

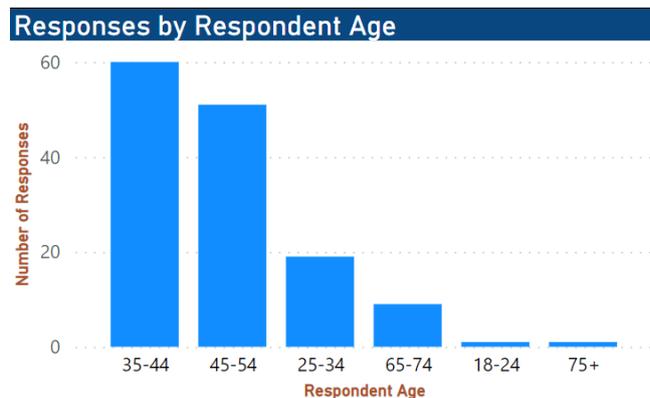
## Appendix A Gaelic Medium Education Survey

An on-line survey was conducted between 13 July and 30 September 2022 to try to understand the relatively low demand for Gaelic Medium Education across Aberdeen City Council. The survey was promoted through the Council social media channels, through the Gaelic community with the help of Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Comann nam Pàrant and through schools.

141 Responses were received. Although this return rate is low when considered as a percentage of the total city population of 227 430, it compares favourably when considering the general number of returns received when national surveys are conducted. Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Comann nam Pàrant advise that around 200 returns are generally returned.

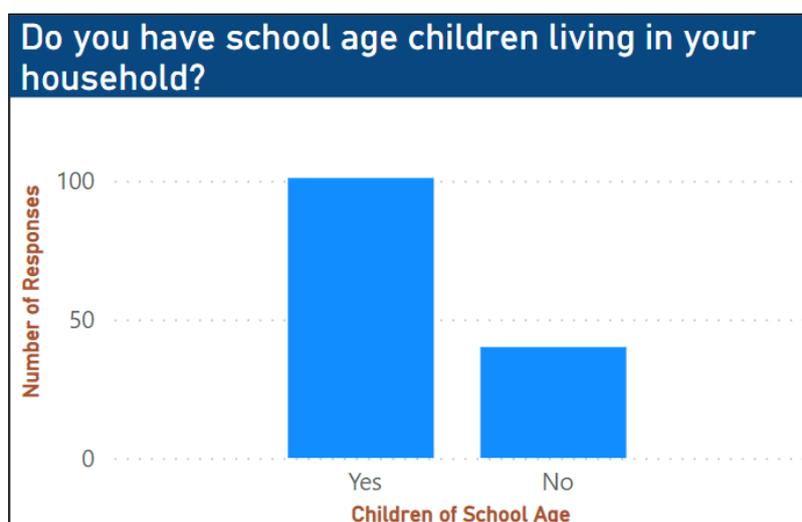
### About those who responded to the survey

The majority of respondents were aged 35 to 44 although the age of respondents ranged from 18 to 75+.



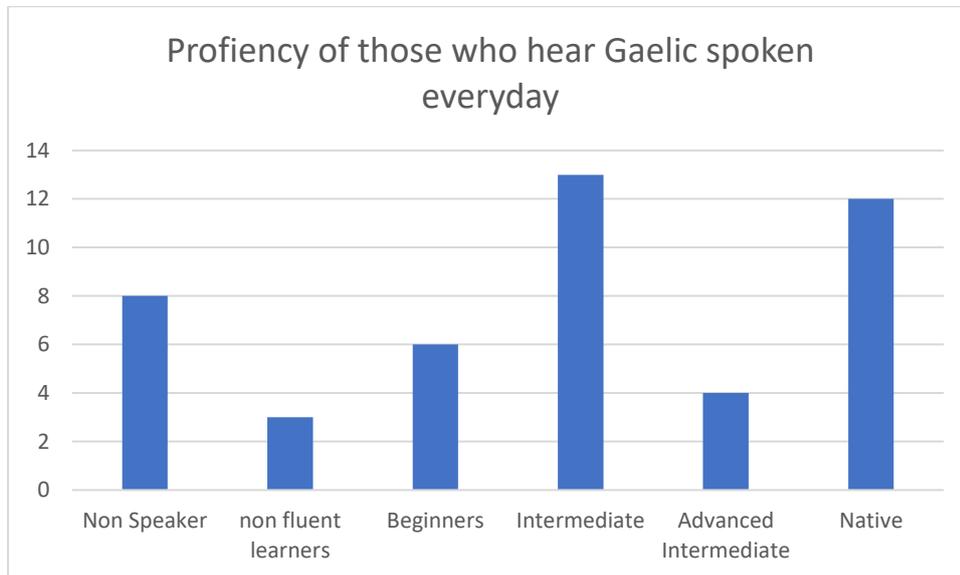
The majority of respondents (84%) were resident in Aberdeen City, 15% were resident in Aberdeenshire and 1% resided in the Western Isles.

72% of respondents had children of school age.



### Respondents were asked how often they hear Gaelic being spoken

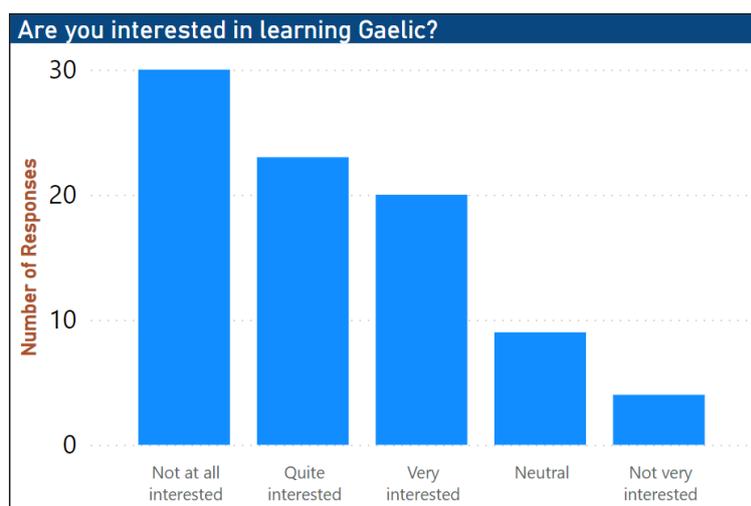
This question was asked as hearing Gaelic is known to directly influence demand for Gaelic Medium Education.



46 respondents hear Gaelic spoken everyday however their own proficiency varies from the 8 non-speakers through to 16 who were native or advanced.

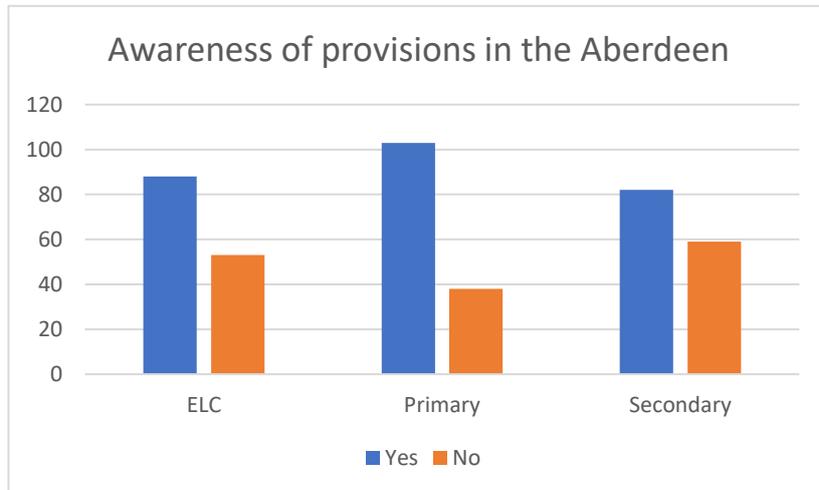
### Respondents were asked about their interest in learning Gaelic

This question was asked as having an interest in speaking the language is known to influence the decision of parents and can therefore influence demand for Gaelic Medium Education.



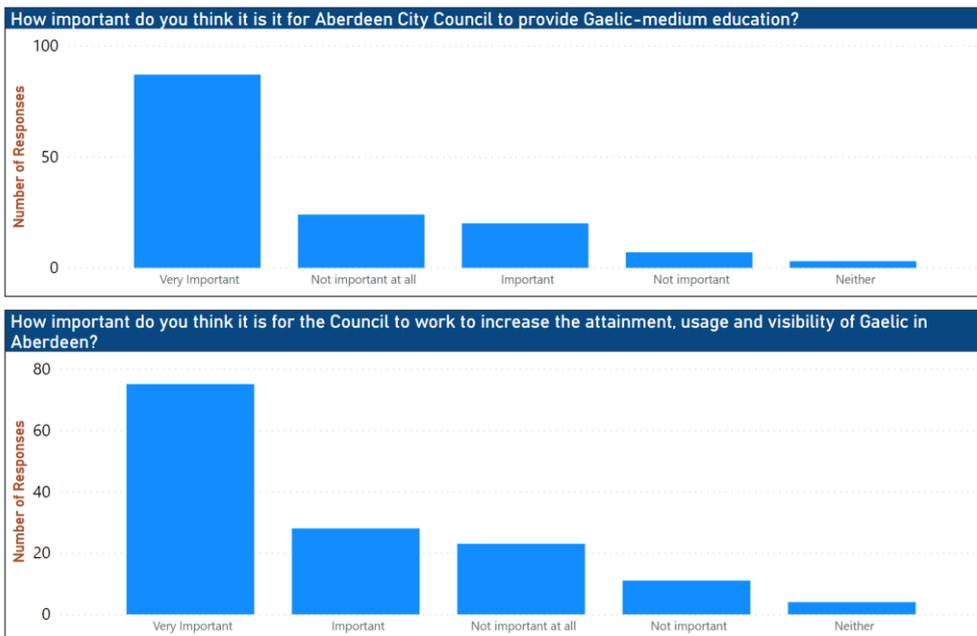
More people were quite interested or very interested than those who were not at all, or not very interested.

**Respondents were then asked about their awareness of Gaelic Medium Education across Aberdeen City.**



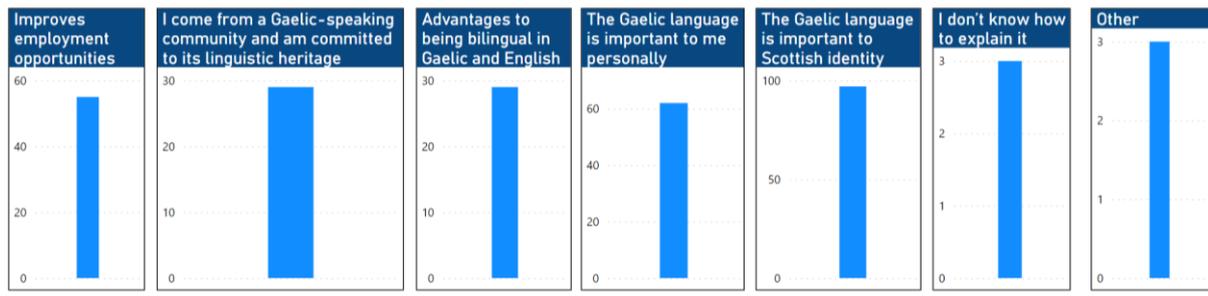
Although there are mechanisms in place to promote the provision in keeping with the statutory guidance, surveys continue to tell us that parents are not sufficiently aware of the provisions. There is a need for us to further promote the provision available across the city.

**Respondents were then asked how important they felt it was to increase the attainment, usage and visibility of Aberdeen City Gaelic Medium Education.** This question was designed to try to understand perceptions and the relatively low uptake across the city.



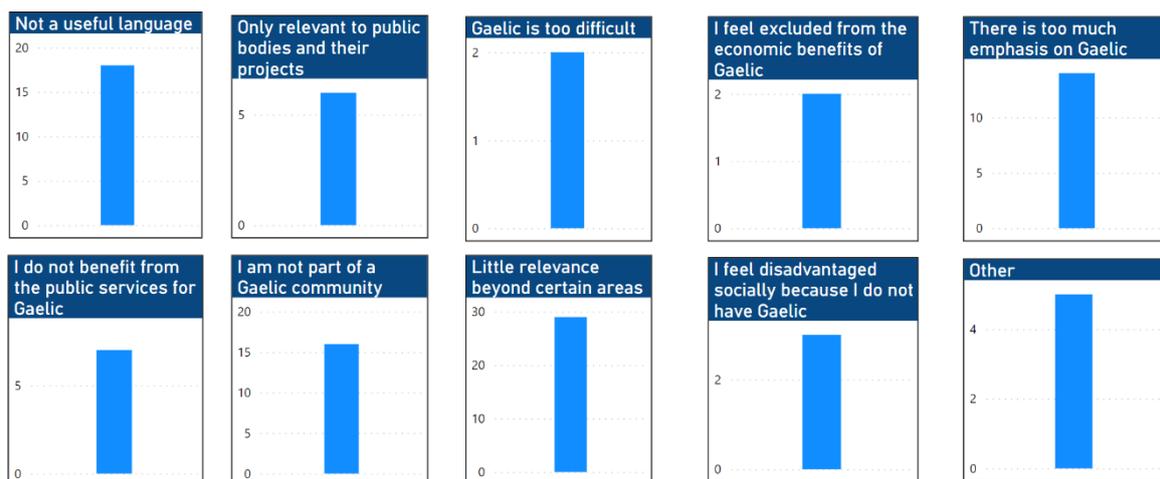
The majority of respondents value the GME provision on offer within Aberdeen and are keen to support further promotion and development.

**Respondents who noted its importance were asked to consider why this was important.**



The majority of respondents felt that Gaelic language is important to Scottish identity, culture and heritage and opens up employment opportunities in Gaelic speaking communities for those who have studied the language.

**Respondents who didn't note its importance were asked to consider why this was not important to them.**



Some respondents don't feel part of the Gaelic community and this seems to have influenced their responses. These findings will be shared with the Gaelic community.

### Conclusion

It is clear from the responses that there is a need to raise the profile of all 3 provisions. We will continue to work closely with Bòrd na Gàidhlig, University of Highlands and Islands and Comann nam Pàrant to promote the provisions through their social media channels as well as using our own platforms.

There is also a need to reach out to the Gaelic community to share the findings of this survey with the aim of helping others feel more connected.