

Appendix B - Analysis of responses to the public consultation on the future of Copenhagen and Vittoria Schools

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1. Purpose

- 1.1. This appendix provides a summary of the analysis of the public response to the consultation on the future of Copenhagen and Vittoria schools in the London Borough of Islington.

2. Public consultation

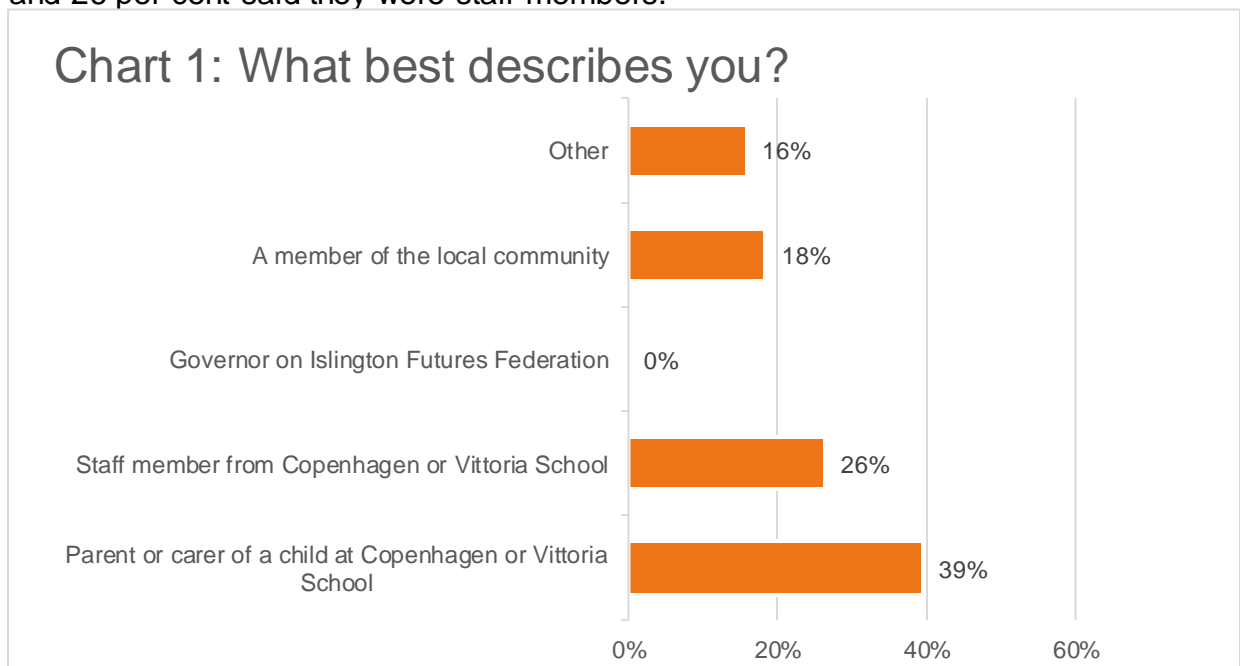
- 2.1. The public consultation ran for six weeks from 3 November to 16 December 2022.
- 2.2. An overview of the proposal was [provided online](#) along with a link to an online questionnaire.
- 2.3. A complementary booklet was produced and distributed at the two schools. The booklet included a questionnaire for respondents to fill in and return to either school.
- 2.4. The booklet and questionnaire were also translated to Arabic, Bengali, and Somali: the three most common second languages spoken at both schools.
- 2.5. During the consultation period, the School Support and Information Services team organised:
 - 2.5.1. seven parent/carer consultation meetings (three at Vittoria school, and four at Copenhagen, including one which invited parents and carers from both schools)
 - 2.5.2. four staff meetings (two at each school)

2.5.3. one community meeting at Elizabeth Garrett Anderson school

- 2.6. Each meeting followed the same format, with council officers presenting the proposal and then allowing for time for questions and comments from attendees.
- 2.7. A further meeting was held at Copenhagen Primary School following a request from a group of six parents.
- 2.8. We held two meetings with the recognised trade unions.
- 2.9. The two schools spoke with their individual school councils to capture the pupils' views on the proposal.
- 2.10. Respondents were also invited to submit comments to a dedicated mailbox (copenhagenandvittoria@islington.gov.uk).

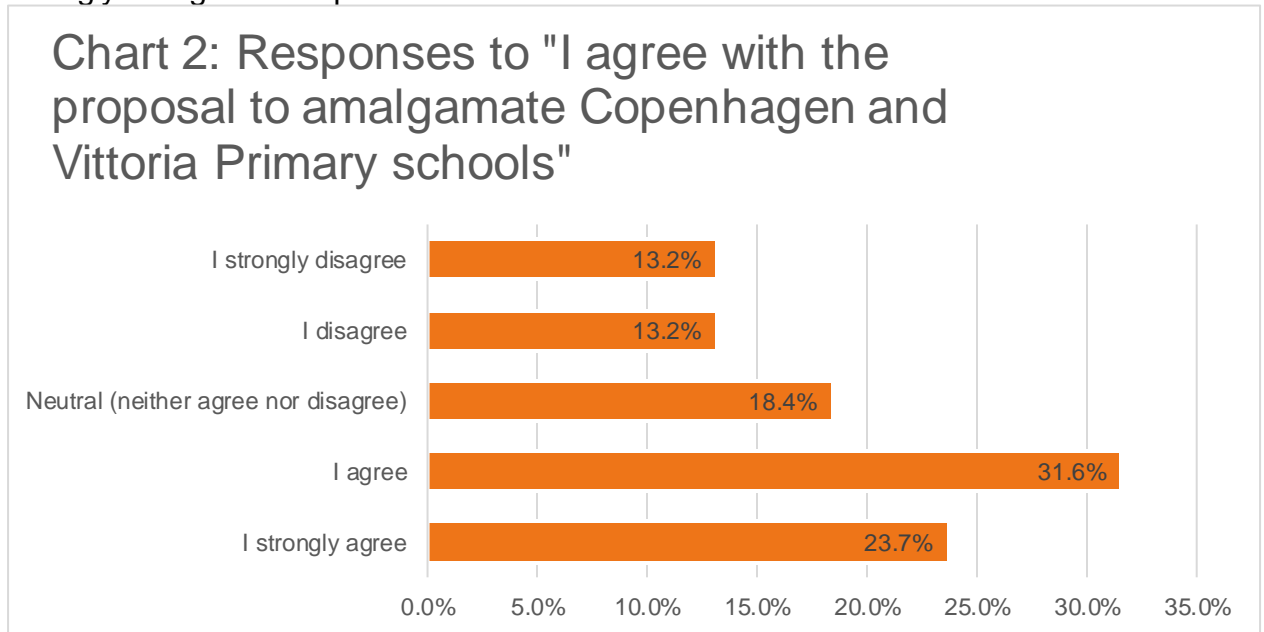
3. Responses to the consultation

- 3.1. The online questionnaire had **38 responses**.
- 3.2. Chart 1 shows a breakdown of how respondents described themselves. 39 per cent of respondents said they were parents of children at either Copenhagen or Vittoria schools and 26 per cent said they were staff members.

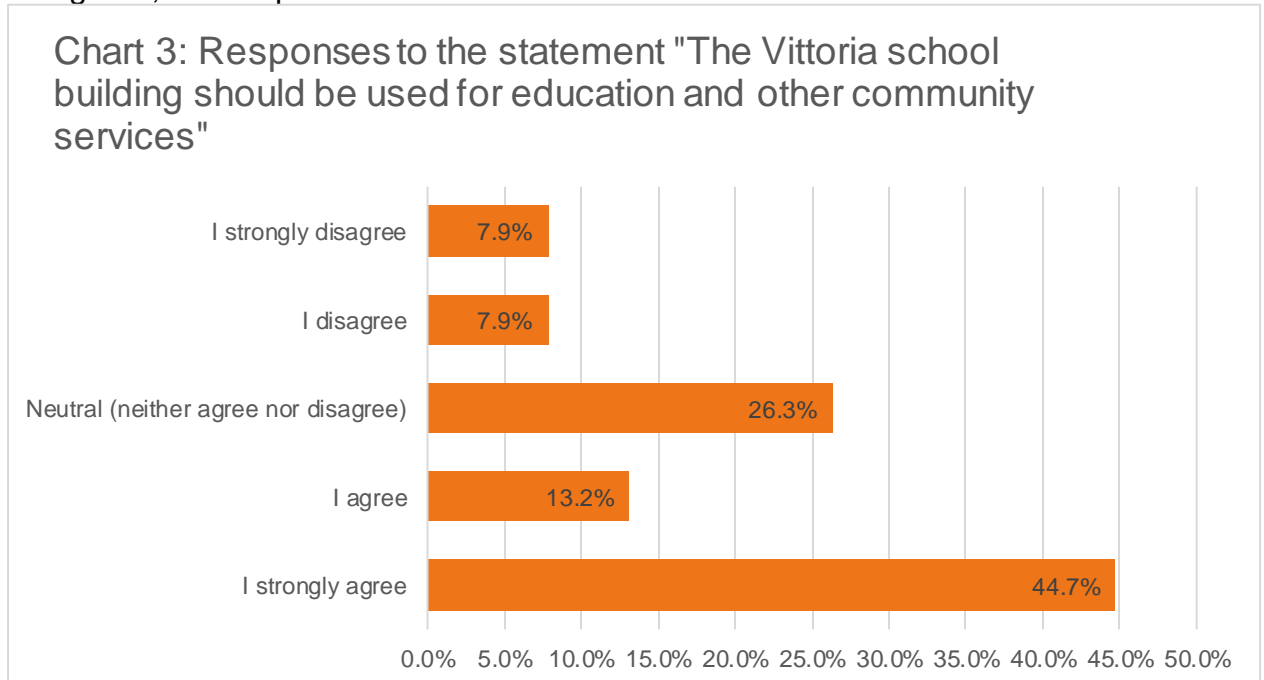


- 3.3. Chart 2 shows a breakdown of responses to the question “I agree with the proposal to amalgamate Copenhagen and Vittoria Primary schools”. Approximately 55 per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this statement and 26 per cent disagreed or

strongly disagreed. 18 per cent were neutral.



3.4. Chart 3 shows a breakdown of responses to the question "The Vittoria school building should be used for education and other community services". 58 per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, 16 per cent disagreed or strongly disagreed, and 26 per cent were neutral.



4. Summary of questions, comments, and concerns

- 4.1. Respondents to the questionnaire were able to make additional comments. 25 respondents chose to leave additional comments.
- 4.2. We also invited respondents to send their comments to us by email to a dedicated mailbox. Seven people emailed their comments and a written document was sent to us on behalf of parents of Copenhagen primary school.
- 4.3. 116 people attended the stakeholder meetings¹ where they asked questions and fed back their views and concerns.
- 4.4. The tables group feedback received by theme showing a summary of written comments and verbal feedback at the stakeholder meetings.

¹ Some participants attended more than one event

4.5. General comments

Theme	Summary of written comments	Summary of verbal comments
In support of the proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amalgamation will create a “great school experience” with additional funding for school trips and after-school clubs • Vittoria should be used as a specialist SEND school • Vittoria should be used for nursery provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amalgamation means both communities will keep their local school and we can thrive and grow together
Against the proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mixing of the two communities will have a negative effect on the children. Vittoria is a lovely small independent school and I think it should remain as it is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about chosen name for the amalgamated school • Concern that existing parents may choose other schools

4.6. Thematic comments

Theme	Summary of written comments	Summary of verbal comments
Identity of school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school’s name should reflect the identity of both schools, or have a new name • Some were concerned that not using the Copenhagen name would wipe out It's rich historical standing within the local community • Conversely, others argued that keeping the Vittoria name is important to bring the schools together because the school will be in the Copenhagen building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern that Copenhagen identity being lost or taken away: view that the name should reflect both schools, or have a new name

Theme	Summary of written comments	Summary of verbal comments
Class sizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern about classes of 25 or more students and the impact this will have on teaching quality, including ability of staff to teach larger classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need more information on how a 1.5 form entry would work in practice
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respondents were concerned about staff redundancies and the timelines around the staff consultation and resignation dates There was also concern that continued uncertainty may lead to staff finding jobs elsewhere and that was not sufficient time to complete all the planning required for the proposed change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions related to whether any staff were being made redundant right now and what would happen to the teachers, and what support would be available. Assurances were sought that any process that would take place would be fair for staff across both schools.
Copenhagen exterior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External space and look at Copenhagen needs significant improvement 	
Falling pupil numbers and financial viability		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns about long term financial viability and what the school building will be used for
Culture and diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request that behaviour policy is reviewed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School should celebrate diversity, including different religious festivals
Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern that staff have sufficient time to prepare lesson plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for additional resource to support children following impact of Covid More information was requested about the support that will be provided to merge two curriculums

Theme	Summary of written comments	Summary of verbal comments
School uniforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View that there should be a new school uniform • Concern about cost of new school uniform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about cost of new uniform • Suggestion that Y6 should have different uniform
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification on what plans will be put in place for increasing number of children with SEND at the school 	

4.7. Pupil Voice

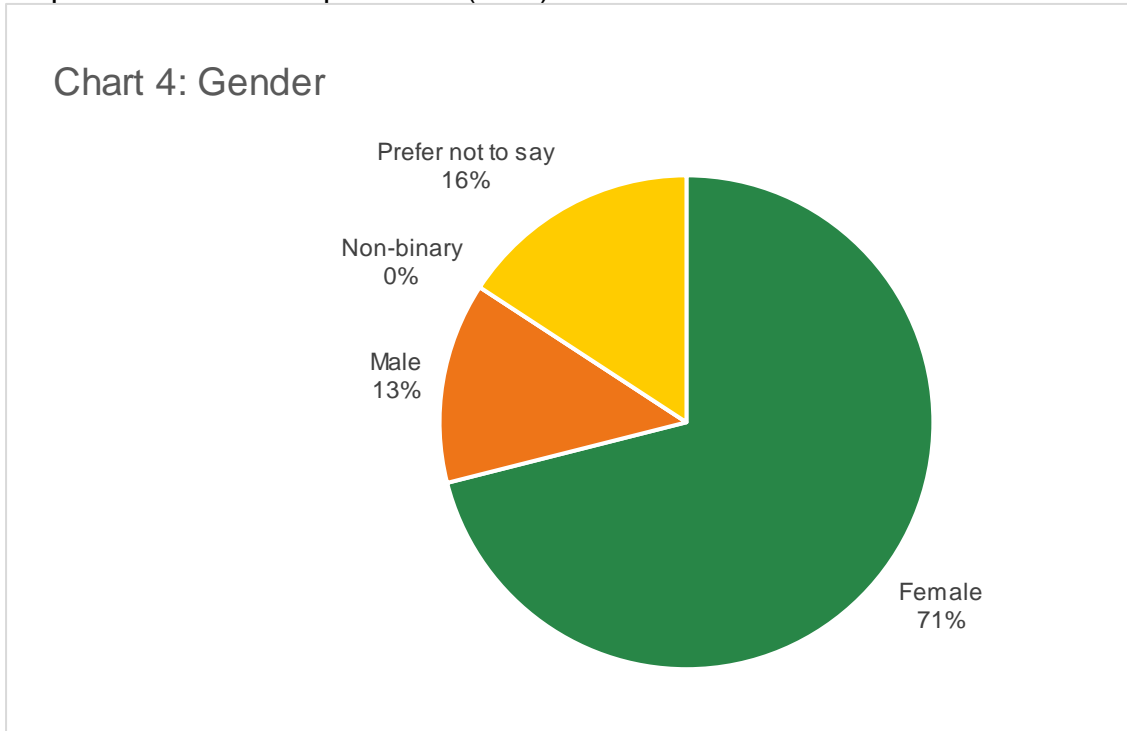
4.7.1. The table shows a summary of comments from pupils made through their Schools Forums.

Supporting comments	Concerns and worries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am excited about being able to make new friends • I am proud that new children are going to be coming to Copenhagen, they are going to love our building • The school is going to be full, more children to play games with especially football • As long as we still have our friends and teachers, I don't mind if more children come, they will love learning here • Maybe our football team will be better as we will have more players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We don't have enough resources to share like pencils and glue sticks • What if we get new teachers that we don't like or aren't nice to us? • I don't think we have enough space in our playground for more children • What if the behaviour changes and there are unkind children? • Will we have to change our uniform? • There might not be a lot of space in the classrooms to do our work and it could get very noisy

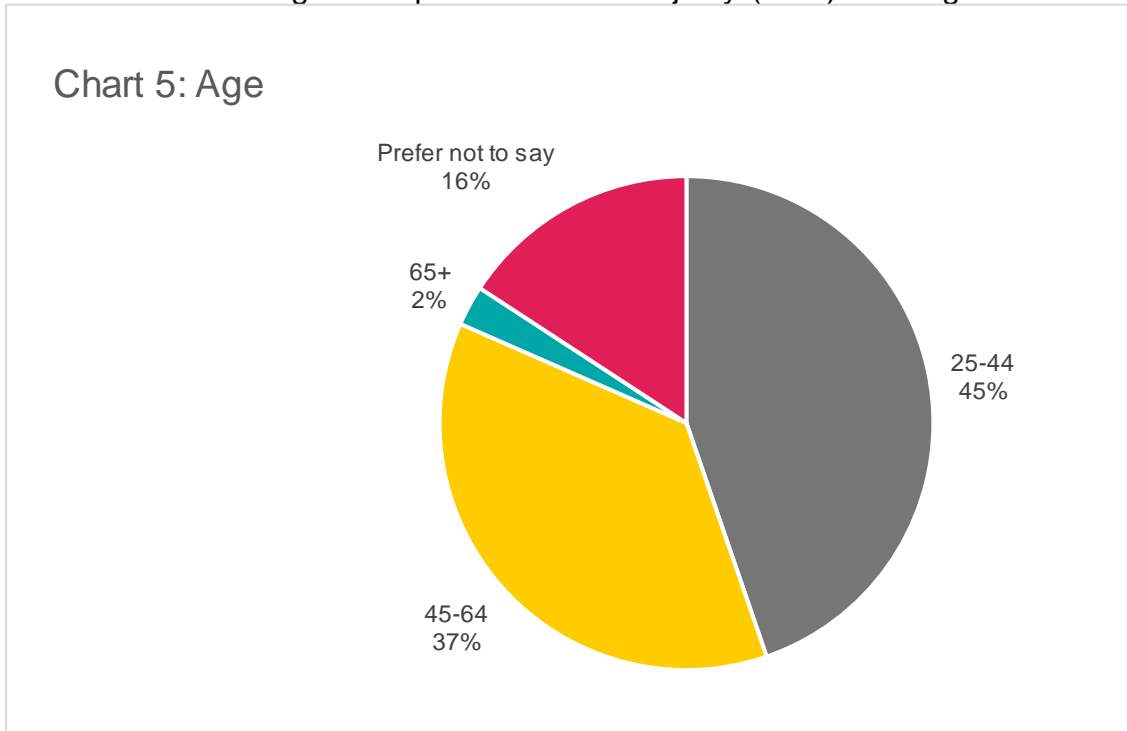
Supporting comments	Concerns and worries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think we will have more money to go on better trips and experiences • We can raise a lot more money when fundraising as there will be more children, maybe we can get a new climbing frame • Our assembly hall will be full and there will be more V.I.Ps each week • There will be more competition during sports day and PE • Our fundraising events and celebrations are going to be such much bigger and fun • I think the more children the better, we can be a stronger school and definitely stronger at sports • I'm excited about making new friends and a new start. • I have two friends there already. • I'm excited about new friends and more social times. • What about when it is the Y6 leavers assembly? It will be weird for them doing it to parents they don't know and talking about memories when they have only been here for one year. • If we actually move will there be lessons on the first day, or will there be introductions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I feel a bit anxious about meeting a whole new school at once • Will there be enough food for us all at lunch time? • What if there are bullies at the other school? we don't have bullying here everyone is kind • I think I would be a bit nervous and scared if everything changes • Will we have to share our laptops? • It will cost a lot of money to get things like chairs and new tables • What will happen to (the Vittoria) building? – Someone said they would knock it down and build a factory • I like my TAs, teachers and headteacher and want them to stay the same. If we move, we might not have the same teachers. Who decides which teachers will go? • Will teachers go on strike? • I'm a little bit worried because I am shy • We won't have all of our friends come with us...

5. Equalities data

- 5.1. We asked respondents to tell us about them. Chart 4 shows the stated gender of respondents. Most respondents (71%) were female.

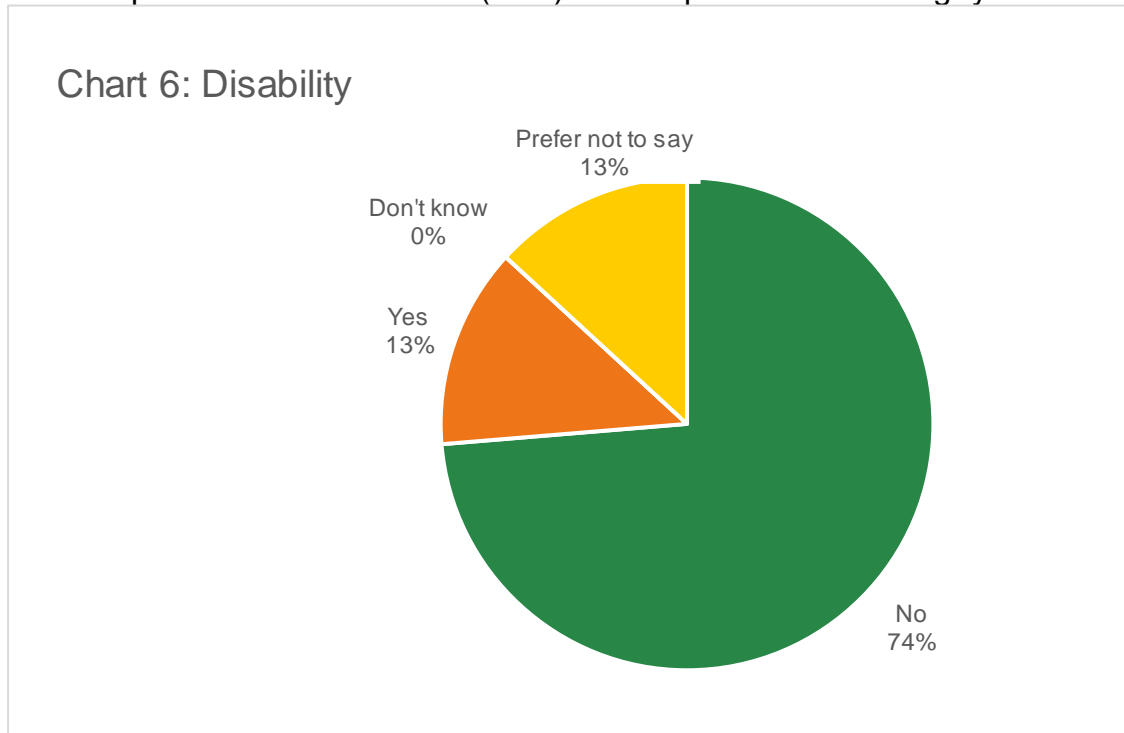


- 5.2. Chart 5 shows the age of respondents. The majority (45%) were aged 25-44.

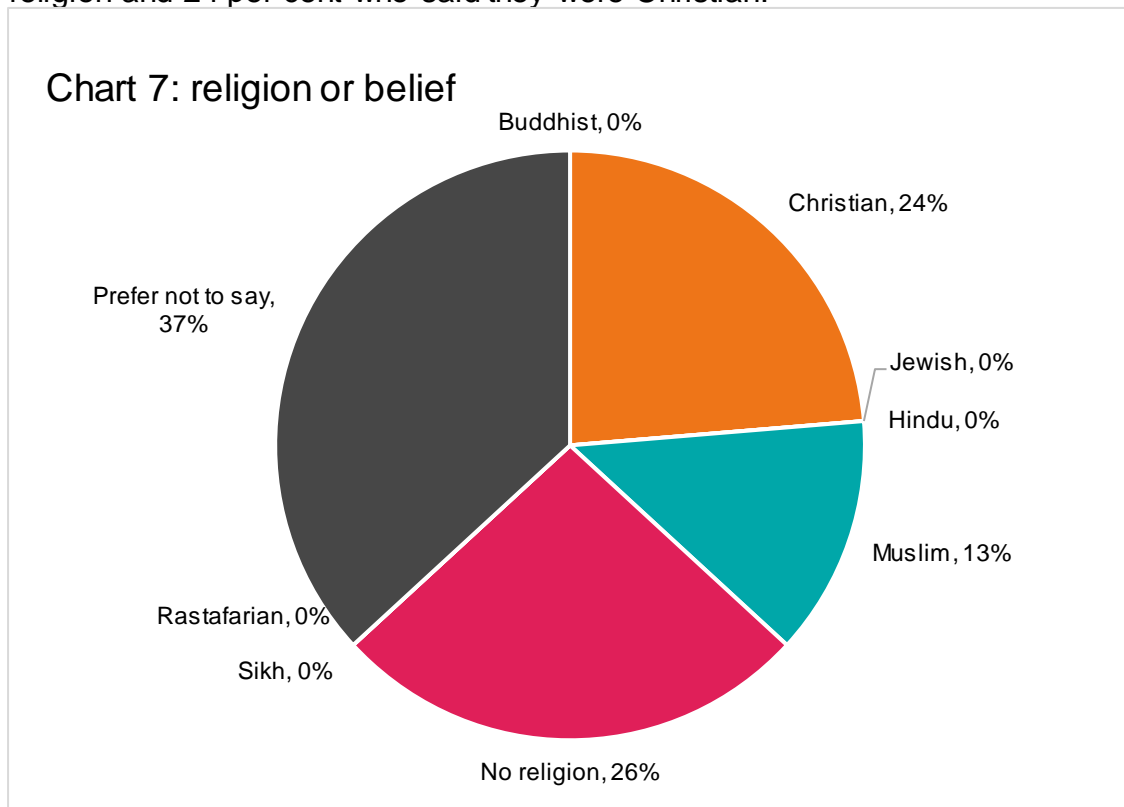


- 5.3. Chart 6 shows responses to the question “Do you have any physical or mental health conditions, impairments, or illnesses lasting or expected to last for 12 months or more?”.

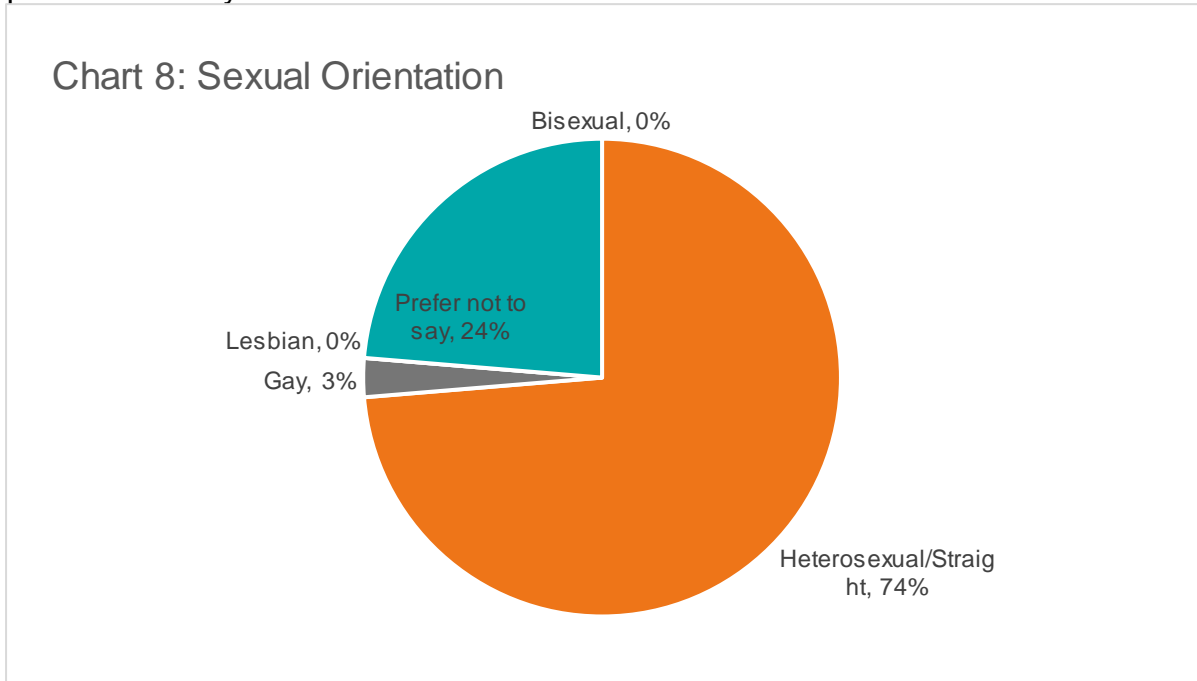
Most respondents answered 'no' (74%) with 13 per cent answering 'yes'.



5.4. Chart 7 shows responses to the question about religion or belief. Most respondents (37%) declined to state their religion, followed by 26 per cent who said they had no religion and 24 per cent who said they were Christian.



5.5. Chart 8 shows responses to the question about sexual orientation. The vast majority (74%) said they were heterosexual/straight, followed by 24 per cent stating that they'd prefer not to say.



5.6. Chart 9 shows the ethnicity of respondents. The majority (50%) identified as 'White – British'. 29 per cent said that they would prefer not to say.

