



Evans Pearson
Chartered Surveyors
A1/A2/B1/D1/D2 Use STPP
To Let
020 7819 2380
www.evanspearson.co.uk

CYCLES



Young Lives in Seven Cities.



Lambeth, London
UNITED KINGDOM

The project.

Children and Youth in Cities: Lifestyles Evaluation and Sustainability (CYCLES) is an international research project based in seven cities that span six continents: Christchurch, NZ; Dhaka, BD; Makhandha, SA; London, UK; New Delhi, IN; São Paulo, BR; Yokohama, JP. It seeks to understand the urban experiences and ideas for living well within environmental limits of young people aged 12-24 living in these diverse cities.

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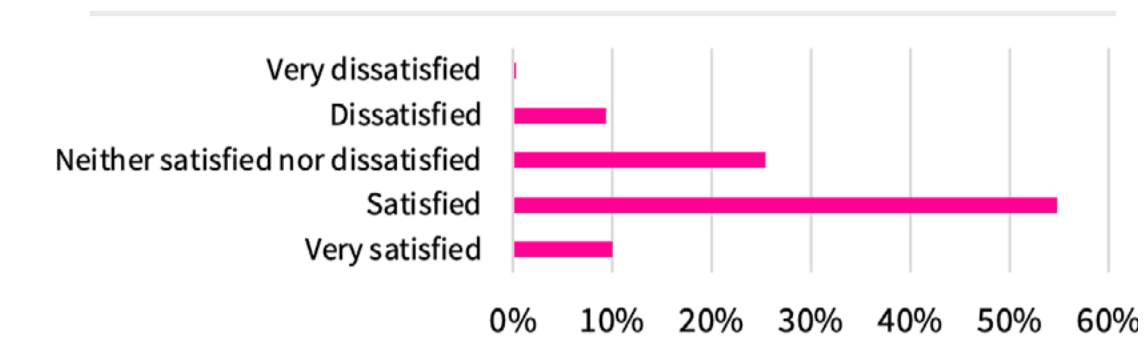
The city.

Lambeth is an inner-city area in the south of London that reflects both the challenges of inequality and opportunities for promoting wellbeing that many established post-industrial cities experience. Lambeth has a young population with an ethnically diverse profile and a mix of economically disadvantaged and affluent neighbourhoods side by side. One of the most densely populated boroughs in the United Kingdom, its 320,000 residents are predominantly young. During the pandemic, the number of children, young people, and families experiencing complex difficulties linked with financial hardship increased and families encountered challenges coping with the educational, social, and recreational needs of young people. But the borough has also seen the emergence of a range of initiatives to support young people during this time.



What is important for living well

Life satisfaction



- Having good relationships with significant others, being healthy, having enough money for basic needs, and feeling safe were the most important things for a good life across all age groups.
- Secondary school aged young people valued having a good education, while the older group put more emphasis on having a sense of meaning and purpose in life and being able to make their own decisions.
- Unfortunately, many felt that their neighbourhood was not safe, and becoming too expensive due to gentrification. Young people also deplored noise, pollution, and the loss of independent businesses.
- However, many also celebrated the accessibility of the borough, its parks and green spaces, diversity, restaurants, and overall friendliness and sense of community.

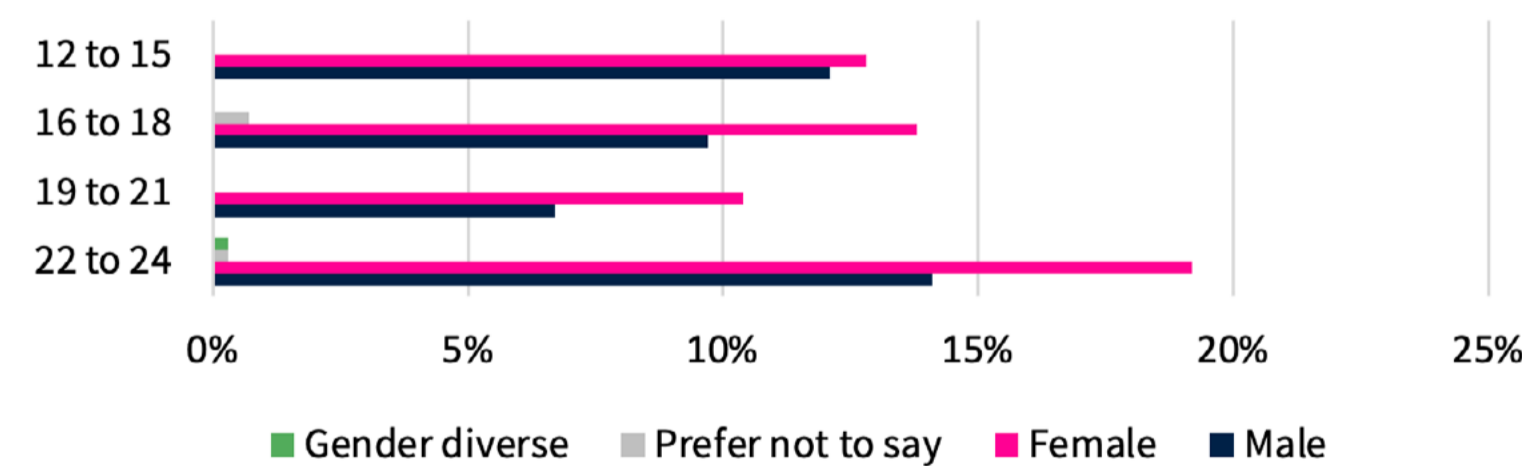
The survey.

The Lambeth CYCLES survey was carried out in June 2020 – May 2021. It surveyed 299 young people aged 12-24 and living across the borough on what it was like to live in Lambeth, their wellbeing, and their lifestyles.

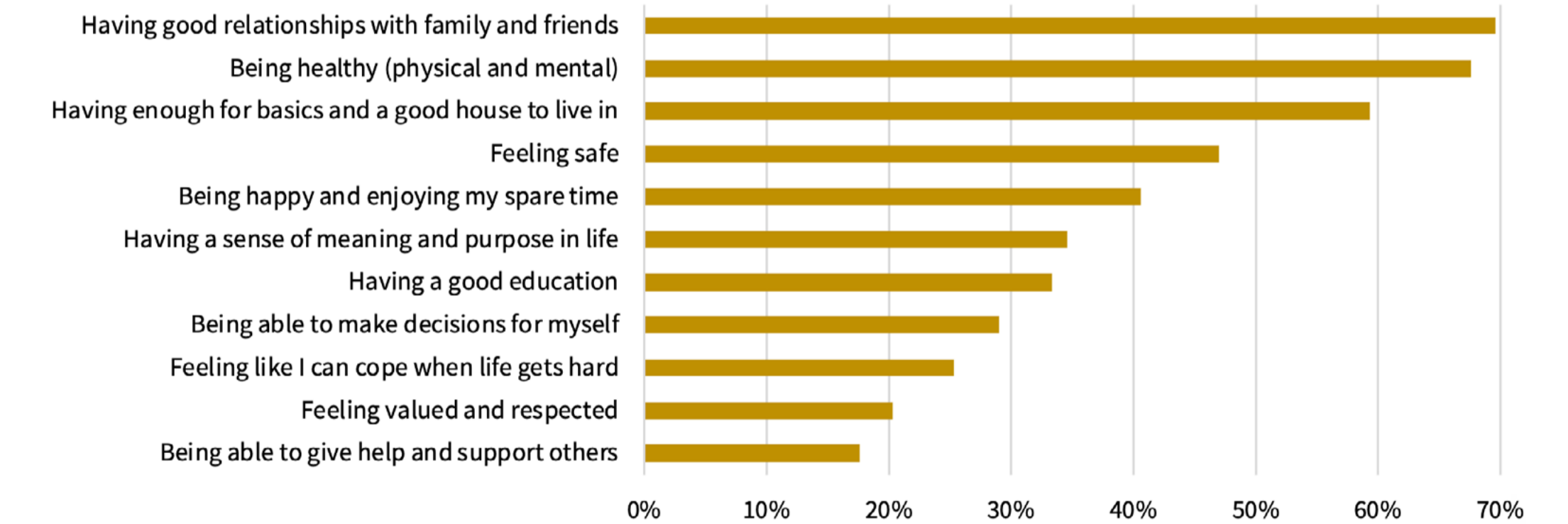
The survey participants were ethnically diverse, with a majority of respondents from Black Caribbean, White British, and Mixed (Black Caribbean and White) backgrounds.

Young people were recruited via Pook Fieldwork, a market research company, and completed the survey online.

Survey participants age and gender



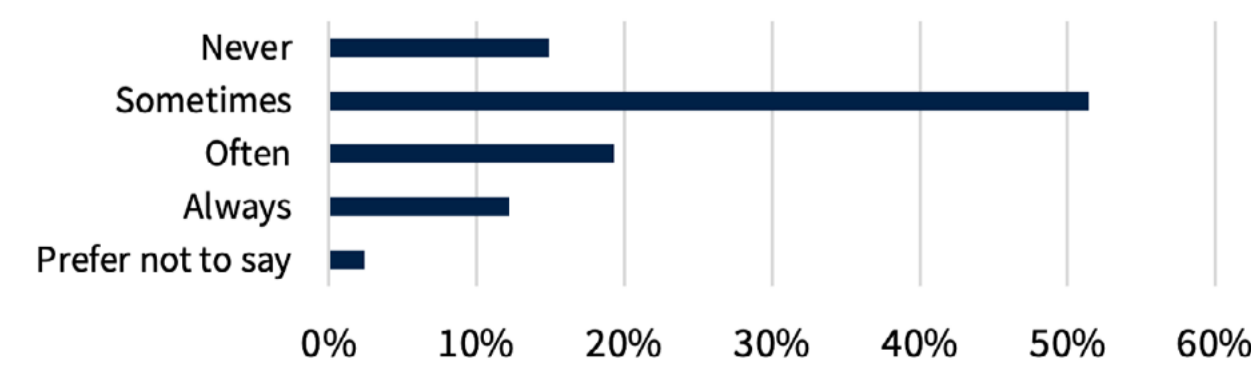
Factors important for wellbeing



Young people's wellbeing in Lambeth.

- Nearly two thirds of young people were satisfied or very satisfied with their lives (65%).
- But 83% worried about money at least some of the time, with almost a third worrying often or always.

Worry about money



The worst things about living in Lambeth...



...and the best things.





Prosperity Matters

What can prosperity possibly mean in a world of environmental, social and economic limits?—We work with people, policy and business to address this question, developing pragmatic steps towards a shared and lasting prosperity.

Find out more about the CYCLES project via:
www.cusp.ac.uk/cycles

Local research team

Kate Burningham, Sue Venn, Anastasia Loukianov and Tim Jackson
University of Surrey, UK
Contact: k.burningham@surrey.ac.uk

