

Professional Standards Authority's (PSA) Accredited Registers programme consultation: Results of BACP survey of membership

At the end of 2020, the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) launched a consultation into the future shape of its Accredited Registers programme. In order to inform our organisational response to the consultation, a survey was conducted in January 2021 to understand the views of our membership on the Accredited Registers programme and PSA's future vision for it.

Summary of survey

The survey was sent to all our members and was open from 6th to 27th January.

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they 'Strongly disagree', 'Disagree', 'Neither agree nor disagree', 'Agree' or 'Strongly agree' with six statements about the Accredited Registers programme. For each statement, they could also indicate 'I don't know / No opinion' or choose not to answer. The six statements were based on those in the PSA's consultation, and were as follows:

1. A system of voluntary registration of health and social care practitioners can be effective in protecting the public
2. By accrediting an organisation's register, there is an implication that the Professional Standards Authority endorses the occupations on the register
3. The Professional Standards Authority should take account of evidence of effectiveness of occupations in its decisions to accredit an organisation's register
4. The Professional Standards Authority's proposals for their future vision will achieve greater recognition of the programme by patients, the public and employers
5. In order to protect the public, the Accredited Registers programme should be allowed to access information about relevant spent convictions
6. There are aspects of the Professional Standards Authority's proposals that could result in differential treatment of, or impact on, groups or individuals with characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010

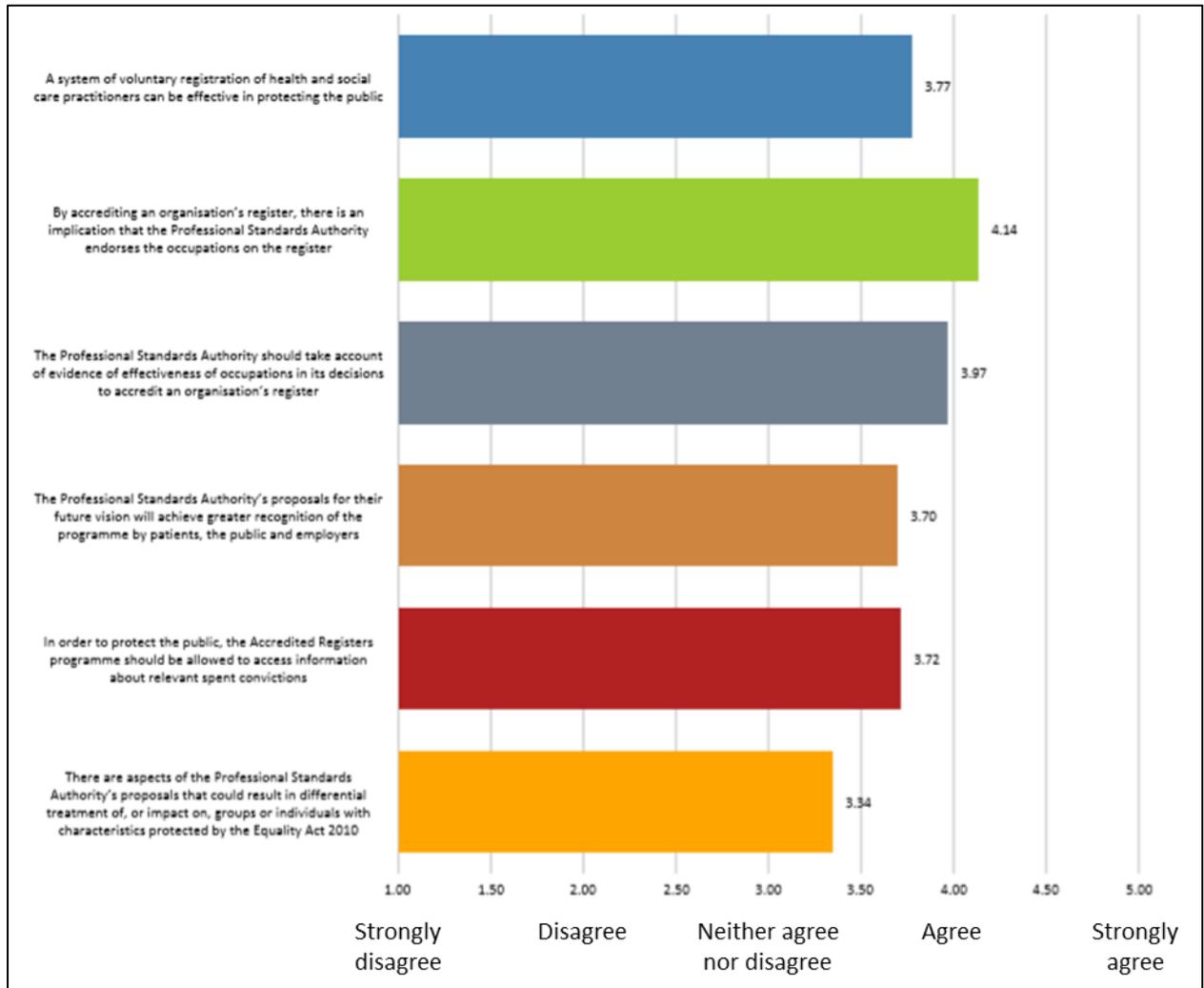
Respondents were also asked to provide demographic and professional characteristics about themselves so that the representativeness of the sample completing the survey could be judged against the membership as a whole.

Survey results

9103 members completed the survey, representing a response rate of 16%. The characteristics of the sample - both demographic and professional - were also highly comparable to characteristics kept on our records, and previous membership-wide surveys conducted by us.

Overall results

The figure below presents the average (mean) scores of the sample, indicating the overall level of agreement with each of the six statements. Responses of 'I don't know / No opinion' or non-responses were not included in the calculation of the averages.



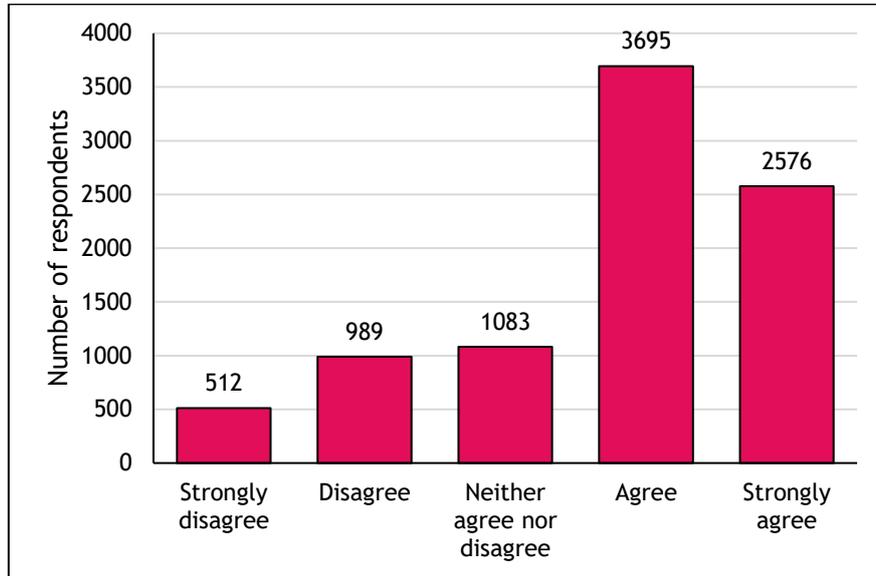
As can be seen in the figure above, on average, the sample indicated that they agreed with all the statements, except for the last statement concerning potential effects on groups or individuals with characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010, with which the sample neither agreed nor disagreed.

Results for individual questions

Statement 1: “A system of voluntary registration of health and social care practitioners can be effective in protecting the public”

On average (mean), the respondents indicated that they ‘Agree’ with the above statement (3.77)

The responses were as follows:

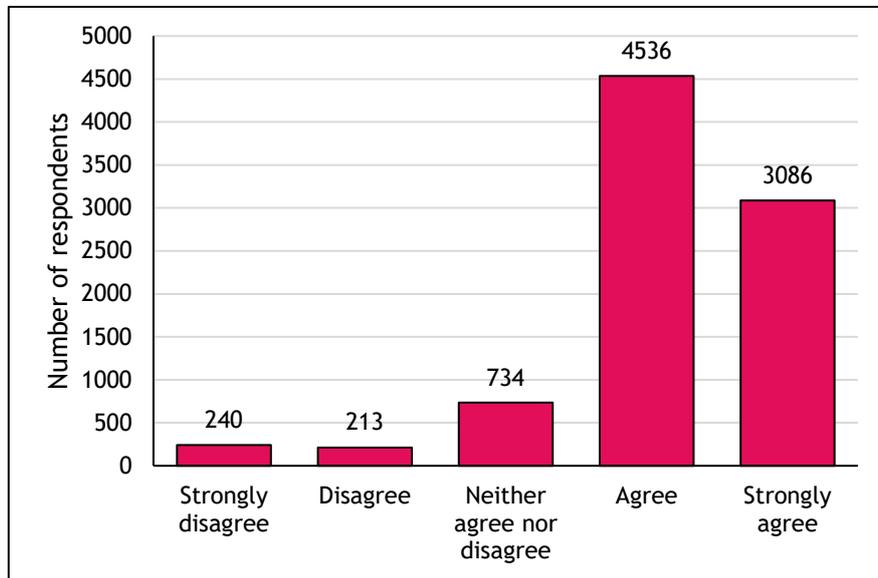


In total, 248 respondents (3%) did not indicate their level of agreement with this statement.

Statement 2: “By accrediting an organisation’s register, there is an implication that the Professional Standards Authority endorses the occupations on the register”

On average (mean), the respondents indicated that they ‘Agree’ with the above statement (4.14)

The responses were as follows:

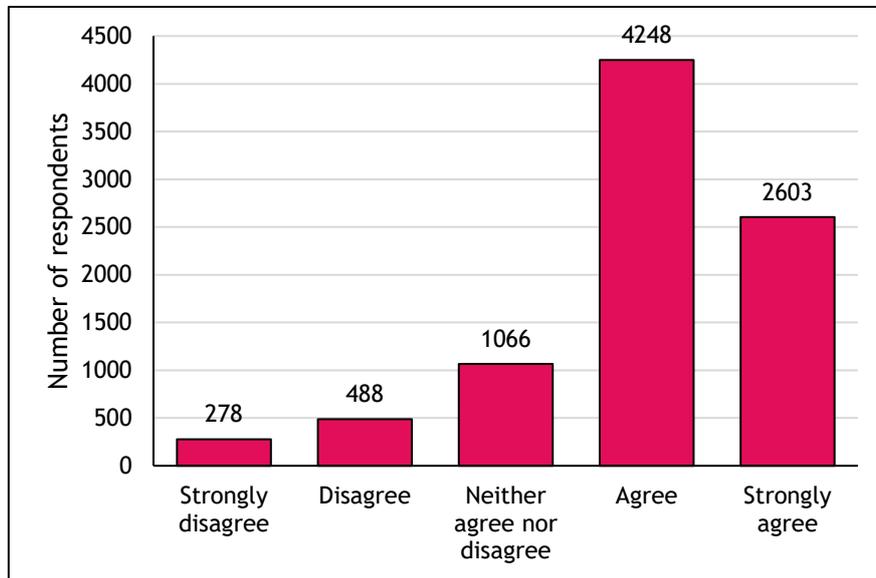


In total, 294 respondents (3%) did not indicated their level of agreement with this statement.

Statement 3: “The Professional Standards Authority should take account of evidence of effectiveness of occupations in its decisions to accredit an organisation’s register”

On average (mean), the respondents indicated that they ‘Agree’ with the above statement (3.97)

The responses were as follows:

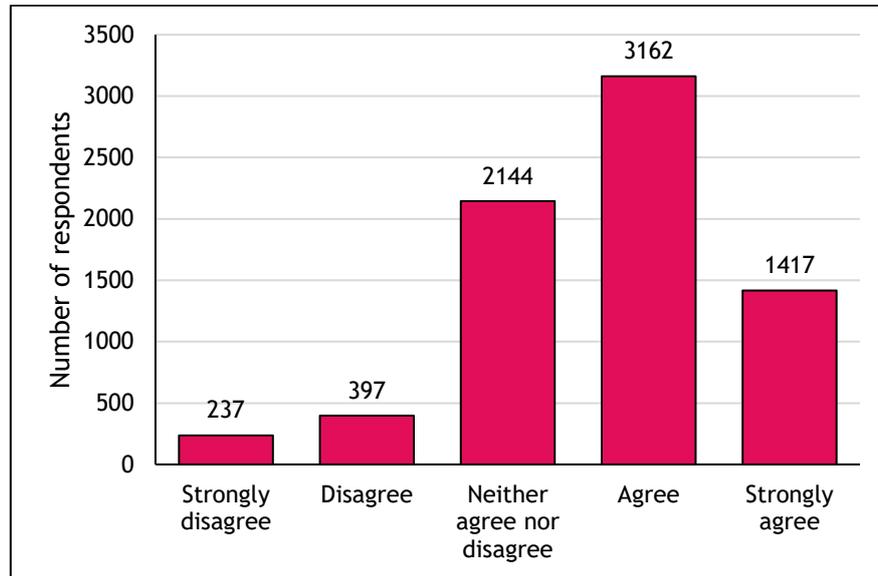


In total, 420 respondents (5%) did not indicate their level of agreement with this statement.

Statement 4: “The Professional Standards Authority’s proposals for their future vision will achieve greater recognition of the programme by patients, the public and employers”

On average (mean), the respondents indicated that they ‘Agree’ with the above statement (3.70)

The responses were as follows:

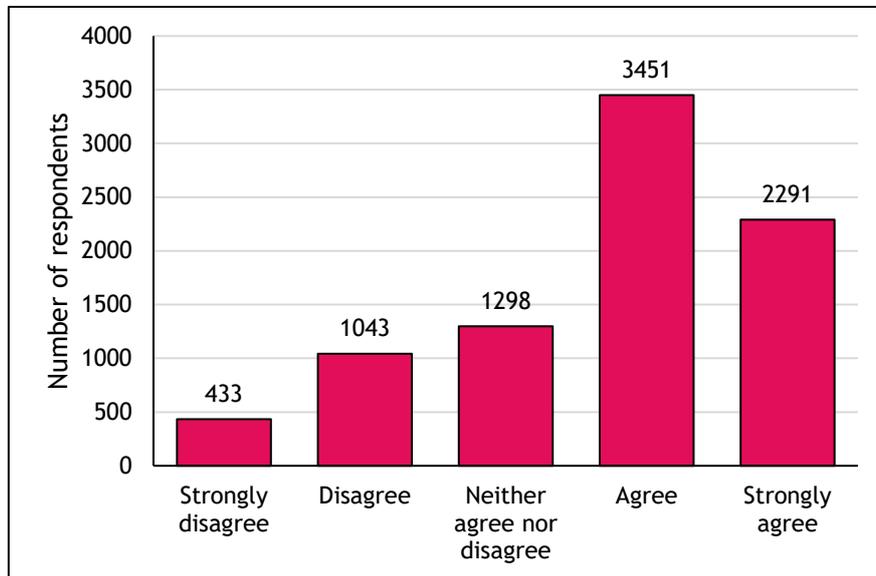


In total, 1746 respondents (19%) did not indicate their level of agreement with this statement.

Statement 5: “In order to protect the public, the Accredited Registers programme should be allowed to access information about relevant spent convictions”

On average (mean), the respondents indicated that they ‘Agree’ with the above statement (3.72)

The responses were as follows:

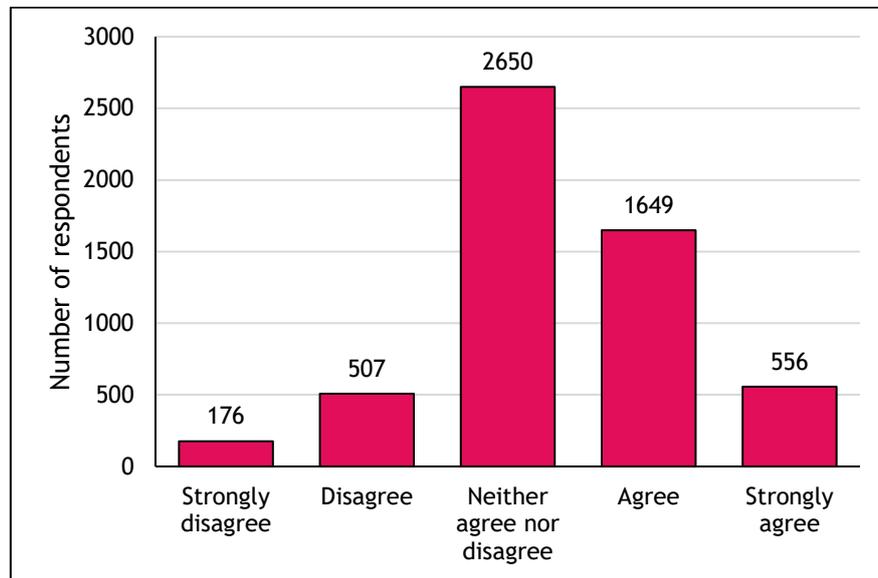


In total, 587 respondents (6%) did not indicate their level of agreement with this statement.

Statement 6: “There are aspects of the Professional Standards Authority’s proposals that could result in differential treatment of, or impact on, groups or individuals with characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010”

On average (mean), the respondents indicated that they ‘Neither agree nor disagree’ with the above statement (3.34)

The responses were as follows:



In total, 3565 respondents (39%) did not indicate their level of agreement with this statement.