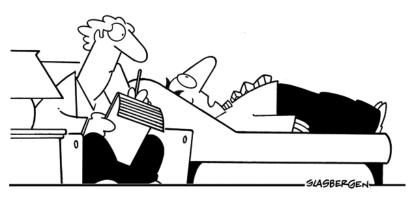
# How is local government making use of social media?

© Randy Glasbergen / glasbergen.com



"Ever since I signed up for Twitter, I get the feeling that people are following me!"

### Mo Baines, APSE Head of Communication and Coordination

Join the conversation using #APSEcomms



## The future of local government

**Figure 3**: Percentage change in TSE by neighbourhood service sub-group and level of deprivation, 2010-11 to 2015-16<sup>12</sup>

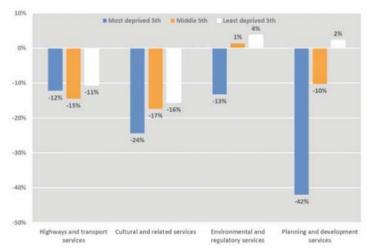
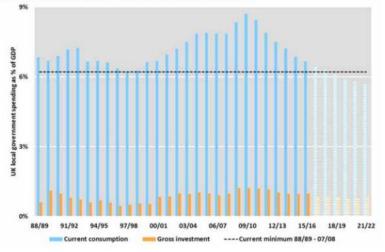
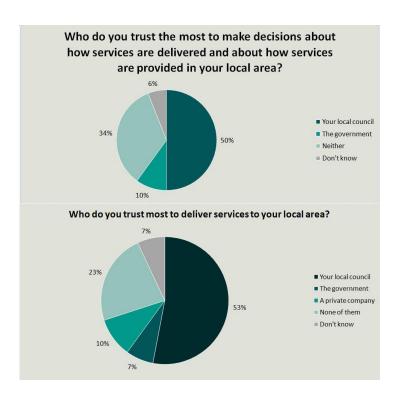


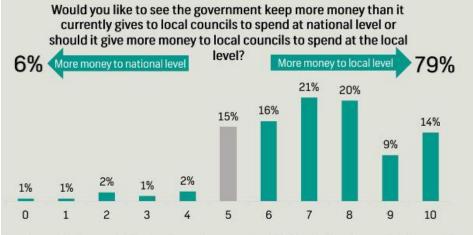
Figure 5: UK Local Government current consumption and gross investment as % of GDP, actual and forecast<sup>32</sup>



# The future of local government





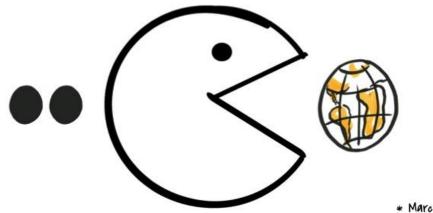


- Respondents were asked to place themselves on a scale of 0-10 scale, where 0 meant that they would
  like to see the government keep more money than it currently gives to local councils in order to spend
  more at the national level and 10 meant that they would like to see the government give more money to
  local councils to spend at the local level.
- More than three-quarters of the public (79%) chose a number between 6-10 on the scale, indicating
  that they would like the government to give more money to local councils to spend at the local level.
- Further, more than a two-in-five (43%) chose a number between 8-10 and one in ten (13%) chose 10.
- Around 15% thought that spending should remain the same, choosing 5, while only 6% chose a number between 0-4, indicating they wanted less money to be spent at a local level.

# Managing expectations in the digital age



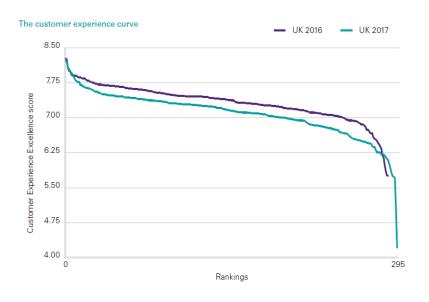
software is eating up the world\*



\* Marc Andreessen in Wall Sreet Journal

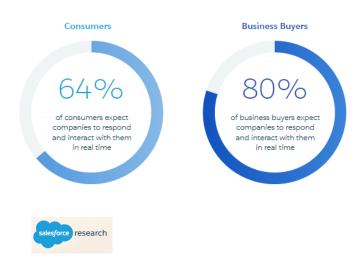
# Managing expectations in the digital age





#### **Customers Demand Real-Time Interactions**

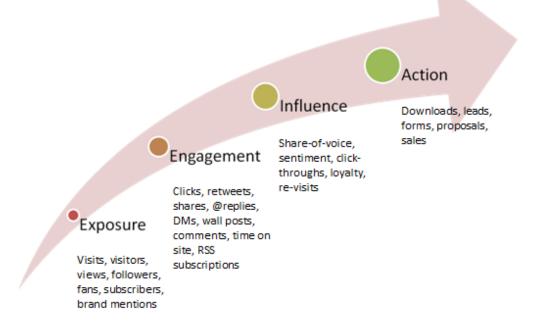
The culture of immediacy has fundamentally changed the nature of customer interactions with companies. Sixty-four percent of consumers expect companies to respond and interact with them in real time.





# Channel shift & local government

'If residents feel informed about what their council does, they are more likely to be satisfied with its services. It is a virtuous cycle.' (Ipsos Mori/LGA 2008).







Local government has lost trust over Grenfell - we need a strong voice to earn it back

### Grenfell was a terrible fire and a huge communications challenge

July 12, 2017 by Glenn Sebright , 1 comment

Four weeks on and the devastation caused by the Grenfell Tower fire is still unfolding. The communication challenges are endless, and as new issues morph into existence the potential to confuse people with information overload is in itself

### Grenfell council accused of wasting up to £1m on communications jobs

Chair of local residents' group says Kensington and Chelsea 'throwing





### Communicating in a digital age – **ONS 2017 internet users in the UK** stats

- In Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2017, 89% of adults in the UK had recently used the internet (in the last 3 months), up from 88% in 2016; while 9% had never used the internet, down from 10% in 2016.
- Virtually all adults aged 16 to 34 years were recent internet users (99%), in contrast with 41% of adults aged 75 years and over.
- 90% of men and 88% of women were recent internet users, up from 89% and 86% in 2016.
- Recent internet use among women aged 75 and over had almost trebled from 2011.
- 22% of disabled adults had never used the internet in 2017, down 25% in 2016.
- Northern Ireland is catching up with the other UK regions in recent internet use, reaching 84% in 2017, however, it remained the region with the lowest recent use.

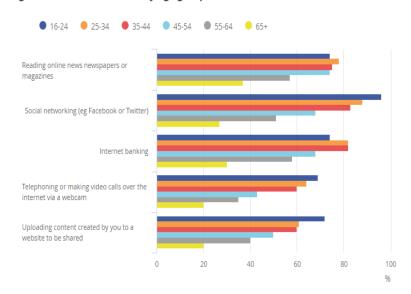
# Communicating in a digital age Social networks and the changing media landscape

Figure 2. Three-year CAGR by media industry sub-sector

Media sub-sector	3 year CAGR
Social Media	83%
Video Gaming	14%
TV Production and Distribution	14%
Film Production and Distribution	12%
Advertising	6%
Other	5%
Music Publishing and Distribution	0%
Book Publishing	-1%
Information Publishing and Events	-2%
News Publishing	-3%
Magazine Publishing	-5%

Source: Deloitte, 2017, based on published company accounts

Figure 4: Internet activities by age group, 2017, Great Britain

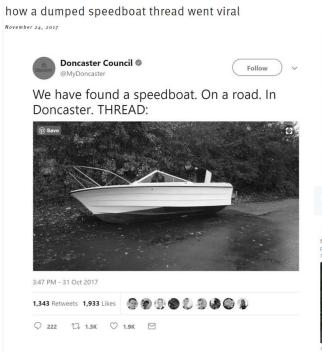


Source: Office for National Statistics

### **Going viral**



# Local government using social media effectively

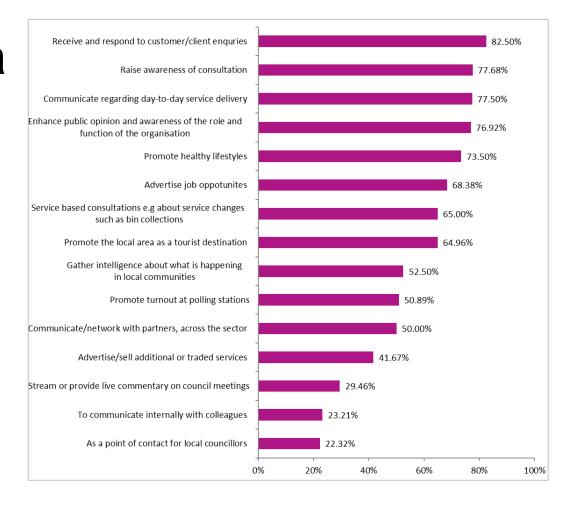








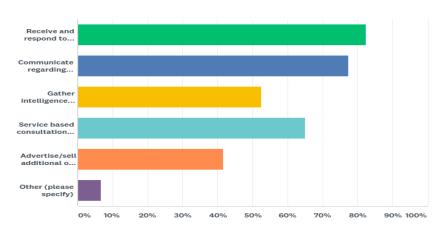
What and how are social media tools being used for service delivery objects?







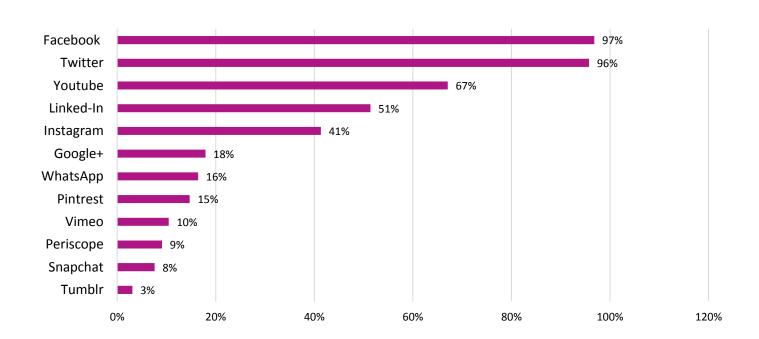
#### Q2 Enhancing service delivery



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	•
▼ Receive and respond to customer/client enquiries	82.50%	99
▼ Communicate regarding day-to-day service delivery	77.50%	93
▼ Gather intelligence about what is happening in local communities	52.50%	63
▼ Service based consultations e.g. about service changes such as bin collections	65.00%	78
▼ Advertise/sell additional or traded services	41.67%	50
▼ Other (please specify) Responses	6.67%	8
Total Respondents: 120		



# Which platform?





### Which platform? –

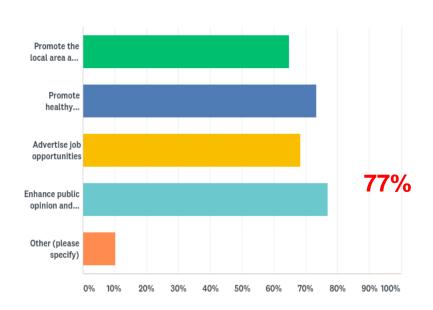
### Approximately how often is new content added?

	20+ times a day	times a day	1-10 times a day	Daily	Every 1-2 days	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly	Less than monthly
Facebook	1%	11%	37%	29%	11%	5%	1%	1%	3%
Twitter	4%	10%	44%	23%	9%	6%	1%	0%	1%
Youtube	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	24%	8%	35%	33%
Linked -In	0%	0%	0%	6%	15%	33%	9%	12%	24%
Instagram	0%	0%	0%	21%	29%	32%	4%	11%	4%
Google +	10%	0%	10%	0%	10%	20%	0%	0%	50%
WhatsApp	0%	0%	0%	40%	0%	20%	0%	0%	40%
Pintrest	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	22%	22%	44%
Vimeo	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	38%	63%
Periscope	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	17%	0%	83%
Snapchat	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	80%	0%	0%	20%
Tumblr	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%

# Campaigns and promotional



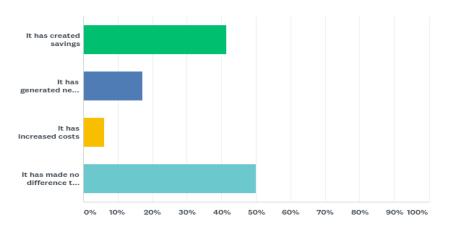
#### Q3 Campaigns or Promotional Work



ANSWER CHOICES ▼	RESPONSES	•
▼ Promote the local area as a tourist destination	64.96%	76
▼ Promote healthy lifestyles	73.50%	86
▼ Advertise job opportunities	68.38%	80
▼ Enhance public opinion and awareness of the role and function of the organisation	76.92%	90
▼ Other (please specify) Responses	10.26%	12
Total Respondents: 117		



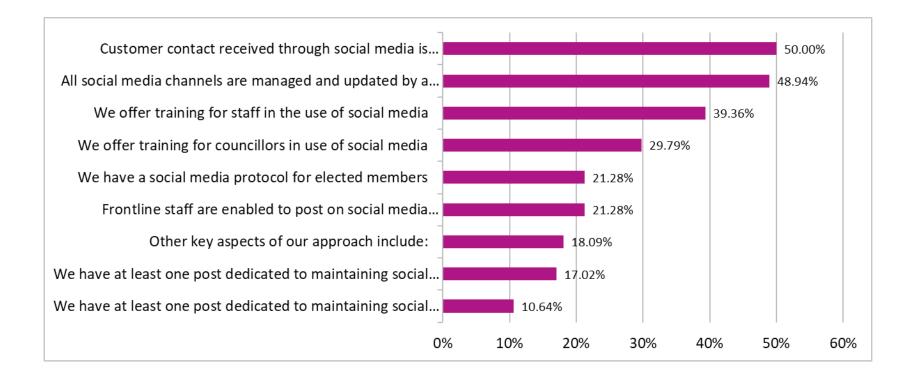
### Q8 How has the way you've used social media affected your budget? (Please tick all that apply)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	*
▼ It has created savings	41.46%	34
▼ It has generated new income for the council	17.07%	14
▼ It has increased costs	6.10%	5
▼ It has made no difference to our budget	50.00%	41

# How does your organisation manage its social media?





# How are you developing your social media for the future?



76.8%

Grow

audience

through

multiple

channels

73.1% More gifs

and video

**73.1% Promote** 

and market the

councils services

## Final thoughts





24/7 world

Distinct from other sectors?

Democracy v loudest (digital) voices?

Loss of control v empowerment of service users?

## Final thoughts



The whole concept of digital engagement is to become one of the voices, to be part of the network. Once people understand that councils are made up of humans trying to solve problems, an organisation made up of people who care about their work, it recasts the concept of a local authority not as a controlling organisation but as one who people trust to possess the requisite knowledge to guide them.

(Reynolds, 2012)



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