

# Public Document Pack

Mid Devon District Council

## Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 4 January 2016 at 2.00 pm  
Exe Room, Phoenix House

Next ordinary meeting  
Monday, 25 January 2016 at 2.00 pm

Those attending are advised that this meeting will be recorded

## Membership

Cllr F J Rosamond  
Cllr Mrs H Bainbridge  
Cllr Mrs J B Binks  
Cllr Mrs C P Daw  
Cllr Mrs S Griggs  
Cllr T G Hughes  
Cllr B A Moore  
Cllr Mrs J Roach  
Cllr Mrs E J Slade  
Cllr T W Snow  
Cllr N A Way  
Cllr Mrs N Woollatt

## A G E N D A

*Members are reminded of the need to make declarations of interest prior to any discussion which may take place*

- 1 **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**  
To receive any apologies for absence and notices of appointment of substitute Members (if any).
- 2 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**  
To receive any questions relating to items on the Agenda from members of the public and replies thereto.  
  
Note: A maximum of 30 minutes is allowed for this item.
- 3 **MEMBER FORUM**  
An opportunity for non-Cabinet Members to raise issues.
- 4 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (*Pages 5 - 12*)  
To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the last meeting of this

Committee (attached).

The Committee is reminded that only those members of the Committee present at the previous meeting should vote and, in doing so, should be influenced only by seeking to ensure that the minutes are an accurate record.

- 5     **DECISIONS OF THE CABINET**  
To consider any decisions made by the Cabinet at its last meeting that have been called-in.
- 6     **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
To receive any announcements that the Chairman of Scrutiny Committee may wish to make.
- 7     **CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING** *(Pages 13 - 18)*  
The Cabinet Member for Housing will update the Committee regarding areas covered by this remit.
- 8     **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE** *(Pages 19 - 20)*  
To receive a quarterly update from the Economic Development Officer.
- 9     **HEART OF THE SOUTH WEST FORMAL DEVOLUTION BID** *(Pages 21 - 26)*  
To receive a report of the Chief Executive informing Members of the work in drafting a business case for a devolution bid for the Heart of the South West (HotSW) produced for Full Council on 6 January 2016. Members are invited to consider the report to inform debate at the Council meeting.
- 10    **UPDATES AND ITEMS TO NOTE REGARDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS** *(Pages 27 - 60)*  
**SAFEGUARDING**

The District Safeguarding group met on the 1<sup>st</sup> December. An all district safeguarding policy has been drafted and the group are now working jointly on joint guidance notes which can then be circulated to all officers and Members.

Devon County Council have confirmed that the Districts Safeguarding Group will be able to do a joint Section 11 return this year and the group are meeting in January to complete this work. DCC have also confirmed that there will not be a requirement to do the staff survey this year and that they are considering how the Section 11 audit will be done in the future following recommendations from OFSTED.

No feedback was received in terms of the Section 11 return for 2015 and the results of the staff survey are attached to the agenda. The information was disseminated to the Districts Safeguarding Group and an action plan has been worked on with actions already taking place.

## WHISTLEBLOWING

Zero cases

### 11 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Members are asked to note that the following items are already identified in the work programme for future meetings:

Closure of Hospital Wards  
Rural Broadband  
Digitalisation for Members  
Town Hall Development Site  
St Andrews Street Project  
Policy for the removal of Gypsies and Travellers from Council owned land  
Planning Enforcement Performance  
Budget  
Cabinet Member for Working Environment and Support Services  
Environment Agency Contamination Report

Note: - this item is limited to 10 minutes. There should be no discussion on items raised.

**Kevin Finan**  
Chief Executive  
Friday, 25 December 2015

Anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chairman. Any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chairman or the Member Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.

Members of the public may also use other forms of social media to report on proceedings at this meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to discussion. Lift access the first floor of the building is available from the main ground floor entrance. Toilet facilities, with wheelchair access, are also available. There is time set aside at the beginning of the meeting to allow the public to ask questions.

An induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require any further information, or

If you would like a copy of the Agenda in another format (for example in large print) please contact Julia Stuckey on:

Tel: 01884 234209

E-Mail: [jstuckey@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:jstuckey@middevon.gov.uk)

Public Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms.

## MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of a **MEETING** of the **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held on 30 November 2015 at 2.00 pm

### **Present**

#### **Councillors**

F J Rosamond (Chairman)  
Mrs H Bainbridge, Mrs J B Binks,  
Mrs C P Daw, Mrs S Griggs, T G Hughes,  
B A Moore, Mrs J Roach, Mrs E J Slade,  
T W Snow, N A Way and Mrs N Woollatt

### **Also Present**

#### **Councillor(s)**

R Evans

### **Also Present**

#### **Officer(s):**

Liz Reeves (Head of Customer Services), Jenny Clifford (Head of Planning and Regeneration), Simon Johnson (Legal Services Manager), Jill May (Head of HR and Development), Simon Newcombe (Public Health and Professional Services Manager), Amy Tregellas (Head of Communities and Governance and Monitoring Officer) and Julia Stuckey (Member Services Officer)

## 85 **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

There were no apologies.

## 86 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

## 87 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a correct record and **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

## 88 **MEMBER FORUM**

There were no issues raised under this item.

## 89 **DECISIONS OF THE CABINET**

The Committee **NOTED** that none of the decisions made by the Cabinet at their last meeting had been called in.

## 90 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman informed the Committee that he had received several requests from Members that meetings be shorter in length than had been the case of late and that written papers be issued with the agenda rather than officers providing verbal updates. He appreciated that verbal updates could sometimes be useful but he considered it better that Members received written reports in advance of the meeting.

#### 91 **RIPA (0.03.33)**

Councillor Mrs J Roach had requested that the Committee consider the RIPA report in terms of effective scrutiny. The Committee had before it a report \* from the Office of Surveillance Commissioners which detailed their observations from the inspection and provided recommendations.

The Legal Services Manager explained that changes had been implemented following receipt of the report and that RIPA was no longer used other than in exceptional circumstances.

Cllr J Roach informed the Committee that she had asked that this item be on the agenda as the report had been received whilst she was Chair of Scrutiny. She did not consider that full scrutiny had taken place and felt that there were issues that had not been addressed and questions that had not been asked. She suggested that this was used as a learning curve to help improve future scrutiny. Scrutiny Committees elsewhere in the country had failed by taking reports at face value and not questioning them and she did not want that to happen in this authority.

Cllr Roach expressed a concern that officers putting together reports regarding services were also the officers responsible for the service, which led to Members having a willingness to accept what was put in front of them. She had requested training for the Committee in the previous year to help with questioning skills.

Discussion took place regarding;

- Lack of staff resource to support the Committee;
- The minimal use of RIPA within Mid Devon due to the restrictions on the type of surveillance that could be undertaken;
- A recommendations from the 2012 report that had not been discharged;
- The RIPA Policy had been reviewed by the Community Well Being PDG and the Cabinet in October 2015;
- Training was being arranged for key officers;
- All recommendations within the 2015 report had, or were in the process, of being completed.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) It be ensured that any reports to the Committee contain full details, be presented at the appropriate time and that Members be equipped to undertake any forensic examination required;

- b) That the RIPA report be reviewed in three months' time to monitor recommendations within it;
- c) That RIPA be a standing six monthly agenda item.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Note: - Report previously circulated and attached to Minutes.

## 92 ANAEROBIC DIGESTERS

At a meeting of the Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 public concerns over operational anaerobic digester (AD) schemes in respect of noise, smell, pollution and traffic were discussed. It was resolved that a report be prepared to address issues raised in connection with anaerobic digesters.

The Committee therefore had before it a report \* from the Head of Planning and Regeneration and the Head of Human Resources and Development detailing how the Authority would address resident's concerns over the impact on them of existing operational schemes within parts of the district, how such concerns were investigated, liaison between different organisations with a regulatory role and what lessons could be learnt as a result.

The Head of Planning and Regeneration explained that the report contained an introduction to anaerobic digestion, details of current schemes within Mid Devon, roles and responsibilities of the Local Planning Authority, Environmental Health Service, Devon County Council, the Environment Agency, Public Health England and the Driver Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA). She also explained that a majority of complaints to Planning Enforcement, regarding activities associated with AD Plants, had turned out to be activities taking place on agricultural land away from the actual site and which could take place, in planning terms, quite lawfully.

The Public Health Manager further explained that another agency, the Animal and Plant Health Agency (with enforcement through Trading Standards), had been identified since the issue of the report, with a responsibility for animal health such as the use of bi-products from AD, for example the spreading of digestate on land or use as litter in poultry houses.

Discussion took place regarding:

- The benefits to the public in knowing where to report issues;
- The need to undertake stronger enforcement;
- The need to look at other planning applications, such as those for poultry sheds, if they were connected to the AD plants;
- The need to liaise with neighbouring authorities when appropriate;
- A recent AD case in Ramsbottom which had been called in by the Secretary of State;

- Whether there was potential for enforcement if AD plants were operating on a different basis to that set out at application stage.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to Cabinet that:

- a) A request be made to the Environment Agency for the opportunity for MDDC to feed into the environmental permitting regime and that a copy of the approved permit be given to this authority.
- b) That where enforcement issues were raised with an AD plant, that related to more than one agency, coordination take place between relevant agencies and that MDDC take a lead role in that coordination.
- c) That a review of the scope of planning conditions to control AD plants be undertaken in order to develop best practice for future applications.

(Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Mrs J Roach)

Note: - Report \* previously circulated and attached to Minutes.

### 93 **PARTNERSHIP WORKING (0.51.36)**

The Head of Communities and Governance informed the Committee that at a Programming Panel meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 it was agreed that the subject of partnership working be discussed by the Scrutiny Committee to see if members felt it appropriate to set up a working group to consider this topic in more detail.

The Officer explained that as the Council's funding from Government became less and less partnership working could be an area that the Council would wish to consider further in order to make savings and enable the setting of a balanced budget in future years.

There were many Councils that were already working in partnership with others and the models used and services being shared could vary from partnership to partnership.

The Officer suggested that in order for the Council to gain more of an understanding in terms of the types of partnership models available, including the costs, benefits and risks, that a Working Group be set up.

Discussion took place regarding:

- a) Partnerships in place with North Devon District Council for IT Services and Building Control and with Exeter, East Devon and Teignbridge for Economic Development;
- b) The problems encountered in the past in finding other authorities to work with;
- c) The need for benchmarking;



- d) A report of a previous working group that had looked at Shared Services;
- e) The possibility of working with the private sector.

It was **RESOLVED** that a Working Group be put in place to look at partnership working and that the Members of the Group be Cllrs Mrs H Bainbridge, Mrs J Binks, F J Rosamond and N A Way.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

#### 94 **CULLOMPTON AND CREDITON TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS (1.05.00)**

The Committee had before it and **NOTED** a briefing paper \* from the Head of Communities and Governance outlining plans for the improvement of Cullompton and Crediton Town Centres.

The Officer outlined the contents of the report, adding that funding from the High Street Innovation Fund has been awarded to Cullompton Farmers Market, to enable them to set up a community shop and to the Crediton Town Team to fund projects.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Events such as the Food Festival in Cullompton which had brought a lot of people into the town;
- The ownership of the Town Square in Crediton;
- The Tiverton Town Centre Manager was working with Crediton and Cullompton to share good practice;
- Officers were working well with the Town Councils and local groups to promote the towns;
- Shop front improvement grants;
- The risk to existing businesses if community shops sold the same products with lower overheads.

Notes: - i) Briefing paper \* previously circulated and attached to Minutes.

ii) Cllr Mrs N Woollatt declared a personal interest as she was involved with the Devon Kitchen.

ii) Cllr N A Way declared a personal interest as he was a Crediton Town Councillor

#### 95 **TIVERTON PANNIER MARKET (1.20.50)**

The Committee had before it a briefing paper \* from the Head of Communities and Governance providing an update regarding the Tiverton Pannier Market. The paper outlined some of the work that had taken place since the last update and some of the plans for 2016.

Discussion took place regarding:

Electric Nights events which had proved very successful and would resume next year;

- Disappointment that the Pannier Market had not been open for the Christmas Lights event and plans already being put in place for Christmas 2016;
- A review of the Pannier Market that was currently part way through, delays had been caused by the level of work undertaken by the team running Electric Nights and the appointment of the Town Centre Manager;
- An action plan which was being worked on by the Town Centre Manager, which would be presented to Cabinet in the New Year, the Chairman requested that this report be reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee prior to going to Cabinet. The Head of Communities and Governance explained that it was also being reviewed by local traders and local interested groups;
- Whether or not Electric Nights increased footfall in the town centre and plans to extend the events to include the shops next year;
- A Food Festival being planned for 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016 titled 'Around the World in 80 Flavours'.
- The need for an Events Manager to co-ordinate events in the District;
- Whether or not the roof project would go ahead, which depended on the Masterplan;
- The Sci-Fi event and publicity for it;
- The Market accounts and the need for them to be split to identify key areas.

It was **AGREED** that a six-monthly update on the Pannier Market be added to the agenda as a standing item.

- Notes: - i) Briefing paper \* previously circulated and attached to Minutes.  
ii) Cllr Mrs S Griggs declared a personal interest as she was the Chairman of the Portas Group and the Christmas Lights Committee.

## 96 **PERFORMANCE AND RISK (1.40.22)**

The Committee had before it a report \* from the Head of Communities and Governance providing Members with an update on performance against the corporate plan and local service targets for 2015/16 as well as providing an update on the key business risks.

The Officer outlined the contents of the report and Members worked through the document on a page by page basis. The Officer highlighted performance from the Waste Service, which had not been available at the time of issue, for missed collections and fixed penalty notices.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Right to Buy figures, which the Authority had no influence over but would impact on future budgets;
- Housing Repair performance was recorded as a percentage but Members would also like to see the actual number of repairs completed;
- Empty shops and whether there was anything that could be done to find out why shops were closing;
- Leisure membership retention was performing well in comparison to national bench marking;
- Performance for building control was below target which was a concern when it was an area of joint working;
- The Planning report indicated the number of enforcement cases closed but members requested further information to state why;
- Members requested information regarding the cost to the authority for failed performance;
- Staffing levels in the Planning Service;
- Enforcement issues, some of which had been outstanding for a considerable amount of time:
- The drop in the value of recycle materials.

It was **AGREED** that the Head of Planning and Regeneration report to the Committee regarding the Enforcement Service, delays in enforcement taking place and plans to rectify this.

Note: - Report previously circulated and attached to the Minutes.

#### 97 **UPDATE ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY NEIL PARISH MP (2.04.31)**

The Committee had before it updates \* regarding actions taken by the MP for Tiverton and Honiton Constituency, Mr N Parish, following his attendance at a meeting of the Committee in August 2015.

The MP had been asked his views regarding the cost to local authorities of removing travellers from their land. It was **AGREED** that a report detailing Policy for the removal of Gypsies and Travellers be an agenda item for the next meeting of the Committee.

Note: - Updates \* previously circulated and attached to Minutes.

#### 98 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Cabinet Member for Housing and Property Services  
Whistleblowing Update  
Safeguarding update  
Closure of Hospital Wards  
Rural Broadband  
Digitalisation for Members  
Town Hall Development Site  
St Andrews Street Project  
Policy for the removal of Gypsies and Travellers from Council owned land  
Planning Enforcement Performance

(The meeting ended at 4.10 pm)

**CHAIRMAN**

## DECEMBER 2015

### Position Statement from the Cabinet Member for Housing

#### 1 Repairs Performance

	Target	Actual	Units
Routine repairs completed on time	100%	99.9%	2558
Urgent repairs completed on time	100%	100%	647
Emergency repairs completed on time	100%	100%	494
			Total to date
			<u>3688</u>

#### Responsive Repairs Ratio

	Gov Target	MDDC Actual
Emergency	Less than 10%	9%
Urgent	Less than 20%	12%
Routine	Less than 70%	79%

It is unlikely that actual percentages will ever reach Government targets due to the extent of old stock.

It is to be noted that in 2008 (Audit Commission report) the number of repairs per annum undertaken was approximately 14000 which has now reduced by nearly 50% to 7 – 8000 units. This significant reduction is primarily the result of the recent investment in Decent Homes Standards.

## 2 Affordable Homes

Completions in	2015/16	31
	2016/17	101
	2017/18	70

But a significant increase may occur dependent upon development at Farley Meadows and the EUE/Waddington Park.

## 3 MDDC foreseeable Developments

- a) Birchen Lane 4 units Complete - 2016/17 }
- b) Palmerston Park 26 units } 4m
- c) Waddington Park 75 units 2016/17 (being negotiated )
- d) Stoodleigh 4 Units
- e) Burlescombe 6 units
- f) Beech Road 3 units

## 4 H C A Funding Received

a) For Decent Homes standard 2014/15	1.4m
b) St Andrews Street	0.28m
c) Palmerston Park	1.17m
d) Birchen Lane	0.08m
	Total 2.93m

## 5 Finance (Generally)

a) With Wessex Bank (available)	0.190m
b) Empty Homes budget	0.100m

c) Reserve for 30 year stock management (HB have £90-110m needed for this programme)	6.3m
d) HRA Reserves	2.00m
e) Spent 2015/16 on repairs maintenance	4.00m
f) Renewable energy available	0.15m
g) Income from previous investments in renewable energy	0.20m

## 6 DARS

Loans given to those that need help with deposits for accommodation

	Spend	Budget
Year 2014/15	47,412	68,000
2015 YRD	27,975	68,000

Also note that currently 7 persons are recognised as 'rough sleepers'.

	Spent	Budget
Money spent on B & B		
Year 2014/15	£46300	£68000
Year 2015/16 YTD	£22500	£68000

3 years ago this service spent nearly £250,000 in temporary accommodation.

## 7 Voids

Target for re-let 2015/16 17 days currently YTD 15.83 days

Six years ago let times were 55 days

Current problem is costs incurred in reinstatement and for major repairs YTD £229K (annual 500K)

With dwelling rent loss due to voids £55k YTD

## **8 Rent Arrears**

At end of March 2015 arrears for current tenants £77k. The lowest ever in the authority and in the top 5% nationally

## **9 Right to Buy**

In year 2013/14                      8 properties lost

2014/15                                30 anticipated

We must be aware of the tipping point for the viability of the housing services

## **10 Housing List**

Currently standing at approx. 2150 applicants of which 50% fall in Band E.  
Procedures in place to arrive at realistic numbers.

## **11 Improvement Board**

Held monthly to review performance and attended by representative for TT

## **12 Management of Tenancies**

Eviction notices issued in	2014/15	7
	2015/YTD	7

Court orders for rent arrears payments	2014/15	40
	2015/YTD	19

## **13 Risks to Consider**

- a) Effect of 1% annual reduction in rents.
- b) Implementation of various benefit changes
- c) Change in planning criteria



- d) Rent plus
- e) Change in bandings
- f) Pay and stay (30K)
- g) Rent payment periods, 48 weeks to 52 weeks.

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## **Economic Development Update**

This last 6 months have seen Economic Development in Mid Devon truly putting our Council on the map and developing our services and relationships with the business community.

The Economic Development Officer (EDO) has played a leading role in developing two funding bids to deliver the Growth Hub service for the Heart of the South West. The approach that the EDO has taken has led to national interest in our bids. In October he was asked to attend a meeting at the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills in Westminster to present about the approach he has taken to developing a Growth Hub service and to provide advice and guidance to other groups across the UK.

The EDO has also helped to develop our role as part of Exeter & the Heart of Devon (EHOD), developing shared economic activities across Mid Devon, East Devon, Exeter and Teignbridge. They are operating as the EHOD Economic Partnership. The group is now undertaking joint procurement of our business support services to achieve economies of scale and to enable our own funding to be matched with pots of European funding. This will effectively double the money that we are putting towards business support in Mid Devon without any extra expense on our part (we will also get more business support delivered for the same money).

The Economic Partnership is also developing a joint Economic Strategy and exploring how they approach inward investment in a manner that is fair across all of the local authorities involved. This work has recently resulted in Mid Devon attracting a business that is currently based in Exeter to relocate into Tiverton. The EDO has led this activity working with his counterparts in Exeter and in a manner that satisfies the needs of all parties concerned. The business operates in the Professional, Scientific and Technical services sector, and has large national and international clients. They are looking to rapidly grow over the next 3 years and could become a significant employer in Mid Devon.

The EDO has also attracted a company to Mid Devon Business Park, expanding their existing operation from Wales into England. This company has taken on unit space and purchased a plot on Mid Devon Business Park, some of which they will develop to occupy and the rest will be let out to other businesses.

The EDO is also working with local businesses to help them grow their activities, and this is proving to be fruitful. For example, a business near Halberton, operating in the distribution sector, has recently had an opportunity to greatly increase the scale of its activities. The EDO has been supporting the business and creating links between them and UKTI and the Chinese British Business Council to help them establish export channels across Europe, America, Australia and even China. The company is also being supported to help expand its manufacturing capabilities and is relocating (locally) to enable their team to grow significantly in order to support the increased demand for their products.

The EDO is sits on the regional steering group for Better Business for All (BBfA). Through this role he is developing a pilot project with TESCO to support their

supplier network and improve relationships with regulatory services. If the project proves successful, it will be rolled out nationally.

Some of the issues being faced by Economic Development include:

- Delivery timescales for various public funded projects (for example, the LEADER project could take businesses up to 6 months to get an application approved)
- Lack of flexibility in some of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) supported programmes (for example, the Unlocking Business Investment programme has put so many barriers in front of one of our fastest growing businesses that they are unable to access the support it should offer)
- Time and workload of Economic Development (there are numerous projects being worked on at the moment and this puts a limit on what can be done strategically and in terms of delivery)

The EDO has been trying to get these issues addressed so that businesses can be better supported.

With the LEADER project, the decision making panel has agreed to deal with outline applications electronically, and this will shave a couple of months off the application process, making it more accessible for businesses that require funding in a timely manner.

With the Unlocking Business Investment programme, the EDO is working with his Economic Development counterparts to lobby the LEP to encourage those working on the programme to try to find ways to help businesses, rather than find ways not to support them.

With regards to the workload and time available to the Economic Development team, the EDO has researched a European programme that allows local authorities to tap into graduates from across the EU at no cost. He is now pulling together some project roles and basic job descriptions that can be used to attract interns to support his activities. There is also work being undertaken to support members of staff at MDDC to become SFEDI accredited (this is the nationally recognised accreditation programme for business advisors). Several members of staff from our Community Development team and some of our regulatory services are scheduled to be put through the programme so that they are better able to support business clients on behalf of the local authority.

*Please note that the EDO has not provided business names in this document, as most of the activities he is involved in with the business community are of a commercially sensitive nature. He does not want to breach the trust he is building with businesses by putting details of their activities into the public domain, until they are happy to do so.*

**COUNCIL**  
**6 JANUARY 2016**

**AGENDA ITEM:**

## **Heart of the South West Formal Devolution Bid**

**Cabinet Member**                      **Cllr Clive Eginton**  
**Responsible Officer**                **Chief Executive**

**Reason for Report:** To inform Members of the work in drafting a business case for a devolution bid for the Heart of the South West (HotSW). This is being led by the Leaders of Somerset and Devon County Councils, all Somerset and Devon Districts, Torbay Council, Plymouth City Council, Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks and the Local Enterprise Partnership

### **RECOMMENDATION(S): That:**

- 1. Council endorse the joint Leaders and Mayor's current approach to devolution and the drafting of proposals, their submission and negotiation of a deal for the Heart of the South West; and**
- 2. The Leader of the Council be delegated to approve the final proposal should Government timescales change.**

**REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION:** The Council has an opportunity to benefit from devolution across a wide range of topics and services. Benefits may include increased powers over decision-making and funding, leading to decision-making that more closely reflects local needs, improves services and reduces costs.

**Relationship to Corporate Plan:** Devolution potentially covers a wide range of services and plans. The detail of these will develop as formal proposals are developed, negotiation with Government takes place, and the final devolution deal is put into place. Once these are more certain there may be a need to review the council's corporate plan in the light of the changed circumstances.

**Financial Implications:** Until detailed devolution proposals are developed, financial implications can only be generalised. They fall into three categories:

- 1. The Government requires devolution to be a fiscally neutral process – power over funding may be transferred but no new government money will be made available except potentially for 'pump priming' activity**
- 2. There is potential for savings across the public sector in the Heart of the South West and proposals are being developed with this in mind**
- 3. The Government may however attempt to negotiate additional spending by the council or other partners as a requirement of one or more parts of the final deal**

**Legal Implications:** None at this stage. Implications will be addressed as any devolution deal is developed and agreed.

**Risk Assessment:** None at this stage although there is strong competition for devolution deals and some bids are further advanced. Failure to secure a deal may affect delivery the council's ambitions. Implications will be addressed as any devolution deal is developed and agreed.

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Devolution for the Heart of the South West (HotSW) is being led by the Leaders of Somerset and Devon County Councils, all Somerset and Devon Districts, Torbay Council, Plymouth City Council, Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks and the Local Enterprise Partnership.
- 1.2 Our shared Devolution Statement of Intent was submitted to Government on 4 September in response to announcements in the July Budget and a deadline set by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Government received 38 bids from cities, towns and counties across England. There is strong competition for devolution powers and some bids are further advanced than HotSW. Nevertheless, the Government has subsequently asked us to produce detailed devolution proposals by the end of 2015 with a view to negotiating a formal deal thereafter.
- 1.3 The process to produce formal proposals is now under way and is being coproduced across the HotSW. This report updates Cabinet and the Council on the necessary activity to date and seeks endorsement of the council's role in producing formal proposals to the Government's timescales.
- 1.4 Any final devolution deal with government will be subject to further approval / ratification by all partners individually.

## 2.0 Our Devolution ambitions

- 2.1 Working with local authorities, National Parks and the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership to deliver full proposals for devolution which will seek a formal agreement with Government on a formal devolution deal based around:

- **Productivity and economic growth**
  - Devolving powers over skills, apprenticeships, and business support, including more flexible, joined up funding and investment
  - Greater control over the public sector property portfolio
- **Health, social care and wellbeing**
  - Reducing ill-health and reliance on health and social care services
  - Support to deliver integration of health and social care
- **Improved connectivity and resilience**
  - Better coordination of infrastructure and local growth
  - More housing and economic infrastructure
  - Improved coordination and delivery of flood and coastal defence, protection and prevention infrastructure
- **Governance**
  - The expansion of existing arrangements to create a pan-local authority Leaders Group, Committee or Assembly that co-opts other key partners

- Supported by a Chief Executives Group developed from existing groups to support the Joint Leaders Group / Committee / Assembly
  - 'Passporting' of powers down to areas or themes using existing formal decision-making structures where possible.
- 2.2 These recommendations seek to gain authority to pursue solutions that help the Council maximise the opportunities of devolution. They do not commit the Council to a formal devolution deal, only to make and negotiate on proposals.
- 2.3 At this stage of the process the Council is not required to take decisions on the detail of future service provision but rather to be actively aware and involved in discussions.
- 3.0 National background**
- 3.1 The Government has declared its desire to devolve powers and budgets from Westminster to local authorities, along Local Enterprise Partnership geographies. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is particularly interested in devolution as a driver of economic growth and reducing reliance on the public purse.
- 3.2 In general, devolution is expected to support the following areas of government policy:
- Increased productivity
  - Skills and employment
  - Housing
  - Reducing the cost of the public sector
- 3.3 Many devolution deals are being developed by consortia of local authorities and their Local Enterprise Partnerships. The largest agreed deal so far is the Greater Manchester Devolution Agreement. Known as the 'Northern Powerhouse' this deal will:
- Join up economic growth agendas and public service reform
  - Health and social care integration
  - Devolve business support and skills/training/apprenticeship budgets
  - Create a directly elected Mayor with transport, strategic planning, housing development and Police and Crime Commissioner powers
- 3.4 Cornwall Council have also recently agreed a devolution deal to give them greater power and influence over business support, skills and employment support, EU funding, and health and social care integration. During tough negotiations with Government they demonstrated that an elected Mayor for Cornwall was not required for their area.
- 3.5 During August, Heart of the South West Leaders agreed to produce a high-level set of ambitions stating our desire to negotiate a devolution deal with government where we would make improvements to our area in return for increased powers and responsibilities.

- 3.6 The Heart of the South West Devolution Statement of Intent was submitted to Government and made public on 4 September 2015.
- 3.7 The Government praised our statement of intent for its clarity and ambition and asked us to move forward swiftly to produce detailed, formal proposals and begin negotiation with them on a formal deal.
- 3.8 Government's expectation is that we will submit proposals before the end of 2015 and carry out formal negotiation in early 2016.
- 3.9 Therefore, partners are now working on formal proposals and preparing for high-level discussions with Government.

#### 4.0 **Next steps: producing formal devolution proposals**

4.1 At a meeting on 5 October it was agreed to write our Statement of Intent by 'themes' so partners could share the load of producing detailed proposals for the final bid document.

- One Chief Executive and one Leader are leading on each theme, driving development of proposals and liaising with other Heart of the South West partners.
- Each theme group will produce a 'chapter' which will be written into a single bid document for submission to Government. These themes are:
  - Health, social care and wellbeing
  - Skills and employment
  - Business support
  - Resilience and connectivity
  - Housing and planning
  - A governance theme will ensure that governance for the devolution deal is acceptable and equitable to all partners.

4.2 A Programme Management Office is overseeing delivery of each chapter and maintaining communications between partners. Currently this Office is funded through existing resources. It is important to note that each partner remains responsible for their own governance processes and public/in-house communications.

4.3 Each theme 'chapter' will demonstrate a thorough understanding of the issues and the difference that devolved powers and funding would make, including:

- A robust evidence base
- A series of 'offers' to government and 'asks' from government showing:
  - Stretching targets
  - Demonstrable outcomes for the Heart of the South West area
- Resource requirements including an analysis of costs and benefits
- Impact assessments
- Proven capacity and capability to deliver

#### 5.0 **Engagement with Members and partners**

5.1 Producing the formal bid is a fast moving process involving many organisations and individuals. In order to keep Members informed and provide



background information for partners, the Devolution Programme Management Office will produce a weekly newsletter for all partners as well as more detailed updates as they become available. Leads for each theme (see above) will engage with their key stakeholders.

5.2 One or more partners may choose not to proceed with a formal bid. This would be unfortunate as there is strength in all partners coming on board however it is possible for a devolution deal to go ahead even if one or more local authorities choose to opt out. There is significant discussion under way between partners to produce proposals acceptable to all and more will be known as the bid develops. Furthermore the Statement of Intent's working principles include an agreement that proposals will do no harm, even if a particular proposal offers no advantage to a given area.

## 6.0 Consultations undertaken

6.1 Despite the Government's challenging timescales to date, efforts have been made to keep Members informed on the development of the proposals and this will continue going forward.

6.2 Any final devolution deal with government will be subject to:

- Further approval / ratification by all partners
- Consultation, as appropriate, before delivery of parts of the deal

6.3 Council Members will be kept informed as work continues, including through:

- Circulation of regular updates
- Cabinet report and Member briefings

## 7.0 Options considered and reasons for rejecting them

Alternative approach	Reason for rejection
Not to participate	There is significant potential benefit to Mid Devon through devolution which can be explored with minimal risk.
To submit proposals based on a different geography	Government has also confirmed that the preferred geography for proposals is based on Local Enterprise Partnership boundaries.

7.1 Both of these alternatives have also been ruled out on the advice of senior civil servants.

**Contact for more Information:** Kevin Finan, Chief Executive, 01884 234201 ([kfinan@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:kfinan@middevon.gov.uk))

**Circulation of the Report:** Management Team, Cllr Clive Eginton

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 1  
Q1. Which area do you predominantly work in?  
Base: All respondents

	AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
	<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base	1455	49	0	49
Cornwall	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Devon	1455 100.0%	49 100.0%	0 -%	49 100.0%
Plymouth	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Torbay	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Isles of Scilly	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>				
Cornwall/ IOS	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 2  
Q3. Which area do you predominantly work in?  
Base: All City and District Councils

	AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
	<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base	489	47	0	47
Children's Social Care	91 18.6%	0** -%	0 -%	0** -%
Education Services (not school)	15 3.1%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Housing, licensing, environmental and public health	190 38.9%	21 44.7%	0 -%	21 44.7%
Youth Offending Service	32 6.5%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Youth Service	6 1.2%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Leisure, Arts, Libraries, Museums	29 5.9%	14** 29.8%	0 -%	14** 29.8%
Other	126 25.8%	12 25.5%	0 -%	12 25.5%

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 3  
Q4a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I understand the child protection procedures I am expected to follow and know what to do if I am worried that a child is being abused</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	1196 82.2%	38 77.6%	0 -%	38 77.6%
Tend to agree	(3)	197 13.5%	6 12.2%	0 -%	6 12.2%
Tend to disagree	(2)	28 1.9%	3* 6.1%	0 -%	3* 6.1%
Disagree	(1)	21 1.4%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Don't know		13 .9%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1393 95.7%	44* 89.8%	0 -%	44* 89.8%
Disagree		49 3.4%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.8	3.7	-	3.7

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 4  
Q4b. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am aware of the contact numbers and who to contact in order to obtain advice and/or to make a referral when I have concerns regarding a child.</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	1071 73.6%	38 77.6%	0 -%	38 77.6%
Tend to agree	(3)	249 17.1%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
Tend to disagree	(2)	71 4.9%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Disagree	(1)	46 3.2%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Don't know		18 1.2%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1320 90.7%	43 87.8%	0 -%	43 87.8%
Disagree		117 8.0%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.6	3.7	-	3.7

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 5  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am aware of the safeguarding children escalation process to follow in order to resolve professional differences</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	640 44.0%	20 40.8%	0 -%	20 40.8%
Tend to agree	(3)	408 28.0%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	199 13.7%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
Disagree	(1)	106 7.3%	0* -%	0 -%	0* -%
Don't know		102 7.0%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1048 72.0%	33 67.3%	0 -%	33 67.3%
Disagree		305 21.0%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.2	3.2	-	3.2

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 6  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>Senior managers in my organisation show clear leadership with regard to the importance of safeguarding children</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	896 61.6%	22* 44.9%	0 -%	22* 44.9%
Tend to agree	(3)	369 25.4%	15 30.6%	0 -%	15 30.6%
Tend to disagree	(2)	75 5.2%	6* 12.2%	0 -%	6* 12.2%
Disagree	(1)	41 2.8%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Don't know		74 5.1%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1265 86.9%	37* 75.5%	0 -%	37* 75.5%
Disagree		116 8.0%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.5	3.3*	-	3.3*



**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 7  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My organisation ensures I am made aware of how we are improving safeguarding children practice</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	794 54.6%	16** 32.7%	0 -%	16** 32.7%
Tend to agree	(3)	402 27.6%	20* 40.8%	0 -%	20* 40.8%
Tend to disagree	(2)	142 9.8%	10* 20.4%	0 -%	10* 20.4%
Disagree	(1)	59 4.1%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Don't know		58 4.0%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1196 82.2%	36 73.5%	0 -%	36 73.5%
Disagree		201 13.8%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.4	3.1*	-	3.1*

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 8  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am encouraged to contribute to improving practice in my organisation</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	809 55.6%	17** 34.7%	0 -%	17** 34.7%
Tend to agree	(3)	389 26.7%	19 38.8%	0 -%	19 38.8%
Tend to disagree	(2)	150 10.3%	8 16.3%	0 -%	8 16.3%
Disagree	(1)	62 4.3%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
Don't know		45 3.1%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1198 82.3%	36 73.5%	0 -%	36 73.5%
Disagree		212 14.6%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.4	3.1**	-	3.1**

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 9  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>No discriminatory practice takes place within my organisation</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	825 56.7%	23 46.9%	0 -%	23 46.9%
Tend to agree	(3)	382 26.3%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	72 4.9%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Disagree	(1)	53 3.6%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Don't know		123 8.5%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1207 83.0%	36 73.5%	0 -%	36 73.5%
Disagree		125 8.6%	8* 16.3%	0 -%	8* 16.3%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.5	3.3*	-	3.3*

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 10  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My organisation has an effective child/ family friendly complaints process which is widely promoted to children and their families</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	562 38.6%	16 32.7%	0 -%	16 32.7%
Tend to agree	(3)	447 30.7%	14 28.6%	0 -%	14 28.6%
Tend to disagree	(2)	135 9.3%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
Disagree	(1)	41 2.8%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Don't know		270 18.6%	14 28.6%	0 -%	14 28.6%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1009 69.3%	30 61.2%	0 -%	30 61.2%
Disagree		176 12.1%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.3	3.3	-	3.3

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 11  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My organisation effectively manages client records that support keeping children safe</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	837 57.5%	21* 42.9%	0 -%	21* 42.9%
Tend to agree	(3)	359 24.7%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	47 3.2%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
Disagree	(1)	24 1.6%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Don't know		188 12.9%	11* 22.4%	0 -%	11* 22.4%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1196 82.2%	34* 69.4%	0 -%	34* 69.4%
Disagree		71 4.9%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.6	3.4	-	3.4

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 12  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>In my organisation I am actively encouraged to be open and express any safeguarding concerns</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	1122 77.1%	31* 63.3%	0 -%	31* 63.3%
Tend to agree	(3)	261 17.9%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
Tend to disagree	(2)	27 1.9%	3* 6.1%	0 -%	3* 6.1%
Disagree	(1)	17 1.2%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
Don't know		28 1.9%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
<b>Summary</b>					
Agree		1383 95.1%	42** 85.7%	0 -%	42** 85.7%
Disagree		44 3.0%	5** 10.2%	0 -%	5** 10.2%
<b>Mean score</b>		3.7	3.5**	-	3.5**

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 13  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I feel empowered to use the whistle blowing policy</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	760 52.2%	19 38.8%	0 -%	19 38.8%
Tend to agree	(3)	377 25.9%	20* 40.8%	0 -%	20* 40.8%
Tend to disagree	(2)	120 8.2%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
Disagree	(1)	76 5.2%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
Don't know		122 8.4%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1137 78.1%	39 79.6%	0 -%	39 79.6%
Disagree		196 13.5%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.4	3.2	-	3.2

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 14  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am aware of the process to be followed should an allegation of abuse be made against me by a child or children</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	751 51.6%	25 51.0%	0 -%	25 51.0%
Tend to agree	(3)	284 19.5%	10 20.4%	0 -%	10 20.4%
Tend to disagree	(2)	155 10.7%	6 12.2%	0 -%	6 12.2%
Disagree	(1)	154 10.6%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Don't know		111 7.6%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1035 71.1%	35 71.4%	0 -%	35 71.4%
Disagree		309 21.2%	10 20.4%	0 -%	10 20.4%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.2	3.2	-	3.2

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 15  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am able to access the latest safeguarding guidance</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	981 67.4%	30 61.2%	0 -%	30 61.2%
Tend to agree	(3)	332 22.8%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	48 3.3%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Disagree	(1)	26 1.8%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Don't know		68 4.7%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1313 90.2%	43 87.8%	0 -%	43 87.8%
Disagree		74 5.1%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.6	3.6	-	3.6

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 16  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My organisation takes account of my learning needs when developing its training programme</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	743 51.1%	28 57.1%	0 -%	28 57.1%
Tend to agree	(3)	407 28.0%	16 32.7%	0 -%	16 32.7%
Tend to disagree	(2)	143 9.8%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Disagree	(1)	70 4.8%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
Don't know		92 6.3%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1150 79.0%	44 89.8%	0 -%	44 89.8%
Disagree		213 14.6%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
<u>Mean score</u>		3.3	3.5	-	3.5

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 17  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My organisation ensures that I undertake appropriate single-agency safeguarding children training and learning opportunities</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	807 55.5%	23 46.9%	0 -%	23 46.9%
Tend to agree	(3)	356 24.5%	15 30.6%	0 -%	15 30.6%
Tend to disagree	(2)	122 8.4%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Disagree	(1)	86 5.9%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
Don't know		84 5.8%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1163 79.9%	38 77.6%	0 -%	38 77.6%
Disagree		208 14.3%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.4	3.3	-	3.3

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 18  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My organisation ensures that I receive the learning from serious case reviews</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	490 33.7%	9* 18.4%	0 -%	9* 18.4%
Tend to agree	(3)	429 29.5%	8* 16.3%	0 -%	8* 16.3%
Tend to disagree	(2)	249 17.1%	14* 28.6%	0 -%	14* 28.6%
Disagree	(1)	145 10.0%	11** 22.4%	0 -%	11** 22.4%
Don't know		142 9.8%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		919 63.2%	17** 34.7%	0 -%	17** 34.7%
Disagree		394 27.1%	25** 51.0%	0 -%	25** 51.0%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.0	2.4**	-	2.4**

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 19  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I receive routine supervision which covers safeguarding children practice</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	583 40.1%	5** 10.2%	0 -%	5** 10.2%
Tend to agree	(3)	308 21.2%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
Tend to disagree	(2)	264 18.1%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Disagree	(1)	236 16.2%	14* 28.6%	0 -%	14* 28.6%
Don't know		64 4.4%	6** 12.2%	0 -%	6** 12.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		891 61.2%	16** 32.7%	0 -%	16** 32.7%
Disagree		500 34.4%	27** 55.1%	0 -%	27** 55.1%
<u>Mean score</u>		2.9	2.2**	-	2.2**

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 20  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am encouraged to use my professional judgement to reflect on my practice and develop my skills to effectively undertake my role</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	894 61.4%	26 53.1%	0 -%	26 53.1%
Tend to agree	(3)	421 28.9%	17 34.7%	0 -%	17 34.7%
Tend to disagree	(2)	61 4.2%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Disagree	(1)	42 2.9%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
Don't know		37 2.5%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1315 90.4%	43 87.8%	0 -%	43 87.8%
Disagree		103 7.1%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.5	3.5	-	3.5

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 21  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My organisation ensures that I undertake appropriate multi-agency safeguarding children training and learning opportunities</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	761 52.3%	12** 24.5%	0 -%	12** 24.5%
Tend to agree	(3)	325 22.3%	14 28.6%	0 -%	14 28.6%
Tend to disagree	(2)	171 11.8%	9 18.4%	0 -%	9 18.4%
Disagree	(1)	128 8.8%	8 16.3%	0 -%	8 16.3%
Don't know		70 4.8%	6* 12.2%	0 -%	6* 12.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1086 74.6%	26** 53.1%	0 -%	26** 53.1%
Disagree		299 20.5%	17* 34.7%	0 -%	17* 34.7%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.2	2.7**	-	2.7**

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 22  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I know when and how to use the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) or Devon Assessment Framework (DAF)</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	504 34.6%	7** 14.3%	0 -%	7** 14.3%
Tend to agree	(3)	350 24.1%	6* 12.2%	0 -%	6* 12.2%
Tend to disagree	(2)	213 14.6%	12* 24.5%	0 -%	12* 24.5%
Disagree	(1)	258 17.7%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Don't know		130 8.9%	11** 22.4%	0 -%	11** 22.4%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		854 58.7%	13** 26.5%	0 -%	13** 26.5%
Disagree		471 32.4%	25** 51.0%	0 -%	25** 51.0%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		2.8	2.2**	-	2.2**

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 23  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My child records are up-to-date and provide evidence that the child is being kept safe</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	704 48.4%	13** 26.5%	0 -%	13** 26.5%
Tend to agree	(3)	303 20.8%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
Tend to disagree	(2)	68 4.7%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
Disagree	(1)	79 5.4%	7** 14.3%	0 -%	7** 14.3%
Don't know		301 20.7%	19** 38.8%	0 -%	19** 38.8%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1007 69.2%	20** 40.8%	0 -%	20** 40.8%
Disagree		147 10.1%	10* 20.4%	0 -%	10* 20.4%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.4	2.9**	-	2.9**

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 24  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am aware of the process for referring a case for consideration of a serious case review</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	524 36.0%	12 24.5%	0 -%	12 24.5%
Tend to agree	(3)	360 24.7%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	209 14.4%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
Disagree	(1)	215 14.8%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
Don't know		147 10.1%	10* 20.4%	0 -%	10* 20.4%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		884 60.8%	25 51.0%	0 -%	25 51.0%
Disagree		424 29.1%	14 28.6%	0 -%	14 28.6%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		2.9	2.8	-	2.8

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 25  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I have a clear understanding of how and when to share safeguarding information between professionals, organisations and agencies</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	900 61.9%	21** 42.9%	0 -%	21** 42.9%
Tend to agree	(3)	374 25.7%	13 26.5%	0 -%	13 26.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	84 5.8%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
Disagree	(1)	51 3.5%	3 6.1%	0 -%	3 6.1%
Don't know		46 3.2%	7** 14.3%	0 -%	7** 14.3%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1274 87.6%	34** 69.4%	0 -%	34** 69.4%
Disagree		135 9.3%	8 16.3%	0 -%	8 16.3%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.5	3.2*	-	3.2*

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 26  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>The staff in my agency actively engage in multi-agency working</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	956 65.7%	20** 40.8%	0 -%	20** 40.8%
Tend to agree	(3)	326 22.4%	8 16.3%	0 -%	8 16.3%
Tend to disagree	(2)	45 3.1%	6** 12.2%	0 -%	6** 12.2%
Disagree	(1)	26 1.8%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Don't know		102 7.0%	14** 28.6%	0 -%	14** 28.6%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1282 88.1%	28** 57.1%	0 -%	28** 57.1%
Disagree		71 4.9%	7** 14.3%	0 -%	7** 14.3%
<u>Mean score</u>		3.6	3.3**	-	3.3**

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 27  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I am required to prioritise attendance at multi-agency meetings (e.g. case conferences, case audits and training)</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	634 43.6%	14* 28.6%	0 -%	14* 28.6%
Tend to agree	(3)	288 19.8%	10 20.4%	0 -%	10 20.4%
Tend to disagree	(2)	159 10.9%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Disagree	(1)	163 11.2%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
Don't know		211 14.5%	17** 34.7%	0 -%	17** 34.7%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		922 63.4%	24* 49.0%	0 -%	24* 49.0%
Disagree		322 22.1%	8 16.3%	0 -%	8 16.3%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.1	3.1	-	3.1

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 28  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>Our services are fully accessible to children and young people and their families</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	806 55.4%	26 53.1%	0 -%	26 53.1%
Tend to agree	(3)	368 25.3%	12 24.5%	0 -%	12 24.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	80 5.5%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Disagree	(1)	47 3.2%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Don't know		154 10.6%	11** 22.4%	0 -%	11** 22.4%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1174 80.7%	38 77.6%	0 -%	38 77.6%
Disagree		127 8.7%	0* -%	0 -%	0* -%
<u>Mean score</u>		3.5	3.7	-	3.7

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 29  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>Children and young people are safe whilst using our services</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	1019 70.0%	33 67.3%	0 -%	33 67.3%
Tend to agree	(3)	309 21.2%	9 18.4%	0 -%	9 18.4%
Tend to disagree	(2)	15 1.0%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
Disagree	(1)	15 1.0%	0 -%	0 -%	0 -%
Don't know		97 6.7%	6 12.2%	0 -%	6 12.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		1328 91.3%	42 85.7%	0 -%	42 85.7%
Disagree		30 2.1%	1 2.0%	0 -%	1 2.0%
<u>Mean score</u>		3.7	3.7	-	3.7

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 30  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>Children, young people and/or their families are actively involved in the design, development, delivery and monitoring of the services we provide</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	423 29.1%	10 20.4%	0 -%	10 20.4%
Tend to agree	(3)	360 24.7%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
Tend to disagree	(2)	214 14.7%	8 16.3%	0 -%	8 16.3%
Disagree	(1)	103 7.1%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
Don't know		355 24.4%	18* 36.7%	0 -%	18* 36.7%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		783 53.8%	21 42.9%	0 -%	21 42.9%
Disagree		317 21.8%	10 20.4%	0 -%	10 20.4%
<b><u>Mean score</u></b>		3.0	2.9	-	2.9

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 31  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I know what my local Safeguarding Children Board does</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	519 35.7%	11* 22.4%	0 -%	11* 22.4%
Tend to agree	(3)	397 27.3%	12 24.5%	0 -%	12 24.5%
Tend to disagree	(2)	199 13.7%	11 22.4%	0 -%	11 22.4%
Disagree	(1)	181 12.4%	7 14.3%	0 -%	7 14.3%
Don't know		159 10.9%	8 16.3%	0 -%	8 16.3%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		916 63.0%	23* 46.9%	0 -%	23* 46.9%
Disagree		380 26.1%	18 36.7%	0 -%	18 36.7%
<u>Mean score</u>		3.0	2.7	-	2.7

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**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 32  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>I access my local Safeguarding Children Board website</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	444 30.5%	5** 10.2%	0 -%	5** 10.2%
Tend to agree	(3)	259 17.8%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
Tend to disagree	(2)	275 18.9%	15* 30.6%	0 -%	15* 30.6%
Disagree	(1)	356 24.5%	19* 38.8%	0 -%	19* 38.8%
Don't know		121 8.3%	5 10.2%	0 -%	5 10.2%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		703 48.3%	10** 20.4%	0 -%	10** 20.4%
Disagree		631 43.4%	34** 69.4%	0 -%	34** 69.4%
<u>Mean score</u>		2.6	1.9**	-	1.9**

**PENINSULA STAFF SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE SURVEY 2015 - MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Table 33  
Q6a. To what extent do you agree with the following...  
Base: All respondents

		AREA PREDOMINANTLY WORK IN			
		<u>Overall Total</u>	<u>Mid Devon District Council</u>	<u>Children's Social Care</u>	<u>Other</u>
Base		1455	49	0	49
<b><u>My local Safeguarding Children Board is effective in helping to safeguard children</u></b>					
Agree	(4)	398 27.4%	7* 14.3%	0 -%	7* 14.3%
Tend to agree	(3)	430 29.6%	15 30.6%	0 -%	15 30.6%
Tend to disagree	(2)	70 4.8%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
Disagree	(1)	39 2.7%	2 4.1%	0 -%	2 4.1%
Don't know		518 35.6%	23 46.9%	0 -%	23 46.9%
<b><u>Summary</u></b>					
Agree		828 56.9%	22 44.9%	0 -%	22 44.9%
Disagree		109 7.5%	4 8.2%	0 -%	4 8.2%
<u>Mean score</u>		3.3	3.0	-	3.0

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