

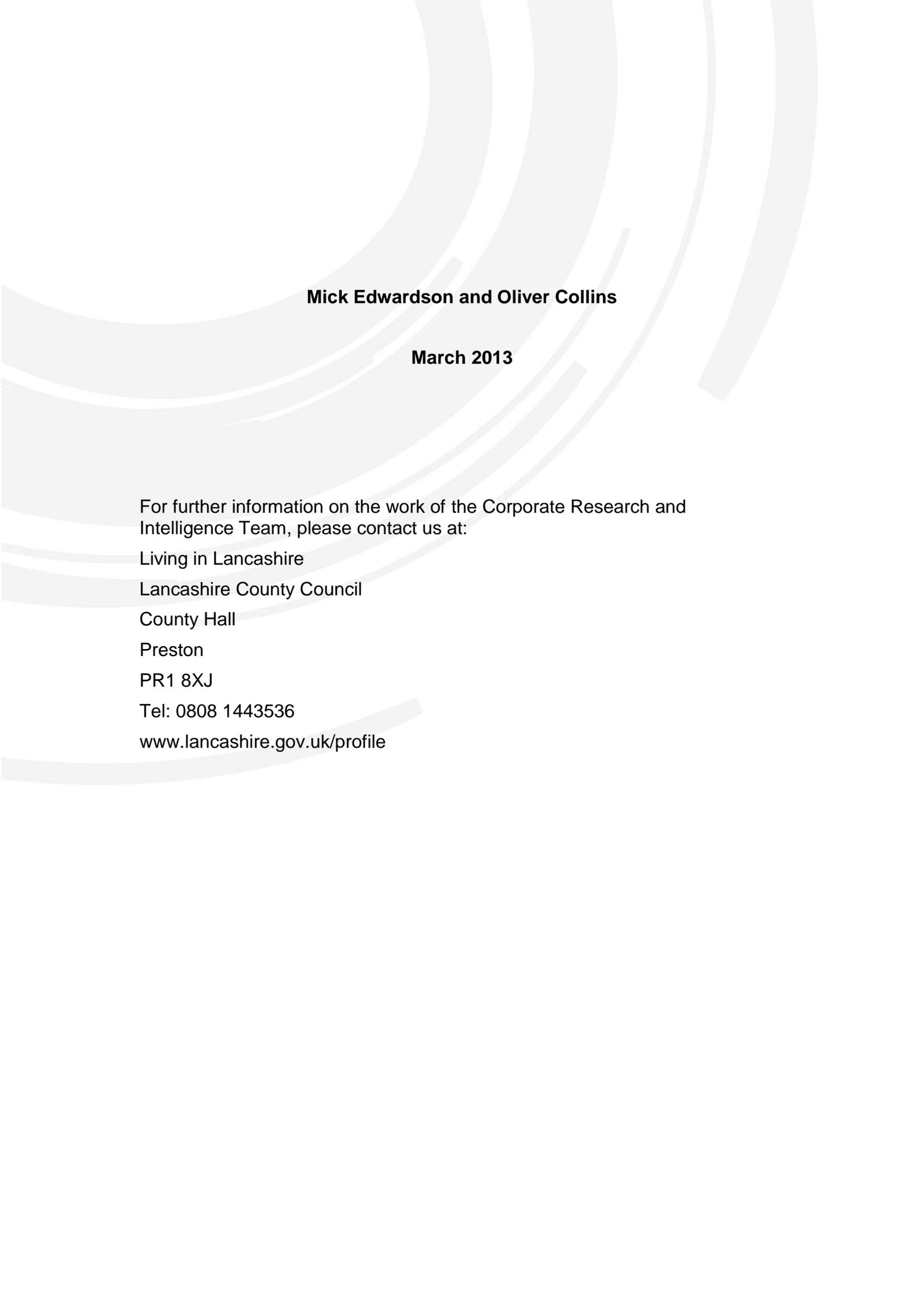


Children and young people survey

Report

February 2013

www.lancashire.gov.uk



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1. Executive summary

This research looked at children and young people's views on a range of topics that included crime, volunteering, what local services are important to them and what they do in their spare time. It was conducted between 7 January and 7 February 2013. In total 108 responses were received.

1.1 Key findings

- The three most commonly chosen services/things that respondents identified as the most important to them were secondary education (65%), children's social care (52%) and children with special educational needs (46%).
- The three most commonly chosen services/things that respondents identified as the least important to them were roads and bridges (49%), Welfare Rights (44%) and waste management (32%).
- The three places where the largest proportion of respondents said they feel safe are their home (98% feel safe), at school (86% feel safe), and at a youth centre (85% feel safe).
- The three places where the largest proportion of respondents said they feel unsafe are parks (38%), the town centre closest to them (31%) and the street or streets closest to their house (22%).
- Respondents said that crime and anti-social behaviour (27%) and bullying (23%) are what they worry about most in terms of staying safe.
- Over two fifths of respondents said that over the last 12 months, they had given unpaid help to someone who was not a relative (44%).
- Just less than half of respondents who had given unpaid help over the last 12 months said they had done so at least once a week (44%).
- Respondents were asked which three activities, from a list, they would most like to do in their free time that they don't currently do. The most common responses were play sport (37%), listen to and/or play music (35%) and attend youth clubs/groups (35%).
- Nearly three quarters of respondents said that they feel positive about the future (72%), only about one in every twenty respondents said they feel quite negative (6%) and no respondents said that they feel very negative.
- Over two thirds of respondents think that people from different backgrounds get on well in their area (70%). No respondents think that people from different backgrounds do not get on at all in their area.

1.2 Recommendations (draft, for discussion)

- It is recommended that the Children and Young People's Participation – Children's Trust Team works with the Corporate Research and Intelligence Team to review the approach taken in this pilot to assess how the project would work if it was rolled out fully.

2. Introduction

The Children and Young People's Participation – Children's Trust Team wants to consult with children and young people and gather their views in a cyclical process by sending out 3 or 4 questionnaires a year. The work would complement the Tell Us Survey but would aim to reach a much larger number children and young people across the age range and geography of Lancashire. Questionnaires would be themed and in line with work throughout the Children's Trust linking children and young people's views into its planning and reviewing cycle.

The Children's Trust's current mechanisms and networks would be used to sign children and young people up. The questionnaires would be designed with age appropriate questions. And organisations, priority groups and services would be encouraged to submit questions to be included in the questionnaires.

Before the full project is set up, a small pilot was set up to test the effectiveness of this approach.

Lancashire County Council's Corporate Research and Intelligence team were approached to collate the information and produce countywide and district data.

3. Research objectives

The objective of this survey is to look at children and young people's views on community safety and how they would like to spend their spare time. Questions looked specifically at:

- what services/things respondents think are important;
- how safe respondents feel in different places;
- if respondents have volunteered in the last 12 months;
- what respondents would like to do in their spare time that they don't currently do; and
- how positive respondents feel about the future.

4. Methodology

This research was conducted between 7 January and 7 February 2013.

700 paper questionnaires were produced and distributed to children and young people by existing mechanisms and networks used by the Children and Young People's Participation – Children's Trust Team, an online version of questionnaire was also available on the Young People's Service website.

In total 108 responses were received.

4.1 Limitations

In charts or tables where responses do not add up to 100%, this is due to multiple responses or computer rounding.

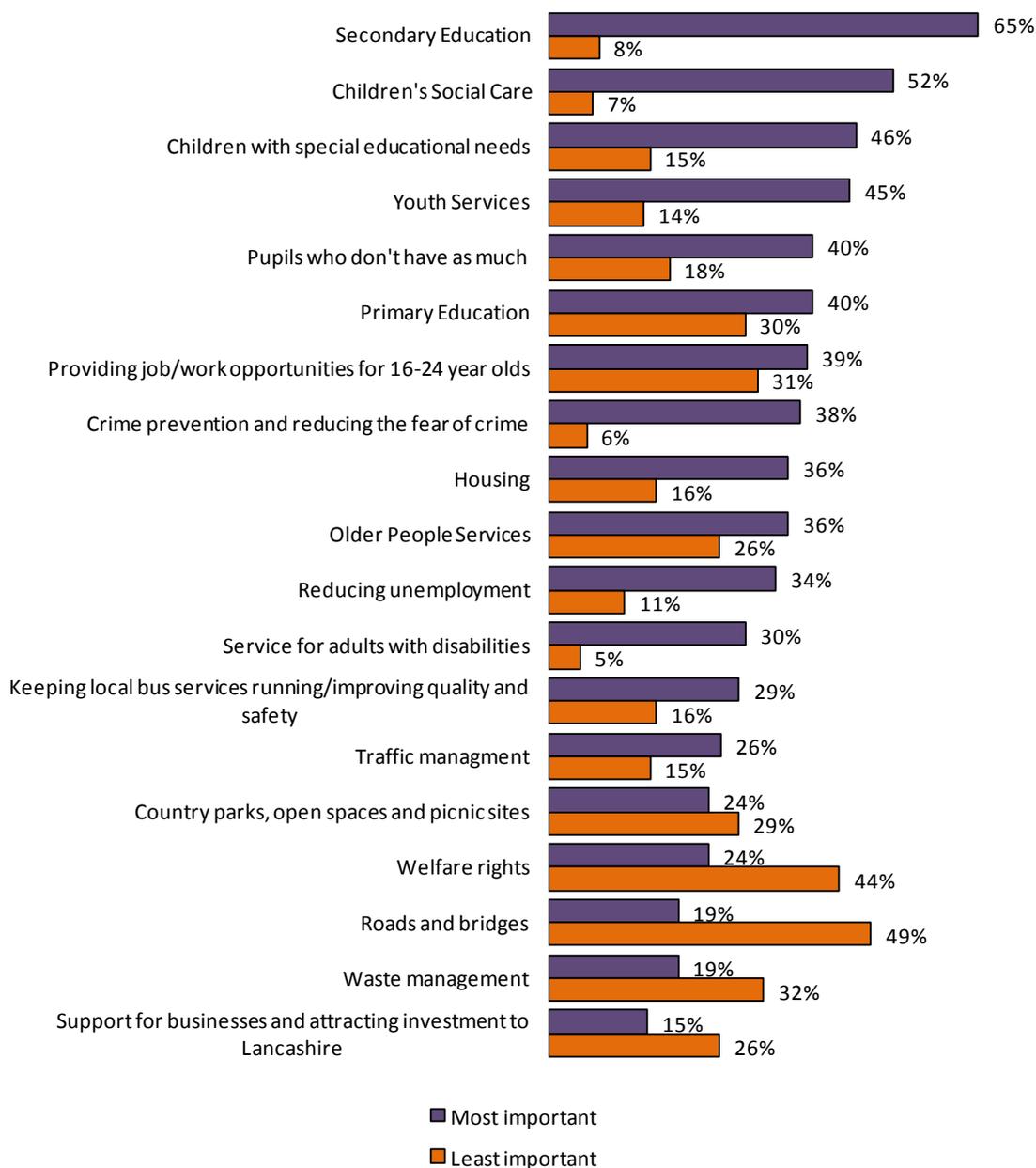
5. Main research findings

Respondents were asked which three services/things from a list were the most important and least important to them.

The three most commonly chosen services/things that respondents identified as the most important to them were secondary education (65%), children's social care (52%) and children with special educational needs (46%).

The three most commonly chosen services/things that respondents identified as the least important to them were roads and bridges (49%), Welfare Rights (44%) and waste management (32%).

Chart 1 - Please tick the three...
a. most important services/things to you from the following list?
b. least important services/things to you from the following list?



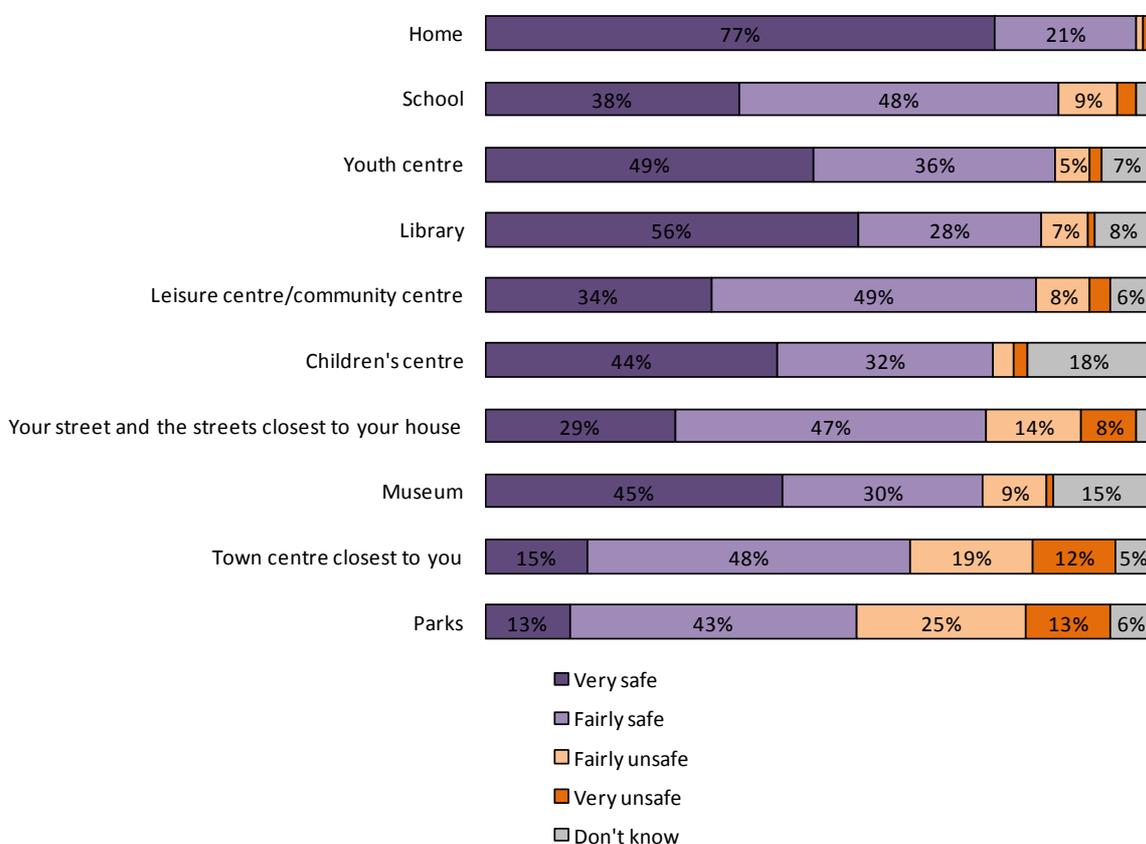
Base: All respondents (108)

Respondents were then asked, overall, how safe they feel in a number of different places.

The majority of respondents said they feel safe in all of the places listed. The three places where the largest proportion of respondents said they feel safe are their home (98% feel safe), at school (86% feel safe), and at a youth centre (85% feel safe).

The three places where the largest proportion of respondents said they feel unsafe are parks (38%), the town centre closest to them (31%) and the street or streets closest to their house (22%).

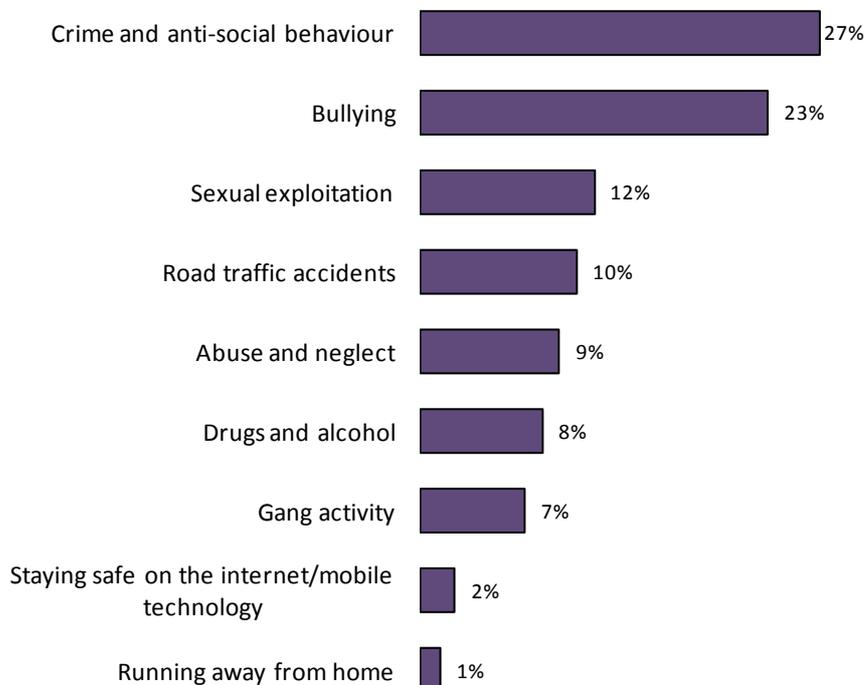
Chart 2 - Overall, how safe do you feel in the following places?



Base: All respondents (96)

Respondents said that crime and anti-social behaviour (27%) and bullying (23%) are what they worry about most in terms of staying safe.

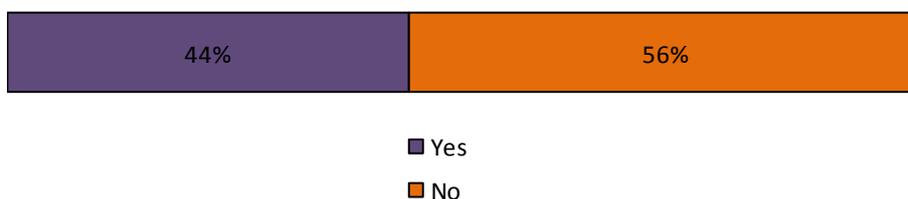
Chart 3 - What do you worry about most in terms of staying safe?



Base: All Respondents (86)

Over two fifths of respondents said that, over the last 12 months, they had given unpaid help to someone who was not a relative (44%).

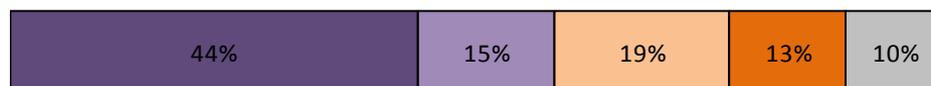
Chart 4 - Have you, over the last 12 months, given unpaid help to someone who was not a relative (known as volunteering)?



Base: All respondents (98)

Just less than half of respondents who had given unpaid help over the last 12 months said they had done so at least once a week (44%).

Chart 5 - If yes, how often did you give unpaid help?

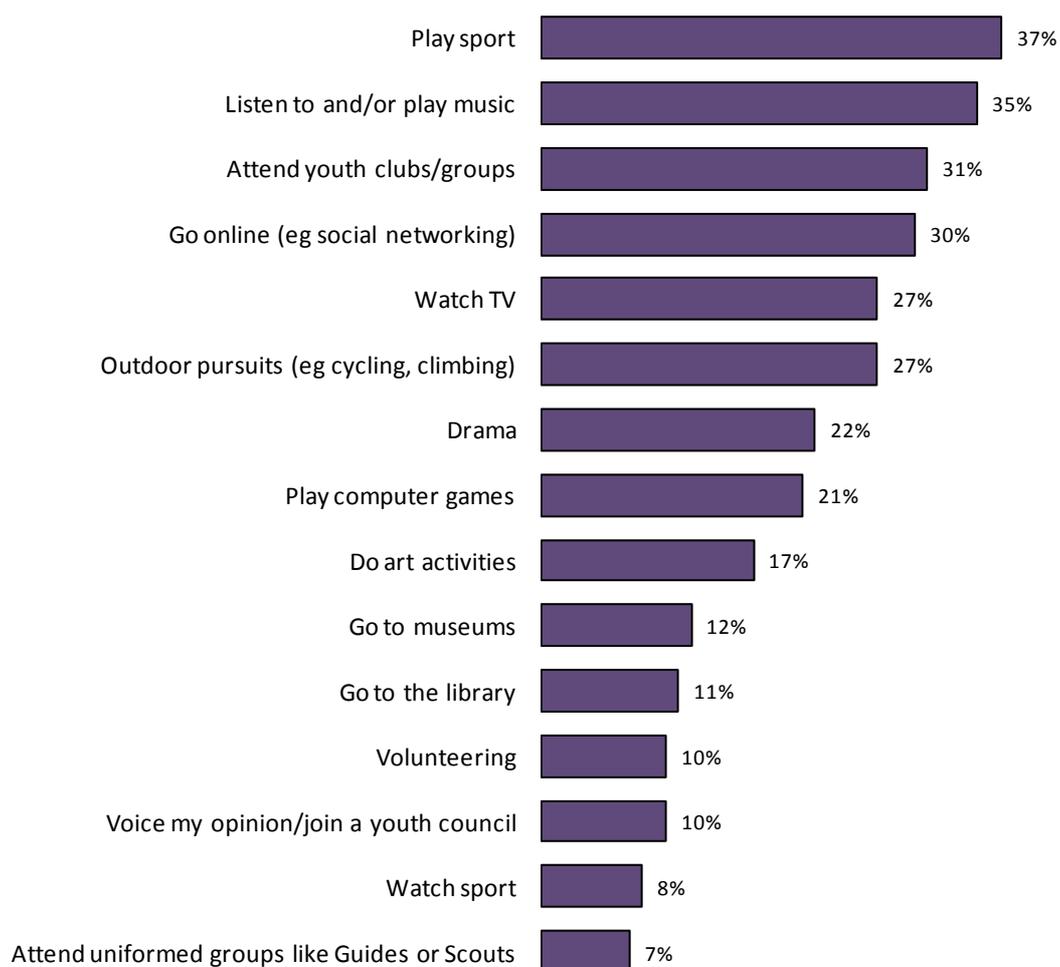


- At least once a week
- At least once a month
- A few times a year
- Once a year
- Don't know/can't remember

Base: Respondents who have given unpaid help in the last 12 months (48)

All respondents were then asked which three activities, from a list, they would most like to do in their free time that they don't currently do. The most common responses were play sport (37%), listen to and/or play music (35%) and attend youth clubs/groups (35%).

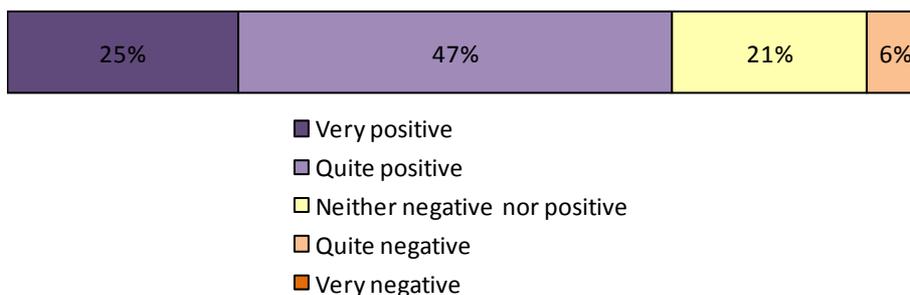
Chart 6 - Which three of the following activities would you most like to do in your free time that you don't currently do?



Base: All respondents (99)

Nearly three quarters of respondents said that they feel positive about the future (72%), only about one in every twenty respondents said they feel quite negative (6%) and no respondents said that they feel very negative.

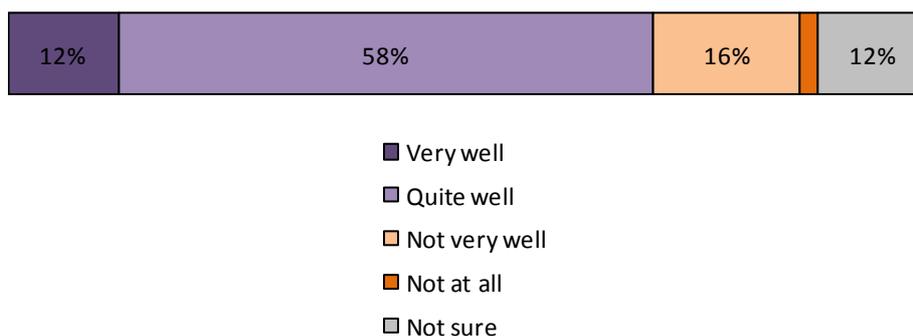
Chart 7 - How do you feel about your future, for example what you will do after school, university, jobs, where you will live?



Base: All respondents (99)

Over two thirds of respondents think that people from different backgrounds get on well in their area (70%). No respondents think that people from different backgrounds do not get on at all in their area.

Chart 8 - How well do you think people from different backgrounds get on in your area?



Base: All respondents (101)

6. Recommendations

- It is recommended that the Children and Young People's Participation – Children's Trust Team works with the Corporate Research and Intelligence Team to review the approach taken in this pilot to assess how the project would work if it was rolled out fully.