

Serious Violence Survey – Adults

Responses = 180

Introduction

In September 2023 adults in North East Lincolnshire were asked to share their views on violent crime. The intention is to better understand the types of violent crimes people have been affected by and how safe they feel in their neighbourhoods.

There have been 1,865 views of the survey, resulting in 245 responses, which is made up of 180 complete responses and 65 partial submissions.

Methodology

The survey was live from the 28th September 2023 until 4th January 2024.

The survey was promoted by North East Lincolnshire Council in a number of locations including the NELC's Have Your Say webpage and on social media platforms. The survey was emailed to members of the public who have signed up to NELC's Consultations mailing list as well as community groups and organisations in the local Sector Support Newsletter.

Key Findings

18% of respondents said they have been affected by Serious Violence in the last 12 months, followed by 16% a member of their family or a friend.

The highest occurrence of Serious Violence was violence against a person (32%), followed by domestic abuse (17%) and violence against women and girls (12%).

Recorded police incidents show the number of incidents of violence against women and girls is approximately the same as the number of incidents of domestic abuse each month. Violence against women and girls comprises approximately 30% off all crime each month.

57% of respondents said Serious Violence in their area has increased in the past 12 months.

Violence against a person (46%), county lines (50%) and domestic abuse (41%) were rated highest as serious problems relating to the respondents' local community.

73% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their neighbourhood is a safe place to live during daylight hours, whereas only 36% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that their neighbourhood is a safe place to live during night-time hours.

On a rating scale of 0-10 of how confident would they feel in reporting a crime they were a witness of 76% rated 5 or higher. On a rating scale of 0-10 of how confident would they feel in reporting a crime they were a victim of 71% rated 5 or higher.

When asking what could be done to make people safer, police presence, environmental factors and education were rated highest in answers.

Survey Questions

Q1 Have you, a member of your family, or a friend, been affected by Serious Violence in the last 12 months?

Statement	Yes	No	Overall
Me	38	177	215
	17.67%	82.33%	100.00%
A family member	32	170	202
	15.84%	84.16%	100.00%
A friend	30	161	191
	15.71%	84.29%	100.00%

Female

Statement	Yes	No	Overall
Me	8	66	74
	10.8%	89.2%	100%
A family member	8	64	72
	11.1%	88.9%	100%
A friend	9	62	71
	12.7%	86.1%	100%

More men than women have been a victim of serious violence. (11% of female respondents compared with 21% of male respondents.)

Male

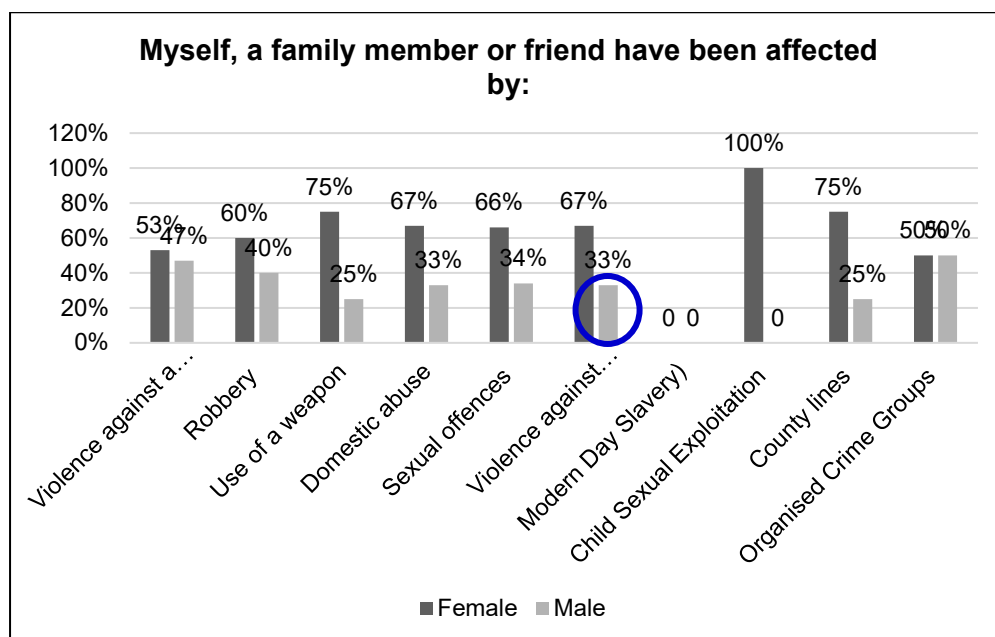
Statement	Yes	No	Overall
Me	9	35	44
	20.5%	79.5%	100%
A family member	3	32	35
	8.6%	91.4%	100%
A friend	4	30	34
	11.8%	88.2%	100%

Q2 Myself, a family member or friend have been affected by:

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Violence against a person (which can include wounding, harassment, assault and GBH)	39	32.23
Robbery (taking property unlawfully from a person or place by force or threat of force)	17	14.05
Use of a weapon (is where an object is used against a person to threaten harm or injure them)	12	9.92
Domestic abuse (an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence, by a partner or ex-partner, but also by a family member or carer)	20	16.53
Sexual offences (which can include sexual activity without consent and indecent assault)	7	5.79
Violence against women and girls (VAWG – gender-based violence which can include harassment, stalking, upskirting and revenge porn)	15	12.40

Modern Day Slavery (when an individual is exploited by others, for personal or commercial gain. Whether tricked, coerced, or forced, they lose their freedom)	0	0.00
Child Sexual Exploitation (is a type of sexual abuse when an adult tricks a child into performing sexual acts by offering them something)	2	1.65
County lines (County lines is the name given to drug dealing where organised criminal groups (OCGs) use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas).	5	4.13
Organised Crime Groups (OCGs – a group of people carrying out criminal activities)	4	3.31
Total	121	100

Female / Male



Note that total numbers of responses are low and so comparisons are difficult to make.

Presumably these males (circled) are reporting a friend or family member who has been affected by VAWG.

It may be that females reporting VAWG, robbery, and weapon use may also be reporting experiences of friends and family members as if they had been affected by it themselves the VAWG total could be expected to be higher.

Q3 If you feel comfortable, please tell us if further support could have been offered and how:

Theme	Count (n)	Description
Stop and searches	2	Stop and searches for weapons; for those known to carry weapons or previous convictions
Quicker responding and follow-ups by police	2	Police to react sooner when given information on previous offences

More police presence and observation	2	Police to be more observant on the street; more police presence at night; quicker
Better information and training	2	Correct links on the crime leaflet; train police to evaluate situations better
Total	8	

Q4 Do you think the level of Serious Violence in your area during the past 12 months has increased, decreased or stayed the same

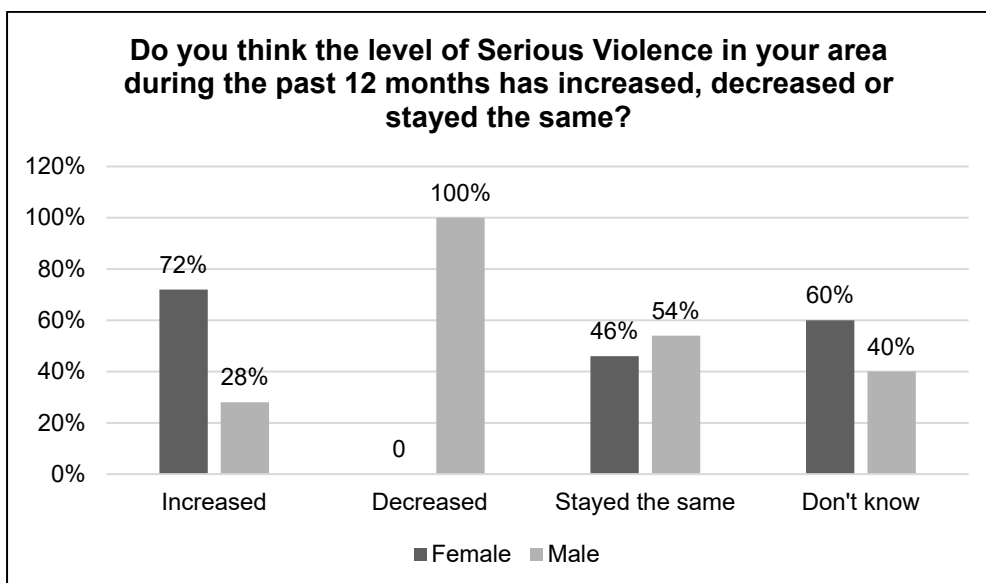
Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Increased	106	57.61
Decreased	7	3.80
Stayed the same	42	22.83
Don't know	29	15.76
Total	184	100

In the 2022/23 Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment results for the question “do you think the level of **crime and anti-social behaviour** during the past 12 months has increased, decreased or stayed the same” were similar.

Residents feel that the level of serious violence is moving in line with the level of all crime and anti-social behaviour.

	Count	Percentage
Increased	156	51%
Decreased	10	3%
Stayed the same	140	46%
Total	306	100%

Female / Male



34% of females thought that serious violence has increased in the last 12 months compared with only 8% of males.

It may be that this is in line with the percentage of females who think all crime has increased. This can be assessed following the Our Place Our Future survey in 2024.

	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same	Don't know
Male	7.79%	0.41%	5.33%	3.28%
Female	34.08%	0%	8.52%	8.52%

Q4 Please tell us how, if at all, the following problems relating to serious violence effect your community.

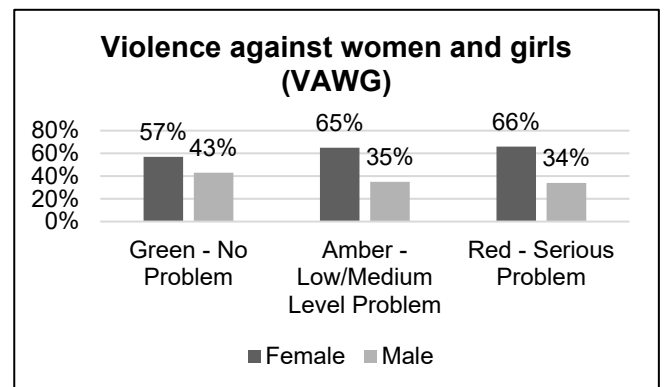
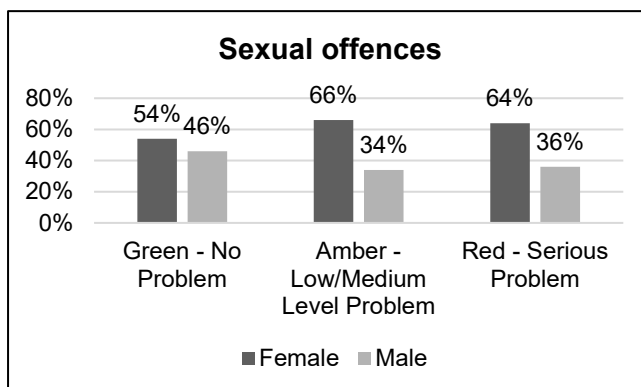
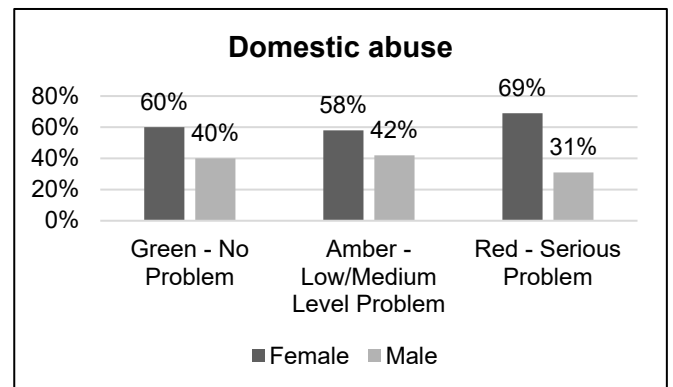
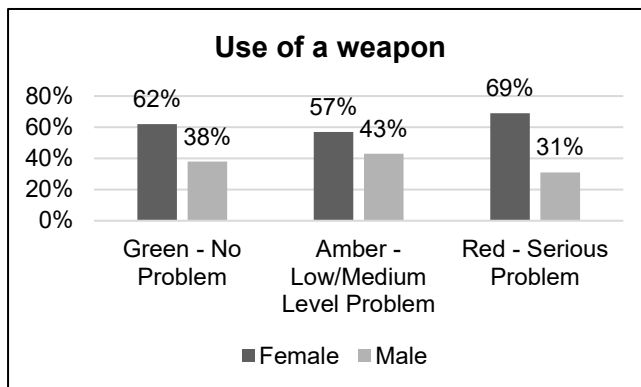
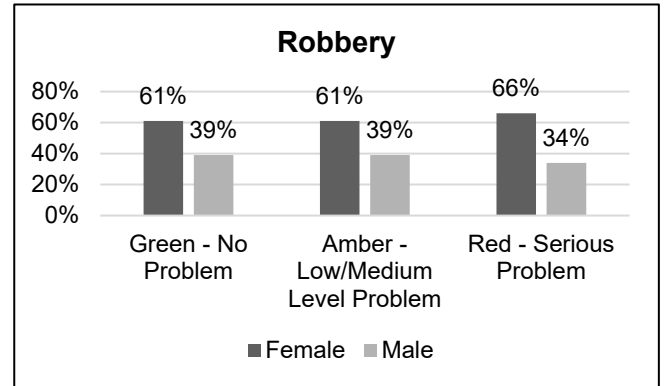
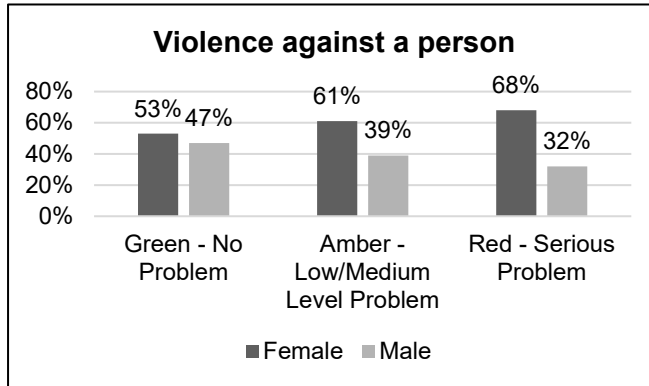
Statement	Green - No Problem	Amber - Low/Medium Level Problem	Red - Serious Problem	Overall
Violence against a person	28 15.30%	71 38.80%	84 45.90%	183 100.00%
Robbery	23 12.64%	96 52.75%	63 34.62%	182 100.00%
Use of a weapon	37 20.79%	69 38.76%	72 40.45%	178 100.00%
Domestic abuse	29 16.20%	76 42.46%	74 41.34%	179 100.00%
Sexual offences	37 21.14%	90 51.43%	48 27.43%	175 100.00%
Violence against women and girls (VAWG)	33 19.30%	83 48.54%	55 32.16%	171 100.00%
Modern day slavery	63 36.84%	84 49.12%	24 14.04%	171 100.00%
Child criminal/sexual exploitation	54 31.58%	66 38.60%	51 29.82%	171 100.00%
County lines	32 18.18%	56 31.82%	88 50.00%	176 100.00%
Organised crime groups (OCGs)	40 22.60%	74 41.81%	63 35.59%	177 100.00%

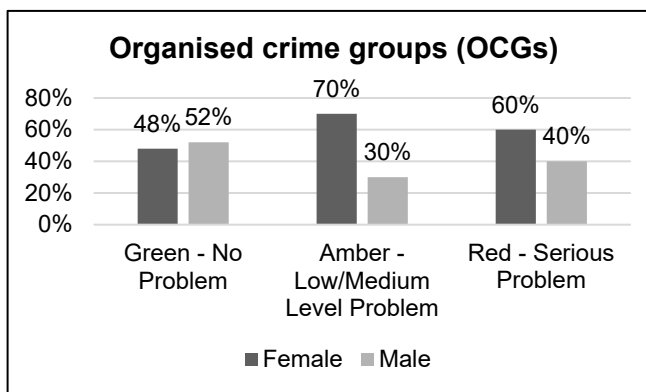
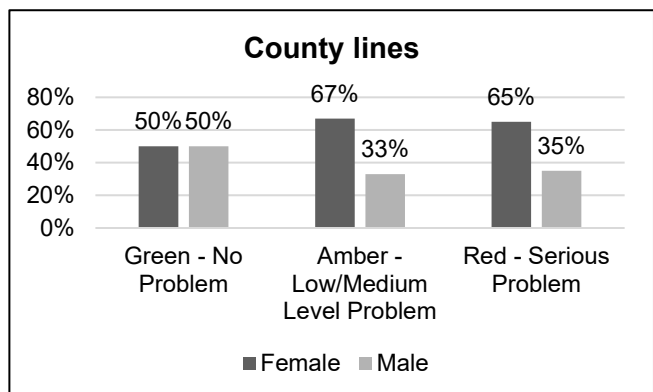
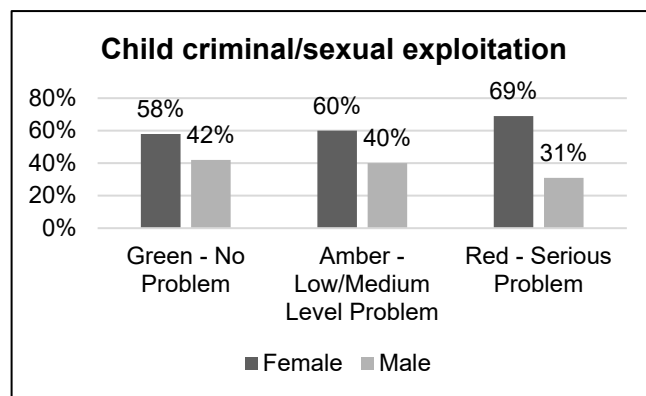
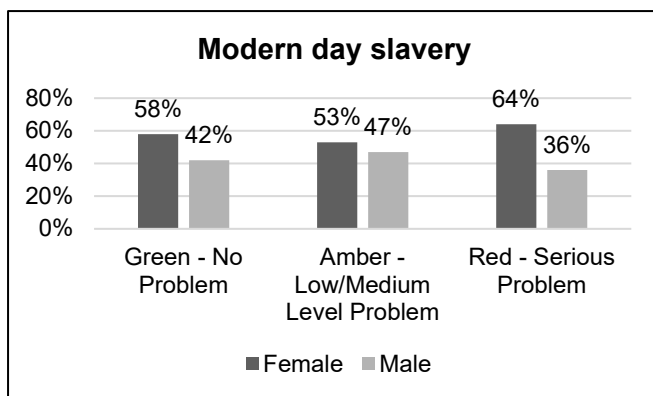
Ranking these issues, violence against women and girls is the 8th highest concern amongst residents out of ten.

Given that 60% of respondents identified as female, and VAWG encompasses other crime types which were ranked higher, either women believe these other crimes are experienced mostly by male victims (including domestic abuse and sexual offences – which traditionally have a higher proportion of female victims). Or they do not understand what

the term 'violence against women and girls' means and further awareness raising / rewording of the question is required.

Female / Male





Percentage Split

Statement		Green - No Problem	Amber - Low/Medium Level Problem	Red - Serious Problem
Violence against a person	Female	57% (10)	65% (25)	66% (39)
	Male	43% (9)	35% (16)	34% (18)
Violence against women and girls (VAWG)	Female	57% (13)	65% (36)	66% (21)
	Male	43% (10)	35% (190)	34% (11)
Use of a weapon	Female	62% (13)	57% (27)	69% (33)
	Male	38% (8)	43% (20)	31% (15)

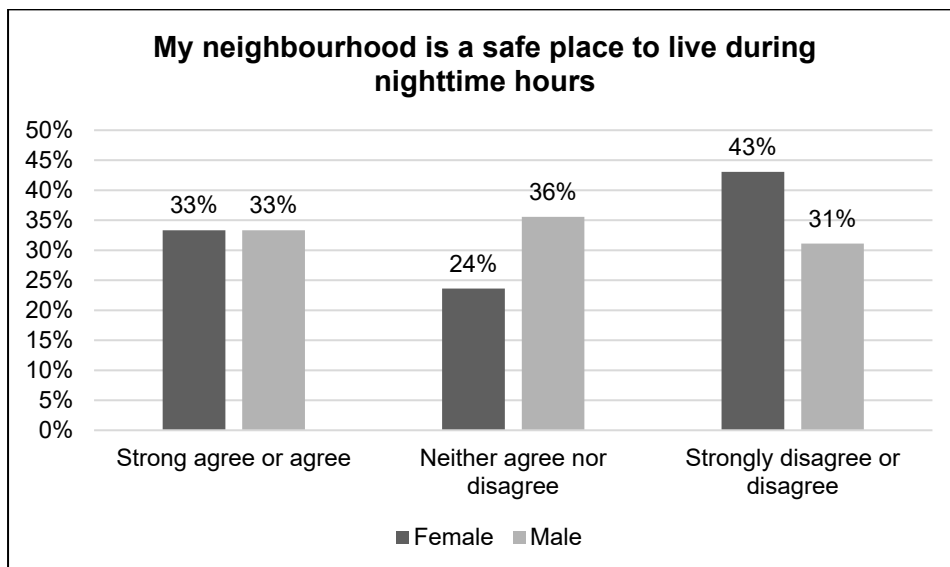
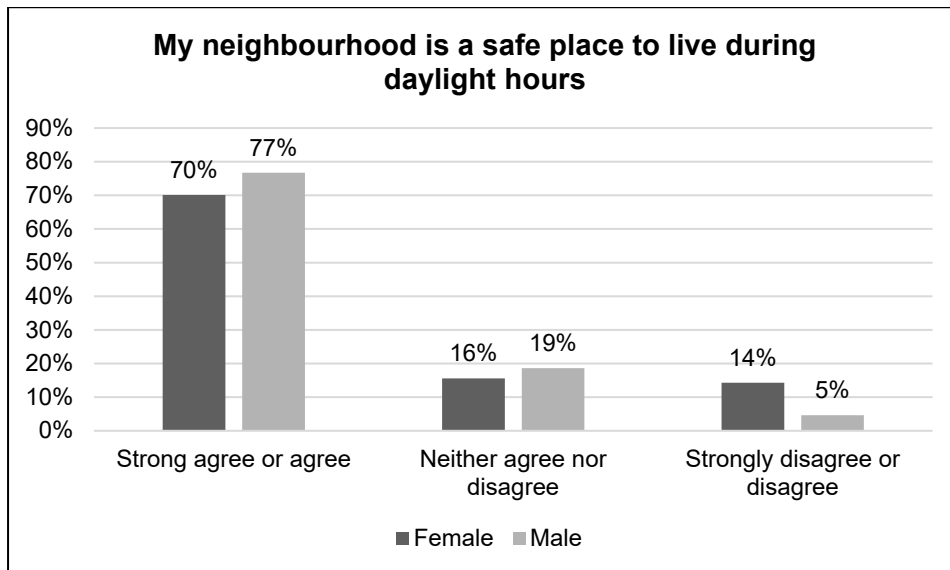
Q5 Please rate how far you agree or disagree with the following statements:

- My neighbourhood is a safe place to live during daylight hours
- My neighbourhood is a safe place to live during night-time hours

Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	Overall
My neighbourhood is a safe place to live during daylight hours	38	94	30	14	5	0	181
	20.99%	51.93%	16.57%	7.73%	2.76%	0.00%	100.00%
My neighbourhood is a safe place to	19	44	47	42	22	4	178
	10.67%	24.72%	26.40%	23.60%	12.36%	2.25%	100.00%

live during night-time hours							
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Female / Male



Interestingly, 33% of males and 33% of females agree that their neighbourhood is a safe place to live during night time hours. However a greater proportion of females (43%) than males (31%) feel that their neighbourhood is not a safe place to live during night time hours.

My neighbourhood is a safe place to live during daylight hours

Strongly agree or agree

14 responders said they feel safe in their neighbourhood because they live in a good community where neighbours look out for each other. Two responders said they live in villages out of town while one said Scartho Top feels safe and separated from the wider community, and Humberston too. One responder said they live in an affluent area with a low rate of social housing. Four responders said environmental factors like living in a cul-de-sac, living in busy areas and CCTV helps make them feel safer in their neighbourhood, but one said it depends on the size of your neighbourhood.

Two responders said they feel safe but drug dealers hanging around their neighbourhood can be unnerving, with one other responder saying they also feel safe but live close to a hotspot of serious violence. Two responders said other people can be problematic in their neighbourhood, for example an illegal motorbike racing down their street.

Neither agree nor disagree or not sure

One responder said they are unaware of crime in their neighbourhood, while one said they don't think anywhere is safe anymore. Two responders said it depends on the area and estates, and that their neighbourhood is mostly safe but there is open drug dealing in some places.

Strongly disagree or disagree

Five responders cited gangs and drug dealing being a problem in their neighbourhood. While two noted anti-social behaviour such as intimidating teenagers and shoplifting. One said anti-social behaviour in Nunsthorpe is out of control. Three responders cited robberies, including "car robberies", knife crime and assaults as being an issue in their neighbourhood.

My neighbourhood is a safe place to live during night-time hours

Strongly agree or agree

Seven responders said they live in a good community, with initiatives like Neighbourhood Watch and friendly neighbours which contribute to them feeling safe. Three responders said they live in villages, while one noted Immingham as a place which is community oriented with hardly any violent crime, while one cited Scartho Top being separate from the wider community. One responder said they live on a private gated estate while one noted they live on a main road where the street lighting is far too bright. Three responders said they never worry about leaving the house or which route to take walking.

Two responders said they use the likes of CCTV, dogs and ensuring doors are locked to feel safe. One responder said they live in a quiet community but nearby fields are poorly lit for dog walkers.

Neither agree nor disagree or not sure

Three responders noted it depends on the location of their neighbourhood for safety e.g. certain areas feel unsafe like People's Park. One responder cited that 'undesirable' people are attracted to some run-down areas. Two other responders said drug dealing nearby and unprovoked attacks happen nearby.

Strongly disagree or disagree

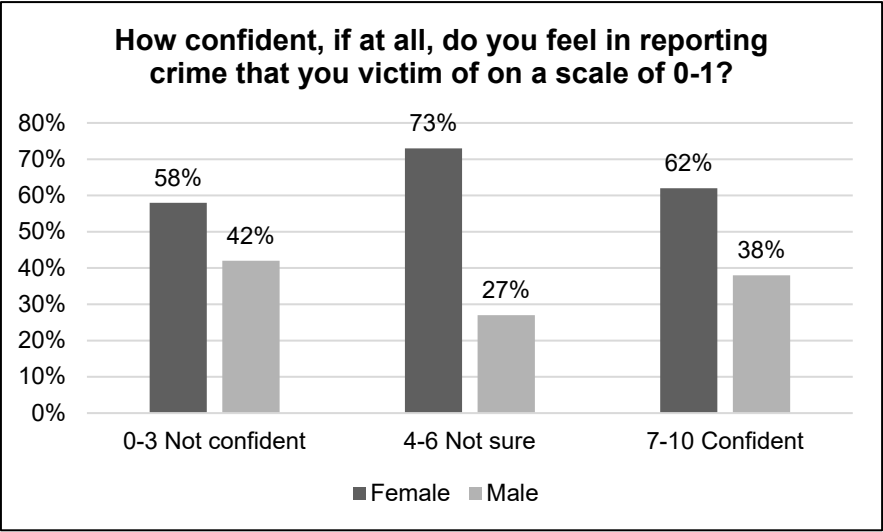
Five responders said it depends on the location to understand safety at night, with nighttime attracting anti-social behaviour. They cited the Town Centre, the High Street in Cleethorpes and local pubs as hotspots for this. Seven responded cited an array of motor vehicles being a cause for feeling unsafe in their neighbourhood, including: illegal or off-road motorbikes, reckless driving, car theft, boy racers, drug dealing by children on mopeds and bikes and electric scooters near Country Park. Nine responders noted groups of teenagers being verbally abusive and intimidating at night time with a lack of police presence. Grant Thorold Park was noted as a hotspot for this. Three responders mentioned drug dealing and drug-related offences, especially dealing and deliveries as a cause for unsafety.

10 respondents cited burglaries and robberies as a cause for concern in their neighbourhood. Local shops and houses have been targeted for break ins. One responder said the elderly are seen as easy targets in this case. 22 responders cited an array of anti-social behaviour as a cause for unsafety in their neighbourhood. This spans from 'undesirable' people suffering from homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, to revellers drinking and acting unsociably, to young people causing trouble, fly tipping in alleyways, cannabis being smoked, 'foreign' neighbours, littering, criminal damage to properties, shouting and arguing.

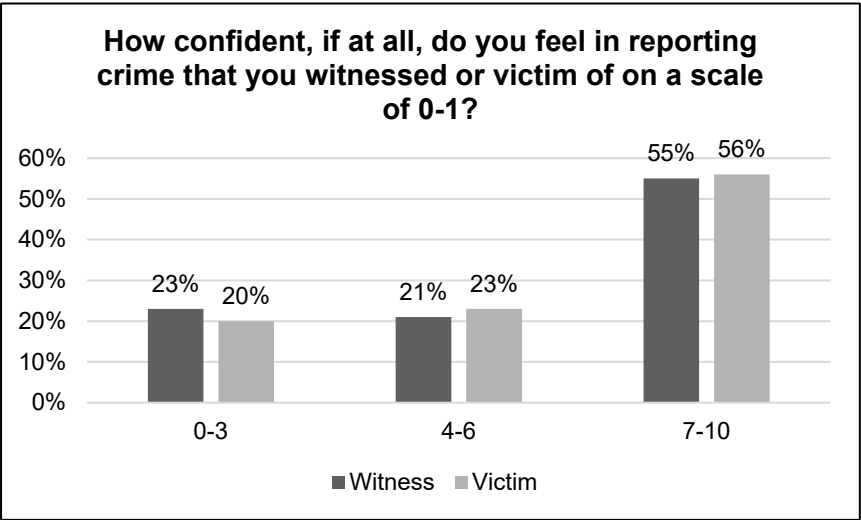
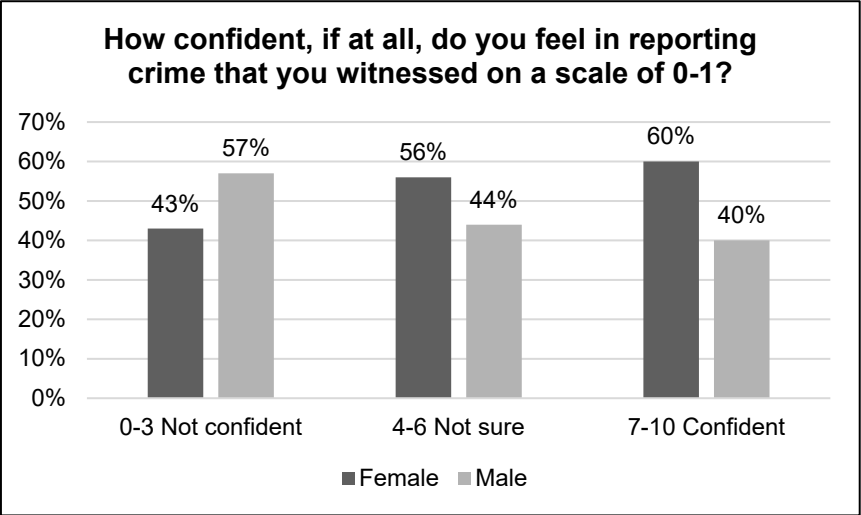
Q6 How confident, if at all, do you feel in reporting crime that you witnessed or were a victim of?

On a scale of 0-10. With 0 being not at all confident and 10 being very confident.

Statement	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Overall
Witness	13	6	12	11	2	28	8	19	15	8	58	180
	7.22 %	3.33 %	6.67 %	6.11 %	1.11 %	15.5 6%	4.44 %	10.5 6%	8.33 %	4.44 %	32.2 2%	100.00 %
Victim	16	4	7	8	4	26	11	11	16	10	61	174
	9.20 %	2.30 %	4.02 %	4.60 %	2.30 %	14.9 4%	6.32 %	6.32 %	9.20 %	5.75 %	35.0 6%	100.00 %



Female / Male



Witness of a crime

13 responders said they felt confident reporting a crime, with 7 of these stating the worry of slow police responses to the reporting and it not being listened to adequately. One responder said they would feel justice has been done, to therefore understand the different levels of crime after reporting a crime. Five responders noted a lack of police resourcing being a problem when considering reporting witnessing a crime; citing the need to have more patrol police cars, CCTV and visible police presence, where they also acknowledged the police being overstretched and overwhelmed in their work.

12 responders said they worry about the possible repercussions of reporting witnessing a crime, such as when needing to appear in court as a witness, or in the case of putting the victim in more harm's way. From this, two responders said they only report anonymously e.g. via crime stoppers. 16 responders noted a lack of police follow up when concerning reporting being a witness to a crime, where a slow or no response has been received due to the reporting not being taken seriously or similarly to above, police being overstretched with resources.

4 responders said it depends on the severity of the crime, or the person committing the crime, as to whether it would be reported or not. 2 of these responders said it is difficult to understand whether it should be reported or not e.g. being unclear on if certain types of abuse is reportable.

Victim of a crime

4 responders said they would feel fairly confident or confident in reporting being a victim to a crime. 11 responders said police resourcing and staffing is an issue, with one responder saying crimes need to be investigated properly, with another responder requesting structured neighbourhood policing being brought back into place. 15 responders cited a lack of, or slow follow up from police when wanting to report being victim to a crime, with 3 of these responders saying they will be taken as a joke when reporting.

3 responders said they felt a lack of confidence when reporting being a victim of a crime to the police due to a previous negative incident where the responders have cited: a lack of care in relation to well-being post reporting, no police call backs after reporting and a general lack of care. 14 responders cited a fear of possible, harmful repercussions after reporting being victim of a crime, where one noted they would need reassurance of a conviction and effective safeguarding measures and one noted they only report anonymously because of this. 2 responders said it depends on the severity/nature of the crime, for instance whether they are in a safe place or on the street when the incident occurs.

Q7 What, if anything, could we do to make people feel safer? Please tell us about what this is and how it would help:

Theme	Count (n)	Summary
Police presence	83	More police presence on streets and in cars; day and night
Environment	19	CCTV; better street lighting; block off alleyways; enforce parking rules; place murals on boarded up shops
Education	10	Regular drop-ins well advertised; open dialogue; educational workshops on certain types of crime e.g.

		burglary; discuss openly in the workplace; more positive news stories;
Utilise neighbourhood initiatives	4	Better use of My Community Alert; support neighbourhood watch groups; crimestoppers
Funding	2	Increase funding for anti-crime initiatives; more funding generally
Total	118	

Demographic Questions

Q1 What is your age?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Under 18	0	0.00
18-24	6	4.80
25-34	8	6.40
35-49	42	33.60
50-64	38	30.40
65-79	23	18.40
80+	4	3.20
I prefer not to say	4	3.20
Total	125	100

Q2 Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Woman	76	60.32
Man	45	35.71
Non-binary	1	0.79
I prefer not to say	4	3.17
In another way	0	0.00
Total	126	100

Q3 Have you gone through any part of a process to change from the sex you were described as at birth to the gender you identify with or intend to?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Yes	0	0.00
No	109	93.16
I prefer not to say	8	6.84
Total	117	100

Q4 Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Straight	111	90.24
Lesbian	0	0.00
Bisexual	2	1.63
Gay	0	0.00
I prefer not to say	8	6.50
In another way	2	1.63
Total	123	100

Q5 What is your relationship status?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Single	14	20.00
Married	25	35.71
Civil Partnership	0	0.00
In a relationship (living together)	10	14.29
In a relationship (not living together)	7	10.00
Widowed	2	2.86
Divorced	4	5.71
I prefer not to say	5	7.14
Total	70	100

Q6 Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
No disability	81	50.63
Physical impairment such as difficulty moving your arms or mobility issues	19	11.88
Wheelchair user	2	1.25
Sensory impairment such as being blind or having a visual impairment	6	3.75
Sensory impairment such as being deaf or having a hearing impairment	8	5.00
Mental health condition such as depression, dementia or schizophrenia	12	7.50
Long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease or epilepsy	11	6.88
Learning disability or difficulty (such as Down's syndrome or dyslexia) or cognitive impairment (such as autistic spectrum disorder)	5	3.13
I prefer not to say	8	5.00
Other (please specify)	8	5.00
Total	160	100

Q7 What is your religion or belief?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Christian	58	47.54
Muslim	0	0.00
Buddhist	0	0.00
Sikh	1	0.82
Jewish	0	0.00
Hindu	0	0.00
No religion	39	31.97
I prefer not to say	12	9.84
Other religion - please say	12	9.84
Total	122	100

Q8 Which option best describes your ethnicity?

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	115	94.26
White - Irish	1	0.82
White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0	0.00
White - Any other White background	2	1.64

White - European	0	0.00
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	0	0.00
Mixed - White and Black African	0	0.00
Mixed - White and Asian	0	0.00
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	0	0.00
Mixed - Asian or Asian British-Indian	1	0.82
Asian or Asian British - Pakistani	0	0.00
Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi	0	0.00
Asian or Asian British - Chinese	0	0.00
Asian or Asian British - And other Asian background	0	0.00
Black or Black British - Caribbean	0	0.00
Black or Black British - African	0	0.00
Black or Black British - Any other Black background	0	0.00
Arab	0	0.00
I prefer not to say	3	2.46
Any other ethnic group	0	0.00
Total	122	100

Q9 Do you have any experiences where your interaction with our services have been positively or negatively affected because of your protected characteristics.

Statement	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Yes	4	4.60
No	75	86.21
Not sure	8	9.20
Total	87	00

Q10 Ward

Statement	Count (n)
Park	11
Humberston and New Waltham	11
Immingham	9
Sidney Sussex	9
Yarborough	9
East Marsh	9
Haverstoe	9
Heneage	7
West Marsh	7
Croft Baker	7
Wolds	7
South	5
Scarho	5
Out of area	4
Freshney	2
Waltham	2
Total	113