

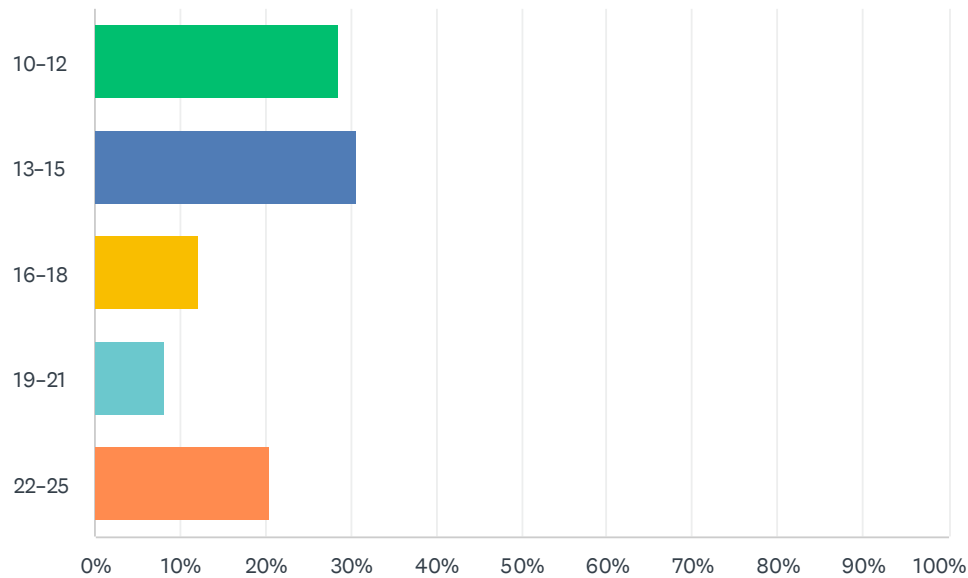
CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	27th November 2025 7 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
FROM	Cllr Kay Wesley and Barney Mitcheson (Mayor's Cadet 2024-25)		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	14 Youth Council Update		
BACKGROUND	<p>Congleton Town Council used to have a Youth Council Committee, but this stopped functioning about 5 years ago. It had an ongoing problem of the young people involved leaving Congleton and difficulty with succession planning.</p> <p>Young people in the town have shown an interest in the workings of the Council and have participated in Town Hall Tours, where their enthusiasm to learn more and participate in our democracy has been evident.</p> <p>CO/05/2526 - Resolved to support the continued work to set up a Youth Council, including Officer time to organise a workshop, and the use of the Town Hall.</p>		
UPDATE	<p>The Youth Council Survey generated 52 responses. View a summary of the results on this in Appendix 1.</p> <p>In a separate session, Rangers and Scouts were also asked what activities, clubs and pastimes they would like.</p> <p>The first Youth Council workshop took place on 21st October at 6:30 pm, 14 young people attended, from ages 10 to 18. Working in 4 teams, they shared their ideas on how to set up a Youth Council, brainstormed ideas and worked up 4 ideas in more detail.</p> <p>The young people who attended were all enthusiastic and keen to get involved.</p> <p>You can view the outputs from the session and survey results in Appendix 2.</p> <p>Appendix 3 is a draft constitution for the Youth Council, which is simple and easy to understand.</p> <p>A WhatsApp group has been set up as the main communication channel for members. The group is looking to organise a Christmas social with a view to starting the Youth Council in January 2026.</p>		
Financial Implications	Use of the Brassiere to hold meetings. A budget will be approved at the Council budget setting to support the Youth Council.		
Environmental Implications	Engaging young people could help support our initiatives to combat climate change		
Equality and Diversity Impact	It will help the Council to be fully representative of our community if we listen to the voices of young people. The team commits to reaching out to as diverse a range of young people as possible, so that it is not just privileged youngsters who have a voice in the Youth Council.		

DECISION REQUESTED	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To note the Youth Council workshop.2. To recommend that the Youth Council constitution be approved at Council and added to the Congleton Town Council Constitution, replacing the previous version.
-------------------------------	---

Q1 How old are you?

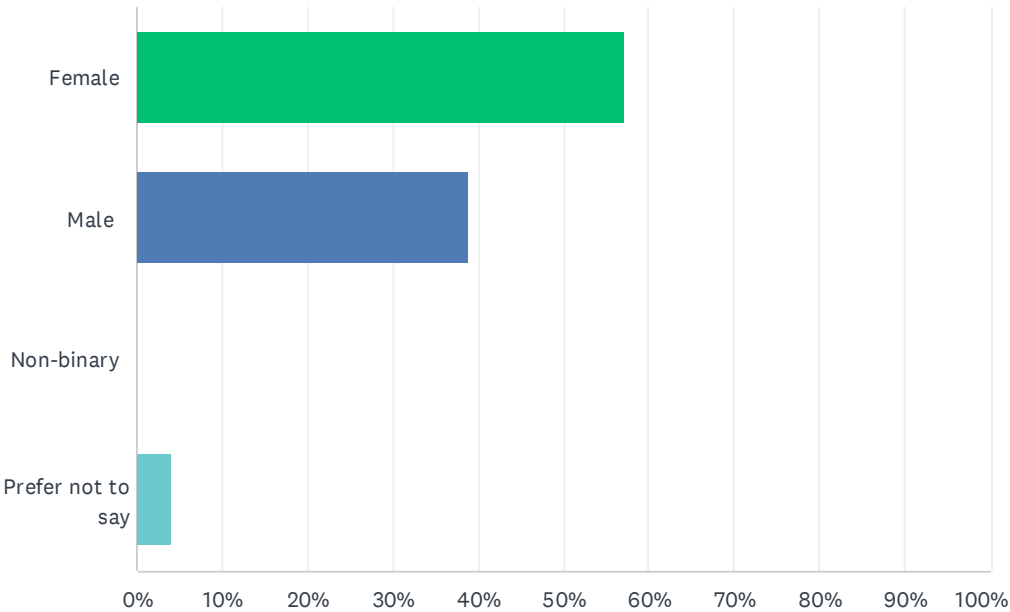
Answered: 49 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
10–12	28.57%	14
13–15	30.61%	15
16–18	12.24%	6
19–21	8.16%	4
22–25	20.41%	10
TOTAL		49

Q2 What is your gender?

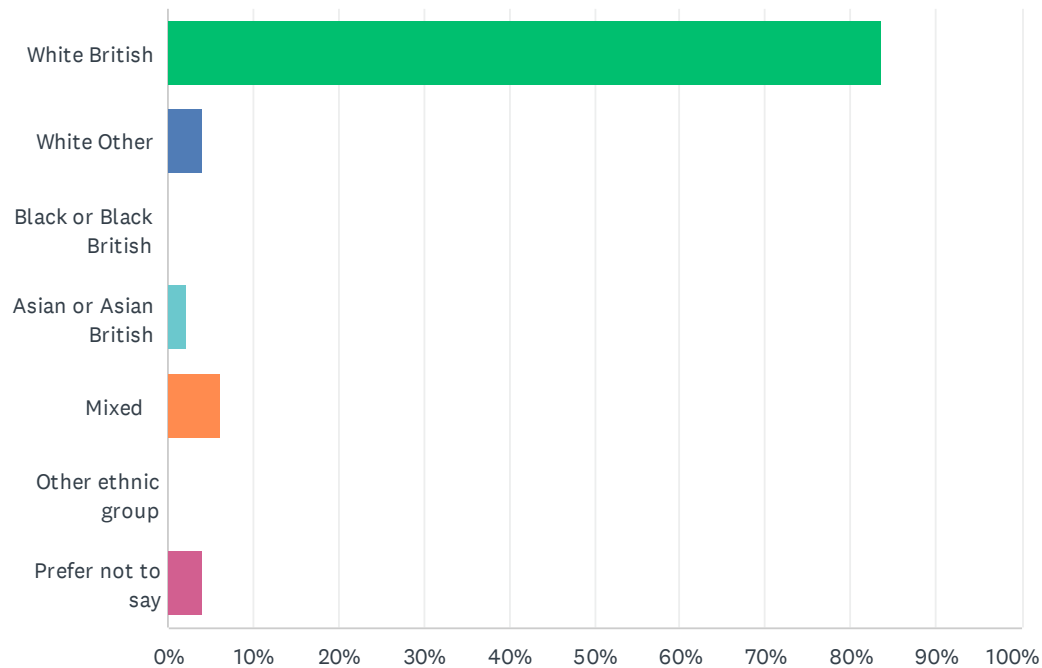
Answered: 49 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	57.14%	28
Male	38.78%	19
Non-binary	0.00%	0
Prefer not to say	4.08%	2
TOTAL		49

Q3 What is your ethnic background?

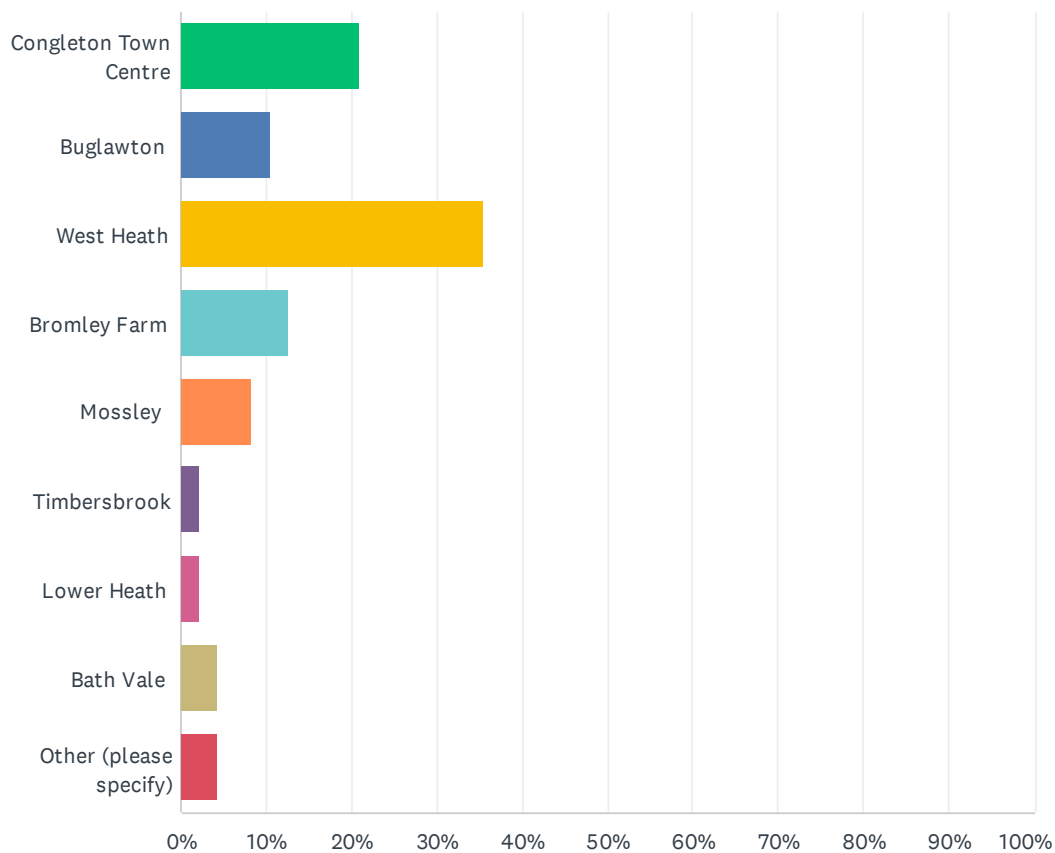
Answered: 49 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White British	83.67%	41
White Other	4.08%	2
Black or Black British	0.00%	0
Asian or Asian British	2.04%	1
Mixed	6.12%	3
Other ethnic group	0.00%	0
Prefer not to say	4.08%	2
TOTAL		49

Q4 Where do you live (or spend most of your time)?

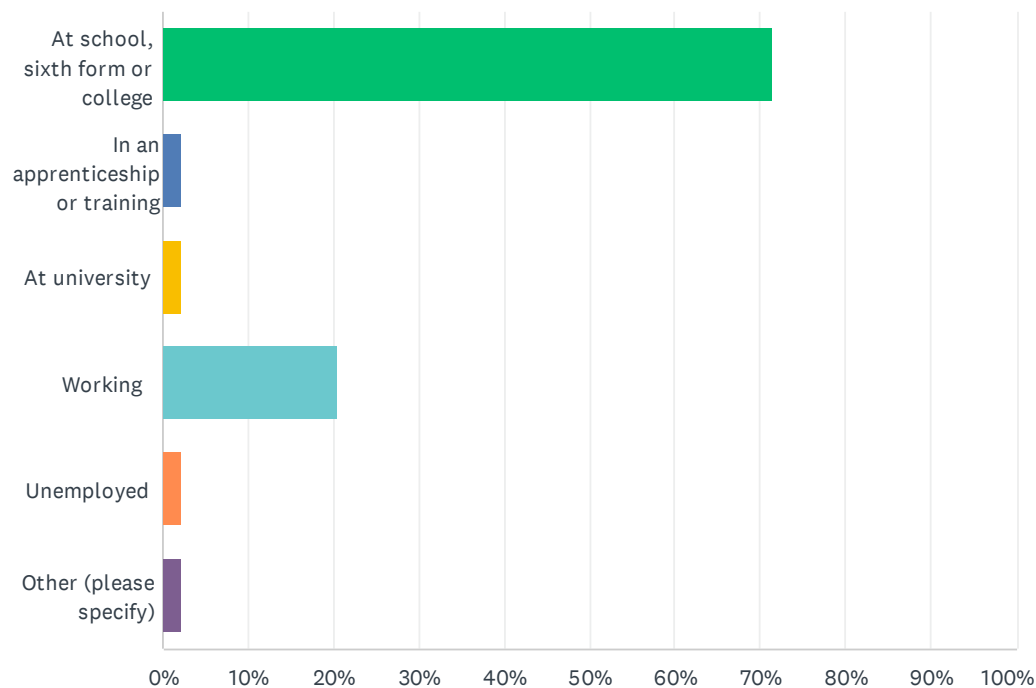
Answered: 48 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Congleton Town Centre	20.83%	10
Buglawton	10.42%	5
West Heath	35.42%	17
Bromley Farm	12.50%	6
Mossley	8.33%	4
Timbersbrook	2.08%	1
Lower Heath	2.08%	1
Bath Vale	4.17%	2
Other (please specify)	4.17%	2
TOTAL		48

Q5 Are you currently:

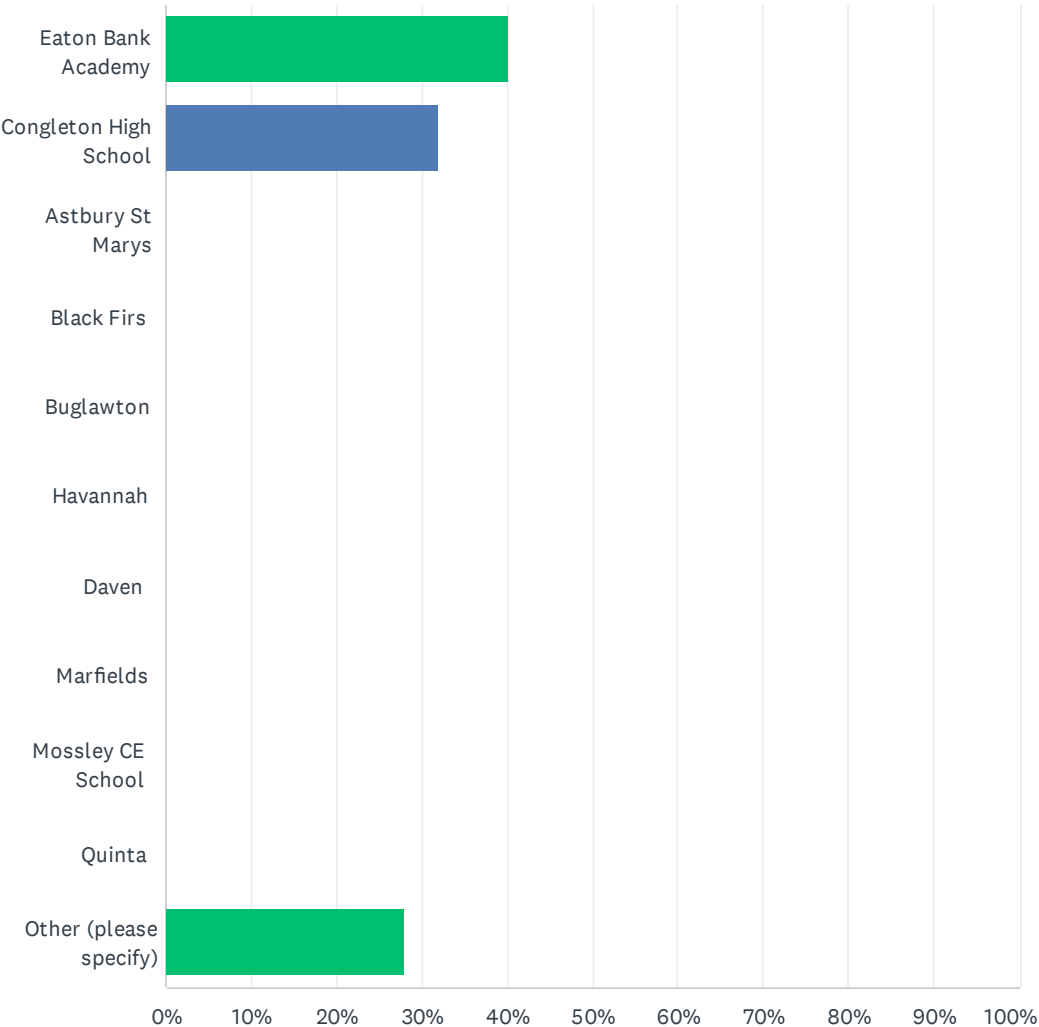
Answered: 49 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
At school, sixth form or college	71.43%	35
In an apprenticeship or training	2.04%	1
At university	2.04%	1
Working	20.41%	10
Unemployed	2.04%	1
Other (please specify)	2.04%	1
TOTAL		49

Q6 Which school or college do you attend?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 25

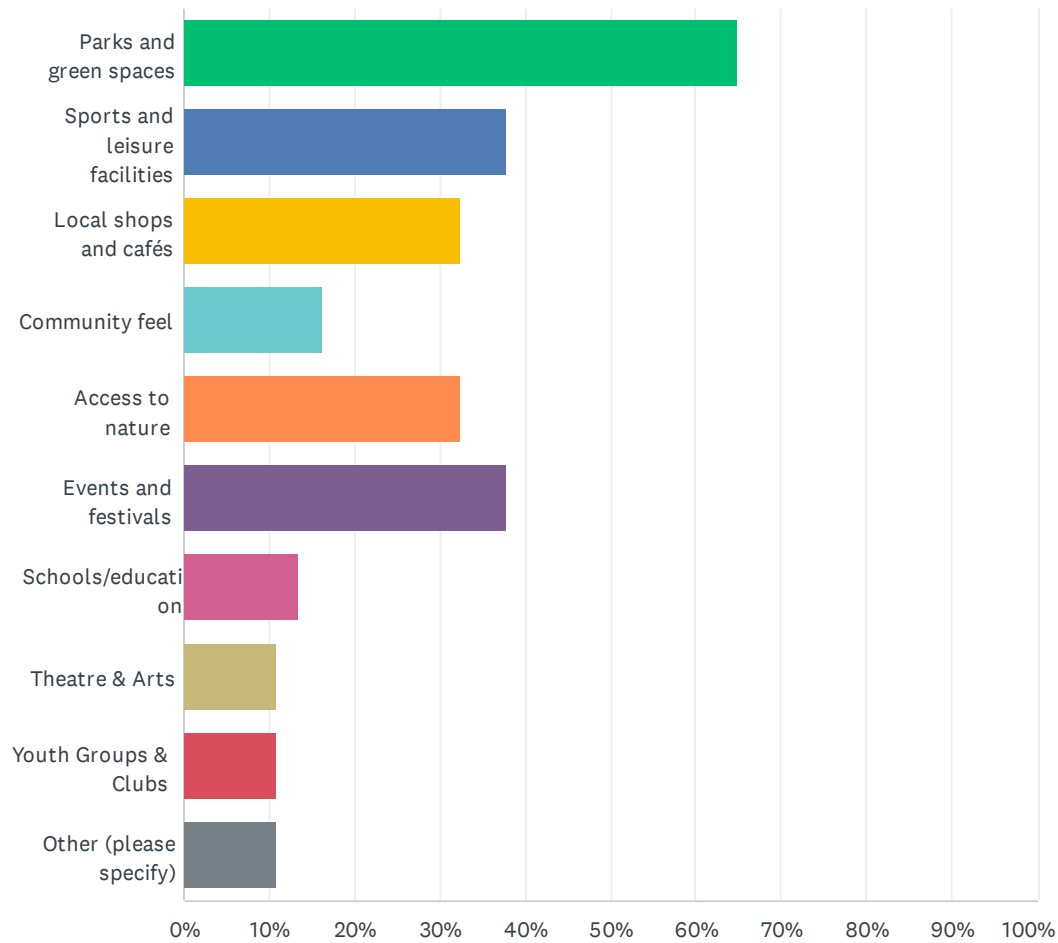


Youth Council Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Eaton Bank Academy	40.00%	10
Congleton High School	32.00%	8
Astbury St Marys	0.00%	0
Black Firs	0.00%	0
Buglawton	0.00%	0
Havannah	0.00%	0
Daven	0.00%	0
Marfields	0.00%	0
Mossley CE School	0.00%	0
Quinta	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	28.00%	7
TOTAL		25

Q7 What do you like most about living in Congleton? (Tick all that apply.)

Answered: 37 Skipped: 13

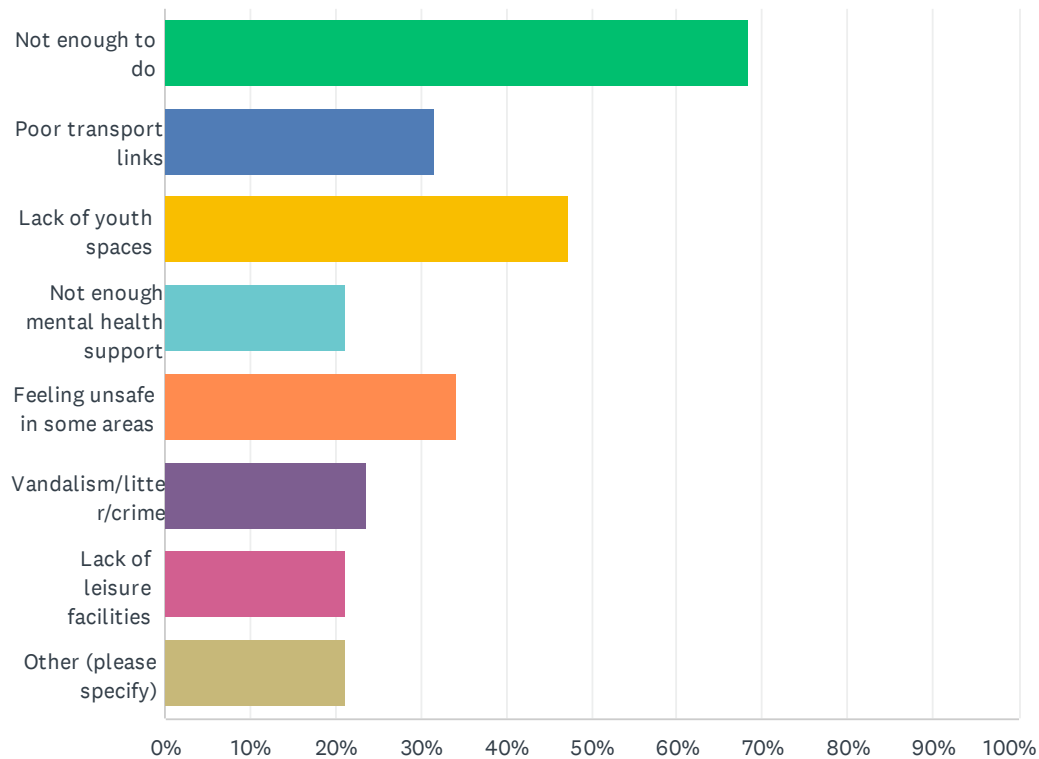


Youth Council Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Parks and green spaces	64.86%	24
Sports and leisure facilities	37.84%	14
Local shops and cafés	32.43%	12
Community feel	16.22%	6
Access to nature	32.43%	12
Events and festivals	37.84%	14
Schools/education	13.51%	5
Theatre & Arts	10.81%	4
Youth Groups & Clubs	10.81%	4
Other (please specify)	10.81%	4
Total Respondents: 37		

Q8 What do you not like or think could be better in Congleton?

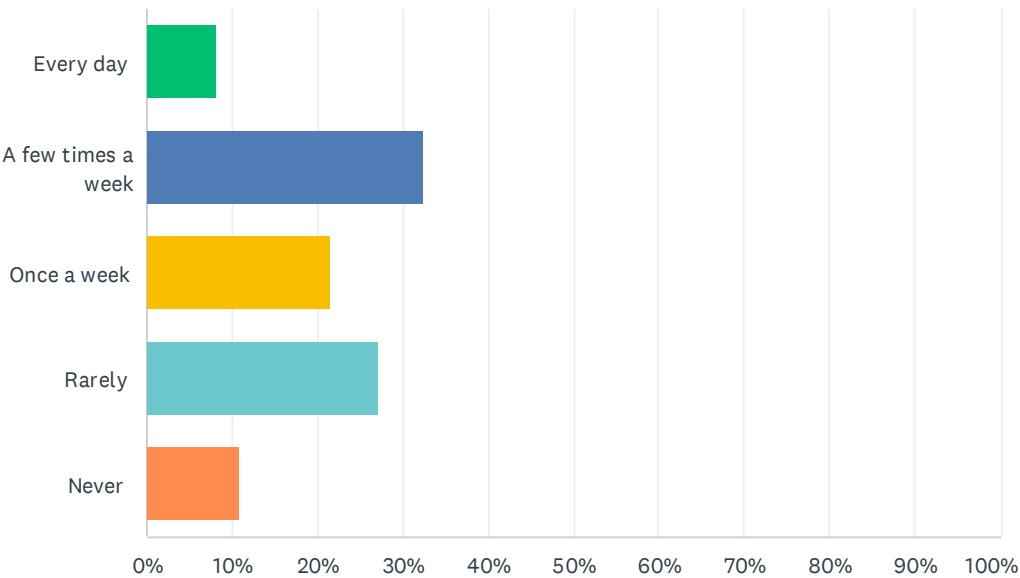
Answered: 38 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not enough to do	68.42%	26
Poor transport links	31.58%	12
Lack of youth spaces	47.37%	18
Not enough mental health support	21.05%	8
Feeling unsafe in some areas	34.21%	13
Vandalism/litter/crime	23.68%	9
Lack of leisure facilities	21.05%	8
Other (please specify)	21.05%	8
Total Respondents: 38		

Q9 How often do you take part in activities outside school/college/work?

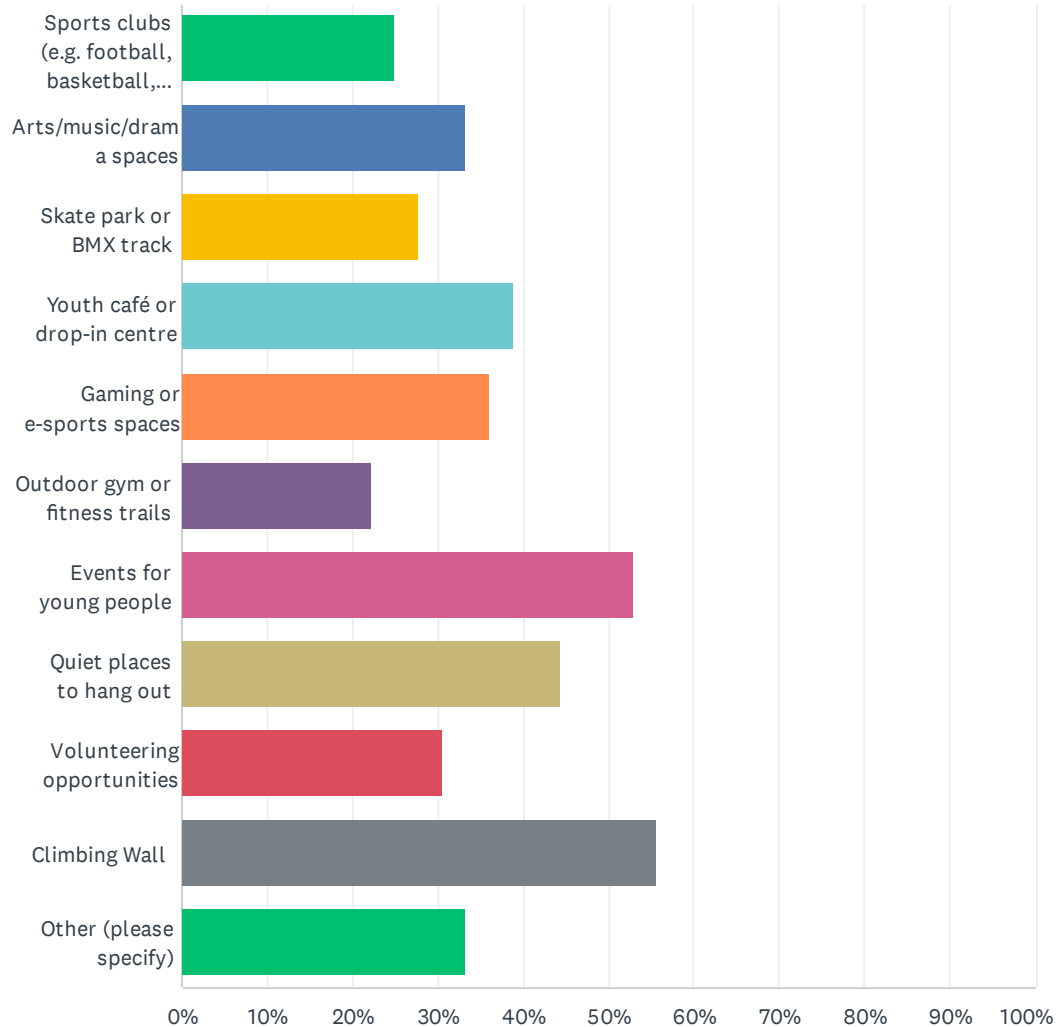
Answered: 37 Skipped: 13



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Every day	8.11%	3
A few times a week	32.43%	12
Once a week	21.62%	8
Rarely	27.03%	10
Never	10.81%	4
TOTAL		37

Q10 What kinds of activities or places would you like more of in Congleton? (Tick all that apply)

Answered: 36 Skipped: 14

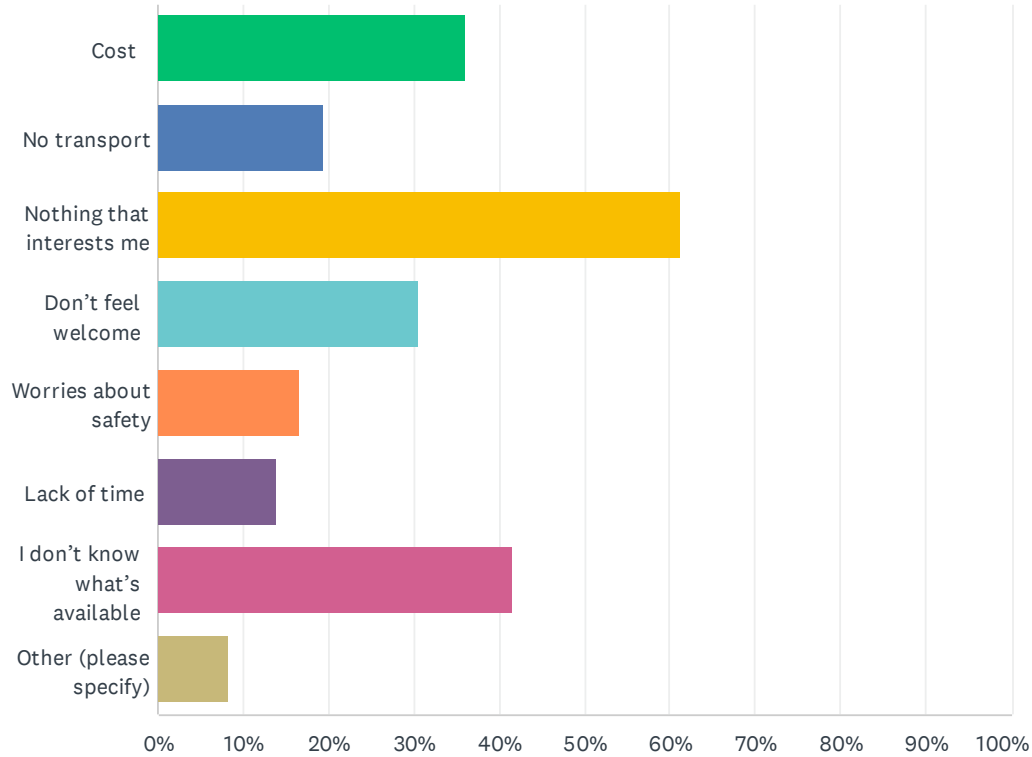


Youth Council Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Sports clubs (e.g. football, basketball, boxing)	25.00%	9
Arts/music/drama spaces	33.33%	12
Skate park or BMX track	27.78%	10
Youth café or drop-in centre	38.89%	14
Gaming or e-sports spaces	36.11%	13
Outdoor gym or fitness trails	22.22%	8
Events for young people	52.78%	19
Quiet places to hang out	44.44%	16
Volunteering opportunities	30.56%	11
Climbing Wall	55.56%	20
Other (please specify)	33.33%	12
Total Respondents: 36		

Q11 What stops you from taking part in activities or going out more? (Tick all that apply)

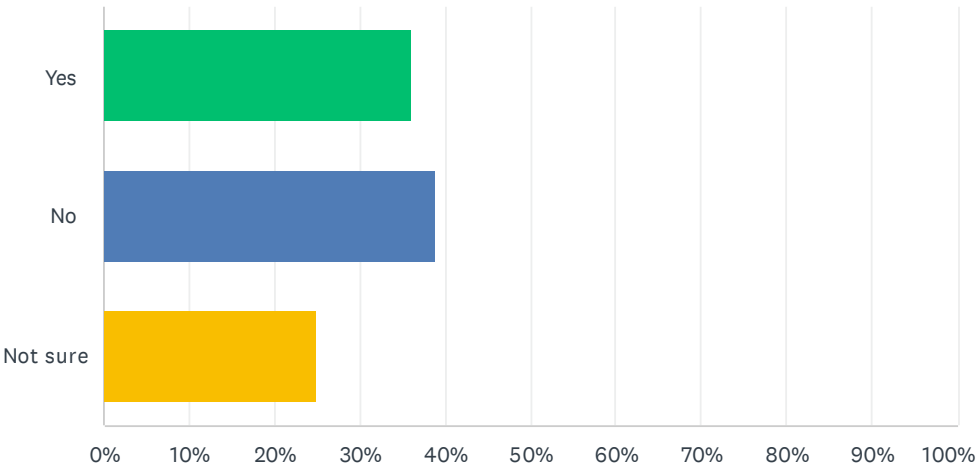
Answered: 36 Skipped: 14



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Cost	36.11%	13
No transport	19.44%	7
Nothing that interests me	61.11%	22
Don't feel welcome	30.56%	11
Worries about safety	16.67%	6
Lack of time	13.89%	5
I don't know what's available	41.67%	15
Other (please specify)	8.33%	3
Total Respondents: 36		

Q12 If you needed support with your mental health or wellbeing, would you know where to go?

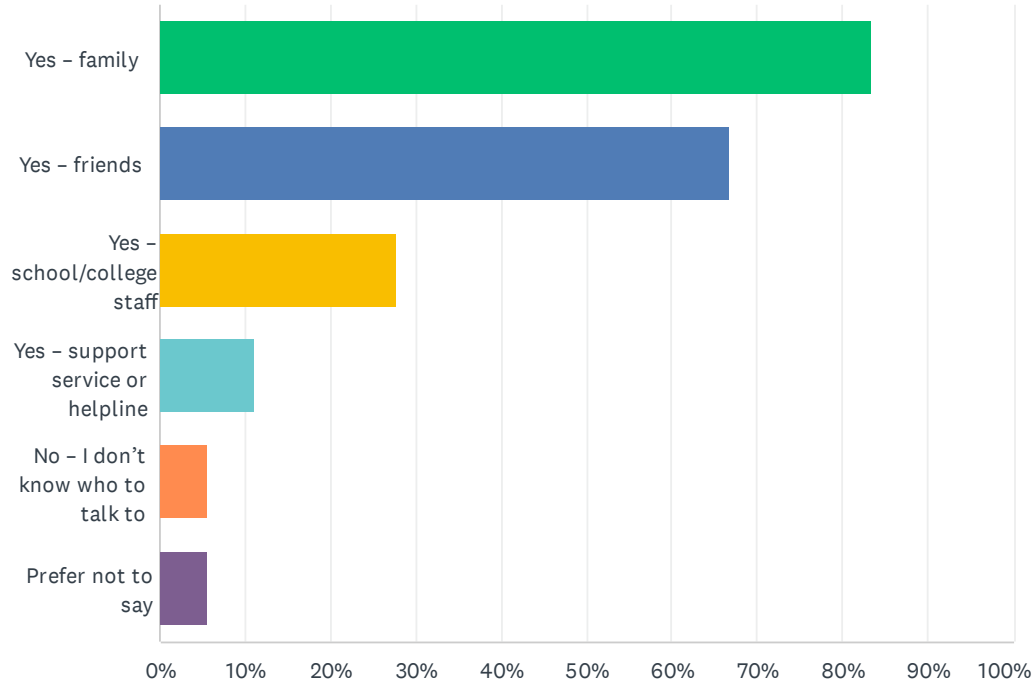
Answered: 36 Skipped: 14



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		36.11%	13
No		38.89%	14
Not sure		25.00%	9
TOTAL			36

Q13 Do you feel you can talk to someone if you're feeling down or worried? (Tick all that apply)

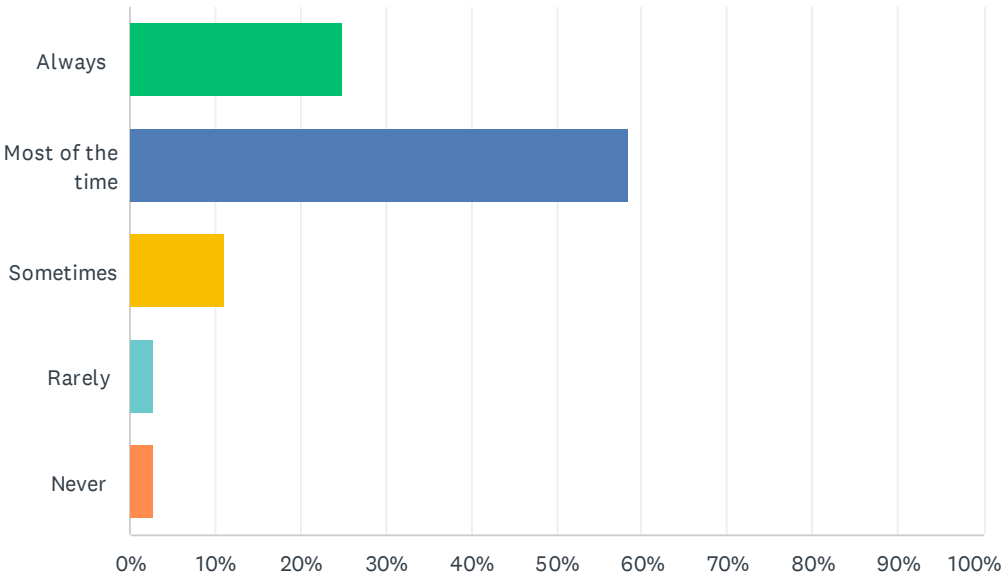
Answered: 36 Skipped: 14



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes – family	83.33%	30
Yes – friends	66.67%	24
Yes – school/college staff	27.78%	10
Yes – support service or helpline	11.11%	4
No – I don't know who to talk to	5.56%	2
Prefer not to say	5.56%	2
Total Respondents: 36		

Q14 Do you feel safe in Congleton during the day?

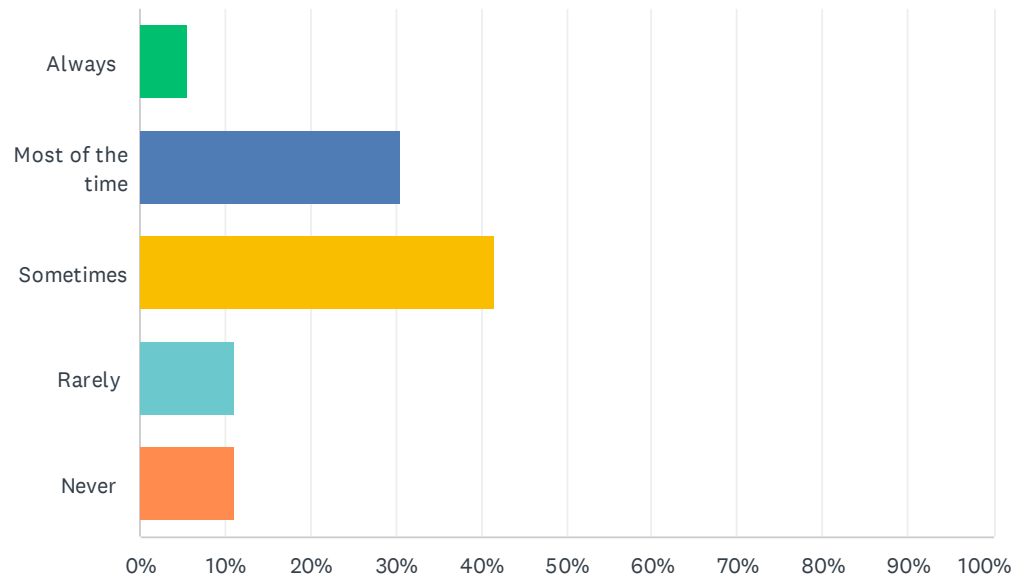
Answered: 36 Skipped: 14



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Always	25.00%	9
Most of the time	58.33%	21
Sometimes	11.11%	4
Rarely	2.78%	1
Never	2.78%	1
TOTAL		36

Q15 Do you feel safe in Congleton at night?

Answered: 36 Skipped: 14



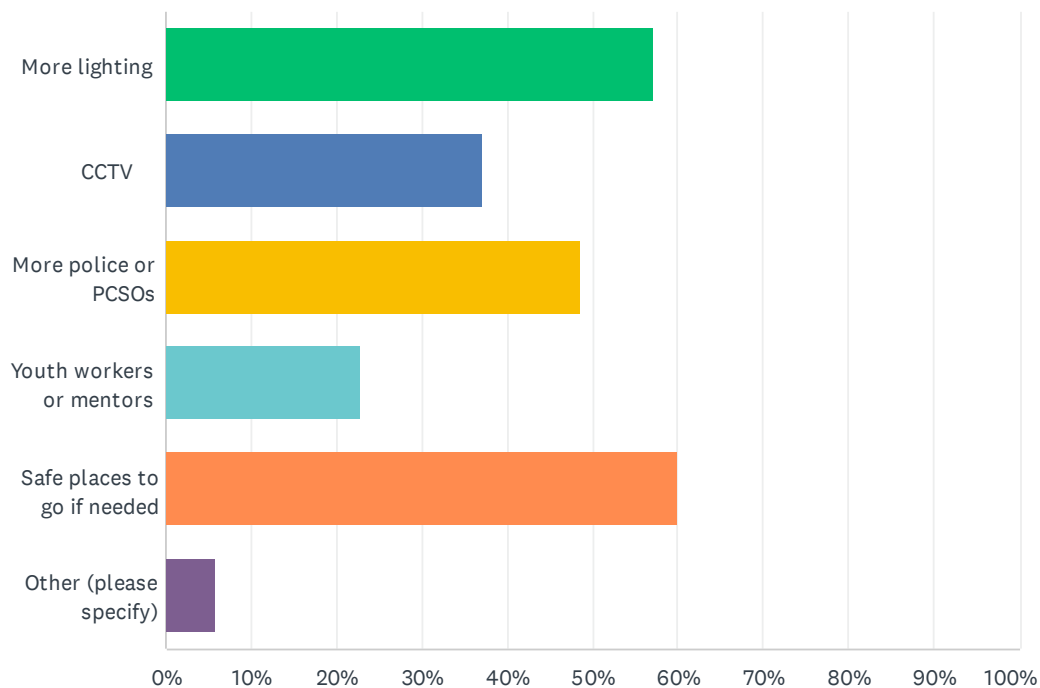
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Always	5.56%	2
Most of the time	30.56%	11
Sometimes	41.67%	15
Rarely	11.11%	4
Never	11.11%	4
TOTAL		36

Q16 Are there places in Congleton where you feel unsafe? If so, please tell us where and why:

Answered: 19 Skipped: 31

Q17 What would help you feel safer? (Tick all that apply)

Answered: 35 Skipped: 15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More lighting	57.14%	20
CCTV	37.14%	13
More police or PCSOs	48.57%	17
Youth workers or mentors	22.86%	8
Safe places to go if needed	60.00%	21
Other (please specify)	5.71%	2
Total Respondents: 35		

Q18 What is the one thing you would most like to see improved for young people in Congleton?

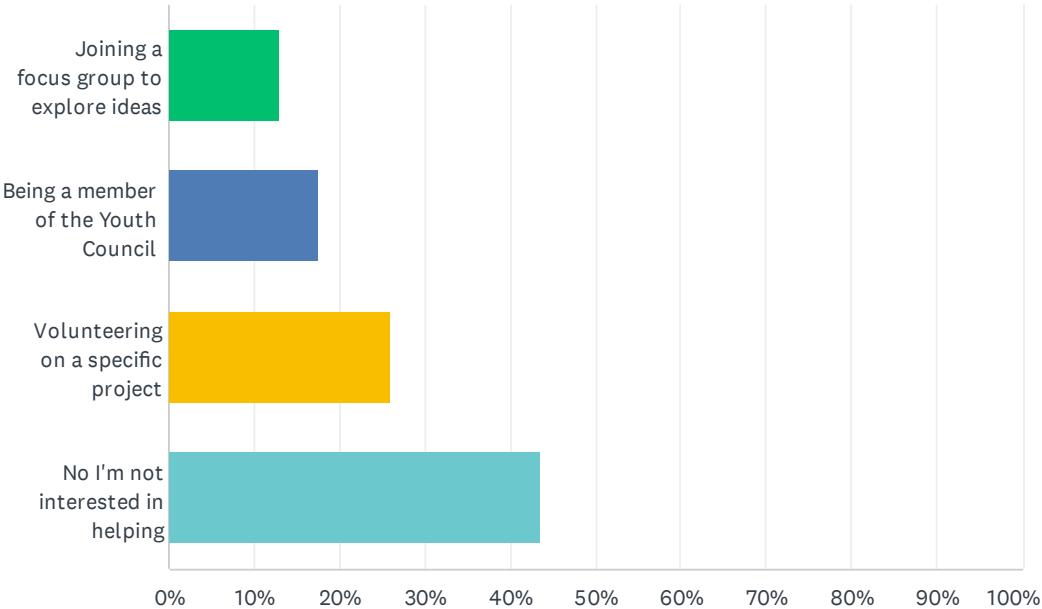
Answered: 23 Skipped: 27

Q19 If you had the chance to run a project or activity for young people in the area, what would it be?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 31

Q20 Would you like to get more involved in making Congleton better for young people? Are you interested in: (tick all that apply)

Answered: 23 Skipped: 27



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Joining a focus group to explore ideas	13.04%	3
Being a member of the Youth Council	17.39%	4
Volunteering on a specific project	26.09%	6
No I'm not interested in helping	43.48%	10
TOTAL		23

Q21 Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your voice matters! Please leave your email and phone number if you want to get involved in a new Youth Council for Congleton.

Answered: 11 Skipped: 39

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	100.00%	11
Email	100.00%	11
Phone Number	72.73%	8

Comments -

Things to do

More things to do shops etc

More places to go and have fun that are well advertised and aimed

More facilities for young people in general

More places where I can spend time with my friends.

Shorter waiting lists for events, groups and activities

Safe youth activities

Somewhere to go where people don't moan at the kids of Congleton as we are all seen as the bad ones

Activities

Something for people to socialise that isn't alcohol centred.

1. Pump track similar to the one in Kidsgrove. 2. somewhere where we can play football that actually has football nets. That's why we don't play at Back Lane and why people get into CHS to play on their 3G

Energy and Food sustainability, Restoring nature that past generation have neglected, Political and Philosophy education.

Trampoline facilities

Gaming cafe or pump track

A hang out a dry safe free space

I don't know, I don't like being in charge of things like that.

Something creative.



Congleton Youth Council

Initial Workshop and Outputs

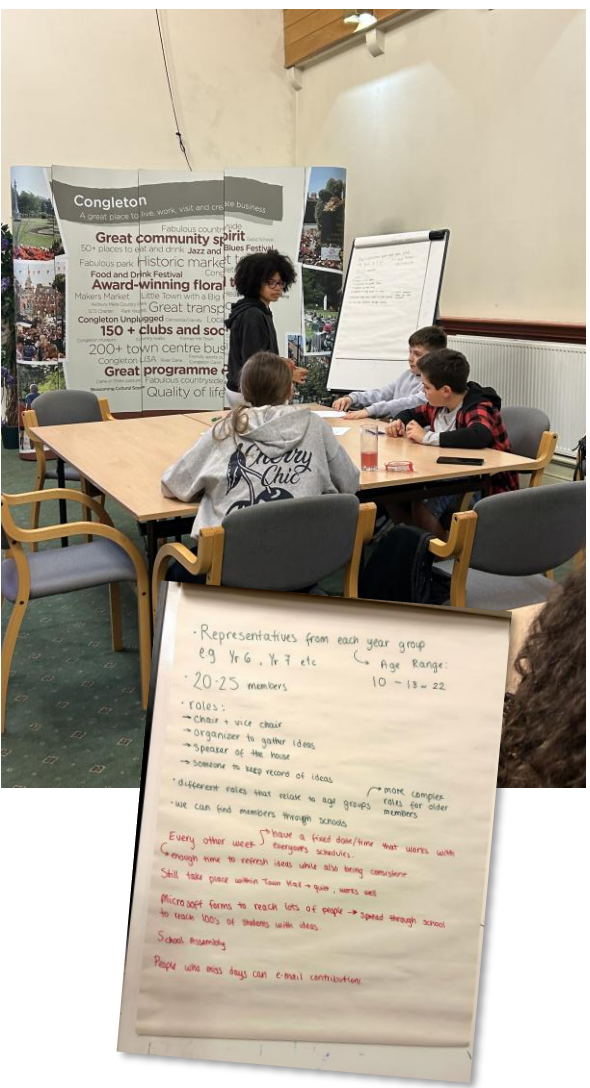
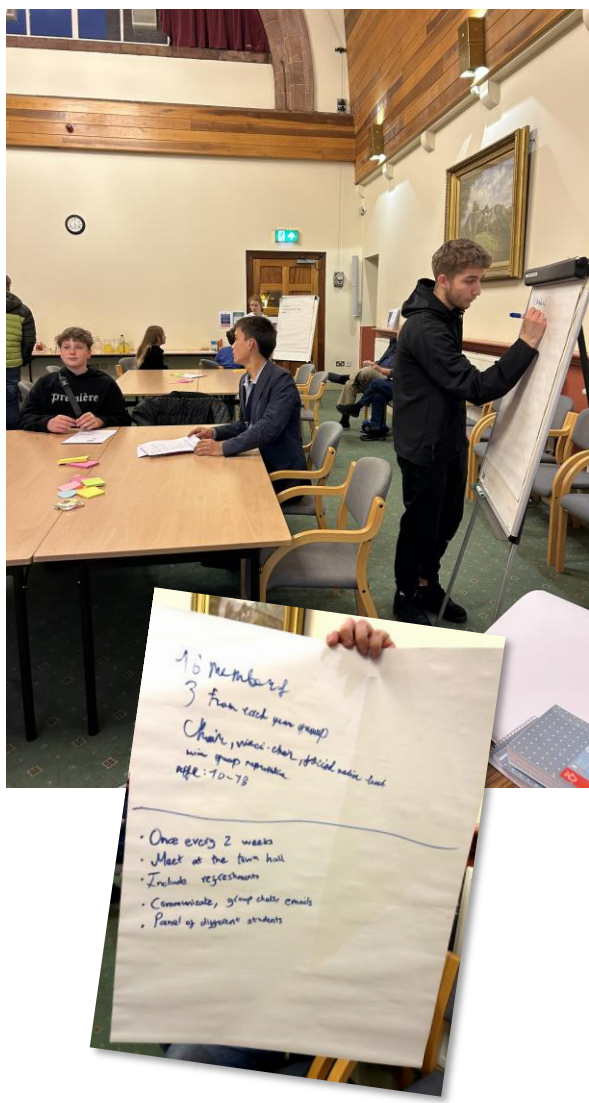
21st October 2025

How should we set a Youth Council up?

When, where and how to meet and share ideas?



The 4 teams shared their ideas on how to set up a Youth Council



Here's the ideas from the 4 teams

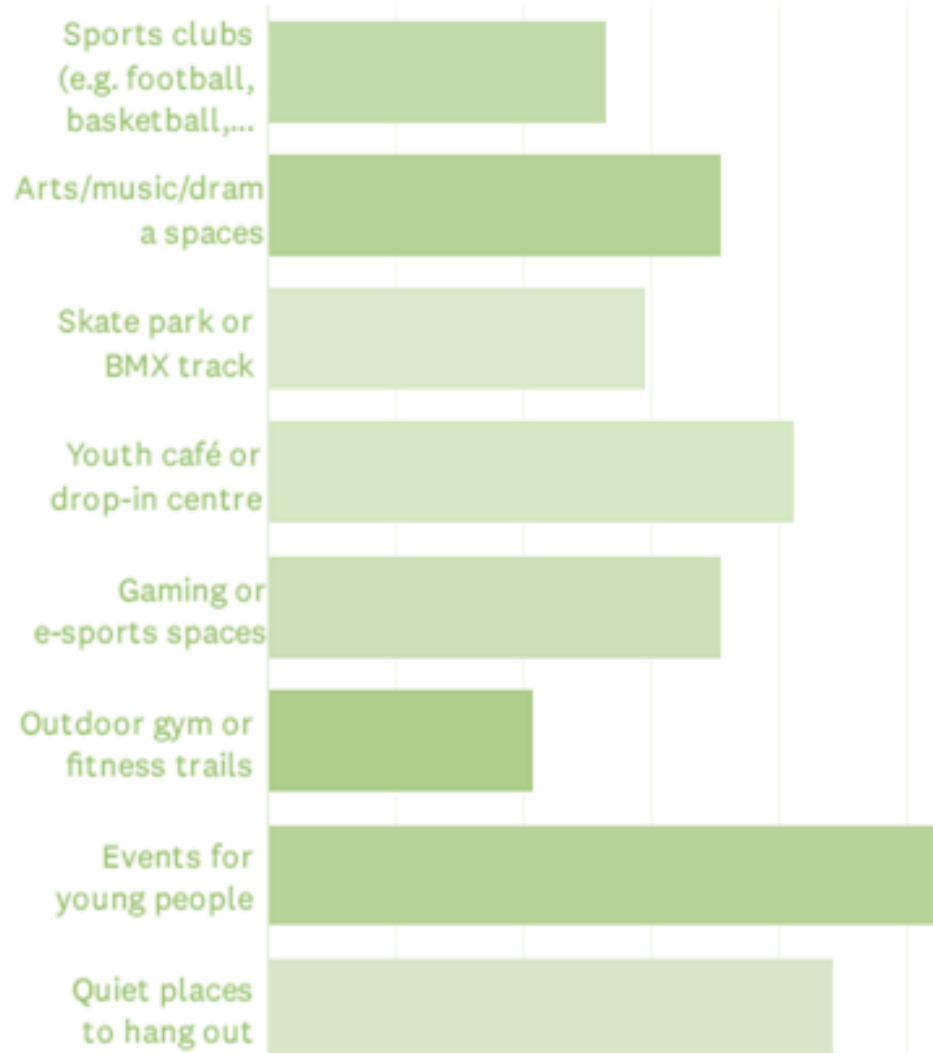
Question	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
How many members?	20-25	15-20	15 or more	16
What roles?	Chair, Vice, organiser to gather ideas, speaker, someone to keep records, different per age group	Chair, Vice , social media manager, councillor, speaker	Speakers, writers, organisers, fundraisers and one head person, 1 from each year group	Chair, Vice, social media lead
What age should the members be?	Each year group, 10-18	Years 7 to 13 (11-18)	Yr 6-13 – 3 or 4/year (10-18) Maybe older group Yr 13+	3 from each year group (10-18)
Where should we find them?	Schools	Teachers talk about it at school, posters	Schools, youth, scouts, clubs in Congleton	Schools
How often should it meet	Every other week	Every 2 weeks – Sundays?	Every other week, 2 hours with break	Every 2 weeks
Where to meet?	Town Hall	Town Hall	Coffee shop, park, town	Town Hall – with refreshments
How to communicate?	School assembly, MS Forms	Social media, surveys	Social media ads, flyers, posters	Group chat, email
Set up a Youth Panel?	Yes	Yes	Yes – some people can't sit in meetings	Yes – different students

General Consensus on Organisation

How many members?	15-25
What roles?	Chair, Vice Chair, Social Media Manager, Fundraising Manager, Speaker (Spokesperson), Writer (Secretary)
What age should the members be?	Years 6 or 7 to 13, ages 10-18
Where should we find them?	Schools, youth groups, clubs, posters, social media
How often should it meet	Every 2 weeks
Where to meet?	In Town Hall (with refreshments) or café/park
How to communicate?	Social media, Chat group, Email
Set up a Youth Panel?	Yes

Q10 What kinds of activities or places would you like more of in Congleton? (Tick all that apply)

Answered: 34 Skipped: 13



Initial Ideas and Survey Results

What did young people tell us?

Scouts: What do young people need/want in Congleton?

We asked the Scouts what activities, clubs and pastimes they would like – here are the top 10

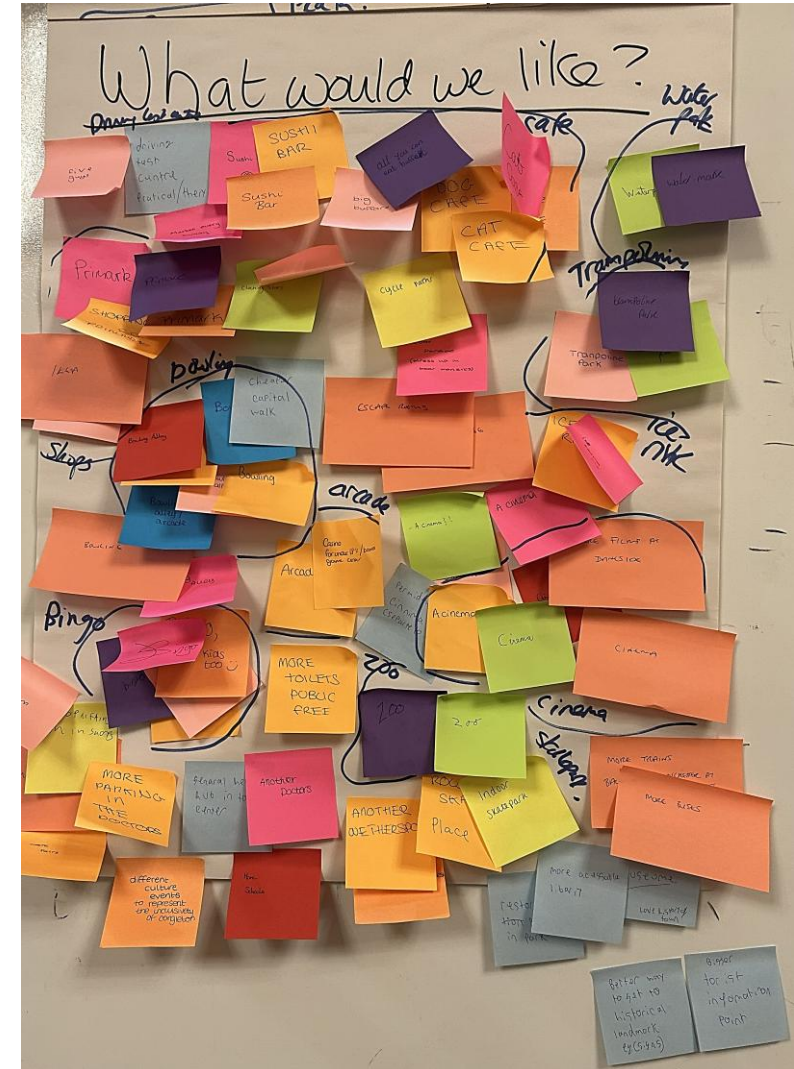
- Water Park
- Football field – astroturf
- Amusement Arcade
- Skate Park / Pump Track
- Cinema
- Under 18's nightclub
- Music Festival
- Ski slope
- Sports event – 'Congleton Olympics'
- Theme Park – 'Alton Towers'



Rangers: What do young people need/want in Congleton?

We asked the Rangers what activities, clubs and pastimes they would like – here are the top 10

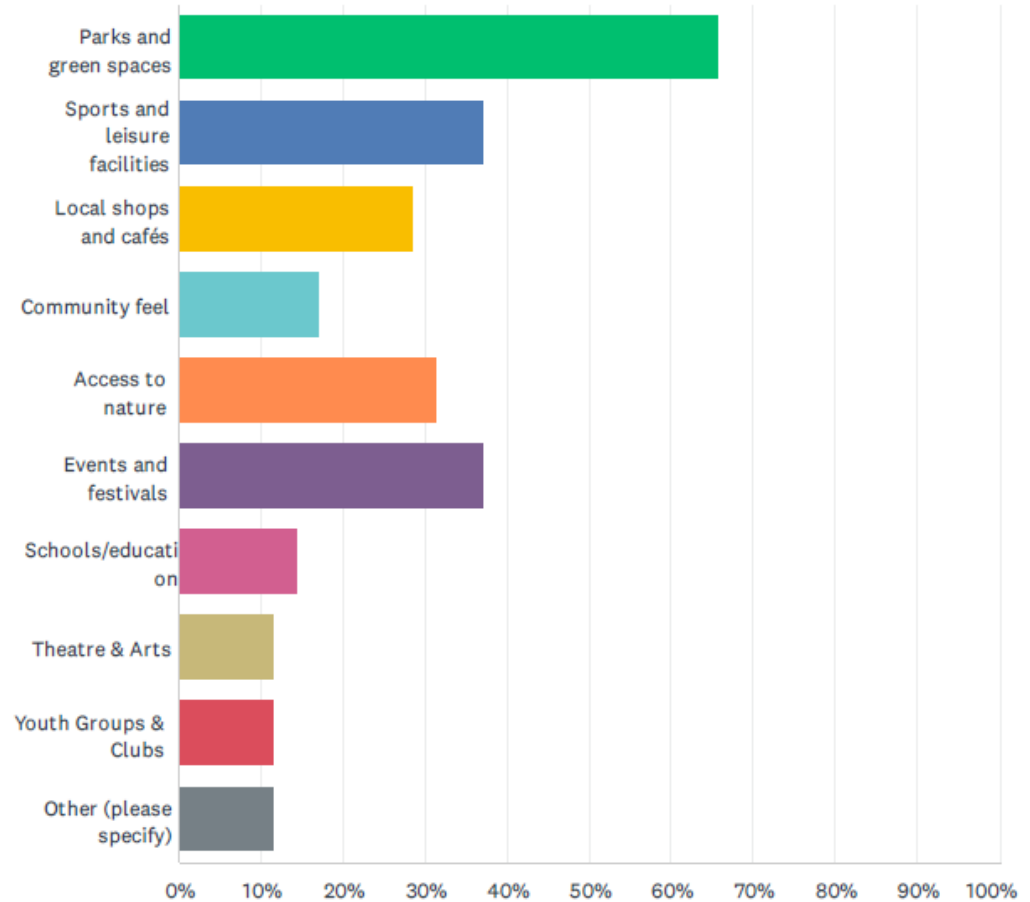
- Arcade
- Cinema
- Skate Park
- Water Park
- Bingo
- Trampolining
- Public transport – more trains/buses
- Ice Rinks
- Bowling Alley
- Driving Test Centre



**From the Survey, our
Parks, green spaces,
sports, nature and
events are the
favourite things in
Congleton today**

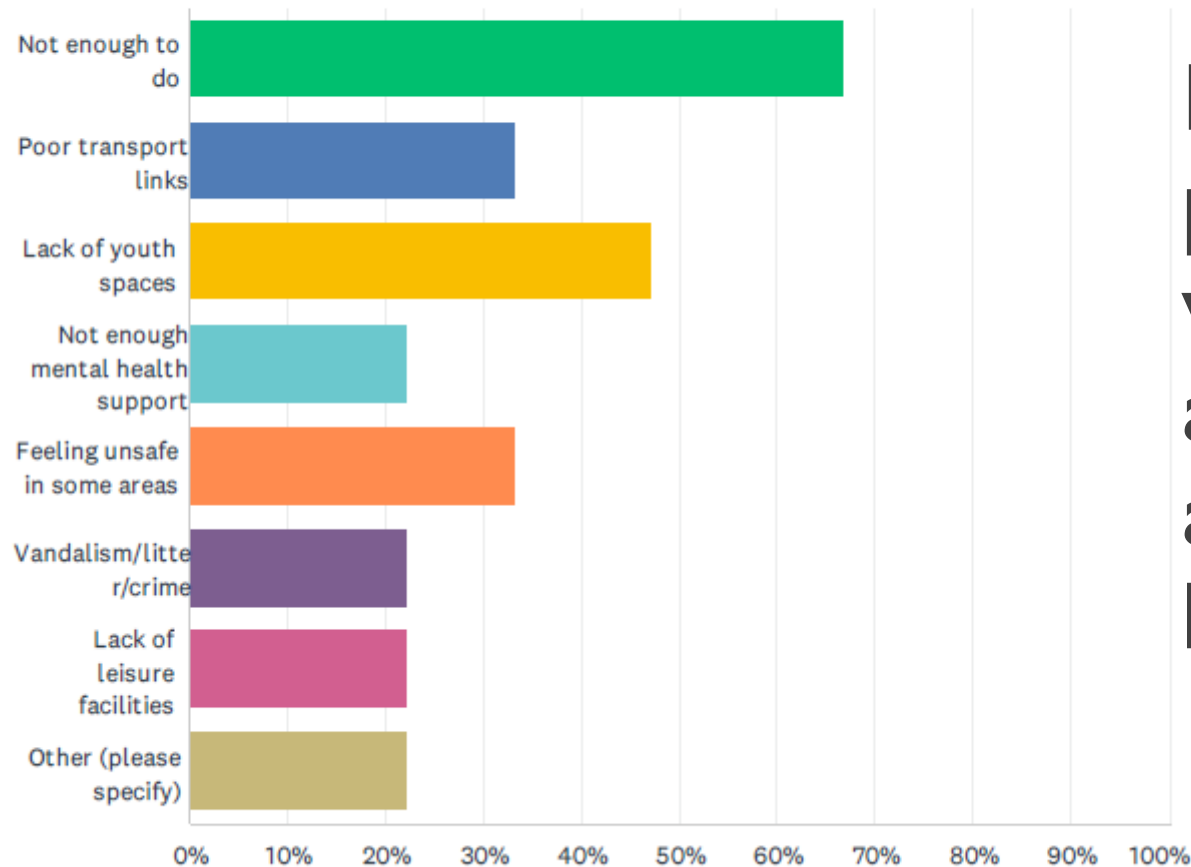
Q7 What do you like most about living in Congleton? (Tick all that apply.)

Answered: 35 Skipped: 12



Q8 What do you not like or think could be better in Congleton?

Answered: 36 Skipped: 11



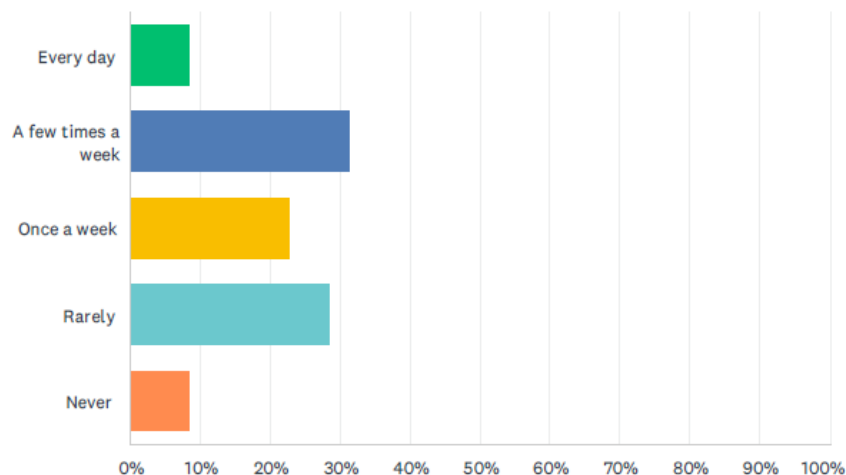
Not enough to do or places to hang out, as well as poor transport and safety concerns, are on the ‘could be better’ list.

**Most respondents are active,
with less than 10% doing
nothing outside school/work...**

**...cost, transport, nothing of
interest and lack of knowledge
are causes of non-participation**

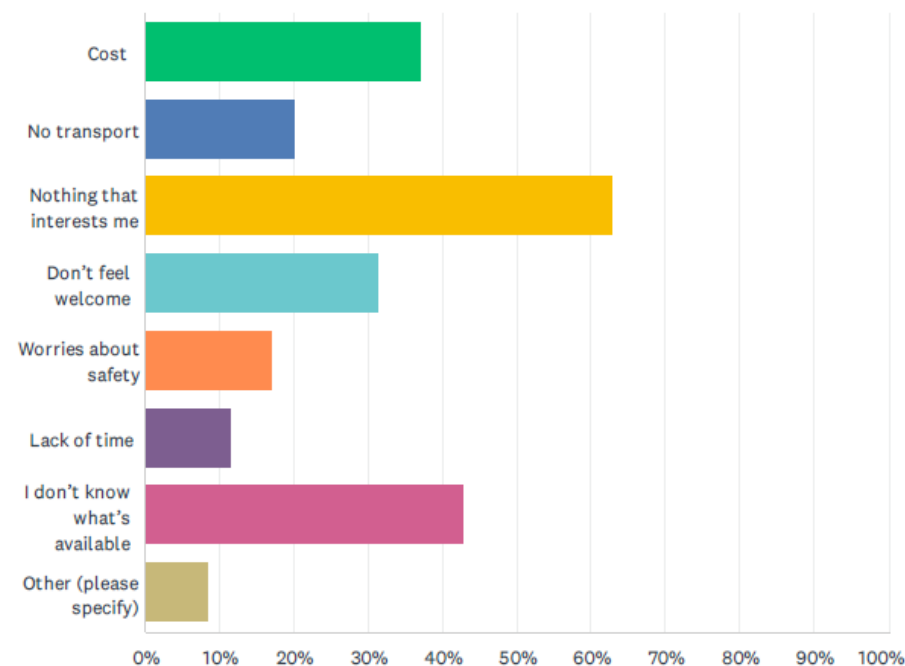
Q9 How often do you take part in activities outside school/college/work?

Answered: 35 Skipped: 12



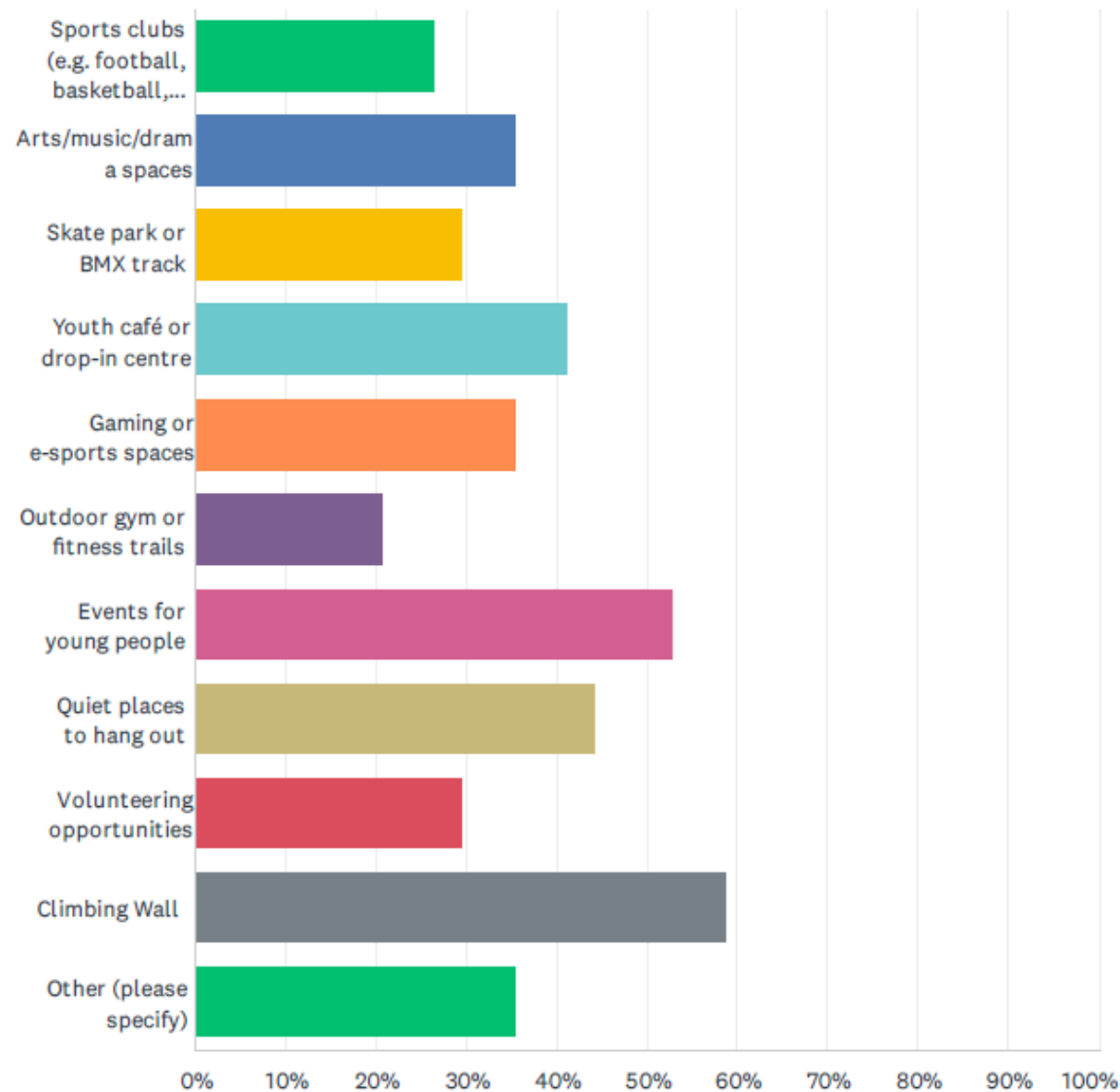
Q11 What stops you from taking part in activities or going out more? (Tick all that apply)

Answered: 35 Skipped: 12



Q10 What kinds of activities or places would you like more of in Congleton? (Tick all that apply)

Answered: 34 Skipped: 13



The top requests for new activities/facilities were:

- Climbing wall
- Events for young people
- Places to hang out
- Youth café/drop in centre

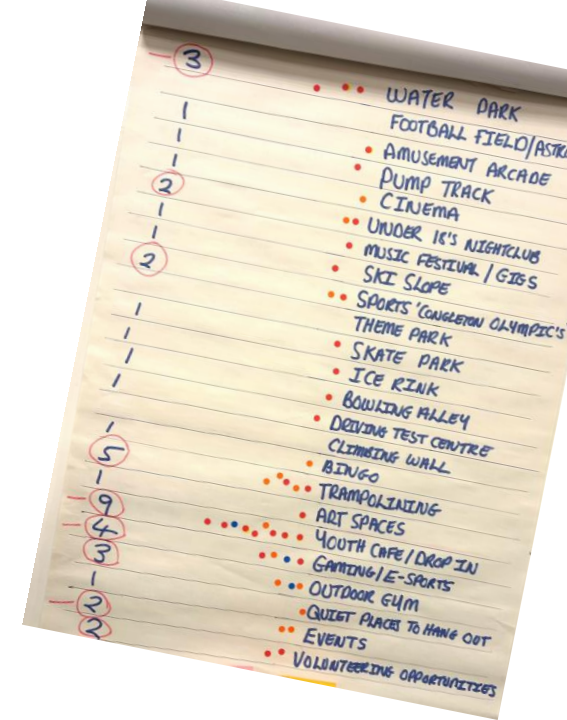
[illegible]

Let's prior

- Look at the list of ideas that we have put together
- You have 3 Votes – place each of your stickers next to one of the ideas
- Choose one ‘big idea’ and one ‘quick win’, plus one more

Our votes - ranking the ideas

- ● ● Water Park ★
- Football field – astroturf
- Amusement Arcade
- Pump Track
- Cinema
- ● Under 18's nightclub
- Music Festival
- Ski slope
- ● Sports event – 'Olympics'
- Theme Park – 'Alton Towers'
- Skate Park
- Ice Rink
- ● Events ★
- Bowling Alley
- Driving Test Centre
- Climbing wall
- Bingo
- ● ● ● ● Trampolining
- Arts spaces
- Music gigs
- ● ● ● ● Youth café / drop in ★
- ● ● ● Gaming / e-sports ★
- ● Outdoor gym
- Quiet places to hang out
- ● Volunteering opportunities



★ = chosen by the group to develop in more detail



Our ideas

4 projects to start us off

Name: Wild Water

Description:

A waterpark in Congleton, in Congleton underground.

Components:

- 5 waterslides
- 2 pools
- A hot tub
- A cage
- A sauna
- Waterslides
- Water
- Windows
- Food and drink
- Arcade
- Barney as a lifeguard!

Picture:



Measures of Success:

Waterpark has lots of visitors
Will earn all the money back





Name: Event – Halloween Town Hall Terrors

Description:

- Very interactive, scary acting
- A costume making competition judged by the Youth Council
- A town hall event: take elements from horror movies to create stalls for people to take part in.
- Range: some for younger children, others for teens in the early evening.
- Pumpkin carving, apple bobbing, dart board & face painting.

Components:

- Flyers & posters to help spread the word
- Daneside theatre actors dressed up
- Town Hall to host event
- Volunteers to bring stalls to life

Picture:



Measures of Success:

Very lively Halloween for kids who may not trick or treat.

Name: The Congleton Coffee House

Description:

A café for young people that offers affordable products and hang out spot for the youth of Congleton during the day and night.

Components:

- Co-ordinated seating
- Open plan/modern layout
- Congleton crest as logo
- Congleton bear holding coffee mug outside
- LED lights at night
- TV area
- Study area

Picture:



Measures of Success:

Amount of people
100 customers a day





Name: CG e-sports (Congleton Gaming e-sports)

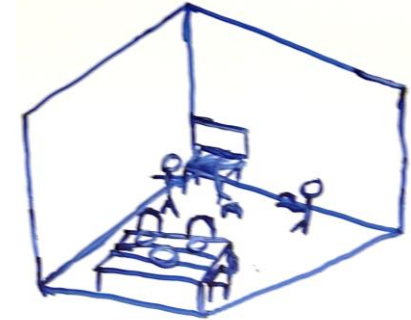
Description:

Include the center in with a café
A center for young people to socialize & play e-sports.
A center where people can enjoy food and beverages.
People can spend time with friends/families.

Components:

- Tables
- Food and drink
- PS5'S
- TV'S
- VR
- Consoles

Picture:



Measures of Success:

Create posters/channels
1 hour - £4-£5
Purchase VIP access



Next Steps

We will:



Organise the first
Youth Council
Meeting

Look for funding for
our big idea(s)



Communicate to the
world (Congleton)
what we are doing

Congleton Town Council

Youth Council Constitution

Who we are:

The Congleton Youth Council ('Youth Council') is a group of 15–20 young people who represent the views of young people in Congleton and run youth-led projects that benefit the town.

Purpose

- To work in conjunction with the Town Council, to give the young people of Congleton a voice and opportunity to deliver community-based projects.
- To develop teamwork and leadership skills.

Membership

- Aged 10–18 when elected.
- Must live in, go to school in, or belong to an organisation in Congleton.
- Members are elected each year.
- Young people aged 18–24 who have served on the Youth Committee may be elected as Alumni Members. (no voting rights).

Leadership Roles

To be voted on annually:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Social Media Manager Lead
- Fundraising Manager and Activity Lead

Meetings

- At least one meeting per month or at a schedule agreed by the Youth Council.
- Extra meetings may happen for projects.
- Youth Councillors must attend at least 4 meetings per year.
- A Youth Councillor may be removed if they miss three consecutive meetings without good reason.

- The Youth Council can invite one or more councillors to attend meetings as appropriate.

Projects

- Every year, we create a Project Plan based on what matters to young people.

Voting & Decisions

- One vote per Youth Councillor. The quorum for decision-making is five (5) Youth Councillors.
- Decisions require a simple majority.
- The Chair or Vice Chair has the deciding vote if it's a tie.
- The Youth Council may co-opt other young people to advise on specific issues. (no voting rights).
- The Youth Council Chair or Vice is invited to provide a report and/ or ask for support at Council committee meetings.

Equality & Behaviour

- Everyone is treated equally.
- No discrimination.
- Be respectful and let others speak.

Adults & Support

- Town Councillors and CTC officers support us but do not vote. Admin support is provided by a CTC officer.
- They can only step in if something breaks the law or council rules.
- The Youth Council can meet in a room of the Town Hall

Other Rules

- We are non-party political – no party politics.
- Changes to this constitution need a vote and Town Council approval.
- If the committee closes, all work and resources return to the Town Council.