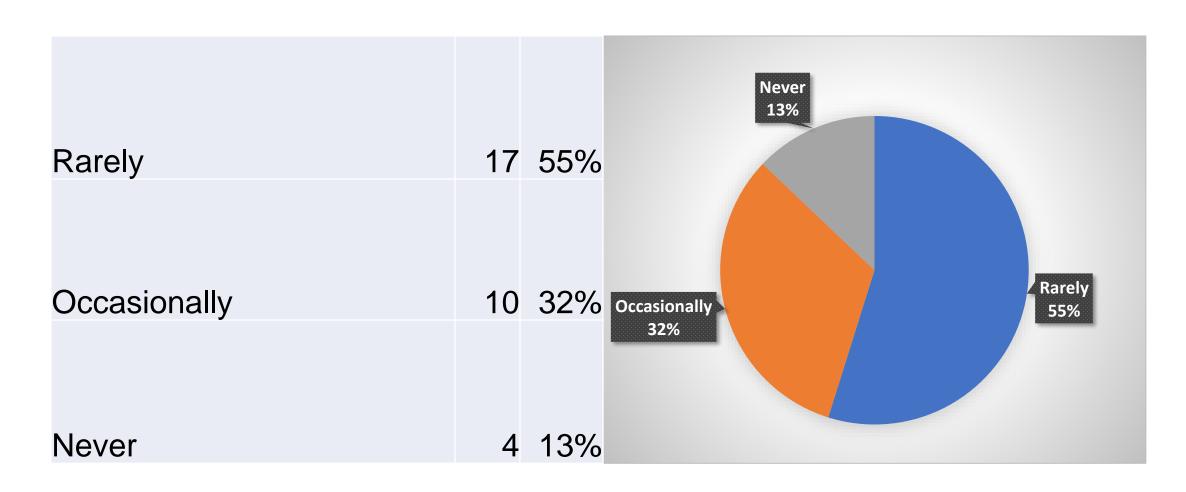
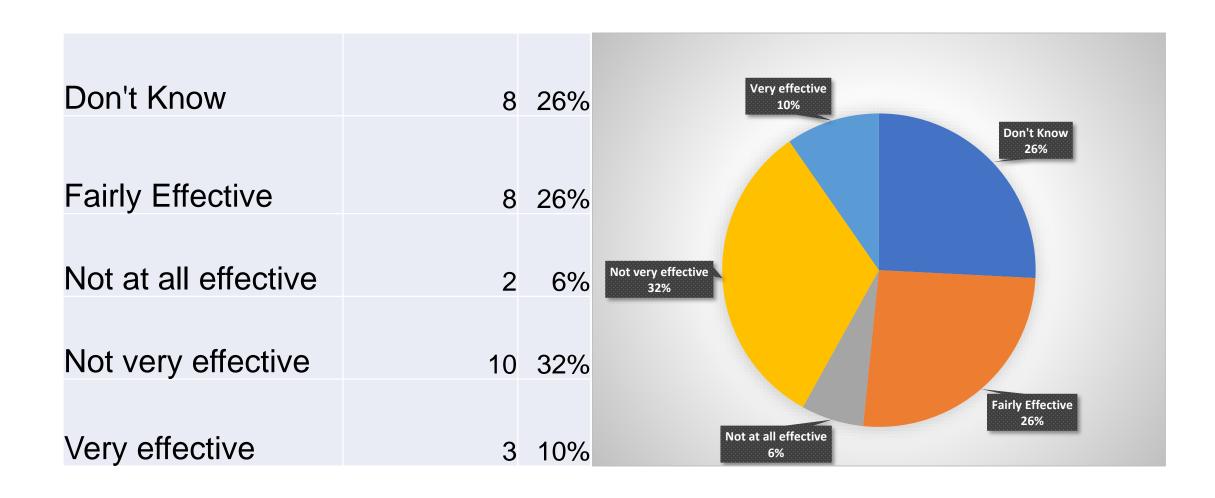
# Councillor Address Survey results

By Alexander Murray

How often, if at all, do you feel at risk personally when fulfilling your role as a councillor?



How effective or not do you find the authority's arrangements for protecting you personally as you fulfil your role as a councillor?



Have you ever experienced abuse and/or intimidation, directed at you personally, from a member of the public, or persons unknown, as a result of, or in relation to your role as a councillor?

Don't know/not sure	1	3%	Yes, other 13%  Yes, intimidation 7%  Don't know/not sure 3%  No 29%
No	9	29%	
Yes, abuse	5	16%	
Yes, abuse and intimidation	10	32%	
Yes, intimidation	2	7%	Yes, abuse and intimidation 32%  Yes, abuse 16%
Yes, other	4	13%	

Have you ever experienced abuse and/or intimidation, directed at you personally, from a member of the public, or persons unknown, as a result of, or in relation to your role as a councillor?

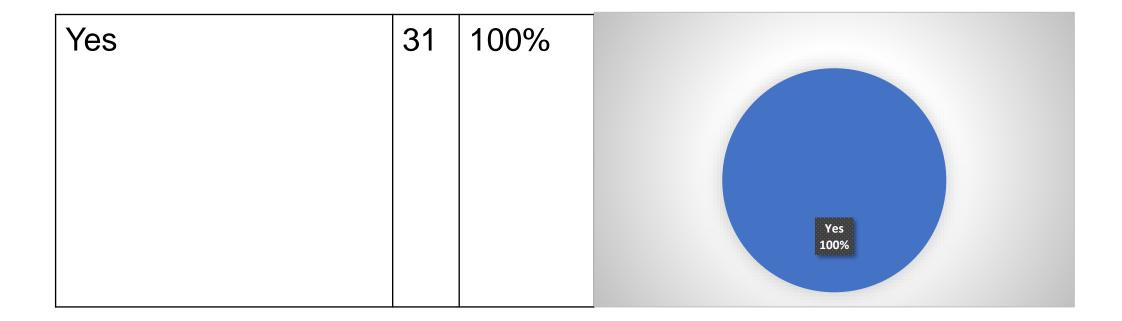
- Details provided
- Targeted abuse which resulted in police and community safety action
- verbally shouting and finger pointing in an aggressive tone, telling me to get the job done, (potholes in the road that were not meeting the criteria).
- I have been shouted at on the doorstep by residents, and years ago a resident followed/ stalked me online and in person and the police had to be involved. I have had people 'shout' at me on Twitter and occasionally get unpleasant emails.
- Very aggressive
- Very aggressive
- Whilst out campaigning occasionally receive angry comments by residents
- "Just on one occasion, low level abuse (shouting not swearing) in the street. Sometimes I have experienced comments on social media which have been borderline abuse."

Where did the abuse and/or intimidation occur? (Please tick all that apply)

In Person	17	40%	Written by phone By Post 5%
On social media	12	28%	2%
Online written communication	6	14%	By Telephone 9%
Oral by telephone including voicemail	4	9%	In Person 40%
Written by telephone e.g. text	1	2%	communication 14%
By post, including messages and/or articles put through letterbox	1	2%	On social media 28%
	0		
Other	2	5%	

#### Where did the abuse and/or intimidation occur? - Details Provided

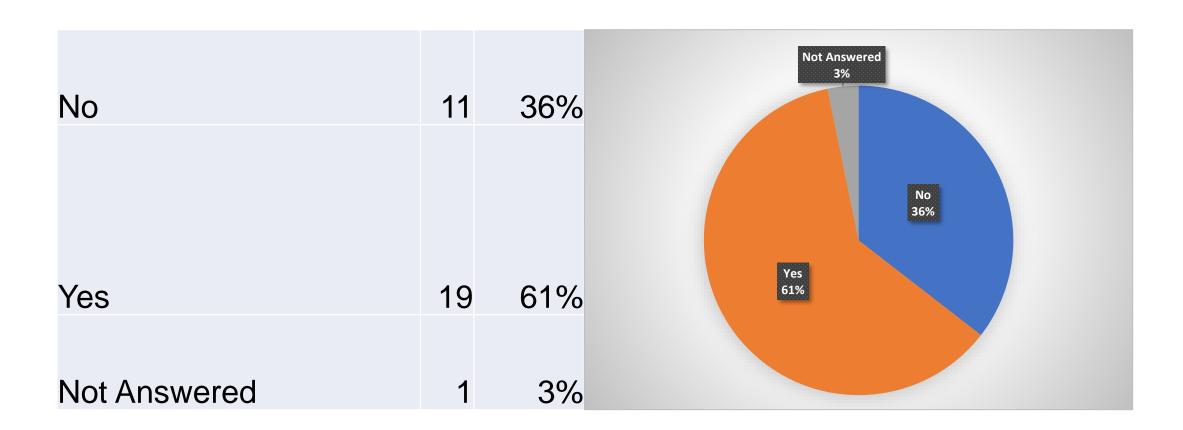
 direct messages on social media and sometimes face to face when out in the wards Are you aware that your home address is publicly available under your register of disclosable interests?



Are you aware that your home address is publicly available under your register of disclosable interests? - Details Provided

- though at the moment mine is not publicly available, at my request
- Yes and I am not happy about it, I'd rather it wasn't. I did consider not standing because of the potential risk to my daughters.

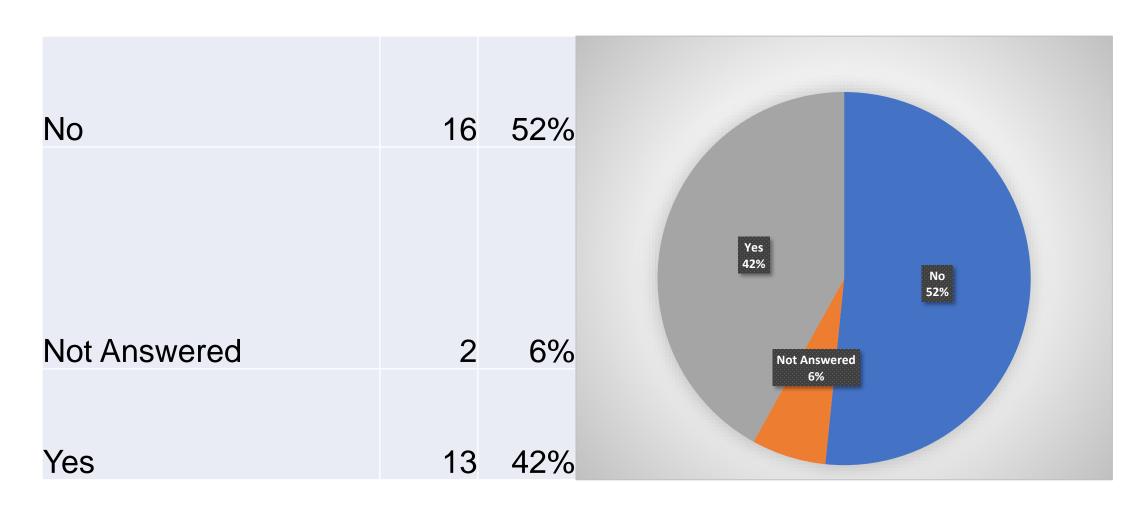
Are you aware that your address can be made unavailable to the public if you believe that it being available puts you or your family at risk?



Are you aware that your address can be made unavailable to the public if you believe that it being available puts you or your family at risk? - Details Provided

- I asked for it not to be published last year and was told that I had to have very particular reason. I don't have a particular reason other than I do not want unknown members if the public to know my home address and would be extremely unhappy if they called at my home. I also received unwanted mail eg from SPUC last time I was a Cllr which was unpleasant.
- Have always been told it has to be on the Register of Business Interests. I can see other councils redact this, but have not seen this available in Trafford.
- I didn't know this was an option. I'd like to take this up please.
- I raised this shortly after being elected when the glass in my front door was smashed. However, I was told that publication of home addresses was the norm and if I wanted to opt out of this I would need to make a specific request to the monitoring officer. As a new councillor I didn't want to do this, but it should be made much easier to opt out of this.

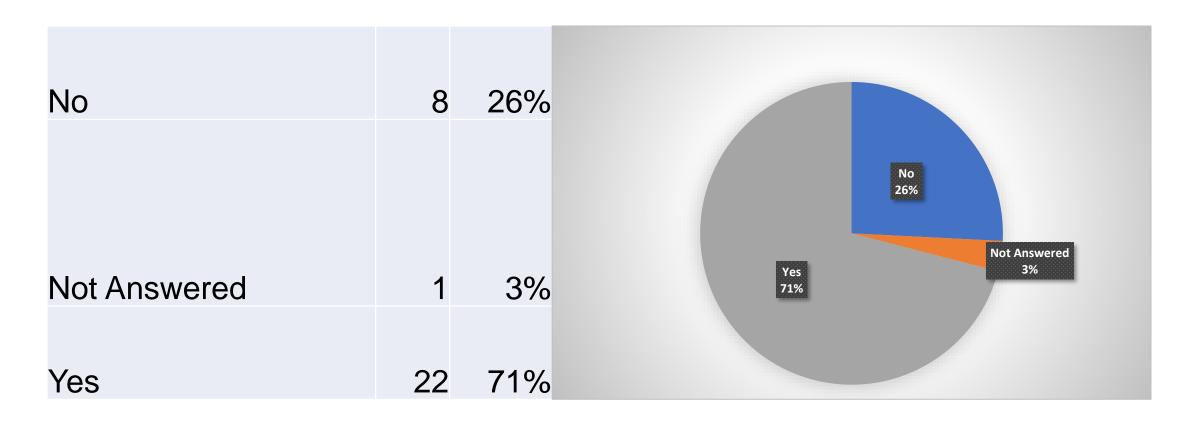
Do you feel the availability of Councillor addresses is adequately expressed to Councillors?



### Do you feel the availability of Councillor addresses is adequately expressed to Councillors? - Details provided

- It is referred to when we are first elected, however the true implications only become apparent when an incident occurs.
- Didn't initially realise they were so readily accessible.
- Nobody asked me if I wanted it to be made public or not.
- I didn't know I could ask for it to be hidden from public view. I'm surprised this has not been made clear.
- Although councillors provide details of their interest including any property they own, I don't think it's made clear that their home address will be published as a result.
- I think that some Councillors are not aware of this.

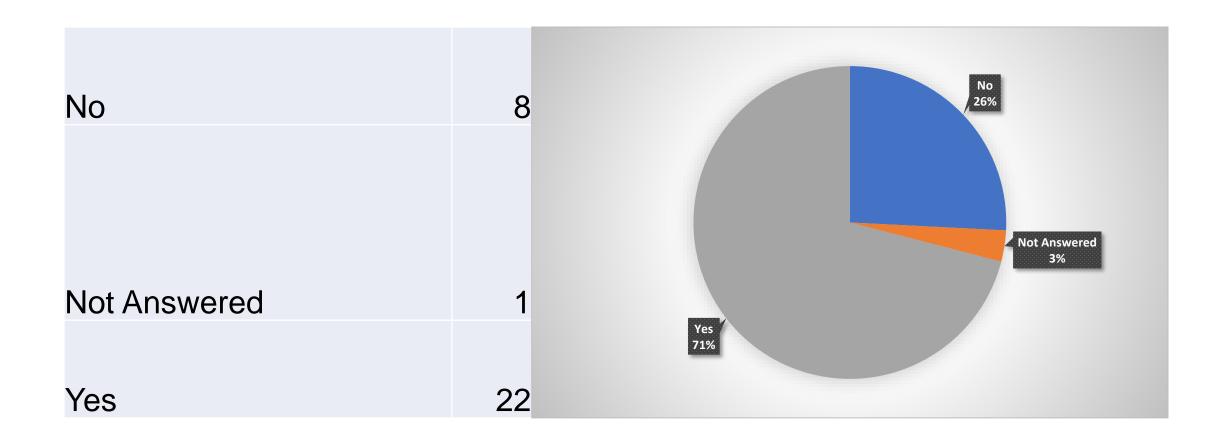
Do you feel that Councillors should be reminded on a regular basis of their ability make their address unavailable to the Public?



Do you feel that Councillors should be reminded on a regular basis of their ability make their address unavailable to the Public?

- Details Provided
- I would certainly do it if it were possible. Previously when I was a councillor with the stalker, my husband worked away a lot, so I was often in the house with my children and it would cause me great anxiety that he could find out where I lived. I would constantly keep the front curtains closed, and wouldn't go out after dark. At the time this wasn't taken seriously (my colleague had a death threat by phone at the same time), so I am glad to see it is now.
- to be honest, I think the default should be that home addresses are not published.

Do you feel that the public availability of your address compromises your safety and/or the safety of your family?

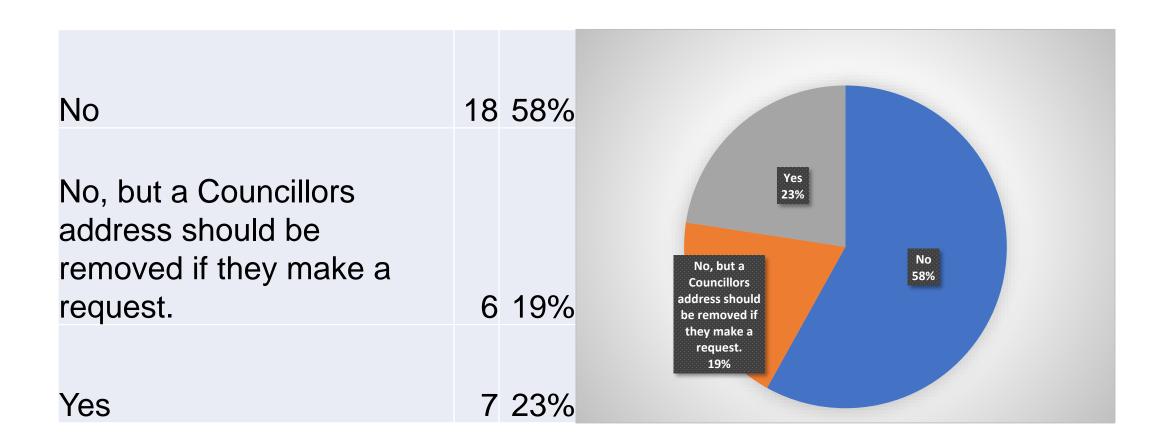


## Do you feel that the public availability of your address compromises your safety and/or the safety of your family? - Details provided

- Not for any specific reason, but I'd rather it wasn't out there, rather than
  waiting for there to be a specific cause for concern.
- I don't see why my home and my families home is of any importance to anyone.
- Many of us live in our wards and so ourselves and our families are often recognised when going about our day to day non-cllr business. This is quite worrying in its own right. The fact that our addresses are also known adds another layer of concern.
- Potentially. People seem a lot more angry of late and it would be easy to target Cllrs with a public address
- Unfortunately, in this day and age its appears to be getting more likely.

- Absolutely it does. My colleagues have received threatening mail in the post.
- Elected politicians have been attacked before. I know of a Trafford Member who has been stalked in the past.
- I can see no need to provide a private address.
- As mentioned, the day after I was first elected, the glass in my front door was smashed. The police came and said it probably was linked to my election. At the time my daughter was very ill and it did worry my family and we didn't imagine I would be target of something like that
- I am a woman and live on my own
- It can do I have had a few occasions when uninvited residents have called at my home. There was no safety concerns, but there could have been problems.

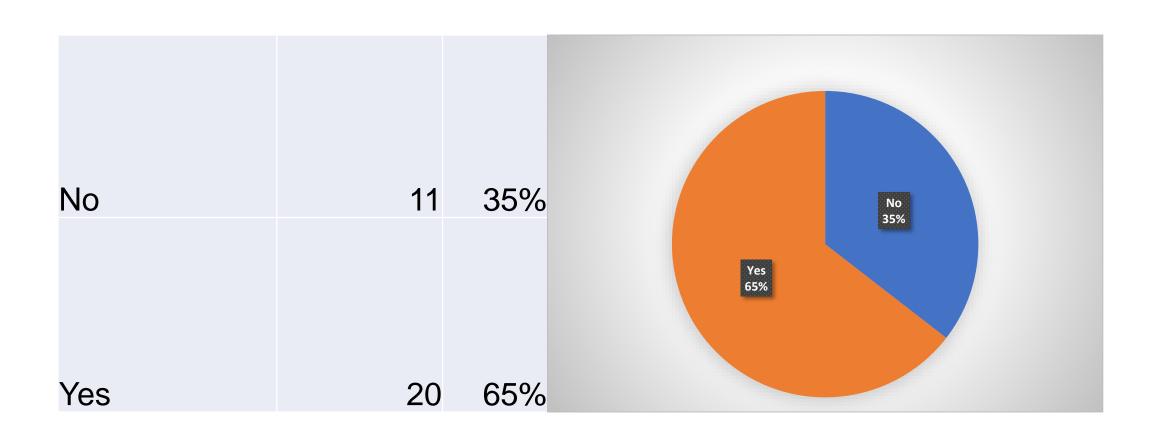
Do you feel that your address should be available to the public?



### Do you feel that your address should be available to the public? - Details provided

- Before modern communications were available e-mail, WhatsApp mobile phones etc then I think knowing a Cllr's address was important - it made them contactable. I don't think it is necessary anymore, given the many other ways we can be contacted.
- As a councillor that lives in the area that I represent, many local people do know where I live, but to have my address publicly accessible to anyone who may decide to start a vendetta for whatever reason against me either personally or politically is concerning.

Do you believe that Councillor addresses should not be publicly available?



### Do you believe that Councillor addresses should not be publicly available? - Details provided

- Before modern communications were available e-mail, WhatsApp mobile phones etc then I think knowing a Cllr's address was important - it made them contactable. I don't think it is necessary anymore, given the many other ways we can be contacted.
- It can leave one open to threat or abuse.
- I can see no need. we can be contacted using the town hall address.
- There is no specific reason for the public to be made aware of the Councillor address - there are many other ways for them to contact us if required.