monmouthshire's cultural crown. Despite the best efforts of the current management team, the facilities for those hiring it are becoming worse. Leaky rooves, decrepit dressing rooms, defective lifts and alarm systems.. Front of house is shiny and new but back stage a completely different story. This along with hugely increased fees for renting it and additional fees for all the extras which used to be included or FOC are making it very nearly impossible for local societies to carry on using it. A long way away from when the Beatles performed there.

Anonymous

11/26/2025 08:28 AM

Funding and support for new writers and new work Theatres such as The Bourough Theatre should be more welcoming and support new work.

Anonymous

11/27/2025 11:40 AM

Promotion needs to be more proactive

Anonymous

11/27/2025 02:42 PM

* Network, resources, training for creatives (and/or signposting of); including professional skills to grow the sector and advocate for it (business, marketing/comms, fundraising, evaluation, advocacy) * A professional development pipeline for creatives wanting to use their skills in education, wellbeing, social impact (ie community/socially engaged arts) * Activities that link culture with education, wellbeing, social impact - professional community arts & arts education shaped by communities * Platforms for emerging performing artists - particularly music

Anonymous

11/27/2025 06:28 PM

I live in Redbrook and it has always been difficult to get arts funding and support to make art in the place that I live and the cross border communities that I am part of. I would like to see empty spaces being taken over by artist groups and more artist led activity supported in the area.

Anonymous

11/28/2025 01:21 PM

Better public transport offers, advertised and improved during large events to help prevent the negative effects of potential increase in traffic on our narrow roads and in our compact towns. Traffic enforcement so those trying to attend events are not juggling poorly parked cars whilst trying to enjoy our wonderful local towns. Encourage and assist more events in town centres to draw the public into our high streets. When redesigning high street improvements, ensuring the spaces are versatile and able to accommodate town centre events well (e.g enabling pop up stalls and pop up bollards that would easily temporarily create living pedestrianised streets)

Anonymous

11/29/2025 05:25 PM

Perhaps better linkage with some of the voluntary groups eg the Women's Network which reaches hundreds of women in the local area and is good at publicising events

Anonymous

12/01/2025 05:38 AM

If not on social media it is hard to find out what is going on. For great culture we tend to head out of local area - bring it to our high streets - all those empty shops could be filled with inspiring things. Help towns thrive by reducing rents for shops and in turn keep people local - then cultural venues in towns will also thrive.

Anonymous

12/02/2025 08:01 PM

Music education in schools. Covid and years of funding cuts has decimated Music provision in schools. It's a disgrace. And so short sighted too - all the health and wellbeing benefits that children could have had, especially after covid.

Anonymous 12/02/2025 08:20 PM	Better visibility if what's on Easier to get round - transport can be a barrier
Anonymous 12/05/2025 02:25 PM	Lots of the main events are organised by community groups, not the local authority. There is room for the LA to encourage more collaboration from across Monmouthshire on an annual events, maybe involving the schools, community centres, etc
Anonymous 12/05/2025 03:22 PM	A bypass around Chepstow enabling through traffic to pass will greatly enhance the area as a destination. A destination for local people to assemble and enjoy all that Chepstow can offer. A premier racecourse which could also be a venue for many more diverse cultural activities. Chepstow Castle is an unaffordable attraction for the vast majority of local people. Much more use could be made of our castle as an attraction. Not necessarily just for concerts and shows but for the general interest of the community. The castle should be freely accessible and not just for school trips and CADW members.
Anonymous 12/05/2025 04:20 PM	More free parking options in Monmouth itself. When volunteering at the Savoy I tend to try to find on-street parking although the free parking in car parks in Monmouth in December is most welcome as I'm usually on duty for a good number of December dates!
Anonymous 12/05/2025 07:01 PM	No major art gallery Seen as Indian towns and not a county
Anonymous 12/06/2025 08:37 AM	Please see number 8. Also invest in libraries, offer more books, make the village centre a nice place to be, deal with anti social behaviours from council houses.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 09:38 AM	Venues are scattered across the County, it is frequently a challenge to get to these places by public transport - especially at the end of a performance - or to find sufficient car parking space. Some support in providing transport to remote areas would help.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 10:01 AM	There is funding available for the Arts from the Welsh Government which is "shared" proportioned to the city and rural areas across the country but it does not reach the actual artists living in monmouthshire. It's given to artists in Cardiff who have inflicted an annual celebration of the river Wye upon us. Rather than allowing local people to organise their own celebrations using locals..artists

actors etc come out from the city to "entertain" in this weird River Festival its not a local tradition and I don't think many locals see any of the funding. Its an almost artificial and superficial celebration led by the city artists using grants that are supposed to be for rural people. I believe local children should be funded with musical instruments in school and excellent music teachers but sadly this is not the case. in addition local bands Monmouth Brass could be funded its a crying shame that Monmouth Carnival is led by children from Bristol playing and celebrating with African culture style Drums. It's great to hear and welcome diversity but in doing so are we letting our own children in Monmouthshire down by not providing them with an outlet to express our culture ? Where is country dancing in the schools? Fifty years ago I was taught dances and we preformed them in the streets of Monmouthshire as a child on St Davids day everyone enjoyed the gift of learning to express themselves in dance to music . Ensure that grants and funding reaches the local people and local talent is actually supported.

Anonymous

12/06/2025 06:24 PM

Provision of musical education for children

Anonymous

12/07/2025 02:33 PM

Wew have worked well with other agencies and the Council but I can see how collaboration across culture and heritage can be strengthened. Our Trust has been hugely successful and we have lots of experience to share

Anonymous

12/07/2025 08:30 PM

Provide a place where young people/bands can perform music.

Support Dance Blast in finding a new venue to expand its circus arm.

Anonymous

12/08/2025 12:25 PM

More

Anonymous

12/08/2025 02:54 PM

Sad to see an important historical venue closing - the Tabernacle on the A48 which was the first non-conformist church in Wales. It may not be viable as a house of worship now, but it is a beautiful small venue that could be given new lease of life for events / exhibitions / community functions.

Anonymous

12/08/2025 03:29 PM

Have more professional art connections - for instance, Llantarnam Grange is seen as an Art Centre for SE Wales - but it is not included in the draft doc and is not invited into the area. Filming takes place - but we don't optimise the profile it gives. In town interpretation - bring the individual stories of the area to life in the streets through

interpretation, artworks, ambassadors, etc Our culture is continually changing as new people join our population - yes, there are the pride events, but how do we include the culture of new members of our community Our industrial stories are often overlooked. Physical and intellectual access is not always good or clear

Anonymous

12/08/2025 04:11 PM

More advertising on paper, as an oldie, I don't scan my phone all day, I look at newspapers and posters in windows. If you don't know what to look for, you don't know what's happening. Use the Abergavenny chronicle or Monmouthshire beacon.....

Anonymous

12/08/2025 06:19 PM

fund the arts and artists. have a council funded post that assists artists in accessing what funding there is in a professional way, and helps alert and guide them to possibilities when they appear.

Anonymous

12/09/2025 11:28 AM

Usk is looking very sad at the moment and business is under pressure to just survive let alone support cultural activities. Usk needs to be better presented. Taxation policies (local with Council tax and business rates and national with employment taxation and agricultural IHT) are going mad and everyone will be tightening their belts. I offer that farming will be in a much worse place in ten year's time. Other than for those directly involved with matters associated with crafts, i.e. those that are struggling to make a living, I doubt there are many locally where cultural issues are high on their day-to-day agenda.

Anonymous

12/10/2025 09:49 AM

Spaces fit for purpose. Affordable art studios and workshop spaces for artists. A funded music festival

Anonymous

12/10/2025 11:58 AM

Better advertising from banners, social media, radio and local newspapers. More youth involvement from schools, kids clubs, societies etc Engage with local clubs/groups that are fill with talented musicians, singers, artists etc

Anonymous

12/13/2025 11:07 PM

Better mapping and sharing of what is available right across Monmouthshire. Its hard to know where to find information other than town council websites and Facebook.

More service users

12/15/2025 11:26 AM

Anonymous

More evening events

12/15/2025 11:36 AM

Anonymous
12/15/2025 01:45 PM
Information on events and caldicot castle (and in the village) on notice boards NOT on webpages, lot's of folks don't do computers

Anonymous
12/16/2025 01:45 PM
Tech motivation

Anonymous
12/16/2025 01:45 PM
Embracing our Welsh heritage and identity. We must remember that we are descended from the Trojans

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
More celebrations at seasonal times of the year

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
More for families

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
historical tours

Anonymous
12/19/2025 11:51 AM
More buses.

Anonymous
12/19/2025 11:57 AM
I would like the library to be open for longer - only 4.5 days - closed for lunch for an hour, early closing on Friday.

Anonymous
12/19/2025 01:45 PM
More work on raising awareness of caring for our countryside and heritage? More volunteering opportunities (I will be retiring soon!) *
More tourist centres like Chepstow.

Optional question (98 response(s), 37 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q11 | How does culture impact you or affect your life?

Anonymous
10/31/2025 09:07 AM
I am an actor - director

Anonymous
It can relieve stress and improve people's lives.

10/31/2025 09:46 AM

Anonymous
10/31/2025 09:52 AM
Proud to be Welsh and our heritage of fighting for people's rights and protecting the underdog

Anonymous
10/31/2025 09:55 AM
Helping my daughter get a career - she has autism - so it occupies a lot of my time

Anonymous
10/31/2025 10:23 AM
If it is accessible it improves a feeling of belonging

Anonymous
10/31/2025 12:00 PM
It is a great joy to me and drives much of my social interaction

Anonymous
10/31/2025 12:28 PM
It makes me feel good - it makes me think deeper and it can just be escapism. It makes me hopeful for the future

Anonymous
10/31/2025 03:02 PM
Just in everyday life. Being able to talk with people who have the same outlook on life. Events which I like and where I can feel relaxed and at home.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 03:58 PM
It connects me to the past and present (forming my identity) and helps to create a united community with shared values which makes Monmouthshire a great place to live.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 08:52 PM
I am involved in art both running practical art groups and an art society which encourages members to visit galleries, stately homes and gardens in addition to providing lectures. This keeps me and participants busy. Cultural activities allow one to interact with those with similar interests and sparks ideas and enjoyment.

Anonymous
11/01/2025 08:14 AM
It results in improved community connection and therefore personal wellbeing. We need space to discuss/express and explore ideas through the arts and I feel Abergavenny buzzes with these activities, though I personally don't have any creative hobbies. I love attending the concerts and performances here (and there are many) but I must budget carefully to attend only the priority ones for me.

Anonymous
11/01/2025 09:01 AM
I like to go to music gigs, stand up comedy, but usually end up going to Cardiff as there is not much locally.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 09:09 AM

Well being Health

Anonymous

11/01/2025 09:42 AM

Keeps me active physically and mentally. Keeps me connected with our local community and it's residents.contributes to the general well being.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 10:49 AM

Theatre visits, historical sites visits and enjoying nature. Sport.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 12:10 PM

I like visiting museums, Castles other towns in Wales.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 12:24 PM

Sense of wellbeing - makes Abergavenny an attractive place to visit and supports the economy.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 12:58 PM

Very important for my happiness and social contact.

[REDACTED]
11/01/2025 01:29 PM

Very directly as performers, musical directors and choral festival organisers

Anonymous

11/01/2025 01:44 PM

It offers a bit of peace from the relentless day to day and whether you are exploring a ruin, listening to music or trying new food at the night market, it gives you a sense of belonging and a place in the world.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 03:25 PM

Culture is part of my whole life. I enjoy developing an understanding of our local history as part of Welsh history as a whole. , Art history is a particular interest as well as concerts in the borough theatre and those performed by Gwent Bach. I belong to Isca Probus and The History Society. A recent development has been the film nights and talks organised by Bookish

[REDACTED]
11/01/2025 07:45 PM

I work for a Monmouth institution - the Haberdashers' School, and live in the county's countryside. I am a historian, and part of the Monmouth History and Field Society, and have a love for the history of the region. I am part of the committee organizing the annual medieval festival in Monmouth, and am also connected through family to the running of the annual Monmouth Show. I try and partake of the opportunities for cultural engagement and enrichment within the

county when I can, and when I am aware of them.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 07:51 PM

It enables me to meet more people and to understand the importance of new and traditional culture is in Monmouthshire

Anonymous

11/01/2025 11:54 PM

Makes me really sad that we are lumped in with people and communities with dissimilar history and heritage.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 03:31 PM

Makes me happy.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 05:08 PM

It's the difference between towns and centres in South Monmouthshire acting as true communities rather than just dormitories for urban economies to east and west.

Anonymous

11/03/2025 07:33 AM

No at all

Anonymous

11/03/2025 10:06 AM

Enhance my life and gives me a positive attitude and outlook.

Anonymous

11/03/2025 02:59 PM

I am the Artistic Director of Happy Dragons Theatre CIC. Our mission is to create performances for, with and about the people of Wales. On a daily basis I am liaising with performers, venues and other creative artists. Monmouthshire has a vibrant artistic community but everyone is struggling to fund their work.

Anonymous

11/06/2025 06:10 PM

I'm a professional artist and educator specialising in installation and sculpture with a national and international cv.

Anonymous

11/06/2025 06:26 PM

1.I am heavily involved in a range of activities. They give me a sense of purpose and well being.

Anonymous

11/07/2025 03:03 PM

?

Anonymous

11/07/2025 04:22 PM

all day every day - the question is a little daft. Culture is the sea we swim in

Anonymous My lifeblood.
11/08/2025 06:02 PM

Anonymous It roots us in our past, but enables us to have vision for the future.
11/10/2025 05:00 PM

Anonymous Culture impacts all human beings and affects all our lives profoundly in every possible way.
11/12/2025 09:16 AM

Anonymous Culture has always been good for me . I have had a lot happening with family for the last 20 years . Being able to walk in a park or pop to Tintern Station Cafe . Visit some of our free attractions is brilliant and has helped me stay sane . Overall good for mental health . I must mention the improvement in the cycle paths has helped . But as an OAP the condition of Monnow Street surface is very danerous .
11/14/2025 01:43 PM

Anonymous Gives me insight into other people's lives I love being absorbed by learning something new Live music brings joy
11/14/2025 07:16 PM

Anonymous Would like to be more involved but time is a factor, therefore has to be really worthwhile and affordable
11/15/2025 09:12 AM

Anonymous Theatre has always been a big part of my life. Craft activities, local get-togethers, talks, arts education take up most of my time. Aesthetics are very important to me. I think we all require beauty in life.
11/15/2025 01:19 PM

Anonymous Enhances it.
11/17/2025 08:09 PM

[REDACTED] It enhances my life when I can find things to do . makes me feel invigorated and inspired. I live on my own so anything that gets me out of the house is great I often find out after the event whats been rather than is going on. A website listing events daily in Abergavenny or monmouthshire would be good.
11/18/2025 12:47 AM

Anonymous It's amazing going to see art, sculpture, paintings in museums & art galleries. Also getting a sense of place & history in castles and historic houses.
11/18/2025 03:36 PM

Anonymous Make me feel connected to Wales and its people
11/18/2025 08:25 PM

[REDACTED] much
11/19/2025 01:53 PM

Anonymous Extremely positive on my wellbeing.
11/19/2025 09:33 PM

Anonymous I'd like to be able to afford more events (music and dance especially) as it provided a sense of well-being and joy
11/21/2025 03:20 PM

Anonymous Pastimes, making friends, contributing to local economy, building community
11/21/2025 03:39 PM

Anonymous Gets us off the sofa and away from the television and out into our community
11/22/2025 11:19 AM

Anonymous It makes life more colourful
11/23/2025 04:06 AM

Anonymous Hugely important. Gives a sense of civic togetherness, helps my mental health to have such a fulfilling hobby.
11/24/2025 06:21 PM

Anonymous It helps my mental health to put on shows and events. The problem is that there is not much support and never a way to build these skills into a career. It's always done with struggle of little money.
11/26/2025 08:28 AM

Anonymous it is my area of which I am proud
11/27/2025 11:40 AM

Anonymous Music and the arts specifically, are central to my life - they have shaped me and continue to do so, and give my life meaning and purpose. This is a poem I wrote ten years ago and this is the best way I can sum it up: Arts and culture are worth it because ... With them, we are more. More human More empathic More inspired More inventive More resourceful More fulfilled More creative More visionary More future-proof More socially aware More globally aware More economically viable With them we are more of a society.
11/27/2025 02:42 PM

Anonymous It's part of nearly everything I do and enjoy
11/27/2025 06:28 PM

Anonymous Culture as I see it shapes my beliefs, my values, and my social connections. My Welsh identity forms a major role in how I see myself and how I express myself.
11/28/2025 01:21 PM

Anonymous sense of belonging, sense of responsibility, sense of appreciating the culture of Wales and the Welsh language
11/29/2025 05:25 PM

Anonymous It is a huge part of my life - both my work and my leisure time. I consume lots but filling in this has made me realise that I don't do much locally. I tend to go to London or Cardiff.
12/01/2025 05:38 AM

Anonymous What is life without music or art? I am a designer and have worked for nearly 30 years as a designer. Do the arts are very important and sadly always undervalued.
12/02/2025 08:01 PM

Anonymous It improves it
12/02/2025 08:20 PM

Anonymous A sense of pride in my area, keeping my mind and body active and bringing joy! I also love to support local businesses whenever possible
12/05/2025 02:25 PM

Anonymous Imported or imposed cultural activities do nothing for me except to remind me that local culture is considered irrelevant. Culture is what we are and how we live with each other.
12/05/2025 03:22 PM

Anonymous It's very much a part of my life. I have a great love of theatre and cinema. I'm an avid reader and am happy to recommend book shops in Monmouth and Chepstow (not forgetting the charity shops!) I started volunteering at the Savoy Theatre, Monmouth when I retired from "the day job" and it has given me so much joy over the years.
12/05/2025 04:20 PM

Anonymous It is how I relax, how I socialise, how I like to spend my free time
12/05/2025 07:01 PM

Anonymous 12/06/2025 08:37 AM	I choose to live in Monmouthshire because of how it used to be. Now you're turning it into something it doesn't want to be. Stop your housing development plans in portskewett and Broomes. Stop the traveller site. Just please stop. The traffic is already awful and you're making it worse.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 09:38 AM	Without singing or listening to music performances my life would be poorer and I would not feel valued.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 10:01 AM	What is life without music dance and art? Culture is central to my life
Anonymous 12/06/2025 06:24 PM	Music is very important to me and actively participating provides friendships, mental (and physical) activity and entertainment/education for residents of the county.
Anonymous 12/07/2025 02:33 PM	Ingrained
Anonymous 12/07/2025 08:30 PM	It is nourishing for the soul
Anonymous 12/08/2025 12:25 PM	Love it
Anonymous 12/08/2025 02:54 PM	I sing every week in choir (in Newport) and at other venues wherever I can. I like to learn about local (ancient) history.
Anonymous 12/08/2025 03:29 PM	As a professional artist and heritage interpreter, it is part of all aspects of my life
Anonymous 12/08/2025 04:11 PM	I like a good concert but there don't seem to be many. I read lots of historical books about artists and their lives. I will travel to London for botanical exhibitions.
Anonymous 12/08/2025 06:19 PM	it is life.. the rest is just survival!
Anonymous 12/09/2025 11:28 AM	Other than the events mentioned earlier, hardly at all in terms of attending Monmouthshire events. We are more likely to be found in

Swansea enjoying something at Swansea Arena or in Cardiff attending one of its venues. The one impact aligning with Monmouthshire is public transport. It has improved recently but it is still not possible to attend events outside of the area and return late in the night. Attending cultural events its therefore a very expensive activity that more often than not involves overnight hotel stays.

Anonymous
12/10/2025 09:49 AM

See above

12/10/2025 09:49 AM

Anonymous
12/10/2025 11:58 AM

Art is a big part of my life from my hobbies of playing in a brass band entertaining the local community at park events/festivals/shows etc But also art is a big part of my life in work, working as a mural artist, window artist and face painter for the last 12 years. My house is enriched with my children playing piano and other musical instruments, being creative with art. My husband is an oil painter artist trained in traditional arts. Our house is fill of art and creative activities.

Anonymous
12/13/2025 11:07 PM

Its what makes us human.

12/13/2025 11:07 PM

Anonymous
12/15/2025 09:16 AM

Interesting, reason to go out and learn about local area

Anonymous
12/15/2025 10:45 AM

me do stuff

Anonymous
12/15/2025 10:17 AM

Gives me an interest

12/15/2025 10:17 AM

12/15/2025 11:26 AM

Pop Culture - i.e Filming provide me with distractions, volunteering gets me out of the house and prevents isolation and depression.

Anonymous
12/15/2025 11:36 AM

Companionship

12/15/2025 11:36 AM

Anonymous
10/15/2005 01:45 PM

Confidence strength Positive thinking

Anonymous

Anonymous

The strong culture gives connection in shared interests and achievement.

Anonymous
12/16/2025 11:34 AM
Enjoyable when attend activities are generally not local and need
transport at night time buses are not good

Anonymous Improve your knowledge and understanding of other countries
12/16/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous 12/16/2025 01:45 PM Like it

Anonymous
12/16/2025 01:45 PM
I love visual arts and film/theatre etc. My favourite actor is Welsh legend Richard Burton.

Anonymous i read a lot and have been on local stage
12/18/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous
12/18/2025 01:45 PM
It is important to embrace all our differences as it is enlightening and hearing and sharing music, poetry etc... from other cultures.

Anonymous It gives me pleasure and is good for well-being
12/18/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous I have a strong interest in history and enjoy learning about any local areas
12/18/2025 01:45 PM

Anonymous
12/19/2025 11:57 AM
It brightens up the long winter months, November to March (when the
clocks go back to Winter time)

Anonymous
12/19/2025 01:45 PM
I enjoy trying out/ learning about new things/ experiences. An opportunity to organise a day out/ event with friends.

Optional question (98 response(s), 37 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q12 | After reading the draft strategy, is there anything else you would like to see reflected in it?

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:07 AM

More input on the use of the theatre at cheaper cost for locals.

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:52 AM

More concrete dynamic actions

Anonymous

10/31/2025 09:55 AM

As per my thoughts I. Qn10. Also we need a central website with everything on - it's hard to find on the internet - if you don't know its name you can't find out about it.

Anonymous

10/31/2025 12:00 PM

Street festivals are a great way of bringing people to an area, and bringing residents together. They have been very successful, but often struggle to happen at all due to the pressures they put on the volunteers who organise them. For instance, I understand from the organisers that the hugely popular Chepstow Festival of Arts will not be taking place next year (or possibly ever again) due to the few organisers finding it difficult to shoulder the burden of all the work involved. I would like the strategy to cover ways of encouraging and supporting volunteers in a practical way that could help even small groups organise significant events without having to make huge personal sacrifices - for instance, by providing office or technical support.

Anonymous

10/31/2025 12:28 PM

It felt a bit dry. But I am so glad you have included the idea to expand educational course offers. I would love to be able to learn Welsh in person in Monmouth and I love attending art/craft courses. Please have at least some of these in the evenings and weekends. And I like the idea of a events calendar.

Anonymous

10/31/2025 02:38 PM

The draft document could have a note of memorandum or a glossy. Who are the partners referred to in the document it may have been good if there had been namedMCC and partners. It would be difficult to review the opportunities in the community and the current creative community when MCC are cutting funding and closing or not maintaining the current buildings

Anonymous 10/31/2025 03:02 PM	As above, build community, not just houses. Also build at a rate where people can be integrated into the community. If you build too fast, you create opposition and us-and-them cultural clashes.
Anonymous 10/31/2025 08:52 PM	Culture needs to be accessible and during the past couple of decades we seem to have gone backwards in providing free culture for all. The. I toria. Philanthropists were aware that everyone needed access to art galleries, museums and libraries for free education. Now we have museums, great educational and cultural tools, which don't have curators, no public art galleries in Monmouthshire and libraries without qualified librarians. Old hat you might say, we are in the digital age. I take my grandchildren to museums and art galleries and they interact with what they see. When they come to visit they regard Wales as the land of castles, history waiting to be explored and the Shire Hall gets a big thumbs up too. If we are looking for art galleries though, it becomes a little trickier.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 08:14 AM	I'm delighted to see the Action Plan including the Forum and a Cultural Alliance. Pleased also to see GAVO as a participant! (I work for GAVO, in community development and support many third sector organisations). I fully support Active Travel, but we also need to be realistic that dark evenings for older people with mobility issues means some form of community transport/bus/car transport is required. Transport is a barrier to involvement in the arts for rural communities - I'd love to see the transport element covered in every bid and project plan, as it was with Abergavenny Pride. The Draft Strategy looks exciting and I like the emphasis on inclusion, but this could be even greater so that young people as well as those traditionally excluded from cultural activities can be supported to thrive.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 09:01 AM	I'd like to see more emphasis on young people - opportunities for young people to participate in cultural events, learn skills, train for careers in the arts etc. There is not much for young people in Abergavenny.
Anonymous 11/01/2025 09:42 AM	Events that are intergenerational, like the Food Festival, Writing festival etc are good for the community. Summer/Winter fairs support local businesses which help the community thrive
Anonymous 11/01/2025 12:10 PM	Depends what you are going to spend my council tax on and if the Council can afford it without diminishing its main services such as education, social care, highways, rubbish collection.

[REDACTED] A definition of what you mean by the term culture.

11/01/2025 12:59 PM

Anonymous

No

11/01/2025 01:44 PM

Anonymous

I feel that Monmouthshire does quite a good job of promoting cultural events .

[REDACTED] 11/01/2025 07:45 PM

I would have liked to see more about maximising the opportunities for combining education and cultural enrichment, both in formal education (schools and colleges) but also in community education and organisations, such as history societies, U3A, and the like.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 07:51 PM

Welsh Traditional Music and Morris Dancing. Please please acknowledge the extensive network of bell ringers in the county and how they cooperate and collaborate with each other. If you want to know more about these then please contact any of the following Welsh Traditional Music - CLERA Morris Dancing - Isca Morris Bellringing www.llanmon.org.uk Also Please please please do not ignore the marvellous cultural impact of the Gwent Federation of Women's Institutes

Anonymous

11/01/2025 11:54 PM

The identity of Chepstow as an unique community within Monmouthshire and our greater area.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 03:31 PM

Festivals are great in the summer but indoor evrnt in cold wet months.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 05:08 PM

Greater recognition of threats and opportunities from large population and cultural centres both in Cardiff/Newport and Bristol conurbations.

Anonymous

11/03/2025 07:33 AM

To become more wide reaching

Anonymous

11/03/2025 02:59 PM

The strategy is good and very welcome. However, there needs to be a clear message that funding will be available for each initiative and how it will be allocated. Please liaise with stakeholders when determining how any grant-giving process will be conducted. There

may be a tendency to underestimate the number of theatre creators in Monmouthshire. Noticeably, question 6 of this survey didn't list 'director', or 'writer'. If you are creating a Monmouthshire Culture Strategy, consider also developing a festival that celebrates the arts in the area. There is currently a writing festival in Abergavenny, and people are willing to set up an Arts Festival (to include theatre). A Monmouthshire Arts Festival would encourage tourism and boost the local economy. Consider working alongside wildlife and eco charities to create artistic collaborations taking place in the natural environment of Monmouthshire.

Anonymous

11/03/2025 06:45 PM

More emphasis on twinning and cultural exchanges

Anonymous

11/06/2025 06:10 PM

see 10 above

Anonymous

11/06/2025 06:26 PM

The cultural offer can be put into two different categories. On the one hand there are the "big"/professional attractions (e.g. castles) that attract visitors into the county. The business case is important here. On the other hand there are the "small"/amateur attractions where the key aims are community cohesion, promotion of sense of place and development of skills etc. This is implied in the strategy but needs to be more clearly distinguished and support tailored in different ways.

Anonymous

11/07/2025 03:03 PM

?

Anonymous

11/07/2025 04:22 PM

the draft strategy lacks ambition and imagination - it does not show the levels of investment or lack thereof - the priorities for the next 3 years etc. It does not segment either audiences or artists (in the broad sense of the word). for example art gives no examples of the amazing individual artists in our midst. whilst I understand the need for a glossy approach I would have preferred a more creative and engaging strategy - at a minimum the artists included should have been credited there should be ideas for residencies, bursaries, tool and resource banks, workshops and courses

Anonymous

11/08/2025 06:02 PM

A bigger emphasis on children and young people.

Anonymous

11/10/2025 05:00 PM

Countryside Access Improvement Plan 2020-2030 contains some actions to include and there are projects we are already working on .

Need to minimise impact on use of sensitive and protected sites, including scheduled ancient monuments Be aware of staff resourcing and ability to do more - partnership work with others essential for delivery investigate opportunities to engage with and enable young people to help forum/library/training/updated information for ambassadors

Anonymous

11/12/2025 09:16 AM

A focus on celebrating and investing in human cultural activity as opposed to lazy use of ChatGPT, because being human is the entire point of culture.

Anonymous

11/14/2025 01:43 PM

Its seems to tell you everthing you need to know . But you have to be connected to know about it .I was sent information about this servey from the Local History Group . If I wasnt a member I wouldnt know about it . Even though I have lived in the same area of Monmouth for over 70 years.

Anonymous

11/15/2025 01:19 PM

It all looks very worthy but there is little mention of how it's going to be funded

Anonymous

11/17/2025 08:09 PM

The strategy was just a collection of management-speak verbiage. Cut it in half and just produce a sequence of measurable commitments.

11/18/2025 12:47 AM

I know there is Abergavenny focus, but I would like to see more things to do in it and more social events like fashion shows. A board games night. more things where people can interact and get to know each other. It would be good to have a specific events based paper. Since the Hill closed I have found it difficult to find evening classes that would be good if there was an adult learning centre. I would like to see more plays and theatre at affordable prices. A website listing events would be good in fact invaluable to me.

Anonymous

11/18/2025 03:36 PM

More focus on visual arts.

Anonymous

11/18/2025 08:25 PM

Greater focus on Welsh language and unique history

Please see my PDF Umbrella Representation which has many overlapping themes.

11/19/2025 01:53 PM

Anonymous More funding for music.

11/19/2025 09:33 PM

Anonymous Better parking opportunities during large events like the food festival, more emphasis on improving the events and culture already in the area rather than opening more events

Anonymous More accessibility for the marginalised

11/23/2025 04:06 AM

Anonymous I would like to see more mention of your venues and how you will be supporting them and securing their future.

Anonymous Allow creatives in Wales to write and put things on that are not necessarily set in Wales. It stops creatives being free to showcase a wide choice of storytelling.

Anonymous As a start it is very good

11/27/2025 11:40 AM

Anonymous Well done to all involved, this is a great piece of work and captures Monmouthshire, as much as anyone ever could! Here are the notes I wrote (fast!) as I was reading it, in case they are of any help: P8 diagram - some are societal/individual benefits / outcomes (wellbeing, health, improved economy) some are what these result in/contribute to - tourism, cultural activities, creative capacity. Could the distinction be made perhaps in colour or design. So that Creative capacity -> cultural activities leads to health, wellbeing, improved economy improved tourism? P11 - active travel routes - link to culture needs to be clearer? The 'What's happening' sections are currently: Festivals & shows | Art | Community P14 - art could be misinterpreted. Perhaps call it Visual and performing arts? P14 - choirs? I may have missed it, but there are many community/voluntary arts groups, particularly choirs - could these be included? eg Monmouth Community Choir, Monmouth Choral Society, Kingfisher Choir. Perhaps on page 14. There's some repetition between the main copy eg what's happening in our communities, and the 'what's happening' boxouts. Could the word count be reduced by rationalising these? eg Agricultural shows para on p15 could be removed, there will be other examples too Overall it feels difficult to 'grasp' the breadth of what's happening as it's all described in prose. Would it be helpful to have a page which lists the type of activities

and groups. A comprehensive list of the categories of activities. Then it would also be easier to see what's missing. Eg professional participatory arts run by professional community/socially engaged artists and shaped by the community, has always been a gap in Monmouthshire with a few notable exceptions. P22/22 - table - very pleased to see this so clearly laid out, feels very hopeful. It seems more like an internal document, but I guess this is? If you do a shorter/public facing version, could it be written in a way that demonstrates what it will mean for people? Action plan generally - how will individuals, communities, continue to shape all aspects? Probably not a question for this stage, but it would be great for MCC to be leading the way in co-production, co-creation, co-commissioning. Generally, perhaps I missed it, I wanted to see the strategy enabling/catalysing/having as a goal, stronger links between wider policy/sector areas - health, ec dev, social care, civic life/citizenship/community cohesion. These are mentioned throughout, but I wonder if it should be outlined as a specific strategic goal? To embed culture as contributing to wider policy outcomes, to being essential for individual and community thriving? May help for advocacy to mention the Wellbeing of future generations and specifically reflect their wording of the 7 goals? GENERALLY: I love the style and the way culture is described, but in the arts/culture we often fall into the trap of writing for ourselves, in a way we're used to describing arts/culture, which can alienate people. To engage the wider public, could a version be created that is shorter, less wordy, scannable, more conversational, direct and easier to digest? Written for the general reader, including questions/prompts to them, in order to engage them? So they see themselves and their friends and family in this? Also, some of this appears to have been written with ChatGPT (as a writer I can recognise the style!) which is fine, but I think over time other people will increasingly recognise the style. To future proof it, it would be good to perhaps edit to strip out some of those aspects.

Anonymous

11/28/2025 01:21 PM

a stronger Welsh identity for the future of Monmouthshire

Anonymous

12/01/2025 05:38 AM

More work with local schools or colleges for apprenticeship in the sector. More about volunteering opportunities for all ages Link sport with culture more - they seem very separate communities but should be linked more eg Santa fun run. Include something about supporting Monmouth specifically to recover from flooding. This is mostly a report about what is happening now not about a clear vision for the future. A community consultation is great but republish this afterwards to show the impact and a clear vision.

Anonymous 12/02/2025 08:01 PM	You need to invest in music education for children if you don't want to lose music in Monmouthshire. Chepstow School is a good example of a school whose headteachers have not valued music education.
Anonymous 12/02/2025 08:20 PM	Welsh language
Anonymous 12/05/2025 02:25 PM	No, I'm glad you have a plan
Anonymous 12/05/2025 03:22 PM	Monmouthshire generated authentic culture of the local people and by the local people.
Anonymous 12/05/2025 04:20 PM	The draft is pretty comprehensive and I applaud the work put into it.
Anonymous 12/05/2025 07:01 PM	Maybe try not to be everything to everyone but define our real strengths is. More support for the creative people living in the county.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 09:38 AM	Interesting that concerts, both Choral and instrumental are only briefly mentioned, often as part of larger festivals. Sadly I could find no mention of the bi-annual Usk Choral FestivalThere are some large groups such as the Male Voice choirs, the various amateur orchestras and smaller choirs that perform locally, encourage participation and community involvement.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 10:01 AM	Monmouth library cannot deliver craft and art classes anywhere near as effectively as Usk and Abergavenny because the room allocated for this is too small. Yet there is shire hall or bridges both owned by the council...please look into providing adequate classes in Monmouth as there is disparity. Please support festivals that are actually local rather than artificially created to use up funding allocated for rural areas by those in the city.
Anonymous 12/06/2025 06:24 PM	Support for extra curricular musical activity for children
Anonymous 12/07/2025 02:33 PM	I would love to see you mention Plas Gunter Mansion as its probably one of the largest cultural heritage projects in the County - but I know you can't mention everything

Anonymous More staff in library/ hub/postoffice. Usk.
12/08/2025 12:25 PM

Anonymous Support for local landmarks (the Tabernacle on A48 being a key example).
12/08/2025 02:54 PM

Anonymous It is all very low key - we do need to have some things that are show stoppers. The Aber Food Festival is a well known event - however, is it dated - how can it be refreshed and made as relevant to locals as it is to visitors - and how can that 1 weekend inspire and create commercial and community activity/profile throughout the year. This approach can be applied to each community - take the lead theme and build - make the Monmouthshire presentation the best, most individual in the UK - rather than undersell, which is how I read the draft plan
12/08/2025 03:29 PM

Anonymous More of a route to link up with other artists, a lot of us work in isolation and dont know where to go or who to meet.
12/08/2025 04:11 PM

Anonymous it seems like a good start. Training the local press to report on cultural events in a more nuanced way would be helpful, and help create a more cultural feel to their articles.
12/08/2025 06:19 PM

Anonymous I didn't see anything aligning with how activities will be financed. Without firm financial commitments - whether they be from local funds or otherwise - all we have is a lot of words. Let's face it, the Council cannot even keep the streets clean and tidy at the moment. The road network is still in a sorry state - notwithstanding local repairs in Usk - and we do not have a public transport system that can serve the whole community or transport visitors to-and-from local attractions in a timely manner. The focus on "active travel" is not something I can get excited about as a 67 year-old and we cannot even walk from Llangybi into Usk without putting our lives at risk.
12/09/2025 11:28 AM

Anonymous Stronger cultural tourism. And I do think it's important that the council make spaces easily available
12/10/2025 09:49 AM

Anonymous Please involve local creatives from professional and amateur. Lots of talent in the area! Consultations that are accessible from venue choice, day, night and give plenty of notice.
12/10/2025 11:58 AM

Anonymous

12/12/2025 03:01 PM

It would be better if the draft strategy were combined with the tourism

strategy and would question the need for a separate cultural strategy as this is the first one. There are only 2 other places in Wales which seem to have one and the Newport one does seem to have a list of outcomes. It would help if it concentrated more on the historical side of our culture with the museums and heritage and historical places and castles as each market town has a castle. It would be better not to include a page on faith as it fails to reflect the traditional and cultural values in Monmouthshire which are still Christian as the Census 2021 shows that is the stated religion of about half of the population of Monmouthshire and fails to include the important events of Christmas and Easter including the turning on of the Christmas lights in the market towns. There are also important historical sites of interest to both local people and visitors within our market towns and villages which are part of what makes Monmouthshire special. The Conwyn cultural strategy 2021-2026 has a section on places, heritage sites, museums and galleries. Worth looking at priority 1 in the Newport cultural strategy 2025-2035 and the 4 outcomes listed on page 22. It is important that Monmouthshire maintains its older heritage buildings like Shire Hall, The Bridges and the former Abergavenny Library. The cultural strategy could include places, heritage sites , museums and galleries and places of historical interest. Some example below: Places of Historic Interest in both towns and villages In Mathern you can look up the history of the St Tewdrics well and the church. Also in Earlswood you can find the oldest Methodist chapel visited by John Wesley on horseback known as the founder of Methodism. Earlswood Chapel It is claimed that this is the oldest Methodist chapel still in use in Wales. Founded in 1791 by Ann Lewis (Rosser) who was so inspired by the preaching of John Wesley that she set up prayer meetings in her little thatched cottage in Earlswood and founded a branch of the Methodist Missionary Society. The cottage soon became too small and money was raised to build the chapel, which was founded in 1791, though it may not have been built until 1799. St Tewdric's Well, Mathern By tradition at this spring King Tewdric's wounds were washed after the battle near Tintern c470 AD against the pagan Saxons. He died a short way off and by his wishes a church (now the village church) was built over his grave. The well, within the Mathern Conservation Area, was restored by Monmouth District Council in 1977. The above details are based on information given on two plaques on the well's enclosure fence. The Shire Hall in Agincourt Square, Monmouth, Wales, is a very important historic building. It was built in 1724 and used to be the main court building for Monmouthshire. In 1839 and 1840, a famous trial took place here. It was the trial of John Frost and other Chartist leaders. They were tried for serious crimes related to their fight for people's rights. The building was also a busy market place. Today, Monmouthshire County Council owns the Shire Hall. Visitors can use audio guides to explore Courtroom 1. It now serves as a Tourist

Information Centre and offices for Monmouth Town Council. Parts of the building are open for everyone to visit. Abergavenny Former Carnegie Library History Built 1905 and designed by B J Francis of Abergavenny. Paid for by the Carnegie Foundation at a cost of £4000 although Andrew Carnegie refused the invitation to open it. It was opened by the Marquis of Abergavenny and the Lord Mayor of London on 8th September 1906. Exterior Coursed squared rock-faced sandstone with Bath stone ashlar quoins and dressings, natural slate roofs. Two storeyed central section flanked by single storey halls at right angles to each other. Gabled elevation in stone facing the corner between Victoria Street and Baker Street, this is the gable end of the left hand hall. Centre section has a large bay window of 4-lights divided by stone mullions and topped by battlements, with small window behind. This is flanked by lancets with traceried heads; six transomed windows to left return; plain roof with central ventilator. The gable has four finials and a central statue of a woman holding a book at the apex. To the right is a two storey section with a Gothic door which is the main entrance, hoodmould with carved stops, the head of Andrew Carnegie (left) and the Marquis of Abergavenny (right), above this is a 3-light stone mullioned window with sash set back to right. To the right again a hall with four windows with transoms, angled ends and a hipped roof with central ventilator. Rear elevation not inspected. The Shire Hall in Agincourt Square, Monmouth, Wales, is a very important historic building. It was built in 1724 and used to be the main court building for Monmouthshire. In 1839 and 1840, a famous trial took place here. It was the trial of John Frost and other Chartist leaders. They were tried for serious crimes related to their fight for people's rights. The building was also a busy market place. Today, Monmouthshire County Council owns the Shire Hall. Visitors can use audio guides to explore Courtroom 1. It now serves as a Tourist Information Centre and offices for Monmouth Town Council. Parts of the building are open for everyone to visit. Castle history for each of the towns

Anonymous

12/13/2025 11:07 PM

More information about venues, activity and local community events. The strategy feels very focused on a few festivals where as there is a lot more on offer every day.

Anonymous

12/15/2025 10:45 AM

No

Anonymous

12/15/2025 01:45 PM

What is the draft Strategy?

Anonymous

I haven't read it! I think that there is a need to emphasize the key role

12/16/2025 01:45 PM	Monmouthshire has played and still plays within the development of modern Wales.
Anonymous 12/18/2025 01:45 PM	Monmouth needs to bring in more cultural events like other market towns
Anonymous 12/18/2025 01:45 PM	N/A
Anonymous 12/18/2025 01:45 PM	N/A
Anonymous 12/19/2025 11:57 AM	Not applicable
Anonymous 12/19/2025 01:45 PM	n/a
Optional question (74 response(s), 61 skipped) Question type: Essay Question	
Q13 Finally, do you have thoughts on how can we develop new ways of working collaboratively between the public, private, and voluntary sectors.	
Anonymous 10/31/2025 09:07 AM	In terms of theatre - making an Monmouthshire youth theatre festival.
Anonymous 10/31/2025 09:46 AM	Forming an Arts committee and get volunteers involved.
Anonymous 10/31/2025 09:55 AM	Central website Monthly young artists forum to hear from them,
Anonymous 10/31/2025 12:00 PM	The proposed Creative Alliance needs to be real and accessible. Too often in the past, resources like this have been unknown and invisible to groups that might make use of them - so that a small number "in the know" get the benefits, but others are simply unaware. If the alliance can advise new and existing groups, so that they are aware of opportunities for funding, support, publicity, collaboration, etc., that would be a great and welcome step forward.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 12:28 PM
clear communication, easy to find information about how to volunteer, what's available,

Anonymous
10/31/2025 02:38 PM
Its difficult to answer this.....

Anonymous
10/31/2025 03:02 PM
What happened to night classes? These can help the local community and economy by building knowledge and skills. All you need is the space, volunteers and good marketing. I am probably not atypical in being happy to teach on a voluntary basis.

Anonymous
10/31/2025 08:52 PM
There seems to be a very fragmentary approach, lots of people contributing to the vibrant cultural life but no one place to find out what's happening. It's great that Monmouthshire has appeared in films but we are bigger than that. There are so many talented M experienced and knowledgeable people in the Shire who could help to create a strong cultural identity. Use them

Anonymous
11/01/2025 08:14 AM
Credit must be given to MCC for being more open to this than many councils! I wonder if GAVO's 'Community Conversations' could be a model for specifically arts/culture-based monthly forums?

Anonymous
11/01/2025 09:09 AM
Financial help

Anonymous
11/01/2025 09:42 AM
The recent thriving community event in Abergavenny was great but a list of local volunteer groups who you contacted individually to advertise the event in advance would help.Create a list of interested parties ready to contact for any events.

Anonymous
11/01/2025 10:49 AM
As suggested a central website with details of clubs,groups and societies in county. Also opportunities for volunteering.

Anonymous
11/01/2025 12:10 PM
Highways so people can get to towns, events, historic monuments.

Anonymous
11/01/2025 12:24 PM
Monmouthshire could link groups more easily through a shared cultural network — an online hub or quarterly forum connecting artists, venues, schools, and local businesses. Public and private partnerships could be encouraged, with local shops and cafés hosting

or sponsoring creative events. Shared community spaces and "cultural corners" would bring together crafts, wellbeing, and education. Simple communication tools — like a joint mailing list or "What's On" guide — would help raise visibility, while local cultural connectors could keep projects and people linked across the county.

[REDACTED]
11/01/2025 01:29 PM

Greater degree of information sharing as well as funding, as well as information about where other sources of funding can be accessed

Anonymous

11/01/2025 01:44 PM

No

Anonymous

11/01/2025 03:25 PM

Perhaps a citizens panel to promote links between the different sectors.

[REDACTED]
11/01/2025 07:45 PM

Talk directly to the local groups already doing so much in their own towns, and provide a conduit and forum for getting those groups to talk to each other so that the whole can become greater than the sum of their parts.

Anonymous

11/01/2025 07:51 PM

Encourage community councils to seek out and list cultural activates in the community and to support them financially using Section 137 Funding

Anonymous

11/01/2025 11:54 PM

Contacting local people to discover our thoughts and ideas of our culture and ways of life.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 03:31 PM

Incorporate sponsorship more.

Anonymous

11/02/2025 05:08 PM

Follow the good examples, collaborations and best practice currently delivering results in Circular Economy teams and Outdoors Access teams.

Anonymous

11/03/2025 07:33 AM

Sit down and talk in person with each other.

Anonymous

11/03/2025 02:59 PM

A one-stop web page. Using the Arts & Business Cymru template as a way of sourcing private funding and sponsorship.

Anonymous
11/06/2025 06:10 PM

see 10 above. It isn't hard to do this, but don't set your sights too high, and become totally immune to adverse publicity. Take chances - act like real artists have to do every day of their lives.

Anonymous 11/07/2025 03:03 PM

Anonymous
11/07/2025 04:22 PM

Yes - firstly understand the sectors better - we confident in the relationship between creativity and wealth creation, support the artists, organisations with joined up thinking. Claim credit for outcomes health, well being, diversity and inclusion, employment and employability - do not add layers of talking shops - try things evaluate, replicate be agile and innovative not safe with so many guard rails that partnership is meaningless.

Anonymous
11/10/2025 05:00 PM

Engage with Monmouthshire's Local Access Forum. Advertise opportunities or wants! Engage with officers already out on the ground who can spread messages and get others involved.

Newsletter to parents at schools

Anonymous
11/14/2025 01:43 PM
There area well known safe places in each area . Perhaps an electronic notice board in places like the Shire Hall behind the railings . The same thing in Abergavenny Market etc . Let us see whats on.

Anonymous
11/15/2025 09:12 AM

Anonymous
11/15/2025 01:19 PM

Anonymous
11/17/2025 08:09 PM
Get somebody managing the Borough who is knowledgeable about the industry. Tribute bands are not culture!

11/18/2025 12:47 AM

I will have to think about that. One thing that stops me going out is lack of taxis to get home of a night perhaps there could be a list of night service taxis, or a small mini bus when events are on. transport in Abergavenny is pretty dreadful.

Anonymous
11/18/2025 03:36 PM

Utilising empty high street shop windows with high quality artwork and history displays. Work in conjunction with Cadaw, local and national museums & art galleries and the shop owners. A fantastic display will encourage visitors and prospective shop renters/buyers rather than tatty, dirty windows with trailing electrical cables. Get the publicity out to a wider audience.

Anonymous
11/18/2025 08:25 PM

Monmouthshire should have representation : Eisteddfod

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
As above

11/19/2025 01:53 PM

Anonymous
11/21/2025 03:39 PM

Public consultation is vital, but most importantly listening to the feedback from the community at large. Volunteers give up their time and are 'boots on the ground', but the community itself can have wider views that also need to be obtained.

Anonymous
11/23/2025 04:06 AM

Involve all ares of society in its creation

Anonymous
11/24/2025 06:21 PM

Regular meetings/ workshops between the decision makers of MCC and representatives of the local user groups.

Anonymous
11/26/2025 08:28 AM

Yes, 100%. Arrange to allow creatives to meet and hear what they wish to achieve. Help them. Support new talent.

Anonymous
11/27/2025 11:40 AM

This strategy is a good start on which to build

Anonymous
11/27/2025 02:42 PM

Work with people like Cwmpas to facilitate a series of public conversations between interested parties to dissolve silos, create connections etc. <https://cwmpas.coop/start-something-good/how-it-works/> OR DIY using the World Cafe method <https://theworldcafe.com/key-concepts-resources/world-cafe-method/>

Anonymous
11/27/2025 06:28 PM

Reach out and work more in partnership.
[REDACTED]

Anonymous
11/28/2025 01:21 PM
Improving communication pathways, particularly when it comes to communication with the general public and with groups of volunteers (the backbone of many cultural events that make Monmouth such a special place to live)

Anonymous
12/01/2025 05:38 AM
Support the private sector with reasonable rent and they will return the favour. Actually partner with private sector to deliver rather than looking for sponsorship. Working in partnership can be magic in the strength of the outcome for all.

Anonymous
12/02/2025 08:20 PM
Shared promotion- find all activities, events etc in one place

Anonymous
12/05/2025 02:25 PM
A community website or portal where events can be added and people can coordinate. For example, if I want to set up an event in my area, the LA could help with some advice on the permissions I need as well as open up links to other groups and even get volunteers.

Anonymous
12/05/2025 03:22 PM
Acceptance that there is not a boundary between the people on the borders. Public, private and voluntary sectors should not be confined by lines on a map or by postcodes. Be kind and inclusive. Life should not have boundaries.

Anonymous
12/05/2025 04:20 PM
Keep asking people for their views. Most people "have an opinion" so... ask for it. Keep supporting local venues.

Anonymous
12/05/2025 07:01 PM
A Monmouthshire wide open studios weekend or festival .
Monmouthshire charity fund that links businesses and donate with artists and events that need funding

Anonymous
12/06/2025 08:37 AM
We'll start listen to what people from this have to say about your excessive building. If you can't afford to live in Monmouthshire you need to move to an area you can afford. Simple as that. I can't afford to live in London or Beaconsfield or the Cotswolds so I live here. I don't go to Beaconsfield and demand them to get me a discounted house.

Anonymous
12/06/2025 10:01 AM
Actually engage with the people in the community. Rather than imposing your views on them. For example how many people of Monmouth agreed to the pinch point ? How many people of

Monmouth wanted the wooden troughs dropped from a lorry along Monnow st? How many wanted the museum move? Why is that building empty when I could be a vibrant indoor market? Monmouth cultural heritage is a thriving Market town but the "Butter Market" is closed completely by MCC. Start listening to what the people want

Anonymous

12/06/2025 06:24 PM

Maybe a forum/platform for all the musical groups to communicate/liaise.

Anonymous

12/07/2025 02:33 PM

Firtsly its about taleking to each other more often and a forum bringing groups together across the county - that doesnt feel like its a local government meeting - is a good place to begin

Anonymous

12/08/2025 12:25 PM

More funding community hub.

Anonymous

12/08/2025 02:54 PM

Making more extensive use of volunteers - but I don't have any clever ideas about how!

Anonymous

12/08/2025 03:29 PM

Bring new people and perspectives into the discussions - local people and those with knowledge/skills - and take indepth looks at what is happening in other parts of the UK/World - we are often limited by our experience and need to be challenged. Have a budget for testing ideas - to work with the many different organisations involved in culture - allowing the unusual to be tested and monitored. Be adventurous.

Anonymous

12/08/2025 06:19 PM

Speak of the arts as if you know they have great value to society and our area. Sing successes loud, and give them recognition, then the sectors will start valuing them too.

Anonymous

12/10/2025 09:49 AM

Yes I do. Please feel free to contact me [REDACTED]

Anonymous

12/10/2025 11:58 AM

Make use of the settings from the castles, halls, museums on our doorstep! Engage with the schools, children and local organisations. Reach out to local businesses. Please plan and give notice of events. Most artists, businesses are working 3-6months in advance on projects.

Anonymous 12/13/2025 11:07 PM	Reviewing who the key stakeholders are across Monmouthshire and understanding how they can mutually support each other. For example, ensuring arts and health are joined up..and helping businesses understand where they can support and find mutual benefit working with cultural venues and community organisations.
Anonymous 12/15/2025 09:16 AM	Advertising more and inform people what's happening. Very often we don't know.
Anonymous 12/15/2025 10:45 AM	No
[REDACTED] 12/15/2025 11:26 AM	Getting GP's involved in referring people to groups run by volunteers that could help them
Anonymous 12/15/2025 11:36 AM	Communicate - Open day/evenings
Anonymous 12/15/2025 01:45 PM	A wider and broader approach in how services are delivered, defining shared goals and outcomes
Anonymous 12/16/2025 01:45 PM	More understanding within the community
Anonymous 12/16/2025 01:45 PM	Not at the moment.
Anonymous 12/18/2025 01:45 PM	co-operating with each other and not competing
Anonymous 12/18/2025 01:45 PM	Links with: U3A, Schools, Sports clubs
Anonymous 12/18/2025 01:45 PM	Nothing added
Anonymous 12/19/2025 11:57 AM	Definitely need more for young people. More financial help for community centres, both run by volunteers and council run. Also youth clubs and day centres for disabled adults and those suffering from mental illness e.g Mardy Resource Centre (growing spaces) and the old Tudor Day Centre

Anonymous

12/19/2025 01:45 PM

Really important to work with schools and different ethnic groups etc.
to encourage people to support projects. More publicity!

Optional question (74 response(s), 61 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question