

Covid-19 Pandemic Response Topic Group – Member survey

BACKGROUND

As part of its review into the Council’s response to the Covid pandemic, the Topic Group conducted a survey of Council Members to establish their understanding and awareness of the authority’s emergency planning powers.

The survey consists of the following three questions:

- 1. You have a knowledge of the Council’s responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004?**
- 2. You have been kept informed of the Council’s response to the pandemic?**
- 3. You found the regular All Member Briefings on COVID led by the Chief Executive to be useful and informative?**

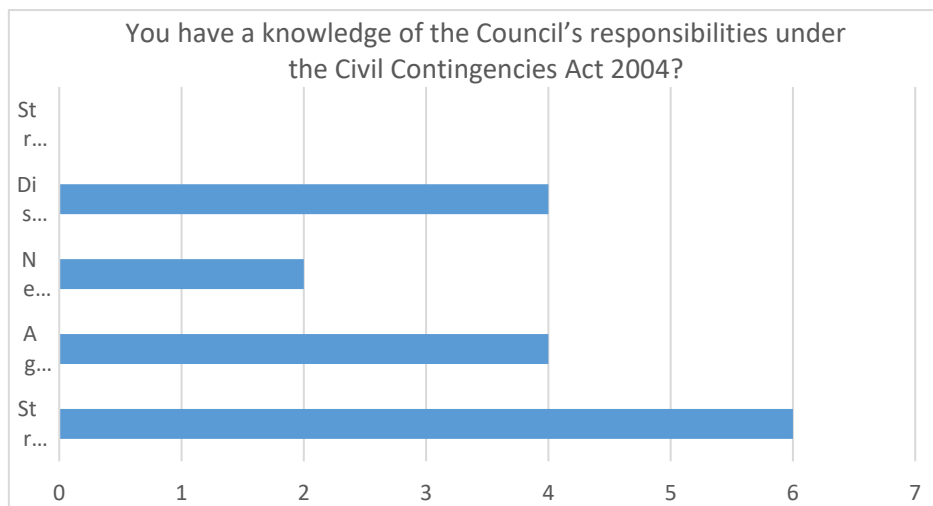
Members were also afforded the opportunity to provide comments in respect of the questions posed.

DETAIL

A total of 16 responses were received (response rate of 29.6%)

Question 1. - You have a knowledge of the Council’s responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004?

In respect of Question 1, 6 of the 16 respondents selected ‘Strongly Agree.’ The next popular response was shared equally between ‘Agree’ and ‘Disagree’ (4 each). Of the 16 responses received, none were marked as ‘Strongly Disagree.’

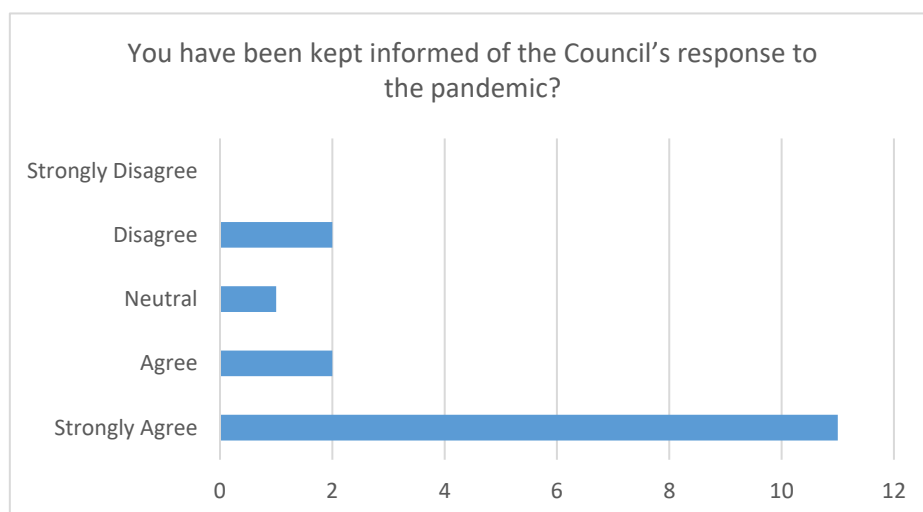


Q2 - You have been kept informed of the Council's response to the pandemic?

In respect of Question 2, the overwhelming majority of Councillors agreed or strongly agreed that they had been kept informed of the Council's response to the pandemic. Only 2 of the 16 responses received disagreed with that statement.

Member's comments revealed that the Leader's external bulletins, which are sent to the residents on a weekly basis, were an important form of communication for keeping both residents and Councillors informed. However, some Councillors have requested that the bulletin focuses on more localised statistics as opposed to National data as this already readily available across in the public domain.

Two Councillors commented on the role of Councillors in the Council's pandemic response, with one requesting that Ward Councillors play a greater role during the pandemic response as Leaders. The other Councillor felt that opposition Councillors have been deliberately excluded from the process by the Chief Executive and the Leader.



Q3. You found the regular All Member Briefings on COVID led by the Chief Executive to be useful and informative?

Similarly to the results of the previous question, the overwhelming majority Councillors considered that the Chief Executive’s All Member Briefings have been useful and informative, with all but two Members voting for either *strongly agree* or *agree*.

However, again it was noted that information delivered during these briefings should be more localised. Furthermore, some Councillors commented that the briefings have lost speed since the autumn with there being only two in the past two months.

