

SAFER ROTHERHAM PARTNERSHIP

CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Gathering the views of people in Rotherham is an important part of the process of reviewing the SRP priorities

An extensive programme of community engagement and consultation has taken place throughout 2024/5



Introduction

Community Safety Partnerships work on the principle that no single agency can address all drivers of crime and antisocial behaviour, and that effective partnership working is vital to ensuring safer communities.

Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory responsibility to formulate and implement a strategy for:

- Reducing crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment)
- Combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances
- Reducing re-offending
- Preventing people from becoming involved in serious violence
- Reducing instances of serious violence

The development of the strategy is informed by a strategic assessment which includes an analysis of the levels and patterns of crime and substance misuse in the area and the reason for any changes, alongside the priorities of people living and working in the area.

This document provides an overview of the outcomes of consultation carried out with partners and the public which will help to inform the priorities and actions for the Safer Rotherham Partnership Plan 2025-28.

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Online consultation survey analysis

Online consultation took place between 4th September to 14th December 2024. 60 responses were received via the online survey. There were a number of other consultations taking place during the same time period which may have had an impact on the number of responses received.

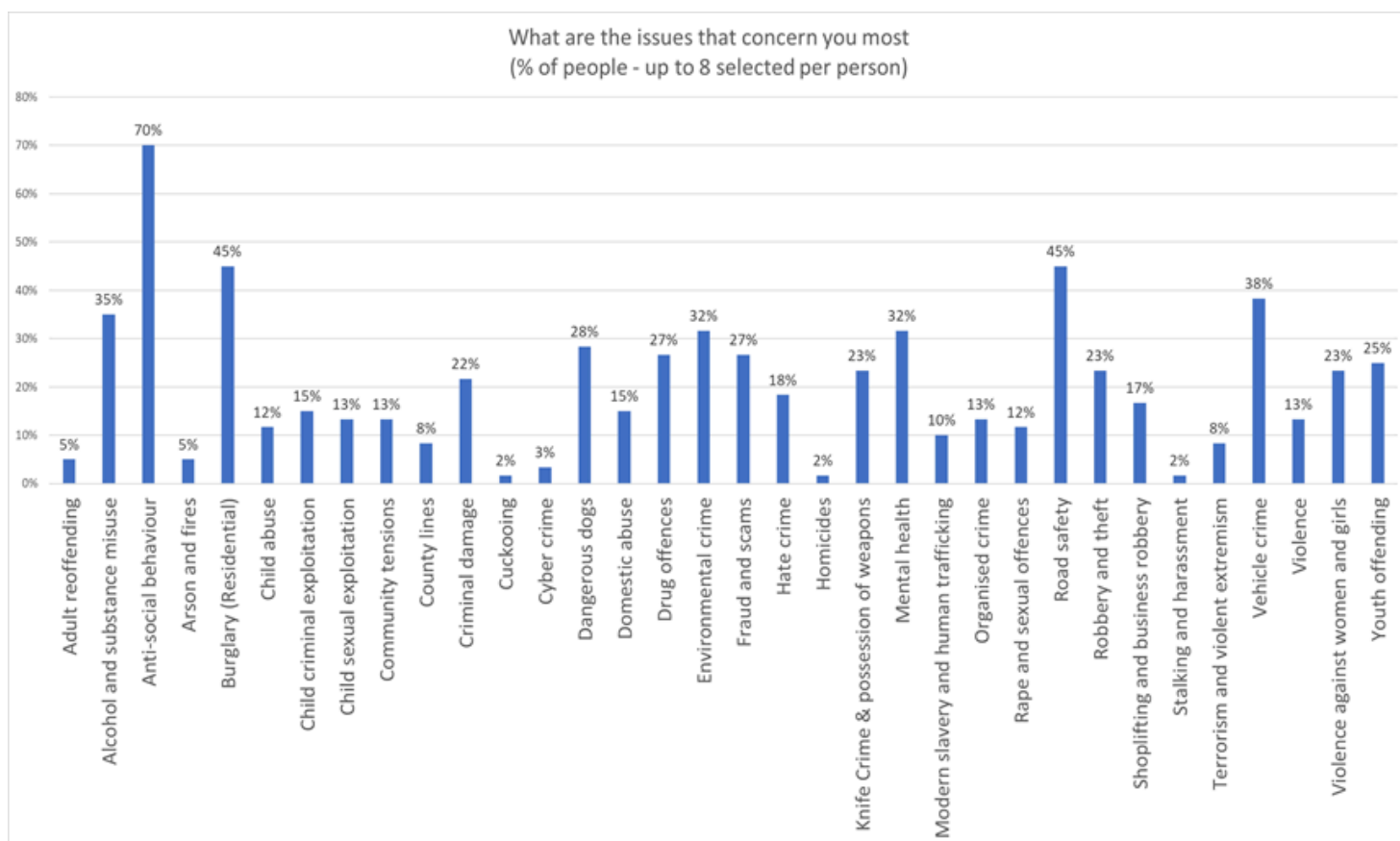
Respondents were asked to select issues that concern them the most

The top three most commonly selected issues were:

Anti-social behaviour

Burglary (Residential)

Road Safety



Online consultation survey analysis

Respondents were asked how partners can make the most difference by working together to address these concerns

The top three most commonly selected responses were:

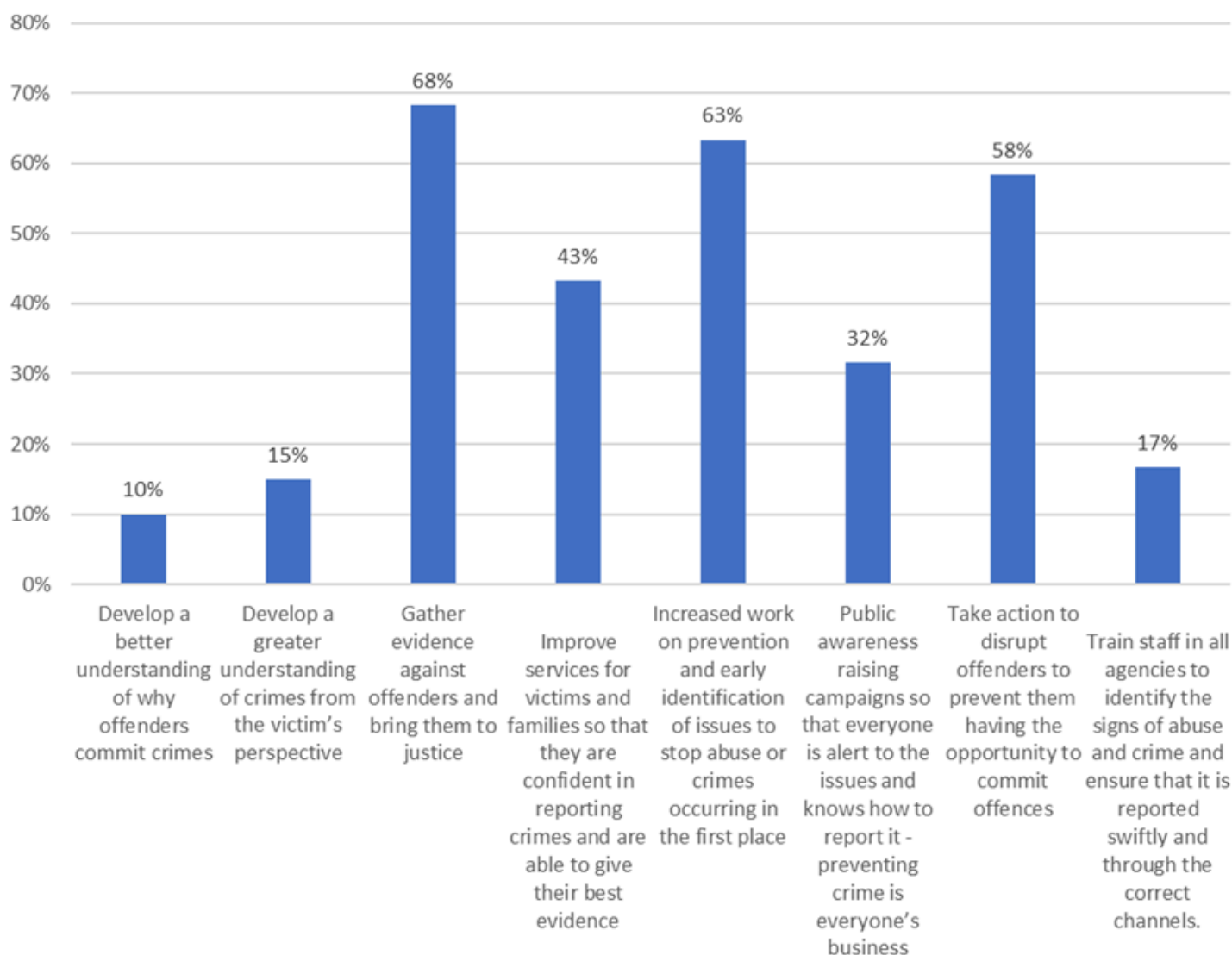
Gather evidence against offenders and bring them to justice.

Increased work on prevention and early identification of issues to stop abuse or crimes occurring in the first place.

Take action to disrupt offenders to prevent them having the opportunity to commit offences

How do you think partners can make the most difference by working together to address these concerns?

(% of people - up to 8 selected per person)



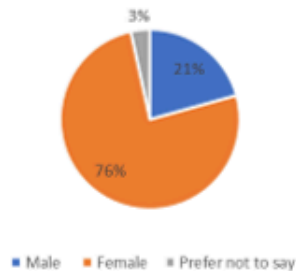
Online Survey - Equality Analysis

Gender analysis

29 respondents agreed to provide additional information.

- 76% of respondents were female
- 21% of respondents were male
- 3% of respondents selected prefer not to say

Gender - Online Survey
(% of 29 people)

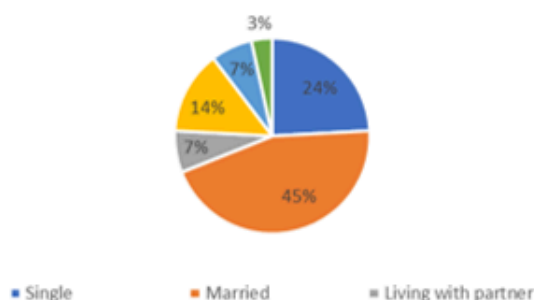


Current marital status analysis

29 respondents agreed to provide additional information.

- 45% of respondents married
- 24% of respondents widowed
- 14% of respondents divorced/separated

Current marital status
(% of 29 people)

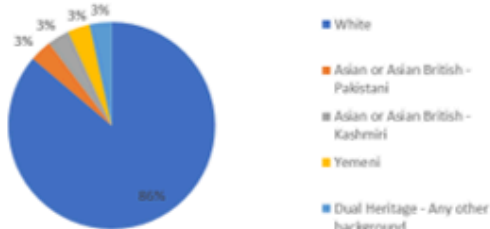


Ethnic background analysis

29 respondents agreed to provide additional information.

- 86% of respondents selected White
- 3% of respondents selected Asian or Asian British – Pakistani
- 3% of respondents selected Asian or Asian British – Kashmiri
- 3% of respondents selected Yemeni
- 3% of respondents selected Dual Heritage

Ethnic background
(% of 29 people)

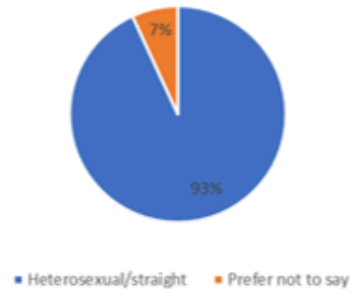


Sexual orientation analysis

29 respondents agreed to provide additional information.

- 93% of respondents were heterosexual/straight
- 7% of respondents selected prefer not to say

Sexual Orientation
(% of 29 people)

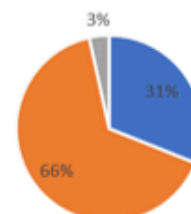


Disability or condition analysis

29 respondents agreed to provide additional information.

- 66% of respondents selected no
- 31% of respondents selected yes
- 3% of respondents selected prefer not to say

Disability or a condition which has lasted or expected to last for at least 12 months
(% of 29 people)

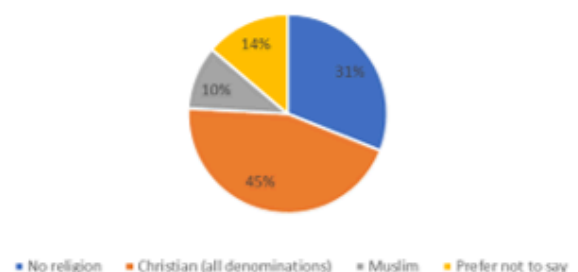


Religion analysis

29 respondents agreed to provide additional information.

- 45% of respondents selected Christian
- 31% of respondents selected No Religion
- 14% of respondents selected prefer not to say
- 10% of respondents selected Muslim

Religion
(% of 29 people)



Voluntary and community sector focus groups and events

Focus groups were held with representatives and members of voluntary and community sector groups and organisations, including “by and for” protected characteristic groups.

Crime and community safety concerns were spread across a wide range of issues, including drug misuse and drug related crime, online safety, child exploitation and county lines, anti-social behaviour, town centre safety, community cohesion and hate crime, domestic abuse, normalisation of violence in relationships, mental health, neglect driven by poverty, dangers of vaping in young people, fly tipping, and scam work visas affecting migrants.

The top three key issues raised were:

Drug use



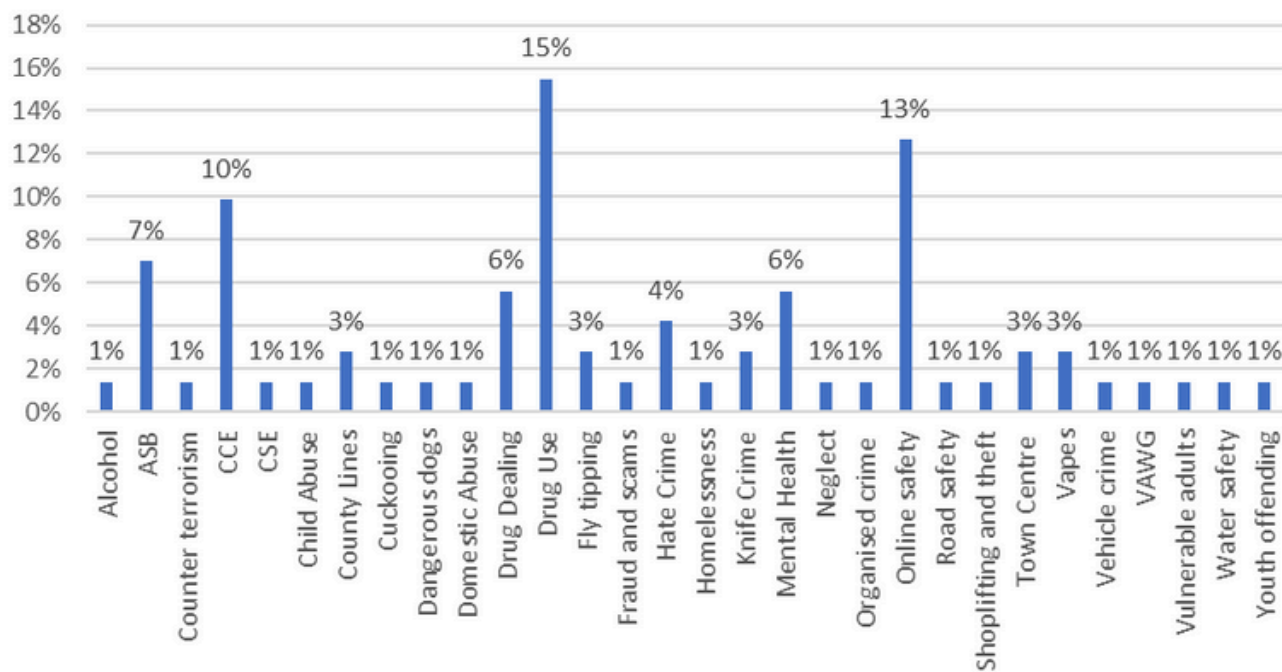
Online safety



Child Criminal Exploitation



Voluntary and community sector focus groups and events



Public Consultation



Engagement at events was carried out through conversations at stalls whilst giving out community safety related information. These included Rotherham Show, Council Tenants Engagement Event, Crossroads Dementia Conference, GP Protected Learning Time Event, Youth Cabinet and IC Youth Group.

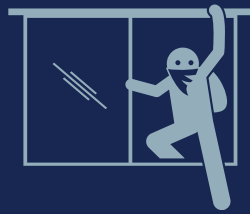
Again a wide range of issues were raised by members of the public including: anti-social behaviour, burglary, community cohesion and concerns about the recent violent protests, domestic abuse and older people, drug dealing/county lines, fly tipping, hate crime, knife crime, modern slavery, online safety, organised crime, road safety, scams/exploitation of vulnerable adults, town centre safety, risks of vaping to young people, vehicle crime and youth offending.

Some of the issues raised were:

Anti Social Behaviour



Burglary



Community Cohesion



Domestic Abuse



Drug dealing and County Lines



Fly tipping



Online safety



Road safety



Organised Crime



Consultation with strategic partnership groups

Consultation was carried out as part of interactive sessions during meetings, where meeting members were asked the question "What, in your view, are the top crime and community safety risks and threats for Rotherham?"

Written and verbal comments were collected and the number of participants who identified a specific issue was collated. The results showed that a wide a range of crime/community safety related issues were identified (illustrated in the chart below), however the most frequent issues identified were anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, substance misuse (drugs and alcohol), drug dealing, child exploitation, and mental health.

The most frequent issues raised were:

Anti Social Behaviour



Domestic Abuse



Drug use



Drug dealing



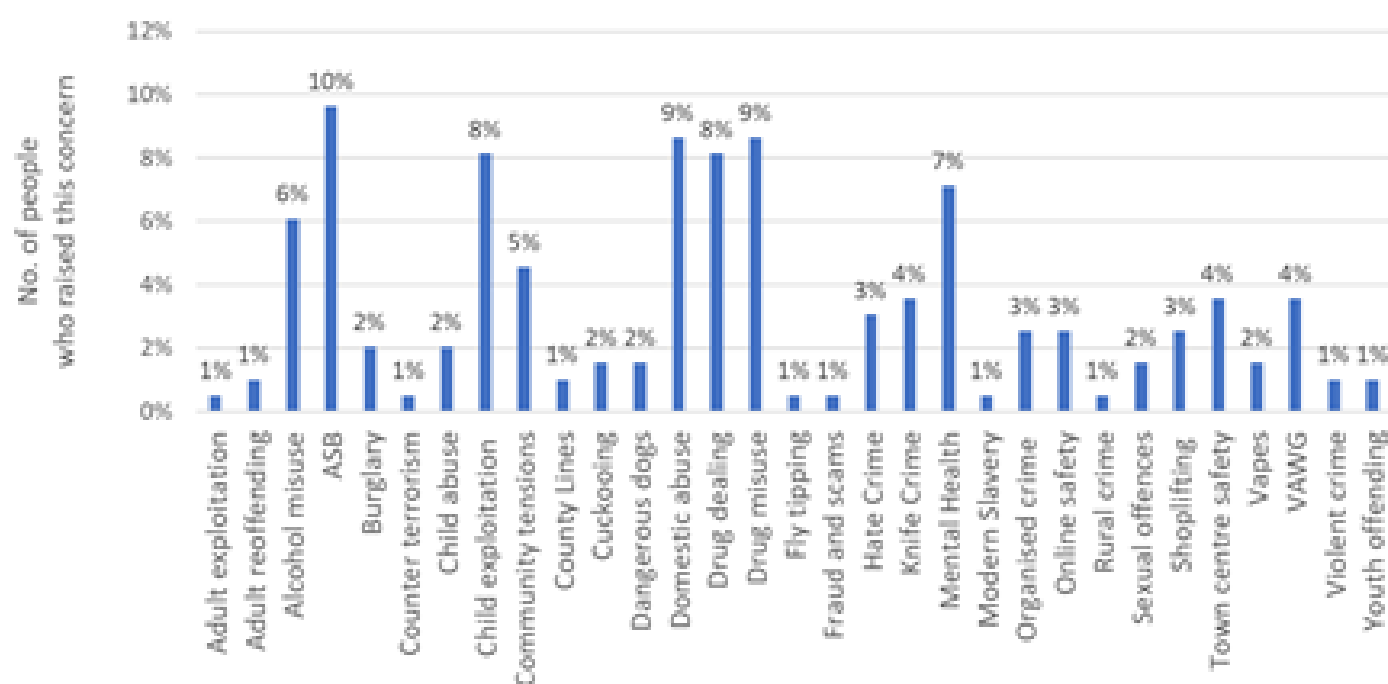
Child Exploitation



Mental Health



Outcomes of Strategic Partnership Board Consultations



Consultation with strategic partnership groups

Recommendations about key actions required included training and awareness raising across a range of issues, more resources and supporting police interventions, clear pathways into services, early intervention, improved links with the voluntary and community sector, partnership work including youths and funding.

The top three most commonly selected responses were:

Partnership Work



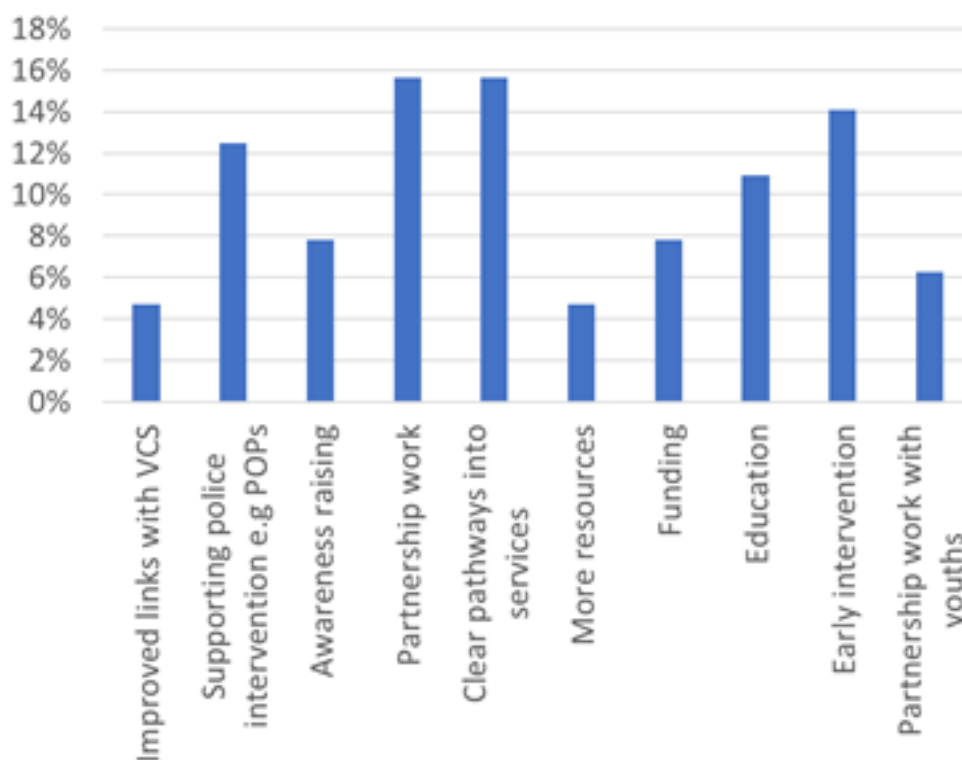
Clear pathways into services



Early intervention



What type of partnership responses do you think are most important to tackle these issues?

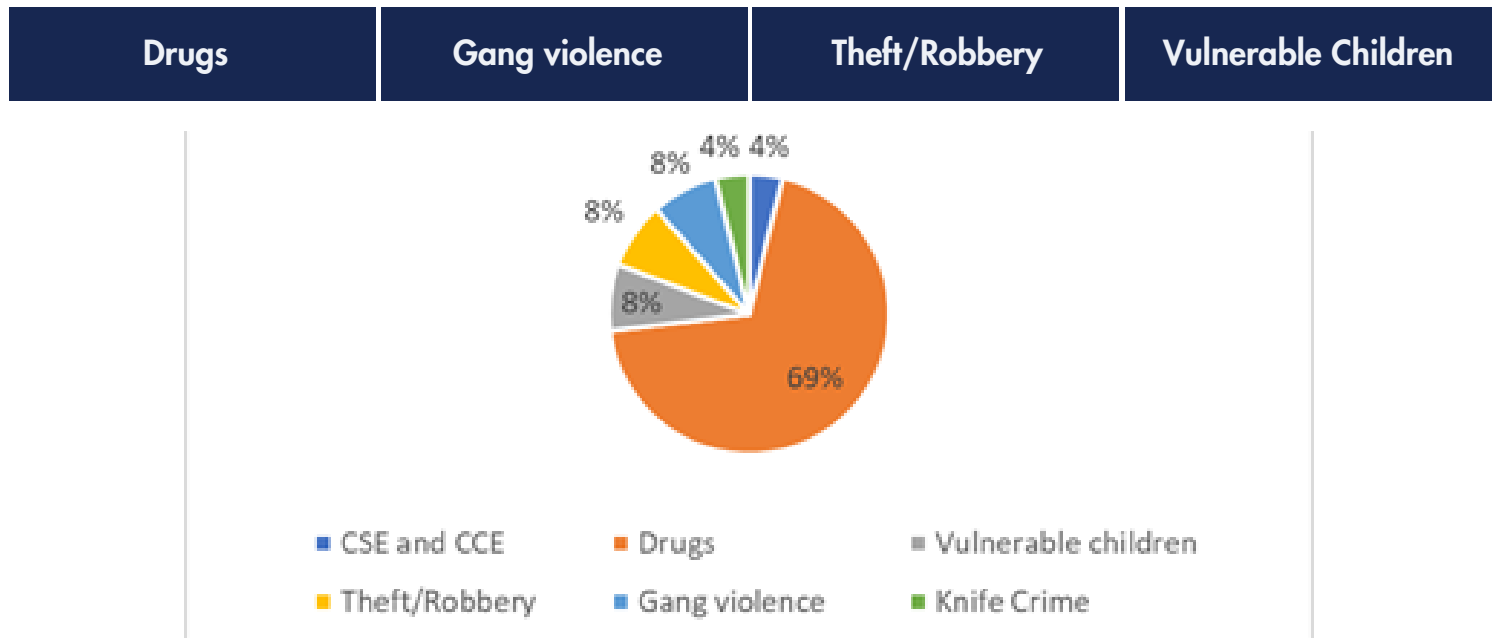


Organised Crime Survey

A survey was carried out with members of the public at various events by the Organised Crime Partnership Co-ordinator.

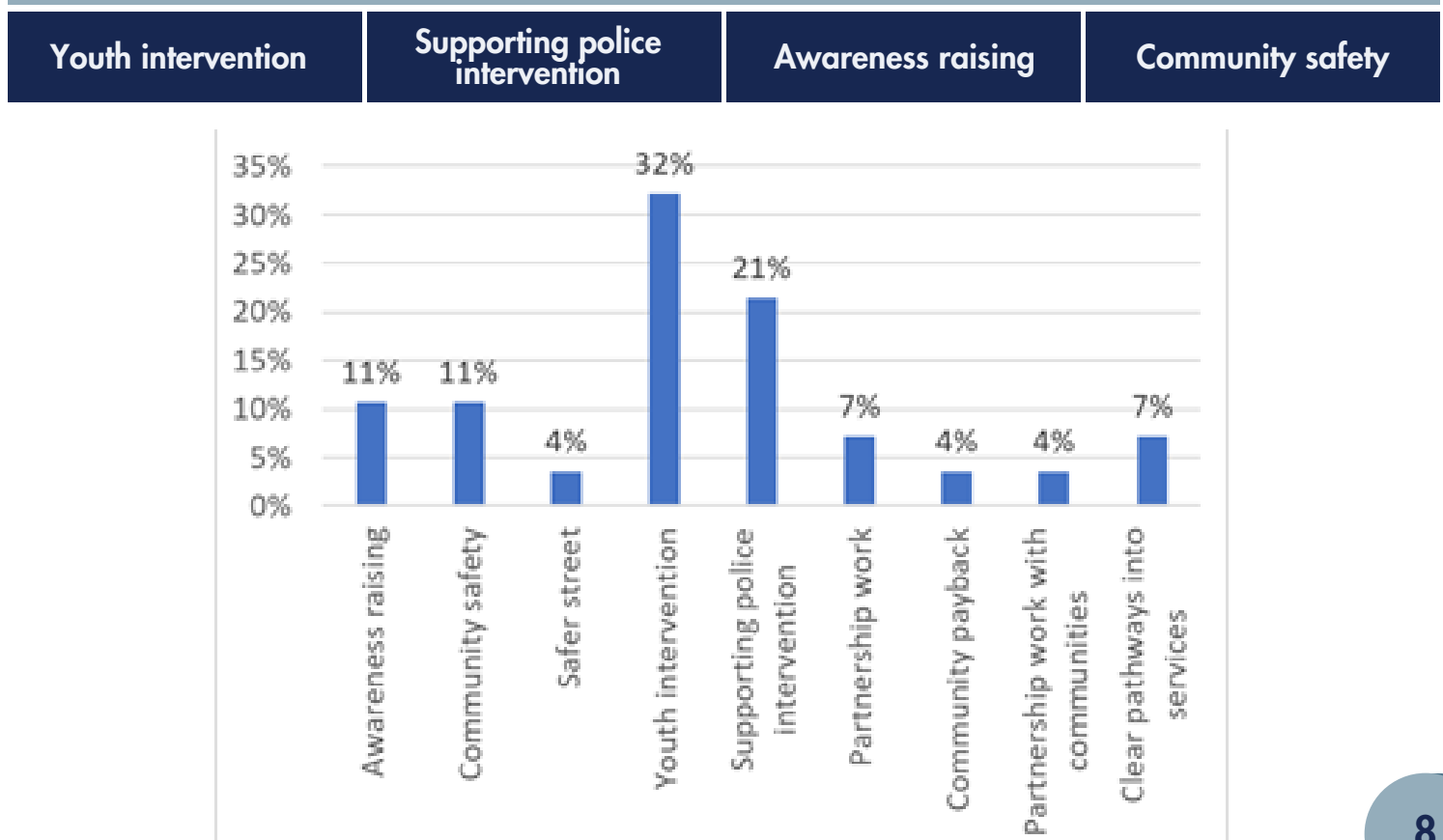
Respondents were asked 'What type of Organised Crime impacts you or your community?'

The most commonly selected responses were:



Respondents were asked 'How do you feel the Safer Rotherham Partnership could tackle organised crime together?'

The most commonly selected responses were:



Links to other Consultations

The Council were developing several new plans and strategies during the same time period and extensive consultation and community engagement with a diverse range of community of place and community of interest groups has taken place.

Consultation for the SRP priorities has been linked with these consultations to gather general community safety related views from people in Rotherham.

Council Plan consultation - headlines identified two community safety priorities:

Anti Social Behaviour



Feeling Safer



Ward Plan priorities - the following community concerns featured in nearly all Ward plans and were overwhelmingly the main community safety issues identified:

Anti Social Behaviour



Road safety



Housing Strategy consultation – the consultation survey analysis identified anti-social behaviour as an issue for residents.

Anti Social Behaviour



Rural crime engagement carried out by the SYP Motorcycle and Rural Crime Team - the key concerns were fly tipping on farmland, along with Quads and bikes damaging fences and hedges to get onto land to ride, hunt for wild animals with dogs, or steal from isolated buildings and locations. Rotherham South was highlighted as the most affected area out from Maltby to Harthill.

Fly tipping



Quads/Off road bikes



Links to other Consultations

South Yorkshire Community Foundation - Outcomes of Vital Signs research and consultation 2024

South Yorkshire Community Foundation have reported on the outcome of their "Vital signs" consultation conducted in 2024. Community Safety came out as the top concern of South Yorkshire residents (27.1% identified it as their top concern for action).

57.5% - Believe that too little is done to address the causes of crime in their local area.

35.9% - Have experienced harassment, discrimination, or other forms of antisocial behaviour.

31.6% - Don't feel safe in their local area, both in public and in their home.

45.7% - Think that the situation is OK, but could be improved.

40.4% - Think that action should be taken immediately or as soon as possible.

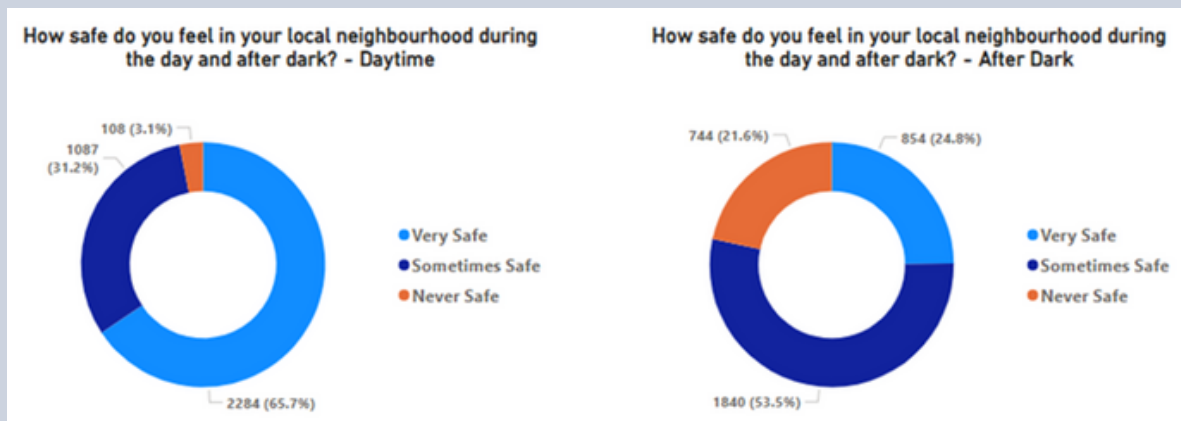
Lifestyle Survey final report for 2024

Perceptions of safety in the community

- 2,284 students (65.7%) feel very safe during the daytime
- 1,087 (31.2%) feel safe sometimes
- 108 (3.1%) never feel safe during the daytime.
- 1,840 (53.5%) feel safe sometimes after dark
- 854 (21.6%) feel very safe after dark
- 744 (24.8%) never feel safe after dark

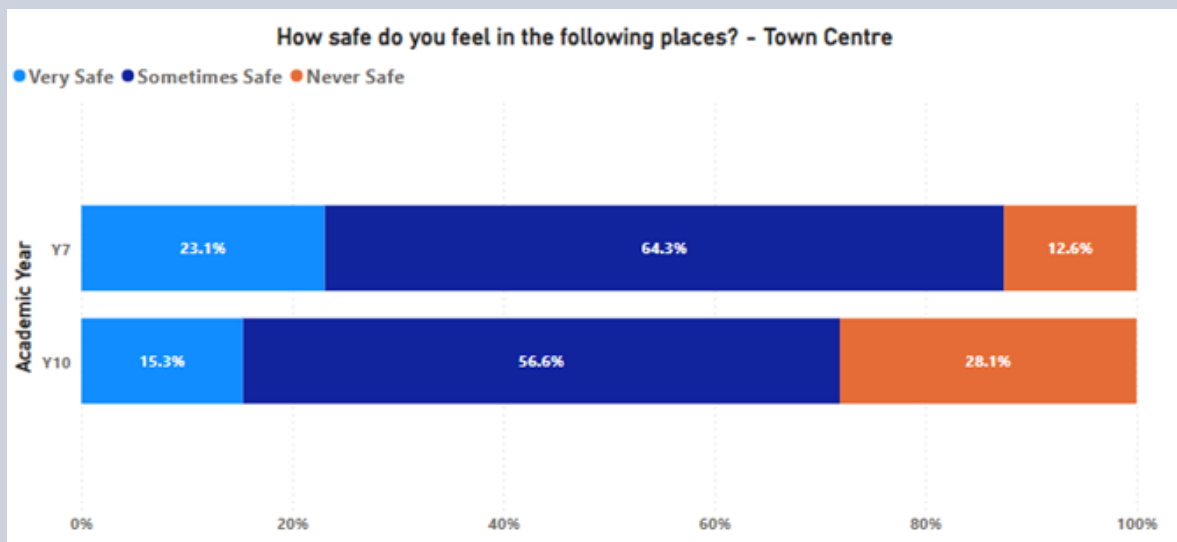
Year 7 students were more likely to report feeling very safe during the daytime (69%) and after dark (26.6%) than year 10 students (61.5% and 22.8% respectively).

There have been no significant changes in how safe students feel during the daytime or after dark since the current question was introduced in 2022.



Students were asked how safe they feel in the town centre, local shops, parks and recreational areas, travelling on local buses/trains, and on the way to/from school.

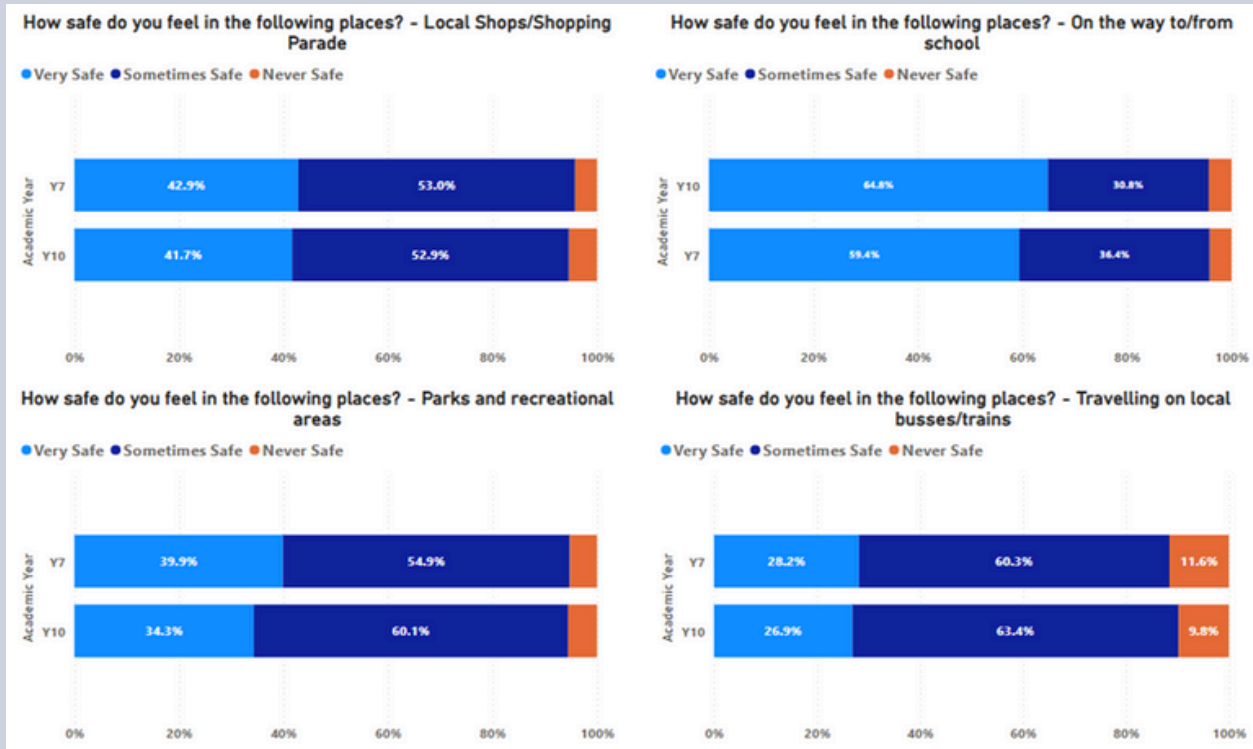
- 52.3% of year 7 respondents, and 53.5% of year 10 respondents feel safe sometimes
- 20.9% of year 7 respondents and 14.5% of year 10 respondents feel very safe
- 11.4% of year 7 respondents and 26.6% of year 10 students never feel safe.



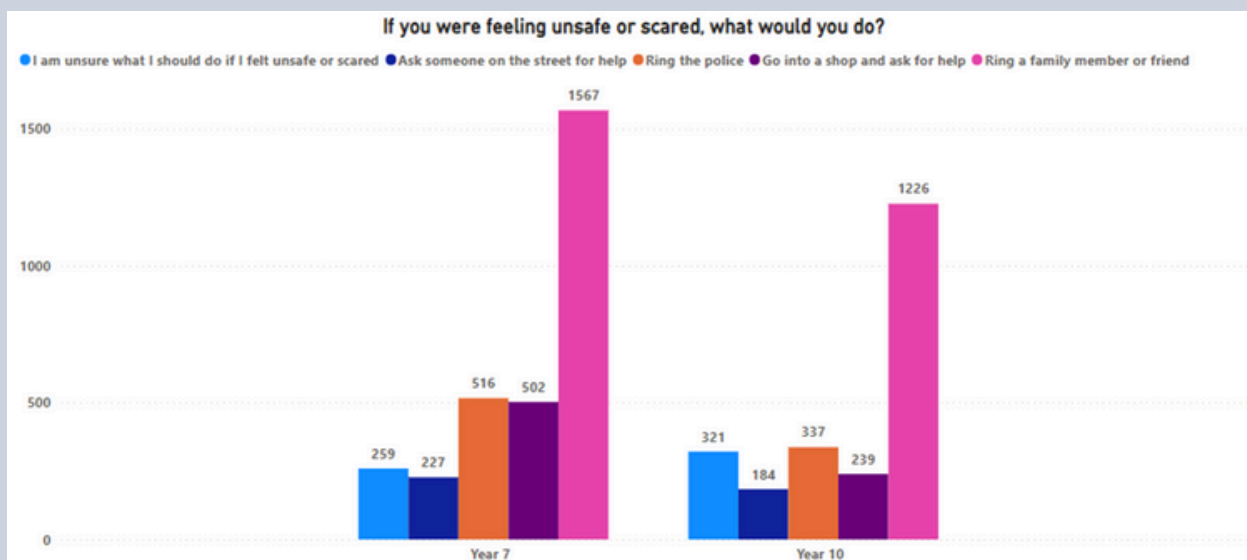
Lifestyle Survey final report for 2024

Perceptions of safety in the community

Students generally feel sometimes safe or very safe in all areas across town, however, they were more likely to experience feeling unsafe on local buses and trains. Please note, students should have been asked whether they 'worry about being hurt by someone with a knife', however, due to a system error the question was not provided to students and no data is available for this year.



When students were asked what they would do if they felt unsafe, a large proportion would ring a family member or friend (45% year 7 students and 35% year 10 students).

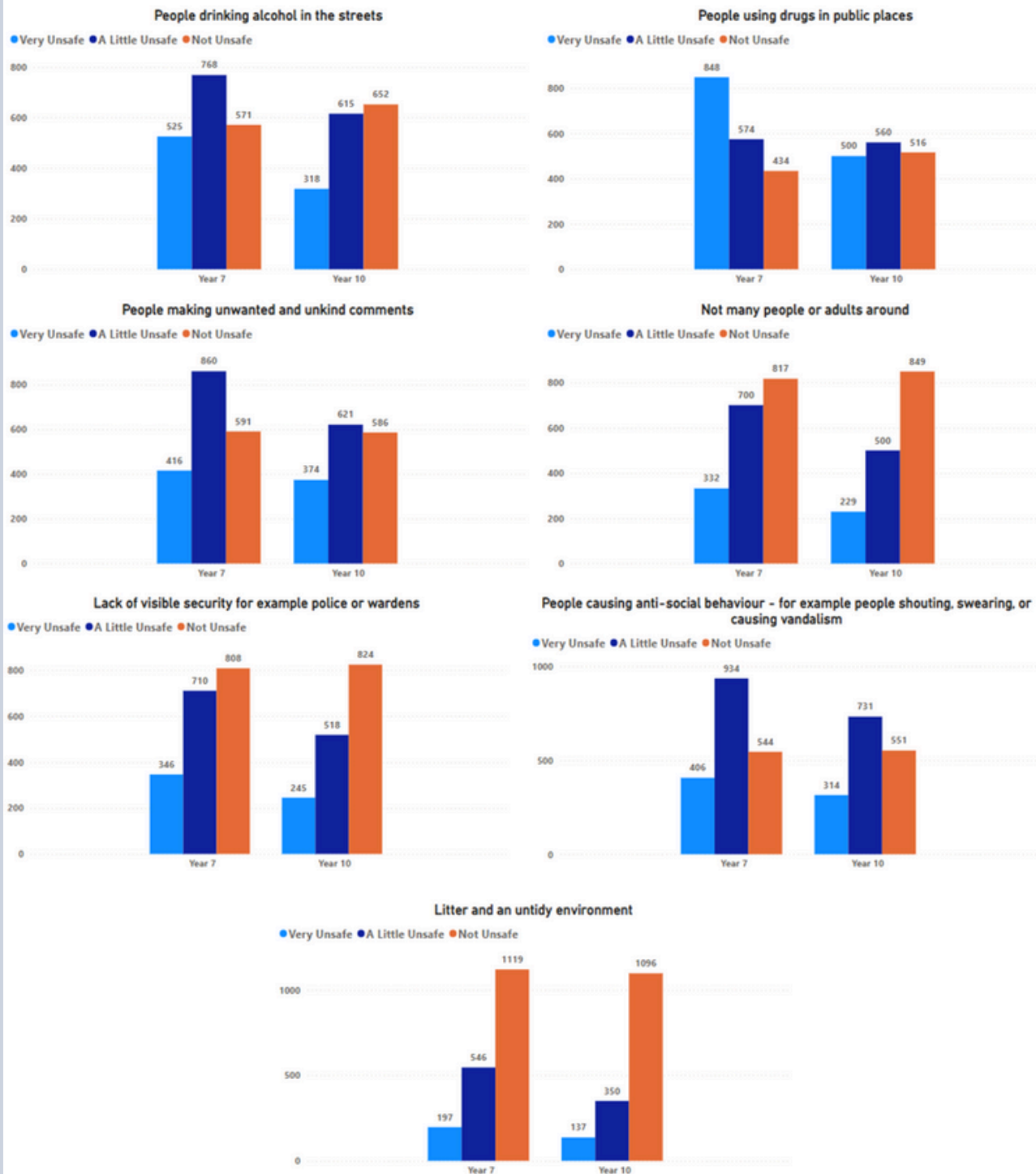


Lifestyle Survey final report for 2024

Perceptions of safety in the community

Students were asked what things made them feel unsafe when out and about and most reported feeling unsafe when people were using drugs in public places, drinking alcohol on the streets, or making unwanted and unkind comments.

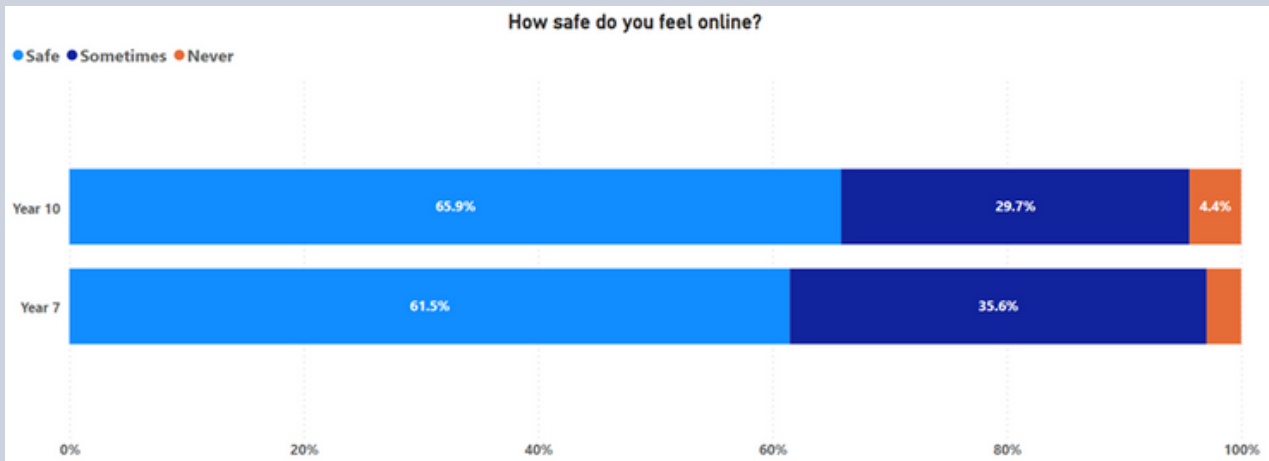
Have any of the things below made you feel unsafe when you and about?



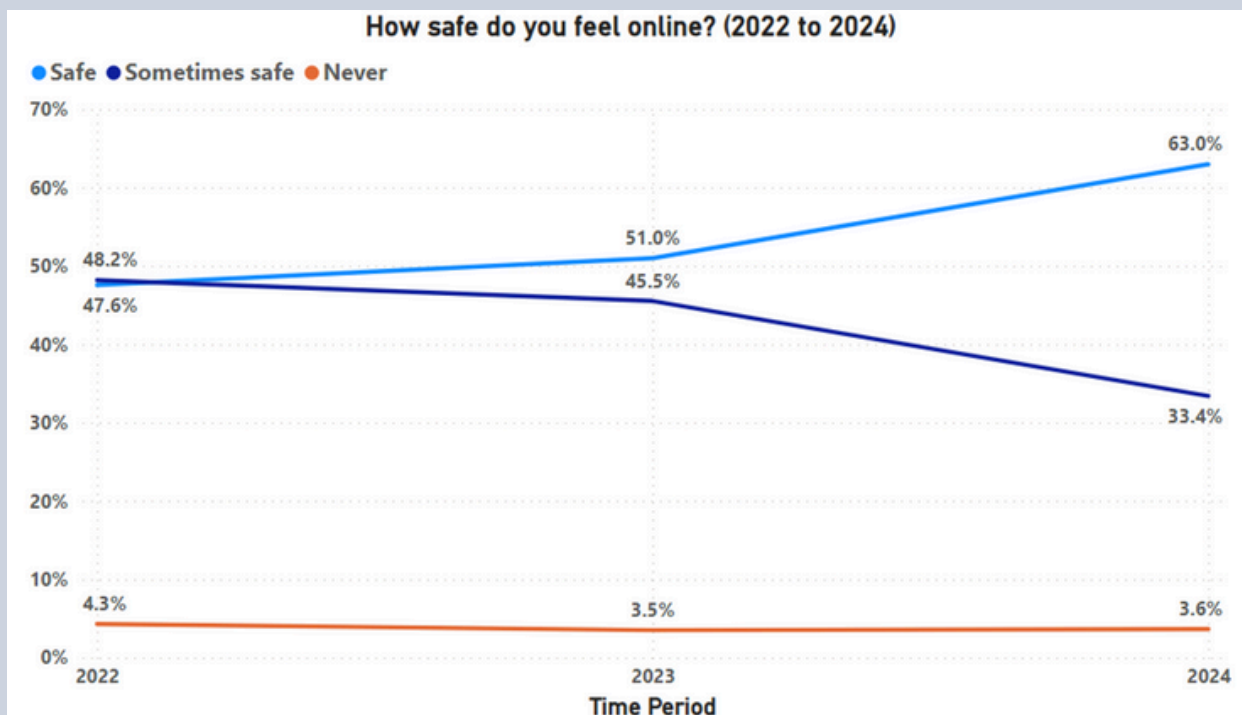
Lifestyle Survey final report for 2024

Perceptions of safety online

Students were asked how safe they feel online. Overall, 66.7% of respondents feel safe online, 35.4% feel 'sometimes safe', and 3.9% feel 'never safe'.



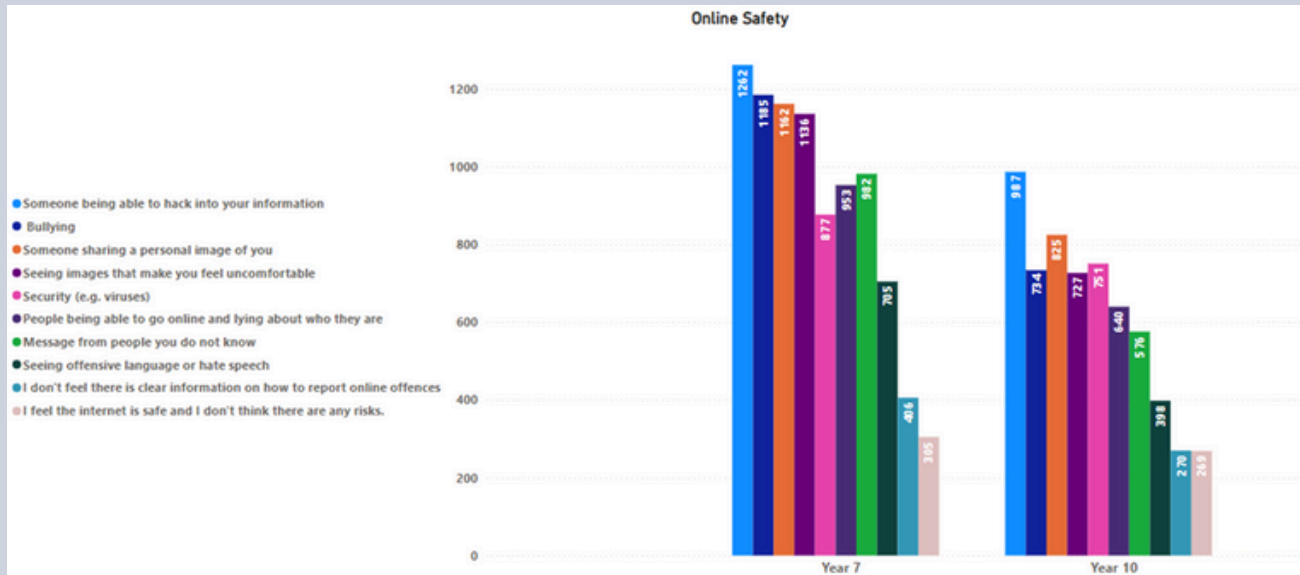
There has been a significant increase in the proportion of students reporting they feel safe online, from 47.6% in 2022 to 63% in 2024.



Lifestyle Survey final report for 2024

Perceptions of safety online

The main reason students reported feeling unsafe online was due to someone being able to hack information, followed by risk of someone sharing a personal image and cyber bullying. This was the same for both year 7 and year 10 respondents, and risk of hacking and cyber bullying remains the highest proportion as was in 2023, 2022 and 2019.

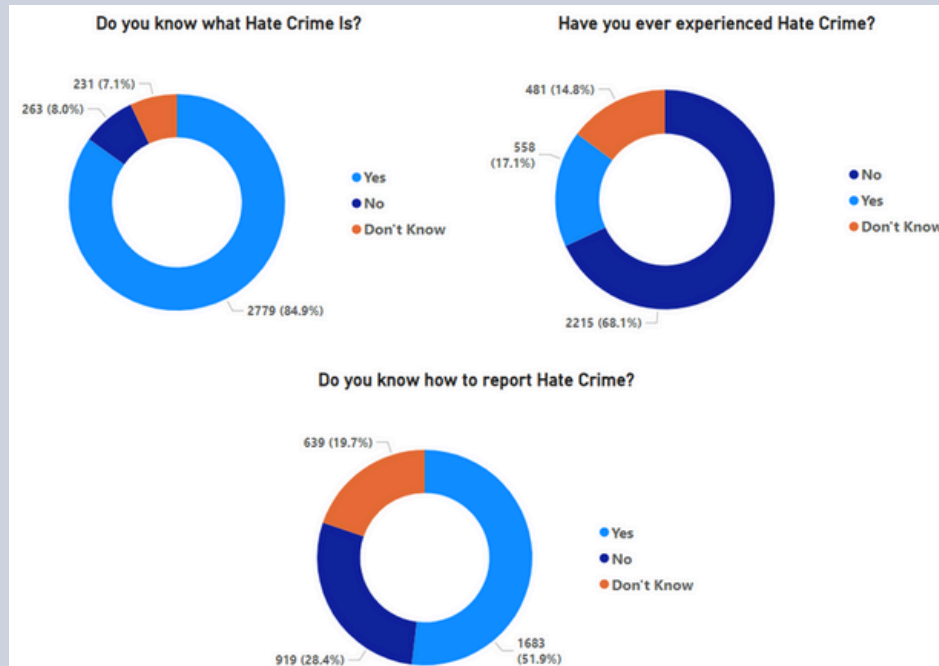


Lifestyle Survey final report for 2024

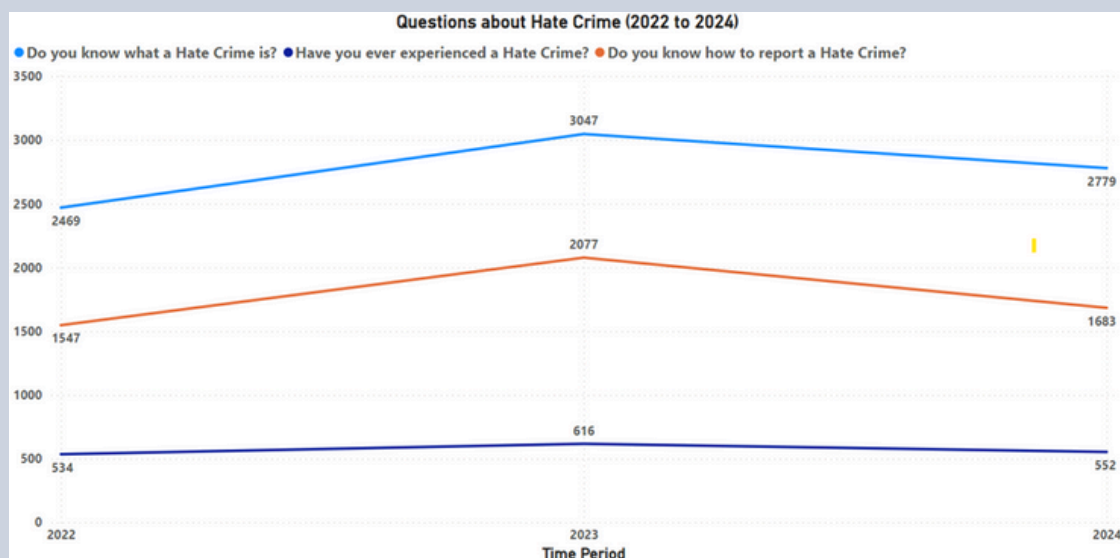
Hate crime

Students were asked about their knowledge of hate crime:

- 2,779 respondents (84.9%) know what hate crime is
- 494 (15.1%) do not know what hate crime is
- 552 respondents (17.7%) have experienced hate crime, compared with 16.6% in 2023.
- ,683 respondents (51.9%) know how to report hate crime, down from 56.3% in 2023.



Over the previous 3 years there was an 23.4% increase in the number of students aware of what a hate crime is in 2023, however, there was a 10.6% decrease to 2024. A similar trend has been seen with students experiencing hate crime (a 15.4% increase to 2023, and 11.6% decrease to 2024) and the number of students knowing how to report a hate crime (a 34.3% increase to 2023, and a 23.4% decrease to 2024).



Overall, the number of students who know what a hate crime is has increased by 12.4%, while students experiencing hate crime has increased by 0.2% and students knowing how to report a hate crime has increased by 8.8%