

## FINAL

7<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### Village life: the key to community spirit

Outdoor space, shops and pubs are among the top facilities people in Berkshire want from their local community, according to new research from Audley Villages.

All of these make a significant contribution to people's sense of community and quality of life, offering the space to socialise, somewhere to enjoy leisure time and convenience.

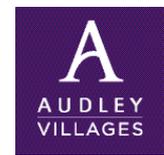
Other top facilities for those in Berkshire include restaurants, cafes, a swimming pool and a cinema, while a community centre, gym and theatre also feature among the top ten.

Though having close friends nearby is important, it's also vital that a village feel is not lost when it comes to things to do in the area. Living among people of different ages and genders (40%), a neighbourhood watch (40%), and regular activities such as street parties and village fetes (28%) are all desirable traits of the perfect community for people in Berkshire.

**Paul Morgan, Managing Director Operations at Audley Inglewood** says: "A strong sense of community is incredibly important, but so too are the things to do within that. The best communities have something for everyone, whether that's eating out, exercising or socialising. At Audley Inglewood, our Audley Club and Blandy's bar and bistro is open to people who live or are staying in the local area. With gyms, restaurants and bistros on site, we place great importance on ensuring both our owners and visitors can enjoy life at the village."

### Most important facilities in the local community for people living in Berkshire:

- Outdoor space - 54%
- Shops - 52%
- Pubs - 20%
- Restaurants - 18%
- Cafes - 18%
- Swimming pool - 18%
- Cinema - 10%



- Community centre - 10%
- Gym - 10%
- Theatre - 10%

**Features of an ideal community for people living in Berkshire:**

- Close friends nearby - 54%
- A mixed group of friends (for example, different ages and genders) - 40%
- Security (e.g. community watch) - 40%
- Regular activities (for example street parties, village fetes) - 28%
- Local volunteering schemes - 26%
- Lots of community groups - 24%

Audley Inglewood is home to 94 luxury retirement apartments, together with the impressive facilities of the Audley Club, including a health club, swimming pool, library, restaurant and Bar/Bistro. For more information, contact the sales team on 01488 208008 or email [inglewoodsales@audleyvillages.co.uk](mailto:inglewoodsales@audleyvillages.co.uk)

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Results based on research conducted by Censuswide among 2,325 UK adults in August 2018.

**About Audley**

Founded in 1991, Audley has since established itself as a pioneer in the provision of luxury retirement living. The first Audley village was built almost twenty years ago in Kent and today Audley owns a portfolio of eighteen across the country. Audley owners buy their own house or apartment on a 125 year lease with access to the Audley Club facilities and flexible care if needed, enabling them to live an independent and healthy life. Audley is an accredited provider of homecare and a founder member of The Associated Retirement Community Operators, ARCO.

[www.audleyvillages.co.uk](http://www.audleyvillages.co.uk)

