**Supported Accommodation 2018**

**Consultation and Engagement**

To better understand the needs of young people residing in supported accommodation, a variety of consultation and engagement has taken place.

The predominant method has been through an online survey which was published for 3 weeks and promoted to all young people via providers, social workers and personal advisors. A total of 76 individuals responded to the online survey. Out of this cohort, 45% had been in local authority care previously and 55% had not. As can be seen from the chart below, a large percentage of this cohort are over the age of 19.

A variety of key themes have been identified which are illustrated below but mostly focus on the following areas;

* Having adequate space
* Well decorated and clean areas- including communal areas
* Being well furnished
* Having the right level of support at times that they need it
* Feeling comfortable to talk to someone
* Staff to be accessible

The responses to open questions are presented in Appendix 1.

The feedback received from young people at focus groups and care leaver drop in events is presented in Appendix 2.

Please note- the data is different when considering the age of young people upon first entering supported accommodation in comparison to their age on their last birthday.

**What type of accommodation do you live in?**

\*Accommodation that fit into the category of other are: Hostels (4), supported housing (1) and living with family (1).

**Thinking about the building you live in, not your individual room. How many people, including yourself, live in the building?**

1-2 (6)

3-5 (3)

6-10 (24)

11-15 (24)

16

 or more

(17)

23

%

8

%

4

%

32

%

32

%

**Do you feel the number of people you live with is too few, about right, or too many?**

70

%

10

%

20

%

Too few (-)

About right (52)

Too many (7)

It doesn't matter to me how many people I live with (15)

**Thinking about the building you live in, including your room. What are the best things about the accommodation you live in? What needs improving? (open questions)**

A wide variety of feedback was presented for this question, with the option for young people to add their own comments.

Key themes arising from this question included the following;

Young people were happy with;

* Size of their flats/ Having enough space
* Being close to town
* Feeling homely
* Rooms and communal space are nicely painted and decorated
* The room is fully furnished

**Is the accommodation in the town/city/village you want to live in? How important is it to you to be able to choose the village/town/city you live in?**

80% of care leavers agreed that they were in the town/city or village that they wanted to be in and 20% are not. Where accommodation is located appears to be the least important aspect for 92% of our care leavers.

**The following questions related to support:**

**The following questions asked were specific services received:**

**What could be improved about the service? (summarised from narrative, highlighting key points)**

**Is there any other support you would like to receive?**

As summarised below there were a high proportion (69%) that did not need any other support than what is already provided. There was one respondent that specified they were happy with the service and four respondents that did not know. However, 23% of respondents did have an opinion of what other support they would like to receive.