# Health and Wellbeing Strategy Bi-borough

Analysis of stakeholder consultation

August 2023

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#### Introduction

#### Background

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Board is a well-established partnership in Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster between our local authorities, NHS and Voluntary and Community organisations. The Board is responsible for understanding and improving the health and wellbeing of residents in our boroughs. We are committed to reducing health inequalities through integrated working.

The Board has a responsibility to write and deliver a Health and Wellbeing Strategy and consulted on the draft strategy to make sure that it reflects the priorities and experiences of local people.

#### Methodology

The consultation consisted of engagement sessions with residents as well as a survey.

Council officers carried out 16 engagement sessions across Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster. These attracted feedback from 158 people. These sessions took place throughout May and June 2023 and focused on these main topics:

- 1. Principles
- 2. Ambitions
- 3. Action plan
- 4. Equalities



# **Results at a glance**



### **Results at a glance**

Below is a summary of the findings from the survey and engagement activities undertaken to understand residents' views on the draft of the Bi-borough Health and Wellbeing Strategy. More details can be found in the body of the report.

#### **Principles**

- Almost two-thirds of survey respondents agree with the Principles proposed in the Strategy draft.
- However, when asked to comment on the Principles, some respondents raised doubts on being 'data-led' as they thought data could be unreliable and inaccurate in showing the community's real needs.
- A theme worth attention in the comments section of the survey was in regard to the healthcare system being extremely disappointing and dysfunctional (with many specific personal examples).

#### **Ambitions**

- Almost three-quarters of survey respondents agree with the ten Ambitions proposed.
- Comments made in the survey, on the other hand, highlighted a need for a solid commitment from the Council to deliver the proposed Ambitions in a realistic way.
- During the engagement sessions, attendees expressed some positive thoughts around the Ambitions but they underlined missing areas or areas of improvement such as: SEND needs, poor housing, health education, mental health, seldom heard, digital exclusion and healthcare system efficiency.



### **Results at a glance**

#### **Action Plan**

- Many survey respondents focused their suggestions on the healthcare system as they felt in recent times this has drastically declined in quality and efficacy especially for digitally excluded people or 'minorities' (people with different linguistic and cultural background, people with special educational needs etc.) There was particular focus on mental health which still appears to be a stigma as there is not enough support around it.
- Another theme that came out of the survey responses is about making sure that issues are identified engaging with residents, who all have different concerns and struggles.
- At the engagement events we received comments on the need to provide extra support to young people with extra-curricular activities (through funding more youth clubs/community centres) to prevent them partaking in illegal activities and feeling more community spirit and to build a conscious social circle.
- Also, we heard attendees of the engagement sessions expressing particular interest on inclusion of seldom heard through extra support (digital inclusion etc.)
- Another hot topic at the events relating to the Action plan was addressing poor housing issues and better enforcement for things such as littering, minor crimes, pavement conditions, control of works (including housing repairs), which all cause major distress and health concerns.

#### **Equalities**

• Survey respondents thought that the approach outlined in the Strategy will not adversely affect certain groups more than others.



# **Stakeholder events**



### **Resident and stakeholder events - Introduction**

#### Background

Throughout May and June 2023, the Council held engagement sessions with residents through the following local groups and organisations or online events:

- Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea
- Communities Launch
- Food and Energy Network
- · Kensington and Chelsea Residents Group
- Kensington and Chelsea Social Council Wellbeing Forum
- Mosaic Community Trust
- Older People's Advocacy Group
- Kensington and Chelsea Over 50s Forum
- The Abbey SWAN
- Westminster City Council Supported Interns
- Westminster City Council Tuesday Group

Over 150 residents gave their feedback on some elements of the new proposed draft of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy to make sure that it reflects the priorities and experiences of local people.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 1**

Our children and young people are healthy, happy, safe and can achieve their full potential.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 1:

- Particular attention to the lack of support around special educational needs and disability (SEND) needs.
- Support of young people within the educational system and after-school activities to prevent them falling into unemployment and/or gangs' involvement.
- Holistic health (physical and mental) was brought up as a major concern.
- Inequality seemed to appear often in the conversation as residents thought there is a deficiency in opportunities young people could use to be open and share their worries.

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 1 should focus on:

- Teaching the basics of good health to all young people through schools.
- Support young people with extra-curricular activities through funding more resources (such as schools/youth clubs/ centres/ libraries) to discourage educational exclusion and build trust.
- Help parents prioritise health for their children and facilitate education.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 2**

We can all be active in our health.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 2:

- Importance of a good food diet and physical activities.
- · Cost of living prices are preventing people being able to enjoy recreational activities.
- · Need of more outdoor spaces.

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 2 should focus on:

- Health education (e.g., recycling, educational including language and baking, meditation etc.) to be advertised more to better inform residents.
- Food costs related support.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 3**

We support people to look after their mental wellbeing.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 3:

- Stigma around mental health.
- · Lack of awareness of mental health dedicated provisions and support.

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 3 should focus on:

- Specific mental health services.
- · More information about mental health provision.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 4**

We have a good quality home.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 4:

- Poor housing (waiting lists, high costs, repairs, overcrowding, nuisance etc.) is a massive problem.
- Poor housing linked to health issues (including mental health).

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 4 should focus on:

- Improve housing conditions.
- Rework housing priorities (e.g. repurposing according to needs such as older people).



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 5**

We feel safe and part of our communities.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 5:

- Lack of community spirit.
- Unsafe neighbourhoods.
- Main issues: littering, unregulated e-scooters, cycling on pavements, youth violence, lack of Police presence and lack of worship venues for certain faiths.

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 5 should focus on:

- More enforcement (through cameras also) against all crimes and offences.
- · Investment in community-based organisations to reinstate community spirit.
- More support for elderly to enable inclusion in socialising.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 6**

Our boroughs are healthy environments.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 6:

- Lack of public facilities such as parking spaces, cycling parking bays, public toilets and dedicated cycle lanes.
- Poorly maintained public spaces and restricted mobility due to pollution, road works, littering, street nuisance and lack of green spaces.

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 6 should focus on:

• Increase and maintenance of public facilities (more public toilets, more green spaces, clearly separated pedestrian and cycle routes, improve pavements conditions, traffic reduction, fairer transport links and law enforcement).



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 7**

We have access to the best services when and where needed.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 7:

• Difficulties accessing local health services (GPs): access and referrals waiting times unjustified, lack of empathy from staff, language barrier, poor service quality and digitalisation not suited for everybody.

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 7 should focus on:

- Support with digitalisation.
- · Develop higher healthcare quality standards.
- Create joined up collaboration with voluntary and community sector and improve communication.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 8**

We are all treated with fairness and able to shape the decisions that affect us.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 8:

• Inequality (elderly, culturally diverse and less confident people excluded).

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 8 should focus on:

- Active community engagement including involving residents in discussions about real priorities, issues and how to improve/resolve them.
- Employ a more diverse workforce.
- · Raise awareness of the action plan amongst communities through better communication.
- · Active community engagement.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 9**

We are all financially stable and have access to enriching opportunities and good jobs.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 9:

- Cost of living makes affording medical provision difficult (like dental care, prescriptions etc.)
- Difficulties of employment access (especially inexperienced, women and over 50s).

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 9 should focus on:

- Support young people into employment from school.
- · Have open discussions with seldom heard.



#### Key themes from engagement events with residents and stakeholders

We asked attendees to comment on each of the Ambitions proposed in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to make suggestions for the future Action Pan.

#### **Ambition 10**

We are supported and empowered to live as independently as possible.

The following are the key findings related to Ambition 10:

• Socialising becomes difficult due to digital exclusion, inappropriate housing, poor communication, disabilities and insufficient transport links

The following are the suggestions of what attendees thought the Action Plan related to Ambition 10 should focus on:

- Fairer benefit system.
- Support seldom heard.



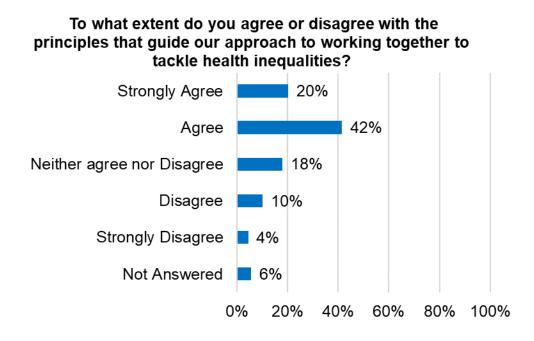




## **Principles**

We asked residents to what extent they agreed or disagreed with the principles that guide our approach to working together to tackle health inequalities.

- · Almost two-thirds of respondents combined (62 per cent) are favourable to the Principles proposed
- A total of 14 per cent disagree, to some extent, with the Principles proposed





### **Principles**

Respondents were asked two open questions about the Principles. We asked respondents who disagreed with one or more of the Principles proposed to explain why and if they had a comment about a specific principle or would like to see a different principle, to please say which one.

All responses have been themed and those that received two/four or more comments are summarised in the table below. Examples of comments can also be seen on the next page, with the full list of themes and comments found in the appendices.

# If you disagree with one or more principles, please tell us why

Theme	Count
Enhance health and wellbeing	5
Data led inaccurate	4
Agree	3
Community led unrealistic	2
Bad communication	2
Personal comment	2
Prevention as principle	2

If you have a comment about a specific ambition or you would like to see a different ambition added, please say which one

Theme	Count
Health suggestion	10
Support to vulnerable people	5
Suggestion to add a principle	4



### **Comments – Principles**

"Make it accessible for people with mobility issues to get help. For example, I wasn't able get mental health help a few years back because I was housebound. So it would be good to be able to provide regular home visits for people in this category."

**Health suggestion** 



"As a west end resident for 30 years and more it is now essential that the council sorts out its strategy on night time noise which causes serious health issues through sleep deprivation. You need to measure the problem and ask residents about the impact and be prepared to take meaningful action."

**Health suggestion** 

"Being data led is a bad principle. It's one of the reasons current practices are so narrow. Not everything is quantifiable."

Data led inaccurate

inaccurate."

"Data led can be misleading and

Data led inaccurate

"How is the strategy going to be community led? [...] I've lived in Westminster all my life and only now am I hearing about a health and wellbeing strategy and I read through the proposal and I'm still not clear on what the strategy has done in the last ten years."

**Community led unrealistic** 

"Could improve with one partnership, unity across services. Better health and wellbeing, mental health support still lacking."

Unity across services

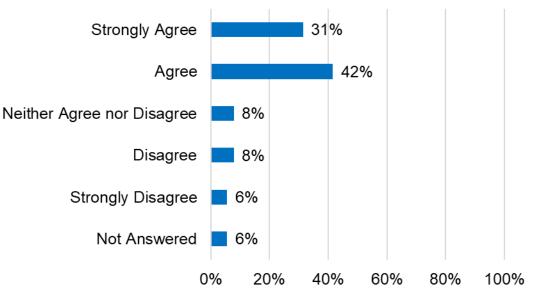


### **Ambitions**

Respondents were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed that the ambition statements represent what the strategy should aim to achieve?

- Almost three-quarters (73 per cent) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the ambition statements represent what the strategy should aim to achieve.
- · However, a total of 14 per cent disagreed to some extent that this was the case

Those who disagreed/strongly disagreed were asked to explain why. Responses are detailed on the following page.



To what extent do you agree or disagree that the ambition statements represent what the strategy should aim to achieve?



#### **Ambitions**

Respondents were asked two open questions about the ambitions. Respondents that disagree with one or more statements were given the opportunity to explain why and if they had a comment about a specific ambition or would like to see a different ambition added, to please say which one.

All responses have been themed and those that received two or more comments are summarised in the table below. Examples of comments can also be seen on the next page, with the full list of themes and comments found in the appendices.

## If you disagree with one or more statements, please explain why

Theme	Count
Refugees support	3
Ambitions not inclusive	3
Climate change related ambition to be added	2
Housing	2
More efficient healthcare services	2
Noise issue to be looked at	2
Partnerships	2

#### If you have a comment about a specific ambition or you would like to see a different ambition added, please say which one

Theme	Count
Commitment to support ambitions needed	7
Unachievable ambitions	5
Quality housing need	4
Hospital negligence	2
Youth neglected	2

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

### **Comments – Ambitions**

"These are fantastic statements and need to have clear correlating commitments to support this clear vision to be truly realised."

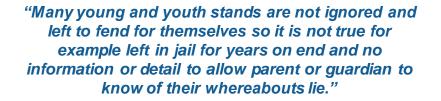
Commitment to support ambitions needed

"Mental health and good quality homes are lacking. Council home and housing associations have many frustrations."

**Quality housing need** 

"[...] I am aware that there are many inequalities with some groups such as those with complex mental health problems which appear to come secondary to those without these significant challenges but with louder voices and more opportunities to express their views. [...]"

Ambitions not inclusive



Youth neglect

"This is all complete bureaucratese that means absolutely nothing to your average resident. There is zero prospect of most of these being reached within 10 years or at all."

**Unachievable ambitions** 

"Care and concern for refugee and asylum seeker families from Afghanistan."

**Refugees support** 

"More health professionals who do not work under 10 minute slots. Less domination of receptionists trained to "push people away"- that is how it feels."

More efficient healthcare services





## **Action plan**

Respondents were given the opportunity to explain what they think should be in the first action plan.

All responses have been themed and those that received five or more comments are summarised in the table below. Examples of comments can also be seen on the next page, with the full list of themes and comments found in the appendices.

Theme	Count
Better health services (including mental health)	13
Identifying issues	7
Safeguarding	7
Education on contemporary issues	6
Financial support	6
VCS partnerships	6
Engagement/communication	5



#### **Comments – Action plan**

"Focus re support on health and wellbeing specifically for children and young people not just adult focused."

Better health services (including mental health)

## "Outreach to the younger generation for input."

Engagement/communication

"Before taking any action, efforts should be made to get a clear idea about how many residents suffer from mental issues in silence. There are a huge number of residents who have never disclosed to health professionals or even to close family members that they suffer from mental health issues."

**Identifying issues** 

*"Improve linking community services and communication."* 

Engagement/communication

### "A baseline study of mental health across the borough."

Better health services (including mental health)

#### "Make every home safe and free from problems caused by unlawful behaviour."

Safeguarding

"Support those left out of benefits of newly available homes still living in run down homes as they are too old and now unable to maintain due to disability."

**Financial support** 

"Involve more VCS, as well as creating a network for VCS to work more collaboratively."

VCS partnerships





## **Additional comments**

We asked respondents if they had any additional comments or suggestions about the strategy and how we can improve health and wellbeing.

All responses have been themed and those that received three or more comments are summarised in the table below. Examples of comments can also be seen on the next page, with the full list of themes and comments found in the appendices.

Theme	Count
Support to less fortunate	6
Improve healthcare	5
Mental health	5
Commitment needed	4
Consult/involve residents	4
Health habits education	3



### **Comments – Any other suggestions**

"More food banks please. Asylum seeker families are starving almost. We get no money from government, only £8 voucher one week."

Support to less fortunate

"More local services for mental health."

Mental health



"You need to be proactive in finding ways to help people who are struggling but don't qualify for benefits."

Support to less fortunate

"Strategy is not consulting other hospitals when patients coming in asking questions to other doctor that have done wrong medication and wrong misdiagnosis but trying to help the patients doing what is possible to help."

Improve healthcare

"Both health and well being is only improved with education. This can be self-taught but it is important that people know where to access this."

"Promoting mental health services more."

Mental health



"Grow up and supply realistic strategies."

**Commitment needed** 

Health habits education

### **Equalities**

Respondents were asked if they believe that our approach, as outlined in the strategy, will adversely affect certain groups more than others and if so, to tell us why.

All responses have been themed and those that received four or more comments are summarised in the table below. Examples of comments can also be seen on the next page, with the full list of themes and comments found in the appendices.

Theme	Count
The strategy is ok as it is	12
Minorities (age, culture, social)	9
Commitment needed	4
Healthcare complaint	4
Seldom heard	4



#### **Comments – Equalities**

"I think it includes a lot of people from all different walks of life."

The strategy is ok as it is

"I mentioned older people; perhaps it should explicitly reference all people of any colour, gender, nationality, religion or other beliefs, etc."

Minorities (age, culture, social)

"More community members using the space, for friends and families for educational purposes."

**Promote culture** 



"Experience shows those with louder articulate voices are often serviced to the detriment of those that can't engage with was."

Seldom heard

"People who don't have access to the internet. People who can't read or where English is a second language. People who are housebound. People who are living in poor quality and/ or overcrowded properties."

Minorities (age, culture, social)



"Strategy is fine."

The strategy is ok as it is

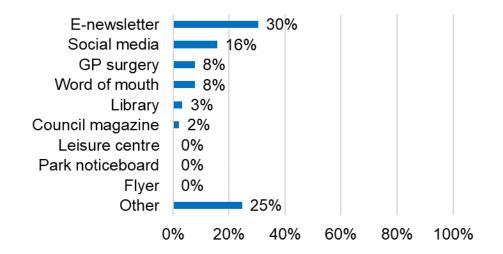
"Unless you get a grip on the might and wealth of the developers your strategies will be worthless and the residential community will be decimated."

**Commitment needed** 

### **Awareness of consultation**

Respondents were asked how they heard about this consultation.

- Just under a third of respondents (30 per cent) stated E-newsletter
- The second most popular answer (16 per cent) was Social Media
- A quarter (25 per cent) chose Other and specified as follows: NHS (five), Abbey Centre and Community Pantry (four), Open Age (three), Colleague/friend (two), Community Centre (two), Council (one), Email (one), Semely House chat (one), SEND exec partnership board (one), Volunteer Centre Kensington and Chelsea (one), Westminster City Council Asthma and Lung support group (one), Youth Participation Lead (one).



#### How did you hear about this consultation?

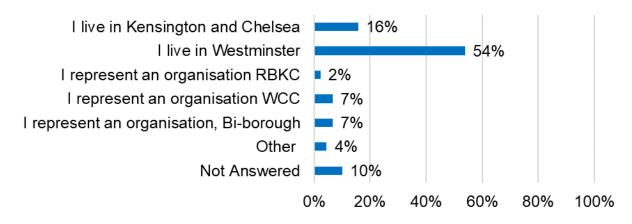


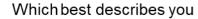
Base: All respondents (89)

# **Basis on which responding**

We asked respondents what option best described them.

- Over half (54 per cent) opted for I live in Westminster
- An equal amount of seven per cent stated they represent an organisation, business or group in Westminster and in both boroughs





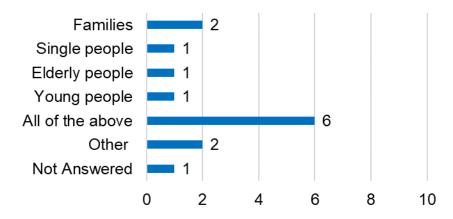


## **Organisations**

Those that indicated that they represented an organisation, business or group were asked to specify the people they engage the most with. The below graph and analysis relates to the ten respondents this applied to, because of the low number of responses the graph and analysis describes actual numbers of responses, rather than percentages.

- Six respondents indicated they engage with All of the above (families, single people, elderly people, young people)
- Those who chose **Other** commented as follows: People experiencing homelessness (one), Children, young people and families (one), Businesses (one)

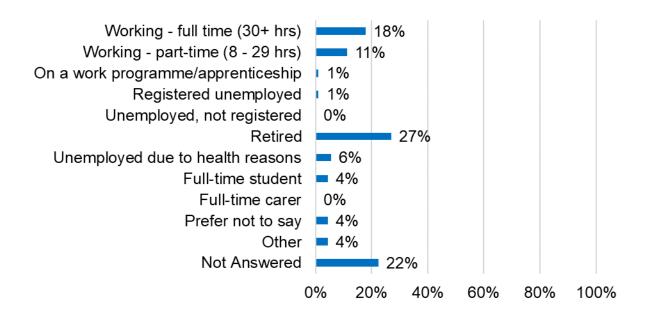
Thinking about the people you most engage with, are they mostly:





We asked a series of questions to understand the demographics of the respondents.

#### Which of the following best describes you?

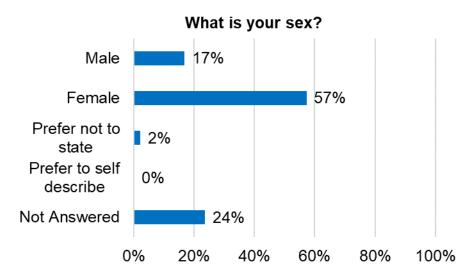




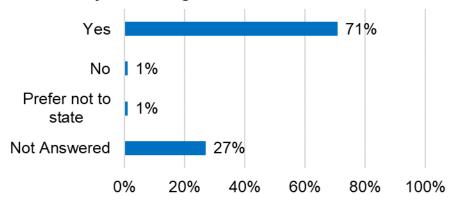
We asked respondents for their postcode.

Postcode area	Count
SW1	18
W9	7
NW8	5
W11	5
W2	5
W10	3
W1F	2
W8	2
NW1	2
NW10	1
SW10	1
SW3	1
SW6	1
SW7	1
W4	1
WC2	1

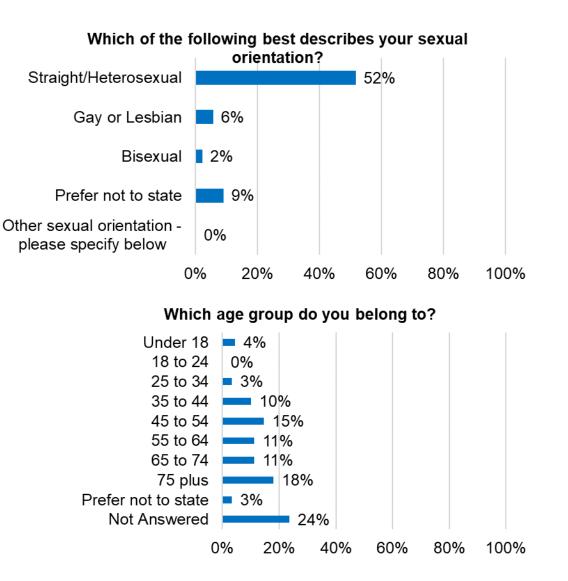




Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

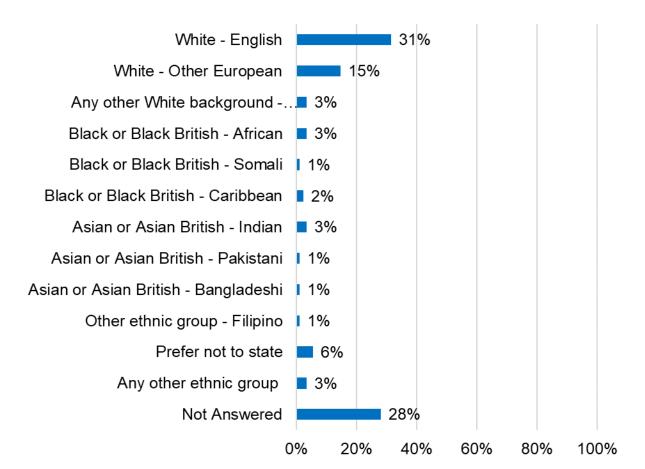






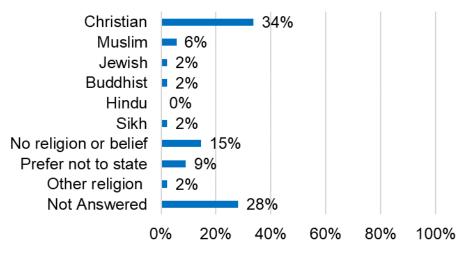


Options shown in the graph below are only the ones we received a choice for.



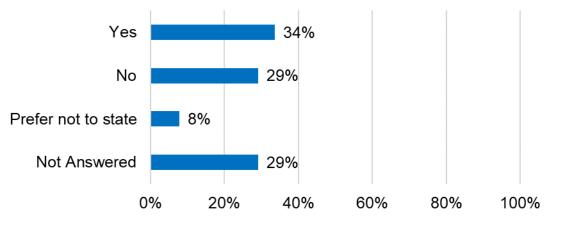
#### How do you describe your ethnic origin?





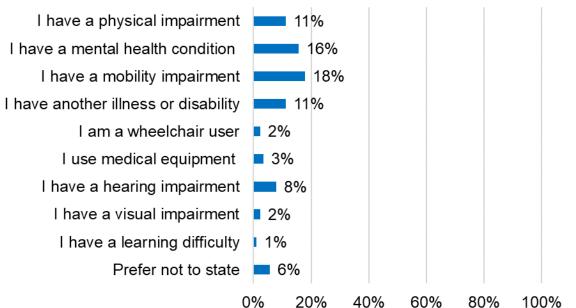
What is your religion or belief?

### Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?





Base: All respondents (89)



If yes, what is the nature of your physical or mental health condition or illness?

