

# Bromley Youth Council Crime Summit 2018





# Welcome & Introductions



## Our Campaign:

- The issues voted at the 2018 Manifesto Event were:

Youth Crime & Gang Culture  
Employment and Training

# The Campaign Plan



For each campaign area, BYC Members design a campaign plan. This details actions and outcomes for the campaign area.

BYC present this at an Executive meeting to LBB Councillors and officers.

BYC complete a mid year report and an end of year report on the progress made against the campaign areas.

Hard copies of campaign plans are available on request.

# Crime and Gang Culture

Crime and Gang culture was originally chosen in 2017.

We recognised that enormous potential remained and decided to continue the campaign for another year.

The London borough of Bromley is recognized as an emerging gangs borough and now has a Bromley Police Gangs Unit.

# Youth Crime & Gang Culture



## What is this campaign?

Young people identified Crime and Gang Culture as an important issue for BYC to tackle and campaign on.

Particular areas of concern for young people included:

- joining gangs
- becoming involved in criminal activities
- carrying weapons
- engaging in inappropriate relationships.



**Sarah Newton, Minister for Crime, Safeguarding and Vulnerability said:**

*“Gang related violence devastates lives and I am pleased to announce further funding to tackle these appalling crimes. It’s often the young and most vulnerable in our society who become ensnared in gang activity having been preyed upon by gang members. This government is determined to do all we can to protect them by ending this cycle of exploitation and the crimes that inevitably go alongside it. ”*

# Researching Campaign



As part of the research we undertook the following activities:-

- Conducted an online and face to face survey
- Met with specialists-
  - ✓ **ATLAS team**; a new specialist team in the borough set up for tackling missing youths; gangs and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).
  - ✓ Head of Youth Support and Youth Offending Services, **Betty McDonald**
  - ✓ Local campaigner from 'Say No to Knives', **Sarah Armstrong**
- Participated in several workshops on Gang education
- Researched and began designing posters BYC Members

# Funding the Campaign

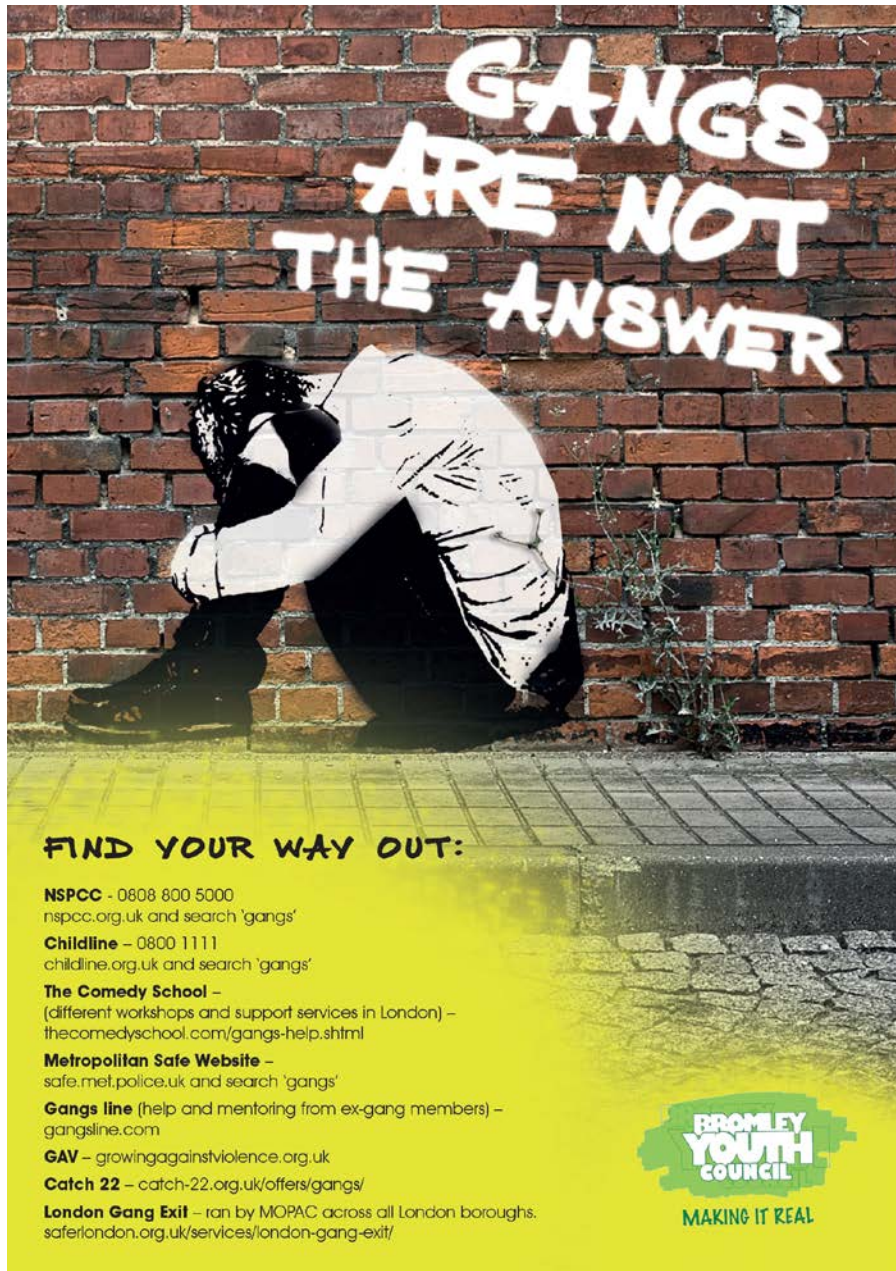


- The Youth Council was keen to make this campaign hard-hitting.
- To make a real impact and difference to young people the campaign needed to be innovative and supported with funding.
- BYC successfully gained funding from the **Safer Neighbourhood Board, Mayors Office for Policing And Crime, Youth Offending Service and Bromley Youth Support Programme.**

# Actions



- BYC have designed a paper and online survey
- BYC hosted a day in the Glades shopping centre to conduct the survey
- Sent the on line survey to all secondary schools/colleges/youth projects in Bromley
- Face to face surveys in Penge and Orpington High Street
- Worked with designers on an anti gangs poster
- Started planning a youth conference



**FIND YOUR WAY OUT:**

**NSPCC** - 0800 800 5000  
nspcc.org.uk and search 'gangs'

**Childline** - 0800 1111  
childline.org.uk and search 'gangs'

**The Comedy School** -  
(different workshops and support services in London) -  
thecomedyschool.com/gangs-help.shtml

**Metropolitan Safe Website** -  
safe.met.police.uk and search 'gangs'

**Gangs line** (help and mentoring from ex-gang members) -  
gangsline.com

**GAV** - growingagainstviolence.org.uk

**Catch 22** - catch-22.org.uk/offers/gangs/

**London Gang Exit** - ran by MOPAC across all London boroughs.  
saferlondon.org.uk/services/london-gang-exit/



BYC draft version of the anti-gangs poster aimed at young people, 11 -19 years old Living, accessing education or working in Bromley.

# The Survey



- It was designed using survey monkey with 12 questions
- This was done in partnership with key services; Met Police, YOT, BYSP, ATLAS team
- It was sent out to all schools/colleges/youth projects in Bromley
- It was completed by students at the Manifesto event
- BYC members took to the Glades shopping centre and local high streets
- There has been a response of around 653 young people to date.

# BYC Survey on Youth Crime & Gang Culture.



Bromley Youth Council are currently campaigning on crime and gang culture in the London borough of Bromley.

We want to find out young peoples views on this issue to help us with the right campaign.

1. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify)

2. What is your age?

- Under 11
- 11-13
- 14-16
- 16-18
- 19+

3. Please tell us the first part of your home postcode, or if you live outside of Bromley, please tell us the postcode of your school, college or workplace. E.g, BR3, SE20.

4. Do you think there are gangs in the Bromley borough?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

5. Are you concerned about gang crime in your area?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

6. What crimes do you think gang members are involved with in the Bromley area?

- Drugs
- Street robbery
- Assault

- Arson
- knife crime
- Other (please specify)

7. Are you aware of what services and support is available for gang members and to reduce gang related incidents?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- If not, what do you think could be done?

8. What do you think are the reasons people become involved with or associate with a gang?

9. What education have you received about gangs and gang crime?

10. What do you think the best way to deal with gang crime is?

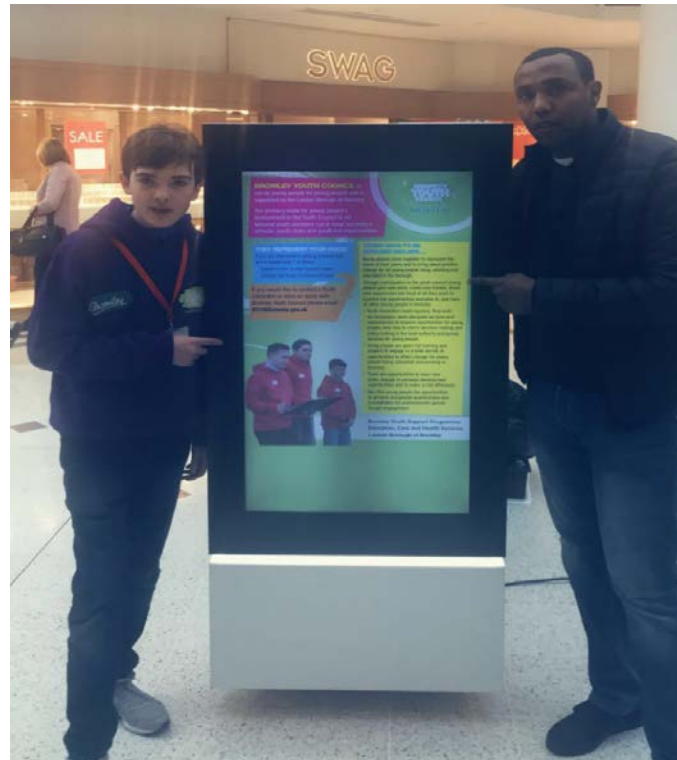
11. Do you know what a Gang is? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Please tell us what a Gang is? \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You for Your Time

If you would like to contact the Bromley Youth Council, you can email us at [BYC@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:BYC@bromley.gov.uk)

The survey asked young people if they felt there are gangs in the borough; if they were concerned about gang crime in their area; what crimes are associated with gangs; if they were aware of support services; the reasons people are involved in gangs and for a definition of a gang.



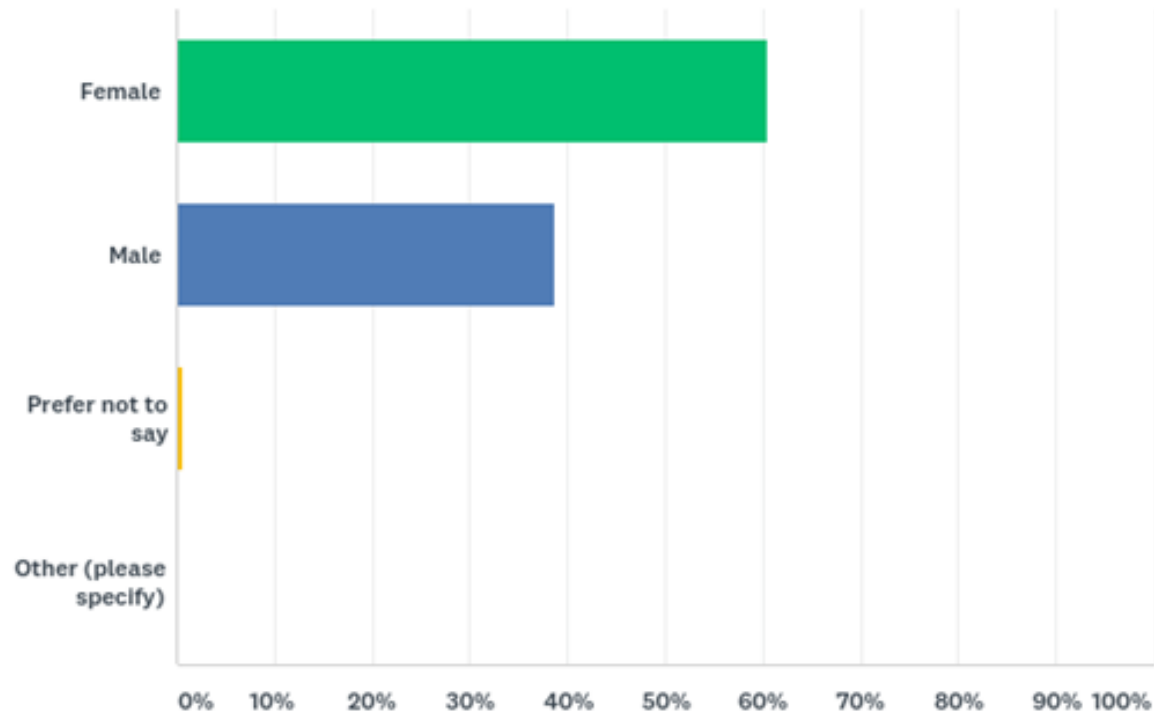
The BYC team surveying young people in Orpington high street and Penge high street.



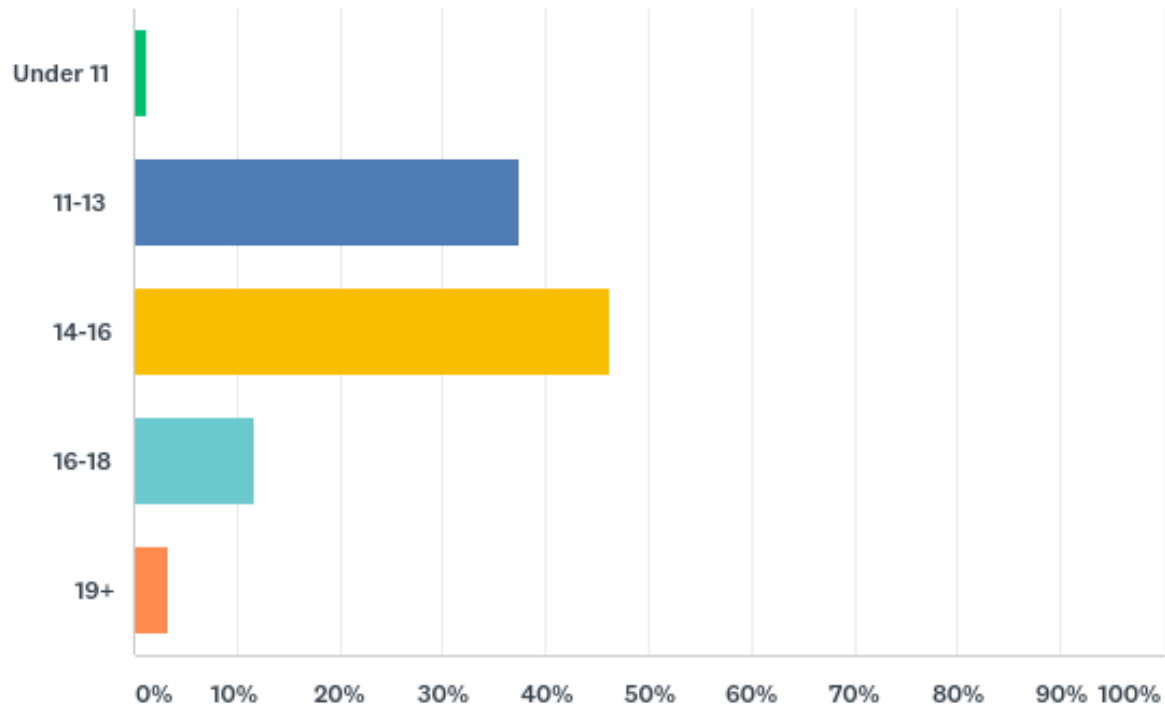
# Q1: What is your gender?



Q1 What is your gender?



# Q2: What is your age?



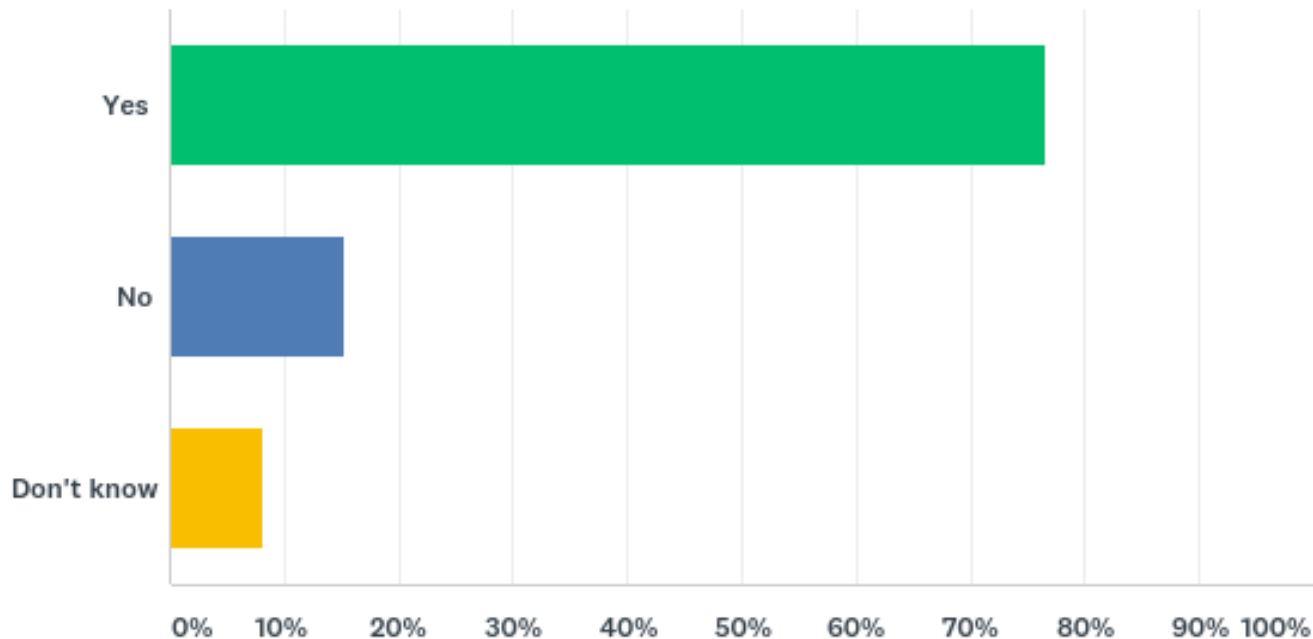
Q3: Please tell us the first part of your home postcode, or if you live outside of Bromley, please tell us the postcode of your school, college or workplace.



# Q4: Do you think there are gangs in your area?



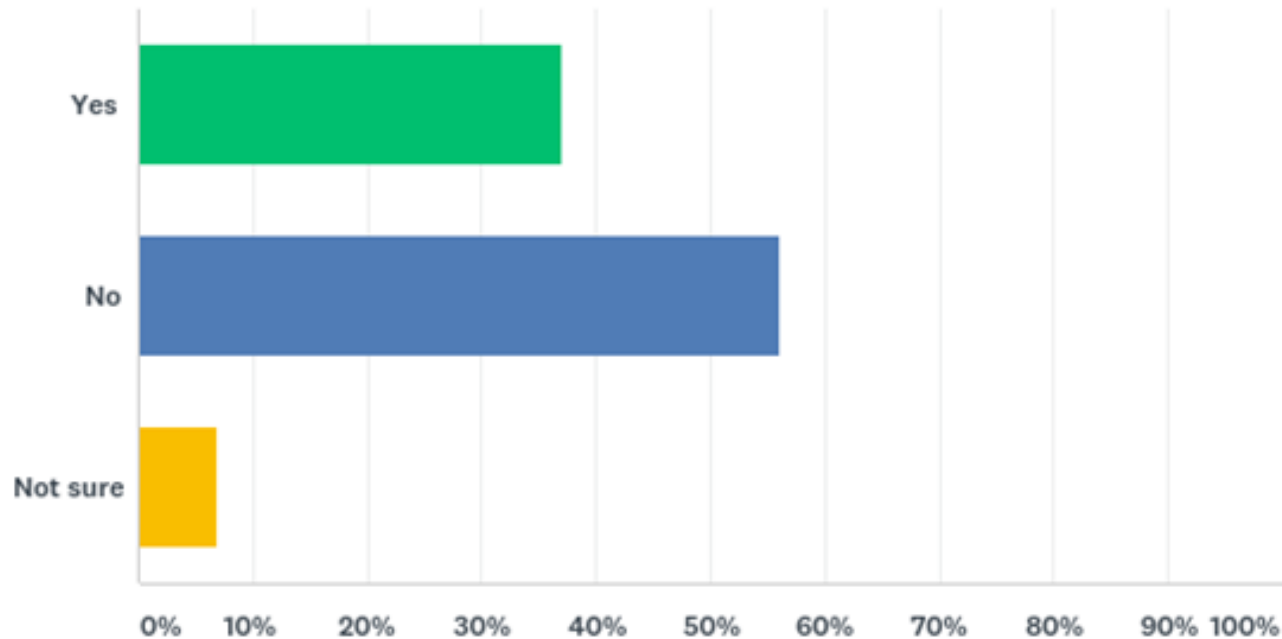
## Q4 Do you think there are gangs in the Bromley borough?



# Q5: Are you concerned about gang crime in your area?



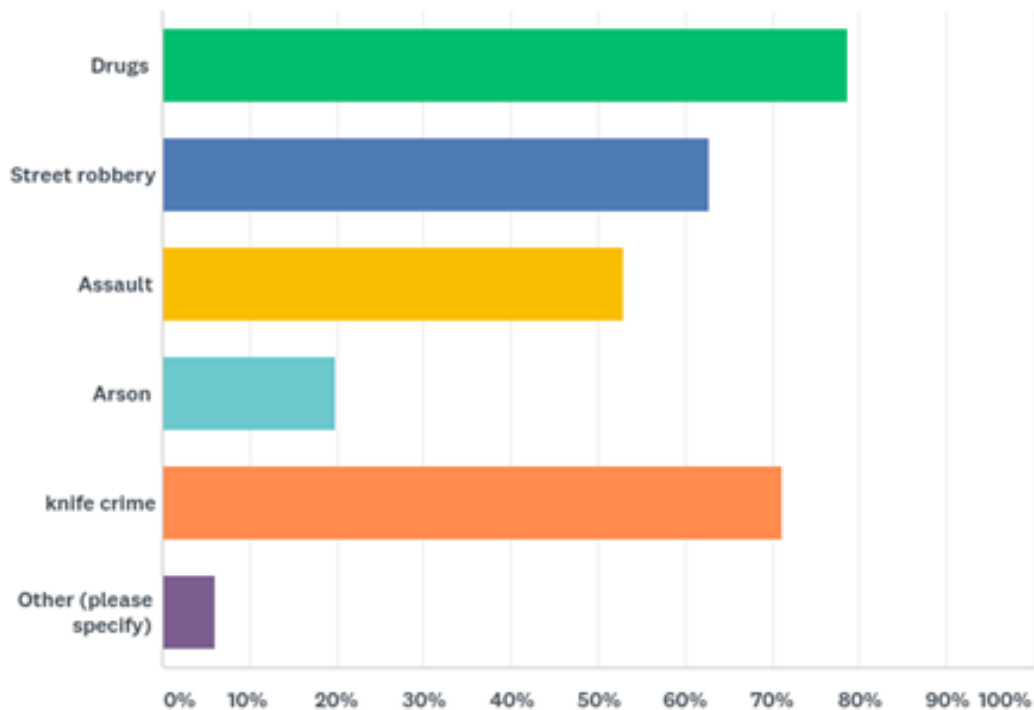
## Q5 Are you concerned about gang crime in your area?



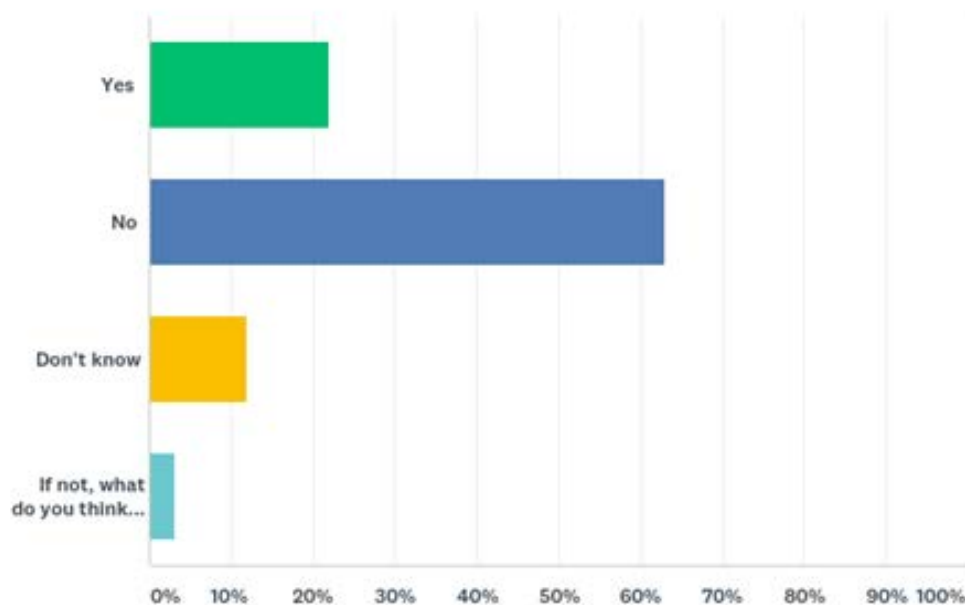
# Q6: What crimes do you think gang members are involved with in the Bromley area?



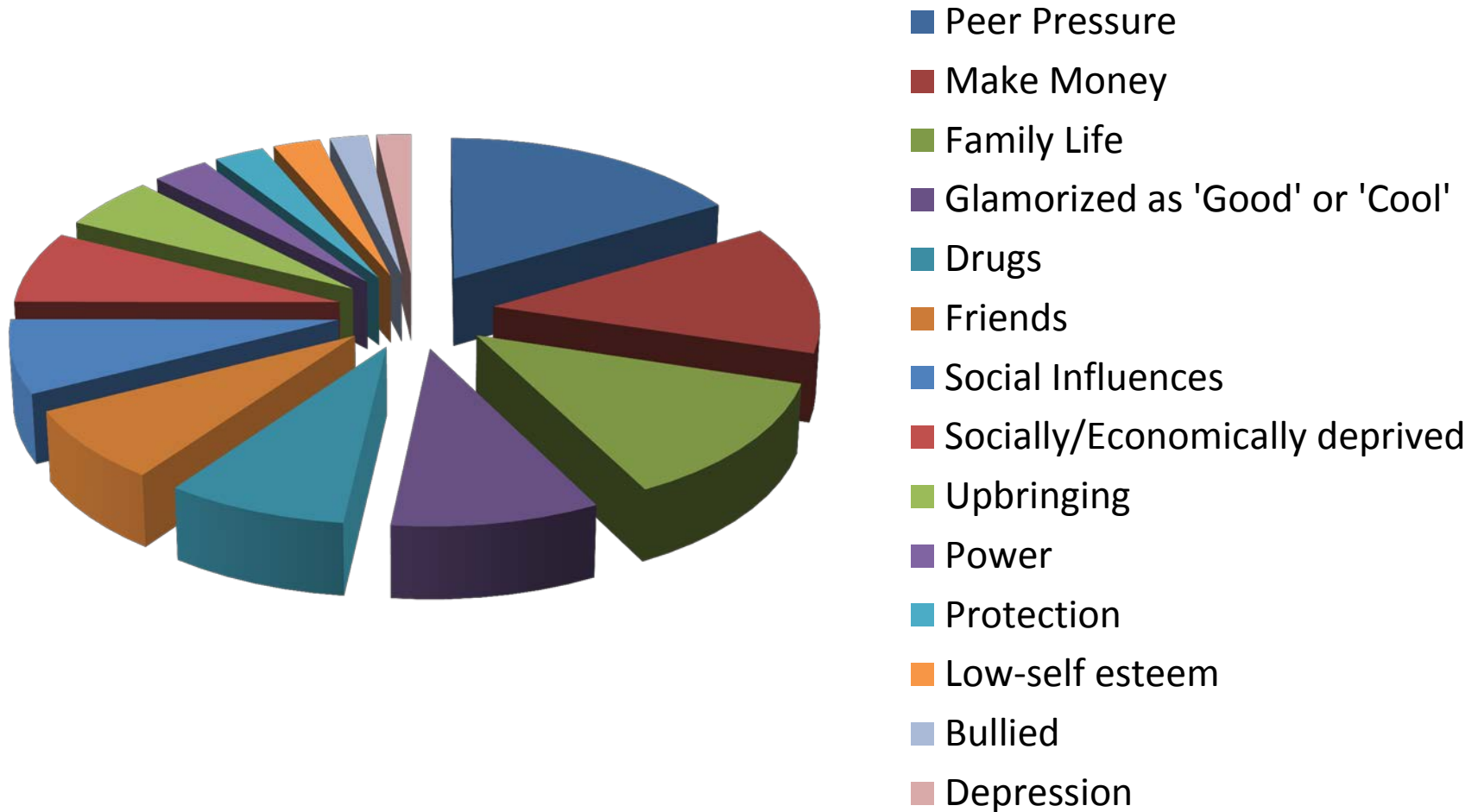
Q6 What crimes do you think gang members are involved with in the Bromley area?



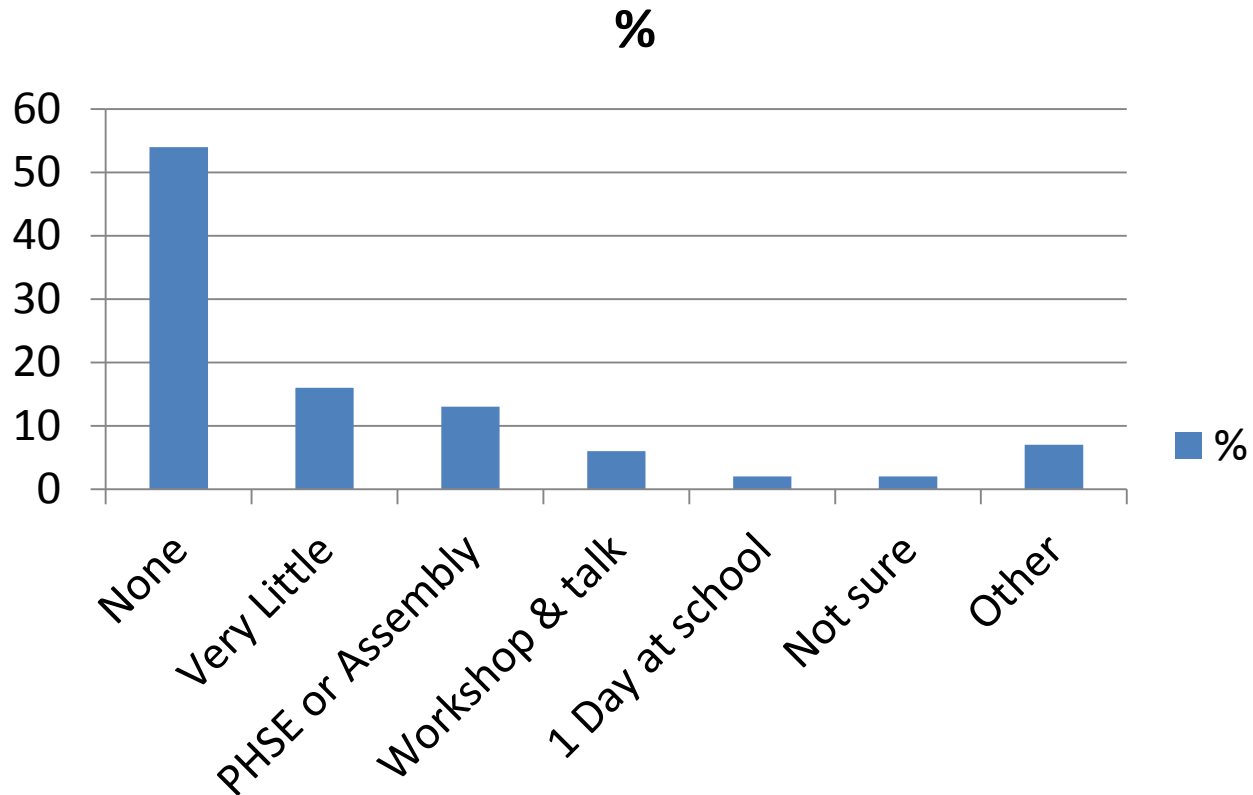
Q7: Are you aware of what services and support is available for gang members to reduce the gang related incidents?



# Q8: What do you think are the reasons people become involved with or associate with a gang?



# Q9: What education have you received about gangs and gang crime?



# Q 10: What do you think the best way to deal with gang crime is?



There was some really interesting and thought provoking suggestions in response to this question...

‘Improving education amongst parents in high risk areas. Increase police presence and increase sentences for gang members.’

‘Community policing and better relationships between young people and the police. More youth work.’

‘Education of children/teens and school interaction. Clear ways that people can get help.’

‘More education, more positive things for people to do. More youth clubs.’

# Key Findings.

- Generally young people who live in Bromley or go to school in Bromley feel there is a gangs problem within the borough.
- All young people could give a clear definition around what a 'gang' is.
- Most young people do not report crimes against them or crimes they witness.
- A concern that potentially young people travelling into the borough to go to court contribute to the issue

- Young people are desensitised to ‘gangs’ and accept this as ‘normal’.
- Young people felt they had no one to talk to, get advice or talk about gangs and youth violence.
- Most young people felt that they needed to be better educated around gangs
- Most young people felt that drug dealing; knife crime; violence; street robberies are the main crimes of young people involved with gangs.

# What we learnt



Undertaking this campaign has developed our knowledge, skills and experience of gangs in Bromley.

- Bromley does have organised criminal gangs
- Bromley is actively tackling the issue
- Young people's perception of crime and gang culture is dependant on where they live
- Young people do not report crime
- Young people are desensitised to gangs
- There is not enough education

- We have learnt that gangs are a safeguarding issue and a policing issue. The young people involved in gangs/CSE are frequently among the most vulnerable in the borough.
- These young people are the victims of poor economic circumstances, isolation, bullying and bad home lives. This leaves them open to exploitation and victimisation.
- These weaknesses are exploited by the older gang members.

# Next Steps



- Share findings
- Finalise and distribute poster
- Host the youth conference
- Give young people a voice on gangs locally and regionally through the new London youth Assembly.

# Some of the BYC Team 2018



Thank you for listening

Any Questions

