



**Queensland**  
**Foster and**  
**Kinship Care**

# CARER EXIT SURVEY

## REPORT

Northern QLD Region

2020-2021

## Contents

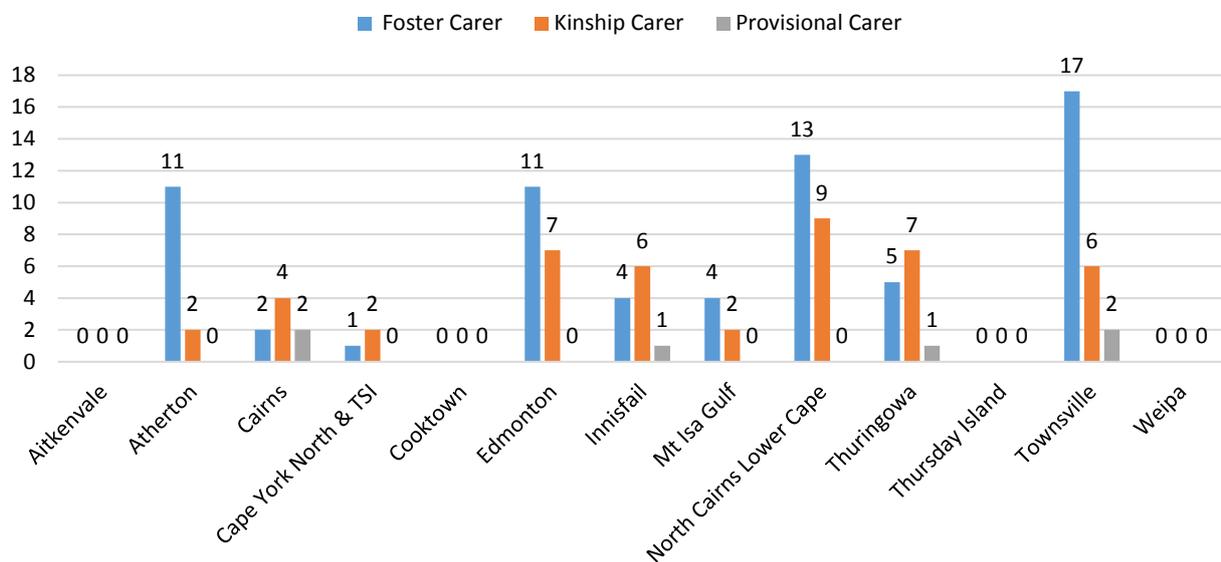
Summary - Northern QLD Region.....	2
About You.....	2
About You as a Carer.....	5
Reason for Discontinuing as a Foster/Kinship Carer.....	6
The Experience of Caring.....	9
The Experience of Caring: Communication.....	10
The Experience of Caring: Contact.....	12
The Experience of Caring: Support.....	15
The Experience of Caring: Financial Support.....	16
The Experience of Caring: Training and Professional Development.....	17
Overall Experience.....	18

## Summary - Northern QLD Region

### Information taken from the End of Carer Approvals

Queensland Foster and Kinship Care (here after referred to as QFKC) received 553 End of Carer Approval Notices during the period of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. 119 (21.5%) of the End of Carer Approval Notices were received from the Northern QLD Region and affiliated with the following service centres. Please note that sometimes all the required information is not provided to QFKC.

### End of Carer Approval Notices

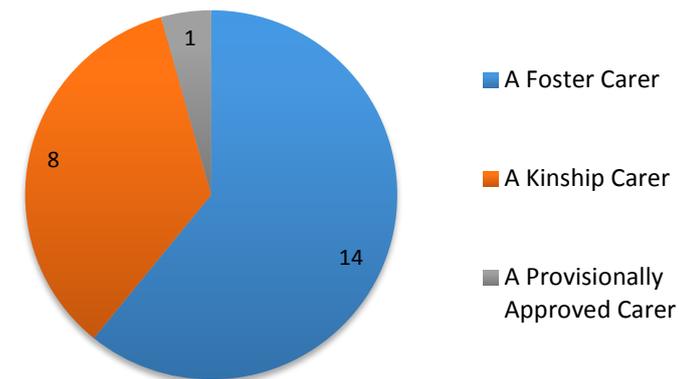
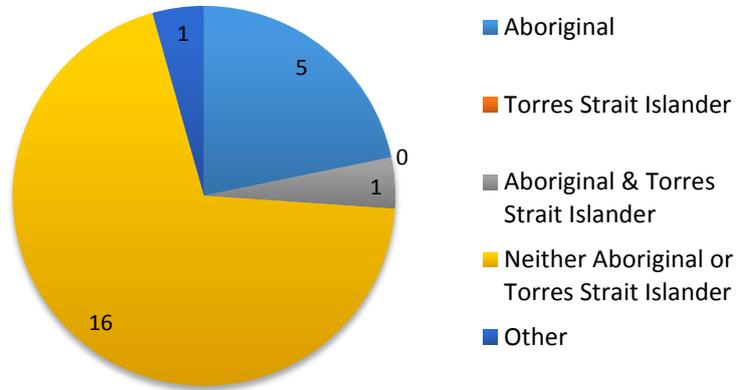


### About You

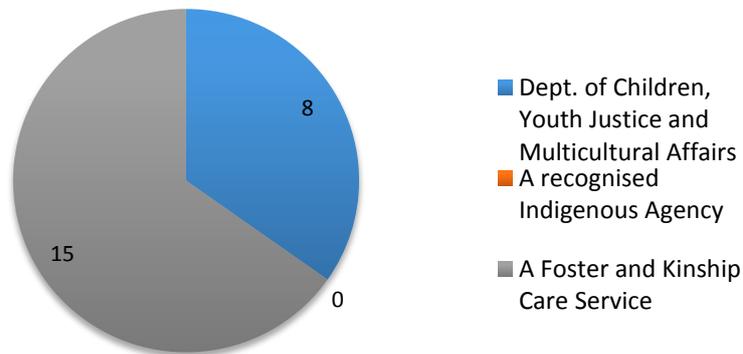
All 119 end of carer approvals were sent an acknowledgment letter from QFKC asking them if they wanted to complete an exit survey. There were 23 people who completed the survey, affiliated with the Service Centres below:

- Aitkenvale 2
- Atherton 3
- Cairns 6
- Cape York Nth & TSI 1
- Cooktown 1
- Edmonton 2
- Innisfail 1
- Mt Isa Gulf 1
- North Cairns Lower Cape 0
- Thuringowa 1
- Thursday Island 0
- Townsville 5
- Weipa 0

From the 23 people who completed the survey for the Northern QLD Region the following information was shared;

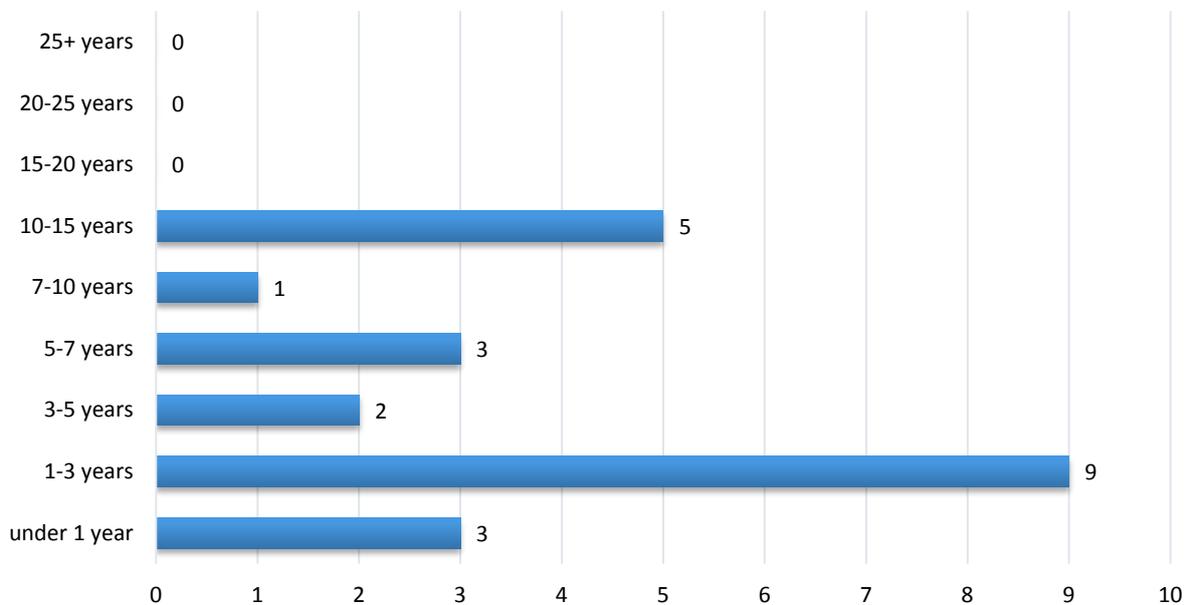


People were asked to identify who they are supported by, they answered as follows;



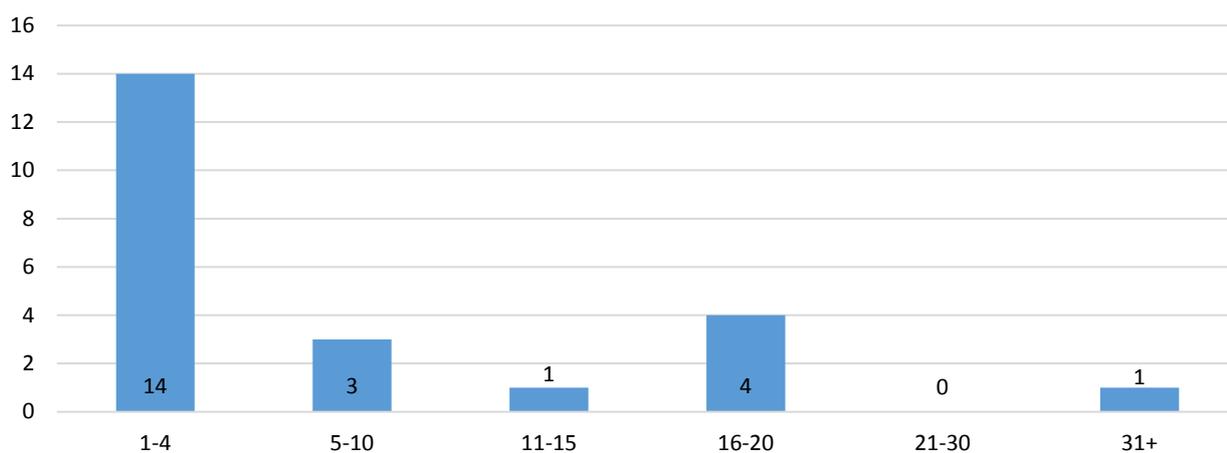
Information is requested regarding the person's time spent as a carer, to identify when they started as a carer and when they stopped. Below is a graph that identifies the length of time stated in the responses.

### Time spent as a carer



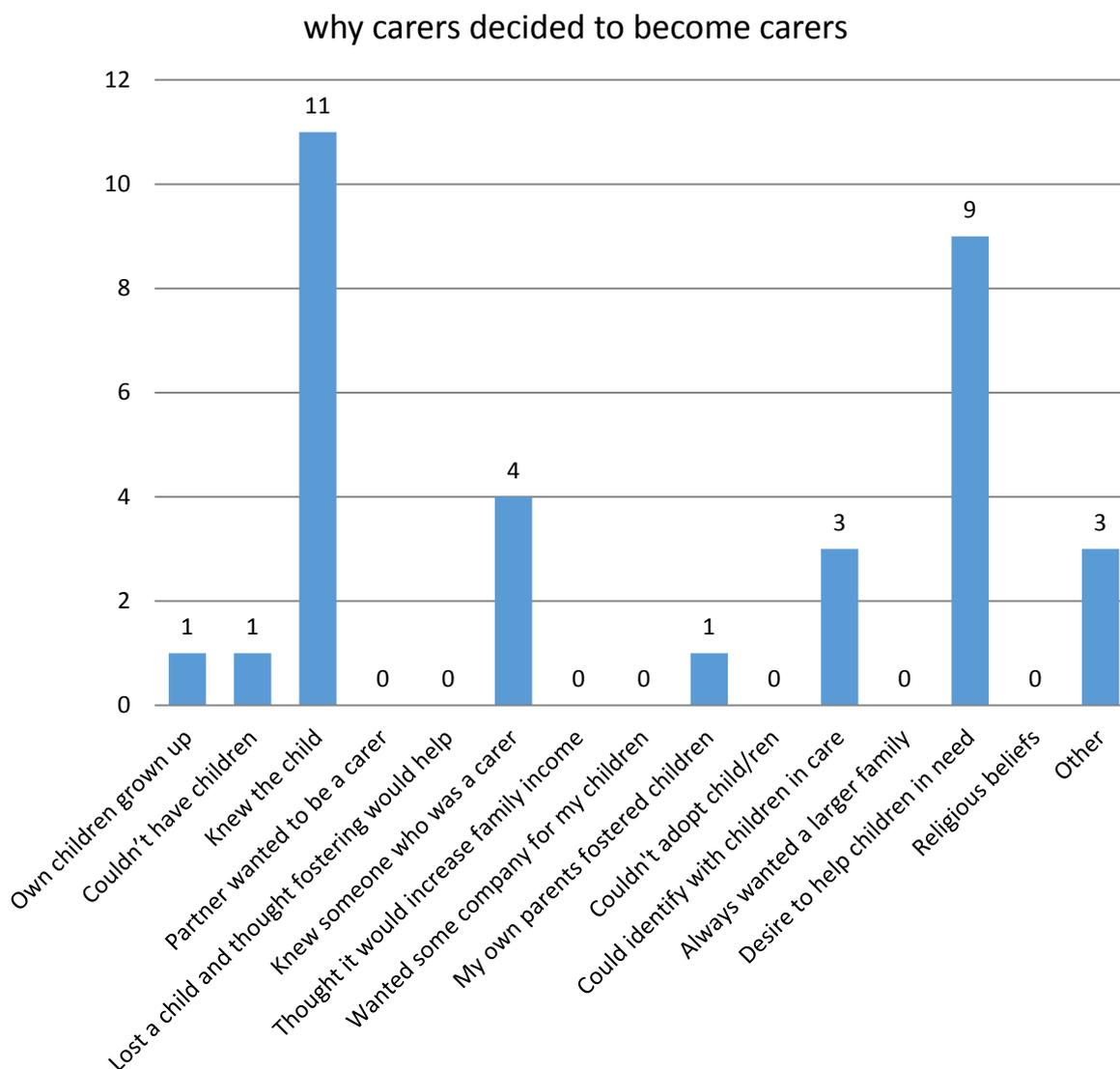
The information provided also evidences the number of children the person/persons have provided care to.

### Number of children



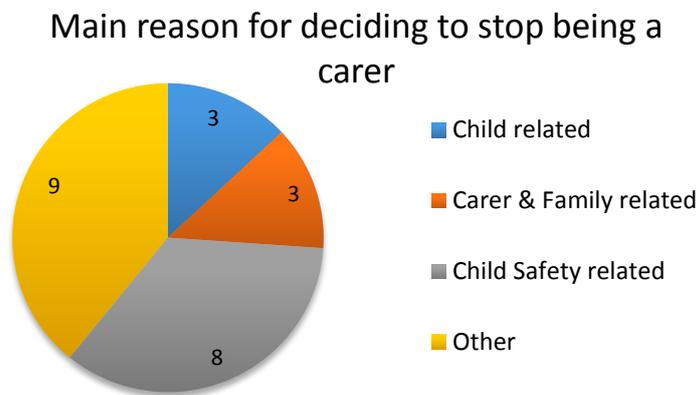
## About You as a Carer

People were asked to identify what made them decide to become a Foster Carer.

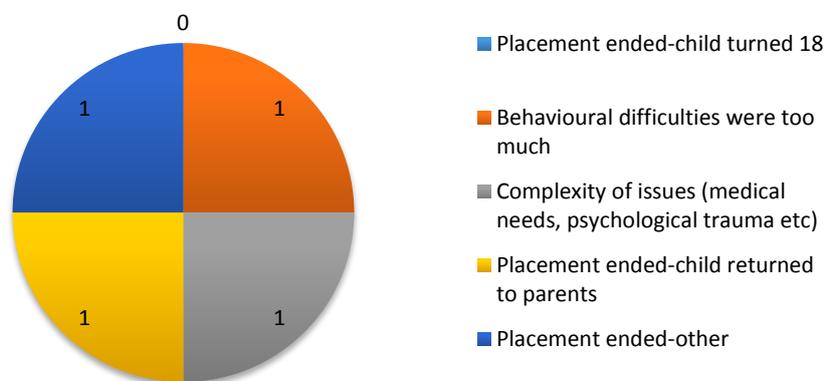


## Reason for Discontinuing as a Foster/Kinship Carer

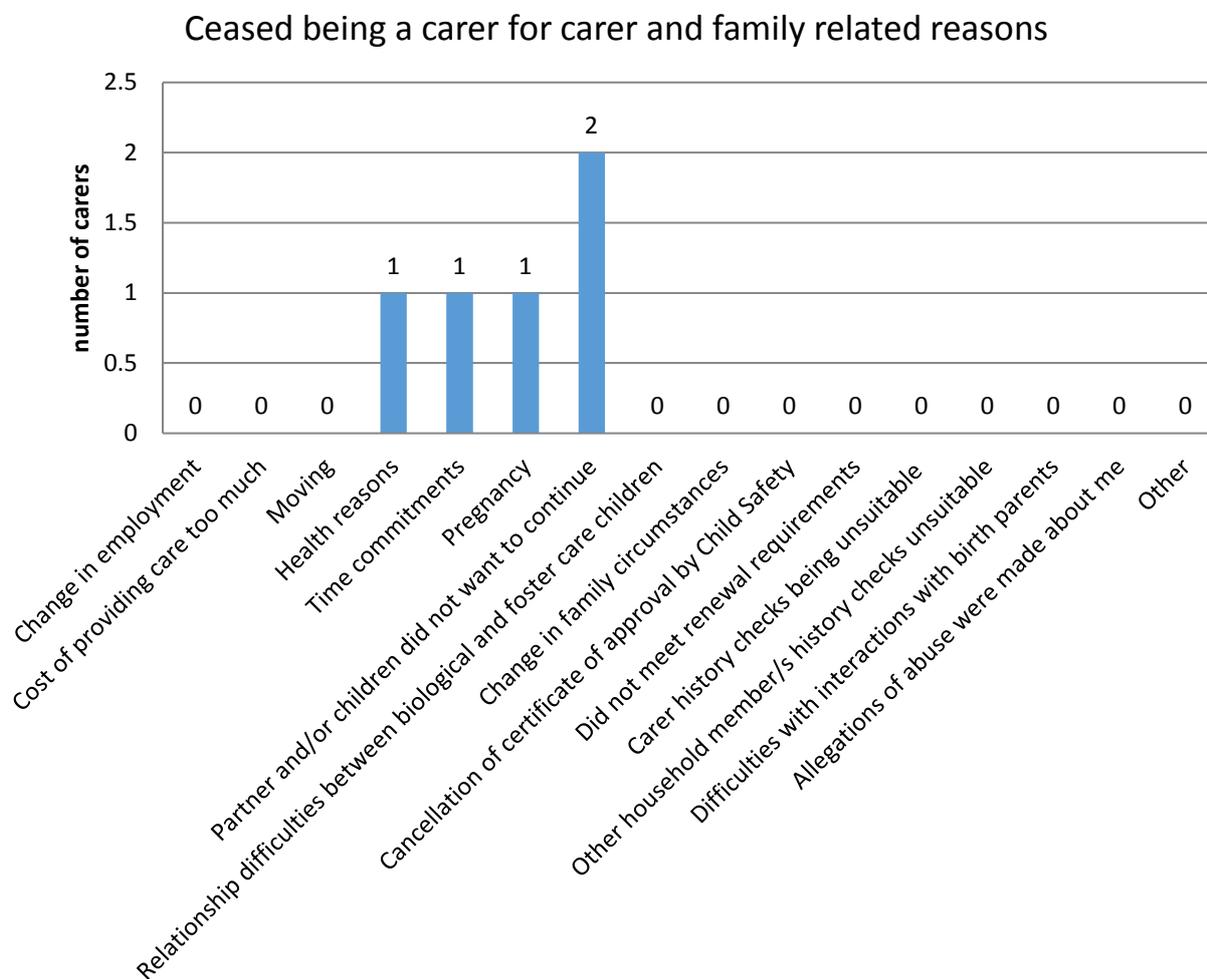
People undertaking the survey were asked to provide the reason why they decided to stop being carers. They are provided with four options then asked to elaborate in relation to the option that they have selected.



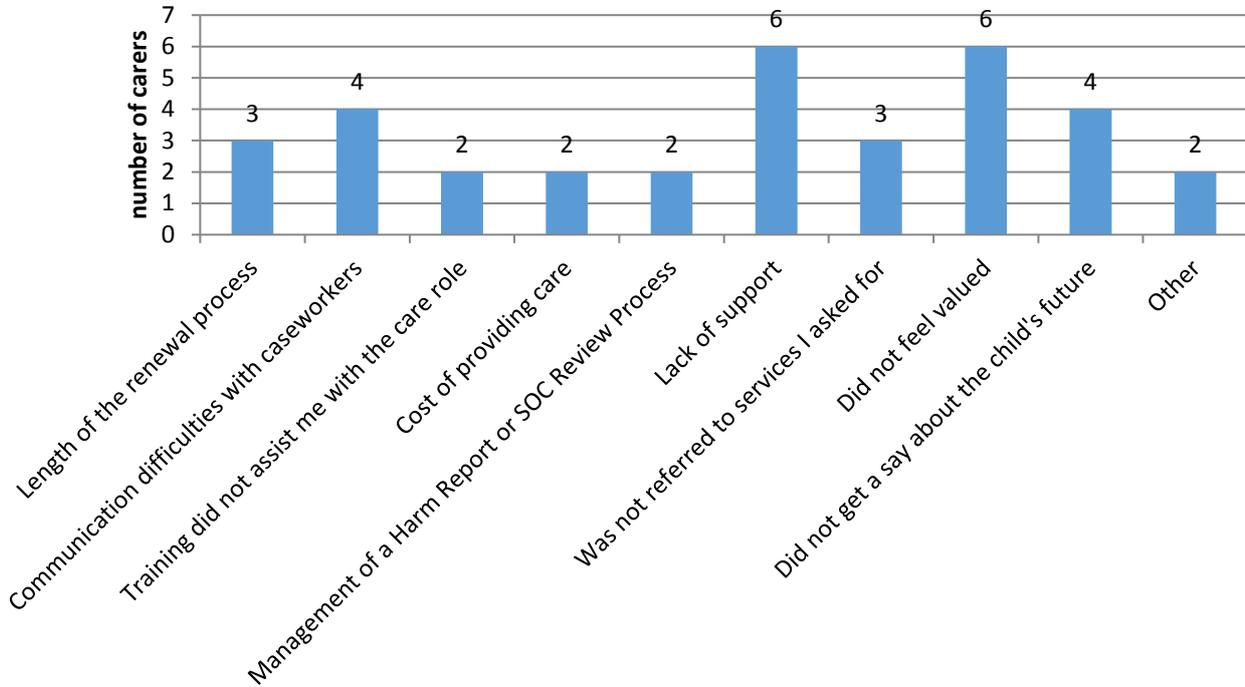
The following information will be specific to the reason that has been provided in this question. If the respondents answered that they ceased being carers due to child related reasons, they are asked to expand on the reasons, as follows.



For people who stated that they ceased caring due to carer and family reasons, they were asked to expand on their response.

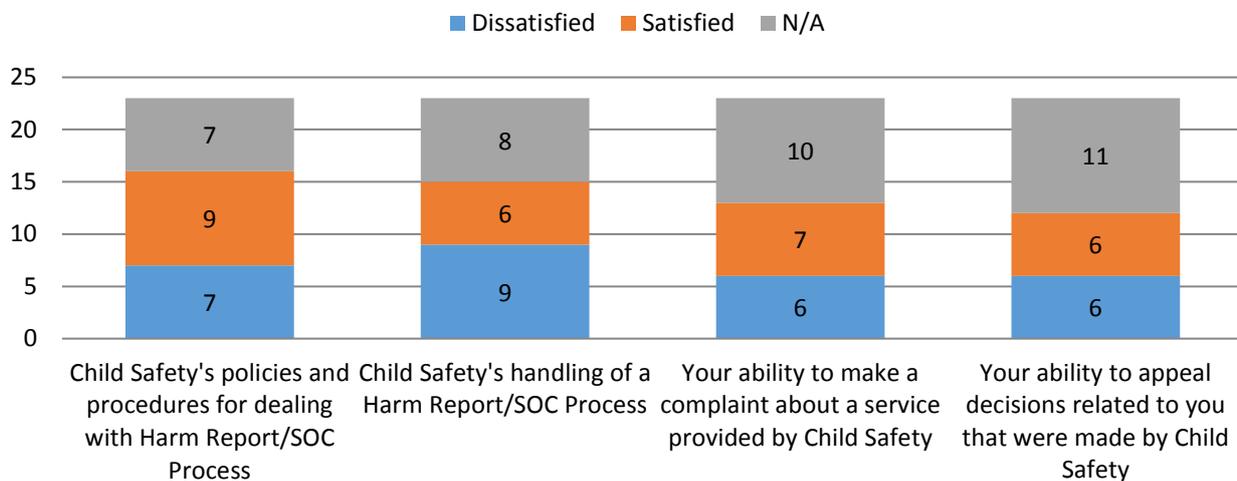


### Response from carer when ceasing care due to issues relating to Child Safety Services



People undertaking the surveys were asked how satisfied they were with different elements of their involvement with the Department of Child Safety.

### In regards to Child Safety, how satisfied were you with

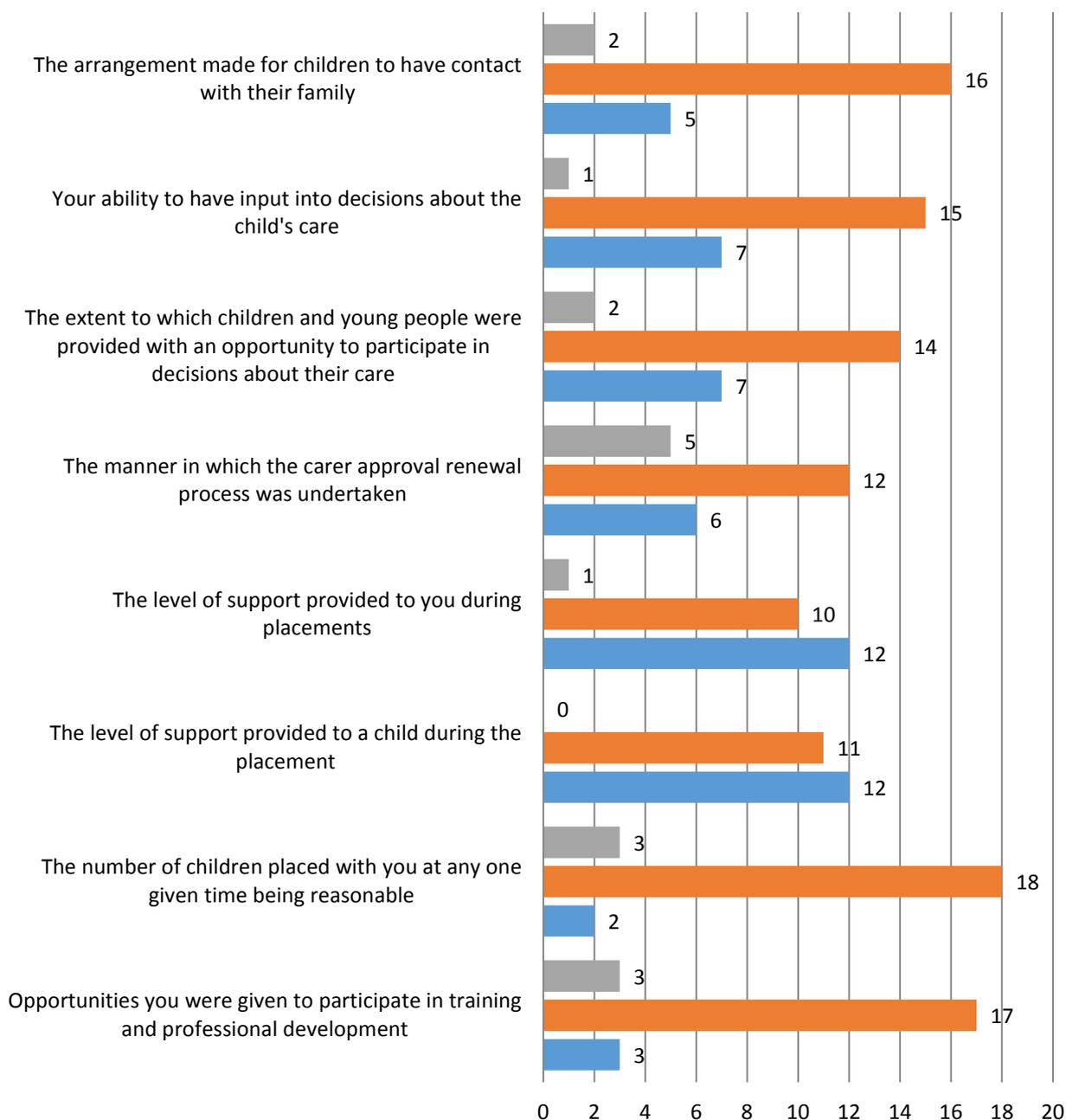


Carers were asked a range of questions on their satisfaction level related to their overall caring experience. They were further asked to respond to questions around communication, contact, support, financial support, training and professional development. The following responses were provided.

## The Experience of Caring

### How satisfied were you with

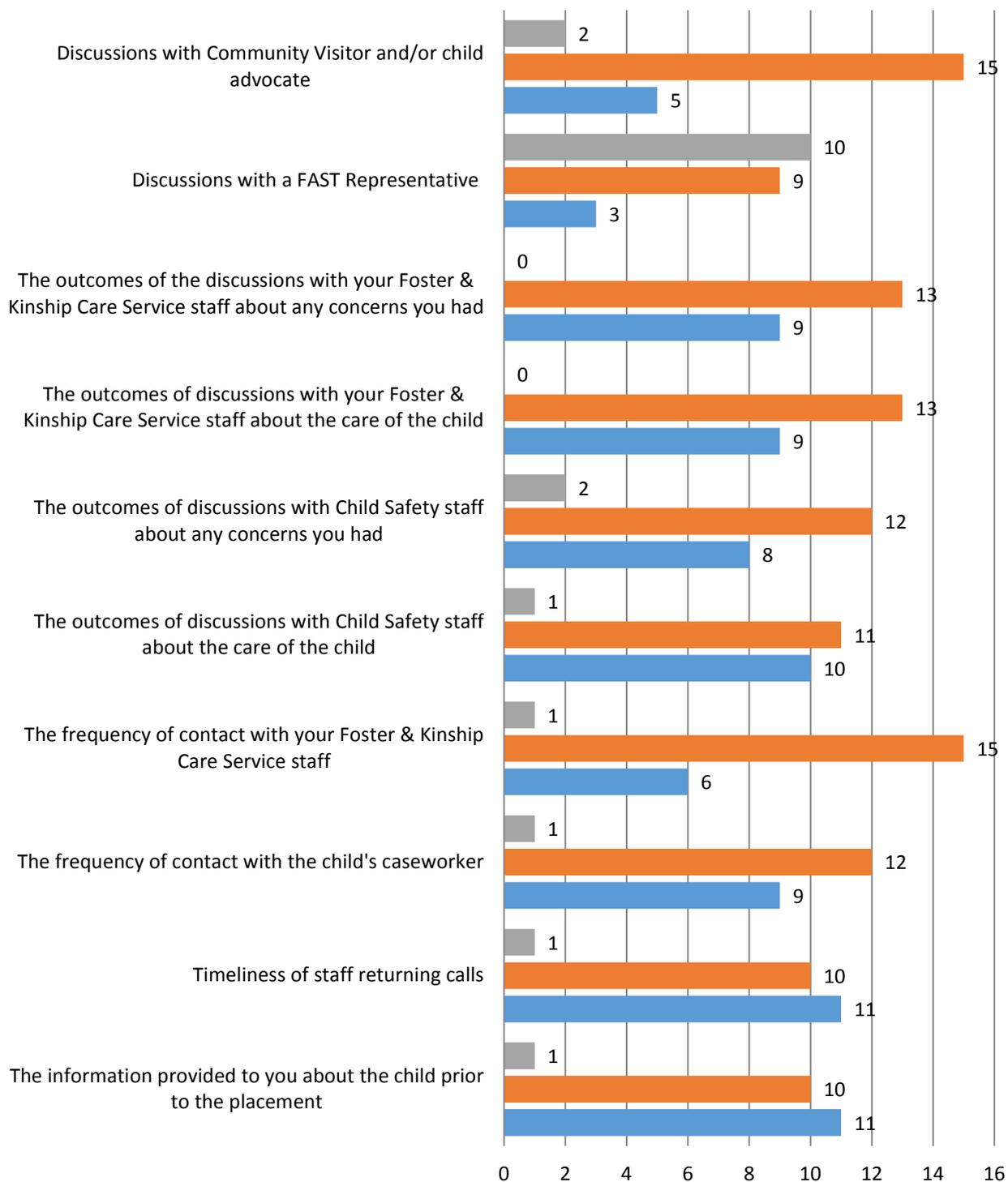
■ N/A ■ Satisfied ■ Dissatisfied



## The Experience of Caring: Communication

### How satisfied were you with

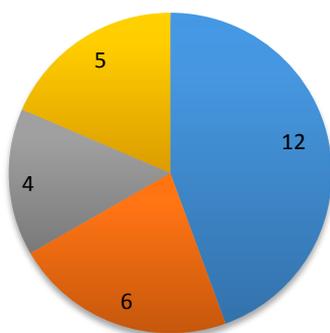
■ N/A ■ Satisfied ■ Dissatisfied



The carers were asked to identify whether Child Safety discussed the following matters with them:

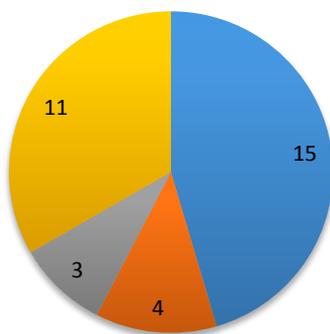
### The child's cultural support needs

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure ■ If yes, was there a cultural support plan in place



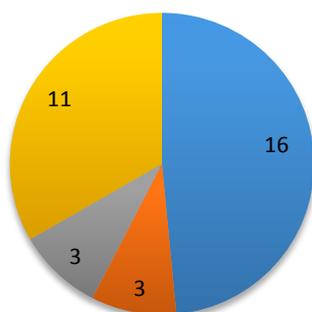
### The child's educational needs

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure ■ If yes, was there an education support plan in place



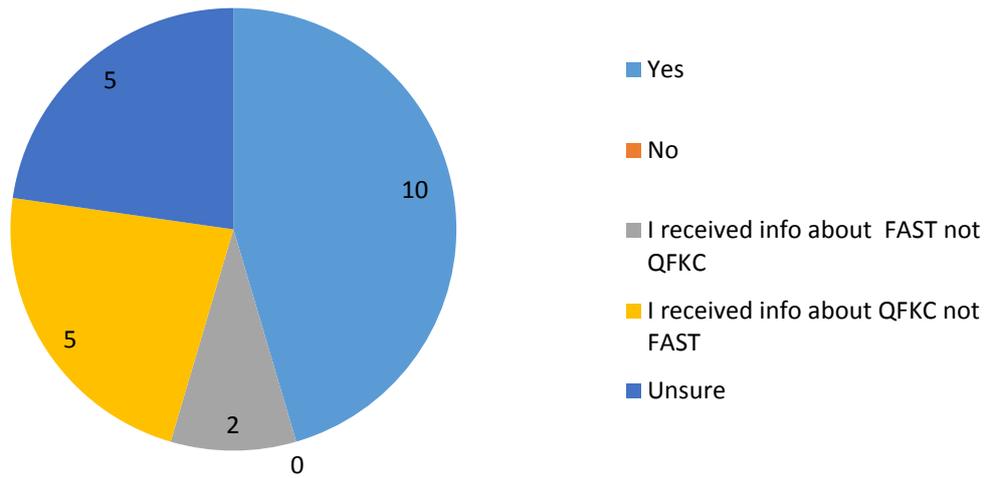
### The child's health needs

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure ■ If yes, did the child have a current child health passport



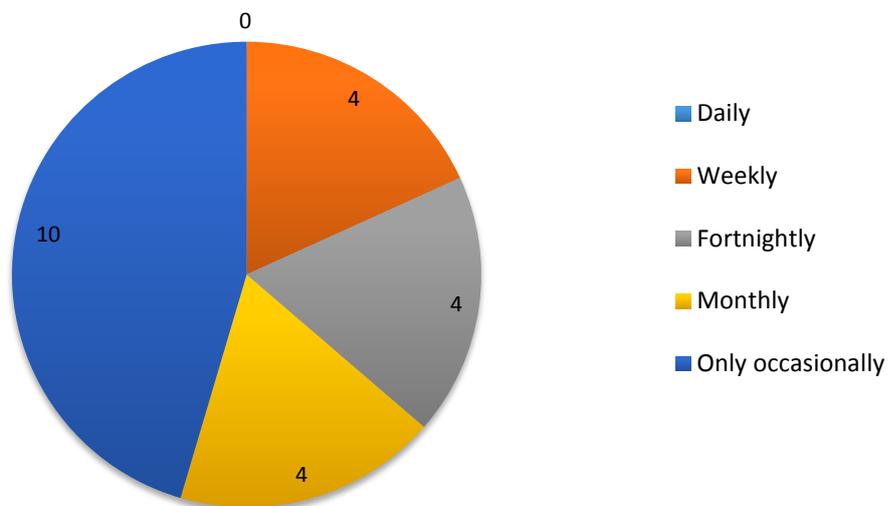
Carers were asked if they had received information regarding FAST Representatives and QLD Foster and Kinship Care, the graph below identifies their responses.

### Did you receive information about FAST and/or QLD Foster and Kinship Care

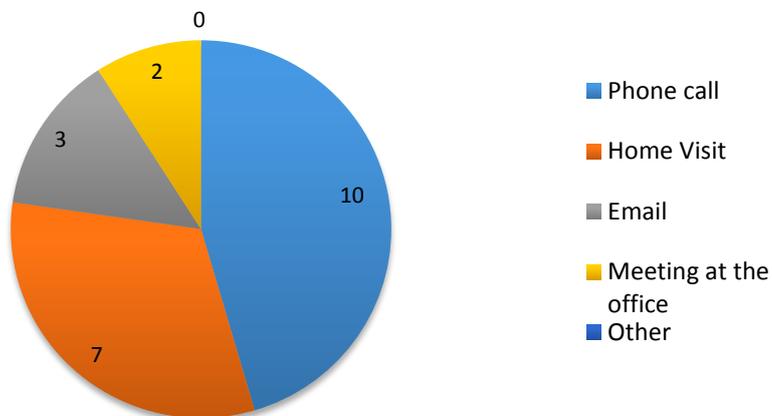


### The Experience of Caring: Contact

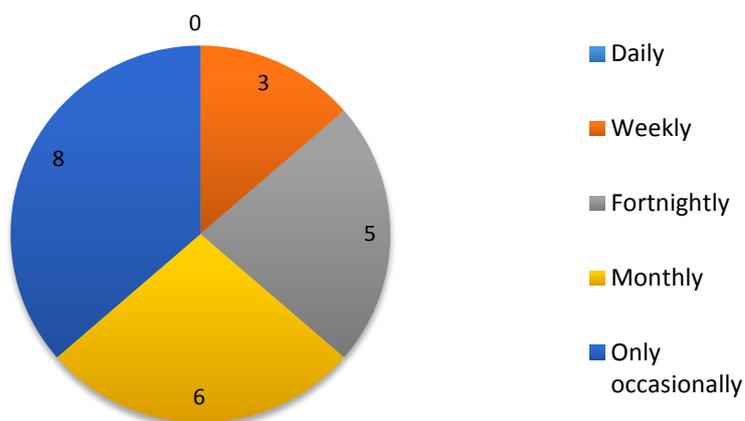
#### How often did you have contact with Child Safety staff



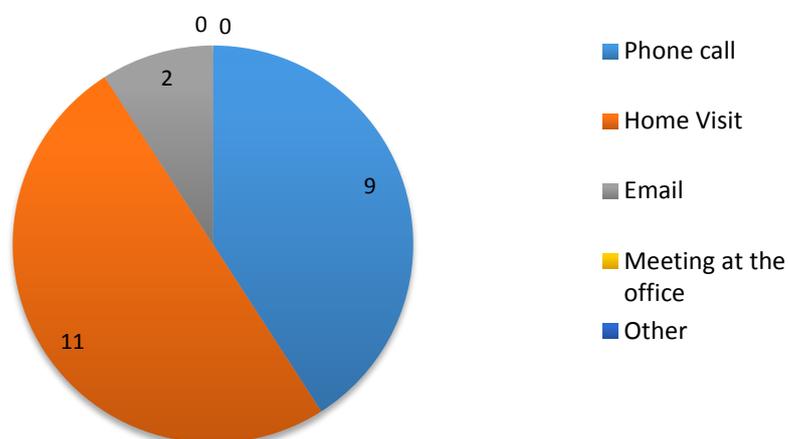
### How did contact occur?



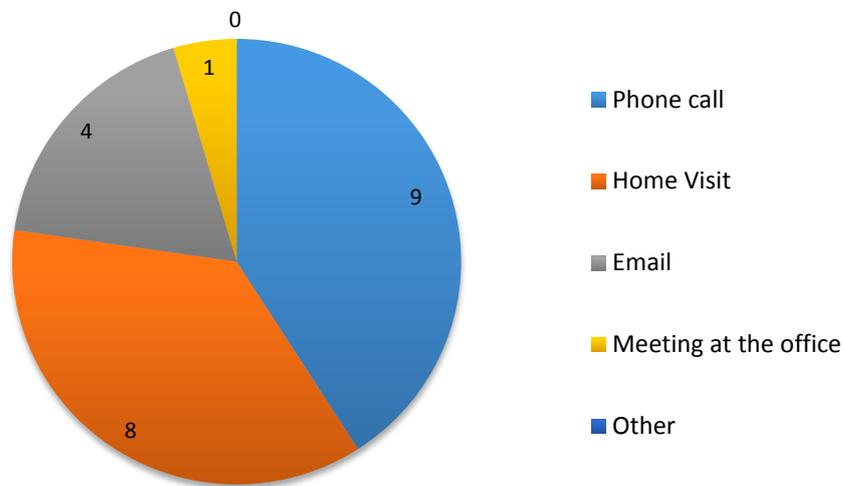
### How often did you have contact with your Foster and Kinship Care Service?



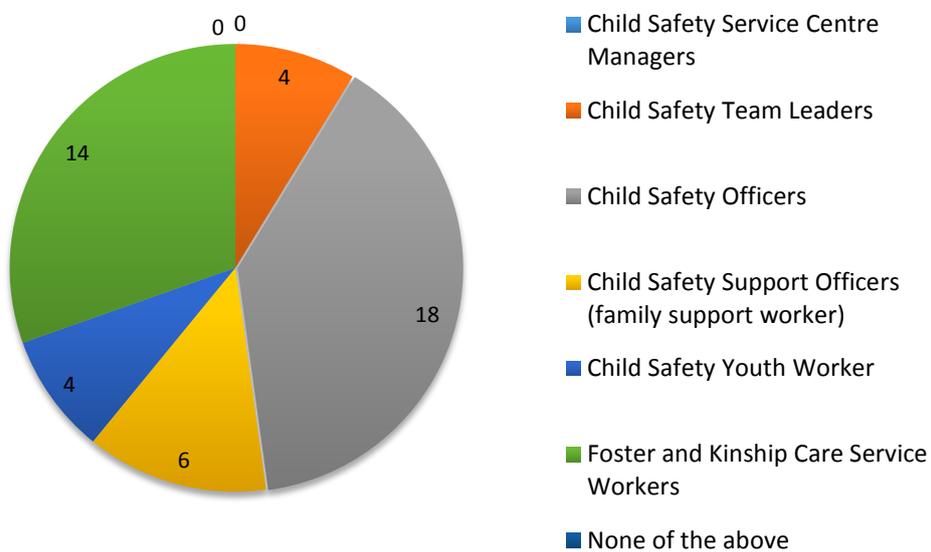
### How did this contact occur?



### What was your preference regarding contact?

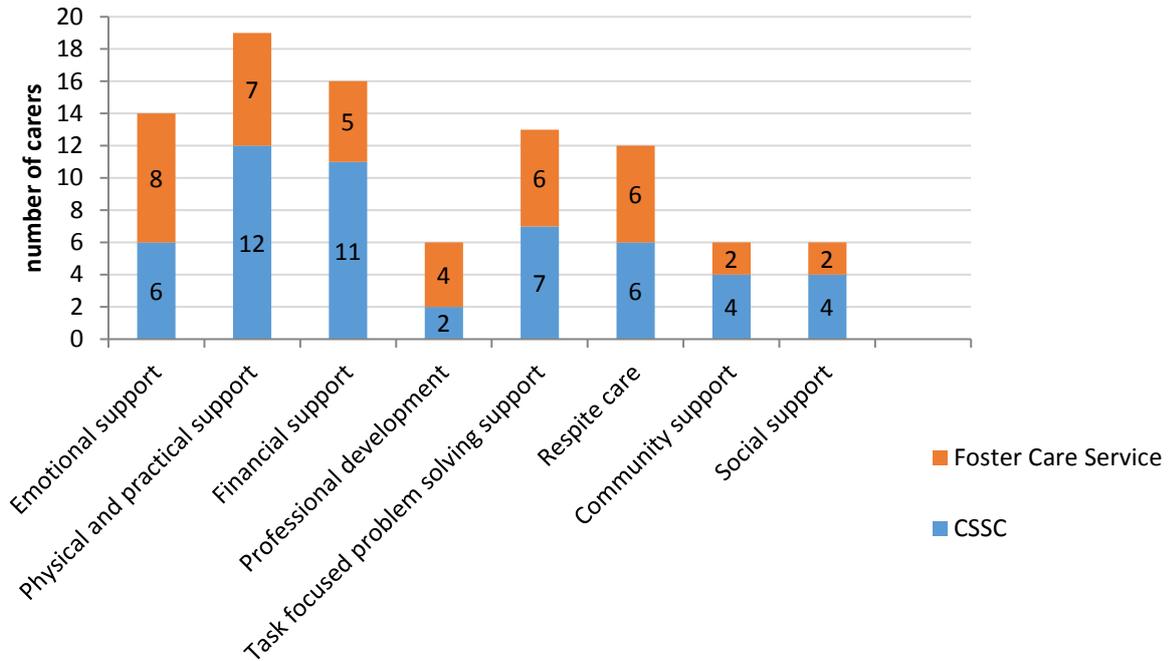


### Which of the following persons did you usually have contact with?

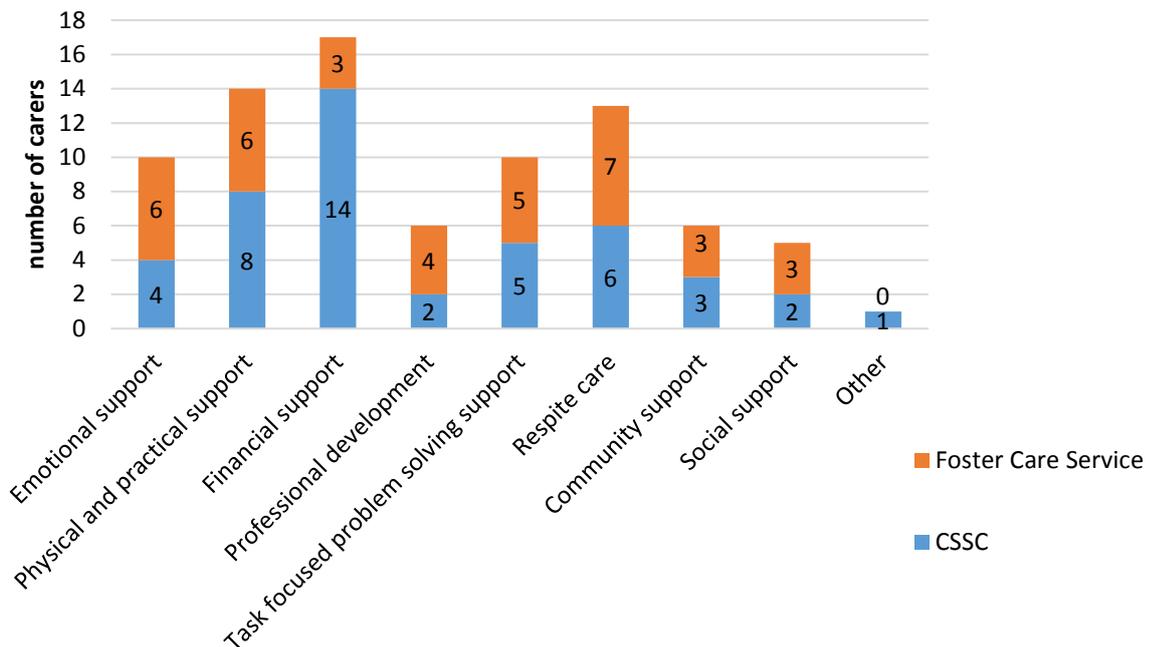


## The Experience of Caring: Support

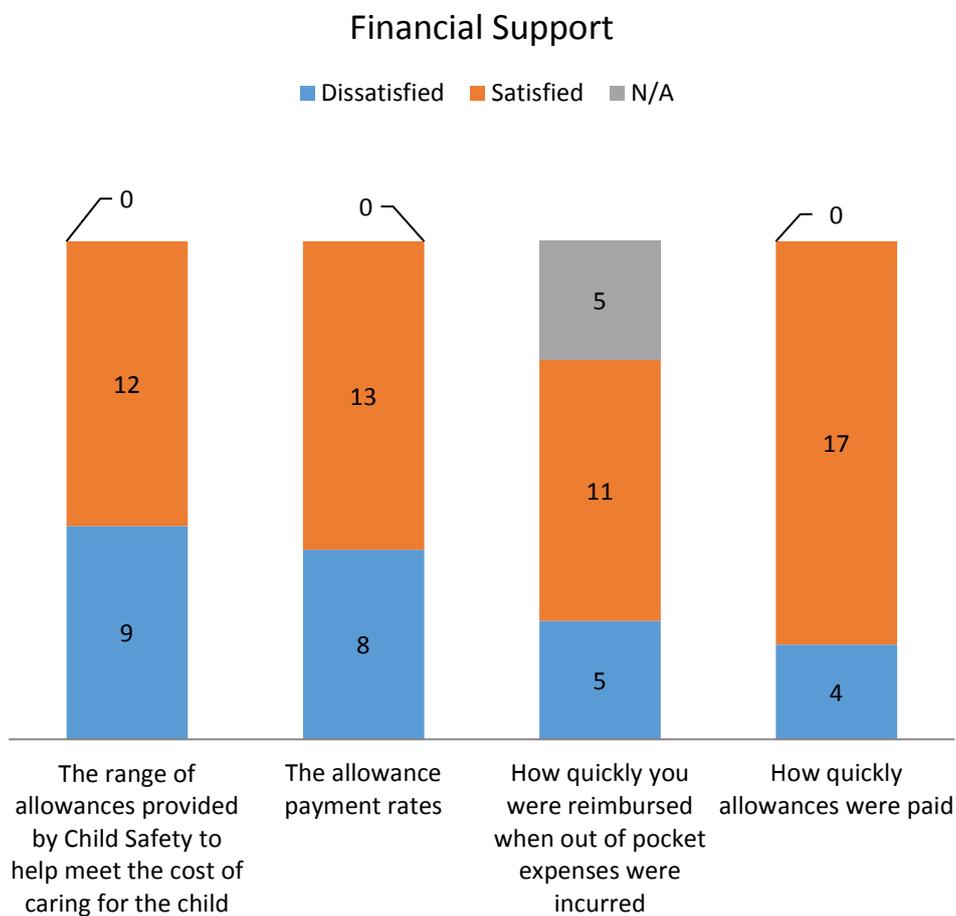
Please indicate whether during your time as a foster carer you **requested** any of the following supports from Child Safety and/or your Foster & Kinship Care Service



Please indicate whether during your time as a foster carer you **received** any of the following supports from Child Safety and/or your Foster & Kinship Care Service

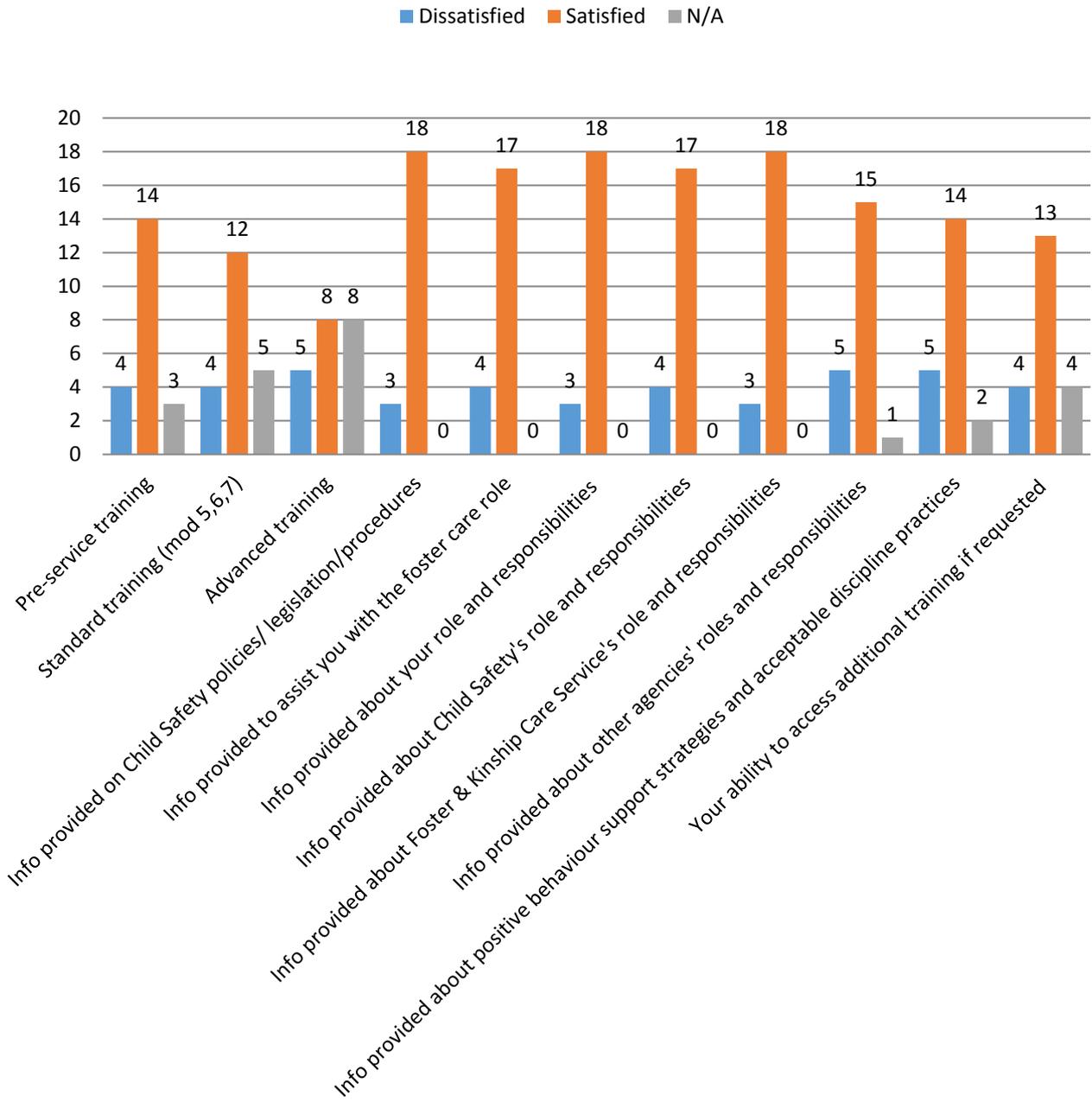


## The Experience of Caring: Financial Support

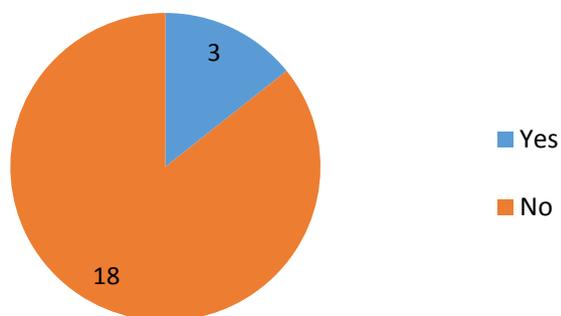


## The Experience of Caring: Training and Professional Development

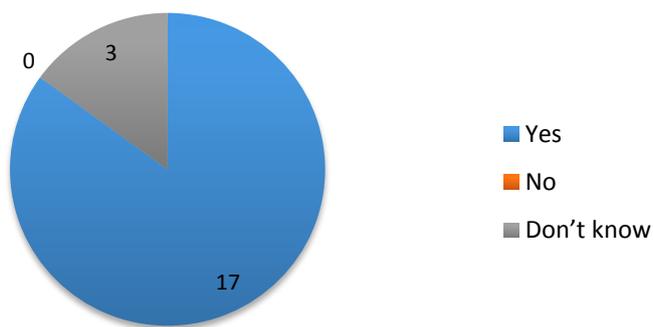
In regard to training and development, how satisfied were you with the following?



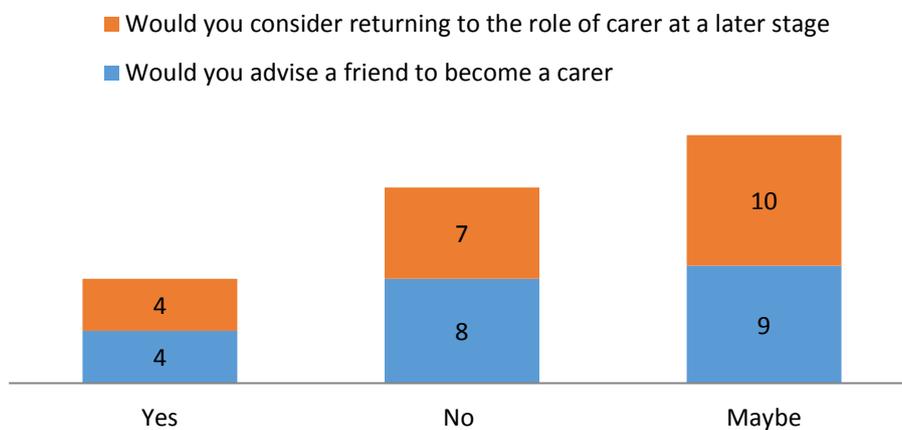
### Have you attended any training in the last 12 months



### If you were approved as a Foster Carer, was there a Foster Care Agreement in place?



## Overall Experience



[This page intentionally left blank]