

What is Neighbourhood Planning?

Neighbourhood planning is a way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. They will be able to:

- choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built
- have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided
- grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead

Why does neighbourhood planning matter?

The planning system helps decide what gets built, where and when. It is essential for supporting economic growth, improving people's quality of life, and protecting the natural environment.

In theory, planning was always supposed to give local communities a say in decisions that affect them. But in practice, communities have often found it hard to have a meaningful say. The government wants to put power back in the hands of local residents, employees and business, councils and civic leaders - those who know best the needs of their local areas.

The 5 key stages to neighbourhood planning.

Stage 1: Defining the neighbourhood

First, local people will need to decide how they want to work together.

Stage 2: Preparing the Plan

Communities will then be able to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood. They will be able to say where new homes and offices should be built, and what they should look like. The neighbourhood plan will set a vision for the future shaped by local people

Stage 3: Independent check

Once the plan has been prepared, an independent examiner will check that it meets the right basic standards. Any changes the examiner recommends will then need to be considered.

Stage 4: Community referendum

The Borough Council will organise a referendum on any plan or order that meets the basic standards. People living in the neighbourhood who are registered to vote in local elections will be entitled to vote in the referendum. If more than 50% of people voting in the referendum support the plan or order, then the local planning authority must bring it into force.

Stage 5: Legal force

Once a neighbourhood plan is in force following a successful referendum, it carries legal weight. Decision makers are obliged to consider proposals for development in the neighbourhood against the neighbourhood plan.

Things you value

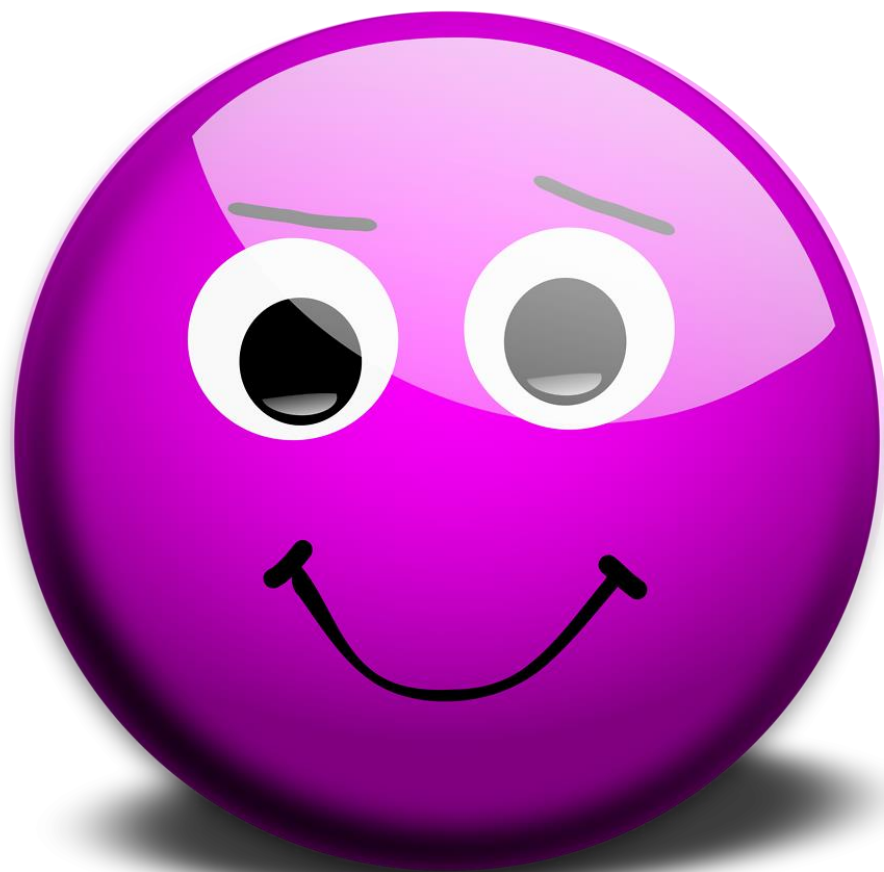
Community Spirit

Rural

Friendly

Peace & Quiet

Local Shops



What you disliked

Volume of Traffic

Development

Speeding Traffic

Lack of Broadband

Lack of public Transport



Vision and Objectives

Strong sense of community, friendly and safe villages



Retain the areas' peacefulness and rural feel, including key views



Access to the countryside surrounded by sites of environmental importance which need to be protected and enhanced



Reduce pressure of traffic, measures to mitigate speeding



Enhance infrastructure to improve quality of life



Create balance with housing development

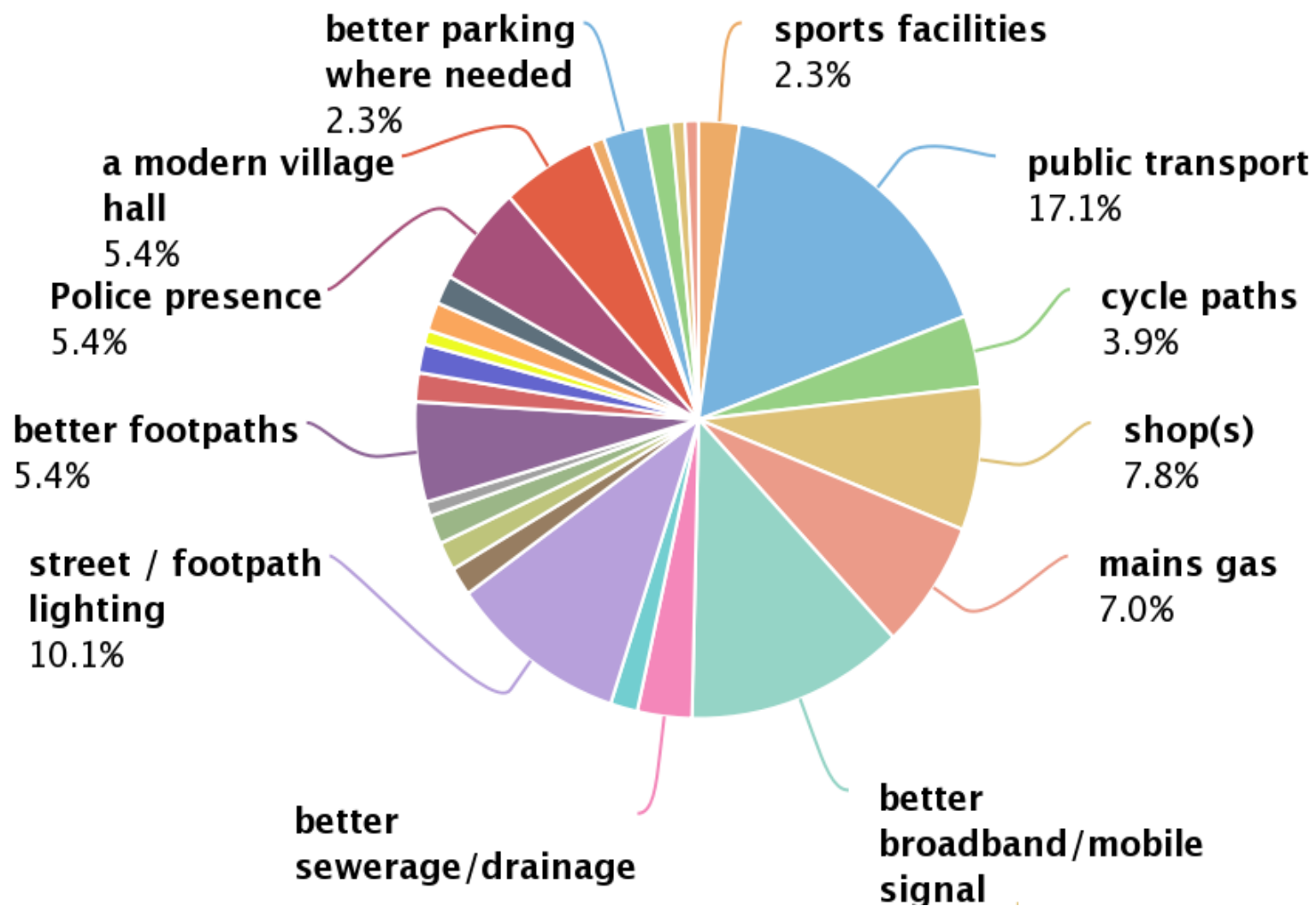


Preserve individual villages' boundaries



Maintain rich cultural heritage

What Amenities and Services need Improvement



- sports facilities
 public transport
 cycle paths
 shop(s)
 mains gas
- better broadband/mobile signal
 better sewerage/drainage
 cafe/tea room
- street / footpath lighting
 bus shelters
 doctors surgery
 better roads
- Post Office
 better footpaths
 bottle banks
 speed limits
- reliable electricity supply
 childcare services
 GP extended hours
- Police presence
 a modern village hall
 youth facilities
- better parking where needed
 mobile library
 seating in woods/commons
- road sweeping

Who Responded

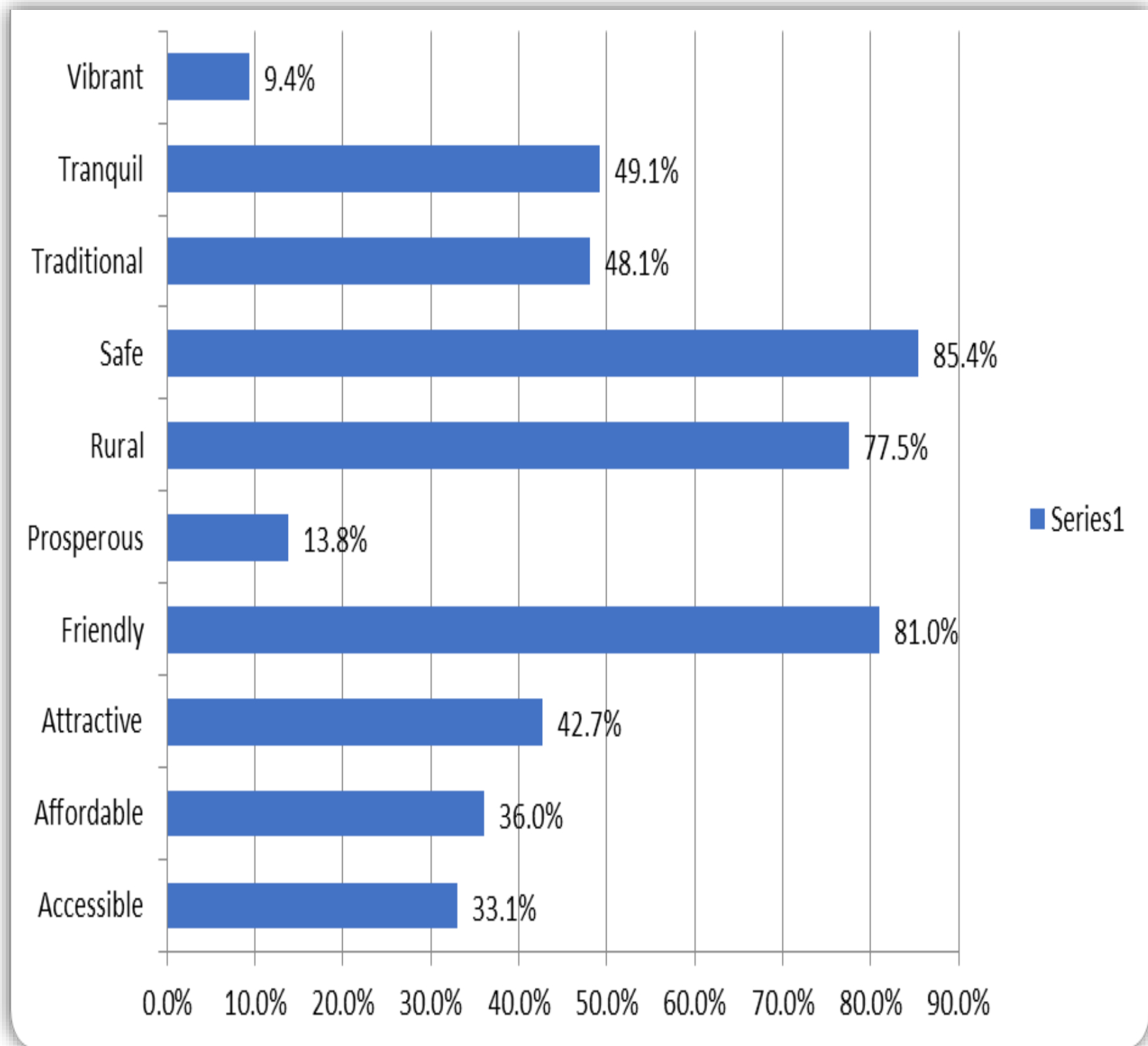
Which village? There was an even split across the four villages, with a total of 410 responses, from a total mail out of 1250. This gives a return rate of 32.8% across the four communities. The results can therefore be taken as representative of the population; however, the age ranges are skewed towards more older residents.

Age: Respondents under the age of 40 make up less than 10% of overall number of people who took part in this survey. This will be for a variety of reasons, but it should be kept in mind when looking at the data that the opinions of younger generations and those with young families are underrepresented.

Length of time living in the area: Around half of respondents had lived in the village less than 20 years. Of that, around 15% had been there five years or less. 28% (just over one in four) had been there between 20 and 40 years, and 14% had lived in their village more than 40 years.

Do you work in the village? The commonest answer was n/a – by which we can assume the individual is retired or not in paid work. These combined with those answering ‘no’ came to just over 80%. The remaining people who listed where they worked predominantly worked in King’s Lynn.

How would you like your village described in 20 years' time

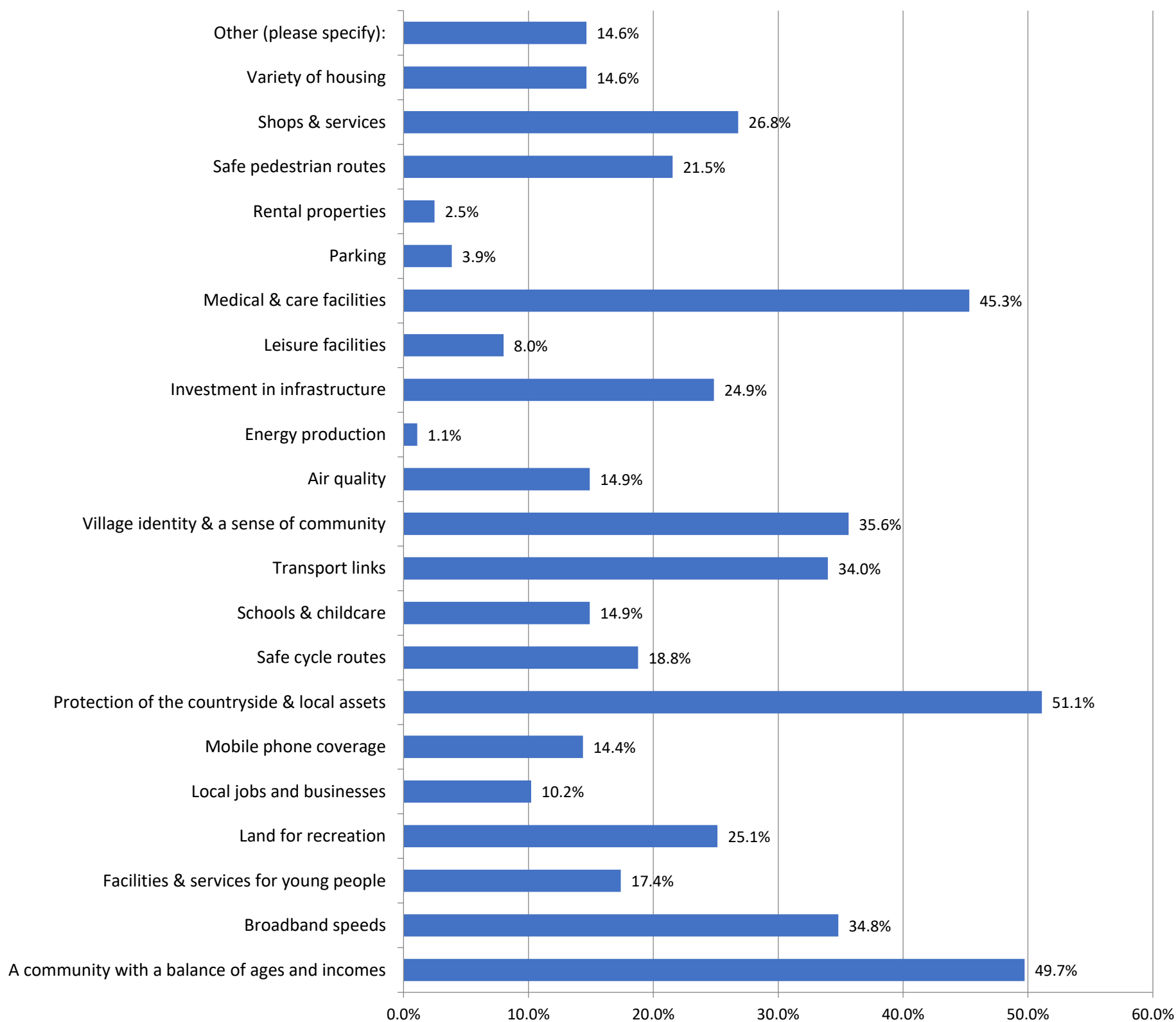


Safe

Friendly

Rural

What you think are the biggest benefits development could bring

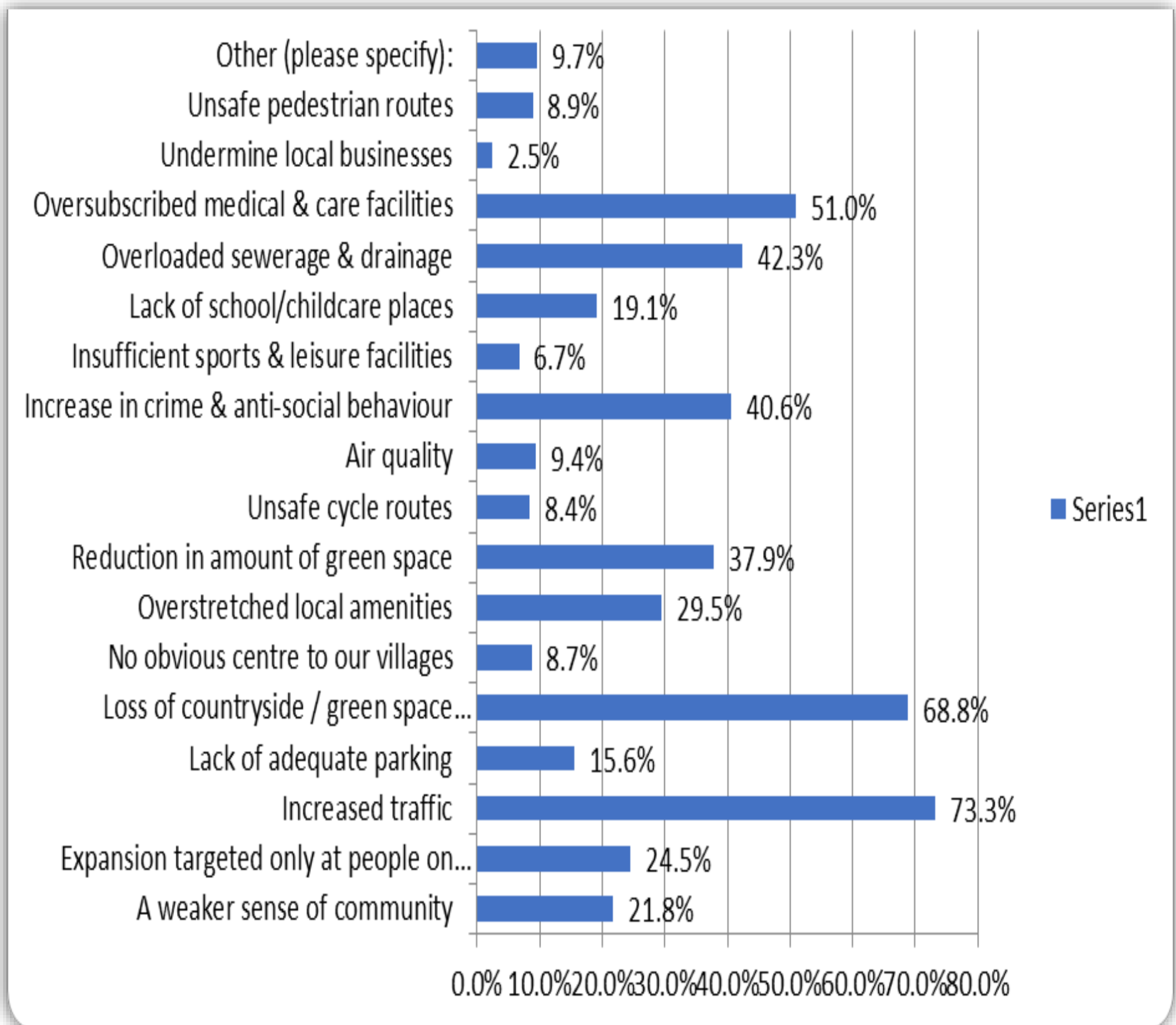


Protection of Countryside and local assets

A Community with a balance of ages

Improved Medical Facilities

What worries you about further development in our villages

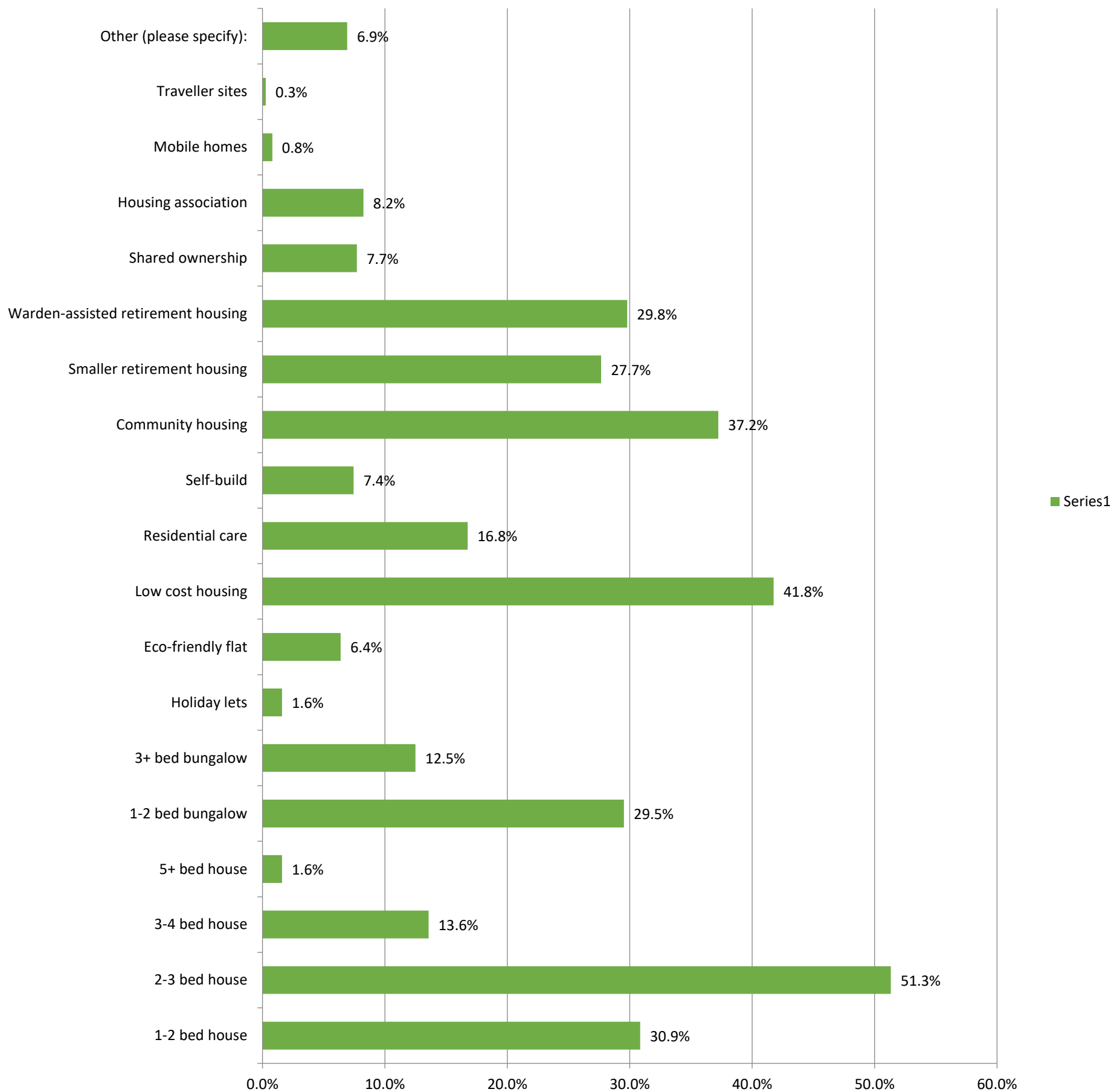


Increased Traffic

Loss of Countryside/Green Space

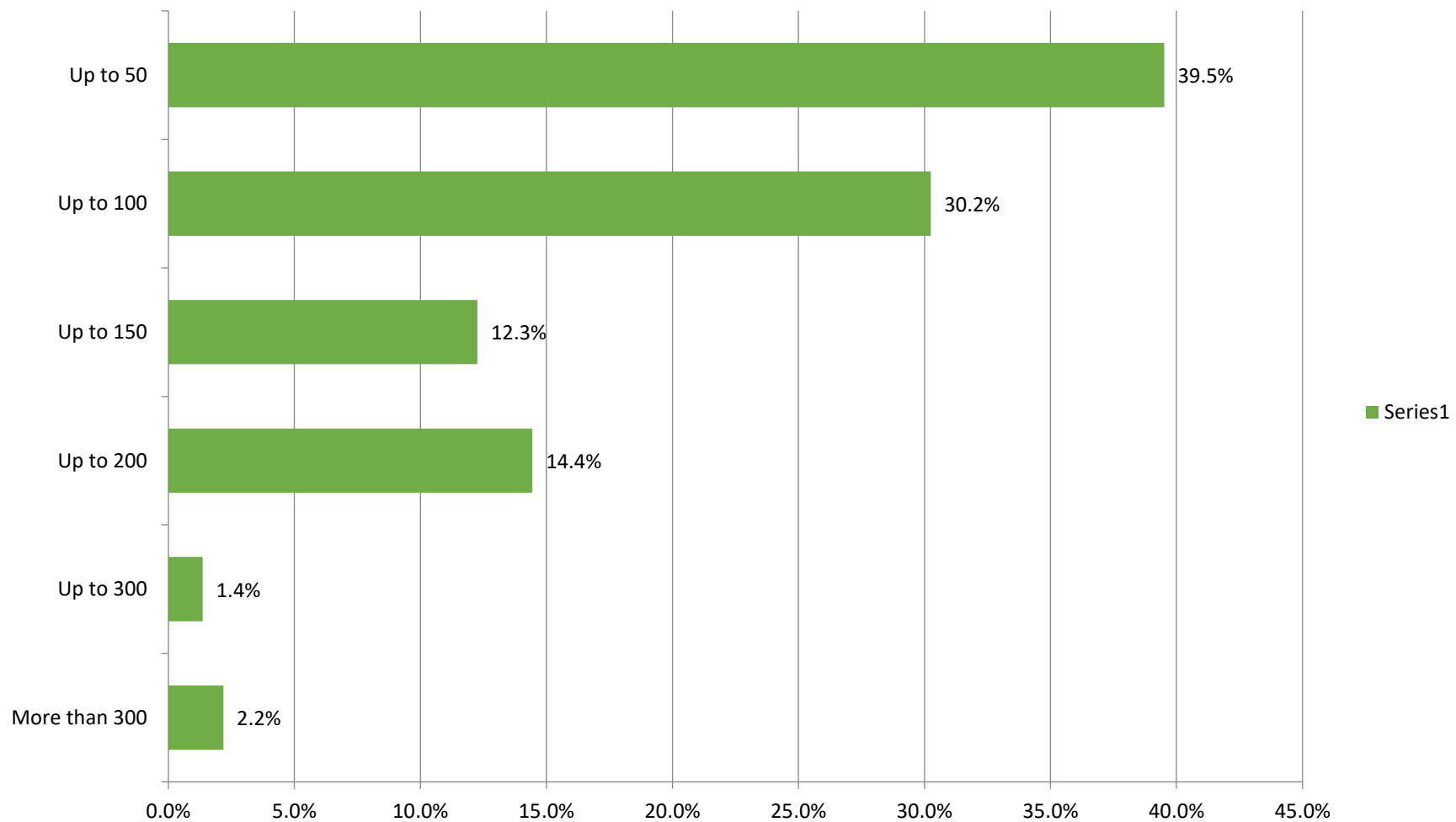
Oversubscribed Medical and Care facilities

What types of housing do YOU think are most needed?

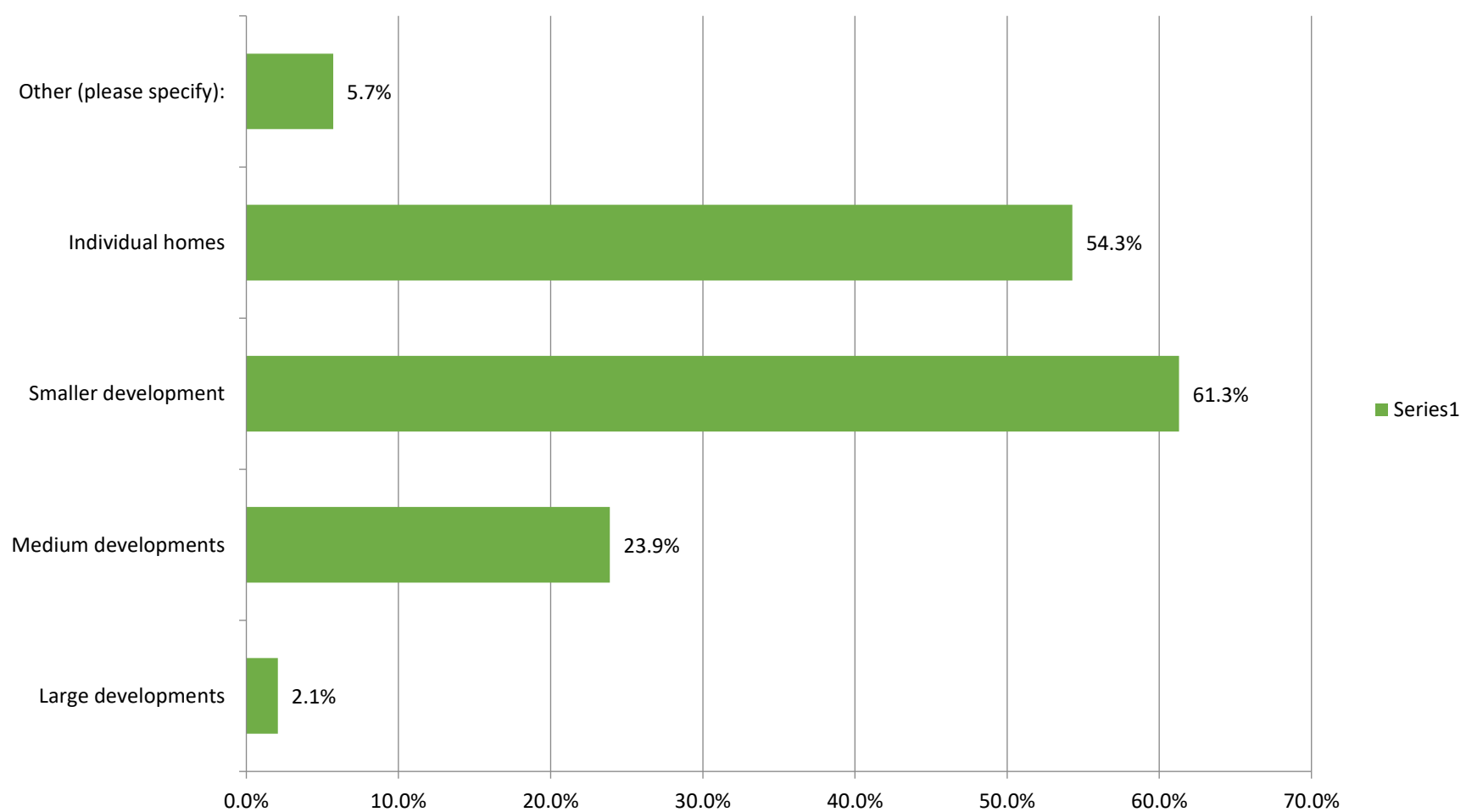


	First choice	Second choice	Third choice
Grimston	2-3 bed house	Low cost housing	Community housing
Roydon	2-3 bed house	Low cost housing	1-2 bed house
Pott Row	2-3 bed house	Low cost housing	1-2 bed house
Congham	2-3 bed house	Low cost housing	1-2 bed house

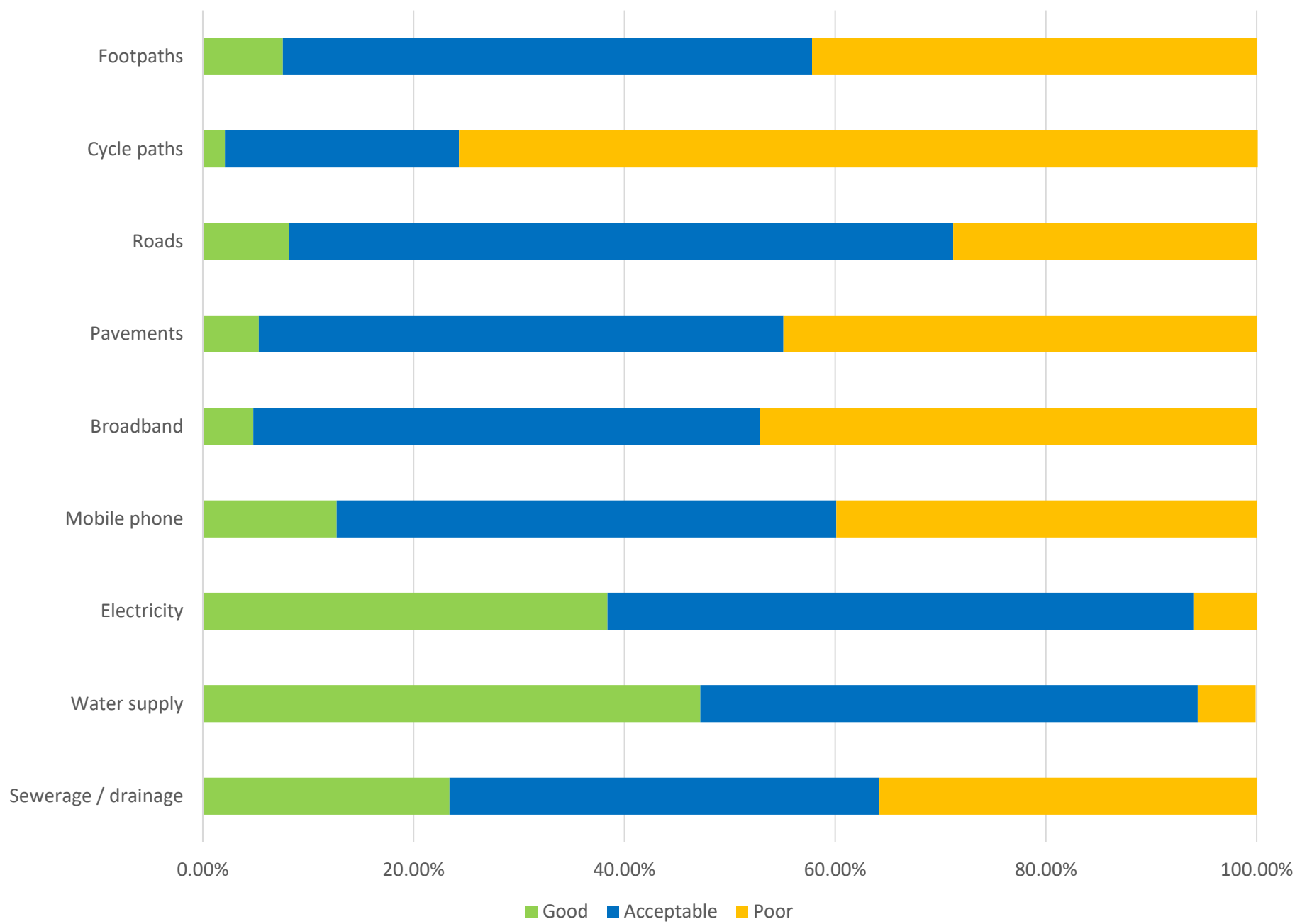
How many houses do you think could be sustainably built in the NP area in the next 20 years?



What size of housing developments do you think would meet the need for housing in our villages?

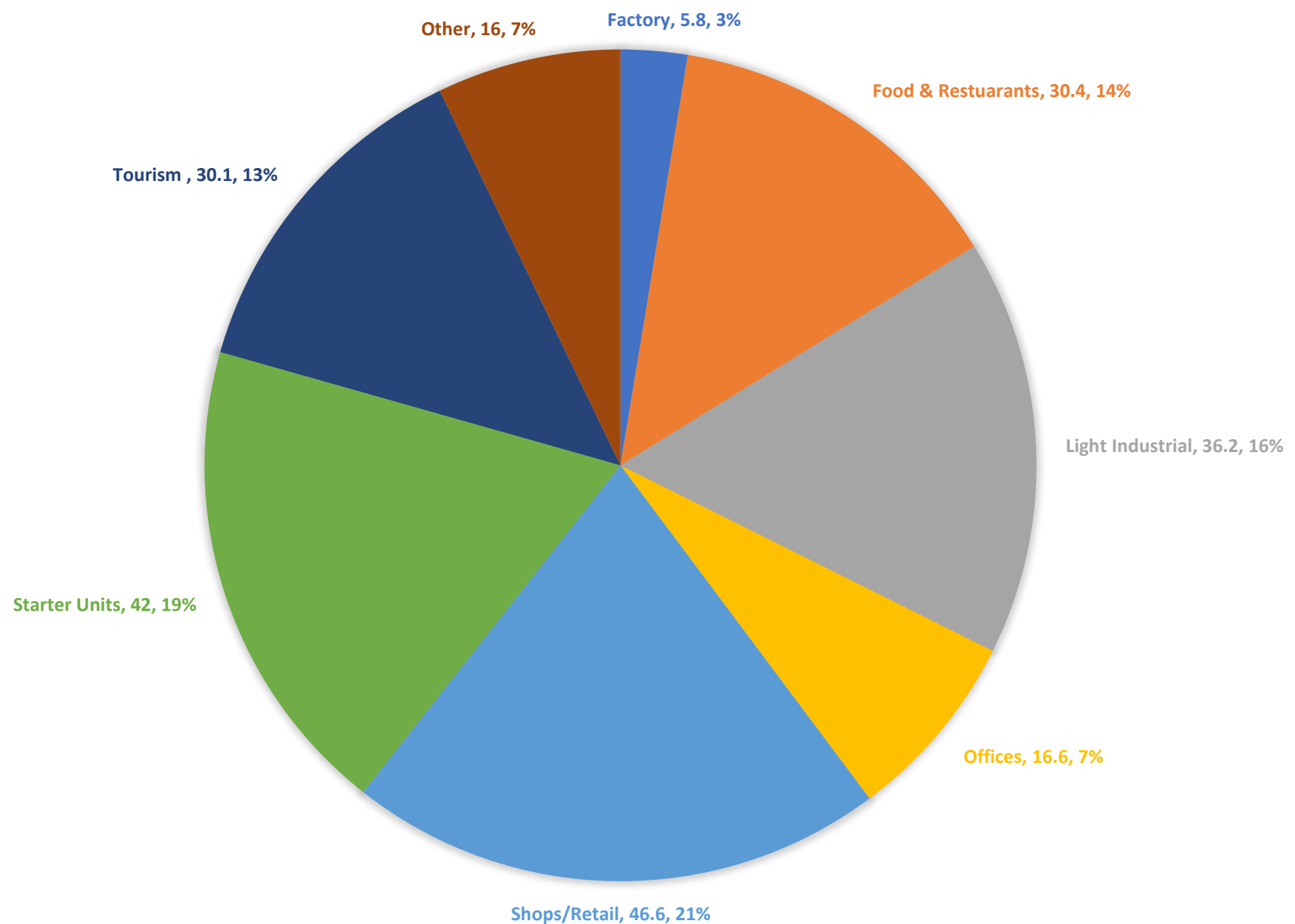


Quality of Infrastructure



Infrastructure	Grimston	Roydon	Pott Row	Congham
Sewerage			☹️	😊
Water		😊	☹️	
Electricity			☹️	😊
Mobile Phone		😊		☹️
Broadband		😊		☹️
Pavements	☹️	☹️		
Roads	☹️		☹️	
Cycle paths	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️
Footpaths	☹️	☹️	☹️	☹️

Should the plan allocate land for Business Use

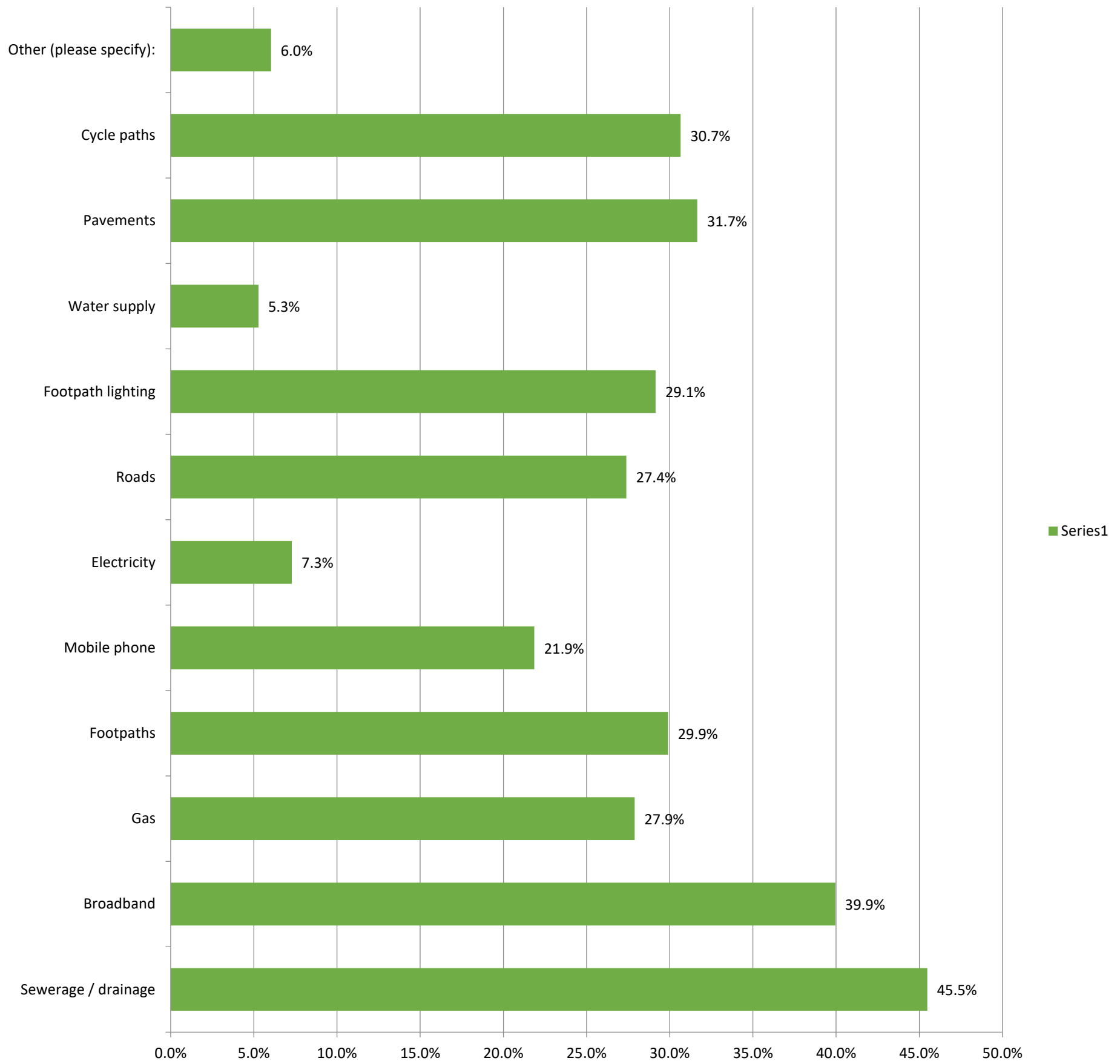


Overall, a positive response recognising the importance of Business to the local economy. 29 business owners in total responded to the business portion of the survey.

13 anticipated growth within 5 years, dropping to 8 in ten years.

6 saw the need for extra space in the village at some point, but few had specific requirements. Setting land aside wasn't seen as needed by the majority, and the infrastructure was considered adequate for 17 out of the 20. There were frustrations with slow broadband and mobile signal.

If money were available to invest in infrastructure, where should this be spent?



Sewage and Drainage
Broadband
Pavements

What else did you say

“I think it is very important that we protect the countryside and the community we have”

“We should avoid large housing and industrial developments at any cost”

“Anything we can do to boost the local economy from tourism will only benefit our villages and businesses”

“Please flatten and widen the footpaths across the fields between Lynn Road and Vong Lane, and Gayton Road”

“A toilet at the park at Lynn/Chapel Road, similar to the one at the Howdale in Downham Market”

“A public pond in Grimston would be welcomed”

“I would recommend against takeaway food shops - encourage littering and obesity as the population grows, another convenience shop/plants and hardware shop in the Pott Row would be nice to encourage”

“Would be nice to have 7 tonne weight limits on Massingham Road to stop HGVs using this as a cut through to B1145. large lorries use this road from King’s Lynn docks, passing through Roydon, Congham, Grimston and Great Massingham”

“Don’t know some of the buildings listed - needs more awareness”

“If we had traffic-free cycle ways and footpaths between the four villages this would take traffic off the roads. People should be encouraged to use bikes”

What Children Said



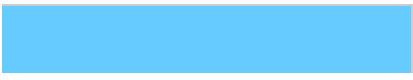
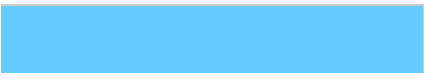




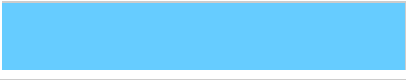

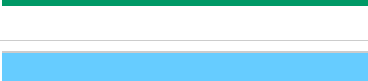
Holly Meadows School children drew lots of colourful pictures to illustrate their ideas

Top of their list was Takeaways, followed by more play equipment especially for children with disabilities and a Baker Shop



Local Green Space

Local green space designation allows **local** communities to **protect green spaces of local importance** for reasons including setting and nature conservation. We have identified **green space important to this community** and will be making the case to have them designated.

Green Space				
We asked you about			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Congham Heath		82.59%	313
2	Congham Wood		84.43%	320
3	Derby Fen		68.07%	258
4	Grimston Carr		70.45%	267
5	Grimston Warren		82.59%	313
6	Hudson's Fen		79.68%	302
7	Pott Row Woods Community Orchard		83.38%	316
8	Roydon Common		88.39%	335
9	Sugar Fen		67.55%	256
10	Village Greens: Pott Row, Chequers, Triangle, Ashwicken		86.28%	327
11	White Hills Wood		61.74%	234
	Other suggestions			
12	Fen Allotments			
13	Roydon Church Green			
14	Congham Hall Parkland			
15	Grimston Cricket Field			
16	Church Allotments			
17	Cemetery Land			
18	Holly Meadows School Field			

Getting About

What form of Transport do you mostly use?

362 responders used their car to get about with only 13 using a bus as their main means of transportation

Would you like to use other forms of transport?

150 people said they would like to use the bus more. 111 people wanted to cycle more

How often do you catch the Bus?

Only 4 people answered daily, 82 people responded occasionally, 155 never used the bus, but 26 indicated they didn't use the bus because there was no service.

Should we have better footpaths?

295 were strongly in favour with 86 moderately in favour 13 residents were not in favour or felt it was not necessary

Are there Car Parking issues?

Opinion was divided on whether this was an issue, although overall more respondents felt there was a problem than didn't

Treasures and Assets

The responses showed that historic and archaeological sites are valued. Many are already protected by listed status – others we will look at their suitability for formal designation as a Community Asset

Your Top Ten

St Botolph's Church

Jubilee Clock Tower

St Andrews Church

All Saints Church

Cricket Pavilion

The Roman Villa Site

The Three Horseshoes Pub

Congham Hall

WW2 Observation Towers

Pott Row First School

It was also clear that other sites were not familiar to many respondents and more details on those properties would be welcomed

What Happens Next

Over the next six months the Group will move forward based on the responses to draft a plan to achieve the overall Vision and Objectives, the steps involved include the following:

Form Policies

Statements that set out how development should be delivered

Draw up a Character Assessment of each village

This is a document that describes the distinct appearance and feel of a settlement or an area. It documents the key physical features and characteristics that combine to give a particular settlement or an area its local distinctiveness and unique identity.

Local Green Space Allocation

Make a case for each area considered important as local green space

Apply for certain buildings or land to be registered as a Community Assets

A building or other land is an asset of community value if its main use has recently been or is presently used to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future

Review potential sites for development

Assess available sites for suitability for development over the next 20 years

Put together draft Plan to be reviewed by KL&WN Borough Council