

Knyveton Gardens

Overview of the findings

Postal survey November/December 2009



Key findings

- There were varying levels of support for the three possible suggestions
 - 76% support making one of the tennis courts a children's play area
 - 74% support redeveloping the tennis courts
 - 68% support a MUGA
- 85% support the introduction of a play area, the preferred location for this would be one of the tennis courts (41%) or the petanque and concrete area (31%)
- 74% support the introduction of a grassy play area, the preferred location for this would be the second bowling green (36%) or the petanque and concrete area (32%)
- Reasons for opposing the developments centred around concerns over ASB and noise.

Methodology

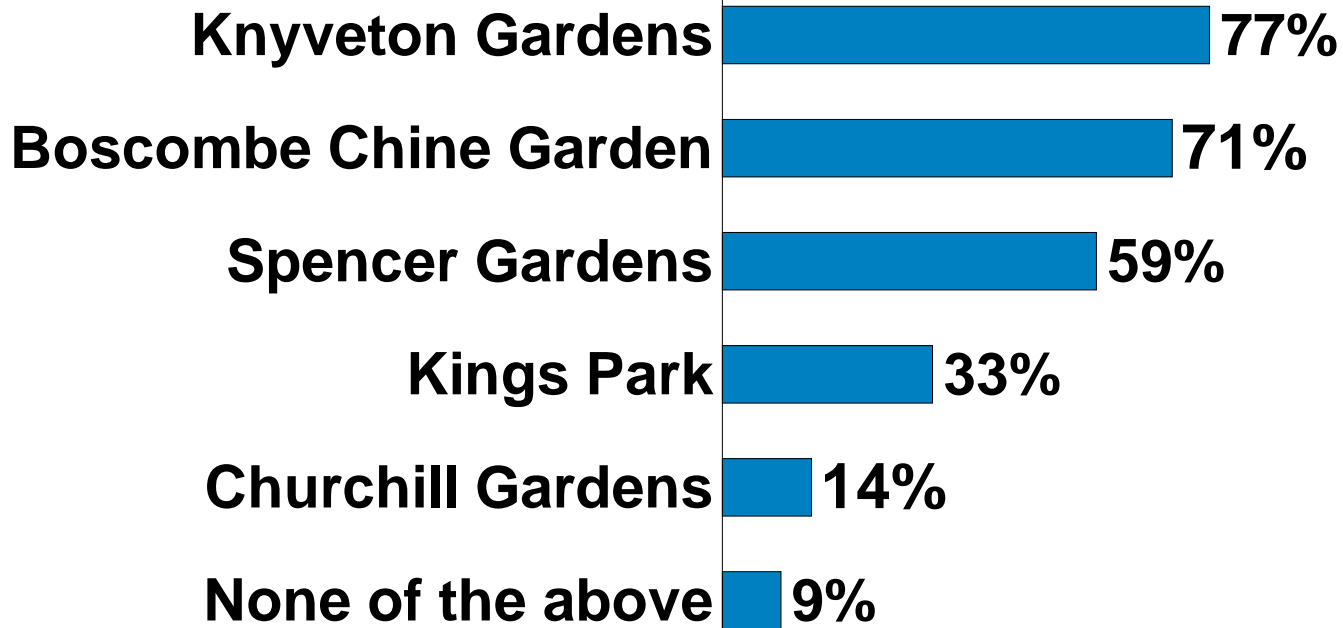
- Bournemouth Borough Council Commissioned Snap Surveys to undertake a survey of residents living in the vicinity of Knyveton Park
- A questionnaire was designed by the council and sent to 1,043 residents on 4 November 2009. A reminder was sent on 23 November. In total 201 replies were received (19% response rate)
- The low response rate has an impact on the representativeness of the data, and as such findings should be interpreted with some caution
- This document outlines the key findings

Response profile

- There was a good spread of age groups represented in the sample, with the exception of 16-24 year olds
 - 16-24: 1%
 - 25-34: 19%
 - 35-44: 21%
 - 45-54: 19%
 - 55-64: 17%
 - 65+ 24%
- 86% of the sample described themselves as White British
- 20% of the sample said that they had a long term illness or disability
- 50% of the sample were male, 50% female
- 23% were parents, 77% were not
- 11% had children aged under 5, 10% had children aged 5-12 and 11% had children aged 13-17

77% of the sample had visited Knyveton Gardens, 71% had visited Boscombe Chine Gardens and 59% had visited Spencer gardens in the last 6 months

In the last 6 months have you...



All respondents (193)



Spencer Gardens

**Of those that had visited Spencer gardens,
84% had walked through without a dog**

When you visited Spencer Gardens did you...

...walk through (without a dog) 84%

...use the seating 29%

...walk a dog 19%

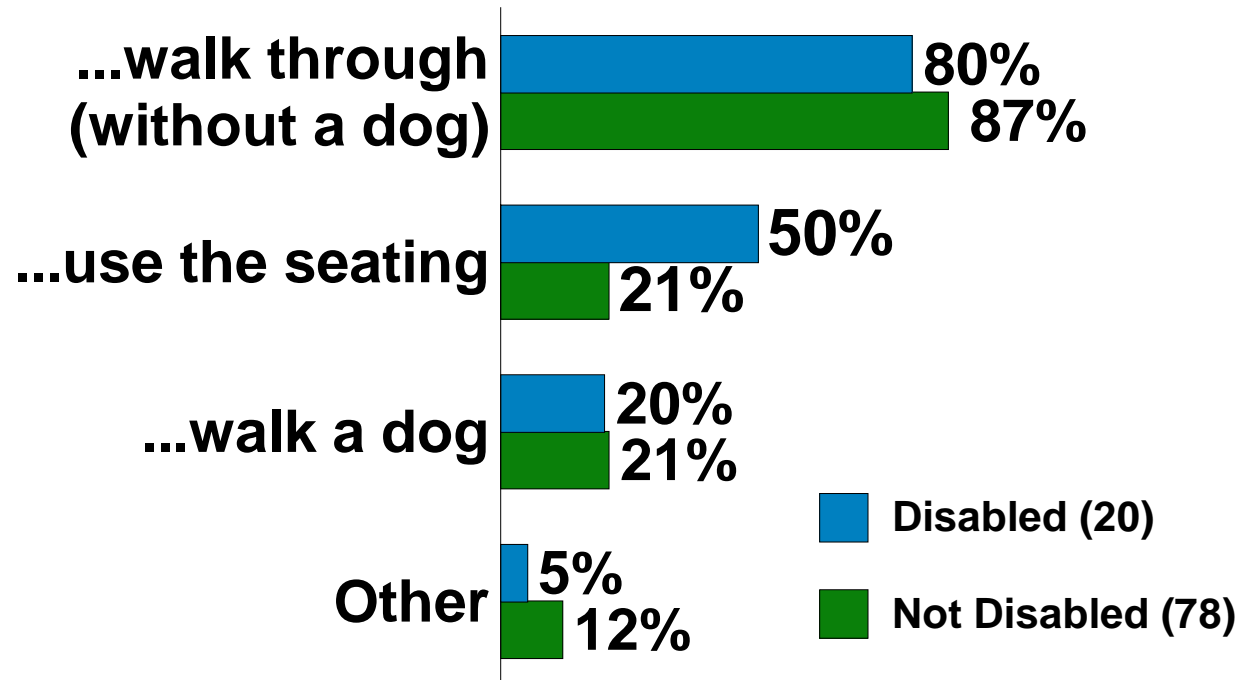
Other 13%

All respondents who visited Spencer Gardens (114)

Disabled respondents more likely to use seating in Spencer Gardens than non-disabled respondents



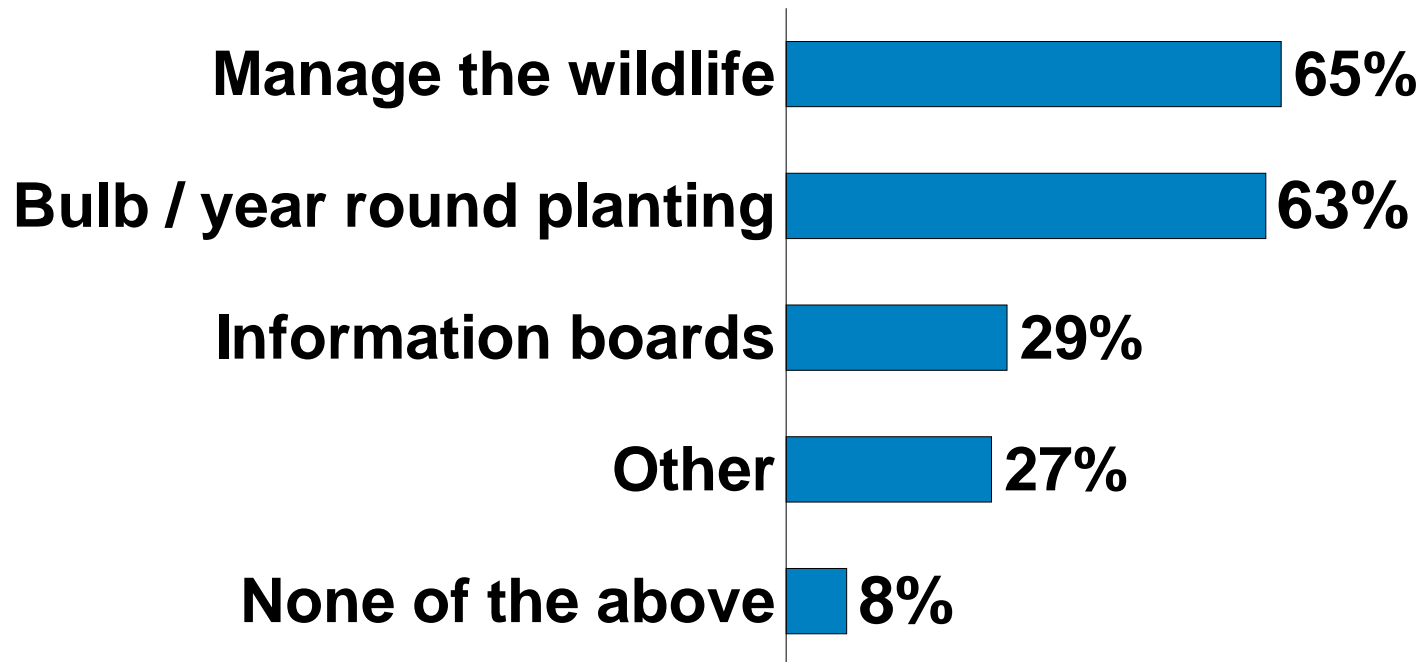
When you visited Spencer Gardens did you...



Base: (All respondents who visited Spencer Gardens)

Improvements to ecological diversity would be welcomed in Spencer Gardens

What changes would you like to see in Spencer Gardens?



All respondents (165)

Other changes people would like to see at Spencer Gardens

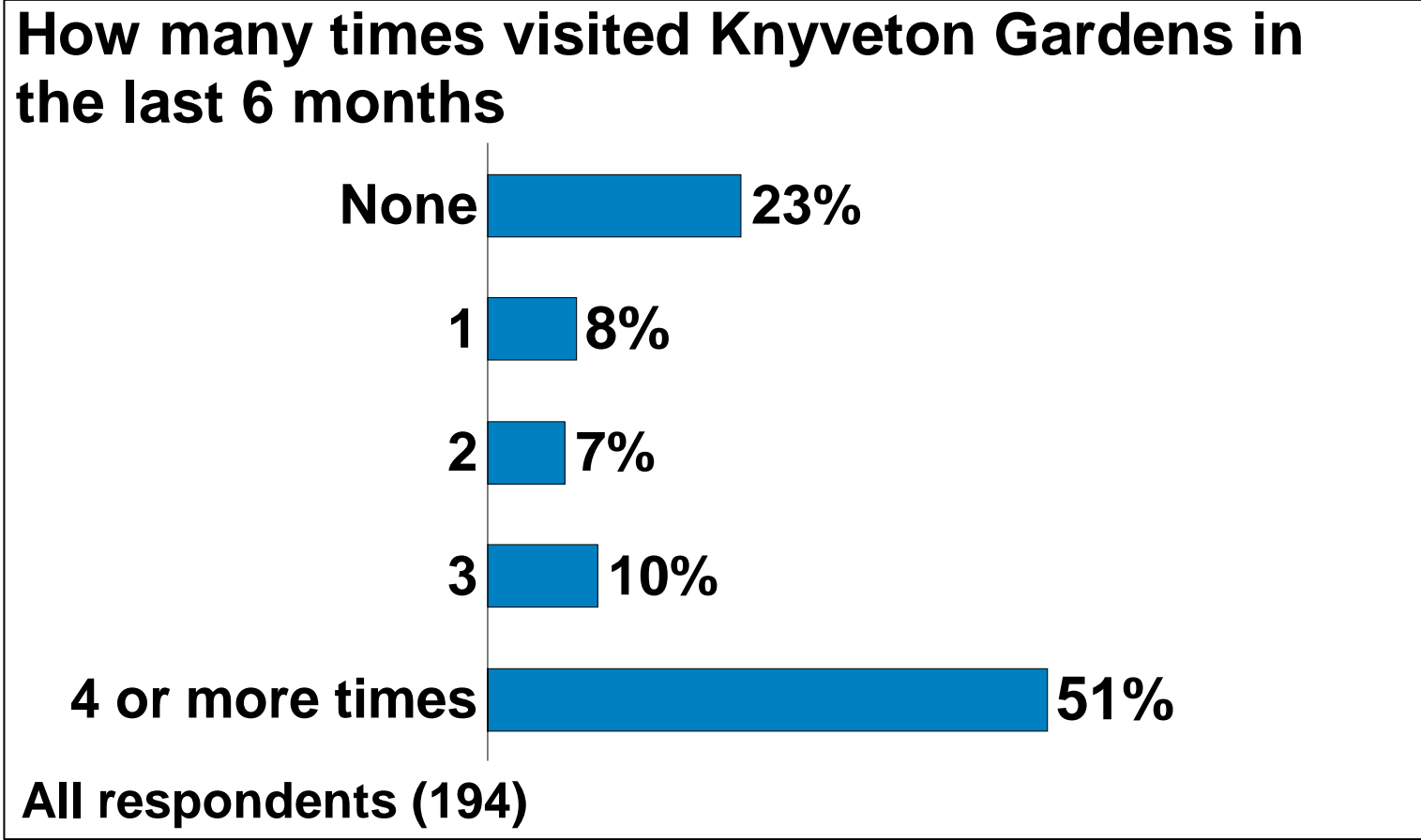
Other' mentions focussed on reducing ASB, clearing litter and tidying the area. A selection of comments is included below.

- *"Family grass area separated from dog use."*
- *"Cleaner gardens."*
- *"Manage drunk people on the grass and prostitutes."*
- *"Picnic benches and somewhere to have a BBQ, lots of flats not much garden space."*
- *"CCTV, the drug and alcohol addicts controlled more, as they use this area at night, are noisy and throw beer cans into the bushes during the day, it is a haven for dog walkers, children and adults alike."*
- *"To make sure or catch people who don't pick up their dog's poo! Needles, alcoholics leaving empty bottles, prostitutes and their condoms!"*
- *"Bushes cleared, deterring concealment."*
- *"Rubbish removal."*
- *"More police pressure to change the culture of accepted vagrancy."*
- *"Stop the drug and alcoholic users from decimating the area."*
- *"Have not visited so don't know what's there to improve."*

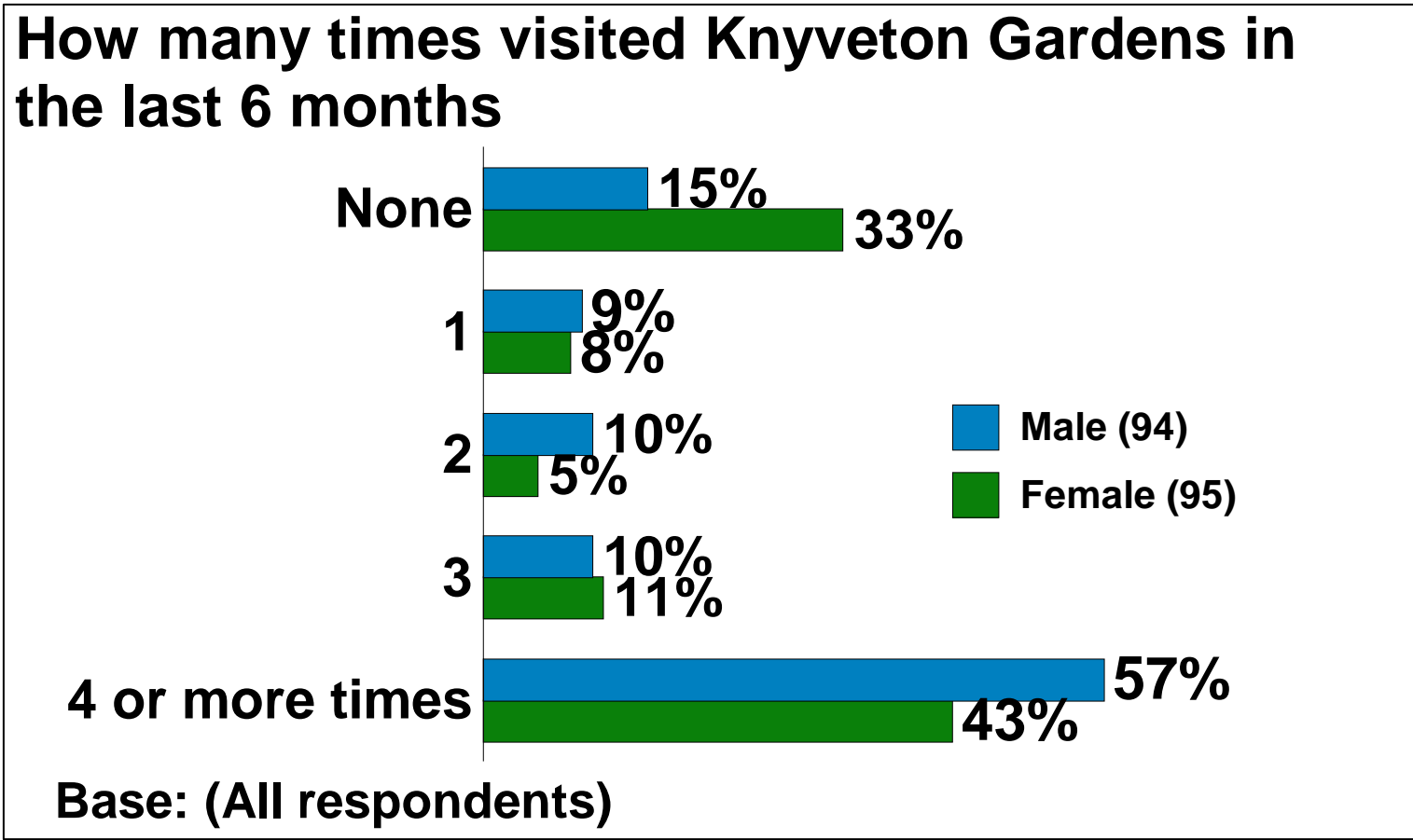


Knyveton Gardens

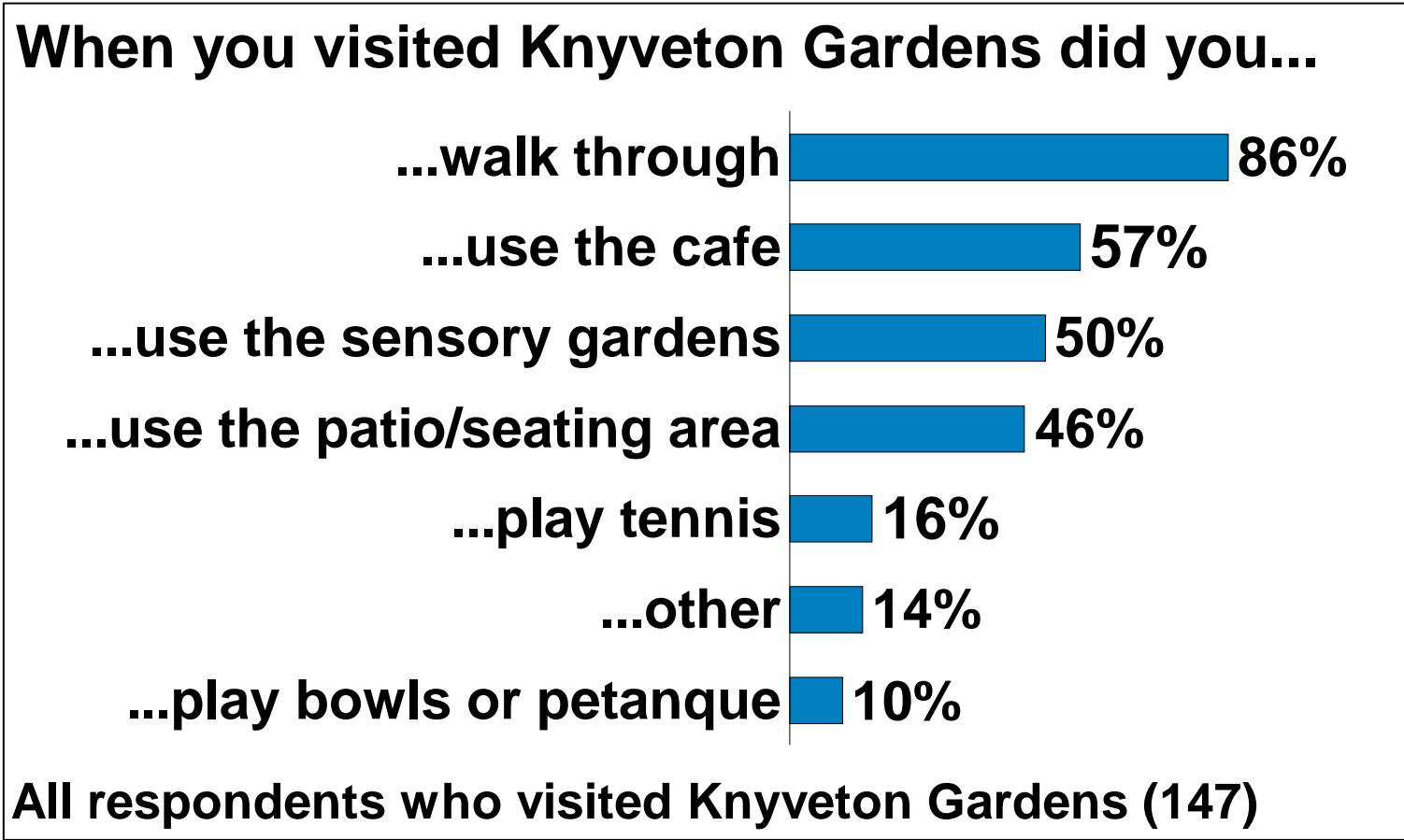
23% of respondents hadn't visited Knyveton Gardens in the last 6 months, whilst 51% had visited 4 or more times



Females less likely than males to have visited Knyveton Gardens



86% of those who had visited Knyveton Gardens had walked through, while 57% had visited the café and 50% used the sensory gardens



Other things people did at Knyveton Gardens

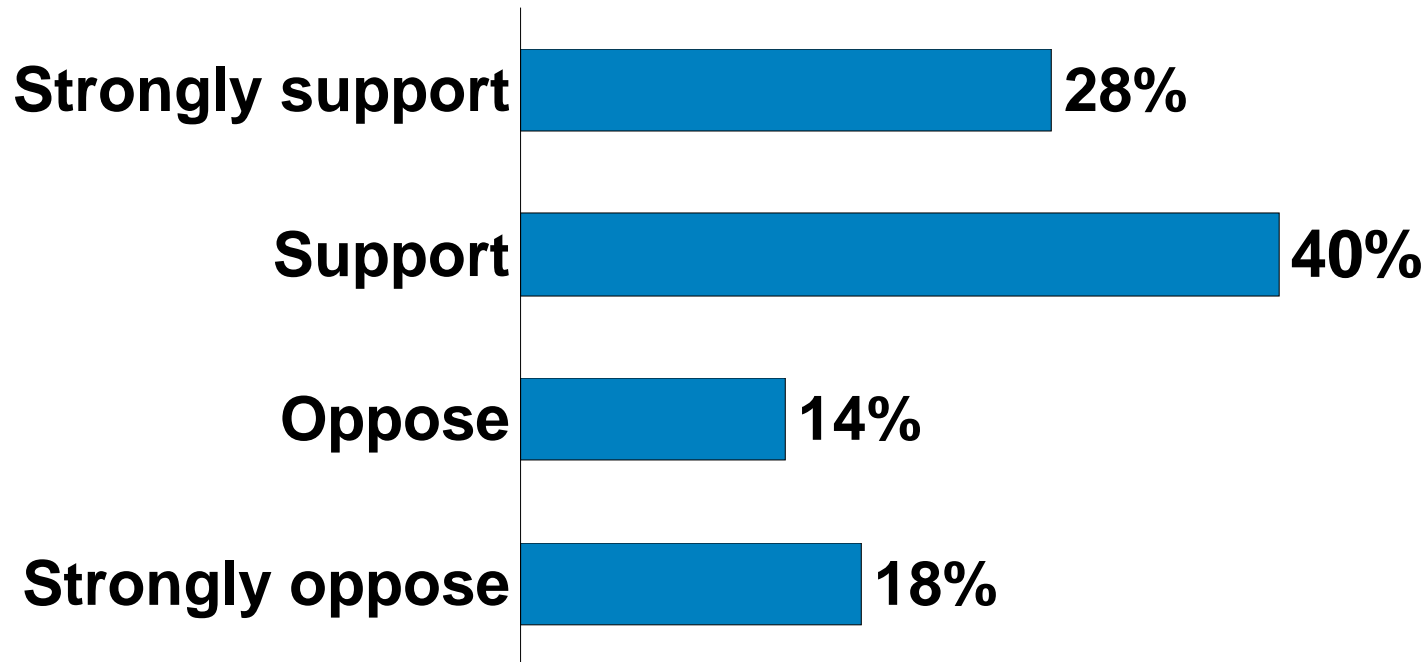
Other comments focused on watching wildlife and bowling, using the pavilion and café and using the Gardens as a general place to relax. A selection of quotes are included below:

- *"Attended Neighbourhood Watch meeting at cafe."*
- *"Watch wildlife."*
- *"Used club house, quiz nights and also just have a drink."*
- *"My grandchildren 4 year old twins who live with me part of the week of the well, we ride past the tennis courts and visit the sensory gardens to see the fish, that's all there is in the area to do for small children."*
- *"Not able to use certain areas of the gardens due to winos and undesirables using areas as a toilet."*
- *"A place of beauty and tranquility, peace and quiet. Not a place for 300+ students from the B&Q site development to kick a football about with all the noise that creates."*
- *"Bowlers when playing take over cafe and parking spaces."*

**68% support the building of a MUGA,
32% oppose it**



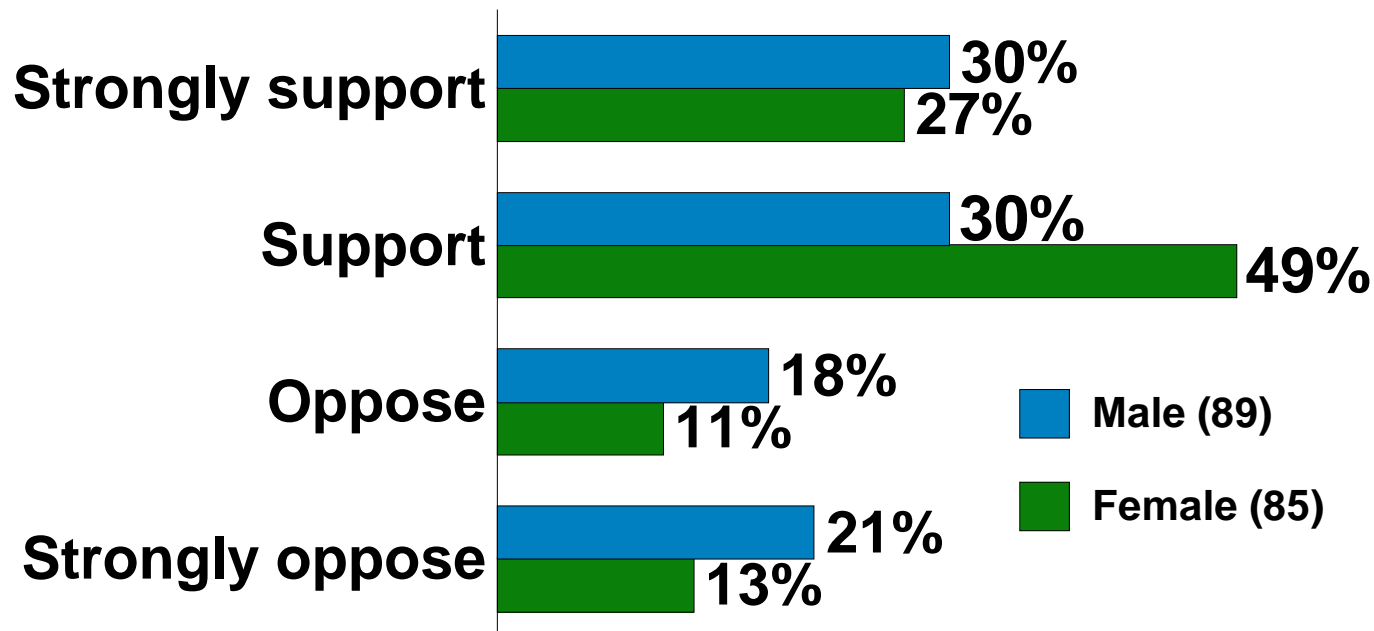
SUGGESTION 1: build a multi-use games area (MUGA) on one of the three tennis courts



All respondents (excluding don't know) (181)

Females more likely than males to support building a MUGA

SUGGESTION 1: build a multi-use games area (MUGA) on one of the three tennis courts



Base: (All respondents Exc DK)

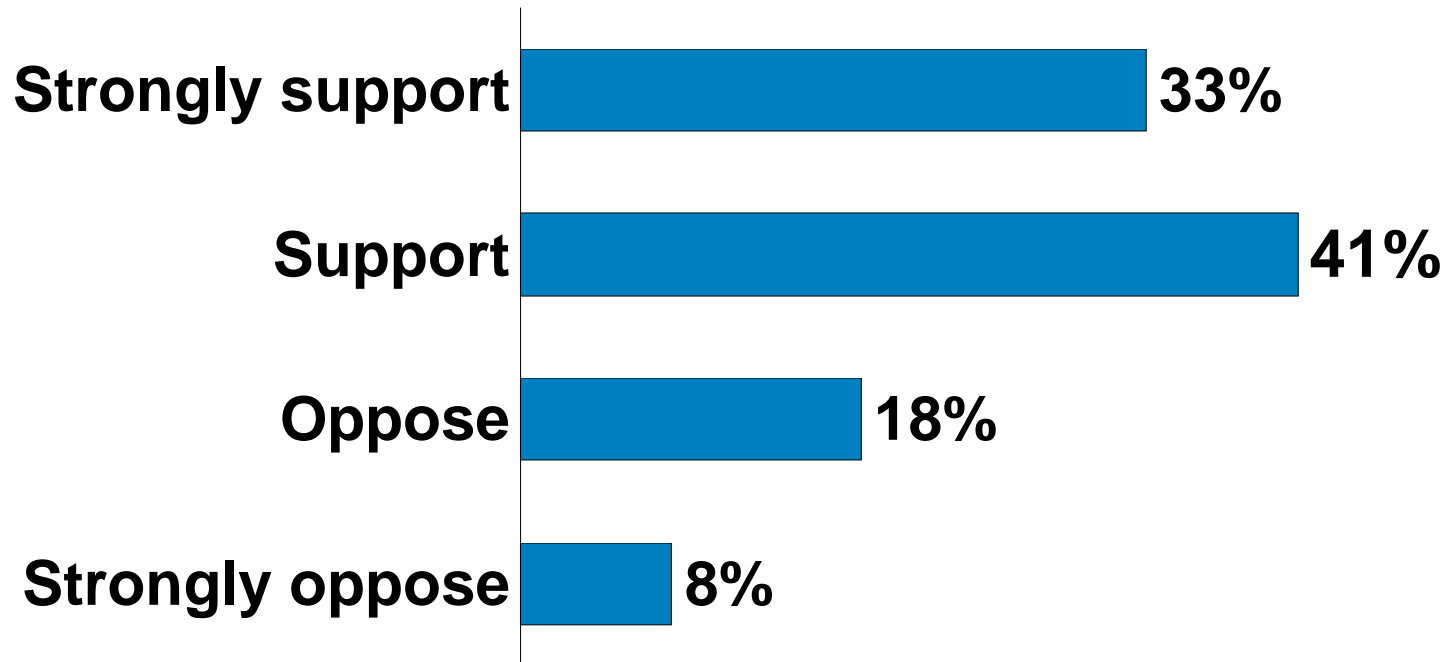
Reasons for opposing suggestion 1

Reasons for opposing Suggestion 1 included worries about noise and antisocial behaviour, concerns about parking and concerns that a MUGA would not be used (because there is another MUGA nearby). A selection of comments is included below.

- *"It brings in too many people hanging around and it unsettles the gardens with the banging of the ball against metal. I see how it has changed Boscombe Gardens, not good."*
- *"There is one in the area already and the parks should be on what's not available, i.e. facilities for younger children."*
- *"It will encourage troublemakers, antisocial behaviour."*
- *"I wouldn't oppose if you resurfaced the other courts and made them free alongside the MUGA."*
- *"There's enough area around for football, etc., not so many for tennis."*
- *"Noise levels in a residential area."*
- *"Because it would attract rowdy youths and would not be policed properly."*
- *"We like the tennis courts. There are MUGA at Boscombe Gardens, at Kings Park and at Churchill Gardens, i.e. there are already 3 MUGAs in the area."*
- *"Lack of car parking especially in the bowling season and also noisy for the residents opposite."*

74% support updating the tennis courts

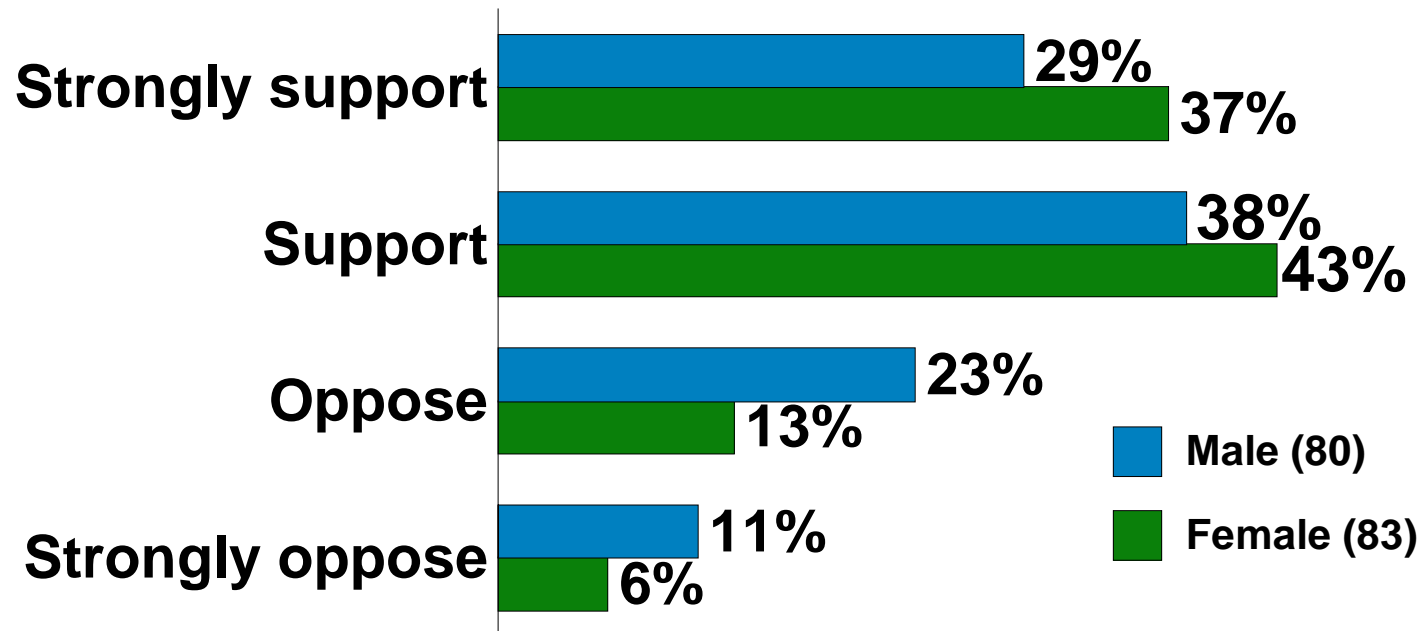
SUGGESTION 2: keep all the tennis courts, have them resurfaced and make them free for all to use



All respondents (excluding don't know) (169)

Females more likely to support the suggestion of upgrading the tennis courts

SUGGESTION 2: keep all the tennis courts, have them resurfaced and make them free for all



Base: (All respondents Exc DK)

Reasons for opposing suggestion 2

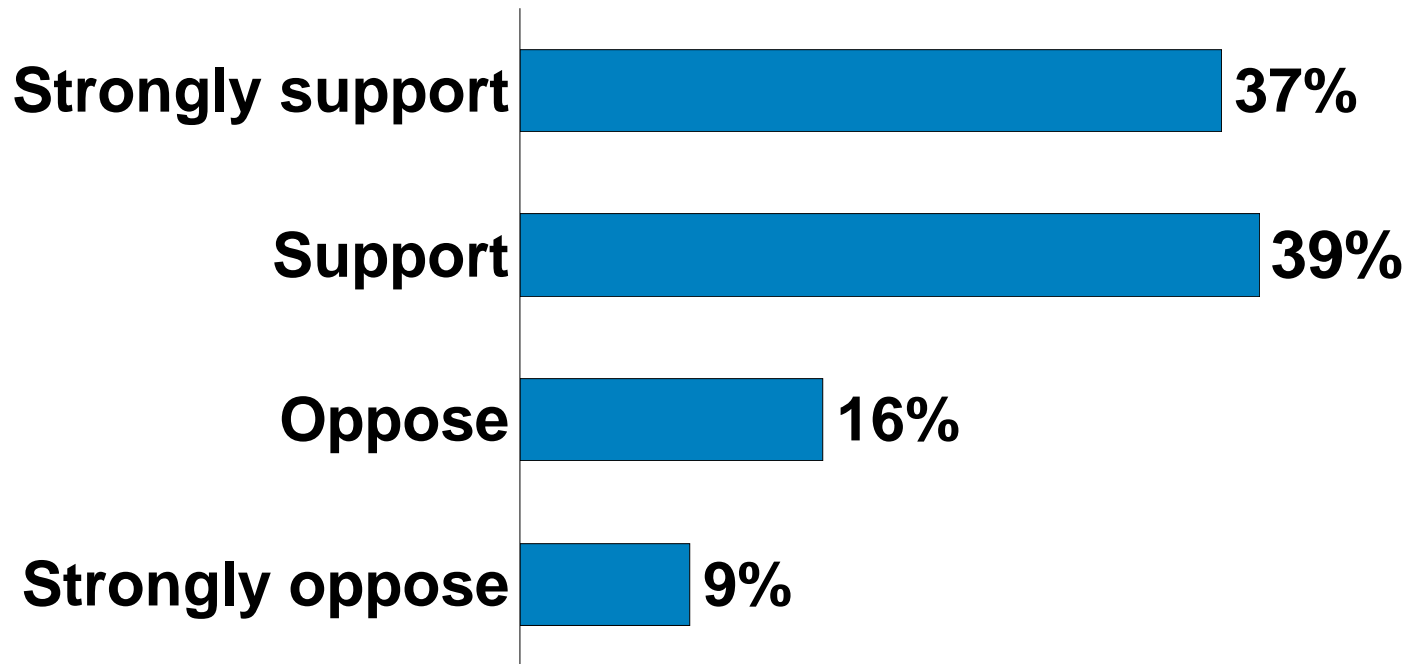
Reasons for opposing Suggestion 2 included support for an alternative suggestion, concerns that the tennis courts will not be used or that they will be over used and support for more variety. A selection of comments is included below.

- *"Because one should be adapted for multi-game use."*
- *"Need young children area's."*
- *"I should like more variety and at present the tennis seem to be under used."*
- *"If courts gets free, then it might get over-crowded in the garden and regulars like me won't get a chance to play tennis as usual."*
- *"Do we really need three courts?"*
- *"Tennis only appears to be played in the summer and then not very often. Much purpose courts would make better use of the land."*
- *"Whilst I feel the need to keep at least one or two of the courts for those of us who do not play bowls or basketball, they are not used enough to warrant all 3 being kept, but this could be of course due to the surface, being somewhat in need of relaying."*

76% support making one of the tennis courts a play area for young children



SUGGESTION 3: to make one of the three tennis courts a play area for young children

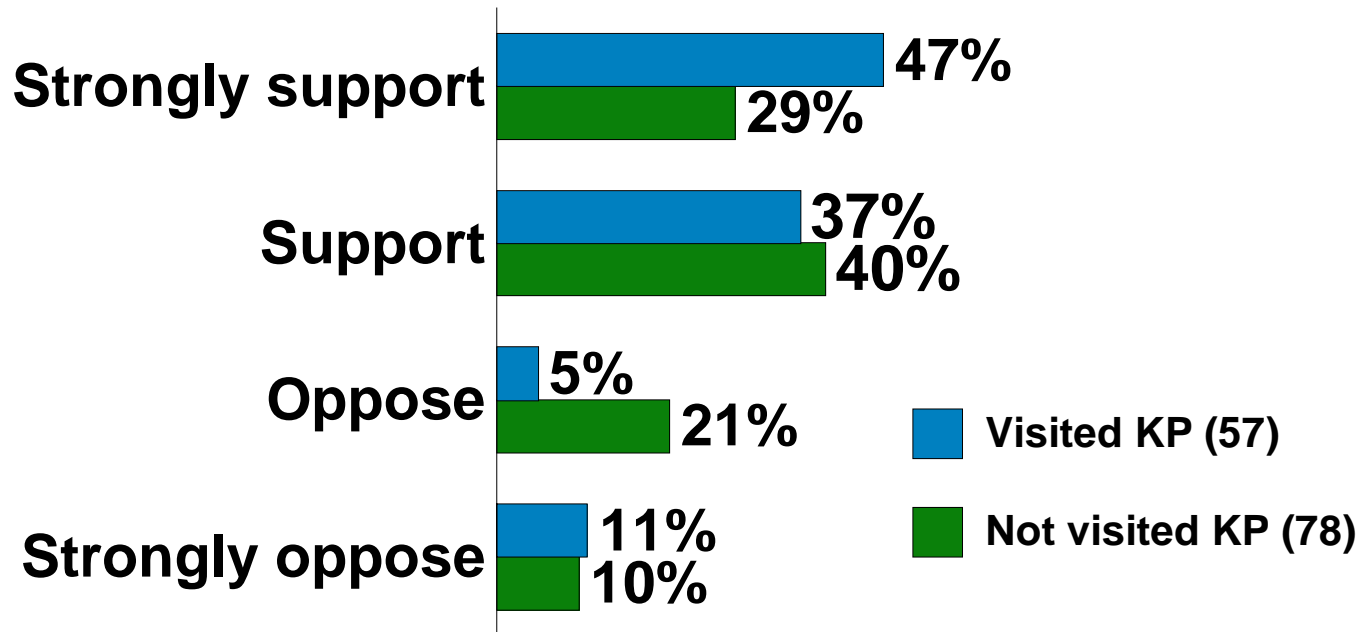


All respondents (excluding don't know) (178)

Those who had visited Kings Park more likely to support redeveloping a tennis court to a play area



SUGGESTION 3: to make one of the three tennis courts a play area for young children



Base: (All respondents Exc DK)

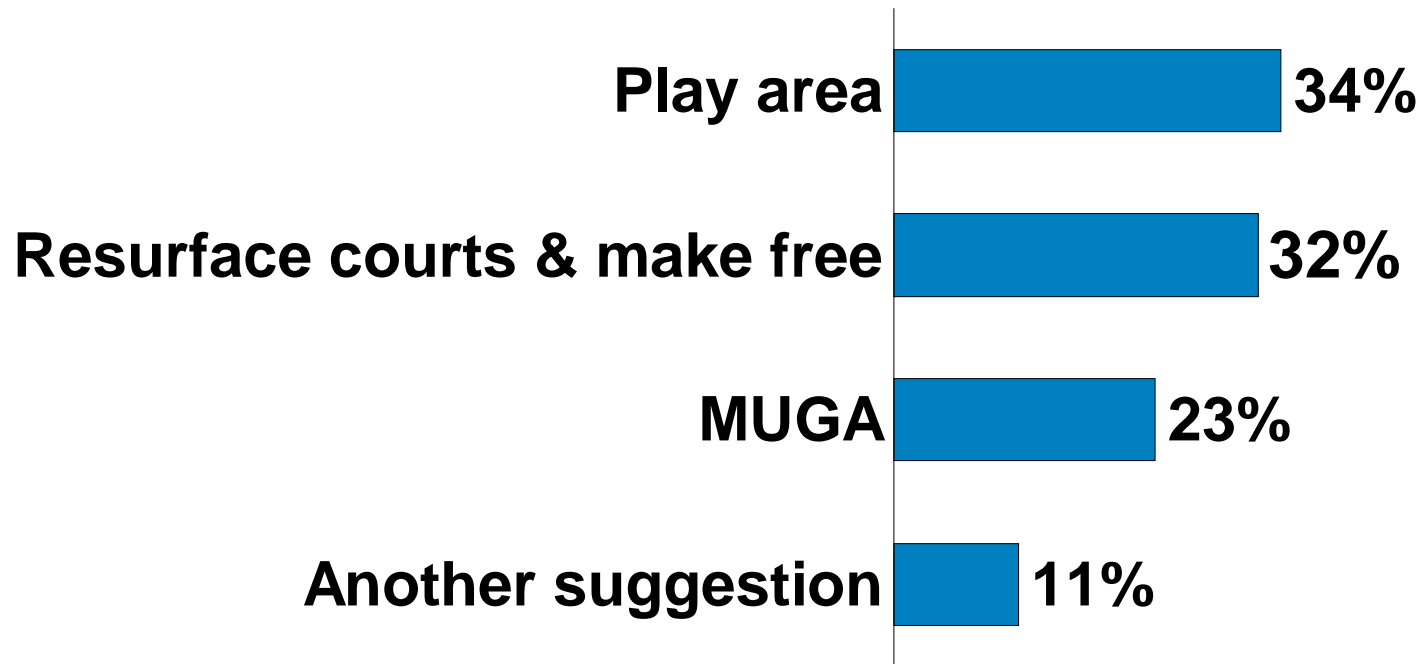
Reasons for opposing suggestion 3

Reasons for opposing suggestion 3 circulated around concerns that the children's area would be under used by children (because respondents think that there aren't enough children living locally) , that it would attract ASB and that it would be better to provide facilities for older children. A selection of comments is included below.

- *"I have seen people in the garden drinking alcohol, so children shouldn't see it."*
- *"I don't like areas with young children, as they tend to be noisy."*
- *"A good idea, if there are enough young children in the area to use it."*
- *"I do not think there are enough young children living in the area to warrant this. Few houses are family occupied."*
- *"Noise levels in a residential area and we have no children."*
- *"I would love a park, but I know after dark it would be a nightmare place, drug taking/drinking by older children. I think it would be a problem for local residents, not an asset."*
- *"Churchill Gardens better suited, think Knyveton Gardens not safe enough. Too many bedsits with social problems, and with regards to drugs and alcohol, etc."*
- *"Don't think it's a young children's area - lots of hotels and there are parks nearby."*
- *"Inappropriate to character of gardens and area could promote vandalism. Reduction in facilities for playing tennis."*

The preferred options are for updating the tennis courts or turning one of the courts into a play area

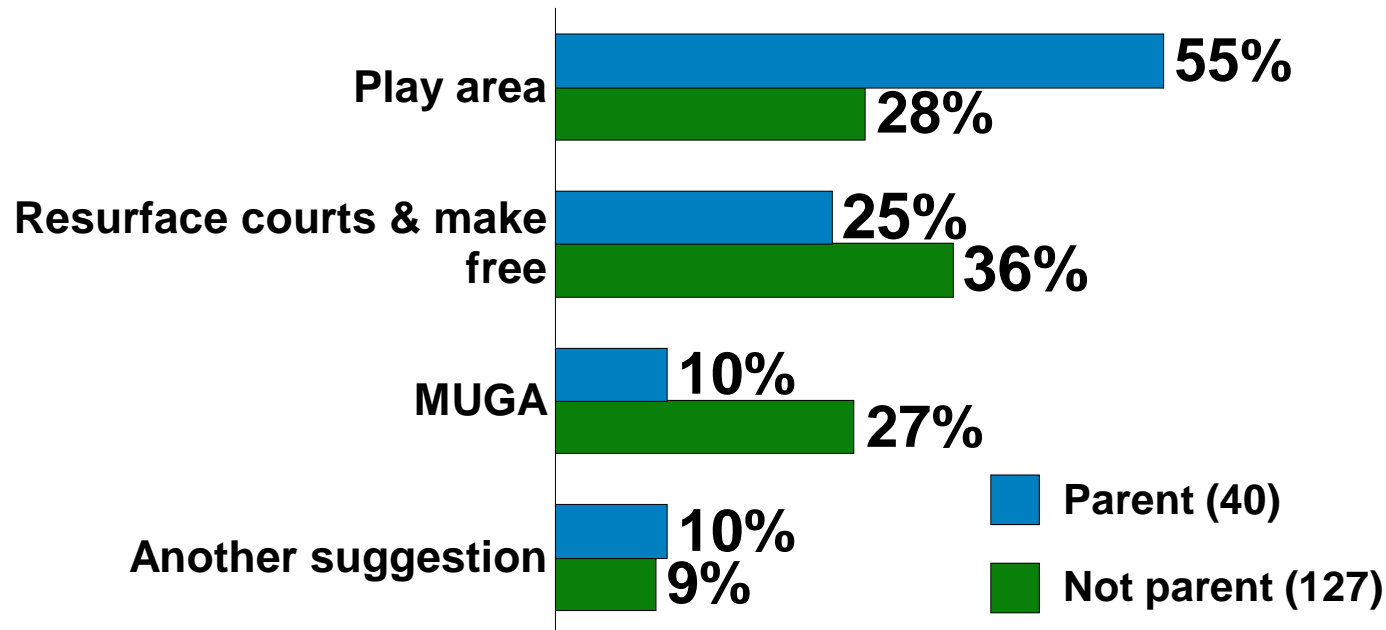
What would be your preferred option for this area of the gardens?



All respondents (excluding don't know) (178)

Parents more likely to support developing a play area.

What would be your preferred option for this area of the gardens?



Base: (All respondents Exc DK)

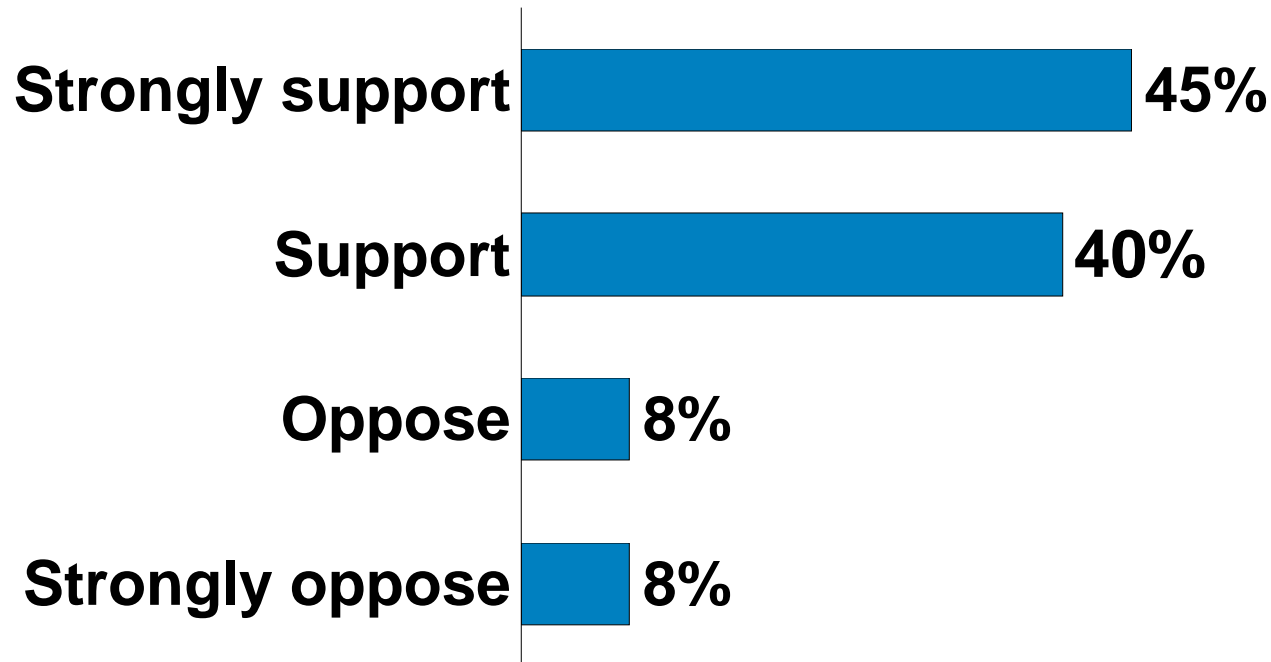
Other suggestions (1)

Other suggestions for the park included mixing up all three of the suggestions, improving the quality of the plants and animals or introducing a new suggestion. A selection of comments is included below:

- "Garden/variety of flowers with water feature."
- "Six a-side football pitch."
- "Resurface existing courts and make them free, with one court a MUGA, as suggested."
- "More seating."
- "Remove one and make either MUGA or play area and tennis."
- "Keep as they are, but update and make them easier to access and cheaper."
- "One of each, I play tennis and would go if it was free. The play and ball courts in Boscombe Gardens are always busy."
- "A small nature enclosure, allowing local school children/teachers to plant trees and encourage wildlife."
- "Garden flowers, pond, benches."
- "Two free tennis courts and a play area. More access to the cafe/bar for non members."
- "Area for ball games and place to chill out on the grass but junkies may congregate there."

85% support the introduction of a play area

A suggested improvement for the park generally is to introduce a play area for younger children.



All respondents (excluding don't know) (182)

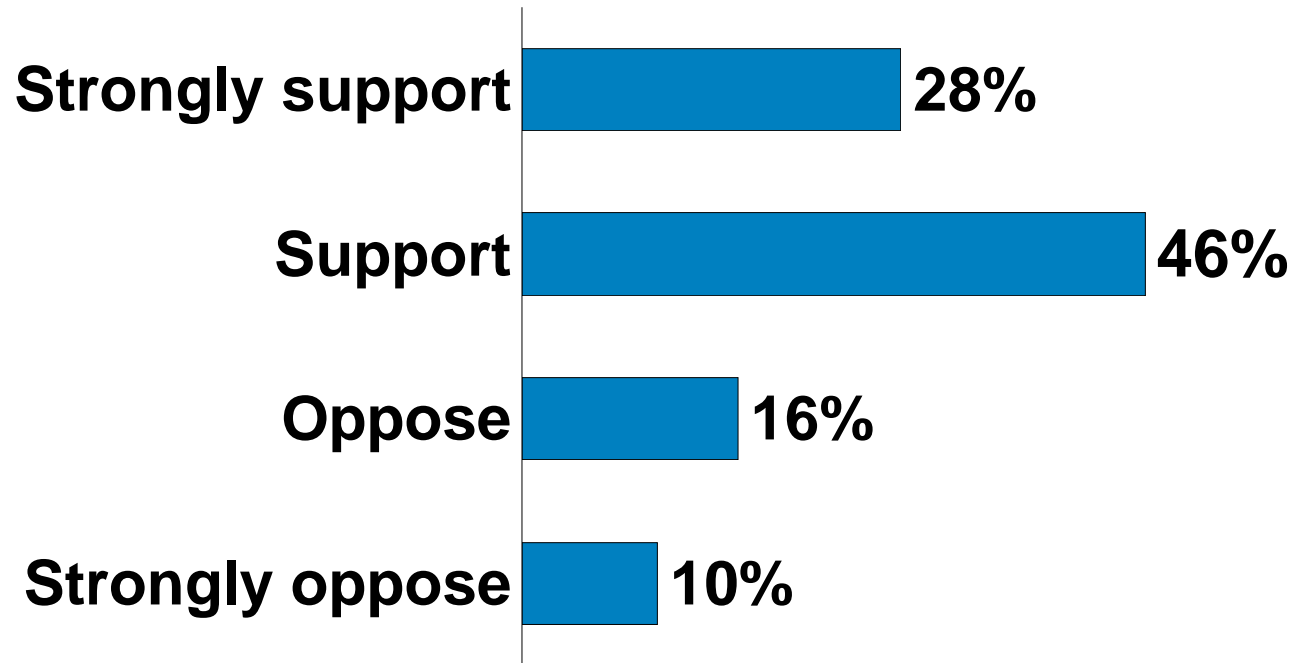
Reasons for opposing the introduction of a play area

Reasons for opposing the introduction of a play area related to ASB and noise, concerns over under-use and car parking (similar to the reasons for opposing turning one of the tennis courts into a play area)

- *"Young children are noisy and it would put me off."*
- *"I do not think there are enough young children in the area to warrant this. Few houses are family occupied."*
- *"Noise levels in a residential area and we have no children, plus would encourage jobs at night, therefore, leading to antisocial behaviour."*
- *"Think there's probably better transformation possibilities."*
- *"Keep the tennis courts, they are always in use and there is a demand. Make it free."*
- *"If you have a play area, seating, planting. You would have to supervised the area, at the moment there is a drink problem and girls of the street."*
- *"Lack of car parking especially in the bowling season and also noisy for the residents opposite."*
- *"A bit of everything, as question 12, but children should have a separate area away from adults."*

74% support the introduction of an informal grassy area

Another suggestion for the park generally is to introduce an informal grassy area.



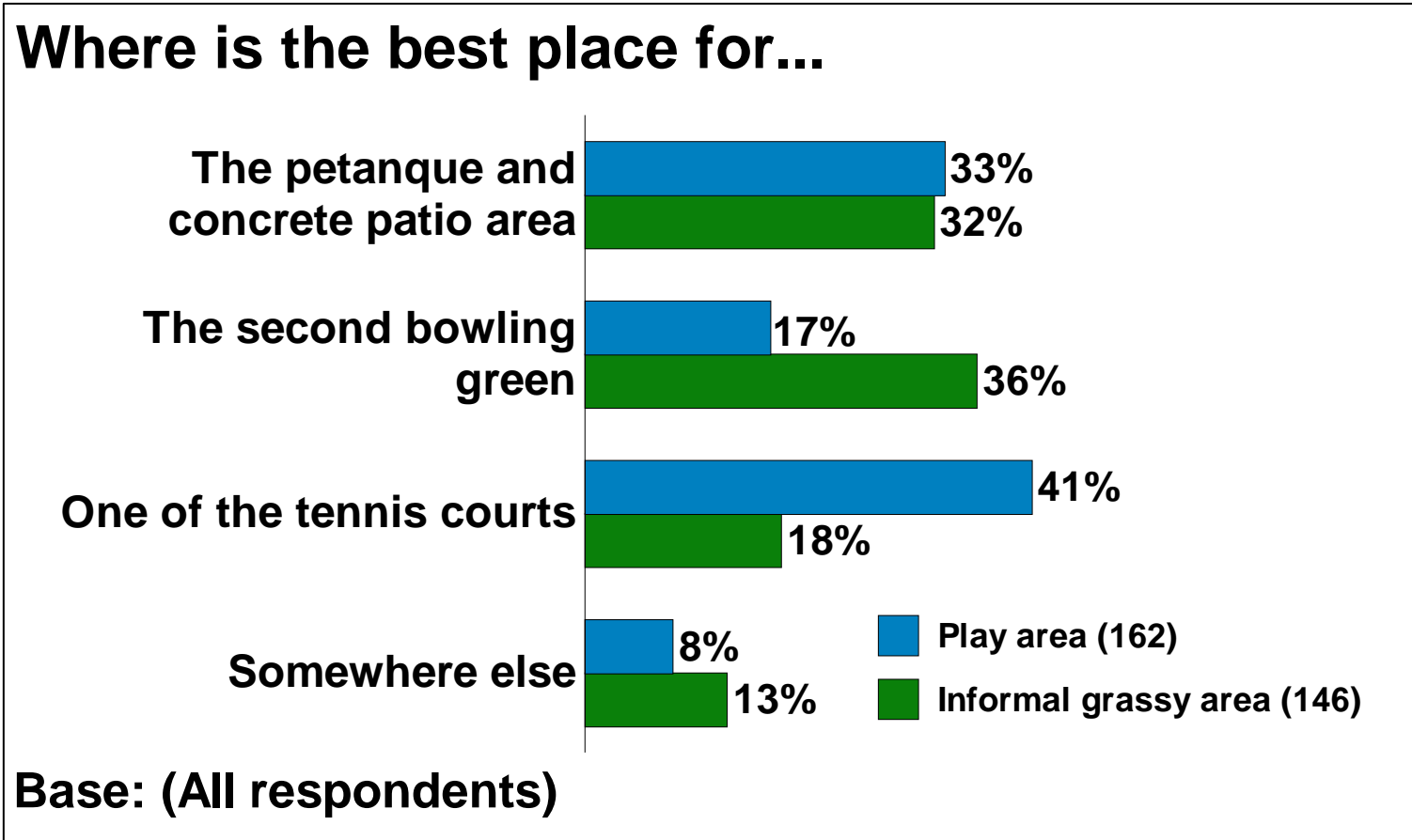
All respondents (excluding don't know) (166)

Reasons for opposing the introduction of an informal grassy area

Reasons for opposing the introduction of an informal grassy area included concerns over ASB, lack of space and a lack of need (because of current provision at Spencer Gardens). A selection of comments is included below:

- *"People will sit around drinking booze. It will be not good. Too many druggies will sit around getting off their heads."*
- *"I wouldn't think there is an area big enough to do all these things. It is a welcome place amongst all the houses. I have lived here since 1950, when it was called Francis Gardens and as children, we used the garden a lot, playing tennis and walking through and around it."*
- *"Spencer Road provides this, so why reduce the facilities at Knyveton Gardens?"*
- *"You can walk across the road to Spencer Gardens, which has plenty of grass areas."*
- *"It will encourage the drug and alcoholics to use it and lets be honest, there are a lot living in this area. With the beach and Boscombe Gardens just a short walk away it is not needed."*
- *"We already have a large grassy area in Spencer Road, we don't need another one."*
- *"Enough parks and beaches already, attract more prostitutes, attract more drunks."*
- *"Would become an area for people to abuse, area needs to have a purpose."*

The preferred location for a play area is one of the tennis courts or the petanque area, and the preferred option for the grassy area is the second bowling green or the petanque area

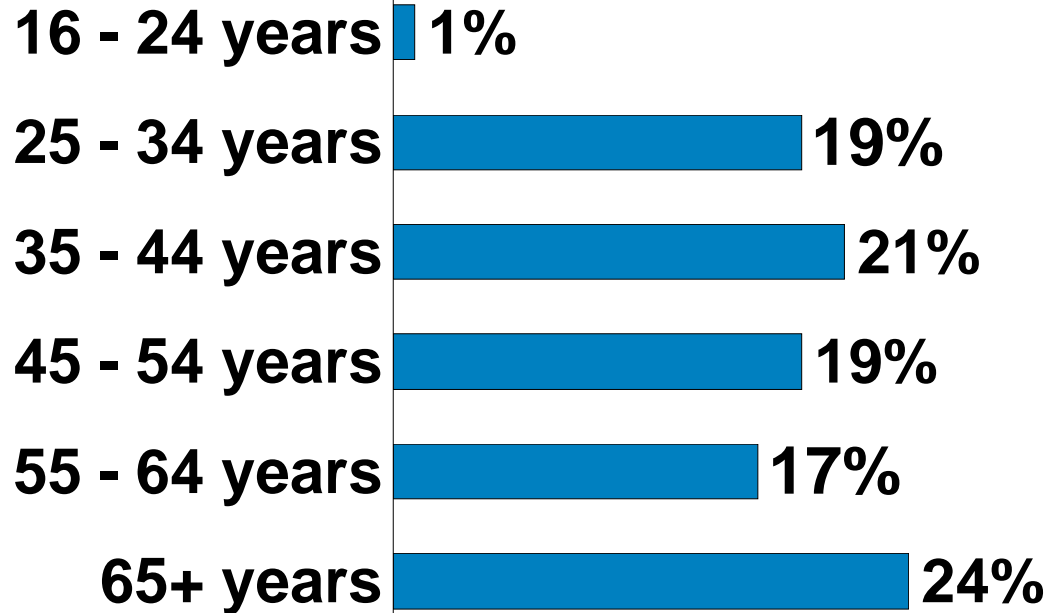




Demographics

Only 1% of respondents were aged 16-24 **snap** surveys

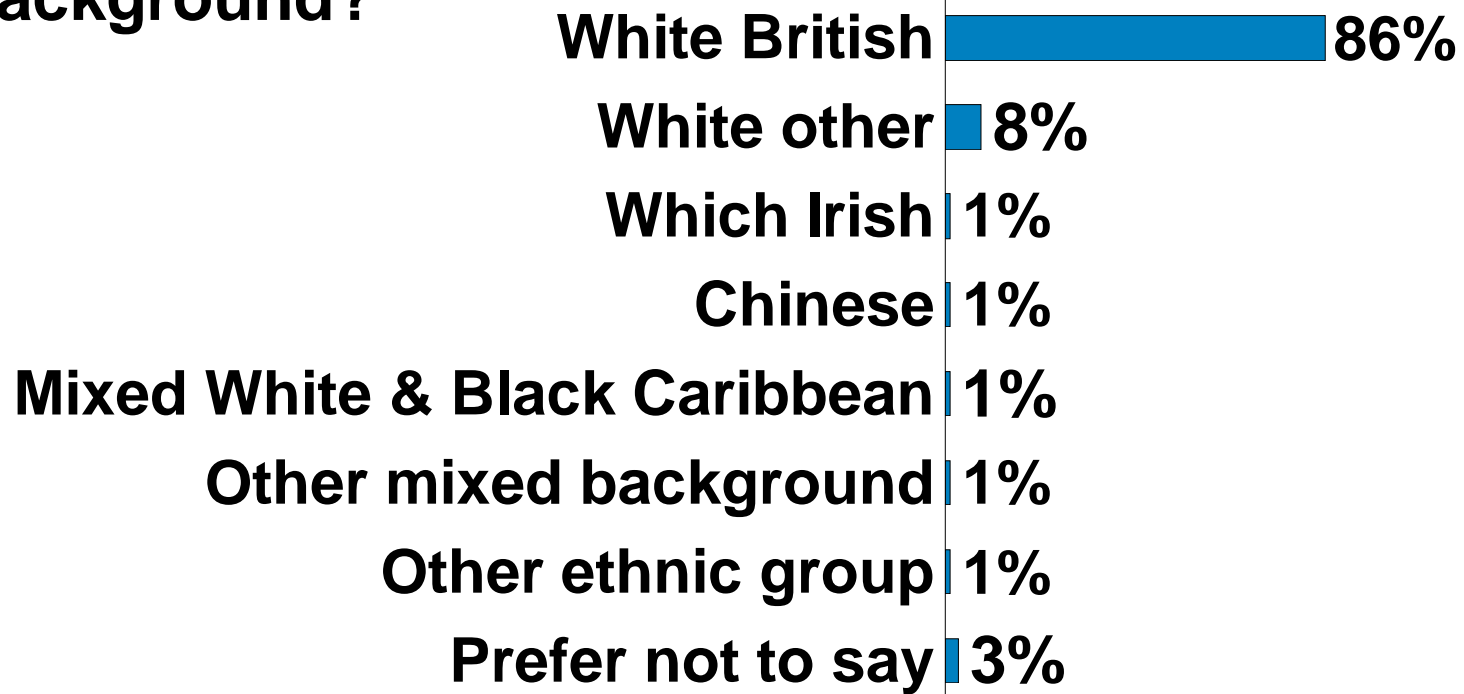
Which of the following age bands do you fall into?



All respondents (198)

86% described themselves as White British

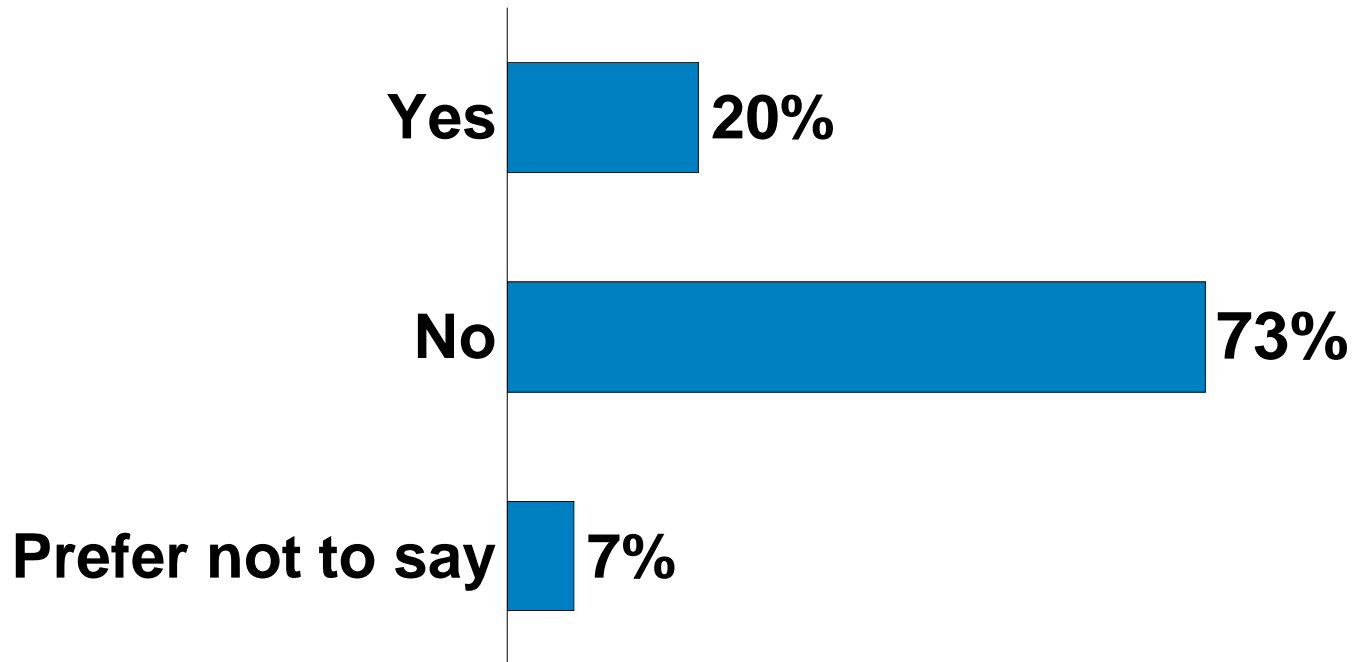
What do you consider to be your ethnic background?



All respondents (199)

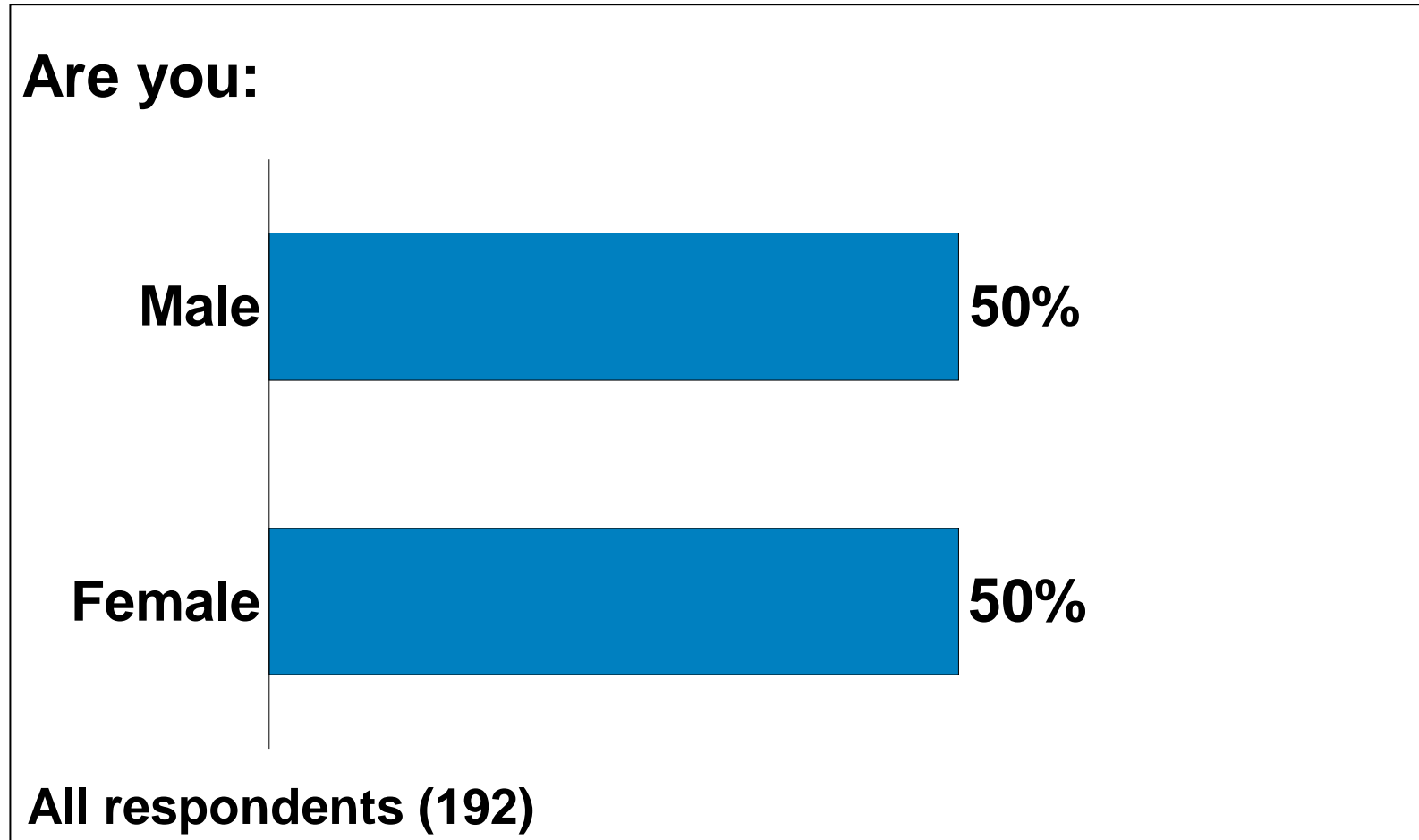
One in five said they have a disability

Do you have a long standing illness, disability or infirmity that limits your activities in any way?



All respondents (193)

50/50 split between male and female respondents



11% had children aged under 5, 10% had children aged 5-12 and 11% had children aged 13-17

