

YouGov®



# **Commission for Victims and Survivors: Population Survey Great Britain**

20TH FEBRUARY 2024

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## Executive Summary

The Commission for Victims and Survivors (CVS) commissioned YouGov to undertake a survey of adults living in Great Britain (GB) aged 18+ to understand their perceptions and the scope of those affected by the Troubles/conflict. Key themes explored within the survey included identifying those affected by the Troubles/conflict, the legacy of the Troubles/conflict and the perceptions of the support/services available to those affected by the Troubles/conflict. This GB survey follows on from the 2023 survey of people living in the Republic of Ireland conducted by Social Market Research and uses a similar method and questionnaire.<sup>1</sup>

### *Methodology*

The survey is based on a sample of 4,006 GB adults (those living in England, Scotland and Wales referred to as British adults) using an online panel methodology. Quotas were set during fieldwork and the data has been weighted to be representative of all adults (18+) living in Great Britain by age, gender, region, social grade, and ethnicity. Differences between groups highlighted throughout this report are statistically significant to at least the 95% Confidence Level. All figures are rounded to the nearest whole number, including net figures.

There are margins of error associated with different sample sizes and distributions of answers. The larger the sample the smaller the risk of such error. Random error on a sample of 4,000 is up to 2% which means that we can be sure that the true figure (if the entire population had been polled using the same methods) is within 2% either side of the published figure. The 95% confidence interval is the range of values (+/-2%) that we can be 95% confident contains the true value of the population. For example, in this report where we are reporting figures statistically significant to the 95% confidence level, we can be 95% confident that the difference between two values falls outside of the margin of error and cannot be attributed to random error.

While the data identifies those within the survey as legal victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict, these responses have not been qualified and rely on the self-reported perceptions of respondents. It is noted that within the survey some 18–34-year-olds have identified as having been affected by the Troubles/conflict. While it may not have been possible for some of those aged 18-34 to have been present at a Troubles/conflict related incident, it is possible that those in this age group are related to those that were present or provided care either professionally or personally to someone who was present at an incident. We also note that it is common in research on sensitive topics and mental health that young people are significantly more likely to openly report mental health issues than those in older age groups. This pattern was also present in the 2023 Republic of Ireland survey where young people were more likely to report that they meet the legal definition.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> CVS Population Survey (Republic of Ireland) 23.06.23 accessed at: <https://www.cvsni.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/SMR-CVS-Report-FINAL-1-1.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> CVS Population Survey (Republic of Ireland) 23.06.23 accessed at: <https://www.cvsni.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/SMR-CVS-Report-FINAL-1-1.pdf> (page 7)

## Key Findings

- 8% of British adults surveyed feel that they meet the definition of a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict. This rises to 18% who claim they have been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident.
- Take up of support among those who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors or someone who has been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident is relatively low, with fewer than one in ten (7%) receiving support. The proportion who would like some support but do not currently receive it is approximately one in ten (11%).
- 61% of those surveyed think there is a legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain, approximately three in ten (29%) reported they do not know if there is a legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain suggesting a lack of knowledge. Those surveyed are most likely to think there has been a large impact on Northern Ireland (64%) and least likely to think there has been a large impact on Great Britain (11%).
- Support for addressing the legacy is high among British adults surveyed (78%). A majority of those surveyed also think it is important for the Northern Ireland Executive (84%) and the UK Government (81%) to play a role in addressing legacy.
- Those who have served or are currently serving in the UK Armed Forces are more likely to oppose the provision of the conditional immunity scheme as set out in the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act compared to those who have not served (33% vs 18%).
- Over four in five support the history of the Troubles being taught in secondary schools (83%) and sixth forms/colleges (82%).
- 41% of those surveyed think a permanent memorial to the Troubles/conflict should be established in Great Britain, compared to 21% who oppose its establishment.
- Close to half of those surveyed (45%) are familiar with the terms trans-generational and inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/conflict, only 14% report they understand what these terms mean.
- Brexit issues (40%) and paramilitary groups (36%) are the most likely events, institutions and organisations to be perceived as having a negative impact on victims and/or survivors by those surveyed.
- 63% of those surveyed support the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and/or survivors of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain, compared to 11% who oppose it.
- Those who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are less likely to think that victims and survivors should receive any tailored services and support in Great Britain (84% compared to 91%).

## Prevalence of being a victim and / or survivor of the Troubles/conflict in Northern Ireland

Respondents were shown the legal definition of being a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/conflict in Northern Ireland below and asked as someone living in Great Britain if they meet this definition:

**Based in law, a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/conflict in Northern Ireland is:**

(a) someone who is or has been physically or psychologically injured as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident;

(b) someone who provides a substantial amount of care on a regular basis for an individual mentioned in paragraph (a);

**or**

(c) someone who has been bereaved as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident.

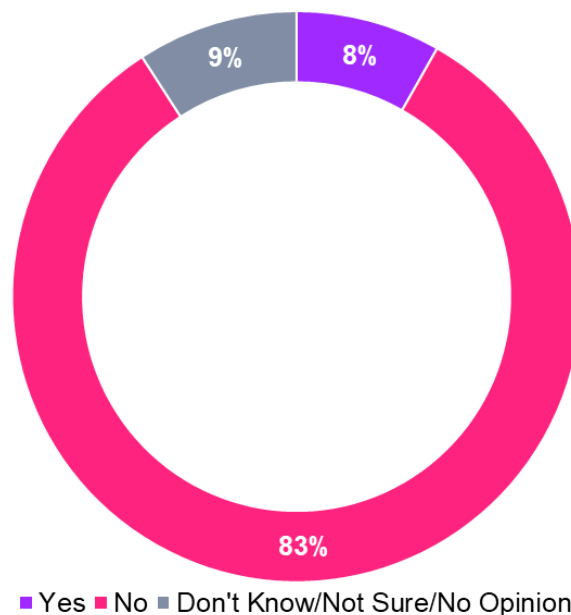
An individual may be psychologically injured as a result of, or in consequence of:

(a) witnessing a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident; or

(b) providing medical or other emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict-related incident.

Eight percent of British adults surveyed report that they meet the legal definition of being a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/conflict in Northern Ireland. The vast majority (83%) report they do not meet this definition and 9% report they do not know or aren't sure.

**Figure 1. Do you meet the above legal definition of a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/conflict?**



Q1: As someone living in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales), do you meet the above legal definition of a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/conflict? (Select one only)

Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

Those who have served or are currently serving in the UK Armed Forces were more likely to say they meet the legal definition of being a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict (18%) compared to those who have not ever served (8%). Similarly, those from C2DE social grades were more likely to say they meet the legal definition, with one in ten (10%) reporting they meet the legal definition compared to 7% of those from ABC1 social grades.<sup>3</sup> Those from C2DE social grades were also more likely to report they do not know if they meet this definition (12%) compared to those from ABC1 backgrounds (6%).

This research also found that young people (10% 18-34) are more likely to say they meet the legal definition than the GB population and those in older age categories (55+: 7%). Young people are also more likely to report they are not sure if they meet this definition (13% compared to 7% of those 55+). While it may not have been possible for some of those aged 18-34 to have been present at a Troubles/conflict related incident, it is possible that those in this age group are related to those that were present or provided care either professionally or personally to someone who was present at an incident. We also note that it is common in research on sensitive topics and mental health that young people are significantly more likely to openly report mental health issues than those in older age groups. This pattern was also present in the in the 2023 Republic of Ireland survey where young people were more likely to report that they meet the legal definition.<sup>4</sup>

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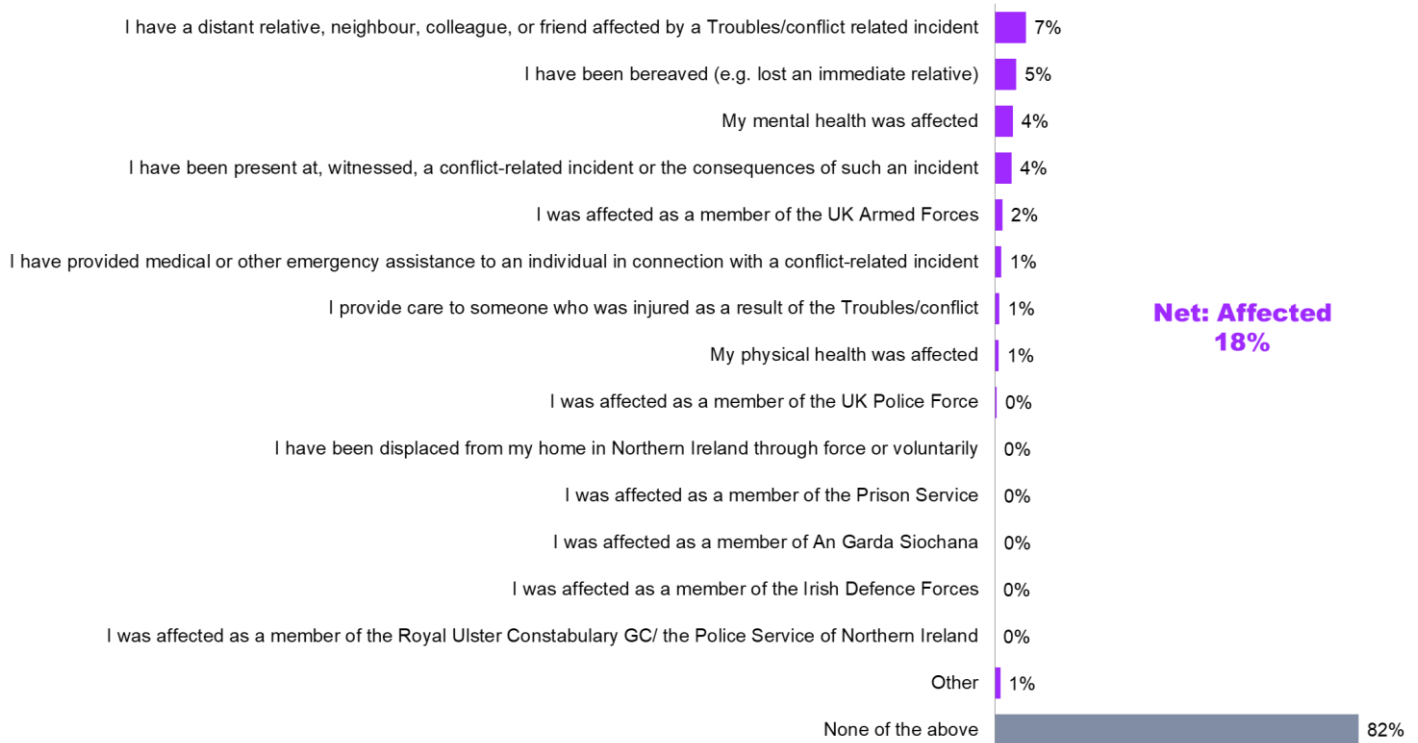
<sup>3</sup> Note: Social grade is defined by the occupation of a household's Chief Income Earner (CIE). It factors in the CIE's job as well as details such as their qualifications and the number of people they are responsible for. More information can be found here: <https://www.nrs.co.uk/nrs-print/lifestyle-and-classification-data/social-grade/>.

<sup>4</sup> CVS Population Survey (Republic of Ireland) 23.06.23 accessed at: <https://www.cvsni.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/SMR-CVS-Report-FINAL-1-1.pdf> (page 7)

## Being affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident

Beyond the legal definition, nearly one in five (18%) of British adults surveyed report that they have been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident in some way. Most commonly, those surveyed claim that they have a distant relative, neighbour, colleague, or friend affected by the Troubles/conflict (7%) or that they have been bereaved (5%). Similar proportions (4%) report that they have been present at or witnessed a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident, or that their health has been affected physically or mentally.

**Figure 2. Do you feel you have ever been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident?**



Q2: Whether or not you meet the legal definition of a victim (as referenced in Question 1), as someone who lives in Great Britain do you feel you have ever been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident? (Select all that apply)

Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

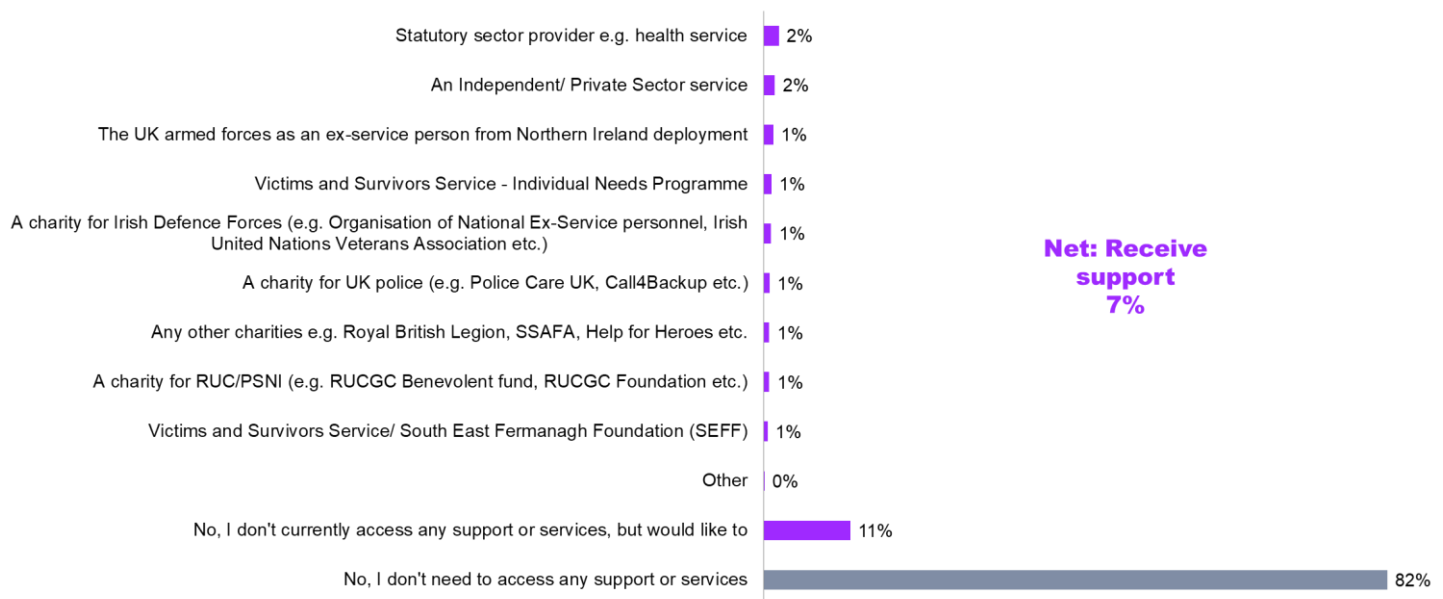
Like the legal definition, those surveyed who have served or currently serve in the UK Armed Forces are more likely to say they have been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident than those who have not served (49% compared to 17%) and over a third (36%) report they were affected as a member of the UK Armed Forces. Of those who served or are currently serving just over one in ten (12%) report that they were present at or witnessed a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident.

Despite being more likely to report that they meet the legal definition, those from C2DE backgrounds (19% compared with 18%) and those aged 18-34 (20% compared with 17% of 35-54 and 18% of 55+) are not more likely to report that they have been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident. Young people (18-34) are more likely to report that they have been bereaved (7%) and that their health (either physical or mental) has been affected (6%). Similarly, those from C2DE social grades are more likely to report they have been bereaved (6%) or that their health (either physical or mental) (6%) was affected.

## Receiving services or support

Of those who indicated they are or may be a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict fewer than one in ten (7%) currently receive services or support. Four in five (82%) surveyed report they do not need any support or services and a further 11% say they do not currently access any support or services but would like to. Three percent of those who are victims or survivors of the Troubles/conflict receive support from a charity and 2% receive support from a dedicated service for victims and survivors.

**Figure 3. Do you currently receive services or support from any of the following?**



Q3: You have indicated from your answers to the previous questions, that you are (or may be) a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict. As such, do you currently receive services or support from any of the following? (Select all that apply)

Base: All who are or may be a victim or survivor (n=882)

While those who have served in the UK Armed Forces are more likely to report they are a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict they are no more likely to say they receive support (10% compared to 6% who have not served) and less likely to say they do not currently receive support but would like it (5% compared to 12% of those who have not served). The vast majority of those surveyed who either currently serve or have served report that they do not need access to any support or services.

Young people (18-34) who are victims or survivors are more likely to say they currently receive support (12%) and also more likely to say they do not currently access support services but would like to (19%). However, a majority report they do not need access to any support or services (68%).

Among those who report they don't receive support but would like to, a common theme around why they do not currently access support is awareness. Respondents to the survey commented they aren't aware there is anything available to them. This suggests there is some work to be done around raising awareness of the services that are available, whether these are specific to victims and survivors or general support.

*"Didn't know anything was available"*

*"It was never offered to me. The assumption was made that I was okay but it has had an impact on my mental health."*

Others note the long waiting times to receive mental health support as a barrier for accessing support. While these people might like to receive support, they see others as 'more deserving' or that the wait is too long so they will make do themselves.

*"Too long of a wait list and I feel it would be better used in someone else"*

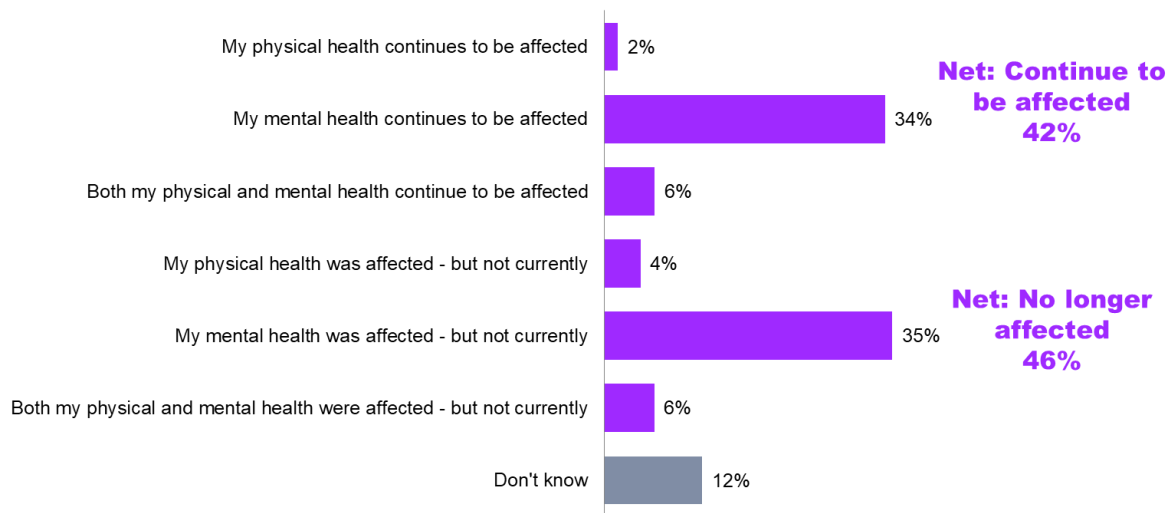
*"I feel that it would take too long to get seen via the NHS so worked through it myself"*

This suggests that among all groups, even those the most likely to report that they are a victim or survivor, that while the majority are not looking for support there is a small minority who would like to access some support or services. Some work could be done to direct those people to the right services.

## Affected physically and mentally by the Troubles/conflict

Of the 4% who report that their mental or physical health was affected, approximately two in five (42%) continue to be affected and just over two in five (46%) say they are no longer affected. Around one in ten (12%) report they do not know. Within those still affected, 2% report their physical health is currently affected and 34% say their mental health is still affected. The breakdown of those who are no longer affected is similar, with 4% reporting that their physical health was affected but is not anymore and 35% reporting that their mental health was affected but not currently. Equal proportions report that both their mental and physical health is currently or was impacted.

**Figure 4. Impact of the Troubles/conflict on health**



Q5a: You indicated that you were physically and/or mentally affected during the Troubles/conflict. Please say which of the following applies to you? (Select one only)

Base: All who were physically and/or mentally affected during the Troubles/conflict (n=166)

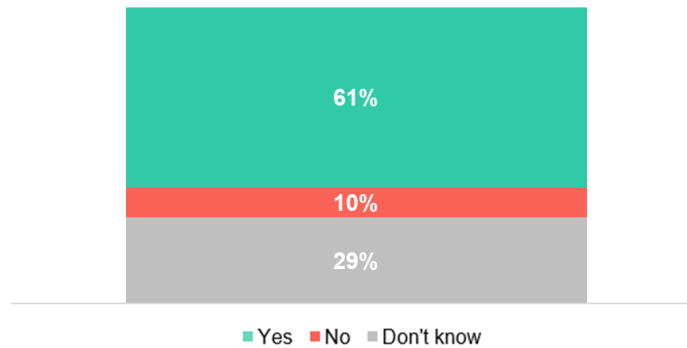
Given the relatively small proportion of those who report that their mental or physical health was affected during the Troubles/conflict subgroup analysis is limited. However, where this analysis is possible, there are no significant differences among subgroups.

As noted in Figure 3 there is a small minority of those who would like to receive support but do not currently receive it. Figure 4 suggests the highest demand could be for additional mental health support and any work to signpost support should highlight the mental health support available to those who believe they are a victim or survivor.

## The importance of addressing the legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain

Six in ten (61%) surveyed think there is a legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain, one in ten think there is not a legacy (10%). Additionally, three in ten (29%) are not sure.

Figure 5. Legacy in Great Britain



Q7a: Do you think there is a legacy (i.e. a lasting impact) of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)?  
Base: All GB Adults(n=4,006)

Those that meet the legal definition of a victim or survivor are less likely to think there is a legacy (64% vs 58%). Whereas those who are currently serving or have served in the UK Armed Forces are more likely to think there is a legacy than those who have never served (68% vs 60%) but are not any more likely to think there is *not* a legacy (14% vs 10%).

Similarly, those aged 35+ are more likely to think there is a legacy than those below that age bracket (64% vs 53%) but not more likely to think there is not a legacy (9% vs 11%).

When asked what the legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain is, respondents mention themes of continuing distrust, trauma and death, alongside political divisions. It is notable that while the question asked the legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain, most respondents focused their answer on Northern Ireland. Respondents mentioned the continuing levels of mistrust related to Northern Ireland in both a general sense, among communities, families, and religious groups.

*“Distrust by all involved parties. A lack of unity”*

*“Division and distrust”*

*“A still divided community and nation. A feeling of justice not served sometimes. A lasting mistrust between some people.”*

Others highlighted the trauma associated with the Troubles/conflict and how this has been passed down through generations. The trauma highlighted often related to death and the loss of loved ones but often raised the question of psychological trauma and mental health issues.

*"Deaths, trauma, loss of family and friends. Monetary value."*

*"Dead, serious harmed, and lost relatives that were executed in unlawful ways. Loss of income and property that was unlawful. Distrust in the English."*

*"Psychological damage, trauma, bereavement"*

Mentions of the legacy of political divisions referenced the frequent suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly, along with tensions caused by Brexit. While some blamed individual political parties for the instability of the Northern Ireland Assembly, others blamed the UK government and highlighted a perceived double standard if similar issues took place within the UK parliament.

*"The political divisions persist which continues to mean there is no devolved government. Put down to Brexit but related to religious divides."*

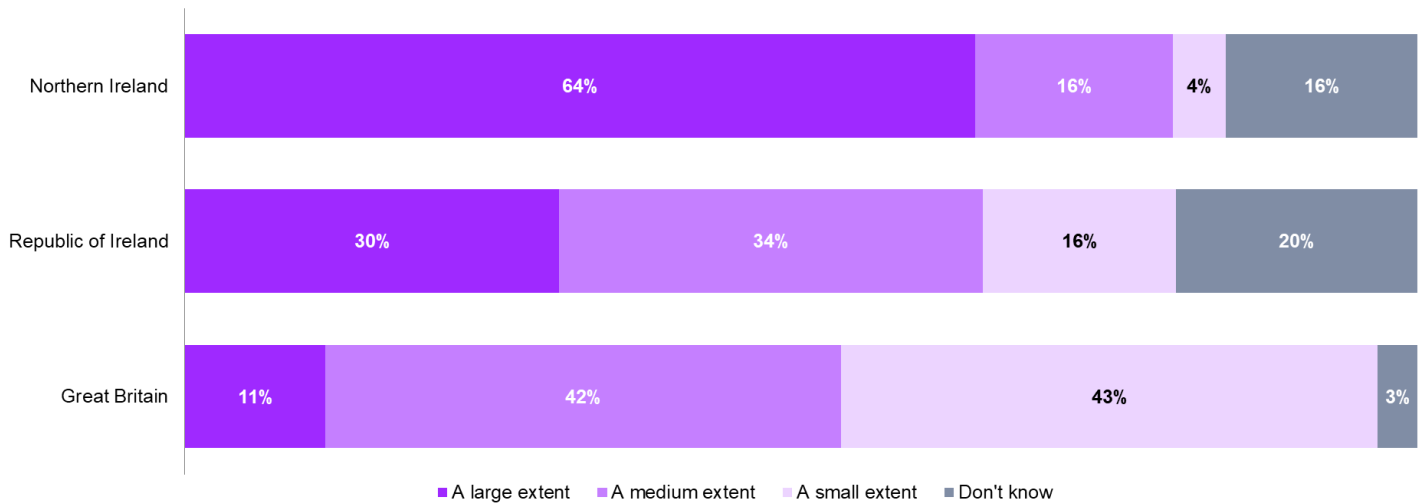
*"A fragile political situation on [sic] Northern Ireland"*

*"the collapse of the Stormont Assembly for the majority of the past decade, and the dysfunctional nature of NI politics is barely noticed outside NI/ROI - but would hardly be tolerated for as long as it has, if it did take place in England/GB."*

### ***Impact of the Troubles/conflict***

Respondents were asked to what extent they think Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain are impacted by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict. Respondents were only asked about the impact in Great Britain if they had previously answered that they believe there to be a legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain. Of the public surveyed, they are most likely to think Northern Ireland is impacted by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict to a large extent (64%), followed by the Republic of Ireland (30%) and Great Britain (11%). In general, they are split over whether the Republic of Ireland is impacted to a large extent (30%) or to a medium extent (34%), while for Great Britain the public are split as to whether the country is impacted to a medium extent (42%) or a small extent (43%). One in five (20%) report they do not know to what extent the Republic of Ireland is impacted, while a smaller proportion (16%) do not know to what extent Northern Ireland is impacted. Those surveyed are least likely to say they do not know to what extent Great Britain is impacted (3%), though this is most likely because only respondents who believe there is a legacy of the Troubles in Great Britain see the question.

**Figure 6. Impact of the legacy of the Troubles/conflict in each of the following places**



Q8a: To what extent do you think the following places are impacted by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict?  
 Base: All GB adults (ROI and NI n=4,006), All who believe there is a legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain (n=2,472)

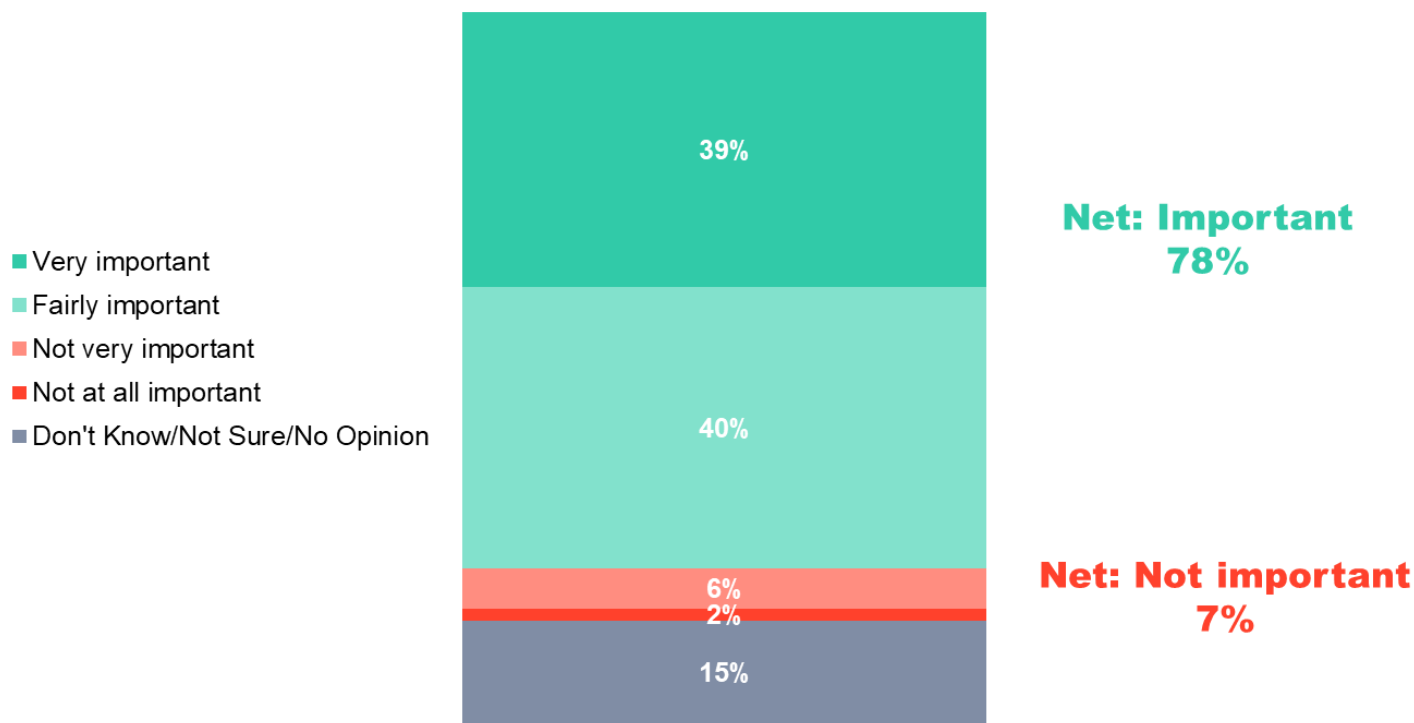
Those who report they meet the legal definition of a victim or survivor are less likely to say they think Northern Ireland is impacted by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict to a large extent (52%), but more likely to say they think Great Britain is impacted by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict to a large extent (29%).

Looking to those who have served or are currently serving in the UK Armed Forces, they are more likely to think Northern Ireland is impacted by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict to a large extent (72%) and more likely to think that Great Britain is impacted by the legacy of the Troubles to a large extent (23%). This suggests that those who were closer to the Troubles/conflict in some way, are more likely to think there has been a greater impact of the legacy on Great Britain.

*The importance of addressing the legacy of the Troubles/conflict*

Nearly four in five (78%) think it is important to address the legacy of the Troubles/conflict, fewer than one in ten (7%) think it is not important. The public are more likely to say they do not know (15%) if it is important to address the legacy or not than to say they think it is not important.

**Figure 7. Addressing the legacy of the Troubles/conflict**



Q9a: How important or not do you think it is to address the legacy of the Troubles/conflict? (Select one only)

Base: All GB adults (n=4,006)

Those surveyed who report they meet the legal definition of being a victim or survivor are no more likely to report that addressing the legacy is important (77%) than those who do not identify as a legal victim or survivor (80%). Approximately one in ten who meet the legal definition (11%) report that it is not important and a further 12% do not know. The picture is similar among those who have served or are currently serving in the UK Armed Forces. Three-quarters (76%) think it is important to address the legacy of the Troubles/conflict compared with 78% who have never served; however, they are more likely to think it is not important to address the legacy (16%) than those who have never served (7%).

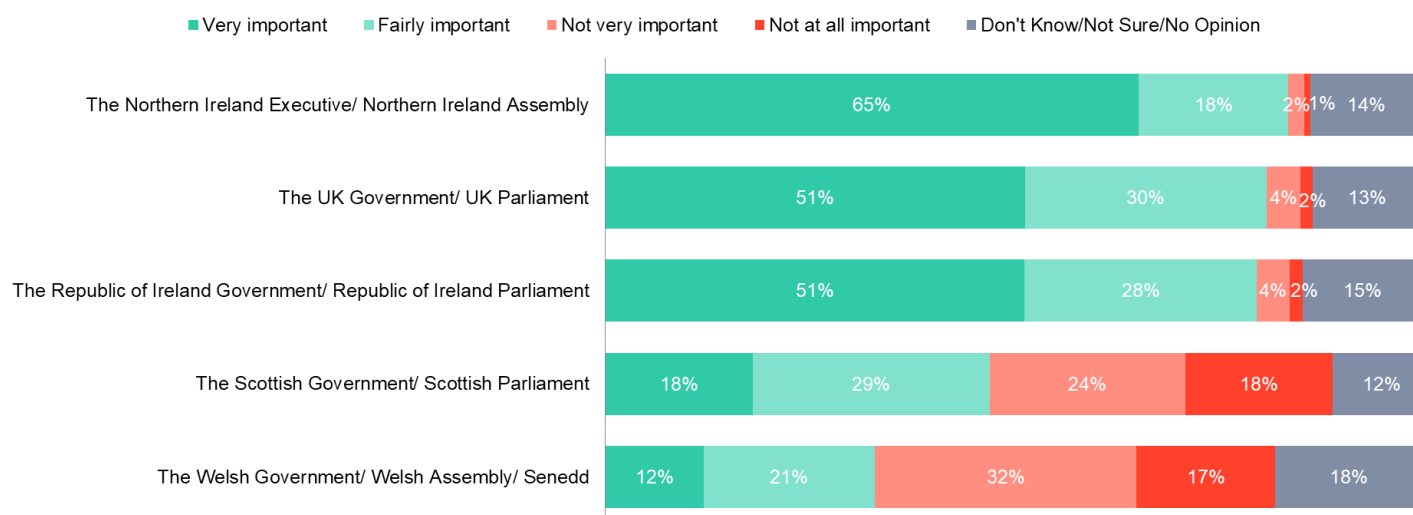
Perhaps unsurprisingly, those who think there is a legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain are more likely to think it is important to address the legacy. The vast majority (91%) think it is important compared to 62% who do not think there is a legacy. Those who think there is a legacy are subsequently less likely to report it is not important (5%) or that they do not know (4%).

## Government role in addressing the legacy of the Troubles/conflict

The public are most likely to think it is important that the Northern Ireland Executive has a role in addressing the legacy (84%), along with the UK Government (81%) and the Republic of Ireland Government (80%). Fewer than half surveyed (in Scotland and Wales respectively) think it is important for the Scottish Government (47%) or the Welsh Government (33%) to have a role in addressing the legacy.

Relatively small proportions think it is not important for the Northern Ireland Executive (3%), the UK Government (6%) or the Republic of Ireland Government (6%) to have a role in addressing the legacy of the Troubles/conflict. The public are more likely to report that they do not know how important the roles of the Northern Ireland Executive (14%), UK Government (13%) or Republic of Ireland Government (15%) are.

**Figure 8. How important is it for each of these governments to have a role in addressing the legacy and supporting reconciliation in Northern Ireland?**



Q11b: How important or not do you think it is for the each of the following governments to have a role in addressing that legacy and supporting reconciliation in Northern Ireland?

Base: All GB adults (n=4,006), All Scottish adults (The Scottish Government/Scottish Parliament) (n=353), All Welsh adults (The Welsh Government/ Welsh Assembly/ Senedd) (n=200)

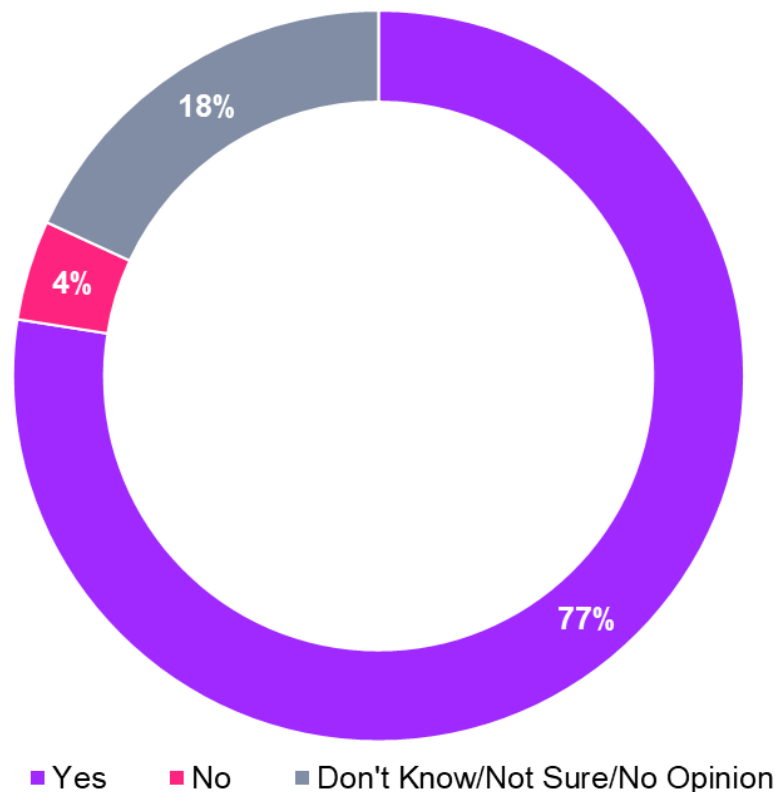
Those who report they meet the legal definition of being a victim or survivor are no more likely to think that it is important for the UK Government (78%) or the Republic of Ireland Government (76%) to address the legacy of the Troubles/conflict. However, they are less likely to think it is important for the Northern Ireland Executive to address the legacy (79%), although this is still a strong majority. They are also more likely to think it is important for the Scottish Government (52%) and the Welsh Government (50%) to address the legacy.

Among those who have served in the UK Armed Forces or are currently serving, they are more likely to think it is important for the UK Government to address the legacy (88%). However, they are no more likely to think it is important for the Northern Ireland Executive (89%) or the Republic of Ireland Government (79%) to address the legacy.

## Victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict accessing services in Great Britain

Just over three-quarters (77%) of the public believe that victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict living in Great Britain should be able to access the same support as those living in Northern Ireland. A small minority (4%) say they do not think victims and survivors in Great Britain should have the same support, while nearly one in five are uncertain (18%).

**Figure 9. Should victims and / or survivors in Great Britain have the same access to support as those living in Northern Ireland?**



Q12: Do you think victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict living in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales) should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland? (Select one only)

Base: All GB Adults (4006)

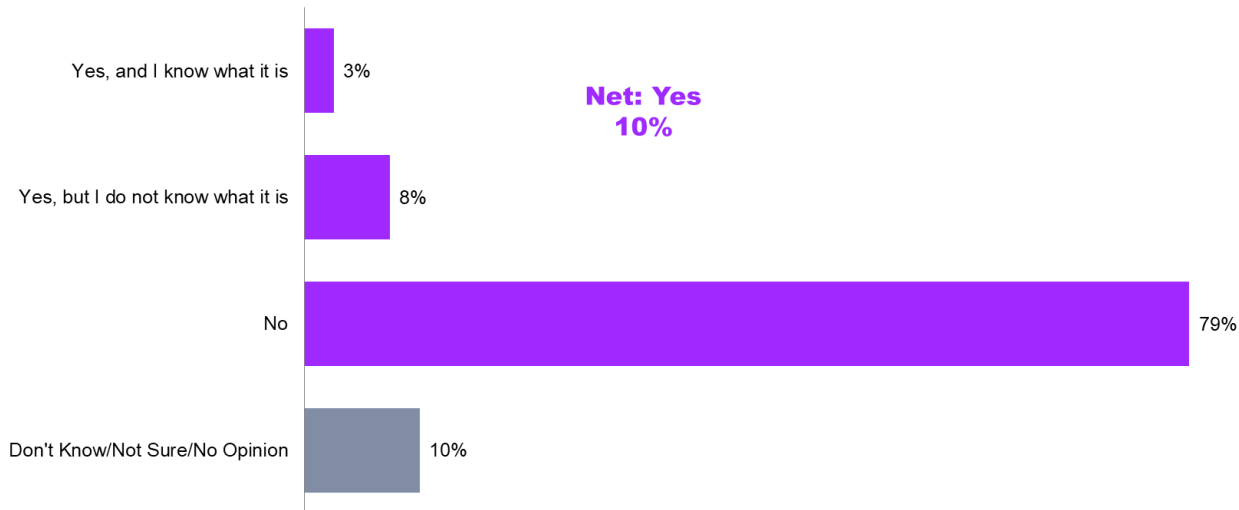
A similar proportion (75%) of those surveyed who report they meet the legal definition of being a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict think victims or survivors should have the same access to support as those living in Northern Ireland. Fewer than one in ten (7%) say they do not think those in Great Britain should have the same support and similar to the general public one in five (18%) report they aren't sure.

Those who serve or have served in the UK Armed Forces are no more likely to think victims and survivors in Great Britain should have access to the same support (82%), but they are more likely to have an opinion as fewer (9%) report that they do not know if victims and survivors should have access to the same support.

## The 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme'

The Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme awards payments to permanently physically and / or psychologically injured victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict. One in ten (10%) surveyed are familiar with this scheme; 3% are aware and know what it is, and 8% are aware of it but do not know what it is. The majority (79%) report they haven't heard of the Scheme and a further 10% report they aren't sure.

**Figure 10. Are you familiar with the 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme'?**



Q13: Are you familiar with the 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment' Scheme? This scheme awards payments to permanently physically and psychologically injured victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict.

Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

Those who meet the legal definition of being a victim or survivor are much more likely to be aware of the Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme (25%) than those who do not meet the statutory definition of victims or survivors (9%). Approximately one in ten (9%) who meet the legal definition are aware of the Scheme and know what it is, a further 16% are aware of the Scheme but do not know what it is. Three in five (60%) have not heard of the scheme and 16% report they do not know. This suggests some work could be done to promote awareness of the Scheme and what it covers among those who are victims or survivors of the Troubles/conflict.

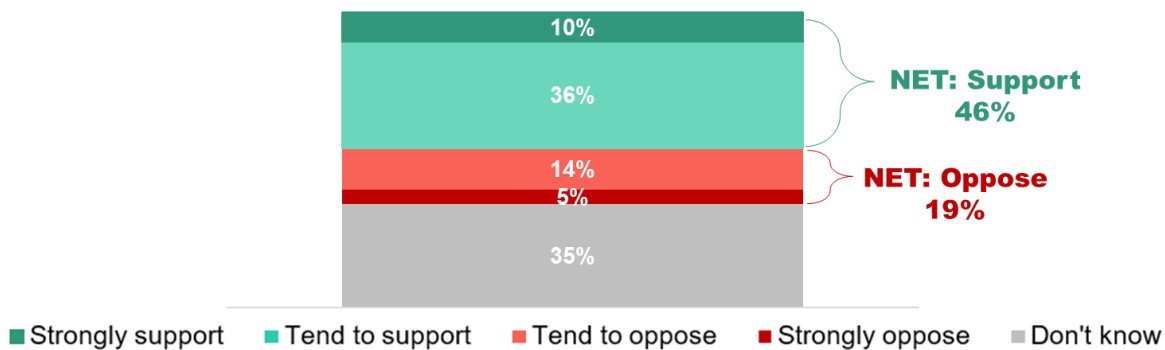
Those who are currently serving or who have served are also more likely to be aware of the Scheme (17%) compared to those who have never served (10%). While they are no more likely to be aware of the scheme and what it is than those who have not served (3% compared with 3%), they are more likely to be aware of the scheme and not know what it is (14% compared to 7%).

## The Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act

British adults surveyed were shown a short description of the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act and then asked if they supported or oppose the provision of a conditional immunity scheme as outlined in the Act.

Just over half (46%) report that they support the scheme outlined in the Northern Ireland Troubles Act with a large remainder of them (35%) not knowing whether they support or oppose it and one in five (19%) opposing it.

**Figure 11. Support for the provision of a conditional immunity scheme as set out in the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act**



Q6: The Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act was passed by the UK Government in September 2023. The Act introduced a conditional immunity scheme that will provide immunity from prosecution for Troubles-related offences that occurred between 1 January 1966 and 10 April 1998 for individuals that cooperate with (provide truthful information to) a new Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery (ICRIR). To what extent do you support or oppose the provision of a conditional immunity scheme as set out in the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act?  
Base: All GB Adults (n= 4,006)

Support for the scheme increases to over half (55%) for those surveyed who meet the definition of a legal victim or survivor, but this group is not less likely to oppose the scheme than those who do not meet the definition (17% and 20%).

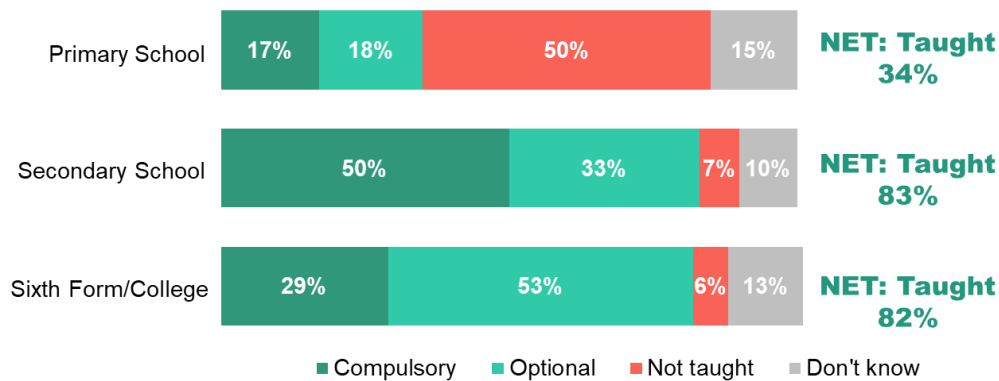
Those surveyed who have served or are currently serving in the UK Armed Forces are no more likely (50%) to support the scheme than those who have not (46%). However, they are more likely to oppose the scheme than those who have not served (33% vs 18%).

Additionally, those surveyed in older age categories (55+) are more likely to support the scheme (52%) and yet also more likely to oppose it (23%) than those surveyed in younger age categories. This is driven by a smaller proportion not knowing whether they support the scheme or not (25%).

## Teaching the history of the Troubles in schools

One in three British adults surveyed (34%) believe that the history of the Troubles should be taught in primary schools, which rises to over eight in ten for secondary schools and sixth forms/colleges (83% and 82%). Those who support it being taught in primary schools are roughly split between those who think it should be compulsory (17%) and those who think it should be optional (18%). Half of those surveyed believe it should be compulsory in secondary schools (50%), whereas those surveyed are more likely to think it should be optional than compulsory for sixth forms/colleges (53%).

**Figure 12. History of Troubles being taught in education sector**



Q14a: Should the history of the Troubles/conflict be taught within the formal education sector in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)?  
Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

Those surveyed who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are significantly more likely to believe that the history of the Troubles should be taught in primary schools than those who do not (55% vs 32%). However, for sixth forms/colleges, there is no difference between the groups (82% and 83%) and for secondary schools, they are less likely to believe that it should be taught (80% vs 86%).

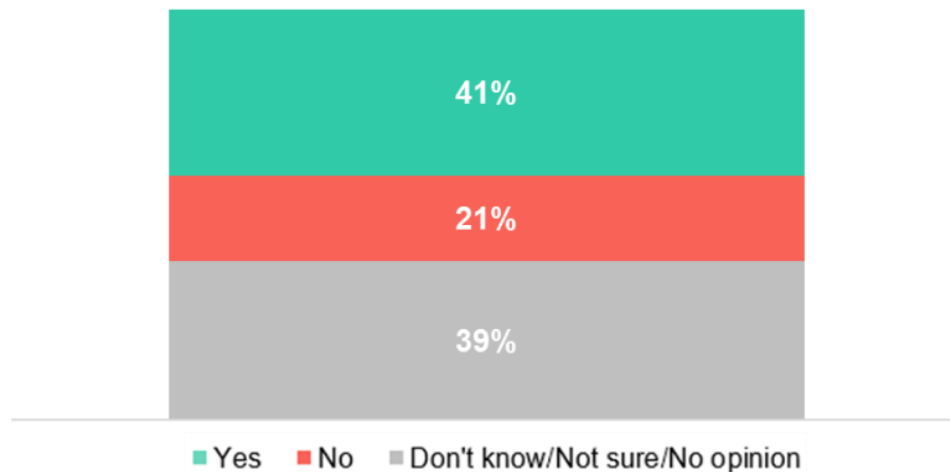
Young people surveyed (18-34) are more likely to believe it should be taught in primary schools (44%), but less likely to believe it should be taught in sixth forms/colleges (79%). Those surveyed aged 35-54 are more likely to think it should be taught in secondary schools (86%) and older individuals surveyed are less likely to believe it should be taught in primary schools (25%), but more likely to think it should be taught in sixth forms/colleges (85%).

## Support for a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain

Four in ten (41%) British adults surveyed believe there should be a memorial relating to the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain, with a similar proportion unsure whether there should be one (39%). One in five surveyed (21%) do not believe there should be a memorial at all in Great Britain.

When asked where they think a memorial in Great Britain should be London was the most common suggestion. Other suggestions included locations where notable events had happened during the Troubles/conflict (e.g. Birmingham, Manchester and Warrington).

**Figure 13. Establishment of Permanent Memorial in Great Britain**



Q15a: Should there be some form of a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain?  
Please note this does not include Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland (Select one only)  
Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

Half (50%) of those surveyed who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors believe there should be a memorial, and they are more likely to say this than those that report they do not meet this classification (41%). However, both groups are just as likely to oppose a memorial (22% and 21%). Although, those surveyed who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are less likely to be unsure whether there should be a memorial (27% vs 38%).

Those surveyed that are currently serving or have served in the UK Armed Forces are more likely to oppose a memorial (31% vs 20%) with this difference driven by a reduction in those that are unsure (28% vs 39%).

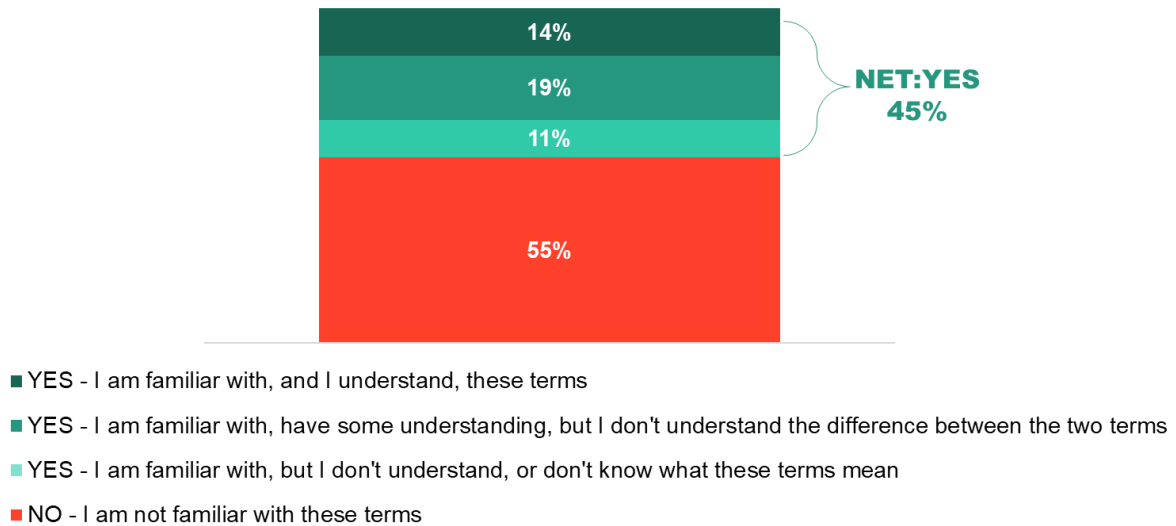
Those surveyed who have served or are currently serving in the UK Armed Forces are just as likely to support a memorial as those who have not (both 41%).

Those surveyed in older age categories (55+) are the least likely to think there should be a memorial in Great Britain. They are largely split between whether they think there should be a memorial (33%), should not (31%) or whether they do not know if there should be a memorial (36%).

## Familiarity with terms trans-generational and / or inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/conflict

Close to half of British adults surveyed (45%) are familiar with the terms trans-generational and inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/conflict. However, just 14% understand these terms too. The majority (55%) are not familiar with these terms at all.

Figure 14. Familiarity and understanding of the terms trans-generational and inter-generational



Q17b: Are you familiar with the following terms – trans-generational and/or inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/conflict? (Select one only)  
Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

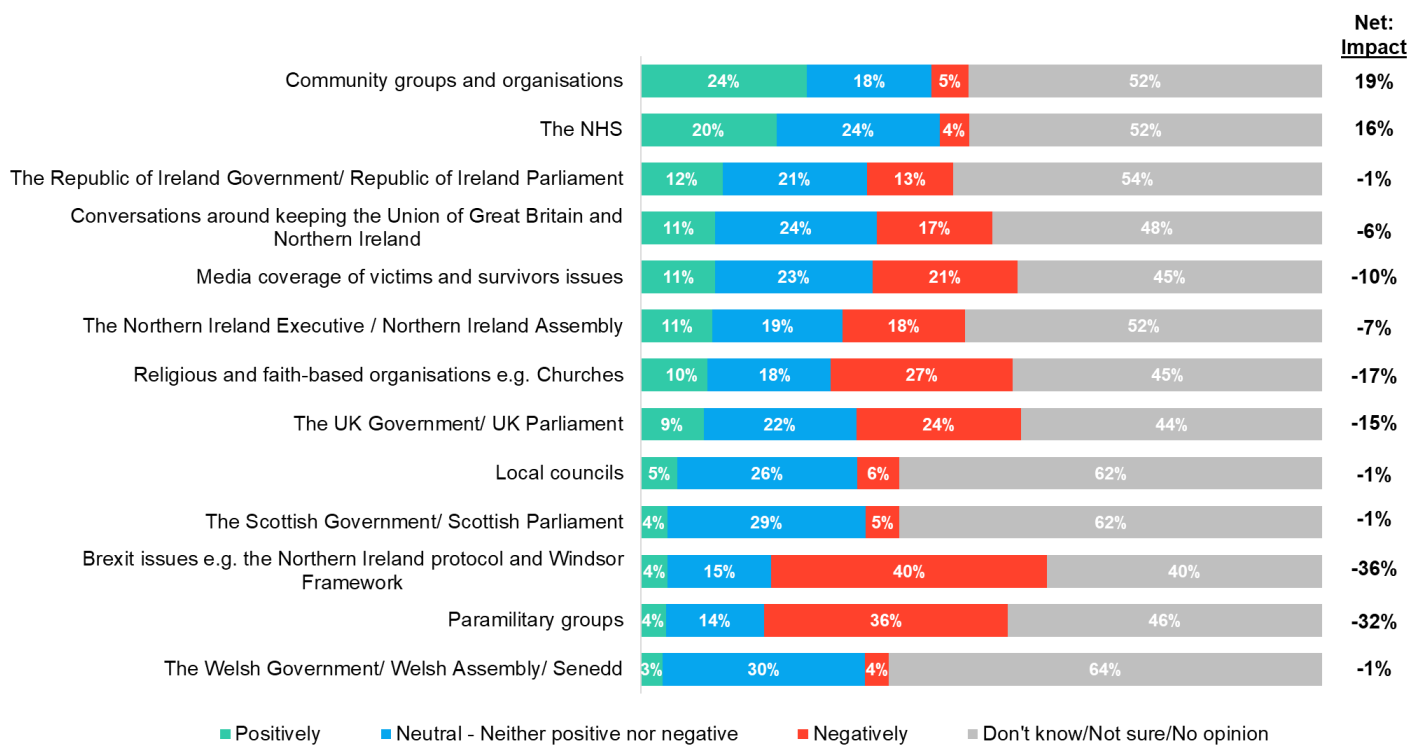
Those who identify as meeting the legal definition of a victim or survivor are more likely to understand these terms than those who do not (19% vs 15%). They are less likely to be familiar and not understand the difference (24% vs 32%), but they are equally as likely to be familiar with the terms than those who do not meet the legal definition (44% and 46%).

Young people surveyed (18-34) are more likely to be familiar with these terms (49%) than those in older age categories, but this familiarity does not spread to a greater likelihood of understanding these terms (15% of 18-34s vs 15% of 35-44s vs 14% of 55+). On the other hand, men surveyed are more likely to be familiar with (46% vs 43%) and understand the terms (16% vs 13%) than women surveyed.

## Views on how events, institutions or organisations have impacted on victims and / or survivors

The institutions that have the highest proportion of British adults surveyed thinking they have positively impacted victims and/or survivors are community groups and organisations (24%) and the NHS (20%). In contrast to this, Brexit issues (40%) and paramilitary groups (36%) have the highest proportion of those surveyed thinking they have negatively impacted victims and/or survivors. Other events, institutions and organisations that have over one in five of those surveyed thinking they have negatively impacted the groups are: religious and faith-based organisations (27%), the UK Government/UK Parliament (24%) and media coverage of victims and survivors' issues (21%).

**Figure 15. Perceived impact of events, institutions and organisations on victims/survivors**



Q18b: How have the following events, institutions, or organisations impacted victims and/or survivors of the Troubles/conflict?  
Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

Those who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are less likely to say that four (Brexit issues, paramilitary groups, religious and faith-based organisations, and media coverage of victims and survivors' issues) of the five most commonly perceived events, institutions or organisations to have had a negative effect, as compared to non-victims/survivors. The only option where there is no difference between the groups is the UK Government/UK Parliament where those who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are twice as likely to say the UK Government/UK Parliament have had a positive effect on victims and/or survivors (19% vs 8%).

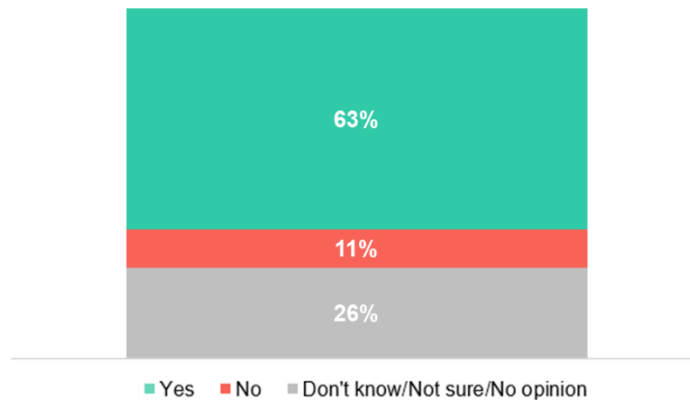
However, those who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are more likely to believe that the NHS (8%) and community groups (9%) have had a negative impact on victims and/or survivors but still a minority. The picture for the NHS is more mixed as they are also more likely to think it has positively impacted victims and/or survivors (30%).

Over half (56%) of those surveyed who are currently serving or have served in the UK Armed Forces think that paramilitary groups have had a negative impact on victims and/or survivors. They are also more likely to think that religious and faith-based organisations (33%) and media coverage of victims and survivors' issues (31%) have had a negative impact. For the options most commonly viewed as having a positive impact, they are more likely to think that the NHS has had a positive impact (26%).

## Support for the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and / or survivors

Over six in ten surveyed (63%) support the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and/or survivors of the Troubles/conflict to access in Great Britain. One quarter (26%) are unsure and one in ten (11%) oppose.

**Figure 16. Support for the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and survivors in Great Britain**



Q19a: Would you support the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict to access in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)?  
Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

There are no differences in support between those that meet the legal definition of being victims and survivors and those that do not. However, those surveyed that are currently serving or have served in the UK Armed Forces are less likely to support (54%) and more likely to oppose (24%) the establishment of such a service.

Those surveyed aged 55+ are less likely to support the establishment of the service (55%) and more likely to oppose it (16%) whereas, those surveyed in younger age groups are more likely to support the establishment of such a service. Two thirds support (68% and 66% for 18-34 and 35-54, respectively) and one in ten oppose (8% and 9% respectively).

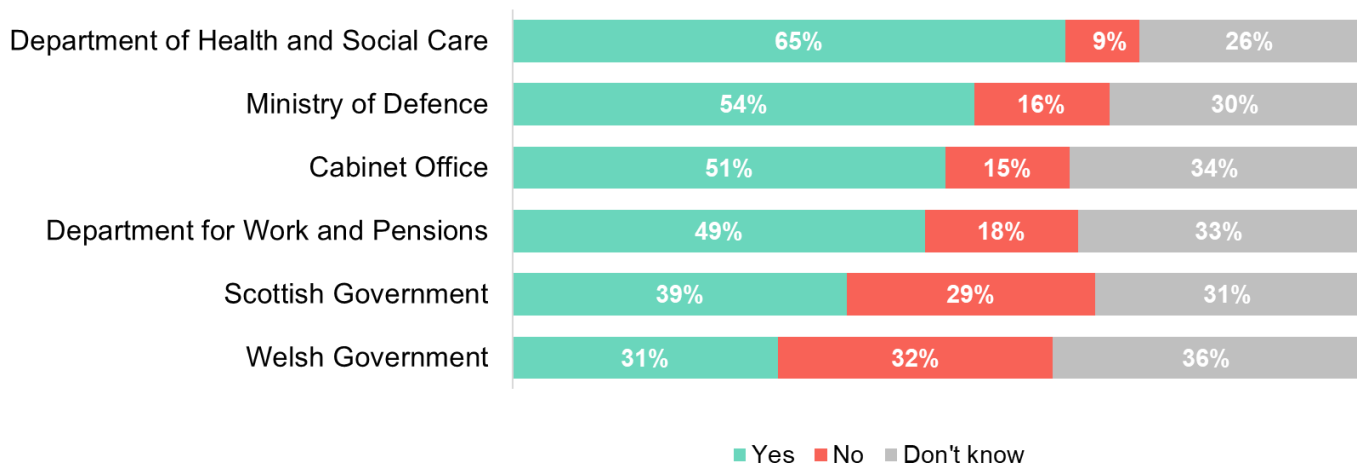
## Services and support that should be accessible for victims and / or survivors

### Support for specific policies and programmes

Two in three surveyed (65%) think that the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) should support specific policies/programmes to meet the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict. This is followed by a small majority for the Ministry of Defence (54%) and about half of those surveyed for the Cabinet Office (51%) and Department for Work and Pensions (49%) thinking they too should support specific policies/programmes.

The Scottish Government and Welsh Government (based on Scottish and Welsh adults surveyed) have the lowest proportions of those surveyed thinking they should support specific policies (39% and 31%). For Scotland, this figure is higher than those thinking they should not support specific policies (29%), however for Wales it is similar (32%).

**Figure 17. Support for specific policies/programmes from institutions**



Q20a: Do you think the following should support specific policies/ programmes to meet the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict?

Base: All GB Adults (Department of Health and Social Care, Ministry of Defence, Cabinet Office, and Department of Work and Pensions n=4,006) All Scottish Adults (Scottish Government n=379) All Welsh Adults (Welsh Government n=218)

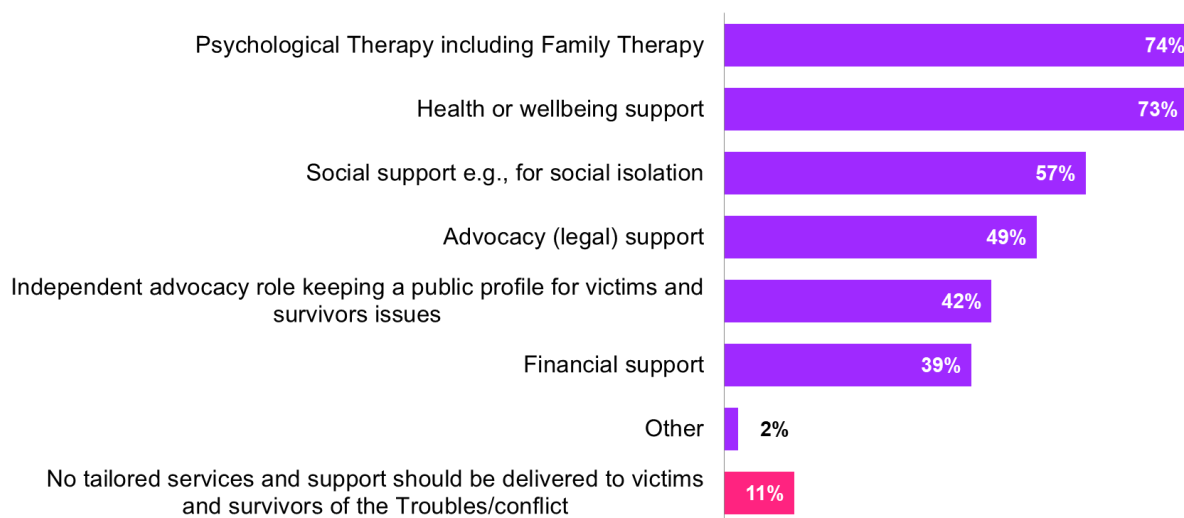
For the Department of Work and Pensions, those who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are more likely to believe they should support specific policies/programmes (57% vs 49% - Department for Work and Pensions).

Those who are currently serving or have served in the UK Armed Forces are more likely to not think that any of the institutions should support specific policies/programmes except the Minister of Defence. They are more likely to think the Ministry of Defence should support policies/programmes (64% compared to 54%).

## Tailored services and support

Nine in ten of British adults surveyed (89%) think that at least one tailored service or support should be available for victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict. The two most commonly supported tailored services and support are psychological therapy (74%) and health or wellbeing support (73%) followed by social support (57%). The tailored services or support with the lowest proportion of those surveyed thinking victims and survivors should be able to access are an independent advocacy role (42%) and financial support (39%).

**Figure 18. Support for tailored services or support for victims and survivors**



Q21a: What tailored services and support do you think should be accessible to victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict resident in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)? Please tick all that apply.  
Base: All GB Adults (n=4,006)

Those who identify as meeting the legal definition of victims or survivors are less likely to think that victims and survivors should receive any tailored services and support (84% compared to 91%). This is driven by a lower proportion thinking that victims and survivors should receive every named tailored service or support except financial, where they are more likely to think victims and survivors should receive this support (46%).

Those who are currently serving or have served in the UK Armed Forces are less likely to think that victims and survivors should be able to receive health or wellbeing support (66%), psychological therapy (62%), social support (48%). Those surveyed in older age categories (55+) are also less likely to think that victims and survivors should be able to receive tailored services and support than those surveyed in the 35-44 category, this is apparent for every named service (net any – 87%). Contrasting this, those surveyed aged 35-54 are more likely to think that victims and survivors should be able to receive all named services and support (net any – 91%). Young people surveyed (18-34) are more likely to think victims and survivors should be able to receive social support (60%) and financial support (46%).

## Appendix 1 – Questionnaire

Question type: *Text*

**Based in law, a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/conflict in Northern Ireland is:**

- (a) someone who is or has been physically or psychologically injured as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident;
- (b) someone who provides a substantial amount of care on a regular basis for an individual mentioned in paragraph (a); or
- (c) someone who has been bereaved as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident.

**An individual may be psychologically injured as a result of, or in consequence of:**

- (a) witnessing a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident; or
- (b) providing medical or other emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict-related incident.

Question type: *Single*

**[q1]** As someone living in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales), do you meet the above legal definition of a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/conflict? (Select one only)

<1>	Yes
<2>	No
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: *Multiple*

**[q2]** Whether or not you meet the legal definition of a victim (as referenced in Question 1), as someone who lives in Great Britain do you feel you have ever been affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident? (Select all that apply)

<1>	I have been bereaved (e.g. lost an immediate relative)	<9>	I was affected as a member of the UK Armed Forces
<2>	I have provided medical or other emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict-related incident	<10>	I was affected as a member of the UK Police Force
<3>	I have been present at, witnessed, a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident	<11>	I was affected as a member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC/ the Police Service of Northern Ireland
<4>	I provide care to someone who was injured as a result of the Troubles/conflict	<12>	I was affected as a member of An Garda Siochana
<5>	My physical health was affected	<13>	I was affected as a member of the Irish Defence Forces
<6>	My mental health was affected	<14>	I was affected as a member of the Prison Service

<7>	I have been displaced from my home in Northern Ireland through force or voluntarily	<97 fixed>	Other (open [q2_other]) [open] please specify
<8>	I have a distant relative, neighbour, colleague, or friend affected by a Troubles/conflict related incident	<99 fixed xor>	None of the above

Question type: **Multiple**  
#row order: randomize  
#Question display logic:  
if q1==1 or not 99 in q2

**[q3]** You have indicated from your answers to the previous questions, that you are (or may be) a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict. As such, do you currently receive services or support from any of the following? (Select all that apply)

<1>	The UK armed forces as an ex-service person from Northern Ireland deployment	<7>	Victims and Survivors Service - Individual Needs Programme
<2>	A charity for UK police (e.g. Police Care UK, Call4Backup etc.)	<8>	An Independent/ Private Sector service
<3>	A charity for RUC/PSNI (e.g. RUCGC Benevolent fund, RUCGC Foundation etc.)	<9 fixed>	Any other charities e.g. Royal British Legion, SSAFA, Help for Heroes etc.
<4>	A charity for Irish Defence Forces (e.g. Organisation of National Ex-Service personnel, Irish United Nations Veterans Association etc.)	<97 fixed>	Other (open [q3_other]) [open] please specify
<5>	Statutory sector provider e.g. health service	<10 fixed xor>	No, I don't currently access any support or services, but would like to
<6>	Victims and Survivors Service/ South East Fermanagh Foundation (SEFF)	<11 fixed xor>	No, I don't need to access any support or services

Question type: **Open**  
#any  
#Question display logic:  
if q3.has\_any([1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9])

**[q3a]** Please list the name of the organisation(s) you currently receive services or support from.

Question type: **Open**  
#any  
#Question display logic:  
If [q3] - No, I don't currently access any support or services, but would like to is selected [if 10 in q3]

**[q4]** Even though you are (or may be) a victim or survivor of the Troubles/conflict, you say you don't currently receive any services or support, but would like to. Why is this? (e.g. have you received the correct information about services etc.)?

Not Sure

Question type: **Single**  
#Question display logic:  
if q2.has\_any([5,6])

**[q5a]** You indicated that you were physically and/or mentally affected during the Troubles/conflict. Please say which of the following applies to you? (Select one only)

<1>	My physical health continues to be affected
<2>	My mental health continues to be affected
<3>	Both my physical and mental health continue to be affected
<4>	My physical health was affected - but not currently
<5>	My mental health was affected - but not currently
<6>	Both my physical and mental health were affected - but not currently
<98 fixed xor>	Don't know

Question type: **Text**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT A LIST OF SUPPORT SERVICES IS INCLUDED AT THE END OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE**

Question type: **Single**

**[q6]** The Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act was passed by the UK Government in September 2023. The Act introduced a conditional immunity scheme that will provide immunity from prosecution for Troubles-related offences that occurred between 1 January 1966 and 10 April 1998 for individuals that cooperate with (provide truthful information to) a new Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery (ICRIR).

To what extent do you support or oppose the provision of a conditional immunity scheme as set out in the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act?

<1>	Strongly support
<2>	Tend to support
<3>	Tend to oppose
<4>	Strongly oppose
<98>	Don't know

Question type: **Single**

**[q7a]** Do you think there is a legacy (i.e. a lasting impact) of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)?

<1>	Yes
<2>	No
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: **Grid**  
#row order: randomize

**[q8a]** To what extent do you think the following places are impacted by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict?

-[q8a_1]	Great Britain
-[q8a_2]	Northern Ireland
-[q8a_3]	Republic of Ireland
<1>	A large extent
<2>	A medium extent
<3>	A small extent
<98>	Don't know

#option display logic:  
**[q8a\_1] - If [q7a] - Yes is selected [if q7a = 1]**

Question type: **Single**

**[q9a]** How important or not do you think it is to address the legacy of the Troubles/conflict? (Select one only)

<1>	Very important
<2>	Fairly important
<3>	Not very important
<4>	Not at all important
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: **Open**  
#any  
#Question display logic:  
**if q7a==1**

**[q10a]** What do you believe the legacy of the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales) is?

Not Sure

Question type: **Grid**  
#row order: randomize

**[q11b]** How important or not do you think it is for the each of the following governments to have a role in addressing that legacy and supporting reconciliation in Northern Ireland?

-[q11b_1]	The UK Government/ UK Parliament
-[q11b_2]	The Welsh Government/ Welsh Assembly/ Senedd
-[q11b_3]	The Scottish Government/ Scottish Parliament
-[q11b_4]	The Northern Ireland Executive/ Northern Ireland Assembly
-[q11b_5]	The Republic of Ireland Government/ Republic of Ireland Parliament

<1>	Very important
<2>	Fairly important
<3>	Not very important
<4>	Not at all important
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: **Single**

**[q12]** Do you think victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict living in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales) should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland? (Select one only)

<1>	Yes
<2>	No
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: **Single**

**[q13]** Are you familiar with the 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment' Scheme?

This scheme awards payments to permanently physically and psychologically injured victims and survivors of the Troubles/ conflict.

<1>	Yes, and I know what it is
<2>	Yes, but I do not know what it is
<3>	No
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: **Grid**

**[q14a]** Should the history of the Troubles/conflict be taught within the formal education sector in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)?

-[q14a_1]	Primary School
-[q14a_2]	Secondary School (up to year 11)
-[q14a_3]	Sixth Form/College
<1>	Yes – it should be compulsory
<2>	Yes – it should be optional
<3>	No – it should not be taught at this level
<4>	Don't know/ not sure/ no opinion

Question type: **Single**

**[q15a]** Should there be some form of a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain? Please note this does not include Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland (Select one only)

<1>	Yes
<2>	No
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: **Open**

#any

#Question display logic:

If [q15a] - Yes is selected [if q15a == 1]

**[q16a]** You mentioned you think there should be a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles/conflict in Great Britain. Where do you think a memorial(s) should be located in Great Britain? Please note this does not include Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland

Not Sure

Question type: **Single**

**[q17b]** Are you familiar with the following terms - trans-generational and/or inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/conflict? (Select one only)

<1>	YES - I am familiar with, and I understand, these terms
<2>	YES - I am familiar with, have some understanding, but I don't understand the difference between the two terms
<3>	YES - I am familiar with, but I don't understand, or don't know what these terms mean
<4>	NO - I am not familiar with these terms

Question type: **Grid**

#row order: randomize

**[q18b]** How have the following events, institutions, or organisations impacted victims and/or survivors of the Troubles/conflict?

-[q18b_1]	Brexit issues e.g. the Northern Ireland protocol and Windsor Framework	-[q18b_8]	The Scottish Government/ Scottish Parliament
-[q18b_2]	Media coverage of victims and survivors issues	-[q18b_9]	The Welsh Government/ Welsh Assembly/ Senedd
-[q18b_3]	Religious and faith-based organisations e.g. Churches	-[q18b_10]	Conversations around keeping the Union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
-[q18b_4]	Community groups and organisations	-[q18b_11]	Paramilitary groups
-[q18b_5]	The Republic of Ireland Government/ Republic of Ireland Parliament	-[q18b_12]	Local councils
-[q18b_6]	The UK Government/ UK Parliament	-[q18b_13]	The NHS
-[q18b_7]	The Northern Ireland Executive / Northern Ireland Assembly		
<1>	Positively		
<2>	Neutral - Neither positive nor negative		
<3>	Negatively		
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion		

Question type: **Single**

**[q19a]** Would you support the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict to access in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)?

<1>	Yes
<2>	No
<98>	Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

Question type: **Grid**  
#row order: randomize

**[q20a]** Do you think the following should support specific policies/ programmes to meet the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict?

-[q20a_1]	Department of Health and Social Care
-[q20a_2]	Cabinet Office
-[q20a_3]	Department for Work and Pensions
-[q20a_4]	Ministry of Defence
-[q20a_5]	Welsh Government

-[q20a_6]	Scottish Government
<1>	Yes
<2>	No
<3>	Don't know

Question type: **Multiple**  
#row order: randomize

**[q21a]** What tailored services and support do you think should be accessible to victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict resident in Great Britain (i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)? Please tick all that apply.

<1>	Health or wellbeing support
<2>	Social support e.g., for social isolation
<3>	Advocacy (legal) support
<4>	Independent advocacy role keeping a public profile for victims and survivors issues
<5>	Financial support
<6>	Psychological Therapy including Family Therapy
<7 fixed>	Other (open [q22a_open]) [open] please specify
<8 fixed xor>	No tailored services and support should be delivered to victims and survivors of the Troubles/conflict

Question type: **Open**  
#any

**[q22]** Have you any additional views or comments about this poll-survey, and/or policies regarding victims, survivors, etc.?

If no comments- please leave blank

Question type: **Single**

**[q23]** Are you currently or have you previously served in the UK Armed Forces? This could be as a Regular or a Reserve.

<99>	No, neither currently or previously served
<2>	Yes, currently serving
<3>	Yes, previously served

Question type: **Multiple**

**[q24]** Have any of the following people in your life served or are currently serving in the UK Armed Forces? Please tick all that apply

<1>	Close friend
<2>	Partner
<3>	Parent
<4>	Sibling
<5>	Son/daughter
<6>	Other family member (open [q25_other]) [open] please specify
<99 xor>	None of the above

Question type: **Text**

Should you have been affected by any of the issues raised in this survey you can access help and support from the Victims and Survivors Service in Northern Ireland (02890 279100) and Samaritans UK: 116 123.