

SUMMARY OF THE EASTON & LAWRENCE HILL NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL RESIDENTS SURVEY

- This survey was conducted over a two-day period during the Under One Sky Festival in Easton. Neighbourhood Renewal had two stands, one situated in St Marks Road, Easton and the other in the park beside Easton Community Centre, Kilburn Road.
- Local people staffed each of the stands and members of the Neighbourhood Renewal Team moved between the two locations, making themselves available to answer questions. The respondents either approached the stand or were approached by volunteers who asked them if they lived in Easton or Lawrence Hill.
- Arranged around the back of the stand were six identical maps of the Neighbourhood Renewal Area and respondents were encouraged to place stickers on locations they considered to be problem areas – see ‘Issues affecting quality of Life’ (Problem Locations).
- Each question had a range of 6 options for the respondents to tick, plus a ‘Don’t Know’ alternative. In order for this summary to be succinct the options have been grouped into two sets by adding the three highest for one result, and the three lowest for the other. ‘Don’t Knows’ are not included in this summary.

People Who Responded to the Questionnaire

Of those **267** people who filled in the questionnaire, **50.56%** were female and **45.69%** male. There were also **10 (3.75%)** respondents who chose not to declare their gender.

Age of Person	%	Age of Person	%
Under 5	0.37	19 - 25	12.73
5 - 11	2.25	25 – 40	49.81
11 – 13	1.50	40 – 65	14.23
13 – 16	4.49	65 +	0.37
16 – 19	2.25	No Comment	11.99

The Ethnicity of Respondents

74.16%	White
8.99%	Black or Black British
8.24%	Asian
4.49%	Mixed Race
4.12%	No Comment

<p>92 respondents had children 34.46%</p>

First Language

86.14%	English
6.37%	No Comment
2.98%	Other European
1.12%	Punjabi
0.75%	Urdu
0.75%	Vietnamese
0.37%	Somali
0.37%	Gujerati

Postcode BS5/BS2

There were 185 people who came from BS5 and 15 from BS2, in all 200. Of those, 126 of the respondents came from the Easton & Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Renewal area.

Other Postcodes

The remaining respondents who either use the facilities or visit the Neighbourhood Renewal Area, comes to 53. 69 people did not state their postcode.

Issues affecting Quality of Life

The first topic on the questionnaire deals with problem locations. These were identified using coloured stickers and maps.

Problem Locations

Location	Number of Stickers
M32 Lower Ashley Road & Baptist Mills	59
Stapleton Road Station, St Marks Road, Chelsea Road	33
Easton Way, Stapleton Road & Easton Leisure Centre	13
Greenbank, Devon Road & part of Cycle Path	13
St Marks Road & All Hallows Road, Felix Road & ECC	9
Robertson Road, East Park & Fishponds Road	7
M32 Eastgate & Stapleton Road	6
Whitehall Road & St Georges Community School	5
Barrow Road, Trinity Street & Newtown Subway	4
Sussex Place, Ashley Road & Grosvenor Road	3
Church Road & Avonvale Road	2
Chalks Road & Whitehall Road	2
Stokes Croft & St James Barton & Hepburn Road	2
Broadmead & Castle Street	2
Old Market Street & Midland Road	1
Rose Green Road, Royate Hill & Nature Reserve	1
Cromwell Road & Montpelier Rail Station	1
Cheltenham Road & Ashley Road	1

Issues with the problem locations include:

- Burglary, antisocial behaviour, assaults, mugging, drugs and dealers, firearms...
- Noise, flytipping, dirt, neglect, burned out cars, dog mess, rubbish...
- Better public transport, danger crossing roads, traffic calming, speeding, parking...
- Needles where children play, facilities for older kids, lollipop person needed...
- Not enough shops, police neglect/incompetence, prostitution...
- Poor street lighting, street sloping, vandalism, road condition, dereliction...
- Hassle on the streets, more greenery, vermin, noise, danger in the underpasses...

The questionnaire then proceeds to ask the respondents to grade how they felt about a number of issues. The issues have been grouped according to the various Task Groups.

1. Community Safety

The respondents were asked how seriously the impact of local crime issues affected them.

Issue	Seriously	Not Seriously
House Burglary	68.2%	31.8%
Street Robbery & Mugging	75%	25%
Drug Related Crime	74.8%	25.2%
Prostitution & Curb Crawling	55.3%	44.7%
Antisocial Behaviour	73.2%	26.8%

Respondents were then asked to state how effective the following measures would be in improving community safety.

Measure	Effective	Not Effective
Additional Police	83.33%	16.67%
Neighbourhood Wardens	74.2%	25.8%
Neighbourhood Watch Schemes	73.5%	26.5%
CCTV	62.8%	37.2%
Improved Street Lighting	84.64%	15.36%

Respondents voted on the measure that they would like to see addressed first. The results were...

1. Additional Police	23.6%
2. Improved Street Lighting	16.1%
3. Neighbourhood Wardens	14.23%
4. CCTV	9.74%
5. Neighbourhood Watch Schemes	5.99%

2. Environment

Respondents were asked how seriously the impact of environmental issues affect them.

Issue	Seriously	Less Seriously
Fly Tipping	68.8%	31.2%
Graffiti	32.74%	67.26%
Pollution	89.53%	10.47%
Street Litter	88.88%	11.12%
Used Hypodermic Needles	72.26%	27.74%
Maintenance of Public Parks/Spaces	86.44%	13.56%

In order for Neighbourhood Renewal to address the concerns of residents, the respondents were asked how effective they thought the following measures would be in improving the local environment.

Measure	Effective	Not Effective
More Responsive Street Cleaning	93.27%	6.73%
Neighbourhood Wardens	78%	22%
More Responsive Parks & Grounds Maintenance	89.83%	10.17%
Traffic Reduction Measures	84.68%	15.32%

Respondents voted on the measure that they would like to see addressed first. The results were...

1. Traffic Reduction Measures	42.38%
2. More Responsive Street Cleaning	30.49%
3. Neighbourhood Wardens	16.19%
4. More Responsive Parks & Ground Maintenance	10.95%

3. Transport

Respondents were asked their views on the two major trunk roads – M32 & Easton Way - that have a significant impact on the locality, they included such comments as:

Dangerous badly lit underpasses, high pollution, division of communities, speeding, IKEA encouraging more traffic, noisy, congestion, difficult for pedestrians and cyclists to negotiate, stress...

Need: trees to deal with pollution, a route that does not involve busy roads and is safe, to cover them over, more pedestrian crossings, to be made into a 30mph limit, pavements, shops, more buses less cars...

A good road, fine, OK, useful road quick way to town, so what, no probs...

Respondents were then asked how they felt about the quality and availability of local transport services and pedestrian & cycle access.

Service and Access	Good	Bad
Local Bus Services	46.98%	53.02%
Local Train Services	43.1%	56.9%
Cycle Path & Other Routes	75.96%	24.04%
Pavements	67.52%	32.48%
Road Crossings (Zebra and Traffic Light Crossings)	60.94%	39.06%
Pedestrian Crossings (Underpasses, Footbridges etc)	31.35%	68.65%

4. Children, Young people & Education

Respondents were asked how satisfied they were with the quality and availability of the following services and facilities.

Service / Facility	Good	Bad
Recreational Activities for Children & Young People	55.22%	44.78%
Safe Play Spaces for Children & Young People	48.29%	51.71%
Support Services for Children & Young People	52.71%	47.29%
Educational Support Outside of School Hours	40.22%	59.78%

5. Business & Employment Opportunities

Respondents were asked how much the issues below presented a problem to achieving improved prosperity and increased employment opportunities.

Issue	Serious	Not Serious
Access to Suitable Employment	80.47%	19.53%
Access to Training	75.86%	24.14%
Access to Careers Advice	69.89%	30.11%
Access to Child Care During the Working Day	84%	16%
Discrimination by Employers	78.91%	21.09%

Respondents voted on the issue that they would like to see addressed first. The results were...

1. Access to Child Care During the Working Day	37.24%
2. Access to Suitable Employment	30.34%
3. Access to Training	17.24%
4. Discrimination by Employers	11.72%
5. Access to Careers Advice	3.44%

6. Housing and the Built Environment

Respondents were asked how much do the following issues present a problem.

Issue	Serious	Not Serious
Physical Condition of Housing	83%	17%
Availability of Affordable Housing	88.63%	11.37%
Nuisance Neighbours	66.97%	33.03%
Anti Social Behaviour	74.32%	25.68%
Maintenance of Public Places	78.6%	21.4%

Respondents voted on the issue that they would like to see addressed first. The results were...

1. Availability of Affordable Housing	58.13%
2. Anti Social Behaviour	27.13%
3. Maintenance of Public Places	10.07%
4. Nuisance Neighbours	4.65%

7. A Healthier Community

Respondents were consulted as to how satisfied they were with the quality and availability of the following.

Service	Good	Bad
Local Health Services Responding to Your Needs	75.82%	24.18%
Quality of Information on Healthy Living	68.09%	31.91%
Access to Complementary Therapy	56.73%	43.27%

Drugs and drug related issues have been identified as a matter of great local concern. The respondents were asked to tick one of the following statements:

Q. MORE/LESS/THE SAME funding should be made available to help people with drug addiction.

Answer	Responses
More Funding	81.08%
Less Funding	6.3%
The Same Funding	12.61%

Finally, respondents were asked to give their views on what should be done about drugs and related issues.

Better opportunities for school leavers, better realistic information for kids at school, educate about parenting, give hope, improve quality of living on estates, increase community involvement in issue, information for parents on local problems, integrated multi agency approach, education, more advice...

De-criminalisation, legalise/legalise and control supply, prescriptions for addicts, target drug lords, ban all drugs except weed, offer addicts more help, more effective monitoring, take away the black market, take away prohibition, more Christian Church involvement, safe spaces for addicts...

Police to come down hard on drug users, more police on the beat, more community involvement, CCTV, more policing in open spaces, stop all drugs from coming into the country, more counselling, supply needles...

The majority of respondents in this survey are white (74.16%), have English as their first language (86.14%) and are aged between 25 and 40 years old (49.81%).

This presents a 3 – 4% under representation from equalities communities as they represent 23% of the population in Easton and 22% in Lawrence Hill (according to the 1991 Census). This points towards a need to engage equalities communities more fully in the Neighbourhood Renewal process.

However, the priorities identified by the respondents are not specific to ethnicity. Overall, they prioritised the following issues to be in greatest need of attention.

- ✓ **Additional Police**
- ✓ **Traffic Reduction Measures**
- ✓ **Access to Childcare During the Working Day**
- ✓ **Availability of Affordable Housing**

Respondents appear to be most concerned about physical safety, pollution, childcare and their home environment. Issues that appear to be less of a concern are graffiti and prostitution.

More support for people with substance misuse problems with c. 81% of respondents voting for a higher spend in this area. The views and comments spaces on the questionnaire lean heavily towards general education and concern for school age children and their education about drugs/drug taking. A good number of comments also called for a decriminalisation of 'softer' drugs and a harder line from the Police on the sale and consumption of Class 'A' drugs such as Heroin and Crack.

The trunk roads M32 and Easton Way generated a lot of comments and it is noticeable that many respondents feel these roads have a detrimental effect on community and health. Speeding in the areas of Easton and Lawrence Hill was also an issue respondents feel concerned about.

As well as childcare being an issue, the matter of safe, clean, maintained activity/after school spaces for children scored highly with respondents, despite only 34% of them stating that they have children.

As with all surveys the answers are dependent on the questions. The summary shown here is not intended as a definitive survey of resident opinions in Easton and Lawrence Hill. Its intent is one of investigation and engagement with residents and visitors to the area in an informal and relaxed festival context.

The raw data from which this summary comes is also on the intranet site in a folder called **UnderOneSky – Community Consultation Data**