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PUBLIC CONSULTATION  
REPORT - January 2021



## FRIENDLY ACCESS PUBLIC CONSULTATION SURVEY REPORT – ‘TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD’ POLICY (DRAFT) – JANUARY 2021

Friendly Access has now undertaken two surveys on transition from adolescence to adulthood.

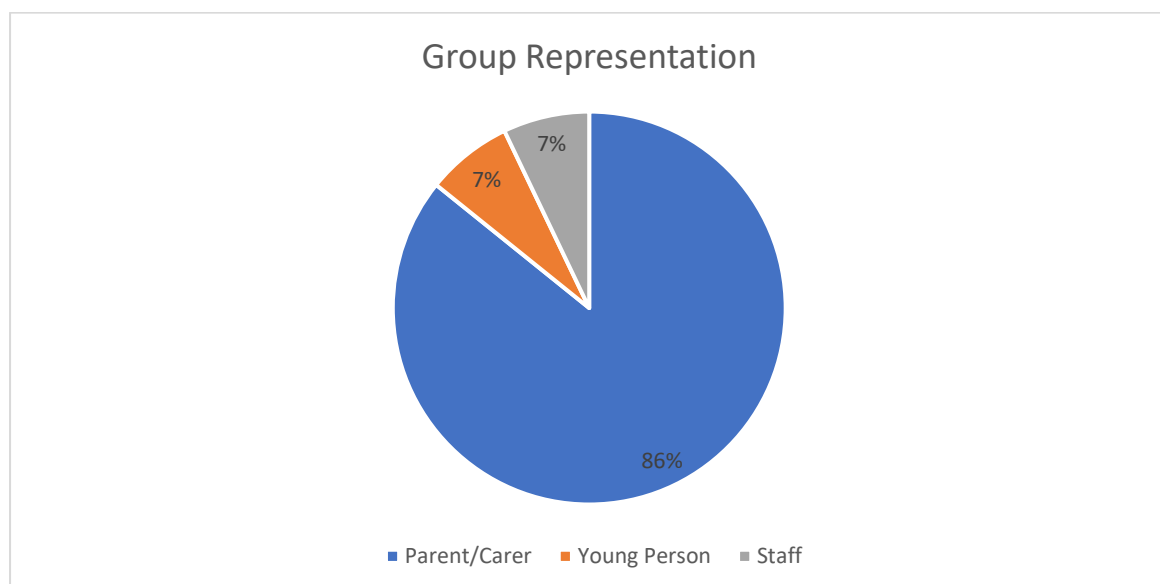
- [Moving young people with Additional Support Needs \(ASN\) from council-run Children’s Services to Adult Services](#) (August 2020)<sup>1</sup>
- Transitions to Adulthood Policy (draft) - Public Consultation Report (January 2021)

The first survey gathered the experiences of parents, carers and young people pre, current, and post transition planning. Building on the first survey, the second survey explores the issues highlighted to discover if the re-drafted transitions policy would potentially improve experiences and expectations of young people and their families, if the policy meets approval.

### Transitions to Adulthood Policy (Draft) - Consultation Report Summary

A total of 42 responded to the survey; an increase of 64% from the previous survey. Parents/ carers made up 85.7% (compared to 100% from the previous survey) of respondents with equal numbers from young people (7.1%) and staff (7.1%).

All 42 (100%) respondents are from within Moray.

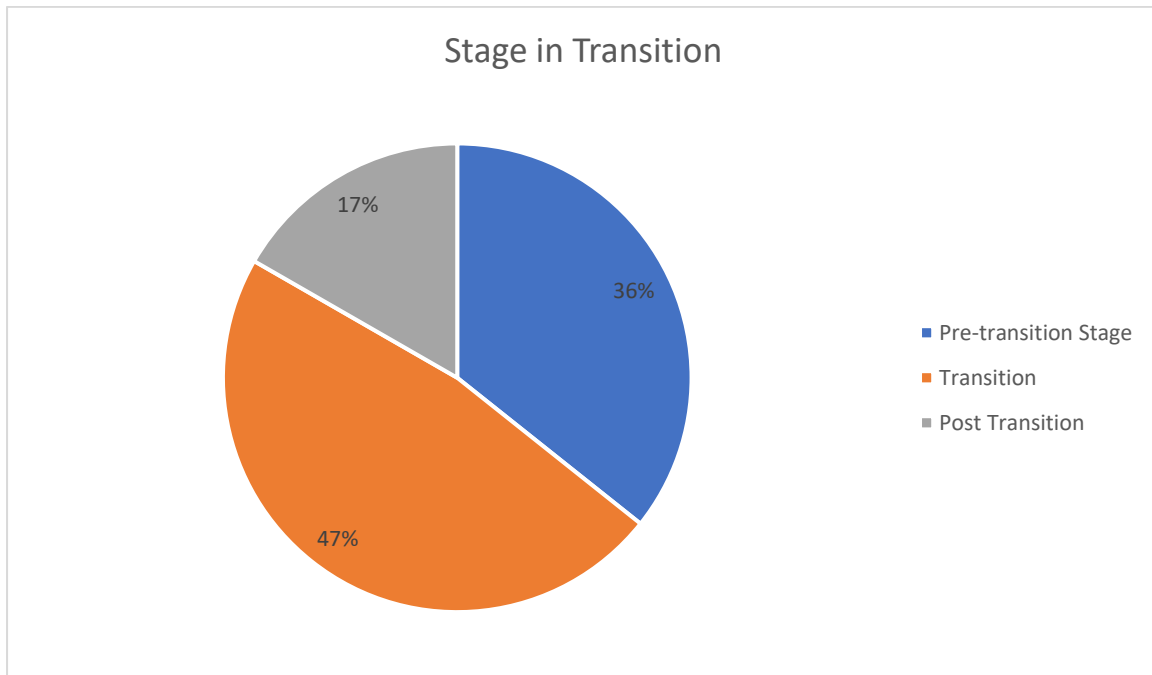


Parent/Carer = 36 (85.7%), Young Person = 3 (7.1%), Staff = 3 (7.1%), n=42

<sup>1</sup> <https://friendlyaccess.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Transition-Planning-Report-v1.4.pdf>

The majority of respondents are either pre-transition stage (35.7%) or in the transition stage (47.6%) with only a few respondents who have left school (16.7%). While the transition stage has a similar percentage of respondents (50%) in the previous survey, there is almost a reversing of respondents from the first survey to the second survey with post transition stage (31% compared to 16.7%) and pre-transition stage (19% compared with 35.7%).

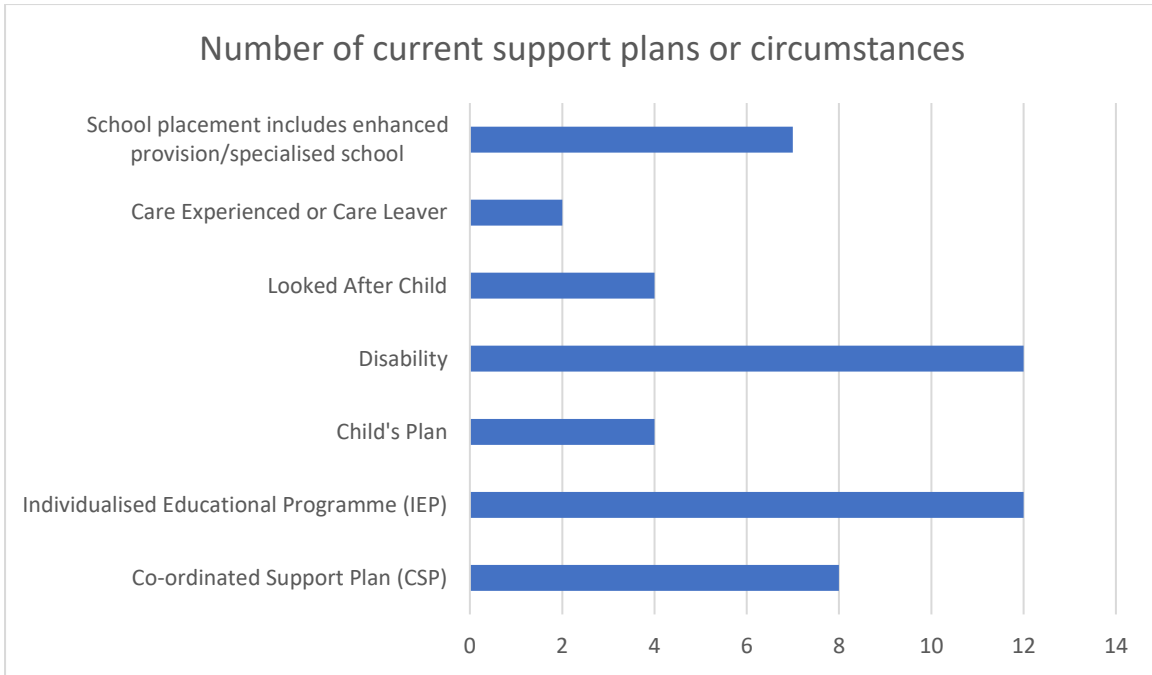
With the majority of respondents currently in or at a future transition stage, it would appear that the views of those people who will be impacted by the re-drafted policy has been reached.



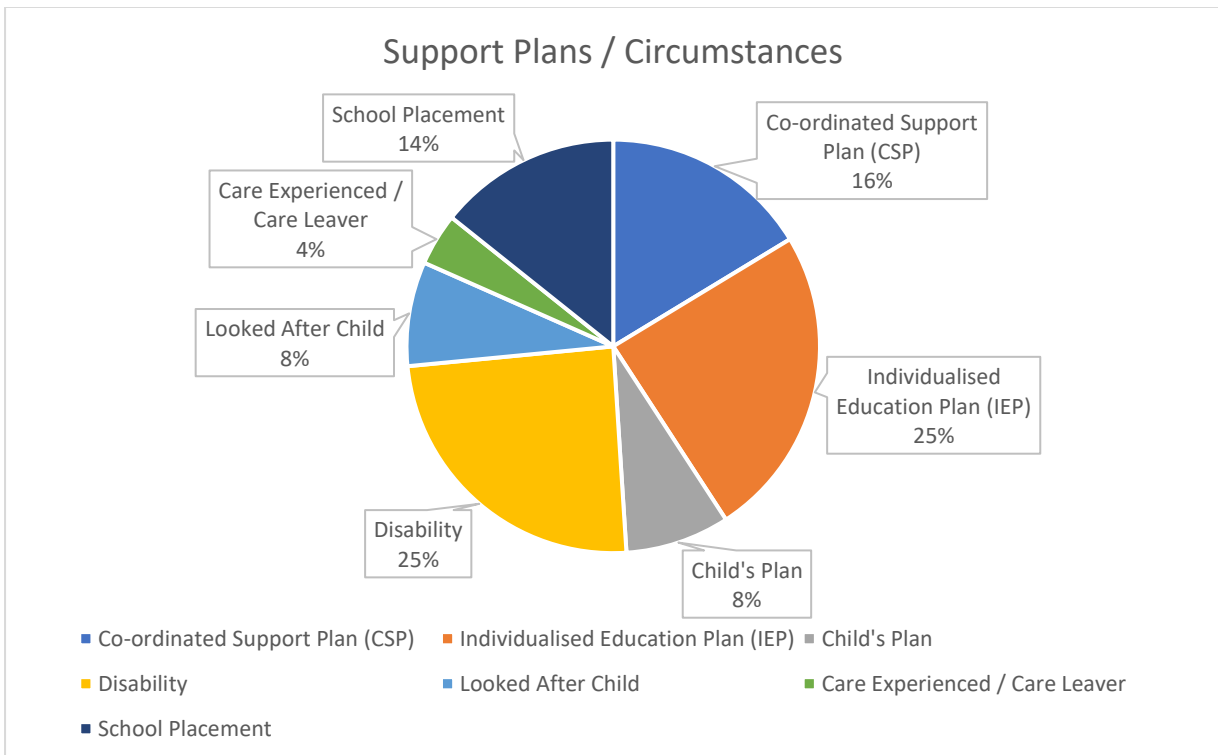
*Pre-transition stage (4 years before leaving secondary school) = 15 (35.7%), Transition (1-3 years before leaving secondary school) = 20 (47.6%), Post transition (left secondary school) = 7 (16.7%)*

As young people may have a number of support plans currently in place, respondents were asked to tick as many as applied. 60% of respondents have at least one support plan or circumstance with 40% having not ticked any option.

Since the policy covers transitions for all young people, the respondents represent a wide range of circumstances from the most complex circumstances requiring high level of transition support to no additional needs requiring a lower level of support from universal services.



Individualised Educational Programmes and Disability are the most popular responses receiving around a quarter of the responses. Compared to the previous survey which asked a similar type of question, the Individualised Education Programme was given by half of the respondents. From both surveys a similar percentage are stated for Co-ordinated Support Plans (16.3% compared to 15%) and Looked After Children (both at 8%)



Co-ordinated Support Plan = 8 (16%), Individualised Education Plan = 12 (25%), Child's Plan = 4 (8%), Disability = 12 (25%), Looked after child = 4 (8%), Care Experienced/ Care Leaver = 2 (4%), School placement = 7 (14%)

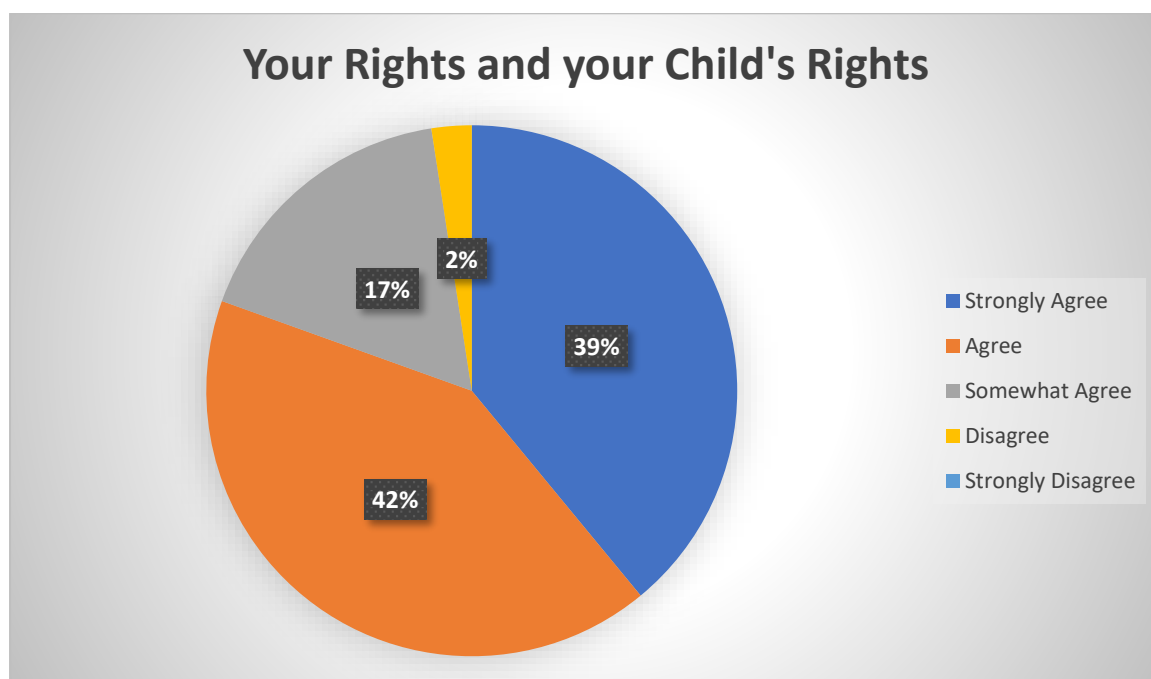
## Policy context

We asked if this policy or relevant section clearly outlined the following:

### Does this policy or relevant section clearly outline:

- Your rights and your child's rights

Almost 80% of respondents agree (39%) or strongly agree (41.5%) they would know their rights compared to the previous survey in which 67% were unsure of their rights. However, this still leaves about 1 in 5 respondents not totally clear about their rights to transition support.



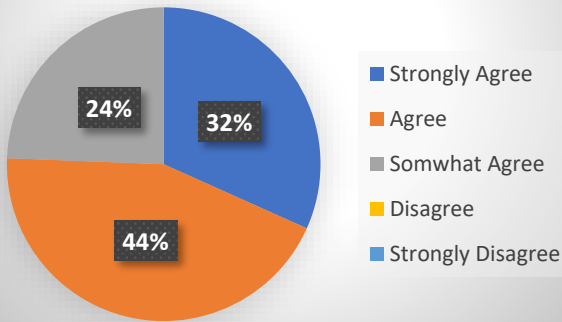
Strongly Agree = 16 (39%), Agree = 17 (42%), Somewhat Agree = 7 (17%), Disagree = 1 (2%), Strongly Disagree = 0 (0%)

### Does this policy or relevant section clearly outline:

- Who qualifies for transition support and services
- What level of support to expect
- How to access services and support
- What options you have

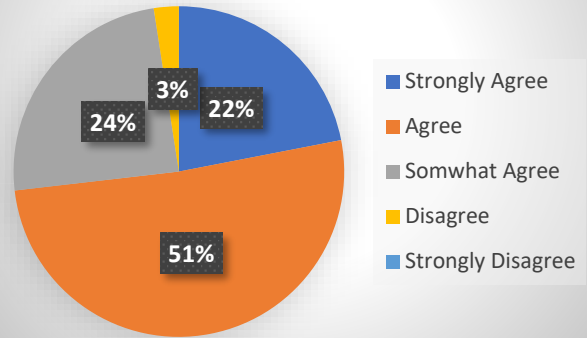
3 out of 4 respondents either agree or strongly agree that they are clear who qualifies for support and the level of support expected with no respondents disagreeing. However, the respondents are less clear about accessing services and support and their future options with a small number of respondents disagreeing or strongly disagreeing. While these are better results than the previous survey where 88% of respondents did not understand information around their options, these results imply that two sections ('how to access services, support' and 'what their options are') could be clearer in the policy.

## Who qualifies for Transition Support & Sevices



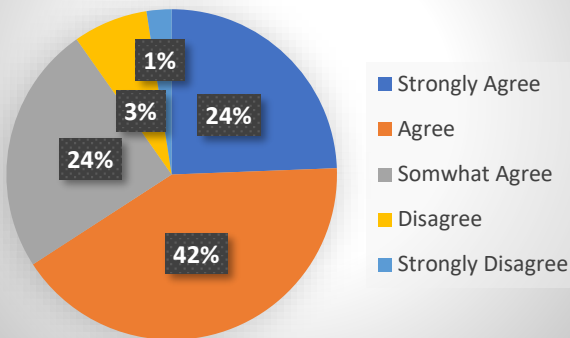
Strongly Agree = 13 (31.7%), Agree = 18 (43.9%), Somewhat Agree = 10 (24.4%), Disagree = 0 (0%), Strongly Disagree = 0 (0%)

## What level of support to expect



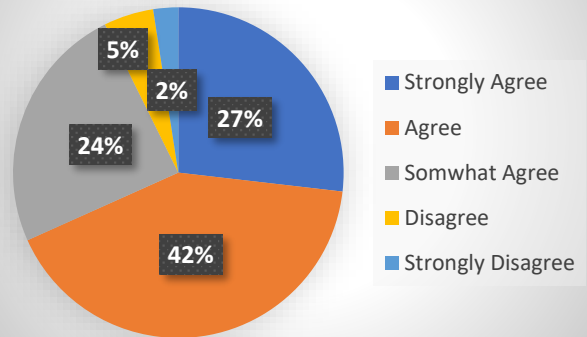
Strongly Agree = 9 (22%), Agree = 21 (51.2%), Somewhat Agree = 10 (24.4%), Disagree = 1 (2.4%), Strongly Disagree = 0 (0%)

## How to access Services & Support



Strongly Agree = 10 (24.4%), Agree = 17 (41.5%), Somewhat Agree = 10 (24.4%), Disagree = 3 (7.3%), Strongly Disagree = 1 (2.4%)

## What options you have

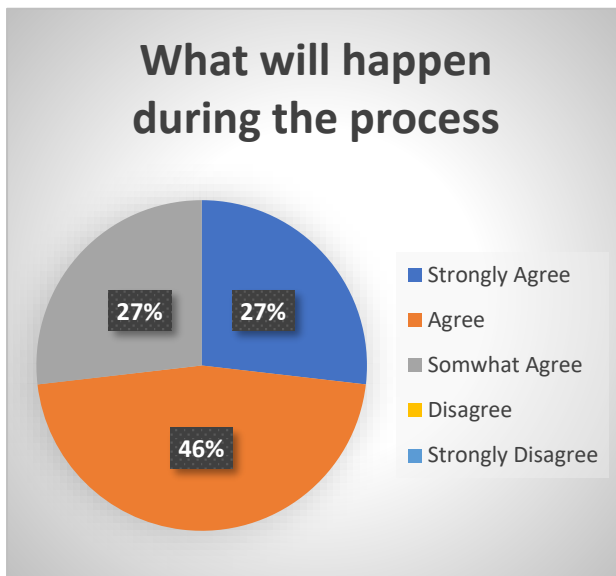


Strongly Agree = 11 (26.8%), Agree = 17 (41.5%), Somewhat Agree = 10 (24.4%), Disagree = 2 (4.9%), Strongly Disagree = 1 (2.4%)

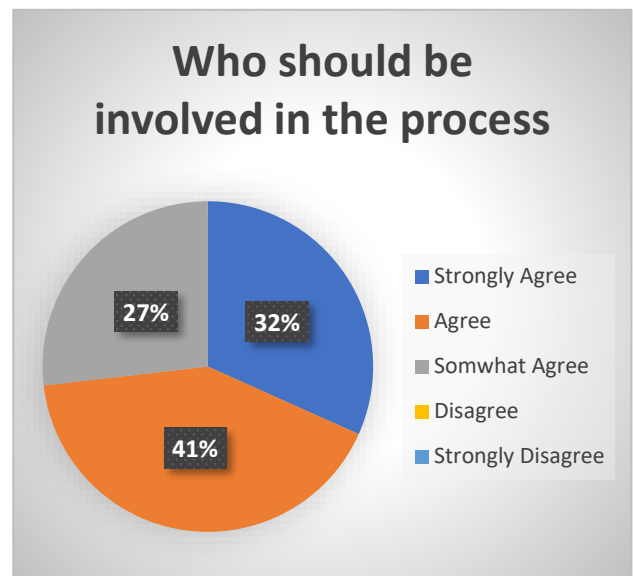
**Does this policy or relevant section clearly outline:**

- What will happen during the process
- Who should be involved in the process

The majority of respondents agree (41.5%) or strongly agree (31.7%) that they understood what would happen during the transition process and who would be involved with no one disagreeing. Nonetheless a quarter of respondents are only somewhat clear about the processes as outlined in the policy leaving the potential to review these sections to provide more clarity.



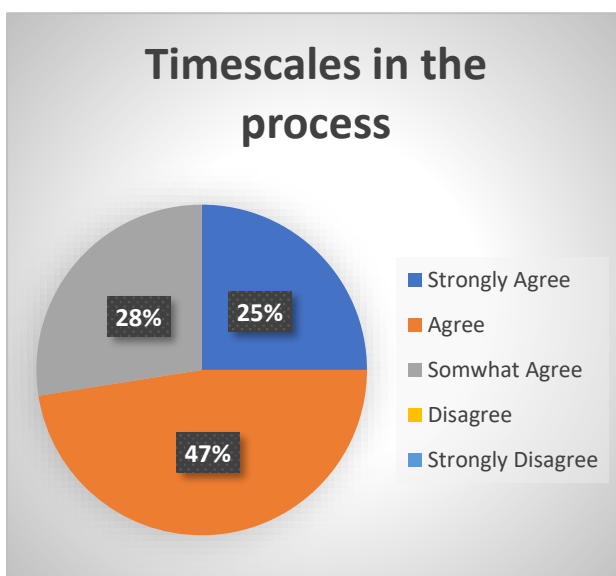
*Strongly Agree = 11 (26.8%), Agree = 19 (46.3%), Somewhat Agree = 11 (26.8%), Disagree = 0 (0%), Strongly Disagree = 1 (0%)*



*Strongly Agree = 13 (31.7%), Agree = 17 (41.5%), Somewhat Agree = 11 (26.8%), Disagree = 0 (0%), Strongly Disagree = 0 (0%)*

**Does this policy or relevant section clearly outline:**

- Timescales in the process

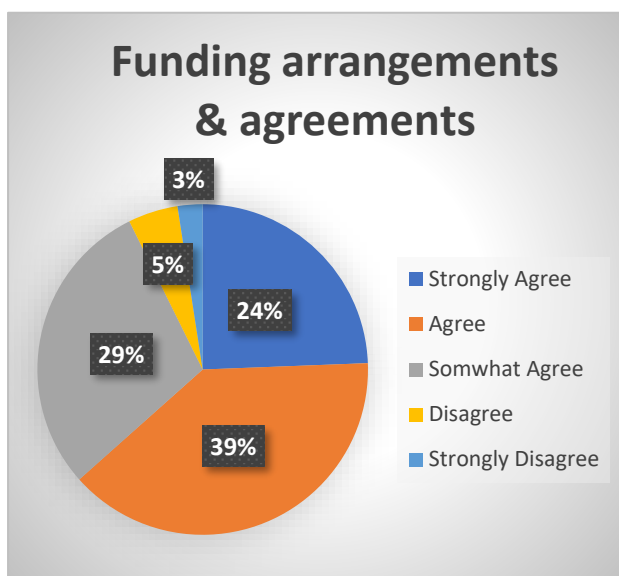


Similar to the results in the process, all respondents are at least somewhat clear about the timescales.

*Strongly Agree = 10 (25%), Agree = 19 (47.5%), Somewhat Agree = 11 (27.5%), Disagree = 0 (0%), Strongly Disagree = 0 (0%)*

## Does this policy or relevant section clearly outline:

- Funding arrangements and agreements



Compared to the sections on the processes and timescales in which around 73% of respondents agree that the policy is clear, 10% less respondents agree that information on funding is clear with almost 30% being only somewhat clear, 2 respondents disagreeing and 1 respondent strongly disagreeing. This section should be reviewed to provide more clarity.

*Strongly Agree = 10 (24.4%), Agree = 16 (39%), Somewhat Agree = 12 (29.3%), Disagree = 2 (4.9%), Strongly Disagree = 1 (2.4%)*

The survey asked, 'Is there any other topic which you think should be covered in the policy?'

Only 2 respondents provided additional information, and no one provided additional comments on any of the questions above.

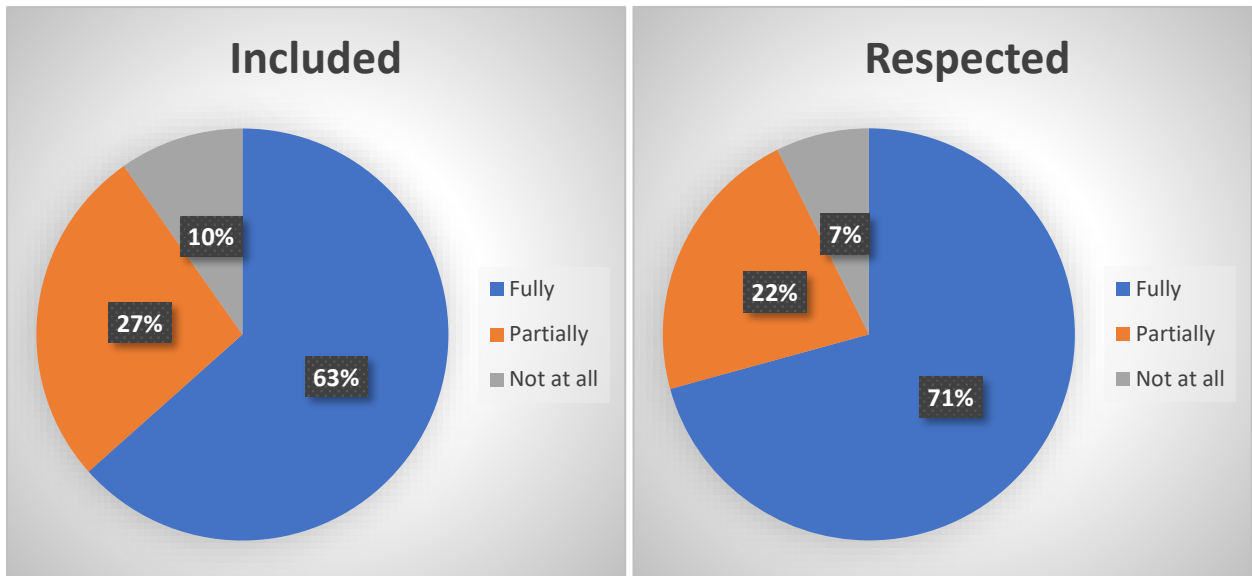
We asked, 'If the policy is approved and implemented as described, would you feel that you and your child have been:

- Included
- Respected

According to the previous survey, over half of the respondents did not feel included (58%) nor respected (54%); and no one (0%) felt fully supported. Encouragingly, the re-drafted policy has given the respondents better hope for feeling fully included (63.4%) and respected (70.7%). However, almost a quarter still feel they would only be partially included (26.8%) and respected (22%). More concerning is that almost 1 in 10 would still not feel included at all (9.8%) and a smaller percentage (7.3%) not respected.

While the majority of responses anticipated a positive experience of being included and respected, the positive response rate was lower than the positive response rate to the clarity of the policy, particularly for feeling fully included. These results show the respondents, while indicating that the policy is clear, do not completely align their anticipated personal experience when the policy is implemented for them or their young person. This discord between the policy and implementation is perhaps an area to be explored further.



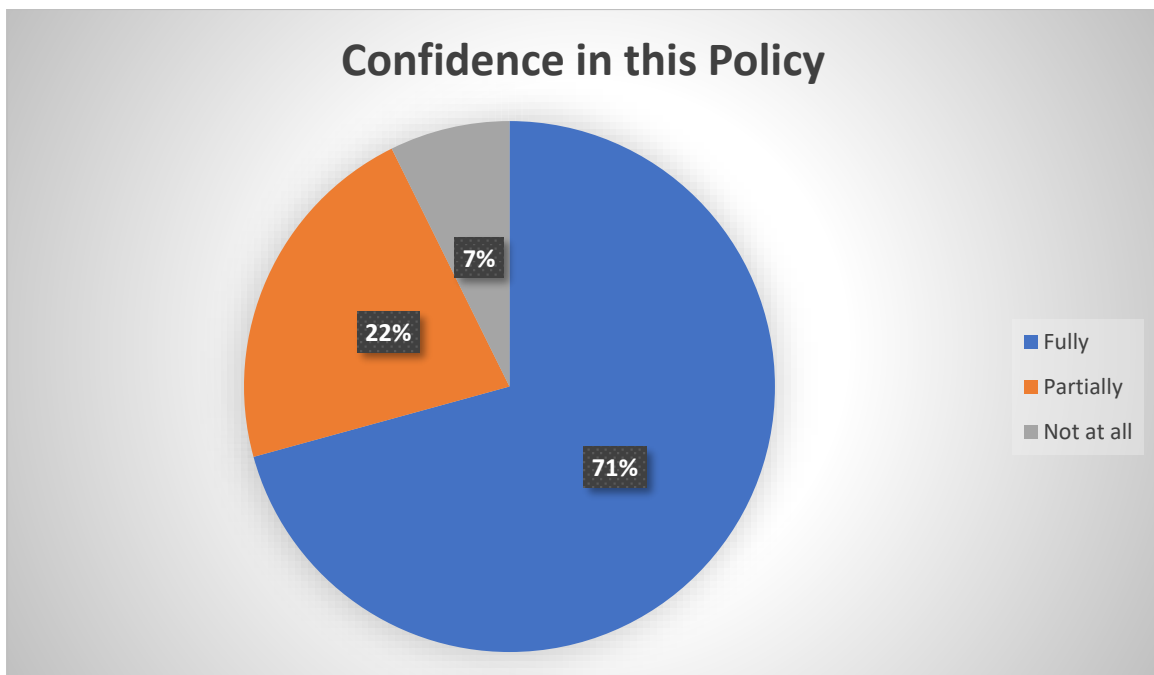


Fully = 26 (63.4%), Partially = 11 (26.8%),  
Not at all = 4 (9.8%)

Fully = 29 (70.7%), Partially = 9 (22%),  
Not at all = 3 (7.3%)

Our final question was, ‘If the policy is approved and implemented as described, would you feel that you and your child would get the appropriate outcomes to support your child transitioning into adulthood?’

7 out of 10 respondents (70.7%) now feel that they would get appropriate outcomes to support their child during transition. Compared to the previous survey where almost the same percentage (73%) stated they received an unsatisfactory outcome; this revised policy indicates that improved outcomes may be achieved for young people who are transitioning into adulthood.



Fully = 29 (70.7%), Partially = 9 (22%), Not at all = 3 (7.3%)

## Conclusion

The consultation attracted respondents who are currently, or soon to be a recipient of transition services. Overall, the response to the revised draft Transition policy has been positive, with all sections clear to the majority of respondents, although there are a few sections which could be clearer. Surprisingly, some respondents while generally positive about the policy, are still anticipating concerns particularly around being included and respected. This is an area which can be addressed during training sessions planned for the implementation stage of the policy, and to ensure that staff are aware of these concerns and take steps to mitigate them.

Going forward, it is very encouraging that this revised policy has reversed the 70% of respondents who previously felt that outcomes would not meet their needs to roughly that same percentage being positive about achieving satisfactory outcomes.