

COMMUNITY FORUM YOUTH SURVEY SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2021

SURVEY RESULTS

INTRODUCTION

Leighton-Linslade Partnership Committee requested the Community Forum representative lead the delivery of a youth survey to find out what services young people need in Leighton-Linslade.

Progress on the work was interrupted by Covid-19 restrictions. Whilst a large-scale survey exercise was originally desirable, it was later agreed that rather than wait for the right time, it would be productive to undertake a smaller survey in recognition that young people would benefit from attention. It was accepted that information would be less detailed than originally planned.

The Committee Forum representative, supported by officers, convened a steering group of seven comprising of:

- Community Forum Chair
- Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) - Youth Services, and Community Engagement
- Leighton-Linslade Town Council (LLTC) - TACTIC, Cultural & Economic Services
- Community Action Bedfordshire
- Groundwork East.

The steering group agreed to focus on the age range of 12 to 16 years and to ask questions about youth provision within the parish as defined below:

- Open access equipment, spaces like parks and sports areas
- Youth work delivered at no set venue, e.g., outreach, online services
- Venue based youth provision, e.g., youth clubs, community groups, service venues.

It was agreed within the steering group that the survey should be kept short and with general questions.

METHOD

The survey took place over the period of September and October 2021 and was aimed at young people aged 12 – 16 years. This was distributed to schools, local uniform groups, and various other young people's services across Central Bedfordshire primarily online through Survey Monkey.

In addition, an evening at a town centre location was arranged to enable a face-to-face presentation of paper copies of the survey. Young people were given a free milkshake if they completed the survey. This attracted good attendance, 76 yet proved difficult to engage in probing discussion as steering group partner availability was limited.

It was originally hoped that more face-to-face survey work could be undertaken, specifically with access to schools, then complemented with an online survey to extend the reach. Due to ongoing covid-protective practises, schools said they would promote the online survey rather than have staff visit the students. This reduced the opportunity for discussion with young people and possibly reduced the response level.

RESULTS

In total 149 responses were received – 76 of which was from face-to-face interaction, the remainder online.

All responses were anonymous.

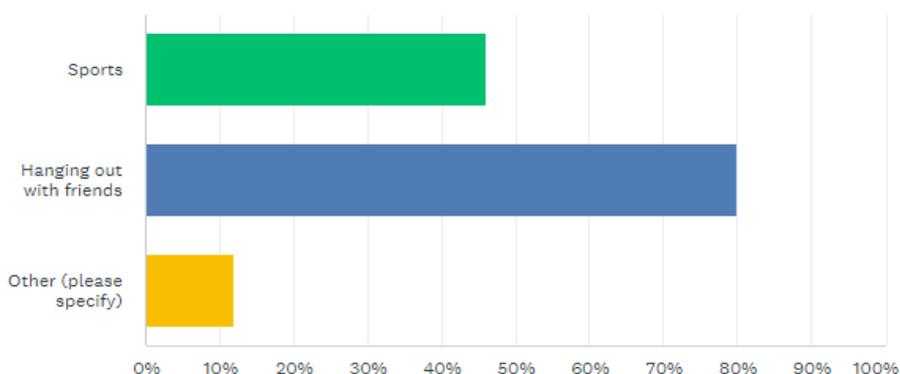
10 questions were asked, and the responses are provided in Appendices A and B.

As part of the analysis, 'Word Cloud' has been used to create a visual representation of text data, typically used to depict keyword weighted by their frequency.

147 responses were received with an LU7 postcode, and only 2 with an MK postcode.

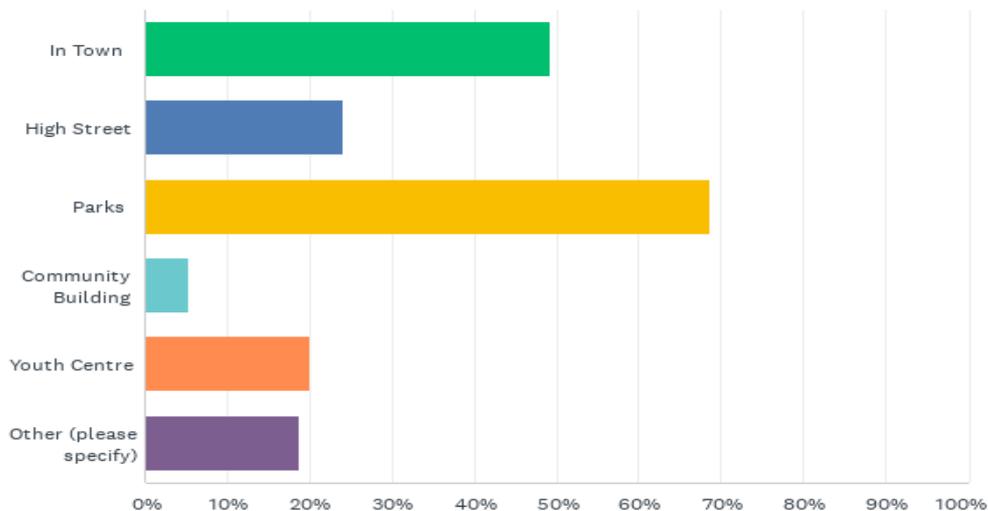
Question 1- What activities do you enjoy doing outside of home?

The general comments were that hanging out with friends is how young people prefer to spend their time.



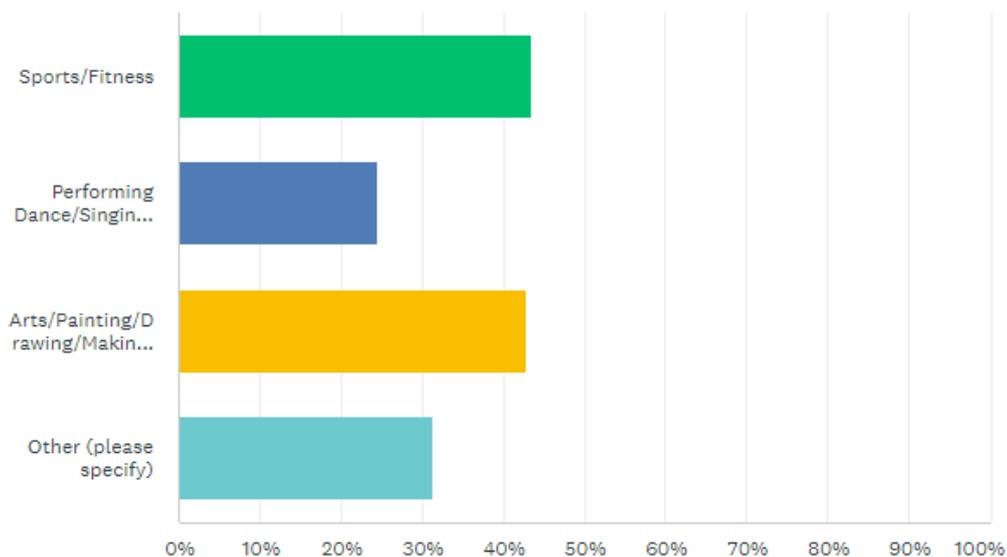
Question 2 - Where do you go for these activities?

A large percentage of responses demonstrated that the parks and within the town centre or High Street areas are preferred.



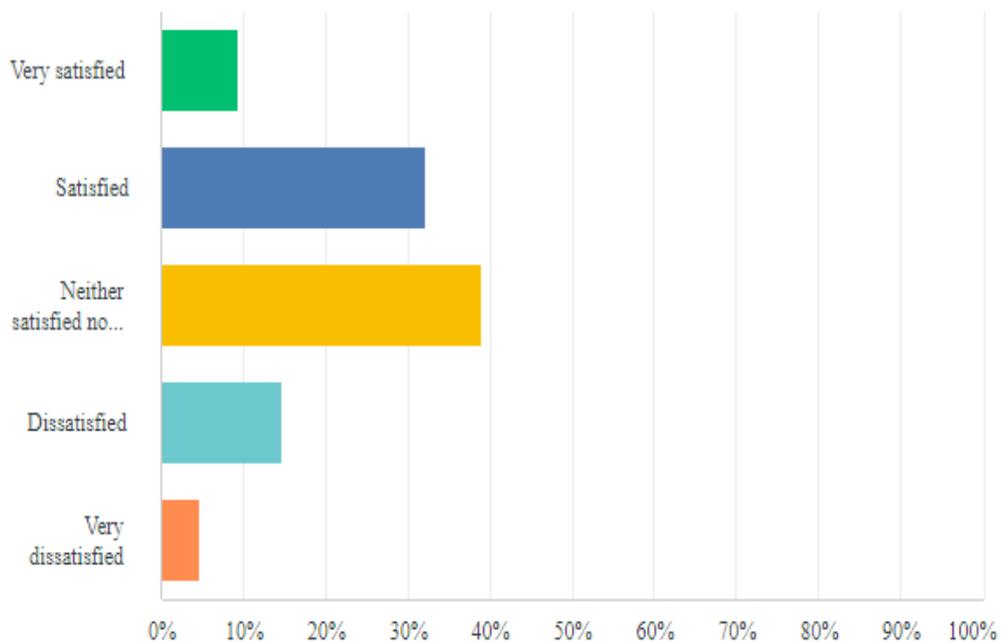
Question 3 - What activities do you enjoy doing indoors?

Arts and sports came out top in this question with dance and drama also being close behind in their preferences. Individual responses are shown in the word cloud below.





Question 4 - How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the young people’s provision in the town (e.g. Parks, Clubs, Services for young people)



Question 5 - Are there any other leisure activities that you would like to see provided in the town?

Responses show that sports activities including bowling came out the strongest with dance and gaming also featuring. The word cloud below demonstrates the representation of data responses received.



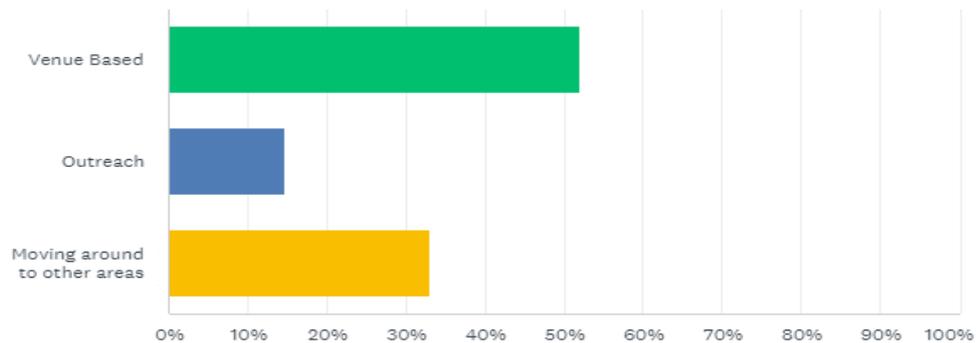
Question 6 - What new or different services do you feel would make a difference to young people?

Again, demonstrated by Word Cloud the additional activities young people would like to see within the town are gaming and mental health support. Responses such as someone to talk to feature on several occasions within the responses.



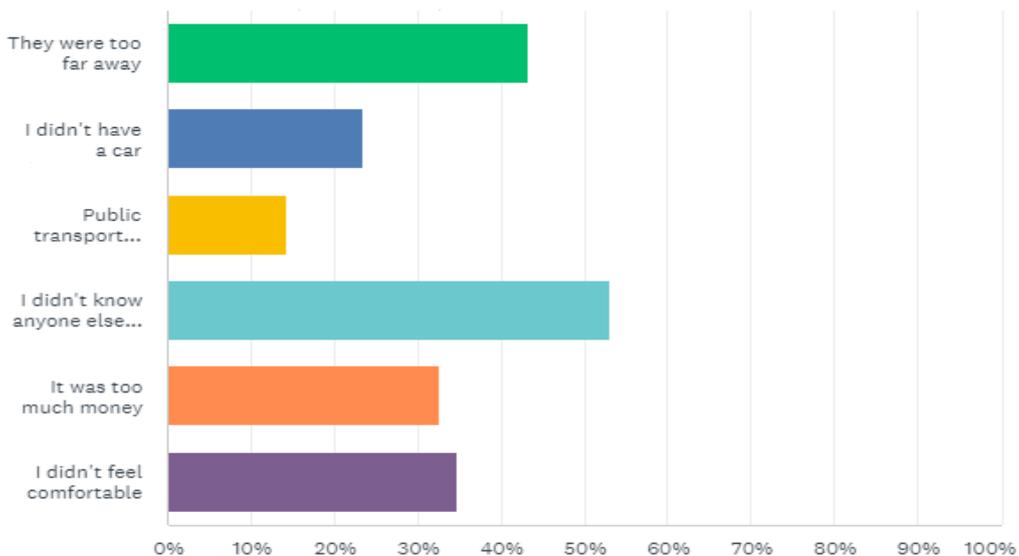
Question 7 - Would you prefer activities to Be.....? (Venue based or outreach/moving around to other areas)

The answers to this question were weighted towards venue-based activities with over 50% choosing that option



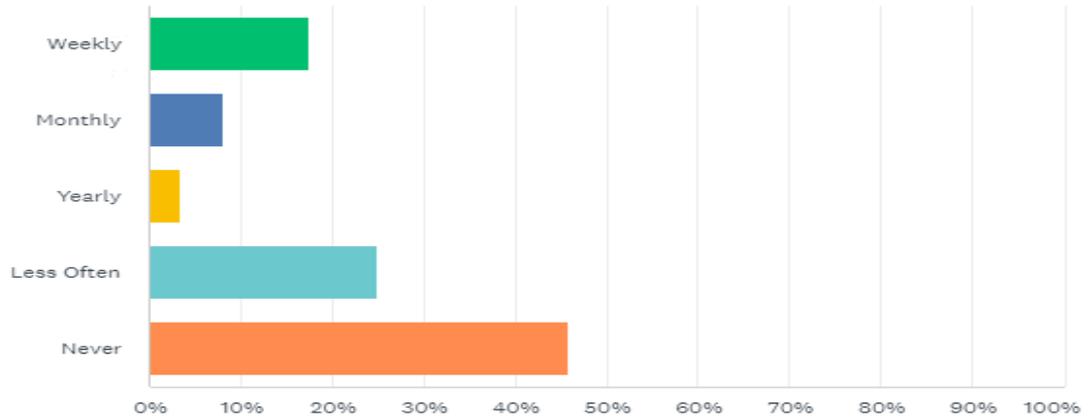
Question 8 - Which of the following have you experienced that have prevented you from attending groups before?

This answer demonstrates the need for young people to have friends to attend activities with in terms of them feeling comfortable, as the responses 'I didn't know anyone else' and 'I didn't feel comfortable' were heavily weighted in the responses with young people also saying they were "too far away".



Question 9 - How often do you usually access online youth services?

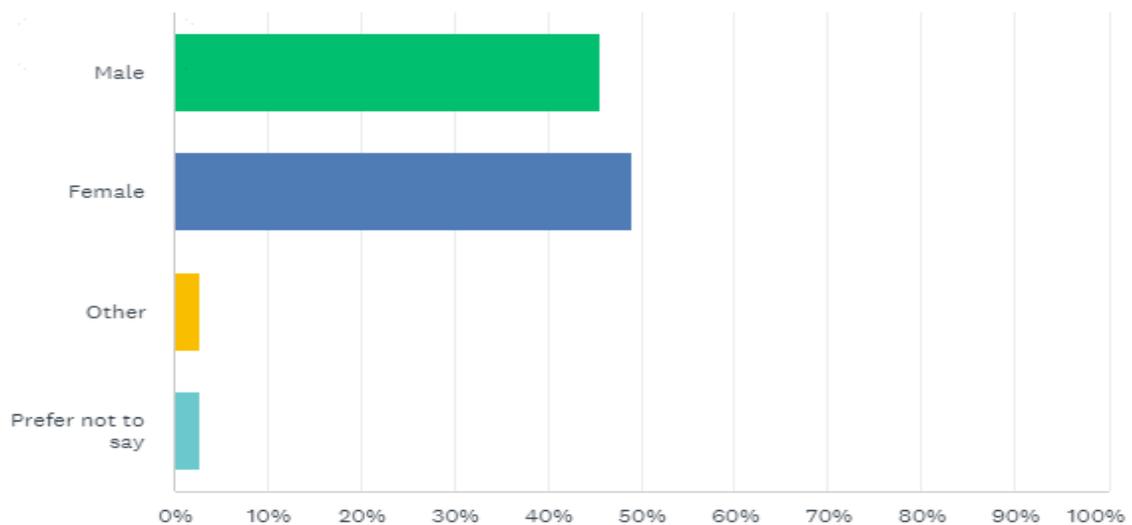
Just under 50% of responses were that young people 'Never' visit online youth services, suggesting that there is a preference to physically attend activities and venues to access activity and support.



Question 10

GENDER

It was pleasing to receive a good representation of responses from both male and female young people with just a minority preferring not to respond.



OTHER RESPONSES

Question 3 – what activities do you enjoy doing indoors? (List of open-ended responses)

1. Computer Games
2. Watching Netflix
3. Facetiming people
4. X Box
5. Gaming
6. Chilling
7. TV
8. On phone
9. Chilling in room
10. Phone
11. Streaming Shows
12. Watching TV
13. Watching things
14. Watching movies
15. Gaming
16. Gaming
17. Gaming and X Box
18. Gaming and video games
19. Football pitch
20. Gaming
21. X Box Gaming
22. Sleeping
23. Lying in bed
24. Sleep
25. Sleep
26. On my phone
27. Playing X Box
28. Chilling
29. Sleeping
30. Games
31. Gaming
32. Netflix
33. Gaming
34. Gaming
35. Playing pS4
36. Watching TikTok
37. Reading
38. Watching Netflix
39. DND and other programmes
40. Drama

41. I dance on Tuesdays
42. Meeting friends and watching movies
43. Gaming
44. Roller skating
45. Music Dance to music

Question 5 - Are there any other leisure activities you would like to see provided?

(Open-ended responses)

1. A good skatepark for skateboarding and long boarding and a place for BMX bikers and jump bikes
2. Art activities
3. Youth Clubs
4. Stuff I can do
5. Youth Café
6. Arcades
7. Gaming
8. Don't know
9. Bowling
10. No
11. More clothes shops
12. More clothes shops for young people, ice skating
13. Roller blading Rin
14. Free sports activities
15. Not sure
16. Athletics club
17. Dance studio
18. Dance studio
19. No
20. Leisure centres
21. More sports
22. Bowling
23. More fairground stuff like May Day and fireworks
24. Bowling
25. Arcades
26. Sports
27. Weekend clubs' art and dram groups
28. More youth clubs
29. More youth clubs
30. More clothes shops
31. More clothes shops
32. Gaming place
33. No

34. Football
35. Boxing
36. Ice rink
37. Astro Pitch
38. Astro Pitch
39. Boxing Club
40. Ice rink
41. No
42. Art centre
43. Cinema, bowling alley, Gaming area
44. Gaming stuff
45. No
46. Everything
47. Anything Leighton's rubbish
48. Sport
49. All rubbish
50. Football basketball
51. None
52. Dance
53. Gaming
54. No
55. No
56. Football arena
57. Basketball
58. Football basketball
59. No
60. No
61. No
62. More free stuff
63. Sports
64. More things in parks
65. Bowling
66. Music
67. Music
68. Basketball
69. Basketball football
70. More activities for younger kids
71. Football
72. Should be more service for youth to stop negative activities taking place
73. Sports Dome
74. Football pitch
75. Dance activities
76. More dance activities
77. Trampoline Park

78. Football
79. No
80. Good leisure centre
81. Trampoline Park
82. Trampoline Park
83. More funding for parks and Tactic
84. More football goals with nets, larger basketball areas
85. Football
86. More youth centres
87. More advertised activities
88. More activities
89. Swimming
90. Gymnastics, football, bowling
91. No
92. Access for young people more often. Places to eat
93. Nope I don't think so
94. N/A
95. Maybe reading clubs, or more free sports clubs or social clubs for teens
96. Yale Sutu
97. Nope
98. No
99. Youth centres and outdoor activities like festivals
100. Festivals / fairs again101 Not for the moment as I never sign up for anything in town
- 101 Nope
- 102 Yes, I would like to see a netball team or more aerobics Bowling Alley, Proper cinema,
- 103 None I can think of
- 104 Drama
- 105 Youth club open in evenings to meet friends
- 106 No
- 107 No
108. Youth Centre
- 109 Cinema, bowling, roller skating
- 110 Bowling, cinema, trampoline park Badminton clubs for children of all ages
- 111 Maybe a basketball court or something like that, or more sheltered areas for
- 112 When it rains or there is bad weather
- 113 More trails and walks that people can go on, that aren't on roads etc.
- 114 No
- 115 Cinema, bowling alley VR arena
- 116 No, I don't think so
- 117 I don't think so
- 118 Actual track
- 119 Mini golf

- 120 Bowling
- 121 Maybe some more shops
- 122 Yes, indoor roller skating
- 123 Running track in Mentmore Park, Cycle routes, paths, and free tennis courts
- 124 Football
- 125 Cooking Social club here we can hang out play board games and listen to music
- 126 Learn things like cooking or making things
- 127 No

Questions asked:

5. The group has drafted a short survey with questions designed to capture key themes. The questions have been reviewed by CBC's Consultation Officer – see below:

- (i) What activities do you enjoy doing outside of home?
e.g. Sports / Hanging out with friends / Other
- (ii) Where do you go for these activities?
In town / High Street/ Parks Community Building/ Other
- (iii) What activities do you enjoy doing indoors?
Sports/ Dance/ Arts / Other.
- (iv) How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the young people's provision in the town? -
Very satisfied/satisfied/unsure/dissatisfied/very dissatisfied.
- (v) Are there any other leisure activities that you would like to see provided in the town?
- (vi) What new or different services do you feel would make a difference to young people?
- (vii) Would you prefer activities to be?
Venue based or outreach/moving around to other areas.
- (viii) Which of the below have you experienced that have prevented you from attending groups before?
They were too far away/I didn't have a car/public transport couldn't get me there/I didn't know anyone else attending/it was too much money; I didn't feel comfortable.
- (ix) How often do you usually access online youth services?
Weekly/monthly/yearly/less often/never
- (x) About you:
Gender - *Male / Female / Other* Postcode -