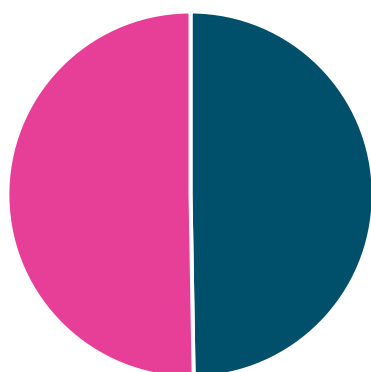


Between December 2022 and March 2023, we received 211 pieces of feedback from South Warwickshire residents during our 'Winter Outreach'. **185 of these pieces of feedback told us about the impact of cost of living on health and social care.**

On our website, online survey and at in person events, we asked:

Do you worry about the cost of treatment or transport? Is the rising cost of living affecting health or social care for you or someone you know? (For example: transport to services, prescription costs, cost of care or dental services) What affect is it having?

Is the rising cost of living affecting health or social care for you or someone you know?

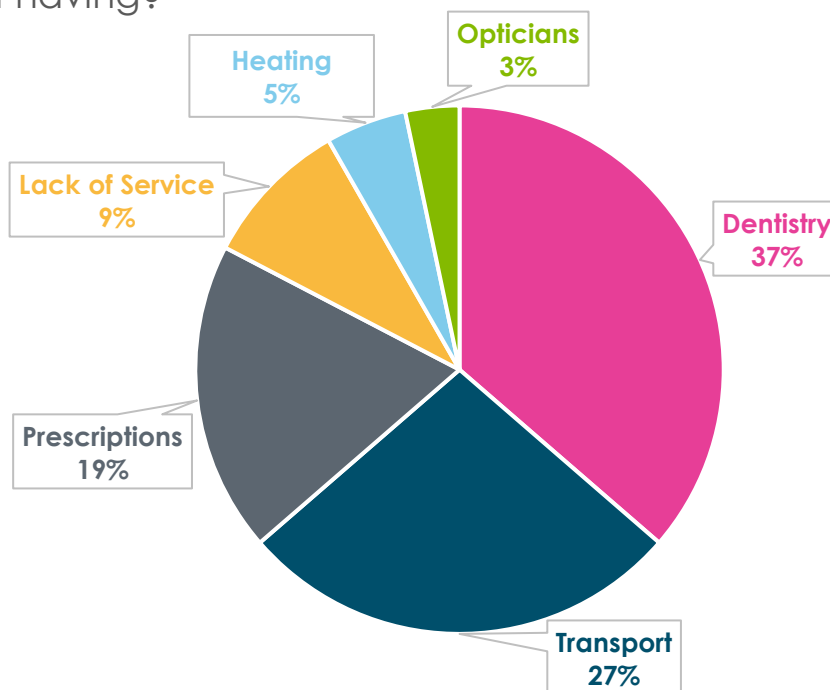


Of the 185 people who told us whether the rising cost of living is affecting them or someone they know, 92 said yes and 93 said no.

■ Yes ■ No

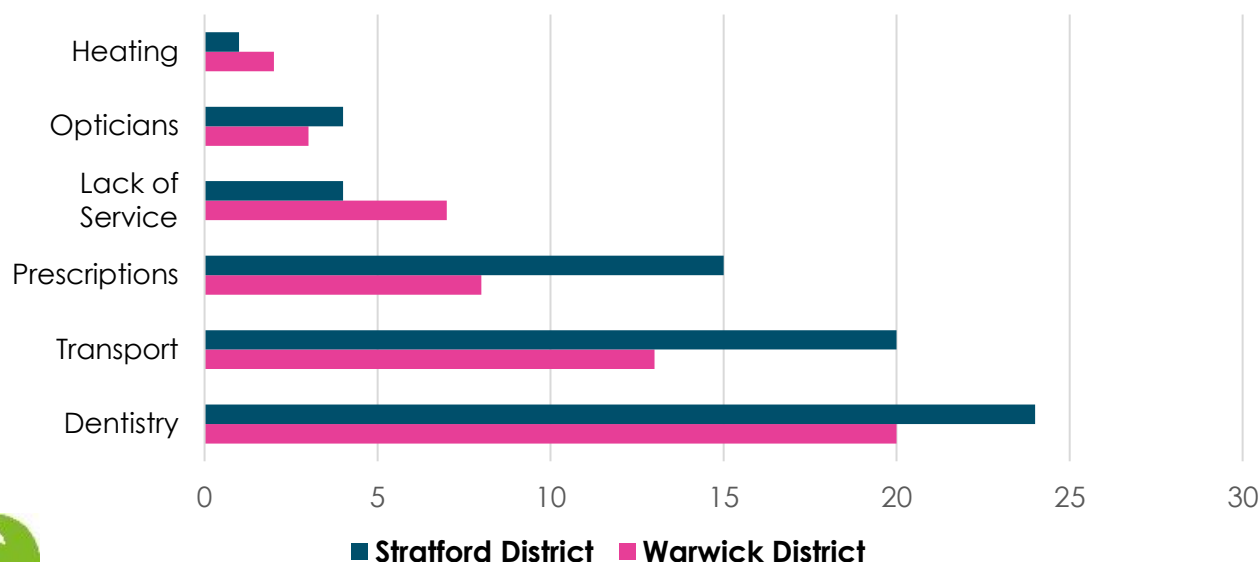
We asked people to tell us the affects that rising costs were having on them or someone they know. 6 areas of concern, about health or social care, were shared with us from South Warwickshire residents.

What affect is it having?



What did we hear in each district?

We heard 68 concerns from people living in Stratford District and 53 from people living in Warwick District. Feedback from Stratford District included more concerns in almost all areas, with worries about prescription costs being almost twice as high than for people living in Warwick District.



What did people tell us?

In South Warwickshire the most frequently mentioned areas of concern were paying for dentistry and transport. 44 people told us their concerns about dental costs for themselves or others, whilst 33 highlighted transport as a concern. This included parking costs, fuel, public transport, or taxis.

“I can't get to see the dentist due to cost and no NHS dentists. I am supposed to have dentures, but no one will do them. I can't travel to another dentist as I don't know anywhere but round here. Travel is expensive and it costs £11 to go anywhere on the bus.”

“I have delayed dental work due to concerns regarding the cost. Rather than having treatment I am taking pain medication instead.”

“Our nearest covid vaccinations were in Stoneleigh business park, miles away from Warwick. How do you expect people without cars to get there using expensive taxis?”



Five people told us that prescription costs were not a concern for them because they were entitled to free prescriptions, however, 23 people shared concerns about the cost of their medication.

“I need to have 2 prescriptions each month for mental health and stomach issues. I am wondering if I should stop taking them as I can't afford the price of the prescriptions but then I know I will suffer and be in pain.”

“Now that I take 3 prescribed medications monthly, I feel that I am spending a lot of money in just being able to continue living.”

11 people spoke to us about their concern for the health service, could it meet their needs, or would they need to use private providers?

“Due to a three year wait we have explored going private, which will cost thousands of pounds. This is extremely troublesome and worrying.”

The survey took place over winter and 6 people were concerned about the cost of heating their home impacting on their health.

“The cost of heating my house worries me, as the heat helps my osteoarthritis.”

Who did we hear from?

To enable people to respond to our questions we used an online form which was shared on social media. All schools and parish councils in South Warwickshire were sent a copy and asked to share it with their contacts. We produced the questions in a leaflet which was given to VCSE organisations to distribute, and which could be returned by free post. Our engagement officers visited community spaces and events such as playgroups, warm hubs, community cafes, hospital waiting rooms and cost of living events to distribute the survey and to support people to fill it in. Groups were visited in Alcester, Shipston on Stour, Bidford, Southam, Warwick, Leamington Spa, Kenilworth, Stratford upon Avon, Henley in Arden, Snitterfield, Bishopston, Lighthorn Heath & Stretton on Fosse. As an incentive to share feedback we offered the opportunity to be entered into a £25 prize draw.



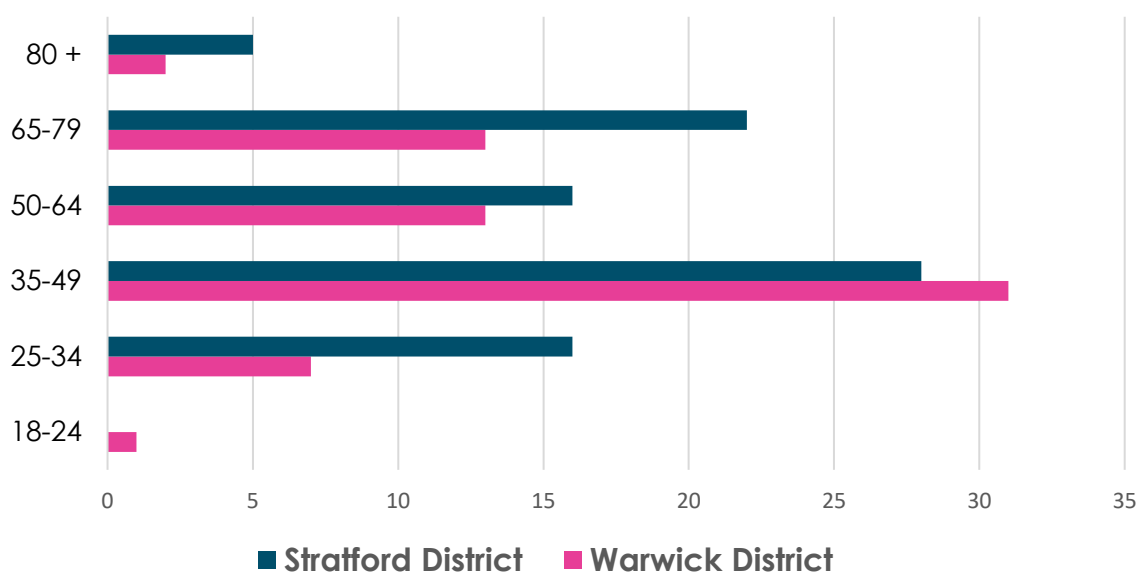
From the 211 people who responded to our winter outreach survey from South Warwickshire, 103 were from Stratford District and 108 were from Warwick District.

In both districts, the majority of responders were between 35 and 49 years old.

87 people from Stratford District shared their age with us.

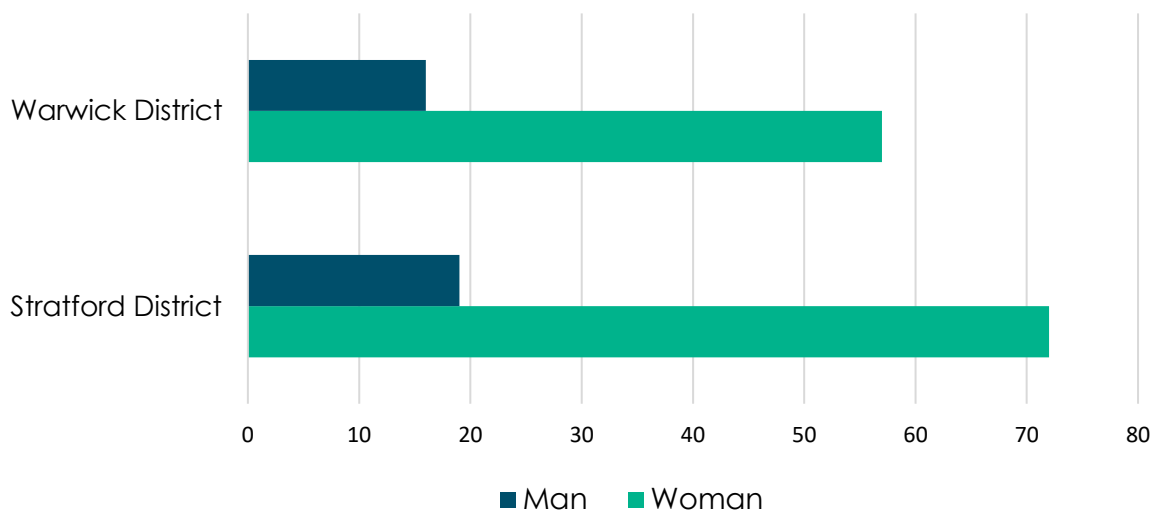
67 people from Warwick District shared their age with us.

Age of responders by district



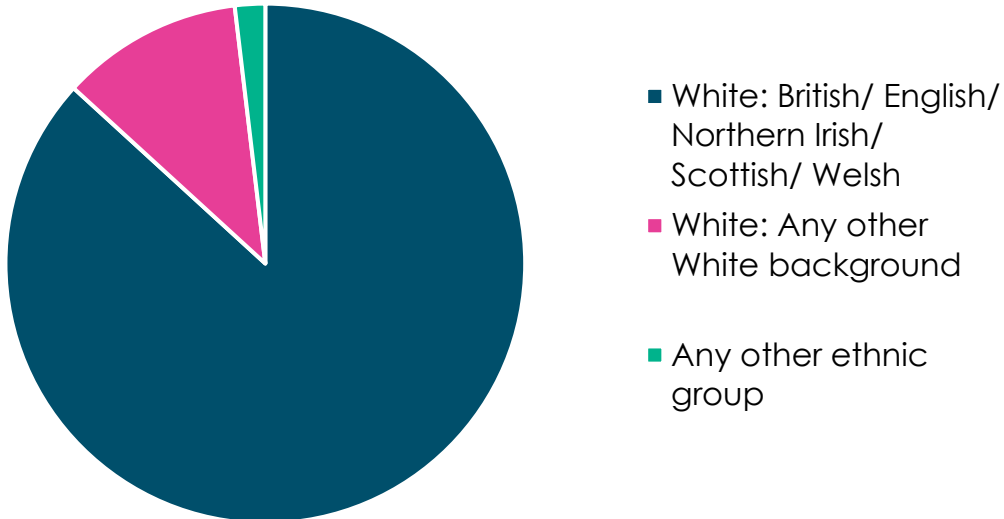
In both districts we had a higher response rate from women than men.

Gender of responders



54 people from Stratford District shared their ethnicity.

Stratford District



57 people from Warwick District shared their ethnicity.

Warwick District

