

What does it feel like to be a young person living in Torbay today?

Full
Report

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Executive Summary

Introduction

Healthwatch Torbay was commissioned by the Children's Safeguarding Board to explore the experiences of young people (0-25 years) living in Torbay. To gain an accurate understanding of how young people feel about living in Torbay, we asked them four questions:

- 1. How do you feel about living in Torbay?*
- 2. What is the best thing about living in Torbay?*
- 3. What is the worst thing about living in Torbay?*
- 4. What would improve the way you feel about living in Torbay?*

Methods

Healthwatch Torbay appointed a young person as a project coordinator and developed a working Task Group and young person's group to inform the project planning, design and recruitment. Two main methods were employed to ensure representation:

- 1. Survey led and produced by Healthwatch Torbay**
- 2. Healthwatch Torbay community engagement events**

The findings from **Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's 'Imagine This' consultation** have also been incorporated into this report.

The Healthwatch survey was designed following feedback from the young people's group and pilot event held on 22nd April 2018. At the request of the young people, the survey was purposefully kept short, with no questions asked about gender or ethnicity. The survey was promoted via social media on a weekly basis from April 2018 until mid-September 2018 including via Twitter, the Healthwatch Torbay website, Spotted Torquay and Healthwatch Torbay's Facebook page. Twenty-two engagement events were also held including: eight community events in Torbay with feedback collected through creative means including badge making, colouring, wishing wells, dictaphones and surveys on IT tables; five Torbay primary school events with feedback collected through both small and large group activities; three Torbay senior school events; outreach; and organisational-led events. The responses from Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's 'Imagine This' consultation have also been incorporated.

Results

The opinions and experiences of 1,913 young people were recorded for the purposes of this research. The results are presented in order of contact type: 1. survey responses (1,152), 2. qualitative/creative feedback (229 responses) and 3. the 'Imagine This' Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's report (532 responses).

1. Survey responses

One-thousand-one-hundred-and-fifty-two survey responses were received. Representation was achieved across all surveyed age groups (0-5, 49 responses, 4.30%; 6-11, 293, 25.40%, 12-15, 463, 40.20%, 16-19, 241, 20.90%, 20-25, 101, 8.80%, missing data, 5, 0.40%) and all five Torbay postcode locations (TQ1-TQ5).

How do you feel about living in Torbay?

A third of survey respondents felt “okay” (383 responses, 33.3%) about living in Torbay. A quarter of respondents stated “it’s pretty good” (290 responses, 24.3%). “I hate it” was the least selected option (51 responses, 4.4%). Younger survey respondents tended to select more favourable options.

What’s the best thing about living in Torbay?

Six key themes were identified by the young people in response to the question, ‘What is the best thing about living in Torbay?’ These included: the environment and local setting, (648, 48.3% of all references made); available activities and events (353, 26.3% of all references made); infrastructure (118 8.8% of all references made); family and friends (94, 7.1% of all references made); the community (46, 3.4% of all references made); and weather (24, 1.8% of all references made).

What’s the worst thing about living in Torbay?

Social, or “people” related issues were most frequently described by the young people as the worst thing about living in Torbay (403, 30.7% of all references made). Specifically, issues related to drugs, alcohol and homelessness. Other key themes identified included the environment and setting (276, 21.1% of all references made), specifically litter and levels of plastic in the ocean, a lack of activities suitable and affordable for young people (213, 16.2% of all references made), and inadequate infrastructure including transport, investment and shopping availability (213, 16.2% of all references made).

What could improve your experience of living in Torbay?

Respondents identified a multitude of ways to improve young people’s experience of living in Torbay. Those most frequently discussed related to activities (347, 27.5% of all references made) including having more things to do (185) that are specifically tailored for young people, usable in all weather conditions, and affordable; investing in better infrastructure (226, 17.9% of all references made) including more, or better shops and transport; helping the environment (224, 17.7% of all references made) by reducing the amount of “litter in the sea” (age 16-19), “cleaning the beaches” (age 12-15), “providing more bins” (age 12-15), “recycling more things” (age 12-15), and having “on time bin collections with more regular black bin collections in the summer” (age 20-25) and addressing social related issues (212, 16.8% of all references made) including reducing the amount of drug and alcohol use, homelessness and crime.

2. Community engagement events

Feedback from the community engagement events reflected the themes identified in the Healthwatch Torbay survey. From the feedback received, concerns of safety, crime and an increasing gang culture are clear issues faced by young people living in Torbay on a daily basis. Reporting crime or gang related issues appears problematic for some young responders due to a fear of repercussions and limited police presence/ability to act. Interventions including enhanced police presence and a responsive council designed to improve the safety of young people living in Torbay were identified as desirable solutions to the problems raised.

3. 'Imagine This' Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's report

Echoing many of the themes raised by Healthwatch Torbay's survey and community engagement events, the 'Imagine This' consultation found that 'having fun', 'being safe' and 'being with friends' are most important to young people. Drug use, violence and traffic undermine young people's sense of security and safety. Issues of littering and homelessness were also identified as problematic in Torbay. Young people identified a clear need for more activities and safe places to hang out. A lack of service provision, costs and unreliable transport options currently inhibit activity engagement and participation. Younger respondents tended to rate Torbay more positively than older respondents.

Concerns of organisational responses, or indeed lack of a meaningful response to issues previously raised was a problem frequently described across all three data sources e.g. Healthwatch Torbay's survey, community engagement events and the 'Imagine This' consultation.

Discussion

This report brings together a number of key data sets exploring the experiences of young people living in Torbay into one single report. By doing so, it helps further our understanding of how young people experience living in Torbay by asking a greater number of survey respondents (1913) and younger cohorts of people (0-25 years) than previously achieved. Our findings reflect those of previous projects such as the 'Imagine This' consultation including the acknowledged importance of friends, having more things to do and safety concerns. The report also identifies some further areas of interest including: the importance of the environment and local setting to young people; a desire for more targeted, and affordable activities that can be used in all weathers; and a desire for enhanced police presence to address an increasing gang culture amongst young people.

Young people provided a number of ways to improve their experiences living in Torbay. However, at the heart of these issues was a concern that the desires and experiences of older people and tourists took precedence over those of younger people. Young people repeatedly expressed scepticism that anything would change as a result of their participation. The importance of listening, responding, and addressing the issues raised by young people in a transparent, collaborative, and non-tokenistic way is therefore of paramount importance if the experience of young people living in Torbay is to truly be improved. The ideas and suggestions put forward by the young people in this report should not be discredited or undermined.

Recommendations

The young people have recommended that their own feelings of safety and positivity towards living in Torbay would be greatly improved by:

- Relevant organisations and commissioners working in collaboration with young people to prioritise areas of need and desires outlined in this report.
- Strengthening relationships between young people and local stakeholders, charities and services providing reassurances that their views, opinions and experiences are of equal value to other community members.
- Continuing to evaluate and review young people's experience of living in Torbay as suggested improvements are made.
- Increasing police presence around particular 'hot spots' where young people feel unsafe.
- Improving the awareness and understanding of gang cultures, crime and its implications for young people. This could possibly be achieved through regular police talks in school settings as suggested by the young people's working group.
- Tackling the root causes of drug and alcohol misuse and homelessness.
- Providing more safe places for young people to hang out.
- Developing age appropriate and affordable activities in co-production with local young people that can be used in all weathers, not just activities for tourists or younger children.
- Improving the environment and local area by actively working to reduce the amount of litter and plastic present in Torbay.



Introduction

Set up under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, Healthwatch Torbay is the independent consumer champion for both health and social care services in Torbay, South Devon. Their aim is to help members of the public, including young people, influence local services by sharing their experiences.

As reported by Public Health England, Torbay is one of the most deprived districts in England with around 22% (4,900) of children living in low income families.¹ In relation to child health, 18.7% of children in year 6 (10-11 years old) are also classified as obese, with hospital admission rates for self-harm and alcohol misuse significantly higher than the national average.¹²

Following concerns that the voices of children and young people were not being sufficiently heard,³ Healthwatch Torbay were commissioned by the Torbay Children's Safeguarding Board (TSCB) to engage with children and young people (0-25 years) to find out how it feels to live in Torbay as a young person today. The TSCB has an overarching ambition for children in Torbay to be safer, through; protection from maltreatment, prevention of impairment to health and/or development, ensuring safe and effective care and ensuring a safe environment.

In order to avoid duplication, this report is not a service quality-monitoring process as many of these reports are already readily available. Instead, this report aims to gain a broader understanding of what it feels like to be a young person living in Torbay, and what is needed, or desired, to help ensure general health and wellbeing.

By bringing together previously and newly collected information, it is anticipated that a greater understanding of what can be done to help support the general health and wellbeing of young people in Torbay can be achieved. By understanding the health and social care problems faced by young people, commissioners, Safeguarding Boards and other stakeholder groups can better work together to address potential trends and patterns that currently impact on the quality of young peoples' experience.

To address the research aims, we asked people in Torbay aged 0-25 years four questions:

- 1. How do you feel about living in Torbay?*
- 2. What is the best thing about living in Torbay?*
- 3. What is the worst thing about living in Torbay? And*
- 4. What would improve the way you feel about living in Torbay?*

¹ Public Health England. Torbay Health Profile 2016. In: England PH, ed., 2016:1-4. <http://fingertipsreports.phe.org.uk/health-profiles/2016/e06000027.pdf>

² Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Developing well (5-24 years) an overview of Torbay 2018/20, 2018. <http://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/documents/s50293/JSNA%20Appendix%201.pdf>

³ Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership. Imagine this... what young people think would make Torbay a better place to live and grow up in., 2018:1-16.

Methodology

Healthwatch Torbay appointed a young person as a project coordinator following a standard recruitment process to enable project planning. Representatives of key stakeholders from statutory and voluntary groups were invited to join a task group and an initial meeting was convened where they contributed to a project steering workshop (See Appendix 1). In addition to the key stakeholder task group a young persons' group came together and participated in planning workshops which informed the Project team's planning. They continued to meet periodically throughout the project, contributing to the design of the project, and some have also taken part in some of the events.

A pilot engagement activity was held on 22nd April 2018 at the 'Grinagog' festival in Torquay. The survey was then designed combining the feedback from the Young People's group and the pilot event (See Appendix 2). Interestingly the young people were keen that we kept the survey short so that it could be completed without assistance and that we did not ask about gender or ethnicity.

The information about the survey and the link was promoted via Twitter on a weekly basis from April 2018 until mid-September, and also regularly on the Healthwatch Torbay website, social media group Spotted Torquay, Healthwatch Torbay's Facebook account and a through a media campaign.

The project team constructed a calendar of engagement activities which were rolled out over the summer and early autumn months. As it was necessary to balance the collection of qualitative and quantitative data, activities fell into one of four types: community events; school events; outreach and Organisations' events which gathered responses face to face; through discussion and focus groups and via electronic and paper surveys.

There were 22 Healthwatch Torbay engagement activities that took place. These included:

- Community events such as: Grinagog Festival, Brixham Fun Day, Cockington Fair, Babbacombe Fair, PCF Fair fun day, Paignton childrens' week, Paignton Carnival. Feedback was gathered through creative means which included badge-making, colouring, and a 'wishing well', as well as by the use of dictaphones and using the survey on IT tablets.
- Primary School engagements including: St Marychurch School (Summer Fair), Roselands Primary School (lesson), Hayes school, St Margaret Clithero School, and Galmpton School (surveys).
- Senior school events such as: Torbay Academy (Assemblies) and Paignton Community and Sports Academy (open space event) and Coombe Pafford (survey). Feedback was gathered through both small and large group activities facilitated by schools in conjunction with Healthwatch Torbay.
- South Devon College engagement events such as Freshers' Week and tutor group discussions.

- Some organisations have hosted their own events and applied through the Healthwatch Torbay small grant scheme for support, such as Young Carers' events, and a holiday club supporting families on low incomes called South West Family Values.

Acknowledging the importance of collaborative working, this report incorporates findings from the Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's "Imagine This" consultation (Appendix 6) survey carried out earlier this year.

Some of the Engagement activities and events set up as part of this consultation:



Results

The results section is presented in the following order:

1. Healthwatch Torbay survey responses
2. Healthwatch Torbay community engagement events
3. Summary of findings of the 'Imagine This' Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's report

1. Survey results

The following data relates to the 1,152 respondents to the Healthwatch Torbay survey (See Appendix 2).

Survey respondents

The total number and percentage of surveyed age groups is shown below in Figure 1.

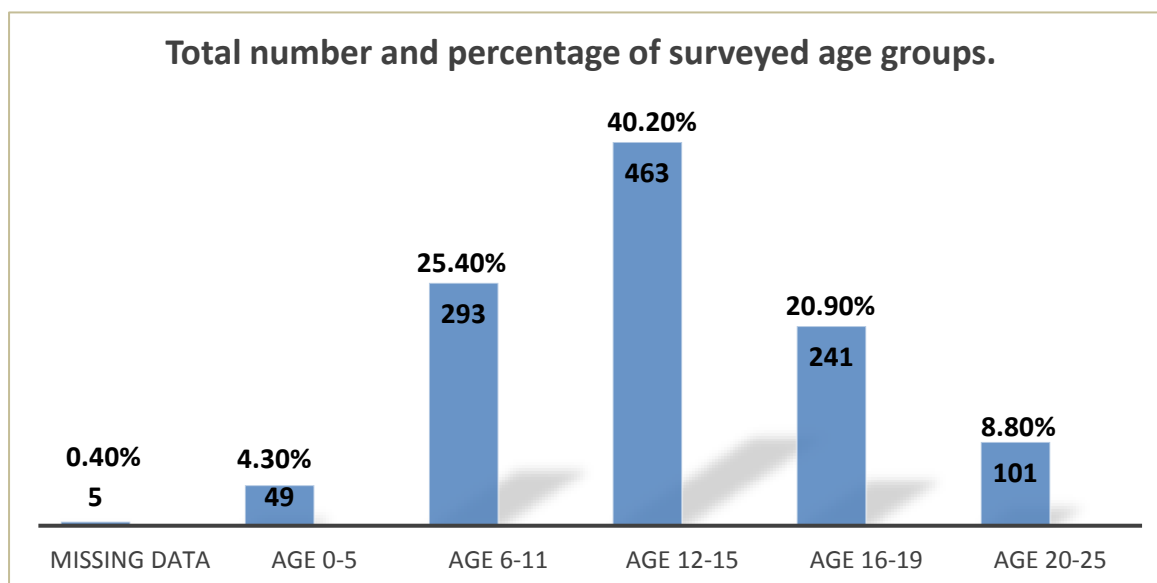


Figure 1 Total number and percentage of surveyed age groups.

We received representation from all five postcode locations in Torbay, as shown overleaf in **Figure 2**: unknown/missing data (165 non-responses, 14.3%); TQ1 (152 responses, 13.2%); TQ2 (293 responses, 25.4%); TQ3 (246 responses, 21.4%); TQ4 (161 responses, 14%); TQ5 (135 responses, 11.7%).

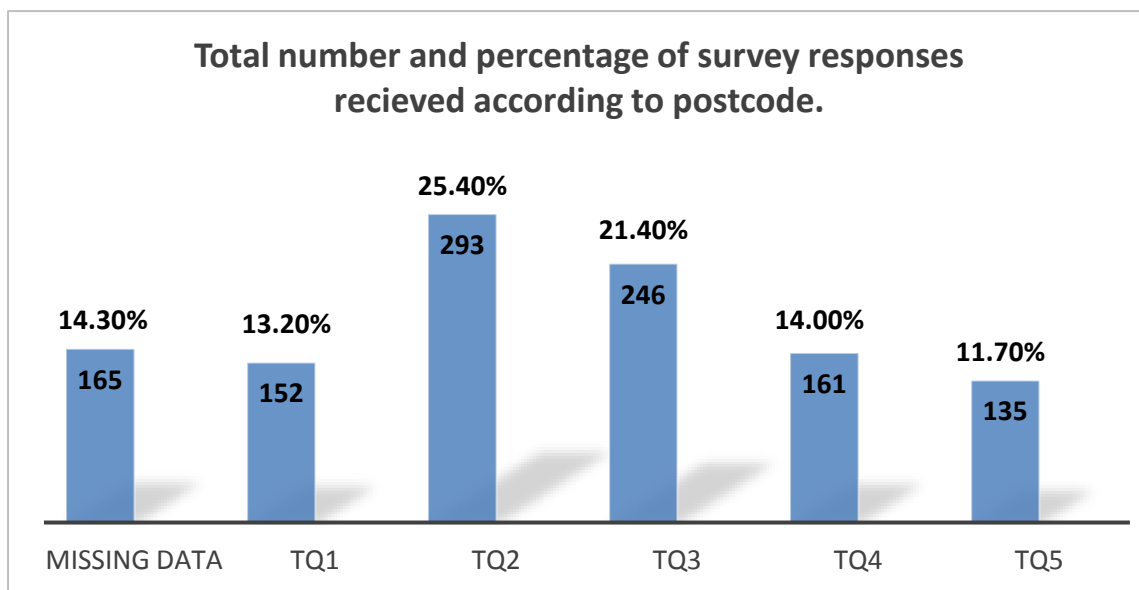


Figure 2 Total number and percentage of survey responses received according to postcode.

The remaining results are presented in order of the four survey questions asked:

Question 1 - How do you feel about living in Torbay?

Question 2 - What is the best thing about living in Torbay?

Question 3 - What is the worst thing about living in Torbay?

Question 4 - What would improve the way you feel about living in Torbay?

Wherever possible, **verbatim** extracts have been used to ensure authenticity and the presence of a young person’s voice throughout.



Question 1 - How do you feel about living in Torbay?

A third of survey respondents felt 'okay' (383 responses, 33.3%) about living in Torbay, with a quarter of respondents also feeling 'pretty good' (280 responses, 24.3%) (Figure 3). 'I hate it' was the least selected option (51 responses, 4.4%) when excluding missing data (25 responses, 2.2%). Younger survey respondents tended to describe Torbay more favourably (Figure 4).

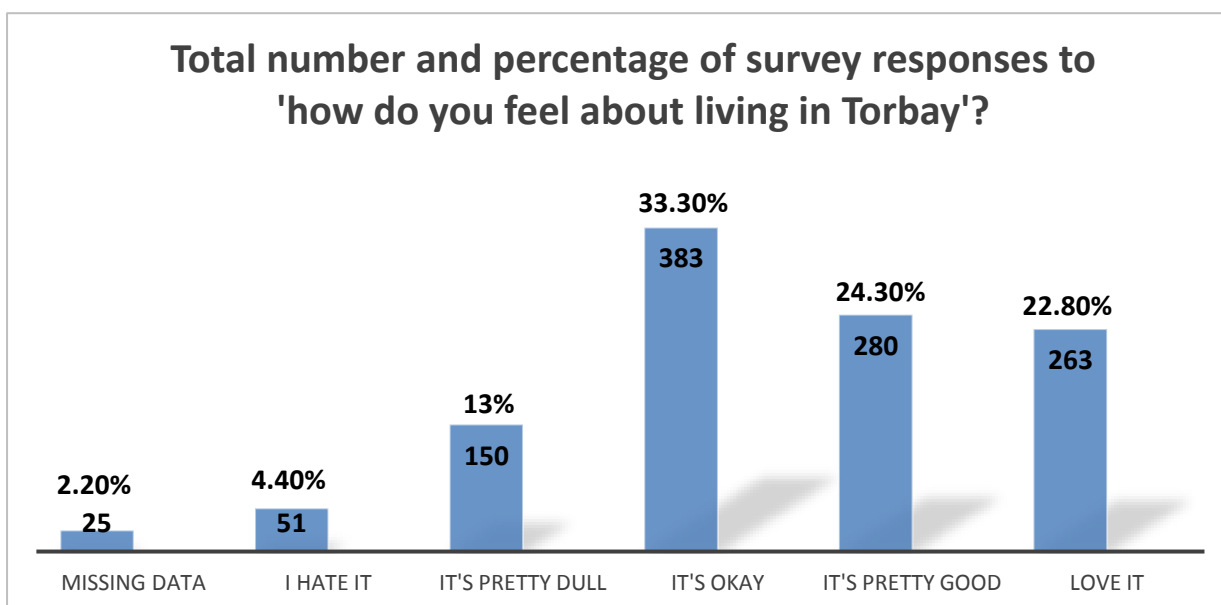


Figure 3 Total number & percentage of survey responses to 'how to you feel about living in Torbay?'

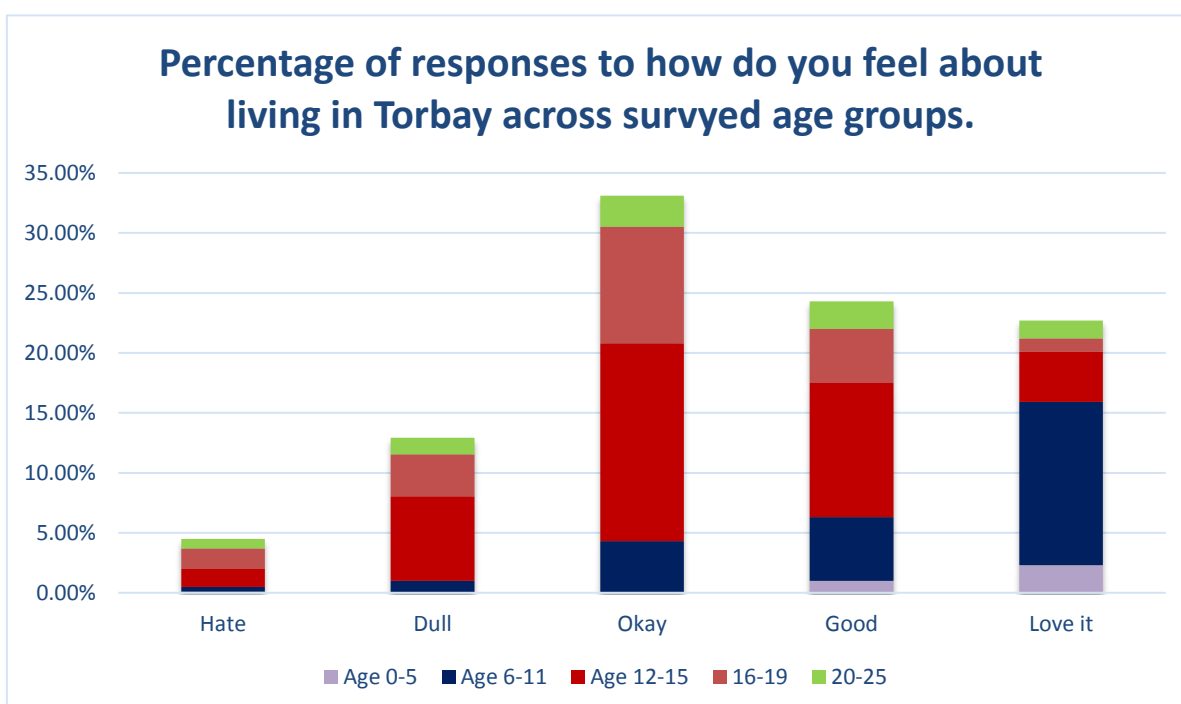


Figure 4 % of responses to 'how do you feel about living in Torbay' across surveyed age groups.

Analysis of free text responses to questions 2-4 may help identify some of the reasoning behind participant responses. Each free text question is presented in turn below and ordered according to theme frequency, with the most discussed theme appearing first. Analysis of each question is also supplemented with a visual word cloud display of the most used words within responses, and, where relevant, the most discussed theme is also supplemented with a bar graph showing age groups. Some comments were repeated throughout the survey and so are initially summarised to avoid repetition.

Question 2 - What is the best thing about living in Torbay?

Figure 5 below displays the words most frequently used when responding to the question, 'What is the best thing about living in Torbay?'

For clarity, the responses 'nothing' (31), 'everything' (13) or 'don't know' (6) have been removed from further analysis. A list of all identified themes and sub-themes can be found in Table 11. (Appendix 3)



Figure 5 Words most frequently used when responding to the question, 'what is the best thing about living in Torbay?'

a) The environment and local surroundings

The environment and local surroundings of Torbay were most frequently described as the best thing about living in Torbay (648, 48.3% of all references made). The beach was referred to across all surveyed age groups (*Figure 6* overleaf).

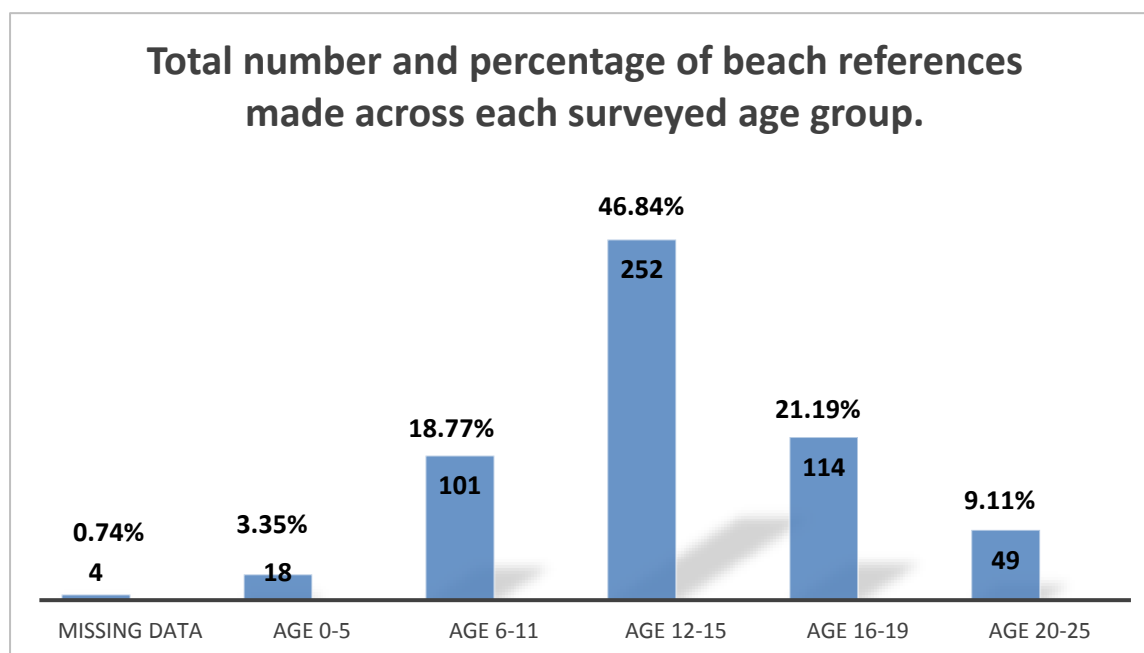


Figure 6 Total number and percentage of beach references made across each surveyed age group.

The “*costal environment*” (age 16-19), its proximity, and accompanying activities such as the “*pier*” (age 12-15), “*skimming rocks*” (age 6-11), “*rock pooling*” (age 6-11) and “*crabbing*” (age 6-11) were repeatedly discussed.

“The best thing is that we are so close to the beach” (age 12-15)

“I love living by the beach” (age 6-11)

“Living by the seaside” (age 16-19)

The “*amazing views*” (age 6-11), “*beautiful sights*” (age 12-15) and “*beauty of the place*” (age 20-25) were also frequently referred to. Scenery of particular interest included “*Dartmoor*” (age 6-11), the “*River Dart*” (age 6-11) and “*Torquay seafront at night time*” (age 16-19).

Some respondents (5) positively described the “*cleanliness of the area*” (age 12-15), although this view was not unanimous as later discussed.

“friends and family from across the country are happy to visit often as they enjoy the beaches, although they do comment on how dirty the town is” (age 16-19).

b) Available activities and events

A quarter of respondents positively described the activities and social events available (353, 26.3% of all references made). Those most frequently discussed activities are shown below in *Table 1*.

Parks	<p><i>“Water parks” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Going to the splashdown it’s exciting and fun” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Skateparks” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Geo Park” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Victoria Park” (age 16-19) or “Vicky Park” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>“Green areas to run around in” (age 0-5)</i></p>
Shops	<p><i>“Seeing lots of shops” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Great shops” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Local shops” (age 6-11)</i></p>
Outside activities and the ability to get out into the “fresh air” (age 6-11)	<p><i>“Cool woods” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Primley woods” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Climbing trees” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Coastal paths” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Torbay green” (age 12-15)</i></p>
The fair	<p><i>The “fair that comes down in the summer every year” (age 12-15)</i></p>
Sports Facilities	<p><i>“Playing football” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Golf” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>Cycling, gyms and the leisure centre</i></p>
Social activities	<p><i>“Going to the zoo” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>The “arcade” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Cinema” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>Running club, netball and park run.</i></p> <p><i>“Nice bars and pubs near the harbourage (age 20-25)</i></p> <p><i>“Night life” (age 20-25)</i></p> <p><i>“Going out” (age 16-19)</i></p>

Table 1 Available activities and events most frequently discussed.

A full list of activities identified can be found in Table 11 (Appendix 3).

c) Infrastructure

Other positive experiences of living in Torbay related to the infrastructure available (118, 8.8% of all references made) are included in **Table 2**:

Housing - estates and locations	<p><i>“My housing estate because it’s in one of the nice areas of Torbay and there is not a lot of graffiti or strange people” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“My house is pretty good” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“You can see the sea from my house” (age 12-15);</i></p>
Water accessibility	<i>“The best thing about living is that we have water” (age 6-11)</i>
Internet signal strength	<i>“Internet signal is good” (age 12-15).</i>
Schooling and education	<p><i>“We have a good education” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“The schools in Torbay” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“It’s got good schools” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“I really love school” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“College” (age 20-25).</i></p>
“Having plenty of fast food places/restaurants/pubs” (age 16-19)*	<p><i>“Ice-cream” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Fish and chips” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Beef-eater” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“KFC, McDonalds” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>“The unhealthy food” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Chinese” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Sweets”(age0-5)</i></p> <p><i>“Good Tesco meal deals” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Las Iguanas” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>“Wetherspoons” (age 16-19)</i></p>

Table 2 References to infrastructure

* One respondent expressed gratitude for simply having food available: *“we have food” (age 12-15).*

d) Family and friends

Across all age groups family and friends appeared integral to how young people felt about living in Torbay (94, 7.1% of all references made).

“lots of friends” (age 0-5)

“family because it’s the most important thing in the world” (age 6-11)

“I get to see some of my family and spend time with my friends” (age 12-15)

“friends and family” (age 16-19)

“my friends and family” (age 20-25)

e) The community

Closely linked to friends and family, several respondents (46, 3.4% of all references made) also discussed the *“friendly community”* (age 16-19) as a positive attribute of living in Torbay.

“Everyone is so nice to everyone” (age 6-11)

“Everyone is friendly” (age 6-11)

“There’s an underlying sense of community” (age 12-15).

This was at times attributed to the size of Torbay:

“Small, close community” (age 20-25)

“It is small, you know everyone” (age 12-15)

One respondent equated the size of Torbay to a reduction in possible terrorist attacks, *“there won’t be any terrorist attacks because we aren’t a city”* (age 6-11).

Some respondents also compared the quiet nature of Torbay to city living.

“quiet life unlike city living” (age 20-25)

“it’s cosy and friendly and not like a big city” (age 6-11)

“it isn’t as busy as a city” (age 12-15).

This opinion was not however shared by all respondents.

f) The weather

Finally, the weather was often described as one of the best things about living in Torbay. While “the summer” (age 20-25) was the most frequently discussed weather type, the rain and snow were also discussed. Some survey respondents referred to having a different experience of Torbay depending on the weather conditions.

“when it’s hot it’s great” (age 12-15)

“it’s nice when the weather is good” (age 20-25)

“the summer event activities” (age 20-25)

Collectively, these themes resulted in some respondents (8) describing Torbay as a “nice place” (age 12-15), although this came with some caveats. For example, “it’s nice in places” (age 16-19). Exploration of responses to the third research question, ‘what is the worst thing about living in Torbay?’ may help to identify these caveats more fully.



Total number and percentage of references made about social or 'people' related issues in Torbay.

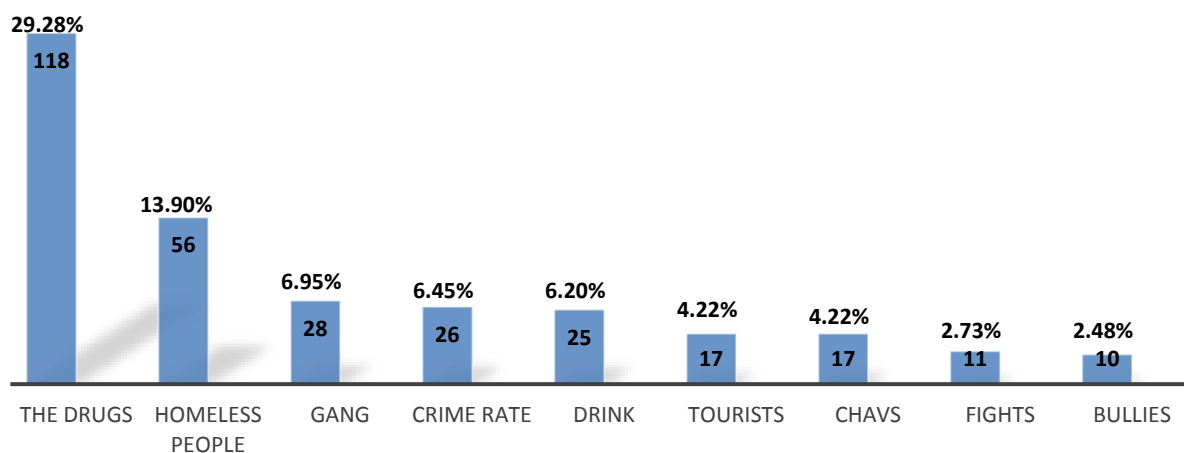


Figure 8 References made related to social or people-related issues in Torbay

a) Social or 'people' related issues

Figure 8 (above) shows the main sub-themes discussed in relation to social or 'people' related issues, the most frequently discussed issues (403, 30.7% of all references made). Table 3 (below) goes into greater detail regarding the references to these subthemes. Drugs, alcohol and presence of homelessness appeared to be of particular significance.

"The drugs"

"So much drug use" (age, 16-19)
"Massive drug problem" (age 12-15)
"Underage drinking and drugs" (age 16-19)
"The drug scene" (age 20-25)
"The amount of drug users and dealers" (age 12-15)
"Dirty needles" (age 16-19)
"A lot of drug abuse about" (age 12-15)
"People doing drugs out in public" (age 12-15)
"People trying to sell drugs to children" (age 12-15)

"Homeless people"

"People living on the streets" (age 12-15)
"Lots of homeless people" (age 16-19)
"The amount of homeless people around" (age, 16-19)
"There are a lot of homeless people" (age 12-15)
"Homeless people everywhere" (age 12-15)
"Homelessness and social deprivation" (age 12-15)

The "gang culture"

"Gangs (roadmen)" (age 16-19)

	<i>“The gangs and murders and stabbings” (age 12-15)</i>
	<i>“Aggression from gangs” (age 20-25)</i>
	<i>“Roadies” (age 16-19)</i>
The “crime rate”	<i>“The crime” (age 20-25)</i>
	<i>“Amount of crime” (age 16-19)</i>
	<i>“Fear of robbery/crime” (age 12-15)</i>
	<i>“A lot of crime” (age 16-19)</i>
Drink	<i>“The drunk people” (age 6-11)</i>
	<i>“Alcoholics” (age 16-19)</i>
	<i>“Underage drinking” (age 16-19)</i>
	<i>“Drunks” (age 20-25)</i>
	<i>“There are a lot of drunken people in the day time” (age 12-15)</i>
	<i>“Drunks everywhere” (age 12-15)</i>
Tourists	<i>“How busy it is in the summer” (age 6-11)</i>
	<i>“Too little crowd control/management when the students + holiday makers visit” (age 20-25)</i>
	<i>“Too many tourists” (age 12-15)</i>
“Chavs”	<i>“Chavs thinking they’re hard” (age 12-15)</i>
	<i>“Too many chavs” (age 12-15)</i>
	<i>“Chavs who don’t respect other people” (age 12-19)</i>
“Fights”	<i>“I see a lot of fights around the street and because of it some areas are labelled as bad” (age 16-19)</i>
	<i>“Fights” (age 6-11)</i>
	<i>“People arguing” (age 12-15)</i>
“Bullies”	<i>“Bullies” (age 6-11)</i>
	<i>“Bullying” (age 16-19)</i>
	<i>“The bullies who make you feel intimidated” (age 12-15)</i>

Table 3 Issues described in relation to "the people" of Torbay.

Social or ‘people’ related issues were often discussed simultaneously.

“there is a lot of drug and drink problems” (age 20-25)

“the druggies and homeless people” (age 16-19)

“drugs and violence” (age 12-15)

“all the drunk people that fight” (age 6-11).

Several respondents also commented on the age of those using drugs and alcohol.

“The drugs and alcohol problems in young people” (age 16-19)

“The amount of underage drinking and drug taking” (age 12-15)

“Young people being violent” (age 16-19)

“Quite a few ‘dodgy’ people around involved in drugs and violence, especially teens walking around the place like they own it threatening people and shooting strangers with BB guns for a laugh” (age 12-15)

Some respondents also associated drug and alcohol abuse with feeling unsafe.

“all the drug users makes it feel unsafe” (age 16-19)

“Torquay town is appalling and dangerous - drug use and drinking on the streets in the evening in particular” (age 16-19),

“homeless people make me feel unsafe” (age 16-19).

Safety was a further key theme identified as shown in Table 12 (Appendix 4).

There appeared to be some division between respondents wanting to help and support those in need and those using more derogatory language.

“too many homeless people in the town, makes me feel sad” (age 6-11)

“the number of homeless people have gone up... you can see but no one seems to be doing anything about it” (age 20-25),

“The amount of people on the street that need help that are not getting help” (age 12-15)

“homeless people, we feed them” (age 6-11)

“smackheads in Torquay town” (age 16-19)

“crack/smack/spice heads”, (age 16-19)

“too many crack/spice heads” (age 16-19)

“crackheads” (age 12-15)

“so many smackhead fights” (age 12-15).

b) The environment and local setting

The environment was also a central topic of discussion (276 21.1% of all references made) in response to the question ‘what is the worst thing about living in Torbay?’, as shown below in Table 4.

Litter	<i>“The amount of rubbish” (age 12-15)</i>
Bin collection	<i>“The bins don’t come on time” (age, 12-15)</i> <i>“Bin men do not collect the rubbish on the day they are meant to” (age 12-15)</i>
Recycling	<i>“The recycling is not accessible and the sustainability needs to be improved” (age 12-15)</i>
Dog poo bins	<i>“There aren’t enough litter bins and dog poo bins” (age 12-15)</i>
Plastic in the oceans	<i>“The plastic killing the animals” (age 6-11)</i> <i>“All the plastic in our bay” (age 6-11)</i> <i>“Litter in the sea and around it” (age 12-15).</i>

Table 4 Environment references

c) Activities

Respondents repeatedly acknowledged a *“lack of things to do”* (age 20-25) and having *“nowhere to go”* (age 16-19), leading some to conclude living in Torbay is *“excruciatingly boring”* (age 12-15) and *“not very fun”* (age 6-11).

Some respondents made specific reference to the target age and type of activities available.

“there’s not a lot to do for young people” (age 12-15)

“not a lot of attractions for young people” (age 12-15)

“nothing for our age” (age 16-19)

“aimed at tourists or old people” (age 16-19)

One respondent noted *“it very much appears to be focused on the older generation and I feel the younger future generation are being forgotten about”* (age 16-19).

Others made reference to the time of day e.g. *“nothing to do late at night other than hang around streets”* (age 16-19), and weather constraints:

“There is not much going on unless its summer” (age 12-15)

“Nothing to do in bad weather” (age 12-15)

“Not much to do all year round” (age 12-15)

“Lack of indoor facilities” (age 0-5)
“Nothing to do in the winter” (age 20-25)
“Weather and things to do inside in winter” (age 12-15)
“Not enough indoor activities” (age 0-5)
“In the winter there’s nothing to do it’s all super expensive” (age 12-15)

The cost of activities was also identified as a barrier to activity participation and engagement.

“not much to do for young people that don’t have much money” (age 16-19)
“not much to do without money for teens” (age 20-25)
“not enough free things to do” (age 6-11).

Other areas of financial concern for young people are listed below in Table 5.

Activities	<p><i>“Not enough activities to do for free”(age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Affordable things to do in bad weather” (age 6-11)</i></p> <p><i>“Expensive to go out” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>“Over priced activities” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Places can be expensive to get into” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Very pricey for younger people” (age 12-15)</i></p>
Transport	<p><i>“The bus prices are too high” (age 20-25)</i></p> <p><i>“Parking costs” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“It’s very expensive to park your car in the car parks” (age 20-25)</i></p>
Summer inflation	<p><i>“Prices going up in holidays” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Prices going up in the summer” (age 6-11)</i></p>
Food	<p><i>“Lack of affordable places for my generation to eat - only McDonalds which isn’t great” (age 16-19)</i></p>
Housing	<p><i>“Expensive housing” (age 16-19)</i></p>

Table 5 Things considered costly in Torbay.

An increase in cost was at times associated with funding cuts. For example, *“we are slowly losing funds so the social events are becoming less and less” (age 12-15).*

Some respondents also suggested a link between a lack of available activities and undesirable behaviours, a key issue for improving young people's experience of living in Torbay as later discussed.

“not much around for teenagers and it means they cause trouble” (age 20-25)

“if there were more things to do I think there would be less druggies” (age 12-15)

d) Infrastructure

Town

In addition to the issues described above, survey respondents noted a lack of shop variety in town centres. This was attributed to the “empty shops” (age 20-25) and all the shops “closing down” (age 20-25).

“Not enough shopping places or variety of shops” (age, 16-19)

“there aren't many shops left that are not for tourists” (age 12-15)

“there is no variety or choices” (age 16-19).

Investment

This mirrored some respondents concerns about “run down areas” (age 20-25) and a lack of investment. A lack of investment may also reflect some respondents concerns about limited employment opportunities (Table 12 - Appendix 4).

“It's run down and the council are wasting money on touristy things instead of investing in the locals” (age 12-15)

“The bay looks run down” (age 20-25)

“not much investment in the area” (age 20-25)

“neglected public places” (age 20-25)

“the not so nice areas of town” (age 12-15).

Transport

Connected to investment were transport related issues. Twenty four respondents noted issues of “traffic” (age 16-19), with some respondents also acknowledging the length, and prevalence of roadworks in Torbay.

“roadworks because it takes a long time to get to school. And they take far too long” (age 6-11)

“the road works that seem to go on forever” (age 16-19)

“there is always roadworks” (age 12-15)

Others also noted a lack of reliable public transport, with one respondent (below) discussing this issue at length.

“public transport is quite unreliable, (e.g. the no 12 bus should be every 10 mins but is very inconsistent and you can be waiting for 30 mins to get to school!)” (age 12-15)

“buses not on time” (age 6-11).

“Buses. Honestly our transport system in Torbay is terrible. Not only are the buses expensive and disgusting there are so unreliable. I have had so many bad experiences getting the bus round Torbay. Firstly, I do not always get the bus that is why I do not own a bus pass, therefore, I have to pay full price every time I get the bus. Being 16 I am not considered a child anymore on a bus and have to pay full adult price and from my house I have to pay £5.00 for a single fare to my school. Because I am 16 it goes up but this makes no sense as how else am I supposed to travel as I am not allowed to legally drive yet. Yet I have to pay the same price as people who have the option to drive and are not in full time school. Secondly, the buses are so unreliable and never on time. They claim to come 'every 10 minutes' When I have been sat there waiting for over 30 minutes before when I need to be there by a certain time. Yes I understand there is traffic and buses can be late but there are so many out of service buses it ridiculous. Finally, due to the lack of buses complicated routes are taken with the buses especially the number 12. So a journey that takes 15 minutes in the car takes me an hour and a half on the bus. I think this is ridiculous and needs to be attended as soon as possible as I believe it's the biggest problem in Torbay.” (age 16-19).

Schools

Other issues related to infrastructure included schools, although this often appeared to be related to having to attend schools as opposed to their educational quality.

“going to school” (age 12-15)

“I don't like maths” (age 6-11)

“school because it's boring” (age 6-11)

However, one respondent did comment on a lack of secondary schools availability - *“not enough secondary schools”* (age 12-15). Another respondent also noted specific concerns of their selective school - *“[staff] say horrible things to their students and cause stress and mental health issues”* (age 16-19).

Health and social care

Finally, health and social care services were also discussed including a “*lack of emotional + mental health support services*” (age 20-25) issues of “*obesity*” (age16-19) and a lack of “*help services for homeless*” (age 16-19).

One respondent made specific reference to support from social services for carers e.g. “*No support from social services, (carers for 20 years)*” (age 20-25).

One respondent also identified a lack of support from three key areas “*no support (police, health or even mental)*” (age 16-19).

Other issues identified included public toilets “*the toilets in the towns are disgusting*” (age12-15) and “*a lack of available housing*” (age 12-15).



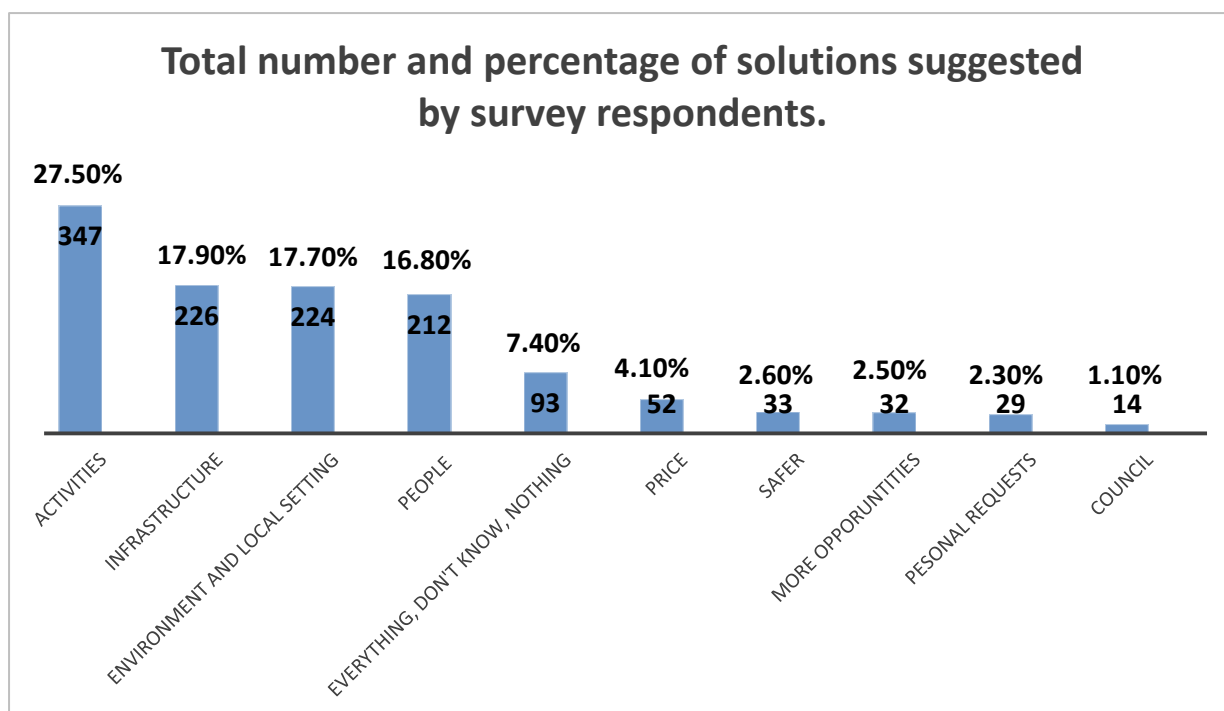


Figure 10 Total number and percentage of suggested solutions made by survey respondents.

a) *More activities*

The most frequently discussed solution related to having more activities (347, 27.5% of all references made). Specifically, having “*more things to do for young people*” (age 16-19) “*not just tourists*” (age 20-25).

This suggestion did however come with concerns about activity affordability, “*more activities for people in our age range for a reasonable price*” (age 12-15), “*more activities for families on low incomes*” (age 20-25), “*more affordable activities*” (age 12-15), and “*cheaper attractions*” (age 16-19).

Desirable activities frequently discussed (Table 6, below) included more:

More “Water parks” (age 6-11)	<i>“Like the one in decoy [Newton Abbot]” (age 6-11)</i>
Indoor activities and events suitable for all weathers	<i>“In the winter time such as climbing walls and indoor karting” (age 6-11)</i>
	<i>“Like an indoor play area (up to 20)” (age 6-11)</i>
	<i>“Somewhere to go when it’s raining” (age 12-15)</i>
Clubs, youth groups/centres and sporting clubs	<i>Festivals, “concerts” and “under 18’s clubs/festivals” (age 16-19)</i>
	<i>“Theme parks” (age 6-11)</i>
	<i>“Eating places” (age 20-25)</i>
	<i>“Skate parks” (age 6-11)</i>

Table 6 Desirable Activities in response to the question ‘what could be improved?’

A full list of suggested activities can be found in Table 13 (Appendix 5).

b) Infrastructure

Shops

In regards to infrastructure (226, 17.9% of all references made), some survey respondents identified a need for “more” (96), or “better shops” (age 16-19) or better clubs and bars, with a list of suggested shops shown in Table 13 (Appendix 5).

Investment

This reflected growing desires for “significant investment” (age 20-25) in the town helping to make “it look more modern” (age 12-15), “renovate the run down places” (age 12-15), “smarten everything up” (age 12-15), and “invest in the overlooked places... don’t invest in pointless things” (age 12-15). There were also references to needing improved “internet connection” (age 12-15).

Transport

Closely associated with investment was a need to improve transport (41), its cost (6) and associated activities. For example reducing the amount, and duration, of roadworks - “less roadworks at inappropriate times e.g. school holidays” (age 20-25), “council putting more workers on the road works” (age 6-11), and increasing bus and train availability, particularly “to and from college” (age 16-19), “especially from college to Kingswear” (age 16-19).

Health and Wellbeing

Better health and social care services - “better mental health services” (age 16-19) “better social support for under 18’s” (age 16-19), “more support for when I am sad at school” (age 6-11), Public toilets - “cleaner public toilets” (age 12-15), “more public toilets” (age 12-15) and Improved housing - “better homes for people” (age 16-19).

c) Environment and local setting

Litter

Reflecting concerns of litter and pollution as previously discussed, survey respondents expressed a strong desire to address the amount of litter in Torbay (156). Specifically reducing “litter in the sea” (age 16-19), “cleaning the beaches” (age 12-15), “providing more bins” (age 12-15), “recycling more things” (age 12-15), and having “on time bin collections with more regular black bin collections in the summer” (age 20-25).

Nature and green spaces

Other desirable solutions included more “greenery” (age 12-15) and “nature” (age 12-15) including “more parks” (age 12-15), “better play areas outside” (age 0-5), “more wildlife” (age 12-15) and cycle paths.

Weather and “seagull measures”

Although out of people’s control, the weather and “seagull measures” (age 12-15) were also described as a desirable solutions e.g. “no rain” (age 6-11), “if the sun was shining every day” (age 6-11), “less seagulls” (age 6-11).

Social or people related issues

In addition to the environment and local setting, survey respondents also frequently made reference to addressing social, or ‘people’ related issues (212, 16.8% of all references made). These primarily related to the issues below in Table 7:

Reducing drugs and alcohol	<p><i>“Less people drunk and on drugs” (age16-19),</i></p> <p><i>“Less drug activity” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Prevent drugs in younger people” (age 12-15),</i></p> <p><i>“Stop people doing drugs in town” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Offering rehabilitations for the addicts” (age12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Getting rid of the crackheads” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Get rid of the druggies” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Less scumbags and druggies” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Kick all druggies out” (age 12-15)</i></p>
Tackling issues of homelessness*	<p><i>“More places for the homeless to go” (age 20-25)</i></p> <p><i>“Funding being used to helping local homeless charities” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>“Provide more help for homelessness” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>“Move the homeless and drunks out of Torquay town” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Get homeless out of the streets and improve the town” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Sort the homeless and druggies out” (age 20-25)</i></p>
Reducing crime rates	<p><i>“Less crime” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Lower offending rates” (age 12-15)</i></p>
Enhanced police presence and authority	<p><i>“More police on the streets” (age 16-19)</i></p> <p><i>“More police” (age 12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Harsher sentences” (age12-15)</i></p> <p><i>“Limited police force is very noticeable and probably another reasons for everyone’s concerns. Police need to respond quicker” (age 20-25)</i></p>

Table 7 Improving social or people related issues in response to ‘what could be improved?’

* One respondent combined addressing issues of homelessness with a perceived reduction in crime rates - “help homeless to decrease crime” (age 20-25)

An enhanced police presence was associated with enhanced feelings of safety, “more police presence on the streets would make me feel safer” (age 12-15), “have police walking around town regularly to make it a safer place” (age 20-25), highlighting a further desirable solution to improving young people’s experiences of living in Torbay (Table 13, Appendix 5).

The council

Finally, some respondents (14) made specific reference to the council. While some called for improvements, “*better council altogether!*” (age 12-15), others expressed concerns about the councils desire to listen, “*council won’t listen*” (age 20-25), and investment in tourist related activities at the expense of young people’s experiences “*improve Torbay council as they do certain actions which don’t help people and can make it more about the people than the tourists*” (age 16-19).

“The council to help the youths with opportunities such as jobs, apprenticeships and clubs, and invest in the overlooked places, not the tourist areas” (age 12-15).

This report has the potential to help address some of these concerns.



2. Community engagement events

In addition to the survey discussed in the previous section, 229 pieces of feedback were collected through community engagement events, where the same 4 questions were asked to young people through creative methods such as badge-making, colouring and a ‘wishing-well’ activity with younger children.

The responses to free text questions 2, 3 & 4 in the survey (Appendix 2) are presented in turn in tables 8-10 (below). They provide a summary of the community event responses received and are ordered according to theme frequency, with the most discussed theme appearing first. Some comments were repeated throughout the survey and so are initially summarised to avoid repetition.

Mirroring the themes identified in the survey responses described in the previous section, it is clear from the community engagement events that concerns of safety, crime and gang culture are a major issue faced by young people living in Torbay on a daily basis.

Question 2. What is the best thing about living in Torbay?

Table 8 below shows the most frequent themed responses to the question ‘what is the best thing about living in Torbay?’

The beach	“Awesome beach”
	“Really close to beaches”
- Surfing	“Surfing”
	“Being by the sea”
	“I like the sea because it is pretty”
	“I like the beaches because the sand is soft”
Available events	“Fun fair”
	“Going to the fair; its’ fun”
- Fair	“Carnival”
- Carnival	“I like to go on the big wheel in the summer”
- Children’s week	“I like all of the live bands”
	“I like children’s week because they make JoJo Bows in a tent”
Available activities	“Going to the cinema”, “VUE cinema” “Theatre”, “I enjoy going to Princess theatre because they have good plays”
- Cinema	“Water park!”, “Splashdown!”
- Theatre	“Velo Park”, “I go to the Velo Park with my dad and little sister on weekends and it’s really fun”
- Water park	“I like that I can do dancing and singing”
- Parks	“I like Paignton Zoo because there is cool animals and parks there too”
- Dancing and singing	

- Zoo	<i>"I really like the outdoor pool in Brixham but it's really far away so I'm not allowed to go there lots"</i>
- Outdoor pools	<i>"I love Torquay museum"</i>
- Torquay museum	<i>"I like the Paignton Skatepark"</i>
- Skatepark	<i>"I like Torbay BMX track, I go every Saturday"</i>
- BMX track	<i>"I really enjoy AMF bowling, I go there on my birthday with all my friends"</i>
- Bowling	
Family and friends	<i>"I love that my family all live here"</i> <i>"I love that I live with my mum, dad and brother"</i> <i>"My family"</i> <i>"I like that I live near to my nanny and gramps"</i> <i>"I love that all my uncles, aunties and cousins live near us"</i>
Home	<i>"It's my home"</i> <i>"It's home"</i> <i>"Torbay is home"</i>
Community	<i>"Friendly"</i> <i>"Community events held at the seafronts"</i> <i>"Fundraising events for all of the local charities"</i> <i>"Torbay has a tight community"</i>
Lovely place	<i>"Lovely place"</i> <i>"Amazing"</i> <i>"The best"</i> <i>"Torbay is exciting"</i> <i>"Fun"</i> <i>"It's full of fun"</i>
Size	<i>"All in one places (compact)"</i>
Outdoor spaces	<i>"Nice outdoor play area"</i> <i>"I like having the green (Paignton) because I can go down there and floss"</i> <i>"My park has monkey bars and they are my favourite"</i> <i>"There are lots of fun country walks to follow"</i> <i>"Open places to have picnics with blankets"</i> <i>"I like the country parks"</i>
Local setting	<i>"Beautiful"</i> <i>"There are such beautiful places"</i>
Sports	<i>"I like all the football teams in Torbay"</i> <i>"I really like going to watch Torquay United football games"</i> <i>"I like Torquay united"</i> <i>"Playing Basketball at Preston Green"</i>
Shops	<i>"It has Argos"</i> <i>"Sports Direct"</i> <i>"Game"</i> <i>"Torquay Primark, Claire's and Matalan"</i>
Building safety	<i>"I like that lots of houses and flats don't burn down in Torbay"*</i>
Food places	<i>"Yummy food places"</i> <i>"I like McDonalds"</i>

	<p>"I love KFC", "KFC"</p> <p>"I like Dominos pizza"</p> <p>"I like eating ice cream on the because when it's really hot"</p> <p>"Going to McDonalds"</p>
Weather	<p>"Summer in Torbay, fantastic, awesome"</p> <p>"Sunny"</p> <p>"Sunny and fun"</p> <p>"I love Torbay when it's winter"</p>
Accessibility	<p>"I like the wheelchair swing at Geo Park because my brother has a wheel chair and he can play too"</p>
Nothing	<p>"Nothing!"</p>

Table 8 Qualitative feedback session responses to 'what is the best thing about living in Torbay?'

* Discussion with young person found respondent had witnessed the Grenville Tower media coverage and was discussing the possibility of such an event happening in Torbay.

Question 3. What is the worst thing about living in Torbay?

Table 9 below shows the most frequent themed responses to the question 'what is the worst thing about living in Torbay?'

Crime*	<p>"The stabbing on Greston Road really freaked me out because it was somewhere have been, if anything that is what has really scared me"</p>
- Increase in gang culture	<p>"Crime in town of Torbay"</p> <p>"Violent crimes in town"</p> <p>"From this experience I just want to say that the crime in Torbay is becoming worrying"</p> <p>"Increase of gang culture"</p> <p>"The Ptwon Drillers carry knives" "Gangs from across Torbay seem to be trying to compete for the 'Top Dog' label to see who can be the most dangerous"</p>
Safety*	<p>"Safety and security"</p> <p>"Town centre doesn't feel safe"</p> <p>"Victoria Park feels a little bit safer than Foxhole and Parkfield. I always feel safer when I'm not alone but if I'm approached then I run."</p> <p>"I take my bike or roller skates with me so if something happens I can escape faster"</p> <p>"I live in Foxhole and can't leave home alone"</p> <p>"Having these groups on the streets stops me from going places and going things because I'm always worried about this group coming and approaching me"</p> <p>"I don't feel safe out on my own" "I feel unsafe because the Ptwon Drillers"</p> <p>"At Parkfield I feel really intimidated. There are lots of older kids mixing with the younger kids who try and intimidate the adults as"</p>

	<p><i>well. I don't tell a member of staff because if I did I would have to walk up to the buzzer and press it and that's too obvious and dangerous"</i>**</p> <p><i>"The places where we are meant to feel safe like the community centre have changed. They attract other kids who are smoking and drinking which makes me feel very uncomfortable", "Youth centres being unsafe"</i></p> <p><i>"There's places I want to go but I can't because of these groups"</i></p> <p><i>"They smash car windows and that really scares me"</i></p>
Police	<p><i>"Police are no longer approachable - we can't get help because of the repercussions. If we spoke to the police there would be consequences"</i>**</p> <p><i>"It's obvious the police don't want to arrest any of these dangerous kids"</i></p>
People	<p><i>"There's been a big change in the people - it's not the place, it's not the people"</i></p>
- Bullying	<p><i>"Nasty people"</i></p> <p><i>"Some people and bullying"</i></p> <p><i>"Bullying"</i></p> <p><i>"Bullies"</i></p>
Weather	<p><i>"Weather"</i></p> <p><i>"Weather unpredictable"</i></p> <p><i>"Rain"</i></p> <p><i>"When it's raining"</i></p>
Transport and traffic	<p><i>"Transport being late"</i></p> <p><i>"Buses are always late"</i></p> <p><i>"Not a lot of public transport"</i></p> <p><i>"Traffic"</i></p>
Shops	<p><i>"Shops"</i></p> <p><i>"Lots of shops"</i></p> <p><i>"I don't like that all of the book shops are closing down"</i></p> <p><i>"Pizza hut has closed like everything else"</i></p> <p><i>"All the shops are empty"</i></p>
Litter	<p><i>"Litter"</i></p> <p><i>"How much litter there is"</i></p> <p><i>"Dirty towns and toilets"</i></p>
Nothing to do	<p><i>"There's nothing to do"</i></p> <p><i>"Boring for teenagers"</i></p> <p><i>"Boring"</i></p>
Accessibility	<p><i>"Beaches are not accessible; lots of hills; no accessible taxis past 10pm"</i></p>
Busy	<p><i>"Business (crowds and noise)"</i></p>
School	<p><i>"School"</i></p>
Seagulls	<p><i>"Seagulls"</i></p>

Lack of parks	<i>“No parks in my area”</i>
Lack of opportunities	<i>“Unable to succeed due to lack of opportunity”</i>
Everything	<i>“Everything!”</i>
Investment	<i>“1850’s buildings everywhere and they’re really interesting but have bad plaster. We can’t fix this until we have a better MP.”</i>

Table 9 Qualitative feedback session responses to ‘what is the worst thing about living in Torbay?’

* Following issues raised in community engagement event, the Healthwatch team felt it only appropriate to liaise with relevant staff to ensure young people attendees received sufficient support.

** Reporting crime or gang related issues also appears problematic for some young responders due to a fear of repercussions. A good and proactive relationship between the police and young people appears to be an integral component in addressing this issue, as discussed below in identified solutions.

Question 4. What could be improved?

Table 10 below shows the most frequent themed responses to the question ‘what could be improved?’

Working together	<i>“Young people need more opportunities like these [working with Healthwatch], it helps build confidence and gives us experience”</i> <i>“Everyone to get along”</i>
Police presence and relations	<i>“The police need more staff and to use their enforcement. We need more CCTV in dark areas too, I think that would improve safety.”</i> <i>“We need more outreach workers who are trained to deal with the bad behaviour or more police who will actually help us because we don’t feel like a warning and a chat is going to stop the gangs”</i>
People	<i>“People doing crime”</i>
- Reducing crime rates	<i>“No bullies”</i>
- Bullies	
More things to do	<i>“More activities”</i> <i>“Have more things to do for youths”</i>
- Indoor play areas	<i>“More for children to do in Torquay like Teignmouth or Paignton”</i>
- More shops	
- Hidden areas to relax	<i>“More inside play areas”</i>
- More funfairs	<i>“X-box inside spaces to play it”</i>
- More play areas	<i>“More indoor play activities”</i>
- More parks	<i>“More toy shops”</i>

	<p><i>"We need more hidden areas in local places where we can go and relax"</i></p> <p><i>"More funfairs"</i></p> <p><i>"More swings and slides", "play area at Berry Head"</i></p> <p><i>"More parks"</i></p> <p><i>"Water park"</i></p>
Transport	<p><i>"Train line to Brixham would be good"</i></p> <p><i>"Safe paths so you don't have to walk on the road"</i></p>
Affordable activities	<p><i>"Cheaper shops"</i></p> <p><i>"Water park (cheaper)"</i></p> <p><i>"Cheaper movies at the cinema"</i></p>
Reducing litter	<p><i>"Not having so much rubbish"</i></p> <p><i>"Plastic"</i></p>
Seagulls	<p><i>"I think there need to be more signs about seagulls diving because they're getting more confident and can be scary"</i></p>
Weather	<p><i>"Weather"</i></p> <p><i>"More sunshine"</i></p>
Enhanced accessibility	<p><i>"More accessibility"</i></p>
Nothing	<p><i>"Nothing!"</i></p>

Table 10 Qualitative/creative feedback sessions responses to 'what could be improved?'



3. Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's 'Imagine This' report

Finally, acknowledging the importance of collaborative working, this report also incorporates findings from the 'Imagine This' consultation survey which received 532 survey responses from people aged 6-25 years (Appendix 6). It echoes many of the themes identified in Healthwatch Torbay's survey and community engagement events, showing that 'having fun', 'being safe' and 'being with friends' were things considered most important to young people. In opposition, drug use, violence and traffic were all issues associated with feeling unsafe by young respondents.

Twenty percent of respondents identified littering and homelessness as problematic in Torbay, demonstrating environmental and social concerns. The lowest scoring answers across all age groups related to 'going somewhere for help and advice' and 'being active and fit'. Nearly one third of survey respondents would like to take up activities/clubs either indoors or outdoors, including sports, with 50% of respondents wanting more opportunities including activities and safe places to hang out. A current lack of service provision or things to do (57%), financial costs and unreliable transport links (42.9%) were seen to prevent activity engagement.

Questions about growing up in Torbay attracted positive answers from mostly under 11s. Older survey respondents provided more negative comments using words such as 'boring' and 'nothing to do if you are no longer a young child'.

Concerns about organisational responses to issues previously raised were also voiced during the 'Imagine This' consultation:

"What's the point, we keep saying what we want and nothing ever happens".



Discussion - Consultation Summary

This report brings together a number of key data sets exploring the experiences of young people living in Torbay into one single report. By doing so, it helps further our understanding of how young people experience living in Torbay by asking a greater number of survey respondents (1913) and younger cohorts of people (0-25 years) than previously achieved.

Survey

Survey results identify the environment and local setting, available activities and events, family and friends and the community as valued features of living in Torbay by young people. However, social or 'people' related problems including drug and alcohol use, homelessness and gangs, the environment and setting, a lack of available activities suitable, and affordable for young people and inadequate infrastructure all appear to be having a detrimental impact on their experience. Feedback from the three data sets collected (i.e. Healthwatch Torbay survey, Healthwatch Torbay community engagement events and 'Imagine This' consultation) clearly identify concerns of safety, crime and an increasing gang culture as issues faced by young people living in Torbay on daily basis. Tackling of the root causes of drug and alcohol misuse, homelessness, reducing crime rates through increased police presence and providing more affordable and tailored activities suitable for all weather conditions and ages, not just young children or tourists were identified as key areas for improvement. The social/people related issues of homelessness, drug and alcohol misuse, often described simultaneously, appeared divisive in how young people responded to this issue. While some respondents appeared positive and supportive, others used derogatory or prejudicial language. This may be an important area to explore when trying to improve young people's experience of living in Torbay. Reducing the amount of plastic and litter in Torbay, and providing more open and green spaces were also considered desirable solutions.

Community engagement events

Feedback from the Healthwatch Torbay community engagement events concurred with those raised in the Healthwatch Torbay survey. Reporting crime or gang related issues appears problematic for some young responders due to a fear of repercussions and limited police presence/ability to act. Interventions including enhanced police presence and a responsive council designed to improve the safety of young people living in Torbay were identified as desirable solutions to the problems raised.

Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's 'Imagine This' Report

Echoing many of the themes raised by both the Healthwatch Torbay survey and Healthwatch Torbay community engagement events, results from the 'Imagine This' consultation found that 'having fun', 'being safe' and 'being with friends' are most important to young people. Drug use, violence and traffic appear to undermine young people's sense of security and safety. Issues of littering and homelessness were also identified as problematic in Torbay.

Young people identified a clear need for more activities and safe places to hang out. A lack of service provision, costs and unreliable transport options currently inhibit activity engagement and participation. Younger respondents tended to rate Torbay more positively than older respondents. This appeared to be a pattern across the three data sets studied.

Key Message

A further commonality shared across the three data sets reviewed was the **concern that the desires and experiences of older people and tourists took precedence over those of younger people**. Young people repeatedly expressed scepticism that anything would change as a result of their participation. The importance of listening, responding, and addressing the issues raised by young people in a transparent, collaborative, and non-tokenistic way is therefore of paramount importance if the experience of young people living in Torbay is to truly be improved. The ideas and suggestions put forward by the young people as demonstrated in this report should not be discredited or undermined.

Strengths and limitations

While strengths of the survey include its large sample size (1152), inclusion of a young people's task group throughout its design and delivery, and innovative methodologies used to collect relevant information, its limitations must also be acknowledged.

The survey was open during a period of exceptionally good weather. This may have introduced possible bias as a number of respondents reported that they experienced living in Torbay differently depending on the weather.

Timing was also interesting and in part significant, in that the school academic calendar during the summer term is so filled with curriculum and assessment activities that unexpectedly early autumn term worked better. The summer holiday opportunities were great for engaging with young people out of school. That said, the exceptionally good weather provided so many opportunities to be outdoors that this may have influenced some of the responders.

The geographical spread of engagement has been interesting with greater participation in Torquay and Paignton than Brixham. The age spread mostly included those within the school age range. Connecting with the under 5s remained a challenge and it was pleasing that at some of the community events parents/carers of very young children were happy to give their feedback on behalf of their very young children i.e. under eighteen months old.

For the Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's **'Imagine This'** strengths and limitations please see the Executive Summary in Appendix 6.

Recommendations

As a result of this consultation, the young people we engaged with have recommended that their own feelings of safety and positivity towards living in Torbay would be greatly improved by:

- Relevant organisations and commissioners working in collaboration with young people to prioritise areas of need and desires outlined in this report.
- Strengthening relationships between young people and local stakeholders, charities and services providing reassurances that their views, opinions and experiences are of equal value to other community members.
- Continuing to evaluate and review young people's experience of living in Torbay as suggested improvements are made.
- Increasing police presence around particular 'hot spots' where young people feel unsafe.
- Improving the awareness and understanding of gang cultures, crime and their implications for young people. This could possibly be achieved through regular police talks in school settings as suggested by the young people's working group.
- Tackling the root causes of drug and alcohol misuse and homelessness.
- Providing more safe places for young people to hang out.
- Developing age appropriate and affordable activities in co-production with local young people that can be used in all weathers, not just activities for tourists or younger children.
- Improving the environment and local area by actively working to reduce the amount of litter and plastic present in Torbay.

Response from Torbay Children's Safeguarding Board

'Torbay Safeguarding Children Board commissioned Healthwatch Torbay in the autumn of 2018 to explore the experiences of children and young people (0-25) living in Torbay. It is very important for the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board to have an accurate understanding of how children and young people feel about living in Torbay so that it is able to ensure that all children and young people in Torbay are safer through: -

- Protection from maltreatment
- Prevention of impairment to health and/or development
- Ensuring safe and effective care
- Ensuring a safe environment

The results of this extensive and valuable survey were presented to the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board at its meeting on 13th December 2018 where the Board wholeheartedly accepted the recommendations contained within the survey and recommended that it be further considered at a future meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership so that the recommendations can be debated by partnership agencies across Torbay.

On behalf of the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board I would personally like to extend my grateful thanks to Healthwatch Torbay for the work that they undertook in providing this valuable insight into the thoughts of children and young across Torbay. In particular I would like to extend my thanks to all of the children and young people who took part in producing and responding to the survey.'

Ian Ansell

Independent Chair, Torbay Safeguarding Children Board

Torbay 
Safeguarding
Children Board

Acknowledgements

Healthwatch Torbay would like to thank **all the children and young people who took part in the survey**, the Torbay Children’s Safeguarding Board for the opportunity to undertake this consultation, and the additional support received from:

- Healthwatch Torbay Young People’s Project team
- Young persons’ task group members involved in the planning of the project and the design of the toolkit and events
- Task group members
- Paignton Academy Student Council and all other local schools and colleges who supported this piece of work
- South West families and young adult carers who completed surveys and contributing at events
- Torbay Children and Young People’s Partnership’s who shared their ‘Imagine This’ report findings
- Plymouth University for their support with data analysis and putting this report together with Healthwatch Torbay



Appendix

Appendix 1

Task Group List:

- Torbay Council - Pupil & Parent Liaison Officer / SEND Reforms Project Officer
- Children Services - Community Engagement Coordinator
- Youth Genesis - Lead Youth Officer
- Action for Children -
- Action for Children -
- PCF
- Transfiguration
- Interfaith
- Youth Parliament
- Zig Zags - action for children - children centre for 0-5yrs
- Torbay Children and Young People's Partnership's
- Head Teacher - St Marychurch primary school
- Childrens Society - Coordinator Children's Rights, Runaways and Substance Misuse services
- Checkpoint Torbay
- Trust Governor - membership committee
- Torbay Youth Services Community worker
- Youth Parliament

Appendix 2

Survey:

Torbay  Safeguarding Children Board

healthwatch
Torbay

What does it feel like living in Torbay as a young person today?

Healthwatch Torbay is an independent local charity who want to know what you think about the care you receive from local health and social care services like hospitals, GPs and care homes.

Healthwatch Torbay are working on a project to find out ‘what does it feel like living in Torbay as a young person today?’ We are seeking responses from young people aged 0 – 25 years to gain a deeper understanding of the collective views of what it feels like to be a child or young person in Torbay today and what you want and need for your general health and wellbeing.

The information gathered will be collated and reported back to the Torbay Children’s Safeguarding Board, and will available on Healthwatch Torbay website (www.healthwatchtorbay.org.uk) at the end of 2018.

To let us know how you feel about living in Torbay please could you complete the following 6 short questions. This survey is also available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W6VDWHX>

If you would like to speak to us direct then you can contact the Healthwatch Torbay office, Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 12pm, on the Freephone number 08000 520 029

Please note that all responses will be anonymous.

1. How old are you?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0-5 | <input type="radio"/> 16-19 |
| <input type="radio"/> 6-11 | <input type="radio"/> 20-25 |
| <input type="radio"/> 12-15 | |

2. What is your postcode?

3. How do you feel about living in Torbay?

I hate it



It's pretty dull



It's okay



It's pretty good



Love it



Please tell us why you feel this way.

4. What is the best thing about living in Torbay?

5. What is the worst thing about living in Torbay?

6. What would improve the way you feel about living in Torbay?

Thank you very much for participating.

The information you provide will be used in our report at the end when all the feedback is gathered and shared with commissioners. All information given will be kept in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR). Healthwatch Torbay follows standard security procedures to protect your data.

If you would like to get involved further please email tilly.adams@healthwatchtorbay.org.uk or call 08000 520 029

All information given will be kept in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR). Healthwatch Torbay follows standard security procedures to protect your data. Please be aware you have the right to see the records Healthwatch Torbay holds about you and to be supported to have access to these.

Our Privacy Statement and Terms & Conditions can be found at www.healthwatchtorbay.org.uk

Appendix 3

Survey Results:

Table 11 - Themes and subthemes identified in response to ‘what is the best thing about living in Torbay?’

Main theme	Sub-themes	Sub sub-themes	Percentage of overall theme codes (n=1341)
Environment and local setting (n=648)	Beach (n=538)	Swimming (n=4)	48.3%
		Boats (n=3)	
		Rock pools (n=3)	
		Pier (n=2)	
		Beach huts (n=1)	
		Skimming rocks (n=1)	
Scenery (n=92)	Wildlife (n=10)	Crabbing (n=1)	
		River Dart (n=1)	
		National Trust (n=1)	
Cleanliness of the area (n=5)	Different areas (n=3)	Dartmoor (n=1)	
		Sun set (n=1)	
Activities and events (n=353)	Parks (n=59)	Rabbits (n=1)	26.3%
		Sea gulls (n=1)	
		The seal (n=1)	
		Dirty (n=1)	
		Dirty sea (n=2)	
		Brixham (n=1)	
		Foxhole (n=1)	
		Babbacombe (n=1)	
		Geo park (n=8)	
		Water Park (n=7)	
		Skate Park (n=3)	

	Victoria Park (n=3) Pirate Park (n=1) BMX Park (n=1) Garden Park (n=1)
Shops (n=57)	New Look (n=4) Primark (n=2) Sweet shops (n=2) Family run (n=1) Supermarket (n=1) McD (n=1) Disney (n=1) JD Sports (n=1) Costa (n=1) Clothing (n=1) Pet shop (n=1)
Variety of activities available (n=45)	Free (n=2)
Outside activities (n=38)	Woods (n=10) Walks (n=6) Fresh air (n=5) Shoalstone pool (n=4) Climbing trees (n=1) Torbay Green (n=1) Riveria centre (n=1) Astro turf (n=1)
Facilities (n=37)	Sports facilities (n=27) Gyms, gymnastics, cycling, rugby, tennis, leisure centre, golf courses, swimming pool, swimming lessons, football Play Torbay (n=2) 0-11 (n=1) Library (n=1)
Fun Fayre (n=27)	
Social Activities (n=10)	Bars and pubs (n=7) Night life (n=2) Going out (n=1)
Fun (n=10)	
Zoos (n=9)	

	Arcade (n=9) Cinema (n=7) Clubs (n=6)	Park Run (n=1) Netball (n=1) Running club (n=1)	
	Train spotting (n=3) Air show (n=3) Summer events (n=3) Theatre (n=2) Games (n=1) Good looking boys (n=1) Glove puppets (n=1) Activities for disabled (n=1) Laser Quazer (n=1) Bowling (n=1) Learn how to ride scheme (n=1) Children's week (n=1) Pirate themed weekend (n=1) Campsite (n=1)		
Infrastructure (n=118)	Places to eat (n=40)	Ice cream (n=5) KFC (n=3) Wetherspoons (n=3) Fish and chips (n=2) McDonalds (n=2) Beefeater (n=1) Chinese (n=1) Sweets (n=1) Tesco meal deal (n=1) Las Iguanas (n=1)	8.8%
	Schooling and education (n=33)		
	Housing (n=18)	Playground (n=1) Location (n=10) Garden (n=2)	
	Transport (n=16) Health and social care services (n=7)	NHS (n=3) Hospitals (n=1)	

Appendix

		Support workers (n=1) Support services (n=1) Help (n=1)	
Family and friends (n=94)	Investment and new developments (n=2) Internet signal (n=1) Water (n=1)		7.1%
Community (n=46)	Friends (n=60) Family (n=34) -		3.4%
Small size (n=26)			1.9%
Weather (n=24)	Calm (n=23)	Smaller place (n=3) Busy (n=1)	1.8%
Nice place (n=8) Safe (n=7)	Summer (n=14) Rain (n=1) Snow (n=1) -		0.6% 0.5%
Opportunity (n=7)	Terrorist attacks (n=1)		0.5%
Personal preferences (n=4)	Employment opportunities (n=4)		0.3%
Drugs and alcohol (n=2)	Isolation (n=1) Nice dogs (n=1) Sleeping (n=1)		0.15%
Wealth (n=1) Poverty (n=1) Driving lessons (n=1)	Drugs (n=1) Drunk people (n=1) - - -		0.07% 0.07% 0.07%

Appendix 4

Survey Results:

Table 12 - Themes and sub themes identified in response to ‘what is the worst thing about living in Torbay’?

Main theme	Sub theme	Sub sub-themes	Percentage of overall theme codes (n=1312)
People (n=403)	Drugs (n=118) Homelessness (n=56) Gangs (n=28)	Roadies (n=9)	30.1%
	Crime rate (n=26)	Vandalism (n=2) Graffiti (n=2)	
Environment (N=276)	Drink (n=25) Fights (n=17)	People arguing (n=6)	21.1%
	Chavs (n=17) Tourists (n=17) Bullies (n=10) Smokers (n=7)	Smoking near kids (n=1)	
	Rude people (n=5) People driving fast (n=4) Parents shouting (n=4)	Child neglect (n=2) Homewreck (n=1)	
	Old guys (n=3) Grumpy people (n=2) Kidnappers (n=2) Friday nights (n=1) Students (n=1) Loud music (n=1) Fires (n=1) Teenage pregnancy (n=1)		
	Litter (n=111)	Rubbish (n=7) Plastic (n=7) On the beach (n=5)	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog poo (n=3) Glass in the park (n=1) Lack of bins (n=1) 	
	Weather (n=86)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rain (n=37) Cold (n=10) Lack of snow (n=5) Too hot (n=2) Cold wind (n=1) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seagulls (n=53) Smell (n=9) Living near the sea (n=6) 	Crabs (n=1)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insects (n=5) New builds on green land (n=2) Not enough wildlife (n=2) Rocks (n=1) Rusty (n=1) 		
Infrastructure (n=213)			16.2%
	Town (n=82)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of shops (n=47) Closed shops (n=16) Shops close early (n=1) No Burger king (n=1) No Lego shop (n=1) 	
	Transport (n=44)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic (n=24) Roadworks (n=8) Buses (n=6) 	
	Investment (n=44)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of development and investment (n=35) “Rough areas” (n=7) Appearance (n=2) 	
	School (n=17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having to go (n=2) Left old school (n=1) Maths (n=1) English (n=1) Not enough secondary schools (n=1) College (n=1) Mental health (n=1) 	

	Health and social care (N=12)	Social services (n=4) Lack of emotional and mental health support (n=2) Dentists (n=1) Operation (n=1) Obesity (n=1) Lack of services for homeless (n=1) Appointment (n=1) Headaches (n=1)	
	Public Toilets (n=9) Housing (n=2)	Available housing (n=2)	
Activities (n=213)	Car parks (n=1) Big shops (n=1) No showers at beaches (n=1)		16.2%
	Not enough things to do (n=148)	Not enough outdoor activities (n=4)	
Nothing, don't know, everything (n=120)	Lots of walks (n=5) Lack of pubs (n=1) No boats (n=1) Too much golf (n=1) Meetings (n=1) Watching rugby at the pub (n=1)		9.1%
Price of stuff (n=40)	Nothing (n=66) Don't know (n=25) Everything (n=29)		3.1%
Feeling unsafe (n=24)	Activities (n=8) Transport (n=3) Parking (n=2) Summer inflation (n=2) Food (n=2) Housing (n=1)		1.8%
Limited opportunities (n=18)	Limited lighting (n=2)		1.4%
Community (n=12)	Employment opportunities (n=16)		0.9%

Personal preferences (n=11)	Age of community (n=7) Everyone knows everyone's business (n=2) Discrimination (n=2) Lack of culture (n=1)	0.8%
	Dogs (n=2) The food (n=2) Sister (n=1) Sweet shops running out of sweets (n=1) Rugby (n=1) Going to bed early (n=1) Catering for working mums (n=1) Boys having poor fashion (n=1) No big sport team to support (n=1)	
Council (n=7)	-	0.5%
Living away from family and friends (n=6)	-	0.4%
	Family (n=4) Friends (n=2)	
Poverty (n=4)	-	0.3%
Police efficiency and authority (n=3)	-	0.2%
Loud (n=3)	-	0.2%
Disabled access (n=2)	-	0.1%

Appendix 5

Survey Results:

Table 13 - Themes and sub themes identified in response to ‘what could be improved’?

Main theme	Sub theme	Sub sub-themes	Percentage of overall theme codes (n=1262)
Activities (n=347)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More (n=185) Water/swim park (n=22) More indoor activities for winter (n=21) More clubs (n=13) Festivals (n=11) Theme park (n=10) More eating places (n=9) Swimming (n=6) More skate parks (n=6) More community events (n=5) More carnivals and fairs (n=3) Public climbing walls (n=3) More special needs/disabled events (n=3) More art galleries (n=2) Creative groups (n=2) Better football team (n=2) Ice skating ring (n=2) Boats (n=2) Bowling (n=2) Astro turf (n=2) Lego (n=2) More rides (n=2) More places to sit with friends (n=1) Sports centre (n=1) Mixed martial arts (n=1) Basketball (n=1) Cinema (n=1) Environmentally friendly activities (n=1) More see-saws (n=1) 		27.5%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor playhouse (n=1) More farms (n=1) Theatre (n=1) Fishing (n=1) Baking classes (n=1) More places to go in the evening (n=1) Sandcastle competitions (n=1) More rugby clubs (n=1) Bonfire and fireworks (n=1) Gymnastics (n=1) More swings (n=1) Free football pitches (n=1) New activities to try (n=1) Underage clubs (N=1) Gyms (n=1) Bike rides (n=1) Trampoline parks (n=1) Snowboarding (n=1) More technology activities (n=1) New play area at the beach (n=1) Bigger gymnasium (n=1) Football stadium (n=1) More libraries (n=1) More games (n=1) More arcades (n=1) 	
Infrastructure (n=226)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More shops (n=96) 	17.9%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toy shops (n=3) Less charity shops (n=2) Nandos (n=2) Sweets (n=2) Game shops (n=2) Men's clothes shop (n=1) Music shops (n=1) Poundland (n=1) Spar (n=1) Ice-cream (n=1) Waffle, donuts, cupcake shop (n=1) Burger King (n=1) Lush (n=1) 24 hour shops (n=1) Clothes shops (n=1) 	

	Investment (n=50)	Nike football (n=1) Disney (n=1)	
	Transport (n=41)	Crossways (n=4) Foxhole (n=5) Roadworks (n=10) More buses (n=6) Less traffic (n=5) More trains (n=3) Potholes (n=2) Steam trains (n=1) Better pavements (n=1) Less traffic noise (n=1) Airport (n=1) Dual carriageway (n=1) Less walking (n=1) Less small roads (n=1)	
	Health and social care (n=15)	Better mental health services (n=6) Better social support (n=5) Rehab centre (n=1) More NHS funding (n=1) Carer support (n=1) Help for those who want it (n=1)	
	Public toilets (n=7) Improved housing (n=5) Schools (n=3)		
	Better clubs and bars (n=3) Better WIFI (n=2) Less buildings (n=2) More prisons (n=1) Better parking (n=1)	Art schools (n=1) More schools (n=1) More secondary schools (n=1)	
Environment and local setting (n=224)	Less litter (n=156)		17.7%
		Cleaner beaches (n=16) Better bin collection processes (n=11)	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More bins (n=7) Dog mess (n=3) Cleaner parks (n=1) Less bird poo (n=1) Less cigarette butts (n=1) 	
	Nature or green spaces (n=30)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More parks (n=13) More wildlife (n=4) More trees (n=2) Nicer coast (n=1) More woodlands (n=1) More cycle paths (n=1) Less insects (n=1) More paths (n=1) 	
	Weather (n=21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More sun (n=7) More snow (n=4) Global warming (n=1) No rain (n=1) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seagulls (n=11) Smell less sickly (n=3) More rest points (n=1) Grave yards (n=1) Pollution (n=1) 		
People (n=212)	Reduce drugs (n=55)		16.8%
	Homeless (n=48)	More weed (n=1)	
	Reduce crime rate (n=47)		
	Less "drunks" (n=7)	More police presence (n=26)	
	Reduce bullying (n=7)		
	Less focus on tourists (n=6)		
	Less gangs (n=5)		
	"Get rid of chavs" (n=5)	Roadies (n=1)	
	Live closer to friends and family (n=4)		
	Improve manners (n=4)		
	Reduce smoking (n=3)		
	Less tourism (n=2)		
	Age of community (n=2)		
	Enhance tourism (n=1)		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve disability awareness (n=1) Less vegans (n=1) Make people more caring (n=1) Harsher prison sentences (n=1) 	7.4%
Everything, don't know, nothing (n=93)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing (n=50) Don't know (n=36) Everything (n=7) 	4.1%
Price (n=52)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities (n=27) Parking (n=8) Transport (n=6) Sweets (n=2) Locals discount (n=2) Food (n=1) 	2.6%
Safer (n=33)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hurting anyone in my house (n=1) Speed of cars (n=1) 	2.5%
More opportunities (n=32)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment (n=24) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher paid jobs (n=3) Minimum wage and zero hour contracts (n=1) 	2.3%
Personal requests (n=29)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School (n=11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not going (n=4) Start later (n=1) Finish earlier (n=1) Luckier (n=1) Stay at home more (n=1) TV and Xbox (n=1) Have a brother or sister (n=1) Anxiety (n=1) More caravans (n=1) Less lobster and crab pots (n=1) Earlier driving lessons (n=1) Shut down gun shops (n=1) Knock down car park at Paignton NatWest (n=1) Swimming pool in every house (n=1) Be like Florida and Paris (n=1) More alcohol (n=1) 	

	Name it after me (n=1) Make America and Torbay the same place (n=1) A bouncy castle with a unicorn near my house (n=1)	
	Communism (n=1) Reduce legal age from 18 to 18 months (n=1)	
Council (n=14)	-	1.1%

Appendix 6

Executive Summary of ‘Imagine This’ Report:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The ‘Imagine this’ consultation survey was carried out between March and April 2018. The aim was to find out from young people what they liked to do in their free and leisure time in Torbay and what suggestions they had for making things better.
- The engagement with the survey exceeded our expectations: 532 surveys signify a statistically credible percentage of children and young people in Torbay. It was also notable that the young people surveyed face to face were genuinely pleased to answer our questions.
- The youngest child surveyed was 6; the oldest, 25. The average: 12.7 years old.
- When asked about their gender, 5.2% replied they were not sure or opted for ‘other’. Reliable figures show that 0.4% of the UK population defines as non-binary when given a 3-way choice in terms of female, male or another description. This survey result denotes a much higher percentage.
- Results for young people’s involvement in activities and opportunities after school, at weekends and on holidays show gaming, using the internet, phone, TV and video as the most popular (39.8%). Combining this figure with those who stay at home doing nothing, totals 56.5%. This represents a high percentage of young people staying indoors and who are likely to be physically inactive.
- Only 8.8% take up walks even though a much bigger percentage mention that they enjoy living by the sea and green areas.

- 'Being at home' was the top answer to where the activities are take place which was not surprising. This was followed by involvement in provision after school, which means that nearly 31% of the children and young people surveyed will be in school buildings for 8 or more hours in a day.
- 'Hanging around in town' was a significant answer with over 17% of young people and included teenagers as well as children from the age of eight.
- Regarding what is important to them, the top answers were 'Having fun', 'Being safe' and 'Being with friends'. A significant number of young people mentioned safety in answer to the questions asked - drug users, violence and traffic being the three main reasons for feeling unsafe.
- It is interesting that the lowest scoring answers to what is important to them were 'To go somewhere for help and advice' and 'To be active and fit'. Again, this was across all ages.
- Nearly one third of those surveyed would like to take up activities/clubs, indoors or outdoors. A significant number would like to take up sports (football being a clear favourite). 22.5% would like to do creative activities: painting, arts and crafts, drama, signing, dancing. Despite being in a sea-town, only 8.4% mentioned watersports.
- When it came to the barriers preventing young people taking up activities, a staggering almost 70% of answers highlighted lack of provision and the financial cost. 57% mentioned lack of things to do; 42.9% indicated that lack of transport and the expense.
- Transport was a significant issue: The cost of bus fares was too high and unaffordable. The 'Termriders' at around £200 is not something parents can afford to pay in one go. They also reported that bus services are often late and not frequent enough.
- Growing up in Torbay attracted positive answers from mostly under 11s for whom 'there is a lot to do' and 'it is fun'. Over 12s had more negative comments, the majority of which used words like 'boring' and 'nothing to do if you are no longer a young child'. 'Lack of provision' was prevalent in the responses for those who commented that Torbay is not a good place to live.
- Nearly 50% of those surveyed wanted more opportunities for them: clubs, activities outdoors and places to hang-out.
- Almost 30% did not have any wishes or suggestions, a high percentage.
- An interesting result was that over 20% mentioned there was too much littering in the Bay and well as homelessness which denoted a social and environmental concern, even from the younger children taking part.
- Events and activities that could happen in Torbay attracted a majority wanting more clubs, activities and places to hang out safely with friends. According to a significant amount of answers, young people can only hang around in the streets and some added they can not wait to be able to leave Torbay. Festivals and conventions feature very highly as well. It is worth noting that nearly 20% replied they did not know

what could happen together with over 3% who just replied 'anything'. The lack of aspiration is clear for a large number of young people. Several commented: 'What's the point, we keep saying what we want and nothing ever happens'.

- Support with mental health, disability and education was significant and the third most mentioned suggestion, particularly the long waiting times to be referred for actual medical help and support for poor mental health.
- Almost 37% requested more time with family and nearly 3% revealed some of the most poignant replies: 'I would like to see my dad more', 'If I saw my mum I would give her a thousand hugs' and 'I wish mum and dad would get back together' were significant enough in numbers to be mentioned here as some children and young people for whom broken homes has a serious impact in their lives.
- Many children and young people mentioned anxiety, lack of confidence and other health issues: over 17% felt they did not have the support to do what they wanted to do.
- Also significant were the numbers for children and young people who wanted a horse-riding school nearby and animal handling activities.

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