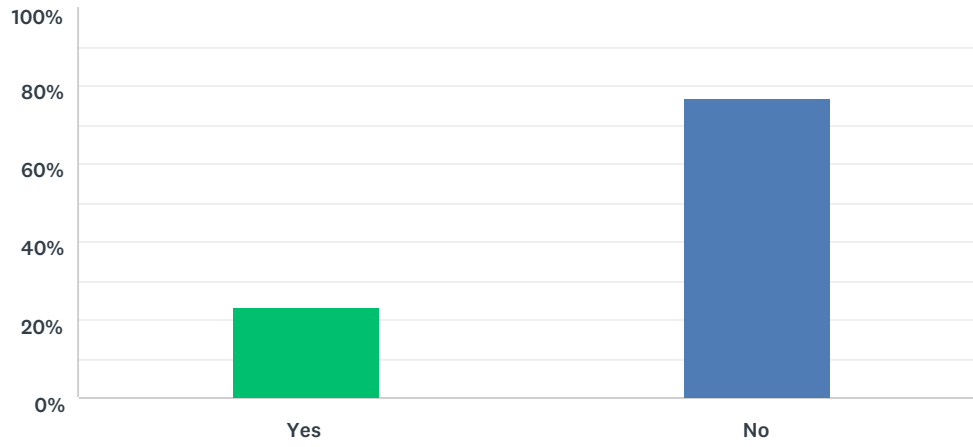


Q1 Overall do you support the proposals to increase Council Tax for long term empty properties?

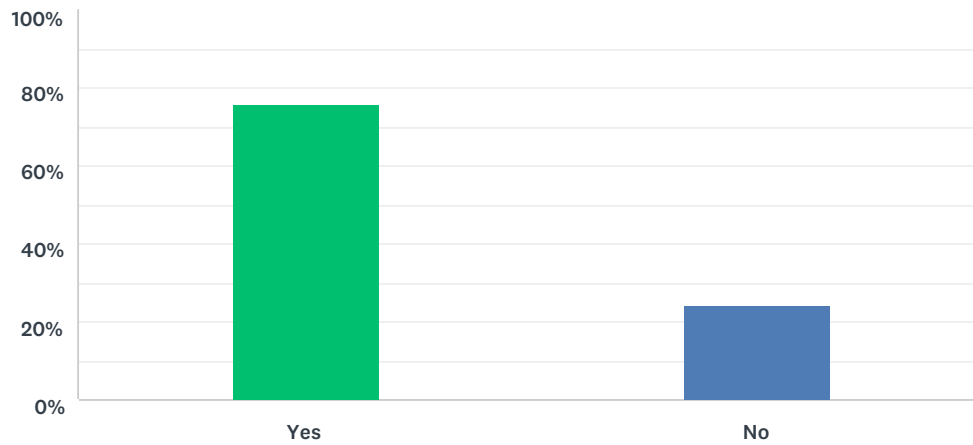
Answered: 26 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	23.08%	6
No	76.92%	20
TOTAL		26

Q2 Do you own a second property that is subject to the current premium charge?

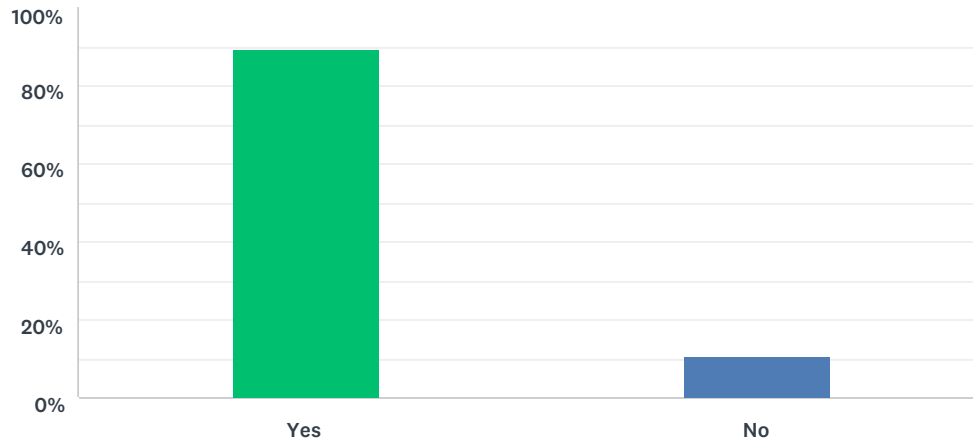
Answered: 25 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	76.00%	19
No	24.00%	6
TOTAL		25

Q3 Will the changes to increase Council Tax for long term empty properties affect you?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	89.47%	17
No	10.53%	2
TOTAL		19

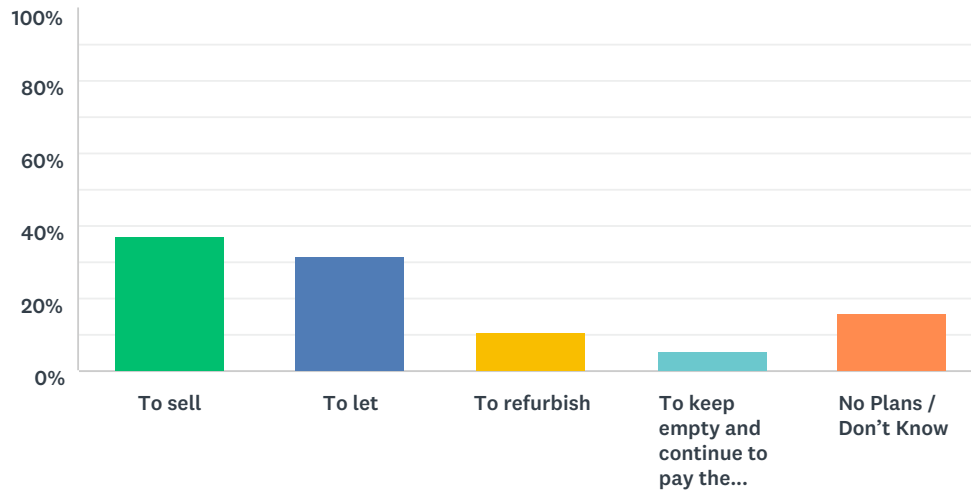
Q4 Please tell us how these changes will affect you.

Answered: 14 Skipped: 12

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No Comment.	7/16/2019 4:38 PM
2	one executor is 84 years old and just lost her husband and will find it difficult to pay the bills in any case. The other executor has lost his father in april and was his carer and acquires no allowance now unless he can receive allowance for his mother.	7/16/2019 2:57 PM
3	The last tenant did not take care of the property. I've spent around £40,000 renevating it however only at weekends thats why its taken so long it should be finished in 3 months	7/16/2019 2:53 PM
4	i will be forced to surrender the properties to the lender	7/16/2019 2:48 PM
5	Obviously because it will directly cost me more monthly when I am already struggling to find the time and funds to bring the property back into a habitable state after being left in excess of £5000 of debt and expenses by the last tenant!	7/16/2019 2:46 PM
6	rented house under refurbishment following poor tenancy	7/16/2019 2:40 PM
7	I have been trying to sell the property for a few years and the price has been dropped from £420k to £320k and still not sold	7/16/2019 2:38 PM
8	we have plans for building but it is currently uninhabitable	7/16/2019 2:35 PM
9	The property is within a military establishment and cannot be used for commercial lettings. MOD are currently not recruiting caretakes, so we are unable to avoid the premium charges.	7/16/2019 2:30 PM
10	no comment	7/16/2019 2:05 PM
11	No Comment	7/16/2019 12:15 PM
12	The properties are derelict and not habitable. Unless a major amount of money is invested in to them (which we cannot afford) then the properties will remain in this way. They are previous farmhouses.	7/16/2019 11:29 AM
13	I am a single woman who can't afford these proposals. The property is empty because I have been trying to sell for the last 10 years without success. Building work since September 2017 has rendered the property uninhabitable and a court case is pending with builder.	7/10/2019 12:35 PM
14	Increased renovation costs	6/18/2019 10:41 PM

Q5 What are your current plans for your property?

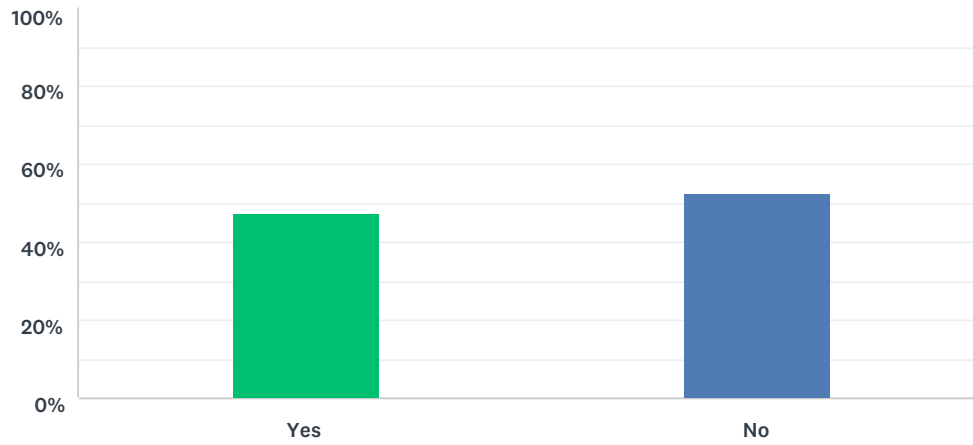
Answered: 19 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
To sell	36.84%	7
To let	31.58%	6
To refurbish	10.53%	2
To keep empty and continue to pay the increased Council Tax	5.26%	1
No Plans / Don't Know	15.79%	3
TOTAL		19

Q6 Would the proposals change your future intentions for the property?

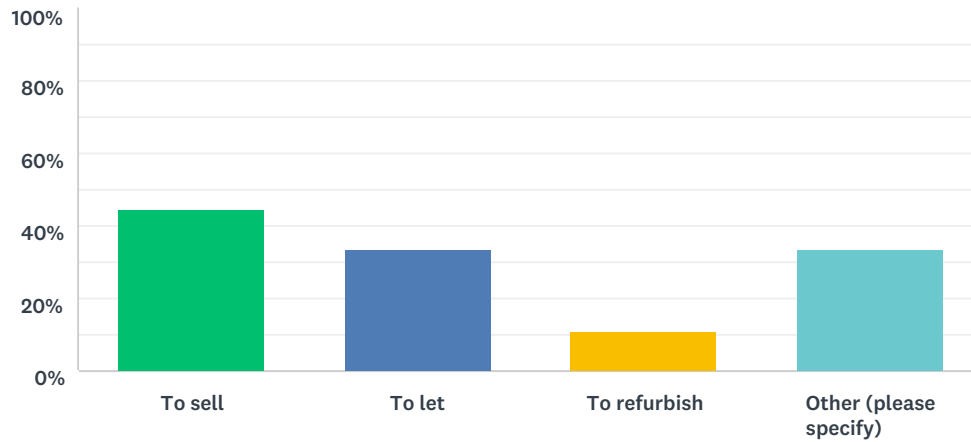
Answered: 19 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47.37%	9
No	52.63%	10
TOTAL		19

Q7 What would be your future intentions for the property?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 17



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
To sell	44.44% 4
To let	33.33% 3
To refurbish	11.11% 1
Other (please specify)	33.33% 3
Total Respondents: 9	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	unsure. it feels like the ONLY protection available or help is ONLY aimed at tenants and while there are many good there are increasing numbers of bad	7/16/2019 2:47 PM
2	due to the extra costs i would be forced to lose even more on the property	7/16/2019 2:39 PM
3	The land is currently under an option agreement with a developer - so we cannot do anything with them on the basis that the developer is likely to purchase the full site including the properties in the next 18 months. The developer is likely to demolish the properties due to the current condition that they are in.	7/16/2019 11:31 AM

Q8 If you have any comments about the introduction of Empty Property Premium please add them here.

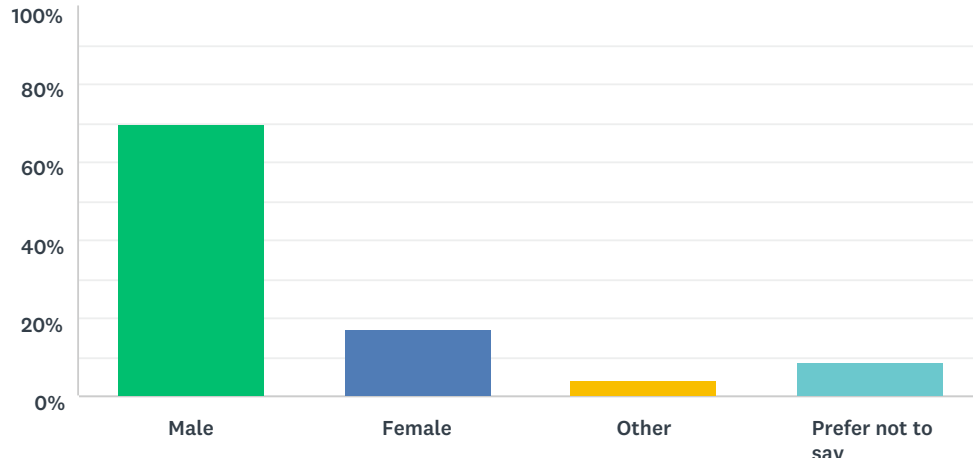
Answered: 15 Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I am a single parent looking after 2 Children. Recieving support of Housing Benefit. I am disabled and have a blue badge. I am awaiting treatment to remove part of my bowl. I am finding it very difficult to mange due to having a recent ankle operation and a replacement left ankle. I have problems with my bowls leading to water infections and accidents with bowl controll.. Hoping you understand my situation more now. Thank you [REDACTED]	7/16/2019 4:44 PM
2	we cannot reduce the value of the property any further because in our opinion it is worth more than the asking price. The property is in a good residential area and the position and size of the flat is of a very high standard. Is it possible to make an appointment to discuss matters with you, because we cannot continue in this way.	7/16/2019 3:00 PM
3	My property has been kept for my son. The plan was that after his studies he could live there. However, over the years he had gone on to achieve an MA. Now his work commitments have taken him south and I cannot see him working in the north east in the near future. Should his situation change, I will not sell, however, in view of the proposed changes to council tax I plan to sell in 2020.	7/16/2019 2:54 PM
4	I tried to apply for discretionary discount online for a further 3 months until I get the yard cleaned up and done finishing touches but found it very difficult to submit. I intended to rent the property again as I would not get a good price for it at today's market value especially after what ive spent on the repair (around £40,000) it has had extensive work, re-wire, cellar tanked central heating, windows etc...	7/16/2019 2:53 PM
5	Unfortunately we ended up with a bad tenant who just left and left the house in a state, then my father fell ill with cancer and I had to nurse him until his death which affected me and the house just got forgot about. I have now come out of the dark times and are feeling better so we are going to get stuck into this house and bring it back to the rental market, unfortunately the extra I have been paying you has left things very tight money wise, I hope to have the house ready in approx. 12 weeks and need to get central heating fitted, also need to get the electric and gas supply reinstated as the metres have been removed so the house is not habitable but I'm still paying council tax.	7/16/2019 2:50 PM
6	I live in Northern Ireland and I was depending on a Darlington Letting Agent [REDACTED] managing these properties. Over a period of 2-3 years they had tenants in and out and never mentioned any issues to me until one day they called me and said we can't let these properties until you have refurbished them. I asked how much it would cost and they said 'they are bad, real bad, you would need to get over here and view them.' I flew to Newcastle and got the train to Darlington and when I got there, I couldn't believe my eyes, the properties were wrecked. When I asked how the properties got into that state they more or less told me to get lost but not before quoting me a huge figure to refurbish the properties. I think it was in the region of £45,000 - £50,000, money I don't have. For example, during the first inspection there were no interior doors, I was informed that the 'druggies' sell them for £5.00 each to reclamation yards to buy drugs. I started to make enquiries and found out that [REDACTED] had been putting people just out of prison into the properties along with drug addicts and other down and outs and then leaving them to their own devices. I don't have the money to fix them up so raising the council tax is not going to force me into taking action, it just makes a bad situation worse. My choice would be to have them tenanted and getting an income rather than them costing me money month in and month out. The only reason I still have them is in the hope that some sort of council or government scheme will appear that will help me bring them back up to standard. I can't afford to pay a higher rate of council tax so when that kicks in I will have to surrender the properties to the lender. I understand your position but as you can see it is not as black and white as the three conditions you outline in your letter.	7/16/2019 2:49 PM

7	If there is a shortage of housing then perhaps it is time for local authorities to go back to actually building some – After all it's because so many council properties were sold they are now so low rent! Quite frankly I am outraged and disgusted far from increasing charges when a property is empty by direct result it means less pull on public services – no one to empty bins for, no one to make use of those other services provided via council tax – police, emergency services, leisure centres, arts – whatever. Services not being used are still being charged for. Anywhere else and you would be in front of a judge for theft.	7/16/2019 2:47 PM
8	I have owned a property since January 2000. It was home for myself and my wife until her death in July 2007. I remained at the residence until August 2009 when I became a Council Approved Landlord renting the flat to two different occupants for a subsequent 18 months, returning to live there in early 2012 to commence refurbishment for sale. I remarried in June moving to live with my new wife while we steadily invested in full renewal, decoration, carpeting, etc... to enhance sale potential. 4 estate agents were consulted. One advised a sale value of £135,000 and the other three £100,000. It was placed on the market in early 2018 for £99,750 but has been faced with competition of an apparent glut of other flats for sale, including significant numbers of more recent build developments. Viewings have sadly been limited in number and we have changed agents and recently agreed a second reduction in asking price to £87,500 but still have received no offers. I have frustratingly then been faced with the imposition of empty property premium despite every effort to achieve a sale. I am reluctant to again pursue the landlord/rental option, but would request that you respect my efforts to dispose of the property with related consideration of reviewing/removing the imposition of the premium.	7/16/2019 2:44 PM
9	I think the premium is high and buildings should be addressed individual not an overall blanket cover for the "empty properties"	7/16/2019 2:36 PM
10	I am a local district councillor in Surrey. So I am aware of the financial problems councils face and the need for empty properties to be used.	7/16/2019 2:34 PM
11	I would welcome your consideration of adding vacant property within a military establishment to your list of local exemptions.	7/16/2019 2:31 PM
12	no comment	7/16/2019 2:05 PM
13	There are some situations such as where a property is derelict and not water tight where the premium (or council tax) is not payable.	7/16/2019 11:32 AM
14	The empty property premium is an unfair tax on people trying to sell in a difficult economic climate. It causes me great financial hardship and these proposals will make that hardship so difficult that I may be forced to sell my current home. The increase in new builds is also having a massive impact on the sale of older properties.	7/10/2019 12:38 PM
15	Difficult when properties are bought as a renovation project that may take over 12 months. Already paying a 50% premium, up to a 300% premium would stop properties from being refurbished in the area and cause areas to become run down and increase the amount of anti social behaviour in the town	6/18/2019 10:43 PM

Q9 What is your sex?

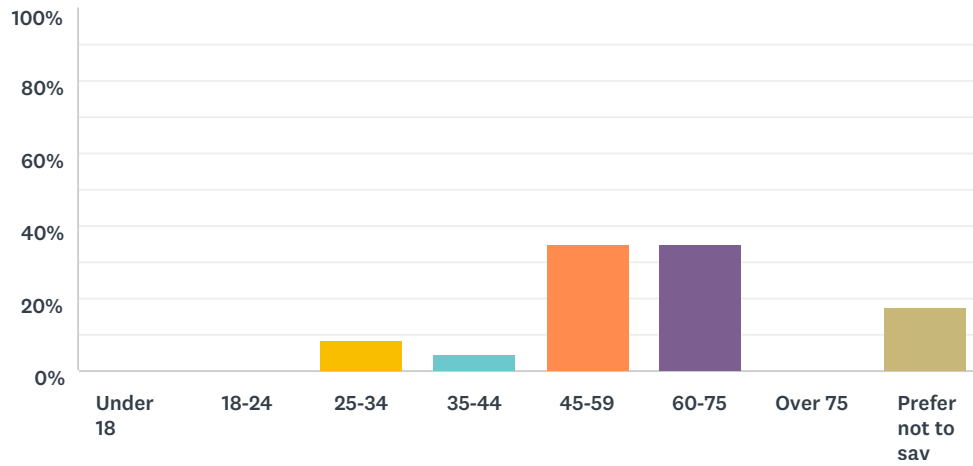
Answered: 23 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	69.57%	16
Female	17.39%	4
Other	4.35%	1
Prefer not to say	8.70%	2
TOTAL		23

Q10 What was your age on your last birthday?

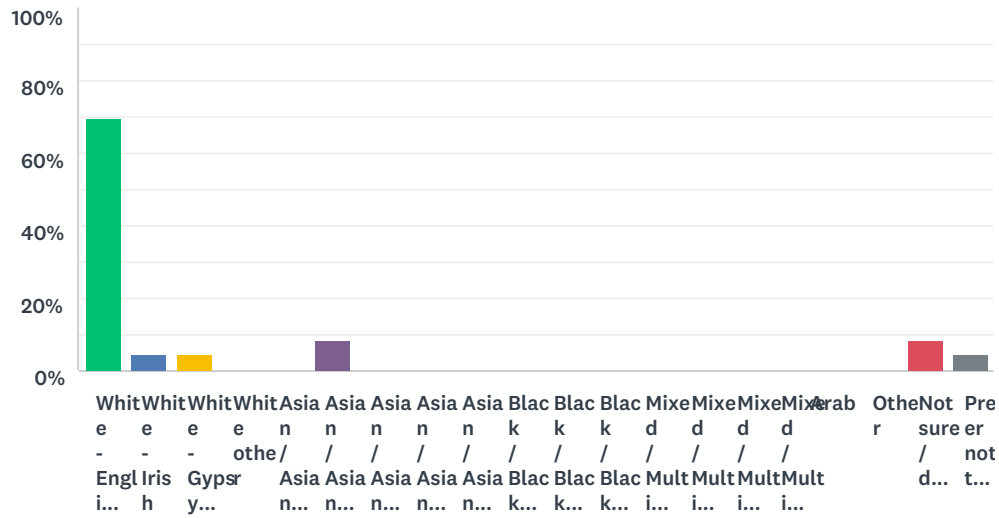
Answered: 23 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	0.00%	0
25-34	8.70%	2
35-44	4.35%	1
45-59	34.78%	8
60-75	34.78%	8
Over 75	0.00%	0
Prefer not to say	17.39%	4
TOTAL		23

Q11 Which ethnic group do you belong to?

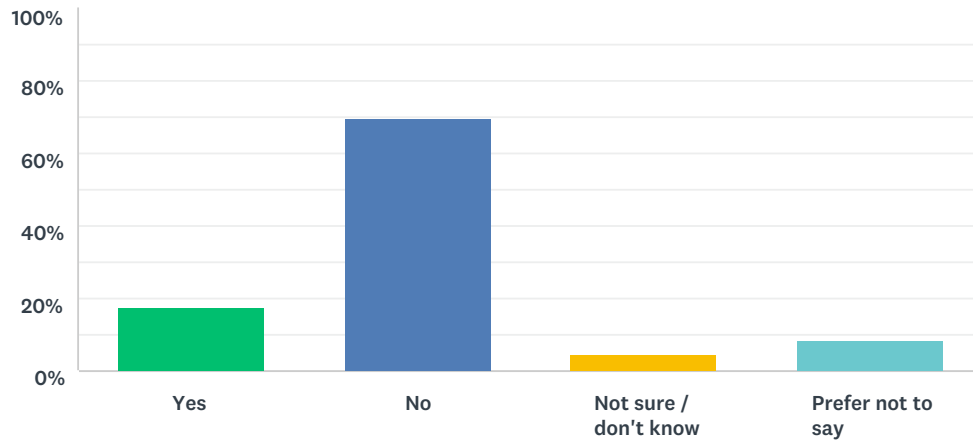
Answered: 23 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White - English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British	69.57%	16
White - Irish	4.35%	1
White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller	4.35%	1
White other	0.00%	0
Asian / Asian British - Pakistani	0.00%	0
Asian / Asian British - Indian	8.70%	2
Asian / Asian British - Bangladeshi	0.00%	0
Asian / Asian British - Chinese	0.00%	0
Asian / Asian British - Other	0.00%	0
Black / Black British - African	0.00%	0
Black / Black British - Caribbean	0.00%	0
Black / Black British - Other	0.00%	0
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups - White & Black African	0.00%	0
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups - White & Black Caribbean	0.00%	0
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups - White & Asian	0.00%	0
Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups - Other	0.00%	0
Arab	0.00%	0
Other	0.00%	0
Not sure / don't know	8.70%	2
Prefer not to say	4.35%	1
TOTAL		23

Q12 Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	17.39%	4
No	69.57%	16
Not sure / don't know	4.35%	1
Prefer not to say	8.70%	2
TOTAL		23