

# Attitudes towards Anti Social Behaviour in Sandwell

## BACKGROUND

Anti Social Behaviour is something which intimidates or threatens someone, or harms their quality of life. It can include a range of things; vandalism, drunk or rowdy behaviour, litter, rubbish and drug dealing are just some examples.

In order to measure and track perceptions of anti social behaviour in Sandwell, the Safer Sandwell Partnership commissioned a total of five ASB and Liveability Surveys between 2006 and 2010, as well as using intelligence gathered from the British Crime Survey and a sub sample of data from a quality of life survey commissioned by the West Midlands Police.



## METHODOLOGY



M·E·L Research was commissioned to carry out two ASB and Liveability surveys on behalf of the Partnership in 2008/09 and 2009/10. Given the longitudinal nature of the survey, minimal changes were made to the survey between survey years in order to be able to track perceptions and attitudes over time.

A telephone methodology was used to complete the required 6,200 interviews across the borough. Trained M·E·L telephone interviews undertook the research using in house CATI systems. The fieldwork was completed in 12 weeks.

## OUTCOMES

Given the large sample size, Safer Sandwell Partnership were able to really drill down into the results, identifying differences in perceptions at a town and police neighbourhood level, in order to inform priorities for action. In the 2009/10 survey, rubbish and litter were the key concern for residents as well as teenagers hanging around. With the exception of rubbish/litter, residents had become more concerned about levels of anti social behaviour between 2008 and 2009. Residents in Smethwick were found to be most concerned about both rubbish/litter and fly tipping.

## TESTIMONIAL

Chris Wright, Principal Research Analyst at Research Sandwell said *'Working with M·E·L gave us greater control over the project, & we benefited from a much more knowledgeable & experienced team'*.

For further information about this project, please contact  
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