

11 Tech 18 Youth Talks Forum

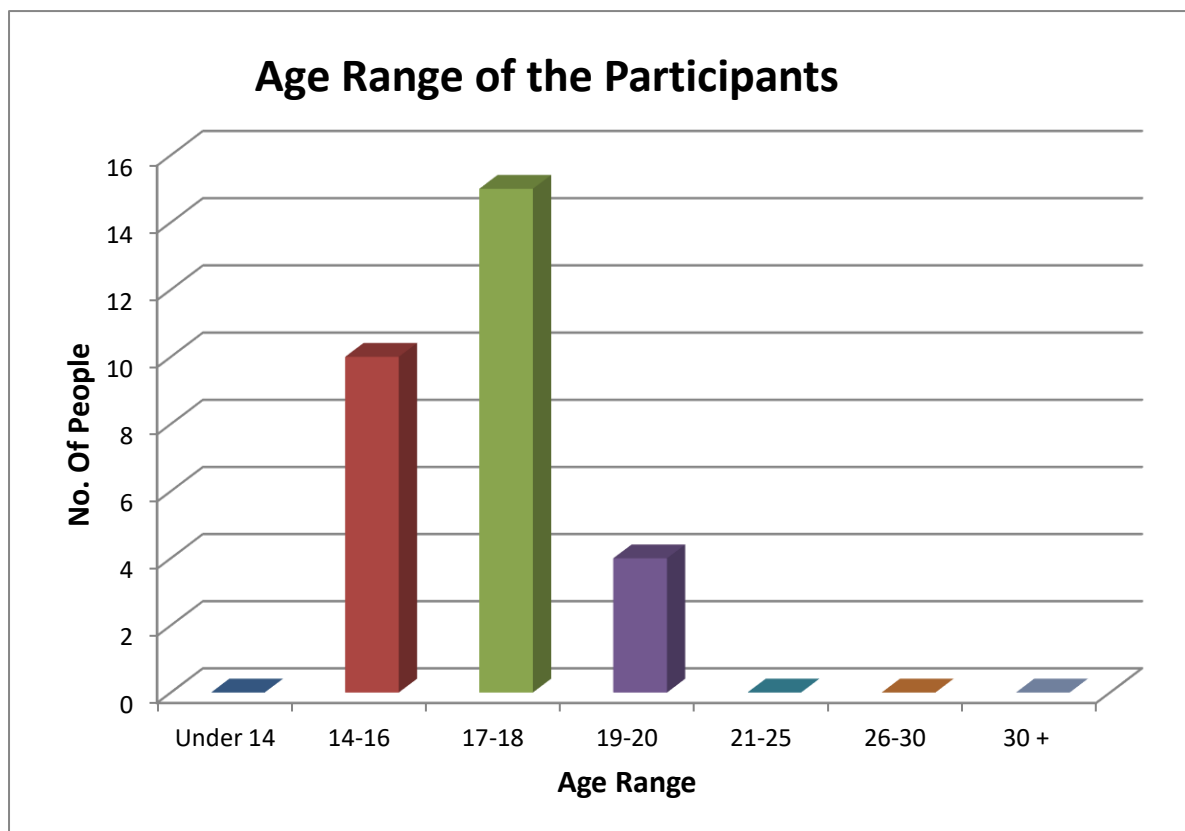
07/05/2013

Report on 11 Tech 18 Youth Talks Forum 2013

This report is for the 11 Tech 18 Youth Talks Forum event which took place on Tuesday 7th May 2013, at the Djanogly Academy, Nottingham.

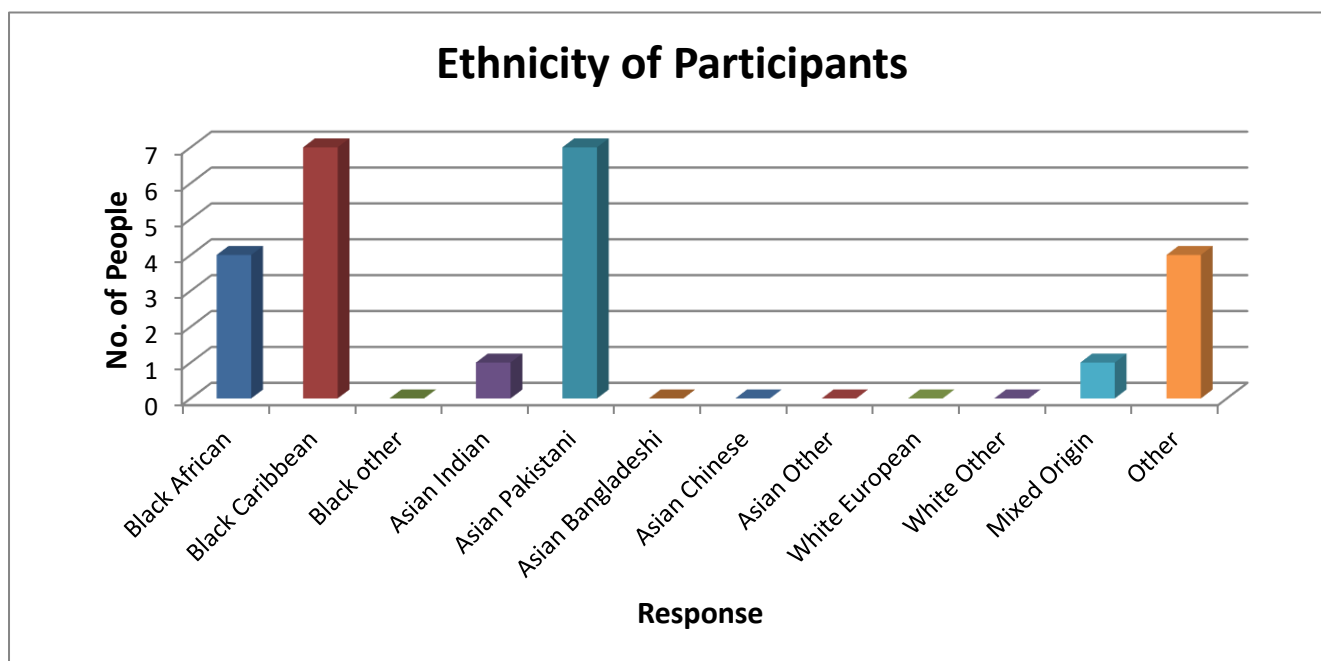
Attendees:

The event was attended by students from primarily the Djanogly Academy. The majority of attendees fell within the age range of 17 to 18 years, with a large proportion falling within the age range of 14 to 16 years. A small number of attendees fell between the ages of 19 to 20 years. Most attendees lived within the areas of NG6 to NG8.

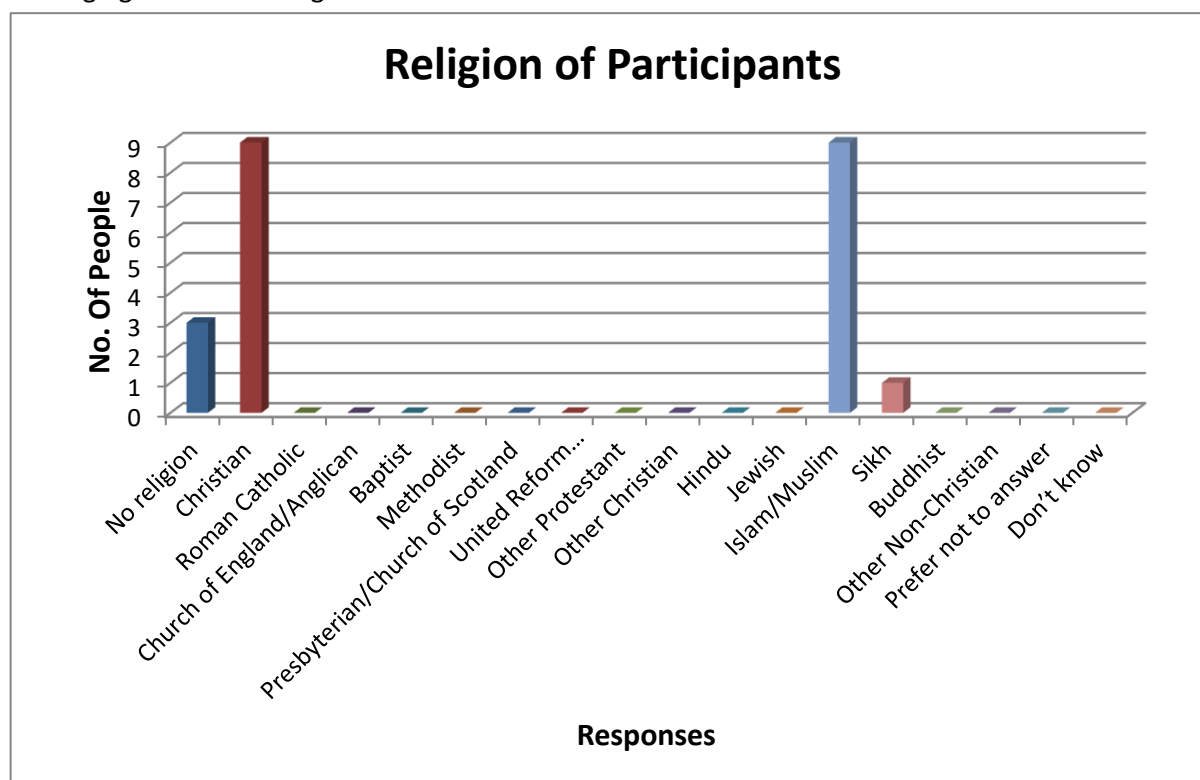


Most of the attendees were either of Black Caribbean or Asian Pakistani ethnicities, followed by Black African, Asian Indian and those of mixed origin. A fair proportion of attendees stated their ethnicities as 'other'. The majority of the attendees stated that they were of British nationality, followed by a large proportion of Pakistani participants. Some stated that they were Libyan and some Jamaican, with a small number of people stating that they were either Gambian, Nigerian,

Spanish, Indian, Zimbabwean, Afghani or African. A fairly large proportion however decided not to state their nationality at all.

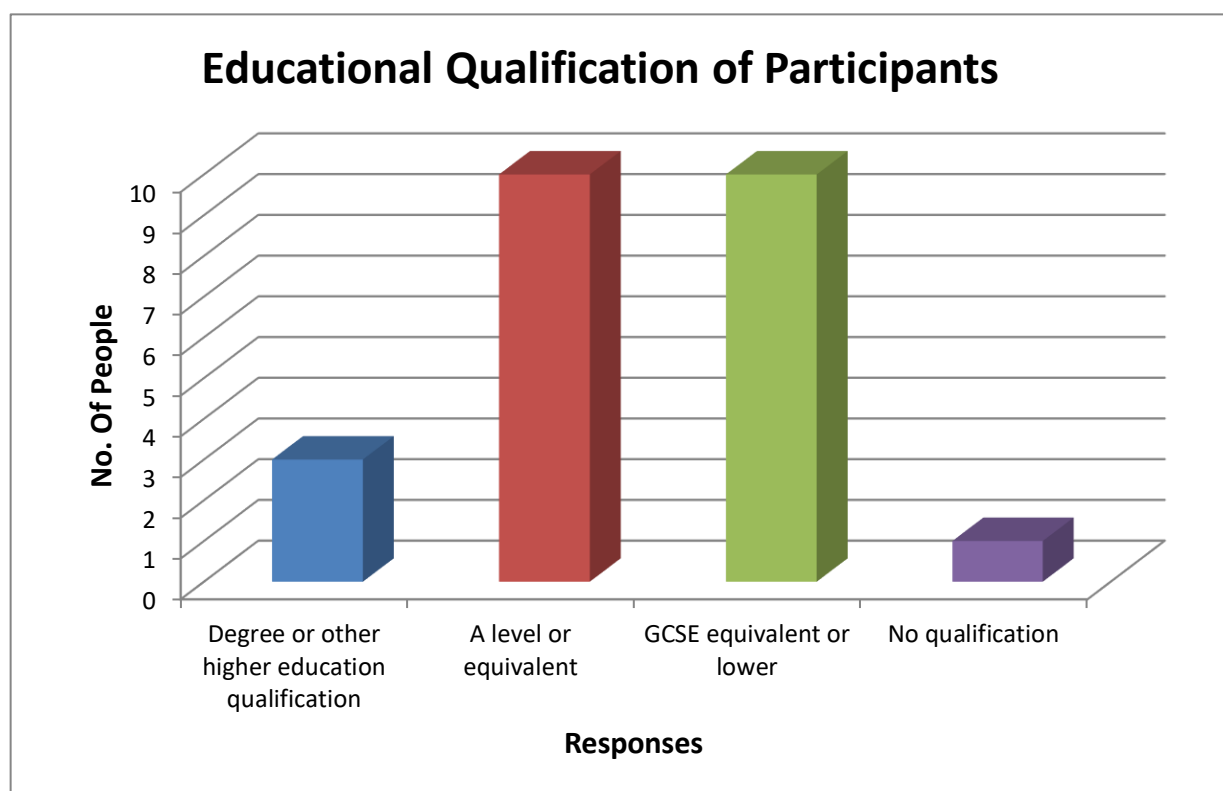


The majority of attendees stated that they belonged to either the Christian or Islamic faiths. A few of the attendees stated that they did not belong to any religion, with the remaining attendees belonging to the Sikh religion.

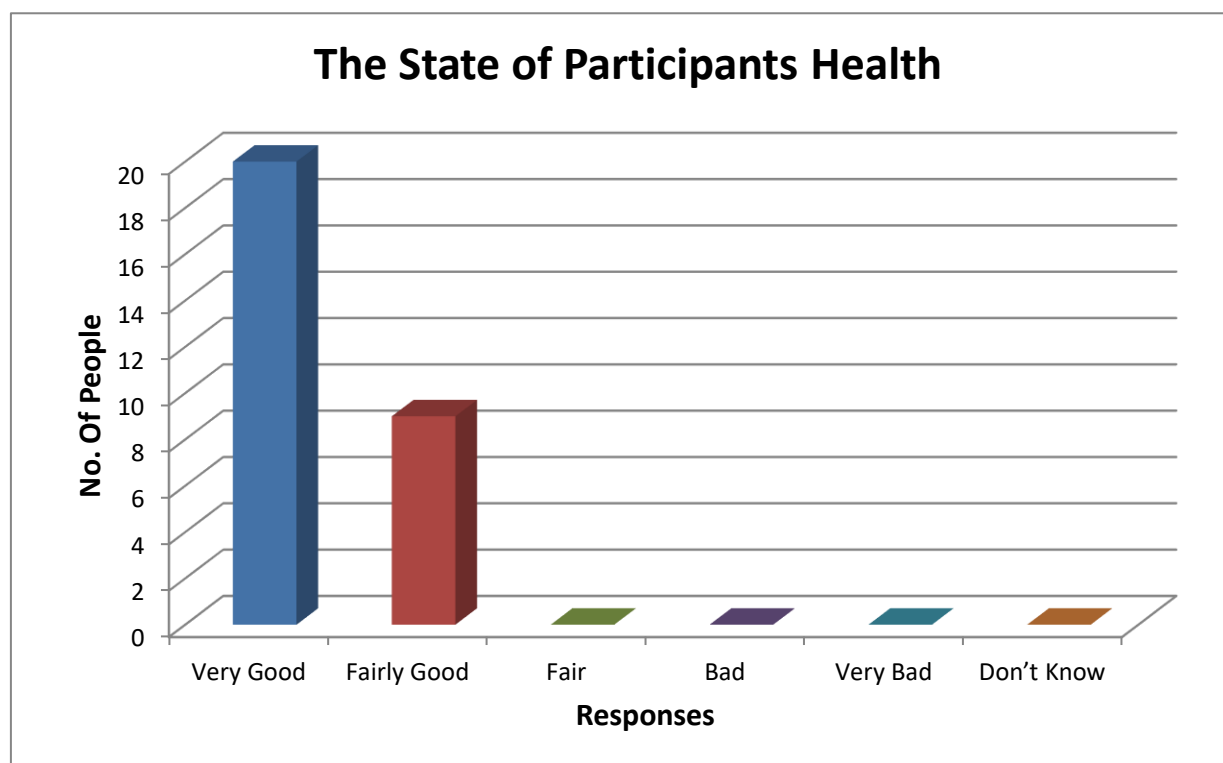


Almost all of the attendees were still in full time education, with the remaining few unemployed. The majority of attendees stated that their highest qualification was either A level or equivalent or

GCSE or equivalent, in equal measure. A few stated that their highest level of education was Degree level or equivalent, with the remaining few stating that they had no qualifications at all so far.



The vast majority of the attendees had stated that they did not have any children; the remaining few stated that they would be having children soon. None said they currently had any children. Most attendees stated that they were in very good health, with the remaining stating that they were in fairly good health.



Sponsors:

There were 18 bodies supporting the event, including 11 sponsors. A full list of supporters and sponsors is available in the appendix which follows.



Figure 1 Some of the sponsors and supporters' stalls

Programme:

The programme of the day consisted of registration at 10:00am followed by twelve talks until the alternating lunch periods between 12:00pm and 1:00pm. These talks included prayer and hospitality, the welcome talk, an introduction to the day, youth provision, two motivational speakers and an educational speaker, DJ set and youth group, volunteering speaker, employment speaker, social speaker, and a cultural speaker. More information on the speakers may be found in the appendix which follows.

During the alternating lunch breaks, the rotating workshop on education and culture was held. After lunch from 1:00pm until 2:00pm, the social workshop/diary room was open, incorporating the video and audio interviews, form filling and the feedback wall. The stalls, including The Prince's Trust, Tesco, KK Boxing, Nottingham City Homes, Third Star and the Nottinghamshire Police were also available at this time.



Figure 2 Prince's Trust Stall

From 2:00pm to 3:00pm the employment activity took place with the employment panel members representing each of their establishments. More information on the Facilitator for the employment panel and the employment panel members may be found in the appendix which follows. At 3:05pm the prize draw and awards ceremony was held by Angela Lewis. At 3:25pm the closing remarks and vote of thanks were given by Yvonne Dawkins. Finally, at 3:30pm the certificates were given out to attendees as they left.



Figure 3 The Employment Panel

Cultural Workshop

Feedback and Interviews

A questionnaire was handed to participants to give feedback on what they thought of the cultural workshop. For some questions the attendee was asked to rate from 1 to 5, how good they thought particular aspects of the workshop were, with 1 representing poor and 5 representing brilliant. For the other questions they were asked to answer yes or no. The results are as follows:

62% of the attendees rated the workshop on the whole as good, followed by 21% who rated it as brilliant, 13% as ok, and finally, a 4% who rated it is not very good, though no one rated it as being poor.

46% of the attendees rated the facilitators as good, followed by 29% who rated them brilliant, and 21% who rated them as ok. 4% rated them as not very good, but again, no one rated them as poor.

48% of the attendees rated the level of how informative and engaging the workshop was as good. 26% said it was brilliant, and 22% said it was ok. 4% rated it as not very good, but none rated it as poor.

36% felt the length of time the workshops ran for was good, followed by 28% rated it as ok, 18% who rated it as brilliant and 18% who rated it as not very good. None rated it as poor.

When they were asked how culturally diverse they felt the workshop was, 46% of attendees rated it as brilliant, followed 29% who said it was ok, then 25% who said it was good. None rated it as neither not very good nor poor.

When asked if they felt the content of the workshop was diverse and inclusive enough, all attendees said yes. 89% felt that there was enough information in the workshop, though 11% said no. 89% of the attendees thought the workshop was beneficial to them, though 11% said no. When asked if they would come along to an event like this again, most said yes and a small number said maybe.

The attendees were asked to give any additional comments on the workshop if they had any. The comments that were given indicated that overall, the attendees found the session interesting and beneficial, though felt it was a little too long and suggested that it be split into two shorter workshops rather than one long one.

Social Workshop/Diary Room

Interviews and Questionnaires:

❖ Summary of Video and Audio Interviews

Demography

Out of those interviewed, 6 out of 15 live within the areas of NG7 – NG9, 5 out of 15 live within the areas of NG1 – NG3, 3 out of 15 live within the areas of NG4 – NG6 and 1 out of 15 lives within the areas of NG10 – NG12.

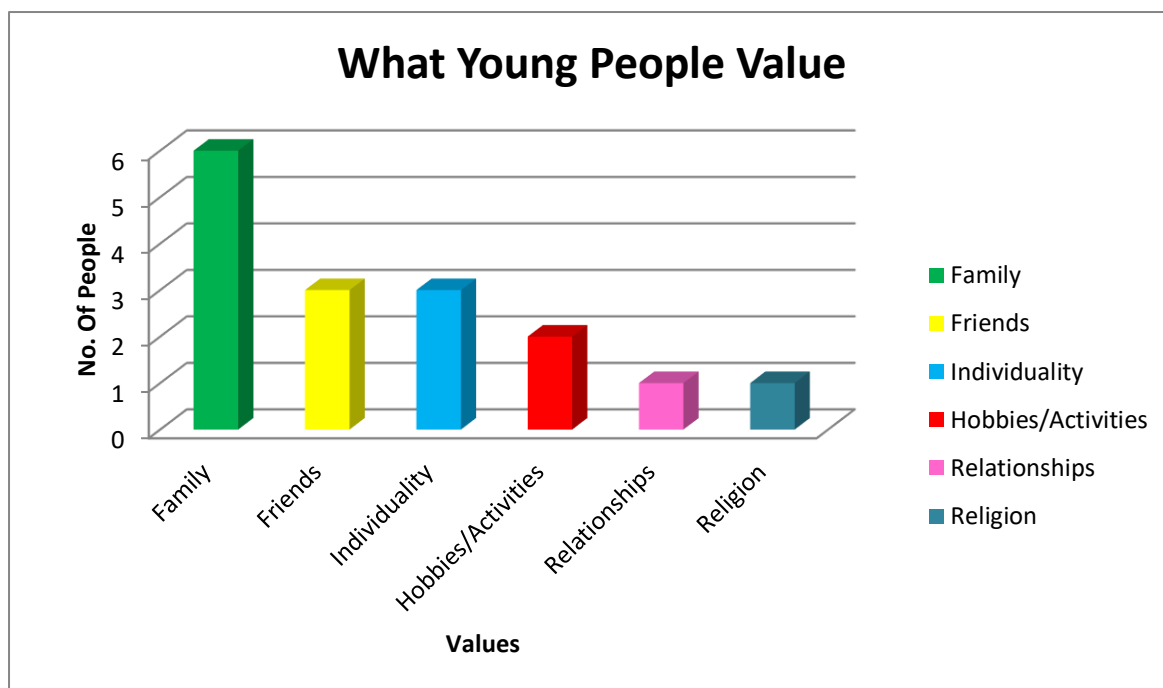
The majority of attendees who were interviewed on either audio or video were female.

When asked what they thought about the quality of housing in their area, in equal measure, most stated that it was either good or average, and that there was often crossover between the nicer areas and the not so nice areas. Others who felt the quality of housing was not good in their area stated that the houses needed refurbishing and the surrounding areas needed cleaning up.

Values

Young people in Nottingham value family most of all, out of the things they like most about their lives. Others stated friends and individuality as the things they enjoy most about their lives, in equal measure. Other aspects of life mentioned were hobbies and activities, romantic relationships and religion.

Most felt that young people in Nottingham want more opportunities and activities within the community, such as more community centres and youth clubs, to give them something positive to do and get the off the street. Second to this, in equal measure, the desire for more money and more jobs was flagged up. It was also mentioned that young people want to have fun and freedom, and finally, more motivation.

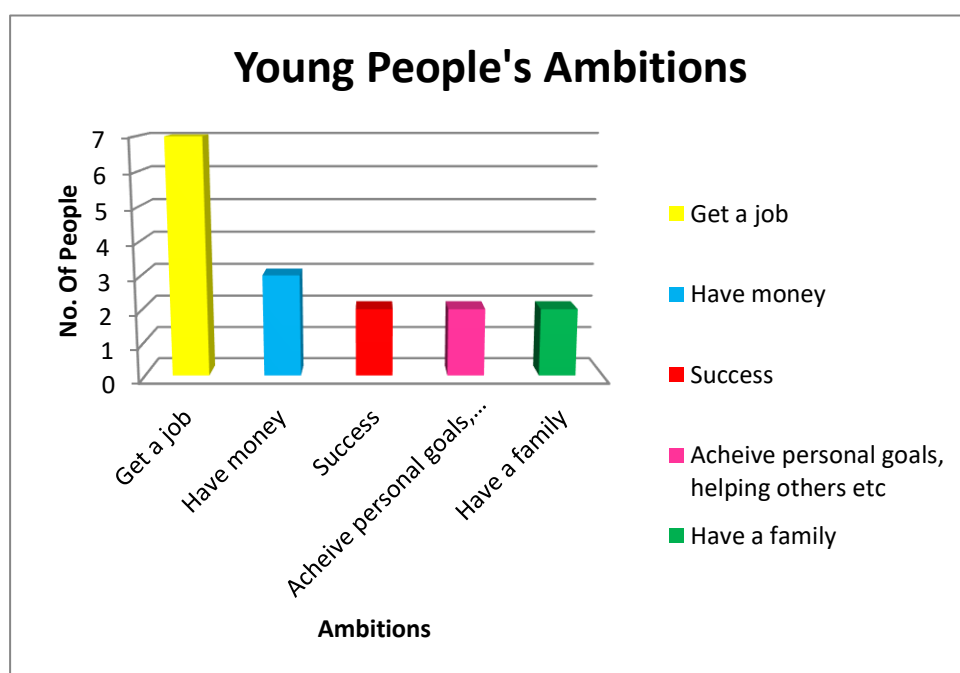


Education

Young people in Nottingham suggested that the main way in which the education system in the UK could be improved was by it giving students more one to one teaching and mentoring support. Others believed it could be improved by providing more opportunities for extra-curricular and national competitive activities. Some felt that racial inequality was an area to be addressed in some schools across the city. Others felt that they were unsure about what could be improved, and some felt that nothing needed to be done from the educational provider's side, but rather any improvements would rely upon student effort and participation.

Ambition

Most stated when asked, that their main ambition was to get a job. Having money was the second most prevalent ambition, followed by being successful, particularly with regards to having a fulfilling career. Achieving personal goals such as helping others, and having a family were also mentioned.

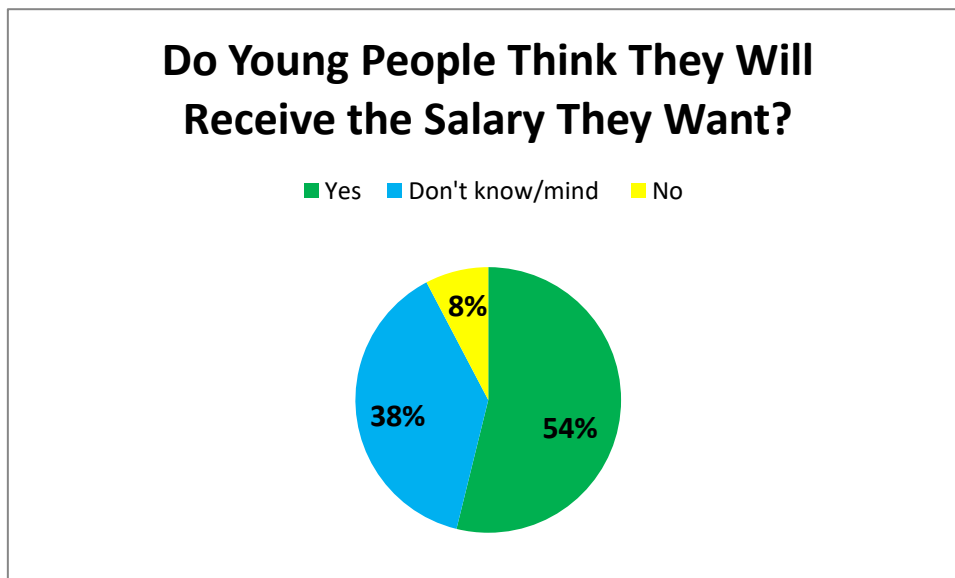


When asked what was helping them towards their ambition, most said that education was the biggest contributing factor. Support and encouragement from family and friends came in second, followed by volunteering, taking part in extra-curricular activities and working.

Job and salary aspirations

When asked if they felt confident that they would get the job they wanted when they were ready, 14 out of 15 people said they were confident because of their education, support from their families, and in some cases, the skill specific nature of the desired job. One person felt that physical boundaries might make it more difficult to get a job because of how young they looked and the effect that had on an employer's first impression at an interview.

When asked if they felt confident that they would get the salary they wanted, the majority said yes, either because of the intended or actual level of their education, or the skill specific nature of their desired job role. A significant proportion said they either didn't know, or didn't mind, so long as they had a job. A small number said no because of admitting to high salary expectations.



Fears

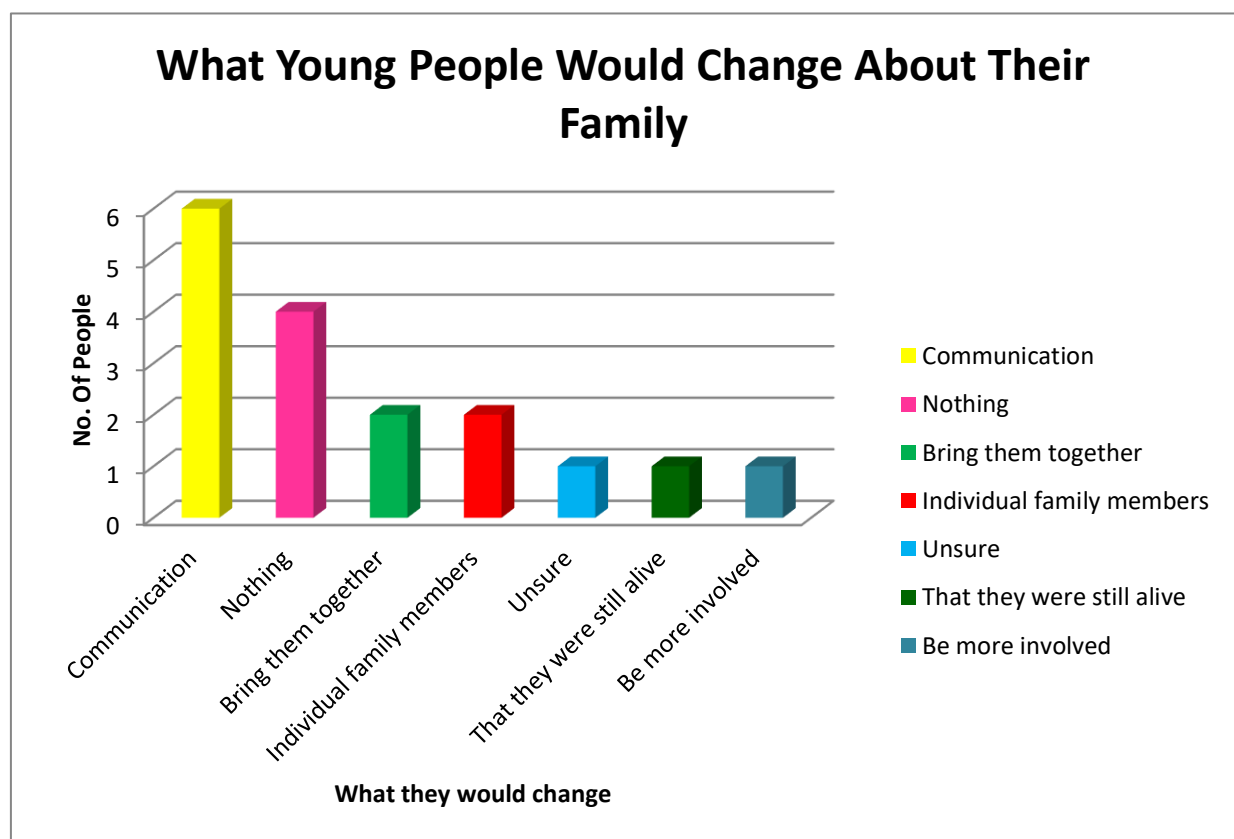
Young people in Nottingham worry most about not achieving their life goals, such as having a career or a family. The second biggest worry young people in Nottingham have about the future is the fear of failure, particularly academic failure leading to failure to get into their desired career. Independence, having to rely upon themselves financially, uncertainty about what to do in life and fears about physical personal boundaries preventing them from finding work are also issues.



When asked what would prevent them from meeting their ambition, the majority stated that fear of failure and lack of motivation in equal measure would hinder them. Negative influences and distractions caused by others and a lack of confidence were also mentioned.

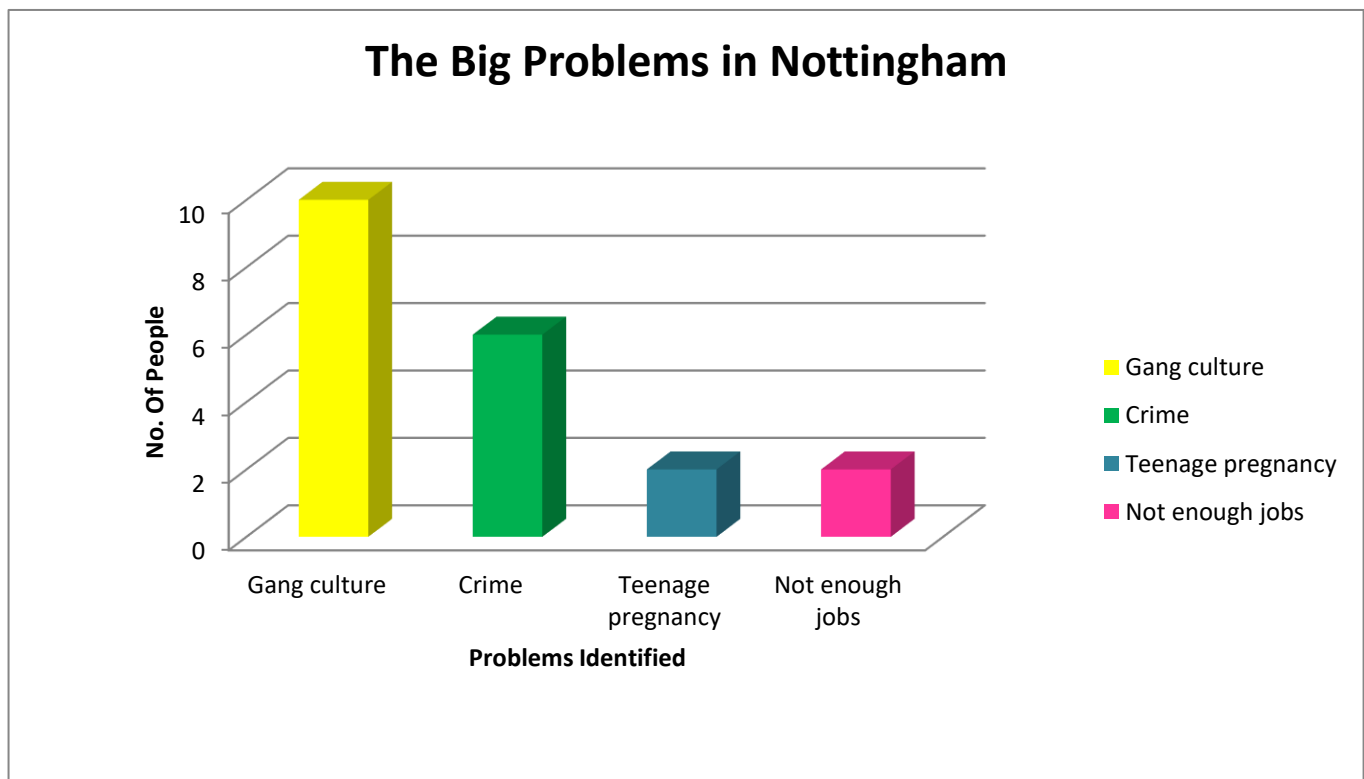
Things young people would change about their family

The majority said that if they could change one thing about their family it would be the way that they communicate, as they don't feel as though they communicate enough and believe it is important for keeping the family together. A large proportion said that they wouldn't change anything. Bringing the family together physically, as an issue within itself was also mentioned, as was wishing that family members were more involved in their lives and education.



The big problems in the city

When asked to address the big problems in Nottingham from their perspective, most stated gang culture and gun wars, closely followed by crime in general. Teenage pregnancy and not enough jobs being available were also noted.



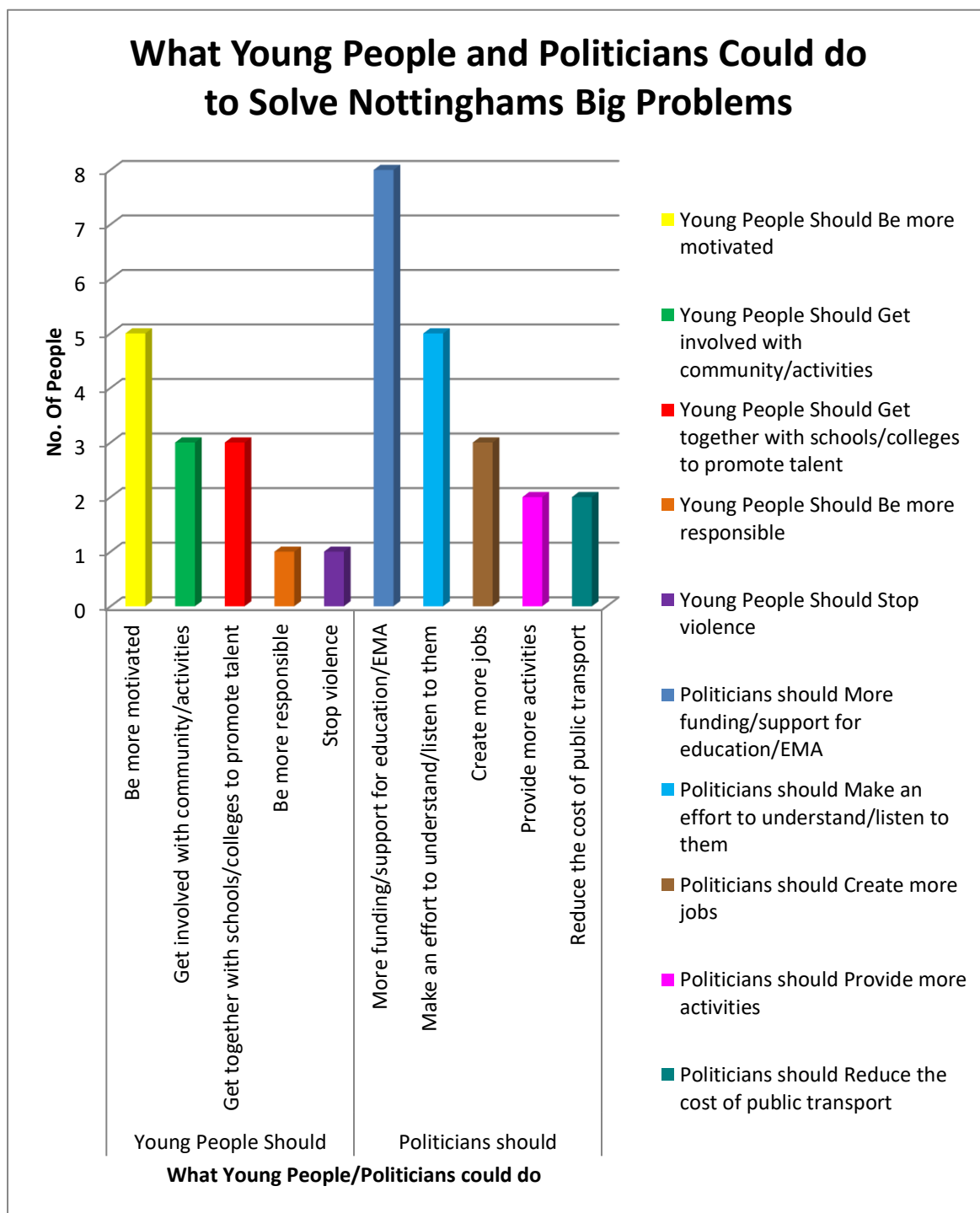
What politicians could do?

When asked, young people in Nottingham said that they felt the most important thing politicians needed to do for them was provide more funding for education and bring back EMA. They also felt politicians needed to make more of an effort to understand them and listen to what they want instead of judging them and viewing them as a stereotype. Others felt they needed to create more jobs, provide more extra-curricular activities and reduce the cost of public transport.

What young people could do?

Most felt that young people in Nottingham should be more responsible, have more respect and take life more seriously. They also believed that young people should be more involved with the community, be more motivated and inspired and avoid crime. They believed that they should look for positive role models and realise that whilst parents are supportive, they may not always be good role models. Others said they should be happy and get into work.

Most people stated that young people could be a part of improving Nottingham by being more motivated. Others stated that they could get more involved with the community and activities on offer, start volunteering or doing something helpful for the community rather than joining gangs. Some suggested that they get together with schools and colleges to make the most of what's on offer and promote their talents. Some other suggestions were that young people should be more responsible with their lives and that they should try to stop the violence.



❖ Feedback Wall

A feedback wall was set up and on the feedback wall, there were three categories for attendees to fill in and post about. These three categories were things they would like to see start in Nottingham, things that they would like to see continue in Nottingham because they think they are working well, and things they would like to see stop in Nottingham because they aren't working.



Figure 5 The Feedback Wall

Things they would like to see start in Nottingham:

Things that people said they wanted to see start in Nottingham included more youth groups and out of school clubs for young people to join, particularly sports clubs, including basketball, netball, football, swimming and camping. Organised trips with the youth clubs and their families were also suggested. More jobs, scholarships and language courses for young people were mentioned, as well as free travel for young people. Others suggested a more holistic approach to what individuals need, to get to the core of why individuals misbehave and become anti-social, and mentioned that more events such as this one would be beneficial.

What Should Start:

- Youth groups
- Out of school clubs
- Sports clubs
- Organised trips
- Jobs
- Scholarships
- Language courses
- Free Travel
- Holistic approach to solving problems

Things they would like to see continue in Nottingham:

Things people said they wanted to see continue in Nottingham because they were working well included the Nottingham carnival, Goose Fair and events taking place in the market square such as the Nottingham Eye and the beach. Community outreach workers and social workers were also mentioned, as was having places like churches and youth centres where people can develop spiritual and emotional foundations for life.



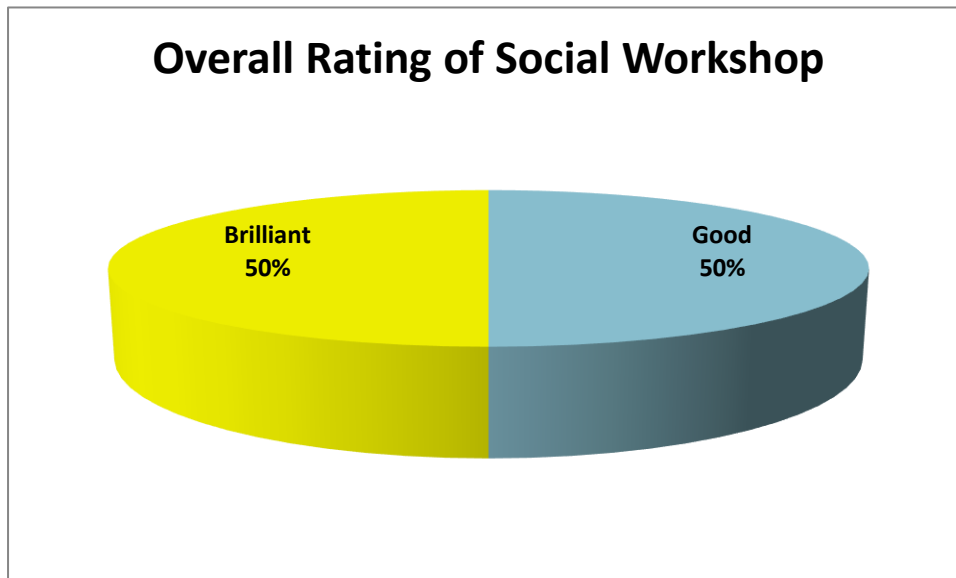
Things they would like to see stop in Nottingham:

The things people said they wanted to see stop because they weren't working in Nottingham included crime, drug use, violence and gang culture. Long opening hours for pubs, paying for transport, public playgrounds and public smoking were also mentioned. Institutional racism and stereotyping of young black people within the police was also raised as an issue, as was the government wasting money on people who don't want to do anything with their lives.



General feedback on workshop

When asked to rate what they thought of the workshop overall, on a scale of 1 to 5 in the same way as they were asked to rate the cultural workshop, all of the attendees who rated it chose either good or brilliant, in equal measure.



The attendees were also given a series of questions to answer to give more detailed feedback on the workshop. The first question asked the attendees what they enjoyed most about the activity. The range of answers included:

1. Getting to speak their opinions in the video and audio interviews.
2. Talking to people with experience.
3. Speaking out and improving confidence.
4. They found it interesting.
5. (With regards to the audio interviews), the fact that it was not recording their faces.

The second question asked what the attendees liked least about the activity. Their answers stated that some felt:

1. The timing was not good.
2. The questions were not very good.
3. They were shy.

The next question asked the attendees what they thought could be changed to improve the activity. The responses included:

1. Having more time and more questions, particularly more questions regarding education.
2. Including a debate within the session.

The final question asked whether they enjoyed the session overall to which all who replied said they did.

Overall Feedback on the Event

The attendees were given a series of questions to answer using the same rating system from 1 to 5 that was used to rate the cultural and social workshops, in order to rate how they felt about the morning overall.

The majority of the attendees thought that overall the morning was good and a handful rated it as ok. The majority also rated the content of the presentations as good and a handful, as ok. Most felt the clarity of the speakers was good, some felt that it was ok and a few felt that it was not very good. The majority felt that the amount of material covered was ok; the rest rated it as good. As for the lunch provided on the day, the majority felt that it was brilliant, and the rest of the attendees rated it as good. When asked about the venue, the majority of attendees rated it as brilliant closely followed by those who thought it was ok and then those who felt it was good.

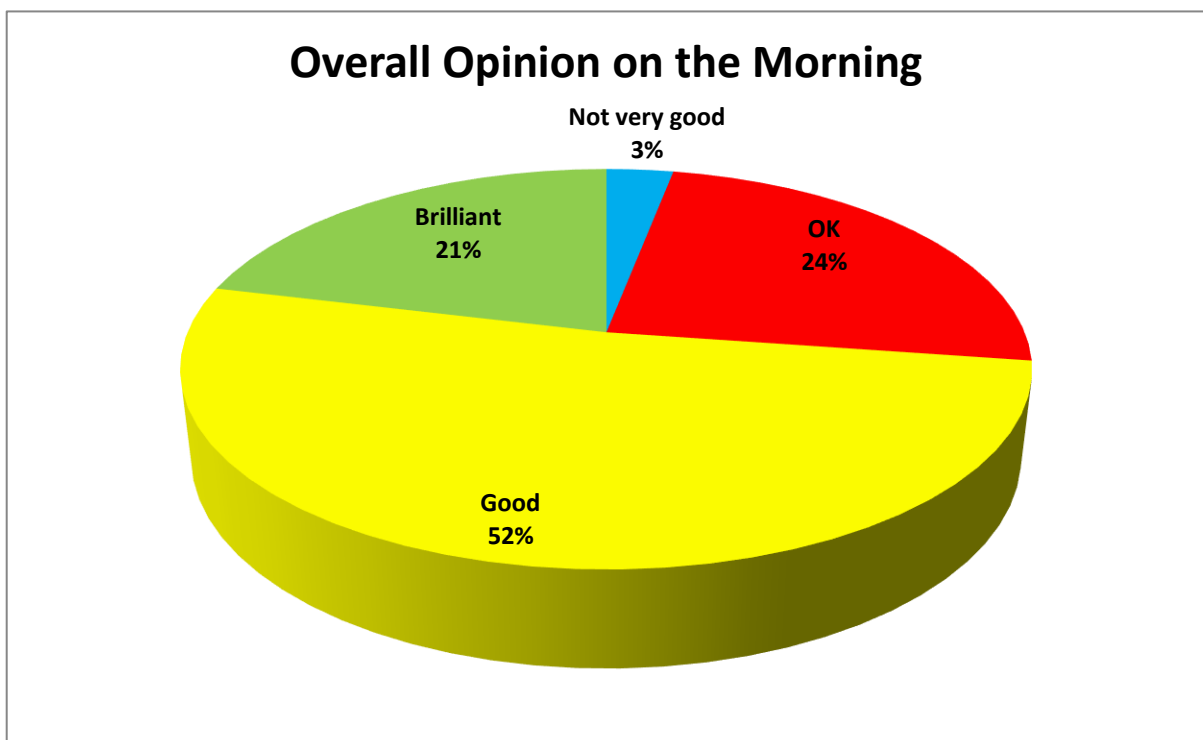


Figure 6 Opinion Chart based on feedback as stated above.

The attendees were asked whether they thought someone who was unfamiliar with the topics would understand the presentations and all who answered said yes. When asked whether they thought there was sufficient time for the presentations and entertainment the majority said no.

The attendees were then asked which parts of the morning session were their favourite parts. The responses included:

1. The diary room.
2. The food.
3. The presentations and speeches, particularly the speech by Martellus Baz.

They were also asked what they felt could be done to improve the event. Suggestions included:

1. Having more interactive presentations, perhaps related to music and rap.
2. Shortening the introductions and making them more engaging.
3. Providing more space for stalls.
4. Spending more time on fewer higher quality speeches.
5. Filtering visits to the exhibitors so they could have more time to talk to other students.
6. Generally lengthening the event.

Conclusion

From the information gathered at this event, we have found that young people in Nottingham value family and getting the grades they need in order to pursue the career they want. They feel that in order for this to happen, the education system needs more funding and needs to be able to provide them with more one to one individually tailored support. They also believe that crime rates need to be reduced, and that we can work towards this by providing more activities, particularly sports, outside of education to keep young people occupied. We also found that an important issue for young people in Nottingham is the desire to be heard, which could be achieved through more events such as this one, and focus groups set up at churches or community centres.

Overall the attendees seemed to find the event interesting and useful, though there is a general sentiment that perhaps the timing of the events could be reorganised to incorporate a few slightly longer motivational speeches and interactive presentations, and a little more time for attendees to visit stalls and talk to people. The diary room seemed to go down positively as attendees felt that they could get their opinion across and enjoyed being listened to.

Appendix:

Sponsors and Supporters:

- ❖ Adventure
- ❖ Boots
- ❖ Compass
- ❖ Djanogly City
- ❖ EAEC
- ❖ Enable
- ❖ Elevation Networks
- ❖ IVJ
- ❖ National Citizen Service
- ❖ Nottingham Equal
- ❖ Nottingham City Council
- ❖ Nottingham City Homes
- ❖ Nottinghamshire Police
- ❖ Notts County FC
- ❖ Prince's Trust

- ❖ The Renewal Trust
- ❖ Tesco
- ❖ Third Star

Speakers:

Registration – Godfrey Omoruyi & Yvonne Dawkins, Ariel Fleming & Michael Boffa

Prayer & Hospitality – Ariela Vanessa & Nigel Best

Welcome – Rita Wynter

Introduction – Prince Appiah Owusu

Youth Provision – Alex Norris

Motivational speaker – Cecilia Wright

Educational speaker – Councillor David Mellen

Motivational Speaker – Martellus Baz

DJ set & Youth Group – Matthew Virgo

Volunteering Speaker – Vennetta Johnston

Employment speaker – Princes Youth Trust

Social speaker – National Citizen Service

Cultural speaker – Nigel Best

Employment Panel

Facilitator

Marie Stanton

Members

The Princes Trust – Anouska Smith

Tesco – Sarah Roberts

Nottingham City Homes – Gary Rackshaw

Third Star – Qay Phaque

Nottinghamshire Police – Jo Ratchford

Report Prepared by Kelly Yates