

FAQ on youth survey

This is a very simple survey – what is it going to get us?

It's by no means meant to be a scientific piece of research, but it will give us some numbers to underline qualitative outcomes from focus groups. In a sense, it's a conversation starter. At first it's a conversation starter for focus groups, and then when we have gathered quite some responses the outcomes are a conversation starter between the network and Town & Parish Councils, community groups and so on.

Why didn't you ask more questions?

We wanted to keep it very simple; to be attractive and accessible for all ages between 8-25 years as we didn't have the resources to put out multiple surveys for different age groups.

Haven't there been quite a lot of surveys done with young people lately?

Yes, you may be aware of the Big Ask by the Children's Commissioner for instance and several others quite recently on the impact of the pandemic. However, as far as we are aware none of these big national surveys put out data at local south Shropshire level. Ours does.

Why have you put all the ages between 8-25 years together in one survey?

We don't have the resources to put out multiple surveys for different age groups.

How will you get very young children to fill it out?

We will have to target their significant adults - carers, (grand)parents, older siblings, teachers – to help them fill it out.

Why isn't there more branding on the survey – it only says at the end who to contact?

The survey will be sent out over lots of different channels by lots of different organisations. There will be branding on all of those communications. The survey itself doesn't need it and it was felt that it would deflect from the 'Have your say' message.

What if people submit multiple surveys?

That's not necessarily a problem, if they've gone through the trouble of doing that it must mean they want something badly! The local outcomes are taken to local Town & Parish councils, community groups and so on. They can then engage with their local community and find out more information. Undoubtedly, they will find that there are local young people that haven't engaged with the survey, but might still want the same opportunities. In the analysis of the total outcomes for the whole of south Shropshire we will take multiple entries into account.

What if people just put nonsense answers in?

This can happen – although it's not likely that many people will make the effort – but we can easily filter out nonsense responses.

What if you get really long stories to the question on 'your own idea'?

Not too worry, Marinke Fontein - the Infrastructure Support Officer is trained in qualitative text analysis.

What if someone ticks more than 5 ideas?

That's not necessarily a problem. The outcomes are taken to local Town & Parish Councils, community groups and so on. They can then engage with their local community and find out more about what their young people would like most. The consultation outcomes are meant to start off the conversation with young people. However, if someone ticks *all ideas* their response will be filtered out.

What if someone from outside the area fills it out?

If they've filled out that they live outside of south Shropshire, we can filter these answers out. We can still send them on to the local Town or Parish Council as a courtesy.

What if someone lies about where they live or what age they are?

This can happen – although it's not likely many people will make the effort. It's not necessarily a problem: The outcomes are taken to local town councils, community groups and so on. They can then engage with their local community and find out more. The consultation outcomes are meant to start off the conversation.

Why have you not asked for contact details?

Given the age range we're working with (8-25 years), we didn't have resources to sort out the GDPR & Safeguarding issues properly within the time constraints we have. The survey now does not ask for anything that can easily trace back to anyone and it means it's as simple as can be rather than a cumbersome exercise that people don't want to engage with.

What will you do if someone has given their contact details?

This is unlikely to happen, but if it does: SSYF will follow their normal procedures and make sure the details aren't kept in inappropriate places or shared without consent.

What if young people want to get involved in the focus groups or the conference?

Young people that are keen to get more involved can contact SSYF via Facebook, for which GDPR & Safeguarding procedures are already in place. We are also asking all the network members to engage with the young people they know to see if there are any that are keen to be involved and then we will take it from there.

What if you don't get any response?

This is unlikely to happen as the survey will also be used by some of the focus groups. We expect a slow start with the number of responses going up as more network members put effort into distributing the survey. If, after 2 weeks, we have next to nothing – we will all have to put more effort in. We will keep you updated.

What is the target number of responses?

We have not set a target as it's difficult to know what is reasonable. We expect a slow start with the number of responses going up as more network members put effort into distributing the survey. If, after 2 weeks, we have next to nothing – we will all have to put more effort in. We will keep you updated.

Who is going to analyse the response?

Marinke Fontein, the Infrastructure Support Officer, is a trained sociologist and will take the analysis on.