Whole Picture Public Health Approach Datasets 2021-24 Survivor Survey



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About this dataset

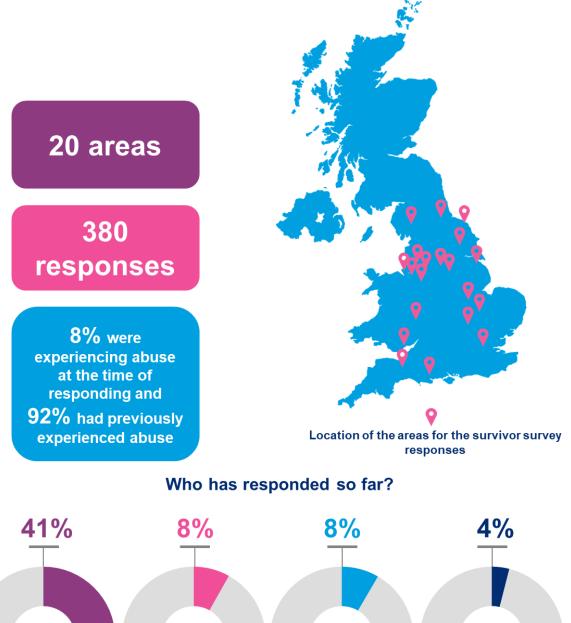
This data is from a survey completed by survivors who were involved in the SafeLives Public Health Approach. At the time of reporting, there were 380 responses completed between 30/06/2021 and 17/09/2024. The surveys are ongoing and this dataset will be updated in the future with up to date data.

What is the Public Health Approach?

Using a systems-thinking methodology and through the lens of the whole family, we work with local authorities and multi-agency partners in local areas to identify opportunities to improve the risk led approach, early intervention, and prevention of domestic abuse. Our work includes a systems-wide assessment of the current local landscape, identifying data and ongoing monitoring opportunities, and consulting with local victim/survivors and providers to understand risk and protective factors. As part of this work, we aim to gain an understanding of local experiences, so we open surveys for professionals, survivors, the public, children and young people, and those who harm. This dataset is the aggregated dataset of all sites who completed the survey.

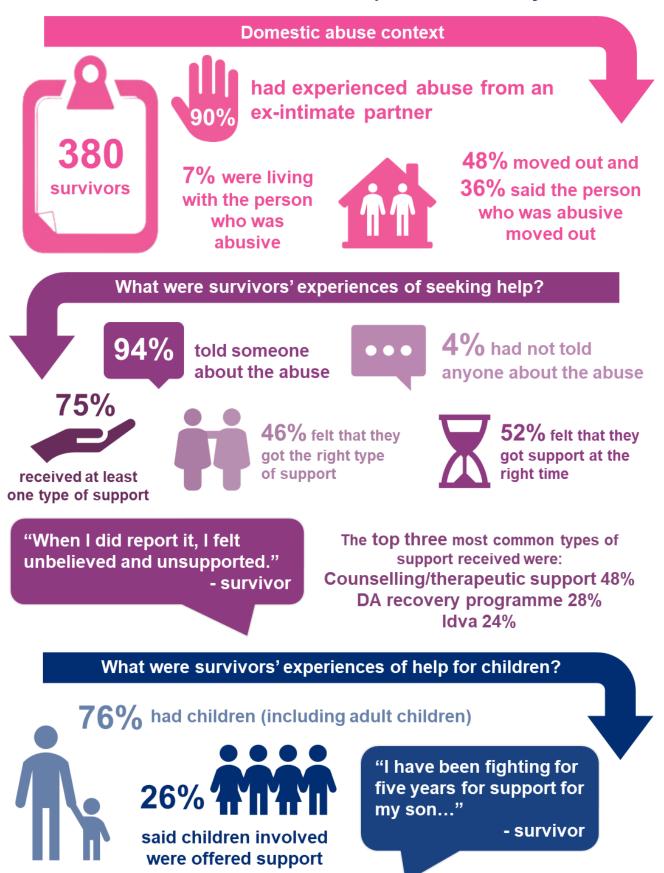
We hope that everyone working to stop domestic abuse will be able to use this data to improve their services so that victims and families get the right help sooner.

At a glance



Key findings

The response to domestic abuse in local areas, from survivors who completed our survey



Key findings

The response to domestic abuse in local areas, from survivors who completed our survey

What were survivors' opportunities for support?

Whilst experiencing abuse, survivors were most commonly in touch with the police, GPs, their child's school, and their employer.



71% were asked about abuse by the police



58% were asked about abuse by employers



51% were asked about abuse by GPs



42% were asked about abuse by schools



have told the GP, plan to, or would tell them if they asked "Services need to routinely ask about domestic abuse [...] Professionals need more training around being comfortable asking the question. I wanted her to ask me but wasn't able to raise it myself"

- survivor



Public Health Approach: Survivor Survey Data Report: All areas

Area breakdown

Respondents from each area	n=	380
	Count	
Bedford	26	7%
Bolton	32	8%
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	16	4%
Calderdale	4	1%
Cardiff and the Vale	18	5%
Cleveland	52	14%
Cumbria	21	6%
Dorset	24	6%
Durham	30	8%
Halton	4	1%
Herefordshire	10	3%
Newham	6	2%
North East Lincolnshire	42	11%
North Yorkshire and the City of York	18	5%
Oldham	14	4%
Rutland and Leicestershire	10	3%
Sheffield	19	5%
Somerset	5	1%
Telford and Wrekin	5	1%
Wirral	24	6%

Public Health Approach: Survivor Survey Data Report: All areas

About the survivors who responded

How old are you?		n=	380
	Count		
18-24	15		4%
25-34	55		14%
35-44	102		27%
45-54	84		22%
55-64	47		12%
65-74	8		2%
75-84	0		0%
85+	0		0%
Did not answer	69		18%

This survey is about your experiences of domestic abuse. Please select the option that best describes your current situation.		n=	380
	Count		
I am currently experiencing domestic abuse/violence	29		8%
I am a survivor of/have previously been a victim of domestic abuse/violence	351		92%

Are you currently living with the person/s who was/were abusive? Tick all that apply.		n=	380
	Count		
Yes	18		5%
Yes, intermittently	7		2%
No, I have never lived with them	36		9%
No, I moved out	184		48%
No, they moved out	136		36%
Prefer not to say	2		1%
Did not answer	2		1%

What is/was your relationship to the person who was/is abusing you? Tick all that apply.		= 380
	Count	
Ex-intimate partner	342	90%
Current intimate partner	19	5%
Child	12	3%
Other known person/associate/acquaintance	5	1%
Other family member	23	6%
Other	3	1%
Did not answer	2	1%

Attitudes

Before we ask about your experience, we want to ask your opinion on the following statements. Please mark the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following.

Men cannot be victims of domestic abuse	n=	380
	Count	
Strongly agree	7	2%
Agree	6	2%
Unsure	6	2%
Disagree	75	20%
Strongly disagree	285	75%
Did not answer	1	0%

Domestic abuse is physical	n=	380
	Count	
Strongly agree	28	7%
Agree	55	14%
Unsure	8	2%
Disagree	99	26%
Strongly disagree	190	50%
Did not answer	0	0%

It is hard to see why victims of domestic abuse don't just leave	n=	380
	Count	
Strongly agree	33	9%
Agree	23	6%
Unsure	11	3%
Disagree	83	22%
Strongly disagree	229	60%
Did not answer	1	0%

Victims always think that their partner will change		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	87		23%
Agree	170		45%
Unsure	54		14%
Disagree	46		12%
Strongly disagree	22		6%
Did not answer	1		0%

Victims are confident that they will be believed		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	4		1%
Agree	14		4%
Unsure	32		8%
Disagree	148		39%
Strongly disagree	181		48%
Did not answer	1		0%

Many people falsely report domestic abuse to the police, social care etc.		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	15		4%
Agree	46		12%
Unsure	137		36%
Disagree	109		29%
Strongly disagree	71		19%
Did not answer	2		1%

In an intimate relationship it's OK to hit if you've been hit first		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	3		1%
Agree	10		3%
Unsure	32		8%
Disagree	115		30%
Strongly disagree	219		58%
Did not answer	1		0%

Either partner has the right to say no to sex		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	341		90%
Agree	32		8%
Unsure	3		1%
Disagree	0		0%
Strongly disagree	4		1%
Did not answer	0		0%

39% 52% 0%

Both partners should have an equal say in a close relationship		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	307		81%
Agree	60		16%
Unsure	3		1%
Disagree	1		0%
Strongly disagree	7		2%
Did not answer	2		1%
It is easy to recognise that you are in an abusive relationship		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	1		0%
Agree	14		4%
Unsure	15		4%

Unsure	15
Disagree	150
Strongly disagree	199
Did not answer	1

Survivor's experiences

Have you told anyone about the abuse?		n=	380
	Count		%
Yes	357		94%
No	17		4%
Did not answer	6		2%

Why have you not told anyone about the abuse? Tick all that apply.		n=	17
	Count		
Previously let down by professionals	6		35%
Already receiving/received support	0		0%
Fear of not being believed	7		41%
Fear of repercussions	9		53%
Worried that family/friends would side with the person who is/was being abusive	4		24%
Worried that family/friends would not understand	13		76%
Did/do not know what help was/is available	6		35%
Impact of COVID lockdown	0		0%
Did/do not know who to ask	6		35%
Did/do not know I was experiencing Domestic abuse/violence	7		41%
Other	1		6%
Did not answer	0		0%

Thinking about your experience of domestic abuse, please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

I know how to get help if I experience domestic abuse		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	121		32%
Agree	161		42%
Unsure	35		9%
Disagree	40		11%
Strongly disagree	17		4%
Not applicable	6		2%
Did not answer	0		0%

The right support is available when you need it		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	57		15%
Agree	106		28%
Unsure	71		19%
Disagree	84		22%
Strongly disagree	58		15%
Not applicable	2		1%
Did not answer	2		1%

I feel/felt believed by professionals	n	= 380
	Count	
Strongly agree	87	23%
Agree	101	27%
Unsure	58	15%
Disagree	55	14%
Strongly disagree	50	13%
Not applicable	28	7%
Did not answer	1	0%

I do/did not worry about being judged by professionals	n=	380
	Count	
Strongly agree	47	12%
Agree	69	18%
Unsure	56	15%
Disagree	97	26%
Strongly disagree	93	24%
Not applicable	16	4%
Did not answer	2	1%

My family/friends understand/understood what I am going through		n=	380
	Count		
Strongly agree	30		8%
Agree	90		24%
Unsure	61		16%
Disagree	98		26%
Strongly disagree	86		23%
Not applicable	14		4%
Did not answer	1		0%

Have you received any specific support in relation to the abuse? Please select relevant support. Tick all that apply.		n=	380
	Count		
No, I have not r eceived any support	94		25%
Refuge	50		13%
Rehoused	51		13%
Domestic Abuse parenting programme, such as Domestic Abuse, Recovering Together	19		5%
Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (Idva)	92		24%
Other Domestic Abuse specialist	61		16%
Domestic Abuse recovery programme, such as Freedom Programme	105		28%
Counselling/therapeutic support	183		48%
Local helpline	34		9%
National helpline	30		8%
Other	30		8%
Did not answer	0		0%
Total who received at least one type of support	286		75%

How did you find out about the service(s)? Tick all that apply.	r	n= 286
	Count	
I was told by a friend or family member	50	17%
At work	44	15%
Advert in public amenities (eg. bathrooms)	13	5%
Advert in local newspaper	1	0%
Hospital notice board	4	1%
Through a school or college	5	2%
Television	1	0%
GP Notice board	16	6%
Children's centre	4	1%
Radio	0	0%
Referred by someone else (eg. GP, Social worker, Police)	135	47%
On public transport (eg. poster on a bus)	2	1%
Social media (eg. Facebook, Twitter)	23	8%
Websites (eg. Google, BBC) Council offices	30	10%
Other	31	11%
Did not answer	4	1%

95

33%

Do you feel like you got the right type of help / support?		n=	286
	Count		
Yes, I got the right type of help / support	132		46%
Somewhat, I did get some help / support	109		38%
No, I did not get the right help / support	42		15%
Prefer not to say	2		1%
Did not answer	95		33%
Do you feel like you got help / support at the right time?		n=	286
	Count		
Yes	148		52%
No	101		35%
I don't know	36		13%

Support for the family

Did not answer

your partner/ex-partner and a	any children.	
Were any children involved offered support?	n	= 380
	Count	
Yes	75	20%
No	188	49%
don't know	11	3%
Not applicable	103	27%
Did not answer	3	1%

Did the person who was abusive towards you get any help or support?		n=	380
	Count		%
Yes, they had to accept, it was mandatory	18		5%
Yes, they wanted to get help	4		1%
No, it was offered but they didn't accept it	62		16%
No, they were not offered any help or support	104		27%
l don't know	191		50%
Did not answer	1		0%

The organisations and support available

Please tick any organisations or services that you used or have been experiencing domestic abuse. You don't have to have told them what	n	: 380
	Count	%
Police	273	72%
Child's school	139	37%
College/University	42	11%
GP	219	58%
Hospital	107	28%
Probation service	11	3%
Health visiting service	58	15%
Children's services	93	24%
Adult social care	22	6%
Housing association/council housing department	101	27%
DWP/Job Centre	71	19%
Dentist	45	12%
Local bank branch	40	11%
Local services (e.g. hairdresser, barber, beauty therapist etc.)	53	14%
Religious establishment	18	5%
Employer	139	37%
Drug or alcohol service	13	3%
Mental health	119	31%
Solicitor/CAFCASS	116	31%
Other	35	9%
None	36	9%
Did not answer	3	1%

Did any of the services/organisations ask you about your experience of domestic abuse?									
		Ye		N	0	l don't	know	Did not a	answer
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Police	273	195	71%	70	26%	3	1%	5	2%
Child's school	139	58	42%	72	52%	7	5%	2	1%
College/University	42	10	24%	30	71%	1	2%	1	2%
GP		111	51%	102	47%	4	2%	2	1%
Hospital	107	50	47%	54	50%	2	2%	1	1%
Probation service		6	55%	4	36%	0	0%	1	9%
Health visiting service		28	48%	24	41%	4	7%	2	3%
Children's services	93	66	71%	22	24%	3	3%	2	2%
Adult social care	22	14	64%	8	36%	0	0%	0	0%
Housing		56	55%	41	41%	3	3%	1	1%
DWP/Job Centre		32	45%	37	52%	2	3%	0	0%
Dentist		3	7%	41	91%	1	2%	0	0%
Local bank branch		9	23%	31	78%	0	0%	0	0%
Local	53	9	17%	43	81%	0	0%	1	2%
Religious	18	10	56%	6	33%	1	6%	1	6%
Employer	139	80	58%	56	40%	2	1%	1	1%
Drug or		7	54%	6	46%	0	0%	0	0%
Mental health		83	70%	34	29%	1	1%	1	1%
Solicitor/CAFCASS		89	77%	26	22%	0	0%	1	1%
Other	35	29	83%	4	11%	2	6%	0	0%

For each of the following people/services/organisations please state whether you have already told them about the domestic abuse or whether you would tell them if they asked about it. Please tick the statement that most applies to you for each one. If any are not applicable to you then please tick N/A.

Friend		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	303		80%
I plan to tell them	1		0%
I told them after they asked me	22		6%
I would tell them if they asked me	26		7%
I would never tell them	12		3%
Don't know	4		1%
N/A	5		1%
Did not answer	7		2%

Family member		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	275		72%
I plan to tell them	1		0%
I told them after they asked me	15		4%
I would tell them if they asked me	36		9%
I would never tell them	32		8%
Don't know	9		2%
N/A	7		2%
Did not answer	5		1%

A parent or carer		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	202		53%
I plan to tell them	0		0%
I told them after they asked me	11		3%
I would tell them if they asked me	28		7%
I would never tell them	37		10%
Don't know	9		2%
N/A	67		18%
Did not answer	26		7%

Police		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	235		62%
I plan to tell them	1		0%
I told them after they asked me	18		5%
I would tell them if they asked me	55		14%
I would never tell them	21		6%
Don't know	22		6%
N/A	19		5%
Did not answer	9		2%

Child's school		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	117		31%
I plan to tell them	1		0%
I told them after they asked me	8		2%
I would tell them if they asked me	38		10%
I would never tell them	27		7%
Don't know	8		2%
N/A	153		40%
Did not answer	28		7%

College/University	n	= 380
	Count	
I've told them	33	9%
I plan to tell them	0	0%
I told them after they asked me	3	1%
I would tell them if they asked me	39	10%
I would never tell them	22	6%
Don't know	7	2%
N/A	233	61%
Did not answer	43	11%

GP		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	174		46%
I plan to tell them	2		1%
I told them after they asked me	15		4%
I would tell them if they asked me	106		28%
I would never tell them	11		3%
Don't know	18		5%
N/A	37		10%
Did not answer	17		4%

Hospital		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	86		23%
I plan to tell them	1		0%
I told them after they asked me	18		5%
I would tell them if they asked me	99		26%
I would never tell them	13		3%
Don't know	21		6%
N/A	111		29%
Did not answer	31		8%

Probation service	n=	380
	Count	
I've told them	12	3%
I plan to tell them	0	0%
I told them after they asked me	2	1%
I would tell them if they asked me	24	6%
I would never tell them	10	3%
Don't know	8	2%
N/A	274	72%
Did not answer	50	13%

Health visiting service		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	40		11%
I plan to tell them	1		0%
I told them after they asked me	6		2%
I would tell them if they asked me	40		11%
I would never tell them	10		3%
Don't know	11		3%
N/A	227		60%
Did not answer	45		12%

Children's services		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	86		23%
I plan to tell them	0		0%
I told them after they asked me	15		4%
I would tell them if they asked me	32		8%
I would never tell them	14		4%
Don't know	10		3%
N/A	184		48%
Did not answer	39		10%

Adult social care	n:	= 380
	Count	
I've told them	30	8%
I plan to tell them	0	0%
I told them after they asked me	5	1%
I would tell them if they asked me	45	12%
I would never tell them	14	4%
Don't know	9	2%
N/A	226	59%
Did not answer	51	13%

Housing association/council housing department		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	99		26%
I plan to tell them	0		0%
I told them after they asked me	3		1%
I would tell them if they asked me	39		10%
I would never tell them	20		5%
Don't know	11		3%
N/A	168		44%
Did not answer	40		11%

DWP/Job Centre	n=	380
	Count	
I've told them	57	15%
I plan to tell them	2	1%
I told them after they asked me	6	2%
I would tell them if they asked me	48	13%
I would never tell them	32	8%
Don't know	11	3%
N/A	184	48%
Did not answer	40	11%

Dentist		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	12		3%
I plan to tell them	1		0%
I told them after they asked me	7		2%
I would tell them if they asked me	50		13%
I would never tell them	64		17%
Don't know	24		6%
N/A	175		46%
Did not answer	47		12%

Local bank branch		n=	380
	Count		
I've told them	28		7%
I plan to tell them	0		0%
I told them after they asked me	6		2%
I would tell them if they asked me	36		9%
I would never tell them	72		19%
Don't know	24		6%
N/A	166		44%
Did not answer	48		13%

Local services (eg. hairdresser, barber)	n=	380
	Count	
I've told them	28	7%
I plan to tell them	0	0%
I told them after they asked me	5	1%
I would tell them if they asked me	43	11%
I would never tell them	72	19%
Don't know	35	9%
N/A	148	39%
Did not answer	49	13%

Religious establishment	n	= 380
	Count	
I've told them	20	5%
I plan to tell them	1	0%
I told them after they asked me	3	1%
I would tell them if they asked me	32	8%
I would never tell them	47	12%
Don't know	14	4%
N/A	214	56%
Did not answer	49	13%

Employer	n=	= 380
	Count	
I've told them	128	34%
I plan to tell them	1	0%
I told them after they asked me	12	3%
I would tell them if they asked me	61	16%
I would never tell them	32	8%
Don't know	21	6%
N/A	85	22%
Did not answer	40	11%

Drug or alcohol service	n=	380
	Count	
I've told them	13	3%
I plan to tell them	0	0%
I told them after they asked me	3	1%
I would tell them if they asked me	25	7%
I would never tell them	12	3%
Don't know	7	2%
N/A	268	71%
Did not answer	52	14%

What type of support did/do you feel you need in relation to t	he abuse? Tick all that apply n=	380
	Count	
Legal support	220	58%
Financial advice	199	52%
Someone to talk to in person	289	76%
Support for my children	153	40%
Support with parenting	80	21%
Information and advice	233	61%
Help for the person abusing me	78	21%
Protection or security (e.g. panic alarm)	182	48%
Housing	157	41%
Mental health	231	61%
Survivor support groups	167	44%
Emotional	286	75%
Counselling	267	70%
Advocate on my behalf	132	35%
Other	4	1%
None - no support	24	6%
Did not answer	3	1%

What is/would be important to you when accessing support for domestic that apply.	abuse? Tick alln	= 380
	Count	%
Evening availability	191	50%
Text support	202	53%
24 hour service	241	63%
Fixed appointments	111	29%
Drop in	199	52%
Disability access	43	11%
One to one support, face to face (in person)	284	75%
One to one support, virtual video chat (e.g. Zoom, Facetime, Skype)	140	37%
Flexible service	220	58%
Support from someone who understands my own personal values	224	59%
Confidential	308	81%
Non-judgmental approach	323	85%
Different languages available	22	6%
Support from someone who likes/sounds like me	65	17%
Support from a LGBT+ organisation	17	4%
Help with transport	56	15%
Somewhere to meet in the community	109	29%
A women only space	172	45%
A men only space	17	4%
Other	6	2%
Did not answer	4	1%

Demographic questions

Do you have any dependent children?	n=	380
	Count	
Yes	174	46%
Yes, I have adult dependent children (e.g. have a disability)	3	1%
No, my children are now independent adults	111	29%
No, I do not have any children	78	21%
Prefer not to say	11	3%
Did not answer	3	1%

What is your ethnic group? You will be able to provide more detail in the next question.		n=	380
	Count		
White	337		89%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic	11		3%
Asian or Asian British	15		4%
Black, Black British, Caribbean or African	5		1%
Other Ethnic group	1		0%
Prefer not to say	6		2%
Did not answer	5		1%

Which one best describes your White ethnic group or background?		n=	337
	Count		
English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	321		95%
Irish	2		1%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0		0%
Roma	0		0%
Any other White background	10		3%
Did not answer	4		1%

Which one best describes your Mixed or Multiple ethnic group or background?		n=	11
	Count		%
White and Black Caribbean	4		36%
White and Black African	2		18%
White and Asian	1		9%
Any other Mixed or Multiple background	3		27%
Did not answer	1		9%

Which one best describes your Asian or Asian British ethnic group or backgro		n=	15
	Count		%
Indian	4		27%
Pakistani	8		53%
Bangladeshi	3		20%
Chinese	0		0%
Any other Asian background	0		0%
Did not answer	0		0%
	0		0,0
Which one best describes your Black, Black British, Caribbean or African ethi background?	nic group or	n=	5
	Count		%
Caribbean	2		40%
African	2		40%
Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background	1		20%
Did not answer	0		0%
Which one best describes your other ethnic group or background?	Count	n=	1 %
Arab	0		0%
Any other ethnic group	1		100%
Did not answer	-		
Jid not answer	0		0%
Nhat best describes your gender?		n=	380
	Count		%
Noman	357		94%
Van	15		4%
Non-Binary	1		0%
·			1%
Prefer not to say	3		
Prefer to self describe	1		0%
Did not answer	3		1%
Is your gender identity the same as the sex you were assigned at birth?		n=	380
	Count		%
Yes	365		96%
No	2		1%
Prefer not to say	4		1%
Did not answer	9		2%
	9		270
Nhat is your sexual orientation?		n=	380
	Count		%
Bisexual or Pansexual	25		7%
Gay or Lesbian	2		1%
Heterosexual / 'Straight'	332		87%
Prefer not to say	13		3%
Prefer to self describe	4		1%
Did not answer			
Did hol answer	4		1%
Are you disabled or do you have a long-term illness or health concern (physic	al and/or	n=	380
nental health)?	Count		%
Yes	156		41%
No	204		54%
Don't know			2%
	7		
Prefer not to say	8		2%
Did not answer	5		1%