

Making Sheffield Fairer

By tackling poverty and social exclusion

Poverty, Social Exclusion & Fairness Partnership

RECOMMENDATIONS & NEXT STEPS

Sheffield City Partnership Board – Friday 17th January

Discussion Points

- ❖ It is timely to re-energise the strategic partnership work around fairness, tackling poverty and social exclusion
- ❖ There should be clarity over the purpose and added value of the PSEF group, including how it links to other activity in the city
- ❖ We need to establish some strategic direction, shared priorities and action points

Background to the current structures

- Child Poverty Act 2010 – established Tackling Poverty Partnership/Strategy
- Fairness Commission – led to 2013 report, Our Fair City Group
- 2017 Review – identified need to ensure that our collective energies are deployed to have the highest impact and avoid duplication and confusion
- 2019 – pause in meetings, staffing changes, council restructure, membership changes

Purpose: things to consider

This group needs to:

1. Work effectively and in a joined-up way with other partnerships. E.g. Sheffield City Partnership, Health & Wellbeing Board, Making Sheffield Fairer Campaign Group.
2. Add value to existing activity – there is already lots of work taking place across the city, so focus is on supporting and enhancing
3. Provide a strategic approach to the challenge of tackling poverty which takes account of the causes and structural factors, as well as mitigation of the effects.

Using knowledge from round the table & listening to communities

Use evidence to identify & define big challenges

Structure meetings to focus on priorities & new issues as they arise

Look for ways to influence locally & nationally

Purpose

Talk to partners & policy makers

E.g. responding quickly by setting up task groups such as Universal Credit Partnership

Help the city find shared solutions

Talk to people working directly on this agenda & aim to influence wider policy

Purpose: how are we going to do this?

1. Be guided by evidence and lived experience – national, local and grassroots
2. Identify current strengths and weaknesses
3. Use this to establish a set of ongoing priorities - but be responsive to emerging issues
4. Work with SCPB to agree these priorities and come back to update on progress/challenges
5. Communicate priorities widely to partners
6. Work with Making Sheffield Fairer Campaign Group to campaign and influence around priority issues

Poverty & Fairness Priorities: where to focus our efforts?

Causes

- **National structural issues – awareness and campaigning**
- **Local – understanding impacts of big and little decisions in policy and delivery**

Impacts

- **What are we doing to tackle impacts?**
- **Are we joined-up?**
- **Where are the gaps?**
- **Listening and responding to people's experiences?**

Next Steps?

The Board is asked to consider the following recommendations:

- 1. SCPB to support development of shared 'partner-owned' priorities**
- 2. PSEF group empowered to look at evidence and identify priorities – existing membership?**
- 3. Process to draw on SCPB inclusive economy work, health & wellbeing strategy, engagement work and State of Sheffield 2020**
- 4. PSEF group to come back to future meeting to share findings**

SCC Governance Review – update

Sheffield City Partnership Board – 17
January 2020

What is this all about and is it important?



- This is a debate that goes to the heart of the democratic and civic life of the city
- As well as being a discussion about decision-making models, it is more broadly about how the council should work in the future, how it should involve citizens, communities and partners, and how it is accountable to the people of Sheffield
- Because of this, the council launched the Big City Conversation to ensure that a wide variety of different views and perspectives are heard during this process:

www.sheffield.gov.uk/bigcityconversation

Background

- July 2019 – Debate at Full Council on an interim petition received about changing SCC’s decision making model
- August 2019 – Valid petition received from It’s Our City triggering referendum
- October 2019 – Big City Conversation launched
- October to December 2019 – OSMC process to develop governance principles
- 8 January 2020 – Full Council debate on BCC findings and governance principles
- 5 February 2020 – Full Council debate initial proposals
- By 11 March 2020 – Cabinet agrees a proposal for the governance models to be voted on in the referendum
- 7 May 2020 - referendum

The referendum itself

- Will be held on 7 May 2020
- Open to all registered local government electors in Sheffield
- Question for the referendum is set out in legislation:

How would you like Sheffield City Council to be run?

By a leader who is an elected councillor chosen by a vote of the other elected councillors. This is how the council is run now.

Or

By one or more committees made up of elected councillors. This would be a change from how the council is run now.

- We will have published proposals for what the committee system will look like, as well as any changes that would be made to the Leader and Cabinet system before the referendum
- We have a year to implement a change to the committee model (i.e. would not come in to effect until May 2021)

OSMC overall finding:

“There is no ‘perfect’ governance structure – there are advantages and disadvantages to all models – it is how we operate within those structures that will ultimately determine how successful they are.”

We have been given a steer by Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's (OSMC) review



Sheffield City Council...

1. is a trusted organisation where decisions are taken in an open and transparent way, and accountability is clear.
2. is a representative council where all councillors are involved in and able to influence decision making
3. engages, involves and listens to citizens, communities and partners
4. has a modern and responsive approach to governance which reflects the increasingly complex policy making environment
5. is a reflective council that is committed to continuously improving governance

Big City Conversation

What is the Big City Conversation?

What is it?

- Talking to people in every part of the city about the issues that matter to them
- How Sheffielders:
 - Want get involved in their local community and local issues
 - Want to influence decision making

Big City Conversation: approach

**Citywide
survey**

**Pop-up
conversations**

**Organised
discussions**

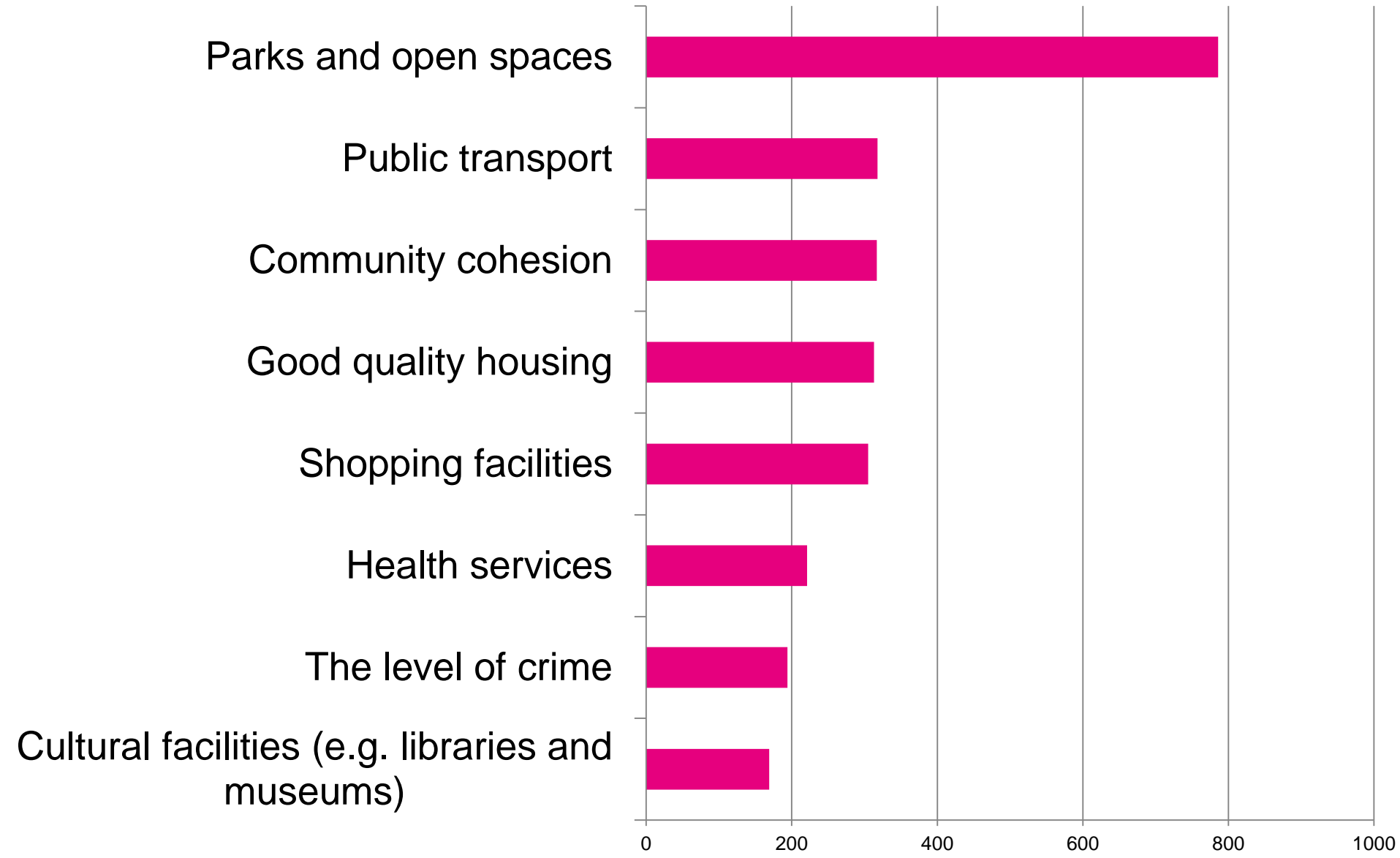
Big City Conversation: current responses

- Over 2,200 people have engaged with the Big City Conversation
- Survey is live until mid-January
- 1,322 responses (to 20th December)
- Will ultimately analyse alongside the wider material from the face-to-face discussions.

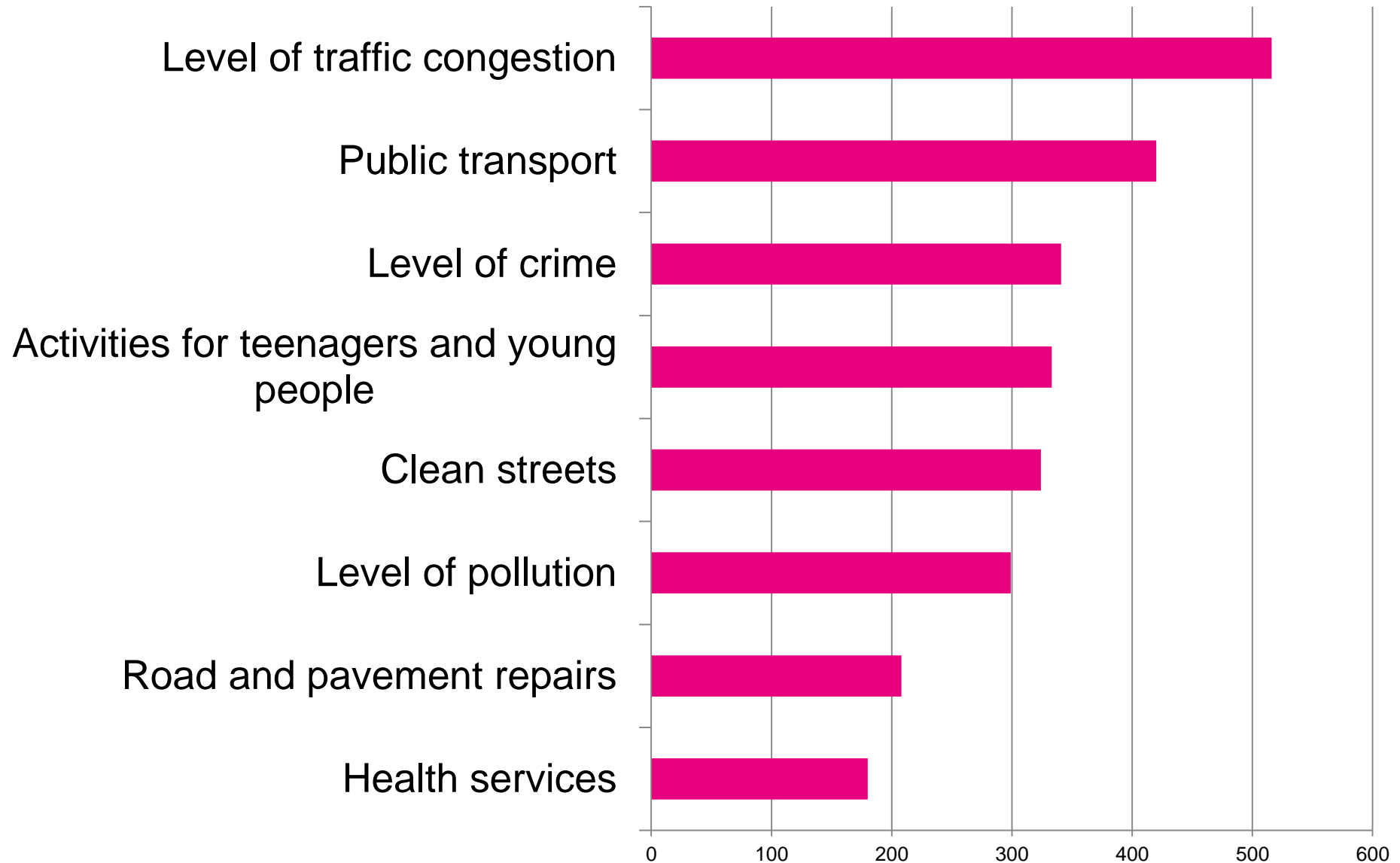
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What do people like best about where they live?



...and what most needs improving

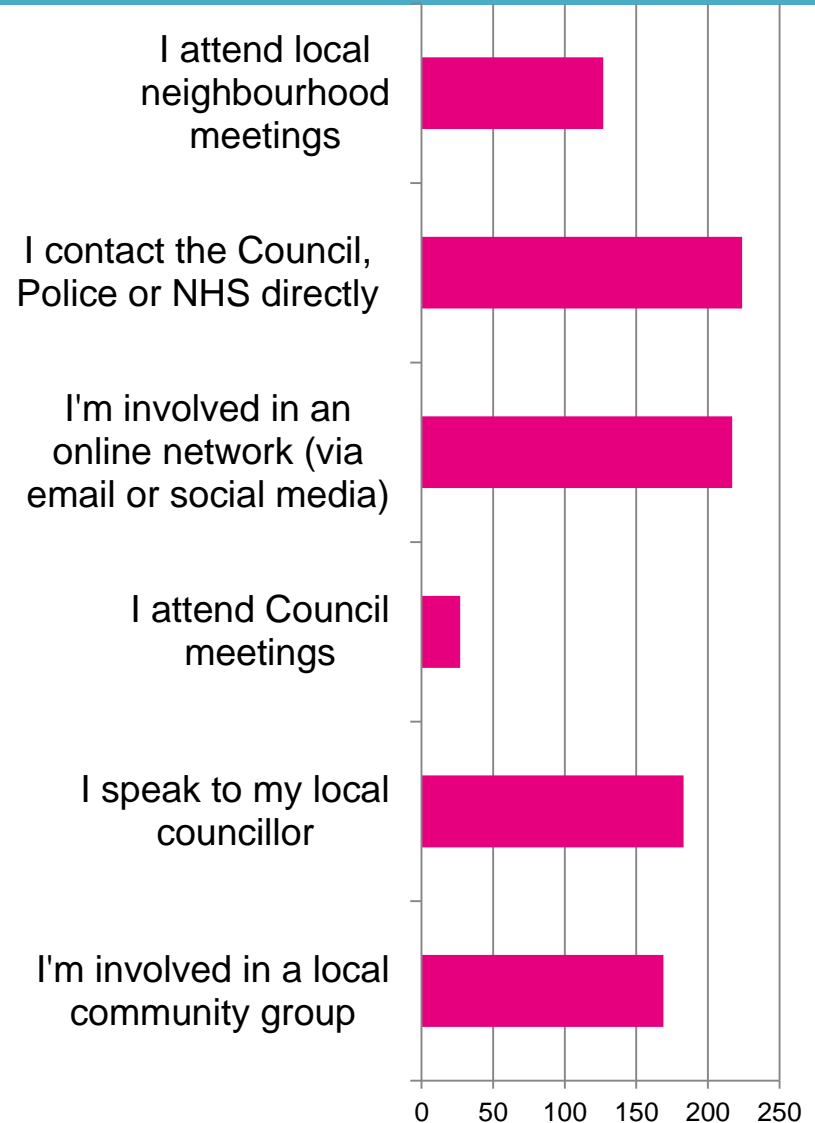


How well informed people feel

	Informed	Not well informed	Don't know
How decisions are made about local area	23%	73%	2%
Standard of service you should expect from local public services	37%	60%	3%
How well public services are performing	22%	73%	4%
How to complain about local public services	39%	57%	3%
About local public services overall	26%	72%	1%

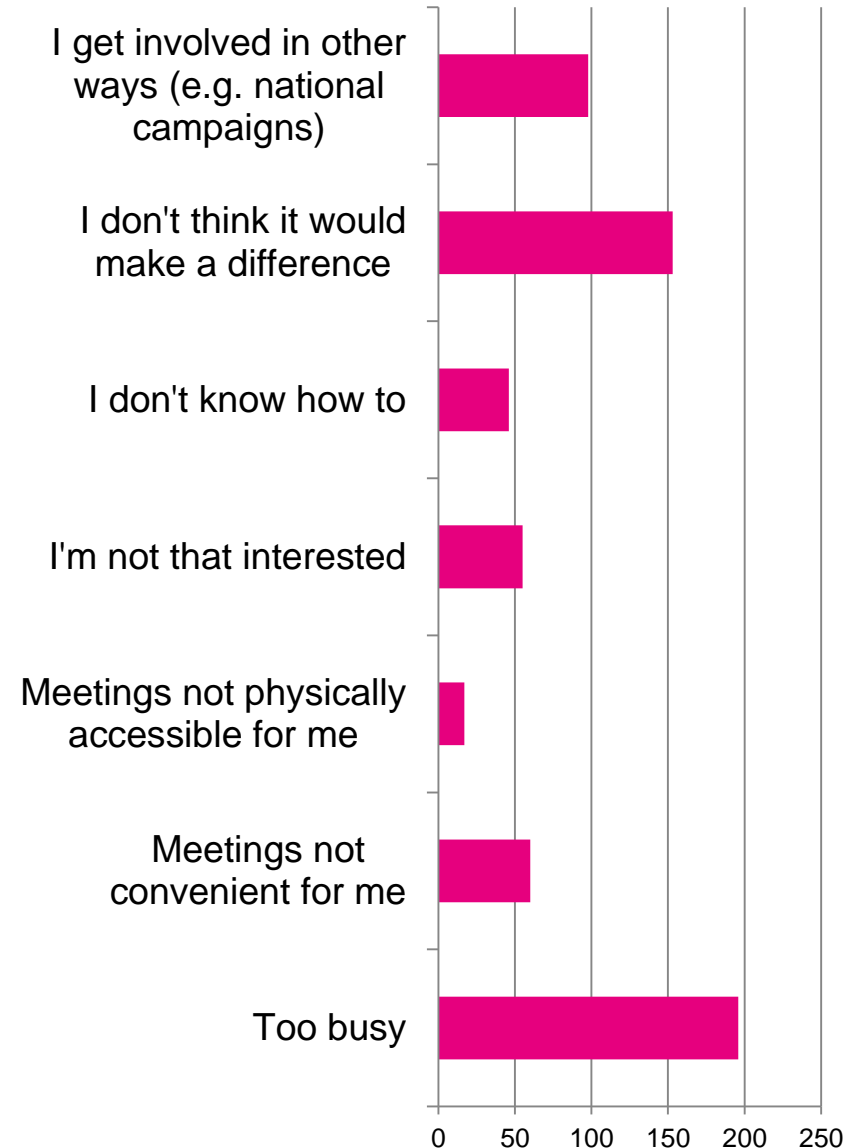
Getting involved in local issues...

- **36%** of respondents say that they get involved in local issues in their communities (63% don't).
- Fairly even mix of ways that people choose to get involved – but very few attend council meetings.
- Those that do get involved are sceptical that it makes a difference (29%).



Getting involved in local issues...

- Of those that don't get involved in local issues, the main reasons are that they:
 - are too busy
 - Don't think it would make a difference
 - Get involved in other ways (eg. national campaigns)

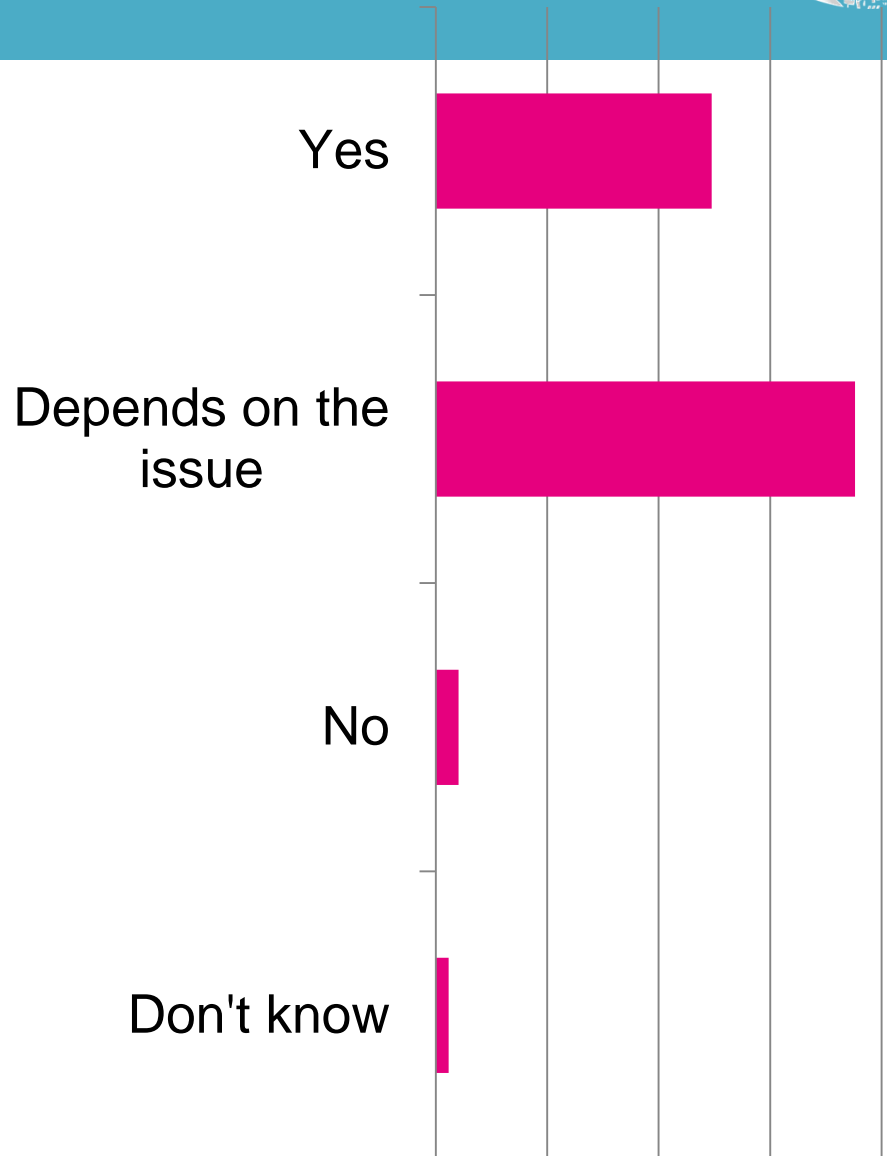


Finding out more about local services/decisions



Influencing decision making

- Around 60% of respondents disagree that they can influence decisions affecting their local area.
- 37% would generally like to be more involved in local decision making but most specify that it depends on the issue (58%).



Engagement Update: ScHARR Project & State of Sheffield 2020

Friday 17th January 2020

Dr Amy Barnes,
Lecturer in Public Health, University of Sheffield

Laura White,
Partnership Manager



Background

The School of Health and related Research have secured funding to carry out research with other UK based Universities on placed-based strategies to address inequalities in wealth and health in a time of austerity.

The team is proposing to learn from Sheffield City Partnership Board and its public engagement within their project.

Potential question to examine:

How is Sheffield City Partnership's strategic partnership work on community engagement contributing towards addressing inequalities in the city in a time of resource constraint?

How could we examine the question?

- There are different options depending on the Board's plans for future engagement:
 - Interviews (Board members, SCC engagement team, others involved in the engagement work)
 - Supporting planned/new Partnership Board engagement and generating data on people's perspectives at the same time
 - Supporting group discussion/mapping to understand the value and importance of recent strategic partnership work on addressing inequalities in the city and links to public health
 - Re-analysing material from recent community engagement work
 - Supporting co-analysis of evidence produced / co-production of outputs

Outcomes and Resources

- Sharing of learning about how we can use community engagement to address inequalities in the city
- This could be done through holding events, written/visual outputs, video
- Resources: % time of 2x members of ScHARR staff, some funding for non-staff resources

State of Sheffield 2020

- February – developing posters and animations with Nifty Fox, using the content from SoS 2019
- March onwards – meeting with community groups and partners to share posters; exhibiting posters
- Developing report with Professor David Robinson (this will include the posters and a narrative)
- Launching the report in June 2020

Things to consider

- Audience for the posters and report – traditional audience is local and national policy makers. What about wider city?
- Timescales for capturing and including feedback on initial posters
- Launch Event – what do we want this to look like?
- Where next and how do we link this with learning and best practice/ScHARR work?