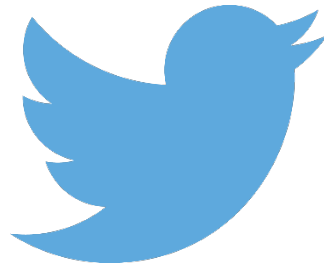


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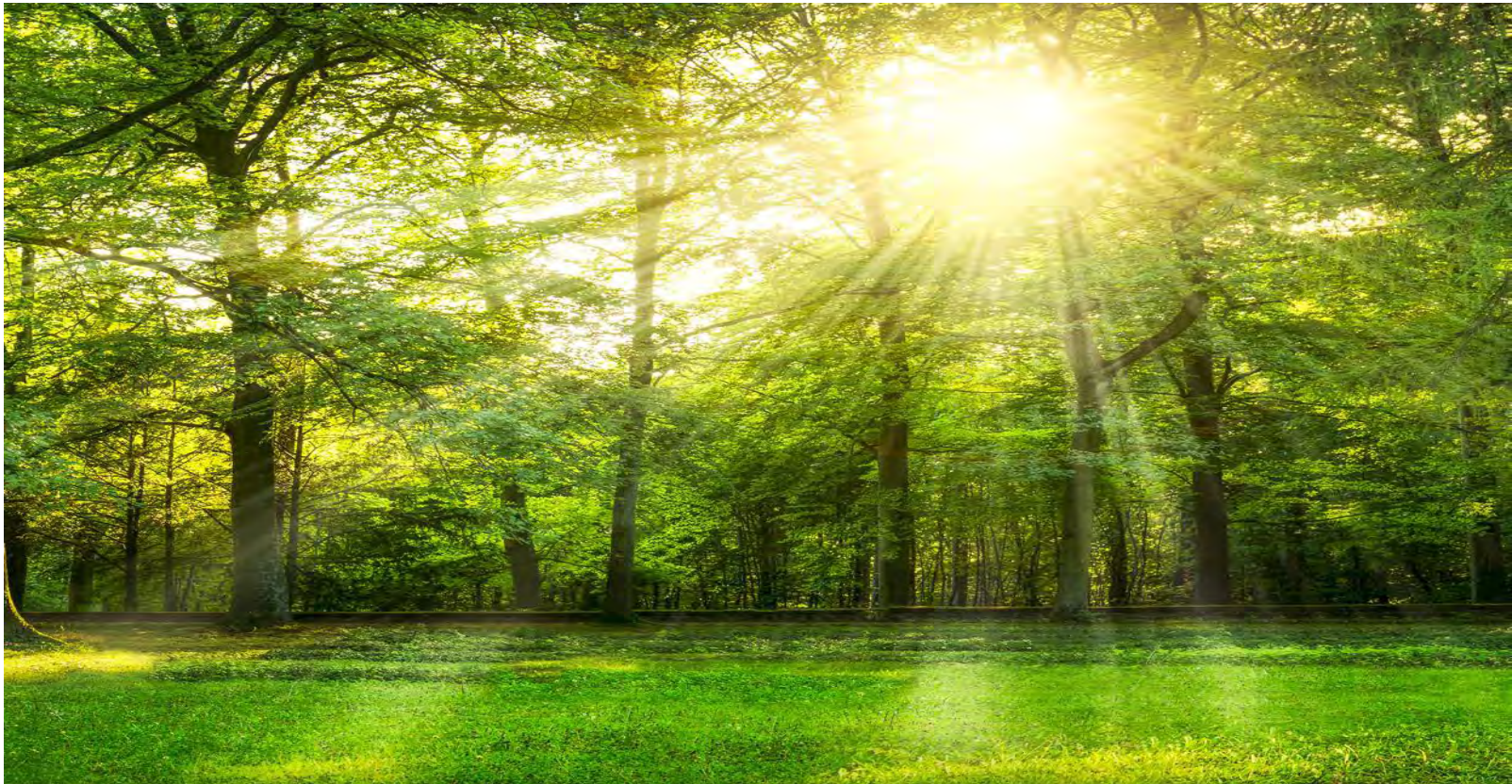


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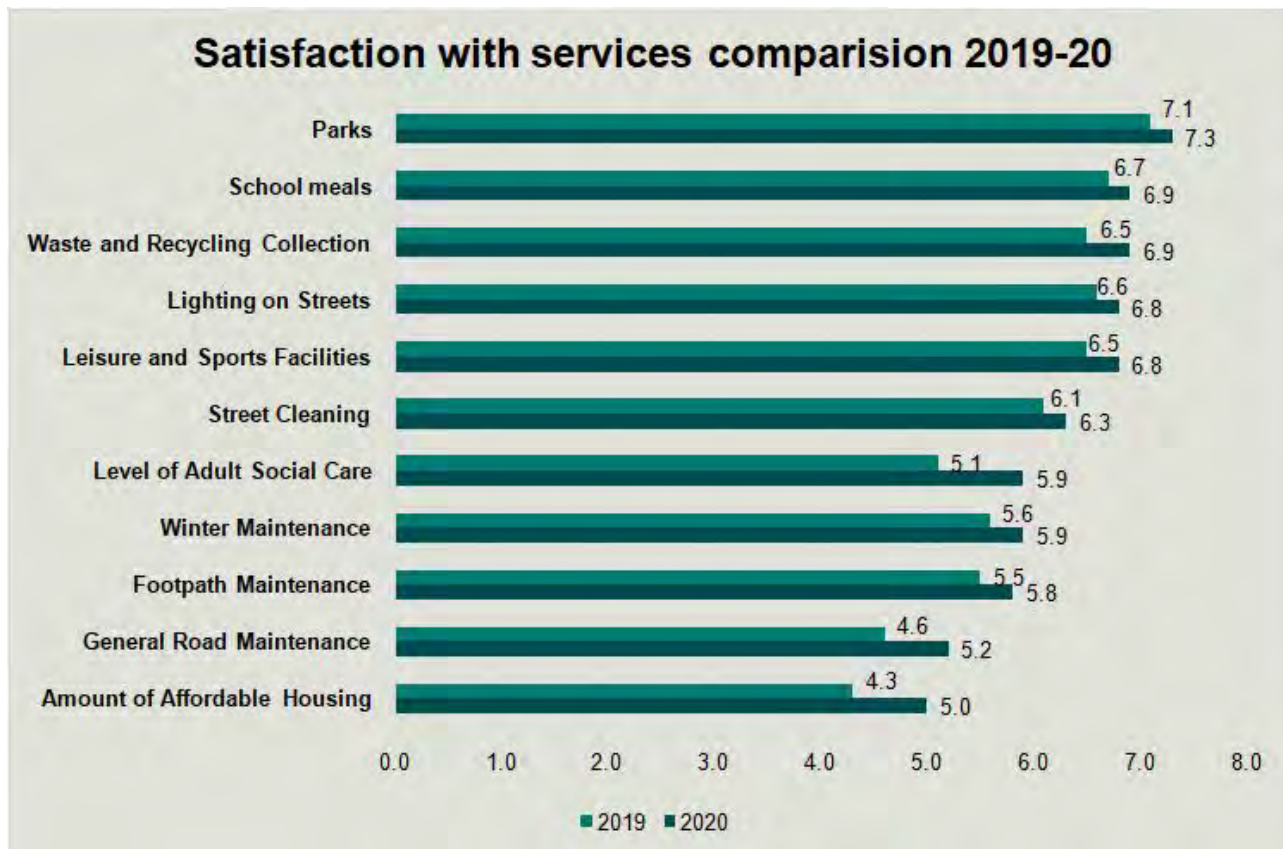
APSE Parks State of the Market Survey Results 2021



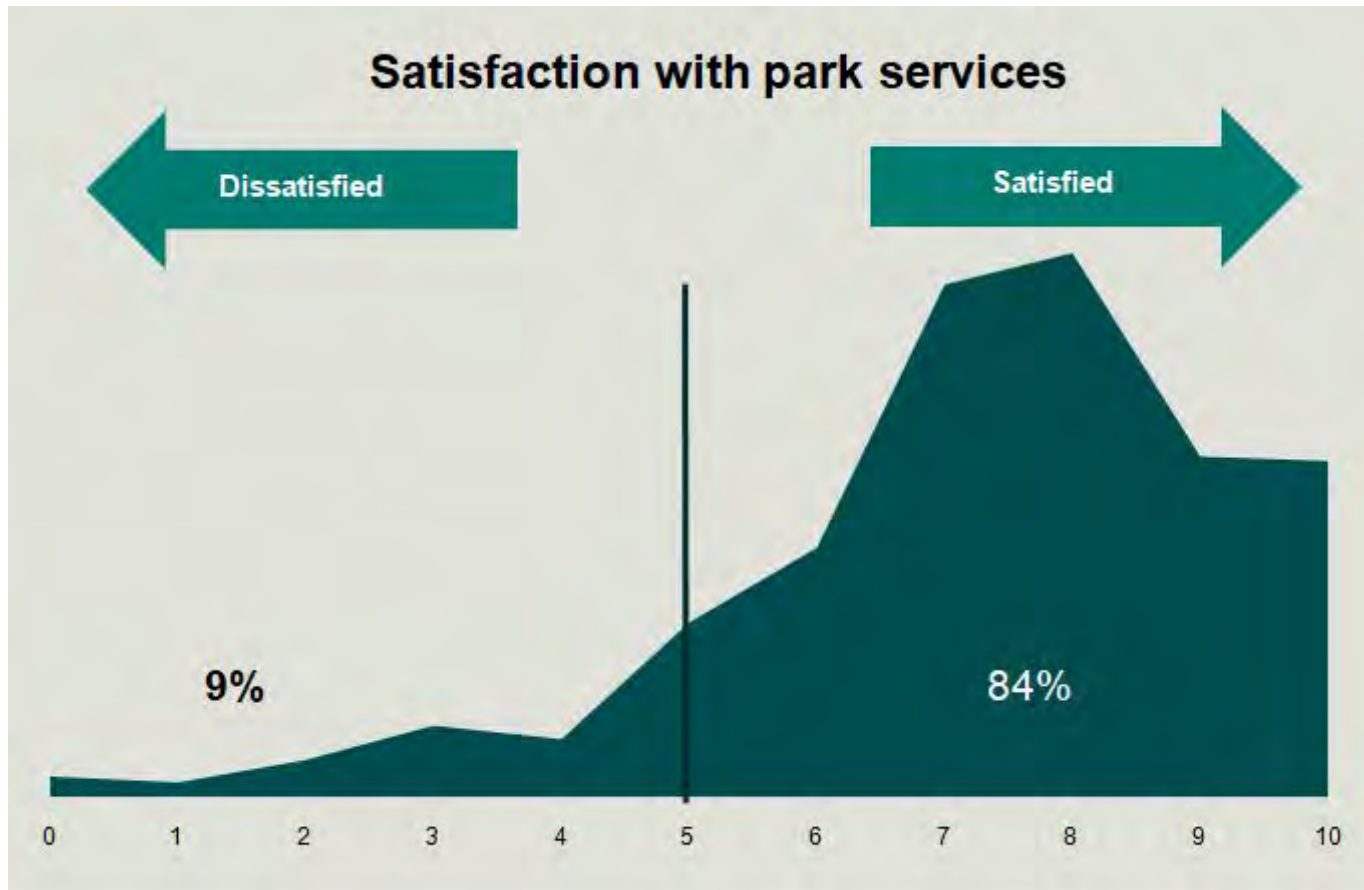
Satisfaction levels vary between services



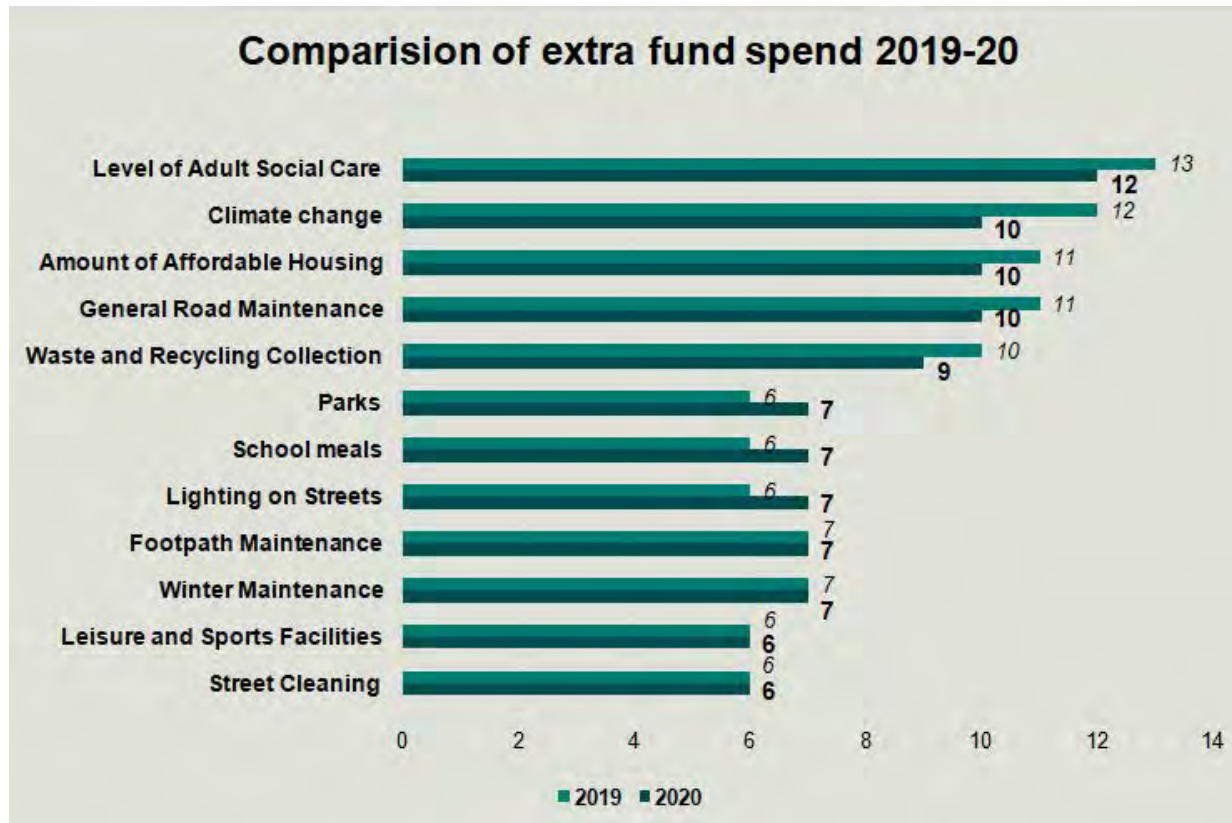
Key fact 3: Satisfaction risen compared to 2019



7.3 Parks



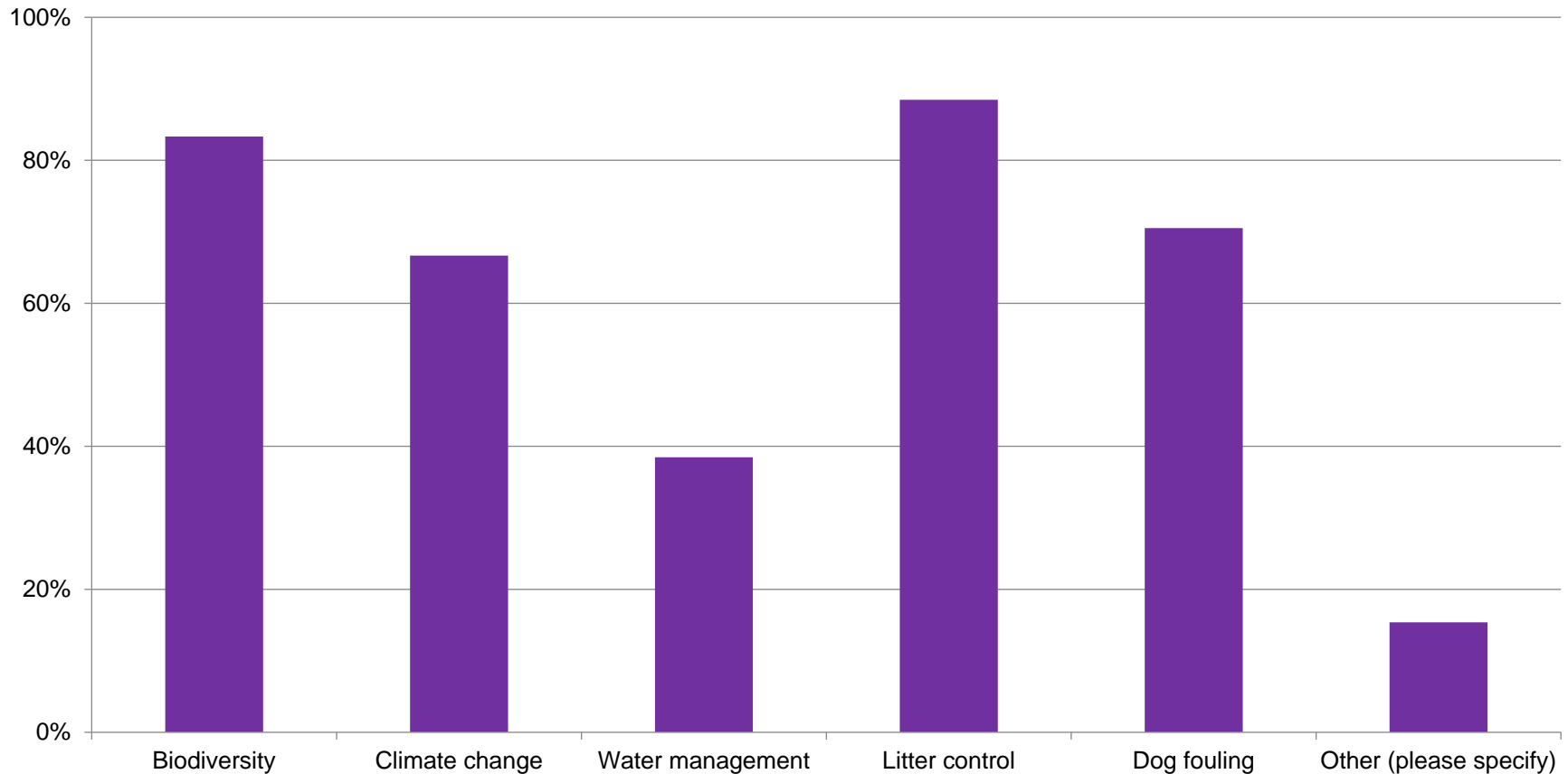
Comparison of % 2020 spend with 2019



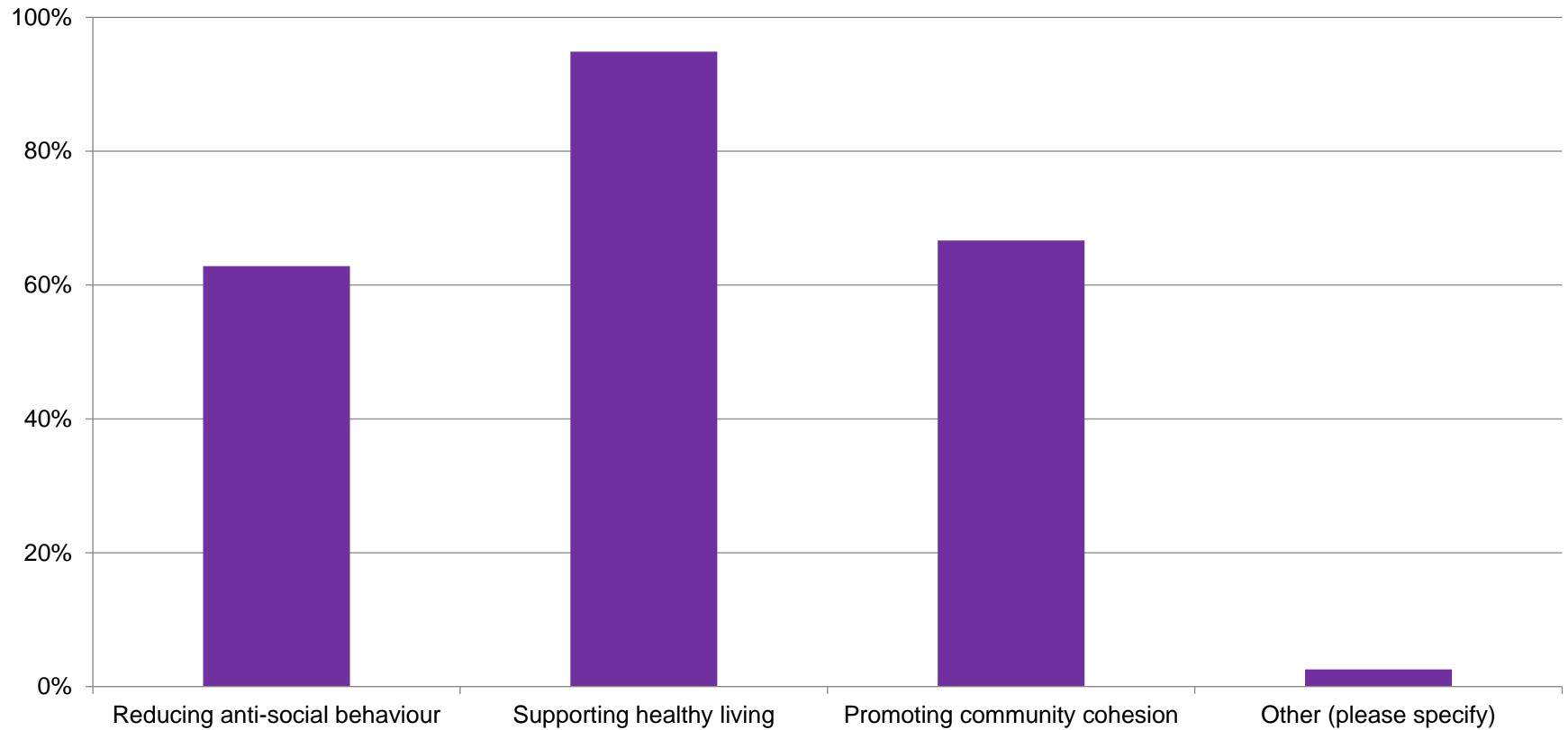
Opening statements

- 68% feel parks have had their budgets cut more severely than other services (77% in 2020)
- 71% said budget cuts have led to reduced levels of maintenance and increases in unmaintained land (82% in 2020)
- 97% feel lack of investment will impact adversely on health and social well-being (95% in 2020)
- 96% stated parks should be free for the public to access (92% in 2020)

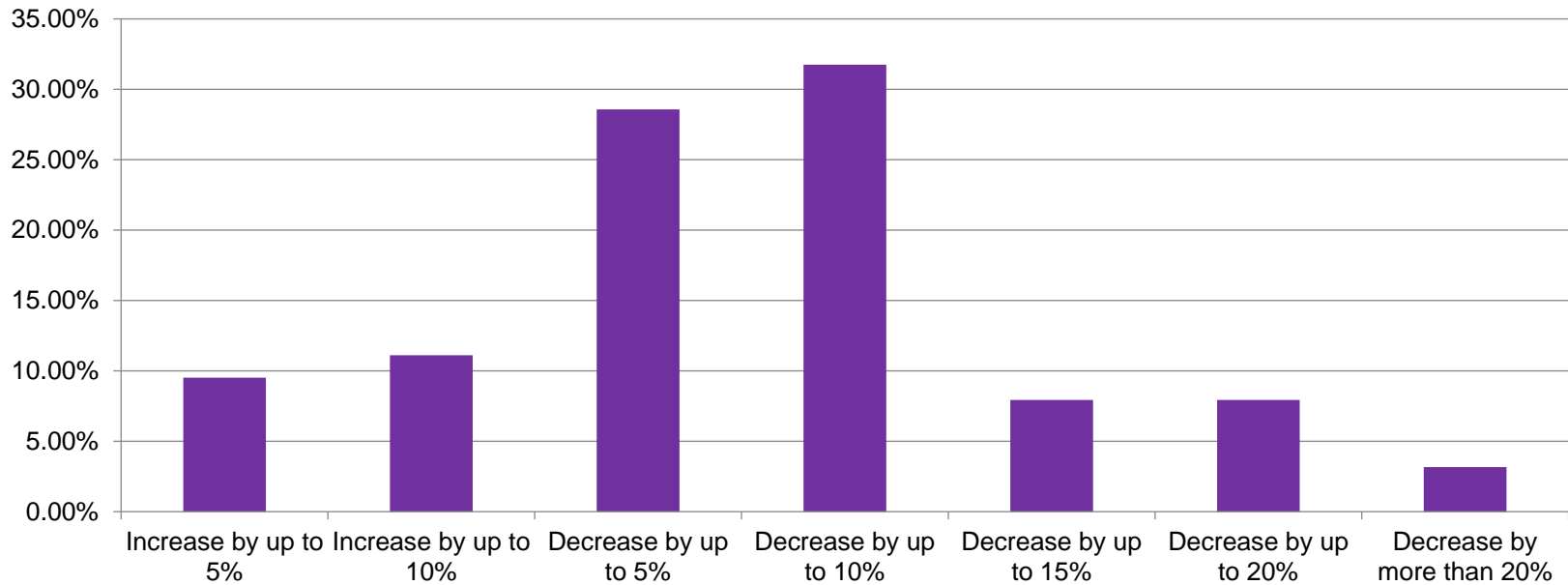
What environmental issues are a priority for your parks and green space service?



What social issues are a priority for your parks and green space service?



What is your expectation of the level of funding in your service budget in the coming five years?



Service efficiencies

- Rethinking staffing levels
- Operational changes
- Introducing new forms of land management
- Increased commercialism
- Decreasing subsidised activity
- Asset transfer of buildings and facilities within parks.
- Bringing services back in-house to reduce contractor costs and increased flexibility opportunities.

Income generation

Main sources of income generation are still sports pitch lettings, cafes, festivals and events, fairgrounds, mobile food vendors and allotments.

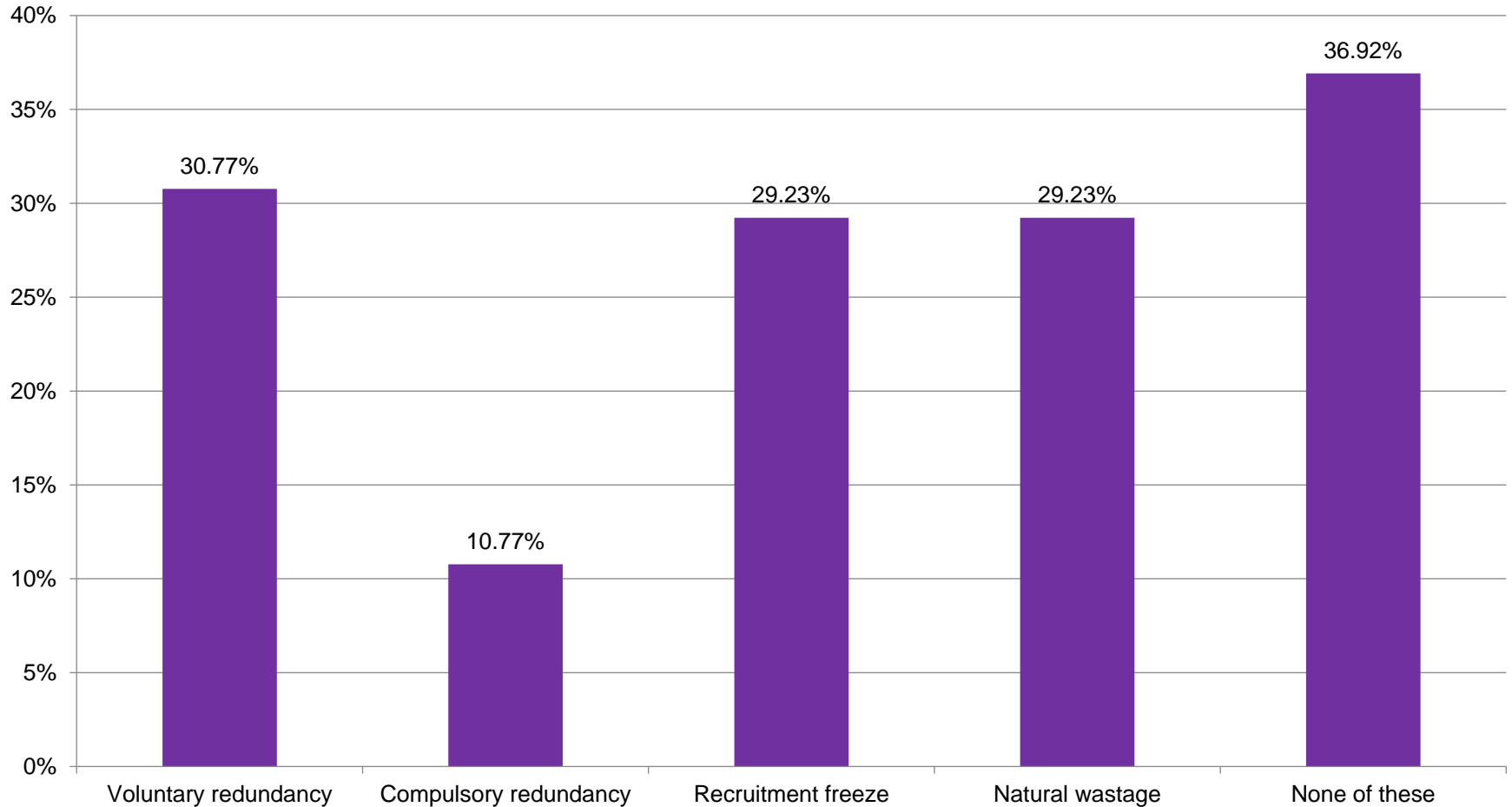
- Increase charges and income
- Political and public resistance to charges
- Lack of investment

Other sources of income funds, grants and health

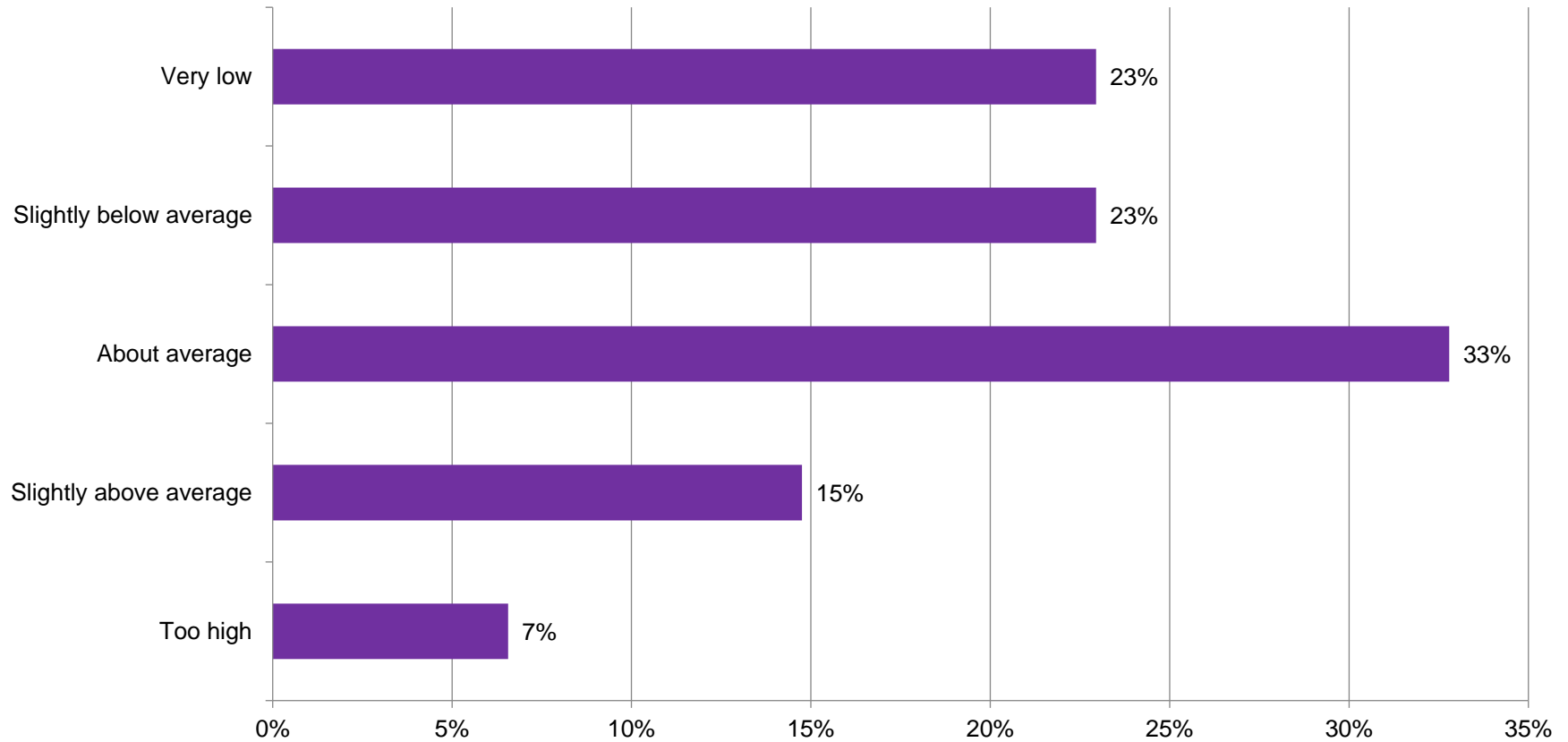
Selling of services outside of the individual local authority remains low:

- Private sector
- Other local authorities
- Other public sector bodies

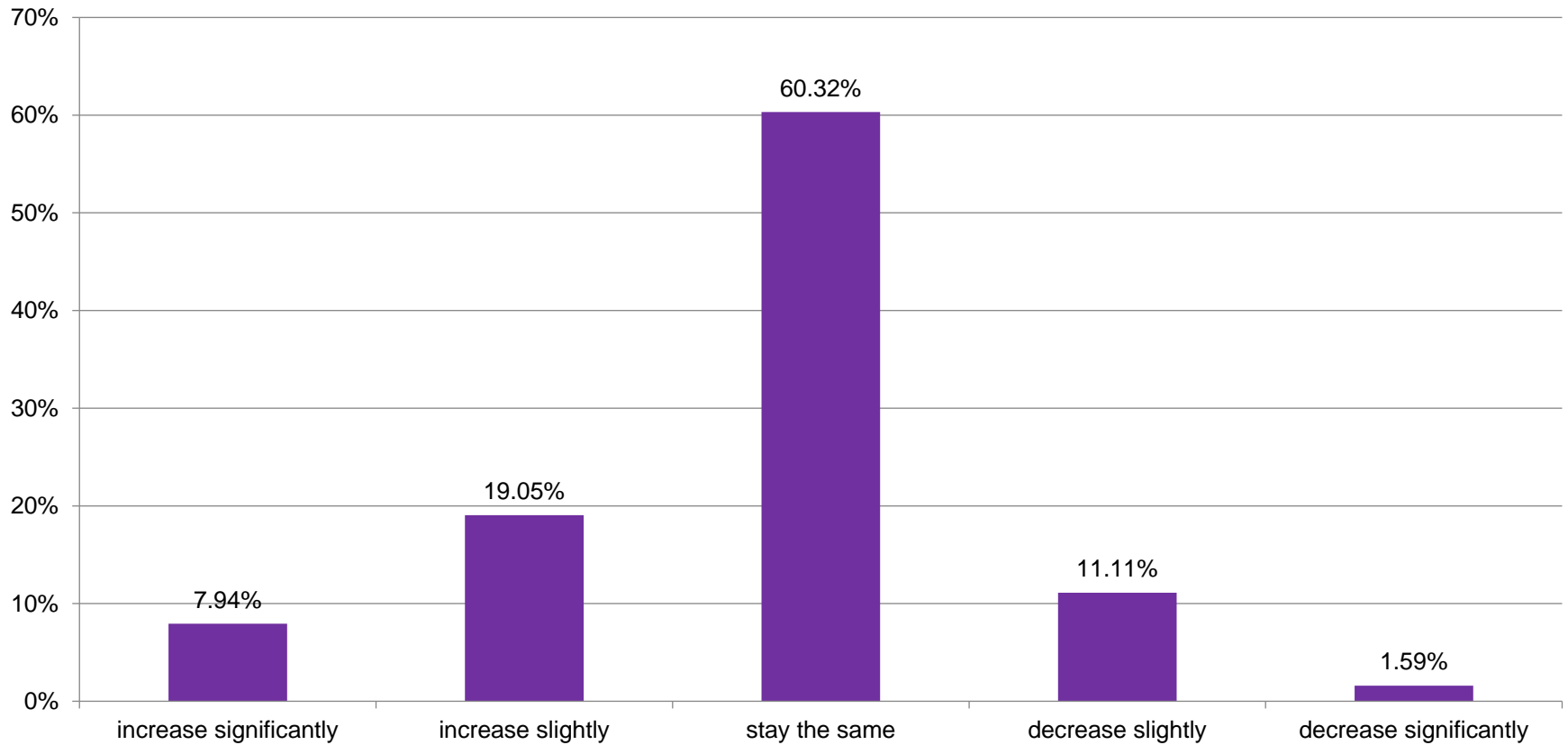
Has or does your service intend to implement any of the following within the next 12 months



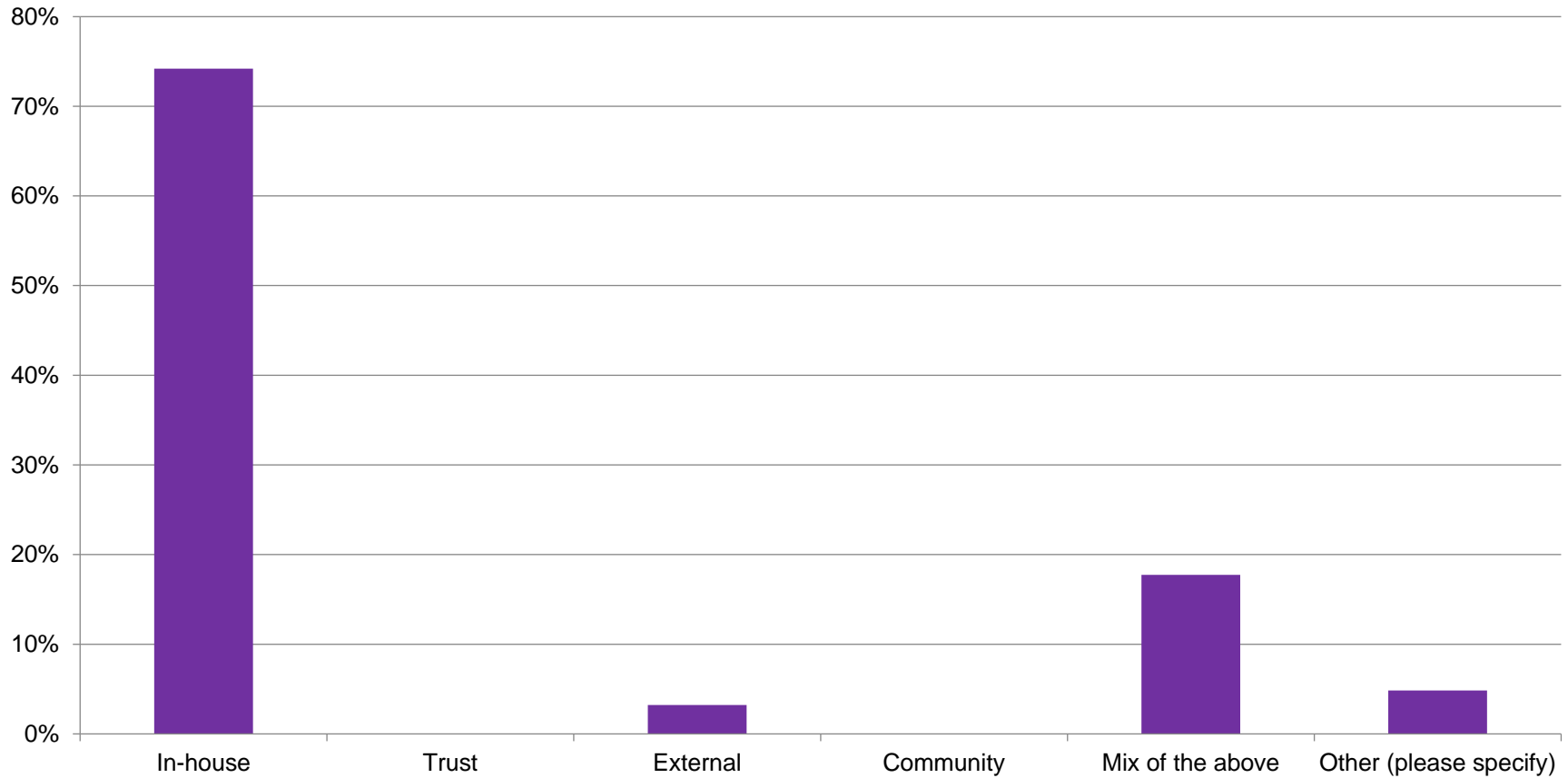
Are staff absence levels at an acceptable level?



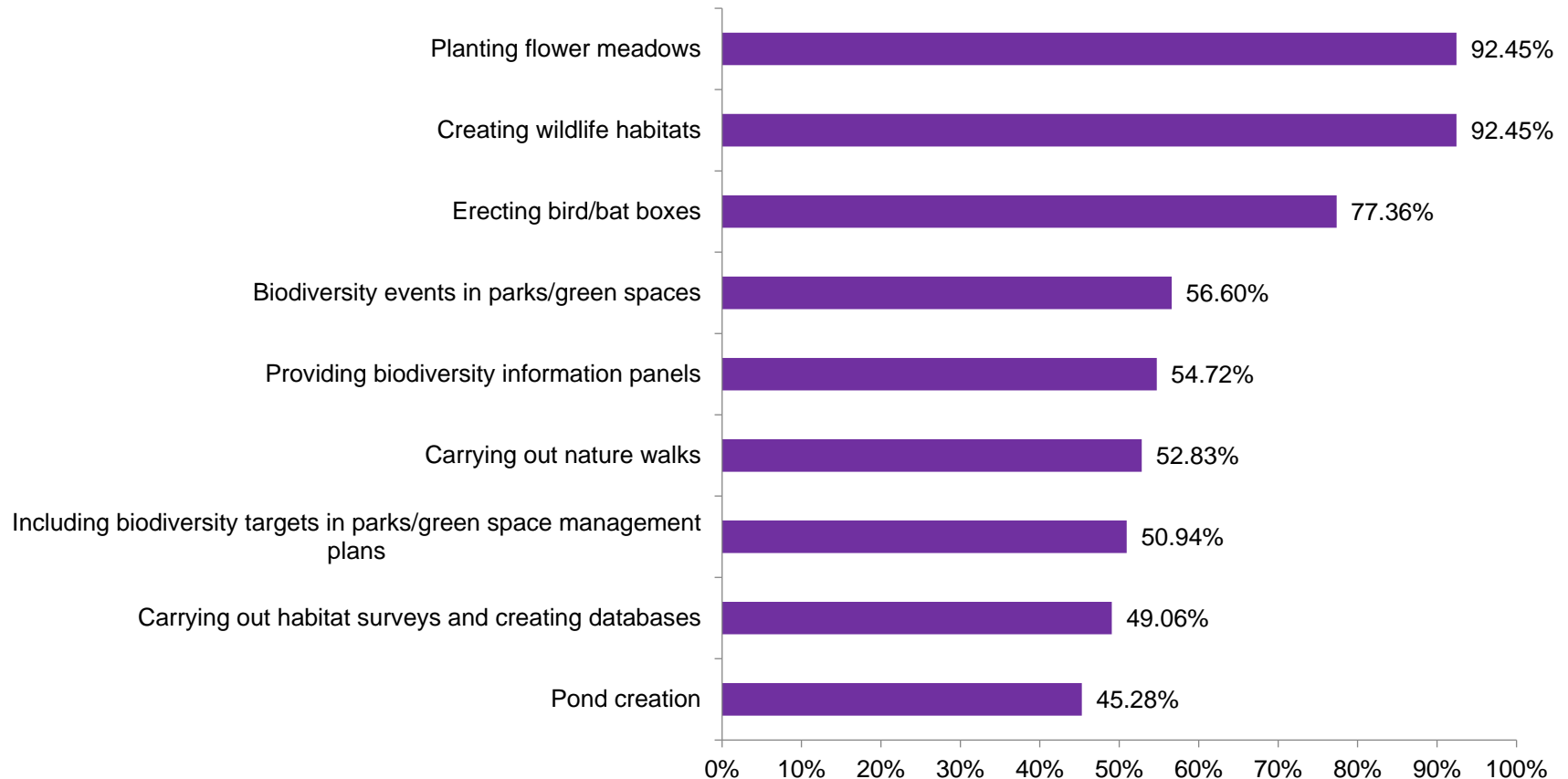
Overall how do you expect the total number of formal parks (including playgrounds) to change over the next year



How do you expect the service to be managed within the next 2-3 years?



If you make a specific provision for the promotion of biodiversity, which of the following have you carried out?



Areas of service growth and reduction

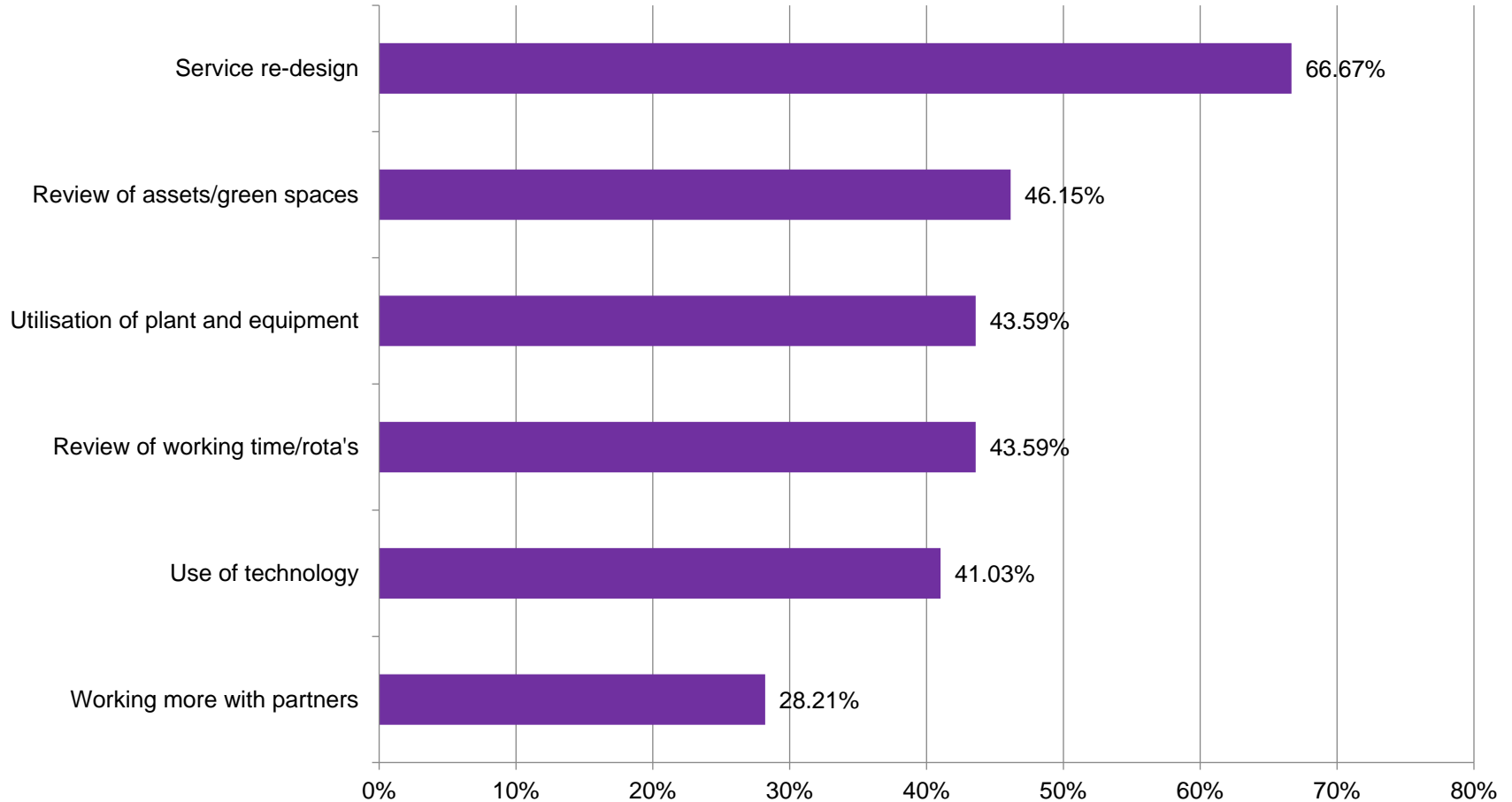
Service growth

- Conservation management and climate change
- Community engagement
- Partnership working
- Capital projects (S106)
- Open spaces associated with new developments

Service reductions

- Reduced frequency and maintenance schedules
- Bedding and floral displays, grass cutting
- Reducing service standards
- Works associated with awards submissions
- Transferring assets to reduce building and open spaces responsibilities

Will this review involve any of the following:



Conclusions

- Coronavirus has been a 'game changer'
- Wider recognition of benefits parks and greenspace
- Huge increase in visitor numbers
- Increasing connection with nature
- Climate change and biodiversity
- Income generation will remain important
- Local government finances and parks importance to local tax base
- Need to continue fight to protect parks and greenspace
- Covid recovery and opportunity for Government

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