

# Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust



*Making it Happen*

## Community Consultation



*Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust is a company limited by guarantee,  
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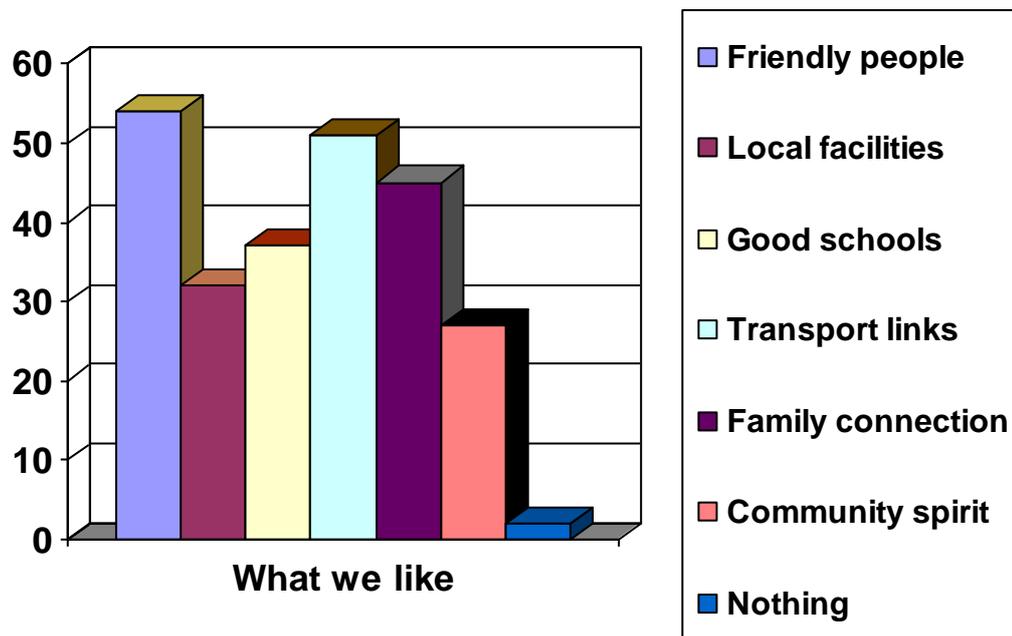
## **Introduction**

The following report is the results of a survey of needs of the residents of Mayfield and Easthouses in Midlothian. The survey was conducted by the Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust (MAEDT) in connection with Community Enterprises Ltd who assisted in this survey, in an attempt to understand the needs and services required by our community. The survey asked a number of questions around the needs, issues, local services and community feeling, regarding living in the Mayfield and Easthouses area. The survey was carried out by asking local residents to complete a community questionnaire. The questions and results are detailed below. Although some of the questions are specific to the use of the MAEDT Centre the majority of the results are generic and are able to be used by other community organisations or groups within the Mayfield and Easthouses area or by other stakeholders with interests or work in our community.

### **MAEDT community survey results**

*The first 3 questions were designed to gather information on the local perception of the area and the factors affecting life there, both generally and more specifically within their own families.*

#### **1. What do you like about Mayfield and Easthouses as a place to live?**

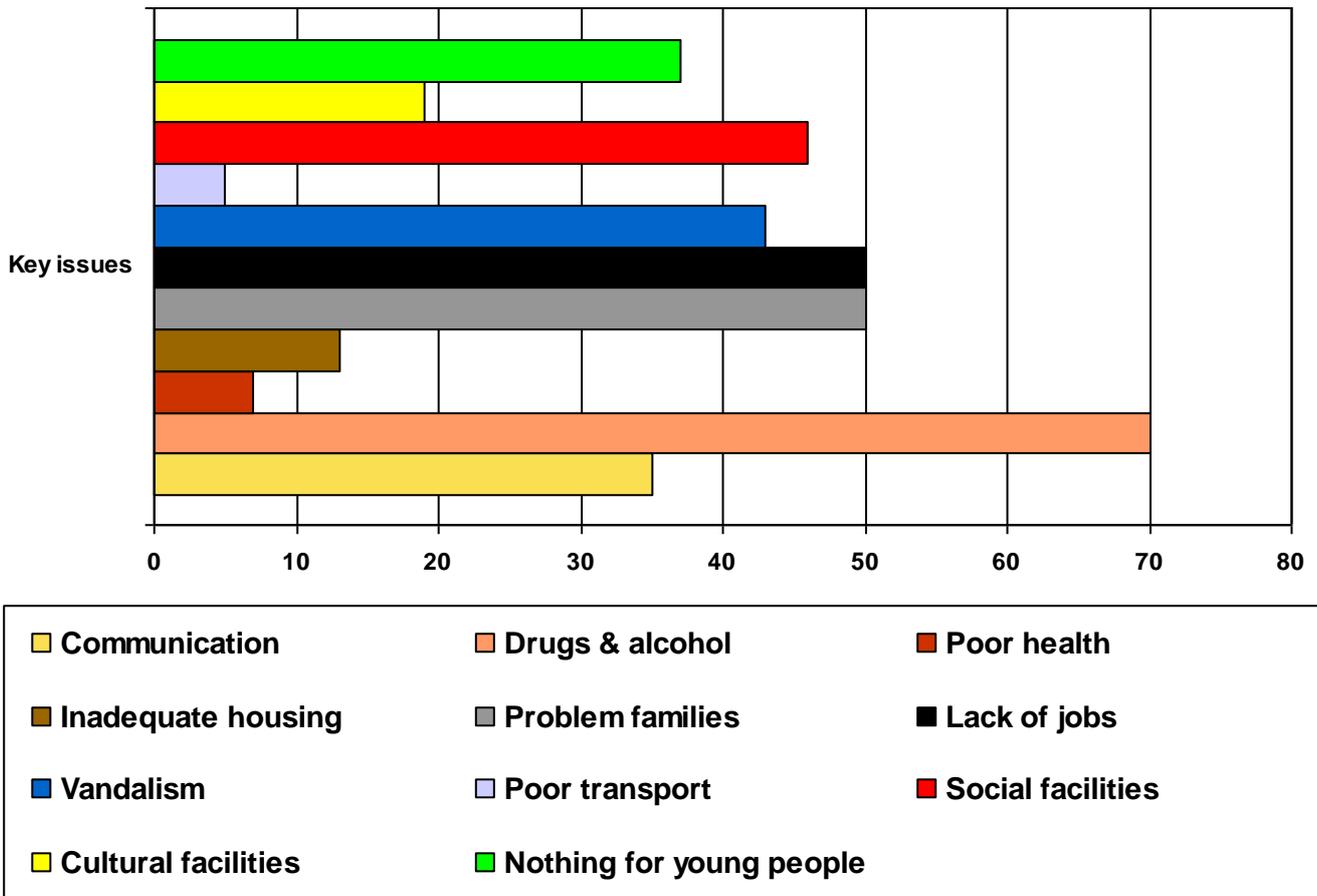


The most popular responses were friendly people, followed by transport links, and family connections.

About a third of respondents said good schools and good local facilities.

Only 27 felt there was a strong community spirit. Encouragingly, only 2 people said that they liked “nothing” about the area.

## 2. What are the key issues affecting the community?

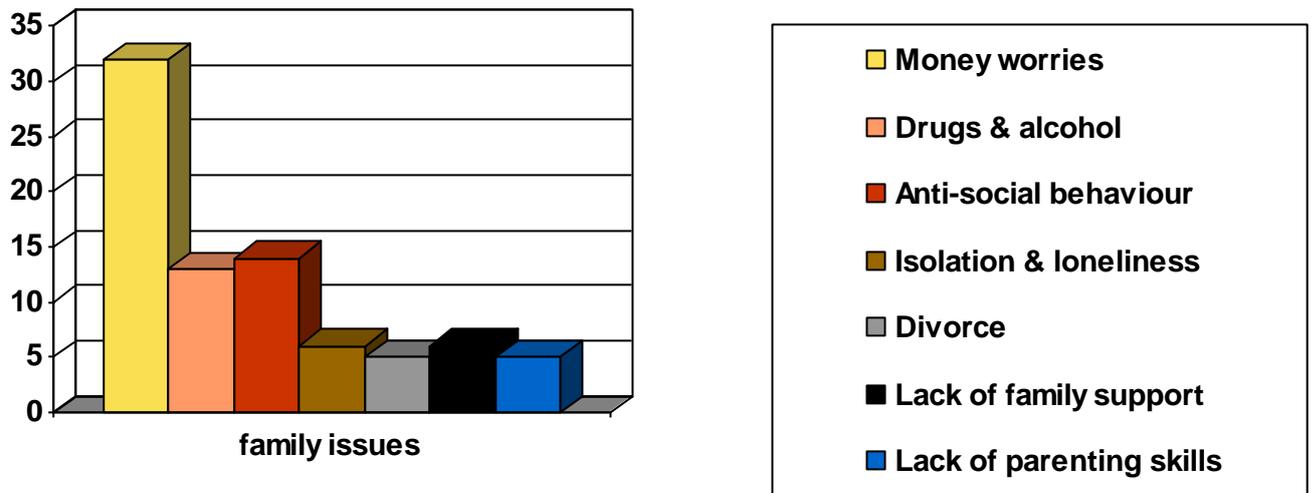


The main issue was identified as drugs and alcohol, followed by lack of jobs and opportunities, and problem families.

Lack of social facilities, vandalism and graffiti, and poor communication between generations were seen as issues by about a third of respondents. Interestingly one-third did not see any key issues in the community.

Inadequate housing, poor health and poor transport were ranked quite low.

### 3. What are the key issues affecting your family?



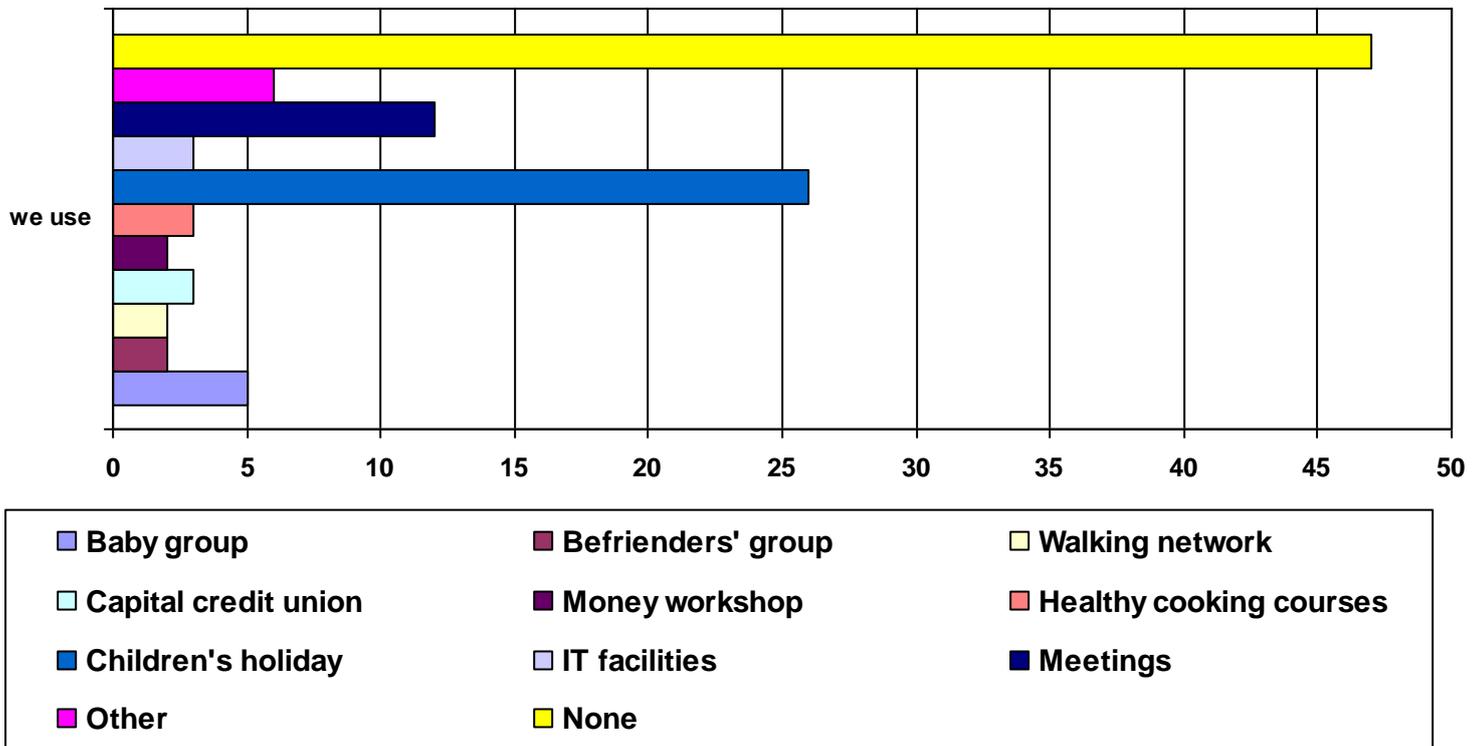
There was a much lower response rate to this question, indicating that many people did not feel it was relevant to their circumstances.

Money worries, was by far the most common response, which is hardly surprising in the current economic climate.

Anti-social behaviour and drugs and alcohol were issues for about 3 in 20 respondents.

The aim of the next 2 questions was to gauge the level of awareness of MAEDT's community hub among the local community.

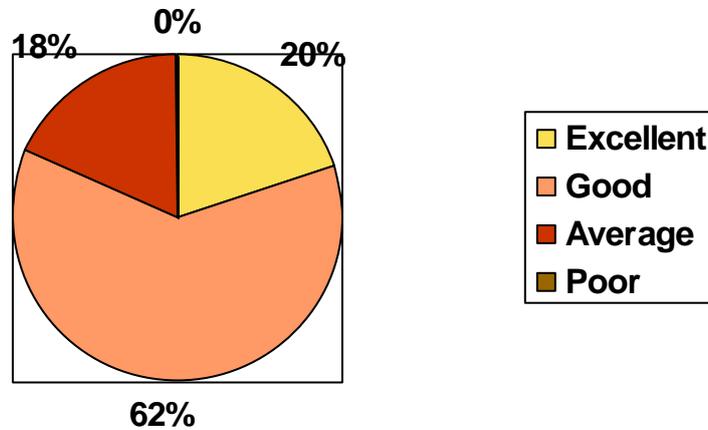
**4. What activities/ services do you (or your family) use in MAEDT's community hub?**



55% of those who answered this question (20 people gave no response) do not use MAEDT's community hub at all.

Of those who do, most attended children's holiday activities (68%) and about one-third used it for meetings, with low responses (between 2 and 6) for use for the other groups and activities held there.

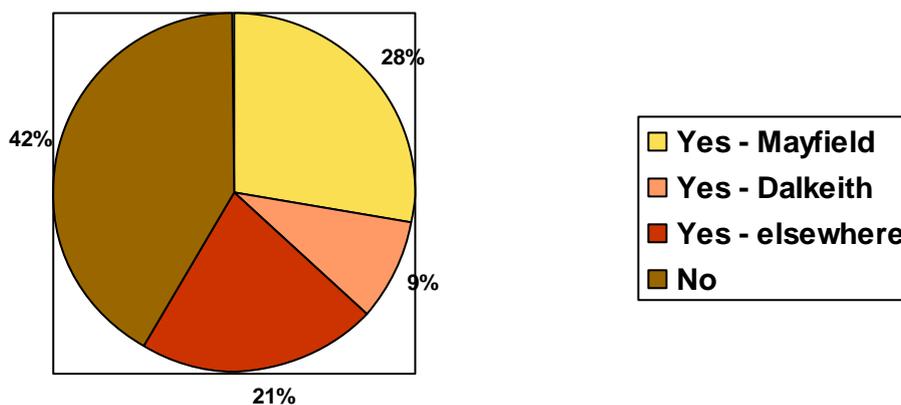
**5. In general, how would you describe the facilities and services offered by MAEDT's community hub?**



The majority (62%) described the facilities as good, 20% as excellent and 18% as average. Again encouragingly, no one considered them poor.

*The next 3 questions tried to establish a profile of what other activities are attended by local people and what activities they would like to see available in Mayfield and Easthouses.*

**6. Do you attend other activities elsewhere?**

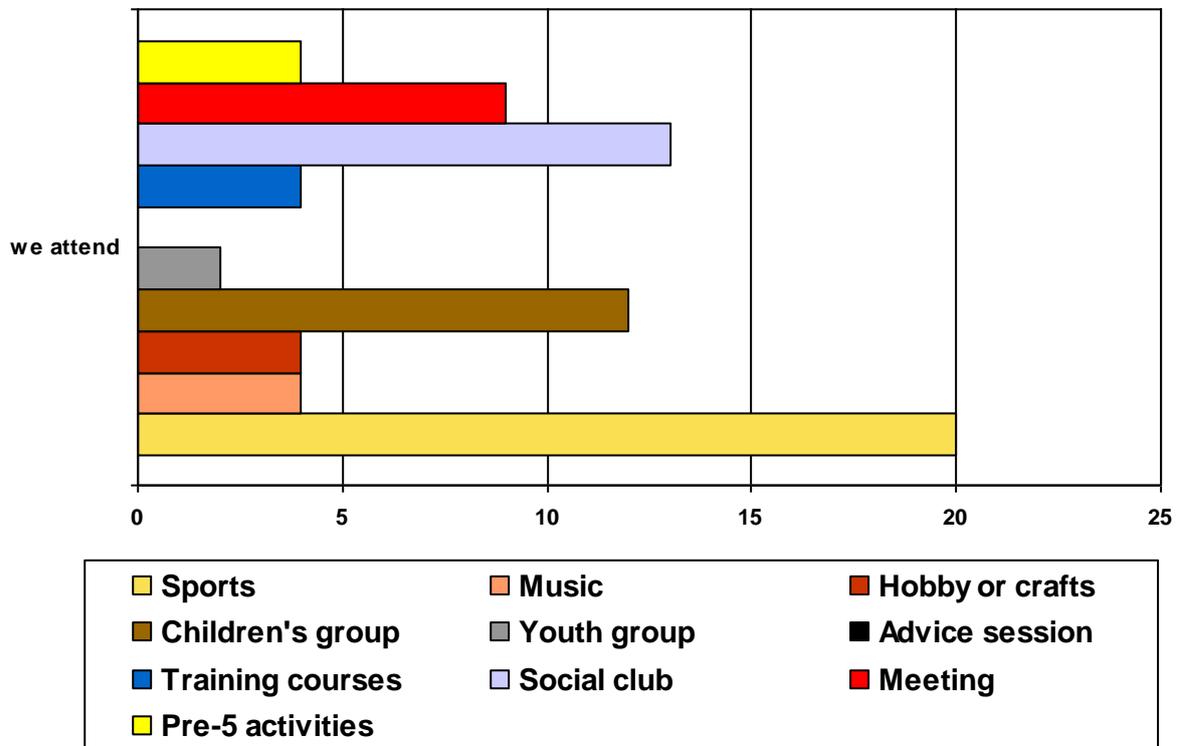


58% attend activities in Mayfield, some in Dalkeith and 21% elsewhere.

The survey showed that 42% do not attend any activities elsewhere, which would seem to indicate that many people are isolated in their homes. The issue of whether this is through choice or circumstances was not addressed

by the survey; perhaps this is an area for more informal consultation in the future by MAEDT.

### 7. If Yes, what kind of activities do you attend?

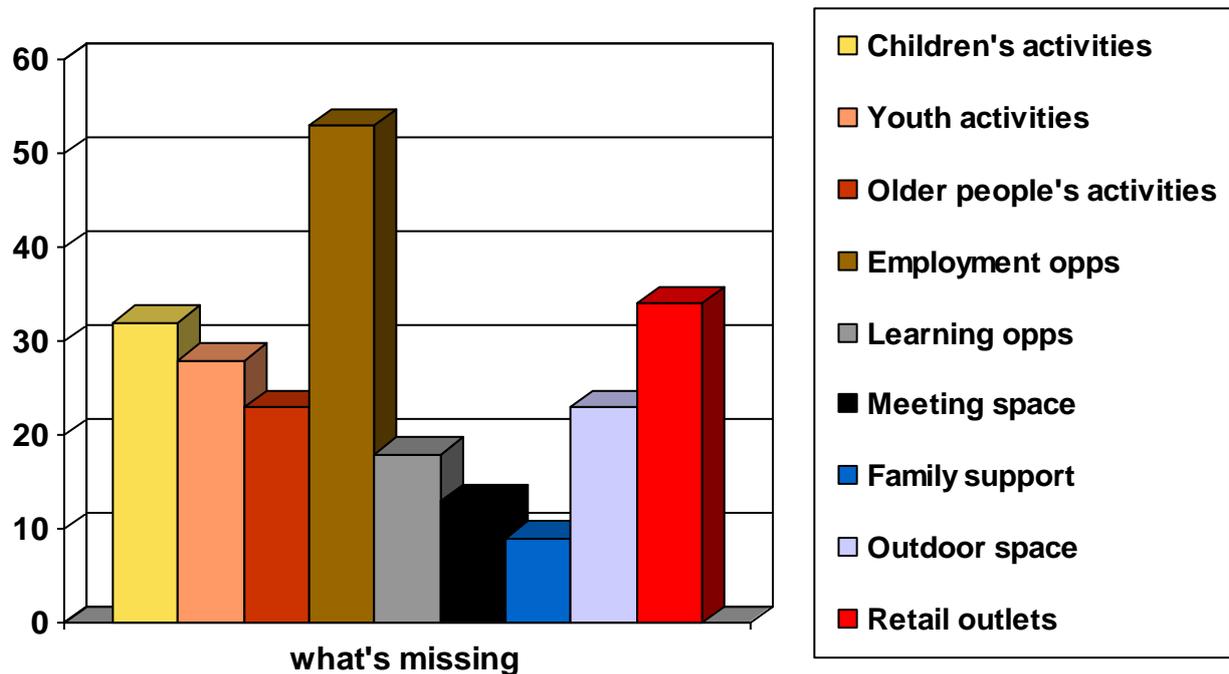


Most people attended sports' activities, followed by social clubs and children's groups – this would seem to give a range of activities related to the demographic spread so does not contain any surprises.

The low number attending youth groups reflects the fact that few young people answered the survey, rather than a lack of interest in this area of activity.

It was surprising to note that no one took advantage of the various advice sessions available in the area, despite the number of issues that individuals and families are facing at this time.

## 8. What do you think is missing from Mayfield and Easthouses?



There was a big response to this question – most people ticked 2 or more boxes.

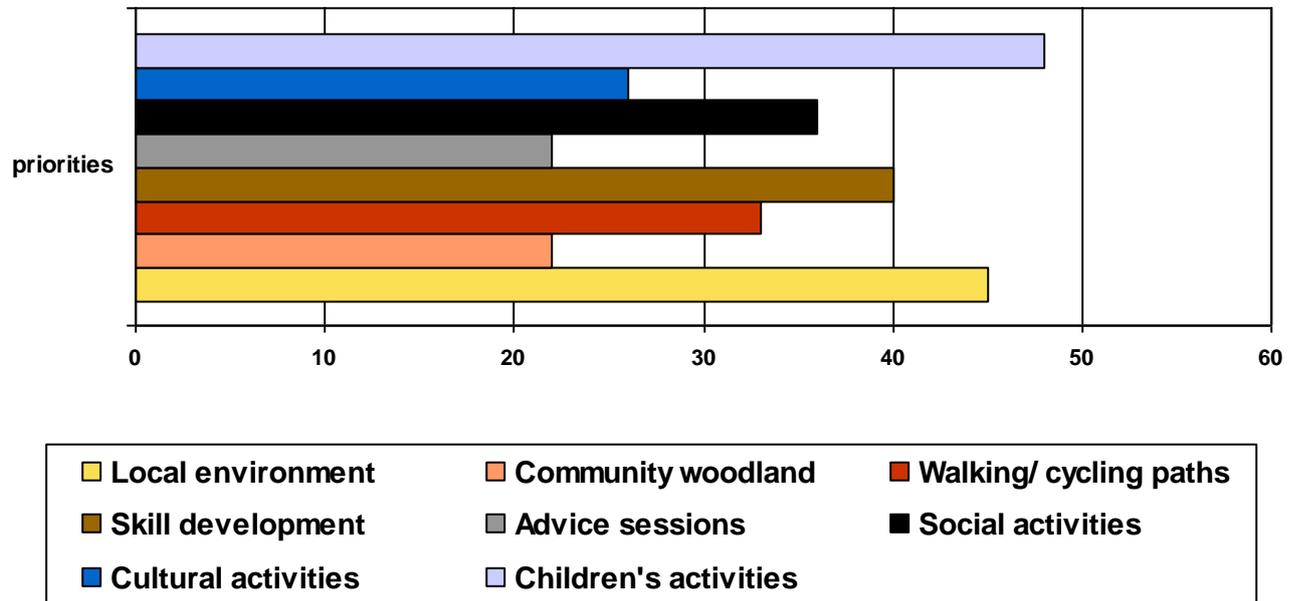
The main things identified as missing were employment opportunities (53 responses – 23% of the total) followed by retail outlets.

As expected, respondents also identified activities for the different age groups - activities for children (14%); for youth (12%) and for older people (10%). Interestingly, those who conducted the survey on the street had noted that older people in general were less concerned about themselves and commented mainly on the lack of activities and facilities for young people.

There were fewer respondents identifying learning opportunities, community meeting space or family support services as missing.

*The next question was seen as an important one in engaging with the community to try to find out what they believe MAEDT should be doing to improve Mayfield and Easthouses.*

**9. MAEDT's purpose is to make this a better community to live in. What do you think should be MAEDT's key priorities over the next few years?**



The response to this question was high - largely reflecting the responses to the earlier questions but showing no overriding clear priority.

The top answer was activities for children (48 responses). MAEDT already offers holiday activities for children which have proved popular and successful. There is clearly demand for these to continue.

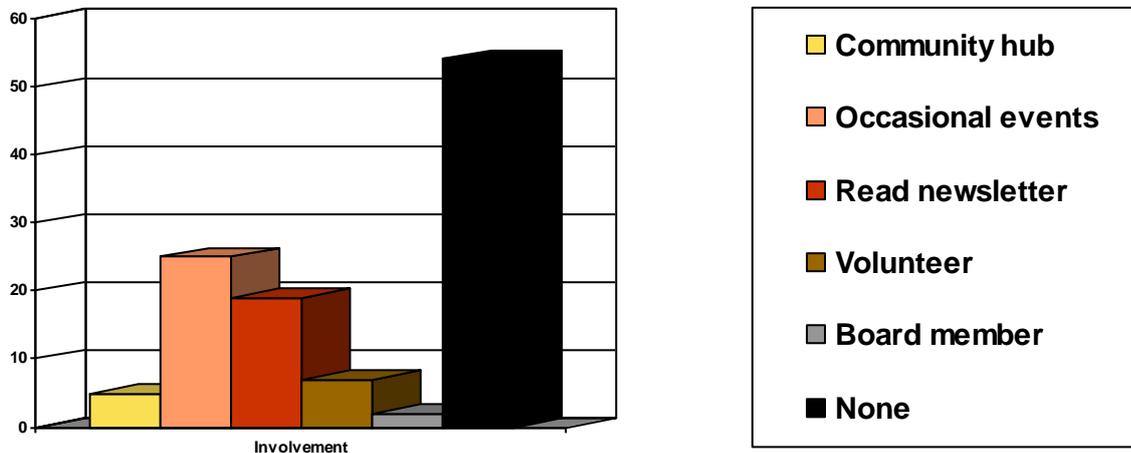
The second priority was seen as improving the local environment (45 responses), which ties in with the 33 people who favoured the development of walking/ cycling paths and the 22 who thought MAEDT should develop community woodlands.

40 people thought that MAEDT should give priority to skills development, and 36 wanted more social activities, with a lower demand (26) for cultural activities.

Interestingly 22 people thought MAEDT should offer advice sessions. This seems to contradict the figures in response to question 7 which showed that none of those questioned attended advice sessions in the area.

The final batch of questions was designed to establish the demographic profile of the respondents to show that the survey does in fact represent a fair cross-section of the local population.

### 10. What is your current involvement with MAEDT?

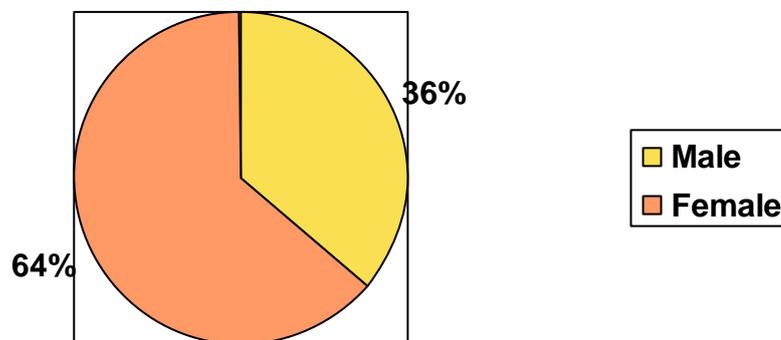


48% of respondents have no current involvement with MAEDT.

25 of the 105 questioned attend occasional events organised by MAEDT and 19 read the newsletter.

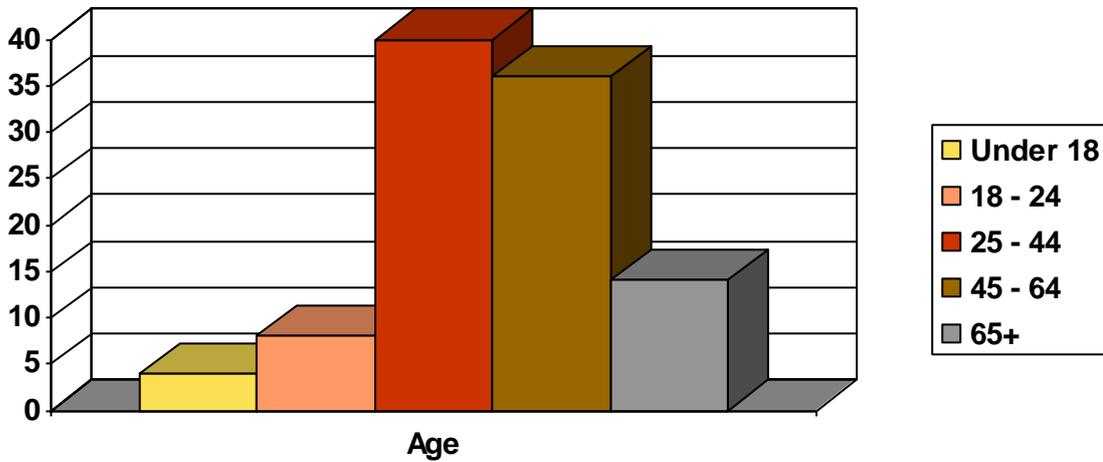
Only 5 use the community hub regularly, indicating that MAEDT still has a considerable task to do in raising its profile in the community and encouraging more people to come in and make use of the facilities.

### 11. We would be grateful if you could share the following information with us – are you?



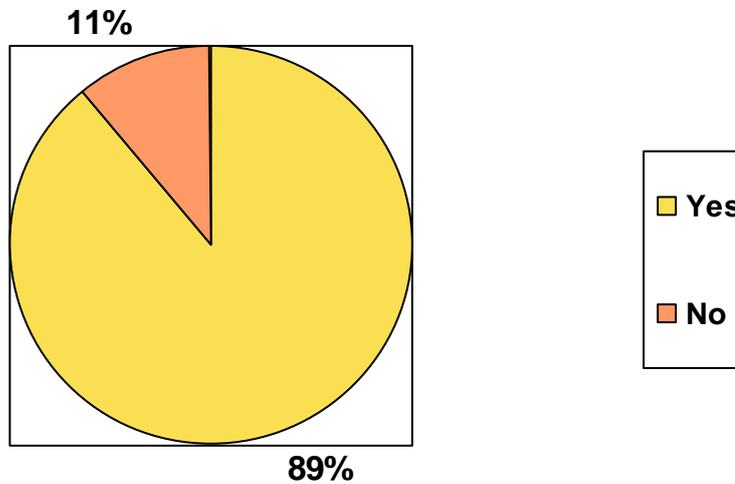
64% of respondents were female and 36% male.

**12. Please tick the appropriate age bracket**



MAEDT managed to get responses to the survey from people of all ages, with the majority in the 25 – 44 and the 45 -64 age groups.

**13. Do you live in Mayfield and Easthouses?**



89% of respondents came from the local area, with the other 11% coming from neighbouring areas of Woodburn, Gorebridge and Newtongrange.

The survey contained a box for other comments. These were discussed at the development session:-

- “New Lawfield School has not as much community spirit as Langlaw”
- “Leisure Centre too expensive for local people to use”
- “Area is better now than years ago”

## **Conclusion**

The above statistics speak for them self. Mayfield and Easthouses clearly has a good community spirit, good transport links and friendly people in the community. The community also has a number of issues around anti-social behaviour, drug misuse and financial issues among its residents. . MAEDT aims to address the needs of the community, through social, cultural, economic and environment projects. The Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust is here to address these issues as well as promote the good community spirit and friendly nature of our community Most local residents have a justified pride in our community and Through MAEDT providing services and working together with various groups, agencies and organisations we can make our community even better.

MAEDT intend to use this information to develop community services and groups in the Mayfield and Easthouses area and we welcome partnership working with any organisation, group or agency operating in the Mayfield and Easthouses Area. If anyone wishes to comment on the above information, or would like any further information on the activities of the Trust please contact.

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## Appendix 1 – Community survey results

These are the full statistics from the community questionnaire returns.

### 1. What do you like about Mayfield and Easthouses as a place to live?

Friendly people	54
Transport Links	51
Family connections	45
Good schools	37
Good local facilities	32
Strong community sprits	27
Nothing	2

### 2. What are the key issues affecting the community?

Drugs and alcohol	70
Lack of jobs and opportunities	50
Problem families	50
Lack of social facilities	46
Vandalism and graffiti	43
Poor communication between generations	35
Lack of cultural facilities	19
Inadequate housing	13
Poor health	7
Poor transport	5
Nothing	37

#### *Other comment*

- “Can’t do what I wish to do”

### 3. What are the key issues affecting your family?

Money worries	32
Anti-social behaviour	14
Drugs and alcohol	13
Isolation and loneliness	6
Lack of family support	6
Lack of parenting skills	5
Divorce/ family separation	5

### 4. What activities/ services do you (or your family) use in MAEDT’s community hub?

Children’s holiday activities	26
Meetings	12
Other	6
Baby group	5
Healthy cooking courses	3
IT facilities/ internet access	3
Capital Credit Union	3
Money workshops	2
Befrienders’ group	2
Walking network	2
None	47

**5. In general, how would you describe the facilities and services offered by MAEDT's community hub?**

Excellent	12	20%
Good	37	62%
Average	11	18%
Poor	0	

**6. Do you attend other activities elsewhere?**

Yes Mayfield	30	28%
Yes Dalkeith	10	9%
Yes elsewhere	23	21%
No	45	42%

**7. If Yes, what kind of activities do you attend**

Sport	20
Social club	13
Children's group	12
Meetings	9
Music, dance and drama	4
Pre-5 activities	4
Training courses	4
Hobby or crafts' group	4
Youth group	2
Advice session	0

Other activities attended

- group for children with additional needs
- Men's fellowship and church
- church (2)
- band
- Pensioners' meetings
- Dalkeith library
- St David's Day Centre

**8. What do you think is missing from Mayfield and Easthouses?**

Employment opportunities	53
Retail outlets	34
Activities for children	32
Activities for youth	28
Activities for older people	23
Good outdoor space	23
Learning opportunities	18
Community meeting space	13
Family support services	9

*Comments*

- "lack of dog waste bins"
- "lack of community spirit"
- "lunch club"
- "re-enactment groups – want to wear armour once"

**9. MAEDT's purpose is to make this a better community to live in. What do you think should be MAEDT's key priorities over the next few years?**

Activities for children	48
Improve the local environment	45
Skill development	40
More social activities	36
Develop walking/ cycling paths	33
Cultural activities	26
Develop community woodlands	22
More advice sessions	22

*Comments –*

- “No Brownies – have to go to Newtongrange”
- “New roads needed”

**10. What is your current involvement with MAEDT?**

Attend occasional event	25
Read newsletter	19
Volunteer	7
Use community hub regularly	5
Board member	2
None	54

**11. We would be grateful if you could share the following information with us – are you?**

Male	37	36%
Female	65	64%

**12. Please tick the appropriate age bracket**

Under 18 years	4
18 to 24	8
25 to 44	40
45 to 64	36
65 and above	14

**13. Do you live in Mayfield and Easthouses?**

Yes	88	89%
No	11	11%

Woodburn – 5, Gorebridge – 1, Newtongrange – 1

**Other comments:-**

- “Leisure Centre too expensive for local people to use”
- “Area is better now than years ago”