

VOI*SE*

# Taking the Temperature & Moving Forward

Sunderland Voluntary and  
Community Sector  
VCAS

**Janette Hilton:** Interim Strategic Development Manager

# The Narrative...

- ▶ Sunderland CVS was founded over 45 years ago. (VCAS)
- ▶ Advocate for the Voluntary Sector across the town/city.
- ▶ Fundamental support for the Voluntary and Community Sector.



# Recent Challenges.....

For **our own success** to be real,  
it must contribute  
to the **success of others.**

– *Eleanor Roosevelt*



**“Rumours of our demise  
have been  
exaggerated!”**

# Moving On.... February 2019



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# Taking the Temperature 2019



- Consultation followed on from 2017 survey
- Sent to 384 VCAS Members and contacts in the City
- 62 returned the survey (20 more than in 2017)
- Details to follow





# Funderland 2019

## Response to membership request.

- Over 60 VCS Groups attended a city centre event
- 10 Funders attended
- Over £1million worth of bids discussed
- 96% - Rated event Good/excellent.



### Comments:

“First time at an event like this – invaluable”

“Excellent Event well organised and relaxed”

“Well organised – staff very efficient”



# One to one

Provide advice, guidance and support to new and existing member groups

- A lot less than we would like!
- Face to face but mostly by email – time & resource constraints
- Continue to receive and process new membership applications
- Advice on constitutions and policies
- Advice on Funding sources
- Advice for new & innovative social enterprises



# WDCT Funding Programme

## Grant Funding to VCS groups

- ▶ City wide programme – continue to recognise needs in North
- ▶ 18 new applications processed since March 2019
- ▶ Funding available for next 12 months at least
- ▶ Available to all small groups focused on making a difference in their communities





# WELL DONE

**PRESENT FUNDING TO:**



# Workshops

- ▶ ....and what's coming up?
- Consulted with those groups that attended Funderland 2019
- A series of **Growth Workshops** to support successful applications, project delivery and evaluation processes.
- Sessions commence **16<sup>th</sup> October** in partnership with **Heritage Fund**
- Places limited - 20 in first session



VCS Growth Workshops 2019/20  
"VCAS, helping you to support your community since 1973."

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## Heritage Funding Workshop: 16th October 2019

- Developing a small grant application for **The National Lottery Heritage Fund?**
- Would you welcome some expert advice and guidance to help make that application stronger?
- Do you need to understand how best to evaluate your project?

**What is it?** - A workshop designed to help improve your application for small grants from **The National Lottery Heritage Fund**

**Who should attend?** - Anyone developing an application for a grant between £3,000 and £10,000 or interested in learning more about heritage funding

**Where is it?** - The Looking Glass Café & Restaurant

**When is it?** - 16th October 2019, 9.45 till 12.30.  
Email [steve@vcas.org.uk](mailto:steve@vcas.org.uk) to reserve your place at this valuable event.

*Places are limited to 20, one per organisation so*  
**Don't Delay—Book Today!!**

Voluntary & Community Action Sunderland  
8 Frederick Street  
Sunderland  
SR1 1HA  
Address Line 4  
E-mail: [steve@vcas.org.uk](mailto:steve@vcas.org.uk)

In association with:

 **HERITAGE FUND**



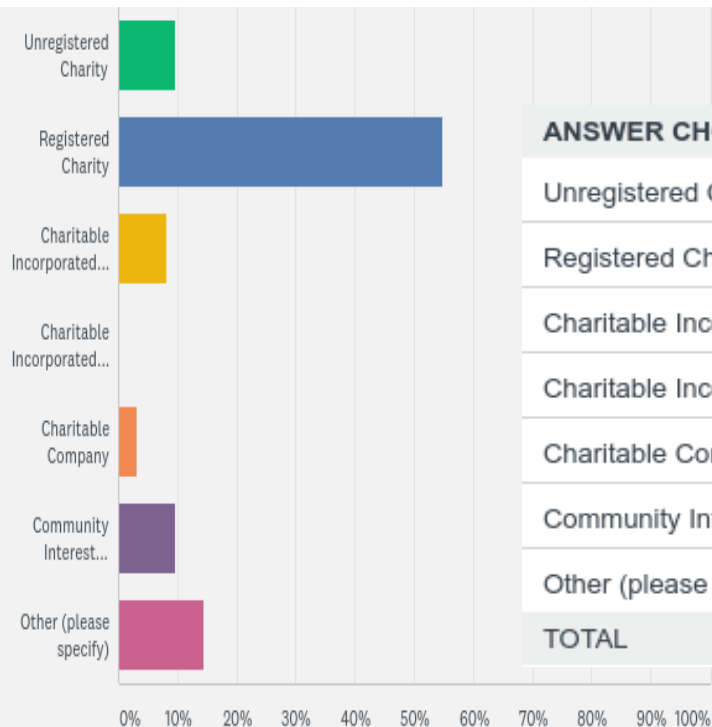
# On the horizon...

## ...and what's coming up next?

- **Accounting surgery** at VCAS Offices
- **Awards event** “Open Arms” awards - celebrating the exceptional work of organisations in the VCS Community of Sunderland.
- **Strategic Developments** –Future collaboration and partnerships across the city



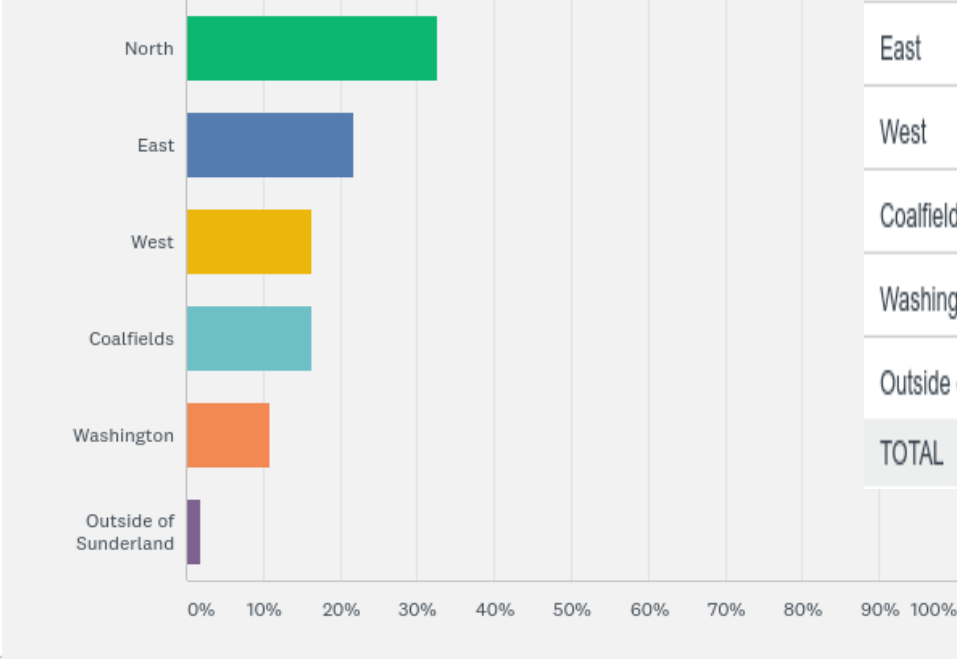
# What type of organisations are you?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Unregistered Charity	9.68%	6
Registered Charity	54.84%	34
Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Association Model	8.06%	5
Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Foundation Model	0.00%	0
Charitable Company	3.23%	2
Community Interest Company	9.68%	6
Other (please specify)	14.52%	9
TOTAL		62

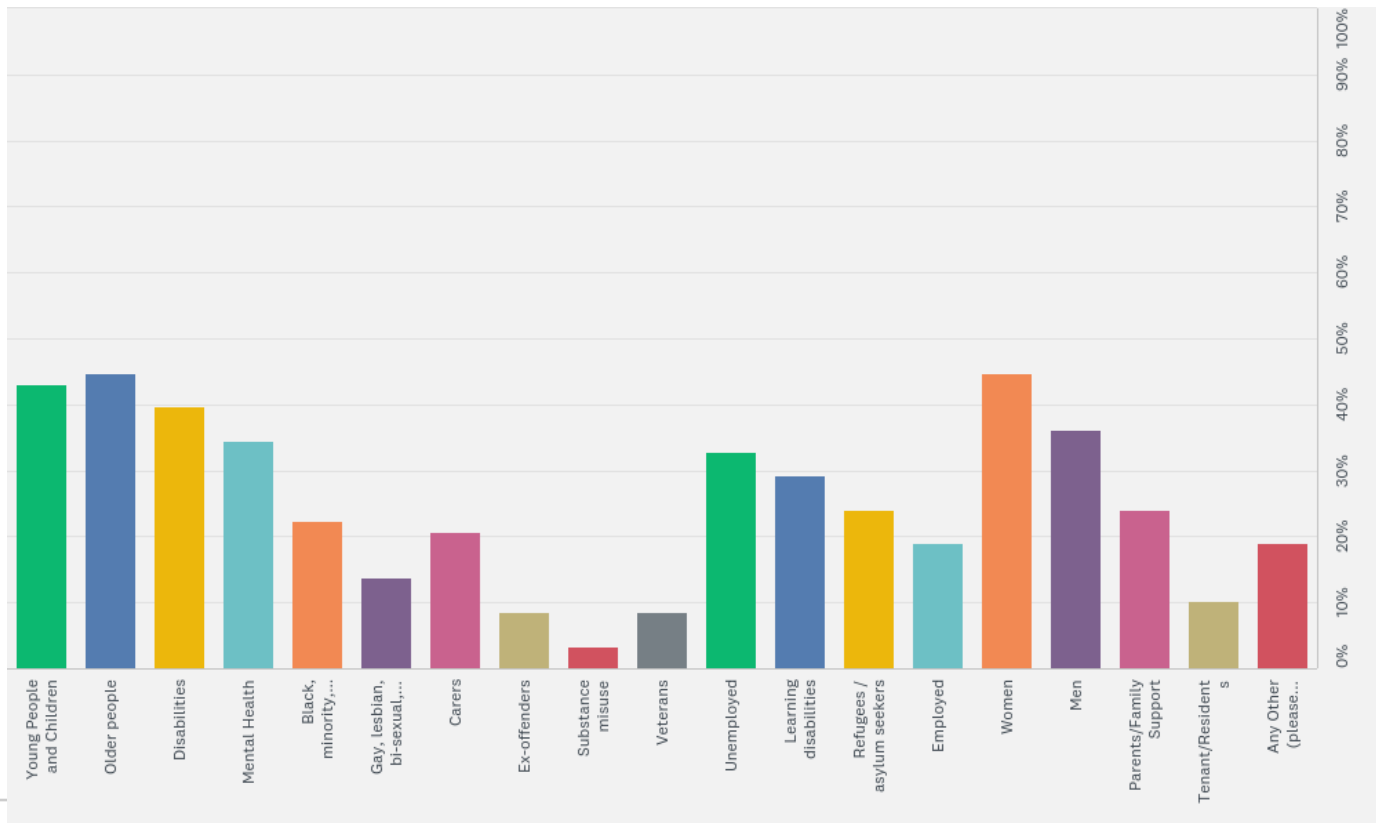


# Where is your organisation based?

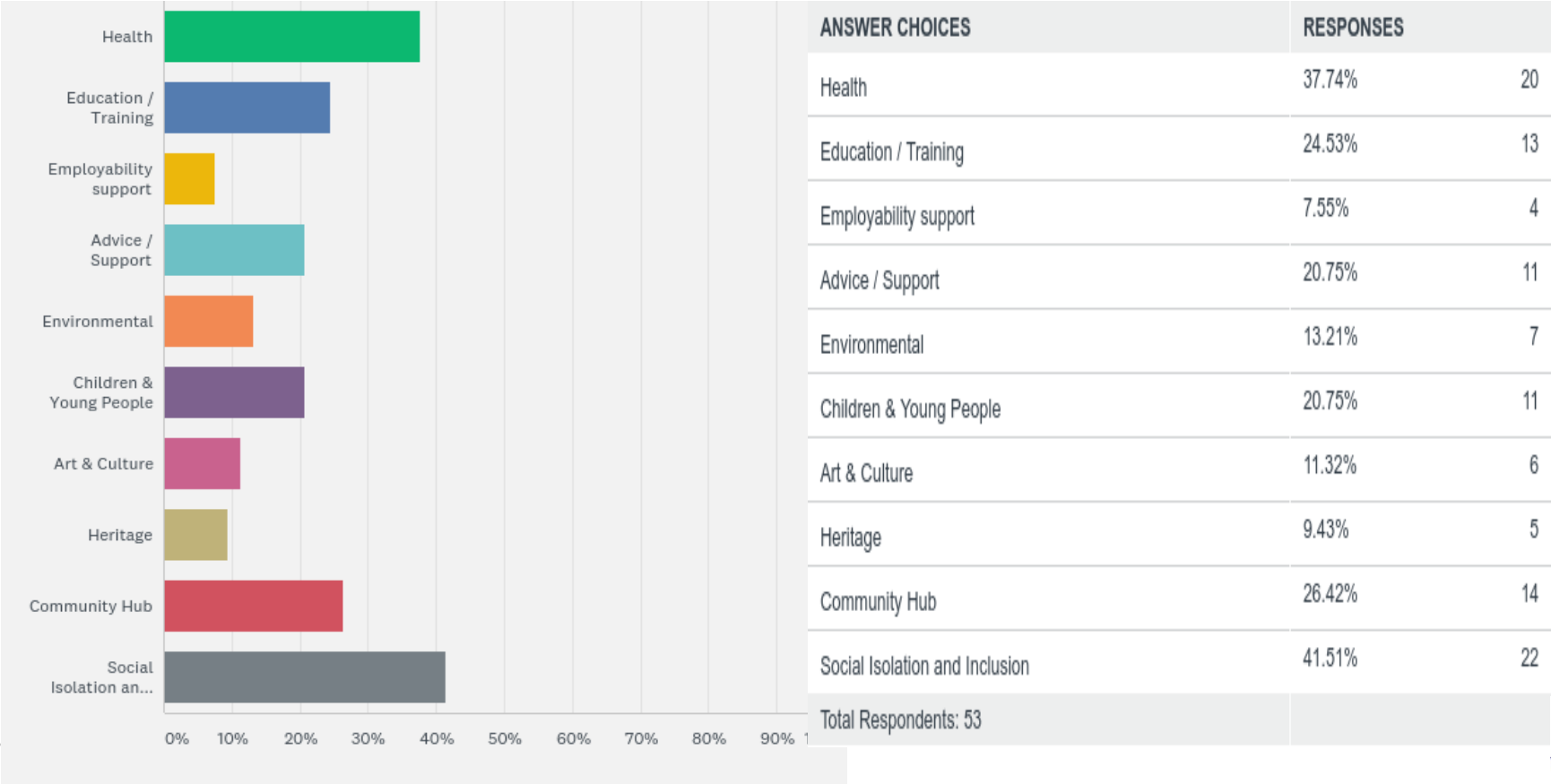


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
North	32.73%	18
East	21.82%	12
West	16.36%	9
Coalfields	16.36%	9
Washington	10.91%	6
Outside of Sunderland	1.82%	1
TOTAL		55

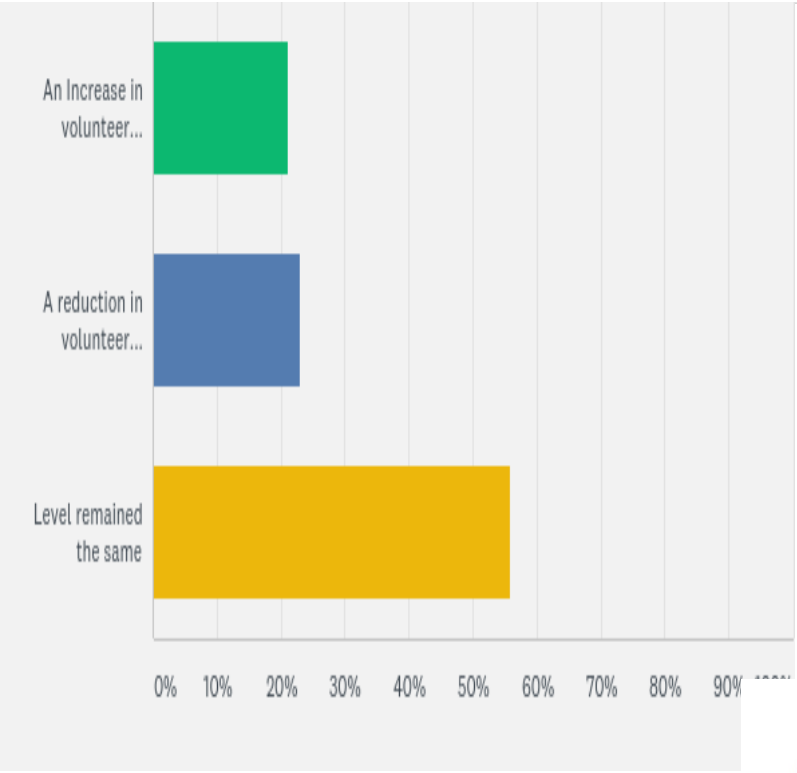
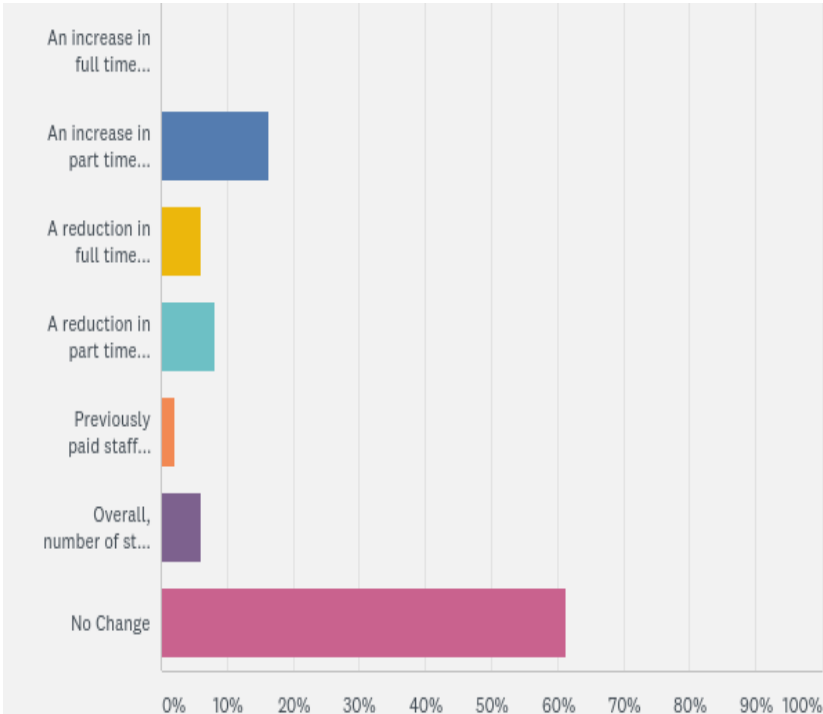
# Who do you support?



# Main focus of your organisation

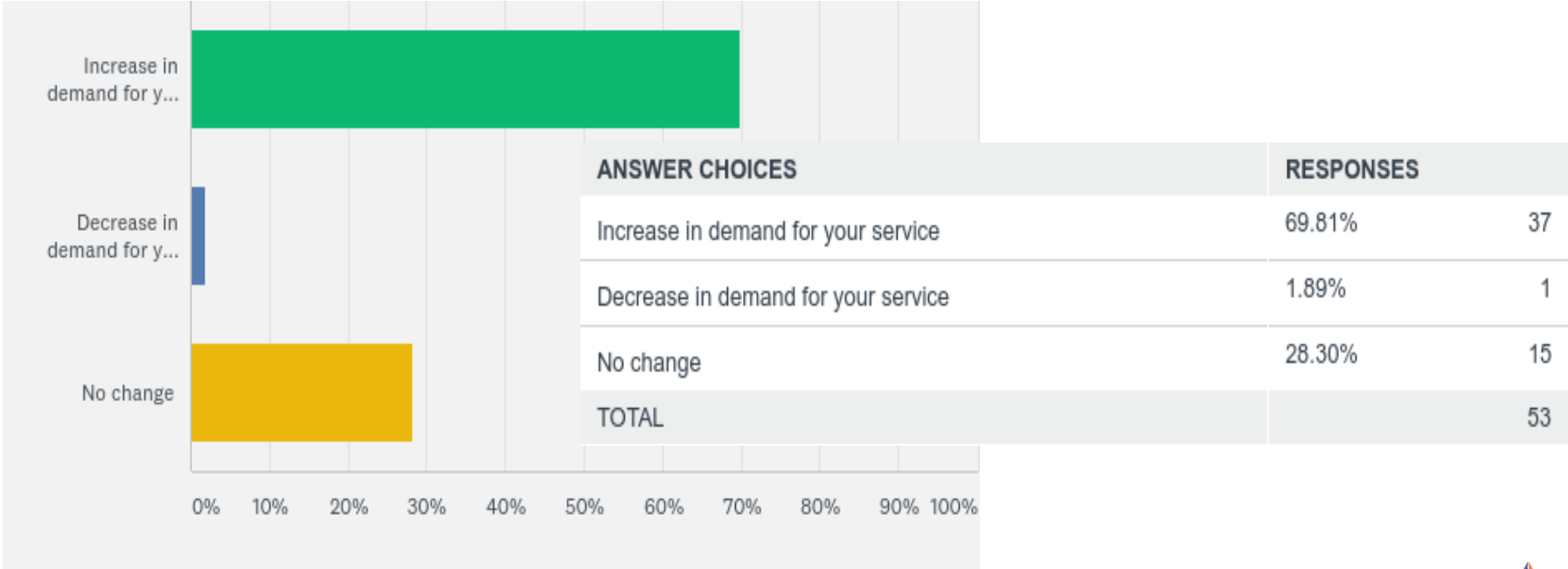


# Status of Staff and volunteers

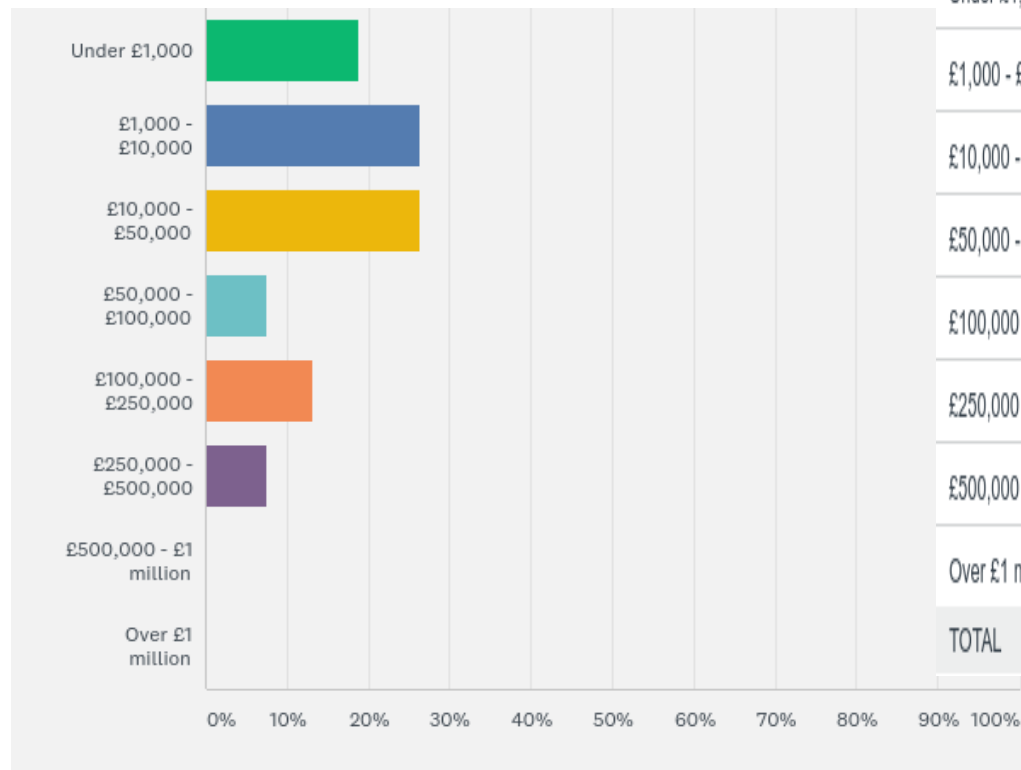




# Demand for Services – 12 months

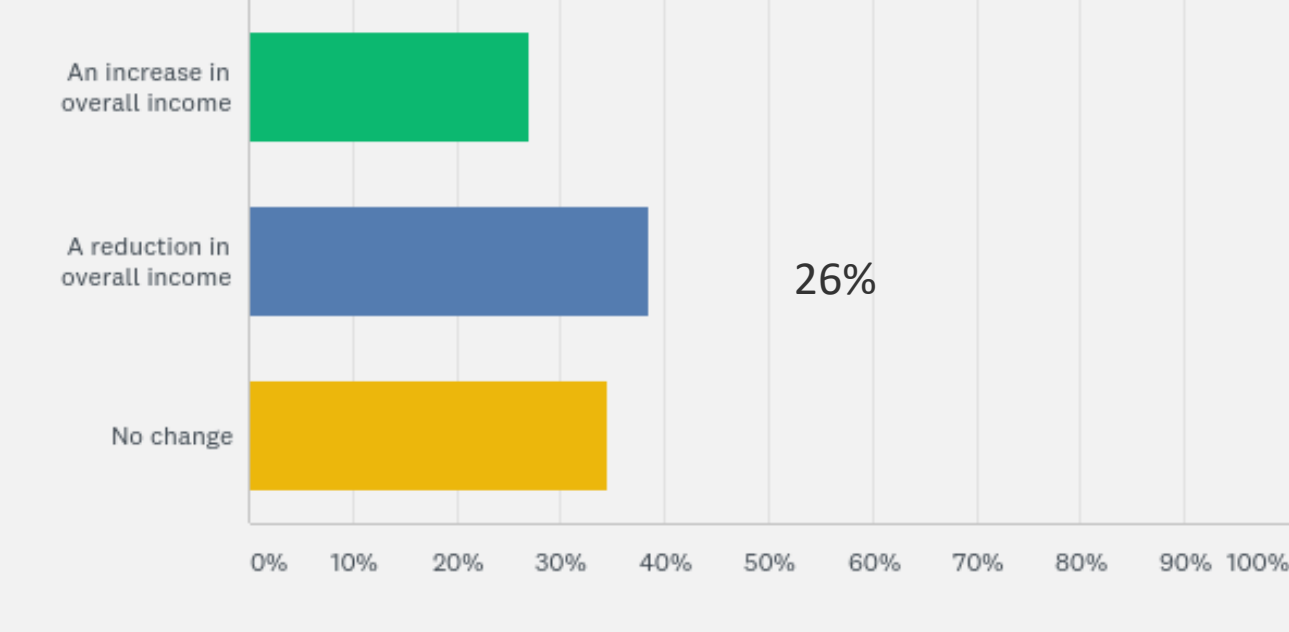


## Financial demands – last 12

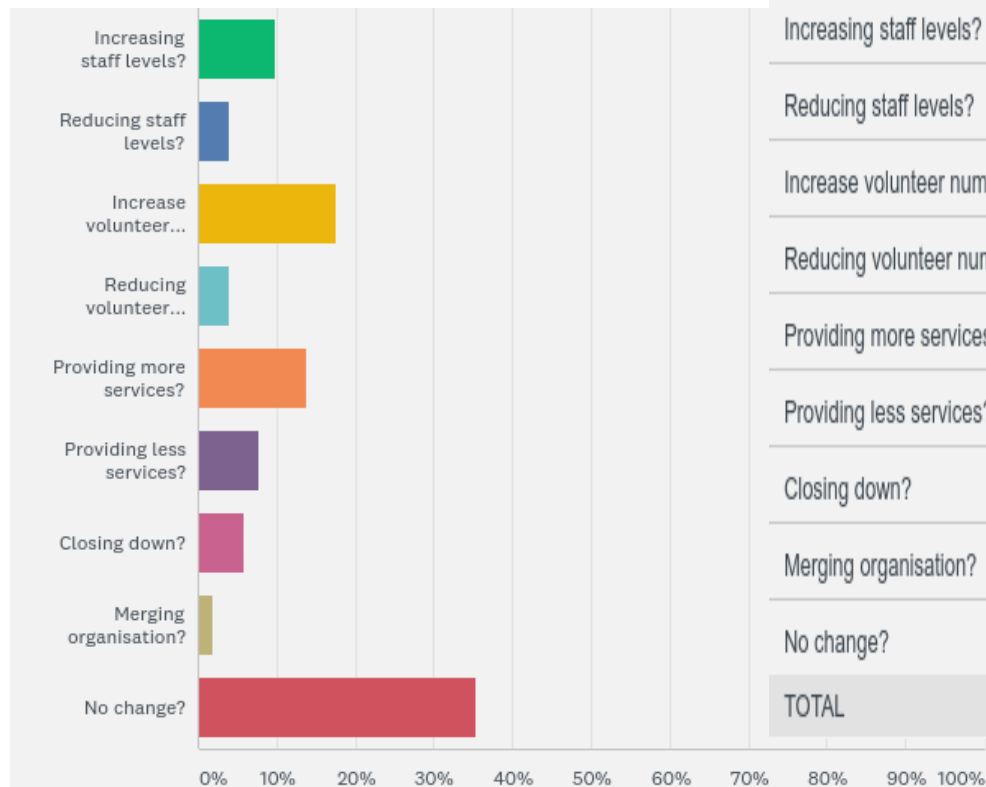


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Under £1,000	18.87% 10
£1,000 - £10,000	26.42% 14
£10,000 - £50,000	26.42% 14
£50,000 - £100,000	7.55% 4
£100,000 - £250,000	13.21% 7
£250,000 - £500,000	7.55% 4
£500,000 - £1 million	0.00% 0
Over £1 million	0.00% 0
TOTAL	53

# Income Analysis



# Looking Forwards?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Increasing staff levels?	9.80% 5
Reducing staff levels?	3.92% 2
Increase volunteer numbers?	17.65% 9
Reducing volunteer numbers?	3.92% 2
Providing more services?	13.73% 7
Providing less services?	7.84% 4
Closing down?	5.88% 3
Merging organisation?	1.96% 1
No change?	35.29% 18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51</b>



# Summary of Need...

## ▶ We asked:

- ▶ What are the top **3** issues facing our members. In which areas did they need advice or support...

## You said:

- 1) Funding – **58%**
- 2) Volunteering/Staffing – either retaining or attracting - **32%**
- 3) Growth – expressed in various ways as support to help deliver new services, develop staff and brand raising/promotion – **18%**

# Moving Forward.

- Positive Energy



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