City views:
How does Birmingham see London?

The Centre for Cities commissioned YouGov to conduct a survey to better understand how people see London and its impact on the country as a whole as well as the city they live in. This summary provides information on how the residents of Birmingham responded and how their responses compare to the national opinion, excluding those in London.

Survey Information

All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2,315 adults, of which 106 were from Birmingham. Fieldwork was undertaken between 11th - 19th March 2014. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of either all UK adults (aged 18+) excluding those in London, or all adults in Birmingham (aged 18+).

Economy

Does London have a negative or positive impact on the economy in the UK as a whole?

	Very positive impact	Fairly positive impact	No impact	Fairly negative impact	Very negative impact	Don't know
Birmingham	23%	35%	8%	16%	7%	9%
UK (excluding London)	24%	42%	11%	10%	5%	9%

Does London have a negative or positive impact on the economy in the city (/town) that you live in?

	Very positive impact	Fairly positive impact	No impact	Fairly negative impact	Very negative impact	Don't know
Birmingham	3%	23%	30%	24%	6%	13%
UK (excluding London)	6%	18%	45%	14%	8%	9%

Politics, leadership and public services

How much do you agree or disagree with this statement: *"The location of Whitehall and Parliament means that political decisions are too focused on London in comparison to the rest of the UK."*?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Birmingham	25%	43%	14%	3%	2%	13%
UK (excluding London)	26%	38%	18%	9%	3%	6%

How much do you agree or disagree with this statement: *"Whitehall and Parliament are responsive to the issues in the city (/town) where you live."?*

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Birmingham	5%	7%	24%	28%	19%	16%
UK (excluding London)	3%	14%	25%	30%	20%	8%

Do you think a mayor position like The Mayor of London would be beneficial to your city (/ town)?

	Very beneficial	Fairly beneficial	Not very beneficial	Not beneficial at all	Don't know
Birmingham	11%	25%	15%	26%	23%
UK (excluding London)	9%	30%	26%	22%	13%

How does the quality of each of these public services in your city (/town) compare to those in London?

	Much better in my city (/town) than London	A little better in my city (/town) than London	About the same in my city (/ town) and London	A little better in London than my city (/town)	Much better in London than my city (/town)	Don't know
Healthcare						
Birmingham	7%	10%	32%	11%	3%	37%
UK (excluding London)	11%	17%	27%	10%	13%	22%
Schools						
Birmingham	10%	8%	31%	10%	6%	35%
UK (excluding London)	16%	22%	21%	8%	8%	24%
Public transport						
Birmingham	5%	9%	19%	19%	32%	15%
UK (excluding London)	7%	9%	15%	15%	42%	12%
Leadership of local councillors						
Birmingham	6%	8%	25%	14%	12%	35%
UK (excluding London)	7%	12%	28%	12%	10%	31%

Culture and media

Do you think the national coverage of news stories in the UK is or is not focused on London?

	Very focused on London	Fairly focused on London	Not very focused on London	Not focused on London at all	Don't know
Birmingham	34%	40%	12%	3%	11%
UK (excluding London)	22%	54%	14%	3%	8%

Wellbeing and quality of life

Do you think London is a good or poor place to raise a family?

	Very good	Fairly good	Fairly poor	Very poor	Don't know
Birmingham	2%	28%	38%	12%	20%
UK (excluding London)	3%	29%	39%	18%	11%

Which of the following words/ phrases do you think best describe London? (Respondents could choose up to five.)

Connections

Have you ever lived or would you ever live in London?

	I have lived in London and I would consider living there again in the future	I have lived in London, but I wouldn't consider living there again in the future	I haven't lived in London, but I would consider living there in the future	I haven't lived in London and I wouldn't consider living there in the future	Don't know
Birmingham	7%	5%	21%	59%	7%
UK (excluding London)	8%	15%	12%	62%	3%

How often do you visit London for the following reasons?

	Every day	Not every day, but at least once a week	Not once a week, but at least once a month	Not once a month, but at least once every three months	Not once every three months, but at least once every six months	Not once every six months, but at least once a year	Less often than once a year	Never	Don't know
Work purposes									
Birmingham	1%	-	1%	5%	7%	6%	7%	71%	2%
UK (excluding London)	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%	4%	10%	69%	2%
Holiday or leisure purposes									
Birmingham	-	1%	1%	8%	5%	15%	38%	30%	2%
UK (excluding London)	1%	1%	4%	7%	9%	14%	34%	28%	2%
To see family									
Birmingham	-	-	1%	2%	3%	8%	13%	70%	2%
UK (excluding London)	1%	1%	3%	4%	5%	4%	9%	72%	2%

Contact

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Download the full report *City views: how do Britain's cities see London?* from: www.centreforcities.org/city-views

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