

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Date: 27 March 2026

Subject: #BeeWell Headlines Report

Report of: Councillor Mark Roberts, Portfolio Lead for Children and Young People.
and Michael Cullen Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Children and Young People.

Purpose of Report

Over the last five academic years #BeeWell has listened to 143,000 young people in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 across Greater Manchester (GM) from 210 secondary schools on their wellbeing. This report outlines the key findings of the 2025 survey results, ahead of publication in late March 2026, and provides an overview of next steps.

Recommendations:

The GMCA is requested to:

1. Listen to the key findings of the 2025 #BeeWell survey results and engage young people in developing plans for response.
2. Act on what the data is telling us and support the #BeeWell mission to make young people's wellbeing everybody's business and deliver our central aim within the GMS for all children & young people to thrive.
3. Celebrate your commitment to improving young people's wellbeing, and share stories of impact and influence with beewell@manchester.ac.uk to ensure we can share information with young people completing the survey.

Contact Officers

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Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

Recommendation - Key points for decision-makers		
Insert text		
Impacts Questionnaire		
Impact Indicator	Result	Justification/Mitigation
Equality and Inclusion	G	<p>#BeeWell highlights inequalities in the experiences of young people by protected characteristic, including self-identified gender, SEN status and sexual orientation. From the last 5 years of the programme it's clear there is an appetite to reduce these disparities (particularly in the long term) but requires further understanding of local action taken. #BeeWell publishes data and information on a neighbourhood level, to support community response to young people's wellbeing.</p> <p>#BeeWell highlights inequalities in the experiences of young people by protected characteristic, including self-identified gender, SEN status and sexual orientation. From the last 5 years of the programme it's clear there is an appetite to reduce these disparities (particularly in the long term) but requires further understanding of local action taken. #BeeWell publishes data and information on a neighbourhood level, to support community response to young people's wellbeing.</p> <p>#BeeWell publishes data and information on a neighbourhood level, to support community response to young people's wellbeing.</p> <p>#BeeWell Youth Steering Group highlighted the importance of community support and the impact on their wellbeing and reducing loneliness.</p>
Health	G	<p>#BeeWell seeks to publish data on all aspects of young people's wellbeing and health, to enable partners and the GM system to make positive change as a result. This includes questions on physical health, activity, nutrition and more. #BeeWell works with it's Coalition of Partners and colleagues in the health sector to ensure the results and shared and acted upon.</p> <p>#BeeWell seeks to work with colleagues in health to display the need for work in different neighbourhoods in Greater Manchester, but to also show the benefit of preventative, wellbeing work for young people's mental health. Questions on mental health include psychological wellbeing, and emotional difficulties. The psychological wellbeing scores (for year 10 pupils) has been adopted as a key indicator within the Greater Manchester Strategy.</p> <p>In the #BeeWell survey, young people are asked how much physical activity they have done per week. Last years key headline focussed on girls levels of physical activity which remain lower than that of boys in 2025, but led to significant work with colleagues across GM Active, GM Moving, young people in youth services and additional research.</p> <p>#BeeWell asks young people questions about how often young people feel lonely, selected as a headline by young people this year as something important to them. Young People shared the importance of community support and good places to go in their community, important messaging for our Live Well work. The data has been analysed by the University of Manchester team in an evidence briefing, finding a strong relationship between young people's peer to peer relationships and loneliness, and #BeeWell will make the case for our partners to act in response to this finding and encourage preventative action to support mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The 2024 and 2025 survey identified that only one in ten young people are consuming five portions of fruit and vegetables a day. Alongside this, one in ten also report the food in their house didn't last and there wasn't enough money to buy more, most days.</p> <p>#BeeWell will continue to share this data and amplify the messages from youth led campaigns, recipe books and cookery videos to improve this data.</p>
Resilience and Adaptation		
Housing		
Economy		
Mobility and Connectivity		
Carbon, Nature and Environment		
Consumption and Production		
Contribution to achieving the GM Carbon Neutral 2038 target	Not applicable	
Further Assessment(s):	Equalities Impact Assessment	
G	A	R
Positive impacts overall, whether long or short term.	Mix of positive and negative impacts. Trade-offs to consider.	Mostly negative, with at least one positive aspect. Trade-offs to consider.
		RR
		Negative impacts overall.

Carbon Assessment

Overall Score				
Buildings	Result	Justification/Mitigation		
New Build residential	N/A			
Residential building(s) renovation/maintenance	N/A			
New build non-residential (including public) buildings	N/A			
Transport				
Active travel and public transport	N/A			
Roads, Parking and Vehicle Access	N/A			
Access to amenities	N/A			
Vehicle procurement	N/A			
Land Use				
Land use	N/A			
No associated carbon impacts expected.	High standard in terms of practice and awareness on carbon.	Mostly best practice with a good level of awareness on carbon.	Partially meets best practice/ awareness, significant room to improve.	Not best practice and/ or insufficient awareness of carbon impacts.

Risk Management

N/A

Legal Considerations

N/A

Financial Consequences – Revenue

N/A

Financial Consequences – Capital

N/A

Number of attachments to the report: ?

Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee

N/A

Background Papers

[2024 #BeeWell Headline Report](#)

Tracking/ Process

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution

No

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency?

N/A

Bee Network Committee

N/A

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

N/A

1. Introduction

- 1.1. #BeeWell has a central role in our Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) ambitions in ensuring all young people are thriving. The survey provides unique insights into how young people are feeling about their community, their school, the future and their relationships, by the neighbourhood they live in, and enables us to track changes over time and observe inequalities by demographic characteristics.
- 1.2. This report aims to outline the trends observed in the 2025 survey and highlight areas of focus required to improve the experiences of cohorts of young people, which can be achieved through the GMS delivery plan.
 - 1.2.1. The #BeeWell survey provides the measurement of psychological wellbeing, a key metric we're tracking in our everyday support in every community mission to ensure all young people have the opportunity thrive. The survey also provides insights into how young people feel about the support they get from adults and services, and identifies neighbourhoods where more offers, centres and spaces may be needed.
 - 1.2.2. The survey harnesses the voices of young people to support our ambition to create a clear line of sight to high quality jobs, providing data on young people's reflections on the careers advice they receive, if they feel they've got the skills for life and their intentions to study post-16.
 - 1.2.3. The survey is valuable in our ambition to create safer and stronger communities, sharing young people's perception of safety in their local area, and their views on safe spaces by neighbourhood.
 - 1.2.4. The data allows us to monitor our progress, highlight areas of need, celebrate what's already in place, but it also opens a conversation with young people, inviting them to the decision making table, to ensure we interpret the results appropriately and codesign action.

1.3. Developed in response to a growing concern for the wellbeing of young people in the UK, highlighted by the OECD PISA report, #BeeWell is a collaboration between The University of Manchester, The Gregson Family Foundation and Anna Freud, who, together with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), founded the programme in 2019. #BeeWell believes that young people's wellbeing is as important as their academic attainment. Using a co-designed survey, we listen to the voices of as many young people as possible; publish the results privately to schools and publicly by neighbourhood; and drive action across society to improve young people's wellbeing. #BeeWell's mission is to see this approach implemented nationally. The programme has three elements, Listen, Act, Celebrate.

2. Listen

- 2.1. By listening to and working with young people, since 2021 #BeeWell GM has heard the voices of over 143,000 young people (with over 184,000 surveys received), attending 210 secondary schools across GM. In 2025, over 57,000 young people from 161 schools completed the survey. This represents over 51.3% of those enrolled in all GM schools across the year groups surveyed, in the largest exercise of its kind. Schools who participated in the survey can be found on the #BeeWell website, [Participating Schools](#).
- 2.2. This year the survey invited young people from Year 7, 8 and 10 to participate, allowing us to observe population level changes in our Year 7 and Year 10 cross-sectional cohorts and track developmental change from Year 7 to Year 8 in our longitudinal cohort. During the last academic year, #BeeWell also undertook workshops with Year 7 pupils to understand their experiences of completing the survey and identify areas for improvement, this included adding additional hover-over definitions for some terms and removing some questions for the younger cohorts, a summary of this work can be found on the #BeeWell website: [Working with young people in Year 7 to improve the #BeeWell survey - #BeeWell](#).

2.3. Throughout the five years of #BeeWell the direction of change in our three major wellbeing indicators has been positive, representing improvements in young people's wellbeing across Greater Manchester. Life satisfaction and psychological wellbeing scores of young people in Year 10 have improved since last year. 55.1% of young people in Year 10 were classed as having “good” levels of wellbeing in 2024 and 59.1% in 2025, shown in Figure 1. Comparatively, in 2024 64.2% of young people in Year 7 reported “good” wellbeing, compared to 67.7% in 2025. Whilst we can be confident in a meaningful positive shift in the percentage of young people reporting good wellbeing, it's important to note that as these figures are comparing different cohorts of young people, a small proportion of the observed improvement may be explained by shifts in the demographic composition of the region over time. Despite these improvements, inequalities remain persistent when observing the differences between neighbourhoods (with a 30% difference between the top ranking neighbourhood and the lowest scoring), gender, sexual orientation and other demographics.

2.4. Figure 1



2.5. The [#BeeWell Youth Steering Group](#), a group of 13 young people from across Greater Manchester who meet monthly and shape the programme and support decision making, selected a theme of belonging and connection: to local area, other people, the future, and school, for this year's report, and have identified three key messages from this year's data:

2.5.1. **The role of the community in supporting wellbeing and reducing**

loneliness is significant. Although loneliness levels in Greater Manchester have begun to decline from 53.8% of Year 10 pupils in 2021 to 41.4% in 2025, almost four in ten young people (37.9%) continue to feel lonely at least occasionally. This issue is particularly acute for young people who identify as gay or lesbian, with over 67.6% reporting feeling lonely, at least occasionally. The Youth Steering Group emphasises the need to strengthen connections between young people and their local communities. Only 54.6% of young people agree that there are people in their local area they can trust, with a 30-percentage point difference between the 65 neighbourhoods. Similar neighbourhood disparities are evident in perceptions of good places to spend free time, which range from 42.0% to 77.2% and have widened since 2021, despite this being identified as a priority area. The Youth Steering Group also highlights the importance of trusted relationships and having someone to talk to within the community, given the clear link between supportive relationships and reduced loneliness. Currently, only 56.3% of young people report having an adult outside of home and school who listens to them.

2.5.2. **The importance of relationships and school belonging in improving**

school attendance. A recent longitudinal study by #BeeWell found that stronger relationships between staff and young people led to better attendance at school. For girls specifically, worsening mental health predicted lower attendance while higher attendance led to improved school belonging. In 2025, 31.6% of young people in Year 7 report having strong relationships with school staff, this decreases to 25.6% of young people in Year 8 and just 21.1% among Year 10 young people. Whilst we've observed an improvement in feeling a sense of belonging at school, rising from 51.0% for Year 10's in 2024 to 55.6% of Year 10's in 2025, the inequalities remain persistent. Just 34.1% of gay and lesbian young people, 37.4% of bi-pansexual and 46.7% of transgender young people feel like they belong at school. Young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN; 56.8%) feel less of a sense of school belonging than their peers without SEN (64.4%). Young people want to highlight the need to focus on improving teacher-student relationships to improve attendance and wellbeing.

2.5.3. The importance of being prepared for life for your wellbeing and your hope and optimism for the future. In 2025, four in five young people (80.4%) agreed that when they finish their education, they will have the skills and knowledge needed to be prepared for life. Whilst it's important to note that this has improved from 75.7% in 2021, inequalities persist according to gender and sexual orientation, with just 71.7% of trans or gender diverse young people and 77.2% of young people with SEN, agreeing. Young people also wanted to highlight the impact of careers education, with just 2 in 3 (65.9%) reporting that they found their career education useful. Although this has risen from 58.2% in 2021, the Youth Steering Group believe there's more to be done to ensure young people are aware of platforms that can support them and careers education is modernised to reflect the variety of roles available in today's job market, rather than more traditional routes.

3. Act

3.1. The GM programme will focus efforts to improve young people's wellbeing in the identified priority areas, connected to our Greater Manchester Strategy. Creating opportunities to share best practice and celebrate the work already being done across the city region. This includes:

3.1.1. Reducing loneliness by connecting communities. We have a Live Well Ambition to provide great everyday support in every community. We'll learn from the neighbourhoods where the data indicated better community connection and influence local Live Well plans to incorporate work that improves young people's connection to trusted adults, good places to go and improves trust in their neighbours. Specifically we will:

- 3.1.1.1. Go further with our data analysis connecting NEET data to develop our understanding of prevention and protective factors to support young people earlier.
- 3.1.1.2. Understand the role of demographics on identifying safe spaces in a local area, i.e. religious places and LGBTQ+ focussed spaces.
- 3.1.1.3. Develop a business case, based on the evidence, for further investment into Greater Manchester from commitments outlined in the National Youth Strategy, championing the neighbourhoods where young people tell us spaces and support is needed.

- 3.1.2. Improving relationships to increase school attendance.** Working alongside our Greater Manchester Local Action Attendance Alliance, we'll ensure the latest #BeeWell research is understood and applied locally to plans to improve attendance, as well as working directly with #BeeWell schools to share best practice and learn from each other. Specifically:
- 3.1.2.1. We'll take an agenda item to the Greater Manchester Attendance Alliance and ask for a commitment to explore relationships and the longitudinal influence on attendance.
 - 3.1.2.2. We'll ask schools to share good practice on how they are improving relationships between staff and students, from those with the highest levels of good relationships according to the data.
 - 3.1.2.3. We'll go further with our data analysis, identifying the degree to which relationships impact attendance, and translate that into the equivalent missed school days.
 - 3.1.2.4. We'll continue to work with DfE on their pupil experience framework, referenced in the Schools White Paper and SEND Review, building on early conversations between #BeeWell Youth Steering Group members and national government officers. Ensuring measurement of school belonging is consistent across schools and meets the National commitment.
- 3.1.3. Preparing young people for life.** Connected to the ambition outlined in the Greater Manchester Strategy to ensure young people have a clear line of sight to good jobs, we'll ensure the latest #BeeWell data is available in strategic planning groups, focussing on highlighting the demographic inequalities (SEN and LGBTQ+) and ensuring bespoke plans are in place to work directly with those young people and their representatives.
- 3.1.3.1. We'll compare the correlation between #BeeWell insights with the National Youth Census, and what we're hearing from young people and looking at variation across localities and neighbourhoods.
 - 3.1.3.2. We'll support the work of Education, Work and Skills team to ensure young people have visibility on workstreams such as Beeline and MBacc that seek to address these issues.

3.2. To ensure the voices of young people are heard and acted on, an in-person co-production event is scheduled as part of the Live Well festival on the 23rd March, tickets for the event can be found via eventbrite: [#BeeWell Greater Manchester: Headline Findings Launch 2025/26 Tickets, Monday, Mar 23 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm | Eventbrite](#). There's also a virtual meeting on Monday 30th March for anyone from across the city-region interested in finding out more about this years data, the outputs from the events and engage in action planning are encouraged to sign up [#BeeWell Greater Manchester: Virtual Headline Findings Briefing 2025/26 Tickets, Monday, Mar 30 from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#).

4. Celebrate

- 4.1. The [2024 #BeeWell report](#) highlighted three focus areas from the #BeeWell Youth Steering Group: school belonging, girls physical activity, and food and nutrition. Throughout the year, the programme has profiled these messages in various meetings, workshops and presentations bringing attention to the important issues highlighted by our young people.
- 4.2. Young people responded to these headlines locally through youth-led funding devolved to each of the 10 GM localities. [Funded youth projects are summarised here](#), and included:
- 4.2.1. **School Belonging** – young people have coproduced a conference to focus on LGBTQ+ young people's sense of belonging, produced videos to be used in teacher training as well as developing school level action plans to increase access to safe spaces and peer mentors.
 - 4.2.2. **Nutrition and Food Security** – young people created recipe books, online cookery videos and taken part in cooking classes.
 - 4.2.3. **Girls Physical Activity** – young people took part in workshops to explore the data, created artwork to celebrate women and girls engaged in sport, and organised free physical activity classes for young women to try new activities in local venues.

4.3. #BeeWell partners, including, local youth services, VCSFE organisations, local government and health, also responded to the headlines, including the reconvening a Young People's working group for GM Active Leisure providers, supported by GM Moving, to assess their offers and access for young people, particularly girls across the city-region, galvanised by additional research into the #BeeWell data [Girls Physical Activity Briefing 2024](#). The theme of school belonging was adopted by the GM SEND board, to focus their 2025 conference, profiling the #BeeWell data and showcasing schools approaches to inclusion and connection. #BeeWell also coordinated learning webinars and shared best practice from schools with the highest levels of school belonging, according to #BeeWell insight, creating case studies such as [AGGS School Belonging Case Study](#). Nutrition and food security insights were shared with health and poverty colleagues and continue to be profiled in strategic needs assessments and strategic planning.

4.4. Other examples of responses to #BeeWell insights, can be found in this summary [#BeeWell GM response infographic](#). Including:

4.4.1. Working with Trafford Council colleagues to develop a local action plan, influence needs assessment and share localised data with neighbourhood teams. [How are #BeeWell insights being acted upon in Trafford? - #BeeWell](#)

4.4.2. Delivering local projects with young people, including ensuring young people know about opportunities to be heard and use their voice in influencing; supporting local young activists to explore the #BeeWell data and create art to represent their views and offering new opportunities for girls to get active through dance; [New stories of youth-led action: Children in Need funded projects using #BeeWell data - #BeeWell](#)

4.4.3. Schools have used their confidential data to create a stronger sense of school belonging and improved relationships with staff, increased extra-curricular offers, targeted interventions with certain cohorts identified by the data and worked with parents and carers to understand their role in improving wellbeing, summarised on the #BeeWell website: [v4 How are #BeeWell schools acting on their data?](#).

5. Next Steps and Recommendations

5.1. The #BeeWell neighbourhood dashboard which shares all measures from the survey, by the neighbourhood in which they live, will be made publicly available at the end of March.

5.2. The Greater Manchester Strategy sets out our ambition that that all children and young people will thrive, with a clear line of sight to high-quality jobs, everyday support in every neighbourhood and ensure they feel safe and strong in their communities. We recognise there's more we can do to enhance our commitments for babies, children and young people. Greater Manchester #BeeWell data is now at a scale and depth to play a critical role in both connecting us with young people's voice at a city region level and in helping us shape a whole system preventive approach to improving their life chances. It provides a deep understanding of what matters to young people and can shape existing commitments such as Live Well, Our Pass and NEET prevention. It will inform how we mobilise the Prevention Demonstrator and fully support our government engagement.

5.2.1. Over the coming weeks, we will engage across all partners and stakeholders to determine areas for action with oversight provided by GM Children's Board and a follow-up report brought to a future GMCA meeting.

5.3. Readers of this report are asked to:

5.3.1. **Listen** to the key findings of the 2025 #BeeWell survey results and engage young people in developing plans for response.

5.3.2. **Act** on what the data is telling us and support the #BeeWell mission to make young people's wellbeing everybody's business. Utilise the insights to inform delivery, commissioning and policies, across localities and neighbourhoods and ensure the insights are embedded into the GMS delivery plan, specifically:

- Safer and stronger communities & everyday support in every neighbourhood, to reduce youth loneliness and improve community connection.
- Clear line of sight to good jobs, ensure all careers and skills advice is reaching communities where the data shows inequalities, i.e. SEN and LGBTQ+.
- Ensure we include plans to improve relationships between staff and pupils in GM work to improve attendance.

5.3.3. Celebrate your commitment to improving young people's wellbeing, sharing stories of impact and influence with beewell@manchester.ac.uk to ensure we can share information with young people completing the survey in 2026.

6. Appendix 1 – Additional data

7. Thriving

7.1. **The Greater Manchester Strategy commits to creating the conditions for people to thrive, ensuring everyday support in every neighbourhood.** Delivered through a network of welcoming and empowering Live Well centres, community spaces and support offers will provide everyday support in every neighbourhood. Spaces will be developed for communities of identity and experience too, for example providing young people with a safe space in their community and a trusted adult to talk to. Our #BeeWell data tells us:

7.2. **Wellbeing is improving** - Across five years of #BeeWell data collection, all participating year groups show consistently positive trends across the three core wellbeing indicators. Among Year 10 pupils, psychological wellbeing scores have increased from 21.0/35 (2021) to 22.9/35 (2025). Life satisfaction has also improved from 6.3/10 to 6.8/10 over the same period.

7.2.1. Most notably, the proportion of Year 10 pupils reporting elevated emotional difficulties has declined from 17% (2021) to 12% (2025) - a relative reduction of around 28%.

7.2.2. Positive changes are also seen in other year groups. Year 8 pupils show steady improvement from 2021 to 2025, and the Year 7 tracker cohort (established in 2024) shows favourable year-on-year change. These findings reflect serial cross-sections of different cohorts rather than tracking the same pupils longitudinally.

7.2.3. Wellbeing inequalities were observed by both gender and sexual orientation. Cisgender boys reported the fewest emotional difficulties (5%), compared to cisgender girls (15%), trans and gender-diverse (22%), and those questioning their gender (14%). Gay/Lesbian and Bisexual or Pansexual young people reported poorer wellbeing, life satisfaction and substantially higher rates of emotional difficulties than their heterosexual peers.

7.2.4. A modest association between socio-economic disadvantage and wellbeing is observed in 2025, as in previous years. Young people in GM eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) reported lower levels of life satisfaction (6.9/10) and mental wellbeing (21.9, on a scale of 7-35) than their peers not eligible for FSM (7.3, and 22.6 respectively). The biggest difference lies in the rates of elevated emotional difficulties with 13% of young people eligible for FSM reporting elevated symptoms, compared to 10% of their non-eligible peers.

7.2.5. Young people with SEN report similar life satisfaction to their peers without SEN, but lower mental wellbeing and higher emotional difficulties. 14% exceed the emotional difficulties threshold compared with 10% of pupils without SEN. These results highlight the continued need for targeted mental health support for pupils with SEN.

7.2.6. The 2025 #BeeWell data suggests White British young people in Greater Manchester are among those with the poorest wellbeing across all three domains (Figure 2). Most notably is emotional difficulties for which 13% report elevated symptoms compared to 8% of Black young people, the lowest scoring group.

7.2.7. **Figure 2**



7.3. **Figure 3 shows the differences in wellbeing between neighbourhoods across Greater Manchester for young people in Year 10 over the past five years.** Each line represents the gap between the highest and lowest scoring neighbourhoods. The most encouraging trend is in emotional difficulties, where the gap between neighbourhoods has narrowed from 15 percentage points in 2021 to 11 percentage points in 2025. Gaps in wellbeing and life satisfaction have remained more stable over time. While overall outcomes are improving across Greater Manchester, young people's wellbeing continues to be influenced by where they live, highlighting the importance of understanding and addressing structural inequalities that shape neighbourhood-level differences.

7.3.1. Figure 3



7.4. **Someone to talk to** - Young people tell us that, to them, everyday support means having someone to talk to. 76% of young people said they had an adult to talk to at home at least sometimes, 60% had an adult at school and 56% had an adult to talk to away from home and school. In 2025, 99% of young people feel like they have someone in their lives that listens to them, either at home, in school or in their communities. But this reduces to 96% of trans and gender diverse young people.

7.5. **Place to seek support** - 69% of young people reported having a place to seek support for worries or mental health concerns, though this varied substantially by demographic characteristics. Year 7 young people reported the highest perceived access at 75%, declining to 63% among Year 10 young people. The most pronounced disparities emerged by sexual orientation, with heterosexual young people reporting 71% agreement compared to just 52% among gay/lesbian young people a gap of up to 19 percentage points. Gender diverse and transgender young people also reported notably lower perceived access (58%) compared to cisgender boys (72%), while differences by FSM eligibility and SEN status were relatively modest.

8. Healthy

8.1. Our Greater Manchester Strategy commits to: ensuring residents will live a

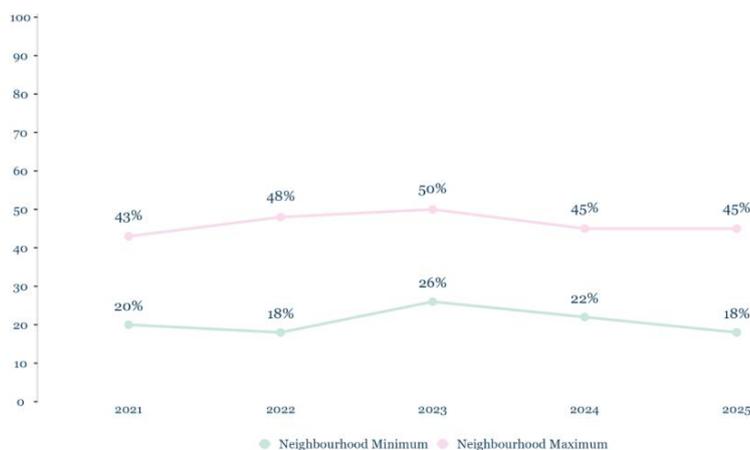
healthy life for longer and we will reduce the gap in healthy life years between the richest and poorest communities, helping more residents to become physically active, reduce the percentage of adults and children who are obese and increase access to mental health services. #BeeWell insights tell us:

8.2. Physical Activity - 40% of young people in Year 7 in 2024 reported meeting CMO guidelines; this reduced to 36% when these young people were in Year 8 in 2025. Cross sectionally, the proportion of Year 7's meeting CMO guidelines in 2025 reduced from 40% (2024) to 38%. In 2021, 37% of young people in Year 8 reported meeting CMO guidelines, and in 2025, 36% of young people met these guidelines. The proportion of Year 10's meeting CMO guidelines has remained fairly consistent across our 5 years of data collection: 32% in 2021, 33% in 2022, 35% in 2023, 33% in 2024, and 33% in 2025.

8.2.1. As previously reported, girls' levels of physical activity continue to be lower than boys, at just 24% of Year 10 girls reaching the one hour a day CMO guideline compared to 43% of boys and 32% of non-binary young people.

8.2.2. There's a 23-percentage point difference across GM neighbourhoods for Year 10 pupils meeting the one hour per day CMO guidelines for physical activity (ranging between 27% and 43%) with trends across the last 5 years shown in Figure 4.

8.2.3. Figure 4



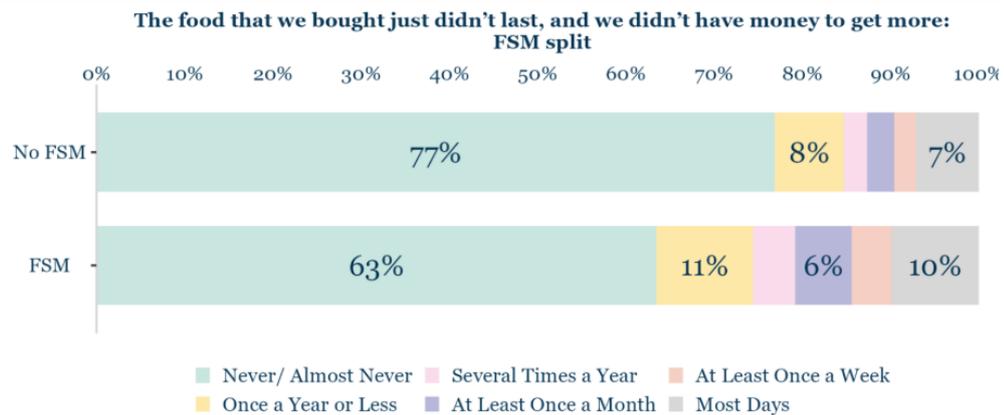
8.3. Physical health - In 2025, 87% of young people self-reported their physical health to be good, very good, or excellent. When looking at the individual year groups, self-rated physical health was highest for those in Year 7 (89%) and decreased slightly for Year 8 (87%) and Year 10 (85%). Young people who weren't eligible for FSM reported higher self-rated physical health (89% good/very good/excellent) compared to those eligible for FSM (83%). Similarly, a higher proportion of young people without SEN reported good/very good/ excellent physical health (88%), compared to those requiring SEN support (83%) and those with an EHC plan (84%).

8.4. Sleep - 68% of young people reported getting sufficient sleep in 2025. This was highest for Year 7 pupils (74%), slightly lower for Year 8 pupils (67%), and only 61% of pupils in Year 10 reported getting sufficient sleep. 69% of young people eligible for FSM reported getting sufficient sleep, compared to 64% of those not eligible. A higher proportion of young people without SEN (69%) reported getting sufficient sleep, compared to those receiving SEN support (63%). 66% of young people with an EHC plan reported getting sufficient sleep in 2025.

8.5. Food and nutrition - In 2025, just 12% of young people reported eating at least 5 portions of fruit and vegetables a day. This was the same for Year 7 and Year 8 pupils (12%), and slightly lower for Year 10 pupils (10%). 10% of young people eligible for FSM reported eating 5 or more portions a day, compared to 12% of pupils not eligible for FSM. 11% of young people without SEN and 12% of young people with SEN support reported eating at least 5 portions a day, compared to 14% of young people with an EHC plan.

8.6. Food Security - The #BeeWell survey includes the following question: "The food that we bought just didn't last, and we didn't have money to get more". 73% of young people responded never/almost never, and 9% reported this occurred once a year or less. However, 8% reported they felt this way most days. The proportion of young people reporting several times a year, at least once a month, or at least once a week was below 5%.

8.7. Figure 5



9. Safer & Stronger

9.1. **Our Greater Manchester Strategy commits to: building strong communities where people feel safe on their streets, and by 2030, at least 95% of our residents will report feeling safe.** Our #BeeWell data tells us:

9.2. **Good places to spend free time** - In 2025, 73% of young people in Years 7, 8 and 10 strongly agreed or agreed that there are good places to spend their free time in their local area (e.g. leisure centres, parks, shops, youth centres or zones). This ranged from 60% to 82% when averaged across Greater Manchester's 65 neighbourhoods, representing a 22-percentage-point gap between the lowest and highest scoring neighbourhoods.

9.2.1. Feeling like there are good places to go in the community, reduces as young people get older, with 80% of Year 7 young people, 74% of Year 8 and just 63% of Year 10.

9.2.2. Just 65% of trans and gender-diverse young people feel like there are good places to spend free time in their area. Similarly, those identifying as gay or lesbian (56%) or bisexual or pansexual (61%). Young people eligible for FSM (70%) and those with SEN (70%) also felt there were less good places to go than their peers (73% and 73%, respectively).

9.3. Safety - In 2025, 85% of young people report feeling safe in their local area (within 5 minutes' walking distance of their home). This ranged from 73% to 98% across Greater Manchester's 65 neighbourhoods, producing a 25% gap between the lowest- and highest-scoring neighbourhoods. Both the lowest and highest neighbourhood values increased slightly year upon year, indicating that perceptions of safety perceptions have improved in both the best- and worst-performing neighbourhoods. However, this gap widened slightly in 2025 due to an increase in the highest neighbourhood value (see Figure below for Year 10s).

9.3.1. Clear demographic differences in perceived safety were evident. Slightly more Year 7 pupils (86%) reported feeling safe than Year 8's (85%) and Year 10 pupils (84%). Larger inequalities were apparent by sexuality, with heterosexual/straight young people (86%) reporting the highest levels of perceived safety, while gay or lesbian (73%) and bi/pansexual young people (74%) reported substantially lower levels. A similar pattern was observed for gender identity, where cisgender boys and girls (both 86%) were most likely to feel safe, compared with questioning (79%) and transgender and gender-diverse young people (74%). Differences were also evident by ethnicity, with Chinese young people (88%) reporting the highest levels of safety and Black young people and those from Any Other Ethnic Groups (83%) the lowest. Young people with SEN (82%) were less likely to feel safe than those without SEN (85%), and those eligible for FSM (81%) reported lower perceived safety than their peers who were not eligible (86%).

9.4. Participation in Arts Culture and Entertainment (PACE) - 75% of Year 7 pupils reporting frequent engagement in six or more activities compared to 56% of Year 10 pupils. Differences were also observed by sexuality, with lower engagement among gay or lesbian young people (58%) compared to those who were not sure about their sexuality (68%). young people with SEN reported lower engagement (62%) than those without SEN (68%), and young people eligible for FSM reported lower engagement (64%) than those not eligible (68%). Year 7 pupils remained stable between 2024 (74%) and 2025 (75%). 75% of pupils reported frequent engagement in six or more PACE activities in Year 7 (2024), falling to 69% when the same young people moved to Year 8 in 2025.

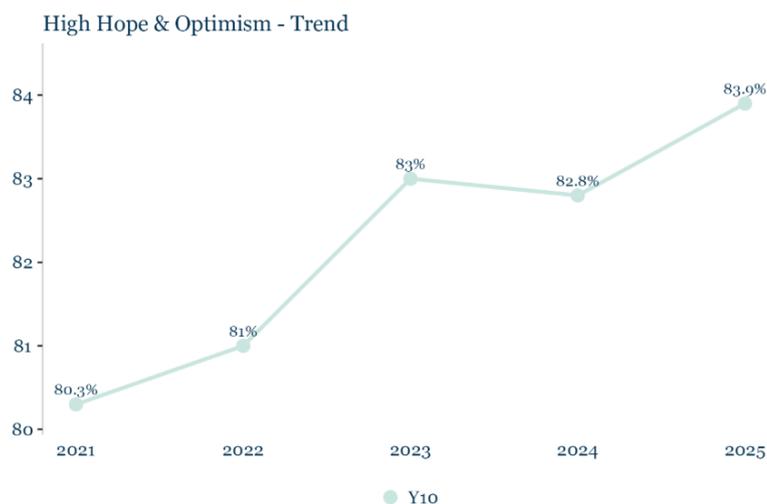
10. Successful

10.1. **Our Greater Manchester Strategy commits to: creating a clear line of sight to high-quality jobs, improving attendance and attainment for disadvantaged young people.** Our #BeeWell data tells us:

10.2. **Hope and Optimism** In 2025, approximately 87% of young people in 2025 reported high levels of hope and optimism. This indicator has shown steady improvement when you look at the snapshot Year 10 cohorts, rising from 80% in 2021 to nearly 84% in 2025. however, these positive feelings tend to decline slightly as young people get older, falling from 88% in Year 7 to 84% in Year 10.

10.2.1. 63% of gay and lesbian young people and 68% of bisexual and pansexual young people reported high levels of hope, compared to 89% of their heterosexual peers, a gap of over 20 percentage points. Transgender and gender diverse young people also reported lower levels (73%) compared to cisgender boys (90%). While differences related to FSM eligibility and SEN status were present, they remained relatively modest. Geographically, there is strong evidence that the "gap is closing"; the range between the highest and lowest scoring neighbourhoods for Year 10 has tightened significantly from 21 percentage points in 2021 to 14 points in 2025, indicating that more young people across Greater Manchester are feeling optimistic about their futures.

10.2.2. Figure 6



10.3. **Academic Attainment:** 57% of students overall in Greater Manchester reported being happy with their educational attainment, with a slight but steady improvement observed in Year 10 results since 2021. However, satisfaction with school work declines significantly as students progress through school, falling from 69% in Year 7 to 57% in Year 8 and just 45% by Year 10. Only 39% of gay and lesbian young people and 43% of bisexual and pansexual young people reported being happy with their attainment, compared to 59% of their heterosexual peers. Significant gaps also exist for young people with SEN (46% compared to 59% for those without SEN) and those eligible for FSM (49% compared to 60% for those not eligible). Gender also plays a role, with 62% of boys reporting satisfaction compared to 52% of girls.

10.3.1. Figure 7

