Women's Safety Survey 2024

We regularly ask women and girls across Camden to share their experiences and concerns around safety, so that we can keep making improvements to help keep women and girls safe in Camden.

Women's Safety Survey - November 2022 to January 2023

Last year, we conducted our second Women's Safety Survey. The survey ran from 6 July to 7 October 2024 and was promoted via a range of communication channels.

We worked closely with organisations including Camden Voices Against Abuse and Change Grow Live, who helped inform the survey questions.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our survey, we received a total of 272 responses, an increase of almost double from our last survey. Your feedback has been valuable in helping us inform our plans to help keep women and girls safe in Camden.

Key Findings:

- Respondents typically felt safer in the day when compared to after dark where **72% felt unsafe or very unsafe.**
- We asked respondents if they had experienced or witnessed abuse or harassment:
 - 64% have experienced harassment or abuse in Camden.
 - 81% said they have witnessed.
 - Catcalling, intrusive staring of a sexual nature and sexually suggestive comments were most common.
- Of the 64% of respondents who had experienced harassment or abuse, **47% did not report as –** *incidents were too common and normalised, individuals unaware of where to report to, lack of confidence in outcomes.*
- Key things people do to keep safe at night include:
 - Choosing not to go out at night
 - Opting for well-lit routes and main roads
 - Avoiding certain areas due to fear
- 72% were familiar with the Ask for Angela scheme.
- 85% of respondents believe Camden should introduce a Public Space Protection Order to allow police and council officer to enforce against street-based harassment.

Views of respondents

We asked how can men help tackle misogyny or abuse?

- Education and campaigns led by men
- Intervening or challenging other males when observing misogyny or abusive behaviour particularly when it involves friends, family or colleagues
- Calling out misogynistic behaviour on social media as it can be easier to ignore

We asked what changes could Camden do to help improve women's safety?

- Officers or safe spaces near bars, pubs and clubs
- Increasing street lighting and CCTV
- Increase police visibility
- Reporting information to be more visible around Camden
- Support businesses to get security trained on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), the impact and how to intervene
- Manage rough sleeping and associated antisocial behaviour in locations such as the canal towpath or subway underpass
- Tackle phone snatches which have a big impact on the perception of safety in Camden

Recommendations:

- Increase the number of businesses recognised as safe havens, especially those operating at night
- Increase awareness of the Camden Safety Bus and expand its reach.
- Support businesses to ensure all staff are trained in "Ask for Angela"
- Explore options for bystander training for the public and within secondary schools and further education
- Focus on drug and begging hotspots and their connection to VAWG
- Raise public awareness of VAWG in criminal law, including harassment types, reporting methods and legal consequences.