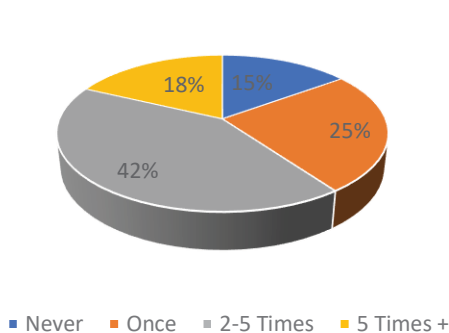


SOCIAL WORK: WORKING CONDITIONS & STRESS

Dr Jermaine Ravalier of Bath Spa University worked with John McGowan (SWU general secretary) to investigate working conditions for UK social workers. Below is a summary of findings from 1,268 social workers who took part:

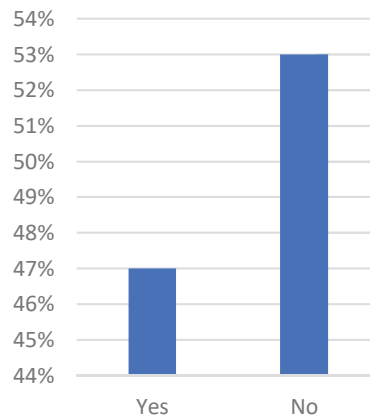
Results demonstrate...

Working While Ill



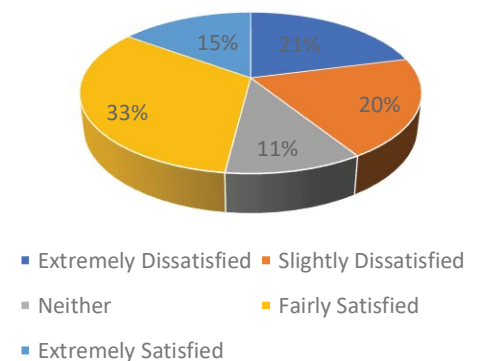
Lots of SWs having to work while ill

Turnover Intentions



Almost half want to leave the job in next 18 months

Job Satisfaction



4 in 10 dissatisfied in their job

Other findings to highlight include...

- SWs highly 'engaged' in their work (i.e. love the job....).

However:

- SWs work, on average, 11 extra hours per week
- Working conditions are worse than 90%-95% of UK

****Huge demands, lack of control, and lack of managerial support are leading to high levels of stress, turnover, and poor job satisfaction****

Suggestions for Improvement

- Reduce caseloads and paperwork.
- Reduce timescales.
- More, regular, reflective supervision.
- Greater respect and understanding.
- Take away the culture of blame

What we're doing about it

- #Respect4SW campaign.
- MP meetings and discussions.
- Meet the social workers event in parliament
- Media coverage.
- 12 months of events in parliament