

10. Young People

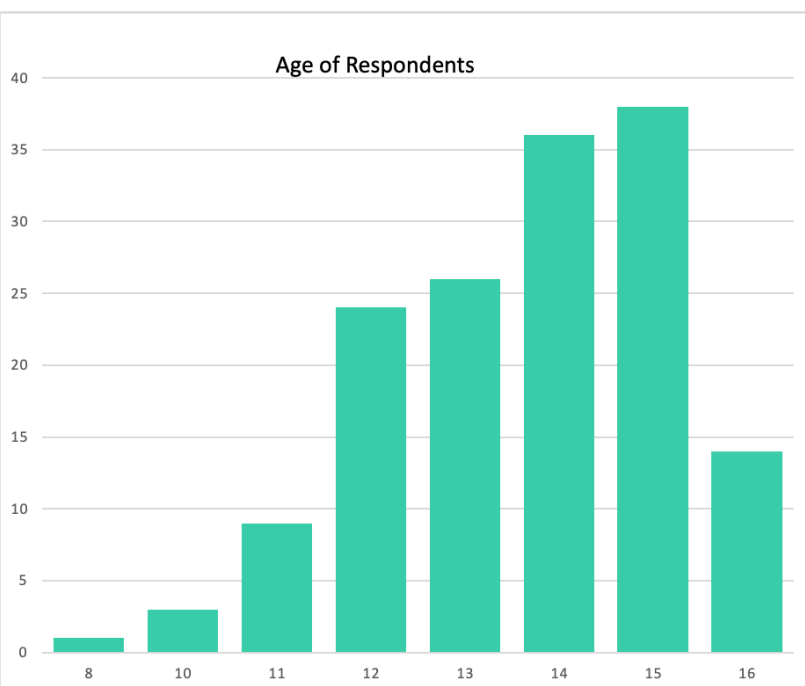
10.1 Background & Demographic of Responses from Young people

At an early stage in the consultation process we took the decision to create a separate, shorter, questionnaire aimed directly at younger people living in, or participating in activities, in Wiveliscombe. Members of the Scouts helped trial the original questionnaire which about 15 young people completed. Kingsmead Academy then kindly offered to share with their students with a direct link. They felt the questionnaire was slightly too long so we worked with them to create a version that worked better for this age group. The end result was that a further 140 young people completed the revised questionnaire.

We did also send information to Wiveliscombe Primary School to go out with their newsletter, but given the age of the respondents we don't believe this elicited many responses.

We're also conscious that we received no responses from young people over 16. Those aged 16 to 19+ will be attending college outside of Wiveliscombe but may still find themselves in Wiveliscombe for social activities. They are also one of the groups who are most dependent on the public bus service on a daily basis.

We combined the results of the 2 questionnaires, as the amendments were fairly minor, to present the results here.



Note - 2 young people's responses were removed from the results as they appeared not to be serious responses

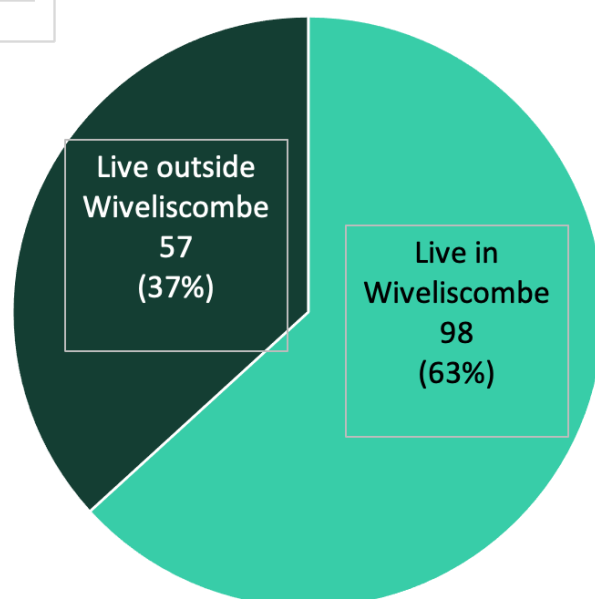
Given that the link shared by Kingsmead elicited such a positive response it's unsurprising that the vast majority of responses came from young people between the ages of 12 and 15.

There was a clear balance of answers from females - 71 - and males - 74. 5 respondents preferred not to state their sex. 1 each declared themselves: non-binary, gender fluid and mingender.

98 live in Wiveliscombe and 57 outside.

Those from outside live in: Stogumber, Bishops Lydeard, Brompton Ralph, Chipstable, Cotford St Luke, Dulverton, East Anstey, Halse, Lydeard St Lawrence, Milverton, Oake, Raddington, Tolland, Waterrow & Wellington - all of which are catchment for Kingsmead school.

17 responded that they have a disability, learning disability and/or health problem that affects what they do. From the answers given to how this impacts their lives it's clear that perhaps only 3 or 4 answers were genuine. These included using a wheelchair to get around x1, walking difficulties x1 and having dyslexia x2.



Action 10.1 Young People Demographics

10.1.1 WTC to follow up with primary school to ascertain 5 to 11 year olds opinions

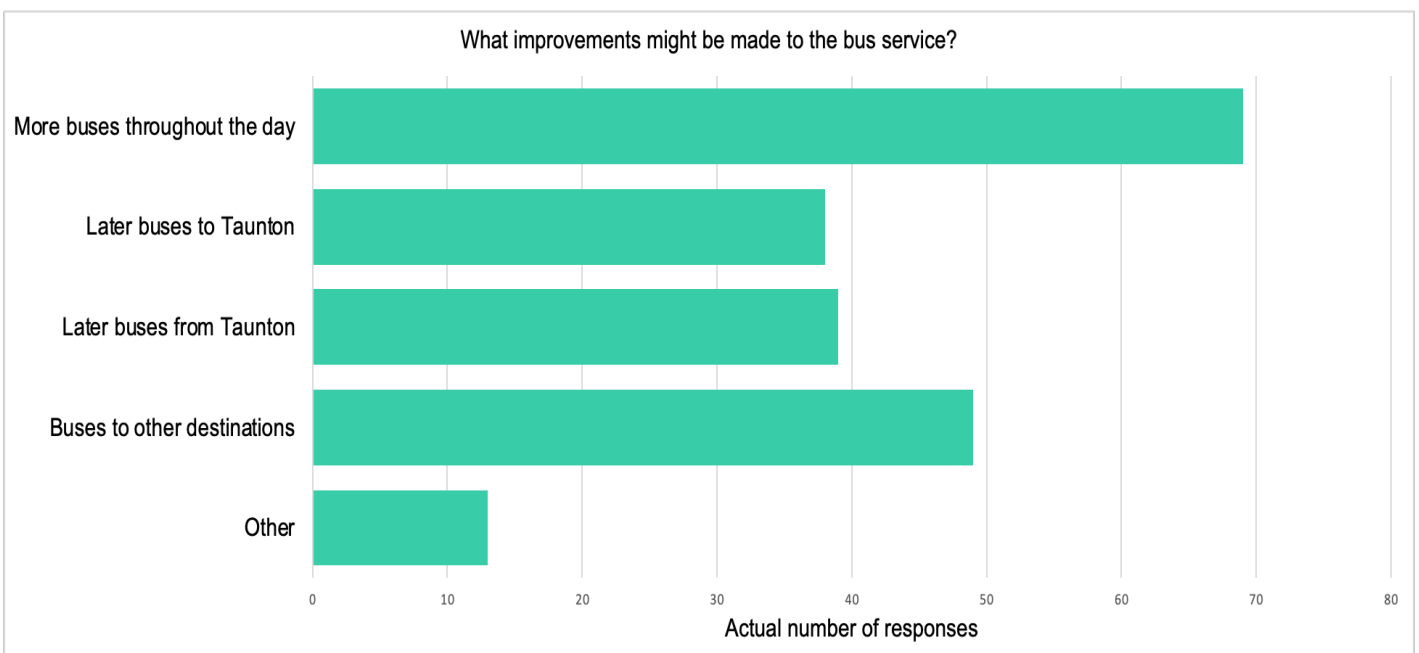
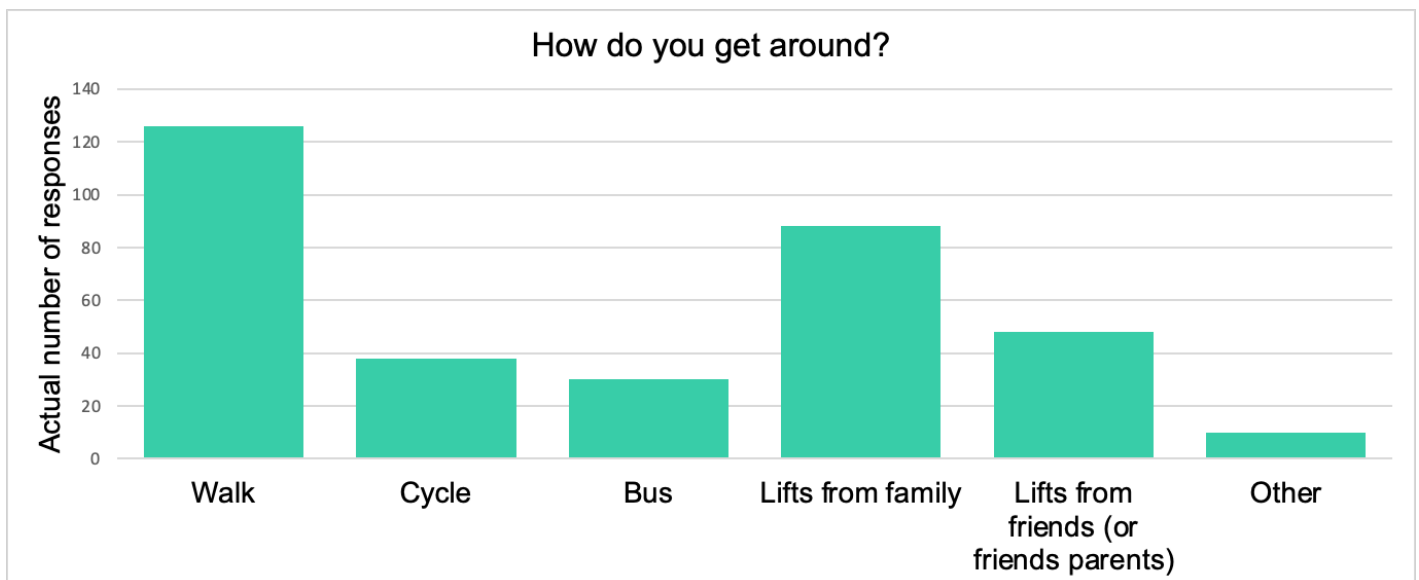
10.1.2 WTC to seek way to reach 16+ (college age)

Note - for ease of answering questions in many instances a list of options was given and respondents were asked to tick all that applied; Yes or no (sometimes maybe); or given the additional option of adding their own thoughts.

10.2 Young People & Transport

We asked people to tick all options that applied from a list to tell us how they get around. Those who gave an answer for 'other' included motorbike, taxi and skateboarding.

We asked those who live in Wiveliscombe 'What improvements might be made to the bus service?' And if they don't use the bus already to give answers that might encourage you to use it - especially if they'll use it to get to college in the future. Most from Wiveliscombe answered, but so did about half of those living outside Wiveliscombe. Of those from outside Wiveliscombe approximately two-thirds are on the 25 route that passes through Wiveliscombe.



Action 10.2 Young People & Transport *Note these actions have been combined with Action 2.6 Public & Community Transport listed below

2.6.1 WTC to continue to press for improved bus services, in particular a later evening bus from Taunton

2.6.2 WTC to communicate with the bus company and Somerset Council to look into the restoration of the service to Wellington

2.6.3 WTC to communicate with the bus company and Somerset Council to look into a separate bus service that prioritises passengers travel beyond Norton Fitzwarren from Taunton direction

2.6.4 WTC to communicate with the bus company and Somerset Council to assess disability access on public transport.

2.6.5 WTC to work with Wivey Link to ensure all those who need the service can afford to use it

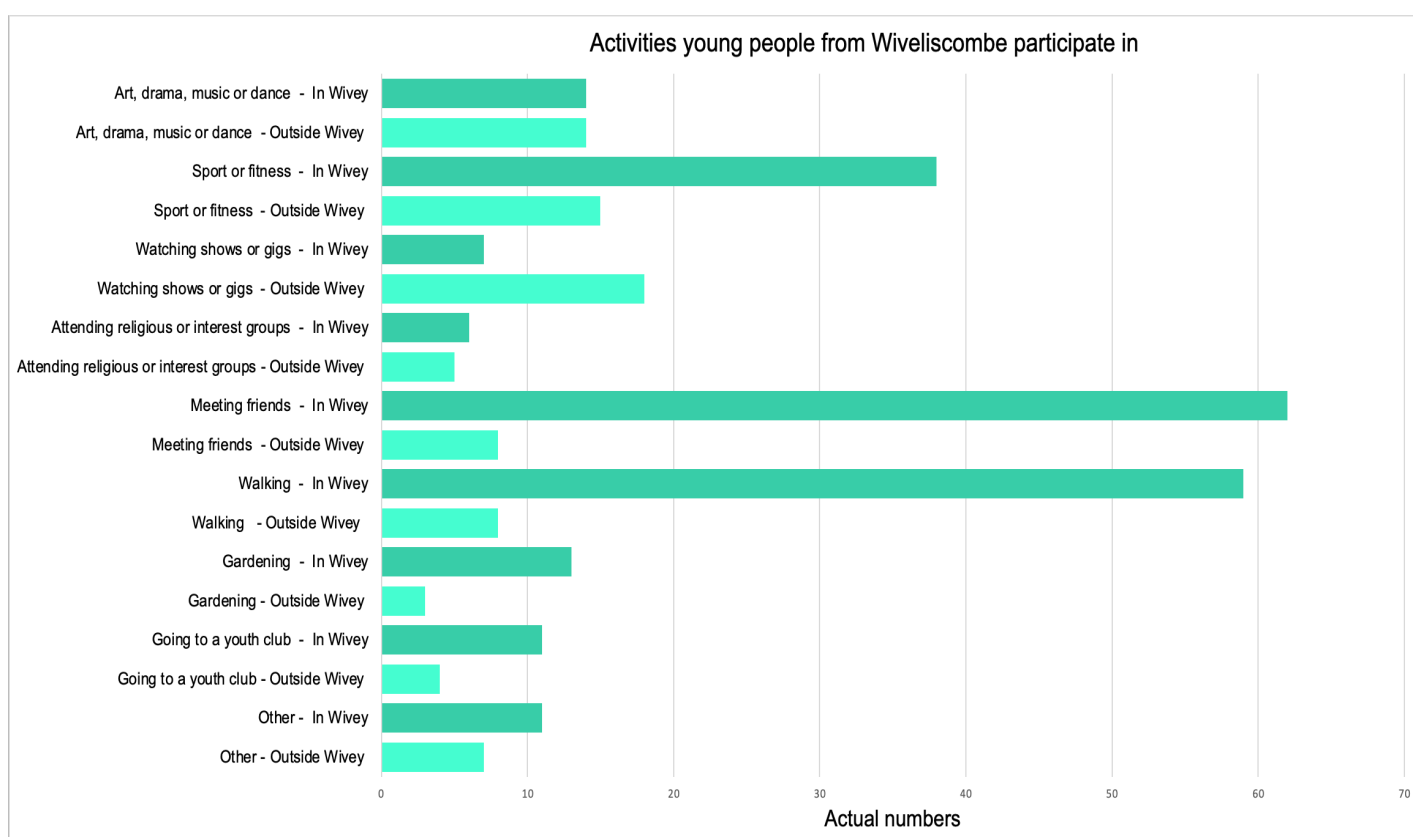
2.6.6 WTC to work with Wivey Link to look at expanding some service to evenings and weekends

2.6.7 WTC to work with Wivey Link to ensure all demographics know that Wivey link its a service for all residents

10.3 Activities

It's useful to understand what out of school activities young people participate in and if they do so within Wiveliscombe or outside. The results in the tables below are given separately for those who live in Wiveliscombe and those who live outside - note that most of the respondents living outside Wiveliscombe attend Kingsmead school. *Note - for ease of answering questions in many instances a list of options was given and respondents were asked to tick all that applied.*

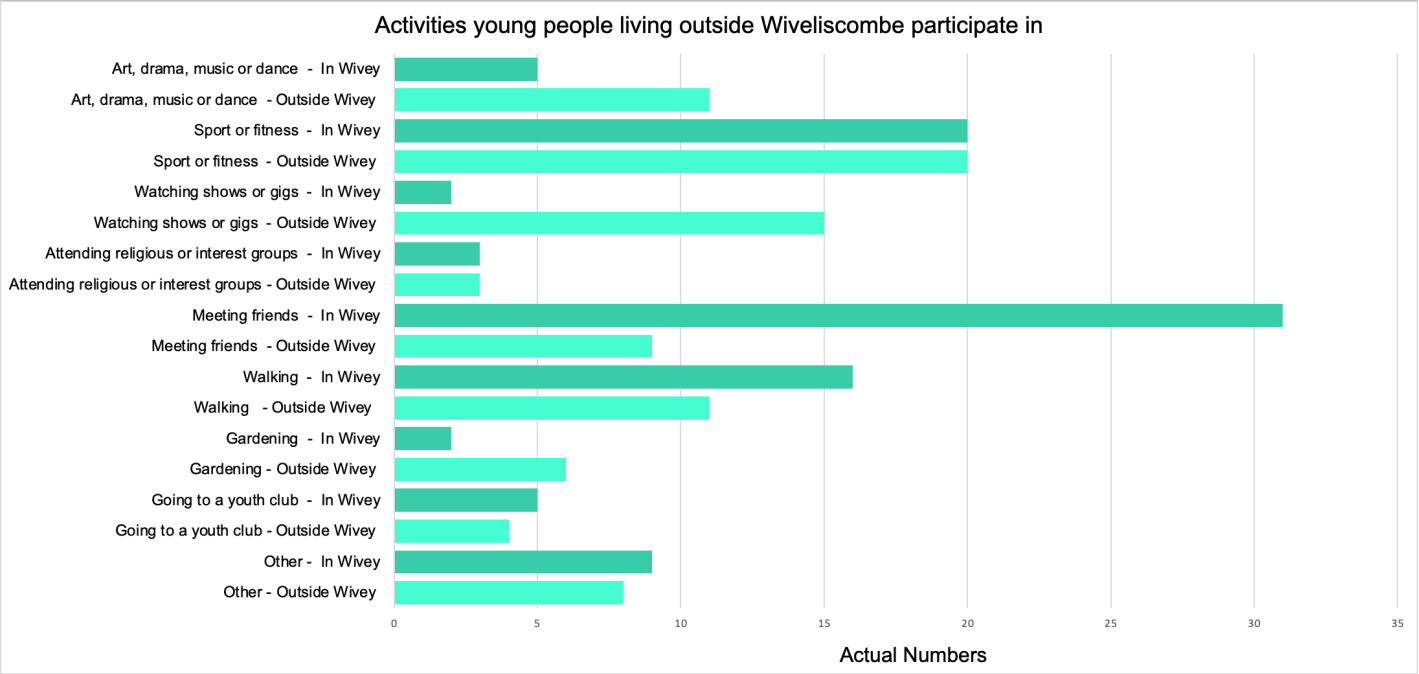
It's noticeable that most young people who live within or outside Wiveliscombe attend shows & gigs outside Wiveliscombe. For Art, drama, music or dance sessions only 50% of young people from Wiveliscombe and 31% of young people living outside attend sessions in Wiveliscombe.



Sport, by contrast, shows that 72% of those living in Wiveliscombe and 50% living outside participate in Wiveliscombe. And when it comes to meeting up with friends most meet up in Wiveliscombe.

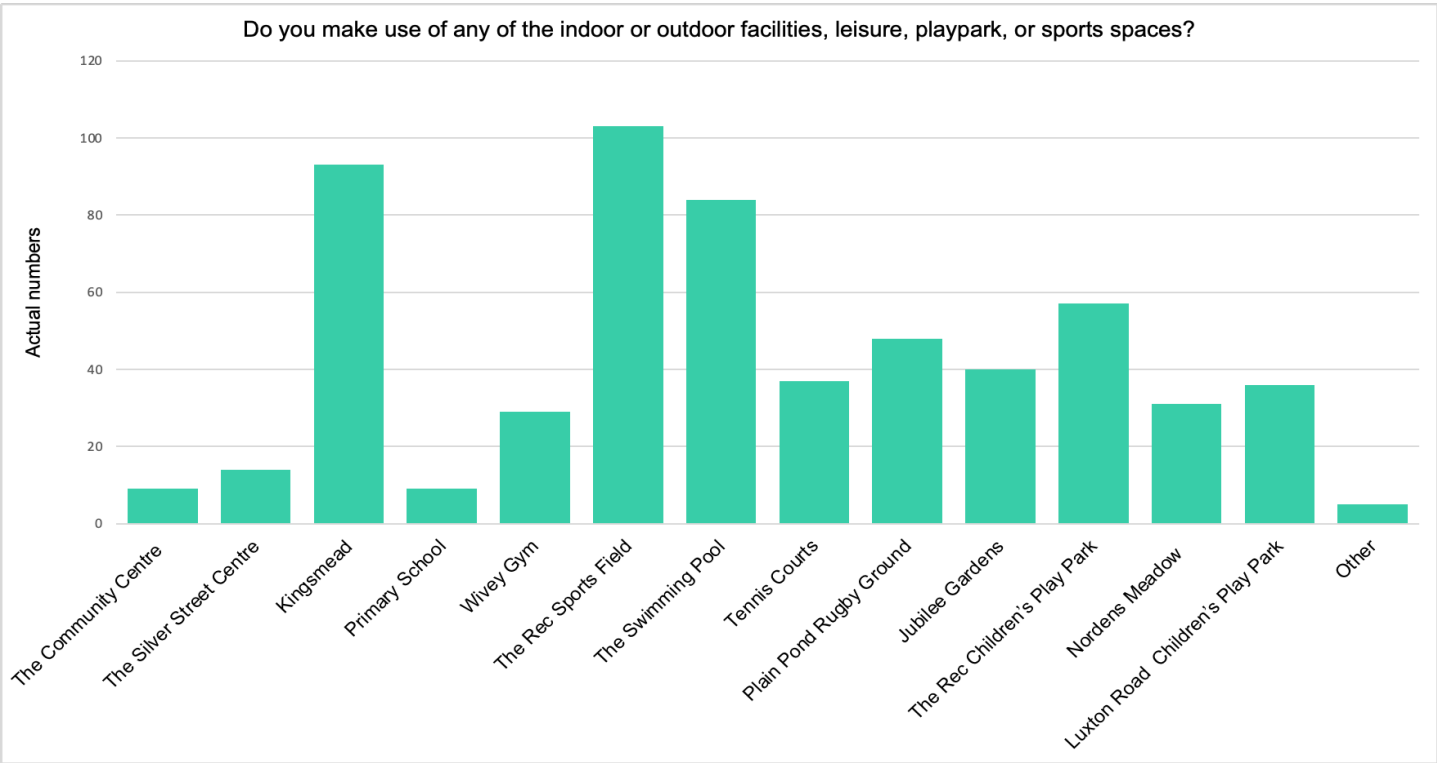
One respondent commented “Question 9 doesn’t work properly. I do stuff in and out of Wivey for most answers but can only choose one option.” This was a limitation we hadn’t recognised with Microsoft forms when we combined the 2 questions.

For the question about attending ‘youth clubs’ we saw this in the broader sense of youth organisations and religious groups. However, given the low number of responses it’s possible that the question wasn’t clear.



Young people make good use of the existing indoor and outdoor facilities. The Rec is most used followed by Kingsmead and the Swimming pool. Had primary age children responded in greater numbers we might have expected to see higher use of those facilities. Wivey Gym does not offer membership to under 16s, but does offer junior gym sessions for 9 to 16 year olds.

Other responses included the Scout Hut and the woods



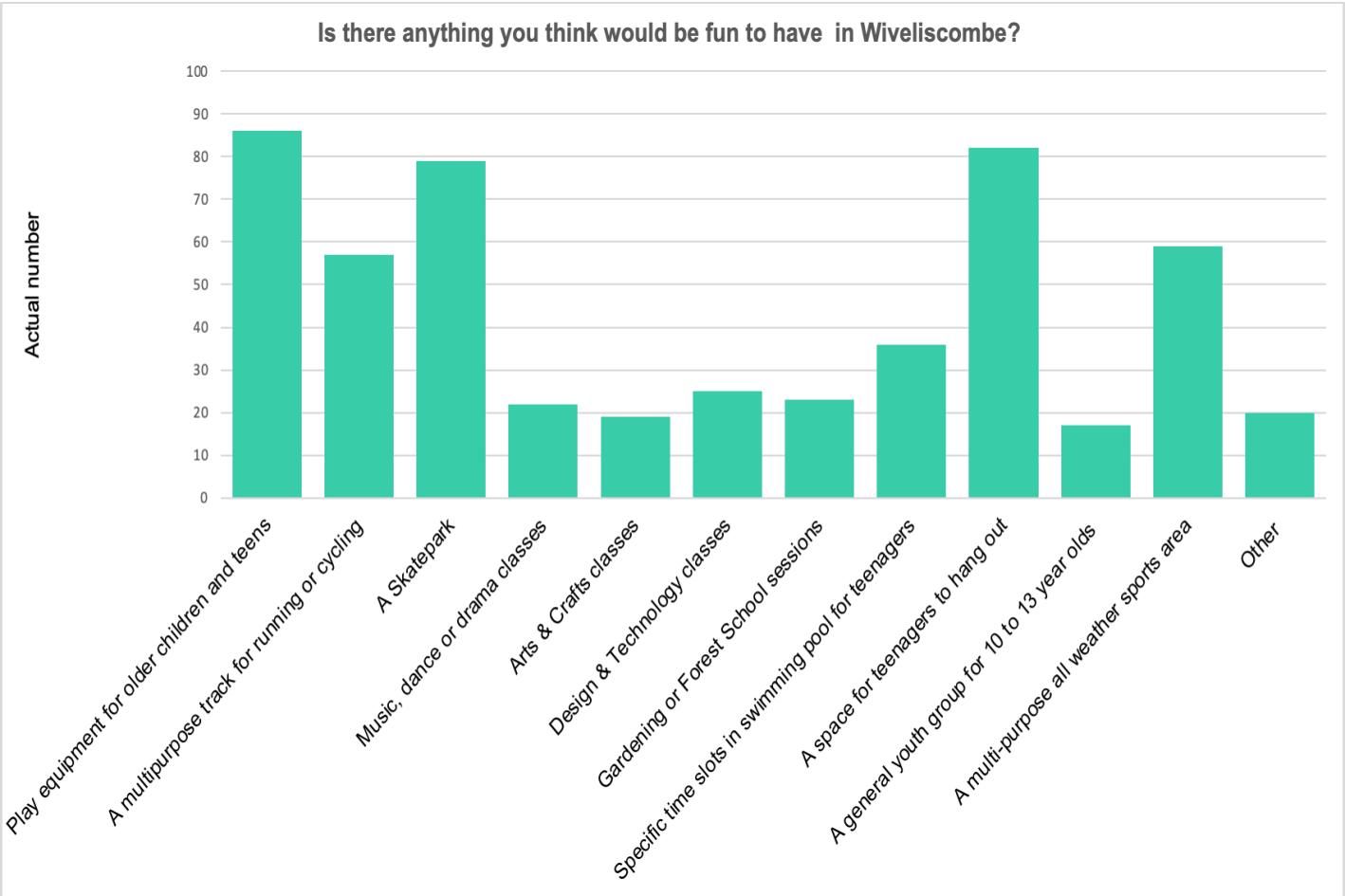
When asked if there might be any additional facilities they'd like to see in Wiveliscombe 5 things stand out:

- Play equipment for older children and teens
- A multipurpose track for running or cycling
- A Skatepark
- A space for teenagers to hang out
- A multi-purpose all weather sports area

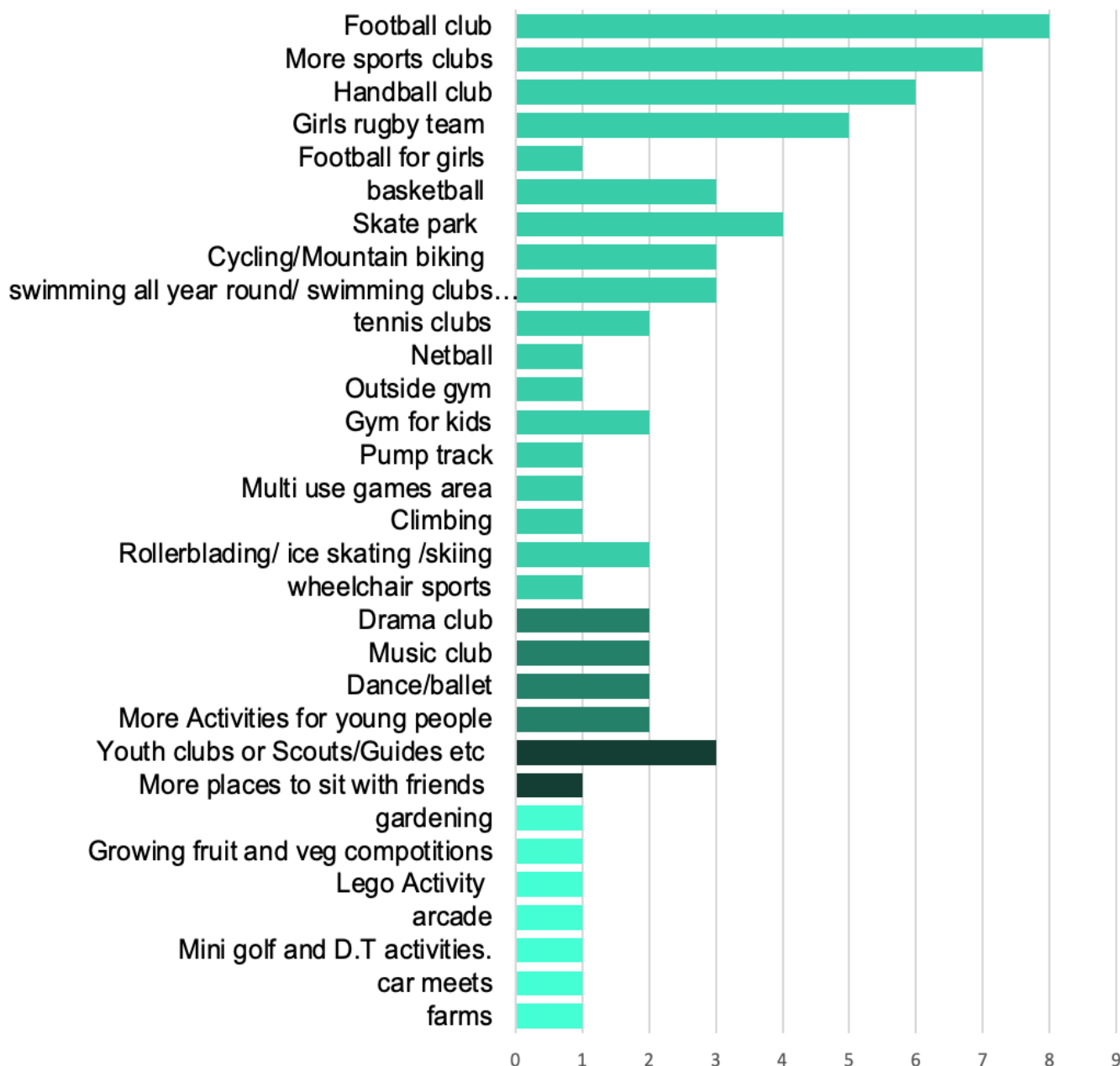
Since carrying out this survey a new skatepark has been funded with a mix of National Lottery, Community Infrastructure Levy and local contributions from individuals and the Town Council (amongst others) This has been very well received and is in constant use.

A significant number of young people are looking for more arts, since or wildlife based sessions. Starting September 2022 is a brand new Youth Theatre group led by Somerset Youth Theatre - perhaps that will begin to address the gap in provision.

Other suggestions included a Cinema x 2, more shops, more benches to eat at with a table, forests, water park, basketball court, netball court, Pump track, pool tables, ping pong for teens, Zipline and really tall slide like in Roadwater and more plants and eco stuff. Some of the sports suggestions were picked up in a separate space where respondents could list activities they'd like to see in Wiveliscombe. There is some repetition in the list but also some more defined activities such as girls rugby and a handball club.



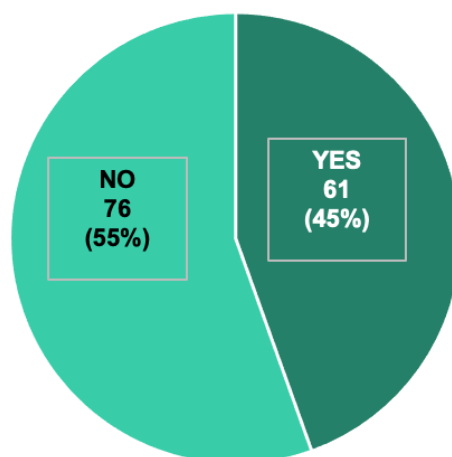
Are there any activities that you would like to see in Wivey?

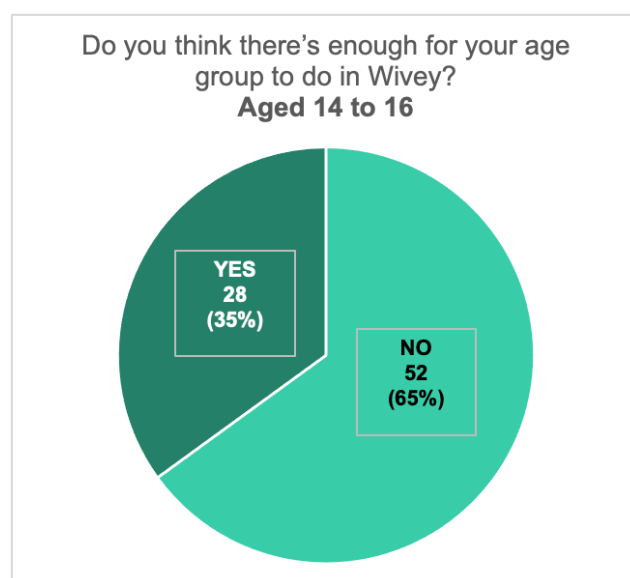
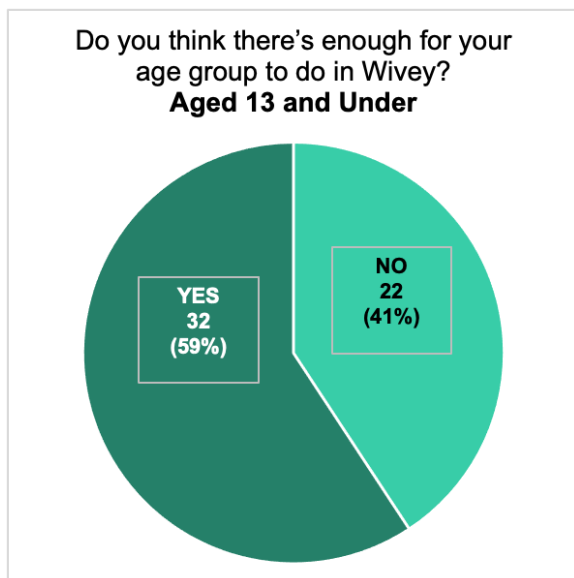


Overall 55% of young people do not feel that there's enough for their age group to do in Wiveliscombe, but when broken into age groups it's clear that 14 plus are much less satisfied with activities and facilities on offer in Wiveliscombe than 13's and under.

65% of over 14's say there isn't enough for them to do in Wivey.

Do you think there's enough for your age group to do in Wivey?

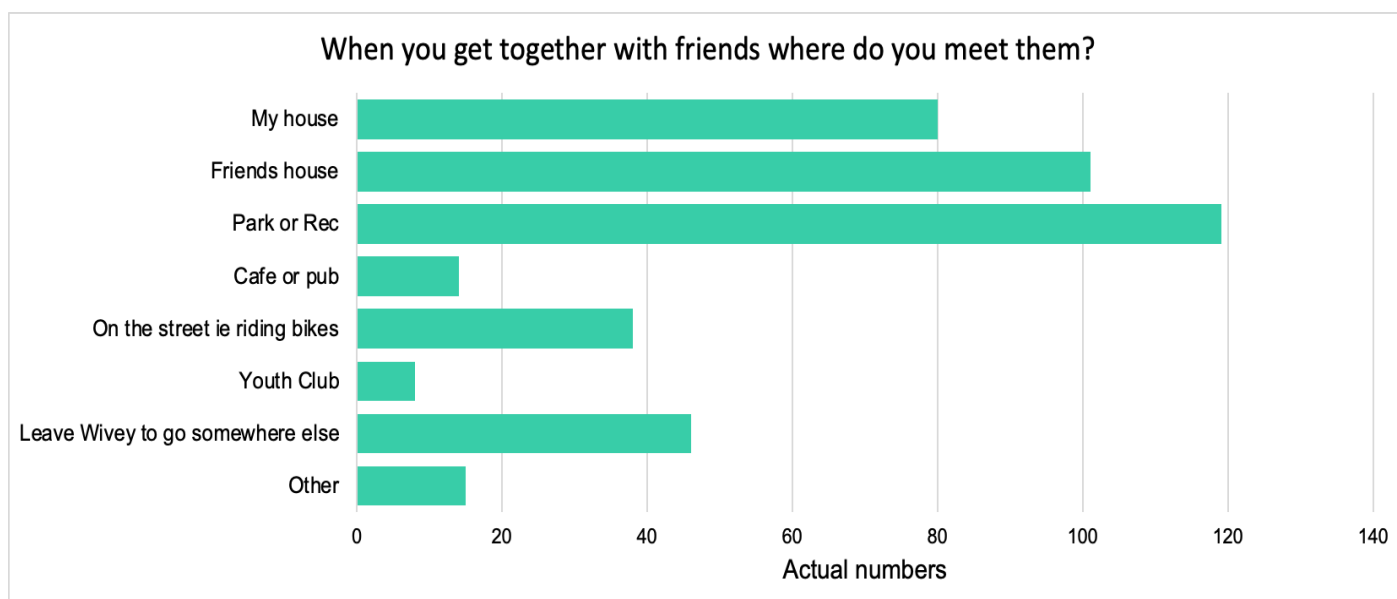




When it comes to meeting up with their friends it's clear that most will be meeting up outside at the park or Rec or on the street. Many are able to meet up in their own home or at their friends.

Only 14 are meeting friends in a cafe or pub (perhaps the pub is unsurprising given the age of recipients). And only 8 attend Youth Clubs - 4 of those live outside Wiveliscombe.

46 leave Wivey to socialise.



Action 10.3 Activities and Facilities

10.3.1 WTC to communicate with Rec committee and other play parks regarding play equipment for 10 to 16's

10.3.2 WTC to communicate with Rec committee regarding an all weather track/path around the Rec for running, cycling, wheelchair use etc

10.3.3 WTC to communicate with Rec committee regarding an all weather Multi Use Games Area

10.3.4 WTC to investigate a suitable space for teenagers to hang out. Communicate with In the Mix

10.3.5 WTC to highlight, with relevant organisations, the 'wish list'.

Action 10.4 Working with young people to deliver a sustainable future

It might be a well used phrase, but it's true that 'Young people are our future'. WE need to ensure that what we pass on to them will be an environment, planet even, that we've shown we care for. Wiveliscombe Town Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019, we asked young people what they thought we should be doing to tackle the climate emergency - that is protect the environment and reduce carbon emissions.

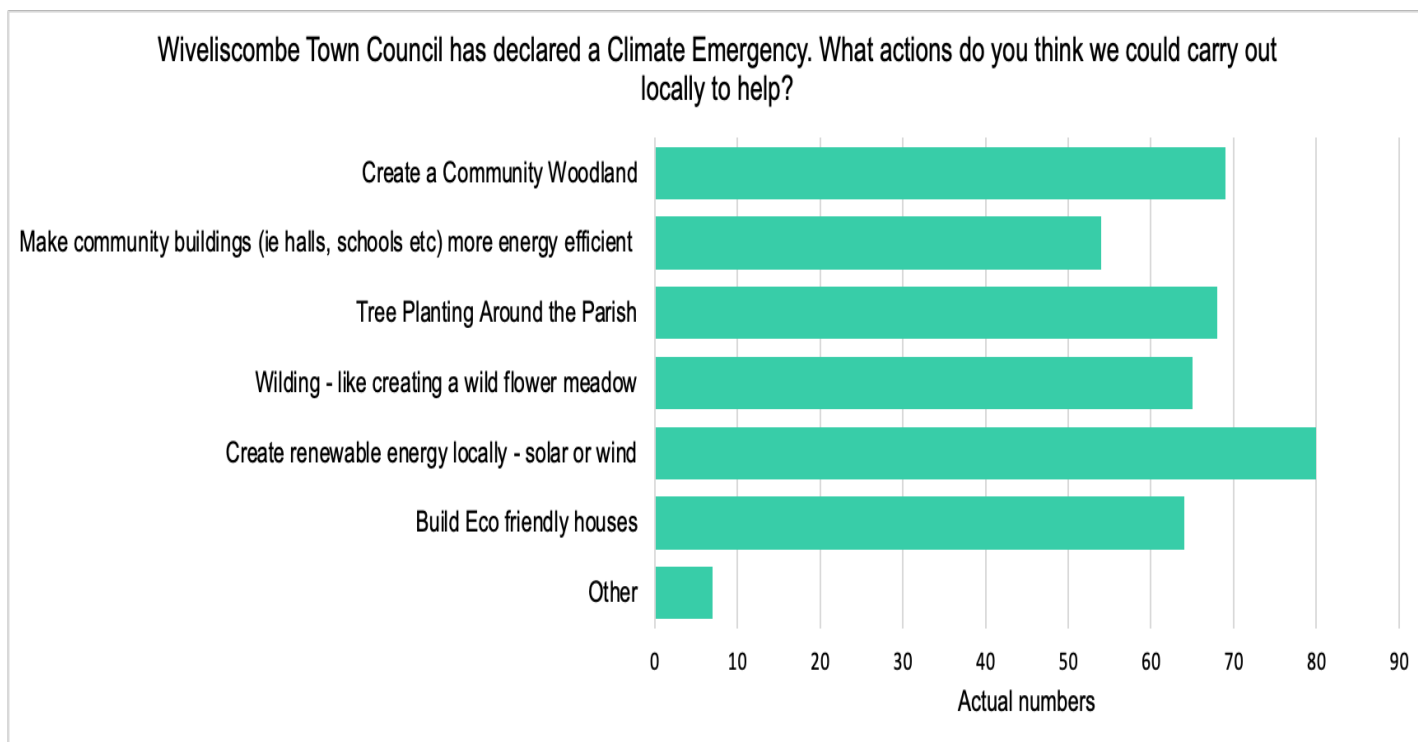
From the list we suggested no clear favourite suggestions emerged. 2 made suggestions of their own:

"Have an area in the Rec or similar place where people can help wildlife by making hedgehog houses, bird bath"

"Litter pick events, and helping shops to stop selling items wrapped in plastic."

One young person wrote:

"There isn't really a climate emergency, changing 1 market town isn't going to save the world"



Action 10.4 Working with young people to deliver a sustainable future *Note these actions have been combined with Action 3.3 - New Climate Emergency & Environmental Actions listed below

10.4.1 WTC to highlight existing groups that young people could potentially get involved with

Action 3.3 - New Climate Emergency & Environmental Actions

3.3.1 WTC to communicate with other organisations and groups on wilding verges and other areas

3.3.2 WTC encourage adoption of Eco Housing

3.3.3 WTC to investigate locations for siting of wind turbines

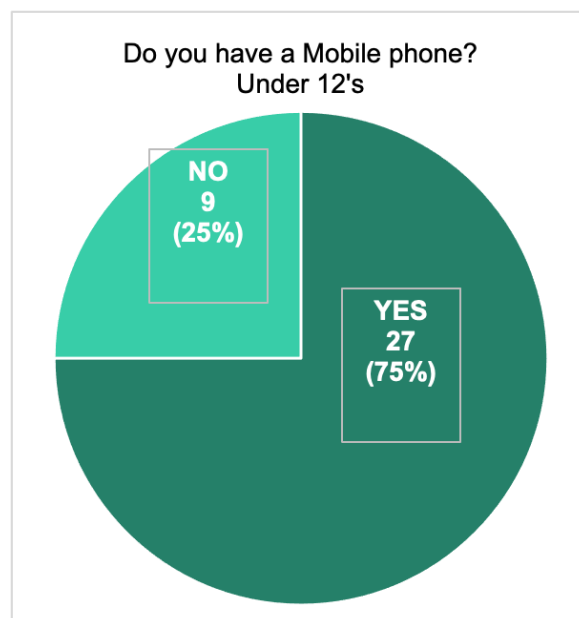
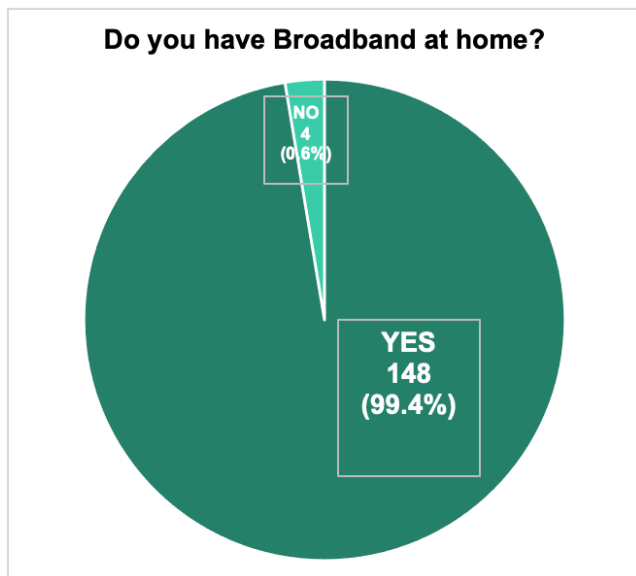
3.3.4 WTC to work with Community Wood group to help facilitate a community wood

3.3.5 WTC to work with local community to encourage appropriate tree planting

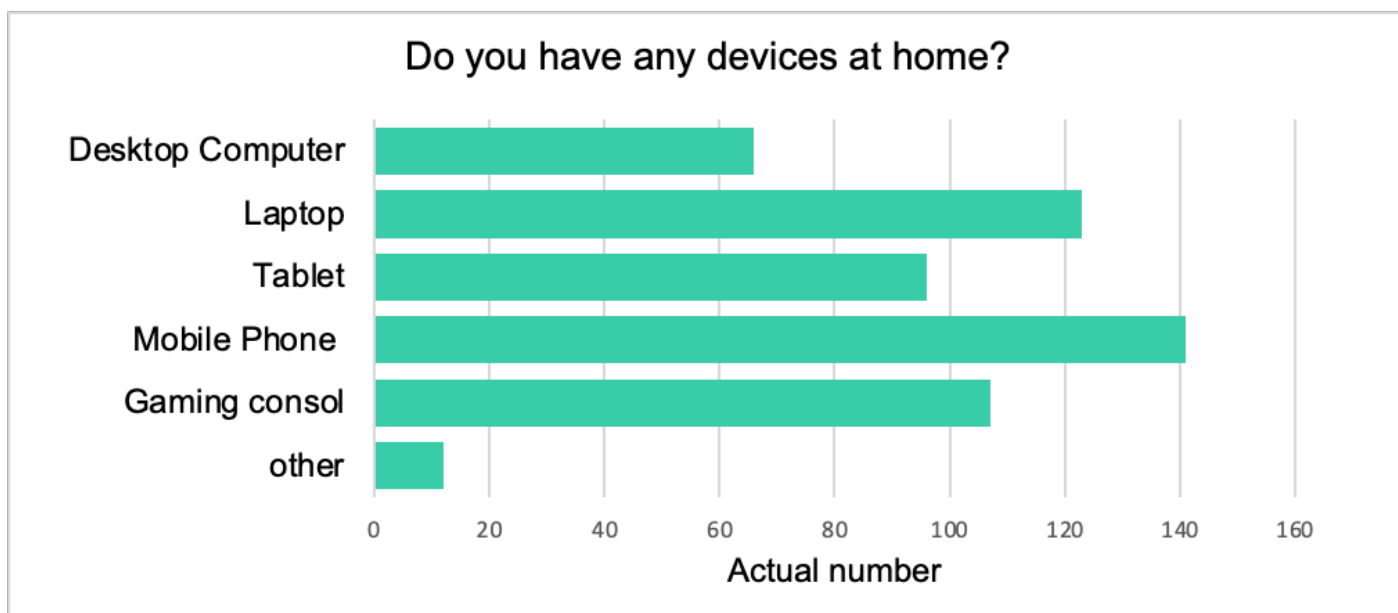
Staying Connected

All bar one young person, out of 114, over the age of 13 owns a mobile phone. By contrast for under 12's 9 (25%) don't own a mobile phone.

99.4% of young people say they have Broadband at home.



134 young people have access to either a desktop or laptop (or both) at home. Of those that don't 12 have access to a tablet, 4 to a mobile phone and gaming console and one to just a gaming console. Of this who stated 'other' 5 lists TV - we assume this means a smart TV. 3 didn't answer the question.

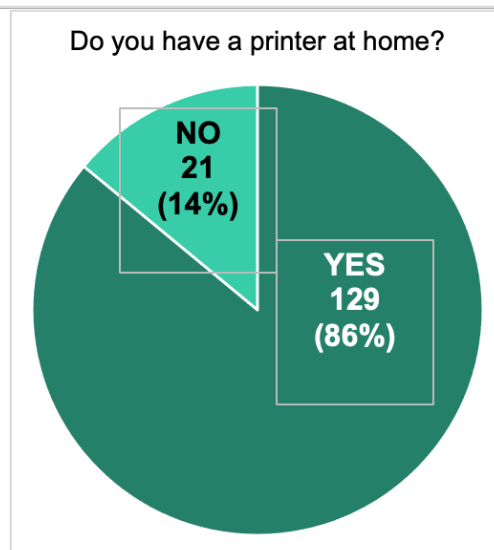


Of those who do not have broadband or a device at home 8 told us where they go to use equipment:

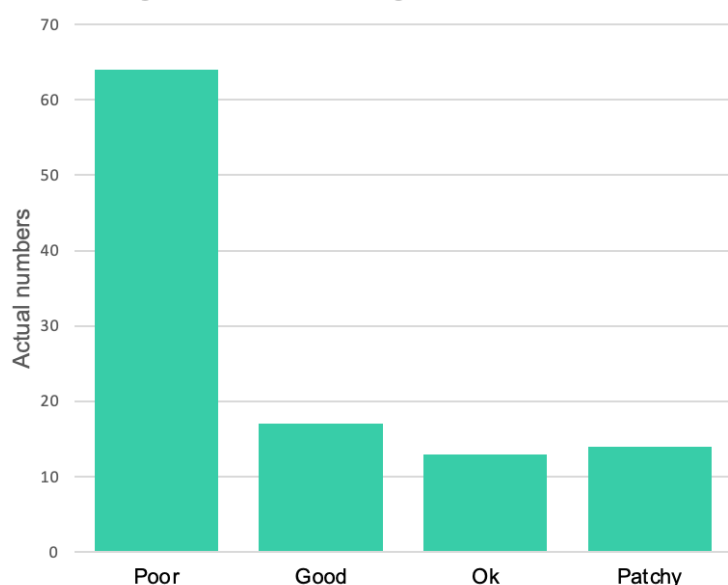
- School x 4
- Library x 1
- Family x 1

129 (86%) have a printer at home. Asked where those that don't have a printer get things printed fell into 3 categories:

- Friends or family x 12
- School x 7
- I don't print anything x 7



How good is the mobile signal in Wiveliscombe?



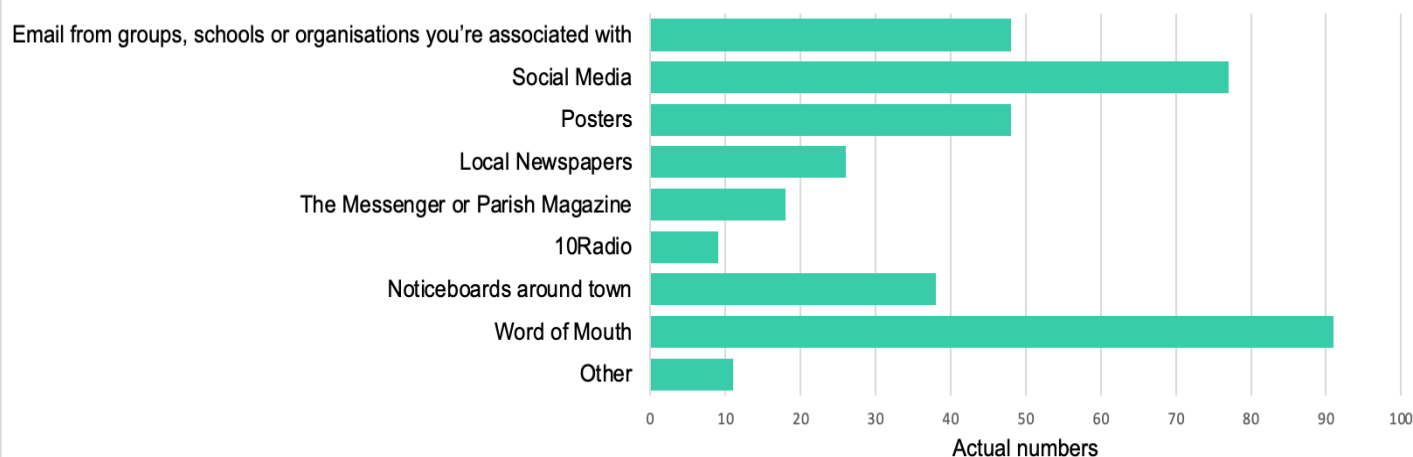
In the main young people find the mobile signal in Wiveliscombe to be poor. The place that received the most mentions for lack of signal was the Kingsmead site - 17. One commented about the poor signal at Kingsmead:

“When the teacher lets us use are phones to search stuff up or I need to call my mom as the bus is late it doesn’t work”

We’ve previously seen that over 75% of young people meet up with friends at the park or Rec yet another 10 state that the mobile signal is non-existent at the Rec.

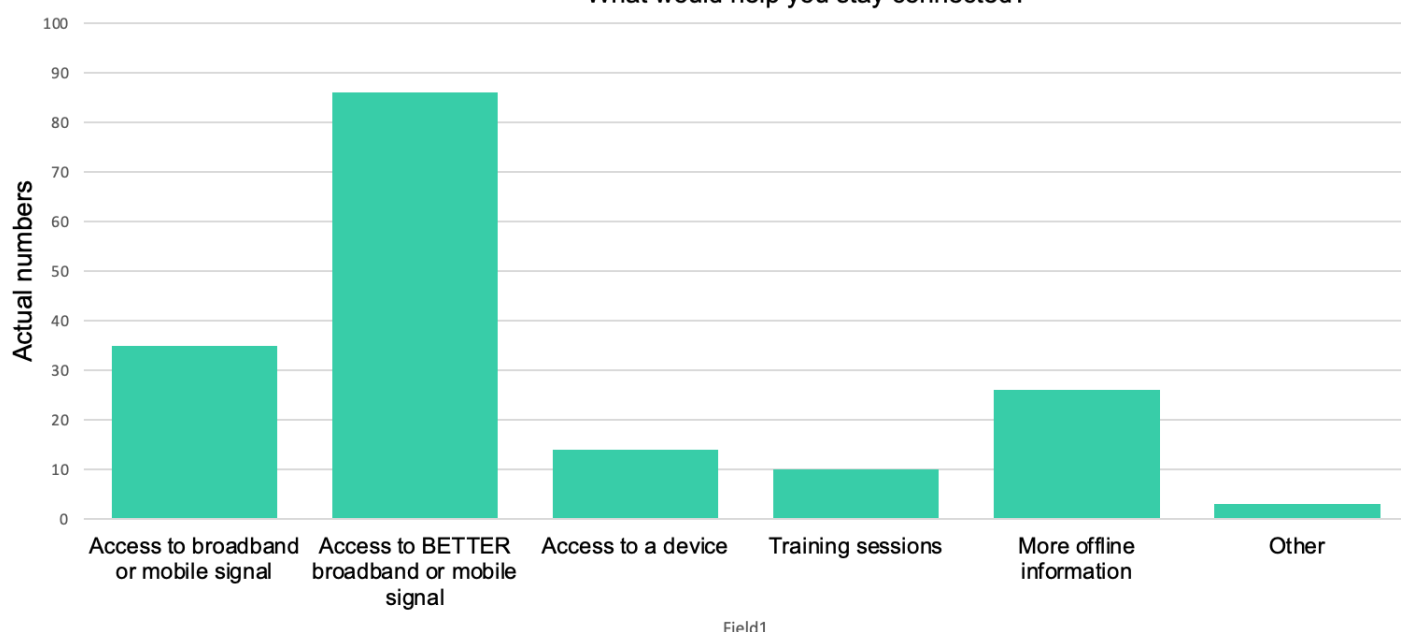
Young people still use a range of resources to keep in touch with what’s going on locally. 91 use word of mouth.

How do you usually find out what’s going on locally?



But asked what would help them stay connected 86 ticked Access to BETTER broadband or mobile signal

What would help you stay connected?



Action 10.5 Staying Connected *Note these actions have been combined with Action 6.1 Access to communication devices, the internet & mobile signal listed below

10.5.1 WTC to communicate findings to Schools to see what training they could offer such as a lunch club

6.1.1 WTC to publicise availability of free wifi in local businesses & community facilities

6.1.2 WTC to investigate opportunities to improve Visit Wivey Wifi

6.1.3 WTC - For new planning applications for housing development request condition requiring super fast fibre broadband as standard

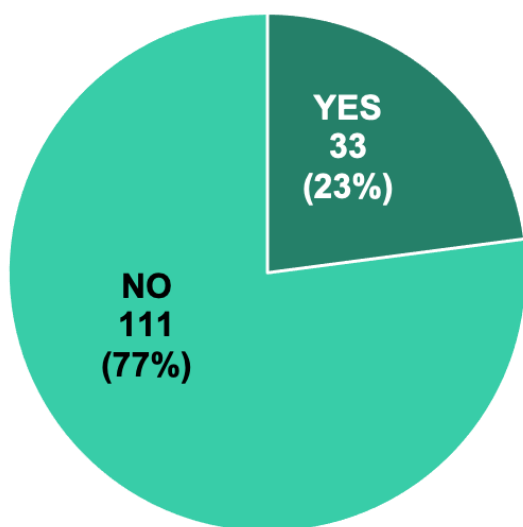
6.1.4 WTC - contact mobile providers to discuss improved mobile signal across Wivey, but in particular south of the B3227

6.2.4 WTC to publicise any social media or general computer training on offer locally

6.2.5 WTC to publicise any online communication training on offer locally

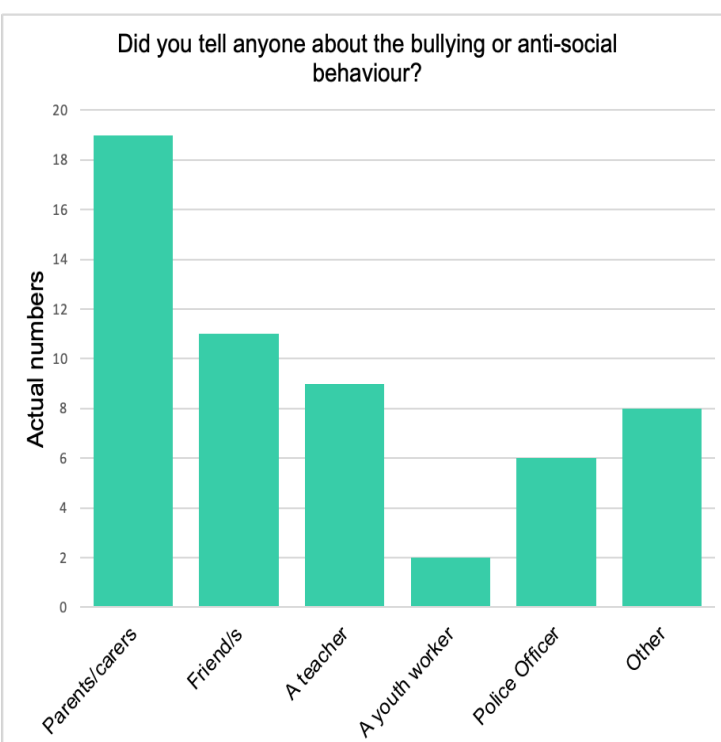
Bullying and Anti-social behaviour

Have you ever been bullied or suffered anti-social behaviour directed at you in the street in Wivey



33 (23%) told us that been bullied or suffered from antisocial behaviour. 31 said they had informed someone - with most telling a parent or carer. But unfortunately 20 of these young people said that this did not resolve the issue.

In order to get some sort of picture about young people's experience of Bullying and Anti-social behaviour we asked young people to tell us about their experiences.



Suggestions to help address bullying and anti-social behaviour included:

“People be more inclusive of teenagers, people always think teenagers are up to no good, more places for teenagers to hang out after dark and not the parks so don't disturb others”

“Tell more people about it, so that we can all learn about how bad it is, educate about it more in schools.”

“Some of the older teenagers can cause problems in the street or in some areas of Wivey where we want to go we can not due to the older teenagers being antisocial”

Other suggestions included use of CCTV, more police visible on the street & parents listening to concerns.

Action 10.6 Bullying and Anti-social behaviour

10.6.1 WTC to highlight the issues raised with the PCSO and Kingsmead

Action 10.7 - Additional Actions

10.7.1 WTC to revisit the idea of a Youth Council