

# UPPER HUTT CITY COUNCIL

---

## YOUTH SURVEY ANALYSIS

AUGUST 2006



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

1	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	4
	1.1 Introduction and Background .....	4
	1.2 Methodology.....	4
	1.3 Major Concerns.....	4
	1.4 Engaging Youth.....	5
	1.5 Improving Life in Upper Hutt .....	5
	1.6 Youth Spaces, Services and Events .....	5
	1.7 Summary .....	6
2	ISSUES FOR YOUTH IN UPPER HUTT .....	7
	2.1 Overall results .....	7
	2.2 Results by gender .....	7
	2.3 Results by age .....	8
	2.4 Summary .....	8
3	SAFETY .....	9
	3.1 Unsafe during night and day .....	9
	3.2 Results by Gender .....	9
	3.3 Results by Age .....	11
	3.4 Summary .....	13
	3.5 What can be done to help .....	13
4	NEED FOR MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS .....	14
	4.1 Overall results .....	14
	4.2 Results by gender .....	14
	4.3 Results by age .....	14
	4.4 Leisure Opportunities .....	14
	4.5 Places to hang out .....	15
	4.6 Summary .....	15
5	YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDERS .....	16
	5.1 Overall results .....	16
	5.2 Results by gender .....	16
	5.3 Results by age .....	17
	5.4 Summary .....	18

6	FINDING OUT ABOUT YOUTH SERVICES AND EVENTS.....	19
6.1	Overall results .....	19
6.2	Results by Gender .....	19
6.3	Results by Age .....	20
6.4	Summary .....	21
7	POSITIVE YOUTH-FOCUSED INITIATIVES .....	22
7.1	Overall Results.....	22
7.2	Results by Gender .....	22
7.3	Results by Age .....	22
7.4	Other Initiatives .....	23
7.5	Most positive features about living in Upper Hutt.....	23
8	YOUTH COUNCIL.....	25
8.1	Need for a Youth Council.....	25
8.2	Participation on the Youth Council.....	25
8.3	Events to be run by a Youth Council.....	25
8.4	Results by Age .....	26
8.5	Summary.....	27
9	YOUTH SPACE .....	28
9.1	What Features in a Permanent Youth Space.....	28
9.2	Results by Gender .....	28
9.3	Results by Age .....	28
9.4	Usage.....	29
9.5	Is this the place to 'Hang Out' .....	29
9.6	Summary.....	31
10	NOTES TO THE ANALYSIS.....	32

# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

---

## 1.1 Introduction and Background

Early in 2006, Upper Hutt City Council appointed a youth advisor. In order to enhance the work of this new role, a survey of Upper Hutt youth was conducted in May 2006. This survey identified issues and concerns for youth in Upper Hutt as well as potential needs and solutions. Detail around these is presented in this report. This Executive Summary highlights the key findings.

## 1.2 Methodology

A written questionnaire was distributed by hard copy to schools, youth hangouts, and community spaces. It was also sent to local groups working with youth in Upper Hutt and it was listed on the Upper Hutt City Council website and Upper Hutt Youth.Com. Youth who filled out a survey went in the draw to win an MP3 player. Four collection boxes were located around the CBD. Surveys were also received by mail and “pick-up runs” by the youth advisor.

Age	Number of respondents	Percentage of respondents
13	322	25
14	302	23
15	273	21
16	191	15
17	129	10

The surveys were distributed in the last week of February 2006 and were collected on 7 April 2006.

A total of 1289 survey responses were received. There were comparatively more responses from the younger age group. A copy of the survey is included in the appendix to this document.

## 1.3 Major Concerns

The primary concerns of young people in Upper Hutt are *safety* (from others, illegal drug use, crime, graffiti etc) and *lack of things to do*.

Many of the respondents felt unsafe, with back alleyways and streets and the railway station and subway the most commonly identified areas. People felt safest in the mall and library.

A sense of safety increased as males got older and decreased as females got older. Solutions generated by the respondents identified improved lighting and policing of areas deemed to be least safe.

#### 1.4 Engaging Youth

The respondents had a high level of awareness of current youth services, with the highest recognition of Team Xtreme, Youth line, and Project K.

More than half of all the young people found out about services through TV, Radio and The Leader.

There was good support for a Youth Council to co-ordinate the youth based events, information relays and form a first point of contact for youth. About half of those who thought a Youth Council was a good idea would consider being part of a Youth Council.

The role of the Youth Council was seen as diverse with key roles in running sporting competitions, concerts and dance parties. There were plenty of suggested events and activities.

While generic media opportunities provide a means of communicating general messages to the youth of Upper Hutt, there are other effective sources of communication that could be used to target different groups of young people.

Strategies that engage students in their school environment through school magazines, poster campaigns and speaking in assembly will effectively reach a considerable group of people.

#### 1.5 Improving Life in Upper Hutt

The most positive features about living in Upper Hutt were:

- The small friendly community where people know one another; and
- Family and mates.

Older youth want more leisure opportunities and those aged 13 – 14 want places to hang out. Improvements were more of a priority for females.

#### 1.6 Youth Spaces, Services and Events

The respondents were keen to see improvements in leisure opportunities and places to hang out. Initiatives that the Upper Hutt youth thought would have the most positive impact on Upper Hutt were:

- A youth space
- Better range of shops in the CBD
- Graffiti art competition

Respondents identified youth-focused events as part of the role of the Youth Council, with preferences for sporting competitions, concerts and dance parties.

A dedicated youth space was well supported by some, but with significant reservations and concerns.

*“It would create problems if certain groups take it over as theirs.”*

*“It would be trashed in a week.”*

*“No matter how hard you try to make cool places and events, it’s the people who make the difference.”*

The features of the space that people wanted included pool tables, tennis tables, arcade games, café/youth bar and a dance floor area and youth lounge.

## 1.7 Summary

Young people in Upper Hutt are concerned about their safety and what they do in their spare time.

They want to improve the safety of the streets and railway station, as well as safety from gangs, crime and illegal drugs.

Young people want safe places that they can do things with their friends. They want a range of activities and spaces that enable them to hang out and socialise, both after school and in the weekends.

While a dedicated youth space is seen as one solution, many of the respondents had concerns about its viability. A stronger theme was that many spaces, services, and activities were required to meet the needs of youth rather than just one space to hang out.

## 2 ISSUES FOR YOUTH IN UPPER HUTT

---

Young people in Upper Hutt have a range of concerns including drugs, lack of things to do or places to go and graffiti.

### 2.1 Overall results

The most common concern was:

- Illegal drug use (62% of respondents).

More than 50% of the respondents were concerned about:

- Lack of things to do
- Crime
- Graffiti.

Between 40 – 50% of Upper Hutt youth had concerns about:

- Nowhere to hang out
- Truancy
- Legal party drugs.

Of least concern was:

- Transition from school into the workforce (16% of the respondents).

### 2.2 Results by gender

The issues for youth with the greatest gender difference were:

- Lack of things to do (females 63%, males 55%)
- Where to hang out (females 54%, males 41%).

Truancy was more of an issue for females rather than males. Graffiti was more of an issue for males rather than females.

Other issues (illegal drug use, crime, legal drug use and transition from school into the workforce) did not show any significant gender differences.

*“Upper Hutt could be better if there was less threat of crime”*

*“Can you set up an underage club type thing, like 7 – 20 in Rotorua?”*

### 2.3 Results by age

Younger respondents (aged 13 – 15) were more concerned about illegal drug use.

Lack of things to do, however was more important for those aged 15 - 17 years, peaking at 69% for 16 year olds.

### 2.4 Summary

The primary concerns of young people in Upper Hutt are *safety* (from others, drug use etc) and *lack of things to do*. More detailed information about each of these is included in subsequent sections.

### 3 SAFETY

#### 3.1 Unsafe during night and day

Respondents felt most unsafe in backstreets and alleyways, and at the railway station. The areas perceived to be least safe were similar during the day and night.

<i>Areas people feel unsafe</i>	<i>Night (%)</i>	<i>Day (%)</i>
Back streets/alleyways	75	30
Railway station	59	19
Parks and reserves	41	8
Maidstone Max	36	8
Around the centre of town	30	7
Schools	22	6
Mall	11	4
Library	10	5

*“There needs to be more security”*

Other than the unsafe areas listed in the questionnaire, the following places were nominated by the survey respondents as places where they felt unsafe:

	<i>actual number of nominations</i>
Timberlea	34
Train station subway	34
H2O Xtream (especially Friday night)	16
Riverbank	8
Merton Street	7
McDonalds (outside)	6

*“less gangs... street lights in Timberlea and an overbridge at the train station”*

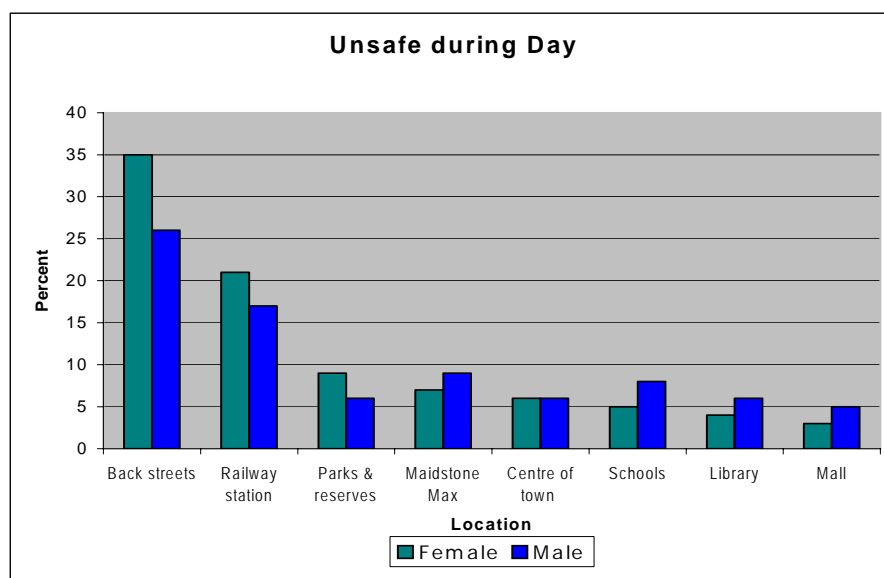
Note: only those with 5 or more nominations have been listed. Other more general comments centred round ‘dark streets’, ‘where gangsters hang out’ and ‘carparks’.

### 3.2 Results by Gender

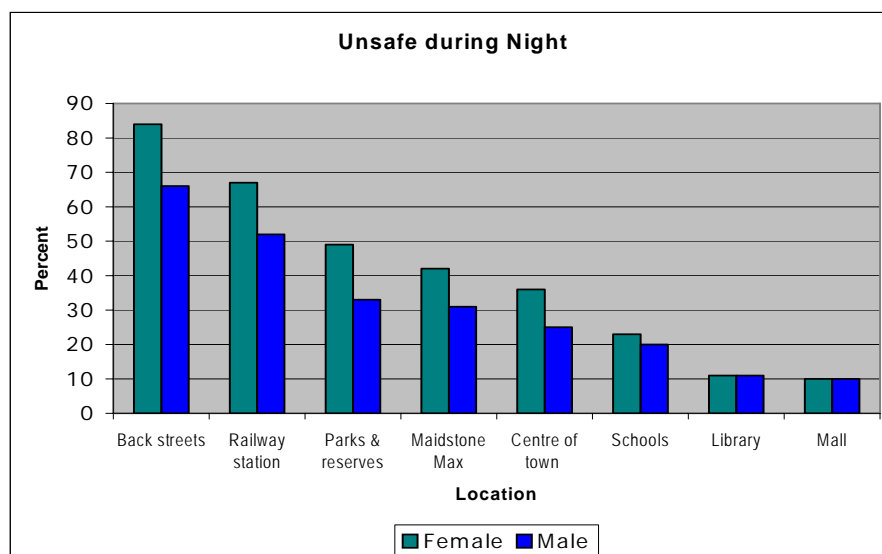
There is more difference between feelings of safety related to gender than age.

The order of the areas is based on the responses from the females. While the order differs for the males, the difference is relatively minor and the percentage differences small.

<i>Unsafe during the DAY</i>	<i>Female (%)</i>	<i>Male (%)</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Back streets/alleyways	35	26	+11
Railway station	21	17	+4
Parks and reserves	9	6	+3
Maidstone Max	7	9	-2
Around the centre of town	6	6	0
Schools	5	8	-3
Library	4	6	-2
Mall	3	5	-2



Both males and females consider the same areas to be unsafe at night.



Females feel more at risk in the high-risk areas - back streets and alleyways at night - with a difference of 18 percentage points more than the males' perception of safety.

This difference reduces to nil at the Mall and Library.

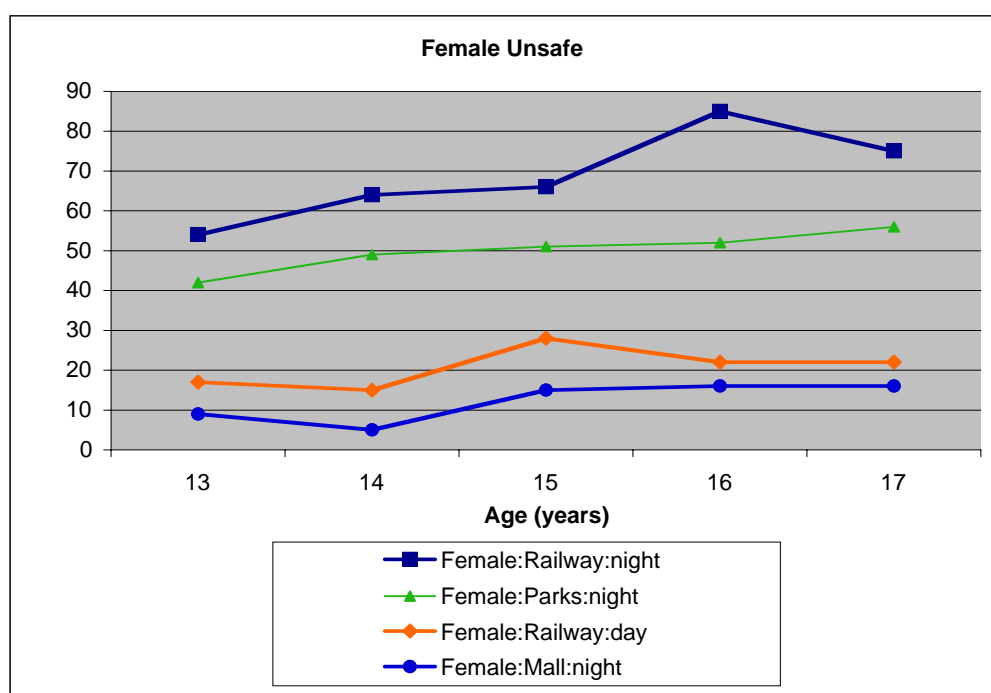
<i>Area during the NIGHT</i>	<i>Female (%)</i>	<i>Male (%)</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Back streets/alleyways	84	66	+18
Railway station	67	52	+15
Parks and reserves	49	33	+16
Maidstone Max	42	31	+11
Around the centre of town	36	25	+11
Schools	23	20	+3
Mall	11	11	0
Library	10	10	0

### 3.3 Results by Age

There are not clear trends for different ages when the results are analysed on an overall basis (ie both males and females). However, some trends emerge when the responses are analysed by age in the different gender groups.

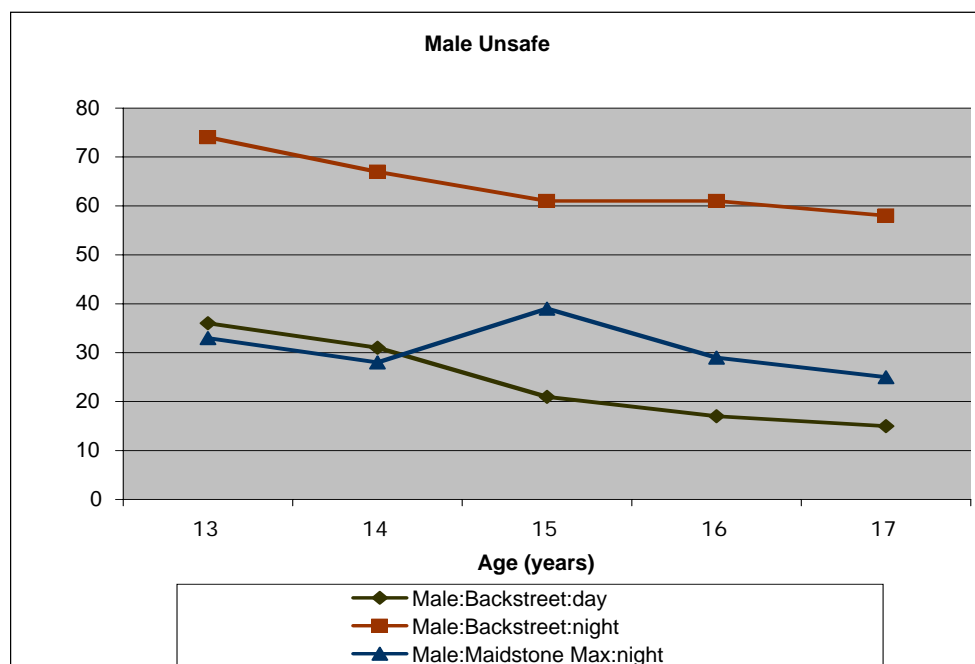
At night females tend to feel more unsafe as they get older (within the age range analysed of 13 to 17 years old). This trend is most evident in the following areas:

- Railway station
- Parks and reserves
- The mall
- The library.



For males, there is some evidence that they feel safer as they get older (within the age range analysed of 13 to 17 years old). This trend is most evident in the following areas:

- Backstreets and alleyways
- Maidstone Max.



### 3.4 Summary

In summary, young people feel unsafe in backstreets, alleyways and the railways station and underpass, both at night and during the day. Typically they:

- Feel most unsafe at night
- Females feel more unsafe than males
- Females feel increasingly unsafe as they get older
- Males feel increasingly safe as they get older
- The mall and library are the safest places at night.

### 3.5 What can be done to help

Almost half of the respondents made a comment, in response to the question “What can be done to help?” However, the responses focused on a narrow range of options. These being:

- More lighting
- Greater use of security cameras
- More police patrols/security patrols.

*“we need to have security men at the station on Saturday nights”*

## 4 NEED FOR MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS

---

### 4.1 Overall results

Respondents were keen to see improvement in two areas:

- Leisure opportunities (69%)
- Places to hang out (64%).

Most people knew where to go for help as this was of least need for improvement (20%). More details about awareness of youth services are in section 5.

*“somewhere bigger than a café when it’s wet”*

*“Upper Hutt needs a spacie parlour, gaming, time out arcade place”*

### 4.2 Results by gender

Nearly three quarters of females (74%) wanted greater improvements in places to hang out, whereas it was only a priority for about half of the males (58%).

*“have another skate park, coz it gets too crowded with just one”*

The need for improvement of leisure opportunities showed no gender difference.

*“we need discos”*

### 4.3 Results by age

Improving leisure opportunities were more of a priority for the older respondents:

*“we need a quad bike thing and paintballing”*

#### *Wanting improvement*

---

13 year olds	66%
17 year olds	77%

Places to hang out were more of priority for younger people:

#### *Places to hangout*

---

13 year olds	72%
--------------	-----

#### 4.4 Leisure Opportunities

Many of the respondents identified specific things they'd like to see happen as part of improving Upper Hutt for youth. The following events were listed:

*"Need more concerts like hip hop and popular music."*

*"Concerts would be very good for Upper Hutt as it is exciting and when the summer hummer was on everyone was occupied."*

*"Maybe have a show and shine car show at TMP for youth with cars, with a prize pack for the car that gets the most votes."*

*"We need more than one downhill race a year at Maidstone Max."*

#### 4.5 Places to hang out

While the details around a Youth Centre are discussed in more detail elsewhere, some suggested improvements to what's available were also made:

*"Make a place where people can play pool."*

*"Extend the skate park back towards the flying fox."*

*"Make a gondola up on Rimutaka Hill and a luge down."*

*"It would be cool to have games workshop which is a model shop."*

*"more mountain biking tracks,*

*"We should have diving boards at H2O Xtream"*

*"Make the Maidstone Max skatepark bigger."*

#### 4.6 Summary

Older youth want more leisure opportunities and those aged 13 – 14 want places to hang out. Improvements were more of a priority for females.

## 5 YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDERS

---

### 5.1 Overall results

The information gathered focused on awareness of youth service providers rather than current or potential use of these services.

Upper Hutt youth *knew* of the following of youth service providers:

#### *Awareness of providers*

---

Team Xtreme	71%
Youth Line	56%
Project K	46%
Work and Income	36%
VIBE	36%
Child Youth & Family	30%
Family Planning	26%
Police Youth Aid Officers	22%
Truancy Services	21%
Christian Fellowship Youth Workers	20%

### 5.2 Results by gender

Females were more aware or similarly aware, of all listed services compared with the male respondents.

<i>Service providers more highly known by females</i>	<i>% point difference between females and males</i>
Family Planning	+21
Youth Line	+18
Child, Youth and Family Services	+15
VIBE	+12
Orongomai Marae	+10

There were other service providers that were known more evenly by both males and females, although generally with a higher level of female recognition:

- Career Services
- Team Xtreme
- Youth Transition Service
- Kings Arms.

### 5.3 Results by age

The awareness of some services changed with age.

#### *Project K*

---

13 year olds	22%
14 – 17 age group was much stronger, peaking for 15 year olds at	67%

#### *Family Planning*

---

Awareness of Family Planning steadily increased with age:

13 year olds	11%
17 year olds	47%

#### *Vibe*

---

13 year olds	18%
14 year olds	47%
15 year olds	41%
16 year olds	42%
17 year olds	36%

#### *Team Xtreme*

---

13 year olds	78%
14 year olds	73%
15 year olds	68%
16 year olds	62%
17 year olds	71%

#### *Youth Line*

---

13 year olds	51%
14 – 16 year olds	56% – 59%

17 year olds

69%

#### 5.4 Summary

Levels of awareness for all services could increase as less than half of all respondents knew of most services. Female awareness was typically higher for some health services. Older respondents typically had a higher awareness.

## 6 FINDING OUT ABOUT YOUTH SERVICES AND YOUTH EVENTS

---

### 6.1 Overall results

The top three ways that youth would find out about services and events are:

#### *Finding out*

---

TV	65%
Radio	58%
The Leader	56%

#### *Other sources of information*

---

People speaking in assemblies	44%
Poster campaigns	39%
Mass txt messaging/e-mail	37%
School magazines	34%
H2O Xstream	32%

#### *Least used sources*

---

The Upper Hutt Youth Website	8%
The Upper Hutt Youth Advisor	5%
Citizens Advice Bureau	1%

The Youth Advisor position is less than six months old and is not intended as a primary source of information. The website has had no promotion nor has been updated recently. It will however be given a face-lift and re-launched in the future.

Of all the different sources of information, many of these have the capacity to be produced in Upper Hutt and targeted at Upper Hutt Youth.

*“need a better youth oriented newspaper”*

*“the H2O Xstream teenboard could help greatly”*

## 6.2 Results by Gender

Females used all sources of information more than males; some sources being more than 10% different in usage.

<i>Sources used more by Females</i>	<i>% point difference between females and males</i>
People speaking in assemblies	+13
Poster campaigns	+13
School magazines	+10
Mass txt messaging/email	+10

Of the top three sources of information (TV, radio, The Leader), there was a slight bias towards females using them as a source of information (4 – 7 percentage points), but not as much as those listed above.

## 6.3 Results by Age

### **Younger respondents**

The younger age groups tended to use TV and radio more as an information source, compared with the older aged groups.

<i>TV</i>	
13 year olds	70%
17 year olds	55%
<i>Radio</i>	
13 year olds	61%
17 year olds	50%
<i>H2O Xtream</i>	
13 year olds	48%
17 year olds	16%

### Older respondents

Sources of information that were more popular with the older aged respondents were:

#### *Speaking at assemblies*

---

13 year olds	41%
17 year olds	50%

#### *Poster campaigns*

---

13 years	30%
17 years	45%

## 6.4 Summary

While generic media opportunities provide some means of communicating general messages to the youth of Upper Hutt, there are some effective sources of information that could be used to target different groups of young people.

Strategies that engage students in their school environment through school magazines, poster campaigns and speaking in assembly will effectively reach a considerable group of people.

## 7 POSITIVE YOUTH-FOCUSED INITIATIVES

---

### 7.1 Overall Results

The survey respondents had some innovative ideas for positive youth-focused initiatives.

The initiatives that respondents thought would have the most positive impact on youth in Upper Hutt were:

#### *Positive Impact*

---

Youth space	65%
Better range of shops in the CBD	60%
Graffiti art competition	46%

*“we need more shops”*

*“Make a place where people can play pool*

*“More places to hang out”*

The Graffiti art competition rates highly because it was included as an example in the survey rather than based on an open question

#### *Least Impact*

---

Inner city parks	29%
Youth event series	28%

### 7.2 Results by Gender

Females were stronger supporters of the youth space and a better range of shops

#### *Female preference*                      *Difference between females and males*

---

Youth space	+14 percentage points
Better range of shops	+12 percentage points

Males thought that inner city parks would have a more positive effect

#### *Male preference*                      *Difference between females and males*

---

Inner city parks	+4 percentage points
------------------	----------------------

### 7.3 Results by Age

#### Older respondents

A youth space was more favoured by 16 and 17 year olds, rather than the younger 13 – 15 year olds.

“...because the gangsters will hang out there and beat me up.”

This seems to contradict the evidence that more 13 – 14 year olds want safe places to hang out. Perhaps indicating that the younger group don't think that a Youth Space would provide this.

A better range of shops in the CBD was favoured more strongly by the 17 year olds (67%), and least favoured by the 13 year olds (55%), compared with the average response of 60%.

#### Younger respondents

Response to the *Graffiti Art mural competition*, was the most age dependent category, being heavily favoured by 13 year olds (56%), steadily decreasing to 36% for the 17 year olds

### 7.4 Other Initiatives

Other initiatives that were suggested by the respondents:

<i>Other initiatives</i>	<i>actual number of suggestions</i>
More (teen) shops	33
Carnivals/concerts	20
Cinema	14
Youth space/hang out	14

Other suggestions included:

- Outdoor basketball court
- LAN gaming area
- Indoor sports centre
- Another skate park
- Road to race on

## 7.5 Most positive features about living in Upper Hutt

The top three most positive features about living in Upper Hutt are:

### *Positive features*

---

Friendly people and the smallness of the community	40%
Family/mates	15%
H2O Xstream	7%

This data was extracted from a 20% sample of the responses received.

## 8 YOUTH COUNCIL

---

### 8.1 Need for a Youth Council

More than two-thirds of respondents (69%) supported the establishment of a Youth Council to co-ordinate all the youth based events, information relays and to form a first point of contact for youth. This support was stronger from females and older aged respondents.

#### *Gender*

---

Females	77%
Males	62%

#### *Age*

---

17 year olds	80%
13 year olds	64%

### 8.2 Participation on the Youth Council

Of all respondents, 439 would consider being on the Youth Council. This is 34% of respondents (ie about half of those that thought it was a good idea).

Females were more interested in being on the Youth Council, and those aged 16 and 17 years.

Least interested were 15 year olds (31%).

#### *Gender*

---

Females	42%
Males	27%

#### *Age*

---

16/17 year olds	38%
15 year olds	31%

### 8.3 Events to be run by a Youth Council

The most popular events for the Youth Council to run were sporting competitions (eg skate and BMX @ Maidstone Max, basketball competitions) and concerts.

#### *Events*

Sporting competitions	69%
Concerts	69%
Dance parties	55%
Youth awards	28%
Art exhibition	25%
Conferences	9%

<i>Gender preferences</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Dance parties	72%	39%	+33
Concerts	80%	59%	+21
Sporting competitions	69%	72%	-3

Dance parties and concerts were strongly favoured by females. Sporting competitions were slightly more favoured by males.

Other ideas suggested by the respondents were (actual number of suggestions):

<i>Suggested events</i>	<i>number of respondents</i>
Music/band/singing competitions	10
Events/carnivals/fun day	10
Gaming (computer) competitions	8
Car races (drag/speedway)	6

### 8.4 Results by Age

Older respondents supported concerts, dance parties and youth awards.

#### *Concerts*

13 year olds	61%
17 year olds	74%

#### *Dance parties*

13 year olds	53%
17 year olds	65%

*Youth awards*

---

15 year olds	24%
17 year olds	38%

## 8.5 Summary

There is considerable support for the establishment of a Youth Council, and a large number of respondents keen to contribute to its work.

The role of the Youth Council was seen as diverse with key roles in running sporting competitions, concerts and dance parties. There were plenty of suggested events and activities.

## 9 YOUTH SPACE

---

### 9.1 What Features in a Permanent Youth Space

If a permanent youth space was created, the suggested features and activities were ranked in the following order:

#### *Suggested features*

---

Pool tables/table tennis/air hockey	77%
Café/youth bar	76%
Dance floor area for dance parties and concerts	65%
Arcade style games	64%
A youth lounge	57%

### 9.2 Results by Gender

There are reasonably strong differences in the preferences for the males respondents as compared with the female respondents, as recorded below (in order of the males preferences).

<i>Features</i>	<i>Male (%)</i>	<i>Female (%)</i>
Pool tables etc	81	74
Café/youth bar	68	84
Arcade style games	68	60
A youth lounge	50	64
Dance floor area	49	81

Males want competitive activities (pool tables, table tennis, air hockey), whereas females want social spaces and areas for dancing and music.

### 9.3 Results by Age

Arcade style games appeal to younger respondents whereas older respondents preferred the café/youth bar.

#### *Pool tables/table tennis/air hockey*

---

13 year olds	79%
16 year olds	73%
17 year olds	83%

Table games appealed more to 13 year olds and 17 year olds compared with those in between.

	<i>Café/youth bar</i>	<i>Dance parties/concerts</i>
13 year olds	73%	63%
14 year olds	74%	64%
15 year olds	79%	64%
16 year olds	79%	68%
17 year olds	81%	74%

Interest in a café/youth bar and dance parties and concerts increased with age.

#### 9.4 Usage

The respondents indicated that they would use a permanent youth space at the following frequency.

<i>Frequency of use</i>	
Once a month for special events	30%
Couple of times a week for the café and lounge	30%
Once a week for dance parties and concerts	20%
After school every day to hang out	20%

If 20% (258 people) of respondents consider that they would use a space everyday after school to hang out, and a further 30% (387 people) would use it a couple of times a week, there are clearly some opportunities to increase the places where young people can 'hang out' and/or come together for social reasons.

Several respondents commented that

*“one youth space would not be enough - we need more than one place to hang”*

*“I think that it may not be all that needs to be done, this place could cause fights coz of personal gangs stereotyping, prejudice reasons, so maybe more places are needed”*

#### 9.5 Is this the place to 'Hang Out'

More than three quarters of respondents (81%) thought that a permanent youth space would solve the issue of youth having nowhere to hang out in Upper Hutt.

More females (86%) than males (76%) thought that a permanent youth space would solve the issue to a greater degree.

There was not a large variation in the response base on age.

There were about twice as many negative comments about a youth space, compared to positive comments. This suggests that while the young people were identifying the need for places to hang out, be with their friends and have activities to do, a single youth space wasn't necessarily the best solution.

The negative comments expressed concerns about:

- How different groups of youths would interact in a youth space  
*"It would create problems if certain groups take it over as theirs, like in Porirua".*  
*"because like everything else it would turn into a gangster hangout"*
- Physical management and caretaking of the building  
*"it would be trashed in a week".*
- Whether it would be a long term solution  
*"It wouldn't solve the problem as you would eventually get bored if you go there all the time"*  
*"no matter how hard you try to make cool places and events it's the people who make the difference"*  
*"because people might not want to hang there".*  
*"we need more than one place to hang"*  
*"It would be a start, but we youth tend to reject anywhere we would suppose to go so we can do things our parents have nightmares about".*
- Physical and social fit  
*"it would fast become overcrowded"*  
*"because it couldn't fit every kid in Upper Hutt".*

Young people want places to go that are safe, supervised and fun:

*" I really think you should go ahead with the youth hangout coz people are using silly places to hangout eg the train station. The youth hangout should be open 3 – 11pm on Friday nights."*

*"It would be great to have dance parties. Police would have to patrol though, this would get the youth off the streets at night and their parents would know where they are."*

*“We need a place that isn’t considered a place to hide from gangs.”*

*“I think that we really need a place for the youth to hang out, it stops the kids hanging out on the street, making trouble and having the police involved.”*

*“Upper Hutt is a cool safe place to live, would be better if youth had places to hang out with mates.”*

## 9.6 Summary

Young people want safe places that they can do things with their friends. They want a range of activities and spaces that enable them to hang out and socialise, both after school and in the weekends.

While a dedicated youth space is seen as one solution, many of the respondents had concerns about its viability. A stronger theme was that many spaces were required that met the needs of youth rather than just one.

## 10 NOTES TO THE ANALYSIS

---

The analysis focused on those respondents aged 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 years, these being the largest age groups that responded to the survey.

The number of respondents by age group was as follows:

<i>Age</i>	<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>% of total respondents</i>
12 years and younger	37	3
13 years	322	25
14 years	302	23
15 years	273	21
16 years	191	15
17 years	129	10
18 years and older	26	2
No age recorded	9	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1289</b>	<b>100</b>

Those respondents aged 13 include students who are in their final year of intermediate or full primary schools and those who have started college.

The survey did not ask for respondent's gender. This has been assessed from their name. Where it was not obvious from the name of the respondent, they have been classified as unknown. The analysis undertaken by gender has been taken from respondents where it is more obvious what their gender was.

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>% of total respondents</i>
Male	530	41
Female	586	45
Unknown	173	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>1289</b>	<b>100</b>

<i>Age</i>	<i>Females</i>		<i>Males</i>		<i>Unknown</i>	
	<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>% of total female respondents</i>	<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>% of total male respondents</i>	<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>% of total unknown respondents</i>
12 years & younger	14	2	15	3	8	5
13 years	156	27	124	23	42	24
14 years	132	23	135	25	35	20
15 years	115	20	119	22	39	23
16 years	95	16	72	14	24	14
17 years	63	11	53	10	13	8
18 years & older	9	2	10	2	7	4
No age recorded	2	0	2	0	5	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>100</b>