

Vaccine Hesitancy



July 2022

healthwatch
Nottingham & Nottinghamshire

Between March and April 2022 Healthwatch Nottingham and Nottinghamshire conducted a survey across Bassetlaw to explore the reasons why people have not had Covid-19 and/or Flu vaccines.

The survey was commissioned by Bassetlaw Place who have identified an absence of rich insights into local behaviour and awareness of certain cohorts, which includes vaccine hesitant cohorts.

Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB have recognised that there is a growing 'gap' in the take up of Covid vaccinations amongst more deprived communities, ethnic minorities, as well as more vulnerable sections of the community, including people who are homeless, and people with severe mental illness, or learning disabilities.

The target was to reach at least 40 responses to this survey and we received 42 responses.

Demographics

We targeted the most deprived areas of Bassetlaw and the proportion of respondents from the areas identified as more deprived were as follows:

- Worksop South East - 23.8%
- Worksop North West - 7.1%
- Carlton - 2.4%
- Harworth - 2.4%
- Langold - 2.4%

We also reached the following groups:

- 42.9% of people had one or more long-term health condition or disability
- 28.6% of people were unemployed and 2.4% were unable to work.
- 17.6% were from an ethnic minority background.
- 9.5% of people were pregnant or had children under five.

We received a total of 42
responses

This included:

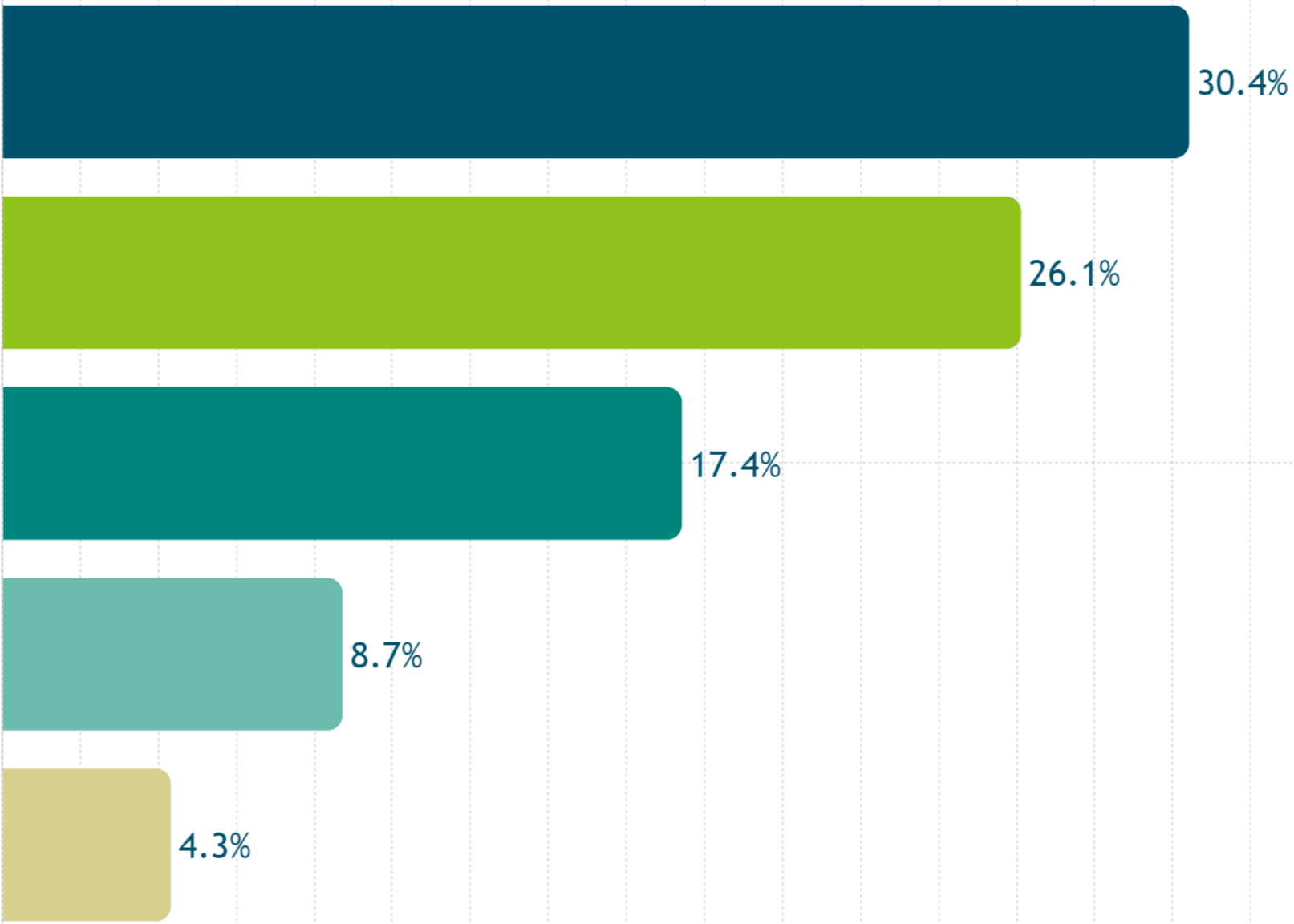
23

Responses from people
who were not vaccinated
against Covid

40

Responses from people
who were not vaccinated
against Flu

We asked people who have not had the Covid-19 vaccine about why they have not had it, and these are the responses we received...



- I don't trust the Covid vaccine
- I'm worried about the side effects
- I don't feel I need to have the vaccine
- I don't like / I don't feel comfortable about going to the Covid vaccination centre
- I can't have the Covid vaccine because of my medical condition



21.7% selected 'Other' when asked about why they have not had the Covid vaccine

15

People explained why they had not had the Covid-19 vaccine and the top answers were:

- Six people said it has not been tested enough.
- Two people said that they have not had their vaccine because they are young and healthy.
- Two people said it is because they have a medical condition.

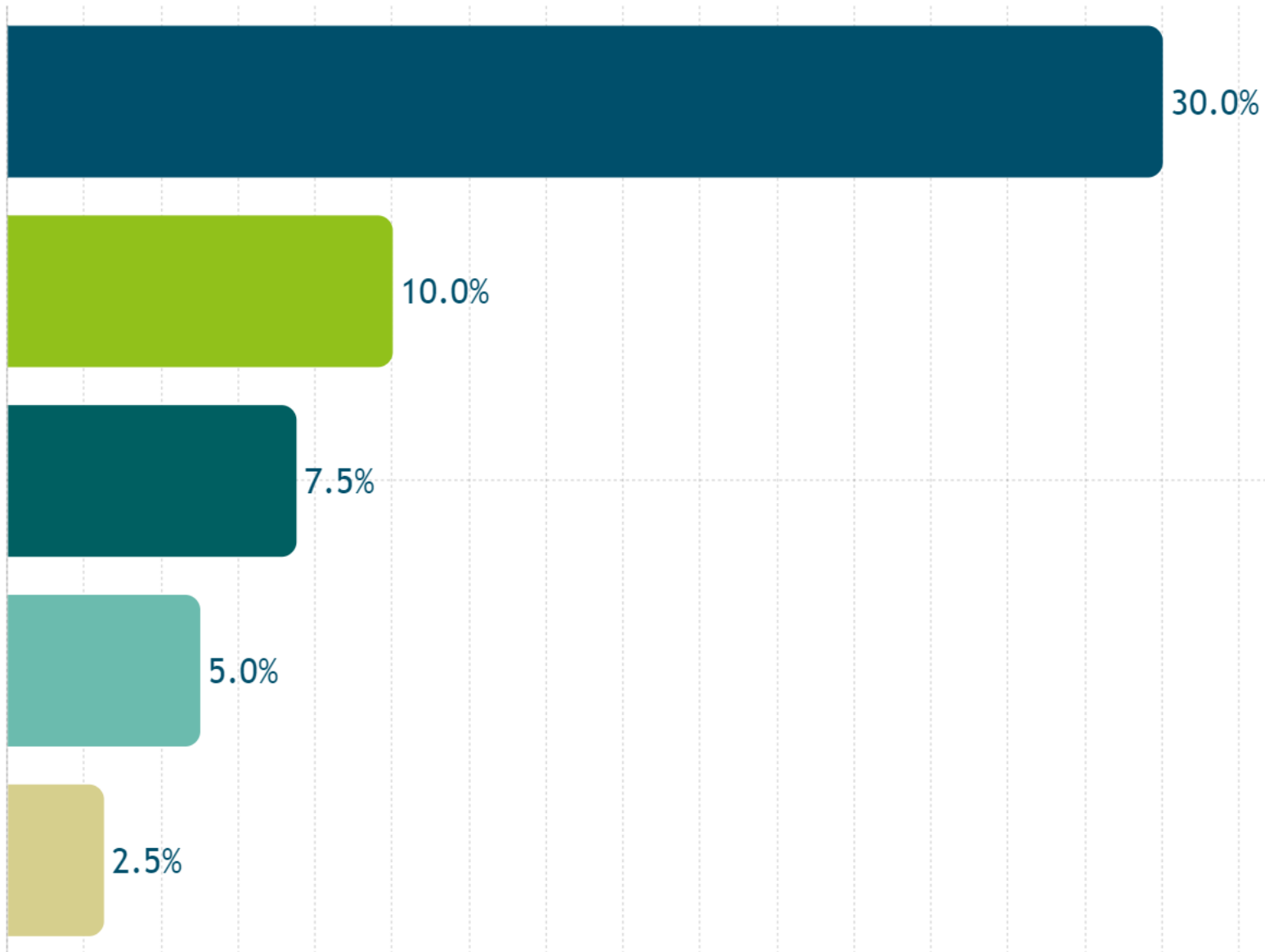
Here is what some people said:

"I don't want a vaccine that's still in trials and has caused more side effects than any and also caused death and doesn't work".

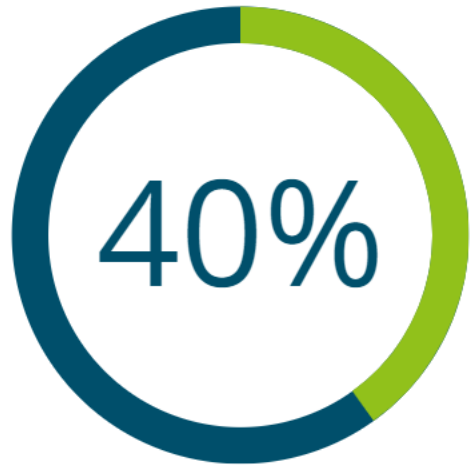
"I don't really trust these jabs because they're not been tested properly and had a lot of people still had Covid even with jabs. Just don't trust it".

"Nobody in my family has had it and nobody has had Covid".

We asked people who have not had the Flu vaccine about why they have not had it, and these are the responses we received...



- I don't feel I need to have the Flu vaccine
- I'm worried about the side effects
- I don't trust the Flu vaccine
- Because I would have to pay for the Flu vaccine
- I don't like / I don't feel comfortable about going to the Flu vaccination centre



40% selected
'Other' when
asked about why
they have not had
the Flu vaccine

25

People explained why they had not had the
Flu vaccine and the top answers were:

- I don't need the flu vaccine (32.0%)
- I've never been offered the flu vaccine (20.0%)
- I didn't know I could have it (12.0%)
- It makes people poorly so I don't want it (8.0%)
- Logistics of getting it (8.0%)

Here is what some people said:

"Because of my age its unnecessary"

(person aged 17 years)

"I wasn't aware that it was something you needed regularly".

"I haven't been offered the Flu vaccine by NHS"

"I've never had Flu so don't need the vaccine".

Conclusions

The major difference between the responses given about the Covid vaccine and the Flu vaccine was the issue of trust. More people said they did not trust the Covid vaccine (30.4%) and were worried about its side effects (26.1%), whilst the proportion of people who said this about Flu vaccine was much lower - 7.5% and 10%, respectively. This shows that more people need to be provided with information about the Covid vaccine that will reassure them about its safety and address their concerns about potential side effects.

The most commonly mentioned reason why people have not had the flu vaccine was that they did not feel they needed to have it (30.0%). 20% of people said that they have never been offered the flu vaccine and 12% said that they didn't know they could have it. These findings demonstrate the importance for raising public awareness about the importance of Flu vaccine, who is eligible for it and how they can get it.

Recommendations (Draft)

HWNN recommends that Bassetlaw Place work with organisations on supporting them to:

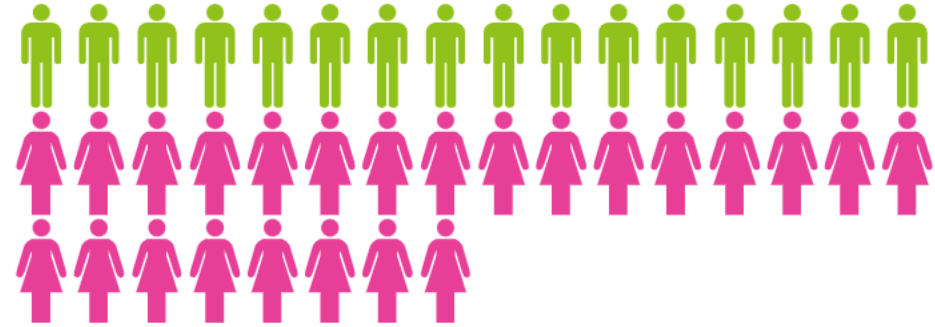
- Seek ways to build greater trust with the communities and explore further the reasons why people do not trust the Covid vaccination and why they don't trust the Flu vaccination (as the reasons may be different).
- Develop campaign to raise public awareness with the aim to:
 - Advise the public on Covid vaccination information and achievements of the vaccinations.
 - Alleviate people's concerns about the side effects of the Covid-19 vaccine and the Flu vaccine.
 - Inform people around Flu vaccination, the importance of it, as well as eligibility criteria for all age ranges and other options to obtain vaccination.

Appendix

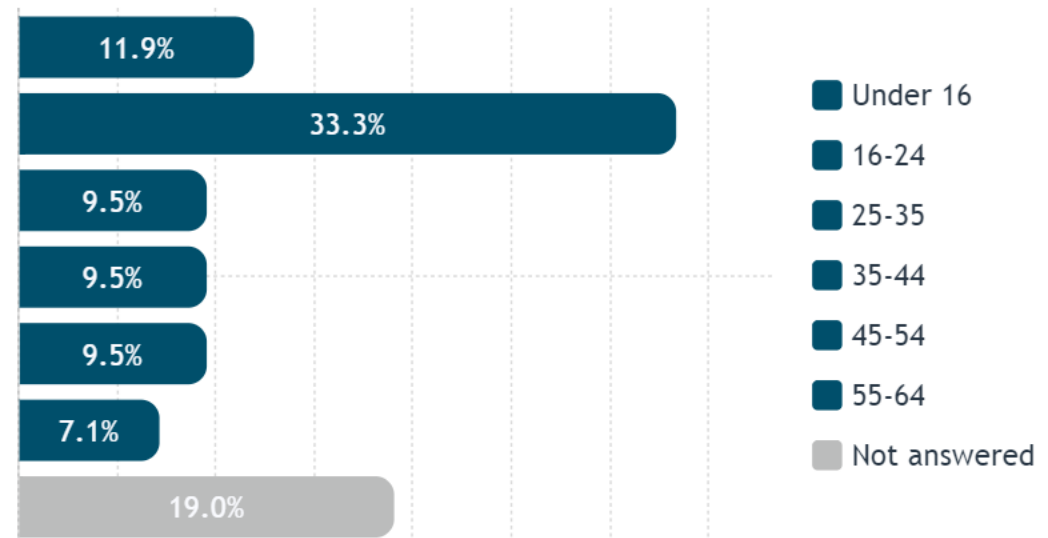
Who answered the survey?

In which ward do you live?	Number	%
Worksop South East	10	23.8%
Worksop South	5	11.9%
Worksop East	5	11.9%
Ranskill	4	9.5%
Worksop North East	3	7.1%
Worksop North West	3	7.1%
East Retford South	2	4.8%
Worksop North	2	4.8%
East Retford North	1	2.4%
Harworth	1	2.4%
Langold	1	2.4%
Carlton	1	2.4%
Welbeck	1	2.4%
Everton	1	2.4%
Whitwell	1	2.4%
East Markham	1	2.4%
Total	42	100%

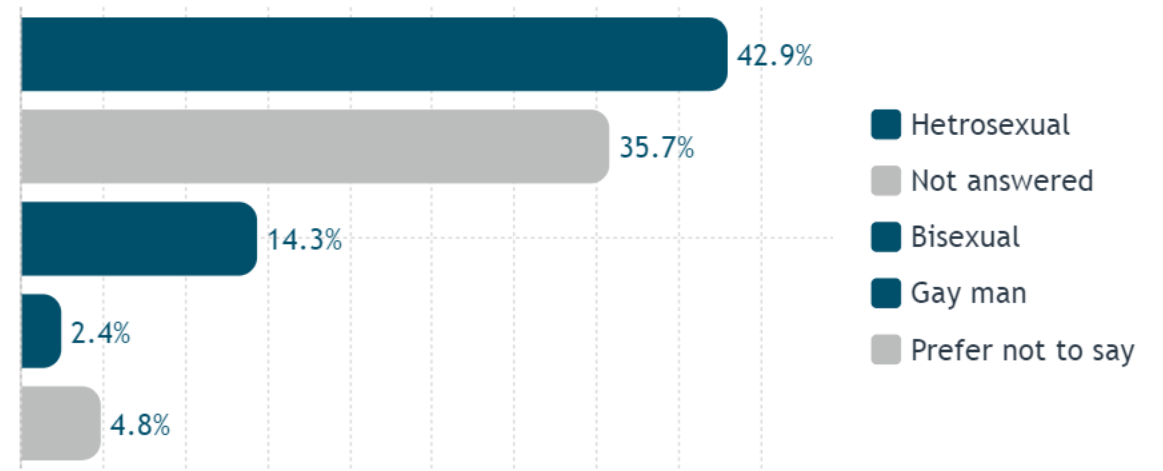
Sex	Number	%	Census 2011*
Female	24	57.1%	50.4%
Male	16	38.1%	49.6%
Non binary	1	2.4%	-
Prefer not to say	1	2.4%	-
Total	42	100%	



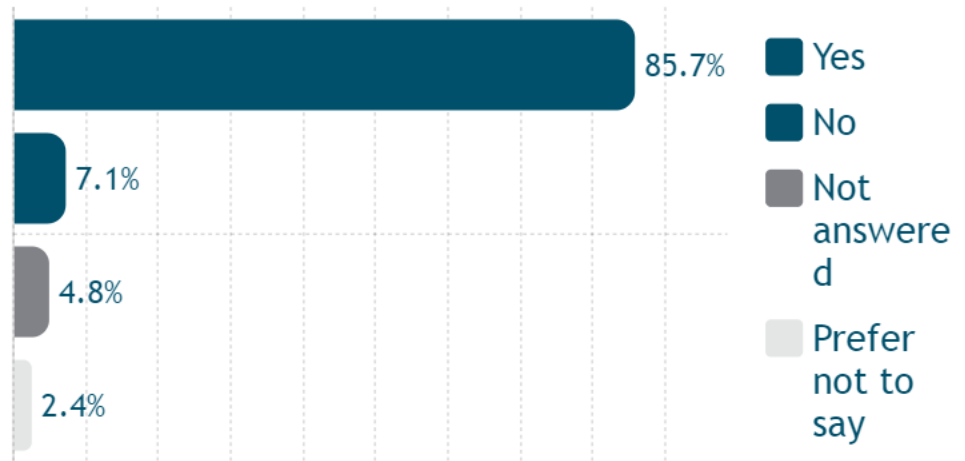
Age Group	Number	%	Census 2011*
Under 16	5	11.9%	7.3% (age 10-15)
16-24	14	33.3%	10.3%
25-35	4	9.5%	24.4%
35-44	4	9.5%	
45-54	4	9.5%	28.8%
55-64	3	7.1%	
Not answered	8	19.0%	-
Total	42	100%	



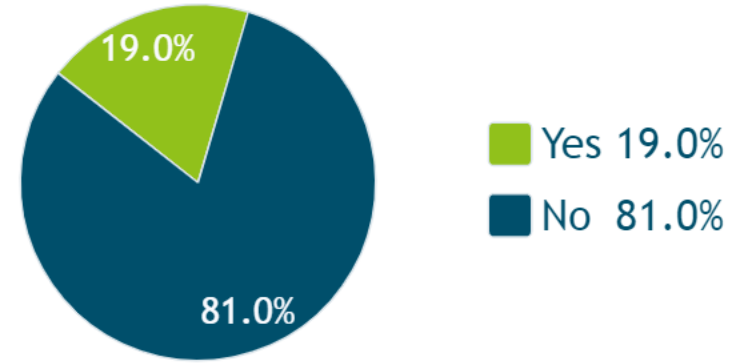
Sexual orientation	Number	%
Hetrosexual	18	42.9%
Not answered	15	35.7%
Bisexual	6	14.3%
Gay man	1	2.4%
Prefer not to say	2	4.8%
Total	42	100.0%



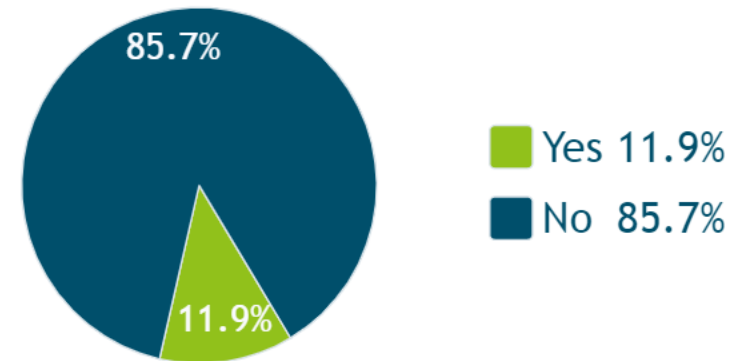
Is your gender identity the same as you were assigned at birth?	Number	%
Yes	36	85.7%
No	3	7.1%
Not answered	2	4.8%
Prefer not to say	1	2.4%
Total	42	100%



Are you a carer?	Number	%
No	34	81.0%
Yes	8	19.0%
Total	42	100%



Are you cared for by anyone?	Number	%
No	36	85.7%
Yes	5	11.9%
Not answered	1	2.4%
Total	42	100%



Employment status	Number	%	Census 2011*
Not employed	12	28.6%	3.9%
Part time	11	26.2%	15.3%
Student	9	21.4%	3.5%
Full time	7	16.7%	38.1%
Retired	1	2.4%	17.1%
Unable to work	1	2.4%	7.8%
Not answered	1	2.4%	-
Total	42	100%	

Religion	Number	%	Census 2011*
Christian	18	42.9%	70.8%
No religion	14	33.3%	20.9%
Other	3	7.1%	0.3%
Sikh	2	4.8%	0.1%
Hindu	1	2.4%	0.2%
Atheist	1	2.4%	-
Muslim	1	2.4%	0.6%
Prefer not to say	1	2.4%	-
Not answered	1	2.4%	-
Total	42	100%	

How would you describe your nationality	Number	%	Census 2011*
British	33	78.6%	73.9%
Not answered	3	7.1%	-
Polish	2	4.8%	1.9% (EU countries)
Irish	1	2.4%	
French	1	2.4%	
British and Australian	1	2.4%	-
Romany	1	2.4%	-
Total	42	100%	

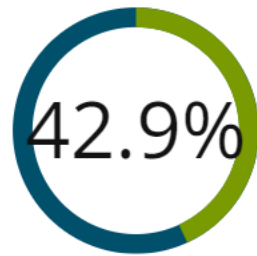
Ethnic group	Number	%	Census 2011*
White	34	81.0%	97.2%
South Asian	2	4.8%	1.1%
Black	1	2.4%	0.5%
Asian	1	2.4%	1.1%
South American	1	2.4%	-
Mixed	1	2.4%	0.9%
Gypsy or Traveller	1	2.4%	0.1%
Not answered	1	2.4%	-
Total	42	100%	

What is your main language	Number	%	Census 2011*
English	41	97.6%	97.4%
Polish	1	2.4%	1.5%
Total	42	100%	

Are you homeless	Number	%
No	41	97.6%
Yes	1	2.4%
Total	42	100%

Are you pregnant or have child under 5	Number	%
No	37	88.1%
Yes	4	9.5%
Not answered	1	2.4%
Total	42	100%

Do you live with any of the following impairments	Number	%
Mental health illness	12	28.6%
A long-term health condition	4	9.5%
Physical impairment	3	7.1%
Social behavioural problems	1	2.4%
Prefer not to say	1	2.4%
Hearing impairment	1	2.4%



18 respondents (42.9%) have got one or more of the above impairments