



Aspirations, opportunities and challenges

Youth led research into the lives of young people in Kensington and Chelsea

Report to Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

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The Association for Young People's Health: AYPH is the UK's independent voice for youth health. We believe that young people have a right to good health and high quality accessible healthcare. We bridge the worlds of policy, practice and evidence to promote better understanding of young people's health needs, and to support the development of youth friendly health services. We undertake projects that facilitate more effective communication between practitioners, raise the profile and understanding of young people's health needs, and ensure that young people's involvement is central to service development.

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Working with Men: Working With Men (WWM) is a multi-award winning specialist charity supporting positive male activity, engagement and involvement. It is the first organisation of its kind on such a scale in the UK. WWM has expertise in the challenges and solutions in working with boys and men who are socially or economically disadvantaged, marginalised or isolated.

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Executive summary

This report presents the findings from a research project led by young people, which set out to understand the aspirations, opportunities and challenges of their peers living in Kensington and Chelsea. Assisted by the Association for Young People's Health, and Working with Men, a team of 18 peer researchers collected data from 154 of their peers living in the London borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Initial planning resulted in the decision to conduct a short, face to face interview, based on series of survey questions loaded onto i-pads. The peer researchers recorded the respondents' answers, which included both answers to closed and open-ended questions. Interviews took place in a range of locations in the borough where young people gathered, both formally (youth clubs, schools) and informally (park, etc). The results were collated in Survey Monkey, and analysed by the Association for Young People's Health. The main themes emerging were agreed with the peer researchers, who added their own reflections on the process.

The findings were organised into five themes:

- **Thoughts about the area**: Young people were clearly positive about living in RBKC, but their safety ratings were not as positive as their general sense of liking the area.
- **Current provision for young people:** Young people reported taking part in a wide range of activities, particularly youth clubs and sports. There were some restrictions, however, provided by cultural factors, levels of motivation, and a sense of limited opportunities.
- What young people need in the borough: Overall young people said that less crime, better educational opportunities, and better housing were important to enable them to live a normal life. They also wanted better access to youth clubs and in terms of youth activities, they would like more sport, more careers advice, more self-defence, more creative and art-based activities, and more community events.
- **Coping and support:** Young people draw heavily on their families and friends for support, and also find youth groups useful. The majority are happy with the support they get.
- Additional reflections: Some issues came up in discussions during the survey that were not fully reflected in the survey answers. These included issues of class, inequality, mental health, the consequences of Grenfell, drugs, and the importance of building trusting and supportive relationships with adults as part of youth activities.

A number of recommendations are made for developing provision for young people in the borough, and helping the area's young people to fulfil their potential.

1 Background

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) is an area of the country reflecting significant disparity of living circumstances, income and general life experiences. People in the borough vary hugely in terms of family income, ethnicity, health and educational experiences. It is a small but densely populated area, unusual for its high concentration of older working age residents and few children. A quarter of the population of the borough live in social housing, and it is acknowledged that they experience large health inequalities compared to residents in other kinds of housing (RBKC, 2013¹). The overall average price of property in Kensington and Chelsea in June 2018 was £2,238,313 (Rightmove, 2018²), while a fifth of the children in the borough are living in low income families (PHE, 2018³). Life expectancy in the borough can vary by over 20 years depending on location.

These factors are likely to impact on local young people as they grow up. They live in an interesting and diverse borough, but also a very unequal one. Against this background, it is really important to understand the needs of the young residents and their aspirations for their futures, in order to help them fulfil their potential and make the most of the opportunities available to them in the local area.

The peer led community research project was designed to identify the key issues facing young people, and to find out what support and help they need, including the role of local youth services and what could be done to improve them. It was commissioned to inform a public health needs assessment on health and wellbeing and community recovery in North Kensington. The focus was expanded in discussion with Kensington and Chelsea council and the peer researchers to enable young people from across the borough engage in the process.

Two independent voluntary organisations (the Association for Young People's Health and Working with Men) were funded to support the project, which was led by young people. Kensington and Chelsea council agreed that the best people to communicate directly with Kensington and Chelsea's young people were other young people also living in the area.

³ Public Health England (2018) 'Fingertips' data tool <u>https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/child-health-young-people</u>

¹ RBKC (2013) *Joint Strategic Needs Assessment* London: Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea <u>https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health-services/joint-</u><u>strategic-needs-assessment</u>

² Rightmove (2018) <u>http://www.rightmove.co.uk/house-prices-in-Kensington-And-Chelsea.html</u>

The project background and aims of the project were set out in the RBKC specification⁴ for the work:

"In the aftermath of the Grenfell tragedy, RBKC and the local NHS are committed to enabling support that helps local children and young people to thrive. This is both about meeting needs that have arisen out of the tragedy as well as recognising longer standing gaps and challenges and how they might be addressed. We are committed to putting young people at the heart of how to best meet their needs. This piece of work is part of a wider public health needs assessment of health, wellbeing and community recovery. Through this work we aim both to identify immediate gaps that could be addressed through policy and/or commissioning as well as identify the longer term building blocks of recovery."

The aims of the project as set out in the specification were:

- 1. To understand the aspirations, opportunities and challenges of young people aged 11-19 years in Kensington and Chelsea
- 2. To identify potential ways in which the local authority, NHS and other partners can support young people to meet these challenges and achieve their aspirations to enjoy, achieve, be well and safe both in the short and long term
- 3. To identify these opportunities through young people led research ensuring local young people are upskilled, involved and feel their voice has been at the centre of decision making,

This report is presents a formal account of the methods and findings from the project. It was drafted by AYPH in partnership with the peer researchers and Working with Men, as the basis for discussion with RBKC. As a second step we will also be working together with young people to produce a youth-friendly report for distribution in the borough.

The report will be used by Kensington and Chelsea council to inform the public health needs assessment and the shape of youth services in the borough.

⁴ RBKC (2018) Specification Understanding the aspirations, opportunities and challenges of children and young people in North Kensington – A Young People Led Community Research Project. London: Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

2 Project methods

The peer research approach

In youth led peer research, young people from the same community as the respondents provide the driving force for the work. They are involved as co-researchers throughout the whole process, including in deciding the aims of the research, deciding the methods to be used, planning the process of collecting data, undertaking data collection, and reporting back the results. The lines of inquiry that are followed are those that the young people feel are important to them. The key advantage of taking this approach is that peer researchers can focus on the issues of particular importance to their peers, and can build trust with interviewees more swiftly.

Two young people were recruited by Working with Men to act as group facilitators to lead the research. They then convened a group of 16 young people to work with them. These peer researchers were aged between 16 and 20. 11 were young women, the remainder young men. They came from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds and many of them lived in Kensington and Chelsea. All the peer researchers were reimbursed for their time and expenses. The peer researchers spoke to young people in 11 sites including youth centres, schools, a pupil referral unit and a young mother's project.

Working with Men provided training in research methods for the group, and provided ongoing supervision including provision of clear safeguarding arrangements and supporting young people around psychologically sensitive issues that might have arisen during the course of the project. They also provided project management support including communications, planning and logistics so that the young people could effectively reach out across the population and were enabled to meet timelines for the project. Workshops and focus groups with the young people – both for preparation and for discussion of emerging results – were facilitated by AYPH. AYPH provided guidance on research methodology including questionnaire design, other research methods, and ethics. AYPH also processed and analysed the results, and worked together with the young people to analyse and synthesise the findings. This included a workshop which was audio recorded and transcribed with consent from the group. Creation of final reports involved a creative session with the young people to agree content for an accessible report on the findings and this full written report setting out methodology, process and results.

It should be noted that, while the young people visited a number of different locations in the borough, the results should not be regarded as a representative survey of residents of this age. There was inevitably an element of selection involved – both in terms of the locations visited, but also in terms of who did or did not get to speak to a peer researcher at the sites visited. We would expect that those who took part either had something they wanted to say, were more confident, more engaged, or more curious about the whole process. Although the peer researchers did an amazing job in talking to so many of their peers, the sample is still only a very small proportion of young people in the borough. The

results are thus informative, important and revealing, but they should be regarded as more qualitative (hypothesis generating) than quantitative (definitive).

Methods

Initial planning resulted in the decision to conduct a short, face to face interview with other young people, resulting in responses that would be entered into i-pads while the conversation was ongoing. Interviews would take place in a range of locations in the borough where young people gathered, both formally (youth clubs, schools) and informally (park, etc).

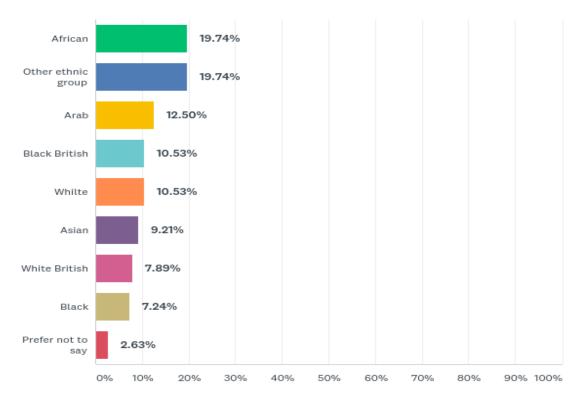
- **Survey**: AYPH drafted a series of survey questions which the peer researchers refined and extended. Topics included young people's perceptions of living in the borough (whether they liked it, felt safe), what they would like to see improved for young people, what they were doing with their time (education, other activities), how they coped or found support for problems. There were also a few profiling questions to ensure reach across different demographics. Thirteen of the questions were closed questions, mostly multiple choice, and the remaining eight were open ended, requiring text input from the peer researchers gathering the evidence. A copy of the survey questions is included in the Appendix. On average the survey took nine minutes to input into Survey Monkey. Throughout March and April 2018 the peer researchers attended youth clubs, schools and other areas where young people gathered. The two Group Facilitators were available to offer any necessary back up (eg telephone support) to the researchers who undertook face-to-face interviews. A Working With Men staff member was also available to provide direct support to young people completing the research. Results were collated by AYPH and presented back to the peer researchers for discussion.
- **Group discussions:** These were held with the peer researchers to explore their interpretation of the results, their understandings and perceptions creating a detailed body of knowledge to inform the findings. The second of these sessions was recorded and transcribed, in order to capture the researcher's verbatim reports of what they thought about the process and the emerging results.
- Generating a youth-friendly version of the output: As well as this formal final report, AYPH worked with the peer-researchers to create a youth-friendly summary of the main messages that they wanted to share with their peers. The peer researchers explored the full range of qualitative data that had been collected selecting the quotations they thought were most important in relation to the area itself, the level of provision, and the importance of coping and support. These were then complied into a leaflet for sharing in youth clubs and other locations. More information is available at www.youngpeopleshealth.org.uk/peer-research.

Participants

In addition to the 18 peer researchers, a total of 154 young people were involved in one to one interviews. All 154 were young people living in the borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

The majority of the interviewees responding to the survey were aged 11-15 (46%) or 16-18 (35%), with the remainder aged under 10 (8%) or 19-26 (10%).

As Figure 1 demonstrates, respondents represented a range of different ethnicities.





The participants were spread across 18 wards in the borough, but the majority were centred in the northern areas, with over half being based in Goldthorne (28%), Notting Dale (16%) and Dalgrano (13%).

Reflecting their age, respondents were mostly engaged in education up to age 18 (86%). Others were involved in work (part-time and full-time), education past 18, unemployment or volunteering.

3 Results

In this section we bring together the results from the survey, including both the closed and open-ended responses, together with quotations from the focus group with the peer researchers, drawing on their interpretations of what they found in the interviews.

Thoughts about the area

The majority of the young people taking part in the survey were clearly positive about the local area. Nearly all responded that they either loved or liked it, with only 3% reporting 'not really'. The best things about the area for them included being part of a close and friendly community, the opportunities available, and the range of places to go and things to do. These included parks, youth clubs and sporting activities. The peer researchers agreed that they heard a lot of responses about the positive aspects of community. One said:

"I'd say it stood out that a lot of people did say that even if it's not a great area they wouldn't change it for anything basically. They still really believe in community, they still really, sort of, they enjoy what's there, what's available for them".

Young people also responded positively about diversity in the area, the multicultural dimension, and the accessibility of the area and availability of public transport. In terms of diversity, as one peer researcher put it, young people in the area have a "higher tolerance", "because you're growing in diversity – you're not just placed into diversity, you've actually grown with an Asian friend, a black friend, a Jewish friend – there's just so many people". A summary of the frequency of particular words arising in their responses is presented in Figure 2.

Figure 2: What are the best things about being a young person around here?⁵

Centres Freedom Activities Social Shops Bouncy Castle Opportunities Play Friends Schools Community Variety Youth Clubs Lots of Places Young People Worries Support Learn Parks Loads

However the safety ratings were not as positive as the general 'liking' ratings. On average, on a scale from 0-100, they rated their feelings of safety at 63. Generally, the worst things about living in the area included gangs, crime and violence, bullying, bad influences, poor

⁵ Figure 2 is a word cloud automatically generated from the survey including all the words which young people used in their responses to this question. The larger the word is the more young people said it. Very small words will have only been said by a very small number of young people.

housing, Grenfell, drama and tension, although in fairness a significant proportion simply responded 'nothing' in answer to this question. Figure 3 presents a summary of the frequency of particular words arising in response to their answer to this question.

Figure 3: What are the worst things about being a young person around here?⁶

Bullying Safe Not Enough Activities Places Martial Arts Age Stabbings Think Grenfell Neighbours Young Fights Gang Drama Crime Government Police Shops Antisocial Behaviour Safety Inequality Education Big Poor Youth Clubs Trouble Support

The peer researchers confirmed that "...a lot of them were saying that the violence, the gang violence, was the worst thing...". One reported that:

"...those living in the area they see crime, whether that's the handling of drugs or whether that's post-code wars or gangs just in general, or antisocial behaviour with people doing this, doing that – that is a day-to-day thing in that area".

However the peer researchers also reflected that they felt the importance of local inequality had not been fully reflected in the answers, although it did crop up occasionally, perhaps because this is a hard thing to put into a couple of words in a quick interview. Yet, in their view, "...it's blatant the disparity there is in the borough, and I think that just leaves opportunity for comparison and makes people feel worse about their financial situation". As one reported:

"...you can have an estate with say the majority of working class, and right next to it is a house worth X amount of millions. And there's a clear [] line where you can see differences but we'd never really interfere with each other."

Another commented that:

"...it's sort of the feeling that you're lessor of a person, if you like, or you're sort of not on their...they're on a level which you can't reach...you can work as hard as you want but what's facing you, if you like, is a thing you can never reach, a thing you will never be able to attain."

⁶ Figure 3 is a word cloud automatically generated from the survey including all the words which young people used in their responses to this question. The larger the word is the more young people said it. Very small words will have only been said by a very small number of young people.

Views on current provision for young people

Figure 4 shows that this was a fairly engaged group of young people who reported doing a quite wide range of activities in the local area. This may reflect the fact that many of the interviews were undertaken in youth clubs, where activities were going on.

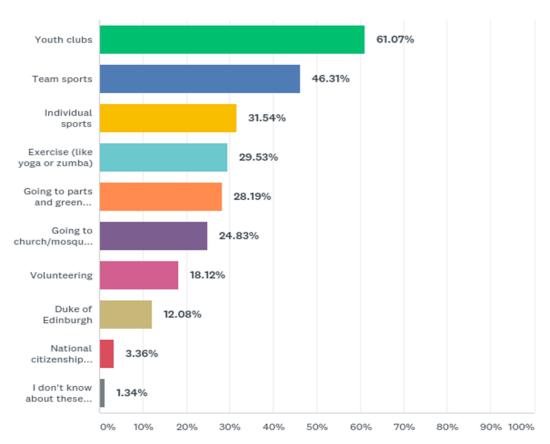


Figure 4: What sports and activities do you do?

In response to an open ended question about specially what these activities were, young people gave a variety of responses including the youth forum, St Clement James, Canalside, Epic activity programmes during the holidays, Break4You, St Quintin's, St Marks's, boxing club, young mother's programme, YAA, Spid (?), Harrow youth club, football, basketball and football clubs (often at the Harrow Centre).

Generally young people liked these activities and regarded them positively, emphasising that they were fun, enjoyable and exciting. In response to an open-ended question, they commented that while they could be improved, they also opened doors to other opportunities, promoted feelings of community, kept them busy (*"They are good at keeping me out of trouble"*) and helped them to find out what they liked. A number of respondents commented on the importance of activities in promoting self-confidence, helping with *"better thinking"*, and *"personal development"*. They also facilitated conversations that might be tricky in other situations, with one respondent commenting *"They're good because*"

they teach us to come together and talk to us about real issues in London. Don't want to feel like I can't talk about these subjects".

The peer researchers emphasised the importance of youth centres as safe spaces for young people where they could socialise with and get support from friends : "... you could socialise with everyone, and I remember a couple saying that everyone knew everyone so it was a nice place for friends to get together." Youth centres were also spaces for young people to be safe while parents were at work "And loads of parents work late and don't come back until six or seven or whatever time, the child is accompanied by adults in a sense".

Respondents were asked whether they had wanted to do an activity in the last few months but had not been able to. Although the majority (64%) said 'no', - indicating that they had not been held up from doing something, 53 respondents said yes and mentioned having to work, activities being too expensive, parents preventing them attending and too much school work as reasons for not being able to take part in an activity. In addition the peer researchers had some additional reflections on the result. As one commented,

"I feel like most of them said no, because there's a lack of motivation and aspiration in young people. So many people just do nothing, they just wander the streets or they go and do something, carry on doing what they want to do, and they don't actually aspire to achieve more".

Another added that in some cases it was not the offer of activities or personal motivation that limited what people could do, but the restrictions of cultural factors. In one case they suggested that some young women had said they were not allowed to take part, but they were shy to admit this, so simply put 'no' instead.

The peer researchers returned to this theme at another point in their reflections, in discussions about where young people might like to be in five years' time. Although some respondents had mentioned university, many did not. The peer researchers felt this might simply be a realistic reflection of the opportunities and support available;

"I think as well that university was a big one in terms of a lot of the young people I interviewed...in the very north of the borough, they wouldn't say university and taking that step of life, they would say they want to start a business, they want to get a job, they want to go to college, they want to do this apprenticeship, they want to do this internship. They wouldn't say they want to go to university".

The peer researchers felt that young people's view of their future was reflecting their current situation and school environment. Thus,

"If you've come from somewhere where you don't have everything you want, you don't see yourself as like doing something that you want to do, you do something that you have to do. So if they've always lived with not having enough money, then their next practical step would be to get a job....". These responses suggest a number of actual and perceived barriers for young people when accessing activities in the borough and highlight the importance of clear, accessible information about what's on offer and cost.

Views on what young people need in the borough

Respondents were asked what they would change in the area if they wanted to improve things for young people. Selecting from a list of options, the majority suggested less crime (55%), better housing (46%), better access to youth clubs (44%), more jobs (34%) and more green space (21%). Very similar responses were given in response to separate question on what they felt young people needed in Kensington and Chelsea. The results from this second question are presented in Figure 5. Respondents were asked to pick the three most important categories for them.

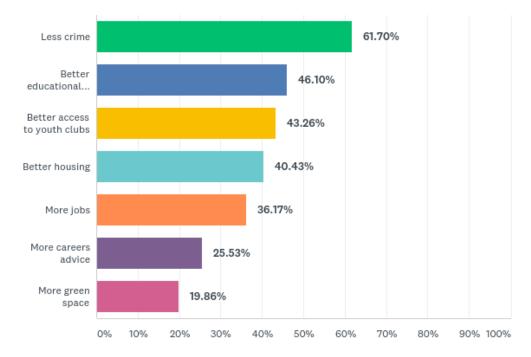


Figure 5: What do you think young people need in Kensington and Chelsea?

Looking forward, the kinds of youth activities and programmes that young people would like to see in their local area included more sport, particularly new sports rather than football and for example football for girls; more help with life skills, personal development and careers advice; more self-defence; more creative and art based activities including drama, art and music; the opportunity to experience new cultures and visit new places and more community events. One respondent said that it was important for activities to focus on *"helping people succeed with their talents"* reflecting the need for provision to be responsive to what young people in the area want. Their responses are summarised in a word cloud in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Looking forward, what youth activities/programmes would you like to see in your local area?⁷

Violence Local Kick Boxing Trampolines Art Places to Play Parks Green Space Music Advice Sports Job Clubs Young Football Workshops Activities Ice Skating Trips Community Events Careers Funding Programmes Gang Basketball Areas Schools Facilities

In their reflections after the interviews, the peer reviewers commented on the possibilities for building on the community strengthening that had occurred after the Grenfell disaster, in a way that would directly benefit young people. As they commented:

"I think community events is a really good one. I feel like after Grenfell the community has become a lot more close-knit, and I think it would be good if we could keep that going".

However they also suggested that, in order to be truly successful, these kinds of activities needed to have a wider appeal across the population, because *"it's mainly the working class that are there"*.

Coping and support

When asked where they went for support, young people's responses reflected the critical importance of family, which was selected by over four out of five of the interviewees. Figure 7 shows this and the other categories rated as important to them.

⁷ Figure 6 is a word cloud automatically generated from the survey including all the words which young people used in their responses to this question. The larger the word is the more young people said it. Very small words will have only been said by a very small number of young people.

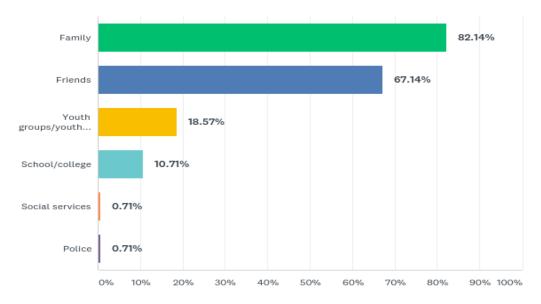


Figure 7: Where or who do you go to for support?

The majority (95%) said they were happy with the support they got. They also made use of a range of other coping mechanisms, including music, going to the gym, playing computer games. Their open-ended responses to this question are summarised in Figure 8.

Figure 8: What do you do to take your mind off problems and who helps you to do that?⁸

Sleep Mind Speaking Eat Youth Club Active Gym Break Play Phone Music Smoke Friends Write Family Mom Mum Art Sports Fun Football School Boxing Parents

Mental health was not an issue that was directly reflected in many of the survey responses about coping and support – or indeed anything else - but the peer researchers were sure that it was a major issue for young people in the borough, and that the lack of mention reflected problems around stigma rather than prevalence or importance of the topic. Constructs of mental health were still inhibiting people from disclosing problems, because *"mental health is linked to crazy..."*. This is partly cultural – *"...that stigma that's still attached to it is very hard to get away from I think in some communities"*. In order to avoid the stigma, the peer researchers felt that young people in the area sometimes had a tendency to cope in a different way, rather than through acknowledging the question, commenting that *"It's not necessarily ignoring it but there are just other ways to deal with it without calling it a mental illness sort of thing"*.

⁸ Figure 8 is a word cloud automatically generated from the survey including all the words which young people used in their responses to this question. The larger the word is the more young people said it. Very small words will have only been said by a very small number of young people.

Additional reflections from the peer researchers

The peer reviewers felt that several issues came up in their discussions with respondents that it was not possible to properly record in the survey. Issues of class, inequality and mental health have already been discussed above.

An additional issue was the fallout from Grenfell. Although the peer researchers had decided to exclude this from direct questions, as it would not be possible to do it justice in such a short survey and to protect young people completing the survey from potential distress, they did feel that "at the youth clubs specially, they mentioned Grenfell a lot". One reported, "...they wouldn't have written that down, or divulged that information, but generally the whole area we kind of surveyed, the majority were affected in some way". This was partly focused on the implications of the disruption caused by housing moves and school closure. As one noted: "They kept saying it disrupted their education a lot. Someone said their uncle had to move houses several times or something, and then he said that interrupted obviously the education...".

The peer researchers also reflected on the implicit message in the findings about the need to build up trust and good relationships between young people in the area and those providing activities and support, and felt there was room for improvement in this respect. After observing interactions in one youth club, one researcher commented:

"...and I feel like there isn't that kind of maybe trust between authority or anyone that is in the youth club. Yes, maybe they might have a conversation and stuff like that with them, but like a deeper conversation where they could kind of hack the problems, not hack it, but kind of deal with it in a different way, and like that that person to talk to".

The researchers also noted that they had not recorded a lot of overt responses on the topic of drugs, but sensed that this was a more important topic than the results currently reflect. They observed that even with the best will in the world, it was difficult to persuade young people that results were truly confidential, in that "no one believes anything's anonymous these days...". As a result, some 'aside' responses were given that indicated to more of an issue, but not in a way that could be captured in the survey. In one case, the researcher said:

"I'm not going to lie – I heard some people say drugs though, but they were saying it like 'how would they deal with their issue' and they said drugs, but then also laughed it off, so they didn't want me to think they were being serious....when I re-asked the question they did give me a different answer...but you could kind of tell that probably was their way of dealing with the issue...".

It seems fitting that the final reflection in this section is on the importance of listening to young people. Although the survey was a relatively short, abbreviated way of getting some insight into young people's lives in the borough, the material generated is rich and informative. This is the result of the important dynamic between the researchers and their peers in the local community, built on shared experiences and trust.

As one of the two leaders of the peer research study said:

"...a lot of young people want to be taken seriously, more seriously anyway. They sort of feel, like even when they were doing the survey, they were saying to us what's it like and is it going to go anywhere, is anything going to be done? If we say we have these issues, are they going to sort it out for us, is anyone actually going to listen to us? So I think that another concern for them was whether they were being listened to and recognised as people, rather than sort of just part of a family at home. They are individual people and they have individual needs. Which I think sometimes can be ignored."

5 Conclusions and recommendations

Young people in Kensington and Chelsea believe in community. They feel part of their local area, are generally very attached to it, and enjoy taking part in local activities.

However they are very sensitive to the risks and threats that the area also poses to them. Many of them do not feel very safe. They are concerned about crime, violence, gangs and antisocial behaviour. They are anxious about housing, and about the likelihood – or not – that they will be able to afford to stay in the area. They are very aware of the inequality around them, and how this impacts on them and potentially translates into limited opportunities. They have been deeply affected by the trauma that the whole community has experienced in the last year, even if they were not directly involved themselves.

They like much of what the borough has to offer them, but they also feel that there is more that could be done, specifically with them in mind. They like activities that keep them engaged, help them to use their time constructively, and contribute to their feelings of wellbeing and fun. They like meeting other young people. Activities do not need to be highly structured, as simply providing opportunities for meaningful engagement in a safe environment is important.

Recommendations for developing the youth offer in RKBC

- Promote activities that are inclusive across the socio-economic spectrum in the borough
- Sustain and build on the pulling-together of the community following Grenfell
- Focus on more outreach to access young people who are not currently engaged and those who do not have family support
- Focus on facilitating meaningful, trusting and supportive relationships between young people and adults (youth workers and other statutory sector workers). This needs to run alongside well managed and fun activities.
- Develop the 'art' side of the offer, as well as the 'sport' side
- Sustain and improve safe spaces for young people to come together
- Recognise and support families and peer led work
- Focus on reducing stigma of mental health and other issues important to young people in the borough
- Continue to provide a range of platforms for young people to have their voice heard on the things that are important to them.

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We are very grateful to RBKC for funding this piece of research and for their support for the peer-led research method. All the credit needs to go to the amazing young people who took part, both as researchers and as participants, and we are grateful to all of them for sharing their time and expertise with us. So thank you very much to – Alan, Amira, Ayman, Azhar, Fatima, Hadeel, Hala, Hamza, Hassan, Jamil, Joanna, Nourhan, Nooran, Parvez, Rajaa, Scarlett, Tasmin, and Tommy.

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APPENDIX – SURVEY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN RBKC

What's it like being a young person in Kensington and Chelsea?

This is a survey about what it is like for young people in Kensington and Chelsea, and what young people need to be well and achieve their aspirations. Young people helped design the questions in the survey and there are only about 20 questions, so it will only take up to 10 minutes to do.

All your answers will be confidential and will be used by the council to help plan better services and support for young people in the area.

If you have any questions about the survey or you need to talk to someone afterwards we share details for someone to contact at the end.

1. How long have you lived in the area?

- Less than 6 months
- 6 months to one year
- More than a year

2. Do you like it?

- Not really
- It's OK
- Love it!

3. What are the BEST things about being a young person around here?

4. What are the WORST things about being a young person around here?

5. Do you feel safe? Scale from 0 (not safe) – 100 (very safe)

6. What would you change about your local area if you wanted to improve things for young people? Please tick all that apply

- Better access to youth clubs
- Less crime
- More green space
- Better housing
- More jobs
- Other (please specify)

7. What are you doing with your time right now? Please tick all that apply

- Education up to 18
- Education 18+
- Part-time work
- Full-time work
- Apprenticeship/work based learning
- Unemployed
- Volunteering
- Other (please specify)

8. What do you see yourself doing in 5 years' time?

9. What subjects or parts of school, work, or your apprenticeship do you enjoy most?

10. What sports and activities do you do? Please tick all that apply

- Volunteering
- Youth clubs
- National citizenship scheme
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Team sports
- Individual sports
- Exercise (like yoga or Zumba)
- Going to parks and green spaces
- Going to church/mosque/other religious community
- I don't know about these opportunities

11. What youth activities or programmes do you attend in the borough?

12. What do you think about these youth activities/programmes?

13. In the last few months have you wanted to do an activity but couldn't?

- Yes
- No
- If yes, could you tell us why?

14. What do you do to take your mind off problems and who helps you to do that?

15. Where or who do you go to for support? Please tick up to THREE as the most important

- Family
- Friends
- School/college
- Youth groups/youth workers
- Social services
- Police
- Other (please specify)

16. Are you happy with the support you get?

- Yes
- No
- Can you tell us why?

17. What do you think young people need in Kensington and Chelsea? Please pick the THREE most important

- Better access to youth clubs
- Less crime
- More green space
- Better housing
- More jobs
- Better educational opportunities/options
- More careers advice
- Other (please specify)

18. Looking forward, what youth activities/programmes would you like to see in your local area?

19. How do you describe your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say
- Other

20. How do you describe your ethnicity?

- African
- Black
- Black British
- Asian
- Arab

- White
- White British
- Other ethnic group
- Prefer not to say

21. How old are you?

22. What area of Kensington do you live in?

- Dalgarno
- St Helen's
- Golborne
- Notting Dale
- Colville
- Norland
- Pembridge
- Holland
- Campden
- Abingdon
- Queens Gate
- Earl's Court
- Redcliffe
- Courtfield
- Brompton and Hans Town
- Stanley
- Chelsea Riverside
- Royal Hospital
- Other (please specify)

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE!

This survey is led by peer researchers supported by Working with Men and the Association for Young People's Health.

If you want to know more about it, or if you need support, you can contact Paul XXX, email XXX