East Elmbridge Engagement Event:

22nd November, Cobham Onederland

NAC Engagement Overview

On 22 November, Cobham Onederland turned a wet and windy Saturday into a lively community event. Despite the weather, families gathered to enjoy festive activities, lanterns and music.

Participation & Engagement: Our team engaged with around **200 attendees** and collected feedback from **54 households** using the Commonplace 'Have Your Say' and 'Youth' tiles, with a particular focus on increasing youth engagement in line with the NAC's priorities. A welcoming gazebo and a popular reaction wall helped make taking part easy and fun, especially for young people and their families.

The event also opened meaningful conversations about NACs and the Commonplace page, helping residents feel more informed and involved. One comment summed this up:

> ***It's not always obvious we have a voice… Thank you for doing this – what you're doing is so important and keeps us connected.***

This report summarises the insights gathered on the day to help shape future engagement.



Participation at a Glance

Connected with: approx. 200 residents
Collected insight from: approx. 54 local households
Increased Commonplace respondents by: approx. 54%
Increased Commonplace contributions by: 52.4%
Grew subscribers to the Commonplace page

Importantly:

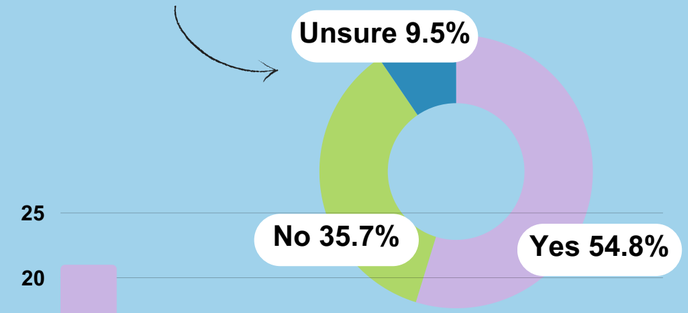
100% of residents approached were enthusiastic about this more innovative way of engaging with the council — with several young people saying they wouldn't normally take part without this style of interaction.

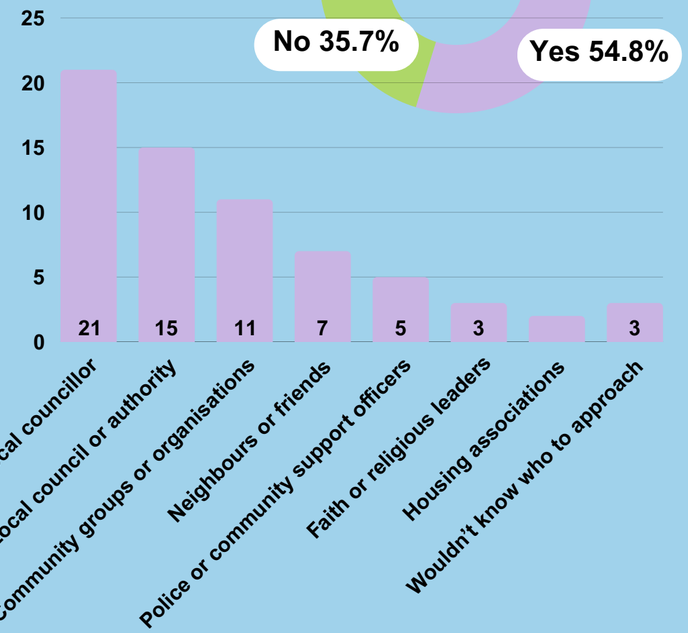
If you had any question/concerns in your community, or required support, who would you approach?

Resident Insight & Feedback



Do you feel you have a voice in your community?



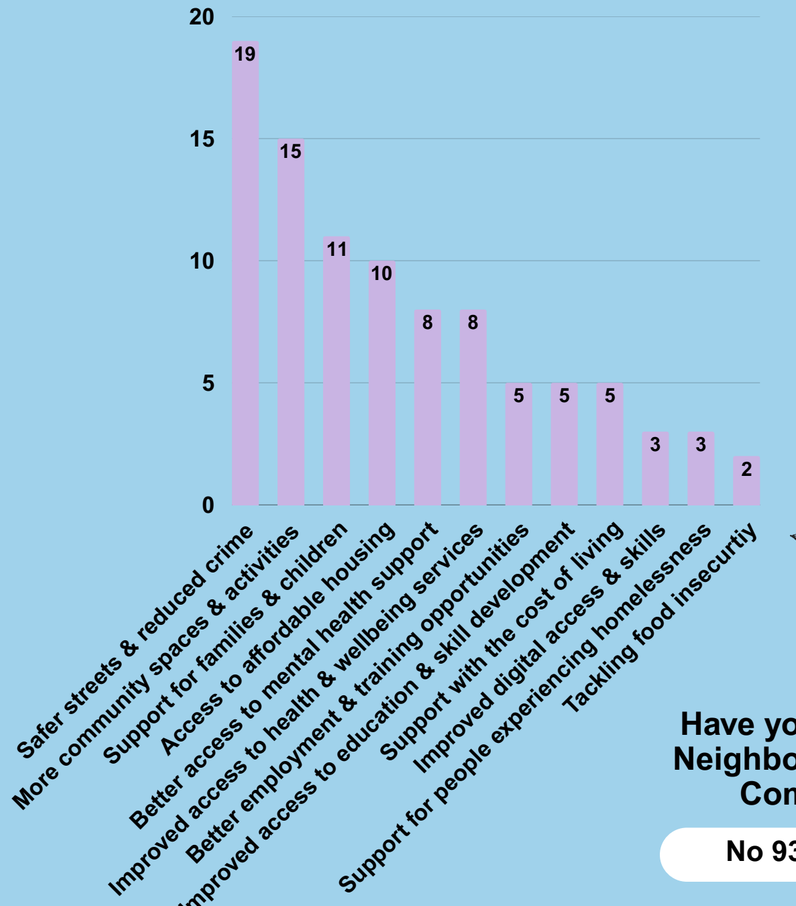


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Resident Insight & Feedback





What are your three main priorities to improve the area in which you live/work?

Have you heard of a Neighbourhood Area Committee?

No 93%, Yes 7%

Resident Voices

Priority: Support for families and children

“We need a youth hub here, there is not much for the young ones to do around here”

Resident Voices

Priority: Better employment & training opportunities

“Young people need better local opportunities for employment & training that won’t bankrupt the parents”

Resident Voices

Priority: Public Transport

“Public transport in Cobham makes it really hard to travel and it’s not very accessible. Even the chatter bus is not accessible for those in a wheelchairs, and though the chatter bus to Mole Valley comes through Cobham, it won't pick up any residents from Cobham”

Resident Voices

Priority: Access to affordable housing

“It should be easier for young people to own a home, and to have amenities like a garden, it make such a big difference”

Resident Voices

Priority: Support for people experiencing homelessness

“We see a lot of stuff on NextDoor, especially more recently where people have unjustly been kicked out of their homes by landlords or not given enough time to move or they were given notice, but they weren't able to find alternative accommodation, so people are often then asking for help from neighbours on these platforms”

Resident Voices

Priority: Support for people experiencing homelessness

“It's a very polarised community here in Cobham, and there's amazing charities like Oasis who try and help, but there are those who have and those who don't, and it's important to try and close this gap”

Resident Voices

Priority: Local Health Charities or Initiatives

“We need more local health-related charities or initiatives. Most of them based here in Cobham are national”