

OUTCOMES OF THE UNENGAGE SURVEY ON THE BARNSLEY SEN SCHOOL PLACEMENT SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY (2017-20)

Introduction

This survey was launched on 30th January and ended on 23rd February. Its purpose was to invite comments, particularly from children and young people with SEN(D) their parents or carers, together with school leaders, teachers and governing bodies, on the objectives of the SEN School Placement Sufficiency Strategy. The Strategy aims to re-set the current balance in the type of school placements for SEND pupils, particularly by improving the capacity of local, mainstream settings to best meet their needs, closer to home within a system that has the support of parents and carers.

In order to gauge the level of support, the consultation consisted of seven questions. These questions, together with a brief analysis of the responses made, are set out as follows:

Analysis of Responses

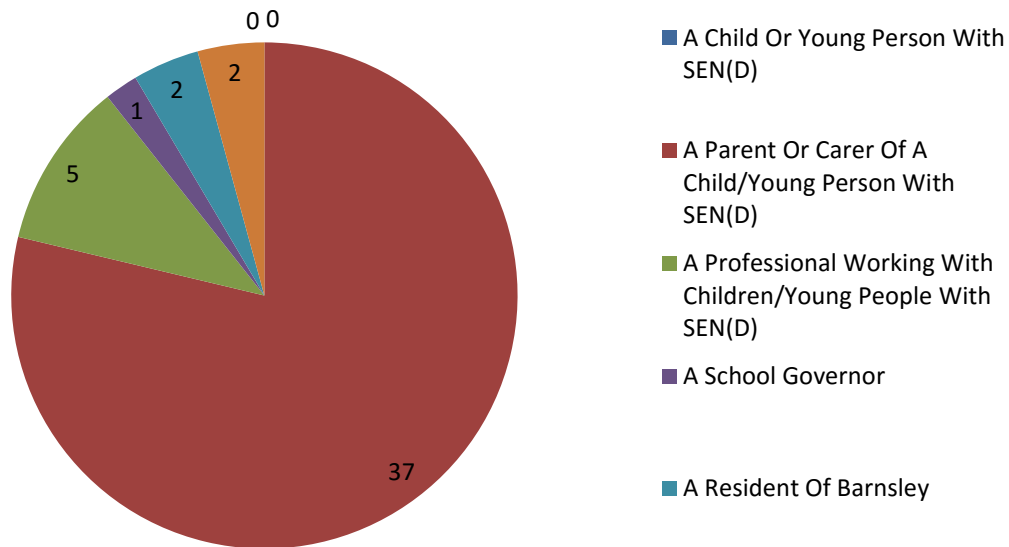
A total of 47 respondents replied to the consultation with the responses to each question summarised below.

Question 1: Please tell us who you are by ticking one of the boxes below
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- A child or young person with SEND
- A parent or carer of a child or young person with SEND
- A professional working with children and young people with SEND
- A school governor
- A resident of Barnsley
- Other

All respondents replied to Question 1, with a significant majority identifying themselves as parents or carers of children and young people with SEN(D) (78.7%). Of the remainder, 5 (or 10.6%) were professionals working with such children and 1 (2.0%) respondent identified him/herself as a school governor. *Please also see the chart below.*

Please Tell Us Who You Are



Question 2: If you have responded to Question 1 either as a child/young person with SEN(D), a parent/carers of a child/young person with SEN(D) a professional working with children/young people with SEN(D) or a school governor with SEN(D) children at your school, please indicate the school or setting

Of the 39 responses received (other *consultees did not respond to this question as they were either residents or 'others' with no apparent relationship to a child/young person with SEN(D)*) there was no significant cluster of responses from a particular school, setting or geographical location. The most notable set of responses originated from Greenacre Special School (7 responses or 16.3%). Of the remainder, no school or setting was the subject of more than 1 to 3 responses.

Question 3: The Strategy sets out our ambition to help as many children and young people with SEN(D) as possible to have their educational needs met in mainstream settings. Do you agree with this ambition. Please tick one of the following boxes:

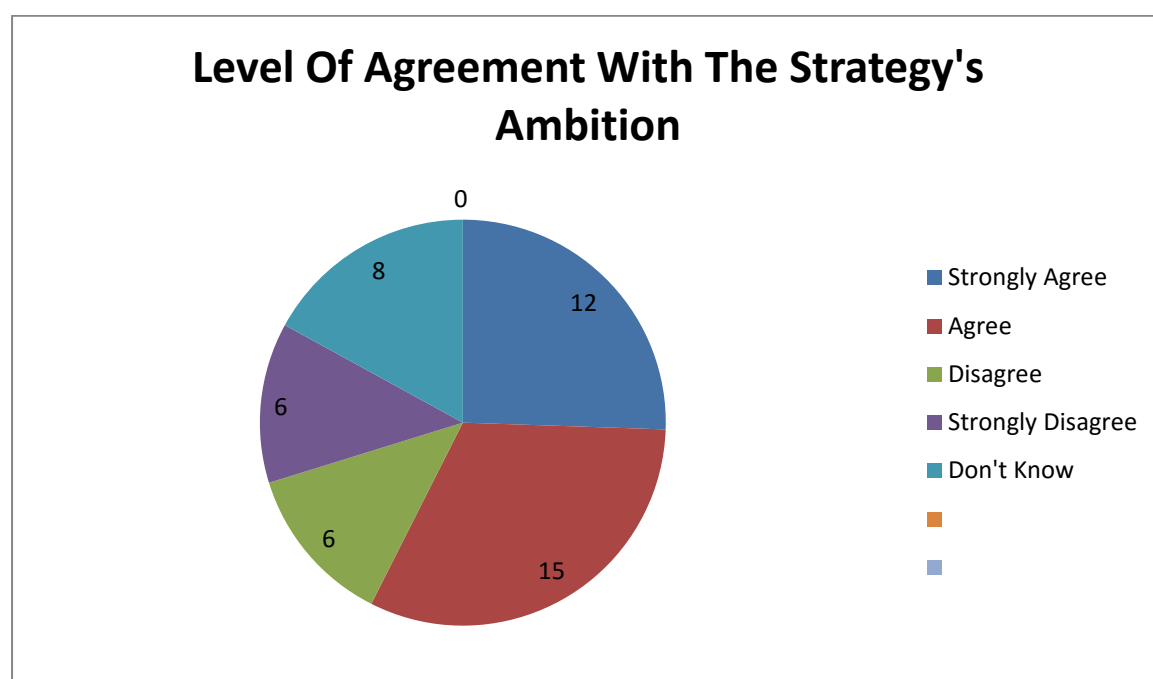
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Don't know
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Forty seven responses were received to Question 3 (a 100% response rate) Of these, 12 strongly agreed with the Strategy's ambition and a further 15 agreed. In contrast, 6

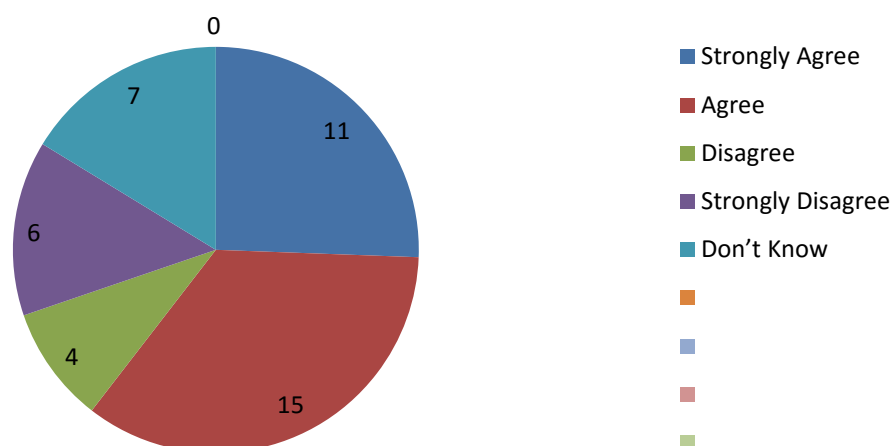
respondents disagreed and a further 6 strongly disagreed with the Strategy's ambition. A further 8 respondents gave a 'Don't Know' response. This indicated that a combined 57.4% of respondents to this question supported the ambition of the Strategy. This compared to a combined 34% who disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Therefore, a majority of respondents in the survey were in favour of the Strategy's ambition but there was a notable minority who disagreed or strongly disagreed with the ambition (57.4% to 34.0%).

Of the 47 responses made to Question 3, 36 (or 76.6%) were made by parents or carers. Among respondents who indicated strong agreement or agreement with the Strategy's ambition, 23 (or 85%) were parents and carers. Of the number who either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the ambition, 10 (or 21.3%) were parents or carers. Please see charts below:



Parents And Carers Response To The Strategy's Ambition



Question 4: When pupils are assessed, some will need specialist provision and support. For pupils who do need a special school place, the Strategy suggests that the shortage in Barnsley is in the following areas of need:

- Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)
- Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
- Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)

Please tell us what you think about the levels and type of need in Barnsley.

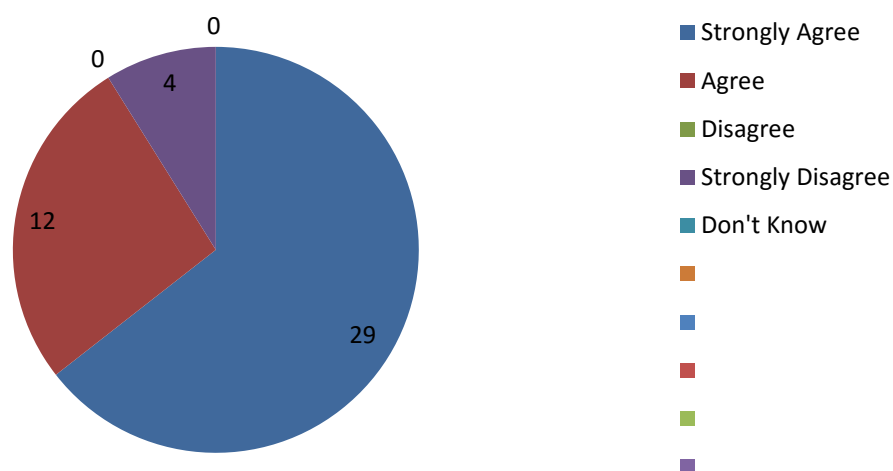
In summary, there were 37 responses with 2 indicating that they did not know in which type(s) of need, shortages existed. Some of the responses provided insight into the level and type of needs and how best they can be met. In turn, some of these comments also refer to the current state of provision in the borough.

Question 5: The Strategy sets out that we would like to create these places locally. Do you agree that these places should be made available in Barnsley wherever possible?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

All respondents who took part in the survey replied to this question. A significant majority of respondents (29 out of 47 or 61.7%) strongly agreed with the proposal set out in Question 5. When combined, the number of respondents who supported the proposal (i.e those who agreed or strongly agreed) amounted to 41 or 87.2% *Please also see chart below.*

Number of Respondents Supporting The Provision Of More Placements In Barnsley

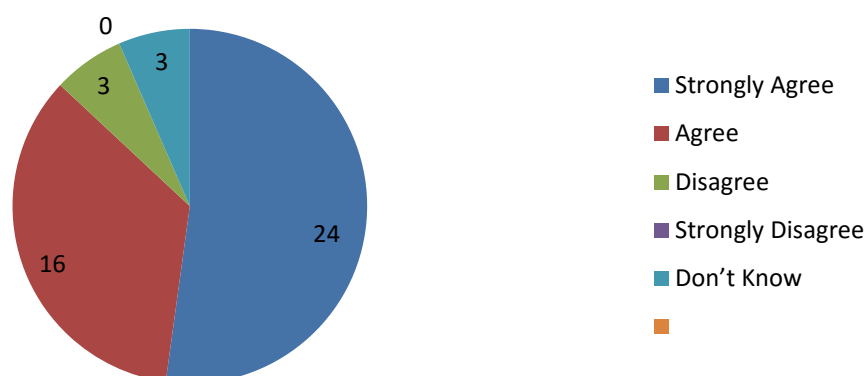


Question 6: Do you have any views regarding whether Barnsley should be working with other local councils to develop provision together:

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Of the cohort of 47 respondents, only 1 did not reply to this Question. In considering the remainder of the responses, 24 respondents (51%) indicated strong agreement with Barnsley Council working with other councils to develop provision. When combined, the number of respondents indicating support for this proposal amounted to 40 or 85%. *Please also see chart below.*

Respondents View On Whether Barnsley Should Work With Other Local Councils To Develop Provision



Question 7: Finally, are there any other comments you would like to make concerning the SEND Sufficiency Strategy?

A number of diverse comments were generated by respondents to Question 7. Among comments made, some refer to the value of such a survey in providing a voice from which to influence provision. Others reinforce support for the purpose of investing in and improving local mainstream capacity whilst others provide insight into why specialist provision will continue to be necessary, particularly in the most complex of SEND cases.

Summary and Conclusion

The results of the survey provide a useful insight into perceptions concerning the SEN School Placement Sufficiency Strategy. A significant majority of respondents were parents or carers with children/young people with SEND who gave valuable insight into the Strategy's main proposal. On this a noticeable majority (57.4%) of parents and carers were in favour but a notable minority, including many other parents and carers, were in disagreement (34%). A majority indicated support for more SEN places to be created in local mainstream provision whilst an aggregated 85% of respondents supported Barnsley MBC working with other councils to develop provision.

The results of the survey will be considered as part of the wider context of feedback yielded to date and all individual comments left by respondents will be considered and taken into account as we develop our plans to deliver the SEND Sufficiency Strategy .