

July 2020

Public Space Protection Order
Consultation Results

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Methodology

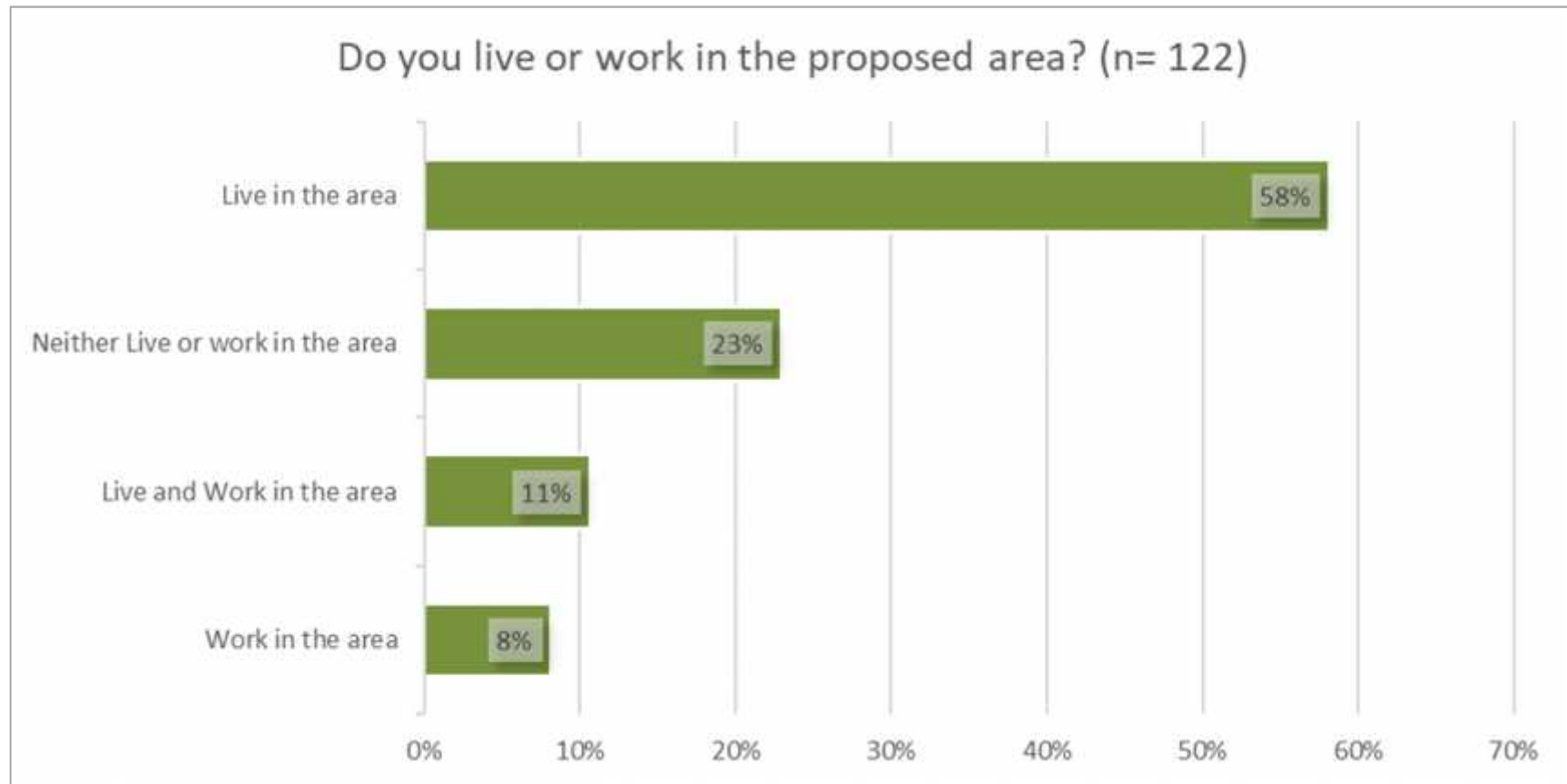
- Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation launched 29th June, closed on 9th August to support the proposal of a localised PSPO in Merton to be in place following the expiry of the current borough wide PSPO in October 2020.
- The survey was widely circulated to many partner organisations, community groups via Merton Voluntary Sector Council, Merton Chamber of Commerce, Neighbourhood Watch, Cllr distribution lists and LBM forums. It was also publicised widely via social media and newsletters. It was discussed regularly at the Safer and Stronger Executive Board, Locations Board and Safer Neighbourhood Board.
- Overall partner organisations including public health, police, Kingdom, WDP, Catch 22, Circle Housing as well as those partners represented on the boards mentioned above, were also consulted on the PSPO.
- We received 122 responses via the online survey, which was live for six weeks, and two further formal responses over the six week period.
- We would like to thank everyone who participated in the consultation and to Councillors and partners for their comments and input.

Summary of consultation results

Below is a summary of the key points highlighted in the consultation

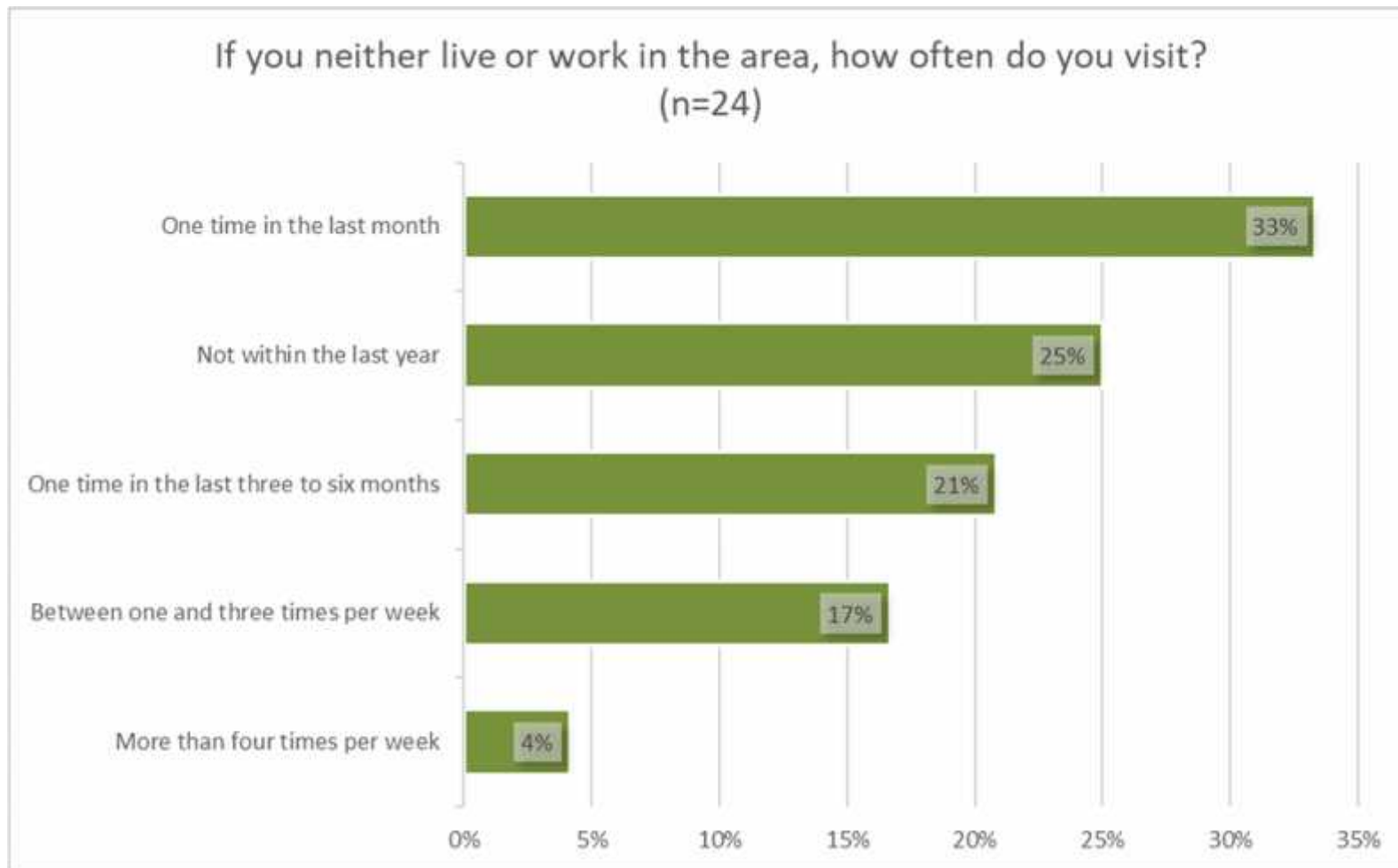
- 58% of respondents live in the PSPO area
- People feel less safe in the area at night
- 64% of respondents felt that street drinking was a fairly or very big problem. 90% felt litter was a problem.
- 62% had witnessed anti-social behaviour (ASB) in relation to street drinking in the area. 43% stated that they had witnessed ASB related to street drinking more than 10 times in the last year.
- 87% support the prohibition proposed
- 61% support the geographical area proposed

Do you live in the area?



58% of respondents live in the proposed PSPO area. **23%** of people neither live or work in the area.

If you neither live or work in the area, how often do you visit?



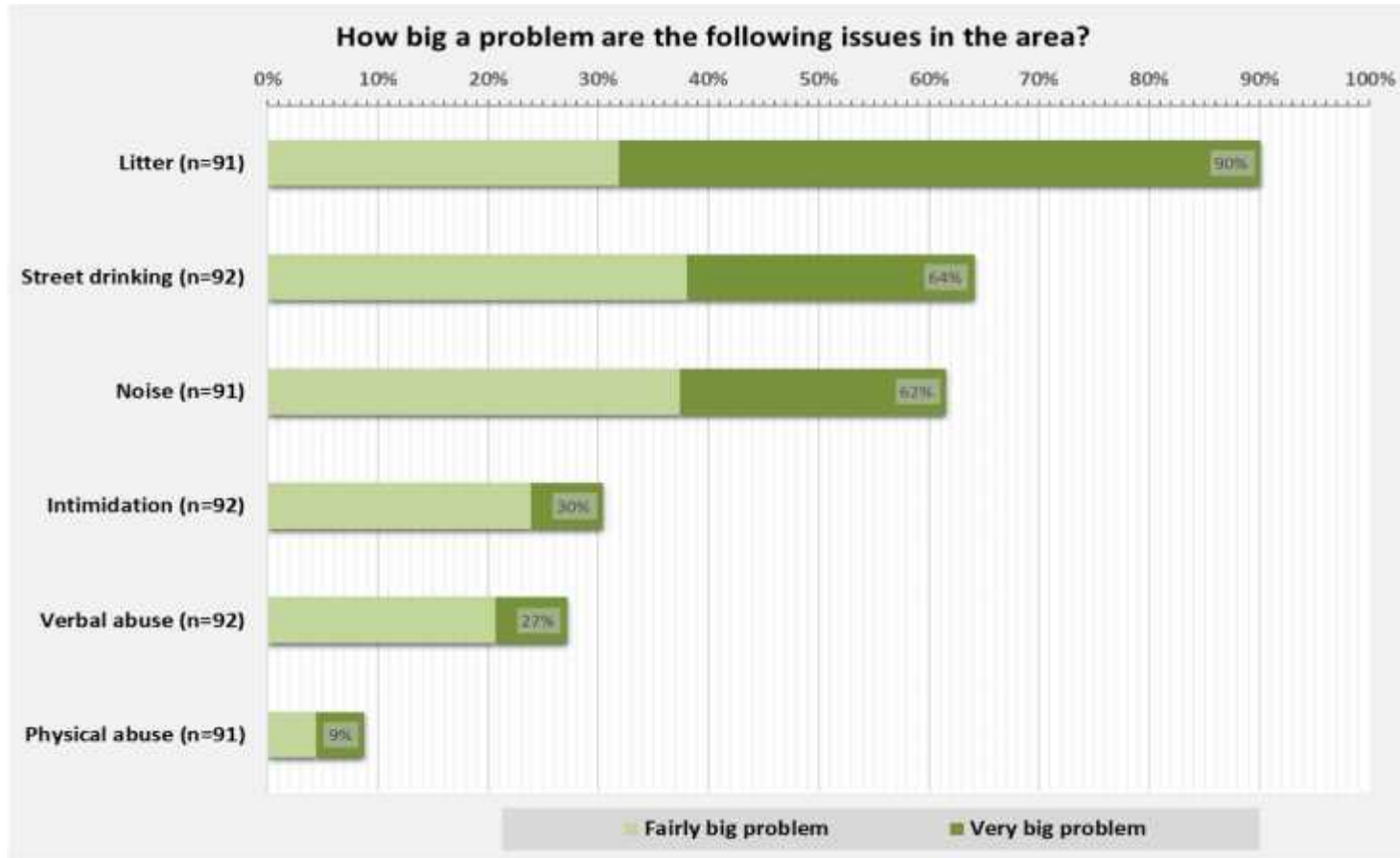
The most common frequency of those who don't live or work in the area, visiting the area, was **once in the last month (33.33%)**.

How safe do you feel in the area?



People feel less safe in the area at night. **44%** feel very or fairly unsafe during the night compared to **16%** during the day.

How big a problem are the following issues?



The top issues identified from the list provided to respondents was litter (90%) followed by street drinking (64%).

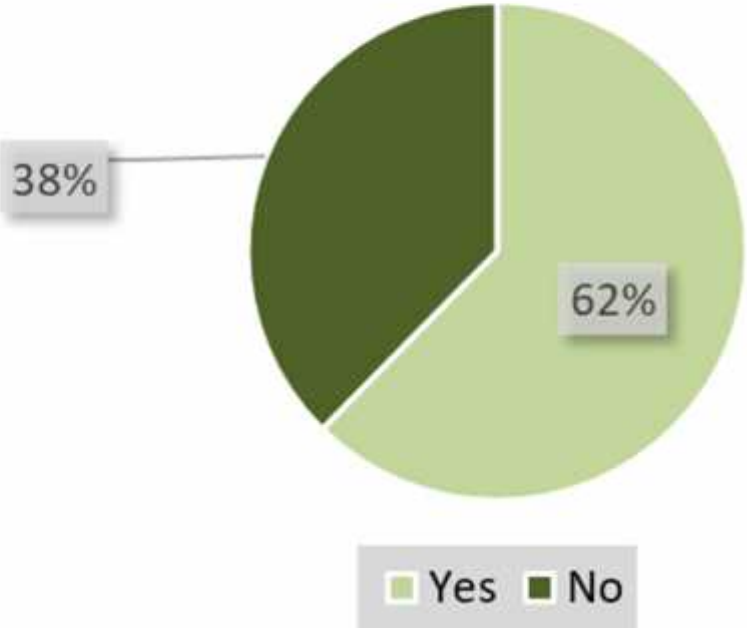
Are there any other issues in the area?

This question was answered by 56 respondents, with 48 responses that could be attributed to the area. The key issues highlighted were:

- Litter, rubbish and fly-tipping
- Speeding
- Drug dealing and use
- Noise
- Dangerous driving, including Mopeds
- Violent crime
- Public urination
- Illegal fishing

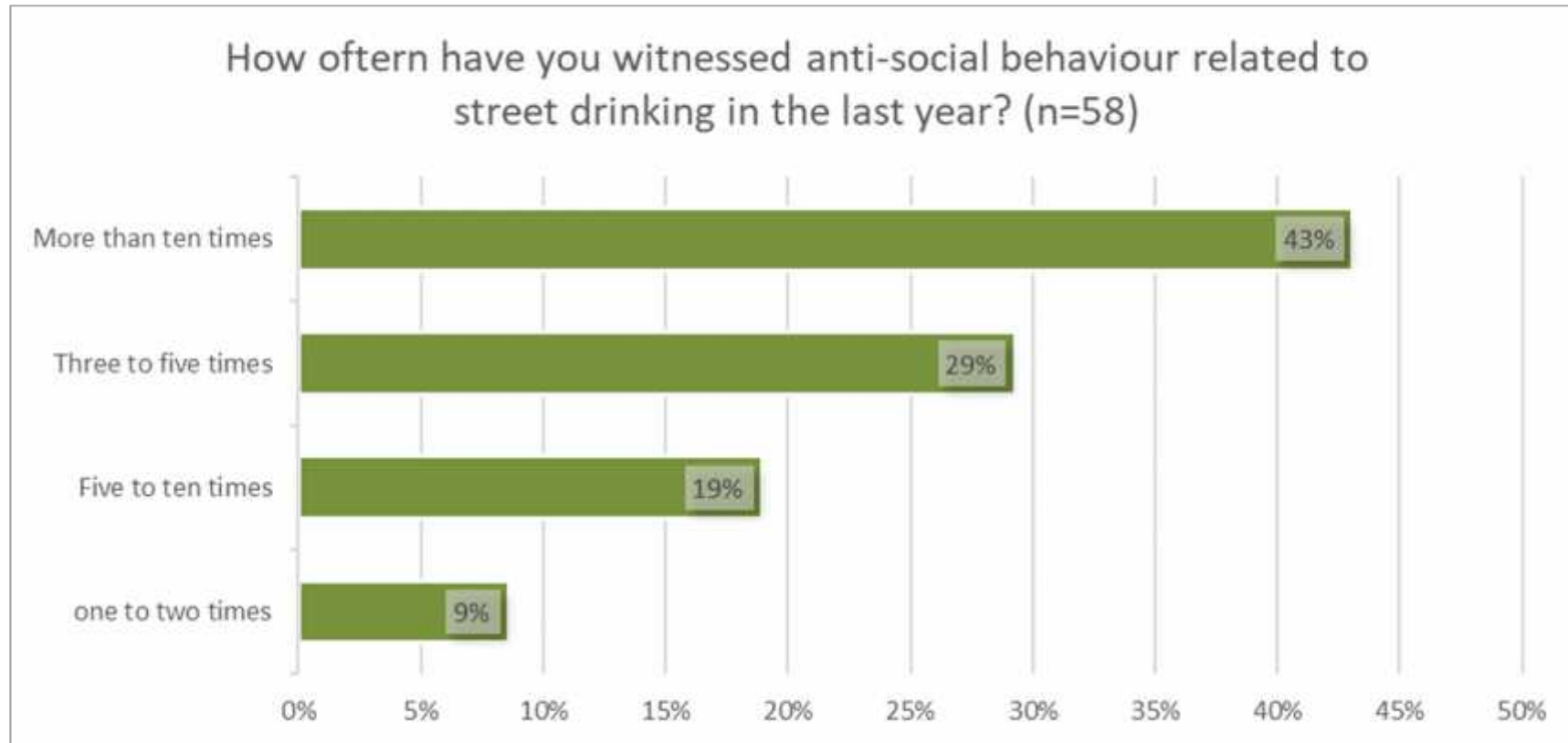
Have you witnessed ASB related to street drinking?

Have you witnessed anti-social behaviour related to street drinking in the area? (n=93)



62% of respondents had witnessed antisocial behaviour related to street drinking.

How often have you witnessed ASB related to street drinking?



43% of respondents stated that they had witnessed anti-social behaviour related to street drinking more than 10 times in the last year.

Are there specific locations where street drinking is a problem?



Below is a full list of the locations within the proposed PSPO Boundary where respondents felt that street drinking is a problem

- Amen Corner. Corner of Links Road and Mitcham Road.
- Around 3 Kings Pond,
- Around Figges Marsh and especially top of the Marsh / Streatham rd / Eveline rd / London rd.
- Brenley Park especially the kids playing area. It is also used for drug dealing
- By the old Kwik Fit site and opposite near the newsagent on London Road
- Canons Park. Mitcham town centre is still a hot spot
- Entrances and benches in parks especially Ravensbury and London fields and along the river.
- Fair Green
- Figges Marsh
- Figges Marsh / Steers Mead / Rose avenue
- Figges Marsh and surrounding streets
- Gorrington Park Avenue. On this end of Figges Marsh there is a tree that constantly has drinkers underneath it
- In public park areas
- In the local parks
- Melrose Ave, Elmhurst Ave, and Garden Avenue with Streatham Road; Mitcham Industrial Estate; Ladbrokes Streatham road
- Love Lane
- Merton abbey mills. Morden Hall Park. Collier's wood recreation.
- Mitcham Fair Green & Cricket Green Area (London Road) and Wimbledon Town centre
- Mitcham town centre
- Mitcham town centre and car park off Holborn way/London road
- Mitcham Town Centre

Are there specific locations where street drinking is a problem?



- Mitcham Town Centre Outside the betting shops in Mitcham Town Centre Corner of Garden Avenue and Streatham Road Corner of Elmhurst Avenue and Streatham Road Corner of Links Road and London Road Corner of Eastfields Road and Roper Way
- Mitcham Town Centre/Fair Green
- Park Avenue Mews Caithness Rd Garden Avenue Ridge Rd Melrose Ave
- Parking, town centre, Iceland Parking
- Moreton Green woods
- Phipps Bridge footpath from Morden Road
- Ravensbury Park
- Ravensbury Park. Figge's Marsh (park).
- Street drinkers hang around Garden Avenue and outside Ladbrokes on a daily basis.
- Street drinking on the Figge's Marsh
- The area outside the cafe in Mitcham centre. Drinkers congregate daily
- Three Kings Piece
- Wandle Road, Ravensbury Park and around the weir.
- Abbey Mills and Merton High Street on the footpath of the Wandle river.

Are there specific locations where street drinking is a problem?



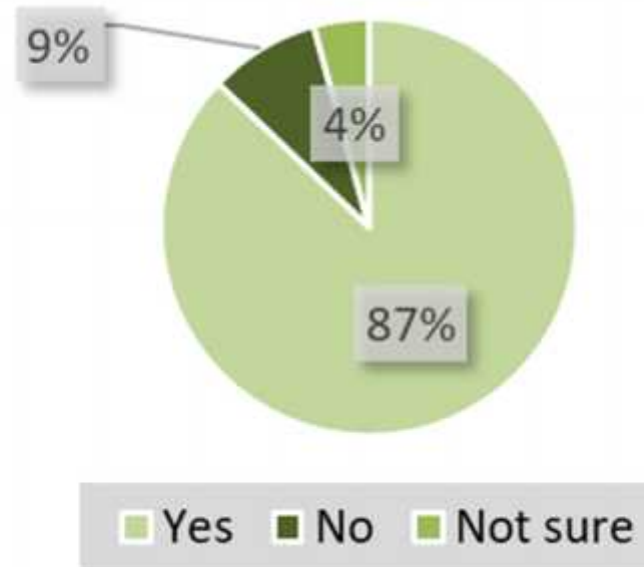
Below is a full list of the locations outside the proposed PSPO boundary where respondents felt that street drinking is a problem

- Cannon Hill Common, Joseph Hood Recreation Ground, Mostyn Gardens, the alleyway alongside Dundonald Park tram line
- Morden Park. Stonecot Hill.
- Myrna Close Nature Reserve
- The Broadway
- The Broadway Wimbledon, opposite Morrisons
- Wimbledon Town Centre

This feedback will be considered and the areas monitored for reports going forward. The Council and Police will still address an behaviour that is unacceptable and would encourage reports to provide the evidence for any further action to be possible.

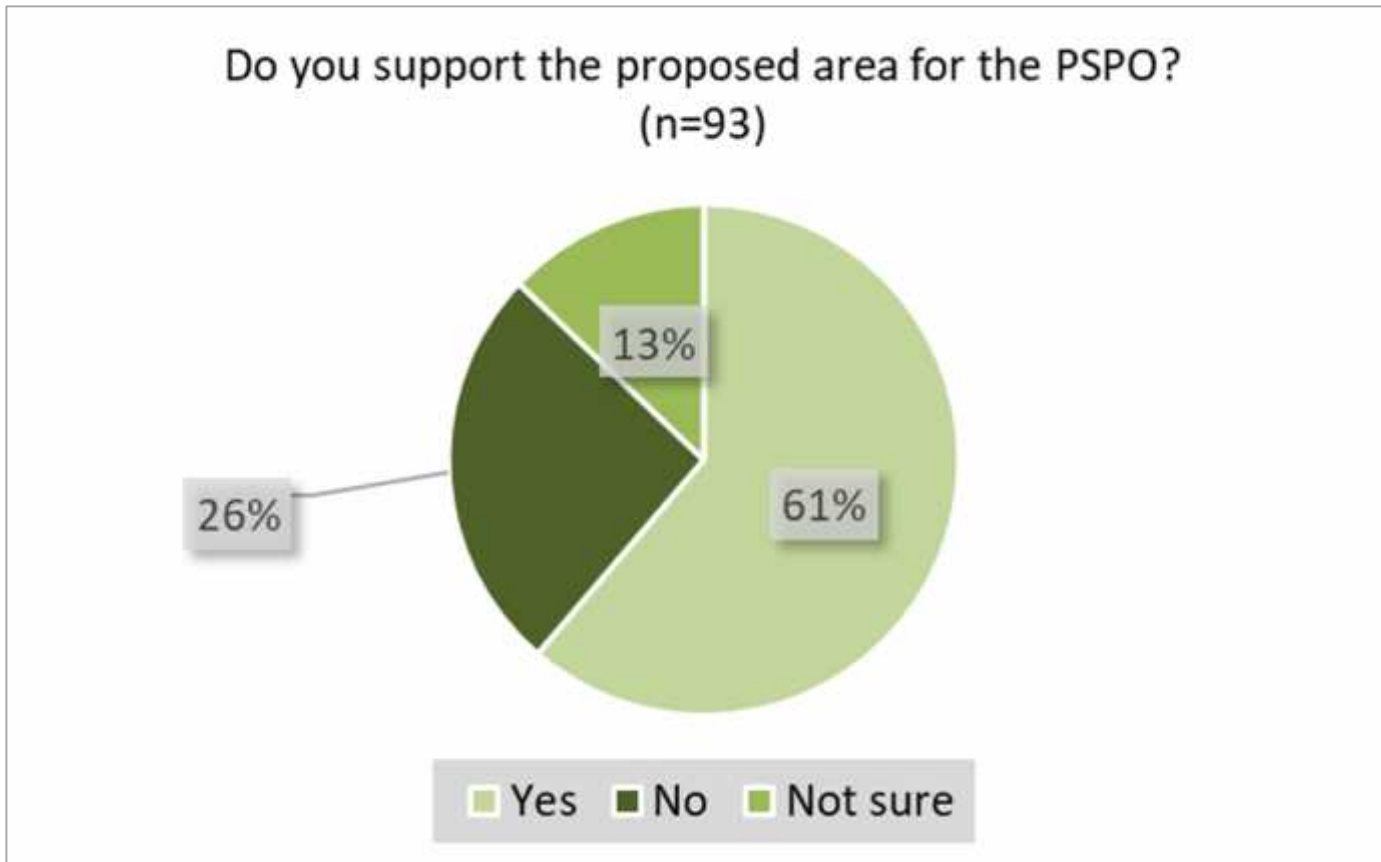
Do you support the prohibition proposed?

Do you support a PSPO that allows consumption of alcohol in the area, but allows the confiscation from those who are or are likely to cause anti-social behaviour ? (n=93)



87% of respondents support the prohibition proposed.

Do you support the location proposed?



61% of respondents support the geographical area proposed for the PSPO

Do you have any other comments?

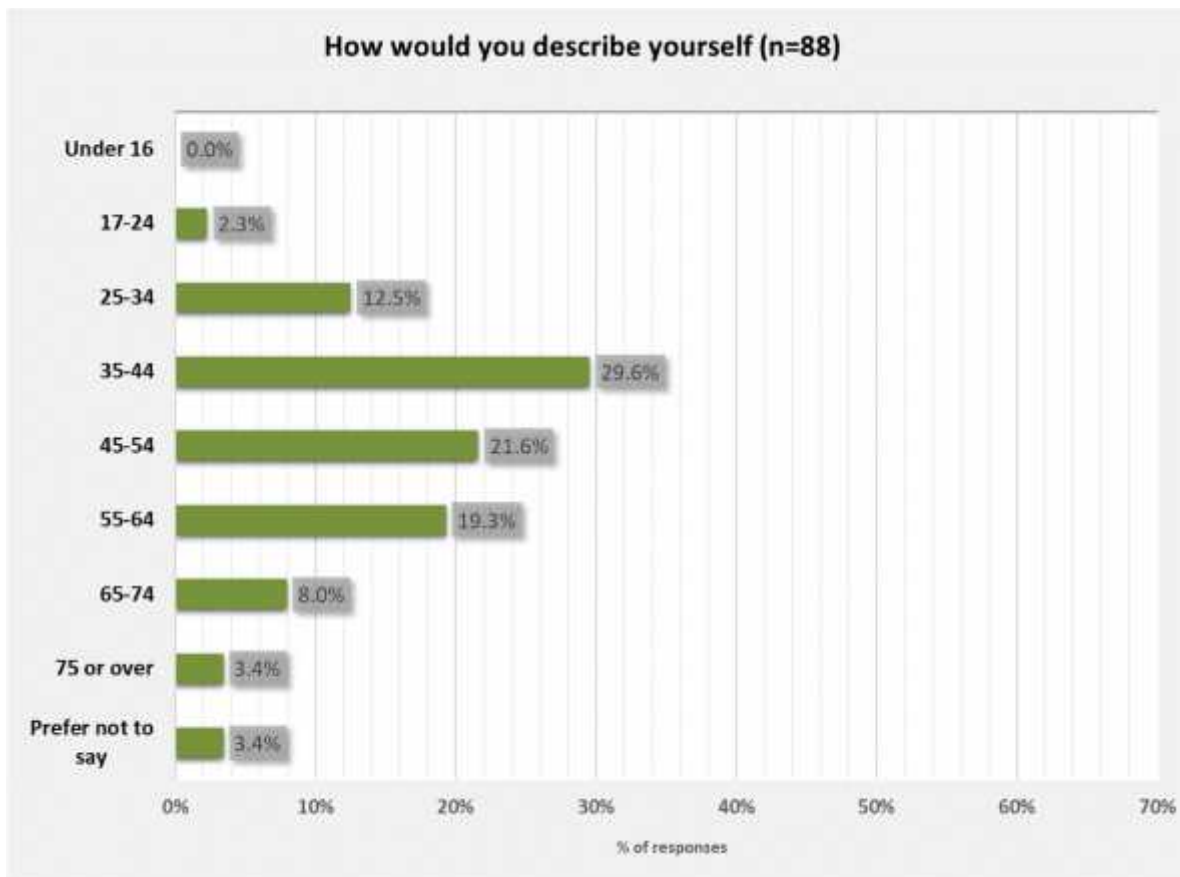
Key themes identified and what we are doing.

| Further Comments | What we are doing |
|---|---|
| Consider displacement to other areas | Through ongoing monitoring of reports we will look for any signs of displacement |
| Consider extending to include St Helier, Longthornton, Pollards Hill and Colliers Wood wards. | Again through ongoing monitoring, should the data support a PSPO in these areas we will either look to extend the current PSPO or apply for a new PSPO. |
| Wimbledon Town Centre should be covered | Wimbledon Town Centre is quite distinct from the proposed PSPO, but the area will be monitored closely |
| Current proposal should include the whole of Morden Town Centre | We have considered this and have amended the map to include the whole of Morden Town Centre |
| Is the area too large? | There is the option to reduce the size of the PSPO if we feel it is too large going forward and if the data supports this. Currently we have sufficient evidence to support the area proposed |
| People need to know how to report ASB | We will ensure that there is clear messaging around how to report ASB |
| Need to be clearer about the provision for areas not covered by the order | Areas not covered by a PSPO, where there are reports of crime and ASB will continue to be responded to by the Safer Merton Partnership |
| More funding for community projects | Community funded projects are funded from a variety of sources, agencies and from across the council, this response has been noted |
| When considering alcohol, need to address the links to mental health and drugs. | We will be working closely with Public Health and the Drug and Alcohol Service to ensure individuals are sign posted into the right services to enable these issues to be addressed |
| More awareness of the PSPO | We are working on a Comm's plan for the PSPO, but signage will go up in the area and information will go out on our website. |
| More work needed with those supplying alcohol | We are working closely with Licensing regarding this, the PSPO will be supported by an engagement and enforcement plan. |

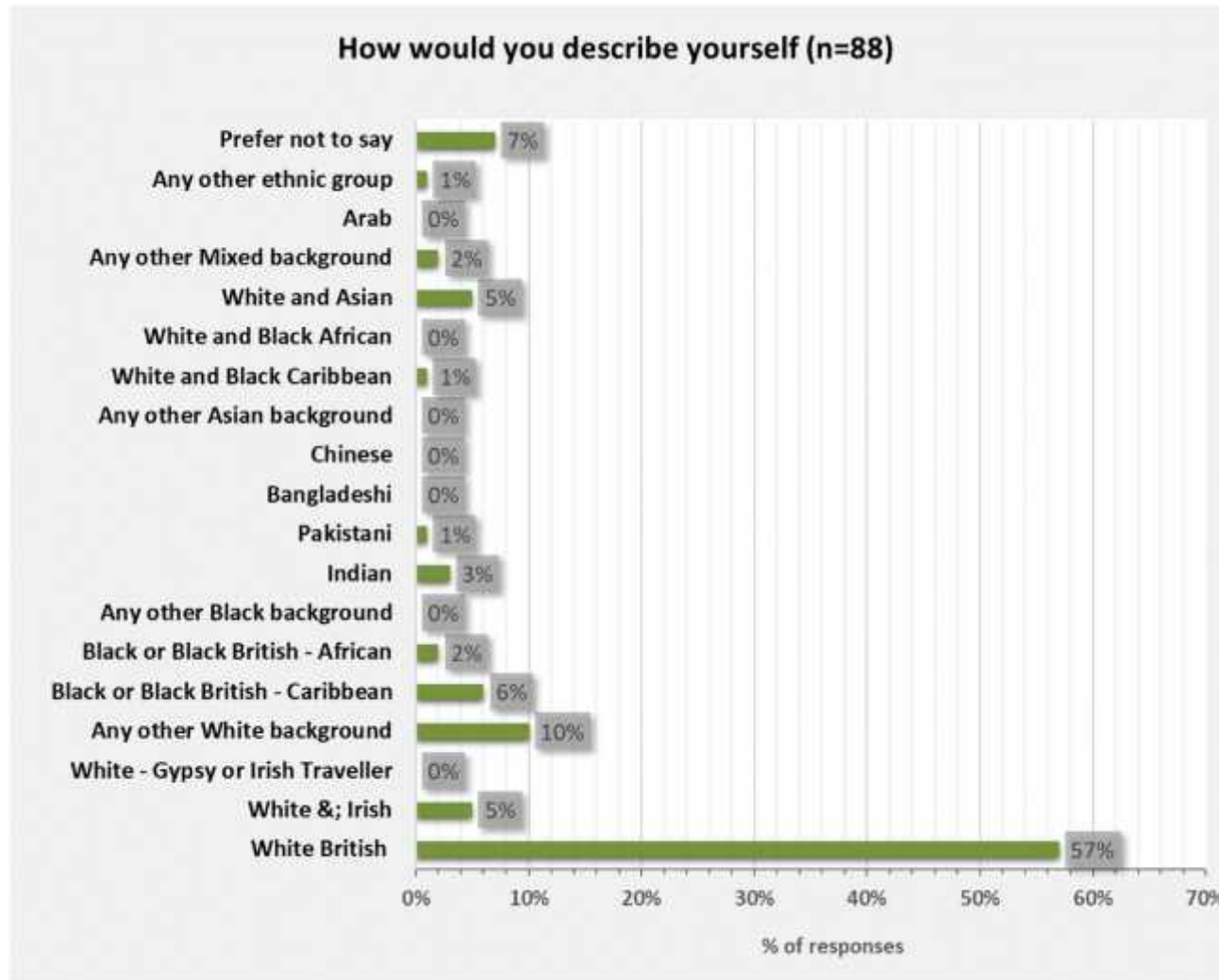
About the Respondents

How would you describe yourself?

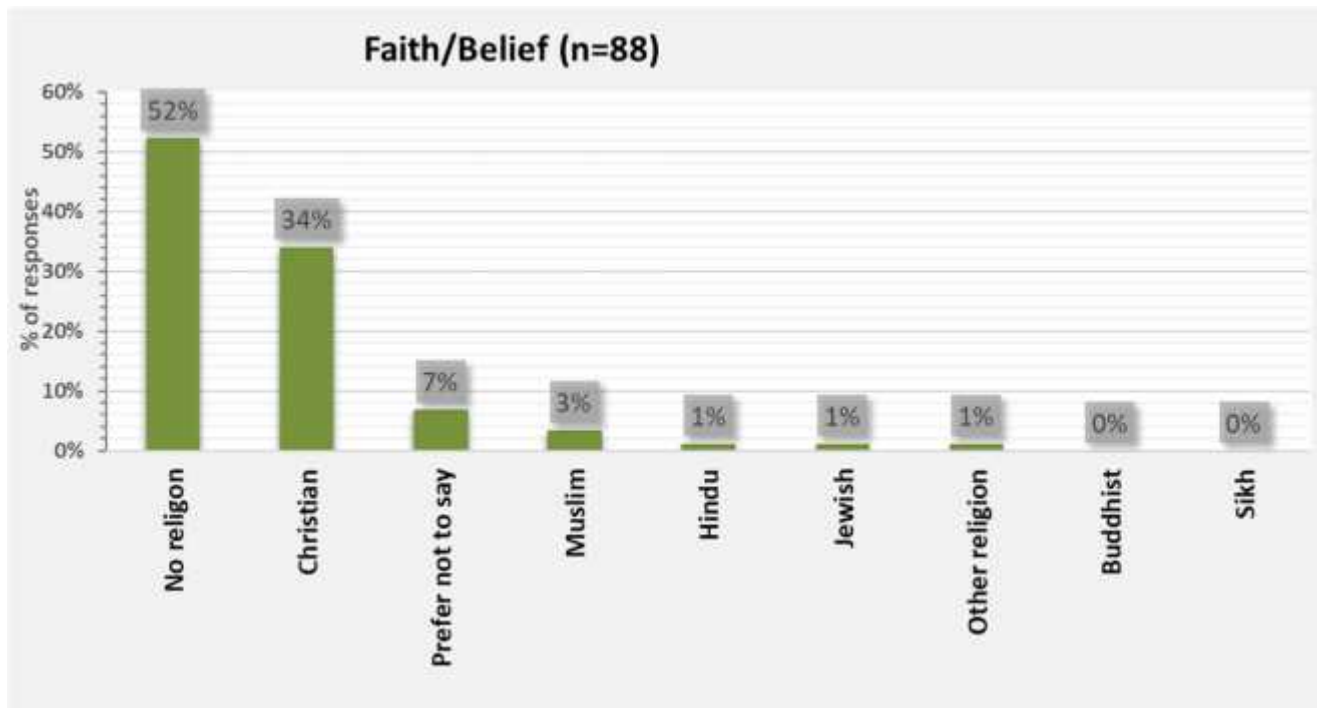
Gender Identity... The largest proportion of respondents described themselves as **Woman/Girl** at **64%**, followed by **32%** as **Man/ Boy**. The remainder either preferred not to say, described themselves as other, Transman/Transboy or Non-binary/Genderqueer/Agender/Gender Fluid. (N=88)



Age... The largest proportion of respondents were in the **35-44 age group**, followed by those in the **45-54 age group**.



Ethnicity... The sample size was very small so difficult to make comparisons to national data on the ethnic makeup of the borough. The highest proportion of responses was from those of a white background at **57%**



Faith/ Belief... Responses were the highest for no religion at 52%.

Sexuality... 73% of respondents described themselves as straight, 16% preferred not to say, 6% described themselves as Gay or Lesbian, 3% Bisexual and 1% other. (N= 86)

Disability... 6% of respondents described themselves as having a disability, 90% stated that they didn't and the remainder chose not to answer the question. (N= 89)

How the consultation results will be used

- The results will help provide some evidence of the problem, which will be presented to Cabinet.
- We will ensure tasking and engagement in the areas highlighted by the consultation
- We have noted the broader issues raised about crime and ASB and can confirm that Mitcham has been highlighted as a strategic priority and will feed in this information into the wider crime and ASB approach in Mitcham
- We will at the end of a year launch another consultation