

CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMITTEE SUMMONS

C Hanagan
Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
2 Llys Cadwyn
Taff Street
Pontypridd
CF37 4TH

Meeting Contact: Sarah Daniel Sarah Daniel scrutiny@rctcbc.gov.uk

YOU ARE SUMMONED to a SPECIAL meeting of OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY 2022-2027 COMMITTEE to be held at the HYBRID - Llys Cadwyn, Pontypridd & ZOOM on MONDAY, 18TH MARCH, 2024 at 4.00 PM.

Non Committee Members and Members of the public may request the facility to address the Committee at their meetings on the business listed although facilitation of this request is at the discretion of the Chair. It is kindly asked that such notification is made to Democratic Services by Thursday, 14 March 2024 on the contact details listed above, including stipulating whether the address will be in Welsh or English.

It is the intention to live stream this meeting, details of which can be accessed here

AGENDA

Page No's

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive disclosures of personal interest from Members in accordance with

the Code of Conduct

Note:

1. Members are requested to identify the item number and subject matter

that their interest relates to and signify the nature of the personal interest: and

2. Where Members withdraw from a meeting as a consequence of the disclosure of a prejudicial interest they must notify the Chairman when they leave.

2. FEEDBACK FROM THE RCT YOUR VOICE SURVEY

5 - 48

3. URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any items, which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, is of the opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

4. CHAIRS REVIEW AND CLOSE

<u>Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication</u>

Circulation:-

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny 2022-2027 Committee (County Borough Councillor J Edwards and County Borough Councillor B Stephens respectively)

County Borough Councillors:- Councillor M Ashford, Councillor R Bevan, Councillor J Bonetto, Councillor R Davis, Councillor S Evans, Councillor S Evans, Councillor C Middle, Councillor K Morgan, Councillor S Morgans, Councillor G L Warren, Councillor M Powell and Councillor S Emanuel

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh





RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

18 MARCH 2024

FEEDBACK FROM THE RCT YOUR VOICE SURVEY

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide a presentation to Members on the results and key points of the Your Voice Survey 2022-23

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Scrutinise and comment on the information contained within this report.
- 2.2 Consider whether they wish to scrutinise in greater depth any matters contained in the report.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To give Members the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the Your Voice Survey 2022-23.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Youth Service (YEPS Youth Engagement and Participation Service) provide enriching opportunities and support services for young people across RCT to support young people aged 11-25 years to achieve their potential and overcome barriers to learning and progression.
- 4.2 The Youth Engagement and Participation Service (YEPS) provides the statutory Youth Service for Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council. This service is provided by a workforce of qualified staff made up of school based workers, community based youth workers, specialist youth work teams and skilled qualified part time staff.

- 4.3 YEPS offers young people 11-25 access to a variety of FREE youth work activities across a range of settings including schools, colleges, community settings and youth clubs. Young people can get involved by seeing their YEPS worker in schools, colleges, or via the website.
- 4.4 YEPS provide information, advice and guidance to young people on a one to one basis (referral work) and/or group sessions.

5. YOUR VOICE YOUTH SURVEY

- 5.1 The Your Voice youth survey is usually taken every 2 years, but due to the pandemic, there has been 4 years since the last survey in 2018. Children and young people aged between 11-25 completed the survey in schools, colleges, youth clubs and other community settings across the county borough, representing the diversity of young people living, being educated or working in RCT.
- 5.2 The Children and Young people were given the opportunity to complete a series of interactive questions on a range of thematic areas, which were decided following consultation with other Council services
- 5.3 The Survey directly informs the planning of services for both the Council and partners to ensure the key priorities of people, places and prosperity are achieved with young people's views contributing to driving these forward
- 5.4 Attached at Appendix 1 to this report is a presentation which summarises the results to the Survey which was completed by almost 5,000 Young People across the County Borough, and includes data and information on feedback received in a number of areas including Education, Training, Employment, Information Advice and Guidance, Community Safety and Wellbeing

6 <u>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC</u> DUTY

6.1 An Equality and Impact Assessment is not required as the contents of this report are for information purposes only.

7 WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no Welsh Language implications as the contents of this report are for information purposes only

8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

8.1 There are no financial implications as the contents of this report are for information purposes only

9 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

9.1 There are no legal implications that need to be considered concerning the report.

10 CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

10.1 All work of the service is based upon consultation responses from young people, contributions from our internal youth workers and feedback from key delivery partners, such as Children's Services, Health, Education and the third sector, as a result of their own work with young people across RCT

11 <u>LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.</u>

- 11.1 The appropriate provision for young people aged 11 25 years across Rhondda Cynon Taf will make a positive contribution towards the Council's Corporate Plan vision of 'a County Borough that has high aspirations, is confident and promotes opportunity for all", as it will deliver against the specific priorities of 'People Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone and 'Place Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live and work'.
- 11.2 Young people are a key cohort of our community as they are the next generation of Rhondda Cynon Taf. As such, they are a priority group under The Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. It is felt that this report, the survey findings and the subsequent developments that are occurring as a result, will contribute to all of the seven elements that the Act is aiming to achieve:
 - 1. A prosperous Wales;
 - 2. A resilient Wales:
 - 3. A more equal Wales:
 - 4. A healthier Wales;
 - 5. A Wales of cohesive communities;
 - 6. A Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh language:
 - 7. A globally responsible Wales

12 CONCLUSION

12.1	completed by	on which sumr y almost 5,000 at appendix	Young Pe	eople ac	ross the C	ounty Boro	ugh,
Othe	r Information:	; -					

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

18 MARCH 2024





YOUR VOICE SURVEY 2022-2023







Background to survey



Key points

- > The survey is usually taken every 2 years, but due to the pandemic, there has been 4 years since the last survey in 2018; the pandemic altered the mindsets and values of many people, including young people, thus these results are more important than ever in ensuring the Council is responsive to current needs
- Directly informs the planning of services for both the Council and partners to ensure the key priorities of people, places and prosperity are achieved with young people's views contributing to driving these forward

Key policies

- Supports our statutory duty to co-ordinate Youth Support Services as set out in the Learning and Skills Act (2000)
- Upholds the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), e.g. Article 12 states 'Every child has the right to say what they think in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously'.
- 'Extending Entitlement: Support for 11-25 year olds in Wales' outlines the right that every young person in Wales has. One of the ten entitlement is: 'The right to be consulted to participate in decision-making, and to be heard, on all matters which concern them or have an impact on their lives.'
- The Future Generation Act (2016) states that Local Authorities have a responsibility to ensure information and materials aimed at children and young people are clear and easy to read, accessible and relevant. Local Authorities have the responsibility to promote the UNCRC and adopt the National Participation Standards.

YOUR VOICE SURVEY 2022-2023

Almost 5,000 young people, aged 11–25 completed the survey in schools, colleges, youth clubs and other community settings across the county borough, representing the diversity of young people living, being educated or working in RCT. Young people were given the opportunity to complete a series of interactive questions on a range of thematic areas, which were decided following consultation with other Council services:

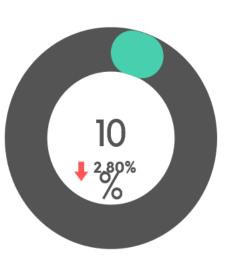
Community, Climate Education, Employment & Internet & Social Media Change & Crime Training Well-being, Information & Language Bullying Advice Rights Activities

AGE GROUP PARTICIPATION

4738 PARTICIPANTS



11 - 15 YEARS



16 - 18 YEARS

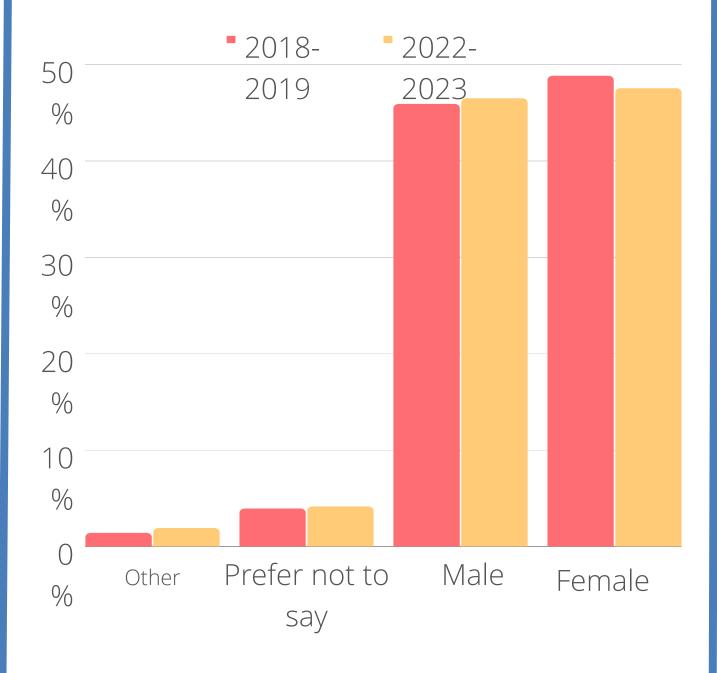


DEMOGRAPHICS

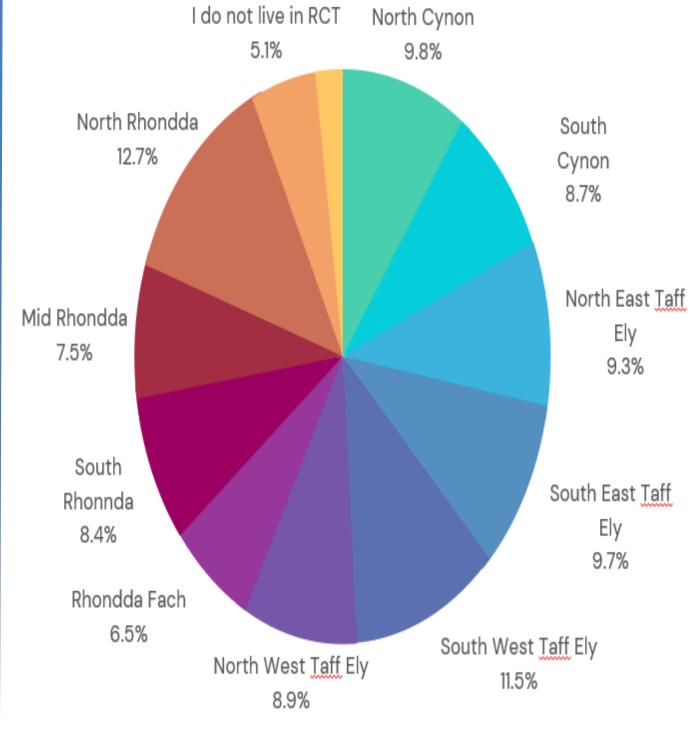
GENDER IDENTITY PARTICIPATION

2018-2019 YOUR VOICE

2022-2023 YOUR VOICE

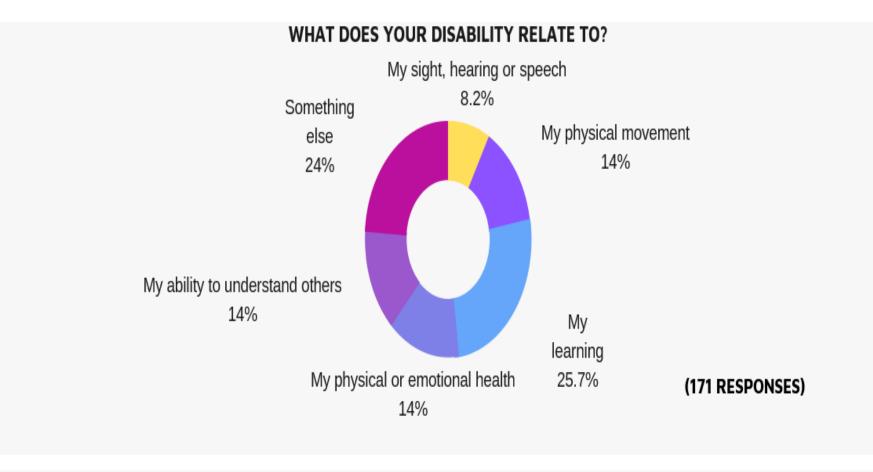


AREA PARTICIPATION



DEMOGRAPHICS

DISABILITY INSIGHTS





Religious	10%
LGBTQ	12%
Disabled	4%
BAME	3%
Service Child	1%
Young Carer	3%
Romany Gypsy	1%
Children Looked After	5%
Welsh Speaker	21%
Prefer not to say	52%

Who do you currently live with?

One Parent	21%
Two Parents	69%
Other Family Member	3%
Foster Carer	1%
Residential Care	0.06%
I Live On My Own	0.60%
My Partner / Spouse	0.40%
Someone Else	5%

Section 2 Education, **Employment & Training** (11-15)







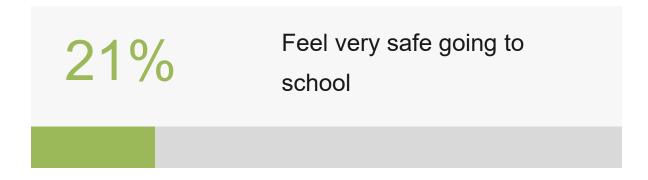


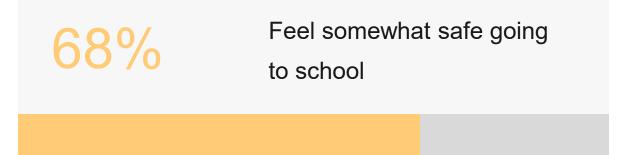
YEPS.WALE

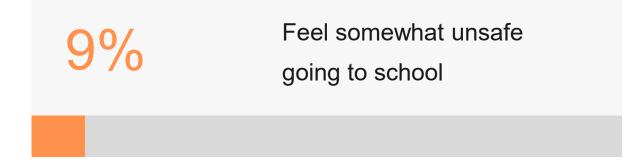


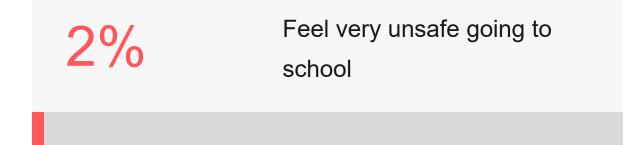


SCHOOL INISIGHTS





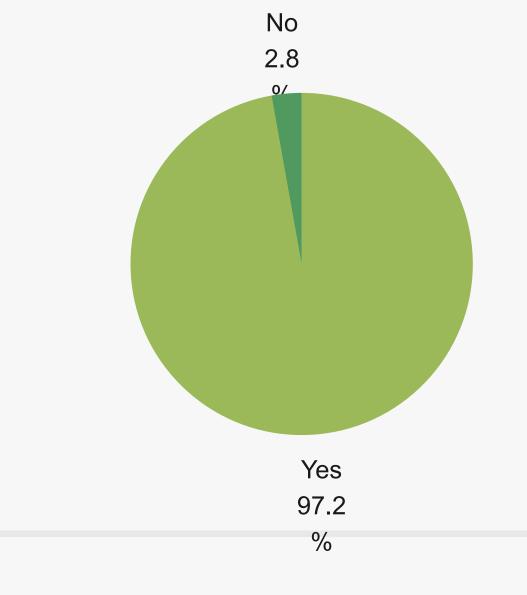


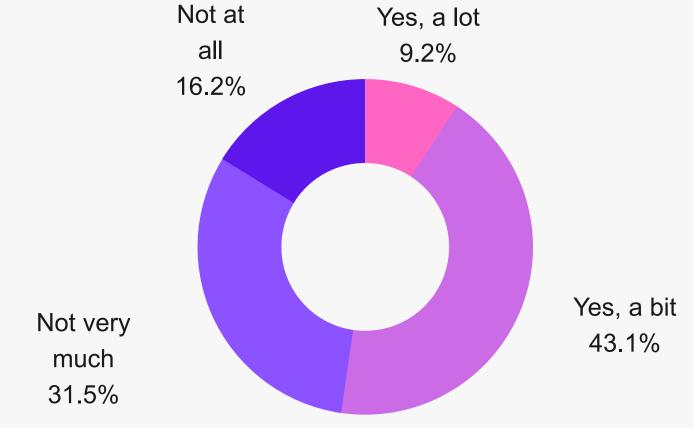


DO YOU GO TO SCHOOL IN RCT

4549 Responses



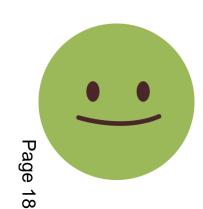




Transition from primary to secondary school



21% said they had found the transition very easy



52% said they had found the transition somewhat easy



21% said they had found the transition somewhat difficult



6% said they had found the transition very difficult

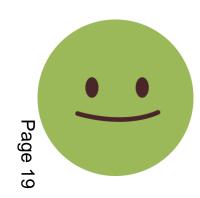
What would have made the move easier for you?

A BUDDY SYSTEM	14%
HOMEWORK SUPPORT	7 %
BEING SHOWN AROUND THE SCHOOL	16%
GETTING TO KNOW NEW TEACHERS	14%
MORE TRANSITION VISITS	35%
MORE INFORMATION ON TRANSPORT	4%
SOMETHING ELSE	11%

Transition from primary to secondary school



21% said they had found the transition very easy



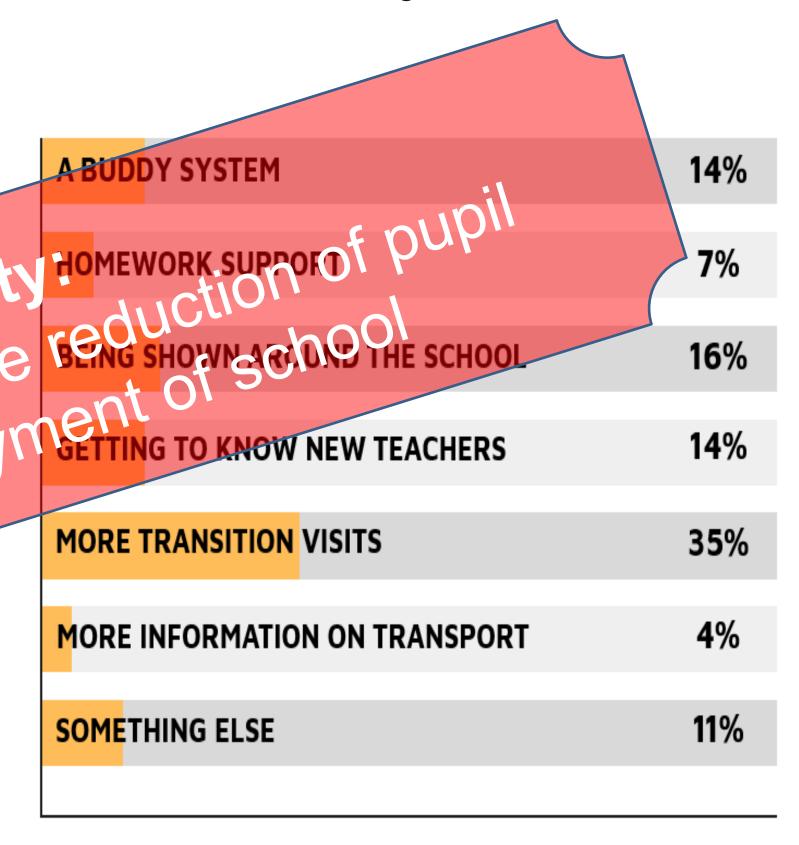


21% said they bolore reasons for the found the transition somewhat difficulties faction and enjoyments.

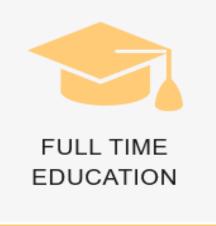


6% said they had found the transition very difficult

What would have made the move easier for you?



Education, Employment & Training (16+)



88.42%

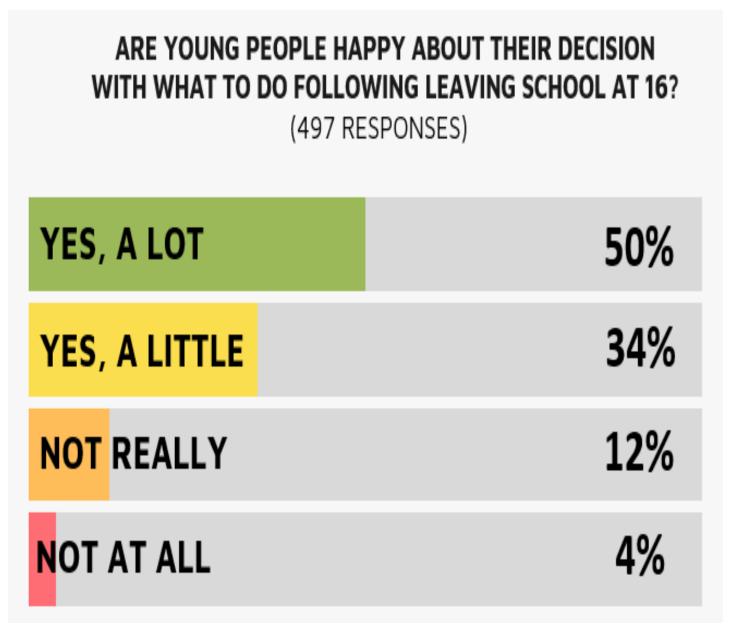
%

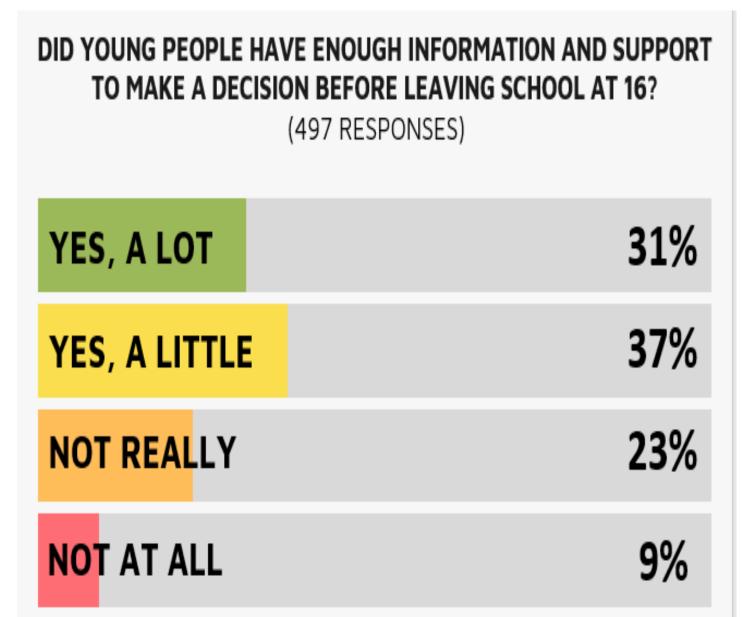
4.68%

Page 20 TRAINING
COURSE/PROVIDER

IN
EMPLOYMENT

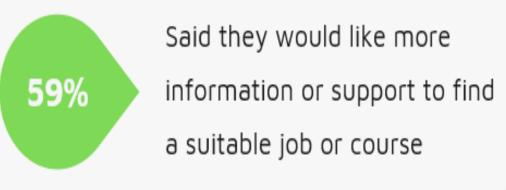
2.96%







3.94%

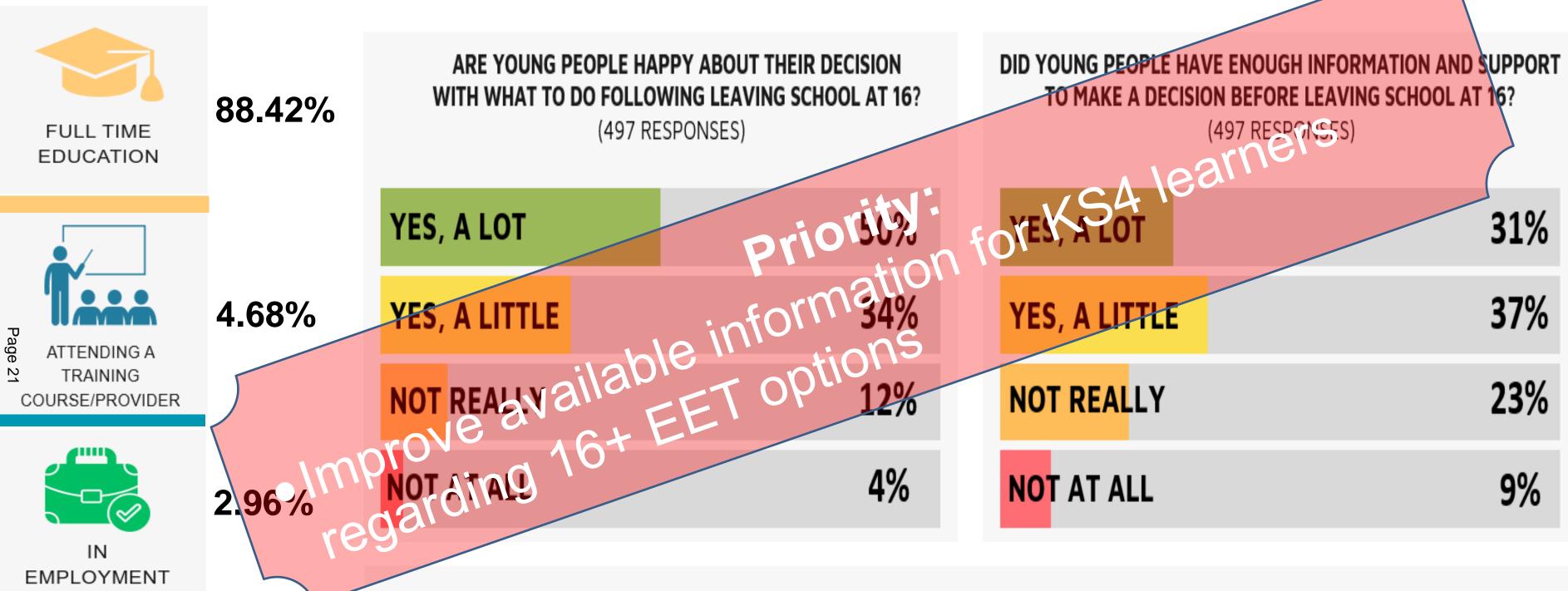




Said they would not like more information or support to find a suitable job or course

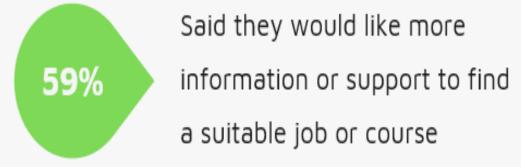
(73 Responses)

Education, Employment & Training (16+)





3.94%



41%

Said they would not like more information or support to find a suitable job or course

(73 Responses)



1. Education, Employment & Training

- Explore reasons for the reduction of pupil satisfaction and enjoyment of school
- Improve available information for KS4 learners regarding 16+ EET options
- ☐ From November 2023, YEPS' Transitional Support Workers (TSWs) will be piloting an earlier intervention programme for pre-16 learners (Year 10) who have been identified as at risk of becoming NEET
- □ The TSWs will be improving the promotion of available support for Year 11+ learners, including signposting to relevant partners
- □ YEPS' 16+ team are leading on a mapping exercise of all EET support and eligibility criteria available across RCT; this is being shared with the Youth Support Services sub-groups, which consists of both internal and external partners

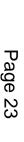
Section 6 Wellbeing, Information & Advice











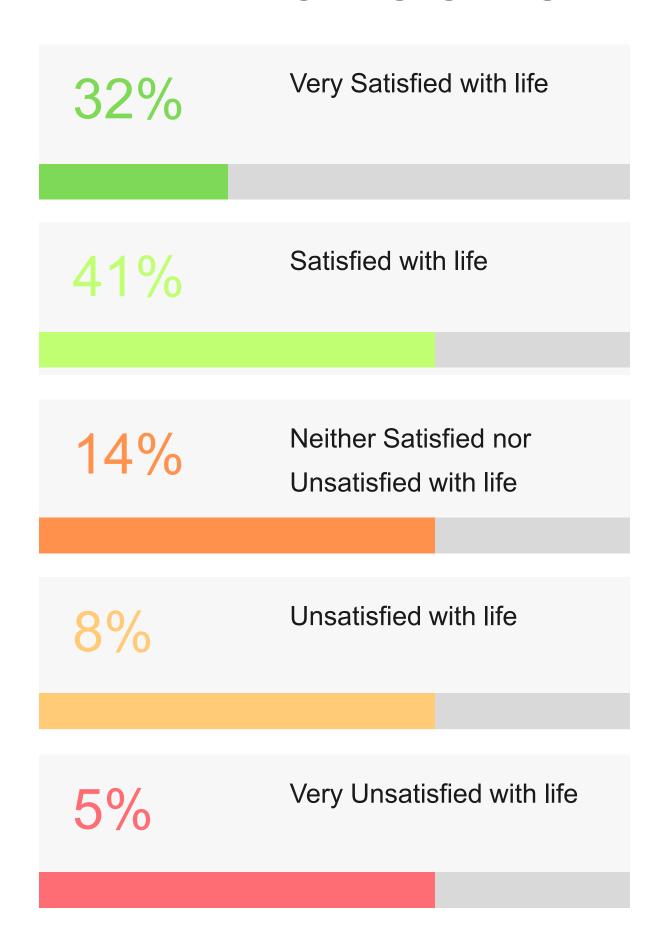


In your life, have you experienced any of the following:

4738
Respondents,
miltiplechoice

PARENTAL SEPERATION/DIVORCE	29%
MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	32%
FAMILY MEMBER WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	25%
BEING/OR AT RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS	5%
HAVING A PARENT IN PRISON	4%
HAVING A PARENT WHO MISUSES ALCOHOL	9%
HAVING A PARENT WHO MISUSES DRUGS	6%
NO RESPONSE	43%

WELLBEING INSIGHTS

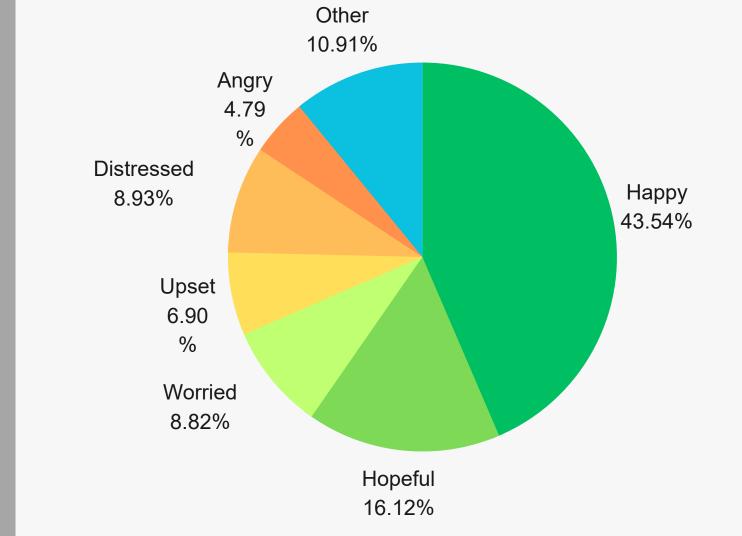


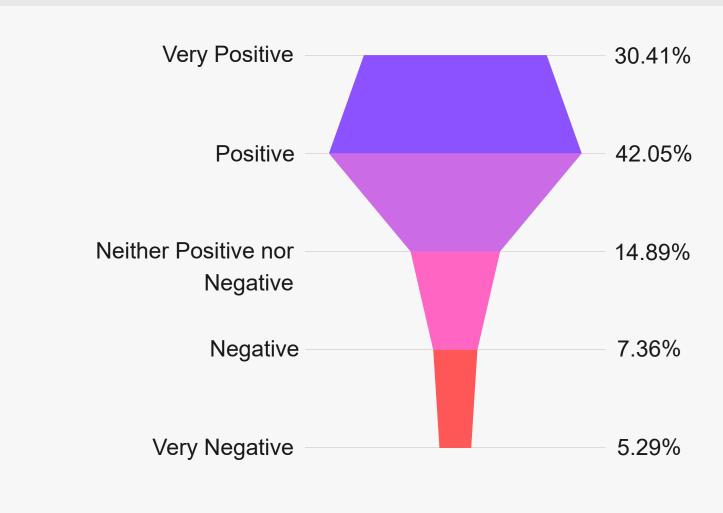
HOW YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL ABOUT LIFE

4548 Respondents



4292 Respondents





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4738Respondents, multiple-choice, 23% Did not respond

Have you ever

needed help or

advice on any

of the issues

FEELINGS / WORRIES / MENTAL HEALTH	28%
WEIGHT / BODY IMAGE	22%
EDUCAITON, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING	20%
RELATIONSHIPS	19%
DEATH OF A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND	17%
JOINING ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL	12%
WORRIES ABOUT HOME LIFE / FAMILY ISSUES	11%
DEBT OR MONEY PROBLEMS	4%
HOUSING ISSUES	4%
CRIME	3%
DRUGS, ALCOHOL OR SMOKING	4%
SEXUAL HEALTH	3%
OTHER	3%
NONE OF THE ABOVE	23%

How do you currently find the information you want? (4069 respondents; multiple choice)

You <mark>th Clubs</mark>	8%
YEP Staff / Youth Workers	5%
YEPS.Wales	2%
Websites (Childline, MEIC etc)	19%
Social media and or TV	51%
Family and friends	64%
Community Centre / libraries	3%
School or college	29%
Somewhere else	7%

Which of these subjects do you most often seek advice on? (3765 respondents; multiple choice)

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING	32%
ENIVRONMENT	10%
FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIPS	22%
HEALTH	18%
HOUSING	9%
LAWS, RIGHTS & CITIZENSHIP	8%
MONEY	25%
SPORTING / LEISURE	28%
PLACES TO GO	21%
THINGS TO DO	34%
POLITICS	6%
OTHER .	6%

How easy is it for young people to get the information that they need?



24%

Found it **very easy** to get information



60%

Found it **somewhat easy** to get information



14%

Found it **difficult** to get information



2%

Found it **very difficult** to get information

Did young people get the advice and support they needed?



37%

Received **all** the support and advice they needed



32%

Would have **liked more** information



22%

Did **not receive adequate** support and advice



9%

Had **no support** on their issues

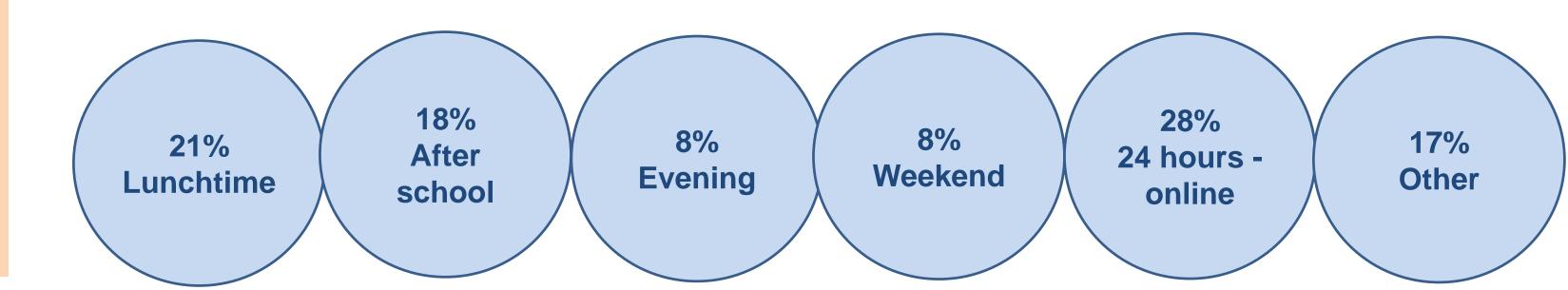
What would help improve advice services for young people?

Knowing who to talk to	60%
More people placed in schools / colleges	18%
More understanding / friendly staff	31%
Easier to access information	23%
More privacy and secure environments	21%
Trusting someone with your problems	33%
People in the community to talk to	10%
Someone with similar experiences	25%
More online support	11%
More reliable information online	15%
Something else	9%

Where, who and how would you prefer to get this information from?

School Nurse – Lunchtime Drop-in	19%
GP Practice – Dr or Nurse	24%
Sexual Health Clinic – Sexual Health Nurse	21%
Teacher – at school	21%
Youth Club – Youth Worker	8%
YEPS worker in school	8%
Local Pharmacy – Pharmacist	10%
Website, with links to local services	15%
Trained young people	13%
Something else	25%

What time would you like the support to be available to you?



What would help improve advice services for young people?

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More reliable information draine	15%
More online support More reliable information drine Something ela 1000 Something ela 1000 More reliable information drine Something ela 1000 Something ela 1000 More reliable information drine More reliable informa	9%
C (E)	

Where, who and how would you prefer to get this information from?

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	Teacher – at supper C	21%
V	Yeith Olub - Youth Work Ce	8%
) \	YEPS ver (ker eschool	8%
	Cocal Pharmacy - Pharmacist	10%
_	Website, with links to local services	15%
	Trained young people	13%
	Something else	25%

What tima CCCS would you like the support to be available to you?

21% Lunchtime

e 18%
After school

8% Evening

riority ng peo n, advi

8% Weekend

28% 24 hours online

17% Other



2.Information, Advice & Guidance

Improve knowledge of young people of where they can access reliable information, advice and quidance

- □ Update IAG section of the YEPS website and promote new material though Social Media platforms and posters.
- Improve visual information at various locations, including youth clubs.
- ☐ Increase the frequency of specialised sessions delivered in YEPS provisions i.e. substance misuse, mental health support, sexual health.
- ☐ Liaise with partners to deliver and share suitable IAG for young people (sexual health, Barod, Head Above the Waves)

Section 9 Rights





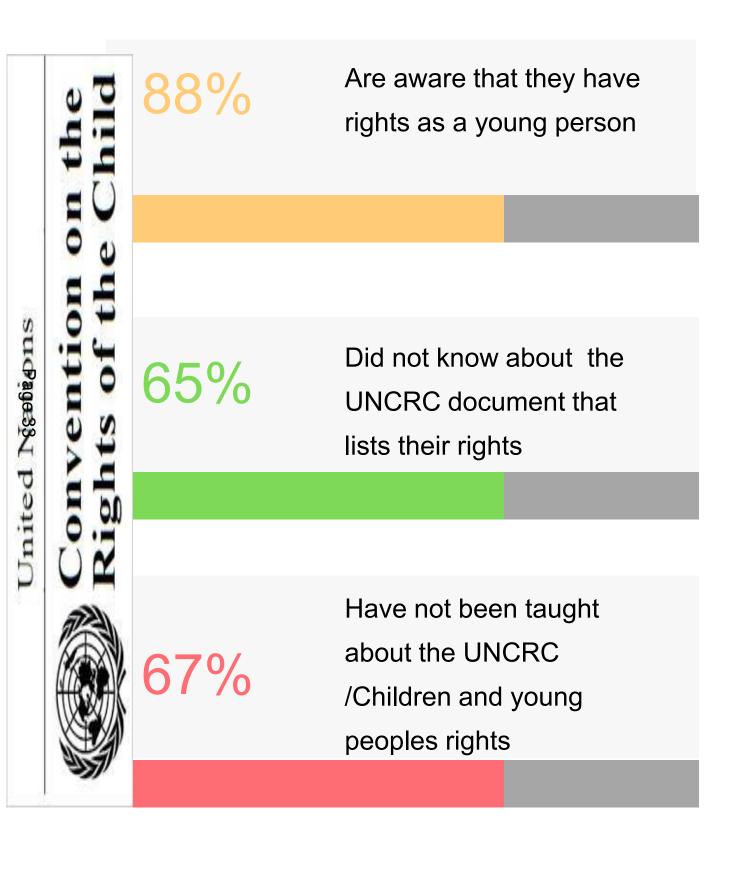




YEPS.WALE



YOUNG PEOPLE RIGHTS &YOUTH FORUMS INSIGHTS

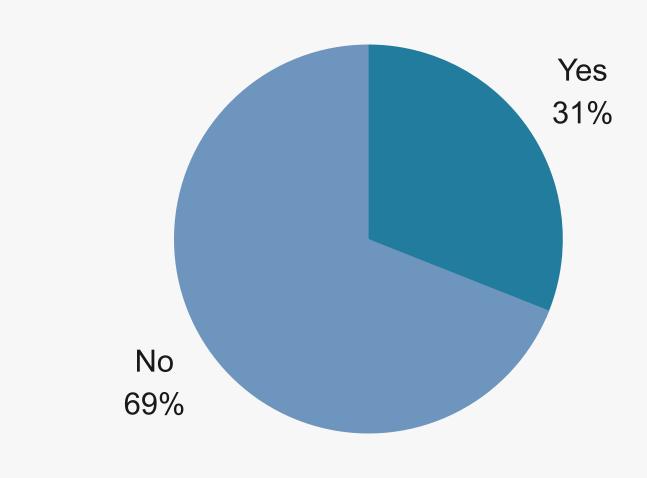


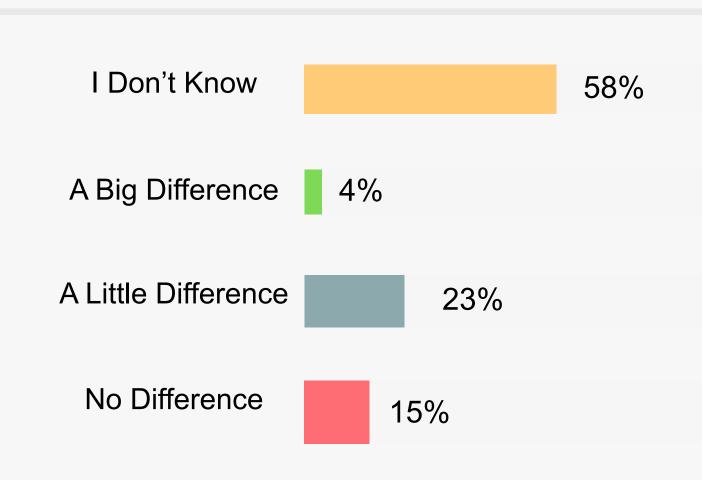
AWARENESS
OF THE YOUTH
FORUMS

4333 Respondents

DO THEY THINK THE FORUMS HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE?

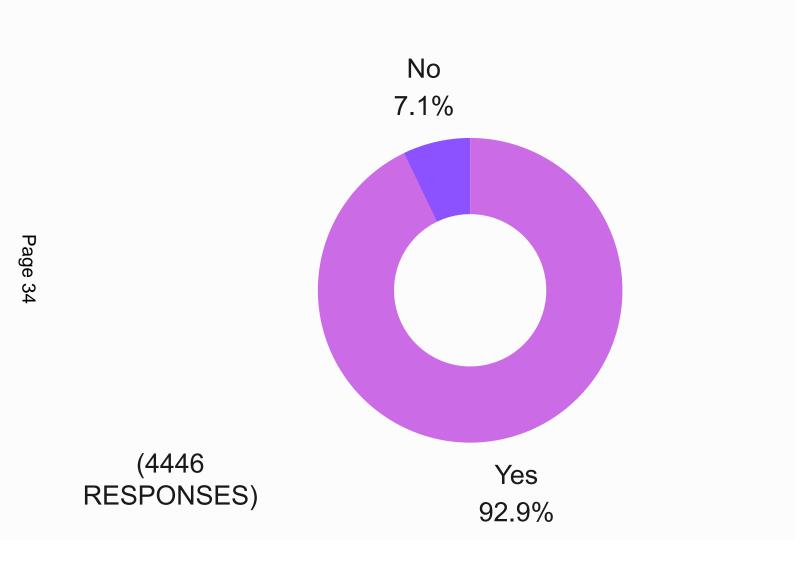
4352 Respondents



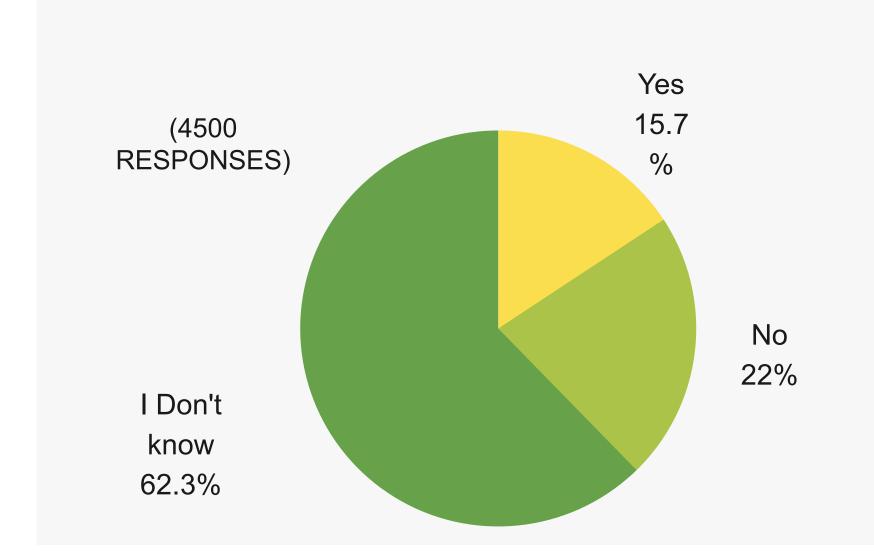


SCHOOL COUNCIL INSIGHTS

DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE A SCHOOL COUNCIL?



DO YOU THINK YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL HAVE MADE THINGS BETTER?



Page 3

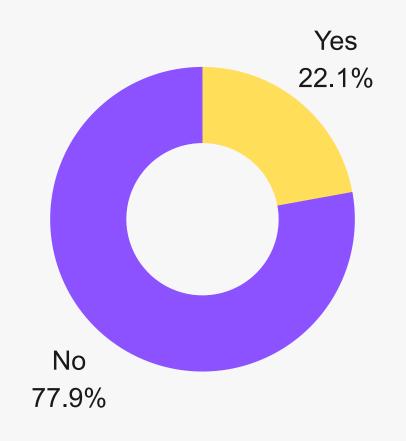
Do you get asked your views about things that affect you?

MOST OF THE TIME 10% 36% SOME OF THE TIME **NOT OFTEN** 36% 18% **NEVER**

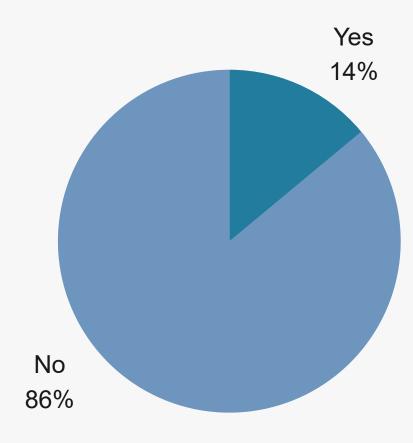
Who asks YOU, your views about things that affect you?

Other Young People	32%
Teachers / School staff	29%
VEDC Ctoff	5 0/
YEPS Staff	5%
Family Members	61%
Someone Else	12%





AWARENESS OF HOW TO CONTACT COUNTY YOUTH FORUM FOR ISSUES





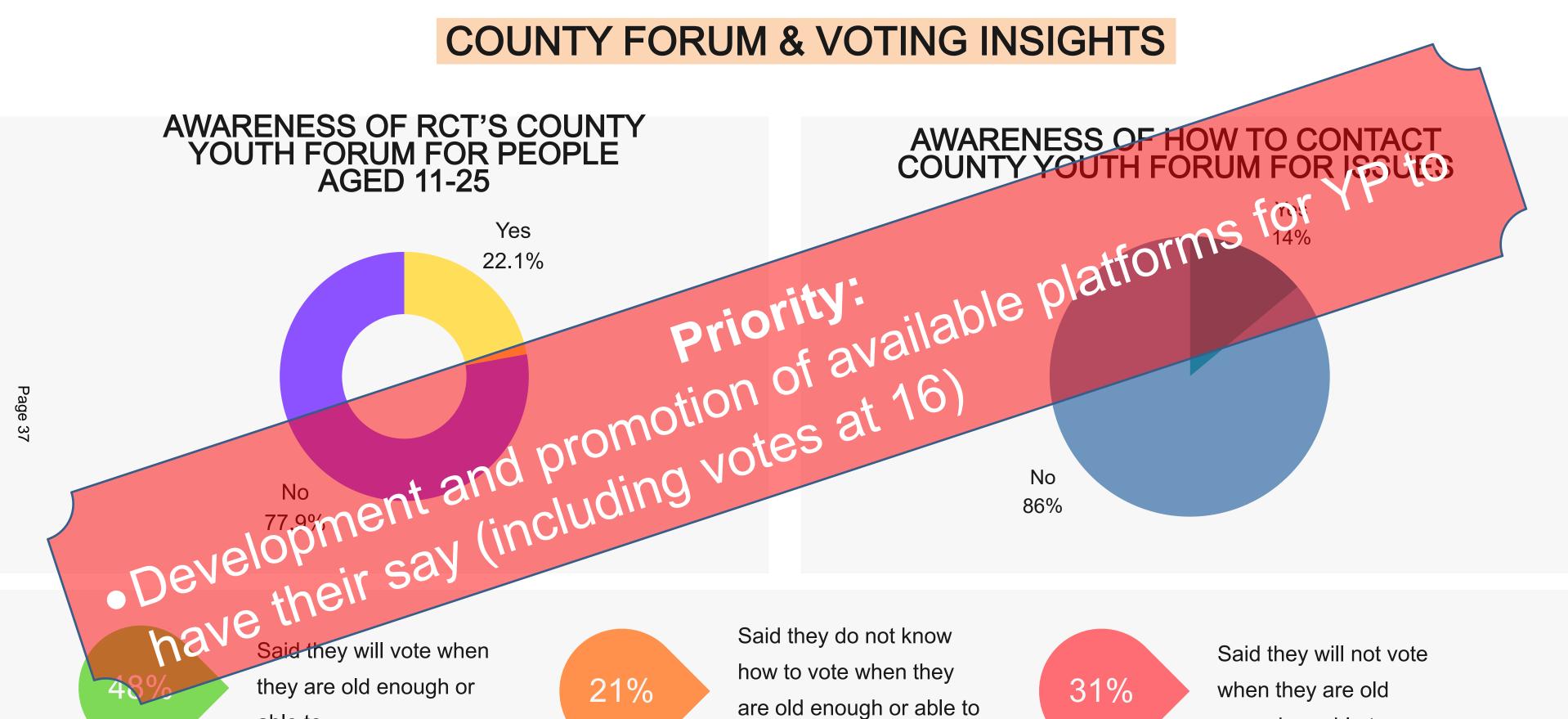
Said they will vote when they are old enough or able to



Said they do not know how to vote when they are old enough or able to



Said they will not vote when they are old enough or able to



they are old enough or able to

21%

are old enough or able to



Said they will not vote when they are old enough or able to



3.Consultation, Participation & Rights

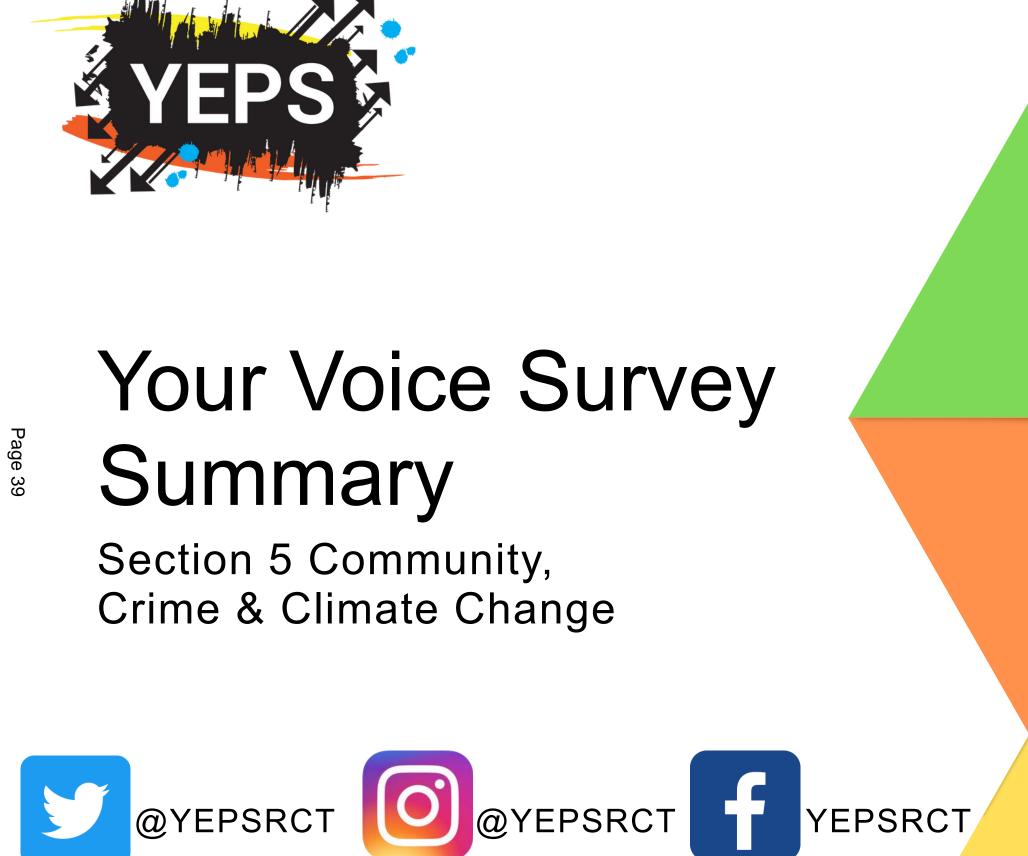
- Development and Promotion of available platforms for YP to have their say (including vote at 16)
- ☐ Liaise with cabinet office to ensure YP have the opportunity to influence cabinet workplan
- ☐ Changes to County Youth Forum to make the platform more accessible for young people (this will be delivered during school holidays moving forward as transport has been an issue afterschool)
- □ YEPO's to deliver sessions for 16+ at school and youth clubs promoting the importance of voting, the process of voting and how to find out more about candidates using critical thinking skills







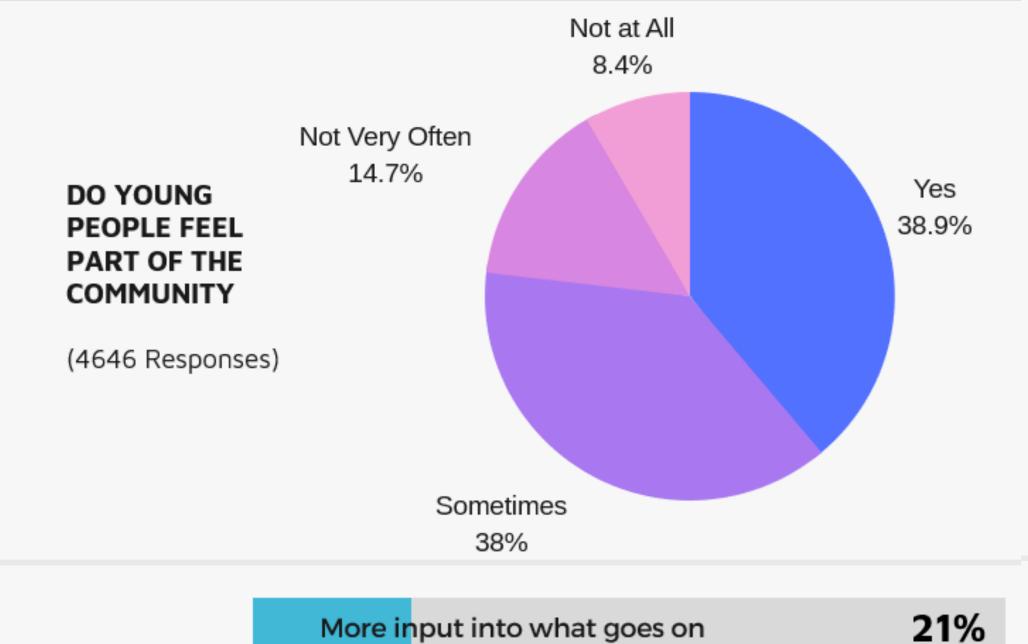


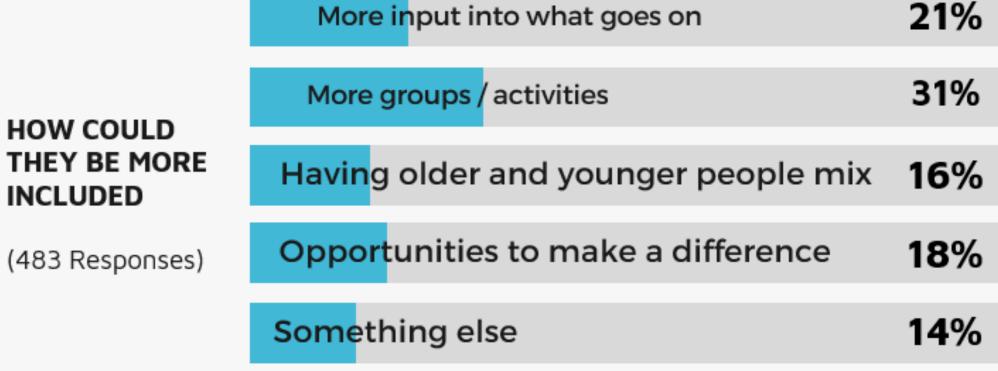




COMMUNITY INSIGHTS







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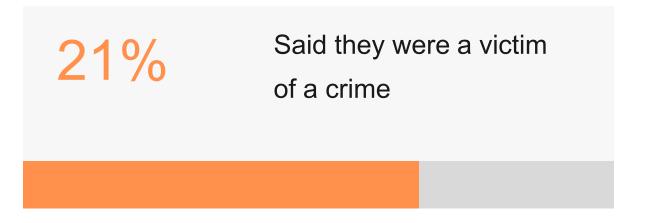
What makes young people feel unsafe in communities?

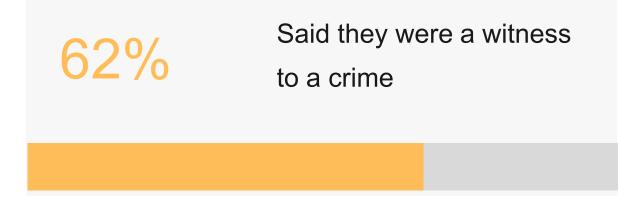
GROUPS OF PEOPLE OLDER THAN THEM 15% 12% **PEOPLE DRINKING ALCOHOL OR TAKING DRUGS** 11% **GROUPS OF PEOPLE THEIR AGE** 11% **DARK AREAS** 11% **VIOLENCE OR THREATNING BEHAVIOUR** 10% **HATE CRIME FEAR OF KNIFE CRIME** 9% 6% **NOT ENOUGH POLICE** 5% **SP**EEDING / DRINK DRIVING **FEAR OF GUN CRIME** 4% 4% CRIME STORIES IN THE NEW 3% **CLIMATE CHANGE**

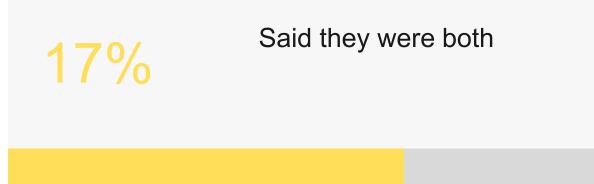
What would make young people feel safer in communities?

CCTV	47%
More Lighting	43%
Higher police presence	30%
Safer place to go to in the evening	23%
Tackling crime on all levels	22%
Less pollution	21%
Quicker response to damage	19%
Activities for the whole community	18%
Better information & communication	10%
Something else	5%

CRIME INSIGHTS





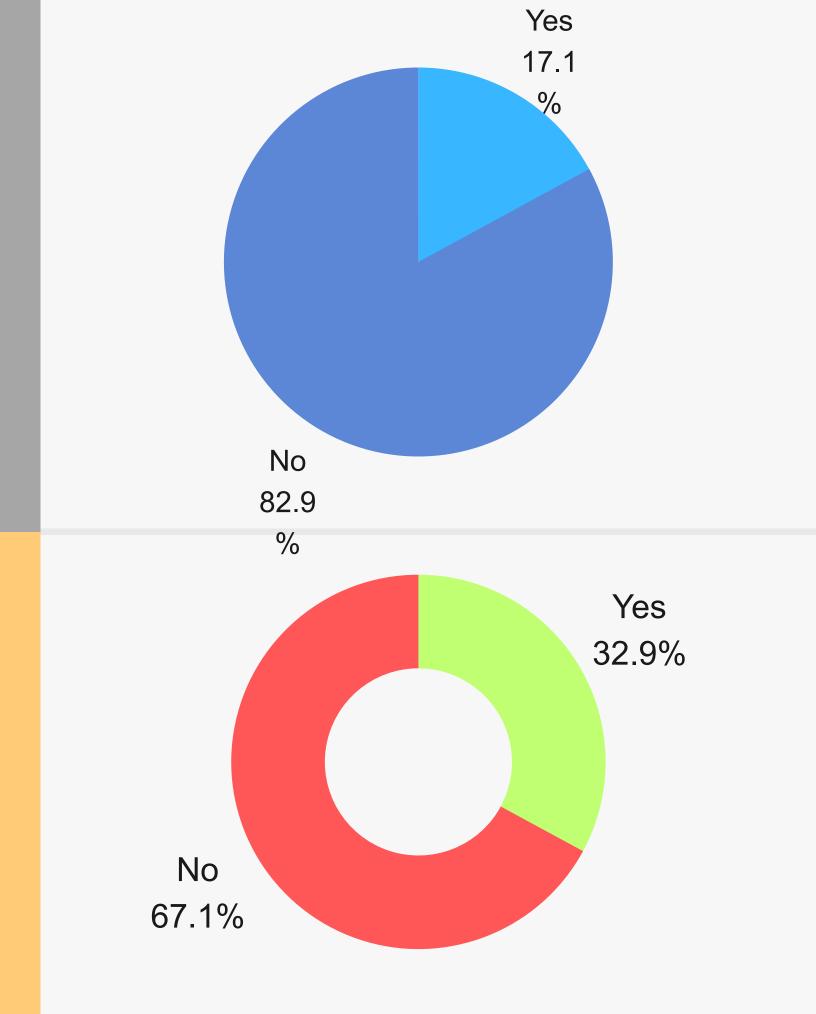


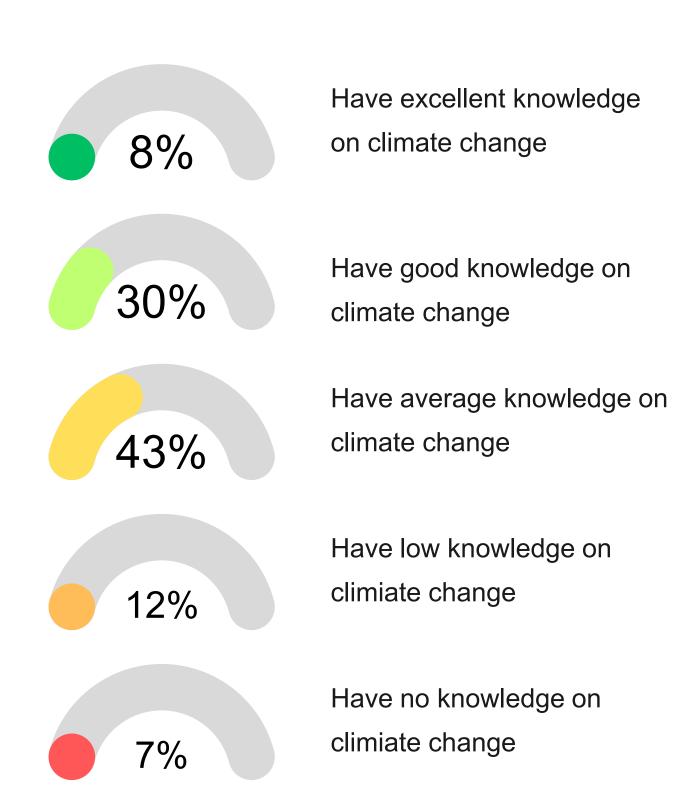
HAVE YOU
BEEN A VICTIM
OF, OR
WITNESSED A
CRIME IN THE
LAST 12
MONTHS?

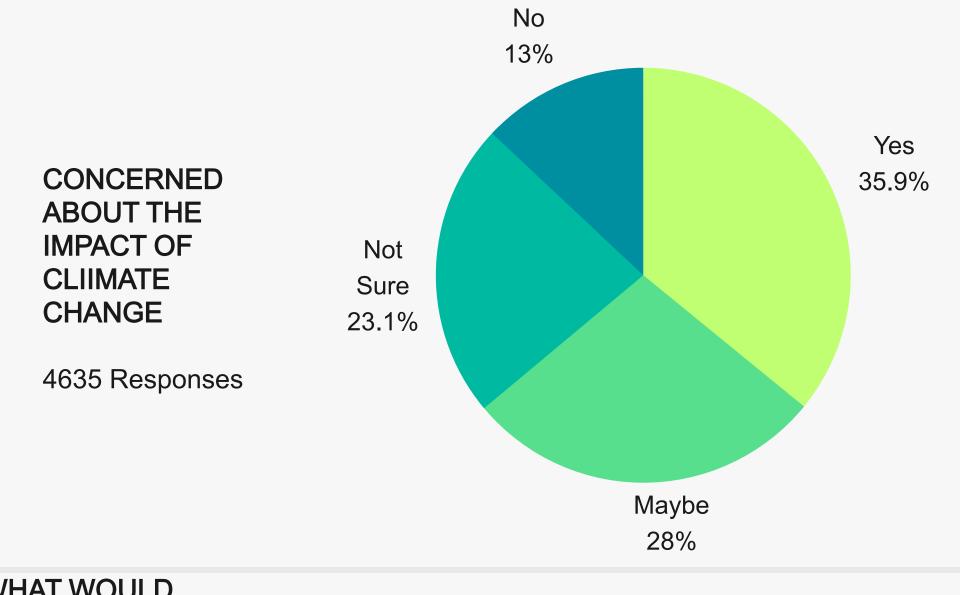
4645 Responses

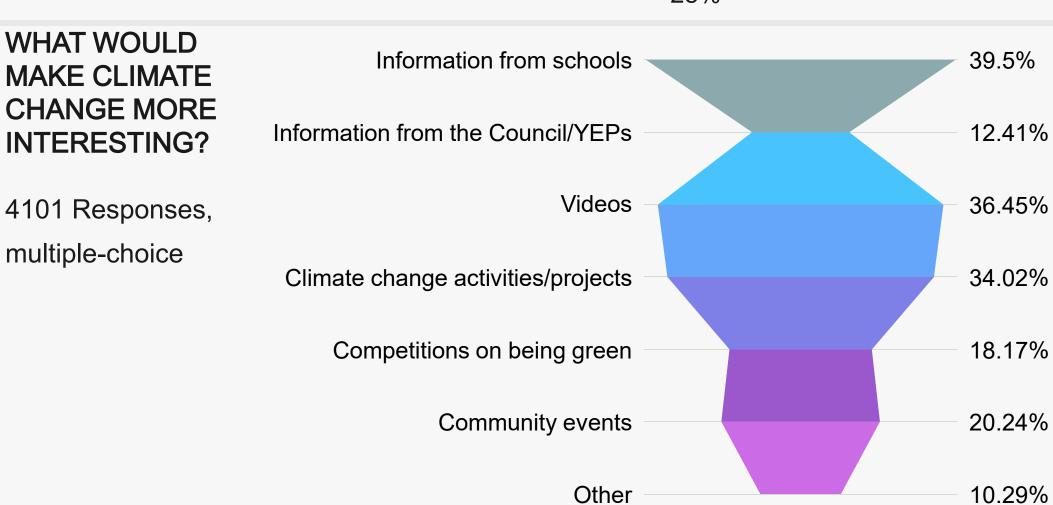


784 Responses

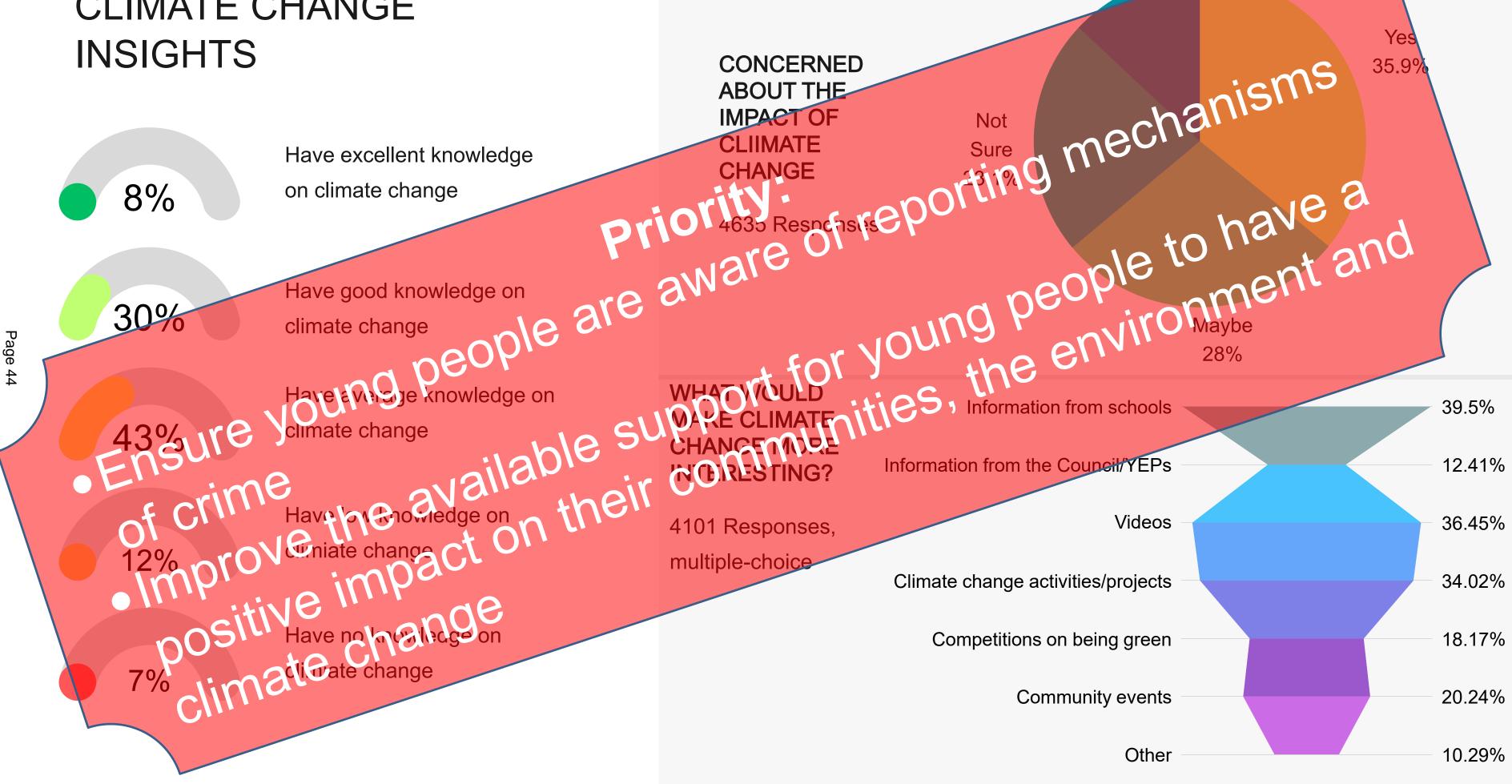








CLIMATE CHANGE



No

13%



4. Community

- Ensure young people are aware of reporting mechanisms of crime
- Improve the available support for young people to have a positive impact on their communities, the environment and climate change
- ☐ Work with SWP to promote various mechanisms to report crimes.
- ☐ Improve the available support for young people to have a positive impact on their communities, the environment and climate change there is currently a dedicated youth forum for this.
- ☐ Content creators to share good news stories of young people having a positive impact on their communities to reduce the negative perception of young people.

The Council's response

- ➤ Present bespoke survey findings to a range of service areas (Education, PHPCP, Children's Services) to ensure young people's views and opinions are **shared**
- Liaise with a range of service areas to request nominations for membership to 4 key working groups, ensuring responsibility for actioning the findings is a **shared responsibility**
- ➤ Present findings to SLT / Cabinet
- Present an overview of YVS key findings and priorities to relevant third sector organisations
- Establish 4 working groups to ensure young people have their views and opinions <u>actioned</u> by Council Services, partners and third sector organisations where appropriate
- ➤ Each working group to convene on a quarterly basis; meetings will be chaired by the Youth Services Manager; all partners will be responsible for updating progress on the relevant actions via a shared action log
- Feedback to young people via youth forums, school council's, County Youth Forum and social media platforms

Working groups



- Explore reasons for the reduction of pupil satisfaction and enjoyment of school
- Improve available information for KS4 learners regarding 16+ EET options

2.Information, Advice & Guidance

 Improve knowledge of young people of where they can access reliable information, advice and guidance

3. Consultation, Participation & Rights

 Development and Promotion of available platforms for YP to have their say (including vote at 16)

4. Community

- Ensure young people are aware of reporting mechanisms of crime
- Improve the available support for young people to have a positive impact on their communities, the environment and climate change

Working groups

1. <u>Education, Employment & Training</u>

Department	Team
Children's Services	Transformation Disabled Children's Team
Education	14-19 / Gatsby Education Psychology
Public Health Protection and Community Services	YEPS Communities for Work

2.Information, Advice & Guidance

Department	Team
Children's Services	Transformation IAA Disabled Children's Team
Education	14-19 / Gatsby
Public Health Protection and Community Services	YEPS

3.Consultation, Participation & Rights

Department	Team
Children's Services	Transformation Safeguarding
Education	Community Focussed Schools
Public Health Protection and Community Services	YEPS

4. Community

Department	Team
Children's Services	Safeguarding
Education	Community Focussed Schools Strategic Planning 21 st Century Schools
Public Health Protection and Community Services	YEPS

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