

2016 SaferMK Survey Analysis Overview

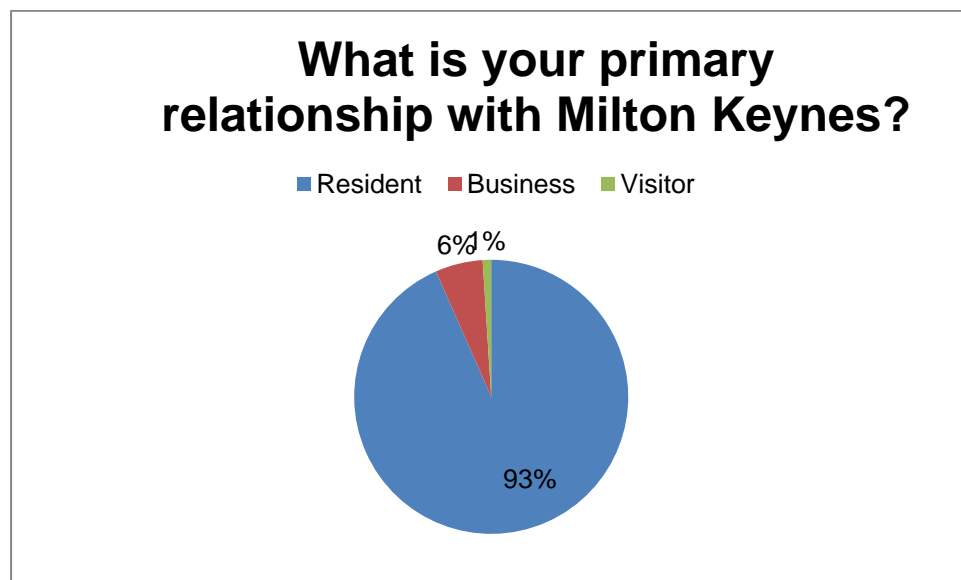
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The following analysis is conceived as an overview of the initial findings of the SaferMK 2016 Survey. A subsequent detailed analysis will follow which will guide and inform the work of the Partnership over the coming 18 months.

In accordance with MK Council guidelines, the 2016 SaferMK Survey was open for public response for a period of 3 months. In this time a total of 864 individuals responded to the survey. It should be noted that because the survey was designed to maximise response rate through simplicity and ease of use, in some instances respondents were either able to skip questions, or were routed to bypass certain questions altogether. For example, if an individual stated that they only work in MK, they were not subsequently asked to provide the MK Estate in which they live. Therefore, although a total of 864 individuals took part, the sum of responses to each question will not necessarily amount to 864.

Primary Relationship with MK

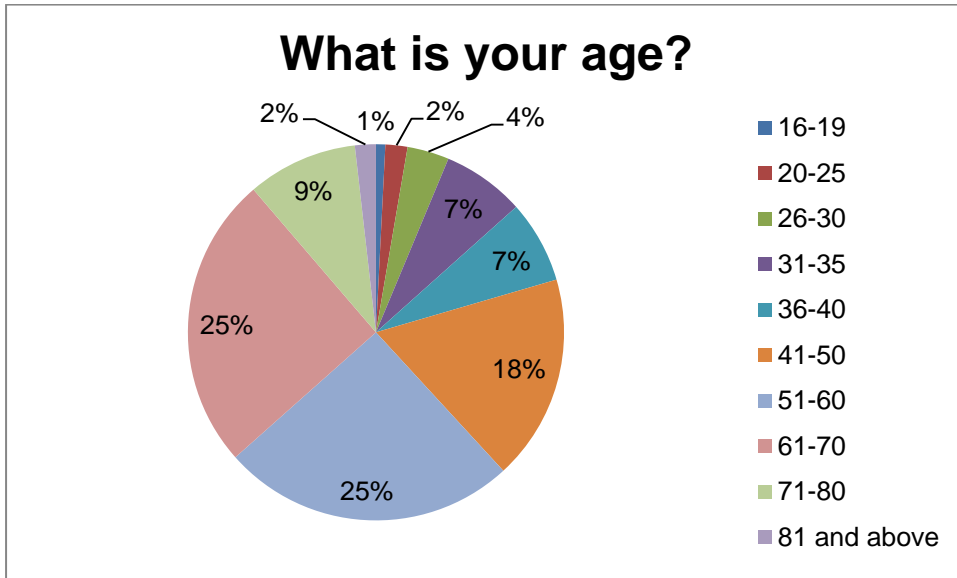
The majority of individuals captured by the survey identified as residents of MK. However, SaferMK were keen that anyone who works in, or visits MK were also represented in the survey, and worked with local employers such as the Open University to publicise the survey. In total, 7% of the sample identified as either Business or Visitor.



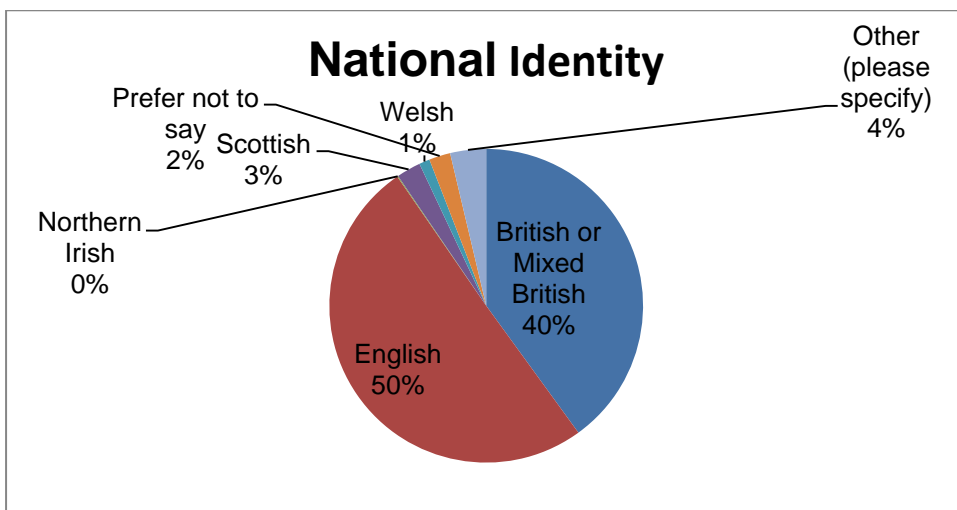
Demographics

Those who selected the gender female and male represent 55% and 45% respectively, although 29 individuals preferred not to answer this question.

Those who responded to the survey were disproportionately older. Respondents aged 41-50, 51-60 and 61-70 represented 17.7%, 25.3% and 25.3% of the sample respectively. It is therefore likely that the experiences, insights and opinions of this demographic are disproportionately represented in the survey results. In order to capture the views of the younger population of MK, SaferMK may wish to consider undertaking a survey specifically aimed at residents aged 16-30 at a later date.

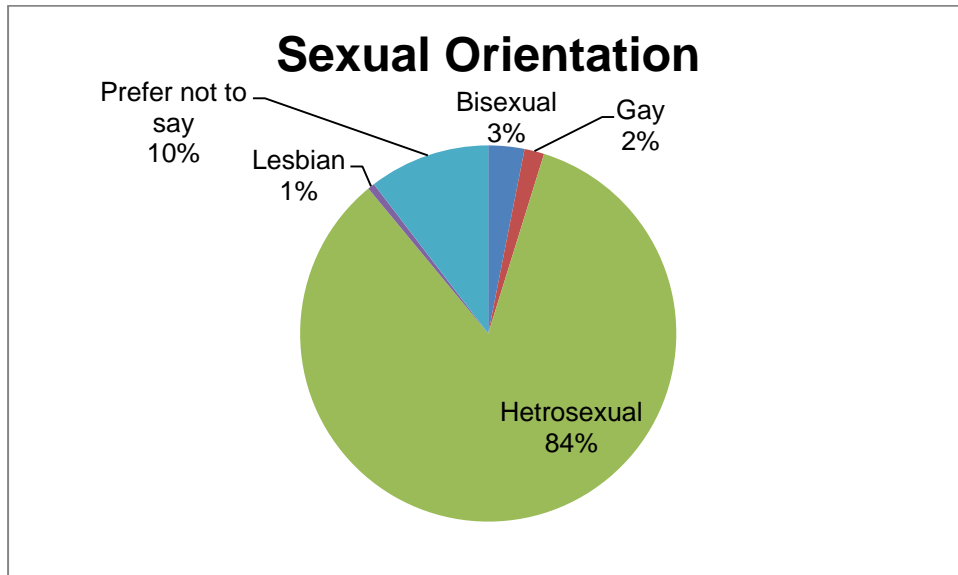


In two distinct questions, respondents were asked to provide their National Identity and ethnicity, and were provided with the standard options used by the Home Office, as well as the option of 'Other – please specify'. The options 'British or Mixed British' or 'English' were selected as the national identity of 40.0% and 50.04% respectively. The option 'Any white group' was selected as the ethnic identity of 88.8% of respondents.



Respondents were asked if they considered themselves disabled. 10.0% answered in the affirmative, with a further 1.9% preferring not to say.

The final demographic factor addressed by the 2016 Survey was sexual orientation. The option 'Heterosexual' was selected by 84.2% of respondents. According to estimates by YouGovUK, around 6% of the UK population identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB).¹ This proportion of wider UK society is roughly mirrored in the responses of the 2016 SaferMK Survey, with 5.4% identifying as LGB. Added to this, a total of 10.4% preferred not to say.



Estates

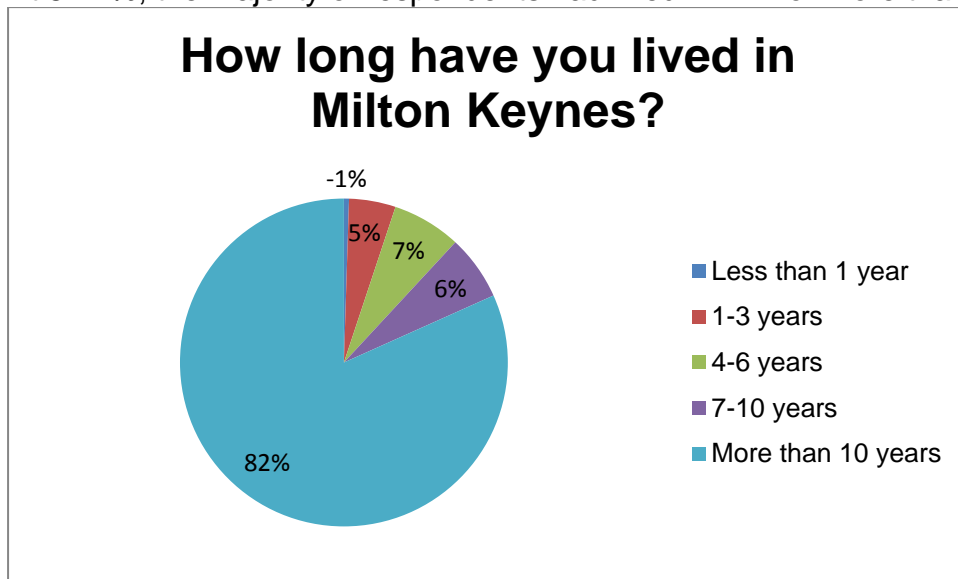
Depending on the measurement used, there are 120 estates/ villages in MK, as well as a further 30 uninhabited areas such as industrial estates (eg Tongwell) or geographical features (eg Willen Lake). The 2016 SaferMK Survey received responses from residents representing 101 estates/ villages.

Those areas with the highest response rates were for the most part the settlements with the largest populations. For example, Newport Pagnell, Stony Stratford, West Bletchley and Wolverton made up 8.1%, 4.6%, 3.8% and 3.3% of survey responses respectively (while representing 5.7%, 1.9%, 4.0% and 3.0% of the MK population).

¹ Source: <https://yougov.co.uk/news/2014/07/04/average-brit-knows-31-lesbians-55-gay-men/>

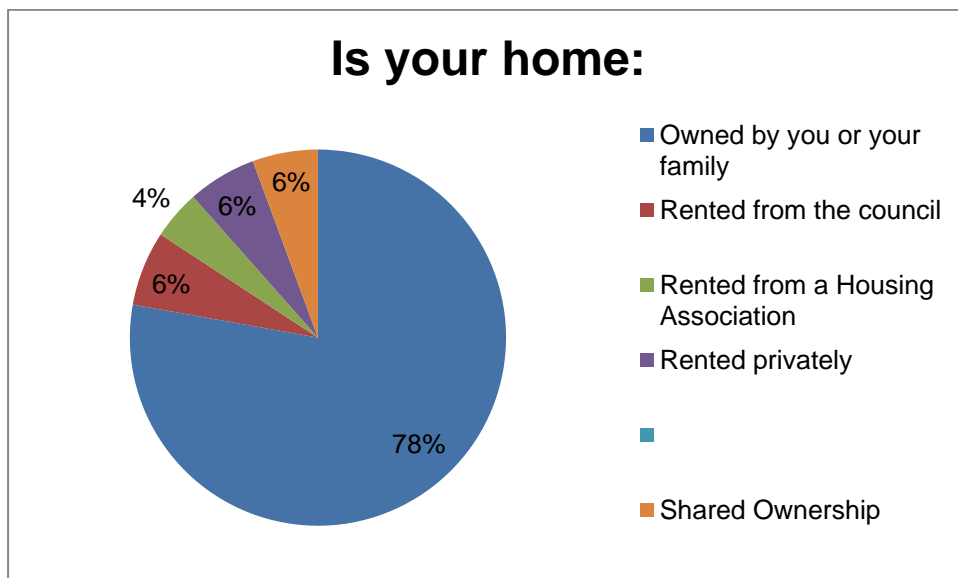
How long have you lived in MK?

At 81.7%, the majority of respondents had lived in MK for more than 10 years.



Is your home?

According to the demographic figures provided by the MKi Observatory 74% of MK home are owner occupied.² The respondents to the 2016 Survey mirrored this arrangement, with 78% stating that they live in a home they or their family own.



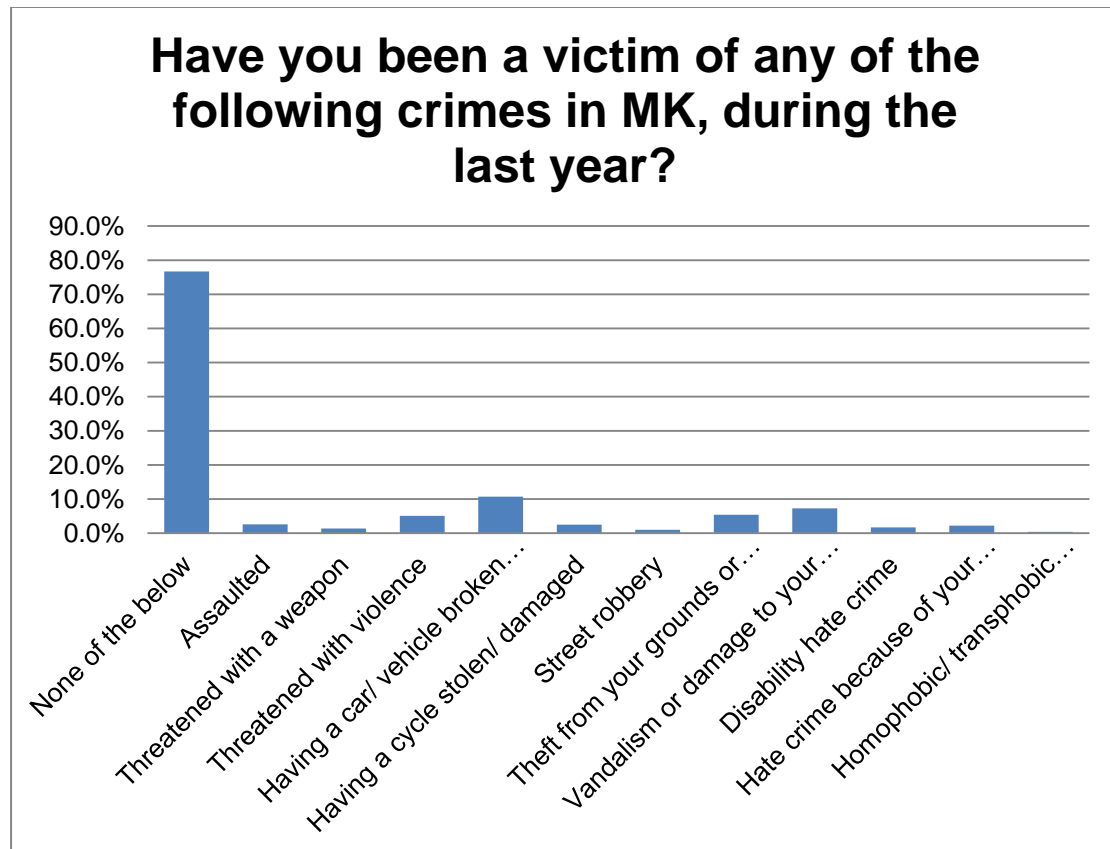
Respondents were asked how many adults live in the home. The range of responses included 189 respondents who answered that they lived alone, with

² Source: 'Milton Keynes Insight 2016' Report. This document is available at: <http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1655&siteID=1026>

3 respondents answering that more than 6 adults lived within the home. Based on those who completed the survey, an average of 2.04 adults live in each home.

Perceptions and Experience of Crime

Respondents were given a list of crimes, and asked if they had been the victim of any in the previous 12 months. 76.7% of respondents selected the option 'None of the below'. The full percentage breakdown for each type of crime is provided on the below graph.



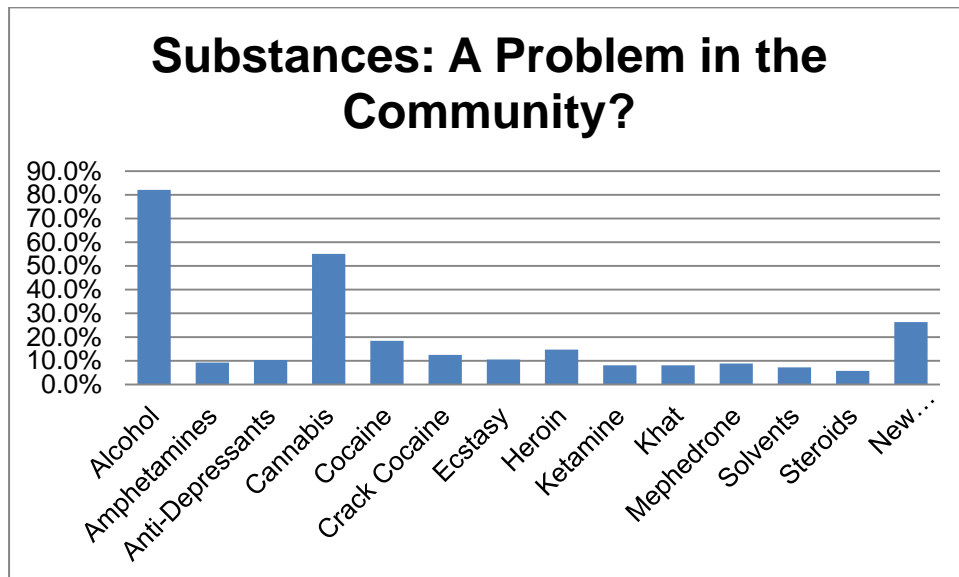
Domestic Abuse

The government definition of Domestic Abuse (DA) was provided, and respondents were asked if they felt they had ever been a victim. 17.1% answered in the affirmative. DA charity Living Without Abuse estimates that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men in the UK will be victims of DA in their lifetime.³ The response rate to the 2016 SaferMK Survey is broadly consistent with this figure, suggesting that the relatively high DA rate reported to TVP in MK may be due in part to higher confidence and reporting - rather than higher occurrence. Subsequent detailed analysis will consider the gender, age and geographical distribution of DA in MK, in order to facilitate the targeting of resources and intervention programmes.

³ Source - <http://www.lwa.org.uk/understanding-abuse/statistics.htm>

Substance Misuse

A list of 14 of the most common substances was provided, and respondents were asked if they saw any as a problem in the community. By far the most common concern was alcohol with 82.1% seeing this substance as a concern. In a fairly distant second place was Cannabis with 55.1% viewing this substance as a problem.



Fire Safety

Respondents were asked a series of questions regarding fire safety. When asked if the household has a fire evacuation plan in place, only 60% answered in the affirmative. However, at 89%, the majority of MK residents do have a working smoke alarm on each floor of their home. Finally in relation to fire safety, respondents were asked if a carbon monoxide detector was installed. It should be noted however that on the advice of the Bucks Fire and Rescue Service (BFRS), this question was only asked to residents with a heating system reliant on solid fuel (such as coal, wood or briquettes). Of the 90 respondents who have such a solid-fuel system, 76% do have a working carbon monoxide detector in the home. Although the data from the survey is anonymous, there is scope to identify estates with a shortfall in fire safety precautions. These areas could be targeted with advice and education initiatives in partnership with BFRS.

Concerns raised by respondents

In order to allow individuals to voice their opinions in an open-ended manner, respondents were provided with a free-text box and asked “So that SaferMK can prioritise our work, please tell us: What (if any), are the issues in your neighbourhood or the area where you work that cause you concern?”. The below word-cloud represents the most frequently occurring words and

phrases used. The frequency of use of a word/ phrase corresponds to the font size.



The most prominent concerns raised by respondents centred around issues of ‘Parking’ and ‘Roads’ with these two words registering as the number 1 and 2 most frequently used. The distinct terms ‘Burglary’ and ‘Anti-Social Behaviour’ were the 3rd and 6th most regularly used words/ phrases.

A cluster of issues relating to the perceived safety of the Redway network were of high importance to respondents, with the words ‘Redway’, ‘Underpass’ and ‘Street Lights’ the number 9, 11 and 13 most commonly occurring phrases. Local policing statistics suggest that the likelihood of crime occurring on Redways is remote. However, residents continue to express concern regarding feelings of vulnerability and limited visibility, subsequently underusing this resource. There is therefore scope for a project conceived to respond to the concerns raised by residents regarding limited lighting and obscured visibility due to trees/ bushes/ shrubbery, as well as reassurance messages.

In a subsequent detailed analysis, attention will be given to the estates which had particularly high concentrations of these concerns, with scope for targeted initiatives in response.