



**WINDRUSH SCOTLAND 75 YEARS ON
REFLECTIONS FROM SCOTLAND THE PUBLIC
SURVEY REPORT: JULY 2023**



MARKING WINDRUSH 75

To mark the 75th Anniversary of Windrush FJSS Group conducted a special survey to see if the public views on Windrush had changed since the inaugural survey in Scotland conducted in March 2022. Through this special survey FJSS Group wanted to assess the views of the public in Scotland as we mark the significant milestone of 75 years since Windrush.

There is still significant levels of discrimination and institutionalized racism that many African-Caribbean people face today in Scotland. This is despite the major historical contributions made by this community to the development of Scotland. Sectors such as the health and social care, the hospitality industry, engineering as well as the arts industry have benefited immensely from the contributions of African-Caribbean community.

The survey provided a fantastic opportunity for honest dialogue between the remaining few survivors and relatives of the Windrush generation in Scotland, and the wider Scottish society. The African-Caribbean nationals were brought to the UK as part of the initiative to address skills and labour shortages in a post war Britain. The migrant skills were seen as key to the recovery of the UK economy from the effects of the war.

The survey was conducted to captures the views of the people affected by the scandal and those who are sympathetic to the victims.

KEY FINDINGS

Views on the Windrush Scandal

The general feeling regarding the Windrush Scandal is that it was shocking, appalling, shameful and disgraceful. The Windrush vessel brought nurses, railway workers etc. who contributed immensely to the UK. They were real people not just numbers therefore, the scandal is a very important story to tell because it should never be allowed to happen again to any group of people or community because sadly even people who had served in the army were also affected.

Views on how the Scandal has been handled so far

Most of the people we interviewed strongly disapprove of the way the scandal has been handled so far, especially the fact that only 5% of Windrush victims have been compensated in four years. Some even agreed with a report by cross-party MPs which called for the compensation scheme be taken out of the Home Office control.

Another participant's view was, "Disgusted by the way the Westminster government has handled the issue and also the way the media falls silent as usual when the story goes out of fashion, giving the false impression that the issue has gone away." This view was echoed by many who feel the media has not done enough to expose the wrongdoing and to allow victims to share their pain and suffering.

Views on what should be done to address the impact of the Scandal on the Victims

Most of the respondents felt that The Windrush scandal highlights institutional racism & injustice and that as a society we still have a problem with racism. It is important that we learn from the history but sadly, the exact same thing is happening now to different groups of people e.g., the European community. Currently the Highlands is suffering from lack of immigration and as a result the hospitality industry is being affected adversely.

There is a strong connection between the Highlands and the Caribbeans therefore there is need to look closely and try and understand that connection. Views on what should be done to educate society to avoid a repeat of similar issues. Respondents highlighted the importance and need to raise awareness and to start seeing everyone as equal. It is essential that there is equality and inclusion in our communities. More communication and community engagement necessary in order to get people together to talk and get their views on important issues like race, immigration, equality etc.

Background and Methodology

Windrush Scotland 75 conducted multiple interviews in the Windrush Corner (Virtually and Face to face). We invited the public, Councillors and MSPs. We had overwhelming support which made it easier to capture the Scottish community's views regarding the Windrush Scandal, lessons learnt and the way forward. During the interviews we conducted a survey.



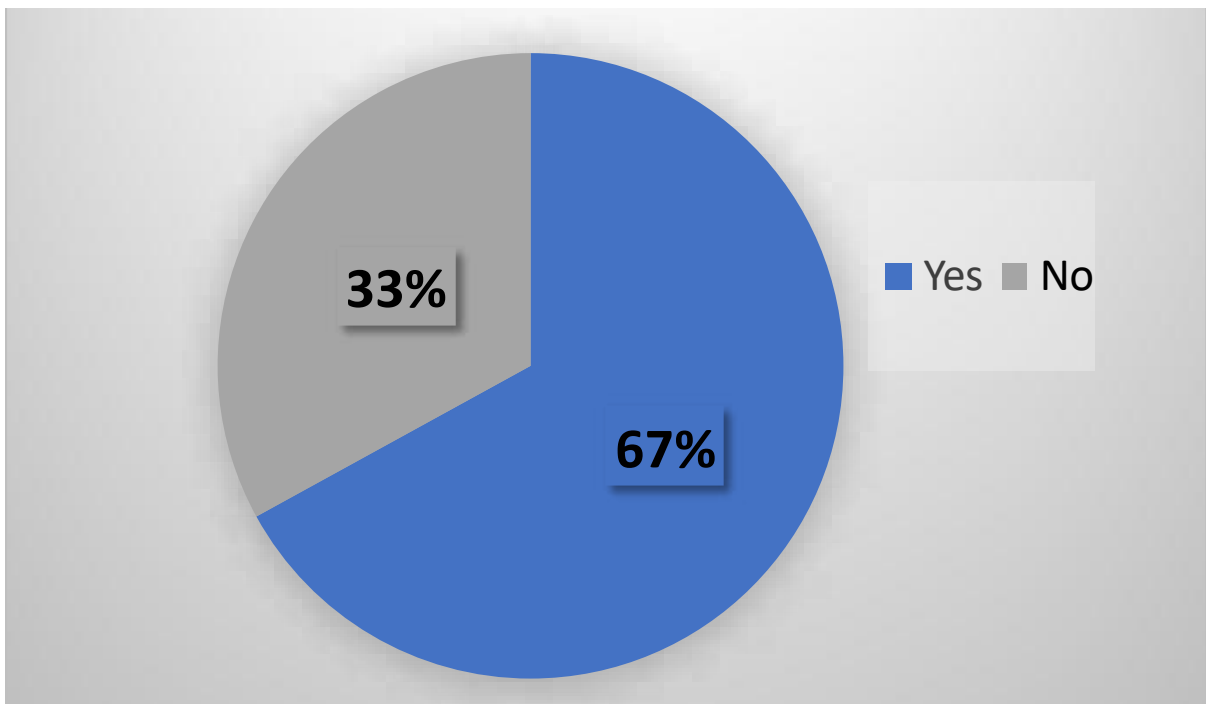
RESULTS

Question 1: Have you heard of the Windrush Scandal?

- Most of respondents (67%) had heard of the Windrush Scandal
- 33% of respondents had not heard of the Windrush Scandal

| Have you heard of the Windrush Scandal? | Response in Numbers | Response in Percentage % |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes | 661 | 67.0 |
| No | 325 | 33.0 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100 |

Have you heard of the Windrush Scandal?

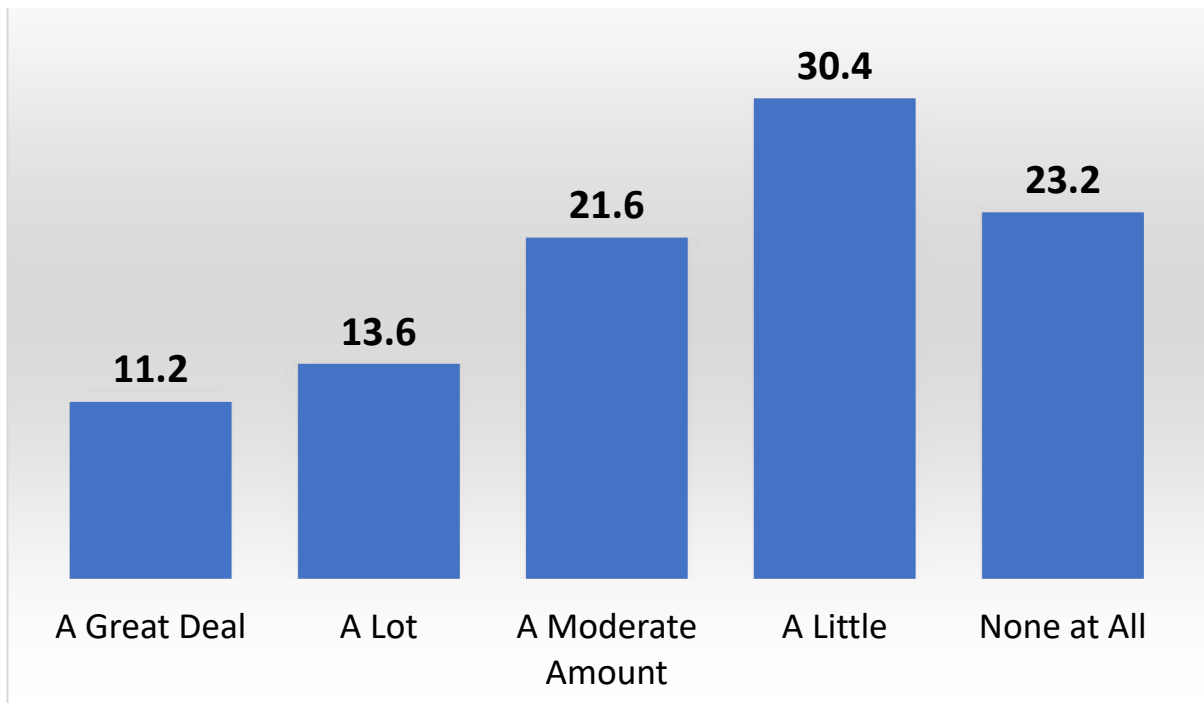


Question 2: If yes how much do you know about the issue around the Scandal?

- Majority of respondents knew a little (30.4%) or nothing (23.2%) about the issue around the Windrush Scandal.
- About a fifth of the respondents (21.6%) knew a moderate amount of the issue regarding the Windrush Scandal.
- Slightly above a fifth of the respondents knew a lot (13.6%) or a a great deal (11.2%)

| If yes how much do you know about the issue around the scandal? | Response in Numbers | Response in Percentage % |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| A Great Deal | 110 | 11.2 |
| A Lot | 134 | 13.6 |
| A Moderate Amount | 212 | 21.6 |
| A Little | 299 | 30.4 |
| None | 228 | 23.2 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100 |

If yes how much do you know about the issue around the Scandal?

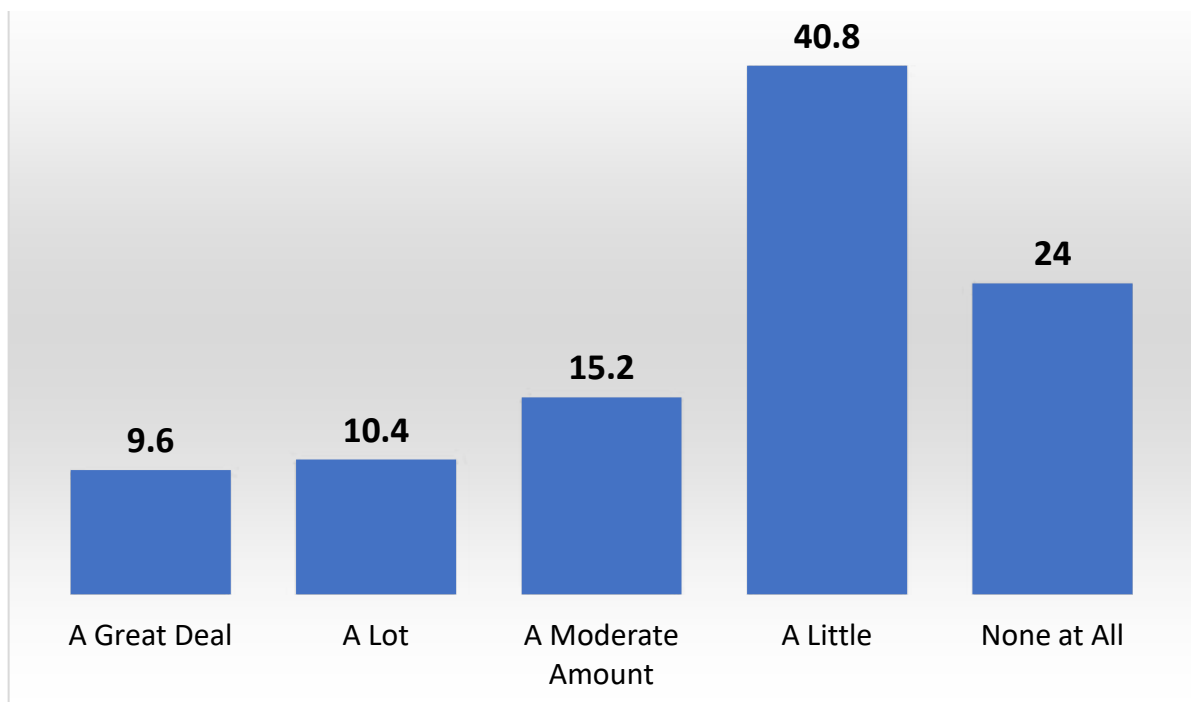


Question 3: How much do you know about the Windrush Generation?

- Majority of respondents knew little (40.8%) or nothing (24.0%) about the Windrush Generation.
- Just above a seventh of the respondents (15.2%) knew a moderate amount about the Windrush Generation.
- A fifth (20%) of the respondents knew a lot (10.4%) or a great deal (9.6%)

| How much do you know about the Windrush Generation? | Response in Numbers | Response in Percentage % |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| A Great Deal | 94 | 9.6 |
| A Lot | 103 | 10.4 |
| A Moderate Amount | 150 | 15.2 |
| A Little | 402 | 40.8 |
| None | 237 | 24.0 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100 |

How much do you know about the Windrush Generation?



Question 4: What are your views on the Windrush Scandal?

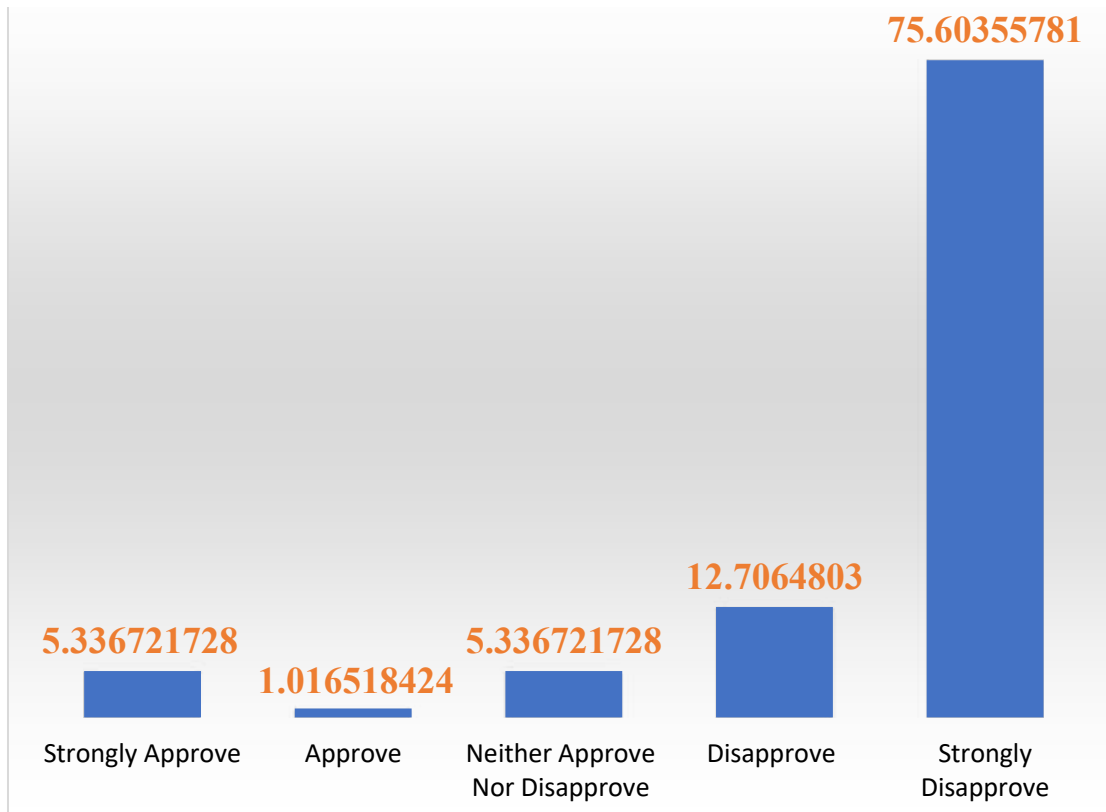
The general view regarding the Windrush Scandal is that it was shocking, appalling, shameful and disgraceful. The Windrush vessel brought nurses, railway workers etc. who contributed immensely to the UK. They were real people not just numbers therefore, the scandal is a very important story to tell because it should never be allowed to happen again to any group of people or community because sadly even people who had served in the British army were also affected.

Question 5: How do you feel about the scandal?

- 75% of the respondents strongly disapprove of the Scandal

| How do you feel about the scandal? | Response in Numbers | Response in Percentage % |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Strongly Approve | 52 | 5.3 |
| Approve | 11 | 1.0 |
| Neither Approve nor Disapprove | 53 | 5.3 |
| Disapprove | 125 | 12.7 |
| Strongly Disapprove | 745 | 75.6 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100 |

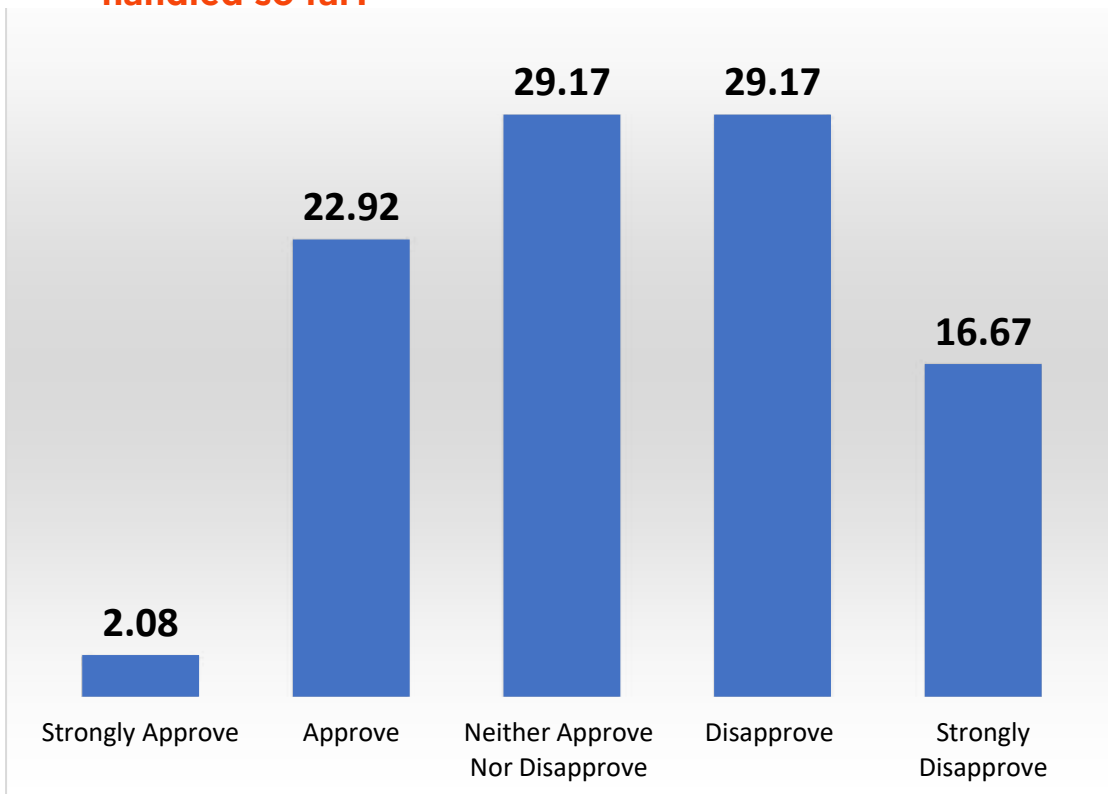
How do you feel about the scandal?



Question 6: How do you feel about the way the scandal has been handled so far?

| How do you feel about the way the scandal has been handled so far? | Response in Numbers | Response in Percentage % |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Strongly Approve | 21 | 2.1 |
| Approve | 228 | 22.9 |
| Neither Approve nor Disapprove | 287 | 29.2 |
| Disapprove | 287 | 29.2 |
| Strongly Disapprove | 163 | 16.7 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100 |

How do you feel about the way the scandal has been handled so far?

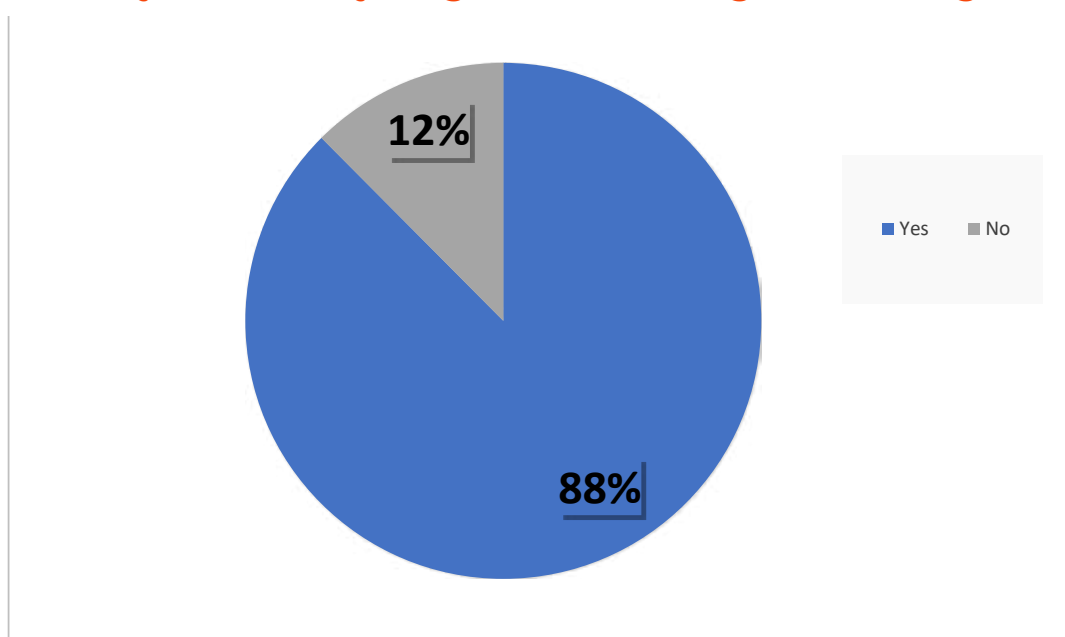


Question 7: Do you think anything can be done right the wrongs?

- 88% said Yes and offered their views on how to right the wrongs under the question what can be done to address the impact of the scandal on the victim.
- 12.5 respondents said NO because they felt that nothing can resolve the issue and highlighted that they had no faith in the government resolving issues. The key lesson is that we should never let something like this happen again. Although compensation is necessary, how do you quantify the compensation? The way forward is a deep analysis on how people have been affected then how we can help them. There is need to make sure that people who need to access compensation have the information necessary for them to access the compensation. It is very important that the compensation process does not retraumatise the victims of the Windrush Scandal hence the need for a lot of support to act as a buffer to avoid traumatising. These respondents felt strongly that we can never right the wrongs, in other words you cannot compensate a wrong with money.

| Do you think anything can be done right the wrongs? | Response in Numbers | Response in Percentage % |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes | 882 | 87.5 |
| No | 123 | 12.5 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100.0 |

Do you think anything can be done right the wrongs?



Question 8: What do you think can be done to address the impact of the scandal on the victim?

The respondents gave the following views:

- There is need for better compensation and Social, mental and financial support.
- The government can change the law and put better laws and Legislation in place
- The government needs to address the shame and offer free passports for Windrush victims
- There's need for better immigration advice as well as a renewal of policies to make them up to date
- More education in schools and media regarding Windrush and other examples of Britain exploiting countries around the world
- Full UK citizenship for victims
- Less bottlenecks towards getting compensations from the government and more sensible acknowledgement of contributions people have made in the country
- Allow those who were deported to come and stay
- Government should be held accountable
- Everyone should advocate for human rights
- The government needs to learn to keep their words
- More education on human rights and equality
- Expose the wrongs and rectify things
- People need to start challenging racists
- More punishment should be put in place
- Compensate appropriately and refinement of H.O policy
- Get peoples opinion
- The UK needs to be more tolerance
- Projects to support the Windrush victims

Question 9: What do you think can be done to educate society to avoid a repeat of similar issues?

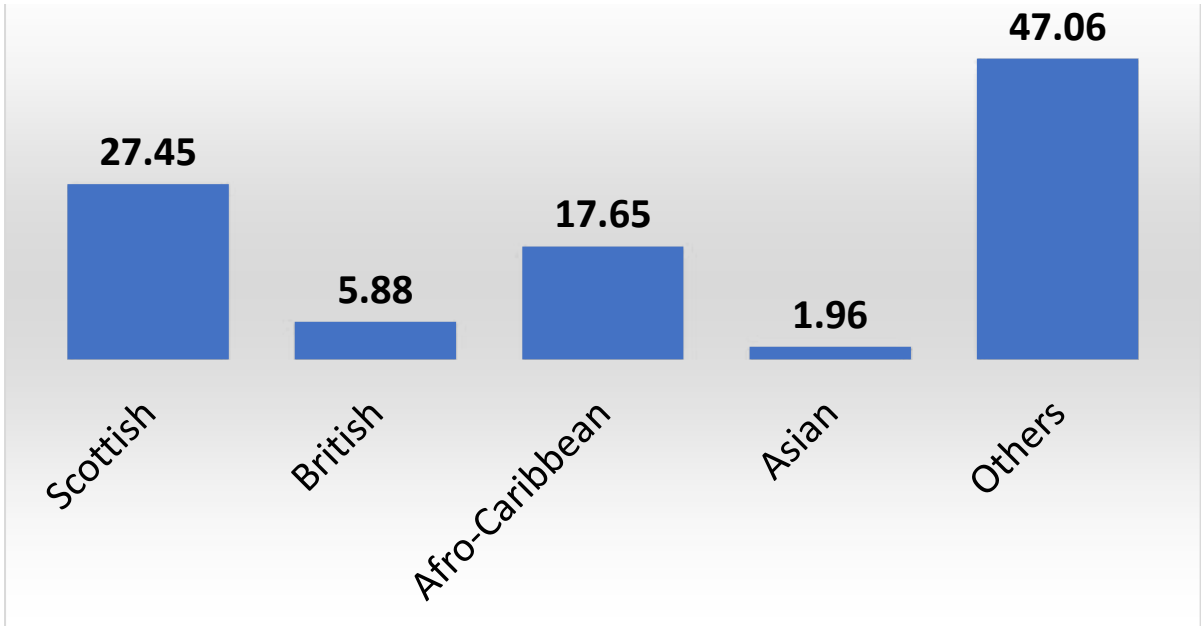
Upon being asked the question on what we can do to educate society most respondents highlighted that it is important that we:

- Raise awareness
- Start seeing everyone as equal
- Foster more equality, diversity, and inclusion in our communities
- Have more communication and engagement within communities
- Get people together to talk and get views on important and relevant

**Question 10: How do you describe your ethnic background?
Please tick all that apply**

| How do you describe your ethnic background? Please tick all that apply | Responses in Numbers | Numbers in Percentage % |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Scottish | 271 | 27.5 |
| British | 58 | 5.9 |
| Afro-Caribbean | 175 | 17.7 |
| Asian | 20 | 2.0 |
| Others | 462 | 47.1 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100 |

Ethnic Background of Respondents



Question 11: Age of Participants

| Age | Response in Numbers | Numbers in Percentages % |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Under 18 | 18 | 1.9 |
| 18-24 | 57 | 5.8 |
| 25-34 | 130 | 16.5 |
| 35-44 | 102 | 10.8 |
| 45-54 | 269 | 27.3 |
| 55-64 | 236 | 23.9 |
| 65+ | 135 | 13.9 |
| Total Response | 986 | 100 |

Age Range of Respondents %

