

Results from the Homelessness Prevention Strategy Public and Stakeholder Survey

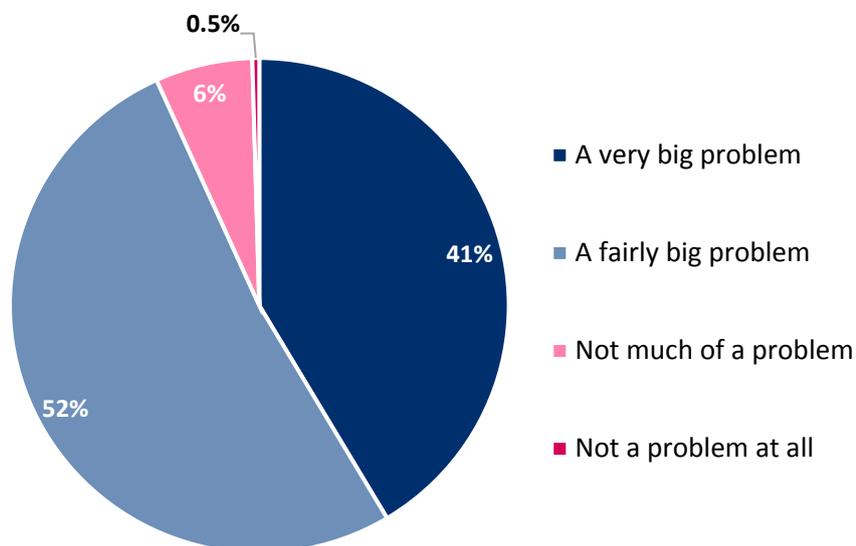
From 31 August 2018 to 17 September 2018 a survey, developed by Southampton City Council, went live to the public and the council's stakeholders asking for views on the emerging themes of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy update.

A total of 229 respondents took the survey and the results are detailed below. The majority of respondents to the survey (87%) were residents of the city, with 13% of respondents saying that they work with people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. 3% had experience of having a family member who is or has been homeless. 2% of respondents were visitors to the city. (Respondents had the option to identify with more than one characteristic so totals do not add to 100%).

Among the 13% of respondents who identified as an employee or volunteer working with people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, 77% worked for service and organisation which represent Young People, 60% worked closer with single adults or people who sleep rough and 43% worked in family related groups.

What extent do you think Homelessness is a problem?

To what extent do you think homelessness is a problem in Southampton?

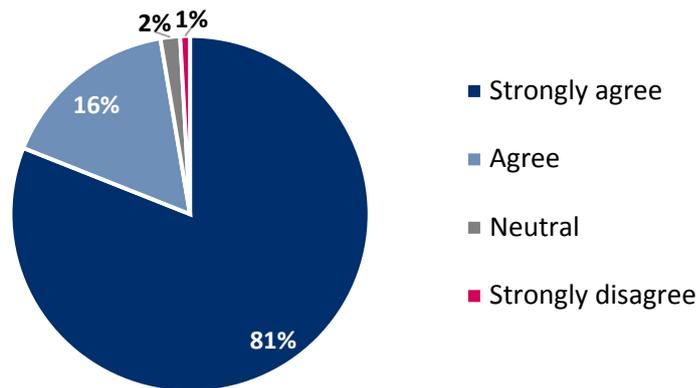


The first question of the survey asked respondents whether they thought homelessness was a significant problem in Southampton. The results show that 93% of respondents thought that it is either a very big or fairly big problem.

The next group of questions asked respondents to consider four draft objectives for the new strategy. These objectives were informed by the Homelessness Review which was published in June 2018.

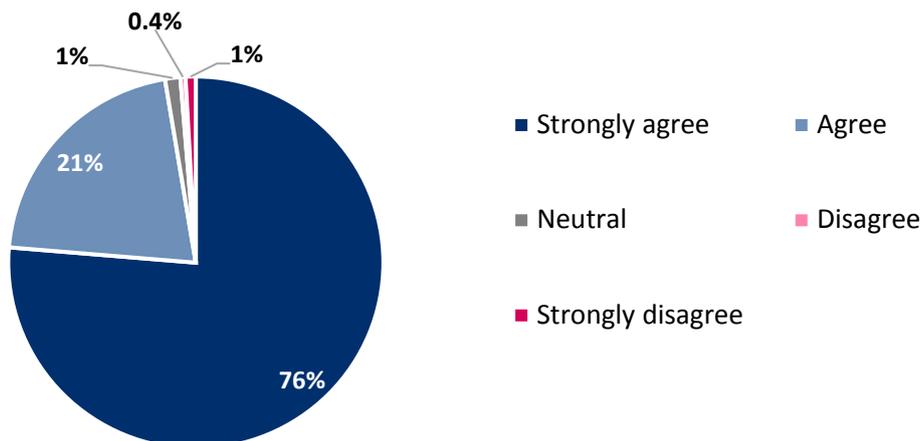
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following objectives for the new strategy?

1. Early Intervention to stop people becoming homeless or having to sleep rough



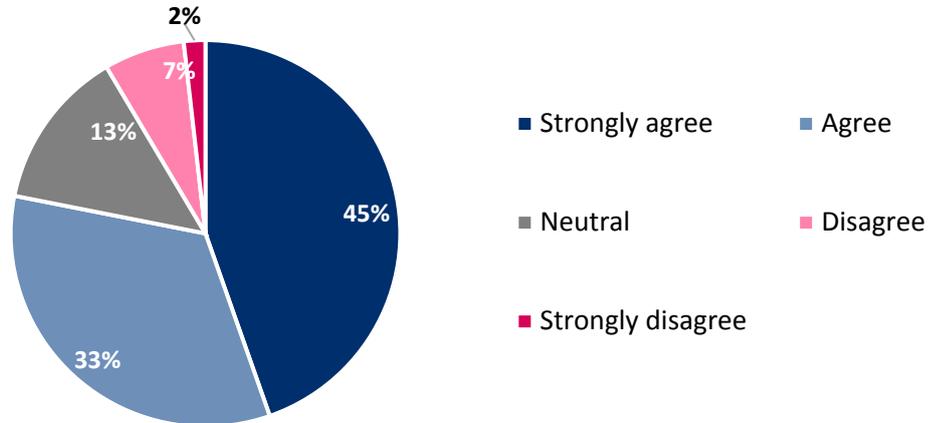
A total of 97% of respondents agreed that early intervention to stop people becoming homeless or having to sleep rough was the right objective for the new strategy going forward, with only 1% strongly disagreeing and 2% stating they were neutral.

2. Providing support to people who are homeless to address their needs and avoid repeat homelessness



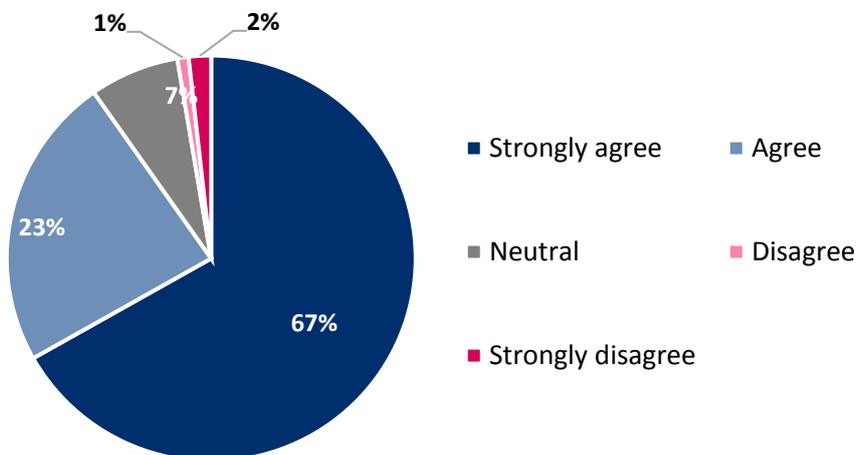
A total of 97% of respondents agreed with the objective “Providing support to people who are homeless to address their needs and avoid repeat homelessness”. Only 1% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal.

3. Provide adequate temporary accommodation for short periods only



The results show that 78% of respondents agree with the objective “Provide adequate temporary accommodation for short periods only”, with 8% overall disagreeing. Overall, 13% of people stated they were neutral and did not agree nor disagree.

4. Maximise access to affordable and appropriate homes in the city

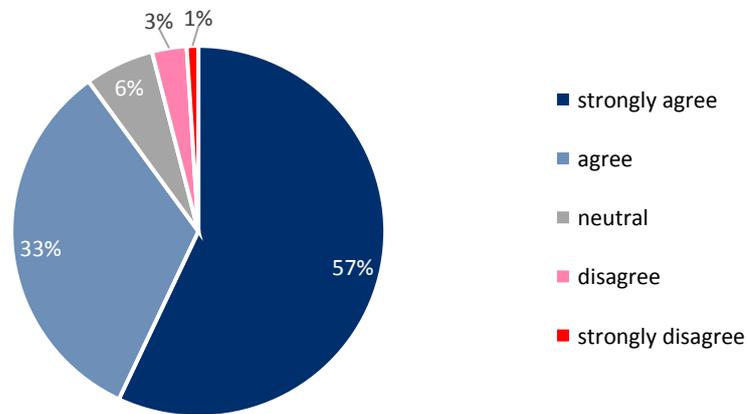


A total of 90% of respondents agreed with the proposal “Maximise access to affordable and appropriate homes in the city”. Only 3% disagreed and 7% were neutral.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the commitments we have planned for each objective?

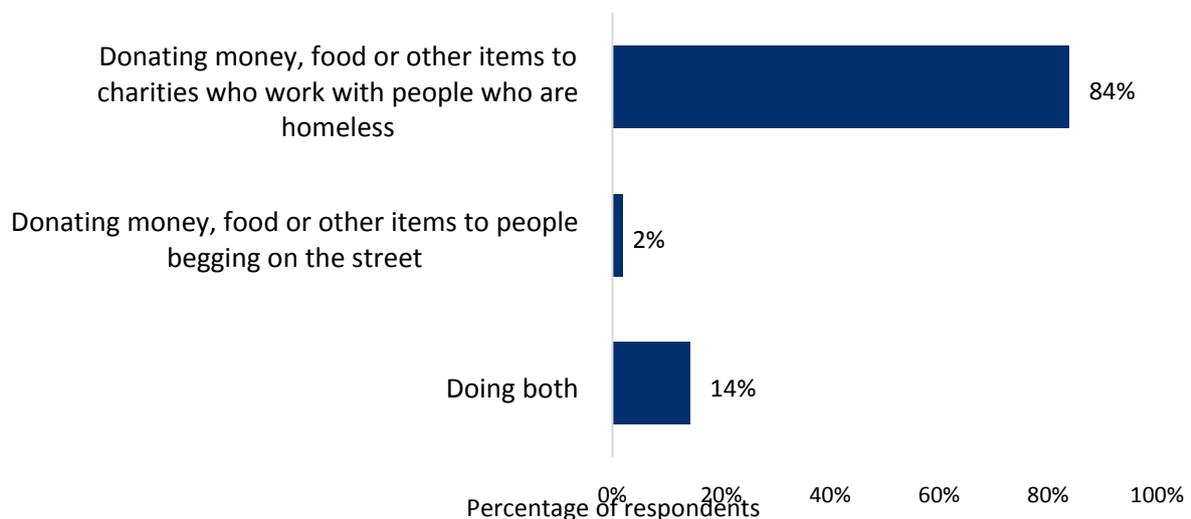
The survey then focused on the commitments for each objective. Respondents were asked if they agreed or disagreed with the draft commitments and, if they did, were offered an opportunity to say why.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the commitments we have planned for each objective?



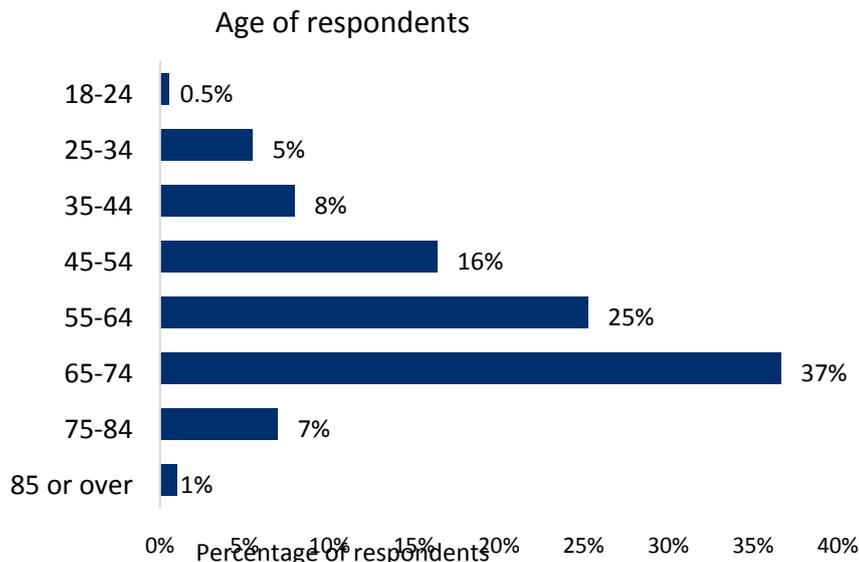
In total, 57% strongly agreed with all of the commitments for each objective in the homelessness strategy and 33% agreed with them. However, 4% of respondent disagreed with the commitments and a further 6% of people felt neutral towards the commitments for the new strategy.

If you were going to donate to homelessness, which of the following would you say has the most impact?



Respondents were also asked, if they were going to donate to homelessness, which of the options would have the most impact. Of the 229 respondents, 84% of people said that donating money, food and other items to charities would have the biggest impact. Only 2% of individuals stated that donating directly to people who are homeless would have the most impact and 14% said doing both has the biggest impact.

Demographics



The highest percentage of those who responded to the survey were between the ages of 65 – 74, with 37% of everyone who answered the survey being between that age group. Next, 25% of people who responded were between the ages 55 – 64 and a total of 16% were between the ages of 45 – 54. All in all, only 5% of respondents were between 25 – 34 and 0.5% were 18 – 24. This shows us that of those how took the survey, the majority were older individuals.

Stakeholder workshop on 5th October 2018

A Homelessness Prevention Strategy Stakeholder Workshop was held on 5th October 2018 at The Central Baptist Church. Representatives from organisations across the city attended this meeting, including delegates from Southampton City Council, Solent NHS Trust, Department for Work and Pensions, The Salvation Army, Society of Saint James, Street Pastors, Citizens Advice, Two Saints, Avenue Church Deposit Scheme, No Limits and more.

At the workshop, delegates were offered an opportunity to hear from key speakers about the national and local picture of homelessness across the country and across Southampton over the last 10 years. Delegates were given the opportunity to review the draft strategy and provide feedback through a round table discussion.

The feedback was generally positive, with some recommendations on improving the clarity and specifics of some commitments in the strategy. This feedback has been reflected in the draft strategy being presented to Southampton City Council Cabinet on 20th November 2018.