**Serious Violence Survey – Young People**

Responses = 880

**Introduction**

In September 2023 young people in North East Lincolnshire were asked to share their views on how young people feel safe in the local area, in public spaces, at school or travelling. To better understand where young people feel safer, what time of day they feel less safe and concerns around weapons.

There has been 2,608 views of the survey, resulting in 880 responses, which is made up of 676 complete responses and 204 partial submissions.

**Methodology**

The online 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. It was also promoted at numerous venues where young people attended to aid the number of responses: Grimsby Institute, The Hope Hack and the Big Conversation Event.

**Key Findings**

72% of respondents filled the survey in by themselves, followed by 14% with a teacher and 1% with a parent.

Respondents felt safest in daylight on the street where they live and in school, and most unsafe in the town centre and on public transport. Respondents felt safest after dark on the street where they live and in school, and most unsafe in parks and open spaces and in the town centre.

Speaking on the phone as you walk and arranging to walk with someone you know were the most popular method respondents said they do to feel safer in the last 12 months.

What contributes to respondents feeling safe more generally was not being alone, being in a well-lit or populated area and having/using mobile phones.

70% (511) respondents said they know where to go for help if they feel unsafe, while 12% (88) said they don’t and 18% (133) didn’t know.

15% (105) of respondents said themselves or someone they know has carried a weapon. Within this, some weapons mentioned included knives household items and guns.

Respondents think young people choose to carry a weapon because of: safety and fear, protection and self-defence, social pressures or just to be violent. Respondents think young people get weapons from places such as: the home, immediate family, shops, via illegal methods, friends or online.

8% (56) of respondents have been victim of an assault without a weapon, whereas 21% (137) have witnessed assault without a weapon. 8% (5) of respondents have been victim of a sexual offence.

31% (312) of respondents said if they were to witness an incident of threatening or inappropriate behaviour they would be most likely to call the police, followed by alerting someone else who could intervene (27%, 18). Whereas 13% (89) didn’t know what they would most likely do.

378 of respondents acknowledge schools and colleges as a safe space, closely followed by 368 acknowledging police stations are a safe space. Only 48 of respondents were aware of the initiative Ask for Haven, and 131 Ask for Angela.

**Survey Questions**

**Q1 Who are you filling this in with?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Person | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| No one | 565 | 72.72 |
| Teacher | 106 | 13.64 |
| Other | 69 | 8.88 |
| My Youth Offending Service Worker | 17 | 2.19 |
| My parent | 10 | 1.29 |
| My sibling | 7 | 0.90 |
| My grandparent | 2 | 0.26 |
| Social Worker | 1 | 0.13 |
| Total | **777** | **100** |

**Female / Male**

**Q2 Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel when you are on your own, during daylight hours, in each of the locations:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Very safe | Fairly safe | Not really safe | Not safe at all | No opinion | Overall |
| On the street where you live | 351 | 326 | 71 | 12 | 14 | 774 |
|  | 45.35% | 42.12% | 9.17% | 1.55% | 1.81% | 100.00% |
| Parks and open spaces | 137 | 393 | 166 | 56 | 19 | 771 |
|  | 17.77% | 50.97% | 21.53% | 7.26% | 2.46% | 100.00% |
| Walking home from school | 229 | 382 | 86 | 22 | 44 | 763 |
|  | 30.01% | 50.07% | 11.27% | 2.88% | 5.77% | 100.00% |
| In school | 362 | 294 | 59 | 27 | 27 | 769 |
|  | 47.07% | 38.23% | 7.67% | 3.51% | 3.51% | 100.00% |
| In the town centre | 149 | 331 | 191 | 67 | 26 | 764 |
|  | 19.50% | 43.32% | 25.00% | 8.77% | 3.40% | 100.00% |
| On public transport | 149 | 299 | 188 | 63 | 58 | 757 |
|  | 19.68% | 39.50% | 24.83% | 8.32% | 7.66% | 100.00% |

**Female / Male**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Very safe | Fairly safe | Not really safe | Not safe at all | No opinion | Overall |
| Female | 28 | 89 | 77 | 29 | 16 | 239 |
|  | 12% | 37% | 32% | 12% | 7% | 100% |
| Male | 62 | 92 | 29 | 10 | 18 | 211 |
|  | 29% | 44% | 14% | 5% | 8.5% | 100% |

**On public transport**

|  |
| --- |
| Notably, females feel less safe on public transport than males both in the daytime and after dark. In the daytime, females feel safe in parks and open spaces and in the town centre but after dark they feel less safe than males.Otherwise, responses for feelings of safety on the street where you live, at school, and walking home from school are consistent across males and females. |

**Q3 Pease rate how safe or unsafe you feel when you are on your own, after dark, in each of these locations:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Very safe | Fairly safe | Not really safe | Not safe at all | No opinion | Overall |
| On the street where you live | 220 | 313 | 138 | 84 | 16 | 771 |
|  | 28.53% | 40.60% | 17.90% | 10.89% | 2.08% | 100.00% |
| Parks and open spaces | 89 | 191 | 234 | 226 | 27 | 767 |
|  | 11.60% | 24.90% | 30.51% | 29.47% | 3.52% | 100.00% |
| Walking home from school | 133 | 279 | 204 | 108 | 42 | 766 |
|  | 17.36% | 36.42% | 26.63% | 14.10% | 5.48% | 100.00% |
| In school | 294 | 285 | 80 | 43 | 56 | 758 |
|  | 38.79% | 37.60% | 10.55% | 5.67% | 7.39% | 100.00% |
| In the town centre | 95 | 199 | 216 | 225 | 23 | 758 |
|  | 12.53% | 26.25% | 28.50% | 29.68% | 3.03% | 100.00% |
| On public transport | 109 | 247 | 193 | 155 | 55 | 759 |
|  | 14.36% | 32.54% | 25.43% | 20.42% | 7.25% | 100.00% |

**Female / Male**

**Q4 Over the last 12 months, have you taken any of these steps listed below in order to feel safer?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Never  | Rarely | Sometimes | Often | Always | Overall |
| Spoken on your phone as you walk | 131 | 125 | 191 | 173 | 122 | 742 |
|  | 17.65% | 16.85% | 25.74% | 23.32% | 16.44% | 100.00% |
| Kept to areas covered by CCTV | 265 | 174 | 183 | 74 | 34 | 730 |
|  | 36.30% | 23.84% | 25.07% | 10.14% | 4.66% | 100.00% |
| Carried a weapon | 658 | 36 | 14 | 12 | 14 | 734 |
|  | 89.65% | 4.90% | 1.91% | 1.63% | 1.91% | 100.00% |
| Carried a personal alarm | 626 | 36 | 37 | 14 | 20 | 733 |
|  | 85.40% | 4.91% | 5.05% | 1.91% | 2.73% | 100.00% |
| Arranged a lift with someone you know | 195 | 112 | 193 | 174 | 63 | 737 |
|  | 26.46% | 15.20% | 26.19% | 23.61% | 8.55% | 100.00% |
| Avoided particular areas of specific venues | 178 | 129 | 184 | 152 | 84 | 727 |
|  | 24.48% | 17.74% | 25.31% | 20.91% | 11.55% | 100.00% |
| Only gone out during daylight hours | 146 | 125 | 180 | 179 | 97 | 727 |
|  | 20.08% | 17.19% | 24.76% | 24.62% | 13.34% | 100.00% |
| Used a personal safety app, (e.g. Hollie Guard) | 571 | 49 | 40 | 30 | 39 | 729 |
|  | 78.33% | 6.72% | 5.49% | 4.12% | 5.35% | 100.00% |
| Kept to well-lit areas | 136 | 105 | 185 | 184 | 117 | 727 |
|  | 18.71% | 14.44% | 25.45% | 25.31% | 16.09% | 100.00% |
| Taken a self-defence class | 543 | 54 | 50 | 29 | 48 | 724 |
|  | 75.00% | 7.46% | 6.91% | 4.01% | 6.63% | 100.00% |
| Arranged to walk with someone you know | 107 | 98 | 204 | 201 | 122 | 732 |
|  | 14.62% | 13.39% | 27.87% | 27.46% | 16.67% | 100.00% |
| Kept to busier areas or routes  | 157 | 136 | 189 | 162 | 83 | 727 |
|  | 21.60% | 18.71% | 26.00% | 22.28% | 11.42% | 100.00% |
| Other | 300 | 26 | 48 | 18 | 39 | 431 |
|  | 69.61% | 6.03% | 11.14% | 4.18% | 9.05% | 100.00% |

‘Other’ included:

* Going to familiar places
* Call someone on the phone or pretend to be on the phone
* Seeing police around
* Walk on main roads
* Use own transport instead of walking
* Carry a torch

**Female / Male**

|  |
| --- |
| Spoken on the phone as you walk literally goes in opposite directions if you plot a trend line. \*\*\*Add some more text in here when graphs are simplified.\*\*\* |

**Q5 What contributes to you feeling safe?**

The total number of themes identified in this question was 362 and the total number of respondents was 435.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Count (n) |
| Not being alone | 184 |
| Being in a well lit and populated area | 86 |
| Having/using my phone | 31 |
| Staying at home | 19 |
| Confidence or knowledge of the area | 17 |
| The Police | 11 |
| CCTV | 9 |
| Being tracked | 9 |
| Weapons | 3 |
| Biking | 2 |
| Total | 362 |

**Female / Male**

|  |
| --- |
| Male and female responses here are very similar. The same things contribute to them feeling safe so any investment in VAWG initiatives / measures will also benefit general feelings of personal safety. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Summary |
| Not being alone | Walking with friends, family or a big group; getting picked up by a parent; walking family dog;  |
| Being in a well lit and populated area | Staying in busy areas; street lights; not going into town after dark |
| Having/using my phone | Calling people; always having phone on me; using phone as a torch |
| Staying at home | Being at home rather than going out; with locked doors |
| Confidence or knowledge of the area | Self-confidence; knowing there is people I can turn to; self-defence skills; being sensible; knowing the area |
| The Police | Police presence in community; removing homeless people from outside McDonalds;  |
| CCTV | CCTV at parks and in well-lit areas |
| Being tracked | My parents knowing where I am; having location switched on;  |
| Weapons | Keys in knuckles; self-defence; weapons |
| Biking | Biking as it is quicker to get out of an unsafe situation |

**Q6 Would you know where to go for help if you feel unsafe?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Response | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes | 511 | 69.91 |
| No | 88 | 12.02 |
| I don’t know | 133 | 18.17 |
| Total | 732 | 100 |

**Woman / Man**

The total number of themes identified in this question was 481 and the total number of respondents was 357.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Count (n) |
| Parent or a responsible adult | 177 |
| Police | 82 |
| Home | 80 |
| Teacher, school or college | 55 |
| Friend | 47 |
| Shop | 27 |
| Populated area | 12 |
| Community centre | 1 |
| Total | 481 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Summary |
| Parent or a responsible adult | Mum or dad; a trusted adult; carer; grandparent; cousin; auntie  |
| Home | Go home |
| The Police | 999; police station;  |
| Friend  | Go to friends house; call friend |
| Teacher, school or college | Success coach at college; pastoral teacher; school |
| Shop | Nearby shop |
| Populated area | Nearest public place; crowds; busy area |
| Community centre | Trin |

**Q7 Have you or anyone you know ever carried a weapon?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Response | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| No | 516 | 73.09 |
| Yes | 105 | 14.87 |
| I prefer not to say | 85 | 12.04 |
| Total | 706 | 100 |

**Female / Male**

The total number of themes identified in this question was 78 and the total number of respondents was 79.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Count (n) |
| Knives | 37 |
| Household items | 16 |
| Guns | 10 |
| Items for protection | 6 |
| Bats | 5 |
| Natural items | 4 |
| Total | 78 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Summary |
| Knives | Pocket knife; kitchen knife; pen knife; army knife |
| Guns | Pistol; shotgun; BB gun; pellet gun |
| Bats | Baseball bats with nails; metal bat |
| Household items | Keys; nail file; screwdriver; a claw clip; glass; lighter; hair spray; razor blade  |
| Items for protection | Kabuton keychain; criminal stain spray; pepper spray; self-defence stick |
| Natural items | Stones; rocks; sticks; bow and arrow |

**Q8 Why do you think people choose to carry a weapon?**

The total number of themes identified in this question was 611 and the total number of respondents was 611.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Count (n) |
| Protection or self-defence | 272 |
| Safety and fear | 255 |
| To be violent | 64 |
| Social pressures | 20 |
| Total | 611 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Summary |
| Safety and fear | If they feel endangered; to make themselves feel safe; |
| Protection or self-defence | For protection against attack |
| Social pressures | Social expectations; to look cool and tough; as an initiation; peer pressure |
| To be violent | To hurt people and cause harm; to rob people; to kill dangerous animals; revenge; to kill  |

**Q9 Where do you think young people get a weapon?**

The total number of themes identified in this question was 529 and the total number of respondents was 581.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Count (n) |
| Home or immediate family | 273 |
| Shops | 72 |
| Illegal methods | 44 |
| Someone older | 43 |
| Friends | 39 |
| Online | 35 |
| Off the street | 14 |
| Specific locations | 5 |
| Homemade | 4 |
| Total | 529 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme | Summary |
| Home or immediate family | Parents; siblings; the kitchen draw |
| Shops | Corner shops; gun shop; weapon shop |
| Illegal methods | Black market; dealers; drug dealers; people selling |
| Someone older | Older people; older friends who have influenced them |
| Friends | People they know |
| Online | Amazon; self-defence websites; chat groups; online shops |
| Off the street | Off the floor; people on the streets; alleyways |
| Specific locations | Kennedy Local, Dave’s Place, 18 Hume Brae, Freeman Street |
| Homemade | Make out of other items e.g. sharpening a ruler |

**Q10 Have you personally been a victim of, or witnessed any of the crimes listed below, within the last 12 months?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Victim | Witnessed | Neither | Overall |
| Assault with a weapon | 21 | 65 | 588 | 674 |
|  | 3.12% | 9.64% | 87.24% | 100.00% |
| *Assault without a weapon* | *56* | *137* | *474* | *667* |
|  | 8.40% | 20.54% | 71.06% | 100.00% |
| Robbery  | 30 | 73 | 565 | 668 |
|  | 4.49% | 10.93% | 84.58% | 100.00% |
| Drink spiking | 9 | 31 | 622 | 662 |
|  | 1.36% | 4.68% | 93.96% | 100.00% |
| Sexual offence | 50 | 33 | 577 | 660 |
|  | 7.58% | 5.00% | 87.42% | 100.00% |

**Female / Male**

**Q11 If you were to witness an incident of threatening or inappropriate behaviour, which of the following would you be most likely to do?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| Report it to the Police | 213 | 31.89 |
| Alert someone else who could intervene | 180 | 26.95 |
| Don’t know | 89 | 13.32 |
| Confide in a friend or family member | 50 | 7.49 |
| Confide in a trusted adult | 43 | 6.44 |
| Confront the person involved | 39 | 5.84 |
| Take no action | 36 | 5.39 |
| Other | 18 | 2.69 |
| Total | **668** | **100** |

‘Other’ included:

* Alert and report to the police [2]
* If it is a fight where both want to fight, wait till it finishes
* All of the above
* Not snitch
* Punch them
* Warn the person they will tell someone
* Depends on the severity of the situation
* Do nothing because they wouldn’t want it to come onto them
* Stay away from them
* Tell parents and call the police
* Help them

**Q12 Are you aware of any of the initiatives or places of safety listed below:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| Schools/Colleges as a safe space | 378 | 24.45 |
| Police Stations as a safe space | 368 | 23.80 |
| Hospitals as a safe space | 273 | 17.66 |
| Youth Centre/Community Centres as a safe space | 179 | 11.58 |
| Personal Safety Apps e.g. Hollie Guard, Life 360 | 169 | 10.93 |
| Ask for Angela | 131 | 8.47 |
| Ask for Haven | 48 | 3.10 |
| Total | 1546 | 100 |

**Female / Male**

|  |
| --- |
| Two and a half times more females than males are aware of Ask for Angela initiative. As this initiative was originally targeted at females it is reaching the right audience. However, there were 204 full submissions and 880 partial submissions of the survey so numbers are low. Ask for Angela, Ask for Haven (new) and personal safety apps could be promoted more, along with generic places of safety.  |

**Demographic Questions**

**Q1 Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| Woman | 242 | 50.42 |
| Man | 217 | 45.21 |
| Non-binary | 5 | 1.04 |
| I prefer not to say | 12 | 2.50 |
| In another way | 4 | 0.83 |
| Total | **480** | **100** |

**Q2 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 | 20 | 4.26 |
| No | 428 | 91.06 |
| I prefer not to say | 22 | 4.68 |
| Total | **470** | **100** |

**Q3 Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| Straight | 367 | 77.75 |
| Lesbian | 7 | 1.48 |
| Bisexual | 45 | 9.53 |
| Gay | 9 | 1.91 |
| I prefer not to say | 36 | 7.63 |
| In another way | 8 | 1.69 |
| Total | **472** | **100** |

**Q4 What is your relationship status?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| Single | 311 | 65.61 |
| Married | 5 | 1.05 |
| Civil Partnership | 1 | 0.21 |
| In a relationship (living together) | 10 | 2.11 |
| In a relationship (not living together) | 107 | 22.57 |
| Widowed | 2 | 0.42 |
| Divorced | 4 | 0.84 |
| I prefer not to say | 34 | 7.17 |
| Total | **474** | **100** |

**Q5 Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| No disability | 361 | 70.23 |
| Physical impairment such as difficulty moving your arms or mobility issues | 10 | 1.95 |
| Wheelchair user | 3 | 0.58 |
| Sensory impairment such as being blind or having a visual impairment | 6 | 1.17 |
| Sensory impairment such as being deaf or having a hearing impairment | 5 | 0.97 |
| Mental health condition such as depression, dementia or schizophrenia | 38 | 7.39 |
| Long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease or epilepsy | 8 | 1.56 |
| Learning disability or difficulty (such as Down's syndrome or dyslexia) or cognitive impairment (such as autistic spectrum disorder) | 43 | 8.37 |
| I prefer not to say | 26 | 5.06 |
| Other (please specify) | 14 | 2.72 |
| Total | **514** | **100** |

**Q6 What is your religion or belief?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| Christian | 77 | 16.38 |
| Muslim | 9 | 1.91 |
| Buddhist | 0 | 0.00 |
| Sikh | 1 | 0.21 |
| Jewish | 3 | 0.64 |
| Hindu | 0 | 0.00 |
| No religion | 331 | 70.43 |
| I prefer not to say | 31 | 6.60 |
| Other religion - please say | 18 | 3.83 |
| Total | **470** | **100** |

**Q7 Which option best describes your ethnicity?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) | Percentage (%) |
| White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British | 387 | 88.36 |
| White - Irish | 7 | 1.60 |
| White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller | 2 | 0.46 |
| White - Any other White background | 12 | 2.74 |
| White - European | 0 | 0.00 |
| Mixed - White and Black Caribbean | 0 | 0.00 |
| Mixed - White and Black African | 2 | 0.46 |
| Mixed - White and Asian | 7 | 1.60 |
| Mixed - Any other Mixed background | 1 | 0.23 |
| Mixed - Asian or Asian British-Indian | 0 | 0.00 |
| Asian or Asian British - Pakistani | 3 | 0.68 |
| Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi | 1 | 0.23 |
| Asian or Asian British - Chinese | 0 | 0.00 |
| Asian or Asian British - And other Asian background | 2 | 0.46 |
| Black or Black British - Caribbean | 0 | 0.00 |
| Black or Black British - African | 1 | 0.23 |
| Black or Black British - Any other Black background | 0 | 0.00 |
| Arab | 3 | 0.68 |
| I prefer not to say | 7 | 1.60 |
| Any other ethnic group | 3 | 0.68 |
| Total | **438** | **100** |

**Q7 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 | 23 | 4.99 |
| No | 283 | 61.39 |
| Not sure | 155 | 33.62 |
| White - Any other White background | 12 | 2.74 |
| Total | 461 | 00 |

**Q8 Ward**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Statement | Count (n) |
| South | 89 |
| Immingham | 77 |
| Park | 48 |
| Heneage | 20 |
| West Marsh | 17 |
| Freshney | 12 |
| Sidney Sussex | 12 |
| Yarborough | 12 |
| Croft Baker | 11 |
| East Marsh | 6 |
| Out of area | 6 |
| Scartho | 6 |
| Humberston and New Waltham | 3 |
| Wolds | 3 |
| Haverstoe | 2 |
| Total | 324 |