

Annual Conference Report 2018



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You may not have the vote, but you do have a voice

This report aims to outline the findings and recommendations of Medway Youth Council's Annual Conference 2018, "Are You[TH] Safe?", which took place on Wednesday 7th November 2018.

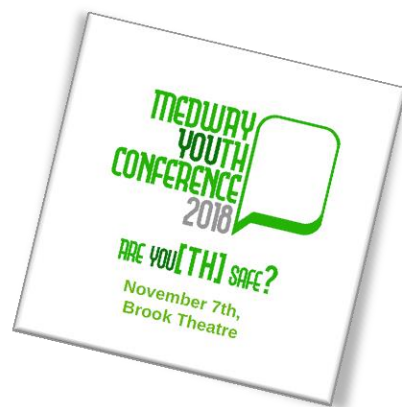
Opening from the Chair, Mr Thomas Baldock MYP

Thank you for taking the time to read our Medway Youth Council 2018 Conference report. For the first time we hosted it at the Brook Theatre in Chatham, having previously held our conferences at the Corn Exchange in Rochester.

Schools and young people from across Medway were invited to attend the conference, which ran from 9:00 to 15:00. The day was segmented into three workshops with time for a panel question time and feedback session.

Following the conference, this is our report, which will highlight the findings of our conference, and highlight the concerns and suggestions from young people that attended. During the writing stage of our report, we met with Dean Coady OBE, an independent trainer on issues including gangs and county lines, and a representative from Cookham Wood Youth Council, which also helped inform the writing of this report.

We hope you enjoy our report and we look forward to tackling the findings in partnership with decision makers.





Who are we?

Medway Youth Council is an organisation of passionate young people from all across the Medway towns, dedicated to giving young people a voice across the unitary authority and promoting their role in our community. Medway Youth Council is supported by Medway's Youth Service. We are a wholly inclusive organisation, representing a wide range of young people, aged 11-18, from a variety of schools and youth groups. We campaign on behalf of young people with regards to prominent issues such as transport, mental health, and bullying.

The Conference

Every year, Medway Youth Council holds an Annual Conference, which grows out of a consultation we carried out with young people from across Medway. Invitations are sent out to every school, inviting a small number of students between the ages of 11 and 18 (years 7 to 13) and accompanying staff to attend the conference. Councillors and decision makers from Medway are also invited.

This year's conference was held at the Brook Theatre in Chatham. The conference chose the overall theme of community safety, and was entitled 'Are You[TH] Safe?'. We acknowledge that this question is not to be answered as simply as yes or no, we ran workshops on 'Does Gang Activity Make You Feel Unsafe?', 'What is an Unhealthy Relationship?', and 'When Does Substance Abuse Become Dangerous?'. This therefore selected three issues as a youth council we believed needed to be investigated. Our consultation with Dean Coady OBE of Urban Pure also revealed how interlinked these issues are.

ARE YOU[TH] SAFE?

Medway Youth Council's Annual Conference 2018 was titled "Are You[TH] Safe?". Following Medway's Make Your Mark in which over 10,000 young people voted; over 2000 votes were cast for 'Ending Knife Crime' as the most important issue to them. As a Youth Council we felt that tackling issues affecting community safety would be a worthwhile endeavour, and therefore we created three workshops under the overall question of 'Are You[TH] safe?'

These workshops were titled:

Does Gang Activity Make You Feel Unsafe?

This workshop aimed to identify the existing knowledge that young people had around gang activity within Medway, as well as to understand their feelings around it. Activities included a map placement and structured discussions to gather the opinions of young people in Medway.

What Is An Unhealthy Relationship?

This workshop aimed to identify the opinions of young people surrounding 'relationships', as these have a profound impact on the health and wellbeing of young people so therefore are a topic worth investigating. Activities included defining a relationship, being able to identify an unhealthy/healthy relationship, and discussions around the availability of support and information on relationships.

When Does Substance Abuse Become Dangerous?

This workshop aimed to reveal the existing knowledge of young people around substance abuse, and their awareness of drugs and the impact of them. Activities included a danger line placement of drugs, a true or false activity on the law of drugs, and further discussions on additional opinions.



Workshop 1: Does Gang Activity Make You Feel Unsafe?

This workshop focused on the causes and impact of local gang activity in relation to young people. We paid particular attention to how young people felt, including identifying any misconceptions or bias which they may hold.

Our first activity asked participants to highlight, on a map of Medway, where they felt the most unsafe due to gang activity and justify their placement. Gillingham was overwhelmingly highlighted by young people as the most 'dangerous' area in Medway. Chatham received the second-most votes, with other urban centres each receiving a few. Rural areas did not receive many placements by young people. These results seemed uniform regardless of where the participants were from, showing that in general young people from Medway did not feel safe in Gillingham and Chatham. From discussions with youth workers and police, anecdotal evidence was such that the hotspots for some gang activity may be overstated and the worries by young people could be exacerbated; this was possibly caused by high levels of anti-social behaviour within this area.

When participants were asked to justify their answer by writing down their chosen area and why they didn't feel safe there, we found that young people felt that Gillingham is known for gang activity and drug use - they report smelling drugs and hearing this from other people at school and on social media. In Gillingham, an increased police presence and groups of people 'hanging around' have contributed to it being perceived as unsafe. Similarly, in Rochester, parks such as Jackson's Field are seen as being known territory for gang activity and drug use, and there is fear over crimes such as breaking and entering. Dilapidation was highlighted as a more general cause as to why young people feel unsafe.

Next, young people were separated into groups in order to hold informal discussions about gang activity. We aimed specifically to determine why young people think others join gangs and what influences are mainly responsible for this. These discussions were attended and contributed to by youth workers, police officers, and a criminologist, who was a great help in discussing the concerns of young people. All comments made by young people were recorded. The discussions revealed why young people think individuals join gangs. They highlighted fear as a major reason, thoughts about a need for protection and safety, as well as potential factors like bullying or blackmail. Other potential causes included upbringing, concern for reputation, and thrill-seeking.

Generally, the causes revealed were factors that influenced a young person into joining a gang, rather than an individual wanting to do so of free will; for example, grooming, coercion, and the media being identified as some influential causes.

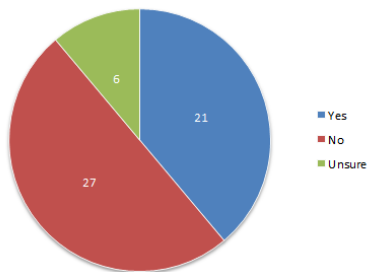
Some further points young people told us was that they are unsure of how to say no when in a bad situation, which could be improved through education. Another issue with education is that people don't know the real consequences of involvement in gang activity, for example, potential punishments. The escalation from ordinary activities to gang crime was poorly understood. Some reasons for this vulnerability which participants agreed on were upbringing, mental health issues, and poverty.

Our final activity was focused on gang activity in the media and culture. Participants were played sections from 'drill music', a genre which is often blamed for an increase in knife crime. While it was often agreed that the music could encourage violence, young people broadly felt that it should not be censored. For example, the song 'Blockaa' was seen to be a song that would most likely incite violence. They felt that in some cases claims over drill music causing violence were over exaggerated but that their censorship was not justified.

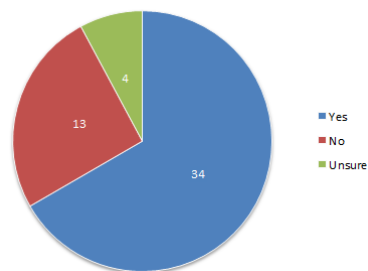
Young people discussed possible solutions to these issues raised. Ideas mentioned in the discussions included help lines separate from the police (perhaps publicising existing ones), and improving education around this issue. Participants thought this education could take place through having more discussions about gang activity, having former gang members speak out, and ensuring that young people know the legal consequences of it. Some young people said that sentences should be increased and that monitoring and guidance on social media could help combat issues surrounding perception.

Figures showing the views of young people over a particular song's ability to incite violence.

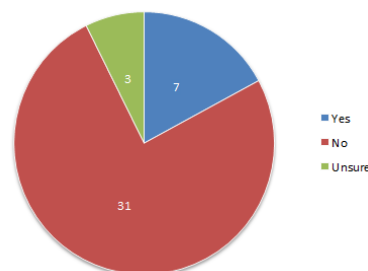
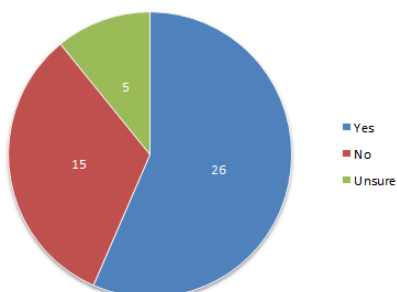
Do you think this 'Wicked and Bad' song incites violence?



Do you think this song, 'Blockaa', incites violence?



Do you think this 'Lets Lurk' song incites violence? Should this music be censored?



Findings and Recommendations

The young people involved in the workshop were influenced by the perception of areas and this clearly is something to address. Overall they feel most unsafe in urban areas, especially Gillingham. Drug use was mentioned often, showing that this is often associated with gangs; young people took the issue of drug use seriously in that they saw it to be a problem worth tackling. A wide variety of potential causes and influences on people joining gangs were discussed, such as wanting money and to feel safe.

The scope of comments made us aware that young people care about the risk of gangs and want to combat them, but aren't particularly well informed. Young people want greater education about the risks of gangs and how to stay safe and feel that any current education provided on this is weak.

Using education was the most popular method talked about by young people. Participants did not know much about gangs and either did not know the consequences of joining them or thought consequences were too lax. Based on this young people should receive a better education on the subject. We feel it would be best to target young people entering secondary school so that they can be reached early as they are at a high level of risk. We believe a programme based on the concept of 'License To Kill', a road safety intervention, that includes accounts of officers involved in gang/knife crime would be highly effective in serving to deter dangerous action by individuals.

The most effective form of education for this age group would ensure that they know the consequences while avoiding fear mongering. Police, amongst others, who are involved in dealing with gang crime are an important resource for deterring it. Also essential is publicising and maintaining existing hubs for young people. Youth clubs and other projects are essential to this and should receive greater support. Subsequent consultation with Dean Coady OBE from Urban Pure Solutions revealed his presentation, and other similar programmes, could be an effective education resource.

A selection of feelings young people told us they had about gang activity.

How does gang activity make you feel?



Workshop 2: What Is An Unhealthy Relationship?

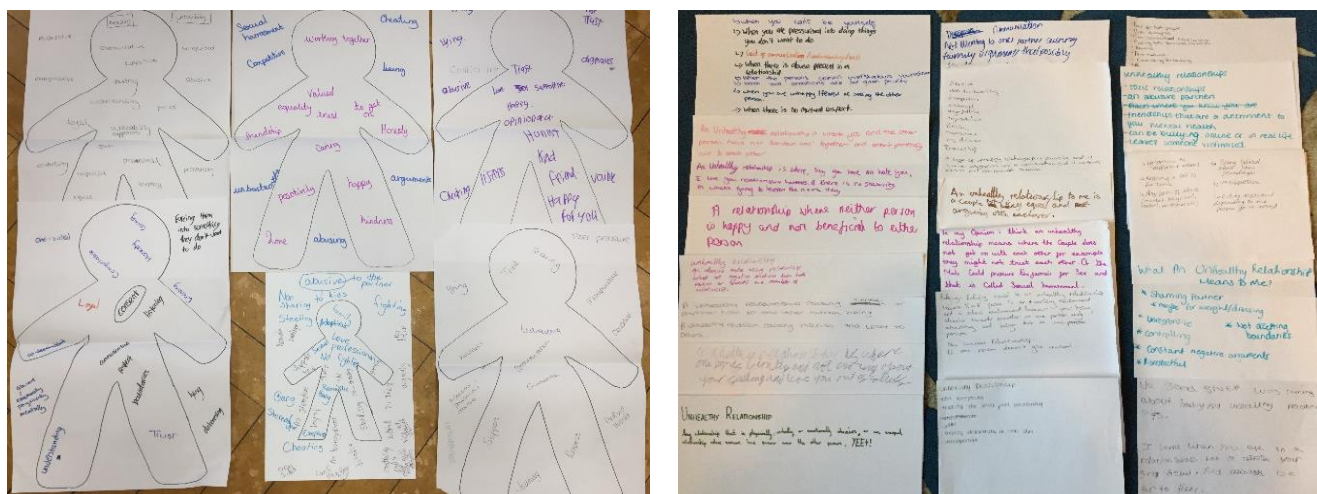
This workshop intended to explore ‘What is an unhealthy relationship?’, and how young people could become more aware and able to deal with those which may be unhealthy. In particular, we planned to focus on the impacts of an unhealthy relationship on the young people, as well as how to become more aware about the safety surrounding relationships.

Young people involved with this workshop participated in a variety of tasks designed to develop through their knowledge and opinions.

Firstly, young people started with a ‘gingerbread person’s’ outline on flipchart paper. They had to think about types of relationships and categorise healthy (inside the person), and unhealthy (outside the person) using their own current knowledge and experience. From this, we found the younger participants struggled to identify many different types of relationships and their forms, whereas, older participants considered more forms, identities, and types of relationships. This meant that when sharing, many learnt of other new forms, such as professional, boss to employee, and doctor to patient.

Many found that their personal definition of ‘relationship’ affected how they identified one, thus only considering a relationship to be sexual or romantic. Figures 1 shows examples of this activity and the bar charts demonstrate the descriptions that were produced from this activity. We found that for ‘healthy’ suggestions, the words: trust, family, honest and respect were frequently associated, and in ‘unhealthy’ suggestions, the words: abusive, manipulation, arguments, and cheating appeared frequently; these words, therefore are a reflection of identifiers that a young person may use to determine whether a relationship was unhealthy or not.

Figure 1 - Example of gingerbread person activity and consideration of what an unhealthy relationship entails.

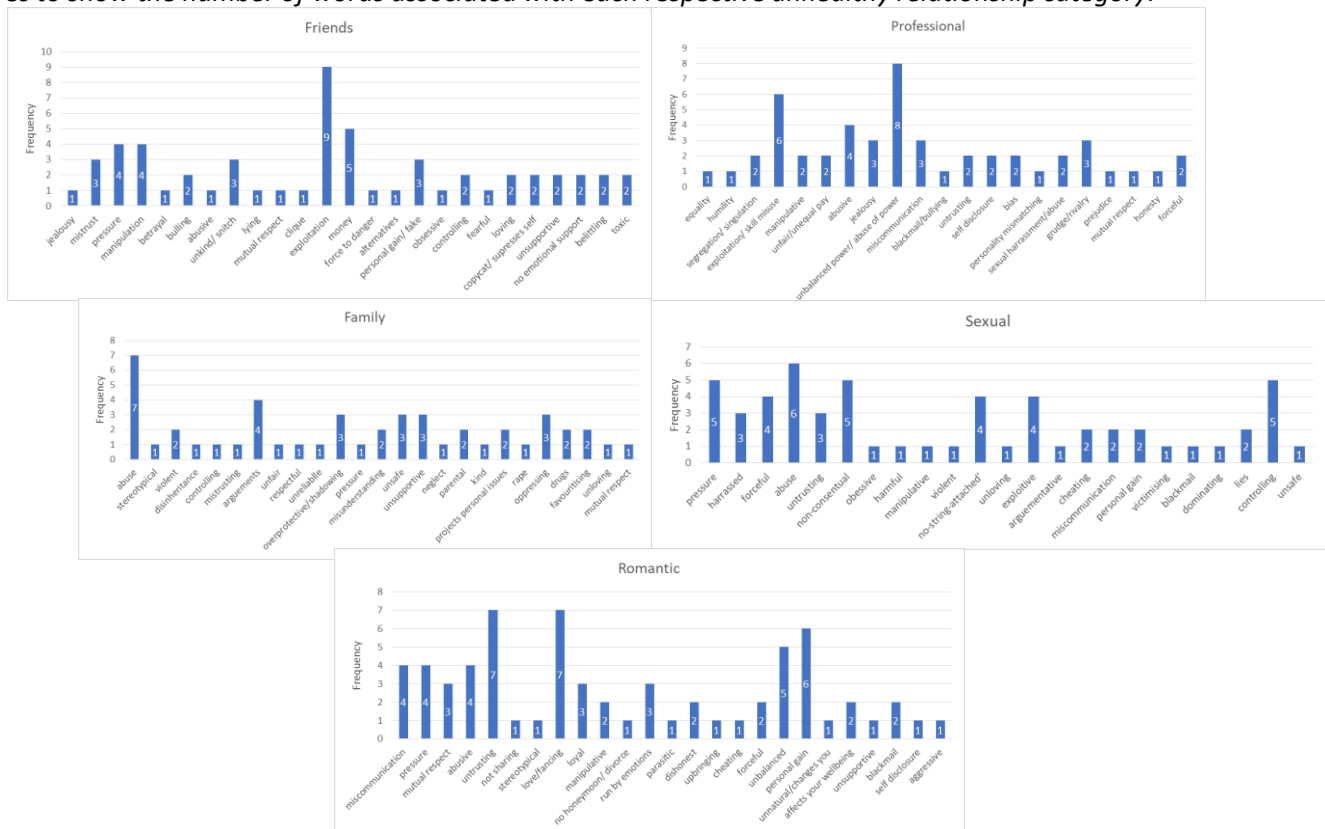


Then, we moved onto a discussion to develop a definition of what an ‘unhealthy relationship’ is for each of the group sessions. Young people discussed many approaches and alternate views to develop a singular definition like that of, ‘An unhealthy relationship is one where you have poor communication and have severe trust issues and lie a lot. The relationship may be abuse and involve manipulation by a person.’ Throughout this activity, many words that were previously stated in the first activity appeared (trust, manipulation, lies, communication) showing that these were significantly important and key identifiers to an unhealthy relationship.

Next, the room was partitioned into the relationship categories, ‘friends, family, professional, sexual, and romantic’. Young people were asked to use sticky labels to place words describing the possible causes behind why the category relationship could become unhealthy. From the figures below, you can see which words regularly appeared and the suggestions for each category. From this data, we see that possible causes of an unhealthy relationship are shared between each category. This overlap could provide the opportunity for selecting the most common identifiers of the most obvious unhealthy relationship and improve the education around these, in order to tackle the most types of unhealthy relationships.

At this point, young people felt stronger in their understanding of what constitutes a relationship as well as the many causes of unhealthy relationships. After this, we discussed how the category relationships could be presented online. We found that young people found it easier to conceive and identify cyber-relationships than contemporary face-to-face ones. The development of technology may be responsible for the lack of knowledge around contemporary relationships as current resources do not consider these forms of relationships.

Figures to show the number of words associated with each respective unhealthy relationship category.



The group session then took part in a form of ‘human tinder swipe’ using written scenarios to challenge young people to explore what they thought were ‘healthy’ or ‘unhealthy’ relationships. We found that scenarios that included keywords like ‘insecure’, ‘obsessed’, ‘kind’ and ‘helping’ meant that the young people were more confident in their decision and found it easier to identify whether the relationship was ‘unhealthy or healthy’, however scenarios that didn’t include keywords proved more difficult and led to division in group. This demonstrated that there is a challenge in identifying an unhealthy relationship from the surface, without a certain amount of information.

Findings and Recommendations

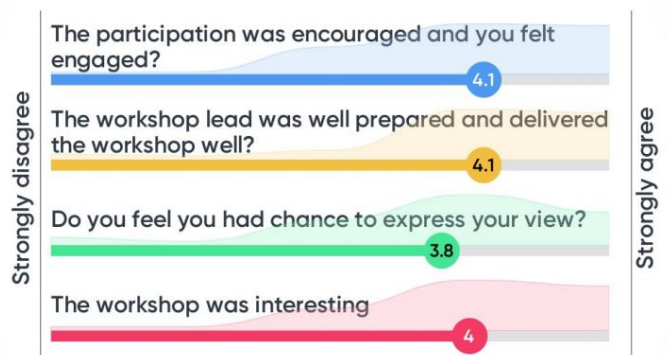
Throughout the workshop, young people felt that ‘safety and support sites’, like that of Medway Community Safety, ChildLine, and other related organisations that could help with the issue of an unhealthy relationships, through information about identifiers and ways to remain safe, were being poorly advertised within Medway, and that it would be beneficial if greater awareness of help provision could be given to young people. One participant stated: “you always see the posters with ChildLine saying ‘if you are in an unsafe environment call us’, or the NHS can now provide more for those suffering from mental health conditions poster, and all this about being in an unsafe or abusive situations, but you never get told who go to or who to call or how to be helped if you are in an unhealthy relationship because not all relationships that are unhealthy are as extreme as abuse or violence.

If you think it’s unhealthy, something like a leaflet/poster or assembly in school to tell you identifiers of an unhealthy relationships, impacts, and how to get help would be so much more helpful and beneficial to everyone, as not everyone realises they need it. Sometimes being informed about something, like say the relationship they’re in could make them more aware and encourage them to seek help but currently we don’t know because it is not promoted enough”.

Additionally, the older attendees felt that those which were younger would benefit more if gender and sexuality welfare in relationships was considered within this academic teaching as many did not consider this in discussions and felt it would improve awareness and tolerance.



Feedback from the workshop



Workshop 3: When Does Substance Abuse Become Dangerous?

The aim of this workshop was to find out what the young people of Medway knew about substance abuse. This included the abuse of prescription drugs, legal and illegal drugs, and alcohol. We wanted to find out if they knew the possible effects it had on the abuser, how it affected bystanders and current awareness of the law.

Activity 1:

‘What does a substance abuser look like?’. This asked young people to draw a person and write inside what they thought a drug/substance abuser would look like. On the outside were the effects on other people, for example, friends, family, teachers and officers of the law.

Findings:

Throughout this exercise, many keywords and themes began to emerge. One of the key suggestions as to why people may abuse a substance, was because they had a mental illness, in particular, depression; PTSD was also a common answer to come up.

Another stereotype was that was that drug abusers are teens and that they were homeless. There was another common assumption that these people had tattoos and piercings, it was also assumed that they were powerful and confident.

There were also common answers when it came down to the effects that happen to bystanders; one of the most common answers was that they would be scared or intimidated (by the drug users), and another occurrence was that they would be disappointed by them. Some groups listed actions people might take if they encountered a substance user: they stated that they would inform the police or suggest they attended a rehabilitation programme.



Activity 2:

A danger line which asked young people to think about which situation was the most dangerous and explain why.

Findings

Throughout the danger line exercise, there were many variations of opinion. The most common answer that stayed at the less dangerous end of the line, for all the groups taking part was the statement “never taking drugs or drinking alcohol”. This was an expected result. The next statement that was considered only slightly more dangerous than the previous one was “A 16-year-old having one drink at a Christmas party surrounded by family”. Drinking at house party without parents knowing was usually placed higher up. As we moved up the danger line the statements were not placed consistently with each group having differing views and opinions about what was dangerous to them.

There were 2 common statements that were placed as the most dangerous activity or situation:

These were “taking an illegal substance” and “drinking alcohol whilst taking prescribed medication”. This showed that the groups agreed on the most dangerous and the safest situations, but had a mixture of answers when presented with the middle statements of the danger line.

Plenary: A discussion with Open Road which allowed them to speak to professionals. This workshop was supported by Open Road, a charity that works to support individuals on their journey to recovery from drug and alcohol addiction.

Their expertise was invaluable to young people who were able to ask questions and gain more knowledge on these topics.



Below are several examples of the danger line activity.



Activity 3:

A true or false exercise which challenged young people to think about the statements they were presented with, then they would give an explanation of their answer. This would lead to a short debate on the subject.

Findings:

Smoking cannabis at a young age can affect your IQ - True

When the first workshop group took part 45% of people said true, 45% said false and 10% did not know.

For the second workshop group, 40% said true, 50% did not know and 10% said false. The last group of the day when presented with the same question responded with 80% saying true and 15% saying they did not know and 5% saying false.

When young people were challenged to discuss the dangers of a young person getting into a car with the driver under the influence of drugs there was a clear division with more young people aware of the risks of drunk driving; more work must be done therefore to increase awareness of driving under the influence of other drugs.

More people die from cannabis use than alcohol - False

More people from the groups seemed to get this right with 5% saying they did not know and 95% stating false. In the second group, 10% did not know, 20% said true and 70% got it correct by stating false. The final group 2% said they did not know and 10% true and 88% got it correct. The majority of the young people who were asked this statement were correct showing some knowledge about the risk of death resulting from drug use.

Cocaine can slow down your breathing - False

This was a statement that most groups did not get correct. The statement most groups found easy to get right was “you can get addicted to heroin from after first time taking it. 99% of the groups got this correct by answering true. More education is needed on the health risks of drugs and the impacts it can have on your body.

Findings and Recommendations

The purpose of this activity was to explore what young people knew about the risks, laws, and impacts of drugs; we have found that there is a great disparity of the knowledge held by young people.

We recommend that the risks and laws around all substances are incorporated more effectively into the education system and work is done to increase the awareness of organisations who provide support on all aspects of substances.

We also recommend that local organisations increase their engagement in schools and with young people, promoting the prevention of substance abuse and enforcing awareness.

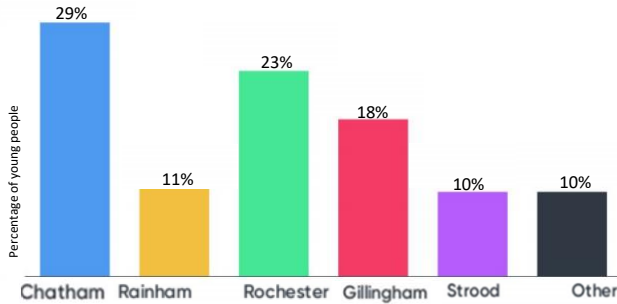
Pre-Panel Audience Response

During the afternoon session, all the young people attending had the opportunity to answer questions on the platform Mentimeter. Young people used their phones to access the website which offers an instant visualisation of the responses.

This evidences the main findings from that section of the day.

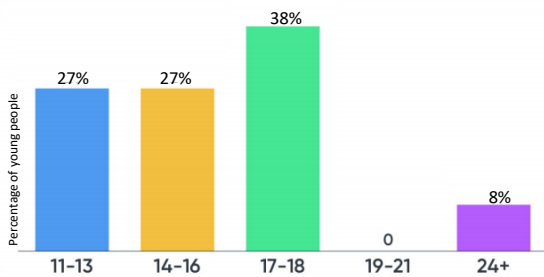
This data only includes the responses which young people told us through their devices.

Which area of Medway do you live in?



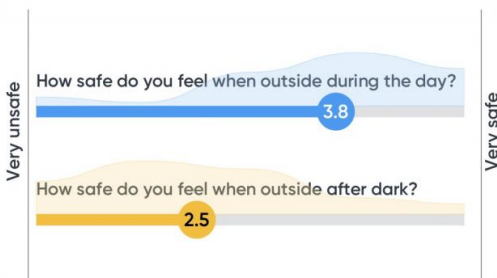
To ensure we had an accurate representation of the Medway Towns we asked young people to share the area that they live in. There was a fairly even spread of representatives from across the Medway towns.

Which age category do you fit in?



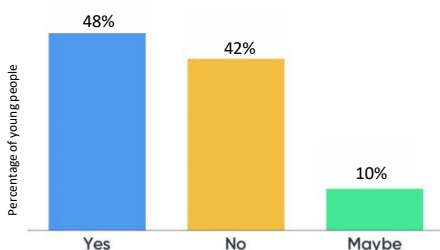
We covered age groups from 11 to 18 with 17-18 year olds being the largest category by a small margin. Above 18 may include those of additional needs who are represented by MYC as well.

How safe do you feel?



From this sample total, out of 5, where 5 is 'very safe' young people gave the average of 3.8 when during the day. As may be expected during darkness, this fell to 2.5. This is a useful comparator to ask young people in future to identify any improvements.

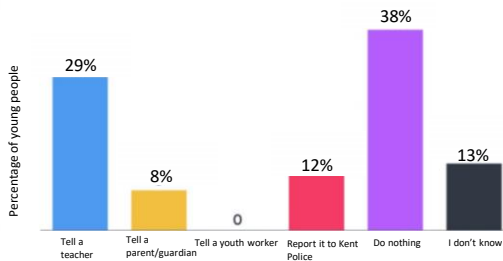
Have you ever seen drugs in your school/college/university?



There was a roughly even split between young people saying that they had seen drugs in their school/college/university with the majority saying that they had.

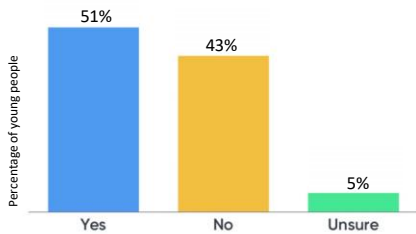
Pre-Panel Audience Response

What would you do if you saw drugs in school/college/university?



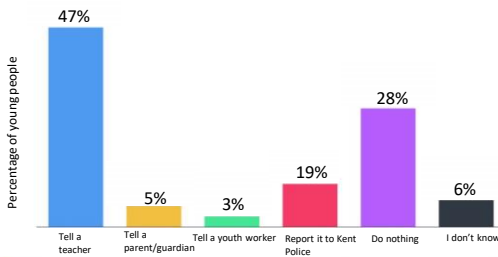
An important question to ask was what young people would do having seen drugs at their school. 'Doing nothing' was the largest response with 38% of young people selecting it as a response. In comparison only 29% of young people said they would tell a teacher.

Have you ever seen a knife in your school/college/university?



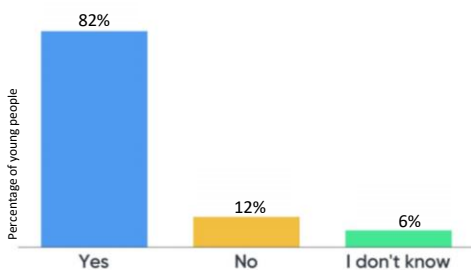
Roughly the same proportion of each response occurred with people seeing a knife/sharp instrument in their school/college/university. A majority of young people had seen a knife/sharp instrument in their school/college/university.

What would you do if you saw a knife in school/college/university?



Where only 29% of the respondents opted to tell their teacher if they saw drugs in their school/college/university, this jumped to 47% of young people telling a teacher if they had seen a knife in school.

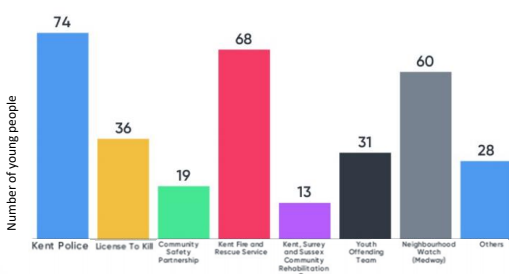
Does Medway have a gang problem?



82% of young people, who attended our conference, said that they felt Medway had a gang problem.

6% of people said that they did not know if Medway had a gang problem.

Which Community Safety Groups have you heard of?



The most heard of community safety groups were 'Kent Police' along with 'Kent Fire and Rescue Service', and 'Neighbourhood Watch'. Most young people have not heard of the 'Community Safety Partnership' or the "Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company". The Youth Offending Team was more known than these.

Question Time Panel

During the afternoon session, all the young people attending had the opportunity to submit questions to a panel of representatives. Over 200 questions were submitted by young people through both paper and 'Mentimeter', a technology allowing responses through internet devices.

The panel consisted of:

Steve Holpin (Community Safety Partnership)
Lawrence Pater (Kent Fire & Rescue Service)
Grace Beaumont (Youth Police Advisory Group)
Neil Howlett (Community Safety Partnership)
Vincent Akinnawo (Open Road)
Dr Simon Harding (Criminology)

Findings and Recommendations

The aim of the Q and A was to allow young people to question officers and decision makers on issues that were important to themselves and their community.

Panellists could then respond with information about what their organisation was doing in relation to an aspect of community safety. Our panel also included Grace Beaumont of the Youth Police Advisory Group who was able to offer the perspective of a youth-led organisation that holds the police to account.

The panel responded to a question on reoffending saying, that the criminal justice system isn't the way to deal with young people because they will come out of the system with worse behaviour than what they went in with. It was emphasised the importance of early help, targeted services. It was stated that having a criminal record will make it incredibly tough to pull people from crime with their opportunities being limited.

It was discussed that more should be done for disaffected young people and the importance of youth engagement.

Neil Howlett told the audience that Medway is one local authority with £12,000 from the home office to enable programmes across Medway to give young people something constructive to do allowing them the opportunities to access sports opportunities, for example, and importantly to engage with decision makers.



The whole panel shared the view that young people must be around the table and engaged with decision makers as, very often, the decision makers do not have the solution to a problem that a young person will have the experience of.

Professor Harding stated there was limited rehabilitation in prison due to the lack of staff and resources. It is a national problem and not just local. When people come out of prison they will go back to the same life that they left behind, with the same networks and lives; however, this can be resolved through diversion and retraining.

A question asked was 'Is Medway actually becoming less safe, or is this a matter of perception?'

An officer discussed that in his own experience, areas of Medway have declined in night crime and burglaries. He shared a story of where a woman believed in an attempted abduction but it was a fabrication from social media. "Medway is not a dangerous place to live and no less dangerous when he came to Medway however where incidents do occur they are often exacerbated by social media". Headlines can be published within minutes however may not accurately provide details, fuelling the perception of a lack of safety.

From the perspective of Fire Rescue Service you are safer from fire but where the danger is now is road traffic collisions.

Simon Harding discussed that young people can face a greater challenge with perception as they are going through a period of change and development, and therefore interaction with the media can present a bigger influence on their perception, however, it is clear this perception is not limited to just young people.

YPAG emphasised the role of the media in creating perception: mentioning hate crime and the role of IPAG in setting up a hate crime reporting hub. People are more aware of hate crime, leading to increased crime rates when in actuality it was the awareness of it rather than incidents. CSP also mentioned people should be aware that the rise in crime rates may be due to the recording of crime.

An officer states there has not been a single recorded incident of a gang-related crime in Gillingham, since the murder of Kyle Yule. A proper gang has a hierarchy, a leader and commit organised crime for money. A group of youths congregating in a postcode area giving themselves a name is not the same. The police are aware of the hotspots but do not deal with regular incidents of it, taking the opportunity to state that there has been a perception created.



Summary and Further Actions

Overall we felt that our conference provided an effective platform for the young people of Medway to voice their views on issues affecting community safety. With our use of technology and carefully planned workshops, we were able to gather a reliable and representative range of feedback from young people. This has helped to inform the Medway Youth Council on views of young people, enabling us to effectively represent and work on these issues. The majority of feedback received was positive with young people praising the work of MYC. Following our conference, we will begin to work to address the issues that were identified.

Further Actions

In response to the MYC Annual Conference 2018 we are going to work to directly address the issues discussed. We have put forward the following further actions:

- MYC will produce a resource which provides information on relationships; including identifiers of an unhealthy one and the available support of organisations that can also help.
- To work with partners, including the police and YPAG, to inform strategies that aim to equip young people with skills and knowledge that can protect them from gang and knife crime.
- To work with the community safety team to inform their strategy for engaging with young people.
- MYC will disseminate the report's findings to schools, youth organisations and other partners.
- To work with organisations, such as Open Road, to review and inform the guidance provided to schools regarding substance misuse education.

If you would like to get in touch with the Medway Youth Council to assist us in achieving the above, please contact:

**Medway Youth Council, Gun Wharf, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR.
Via angela.taylor@medway.gov.uk
01634 338748**

Twitter: @MYC_Medway

Facebook: Medway Youth Council

Feedback from Students

Throughout the day we asked students to give feedback on their thoughts on the day. We have included a range of comments here:

“I liked how I got to meet new people from different schools and work with them”

“I liked the interaction between everyone”

“I learnt some surprising facts that made me rethink the dangers of substance abuse”

“The leaders of the workshop were engaging, keen to include everyone’s opinions and they made the workshop ultimately interesting”

“The wide age range made it difficult to discuss certain topics while being sensitive”

“Help us to learn more about what to do if you spot an unhealthy relationship”

“I liked the fact you had a chance to speak what you thought, they encouraged you to voice your thoughts if you wanted to discuss it”

“More time for debates”



Additional data

This section of the report includes additional data and information collected at the conference which we believe would be of use to decision-makers when formulating policy. If you require any further information, that is not included in this report, please contact the Medway Youth Council.

What is the main way you remain safe in the community?

- I avoid certain locations after dark
- I walk with people to and from school
- I fake phone calls
- I walk with keys in my hands
- Walk in light and busy areas
- Try to avoid areas I know have problems of crime

What concerns you most about staying safe?

- Knife crime
- Mistaken identity
- The lack of police patrolling the streets
- Gangs can be anywhere
- Being able to report incidents

What more should be done to keep young people safe?

- Greater awareness of safety services in Medway
- A police version of 'License to Kill' around gang and knife crime
- More lighting in poorly lit areas
- More investment in CCTV
- Police to hold more talks to inform young people
- Greater awareness of issues in schools that are sheltered





**Thank you for taking the time to
read our report.**

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