

# SAVRY - Training Data Input

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## 1. Introduction

Organised by the Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice (CYCJ), the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY) training event took place on July 24, 2018 in the Confucius training room at the University of Strathclyde.

The focus of the event was training to enable attendees to use the SAVRY, which is designed to be useful in intervention planning and ongoing progress monitoring, including the formulation of clinical treatment plans, conditions of community supervision, or release/discharge. There were approximately 23 delegates in attendance who were representatives of many of the agencies concerned with the field of youth and criminal justice in Scotland. The training was attended by a combination of professionals representing social work, CAMHS, Youth Justice Services, Forensic Mental Health and relevant third sector agencies with experience of working with adolescents involved in offending behaviour.

The following report is an accurate representation of responses received from delegates who completed and returned evaluation forms.

## 2. Evaluation Feedback

### 2.1 Prior Knowledge

Professionals attending the training were asked to describe their prior knowledge of this topic. The chart below shows the percentages of those that felt they had good prior knowledge through to those who had little prior knowledge.

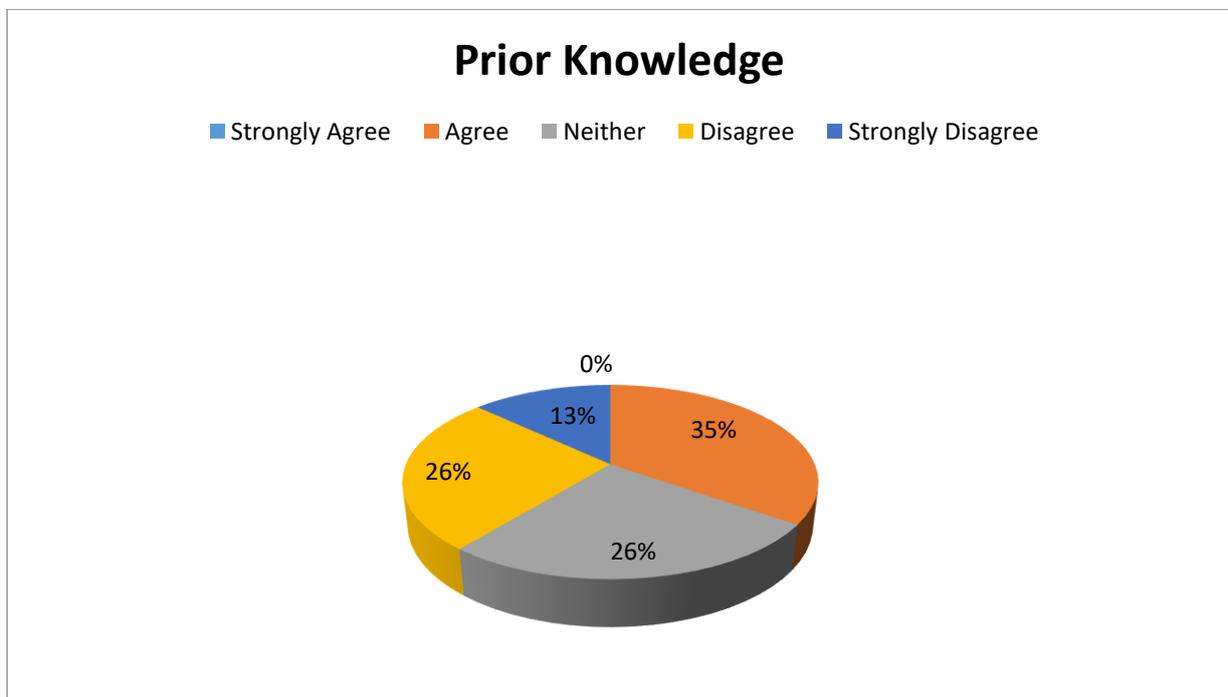


Chart 1: Prior Knowledge

Approximately a third had existing good knowledge of this topic, with 35% of attendees agreeing with this statement. Thirty nine percent of attendees felt they had little knowledge prior to the training.

### 2.2 Previous Experience

Professionals attending the training were asked if they had previous experience in using risk assessment tools. The results, shown in Chart 2, show that almost two-thirds of attendees 74% strongly agreed or agreed with this statement.

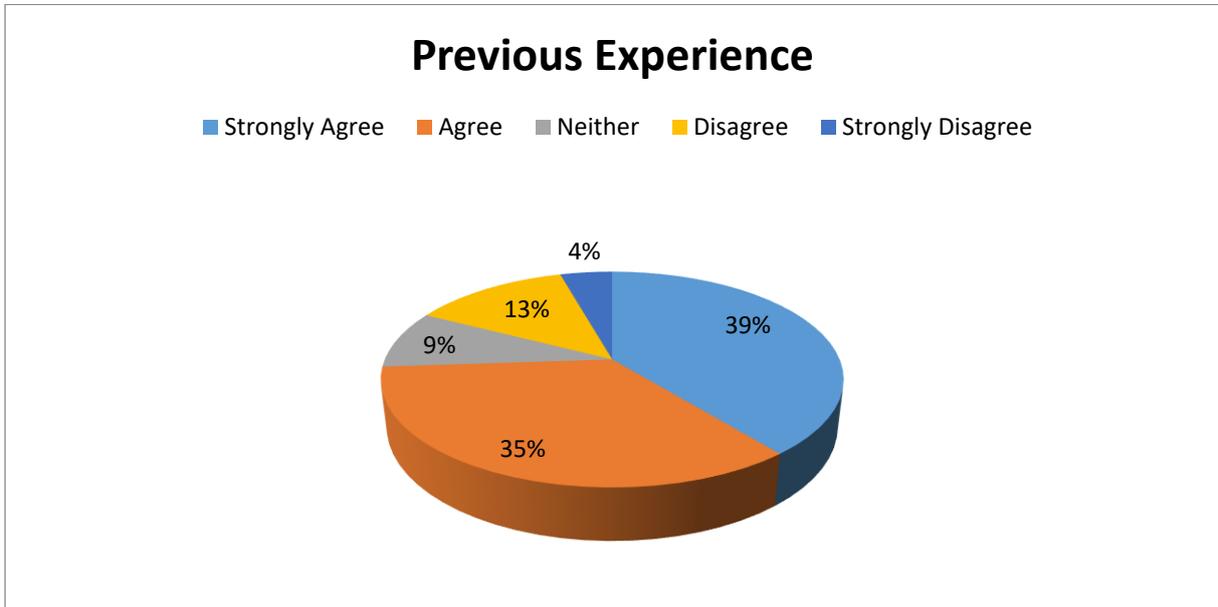


Chart 2: Previous Experience

### 2.3 Gained Understanding

Overall attendees were positive about the understanding they gained of SAVRY as a result of the training with 100% of attendees either strongly agreeing or agreeing that they had gained a greater understanding.

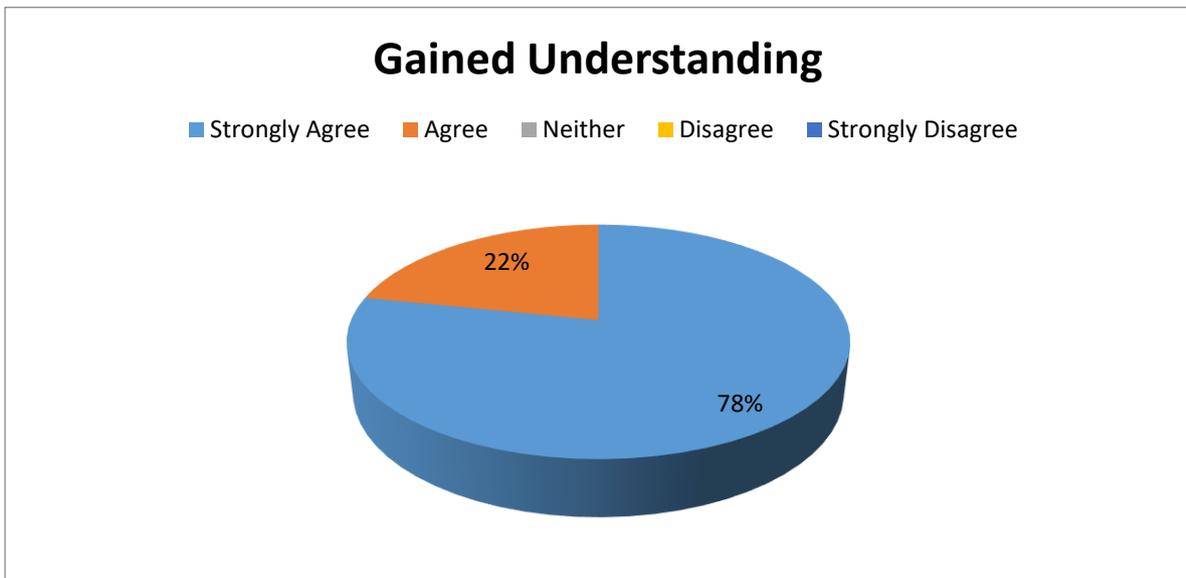


Chart 3: Gained Understanding

## 2.4 Impact on Practice

A majority of attendees felt that the knowledge gained from the training would impact on their own practice, as detailed in Chart 4 below. A total of 96% of delegates selected strongly agree and agree that their learnings taken away from this conference would impact their practice, with no-one disagreeing with this statement.

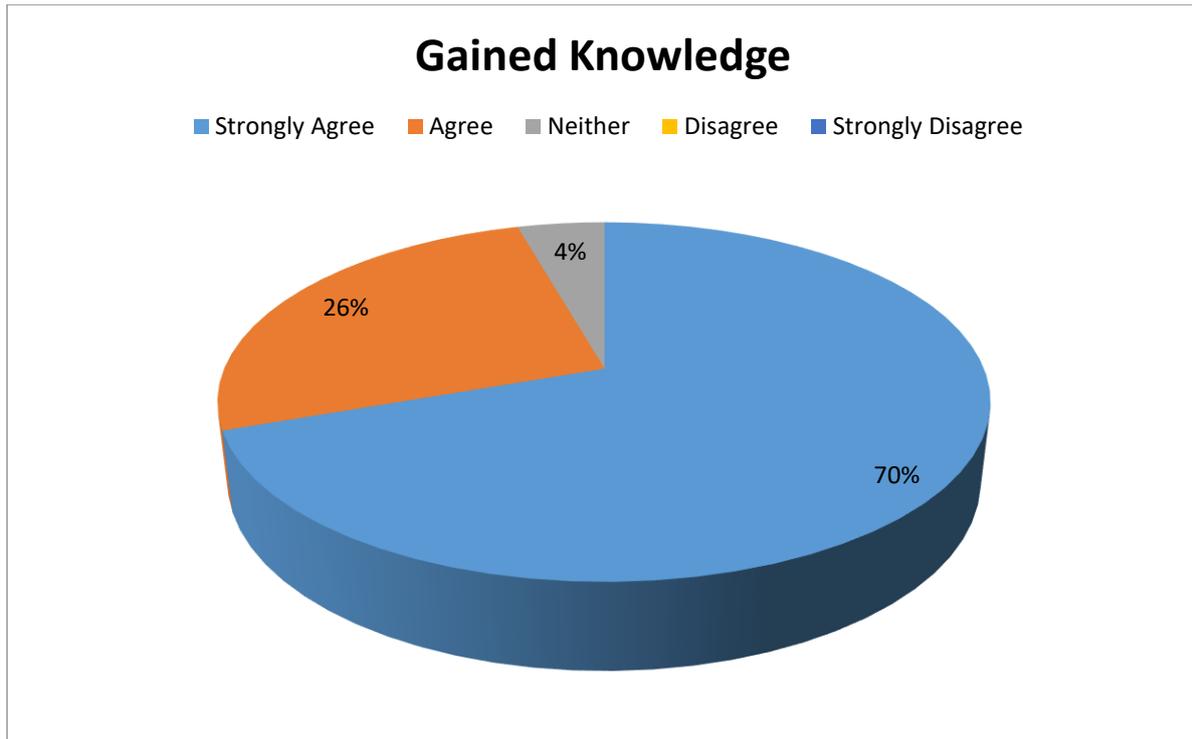


Chart 4: Gained Knowledge

## 3. Event Impact and Learning

Feedback from the respondents was positive with the overall view being that the small group worked well, the facilitators had good knowledge and were well informed. The case studies were viewed by the attendees as a good means of demonstrating examples of SAVRY in practice:

*“Good knowledge from the teachers”*

*“Trainers managed to make a dry manual in to an interesting and relevant training tool – very useful”*

*“Facilitators were well informed and enthusiastic”*

*“The case study was good”*

*“Case study helped work through tool”*

When asked what they felt was the most important thing they had learned as a result of the conference, many of the responses referred to how training/learning of using SAVRY as a risk assessment tool was important. The importance of a well communicated formulation when using SAVRY was also highlighted:

*“How to use SAVRY in supporting our work in addressing concerns around violent behaviours”*

*“Practically how to use the tool but also the importance of a well communicated formulation.’  
‘Formulation and how it structures the assessment analysis”*

*“Liked research base of evidence and how applies to current role”*

Respondents were also asked to make some suggestions of areas of the training that they felt could be improved. From the feedback it was suggested that the training may have been better suited to being spread over two days, allowing the information to be better absorbed and more time to be spent on the formulation and risk management. However, one of the respondents believed too much time was taken up going over how to use SAVRY.

*“More time on the formulation and presenting of the information”*

*“As the day was quite long it might of worked well to do it over two days, allow some bedding in and ‘focus on formulation as part of it”*

*“The first part could have perhaps been done as a pre-read before we came along, in order to reduce the day as it was pretty long. Also a second day to go over the formulation and risk management planning eh?”*

## 4. What next?

Attendees were asked if there were any actions they would undertake as a result of the conference, or any further training they would like to see provided. Several attendees expressed an interest in START-AV with others expressing a need for more support regarding the formulation of risk.

*“Start-AV - I've been put on a waiting list 😊”*

*“Formulation of risk assessment”*