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Respondent Report 2004
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## Living in Newham

Thank-you for helping us with the Living In Newham survey last year. The information you gave us is extremely important and will be used when formulating local policies that will make Newham a place people want to live, work and stay. This short report gives just a few findings from the survey. We hope you find it of interest and will continue to support the survey again this year.

## Health in Newham

The Living in Newham survey asked about how you feel your health has been over the last year. Women in the Living In Newham survey were more likely say they had some type of health problem than men in the survey. When we asked about chronic illness $44 \%$ of men and $55 \%$ of women told us they have some form of health problem. Women were also more likely than men to rate their general health in the past year as 'poor'.

$30 \%$ of men in Newham smoke compared to $21 \%$ of women

The survey also asked about smoking cigarettes as this has been linked to many health concerns and found that $30 \%$ of men were smokers compared to $21 \%$ of women. We also asked how much your health limits the type of things you can do. Women were more likely than men to say that their health limited their daily activities and also that their health limited the type of work they could do.

When considering the use you make of primary health care services such as GPs and hospitals, you told us that more women (30\%) than men (18\%) make more than six visits to their GP in a year. Men (7\%) make more visits to a hospital outpatients than women (6\%) although more women (9\%) had been an in-patient at a hospital in the past year than men (7\%).

Almost all parents think it is important for their children to get GCSE and A level exams

## Parents and Children

Last year we asked some questions about the relationship parents have with their children and the hopes they had for them in the future. One of the main areas of concern for parents is making sure their children get a good education and gain some qualifications to help them in later life. In general parents attached a high level of importance to their children's education and the majority were keen to see them do well at school.

We asked parents how important they thought it was for their children to complete GCSE and A level examinations. Considering the responses for eldest children only, almost all parents (99\%) thought that getting GCSE exams was important or very important for their child. When we asked about completing ' A ' level exams the percentage of parents who thought it was important or very important to get these fell only slightly to just over $97 \%$. In both cases there was little difference between the importance parents attached to their boys and girls completing their school-level education.

We found that $64 \%$ of parents said they helped their eldest child with their school homework 'almost everyday' or 'at least once a week' while $12 \%$ said that they help once a month or less. However $24 \%$ of parents said that they 'never or hardly ever' helped their eldest child with their home work.

Parents were generally satisfied with the school their child attended with over $84 \%$ saying they were either satisfied (28\%) or very satisfied (56\%) with the school. On the other hand $15 \%$ of parents were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the school the child attended.


We also asked parents whether they would like to see their child go to university or college and over $90 \%$ of parents said they would like to see them go on to further or higher education when they finished school. When asked whether they thought their children would attend university or college, parents were more likely to say that sons would go to university or college than daughters. Just over $91 \%$ thought their sons would definitely or probably go on to further study compared to $86 \%$ of daughters.

## Keeping in Touch

Many thanks for taking part in the Living in Newham survey. Your participation is greatly valued and we do hope you continue with us in the future.

We are always pleased to hear from you and welcome any comments you may have about the survey or our research.

If you need to contact us or have any queries about any aspect of the survey, please call us on Freephone 0800252853.

Or you can write to the address below.

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Language box here

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