

Informal consultation on the Future Options for Maintained Nursery Schools in Croydon

Consultation Outcomes Report on proposal to reduce the number of Maintained Nursery Schools within the Borough via closure or amalgamation.

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Executive Summary

In June 2023, the Executive Mayor in Cabinet agreed for Croydon Council to consult on a proposal to reduce the number of Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) within the borough via closure or amalgamation. The current MNS model is not financially viable, with some MNS with a rising deficit budget.

A four-week informal consultation commenced on 19 September 2023, and concluded on 17 October 2023. The consultation sought feedback from partners, families, including the wider school communities, and public on the proposed options to reduce the number of MNS within the borough via closure or amalgamation. Respondents were asked if they 'support' or 'do not support' the proposal and the potential impact of the proposed change. Respondents were also given the opportunity to make suggestions of feasible and sustainable models that could be delivered in the funding allocated by central government and potential measures to address the historical deficit.

The consultation was conducted in a way that enabled all those with an interest to respond to the proposal. Community engagement took place through face-to-face meetings, online platforms, surveys, emails, and social media.

A quantitative and qualitative methodology was used for the consultation. A questionnaire was used to capture feedback, numerical, open-ended questions, written submissions, and feedback from meetings. A thorough analysis was undertaken of all responses received. This consultation outcome report is based on the responses received during the informal consultation period that began on 19th September 2023 and concluded on 17th October 2023.

A thematic analysis was used for the qualitative responses to give an indication of what people feel most strongly about, and the most common themes used to frame the summary, the less common views and themes have also been acknowledged.

Upon review, it was quite clear that a very emotional and passionate response has been received, as most of the individual respondents were not in favour of the proposed options, albeit some being open to further investigation and review, but are unable to make a confident, definitive response until further work has been completed. Very few respondents agreed with the proposal.

It is important to note that feedback from public consultation is prone to bias because those who choose to respond often hold strong views about the subject.

Overview of Responses

Qualitative responses

Overall, the survey results were **not** supportive of the proposal to reduce the number of MNS within the borough via closure or amalgamation.

The top three reasons given for not supporting the proposal were to do with the:

- Impact on children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Loss of specialist expertise - qualified staff, knowledge and experience
- Impact on finances – affordability of private nurseries / job losses

Respondents also cited that MNS provide high-quality early education; support the most disadvantaged children in the Borough, including children / families whose first language is not English. The outdoor space at MNS was also mentioned, especially for families who live in flats and don't have access to garden space. Respondents with child/ren at a MNS were very concerned with the proposal as they perceived it to not be in the best interest of children as well as having concern over the high cost of private nurseries.

Some respondents acknowledged the financial difficulty faced by most MNS and suggested that more time is given to explore options that could make MNS financially sustainable.

Positive responses were given in relation to the good and outstanding features of all five MNS.

Quantitative responses

Of the 866 responses received online:

- The majority of respondents (**(94.9%) do not support** the proposal to reduce the number of MNS via **closure**.
- The majority of respondents (**83.7%) do not support** the proposal to reduce the number of MNS via **merger** (amalgamation)
- A minority of respondents (**2.5%**) neither support nor do not support the proposal.

The cohort with the highest response rate was from female, accounting for 76.5% of online respondents; from people aged between 35 and 44 years old.

In relation to what the council can do to address potential impacts, respondents' suggestions included:

- Find alternative approaches to address the financial deficit that don't impact children.
- Generate finance to support the borough – invest in early years education.
- More research to evidence benefits to children and families.

Respondents also made suggestions about other steps that could be taken to make MNS financially sustainable, including dealing with the deficit. Some respondents, including an organisation and governing bodies, requested more time be given to explore other options.

Suggestions of what can be done to address impact(s), include:

- A multi-agency (to include parents and MNS workers) panel/board to problem solve/create ideas.
- Increase revenue – Hiring out or renting the space outside of operational hours/ paid for training offers to peers or professionals/ paid childcare.
- Link to Family Hubs
- Maximising the number of children on roll at each school / expanding the age range and hours; offer wrap-around care / holiday club.

Written submissions

In addition, written submissions have been received from;

- Chris Philp, MP who acknowledged that it may not be possible to find a sustainable model for all 5 MNS and cited reasons why he believed that there is a strong case for the retention of Purley MNS.
- Purley Partnership Federation Governing Board (including Purley Nursery School) mentioned that they do not support the proposal.
- The Board of Governors of Thornton Heath Nursery School expressed concerns about the proposal and that the school is a financially sustainable school and is not in deficit.
- The Federation of Crosfield and Selhurst Nursery Schools and Children's Centres / Governing Body's submitted a proposal to create a sustainable operating model for both schools.
- Croydon Joint Teacher Trade Unions, cited a 'Briefing Paper: a Provider Perspective' that was presented to the Croydon Schools Forum in December 2021 which outlined different approaches that could be considered.
- Early Education, a national charity asking the council to engage in further dialogue with the school leaders, governors and other interested parties to fully explore options and put in place an action plan that will give MNS the best chance to be viable.
- All the other responses received via email and handed to the MNS, did not support the proposal.

Consultation meetings

There was similarity between the responses received online and verbal feedback raised by respondents at the MNS consultation meetings. In addition, parents/carers expressed concerns about the impact of the possible closure or merger on their children, family and community. Some respondents, especially Governing Body, requested more time to consider and work collegiately with the council to come up with financially sustainable options.

An 'All Members' meeting was held 12th October where Councillors were able to ask questions about the proposal, for example, about sufficiency of places; timeline for sustainable model; and SEND strategy.

Diversity

Men were under-represented, accounting for 15.1% of responses received. Most respondents were female, local residents, followed by parent/carer of a child/children at a Croydon MNS.

Conclusion

Further details of the feedback received are provided in the body of this report, which includes graphical representation of the quantitative data in Annex A. The report is intended to capture the key themes and issues raised by respondents during the consultation period and does not represent every comment made by individuals or organisations.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Executive Mayor in Cabinet with the outcomes, together with suggestions received, from the informal consultation on the proposal to reduce, in principle, the number of MNS within the borough via closure or amalgamation.

The Executive Mayor in Cabinet is the final decision maker on the proposal to reduce the number of MNS within the borough via closure or amalgamation; and will decide on next steps.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Croydon Council launched a consultation from 19 September 2023 to 17 October 2023 to inform the development of future options for MNS in Croydon. Those with an interest were asked to respond to the proposal to reduce the number of MNS within the borough via closure or amalgamation, including making suggestions of alternative models that could be delivered with the funding allocated by the government to deal with the historical deficit.
- 1.2. This report provides details of the consultation process and activities, a summary of views, both quantitative and qualitative, from the consultation. Figures provided throughout this document have been rounded to the nearest whole number, which in places might result in totals being slightly different from the sum of their parts.

2. Background

- 2.1. MNS are local authority run schools that provide early education and childcare to children from 2 - 5 years old during school hours within term time, usually 8:30am-3.30pm. This does not usually include wrap around care. MNS are required to employ a headteacher, qualified teachers, a SENCO [Special Educational Needs Coordinator] and staff with level 3 qualifications.
- 2.2. Croydon recognises the importance of early years development and education and remains committed to delivering high-quality, funded, early years provision that evidence value for money.
- 2.3. MNS are one of several types of provision that we have in the borough for early years education and childcare. MNS provide valuable services and help to ensure that the council meet its statutory duty for sufficiency of early years provision across the borough.
- 2.4. There are five MNS in Croydon that offer part time places for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds: Thornton Heath, Tunstall, Purley, Crosfield and Selhurst. Three of the MNS are in the North; one in the Centre; and one in the South of the Borough.
- 2.5. MNS have higher costs than other early years providers, as they are required to employ qualified teachers, Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and a headteacher and meet the same standards and requirements as other schools.
- 2.6. Early Years education and childcare are funded by the Department for Education. MNS receive funding for free early years education in the same way as other Early Years providers except that they benefit from supplementary annual funding.

- 2.7. Most of Croydon's MNS have a deficit budget and there is an urgent need to act as the current model is not financially sustainable. Council Officers have been working with, and supporting, the MNS's with deficit budgets to identify opportunities and/or alternative delivery models for savings/income in order to return to a balanced budget position. In addition, the Department for Education School Resource Management Advisers have offered free independent support to the relevant MNS to look at the underlying reasons for the deficit position and support the school to develop strategies to return the school to financial stability.
- 2.8. Nationally, MNS have had financial challenges for several years and despite transitional and supplementary funding the future sustainability of these schools is uncertain because of budget pressures. A national survey carried out in 2020 revealed that 64% of MNS were in deficit.

3. Consultation proposal

- 3.1. Croydon Council undertook a consultation on whether and, if so, how to reduce the number of Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) within the borough via closure or amalgamation. As part of the survey questions respondents were asked to suggest feasible and sustainable model that can be delivered in the funding allocated by central government and address the deficit. The consultation took place from 19 September 2023 to 17 October 2023.
- 3.2. The proposal to close MNS means the discontinuation of operations by the MNS in its existing form. If the proposal goes ahead, one or more of the MNS will close, resulting in fewer MNS across the borough. The proposal to amalgamate MNS is to explore the possibility of closing one or more schools and merging it with one or more other schools.
- 3.3. It is not a statutory requirement to undertake informal consultation, however, as part of developing future options for MNS, wider engagement was carried out with partners, providers and families to obtain initial evidence and to understand the possible impact of the proposed changes.

4. Consultation rationale

- 4.1. The proposal has been developed as the current model of Croydon's MNS is not financially sustainable. The majority of the five MNS have a rising accrued deficit totalling £560,760, despite having a recovery plan to reduce ongoing costs and set a balanced budget.
- 4.2. Some of the MNS are now unable to deliver the provision on the current funding allocation and are in a deficit budget position. Without intervention, their cumulative financial deficit will increase, putting their future at a greater risk. The consultation will help to inform the development of a sustainable model for Croydon's MNS.

5. Consultation and Communication activities

- 5.1. A consultation document including a questionnaire was used as a basis of informing partners, including parents/carers, providers and local residents about the rationale for the consultation proposal to reduce, in principle, the number of MNS within the borough via closure or amalgamation, and inviting feedback on the proposed change. The consultation, questionnaire and question and answer document was publicly accessible online via www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/mns at hard copies at library and MNS. The consultation materials could be requested in hard copy, alternative formats and language – the online platform had a translate option.
- 5.2. Partners, families, and residents were given the opportunity to express their views in writing via a questionnaire, both electronically and via the hard copy attached to the consultation document, by email and post.
- 5.3. Different modes and methods of communication were used to inform and facilitate feedback from those with an interest in the proposal. Communication activities included the circulation of the consultation materials, via;
 - Websites:
 - ✓ Croydon Council
 - ✓ Get Involved - consultation webpage
 - ✓ Family Information Space
 - ✓ Maintained Nursery Schools
 - Schools Bulletin / Newsletters:
 - ✓ sent to all schools within Croydon
 - ✓ Your Croydon, Our Croydon
 - Social Media:
 - ✓ Twitter
 - ✓ Facebook
 - ✓ 'Your Croydon'
 - Press release.
 - Email to MPs, Ward Councillors, Early Years providers and neighbouring boroughs.
 - Public face-to-face meetings at each MNS.
 - All members virtual meeting.
- 5.4. Face to face meeting were held at each MNS and included presentations to provide context and rationale for the proposal, question and answer sessions, and the opportunity for attendees to suggest alternative options to what was proposed. Meetings were held at:
 - Purley Nursery (at Christ Church School) – 25th September
 - Selhurst Nursery – 27th September

- Tunstall Nursery – 2nd October
- Crosfield Nursery – 4th October
- Thornton Heath – 5th October

5.5. An 'All Members meeting' was held on 12 October 2023.

5.6. It is worth noting that not all respondents indicated whether they support / do not support the proposal.

6. Consultation responses / findings

Quantitative and qualitative data

6.1. The findings in this report are based on quantitative data gathered through the responses to the consultation questionnaire, as well as qualitative feedback collected through free-text comments received through the questionnaire, verbal feedback from Councillors and written submissions from MP, representative organisation, trade union and meetings.

Methodology

6.2. The consultation questionnaire was the main method used for collecting, analysing and interpreting data from those with an interest in the proposal. The completion of the questionnaire was recommended to help achieve a better response, combining email a dedicated address, postal, web-based and feedback from the consultation meetings. Respondents could also drop off their completed form at the MNS or send in the post.

6.3. The online platform had the facility to analyse the quantitative feedback to ensure the reliability and validity of data management and collection process, protecting against the loss of data and facilitated data transfer into a numerical and graphical representation.

6.4. The approach taken to analyse each of the qualitative / textual responses within the questionnaire was by using data mining/text analytics to create themes from numerous texts from individual respondents. This then enabled us to see patterns emerge from large textual responses, often pulling out numerous themes from one respondent, all of which we categorised in subjects of agreement / enquiry or challenge. Each response was then reviewed to determine whether it positively or negatively responded to question being asked and the overall consensus.

6.5. A summary of the responses to each of the options in the consultation questionnaire is set out below.

6.6 Breakdown of respondents

In total, the consultation received 895 responses. 866 of these responses were through the online platform - Get Involved. 29 were received by email or handed to the MNS.

6.7 In addition, written submissions have been received from;

6.7.1 Chris Philp, MP who acknowledged that it may not be possible to find a sustainable model for all 5 MNS but cited reasons why he believed that there is a strong case for retention of Purley MNS:

- Of the 5 MNS, Purley is the only one in the South of the borough
- It has an outstanding Ofsted rating
- It has firm plans to return to a sustainable financial position
 - It has been reducing its in-year deficit every year since 2020-21 and this year it is projecting a surplus
 - It is now generating a quarter of its income added services such as, Breakfast, After school and Holiday clubs
- Purley Nursery has a SENCO and a strong record for supporting SEN children.

6.7.1 Purley Partnership Federation Governing Board (including Purley Nursery School) cited that they do not support the proposal with one of the reasons being that they are confident that Purley Nursery School is now on a financially sustainable trajectory.

6.7.2 The Board of Governors of Thornton Heath Nursery School expressed concerns about the proposal and that the school is a financially sustainable school and is not in deficit and has not been for the past 5 years. A suggestion has been made / invitation extended invite the Executive Mayor of Croydon to consider personally visiting each of the five nursery schools in question before any decisions are made.

6.7.3 The Federation of Crosfield and Selhurst Nursery Schools and Children's Centres responded with a suggestion of the Governing Body's alternative proposal to create a sustainable operating model for both schools and an outline costing model to support the proposal, including:

- Maximising the number of children on roll at each school, in response to current and anticipated available space at both schools;
- Expanding the age range of children on roll, to include children from 1-2 (at Selhurst), in line with the DfE proposal to increase the offer of free-childcare available;

- Extending the hours the nursery is open each day e.g. from 7.30am until 6.00pm, through the offer of Breakfast and After School Clubs.

6.7.4 Croydon Joint Teacher Trade Unions, cited a 'Briefing Paper: a Provider Perspective' that was presented at a meeting of the Croydon Schools Forum in December 2021 that proposed "retaining the 5 stand-alone settings, while rationalising and integrating provision or by adopting a more radical transformative approach, moving to an amalgamation of all MNS in the LA with a number of different sites, places and opening hours across the Borough".

6.7.5 Early Education, a national charity asking the council to engage in further dialogue with the school leaders, governors and other interested parties to fully explore options and put in place an action plan that will give MNS the best chance to be viable.

6.7.6 An 'All Members' online meeting was held on 12th October. This took the form of a question-and-answer session where Members asked questions and sought clarity about the proposal, including its implications on children, families and the council. A common theme in the feedback was about sufficiency of places; timeline for sustainable model; SEND strategy and alternative funding to support MNS.

6.8 MNS meetings - Verbal feedback

6.8.1 The verbal feedback the MNS meetings mirrored what has been included in the feedback on the consultation questionnaire. MNS that were not in deficit questioned why they were included in the consultation and raised concerns about being asked to merge with school/s that is/are in deficit.

7. Summary of consultation responses

7.1. We provided 5 quantitative and 6 qualitative questions for respondents to answer, including, inviting suggestions of other sustainable models, plus equality and diversity questions. Graphical representation of the quantitative data can be found in Annex A.

7.2. Most respondents stated that they did not support the proposal to close (94.9%) or merger (83.7%) the MNS. Some of the key reasons given are around the loss of: support for children with special educational needs and disabilities; quality and expertise of teaching; and finance, for example, cost of affordable childcare in the private sector and; cost of living crisis. There were calls to for round table discussion to explore alternative options.

7.3. Key points from respondents with a child at a MNS may be characterised by the following responses:

'In a cost of living crisis, closing maintained nurseries in Croydon - an area already deprived of funding - could lead to increased child poverty as parents will not be able to work.'

'Many on Low or even medium incomes will struggle to afford independent Nursery fees and this will undoubtedly affect the development of the child/children'

'Many on Low or even medium incomes will struggle to afford independent Nursery fees and this will undoubtedly affect the development of the child/children'

'These schools provide intensive support to nurture a child's development- especially those with vulnerabilities such as emerging or profound SEND'

'Merging the different types of management and teaching styles will be detrimental to the children and I would lack confidence that my child and the children in my current nursery would receive the same level of care and learning.'

'Closure or mergers will significantly impact us. As working parents closure would mean my child would have no other means of accessing good quality nursery childcare.'

7.4. Parents/carers mentioned that other early years providers would not be able to provide the high quality of support, especially for children with special educational needs and disability.

7.5. MNS staff expressed concerned about their job if the proposal goes ahead.

- 7.6. Respondents with child at a MNS gave positive feedback about their and their child's experience:

7.6.1. Crosfield nursery

'Crosfield provides essential early years support for children with special education needs that doesn't exist anywhere else in Croydon. The local area around Crosfield includes a high number of children in the 20% most disadvantaged in England. All the expertise, resource and care at Crosfield are needed by these children.'

7.6.2. Selhurst & Crosfield nursery

'Selhurst and Crosfield are shining examples of how all early years settings should be, they offer quality and care to all children no matter their needs, race, religion, or background.'

'The SEND provision at Crosfield and Selhurst is outstanding. Private nurseries are sending their SEN applications to these settings. Also there is a shortage of 2 year places within Croydon.'

7.6.3. Purley nursery

'Purley nursery has been an invaluable asset to our family, greatly enhancing our quality of life. It has the potential to positively impact countless other families as well. We cannot afford to jeopardize the well-being of our community by reducing nursery funding or closing these vital facilities.'

7.6.4. Thornton Heath

'The Thornton Heath nursery school is a gem. They have great teachers, they offer children a variety of activities that they would not be able to access in other places, they support parents, particularly those with children with special needs.'

7.6.5. Tunstall nursery

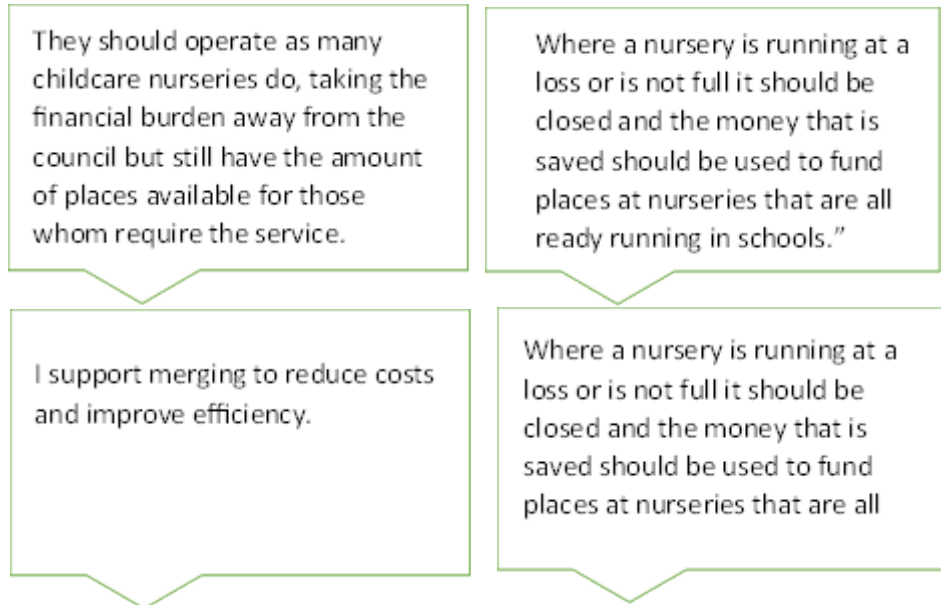
'Tunstall is one of the best nurseries in our area so we don't want it to be closed.'

- 7.7. Very few (2.5%) of respondents supported the proposed closure of MNS. The key reasons given by respondents for supporting the proposal were to do with:

- Financial viability – not being able to run within budget and the burden to the council/tax payers.
- Sufficient childcare provisions within the borough.
- Need for further investigation.

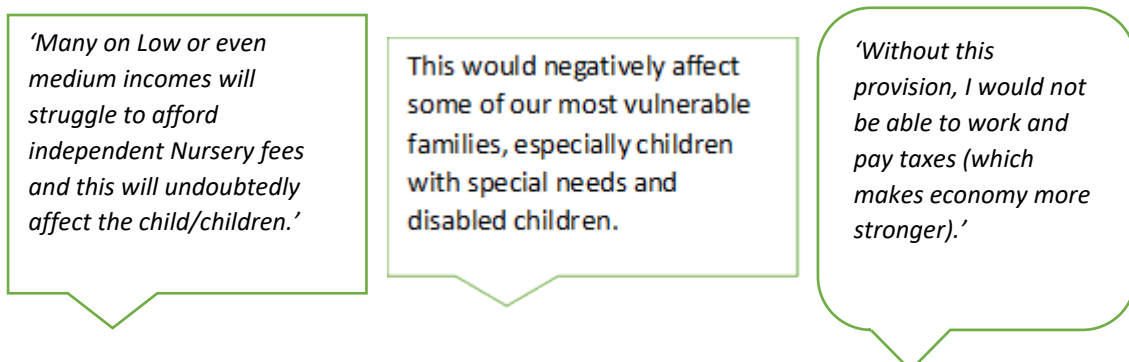
- 7.8. Respondents who supported the proposed merger (6.5%), said they did so for reasons such as:


- Financial efficiencies – reducing budgets.
- A merger should not impact quantity (available spaces) and quality of services.
- Further investigation needs to take place before a decision can be made.



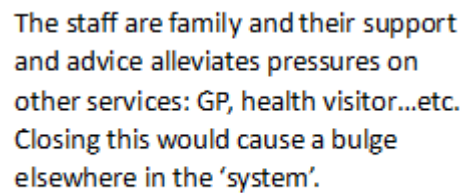
7.9. Feedback from respondents about how they would be negatively impacted by the proposal to reduce the number of MNS within the borough via closure or mergers, included impacts on:

- Finances
- Children with SEND
- Areas of deprivation
- The mental health and well-being of families and staff.



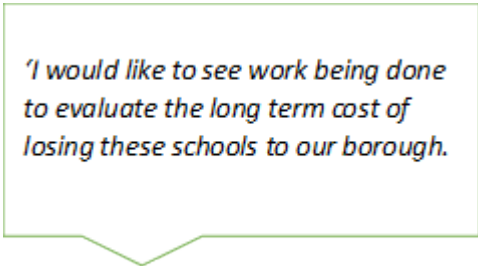


'Cutting funding of early years care is a complete false economy that prioritises short term finances over long term costs (and of course comes at great personal costs



The staff are family and their support and advice alleviates pressures on other services: GP, health visitor...etc. Closing this would cause a bulge elsewhere in the 'system'.

- 7.10. Respondents also mentioned that MNS buildings are purpose built, making them accessible for people with SEND. By contrast, some other early years providers buildings are not accessible. In addition, there were strong views about whether sufficient early years places would be available considering the Chancellor's budget announcement regarding investment in childcare. Some respondents raised concerns about the proposals impact on working families and their ability to continue or take up new employment. There were calls for a meeting with the Executive Mayor to hear first-hand stories about MNS from families.
- 7.11. Respondent were asked what can the council do to address any impact(s) that they have mentioned? Responses included:
- Find alternative approaches to address the financial deficit that don't impact children.
 - Generate finance to support the borough – invest in early years education.
 - More research to evidence benefits to children and families.



'I would like to see work being done to evaluate the long term cost of losing these schools to our borough.

- 7.12. Respondents requested all 5 nurseries to be kept open, due to the quality of education, care and support provided to the community.
- 7.13. Examples of support for individual MNS are listed below.

- 7.13.1. Crosfield nursery

'Keep Crosfield open! Nothing more nothing less! Crosfield is often forgotten about and it should be an example of the boroughs inclusion for all!'

7.13.2. Purely nursery

'Keep Purley nursery school open, open further locations to increase provision'

7.13.3. Selhurst

'For me personally the Selhurst Nursery staying as it is, would be perfect.'

7.13.4. Thornton Heath nursery

'Keep Thornton Heath Nursery School open !!! Don't close! Don't merge !!!'

7.13.5. Tunstall nursery

'Keep Tunstall Nursery School open, it is outstanding and is not in deficit. It is a very good model of a sustainable nursery school.'

7.14. Respondents were asked to give suggestions on what other steps could be taken to make Croydon's MNS financially sustainable, including dealing with the deficit. Suggestions included:

- Additional funding options – sponsorships etc.
- Review MNS operating/staffing model/structure – utilise qualified volunteers.
- Bring MNS under federation.
- A multi-agency (to include parents and MNS workers) panel/board to problem solve/create ideas.
- Co-location with Family Hubs could also be explored to build upon the trusted relationships that many nursery staff teams have with families.'

'Centralise some of the services to reduce costs'

'Having paid childcare and raising income streams from this'

'Having paid childcare and raising income streams from this.'

8. Equality and Diversity Monitoring

8.1. As part of the consultation process, respondents were asked to complete an equality and diversity questionnaire, looking at Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability. The information collected will help identify any special requirements and promote equality and diversity.

8.2. There was good representation across adult age groups, particularly in people aged between 35 and 44, who made up 42.5% of respondents. People aged 45-54 accounted for 16.8% of respondents. People aged

25- 34 accounted for 14.6% of survey responses. The age group of survey respondents is demonstrated in figure 4.

9. Equalities Impacts Assessment

- 9.1. An initial Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) was undertaken as part of the consultation process which found no negative impact on protected groups. Another EQIA will be undertaken if the proposal proceeds to the next stage. The Equality analysis will enable the Council to better understand the potential impact of the proposed change on families, children, providers and local residents.

10. Conclusion

- 10.1. This report summarises the engagement methods and feedback received during the consultation period from 19th September 2023 to 17th October 2023.
- 10.2. In total throughout the consultation process:
- 895 responses were received, of which:
 - 866 online, and
 - 29 via email, and hard copy
 - Approximately 95 people participated in face-to-face meetings
- 10.3. Overall, the survey results and submissions on the proposal indicated a significant lack of support for the options to reduce the number of MNS via closure and amalgamation. Some respondents requested an extension to the consultation period to explore other options.
- 10.4. It is important to note that feedback from public consultation is prone to bias because those who choose to respond often hold strong views about the subject.
- 10.5. The Council would like to thank everyone that responded to the consultation and attended / participated in the public meetings. We are pleased with the broad range of respondents and offer of support to work with the council and key partners to explore a sustainable model for MNS. All contributions received will be considered and helped to shape the future of MNS within the borough.

11. Next Steps

- 11.1. The Executive Mayor in Cabinet will consider the results from the consultation and decide how to proceed. A decision notice will be published.
- 11.2. The consultation outcomes report will be published on the Get Involved and Council websites.

END

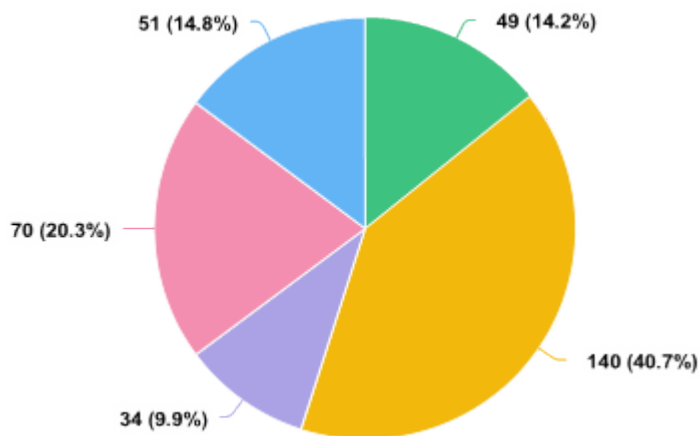
Annex A

Survey Questions

Do you currently have a child/children at one of our Maintained Nursery Schools? If so, please select which one:

Question options

● Crosfield ● Purley ● Selhurst ● Thornton Heath ● Tunstall

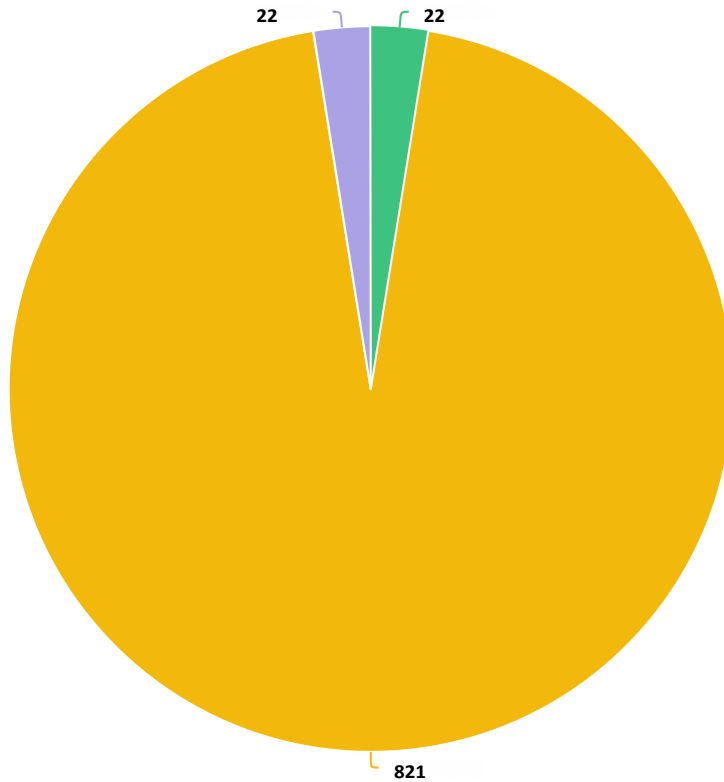


The above figure shows that the majority of respondents have a child/ren at one of the MNS, with Purley nursery accounting for over 40% of responses.

Please tell us whether you support or do not support the proposal to reduce the number of Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) within the borough via closure:

Question options

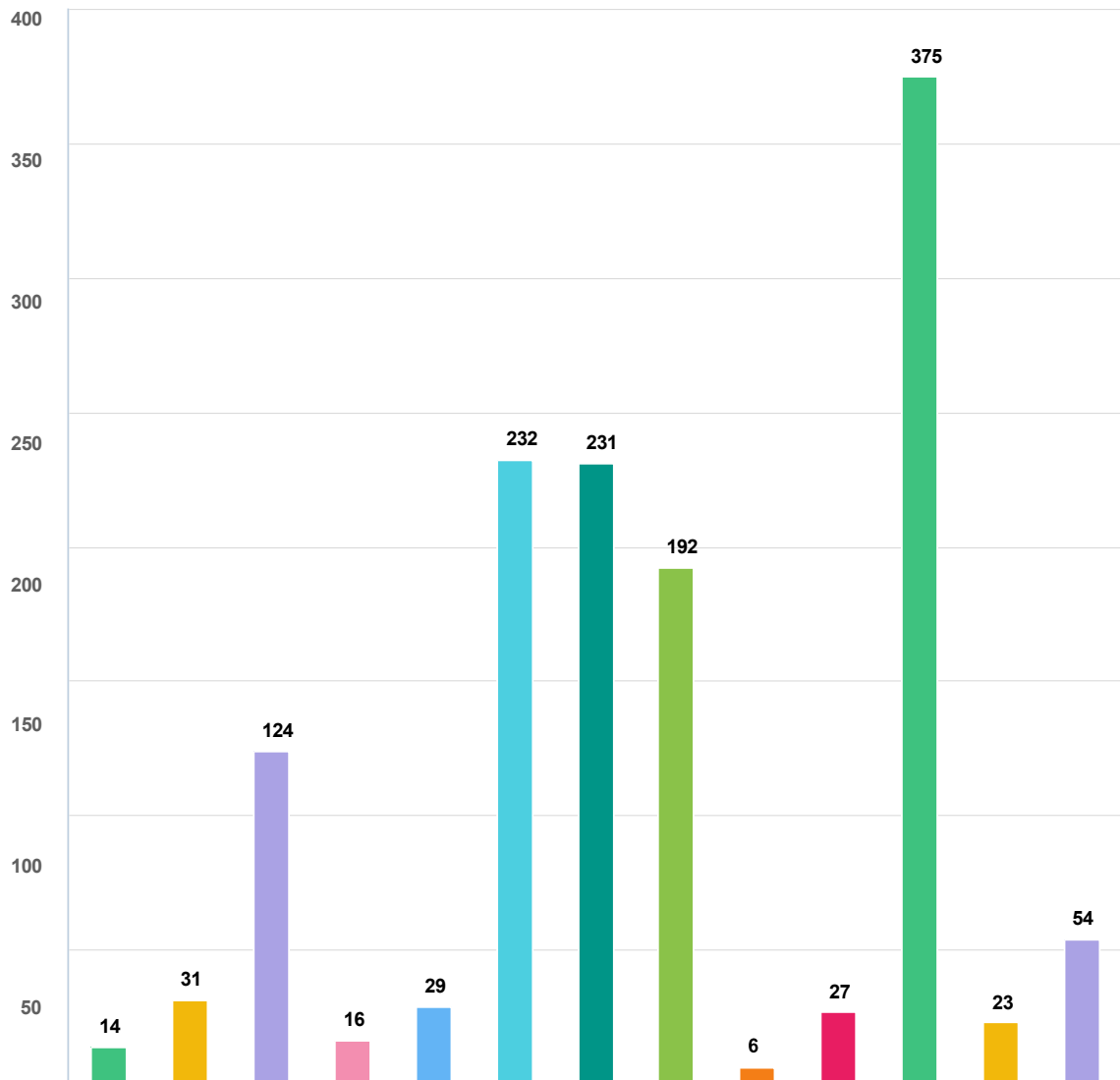
- I support the proposal to reduce the number of MNS via closure
- I do not support the proposal to reduce the number of MNS via closure
- I neither support nor do not support the proposal to reduce the number of MNS via closure



This figure shows the number of online respondents who supported (22), do not support (821) and who neither support or do not support (22) the proposal to reduce the number of MNS via closure.

The vast majority of online respondents (821) do not support the proposal to reduce the number of MNS via closure.

Please tell us who you are - select as many that apply:

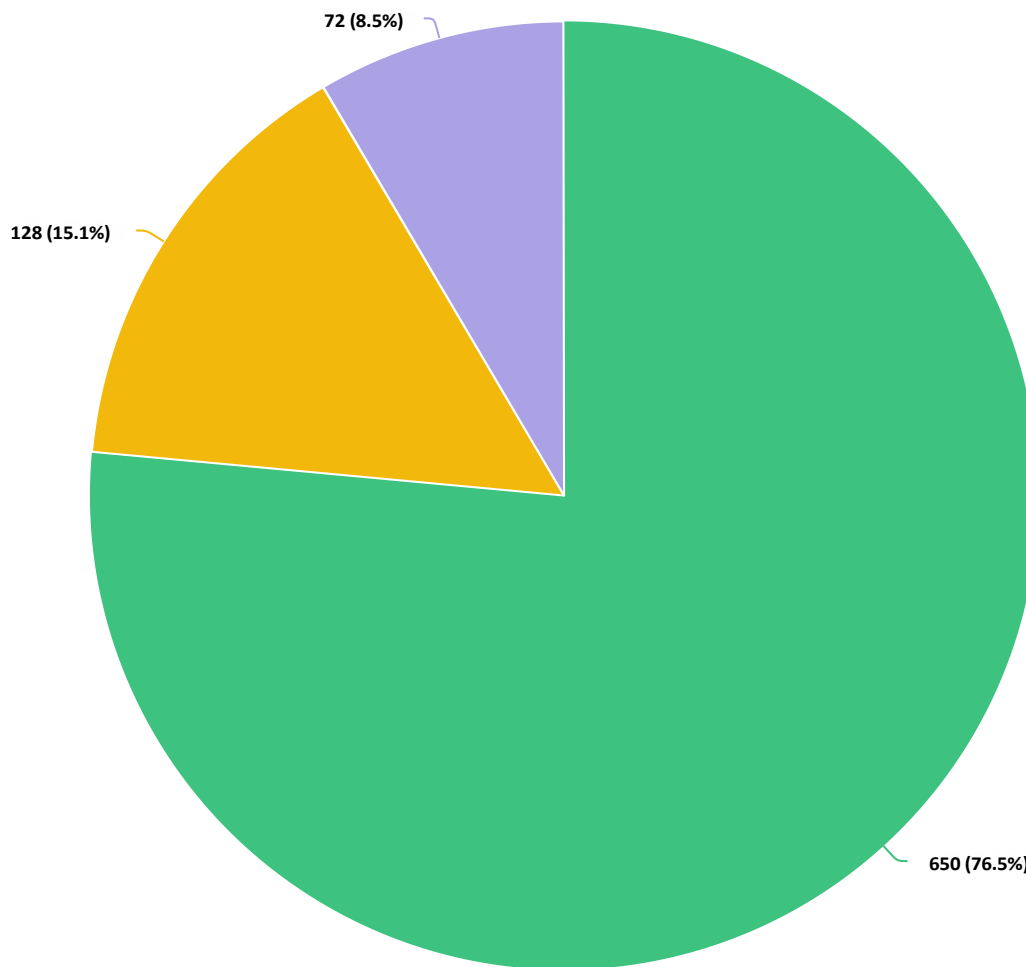


Question options

- MP/ward councillor
 ● Member of staff at a Croydon MNS
 ● Member of staff at another school
- School governor at a Croydon MNS
 ● School governor at another school
- Parent/carer of a child/children at a Croydon MNS
 ● Parent/carer of child/children at another school
- Parent/carer of child/children who attended a Croydon MNS
 ● Pupil of another school
 ● Ex-pupil of MNS
- Local resident
 ● Private, voluntary or independent provider
 ● Prefer not to say

- The figure above shows that the majority of respondents (375) were local residents. 232 respondents were a parent/carer of a child/children at a Croydon MNS.

What is your sex? (a question about gender identity will follow if you are aged 16 or over)

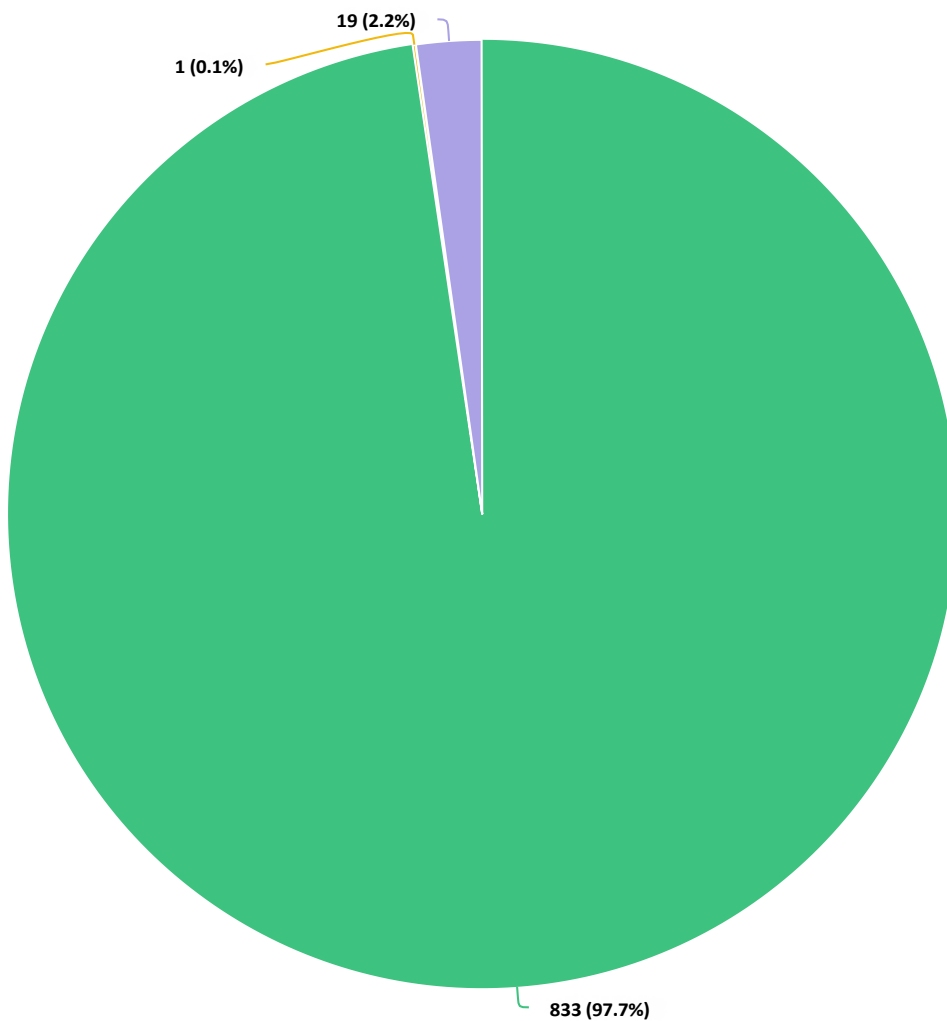


Question options

● Female ● Male ● Prefer not to say

- The figure above shows that 76.5% of respondents were female, 15.1% were male and 8.5% preferred not to state their sex.

Are you aged 16 or over?

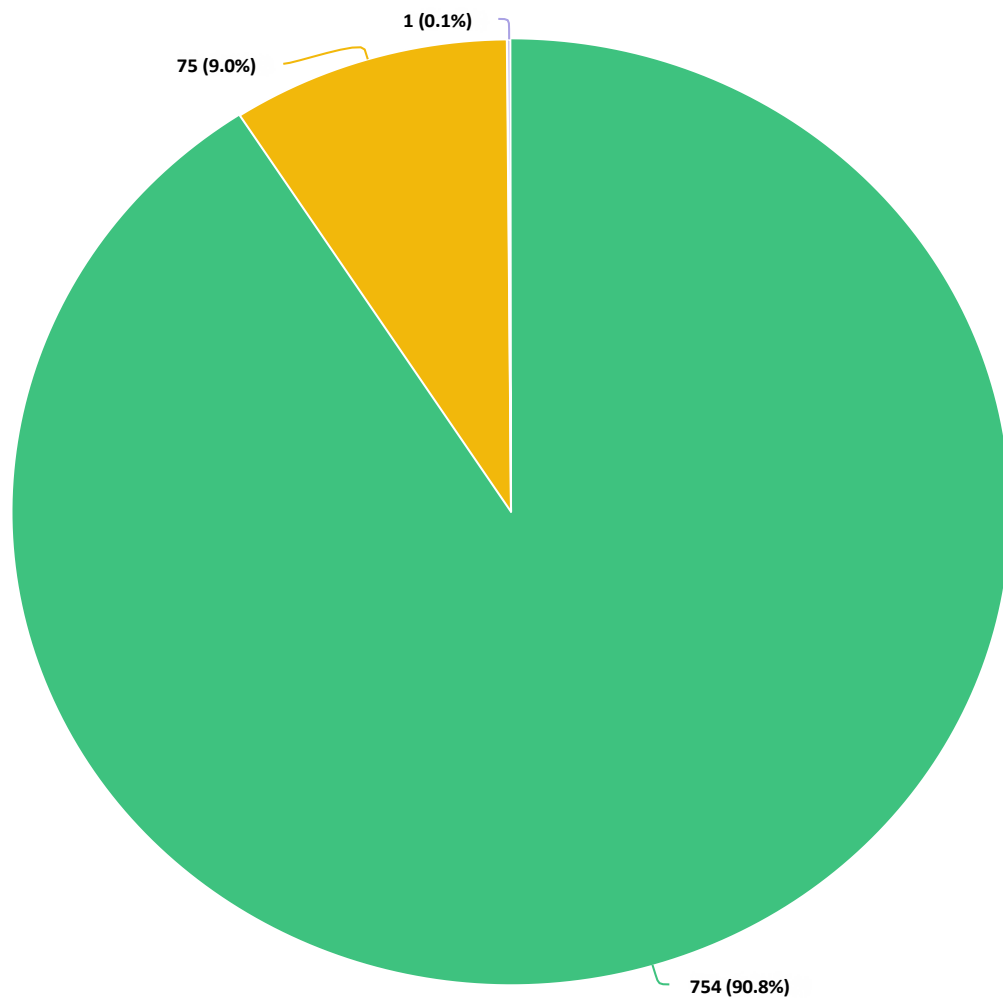


Question options

● Yes ● No ● Prefer not to say

- The figure above shows that 97.7% of respondents were over 16 years of age. 2.2% of respondents preferred not to say if they were over 16.

This question is for respondents aged 16 and over: Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth? (this question is voluntary)

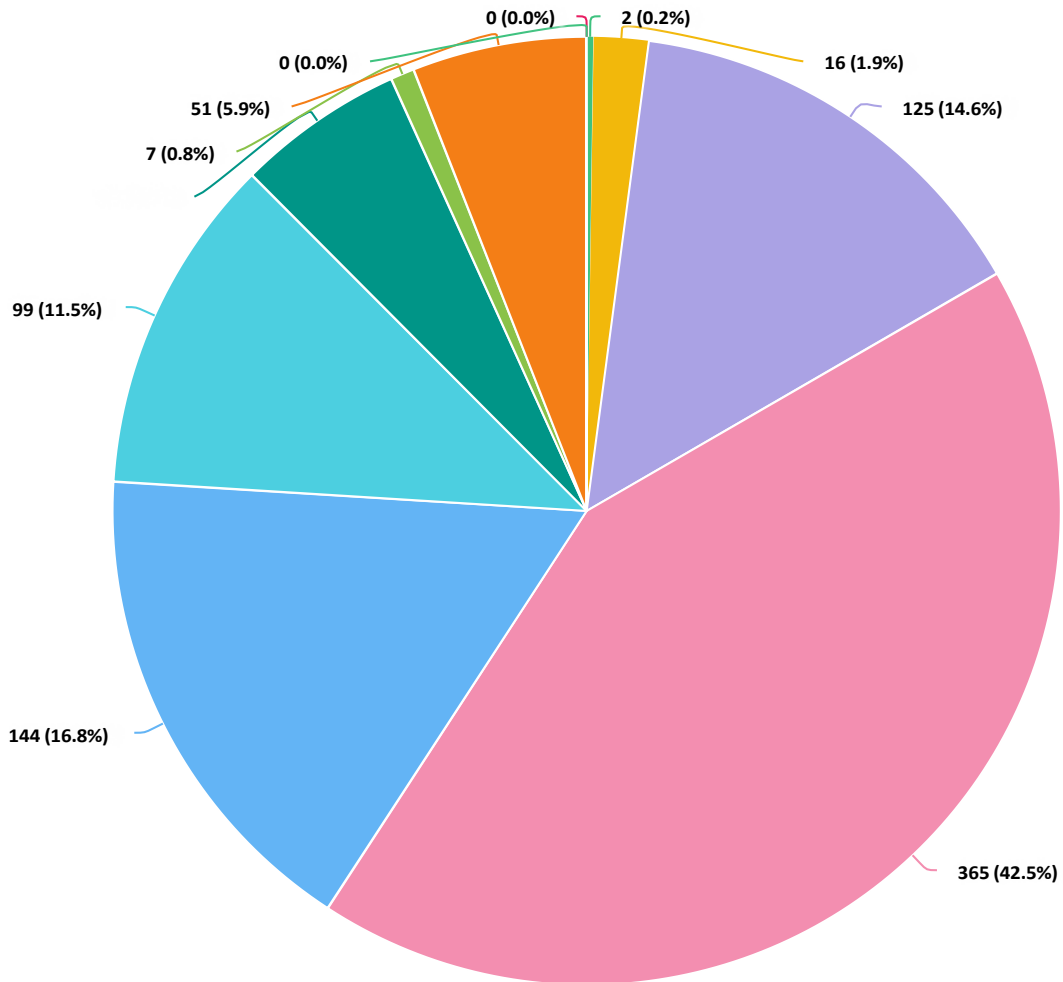


Question options

- Yes
- Prefer not to say
- No - write in identity

- The figure above shows that 90.8% of respondents who were over the age of 16, identify with the gender they were assigned at birth. 9% of respondents preferred not to say.

Which age range are you in?

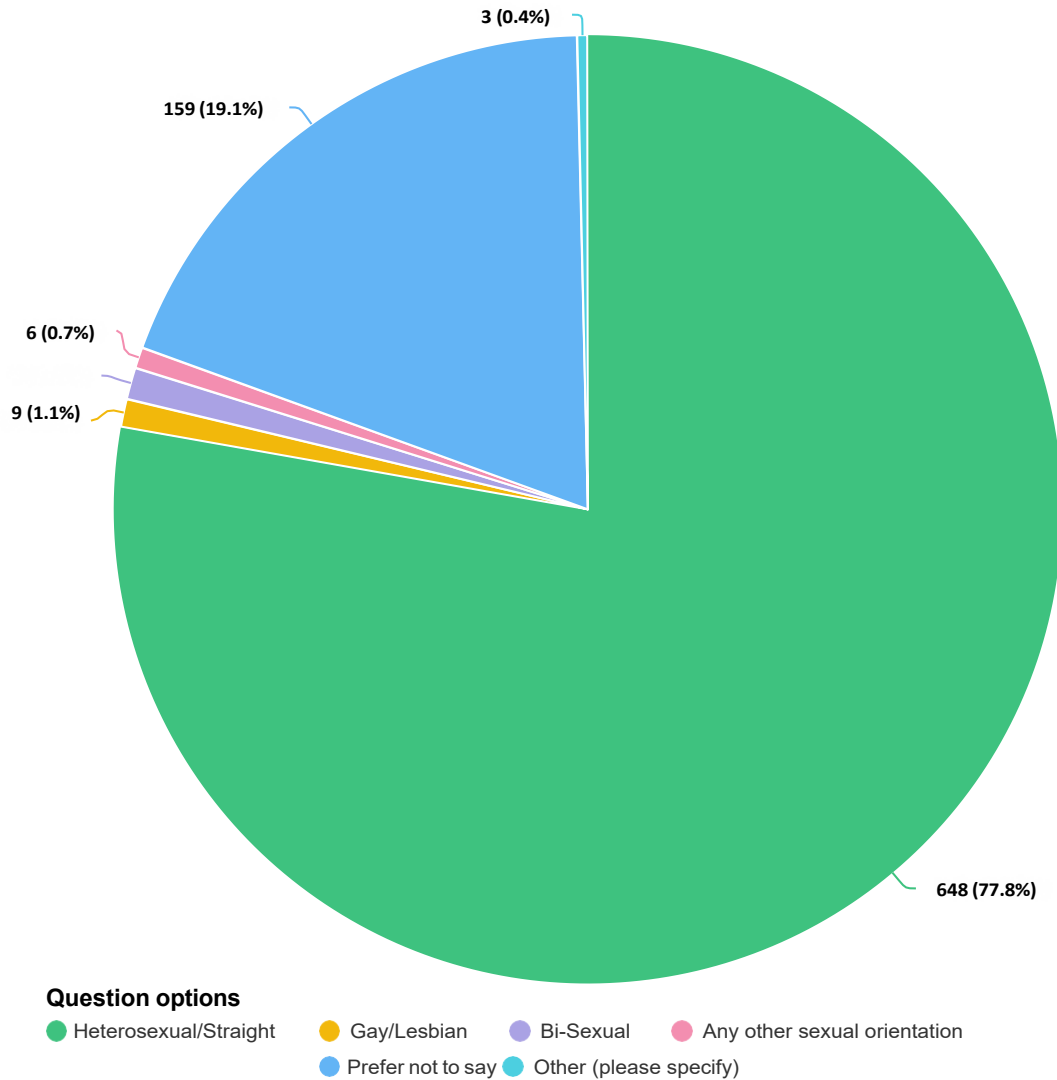


Question options

- 16 - 19
- 20 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 - 74
- 75 - 84
- Prefer not to say
- Under 16
- 85+

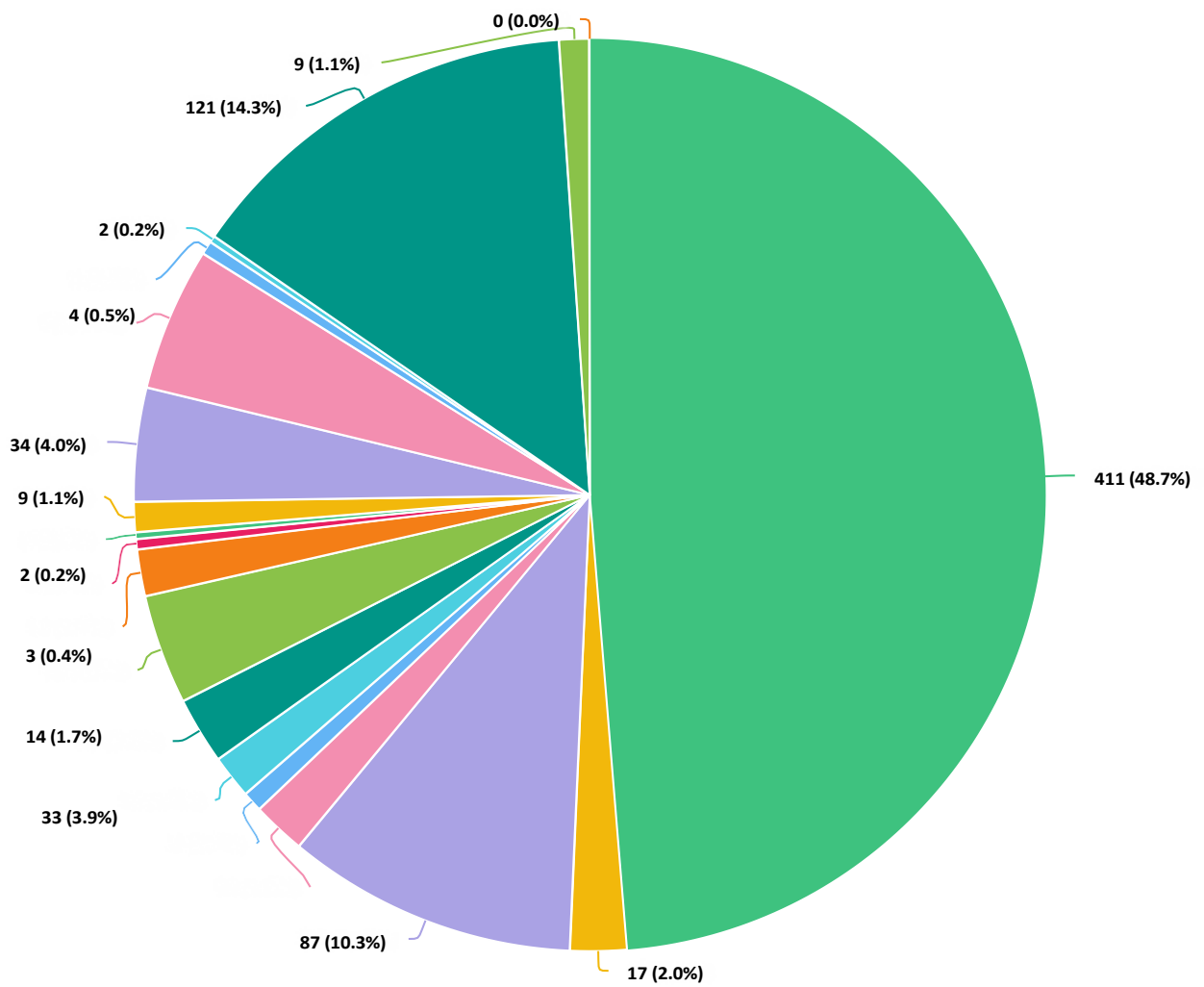
- The figure above shows that the majority of respondents (42.5%) were between 35-44 years of age. 16.8% of respondents were between 45-54 years old and 14.6% of respondents were 25-34 years old.

Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?



- The figure above shows that 77.8% of respondents described their sexual orientation as straight. 19.1% of respondents preferred not to say. 1.1% described themselves as being Gay/Lesbian.

How would you describe your ethnic origin?

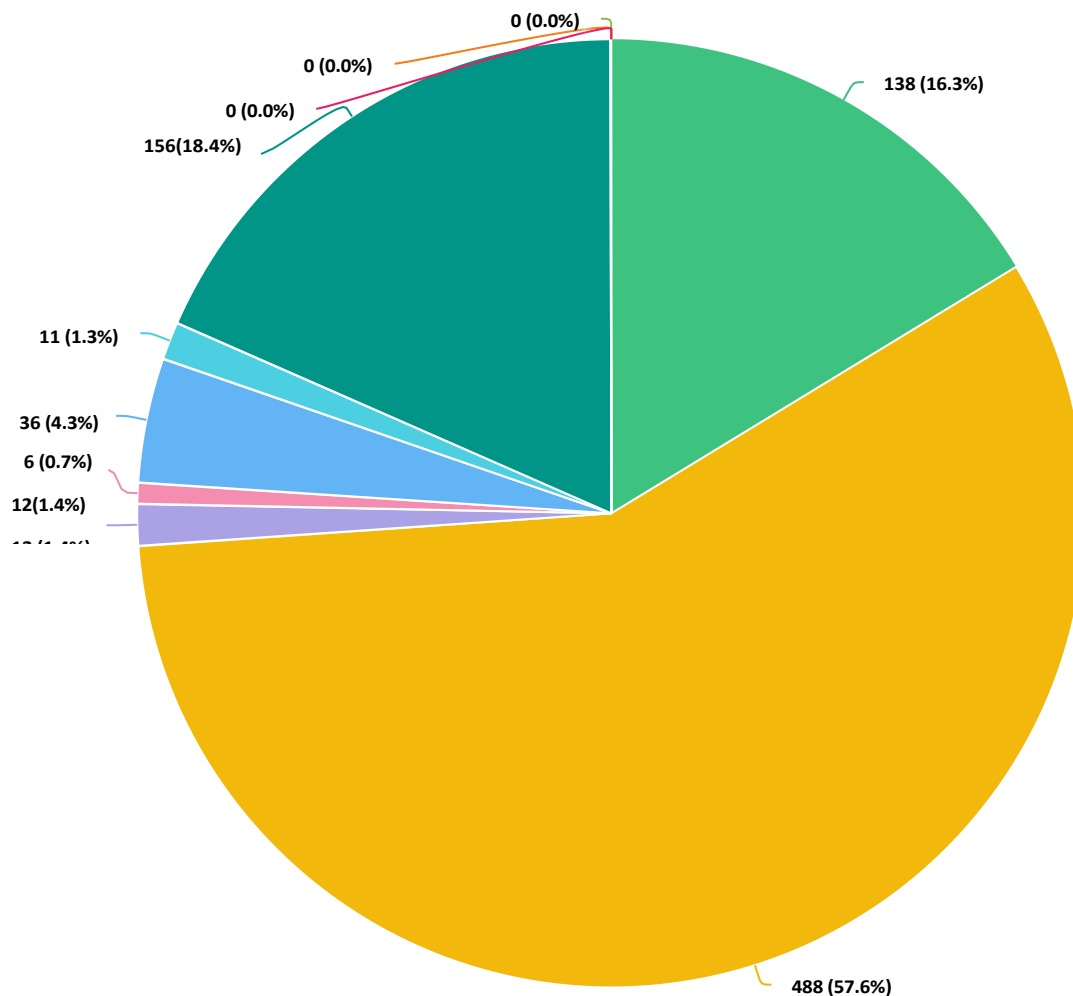


Question options

- White English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British
 ● White Irish
 ● Any other White background
- White and Black Caribbean
 ● White and Black African
 ● White and Asian
- Any other Mixed / multiple ethnic background
 ● Indian
 ● Pakistani
 ● Bangladeshi
 ● Chinese
- Any other Asian background
 ● Black African
 ● Black Caribbean
 ● Any other Black background
 ● Arab
- Prefer not to say
 ● Other (please specify)
 ● White Gypsy or Irish Traveller

- The figure above shows that the majority, 48.7%, of respondents described their ethnic origin as white English/ Welsh/ Scottish/ Northern Irish/ British.

Currently, what is your legal marital or registered civil partnership status?

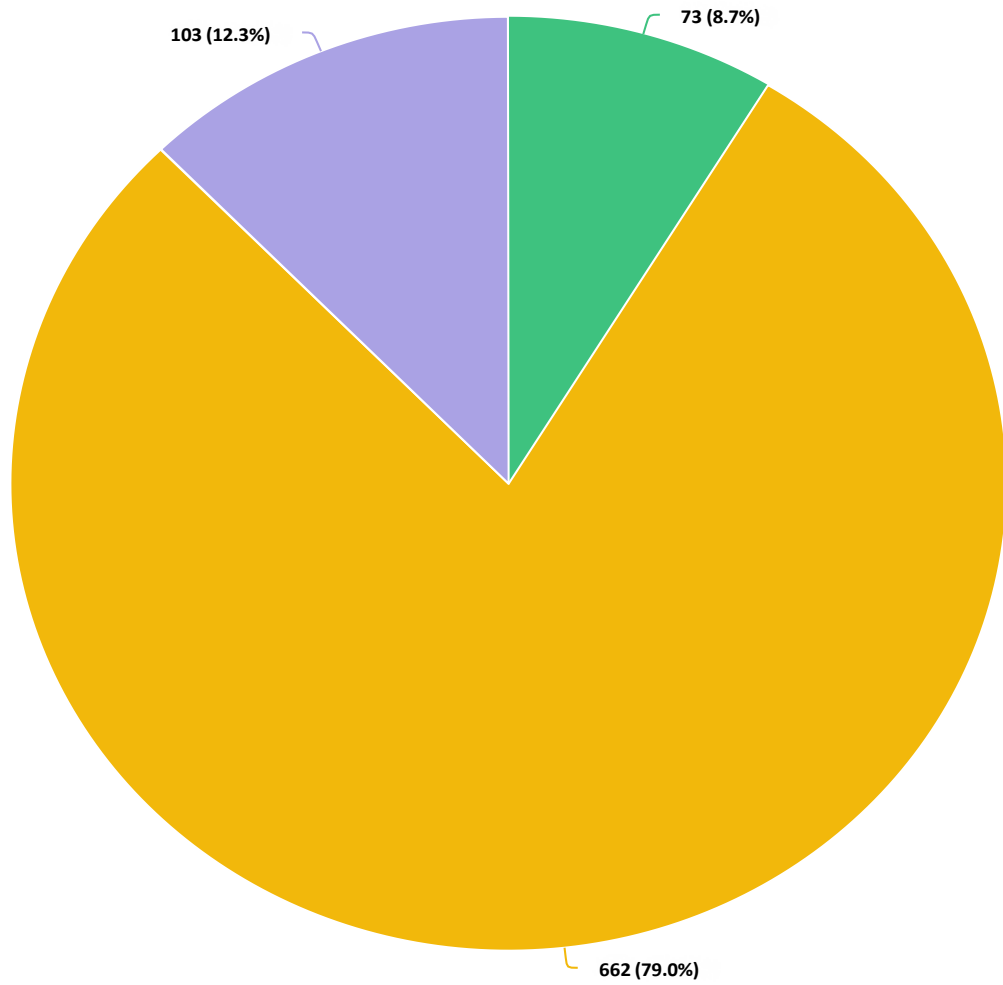


Question options

- Never married and never registered a civil partnership
- Married
- In a registered civil partnership
- Separated, but still legally married
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Prefer not to say
- Separated, but still legally in a civil partnership
- Formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved
- Surviving partner from a registered civil partnership

- The figure above shows that 57.6% of respondents were married. 16.3% had never been married or in a civil partnership and 4.3% were divorced. 18.4% preferred not to say.

Have you or your partner had a baby in the last 12 months?

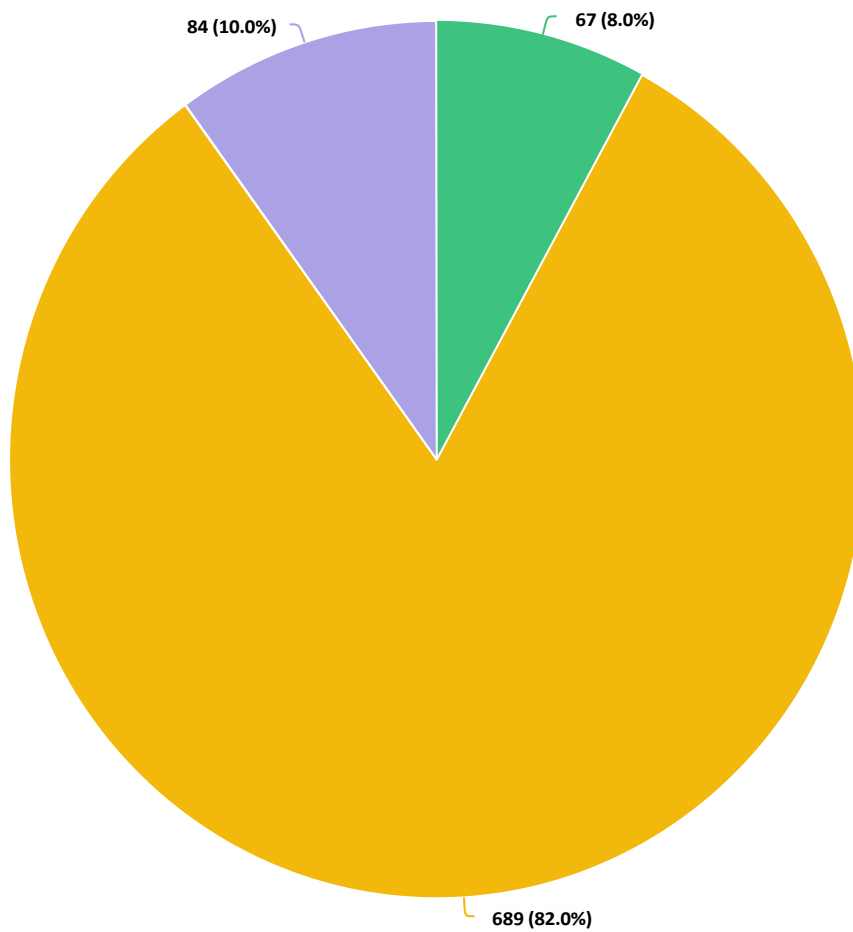


Question options

● Yes ● No ● Prefer not to say

- The figure above shows that 8.7% of respondents had a baby in the last 12 months and 79% of respondents had not.

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

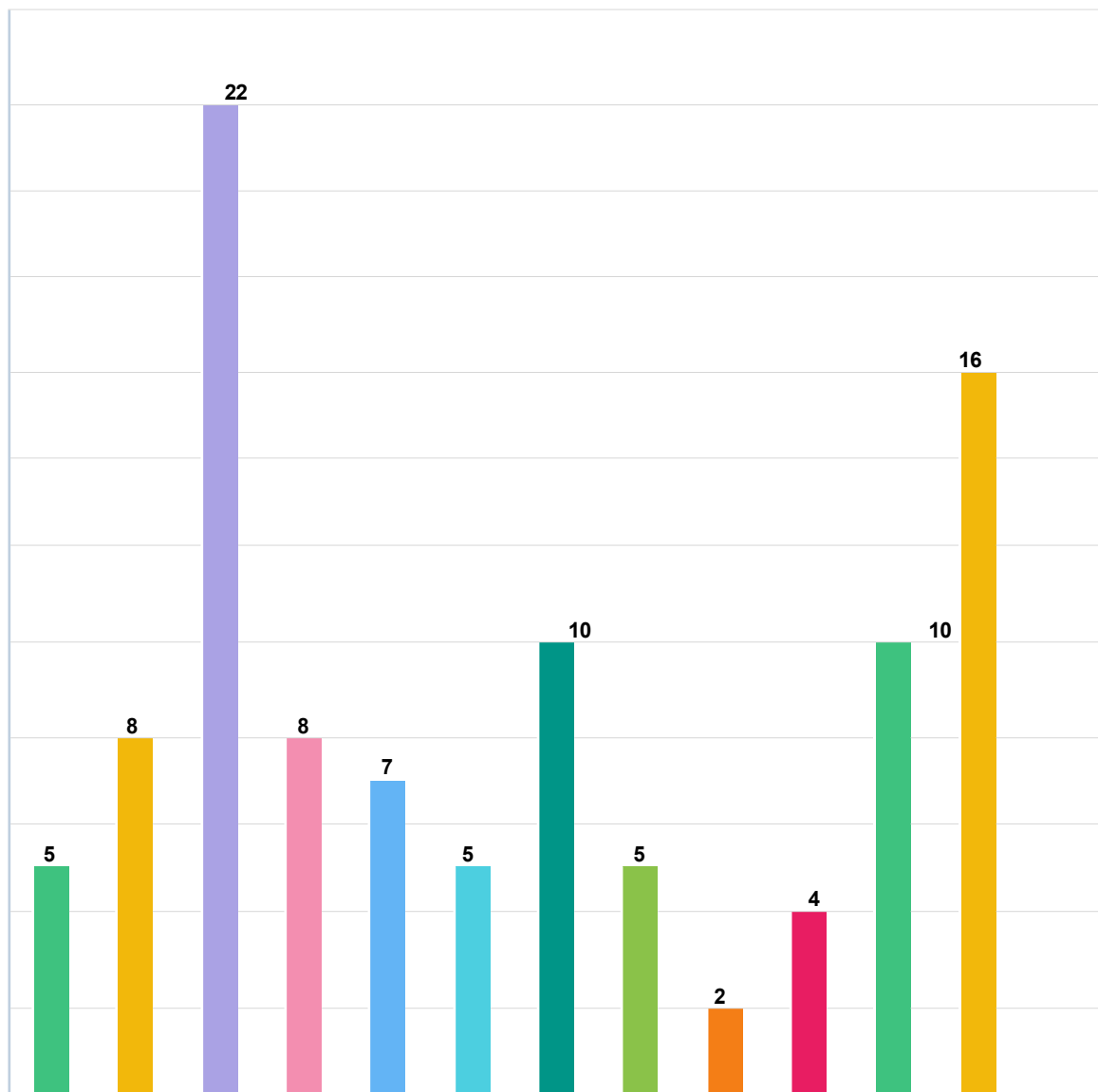


Question options

Yes No Prefer not to say

- The figure above shows that 82% of respondents did not consider themselves to have a disability, and 8% did. 10% of respondents chose not to say.

Please select the disability(ies) you consider yourself to have:

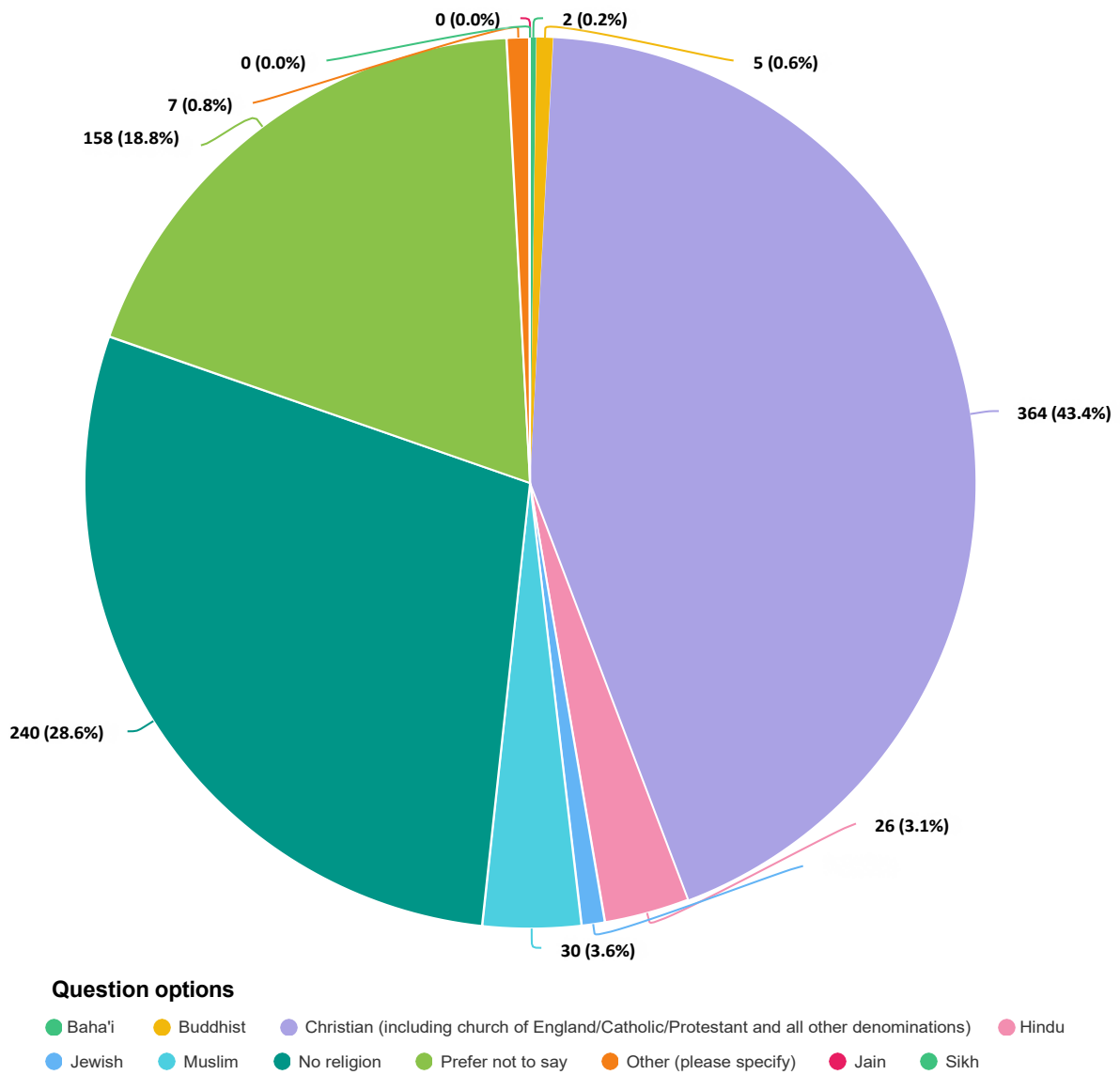


Question options

- Visually Impaired
- Hearing Impaired
- Mobility disability
- Learning disability
- Communication difficulty
- Hidden disability: autism (ASD)
- Hidden disability: ADHD
- Hidden disability: Asthma
- Hidden disability: Epilepsy
- Hidden disability: Diabetes
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify)
- Hidden disability: Sickle cell

- The figure above shows that, of the respondents that did consider themselves to have a disability, 22 had a mobility disability, 10 had a hidden disability and 16 had another form of disability that was not specified.

What is your religion?



- The figure above shows that 43.4% of respondents were Christian and 28.6% had no religion.