# Leicester Chemsex Survey

### Introduction

The Leicester Chemsex Survey ran from 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018. During that time, 123 responses to the survey were received.

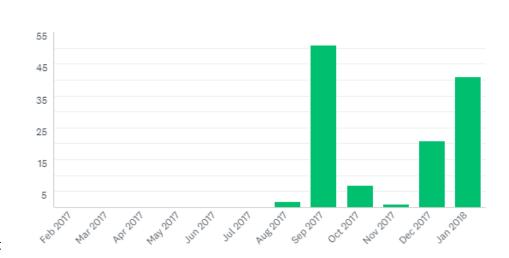
|   | NICKNAME   | STATUS | RESPONSES |
|---|--|--------|-----------|
| 8 | Scruff Link<br>Created 8/22/2017                         | CLOSED | 13        |
| 8 | Web Link - Manual Entry 1<br>Created 9/4/2017            | CLOSED | 29        |
| P | Grindr Link<br>Created 12/19/2017                        | CLOSED | 42        |
| 8 | Nasty Kink Pigs<br>Created 1/16/2018                     | CLOSED | 3         |
| 8 | Web Link - Turning Point<br>Created 12/19/2017           | CLOSED | 1         |
| 8 | Web Link - Leicester Sexual Health<br>Created 12/19/2017 | CLOSED | 0         |
| 8 | Web Link - Trade<br>Created 8/22/2017                    | CLOSED | 35        |
|   |  |        |           |

Between August and November, the main methods of promotion of the survey were through Trade's Facebook and Twitter social media accounts, Leicester Pride in September and through the MSM-targeted app Scruff.

Between November and the survey closing, the survey was also shared with Leicester Sexual Health and Turning Point.

Two broadcast messages were also sent out on the GPS-based app Grindr, which is specifically targeted towards MSM. A community member also came forward wanting to promote the survey on targeted website call Nasty Kink Pigs, which they were a member of.

This graph shows the months in which responses for the survey were received. The clear peaks can be seen during September (Leicester Pride) and when the two Grindr broadcast messages went out (December 2017 and January 2018).

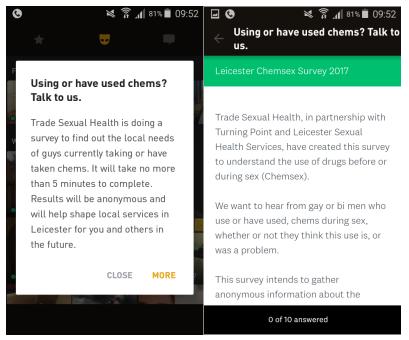


A copy of the survey questions can be found in Appendix 1.

### Social Media Data

### Grindr

#### Screenshots of broadcast



### Data on impressions/click-through

Dec 21st 2017

9,654 Impressions/Users

84 Clicks

Click through rate (CTR) = 0.87%

12 completed responses (14.29% of clicks)

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 2018

9,607 Impressions/Users

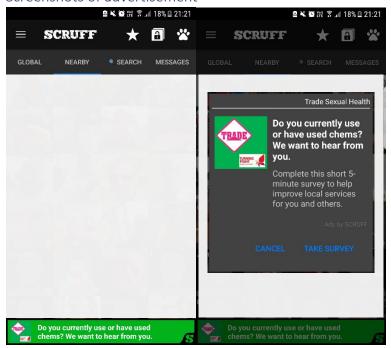
201 Clicks

Click through rate (CTR) = 2.09%

30 completed responses (14.93% of clicks)

### Scruff

### Screenshots of advertisement



### Data on impressions/click-through

Created on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017

295,590 Banner Ad Impressions

264 Pop-Up Displays/Clicks on banner

0.09% Pop-Up Display Rate

13 completed responses (4.92% of clicks)

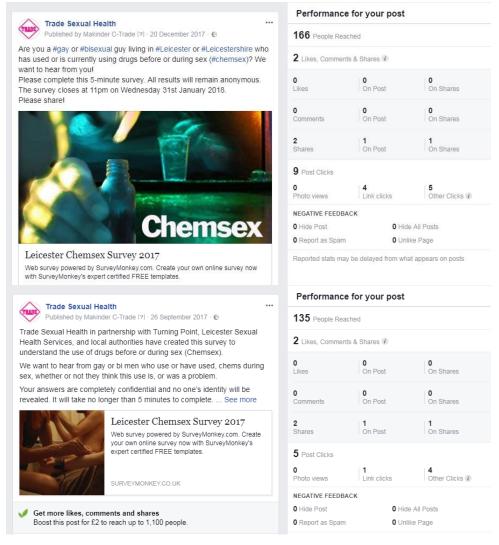
- August 2017 2 responses
- September 2017 3 responses
- October 2017 6 responses
- November 2017 1 response
- December 2017 1 response

### Limitations

• Only shows when people have not paid for a premium account

#### Facebook

### Screenshots of posts



#### Twitter

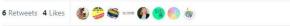
### Screenshots of posts



There is still time to take part in our #Chemsex survey. If you are a #gay or #bisexual man living in #Leicester and use or have used chems during sex, we want to hear from you. Your results are completely confidential & will help shape future services: surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H3BZ9SQ



2:08 PM - 8 Dec 2017





#Leicester or #Leicestershire who has used or is currently using drugs before or during sex (#chemsex)? We want to hear from you! Please complete this 5-minute survey. All results will remain anonymous:









Are you a #gay or #bisexual guy living in surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LLRCSTSH17

### **Findings**

Of the 123 respondents of the survey, 51 (42%) self-identified as having taken recreational drugs in the past 12 months, including before or during sex.

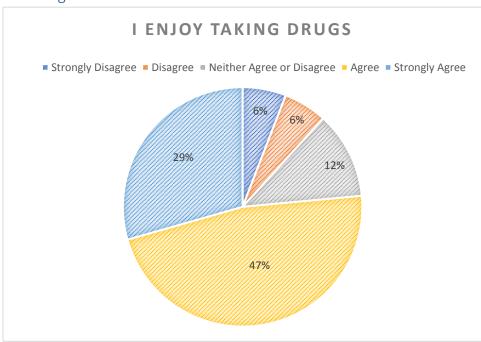
### Chemsex drug usage

The most common drugs used before or during sex were:

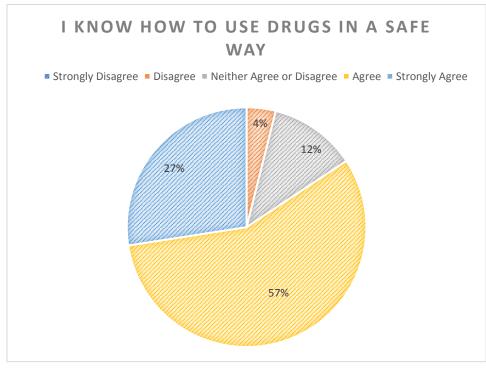
- Cocaine (59%) 30 respondents
- GHB/GBL (59%) 30 respondents
- Mephedrone (43%) 22 respondents
- Crystal Meth (37%) 19 respondents
- Ketamine (27%) 14 respondents

Other drugs mentioned included Ecstasy/MDMA, cannabis and poppers.

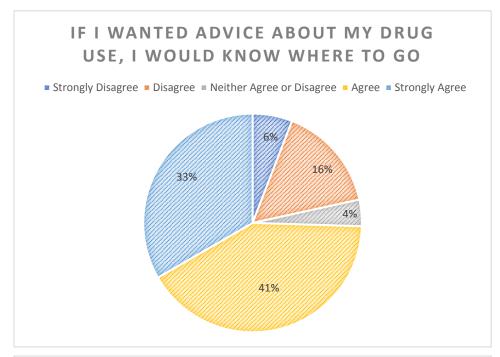
### Insights



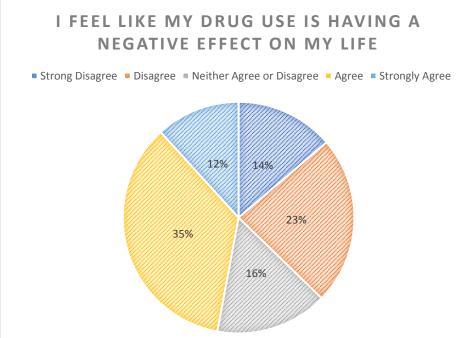
Over three quarters of respondents (76%) agreed or strongly agreed that they enjoyed taking drugs.



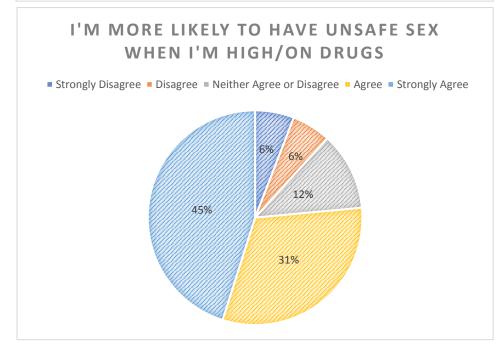
Under one fifth of respondents (16%) said they do not know or were unsure how to use drugs in a safe way.



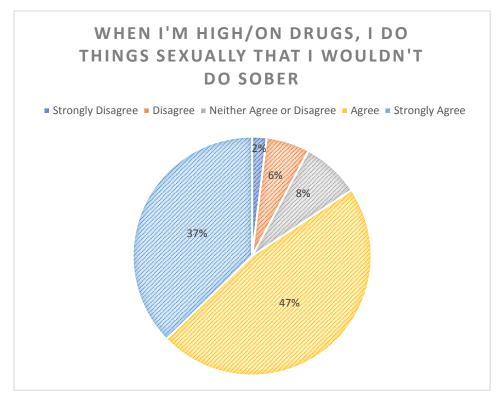
A quarter of respondents said that they would not know or were unsure where to go that if they wanted advice about drug use.



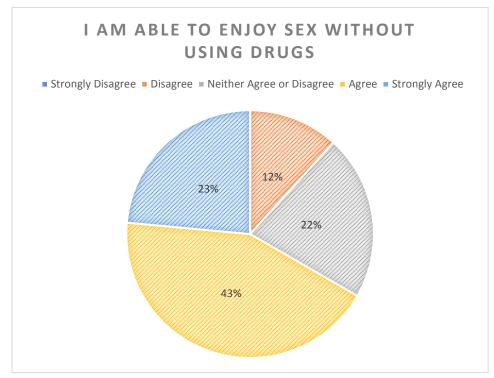
Almost a half of respondents (47%) agreed or strongly agreed that they felt like drug use was having a negative effect on their life.



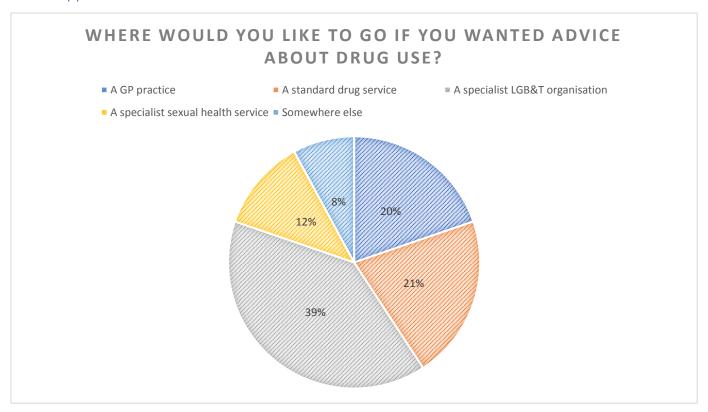
Nearly 75% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they were more likely to have unsafe sex when high/on drugs.



84% agreed or strongly agreed that they would do things sexually that they would not do if they were sober.



A third of respondents said that they were not able to enjoy sex without using drugs.



- Over half (59%) said they would want to access advice from a specialist LGB&T organisation, like Trade Sexual Health
- Under 1/3 of respondents (31%) said they would want to access advice from a standard drug service, like Turning Point.
- 29% said they would want to access advice through their GP.
- 17% said they would want to access advice through a specialist sexual health service.
- Other places people said they would want to access advice included online and through peer groups, such as friends.

### **Demographics**

### Age

### Of the 51 Chemsex respondents:

- 37% were aged between 36-49
- 29% were aged between 26-35
- 18% were aged between 21-25
- 10% were aged between 50-65
- 6% were aged between 18-20

### Sexual orientation

- 71% identified as gay
- 25% identified as bisexual
- 2% identified as heterosexual (MSM)
- 2% identified as other

### Gender identity

- 88% identified as male
- 12% identified as non-binary
- 98% identified as cisgender
- 2% identified under the trans umbrella

### Ethnicity

- 58% identified as White British
- 20% identified as South Asian
- 10% identified as White European
- 4% identified as Mixed/Dual Heritage
- 4% identified as White Other
- 2% identified as Black
- 2 % decided not to disclose (1 person)

### Area of residence

- 51% live in Leicester City
- 45% live in Leicestershire County
- 4% live in Rutland County

### Summary

- The majority of gay and bisexual men, and other men who have sex with men, who have engaged within Chemsex are aged 26-49 (66% of respondents).
- People who engage in Chemsex perceive themselves to be at higher sexual risk.
- Half of the Chemsex respondents felt that drugs were having a negative effect on their lives, including their sex lives with a third of respondents saying they were no longer able to enjoy sex without drugs.
- Although the majority of respondents knew how to use drugs in a safe way, there
  was still a quarter of respondents who said they would not know where to go for
  advice and support on their drug use.

This survey has been able to provide us with the first estimates of gay and bisexual men, and other MSM living across LLR (based on number of Grindr impressions approximately 10,000) = 3.9% of all men aged 20+ across LLR (approximately 258,193 based on mid-2016 population estimates). However, this does have its limitations:

- Gay and bisexual men, and other MSM, having Grindr downloaded on their phone
- Men who have Grindr but did not access it on the days of the broadcasts

## Leicester Chemsex Survey 2017

Trade Sexual Health in partnership with Turning Point, Leicester Sexual Health Services, and local authorities have created this survey to understand the use of drugs before or during sex (Chemsex).

We want to hear from gay or bi men who use, or have used, chems during sex, whether or not they think, this use is, or was a problem.

This survey intends to gather anonymous information about the Chemsex trends in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Your answers are completely confidential and no one's identity will be revealed. It will take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

Results from this survey will help support the development of locally targeted services.

Thank you for taking part.

If you would like support around the issues covered in this survey, please contact:

Trade Sexual Health

0116 254 1747

info@tradesexualhealth.com

www.tradesexualhealth.com









# **Leicester Chemsex Survey 2017**

| Cocaine   | Ecstasy                  |
|---|--------------------------|
| Mephadrone  | LSD                      |
| GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)  | Magic mushrooms          |
| Ketamine  | Heroin                   |
| MDMA  | Cannabis                 |
| Crystal meth  | No I haven't             |
| Other (please specify)  |                          |
|   |                          |
| 2. In the last 12 months, have you during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine | Crystal Meth             |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine                                    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth             |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine                                    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |
| during sex? (Select all that apply)  Cocaine  Ketamine  GHB/GBL (also known as G/Tina)    | Crystal Meth  Mephedrone |

|   | Strongly<br>disagree | Disagree | Neither<br>agree nor<br>disagree | Agree | Strongly<br>agree | l don' |
|---|----------------------|----------|----------------------------------|-------|-------------------|--------|
| I enjoy taking<br>drugs   | •                    | •        | •                                | •     | •                 |        |
| I know how to<br>use drugs in a<br>safe way                                       | 0                    | 0        | 0                                | 0     | 0                 |        |
| If I wanted<br>advice about my<br>drug use, I would<br>know where to<br>go        | •                    | •        | •                                | •     | •                 |        |
| I feel like my<br>drug use is<br>having a negative<br>effect on my life           | 0                    | 0        | 0                                | 0     | 0                 |        |
| I'm more likely to<br>have unsafe sex<br>when I'm high/on<br>drugs                | •                    | •        | •                                | •     | •                 |        |
| When I'm high/on<br>drugs, I do things<br>sexually that I<br>wouldn't do<br>sober | 0                    | 0        | 0                                | 0     | 0                 |        |
| I am able to<br>enjoy sex<br>without using<br>drugs                               | •                    | •        | •                                | •     | •                 |        |

| 5. How would you describe your sexual orientation?  |  |
|---|--|
| Gay   |  |
| Bisexual  |  |
| Hetrosexual   |  |
| Other (please specify)  |  |
|   |  |
|   |  |
| 6. What is your age?  |  |
|   |  |
|   |  |
| 7. What is your current gender identity?  |  |
| Male  |  |
| Non-binary Non-binary   |  |
|   |  |
| Other (please specify)  |  |
| Other (please specify)  8. Are you the same sex as assigned at birth?   |  |
|   |  |
| 8. Are you the same sex as assigned at birth?  Yes  |  |
| 8. Are you the same sex as assigned at birth?  Yes  No  |  |
| 8. Are you the same sex as assigned at birth?  Yes  No  |  |
| 8. Are you the same sex as assigned at birth?  Yes  No  9. How would you describe your ethnicity?                                 |  |
| 8. Are you the same sex as assigned at birth?  Yes  No  9. How would you describe your ethnicity?  10. Which area do you live in? |  |