RCSLT did a survey about the impact of lockdown from March to June 2020

There were over 500 responses from people who have speech and language therapy (SLT) support

100 about adult speech and language therapy

400 about children’s speech and language therapy

Good things we found out

People said **SLT makes their lives** and the lives of their carers **better**

Some people **continued to have SLT** during lockdown

Some people **liked SLT on the phone** and **online/video**
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) – survey on people’s access to speech and language therapy during lockdown

Bad things we found out

People had less speech and language therapy during lockdown

People had no SLT during lockdown

Some people who had SLT over the phone and online/video did not like it or could not do it

The impact

Impact on communication and swallowing

People said their communication and swallowing either stayed the same or got worse
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) – survey on people’s access to speech and language therapy during lockdown

Impact on adults’ lives
People aged 18 and over told us having less speech and language therapy was bad for their:

- mental health
- social life and friendships
- home and domestic life

Impact on children and young people’s lives
People aged 0-18 told us having less speech and language therapy was bad for their:

- education
- social life and friendships
- mental health
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) – survey on people’s access to speech and language therapy during lockdown

The future

People are worried about getting SLT in the future:

What needs to happen

The survey report includes policy recommendations.

It asks for better access to speech and language therapy

It asks for more support for people with communication and swallowing needs
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) – survey on people’s access to speech and language therapy during lockdown

Support from other organisations

83 organisations wrote to the Prime Minister in March

They support our policy recommendations

How you can help

• You can write to the Prime Minister

• You can pledge to work for better lives for people with communication and swallowing needs.

• You can express public support using #BuildBackBetterSLT
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) – survey on people’s access to speech and language therapy during lockdown

More information
For more information:

- Visit bit.ly/BuildBackBetterSLT

- Email peter.just@rcslt.org
  padraigin.oflynn@rcslt.org

Thank you!
Thank you for your support!