

Summary

The 2008 Place Survey provides information on people's perceptions of their local area and the local services they receive. This release summarises the headline findings for England and Government Office regions with results for individual local authorities shown in the accompanying tables.

The survey collects information on 18 national indicators for local government, used to measure local government performance for 152 county councils, metropolitan district councils, London boroughs and unitary authorities. While the Place Survey is primarily intended for use at a local level, national and regional results are provided for benchmarking purposes.

The key points from the latest release are:

About your local area

- 80 per cent of the population were satisfied with their local area as a place to live (Islington 77.1%, London average 74.9%)
- 59 per cent felt they belong to their immediate neighbourhood (Islington 50.5%, London average 52.0%)

Your local public services

- 33 per cent agreed or strongly agreed that their local council provided value for money (Islington 34.7%, London average 35.2% but Islington ranked 13th out of 33)
- 45 per cent were, taking everything into account, satisfied with the way their local council runs things (Islington 49.1%, London average 50.0% but Islington ranked 15th out of 32 in London)

Awareness of civil protection arrangements in local area

- 15 per cent of the population said that they were very well or fairly well informed about what to do in the event of a large-scale emergency e.g. flooding or human pandemic flu (Islington 10.6%, London average 13.8%)

Local decision-making

- 29 per cent felt they could influence decisions in their local area (Islington 34.3%, London average 35.2%)

Helping out

- 23 per cent had participated in formal volunteering at least once a month in the last twelve months (Islington 22.8%, London average 20.8%)

Getting involved

- In the last 12 months, 14 per cent of the population had been involved in local decision-making (for example, being a member of a committee or groups relating to local services, education or standing as a local councillor) . (Islington 19.5%, London average 17.3%)

Respect and consideration

- 31 per cent of the population felt that there were problems with people in their local area not treating one another with respect and consideration (Islington 41.8% but down from 56% in 2006, London average 37.1%)
- 72 per cent felt that they were treated with respect and consideration by local services (Islington 67.1 %, London average 67.7%)
- 76 per cent felt that people from different backgrounds got on well together in their local area (Islington 79.4%, London average 76.3%)

Community Safety

- 29 per cent felt that drunk or rowdy behaviour was a problem in their area; for drug use or drug dealing the figure is 31 per cent (Islington 43.2%, London average 36.0%)
 - 25 per cent felt that police and other local public services sought local people's views on community safety issues; and 26 per cent felt that these bodies were successfully dealing with these problems (Islington 25.7%, London average 29.6%)
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