

**SUMMARY OF ONLINE CITIZENS JURY VERDICT:**

**Are the council's priorities still relevant to the community?**

South Kesteven District Council, in partnership with rol solutions and the Department for Constitutional Affairs, recently established an online citizens jury. This is a pioneering project designed to enable local citizens to engage in debate using the familiar language of the courtroom (jury, witnesses, evidence and so on). The online jury enables a broader discussion and exploration of issues to enhance other standard consultation methods.

A pilot jury tested our online citizens jury website throughout May 2006. The jury was presented with the question: Are the council's category A priorities still relevant to the community?

After considering witness statements, background information provided by the council and drawing from their own experiences within the district, the jury verdict showed that the majority considered that the council's category A priorities should remain as: access to council services; affordable housing; anti-social behaviour; communications and consultation; development of town centres; recycling and street scene.

Anti-social behaviour was a top priority for most of the jury but there mixed views about the specific priority order of the rest.

The jury also suggested that the following should be considered by the council to have priority status: car parks, planning and conservation and care in the community.

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