## **BARNET COUNCIL – YOUNG PERSONS SURVEY 2021/22**

**June 2022** 

Research conducted by:







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#### Introduction

This presentation reports on the main findings from the most recent Young Peoples Perception Survey (YPS) 2021/22. It also incudes comparisons to the most recent Adults Residents Perception Survey (ARPS) 2021/22 where available.

The Children's Partnership Board are asked to consider the YPS findings in context: to the Children and Young Peoples Plan and what we are striving to achieve in terms of outcomes; how the results can be used to inform service delivery and next steps.

To aid in these discussions the detailed analysis that has been conducted on the whole data set has also been provided in this presentation, namely:

- > Segmentation analysis in terms of key demographics, including protected characteristics
- ➤ A breakdown by the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), the measure of relative deprivation for neighbourhoods in England. The IMD ranks every small area in England from the most deprived 10% of neighbourhoods to the least deprived 10% of neighbourhoods. In this presentation, the most deprived areas are referred to as 'deciles 1-3' while the least deprived areas are 'deciles 8-10'.
- > Constituency analysis.

It should also be noted Family Services has already commissioned the Consultation and Research Team to run a series of Constituency based workshops with young people, and a focus group with those young people who have a disability to help unpack the findings in more detail.



### Methodology and benchmarking

#### Methodology

- Barnet Young Persons Survey is a face-to-face quota survey of Barnet residents aged 11-18
- It measures reputation, service and local area perceptions, as well as a range of demographic and usage indicators.
- 500 Barnet young people were interviewed between 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- Confidence intervals for a sample of 500 is +/-4.3% at the 95% confidence interval.

#### **Benchmarking**

- This is the fourth wave of the YPS, the first was conducted in Autumn 2016 and the second in Autumn 2017 and the third in Autumn 2019. The intention is to bring out the voice of young people what may be important to adults may not be important for young people.
- Where possible, findings from the YPS are also compared with the Adults Barnet Resident Perception Survey
  (RPS) 2021/22 where a representative random sample of 2,000 Barnet residents (aged 18 or over) were
  surveyed between 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021– 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. 800 RPS interviews were conducted via telephone and
  1,200 were conducted face-to-face.
- This presentation also uses national data from a variety of sources primarily the LGA's national polling on resident satisfaction with councils, which surveyed a representative random sample of c.1,000 British adults (aged 18 or over) between 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022. All interviews were conducted via telephone.



# Summary of key findings



## **Key highlights**

- ➤ On the whole, the results show a positive direction of travel on most perception measures a trend which is also evident in the most recent LGA national polling and the council's Adults Residents Perception Survey.
- The positive results could be attributed to young people enjoying a 'feel good factor' as they come out of COVID-19 restrictions and the return to relative normality. The council has also played an important and high profile role in supporting residents during the pandemic which may have impacted residents' perceptions of it. However, it is difficult to know how much the positive results can be attributed to COVID-19 restrictions ending and it is important to flag there is a chance that the results for future surveys may return to pre-COVID levels.
- ➤ There are, however, some results that have remained stationary or shown a negative direction of travel. The proportion of young people who think the council is doing a good job and providing services young people need has shown small declines. Satisfaction with libraries has also continued to decline year-on-year and is now at its lowest recorded level.
- In terms of the demographic analysis, and in particular equalities, there are some clear themes emerging across questions, where residents are less likely to agree/ less satisfied if they:
  - live in a deprived area
  - live in the constituency of Hendon (in particular with regard safe guarding, crime, and community safety)
  - are White (BAME YP tend to be on average more satisfied)
  - o are older (11- 13 year olds tend to be on average more satisfied)
  - have a disability



#### Barnet as a family friendly place to live

Nine in ten young people feel Barnet/your local area is a family friendly place to live, the highest of percentage of any survey conducted.

Young people in Barnet are significantly more likely to feel that Barnet is a family friendly place to live (89%) compared to adults (83%).

Residents of Finchley and Golders Green are more likely to agree that Barnet/your local area is a family friendly place to live.

#### Council's image

#### Most measures of the council's image have improved in 2021/22 compared to 2019.

Young people think that the council is doing a good job (90%), provides services young people need (81%), do enough to keep young people safe (78%), acts on the concerns of young people (75%), listens to the concerns of young people (73%) involves young people when making decisions (70%) and keeps young people informed (65%).

Those who are BME or aged 11-13 were more likely to view the council highly across a number of these measures.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>+</sup> The rating scale was changed in 2017 to align to the adults survey, year on year comparisons should be treated with caution.

<sup>\*</sup> Change is statistically significant with a p-value lower than, or equal to, 0.05.

#### Satisfaction with the local area as a place to live

Over nine in ten young people are satisfied with the local area as a place to live (94%). The highest recorded percentage.

The proportion of young people satisfied with the local area is significantly higher than in adults.

Those from Chipping Barnet are more likely to be satisfied while whose who are disabled are less likely to be satisfied.

#### Satisfaction with the local services

#### Young people are more satisfied with all local services compared to adults

Satisfaction with some services have significantly improved, this includes: parks, playgrounds and open spaces (89%) up 7 percentage points\* and activities for teenagers/young people (66%) up 8 percentage points\*

Only satisfaction with libraries (65%) was lower than in 2019 but only by 1 percentage point.



#### **Top concerns**

Young people's concern with crime (41%) has significantly decreased by 15 percentage points\* when compared with 2019 but remains young people's biggest concern.

When compared with the 2019 survey there has also been a significant decreases with concern in litter and dirt (29%) down 8 percentage points\*, the lack of affordable housing (12%) down 8 percentage points\*, and the number of homeless people (12%) down 7 percentage points\*.

There have been significant increases in concern in traffic jams/congestion (26%) up 8 percentage points\* and how well roads and pavements are looked after (13%) up 5 percentage points\*.

Concern with the impact of Covid-19 was measured for the first time this survey. 14% of young people were concerned with the impact of Covid. The inclusion of the Covid-19 option may explain some of the relative decline of some other concerns.

#### **Feelings of safety**

#### Young people feelings of safety have improved in most situations

When compared with 2019, there has been a significant increase in young people's feelings of safety when travelling to and from school (90%) up 6 percentage points\* and in local playgrounds and open spaces (87%) up 8 percentage points\* While the percentage of young people feeling safe while out at night remains low (49%) it has increased four percentage points compared to 2019.



#### **Top safety concerns**

Young people's top personal safety concern remains knife crime (51%), but the level of concern over knife crime has seen a significant decrease of 20 percentage points since the question was first asked in 2019.

Those who are between 16 and 18 where more likely to be concerned with knife crime

When compared with 2019, there has been an decrease in concern with gangs (down 17 percentage points\*), but an increase in concern with safety on public transport (up 7 percentage points\*) and bullying online (up 6 percentage points\*).

#### **Council priorities**

Young people's views on the main priorities for the council and its partners are broadly similar to 2019.

Their top priority is now protecting people from crime and ASB (41% - a decrease of 4 percentage points), followed by protecting young people from harm (48% - an decrease of 5 percentage points) and supporting young people with mental health problems (29% - the same as in 2019). A number of areas have also reduced in priority, for example parks an open spaces which dropped 6 percentage points\* and sports and leisure facilities fell 4 percentage points\*.

The largest increases in priority were improving town centre (increased by 3 percentage points\*) and promoting reading and learning (increased by 3 percentage points\*) but these remain at the bottom of young people's list of priorities.



#### **Community and Cohesion**

#### All measures on community and cohesion have increased compared with 2019

There were significant increases in the percent that think Barnet is a place where you can live a healthy life (92% - increase of 8 percentage points), a family friendly place to live (89% - up 5 percentage points) and that they feel valued and respected (77% - up 13 percentage points)

#### **Communication with the Council**

## In terms of preferred method of communication, young people indicated they prefer to be contacted by schools or email newsletter

As in 2019 'through schools' was also the most popular response when young people were asked for their communication preferences (33% - down 1 percentage point compared to 2019), followed by email newsletter (22% down 6 percentage points compared to 2019\*).

#### **Awareness of the Council's Work**

## Just under three quarters of young people surveyed have heard of at least one piece of work that the Council is doing, which is similar to the level in the 2019 survey.

The top things that young people have heard of are Kooth.com (36% - 15 percentage points higher than in 2019\*), Unitas Youth Zone (30% - 1 percentage point lower than in 2019), and the Youth Parliament Elections (18% - 13 percentage points lower than in 2019)



#### **Personal Wellbeing**

#### Most young people seem satisfied with their life, this has increased since 2019.

The mean satisfaction score (0 = not at all satisfied; 10 = completely satisfied) was 8.70, higher than the 2019 mean of 8.49.

Those who are age 11-13 have a significantly higher average life satisfaction.

#### 8 in 10 young people would want to talk to someone if feeling depressed or anxious.

Young people who are male, older (14 - 18), and are white are significantly less likely to want to talk to someone if feeling depressed or anxious.

#### 85% of young people are fairly active or active doing over 30 minutes of physical activity a week.

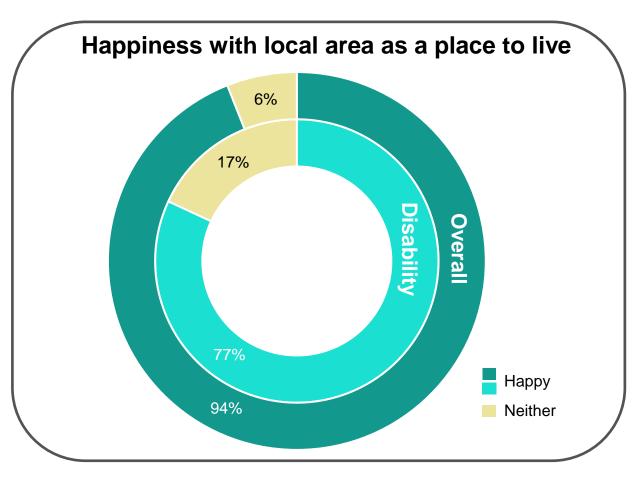
This is a higher percentage than the Active Lives Children and Young People Survey found for young people in England (67%).

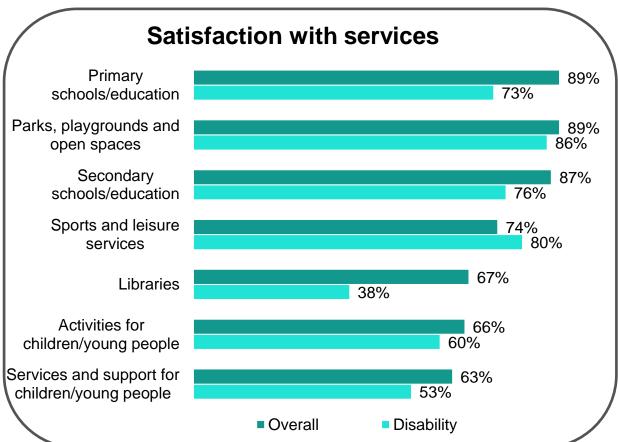
However, young people who are female are significantly less likely to be active or fairly active.



## Summary of disability segmentation analysis

• Those who have a disability are less likely to say they are happy with their local area as a place to live and say they are satisfied with local services (especially libraries).







## **Disability**

• Those who have a disability are more likely to be worried about how good health services are. A quarter of disabled young people are (25%) worried about the quality of health services.

#### **Top Worries**

Overall

1<sup>st</sup> Crime (41%)
2<sup>nd</sup> Litter/dirt (30%)
3<sup>rd</sup> Traffic jams/congestion (26%)
4<sup>th</sup> Lack of jobs (21%)
5<sup>th</sup> Not enough being done for young people (21%)



1<sup>st</sup> Crime (42%) 2<sup>nd</sup> Traffic jams/congestion (29%) 3<sup>rd</sup> Lack of jobs (26%)

**4**<sup>th</sup> How good health services are (25%) **5**<sup>th</sup> Litter/dirt (23%)

 Those who have a disability are more likely to want the council to focus time and money on supporting those with long-term health problems or disabilities and those with emotional and mental health problems.

#### **Top Priorities**

Overall

1<sup>st</sup> Protecting people from crime and ASB (42%)

2<sup>nd</sup> Protecting you people and children from harm (38%)
3<sup>rd</sup> Supporting those with emotional and mental health

problems (29%)

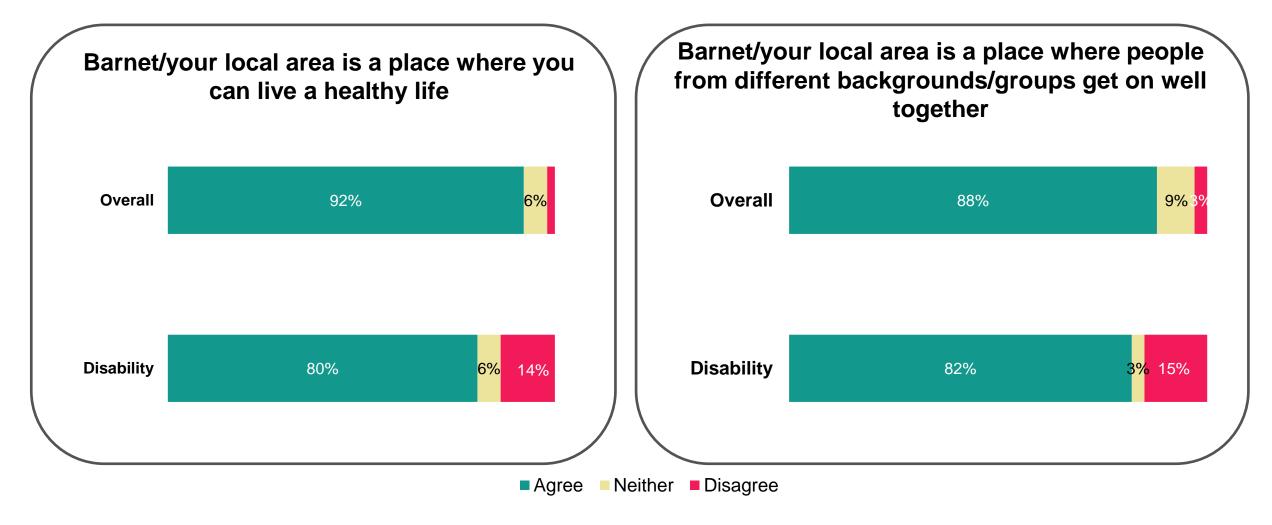


1<sup>st</sup> Protecting children and young people from harm (52%)
2<sup>nd</sup> Supporting those with long-term health problems or disabilities (50%)
3<sup>rd</sup> Supporting those with emotional and mental health problems (43%)



## **Disability**

• Those who have a disability are more likely to disagree that Barnet/your local area is a place where you can live a healthy life and that the local area is a place where people from different backgrounds/groups get on well together

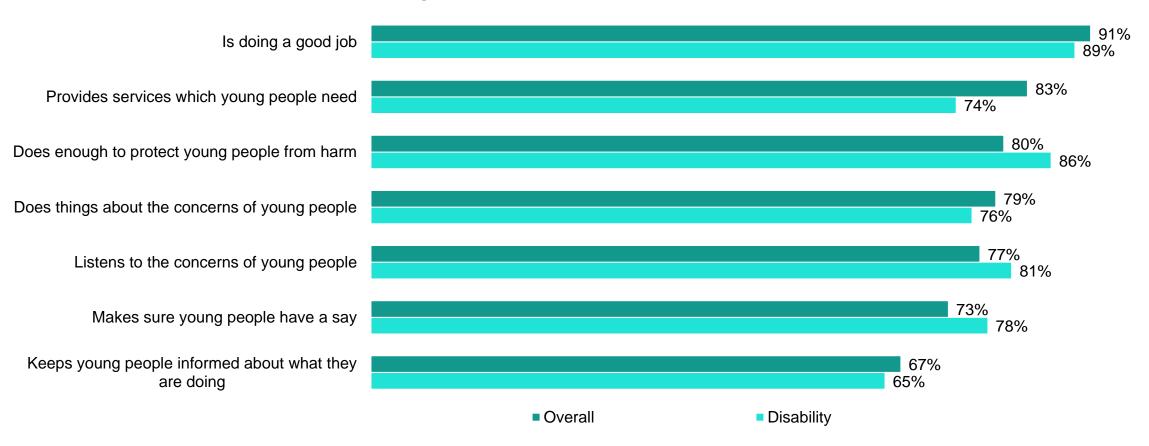




## **Disability**

Those who have a disability are less likely to agree that the council provides services which young people need but more
likely to agree that they do enough to protect young people from harm.







# Findings in Full



## **Key perception indicators**



94%
Are happy with Barnet as a place to live



89%
Agree Barnet is a family friendly place



70%
Agree young people have a say on things the council is going to do



78%
Agree the council protects young people from harm



90%
Agree the council is doing a good job



65%
Agree that the council keeps young people informed

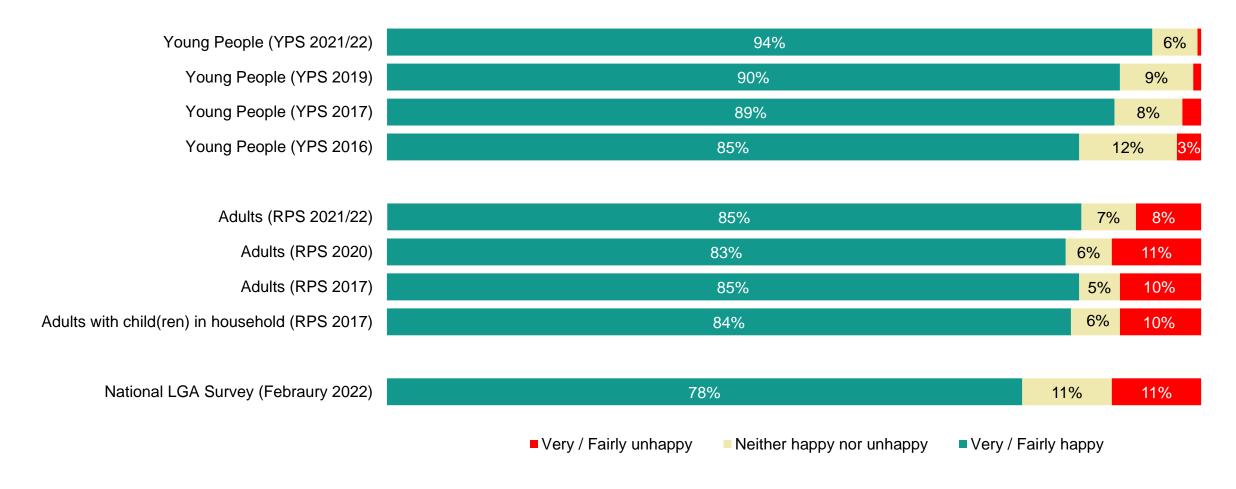


## Happy with Barnet as a place to live



#### Satisfaction with the local area

The majority of young people (94%) are happy with their local area as a place to live, which is a significant increase on the 2019 YPS and also significantly higher than the 2021/22 result for adults.



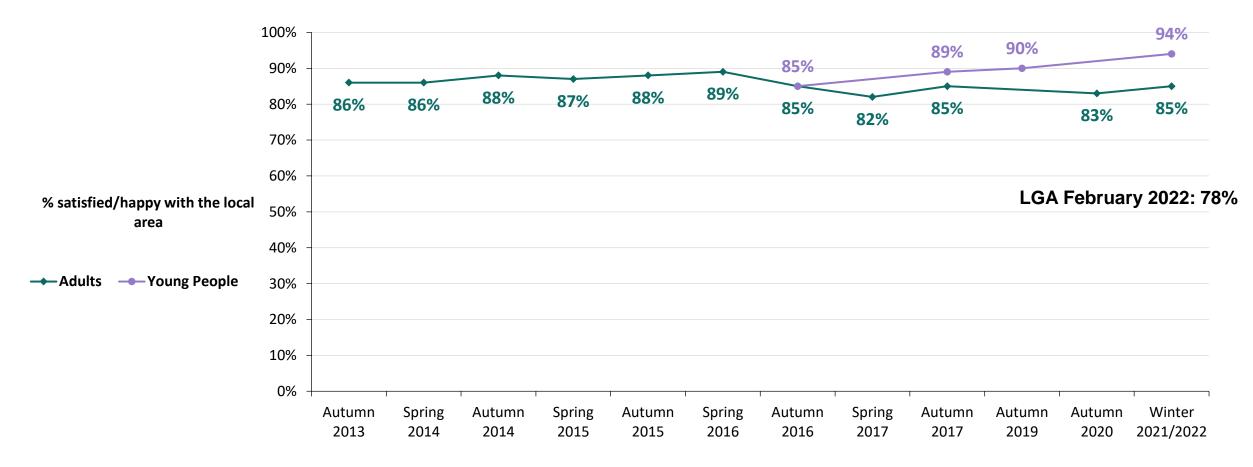
NOTE: YPS survey uses a very happy to very unhappy rating, RPS and LGA surveys use a very satisfied to very unsatisfied rating.



## Satisfaction with the local area (long term trends)

Adult satisfaction with the local area has remained consistent and higher than the LGA average for a number years.

Young people's happiness with the local area has increased year-on-year and is now 9 percentage points (significantly higher) than the 2021/22 result for adults.





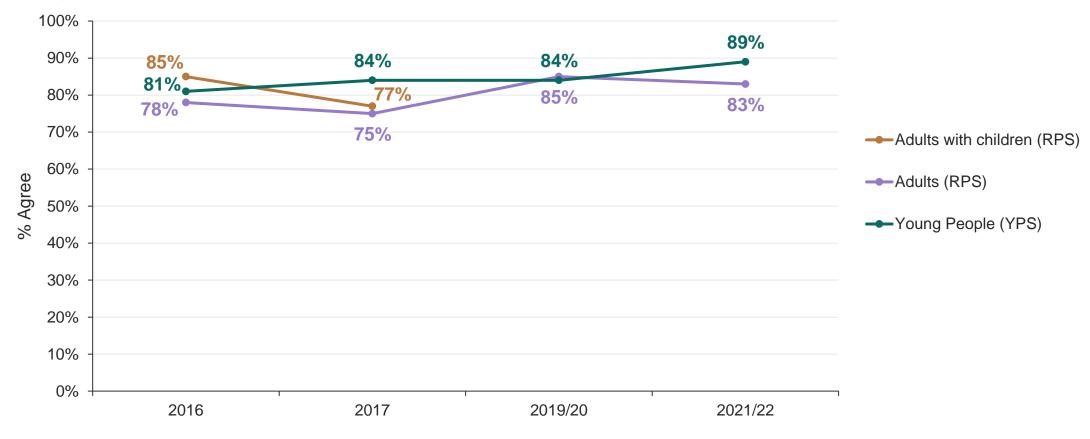
## **Barnet a Family-Friendly Borough**



### Barnet a family-friendly place to live

The proportion of young people who feel Barnet is a family friendly place to live is significantly higher (5 percentage points) than the previous wave in 2019/20.

When compared with the adults survey, young people are significantly more likely to feel that their local area is a family friendly place to live (+6%).



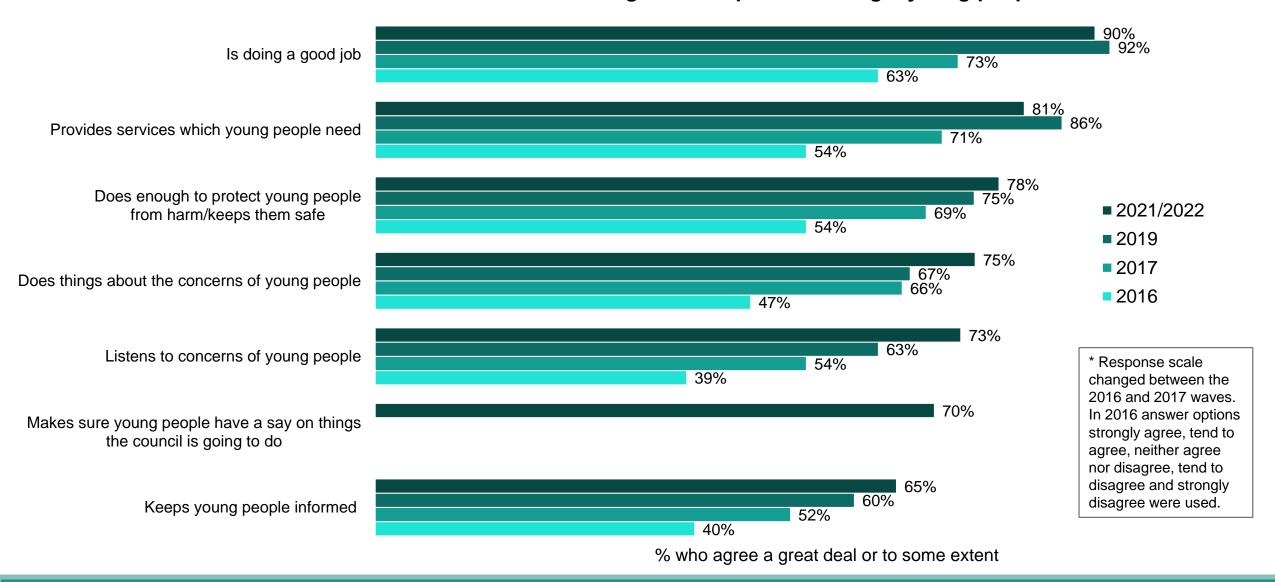


# Image of the Council



### Image of the Council – over time

Since 2019 five of the seven measures of the council's image have improved amongst young people.

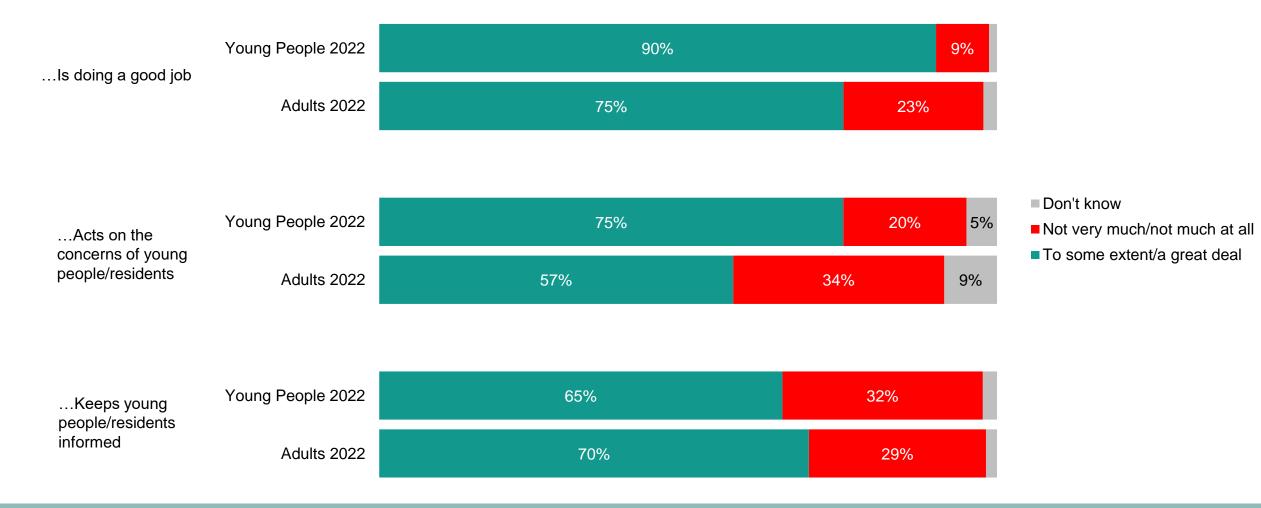




## **Image of the Council**

There are some differences between adults and young people\* – more young people agree to some extent/a great deal that the council is doing a good job and acts on the concerns of young people. However a smaller proportion of young people agree that the council keeps them informed.

\*The options scale for this question was different for those in RPS. While only 'is doing a good job' can be directly compared with RPS, the rest presented here are for reference - they are not for direct comparison.

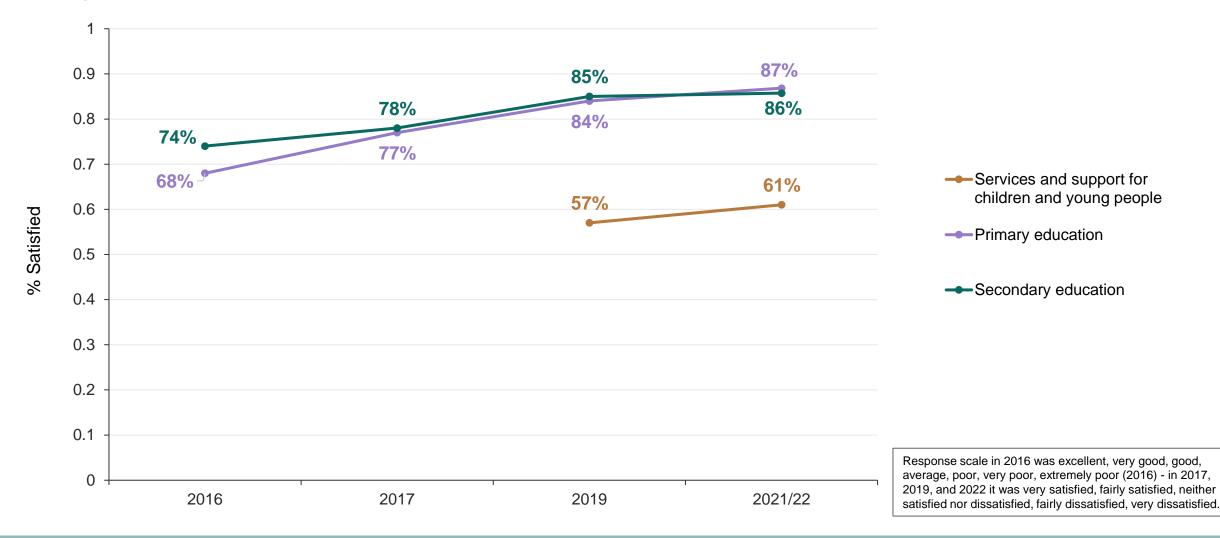


## Perception on council services



## Children and family services – comparison to previous years

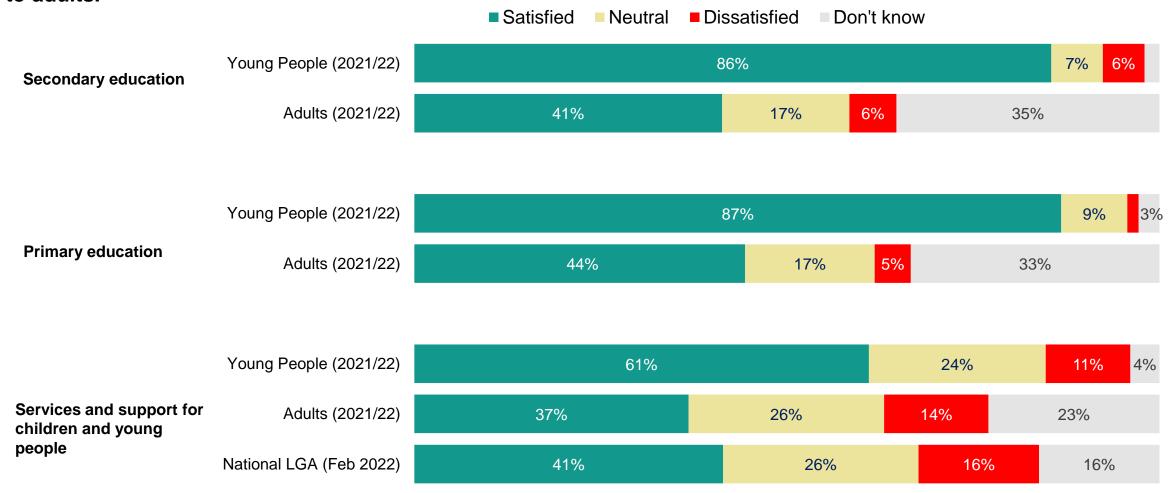
Satisfaction with services for children and young people as well as secondary and primary education have all seen their highest level of satisfaction recorded.





## Children and Family Services – Young People vs Adults

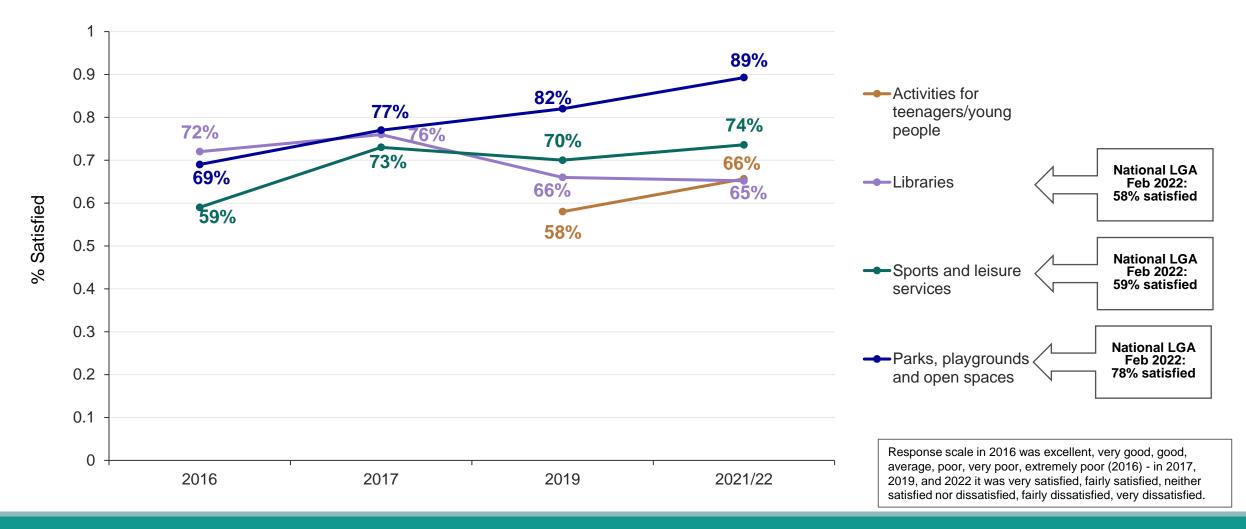
Young people are significantly more likely to be satisfied with all of the council's children and family services compared to adults.





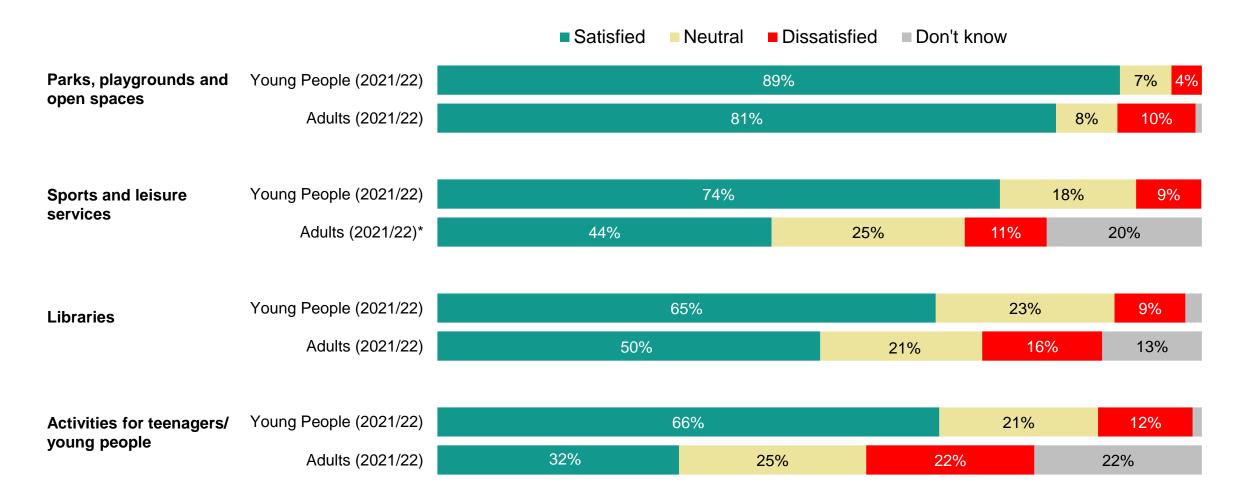
### Other services satisfaction – comparison to previous years

Satisfaction with parks, playgrounds and open spaces has increased significantly by 7 percentage points since 2019. Satisfaction with activities for teenagers/young people has also increased significantly by 8 percentage points.



## Other Services – Young People vs Adults

Compared to adults, young people are significantly more satisfied with parks, playgrounds and open spaces, sports and leisure services, libraries, and activities for teenagers and young people.



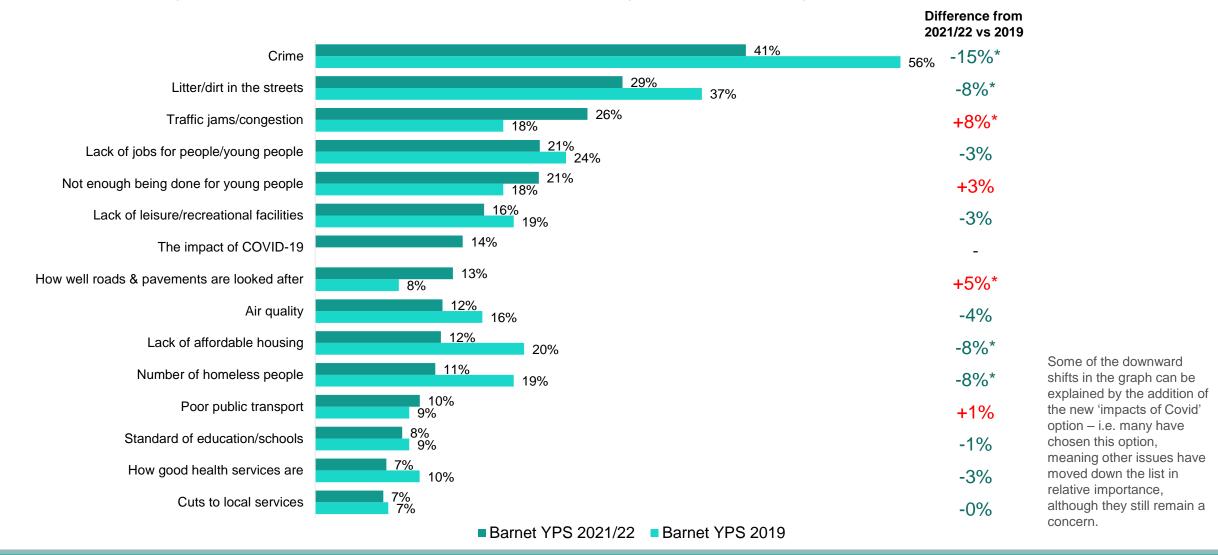


## Young People's Concerns



## Young peoples' top three concerns 2021/22 vs. 2019

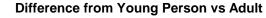
Crime remains the main concern for young people but this has seen a significant 15 percentage point decrease since 2019. Concern over litter/dirt in the streets has also significantly declined whilst concern over traffic jams/congestion has seen a significant increase.

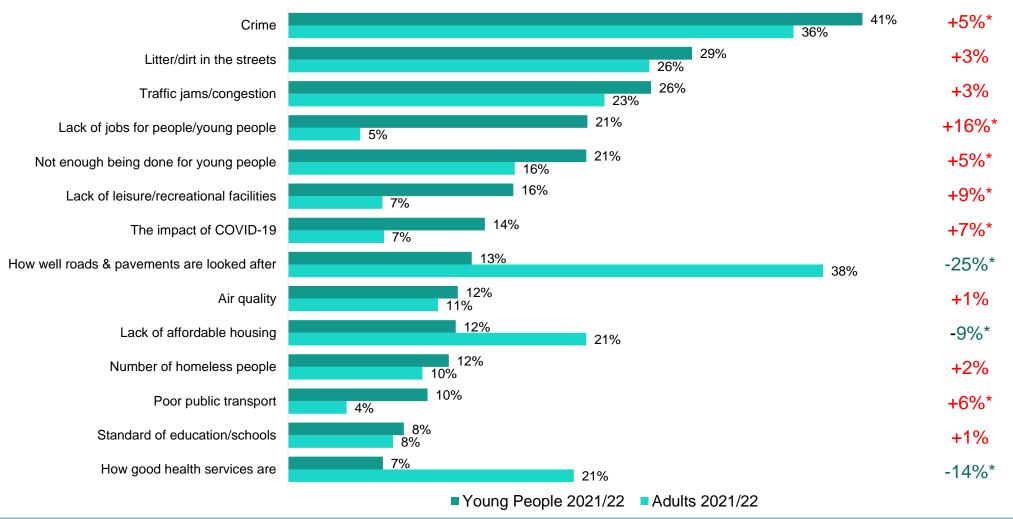




## Young peoples' top concerns compared to adults

Crime is the number one concern for both young people and adults. But young people are significantly more concerned about crime, a lack of jobs, not enough being done for young people, a lack of leisure and recreational facilities, the impact of Covid-19 and poor public transport.





Some of the difference in the graph can be explained by the RPS survey having more options for this question – meaning respondents three choices are more spread out over other issues



## Young people's top three concerns by resident constituency

Crime: 41%

Hendon: 45%

Chipping Barnet: 44%

**Finchley and Golders Green: 32%** 

Litter/dirt in the streets: 29%

Hendon: 36%

Finchley and Golders Green: 27%

Chipping Barnet: 26%

Traffic jams/congestion: 26%

Hendon: 28%

Chipping Barnet: 27%

Finchley and Golders Green: 25%

**Green** indicates result is significantly lower.

**Red** indicates result is significantly higher.

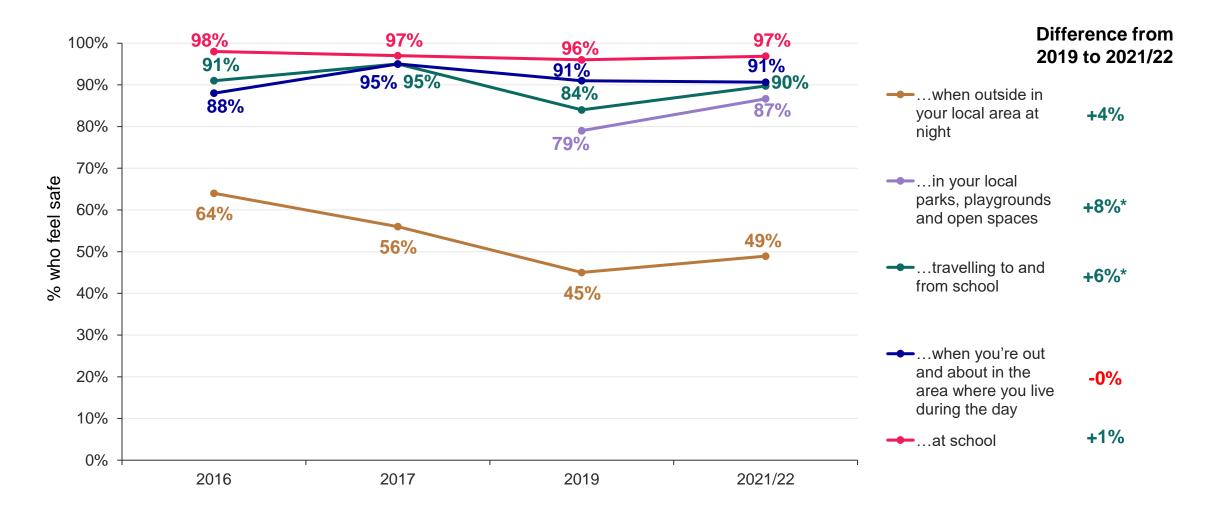


## Young People's Personal Safety



### Where do young people feel most safe?

Feelings of safety among young people have broadly improved since 2019. There has been a significant increase in feelings of safety when in local parks, playgrounds and open spaces and when travelling to and from school.

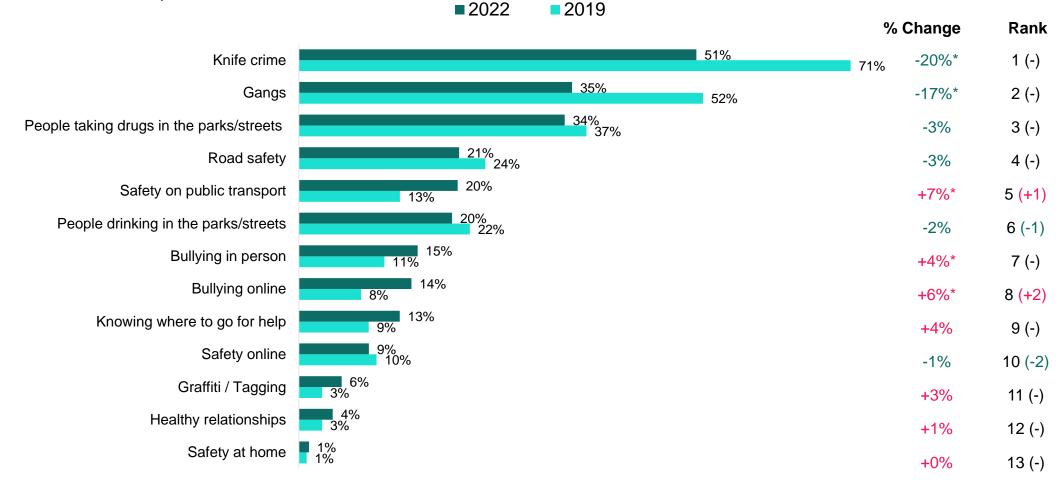




## Young people's personal safety concerns

Knife crime (51%) remains young people's top personal safety concern, but the percentage of young people putting it in their top three concerns is significantly lower than in 2019. Similarly, the level of concern over gangs (35%) is also significantly lower than in 2019.

On the other hand, concerns over safety on public transport (20%) and bullying – both online (14%) and in-person (15%) – have seen a significant increases compared to 2019.



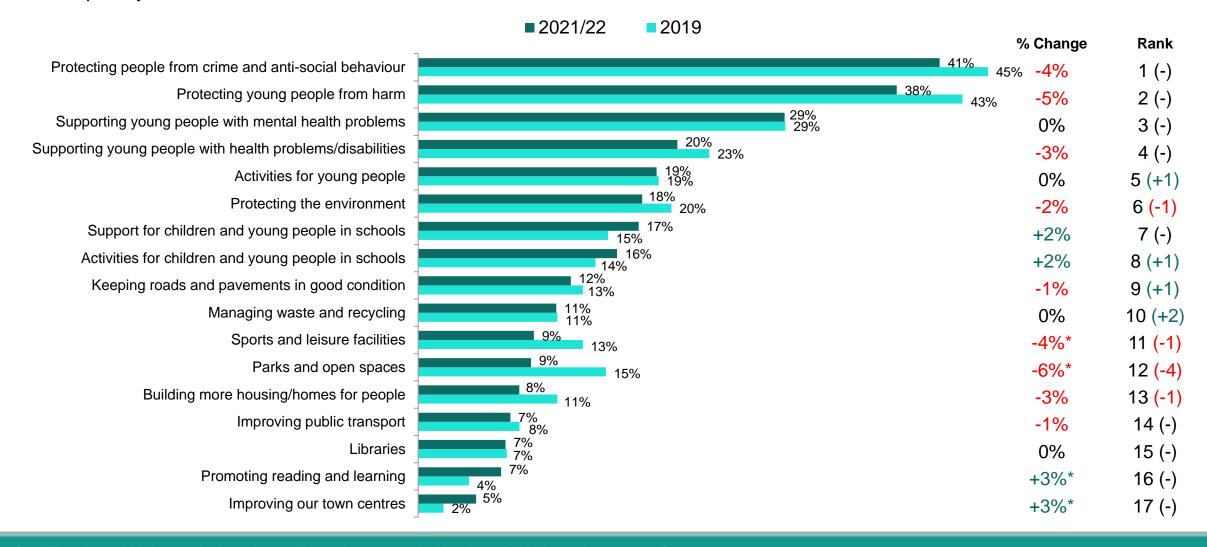


# Improving the Lives of Children & Young People



### Young People's top priority for the Council and Partners

Young people's top priority remains protecting people from crime and antisocial behaviour (41%) followed by protecting young people from harm (38%). There have been changes, for example, parks and open spaces (9%) has dropped from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> most chosen priority.





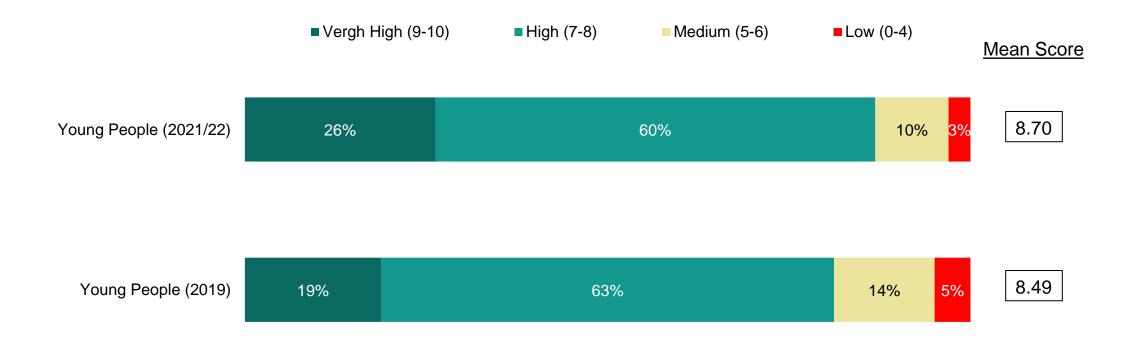
## **Personal Wellbeing**



### Satisfied with life...

Satisfaction with life among young people has improved between 2019 and 2021/22. The percentage of young people with a high or very high level of life satisfaction has increased from 82% to 86%. The percentage with a low level of life satisfaction has decreased from 5% to 3%.

The mean satisfaction score has seen an increase from 8.49 to 8.70.





#### Satisfied with life...

#### The mean life satisfaction score for young people is 8.70.

4-7 decile

8.57

**IMD** deciles

8-10 decile

(least

deprived)

8.80

There is significant variation in mean life satisfaction by age, with those aged 11-13 having significantly higher life satisfaction

on average.

Young People Survey (2021/22)

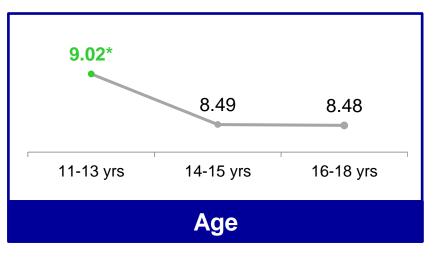


1-3 decile

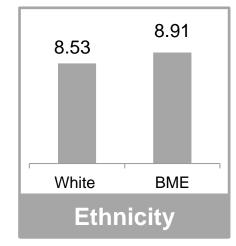
(most

deprived)

8.75



	Hendon	
	Chipping Barnet	
	Finchley and Golders Green	
		onstituency





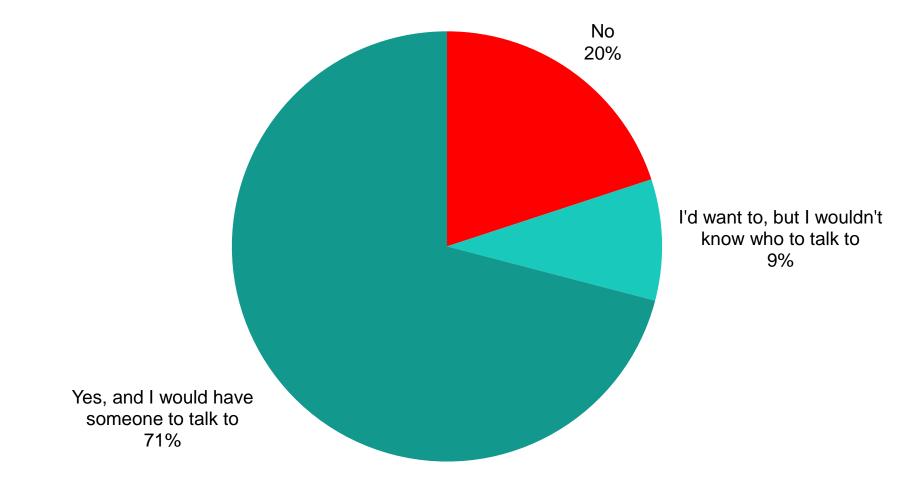
8.86

8.79

8.45

### Someone to talk to when depressed or anxious...

8 in 10 young people would want to talk to someone if feeling depressed or anxious. However 9% wouldn't have anyone to talk to about it. The remaining 20% of young people wouldn't want to talk to anyone about feeling depressed or anxious.





### Physical activity...

85% of young people are fairly active or active doing over 30 minutes of physical activity a week.

This is higher than the national average (66% - Active Lives Children and Young People Survey Academic Year 2020/21).

However, it should be noted that the national survey was conducted on young people of a slightly different age range and at a different date so comparison should be treated with caution.

Barnet Young Persons Survey 2021/22 (Ages 11 – 18)

Less Active: 15%

Fairly Active: 41%

Active: 44%

England 2020/21 - Active Lives Children and Young People Survey (Ages 11 – 16)

Less Active: 34%

Fairly Active: 23%

Active: 44%

**Less Active:** Less than an average of 30 minutes a day **Fairly Active:** An average of 30-59 minutes a day

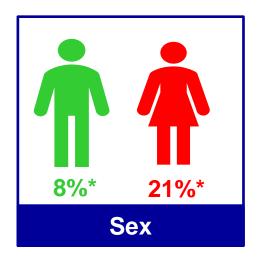
**Active**: An average of 60+ minutes a day

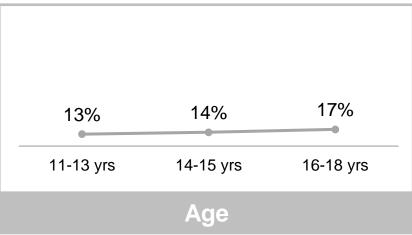


### Those who are physically less active...

15% of young people are physically less active (doing on average under 30 minutes of exercise a week). There is significant variation in this by sex, with females over twice as likely to be inactive than males.

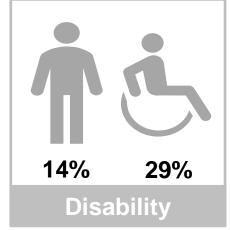






18%	
•	
6	





**Ethnicity** 

17%

**BME** 

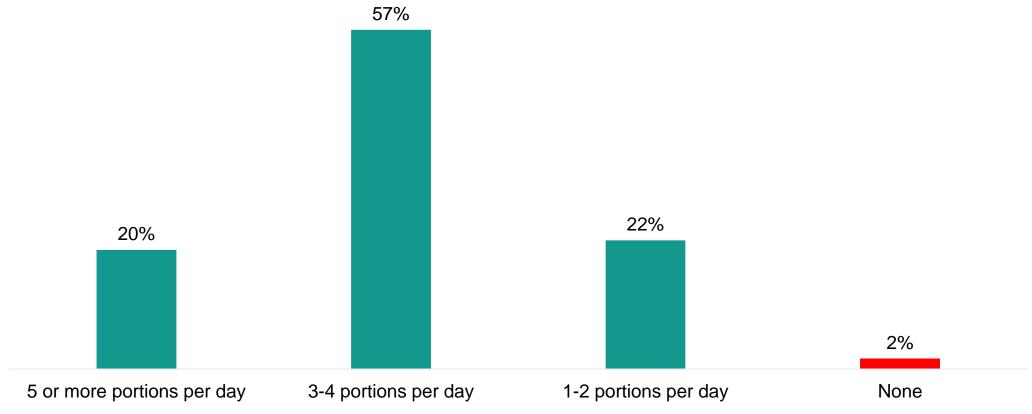
13%

White

### **Eating fruit and vegetables...**

20% of young people in Barnet eat the recommended 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables each day. This is in line with the share of children in England that eat 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables (18%)\*.

Just 2% of young people eat no portions of fruit and vegetables each day.



\*England data from the 2018 Health Survey for England looking at children age 5-15



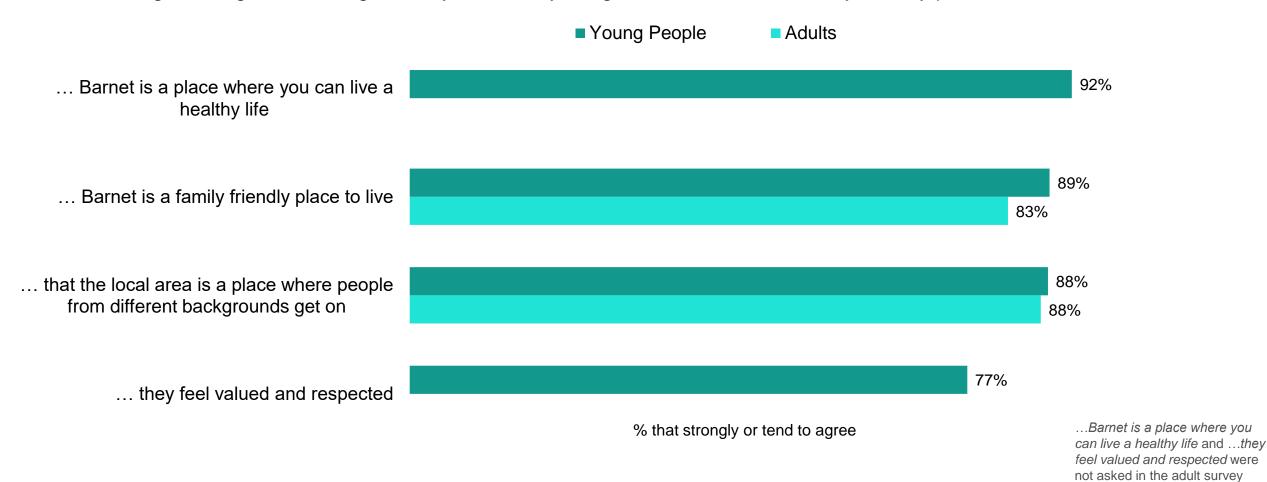
## **Respect and Consideration**



## **Community and Cohesion**

#### The majority of young people rate Barnet positively on all measures of community cohesions.

When compared with adults, young people are marginally more positive about the local area being a place where people from different backgrounds get on, but significantly more likely to agree that Barnet is a family friendly place to live.

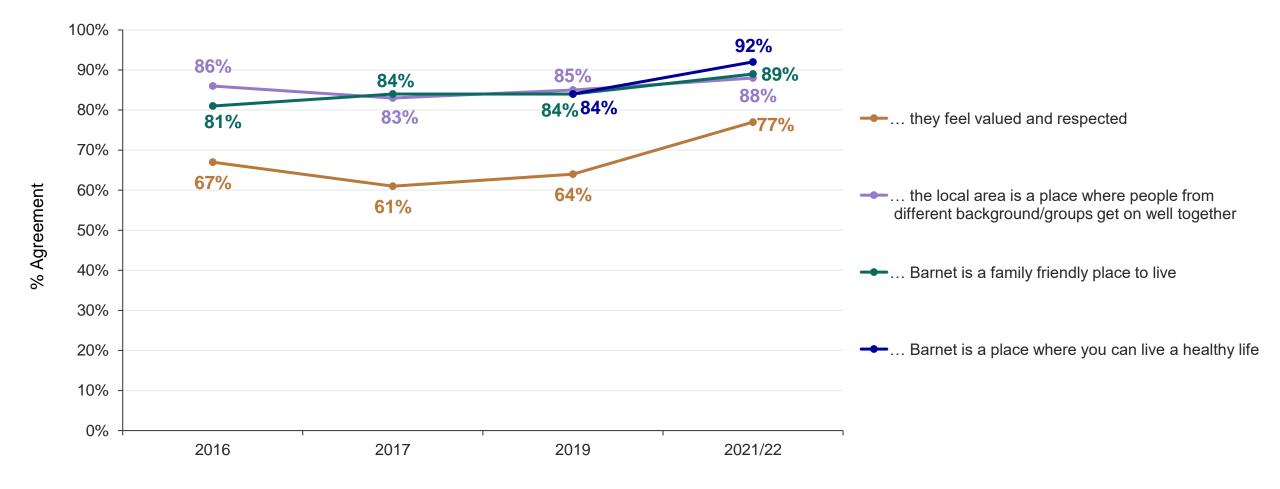




### **Community and Cohesion – over time**

All measures of community and cohesion received a higher percentage of agreement than in any prior survey.

There were significant increases in agreement between 2019 and 2021/22 for the following statements: Barnet is a place where you can live a healthy life, Barnet is a family friendly place to live, and they feel valued and respected.





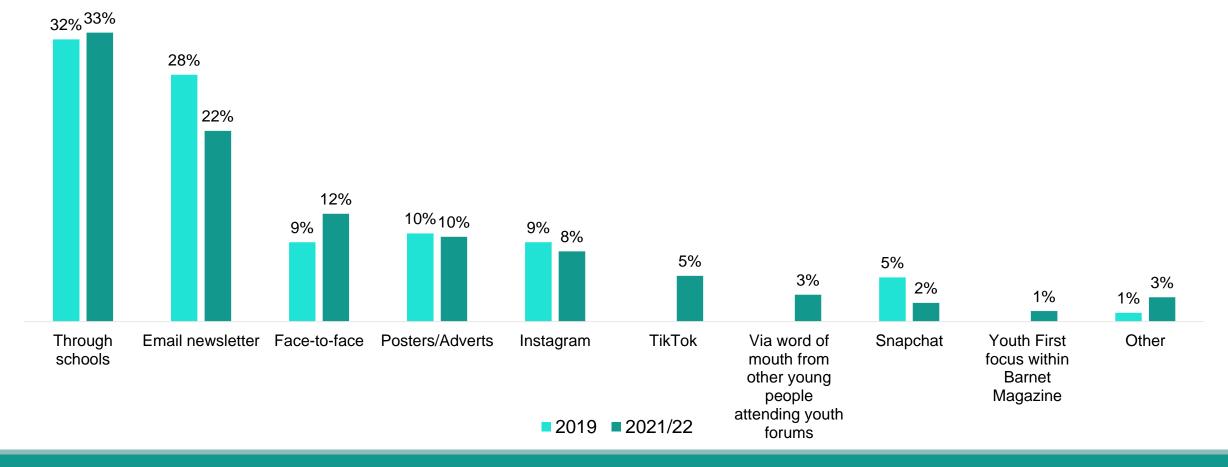
## Communications



### Young people's preferred methods of communication

33% of young people would prefer the council to communicate through schools, As in 2019 this was the most popular method of communication.

There were two significant changes between 2019 and 2021/22. Firstly, there was a decline in the proportion of young people who would prefer an email newsletter and secondly, there was also a decline in the proportion of young people who would prefer Snapchat as their method of communication.

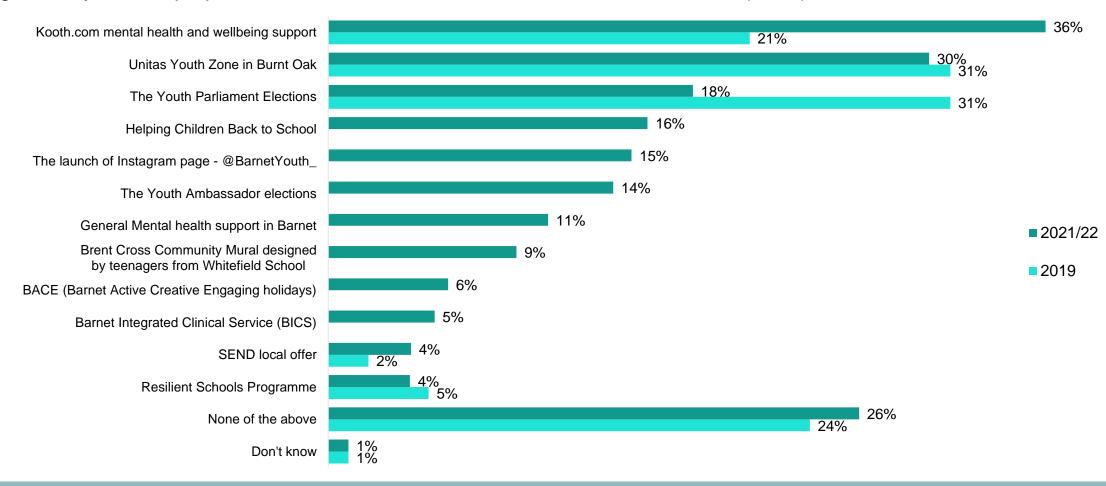




### Awareness of what the council is doing

Three quarters (73%) of young people surveyed have heard of at least one of the following pieces of work Barnet Council is doing – this is in line with the 2019 survey (75%).

Only a few comparisons can be made with the 2019 survey. A significantly higher proportion have heard of Kooth (+15%) and significantly smaller proportion have heard about the Youth Parliament Elections (-13%).





# Next steps



## Next steps for dissemination and further research

- Full briefing provided to Leader and the Deputy Leader of the council
- Full briefing provided to Leader of the opposition
- All-Member briefing to be offered
- Young people constituency based workshops will be used to gain more in-depth understanding of results, we will also be running focus groups with young people with a disability.
- Information will be used to inform development of a new Children and Young People Plan
- Full presentation will be used to roll out further deep dive presentations to the different Barnet Plan
  workstreams and also presented to the Tackling the Gaps Operational Group. Each workstream will be
  presented with key findings that are pertinent tor their workstream, however the presentations will
  ensure each workstream has access to the full set of analysis too
- Sharing of presentation and analysis with CMT



## Next steps for dissemination and further research

- Presentations to be offered to CMTs Senior Management Teams on request
- Findings to be disseminated further to staff via First Team and an all-staff Breakfast Briefing.
- Detailed results, and how the council is acting on the results, will be fed back to residents via <a href="http://engage.barnet.gov.uk">http://engage.barnet.gov.uk</a>.
- Full press release to be issued
- Featured article on the RPS and YPS results is also planned for the Banet First July paper edition.

