

Barton Community Profile

Community Insight Report

2023



March 2023

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Foreword

"Barton is a great community, where neighbours look out for one another and an increasing number give their time, energy and ideas generously to make it a better place.

It's a great privilege to represent Barton on the City Council, responding to queries and concerns from local residents and trying to make things better. But much more often than not, the solution is supporting and encouraging things Barton people are doing already - providing activities, events and services, coming up with new ideas, and standing up for the area. No decisions about a local area should ever be taken without proper input from the local community, and planning for the future is always best when it's community-led. I'm really pleased, therefore, to have been involved in the production of this community profile to highlight what it means to live in Barton.

Barton is blessed with many people who care about their community "warts and all" and bring others together to defend and improve it. Without this no lasting achievement would be possible. I hope this community profile can be used to support Barton residents and local groups to ever greater success, as well as positively influence future decisions made by the City and County Councils and others.

I'd like to thank Iona O'Carroll for all her work to produce this community profile of Barton, Sue Holden for always being an inspiration, as well as everyone who's contributed to the project, and of course the precious local volunteers and community workers who make Barton the open-hearted, tough, creative and caring place it is."

Councillor Mike Rowley

Sheriff of Oxford

City Councillor for Barton and Sandhills

Key Findings

Barton as a place to live

- 76% of participants felt satisfied, more than satisfied or very satisfied with their housing situation.
- Green spaces were the most commonly mentioned by respondents when asked about what they liked about living in Barton and were mentioned as being frequently used.

Location and access to amenities

- The location of Barton and its accessibility to the city and local amenities including hospitals and transport links was mentioned several times as highly valued by respondents
- The shops at the Underhill Circus and the Barton Neighbourhood Centre – including groups and services there, were mentioned as the most valued assets in the area

Travel and Transport

- Walking was the most preferred typical mode of transport followed by cars and buses.

Crimes and feelings of security

- 75% of residents said they felt safe in Barton
- Worries about safety were linked to groups congregating outside shops and feeling unsafe at night. Respondents also mentioned that they felt some of the feelings of insecurity were due to perception rather than actual threat.

Vulnerability, loneliness, identity and belonging

- A larger proportion of respondents from Barton felt that they are part of the local community compared to those from Barton Park
- Some respondents felt there is a stigma attached to living in Barton and this can affect their willingness to attend community activities
- Less than 5% of respondents stated feeling lonely all the time, 38% of respondents stated feeling lonely sometimes, with a similar number saying they rarely feel lonely.

Education

- 77% of people from Barton Park felt they have the skills and/or qualifications to find employment, compared with 66% from Barton.

Health and Wellbeing

- Over 80% of respondents reported that they consider themselves healthy
- Those who consider themselves unhealthy reported experiencing a range of health problems including obesity and diabetes
- Themes emerging that support respondents self-care include strong social support networks and relationships, physical activity and movement and spending time outdoors or in nature
- Barriers to looking after health included cost and affordability, healthy and affordable food and health conditions.
- 70% of respondents reported being able to access affordable and healthy food and 60% reported maintaining healthy habits around food and eating

- Majority of respondents reported observing smoking, alcohol and drug related activity in the area.

Impact of COVID-19

- Over 30% of residents felt well supported during the pandemic, and felt the community played an important part in this.
- Around a quarter of respondents reported experiencing loneliness and isolation while also allowing them to slow down the fast pace of life.
- Access to nature and green spaces was a strong emerging theme reported as helping with maintaining physical and mental health.

1 Introduction and background

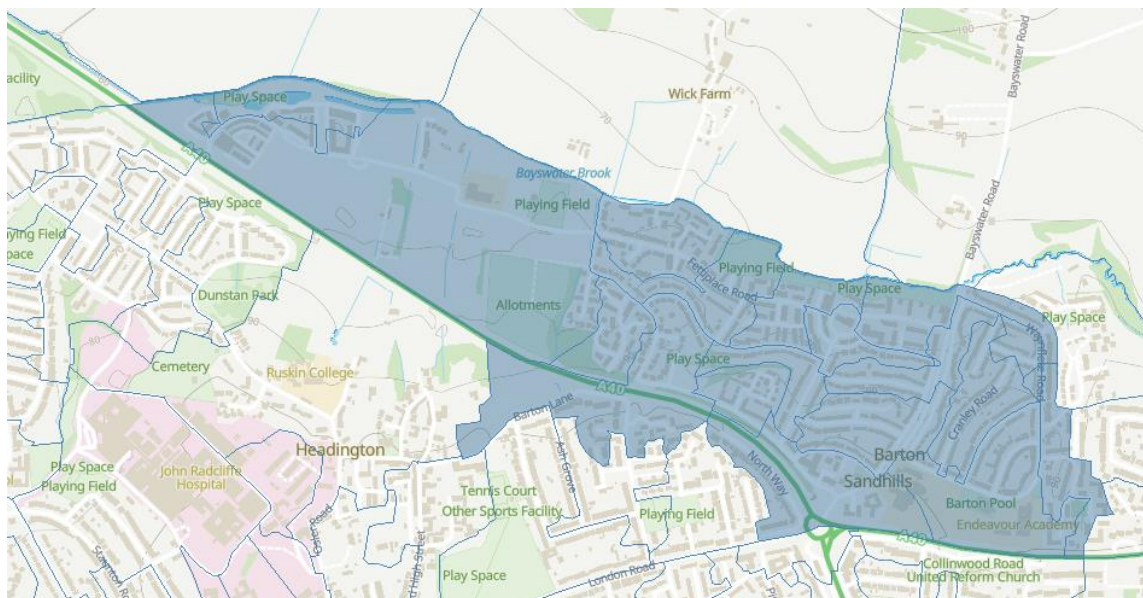
1.1 Purpose

The aim of this community insight profile is to:

- Understand what the experience is of those living in Barton and Barton Park in relation to health and wellbeing;
- Outline the health outcomes and the factors which can influence these health outcomes and bring this to life through the words of the community;
- Present a series of recommendations that will guide action planning towards the improvement of the health and wellbeing of the community in this area.

This ward is officially referred to as 'Barton and Sandhills', but for the purpose of this profile we will refer to the area as 'Barton', specifically focusing on the existing community living in Barton and Barton Park.

Figure 1 Map of Barton area of Barton and Sandhills ward



Map from [Build a custom area profile - Census 2021, ONS](#)

The profile includes the voice of residents of Barton and those working with members of the community there. We have asked the community questions about the health and wellbeing challenges and enablers of living and working in Barton, and more specifically about the impact of COVID-19 on the community in order to produce a series of recommendations on how to further reduce health inequalities and provide more opportunities for the Barton community to thrive and prosper.

These recommendations will be used to form an action plan that will be carried forward as part of the project, with the findings from this report planned to go to the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board in June 2023.

1.2 Context for the community profiles

Oxfordshire is considered as one of the most prosperous areas in England, a county where there is no shortage of wealth but huge disparity in how it is distributed, a place of haves and have nots. Astoundingly, there are 10 wards in Oxfordshire that include areas ranked in the 20% most deprived areas in England. Barton and Sandhills was highlighted as one of the ten wards (Director of Public H report 2019-20).

Economic inequality has a significant impact on people's health, wellbeing and life expectancy, with the COVID-19 pandemic shining a spotlight on the disastrous impact on health inequalities. It is widely accepted that where we live influences the healthcare we receive and the opportunities that exist to lead healthy lifestyles. We know the wider determinants of health such as housing, education, employment, income, and access to services hugely influence how healthy a person is, their life expectancy and quality of life. Addressing the wider determinants of health will improve people's health equity and overall health outcomes.

This understanding led to the ambition and intention by Oxfordshire public health to work with community partners to create community profiles for each of the ten wards with the aim to provide invaluable insight into the health outcomes and influencing factors of those areas.

1.3 Timeline

Figure 2: Graphic showing timeline of the project



1.4 Methodology

The community insight activity has focused on analysing health data and collecting community insight from residents, local organisations and stakeholders utilising an asset-based community development model (ABCD).

A mixed methods approach was adopted encompassing a community consultation, an online survey and focus groups, to maximise reach and depth based on the following questions:

- What are the strengths and assets in the area that help support and enable your health and wellbeing? What matters to you in the community?
- What are some of the challenges to your health and wellbeing and what do you think might help address some of these challenges?
- What has been the impact of COVID-19 on both your health and wellbeing and your local community?

The Community Health Development Officer, with support from the steering group, carried out a community mapping exercise to consider opportunities to engage the community as much as possible and how best to promote the profile. A breakdown of the methods used as part of this insight activity are shown below.

Method used	Respondents Reached	Dissemination
Participatory community engagement approach (Barton Bash, September 2022)	200	Series of seven questions about experiences of living in Barton
Online Survey (Opened late November 2022 closed early January 2023)	95	31 questions hosted on an online survey platform. Advertised via; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local social media pages• Resident and community groups• WhatsApp groups;• Primary school newsletters• GP surgery website• Local noticeboards• Barton Leisure Centre• Emails to stakeholders and community organisations• Word-of-mouth• In person at community and faith group activities and events.• Hard copies were made available to the social

		<p>prescribing team to complete with patients,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical support offered to those who didn't have access to the internet or a suitable device
Focus Groups	7 local organisations (39 people in total)	<p>Participants were asked a series of questions designed for organisations (see <i>appendices</i>) and all responses were transcribed.</p> <p>Groups contacted to participate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Barton Community Association • Barton Community Larder • Barton Youth Club • Barton Community Partnership • St Mary's Church • Barton Growers • Coffee & Craft • Barton Community Church • WOW Space • Beautiful Barton • Barton Art in Nature • Umbrella Club • Barton Park Residents Focus Group • Barton Park School Family Links Group • Hedena Health Social Prescribing Team • Barton Health Walk • Allotments Association

The qualitative insight collected was analysed by the Community Health Development Officer and two members of the Public Health Team. The survey answers and transcripts from the focus groups were analysed using The Braun and Clarks 6 step framework¹ - a thematic analysis, identifying the themes in the results to help us understand more about the issue. This is described in detail in the appendices. Where quotes or case studies have been used some of the detail such as gender and

¹ Virginia Braun & Victoria Clarke (2006) Using thematic analysis in psychology, *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3:2, 77-101
<https://doi.org/10.1191/1478088706qp0630a>

characteristics of the respondent may have been changed to make them less identifiable.

1.5 Limitations

The research focused on the experience of those living in Barton and Barton Park only. As mentioned above, the ward is officially referred to as Barton and Sandhills. The Steering Group discussed the decision to remove Sandhills from the focus of the profile due to concerns the data could be skewed as Sandhills has a significantly different demographic to Barton, with household incomes being much higher on average. Although some Sandhills residents access services in Barton, many do not see themselves as part of the Barton Community. Conversely, the steering group agreed that focusing on Barton Park could additionally skew data due to the high price of private housing in the new development. However, it was acknowledged that 40% of Barton Park has been allocated as social housing stock, and it was felt important for the integration of the two areas to include them within one profile. The decision was therefore made to promote the profile within the Barton and Barton Park area only. It is noted that on the survey that 9 of the 95 respondents lived in surrounding areas such as Sandhills, Northway, Risinghurst and Headington despite the survey not being promoted in those areas. Due to limitations on the number of respondents to the survey and participation in the focus groups, the data in this profile is not representative of the entire population of Barton and Barton Park.

1.6 Respondent's demographic breakdown

Table 1: Demographics of survey respondents

Survey Question	Percentage of respondents
In which area do you live?	
Barton	60%
Barton Park	30%
Other	10%
What gender are you?	
Male	68%
Female	31%
Transgender	<1%
Non binary	0
Prefer not to say	0
Other	0
Please select the category that includes your age range:	
Under 18	<5%
18 – 24	<5%
25-34	15%
35- 44	38%
45-54	12%
55-64	18%

65 or above	11%
Please select the ethnicity you most identify with:	
White	34%
English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	34%
Any other white background	32%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	<7%
Irish	<5%
Arab	<5%
Asian or Asian British	<5%
Indian	<5%
Chinese	<5%
Black, Black British, Caribbean or African	<5%
Please tick which of the following applies to you	
Employed	68%
Self employed	<5%
Unemployed	10%
Student	<5%
Parent/carer (full time)	11%
Retired	10%
Do you access benefits?	
Yes	32%
No	68%

It is acknowledged that the consultation at the Barton Bash included views of only those who were able to attend the event in person, and there are many residents who do not access services at Barton Neighbourhood Centre.

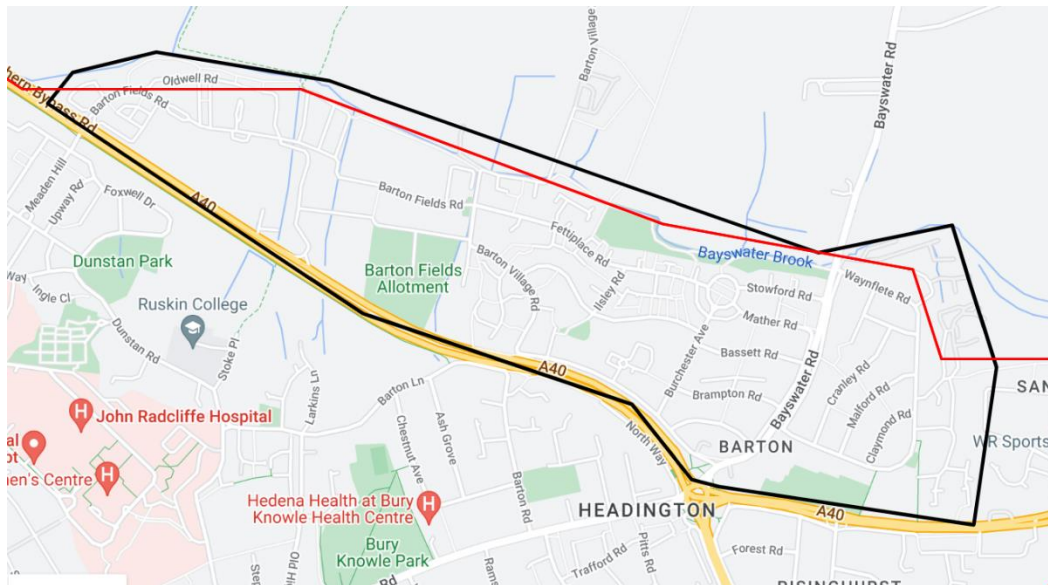
Research was carried out between September and January 2023 and therefore offers a snapshot in time of people's experiences of health and wellbeing.

Some of the groups contacted to participate in a focus group declined for various reasons including time constraints, cancellations due to seasonal flu and illness, and limited capacity of participants to volunteer their time. In total seven of seventeen groups contacted took part in the focus groups.

Data collection carried out by the Community Health Development officer was thorough, but by no means perfect. Acknowledgement is given to researcher bias as they are a member of the community themselves and therefore have a vested interest in the Barton community. Similarly, throughout the analysis process it was important for a second analysis of the data to be carried out by public health as the first analysis was open to bias due to the merging of semantic and latent themes known from their own personal insight and lived experience within the Barton community.

2 About Barton

2.1 Location and history



Map Provided by Oxford City Council

Barton is a neighbourhood only 3.4 miles from the centre of Oxford. As a place to live, it has much to offer including its diverse community, physical and social assets, a vibrant community association with deep rooted community spirit and two dedicated churches embedded within the community, all against a breath-taking backdrop of a beautiful natural environment, with secret copses and a babbling brook.

Figure 3 : Images from Sydlings Copse Nature Reserve, Barton



Figure 4 Images of Underhill Circus shops and the Barton neighbourhood Centre



Photos provided by Oxford City Council

The very first houses in Barton were built in 1938, but with the outbreak of World War II, building stopped with only 54 houses occupied. The development recommenced in early 1946 when the first prefabricated bungalows were built. The estate was originally developed to provide social housing for residents of Oxford and were provided to many families of servicemen from the war. There were no shops in Barton until the parade of shops at Underhill Circus were opened in 1954. The original Community Centre was a second-hand prefabricated building erected by volunteers between 1949 and 1950 in Underhill Circus. This was replaced in 1992 by the current building.

By 1977 there were 1,600 council houses in Barton. Barton continued to slowly grow in stages as more housing was developed in the surrounding area on the West and East sides of the estate.

In 2013 Oxford City Council partnered with Grosvenor to deliver Barton Park, an 885-home extension to Barton and this was the catalyst for the regeneration of Barton. In 2016 Barton was chosen by NHS England to be one of 10 funded demonstrator sites for the Healthy New Towns programme as a means to explore how the development of new places could provide opportunities to create healthier communities². The decision was subsequently made to include the whole of Barton within the Healthy New Towns programme. As part of this work the Barton Community Centre was refurbished and a health hub created within it to improve the primary care facilities for the area. The modernisation of the community and youth spaces as well as the installation of a new library, demonstrated the importance of delivering the appropriate infrastructure needed to fundamentally change health attitudes and trends. This work developed into a holistic offering to the community taking into consideration the wider determinants of health as key opportunities to challenge the social and economic environment, as well as the physical environment.

² NHS England, Healthy New Towns, [NHS England » Healthy New Towns](#), 26th January 2023

2.2 Community assets

2.2.1 Facilities

Barton has an abundance of facilities and physical assets including two primary schools, a GP surgery, a library service, a music centre, a leisure centre and a variety of green spaces that are well-used and available for the Barton Community. Below is an overview of these:

Figure 5: Overview of community facilities in Barton



Image created by Oxford City Council

2.2.2 Soft assets

The below image shows a selection of the many groups and activities operating in Barton that support people's health and wellbeing.

There are also many low and no cost activities available across Barton for all members of the community, many of these are subsidised by the community association, the churches, the city and county council, and local colleges. An activity timetable, providing a snapshot in time of what was on offer in December 2022, is available in the appendices.

Figure 6: Groups and associations in Barton



Image produced by Oxford City Council

Comments from residents were positive about the community in Barton and in response to the question 'What do you like about living here?' one of the most popular answers related to the 'People and Community Spirit' which was mentioned 37 times. A selection of quotes from respondents is shown below:

"It's the Barton community, the residents. Everywhere you go people are really helpful. In other areas the community feels isolated, it's not the same they are not real communities. I know I can say hi to everyone in Barton and they will say hi. When I come into Barton it always feels like I'm coming home."

"It's friendly and down to earth"

"The great local community we have"

"Barton is a good friendly place to live. The Barton community gives great support to the people living here."

As part of the survey participants were asked 'What groups, services and organisations do you know of in Barton and Barton Park?' The table below shows the organisations, services and groups mentioned:

Groups, services, and organisations	Number of mentions by respondents
Barton Neighbourhood Centre GP surgery Library Stay and play Barton Advice Centre Oxford School of Traditional Martial Arts sessions Umbrella club	60 9 8 5 3 3 3 3
Barton Community Association Barton Community Larder Related mentions: <i>Zumba</i> <i>Youth Club</i> <i>Holiday activities</i>	52 24
Barton Park Sports Pavilion Related mentions: <i>Barton United Football Club and Man Vs Fat</i>	11
St Mary's / Barton Community Church Related mentions: <i>Barton Growers</i> <i>Bereavement Group</i> <i>Food Bank</i>	10
Barton Art in Nature	7
Other mentions : Underhill Circus shops Barton Community Partnership Barton Primary School Barton Leisure Centre Family Solutions Centre	All 5 or less

Barton Health Walk Oxford City Council Locality Hub Barton Park residents focus group Hands On News Beautiful Barton, Safer Barton, Love Barton Neighbourhood Police Team, Project PT	
Not aware of any groups / uninterested in attending anything on offer	18

At the Barton Bash the most mentioned services and groups were the GP Surgery, community larder, stay & play, holiday youth activities and churches

2.2.3 Accessibility of services

This theme covers the availability of a service to residents, including the capacity and consistency of service delivery, and whether services are affected by ability to recruit staff and by funding. It also covers the location and timing of services which affect a resident's ability to access it, and the transport links. The resident's knowledge of the service is also included, relating to the promotion of available services.

"The biggest challenge for us is our income stream. Without a solid income we are not able to operate or offer anything to our community."

One strong message that came across was about the sustainability of services, which need to be reliable and consistent if they are going to be effective at engaging the residents. This is strongly linked to short term funding, and there was a plea to address this.

The focus groups referenced lifestyle services that are available in other areas, and the desire to have these here. For example, they asked why there is no slimming club in Barton. There was also reference to services that have previously been provided but now stopped. In particular references were made to food related clubs:

"Where are the healthy cookery sessions for families? These used to take place at the Centre and were always very well attended"

"BCA used to do breakfast club and that was so good and needed for families."

"The Barton Art in Nature art classes- amazing opportunity but we need more spaces as it filled up so quickly."

There was also reference to some services being oversubscribed, and more funding would be required to address this. Some of the services being used were well appreciated, and there was a feeling that targeted activities for different groups of people (e.g., teenagers) are helpful.

There was also strong feedback about the accessibility of services. Some of this was in relation to advertising, and the acknowledgement that not everyone can access the internet, particularly during the cost-of-living crisis. The timing and cost of activities must make the activities accessible. There were several comments about the bus service and general accessibility of transport. The buses only travel one way through Barton, and some residents feel this prevents them accessing activities.

"Why can't half the buses go the other way, why do they all go one way? The people on the right side can't get to the left side without going to Headington and coming back on themselves. So many people would benefit from having buses going two directions through Barton. There are people who don't go to the community centre because they can't get there, or to the shops."

"Transport is a huge issue- bus routes don't serve the whole community."

There was a feeling from some participants that there are not enough NHS and social care services to support residents, and residents can find it difficult to get an appointment. This is particularly in relation to mental health services.

2.2.4 Other existing programmes of work and initiatives

Oxford City Council operate two physical activity pathways across the city with many patients in Barton benefiting from the two below programmes.

Move Together

Move Together is a physical activity pathway designed to support people living with long term health conditions to be more active as a way to improve their physical, mental and social wellbeing. The pathway was originally borne out of the Containing Outbreak Management Fund to support people who had been adversely affected by COVID-19 and has since been extended through further funding to become a pathway for all long term health conditions. Move Together is a person-centred pathway which is based around a programme of telephone based motivational interviewing and behavioural change support and is accompanied by a wide range of

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free and subsidised physical activity offers. The pathway supports people living with co-morbidities to become more active with the aim of improving physical, mental, and social wellbeing. To date (correct of January 2023) the pathway has 14 GP surgeries actively referring into the pathway and has received 511 referrals. The pathway has seen 164 participants transition to sustained physical activity and has supported over 100 hours of at home 1:1 personal training. In Barton 21 people have registered onto the programme.

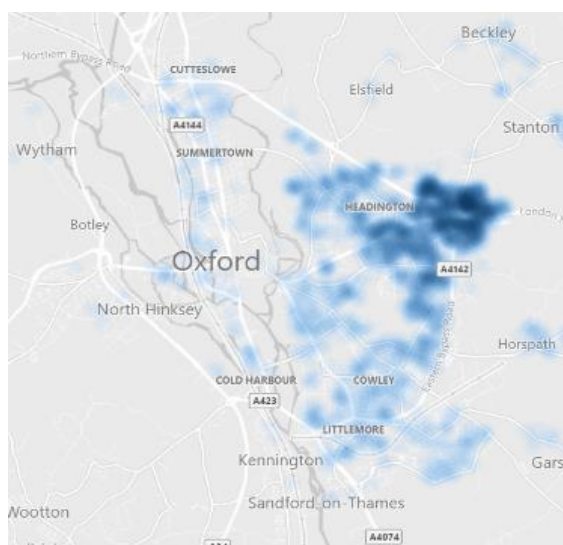
You Move

You Move is a family physical activity programme, funded by Public Health and designed to support families in Oxfordshire to move more together. The programme is free at the point of access and specifically aimed at families in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals. It is designed to break down barriers to physical activity, particularly those relating to cost and support families with increasing activity levels. To date (correct of January 2023) the programme has engaged with 197 families and 712 participants, including 308 children in receipt of Free School Meals. In Barton 52 people (16 families) are enrolled on the programme at this time.

The below table relates to Fusion Leisure Centre data taken from visits to all Fusion Leisure centres in Oxford City. The heat map shows the highest cluster of visits to Barton Leisure centre is from local residents.

Summary statistics	%	Notes
All known visits Jan to Oct 22	60%	This dataset accounts for 57% of total visits recorded Jan to Oct 2022 of all known visits
OX3	69%	Of the data we have, around 70% of known visits are made by local residents living within the OX3 postcode
Oxford City	92%	Of the data we have, over 90% of visits are made by Oxford City residents

Figure 7: Heat map of Fusion Leisure centre use by resident area (Jan- Oct 2022)



Map Provided by Oxford City Council and Fusion Leisure Centre.

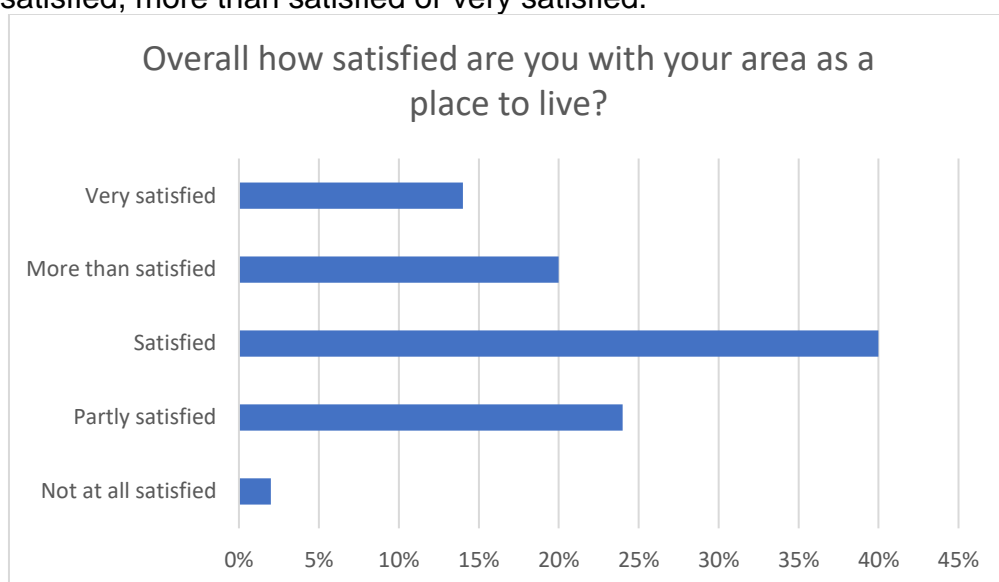
3 Wider determinants of health in Barton

The wider determinants of health are defined as a diverse range of social, economic, and environmental factors which influence people's mental and physical health³.

3.1 Built and natural environment

3.1.1 Overall satisfaction with Barton as a place to live

Three participants said they didn't like anything about living in Barton. This is consistent with the graph below showing only 2 people felt very unsatisfied with the area as a place to live, with nearly 75% of participants expressing they were satisfied, more than satisfied or very satisfied.



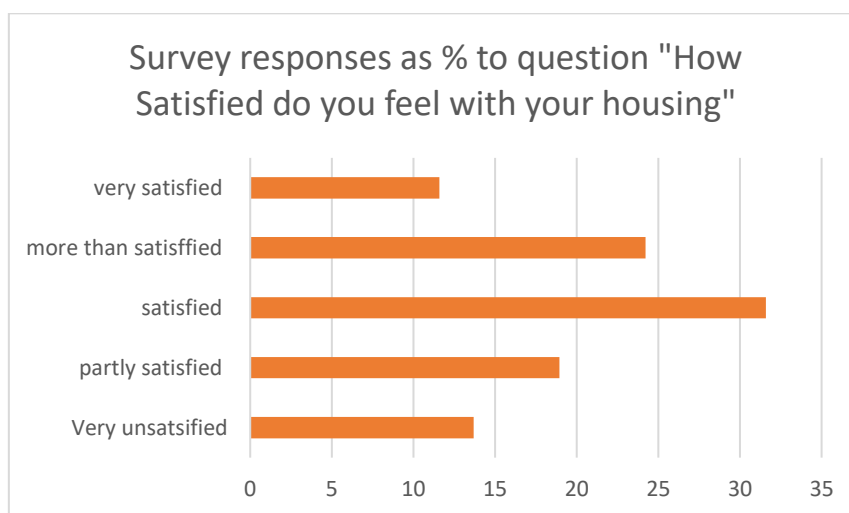
³ Public Health England- Health profile for England, Wider Determinants of Health, published 2018, extracted 06th March 2023

Responses showed that residents valued local community groups and activities, the quietness of the neighbourhood, and the diversity of the community.

"Houses are nice. People are nice. And diverse backgrounds which is great"

3.1.2 Housing

Respondents were asked how satisfied they felt with their housing and the results are displayed below:



- 76% of participants felt satisfied, more than satisfied or very satisfied with their housing situation.
- 12.5% of people from Barton felt very unsatisfied with their housing compared with 6% of people from Barton Park.

3.1.3 Green Spaces and Access to Nature

Green spaces in and around Barton were mentioned 36 times when residents were asked what they liked about living in Barton or Barton Park. A selection of comments are shown below.

"It is a beautiful spot, with lots of space for my children to run around."

"I live in front of a forest where sometimes I go with my family"

"The green spaces surrounding the development and close links to the natural environment. The linear path linking Barton Park to Barton is a nice addition too."

Participants were asked what spaces and places they use and what they thought of them.

Responses to the survey indicated that green spaces and play parks were the most frequently used (73 times). The Linear Park and path linking Barton and Barton Park alongside Bayswater Brook had several mentions.

Figure 8: Map of Barton and Bayswater Linked Linear Park (Oxford city Council)



Image Provided by Oxford City Council

Many people use the Bayswater Linked Linear Park to walk their dogs, walking or going for a run. The ponds at Barton Park were popular with families to feed the ducks, have picnics and use the playground. Respondents mentioned they enjoy the walk up the fields to the Sydlings Copse Nature Reserve and there was also mention of the allotments.

"I love the Linear path- the fact you can walk from Waynflete road all the way along to Barton Park. A lot of people use it. It was our lockdown path."

"I think Barton is well resourced and like that there are green spaces to take children"

Some concerns were expressed over the upcoming Bayswater Brook housing development and how it will impact on the countryside and views.

"I like the fields around Barton for walking. Also walking around Barton Park is quite nice with the water features and green spaces. But I worry that more development will gradually destroy green spaces."

There were also some comments about fly tipping and littering on the green spaces.

"They are lovely spaces but sometimes covered in litter and rubbish. Barton Brook is disgusting; so much rubbish thrown in and it's always flooding. Playing field not kept so nice as it used to be."

"The biggest problem in Barton is rubbish on the streets and people dumping their waste / old furniture in the brook and side streets."

The focus groups discussed the countryside surrounding Barton and the benefits these areas bring to living in Barton. This is clearly a well valued resource for local residents and gives them the opportunity to engage with nature without having to use transport to get there.

"First time I ever came to Barton I remember the moment I saw the fields behind, I've always loved the surrounding area- the fields, the green spaces, the woods. It gives me a lovely feeling walking around Bonny Banks, and walking down Burchester Avenue looking at the lovely view. We are very lucky."

"Lots of fresh air in Barton, walking and getting out is good for me. Almost feel I'm in the country and far away from the roads."

3.1.4 Location and access to amenities

The location of Barton and its accessibility to the city and local amenities including hospitals and transport links was mentioned 30 times. Below is a sample of quotes from the responses.

"The location, despite the proximity to the ring road, is also a positive, given the proximity to the JR Hospital, Headington shops, and Thornill P&R for easy access to buses to London and the airports."

"It's a vibrant place, the leisure centre, good transport links to Headington, Cowley Rd and town centre, and also it's not far from the three main Oxford University hospitals."

"Clean and quiet residential area, close proximity to JR, good connection with city centre, growing set of community initiatives"

"I love the fields at the back and access to nature, sydlings copse. The BCA and community larder, there is amazing community spirit here and people look out for each other. The youth club and holiday activities are great and my kids love it"

The shops at Underhill Circus (mentioned 39 times) were the second most valued asset. Most people referred to the Spar shop, but the Pharmacy and Barton Chippy were also considered to be of value. Residents in Barton Park expressed the view that the shops in Barton were too far away and there was an urgent need for local shops, cafés, and community spaces in Barton Park. Nobody from Barton Park mentioned using the Sports Pavilion, and some felt that Barton Park School community space offered potential to be used by the community but felt there wasn't anything currently on offer. Although many people remarked on the ease of the Linear path linking the two areas there is a lack of integration relating to residents in Barton Park using community facilities in Barton.

"Need the shops set up ASAP Small ones so people who don't live in Barton Park won't come here"

"Give me a cafe and a supermarket and it's perfect."

"I don't go into Barton as it is run down and unsafe. Barton Park has a lovely lake, park and green spaces."

"Need for community spaces in Barton Park, from commercial to leisure. Some activities and sports are available but they are mostly for kids, so offering for adults would be nice."

"The community in Barton sticks together but there is a risk of the two communities feeling separate to each other."

Barton Neighbourhood Centre (mentioned 32 times) was the third most popular place with many people using the centre to access the GP surgery, Library, community larder, and Community Association activities. Although the Library was popular, some residents expressed the view the current opening hours were too limited and there was a need for a larger collection of books.

"I like the way the flow of people intersects at Underhill circus. There's always someone around, it's the heart of Barton."

"Barton is good and very easy to access the bus stop, community centre, church and school."

"Some of the spaces could be more accessible and welcoming. Hard for 'outsiders' to feel welcome"

"All useful spaces but more must be done to promote to encourage residents to use them."

"I've got to know a lot of people through attending the larder, in the queue we get chatting. I mention the gardening group and people would say it would be destroyed in a week, and all the vegetables would be stolen and wouldn't last. But we are going strong and it's never been vandalised and now they even eat the veg we grow, everyone knows what's going on here as they go past on the bus and they can't believe their eyes. I like the fact they didn't think it would survive but it did, now their attitude has changed."

"The gym needs better equipment. I changed gyms because I couldn't do the exercise I need because the rowing machines constantly get removed for repairs and it takes weeks."

"Moreover, there should have a protective net surrounding the football field because it will cause dangerous to the vehicles driving by and to the residents living beside the football field when players kick the ball out of the field."

Barton Leisure Centre (mentioned 13 times) was commonly valued for the swimming pool. The Sports Pavilion was mentioned 10 times, and the Church (although it wasn't identified whether this was St Mary's or Barton Community) was mentioned 5 times. Some people felt that sports equipment was missing or needed to be improved within the leisure centre.

Two participants said they don't use any places or spaces in the area.

In the focus groups a strong theme emerged referring to the importance of built spaces which residents can access to meet at informally or attend events, as well as community groups and activities which they can access.

Both the Barton Growers and St Mary's Church referred to the need for buildings or spaces in buildings which residents can meet in, both informally and formally for activities. St Mary's referenced some fundraising they are doing to be able to provide this space, whilst the Barton growers referred to the loss of Eatwells café they used to meet up in after classes. This informal gathering provided an opportunity to socialise, and the lack of a venue has prevented this.

"It's a shame that Eatwells has not reopened, we liked having a place to meet that was neutral. After the exercise groups we would eat together and it was always packed."

The lack of a venue to meet up was also linked to safety, as groups of people congregate outside the shops, making it intimidating for other residents to walk through.

"People avoid the shops because of particular individuals challenging people and making comments. Some type of provision needed to meet social gathering needs- there is nowhere for people to go. Pubs and social clubs have closed and now lots of middle aged men are ousted on to the streets"

Community spaces are not just physical venues, but also groups and activities that people can attend to socialise with local residents. There are some good examples of this, for example the gardening club. The churches are recognised as both a physical venue and an organiser of community groups which are welcoming to all. There was one reference to a Church providing a grotto, as others were too expensive to access:

"Barton Community Church are doing their own grotto and that sort of thing is so important to help support families."

Equally the community larder falls into this category, and the community recognise the value of using this as a meeting point.

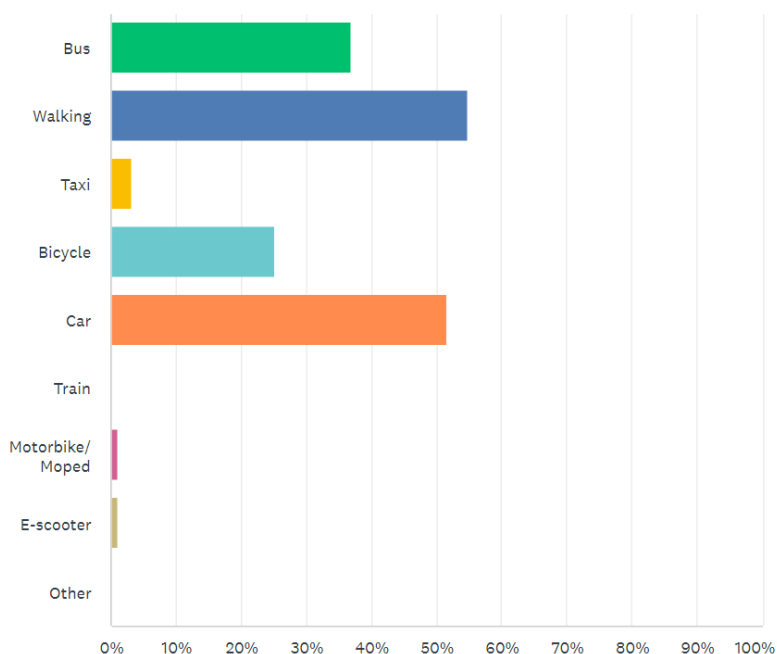
"The community larder- it's not just about getting food it's also about meeting lots of new people. The café you can get a free cuppa and cake and that's always nice. I've had amazing conversations and made new friends."

The focus groups recognised the link between access to groups like these and how this access reduces feelings of isolation which can improve mental health.

3.1.5 Travel and transport

On a typical day what mode of transport do you use most often?
Please tick:

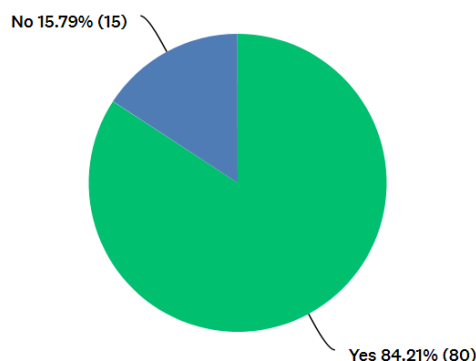
Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



- Only 27% of people aged 45-54 selected walking as their most used form of transport, compared with 46% of people aged 35-44, 47% people aged 55-64, 80% of people aged 25-34, and 81% of people aged 65 and above.
- Despite this those aged 65 or above were also the most likely to use the Bus service.
- Cars were the most popular form of transport for those aged 45-44.

Do you find it easy to get in and around Barton and/or Barton Park?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



Although 84% of people said they find it easy to get in and around the area there were 35 comments made raising several issues:

- 15 people raised significant issues with the X3 Bus route, stating it doesn't run on time and often takes an hour to get to the city centre. 4 people commented that the number 8 Bus route in contrast is more reliable with a faster journey time.
- 9 people commented that there is heavy traffic to get out of Barton in the morning via Greenroad Roundabout.
- 7 people raised an issue with the A40 crossing from Barton Park to Northway, stating it feels dangerous and wasn't designed with pedestrians in mind.
- 5 people stated the roads need to be improved and there are not enough parking spaces. On the contrary 3 people felt there was ample free parking available. Some felt the roads were unsafe to cycle on and so opted to drive instead.
- 3 people commented that the new exit on to the A40 via Barton Park allowed them to cycle out of Barton avoiding the infamous steep hills.
- One person mentioned the underpass feeling unsafe to use at night-time due to lack of lighting preventing them from leaving Barton on foot.

3.2 Crime and feelings of security

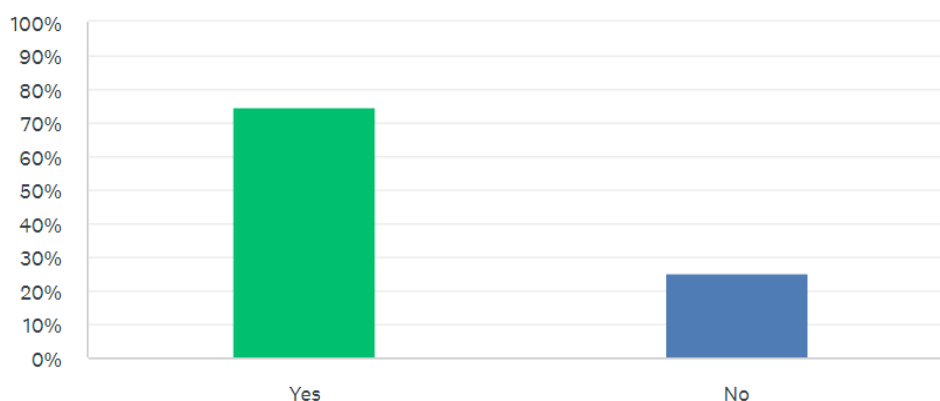
Oxford City Council and Thames Valley Police launched a piece of research called Common Place during the summer of 2022 to gather feedback from the Barton community to understand the concerns, perceptions and experiences of public spaces in Barton. The aim of the feedback was to enable the council and the police to mount a targeted response to prevent and reduce crime, concern about crime and anti-social behaviour.

In the common place survey 72% of people said they did not feel safe at a location in Barton, with a high proportion of comments linking to Underhill Circus where the shops and Neighbourhood Centre are located.

In contrast with the findings from the Common place survey, our Health & Wellbeing survey produced a stark difference with 75% of residents saying they do feel safe in Barton. We questioned whether people's responses were influenced by the purpose of the research and who was asking the questions, i.e. participants may have been more likely to participate in the Common Place survey to provide their insight and experiences of crime in Barton, if these participants had themselves been a victim or witness to crime or anti-social behaviour. Residents who chose to participate in our survey were answering questions about Health & Wellbeing more generally without crime and safety being the key focus of the research. Interestingly in the Common Place survey when participants were asked if there was anything that made people feel safe at a location, the top three answers provided were *sense of community, area well used by the public and people willing to help*. This was congruent with the core theme of people and community that has been highlighted throughout our research. The detailed results from the Common place survey can be found in the appendices.

Do you feel safe in your neighbourhood?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



- Although 75% of people said they felt safe in the area, 30% of people from Barton Park said they do not feel safe, compared with 19% of people from Barton.
- 40% of respondents aged 25-34 and 27% of those aged 35-44 felt unsafe in their area compared with 18% of respondents aged 55 and over.
- Similar to the Common Place survey (2022), most comments about feeling unsafe related to groups of people congregating outside the shops and in the parks, not feeling safe at night-time, young people on dirt bikes travelling fast along the Linear path, and a perception of drug dealing taking place openly.

"Mostly safe. However lots of youths on mopeds and hanging out on the street can make things feel unsafe and threatening at times"

"I feel safe during the day and when at home etc, but I don't often go out around Barton at night unless with others as I feel less safe then"

"Shops are a intimidating place to be afternoons and evenings. Will not go out after dark."

"I would not go to the shop after dark; I would feel safer going to Headington which is much further away"

- Of the 75% of people who did feel safe, some commented that there was a common perception of crime and anti-social behaviour in Barton being higher and more prevalent than is the case.
- Some people who reported feeling safe shared a level of understanding as to why some residents felt unsafe, acknowledging the perception of crime or feelings of intimidation some residents felt over large groups of people congregating.

"I feel safe but I get the feeling many people in the community don't feel safe. I think this is largely a matter of perception."

"Fairly safe apart from when people are congregating and behaving in an antisocial manner near the shops. Drug dealing is also rather worrying at time"

"I feel very safe, people look out for each other round here."

"I do but that is only because I know majority of people who live here but I can see why others wouldn't feel safe"

This was similarly commented on in the focus groups where those who reported feeling safe in the community were often those who were more active in the community, with ties to community groups and activities at Barton Neighbourhood

Centre. This theme of safety draws together how people feel in the Barton Community and their perceptions of how they are accepted, personally and as a community.

The focus groups discussed the feeling of being intimidated in certain places in the community, particularly around shops where people congregate.

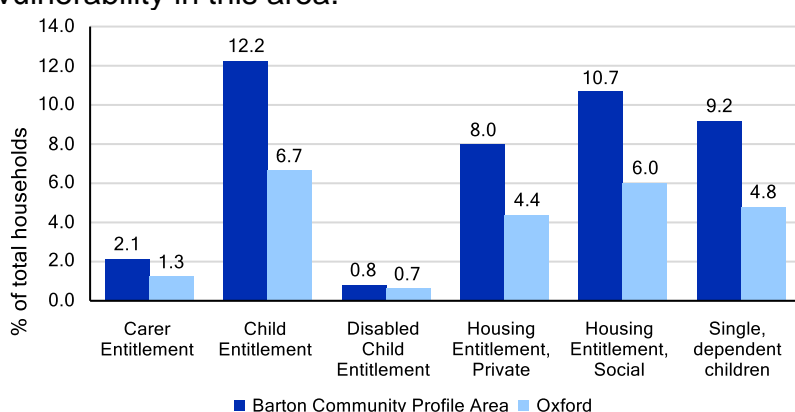
"There are certain young people in Barton that are out of control, we can't pretend as we all know who they are and it needs to be addressed. They have no respect for anyone they were laughing at me and throwing things at me one day when I was on my mobility scooter."

"Outside the shops is such a negative area, people congregate and smoke, drink alcohol. People avoid the shops because of particular individuals challenging people and making comments."

3.3 Vulnerability, Loneliness, Identity and belonging

This area has a higher proportion of residents receiving benefits linked to poor mental health or physical disability. Overall, 8.7% of the population were in receipt of Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in October 2022 (compared to 4.1% in Oxford and 4.2% in Oxfordshire) and 3.5% were in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in May 2022 (compared to 1.6% in Oxford and 1.7% in Oxfordshire)⁴.

In addition to this, there are also a higher number of households receiving Universal Credit (see graph below)⁵. Those receiving the housing, child and/or single parent household elements of this benefit are particularly high, which suggests greater vulnerability in this area.



⁴ DWP (2022). Statistics at DWP. Available via [DWP](#).

⁵ As above.

"I work supporting people and have a busy household so appreciate some time on my own!"

"I know there are a lot of people around me who help negate that"

"I've got so much to do I never feel lonely"

"Social isolation and mental health issues I think are the main issues we are struggling with in our community. It affects all ages and people from all backgrounds."

From the responses to the survey:

- 43% of people living in Barton Park felt they are part of the local community compared with 48% of people living in Barton.
- 40% of people living in Barton Park knew where to get information about their local area compared with 54% of people living in Barton.
- 36% of people living in Barton Park felt they participated in community consultations about their area compared with 39% of people living in Barton.

In the focus groups there were several comments about the perception of Barton as a community, with a feeling that there is a stigma for living in Barton. Some people felt this prevents people wanting to attend any community activities, and that people generally focus on the negative aspects of living there. Some people had a positive view, that their allotments had never been vandalised despite people thinking they would be.

Some people raised the impact of poor street maintenance, affecting both how they feel about the area and their safety.

"In the alleyways in Barton there are no lights and they're not cleaned. It's slippery with the leaves, and in the summer they don't get cut the bushes back and the grass gets so long it doesn't feel nice".

There was a feeling expressed that some groups of people living in Barton are stigmatised. Though it is not clear who these groups are.

"Sometimes people feel a massive divide, some people are accepted into the neighbourhood centre and some aren't"

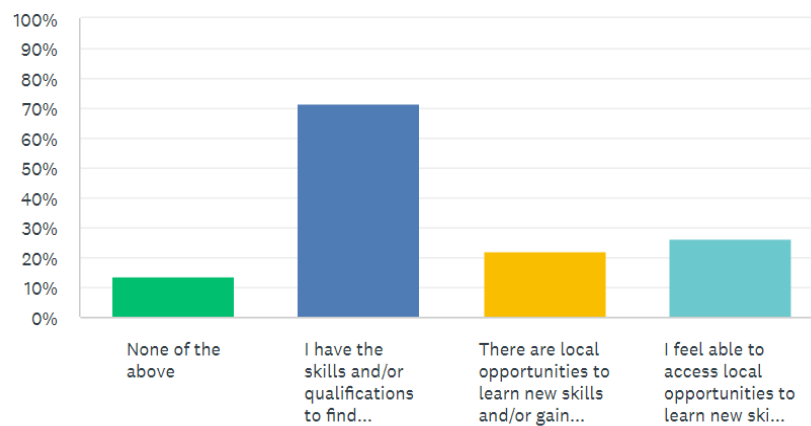
Respondents were also asked about their experiences of loneliness. 17% of residents said they do not experience feelings of loneliness, 39% of residents said

they rarely feel lonely, 38% said they feel lonely sometimes, 5% said they feel lonely most of the time and 3% said they feel lonely all of the time.

3.4 Education

Please select the following statements you agree with:

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	13.68%	13
I have the skills and/or qualifications to find employment	71.58%	68
There are local opportunities to learn new skills and/or gain qualifications	22.11%	21
I feel able to access local opportunities to learn new skills and/or gain qualifications	26.32%	25

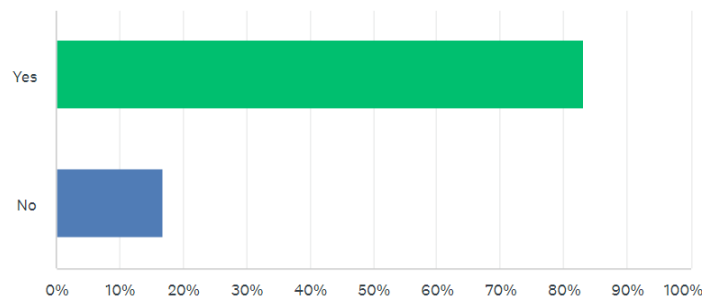
- 77% of people from Barton Park felt they have the skills and/or qualifications to find employment compared with 66% from Barton.
- 26% of participants felt able to access local opportunities to learn new skills and qualifications, 17% of those living in Barton Park and 35% of those living in Barton.

4 Health and Wellbeing

4.1.1 Perceptions of health

Would you consider yourself healthy?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



- 55% of those aged 45-54 considered themselves to be unhealthy, experiencing a range of health problems such as obesity and diabetes.
- 17% of those aged over 55 considered themselves to be unhealthy but also stated they were receiving support with their health.
- Only a very small proportion of those under the age of 45 considered themselves to be unhealthy.
- Many people experienced a range of physical and mental health conditions which they felt prevented them from being healthy.

4.1.2 Self-Care

When asked 'How do you look after yourself? (physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually)' strong themes emerged highlighting how people manage their health:

- Strong social support network and relationships
- Physical activity and movement
- Meaningful activity and work
- Spending time outdoors or in nature
- Healthy and balanced diet
- Spirituality and religion
- Talking to people and seeking help
- Daily routine and structure

Some comments from the respondents offered detail into how respondents manage their health and wellbeing:

"Regular check-ups with the GP, I watch a lot of YouTube to learn new things. Music, art (drawing and visiting exhibitions and life drawing). Going into town to cafes to draw people. Talking to people."

"More self-care, trying to increase my working hours but recognising need to recover"

"I eat a healthy diet high in vegetables, fermented foods etc. I keep physically active, I spend time in nature and the garden, I read a lot, I spend time with friends who are positive people, I give to others, I pray and worship God and go to a lively church."

"Stability is very important and plays a great role in my physical and mental health - e.g. I have a good relationship with my wife, a stable employment and income, good neighbours and friends, etc. I have a relatively healthy diet, mostly home-cooked food, and try to avoid highly processed foods. I try to embed cycle/walk in my day-to-day routine as much as I can and do cycle for leisure occasionally but don't do much more."

"Voluntary work. Church, sudoku, jigsaw puzzles, cross word, reading. There is not enough time in a day."

"Daily gentle movement and nutrition"

"I am looking after myself as well as I can afford"

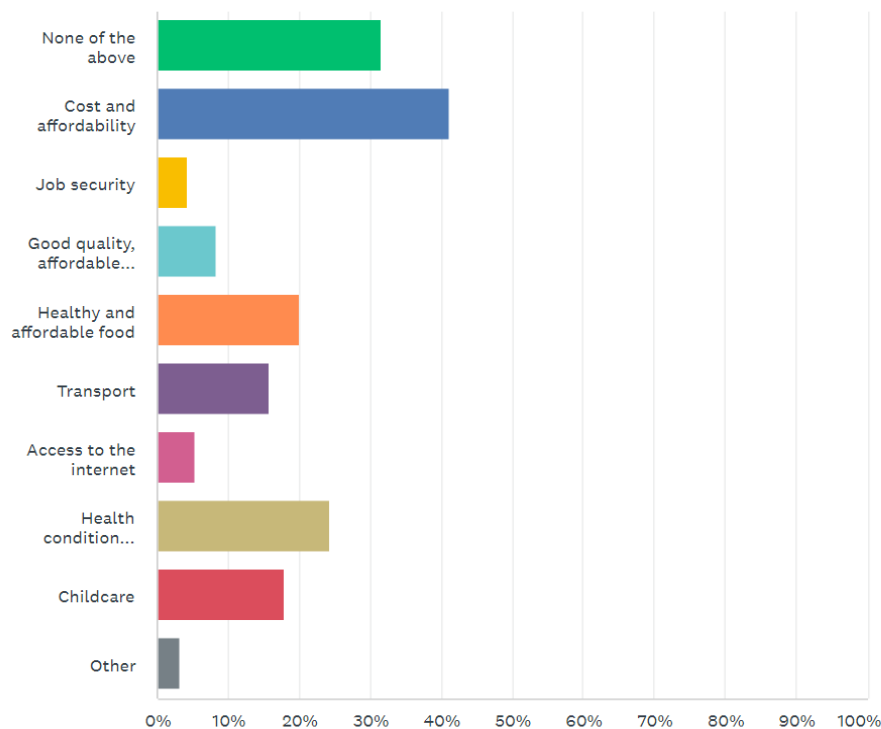
"I am in a better place with my personal health management nowadays and that's thanks to the BCA and my doctors. I've got plenty of access to the things I need."

"Focus on creating a nice and clean living environment for myself and my family. Frequent walks outside and time spent in the garden. Swimming."

Respondents were also asked to define what barriers they had experienced in looking after themselves and their health. The chart below shows the range of barriers identified.

What barriers have you experienced in looking after yourself? (Please tick all that apply to you)

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



Cost and affordability were the biggest barriers people experienced when looking after themselves, followed by having a health condition, access to healthy and affordable food, and childcare.

4.2 Access to healthy food and healthy eating

Nearly 70% of participants in the survey said they can access affordable and healthy food options in Barton, and 60% of participants said they or their family maintain healthy habits around food and eating. The community larder and food bank in Barton were important to many people to help overcome issues around food poverty. 90% of participants in the Barton Bash consultation mentioned the community larder as the main source of accessing affordable and healthy food.

"Being able to reduce anxiety by seeking help available has helped me. Have learned it's nothing to be ashamed of."

"Without the larder I wouldn't be able to access healthy and affordable food"

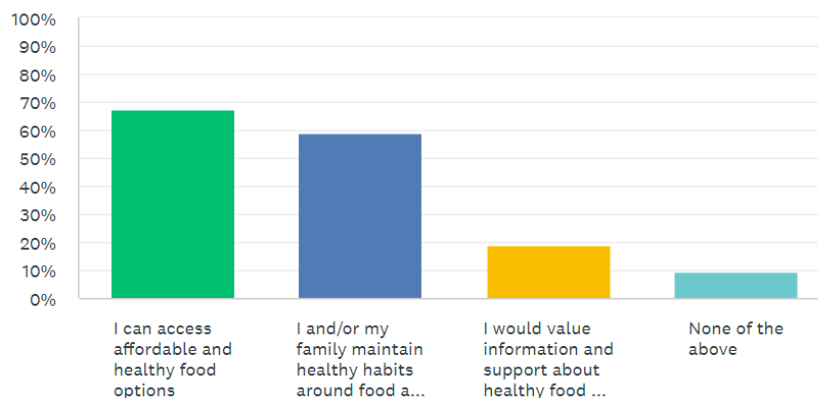
"I think it's about encouraging children, especially school children to eat breakfast every day, fruit, and yogurt every day. My daughter can't afford big fancy meals but she makes sure they have fruit and a hot meal every day. There's a lot of kids on free school meals in Barton."

The food bank and larder crucially play a larger role in people's lives beyond accessing food. One of the focus group participants talked about their role as a volunteer:

"I help with the Food Bank at the Church, its hard work and it's quite emotional. At the moment there are more and more refugees and they need things. Three women yesterday needed sanitary towels and it was so difficult for them to ask but we couldn't help them...it hurt my heart that they had to ask us and we had to say no. If I had my purse with me, I would have gone and bought them from the shop, but we sorted them out in the end. We also held a party for a little boy who is a refugee and had never had a party before. He was so happy as he loves spider man and it was so special to be a part of that."

Please tick the following statements you agree with:

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



4.3 Perceptions of smoking, alcohol use and drug related activity

Out of 95 residents who were asked about their perception of smoking in Barton 70% said they notice people smoking in and around Barton. 72% of people said the most popular public space to observe smoking was bus stops, followed by 58% of people saying parks and 57% at the shops. The school gates were observed to be a space where people were seen smoking by 29% of respondents, followed by 22% of people giving their home as a place where smoking occurs. Some people indicated they observed smoking outside the Neighbourhood centre and when walking along the street.

Participants were additionally asked about their perception of alcoholic drink litter and activity in and around Barton with 67% of residents answering yes. The most popular place to observe alcoholic drink litter or activity were in parks with 76% of responses, followed by 66% of residents indicating the shops and 44% observing this at bus stops in Barton. The school gates and at home were selected by 8% and 6% of residents respectively. Residents commented alcoholic drink cans were often seen on the pavement, alley ways, the fields behind Barton and the Underpasses.

Just over half of the 95 residents asked about this topic reported not noticing any litter or activity associated with drug taking. Of the 49% of those who did notice drug related litter or activity in Barton, cited this as most commonly observed within parks (77%) followed by the shops (56%), bus stops (35%), school gates (14%) and at home (7%). 16% of respondents who had noticed drug related litter or activities selected 'other'. When asked to specify on other locations people said they observed drug related litter and activity in the alleyways, outside people's houses, in underpasses, the pavilion, school car parks, and the multi-use-games-area.

5 Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Several challenges emerged across the country as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and some of these were also felt in Barton:

- Feelings of loneliness and isolation
- Deterioration in mental health
- Difficulties accessing food and essential services
- Loss of employment
- Increased incidences of various forms of abuse and exploitation

Locally in Barton, opportunities also emerged:

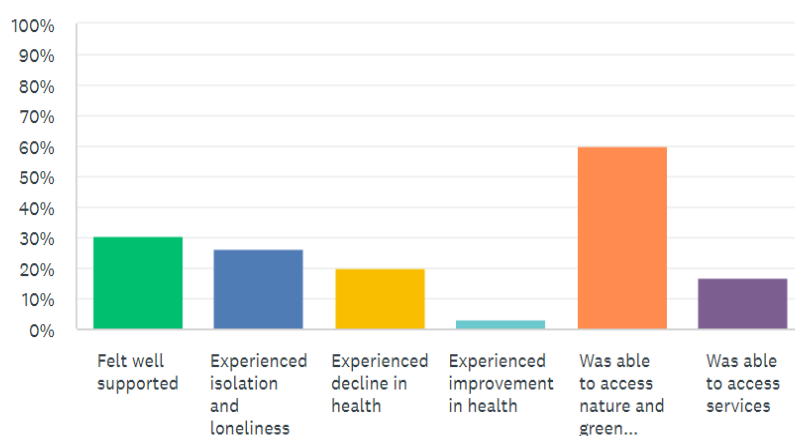
- Barton Community Association developed a **community larder** for residents to have access to healthy and affordable food,
- The Neighbourhood centre hosted the first community COVID-19 **vaccination centre** in Oxfordshire.

- **Locality hubs** were developed – with one in Barton- to work closely with community groups, residents, and local stakeholders to consider and support the needs of the community
- **Volunteering** increased as people had more time to get involved locally
- Greater **community cohesion** was felt as groups coordinated efforts to look after the more vulnerable in the community

Residents were asked about their experiences of the pandemic and the responses are displayed below.

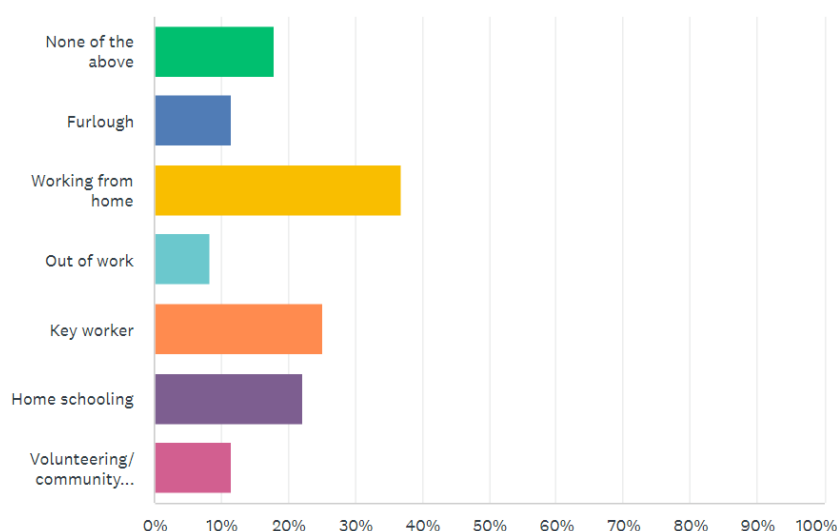
What was your experience of COVID-19? Please tick the statements you agree with:

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



Please tick whether you experienced any of the following during the pandemic?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



"There were so many good people who did so many good things at the time for the community. Some people were marshalling at the neighbourhood centre for the vaccine centre. One day it never stopped raining and all the volunteers were still there soaked through. So many people gave 110% to the community. The BCA would bring me food every week as I was shielding. I felt relaxed at home and I didn't have to run around to all the appointments I usually did. There was a real feeling of community and care."

"I was fortunate to be living with someone healthy who could do shopping and provide company and that when we had Covid we had a contact who could shop for us. I felt stuck at home, not being able to go and see people until able to sit inside a cafe."

"All thanks to Barton Neighbourhood Centre, this building and the people who work here helped me through Covid. Always someone to support me. Received food packages and prescriptions"

"Lockdown was hard- kids at home and working at the same time from home. It was nice to slow down though and spend time in the garden. We started growing our own vegetables and we were lucky to escape over the fields in Barton and spend time in nature."

Over 30% of residents who answered the Survey said they felt well supported during the pandemic and this was also a strong theme from the focus groups. The role of the community played an important part in providing day-to-day support to those shielding and who were unable to access food or medicine. Some people found it difficult having to stay at home and this impacted their health and wellbeing with 20% of people reporting a decline in their health. Having to work from home and often juggling family life and home-schooling added additional pressure and challenges for some.

Around a quarter of the participants in the survey reported experiencing loneliness and isolation during COVID-19 however many people commented on lockdown allowed them to slow down their fast pace of life and said they enjoyed being able to spend more time at home with family. Others reported appreciated having the

chance to learn new skills or spend more time doing the things they love. Some people found social distancing measures and the use of masks allowed them to feel safer outside and enjoyed being in less crowded public spaces. Many participants at the Barton Bash talked about how volunteering and engaging in meaningful activity played a part in keeping them busy, but also contributed to community solutions to help vulnerable groups and allowed them to be an active part of the community response to the pandemic. This gave people a great sense of purpose and pride.

"I used to go into my greenhouse and read a book about Terry Wate. My brain said if he can last 5 years being locked away I can last a month."

"I liked everything stopping, I felt sorry for people who were struggling and lonely but being an introvert I liked having time by myself."

"I was isolated in a flat with an autistic child where I can't even have windows open when she is home as she sees no danger and has been sat in the window."

"I loved lockdown, being able to sit at home and not do anything."

"I quite liked not having to be crowded in with other people"

"Barton Park green areas helped us greatly during Pandemic. We were trying to have at least some walk outside every day."

"My mum took us for walks about 5 times a week to the lovely forest behind us."

"So valuable having green space and wildlife around us, it should be protected"

"Green spaces suddenly became crowded and threatening to use- as more people started to use the limited local spaces. Increases in footfall damaged local green spaces- need more accessible green spaces"

"I used my allotment a lot more in lockdown, I felt so lucky to have a reason to escape and find peace"

A strong theme emerged around the importance of being able to access nature and green spaces during the pandemic with 60% of survey participants having spent time in nature and parks. Some people felt it was important to stay physically active with others feeling the benefit of green spaces supported their mental health and wellbeing. Many people reported being in nature was monumental in supporting their health and wellbeing and had created a legacy where they now prioritised spending more time outdoors post the COVID-19 pandemic. However, some residents felt green spaces became overcrowded and densely populated at times causing them to feel unsafe, and how not all green spaces were accessible to everyone.

6 Community priorities for improving the health and wellbeing of Barton

6.1 Community voices on priorities

6.1.1 Safety

"Walking my dog around Barton, I don't feel frightened in Barton like some people. I go up the lane (linear path) apart from at night time. I'm one of 4 sisters, lived on Barton since 1940's. It's more modern now, years ago we used to play on the streets, can't do that anymore as too much traffic and cars. We used to play whip and top, draw the hop scotches on the road. Them times were more fun compared to today, but it's understandable as times have changed."

6.1.2 Environment

"My grandpa used to pick up litter in Barton and carry a plastic bag with him at all times to collect litter, that's one of my biggest memories of growing up in Barton. I used to think it was embarrassing but now I wish more people were like that and cared about the environment. My daughter and grandkids are now involved in keeping Barton tidy, 7 and 10, they do the bulb planting each year and they pick up the rubbish on the street when they see it and put it in the bin."

6.1.3 Transport Services

"I have lived in Barton 62 years, the only thing I really like about Barton is being near the church, I can't go down the bottom of Barton now as I can't get there and the bus only goes one way. When I was younger I lived down there and I liked the area as it was nice and quiet, I got on with my neighbours."

6.1.4 Collaboration

This theme includes the importance of ensuring resident's views are taken into account, and this must be achieved in a way that is acceptable to them. It also includes the need for services and / or projects to work together to support each other for the benefit of residents.

Several of the focus groups felt it was very important to engage residents in the development of services, so they feel valued and invested in the services offered.

"Services that are designed by residents and people feel invested in. People need more support to feel a sense of belonging and that they are accepted."

Some groups expressed it is important how that engagement is achieved, making the residents feel supported in offering their views. This includes working at their pace, providing training, and not using jargon. The role of empowering residents to become volunteers and giving people a role in the community was identified as a sustainable goal for improving relationships and ensuring activities were able to run smoothly.

"Vital that residents/volunteers are allowed to operate at their pace and not a pace that is imposed on them. Burnout will come very quickly if pace isn't monitored. Don't overburden individuals. Make them feel valued and ask their opinion. Offer as much support as is needed as this will vary immensely from one resident to another. Important to get this one right as sometimes it's about what the volunteer gets out of it more than anything else"

All the organisations felt it is important for them to work together and collaborate to be able to address the needs of the community, although some groups expressed the need to improve partnership working and relationships between groups in Barton.

"We are always much better when we work together and the different groups/organisations collaborate."

"Working in partnership with other agencies and organisations is beneficial to all involved so this is a particularly good route to take"

At the Barton Bash consultation a resident commented:

"People feel left out of groups & services- not everyone feels welcome"

6.2 Challenges to consider

6.2.1 Cost-of-Living Crisis

Over the last few year's people, communities and public services have faced unimaginable and unprecedented challenges unseen in the UK for decades. From the pandemic to the current cost-of-living crisis, people have been through a lot, and this has had a huge impact on people's health and wellbeing. New research from mental health charity MIND (Feb 2022) has found that nearly 4 in 5 people (78%) say their mental health has been affected by the cost-of-living crisis. This is also impacting the decisions people are making about their day-to-day life such as whether to turn on their heating or feed their children a hot meal. 59% of people said they are cutting back on essentials because of the crisis. In Barton the impact of the cost-of-living crisis coupled with the after effect of COVID-19 is real and deep-rooted.

6.2.2 Provision of Health Services

The Oxfordshire JSNA (2022) shows local primary and secondary health services have experienced a significant increase in 111 calls and health appointments. Many preventative health services were halted in 2020 during the pandemic and this has had a long-term significant impact on patients waiting time for assessment and treatment. Mental health rates of diagnosis and treatment for both adults and children are continuing to increase. The latest ONS measures of personal wellbeing (2020-21) for Oxfordshire shows a decline in reported happiness and an increase in anxiety. In 2019-20 there was an 83% increase in referrals for children aged 0-9

years and a 58% increase in those aged 10-19 years to Oxford Health mental health services.

6.2.3 Sustainable Funding

Public and third sector organisations have experienced a dramatic reduction in core funding over the last decade from central government. The pandemic has placed additional pressure on local authorities and organisations due to loss of income and extra costs. Funding and how to allocate over-stretched resources is an increasingly significant challenge which has caused councils and other organisations to change the way they deliver services in order to deliver savings and efficiencies. This has additionally impacted the availability of grant funded programmes which are highly competitive and often offer short term funding solutions. This has had a knock on effect on programmes that are less focused on prevention and more often reactionary to focus on rising levels of demand.

6.3 Local opportunities

- **Locality Hub** - Despite all of these challenges, there are opportunities emerging to support those most vulnerable and at risk. The Oxford City Council Locality Hub in Barton, one of four across the city, supports residents with fuel and food poverty with the use of a Household Support Grant. In the period of September 2022 to March 2023 there have been 153 referrals in Oxford City. Residents who have needed support have said they are struggling to pay their gas and electricity bills, cover the cost of rent or mortgage payments and stock their fridges. The council have supported people with fuel vouchers, food bank and community larder referrals, and purchasing household items such as white goods, curtains, carpets, and air fryers which are considerably more economical to use than ovens.
- **Community groups and communal spaces** - Oxford City Council are supporting community groups locally through the use of a warm spaces government grant which enables organisations to apply for funds to cover the cost of fuel to increase their opening hours to the public and register as a warm space. In Barton a new warm spaces café initiative is being set up one day a week from the Neighbourhood Centre to give residents a place to stay warm and commune over a hot drink and bowl of soup. St Mary's church have started a new coffee morning and are working alongside the social prescribing team to signpost residents to their weekly drop-in group. The existing community larder café is also open once a week for members and Barton Community Church hold a monthly family day.
- **Existing partnerships and collaboration** - Community focused partnerships, based on open and valued relationships between groups and organisations in Barton is crucial to overcoming and addressing challenges going forward in a meaningful and sustainable manner. There are a number of existing partnerships and meetings that take place in Barton with a wide range of stakeholders actively engaged, it is important for groups to maintain strong communication amongst each other, aligning values and priorities despite the day-to-day pressures around resourcing and capacity.

7 Summary and recommendations

7.1 Forward planning on recommendations

7.1.1 New models of care

The provision of accessible health services plays a vital role in supporting the health and wellbeing of people. New models of care have been developed such as the role of the social prescribing team who can identify and refer patients to targeted interventions in the community. However, issues around limited capacity and resources, high staff turnover and retention issues, impact on social prescribers' ability to stay up to date with community activities and provide the level of support some people need to access wider community services. There is a need for **more resources to support social prescribing** in Barton. A possible solution could be **developing the role of a link worker** who acts as a community connector to support patients to overcome barriers to accessing community activities and groups, allowing social prescribers and community groups to work together holistically to improve the health and wellbeing of Barton residents.

7.1.2 Built and physical environment

The built and physical environment supports health and wellbeing through place making approaches and the design of community facilities. The installation of the new public art spaces such as the Barton Park Wellbeing Garden and the Barton Art wall are good examples of how small changes to the built environment can reduce health inequalities and increase community participation. However, these assets alone cannot change health trends without the provision of **long-term funding for a range of community programmes that engage and activate the community** to use and maintain these areas.

Coordination of **community litter picks and more bins around green spaces** will help reduce fly tipping and littering and generate a sense of pride in the local area.

There is also a need for **communal spaces to ensure everyone feels welcome** to attend. Existing community facilities in Barton and Barton Park should **offer activities and groups that meet the needs of the community** and are accessible to everyone to support the health and wellbeing of residents. This is not possible without long term funding. Community groups need to be able to sustain programmes and use their time more efficiently, reducing time spent on short term funding applications.

7.1.3 Community activation and cohesion

Encouraging healthy behaviours relies on community activation. Although there is a diverse community offer in Barton with a wide range of activities, **having a space that residents can use to meet informally**, at a time of their choosing could address several of the themes that arose in the community insight findings such as issues to do with cohesion. This would provide an opportunity for socialising and accessing information about the range of services, activities and events happening in Barton. The previous community café (Eatwells) was referenced many times, both as

a meeting space and for the subsidised costs. A similar community café could also be used as an **opportunity for community volunteering across age groups**. This could address some of the issues raised around people's perception of crime and safety in Barton and help to **build relationships between different groups of people**. Similarly, **community events** are important to bring people together.

Communication was identified as one of the challenges community groups experience in reaching the wider community. Online promotion and the use of community noticeboards cannot be used in isolation. Residents reported mourning the loss of the “*Hands on News*” which was previously delivered to all households in Barton. **A new community newsletter** would support people to stay up-to-date with what is going on locally and could further support community cohesion by involving volunteers in the delivery.

7.1.4 Collaboration and co- production

Partnership working and collaboration between community groups, services and residents is vital to reduce the duplication of activities and ensure opportunities are not missed for residents to receive support. There are a number of existing partnerships and meetings in Barton with stakeholders regularly sharing information with each other. However, these forums could be used to **explore the development of joint funding bids** which could help organisations apply for larger grants that provide longer term and more sustainable solutions for activities and services. For any service development **residents should be fully involved in co-producing the plans** to ensure the services meet the needs of the community and create a sense of community ownership and investment. This includes **targeted engagement with young people** to ensure their voices are heard about what is important to them and the activities and facilities available.

7.1.5 Active travel

Walking was identified as the most used form of transport with cycling additionally being a popular choice. **Initiatives to further support residents** to choose environmentally friendly transport choices should be explored such as a bike loan scheme / library and walking groups such as the Barton Health Walk. The bus service appears to be limiting access to community activities, depending on the location of the activity and which part of Barton the resident lives in. This has resulted in unequal access to activities and the ability to engage with the community. **Opportunities to have a two-way bus service should be explored.**

8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 Research questions

8.1.1 Barton Bash engagement questions

1. What do you like about living in Barton?
2. How do you look after yourself?
3. What groups, services and organisations do you know of or use in Barton?
4. What spaces/ places do you use in Barton? What do you think about the places and spaces around Barton?
5. If you had a bit of money how would you spend it on Barton?
6. Are you able to access affordable and healthy food options living in Barton?
7. What was your experience of COVID-19 as a resident of Barton?

8.1.2 Online Survey questions

Barton Community Insight survey – Summary of questions

The purpose of this survey is to gather community insight about the experiences of people living in Barton and Barton Park in relation to their Health and Wellbeing. The findings of this survey will be anonymised and will be part of a publicly available document on the county council website when the report is published. The details you provide in this form will be held by Oxford City Council in order to support work on the Barton community insight profile. Information will be shared with Oxfordshire County Council Public Health, however your personal details will not be shared with any third parties and will not be used for marketing. We comply with the Data Protection Act and the General Data Protection Regulation. For more information, please email iocarroll@oxford.gov.uk or visit www.oxford.gov.uk/privacy and www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/about-website/privacy-notice

1. What gender are you:
2. Please select the category that includes your age range:
3. Please tick the ethnicity you most identify with:
4. Please tick which of the following applies to you:
 - Employed
 - Self Employed
 - Unemployed
 - Student
 - Parent/ carer
 - Retired
5. Do you access benefits?
 - Yes
 - No
6. Which area do you live in:
 - Barton
 - Barton Park
 - Other
 - Other (please specify)

7. What do you like about living here?
8. Overall how satisfied are you with your area as a place to live?
9. What groups, services and organisations do you know of in Barton and Barton Park?
10. Please tick the following statements that you agree with:
 - I feel I can personally influence decisions in my local area
 - I feel involved in the decision making in my area
 - I feel my views are listened to when asked about my local area
 - I participate in community consultations about my area
 - I know where to get information about my local area
 - I feel I am part of the local community
 - None of the above
11. On a typical day what mode of transport do you use most often? Please tick:
 - Bus
 - Walking
 - Taxi
 - Bicycle
 - Car
 - Train
 - Motorbike/ Moped
 - E-scooter
 - Other
12. Do you find it easy to get in and around Barton and/or Barton Park?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Please tell us more
13. What spaces and places do you use in Barton and/or Barton Park? (E.g. green spaces, buildings, leisure centre, shops, neighbourhood centre, GP surgery, sports pavilion etc.)
14. What do you think about the places and spaces in Barton and Barton Park?
15. Do you feel safe in your neighbourhood?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Please tell us more:
16. How satisfied do you feel with your housing? (*scale*)
17. Please select the following statements you agree with:
 - I have the skills and/or qualifications to find employment
 - There are local opportunities to learn new skills and/or gain qualifications
 - I feel able to access local opportunities to learn new skills and/or gain qualifications
 - None of the above
 - Other (please specify)
18. Would you consider yourself healthy?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Please tell us more:

19. How do you look after yourself? (Physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually)
20. What barriers have you experienced in looking after yourself? (Please tick all that apply to you)
- Cost and affordability
 - Job security
 - Good quality, affordable housing
 - Healthy and affordable food
 - Transport
 - Access to the internet
 - Health condition (physical and/or mental)
 - Childcare
 - Other
 - None of the above
 - Other (please specify)
21. What would improve the health and wellbeing of people in Barton and Barton Park?
22. Please tick the following statements you agree with:
- I can access affordable and healthy food options
 - I and/or my family maintain healthy habits around food and eating
 - I would value information and support about healthy food and eating habits
 - None of the above
 - Please tell us more:
23. Do you notice people smoking around you?
- Yes
 - No
24. If yes, where do they smoke?
- Home
 - School gate areas
 - Parks
 - Shops
 - Bus stops
 - Other
 - Other (please specify)
25. Do you notice alcoholic drink litter or activity in your area?
- Yes
 - No
26. If yes where have you noticed alcoholic drink litter/ activity?
- Home
 - School gate areas
 - Parks
 - Shops
 - Bus stops
 - Other
 - Other (please specify)
27. Do you notice any litter or activity associated with drug taking?
- Yes

- No
28. If yes where have you noticed drug litter/ activity?
- Home
 - School gate areas
 - Parks
 - Shops
 - Bus stops
 - Other (please specify)
 - Other (please specify)
29. What was your experience of COVID-19? Please tick the statements you agree with:
- Felt well supported
 - Experienced isolation and loneliness
 - Experienced decline in health
 - Experienced improvement in health
 - Was able to access nature and green spaces
 - Was able to access services
 - Please tell us more:
30. Please tick whether you experienced any of the following during the pandemic?
- Furlough
 - Working from home
 - Out of work
 - Key worker
 - Home schooling
 - Volunteering/ community champions programme
 - None of the above
31. Which of the following statements do you agree with? Please tick:
- I feel lonely all the time
 - I feel lonely most of the time
 - I feel lonely sometimes
 - I rarely feel lonely
 - None of the above

Any other comments you would like to make:

Thank you for filling out this form....

If you would like further information to support your health and wellbeing please visit Live Well Oxfordshire <https://livewell.oxfordshire.gov.uk> to find services near you.

The completed profile will be available on the county council website

<https://insight.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/community-insight-profiles>

8.2 Appendix 2 Focus Group thematic analysis

Thematic Analysis of Barton Focus Groups, reviewing the experience of living in Barton, in relation to health and wellbeing of the residents.

Methodology

Focus groups have been held during late 2022 with four organisations:

St. Marys Church
Barton Community Association
Barton Growers
Hedena Health

The transcripts from these meetings have been reviewed using thematic analysis, identifying the themes in the results to help us understand more about the issue. I used the Braun and Clarks 6 step framework⁶ to provide a systematic approach to analysis the qualitative data. This methodology notes there are two levels of themes – semantic themes which are explicit, and latent themes which are the underlying reasons which are driving the data. The majority of the analysis in this paper is looking at semantic themes, but when mixed with the survey and other intelligence, this can be further informed by the latent themes.

This method involves coding the data, and then collecting the codes into themes to provide the results. The codes can be generated using a theoretical analysis, where code choice is influenced by the research question, or by an indicative analysis, where the choice of codes if driven by the data itself. I used a theoretical analysis approach for this process. The steps to this analysis are briefly described during this report.

⁶ Virginia Braun & Victoria Clarke (2006) Using thematic analysis in psychology, *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3:2, 77-101
<https://doi.org/10.1191/1478088706qp0630a>

Research question:

What is the experience of living in Barton, in relation to health and wellbeing of the residents?

Sub question :

What are the enablers, and challenges to health and wellbeing in Barton?

Step 1:

Becoming familiar with the data.

Before commencing with the coding I reviewed all the transcripts in detail and also reviewed a sample of the wider data in this study from the survey.

Initial thoughts from reading the summaries from focus groups

- Limited funding affecting ability to run the services needed – some started then ceased, others seen in other areas, but not here. Limited NHS services.
- Concerns about lack of social space the residents are willing to use.
- People congregating by shops perceived as intimidations
- Listen to and value different view points
- Environment - green spaces
- Cost of living an issues, people living in poor accommodation conditions

Step 2: Coding

Comments from the four focus groups have been categorised into codes, which have then been generated into themes. I have used **open coding**, as I generated the codes and constantly amended these as I worked through the texts. The categories can be seen in the excel spreadsheet, along with the relevant sections of text which I felt were addressing the research question.

The codes generated are shown below, along with a count of how frequently the code was used.

Codes	Count of code
feeling frightened / intimidated in the community	9
Need increased access to lifestyle services that support HWB	9
access to space the community can access / meet in	6
desire to work collaboratively to improve residents experience	6
Maintain access to green spaces and outdoors	5
need improved access to NHS / social care services	5
access to activities / networks for the community	4
cost of living affecting residents	4

ensure activities / services at accessible time and location	4
everyone needs access to healthy food	4
must value residents opinion / /support	4
need more funding to support community projects	4
problems with social isolation / MH	4
targeted community groups are helpful	4
projects / services not reliable / long term	3
allow residents / volunteers to use their skills	3
bus transport only one way - inconvenient	3
support between residents for each other	3
projects / services must be sustainable	2
Bad reputation of Barton	2
can't recruit to service roles	2
COVID activity	2
perceived stigma between resident groups	2
relationship between residents and organisations	2
access to activities for the community	1
allow residents / volunteers to support / work at own pace	1
care for the local environment	1
community events engage people	1
COVID impact	1
don't rely on internet to communicate	1
frustration at lack of services	1
fundraising essential	1
intergenerational engagement in activities	1
need to communicate available services, via all media routes	1
services stopped after COVID	1

Step 3 and 4: Searching for and reviewing themes

The codes have been categorised into themes, which have been generated using a top down / thematic analysis, analysing the response in relation to the research question. I have refined these further to avoid crossover between the themes. In particular I originally had two themes for accessibility of services and availability but brought these together. Also, I had two themes for collaboration and engaging the community, but I felt this theme worked better as an overarching approach to collaboration.

The final list of themes is below.

Accessibility of services

- projects / services must be sustainable
- projects / services not reliable / long term

- access to activities for the community
- bus transport only one way - inconvenient
- can't recruit to service roles
- don't rely on internet to communicate
- ensure activities / services at accessible time and location
- frustration at lack of services
- fundraising essential
- need improved access to NHS / social care services
- Need increased access to lifestyle services that support HWB
- need more funding to support community projects
- need to communicate available services, via all media routes
- services stopped after COVID
- targeted community groups are helpful

Collaboration

- allow residents / volunteers to support / work at own pace
- allow residents / volunteers to use their skills
- community events engage people
- desire to work collaboratively to improve residents experience
- intergenerational engagement in activities
- must value residents opinion / support
- relationship between residents and organisations
- support between residents for each other

Community spaces

- access to activities / networks for the community
- access to space the community can access / meet in
- care for the local environment
- problems with social isolation / MH

Cost of living impact

- cost of living affecting residents
- everyone needs access to healthy food

Green spaces

- Maintain access to green spaces and outdoors

Misc

- COVID activity
- COVID impact

Safety in the community

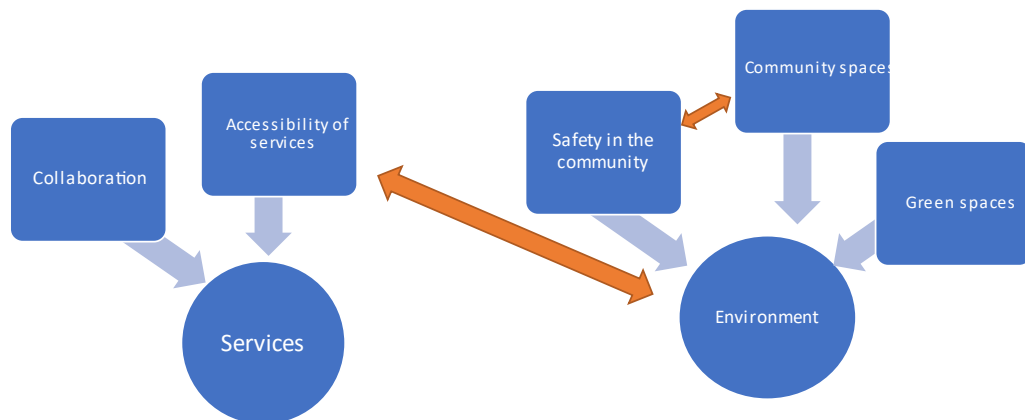
- Bad reputation of Barton
- feeling frightened / intimidated in the community
- perceived stigma between resident groups

Step 5: Define the Themes

The themes which emerged have an interplay with each other, which I have depicted below. I have not covered the impact of COVID-19 in this analysis as there was limited information on this, asked of only one group.

These are described and defined in each section in the discussion.

Barton focus group themes



The themes from this analysis were categorised into either services or environment, to address the research question

What is the experience of living in Barton, in relation to health and wellbeing of the residents.

Step 6 – Write up / discussion

The **ENVIRONMENT** category covers residents' experiences of where they live and their desires to improve it. Under this are the following themes:

Green spaces:

The focus groups discussed the surrounding countryside round Barton and the benefits this brings to living in Barton. This is clearly a well valued resource for local residents and gives them the opportunity to engage with nature without having to use transport to get there.

Lots of fresh air in Barton, walking and getting out is good for me. Almost feel I'm in the country and far away from the roads.

There was also reference to the Linear Path, which is reportedly a well-used walking route.

Community spaces

This theme refers to built spaces which residents can access to meet at informally or attend events, as well as community groups and activities which they can access.

[Participant] made reference to the need for buildings or spaces in buildings which residents can meet in, both informally and formally for activities. [Participant] referenced some fundraising they are doing to be able to provide this space, whilst [Participant] referred to the loss of a café they used to meet up in after classes. This informal gathering provided an opportunity to socialise, and the lack of a venue has prevented this. One quoted:

It's a shame that Eatwells has not reopened, we liked having a place to meet that was neutral. After the exercise groups we would eat together and it was always packed.

The lack of a venue to meet up was also linked to safety, as groups of people congregate outside the shops, making it intimidating for other residents to walk through. [Participant] quoted:

People avoid the shops because of particular individuals challenging people and making comments. Some type of provision needed to meet social gathering needs- there is nowhere for people to go. Pubs and social clubs have closed and now lots of middle-aged men are ousted on to the streets

The community spaces are not just physical venues, but also groups and activities that people can attend to socialise with local residents. There are some good examples of this, for example with the gardening club. The churches are recognised as both a physical venue and an organiser of community groups which are welcoming to all. There was one reference to a Church providing a grotto, as others were too expensive to access:

Barton Community Church are doing their own grotto and that sort of thing is so important to help support families.

Equally the community larder falls into this category, and the community recognise the value of using this as a meeting point. [Participant] quoted:

The community larder- it's not just about getting food it's also about meeting lots of new people. The café you can get a free cuppa and cake and that's always nice. I've had amazing conversations and made new friends.

The focus groups recognised the link between access to groups like this to reduce the feeling of isolation and the impact that has on improving mental health.

Safety in the community

This theme draws together how people feel in the Barton Community and their perceptions of how they are accepted, personally and as a community.

The focus groups discussed the feeling of being intimidated in certain places in the community, particularly around shops where people congregate. A summary of comments is provided below:

There are certain young people in Barton that are out of control, we can't pretend as we all know who they are and it needs to be addressed. They have no respect for anyone they were laughing at me and throwing things at me one day when I was on my mobility scooter.

Outside the shops is such a negative area, people congregate and smoke, drink alcohol. People avoid the shops because of particular individuals challenging people and making comments.

There were several comments about the perception of Barton as a community, with a feeling that there is a stigma for living in Barton. It was felt that this prevents people wanting to attend any community activities, and that people generally focus on the negative aspects of living there. However, there was also a positive view, that [a respondents] allotments had never been vandalised despite people thinking they would be.

The impact of poor street maintenance was raised, affecting both how respondents feel about the area and their safety:

In the alleyways in Barton there are no lights and they're not cleaned. It's slippery with the leaves, and in the summer, they don't get cut the bushes back and the grass gets so long it doesn't feel nice.

There was also a feeling expressed that some groups of people are stigmatised. It is not clear who these groups are;

Sometimes people feel a massive divide, some people are accepted in to the neighbourhood centre and some aren't

The **SERVICES** category covers residents experience of the services that are available in the community. There are two themes:

Accessibility of services

This theme covers the availability of a service to residents, including the capacity and consistency of service delivery, affected by the ability to recruit staff and by funding. It also covers the location and timing of services which affect a resident's ability to access it, and the transport links. The resident's knowledge of the service is also included, relating to the promotion of available services.

One strong message that came across was about the sustainability of services, which need to be reliable and consistent if they are going to be effective at engaging the residents. This is strongly linked to short term funding, and there was a plea to address this.

*The biggest challenge for us is our income stream.
Without a solid income we are not able to operate or offer
anything to our community.*

The focus groups referenced lifestyle services that are available in other areas, and the desire to have these here. For example, they asked why there is no slimming club in Barton. There was also reference to services that have previously been provided but now stopped. In particular references were made to food related clubs:

*Where are the healthy cookery sessions for families?
These used to take place at the Centre and were always
very well attended*

*BCA used to do breakfast club and that was so good and
needed for families.*

There was also reference to some services being oversubscribed, and more funding would be required to address this:

*The Barton Art in Nature art classes- amazing opportunity
but we need more spaces as it filled up so quickly.*

Some of the services being used were well appreciated, and there was a feeling that targeted activities for different groups of people (e.g. teenagers) are helpful.

There was also strong feedback about the accessibility of services. Some of this was in relation to advertising, and the acknowledgement that not everyone can access the internet, particularly during the cost-of-living crisis. The timing and cost of activities must make the activities accessible. There were several comments about the bus service and general accessibility of transport. The buses only travel one way through Barton therefore some residents feel this prevents them accessing activities.

*Why can't half the buses go the other way, why do they
all go one way? The people on the right side can't get to
the left side without going to Headington and coming
back on themselves. So many people would benefit from
having buses going two directions through Barton. There
are people who don't go to the community centre
because they can't get there, or to the shops.*

*Transport is a huge issue- bus routes don't serve the
whole community.*

There was a feeling that there are not enough NHS and social care services to support residents, and residents can find it difficult to get an appointment. This is particularly in relation to mental health services.

Collaboration

This theme includes the importance of ensuring resident's views are taken into account, and this must be achieved in a way that is acceptable to them. It also

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includes the need for services and / or projects to work together to support each other for the benefit of residents.

Several of the focus groups felt it was very important to engage residents in the development of services, so they feel valued and invested in the services offered.

Services that are designed by residents and people feel invested in. People need more support to feel a sense of belonging and that they are accepted.

Participants expressed that it is important how that engagement is achieved, making the residents feel supported in offering their views. This includes working at their pace, providing training, and not using jargon.

All the organisations felt it is important for them to work together and collaborate to be able to address the needs of the community.

We are always much better when we work together and the different groups/organisations collaborate.

It was felt that organisations are working in silos and need to strengthen relationships.

It was felt that there is also a community spirit of support between residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the themes that have arisen from this analysis, the following recommendations could be considered to address the challenges to health and wellbeing whilst living in Barton

Community cohesion - volunteering

It would be helpful to address the perceived and stated safety concerns regarding groups of people congregating outside the shops. One way of achieving this is by actively engaging this group in the community, increasing their relationships with other residents and build bridges across the ages groups. If there was a community café there could be an opportunity to volunteer in this setting, which by nature of the role would facilitate relationship building.

For any service development residents should be fully involved in co-producing the plans to ensure the services meet the needs of community

Provision of informal community spaces

Having a space that residents can use to meet informally, at a time of their choosing could address several of the themes that arose from the focus groups. This would provide an opportunity for socialising, either as a reason to come into the town centre, or as an extension to a visit for another reason.

The previous café (Eatwells) was referenced a few times, both as a meeting space and the fact that it was subsidised. If a similar outlet was available, this could also be used as an opportunity for community volunteering across the age groups.

Community spaces do not need to be in the built environment. The gardening club and community larder seem to be recognised as opportunities for socialising.

Continue to develop these groups and consider how they can expand to continue to support community cohesion, for example making them welcoming to all ages.

Transport

The bus service appears to be limiting access to community activities, depending on the location of the activity and which part of Barton the resident lives in. This has resulted in unequal access to activities and the ability to engage with the community. Opportunities to have a two-way bus service should be explored.

Communications

Some focus groups reported that not all residents have access to the internet, and alternative routes of communication need to be used to ensure residents are aware of community activities. One solution is to review the location of noticeboards, taking into account the difficulty with access the town centre for some people. Also, a news letter could be used for advertising, and could further support community cohesion by involving volunteers in the delivery.

Sustainable funding

Many of these ideas are not possible without sustainable funding, so both the providers and residents are assured that the service is worth investing time into. There are many different activities looking for funding, and the first step should be to prioritise what the community would find most helpful to be addressed. Then continue to seek funding, using the community profile to support applications.

8.3 Appendix 3 Free and Low-cost activities available in Barton

Figure 9: Free or low-cost activities available in Barton (Dec 2022)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Coffee & Crafts 10.30-13.00 St Mary's Church	BCA Stay & Play (under 5's) 9.30-11.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Early Years group (under 5's) Term time only 9.30-10.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Women of the World (WOW) Space 10.00-14.00 Barton Community Church	Basketball (Under 18's) Time tbc Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Body Toning (£5 for 4 sessions) 9.30-10.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Basketball (Under 18's) 9.30-11.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre
Zumba Gold (£5 for 4 sessions) 11.00-12.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Hear 4 You Listening Service 9.00-12.30 (referral only) Barton Community Church	Creative Writing 10.00-13.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Silk Screen Printing 10.00-12.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Men's Football Social (£2) 20.00-21.00 Barton Park Pavilion	Family Zumba 11.30-12.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	
CEF Food Bank 12.00-14.00 Barton Community Church	Jigsaw SEN parent support 10.00-12.00 (3 rd Tue of the month) Barton Park Primary school	Cooking on a budget 10.00-12.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Ruskin Routes 12.00-15.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Family Activity Sessions (Boxing) 16.00-17.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre		
Yoga 13.30-14.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Breastfeeding Support 10.00-12.00 (referral only) Barton Neighbourhood Centre	CEF Food Bank 12.00-14.00 Barton Community Church	Lino Card Printing 13.00-15.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre			
BCA Art Club (6-11yrs) 15.45-17.15 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	St Mary's Gardening Group 10.00-12.00 St Mary's Church	Umbrella Club 13.00-15.00 (men only) Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Barton Health Walk 14.00-15.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre			
Know Your Worth Girls group (referral only) 19.00-20.30 Barton Community Church	Chair Yoga (£5 for 4 sessions) 10.00-11.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Dementia Café 14.30-16.30 (Only 1st Wed of the month) Barton Community Church	BCA Youth Club 16.00-17.30 (8-11yrs) Barton Neighbourhood Centre			
Line Dancing (£5 for 4 sessions) 18.30-19.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Beauty on a Budget 12.30-14.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Family Activity Sessions (boxing) 15.45-16.45 (4-10yrs) Barton Park school	Strong Stance Programme (boxing) 18.00-19.00 (11-17yrs) (referral only) Barton Neighbourhood Centre			
Man V Fat football 19.00-21.00 (men & referral only) Barton Park Pavilion	Community Larder (members only) 10.00-12.00/ 14.00-19.00 Larder Café 14.00-16.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	BCA Fun 2 Learn Club 15.45-17.15 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Morning After Drama 16.30-18.00 (12-18yrs) Barton Neighbourhood Centre			
	Legs Bums & Tums (£5 for 4 sessions) 18.30-19.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Salsa (£5 for 4 weeks) 18.30-19.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	BCA Youth Club 18.00-19.30 (12-16yrs) Barton Neighbourhood Centre			
	English for Daily Life (ESOL) 19.00-21.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Dance & Movement 19.00-20.00 Barton Neighbourhood Centre	Zumba (£5 for 4 sessions) 18.30-19.30 Barton Neighbourhood Centre			

8.4 Appendix 4 – Results from the Common Place Survey

A survey was conducted over the Summer in 2022 by Oxford City Council and Thames Valley police around resident's feelings of safety in Barton, the following is a summary of the results that relate to the themes emerging from the community insight for Barton.

- 72% of people said they did not feel safe at a location in Barton. A high proportionate of these comments are linked to Underhill Circus. This is an issue considering Underhill Circus is a vital community hub hosting various local amenities including community centre, pharmacy, play park and shops.
- Top 3 things that make people feel safe at Underhill Circus:
 - Sense of community
 - Well used by the public
 - There are people willing to help
- Top 5 reasons people feel unsafe at Underhill Circus
 - Regular anti-social behaviour
 - Groups regularly loiter here
 - On Street drinking
 - Witness drug activity
 - Lack of CCTV
- Top 5 ways a specific location could be improved
 - Public Space CCTV
 - Increased physical security measures
 - More or improved lighting
 - Increased amount of activities for Young People
 - Increase community involvement