

# **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS (EqIAA)**

## **COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME**

(Date of EqIAA – September 2014)

### **SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION**

This EqIAA discusses proposals relating to the council tax reduction scheme.

#### **Background**

In April 2013, council tax benefit was replaced by a local council tax reduction scheme. People who are entitled to a council tax reduction pay less council tax. Under council tax benefit the council received a grant from the government to cover the entire cost of entitlements. Under the current council tax reduction scheme there is a shortfall in funding.

The government continues to say that people of state pension credit age will continue to be assessed under a national scheme and will not be affected by any changes.

#### **Proposals from April 2015**

**Option 1: Reduce the number of income bands to 6 from 8 and alter the income band upper and lower limits.**

**Option 2: Reduce the number of income bands to 5 from 8 altering the upper and lower limits**

There is also an option to include an additional 'vulnerable group' to those protected from the full impact of the scheme.

In relation to both options 1 and 2, the current scheme's rules remain the same for this option but all recipients will have their entitlement reduced by a standard percentage.

## SECTION 2 - CONSULTATION CONDUCTED

The Council issued a public consultation with regard to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

The consultation commenced on 11 August 2014 and ran to 22 September 2014 - a period of 6 weeks.

- Consultation methods included:-
  - Letters to all existing LCTR recipients (15,580)
  - Email to all parish and town councillors
  - Email to all councillors

### Consultation Results

The consultation included questions in relation to respondents:-

- Gender
- Age
- Ethnic Origin
- Disability

In order that results and feedback could be disaggregated in respect of the questions raised.

The consultation received a total of 37 responses as follows:-

|                   | Group             | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------|------------|
| <b>Gender</b>     | Female            | 24     | 64.86%     |
|                   | Male              | 11     | 29.73%     |
|                   | Unknown           | 2      | 5.41%      |
| <b>Age</b>        | Under 65          | 34     | 91.89%     |
|                   | Over 65           | 1      | 2.70%      |
|                   | Unknown           | 2      | 5.41%      |
| <b>Disability</b> | Disabled          | 13     | 35.14%     |
|                   | Non-Disabled      | 21     | 56.76%     |
|                   | Unknown           | 3      | 8.11%      |
| <b>Ethnicity</b>  | White British     | 31     | 83.78%     |
|                   | Non White British | 3      | 8.11%      |
|                   | Unknown           | 3      | 8.11%      |

The table at Appendix 1 to this EqlAA shows the consultation results as disaggregated according to Protected Characteristic group. The following page provides a discussion of the disaggregated results.

***Responses to the question “Which income band option do you think the council should use from April 2015”***

- 50% of respondents preferred Option 2, with people from the White British group being more likely than average to prefer this option.

***Responses to the question “How strongly do you agree or disagree with introducing young adult care leavers as a protected vulnerable group?”***

- 43% of respondents strongly agreed with introducing young adult care leavers as a vulnerable group with 24% tending to agree. Respondents having declared a disability and people from Non White British groups were more likely than average to strongly agree.

***Responses to the question “How long do you think that young adult care leavers should be eligible for this protection?”***

- 27% of respondents felt that protection should be provided for up to 1 year with 24% feeling that up to 2 year protection should be provided. Respondents having declared a disability and people from Non White British groups were more likely than average to wish to see the length of time to be up to two years and over.

## SECTION 3 - RESEARCH CONDUCTED

Equality Impact Assessment and Analysis (EqIAA) is the process of finding out whether the council's 'Functions' (i.e. policies, procedures and practices) have a **differential impact** on different groups of people. It is about analysing actions/activities in relation to equality.

In the context of this EqIAA, this means finding out whether any groups of people would experience a differential impact in relation to any of the options.

In order to investigate the issues, data has been gathered in respect of working age recipients currently in receipt of LCTR. The following tables show this data, detailing the numbers and percentages of working age recipients currently in receipt of LCTR.

|                    | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Disabled</i> | <i>18 and under</i> | <i>19 to 24</i> | <i>25 to 44</i> | <i>45 to 64</i> | <i>Total size of set</i> |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Working Age</b> | 2372        | 5562          | 259             | 21                  | 785             | 4,232           | 2,896           | 7,743                    |
|                    | 30.63%      | 71.83%        | 3.34%           | 0.27%               | 10.14%          | 54.66%          | 37.40%          |                          |

The data shows the following:-

- Currently 973 recipients of LCTR are potentially affected by the proposed changes to the Scheme – this equates to approximately 0.9% of households in South Gloucestershire.
- More Females would be affected by the proposed changes to the Scheme than Males – 70% are Female.

The following data provides information relating to the population of South Gloucestershire in order that comparisons can be made in relation to 'protected characteristic' groups:-

## South Gloucestershire Census 2011 Population Information

### Ethnicity

| Group                                                  | Number  | Percentage of Population |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Asian/Asian British – Bangladeshi                      | 238     | 0.1%                     |
| Asian/Asian British – Indian                           | 2,699   | 1%                       |
| Asian/Asian British – Pakistani                        | 698     | 0.3%                     |
| Asian/Asian British – Chinese                          | 1,312   | 0.5%                     |
| Asian/Asian British – Other                            | 1,493   | 0.6%                     |
| Black/African/Caribbean/Black British – African        | 987     | 0.4%                     |
| Black/African/Caribbean/Black British – Caribbean      | 980     | 0.4%                     |
| Black/African/Caribbean/Black British – Other          | 251     | 0.1%                     |
| Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups – White & Asian           | 1,016   | 0.4%                     |
| Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups – White & Black African   | 396     | 0.2%                     |
| Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups – White & Black Caribbean | 1,516   | 0.6%                     |
| Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups – Other                   | 739     | 0.3%                     |
| White – English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British  | 241,611 | 91.9%                    |
| White – Irish                                          | 1,223   | 0.5%                     |
| White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller                       | 271     | 0.1%                     |
| White – Other                                          | 6,469   | 2.5%                     |
| Other Ethnic Group - Arab                              | 366     | 0.1%                     |
| Any Other ethnic group                                 | 502     | 0.2%                     |

### Age

| Age Group       | Number | Percentage of Population |
|-----------------|--------|--------------------------|
| Age 0 to 4      | 15,925 | 6.06%                    |
| Age 5 to 7      | 8,967  | 3.41%                    |
| Age 8 to 9      | 5,641  | 2.15%                    |
| Age 10 to 14    | 15,858 | 6.04%                    |
| Age 15          | 3,539  | 1.35%                    |
| Age 16 to 17    | 6,958  | 2.65%                    |
| Age 18 to 19    | 7,102  | 2.70%                    |
| Age 20 to 24    | 15,458 | 5.88%                    |
| Age 25 to 29    | 15,606 | 5.94%                    |
| Age 30 to 44    | 53,974 | 20.54%                   |
| Age 45 to 59    | 53,582 | 20.39%                   |
| Age 60 to 64    | 15,748 | 5.99%                    |
| Age 65 to 74    | 24,040 | 9.15%                    |
| Age 75 to 84    | 14,835 | 5.65%                    |
| Age 85 to 89    | 3,648  | 1.39%                    |
| Age 90 and over | 1,886  | 0.72%                    |

**Disability**

| <b>Disability/Day-to-day activities limited</b> | <b>Day-to-day activities limited to some extent</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Number                                          | 40,914                                              |
| Percentage of Population                        | 15.60%                                              |

**Gender**

| <b>Gender</b>            | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Number                   | 130,069     | 132,697       |
| Percentage of Population | 49.50%      | 50.50%        |

## SECTION 4 - IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF EQUALITIES ISSUES AND IMPACTS

The following table provides an indication of impact and further explanation is also shown below.

| Equality Group                            | Negative Impact                     | Positive Impact          | No Impact                           | Unsure of Impact         | Reason(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Women/Girls                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | The data indicates that irrespective of which Option is adopted, women would be disproportionately affected.                                                                                                                                                         |
| Men/Boys                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | The data shows that regardless of gender, current recipients of LCTR will be negatively impacted – currently 32% are Male.                                                                                                                                           |
| Lesbians, gay men & bisexuals             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is currently no data nationally or locally regarding the sexual orientation of LCTR recipients. It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of sexual orientation.                |
| Transgender people                        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is currently no data nationally or locally regarding the gender identity of LCTR recipients. It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of gender identity.                      |
| White people (including Irish people)     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | The data shows that regardless of protected characteristic, some recipients of LCTR will be negatively impacted. People from BAME groups may require practical support in relation to awareness of any changes and networks to support them.                         |
| Asian or Asian British people             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Black or Black British people             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| People of mixed heritage                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Chinese people                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Travellers (gypsy/Roma/Irish heritage)    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| People from other ethnic groups           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Disabled People:</b>                   |                                     |                          |                                     |                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Physical impairment                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | The data shows that regardless of protected characteristic, current recipients of LCTR will be negatively impacted. Disabled People may be particularly impacted and require practical support in relation to awareness of the changes and networks to support them. |
| Sensory impairment                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Mental health condition,                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Learning disability/difficulty            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Long-standing illness or health condition | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Other health problems or impairments      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| Equality Group               | Negative Impact          | Positive Impact          | No Impact                           | Unsure of Impact         | Reason(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Older People                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | People of state pension credit age and those under 18, are not impacted by these proposals.                                                                                                                                                           |
| Children and Young People    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Faith Groups                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is currently no data nationally or locally regarding the religion or belief of LCTR recipients. It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of religion or belief. |
| Pregnancy & Maternity        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No impact identified.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Marriage & Civil Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No impact has been identified. It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of marital or civil partnership status..                                                      |

## Analysis of Impacts

The following identifies equalities impacts and considers issues affecting 'protected characteristic' groups.

| Impact Identified                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Disabled People are particularly affected by the current difficult economic climate due to predominately receiving lower incomes<sup>1</sup>, experiencing higher costs, having access to fewer support services, and unpredictable health conditions. Reductions in funding affecting both statutory and CVS services can leave disabled people without support.</p> <p>People with mental health issues and/or Learning Disabilities are likely to need additional support to understand these changes and how to appropriately respond to them, through support workers, carers and families.</p> | <p>Disabled pension-age recipients of LCTR are protected from the change as pension age recipients are assessed under a national scheme.</p> <p>Disabled recipients who would have triggered a disability premium under the 'old' council tax benefit scheme are protected from the full impact of the scheme and receive the maximum discount.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>A Council Tax change would affect Gypsies/Travellers living on permanent sites, as they will pay Council Tax and may, like other groups, need practical support to do this. Similar issues as for other BAME communities may apply, in relation to awareness of the changes and networks to support them. There is clear evidence to show that people from minority ethnic backgrounds have lower levels of income than other groups<sup>2</sup>.</p>                                                                                                                                                | <p>Every recipient of LCTR affected by the change will be contacted to inform them of the impact.</p> <p>As the above data relating to current recipients of LCTR may not capture the ethnicity of all recipients, contacting them directly would have a significant positive impact by identifying where additional support is required.</p> <p>The council has a specific Gypsy and Traveller Unit in place with the ability to conduct this work, as well as a comprehensive and robust approach to communicating with diverse groups and meeting their needs.</p> |
| <p>There are differences in women's employment and earnings patterns including the continuing national gender pay gap. This, as well as the fact that women head-up around 90% of lone parent families<sup>3</sup> can lead to a socio-economic disadvantage and increased reliance on state support. Women also still tend to hold the main responsibility for child care and other caring responsibilities which can limit their ability to seek employment.</p>                                                                                                                                      | <p>The data indicates that irrespective of which Option is adopted, women will be disproportionately affected – over two-thirds (68%) of current recipients are Female.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

<sup>1</sup> Source: Guy Parckar, Leonard Cheshire Disability, 2008. Figures based on the 'relative poverty line' in the UK, which equates to living in a household with income of less than 60% of median national income. Recent estimates suggest that around 30% of disabled people live below this income line, compared to around 16% of non-disabled people.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Joseph Rowntree Foundation programme paper: *Poverty and ethnicity. Inequality within ethnic groups.* Lucinda Platt, May 2011. ISBN 978 1 85935 813 9

<sup>3</sup> Source: Office for National Statistics

The option most supported by consultation respondents was Option 2: Reduce the number of income bands to 5 from 8 altering the upper and lower limits. Option 2 was clearly the most favoured option across all Protected Characteristic groups.

For Females, the impact will be greater than others.

In mitigation of these greater impacts, the council would contact all current working age recipients of LCTR in order to inform them of changes and in order to encourage self-identification (i.e. the council's records reflect personal circumstances and therefore, the correct amount of entitlement is granted), for example, this could mean disclosing a disability which records may currently not hold. Methods of contact will be carefully considered in order to ensure appropriate communication for all regardless of impairment type.

## **SECTION 5 - EqIAA OUTCOME**

The negative impact will be greater for Females as the demographic of the current case load shows more Females than Males i.e. 70% of the current case load are women.

Within the resources available for the LCTR Scheme, the data and consultation results indicate that Option 2 offers the opportunity to grant the maximum discount to more people on low incomes which delivers the highest level of equality for all. This is because as income increases (and therefore, ability to pay) an individual would receive less CTR.

Any protection implemented for vulnerable groups has the potential to offer greater equality of opportunity for those most in need.

## **SECTION 6 - ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN AS A RESULT OF THIS EqIAA**

The council will contact all those current working age recipients of LCTR in order to inform them of changes and in order to encourage self-identification (i.e. the council's records reflect personal circumstances and therefore, the correct amount of entitlement is granted), for example, this could mean disclosing a disability which records may currently not hold. Methods of contact will be carefully considered in order to ensure appropriate communication for all regardless of impairment type.

## Appendix 1

### Council tax reduction scheme 2015 consultation – Equality Analysis

|                                                                                                                         | Overall | Gender |        | Age group |      | Disability |              | Ethnicity     |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|------|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
|                                                                                                                         |         | Male   | Female | Under 65  | 65+  | Disabled   | Not disabled | White British | Non white British |
| <i>Number of respondents</i>                                                                                            | 37      | 11     | 24     | 34        | 1    | 13         | 21           | 31            | 3                 |
| <b>Which income band option do you think the council should use from April 2015?</b>                                    |         |        |        |           |      |            |              |               |                   |
| Option 1 (six income bands)                                                                                             | 30%     | 27%    | 29%    | 29%       | -    | 31%        | 29%          | 23%           | 33%               |
| Option 2 (five income bands)                                                                                            | 49%     | 45%    | 54%    | 50%       | 100% | 31%        | 62%          | 55%           | 33%               |
| No change (8 income bands)                                                                                              | 11%     | 18%    | 8%     | 12%       | -    | 23%        | 5%           | 13%           | -                 |
| Don't know                                                                                                              | 8%      | 9%     | 4%     | 6%        | -    | 8%         | 5%           | 6%            | 33%               |
| <b>How strongly do you agree or disagree with introducing young adult care leavers as a protected vulnerable group?</b> |         |        |        |           |      |            |              |               |                   |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                          | 43%     | 36%    | 50%    | 44%       | 100% | 54%        | 43%          | 45%           | 67%               |
| Tend to agree                                                                                                           | 24%     | 9%     | 29%    | 24%       | -    | 15%        | 29%          | 19%           | -                 |
| Neither agree or disagree                                                                                               | 8%      | -      | 13%    | 9%        | -    | 8%         | 10%          | 10%           | -                 |
| Tend to disagree                                                                                                        | 3%      | -      | 4%     | 3%        | -    | -          | 5%           | 3%            | -                 |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                       | 11%     | 36%    | -      | 12%       | -    | 23%        | 5%           | 13%           | -                 |
| Don't know                                                                                                              | 11%     | 18%    | 4%     | 9%        | -    | -          | 10%          | 10%           | 33%               |
| <b>How long do you think that young adult care leavers should be eligible for this protection?</b>                      |         |        |        |           |      |            |              |               |                   |
| First 6 months after leaving care                                                                                       | 8%      | 18%    | 4%     | 9%        | -    | 8%         | 10%          | 10%           | -                 |
| Up to 1 year from leaving care                                                                                          | 27%     | 9%     | 33%    | 26%       | -    | 8%         | 38%          | 26%           | 33%               |
| Up to 18 months from leaving care                                                                                       | 3%      | -      | 4%     | 3%        | -    | -          | 5%           | 3%            | -                 |
| Up to 2 years from leaving care                                                                                         | 24%     | 18%    | 29%    | 24%       | 100% | 31%        | 24%          | 19%           | 33%               |
| More than 2 years from leaving care                                                                                     | 14%     | 18%    | 13%    | 15%       | -    | 31%        | 5%           | 16%           | -                 |
| Don't know                                                                                                              | 24%     | 36%    | 17%    | 24%       | -    | 23%        | 19%          | 26%           | 33%               |

Indicates percentage more than 5% higher than overall

Indicates percentage more than 5% lower than overall

The low response number needs to be taken into account when interpreting the above percentages

## Appendix 1 continued – Further Information

|                                                                                                                         | Overall | Type of respondent                               |                                                      |                                 |                                     |                  |                                                    |                          |                                                                                |                                                                   |                                                         |               |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------|
|                                                                                                                         |         | A recipient of council tax reduction (pensioner) | A recipient of council tax reduction (non pensioner) | A council tax payer (pensioner) | A council tax payer (non pensioner) | A local business | A local voluntary or community sector organisation | A parish or town council | A family or lone parent with a child under the age of 5 (as at 1st April 2015) | A family or lone parent with a disabled child up to the age of 18 | An individual with additional needs due to disabilities | A care leaver | Other |
| <i>Number of respondents</i>                                                                                            | 37      | 1                                                | 15                                                   | 2                               | 18                                  | -                | 1                                                  | 1                        | 3                                                                              | 1                                                                 | 9                                                       | -             | 3     |
| <b>Which income band option do you think the council should use from April 2015?</b>                                    |         |                                                  |                                                      |                                 |                                     |                  |                                                    |                          |                                                                                |                                                                   |                                                         |               |       |
| Option 1 (six income bands)                                                                                             | 30%     | 100%                                             | 20%                                                  | -                               | 22%                                 | -                | -                                                  | 100%                     | 67%                                                                            | 100%                                                              | 11%                                                     | -             | 33%   |
| Option 2 (five income bands)                                                                                            | 49%     | -                                                | 47%                                                  | 100%                            | 50%                                 | -                | 100%                                               | -                        | 33%                                                                            | -                                                                 | 44%                                                     | -             | 67%   |
| No change (8 income bands)                                                                                              | 11%     | -                                                | 27%                                                  | -                               | 11%                                 | -                | -                                                  | -                        | -                                                                              | -                                                                 | 33%                                                     | -             | -     |
| Don't know                                                                                                              | 8%      | -                                                | -                                                    | -                               | 17%                                 | -                | -                                                  | -                        | -                                                                              | -                                                                 | -                                                       | -             | -     |
| <b>How strongly do you agree or disagree with introducing young adult care leavers as a protected vulnerable group?</b> |         |                                                  |                                                      |                                 |                                     |                  |                                                    |                          |                                                                                |                                                                   |                                                         |               |       |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                          | 43%     | 100%                                             | 40%                                                  | 100%                            | 39%                                 | -                | 100%                                               | -                        | 33%                                                                            | 100%                                                              | 44%                                                     | -             | 67%   |
| Tend to agree                                                                                                           | 24%     | -                                                | 33%                                                  | -                               | 17%                                 | -                | -                                                  | 100%                     | 33%                                                                            | -                                                                 | 22%                                                     | -             | -     |
| Neither agree or disagree                                                                                               | 8%      | -                                                | 13%                                                  | -                               | 11%                                 | -                | -                                                  | -                        | -                                                                              | -                                                                 | -                                                       | -             | -     |
| Tend to disagree                                                                                                        | 3%      | -                                                | -                                                    | -                               | 6%                                  | -                | -                                                  | -                        | 33%                                                                            | -                                                                 | -                                                       | -             | -     |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                       | 11%     | -                                                | 13%                                                  | -                               | 11%                                 | -                | -                                                  | -                        | -                                                                              | -                                                                 | 33%                                                     | -             | -     |
| Don't know                                                                                                              | 11%     | -                                                | -                                                    | -                               | 17%                                 | -                | -                                                  | -                        | -                                                                              | -                                                                 | -                                                       | -             | 33%   |
| <b>How long do you think that young adult care leavers should be eligible for this protection?</b>                      |         |                                                  |                                                      |                                 |                                     |                  |                                                    |                          |                                                                                |                                                                   |                                                         |               |       |
| First 6 months after leaving care                                                                                       | 8%      | -                                                | -                                                    | -                               | 17%                                 | -                | -                                                  | -                        | 33%                                                                            | -                                                                 | 22%                                                     | -             | -     |
| Up to 1 year from leaving care                                                                                          | 27%     | 100%                                             | 20%                                                  | -                               | 39%                                 | -                | -                                                  | 100%                     | -                                                                              | -                                                                 | -                                                       | -             | -     |
| Up to 18 months from leaving care                                                                                       | 3%      | -                                                | -                                                    | -                               | -                                   | -                | -                                                  | -                        | -                                                                              | -                                                                 | -                                                       | -             | 33%   |

|                                     |     |   |     |     |     |   |      |   |     |      |     |   |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|---|------|---|-----|------|-----|---|-----|
| Up to 2 years from leaving care     | 24% | - | 27% | 50% | 17% | - | 100% | - | 33% | -    | 33% | - | -   |
| More than 2 years from leaving care | 14% | - | 20% | 50% | 6%  | - | -    | - | 33% | 100% | 22% | - | 33% |
| Don't know                          | 24% | - | 33% | -   | 22% | - | -    | - | -   | -    | 22% | - | 33% |