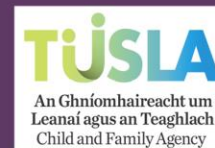


The Development and Mainstreaming Programme for Prevention, Partnership and Family Support Research & Evaluation Study 2015 - 2018



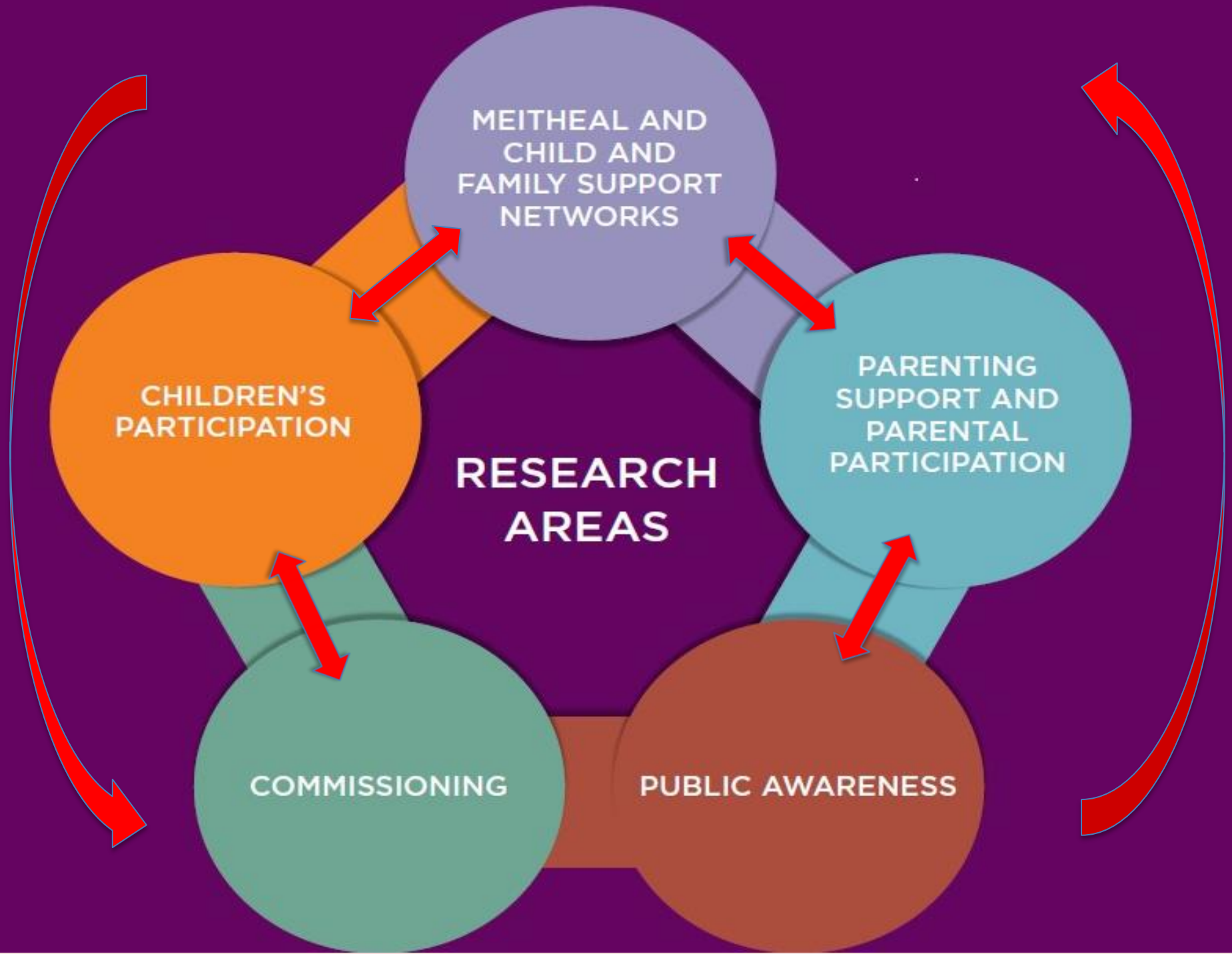
Dr Carmel Devaney,
08/ 12/ 2016



Research and Evaluation Study

Is the organisational culture and practice at Tusla and its partners changing such that services are more integrated, preventative, evidence informed and inclusive of children and parents? If so, is this contributing to improved outcomes for children and their families?





Parenting Support and Parental Participation



Intended Output... & Research Question

Key intended outcomes for this work package

- A strategic approach to parenting support is increasingly delivering cost-effective better practice and better outcomes for parents and children, thus reducing inequalities.
- The participation of children and parents is embedded in TUSLA's culture and operations.

Overarching Research Questions:

Is there a strategic approach to parenting in place within Tusla? Is it resulting in cost-effective better practice? Is participation by parents embedded in the structures and culture of Tusla?



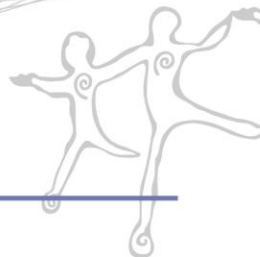
Research activity completed (2015/ 2016)

- ✓ Parental Support and Participation Literature Review
- ✓ Mapping of Parenting Support
- ✓ Parental Participation Survey
- ✓ Technical support
 - data analysis / provision of data
 - input to PSC training, manual, learning journals etc.
- ✓ Formative Input and Support
- ✓ Associated academic output; peer reviewed papers & conference presentations

Parenting Support & Parental Participation Literature Review

This literature review explores the concept and practice of parental participation, including what parents want from participation, what works, and the challenges and barriers to realising meaningful participation of parents in decisions affecting their families

- Key messages:
 - Including the voice of the parent, challenges to this, working in partnership and participation in practice



Mapping of Parenting Support

- explores what works across the continuum of parenting support, the rationale, purposes and outcomes of programmes and practice,
- **The Irish Policy Context**
- **Delivering Parenting Supports in Ireland**
- **Programmes and Levels of Evidence**

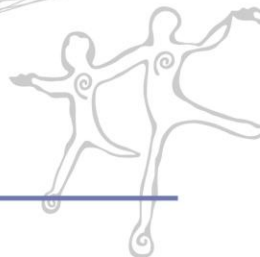
A brief description of the evidence available- including evaluations & the rationale behind what is evaluated and why- and the implications of this.
- **Profile of Selected Areas Profiles of Selected Areas** includes CYPSC area profiles of parenting support services, including direct and indirect supports. Includes the provider & nature of the service

Profiles are based on the best available data and are not intended as exhaustive. The Profile for each area includes a demographic overview.

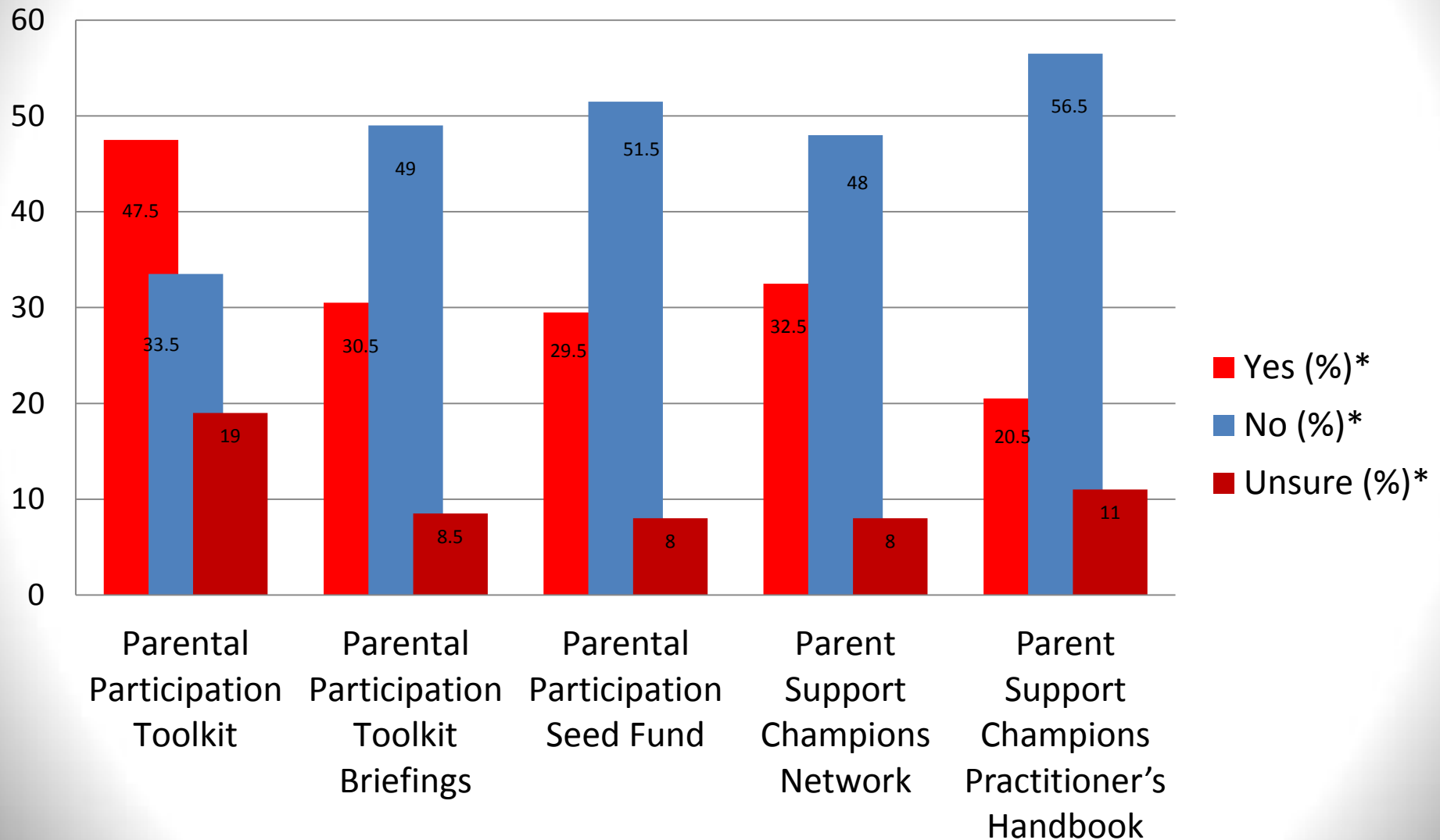


Parental Participation Survey

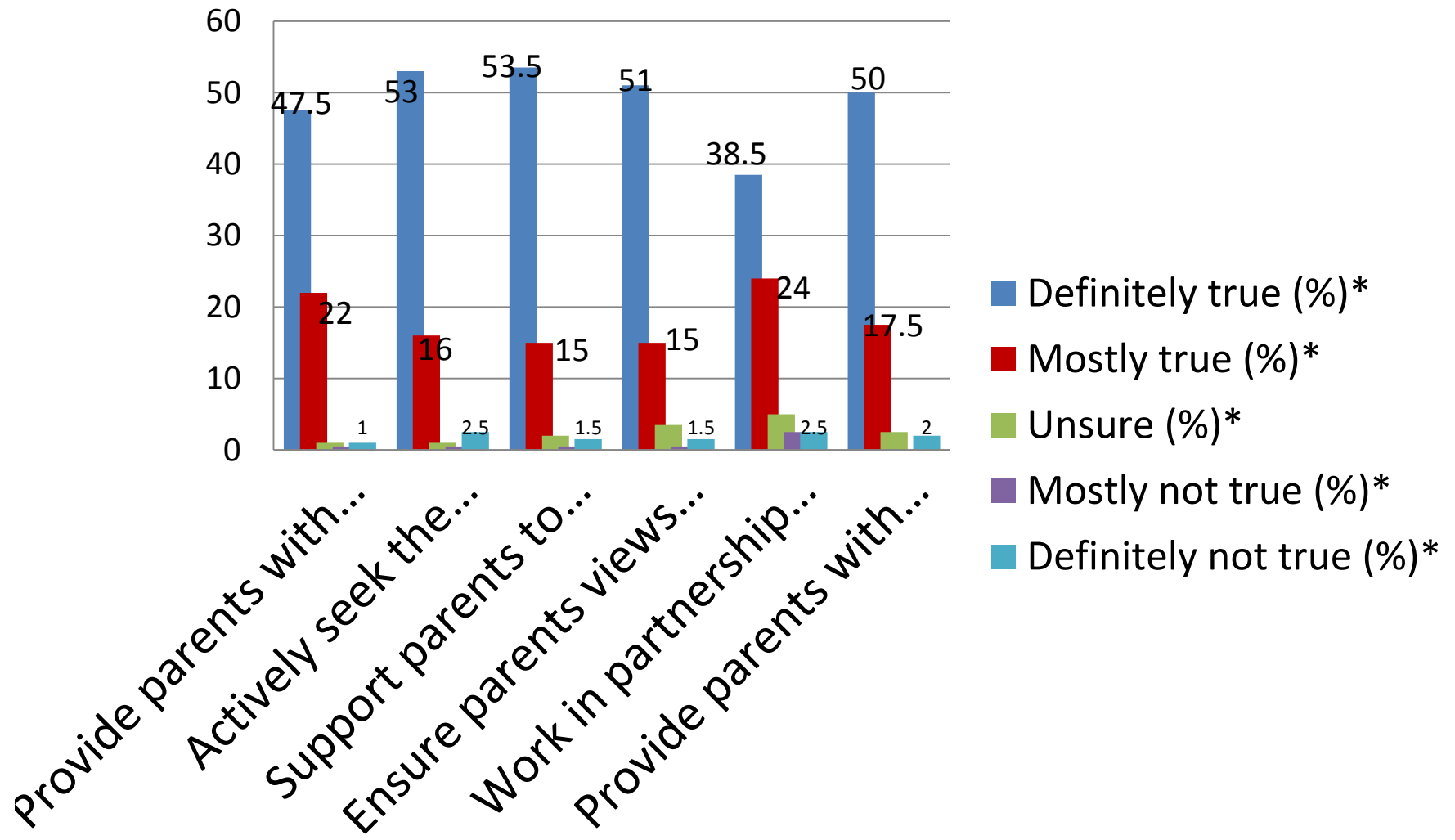
- Issued September 2016
- 319 respondents, including 274 Tusla employees , 28 partner organisations, 9 other.
- Nationwide response
- Social workers (33%), social care workers (21%), management (13%), FS worker (8%), other (11%) included coordinators, inspectors and trainers
- The majority of respondents (82%) are in direct contact with parents in their work



Tusla Programme of Work in Parenting Support and Parental Participation

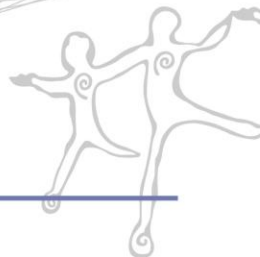


In my role I...

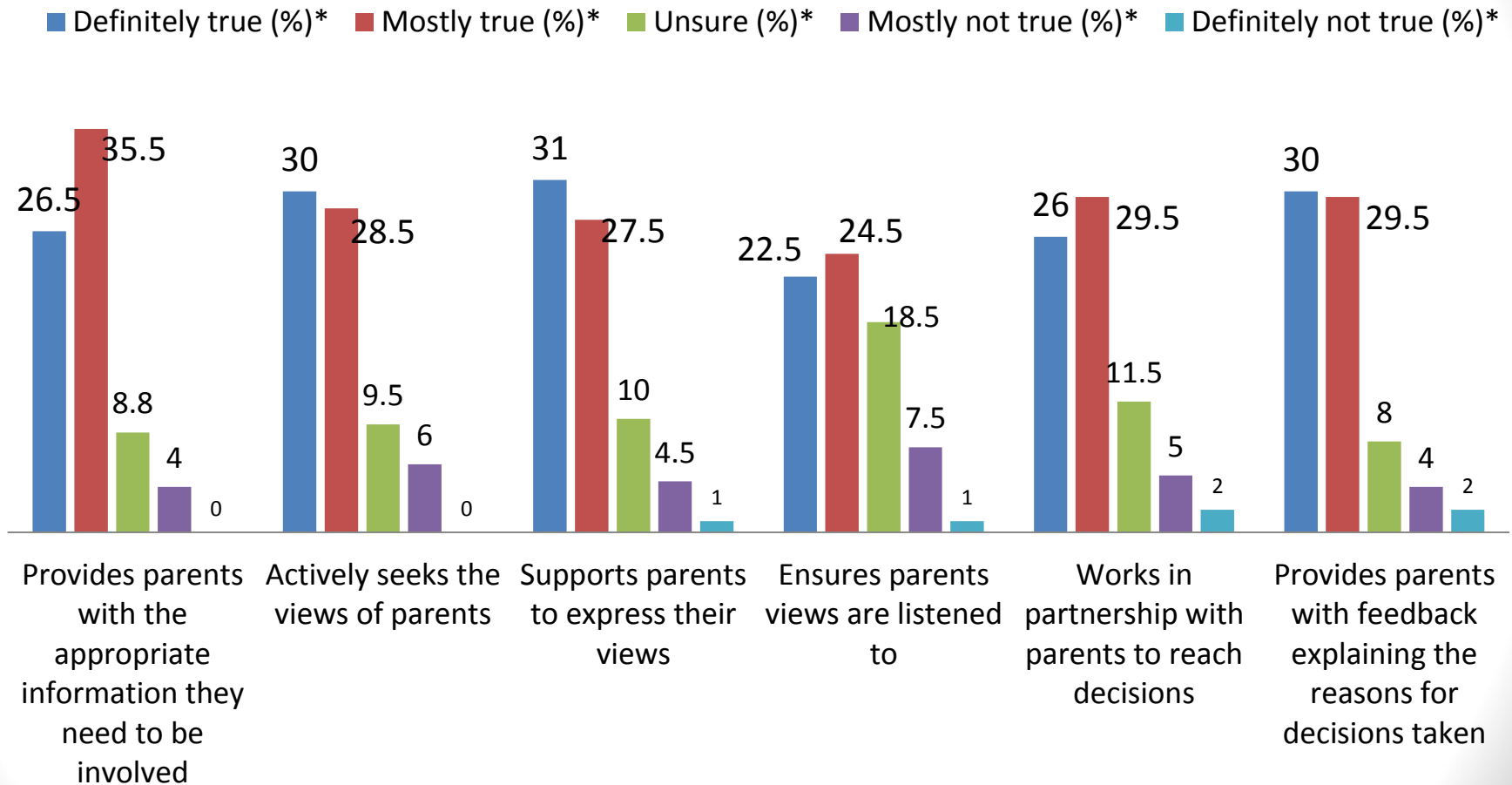


Challenges in parental participation...

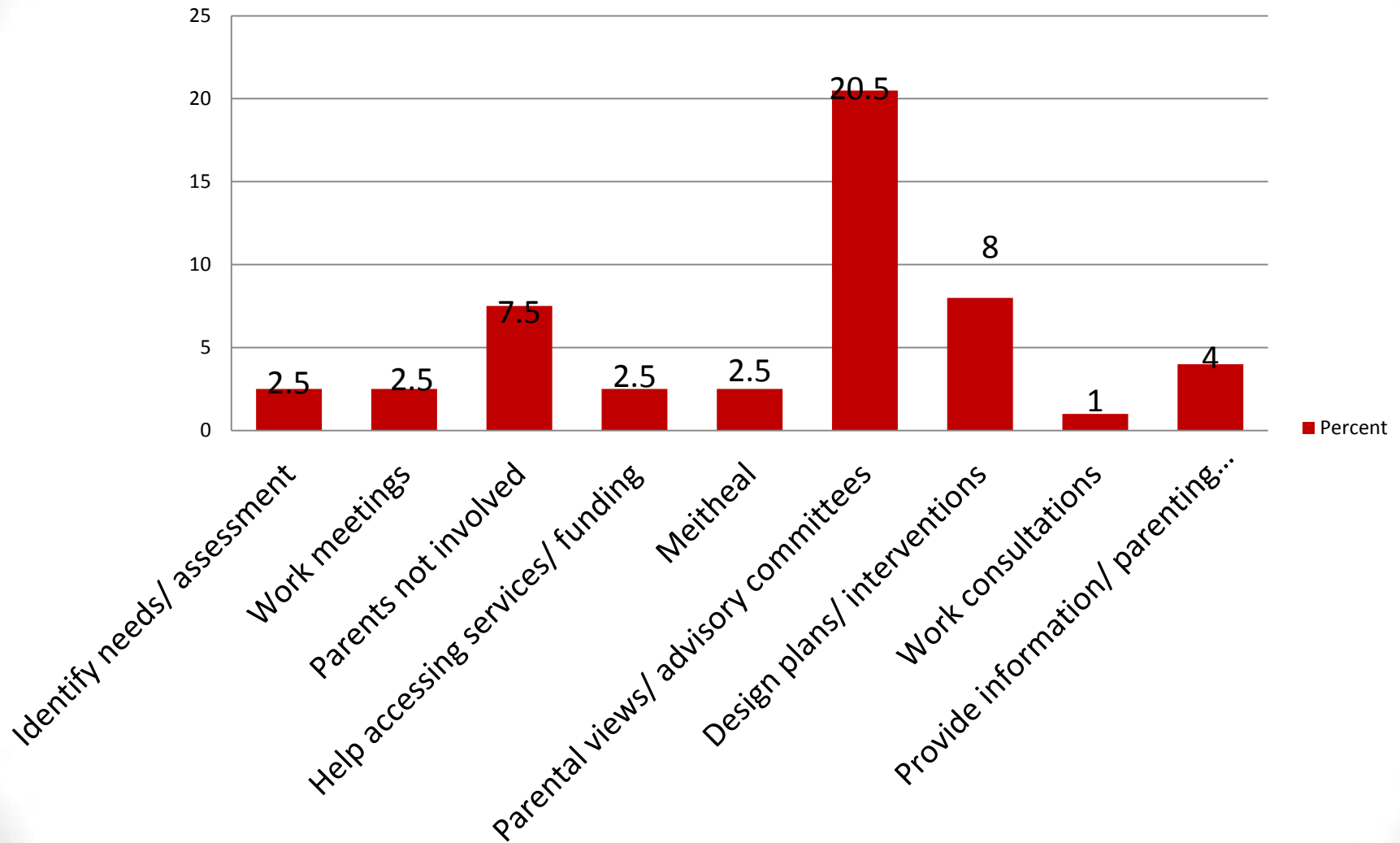
- parental unwillingness or inability to engage (17%)
- parental resistance towards Tusla, social work and child protection (11%)
- parents having their own issues that require attention including addiction, mental health issues, homelessness/housing issues and low levels of education (8.5%).



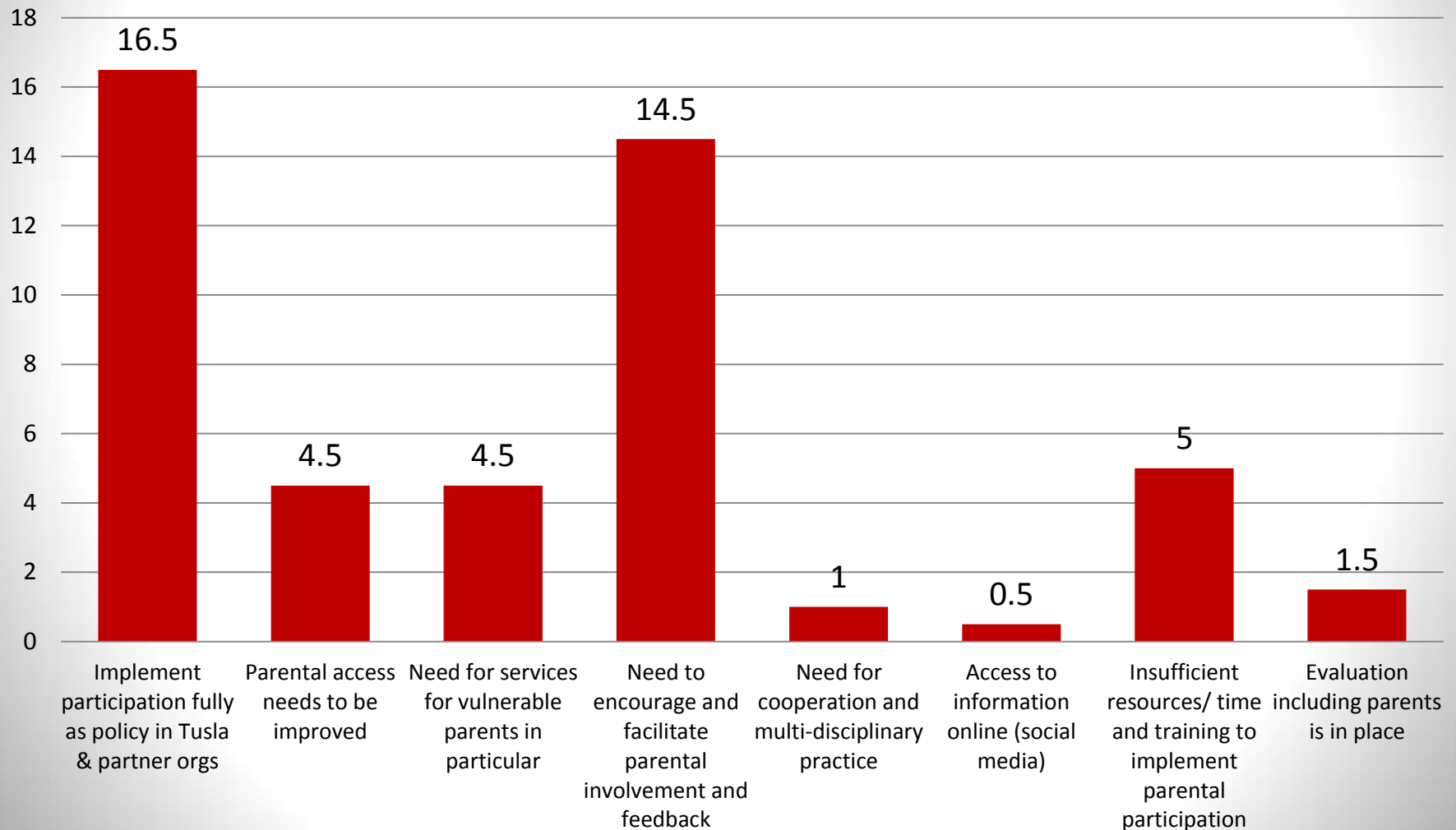
My organisation presently...



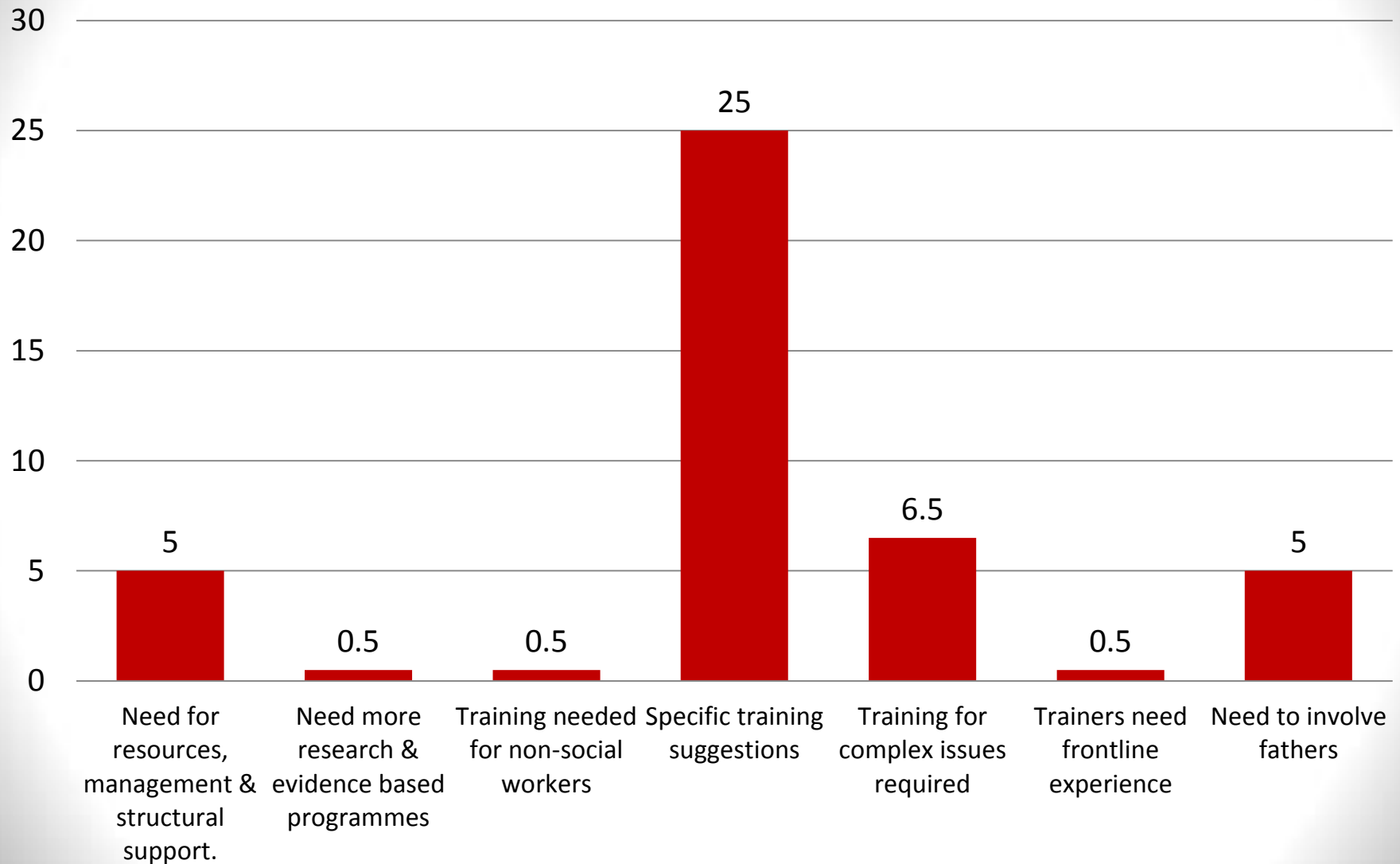
Parental participation in service planning



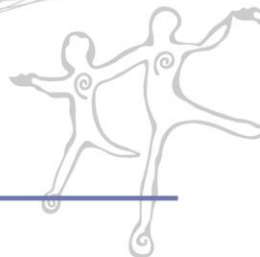
Suggested organisation changes to support parental participation



Skills and training needs identified



Future research activity....



Research activity planned / underway (2017)

1. Experience of being a PSC

- Survey, Interviews, learning journals

2. Output / impact of Regional Learning Groups & Parent Learning Communities

3. Follow up survey on parental participation

- Specific focus on awareness, use of & impact of Parental Participation toolkit

4. Seed Funding awarded

- Range of research activity to assess impact of spend (across thematic areas and Regions)

5. Tracking of parental input into Tusla website (parenting 24/ 7) and impact of their involvement

6. Overall view on Parenting support and participation programme

- Interviews with practitioners, managers...

Thank you
Comments / Questions

Please complete PSC questionnaire

(hard copy in your pack/ soft copy emailed to
you)

