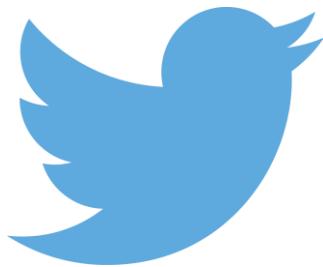




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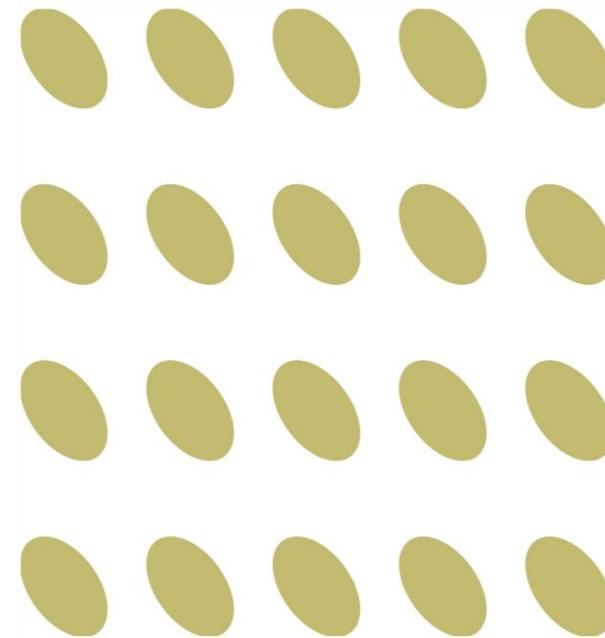
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State of the Market Surveys

- State of the Market Survey now in its 15th Year
- Local authority service areas
- Similar questions are asked to allow for trend comparisons
- Identifies common problems, innovations and best practice
- Insight into the future direction of the service
- Open to all APSE member authorities across the UK
- Key findings of the survey are expressed as a briefing note
- Useful for benchmarking and performance management
- Used by National Government and in APSE research documents
- Used by National Litter Strategy, HLF, Parks Action Group, School Food Plan, Press and trade and national media to enhance knowledge of local government services.

State of the Market Survey 2026 Local Authority Street Cleaning Services



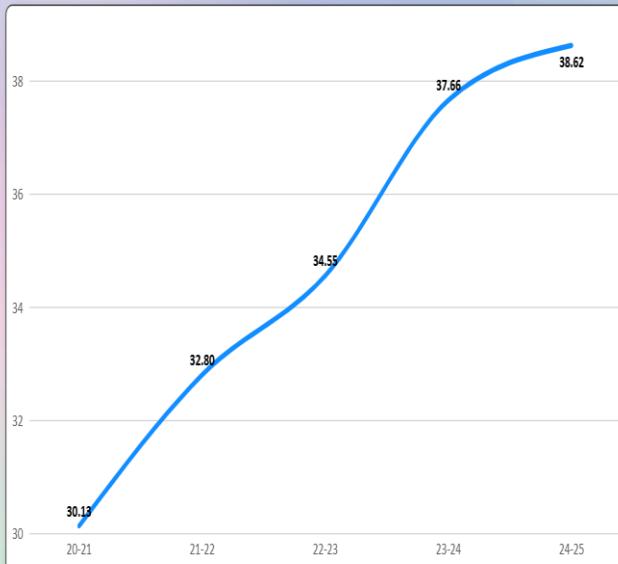


Areas of interest

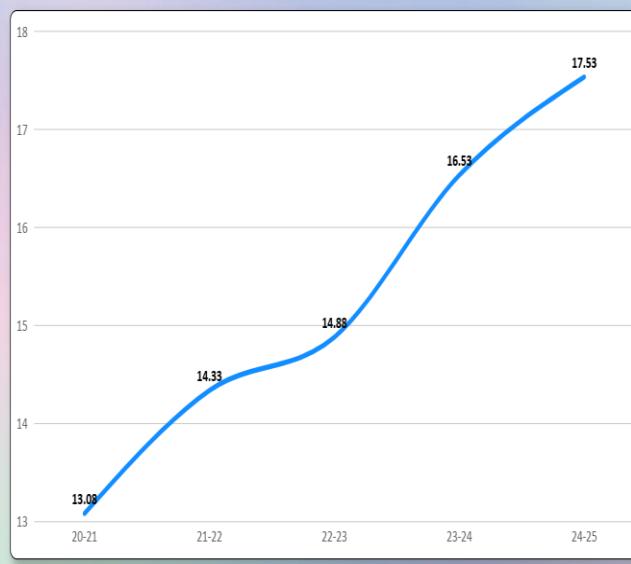
- State of budgets/future funding
- Service efficiencies
- Income generation
- Staffing levels/absence levels
- Cleanliness standards
- Management/service structures
- Litter bin strategies
- Use of community volunteers
- Future initiatives
- Areas of service growth/decline
- Service reviews

The costs of street cleaning

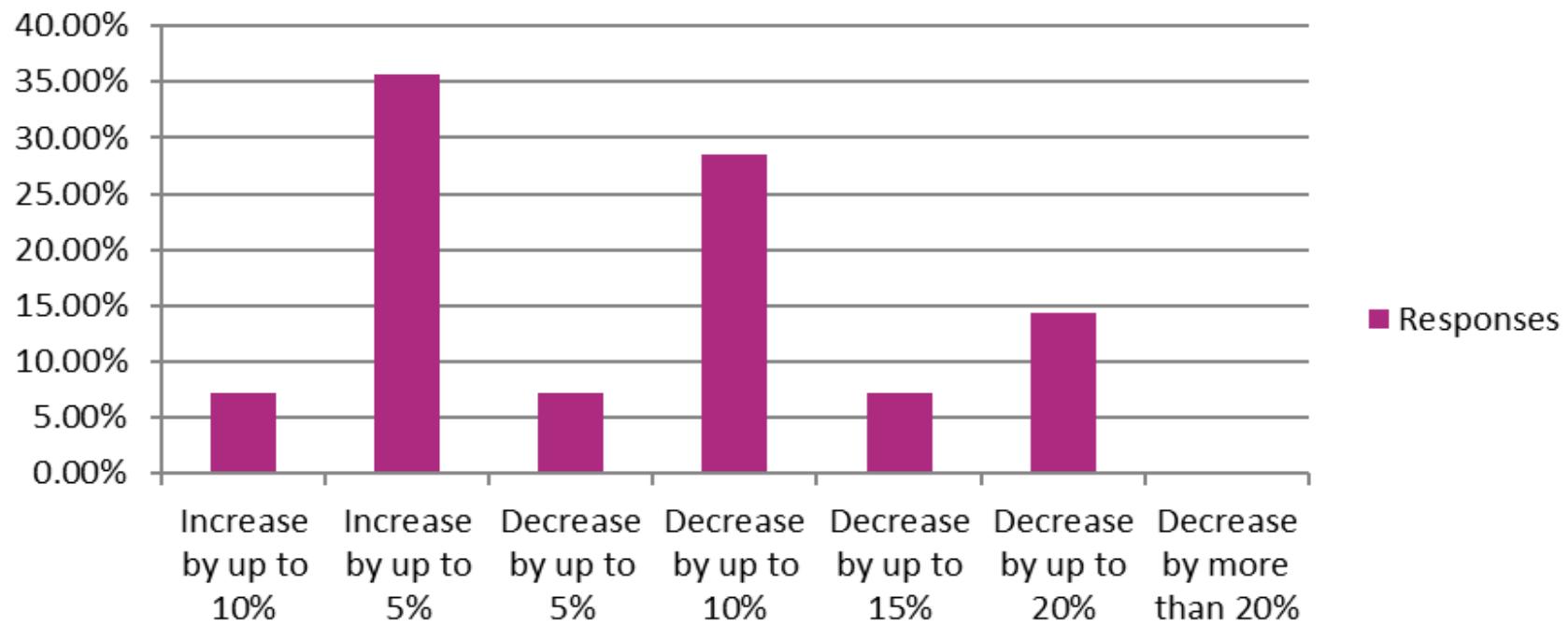
PI 04 - Annual investment in street cleansing service per household (excluding CEC)



PI 05 - Annual investment in street cleansing service per head of population (excluding CEC)



What is your expectation of the level of funding in your service budget in the coming five years?





Service Efficiencies

- Review of weekend working and tasks undertaken.
- Fleet review.
- Operational depot relocation to support multiple service areas in one location/building .
- Reductions in cleaning frequencies.
- Service restructure/Staff reductions.
- Auditing Litter bin collections to ensure correct service levels.
- Single crewed vehicle and more officers working on the ground.
- Digitisation of Data Capture: Moving from manual to digital data collection

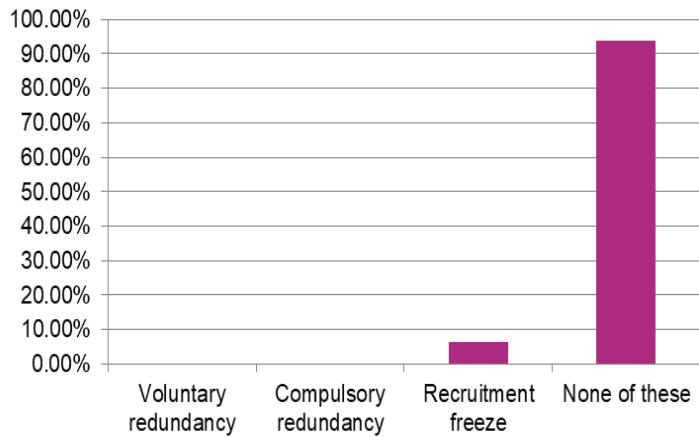


Income generation

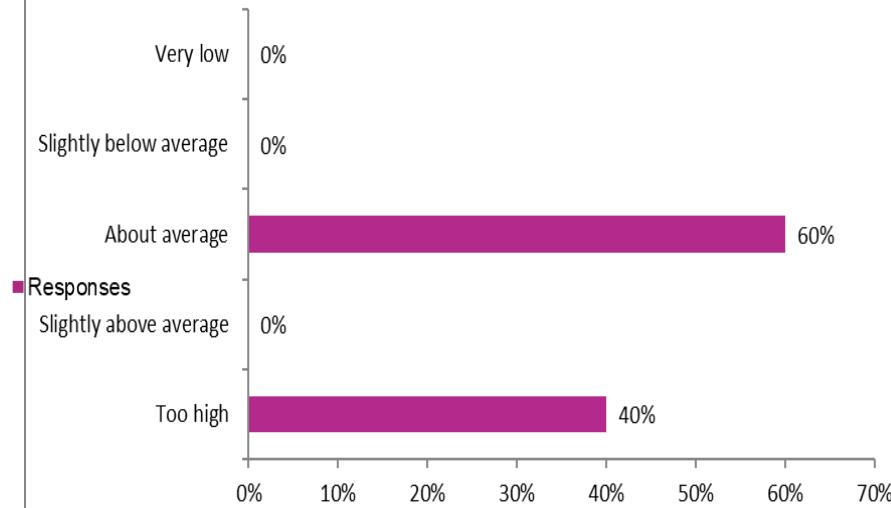
- Increased fees and charges
- Implementing an overall strategy to generate fees from new sources through charging (not through a wholly owned council company)
- Trading and charging through a wholly owned council company
- Shared services with another local authority

affing

Has or does your service intend to implement any of the following within the next 12 months:

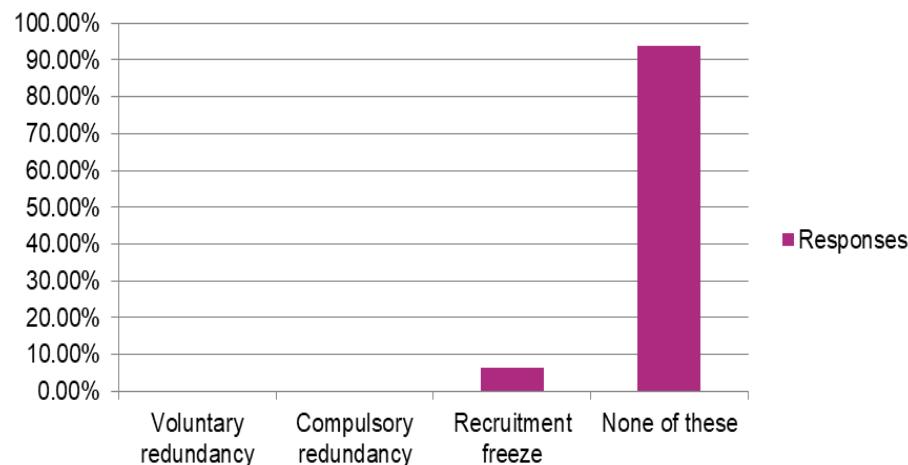


Are staff absence levels at an acceptable level?

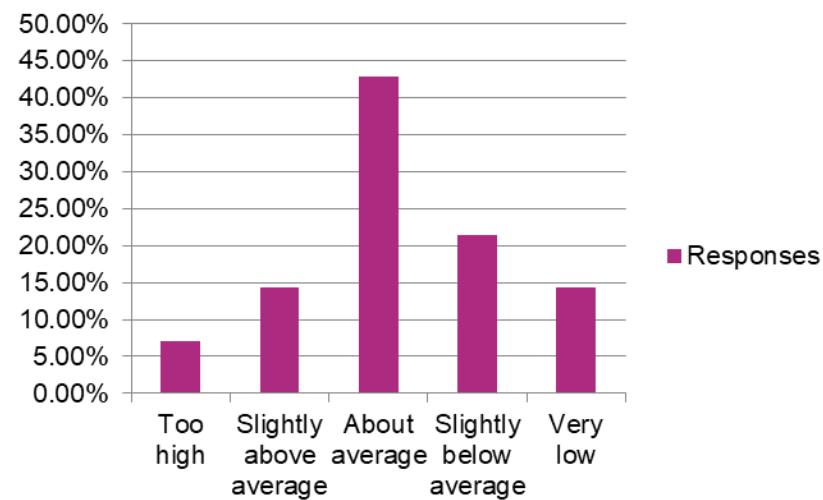


Staffing

Has or does your service intend to implement any of the following within the next 12 months:

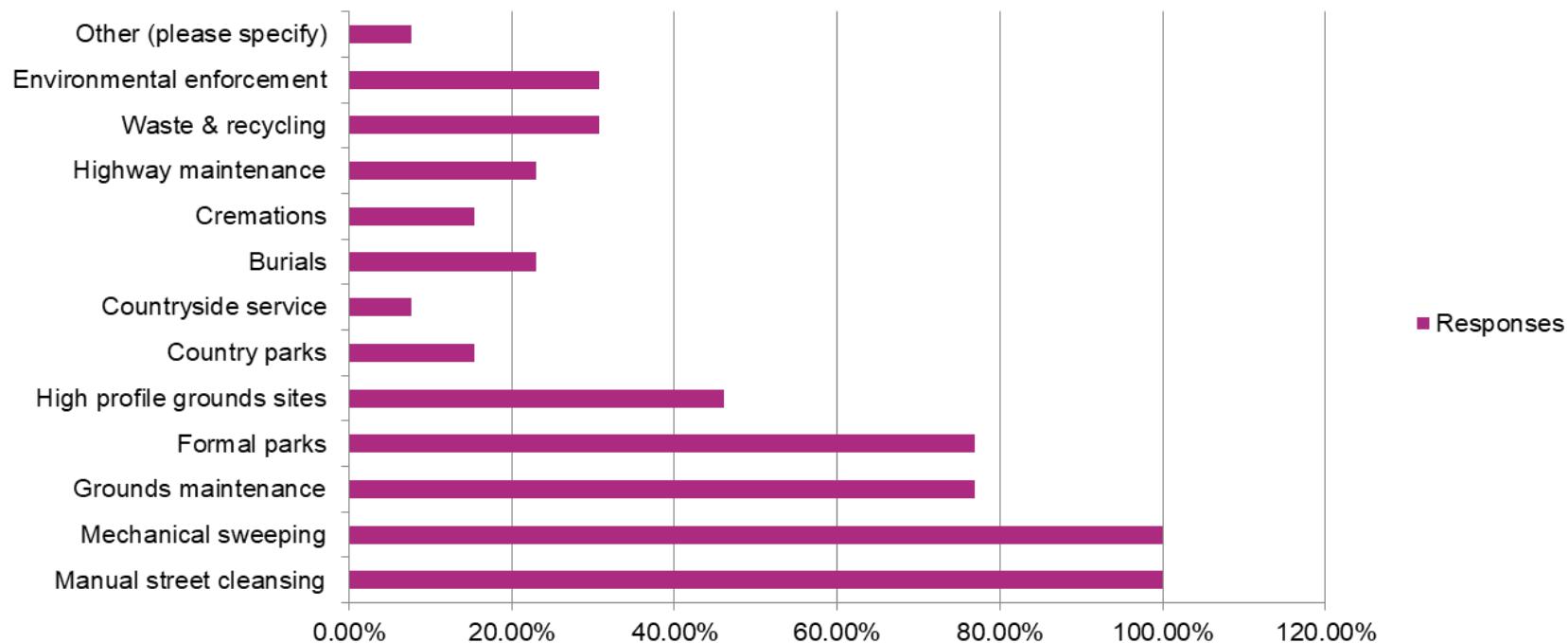


Are staff absence levels at an acceptable level?



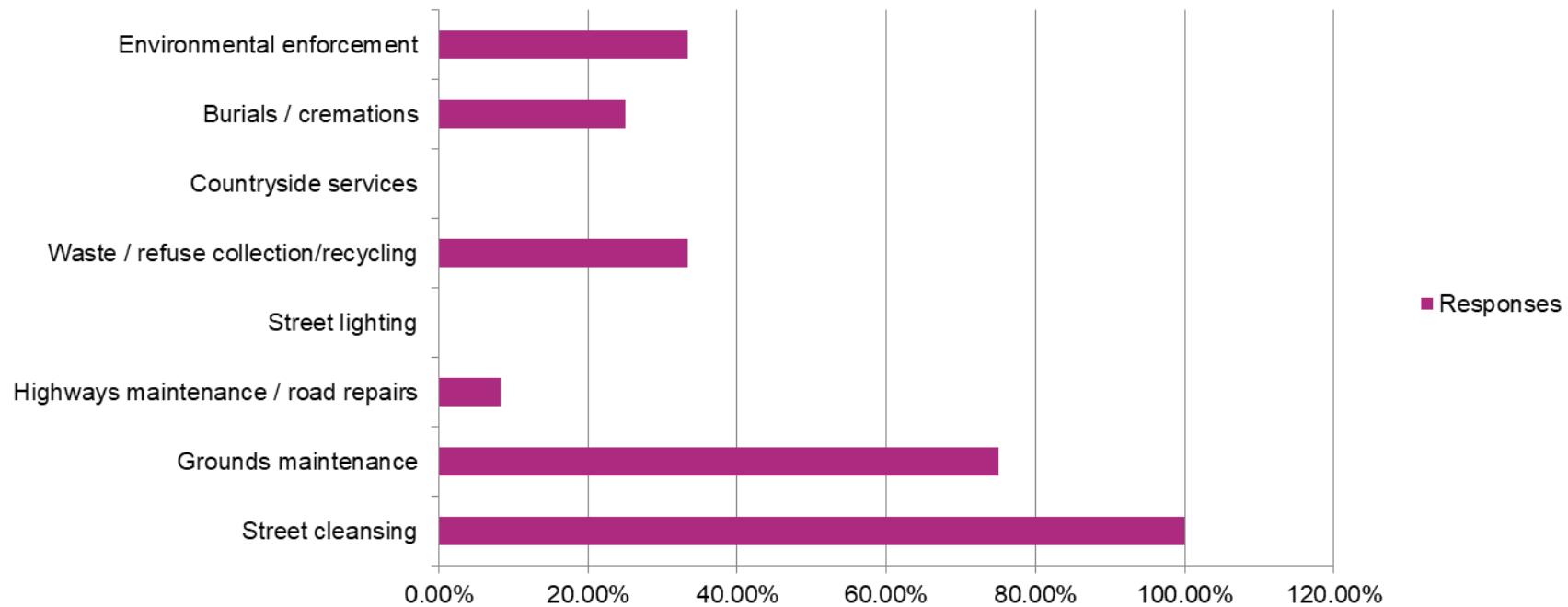
Integration of Services (1)

If services and/or management are integrated, which ones of the following are included?



Integration of Services (2)

If yes, which services are jointly delivered by front-line staff within your street scene department?





Further Headlines

- SERVICE DELIVERY
- 60% stated that they have area-based teams. (**67% 2025**)
- 71% operate a 7-day service. (**83% 2025**)
- 20% currently undertake night-time street cleansing service
- 80% (**67% 2025**) stated that their service was managed in-house and 6% externally managed.
- **LITTER BINS**
- 15% of respondents provide 26+ litter bins per 1000 head of population
- Only 78% (**60% 2025**) of respondents had an accurate map of where their litter bin stock was located.
- 57% (**80% 2025**) stated that up to 5% of bins were replaced annually.

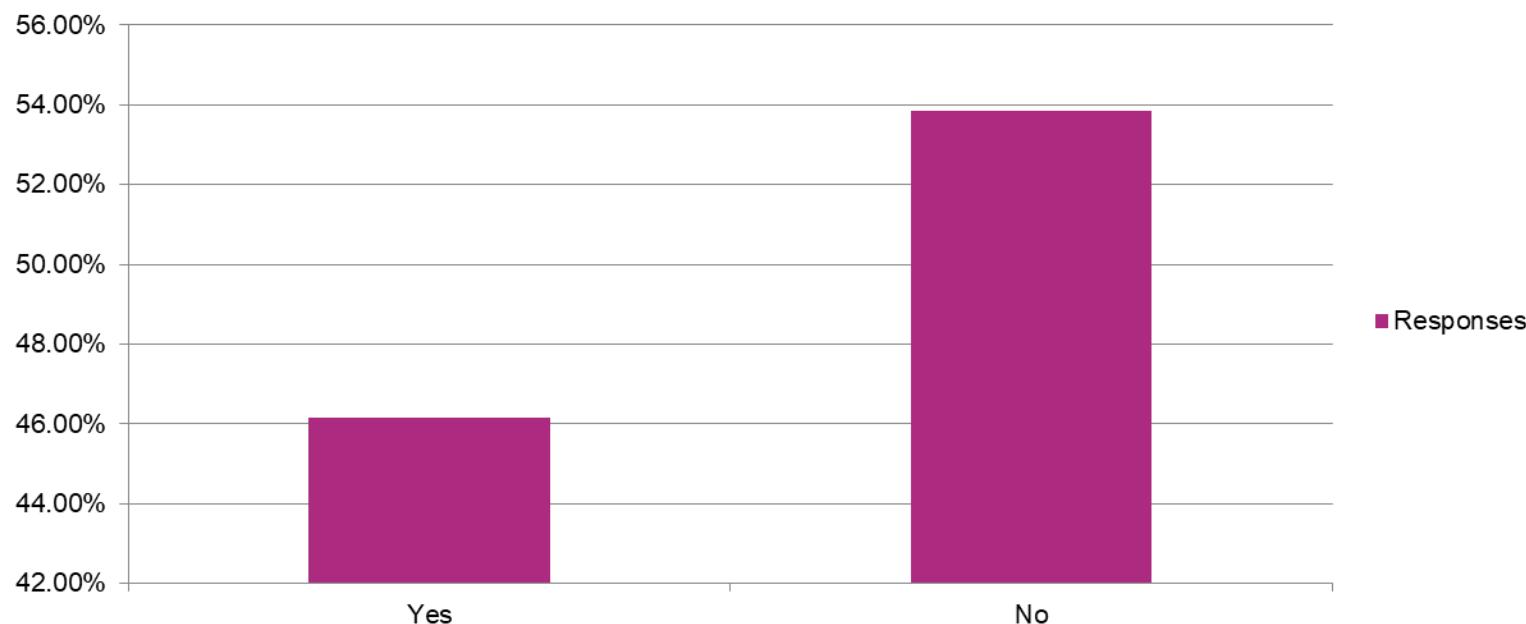


External Support

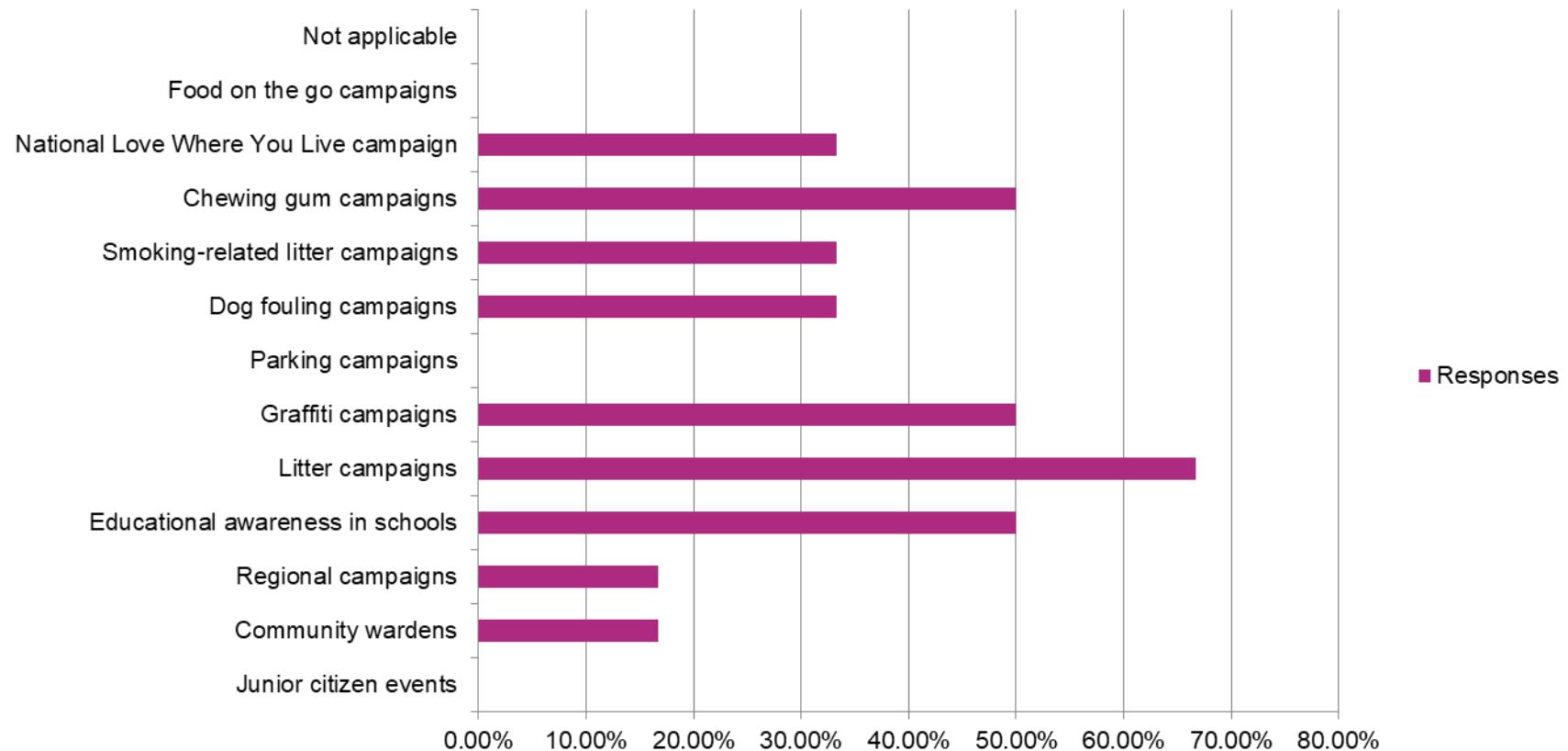
- 16% (50% 2025) stated that they provide street scene services as part of a Business Improvement District (BID)
- 7% (20% 2025) of respondents have individual street cleansing agreements with supermarkets, retailers and other businesses
- 71% clean ups by community sector
- 30% local environmental improvement projects
- 15% community payback schemes
- 23% education initiatives

Education campaigns

Are you planning any education campaigns in the next 2 years?



If yes, what are these?





Enforcement

- 69% of respondents thought that there will be an increase in enforcement / notices issued in the next 2-3 years. (60% 2025)
- 66% of respondents now serve on the spot fines for littering and linked to this is the fact that 36% of authorities are also issuing litter clearance notices.
- WHY POWERS HAVE NOT BEEN USED
- 'insufficient resources' 62%
- 'it is covered by other agencies / departments' 50%
- 'they're not problem areas/we have other priorities' 25%
- 25% cited 'political reasons'



Areas of work – increases and decreases

INCREASES

- Income generation and selling services
- Provision of specialist street cleansing works to the private sector
- **Mechanical sweeping of industrial units/supermarket car parks**
- Community engagement and community-based projects
- Use of volunteers and community payback
- Education and prevention initiatives

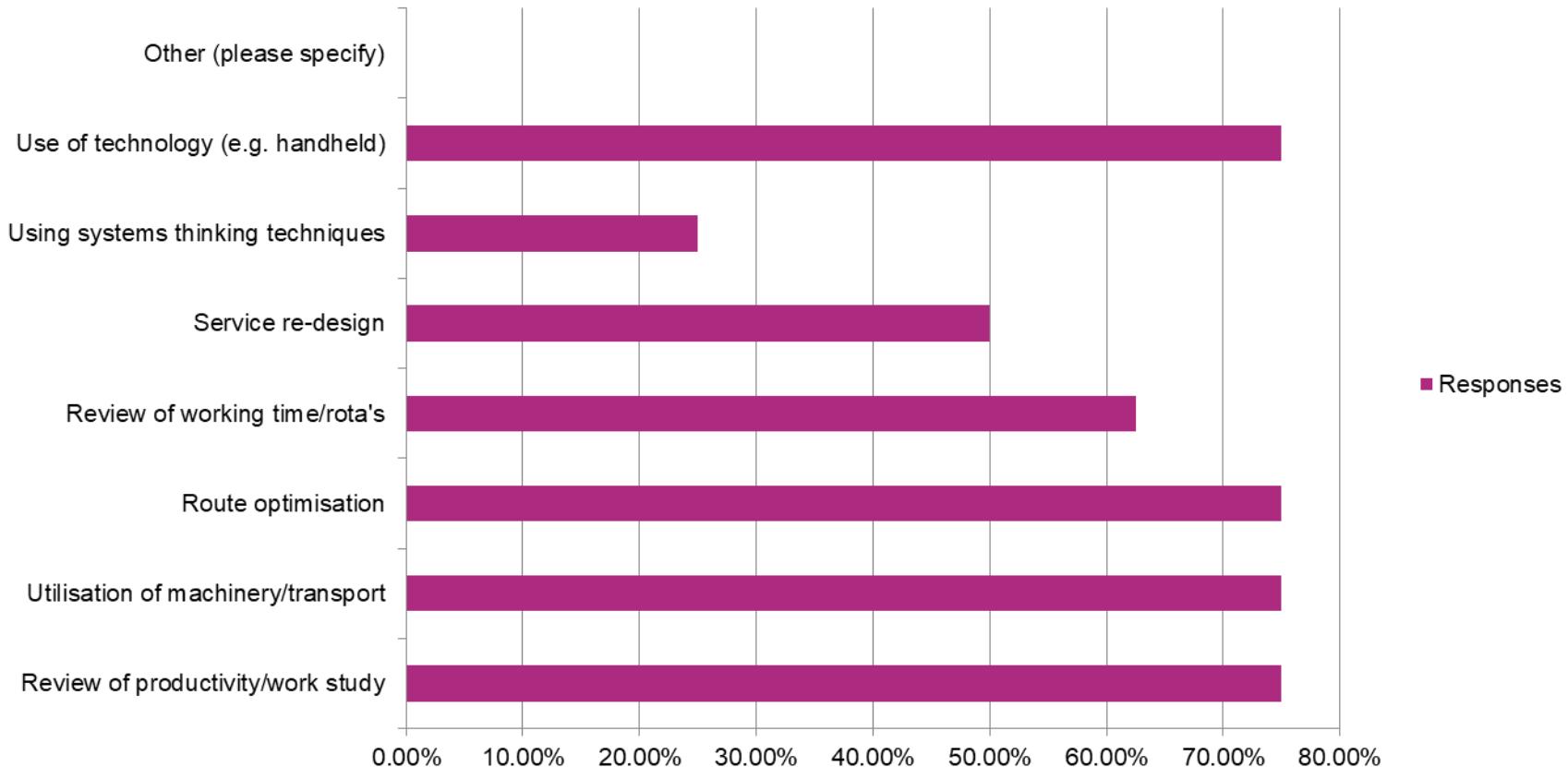
DECREASES

Private street cleansing work

- Frequency of cleaning of rural roads
- Private street cleansing work
- Litter picking
- Reduction in ability to provide assistance/advice to community groups due to budget constraints
- Standards of cleanliness.

Service reviews

Will this review involve any of the following:





Future considerations

- What will local government reorganisation mean for street cleansing services?
- Climate change and ecological impacts of service
- Innovations for street cleaning
- Greater public engagement
- New technologies
- Improved community engagement and volunteering
- New legislation



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