



Summary of Consultation Responses

Consultation on the proposed transfer of powers and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands

March 2019

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1. Executive Summary

The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) undertook a consultation across the seven West Midlands council areas (constituent councils) on proposals to transfer the powers and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands in May 2020.

The consultation sought views of local people, businesses, Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), organisations and people who work with the police service.

The consultation was undertaken in two stages. Stage one focused on whether or not people supported the principle of transferring the powers from the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands. This ran from 16 November 2018 to 11 January 2019. Stage two focused on the proposed detail of how the strategic leadership and direction (governance) of policing would operate within the WMCA and who would be responsible for making decisions (scheme). This ran from 14 January 2019 to 11 March 2019.

The consultation survey was hosted on the constituent councils' websites as well as on the WMCA website. The survey was also available in easy read, audio and alternative languages on request from the WMCA Equalities and Diversity Manager. Paper copies were also available in public buildings, such as libraries, in the seven constituent council areas. A separate survey was provided for each stage of the consultation. Details of the survey are included in this report.

In addition to the information made available on the WMCA and constituent council websites, information events were held in each constituent council area for each stage of the consultation. Details of these are included in this report.

WMCA had an independent development process for the questions for both stages of the consultation, led by BECG, but in consultation with the Mayor's Office, the OPCC and WMCA Officers. In designing the consultation document the Local Government Association's Consultation Guidance was adhered to.

A total of 6,059 responses were received to stage one, comprising 4,543 through the electronic survey and 1,516 paper copies. A total of 735 responses were received to stage two, comprising 632 through the electronic survey and 103 paper copies.

On the primary question in stage one of the consultation, regarding the principle of the transfer, 58% of respondents either 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Mayor for the West Midlands should take on the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The most frequent free-text comments in support of this proposal outlined the cost-savings that could be made by combining the roles. Conversely 37% of respondents either 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with the proposals, with respondents highlighting the concern that too much power would rest with one individual. There also remains a sentiment amongst some respondents that policing should be apolitical and therefore an elected politician (either Mayor or PCC) should not head up policing in the West Midlands.

A majority of respondents ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ with all the questions in stage one of the consultation. This included whether the transfer would improve efficiency and effectiveness, provide stronger governance and create more co-operation between public services. A high-level table is provided below. A full breakdown of the results for each stage is included in the report.

Consultation Questions	Strongly Agree/ Agree		Neither agree or disagree		Strongly Disagree / Disagree		Don't Know	
	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%
1. Principle of transfer	3503	58	228	4	2261	37	41	1
2. Improve efficiency and effectiveness	3345	56	320	5	2279	38	79	1
3. Improve governance of policing and crime	3216	54	363	6	2246	38	78	1
4. Improve ability of public to hold leadership and social causes of crime to account	3300	55	393	7	2228	37	82	1
5. Create stronger focus on joined-up public services	3492	58	374	6	2078	35	74	1
6. Greater co-operation/ integration with Mayor responsible for fire and policing	3332	55	411	7	2194	36	84	1
7. One accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and PCC	3533	59	271	5	2138	35	60	1

***Respondents may not have answered all questions and % are rounded and so may not add up to 100%.**

On stage two of the consultation, a majority of respondents ‘agreed’ or ‘strongly agreed’ to every question. This included whether having a Mayor and DMPC is more appropriate than having two separate representatives; that the role of DMPC should be restricted to those living in the WMCA area, and that the day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially. A high-level table is provided below. A full breakdown of the results for each stage is included in the report.

	Neither agree or	Strongly Disagree /	Don't Know
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Consultation Questions	Strongly Agree/ Agree		disagree		Disagree			
	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%
1. Having a Mayor and DMPC is more appropriate than having two separate representatives	471	65	33	5	222	30	6	1
2. The DMPC position should be restricted to individuals in the WMCA area	585	81	74	10	61	8	9	1
3. The DMPC position should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and substitutes	533	74	101	14	77	11	14	2
4. SPCB is important to facilitate public engagement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters	544	75	87	12	83	11	11	2
5. Councillors who sit on the WMCA Board and substitutes should be restricted from sitting on the PCP	554	77	67	9	86	12	17	2
6. The current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially	500	69	124	17	82	11	16	2

***Respondents may not have answered all questions and % are rounded and so may not add up to 100%.**

Overview of results

On question one of stage one, which asked to what extent respondents agreed or disagreed with the proposal to transfer the powers of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands, 58% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed, compared to 37% who strongly disagreed or disagreed. Similarly, on question seven, which asked to what extent respondents agreed or disagreed that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner, 59% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed, with 35% strongly disagreeing or disagreeing.

This response was reflected in question one of stage two, which asked whether respondents agreed that having a Mayor and DMPC was more appropriate than having two separate representatives. 65% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed, with 30% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

In six of the seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Overall, more than half of respondents in five out of the seven constituent council areas agreed with all seven of the questions regarding the principle of the transfer of powers (stage one), and a majority of respondents in every constituent council area agreed with every question on the governance model and scheme (stage two).

It is clear from the level of response to the consultation that the proposed transfer of the role and powers of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands has generated significant public interest. In total 6,794 responses were received (comprising 6,059 from stage one and 735 from stage two), compared to 1,164 responses that were received to the Fire Service consultation and 1,316 responses received to the consultation on the first devolution deal. The responses to the Police and Crime Commissioner consultation have been received from across the Combined Authority's geography providing views from a mixed demographic about the proposals. BECG is confident that this level of response provides a breadth of opinion across the Combined Authority area to help inform West Midlands Combined Authority's Board in taking a decision on the proposed transfer.

2. Background to the proposals

In November 2015, WMCA agreed a deal with central government that enabled the significant devolution of powers, funding and responsibilities to a directly elected Mayor of the West Midlands. In November 2017, a second deal was agreed between government, the Mayor and WMCA to strengthen the West Midlands' devolution arrangements.

The second deal included a commitment for government, the WMCA and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner to work together to look at a detailed governance model and timetable for transferring the role and powers of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor in 2020.

As part of this a Governance Review was carried out, which looked at the current accountability and decision-making arrangements and identified the benefits that could be achieved by coming together. These include a more joined up way of working, contributing to a shared vision with public services being delivered in a more co-ordinated, integrated and collaborative way.

Following this a Scheme was prepared which details how the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner would operate within the WMCA, and who would be responsible and accountable for making decisions.

The content development process for both stages of the consultation was independently led by BECG, in consultation with the OPCC, the Mayor's Office and WMCA. This involved a series of meetings, conference calls and email correspondence to incorporate feedback from both organisations.

3. Overview of the consultation

Consultation survey

The consultation was undertaken in two stages. The first-stage focused on the principle of the transfer of PCC responsibilities to the Mayor of the West Midlands and the second-stage focused on the detail of the transfer. Stage two of the consultation commenced three days after the completion of stage one. As recommended by BECG the results of stage one were not released in order not to unduly affect the results of stage two.

The consultation survey was hosted on constituent councils' websites and the WMCA website. The survey comprised seven questions per stage, eight profile-based questions and a question asking how the respondent had heard of the survey.

A total of 6,059 responses were received to stage one, comprising 4,543 through the electronic survey and 1,516 paper copies. A total of 735 responses were received to stage two, comprising 632 through the electronic survey and 103 paper copies.

Paper copies of the consultation were available in public buildings, such as libraries and civic centres, in the seven constituent council areas. The consultation poster, attached with the supporting documentation at appendix A, was displayed prominently in these public buildings.

There was also supporting communication across the seven constituent councils, the OPCC and the WMCA which all publicised the consultation and signposting people to the website to respond to the survey.

In addition, the survey was available in easy read and large print and on an audio CD. It was sent directly to equality and diversity groups and was also available upon request.

Awareness and engagement building up to and during the consultation

In order to reach all sections of the community and ensure as many people as possible took part in the consultation, the survey was promoted through a comprehensive range of digital and non-digital forums:

- WMCA website
- Constituent council websites
- PCC website
- Emails to key stakeholders
- Press releases
- Emails to MPs and MEPs in the WMCA area
- Videos and infographics promoted on social media
- Printed posters
- Emails to those who have signed up
- Electronic screens at bus stations and interchanges

Various channels of communication were utilised, including a social media campaign which spanned the consultation period. The campaign was shared and widely supported by regional communications contacts including the seven constituent councils of the WMCA. A toolkit was provided to these contacts alongside a content planner. The social media campaign was further supported by constituent councils and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner which hosted a link to the consultation on their websites.

Events

Events were held for both stages of the consultation across the seven constituent councils, at which feedback could be provided directly to representatives from the WMCA. Events were held on the following dates and times:

Stage one

- Thursday 27 November 2018, 3pm-8pm, West Bromwich Bus Station
- Saturday 1 December 2018, 9am-3pm, Wolverhampton City Centre
- Wednesday 5 December 2018, 9am-3pm, Coventry City Centre
- Saturday 8 December 2018, 9am-3pm, Dudley Market Place
- Monday 7 January 2019, 10am-5pm, Solihull Town Centre
- Tuesday 8 January 2019, 12pm-6pm, Birmingham New Street Station
- Wednesday 9 January 2019, 3pm-7pm, Walsall Town Centre

Stage two

- Saturday 2 February 2019, 9am-3pm, Wolverhampton City Centre
- Wednesday 6 February 2019, 3pm-7pm, West Bromwich Bus Station
- Saturday 9 February 2019, 9am-3pm, Dudley Market Place
- Monday 11 February 2019, 12pm-6pm, Birmingham New Street Station
- Tuesday 12 February 2019, 12pm-6pm, Walsall Town Centre
- Thursday 28 February 2019, 2pm-6pm, Solihull Mell Square
- Saturday 2 March 2019, 9am-3pm, Coventry City Centre

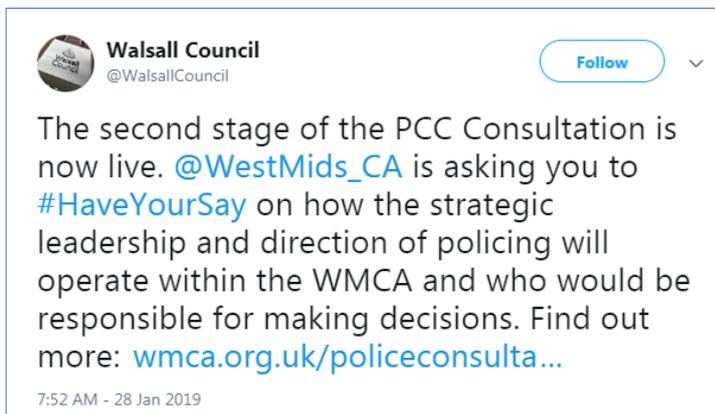
Examples from the consultation material and events



West Midlands Combined Authority Website



West Midlands Combined Authority Twitter account



Walsall Council Twitter account



Stage One Exhibition in Wolverhampton City Centre, Saturday 1 December 2019

APPENDIX A – BECG CONSULTATION ANALYSIS REPORT



Stage One Exhibition in Coventry City Centre, Wednesday 5 December 2019



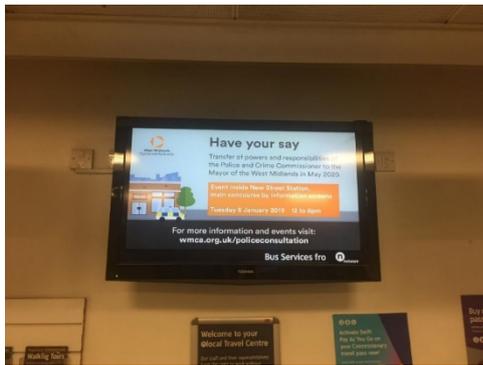
Stage Two Exhibition in Walsall Town Centre, Tuesday 12 February 2019



Stage Two Exhibition at New Street Station, Monday 11 February 2019



Poster at Wolverhampton art gallery



New Street travel information centre



Kingshurst Library, Solihull



Walsall Civic Centre



Castle Bromwich Library

4. Validation and Quality Control of Data

The content development process for both stages of the consultation was independently led by BECG, in consultation with the OPCC and WMCA. This involved a series of meetings, conference calls and email correspondence to incorporate feedback from both organisations. BECG also reviewed and provided input into the consultation and communications plan, ensuring it followed best practice.

The consultation was designed to be as comprehensive and robust as possible to ensure it provided reassurance to residents and stakeholders of the legitimacy of the process. This section focuses on the quality control measures that were put in place to ensure that the data is accurate and reflects the breadth of views from residents in the constituent council areas.

WMCA has ensured that best practice has been followed when designing the consultation. Members of WMCA’s Human Intelligence team, who have led the design of the consultation, are members of the Market Research Society (MRS). As such they abide by the Market Research Society’s Code of Conduct which covers research from the inception to design and from execution to use. MRS members must adhere to the MRS Code of Conduct to safeguard standards, promote confidence and champion professionalism. References to the MRS Code of Conduct are visible on both stages of the consultation. A copy of the code can be found here: <https://www.mrs.org.uk/pdf/mrs%20code%20of%20conduct%202014.pdf>

WMCA has ensured that all aspects of the consultation follow the Local Government Association’s Consultation Guidance which outlines the best practice for consultation in local government. The guidance’s key tests are outlined below alongside how this consultation addressed the relevant test.

Guidance	WMCA Response
Make sure the consultation is necessary	The WMCA Board agreed a consultation should take place to ask the public and stakeholders their opinions on the transfer of powers, following the devolution agreement outlined above in section two.
Set clear objectives	WMCA had an independent development process for the questions for both stages of the consultation, led by BECG, but in consultation with the Mayor’s Office, the OPCC and WMCA Officers.
Co-ordinate the exercise	WMCA coordinated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Combined Authority Board • Senior leadership member • Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Police and Crime Panel both engaged in each stage • Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner WMCA produced a toolkit for constituent council partners to avoid duplication and ensure messaging was consistent.
Allow sufficient time	WMCA allowed adequate time for consultees to respond and for their views to be fully considered. The consultation was held in two stages, with both stage running for eight weeks. The results from stages one and two are reported together within this report and will be considered together by the WMCA Board.
Document the costs	WMCA, with input and advice from BECG, produced a plan for the consultation and considered resources needed to undertake the consultation stages.
Select and recruit participants	This consultation was across the West Midlands region as this is the area that the Police and Crime Commissioner and WMCA’s constituent councils cover. The Police and Crime Commissioner and West Midlands Police were key participants in the consultation.

Select an appropriate method	A variety of methods of communication were used to ensure inclusion in the consultation, as one method may not suit everyone and some groups will prefer information in a different format. The methods of communication included both digital e.g. Facebook, electronic screens, emails to groups and printed e.g. information at libraries and posters. WMCA also engaged through more traditional forms of media such as releases to the local media, and in person with numerous drop-in events to support both stages of the consultation.
Promote the exercise	The consultation was heavily promoted by the WMCA, the OPCC and constituent councils also helped raise awareness through their communication channels.
Gather and input data	<p>BECG developed the consultation questions in conjunction with WMCA, the Mayor's Office and the OPCC. Most of the questions were closed however there was the opportunity for consultees to provide more detailed answers through open-text feedback options.</p> <p>The questionnaire was available online and in print, with a pre-paid envelope included. Drop-in events were held in each of the seven constituent council areas at a variety of times to provide as much opportunity for consultees to speak to staff and give their views in person.</p> <p>For visually impaired consultees a telephone number was also given to enable the consultee to speak to someone and if required, go through the questionnaire with them.</p>
Monitor the results	WMCA monitored the number of responses, the areas that responses were coming from and respondents' demographics in real time to ensure there were not any gaps in the responses.
Analyse the results	The results have been analysed and reported within this document. The responses to both closed and open questions have been analysed by BECG.
Determine your outcomes	The WMCA Board will consider the consultation results and determine what it is going to do. The consultation report will help inform the decision taken by the WMCA Board.
Feedback to relevant parties	Results and subsequent actions will be communicated to participants through a variety of methods (both digital and printed).

Analysis of the results

The final data set includes both online and paper questionnaires. Online responses included those who completed the consultation prior to the deadline however questionnaires received

via post were accepted two full postal weekdays following the closure of the consultation, to allow for late responses.

Before the analysis commenced, the data sets were checked for duplicate responses. Where responses could be ascertained as duplicates (either by personal information or where there was significant duplication in free-text responses) they were removed. In some cases, responses were submitted from the same email or home address but had different personal details (e.g. different age and gender), suggesting that multiple people from the same household had completed a response. In this case, responses were not removed. Where duplicate responses were identified they were deleted from the final data set. Deletion only occurred when duplicates could be confirmed with certainty.

In total 65 duplicate responses were removed from the stage one data set based on the above process. Five further responses had the same email but appeared to be filled in by different people within the household (e.g. different genders or ages). There were no duplicate responses received to stage two of the consultation.

The final data for both stage one and two within this report includes all valid responses. The base response rate varies from question to question as not all respondents provided a response to all questions. Responses to open-ended options were grouped together under key themes for the purpose of analysis.

The responses to the consultation have been received from across the Combined Authority's geography providing views from a mixed demographic about the proposals.

It is clear from the level of response to the consultation that there is significant public interest in the proposals. In total 6,794 responses were received (comprising 6,059 from stage one and 735 from stage two), compared to 1,164 responses that were received to the Fire Service consultation and 1,316 responses received to the consultation on the first devolution deal. The responses to the Police and Crime Commissioner consultation have been received from across the Combined Authority's geography providing views from a mixed demographic about the proposals. We are confident that this level of response provides a breadth of opinion across the Combined Authority area to help inform West Midlands Combined Authority's Board in taking a decision on the proposed transfer.

5. Stage one: summary

Stage one of the consultation took place between Friday 16 November 2018, and Friday 11 January 2019 and focused on the principle of the transfer of responsibilities. The first stage of the consultation was completed by 6,059 respondents, which included 4,543 online responses and 1,516 paper copies.

The table below provides a summary of the responses to each of the questions followed by a summary of key findings. Respondents may not have answered all questions and percentages are rounded and so may not add up to 100%.

APPENDIX A – BECG CONSULTATION ANALYSIS REPORT

Consultation Questions	Strongly Agree/ Agree		Neither agree or disagree		Strongly Disagree / Disagree		Don't Know	
	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%
1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to transfer the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands?	3503	58	228	4	2261	37	41	1
2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner Functions would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing?	3345	56	320	5	2279	38	79	1
3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner Functions would improve the governance of policing and crime?	3216	54	363	6	2246	38	78	1
4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner Functions would improve the ability of the public to hold the strategic leadership of policing and the wider social causes of crime to account?	3300	55	393	7	2228	37	82	1
5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner Functions would create a stronger strategic focus on joined-up public services across the region?	3492	58	374	6	2078	35	74	1
6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that greater co-operation and integration is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services?	3332	55	411	7	2194	36	84	1

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner?	3533	59	271	5	2138	35	60	1
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***Respondents may not have answered all questions and percentages are rounded and so may not add up to 100%.**

Demographic summary

Respondents were asked a number of demographic questions, including age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, gender, and disability. In addition, respondents were asked which constituent council area they came from, and whether they work in the public or private sector. A summary of the demographic responses is below, with a full breakdown later in the report. The demographic data is also compared to census data from 2011, where available. All questions have also been broken down by constituent council later in the report.

- In regards to age, the two largest groups of respondents were 45-64 year-olds (32%) and 65+ year-olds (32%), followed by 25-44 year-olds (22%). Only 9% of respondents were under 24.
- In regards to sexual orientation, the majority of respondents classified themselves as heterosexual / straight (77%). The next highest category of response was 'prefer not to disclose' (15%). All other categories received a similar level of response: 2% classified themselves as bi, 3% as a gay man, 1% as a gay woman / lesbian, and 2% 'prefer to self-describe'.
- In regards to ethnicity, the majority of respondents classed themselves as white British. That category accounted for 71% of respondents. The next highest category was those who did not wish to disclose their ethnicity (10%). The only other categories to receive more than 2% were Asian British (5%) and White other (4%).
- In regards to religion, 49% of respondents classed themselves as Christian, 27% as having no religion, and 15% chose not to disclose. The remaining options received 5% (Muslim) and 2% (for both Hindu and Sikh respectively).
- In regards to gender, 59% of respondents were male, and 32% female. 8% of respondents did not wish to disclose their gender, and 1% preferred to self-describe.
- In regards to disability, 75% of respondents stated they had no disability, 13% said they had a disability which had a mild impact on their everyday life, and 9% preferred not to state. 3% of respondents stated that they had a disability which had a severe impact on their everyday life.
- In regards to which constituent council area respondents live in, 38% came from Birmingham City Council, 17% Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, and 12% Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. Coventry City Council and Walsall Council both accounted for 9% of responses, City of Wolverhampton Council accounted for 7%, and Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council 5%. 2% of respondents stated that they did not live in the West Midlands, and 1% did not know what constituent council area they lived in.

- In regards to the breakdown of respondents from the public sector, 17% stated that they worked in the public sector and 83% stated they did not work in the public sector. The full breakdown of public sector organisations cited is included later in this report.

Overview of responses

- **Nearly 6 in 10 respondents (58%) agreed with the proposals to transfer the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands.**
- A majority of respondents from 6 out of the 7 constituent council areas supported the principle of the transfer (Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council was the only local authority that did not).
- Nearly 6 in 10 respondents (56%) agreed that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing.
- Over half of respondents (54%) agreed that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the governance of policing and crime.
- Over half of respondents (55%) agreed that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the ability of the public to hold the strategic leadership of policing and the wider social causes of crime to account.
- Nearly 6 in 10 respondents (58%) agreed that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would create a stronger strategic focus on join-up public services across the region.
- Over half of respondents (55%) agreed that greater co-operation and integration is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services.
- Nearly 6 in 10 (59%) of respondents agreed that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- More than half of respondents in 5 out of the 7 constituent council areas agreed with all seven of the questions regarding the principle of the transfer of powers (Coventry City Council and Sandwell Borough Council did not).
- Over 8 in 10 (83%) of respondents did not work in the public sector and out of those who did work in the public sector the highest response was received from West Midlands Police.

6. Stage one: breakdown by question

Question 1

We want your views on the principle of transferring the responsibilities of the PCC to the elected Mayor of the West Midlands.

The PCC has an over-arching duty to secure an effective and efficient police force. The Mayor and the WMCA want to fully grasp the full potential of the devolution opportunity in this respect. The second devolution agreement is an opportunity to create a step change in

the public services agenda, by establishing the building blocks to further public service transformation in the West Midlands.

The transfer presents the ability to join up the leadership of local public services and unlock a range of opportunities for deeper and more meaningful collaboration. The Mayor, the WMCA and the PCC have a number of shared policy areas where positive progress is already being made, examples include Thrive, Mental Health and Justice, and criminal justice reform. The benefits presented through the transfer of functions broadens these opportunities further to include gains in joining up public services and systems further, focusing on key areas of prevention, early intervention and crisis management.

Moving to a directly elected Mayor with PCC powers and responsibilities would provide clearer accountability for citizens, business and Government with one person accountable within the region for the range of functions that currently sit across the Mayor and PCC.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to transfer the responsibilities of the PCC to the elected Mayor of the West Midlands?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 1 Response Summary

58% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' with the proposal to transfer the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands.

Conversely, 37% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with the proposed change in governance.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 1 was provided on the questionnaire. 1,104 responses included open text comments. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *The role of the Police and Crime Commissioner needs to be removed* (151 comments; 14%)
- *Too much power in one role with responsibilities for both the Mayor and Police and Crime Commissioner* (145 comments; 13%)
- *General comments surrounding the need to reduce crime in the area / more police needed on the streets* (128 comments; 12%)

- *A need for a more accountable Mayor such as in London or Manchester* (125 comments; 11%)
- *The cost savings that could be made by amalgamating the roles to spend on policing* (110 comments; 10%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	2437	40
Agree	1066	18
Neither agree or disagree	228	4
Disagree	439	7
Strongly Disagree	1822	30
Don't know	41	1

Question 2

To what extent do you believe that one directly elected Mayor with PCC functions would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 2 Response Summary

56% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing.

On the other hand, 38% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that this change would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 2 was provided on the questionnaire. 695 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *The Mayor does not have enough time for this role therefore policing priorities won't be able to be focused on as much* (104 comments; 15%)
- *Cost savings that will be made by amalgamating the role of Mayor and PCC* (61 comments; 9%)
- *Crime panels and chief constables need to remain independent* (59 comments; 8%)
- *Benefits from cross-disciplinary working* (50 comments; 7%)

- *The Mayor would not have enough expertise to take on the role of a PCC (50 comments; 7%)*

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	2096	35
Agree	1249	21
Neither agree or disagree	320	5
Disagree	588	10
Strongly Disagree	1691	28
Don't know	79	1

Question 3

To what extent do you believe that one directly elected Mayor with PCC functions would improve the governance and scrutiny of policing and crime?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 3 Response Summary

54% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the governance and scrutiny of policing and crime.

Conversely, 38% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that this change would improve governance and scrutiny.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 3 was provided on the questionnaire. 476 responses included an open text response. The most frequent comments/responses to this question included:

- *Mayor with a PCC role will provide a single focal point for police issues which will provide more accountability (79 comments; 17%)*
- *More money needs to be spent on policing (42 comments; 9%)*
- *Mayor doesn't have enough time to focus on this as well as other responsibilities (40 comments; 8%)*
- *Mayor doesn't have knowledge / would need people with knowledge of police and crime (38 comments; 8%)*

- *More difficult for accountability with a mayor and greater bureaucracy* (33 comments; 7%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	1977	33
Agree	1239	21
Neither agree or disagree	363	6
Disagree	601	10
Strongly Disagree	1645	28
Don't know	78	1

Question 4

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the ability of the public to hold the strategic leadership of policing and the wider social causes of crime to account?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 4 Response Summary

55% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the ability of the public to hold the strategic leadership of policing and the wider social causes of crime to account.

On the other hand, 37% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve public accountability.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 4 was provided on the questionnaire. 496 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Mayor will be more accountable than a PCC* (94 comments; 19%)
- *Mayor will be less accountable/too much power in the hands of one individual if Mayor takes on responsibilities of PCC* (46 comments; 9%)
- *Policing needs more funding/stop police funding cuts* (41 comments; 8%)
- *Mayor has too big a remit and not enough time* (39 comments; 8%)

- *A perception that the changes won't have any effect on crime or causes of crime (32 comments; 6%)*

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	2083	35
Agree	1217	20
Neither agree or disagree	393	7
Disagree	618	10
Strongly Disagree	1610	27
Don't know	82	1

Question 5

In addition to responsibility for effective governance of policing, the PCC has responsibility for issues which include considering the impact of offending and reoffending, reducing social harms and promoting positive, healthy, happy and more prosperous communities.

Many of these functions require effective partnership working with local councils, health, housing, probation services, employers and the business community. The Mayor chairs the WMCA Board which already has a set of agreed priorities for improving communities and increasing economic growth across the region. Aspects of the WMCA's activities include a focus on health and wellbeing and public service reform.

To what extent do you believe that one directly elected Mayor with PCC functions would create a stronger strategic focus on public services across the region?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 5 Response Summary

58% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would create a stronger strategic focus on join-up public services across the region.

Conversely 34% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that this change would create a stronger strategic focus on joined-up public services across the region.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 5 was provided on the questionnaire. 515 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Good idea/much needed/Mayor would allow more focus on wider issues/multi agency work/all views considered/joined up thinking/one overall vision (125 comments; 24%)*
- *Separate PCC and Mayor could work together to create a joined-up approach (58 comments; 11%)*
- *Mayor does not have enough time to be able to focus on crime (39 comments; 8%)*
- *Creating strategic and joined up services is difficult to happen given the cuts to police budgets (37 comments; 7%)*
- *Will result in too many people having a say and nothing get done as a result (33 comments; 6%)*

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	2160	36
Agree	1332	22
Neither agree or disagree	374	6
Disagree	611	10
Strongly Disagree	1467	24
Don't know	74	1

Question 6

There is currently a proposal, which the WMCA and Home Secretary have agreed on, for the Mayor to be responsible for the Fire and Rescue Service. The Government in its Policing and Crime Act 2017 requires there to be greater cooperation and integration between the Police and Fire Services.

To what extent do you believe that greater cooperation and integration is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 6 Response Summary

55% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that greater co-operation and integration is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services.

On the other hand, 36% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that greater co-operation and integration is likely to be achieved.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they ‘Don’t know’.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 6 was provided on the questionnaire. 535 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Function of the different emergency services should remain separate* (103 comments; 20%)
- *A Mayor would allow integrated emergency services* (92 comments; 17%)
- *The Mayor would have conflicting demands/not enough time to focus on all aspects of police and fire* (73 comments; 14%)
- *Too much power in the Mayoral Office if they get responsibility for police and fire* (35 comments; 7%)
- *Need one accountable individual for all service to make services more accountable* (28 comments; 5%)
- *The Mayor does not have the skills or experience required* (28 comments; 5%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	2064	34
Agree	1268	21
Neither agree or disagree	411	7
Disagree	609	10
Strongly Disagree	1585	26
Don't know	84	1

Question 7

To what extent do you agree or disagree that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 7 Response Summary

59% of respondents ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Conversely, 36% of respondents ‘strongly disagreed’ or ‘disagreed’ that there should be one accountable individual for these functions.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they ‘Don’t know’.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 7 was provided on the questionnaire. 459 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Benefit from one publicly accountable individual for all the functions* (94 comments; 20%)
- *Too much power/wide remit in one individual will make the post unaccountable and undemocratic* (88 comments; 19%)
- *The roles of PCC and Mayor should remain separate* (83 comments; 18%)
- *Policing should be independent and not be political* (28 comments; 6%)
- *There would be too much work for one person / they wouldn’t have enough time to do the job* (16 comments; 3%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	2323	39
Agree	1210	20
Neither agree or disagree	271	5
Disagree	595	10
Strongly Disagree	1543	26
Don’t know	60	1

Questions 1 – 7: ‘Don’t know’ responses received

All questions received 1% of respondents saying that they ‘Don’t know’. Question 6 received the highest number of ‘Don’t know’ responses, with 84 (1%) respondents choosing this option.

Questions 8 – 16

These questions asked respondents about their characteristics as well as how respondents came to hear about the survey. Below the results of these demographic questions have been compared to the 2011 Census data for the constituent council areas to demonstrate how representative the responses to the consultation were. Certain demographic questions that were asked during this consultation were omitted from the 2011 Census or asked in a different way and therefore cannot be compared directly.

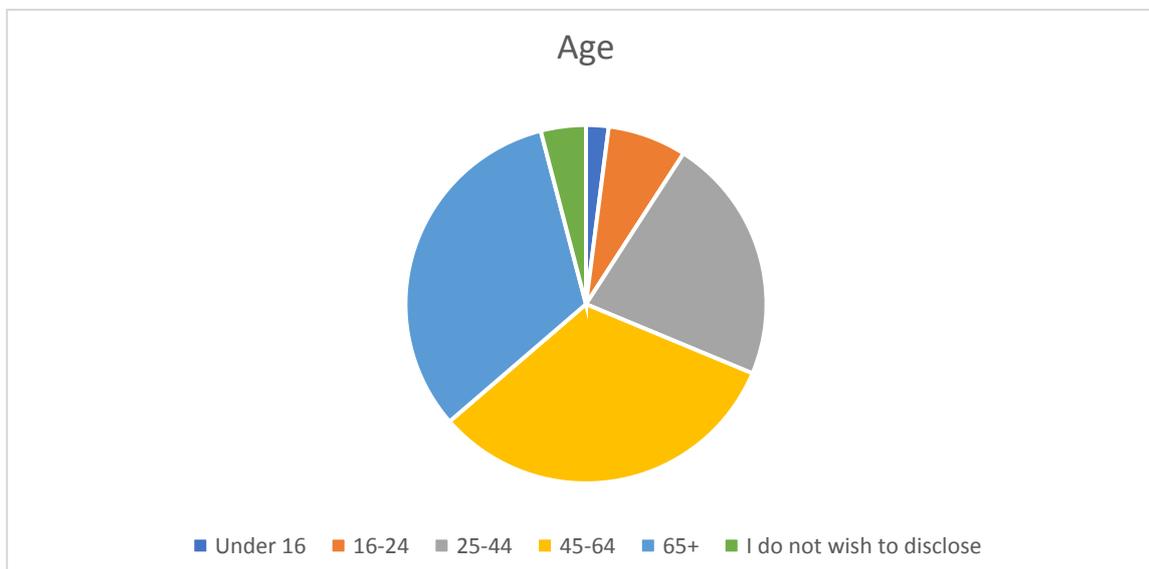
Question 8

Could you tell us your age?

- Under 16
- 16-24

- 25-44
- 45-64
- 65+
- I do not wish to disclose

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Under 16	20	2
16-24	12	7
25-44	26	22
45-64	25	32
65+	17	32
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	4

Question 9

Could you please disclose your sexual orientation?

- Bi
- Heterosexual/Straight
- Gay man
- Gay woman/Lesbian
- I do not wish to disclose
- Prefer to self-describe

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Bi	n/a	2
Heterosexual/Straight	n/a	77
Gay Man	n/a	3
Gay Woman/Lesbian	n/a	1
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	15
Prefer to self-describe	n/a	2

Data regarding the sexual orientation of residents in the constituent council areas was not available in the 2011 Census.

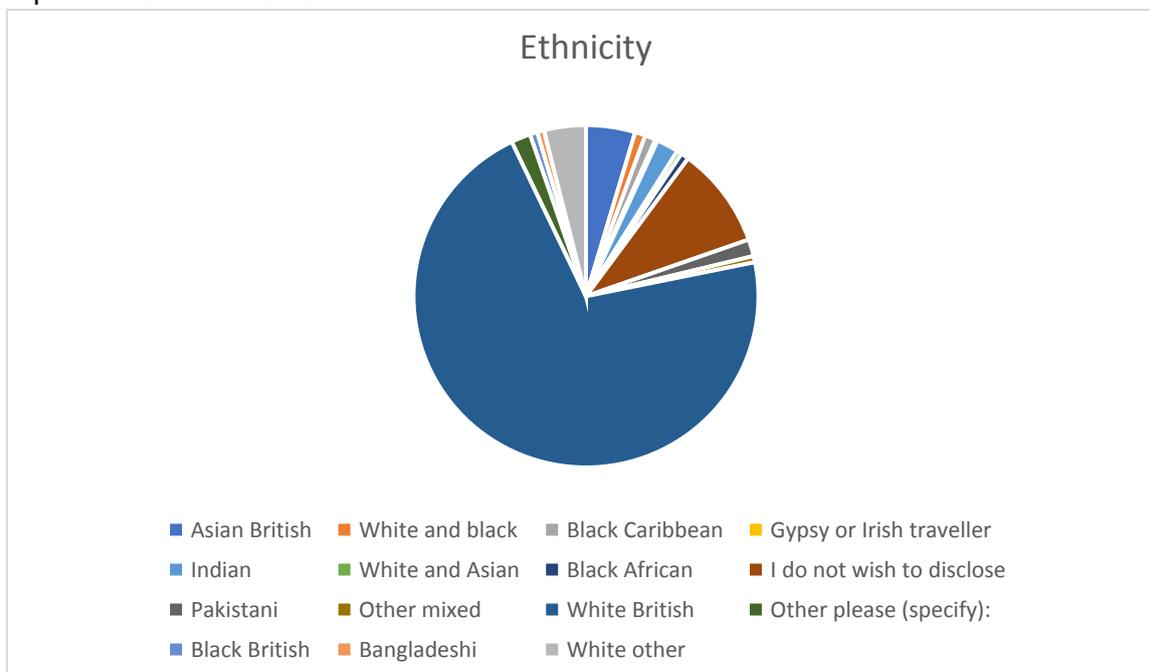
Question 10

Ethnicity

- Asian British
- White and black
- Black Caribbean
- Gypsy or Irish traveller
- Indian
- White and Asian
- Black African
- I do not wish to disclose
- Pakistani
- Other mixed

- White British
- Other please (specify):
- Black British
- Bangladeshi
- White other

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population*	% of all responses in consultation
Asian British	n/a	5
White and black	n/a	1
Black Caribbean	n/a	1
Gypsy or Irish traveller	n/a	0
Indian	n/a	2
White and Asian	n/a	0
Black African	n/a	1
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	10
Pakistani	n/a	2
Other mixed	n/a	1
White British	n/a	71
Other please (specify):	n/a	2
Black British	n/a	1
Bangladeshi	n/a	1
White other	n/a	4

*See table below for 2011 Census data.

The question regarding the ethnicity of respondents was asked in a different way in this consultation to that in the 2011 Census. This means that the responses cannot be directly compared however the 2011 Census data is below for reference.

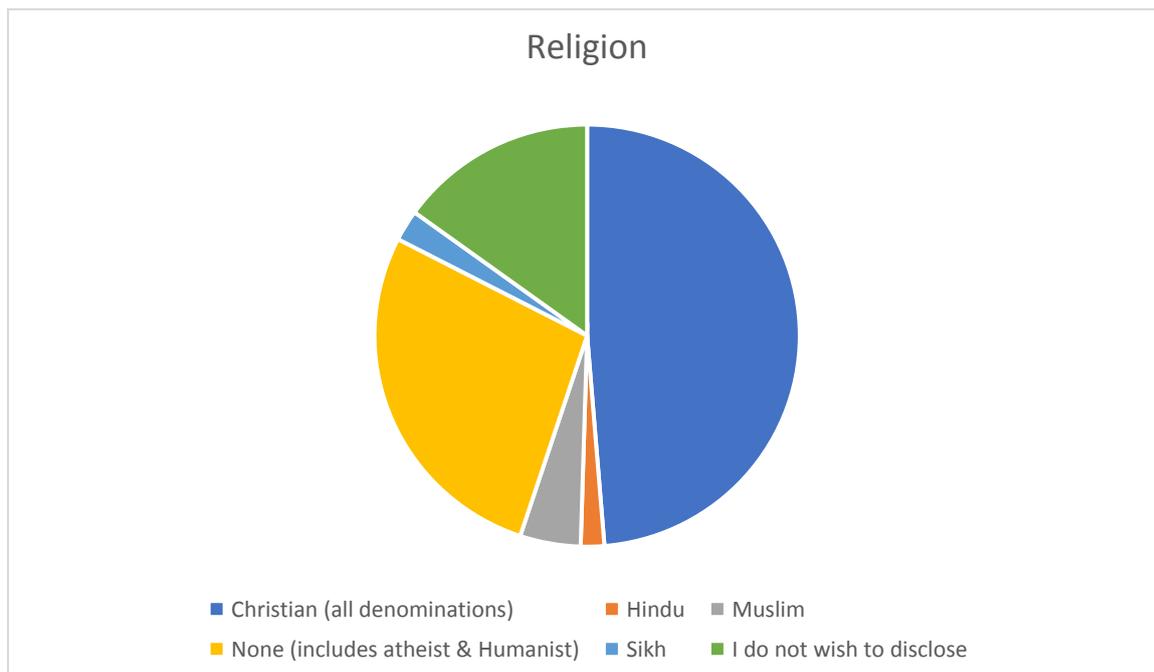
2011 Census Data	
Ethnicity	% of WMCA total population
Total White	83
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	79
Irish	1
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0
Other White	3
Total Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Group	2
White and Black Caribbean	1
White and Black African	0
White and Asian	1
Other Mixed	0
Total Asian/Asian British	11
Indian	4
Pakistani	4
Bangladeshi	1
Chinese	1
Other Asian	1
Total Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	3
African	1
Caribbean	2
Other Black	1
Total Other Ethnic Group	1
Arab	0
Any other ethnic group	1

Question 11

Religion

- Christian (all denominations)
- Hindu
- Muslim
- None (includes atheist and Humanist)
- Sikh
- I do not wish to disclose
- Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



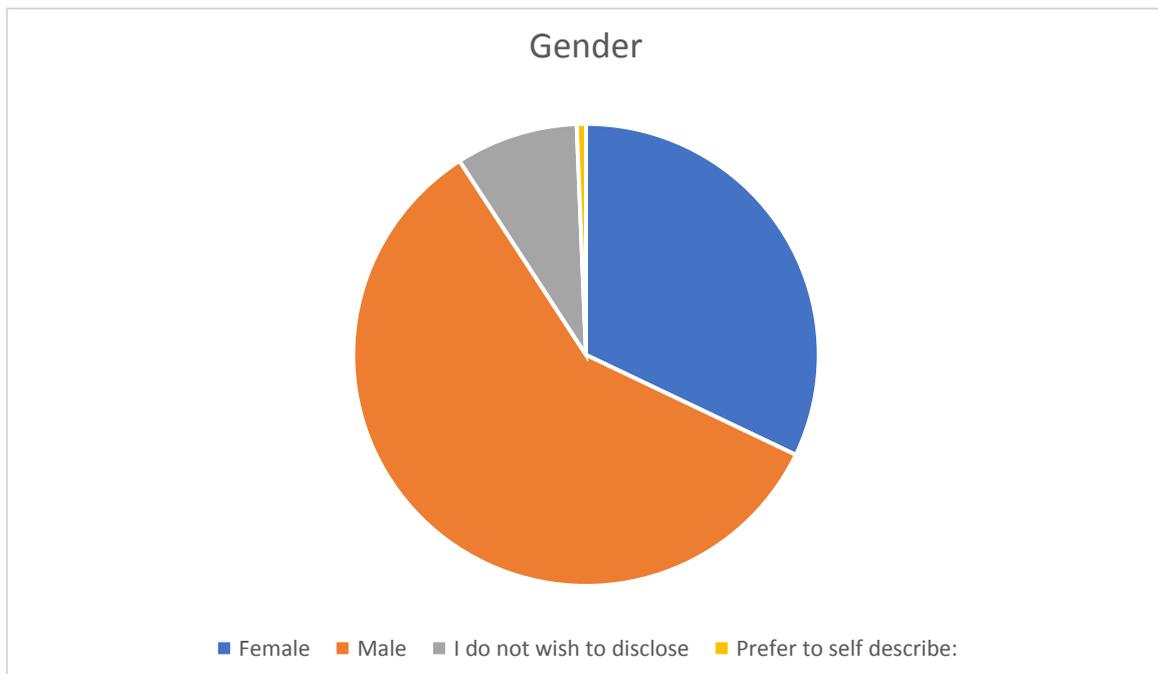
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Christian (all denominations)	60	49
Hindu	1	2
Muslim	7	5
None (includes atheist and Humanist)	22	27
Sikh	2	2
I do not wish to disclose	7	15
Other (please specify)	1	0

Question 12

Could you please disclose your gender?

- Female
- Male
- I do not wish to disclose
- Prefer to self-describe

Responses are illustrated below:



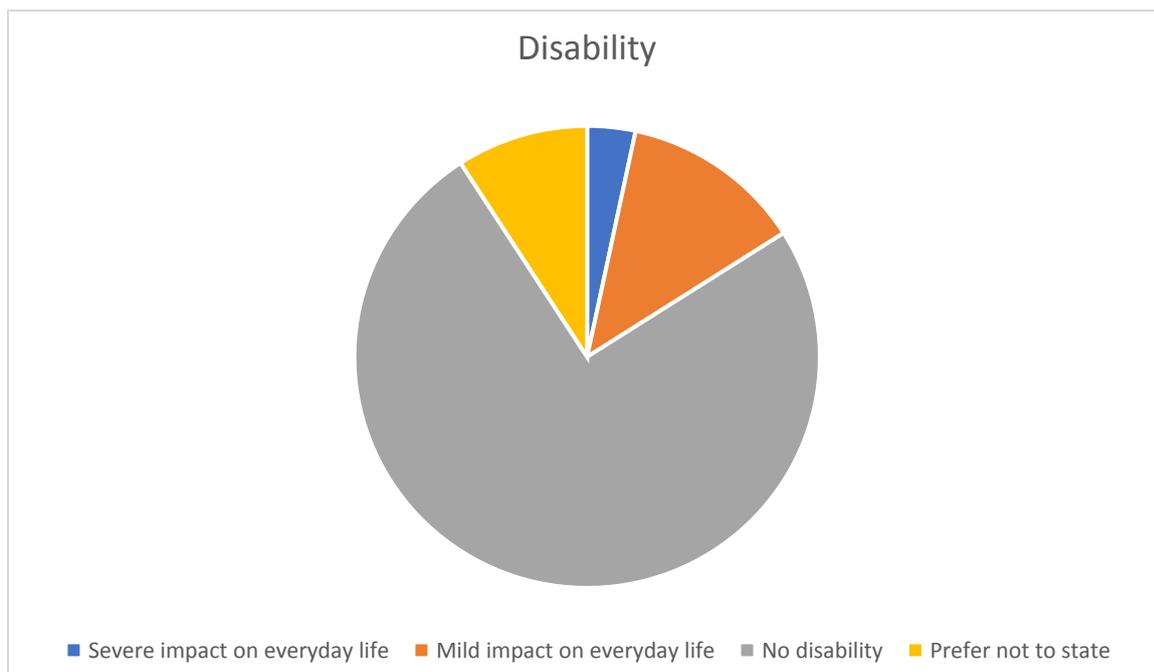
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Female	51	32
Male	49	59
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	8
Prefer to self describe	n/a	1

Question 13

Do you consider yourself to have a disability which has:

- Severe impact on my everyday life
- Mild impact on everyday life
- No disability
- Prefer not to state
- Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



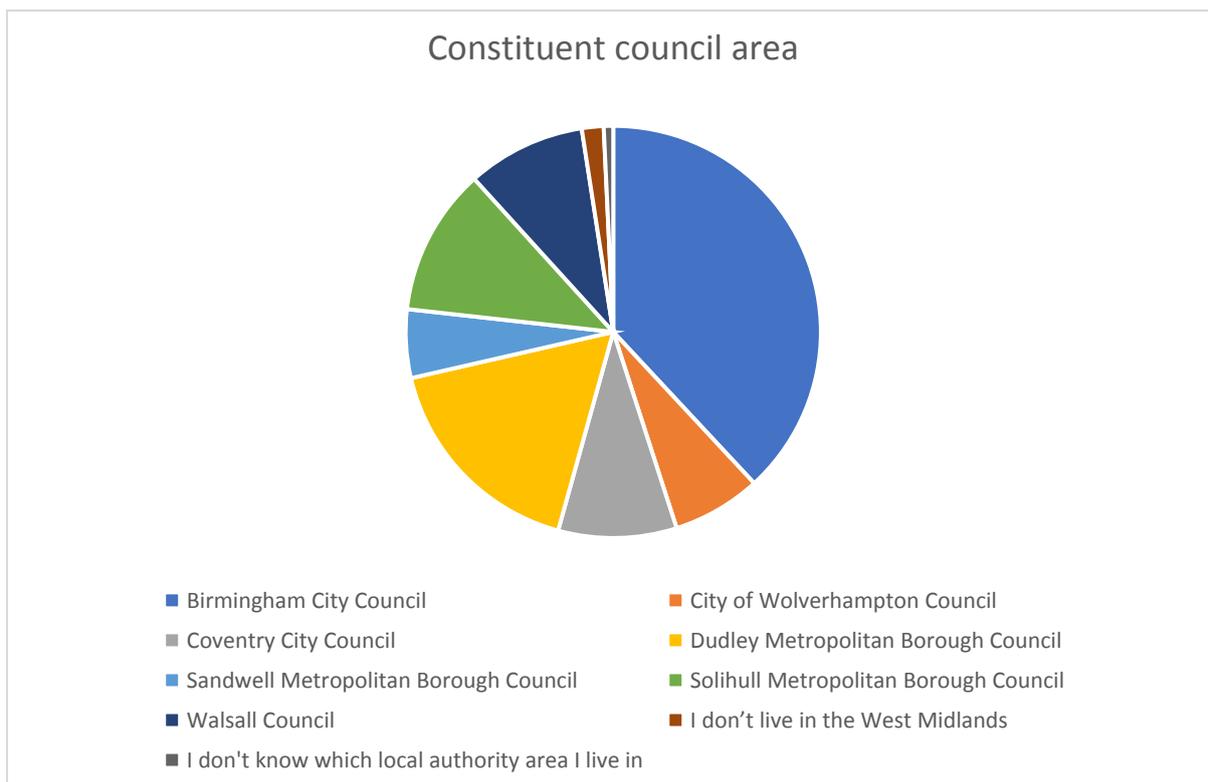
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Severe impact on everyday life	9	3
Mild impact on everyday life	10	13
No disability	81	75
Prefer not to state	n/a	9
Other (please specify)	n/a	0

Question 14

Which constituent council area do you live in?

- Birmingham City Council
 - City of Wolverhampton Council
 - Coventry City Council
 - Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Walsall Council
 - I don't live in the West Midlands
 - I don't know which local authority area I live in
- Other local authority area (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



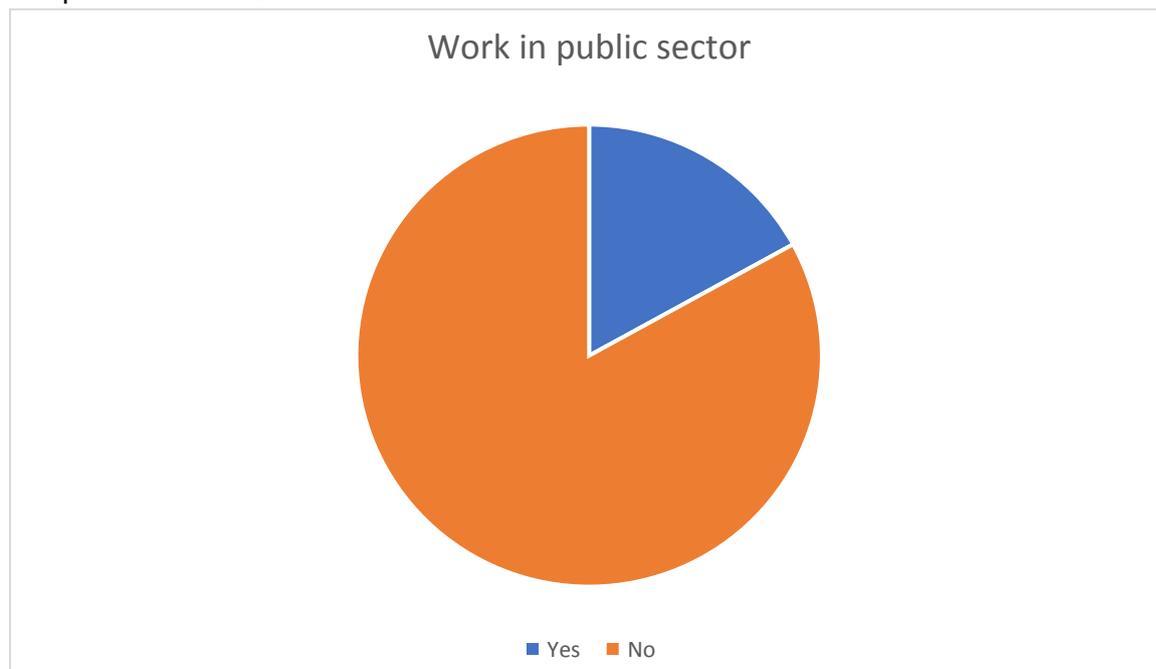
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Birmingham City Council	39	38
City of Wolverhampton Council	9	7
Coventry City Council	12	9
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	11	17
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	11	5
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	8	12
Walsall Council	10	9
I don't live in the West Midlands	n/a	2
I don't know which local authority I live in	n/a	1

Question 15

Do you work for the public sector?

- Yes
- No

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Yes	n/a	17
No	n/a	83

Data regarding whether residents in the constituent council areas work in the public or private sector was not available in the 2011 Census.

Those respondents who indicated that they worked in the public sector were then asked to name the organisation for which they worked. A summary of these responses can be found below. It is worth noting that the highest number of responses were received from West Midlands Police.

Organisation	Frequency	%
West Midlands Police	97	22
NHS	73	16
Education/School/College	55	12
Birmingham City Council	33	7
West Midlands Combined Authority	28	6
West Midlands Fire Service	24	5

APPENDIX A – BECG CONSULTATION ANALYSIS REPORT

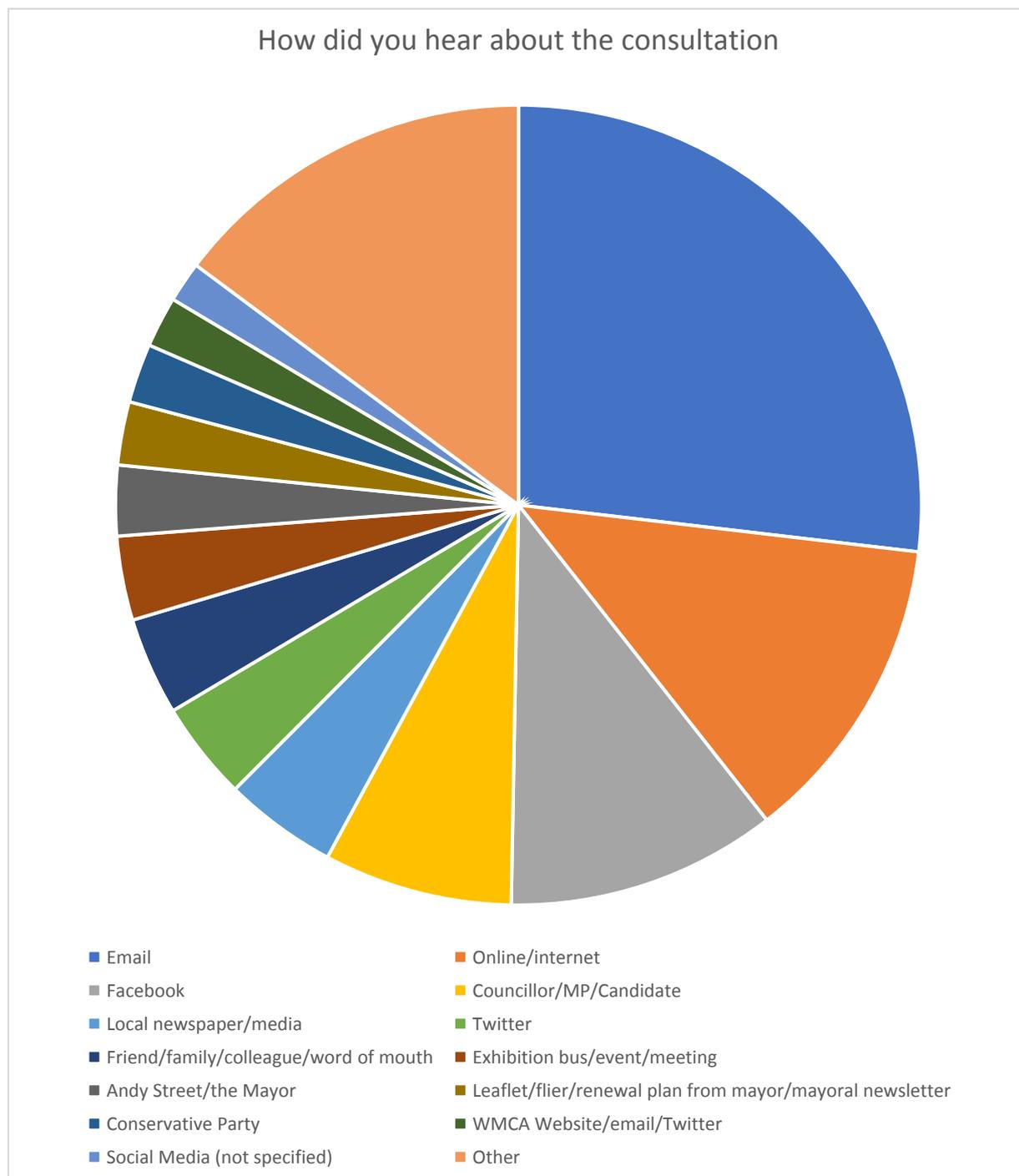
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	23	5
Walsall Council	10	2
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	10	2
Coventry City Council	8	2
Councillor	8	2
Other	74	17

The 34 organisations that received 1% of responses or lower have not been shown individually and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Question 16

Where did you hear about this consultation?

Responses are illustrated below:



Where did you hear about the consultation	Frequency	%
Email	1114	27%
Online/internet	521	13%
Facebook	450	11%
Councillor/MP/Candidate	314	8%
Local newspaper/media	189	5%
Twitter	165	4%
Friend/family/colleague/word of mouth	164	4%
Exhibition bus/event/meeting	141	3%
Andy Street/the Mayor	118	3%

APPENDIX A – BECG CONSULTATION ANALYSIS REPORT

Leaflet/flier/renewal plan from mayor/mayoral newsletter	106	3%
Conservative Party	99	2%
WMCA Website/email/Twitter	85	2%
Social Media (not specified)	68	2%
Other	612	15%

The 32 options that received 1% of responses or lower have not been shown individually and have been grouped as the 'Other' option.

7. Stage one: response by constituent council

The below table outlines the population of each of the constituent councils within the West Midlands Combined Authority, the number of responses received from each constituent council area and their relative percentages of the total. Population figures are based on the 2011 Census. The percentage of responses in the consultation will not equal 100% because responses were accepted from those not living in the WMCA area e.g. those working within the constituent council areas but not living there.

	Population	% of WMCA total population	Number of responses in consultation	% of all responses in consultation
Birmingham City Council	1,073,045	39	2270	38
City of Wolverhampton Council	249,470	9	413	7
Coventry City Council	316, 960	12	549	9
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	312, 925	11	1019	17
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	308, 063	11	320	5
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	206, 674	8	688	12
Walsall Council	269, 323	10	550	9

This shows that despite the highest number of responses coming from within Birmingham City Council, due to its relative size, the level of response was consistent with the population. There are certain constituent council areas whose response rate to the consultation was significantly different to that of their relative population, notably Dudley Metropolitan Council (which had a higher response rate than its relative population) and Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (which had a lower response rate than its relative population).

The following shows the response to each of the stage one consultation questions by constituent council area.

Question 1

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to transfer the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	55	41	4

City of Wolverhampton Council	57	39	4
Coventry City Council	49	47	4
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	66	29	5
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	39	55	6
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	67	28	5
Walsall Council	67	30	4

More people agreed or strongly agreed with the proposals to transfer the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands in six of the seven constituent council areas than disagreed or strongly disagreed. The highest percentage of respondents that ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ with the proposal to transfer powers was in Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Walsall Council (both 67%). Sandwell Borough Council was the only constituent council where more respondents disagreed with the proposals than agreed.

Question 2

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	53	41	6
City of Wolverhampton Council	54	39	7
Coventry City Council	45	47	8
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	65	29	6
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	37	55	8
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	63	29	7
Walsall Council	64	30	6

In five of the seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing than disagreed. The highest percentage of respondents that ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ that this would improve efficiency and effectiveness was in Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (65%). Sandwell Borough Council and Coventry City Council were the two constituent council areas where more respondents disagreed than agreed that the proposals would improve efficiency and effectiveness of policing.

Question 3

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the governance of policing and crime?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	52	42	7
City of Wolverhampton Council	54	39	7
Coventry City Council	45	47	8
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	63	29	7
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	35	55	10
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	63	30	7
Walsall Council	61	29	10

In five of the seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the governance of policing and crime. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that this would improve governance was in Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (both 63%). Sandwell Borough Council and Coventry City Council were the two constituent council areas where more respondents disagreed than agreed that the proposals would improve governance.

Question 4

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the ability of the public to hold the strategic leadership of policing and the wider social causes of crime to account?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	53	40	7
City of Wolverhampton Council	55	39	8
Coventry City Council	45	47	8
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	62	29	9
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	37	53	10
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	63	28	9
Walsall Council	62	29	8

In five of the seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the ability of the public to hold the strategic leadership of policing and wider social causes of crime to account. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that this would improve the ability of the public to hold policing to account was in Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (63%). Sandwell Borough Council and Coventry City Council were the two constituent

council areas where more respondents disagreed than agreed that the proposals would improve public accountability.

Question 5

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would create a stronger strategic focus on joined-up public services across the region?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	55	38	8
City of Wolverhampton Council	58	35	7
Coventry City Council	47	42	10
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	66	28	6
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	41	51	8
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	67	27	7
Walsall Council	67	27	6

There were higher levels of agreement than disagreement that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would create a stronger strategic focus on joined-up public services across the region in six of the seven constituent council areas. Respondents from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Walsall Council (both 67%) were most in agreement on this point. Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council was the only constituent council area where more respondents disagreed than agreed that the proposals would result in a more joined-up approach to public services.

Question 6

To what extent do you agree or disagree that greater co-operation and integration is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	54	39	7
City of Wolverhampton Council	55	38	7
Coventry City Council	44	44	11
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	62	29	9
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	39	54	7
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	64	28	8

Walsall Council	60	31	9
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In five of the seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that greater co-operation and integration is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that this would improve co-operation and integration was in Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (64%). Sandwell Borough Council was the only constituent council area where more respondents disagreed than agreed that the proposals would result in greater co-operation and integration. In Coventry City Council 44% respondents agreed and 44% disagreed on this point.

Question 7

To what extent do you agree or disagree that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	56	39	5
City of Wolverhampton Council	58	36	5
Coventry City Council	51	44	5
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	66	29	5
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	40	52	7
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	67	27	6
Walsall Council	67	28	5

In six of the seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' with this was in Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Walsall Council (both 67%). Sandwell Borough Council was the only constituent council area where more respondents disagreed than agreed that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Overall summary

More than half of respondents in five out of the seven constituent council areas agreed with all seven of the questions regarding the principle of the transfer of powers. Sandwell Borough Council was the only constituent council where more respondents disagreed than agreed across all seven questions. Responses from residents in Coventry City Council oscillated with respondents agreeing on certain areas and disagreeing on others.

8. Stage one: open text feedback by theme

The consultation contained an open text feedback option as part of Question 1 as below:

Question 1

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to transfer the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands?

Are there any other points you would like to make?

1,104 comments were submitted under this free text option. There was a split between those who perceived that the role of the PCC should be abolished and was a waste of money (14%), and those who felt that combining the roles would place too much power with one individual (13%). Further comments expressed a view that policing should not be political. The main free-text comments that expressed support for the proposals focused on the cost savings that would result, greater accountability and the mayor would be able to engender greater cross-service collaboration.

Negative comments focused on the wide remit that the Mayor of the West Midlands would have which would result in too much power for one individual or that the mayor would not have enough time to focus on policing. A number of the comments that were received were not directly related to the proposals to transfer responsibilities from the PCC to the Mayor however are important to consider nonetheless. These included comments regarding the need to reduce crime in the region. The free text responses are summarised by theme below. Those themes that received less than 1% have not been included and are grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
PCC was a waste of money / role should be abolished.	151	14
There would be too much power with one individual.	145	13
General comments regarding the need to reduce crime in the region.	128	12
More responsibility / accountability needed for the Mayor of West Midlands in the same way as London or Manchester.	125	11
Cost savings from the transfer of powers would mean more money could be spent on policing.	110	10
Police should be apolitical/independent from politics.	104	9
Mayor would not have enough time to focus on responsibilities regarding policing as well as other aspects of the role.	98	9
The Police should be run by police / chief constables not politicians	59	5
Mayor was a waste of money / role should be abolished.	56	5
Governance should remain the same so can focus on policing.	48	4

Mayor would not have an understanding / knowledge of policing.	38	3
Mayor would be better placed to work with other partners than the PCC.	37	3
Mayor / WMCA needs to deliver with current powers before it receives anymore.	35	3
Concerns that this would increase costs/bureaucracy and not improve policing.	34	3
Positive comment about Andy Street.	27	2
Cost-cutting measure that would result in less money going to West Midlands Police.	26	2
Effectiveness of change would depend on who the mayor was and or their policies.	19	2
Effective transparency / oversight / scrutiny was needed if the proposals were progressed.	17	2
General comments criticising police funding cuts delivered by the UK Government.	14	1
General concerns regarding the consultation process.	14	1
Other.	54	5

The remaining questions (2-7) included an open text feedback box which allowed respondents to provide further comments or expand on the answers that they provided.

Question 2.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

695 comments were submitted in the open text feedback. The highest theme of response (15%) related to the Mayor of the West Midlands not having the time to focus on policing in the region or a view that the needs of the police would be watered down. Other comments that were received which expressed concern at the proposals included the Mayor lacking knowledge in the area of policing and views that merging roles will not save any money.

Supportive free-text comments focused on how sharing services could result in more money for front-line services and more effective cross-service working. In addition, there were comments that referred to the need to keep crime panels and chief constables. Although these comments are relevant, they will be covered in stage two of the consultation which deals with the detail of the transfer.

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Mayor does not have time for this role / needs of police will be watered down under wider mayoral remit.	104	15
Merging roles will save money / shared services / less bureaucracy / more money for front line policing.	61	9
As long as crime panels and chief constables remain independent.	59	8
Will allow for joined up working / more effective cross agency working / wider strategic overview.	50	7
Mayor lacks skills / knowledge on policing.	50	7
Wider concerns about crime / causes of crime / need for more police on street.	49	7
Merging roles will be no more efficient / effective / how will it save money if both posts continue.	45	6
Police should not be political / keep this role away from politicians / police need to be independent.	41	6
Too much power in one place / separate roles needed / will be less accountable to public.	36	5
PCC has improved nothing / get rid of PCC / PCC too costly / waste of money.	33	5
Mayor / WMCA needs to deliver before getting more power / Mayor not currently doing his job.	30	4
Mayor better placed to work with other partners / will encourage joint working / wider overview.	28	4
Depends who Mayor is / depends on what Mayor's policies and priorities are.	28	4
Get rid of both posts / neither post needed / both posts ineffective.	25	4
Support current PCC / PCC needs more power not less / keep posts as are.	22	3
Leave decisions to police / police should be responsible for policing.	21	3
Consultation lack information / poorly worded / biased.	18	3
Merging will be less efficient / effective / cost more money / more bureaucracy / more red tape.	17	2
Cost cutting exercise / do not trust Mayor with budget.	10	1
Not convinced it will improve policing / don't see how this will improve policing.	9	1
Concerns about unelected deputy / need elected deputy.	8	1
Concerns Mayor will use police budget elsewhere / policing will be undermined by other budget priorities.	8	1
Only time will tell / will have to wait and see if improvements happen.	7	1
Other	11	2

Question 3.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the governance of policing and crime?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

476 respondents completed this open text feedback. The highest response by theme (17%) was regarding the focal point that a Mayor with PCC would provide for policing issues and thus improving accountability. The second most common theme was the need for more money to be spent on policing locally.

On the other hand, several comments expressed concern with the proposals and stated that they would not improve policing. The most common themes included that the mayor would not have enough time to focus on policing alongside the other responsibilities within the remit, the Mayor would not have enough knowledge of policing issues and the perceived increase in bureaucracy.

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Mayor to have PCC role / the Mayor will provide single focal point for police issues / more accountable.	79	17
Police need more money / more needs to be spent on policing/wider issues on effectiveness of policing.	42	9
Mayor doesn't have enough time for this / what will his priorities be / lack of focus.	40	8
Mayor lacks knowledge / need people with understanding of policing and crime.	38	8
Effective governance will be more difficult with mayor as more layers of bureaucracy / and large remit of Mayor.	33	7
Keep politics away from policing / policing should not be political.	28	6
It will make no difference / won't improve governance / won't improve policing.	27	6
Insufficient information to decide / do not understand current governance or how it will improve.	26	5
Get rid of PCC / Get rid of Police and Crime panel / dislike Labour-controlled PCC.	24	5
Chief constable needs wider remit/let the police run policing.	24	5
Too much power in one place / lead to less accountability / roles need to remain separate.	22	5
Will provide more strategic view / wider view / wider strategic overview given.	20	4

This should stay role of PCC / leave as it is / leave PCC as being accountable / clearer this way.	19	4
Mayor is ineffective / not achieving / waste of money / just a figure head.	13	3
Depends on who is Mayor.	11	2
Get rid of both roles / waste of money.	10	2
Mayor will need good relations with police relationship and partners to stop conflict.	9	2
Published audits needed / sufficient scrutiny needed / clear guidelines.	8	2
Mayor has more power and influence / will be able to get more money from Government.	8	2
It will improve scrutiny / Governance / WMCA already does this well.	7	1
Will make no difference, should both be accountable already / effective governance should already be in place.	3	1
Will cut duplication/bureaucracy.	3	1
Other	16	3

Question 4.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would improve the ability of the public to hold the strategic leadership of policing and the wider social causes of crime to account?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

496 respondents completed this open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. The most common theme was that the Mayor would be more accountable and democratic than the PCC – 19% of these respondents expressed this opinion. Conversely 9% of respondents thought that a Mayor would be less accountable as there would be greater power with one individual. As with a majority of the free-text feedback boxes, a number of individuals expressed the need for greater funding for policing.

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Mayor is more accountable / one focal point / will be more democratic / open to public.	94	19
Mayor is less accountable / Mayor too remote / too much power in one pair of hands/segmentation of roles needed	46	9
Need more policing /less cuts / more funding/more front-line policing/end police funding cuts	41	8
Mayor has too big a remit / not enough time / accountability diluted by other responsibilities.	39	8

Not sure it will make any difference/not sure it will have any effect on crime or wider social causes of crime or improve ability of public to hold leadership to account.	32	6
PCC has one remit so it better placed / PCC does this already / PCC must remain autonomous / PCC already accountable.	30	6
Function will become more political / too political.	24	5
Mayor will have better overview / will bring partners together / integrated strategic approach will help / joined up approach.	23	5
Mayor lacks experience in policing / Major lack policing knowledge / concerns over Mayor's lack of policing knowledge.	21	4
Current Mayor / WMCA is ineffective / too big too fast.	20	4
No one knows who PCC is / PCC ineffective / PCC lacks visibility / PCC lacks accountability.	19	4
Public should be governors not officials / panels not one person / get people involved / community groups.	14	3
Chief constable should do this / police best place to run policing.	14	3
Consultation hard to understand / repetitive / irrelevant / lacks information to answer questions.	13	3
Too much bureaucracy / will increase bureaucracy / will cost more.	12	2
Need more information on how it will work.	10	2
Both posts irrelevant / unaccountable / need neither.	9	2
Depends on how Mayor engages with public / need to engage more with public.	9	2
Police held to account well already / happens already.	9	2
Will need to ensure all parties work effectively together and not just blame each other.	9	2
Mayor will not hold police to account / doubts Mayor will hold police to account.	7	1
Will depend on who Mayor is / what Mayor's policies are.	7	1
Other	7	1
Good idea if it works / time will tell.	6	1
Could save money / costs / end duplication / only if will save money.	5	1
Need to ensure scrutiny from elected members / needs to have reporting structure.	5	1
Mayor doesn't have much influence on Government / councils / social matters.	4	1
Policing should be kept separate from wider social issues.	4	1
Government should hold police to account / home office should do this.	3	1

Question 5.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner functions would create a stronger strategic focus on joined-up public services across the region?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

515 respondents completed the open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. Nearly one quarter of the 515 respondents (24%) said that a Mayor with PCC responsibilities would result in a joined-up approach to addressing wider issues. Other benefits raised within this theme included the ability for the Mayor to have one overall vision for the delivery of services.

A number of respondents indicated that this joined-up approach could be achieved without a transfer of responsibilities by the Mayor and PCC working closer together and that police require more funding and resources to be able to do this. Further themes that indicated concern with the proposals included that a Mayor wouldn't have enough time to focus on policing.

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Good idea / much needed / Mayor would allow more focus on wider issues / multi agency work / all views considered / joined up thinking / one overall vision.	125	24
PCC can have role in this along with Mayor / PCC function to remain separate / PCC can do this it does not have to be Mayor.	58	11
Mayor doesn't have enough time / not sure Mayor will improve this / not enough time to focus.	39	8
Police need more funding / won't happen due to budget cuts to police and other agencies / need more resources.	37	7
Will led to too many trying to have a say / too many agendas / too much disagreement and conflict / all talk no action.	33	6
Too political / too many political differences for this to work.	30	6
Mayor is more democratic / Mayor more accountable too public / clear who is doing what / Mayor too hold people to account.	22	4
This is done already / this happens already / fine as it is.	21	4
Mayor is less accountable / undemocratic / who holds him to account / too much power for one person.	20	4
Must show how this will result in improved outcomes for public / no evidence this will be improved / how will this work.	18	3
Don't need PCC / PCC has been poor at this.	16	3

Depends who Mayor is / depends on who is elected and their polices.	15	3
Mayor / WMCA does not have right skills / knowledge.	15	3
Negative comment about consultation issue / lack information to answer / need more information.	12	2
Do not need either post.	11	2
Police should regulate themselves / police are best placed to do this / those in front line to make decisions.	10	2
Don't need Mayor / Mayor ineffective / unproven.	10	2
All agencies need to be involved / key services outside WMCA remit / only if third sector fully recognised by Mayor e.g. charities, mental health etc.	9	2
More bureaucracy / too confusing / waste of money.	8	2
WMCA failing to deliver,	8	2
Why isn't this done already / this should be happening already without new arrangements.	7	1
Wider comment on funding for public services / Brexit / other issues.	7	1
Involve public as well / community panels.	6	1
Will lead to less bureaucracy / red tape / more efficient.	6	1
Cost cutting exercise.	5	1
Merging means savings will be made / economic sense / saving that can be used for front line policing.	5	1
Police should focus on policing not other issues.	3	1
Other	6	1

Question 6.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that greater co-operation and integration is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

535 respondents completed the open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. There was a split amongst respondents as to whether co-operation is likely to be achieved with the Mayor having responsibility for both fire and police services. 19% of responses said that the functions for fire and policing should remain separate whereas 17% said that emergency services would be more integrated under the Mayor of the West Midlands.

Once again, there was a concern from some respondents that if the Mayor of the West Midlands was to also have responsibilities for policing there would be not enough time for the responsibilities to be effectively carried out and the Mayor would have too much power.

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Functions of emergency services should remain separate / need to remain separate/service have separate skills / functions.	103	19
Emergency services will be more integrated under Mayor / support more integrated services / makes sense to join together.	92	17
Too much work for Mayor / not enough time / conflicting demands.	73	14
Mayoral office will have too much power / influence / too much power in one place.	35	7
One accountable individual needed for all services / makes services more accountable.	28	5
Mayor does not have skills / experience.	28	5
Resources could be stretched / cost cutting exercise / resources will be reduced / jobs lost.	25	5
How will this merger improve things for public / unsure this will lead to improvements / how will any measurable improvements be made.	24	4
PCC role to have role in this / PCC or others could take on this instead of Mayor / doesn't need to be Mayor's role.	20	4
Keep politics out of emergency services / these are not remit of political Mayor / too political.	20	4
Services work together already without Mayor / already happens.	19	4
Bad idea / will water down services.	13	2
Happening too quick / concentrate on one service at a time / Mayor proved nothing yet.	13	2
Depends on who Mayor is / what Mayor's policies are.	13	2
Merging will save costs / make more efficient / services should be merged to save costs.	11	2
Proper scrutiny needed / need to ensure proper scrutiny.	9	2
Don't want Mayor.	8	1
Will increase bureaucracy / red tape / less efficient.	7	1
Police need more funding / more funding for emergency services.	7	1
Negative comment about consultation / lack info / repetitive.	7	1
Some operational functions e.g. back room staff / call centre can be shared.	6	1
Wider concerns about Government cuts / effect of wider Government cuts.	6	1
Will need deputy Mayor / support team.	4	1
Need more community input / local input from councils etc.	4	1
Get rid of both posts.	4	1

What does FBU / fire service have to say on this? Potential for conflict.	3	1
Other	4	1

Question 7.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that there should be one accountable individual for the functions that come under the Mayor and the Police and Crime Commissioner?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

459 respondents completed the open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. There was a clear split amongst respondents with 20% indicating that a single individual Mayor was needed to enable accountability whereas 19% expressed a view that this would result in too much power in one role and as a result lead to less accountability.

Other notable themes included a desire that the Mayor and PCC remain as separate functions, which should be considered as respondents opposing the proposals to the transfer powers, with a strength of feeling that it should be apolitical.

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Single individual Mayor needed for public / voters / to hold to account / one person with responsibility.	94	20
Too much power in one role / wide remit will make post less accountable / undemocratic.	88	19
Mayor and PCC to remain separate elected functions / both roles to be separate and accountable / keep these jobs separate.	83	18
Policing should not be political / should be independent.	28	6
Too much work for one person / will not have enough time.	16	3
Need neither role / waste of money.	15	3
Need to get structure right / ensure proper scrutiny in place / checks and balances / ensure truly accountable.	13	3
Chief constable should control police / police should run policing.	13	3
Accountability should be held by group of skilled people / committees.	13	3
Combining roles will be more cost effect / Money could be spent elsewhere / will save money.	12	3
Depends on who Mayor is / who has role.	12	3
Governments influence police budget not Mayor / Government sets police budget and policies.	11	2
Do not need PCC / waste of money.	11	2

APPENDIX A – BECG CONSULTATION ANALYSIS REPORT

Mayor will fail to hold police to account / will be scapegoat.	11	2
Bad idea / disagree / this will not work.	10	2
More layers of management / bureaucracy.	8	2
Concerns over deputy / pass buck to deputy / deputy needs to be accountable.	7	2
Need deputy to focus on policing / will need to delegate to others / elected deputy needed.	6	1
Insufficient information to answer/not sure how it will help	6	1
Consultation confusing/repetitive/poorly worded	6	1
Public need more influence/panel of people/rep at local level	5	1
Current mayor is failing/proved nothing yet/should focus on current role	5	1
Do not need mayor/waste of money	4	1
Mayor lacks knowledge/skills	3	1
Other	12	3

9. Stage two: summary

Stage two of the consultation took place between Monday 14 January 2019 and Monday 11 March 2019 and focused on the proposed detail of how the strategic leadership and direction (governance) of policing would operate within the WMCA and who would be responsible for making decisions (scheme).

The second stage of the consultation was completed by 735 respondents. Of these, 632 were online and 103 were paper returns. The table below provides a summary of the responses to each of the questions followed by a summary of key findings. Respondents may not have answered all questions and percentages are rounded and so may not add up to 100%.

Consultation Questions	Strongly Agree/ Agree		Neither agree or disagree		Strongly Disagree / Disagree		Don't Know	
	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%
1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that having a Mayor and DMPC is more appropriate for the West Midlands than having two separate representatives (a Mayor and Police and Crime Commissioner)?	471	65	33	5	222	30	6	1
2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area, as is currently the case for the Police and Crime Commissioner?	585	81	74	10	61	8	9	1
3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and their substitutes?	533	74	101	14	77	11	14	2
4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that SPCB is important to facilitate public engagement and involvement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters and helping inform decision makers?	544	75	87	12	83	11	11	2
5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Councillors	554	77	67	9	86	12	17	2

who sit on the WMCA Board and their named substitutes should be restricted from sitting on the PCP as well?								
6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially?	500	69	124	17	82	11	16	2

***Respondents may not have answered all questions and percentages are rounded and so may not add up to 100%.**

Demographic summary

Respondents were asked a number of demographic questions, including age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, gender, and disability. In addition, respondents were asked which constituent council area they came from, and whether they work in the public or private sector. A summary of the demographic responses is below, with a full breakdown later in the report. The demographic data is also compared to census data from 2011, where available. All questions have also been broken down by constituent council later in the report.

- In regard to age, the two largest groups of respondents were 65+ year-olds (44%) and 45-64 year-olds (34%), followed by 25-44 year-olds (16%). Only 3% of respondents were under 24.
- In regard to sexual orientation, the majority of respondents classified themselves as heterosexual / straight (79%). The next highest category of response was 'prefer not to disclose' (13%). All other categories received under 5%: 2% classified themselves as bi, 4% as a gay man, 0% as a gay woman / lesbian, and 2% 'prefer to self-describe'.
- In regard to ethnicity, the majority of respondents classed themselves as white British. That category accounted for 79% of respondents. The next highest category was those who did not wish to disclose their ethnicity (9%). The only other categories to receive 2% or higher were Other (2%), White other (4%) and Asian British (2%).
- In regard to religion, 57% of respondents classed themselves as Christian, 26% as having no religion, and 13% chose not to disclose. The remaining options received 2% (Muslim) and 1% (for Hindu, Judaism and Sikh respectively).
- In regard to gender, 63% of respondents were male, and 28% female. 7% of respondents did not wish to disclose their gender, and 1% preferred to self-describe.
- In regard to disability, 69% of respondents stated they had no disability, 19% said they had a disability which had a mild impact on their everyday life, and 8% preferred not to state. 4% of respondents stated that they had a disability which had a severe impact on their everyday life.
- In regard to which constituent council area respondents live in, 37% came from Birmingham City Council, 15% Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and 14% Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council. Walsall Council accounted for 10%, Coventry City Council 8%, and City of Wolverhampton Council and Sandwell Metropolitan

Borough Council both accounted for 7%. 2% of respondents stated that they did not live in the West Midlands.

- In regard to whether respondents work in the public or private sector, 16% stated public sector, and 84% stated not public sector. The full breakdown of public sector organisations cited is included later in this report.

Overview of responses

- More than 6 in 10 respondents (65%) agreed that having a Mayor and DMPC is more appropriate for the West Midlands than having two separate representatives (a Mayor and a Police and Crime Commissioner).
- More than 8 in 10 respondents (81%) agreed that the role of DMPC should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area.
- Nearly three quarters of respondents (74%) agreed that the role of DMPC should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and their substitutes.
- Three quarters of respondents (75%) agreed that SPCB is important to facilitate engagement and involvement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters and in helping to inform decision-makers.
- Nearly 8 in 10 respondents (77%) agreed that Councillors and their named substitutes who sit on the WMCA Board should be restricted from sitting on the PCP as well.
- Nearly 7 in 10 respondents (69%) agreed that the current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be initially retained.

10. Stage two: breakdown by question

Question 1

In its Governance Review, WMCA proposes that the Mayor appoints a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) and delegates certain functions to them. The DMPC would provide a strong role in supporting the Mayor to discharge the Police and Crime Commissioner functions.

Alongside the Mayor, the DMPC position would be both visible and credible, playing a prominent national role befitting the second largest force in the country and as such having an ability to understand and promote best practice not only internally but nationally as well. Whilst not a legal requirement to appoint a DMPC the WMCA would strongly advocate such an appointment by a Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner Powers. The Mayor would remain accountable for the discharge of the Police and Crime Commissioner functions, setting objectives for West Midlands policing but would be supported by a DMPC in carrying out the role. The DMPC would be accountable to the Mayor and would exercise certain powers on the Mayor's behalf. This arrangement is already in place in other areas where the powers of the Police and Crime Commissioner are exercised by an elected Mayor.

Under this model a Mayor supported by a DMPC would work together to deliver the Mayor's strategic plan whilst under the current arrangement a Mayor and a separate Police and Crime Commissioner work to two separate strategic plans.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that having a Mayor and DMPC is more appropriate for the West Midlands than having two separate representatives (a Mayor and Police and Crime Commissioner)?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 1 Response Summary

65% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that having a Mayor and DPMC is more appropriate for the West Midlands than having two separate representatives.

On the other hand, 30% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that having a Mayor and DPMC is more appropriate for the West Midlands than having two separate representatives.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 1 was provided on the questionnaire. 214 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Keep politics out of policing* (27 comments; 13%)
- *Keep PCC and Mayor roles separate / they are too important to combine* (24 comments; 11%)
- *Elected Mayor with DMPC should be responsible and accountable for policing as in London* (22 comments; 10%)
- *Need to ensure that the proposal saves money* (20 comments; 9%)
- *The proposal will increase cost and bureaucracy* (20 comments; 9%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	335	46
Agree	136	19
Neither agree or disagree	33	5
Disagree	46	6
Strongly Disagree	176	24
Don't know	6	1

Question 2

In addition to the existing restrictions on a Deputy PCC, it is proposed that the DMPC will also be restricted to an individual on the electoral register in the WMCA area, as it is for the Police and Crime Commissioner role.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area, as is currently the case for the Police and Crime Commissioner?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 2 Response Summary

80% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the DMPC position should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area, as is currently the case for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

In contrast, 8% 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that the DMPC position should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area.

The remaining respondents either stated they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they ‘Don’t know’.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 2 was provided on the questionnaire. 142 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Should live locally to ensure the focus is on local issues* (55 comments; 39%)
- *The role should go to whoever is best qualified for the job, which should be based on merit not geography* (31 comments; 22%)
- *Disagree with the role of DMPC / role is not needed* (23 comments; 16%)
- *DMPC should not be a member of a political party* (8 comments; 6%)
- *DMPC has to be someone who has served on the police force* (5 comments; 4%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	399	55
Agree	186	26
Neither agree or disagree	74	10
Disagree	24	3
Strongly Disagree	37	5
Don't know	9	1

Question 3

It is proposed that the position of Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) excludes councillors from the Constituent Councils who have a position on the WMCA Board. This would also exclude the named substitute councillors who attend on their behalf when they are unavailable to attend in person.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and their substitutes?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 3 Response Summary

74% of respondents ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ that the DMPC position should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and their substitutes.

Conversely, 10% of respondents ‘strongly disagreed’ or ‘disagreed’ that the DMPC position should have any restrictions.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they ‘Don’t know’.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 3 was provided on the questionnaire. 121 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Politics should be kept out of the role* (28 comments; 23%)
- *This will help to stop conflicts of interest* (14 comments; 12%)
- *Councillors do not have the skills for the role / all councillors should be excluded* (12 comments; 10%)
- *Objection to the proposals and the role of DMPC* (11 comments; 9%)
- *This is needed to ensure the independence of the DMPC* (11 comments; 9%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	345	48
Agree	188	26
Neither agree or disagree	101	14
Disagree	38	5
Strongly Disagree	39	5
Don't know	14	2

Question 4

The Police and Crime Commissioner is currently supported in holding the Police to account by a Strategic Policing and Crime Board (SPCB). The Police and Crime Commissioner appoints the members of the SPCB through an open process. The SPCB meets in public on a monthly basis and focuses on a strategic review of police performance and regional issues.

The SPCB’s role is to assist the Police and Crime Commissioner in holding the Chief Constable and West Midlands Police to account in delivering the Police and Crime Plan (wider policing objectives) and to both challenge and support the overall performance of West Midlands Police.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that SPCB is important to facilitate public engagement and involvement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters and helping inform decision makers?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 4 Response Summary

76% of respondents ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ that SPCB is important to facilitate public engagement and involvement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters and helping inform decision makers.

On the other hand, 11% of respondents ‘strongly disagreed’ or ‘disagreed’ that the SPCB is important to engage with the public and utilise their involvement in resolving policing and crime matters.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they ‘Don’t know’.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 4 was provided on the questionnaire. 101 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *SPCB helps to facilitate public engagement and hold the police to account (22 comments; 22%)*
- *SPCB is ineffective and fails to hold the police to account (17 comments; 17%)*
- *There are better ways to ensure accountability than through the SPCB (10 comments; 10%)*
- *Unaware if the SPCB and its remit (8 comments; 8%)*
- *Cannot run the police by committee (7 comments; 7%)*

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	293	40
Agree	251	35
Neither agree or disagree	87	12
Disagree	39	5
Strongly Disagree	44	6
Don’t know	11	2

Question 5

A Police and Crime Panel (PCP), required by law, supports and scrutinises the Police and Crime Commissioner and their decisions. The panel is made up of councillors across the West Midlands and two independent appointees. The Panel will remain and continue with its role if the responsibilities are transferred to the Mayor.

Currently membership of the PCP, for local authority councillors, is not restricted and involves appointed local councillors and their named substitutes. WMCA is proposing that Councillors of the WMCA Board and their named substitutes would not be allowed to be members of both the PCP and the WMCA Board.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Councillors who sit on the WMCA Board and their named substitutes should be restricted from sitting on the PCP as well?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 5 Response Summary

77% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that Councillors who sit on the WMCA Board and their named substitutes should be restricted from sitting on the PCP as well.

Conversely, 12% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that Councillors who hold those positions should be restricted in these circumstances.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 5 was provided on the questionnaire. 92 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *There cannot be the same people on both boards / there needs to be impartiality and independence (24 comments; 26%)*
- *Councillors should be able to sit on both boards (16 comments; 17%)*
- *Important to prevent conflicts of interest (12 comments; 13%)*
- *PCP should comprise members of the public not councillors (8 comments; 9%)*
- *Needs to be less political / keep politics out of policing (6 comments; 7%)*

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	331	46
Agree	223	31
Neither agree or disagree	67	9
Disagree	45	6
Strongly Disagree	41	6
Don't know	17	2

Question 6

To ensure continuity of service and a seamless transition of responsibilities in May 2020, and to build on the work already undertaken by the current Police and Crime Commissioner it is intended that the existing day to day working practices of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) are retained initially as at day 1 of the new arrangements.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 6 Response Summary

69% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially. Conversely, 11% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that this should be the case.

The remaining respondents either stated that they did not agree or disagree with the statement or stated that they 'Don't know'.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 6 was provided on the questionnaire. 103 responses included open text responses. The top five most frequent comments/responses to this question were:

- *Good idea to ensure smooth transition* (25 comments; 24%)
- *Get rid of OPCC from the start and have a new structure in place from day one* (14 comments; 14%)
- *Maintain PCC as it is now* (12 comments; 12%)
- *Decision has already been made / what are the results of stage one?* (8 comments; 8%)
- *Against the PCC / PCC is a waste of money* (6 comments; 6%)

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	223	31
Agree	277	38
Neither agree or disagree	124	17
Disagree	44	6
Strongly Disagree	38	5
Don't know	16	2

Questions 1-6: 'Don't know' responses received

All questions received at least 1% of respondents saying that they 'Don't know'. Questions 3, 4, 5 and 6 received 2%. Question 5 received the highest number of 'Don't know' responses, with 17 (2%).

Questions 7-14

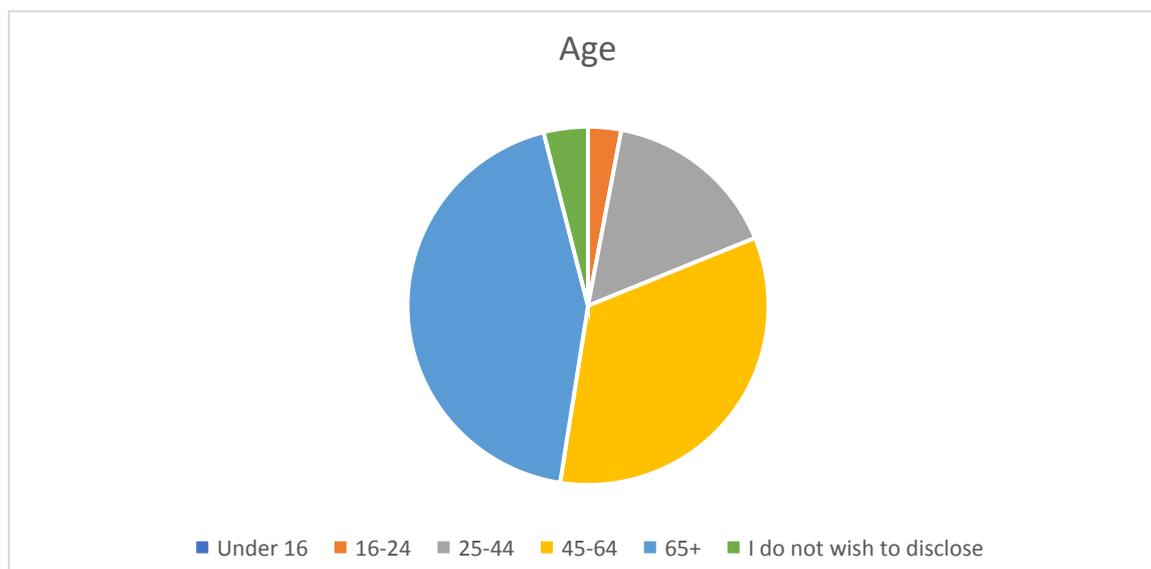
These questions asked respondents about their characteristics as well as how respondents came to hear about the survey. Below the results of these demographic questions have been compared to the 2011 Census data for the constituent council areas to demonstrate how representative the responses to the consultation were. Certain demographic questions that were asked during this consultation were omitted from the 2011 Census or asked in a different way and therefore cannot be compared directly.

Question 7

Could you tell us your age?

- Under 16
- 16-24
- 25-44
- 45-64
- 65+
- I do not wish to disclose

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Under 16	13	0
16-24	12	3
25-44	26	16
45-64	25	34
65+	17	44

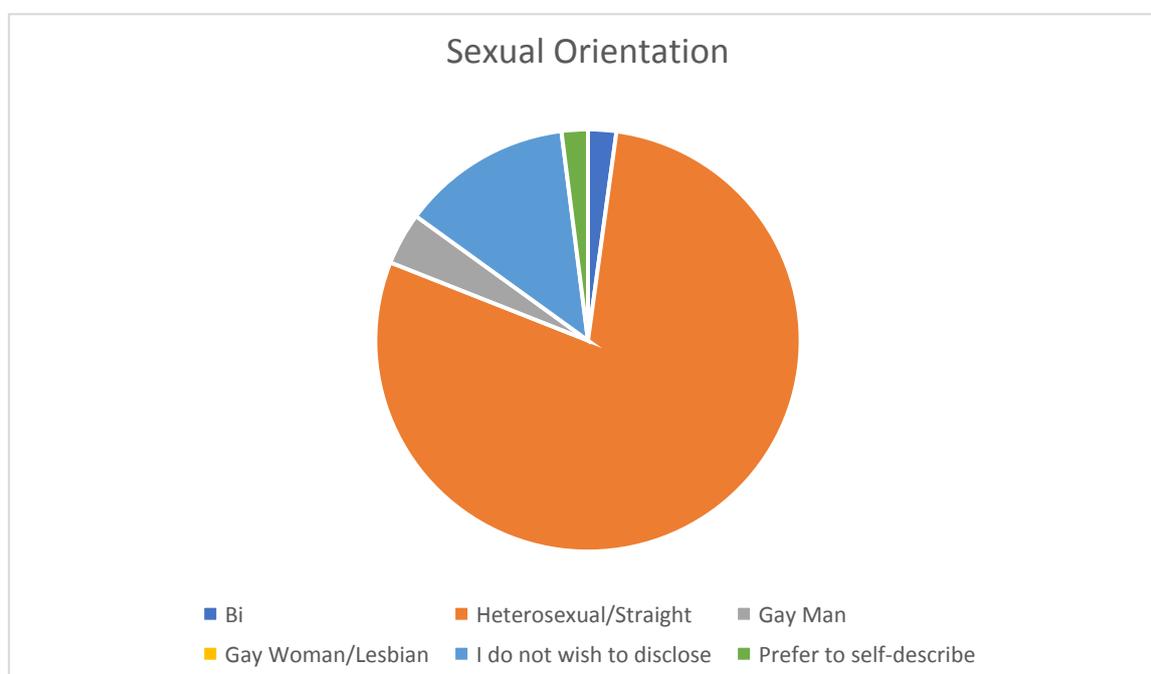
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	4
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Question 8

Could you please disclose your sexual orientation?

- Bi
- Heterosexual/Straight
- Gay man
- Gay woman/Lesbian
- I do not wish to disclose
- Prefer to self-describe

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Bi	n/a	2
Heterosexual/Straight	n/a	79
Gay Man	n/a	4
Gay Woman/Lesbian	n/a	0
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	13
Prefer to self-describe	n/a	2

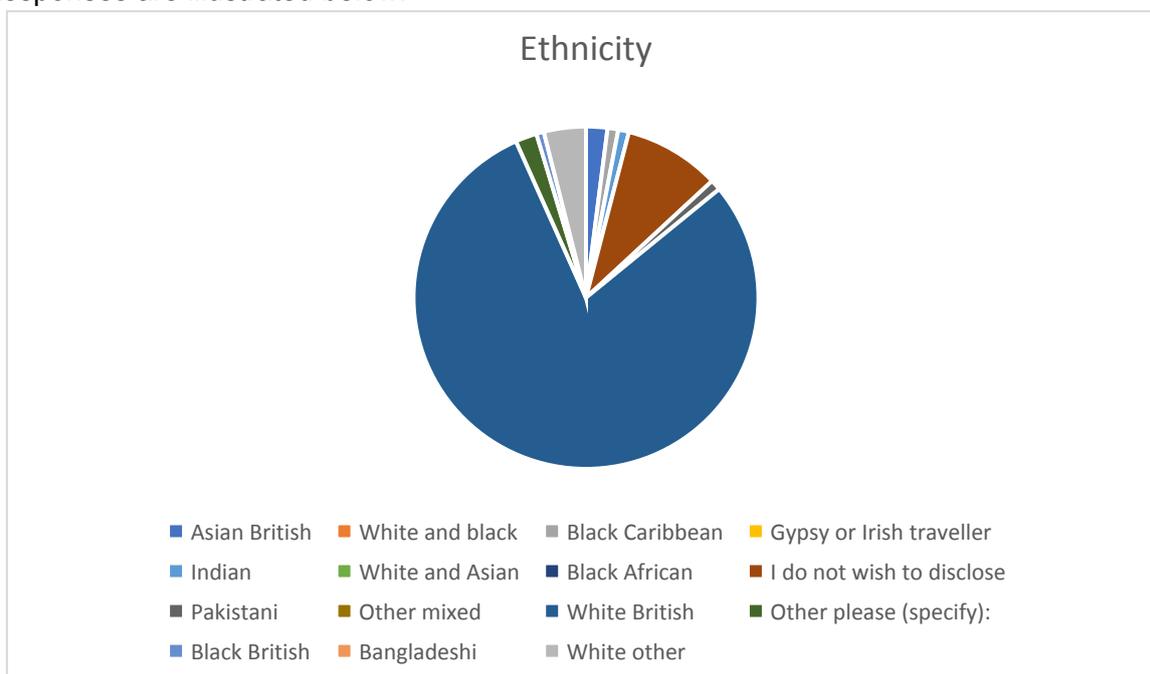
Data regarding the sexual orientation of residents in the constituent council areas was not available in the 2011 Census.

Question 9

Ethnicity

- Asian British
- White and black
- Black Caribbean
- Gypsy or Irish traveller
- Indian
- White and Asian
- Black African
- I do not wish to disclose
- Pakistani
- Other mixed
- White British
- Other please (specify):
- Black British
- Bangladeshi
- White other

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Asian British	n/a	2
White and black	n/a	0
Black Caribbean	n/a	1

Gypsy or Irish traveller	n/a	0
Indian	n/a	1
White and Asian	n/a	0
Black African	n/a	0
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	9
Pakistani	n/a	1
Other mixed	n/a	0
White British	n/a	79
Other please (specify):	n/a	2
Black British	n/a	1
Bangladeshi	n/a	0
White other	n/a	4

The question regarding the ethnicity of respondents was asked in a different way in this consultation to that in the 2011 Census. This means that the responses cannot be directly compared however the 2011 Census data is below for reference.

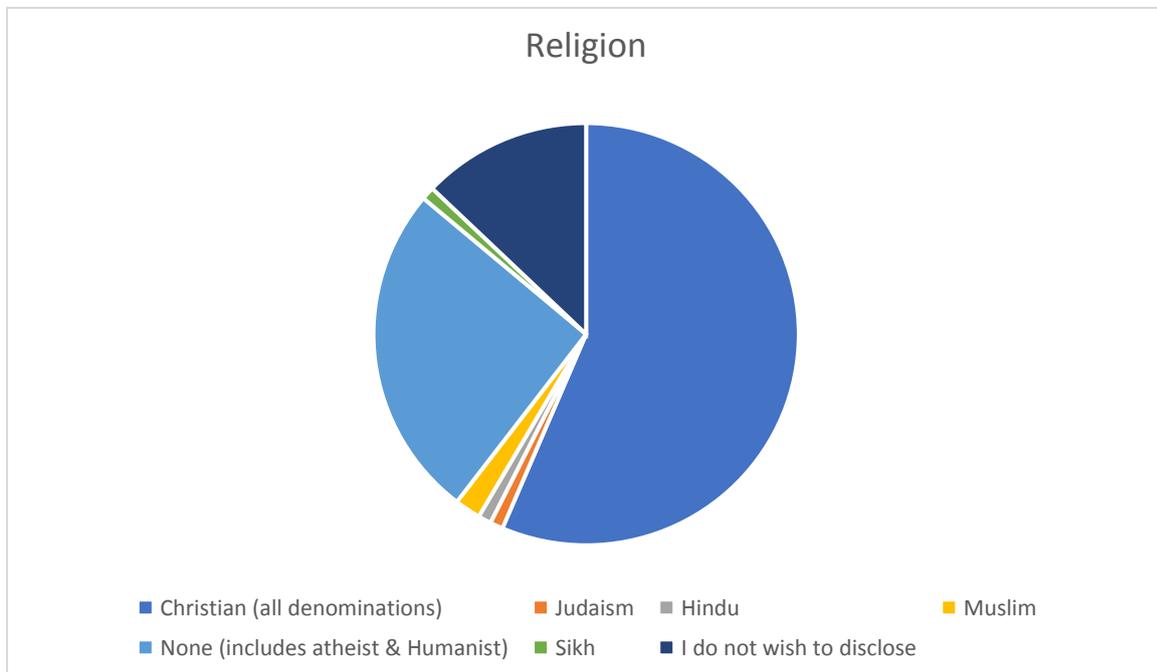
2011 Census Data	
Ethnicity	% of WMCA total population
Total White	83
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	79
Irish	1
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0
Other White	3
Total Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Group	2
White and Black Caribbean	1
White and Black African	0
White and Asian	1
Other Mixed	0
Total Asian/Asian British	11
Indian	4
Pakistani	4
Bangladeshi	1
Chinese	1
Other Asian	1
Total Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	3
African	1
Caribbean	2
Other Black	1
Total Other Ethnic Group	1
Arab	0
Any other ethnic group	1

Question 10

Religion

- Christian (all denominations)
- Hindu
- Muslim
- None (includes atheist and Humanist)
- Sikh
- I do not wish to disclose
- Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



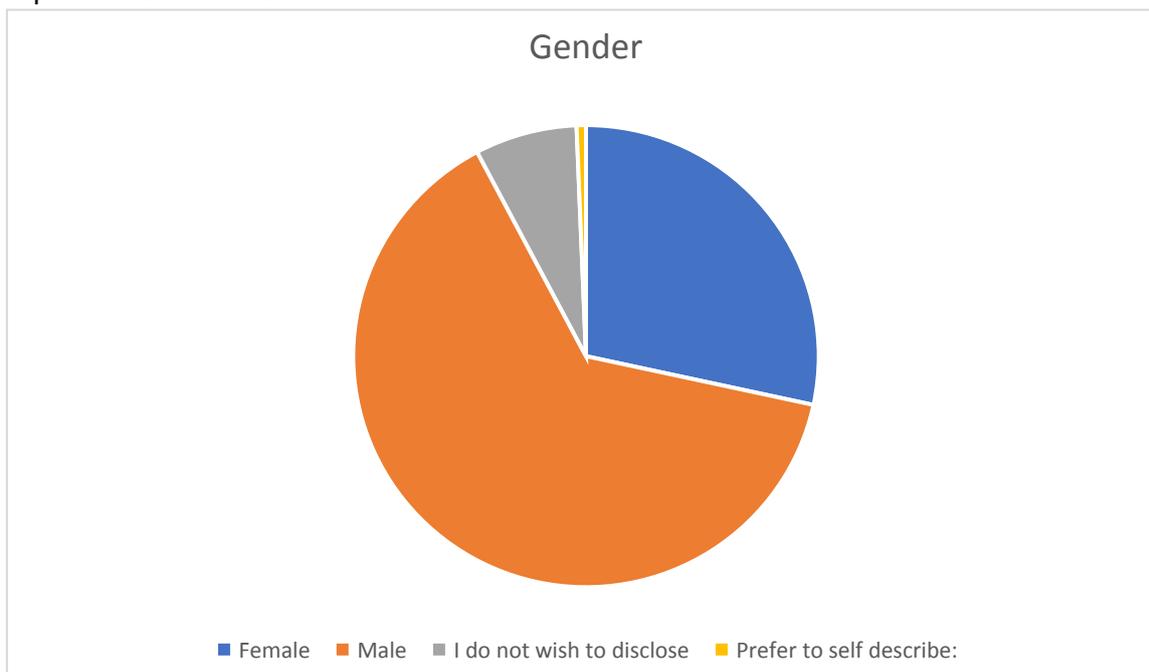
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Christian (all denominations)	60	57
Hindu	1	1
Judaism	n/a	1
Muslim	7	2
None (includes atheist and Humanist)	22	26
Sikh	2	1
I do not wish to disclose	7	13
Other (please specify)	1	0

Question 11

Could you please disclose your gender?

- Female
- Male
- I do not wish to disclose
- Prefer to self describe

Responses are illustrated below:



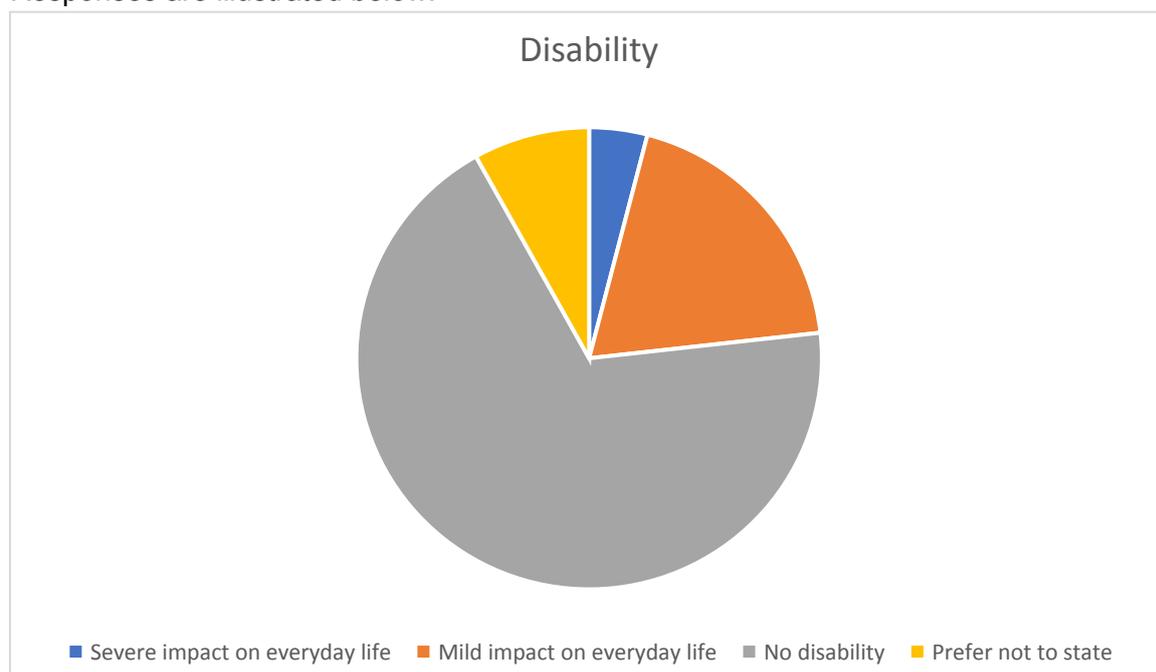
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Female	51	28
Male	49	63
I do not wish to disclose	n/a	7
Prefer to self describe	n/a	1

Question 12

Do you consider yourself to have a disability which has:

- Severe impact on my everyday life
- Mild impact on everyday life
- No disability
- Prefer not to state
- Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



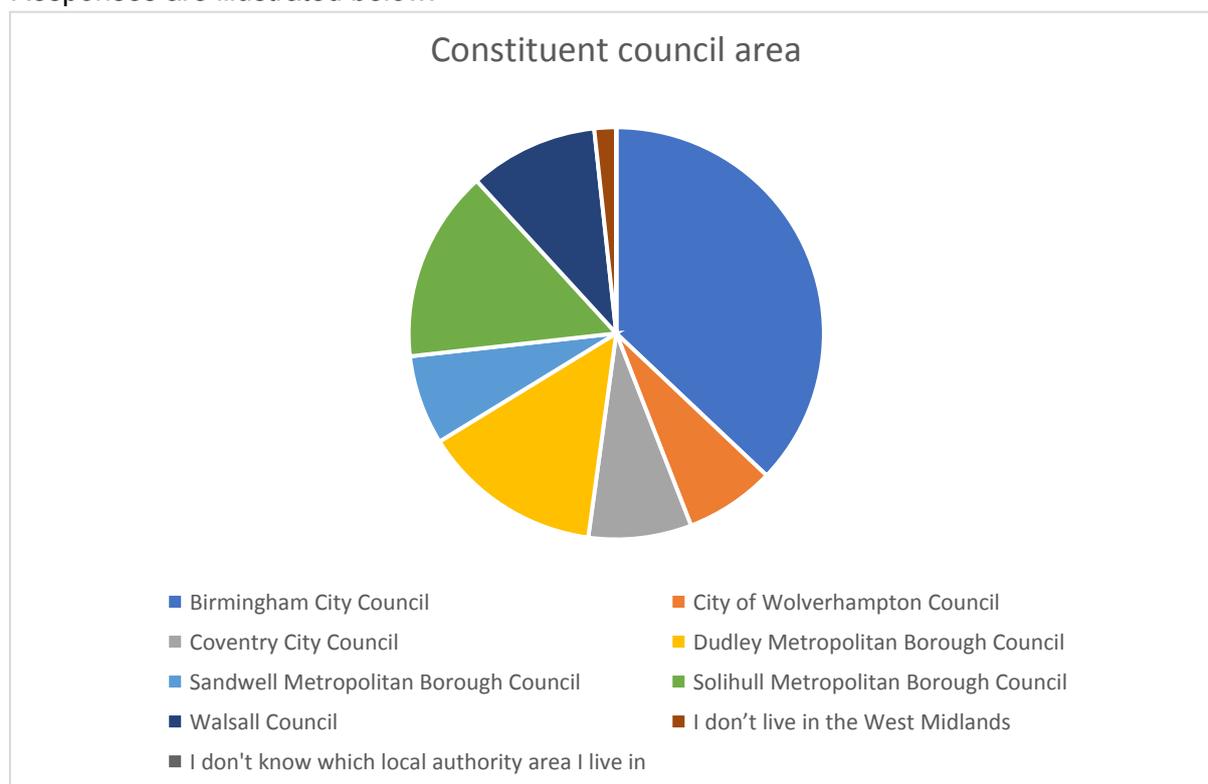
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Severe impact on everyday life	9	4
Mild impact on everyday life	10	19
No disability	81	69
Prefer not to state	n/a	8
Other (please specify)	n/a	0

Question 13

Which constituent council area do you live in?

- Birmingham City Council
 - City of Wolverhampton Council
 - Coventry City Council
 - Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Walsall Council
 - I don't live in the West Midlands
 - I don't know which local authority area I live in
- Other local authority area (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



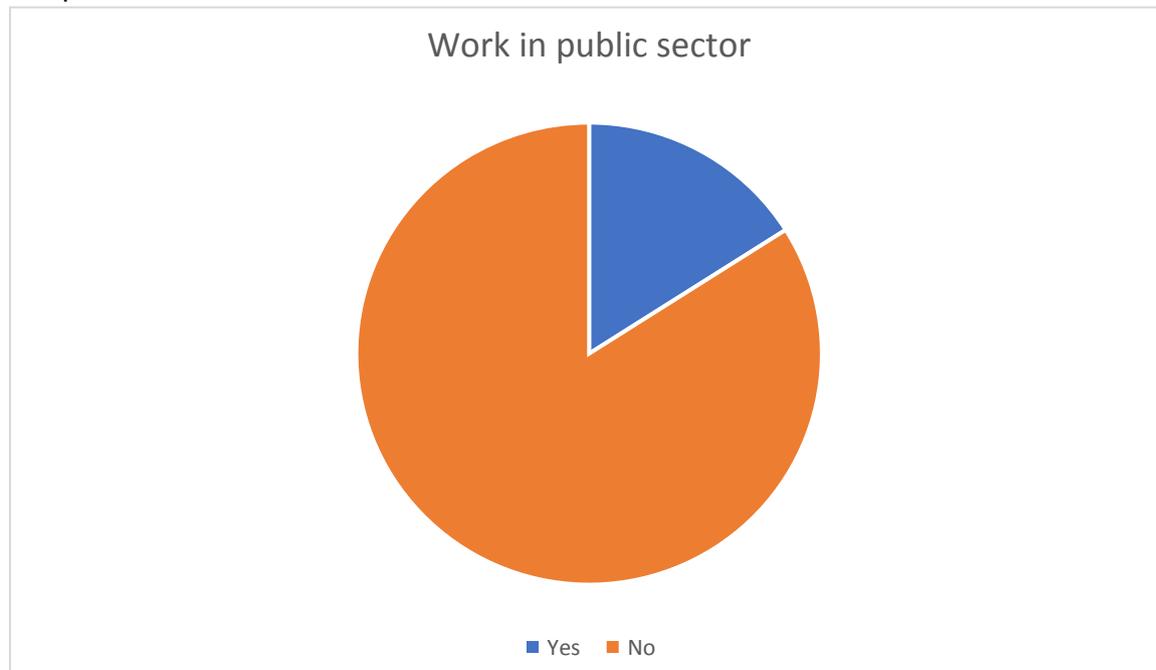
	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Birmingham City Council	39	37
City of Wolverhampton Council	9	7
Coventry City Council	12	8
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	11	14
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	11	7
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	8	15
Walsall Council	10	10
I don't live in the West Midlands	n/a	2
I don't know which local authority I live in	n/a	0

Question 14

Do you work for the public sector?

- Yes
- No

Responses are illustrated below:



	% of WMCA total population	% of all responses in consultation
Yes	n/a	16
No	n/a	84

Data regarding whether residents in the constituent council areas work in the public or private sector was not available in the 2011 Census.

Those respondents who indicated that they worked in the public sector were then asked to name the organisation for which they worked. A summary of these responses can be found below. It is worth noting that the highest number of responses were received from West Midlands Police.

Organisation	Frequency	%
NHS	14	2%
Police	9	1%
Education/School/College	8	1%
Birmingham City Council	5	1%
Coventry City Council	4	1%
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	4	1%

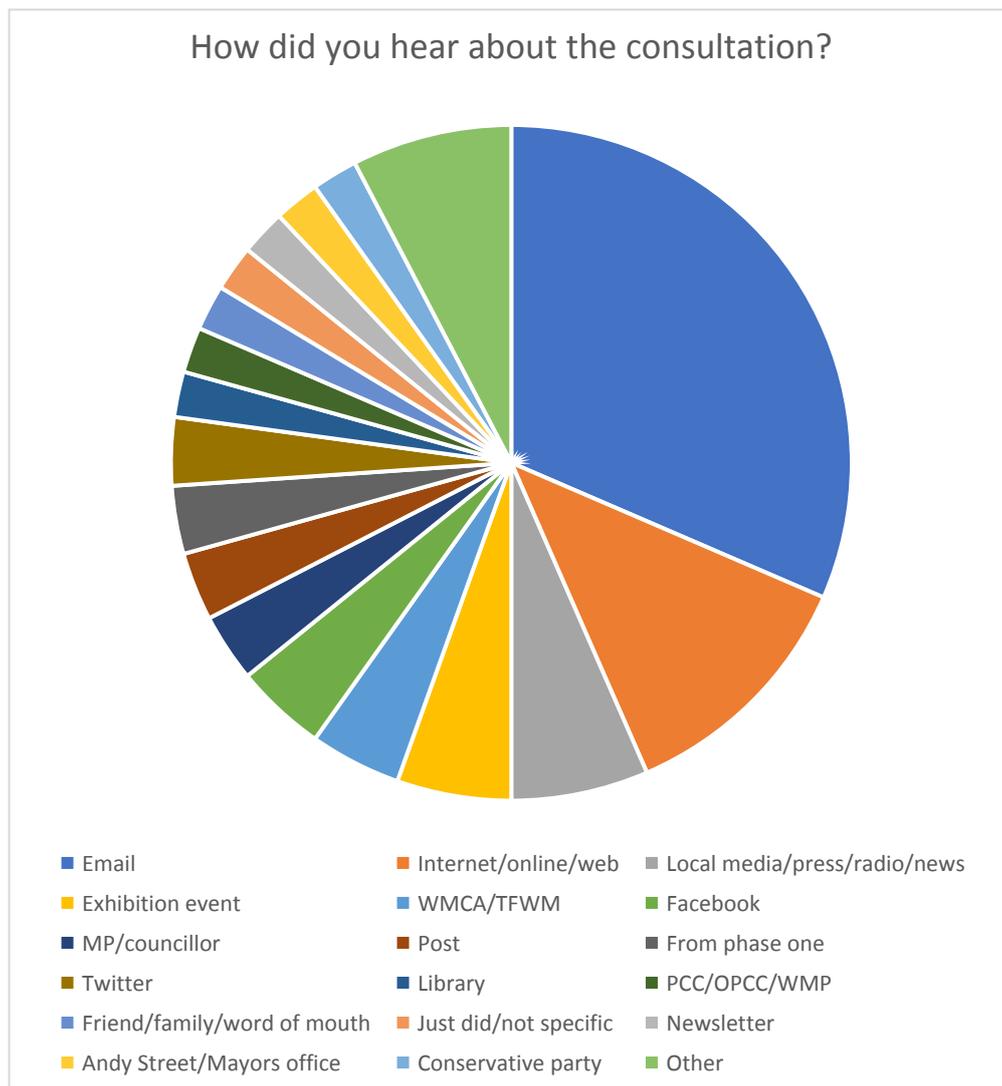
Other	22	3%
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The 15 organisations that received 1% of responses or lower have not been shown individually and have been grouped as “Other”.

Question 15

Where did you hear about this consultation?

Responses are illustrated below:



Where did you hear about the consultation	Frequency	%
Email	211	29%
Internet/online/web	81	11%
Local media/press/radio/news	42	6%
Exhibition event	35	5%
WMCA/TFWM	29	4%
Facebook	27	4%
MP/councillor	22	3%
Post	21	3%
From phase one	21	3%
Twitter	20	3%
Library	17	2%
PCC/OPCC/WMP	15	2%
Friend/family/word of mouth	15	2%
Just did/not specific	12	2%
Newsletter	12	2%
Andy Street/Mayors office	11	2%
Conservative party	11	2%
Other	49	7%

The 16 options that received 1% of responses or lower have not been shown individually and have been grouped as the “Other” option.

11. Stage two: response by constituent council

The table below outlines the population of each of the constituent council within the West Midlands Combined Authority, the number of responses received from each constituent council area and their relative percentages of the total. Population figures are based on the 2011 Census. The percentage of responses in the consultation will not equal 100% because responses were accepted from those not living in the WMCA area e.g. those working within the constituent council areas but not living there.

	Population	% of WMCA total population	Number of responses in consultation	% of all responses in consultation
Birmingham City Council	1,073,045	39	266	37
City of Wolverhampton Council	249,470	9	53	7
Coventry City Council	316, 960	12	60	8
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	312, 925	11	98	14

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	308, 063	11	47	7
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	206, 674	8	106	15
Walsall Council	269, 323	10	73	10

This table shows that despite the highest number of responses coming from within Birmingham City Council, due to its relative size within the Combined Authority area the level of response was broadly consistent with the population. There are certain constituent council areas whose response rate to the consultation was significantly different to that of their relative population, notably Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (which had a higher response rate than its relative population) and Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (which had a lower response rate than its relative population).

The following shows the response to each of the stage two consultation questions by constituent council area.

Question 1

To what extent do you agree or disagree that having a Mayor and DMPC is more appropriate for the West Midlands than having two separate representatives (a Mayor and Police and Crime Commissioner)?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	57	36	8
City of Wolverhampton Council	65	31	6
Coventry City Council	56	37	7
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	78	17	4
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	61	34	4
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	76	23	2
Walsall Council	67	29	4

There were higher levels of support than of opposition to having a Mayor and DPMC rather than two separate representatives in all seven constituent council areas. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' with the question was in Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (78%).

Question 2

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area, as is currently the case for the Police and Crime Commissioner?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	80	7	12
City of Wolverhampton Council	81	13	6
Coventry City Council	82	12	7
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	86	6	8
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	74	8	17
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	76	10	14
Walsall Council	82	5	12

In all seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that the DMPC position should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area than disagreed. In five of the seven constituent council areas more than 80% of respondents 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed'.

Question 3

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and their substitutes?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	73	10	17
City of Wolverhampton Council	73	19	8
Coventry City Council	71	8	20
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	74	7	19
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	68	18	15
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	74	8	18
Walsall Council	79	12	8

As with previous questions, in all seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that the DMPC position should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and their substitutes than disagreed. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that this should be the case was Walsall Council (79%).

Question 4

To what extent do you agree or disagree that SPCB is important to facilitate public engagement and involvement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters and helping inform decision makers?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	77	12	11
City of Wolverhampton Council	73	18	10
Coventry City Council	73	12	15
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	73	3	24
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	75	6	19
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	72	19	11
Walsall Council	80	7	14

Once more, in all seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that SPCB is important to facilitate public engagement and involvement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters and helping inform decision makers, than disagreed. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that this would improve the ability of the public to hold policing to account was in Walsall Council (80%).

Question 5

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Councillors who sit on the WMCA Board and their named substitutes should be restricted from sitting on the PCP as well?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	77	12	12
City of Wolverhampton Council	83	8	10
Coventry City Council	71	12	17
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	72	12	16
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	69	17	15
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	81	11	9
Walsall Council	81	15	4

There were again consistently higher levels of agreement than disagreement that that Councillors who sit on the WMCA Board and their named substitutes should be restricted from sitting on the PCP as well, across all seven constituent councils. Respondents from City of Wolverhampton Council (83%) were most in agreement on this point.

Question 6

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially?

	Strongly Agree / Agree %	Strongly Disagree / Disagree %	Neither agree or disagree / Don't know %
Birmingham City Council	69	12	19
City of Wolverhampton Council	76	10	15
Coventry City Council	67	14	20
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	67	10	23
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	70	8	21
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	68	14	18
Walsall Council	74	9	18

In all seven constituent council areas more respondents agreed that the current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially than disagreed. The highest percentage of respondents that 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that this would improve co-operation and integration was City of Wolverhampton Council (76%).

Those respondents who indicated that they worked in the public sector were then asked to name the organisation for which they worked. A summary of these responses can be found below. It is worth noting that the highest number of responses were received from West Midlands Police.

Organisation	Frequency	%
West Midlands Police	97	22
NHS	73	16
Education/School/College	55	12
Birmingham City Council	33	7
West Midlands Combined Authority	28	6
West Midlands Fire Service	24	5
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	23	5
Walsall Council	10	2
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	10	2
Coventry City Council	8	2
Councillor	8	2
Other	74	17

The 34 organisations that received 1% of responses or lower have not been shown individually and have been grouped as "Other".

12. Stage two: open text feedback by theme

Questions 1-6 included an open text feedback box which allowed respondents to provide further comments or expand on the answers that they provided.

Question 1

To what extent do you agree or disagree that having a Mayor and DMPC is more appropriate for the West Midlands than having two separate representatives (a Mayor and Police and Crime Commissioner)?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

214 respondents completed this open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. The most frequently cited theme was that politics should be kept out of policing (13%), followed by a theme supporting the separation of the role of Mayor and PCC (11%).

Other themes that were cited multiple times include support for the Mayor and DMPC taking responsibility for policing and crime (10%), a belief that the proposal would need to save money (9%), and a belief that the proposal would cost more money and add bureaucracy (9%).

7% of respondents stated that it would leave the Mayor with too much power and would reduce accountability, and a further 7% stated that more money was needed for policing.

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Keep politics out of policing.	27	13
Keep PCC and Mayoral roles separate / too important to combine.	24	11
Elected mayor with DMPC should to be responsible / accountable for policing instead of PCC / as in London.	22	10
This proposal will increase costs / bureaucracy.	21	9
Needs to save money / need to ensure it will save money.	20	9
Mayor will have too much power / too much power in one office / reduces accountability.	16	7
More money needed for policing / more frontline policing.	16	7
DMPC will be less accountable / should be elected not appointed / less democratic than PCC.	13	6
Get rid of PCC / PCC waste of money / PCC out of touch with public / negative comment on current PCC.	12	6
Keep current PCC / current PCC more accountable.	11	5
Mayor will not have time to focus on needs of police.	10	5
Leave police to the run police force.	9	4
Get rid of both posts/waste of money/both fail to deliver.	9	4
Concerns over conflicts of interest between Mayor / DMPC.	7	3
Not sure this option any better than current PCC / aren't you just replacing PCC with DMPC.	5	2
Police force needs to be run by experts / DMPC should be from police.	5	2
Public need more chance to have a say over policing / police force needs to be accountable to public.	5	2
Negative comment on consultation waste of time / already a done deal.	5	2
Do not want DMPC / not unless DMPC is a legal requirement.	4	2
Criticism of current Mayor / not achieving / not delivering / too Birmingham centric.	4	2
DMPC needs to have good understanding of local area / issues / strong candidates.	4	2
Don't need a Mayor.	2	1
Mayor / DMPC will be independent of police and better able to hold them to account.	2	1
Need effective KPI to ensure delivering.	2	1
Will improve communication between police and local Government.	2	1

Other	10	5
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Question 2.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should be restricted to individuals on the electoral register in the WMCA area, as is currently the case for the Police and Crime Commissioner?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

142 respondents completed this open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. The most frequently cited theme supported the proposal that the DMPC should live locally in order to focus on local issues, noting that they should live in an area effected by their policies (39%). Conversely, 22% of respondents stated that this was not essential, and that the job should be given to the most suitably qualified candidate based on merit, not on where they live.

The only other theme that was cited by more than 10% of respondents was in objection to the role of DMPC or to the proposals (16%).

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Live locally to ensure focus on local issues / should live in area effected by their policies.	56	39
Not essential / Whoever is best qualified to do job doesn't have to be local / Job on merit not geography.	32	22
Disagree with deputy / DMPC post not needed / object to these proposals/jobs for boys.	23	16
DMPC should not be a member of political party / keep political bias out of role.	8	6
DMPC has to be someone who has served on police force.	5	4
DMPC post will be too closely linked to Mayor / needs impartiality / independence.	3	2
Disagree with PCC / against PCC.	2	1
DMPC should be elected not appointed.	2	1
Disagree with Mayor / against Mayoral role.	2	1
Need to have been a long-term resident of West Midlands.	2	1
Being on electoral register does not guarantee they are a local person.	1	1
Should be registered council tax payer for 3 years.	1	1
Does this include the shire areas as well?	1	1
Why does this not apply to Mayor?	1	1
Can apply as long as have local business in area.	1	1
Should not be obliged to be on electoral register if don't want personal details out there.	1	1
Need to be registered to ensure paying council tax in area.	1	1
This is a specialist appointment should not be elected.	1	1

DMPC should be well educated but not public school person.	1	1
Need to regain public trust by split with past.	1	1
As long as work with Mayor to help his workload.	1	1
Why does the WMCA need to be involved?	1	1
How will DMPC be independent from police?	1	1
Young people should have more of a say.	1	1
If local will be easier to build relationships with groups.	1	1

Question 3.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the DMPC position should exclude WMCA Board Councillors and their substitutes?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

121 respondents completed this open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. The most frequently cited theme was from respondents agreeing with the proposal, believing this would help keep politics out of the role (23%). A further 12% stated that it would help prevent conflicts of interest, whilst 10% suggested that councillors were ineffective and the role should be restricted from all councillors.

Other themes included those opposed to the role of DMPC or the proposals in general (9%), and those believing it to be a good idea to ensure the independence of the DMPC (9%).

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Agree to keep post politics free / will help keep politics out of role.	28	23
To stop conflict of interests / avoid conflicting council interests.	15	12
Good idea as councillors don't have skills for the job / councillors ineffective / inefficient / exclude all councillors.	12	10
Against proposals / against idea for DMPC.	11	9
To ensure independence of DMPC.	11	9
It will avoid 'boys club' / 'jobs for boys' mentality.	7	6
So individual can focus totally on DMPC role.	7	6
Doesn't matter if right candidate / if right candidate doesn't matter if elected councillor.	6	5
Councillors are closer to public so should be able to do this role / good to have elected person in role / only WMCA councillors to be excluded.	6	5
DMPC needs to be someone with policing experience.	5	4
DMPC needs to be someone fresh/new pair of eyes.	5	4
Need to ensure DMPC role is open to more diverse sections of society.	4	3
Do not care who attends WMCA meetings.	2	2

Against PCC/PCC waste of money.	2	2
WMCA board needs to scrutinise mayor and Mayor's role so members should be independent of Mayoral roles.	2	2
Disagree as long as they resign from other roles / no reason can't step down from other roles.	2	2
Do not need a Mayor / against Mayor.	1	1
Logical / makes sense / good idea.	1	1
Further discussions of proposals needed with Government.	1	1
Agree as will allow for wider debate.	1	1
Will ensure issues are brought to SCPB more appropriately.	1	1
It will stop one person having too much power.	1	1
Assume DMPC will be a paid post?	1	1
No substitutes.	1	1

Question 4.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that SPCB is important to facilitate public engagement and involvement in identifying and resolving policing and crime matters and helping inform decision makers?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

101 respondents completed this open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. The most common theme was that the SPCB helps facilitate public engagement and hold the police to account – this was cited by 22% of respondents. Conversely, the second most common theme was that the SPCB is ineffective, failed to hold the police to account and is not independent. That was cited by 17% of respondents. Other themes cited by multiple respondents included suggestions there are better ways to ensure accountability than through the SPCB (10%) and respondents who were unaware of the SPCB's remit (8%).

Response by theme	Frequency	%
SPCB helps facilitate public engagement / hold police to account.	22	22
SPCB is ineffective / failed to hold police to account / not independent.	17	17
There are better ways to ensure public accountability than through SPCB.	11	10
Unaware of SPCB and its remit.	9	8
Can't run police by committee / has to be a better way than committee.	7	7
Too many quangos.	6	6
Police are poorly funded / more funding for policing.	5	5
Public accountability / involvement is essential / need buy in from public.	4	4
Just more bureaucracy / too many layers.	3	3
SPCB should have councillors / councillors from each area.	2	2

SPCB member get paid / costs.	2	2
SPCB ensures independence.	2	2
Who holds PCC to account?	2	2
SPCB not representative of public / needs to engage better with public / clearer criteria for who sits on boards.	2	2
SPCB is only advisory.	1	1
Against PCC / get rid of PCC.	1	1
SPCB will need to hold mayor to account.	1	1
Maintain current PCC / current PCC arrangements.	1	1
Need to support / help police not hold them to account.	1	1
SPCB meetings to be spread around region.	1	1
Let the police run the police.	1	1
Mayor has wider overview.	1	1
Keep Mayor and police separate.	1	1
Policing needs to be less fragmented.	1	1
Both parties need to record what they agree on and what they disagree.	1	1
SPCB should be appointed by councillors / community members.	1	1
SCPB to sit only when needed.	1	1
Policing in WM needs to be cleaned up.	1	1

Question 5.

what extent do you agree or disagree that Councillors who sit on the WMCA Board and their named substitutes should be restricted from sitting on the PCP as well?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

92 respondents completed the open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. The most frequently cited theme was that there cannot be the same set of people on both boards, and a need for independence and impartiality (26%). Conversely, 17% of respondents said that councillors should be allowed to sit on both boards. 13% of respondents stated that it was important to prevent conflicts of interest, whilst 7% stated that the PCP should comprise members of the public rather than councillors.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
Can't be the same set of people on both boards / need to be impartial / to maintain independence / stop jobs for boys.	24	26
Councillors should be able to sit on both boards / no reason why they can't sit on both boards.	16	17
To prevent conflicts of interest.	12	13
PCP should be made up of members of the public not councillors / panels need to be more diverse not same people all the time.	8	9

Need to be less political / keep politics out of policing.	6	7
Against proposals another layer of bureaucracy.	5	5
Against the Mayor.	3	3
Against PCC.	3	3
Do not need policing by committee.	3	3
Concerns about corruption.	3	3
Recruitment to boards needs to be transparent / process for recruitment needs to be transparent.	2	2
Councillors should not sit on panels / councillors have own agendas.	2	2
Councillors' membership could ensure continuity and transparency / joined up thinking.	2	2
Need to widen participation.	2	2
Sensible good idea / good idea.	1	1
All PCP panel members should be elected by public.	1	1
Let the police run the police force.	1	1
Do not know enough about PCP to comment.	1	1
Need total commitment to one role.	1	1
As long as there remain dialogue between two bodies.	1	1
Needs to be someone with Police experience.	1	1
Local policing needs to be co-ordinated with national / international policing.	1	1
Just needs to be best person for the job.	1	1
Need a change in management.	1	1
PCP needs to be more effective.	1	1
Non-attenders at PCP to be named and shamed.	1	1
Proper scrutiny of DMPC needed.	1	1
Want to know why this is being proposed.	1	1

Question 6.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the current day to day working practices of the OPCC should be retained initially?

Please use the space below to provide any comments you may have about your answer.

103 respondents completed the open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. Nearly one quarter of respondents (24%) stated that it would be a good idea to retain the working practices in order to ensure a smooth transition. Conversely, 14% stated that they thought a new structure should be in place from day one.

12% stated that the PCC should be maintained as it is now as it had achieved some good things, and a further 12% suggested adding a time limit for how long practices should be retained for.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
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Good idea to ensure smooth transition.	25	24
Get rid of OPCC from start / not worth doing it retain OPCC / new structure should be in place from day one.	14	14
Maintain PCC as it is now / PCC has done some good things.	13	13
Need to set a time limit on it / short term measure only / set date for it to end.	12	12
Decision already made / what are results of stage 1 / don't like assumption that proposals are a given.	8	8
Against PCC / waste of money.	6	6
Agree as long as this can be reviewed regularly / amended as appropriate.	5	5
Need to ensure new arrangements don't get bogged down in old ways / need to change what isn't working quickly.	4	4
Too much bureaucracy / need less layers of bureaucracy and waste.	4	4
Against the Mayor.	4	4
Lack information to make informed comment.	3	3
Consultation hard to understand / too much jargon / poorly worded / biased.	3	3
Police need more funding.	1	1
This will lead to duplication.	1	1
Extend mayoral election to 2021.	1	1
New structures will be a matter for the new DMPC.	1	1
Only maintain if OPCC is doing a good job.	1	1
Mayor will do a good job of overseeing policing.	1	1
Against WMCA.	1	1
OPCC is corrupt / get rid of OPCC.	1	1
PCC needs to be scrutinised to see what they have been doing.	1	1

Question 7 provided respondents with an opportunity to raise any other comments they wanted to.

Question 7.

Please use the space below to provide any further comments or observations you may have about the proposals to transfer the powers and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands and the consultation exercise that has been undertaken.

302 respondents completed the open text feedback. The responses are outlined below. There was a clear split between those who stated they believed the roles of Mayor and PCC should remain separate and the segregation of responsibilities should remain as it currently is (16%), and those who stated that they believed the Mayor should hold the PCC responsibilities (16%). The next most frequently cited theme was respondents who wanted to keep politics out of policing (10%), followed by respondents who believed more resources are needed for front line policing (9%).

Those themes that received lower than 1% have not been included in the table and have been grouped as 'Other'.

Response by theme	Frequency	%
PCC and Mayoral office to remain separate / segregation of responsibilities to remain.	49	16
Agree to Mayor having PCC responsibility / need same arrangement in London / Manchester.	47	16
Keep politics out of policing / do not need elected heads from political backgrounds.	30	10
Need more resources for front line policing / real issue is lack of funding for police/less police cuts.	27	9
Against current PCC/PCC waste of money/ineffective	27	9
Against more power / responsibility for the Mayor / too much power in one place.	18	6
Will lead to less bureaucracy / costs saved by less posts / savings can be spend elsewhere.	18	6
Will lead to more bureaucracy / waste of resources.	17	6
General comments on need to do more to reduce crime / more needs to be done to reduce crime/focus on schemes to reduce crime.	13	4
Issue with consultation process / questions asked / reporting results / bias.	12	4
Leave policing to the police.	12	4
Make sure consultation more than just ticket box exercise.	10	3
Need evidence that the change will lead to improvement / proper audited outcomes to prove working.	10	3
Proposal will allow for better integration / more strategic overview.	9	3
Current Mayor is ineffective / proved nothing / didn't want him.	9	3
Ensure policing has good contacts to local area / understanding of local issues.	7	2
Do not agree with Deputy post / role should be carried out by Mayor not DMPC / DMPC unelected and unaccountable.	7	2
Mayor doesn't have time / concerned about too much work for Mayor.	7	2
Mayor has no policing experience.	7	2
Mayor will do a good job.	6	2
Changes need to be given time / need a transition / smooth transition needed.	6	2
Cost cutting exercise.	5	2
Consultation needs wider awareness / not all groups were consulted.	4	1
Need more diverse views in policing / on panel / committees etc.	4	1

Concentrate on all areas / need to be less Birmingham centric.	4	1
Ensure policing panels remain independent.	3	1
Do we get to vote on these changes / need a vote / undemocratic.	3	1
Mayor should decide new structure when in post.	3	1
Do the same for other emergency services.	3	1
Get rid of both posts / waste of money.	3	1
Lack sufficient information to fully comment.	3	1
Agree as long as policy improves things for people of West Midlands / improves policing in West Midlands.	2	1
Mayor will need to work closely with current police.	2	1
Need elected chamber to deal with policing.	2	1
Mayor needs better communication with public.	2	1
Other	8	3

13. Stakeholder responses

As well as formal consultation responses made by stakeholders using online or paper methods, WMCA received stakeholder representations regarding the proposed transfer of responsibilities from the PCC to the Mayor.

Stakeholder representations were received from:

- Ian Austin MP (Dudley North)
- Julian Knight MP (Solihull)
- Steve McCabe MP (Birmingham Selly Oak)
- Emma Reynolds MP (Wolverhampton North East)
- David Jamieson (West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner)
- Philip Seccombe (Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner)
- John Campion (West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner)
- West Midlands Police and Crime Panel
- Joint Audit Committee of West Midlands Police
- Solihull Ratepayers Association
- Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

In addition, the minutes of the WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee were used to outline the position of members with regard to the transfer of powers.

Julian Knight MP, John Campion (West Mercia PCC) and the Solihull Ratepayers Association expressed their support for transfer of responsibilities from the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands.

Comments were received from Philip Seccombe and the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners.

The Police and Crime Commissioner raised four main themes in his submission to the consultation: the concern that the loss of the corporation sole potentially weakens the policing governance function; the automatic delegation of functions to an unelected Deputy Mayor for Policing potentially undermines the single point of accountability; an appointed Deputy Mayor will be less able to exercise policing's duty to collaborate; and concerns regarding the loss of, a) the dedicated monitoring officer for police governance, and b) the loss of a dedicated police governance s151 Officer.

Ian Austin MP, Steve McCabe MP and Emma Reynolds MP all expressed views that were opposed to the transfer of responsibilities from the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Mayor of the West Midlands. The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel and the Joint Audit Committee of West Midlands Police outlined certain concerns that they had with the proposals but were not opposed in principle. Emma Reynolds MP and Steve McCabe MP also responded to the second stage of the consultation expressing their opposition to the proposals.

Full details of the responses that were received are provided in Appendix **B**.