A Waste Data Strategy for Scotland: Analysis of Consultation Responses

A waste data strategy for Scotland has been developed in accordance with the requirements of Scotland's Zero Waste Plan which was published in June 2010.

Written by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS) in conjunction with a wide range of stakeholders, the strategy aims to produce high quality robust waste data that will help Scotland's society manage its waste better and make better use of its resources.

A consultation on the draft strategy ran from 21 April to 2 May 2011. It sought views on the overall aims, vision and scope of the strategy, notably on the waste data requirements, issues, outcomes and timescales identified, and the way in which the management and reporting of waste data collected by all organisations in Scotland could be improved.

The consultation document was published on the SEPA website and relevant stakeholders were also contacted directly and encouraged to respond. An online survey was set up to collect responses, and paper and electronic copies of the questionnaire were also made available.

A total of 25 responses were received. The majority of respondents answered all 15 technical questions in the standard format and a small number of respondents provided more general comments. Local authorities made up almost half of all respondents with the remainder being spread across a number of other sectors. Table 1 indicates the breakdown of respondents by sector.

Table 1: Consultation respondents by sector

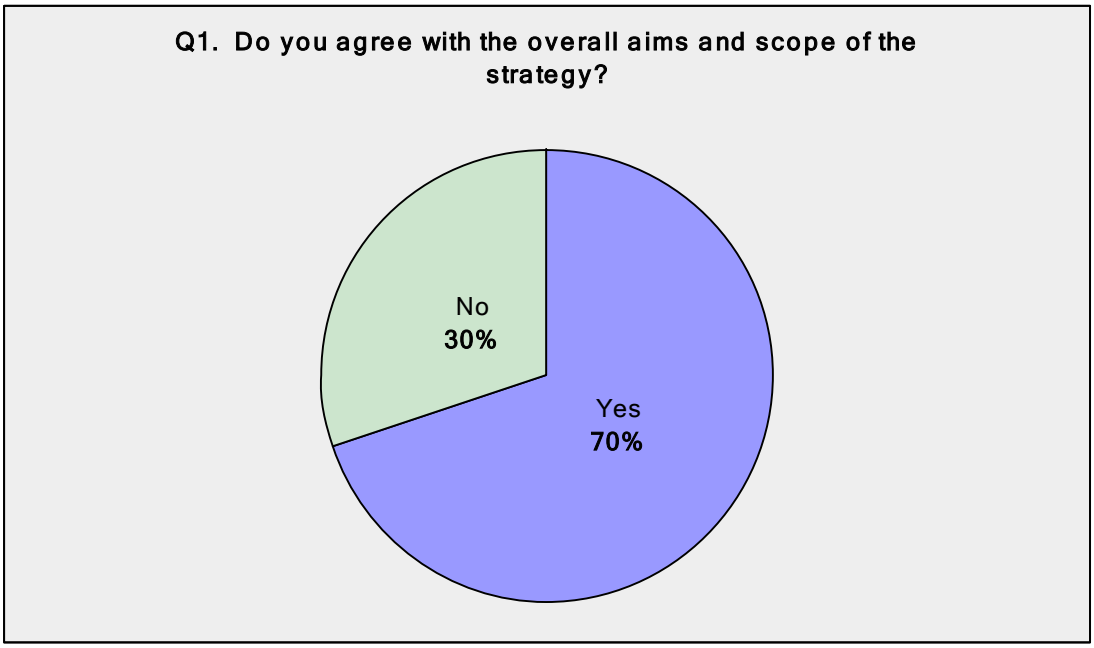
Stakeholder Sector	
Local authority	11
Public body	3
Non-government organisation	1
Waste management industry	1
Academia	1
Consultant	2
Trade association	3
Private individual	2
Other	1
TOTAL	**25**

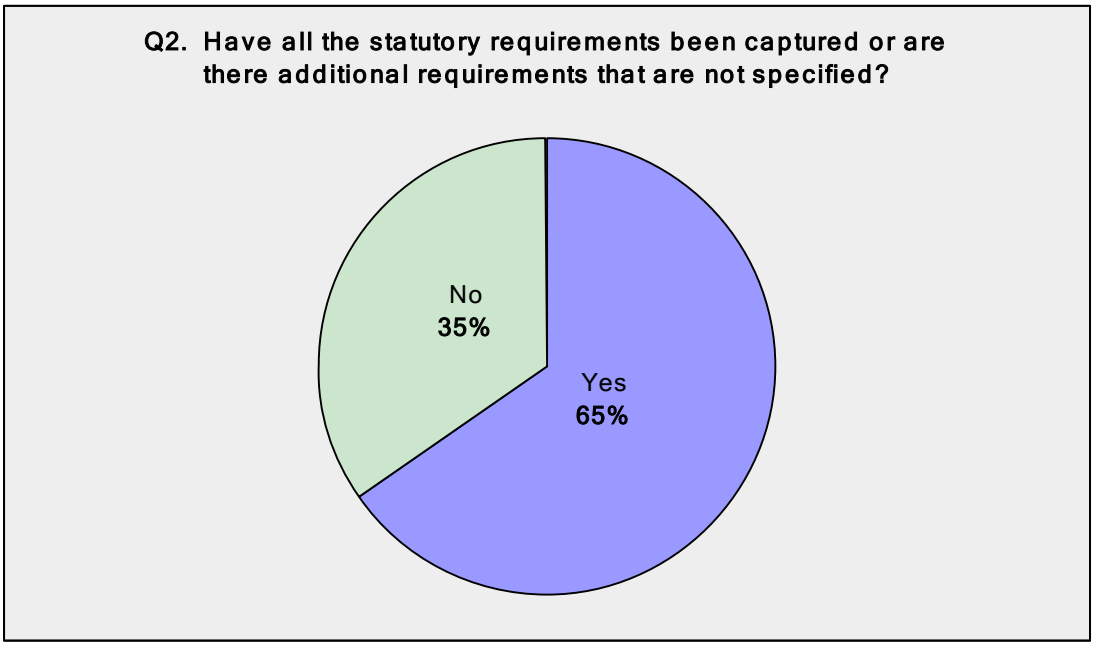
Around two-thirds of responses agreed with the overall aims of the strategy and that the waste data requirements of the Zero Waste Plan, key data users and statutory reporting had been met. However, two-thirds of respondents had concerns that some waste data issues had not been fully explored in the strategy and, as a result, these issues have been revisited in the final document.

Respondents were broadly in agreement with the data outcomes identified to improve waste data and their priority. There was strong agreement on the proposed strategy development process but the timescales for review of the strategy were less clear. There were also differing views on the role of the technical advisory group.

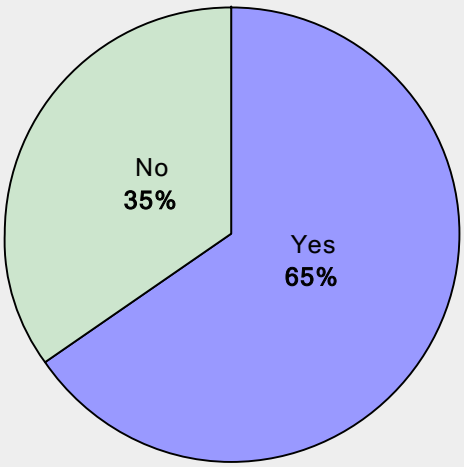
Annex A provides a graphical illustration of the responses to individual questions. Open questions that prompted a detailed answer have not been included in this report. Please note that each response was only counted once meaning that, if the response came from a body that represented many organisations and individuals, the full weight of that response cannot be presented accurately here.

Annex A: Graphical illustration of responses to consultation questions

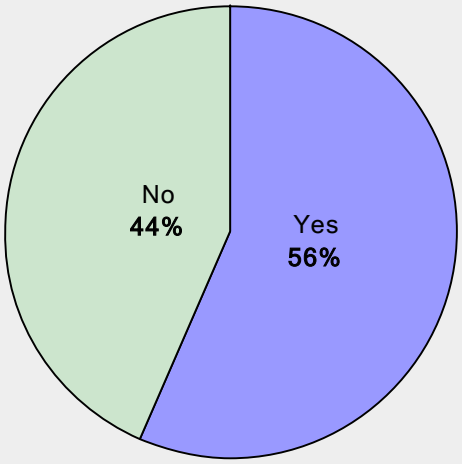




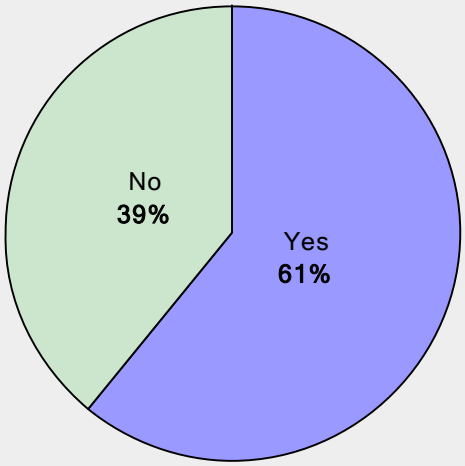
Q3. Have all the ZWP requirements been captured or are there additional requirements that are not specified?



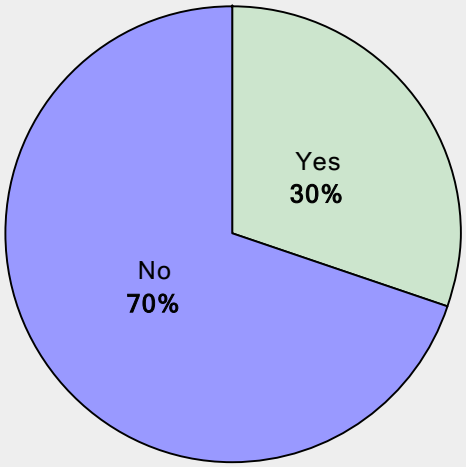
Q4. Have all the requirements of key data users been captured or are there additional requirements that are not specified?

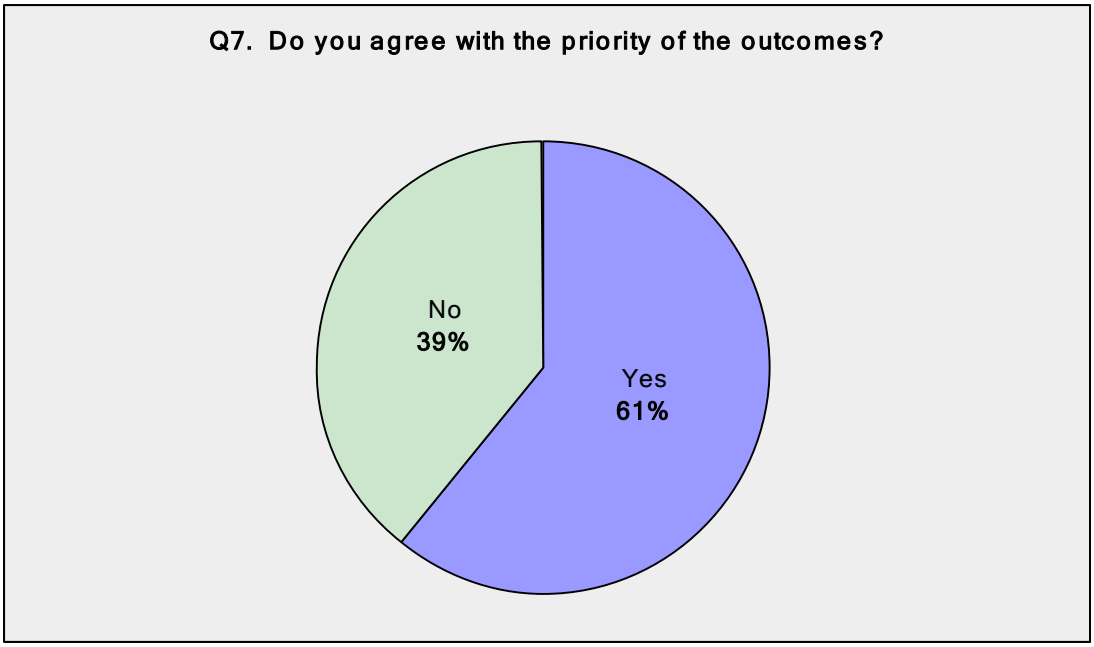


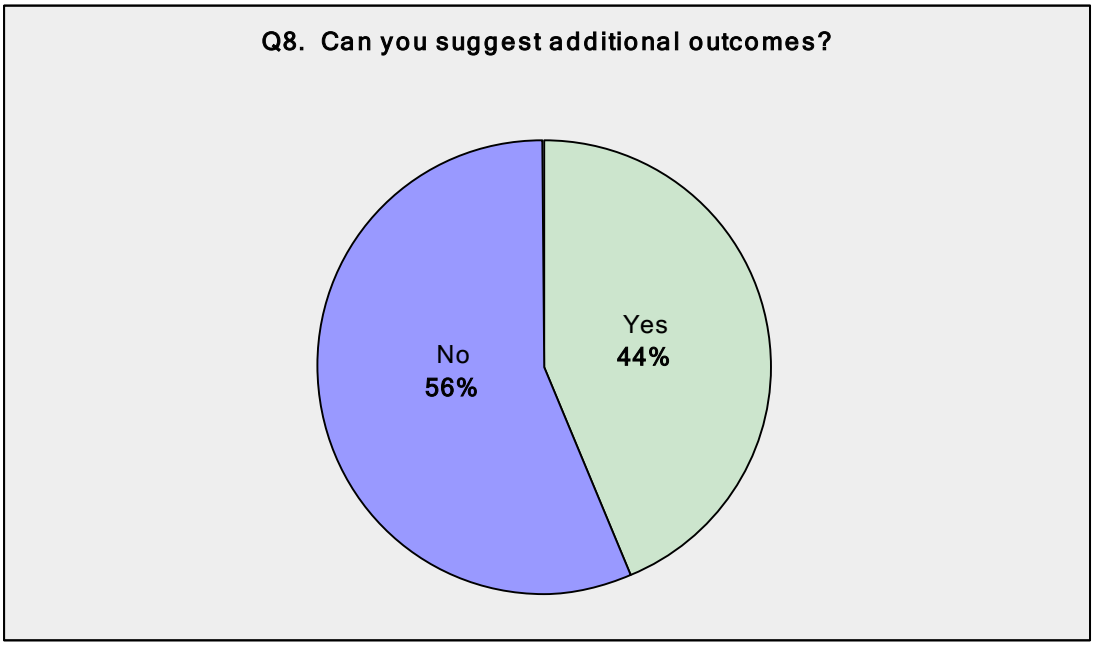
Q5. Have all the organisations that collect and report waste data been included in the strategy?



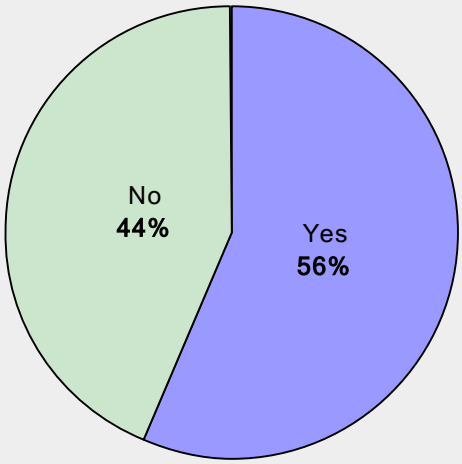
Q6. Does the strategy take into account all the current and future waste data issues?



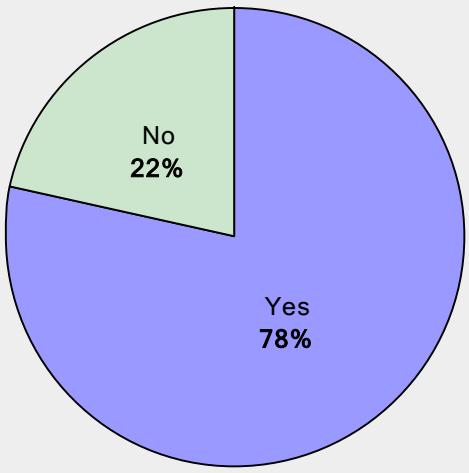

Q7. Do you agree with the priority of the outcomes?
No
39%
Yes
61%


Q8. Can you suggest additional outcomes?
Yes
44%
No
56%

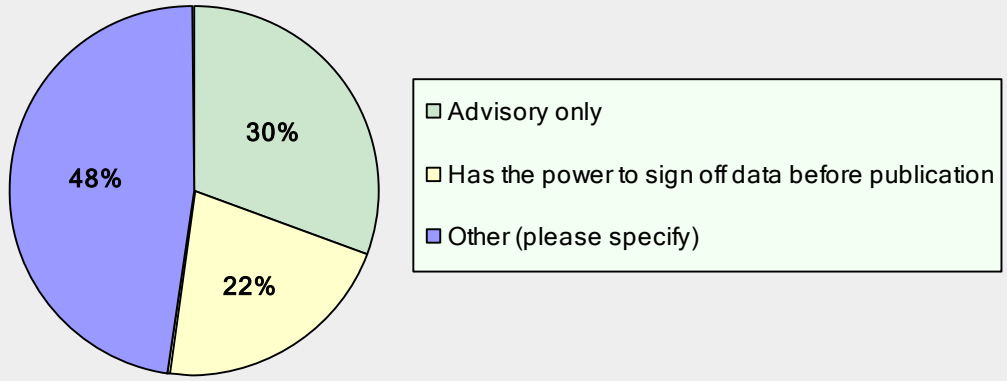
Q10. Have the most suitable organisations been identified to achieve the outcomes?



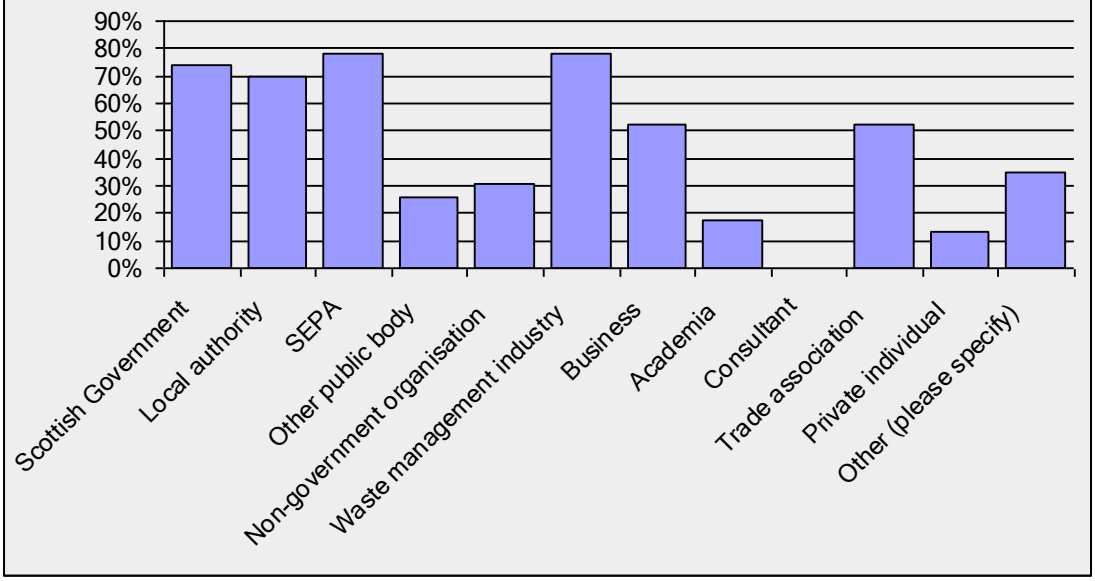
Q11, Do you agree with the overall waste data strategy development process identified in Figure 7?

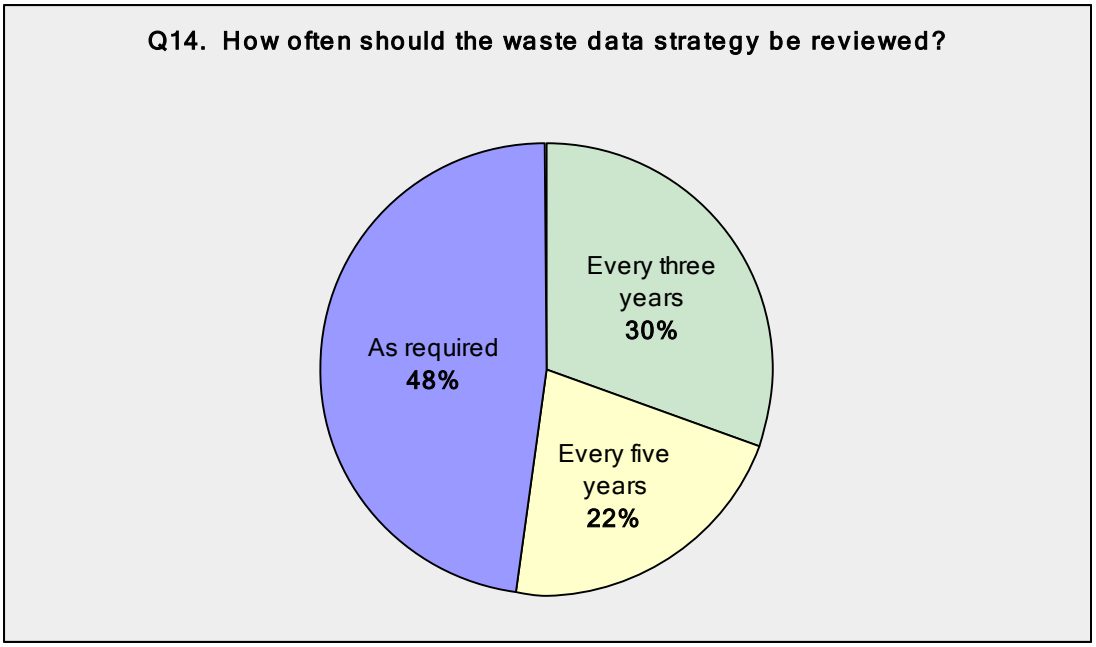


Q12. What role do you see for the Technical Advisory Group?



Q13. Please indicate which organisations should be represented on the Technical Advisory Group.




Q14. How often should the waste data strategy be reviewed?
Every three years 30%
Every five years 22%
As required 48%