

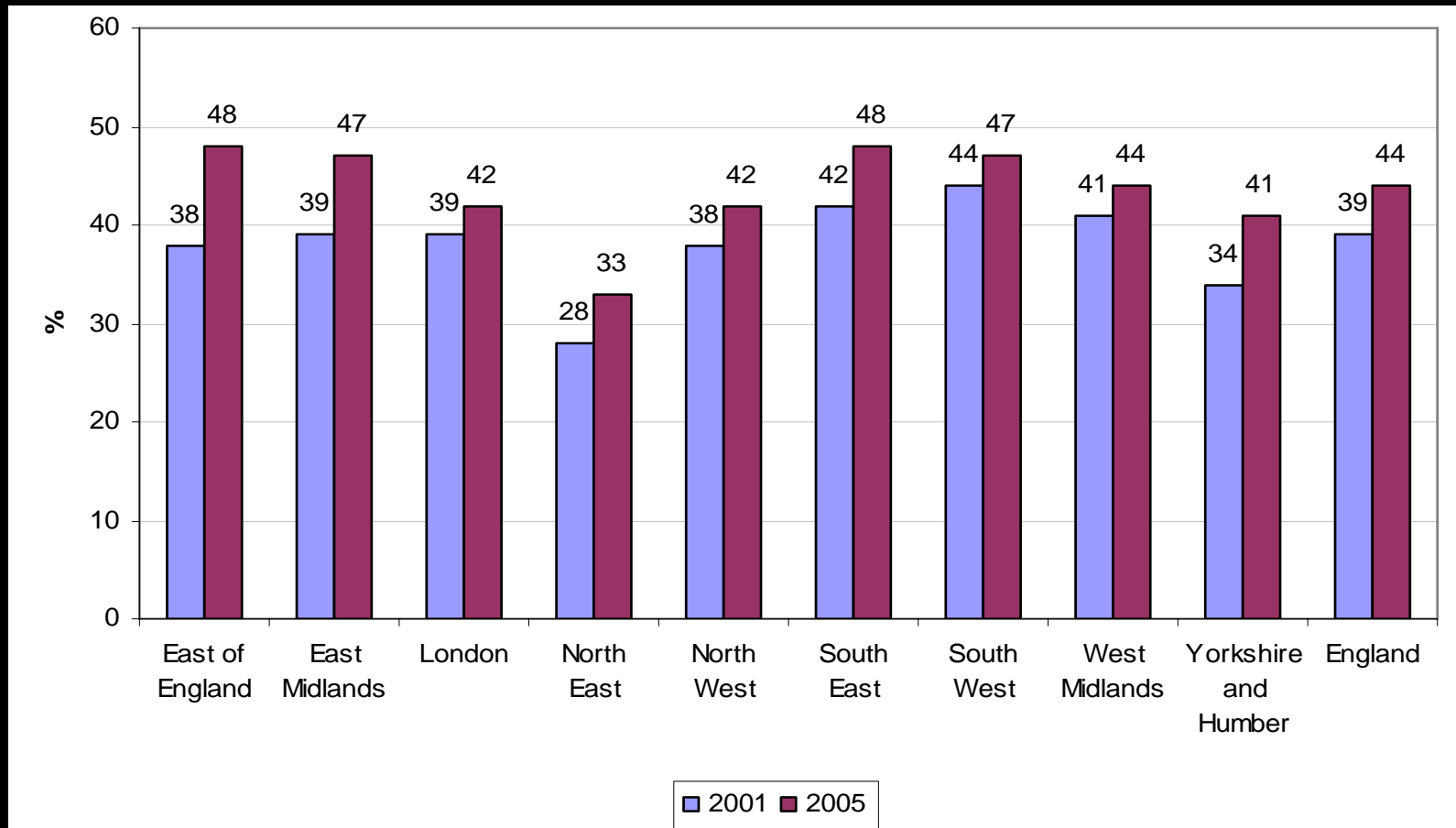
**Community Engagement**  
**- an insight into regional opinions**  
**and activity**

**Les Newby**

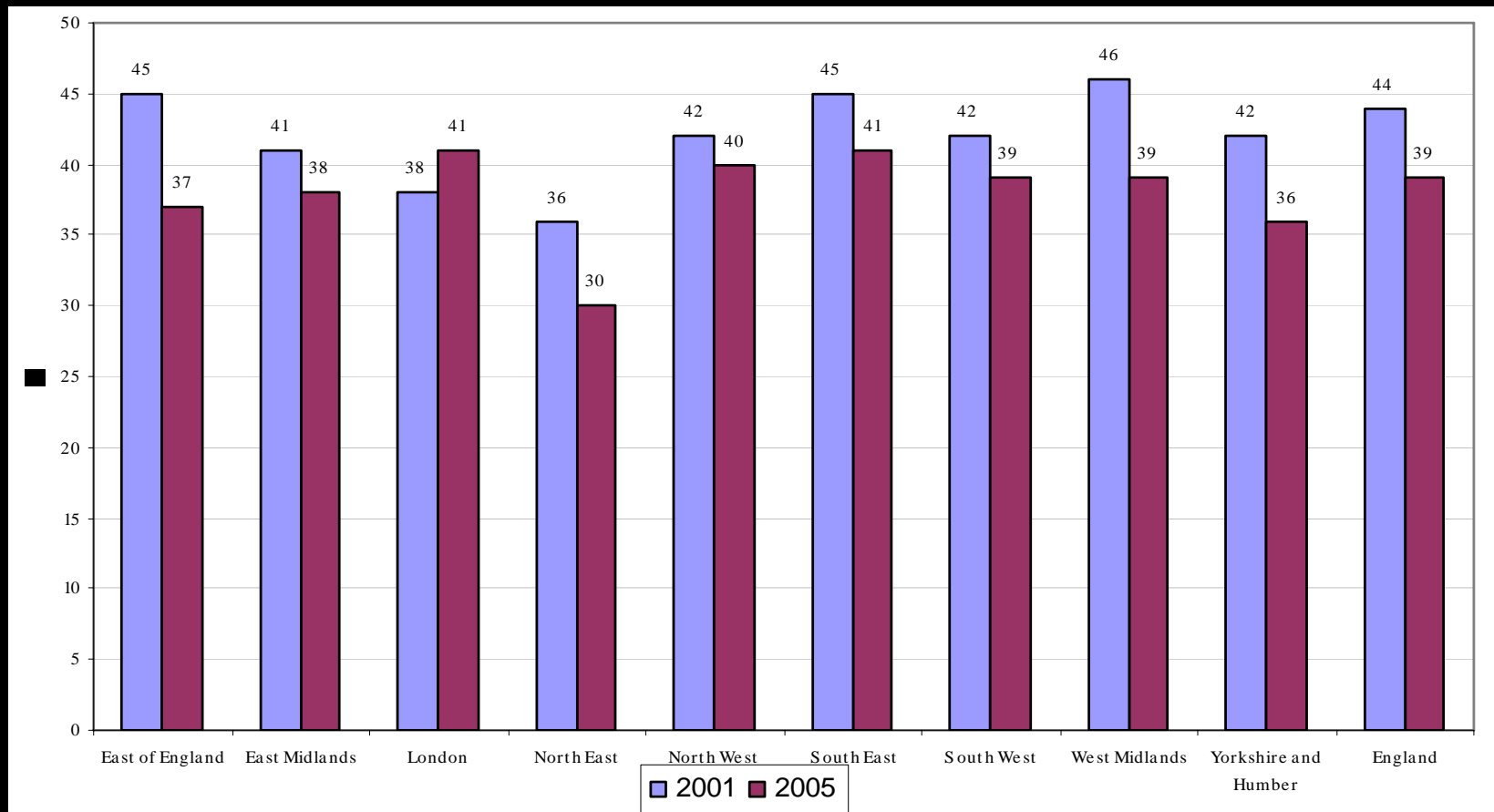
**Director of Yorkshire Futures**

# Context and Challenge

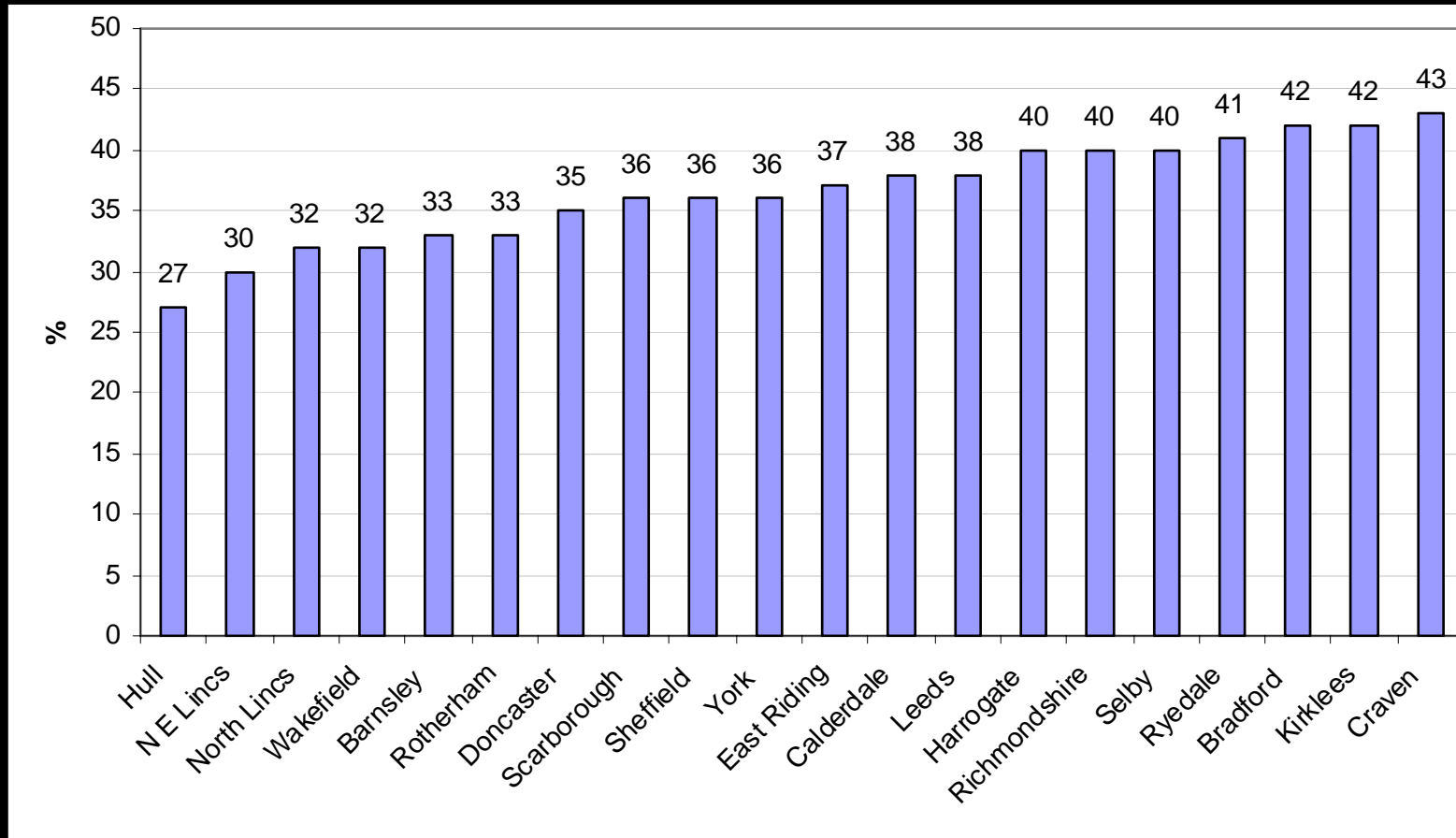
## Participation in 'formal' volunteering (%)



## % who feel they can influence local decisions

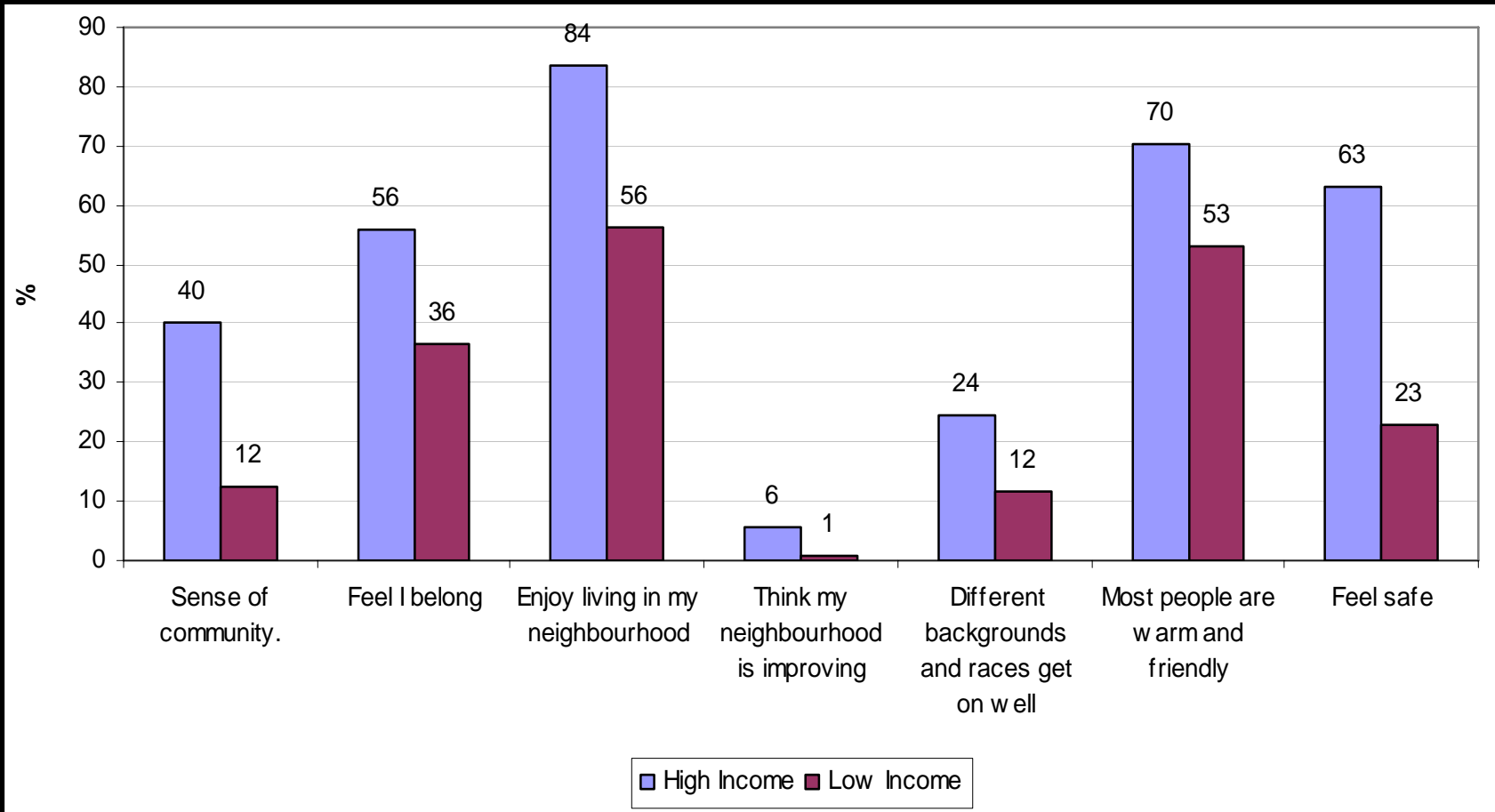


## Voting – % turnout at local elections (2007)

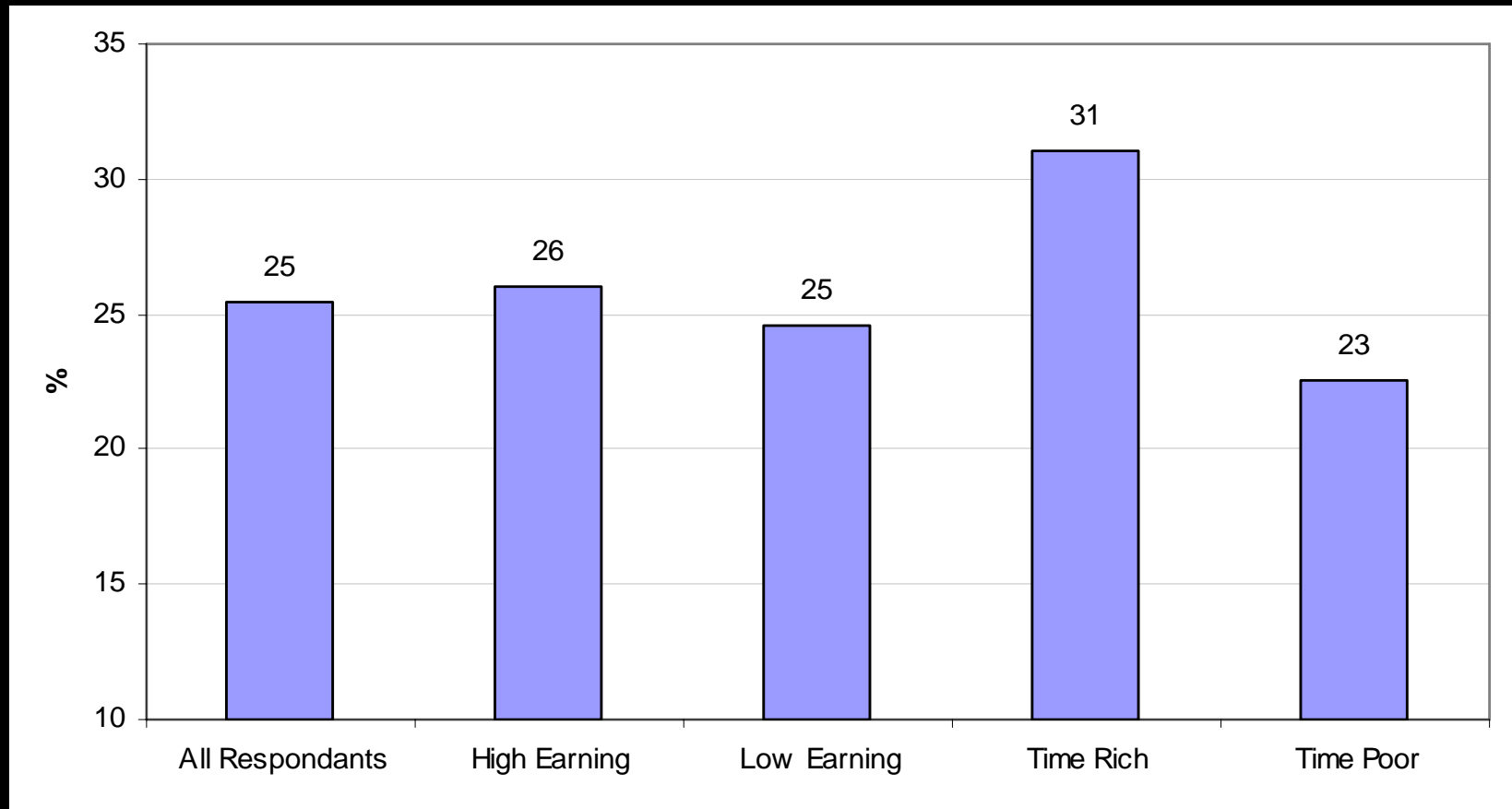


**Informing a Response**  
**- opinions, activity and insights**

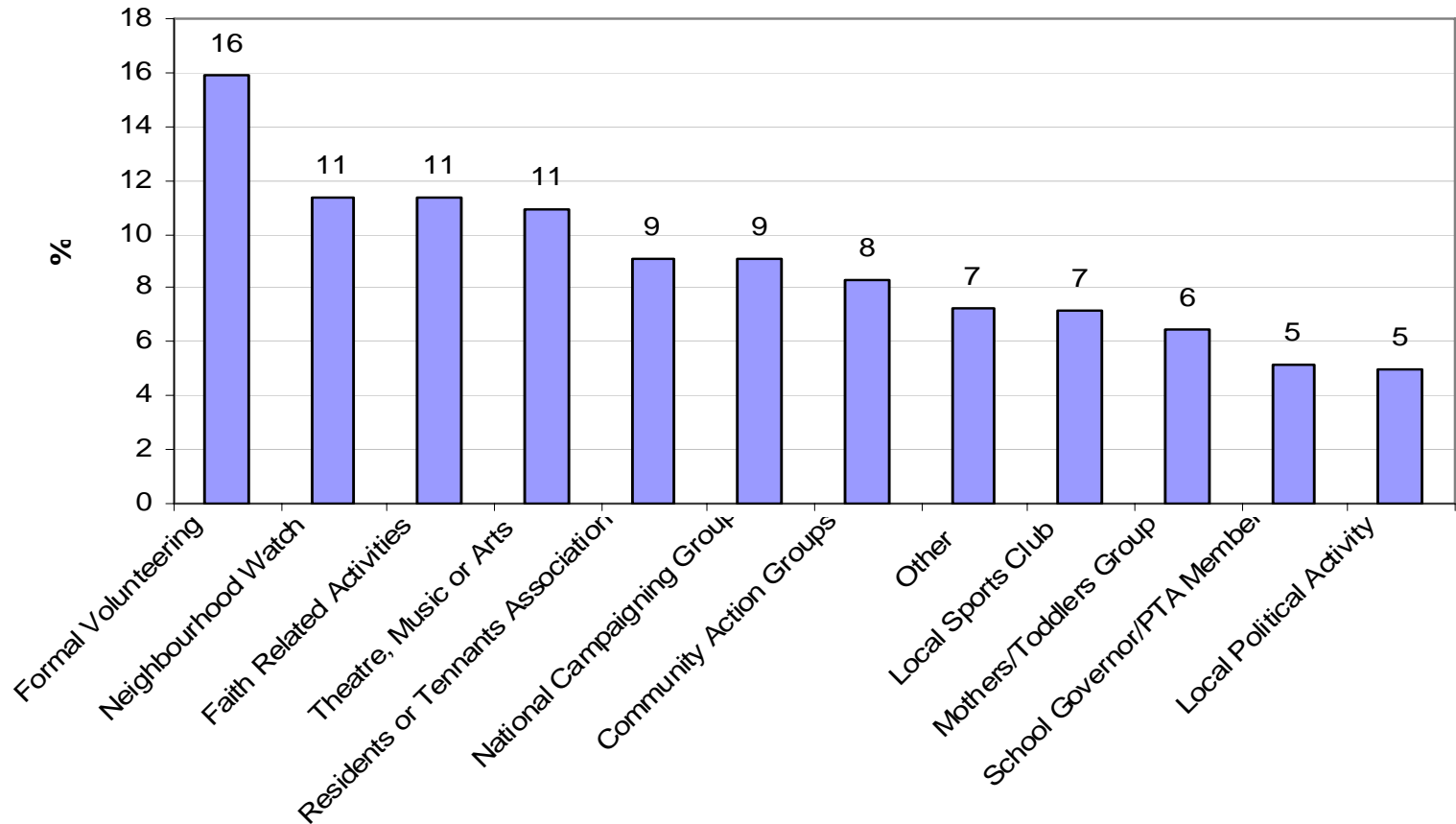
## 'On balance' neighbourhood perceptions by income



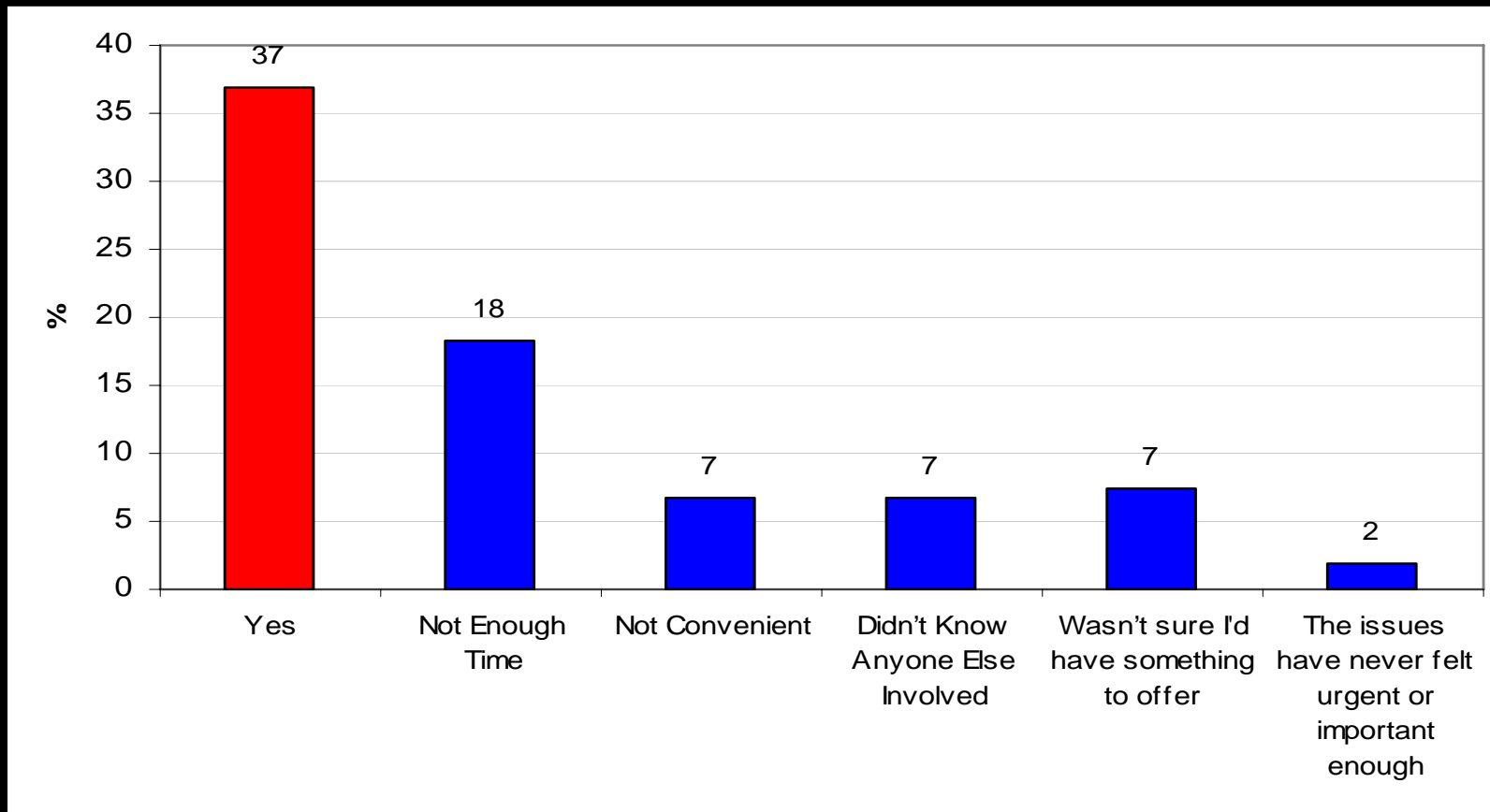
## % who have given time to improve their neighbourhood – variation by income and time



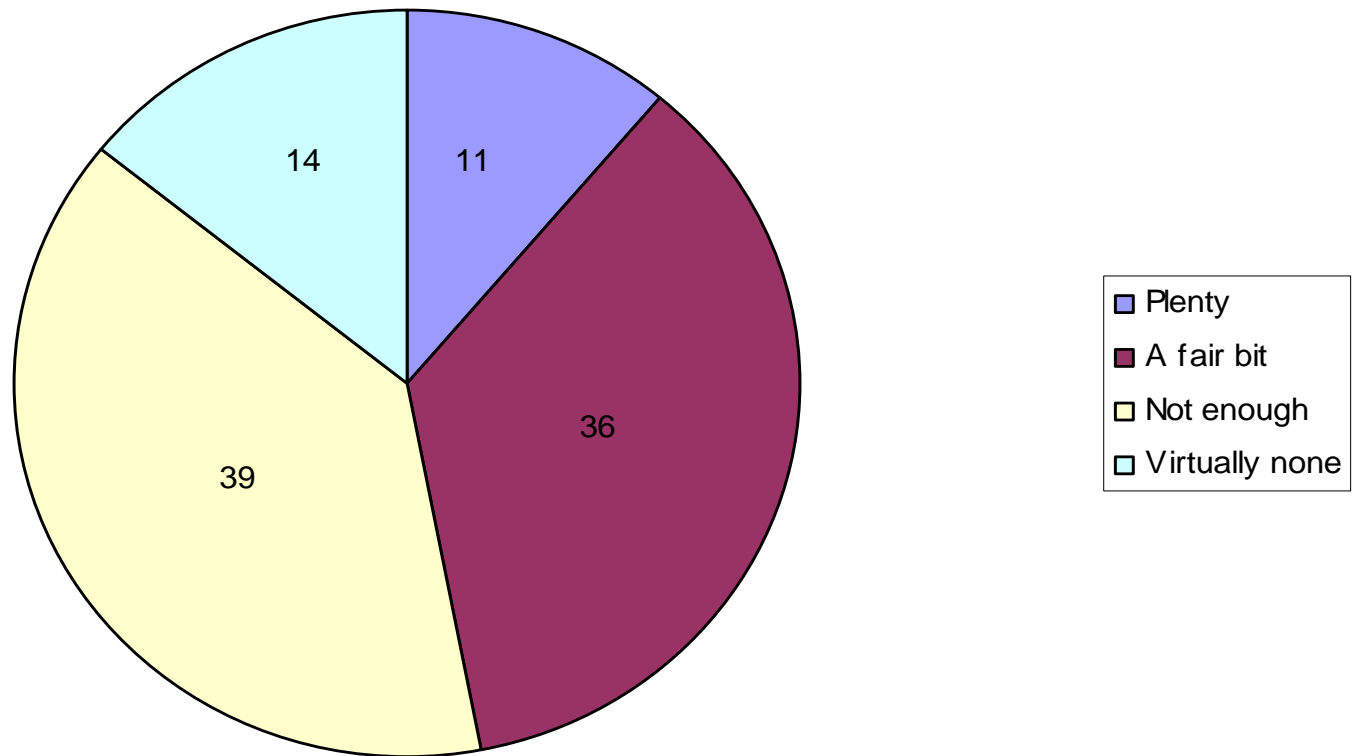
## Regular involvement in voluntary activities



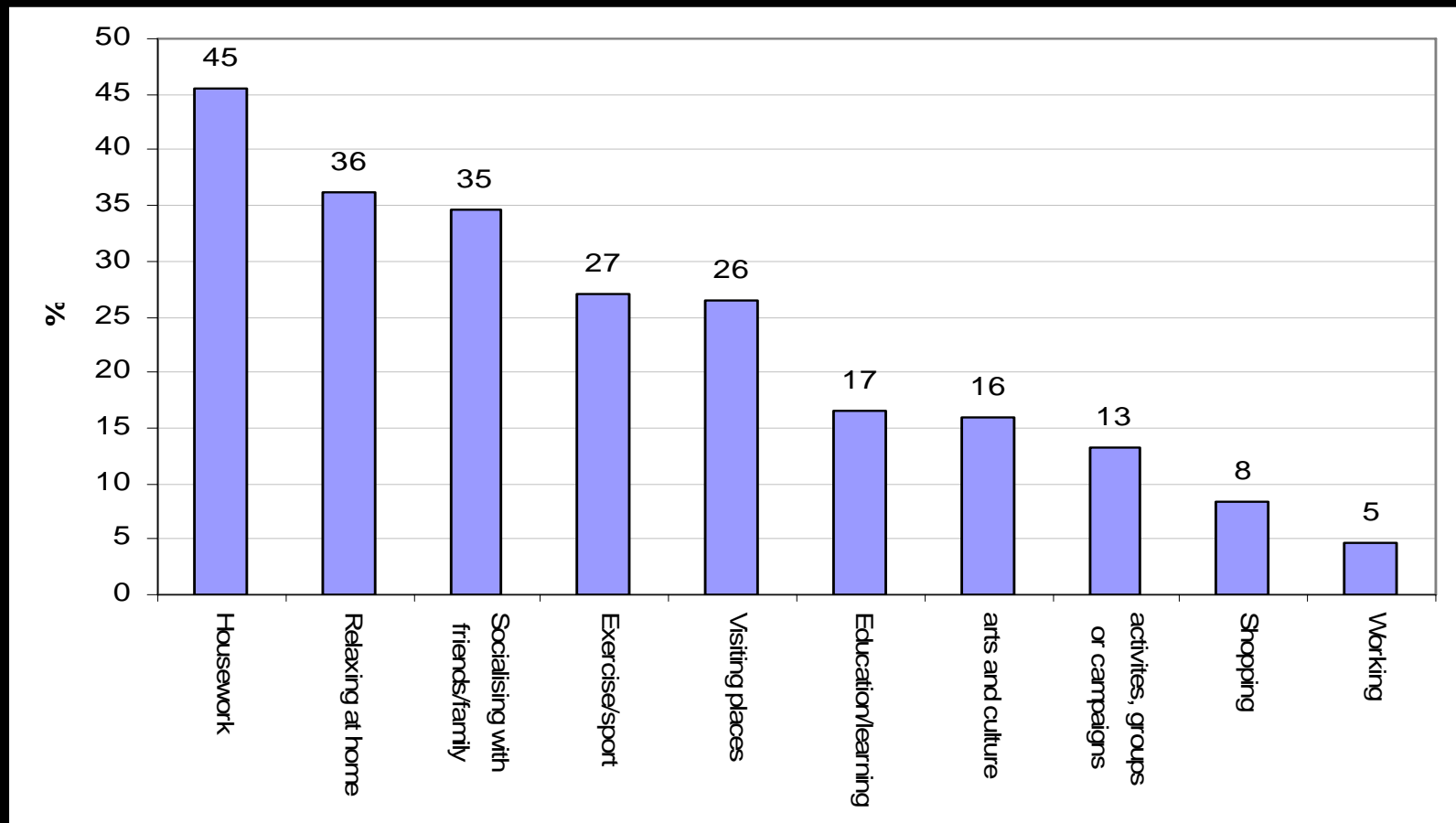
# Are there any groups/campaigns/activities you would like to get involved with, but haven't...if so, why?



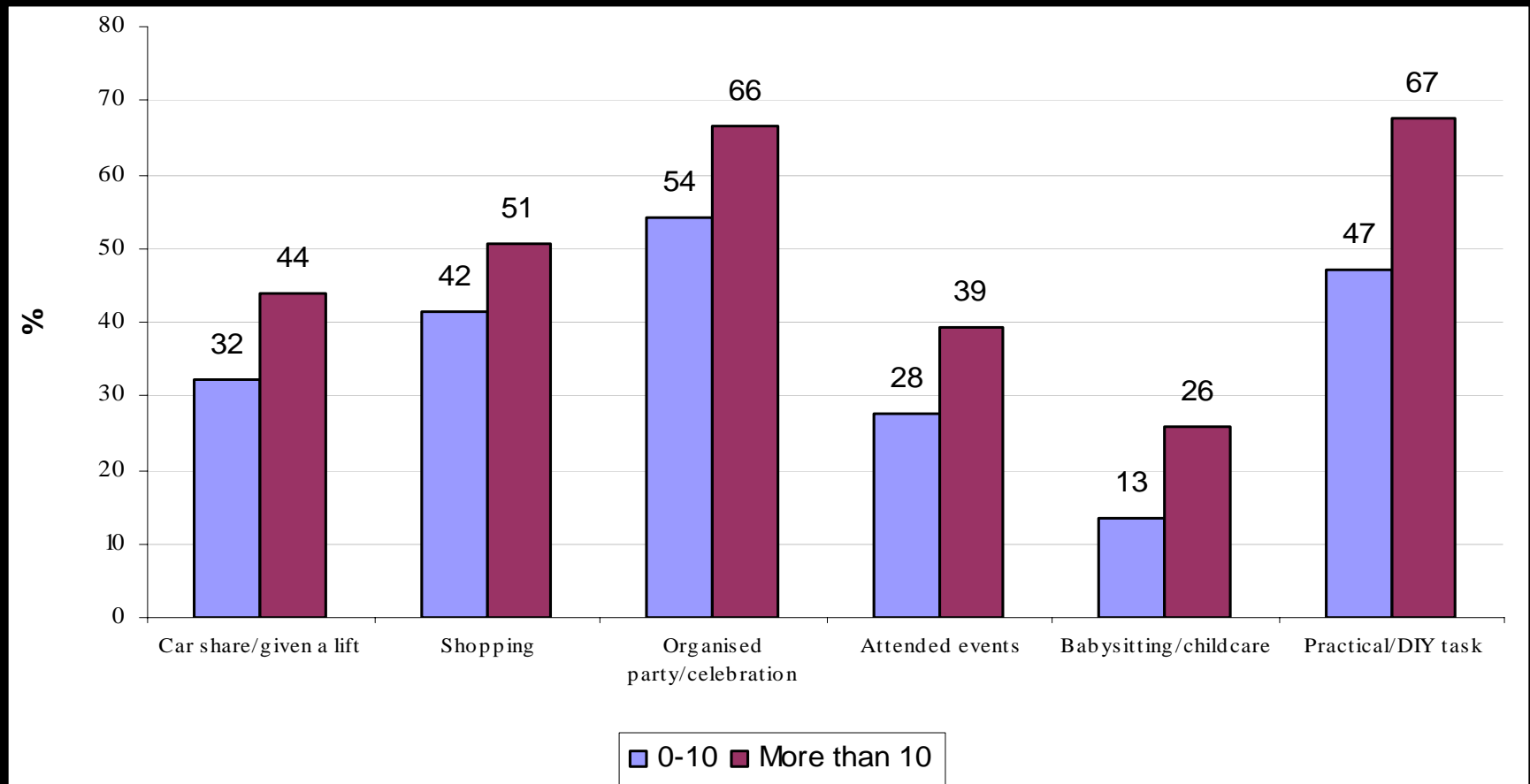
## How much free time do you have?



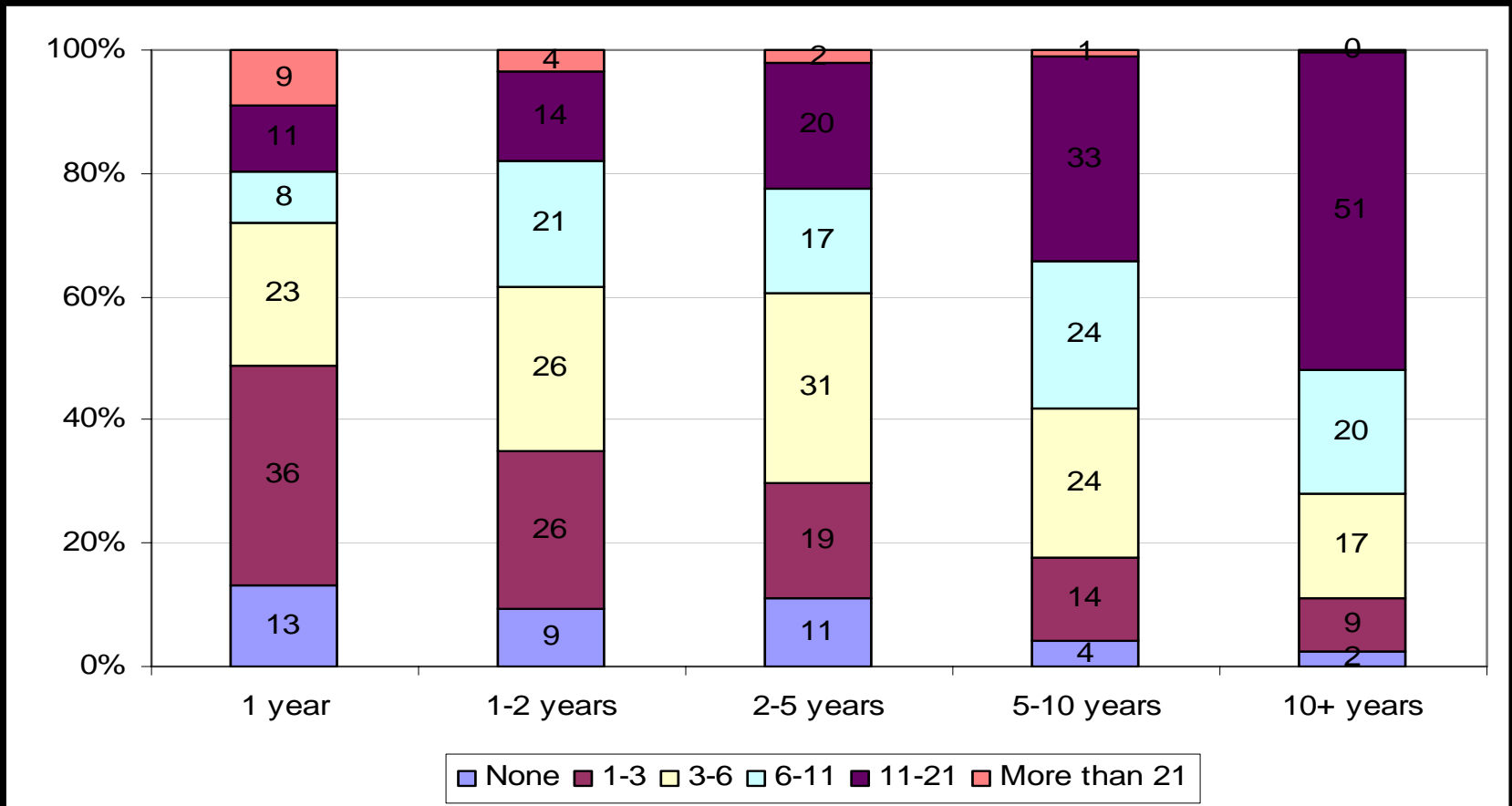
## How would you use an extra hour or two per week?



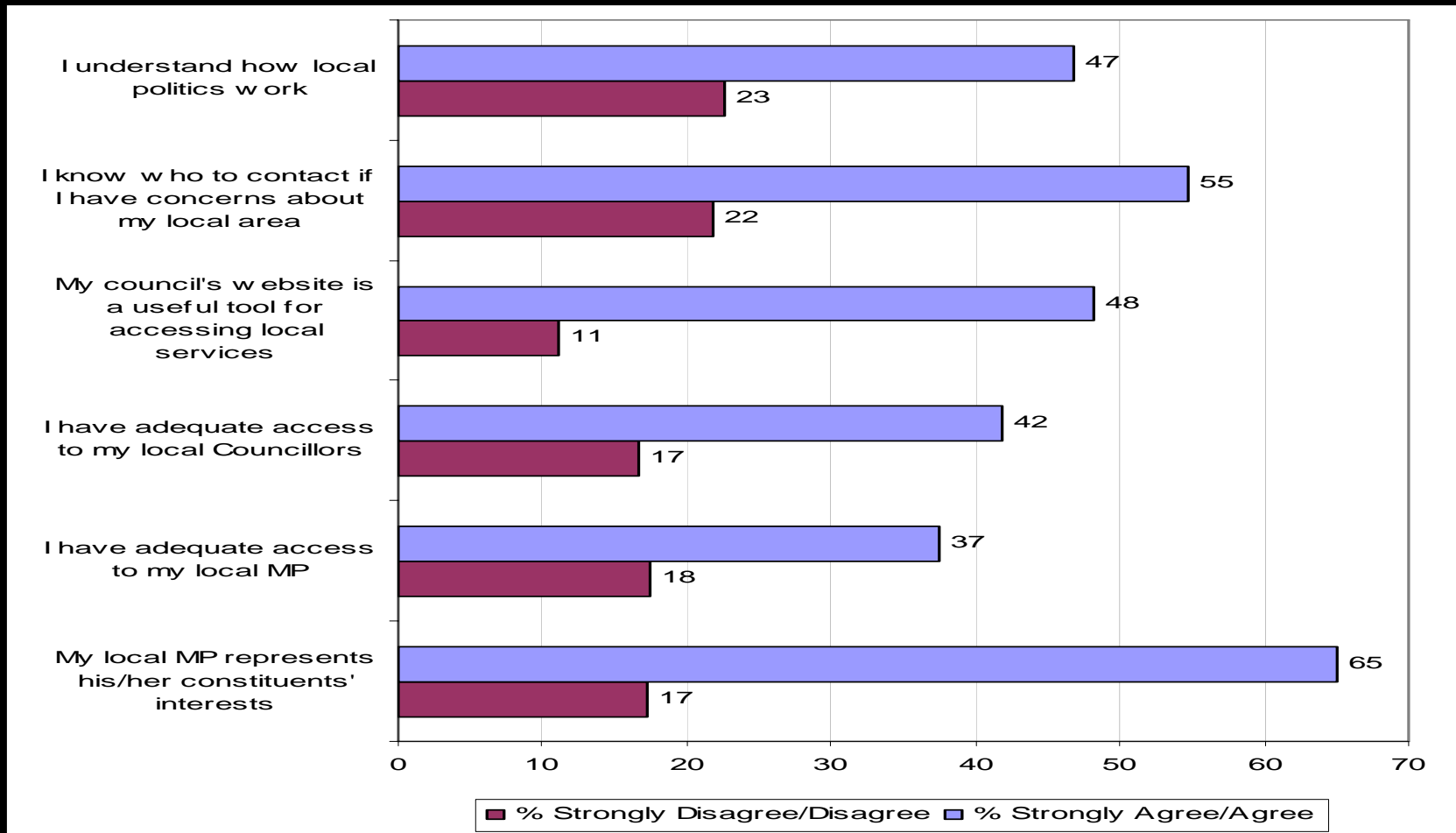
# Neighbourly activity and people known locally



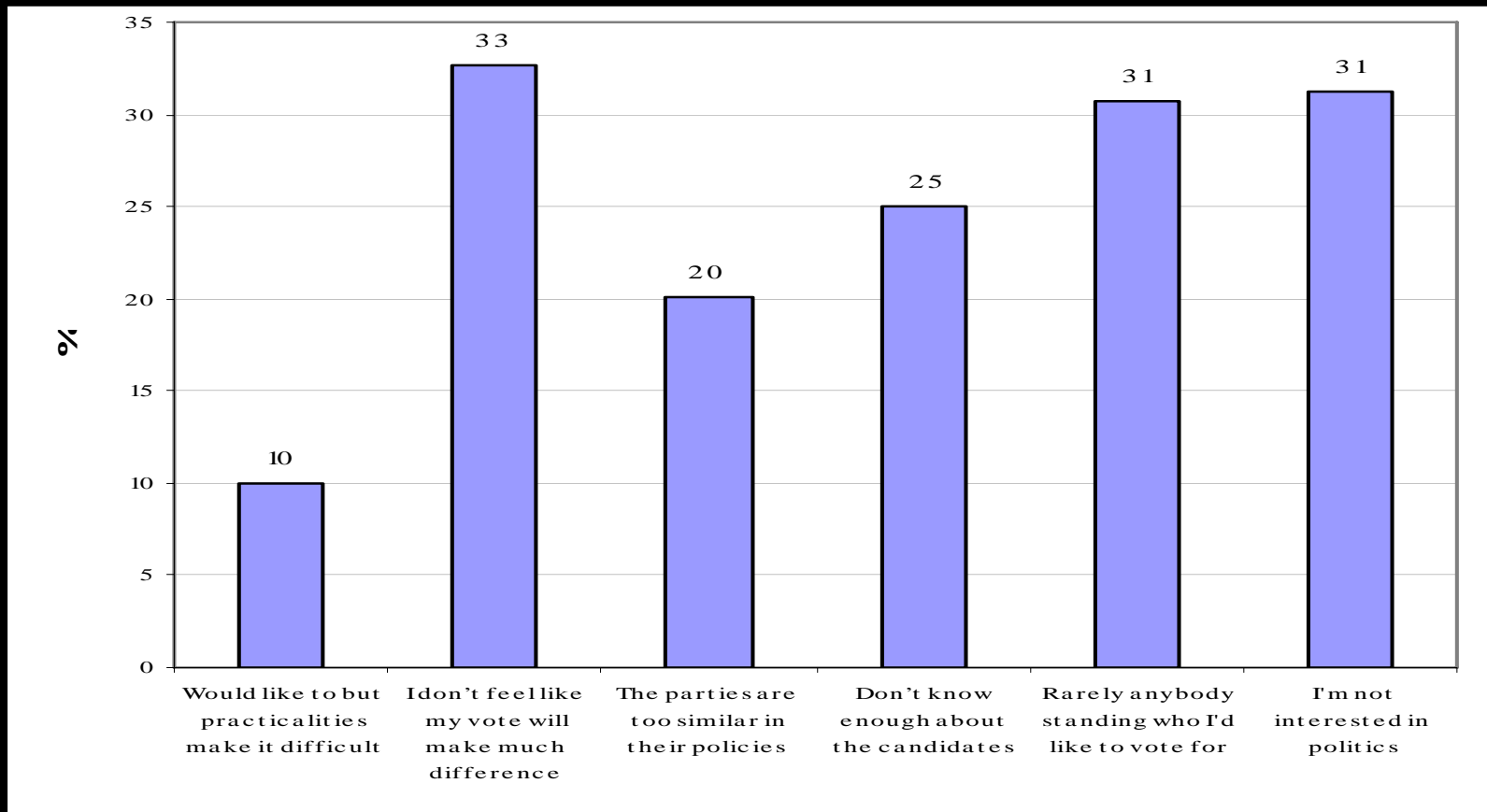
# People known locally v duration of residence



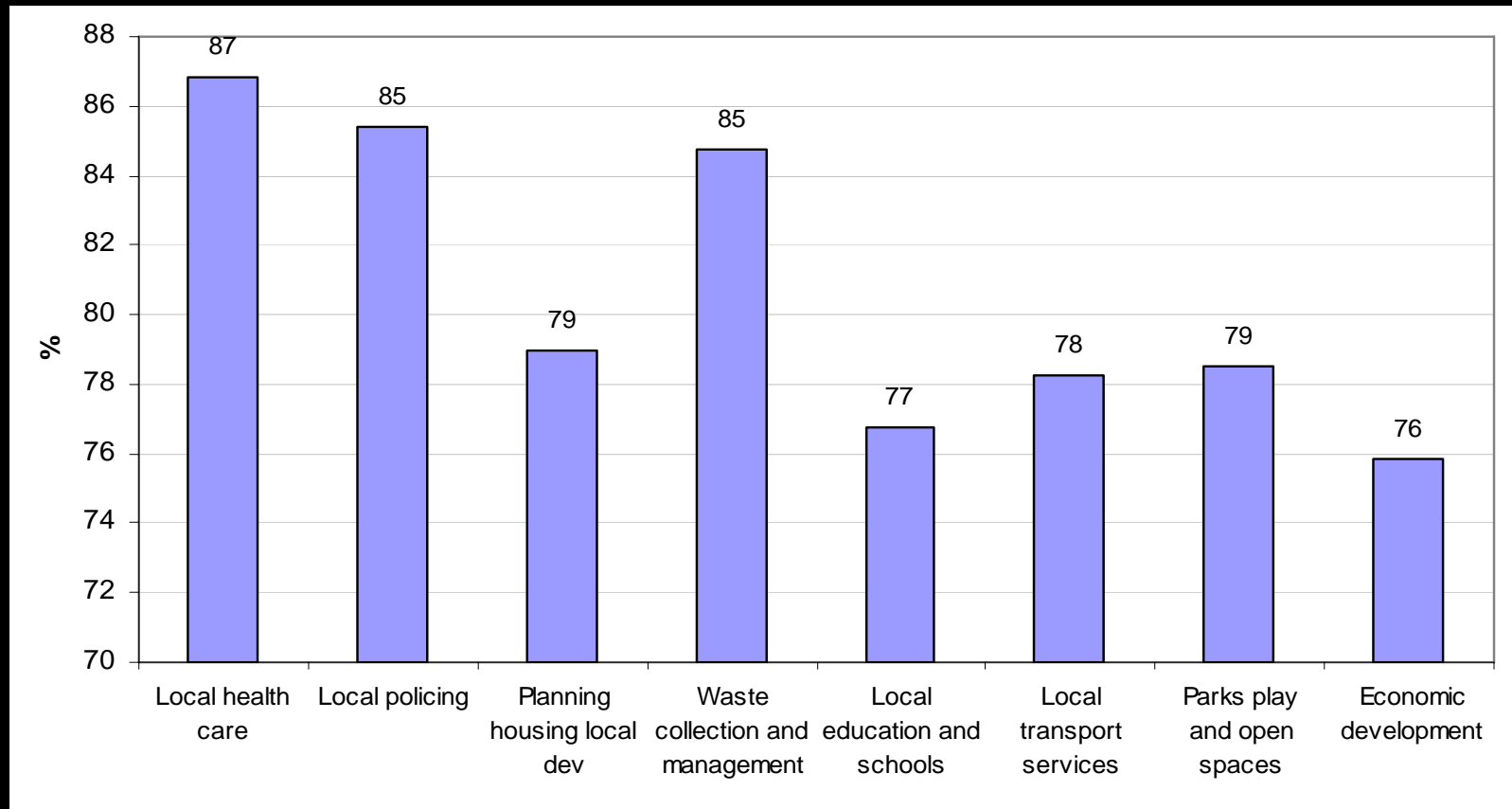
# Perceptions of/access to local council and MPs



## Why don't you vote in local elections (more often)?



## Desire to influence specific local services



# Insights and Issues Arising

- Positive picture on neighbourhoods, varies by income
- Most fairly satisfied with access to council(lor)s
- Wide spread of 'formal' voluntary activity
- Expanding voluntary activity will be a challenge – time cited as a barrier, but inclination the bigger issue?
- Extensive neighbourly activity within communities – rarely recognised but valuable
- Possible routes for stimulating greater engagement:
  - Facilitating expanded social networks
  - Working with people's interests – e.g. home, sport
  - Bold, distinctive and locally relevant council priorities