Ipsos MORI

Best Value General User Survey 2006/7



Research Study Conducted for Gateshead Council – April 2007





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Introduction

Background

This report presents the results for the BVPI General Survey conducted by Ipsos MORI on behalf of Gateshead Council.

Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) are part of the performance management framework for local authorities, which the Government started to introduce in 1997. As part of the duty of Best Value introduced in the Local Government Act 1999, authorities are required to seek continuous improvement in their services. Best Value Performance Indicators are designed to monitor service improvement with regard to the efficiency, effectiveness and economy of service delivery.

The Government specifies that local authorities (and other best value authorities) collect and report on a number of Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) that explicitly reflect users' perceptions of a range of services provided. These perception-based performance indicators are collected triennially, with 2006/7 marking the third time all local authorities have had to collect these measures of performance. This document contains the findings of a "General User Survey" carried out for Gateshead Council to collect a range of BVPIs.

The Government has prescribed in detail what it believes to be the minimum requirements for the conduct of the survey. The minimum requirements are specified in the publication *Best Value Performance Indicators for 2006/7: Guidance for Undertaking the Best Value Surveys*¹. The minimum requirements are in place to ensure comparability of data across authorities, while allowing authorities some flexibility on the contents of the questionnaire.

Structure of this Report

Included in the report is a set of topline findings which provides quick reference to all the headline BVPIs, together with trend data where available. Results for additional questions included by the Council have also been included. Computer tables are provided under separate cover. These provide a detailed analysis of the findings by a range of socio-demographic variables.

In addition, the report provides technical details relating to the conduct of the survey, a consideration of response rates and respondent profile, plus a guide to reading tables and interpreting the data.

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¹ The full guidance can be downloaded from www.survey.bvpi.gov.uk.

Acknowledgements

Ipsos MORI would like to thank Marisa Jobling at Gateshead Council for her help in conducting this survey, as well as the 1,783 members of the public who took part.

Publication of the Findings

As Gateshead Council has engaged Ipsos MORI to undertake an objective research project, it is important to protect the interests of both organisations by ensuring that it is accurately reflected in any press release or publication of findings. As part of our standard terms and conditions of contract, the publication of the findings of this research is therefore subject to advance approval of Ipsos MORI. Such approval will only be refused on the grounds of inaccuracy or misrepresentation.

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Technical Note

Methodology

A postal self-completion methodology is prescribed for 2006/07 for all the BVPI surveys, with the exception of libraries.

Sampling

The sampling frame prescribed by the Audit Commission and Communities and Local Government (CLG) is the small-user Postcode Address File (PAF). As the Government wishes to be able to compare results across local authorities, it specified that data on all of the indicators must be collected using the principle of random selection.

A random sample of 6,000 addresses from the PAF covering the Council's area was downloaded from the Audit Commission's website www.survey.bvpi.gov.uk. As Gateshead Council wished to mail out to less than 6,000 addresses, 5,000 addresses were randomly selected from the PAF file, using a random start point and then a '1 in n' approach to selection.

The Questionnaire

To meet the requirements of the Data Protection Act, CLG specified that a covering letter stating the purpose for which the data is being collected must be sent with each questionnaire. The front page of each questionnaire was branded with the logos of both Gateshead and Ipsos MORI and contained a covering letter from Roger Kelly, the Chief Executive of Gateshead Council.

The questionnaire itself was designed using the General User Survey questionnaire template provided by the Audit Commission for the collection of the BVPIs. The standardised nature of the questions was maintained in line with the requirements. The wording used in the covering letter(s) was derived from CLG and Audit Commission guidance. It was not possible to personally address letters to a named resident of the household as the PAF was the sampling frame used. Letters were therefore addressed to "Dear local resident". As the target population specified is all adult local authority residents (aged 18 and over) the questionnaire asked that only someone aged 18 or over completed it.

The Audit Commission and CLG prescribed that the General Survey questionnaire template be used in full to collect the data. The questions set in the questionnaire are those which the Government requires each authority to ask in order to measure performance indicators. Altering the wording of questions or omitting questions is prohibited since it reduces the ability to make comparisons with other authorities using the same questionnaire.

Adding questions to collect more detailed information on services and issues which are relevant to the local area was permitted, but authorities were urged to do this with caution, due to the length of the questionnaire and the possible



detrimental effect doing so might have on response rates. If authorities did wish to ask supplementary questions, they were asked to use the Audit Commission's bank of approved questions. Gateshead Council made the following additions:

- Thinking about your local area, for each of the following things below, do you think each has got better or worse over the last three years, or has it stayed the same?;
- How many times have you contacted the Council in the past 12 months for any other reason than to make a complaint?; and
- Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the service you received the last time you made contact with the Council?

Questionnaire Reminders

The guidance specifies that authorities should "take all reasonable steps possible to maximise their response rates and should in no circumstances stop making efforts to boost them". For a postal survey, the guidance states that authorities should aim to maximise the response rate by sending out at least two reminder questionnaires. The covering letter has to be sent with reminders reflecting the fact that it is a reminder, while still meeting data protection requirements. All correspondence (including envelopes) had to include the authority logo.

Fieldwork

The CLG guidance specifies that fieldwork must start between 1 September and 30 November 2006. It recommends that the schedule allows four weeks for the initial fieldwork period, with a three week fieldwork period for each of the reminder fieldwork periods. The entire fieldwork period for this project is ten weeks: between 29th September and 8th December 2006. This breaks down into the following key stages:

• **First mailout**: questionnaires posted to all 5,000 addresses in the sample on 29th September, with an instruction asking for all questionnaires to be returned by 20th October:



- **First reminder questionnaire**: posted to individuals in the sample who, at the 'cut off' point for the first mailout, had not returned the questionnaire (5,000 questionnaires sent out);
- Second reminder questionnaire: posted to individuals in the sample who, at the 'cut off' point for the first reminder mailing had not returned the questionnaire (3,377 questionnaires sent out).

The final 'cut-off' date for all data to be submitted to the Audit Commission was 15 December 2006.

Booking In

Returned questionnaires were booked in on a daily basis. The number of valid and void returns (e.g. those not completed because they were sent to derelict, demolished or vacant addresses) were recorded in our Survey Management System. This allowed for the daily calculation and monitoring of response rates, as well as the exclusion of 'deadwood' in the (reminder) sample.

Response Rates and Sample Profile

The overall <u>unadjusted</u> response rate achieved from the main sample is 36% - 1,801 returned questionnaires from an original sample of 5,000 addresses².

The overall <u>adjusted</u> response rate, removing incomplete responses and all non-effective addresses, achieved from the main sample is also 36% - 1,783 valid questionnaires from an effective sample of 4,933 addresses (67 non-effective addresses).

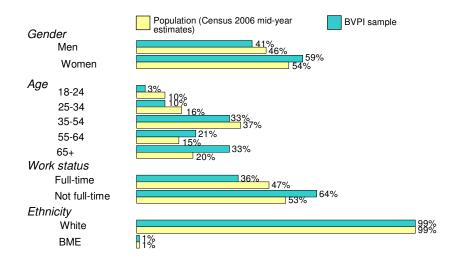


² This does not allow for invalid addresses, vacant properties etc, which will be an element of any sample drawn from the Postal Address File, as well as incomplete responses

The chart below shows the different proportion of key demographic before (BVPI Sample) and after (Population) weighting. As you can see, there are some notable differences in the figures for gender, age and working status.

Methodology: Sample Profile

Sample Profile for Gateshead: Key demographics



Base: All valid responses Source: Ipsos MORI

Weighting

CLG guidance outlines weighting as a way of tackling the issue of over- and under-representation in the sample. As noted above, certain groups in the survey are under-represented, and to achieve a representative sample, weights need to be applied to the data to correct for this. The results for the sample profile discussed in this report are based on unweighted data only. However, findings from BVPI questions reported in this volume and the computer tabulations are based on weighted data, following the approach specified by CLG.

Weighting was applied by CLG's data processing supplier, Cobalt Sky, to a specification designed by The Office for National Statistics. The appropriate weight for each individual respondent contained in the dataset was applied after submission of the raw unweighted data to the Audit Commission.

The principles of the weighting scheme used are set out on the survey website (www.survey.bvpi.gov.uk). A two-stage cell weighted approach was used. In the first instance, data is weighted by sex, age, working status and ethnicity to the known profile of the area as recorded in the 2005 Census midyear population estimates, and then by a further weight to adjust for household size.

Data Processing

All questionnaires returned by respondents were booked in and scanned by Ipsos MORI. Once captured electronically, data processing was undertaken by Ipsos MORI.

Quality Control

The quality of data is assured through checks embedded in the scanning process. The software used is set up to only accept valid responses. With all tick box information, the confidence or tolerance of the scanning software is set at a tested level and anything outside this confidence level is filtered through to a human verification process. In the verification process any questionable responses are highlighted and subsequently confirmed or corrected. All responses which contain text were also sent for verification.

Calculating Results

In accordance with guidance, the base for questions is "valid responses" or all those providing an answer. Those stating don't know or who do not complete the question are excluded from the calculations. The base size may, therefore, vary from question to question, and from the total sample size, depending on the extent of non response.

Where percentages do not sum to 100, this may be due to computer rounding or multiple answers. Throughout the volume an asterisk (*) denotes any value of less than half a percent but greater than zero.

The report also includes "combination" scores. These are combined responses to two or more response categories on the same side of a scale, for example, "very/fairly satisfied" and "very/fairly dissatisfied". Please note that the aggregate percentage may vary slightly from the sum of the two smaller percentages due to computer rounding.

Confidence Intervals

On the basis of all respondents who answer each question (as specified by CLG), and assuming that the confidence interval is unaffected by the survey response rate, the overall margin of error for this survey ranges from \pm 1.5% to \pm 5.0%. The specific margin of error for each BVPI is set out in the table below.

BVPI	Service	Indicator	Confidence
BVPI3	Corporate Health	The percentage of citizens satisfied with the overall service provided by their authority.	<u>h</u> 2.32%
BVPI4	Corporate Health	The percentage of those making complaints satisfied with the handling of those complaints.	<u>+</u> 4.86%
BVPI89	Litter	Percentage of people satisfied with cleanliness standards.	<u>+</u> 2.17%
BVPI90	Waste	Percentage of survey respondents expressing satisfaction with:	
		a) Household Waste Collection,	<u>+</u> 1.54%
		b) Recycling Facilities, and	<u>+</u> 2.26%
		c) Civic Amenity Sites.	<u>+</u> 2.23%
BVPI103	Transport	Percentage of users satisfied with local provision of public transport information.	<u>+</u> 2.57%
BVPI104	Transport	Percentage of users satisfied with local bus services.	<u>+</u> 2.51%
BVPI119	Culture	The percentage of residents users satisfied with the local authorities cultural and recreational activities overall and with:	
		a) Sports/leisure facilities,	<u>+</u> 2.37%
		b) Libraries,	<u>+</u> 2.04%
		c) Museums/galleries,	<u>+</u> 2.42%
		d) Theatres/Concert Halls, and	<u>+</u> 2.42%
		e) Parks and open spaces.	<u>+</u> 2.05%
Source: Ipsos MORI			

Summary



Key Findings

- The 2006/07 survey presents a further set of positive findings for the Council. Though overall satisfaction has fallen by eight percentage points since 2003/04, the Council is the highest performing council in the Tyne & Wear area on this rating. It is also second when compared to other metropolitan authorities (it was third in 2003/04).
- Satisfaction levels have risen for a number of services and the Authority is now ranked in the top ten metropolitan authorities in eight of the thirteen key BV indicators.
- Most residents think that the Council's performance has stayed the same over the last three years, although more think that it has got better than worse.
- Most residents feel well informed about the Council and the services it provides, although few feel well informed about whether the Authority is delivering on its promises or what it is doing to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- Residents are generally satisfied with all aspects of the service when contacting Gateshead Council for any reason other than a complaint.
- Two thirds of residents in Gateshead are satisfied with their area as a place to live, below the average for the Tyne & Wear area.
- Key areas identified by residents for improving the local quality of life are activities for teenagers and the level of crime.
- Most residents disagree that they can influence decisions affecting their local area although very few are dissatisfied with the existing opportunities to participate.
- Most residents are generally satisfied with the services provided by the Council, with satisfaction higher among users than non-users, as can be expected.
- Dissatisfaction with individual services, or aspects of services, is generally highest among those residents who are dissatisfied with the Council overall or think that its performance has got worse over the past three years.

Context

Trend Data for the Core BVPIs

The table below shows trend data for the core BVPI performance indicators contained in the General User Survey. Some of this data needs to be treated with caution. The published data in 2000/2001 remained unweighted because there was no prescribed weighting scheme set by DETR (as CLG was then called) with each authority left to use different weighting schemes. Data collected in 2003/2004 was weighted centrally to achieve a representative sample in each authority, and the 2006/2007 data has been weighted in the same way. Furthermore, other methodological changes effected in 2003/2004 may have an impact on our understanding of trends, for example the requirement to use PAF rather than electoral roll means that comparison with 2000/2001 data is difficult. Some authorities also carried out their General User Surveys using a face-to-face approach in previous years.

The main points to note are as follows:

- All services apart from waste collection have seen rises in satisfaction levels, with the statistically significant ones being transport information (up eight percent), theatre/concert halls, and parks and open spaces (both up six percent).
- Satisfaction levels with waste collection has declined four percentage points but this remains the service with the highest level of satisfaction (88%).
- Satisfaction with the Authority as a whole has fallen eight percentage points since 2003/2004 to 62%, although Gateshead is now ranked second out of all 36 Metropolitan authorities on this measure.
- The lowest level of satisfaction is for complaint handling (36% the only one below 50%).

BVPI	Title	2003/4 (%)	2006/7 (%)
BV3	Overall satisfaction	70	62*
BV4	Satisfaction with complaint handling	37	36
BV89	Satisfaction with cleanliness	72	70
BV90A	Waste collection	92	88*
BV90B	Waste recycling (local facilities)	75	74
BV90C	Waste disposal (local tips)	84	85
BV103	Satisfaction with transport information	50	58*
BV104	Satisfaction with bus services	59	61
BV119A	Sports/leisure facilities	57	59
BV119B	Libraries	73	75
BV119C	Museums/galleries	52	54
BV119D	Theatres/concert halls	45	51*
BV119E	Parks and open spaces	70	76*
	1	Sol	urce: Ipsos MORI

^{*} This measure has seen a statistically significant rise/fall since 2003/04.

Comparisons with other metropolitan councils

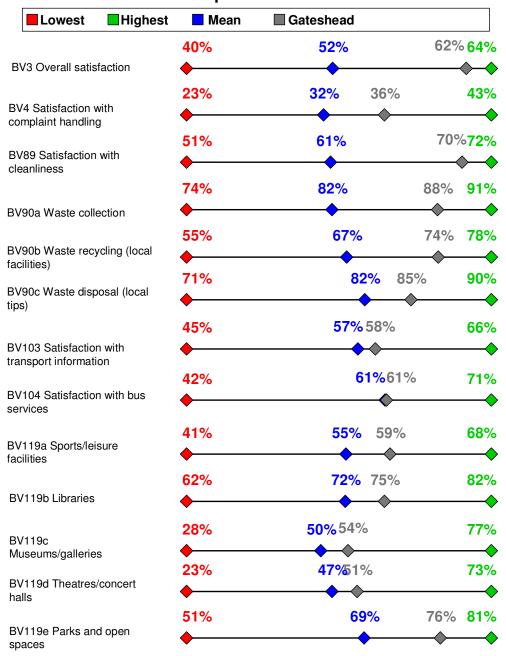
The following table provides an overview of how Gateshead Council's results rank against the other metropolitan authorities, and how, if at all, Gateshead Council's position has changed over time. Those marked in **bold** text show where the relative position is more favourable now than previously.

The overall pattern for Gateshead is of a top ten position on most scores, with particular strengths being overall satisfaction and cleanliness for which it is ranked second.

BVPI	Title	Metropolitan Authority Ranking 2003/4	Metropolitan Authority Ranking 2006/7
BV3	Overall satisfaction	3	2
BV4	Satisfaction with complaint handling	4=	6=
BV89	Satisfaction with cleanliness	4	2=
BV90A	Waste collection	1	3=
BV90B	Waste recycling (local facilities)	2=	7
BV90C	Waste disposal (local tips)	8=	7=
BV103	Satisfaction with transport information	22=	12=
BV104	Satisfaction with bus services	15=	19=
BV119A	Sports/leisure facilities	11	9
BV119B	Libraries	5=	12=
BV119C	Museums/galleries	13	13=
BV119D	Theatres/concert halls	24=	13
BV119E	Parks and open spaces	12=	8

The chart below shows the extreme (highest and lowest) scores for Metropolitan authorities, as well as the mean score for each BVPI. Gateshead Council's score is also shown in each case.

BVPIs: A Comparison with Extremes and Mean Scores for all 36 Metropolitan Authorities



Source: Ipsos MORI



Main Findings 1: Corporate Image



This section looks at how residents view Gateshead Council. Over the coming pages, we will look at:

- Overall perceptions of the Council;
- More detailed aspects of image (e.g. value for money); and
- Views of whether the Council is doing better or worse.

The Best Value Performance Indicator covered in this section of the report is BV3.



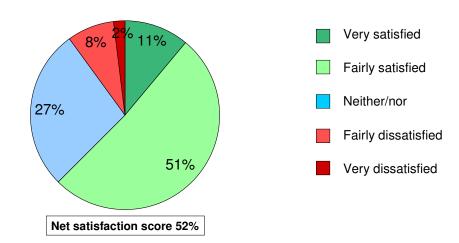
Satisfaction with Overall Service provided by the Authority (BV3)

Three in five (62%) residents are satisfied with the way Gateshead Council runs things, while just over one quarter (27%) are neutral on the issue. Only one in ten (10%) are dissatisfied.

3

Satisfaction with Gateshead

Q Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way the Authority runs things?



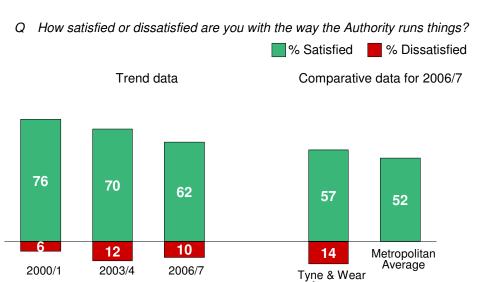
Base: All valid responses (1665)

Source: Ipsos MORI

Context

The level of satisfaction has fallen by eight percentage points since 2003/04 and 14 since 2000/01. Gateshead Council's score is, however, five percentage points above the average for authorities in the Tyne & Wear area and is the highest scoring of the five councils. It is also ranked second among the 36 metropolitan authorities and is ten points above the average for this group.

Satisfaction with Council: Contextual Data



Base: All valid responses (1665) Source: Ipsos MORI

Average

Who is Dissatisfied?

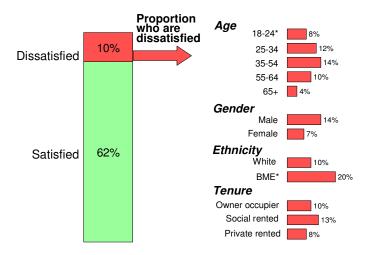
Dissatisfaction is generally higher among residents who are dissatisfied with other elements of the Council's service and activities. This is a recurring theme through the report.

The highest levels of dissatisfaction are among those who think the Council's performance has got worse over the last three years (50%), followed by those who are dissatisfied with their local area as place to live (33%), and those who think their council does not provide value for money (27%).

The chart below shows the proportion of residents in a number of key subgroups who are dissatisfied with the way the Authority runs things.

Dissatisfaction with Council: Subgroup Analysis

Q Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way the Authority runs things?



Base: All valid responses (1665), *small base size

Source: Ipsos MORI



Direction of Travel

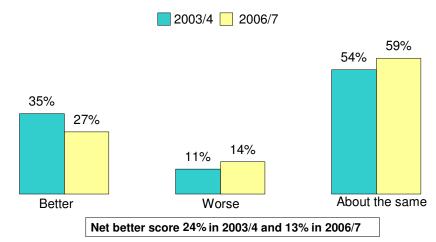
6

The majority (59%) of residents think that the way that Gateshead Council runs things has stayed about the same over the last three years.

Just over a quarter (27%) think it has got better, and this figure is down eight percentage points from 2003/04 (35%). Over the same period, there has been a rise of three points in the percentage of residents who think things have got worse (14%).

Perceived Direction of Travel

Q Thinking about the way the Authority runs things, do you think this has got better or worse over the past three years, or has it stayed the same?

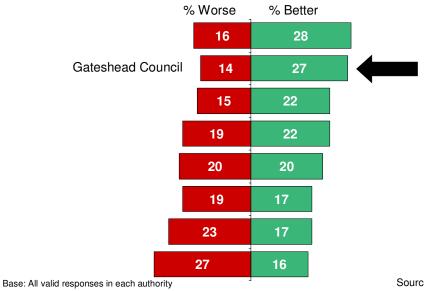


Base: All valid responses (1500)

Source: Ipsos MORI

Despite this fall, Gateshead is second among eight unitary/metropolitan authorities where we so far have data on this measure.

Direction of Travel: A Comparison with other Unitary/Metropolitan Authorities



More Detailed Aspects of Council Image

Residents in Gateshead generally have a positive image of the Council and its activities. In particular, the majority of them think that it is making the local area a better place to live (79%) and that it treats all types of people fairly (also 79%).

They are, however, less convinced about the Authority's ability to involve them in decision-making (54% say not very much or not at all) and are split equally as to whether or not the Council is remote and impersonal.

More Detailed Aspects of Council Image

Q Here are some things that other people have said about their Council. To what extent do you think that these statements apply to your local Council? My Council... % Not very much/ % A great deal/to

	not at all	some extent	•	
		como catom	Net +/-	Base
is making the local area a better place to live	21	79	59	1,560
is working to make the area safer	33	67	33	1,456
is working to make the area cleaner and greener	23	77	54	1,547
is efficient and well run	32	68	37	1,347
provides good value for money	38	62	24	1,336
is trustworthy	27	73	46	1,167
is remote and impersonal	50	50	-1	1,279
involves residents when making decisions	54	46	-7	1,276
promotes the interests of local residents	45	55	9	1,274
acts on the concerns of the local residents	41	59	19	1,294
works well with other agencies to provide services	26	74	48	1072
treats all types of people fairly	21	79	59	1,129

Base: All valid responses Source: Ipsos MORI

More Detailed Aspects of Council Image: Comparative Data

Gateshead Council is rated comparatively highly among its residents with regards to whether or not it provides value for money and is efficient and well run.

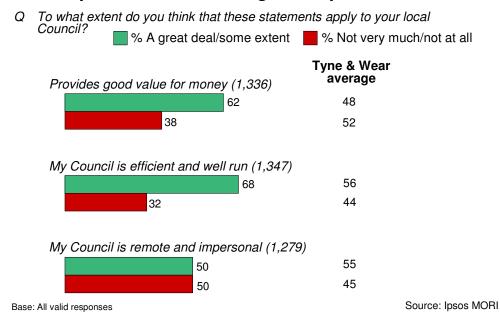
Just over two thirds (68%) of residents think that the Authority is efficient and well run, which means that it is 12 percentage points above the average for authorities in the Tyne & Wear area.

The Council also scores well on the issue of whether it provides value for money (62%) and is 14 points above the average for the Tyne & Wear authorities.

Gateshead does, however, score less well with regards to being remote and impersonal (residents are split 50/50 on this question) leaving it five percentage points below the Tyne & Wear average.

Aspects of Council Image: Comparative Data

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Main Findings 2: Communications and Contact



This chapter presents residents' views on how the authority communicates and deals with contact. More specifically, we examine:

- Overall level of information;
- Level of knowledge on more detailed aspects of the authority's work);
- Views of whether the council is doing better or worse; and
- How residents feel about their experience when they contact the council (including with a complaint).

The Best Value Performance Indicator covered in this section of the report is BV4.

Overall Level of Information

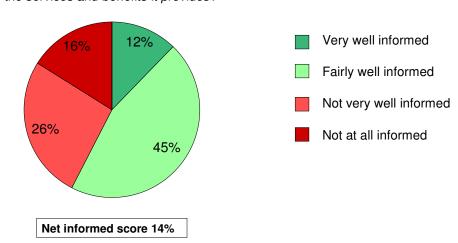
A majority (57%) of residents think that Gateshead Council keeps them well informed about the services and benefits it provides.

The proportion feeling well informed is lowest among those who are dissatisfied with the council (16%) or think that its performance has got worse over the three years (23%). It is also significantly lower among private renters (41%) and those aged 18-34 (43%).

20

Keeping Residents Informed

Q Overall, how well informed do you think your Council keeps residents about the services and benefits it provides?



Base: All valid responses (1552)

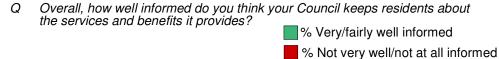
Source: Ipsos MORI

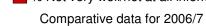
Trend data

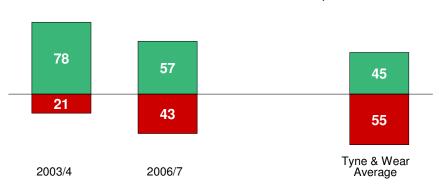
Context

The percentage of people in Gateshead feeling well informed by the Council has fallen by 21 points since 2003/04, although its present score of 57% is 12 percentage points above the average for the Tyne & Wear area.

Keeping Residents Informed: Contextual Data







Base: All valid responses (1552) Source: Ipsos MORI

Levels of Information about Different Aspects of the Council's Work

The great majority of residents feel well informed on how to pay bills to the Council (93%) and how and where to register to vote (92%). However, the majority of residents feel uninformed about what the Council is doing to tackle anti-social behaviour in their local area (67%) and whether the Council is delivering on its promises (56%).

Levels of Information about Different Aspects of the Council's Work

Q How well informed do you feel about each of the following?

	% Uninformed	% Inform	ed	Net Informed +/-	Base
How to pay bills to the Council		7	93	85	1,575
How and where to register to vote		8	92	84	1,642
How you can get involved in local decision-making	46	54		8	1,391
How to complain to the Council	42	58		15	1,469
What the Council spends its money on	47	53		6	1,488
What standard of service you should expect from the Council	41	59		18	1,485
Whether the Council is delivering on its promises	56	44		-12	1,420
What the Council is doing to tackle anti-social behaviour in your local area	67	33		-35	1,427
How well the Council is performing	48	52		5	1,418

Base: All valid responses Source: Ipsos MORI

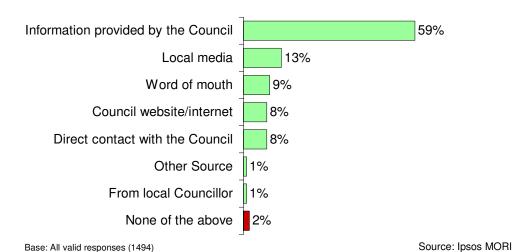
Information Sources

Most (59%) residents find out about Gateshead Council from information provided by the Authority, a very high figure in our experience. The local media (13%) is the second most common source, followed by word of mouth (9%).

23

Finding out About Gateshead

Q How do you find out about Gateshead Council?



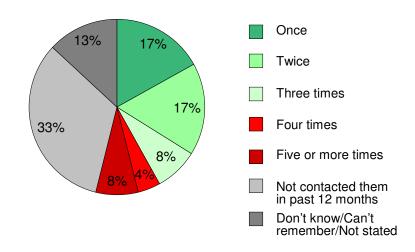
Contact and Complaints Handling

Just over half (55%) report that they have contacted the Council within the past twelve months, with 12% having done so four times or more.

Contact is most common among social renters, residents aged 18-34 and those who have lived in their local area for five years or less.

Frequency of Contact with Council

Q How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint?



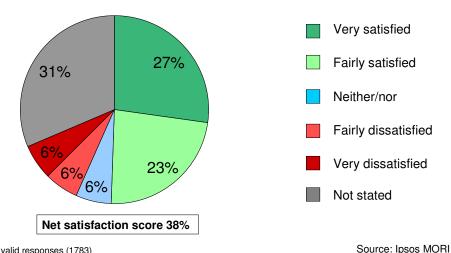
Base: All valid responses (1552) Source: Ipsos MORI

Half of residents are satisfied with the service they received last time they contacted the Council (27% are very satisfied) while over one third (37%) are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied or not stated.

The level of dissatisfaction is 12% among the general population but rises to 45% and 43% among those dissatisfied with the Council or who feel the Council's performance has got worse over the past three years. Dissatisfaction is also higher among those who have lived in the local area for five years or less (19%), while men are significantly more dissatisfied than women (15% versus 9% respectively).

Satisfaction with Contact

Q Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the service you received the last time you made contact with the Council?



Most residents are generally satisfied with the individual aspects of their contact with the Council when not making a complaint. Unsurprisingly, dissatisfaction with all aspects of contact is significantly higher among those dissatisfied with the Council or area, or who feel the Council's performance has got worse over the last three years.

24

Contacting the Council

Q Still thinking about your most recent contact with the Council, please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you were with each aspect of the service you received.

	% Dissatisfied	% Satisfied	Net satisfaction	
			+/-	Base
How easy it was to find the right person to deal with	15	76	62	1,086
The length of time it took to deal with the person you contacted	15	77	63	1,046
Any information you were given	15	73	58	1,030
How competent the staff were	12	78	66	1,050
How helpful the staff were	11	79	68	1,069
The final outcome	21	70	49	1,027
Base: All valid responses			Source: Ipso	s MORI

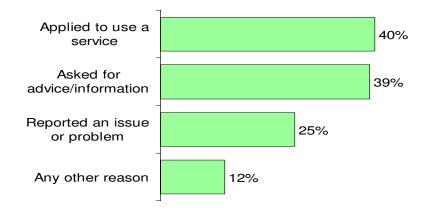
Reasons for Getting in Touch

The most common reasons for contacting the Council are to apply to use a service (mentioned by 40% - up to 52% in households with 3 adults), closely followed by asking for advice/information (39%).

25

Reason for Most Recent Contact

Q Which of these describes the reason why you made your most recent contact with the Council?



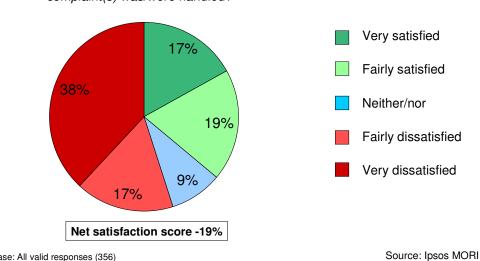
Base: All valid responses (1052)

Overall Satisfaction with Complaints Handling (BV4)

Satisfaction is much lower with regards to the handling of complaints. Most (55%) residents who have made a complaint are dissatisfied with the way it was handled, of which 38% are very dissatisfied.

Satisfaction with Complaint Handling

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was/were handled?



Base: All valid responses (356)

27

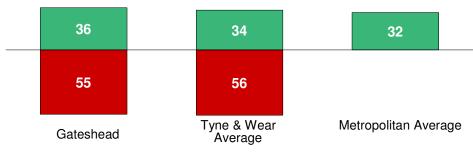
Overall Satisfaction with Complaints Handling: Comparative Data

The level of satisfaction among residents who have complained to Gateshead Council is two percentage points higher than the average for the Tyne & Wear area and four higher than the Metropolitan average.

Satisfaction with Complaint Handling: Comparative Data

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was/were handled?





Base: All valid responses (356) Source: Ipsos MORI

Profile of those Complaining to the Council?

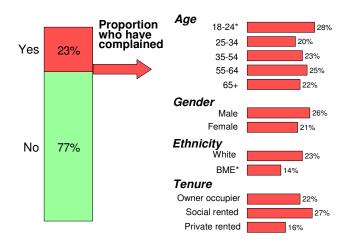
Nearly one in four (23%) residents has made a complaint to the Council in the last 12 months, with this figure rising to just over half (52%) among those dissatisfied with the Council. Residents with a disability are significantly more likely than those who do not have a disability to make a complaint to the Council (27% versus 20% respectively).

The chart below shows the proportion of residents in a number of key subgroups who have contacted the Authority with a complaint in the last 12 months.

28

Profile of Residents who have complained

Q Have you contacted the Authority with a complaint in the last 12 months?



Base: All valid responses (1670), small base size

Main Findings 3: Life in Gateshead



This section reports on residents' views about their quality of life, focusing in particular on:

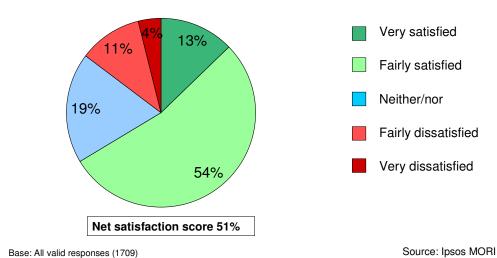
- Priorities for improving the local area;
- Anti-social behaviour; and
- Community cohesion.

Overall Satisfaction with Area

Two thirds (66%) of residents in Gateshead Council are satisfied with their local area as a place to live (13% are very satisfied), while 15% are dissatisfied.

Satisfaction with the Local Area

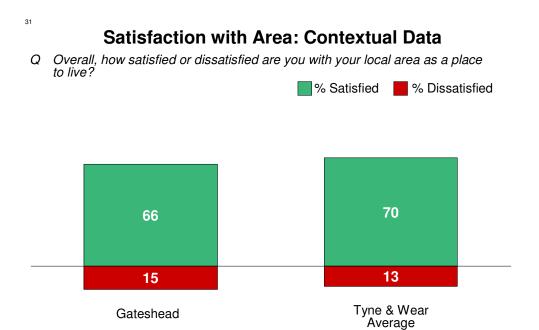
Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local area as a place Q



Base: All valid responses (1709)

Context

Residents' satisfaction with their local area in Gateshead is four percentage points below the average for authorities in the Tyne & Wear area.



Base: All valid responses (1709) Source: Ipsos MORI

Who is Dissatisfied?

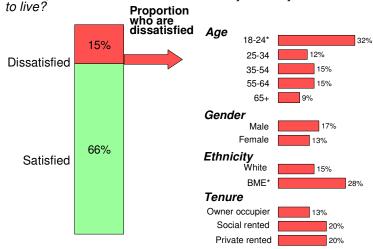
32

Dissatisfaction with the local area is most widespread among those residents who are also dissatisfied with the Council (49%) and those who think that the Council's performance has got worse over the last three years (39%). It is also significantly higher among those aged 18-24 (32%) and social renters (20%).

The chart below shows the proportion of residents in a number of key subgroups who are dissatisfied with their area as a place to live.

Dissatisfaction with Area: Subgroup Analysis

Q Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local area as a place



Base: All valid responses (1709), *small base size

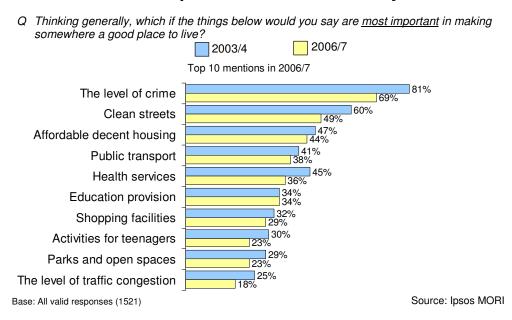
What makes somewhere a good place to live?

The level of crime (69%) remains the factor most frequently mentioned by Gateshead residents as being important in making somewhere a good place to live, although this is twelve points lower than in 2003/04. In fact, nine of the top ten factors have seen a reduction in mentions over this period (Education provision has remained at 34%).

There are some significant differences in the proportion of residents mentioning the level of crime. For example, it is more likely to be mentioned by those aged 18-34 (75% versus 55% of those aged 65+) and those in full-time employment (75% versus 64% of those not in full-time employment).

There are also significant differences between owner occupiers and social renters on a number of factors. For example, owner occupiers are significantly more likely than social renters to mention the level of crime (71% versus 63% respectively), health services (40% versus 32%) and education provision (39% versus 21%). In contrast, social renters are more likely to mention affordable decent housing (57% versus 39% of owner occupiers), public transport (46% versus 35%) and shopping facilities (36% versus 26%).

Most Important Factors Generally



What has improved in the local area?

When asked about whether aspects of their local area have got better, got worse or stayed the same, residents in Gateshead generally answer that it has stayed the same, although they are more likely to think that it has got worse rather than better (16 of the 20 aspects below have negative net scores).

The majority of residents think that traffic congestion (67% overall - 74% and 73% among those aged 55-64 and owner occupiers) and the level of crime

(53% overall - 67% and 63% among private and social renters respectively) have got worse in the past three years.

The aspects with the highest scores both involve the open environment, namely access to nature and parks and open spaces (24% and 28% respectively).

Direction of travel for aspects of local area

Q Thinking about your local area, for each of the following things below, do you think each has got better or worse over the last three years, or has it stayed the same?

	o/ B .::		Nei +/-	-
	% Better		% Worse %	
Access to nature	24		5 1,236 +19	,
Activities for teenagers	6		40 1,089 -34	ļ
Affordable decent housing	10		48 1,244 -38	}
Clean streets	18		27 1,521 -10)
Community activities	8		18 975 -10)
Cultural facilities	14		16 1,115 -2	2
Education provision	17		10 1,048 +7	7
Facilities for young children	17		25 1,005 -8	}
Health services	17		16 1,313 +1	
Job prospects	5		35 980 -30)
Parks and open spaces	28		16 1,347 +12	2
Public transport	17		44 1,376 -27	7
Race relations	7		21 779 -14	ļ
Road/pavement repairs	9	[37 1,370 -28	}
Shopping facilities	8		28 1,405 -20)
Sports/ leisure facilities	13		14 1,128 -1	
Level of crime	6		53 1,263 -46	;
Level of pollution	6		38 1,091 -33	}
Traffic congestion	3		67 1,384 -64	ļ
Wages/cost of living	3		46 1,080 -44	ļ

Base: All valid responses. Base sizes in column on right-hand of chart $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($

Ipsos MORI

Source: MORI

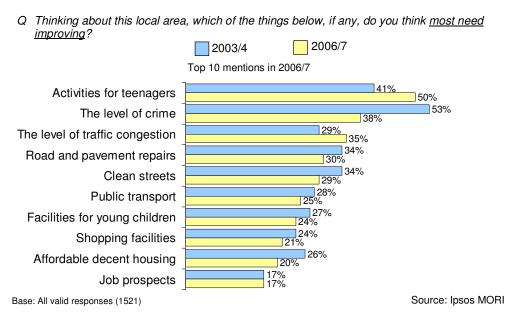
What needs to be improved?

Given that the majority of residents think that the level of crime and traffic congestion have got worse over the last three years, it is unsurprising that they are among the top of mentions for what needs improving in the local area (38% and 35% respectively).

The most pressing concern among residents is, however, providing more activities for teenagers (50%). This has risen by 9 points since 2003/4 and is now the most cited priority for improvement in the local area.

35

Priorities for Improvement



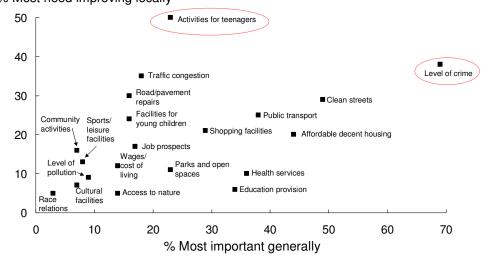
Developing priorities for quality of life

The following scatter chart looks to establish real priorities for local areas. It does so by plotting the extent to which people think aspects of life in their area need to be improved (on the vertical axis), against the extent to which they think the same things are important generally. The further to the top and right of the chart an aspect is, the more it is seen to be in need of improvement and important generally. If something is found at the top of the chart, but over to the left, then it is seen as in need of improvement locally, but not that important generally. In the case of Gateshead Council, the level of crime can perhaps be considered the greatest priority for improvement given that it is the aspect considered most important in making an area a good place to live generally, and the second highest priority for improvement. Providing activities for teenagers is also important given the high number of residents that think this needs to be improved although it features some way down their list of what is important.

36

Developing Priorities for Quality of Life

% Most need improving locally



Base: All valid responses Source: Ipsos MORI

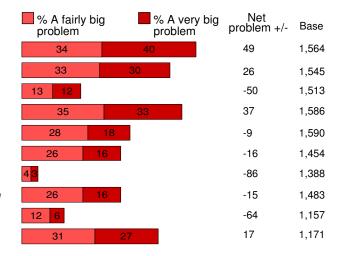
Focus on Anti-social Behaviour

The two biggest problems highlighted by residents, with regards to anti-social behaviour, are parents not taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children (75%) and teenagers hanging around on the streets (68%). These both concern the activities of teenagers which is highlighted as the area most in need of improvement.

Anti-social Behaviour

Q Thinking about this local area, how much of a problem do you think are...

Parents not taking responsibility for behaviour of their children
People not treating others with respect and consideration
Noisy neighbours or loud parties
Teenagers hanging round streets
Rubbish/litter lying around
People being drunk/rowdy in public places
Abandoned/burnt out cars
Vandalism/graffiti/deliberate damage
People be attacked because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion
People using/dealing drugs



Base: All valid responses Source: Ipsos MORI

The following table shows how perceptions of anti-social behaviour have changed in the last three years. The largest positive shift has been seen for noisy neighbours or loud parties, while the biggest negative shift is for vandalism/graffiti/deliberate damage.

	Consider a fairly/very big problem in ar			
Anti-social behaviour	2003/4 (%)	2006/7 (%)	% point change	
Parents not taking responsibility for behaviour of their children	N/A	75	N/A	
People not treating others with respect and consideration	N/A	63	N/A	
Noisy neighbours or loud parties	19	25	6	
Teenagers hanging round streets	63	68	5	
Rubbish/litter lying around	39	46	7	
People being drunk/rowdy in public places	53	42	-11	
Abandoned/burnt out cars	20	7	-13	
Vandalism/graffiti/deliberate damage	66	42	-24	
People being attacked because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion	N/A	18	N/A	
People using/dealing drugs	66	59	-7	

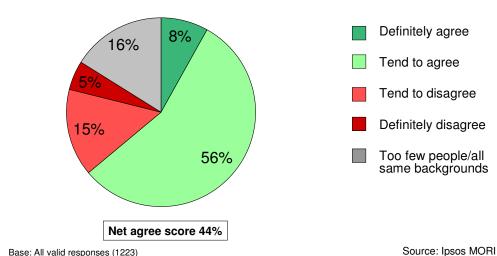
Social Cohesion

Nearly two thirds (64%) of residents agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together, while one fifth (20%) disagree. One in six residents (16%) believe that there are either too few people in their local area or that it is too homogenous for there to be significant problems between people from different backgrounds, perhaps reflecting that 99% of local residents describe themselves as White.

39

Social Cohesion

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that this local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together?



Base: All valid responses (1223)

Who disagrees?

Disagreement is highest among those residents who are dissatisfied with their local area (42%) or think that the Council's performance has got worse over the last three years (also 42%).

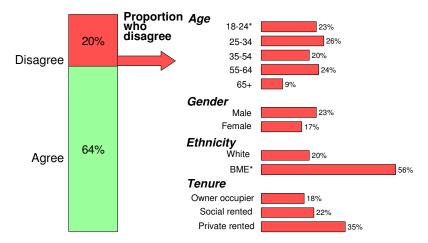
There are also significant differences in the level of disagreement on the basis of age and tenure. Those aged 18-34 are more likely to disagree than those aged 65+ (25% and 9% respectively), while private renters are almost twice as likely to disagree as owner occupiers (35% versus 18% respectively).

The chart below shows the proportion of people in a number of key subgroups who disagree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together.

40

Social Cohesion: Subgroup Analysis

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree that this local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together?



Base: All valid responses (1223), small base size*

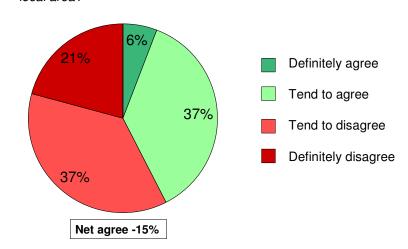
Getting Involved

Most residents (57%) disagree with the notion that they can influence decisions affecting their local area, with this figure rising to 85% among those who think that the Council's performance has got worse over the last three years. Interestingly, a slight majority (53%) of social renters think that they can influence local decision-making compared to 40% of owner occupiers.

41

Influencing Local Decisions

Q Do you agree or disagree that you can influence decisions affecting your local area?

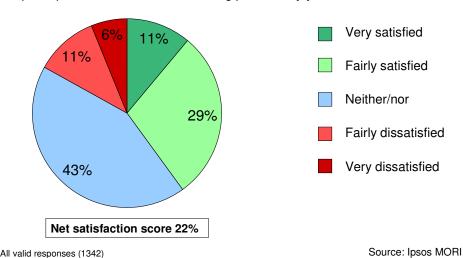


Base: All valid responses (1342)

Residents are, however, more likely to be satisfied (39%) than dissatisfied (17%) with the opportunities for local decision-making provided by the Council (although they are most likely to be neutral, 43%).

Participation in Local Decision-making

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with opportunities for participation in local decision-making provided by your Council?



Base: All valid responses (1342)

Who is Dissatisfied?

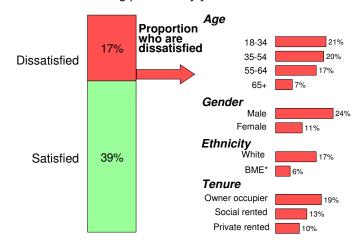
43

Dissatisfaction is greatest among those residents who are also dissatisfied with the council (49%) or who think that its performance has got worse over the last three years (46%).

There are also significant differences on the basis of gender and age. Men are more likely to be dissatisfied than women (24% and 11% respectively), while those aged 18-34 are more likely to be dissatisfied than those aged 65+ (21% versus 7% respectively).

Dissatisfaction with Opportunities for Participation: Subgroup Analysis

Q Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with opportunities for participation in local decision-making provided by your Council?



Base: All valid responses (1342), *small base size

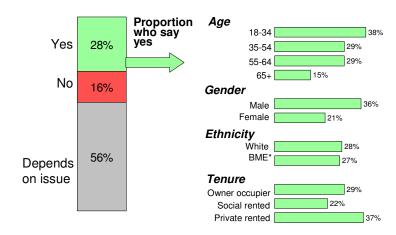
But who really wants to be more involved?

Just over a quarter (28%) of residents would like to be more involved in the decisions Gateshead Council makes that affect their local area, with this figure rising to 46% and 42% among those who are dissatisfied with the Council or think that its performance has got worse over the last three years respectively. Willingness to get involved is also significantly higher among men (36%) and those aged 18-34 (38%).

44

Which Residents want to be Involved?

Q Generally speaking, would you like to be more involved in the decisions Gateshead Council makes that affect your local area?



Base: All valid responses (1624), *small base size



Main Findings 4: Services



This section looks at a range of local authority services under four headings. These are:

- Environmental Services;
- Transport;
- Cultural and Recreational Services; and
- Other Services.

Best Value Performance Indicators covered in this section of the report are BVs 89, 90, 103, 104 and 119.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

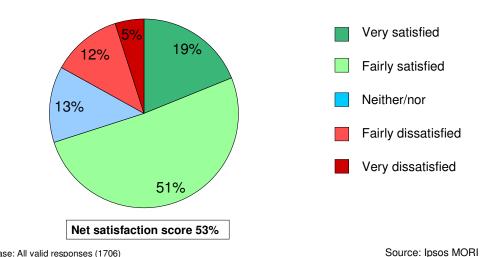
Waste and Litter Services (BV89)

The majority (70%) of residents are satisfied that Gateshead Council has kept all the open public land that is controls clear of litter and refuse. One in six residents (17%) are dissatisfied, rising to 29% and 26% among private renters and those who have lived in their local area for less five years respectively (although the highest levels of dissatisfaction remain among those dissatisfied with the Council and its performance over the last three years).

50

Keeping the Local Area Clear of Litter and Refuse

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Gateshead Council has kept this land clear of litter and refuse?



Base: All valid responses (1706)

lpsos MORI

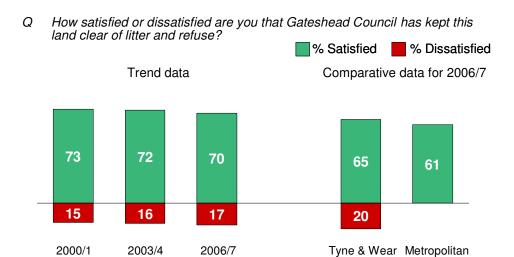
Context

Three in five (60%) residents think that the Council's performance on this issue has stayed the same over the last three years, one quarter (24%) think that it has got better, and 15% think it has got worse.

The level of satisfaction has dropped by two percentage points since 2003/04, although Gateshead Council's score (70%) is five points above the average for the Tyne & Wear area and nine above that for Metropolitan authorities.

51

Litter and Refuse: Contextual Data



Base: All valid responses (1706) Source: Ipsos MORI

Average

Average

Household Waste Collection (BV90a)

Gateshead residents are generally very happy with various aspects of the waste collection service provided by the Council (net scores 58 to 94 percentage points), with 88% satisfied with the overall service.

52

Waste Collection: Detail

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the service which we provide:



Base: All valid responses Source: Ipsos MORI

Context

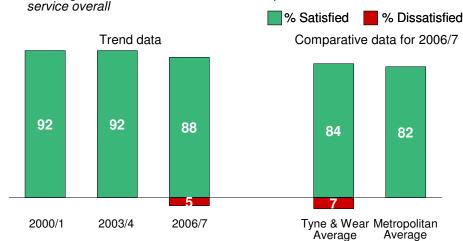
Most residents (58%) think that the service has remained the same over the last three years, although residents are much more likely to think it has got better (35%) than worse (7%).

The level of satisfaction has fallen by four percentage points since 2003/04, but Gateshead Council's score (88%) is presently four points above the average for the Tyne & Wear area and six above that for metropolitan authorities (Gateshead is the third highest ranking Metropolitan authority for this measure).

53

Waste Collection: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the service which we provide: Waste collection



Base: All valid responses (1634)

Doorstep Recycling

Residents in Gateshead are also generally happy with all aspects of the doorstep recycling service offered by the Council (satisfaction for all of them is above 60%), although the containers provided for recycling are a source of dissatisfaction for nearly a third (30%) of residents. Three quarters (75%) are satisfied with the overall service.

54

Doorstep Recycling

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the service which we provide:

	% Dissatisfied	% Satisfie	ed Net satisfied +/-	Base
Containers provided for items of recycling	30	62	32	1,591
The place you have to leave y items for recycling awaiting co	our llection	76	62	1,545
The reliability of the collection for recycling	of items 8	85	77	1,526
How clean and tidy street is following recycling collection	18	72	54	1,542
The service for the collection of items for recycling overall	13	75	63	1,557
Base: All valid responses			Source: Ipsos	MORI

Context

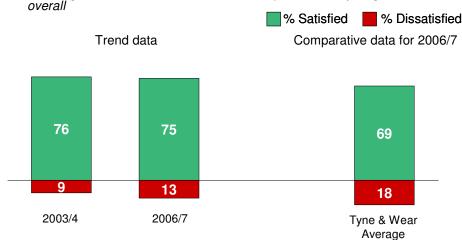
About half (51%) of residents think that the doorstep recycling service has remained about the same over the last three years, while 42% think it has got better.

Despite this relative optimism, satisfaction has dropped by one percentage point since 2003/04, while dissatisfaction has risen by four points. Gateshead is, however, six percentage points above the averages for satisfaction for the Tyne & Wear authorities.

55

Doorstep Recycling Service: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the service which we provide: Recycling service



Source: Ipsos MORI

Base: All valid responses (1557)

66

Local Recycling Facilities (BV90b)

Satisfaction levels are also relatively high for all aspects of the local recycling facilities with satisfaction ranging from 73% to 77% (the overall score is 74%).

56

Base: All valid responses

Local Recycling Facilities

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the service which we provide:

	% Dissatisfied	% Satisfied	Net satisfied +/-	Base
Location of recycling facilities	10	75	65	1,421
Items you can deposit	13	73	59	1,418
How clean and tidy site is	7	77	69	1,339
Provision of recycling facilities overall	10	74	63	1,424

Context

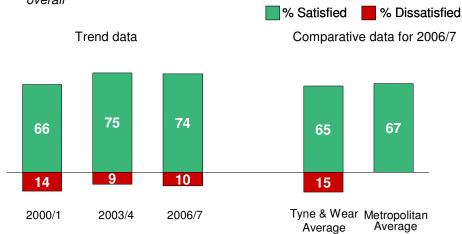
As with other waste/recycling services, most residents (in this case 57%) think that the service at local recycling facilities has remained the same over the last three years. Residents are much more likely to think that the service has got better (38%) rather than worse (five percent).

Satisfaction with the overall service has fallen slightly by one percentage point since 2003/04, although Gateshead is currently nine points above the average for the Tyne & Wear area and seven points above that for metropolitan authorities.

57

Local Recycling Facilities: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with [each of the following elements of the service which we provide:] the Recycling service overall



Base: All valid responses (1424)

The Local Tip/Household Waste Recycling Centre (BV90c)

One of the strongest sets of satisfaction scores for Gateshead Council is for its local tip/household waste recycling centre. Satisfaction is above 75% for all aspects of the service, while the score for the overall service provided is 85%.

58

The Local Tip/Household Waste Recycling Centre

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the service, which we provide:

	% Dissatisfied	% Satisfied	Net satisfaction +/-	Base
Location of site	3	90	87	941
Opening hours	3	91	88	905
Facilities at site	4	90	86	876
How clean site is	4	88	84	896
How helpful staff were	7	78	72	882
How user-friendly	10	82	71	906
Centre overall	6	85	80	922

Base: All valid responses

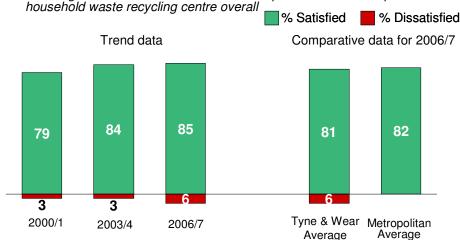
Context

Nearly two thirds (64%) of residents think that the service at Gateshead Council's local tip/household waste recycling centre has remained the same, while just over a quarter (28%) think that it has got better.

Satisfaction has risen slightly by one percentage point since 2003/04 (up six points since 2000/01), and Gateshead Council is currently four points above the average for the Tyne & Wear area and three above that for metropolitan authorities.

The Local Tip/Household Waste Recycling Centre: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the service which we provide: The local tip/



TRANSPORT

Public Transport Information (BV103)

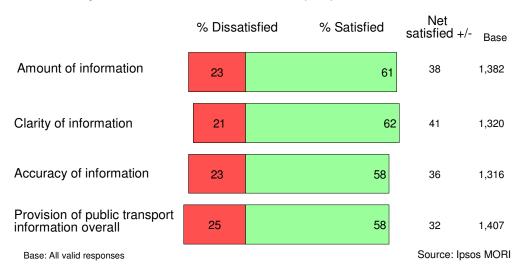
Just over half (56%) of residents say they have seen or received any of the information provided on local transport services in the last 12 months (the remaining 44% say they have not).

Residents are generally satisfied with specific aspects of public transport information, such as its clarity (62%), accuracy (58%) and the amount provided (61%), while the level of satisfaction with the service overall is 58% (versus 25% dissatisfied).

60

Public Transport Information

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the information on transport provided:



Context

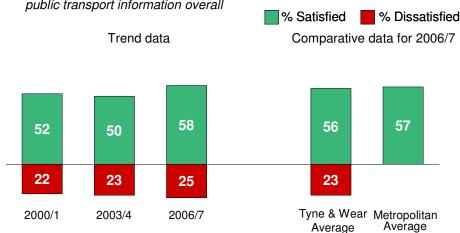
Most residents (59%) think that the provision of public transport information overall has stayed the same over the last three years, while one-in-four (25%) residents think it has got worse and one in six (16%) think it has got better. The level of satisfaction has, however, risen by eight percent since 2003/04.

Gateshead is currently two percentage points above the average for the Tyne & Wear area but one above the average for Metropolitan authorities.

61

Public Transport Information: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the information on transport we provide: Provision of public transport information overall



Base: All valid responses (1407)

The Local Bus Service (BV104)

Almost three in five (58%) residents use the local bus service at least once a week or more (32% use it almost everyday), while 17% have either not used it in the last year or never used it.

Most residents are satisfied with individual aspects of the local bus service (ranging from 55% to 84%) although it is notable that dissatisfaction is greatest with regards to the punctuality (30%) and frequency (25%) of the buses, plus the state of the bus stops (25%).

62

Local Bus Services

Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the local bus service:

% Diss	atisfied	% Sati	sfied	Net satisfaction +/-	Base
Frequency of buses	25	66		41	1,474
Number of bus stops	8	83		75	1,446
State of bus stops	25	62		37	1,460
Whether buses arrive on time	30	55		25	1,411
How easy to get on and off	7	84		77	1,440
Local bus service overall	25	61		36	1,474

Context

While residents are most likely to think that the local bus service has remained about the same over the last three years (44%), they are also more likely to think that is has got worse rather than better (39% versus 17% respectively). The level of satisfaction has, however, risen by one percentage point since 2003/04.

Gateshead Council's score is currently two points below that for authorities in the Tyne & Wear area but level with the average for metropolitan authorities.

63

Local Bus Services: Contextual Data

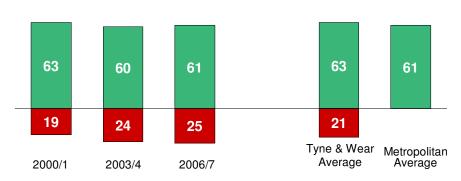
Q Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the information on transport we provide: Local bus service overall

Trend data

% Satisfied

% Dissatisfied

Comparative data for 2006/7



Base: All valid responses (1474)

CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Among local recreational facilities, satisfaction is greatest for parks and open spaces (76%) and libraries (75%), although the net satisfaction scores for other services are all above 40% due to the large numbers of residents remaining neutral.

64

Cultural and Recreational Activities and Venues

Q Please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with each of the following services provided or supported by Gateshead Council:

	% Dissatis	sfied	% Sat	isfied	Net satisfacti	on Base
Sports/Leisure facilities and events	10	59			49	1,611
Libraries	6	75			69	1,676
Museums and galleries	7	54			47	1,594
Theatres/ concert halls	10	51			41	1,588
Parks and open spaces	10	76			66	1,647
Paca: All valid responses					Source: Ir	nene MORI

Context

Three in five (62%) residents have used the sports and leisure facilities in the last year at least, with 21% using them at least once a week or more.

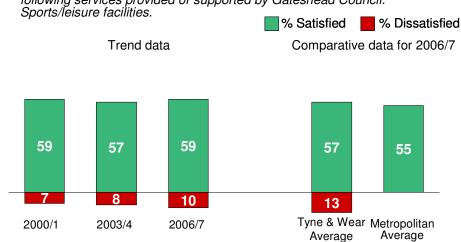
Just over three quarters (77%) of residents think they have stayed the same over the last three years, while 16% think they have got better and 8% that they have got worse.

Satisfaction has risen by two percentage points since 2003/04, but level with the score in 2000/01. Gateshead Council's score is now two percentage points above that for the Tyne & Wear area and four above the average for metropolitan authorities.

65

Sports and Leisure Facilities: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with each of the following services provided or supported by Gateshead Council: Sports/leisure facilities.



Base: All valid responses (1611)

Two thirds (67%) of residents have used the libraries in the last 12 months (15% use them at least once a week or more).

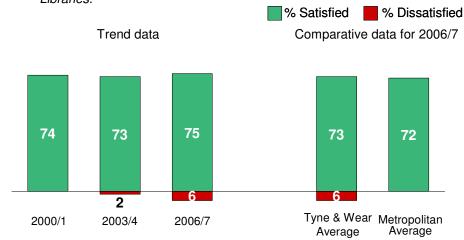
Just over three quarters (77%) of residents think they have stayed the same over the last three years, while 16% think they have got better and 7% that they have got worse.

Satisfaction has risen by two percentage points since 2003/04 and Gateshead Council is currently two points above the average for the Tyne & Wear area and three above that for metropolitan authorities.

66

Libraries: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with each of the following services provided or supported by Gateshead Council: Libraries.



Base: All valid responses (1676)

Ipsos MORI

Half of residents have used museums and galleries in the past 12 months, although only 12% use them at least once a month or more.

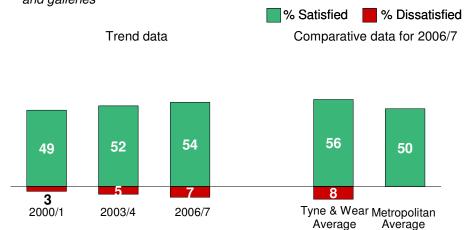
Four in five (82%) residents think that the service has stayed the same over the last three years, with 14% thinking it has got better and four percent thinking that it has got worse.

Satisfaction has risen by two percentage points since 2003/04 (up five points since 2000/01), and Gateshead Council is currently two points below the average for the Tyne & Wear area but four above that for metropolitan authorities.

67

Museums and Galleries: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with each of the following services provided or supported by Gateshead Council: Museums and galleries



Base: All valid responses (1594)

Just under half (48%) of residents have used the theatres or concert halls in the last 12 months, while just over one quarter (28%) have never used them.

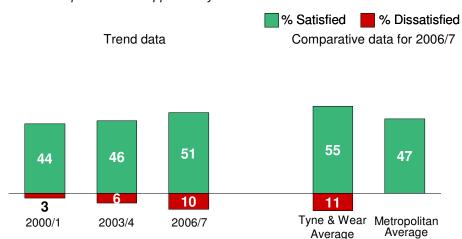
The majority (73%) of residents think that the service has stayed the same over the last three years, while 22% think it has got better and five percent think that is has got worse.

Satisfaction has risen five percentage points since 2003/04 (up seven points since 2000/01), and Gateshead Council is currently four points below average for the Tyne & Wear area but four points above average for metropolitan authorities.

68

Theatres/Concert Halls: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with each of the following services provided or supported by Gateshead Council: Theatres/concert halls.



Base: All valid responses (1588)

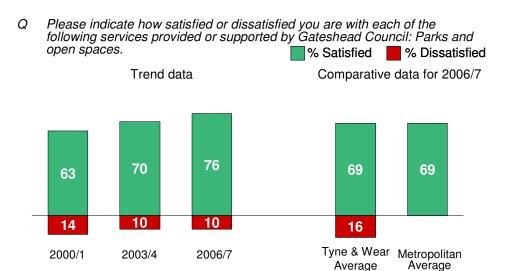
The great majority (89%) of residents have used the parks and open spaces in the last 12 months (39% use them at least once a week or more).

Although half of residents think that parks and open spaces have stayed the same over the last three years, residents are much more likely to think they have got better (39%) rather than worse (11%).

Satisfaction has indeed risen by six percentage points since 2003/04 (up 13 points since 2000/01), and Gateshead Council is currently seven percentage points above the averages for the Tyne & Wear area and for metropolitan authorities.

69

Parks and Open Spaces: Contextual Data



Base: All valid responses (1647)

OTHER SERVICES

The General User Survey also covers a number of other services. For Gateshead Council these include: Housing services; Planning services; Personal Social services; and Local Authority Education services.

For all of these services, the majority of residents (between 56% and 66%) are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, while the others are much more likely to satisfied rather than dissatisfied.

The reason for this neutrality of opinion is that relatively few residents use these services (49% say they have not used any of them) and non-users are less likely to have an opinion either way. As a result, levels of satisfaction and dissatisfaction are both significantly higher among residents who have used these services in the last 12 months than those who have not.

70

Other Services

Q Please indicate <u>how satisfied or dissatisfied</u> you are overall with the following services provided by Gateshead Council:

% [Dissatis	fied %	Satisfied	Net satisfaction +/-	Base
Housing Services	9	34		25	1,638
Planning Services	10	29		19	1,573
Personal Social Services	6	27		21	1,605
Local Authority Education Service	6	38		32	1,571

Context

71

Overall, one third (34%) of residents are satisfied with housing services, which represents a three percentage point fall since 2003/04 (down seven points since 2000/01). Despite this drop in satisfaction, Gateshead Council is in line with the average for the Tyne & Wear area authorities.

One quarter (24%) of residents have used the housing services in Gateshead in the last 12 months, and both satisfaction and dissatisfaction are significantly higher among this group (61% and 22% respectively).

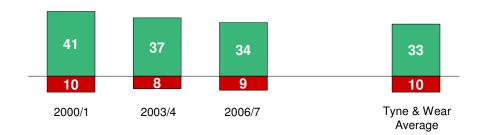
Satisfaction is highest among social renters (68%), the group most likely to describe themselves as users of the service (63%).

Use of housing services in Gateshead is also significantly higher among those who are dissatisfied with the Council (35%) or the local area as a place to live (also 35), and households where there is only one adult (34%).

Housing Services: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate <u>how satisfied or dissatisfied</u> you are overall with the following services provided by Gateshead Council: Housing services





Overall satisfaction with planning services has fallen by four percentage points since 2003/04 (ten percent down since 2000/01) to 29%, but Gateshead Council is currently in line with the average for the Tyne & Wear authorities.

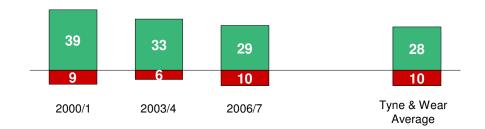
Only 12% of residents say they have used the planning services in the last 12 months, with the levels of satisfaction and dissatisfaction among this group being 53% and 32% respectively. Use of the planning services is highest among those residents who think that the Council's performance has got worse over the last three years (23%).

72

Planning Services: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate <u>how satisfied or dissatisfied</u> you are overall with the following services provided by Gateshead Council: Planning services





Base: All valid responses (1573)

Ipsos MORI

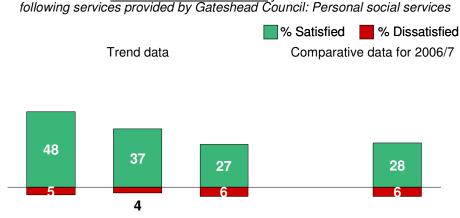
Satisfaction with personal social services has fallen by ten percentage points since 2003/04 (down 21 points since 2000/01) to 27%, although dissatisfaction has barely changed over the last six years. Gateshead Council is in line with the average for the Tyne & Wear authorities.

One in seven (14%) Gateshead residents have used personal social services in the last 12 months. As already mentioned, satisfaction and dissatisfaction are significantly higher among users (59% and 22% respectively).

Use of personal social services increases with age (7% of those aged 18-34 compared to 13% of those aged 35-54 and 22% of those aged 65+), and is significantly higher among those residents with a disability (21%).

Personal Social Services: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are overall with the following services provided by Gateshead Council: Personal social services



Base: All valid responses (1605) Source: Ipsos MORI

2006/7

Tyne & Wear

Average

2000/1

2003/4

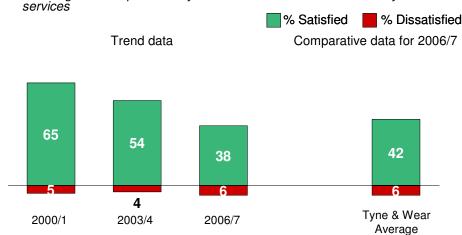
73

Overall, satisfaction with Education services has fallen by 16 percentage points since 2003/04 (down 27 points since 2000/01) to 38%, although, as with personal social services, dissatisfaction has barely changed over the last six years. Gateshead Council is currently four percentage points below the average for the Tyne & Wear area authorities.

One fifth (20%) of residents have used the Local Authority education service in the last 12 months, with satisfaction and dissatisfaction among this group standing at 68% and 11% respectively. Usage is highest amongst those residents aged 35-54 (the age group most likely to have school age children).

Local Authority Education Services: Contextual Data

Q Please indicate <u>how satisfied or dissatisfied</u> you are overall with the following services provided by Gateshead Council: Local authority education services





National Context





Current Themes in Local Government

In this section, we outline some of the recent themes that Ipsos MORI has observed in its work on the BVPI surveys and for local government more generally. The 2006 BVPI General User Surveys present us with a powerful source of data on residents' views on a wide array of issues. The uniform methodology does have its critics and all the surveys suffer from the self-selection present in postal research of this kind, but now that the weighting scheme used in 2006/7 is the same as that used in 2003/4, we have for the first time an excellent opportunity to examine how perceptions of local authorities have changed across time³ where comparable approaches have been used each time. The size of the dataset means that there is extensive scope to conduct comparative analysis by authority type, as well as by geography, and other area-based characteristics. Please let us know if you would like any further details on any of these themes, or would like copies of any of the reports mentioned.

Ratings of Individual Services: A Picture of Improvement

BVPI results for upper and single tier authorities point to some strong advances in <u>service</u> satisfaction, and more rises than falls; a finding made all the more impressive because some local government services, such as libraries and refuse collection, are already among the best regarded in the country. Showing the effects of investment in the *Cleaner, Greener, Safer* agenda, there have been some noticeable improvements at the aggregate level for cleanliness standards and parks and open spaces (up by 9 and 2 percentage points respectively). Reflecting wider availability and improvement scores for local recycling facilities have also seen a marked improvement (recording an increase of 5 percentage points). Results also show a public more confident in library, sports and leisure facilities in 2006/7, with satisfaction up.

Overall Reputation: taking the Plaudits?

So does higher service satisfaction filter through into an improved corporate reputation? Sadly not. But looking at the national BVPI data in the aggregate, there is some good news. Between 2000/1 and 2003/4 there was a decline of 10 percentage points, from 65% to 55%. This time, however, there has been a dramatic slowing in the fall for top and single tier authorities, with overall satisfaction down 2 percentage points to 51%. This decline also masks the effects of a change of methodology (and subsequently large falls) for a handful of top tier authorities who did face-to-face surveys last time, as well as an encouraging improvement of 2 percentage points among London Boroughs.

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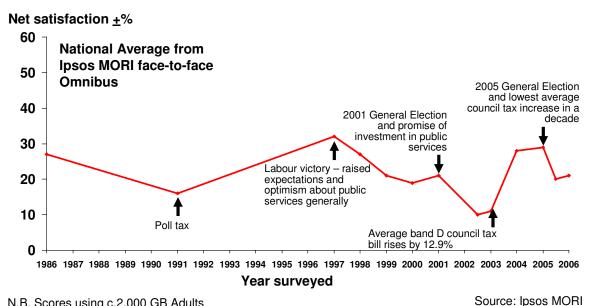


³ In 2000/1 data was not weighted centrally by DCLG or its contractors, but by local authorities themselves.

This trend broadly follows the pattern seen in our face-to-face Omnibus tracking research over recent years at the national level. When looking at the chart below it should be remembered that the scores shown are net satisfaction scores (derived by subtracting negative from positive opinion). and are therefore prone to larger fluctuations than we see when we just look at satisfaction (as we do with the Best Value Performance Indicators). Also, we do not ask about named authorities, but rather 'your local council' which tends to produce less positive findings.

Satisfaction with Local Government – Trend Data

Q How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way your "local council" runs things?



N.B. Scores using c.2,000 GB Adults

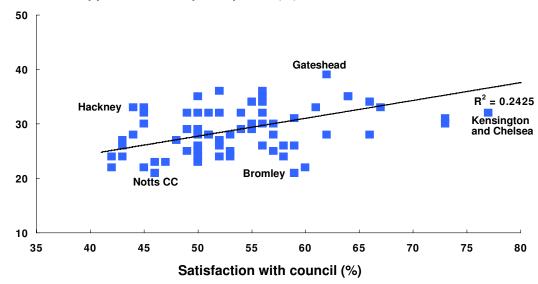
Data collected outside of the BVPI survey programme does imply a drop between 2001 and 2003, but latterly we have seen more volatility. However, despite a round of council tax rises much closer to the rate of inflation than we have seen for a number of years, our recent quarterly tracking work on the reputation of councils for the Local Government Association shows that it is extremely difficult to turn around perceptions in this area, particularly in the face of hostile media coverage, and the fact that council tax rates remain markedly higher than in the 1990s. This is reinforced through the BVPI returns we have seen so far, which show that in all but a few authorities that value for money is the image attribute on which views are most negative.

User Engagement and Participation

Greater user engagement and participation in decision making is one of the key policy strands in the Local Government White Paper. Some local authorities are already doing great work in this direction, and one of the early messages emerging from Communities and Local Government about the single and upper tier results is that there is - potentially for the first time - a link between satisfaction with opportunities to get involved in local decisions and overall satisfaction with authorities.

Opportunities for Participation and Satisfaction with Council

Satisfied with opportunities for participation (%)



Base: BVPI 2006 (70 District, County and Unitary Authorities)

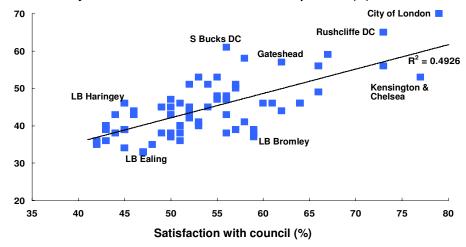
The link is, however, weaker than that for better communications. Irrespective of the impact on the ground of participation initiatives so far, the general thrust from government is for more! Authorities need to draw on emerging best practice to understand how and when the different consultation and research tools should be applied in different contexts. Our recent report 'Ingredients for Community Engagement: The Civic Pioneer Experience', as well as other work on community engagement can be found at www.ipsosmori.com/participation.

What Value Communications?

Using the data released so far, fewer consider that they are being kept well informed about the activities of local government in 2006/7. The proportion of BVPI General Survey respondents saying that they are kept informed has fallen from 51% to 42% between 2003/4 and 2006/7 (The figure in Gateshead is 57%). This is disappointing in some ways and may potentially explain the lack of improvement in overall satisfaction.

Feeling Informed and Satisfaction with Council

Feel informed by Council about services and benefits it provides (%)



Base: BVPI 2006 (70 District, County and Unitary Authorities)

Source: Ipsos MORI

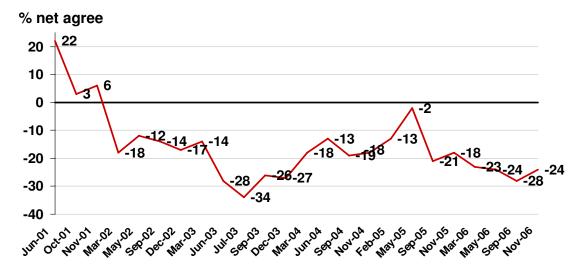
However, the correlation between overall satisfaction with local government is still stronger for communications than it is for involvement. Analysis carried out so far indicates that those authorities who consistently communicate their message are better regarded by residents than those where levels of information are perceived to be lower. Given that good communications are an initial and valuable step towards securing higher levels of participation, it can be argued that authorities with good scores are well placed to motivate and engage with the public. For more information on communications and the LGA's' reputation campaign, please visit www.campaigns.lga.gov.uk/reputation/home.

The Impact of General Attitudes to Government and Public Services

Evidence from the Ipsos MORI Delivery Index (www.ipsos-mori.com/polls) shows increasing pessimism about improvements in key services at the national level. Looking at public services generally, the net agree (agreement minus disagreement) figure for the statement "In the long term, this government's policies will improve the state of Britain's public services" stands at -24 percentage points, after a post-election high of -2 percentage points in May 2005.

Evidence from the Ipsos MORI Delivery Index: The Public are Increasingly Sceptical about Public Services

Q Do you agree or disagree... "In the long term, this government's policies will improve the state of Britain's Public Services"



Base: c.1.000 British Adults Source: Ipsos MORI

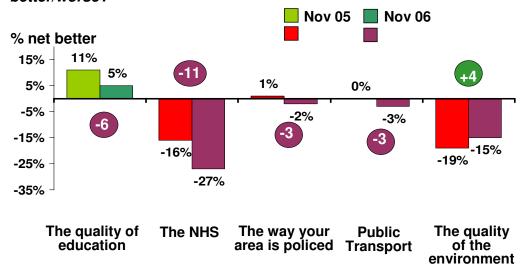
This fall can be attributed in part to rising expectations of public services generally - the proportion saying that their experience falls short of their expectations rose from 40% to 51% from 1998 to 2004⁴ - but also to some extent by their views of the Government which have also fallen since 2003. Our broader analysis shows a faint (10%-13%), although by no means dismissible, correlation between this and the public's views of local authorities.

The public do differentiate between key service areas, however, with education generally seen as more of a success than other priority areas. But the broad trend is one of declining optimism, and the longer term trend for the quality of the environment is also in decline (despite a slight improvement in the last 12 months).

⁴ People's Panel Research for the Cabinet Office (1998), and MORI Omnibus (2004).

Evidence from the Ipsos MORI Delivery Index: Expectations of the Electorate over the Year

Q Thinking about... over the next few years, do you expect it to get better/worse?



Base: 980 British adults, 17-18 November 2006 Source: Ipsos MORI Social Research Institute Delivery Index

Source: Ipsos MORI

We often see a huge difference between how the public view the national situation (the state of Britain's schools, changes to the NHS, and how crime, anti-social behaviour and immigration are handled), and the local situation. There is a general uplift in positive opinion as people move from a national to a more local view. The service satisfaction scores contained in these BVPI surveys raise the question as to whether the same thing is happening in local government, with better local services not leading to rising satisfaction with the councils providing the services.

Using Data to understand Local Needs

The Local Government White Paper makes clear the urgent need for authorities to develop a stronger relationship with the communities they serve. It is therefore worth considering how councils can use their BVPI data to make a difference locally. Area-based analysis can establish whether there are any marked differences in how residents in different areas view the authority and individual services. Comparison should also be sought between residents' views of their community, in terms of priorities to improve quality of life, as well as the community cohesion and opportunities to involve.

There are some ever-presents, such as health services, which are consistently selected as one of the three most important aspects contributing to a good quality of life, irrespective of area, but other factors, such as activities for teenagers, are clearly only felt to be a quality of life priority in a smaller number of areas. Those authorities covering larger, and more rural areas in which transport is more likely to be seen as a priority, might also wish to see the Commission for Rural Communities 'State of the Countryside 2006' report (www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/publications), which looks at economic, social and environmental change.

Following on from this point, evidence in this report should be read in conjunction with other insight about the authority gathered through existing mechanisms, such as Neighbourhood Forums, as well as with other research results from qualitative projects and quantitative surveys. It does provide useful intelligence to be used in considering how service provision and decision making can be devolved to local areas most effectively. The further growth in LAAs also means that there is a greater need this time around to share data with partner agencies.

Where now for Inspection and Strategic Regulation?

The White Paper and pronouncements by the Audit Commission about a more forward looking, risk-based Comprehensive Area Assessment signal a streamlining of strategic regulation. We will see a much reduced, but possibly tougher national performance regimes (there may be the last ever BVPI surveys) towards a more localised and ad hoc approach to collecting data on community opinion. Generally, this is something we approve of, but we do also point to the value of an approach which permits the collection of at least some core indicators using a common methodology to support performance comparison and trends.

Local government will continually be pushed to adopt a more area- and user-focussed role, as well as a more strategic role, potentially responsible for changing resident behaviour in areas such as health, recycling, transport usage (through mechanisms such road charging schemes and parking regulations), as well as taking a stronger lead on tackling crime through Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, and creating more cohesive communities.

To aid a better understanding of some of the more strategic issues local public services will be addressing in the coming years, and to challenge received wisdom, Ipsos MORI has set up an horizon scanning database for the DTI. To access the hundreds of themed papers it contains, please go to www.ipsos-mori.com/horizons/. Please also visit www.ipsos-mori.com/horizons/. Please also visit www.ipsos-mori.com/, where you will soon be able to access our 'Frontiers of Transport' and 'Frontiers of ASB' reports.

Next Steps

We hope that this report helps to provide context for your local BVPI survey, as well as pointers about how data can be used and shared.

Over the next few months, Ipsos MORI will be conducting further analysis of BVPI general survey data for all councils to highlight key trends and patterns in the data, and to help authorities' assess where they stand relative to others serving similar populations. As Comprehensive Area Assessments approach, we feel that it is essential for local authorities to be in the best position to adopt the role of place shaper, rather than be an institution which is simply shaped by place. We will therefore be producing our own comprehensive analysis of council performance and the impact of local factors in the very near future.

MORI Local Government Research Unit (www.ipsos-mori.com/localgovt).

February 2007

Appendices



Statistical Reliability

1,500 responses

The residents who took part in our survey are only a sample of the total "population" of residents, so we cannot be certain that the figures obtained are exactly those we would have if everybody had responded (the "true" values). We can, however, predict the variation between the sample results and the "true" values from knowledge of the size of the samples on which the results are based and the number of times a particular answer is given. The confidence with which we can make this prediction is usually chosen to be 95% - that is, the chances are 95 in 100 that the "true" value will fall within a specified range. The table below illustrates the predicted ranges for different sample sizes and percentage results at the "95% confidence interval":

Size of sample on which survey result is based	Approximate sampling tolerances applicable to percentages at or near these levels		
	10% or 90%	30% or 70°	% 50%
	<u>+</u>	<u>+</u>	<u>+</u>
100 responses	6	9	10
200 responses	4	6	7
300 responses	3	5	6
500 responses	3	4	4
800 responses	2	3	4
1,000 responses	2	3	3

For example, with a sample size of 1,000 where 30% give a particular answer, the chances are, 19 in 20, the "true" value (which would have been obtained if the whole population had been interviewed) will fall within the range of ± 3 percentage points from the survey result (i.e. between 28% and 32%).

2

3

When results are compared between separate groups within a sample, different results may be obtained. The difference may be "real," or it may occur by chance (because not everyone in the population has been interviewed). To test if the difference is a real one - i.e. if it is "statistically significant", we again have to know the size of the samples, the percentage giving a certain answer and the degree of confidence chosen. If we assume "95% confidence interval", the differences between the results of two separate groups must be greater than the values given in the table below:

Size of samples compared

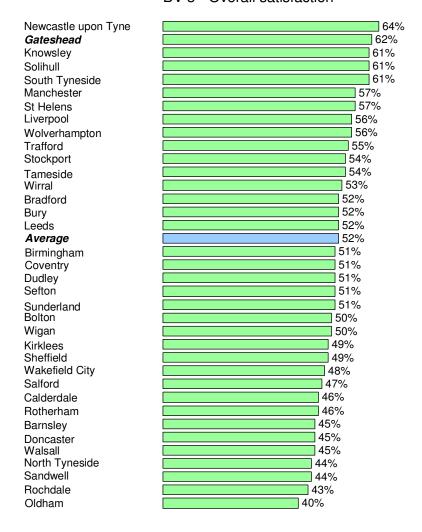
Differences required for significance at or near these percentage levels

	10% or 90%	30% or 70%	50%
	<u>+</u>	±	<u>+</u>
100 and 100	8	13	14
100 and 400	7	10	11
200 and 200	6	9	10
200 and 400	5	8	9
300 and 300	5	7	8
400 and 400	4	6	7
500 and 500	4	6	6
500 and 1,000	3	5	6

Best Value Performance Indicators: Full League Tables

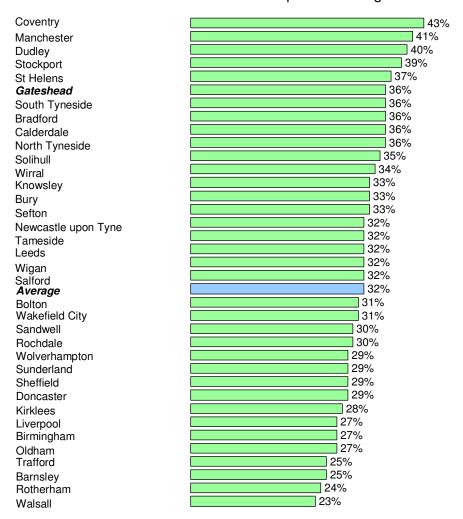
Metropolitan Authorities

BV 3 - Overall satisfaction



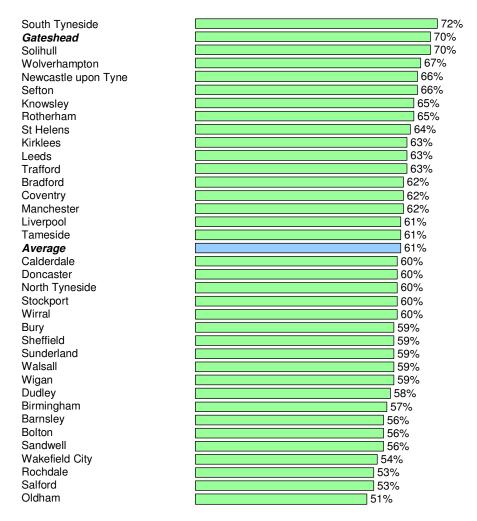
Metropolitan Authorities

BV 4 – Satisfaction with complaint handling



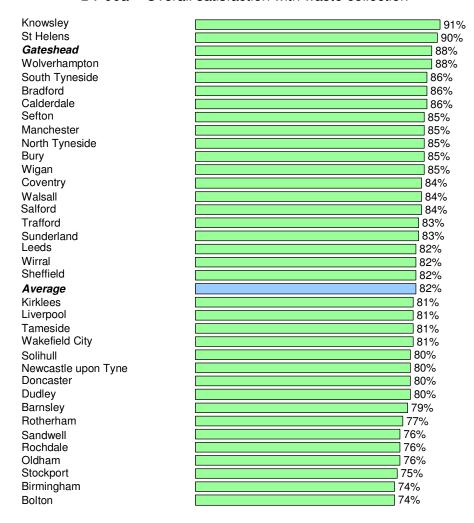
Metropolitan Authorities

BV 89 - Satisfaction with cleanliness

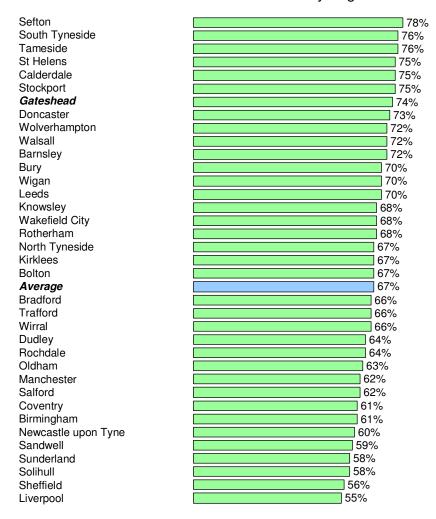


Metropolitan Authorities

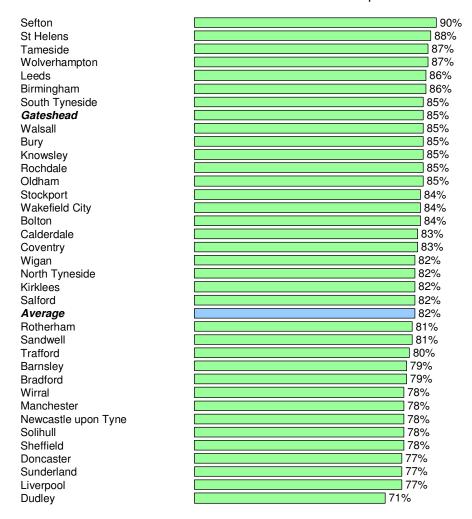
BV 90a - Overall satisfaction with waste collection



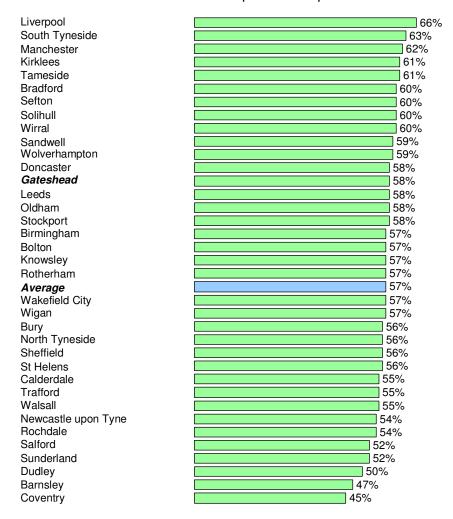
BV 90b - Overall satisfaction with recycling facilities



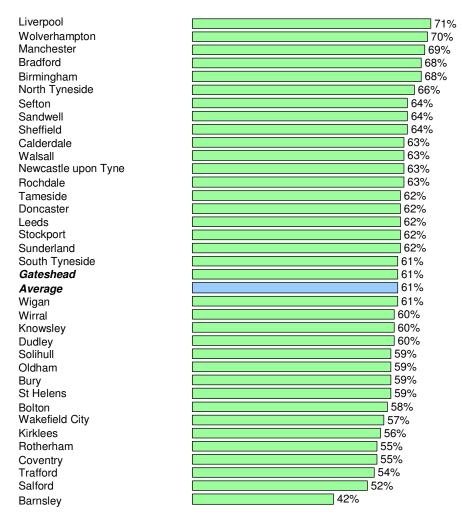
BV 90c - Overall satisfaction with local tips



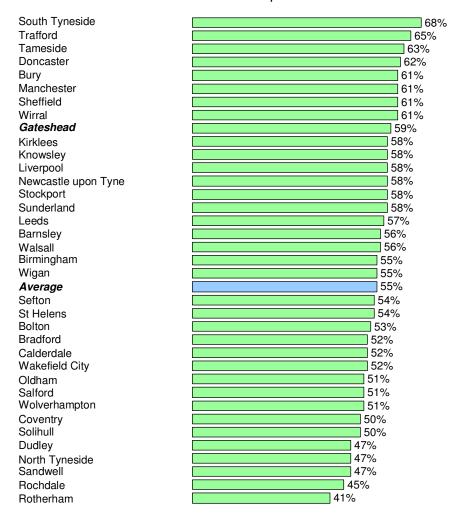
BV 103 – Satisfaction with public transport information



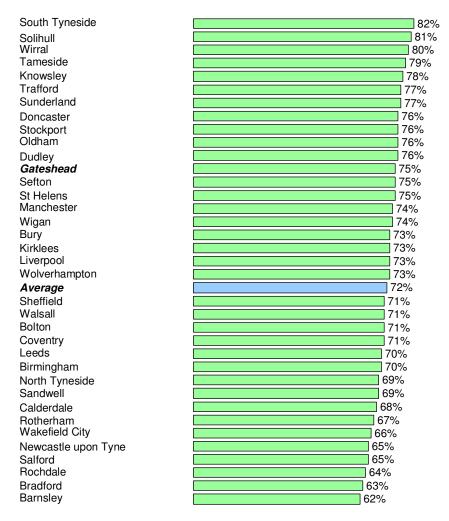
BV 104 - Satisfaction with bus services



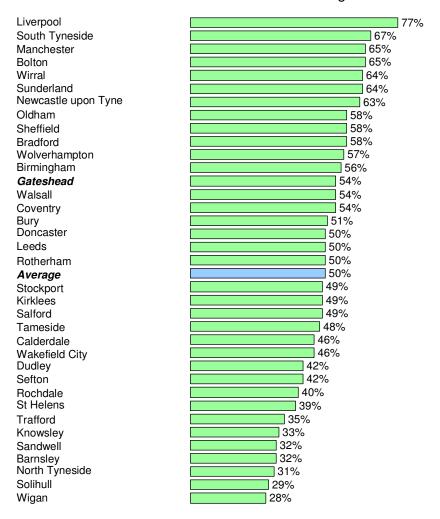
BV 119a - Satisfaction with Sports/leisure facilities



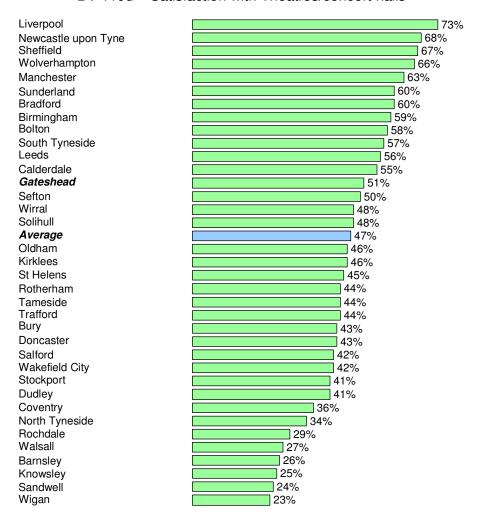
BV 119b - Satisfaction with Libraries



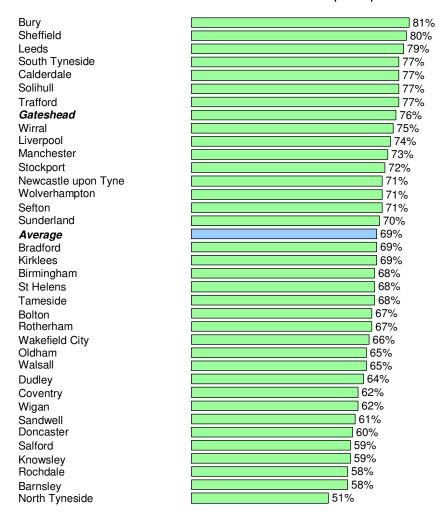
BV 119c - Satisfaction with Museums/galleries



BV 119d - Satisfaction with Theatres/concert halls



BV 119e - Satisfaction with Parks and open spaces





Topline Questionnaire



BVPI General Survey Topline Results January 2007

A total of 5000 questionnaires were mailed out to randomly selected addresses between 26 September and 20 November 2006. Fieldwork closed 8 December 2006.

1783 valid responses were received representing an adjusted response rate of 37%

In line with survey guidelines, two full reminder questionnaires were sent to residents who had not responded within the initial fieldwork period.

Data are weighted to household composition, age, gender and ethnicity by Cobalt-Sky on behalf of The Department of Communities and Local Government.

Responses to BVPI statutory questions are based on all respondents expressing a view (i.e. don't know, no opinion and blanks have been excluded). Consequently, the base for each question is different.

Responses to non-statutory questions are based on all respondents (including don't know and blanks).

An * indicates a score less than 0.5%, but greater than zero.

Where available, results are shown for the 2000/1 and 2003/4 BVPI surveys (data provided by the Department of Communities and Local Government).

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	開	Gateshead BV Gateshead Council gateshead.gov.uk	PI GENERAL SURVEY TOPLINE	2006/2007	2003/2004	2000/2001
Q. No.	Base	Question	Response	%	%	%
		ABOL	JT YOUR LOCAL AREA			
Q1	1519	Thinking generally, which of the things below would you say are most important in making somewhere a good place to live?	The level of crime Clean streets Affordable decent housing Public transport Health services Education provision Shopping facilities Activities for teenagers Parks and open spaces The level of traffic congestion Job prospects Facilities for young children Road and pavement repairs Wage levels & local cost of living Access to nature The level of pollution Sports & leisure facilities Community activities Cultural facilities Race relations Other	69 49 44 38 36 34 29 23 23 18 17 16 16 14 14 9 8 7 7 3	81 60 47 41 45 34 32 30 29 25 22 23 22 15 16 21 12 8 6 2	
Q2	1521	And thinking about this local area, which of the things below, if any, do you think most need improving? Thinking about your local area, for	The level of crime The level of traffic congestion Road and pavement repairs Clean streets Public transport Facilities for young children Shopping facilities Affordable decent housing Job prospects Community activities Sports & leisure facilities Wage levels & local cost of living Parks and open spaces Health services The level of pollution Cultural facilities Education provision Race relations Access to nature Other None of these	* 50 38 35 30 29 25 24 21 20 17 16 13 12 11 10 9 7 6 5 5 6 *	41 53 29 34 34 28 27 24 26 17 11 15 22 18 21 8 7 8 5 6 3 1	
Q3	1236	each of the following things below, do you think each has got better or worse over the last three years, or has it stayed the same?		24		
	1089	Activities for teenagers	Stayed the same Worse Better Stayed the same Worse	71 5 6 53 40		

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	1244	Affordable decent housing	Better	10	
			Stayed the same	42	
			Worse	48	
	1521	Clean streets	Better	18	
	1027	Glean streets	Stayed the same	55	
			Worse	27	
	975	Community activities	Better	8	
			Stayed the same	74	
			Worse	18	
	1115	Cultural facilities (e.g. cinemas,		14	
		museums)	Better		
		accac,	Stayed the same	69	
			Worse	16	
	1010	Education and teles		17	
	1048	Education provision	Better	_	
			Stayed the same	73	
			Worse	10	
	1005	Facilities for young children	Better	17	
			Stayed the same	58	
			Worse	25	
	1313	Health services	Better	17	
	,5,5	1.104.01 001 11000	Stayed the same	67	
			Worse	16	
	980	Job prospects	Better	5	
			Stayed the same	61	
			Worse	35	
	1347	Parks and open spaces	Better	28	
			Stayed the same	56	
			Worse	16	
	1276	Public transport	Better	17	
	1370	Fublic transport	Stayed the same	38	
				_	
			Worse	44	
	779	Race relations	Better	7	
			Stayed the same	73	
			Worse	21	
	1370	Road and pavement repairs	Better	9	
			Stayed the same	54	
			Worse	37	
	1405	Shopping facilities	Better	8	
	1403	Shopping racilities		_	
			Stayed the same	63	
			Worse	28	
	1128	Sports & leisure facilities	Better	13	
			Stayed the same	73	
			Worse	14	
	1263	The level of crime	Better	6	
	1 200		Stayed the same	41	
			Worse	53	
-	1001	The level of pollution			
	1091	The level of pollution	Better Characteristics and the second	6	
			Stayed the same	56	
			Worse	38	
1	1384	The level of traffic congestion	Better	3	
			Stayed the same	31	
			Worse	67	
	1080	Wage levels & local cost of living	Better	3	
			Stayed the same	51	
1			Worse	46	
04	1700	Overell have added at a			
Q4	1709	Overall, how satisfied or	Very satisfied	13	
		dissatisfied are you with your	Fairly satisfied	54	
		local area as a place to live?	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19	
			Fairly dissatisfied	11	
			Very dissatisfied	4	

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		An	ti-social behaviour			
Q5		Thinking about this local area,				
		how much of a problem do you				
		think are				
	1564	parents not taking responsibility for	A very big problem	40		
		the behaviour of their children	A fairly big problem	34		
			Not a very big problem	20		
			Not a problem at all	5		
	1545	people not treating other people	A very big problem	30		
		with respect and consideration	A fairly big problem	33		
			Not a very big problem	28		
			Not a problem at all	9		
	1513	noisy neighbours or loud parties	A very big problem	12	8	
			A fairly big problem	13	11	
			Not a very big problem	41	37	
			Not a problem at all	33	43	
	1586	teenagers hanging around on the	A very big problem	33	31	
		streets	A fairly big problem	35	32	
			Not a very big problem	25	26	
			Not a problem at all	6	10	
	1590	rubbish and litter lying around	A very big problem	18	14	
			A fairly big problem	28	25	
			Not a very big problem	42	43	
			Not a problem at all	12	18	
	1454	people being drunk or rowdy in	A very big problem	16	24	
		public spaces	A fairly big problem	26	29	
			Not a very big problem	41	32	
			Not a problem at all	17	15	
	1388	abandoned or burnt out cars	A very big problem	3	7	
			A fairly big problem	4	13	
			Not a very big problem	31	37	
			Not a problem at all	61	42	
	1483	vandalism, graffiti and other	A very big problem	16	32	
		deliberate damage to property or	A fairly big problem	26	34	
		vehicles	Not a very big problem	40	25	
			Not a problem at all	17	9	
	1157	people being attacked because of	A very big problem	6		
		their skin colour, ethnic origin or	A fairly big problem	12		
		religion	Not a very big problem	33		
			Not a problem at all	49		
	1171	people using or dealing drugs	A very big problem	27	37	
			A fairly big problem	31	29	
			Not a very big problem	25	17	
			Not a problem at all	16	16	
Q6	1223	To what extent do you agree or	Definitely agree	8		
		disagree that this local area is a	Tend to agree	56		
		place where people from different	Tend to disagree	15		
		backgrounds get on well	Definitely disagree	5		
		together?	Too few people in local area	10		
			All the same background	6		

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			R LOCAL AUTHORITY			
	,		te and litter services	_		1
Q7	1706	How satisfied or dissatisfied are	Very satisfied	19	20	16
		you that Gateshead Council has	Fairly satisfied	51	52	57
		kept this land clear of litter and	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	13	12	11
		refuse?	Fairly dissatisfied	12	11	10
			Very dissatisfied	5	5	5
			ehold waste collection			
Q8		Please indicate whether you are				
		satisfied or dissatisfied with each				
		of the following elements of the				
		service which we provide.				
	1665	The bin provided for your general	Very satisfied	59	63	67
		household waste	Fairly satisfied	31	30	28
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	4	3	3
			Fairly dissatisfied	4	2	2
			Very dissatisfied	2	1	1
	1629	The place you have to leave your	Very satisfied	51		
		waste for collection	Fairly satisfied	37		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	6		
			Fairly dissatisfied	3		
			Very dissatisfied	2		
	1604	The reliability of the waste collection	Very satisfied	64		
			Fairly satisfied	32		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	3		
			Fairly dissatisfied	1		
			Very dissatisfied	1		
	1637	How "clean and tidy" the street is	Very satisfied	33	39	42
		following the waste collection	Fairly satisfied	46	45	41
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7	9	8
			Fairly dissatisfied	10	5	6
			Very dissatisfied	4	3	2
	1521	The collection of bulky household	Very satisfied	35	45	44
		waste	Fairly satisfied	38	34	33
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	11	13	13
			Fairly dissatisfied	10	4	7
	1001	The constant of the constant o	Very dissatisfied	6	3	3
	1634	The waste collection service overall	Very satisfied Fairly satisfied	44	51	52 40
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	45 6	41 6	6
				4	2	2
			Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied	2	*	*
		Doore		2		
00		Dioces in disease subather year are	tep recycling collection			
Q9		Please indicate whether you are				
		satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the				
	1591	service which we provide. The containers provided for items of	Very satisfied	28	27	
	1001	recycling	Fairly satisfied	34	37	
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	8	12	
			Fairly dissatisfied	17	12	
			Very dissatisfied	17	12	
	1545	The place you have to leave your	Very satisfied	38	16	
	1040	items for recycling awaiting	Fairly satisfied	38		
		collection	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	11		
			Fairly dissatisfied	7		
			Very dissatisfied	6		
-	1526	The reliability of the collection of	Very satisfied	46	 	
	1020	items for recycling	Fairly satisfied	39		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7		
			Fairly dissatisfied	5		
			Very dissatisfied	3		
	1542	How "clean and tidy" the street is	Very satisfied	31	37	
	1342	following the collection of items for	Fairly satisfied	42	41	
		recycling	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	10	13	
		i so joining	Fairly dissatisfied	13	5	
			Very dissatisfied	5	4	
L			- or y dissatisfied			ı

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	1557	The service for the collection of	Varyactisfied	1 24	20	
	1557		Very satisfied	34	38	
		items for recycling overall	Fairly satisfied	41	38	
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	12	14	
			Fairly dissatisfied	7	4	
			Very dissatisfied	5	5	
			al recycling facilities	,		
Q10		Please indicate whether you are				
		satisfied or dissatisfied with each				
		of the following elements of the				
		service which we provide.				
	1421	The location of the recycling facilities	Very satisfied	28	30	29
		, ,	Fairly satisfied	47	44	40
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	14	16	18
			Fairly dissatisfied	6	5	9
			Very dissatisfied	4	4	5
	1418	The items you can deposit for	Very satisfied	26	31	30
	1410	recycling	Fairly satisfied	47	47	41
		recycling	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	14	15	19
				_		_
			Fairly dissatisfied	8	5	7
			Very dissatisfied	5	2	3
	1339	How "clean and tidy" the site is	Very satisfied	26	25	27
			Fairly satisfied	51	49	43
	1		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	16	20	24
	1		Fairly dissatisfied	6	4	5
	Ш		Very dissatisfied	1	1	1
	1424	The provision of local recycling	Very satisfied	25	27	25
		facilities overall	Fairly satisfied	49	48	41
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	16	17	21
			Fairly dissatisfied	6	6	9
			Very dissatisfied	4	3	5
		The local tin/ho	busehold waste recycling centre	•	Ü	Ü
Q11		Please indicate whether you are	dischold waste recycling centre			
QII		satisfied or dissatisfied with each				
		of the following elements of the				
	0.11	service, which we provide.)	4.5	4-	
	941	The location of the site	Very satisfied	45	45	39
			Fairly satisfied	45	43	46
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7	8	11
			Fairly dissatisfied	2	2	3
			Very dissatisfied	1	2	1
	905	The opening hours of the site	Very satisfied	46	55	43
			Fairly satisfied	45	37	43
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	6	7	13
			Fairly dissatisfied	2	1	1
			Very dissatisfied	1	*	1
	876	The recycling facilities at the site	Very satisfied	44	47	35
			Fairly satisfied	46	39	42
	1		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	6	12	19
	1		Fairly dissatisfied	4	1	3
			Very dissatisfied	*	*	1
-	906	How clean the site is		20		
	896	now clean the site is	Very satisfied	38	32	32
			Fairly satisfied	49	46	45
	1		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9	16	18
	1		Fairly dissatisfied	3	4	4
	1		Very dissatisfied	1	2	1
	882	How helpful the staff are	Very satisfied	37	35	31
	1		Fairly satisfied	42	39	38
	1		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	15	20	24
	1		Fairly dissatisfied	5	5	5
	1		Very dissatisfied	2	1	2
	906	How "user-friendly" the site is (the	Very satisfied	38	41	40
			Fairly satisfied	44	42	41
		ability to deposit your waste easily)			•	1
		ability to deposit your waste easily)		8	11	14
		ability to deposit your waste easily)	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied			
		ability to deposit your waste easily)	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied	7	5	3
	922		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied	7 3	5 1	3 1
	922	The local tip/household waste	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Very satisfied	7 3 39	5 1 39	3 1 33
	922		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Very satisfied Fairly satisfied	7 3 39 46	5 1 39 45	3 1 33 46
	922	The local tip/household waste	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Very satisfied Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7 3 39 46 9	5 1 39 45 13	3 1 33 46 18
	922	The local tip/household waste	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Very satisfied Fairly satisfied	7 3 39 46	5 1 39 45	3 1 33 46

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		Public	c transport information			
Q12		Please indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with each of the following elements of the information on transport we	c transport information			
		provide.				
	1382	The amount of information	Very satisfied	13	11	12
			Fairly satisfied	48	42	40
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	15	27	25
			Fairly dissatisfied	16	13	16
			Very dissatisfied	7	8	6
	1320	The clarity of the information	Very satisfied	13		
			Fairly satisfied	49		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	17		
			Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied	15 6		
	1316	The accuracy of the information	Very satisfied	12	10	13
	1310	The accuracy of the information	Fairly satisfied	47	40	40
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19	30	31
			Fairly dissatisfied	15	12	12
			Very dissatisfied	7	9	5
	1407	The provision of public transport	Very satisfied	12	11	12
		information overall	Fairly satisfied	45	39	40
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	17	27	25
			Fairly dissatisfied	15	12	15
			Very dissatisfied	10	11	7
Q13	1485	Have you received or seen any of	Yes	56	42	41
		the information provided on local	No	44	58	59
		transport services, in the last 12				
		months?				
Q14		Please indicate whether you are	ne local bus service			
Q14		satisfied or dissatisfied with each				
		of the following elements of the				
		local bus service.				
	1474	The frequency of buses	Very satisfied	20	17	22
			Fairly satisfied	46	48	47
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9	12	12
			Fairly dissatisfied	16	14	13
			Very dissatisfied	9	9	7
	1446	The number of bus stops	Very satisfied	30	28	31
			Fairly satisfied	53	51	49
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	10	12	11
			Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied	5 3	5 4	6 3
	1460	The state of the bus stops	Very satisfied	13	12	13
	1400	וווס שנמנס טו נווס טעש שנטףש	Fairly satisfied	49	42	42
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	13	19	17
			Fairly dissatisfied	18	17	18
			Very dissatisfied	7	10	10
	1411	Whether buses arrive on time	Very satisfied	8	7	14
			Fairly satisfied	47	41	45
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	15	20	18
			Fairly dissatisfied	20	17	14
			Very dissatisfied	10	15	8
	1440	How easy buses are to get on and	Very satisfied	31	31	
		off	Fairly satisfied	53	49	
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9	12	
			Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied	4 3	4 3	
	ļ	1	,			18
	1/7/	The local bus service overall	Vary eatiefied	7 %		
	1474	The local bus service overall	Very satisfied Fairly satisfied	15 46	15 45	
	1474	The local bus service overall	Fairly satisfied	46	45	45
	1474	The local bus service overall	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied			
	1474	The local bus service overall	Fairly satisfied	46 15	45 18	45 18

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Q15	1709	How frequently, if at all, do you	Almost every day	32	32	34
		use the local bus service?	At least once a week	26	26	29
			About once a month	12	12	12
			Within the last 6 months	9	11	9
			Within the last year	5	5	5
			Longer ago	6	5	5
			Never used	11	9	7
		Cultural and re	creational activities and venues		Ū	
Q16		Please indicate how satisfied or				
		dissatisfied you are with each of				
		the following services provided or				
		supported by Gateshead Council.				
	1611	Sports/Leisure facilities and events	Very satisfied	15	18	19
			Fairly satisfied	44	39	40
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	31	34	34
			Fairly dissatisfied	8	5	5
			Very dissatisfied	2	3	2
	1676	Libraries	Very satisfied	32	35	37
			Fairly satisfied	43	38	37
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	18	24	24
			Fairly dissatisfied	4	1	1
			Very dissatisfied	2	1	*
	1594	Museums and galleries	Very satisfied	18	18	20
		3	Fairly satisfied	36	34	29
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	40	42	48
			Fairly dissatisfied	4	3	2
			Very dissatisfied	2	2	1
	1588	Theatres/Concert halls	Very satisfied	17	14	16
			Fairly satisfied	33	32	28
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	40	48	53
			Fairly dissatisfied	6	4	2
			Very dissatisfied	4	2	1
	1647	Parks and open spaces	Very satisfied	32	27	21
			Fairly satisfied	44	43	42
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	14	19	24
			Fairly dissatisfied	8	7	9
			Very dissatisfied	3	3	5
Q17		Please indicate how frequently				
		you have used the following				
		cultural and recreational services				
		provided or supported by				
		Gateshead Council in the last 12				
		months.				
	1508	Sports/Leisure facilities and events	Almost every day	2	2	2
		- Paris Estate i dominata di la avonto	At least once a week	19	16	11
			About once a month	16	11	10
			Within the last 6 months	15	13	12
			Within the last year	10	8	10
			Longer ago	18	15	15
			Never used	21	34	40
	1612	Libraries	Almost every day	2	2	1
			At least once a week	13	15	11
			About once a month	24	22	21
			Within the last 6 months	16	16	15
			Within the last year	11	9	11
			Longer ago	19	16	16
			Never used	14	20	25
-	1501	Museums and galleries	Almost every day	*	*	*
	1301	wascams and gallenes	At least once a week	1	1	1
			About once a month	11	9	5
			Within the last 6 months	22	21	13
			Within the last year	15	11	11
			Longer ago	26	21	22
			Never used	24	36	48
	1	<u> </u>	110701 0300	J ~→	50	40

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	1508	Theatres/Concert halls	Almost every day	*	*	*
	1506	Theatres/Concert Halls	At least once a week	1	*	*
			About once a month	8	8	2
			Within the last 6 months	22	17	8
				17		9
			Within the last year		11	_
			Longer ago	24	22	18
			Never used	28	41	63
	1617	Parks and open spaces	Almost every day	12	11	4
			At least once a week	27	23	12
			About once a month	21	19	16
			Within the last 6 months	20	20	21
			Within the last year	9	8	14
			Longer ago	6	7	15
			Never used	5	11	19
Q18		For each of the following services				
		provided by Gateshead Council,				
		do you think the service has got				
		better or worse over the last three				
		years, or has it stayed the same?				
		,, c				
	1500	Keeping public land clear of litter	Pottor	0.4	24	
	1590	1	Better Stayod the same	24	34	
		and refuse	Stayed the same	60	52	
			Worse	15	14	
	1644	Collection of household waste	Better	35	52	
			Stayed the same	58	45	
			Worse	7	2	
	1471	Local recycling facilities	Better	38	61	
			Stayed the same	57	38	
			Worse	5	2	
	1518	Doorstep collection of items for	Better	42	77	
		recycling	Stayed the same	51	19	
			Worse	7	4	
	1196	Local tips/household waste recycling		28	29	
		centres	Stayed the same	64	68	
			Worse	8	3	
	1345	Local transport information	Better	16	17	
			Stayed the same	59	67	
	<u> </u>		Worse	25	16	
	1411	Local bus service	Better	17	17	
			Stayed the same	44	59	
	<u> </u>		Worse	39	24	
	1138	Sport/Leisure facilities	Better	16	17	
			Stayed the same	77	77	
	<u> </u>		Worse	8	6	
	1340	Libraries	Better	16	25	
			Stayed the same	77	73	
			Worse	7	1	
	1021	Museums/galleries	Better	14	21	
			Stayed the same	82	77	
			Worse	4	2	
	1034	Theatres/Concert halls	Better	22	14	
			Stayed the same	73	83	
			Worse	5	3	
	1469	Parks and open spaces	Better	39	35	
		a same span spanso	Stayed the same	50	52	
			Worse	11	12	
	1	1	1	1		l .

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			Other services			
Q19		Please indicate how satisfied or	Other services			
QIJ		dissatisfied you are overall with				
		the following services provided by				
		Gateshead Council.				
	1638	Housing services	Very satisfied	8	12	13
			Fairly satisfied	25	25	28
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	58	56	49
			Fairly dissatisfied	5	4	6
			Very dissatisfied	4	4	4
	1573	Planning services	Very satisfied	6	9	10
			Fairly satisfied	23	24	29
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	61	61	53
			Fairly dissatisfied	6	4	6
			Very dissatisfied	4	2	3
	1605	Personal social services	Very satisfied	8	11	18
			Fairly satisfied	20	26	30
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	66	58	47
			Fairly dissatisfied	4	3	4
			Very dissatisfied	2	1	1
	1571	Local authority education service	Very satisfied	9	17	24
			Fairly satisfied	29	37	41
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	56	42	30
			Fairly dissatisfied	4	3	4
			Very dissatisfied	2	1	1
Q20	1783	Please indicate whether you or	Housing services	24	20	0
		any other member of your family	Local authority education services	20	19	0
		have used any of the following	Personal social services	14	10	0
		services provided by Gateshead	Planning services	12	7	0
		Council in the last 12 months.				
Q21	1665	Taking everything into account,	Very satisfied	11	18	16
ω		how satisfied or dissatisfied are	Fairly satisfied	51	52	60
		you with the way the Council runs	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	27	18	17
		things?	Fairly dissatisfied	8	10	5
		90	Very dissatisfied	2	2	1
		INFORMATION ABOU	T YOUR COUNCIL AND ITS SERVIC	ES		
Q22		How well informed do you feel				
		about each of the following?				
	1575	How to pay bills to the Council	Very well informed	40		
			Fairly well informed	53		
			Not very well informed	5		
			Not well informed at all	2		
	1642	How and where to register to vote	Very well informed	46		
		_	Fairly well informed	46		
			Not very well informed	6		
			Not well informed at all	2		
	1391	How you can get involved in local	Very well informed	13		
		decision making	Fairly well informed	41		
			Not very well informed	32		
			Not well informed at all	14		
	1469	How to complain to the Council	Very well informed	16		
			Fairly well informed	41		
			Not very well informed	28		
			Not well informed at all	14		
	1488	What the Council spends its money	Very well informed	13		
		on	Fairly well informed	40		
			Not very well informed	29		
			Not well informed at all			

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					1	
	1485	What standard of service you should	Very well informed	16		
		expect from the Council	Fairly well informed	42		
			Not very well informed	29		
			Not well informed at all	12		
	1420	Whether the Council is delivering on	Very well informed	9		
		its promises	Fairly well informed	35		
		lis promises				
			Not very well informed	38		
			Not well informed at all	18		
	1427	What the Council is doing to tackle	Very well informed	7		İ
	1427			=		
		anti-social behaviour in your local	Fairly well informed	26		
		area	Not very well informed	40		
			Not well informed at all	27		
	4440	11 11 0 11 0				1
	1418	How well the Council is performing	Very well informed	11		
			Fairly well informed	42		
			Not very well informed	31		
			Not well informed at all	16		
	1552	Overall, how well informed do you	Very well informed	12	28	
		think your Council keeps residents	Fairly well informed	45	50	
		about the services and benefits it	Not very well informed	26	17	
				-		
		provides	Not well informed at all	16	4	
Q23	1494	How do you find out about	Information provided by the Council	59		
	1	Gateshead Council? Please tick				1
			(newspaper/magazine, leaflets,			1
		the MAIN source you use from the	posters)			1
		list below.	Local media (newspapers,	13		1
		iist below.		. •		
	1		television, radio)	_		1
1	1		Word of mouth (eg family or friends)	9		1
						1
			Direct contact with the Council	8		
			Council website/internet	8		
			From local Councillor	1		
			Other source	1		
			None of the above	2		
		CONTA	CTING YOUR COUNCIL			
		M	laking a complaint			
Q24	1670	Have you contacted the authority	Yes	23	17	19
Q24	1070					
		with a complaint(s) in the last 12	No	77	83	81
		months?				
		months?				
000	050		Maria de Carlos			0.1
Q26	356	months? How satisfied or dissatisfied are	Very satisfied	17	15	21
Q26	356		Very satisfied Fairly satisfied	17 19		21 22
Q26	356	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your	Fairly satisfied	19	15 22	22
Q26	356	How satisfied or dissatisfied are	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19 9	15 22 8	22 10
Q26	356	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied	19 9 17	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q26	356	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19 9	15 22 8	22 10
Q26	356	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied	19 9 17	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons	19 9 17 38	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q26 Q27	356 1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your how many times have you	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12	19 9 17	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons	19 9 17 38	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your many times have you contacted the Council in the past	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months	19 9 17 38	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once	19 9 17 38 33	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your many times have you contacted the Council in the past	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice	19 9 17 38 33 17	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once	19 9 17 38 33	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times	19 9 17 38 33 17	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
		How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting your contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you have many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783 1052 1135	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4 2	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28	1783	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28 Q29	1783 1052 1135	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council?	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet Other method Very satisfied	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4 2	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28 Q29	1783 1052 1135	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council? Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet Other method Very satisfied Fairly satisfied	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4 2 27 23	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28 Q29	1783 1052 1135	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council? Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the service you received the last time	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet Other method Very satisfied Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4 2 27 23 6	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28 Q29	1783 1052 1135	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council? Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the service you received the last time	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet Other method Very satisfied Fairly satisfied	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4 2 27 23	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28 Q29	1783 1052 1135	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council? Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the service you received the last time you made contact with the	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet Other method Very satisfied Fairly adissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4 2 27 23 6 6	15 22 8 20	22 10 20
Q27 Q28 Q29	1783 1052 1135	How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way in which your complaint(s) was (were) handled? Contacting y How many times have you contacted the Council in the past twelve months for any other reason than to make a complaint? Which of these describes the reasons why you made your MOST RECENT contact with the Council? How were you in contact with the Council? Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the service you received the last time	Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Our Council for other reasons Have not contacted them in past 12 months Once Twice Three times Four times Four times Five or more times Don't know/can't remember Not stated Applied to use a service Asked for advice/information Reported an issue or problem Any other reason By telephone In person By letter By e-mail Via a website/ Internet Other method Very satisfied Fairly satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19 9 17 38 33 17 17 8 4 8 7 6 40 39 25 12 83 19 8 6 4 2 27 23 6	15 22 8 20	22 10 20

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001		Call Abinding about your month	T	1	I	I
Q31		Still thinking about your most				
		recent contact with the Council,				
		please indicate how satisfied or				
		dissatisfied you were with each				
		aspect of the service you received.				
	1086	How easy it was to find the right	Very satisfied	30		
		person to deal with	Fairly satisfied	46		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9		
			Fairly dissatisfied	8		
			Very dissatisfied	6		
	1046	The length of time it took to deal with	Very satisfied	30		
		the person you contacted	Fairly satisfied	47		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	8		
			Fairly dissatisfied	9		
			Very dissatisfied	5		
	1030	Any information you were given	Very satisfied	30		
			Fairly satisfied	43		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	11		
			Fairly dissatisfied	8		
			Very dissatisfied	7		
	1050	How competent the staff were	Very satisfied	35		
		·	Fairly satisfied	43		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	10		
			Fairly dissatisfied	6		
			Very dissatisfied	6		
	1069	How helpful the staff were	Very satisfied	40		
		·	Fairly satisfied	40		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9		
			Fairly dissatisfied	5		
			Very dissatisfied	6		
	1027	The final outcome	Very satisfied	36		
			Fairly satisfied	34		
			Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9		
			Fairly dissatisfied	8		
			Very dissatisfied	13		
		LOCA	AL DECISION MAKING			
Q32	1342	Overall, how satisfied or	Very satisfied	11		
		dissatisfied are you with the	Fairly satisfied	29		
		opportunities for participation in	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	43		
		local decision-making provided by	Fairly dissatisfied	11		
	<u> </u>	your Council?	Very dissatisfied	6		
Q33	1342	Do you agree or disagree that you	Definitely agree	6		
		can influence decisions affecting	Tend to agree	37		
		your local area?	Tend to disagree	37		
			Definitely disagree	21		
Q34	1624	Generally speaking, would you	Yes	28		
		like to be more involved in the	No	16		
		decisions your Council makes that	Depends on the issue	56		
		affect your local area?				
	1					

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		HOW YOUR C	OUNCIL DEDECRMS OVERALL			
Q35		Here are some things that other	OUNCIL PERFORMS OVERALL			
Q35		people have said about their				
		II.				
		Council. To what extent do you				
		think that these statements apply				
		to your local Council? My				
		Council				
	1560	is making the local area a better	A great deal	17		
	7500	place to live	To some extent	63		
		place to live	Not very much	17		
			Not at all	4		
	1.450	is weathing to meal to the case and a				
	1456	is working to make the area safer	A great deal	13		
			To some extent	54		
			Not very much	26		
			Not at all	7		
	1547	is working to make the area	A great deal	23		
		cleaner and greener	To some extent	54		
			Not very much	17		
			Not at all	6		
	1347	is efficient and well run	A great deal	16		
			To some extent	52		
			Not very much	24		
			Not at all	8		
	1336	provides good value for money	A great deal	12		
			To some extent	49		
			Not very much	25		
			Not at all	13		
	1167	is trustworthy	A great deal	17		
		,	To some extent	56		
			Not very much	18		
			Not at all	9		
	1279	is remote and impersonal	A great deal	9		
	1275	o remote and impersonal	To some extent	41		
			Not very much	28		
			Not at all	23		
-	1276	involves residents when making	A great deal	6		
	12/0	decisions	To some extent	_		
		decisions		40		
			Not very much	40		
-	4074	The second section of the section of	Not at all	14		
	1274	promotes the interests of local	A great deal	8		
		residents	To some extent	47		
			Not very much	34		
	<u> </u>		Not at all	11		
	1294	acts on the concerns of local	A great deal	8		
		residents	To some extent	52		
			Not very much	30		
	ļ		Not at all	11		
	1072	works well with other agencies to	A great deal	15		
		provide services	To some extent	59		
			Not very much	20		
			Not at all	5	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1129	treats all types of people fairly	A great deal	23		
			To some extent	57		
			Not very much	13		
			Not at all	8		
Q36	1500	Thinking about the way the	Better	27	35	
		authority runs things, do you think		59	54	
		this has got better or worse over	Worse	14	11	
		the last three years, or has it	- 25	1]	
		stayed the same?				
			1	1	1	1

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		Δ	BOUT YOURSELF			
Q37	1713	Are you male or female?	Male	46	43	48
		','''	Female	54	57	52
Q38	1718	What was your age on your last	18-24	10	8	13
		birthday?	25-34	16	16	19
			35-44	16	15	32
			45-54	21	20	0
			55-64	15	16	15
			65-69	6	9	21
			70-74	6	7	0
			75+	8	9	0
000	1000	Have land have very hour				U
Q39	1698	How long have you/your	Under 1 year	10	8	
		household been living in your	1-2 years	10	13	
		current accommodation?	3-5 years	16	14	
			6-10 years	14	13	
			11-20 years	20	21	
			21+ years	30	30	
Q40	1692	How long have you/your	Under 1 year	5	4	
1	1	household been living in this	1-2 years	6	7	
	1	area?	3-5 years	10	7	
1	1		6-10 years	7	8	
			11-20 years	13	14	
			21+ years	58	60	
Q41	1717	In which of these ways does your	Owned outright	29	30	
		household occupy your current	Buying on mortgage	43	41	
		accommodation?	Rent from Council	17	21	
			Rent from Housing Association/	4	4	
			Trust			
			Rented from private landlord	6	5	
			Other	1	1	
Q42	1686	How many ADULTS AGED 18 OR	One	21	24	
Q-12	7000	OVER are living here?	Two	55	55	
		OVEN are living here:	Three	15	13	
			Four	6	5	
			Five	1	1	
			More than five	2	2	
Q43	1665	Which of these activities best	Employee in full-time job (30 hours	42	39	39
Q43	1003		plus per wk)	42	39	39
		describes what you are doing at	Employee in part-time job (under 30	11	12	11
		present?	hours per week)	11	12	11
			Self employed full or part-time	5	4	4
			On a government supported training	*	*	*
			programme (eg Modern			
			Apprenticeship/ Training for Work)			
			Full-time education at school,	1	2	3
			college or university			-
			Unemployed and available for work	4	2	3
			• •			
			Permanently sick/disabled	7	8	8
	1		Wholly retired from work	23	26	21
	1		Looking after the home	5	6	9
044	1070	Da constitue de la constitue d	Doing something else	2	2	2
Q44	1678	Do you have any long-standing	Yes	31	39	31
		illness, disability or infirmity?	No	69	61	69
	1	(long-standing means anything				
		that has troubled you over a				
		period of time or that is likely to				
		affect you over a period of time)				
1						
Q45	632	Does this illness or disability limit	Yes	81	81	83
	552	your activities in any way?	No	19	19	17
		you. donvinco in any way:				.,

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Q46	1700	To which of these groups do you	White	99	96	99
		consider you belong to?	British	96	87	98
			Irish	*	7	*
			Any other White background	3	1	1
			Black or Black British	*	2	*
			Caribbean	-	*	0
			African	*	2	0
			Any other Black background	-	*	*
			Mixed	*	*	*
			White & Black Caribbean	-	*	*
			White & Black African	-	*	0
			White & Asian	*	*	*
			Any other Mixed background	*	*	*
			Asian or Asian British	1	1	*
			Indian	-	*	*
			Pakistani	1	*	*
			Bangladeshi	-	*	0
			Any other Asian background	-	*	*
			Chinese and Other ethnic groups	*	*	*
			Chinese	*	*	*
			Other ethnic group	*	*	*