

Pet Policy Consultation Results

Overview

108 Total Responses

86 (79.63%) of the participants were Runnymede Borough Council tenants or leaseholders

51 (48.11%) of the participants were pet owners

Consultation opened: 1st March 2022

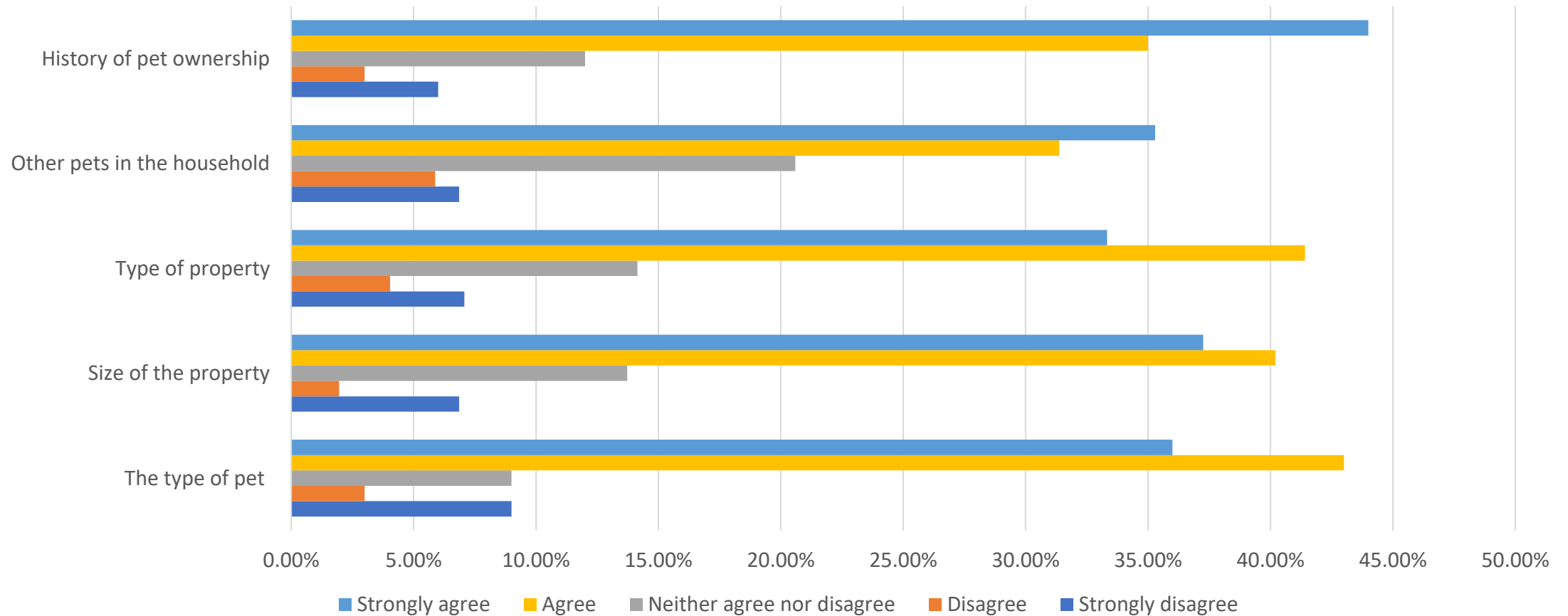
Consultation closed: 15th March 2022

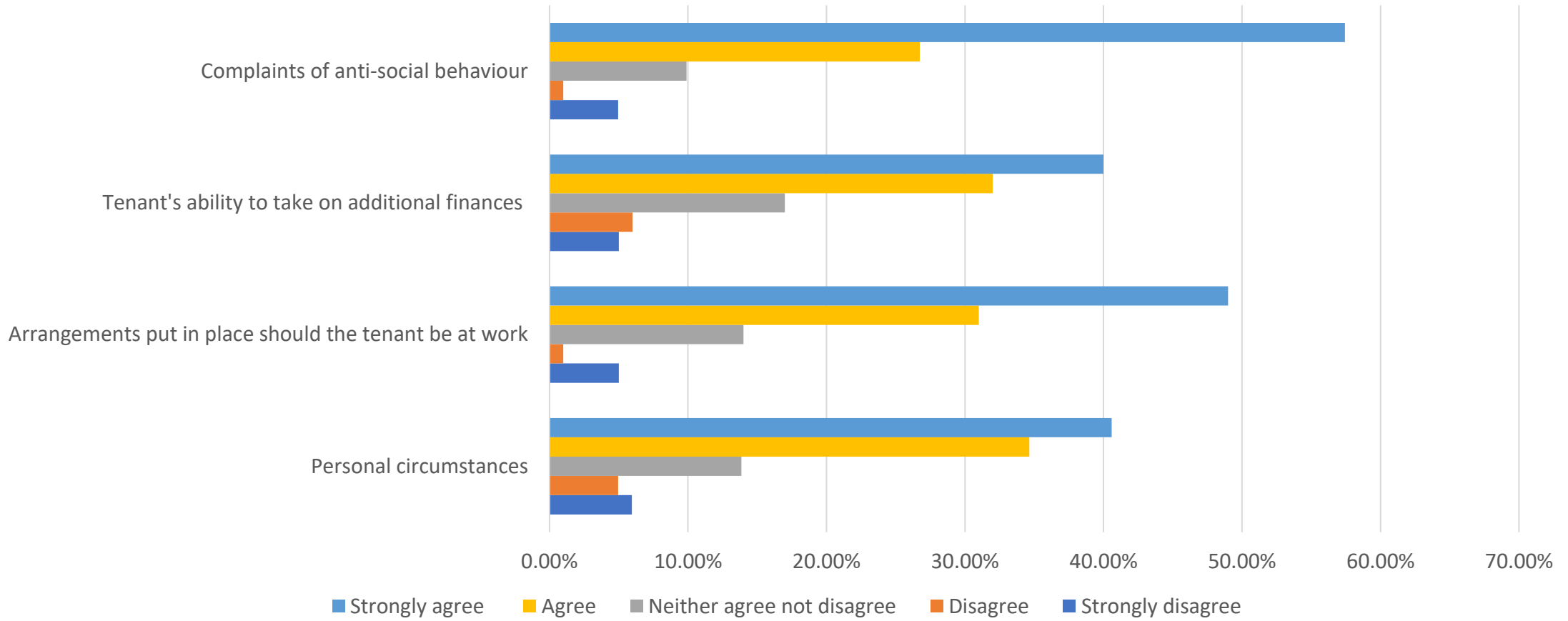
The purpose of this consultation was to gather the views of tenants on the draft pet policy to ensure responsible pet ownership.

We engaged by:

- Holding a event called Pets in the Park where other organisations joined us to discuss pet ownership with residents (150 participants)
- Online survey (16)
- Webpage with an email address to contact the Listening inbox
- Paper surveys available within IRL schemes
- Paid Social Media
- Post cards delivered to tenants within Addlestone
- 36 Posters around the Borough

Q3. Do you agree with the following circumstances we consider when dealing with a tenant's request for a pet?





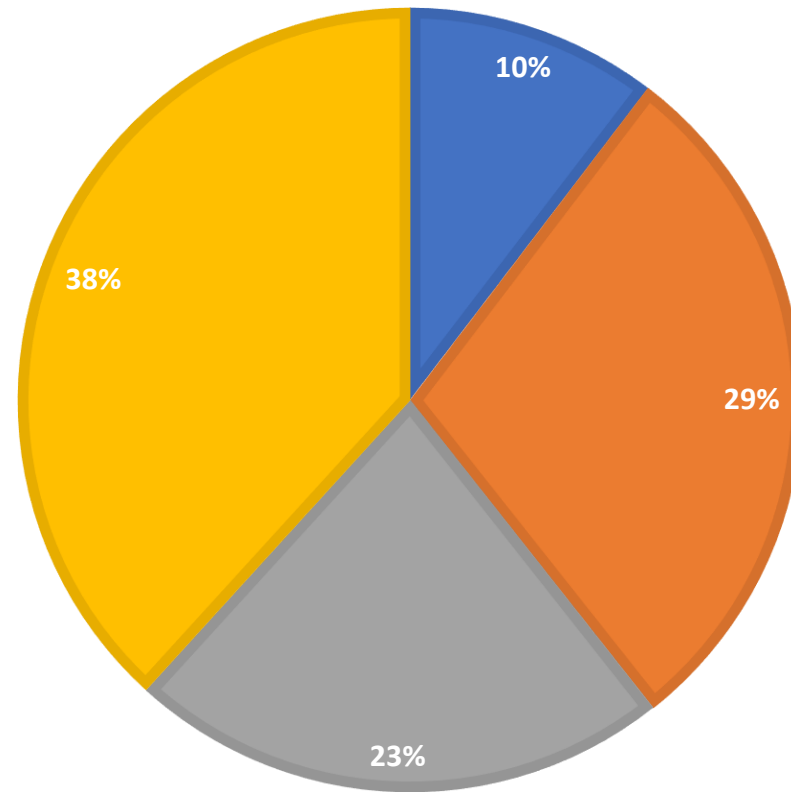
	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The type of pet	9.00% 9	3.00% 3	9.00% 9	43.00% 43	36.00% 36	100	3.94
Size of the property	6.86% 7	1.96% 2	13.73% 14	40.20% 41	37.25% 38	102	3.99
Type of property	7.07% 7	4.04% 4	14.14% 14	41.41% 41	33.33% 33	99	3.90
Other pets in the household	6.86% 7	5.88% 6	20.59% 21	31.37% 32	35.29% 36	102	3.82
History of pet ownership	6.00% 6	3.00% 3	12.00% 12	35.00% 35	44.00% 44	100	4.08
Personal circumstances	5.94% 6	4.95% 5	13.86% 14	34.65% 35	40.59% 41	101	3.99
Arrangements put in place should the tenant be at work	5.00% 5	1.00% 1	14.00% 14	31.00% 31	49.00% 49	100	4.18
Tenant's ability to take on additional finances	5.00% 5	6.00% 6	17.00% 17	32.00% 32	40.00% 40	100	3.96
Complaints of anti-social behaviour	4.95% 5	0.99% 1	9.90% 10	26.73% 27	57.43% 58	101	4.31

Q4. Do you believe there should be any other items we should consider when dealing with a tenant's request for a pet?

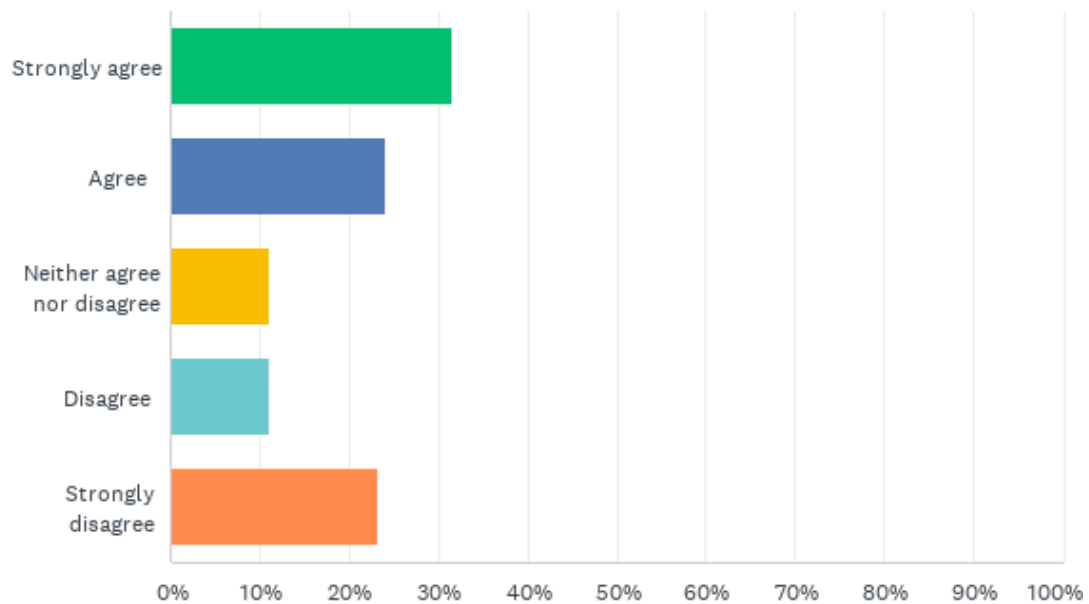
- Mental health of the tenant
- Ensure the pet gets training
- Kids and age of kids
- The age of the tenant

Q5. If Runnymede Borough Council does need to restrict having a pet, are there any exceptional reasons when a tenant should be allowed?

■ No ■ Sensory assistance dogs ■ Emotional support ■ Medical assistance

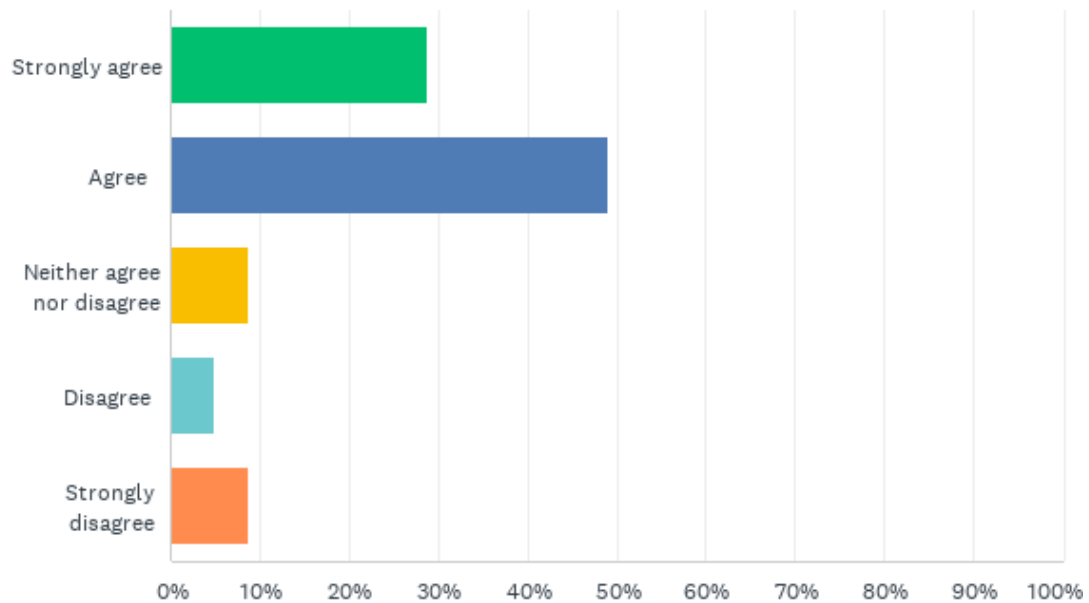


Q6. Do you agree that those who live in our Independent Retirement Living Schemes should be allowed to keep pets



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	31.48%	34
Agree	24.07%	26
Neither agree nor disagree	11.11%	12
Disagree	11.11%	12
Strongly disagree	23.15%	25
Total Respondents: 108		

Q7. When permission is requested for a pet in an Independent Retirement Living scheme we will consider the surroundings, other residents, and the pet. Do you agree with this approach?

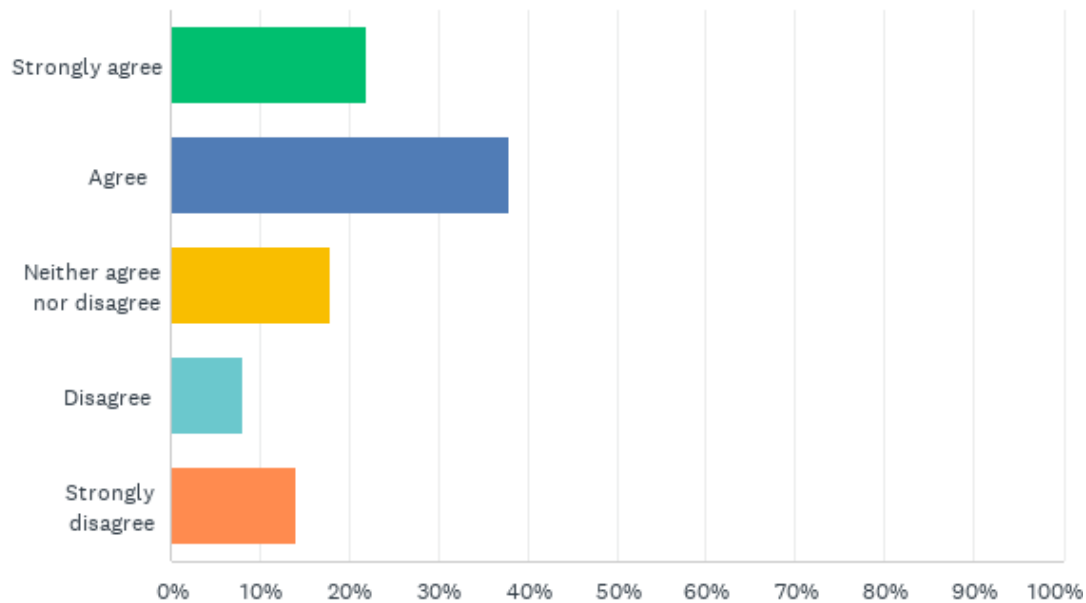


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	28.85%	30
Agree	49.04%	51
Neither agree nor disagree	8.65%	9
Disagree	4.81%	5
Strongly disagree	8.65%	9
Total Respondents: 104		

Q8. Are there any circumstances we should consider when dealing with a request in Independent Retirement Living schemes?

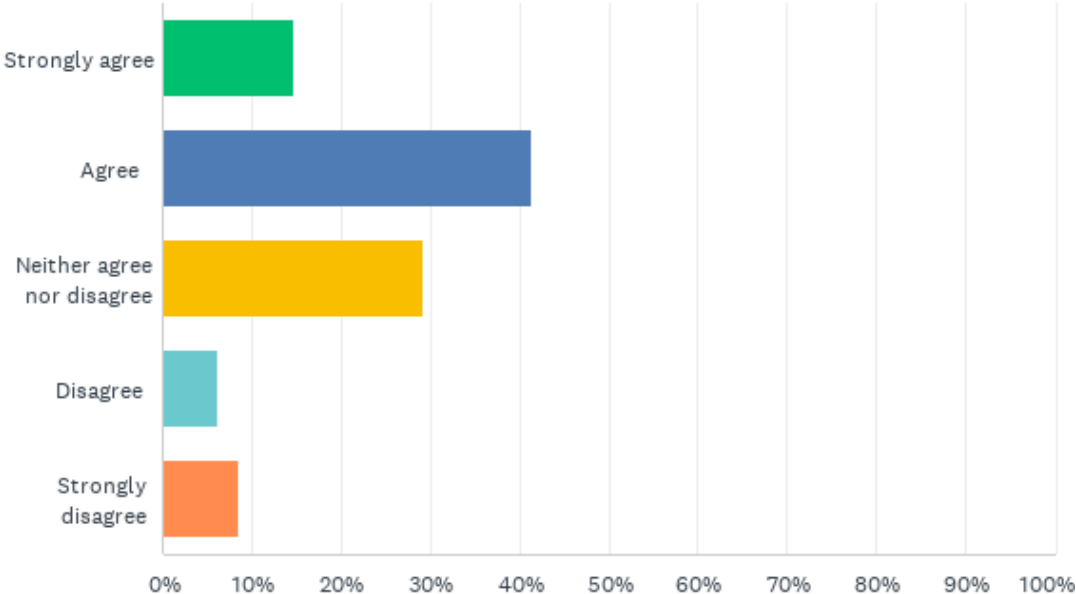
- Tenants should have a guarantor in place for the pet should they pass away or go into hospital
- Exercise requirements and ability to meet those needs, i.e. paying for a dog walker if they have mobility issues
- Emotional attachment needs to be considered
- If they already own a pet before they move to IRL scheme that's different but dogs bank and that's not fair. Cats no problem.
- Tenants could volunteer to walk the elderly's dogs. Organise regular dog visits either from other tenants or outside organisations

Q9. We cannot allow pets to be kept in temporary accommodation. Instead we will put in place support so housing applicants can find a temporary home for their pet until the applicant has been moved into a permanent property. Do you agree with this approach?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	22.00% 22
Agree	38.00% 38
Neither agree nor disagree	18.00% 18
Disagree	8.00% 8
Strongly disagree	14.00% 14
TOTAL	100

Q10. Overall, to what extent do you agree with our draft pet policy?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	14.63%	12
Agree	41.46%	34
Neither agree nor disagree	29.27%	24
Disagree	6.10%	5
Strongly disagree	8.54%	7
Total Respondents: 82		

Q11. Are there any other comments or suggestions that you would like to add in relation to the pet policy?

- I think it is too harsh. I understand responsibility to neighbours and other tenants but it feels like council tenants are being really harshly judged on whether you think we are fit whereas homeowners can get any animal with no controls. They are not necessarily any more responsible than council tenants. It should be based on an individual's history.
- Minimum of biannual check on tenant and pet for their welfare and change of circumstances. Adverse changes should be acted on within 7 days. Any and all complaints should be investigated within 3 days.
- IRL are not the right places to have pets
- Don't separate TA applicants from their pet