

Tinsley Quality of Life and Employment Survey Older people's responses



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Delivering Cleaner Air

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Tinsley Quality of Life and Employment Survey

Executive Summary of older people's responses

73 people aged 55 and over completed questionnaires for Tinsley Forum's survey which took place between September 2006 and January 2007. Women slightly outnumbered men, and older people were less ethnically diverse than Tinsley's population in general, with most being White-British. They tended to live in the S9 1W postcode area, from Highgate upwards, towards the top of Ferrars Road and St Lawrence Road.

Quality of Life

Most older people had lived in Tinsley 20 years or more and neither wanted to move away nor were likely to move. They generally felt fairly satisfied with the area as a place to live, with mixed feelings about whether the area had stayed about the same or got worse. The best aspects of the area were their neighbours and friendly people.

The table below summarises how older people felt about various quality of life issues in Tinsley. On issues such as the recreation ground, leisure/community facilities, opportunities for exercise and jobs for local people, only around half of older people responded, perhaps reflecting that they do not use these facilities.

Satisfied	Mixed feelings	Dissatisfied
Recreation ground	Leisure/community	General appearance of area
Library	Local shops	Street cleaning
Health services		Exercise opportunities
		Local policing
		Jobs for local people
		Public transport

Only 25 (34%) had visited the new Family Centre and regenerated recreation ground, although a further 19 older people had noticed changes in the park. Those who had visited or noticed the changes were generally satisfied.

Traffic issues

For older people, the volume and speed of traffic were the main problems, along with air pollution and associated health problems.

Safety

Older people generally felt safe, both in their own homes and outdoors after dark. They rated their fear of crime from low to mid-range on a score of 0-10. 7 people (10% of all older people) said they had been a victim of crime in the past 12 months, a lower proportion than for younger people in Tinsley, and much lower than the national average of 23%.

Tinsley Forum, Tinsley One Stop Shop, and Tinsley Tribune

Older people had visited the Advice Service and Tinsley Forum representatives at the One Stop Shop, but more than half of older people had never felt the need to visit it at all.

29 older people had attended a Tinsley Forum meeting, and 16 had raised issues with a Tinsley Forum representative. They were generally satisfied with the way Tinsley Forum dealt with local issues.

Most older people found the Tinsley Tribune newsletter fairly useful.

GPs, Carers and Health

Older people were quite equally split between the 2 Tinsley surgeries and Brinsworth, having chosen their GP for convenience, good reputation, or moved with the GP (to Brinsworth).

11 older people said they were carers for family or friends; 2 of them (aged 55-64) said their needs were not being met at all, and 1 (aged 65-74) said their needs were only partially met.

Most older people scored their health at 50-90 (out of 100 as being the best possible state of health). Mental health (happy and relaxed, low and fed up, stressed, and anxious) was rated similar to other age groups.

44% of older people said there was someone in their household with a limiting long term illness or health problem, and 39% of those aged 75 and over were on benefits.

Older people felt that healthy eating, health information and, to a lesser extent, stopping smoking would improve their health. In order to become more active, they felt better public transport, gentle exercise, someone to encourage them and an organised walking group would help.

Access

Older people found problems accessing social events, shopping and hospital. Whilst some older people drove or had access to a car, the lack of a good public transport service was the biggest access problem for older people.

Introduction

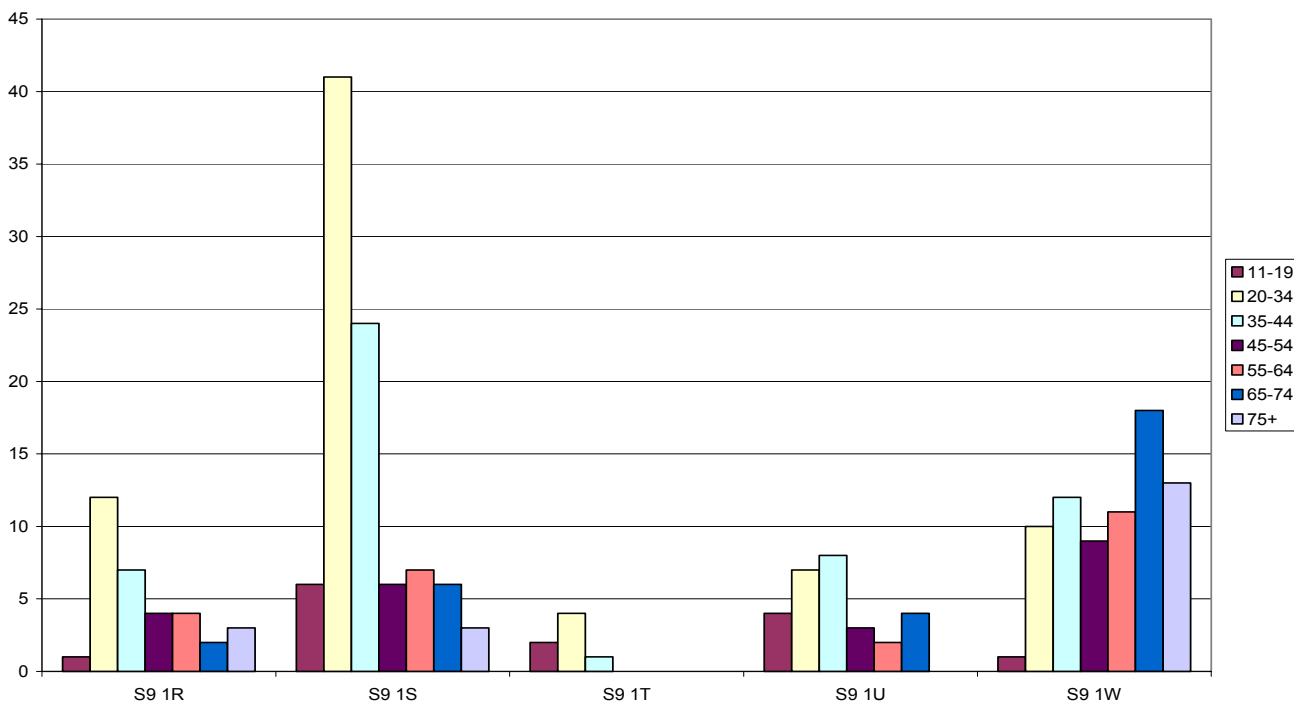
Tinsley Forum and Sheffield’s East End Quality of Life Initiative project (EEQOL) co-ordinated input from various organisations working in Tinsley to research local people’s attitudes to a wide range of issues such as:

- Quality of life in Tinsley
- The work of Tinsley Forum
- How people used Tinsley One Stop Shop
- Satisfaction with local health services
- Opportunities for healthy activities and sports
- Satisfaction with Tinsley Sure Start
- Satisfaction with local schools and services for younger people
- Satisfaction with the regeneration of Tinsley recreation ground
- The needs of carers and older people
- Road traffic problems
- Opportunities for training and employment locally.

8 interviewers (mainly local residents) called door-to-door in every part of Tinsley, selecting every 5th house in an attempt to produce a random sample of 300 households, and 253 completed questionnaires were received between September 2006 and January 2007, 73 completed by people aged 55 and over.

Geographical distribution of older people

The graph below shows the geographical distribution of people by age group, with younger people mostly in the S9 1R area, whilst older people tended to be more in the S9 1W area (from Highgate upwards, including top of St Lawrence Road and Ferrars Road).

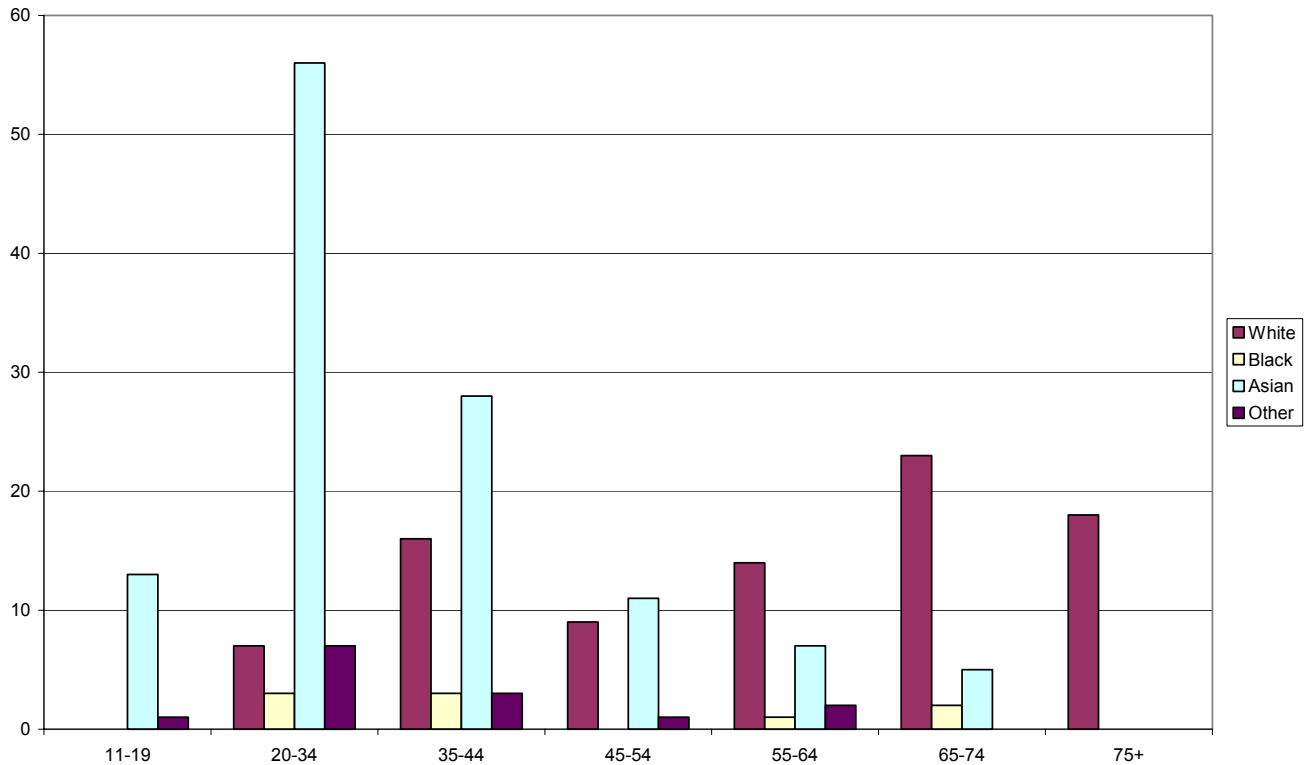


Age and Sex of older people

Overall, 32 men and 40 women aged 55 and over took part in the survey (the sex was not recorded for 1 older person).

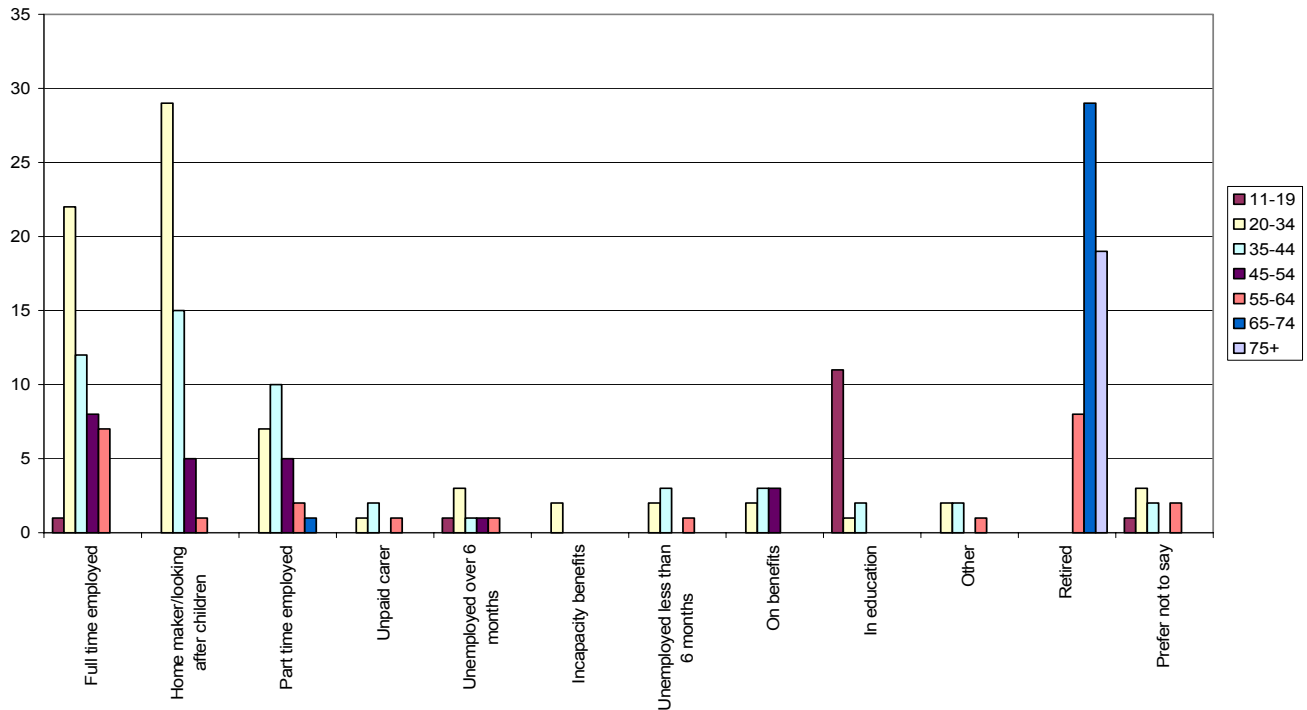
Age Group	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
Male	9	15	8	32
Female	15	15	10	40
Unknown			1	1
Total	24	30	19	73

The graph below shows the age distribution for the main ethnic groups. Those aged 55 and over were mainly White, with a few people from other ethnic groups.



Employment

Whilst those aged 65 and over were mostly retired, 1 person from this age group was in part-time employment. 7 people aged 55-64 were in full-time employment, 2 in part-time employment, and a few others were looking after families, unpaid carers, and unemployed.

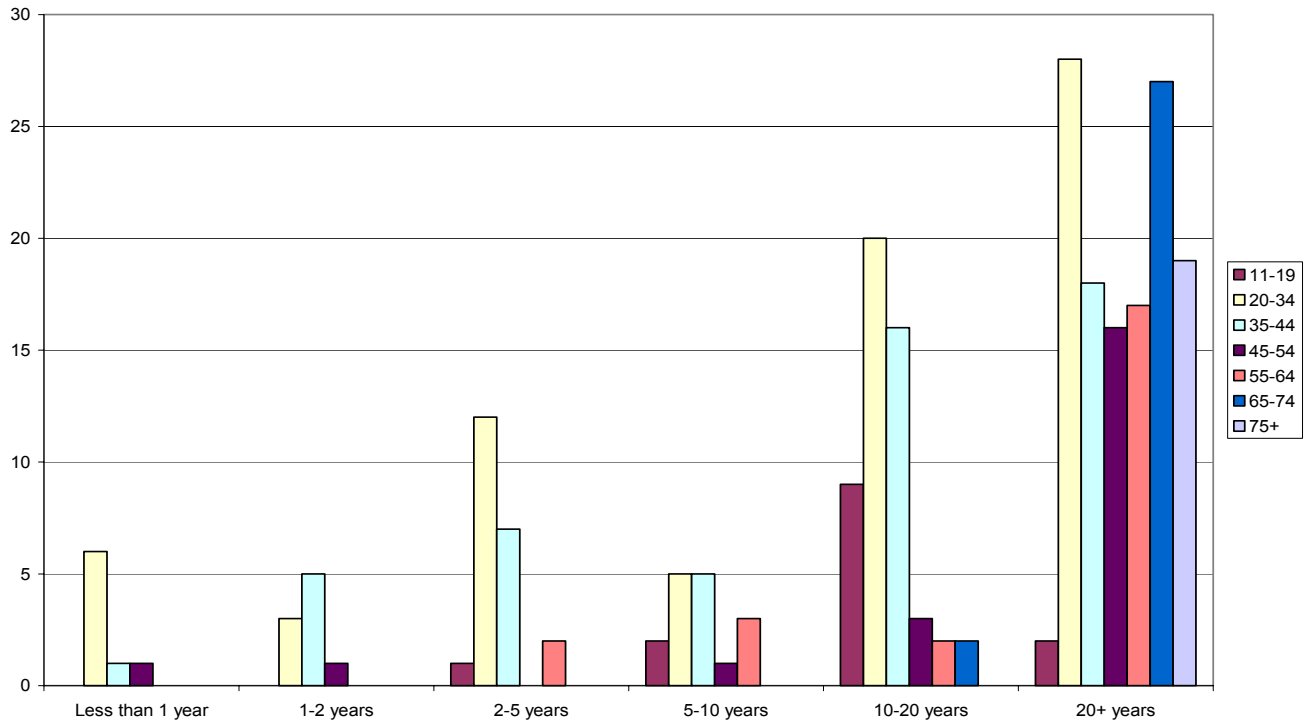


The table below shows that 23 older people had worked locally, but no others had ever tried to find a local job.

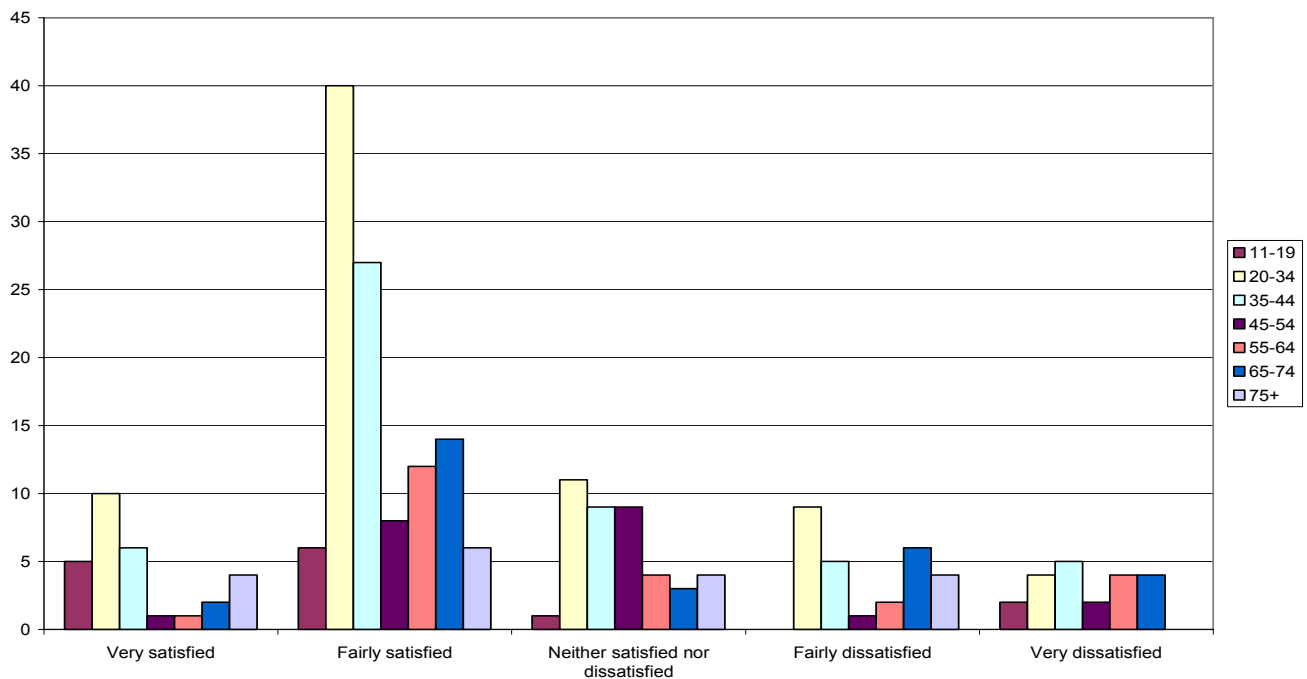
Age group	Have worked locally
55-64	9
65-74	8
75+	6
Total	23

Satisfaction with Tinsley as a place to live

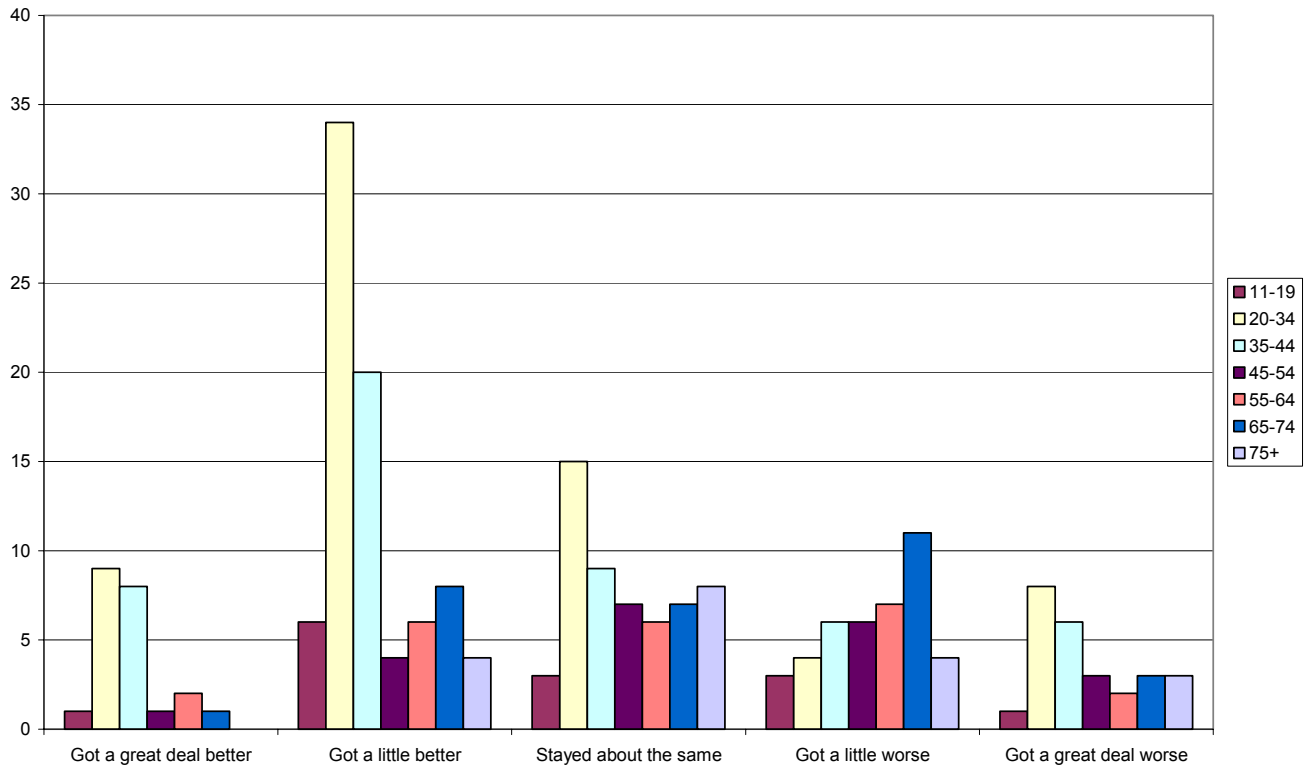
The graph below shows how long people from different age groups had lived in Tinsley. Most of the older age groups had lived in Tinsley for 20 years or more.



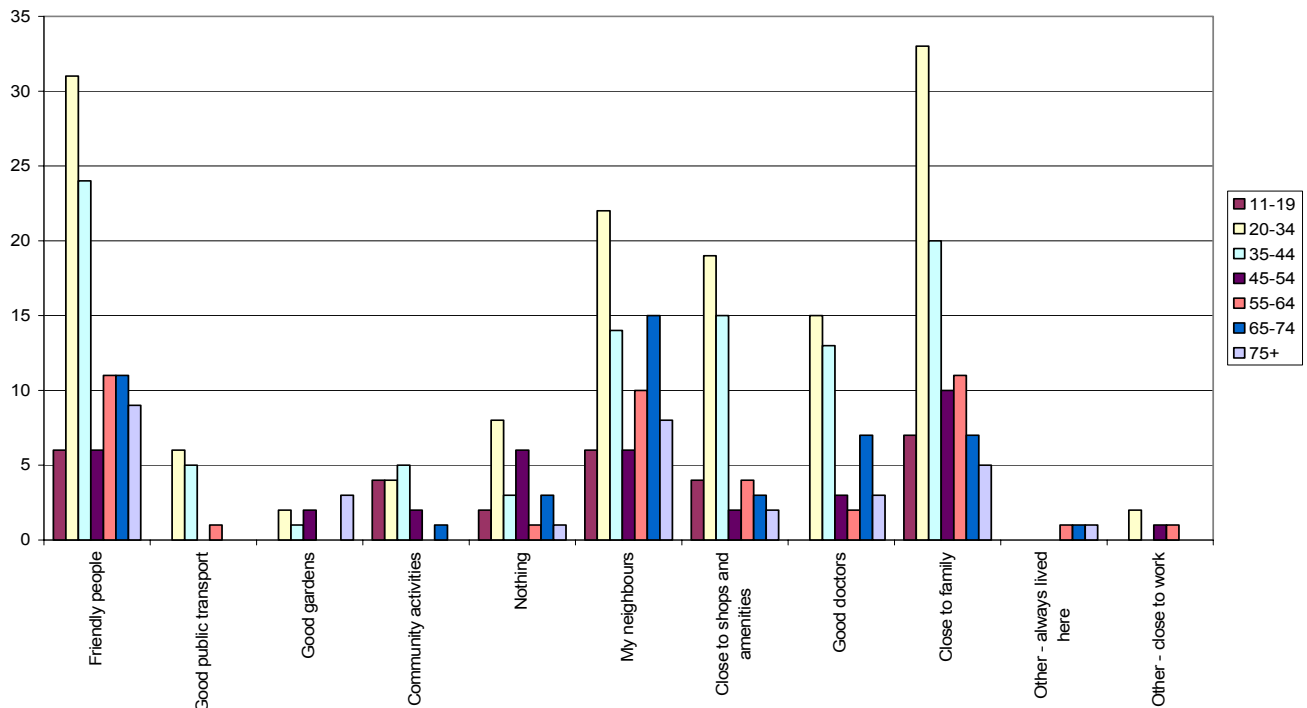
The graph below reflects levels of satisfaction with the area by different age groups. Although generally fairly satisfied with the area, some older people felt dissatisfied.



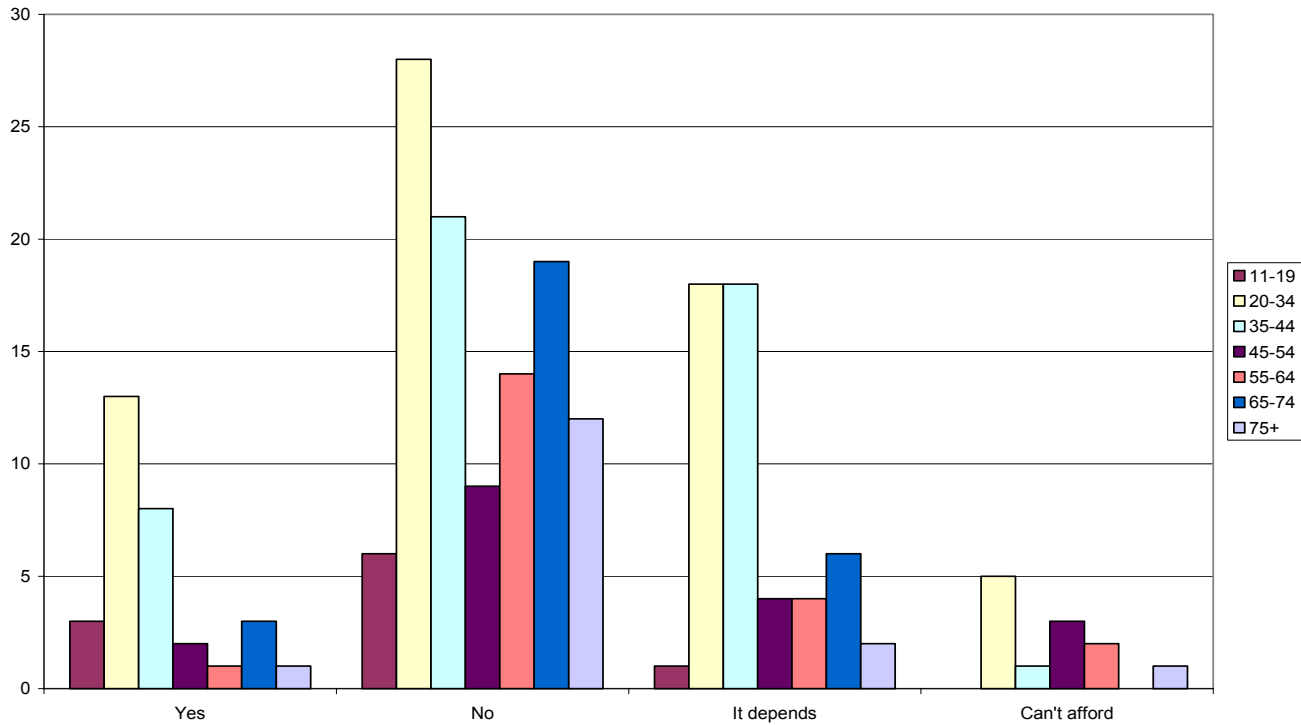
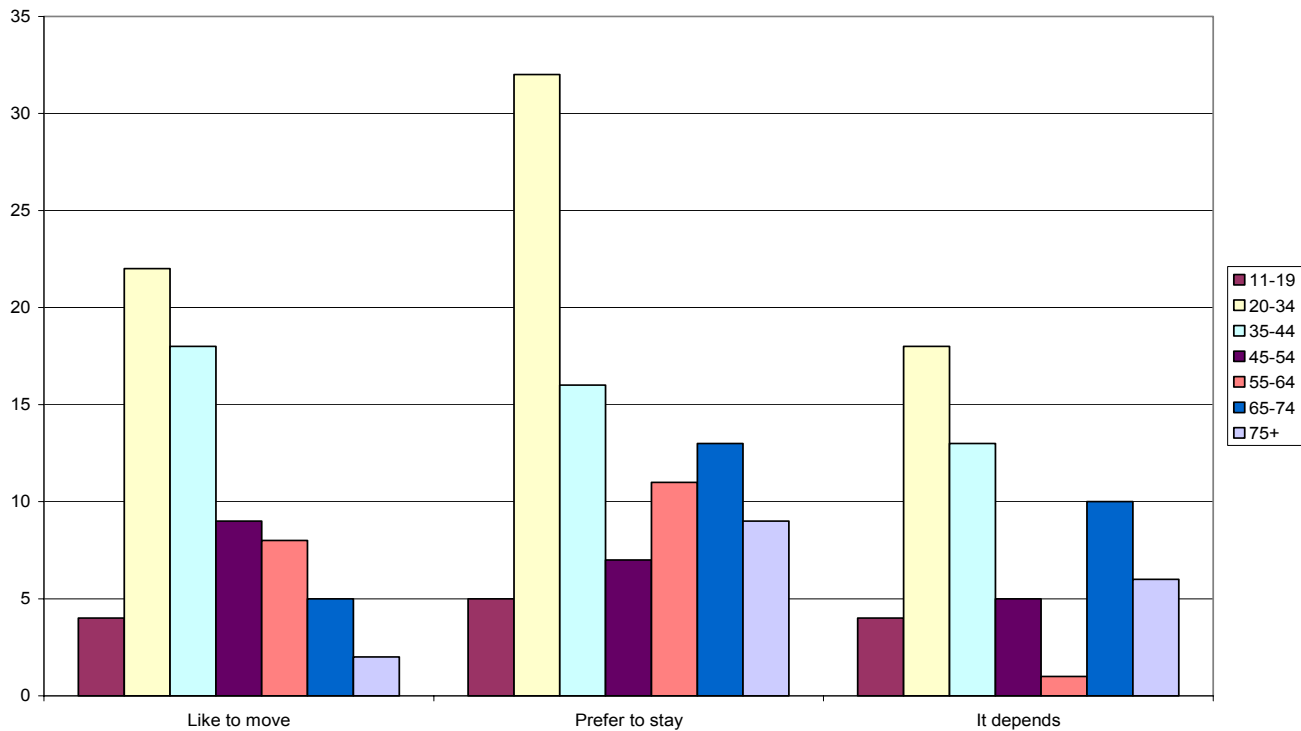
Looking at responses by age groups, younger people were more likely to say the area had got a little better, whilst older people were slightly more likely to say it had got a little worse.



When responses from the different age groups are compared, younger people were more likely to choose close to family, friendly people and neighbours. For older people, their neighbours and friendly people were more important.



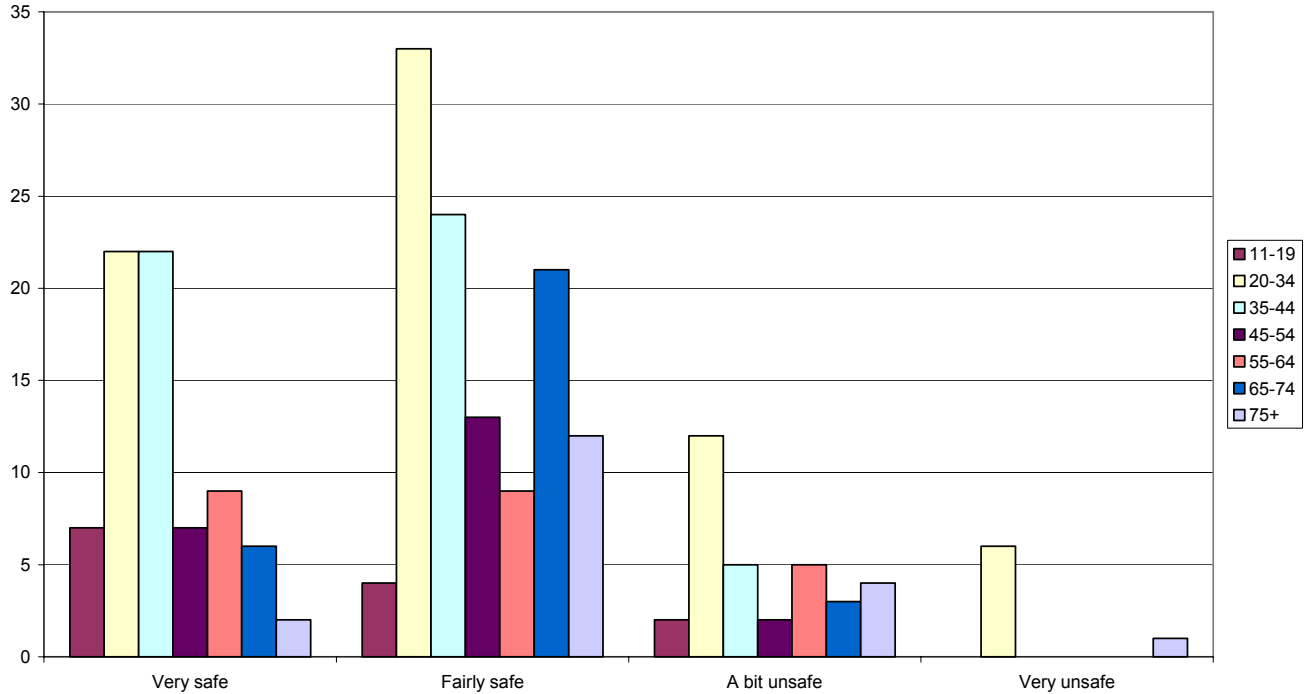
Older people were more likely to say they would prefer to stay in the area, and would be unlikely to move out.



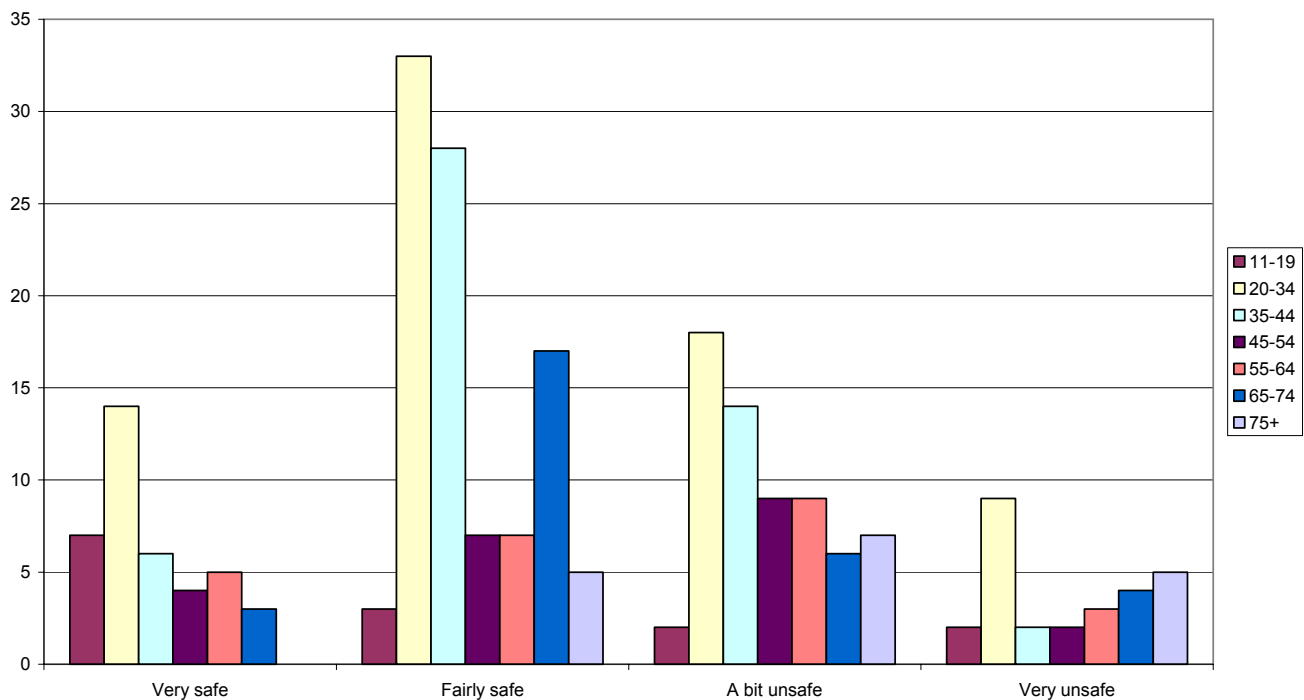
Safety and crime

The graphs below show older people generally felt safe in their own homes, and a little less safe walking in the area after dark.

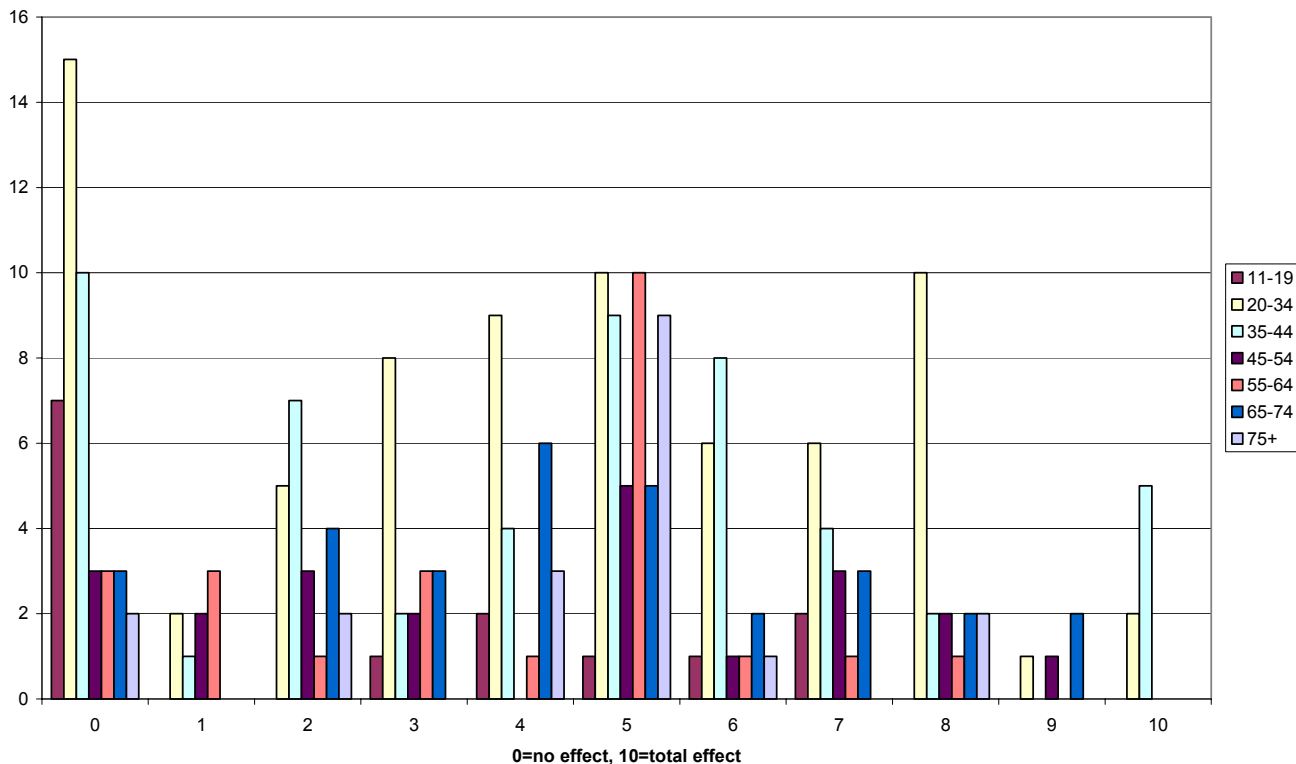
At home



Walking in the area



The graph below shows how people from the various age groups scored how much their lives were affected by fear of crime. Older people seem to rate their fear of crime around the mid to low scores (0-5).



Overall, 16% of all respondents said they had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months. This would suggest that Tinsley is a safer neighbourhood than nationally, where the BCS reported the risk of being a victim of crime as 23%. Sheffield City Council's latest Neighbourhood Index Score rates Tinsley safer than Sheffield overall.

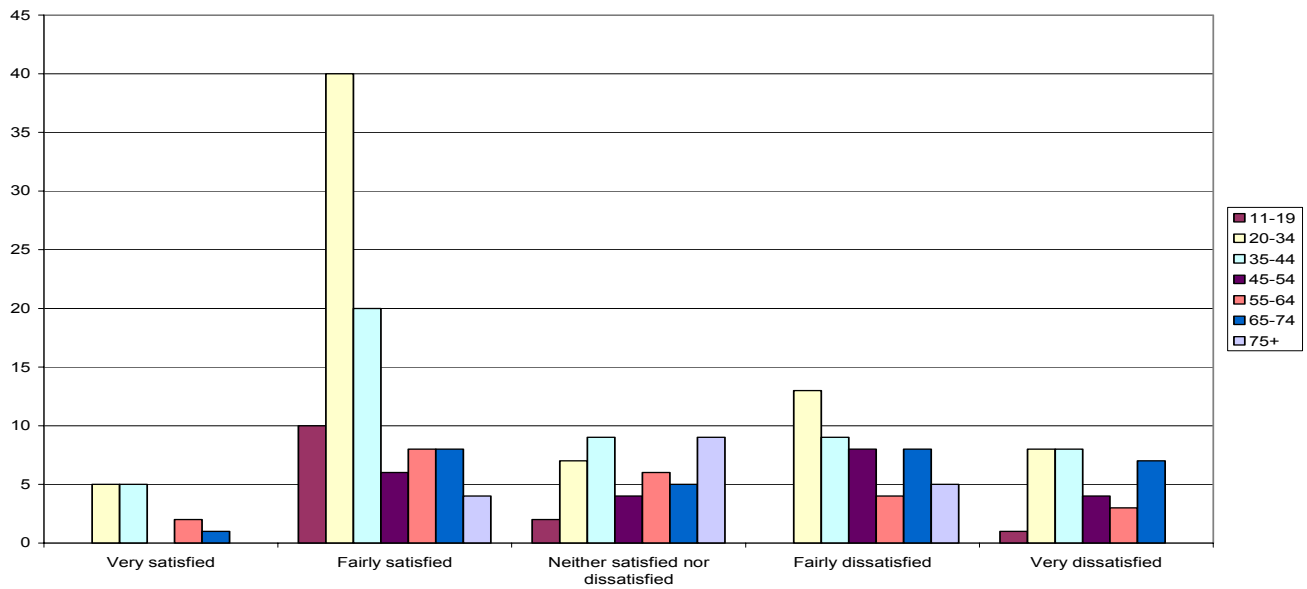
The table below shows that younger people are much more likely to be victims of crime.

Age group	11-19	20-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Victim of crime % of group total	29%	24%	13%	14%	17%	3%	16%

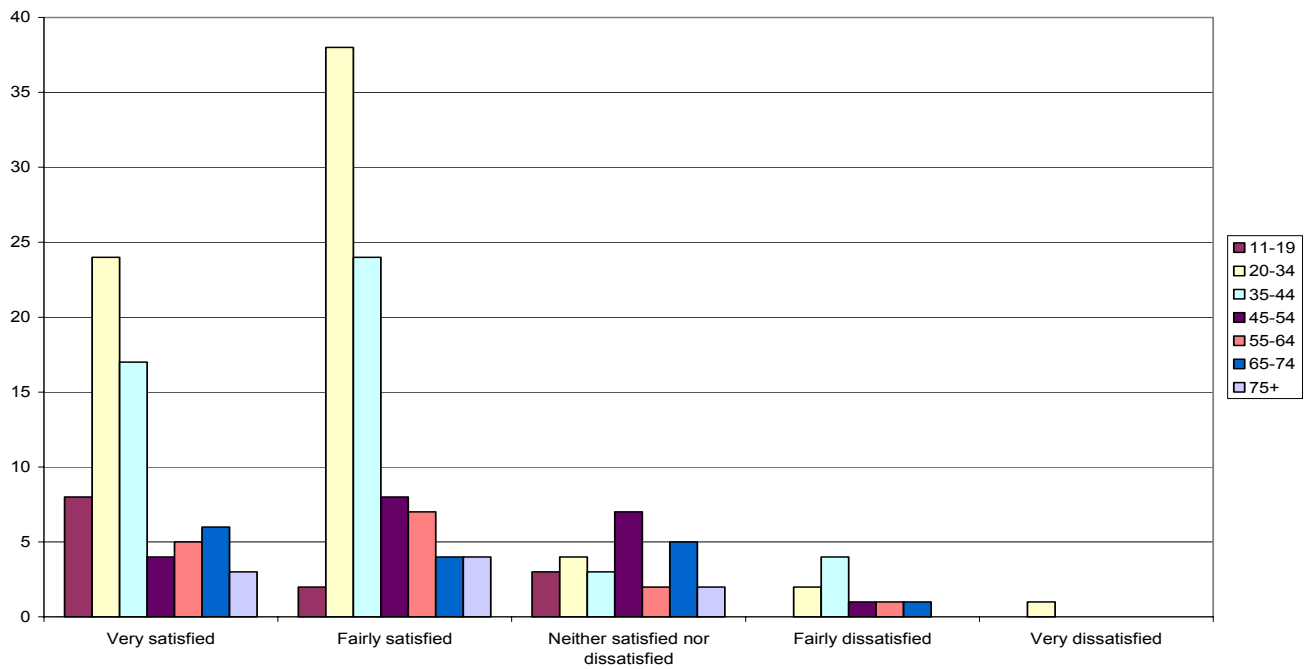
2 men and 5 women aged 55 and over said they had been victims of crime (10% of all the older people who took part in the survey).

Quality of life issues

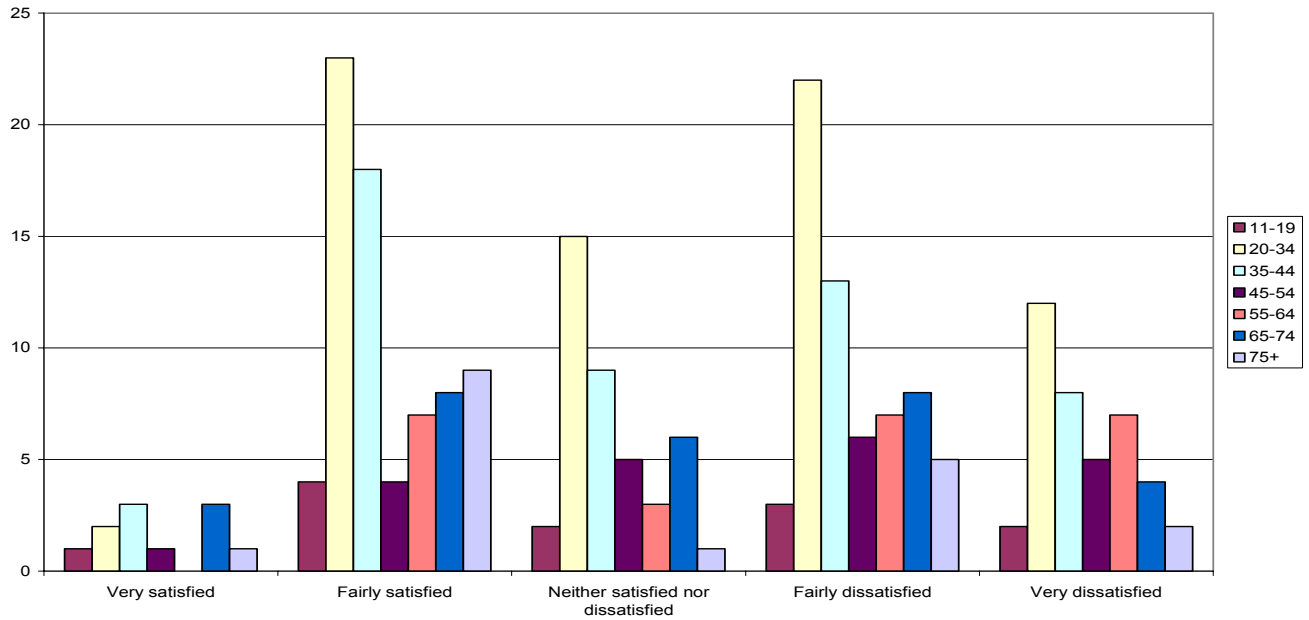
The older age groups were less satisfied with the general appearance of the area than younger people.



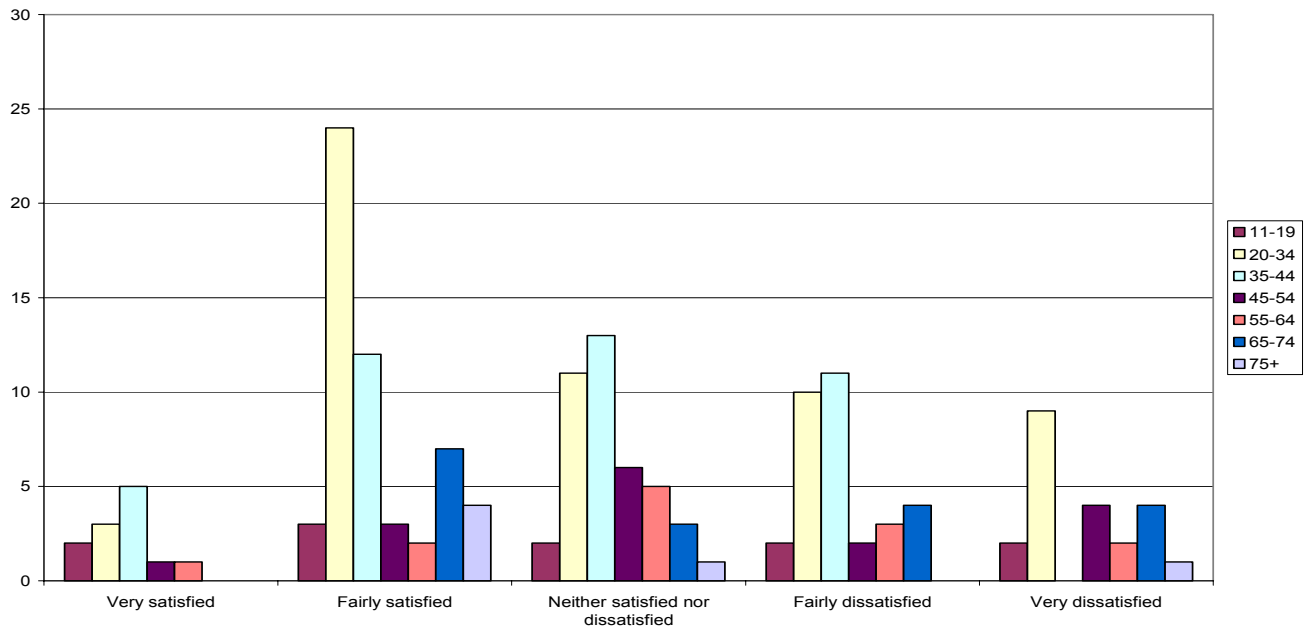
Only 40 people aged 55 and over (just over half of older respondents) expressed an opinion about the local recreation ground. Those that did were generally satisfied.



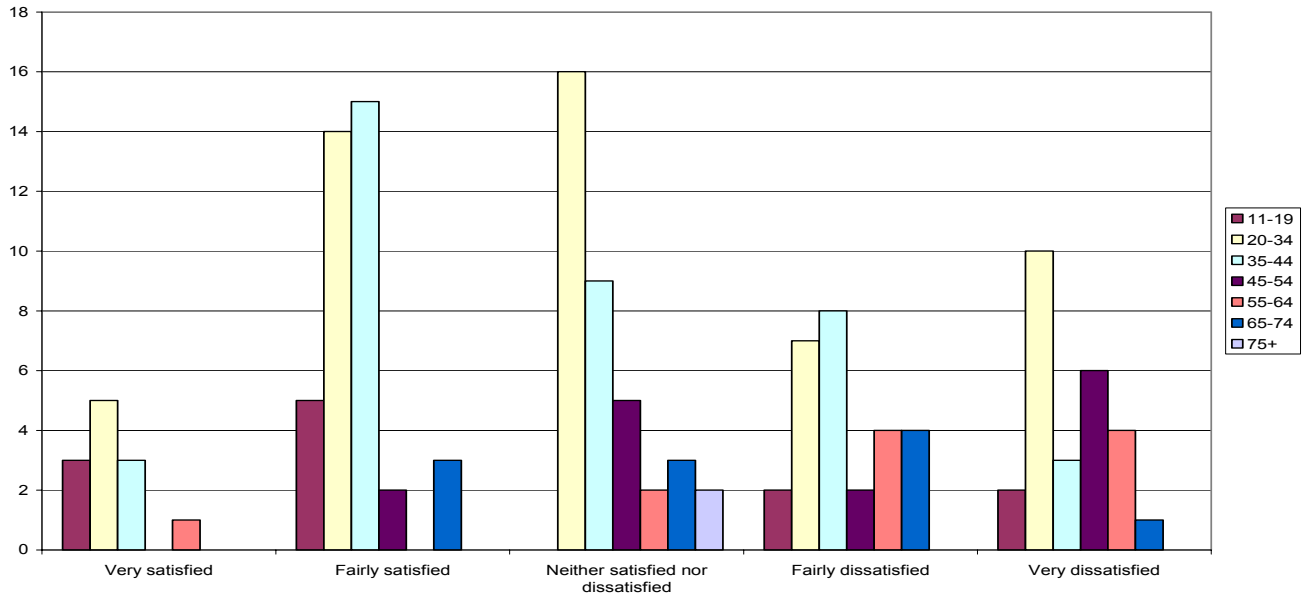
Looking at street cleaning, older people expressed a range of views, from fairly satisfied to very dissatisfied.



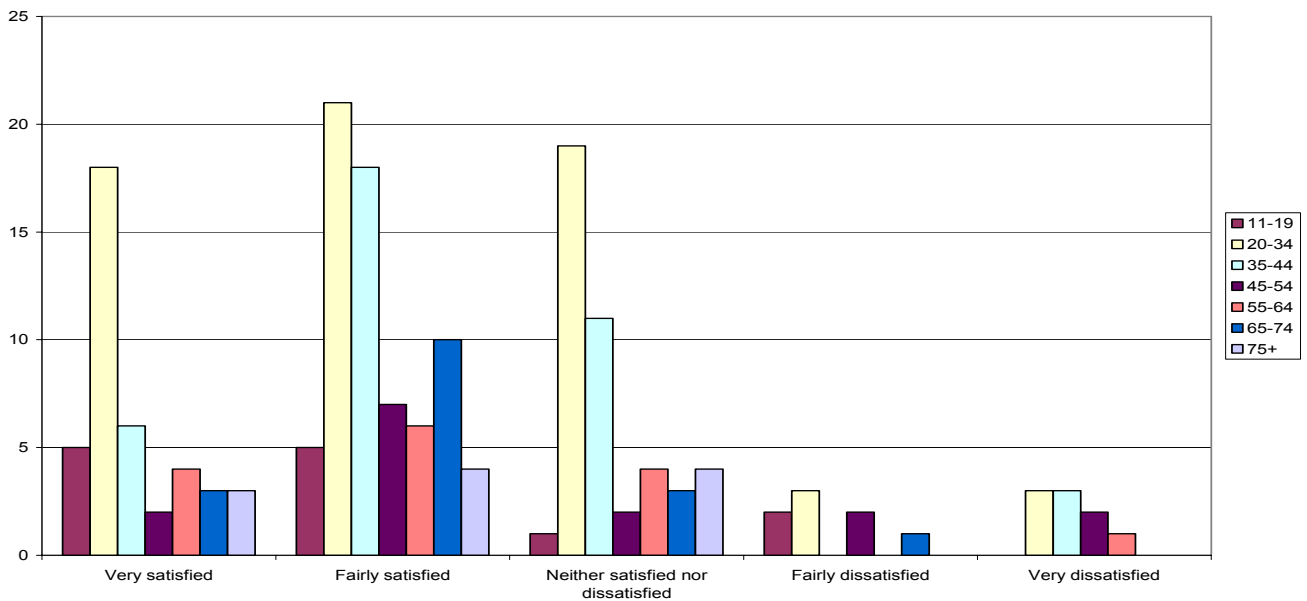
Only 37 people from older age groups expressed an opinion about local leisure and community facilities than other age groups.



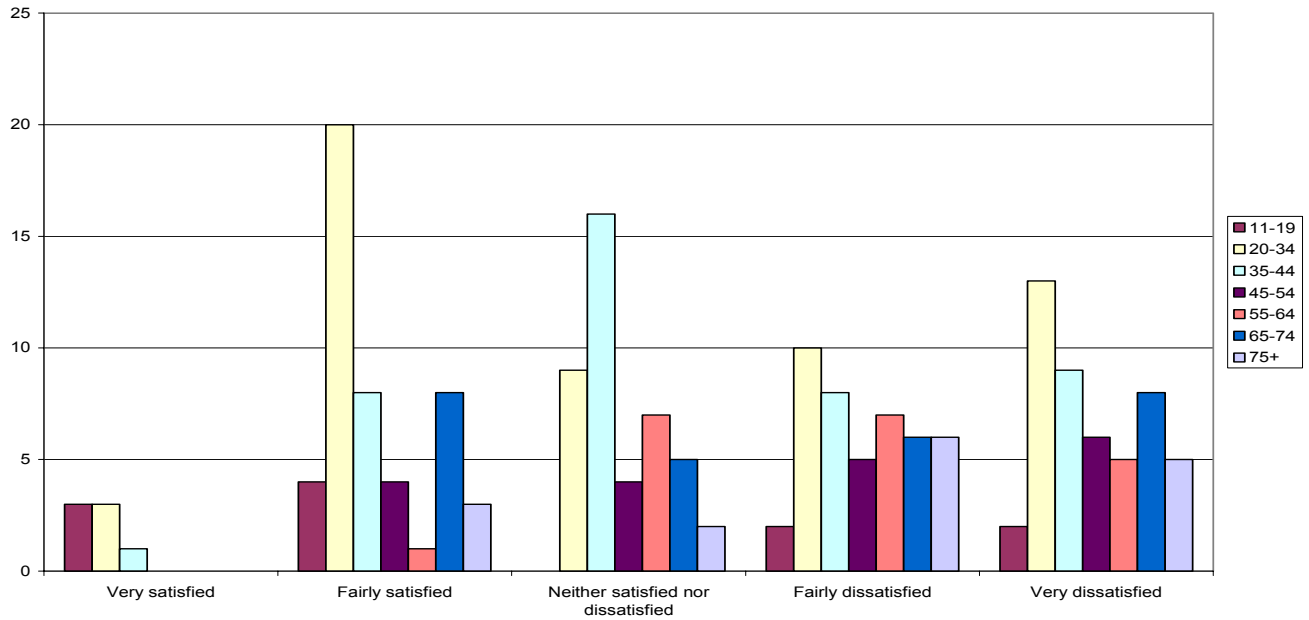
More than half of those aged 55 and over did not know or did not use local exercise opportunities.



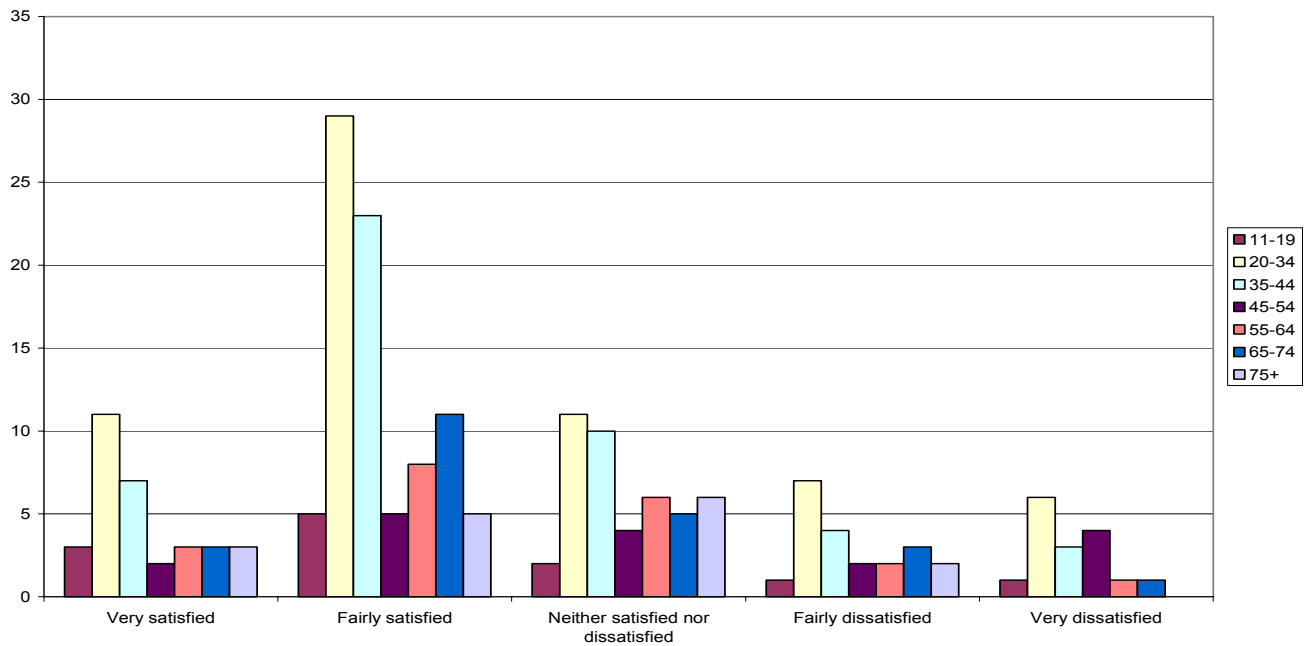
The graph below shows similar patterns of satisfaction with Tinsley library over the different age groups, and older people (aged 55 and over) generally displayed satisfaction with it.



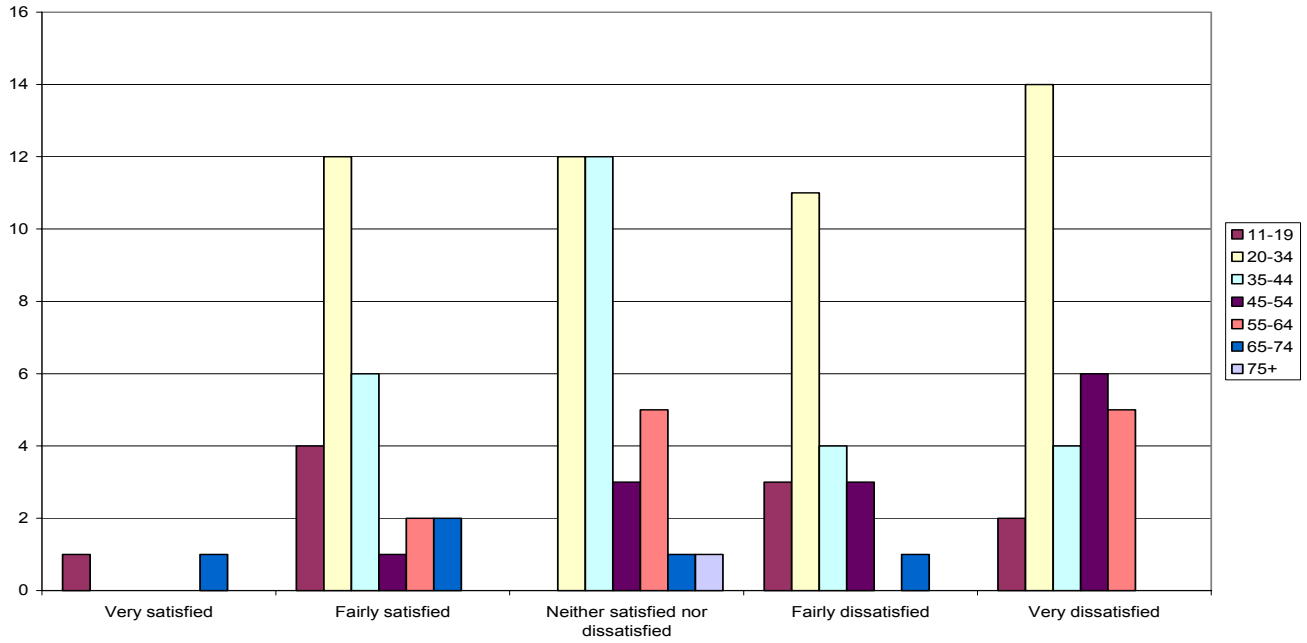
Looking at responses from different age groups, older people seemed quite dissatisfied with the quality of local policing.



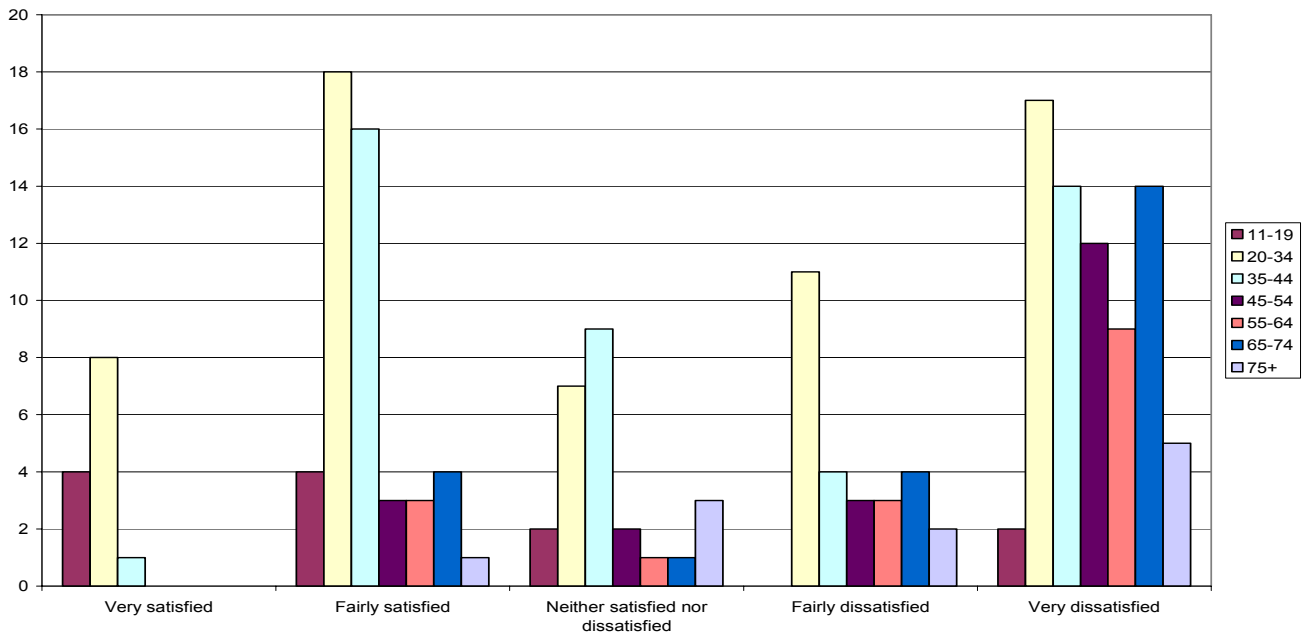
The graph below shows older people were generally fairly satisfied with local health services.



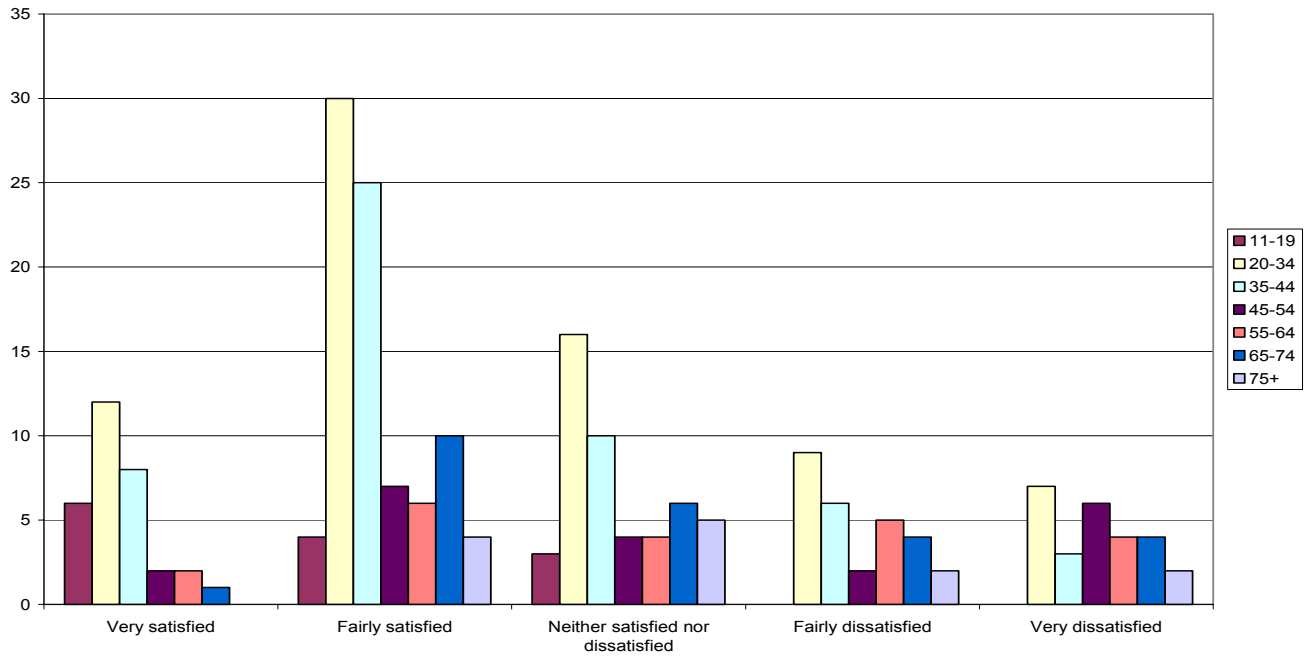
Looking at the availability of jobs for local people, there were few responses from people aged 65 and over, but 5 people aged 55-64 said they were very dissatisfied.



Those aged 55 and over were generally very dissatisfied with public transport.

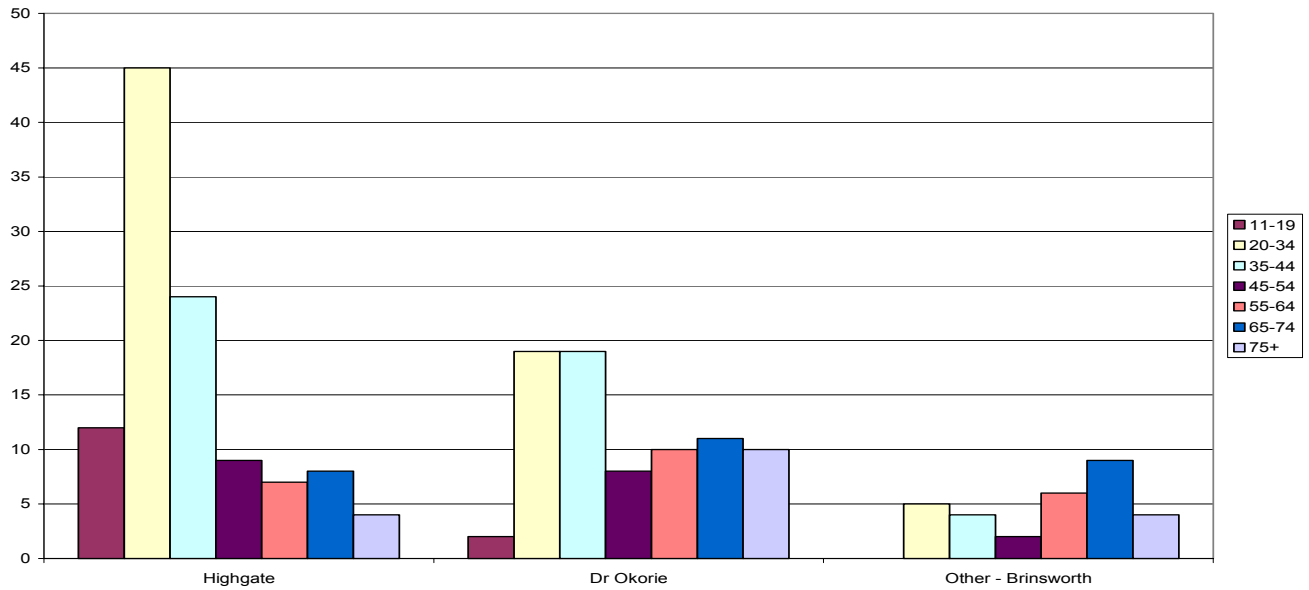


21 older people said they were either fairly or very dissatisfied with the quality of local shops.

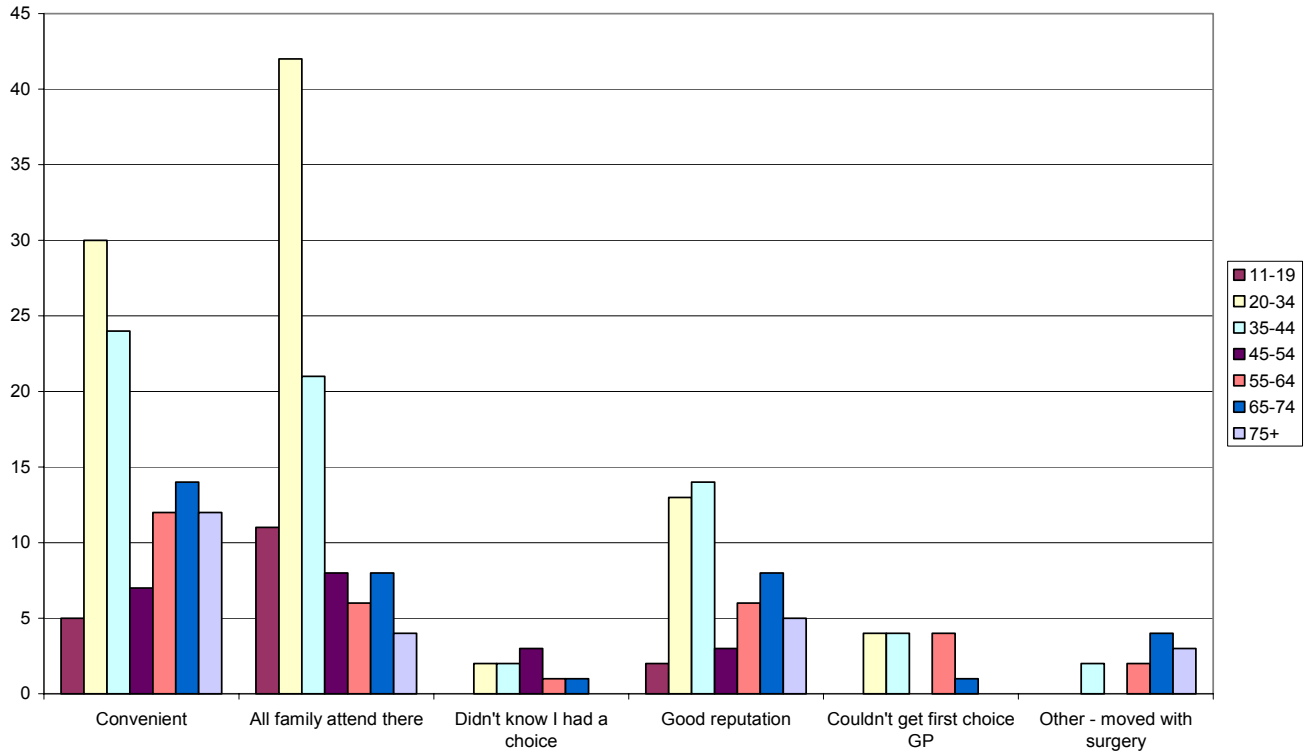


GP surgeries

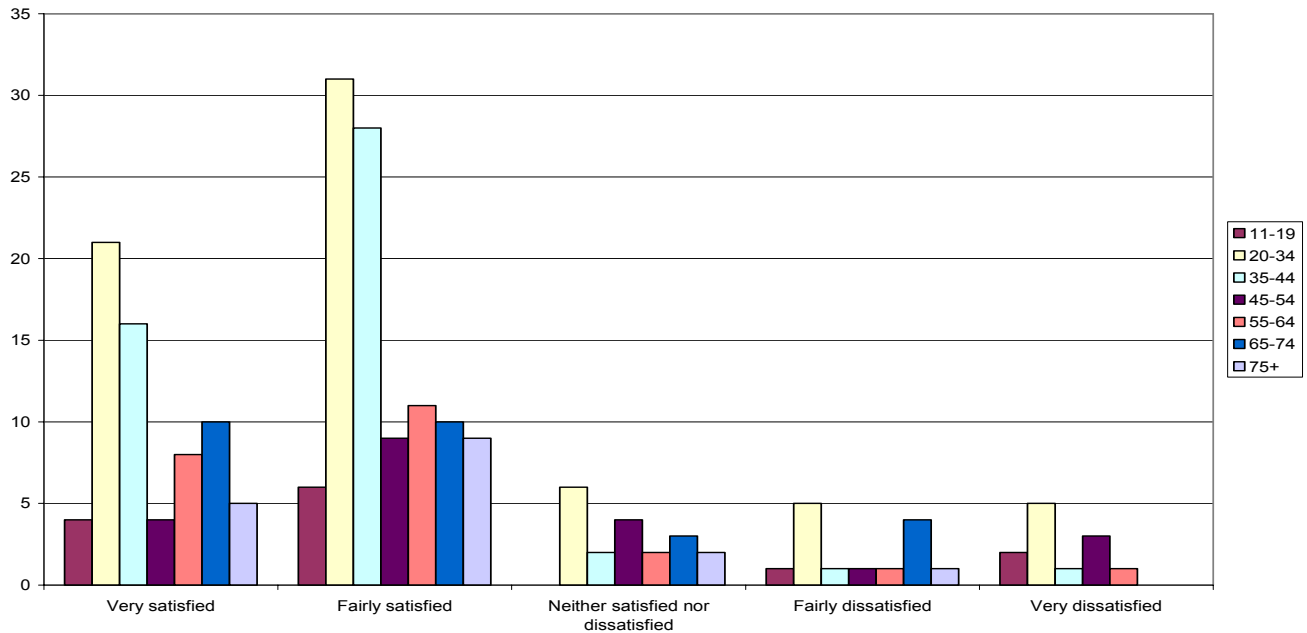
Older people were quite evenly distributed over the 2 Tinsley surgeries and Brinsworth.



Older people chose their GP because the surgery was convenient, had a good reputation, or they had moved with their existing GP (to Brinsworth).



Over the different age groups, similar levels of satisfaction with GP services were expressed.



Carers' needs

The table below shows that, out of a total of 34 people who took part in the survey who provided unpaid personal help for either a family member or a friend, 11 were aged 55 and over.

Age group	Total
Unknown	1
11-19	2
20-34	10
35-44	6
45-54	4
55-64	5
65-74	5
75+	1
Total	34

People were asked if they had any particular needs as a carer, and the table below summarises their responses by age group.

Carers' particular needs by age group	11-19	20-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	Total
a job		1				1
disabled child					1	1
cancelled help because it was intermittent					1	1
more access to what is available for carers			1			1
more home help				1	1	2
not at present	1	2			1	4
help with condition of the house	1					1
Transport would be a big problem if person cared for could not afford car				1		1
financial help		1		1		2

The table below shows that only 3 older people felt their needs as a carer were not being fully met, 2 of them whose needs were not being met at all were aged 55-64.

Are your health needs as a carer:	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
Fully met	3	3	1	7
Partially met		1		1
Not met at all	2			2
Total	5	4	1	10

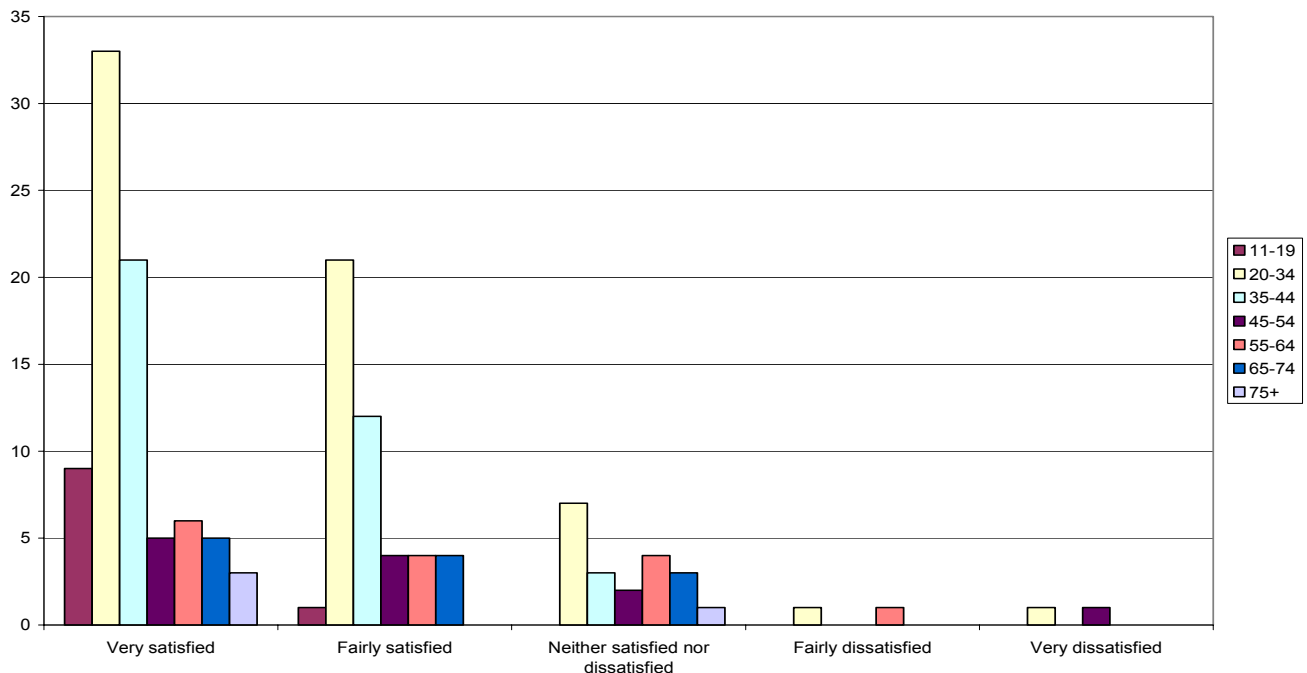
Tinsley Green Family Centre and recreation ground

Following the recent regeneration work in Tinsley recreation ground, including the building of the new Tinsley Green Family Centre, people were asked whether they had either visited the recreation ground and new building, or noticed the changes there, and if so, what they thought of them. The table below shows that 25 older people who took part in the survey had visited the new centre, and another 19 had noticed the changes.

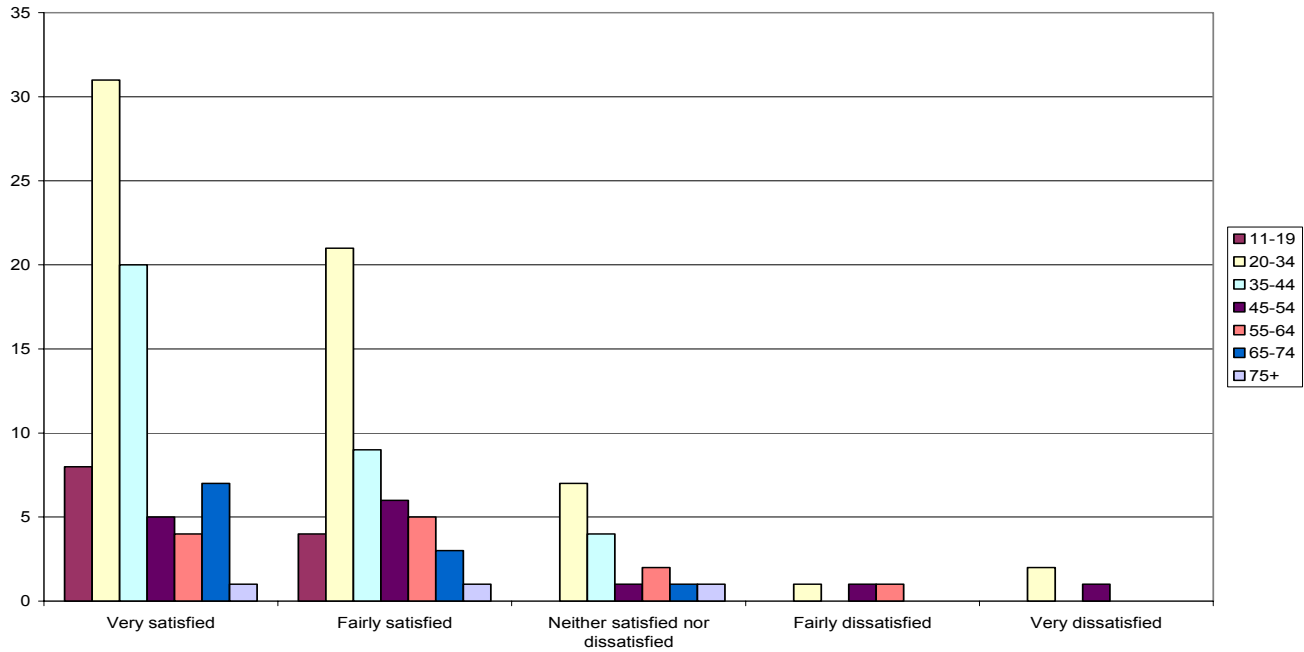
Age group	Yes, visited	Noticed changes
Unknown	10	4
11-19	9	2
20-34	44	13
35-44	30	11
45-54	13	5
55-64	11	6
65-74	11	7
75+	3	6
Total	131	54

The following graphs show what people thought about various aspects of the building and the recreation ground.

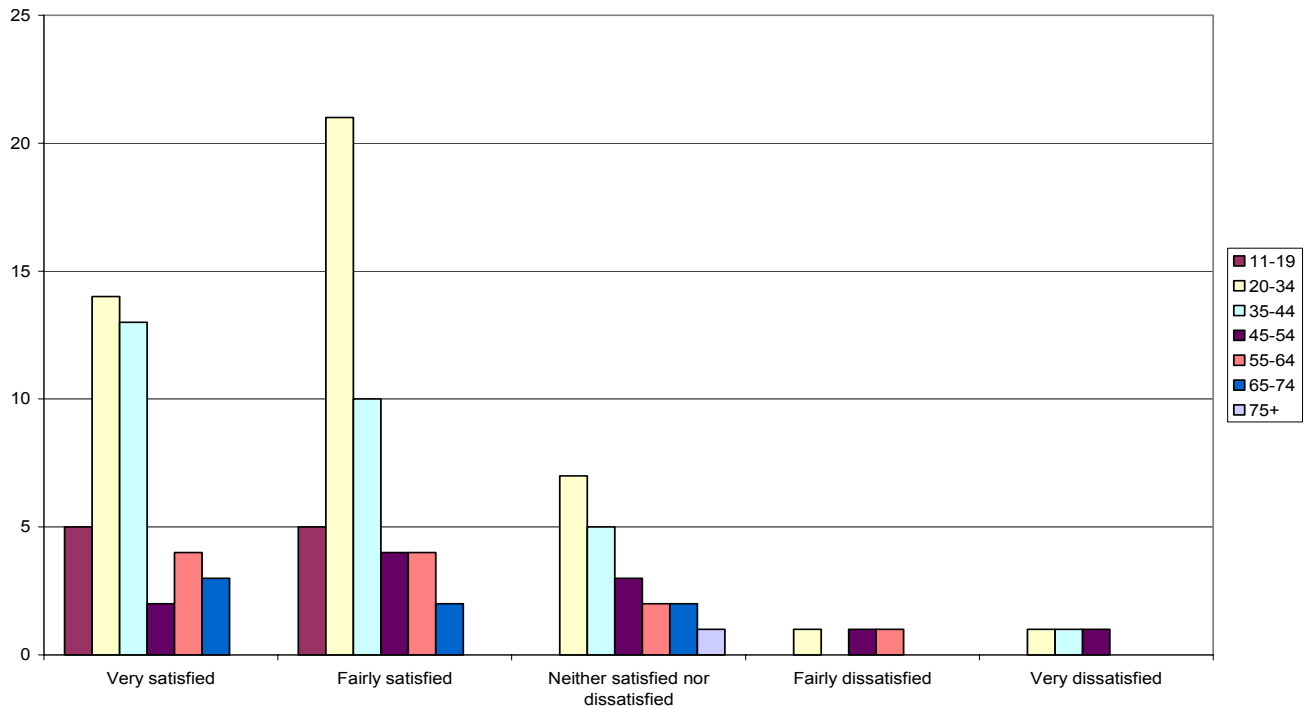
Very few people expressed dissatisfaction with the new building. Many people from younger age groups expressed satisfaction, perhaps reflecting that it is currently mainly used for TPCC childcare and Sure Start services for families with very young children. 31 older people responded.



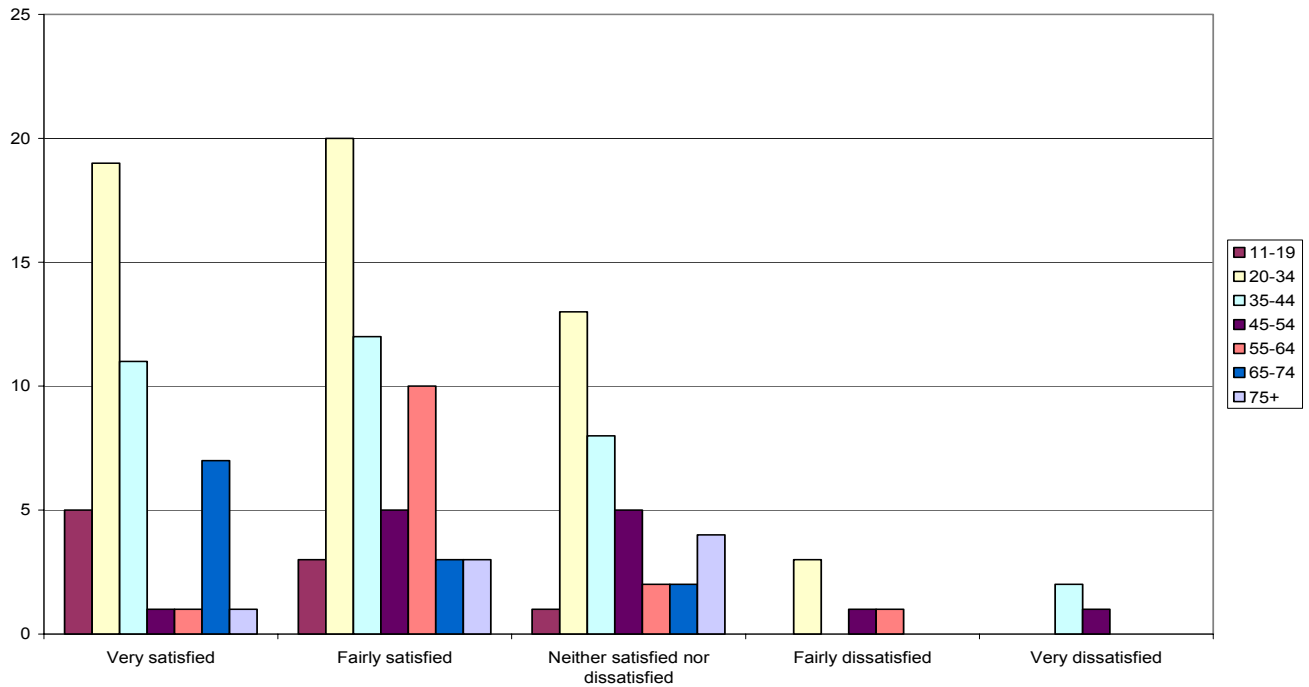
Very few people expressed dissatisfaction with the new children’s play facilities; mainly younger people responded to this question (26 older people responded).



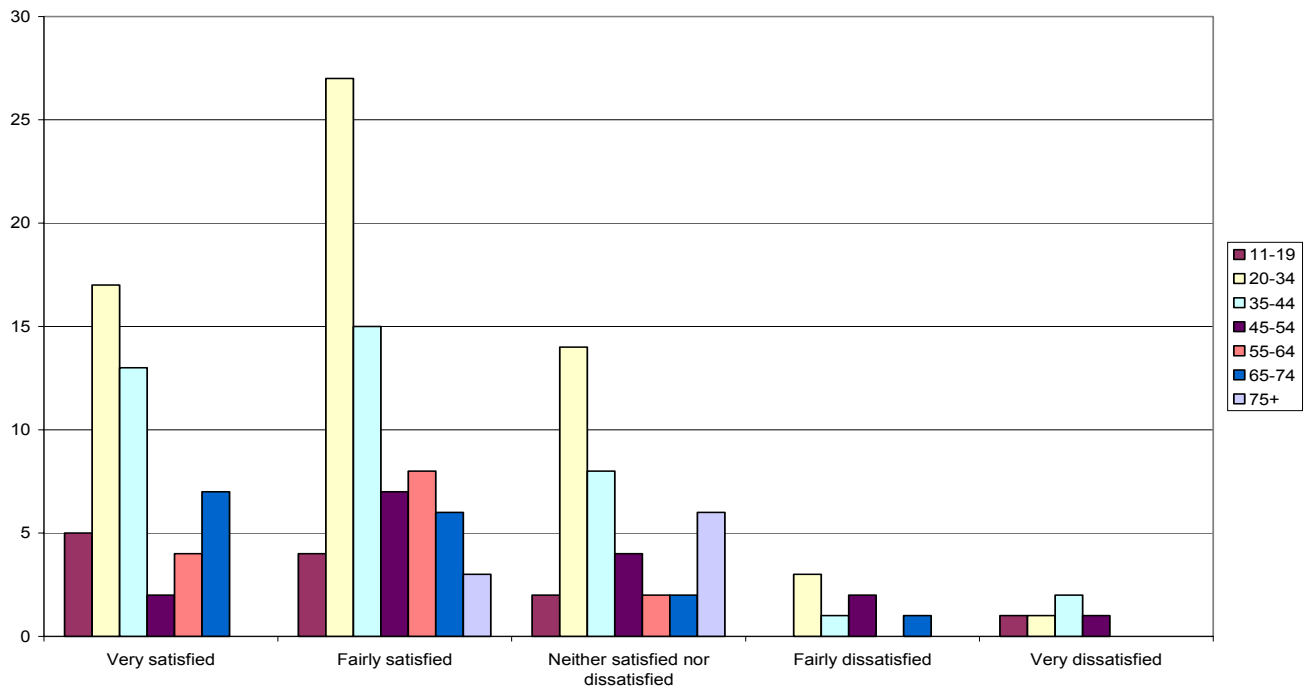
Very few people from the older age groups seem to be using the new sports facilities and activities based in the recreation ground (only 19 responses).



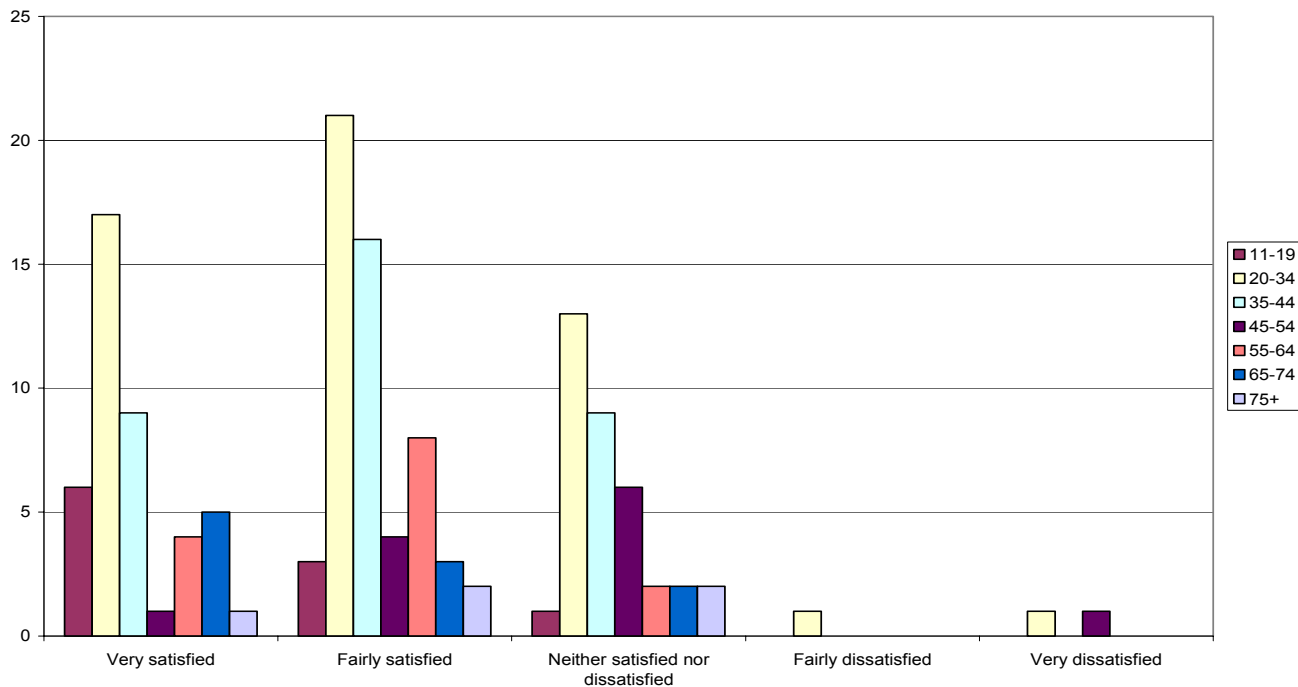
People from all age groups seemed to be generally happy with the landscaping in the recreation ground (34 older people responded).



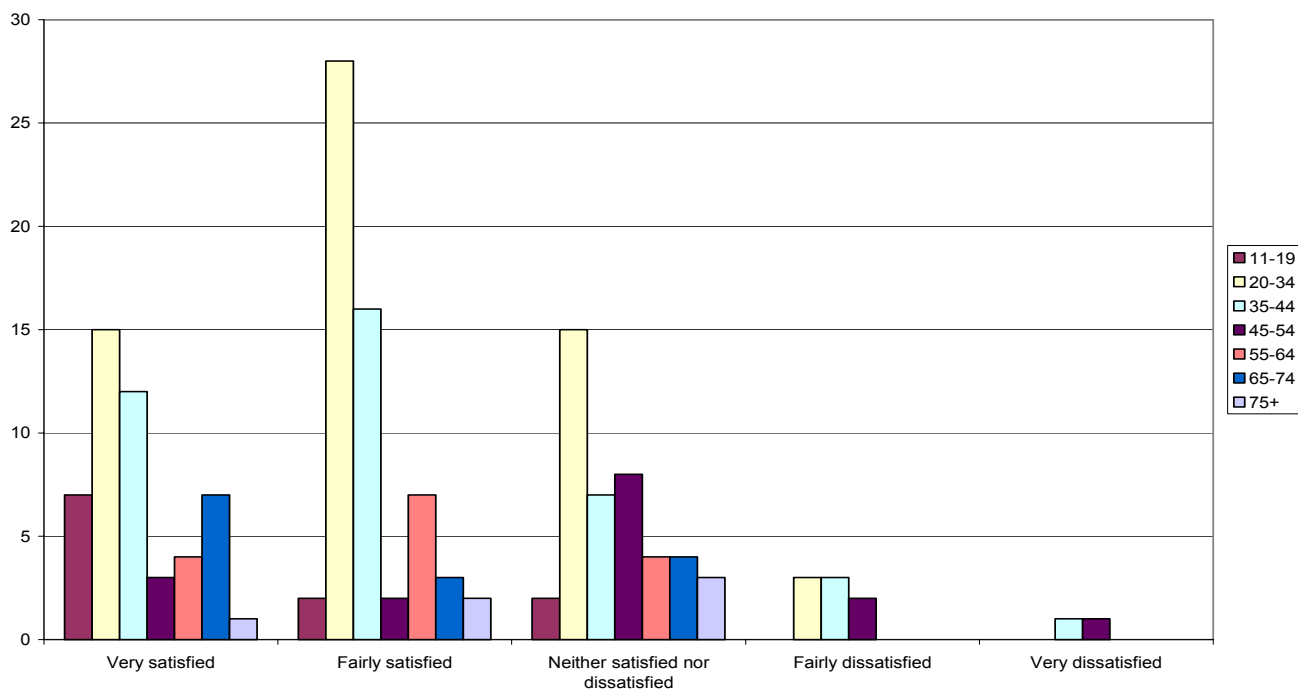
Despite much of the planting being incomplete, or too recent to have been seen at its best, people generally seemed satisfied with the way things were going (39 older people responded).



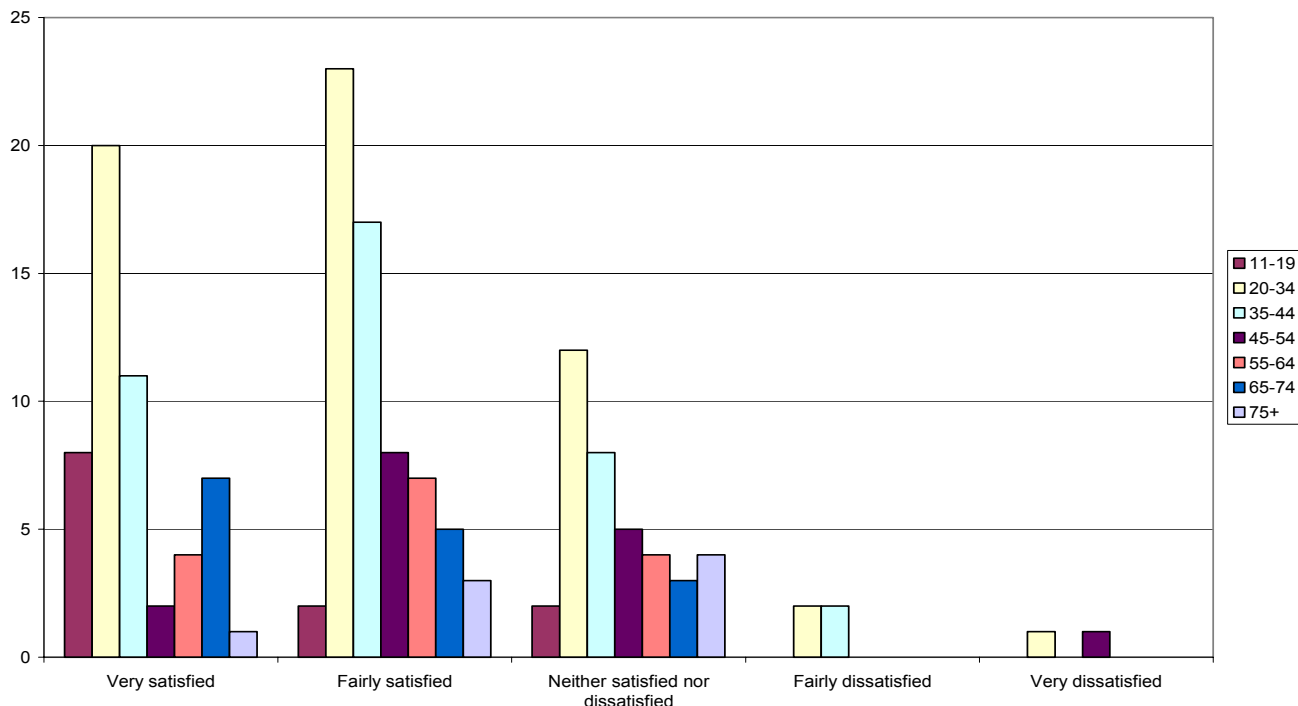
People across most age groups seemed generally happy with the new paths that had been put in the recreation ground, with only 29 responses from the older age groups.



Generally, people seemed to be reasonably satisfied with the new park furniture (35 older people responded).



People from all age groups generally expressed satisfaction with the new fencing, entrances and boundaries to the recreation ground (38 older people responded).



Road traffic problems

The tables below show that the volume and speed of traffic, and air pollution are problems for older people.

32a. Volume of traffic	55-64	65-74	75+	Total	% of total older people
Big problem	10	15	5	30	41%
Slight problem	6	7	6	19	26%
Total	16	22	11	49	

32b. Speed of traffic	55-64	65-74	75+	Total	% of total older people
Big problem	13	15	10	38	52%
Slight problem	3	7	1	11	15%
Total	16	22	11	49	

32c. Noise from local traffic	55-64	65-74	75+	Total	% of total older people
Big problem	8	9	4	21	29%
Slight problem	5	9	5	19	26%
Total	13	18	9	40	

32d. Noise from motorway	55-64	65-74	75+	Total	% of total older people
Big problem	6	7	2	15	21%
Slight problem	3	6	4	13	18%
Grand Total	9	13	6	28	

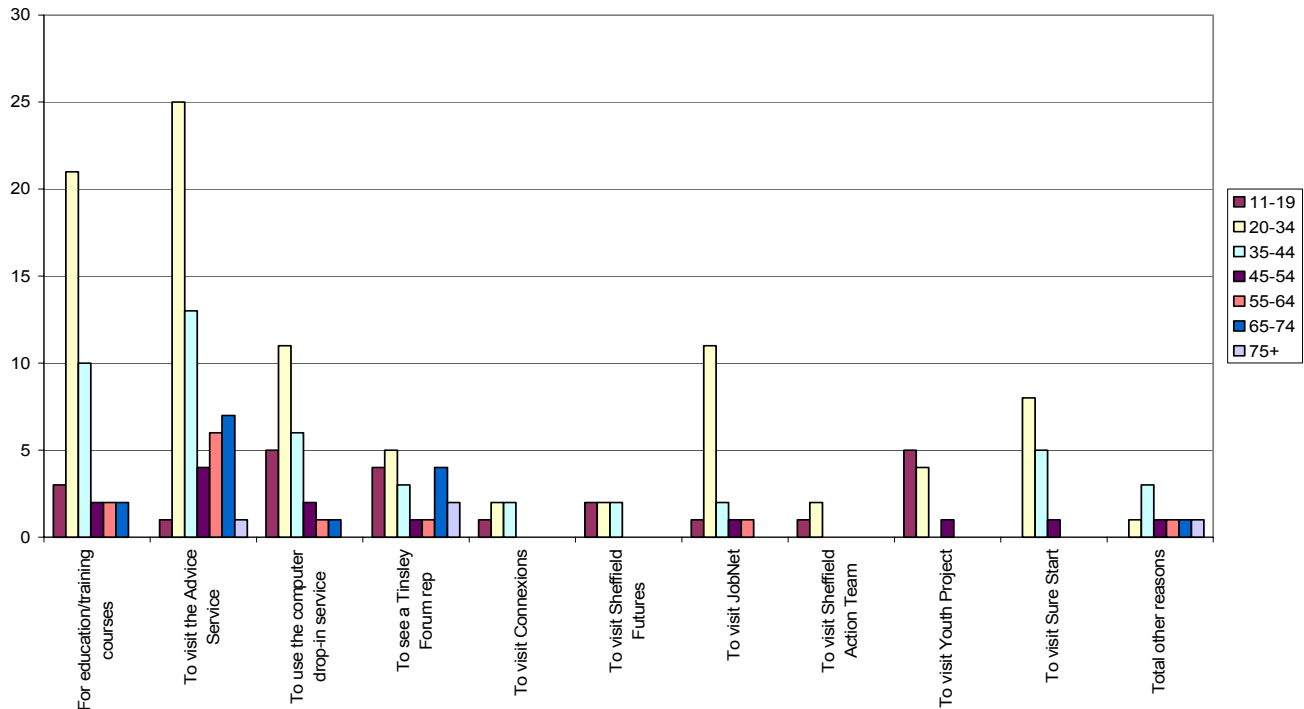
32e. Air pollution	55-64	65-74	75+	Grand Total	% of total older people
Big problem	11	12	8	31	42%
Slight problem	6	6	3	15	21%
Grand Total	17	18	11	46	

People were asked to explain how traffic problems in Tinsley affected their lives, and 44 older people gave detailed comments. These are summarised below, sorted in descending order of the number of older people who commented.

Affect	Older people's comments
Speed	16
Pollution and health	13
Congestion (making people late for work, school, etc.)	10
Noise and sleep disturbance	8
Safety of children and older people	8
Parking problems	6
Youth nuisance (mini motorbikes, loud music, racing)	6
Meadowhall traffic problems	4
Asthma and other allergies	2
Speed bumps (inconvenient, ineffective)	1
Unpleasant smells	1
Arena traffic problems	1

Tinsley One Stop Shop

There were 34 responses from people aged 55 and over about use of the One Stop Shop. Older people seem to have used the One Stop Shop mainly for the Advice Service and to see a Tinsley Forum rep.



The people who had used the One Stop Shop were asked how they had benefited. 13 older people made comments, and these are summarised below.

Service or comment	Positive Comments	Negative Comments
Advice Service	5	1
Training and computers/IT	2	
English classes	1	
Information, leaflets	1	

The following table shows that 44 older people (60% of older respondents) had not been to the One Stop Shop, mostly because they had not needed to go.

People who had not been to the One Stop Shop:	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
Never needed to	12	15	8	35
Don't know where it is			2	2
Never heard of it	2	2	1	5
Not had the time	1	1		2

Tinsley Forum

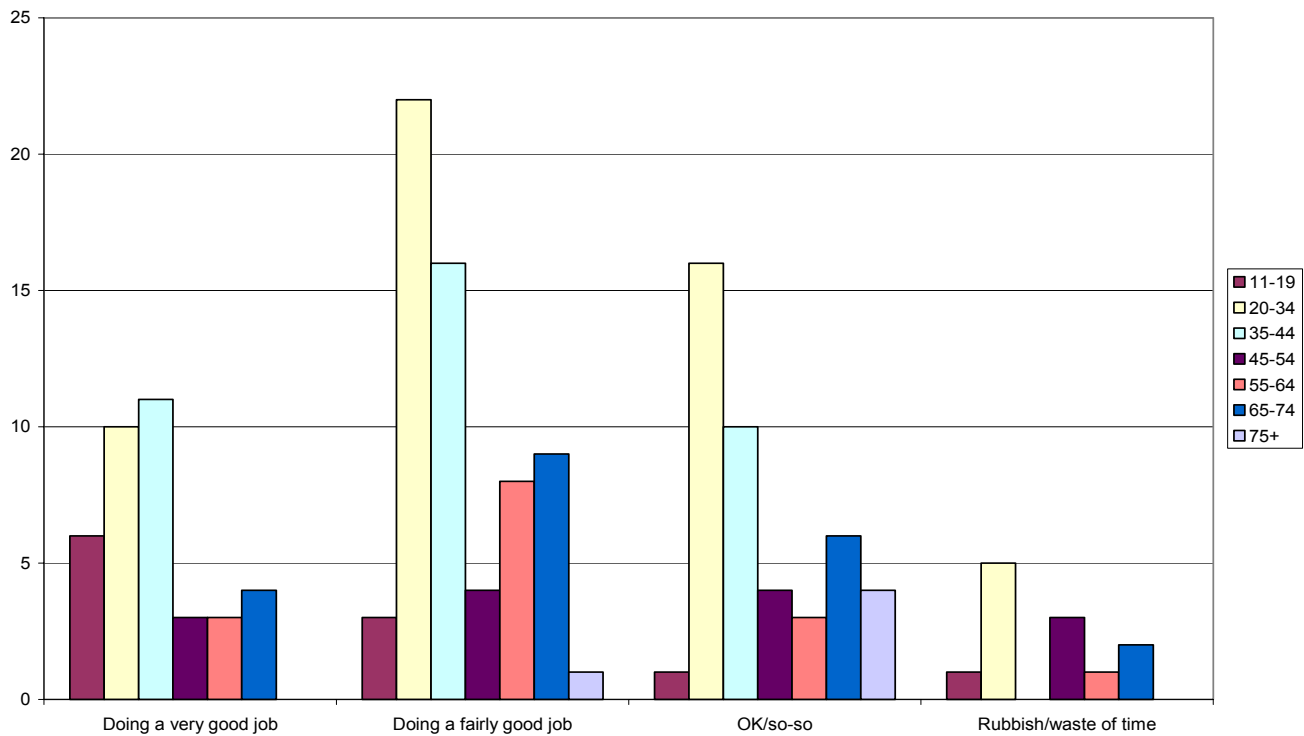
29 older people said they had been to a Tinsley Forum meeting at some time, nearly half of the total who had been to a meeting.

Age group	Total
Unknown	4
11-19	4
20-34	10
35-44	12
45-54	4
55-64	10
65-74	14
75+	5
Total	63

16 older respondents had asked Tinsley Forum to sort out a local issue or problem, more than half of all those who had.

Age group	Total
Unknown	2
11-19	4
20-34	2
35-44	3
45-54	1
55-64	4
65-74	10
75+	2
Total	28

People from the different age groups showed similar levels of satisfaction with Tinsley Forum's work in looking after local interests.

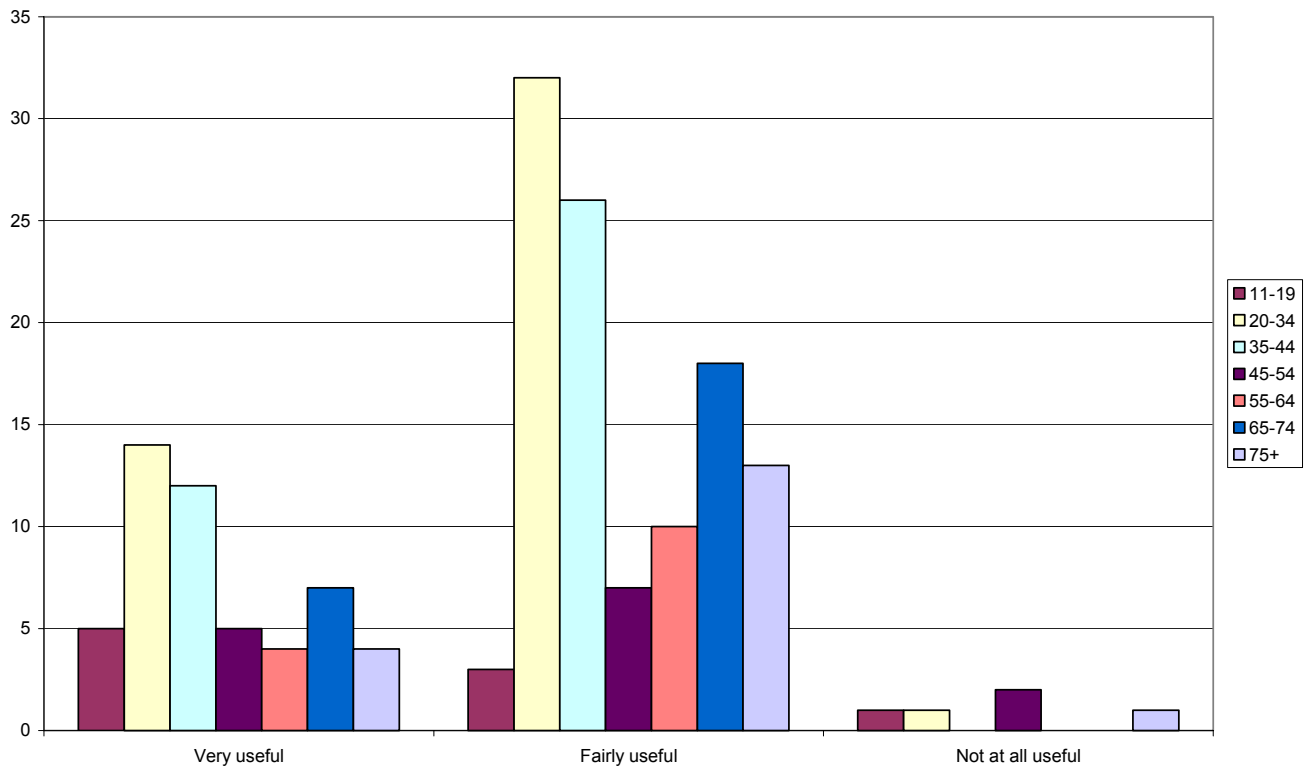


Tinsley Tribune newsletter

Copies of the Tinsley Tribune normally appear several times a year, and are delivered to every house in Tinsley. We asked a few questions to find out how useful people found this newsletter. The tables below show that overall 76% of respondents received the Tinsley Tribune, and 70% read it regularly.

Age group	Receive TT	Read TT
Unknown	12	10
11-19	7	8
20-34	53	49
35-44	40	39
45-54	15	13
55-64	19	15
65-74	27	25
75+	19	18
Total	192	177

All age groups said they found the Tinsley Tribune either very or fairly useful.

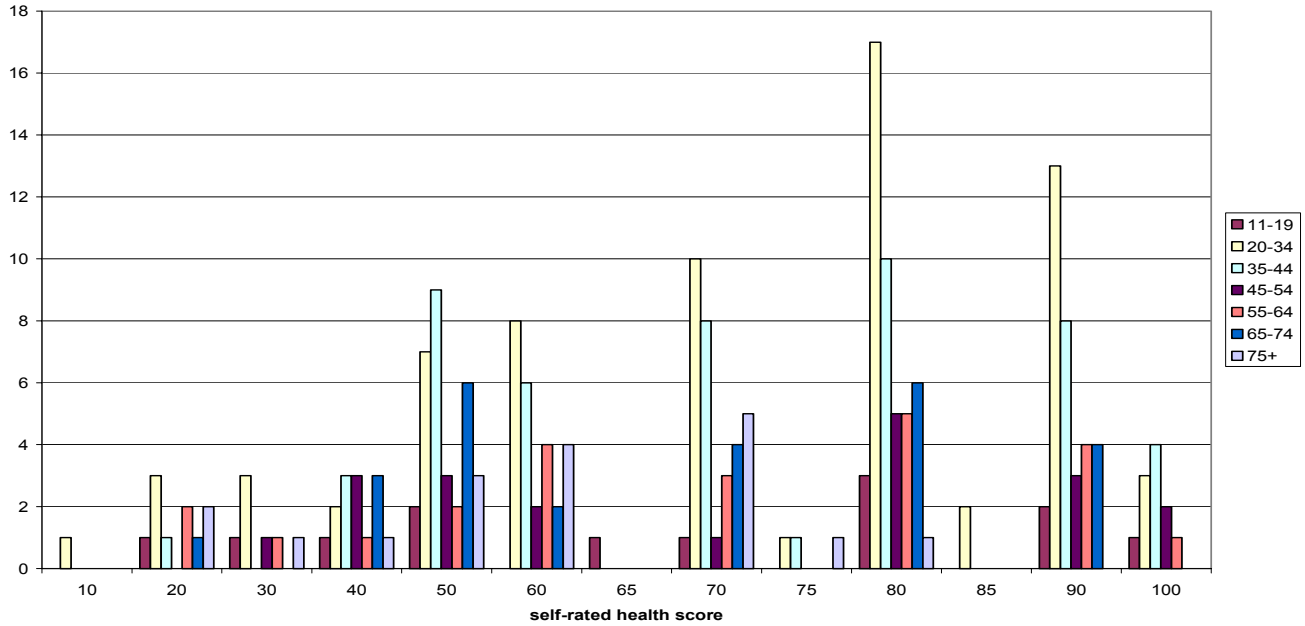


49 older people responded with comments on what they thought would make Tinsley a better place to live. The table below summarises these responses into general categories, sorted in descending order of the number of people who made the suggestion.

Response	Total
Better/more visible policing/reduce crime	16
Improve street cleaning, reduce litter	14
Public transport – more frequent/reliable bus service	13
Better/more variety of shops (food, clothes, supermarket, etc)	9
Improve appearance of houses and gardens/more pride in surroundings	5
More bring out your rubbish days/less dumping	4
Tackle problem of parking on footpaths	3
More respect between cultures and generations	3
Improve road surfaces; remove speed humps	3
Reduce pollution	2
More community events to bring community together	2
Reduce noise from fireworks	2
Pub needed	2
Less racism	2
More adult classes/facilities eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESOL • Swimming pool • Local cash machine • Local gym • Mosque for women • More refreshment places 	1
Reduce speeding/joyriding	1
More facilities for youths	1
Tackle problem of youth fights/gangs	1
More children's activities and facilities	1
Less vandalism	1
Clean up subways	1
More green space, trees, summer flowers	1
Reduce dog mess, more dog litter bins	1
Reduce noise from factories	1
Improve street lighting	1
Improve rubbish collections, reduce wheelie bins on streets	1
More cameras	1
Lighting for play facilities in park	1
Demolish cooling towers	1
Demolish Tinsley	1
More recycling facilities	1

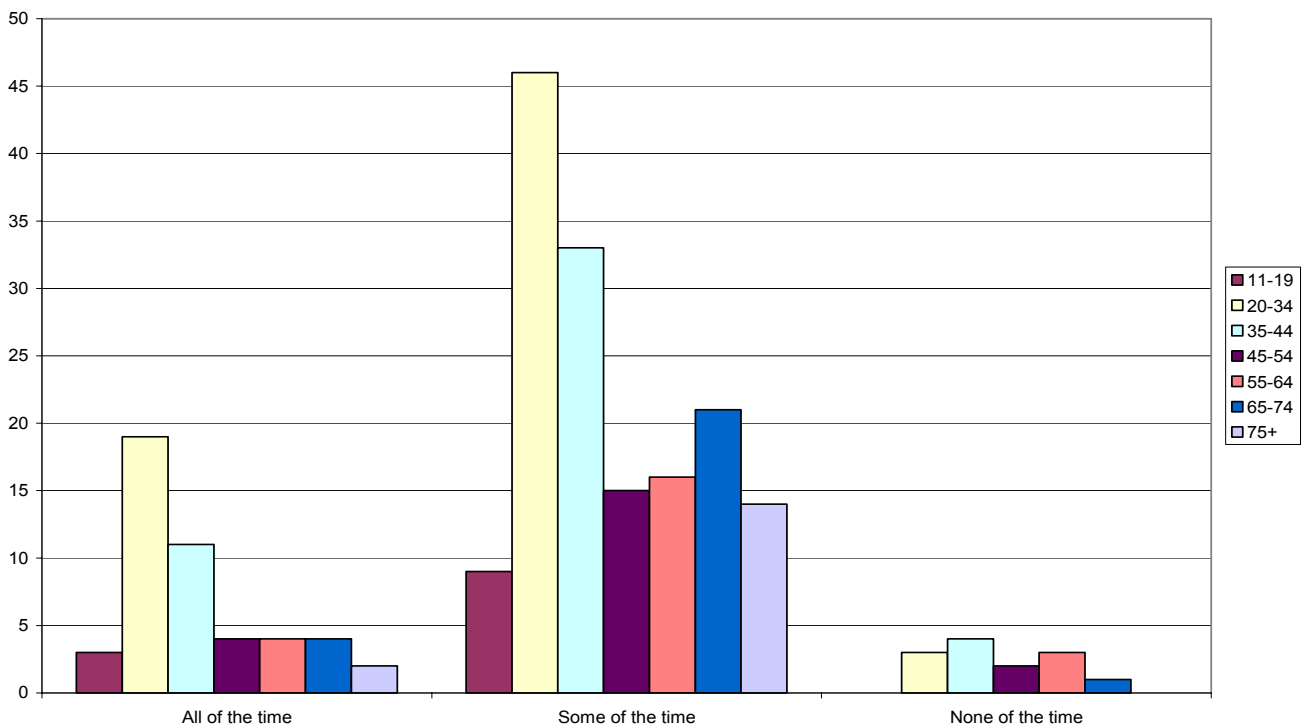
Health

Whilst some older people scored themselves low on the Euroqol barometer, many of those aged 65-74 scored 50-90, showing that some older people in Tinsley are leading an active and reasonably healthy life.

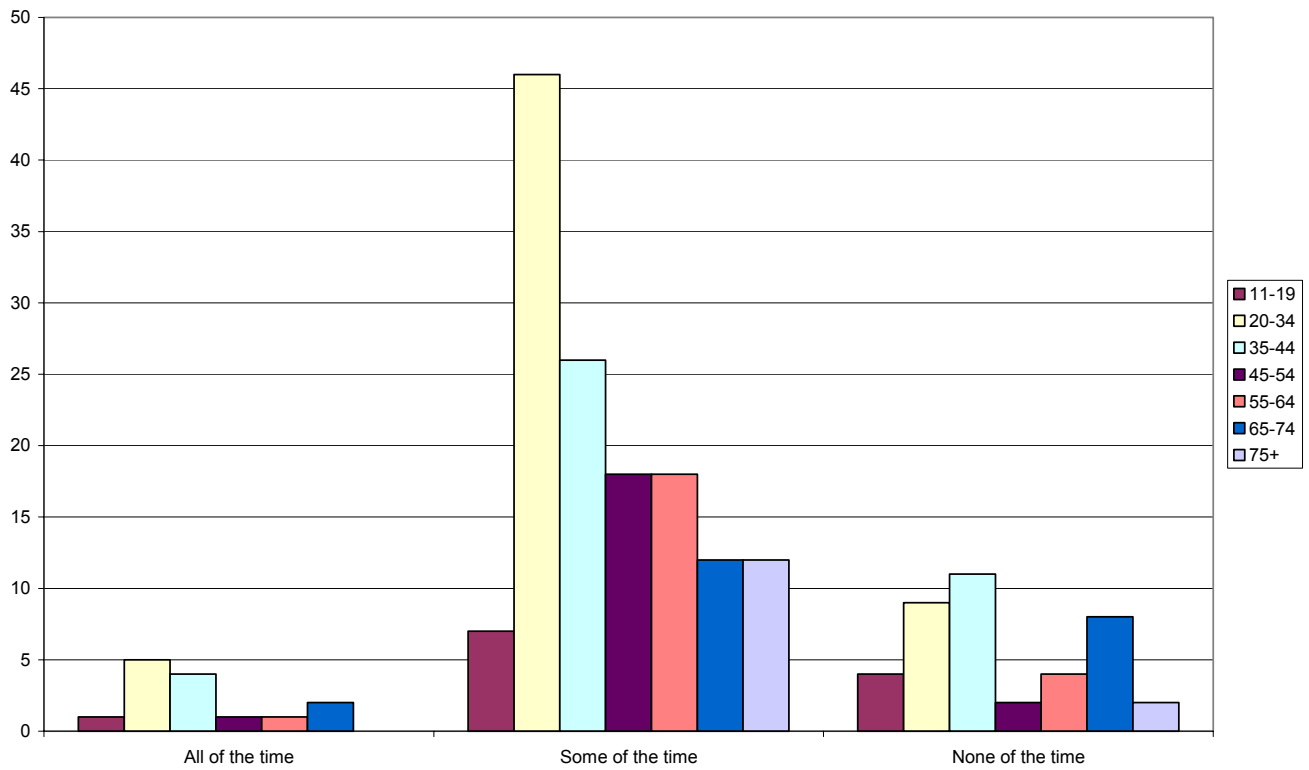


People were asked about 4 aspects of mental health, and the charts below show how the different age groups responded to these questions.

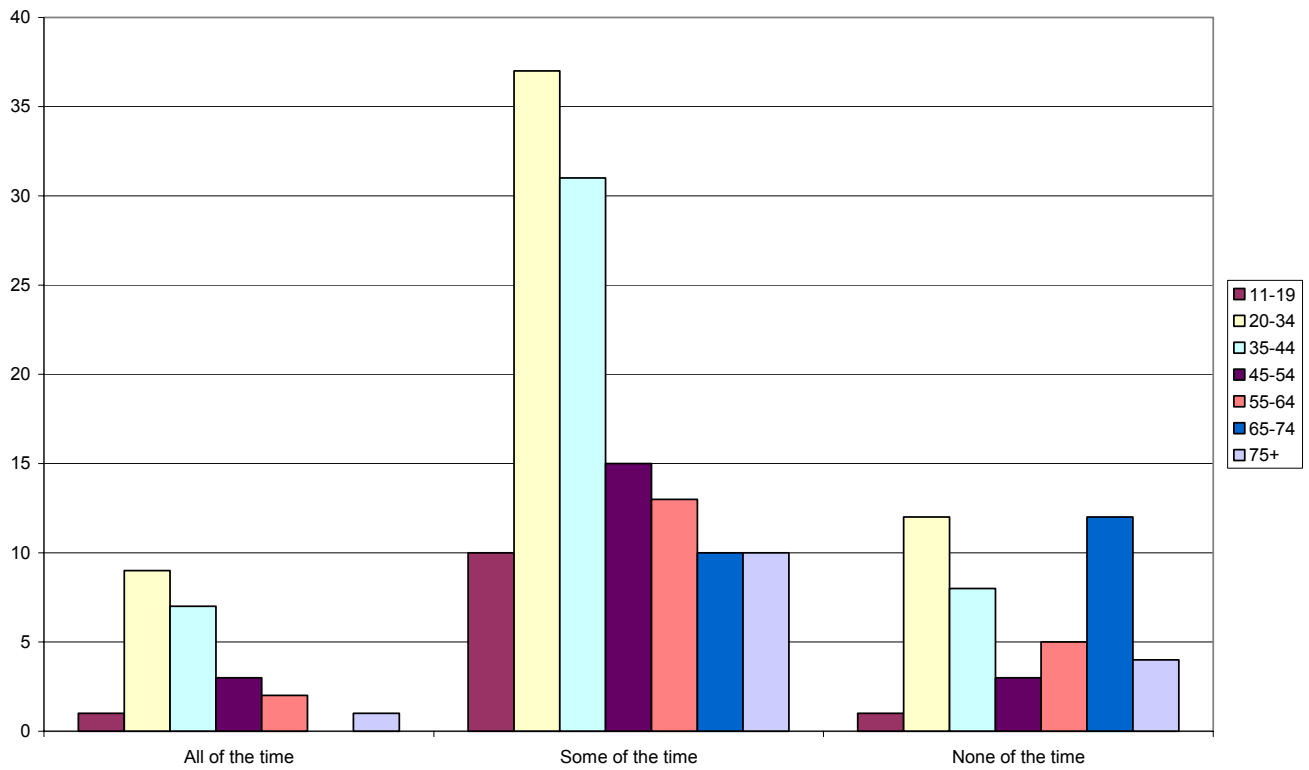
Happy and relaxed by age



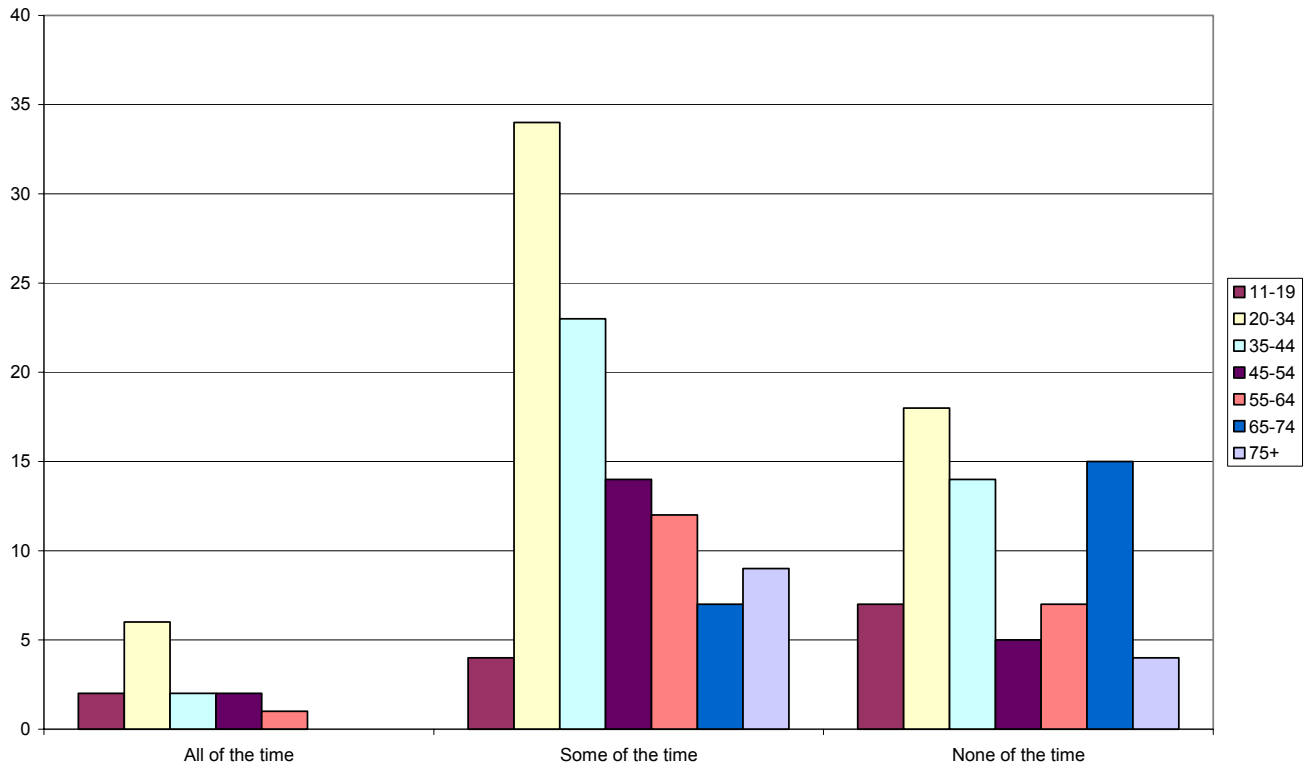
Low and fed up by age



Stressed by age

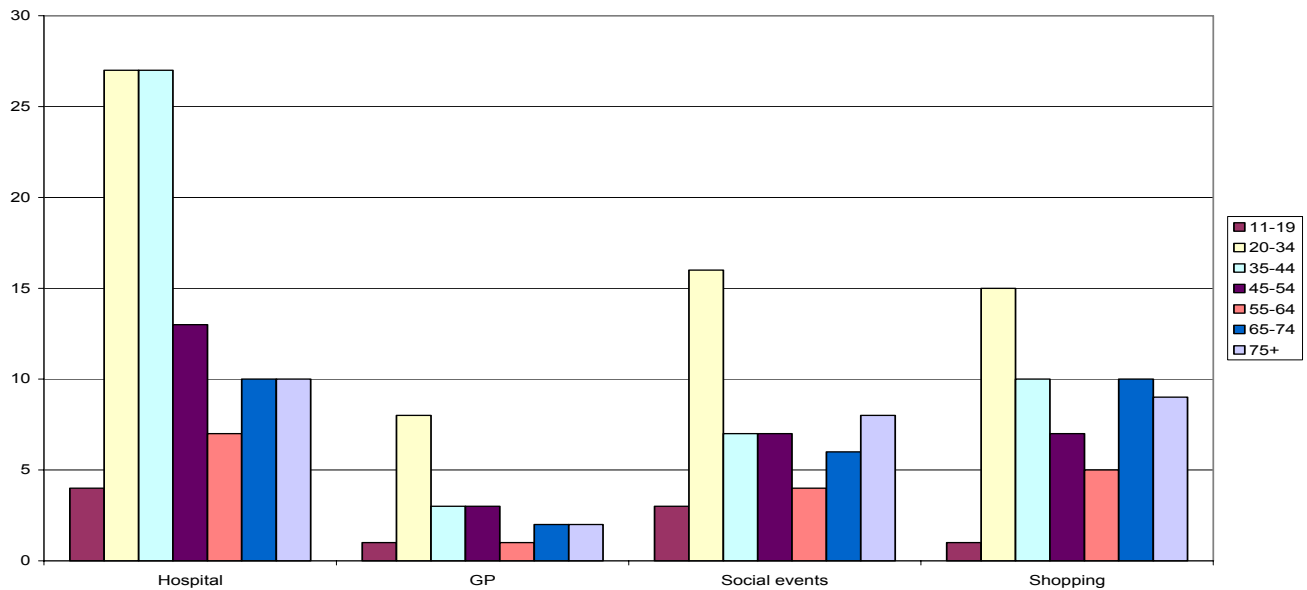


Anxious by age



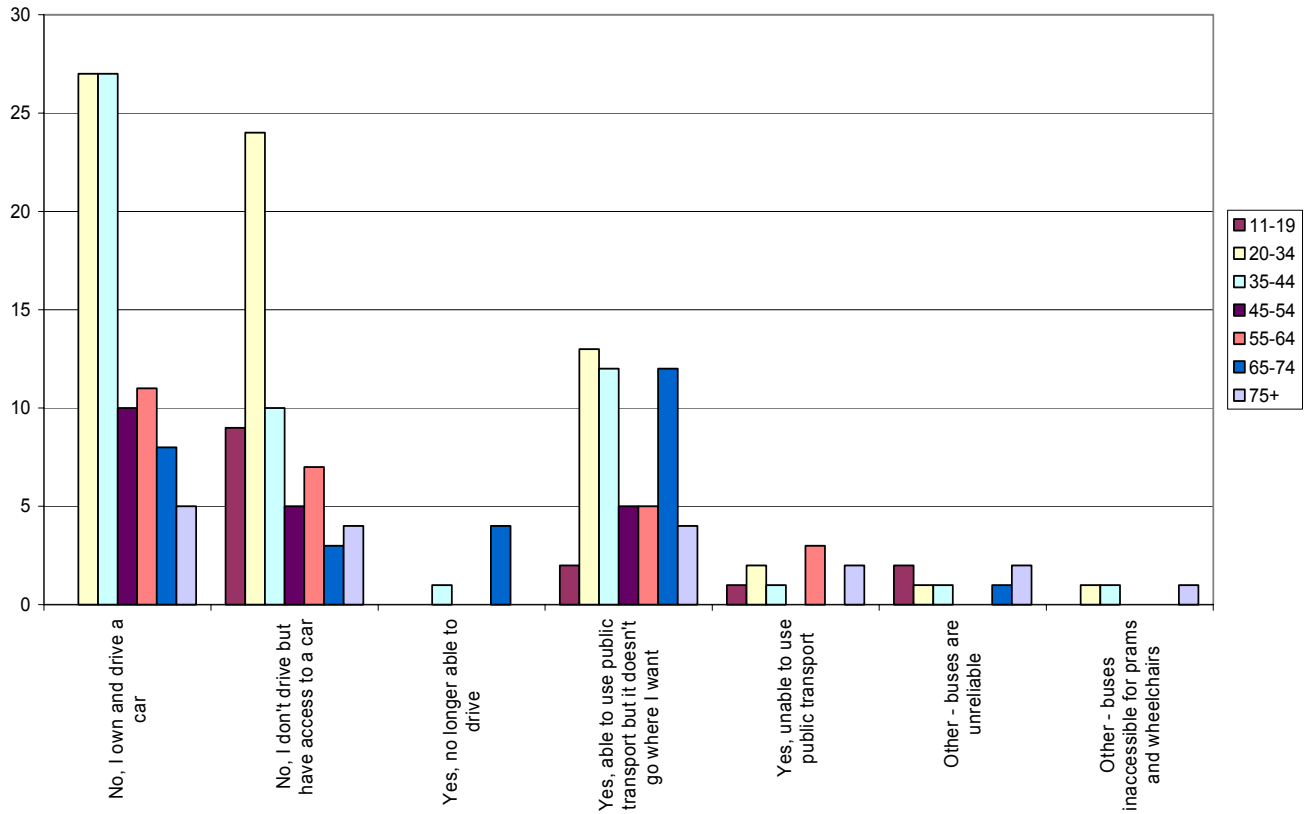
Access

Looking at different age groups, older people (aged 65 and over) had almost equal difficulty accessing social events and shopping as they did getting to hospital. This might be because they go to hospital more as patients than visitors, and are taken there in an ambulance.



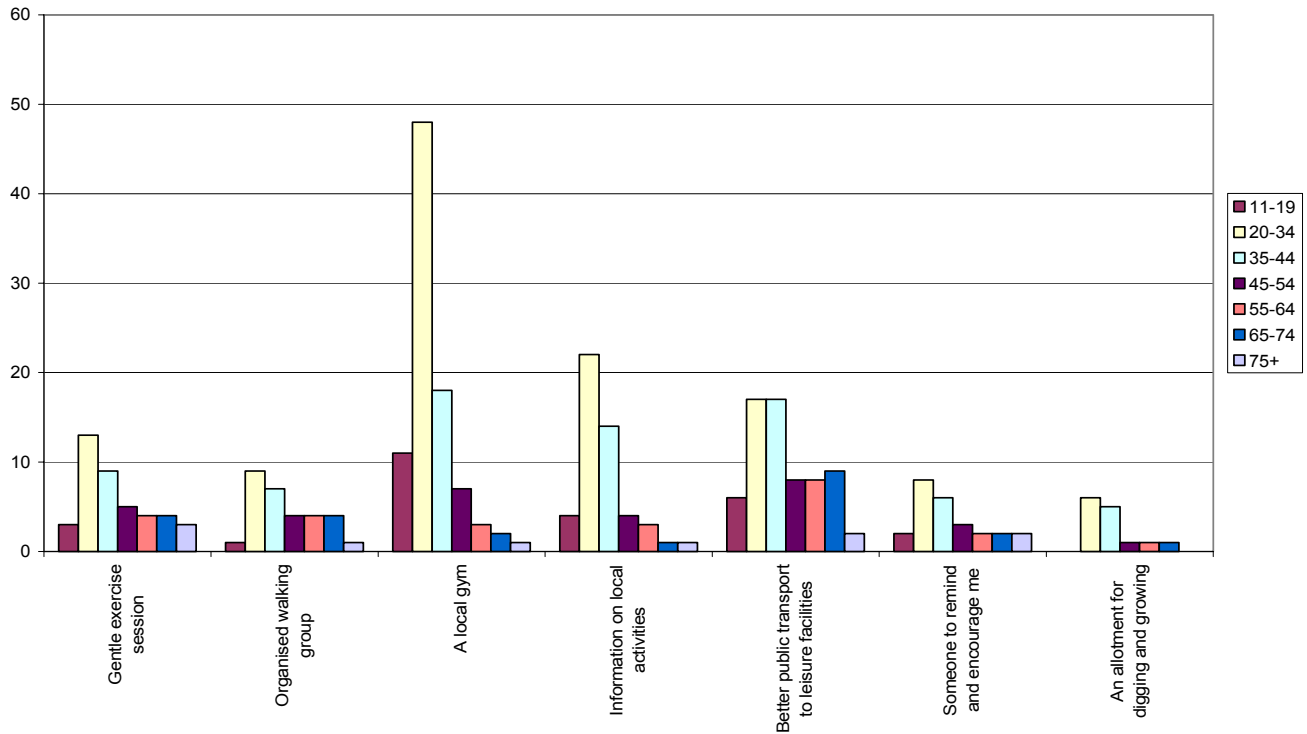
One other specific access problem was mentioned by an older person, that the Dial-a-Ride bus which would once run across the Sheffield-Rotherham boundary would no longer do so, with the result that taxis had to be used, which were much more expensive.

Looking at different age groups, proportionally more of those aged 65-74 had problems with public transport.



Activity and health in older age

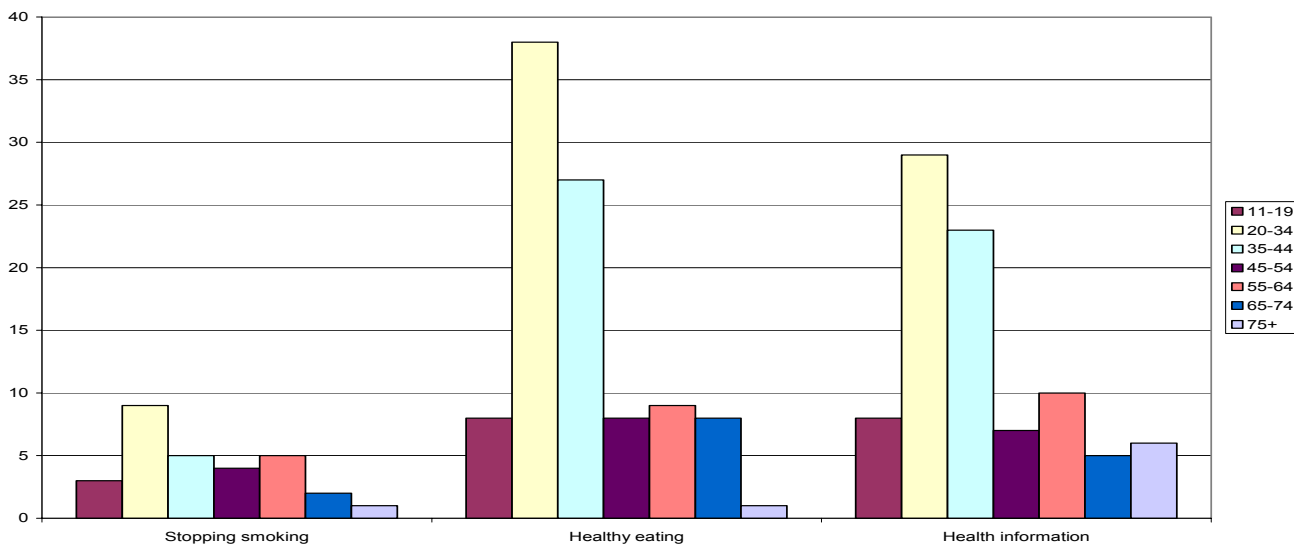
People were asked what would help them become more active. For older age groups (55 and over), better public transport was the most important factor. Those aged 75+ were more interested in gentle exercise and someone to encourage them, and those aged 55-74 wanted an organised walking group and gentle exercise.



11 older people made other comments on becoming more active. The table below summarises these responses

Other comments	Total
Other - more time (due to job, housework, etc)	3
Other - not well enough	2
Other - local swimming facility	2
Other - different activities (eg yoga)	1
Other - not interested	1
Other - active enough already	1

The graph below shows older people felt healthy eating and health information would be most beneficial for improving their health, with a few people indicating stopping smoking would help them.



The table below shows 72 households (28% of all respondents) from different age and ethnic groups reported someone with a limiting long standing illness, health problem or disability. As might be expected, a higher proportion of older people (44% of those aged 55 and over) reported someone with an LLTI in their household.

Age group	Total
Unknown	5
11-19	3
20-34	15
35-44	8
45-54	9
55-64	11
65-74	11
75+	10
Total	72

83 people (33% of respondents) said that someone in their household was in receipt of benefits. The table below shows no big difference by age group, except those aged 75 and over.

Age group	Total	% of group
Unknown	5	33%
11-19	3	21%
20-34	26	36%
35-44	17	34%
45-54	6	29%
55-64	9	38%
65-74	10	33%
75+	7	39%
Total	83	33%

42 people wanted to be kept informed about older peoples' needs.