



State of the Market in Climate Change and Renewable Energy 2016

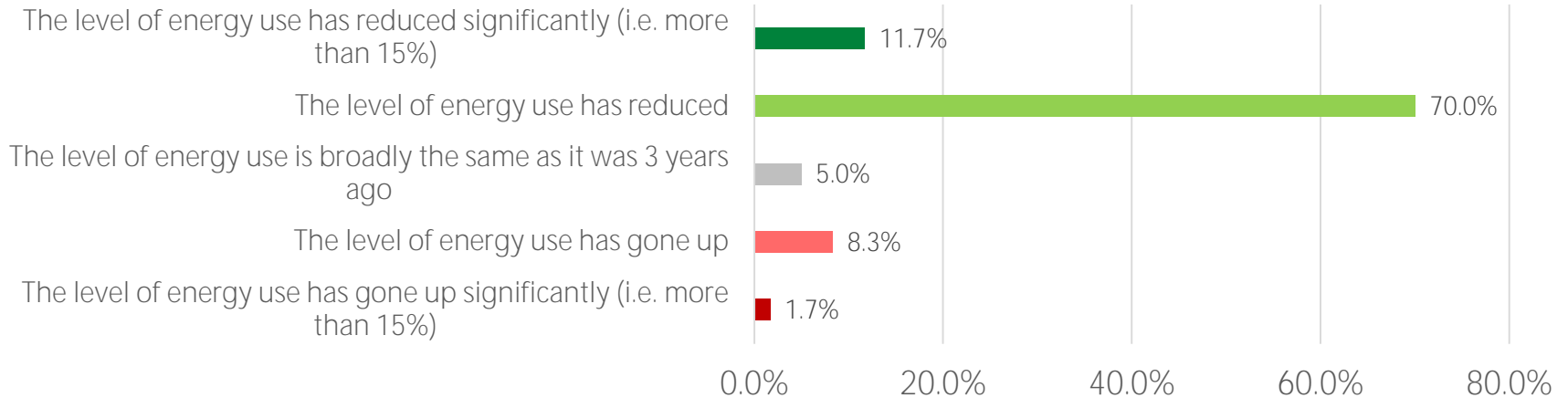
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Scottish Councils responding to the survey

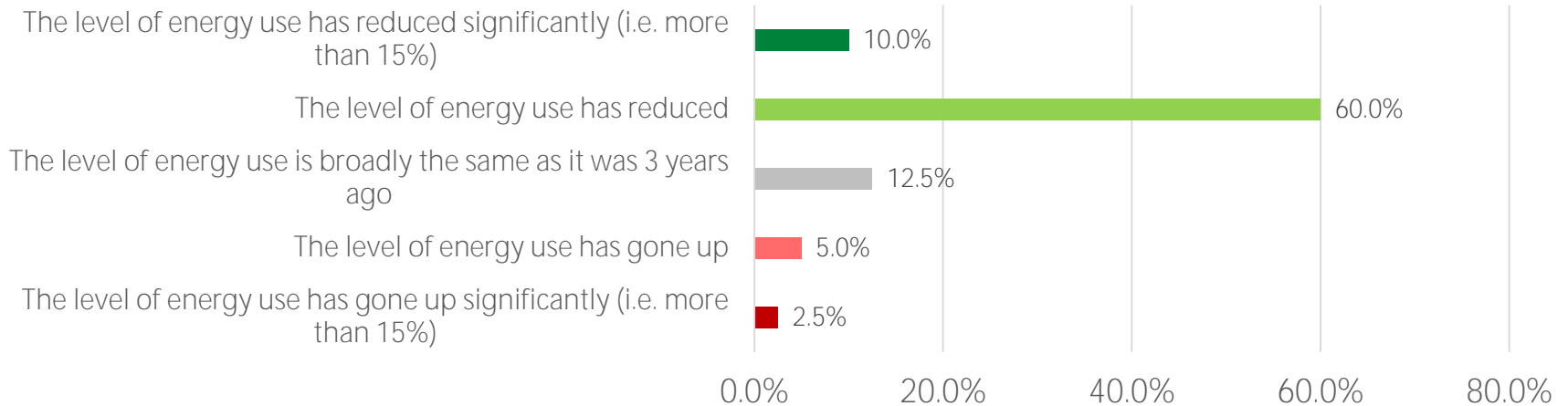
1. Aberdeenshire Council
2. Aberdeen City Council
3. Argyll & Bute Council
4. City of Edinburgh Council
5. Clackmannanshire Council
6. Dumfries & Galloway Council
7. East Dunbartonshire Council
8. Falkirk Council
9. Fife Council
10. Glasgow City Council
11. Midlothian Council
12. North Lanarkshire Council
13. Renfrewshire Council
14. Stirling Council
15. West Dunbartonshire Council
16. West Lothian Council

How has your local authority's energy use changed over the last 5 years?

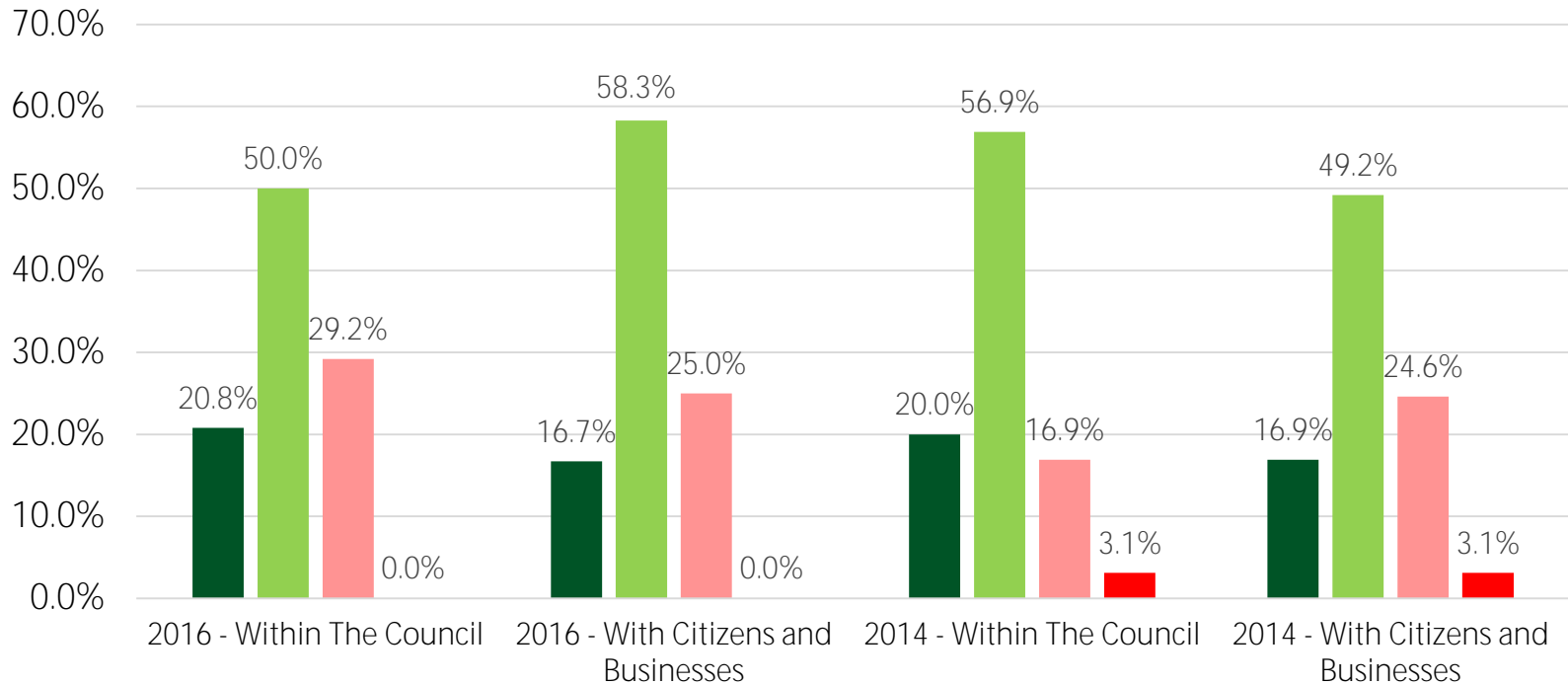
2016



2014



Do you feel your council is doing all it might reasonably be expected to do in terms of addressing energy efficiency and management issues, carbon reduction, fuel poverty, education, etc?



- Doing all it can and taking it very seriously
- Doing a reasonable amount
- Taking some actions but this agenda is not a major policy objective
- Could do more and is only paying lip service to the agenda

Are there arrangements in place at your local authority which enable you to confidently identify those budgets and resources which have been allocated to projects related to renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy management, fuel poverty or similar?

	2014	2016 Total	2016 Renewables	2016 Energy Efficiency	2016 Energy Management	2016 Fuel Poverty
Yes fully	87.9%	50.2%	62.3%	47.2%	43.4%	48%
Yes partially		42.1%	30.2%	45.3%	49.1%	44%
No	12.1%	7.7%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	8%

What has the trend been over the past 3 years with regard to spending in areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, fuel poverty projects or similar?

	2014	2016 Total	2016 Renewables	2016 Energy Efficiency	2016 Energy Management	2016 Fuel Poverty
Decreased	22%	48.2%	21.6%	51%	62%	60.5%
Stayed the same	32.2%	18.5%	25.5%	19.6%	14%	14%
Increased	45.8%	33.3%	52.9%	29.4%	24%	25.6%

How do you expect the trend with regard to spending in areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, fuel poverty projects or similar to change over the forthcoming 3 years?

	2014	2016 Total	2016 Renewables	2016 Energy Efficiency	2016 Energy Management	2016 Fuel Poverty
Decreased	23.8%	19.6%	28.8%	20.8%	17.3	10.6%
Stayed the same	38.1%	32.4%	38.5%	41.5%	23.1	25.5%
Increased	38.1%	48%	32.7%	37.7%	59.6	63.8%

Do you feel that there is an appropriate level of understanding of both global climate change issues and local factors amongst your councillors and senior officers?

Answer Options	2014		2016	
	Councillors	Senior officers	Councillors	Senior officers
A comprehensive understanding of both climate change issues and local factors	9.4%	10%	2.3%	13.3%
Some understanding of both climate change issues and local factors	60.4%	73.3%	79.5%	75.6%
An understanding of local factors but not climate change issues	28.3%	11.7%	15.9%	11.1%
An understanding of climate change issues but not local factors	0.0%	1.7%	2.3%	0.0%
Do not have an understanding of climate change issues or local factors	1.9%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%

Do you feel that the Government is providing a clear and helpful lead on policies which help you to carry out your role within the council and the council to carry out its role in the local area?

	2014 Yes (%)	2014 No (%)	2016 Yes (%)	2016 No (%)
Your role	14.3%	85.7%	15.5%	84.5%
The Council	16.7%	83.3%	15.0%	85.0%

What do you feel are the most significant issues related to the climate change and renewables agenda? (1)

Responses to this question included:

- Lack of funding and resources (both financial and skilled staff)
- Lack of senior management understanding
- The need to generate income (justifying spend on projects if there is little/no return is difficult)
- **The government's lack of consistent policy, changes to funding and ECO provision**
- The cut to the feed-in-tariff
- Grid capacity problems
- **The 'one size fits all' approach to adaptation of properties**
- Fuel poverty
- Climate change – additional rainfall, increased flooding and weather events, heat related illness
- Treatment of climate change and renewables as a non-essential service

What do you feel are the most significant issues related to the climate change and renewables agenda? (2)

Comments from Scotland

- **“Senior management buy in, more collaborative approaches and additional funding sources”**
- **“Legacy of poor building fabric, the requirement to upgrade building fabric and also increase energy efficiency through capital spend to save bids”**
- **“Lack of senior management commitment to the climate change agenda means that it is hard to improve governance around the issue and to implement the necessary measures. Lack of willingness to invest makes it difficult to realise our renewables potential”**
- **“Of interest but not urgent concern for the council facing current budget challenges, competing for resources against, for example, education and social care mandatory service provision...integration of CC with long term budget planning should achieve future budget efficiencies, however this creates short and medium terms budget pressures, of particular challenge with current knowledge gaps and focus on very specific outcomes”**

What do you feel are the most significant issues related to the climate change and renewables agenda? (3)

Comments from Scotland

- **“Cost involved in carrying out projects and justification to spend on project if there is little or no return”**
- **“Disjointed approaches with conflicting agendas within council policy development”**
- **“In the short term, changes to government policy have an immediate and significant impact on renewables proposals. The uncertainty around levels of incentives going forward makes the development of business cases challenging, as the outcomes can change significantly between development and implementation. Longer term, a consistent approach and definitive long term plan are required to ensure that councils can plan effectively to both mitigate and adapt to climate change”**
- **“Affordable renewable and short term reducing energy costs”**
- **“The most significant issues faced by renewables are the unstable subsidy environment making long term financial planning difficult and breeding a level of nervousness around renewable developments”**

What do you feel are the most significant issues related to the climate change and renewables agenda? (4)

Comments from Scotland

- **“Viability of future investment in PV in light of recent cuts to FIT rates unless the cost of PV / kWp starts to drop significantly. Given that the Council is a landlord, we do not benefit from the energy savings gained by the Council tenant, we rely solely on the FIT to offset the borrowing costs. Other energy efficiency measures such as internal wall insulation and underfloor insulation are feasible when a property is void but not when the property is occupied by a tenant”**
- **“Additional rainfall in winter, sea level rise (coastal region), grid capacity for generation projects, loss of skilled staff in council due to austerity”**

LOCAL SERVICES

LOCAL SOLUTIONS

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