

## Thematic Summary of Women's only meeting

### 1. What People Value About the Area

Across all workshop groups there was a strong sense that the area already has important community strengths and assets.

#### Strong Community Networks

Residents described the area as having:

- A close-knit community
- A positive community vibe
- Community-led charity and cultural events

#### Faith and Cultural Spaces

Faith and cultural organisations were seen as important anchors, including:

- Local mosques
- Hadith Club
- NuBase women's hub

These spaces provide social support, cultural connection, and activities for women and young people.

#### Local Facilities and Organisations

Several local facilities were repeatedly mentioned as valued community assets:

- Zest Community Centre (gym, library, swimming)
- Ponderosa Park
- Aspire Boxing Gym
- Local shops and cultural businesses

#### Location and Accessibility

Residents appreciated the area's:

- Proximity to the city centre
- Access to tram and train links
- Central location within Sheffield

## Key Concerns Raised by Residents

### 1. Youth Support and Opportunities

The strongest theme across all workshops was the lack of support and activities for young people.

Residents highlighted:

- Not enough youth clubs
- Lack of homework clubs
- Few activities for children aged 0–12
- Limited career guidance and aspirations for young people

Many felt preventative youth work is essential to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

Residents also called for:

- Links with Sheffield University for tutoring and homework support
- More sports and activity provision
- Positive male role models from the community

## 2. Crime, Drugs and Community Safety

Crime and drug activity were a major concern.

Participants raised:

- Growing concerns about gang activity
- Drug use affecting both young men and young women
- Fear of criminal and sexual exploitation

Residents emphasised the need for:

- Awareness for parents about exploitation risks
- Online safety education
- Police and community working together to support and empower families

## 3. Employment, Skills and Training

Many residents felt there were not enough pathways to good jobs.

Key concerns included:

- Limited access to job opportunities
- Lack of apprenticeships and public sector jobs
- Insufficient training and skills programmes

Residents suggested:

- Job fairs
- Skills training programmes
- Employment pathways for young people

#### 4. Support for Parents and Families

Parents reported needing more support with:

- Online safety
- Drugs and crime awareness
- School engagement
- School exclusions
- Supporting children with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)

Residents also felt services sometimes do not fully understand cultural barriers within the community.

#### 5. Women and Girls' Voice

Participants highlighted that women's voices are often underrepresented.

Key concerns included:

- Women often being spoken for by men
- Limited opportunities for women to shape decisions

Residents emphasised the need to strengthen women and girls' participation and leadership in community decision-making.

#### 6. Environment and Public Spaces

Several environmental issues were raised:

- Litter and fly tipping
- Waste collection problems
- Lack of bins
- Safety concerns in parks (especially Ponderosa Park)
- Need for better lighting and safety measures

Residents suggested:

- Community clean-up initiatives
- Community skip days
- Better park maintenance and equipment

Top Priorities Identified by Participants

Across the workshops, three broad priorities consistently emerged.

### 1. Better Opportunities for Young People

Including:

- Youth activities
- Safe spaces
- Homework clubs
- Career and employment pathways

### 2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Through:

- Preventative youth work
- Awareness and education for parents
- Stronger partnership between communities and police

### 3. Employment, Skills and Community Development

Including:

- Training opportunities
- Apprenticeships
- Job fairs and employment pathways

### Key Message from the Workshops

Women clearly expressed that preventative investment in young people, stronger community support, and improved opportunities are essential for long-term safety and wellbeing in the area.

There was also strong recognition that the community already has important assets and organisations that could be supported to deliver solutions.