

saferlondon

Our vision is to create a world where all young people can thrive, free from exposure to gangs, sexual exploitation and crime



Safer London Projects



Holistic support for young people (16-24) gang-involved or gang-affiliated that can get support to exit or at imminent serious risk of harm from gangs. Pan-London referrals.



Supports 11-18 young men displaying **Harmful Sexual Behaviour**. Intervention focuses on vulnerabilities and aims to increase knowledge, skills, confidence and to make appropriate choices. Consultancy and training available.

Support programme addressing young women's experiences of sexual exploitation, primarily through gangs.





Bespoke training developed using research, policy, expertise from practice, and local research.



Mapping, needs assessment, and coordination projects. Analyse available services in London, find gaps and offer services to support organisations. Including: Pan London Housing Reciprocal

Matching young people affected by gangs, or are at risk of offending, with trained volunteers.



Contextual Safeguarding

The CSE safeguarding pilot for public spaces project aims to scope, pilot and evaluate an innovative contextual safeguarding model, applicable to a range of community settings, producing research and a toolkit informed by the views of young people. Utilising a peer support and bystander model, the project seeks to improve safeguarding of young people in public spaces and their communities.

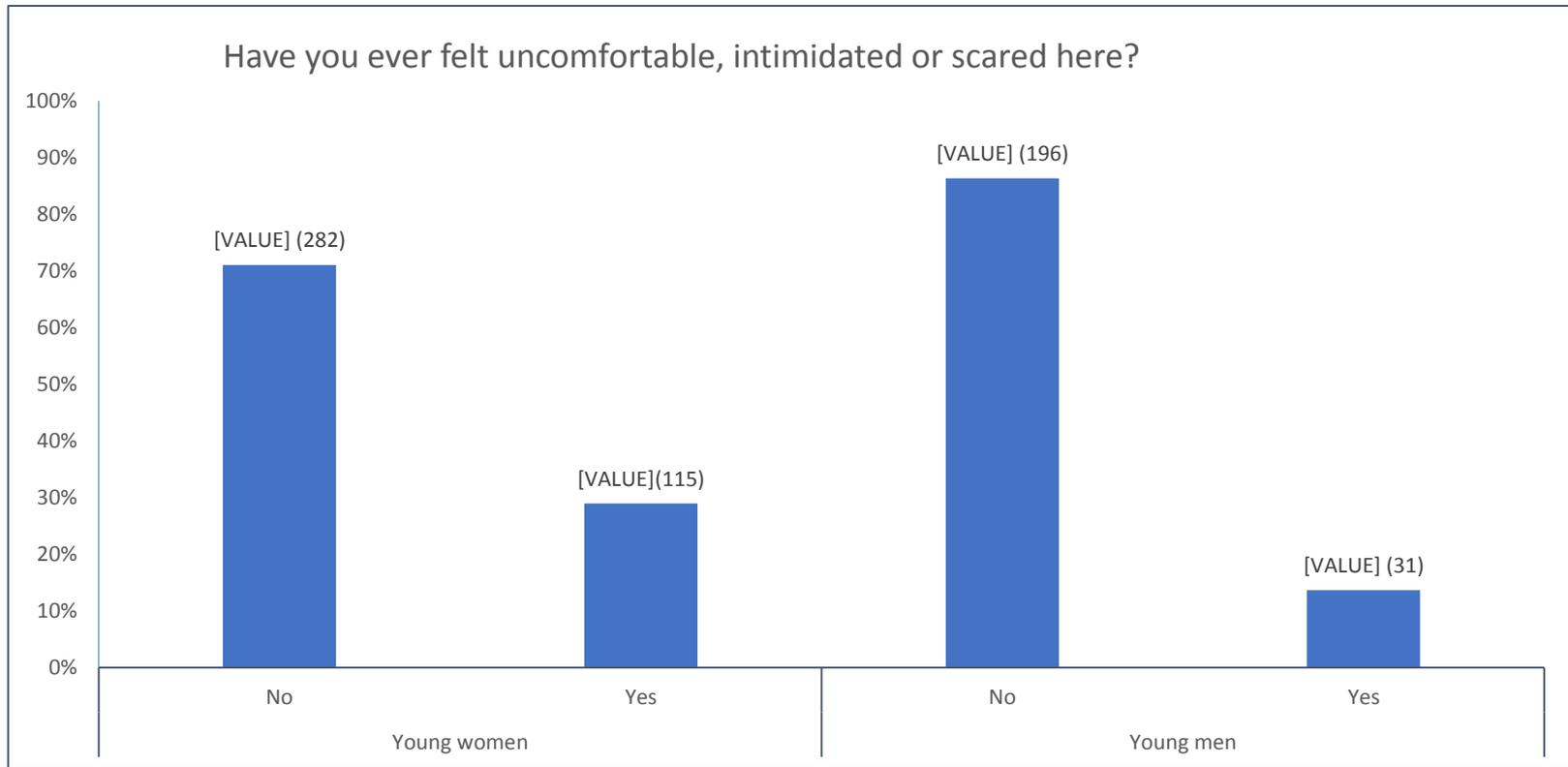
Methodology

- Recruit peer advisors
- Peer advisors training
- Co-design of Surveys
- Community engagement and research
- Training Security staff and community 'care takers'
- Reviewing local policies

In four shopping centres Safer London Peer Advisors interviewed 642 young people and 83 adults capturing a wide range of views and experience

Feelings of Safety

Have you ever felt uncomfortable, intimidated or scared here?



Almost one third of young women (29%) answered that they had felt uncomfortable intimidated or scared. This compares to approximately one in six young men (14%).

Awareness and views on CSE

'When you feel intimidated and someone tries to touch you in a sexual way'

'When young people made to do sexual things. Not consent.'

'A guy can approach a girl with compliments and can use the girl to get his own way'

Over half of all young people surveyed had some awareness of CSE

'Girls are pressured by boys and forced to take pictures etc'

'Black mail a child to do things'

'Really really scary & it's not obvious to spot'

Responses by adults demonstrated that, whilst 80% had heard of CSE before, less than half felt able to identify young people at risk of, or experiencing, sexual exploitation.

No where to go

- 54% of young people told us that they thought there was no help available in shopping centres, or if there was help available they didn't feel confident they could ask for it.
- Over one third of young people didn't think there was somewhere they could go if they were unsafe

“Many young people said that if they feel unsafe they would go to the toilets or a store, or somewhere more crowded, but that doesn't mean that they'll be safe cause they're not telling anyone or asking anyone for help, so they go somewhere else but no one knows you're in trouble.” [Peer Advisor]

How could we improve safety?

- **Safe spaces, hubs or help desks specifically for young people:** *“Places that you could go if something was happening.” [Young person]*
- **Approachable security and staff:** *“Security has to be less suspicious and more welcoming.” [Young person]*
- **Youth workers/peer advisors who they could talk to and who would understand them:** *“After school young people congregate here and no one understands them.” [Young person]*
- **Both male and female staff being available -almost half of young women had a preference for a female adult to speak to.** *“[Women] Understand more.” [Female respondent]*

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Safer London Training

County
Lines

Gangs

Child Sexual
Exploitation
(CSE)

Harmful
Sexual
Behaviours
(HSB)

Social
Media
Safety

Missing
CSE,
Gangs



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