

Responses to Ofsted's consultation on the arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services

An evaluation report

Between 27 July and 30 September 2011, Ofsted consulted on its proposed arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services.

This report details the outcome of the consultation and our next steps.

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Introduction

'...parents looking after children [should] get help if they need it and they aren't just left because if that happens that's why some children go into care if my mam got help I wouldn't have gone into care.'

A young person in foster care

'I feel that's what a council's child protection service should be about – making sure children and young people are given the right help to keep them from harm.'

A young person aged 15

1. Ofsted is introducing new arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services. These new arrangements will include an inspection of arrangements for the protection of children, and a separate inspection of services for children looked after.¹
2. As part of these new arrangements, we have recently developed a new inspection framework that we will use for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children from May 2012. The framework sets out how we will conduct these inspections, what we will look for and how we will make our judgements.
3. The inspection framework is supported by two key documents:
 - *Framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children*²
 - *Inspections of arrangements for the protection of children: Evaluation schedule and grade descriptors*.³

Inspectors will use these documents when conducting their inspections to inform their judgements and findings. A third document will be published on our website by March 2012 that will outline how our inspectors will conduct these inspections.

4. We conducted an extensive consultation with the public and key interested parties from July to September 2011. This report details the views that came from the consultation and shows how we have used these responses to set out

¹ The Children Act 1989 provides the definition of a looked after child. These are children where their birth parent/s are unable to provide either temporary or permanent care for them. Children may become looked after through a care order or by voluntary agreement from their parents.

² *Framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children* (110132), Ofsted, 2011; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110132.

³ *Inspections of arrangements for the protection of children: Evaluation schedule and grade descriptors* (110133), Ofsted, 2012; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110133.

future arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services, including our new framework for inspecting local authority arrangements for child protection.

5. We will also develop a new framework for the inspection of services for children looked after. We will test this new framework in pilot inspections in late 2012.

Background to the consultation

6. We conduct inspections of local authority children's services under section 20 of the Children Act 2004 and under section 136 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.
7. In our business plan 2011–2015,⁴ we committed to developing and consulting on new arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services, for implementation in May 2012.
8. The proposals that we developed took full account of Professor Eileen Munro's final report on her independent review of child protection in England.⁵

The Munro review supported a universal programme of unannounced inspection of child protection services. Professor Munro recommended that these inspections should have a broader focus than the current unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment services. She also recommended that inspections should focus on the child's journey and experiences through early help and child protection services, from the point of needing help to the time they receive that help.

The consultation methodology

9. We consulted with the public, interested parties, and children and young people about the new arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services.
10. Our primary consultation method was an online survey open to the public from 27 July to 30 September 2011. This consultation asked participants quantitative questions as well as providing free text boxes for respondents to write their views.

We received 252 individual responses to this consultation, including responses from local authority children's services, Local Safeguarding Children Boards

⁴ *Ofsted Business Plan 2011-2015*, Ofsted, 2011; <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/ofsted-business-plan-2011-2015>.

⁵ *The Munro review of child protection: Final report – a child-centred system*, DfE, 2011; <https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/Childrenandfamilies/Page1/CM%208062>.

(LSCBs), children's centres, voluntary sector organisations, education practitioners and organisations representing children and young people.

11. In addition, 685 children and young people responded to a version of this consultation specifically written for young people.
12. We prepared symbol versions of this consultation for children with communication difficulties. Although we received numerous requests for these symbol versions, none were returned.
13. We supported our online surveys with face-to-face consultations, holding forums with representatives from key interested groups, including the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS), LSCB Chairs, parents and carers who use children's centres, and care leavers. We also held a focus group with voluntary sector organisations, including Spurgeons, St Christopher's Fellowship, The Children's Society, St Michael's Fellowship and Family Action. Other interested parties provided their views to us in written submissions.
14. In addition to the online consultation available for children and young people, we also used a number of other opportunities to ensure that we captured the views of as many children and young people as possible.

We sought the views of children and young people in care and care leavers through a text panel – Be Heard – operated by the Children's Rights Director. This allowed us to pose questions to children and young people and to receive their responses by text message. We also conducted an additional survey with a Your Say panel with approximately 240 children and young people, who completed an online questionnaire.

15. We conducted a similar process with parents and carers through our parents' panel. Three hundred and sixty-three members of this panel completed a tailored online questionnaire.
16. The full results of the online consultation are in Annex A and the results from the young person's version of the consultation in Annex B.

Key themes from the consultation

Inspections of arrangements for the protection of children

17. The respondents were supportive of our overall approach to the universal inspection of the arrangements to protect children, with 89% of respondents to the online survey agreeing or strongly agreeing with this proposal. This support was echoed by children and young people with 87% supporting our approach. There was also support for our proposed examination of the child's journey from needing help through to receiving that help and protection, and the effectiveness of that help. The respondents also agreed on our proposed judgement domains for these inspections.

18. However, respondents did request clarification over some aspects of our proposed framework. These and the key themes arising from the consultation are addressed below.

No notice of inspection

19. Seventy-nine per cent of respondents were in favour of our intention to conduct inspections of the arrangements to protect children without notice. The participants from the parents' panel agreed with this position, suggesting that our inspectors would be able to see what happens on a day-to-day basis. They also suggested that unannounced inspections would allow staff to focus on delivering quality services, rather than preparing for inspection. As one parent at a children's centre noted: 'you get to see 'the nitty gritty'.

20. Children and young people took a similar view, with 74% who completed the survey in agreement. This support was stronger from children in the Your Say panel, where 93% agreed. Children thought that unannounced inspections would stop staff from concealing problems and would provide a true picture of child protection services. They said:

'If they are surprise inspections there will be no chance for preparations to make them look like everything is running smoothly if in fact it is not'

'Why would they need to be forewarned, [they] should be doing it all the time'.

21. Those children who disagreed with giving no notice, did so due to concerns about the strain on staff, the availability of staff, and issues of fairness.
22. LSCB Chairs were mixed in their views on unannounced inspections, with some advocating that it would strengthen internal quality assurance and audit activity, whilst others suggested that we would lose the voices of children, young people and families in the inspection. This latter point was also raised by the ADCS and local authorities who were concerned about their ability to arrange meetings with children and young people at short notice.

Judgements for inspections of the arrangements to protect children

23. Children and young people generally agreed with our proposed judgements, with 76% believing that we should look at whether they are given the right help to keep them safe. Children and young people emphasised the importance of this, noting:

'Sometimes you don't know you're in danger until an adult points it out – this is an important aspect of growing up that must be inspected'

'Because children have a right to be kept safe and they may be too frightened to tell someone so you have to look for trouble'

'I said I wasn't safe but [it] took them a year to believe me'.

24. Other children and young people emphasised the importance of looking at quality: 'Make sure the right quality of help is given', and the importance of staffing: 'so that we know the people we trust are trustworthy'.
25. Adult respondents were strongly in favour of all of our judgements, although their written comments did propose some amendments.

Some respondents felt that the Capacity to improve judgement was inextricably linked to Leadership and management, and questioned whether it was valid as a standalone judgement. This view was supported by some LSCB Chairs who advocated that it be included as part of Leadership and management. Our engagement with LSCB Chairs and local authorities led us to reflect on how we could best capture the complex accountability structures in child protection work, and resulted in us amending the Leadership and management judgement to Leadership and governance.

26. We have decided not to make a judgement on Capacity to improve. It largely relies on the same criteria as Leadership and management. In *Inspections of arrangements for the protection of children: Evaluation schedule and grade descriptors*, we have included elements of the Capacity to improve criteria under the new Leadership and governance judgement.
27. We have decided to continue to use the term 'adequate' to describe a service that meets minimum requirement. In the consultation document, we had proposed to change this to 'satisfactory', which at the time was generally applied in other Ofsted inspection frameworks. However, this is no longer appropriate in the light of policy changes announced by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector in January 2012. Ofsted does not regard services that are not good as satisfactory.

Multi-agency work to help and protect children and young people

28. Eighty-nine per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with our proposed approach to evaluating the effectiveness of all agencies' contributions to the protection of children. However, these respondents did raise some issues and suggestions about how this would function in practice.
29. The respondents queried how we would inspect the role of other agencies and bodies, including the voluntary sector and health services in helping and protecting children and young people. We have clarified this in our *Framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children* and in *Inspections of arrangements for the protection of children: Evaluation schedule and grade descriptors*.

30. When we inspect, we will look at multi-agency working to the extent of our powers, including the role of the local authority as the lead agency. We will look particularly at the extent and effectiveness of arrangements to help children, young people and families before they need the support of more formal child protection services. This will also include the effectiveness of arrangements to identify those children and young people who need protection. We will also consider the strategic arrangements that are in place across the local area in respect of local early help and child protection.

31. In addition to our proposals, respondents also recommended using a multi-inspectorate approach to inspecting child protection services, particularly involving the Care Quality Commission. As one health practitioner noted:

‘We welcome your inspection so you can [know] how hard we try to get [the local authority] to engage in supporting us!’

Other respondents suggested that this would reduce the burden of inspection on local authorities and would provide a more comprehensive report on the effectiveness of child protection services and the arrangements for early help.

32. In December 2012, Ofsted, HMI Probation, HMI Constabulary, the Care Quality Commission, and, where appropriate, HMI Prisons, agreed to develop a joint inspectorate framework for a multi-agency inspection of services for the protection of children.

We have committed to developing a detailed project plan by 31 March 2012, and expect to implement a new joint framework in 2013/14. Ofsted’s new framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children will begin in May 2012. It will continue to apply until a multi-inspectorate framework is in place, or otherwise until further notice.

Proportional approach to scheduling inspections

33. We sought views on the scope for a more proportionate approach to inspection in this area. As an example, this might mean that we would re-inspect good or outstanding local authorities within five years, with shorter timeframes for adequate and inadequate local authorities.

34. We were keen to hear the opinions of the public and interested parties on this. Respondents were generally supportive of the principle of more proportionality, with 69% agreeing or strongly agreeing and 13% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

The respondents on the parents’ panel were divided in their opinions on this issue, with some suggesting that the timeframes between inspections were too long, particularly for local authorities who received a good outcome. The largest concern for respondents was that change and deterioration can happen quickly.

35. Organisations representing children, including the Who Cares? Trust and the Children's Commissioner for England, had concerns about the proportionate approach, suggesting that it was 'cutting corners', and about the pace of deterioration in an environment of reduced funding.

These opinions were echoed by parents during the face-to-face consultation and by the ADCS, who felt that five years between inspections was too long. They suggested that three years was more appropriate. The ADCS did propose an alternative, involving the use of peer review, if the longer timeframe was adopted.

36. We appreciate respondents' concerns about the longer timeframe between inspections and the potential risks involved. We have, therefore, concluded that all local authorities should be inspected within the same cycle. We anticipate that the full cycle will begin with the implementation of the joint inspectorate arrangements described above, and that this will be a three-year cycle.
37. Given the commitment to begin joint inspection in 2013/14, it is unlikely that all local authorities will be inspected under the framework beginning in May 2012. The selection of local authorities for inspection under this framework will take account of: previous inspection outcomes; information from other sources, such as whistleblowing referrals, complaints, and serious case reviews; and any other relevant information. It will target those local authorities whose performance has been previously assessed as no better than adequate.
38. We will re-inspect any local authority found to be inadequate in the new programme. This re-inspection is likely to occur within 18 months and, in all instances, within two years of the original inspection.

How we will judge arrangements for the protection of children under the new framework

39. The consultation highlighted some critical areas to be included in *Inspections of arrangements for the protection of children: Evaluation schedule and grade descriptors*, which describes what an inadequate, adequate, good and outstanding service looks like under each of the four judgements.
40. Respondents were keen that the criteria for judgements should address:
- efficient use of resources
 - contribution of other agencies and the effectiveness of inter-agency working, ensuring that the voice, feelings and wishes of children are considered
 - effective management of staff, including motivating and inspiring staff
 - effectiveness of the LSCB

- consistent contact with the same social worker for children, young people and families
- equality of practice, including services for disabled children
- the importance of governance arrangements.

We have extensively reviewed and revised the evaluation criteria to ensure that they fully address these issues.

How we conduct inspections of the arrangements to protect children under the new framework

41. Respondents to the consultation proposed and queried many aspects about how we will conduct and manage our inspections of the arrangements to protect children. We have addressed these in the framework and guidance.
- Clarification on the scope of early help
We have clarified the scope of our inspections and early help in our inspection framework.⁶
 - Make up of the inspection team
The framework states that normally, five suitably qualified Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) will carry out the inspection. Four will be experienced in social care and the inspection of social care; one will be experienced in the inspection of educational provision. We may have more inspectors on larger or very complex inspections.
 - Making unannounced inspections work
There will be a series of phases to the inspection, to ensure that there is enough planning time throughout. The first phase will focus on examination of contact referral and assessment arrangements, which have been the subject of unannounced inspections since 2009.
 - The importance of seeking the views of children, young people and families
In a sub-set of the cases examined in detail, inspectors will meet with children and families to hear their views first hand about the effectiveness of the help offered. We will also scrutinise the local authority's evidence of systematic engagement with children, young people and families. We are developing an information sheet for children, young people and families to help explain the purpose of our inspection; this will be available in March 2012.
 - Observing and judging practice
In the new framework, key inspection activities will include: shadowing staff in their day to day work, for example observing work in the duty team, the

⁶ See paragraph 3 (on early help) and paragraph 17 (on scope): *Framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children* (110132), Ofsted, 2012; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110132.

work of social workers with children and families, and the work of independent reviewing officers; and observing practice in multi-agency meetings, such as strategy meetings, child protection conferences and resource panels.

- Tracking individual children's experiences and the child's journey
We will track at least 50 cases as part of the inspection, covering all stages of the child's journey.
- Sharing examples of good practice
Local authorities will be specifically asked to identify cases that they regard as examples of good practice for inspectors' evaluation.

Inspections for services for children looked after

Inspecting a sample of 20–25 services for children looked after each year

42. Only 50% of the online respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this proposal, while 23% disagreed or strongly disagreed. Participants from the parents' panel were more critical, with 77% believing that the sample of 20–25 local authorities per year was too small. Their key reasons included concern that: local authorities would not be inspected often enough; a larger sample would be needed to review services effectively; and vulnerable or abused children and young people would fail to be identified. The parents' panel suggested that:

'These children are extremely vulnerable so infrequent inspections could allow insufficient care to continue for too long'

'It needs continuing inspections as so much can happen in a year, and the people that are not doing their jobs need to go, as a child's health, happiness and life are at stake'.

43. While the ADCS and LSCB Chairs acknowledged the resource considerations behind this proposal, they did not agree with it. They suggested that: the sample size was too small; the proposal was too risky; and it gave the impression that children looked after are less important.
44. Children and young people also had concerns. Although 60% of the online respondents supported the proposal, 59% of the Your Say panel disagreed. The reasons the children and young people gave for their choices included:

'I think there should be more inspections as some of these councils may slip through the net and the best help may not go to the people that really need it'

'The more the better, but only so long as each case is done as thoroughly as the last'

'I believe they should inspect every Local Authority so that they are not slacking. You do children's homes twice a year why not the local authority!!!!'

'It could potentially take 8 years to get round all the services which is 3 years above what is already viewed as outstanding waiting time'.

45. The respondents also questioned the criteria that we would use for selecting the sample of local authorities to inspect. The participants from the parents' panel suggested: outcome of child protection inspection; information from inspections of children's homes, fostering or adoption services; information received through whistleblowing; and any concerns identified through performance data.

Care leavers proposed that children and young people should be involved in selecting the sample of local authorities by using the views of members of the Children in Care Councils.

46. Local authorities, in particular, strongly expressed that the present regulatory regime is fragmented, not streamlined and not proportionate.

Currently, Ofsted is required to conduct a separate inspection of each local authority's fostering service, and one of its performance as an adoption agency, at least once in every three-year period in addition to any wider inspection of looked after children services.

47. We propose that these separate inspections should be integrated into a single inspection of looked after children services. We think that this will free up sufficient resources for us to deliver a universal, rather than a sample-based, inspection programme of services for children looked after.

This will require regulatory change. We have agreed in principle with the Department for Education that this is the preference, and are planning to develop a framework for such an integrated inspection on this basis. Subject to agreement to the necessary regulatory change, we hope to be able to introduce this new framework in April 2013.

48. We asked parents for their views on this proposal through a direct question to the parents' panel. Eighty-two per cent of respondents agreed that inspections of services for children looked after should include the inspection of adoption and fostering services. The ADCS shared this view, recognising the significant overlap of these services.

Approach and judgements in inspections of services for children looked after

49. Although respondents were cautious with our sampling proposal, they were strongly supportive of our framework approach to these inspections, particularly about telling the child's story. Eighty-two per cent of online respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this approach. Parents were particularly keen to ensure that we tracked children from the beginning of their journey through to the long term care and protection that is provided.
50. The respondents did raise some queries regarding the amount of notice given. Some people suggested that inspections of services for children looked after may become 'second class', unless they are conducted without notice in the same way as child protection inspections. Other respondents recognised that preparation time would be required to ensure that inspectors can meet with children in care and their families. We will give further consideration to this issue as we develop the framework.
51. Although the respondents were highly supportive of our proposed judgements for these inspections, they raised similar concerns as for the child protection inspections about the similarities between the Capacity to improve and Leadership and management judgements. We will take these views into account when we develop our framework and evaluation schedule for these inspections.
52. Children and young people were particularly supportive of our inspections looking at whether young people in care are given the right support. Children suggested that if they were not receiving the correct support, then it meant that the local authority was not doing its job.
53. The children and young people also emphasised the different needs that they have, and that it is unfair for only some children to get the right help, rather than all children. As one child said:

'It is important to see where children and young people are not given the help they need, because then the CPI [Inspector] can improve on this in the future'.
54. Respondents suggested other areas that we should include in our inspection framework, including:
 - a focus on care leavers and those on the edge of care
 - the health of children and young people
 - local authority engagement with children and young people, including ensuring that the voices of children who are not part of the Children in Care Councils are heard
 - the importance of outcomes for out-of-area placements

- the emotional well-being of children and young people
- the effective use of resources within the children's partnership.

We will give full consideration to these areas in developing a new inspection framework for services for children looked after.

Key themes across both types of inspections

Monitoring work

55. Children and young people were very keen for us to monitor local authorities who were performing badly at their last inspection. Eighty-three per cent of the children and young people who completed the online survey and 95% of children on the Your Say panel thought that we should do this. As one child said: 'because if you don't then children in care might as well go back to their parents'.

These views were echoed by the participants from the parents' panel, where 93% agreed that Ofsted should monitor local authorities' progress following an inadequate inspection of arrangements to protect children or an inspection of services for children looked after.

56. We proposed to return to these local authorities within 18 months to monitor their progress. Respondents to the online consultation were generally supportive of this proposal, with 74% agreeing or strongly agreeing.

Some respondents suggested that we should conduct a progress visit and then a full re-inspection 18 months later. Others suggested that the monitoring visits would only be successful if they had the power to change judgement grades.

57. Other children, young people and adults who responded thought that 18 months was too long. They suggested:

'They should return within six months because if the people don't improve that can be a whole year that the service gets worse or stays the same'

'It should be as many times as required to go back and inspect until all has been done as required on the initial inspection'

'To make sure that all changes have been addressed and adhered to and if not WHY'.

58. With consideration to all these views, we do not plan to introduce routine monitoring visits of local authorities judged as inadequate. However, where a local authority considers that such a monitoring visit may be of benefit to them, we will consider doing this. We will re-inspect all inadequate local authorities within 18–24 months, as outlined in paragraph 38.

59. The ADCS felt that Ofsted, rather than the Secretary of State, should be responsible for both triggering and removing an Improvement Notice in relation to a local authority. However, this is not a matter for Ofsted to determine.

Thematic surveys

60. Sixty per cent of respondents to the online consultation agreed or strongly agreed that Ofsted should strengthen its current survey programme through short-notice thematic inspections. Some respondents were extremely supportive of the survey programme, suggesting that it helps to identify and share areas of best practice. However, others were more cautious, raising concerns about the burden of the survey programme on providers and the resource implications on Ofsted. Respondents made many valuable suggestions of future topics for the survey programme.

We intend to continue with the programme and to continue to strengthen the social care component of it. We will consider all the topics suggested in our future stakeholder consultations on priority areas to explore.

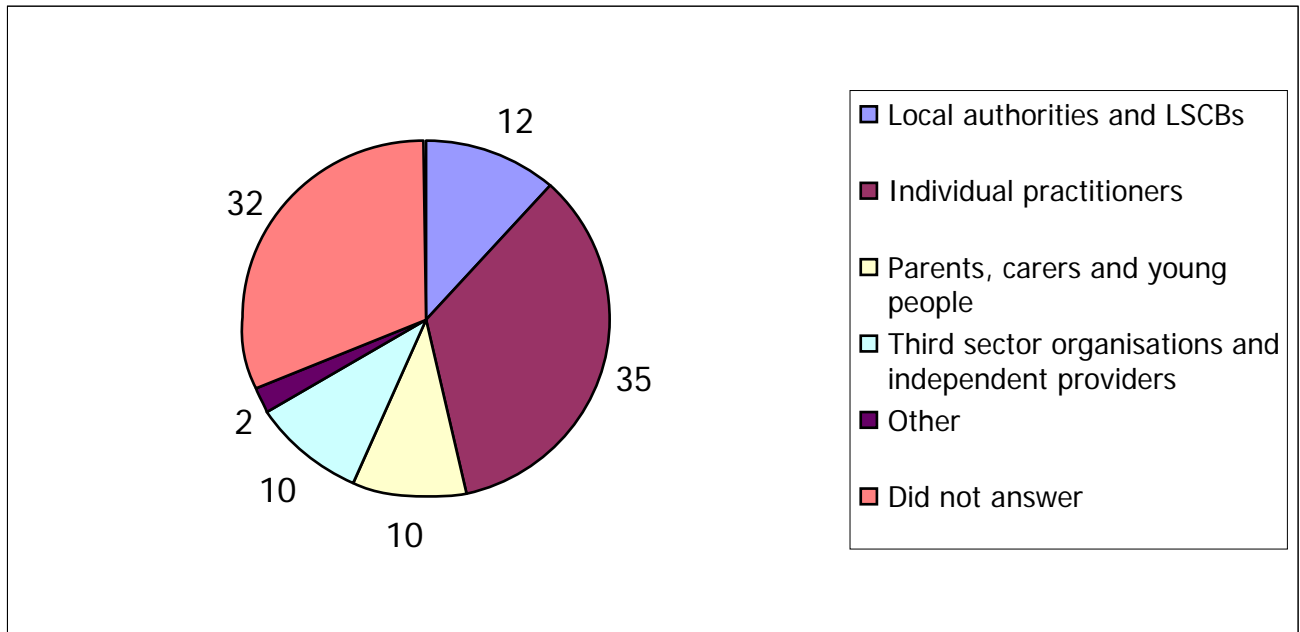
The way forward and timetable for further work

61. We piloted the draft framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children in five volunteer local authorities in November and December 2011. We are extremely grateful to them for their participation. We have revised the framework in the light of the pilots and the extensive feedback given by both pilot local authorities and inspectors. The framework and evaluation schedule will be introduced in May 2012 and are now published on the Ofsted website.⁷
62. We are now working with partner inspectorates to develop a joint inspection framework, which we plan to implement during 2013/14 (see paragraph 32).
63. We are developing a new framework for the inspection of services for children looked after. Subject to the necessary regulatory change, we expect this to integrate the current three separate inspections – local authority adoption agency services, local authority fostering services, and local authority services for children looked after – into one inspection. We plan to pilot a new framework in late 2012, and to begin a universal programme of integrated looked after children inspections in April 2013.
64. We are extremely grateful to everyone who participated in our consultation and appreciate the valuable and insightful views and observations that were made.

⁷ *Framework for the inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children* (110132), Ofsted, 2012; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110132; and *Inspections of arrangements for the protection of children: Evaluation schedule and grade descriptors* (110133), Ofsted, 2012; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110133.

We think that they will make a huge contribution to an inspection programme that has the experiences of children at its heart and continues to support improvement in services and outcomes for the most vulnerable children in our society.

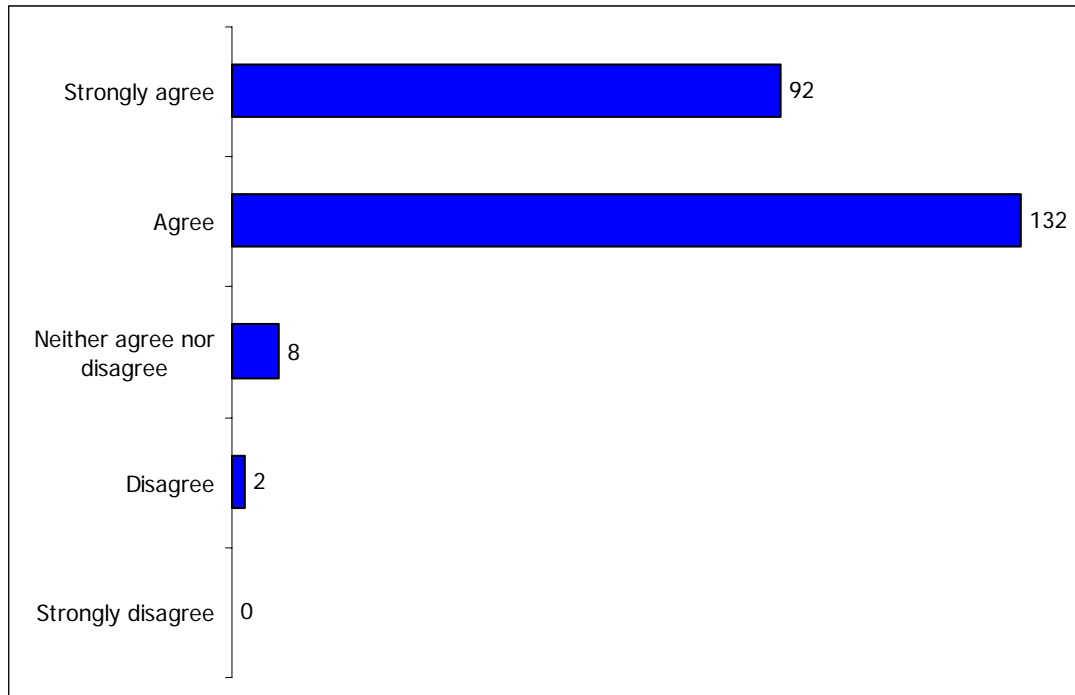
Annex A. Responses to the online consultation



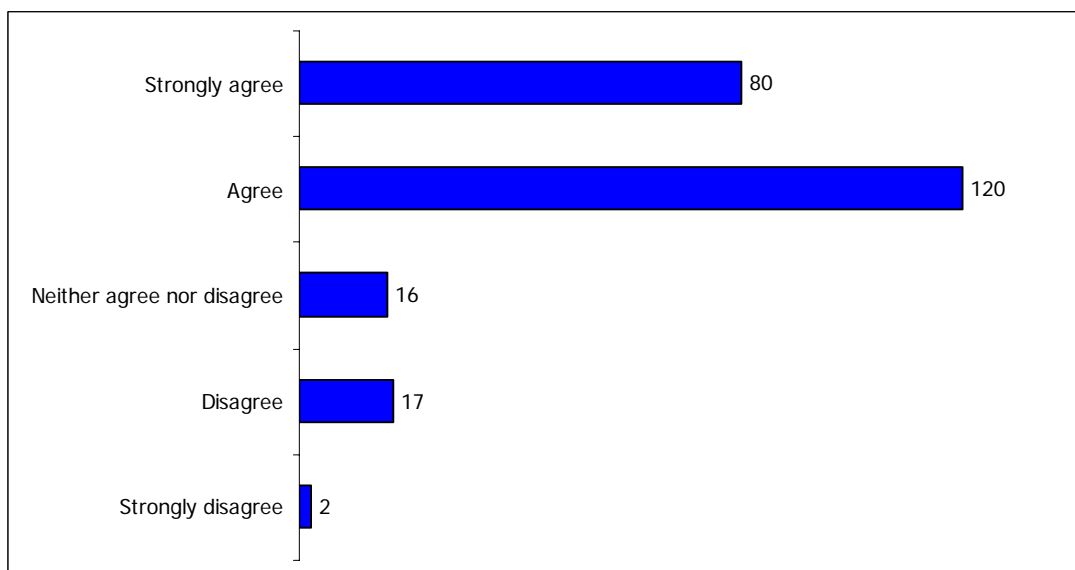
- Local authorities and LSCBs include respondents who were Directors of Children's Services, Chief Executives and LSCB Chairs.
- Individual practitioners include education, health and social care practitioners and senior managers.
- Parents and children include carers, foster carers and young people.
- Third sector organisations and independent providers include charities, umbrella groups and voluntary sector organisations.
- 'Others' include elected representatives.

The first set of proposals: universal inspection of child protection

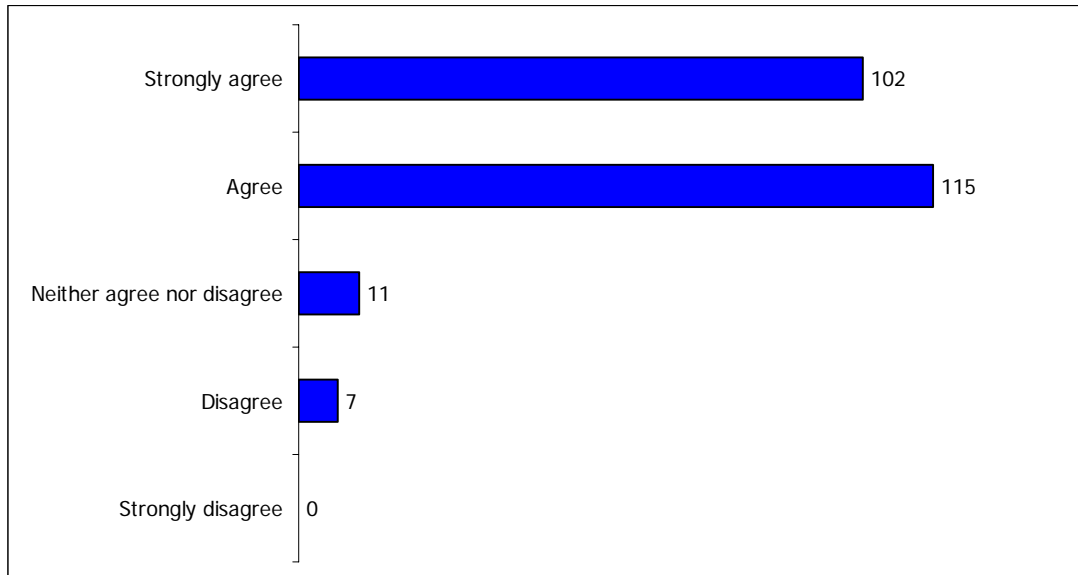
Q1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed approach that there should be a universal programme of inspections of child protection services (including in its scope the provision and effectiveness of services at all stages in the child's journey) in individual local authority areas?



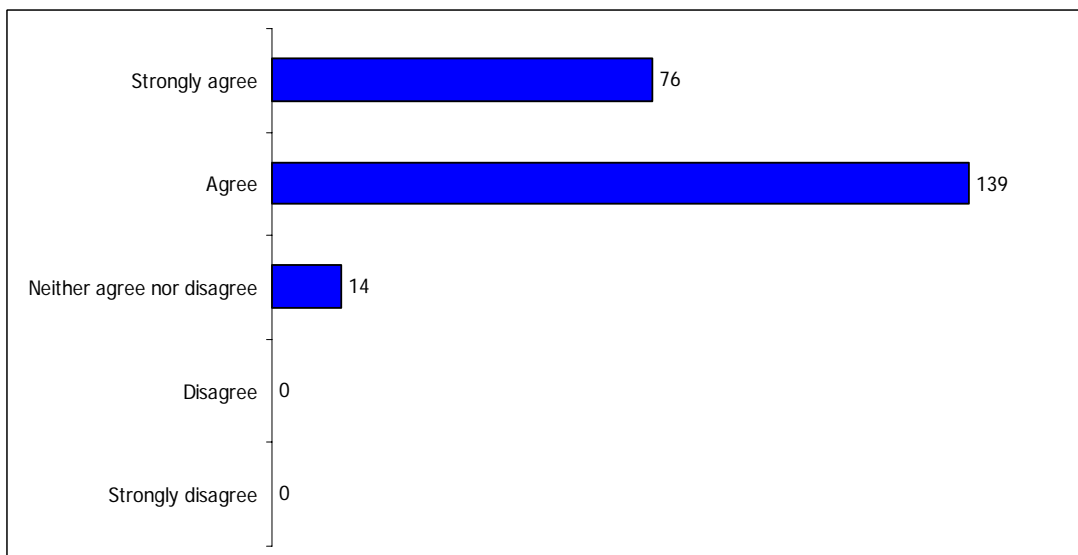
Q2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed approach to an unannounced inspection that includes, at an early stage, on-site planning time with the local authority to facilitate the full inspection?



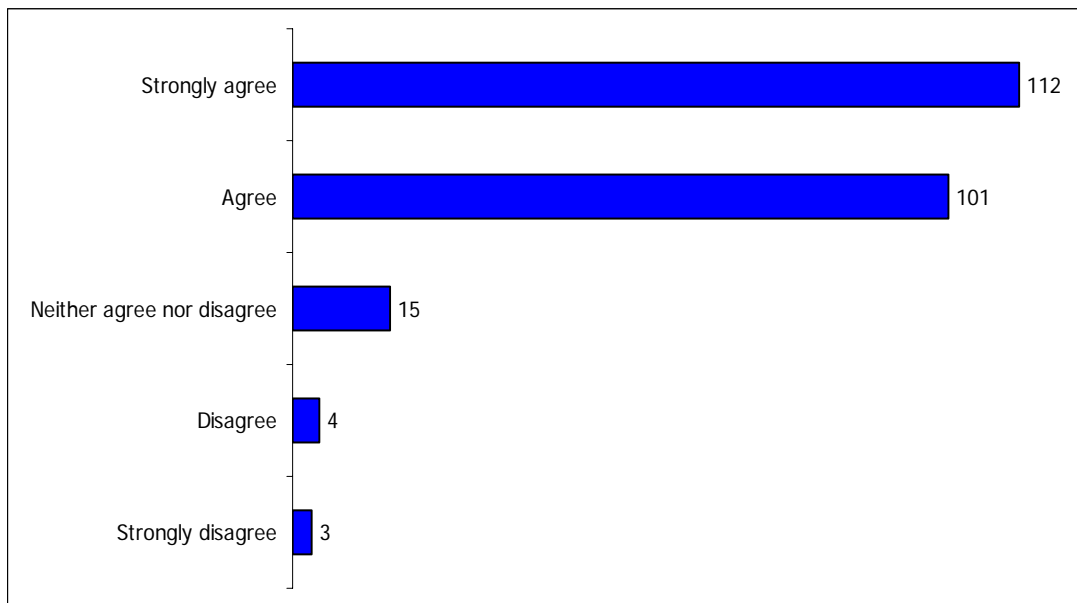
Q3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed approach to considering the child’s journey from early identification and intervention, through referral to children’s social care if required and the development and implementation of a child protection plan, to their exit from the child protection system?



Q4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed approach to evaluating the effectiveness and impact of services at each stage of the child’s journey using the cross-cutting themes?

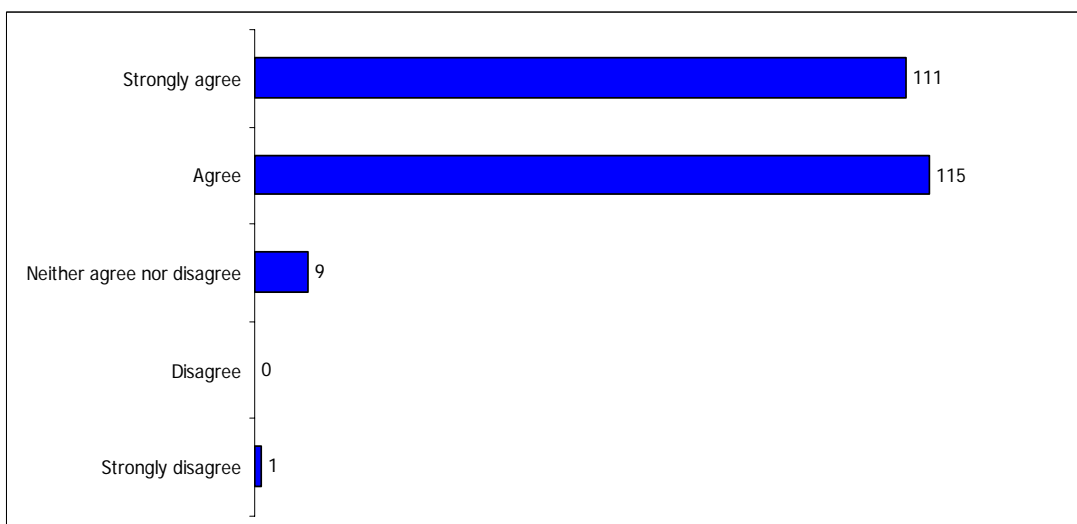


Q5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed approach to evaluating the contribution of all agencies to the protection of children?



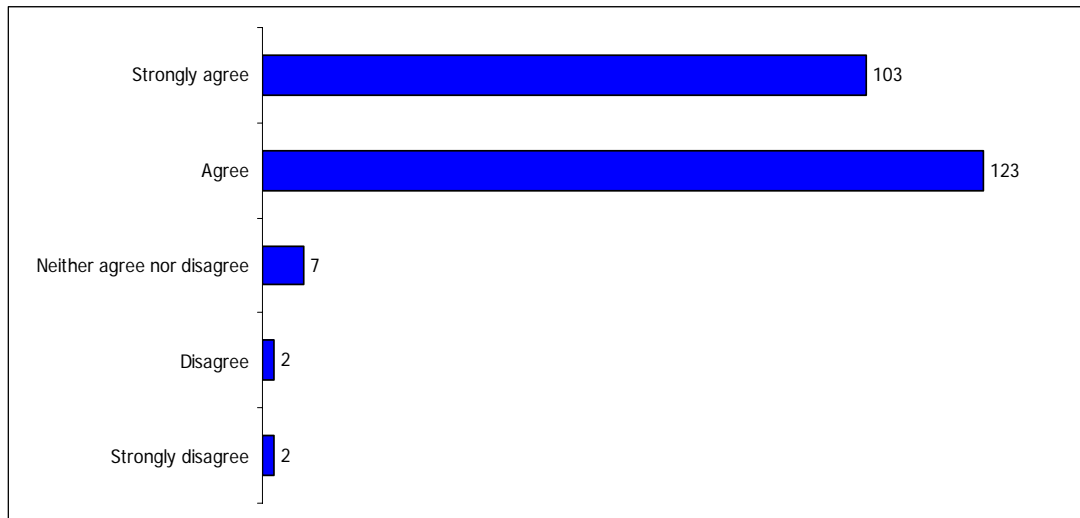
Q6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the judgements outlined in paragraphs 28–33 of *Arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services*⁸ are appropriate judgements to make when inspecting local authority and partnership child protection services?

6a. Overall effectiveness of the service

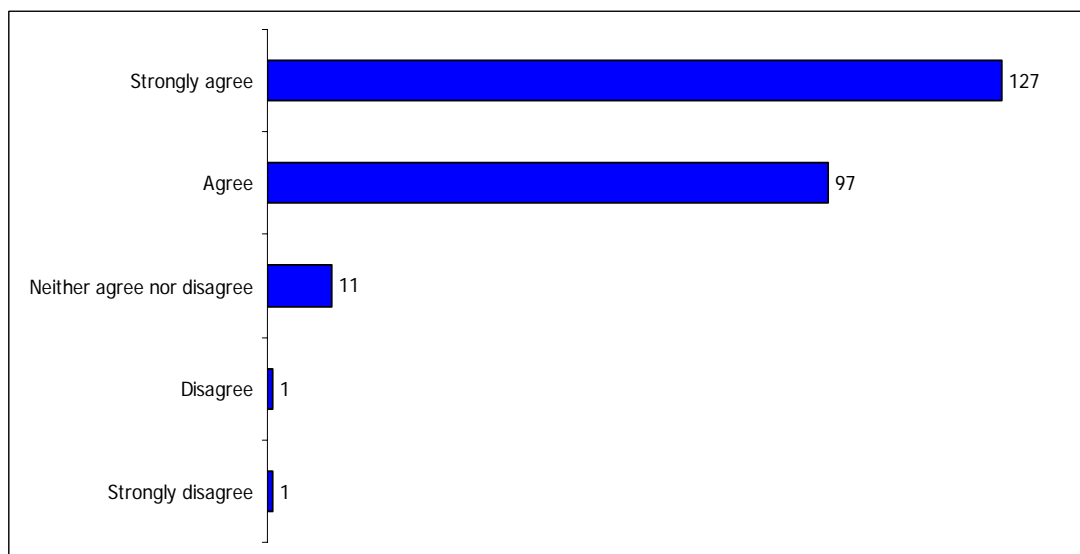


⁸ *Arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services – consultation document* (110059), Ofsted, 2011; www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110059.

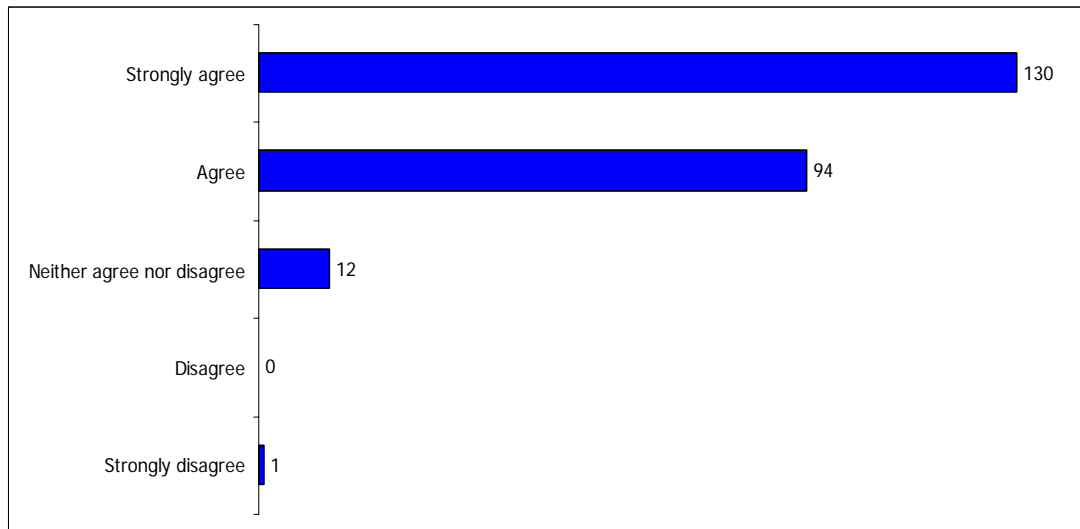
6b. Capacity to improve



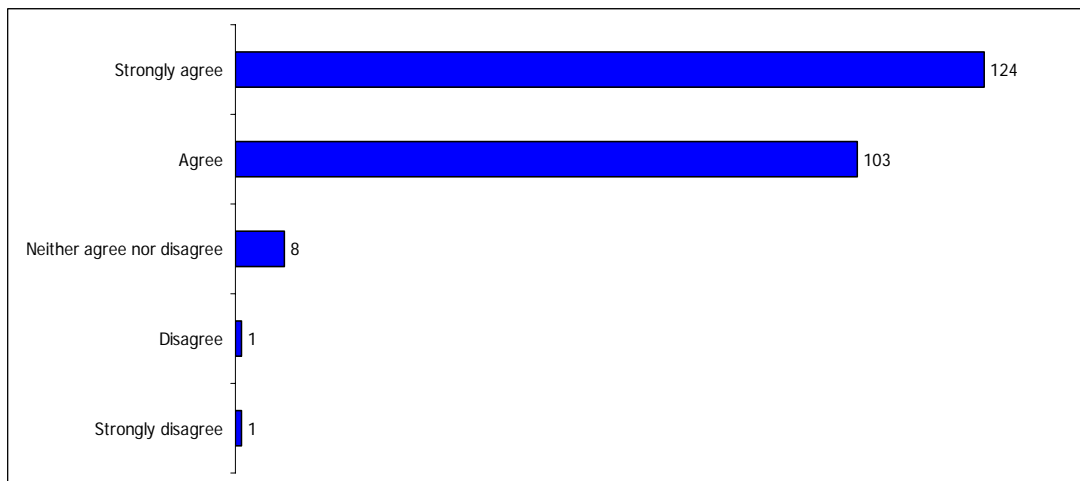
6c. Effectiveness of the help provided to children, their families and carers



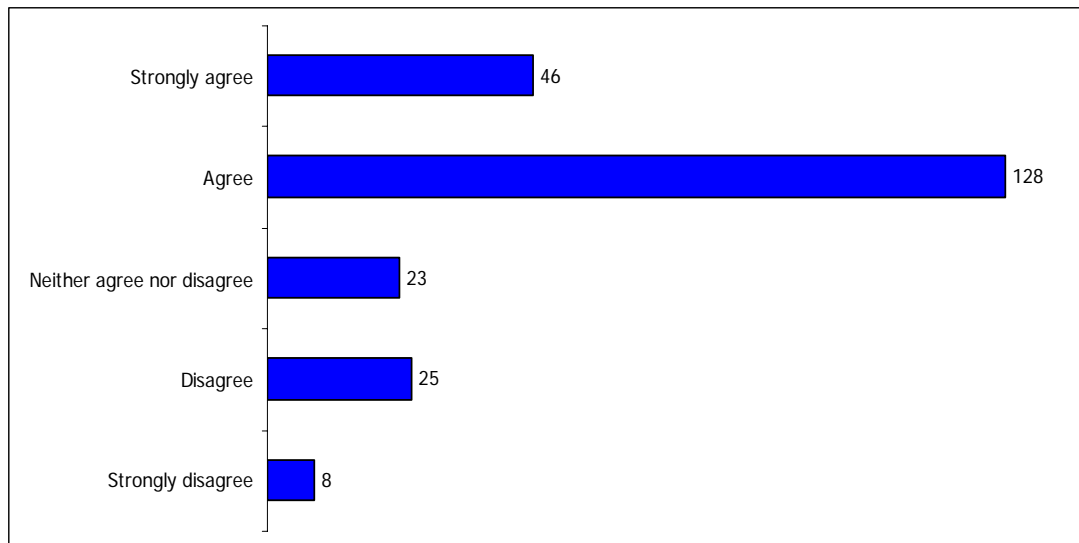
6d. Quality of practice



6e. Leadership and management

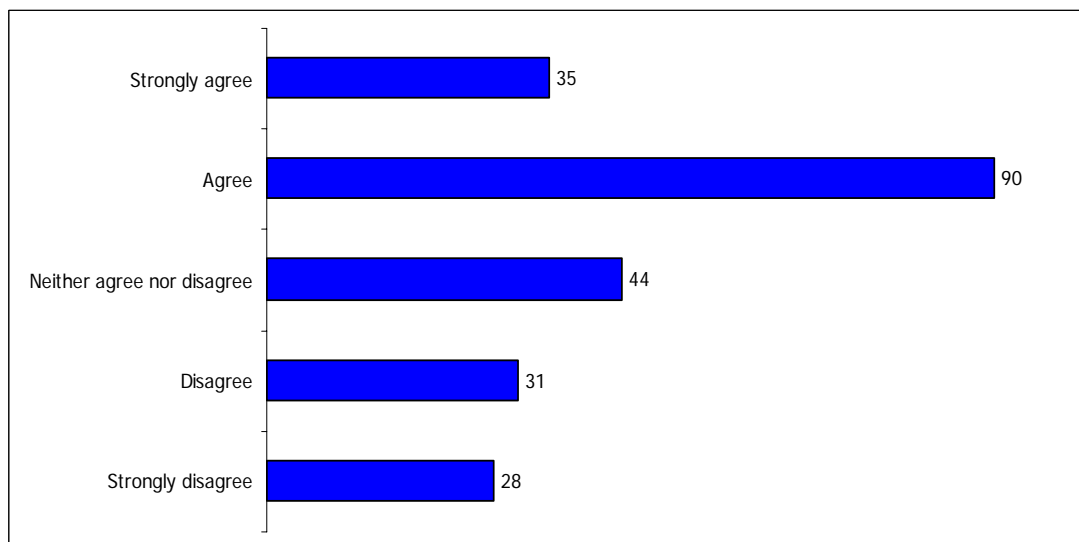


Q7. To what extent to you agree or disagree with a proportionate approach to inspections of child protection?

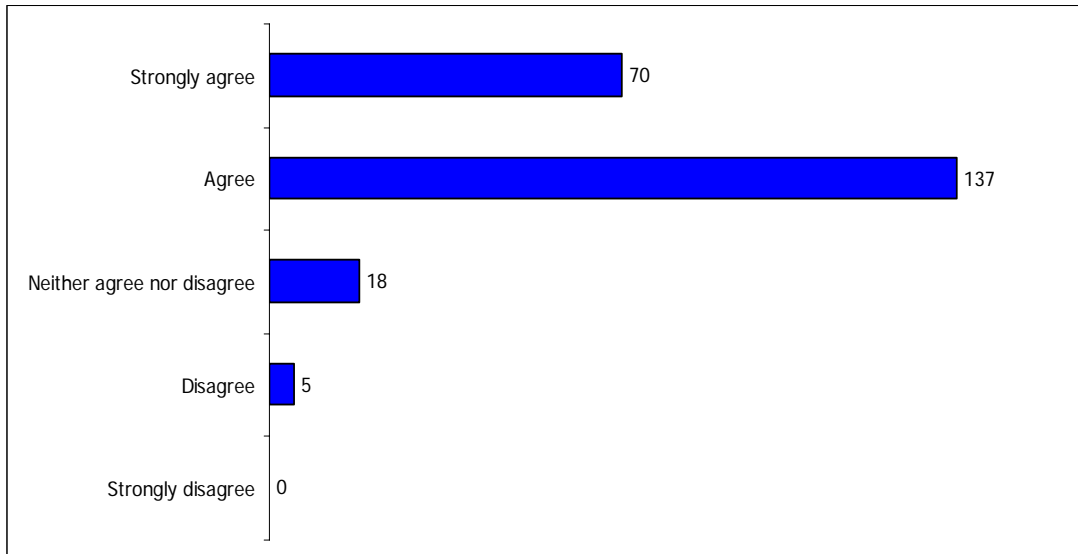


The second set of proposals: children in care

Q8. To what extent to you agree or disagree that we should inspect a sample of 20 to 25 local authority services for children in care each year?

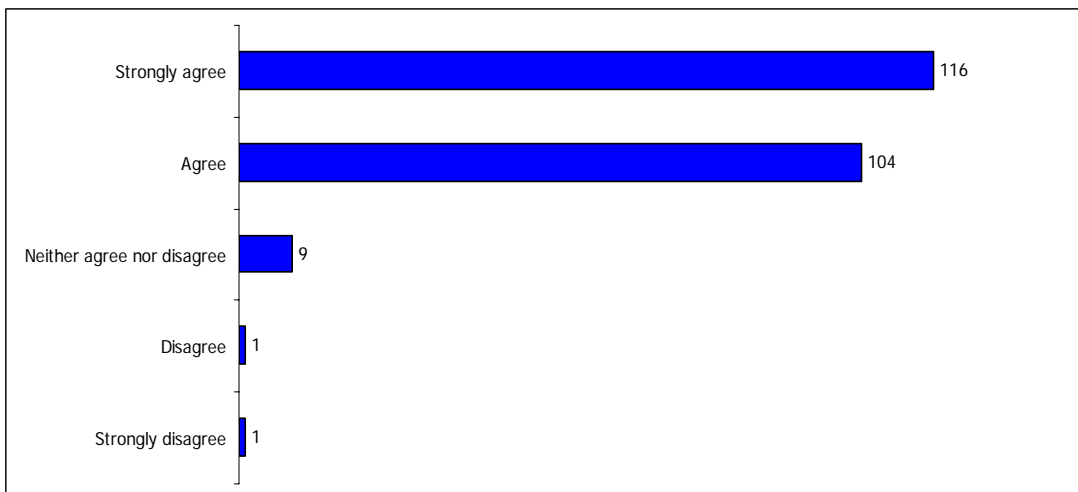


Q9. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed approach to evaluating the effectiveness and impact of services at each stage of the child's journey using the cross-cutting themes?

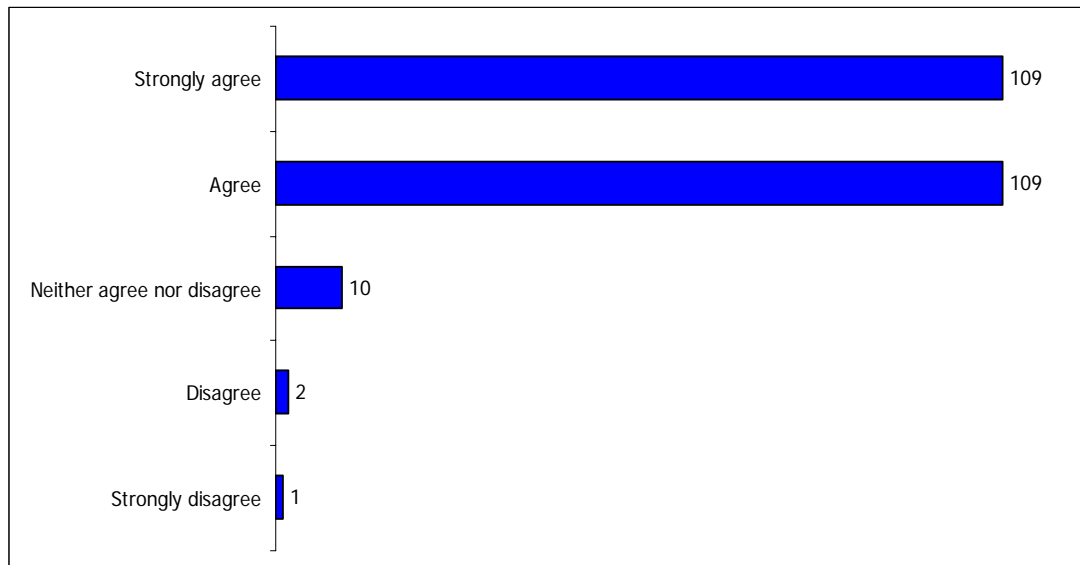


Q10. To what extent do you agree or disagree that these are appropriate judgements to make when inspecting local authority and partnership services for children in care?

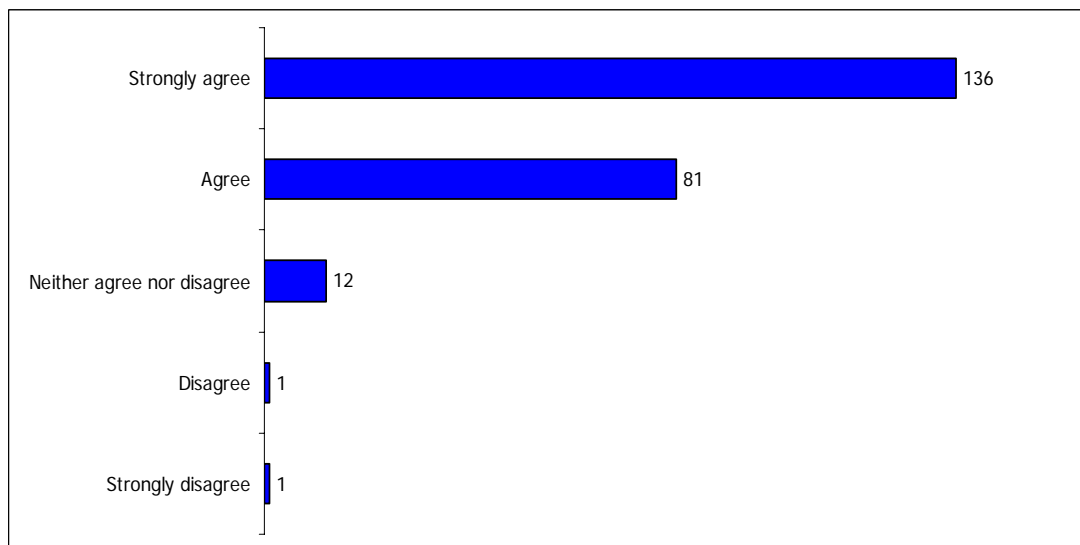
10a. Overall effectiveness of the service



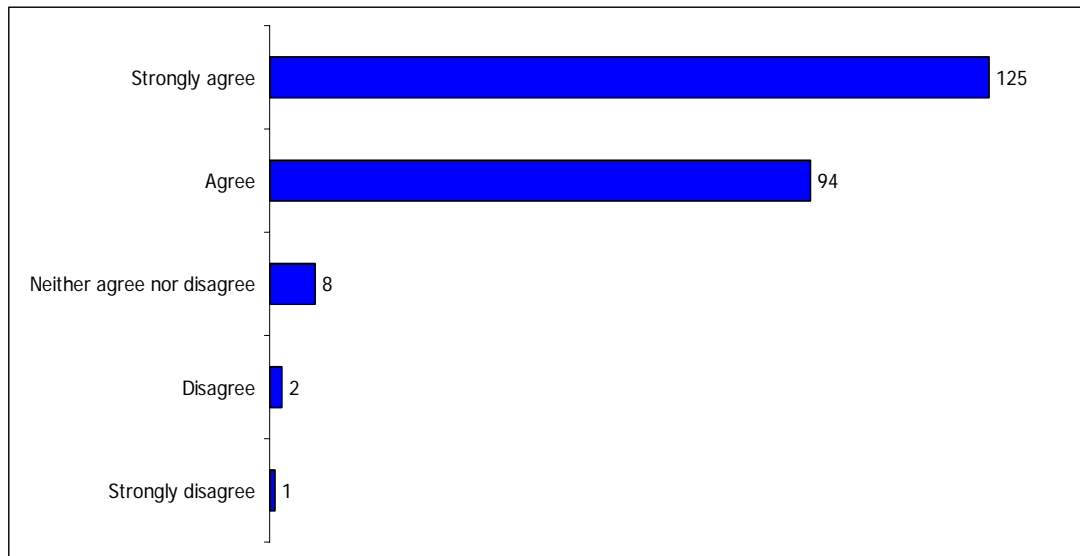
10b. Capacity to improve



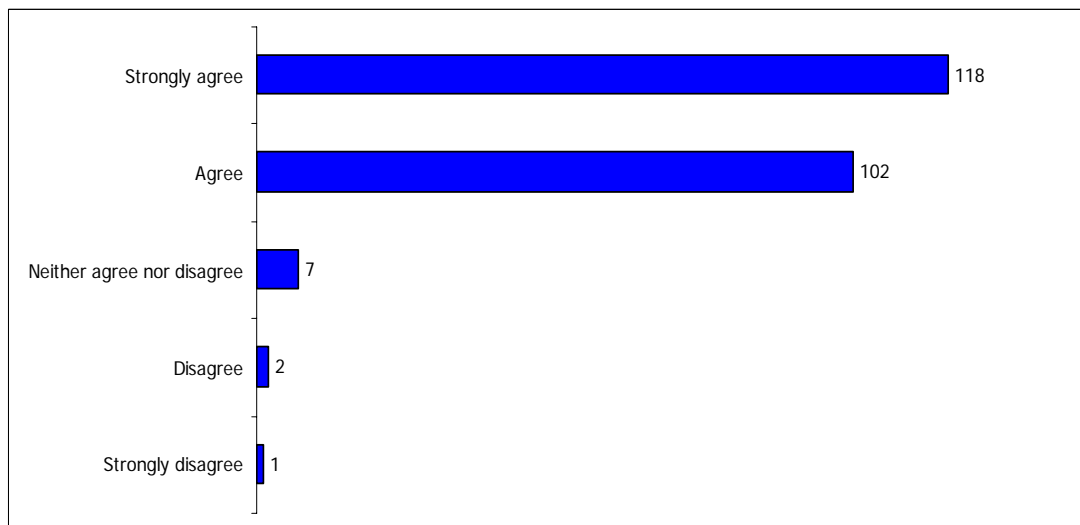
10c. Outcomes for children and young people in care



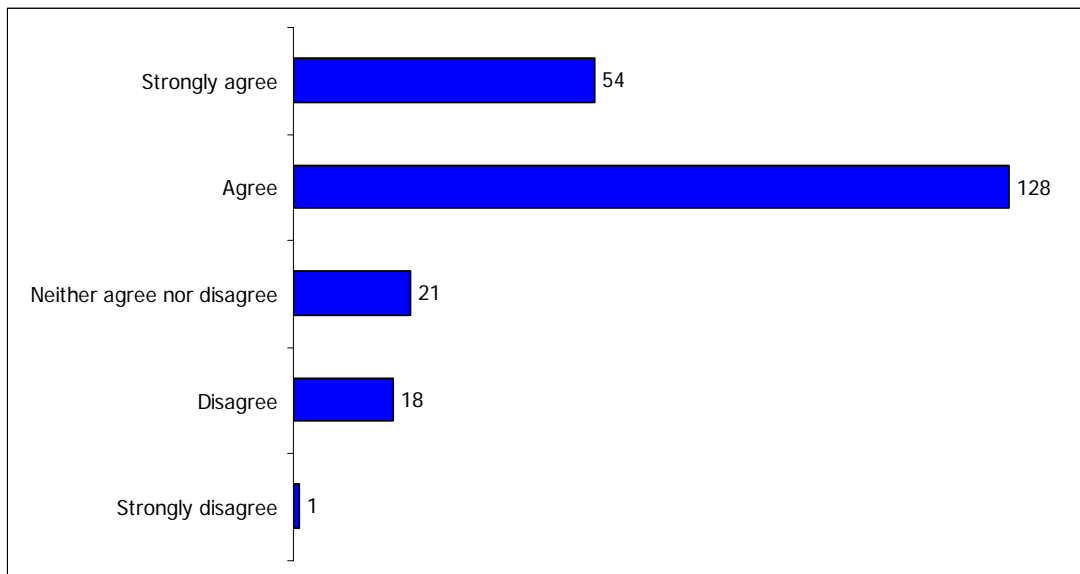
10d. Quality of practice



10e. Leadership and management

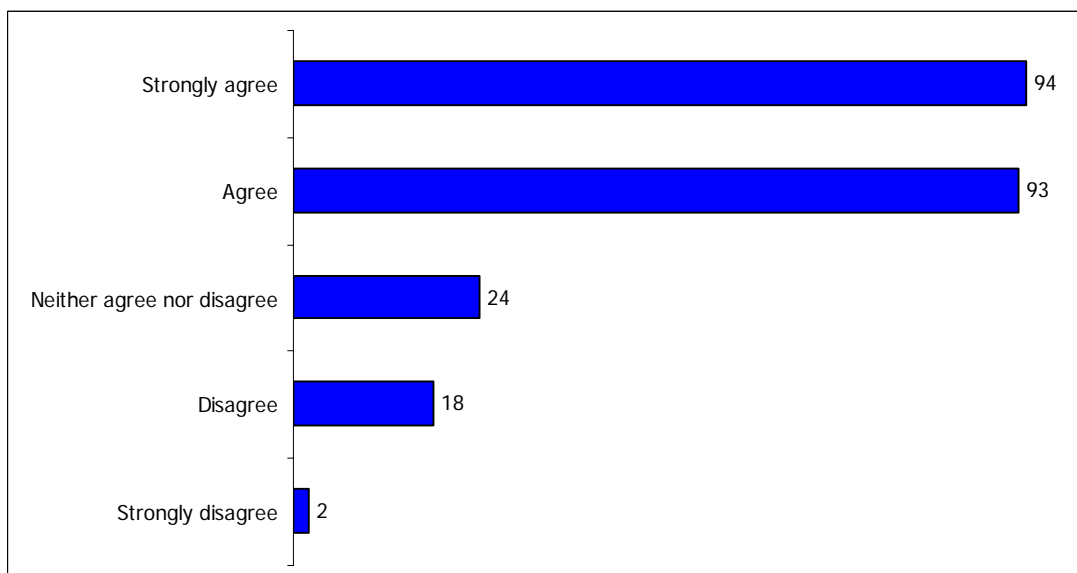


Q11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed approach to inspection?

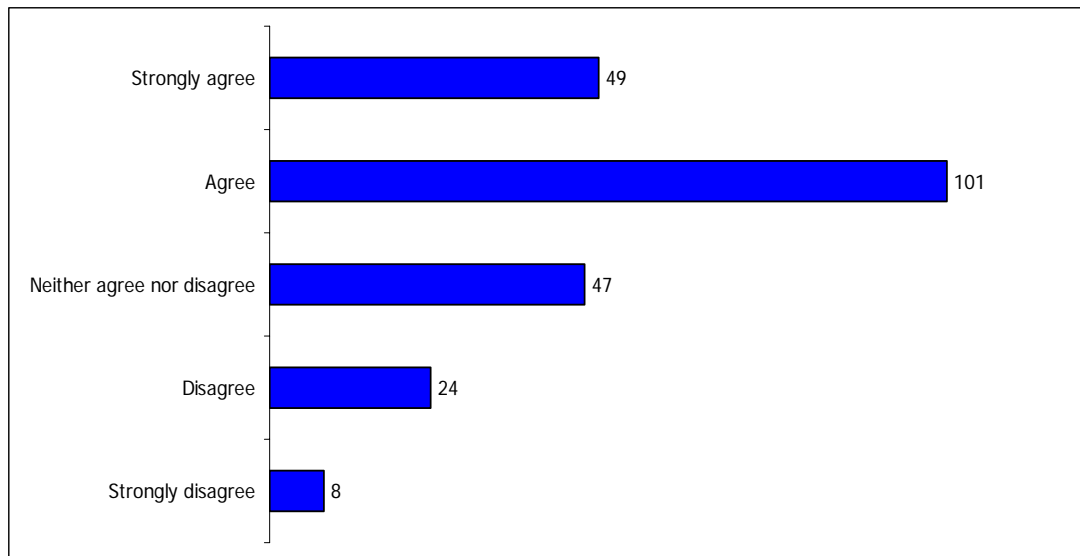


The third set of proposals: other inspection arrangements

Q12. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Ofsted should develop a programme of inspections to monitor progress in local authorities that have been judged to be inadequate for either child protection or children in care services?



Q13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal that Ofsted should strengthen its current survey programme through short-notice thematic inspections?



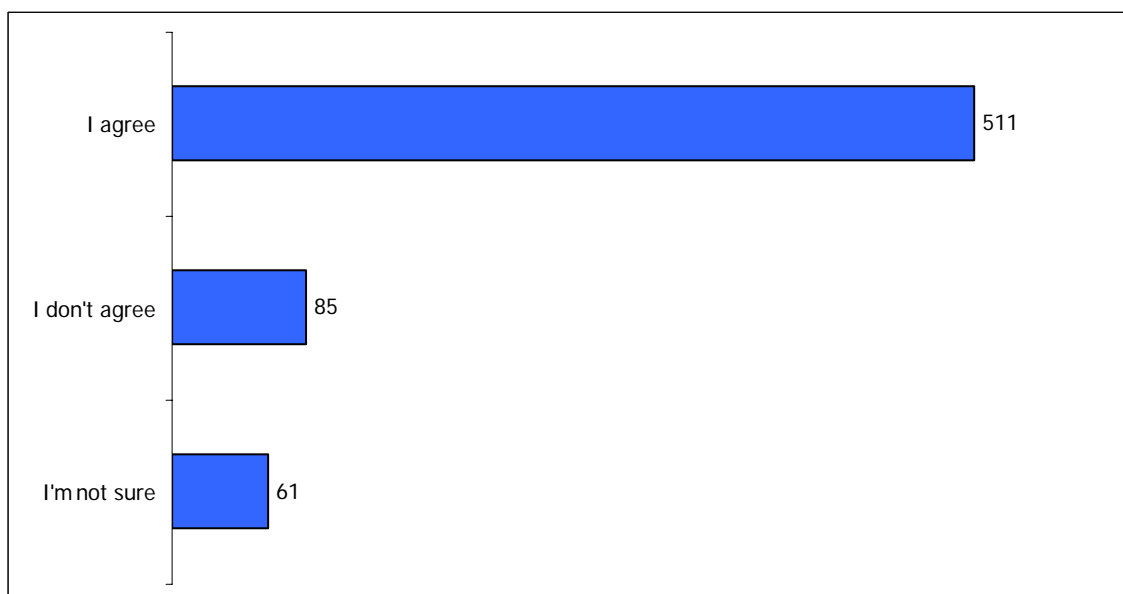
Annex B. Responses to the online survey for children and young people

Inspecting child protection services

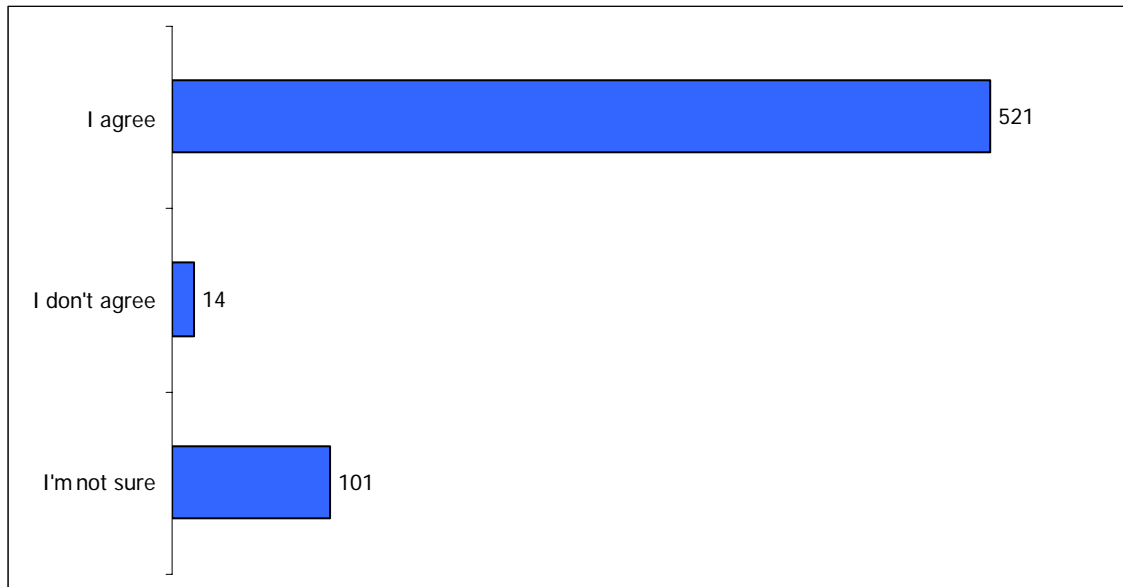
Q1. Do you agree or disagree with our plans to inspect all local authority child protection services whose job it is to help keep children safe?



Q2. Do you agree or disagree that our child protection inspections should be 'surprise visits'?

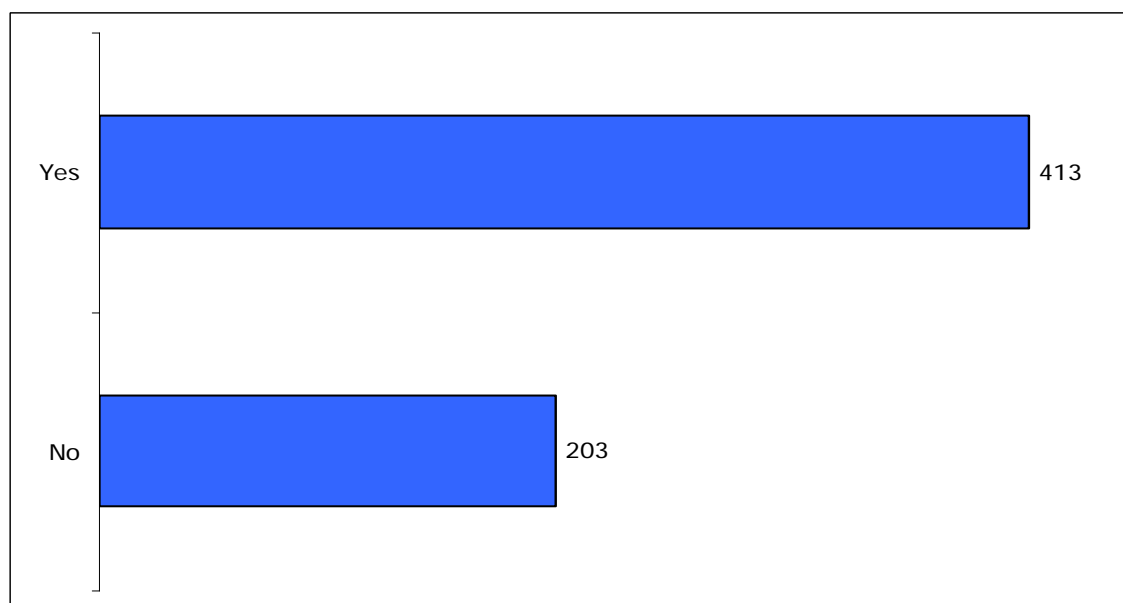


Q3. Do you agree or disagree that when we inspect local authority child protection services, we look at whether children and young people were given the right help to keep them safe?

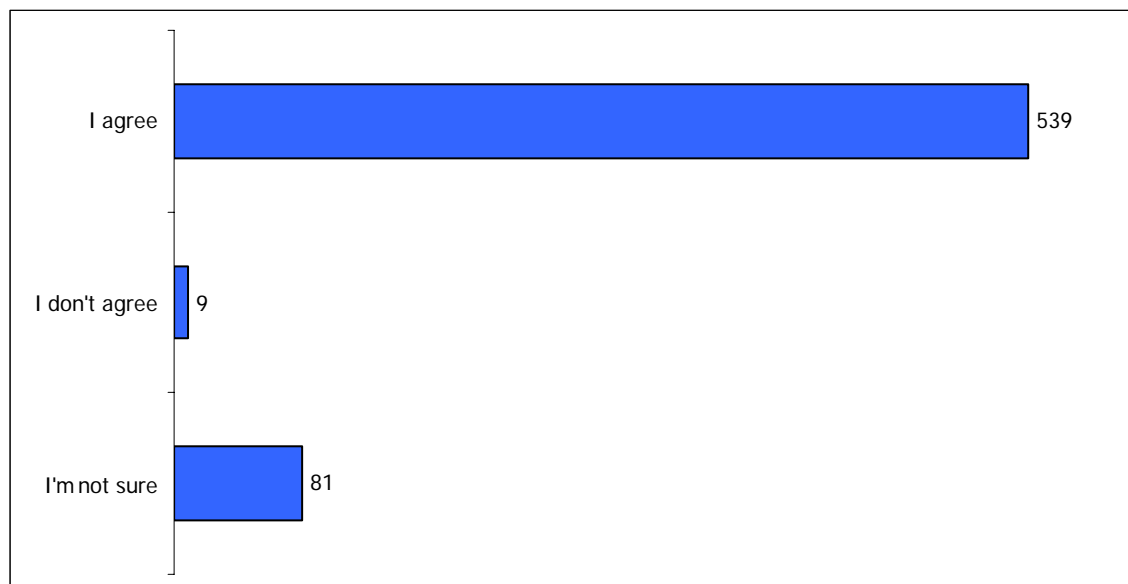


Inspecting services for children in care

Q4. We will inspect services for children in care from 20–25 local authorities every year. Do you think this is ok?

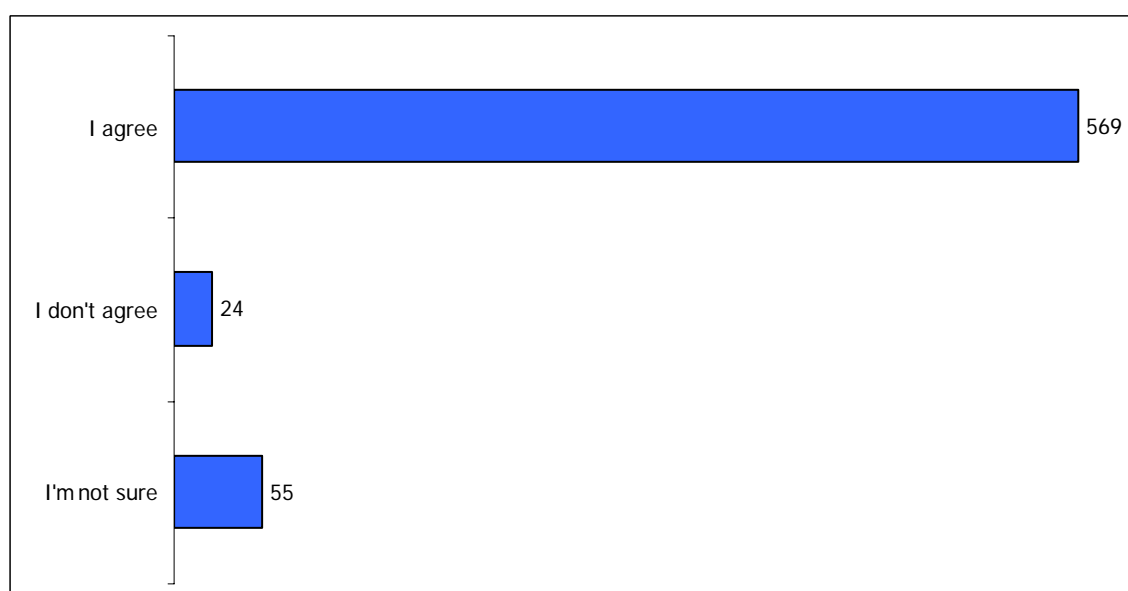


Q5. Do you agree or disagree that when we inspect local authority children in care services, we look at whether children and young people in care were given the right help?



Re-visiting services

Q6. Do you agree or disagree that we should go back to local authorities that did not do very well during their last inspection?



Q7. Do you agree or disagree that when we inspect we should find out how well local authorities listen to children's and young people's views?

