

London's Voice: In Focus

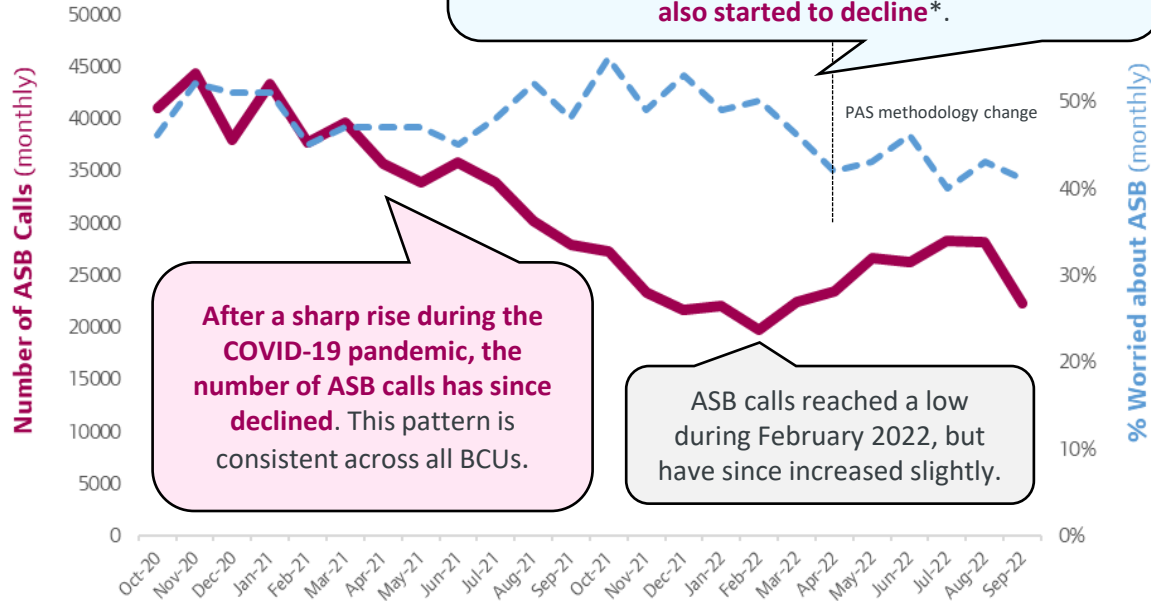
MOPAC Public Attitude Survey
Quarter 2 2022-23

Anti-Social Behaviour: trends, perceptions and experiences

ASB calls to police have declined since the pandemic, but rates and perceptions vary by area

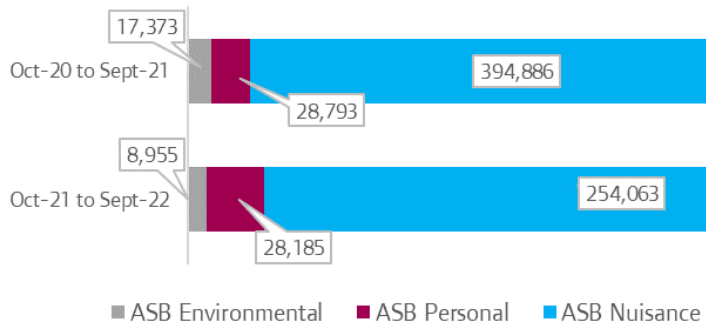
During the last two years (Oct 20 to Sept 22), over 730,000 ASB calls to the MPS were recorded.

The proportion of Londoners **worried about ASB** also increased during the pandemic. Public concerns remained high throughout 2021 – despite the reduction in ASB calls – but have **more recently also started to decline***.



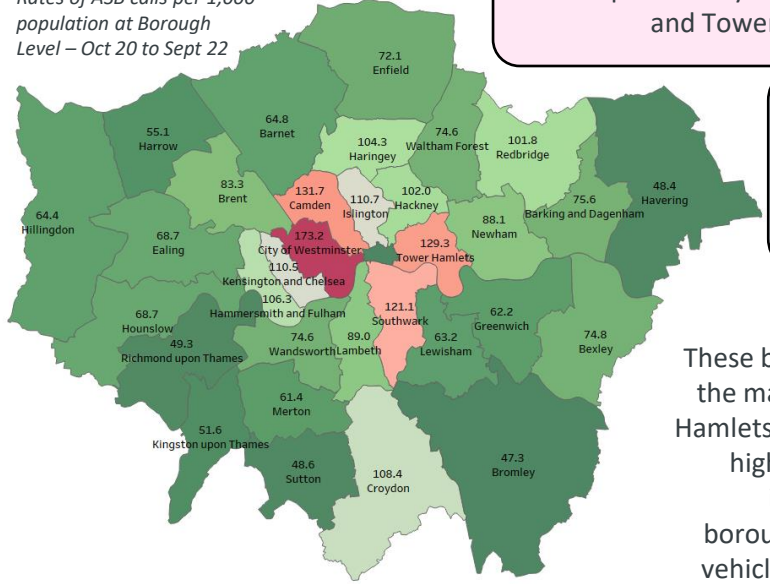
After a sharp rise during the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of ASB calls has since declined. This pattern is consistent across all BCUs.

ASB calls reached a low during February 2022, but have since increased slightly.



The most recent year (R12 to Sept 22) has seen a **relative increase in the % of ASB 'Personal' Calls** – now making up 10% of all calls (vs. 6.5% in previous year).

Rates of ASB calls per 1,000 population at Borough Level – Oct 20 to Sept 22

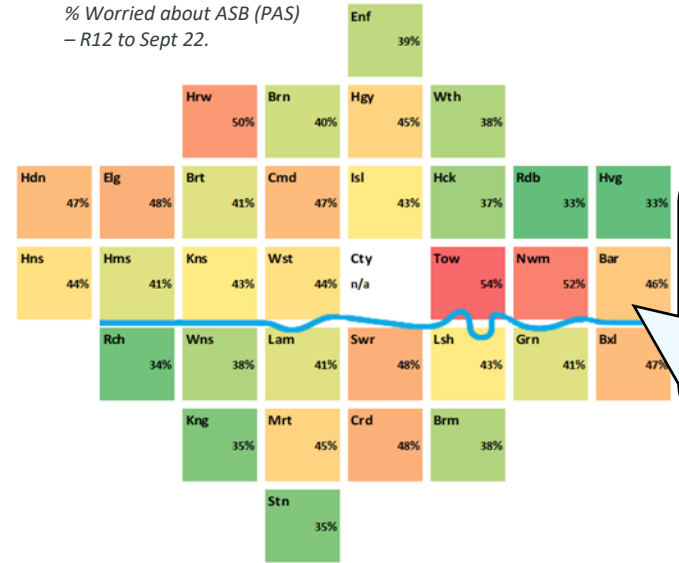


Central Boroughs see higher rates of ASB calls – particularly Westminster, Camden and Tower Hamlets.

Lower rates are seen in outer London - including Bromley, Havering and Sutton.

These boroughs also differ in the make-up of calls. Tower Hamlets & Westminster see a higher % of personal ASB issues, whereas outer boroughs tend to see more vehicle issues, for example.

% Worried about ASB (PAS) – R12 to Sept 22.



Londoners' worry about ASB is also lower in outer London Boroughs. Highest concerns are seen in Tower Hamlets (54%) and Newham (52%).

*Please note that methodological changes to the PAS – including the move from face-to-face to telephone interviewing at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the subsequent phased return to face-to-face interviewing starting April 2022 – may have affected the comparability of these trends over time.

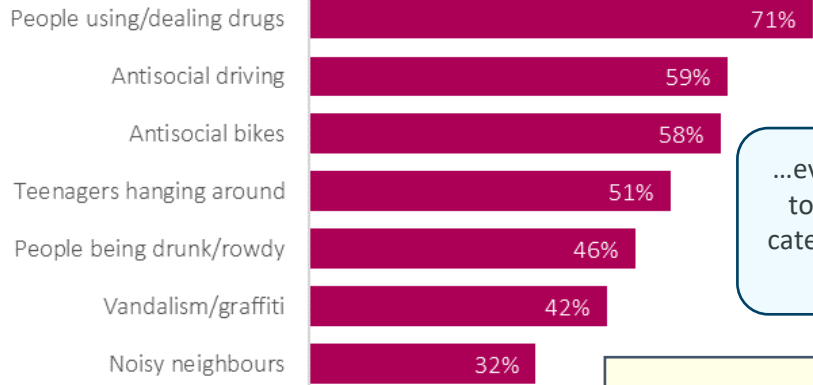
ASB calls to police are most often about ‘rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour’. However, drug and vehicle issues form the top concerns for Londoners in the PAS

ASB Category	Oct-20 / Sep-21	Oct-21 / Sep-22	Volume change	% change
Animal Problems	663	747	84	13%
Begging / Vagrancy	9,348	8,166	-1,182	-13%
Fireworks	6,166	3,280	-2,886	-47%
Littering / Drugs				
Paraphernalia	2,111	1,655	-456	-22%
Noise	19,995	15,441	-4,554	-23%
Not Mapped	57,404	29,625	-27,779	-48%
Prostitution Related Activity	1,197	674	-523	-44%
Rowdy / Nuisance	66,186	44,724	-21,462	-32%
Rowdy Or Inconsiderate Behaviour	244,033	159,084	-84,949	-35%
Street Drinking	568	411	-157	-28%
Trespass	5,657	4,592	-1,065	-19%
Veh Abandoned - Not stolen	3,858	3,511	-347	-9%
Veh Nuisance / Inappropriate Use	23,866	19,293	-4,573	-19%
Total	441,052	291,203	-149,849	-34%

Although the Types of ASB are ‘Personal’, ‘Nuisance’, and ‘Environmental’ there is also the option for police to record a sub-category of ASB. Any of these could be applied to any type (e.g. rowdy behaviour could be part of personal or nuisance). Also, some ASB is recorded as having the type as a sub-category.

Given the small numbers within some ASB categories, over half the volume change comes from a decline in ‘rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour’.

On average, ASB calls have decreased by a third over the most recent year (R12 to Sept 22, compared with R12 to Sept 21).



% feeling specific ASB issues are a problem locally in PAS FYTD 22-23, only asked to those worried about ASB

For Londoners worried about ASB, drugs and antisocial driving were the issues most often felt to be a problem in their local area...

...even more so than issues relating to rowdy behaviour; despite this category forming the most common type of ASB call to police.

Londoners’ confidence in the police response to ASB is low – with just 45% believing the MPS is effective at tackling ASB.



In turn, residents’ concerns about specific ASB issues appear influential in shaping their wider feelings of safety.

Such issues are far more important in shaping feelings of safety AFTER DARK than DURING THE DAY – with drunk/rowdy behaviour, drugs, people hanging around, and antisocial vehicle use particularly influential here.

*Results from two stepwise logistic regression models. Issues alone account for 3-6% of variance in safety during day, and 10-13% of variance in safety after dark. Final models also controlled for individual demographics and Ward IMD quartile.

What drives ASB? Local area deprivation seems particularly influential in shaping both call rates and residents' worry about ASB

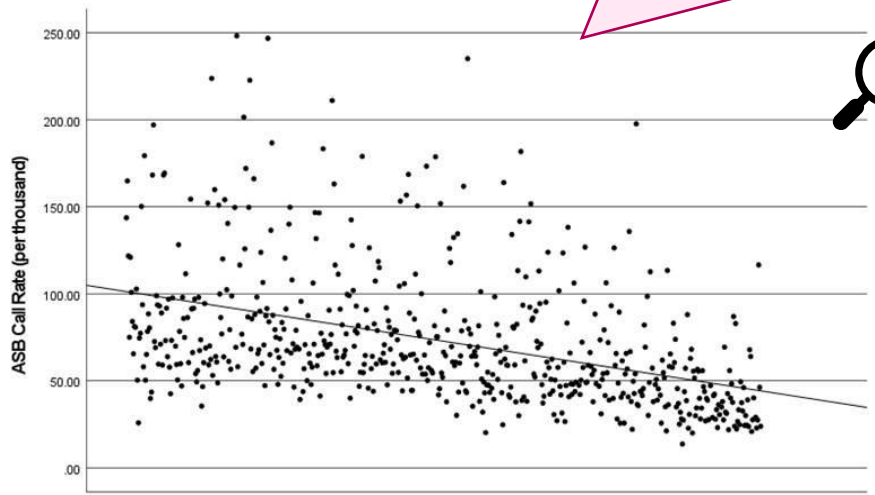
Ward Level data helps to explore the relationship between ASB calls and local area characteristics – revealing an overlap with wider vulnerabilities.

Wards seeing higher ASB call rates also see higher TNO levels ($R^2 = 0.63$), suggesting an overlap between ASB and wider crime issues.



Higher rates of ASB calls are also associated with greater Ward Deprivation (IMD 2019 ranking of 1 = most deprived) ($R^2 = -0.41$). This relationship remains significant even when controlling for TNOs**.

Scatterplot of Deprivation and ASB Call Rate – each point represents a Ward*



N.B. Croydon – Fairfield Ward saw particularly high ASB call rates at 510 calls per 1,000 - over six times the London-wide rate.

Modelling of PAS data also helps to explore how local area characteristics shape residents' worry about ASB †.



Once again, local area deprivation is influential in shaping concerns. Londoners living in the most deprived 25% of Wards show **1.9x** independently increased odds of feeling worried about ASB (vs. least deprived).

ASB call rates are also higher in Wards with certain cultural venues. However, such sites appear less influential in driving residents' worry.

Controlling for area deprivation, a greater number of music/night time/pub venues and cinema/museum/ theatre venues in a Ward were also associated with higher recorded ASB calls. ∞

This effect was *not seen* for worry about ASB; where Ward vulnerability remained a far stronger predictor of concerns.



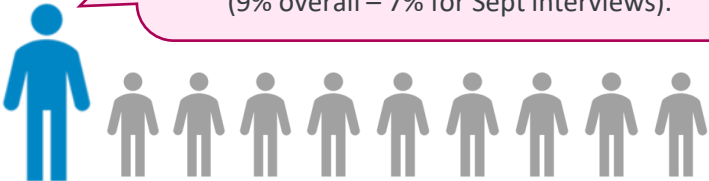
*To aid visualisation, the two London wards with the highest ASB call rates (Croydon Fairfield and Camden Bloomsbury) have been excluded from this scatter plot. ASB call rates for Oct 20 to Sept 22

**Results from a linear regression model predicting Ward ASB call rate from Ward IMD Rank, controlling for Ward TNO call rate.
 †Results from a binary logistic regression predicting worry about ASB (worried vs. not) from ASB call rate and IMD together. To aid interpretation, Wards were grouped into quartiles for IMD 2019 and ASB call rate. Odds ratios hold other variable constant. Due to changes in Ward Boundaries PAS data on this slide is for R12 to Q1 22-23.
 ∞ Results from two regression models predicting ASB call rates and worry about ASB from IMD (as per previous models) and the number of cultural sites in the Ward – including pubs, cinemas, community centres, outdoor spaces and schools, controlling for Ward population.

Many Londoners say they have personally experienced ASB. Repeated victimisation is high and is associated with wider risk-factors

PAS data for FYTD 22-23

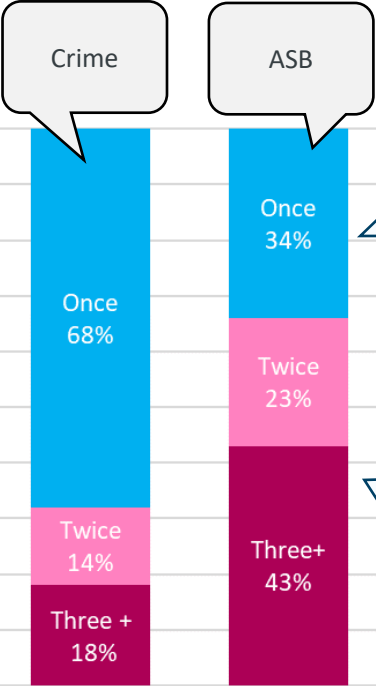
Just under one in ten Londoners interviewed during April to September 2022 said they had personally experienced an incident they would consider to be ASB in the month prior (9% overall – 7% for Sept interviews).



...scaling this up to the capital's population, this equates to around **half a million** victims of ASB in London during August 2022.



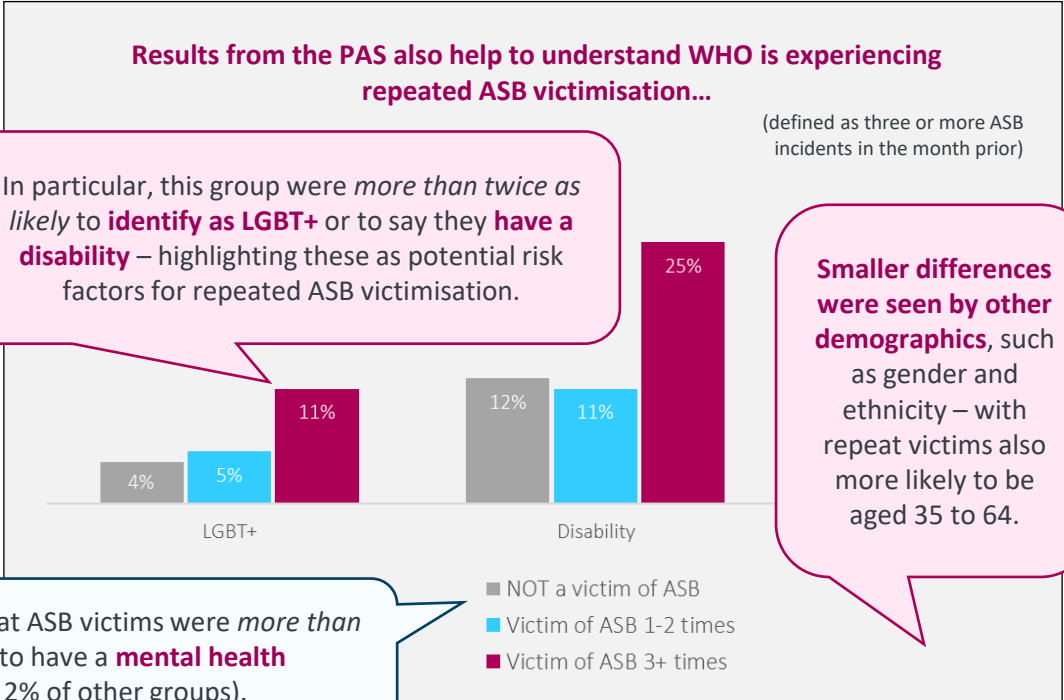
There is an **overlap between ASB and crime victimisation** – with one in five ASB victims *also experiencing a crime* during the month prior. Early results suggest particularly increased risk of **criminal damage** and **harassment** for this cohort. However, crime victimisation is not enhanced for repeated ASB victims compared with those experiencing one/two ASB incidents.



PAS results reveal high levels of repeat victimisation amongst those experiencing ASB. Illustrating this, only a third of this group said they had experienced **JUST ONE ASB incident** in the month prior (34%)...

...while 43% said they had experienced **THREE OR MORE incidents** – levels far higher than those seen for crime victims.

Looking deeper here, repeat ASB victims were *more than three times* as likely to have a **mental health disability** (7%, vs 2% of other groups).



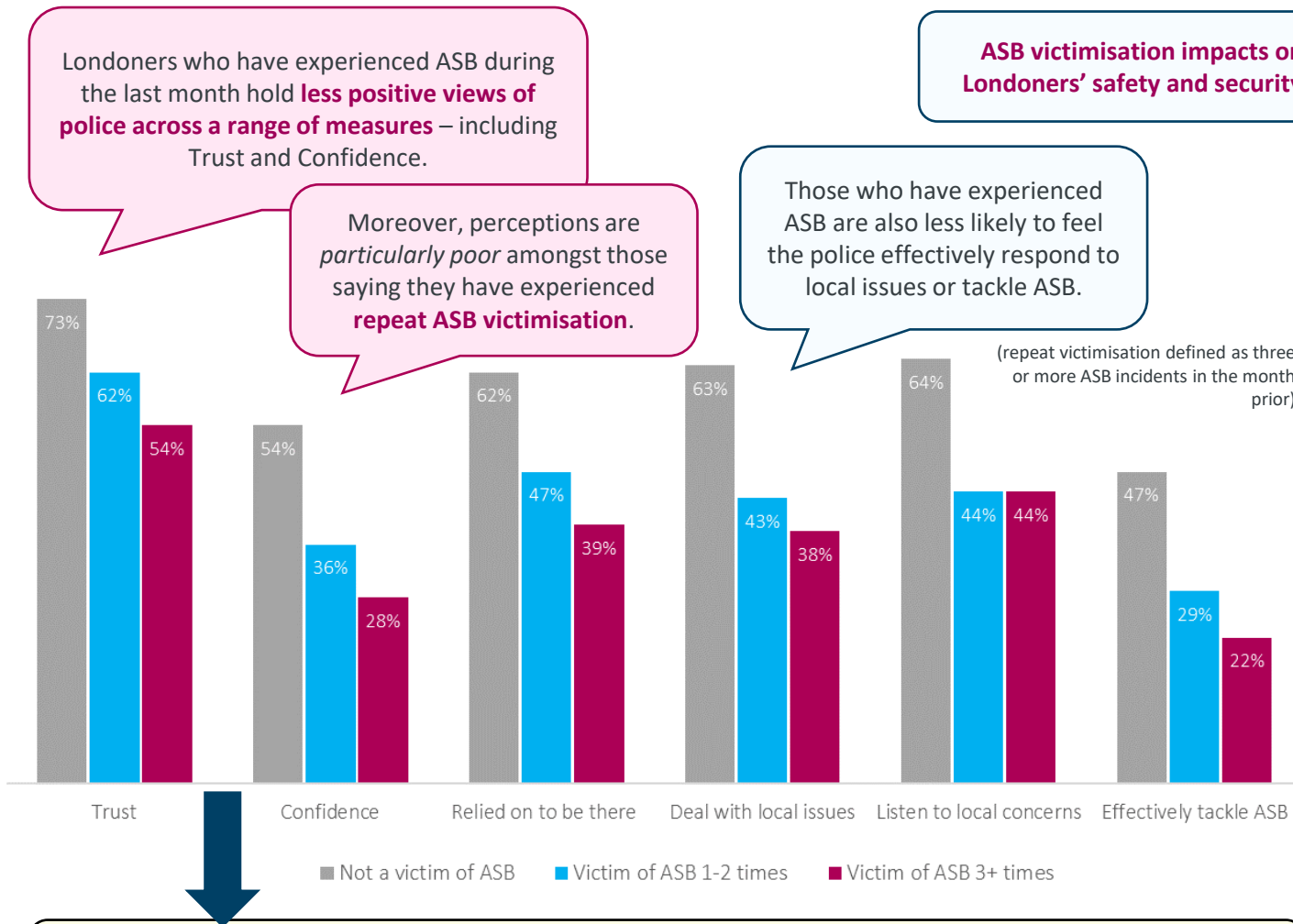
In particular, this group were *more than twice as likely* to **identify as LGBT+** or to say they **have a disability** – highlighting these as potential risk factors for repeated ASB victimisation.

Smaller differences were seen by other demographics, such as gender and ethnicity – with repeat victims also more likely to be aged 35 to 64.

*Based on an adult population of 7,473,100 as per mid-year GLA housing led population estimates.

** On a scale from 0 (not at all satisfied) to 10 (completely satisfied). Londoners experiencing 3+ ASB incidents in the last month scored an average of 6.5: significantly below levels seen for those experiencing NO ASB (7.5) or 1-2 ASB incidents (7.1).

Londoners who have experienced ASB – and in particular repeat victimisation – hold less positive views of the police; with impacts on wider safety...



Londoners who have experienced ASB during the last month hold **less positive views of police across a range of measures** – including Trust and Confidence.

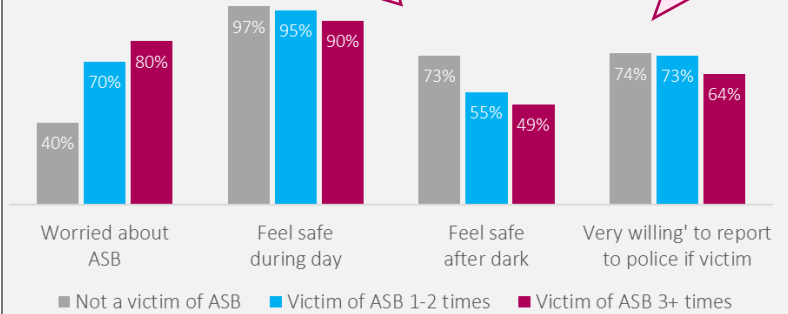
Moreover, perceptions are *particularly poor* amongst those saying they have experienced **repeat ASB victimisation**.

Those who have experienced ASB are also less likely to feel the police effectively respond to local issues or tackle ASB.

ASB victimisation impacts on Londoners' safety and security...

ASB victimisation is associated with greater worry and reduced safety – particularly after dark. Amongst those experiencing **repeated ASB victimisation**, *nearly all* are worried about ASB and *only half* feel safe walking alone after dark.

Furthermore, repeat ASB victimisation may serve as a **barrier to seeking help from police in future**.



In turn, repeated ASB victimisation is also associated with **reduced life satisfaction**** – highlighting tangible impacts on Londoners' wellbeing.



ASB victimisation has a *greater detrimental impact* on Confidence than on Trust – with both of these effects holding true even when controlling for factors such as wider demographics and local deprivation*.

*Results from regression models predicting Confidence and Trust during FY 22-23 from ASB (No victimisation, 1-2 times, 3 times or more) controlling for age, gender, ethnicity, disability, LGBT+ and IMD Quartile.

** On a scale from 0 (not at all satisfied) to 10 (completely satisfied). Londoners experiencing 3+ ASB incidents in the last month scored an average of 6.2: significantly below levels seen for those experiencing NO ASB (7.5) or 1-2 ASB incidents (7.1).