

NETWORK SURVEY 2024



@StreetGamesSportsCharity



@StreetGames



streetgamesuk

2024 NETWORK SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

On an annual basis StreetGames distributes a survey to Locally Trusted Organisations (LTOs) within the network to gather their feedback across a range of key areas. The areas of focus include:

- Identifying the key priorities and challenges faced by LTOs.
- Assessing the impact of StreetGames services and support on LTOs and the young people they serve
- LTO delivery and future aspirations
- Future support requirements
- LTO satisfaction and alignment with StreetGames.

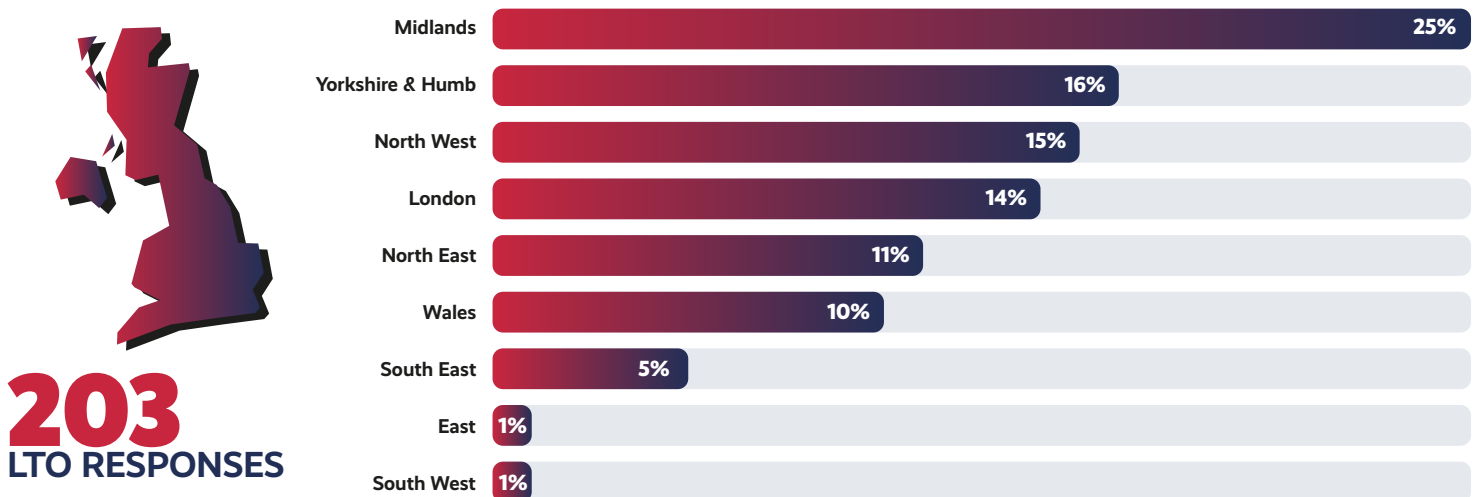
To collect this feedback, StreetGames created an online survey that was sent directly to LTOs in the StreetGames network via email. To encourage response, a follow-up reminder email was sent after one week, and regional staff also provided informal encouragement to LTOs for their participation. Additionally, reminders were posted on social media platforms. Throughout the survey period (June till October 2024), a total of 203 completed responses were received.

This document provides a summary of the key findings obtained from the survey.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS

In total 203 organisations within the StreetGames network responded – with responses across all regions – see Figure 1 below.

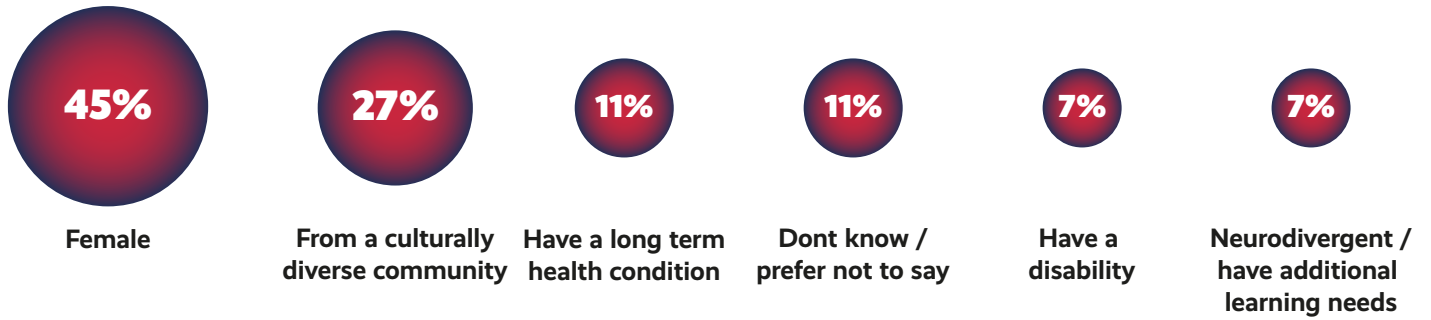
Figure 1: Respondents by Region



The majority of respondents were Managers (50%) and Project Co-ordinators (29%), with some additional responses from coaches (6%) and volunteers (3%). 11% of respondents selected the 'Other' category, encompassing roles such as, Director, Youth Worker, CEO, Trustee, Chair, Development Officer, Community Worker and Tutor.

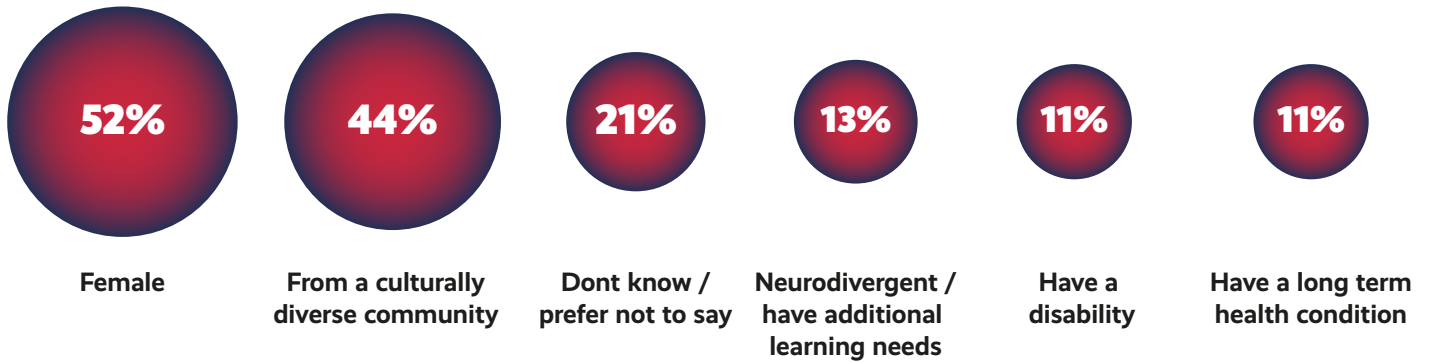
The survey also asked respondents to share information about the diversity of the most senior leaders within their organisation, results are shown in figure 2 below.

Figure 2: Leadership Diversity Is/does the most senior leader in your organisation...



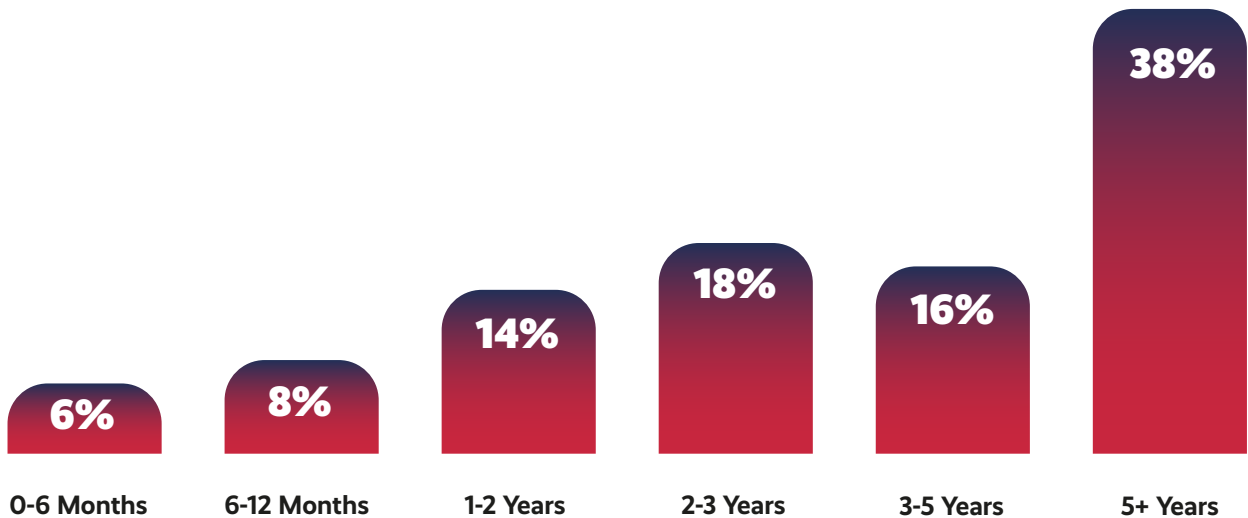
Respondents were also asked to provide information on the diversity of their entire workforce. Figure 3 highlights the **average** taken from all responses.

Figure 3: Workforce Diversity What Percentage of your workforce is....



A large portion (72%) of responses were received from organisations that have been involved with StreetGames for two or more years – including 38% that have been involved for 5+ years. However, there were also responses from organisations that are relatively new to the network – with 14% of respondents having been involved for less than one year.

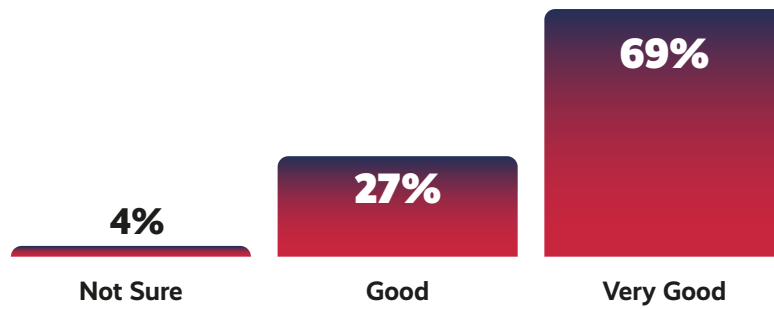
Figure 4: Length of time organisation has been involved with StreetGames



SATISFACTION & RELATIONSHIP WITH STREETGAMES

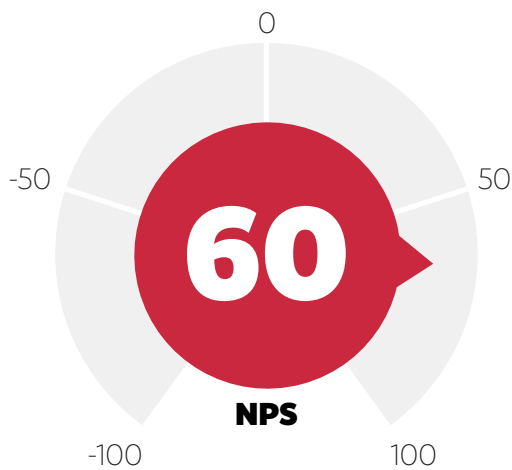
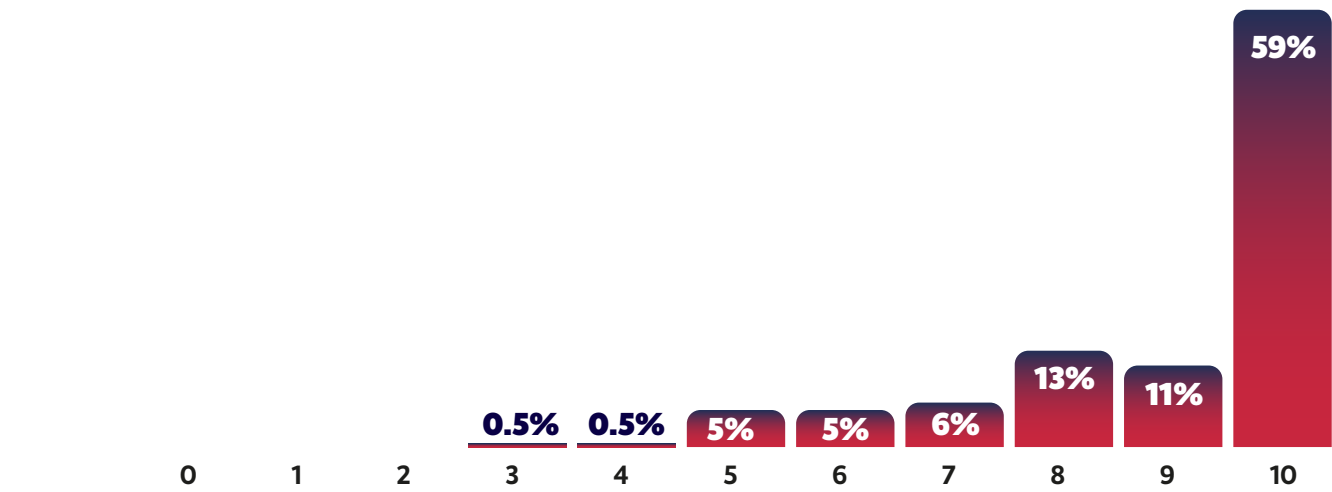
Levels of satisfaction with StreetGames remain high - 96% of respondents rated their experience of working with StreetGames as either "very good" or "good." Moreover, 99% of respondents indicated that they are likely to continue working with StreetGames in the future, with 83% stating it would be "very likely" and 16% expressing it would be "quite likely."

Figure 5: Experience of working with StreetGames.



In addition, most organisations said that they would be likely to recommend StreetGames to other organisations or projects – see figure 6.


Figure 6: Likelihood of recommending StreetGames to other organisations [1= not at all likely / 10 = extremely likely]



This type of question helps calculate the Net Promoter Score (NPS) by subtracting 'detractors' (scores 1-6) from 'promoters' (scores 9-10). The current StreetGames NPS is 60.3. Whilst 60.3 indicates a “great” score, it is slightly lower than the scores from the 2023 (67.5) and 2022 (72) network survey.

As a follow-up to this question, respondents were asked ‘What changes would StreetGames have to make for you to give them a higher rating?’ responses can be grouped into the following themes:

COMMUNICATION



Increased direct communication.

RESPONSES

“I have promoted StreetGames - as I stand for what they set out to achieve. I just think local connection has reduced significantly in the north.”
“More communications and responses in a quicker fashion.”
“I think it is in terms of having more face-to-face meetings so we feel connected. Things can often get lost through social media and WhatsApp.”
“More direct/ bespoke communications to organizations in area's that would benefit them.”

FUNDING



Increased direct funding or more long-term funding.

"Direct provision of funding to enhance delivery of physical activity sessions"
"Funding directly available annually at a more regular intervals - twice per year £3-5k each time for projects month 1 and month 6 over a 3 year period etc gives us chance to deliver a more sustainable project"
"Funding for operational cost, upskilling, new & present staff, pay staff, accounting mot, evidence presentation."
"A longer-term relationship with direct funding would ensure that StreetGames is always salient and given a higher rating."

RESPONSES

LOCAL UNDERSTANDING

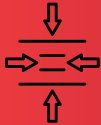


More involvement and understanding of the local areas that StreetGames operates in.

"Be more involved in the local communities as many organisations are hesitant to trust people, I feel that having someone from the local area does help with the buy in and the Sandwell network has benefited from this."
"More presence in Sheffield and show how general products like Us Girls connects with delivery organizations on the ground to help us do what we do better."

RESPONSES

ALIGNMENT OF PRIORITIES / OUTCOMES



Some felt that StreetGames priorities did not fully align their own.

"The alignment with our wider health and well-being work"
"Closer connections and sharing of priorities."
"Give support specific to my organisation and the outcomes we want to achieve."

RESPONSES

OTHER



"More old style funded projects"
"More tangible partnership work."
"Easier to access and more useful e.g. free of charge activator courses for our volunteers delivered on site, free resources and to deliver local events, support and access to funding bids and applications"
"More time between grant confirmation and project start date."

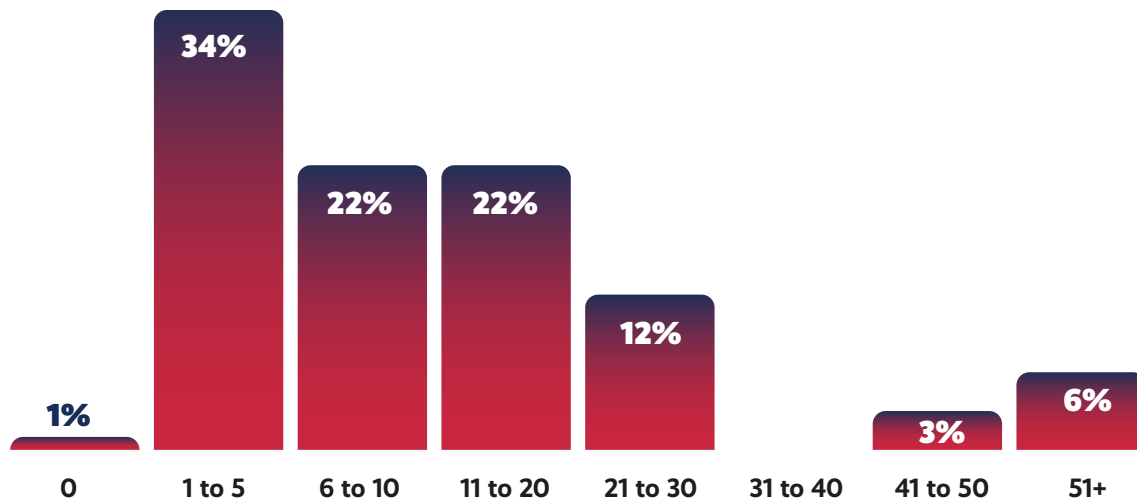
RESPONSES



CURRENT DELIVERY

Respondents were asked to provide details regarding their current delivery. Figure 7 shows the approximate number of sessions organisations are delivering per week.

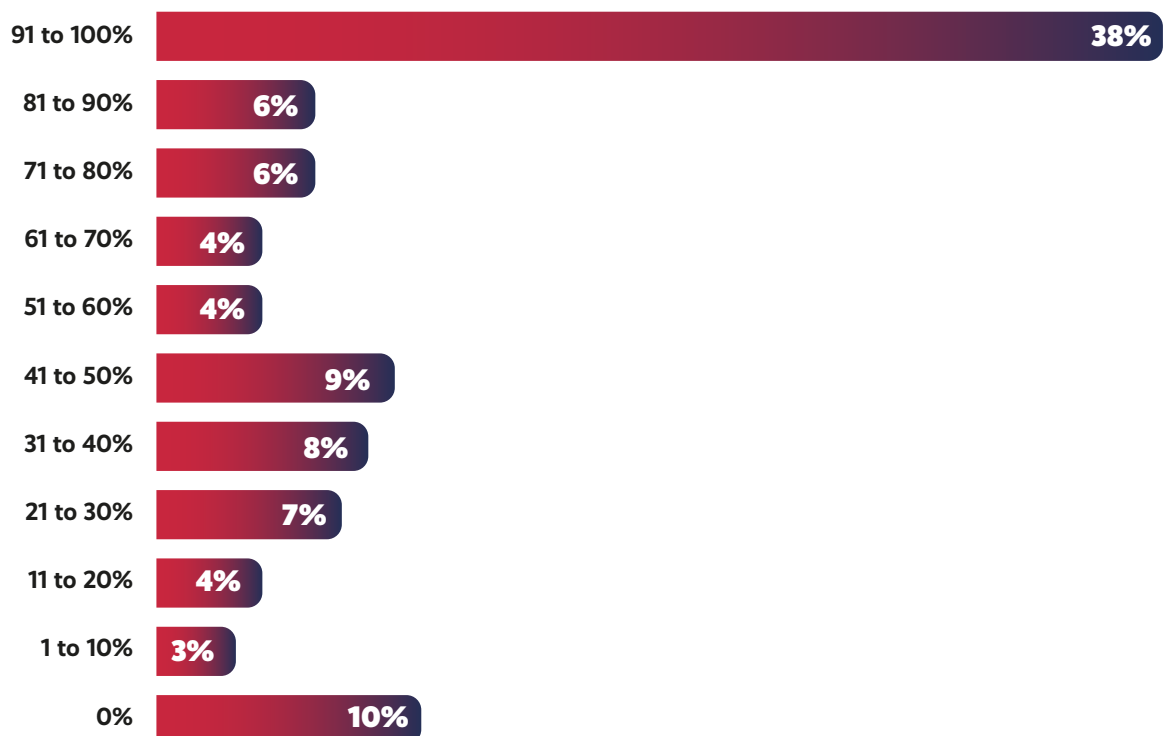
Figure 7: The approx. total number of sessions typically delivered on a weekly basis for young people in the community.



The **average number of sessions that LTOs deliver weekly is 16** and as Figure 7 highlights, most LTOs are delivering between 1-20 sessions per week, with just over a third (34%) delivering between 1-5 sessions, 22% delivering 6-10 sessions weekly and 22% delivering 11-20 sessions weekly although there was significant variation in responses.

In terms of the nature of these sessions, 38% of respondents stated that the majority (91% to 100%) of their delivery was for doorstep sport style sessions. **On average LTOs are providing 10 doorstep sport sessions per week.** However, for some LTOs, doorstep sport sessions make up a smaller proportion of their overall delivery – which typically may include general youth, music/arts, educational and community-based activities. It is also worth noting that for 10% of the respondents, doorstep sport style sessions accounted for 0% of their weekly delivery, indicating that sport may play a smaller role in a wider approach of engaging young people for some organisations in the network.

Figure 8: Weekly doorstep sport style sessions.



In comparison to last year, **52%** of respondents reported that they are now delivering more sessions, whilst **40%** said they are delivering an equivalent number and **8%** are delivering less.

Figure 9: Sport delivery compared to Pre-Pandemic.

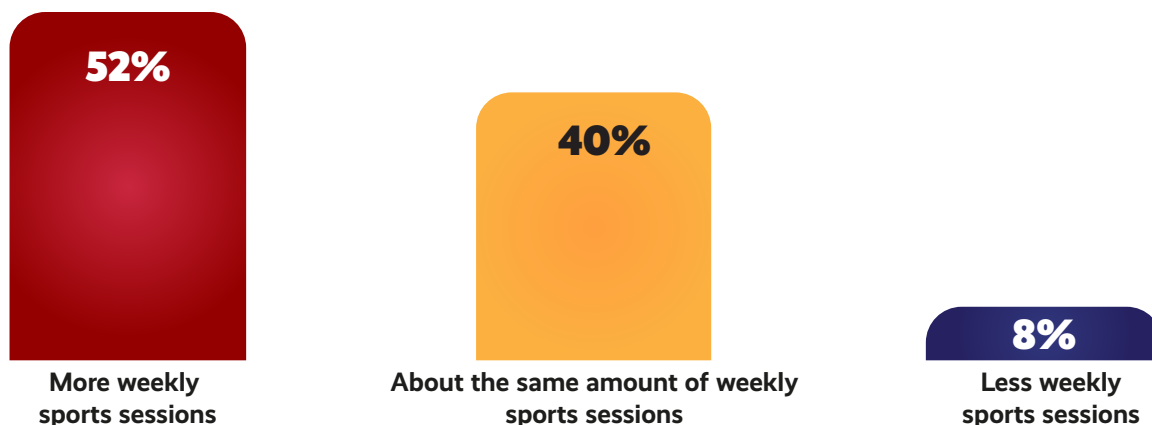
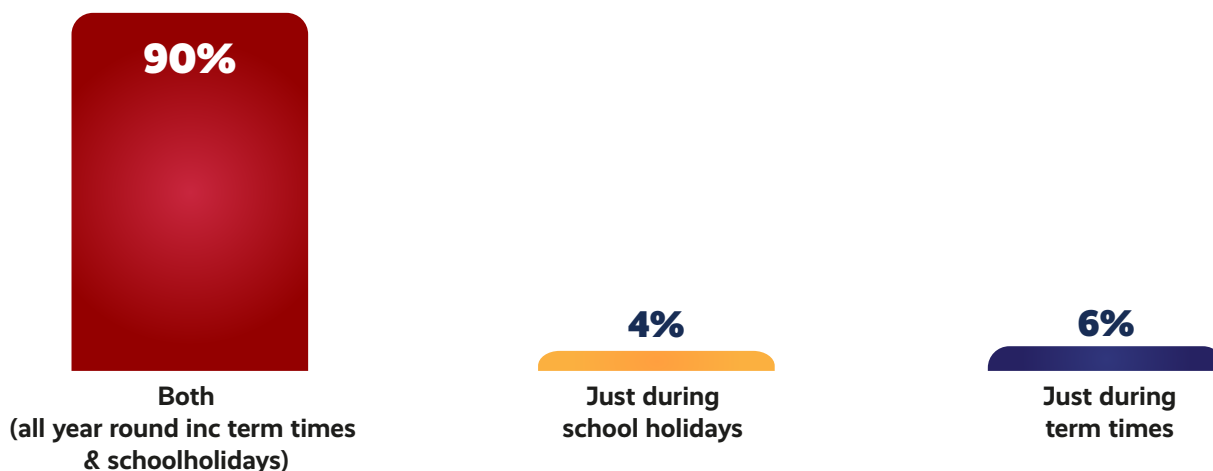


Figure 10 shows that the majority of respondents (**90%**) deliver year-round, with a small number delivering only during school holidays (**4%**) or only during term times (**6%**). For respondents who deliver sessions during the school holidays, most (**84%**) deliver in **all school holidays (including half term)**, and **16%** deliver **just in the main school holidays (i.e., Summer, Christmas, Easter)**.

Figure 10: Periods of delivery



On average LTOs engage a total of 262 young people per annum – with Figure 11 highlighting that half the LTOs (48%) typically engage between 1 and 200 young people in the past year, however there was a broad range of responses with 26% of organisations reporting to have engaged over 500 young people and 16% engaging over 1,000 young people in the past year. Alongside this, respondents were also asked how many individual young volunteers supported their sessions per year. The responses showed that **on average LTOs engage 16 young volunteers per annum** – with figure 12 highlighting that 79% of LTOs had engaged 1 to 20 volunteers supporting their sessions in the past year, whilst a small number of organisations reported much higher volunteer numbers.

Figure 11: Approximate number of young people engaged in doorstep sport style sessions in the past year.

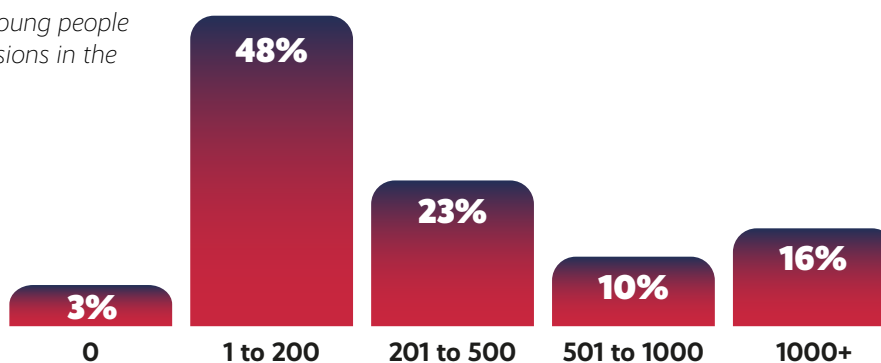
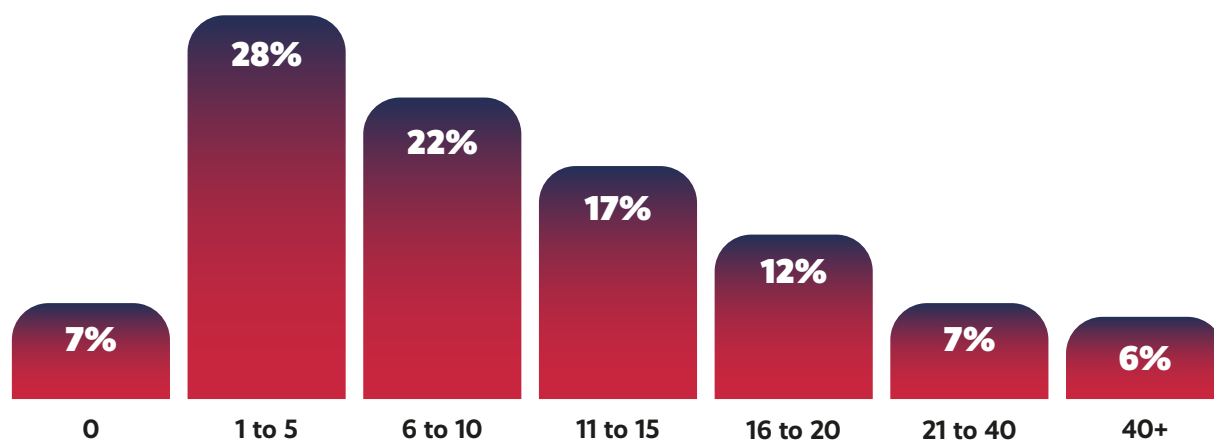


Figure 12: Approximate number of volunteers supporting organisation sessions in the past year.

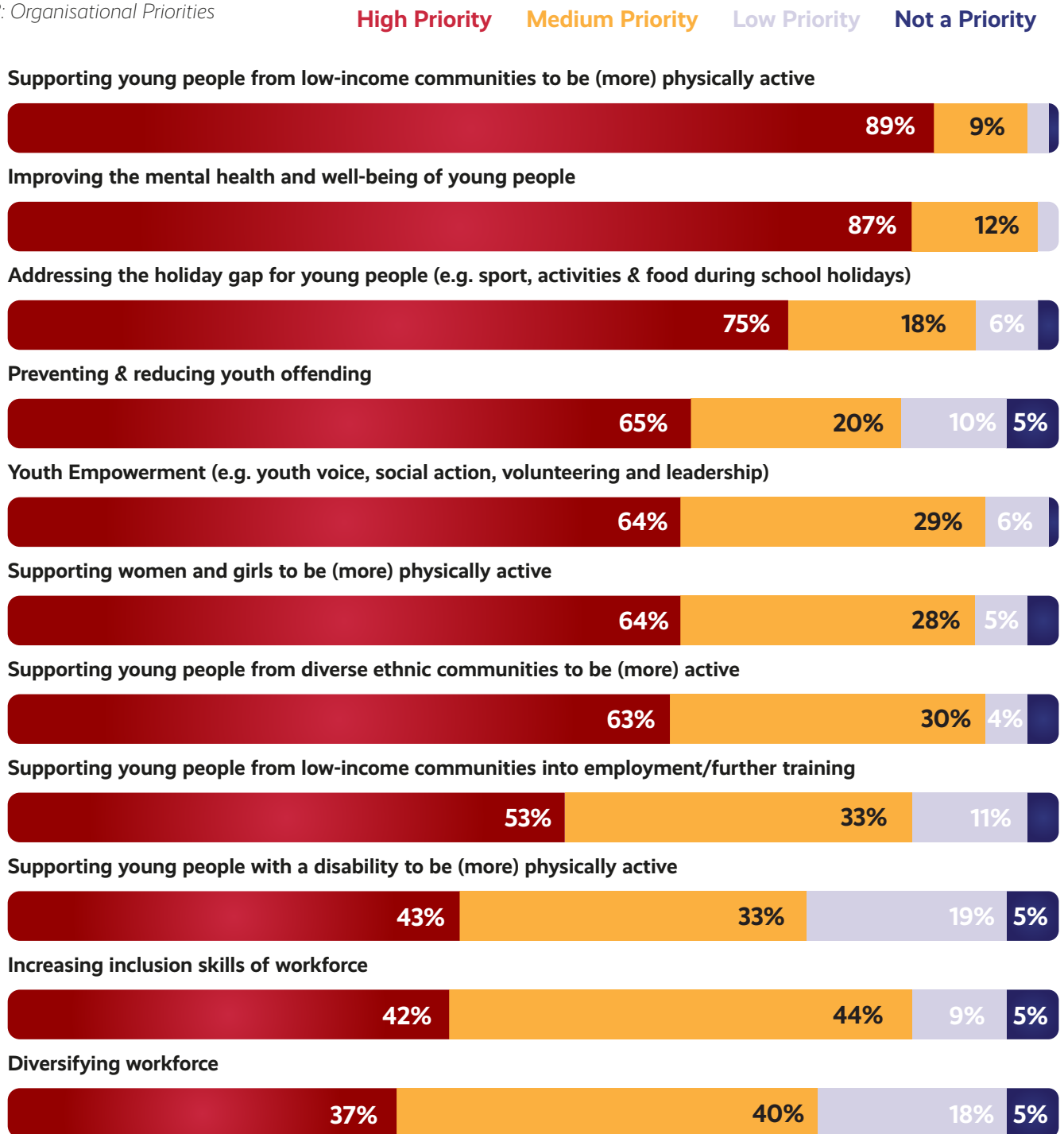


PRIORITIES AND CHALLENGES

LTOs were asked to think about their doorstep sport activities going forwards and to indicate the extent to which each of the following aspects were a priority for them.

As Figure 13 below shows, the aspects where the highest proportion of LTOs state that the issue is a 'high priority' for their own organisation are: **'Supporting young people from low income communities to be (more) physically active (89%)'**, **'Improving mental health and well-being of young people (87%)'**, and **'Addressing the holiday gap for young people (e.g. sport, activities & food during school holidays) (75%)'**.

Figure 13: Organisational Priorities



Some organisations also stated additional areas which were key priorities for their own organisation, which included: providing support to carers and parents of young people in low-income communities by signposting to other services and providing advice, providing holistic support to young people via a youthwork model, having a representative workforce, creating cohesion amongst young people and adults from the community, social and personal development of young people and improving the physical health of children and young people.

The survey also asked LTOs, from the list of priority areas above, which they currently have funding to deliver – see Figure 14 below:

Figure 14: Priority areas and funding

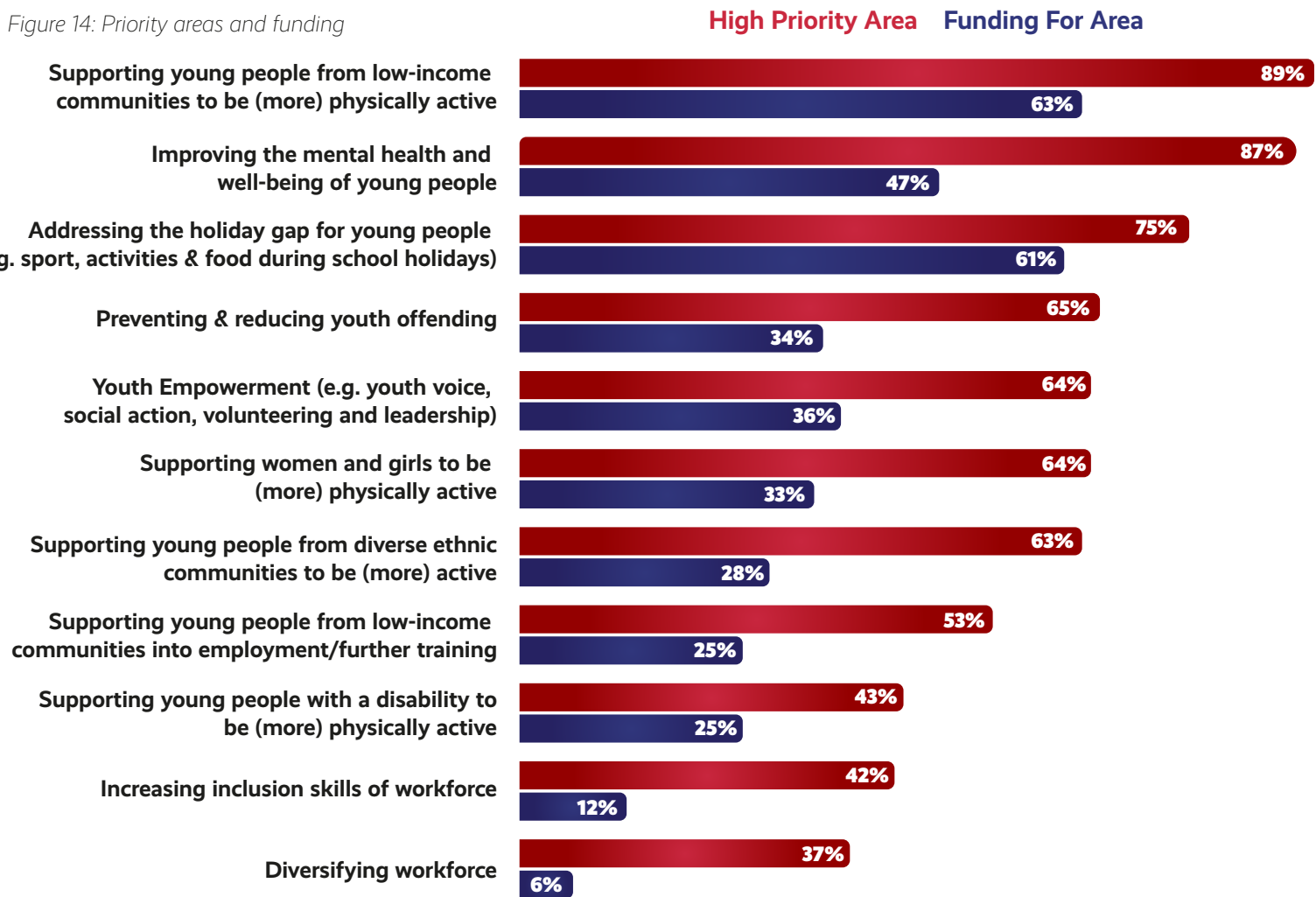


Figure 14 highlights that the most commonly funded of the priority areas is 'supporting young people from low-income communities to be (more) physically active' – where 63% of LTOs state that they have funding for this area or work. However, we know from the responses that are shown in Figure 15 below, that nearly all organisations (93%) want to deliver more sessions throughout the year and that 84% want to expand their delivery into other local areas, indicating that there is a clear need for more provision. The second most commonly funded priority area is 'Addressing the holiday gap for young people (61%)' however this is lower when compared to the 2022 survey responses, where 81% of organisations were funded for this priority area.

When comparing figures 13 and 14 there are a number of aspects which LTOs rank as a high priority but which most do not currently have funding to deliver on – most notably: Improving mental health (87% high priority vs 47% with funding) – but with many other priority areas proving difficult to fund for large numbers of LTOs.



To gauge LTO aspirations linked to StreetGames End Game, the survey also asked respondents to indicate, which aspects they would expand, if they had additional resources – Figure 15 below shows the responses.

Figure 15: Aspirations with Additional resources

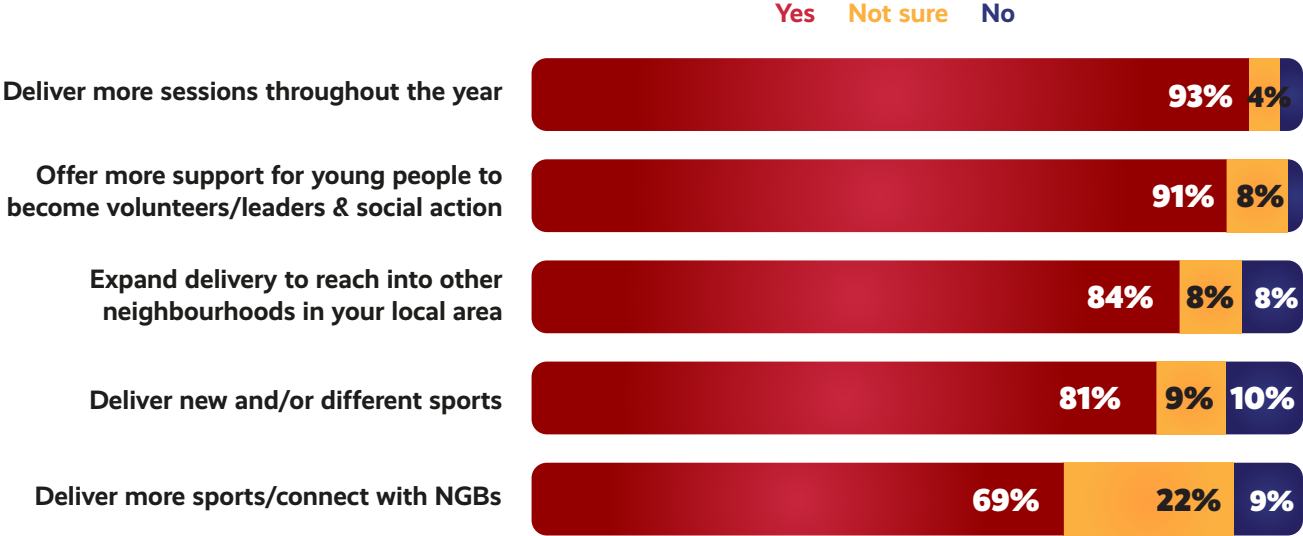
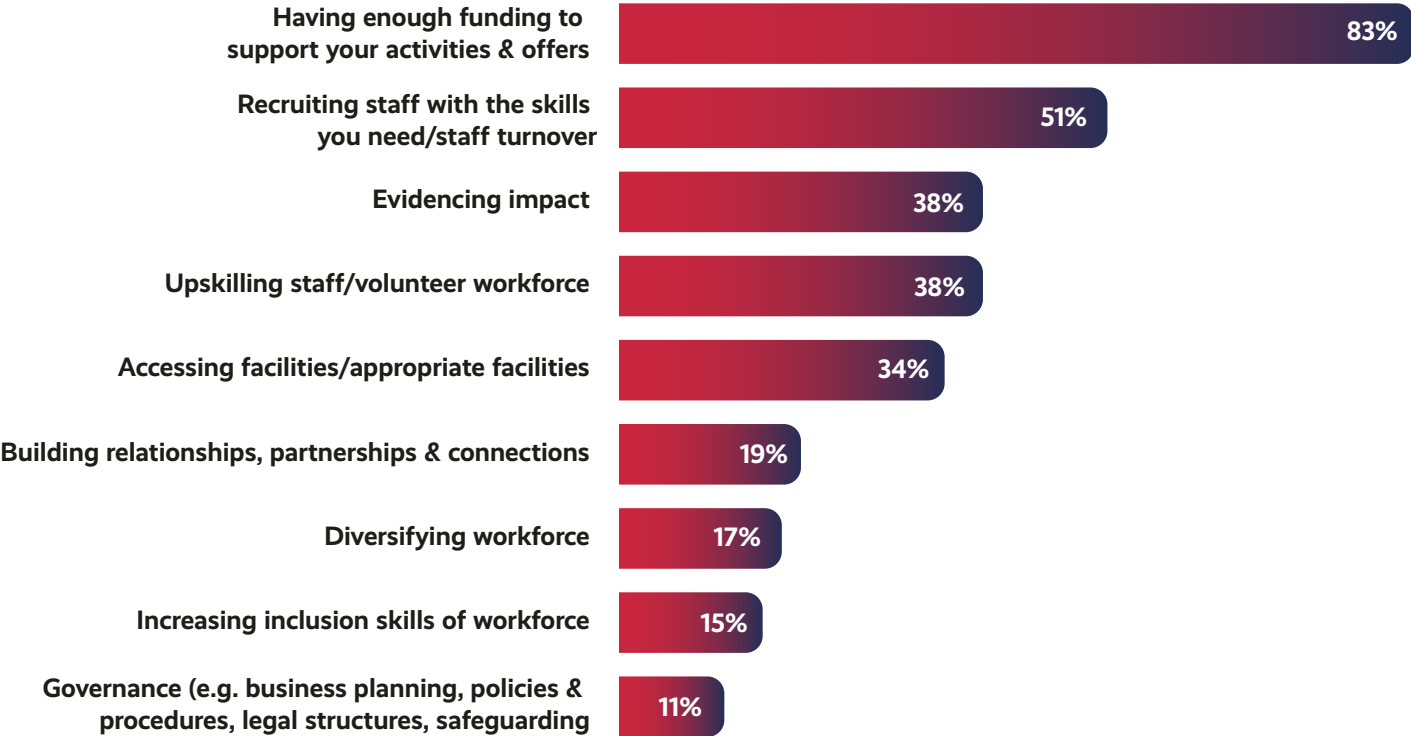


Figure 15 shows that the most common aspirations cited by LTOs are to; deliver more sessions throughout the year (93%) and offer more support for young people to become volunteers/leaders & social action (91%).

LTOs were asked to share what their main challenges are. As Figure 16 below shows, responses highlight, that the most common challenges facing LTOs are ‘Having enough funding to support activities & offers’ (83%) and ‘Recruiting staff with the skills needed/staff turnover’ (51%).

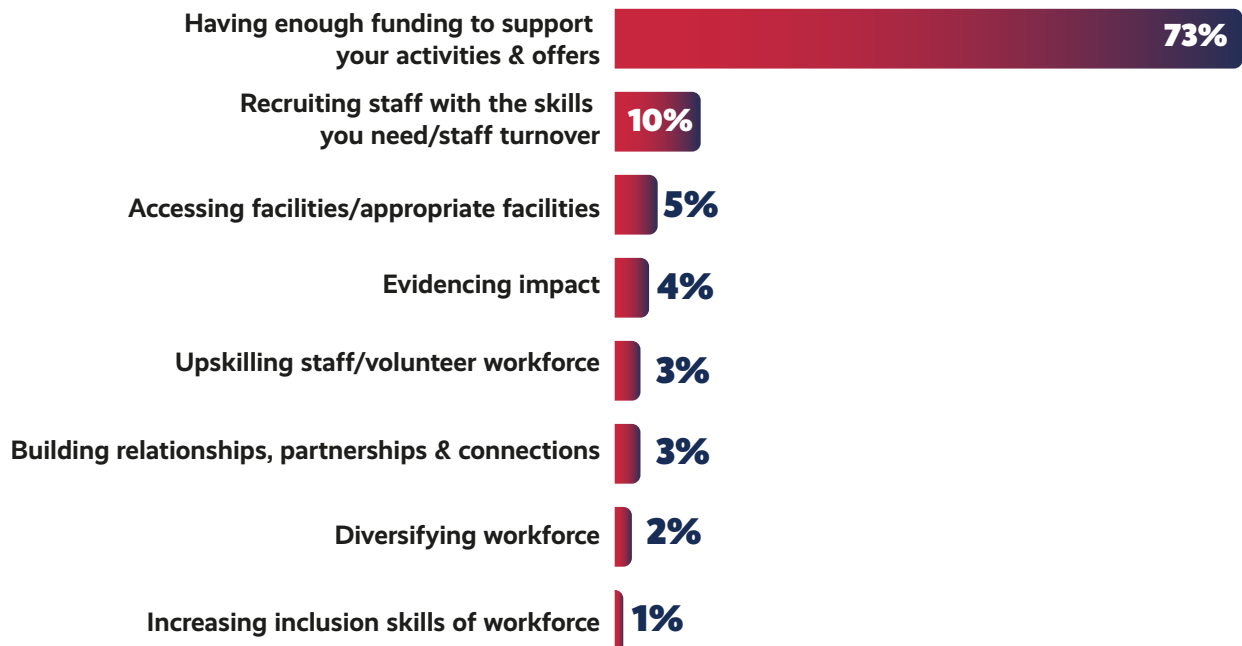
Figure 16: Organisational Challenges



The responses show the most common challenges facing LTOs are ‘Having enough funding to support your activities & offers’ (83%) and ‘Recruiting staff with the skills you need/staff turnover’ (51%).

As a follow-up to this question, the survey asked LTOs to identify from the list above, which aspect presented the single greatest challenge to their organisation.

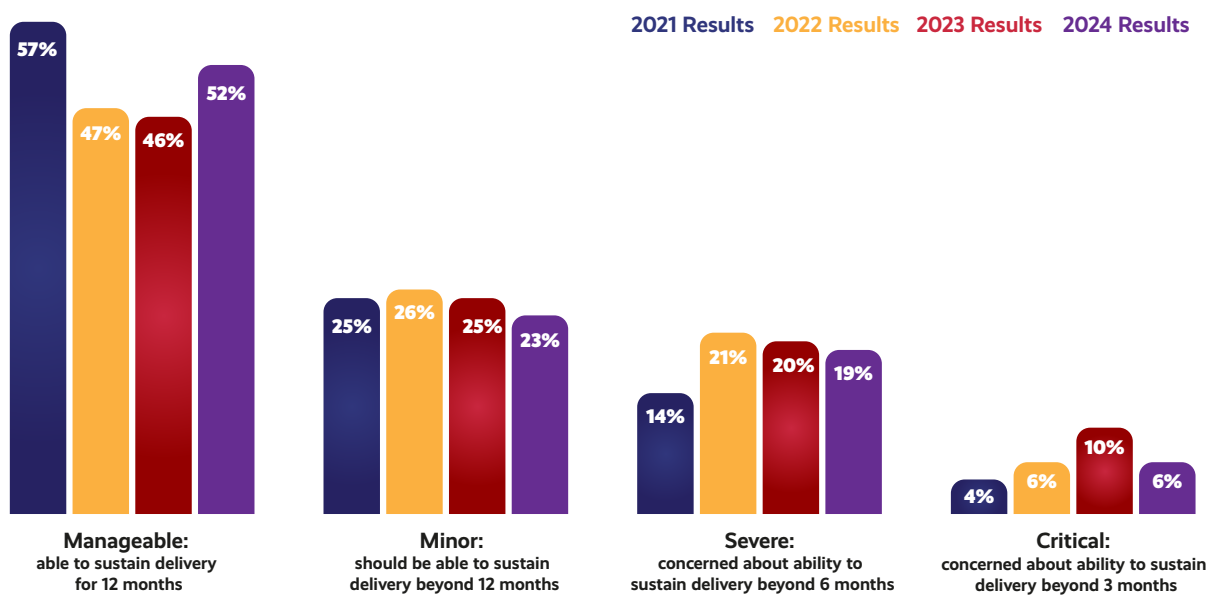
Figure 17: Organisation's Greatest Challenge



The results reaffirm that the two aspects which challenge LTOs the most are Having enough funding to support your activities & offers (**73%**) and Recruiting staff with the skills you need/staff turnover (**10%**). These responses are consistent with the results from the 2023 network survey.

Linked to the challenges above, the survey asked LTOs to describe their current financial situation, results shown below in figure 18.

Figure 18: Current financial situation



The results show that just over half of respondents (**52%**) describe their financial situation as sustainable for at least 12 months, which is slightly higher than 2023 and 2022, but still remains slightly lower than 2021. 25% of LTOs say that their financial position is **severe** or **critical**; and whilst this is lower than the previous two years, it still represents a quarter of the sample and is 7% higher than in 2021.

SAFEGUARDING

Respondents were asked to indicate the type of safeguarding issues they have experienced and the type of support that would be most valuable to their organisation.

Figure 19: Most common safeguarding issues within the last 12 months

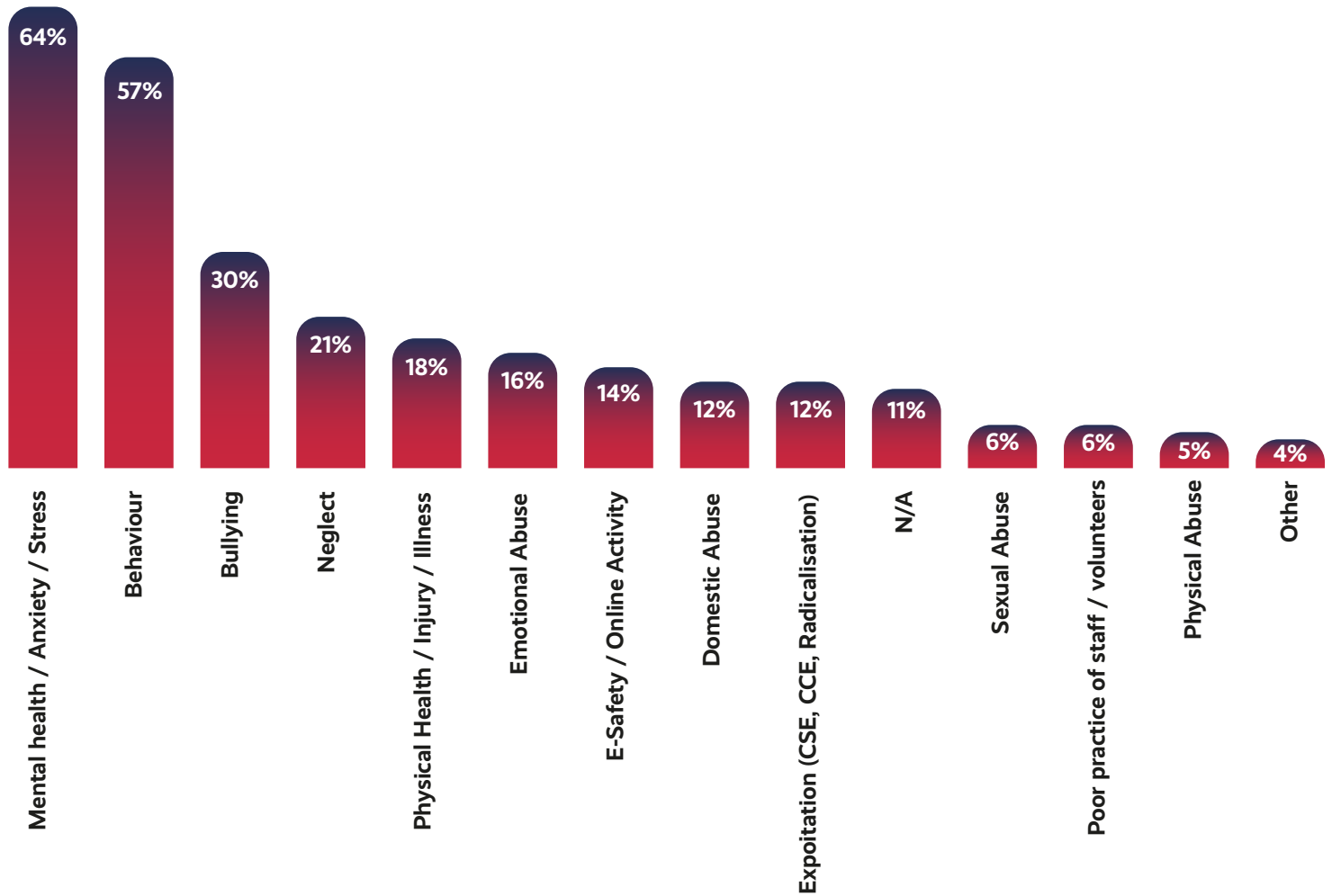


Figure 19 highlights that most common safeguarding issues LTOs have faced in the last 12 months are Mental health/Anxiety/Stress (**64%**), Behaviour (**57%**) and bullying (**30%**).



LTOs were also asked what support would be most useful for their organisation in relation to safeguarding. Results are shown below in figure 20.

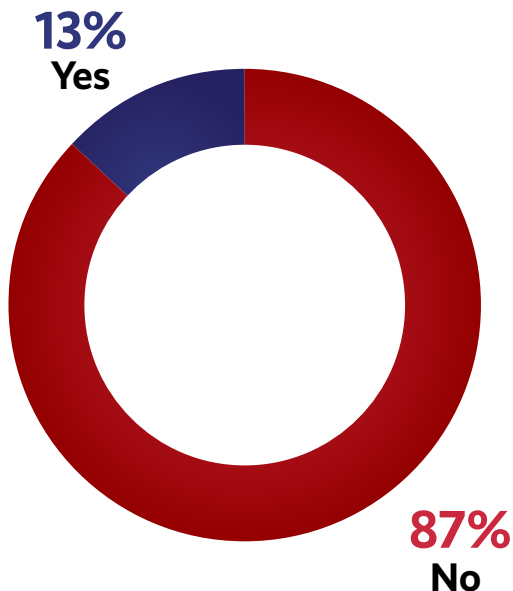
Figure 20: What support would be most useful to you in relation to safeguarding



Figure 20 shows that most frequently mentioned method of support was 'Access to basic level training for new staff and volunteers' (44%), 'Themed training (in topics such as exploitation, online safeguarding, peer on peer abuse, etc)' (33%) and 'Online webinars sharing safeguarding developments and new insights' (29%).

LTOs were asked to provide the job role of the person who is responsible for safeguarding. Responses were varied, but some of the most referenced job roles included Director, Safeguarding Officer/Lead/Manager, CEO and Youth Worker/Lead and whilst some LTOs had dedicated safeguarding teams – as Figure 21 shows the majority of LTOs have **no funding dedicated to this role (86%)**.

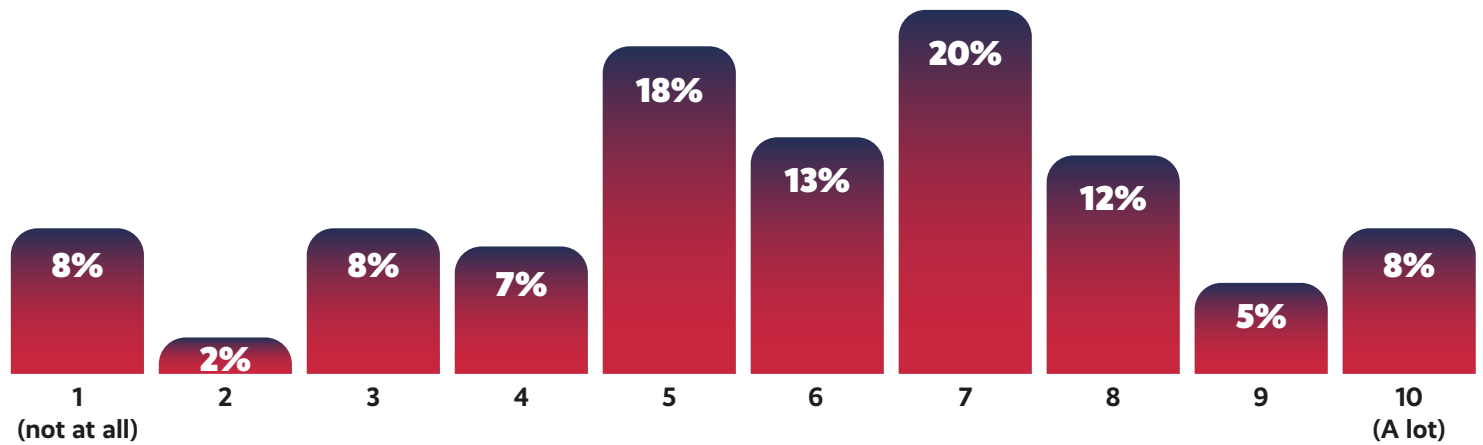
Figure 21: Does this role have dedicated funding



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

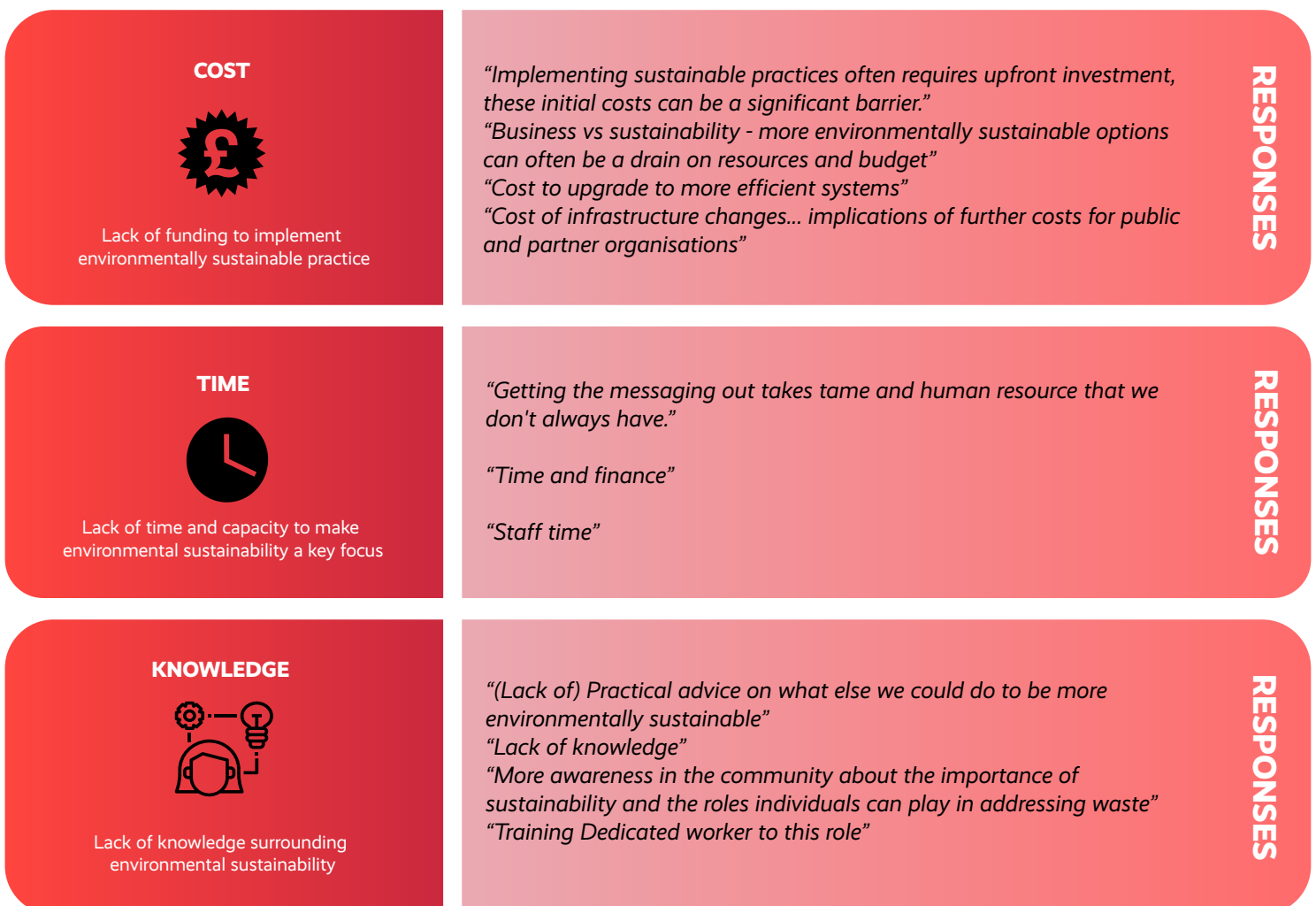
The survey asked LTOs about their level of focus on environmental sustainability and for any examples of good practice and the key challenges they face that prevent them from having a greater focus on this area.

Figure 22: On a scale of 1-10, LTOs level of focus on environmental sustainability



The average response to this question was 6, and figure 22 highlights that half of LTOs placed themselves between 5 and 7 (51%).

LTOs were asked about the factors or challenges prevent them from focusing more on environmental sustainability. The responses can be grouped into the following themes:



WAYS OF WORKING



Dependence on unsustainable methods

*"Needing to use lots of paper for registers and child information forms at venues. Travel to and from venues."
"Access to rural areas means travelling by car rather than more environmentally friendly travel options"
"Sessional work over distances and giving opportunities to young people that require travel"*

RESPONSES

PARTNERS & FACILITIES



Practices being dictated by partners

"Partners not ready for this - venues for example - green energy...sport uniform/equipment providers..."

"We have to comply with Leisure Services and other facilities"

RESPONSES

LTOs were also asked to provide examples how their organisation implement environmental sustainability into their work – some illustrative examples are shown below:

"We transformed our football field into a community park which had no plants and now has over 4000 and an allotment and orchid as well as play areas" **Abraham Moss Warriors**

"We are proud to be one of only four organizations in Southwark to hold the Soil Association Food for Life Bronze award. This recognition ensures that our food is not only healthy but also environmentally friendly. Additionally, we have recently received a Carbon Literacy Award. This certification acknowledges our organization's commitment to understanding and addressing climate change and its impact on carbon emissions. As part of our efforts, we have implemented a policy of reducing, reusing, and recycling within our organization" **Burgess Sports**

"We have just opened a community garden and embarked on engaging the community into growing their own, creating a herb garden to help establish 'jarra tea' and have many local organisations involved in developing the space. We are conscious of not being green enough and have embarked on finding funding for the solar, which has been a real struggle. As reducing the energy bills will help sustain us longer term"

Bilton Hall Community Trust

"RJ4All recruits Green Champion, a voluntary role which seeks to embed our sustainable objectives and hold the organisation to account. RJ4All maximises the use of outdoor, green spaces during project delivery. We encourage the use of sustainable and active travel through walking and cycling programmes and use of free cycles. We educate interns, volunteers and service users about the importance of sustainability through our composting, recycling, and community gardening projects. RJ4All reduces food waste through our Community Fridge, composting, and surplus food projects." **Restorative Justice for All (RJ4All)**

"We focus on reducing single-use plastics by providing/ promoting reusable water bottles, providing recycling bins, and using biodegradable or compostable materials for refreshments. We run campaigns that educate participants on environmental sustainability, such as workshops through the Premier League Protect the Planet challenge on reducing carbon footprints or creating awareness on minimising waste during events. We run community litter picks, tree-planting initiatives, and have our own allotment projects"

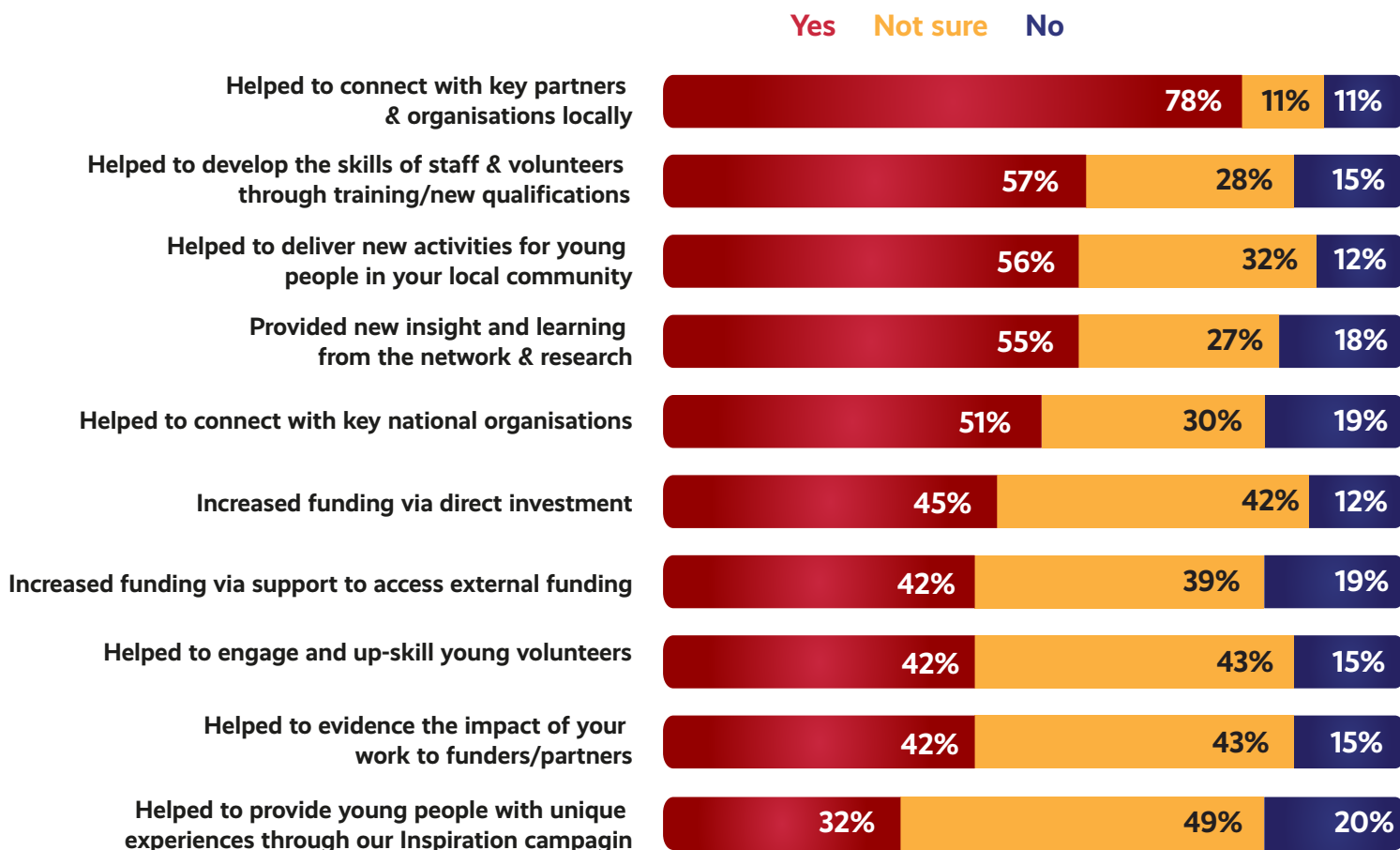
Port Vale Foundation

STREETGAMES SERVICES AND SUPPORT

Respondents were asked to indicate what difference (if any) being involved with StreetGames has made to their organisation over the past 12 months across a range of aspects.

Figure 23: Difference made by StreetGames services.

Thinking back over the past 12 months, what difference (if any) has being involved with StreetGames made to your organisation?



Results in figure 23 highlight that the most commonly mentioned aspects, are that StreetGames has ‘**Helped to connect with key partners & organisations locally**’ (78%), ‘**helped to develop the skills of staff & volunteers through training/new qualifications**’ (57%) and ‘**Helped to deliver new activities for young people in your local community**’ (56%).

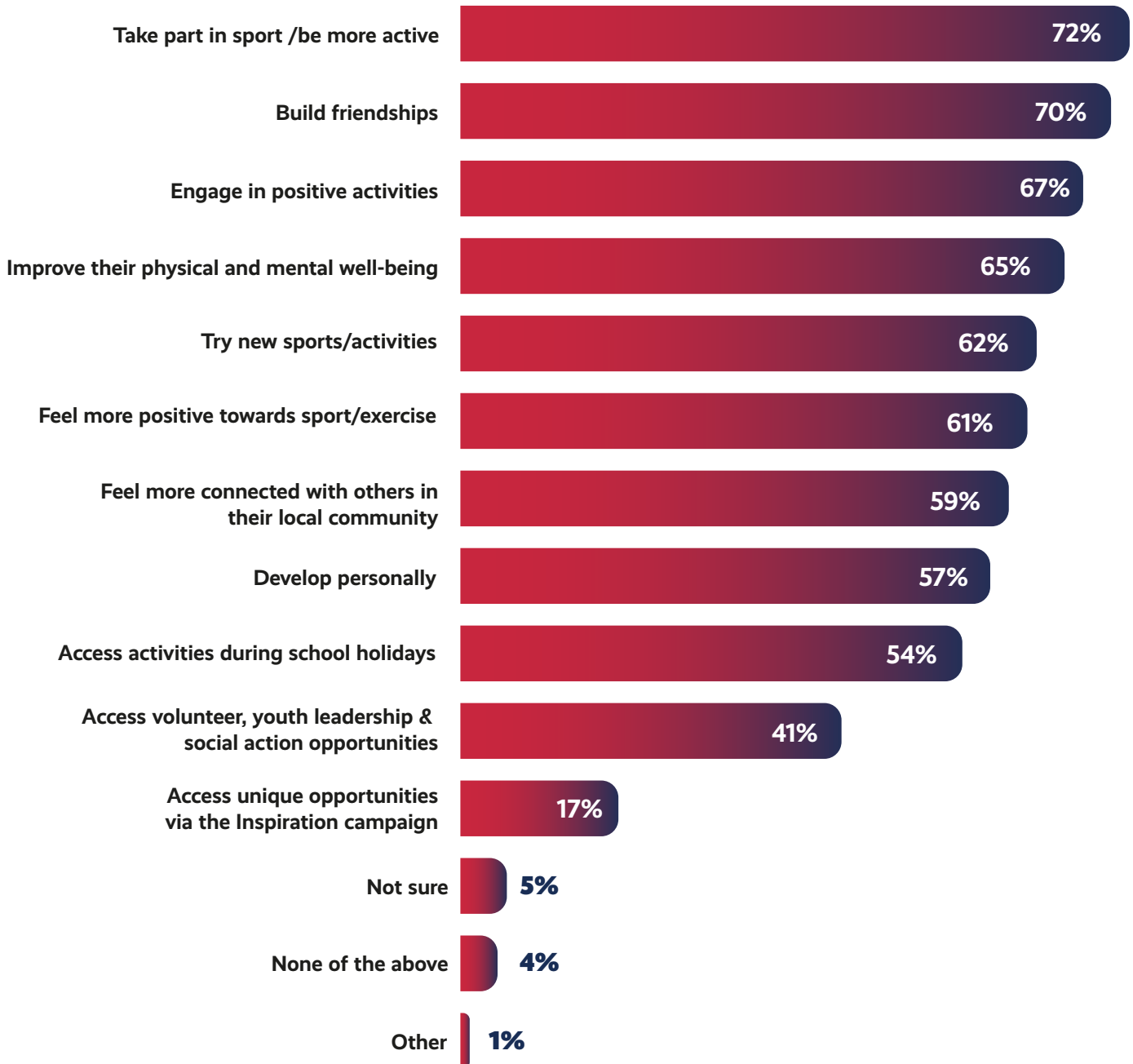
Further comments provided by respondents emphasises the difference being involved with StreetGames has made to their organisation over the past 12 months:

- *“The SG network provides a wealth of experience and exploration opportunities for an organisation like us to enhance its delivery locally.”*
- *“StreetGames were integral to connect us to hyper local delivery agencies, in Birmingham/West Midlands within and outside of Sport and Leisure”*
- *“Holiday camp funding has massively helped to improve our holiday camps by enabling us to employ more staff. Training courses have been very impactful for staff that have participated. I am conscious that more of our volunteers could have done the qualifications.”*

- *“Continuous support from Street Games has been crucial in terms of us making changes and learning, particularly in monitoring and reporting. It has also been crucial in establishing new connections and partnerships.”*
- *“The direct funding has helped us to develop and Girls Only session that we didn't have before, and previous funding helped us to evidence our work around youth violence”*

LTOs were also asked what difference StreetGames’ support has made to THEIR impact on young people. Results are shown in Figure 24 below.

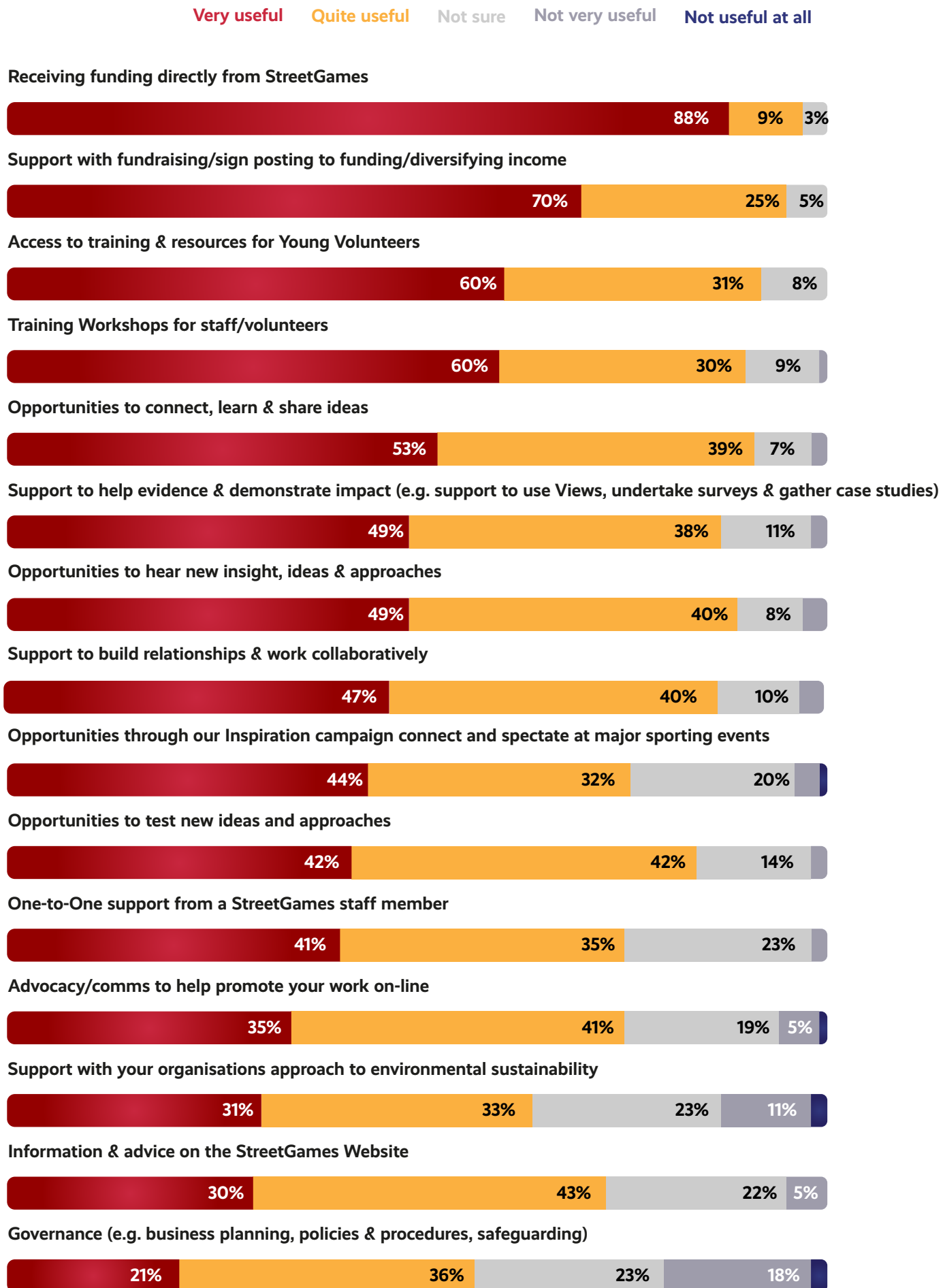
Figure 24: Has StreetGames support helped you to provide activities which enabled young people from low-income communities to:



Results show the most common answers were that StreetGames support has helped LTOs to enable young people to: ‘Take part in sport /be more active’ (72%), ‘build friendships’ (70%) and ‘Engage in positive activities’ (67%). These responses also reflect what we hear from young people – who have shared, that they value doorstep sport sessions for: the chance to participate in sports, opportunities to improve skills, try new activities, connect with others, socialise with friends, feel a sense of belonging, and gain support from a trusted adults.

Respondents were asked to think ahead to the upcoming two years and consider what types of support would be useful for their organisation. Results are shown in figure 25.

Figure 25: Usefulness of StreetGames Support








The results in figure 25 show that the areas of support that would be the most useful to LTOs over the next two years are:

- Receiving funding directly from StreetGames' - 88%
- Support with fundraising/sign posting to funding/diversifying income – 70%
- Access to training & resources for Young Volunteers – 60%
- Training Workshops for staff/volunteers – 60%

Expanding on the areas of StreetGames support that were most useful, respondents were asked to detail whether they felt there was anything StreetGames currently does or has done in the past which are important to their organisation and that StreetGames must continue doing.

Responses can be grouped into the following themes:

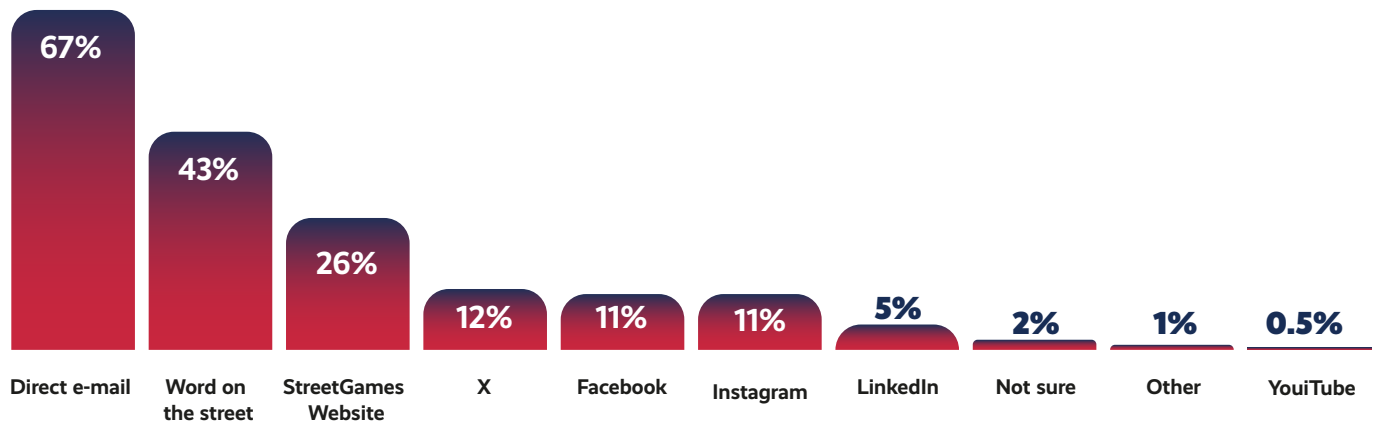
<p>FUNDING SUPPORT</p> 	<p>RESPONSES</p> <p><i>“funding opportunities coming from street games is now less than it once was, however this is a national pressure not directly SG.”</i></p> <p><i>“Finding funding for consortia that we wouldn't be able to bid for as individual organisations and bringing us together to bid for it.”</i></p> <p><i>“Help to directly access funding rather than telling us about it.”</i></p>
<p>FESTIVALS</p> 	<p>RESPONSES</p> <p><i>“Sports Festivals and in person networking events”</i></p> <p><i>“Festivals, big events”</i></p>
<p>NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES</p> 	<p>RESPONSES</p> <p><i>“The network meetings are a great way to connect with likeminded organisations and there are best practices shared which is useful”</i></p> <p><i>“Local network meetings that brought LTOs together to understand what is going on locally and who can help and support.”</i></p>
<p>TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES</p> 	<p>RESPONSES</p> <p><i>“The courses StreetGames provide should always be continuous due to how impactful they are.”</i></p> <p><i>“Continuation of the support given including the training for volunteers and support for funding.”</i></p>
<p>SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES</p> 	<p>RESPONSES</p> <p><i>“Us Girls project / CLUB1”</i></p> <p><i>“StreetGames first introduced RDF to the Fit and Fed programme, which we carried out in many boroughs, as well as many doorstep sporting opportunities to get young people active and keep them safe.”</i></p> <p><i>“We worked in partnership with StreetGames in delivering The Youth Justice Programme and that was a major success so now with a new government in place I think StreetGames should look to replicate that funding stream again and allow the LTO's to deliver again to those in need.”</i></p>

Respondents were also asked whether they felt there was anything which StreetGames currently does that they felt should do less of or stop altogether, in which most respondents said 'no' or 'not sure'. However, some comments that were left can be seen below:

- *"More Midlands based inspiration opportunities.*
- *"Make the online booking system easier to navigate!"*
- *"Training package is really good, but access to training for all staff/ volunteers is something that would be useful for us as an organisation rather than having to select 3 or 4 staff."*

LTOs were also asked which communication channels they use most regularly to find information about the latest StreetGames news, events and training opportunities. The results are shown in figure 26 below.

Figure 26: Communication channels

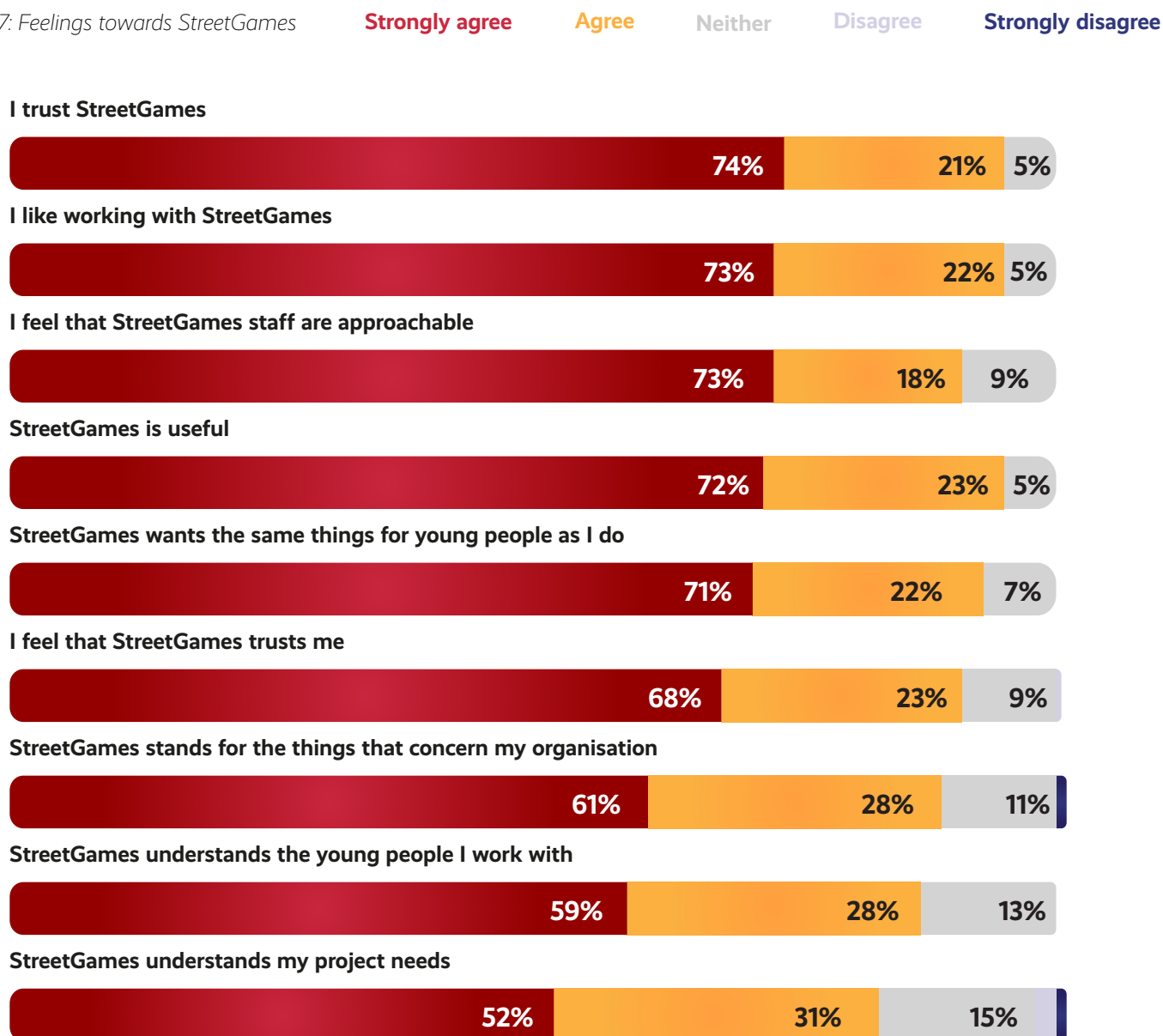


The results show that a **direct email from a member of StreetGames staff** was the most informative communication channel (**67%**).



LTOs were also asked additional questions to probe further about how they 'feel' about StreetGames in terms of trust and alignment via a series of questions where they were asked the extent they agree or disagree with a range of statements. The results are shown in figure 27 below.

Figure 27: Feelings towards StreetGames



The results in figure 27 show that the majority of respondents strongly agreed/agreed with the statements posed – showing **high levels of alignment and trust**. The highest levels were found in the statements which said: 'I Trust StreetGames (74%)', 'I like working with StreetGames' (73%) and 'I feel that StreetGames staff are approachable' (73%).



FINAL COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

The survey also provided respondents with the opportunity to make additional comments - a selection of quotes are shown below – showing positive praise across a number of different areas:

“Thank you for your invaluable support in helping us build connections that matter. Your commitment to fostering relationships has strengthened our organisation and opened new doors of opportunity. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and the impact it continues to make.”

“Although this year funding has been quite dry, previously it has been a massive benefit and StreetGames offer more than a normal funder as they have one person in our area for a contact, plus networking and training too, the whole package which we have benefited from in the past few years so really appreciate that. Thanks StreetGames.”

“I would like to thank Street Games for all they have done and do for our organisation, young people and their families. Over the past few years myself and other colleagues have had the pleasure of attending numerous Street Games events, and have taken different groups of young people and their families to events that they would not normally get the opportunity to attend. This is always hugely appreciated by everyone at our organisation and the families who get involved”

“Really appreciate at the help and support that street games has provided us with so far! It’s been a great working partnership and we value the time and effort street games put into us to ensure we can be the best version of ourselves!”

THANK YOU & NEXT STEPS

StreetGames would like to say a massive thank you to all of the LTOs in the network for the vital work that you are undertaking in supporting thousands of children and young people in local communities.

A big thank you to those organisations who completed the network survey this year. Your feedback is extremely valuable to us - it helps us to better understand your needs and the needs of the children and young people you are working with. In turn this helps us to prioritise our support, raise awareness of key issues being faced and advocate on behalf LTOs.

