

SLFG survey report 2009

What would you most like the London Assembly to provide you?

Introduction

Methodology

The forms were distributed at a variety of South London events and to local women. In addition an on-line form was provided on the SLFG web site. This resulted in 191 responses being submitted.

The forms were analysed using Survey Monkey. Each form was manually entered and the answers provided were used to create the possible options. In each case the full answer was typed up as written. In instances of illegibility the in-putter left a space to denote the missed out words.

London Assembly responsibilities¹

The Mayor of London is able to make and influence city-wide policies and strategies in the following important areas:

- transport
- planning and development
- policing
- fire and emergency planning
- economic development and regeneration
- housing
- arts and culture
- noise and air quality
- tackling health inequalities
- climate change and energy
- waste
- biodiversity

The Mayor is not responsible for:

- council housing
- schools
- social services
- hospitals
- street cleaning
- council tax rates set by the boroughs
- parking fines and permits
- birth, death and marriage certificates

1. http://www.londonelects.org.uk/pdf/factsheets/fs1_gla.pdf accessed 16th March 2010

The survey was conducted by the South London Fawcett Group (SLFG) during the summer and autumn of 2009. For more information about the Group's activities, please visit the website: www.slondonfawcett.org.uk or e-mail southlondonfawcett@hotmail.com

South London Fawcett Group, May 2010.

Results

The following areas are those of primary concern to respondents:

1. Safety (38.7%)

Better representation of women and their concerns in London Assembly; more women-friendly infrastructure, improvements in terms of security, health, safety, education; ensure women are not discriminated against in their personal and professional living.

2. Transport issues - (36.6%)

Better transport; more lighting; more policing.

3. Funding requests (22%)

Support for London living wage campaign; affordable childcare; fulfil promise on funding rape crisis centres.

4. Crime (20.4%)

Safety and rights for female victims of crime, of violence, and rape.

5. Child care issues (18.3%)

Better child care facilities for employed women; more forums where women can come together to raise issues (maybe more publicity); raise more awareness of women's rights.

6. Young people (12.3%)

The future of young people and safety.

7. Cost of living (8.0%)

Everyone working together for a safer neighbourhood; cost of living to go down & not so many parking restrictions.

8. Employment (7.5%)

More jobs; safer environment; more beat bobbies; more free education for over 18's.

A further 42.9% of other responses can be attributed to other concerns including training; sex industry concerns; desire for information services etc.

Conclusion

Many of the responses provided very personal insights into the experiences of individuals e.g. "I love to see people more friendly."

There were also responses that portrayed a misunderstanding regarding what the Mayor and London Assembly can achieve e.g. "I wish the charities would stop driving breast cancer awareness solely at women. 20% of breast cancer cases are in women (sic)."

Having said that there appears to be a lot of fear and irritation concerning basic services.