



Surrey Youth Commission

Final Report 2023/24



OFFICE OF THE POLICE &
CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR
SURREY



Surrey Youth Commission



Healthy Relationships

Anti-Social Behaviour



Night-Time Safety



Trust in the Police



Exploitation & Substance Misuse



What matters most to you?

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Foreword

In 2022, the Commissioner and I were proud to launch Surrey's first policing and community safety focussed Youth Commission, something I was committed to delivering since I first started my role as Deputy Commissioner.

We commission, support, and fully fund the Youth Commission to enable young people to have their say on some of the key issues that affect them. We are committed to working with the Youth Commission to ensure their voices are heard and that they are able to access the information they need to help with their research.

This report, which is the second Youth Commission annual report, is entirely the work of the brilliant Youth Commission members, who spent months speaking with almost 1,500 of their peers before thoughtfully and carefully transforming their ideas into an action plan.

This plan, with objectives for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, for Surrey Police, and for our key partners across the county, reflects the concerns and questions our young people have as well as the hopes and dreams they have for our society.

Through our ongoing work with the Youth Commission, and this insightful report, we are able to better understand the crime and policing priorities for a generation of Surrey residents, with substance misuse, sexual exploitation and anti-social behaviour among the topics raised this year.

My sincere thanks go to our brilliant Surrey Youth Commission members for their integrity, determination and empathy when dealing with some really challenging topics, and for their honesty and openness when speaking with us, Surrey Police and partners.

Their work provides us with an invaluable snapshot into the thoughts and feelings of young people in Surrey, which help us to better understand where change is needed. The Commissioner and I are so proud of their achievements, and we hope that you enjoy reading this report.

Ellie Vesey-Thompson

Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey



Introduction

The Surrey Youth Commission (SYC), which was established in 2002, was commissioned and fully funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey.

Police and Crime Commissioner Lisa Townsend and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Ellie Vesey-Thompson launched the forum with the goal of putting youth voice at the heart of policing in the county.

The SYC enables young people aged between 14 and 25 to inform decisions about policing, crime prevention and community safety in Surrey.

Members work in partnership with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and Surrey Police.



About this Report

This report is based on evidence collected from children and young people in Surrey through the delivery of engagement stalls, surveys and interactive workshops.

Members of the SYC have spoken to 1,453 young people from across the county.

The report allocates each priority its individual section, which consists of a comprehensive analysis of respondents' opinions using quotes from individual participants, and the key recommendations based on the findings of the Youth Commission.

The report is intended to be a genuine, independent record of what young people have told us through the Youth Commission's 'Big Conversation'.

It is hoped that the work of the SYC will support and inform the future actions of the OPCC, Surrey Police, and relevant wider partners.

About the Surrey Youth Commission

The SYC focuses on giving young people a stronger voice in raising policing and crime issues within the local community.

The SYC works closely with the OPCC to inform the OPCC team's work.

A key element of the SYC's role is to gather the views of young people through peer-to-peer engagement and research in the form of a 'Big Conversation'.

As part of this, members engaged with young people through surveys, workshops and stalls.

Their aim was to provide a safe space for respondents to comfortably share and speak confidently with their peers.

This approach allows for more authenticity in the evidence collected.

All the responses gathered during the 'Big Conversation' are then analysed by members of the SYC to create the key findings and recommendations.

These are then presented to the OPCC, Surrey Police and local partners during a conference.

The SYC gives young people across the county a voice on issues relating to crime, policing and community safety.

Members of the SYC support, challenge, and inform the work of the team at the OPCC and Surrey Police.

The SYC is facilitated by Leaders Unlocked, a social enterprise that enables young people to have a stronger voice and influence on the decisions that affect their lives.

Leaders unlocked has established other Youth Commissioners in regions across England and Wales.

For more information, visit leaders-unlocked.org



Testimonial

This year, I've had the incredible opportunity to contribute to amplifying young people's voices across Surrey through the Youth Commission.

We've delivered stalls in a range of settings, including Royal Holloway University, directly engaging students and the community.

Through interactive workshops, we raised awareness about the Surrey Youth Commission's Key Priorities, sparking essential conversations on youth safety, support, and relationships. Collecting over 1,400 responses from young people, we ensured their voices were heard.

Collaborating closely with partners including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Surrey Police and Surrey County Council, we've driven meaningful change.

Presenting our key priorities at the conference to staff and stakeholders was a highlight, as we shared a comprehensive report with recommendations to enhance safety and support for young people across Surrey.

My time at the conference was amazing. I presented our thoughts on drug misuse amongst young people, and how we can change to help them and offer them perhaps external support if necessary. Working with my table we came to the conclusion that young people felt as if they will be in immense trouble if they ask for help to battle drug addiction, so we proposed ideas on how to battle this issue and came up with a safer, more comfortable approach to allow young people to help themselves by allowing us to help them.

This journey has been incredibly rewarding, and it's been a privilege to work alongside such passionate team members.

Together, we're making Surrey a safer, more inclusive place for young people.



From Qasim



What We Did This Year

Recruitment

In late 2023, Leaders Unlocked carried out a two-stage recruitment process.

This included distributing an easy-to-access recruitment pack, which included an application form and information about the SYC and the role of members.

The second stage was to conduct a telephone interview with applicants.

This process has been made possible by working proactively with local organisations from educational settings and the youth and voluntary sectors.

Our aim is to ensure that members of the SYC are a true representation of their community by location, background and their experience.

Our current members



Identifying Priority Issues

The SYC's inaugural meeting focused on members discussing key issues and research ideas for the next phase of the project.

SYC members decided to focus on the following key priorities:

Anti-social behaviour

Exploitation and substance misuse

Healthy relationships

Night-time safety

Trust in the police



Creating the Tools for the Surrey Youth Commission

During the second members meeting, SYC members co-designed workshops and took an active lead in running activities on the day.

These activities included team-building exercises, designing interactive workshops and surveys, and sharing their plans and ideas with the rest of the group.

The meeting gave members the opportunity to:

- **Develop 'Big Conversation' workshops**
- **Design materials for the workshops**
- **Practice their presentation skills**
- **Identify key locations for workshops and surveys to be carried out**
- **Learn new leadership skills**
- **Become a cohesive team of young leaders**

Members of the SYC received training for their role, and have developed their active listening techniques, facilitation and leadership skills throughout the project.

For the purposes of data collection, members created postcards to collect relevant information for their research.

The postcards show each priority, allowing young people to provide opinions on all priorities, regardless of which workshop they had attended.

These postcards allowed respondents to highlight personal opinions and share their real-life experiences, as well as those of their friends and family.

They were designed to allow young people to be fully open with their views and are designed so respondents can remain anonymous.

What Did Surrey's Young People Say?

Underage smoking and vaping. Too many kids smoking and vaping in school bathrooms and other secluded spaces. I have mild trauma from smoking and it's upsetting to see literal kids - my little sister could be influenced, and I don't want that.

Adult campaigns to help young people always use quite graphic language and these need to be changed.

I wish I knew how to increase my self-esteem and I'm too embarrassed to talk to someone about not feeling confident in myself.

I've had loads and loads of close calls and recent situations where I've had to run the entire way home to avoid dangerous people. Have been called at and chased while running.

Spiking is such a big, scary issue. It can definitely be spoken about more especially with girls or young women.

I feel like I speak better to people online rather than in person because I find it awkward.

Don't really know what the police do and their social media isn't aimed for young people.



Working with Surrey Police

Anti-Social Behaviour Campaign

In the summer, the SYC co-developed with Surrey Police a new campaign to raise awareness of anti-social behaviour (ASB). Members of the SYC produced a short video that was shared on Instagram to myth-bust common misconceptions of ASB and link this back to the SYC survey.

Youth Independent Advisory Group (YIAG)

The Youth Independent Advisory Group are meetings which have been established between the SYC and Surrey Police with support from the OPCC.

The YIAGs provide members of the SYC with an opportunity to listen to senior officers to share updates from a force perspective on priorities selected this year.

Each meeting focused on one of the SYC priorities. Members were encouraged to share their own experiences on the topic, helping to create meaningful conversations with Surrey Police.

At the end of each meeting, actions were taken away for the SYC to follow up.

These included involvement with Force campaigns, reviewing training days, and discussing how the SYC can be used as a sounding board in the future.



You Said, We Did

This year, the SYC created a recommendations tracker to review progress on the recommendations from the previous year.

The tracker enabled members of the SYC to follow up on recommendations for the OPCC, Surrey Police, and the SYC.

Recommendations

Recommendations for Surrey Police:	What Surrey Police has done:
<p>Provide training to ensure officers understand substance misuse as a 'coping mechanism' for poor mental health.</p> <p>Ensure officers are equipped to handle these situations appropriately.</p>	<p>Training by Surrey's substance misuse youth charity, Catch22.</p> <p>Support for Surrey Police's Youth Engagement Officers (YEOs).</p> <p>Help and advice for officers supporting adults and families via Catalyst Support, which works to promote the mental health and wellbeing of people in Surrey.</p>
<p>Increase the police's presence in areas of the night-time economy where women may be most at risk.</p>	<p>Op Chariot is the Force's approach to policing serious violence and ASB hotspots.</p> <p>There are 15 hotspots across the Force and the majority relate to town centres and the night-time economy.</p> <p>As part of Op Chariot, officers are tasked to patrol these locations on foot and engage with licensed premises and the public.</p>
<p>Increase Surrey Police's online presence and consider the introduction of digital Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) to provide police support in instances of online crimes.</p>	<p>Advertised via all police social media channels.</p> <p>Surrey Police led nationally in implementing digital 101, which receives the same response as calls to 101.</p>



Recommendations for the OPCC:	What the OPCC has done:
Work with the Surrey Youth Commission to raise awareness of county lines drug dealing and the early warning signs for young people to look out for.	A YIAG was held on substance misuse and exploitation in July 2024.
Work with Surrey Police and Youth Commissioners to further develop the mental health passport scheme and promote its use amongst both police and the public.	A 'Pegasus card' is currently in the consultation process with other partners from blue light services.
Raise awareness of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey and the role of its staff amongst young people. This should include online and in person engagements.	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Ellie Vesey-Thompson has been involved in visiting communities, youth centres and projects, and individual schools in person. Police and Crime Commissioner Lisa Townsend and Surrey Police's Chief Constable Tim De Meyer have also led a series of 12 in-person and online Policing Your Community engagement events around the county during the autumn and winter.

Recommendations for the SYC:	What the SYC has done:
Advocate for a stronger response to image-based sexual abuse both from authorities and educational organisations.	Members of the SYC took part in a session run by Hitch Marketing to develop a campaign for the OPCC and Surrey Police that aims to reduce image-based sexual abuse. Ok To Ask? Has had millions of views on social media platforms, including SnapChat.
Promote different ways to report online crime and where to go to access support.	Advice given in all the workshops, especially when looking at specific sessions on trust with the police. Questions about online abuse are posted in surveys for the Commission.
Work with the OPCC and Surrey Police to improve and further develop the mental health passport scheme and share the initiative with more young people.	Surrey Police delivered updates to our February YIAG, and we heard from the Diversity and Inclusion Team.

Who We've Reached



The Surrey Youth Commission has actively engaged with more than 1,400 young people across Surrey.

The SYC conducted 30 events in a wide range of localities across the county.

This year the SYC focused on delivering targeted workshops to engage young people with experience of the criminal justice system, young people from youth clubs and young people with disabilities.

Priority	Responses
Anti-social Behaviour	313
Exploitation and Substance Misuse	341
Healthy Relationships	182
Night-time Safety	255
Trust in the Police	362
Total	1,453



Testimonial

My time at the Surrey Youth Commission so far has been an incredible learning experience.

Working on the projects and consolidating the information has truly lead to me figuring out things I didn't know before, and has also helped me to be an active part of my community as well as helping young people's views in Surrey be represented.

The conference in September was a thrill to be a part of.

To see all our work throughout the year come together was wonderful, and to be able to present it to people like the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner was an honour.

To conclude ,I love being a part of the Surrey Youth Commission, and it has definitely helped me evolve as a person in terms of my confidence and public speaking abilities



From Nishka

Our Partners

The SYC are very grateful to everyone who has supported us, particularly the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for both commissioning and funding the forum.

We are also grateful to those who allowed members into their organisations, including:

Royal Holloway University	Care Experienced Young People, Woking	Tandridge FNP
Merrist Wood College		Surrey User Voice
Wemms Education Centre	Twister, Woking	Hitch Marketing
Claygate Youth Club	Woking LC FNR	Surrey Police

A special thanks to the members of the SYC, who have offered their time and efforts to make this project successful:

Abigail Stoneham	Georgia Wattkins	Nishka Kakulapti	Riley Sibley
Alexander Sleazah	Holly Jenkins	Olivia Chambers	Rowan
Amelie Clarke	Lauren Hanson	Olivia Mae Davis	Sara Mckeena
Charley Newitt	Maddy Catherine Wyett	Olivia Sophie	Seerat Lqbal
Charlie Francis	Niamh Baker	Qasim Saeed	Zara Wainwright

A final thanks to this year's Project Coordinator Hafizah Khan and Project Manager Gabrielle Jones who were instrumental in bringing the project to fruition.

Priority 1:

Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)



The SYC has spoken to 313 young people about anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Young people raised concerns that they didn't always know what ASB is and what the law states.

Many young people told us ASB is becoming more prevalent in their local areas, raising concerns over safety.

Through their recommendations, members of the SYC have suggested that local partners should work with the SYC to create campaigns sharing more about what ASB is and how to prevent it.



What we found

Through our peer-led research, young people shared that ASB is a growing issue in their communities which is leading them to **feel unsafe and uneasy when out in public**.

Things like loud music, illegal drug use, nudity, and public intimidation have become more of an issue in Surrey.

There are a lot of damaged properties and graffiti in the area I live in, everything has become so rough and dirty.

You don't feel safe walking by yourself after a certain time, so you either have to drive to get down the road or get to a parent to walk you somewhere.

Young people expressed that one of the main underlying causes of ASB is the **lack of youth provisions for young people to engage in**. This leads to an increase in young people taking part in ASB.

There are really no places for young people to go after school, so sometimes anti-social behaviour is the only resort.

Young people feel trapped inside the house and then are anti-social on their phones.

Young people also voiced that **the online world and social media glamorises ASB** as young people are more **exposed to influencers taking part in pranks, dangerous activities, and witnessing violent behaviour on social media**.

ASB is glamorised on social media.

Young people copy things online like pranks. One of my friends used to spit on old people in public and thought it was funny.

Social media makes anti-social behaviour look okay.





Our recommendations

For the police and OPCC

- Actively engage with the wider community to understand the local needs to make everyone feel more at ease within their community.
- Go into schools and colleges to raise awareness about what anti-social behaviour is and what the law says.
- Use social media to empower young people to report anti-social behaviour and where to go for support.
- Interact with young people and have more presence in youth spaces to build trust and make them feel heard.

For all Partners

- Collaborate with other organisations to provide a county-wide approach to reduce anti-social behaviour crimes.
- Raise awareness through public and online campaigns about anti-social behaviour and its effects on the community.
- Provide more support for schools and youth spaces to address the underlying reasons for anti-social behaviour and how they can support a young person through the reporting process.

For the Surrey Youth Commission

- Create a campaign with the objective to combat misconceptions and raise awareness of the consequences of anti-social behaviour.
- Raise awareness through workshops specifically designed to prevent anti-social behaviour.
- Work with young people to develop ideas on what they need to see within their community to reduce anti-social behaviour and increase feelings of safety.

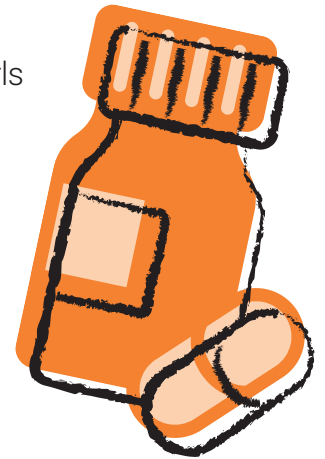
Priority 2: Exploitation and Substance Misuse

Members of the SYC' **spoke to 341 young people about exploitation and substance misuse.**

The SYC members found that young people believe that **buying and selling drugs is normalised within society**, which increases the number of young people who are involved.

Young people also shared there is **not enough awareness of exploitation, especially when considering sexual exploitation**, with young women and girls being more impacted by these crimes.

The SYC recommended that their members should work with the police and the OPCC to develop campaigns about the warning signs of exploitation.



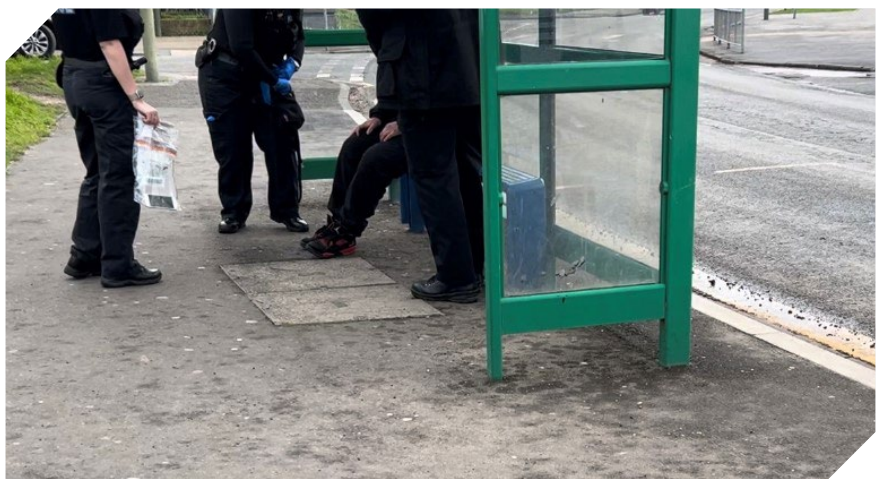
What we found

Young people stated that drug taking and **selling drugs have become more prevalent due to society becoming more normalised to it**, and that there has been an increase in young people getting involved in drugs.

Drugs are just an everyday thing where I live and they get sold on the street.

When walking/getting the train or bus to town I can smell drugs all around me.

There are lots of children in the area, right next door, but they're constantly doing drugs and selling them. People constantly turning up at the door.



Young people in Surrey told us that there's **not enough awareness about exploitation**, especially sexual exploitation, which is most likely to impact young women and girls.

Everyone smokes weed and they're constantly high. There are multiple dealers down my road.

Sexual exploitation is not spoken about enough. Especially girls are too nervous and embarrassed to speak up and can easily get picked up in a car.

Our recommendations

For the police and the OPCC

- Ensure more support is administered to young people through in-person conversations. Police should attend youth groups regularly to build rapport.
- Work closely with communities across Surrey to reduce drug and alcohol misuse.
- Develop campaigns with input from the YC about the warning signs of exploitation and share them with young people and parents to help reduce the exploitation of vulnerable young people.

For all partners

- Raise awareness of existing organisations that support young people who have become dependent on drugs and alcohol through mental health issues.
- Promote ways that young people can report drug or alcohol-related crimes without feeling afraid.
- Work with existing organisations and improve existing workshops in educational settings to discuss what exploitation is, the key signs of exploitation, and the impact it has.

For the Surrey Youth Commission

- Utilise social media to share information on exploitation and substance misuse and its effects.
- Deliver follow-up workshops and listen to young people about the main causes of substance misuse and the stigma surrounding it.
- Develop joint campaigns with the OPCC and police to encourage young people to report exploitation crimes.

Priority 3: Healthy Relationships



The SYC received 182 responses on healthy relationships.

Young people stated that there is **more awareness on domestic abuse and the terms around it, but there is little information about how this can be prevented.**

The recommendations for the SYC are to include more terms within existing workshops to raise awareness and how these can impact a relationship.



What we found

Young people shared that they find it **difficult to establish boundaries and struggle to be heard within a romantic relationship.**

Young people need to listen to each other in relationships and respect one another.

I had an emotionally manipulative friend who never respected me or my boundaries.

I used to feel uncomfortable kissing and touching in my relationship, and I told my boyfriend, but he just said I'm a tease.

The 'Big Conversation' found that young people were aware of more common terms to express abusive actions within a relationship. However, they found little information is provided on how to prevent these behaviours.

Services need major reformation to support young people. Maybe youth panels can be set up to see how these services can be improved.

We need to learn how to tell someone no and how to get out of that situation.

There is an increased sense of social media damaging the perception of healthy relationships with young people viewing content that depicts 'perfect' relationships.

Social media damages our perception of what a healthy relationship is, and I keep thinking mine has to be perfect unintentionally.

There's so much stuff on social media which makes me feel I should be questioning all my relationships even ones that aren't romantic. Not everything is toxic but social media makes you feel like that.

Social media relationships can be taken out of context easily.

Young people told of the need for support from external people and organisations to help them feel secure in their family and professional relationships.

Schools should talk about different types of abuse. Not just in family but in romantic relationships as well.

Institutional changes need to take place for support services to change.





Our recommendations

For the police and the OPCC

- Work closely with the SYC to provide more in-depth education regarding the laws on abuse.
- Share positive stories of police interactions and support which has improved trust between victims of abuse and the police.
- Attend more youth spaces and events to discuss how to safely leave toxic relationships and empower young people to understand their self-worth.

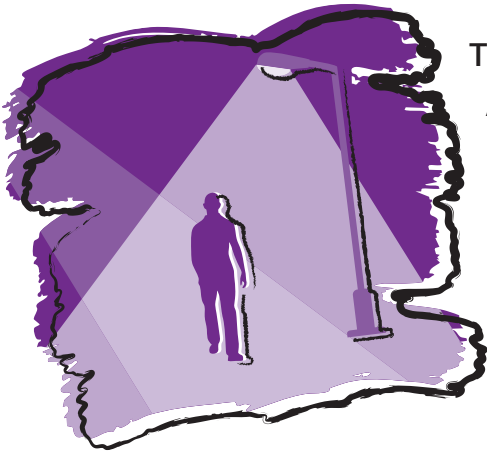
For the Surrey Youth Commission

- Incorporate new terms (like "cancel culture" and "toxic") within workshops and establish conversations about these terms and how they impact relationships.
- Using the recommendations, further develop ideas on healthy relationships, what to do and where to go if you feel unsafe.
- Work alongside the OPCC and external organisations to promote campaigns and information related to healthy relationships.

For all partners

- Work with schools and educational environments to use appropriate and current language within healthy relationship engagement activities.
- Create a digital space for young people to discuss relationships in a safe forum, ask questions and receive advice.
- Provide more funding opportunities for in-person activities for young people to build self-esteem.

Priority 4: Night-time Safety



The SYC spoke to 255 young people about night-time safety.

A high proportion of young people we spoke to **shared that poor lighting decreases the feeling of safety**. This was a widespread issue throughout Surrey.

The SYC recommendation for all partners includes having more community engagement activities to listen to community needs.



What we found

Young people stated that **poor lighting is the main cause of feeling unsafe at night**, which is an issue for the entire county.

No street lights or working street lights where I live anymore.

Feeling uncomfortable in the night because of darkness and not being able to see surroundings.

Most lamp post lights are yellow and dim which don't light up the area properly compared to new lights that are white and light up the area.

Young people articulated that **marginalised groups do not feel safe in general**, which increased during the night-time.

In general, places aren't safe for more marginalised groups, and it is more unsafe at night time.

Young people told us that they **felt unheard by the police which is a recurring theme** as they felt their reports weren't being followed up or taken seriously.

I know a lot of people won't report crimes at night because they don't trust the police.

A lot of young people won't report crimes which is an issue for the police because how can they help if they don't know what's happening.

Public transport was mentioned by young people, especially **the lack of safety on public transport**. They stated from experience that there are not enough safety precautions to prevent public disorder and crimes.

Public transport is particularly unsafe at night and needs to be improved on.

I wish trains were safer. South Western Railway services after 4pm make me anxious.

Trains need more safety precautions for young people.

However, young people told us **that attending youth spaces made them feel safe at night and meant they could interact with other young people to enjoy their free time**.

I like coming to the Friday Night Project because it is fun and you can make loads of new friends. It's also fun because there is a lot to do.

Everyone at Twister is so welcoming and friendly and I feel I can come here when I just need to drown outside noise out.

Twister is my safe space.

Our recommendations

For the police and OPCC

- Increase police patrols in local communities and attend youth spaces so young people feel comfortable and safe.
- Use appropriate social media channels to reach young people and share information about how to stay safe at night.
- Attend more local events and schemes within the community to listen to concerns from residents and act upon public safety issues.

For all partners

- Share how safety measures are increasing and listen to the community about what is needed.
- Raise more awareness on easier and more accessible ways to report crime and where to seek local support.
- Work alongside the British Transport Police to alleviate feelings of uneasiness and anxiety felt by young people, particularly during the winter.

For the Surrey Youth Commission

- Support the police in making their social media pages more accessible and engaging for young people to access.
- Raise awareness through workshops on the different ways young people can remain vigilant and who best to report nighttime safety concerns to.
- Develop more peer research on what key things need to be implemented to increase feelings of safety.



Priority 5: Trust in the Police



The SYC spoke to 362 young people about trust in the police.

The SYC identified through peer-to-peer engagement that the **Metropolitan Police has influenced young people's views on Surrey police.** The SYC recommends the police and OPCC increase transparency through social media and push engagement with young people.



What we found

33% of young people told us that their views on Surrey police have been heavily influenced by other police forces including the Metropolitan Police.

A further 28% said the news influences their perception of the police.

Young people shared they would like to see the **more human side of policing and have this promoted on social media.**

They need to be on social media more, and show they are not some scary organisation.

More 'days in the life of a police officer' so we can understand what police get up to and will trust them more.

The 'Big Conversation' discovered that young people want **more transparency between the police and the public**, especially when incidents have been reported.

Raise awareness on how reports are taken serious no matter what age or gender you are.

There should be ways we can track what is happening with a police report.

Young people voiced that the police are not engaging with young people on **social media** which **impacts the level of trust between the police and young people**.

Police need to put positive things online so youth engage with them more and people feel like they can report.

Make more adverts on social media about police doing positive things and behaving like normal people.

Young people widely agreed that more positive stories from Surrey police should be promoted.

My experience of the police was when I reported a crime. Police were understanding and caring.

Surrey Police are quite reliable and I trust they way they handle and deal with policing and crime issues.

Police need to show they do not discriminate, and they actually care.





Our recommendations

For the police and the OPCC

- Have more police presence in local neighbourhoods and youth clubs to ensure they are visible and easy to approach.
- Be transparent through social media and push engagement with young people to see a more human element to their role.
- Work with the SYC and adapt training to become more racially and culturally aware.

For all partners

- Work with Surrey Police and the SYC to discuss ideas on how victims can be better updated on their reports.
- Work with the police to provide transparency to young people and parents to help reduce misinformation about Surrey Police.
- Facilitate spaces for more collaboration and work with young people to combat the misconceptions between Surrey Police and the Metropolitan Police.

For the Surrey Youth Commission

- Continue to voice the opinions of young people about Surrey Police through peer research and note any changes in perceptions.
- Adapt current workshops to provide education on certain topics and make them Surrey Police focused.
- Create a working group with Surrey Police, the OPCC and partners to tackle misinformation.
- Use social media to promote the positive work of the police in Surrey.

Conclusion

We are extremely grateful to the Police and Crime Commissioner Lisa Townsend, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Ellie Vesey-Thompson and the team for their support.

Our thanks also go to Surrey Police and all the local partners who have been involved in making this project such a success.

Over the next year, we will continue our 'Big Conversation' with young people across Surrey, and continue to work closely with the OPCC and Surrey Police.

We will be focusing on this year's priorities and co-produce campaigns that reach young people.

SYC members will be crucial in further developing the recommendations outlined within this report, and continuing to give young people a voice on the issues that affect them.

Testimonial

During my first year with the Surrey Youth Commission, I have attended online meetings about the crime concerns in different areas of Surrey, and how we can stop them from happening.

I got to work with the Surrey Police Crime Commissioner, Lisa Townsend, along with her Deputy, Ellie Vesey-Thompson. I really enjoyed working with both of them.

I got to also meet and work with like-minded people who are passionate about making Surrey a safer county for people to live in.

The best part of my experience was putting these plans into action by running workshops around Surrey, where people raised their concerns for safety, as well as how the police are managing it.

They even confided in us about their opinions of the police force.

The Big Conversation conference at The Maybury Centre in Woking was an example of saving the best till last as I got to talk to an audience about the work we have done with Lisa and Ellie.

I, along with the other members of the SYC, will continue to make young and vulnerable people's voices heard by doing more work on this project.



From Lauren

If you need help from Surrey Police...

Always call **999** in an **emergency** situation, such as:

- Where there is an **immediate threat to life**
- When someone is using or threatening to use **violence**
- Following a road traffic collision where **life is at risk** or the **road is blocked**
- When a **crime is happening right now**, like a house burglary or theft

If you are in danger and cannot make a noise, press 55 when prompted by the operator to confirm you are in an emergency situation.

Call **101** for **non-emergency** enquiries, or use digital 101 options such as live chat through the Surrey Police website or social media pages.

Report **anonymously** via **Crimestoppers** at crimestoppers-uk.org or by calling 0800 555 111.

Contact your Commissioner...

t: 01483 630200

w: surrey-pcc.gov.uk

e: surreypcc@surrey.police.uk

f X i h: @surreypcc



OFFICE OF THE POLICE &
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Surrey Youth Commission



@surrey_yc



surrey-pcc.gov.uk/funding/surrey-youth-commission

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey



@SurreyPCC @DeputyPCC



surreypcc@surrey.police.uk



01483 630200



surrey-pcc.gov.uk

For police news, crime prevention advice, help for victims of crime and ways to contact Surrey Police please visit **surrey.police.uk**

Always call **999** if you have a genuine emergency requiring the attendance of the police or if a crime is in progress. Call Surrey Police on **101** or use the online reporting system at **surreypolice.uk/contact-us** for non-emergency matters only.

If you are hard of hearing or speech impaired, you can textphone Surrey Police on **18001 101** (non-emergency) or **18000** (emergency) or text on **07967 987249** or **999** (register at emergencysms.org.uk).

To report crime anonymously – call Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**.

Contact Us

@leadersunlocked

info@leaders-unlocked.org

www.leaders-unlocked.org

**LEADERS
UNLOCKED**



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Surrey Youth Commission 2022/23 funded by
the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey