

# Special Educational Needs and Disability - Readiness for Reform Survey

## Parent Carer Forums Survey Responses

**February 2014**

# Report on the Survey Responses

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## **1. Introduction**

The Department for Education asked Contact a Family as their delivery partner supporting parent carer participation to carry out a survey with Parent Carer Forums across England. The purpose of this survey was to gather the views of parent carer forums on their local area's readiness for the implementation of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Reforms. The responses from forums, which are summarised in this report, will be considered by the Department for Education alongside the opinions gathered from Local Authorities. These will help the Department for Education and delivery partners in assessing what support might be needed in regions and local areas to support them as they prepare for and implement the reforms. It is intended that this survey will be conducted on a termly basis, and in future, there will be a greater lead in time to enable greater participation.

The questions put to the forums were discussed and agreed upon between the Department for Education, Contact a Family and the National Network for Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF). The Chairs and leads for each forum were invited by Contact a Family to make a single response on behalf of their forum and were asked to consult their membership for input where possible.

This report is an anonymised summary of the data and responses which helps to provide a picture of parent carer forums views of the current readiness of areas for reforms.

## **2. Response to the survey**

123 parent carer forums made responses to the survey out of the 151 areas which are able to apply for the Department for Education parent carer participation grant across England and were invited to respond. Given that the forums had just a few weeks to respond, which coincided with half-term, the level of engagement and response is very positive.

| Regional Response Rate |                  |  |                                  |
|------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Region                 | No. of responses | Total no. of forums invited to respond | Response rate within each region |
| East Midlands          | 7                | 9                                      | 78%                              |
| East of England        | 11               | 11                                     | 100%                             |
| London                 | 25               | 32                                     | 78%                              |
| North East             | 8                | 12                                     | 67%                              |
| North West             | 19               | 23                                     | 83%                              |
| South East             | 16               | 19                                     | 84%                              |
| South West             | 13               | 16                                     | 81%                              |
| West Midlands          | 10               | 14                                     | 71%                              |
| Yorkshire & Humber     | 14               | 15                                     | 93%                              |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>123</b>       | <b>151</b>                             | <b>81%</b>                       |

## **Non respondent forums**

There were 28 forums who did not respond to the SEND Reforms.

City of London was not invited to make a response as they have never had an established parent carer forum due to their population and size. Some other areas are also experiencing difficulties with the structure and capacity of their forums which meant they were not able to respond to the opportunity to take part in the survey at this time.

### **3. Summary of the responses**

#### ***Headline findings:***

- 20 parent carer forums indicated that they do not think their local area will be ready to implement the SEND Reforms from September 2014.
- Parent carer forums have been most engaged in co-producing the local offer and developing co-ordinated education, health and care assessment processes.
- 43% of the 123 forums which responded to the survey are receiving additional funding from their Local Authority to support their specific work with the reforms. (This is a move from the position of forums in the 2012/13 monitoring which saw a decrease of 10% in financial support to parent carer forums from their local authority)

#### ***Engagement***

##### **Q5: To what extent has your Parent Carer Forum been engaged in various activities in preparation for the implementation of the SEND Reforms?**

Parent Carer Forums have indicated in their responses that the area they have been most fully engaged has been in co-producing the local offer (33%). They have also been engaged quite a lot in developing a coordinated education, health and care assessment process.

The area where the vast majority of forums (101/123) have had no engagement at all has been in establishing mediation arrangements and post-16 provision. Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, health and care, assigning transparent processes for personal budgets and recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation are also areas where there has been more limited engagement. (See a breakdown by question in the tables below and a chart of the England-wide summary on page 8).

| England-wide Summary  | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 24.39% | 42.28%     | 20.33%   | 13.01%     |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 1.64%  | 15.57%     | 31.97%   | 50.82%     |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 32.79% | 33.61%     | 24.59%   | 9.02%      |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 7.38%  | 19.67%     | 30.33%   | 42.62%     |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 0.83%  | 0.83%      | 14.88%   | 83.47%     |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 7.32%  | 16.26%     | 22.76%   | 53.66%     |

| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? |                     |                         |        |            |          |            |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| Region  | Total no. of forums | No. of survey responses | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
| East Midlands   | 9                   | 7                       | 28.57% | 57.14%     | 14.29%   | 0.00%      |
| East of England   | 11                  | 11                      | 27.27% | 54.55%     | 0.00%    | 18.18%     |
| London  | 32                  | 25                      | 12.00% | 36.00%     | 36.00%   | 16.00%     |
| North East  | 12                  | 8                       | 12.50% | 87.50%     | 0.00%    | 0.00%      |
| North West  | 23                  | 19                      | 15.79% | 52.63%     | 5.26%    | 26.32%     |
| South East  | 19                  | 16                      | 25.00% | 50.00%     | 18.75%   | 6.25%      |
| South West  | 16                  | 13                      | 46.15% | 38.46%     | 15.38%   | 0.00%      |
| West Midlands   | 14                  | 10                      | 20.00% | 10.00%     | 50.00%   | 20.00%     |
| Yorkshire   | 15                  | 14                      | 42.86% | 14.29%     | 28.57%   | 14.29%     |
| England-wide  | 151                 | 123                     | 24.39% | 42.28%     | 20.33%   | 13.01%     |

| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners? |                     |                         |        |            |          |            |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| Region   | Total no. of forums | No. of survey responses | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
| East Midlands  | 9                   | 7                       | 33.33% | 33.33%     | 16.67%   | 16.67%     |
| East of England  | 11                  | 11                      | 0.00%  | 18.18%     | 45.45%   | 36.36%     |
| London   | 32                  | 25                      | 0.00%  | 4.00%      | 24.00%   | 72.00%     |
| North East   | 12                  | 8                       | 0.00%  | 12.50%     | 75.00%   | 12.50%     |
| North West   | 23                  | 19                      | 0.00%  | 21.05%     | 36.84%   | 42.11%     |
| South East   | 19                  | 16                      | 0.00%  | 18.75%     | 6.25%    | 75.00%     |
| South West   | 16                  | 13                      | 0.00%  | 23.08%     | 46.15%   | 30.77%     |
| West Midlands  | 14                  | 10                      | 0.00%  | 0.00%      | 40.00%   | 60.00%     |
| Yorkshire  | 15                  | 14                      | 0.00%  | 21.43%     | 21.43%   | 57.14%     |
| England-wide   | 151                 | 123                     | 1.64%  | 15.57%     | 31.97%   | 50.82%     |

**c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?**

| Region          | Total no. of forums | No. of survey responses | Fully         | Quite alot    | A little      | Not at all   |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| East Midlands   | 9                   | 7                       | 42.86%        | 28.57%        | 14.29%        | 14.29%       |
| East of England | 11                  | 11                      | 45.45%        | 27.27%        | 18.18%        | 9.09%        |
| London          | 32                  | 25                      | 4.17%         | 45.83%        | 37.50%        | 12.50%       |
| North East      | 12                  | 8                       | 12.50%        | 62.50%        | 12.50%        | 12.50%       |
| North West      | 23                  | 19                      | 31.58%        | 10.53%        | 52.63%        | 5.26%        |
| South East      | 19                  | 16                      | 62.50%        | 31.25%        | 0.00%         | 6.25%        |
| South West      | 16                  | 13                      | 38.46%        | 38.46%        | 15.38%        | 7.69%        |
| West Midlands   | 14                  | 10                      | 20.00%        | 30.00%        | 30.00%        | 20.00%       |
| Yorkshire       | 15                  | 14                      | 50.00%        | 35.71%        | 14.29%        | 0.00%        |
| England-wide    | <b>151</b>          | <b>123</b>              | <b>32.79%</b> | <b>33.61%</b> | <b>24.59%</b> | <b>9.02%</b> |

**d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?**

| Region          | Total no. of forums | No. of survey responses | Fully        | Quite alot    | A little      | Not at all    |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| East Midlands   | 9                   | 7                       | 28.57%       | 28.57%        | 28.57%        | 14.29%        |
| East of England | 11                  | 11                      | 0.00%        | 18.18%        | 54.55%        | 27.27%        |
| London          | 32                  | 25                      | 4.00%        | 16.00%        | 28.00%        | 52.00%        |
| North East      | 12                  | 8                       | 12.50%       | 62.50%        | 12.50%        | 12.50%        |
| North West      | 23                  | 19                      | 5.56%        | 11.11%        | 27.78%        | 55.56%        |
| South East      | 19                  | 16                      | 12.50%       | 18.75%        | 31.25%        | 37.50%        |
| South West      | 16                  | 13                      | 15.38%       | 30.77%        | 15.38%        | 38.46%        |
| West Midlands   | 14                  | 10                      | 0.00%        | 0.00%         | 40.00%        | 60.00%        |
| Yorkshire       | 15                  | 14                      | 0.00%        | 14.29%        | 35.71%        | 50.00%        |
| England-wide    | <b>151</b>          | <b>123</b>              | <b>7.38%</b> | <b>19.67%</b> | <b>30.33%</b> | <b>42.62%</b> |

**e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?**

| Region          | Total no. of forums | No. of survey responses | Fully        | Quite alot   | A little      | Not at all    |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| East Midlands   | 9                   | 7                       | 14.29%       | 0.00%        | 14.29%        | 71.43%        |
| East of England | 11                  | 11                      | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 27.27%        | 72.73%        |
| London          | 32                  | 25                      | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 16.00%        | 84.00%        |
| North East      | 12                  | 8                       | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 28.57%        | 71.43%        |
| North West      | 23                  | 19                      | 0.00%        | 5.56%        | 22.22%        | 72.22%        |
| South East      | 19                  | 16                      | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 12.50%        | 87.50%        |
| South West      | 16                  | 13                      | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 7.69%         | 92.31%        |
| West Midlands   | 14                  | 10                      | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 0.00%         | 100.00%       |
| Yorkshire       | 15                  | 14                      | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 7.14%         | 92.86%        |
| England-wide    | <b>151</b>          | <b>123</b>              | <b>0.83%</b> | <b>0.83%</b> | <b>14.88%</b> | <b>83.47%</b> |

| <b>f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?</b> |                     |                         |              |               |               |               |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Region   | Total no. of forums | No. of survey responses | Fully        | Quite alot    | A little      | Not at all    |
| East Midlands  | 9                   | 7                       | 0.00%        | 14.29%        | 57.14%        | 28.57%        |
| East of England  | 11                  | 11                      | 9.09%        | 9.09%         | 18.18%        | 63.64%        |
| London   | 32                  | 25                      | 0.00%        | 20.00%        | 28.00%        | 52.00%        |
| North East   | 12                  | 8                       | 12.50%       | 25.00%        | 25.00%        | 37.50%        |
| North West   | 23                  | 19                      | 10.53%       | 21.05%        | 5.26%         | 63.16%        |
| South East   | 19                  | 16                      | 6.25%        | 18.75%        | 25.00%        | 50.00%        |
| South West   | 16                  | 13                      | 7.69%        | 15.38%        | 30.77%        | 46.15%        |
| West Midlands  | 14                  | 10                      | 10.00%       | 0.00%         | 20.00%        | 70.00%        |
| Yorkshire  | 15                  | 14                      | 14.29%       | 14.29%        | 14.29%        | 57.14%        |
| England-wide   | <b>151</b>          | <b>123</b>              | <b>7.32%</b> | <b>16.26%</b> | <b>22.76%</b> | <b>53.66%</b> |

**Q6: Are there other aspects of the reforms where parents and Parent Carer Forums have been engaged?**

43% of parent carer forums who responded to the survey said that they have been engaged and involved in other aspects of the reforms, outside of those outlined under question 5 (See chart on page 9). An example from each region is provided below.

*Involved in full review of Children services relating to families with SEN/disabled children*  
*Yorkshire & Humber Forum*

*We have a whole Life Course project ongoing, merging the C&F Bill with the Care Bill. We are involved at project delivery group level, and in the SEND reform workstreams, but it is still early days and as always we struggle with capacity and attendance for meetings.*  
*North West Forum*

*Involvement in two Visioning Days to bring all agencies together to update on progress of reforms - presentation by forum on co-production and parental view.*  
*East Midlands Forum*

*Attendance at Education Select Committee Meeting with Edward Timpson/SE7 in February 2013 at Disability Challengers Attendance at Code of Practice event at DfE*  
*South East Forum*

*SEN Code of Conduct consultation - this was completely through our Parent Engagement Advisor. She is the driving force in engagement with our LA. Without her we are not sure we*

*would have any opportunities for engagement.*

*West Midlands Forum*

*Workshops for parents on reforms including consultation on local offer and development of EHC plans*

*London Forum*

*Keyworking Co production for the 0-25 service. What it will look like Early Support Health Away day 0-25 engagement 9 sessions: 6 sessions for parent and carers attended by 250 plus parents to get feedback re the new 0-25 service 1 Vol organisation engagement session. 2 Staff engagement sessions. Preparing for adulthood. Helping with the assessment and the EHCP plan (Designing of it) Joint workshops looking at the new service.*

*South West Forum*

*The Local Offer, Keyworking, Personal Budgets, Transparency and Engagement, Working with the LA in putting together 3 Conferences, with a possible fourth one. And putting together Newsletters and getting information out to parents. We have also set up a Peer Support Group for families but found this difficult in getting all families Together so we set up a Closed Facebook Page for those parents involved. We have also been involved in the Project Management Board from Day one At the request of the authority and working with them, we also put on workshops to do with Keyworking and The local Offer*

*North East Forum*

*Just begun to be involved in work on possible re-configuration/transformation of services to work with the reforms. Our area is a Pathfinder Champion so we have given presentations at Champion events. Draft code of practice meetings and a response to the draft Code of Practice Workforce development training – providing a talk on the parent perspective and parent participation. Development of Early Support parent carer workshops*

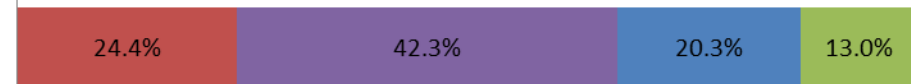
*East of England Forum*



**Engagement: England-wide summary**  
**Q5: To what extent has your Parent Carer Forum been engaged in:**

■ Fully    
 ■ Quite alot    
 ■ A little    
 ■ Not at all

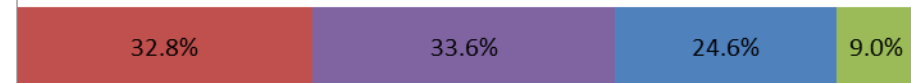
a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre?



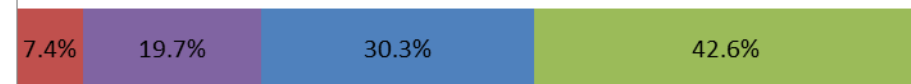
b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?



c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?



d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?



e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?

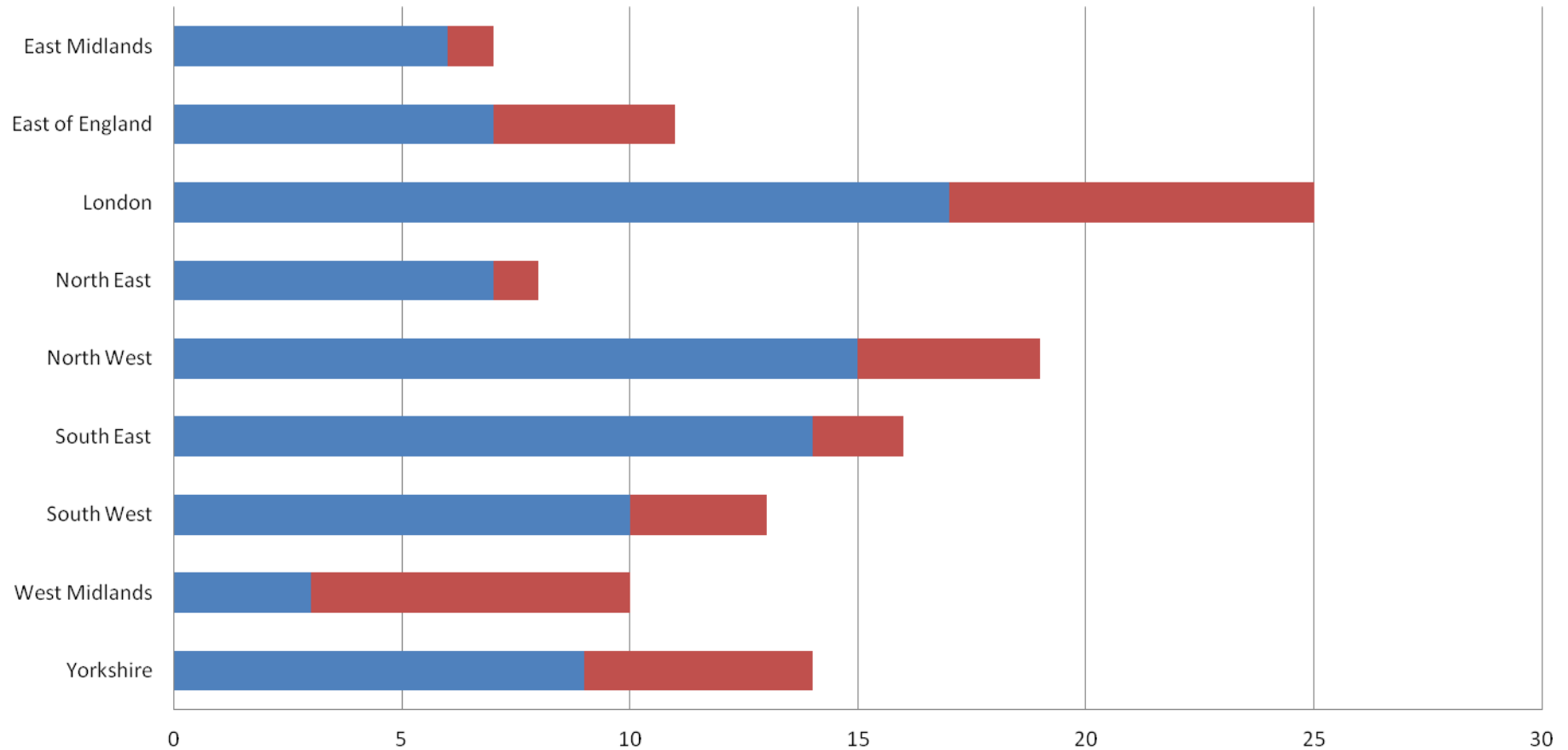


f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?



## Engagement: Summary of Responses by Region

Q6: Are there other aspects of the reforms where parents and Parent Carer Forums have been engaged?



|       | Yorkshire | West Midlands | South West | South East | North West | North East | London | East of England | East Midlands |
|-------|-----------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------|-----------------|---------------|
| ■ Yes | 9         | 3             | 10         | 14         | 15         | 7          | 17     | 7               | 6             |
| ■ No  | 5         | 7             | 3          | 2          | 4          | 1          | 8      | 4               | 1             |

## **Funding**

### **Q7: Are you getting any additional funding from your Local Authority to support your work with the reforms?**

43% of the 123 forums which responded to the survey are receiving some additional funding from their Local Authority to support their work with the reforms. However, this varies across the regions. Only 20% of forums receive any additional support from their Local Authority in the West Midlands and 21% in Yorkshire and Humber, compared to 73% of forums in receipt of additional funding in the East of England. (See the table below and the chart on page 11)

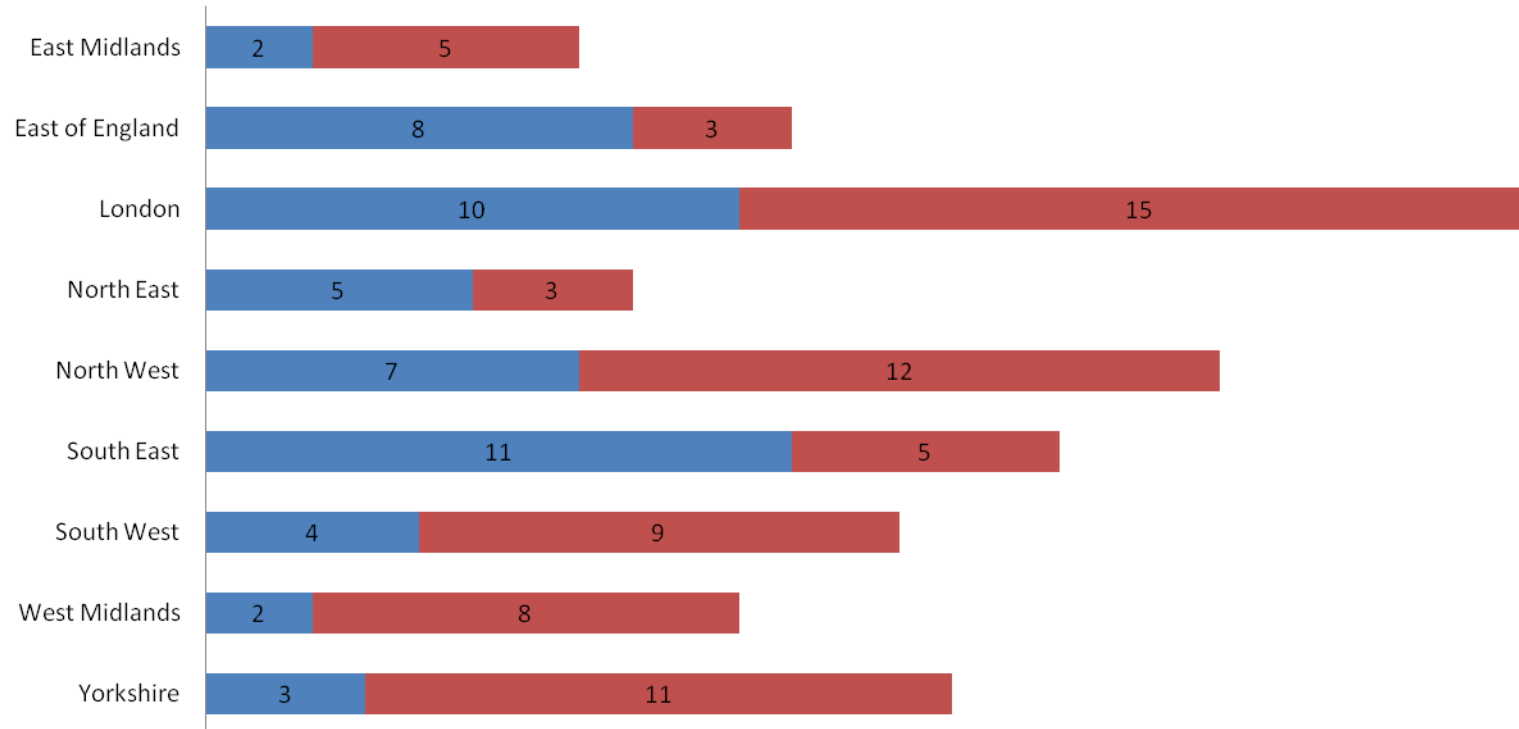
This data should also be considered in the context of the monitoring reports from 2012/13 which demonstrated a decrease in the numbers of forums receiving financial support from their Local Authorities. For the next survey we will ask for clarity around which budget additional funding has been provided from, if known.

| <b>Forums receiving additional funding from LA for work on reforms</b> |           |            |              |            |            |
|--|-----------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Region</b>  | <b>No</b> | <b>Yes</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>No</b>  | <b>Yes</b> |
| <b>East Midlands</b>   | 5         | 2          | 7            | 71%        | 29%        |
| <b>East of England</b>   | 3         | 8          | 11           | 27%        | 73%        |
| <b>London</b>  | 15        | 10         | 25           | 60%        | 40%        |
| <b>North East</b>  | 3         | 5          | 8            | 38%        | 62%        |
| <b>North West</b>  | 12        | 7          | 19           | 63%        | 37%        |
| <b>South East</b>  | 5         | 11         | 16           | 31%        | 69%        |
| <b>South West</b>  | 9         | 4          | 13           | 69%        | 31%        |
| <b>West Midlands</b>   | 8         | 2          | 10           | 80%        | 20%        |
| <b>Yorkshire</b>   | 11        | 3          | 14           | 79%        | 21%        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>71</b> | <b>52</b>  | <b>123</b>   | <b>57%</b> | <b>43%</b> |

### Funding: Summary of Responses by Region

Q7: Are you getting any additional funding from your Local Authority to support your work with the reforms?

■ Yes ■ No

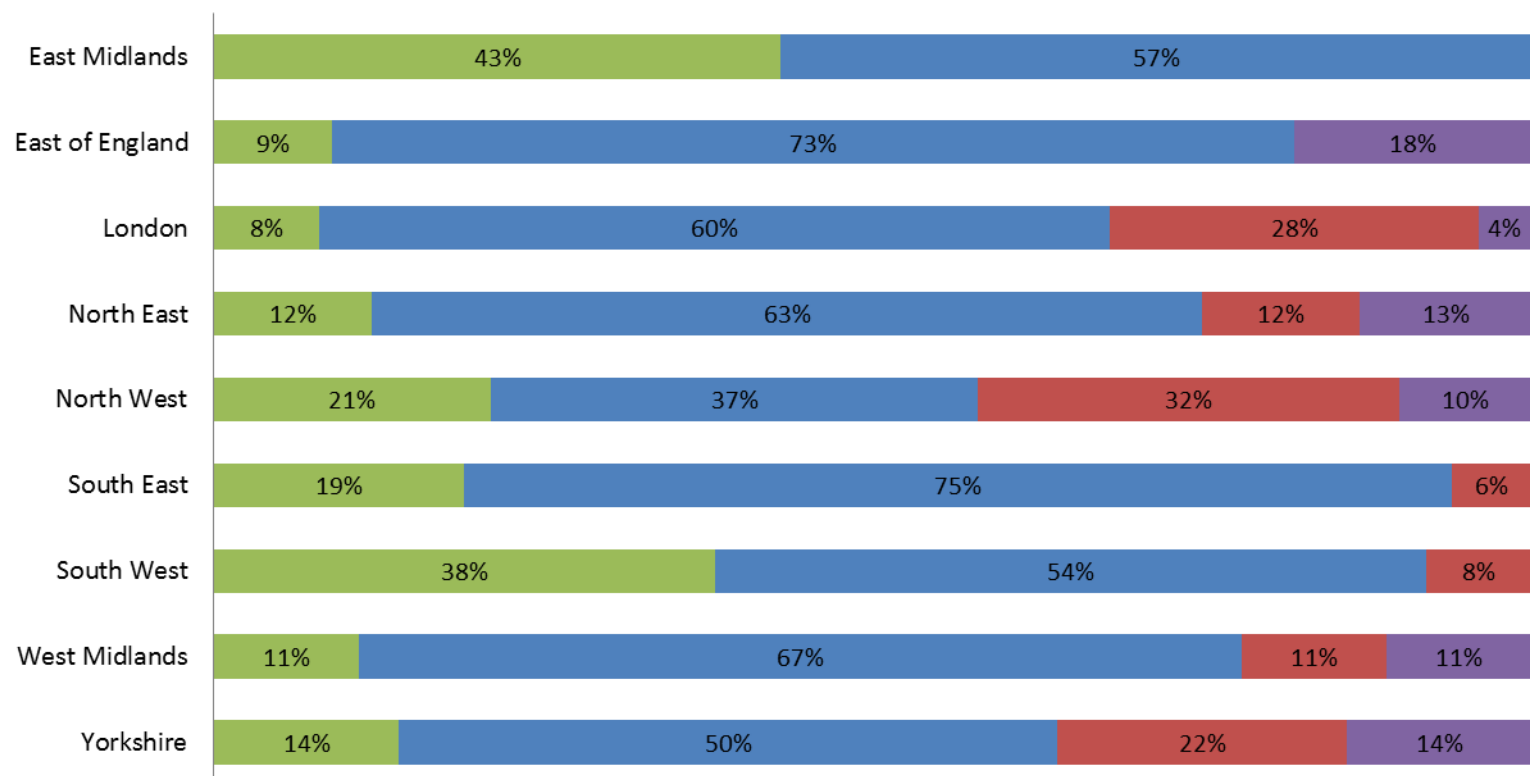


|     | East Midlands | East England | London | North East | North West | South East | South West | West Midlands | Yorkshire | Total no. | Total % |
|-----|---------------|--------------|--------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Yes | 29%           | 73%          | 40%    | 62%        | 37%        | 69%        | 31%        | 20%           | 21%       | 51        | 43%     |
| No  | 71%           | 27%          | 60%    | 38%        | 63%        | 31%        | 69%        | 80%           | 79%       | 72        | 57%     |

### Readiness: Responses by Region

Q8: Do you think your local area will be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014?

Yes In part No Don't know



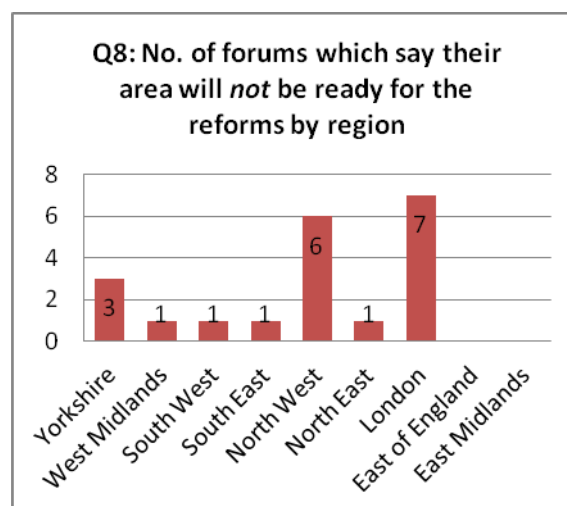
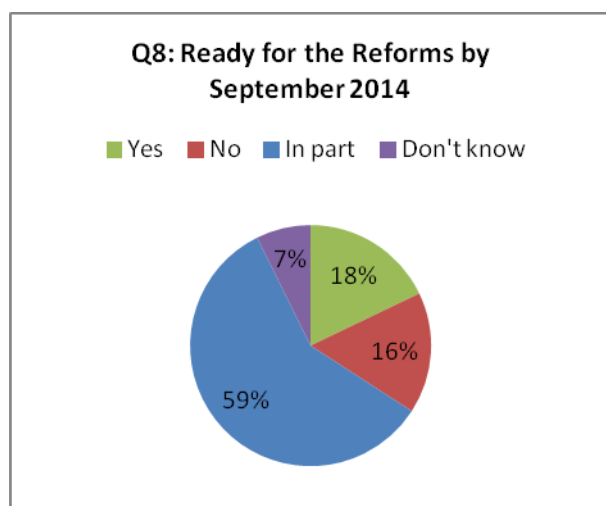
|            | East Midlands | East England | London | North East | North West | South East | South West | West Midlands | Yorkshire | Total % |
|------------|---------------|--------------|--------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|-----------|---------|
| Yes        | 43%           | 9%           | 8%     | 12%        | 21%        | 19%        | 38%        | 11%           | 14%       | 18%     |
| In part    | 57%           | 73%          | 60%    | 63%        | 37%        | 75%        | 54%        | 67%           | 50%       | 59%     |
| No         | -             | -            | 28%    | 12%        | 32%        | 6%         | 8%         | 11%           | 22%       | 16%     |
| Don't know | -             | 18%          | 4%     | 13%        | 10%        | -          | -          | 11%           | 14%       | 7%      |

## Readiness to implement

### Q8: Do you think your local area will be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014?

18% of the parent carer forums which responded to the survey think that their local area will be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014. The majority think that their local area will be ready 'in part' and 7% 'don't know'. (See table on page 12 and pie chart below left). The South West has the highest number of local areas which say they *will* be ready to implement the reforms from September (n.5).

16% of forums said 'no' they do not think their local area will be ready. The regions where the highest number of parent carer forums said they did *not* think their local area would be ready for the reforms by September 2014 were London (n.7) and the North West (n.6). (See table, below right).



## Barriers to participation

### Q9: If there are any barriers to participation what would you say they were?

89% (n.107) of the 123 parent carer forums who responded to the survey identified that there were barriers to participation and were able to specify what these were.

Commonly cited challenges are the lack of overall strategy for involving parent carers and senior management buy-in to effective co-production, reluctance from key professionals to engage with forums (particularly Health and social care), restructuring within Local Authorities impacting on relationships, lack of capacity of Local Authorities and forums to gain input from a wide range of families, meetings set at difficult times to enable parent carer representation, lack of time, resources and funding, the geographical size of the local areas forums cover and the capacity of the forums themselves.

*Reluctance to engage at a meaningful level from education. Parents invited as an afterthought so quite often face time barriers.*

*Yorkshire & Humber Forum*

*Professionals are saying they are not yet ready to involve families - and meetings about SEN are for professionals only. At our discussion meeting yesterday in preparation for the survey, one parent who had been accepted to attend a meeting was told she could no longer go as it was only for professionals. I think it's a lack of respect by professionals of our skills.*

*London Forum*

*The restructure of the LA has led to a serious delay in work related to the reforms. Communication with the current SEN lead who has been given responsibility for the reforms since the restructure has proved to be difficult to make contact with.*

*East of England Forum*

*The engagement of health like other forums is a major concern. Also input and direction from senior level / directorate borough officers*

*London Forum*

*There are still barriers to participation at a senior manager and Council leaders level, where there still seems to be an unwillingness to move towards joint working and co-production. The consultation model is very embedded in the County and a lack of understanding around how beneficial working with services users can be. The current financial challenges and the need to reduce budgets further is exacerbating this since there is a belief that service users will simply not want budgets to be reduced.*

*West Midlands Forum*

*Time. There is so much going on in so many areas of the reforms and of course this takes a lot of our time, but in a good way - we are volunteers trying to make a difference and we are.*

*South East Forum*

*The Forum feels that the volume of information at this busy time can be overwhelming for families. They would like clear, concise and understandable information on the right medium to ensure it is channelled to its target audience*

*North East Forum*

*Lack of capacity for PCF to actively seek out and engage new members for different views.*

*East Midlands Forum*

*Currently there is only one public consultation meeting with SEN parents in our area with the Local Authority regarding SEN reforms nationally and locally. The Local Authority has SEN parents sitting on steering and advisory groups, but there is no formal feedback from these parents to the parents' forum. This has been acknowledged by the LA. The parents forum*

*and LA will be working together to resolve this barrier. We feel that there has been a significant lack of involvement between Children & Young People and Local Authority. Attitudes and perceptions will get in the way of successful co-production. There has not been any clear direction or promotion of this kind of joint working. Our parent members have raised the following points: Parental perceptions and understanding of Participation. Respectful equality by professionals for parents' views, opinions and wishes. Professionals not being able to think 'outside of the box' or dismiss other workable suggestions by parents or other agents. NOT promoting the social model of disability effectively. Openness and 'two way street' attitude needs to be cultivated as the norm and not discouraged between professionals and parents.*

*North West Forum*

### **Engaging young people**

#### **Q10: To what extent would you say your Local Authority is engaging young people directly in implementing the reforms?**

10% of the forums said that the Local Authority has had strong engagement with young people directly on the reforms. 38% say that there has been some engagement and 33% say there has been 'little or no engagement'. 19% say that they do not know. (See table on page 17). 81 parent carer forums have described what the engagement involves. An example from each region is provided below.

*We are not aware of any apparent linking with relevant organisations which could have shared their communication networks to enable the involvement of young people.*

*South East Forum*

*As the majority of our young people with SEN are educated out of county this has proved to be quite difficult. However the LA has met up with those who attend the Saturday youth group and piloted a survey involving pecs, pictures and other symbols for those who needs them. This when evaluated and changes made will be rolled out to the others shortly. Also the young people will be consulted at an event that RPCV will be holding in March.*

*East Midlands Forum*

*We do understand that a VCS work closely with young people. Unfortunately the LA does not feedback on any work that young people undertake with them to our forum, so we are unsure how successful it is!*

*North West Forum*

*Online survey for over 12 yrs but not widely publicized. Visits to special schools. No engagement with pupils with SEN in mainstream schools.*

*Yorkshire & Humber Forum*



*There are various groups of young people who currently access services. To our knowledge any involvement these groups have had with the reforms process has been through the individual group leaders and not a concerted approach from the LA.*

*North East Forum*

*We have not seen or heard of any involvement with young people directly to date. Colleges are involved but we have not seen any evidence that young people have taken part, given views or been consulted.*

*East of England Forum*

*Young people sit on each group meeting and are very vocal in their views.*

*London Forum*

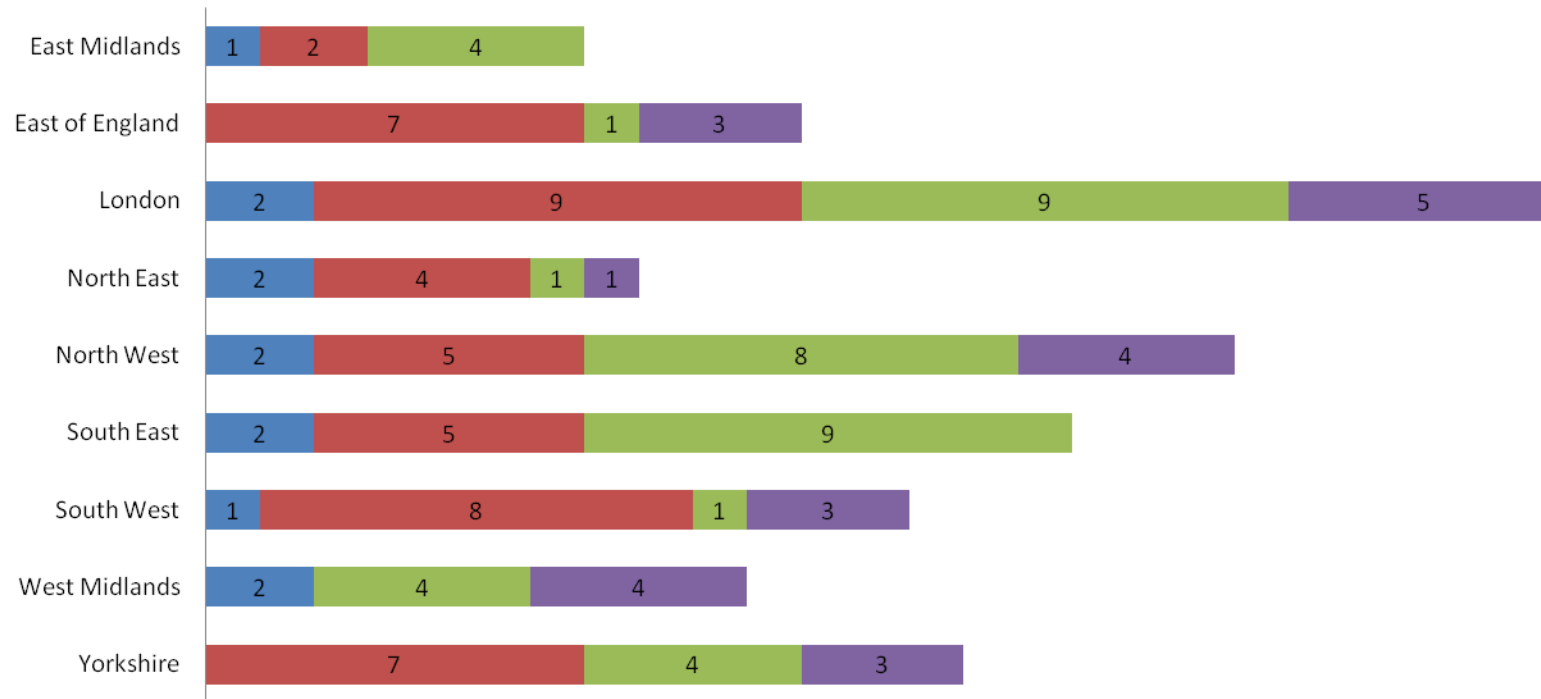
*We are involved with around 200 families and none of our children have been engaged in any way.*

*West Midlands Forum*

## Engagement of Young People: Summary

Q10: To what extent would you say you Local Authority is engaging young people directly in implementing the reforms?

Strong engagement   Some engagement   Little or no engagement   Don't know



|                         | East Midlands | East England | London | North East | North West | South East | South West | West Midlands | Yorkshire | Total no. | Total % |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Strong engagement       | 14%           | -            | 8%     | 25%        | 11%        | 13%        | 8%         | 20%           | -         | 12        | 10%     |
| Some engagement         | 29%           | 64%          | 36%    | 50%        | 26%        | 31%        | 61%        | -             | 50%       | 47        | 38%     |
| Little or no engagement | 57%           | 9%           | 36%    | 12%        | 42%        | 56%        | 8%         | 40%           | 29%       | 41        | 33%     |
| Don't know              | -             | 27%          | 20%    | 13%        | 21%        | -          | 23%        | 40%           | 21%       | 23        | 19%     |

## **Other information**

### **Q11: Is there anything else you would want the Department for Education to be aware of?**

91 of the 123 parent carer forums which responded to the SEND Reforms Survey provided additional information that they would like the Department for Education to be aware of. The comments can be found in full within the spreadsheet of responses provided alongside this report – an example from each region can be seen below.

*There is commitment to co-production in our area but it is patchy. The current pressures on resource and jobs mean that some staff seem to be more focused on “the day job” than on the reforms. This is perfectly understandable but risks leaving our area in a state of unreadiness for the implementation of the Children and Families Bill reforms.*

*North West Forum*

*It would be helpful if the DfE could issue advice to councils about good practice in co-production. The draft Code of Practice was not helpful as it sometimes refers to “parent carers”, and sometimes to “parent carer forums”. There should be a clear expectation that parent carer forums should be fully engaged in any strategic work, and adequately supported and remunerated.*

*Yorkshire & Humber Forum*

*Insufficient time between now and implementation to ensure that robust procedures are put in place. Feels like it will be rushed to comply with deadlines rather than getting it right for the children and families it was designed to benefit. Will take time to change the culture and attitudes of providers. Still little sign of any engagement by Health*

*London Forum*

*Please keep reminding authorities that they must work in a co productive way with parent forums.*

*West Midlands Forum*

*A significant proportion of Managers still need constant encouragement to co-produce effectively.*

*East of England Forum*

*The amount of time needed for parents and carers in the forums to be fully involved in the process of reform can be overwhelming. For some it is like having a second job alongside the day job and the additional responsibilities of caring for a child with disabilities. A recurring pattern seems to be that parents put their heart into the work of the forum, become overburdened or hit a crisis with health or other family commitments and drop out. Building in more formalised support for forums might be helpful.*

*South East Forum*

*The parents that we have consulted with are still very apprehensive and very wary how the SEND changes will benefit their children and Young People and feel that it is more like a cost*

*cutting exercise. In our area we have 1600 statements but they expect to only have 1000 EHCP we are concerned that the needs of the 600 children and young people may not be met sufficiently. They also feel that the Local Offer will be a postcode lottery with families living in rural areas losing out to those living in better resourced urban areas.*

*North East Forum*

*The County Council are fantastic and really want to engage with the Forum and to 'get it right'. However, they have been severely hit by the reduction in Central Govt funding. It is very hard for any organisation - a LA or whatever - to be active on every front at all times when every aspect of their work is being reformed and they simultaneously have a very large proportion of their resources withdrawn. Education are being relatively slow to engage with the Forum but it is beginning to happen and I think the Dept of Education need to understand what effect the Central Govt budget cuts are having on rural areas.*

*East Midlands Forum*

*We have used some of our DfE participation grant to fund our coordinator to work with us on this reforms work, which we have found really useful, as it is complicated. The DfE grant has also covered expenses for parents involved in this work. We envisage needing to use some of next year's DfE grant for the same purpose and hope that the grants will continue beyond March 2015 as there will be plenty of work for us to do on reviewing and improving the reforms and continuing to build our work with Health in particular*

*South West Forum*

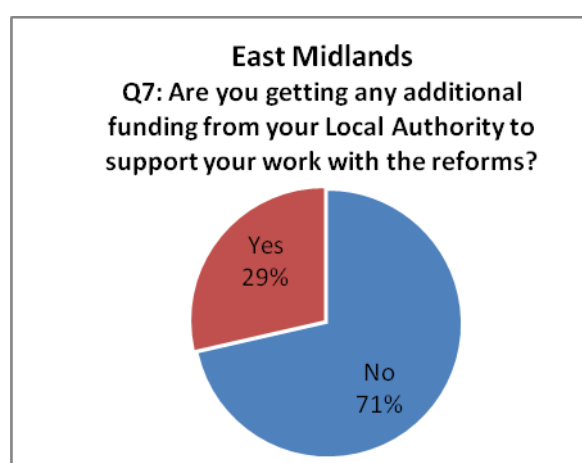
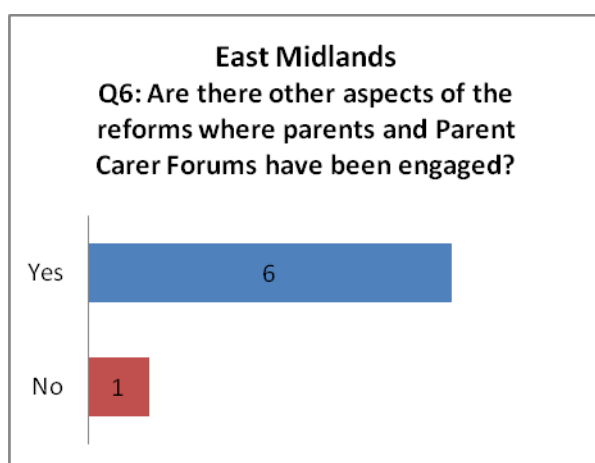
## Reporting by Region

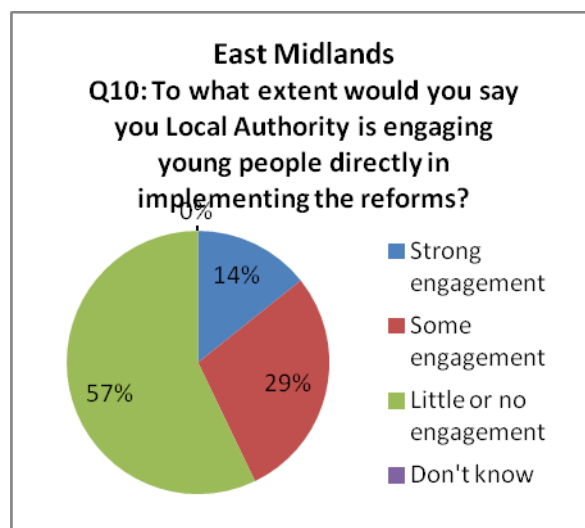
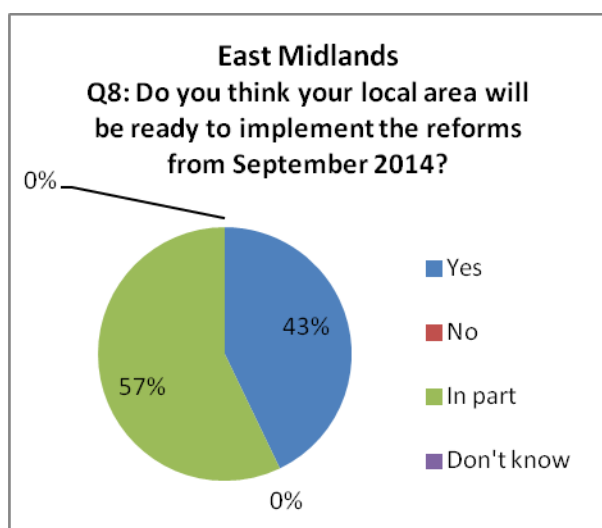
### 4. East Midlands

7 out of the 9 parent carer forums in the East Midlands responded to the Survey. 43% (n.3) of the forums who responded said that their local area would be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014 and the rest said that they would be ready 'in part' (n.4).

Only 29% of the forums are receiving additional funding from their Local Authorities to support their work with the reforms compared to an average of 43% in receipt of additional funds across England.

| <b>East Midlands</b>  | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| <b>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:</b>   |        |            |          |            |
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 28.6%  | 57.1%      | 14.3%    | 0.0%       |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 33.3%  | 33.3%      | 16.7%    | 16.7%      |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 42.9%  | 28.6%      | 14.3%    | 14.3%      |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 28.57% | 28.57%     | 28.57%   | 14.29%     |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 14.3%  | 0.0%       | 14.3%    | 71.4%      |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 0.0%   | 14.3%      | 57.1%    | 28.6%      |



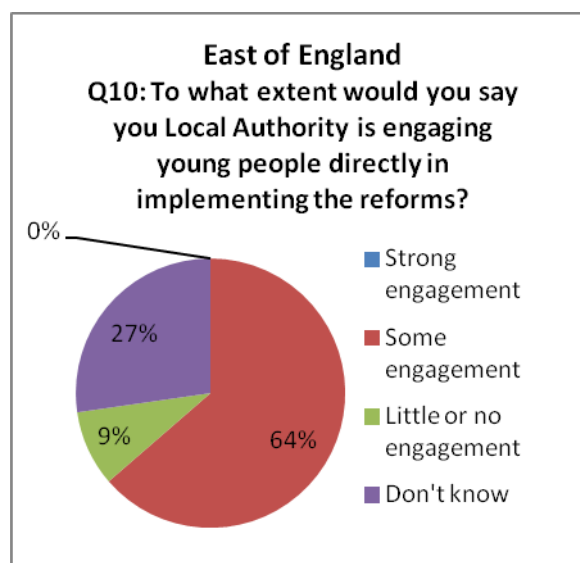
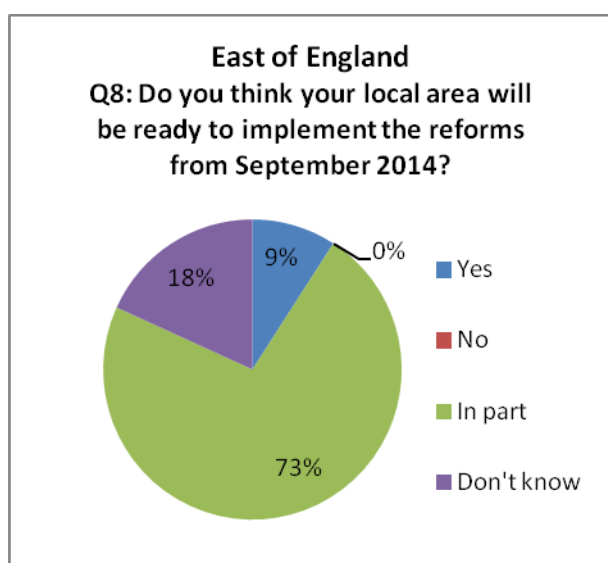
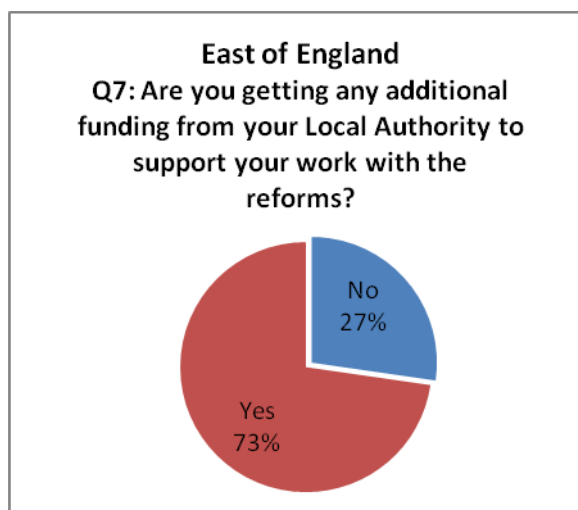
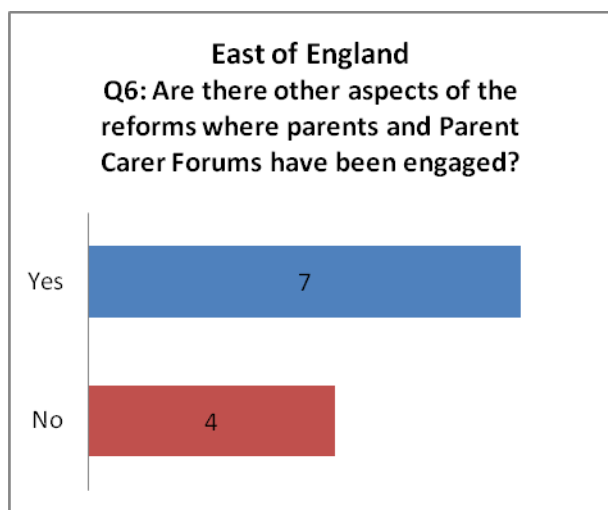


## 5. East of England

100% of the parent carer forums in the East of England responded to the survey (n.11). Only one forum said 'yes' their local area would be ready to implement the SEND Reforms from September 2014 and 73% said they would be ready 'in part'.

73% said that they are receiving some additional funding to support their work with the reforms. 45% say they have been 'fully' engaged in co-producing the local offer.

| <b>East of England</b><br><b>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:</b>   | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 27.27% | 54.55%     | 0.00%    | 18.18%     |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 0.00%  | 18.18%     | 45.45%   | 36.36%     |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 45.45% | 27.27%     | 18.18%   | 9.09%      |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 0.00%  | 18.18%     | 54.55%   | 27.27%     |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 0.00%  | 0.00%      | 27.27%   | 72.73%     |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 9.09%  | 9.09%      | 18.18%   | 63.64%     |

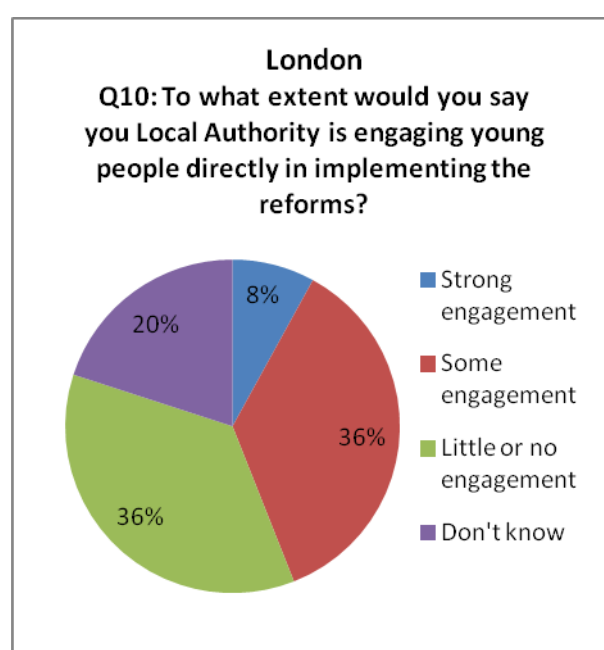
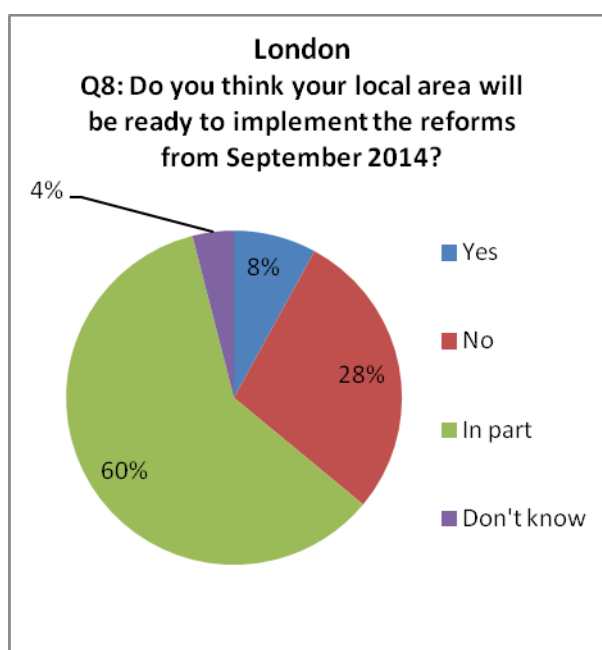
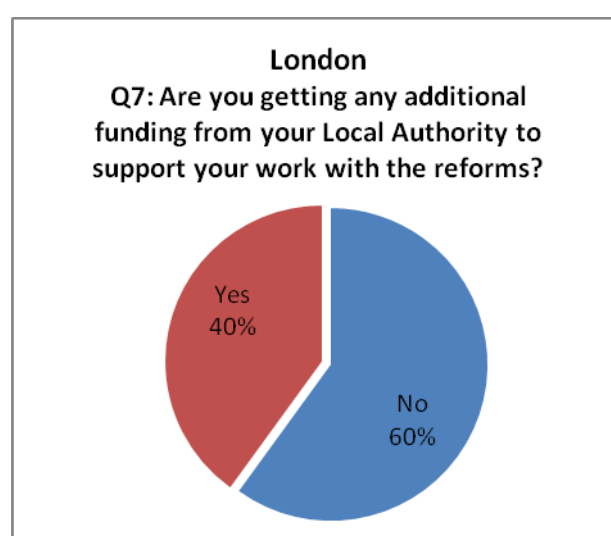
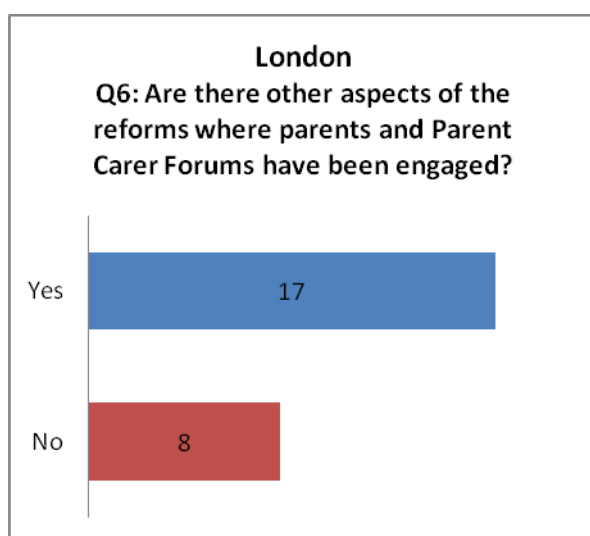


## 6. London

25 out of 32 forums in London made a response to the survey. Seven of these (28%) say that their local area will *not* be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014. 60% of the forums which responded are not receiving additional funding from their Local Authority to support their work with the reforms. Aside from their work on co-production of the local offer, London forums have not been as engaged in preparing for the reforms as most other regions.

| London  | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| <b>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:</b>   |        |            |          |            |
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 12.00% | 36.00%     | 36.00%   | 16.00%     |

|  |       |        |        |        |
|--|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners? | 0.00% | 4.00%  | 24.00% | 72.00% |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?  | 4.17% | 45.83% | 37.50% | 12.50% |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?   | 4.00% | 16.00% | 28.00% | 52.00% |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?                          | 0.00% | 0.00%  | 16.00% | 84.00% |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?  | 0.00% | 20.00% | 28.00% | 52.00% |





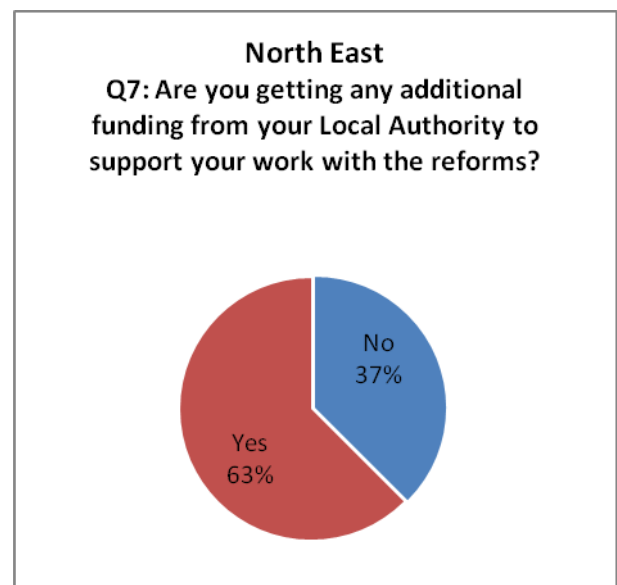
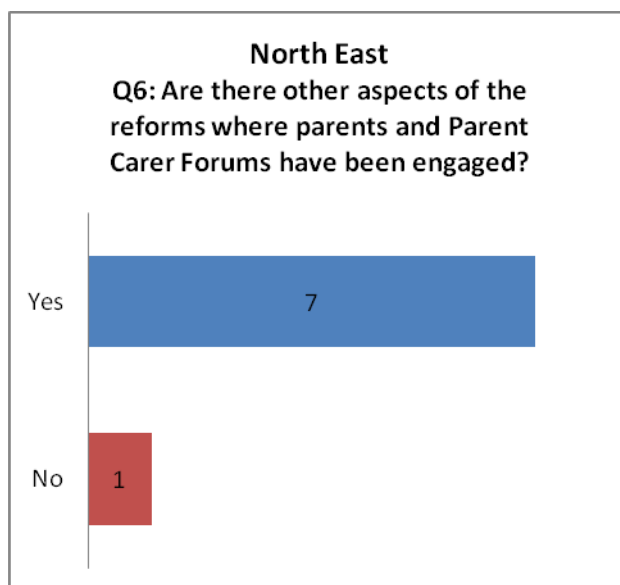
## 7. North East

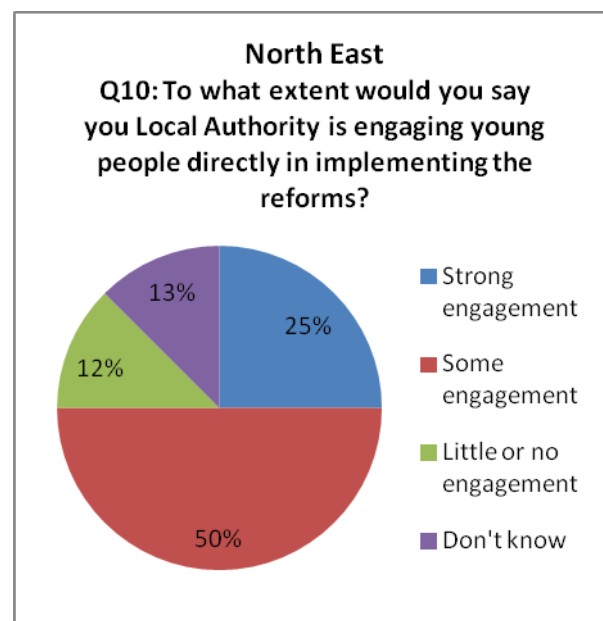
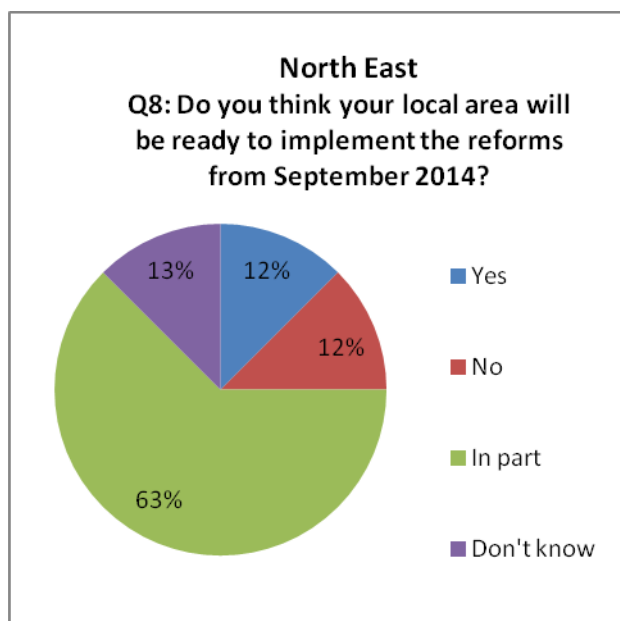
8 out of 12 parent carer forums (67%) in the North East responded to the SEND Reforms Survey. 63% of these are receiving additional funds from their local authority for their work with the reforms.

12% think their local area will be ready for the reforms from September 2014, 12% think that they won't, 13% 'don't know' and the majority think they will be ready 'in part'.

75% of the forums feel their Local Authority has either had 'some engagement' or 'strong engagement' with young people directly in implementing the reforms.

| <b>North East</b><br><b>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:</b>  | Fully  | Quite a lot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|-------------|----------|------------|
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 12.50% | 87.50%      | 0.00%    | 0.00%      |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 0.00%  | 12.50%      | 75.00%   | 12.50%     |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 12.50% | 62.50%      | 12.50%   | 12.50%     |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 12.50% | 62.50%      | 12.50%   | 12.50%     |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 0.00%  | 0.00%       | 28.57%   | 71.43%     |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 12.50% | 25.00%      | 25.00%   | 37.50%     |





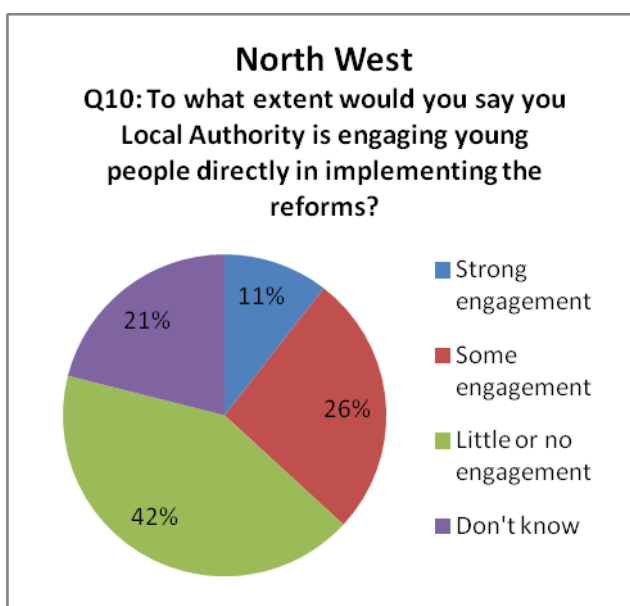
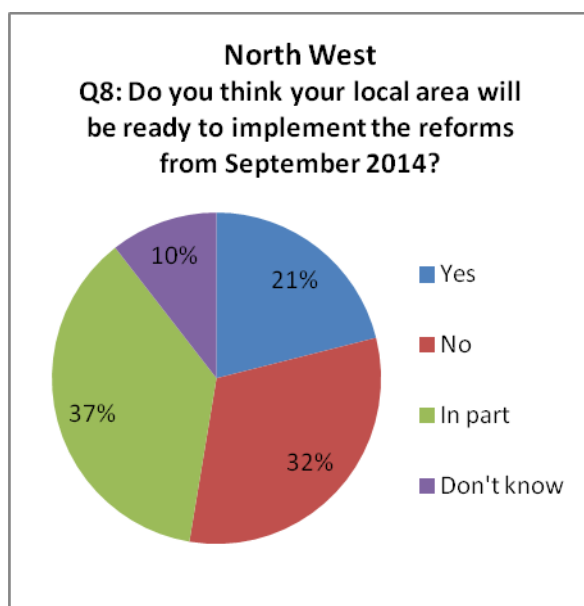
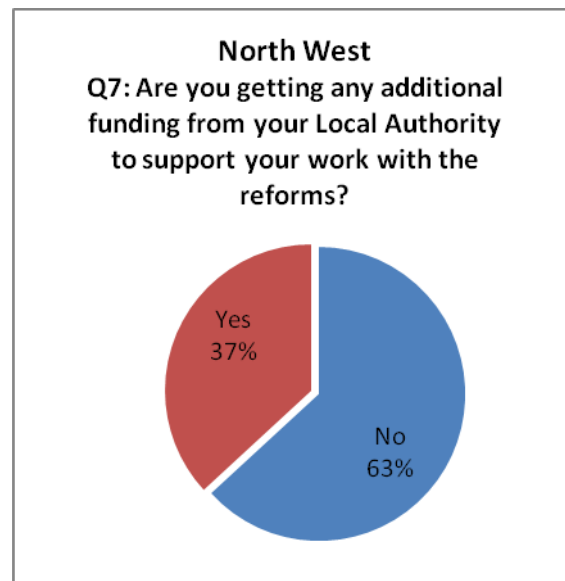
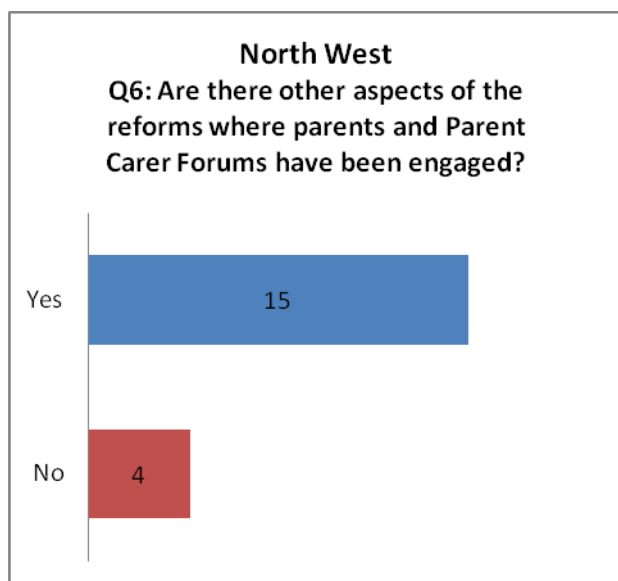
## 8. North West

19 parent carer forums in the North West responded to the survey out of a total of 23 in the region. Six of the forums (32%) say that they do not think their local area will be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014.

79% say they have been involved in other aspects of preparation for the reforms other than those listed in question 5.

Only 37% of the forums are receiving additional funding from their Local Authority to cover their work with the reforms, which is lower than the England-wide average.

| <b>North West</b>   | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| <b>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:</b>   |        |            |          |            |
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 15.79% | 52.63%     | 5.26%    | 26.32%     |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 0.00%  | 21.05%     | 36.84%   | 42.11%     |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 31.58% | 10.53%     | 52.63%   | 5.26%      |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 5.56%  | 11.11%     | 27.78%   | 55.56%     |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 0.00%  | 5.56%      | 22.22%   | 72.22%     |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 10.53% | 21.05%     | 5.26%    | 63.16%     |



## 9. South East

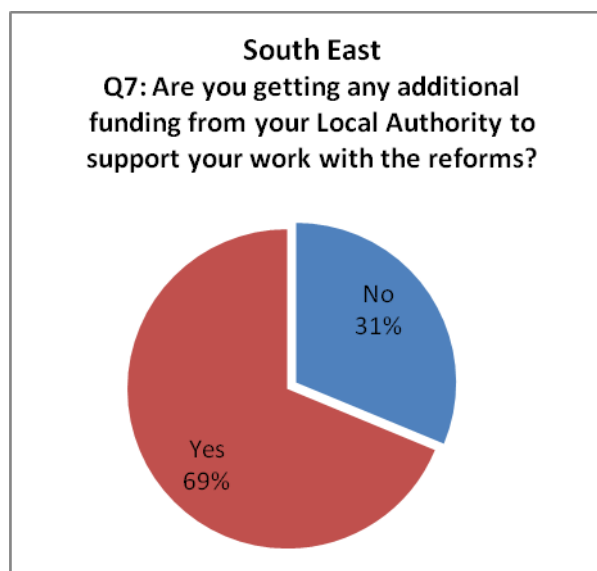
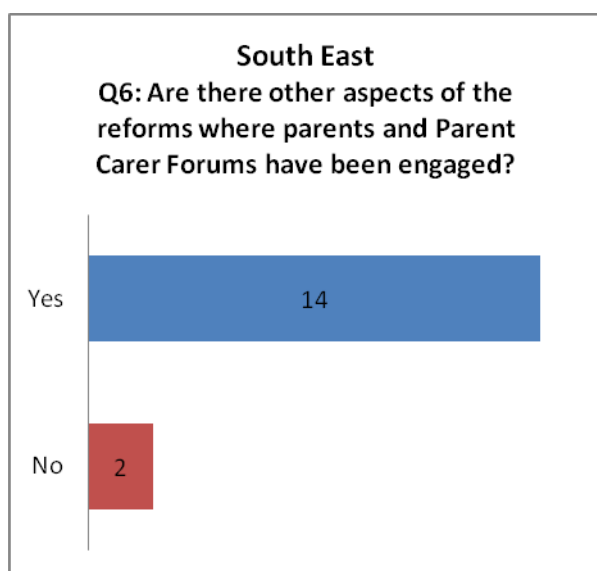
16 out of a total of 19 parent carer forums in the South East region responded to the SEND Reforms Survey (84%).

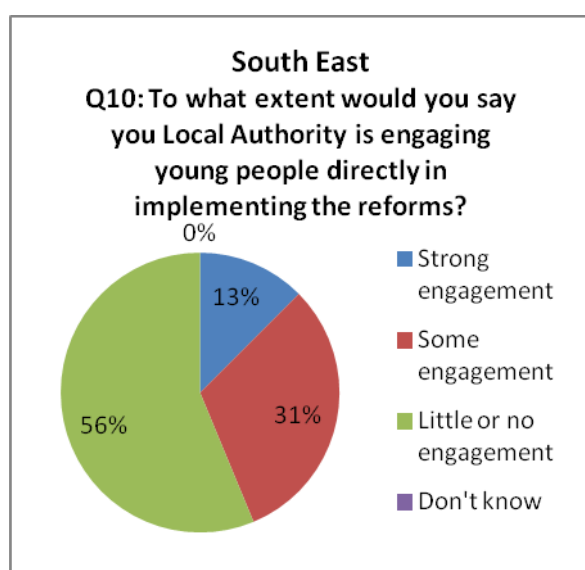
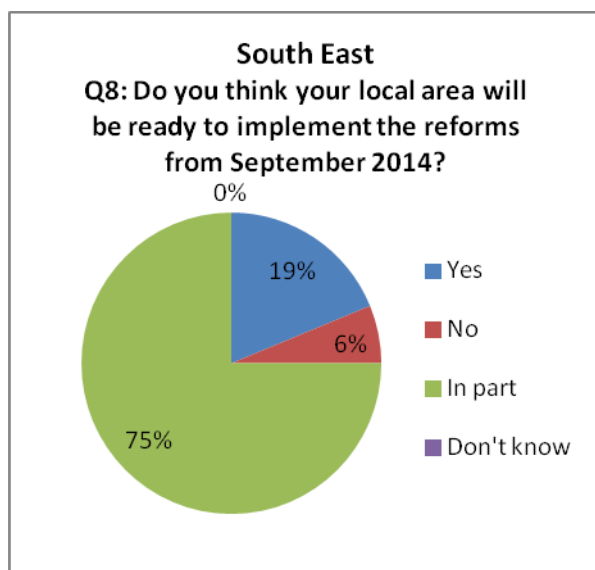
A high proportion of the forums in the South East have been fully engaged in co-producing the local offer. This is not surprising as SE7 pathfinder sits within the South East. Almost all of the forums said that they have been engaged with other aspects of the reforms aside from those listed in question 5. 69% of the forums are receiving some additional funding from their Local Authority for their work with the reforms.

19% of the forums in the South East which responded said that they think their local area would be ready for the implementation of the reforms from September 2014 and 75% said they would be ready 'in part'.

The majority (56%) feel that there has been little or no engagement direct engagement of young people in the reforms by their Local Authority.

| <b>South East</b><br><b>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:</b>  | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 25.00% | 50.00%     | 18.75%   | 6.25%      |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 0.00%  | 18.75%     | 6.25%    | 75.00%     |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 62.50% | 31.25%     | 0.00%    | 6.25%      |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 12.50% | 18.75%     | 31.25%   | 37.50%     |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 0.00%  | 0.00%      | 12.50%   | 87.50%     |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 6.25%  | 18.75%     | 25.00%   | 50.00%     |





## 10. South West

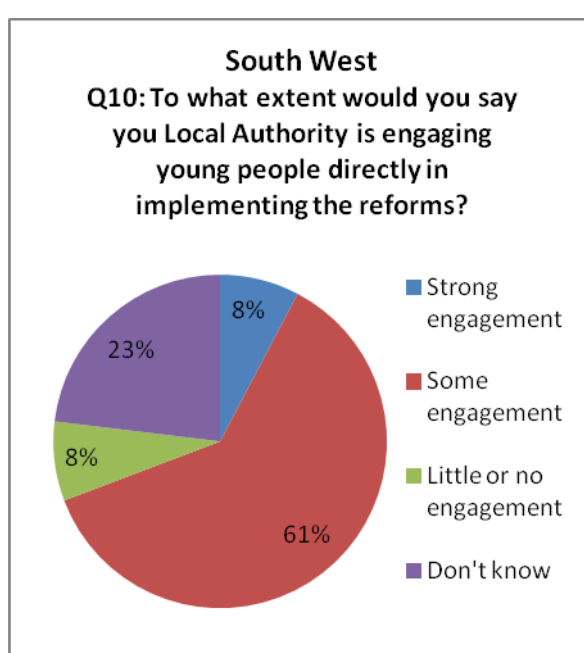
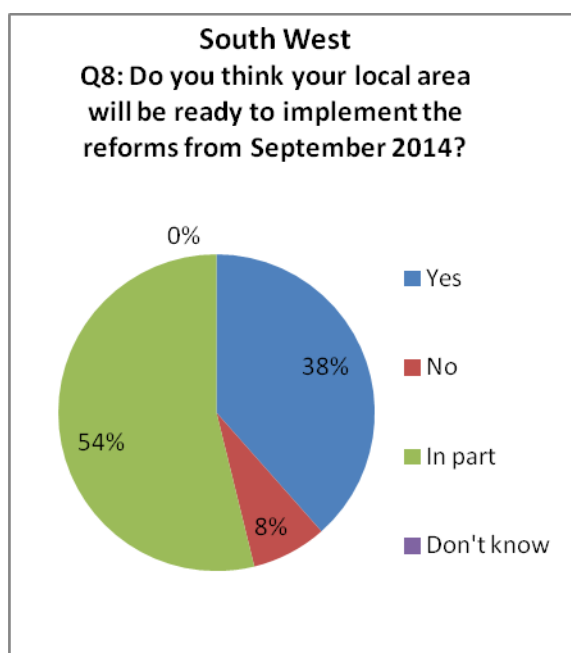
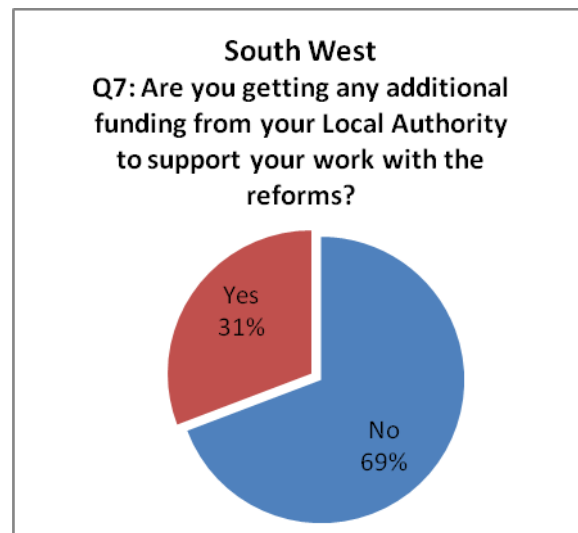
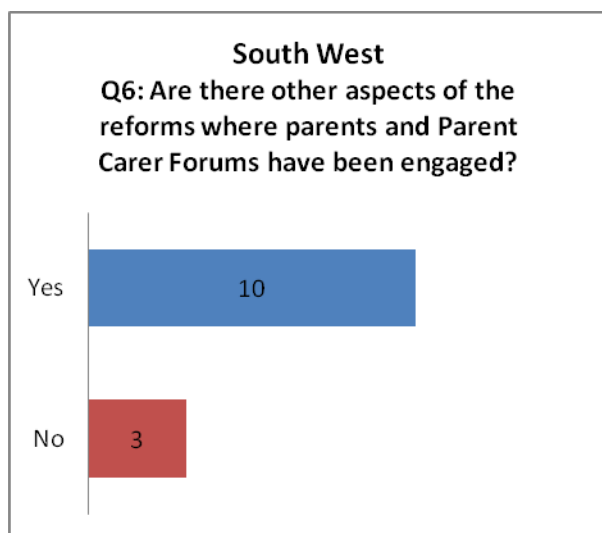
13 parent carer forums in the South West responded to the survey out of 16 in the region.

69% of these forums do not receive any additional funding from their Local Authorities for their work with the reforms compared with 69% which *do* in the South East.

The majority (61%) feel that their Local Authority has carried out 'some engagement' with young people in the implementing the reforms.

38% think that their local area will be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014 and 54% think they will be ready 'in part'.

| South West  | Fully  | Quite alot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|------------|----------|------------|
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 46.15% | 38.46%     | 15.38%   | 0.00%      |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 0.00%  | 23.08%     | 46.15%   | 30.77%     |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 38.46% | 38.46%     | 15.38%   | 7.69%      |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 15.38% | 30.77%     | 15.38%   | 38.46%     |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 0.00%  | 0.00%      | 7.69%    | 92.31%     |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 7.69%  | 15.38%     | 30.77%   | 46.15%     |



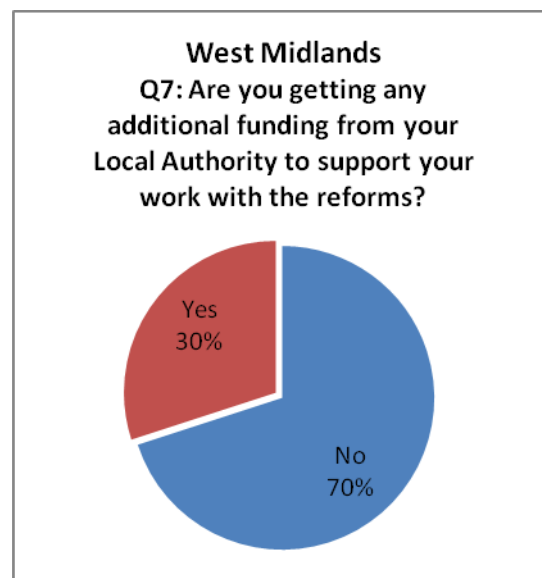
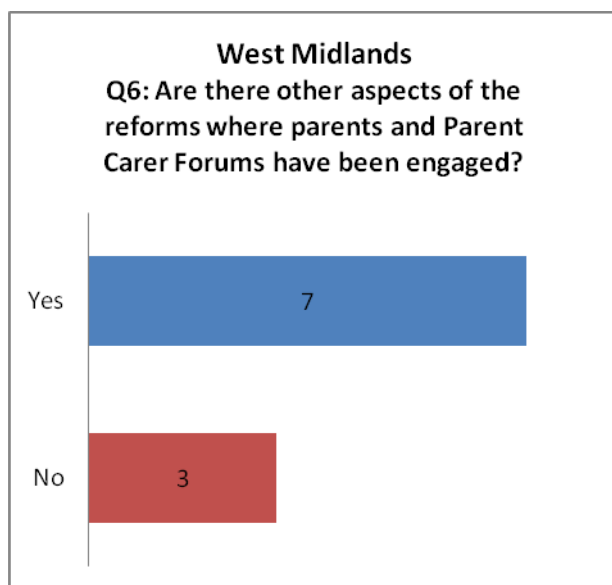
## **11. West Midlands**

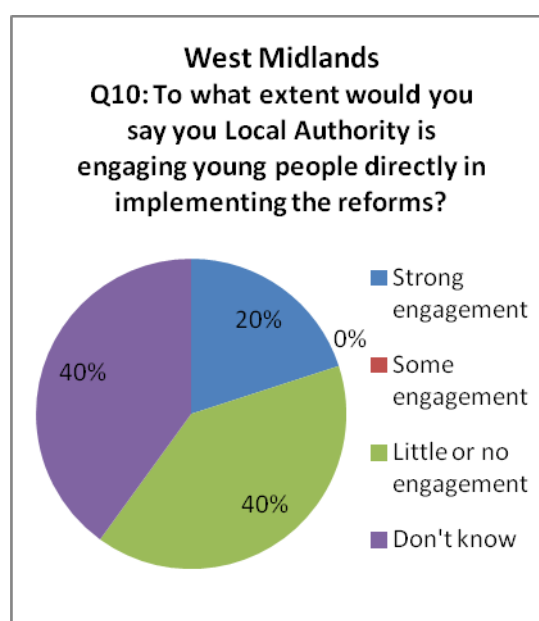
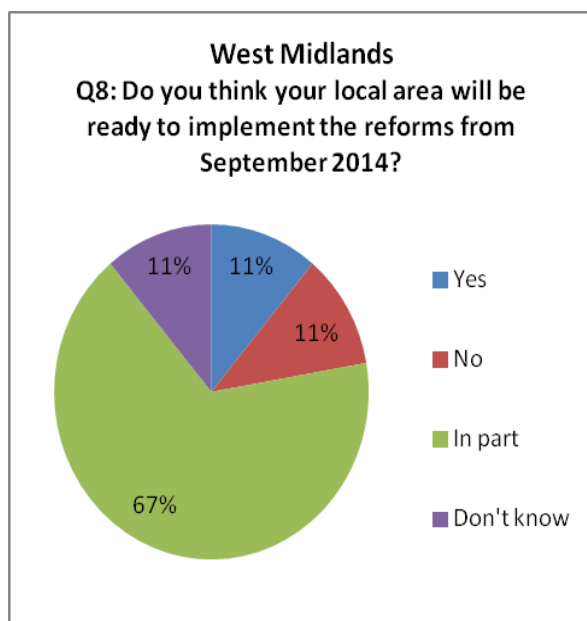
The responses from the forums in the West Midlands show that there are few areas who feel they have been fully engaged in any element of the preparation and planning for reforms. There has been no engagement at all with any of the forums on establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision.

The West Midlands have the lowest proportion of parent carer forums in receipt of any additional funding from their Local Authorities to support their work with reforms (20%). 67% of the forums think that their local area will be ready 'in part' to implement the reforms from September 2014.

The responses on the Local Authorities' direct engagement with young people on the reforms varied with 20% saying there was 'strong engagement', 40% that there was 'little or no engagement' and the other 40% responded that they 'don't know'.

| <b>West Midlands</b><br><b>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:</b>   | <b>Fully</b> | <b>Quite alot</b> | <b>A little</b> | <b>Not at all</b> |
|---|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 20%          | 10%               | 50%             | 20%               |
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                    | 0%           | 0%                | 40%             | 60%               |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   | 20%          | 30%               | 30%             | 20%               |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?  | 0%           | 0%                | 40%             | 60%               |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?   | 0%           | 0%                | 0%              | 100%              |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?   | 10%          | 0%                | 20%             | 70%               |





## 12. Yorkshire & Humber

There was a high response rate to the SEND Reforms Survey from parent carer forums in Yorkshire and Humber (93%) with 14 out of the 15 forums in the region submitting their response.

A high proportion of the forums feel they have been fully engaged in developing coordinated education, health and care assessment processes and co-producing the local offer. Only 21% of the forums in the region receive any additional funding support from their Local Authority to support their work with the reforms.

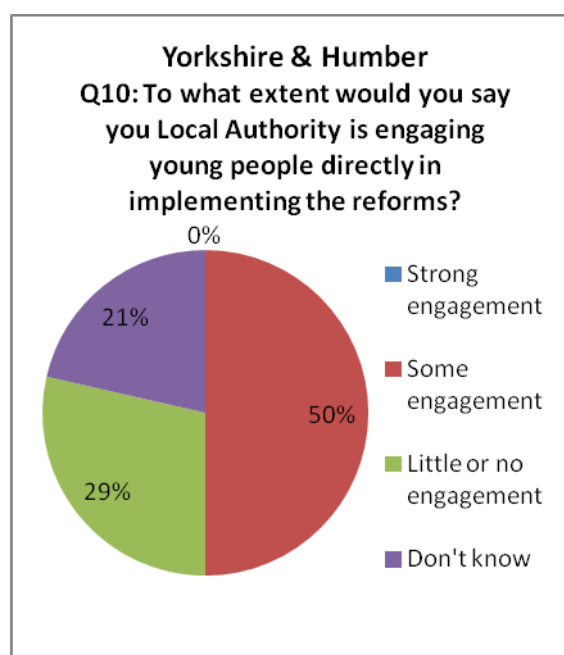
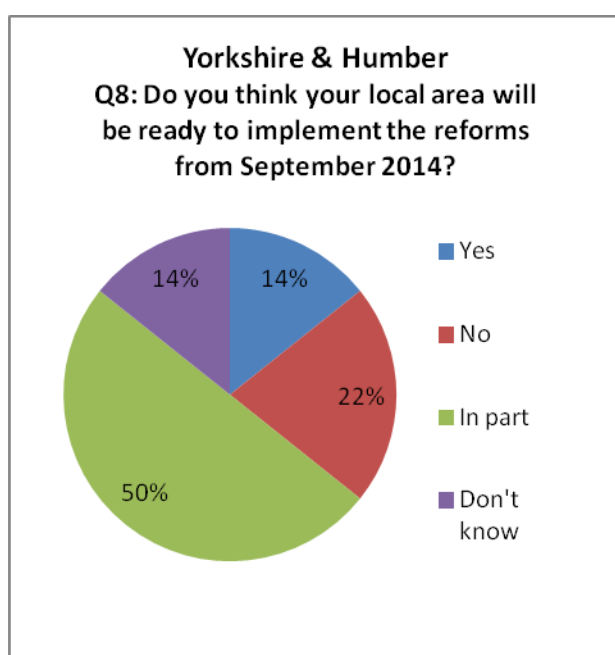
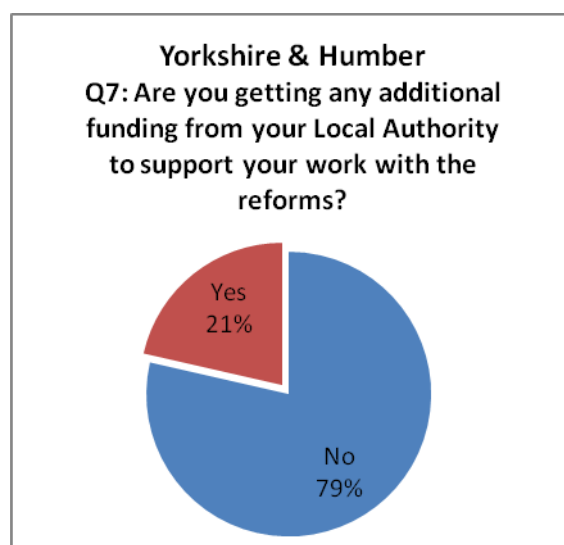
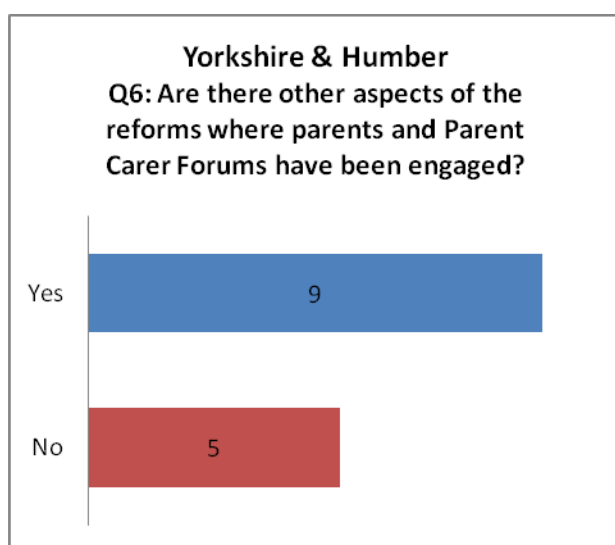
14% of the forums think that their local area will be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014 and 50% think they will be ready 'in part'. 22% think their local area will not be ready and 14% said that they don't know if their local area will be ready or not.

None of the forums felt that there had been 'strong engagement' from their Local Authority in engaging young people directly in the reforms but 50% felt there had been 'some engagement'.

| Yorkshire<br>Q5: To what extent has your forum been engaged in:   | Fully  | Quite a lot | A little | Not at all |
|---|--------|-------------|----------|------------|
| a) Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is out-come focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? | 42.86% | 14.29%      | 28.57%   | 14.29%     |



|  |        |        |        |        |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| b) Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners? | 0.00%  | 21.43% | 21.43% | 57.14% |
| c) Co-producing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?  | 50.00% | 35.71% | 14.29% | 0.00%  |
| d) Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?   | 0.00%  | 14.29% | 35.71% | 50.00% |
| e) Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first-tier Tribunal processes to cover post-16 provision?                          | 0.00%  | 0.00%  | 7.14%  | 92.86% |
| f) Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?  | 14.29% | 14.29% | 14.29% | 57.14% |



### **13. Conclusion**

We have been impressed with the response to this survey, considering the short timescale, it conflicting with a previous survey that had been sent out in relation to participation with health, and with the many competing demands that forum face. The high response rate is perhaps indicative of how important many forums feel it is that the Department hear their perspective on the reforms and how ready their area - in the view of the forum - is.

Some forums have responded that having this opportunity to respond in itself has been of use, as it has enabled them to speak with their local authority and let them know what they have been asked to do and what their responses would be. Anecdotally this has led to some forums being able to meet with key players they were previously struggling to engage with.

The Department for Education have asked Contact a Family to carry out readiness surveys with parent carer forums on a termly basis. We hope to be able to timetable these so more time can be afforded to forums to enable them to engage their wider membership in responding.

## 14. Appendix – Parent Carer Forum SEND Reforms Survey



### Parent Carer Forums Survey - Impact of the SEND Reforms

Welcome to the 'Impact of the SEND Reforms Survey' and thank you for taking part.

The information you provide will be used to assist the Department for Education as it supports local areas to prepare for and implement the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) reforms.

Please note that only **one response per forum** should be submitted.

Wherever possible, please consult your forum members on the questions below for their input before completing.

We sincerely apologise for the tight deadline for response, which is **midnight on Sunday 16th February 2014**.

You can access and complete the survey at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TBLVYM6>

If you wish to complete the survey in this Word document rather than online, please email a soft copy to

[leela.shanti@cafamily.org.uk](mailto:leela.shanti@cafamily.org.uk) or send a hard copy by post to: Leela Shanti, Contact a Family, 209-211 City Road, London EC1V 1JN.

If you would prefer to complete this survey over the phone, please contact Leela Shanti by email or on 020 7608 8784 to arrange.

| Your details |  |                 |            |  |                    |  |           |  |                |
|--------------|--|-----------------|------------|--|--------------------|--|-----------|--|----------------|
| 1            | Your local area:   |                 |            |  |                    |  |           |  |                |
| 2            | Region:  | East of England | North East |  | South West         |  |           |  |                |
|              |  | East Midlands   | North West |  | West Midlands      |  |           |  |                |
|              |  | London          | South East |  | Yorkshire & Humber |  |           |  |                |
| 3            | Your name and role in the forum:   |                 |            |  |                    |  |           |  |                |
|              | Your name:   |                 |            |  |                    |  |           |  |                |
|              | Name of your forum:  |                 |            |  |                    |  |           |  |                |
| 4            | Your role in the forum:  |                 |            |  |                    |  |           |  |                |
|              | Number of forum members involved in considering the response to this survey? |                 |            |  |                    |  |           |  |                |
|              | 1 >  |                 | 2 to 3 >   |  | 4 to 6 >           |  | 7 to 12 > |  | More than 12 > |

| Parent Carer Forum Engagement  |   |       |             |          |            |
|--|---|-------|-------------|----------|------------|
| 5  | To what extent has your Parent Carer Forum been engaged in:   | Fully | Quite a lot | A little | Not at all |
|  | • Developing a coordinated 0-25 education, health and care assessment and planning process that is outcome focused and has children, families and young people at the centre? |       |             |          |            |
|  | • Setting up joint commissioning structures across education, care and health, including processes for resolving disputes between partners?                                   |       |             |          |            |
|  | • Coproducing a helpful and informative 0-25 local offer with parent carers and young people?   |       |             |          |            |
|  | • Assigning a transparent and challengeable process for personal budgets?   |       |             |          |            |
|  | • Establishing 0-25 mediation arrangements and extending first tier Tribunal processes to cover post16 provision?   |       |             |          |            |
|  | • Recruiting families to trial the reforms before full implementation?  |       |             |          |            |
| If you would like to explain any of your responses more fully, please use the space below: |   |       |             |          |            |
|  |   |       |             |          |            |

| Parent Carer Forum Engagement continued  |  |     |     |         |            |
|--|--|-----|-----|---------|------------|
| 6. Are there other aspects of the reforms where parents and Parent Carer Forums have been engaged?         |  |     | Yes | No      |            |
| If yes, please briefly describe them:  |  |     |     |         |            |
|  |  |     |     |         |            |
| 7. Are you getting any additional funding from your Local Authority to support your work with the reforms? |  |     | Yes | No      |            |
| 8. Do you think your local area will be ready to implement the reforms from September 2014?                |  | Yes | No  | In Part | Don't Know |
| 9. If there any barriers to participation in your local area, what would you say they are?                 |  |     |     |         |            |
|  |  |     |     |         |            |

| Parent Carer Forums Survey - Impact of the SEND Reforms   |                 |                         |            |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|------------|
| <b>10. To what extent would you say your Local Authority is engaging young people directly in implementing the reforms?</b> |                 |                         |            |
| Strong Engagement   | Some Engagement | Little or no engagement | Don't know |
| Unless you've answered 'Don't know', could you briefly describe what the engagement involves?                               |                 |                         |            |
|   |                 |                         |            |

|   |
|---|
| <b>11. Is there anything else you would want the Department for Education to be aware of?</b> |
|   |

Thank you for completing this survey. The information you have provided will be used to assist the Department for Education as it supports local areas to prepare for and implement the SEND reforms.

If you have completed this survey in Word rather than online, please email a soft copy to [leela.shanti@cafamilly.org.uk](mailto:leela.shanti@cafamilly.org.uk) or send a hard copy by post to: Leela Shanti, Contact a Family, 209-211 City Road, London EC1V 1JN