

**Analysis of the results of the Youth and Play Activities consultation 22/07/16 to 27/09/16**



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## Summary of the consultation

1. 534 people took part in the consultation by responding to a survey. 49% of those who answered the question about age were under 25. The results offer a good balance between the views of young people themselves and other adults in the borough including parents and carers. Responses came from a mix of people: there was a good range of income groups reflected in the responses; 35% were male and 40% female; 12.5% indicated a disability or had a limiting health condition; 0.5% of the people who answered the question were LBGT, and except for Borough, Bankside and Walworth, the responses were proportionate to the population numbers in each of the areas. The ethnic diversity of those who participated was less than the ethnic diversity for the population in Southwark as a whole.
2. There was overwhelming support (more than 87%) for each of the priorities identified in the survey. The order of importance was happy, safe, healthy, active and prepared. However it should be noted that being prepared for life has considerably more importance for the 18-24 year olds and that safety remains a considerable concern for young people of secondary school age. Those over 25, and likely to be parents or carers of children and young people, are most concerned about their offspring being happy and healthy.
3. Some of the additional commentary also raised the issues of help being targeted at those most in need, ensuring provision was inclusive and multicultural; there were opportunities for education and personal development out of school and for young people's participation.
4. Activities that were most popular for the 5-11 year olds were playgrounds, sport and leisure, and reading. Activities that were most popular for 12-15 year olds and 16-24 year olds were fitness and sport and activity that supported careers.
5. Reading and books were a popular activity across all ages, arts activities more strongly supported for the younger groups, and debate and democracy increasing in significance as young people get older.
6. 208 people chose to make additional comments about other activities. The most common ones mentioned were, physical activity, education and personal development and careers chiming with the overall results where fitness and sports activity and careers advice are strongly identified as important activities.
7. We also asked people what they thought might prevent people from taking part in activities. The responses were cost of activity, and distance to travel most consistently across all groups.
8. 175 individuals took the opportunity to comment on the barriers to participation. Lack of information, other young people, parents, as well as young people's confidence and inclusivity were raised.

## Who participated in the consultation?

### Promoting the consultation

Through a mixture of outreach, online messaging, media, contact with primary schools and engagement with young people enjoying the summer activities at a range of venues across the borough, the consultation had a broad reach.

The consultation opened on 22 July and closed on 27 September running for nine weeks. We received 534 responses to the Youth and Play Activities consultation. The consultation was online and paper copies were also used and entered by staff onto the consultation hub. The consultation was promoted through the council using Facebook and Twitter. Southwark Young Advisers also promoted the consultation, sending tweets to their contacts. Youth service, parks and libraries staff encouraged their users to take part, and Community Engagement staff did outreach at sports centres and liaised with the following organisations:

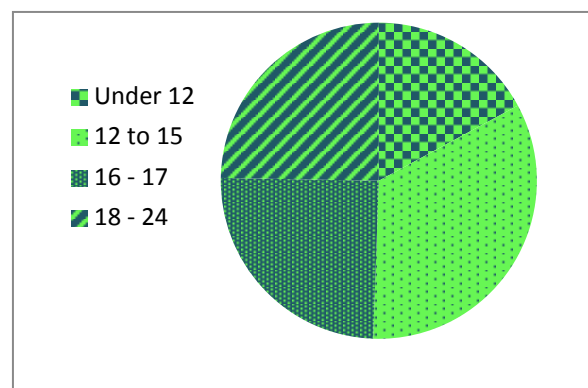
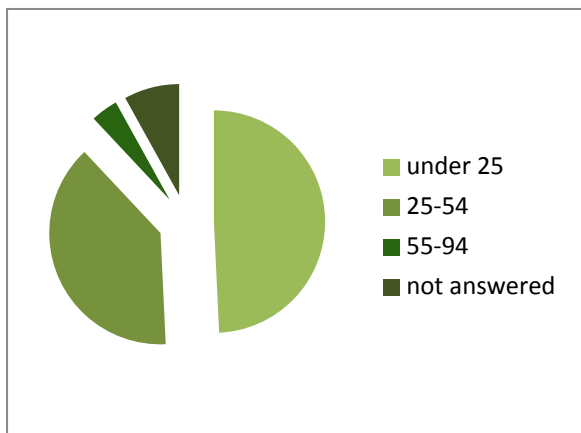
Albrighton YC
Art in the Park
Bede YC
Beormund community centre
Blackfriars
Blue Elephant theatre
Bradfield Club
Caribb youth club
Communities Southwark
Dockland Settlement
Downside Fisher YC
Faces in Focus
From Boyhood to Manhood foundation
Hollington
Ilderton motor project
Inspire YC
London Bubble Theatre
Millwall CFC
Oxford and Bermondsey
Peckham Platform
Salmon Youth Club
SGTO
Southwark arts forum (SAF)
Southwark Travellers' action group
Speaker Box
TRAs
Surrey Docks farm
Westminster House YC
Young Visions
Youth Construction

In addition discussions were held at Bermondsey and Rotherhithe, Peckham and Nunhead and Camberwell Community Councils all of which were youth-themed sessions with young people and youth organisations in attendance. We contacted all 69 primary schools in the borough and 12 received postcards for children's book bags asking parents to get involved.

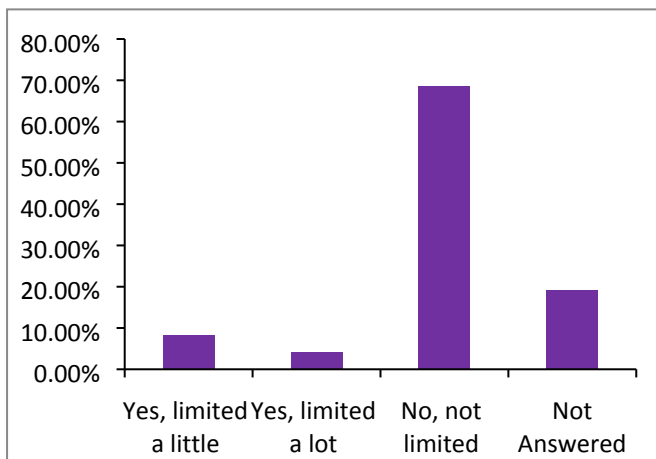
The information in the remainder of this section tells us more about who participated in the consultation. In particular it is a measure of the success of the consultation that half the people who participated were young people. In terms of gender distribution, young men dominated the responses for under-25s and women for the older age groups and this may reflect the enthusiasm of centres like Millwall in providing responses and mothers dominating the adult responses. Many of the people who took part were involved in activities but a significant number were not so we can be clear that the voice of those not joining in the current universal offer is also reflected in these results.

### Age of the respondents<sup>1</sup>

92% of the people who completed our survey told us their age; almost half were young people under 25, and 38% between the ages of 25 and 54. As shown below



### Disability<sup>2</sup>



9% of the under 25s were limited a little by health or disability and 2% were limited a lot.

<sup>1</sup> 92% of respondents answered the question on age

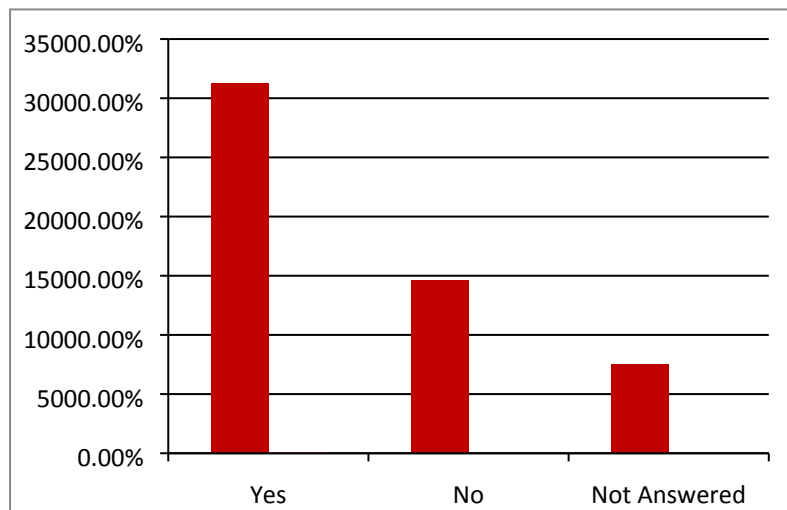
<sup>2</sup> 82.2% of respondents answered the question on disability

### Gender<sup>3</sup>

Overall 35% of those who answered the question were male and 40% female, however 50% of the under-25s who responded were male, 20% female, and 30% did not answer the question. For the 25-54 age group over two thirds were female and a quarter male, and in the oldest group 55% were female.

### Engagement of participants

The majority of the participants in the survey took part in activity outside of school.



Almost half of those who were involved were choosing to participate in some form of physical activity with close to 1 in 5 enjoying arts based activity such as drama and music and 13% attending either a voluntary or statutory sector youth club. The comments indicate that many of the young people were involved in more than one type of activity and some were travelling some distance to attend the activity of their choice.

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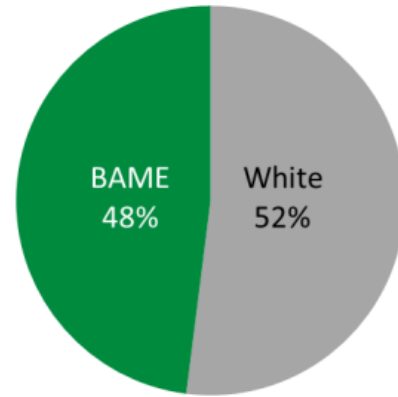
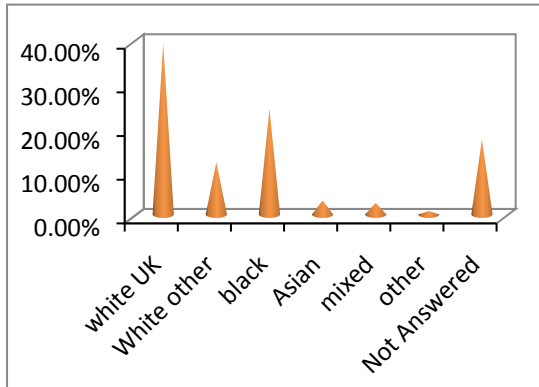
<sup>3</sup> 75.8% of the sample answered the question on gender

## Ethnic Diversity

The following data was recorded however there was a collection error on this part of the survey and for that reason this aspect of the survey is not reliable.

### Ethnic Diversity <sup>4</sup>of the participants

### Southwark Ethnic Diversity 2015

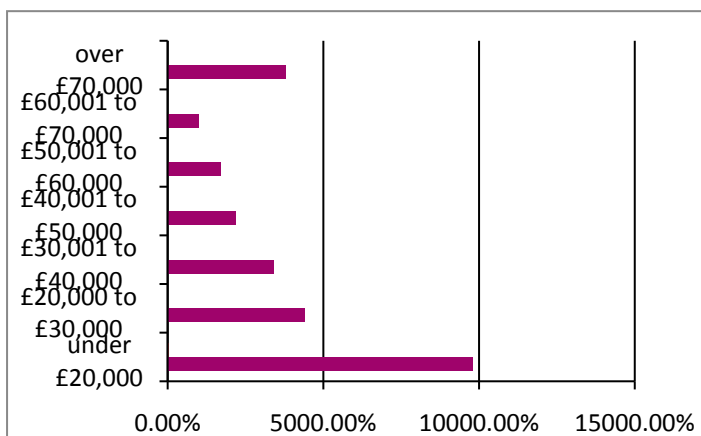


In our survey 30% were BAME; however 17% of the sample chose not to answer this question,

The gender of each of the ethnic groups was evenly distributed accept for White UK, where there were significantly more females, and Somali where there were 5 men and no women.

### Income<sup>5</sup> of respondents

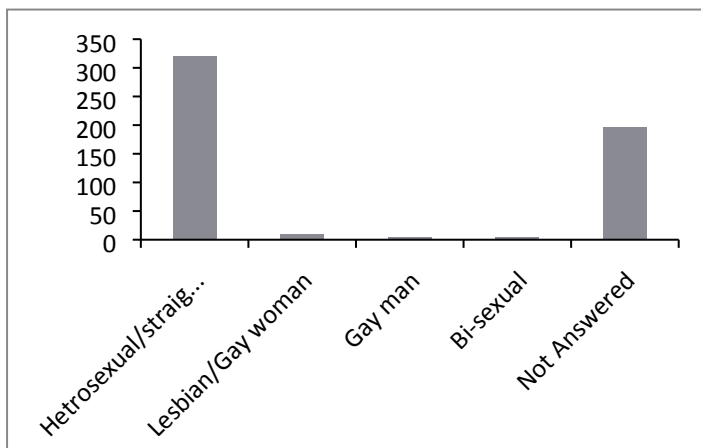
Only 50% of respondents completed the question on income. The chart below shows us the income distribution of those who completed this question. (Please note that almost 37% were under 18 and not asked to complete this question)



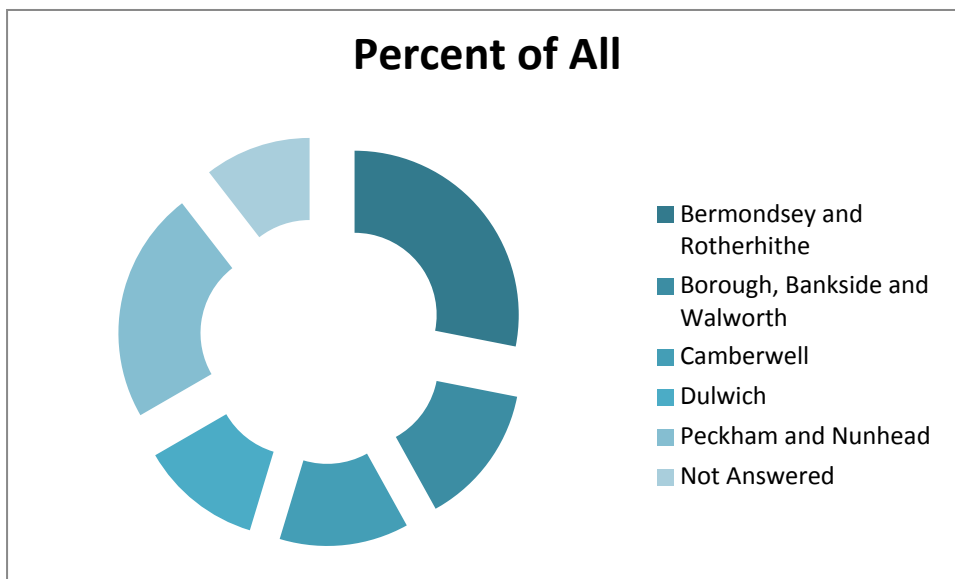
<sup>4</sup> 83.1% of the sample answered the question on ethnicity

<sup>5</sup> 49.3% answered the question on income

Sexual orientation <sup>6</sup>of participants is indicated below.



The chart below indicates where the people who participated live<sup>7</sup>:



It should be noted that this represents similar proportions to the population as a whole in each of these areas except for Borough Bankside and Walworth (where the variance was almost -10%), however in most of its wards it has fewer under-19s than the borough average.

<sup>6</sup> 63.9% answered the question on sexual orientation

<sup>7</sup> 91.4% answered the question on where they lived

## Priorities

### Priorities overall responses

The first question we asked was did people agree with our proposed priorities and how important each of these issues were to them. The priorities we proposed were happy, healthy, active, safe and prepared. Overwhelmingly these were supported and the order of preference were happy (92.88%), safe (91.87%), healthy (90.64%), active (90.83%) and prepared (86.7%), although it should be noted that marginally more people thought that being safe was very important, and the fewest thought being prepared was very important.

### Age and priorities

There were some slight variations among the different age groups in how they ranked the responses:

Age	Happy	Healthy	Active	Safe	Prepared
U12	1	2	4	2	5
12-15	3	4	2	1	5
16-17	1	1	4	1	5
18-24	4	4	3	2	1
25-34	1	2	4	2	5
35-44	1	2	2	4	5
45-54	1	1	1	4	5
55-64	1	5	5	2	2
65-74	1	3	1	3	5
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

*The areas highlighted indicate a variance to the average of 3 or more.*

This clearly shows that being prepared for life has considerably more importance for the 18-24 year olds and that safety remains a considerable concern for young people of secondary school age. Those likely to be parents or carers of children and young people are most concerned about their offspring being happy and healthy.

### Age and gender and priorities

Gender seems to have had little impact on the priorities for under-12s.

Although when broken down by age and gender the sample size becomes small there is an indication that for girls 12 -15 being happy is slightly *less* important than it is for boys and being active and safe is *more* important than for boys. The latter is an unanticipated response and may be worth further exploration.

For 16-17 year olds, 45 respondents both answered the questions on age and gender and as only 7 of these were female and 38 male it wasn't thought that useful inference of difference in outlook could be drawn.

For the 18-24 age group apart from happy, young women felt that all of these priorities were more important than their male counterparts.

### Area and priorities



The preferences were also examined to identify if there were any differences by Community Council area. The differences were largely negligible however Happy was more strongly valued in Peckham and Nunhead and Dulwich (+ 5%), healthy less of a concern in Camberwell (-7%). Being safe experienced a 12% variation from Dulwich at 97% to Camberwell at 85%. In Peckham being prepared was considered more important by a greater percentage than in other areas. Camberwell had the largest number of people who did not answer this question.

Table indicating ranking for each priority by council area.

Priority	B&R	BBW	Camberwell	Dulwich	P&N	overall
happy	1	4	2	1	1	1
healthy	2	3	4	3	4	3
active	3	1	1	4	5	4
safe	4	2	5	1	2	2
prepared	5	5	3	5	3	5

*Highlighted cells indicated a variance of three or more from the average.*

### **Other priorities**

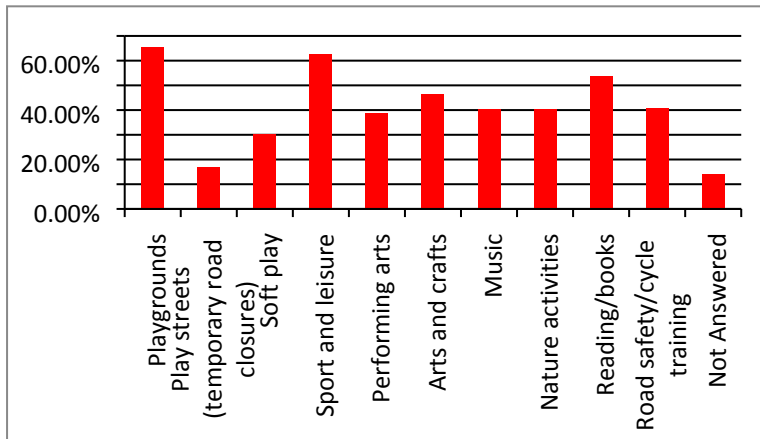
Approximately 40% of the respondents answered the question asking for comments about other priorities; about 30% of these answers were specific to a particular provision. In terms of other comments people were advocating for inclusive and multicultural activity, opportunities for young people to participate, personal development programmes and education opportunities, physical activity and help should be targeted at those who need it most.

## Activities

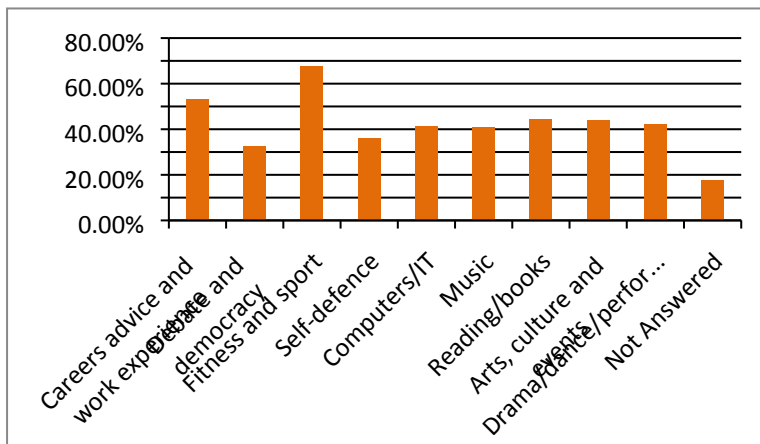
People who completed the survey were asked to choose a range of activities they would like to see for the following age groups 5-11, 12-15 and 16 -24.

### Activities overall responses

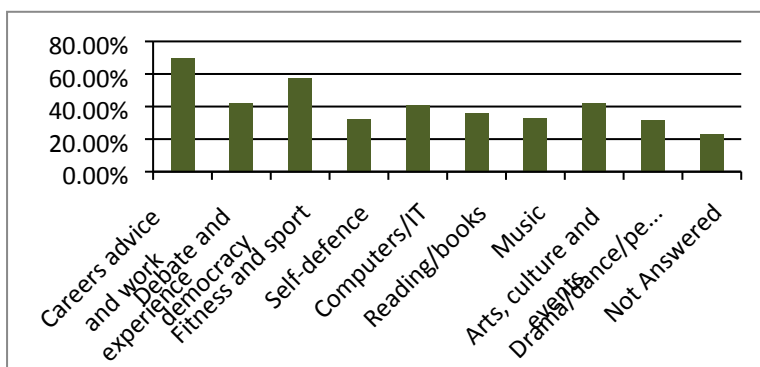
For the youngest age group people wanted to see playgrounds, sport and leisure and reading and books as part of the universal offer.



For 12 – 15 year olds the most popular activities were fitness and sport and careers advice and work experience.



For the older age group careers advice and fitness still dominate the responses.



Reading and books remain strong across all ages, arts activities more strongly supported for the younger groups and debate and democracy increasing in significance as young people age.

208 people chose to make additional comments about other activities. The most common ones mentioned were, physical activity, education and personal development and careers chiming with the overall results where fitness and sports activity and careers advice are strongly identified as important activities.

### **Area and activities**

When examining this data set by area the following differences emerge:

- For 5-11 year olds Borough, Bankside and Walworth show a stronger preference for arts and crafts activity and less of an interest in reading and books.
- For 12-15 year olds all areas agree that fitness and sport are the most wanted activity and in all areas except Dulwich careers advice is second most popular. In Peckham and Nunhead, apart from these two, there is very little that separates the other choices. Arts, culture and reading seem to be more popular activities in the three most southern areas of the borough.
- For the older group all areas agree that careers and fitness are the most important activities to offer; in Camberwell and Dulwich IT is seen as more important and in Peckham arts culture and events, with Bermondsey and Rotherhithe and Borough Bankside and Walworth ranking debate and democracy as third.

### **Age and activities**

The data was also analysed looking at age and whether there were differences in responses.

**16-24** year olds - there was agreement across all age groups, where there was sufficient data, that careers and fitness were the most desired activities. What is interesting is the difference between 16-24 year olds who rank debate and democracy as the third most popular activity and over 24s who thought arts and cultural activity was more valuable.

**12–15** year olds - there was a less obvious pattern emerging. For all age groups fitness and sport is seen as an important activity for these years. For young people and younger adults (25-34) careers advice and support is identified as a leading activity but not by older adults. Debate and democracy is not seen as an activity for this age group except by 18-24 year olds. Reading is identified by older adults as an important activity for 12–15 year olds.

**5 – 11 year olds** - all ages regard playgrounds and sport and leisure as important activity and reading is considered important for this age group by everyone over the age of 16. The under-12s choose arts and crafts over reading as the most popular activities.

### **Gender and activities**

Again for the younger group there is more consistency in what both men and women think are the best activities, these are playgrounds sport, and reading.

For 12-15 year olds, men and women are both agreed that sport and careers advice are the most favoured activities, however in this age group men feel that reading is also in the top three activities and women have placed arts and culture in their top three.

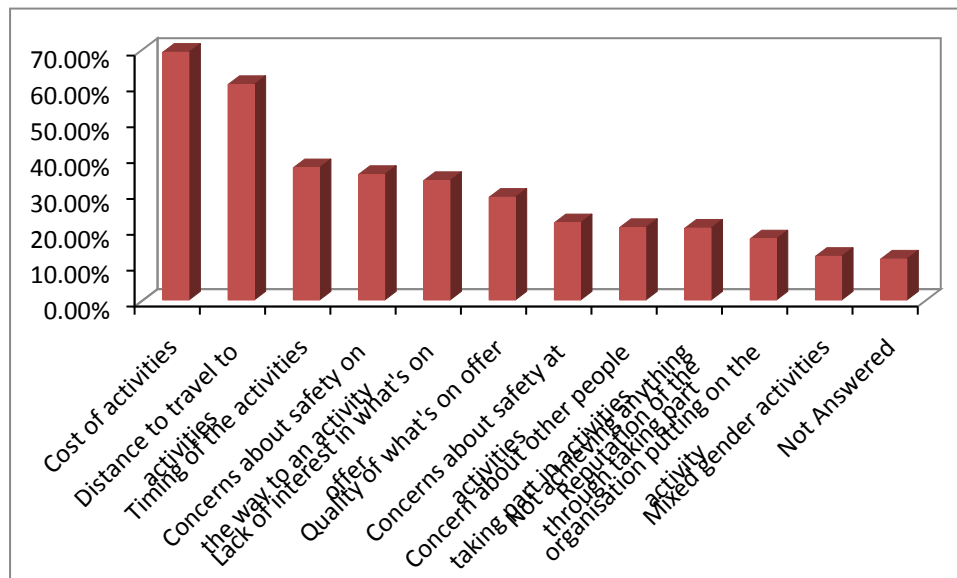
For 16 – 24 year olds

Again both sport and careers support are in the top three for men and women. However the third most popular choice for men is debate and democracy and women arts and culture. This difference may reflect that more young people who responded were male.

## Barriers to participation in universal offer

We also asked people what they thought might prevent people from taking part in a range of activities. The most popular responses were cost of activity, distance to travel and timing of the activities closely followed by concerns about young people safety travelling to and from an activity.

The table below shows the results overall.



## Commentary

175 individuals took the opportunity to comment on the barriers to participation. Almost a quarter of these respondents thought that lack of information was one of the main barriers, 20% other young people, 15% parent issues or concerns and 10% inclusivity of the activity and young people's confidence to get involved and join an activity.

## Barriers and age

Cost and distance to travel are the most often mentioned barriers across all the age groups where there is sufficient data. Young people are more concerned about safety on the way to activity. Timing of the activities is in the top three concerns for those in secondary school and people 35-44 and lack of interest in what's on offer a barrier for 16-17 year olds and expressed by adults 25-34.

## Barriers and income

All income groups, where there are sufficient responses to analyse agree that the greatest barriers to participation are cost of activities and distance to travel. Differences begin to emerge when looking at the third barrier, for those in the lowest income bracket concern about safety as young people travel is identified as a significant barrier and for those in the £40-50K income group (however this grouping was a small sample and caution needs to be shown in respect of this data). For other income groups the timing of activity was considered more of a barrier to taking part.

## **Barriers and gender**

Men and women both thought that cost and distance to travel were the biggest barriers to taking part. The striking difference was that women thought the reputation of the organisation providing the service would also be a significant barrier. This is notable because overall this was not viewed as a particularly strong barrier. Men thought that the timing of the activities were more likely to prevent young people from taking up an opportunity.