

Tilbury Peer to Peer Survey 2016.

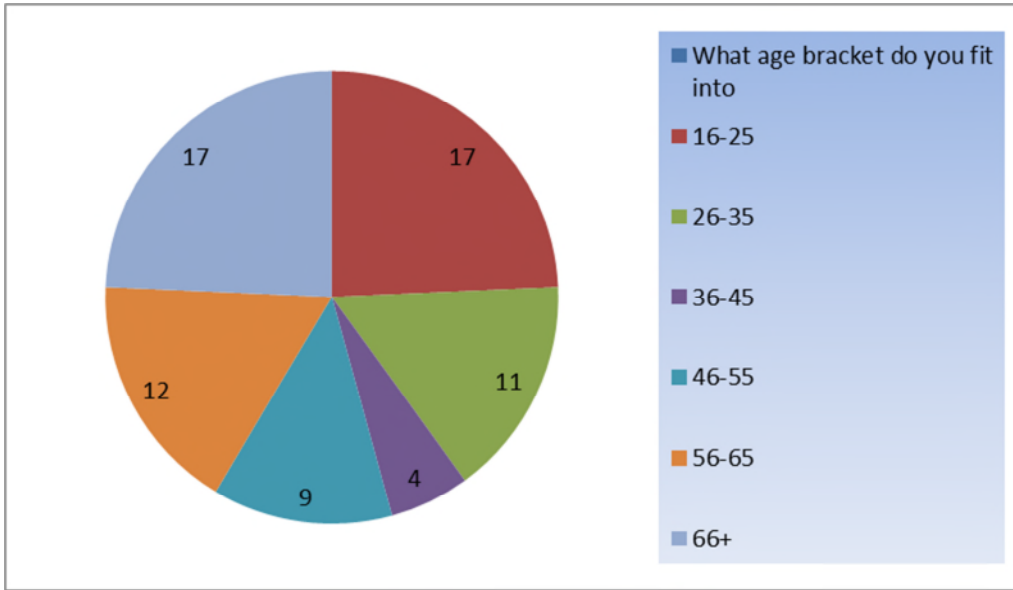
Following on from the success of the 2014 Peer to Peer Survey conducted in Belhus on the barriers to employment the same principle was rolled out in Tilbury as part of the CLLD. Conducted in the main by volunteers working out of the new Tilbury Hub the survey centred on local residents asking their neighbours and visitors to the Hub questions around their health, working lives, type of work they were looking for and how long they had lived in Tilbury and whether they liked the area.

The benefit of using local people to carry out the survey rather than official pollsters is that respondents tend to open up more when they are having a conversation with someone who is part of the same community.

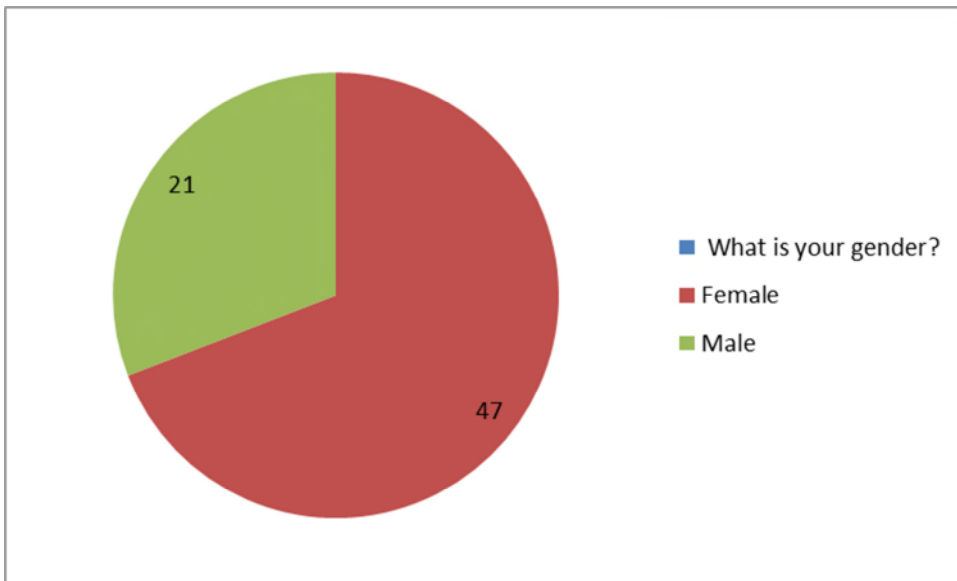
Whilst the number of responses are lower than we would have liked people were not pressured into taking part, this on the whole leads to a more accurate response as only those that are truly interested take part and the consultation period was shorter than we would normally recommend.. Efforts were made to obtain a representative response of the demographics of Tilbury by requesting organisations with varied client bases act as pollsters.

Whilst Tilbury is often perceived as a place which experiences more than its fair share of social and economic problems thus making it appear to outsiders a less than desirable place to live this is not the view taken by the majority of the respondents. The following charts give an overview of the results of the survey and hopefully will contribute to the CLLD.

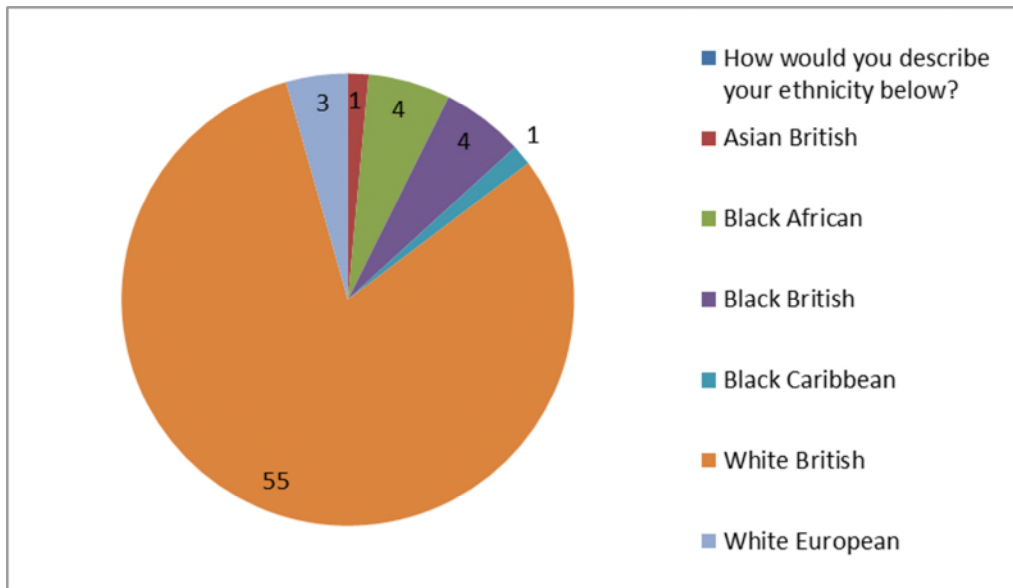
A full breakdown of the results can be found on the Thurrock CVS website from 16 September. The following pages give a graphical presentation of the basic responses with some comments. Drilling down into the data to ascertain linkages between such items as age, gender, and employment and how they influence, if at all, the satisfaction levels or the type of help that is requested is another piece of work. The data collected will be made available in its raw form on the Thurrock CVS website to enable interested parties to diagnose linkages that are relevant to their own particular needs.



The chart above indicates that the number of opinions captured from both the youngest and the oldest age ranges are in balance, also the 26-35 and 56-65 ranges are virtually identical. This data however has not been compared to the demographic's of the area surveyed .

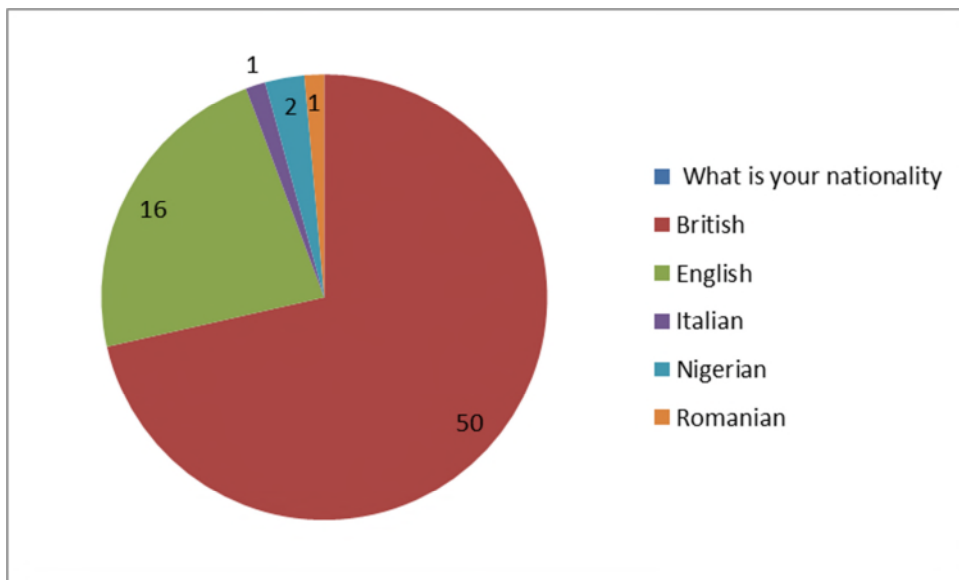


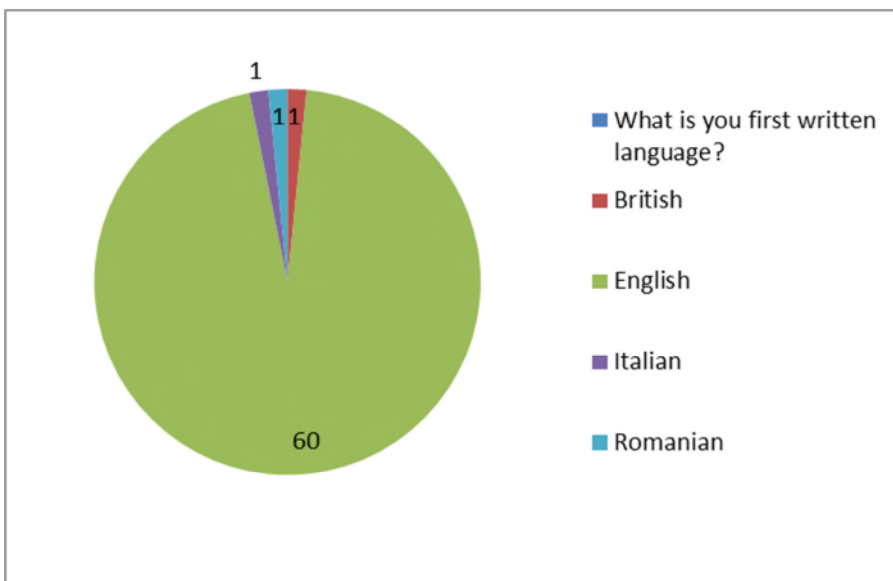
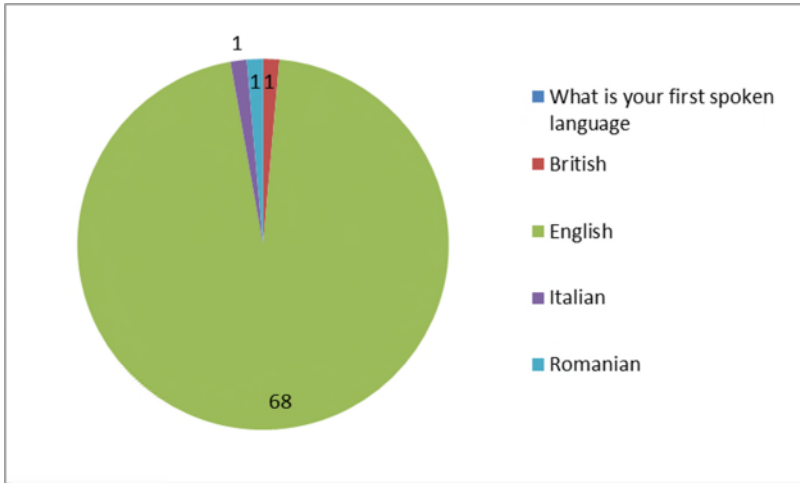
On previous surveys carried out using this method we have found that women appear to be more willing to open up to this type of survey there are also more organised activities social activities organised for women, for example Knit & Natter groups or Toddler Groups whereas organised male activities tend to be less conducive to surveys for example football .



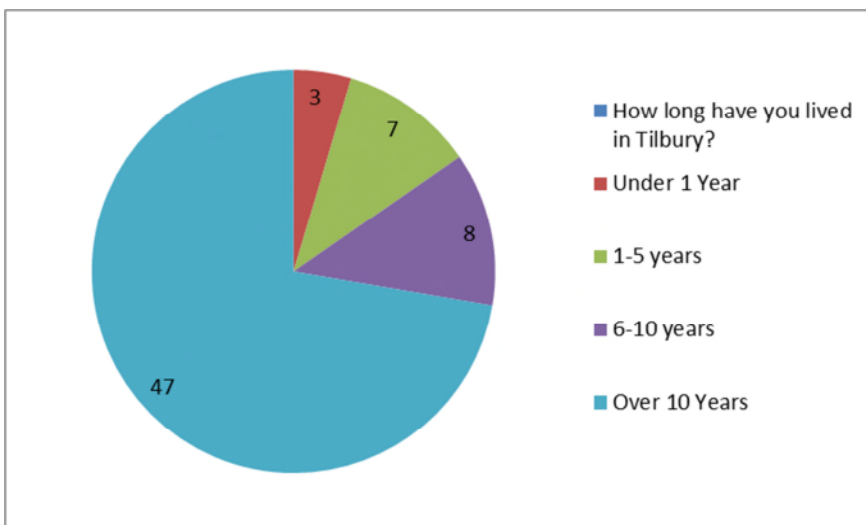
The total percentage of those that responded as being from ethnic backgrounds other than white British was 19% which compares to the Thurrock demographics so would appear to be representative.

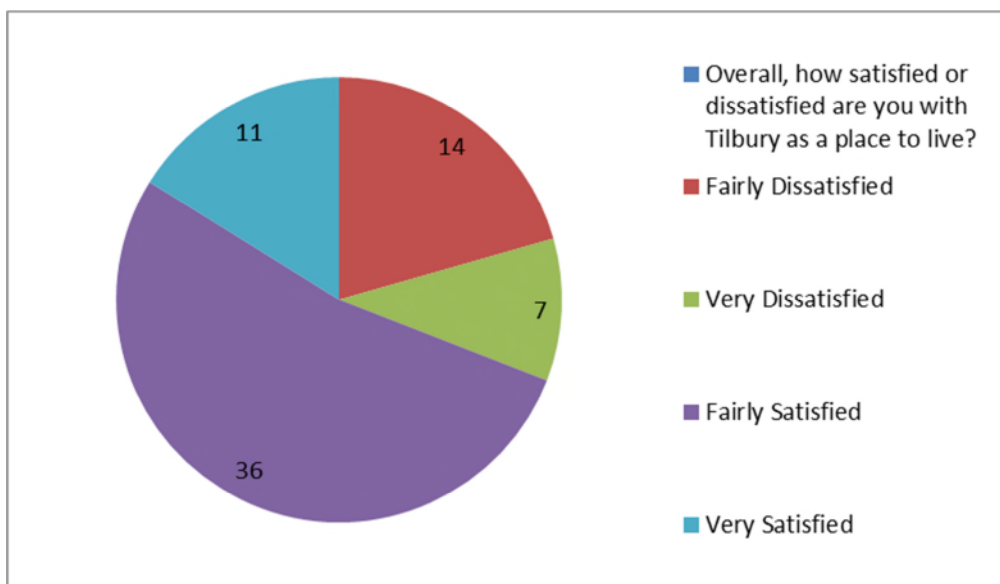
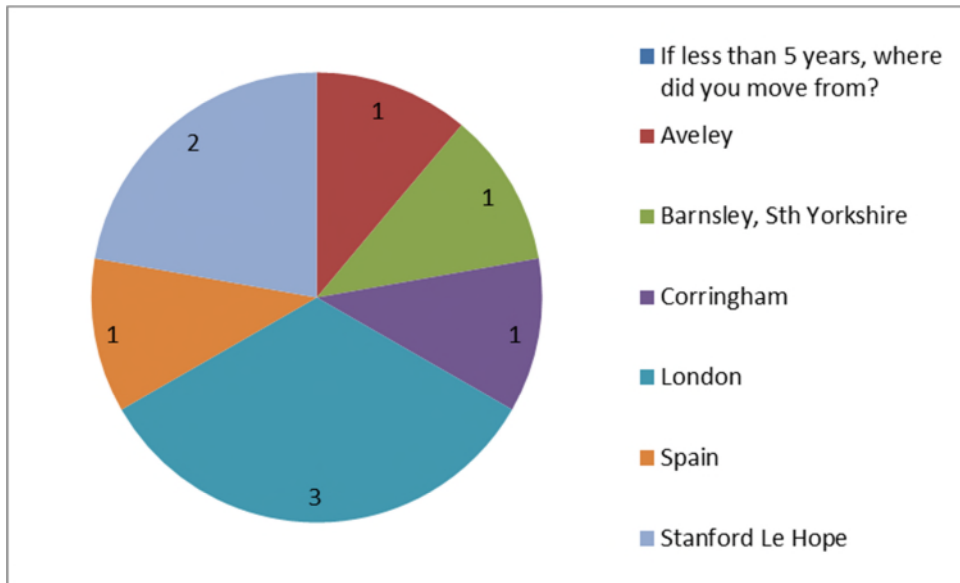
As can be seen from the three charts above the overwhelming number of respondents identify as being British/English and also have English as their first spoken and written language.





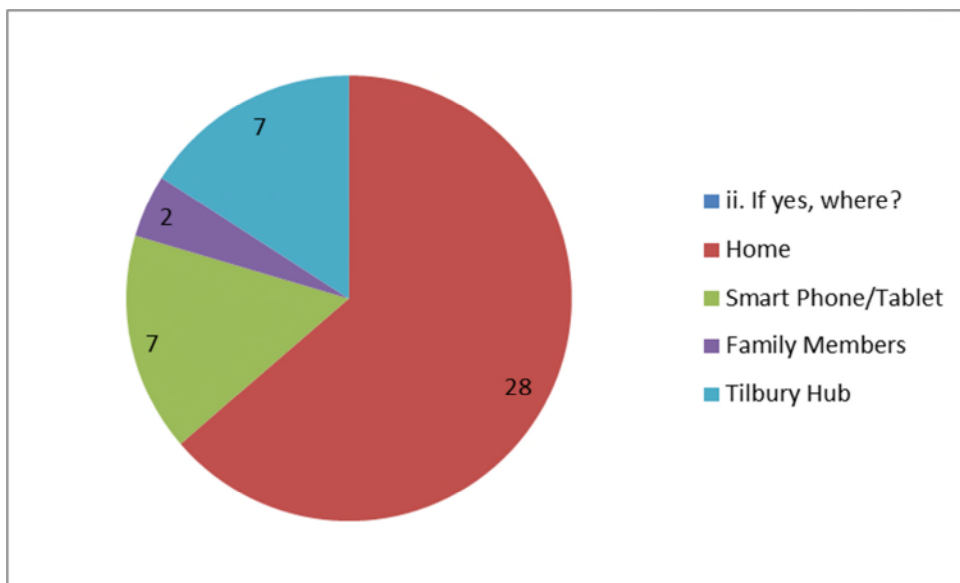
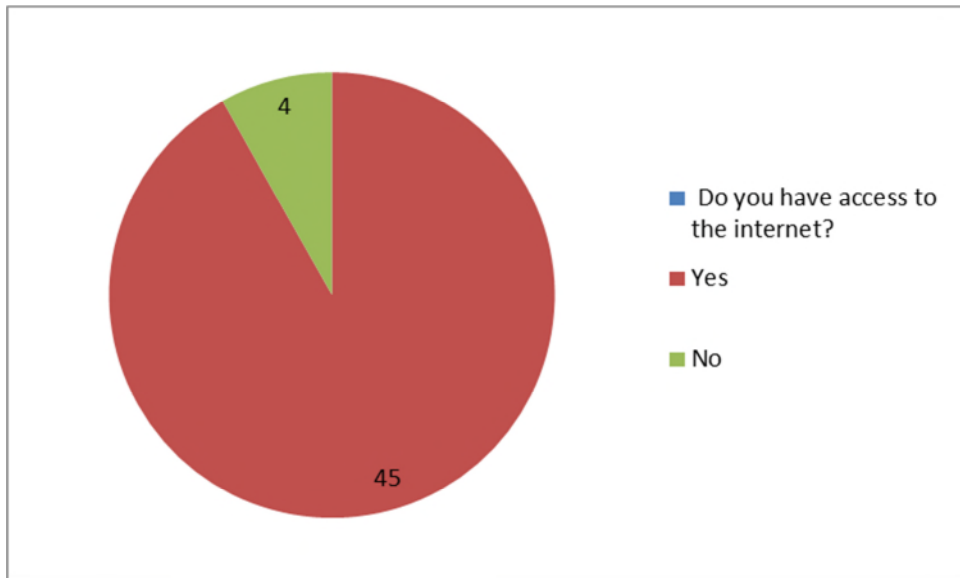
The majority of those that responded were long term residents of Tilbury, the report author can't state whether Tilbury is a transient community but indications are is that the population on the whole seems to be stable.





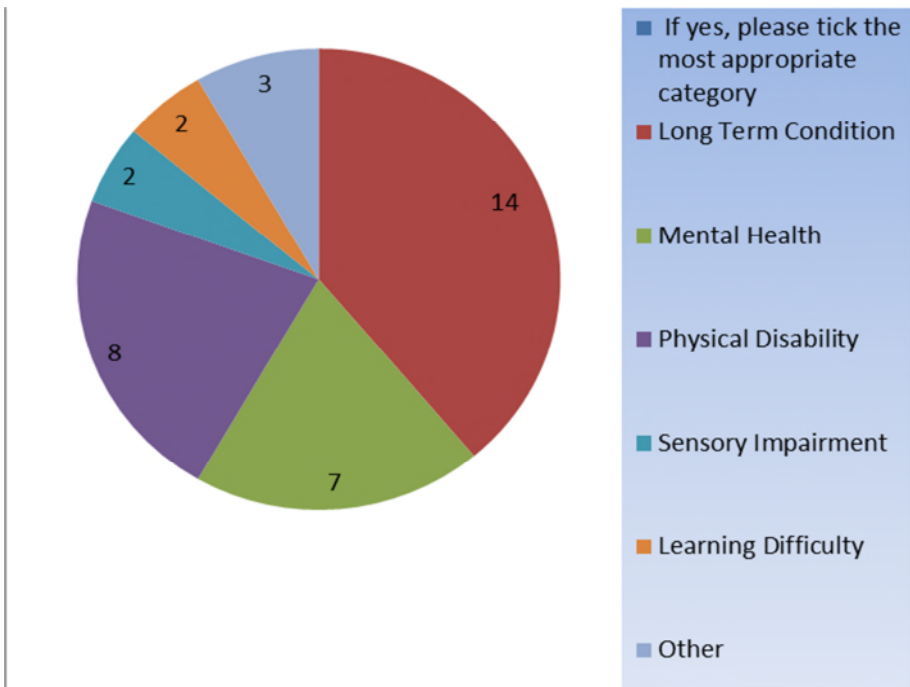
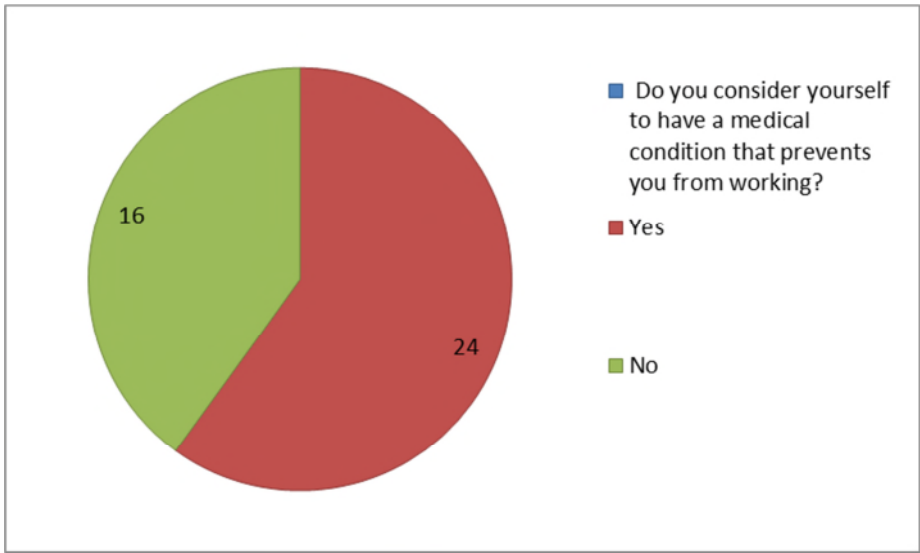
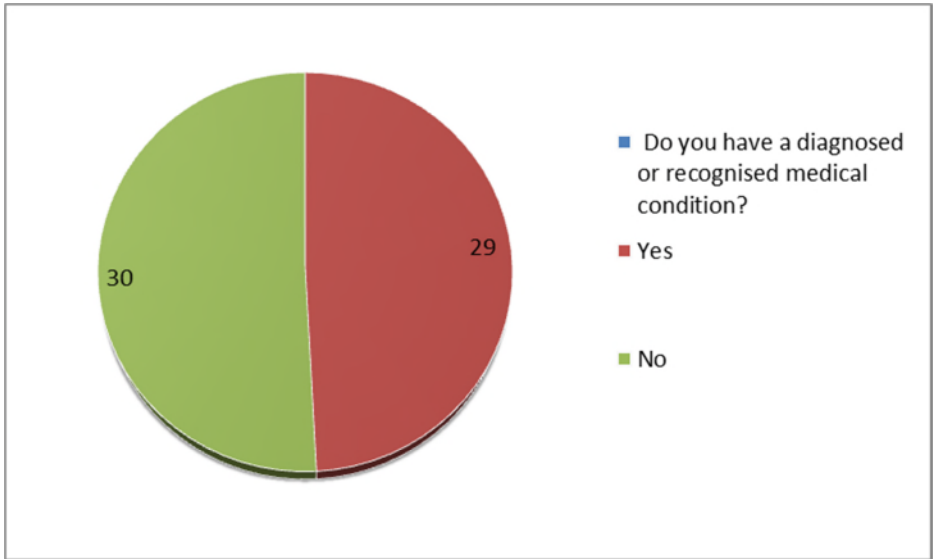
The satisfaction levels expressed by those surveyed indicated that whilst general public opinion from outside the area has a negative view of Tilbury the majority of the residents just under 70% were either satisfied or very satisfied with Tilbury as a place to live, with only 10% being very dissatisfied.

Over 81% of those that responded to the question regarding internet access were able to access it with the 19% that responded in the negative when questioned were not interested in using the service.

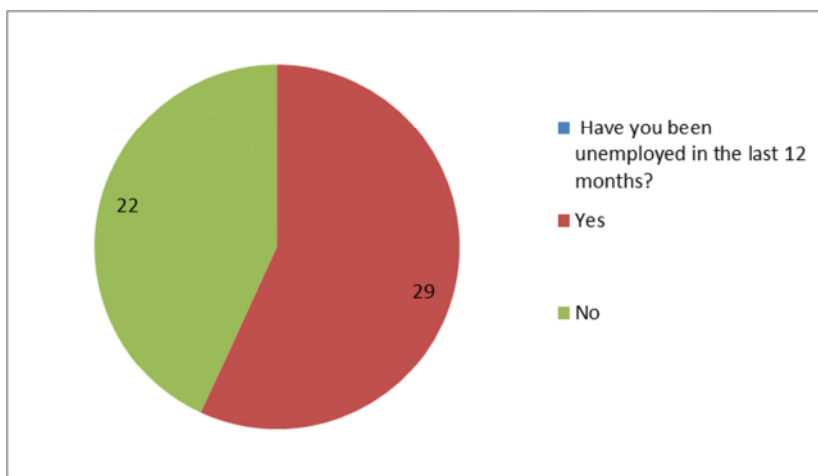
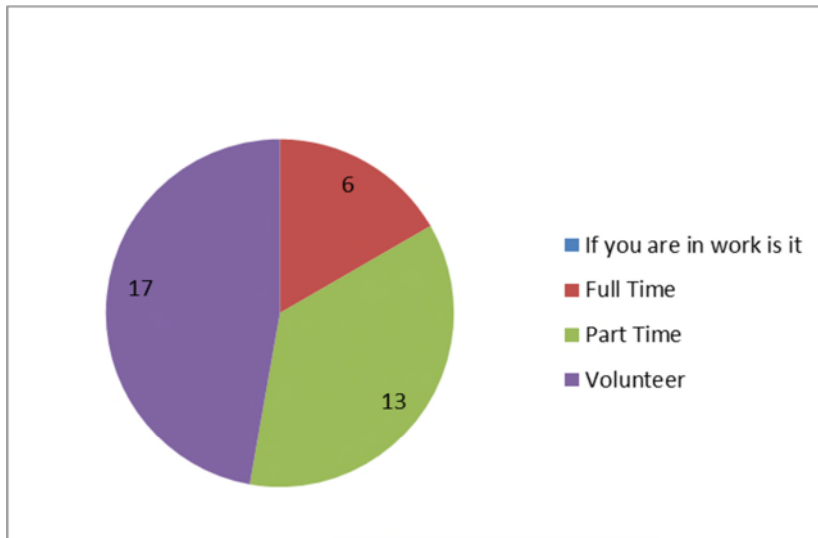


With regards to unemployment/employment and the capability of respondents to work, 30 people stated they had a recognised medical condition and 24 felt their condition prevented them from working.

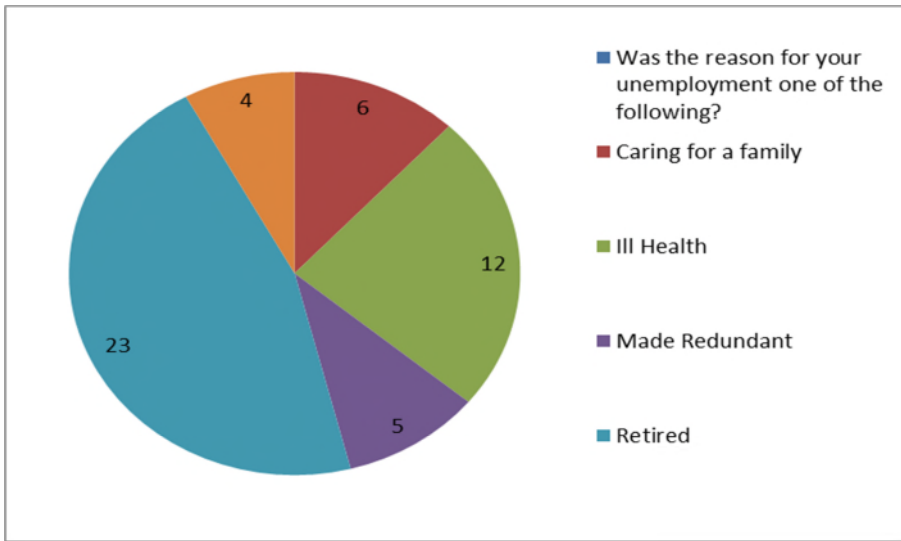
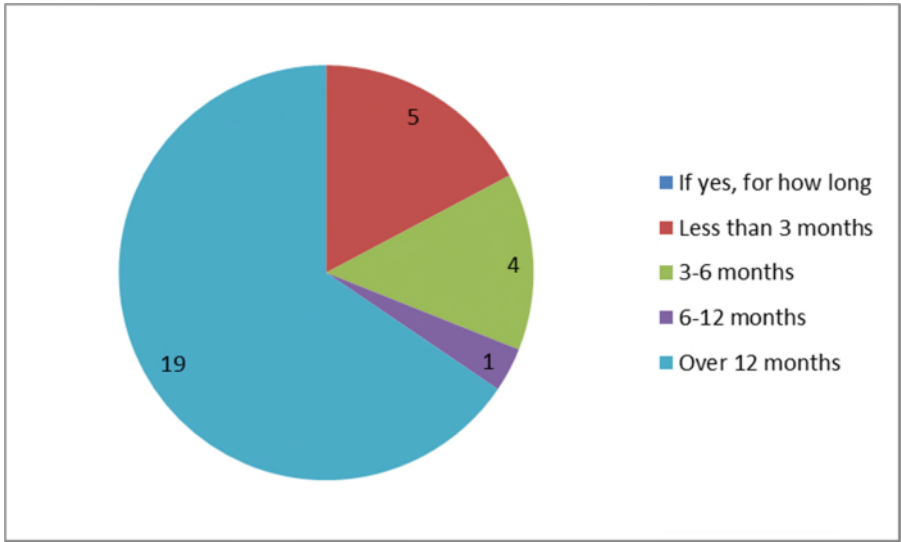
A long term medical condition presented as being the biggest barrier to employment mental health and a physical impairment being the equally responsible for the second highest barrier. The charts on the following page give more detail.

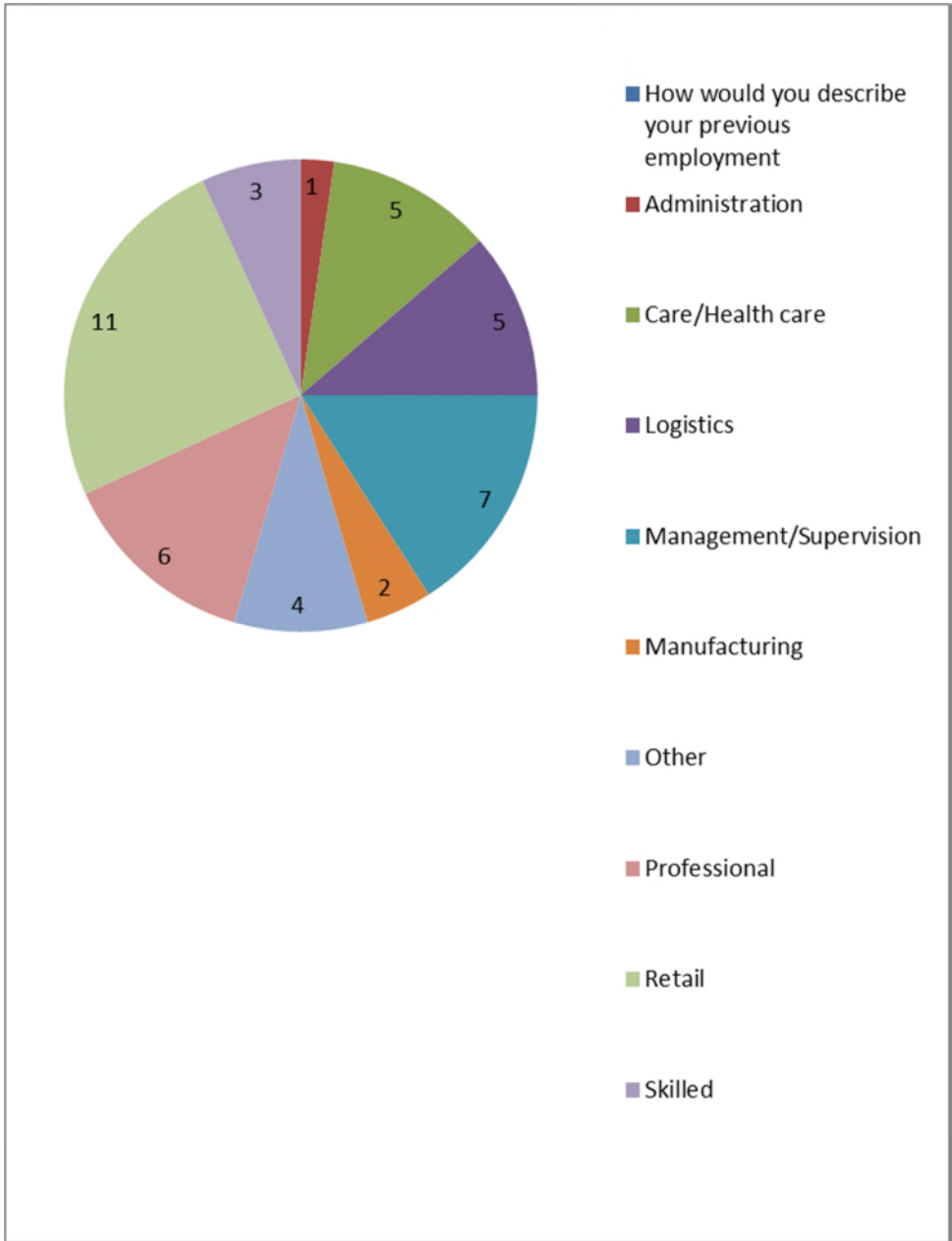


Only 6 of the people in work at the time of the survey were in full time employment with a further 13 working part time, the question of whether part time employment was by choice was not asked and on reflection clarification on this point should have been sought. 17 people were carrying out voluntary work which would be an advantage when seeking employment.

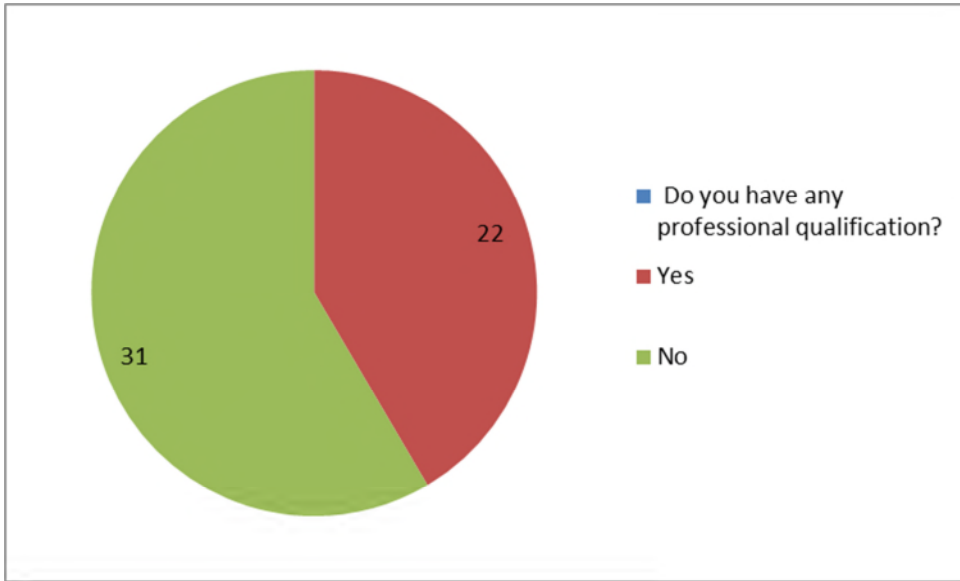


Over 56% had been unemployed in the past 12 months with majority being out of work for over 12 months. Reasons given for being unemployed other than retirement were ill health, caring for a family member or being made redundant.

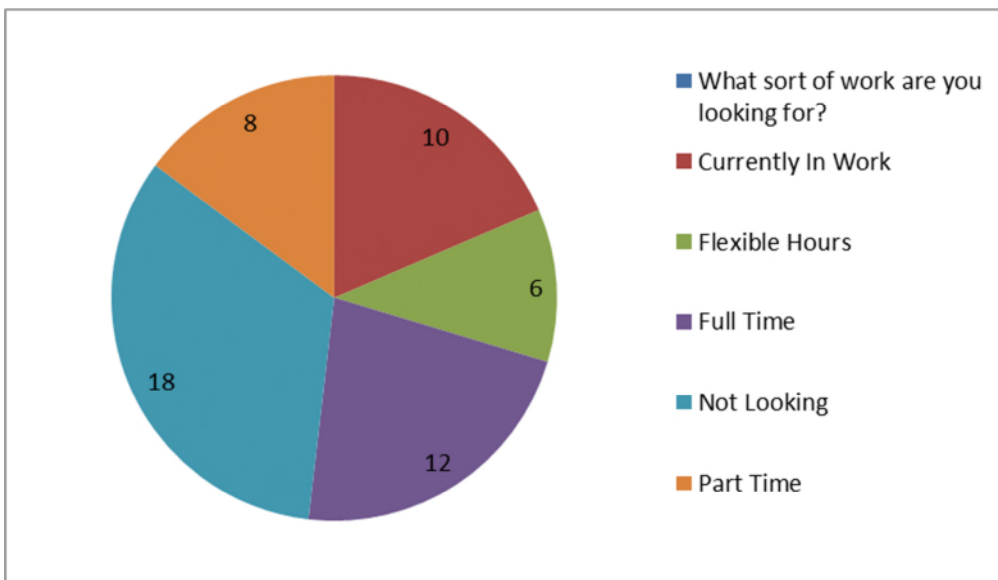


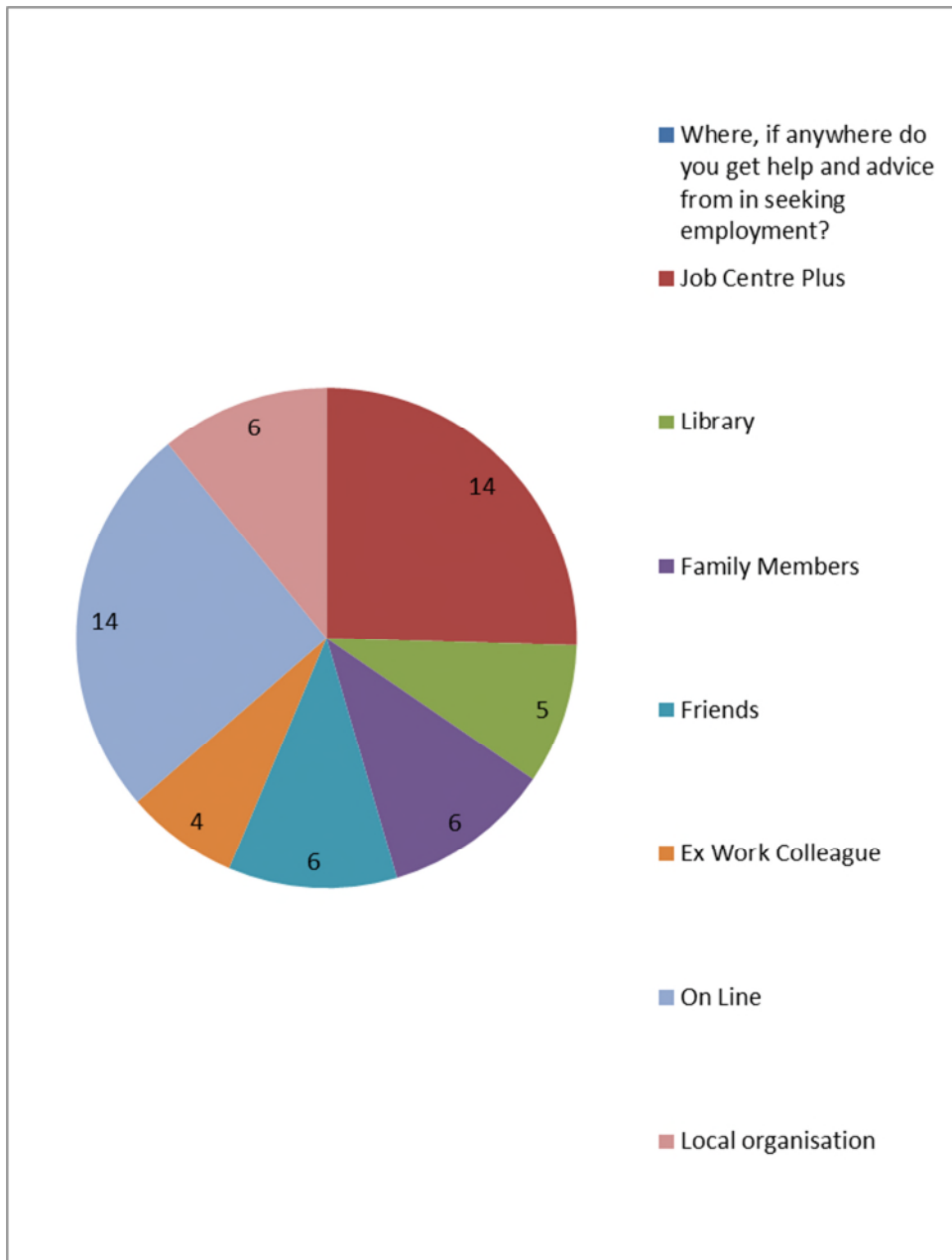


With regard to previous employment Retail came top with Management/supervision along with Professional jockeyed for second place. This could explain the 22 respondents who said they had a professional qualification; however we had not sought clarification on the level of qualification.



Of those actively seeking employment order of preference was for full time work followed by part time and then flexible hours.





As can be seen from the chart above Job Centre Plus along with on line searches rank top however it is not certain if there may be some double counting within these sections as Job centre Plus is accessible on line. The remaining options are very equally shared.

People identified a number of tools that they felt could help them gain employment, top along with training was more information on local job opportunities, something that should be easily rectified in the short term.

■ What would have helped you in the efforts to get back into employment?

■ CV Writing

■ Job Club

■ More information on jobs in Tilbury

■ Basic IT Training

■ Interview Skills

■ Work Trials

■ Training

■ Childcare

■ Confidence Skills

■ Independent Courses

■ Free /subsidised transport



It is accepted that volunteering is an effective way of gaining new skills at the same time as demonstrating to potential employers a good work ethic. It was encouraging that over 50% of those that responded to the question, "Would you consider volunteering as a way of improving your CV and job opportunities responded positively. This not only bolsters the good work that voluntary sector organisations deliver in the short term but also indicates a desire to find employment in the long term.

The desire to volunteer for 1 day or more per week by over 60% of the respondents to improve their work prospects is encouraging and every opportunity should be taken to assist people with back into employment.

