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**Has Austerity bitten?**

**What the public think**

Paul Smith Director Government and Public Sector Survation

**Survation.**

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## Three ways this presentation will help you

1. Public trust you more
2. They may trust you to spend their taxes on them
3. National benchmarks based on their needs

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# Introduction and Background

Survation were asked by the Association for Public Service Excellence APSE to provide a public opinion survey of attitudes to local neighbourhood services in 2018, covering the range of council services that would appear in their local area. Most questions mirrored questions asked in 2016 and 2017.

Polling was conducted via online panel between 13th – 18th August 2018.

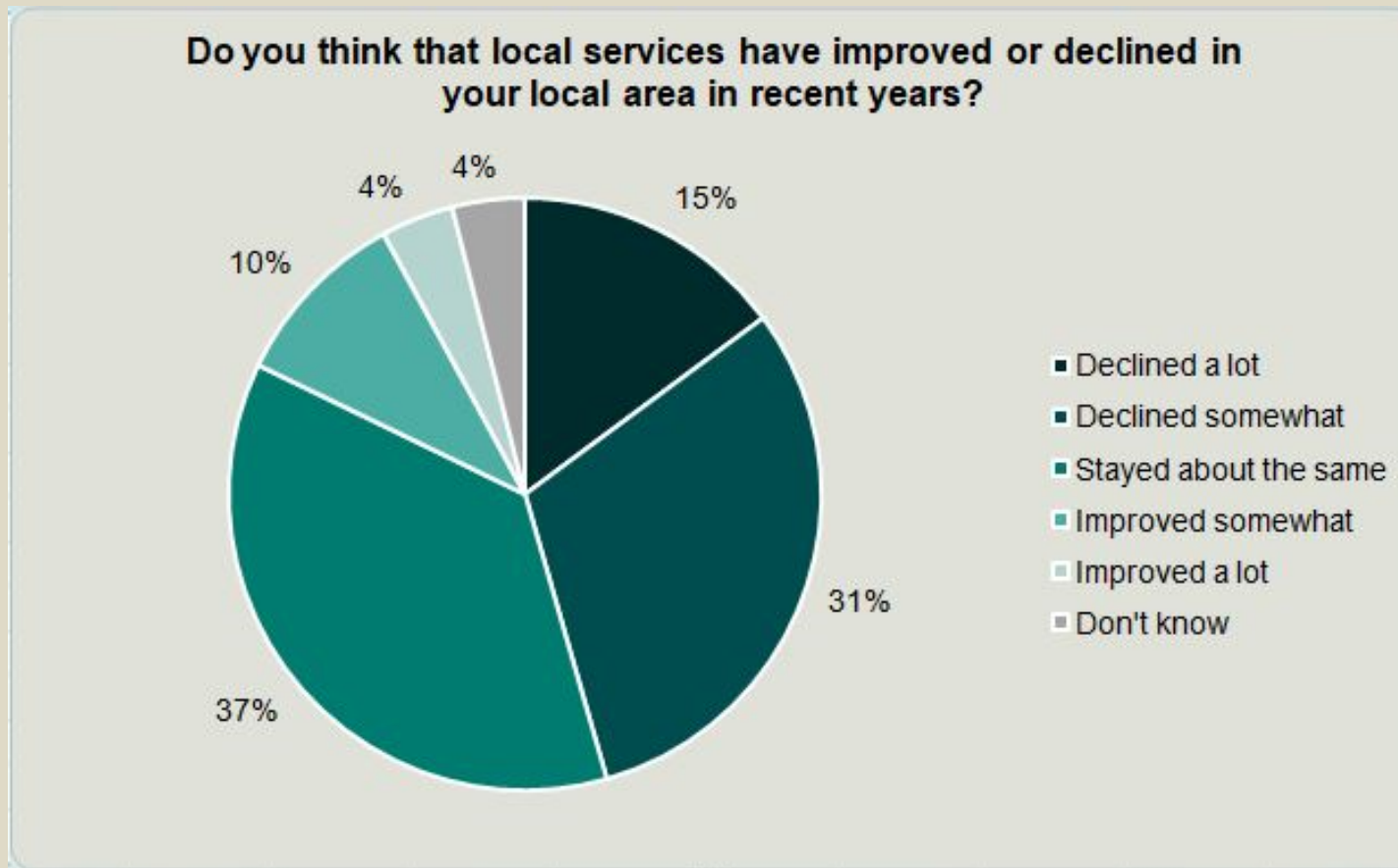
Data were weighted by age, sex, region, household income, education, 2017 GE vote and 2016 EU Referendum vote to be representative of all UK adults aged 18+.

The overall sample size was 1,648, including booster samples in Northern Ireland & Wales to ensure sub-samples of at least 100 persons in those regions.

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## Key fact 1 : Perception of decline is the same

46% per cent of voters now perceive a decline in services, the same as 2017. This follows a 4% increase in perceived decline from the 2016 survey.



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## Key fact 2 : Government *and* Council to blame

The most common response amongst those who perceive a decline is still to blame the *both the Council and the Government* .

There has been small move away from blaming the government exclusively since 2017 after an 8% increase in 2017.

Labour Voters or those in the North ASPE region were the only groups of voters who blamed the government as their first choice.

Blame	2016	2017	2018
Both	40.9%	39.7%	41.7
Government	27.3%	35.3%	31.0%
Council	30.2%	23.6%	25.7%
Neither	0.1%	0.4%	0.5%
Don't Know	1.7%	0.8	1.2%

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## **Key fact : Relative trust remains high**

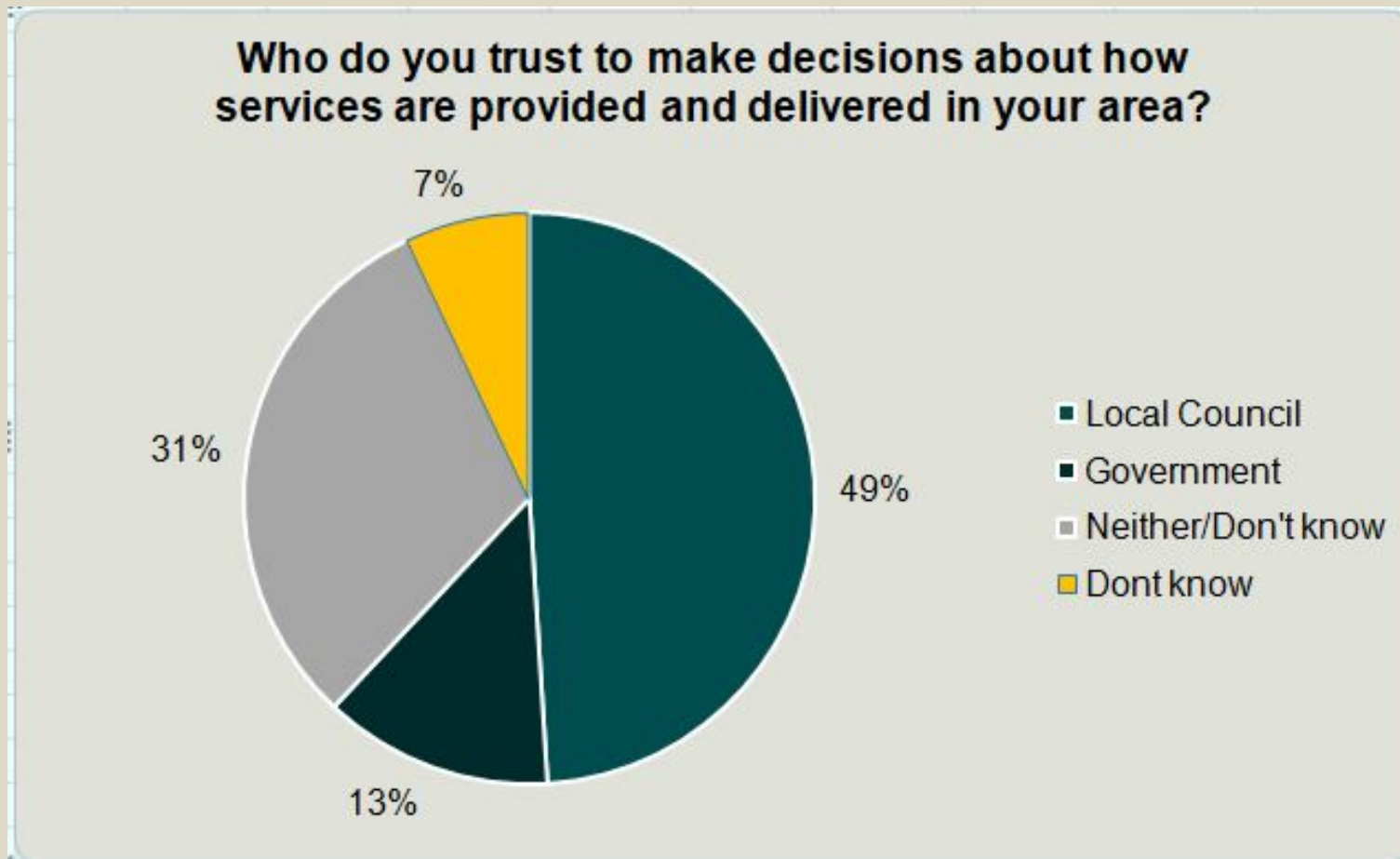
**As in 2016 and 2017, Trust in Councils and Councillors is high relative to Government ministers and private companies in a climate on increasing distrust of anyone.**

- Four times as many still trust the local Council over the Government to make decisions about how services are delivered provided in your local area.
- Six times as many trust local Councillors over Government ministers to make decision about their local area.
- Four and half times as many trusted Council to provide services in their local area over a private company with people trusting the council five times more than the Government.

80% would like the Government to give more money to local councils to spend at the local level for services that are in their neighbourhood.

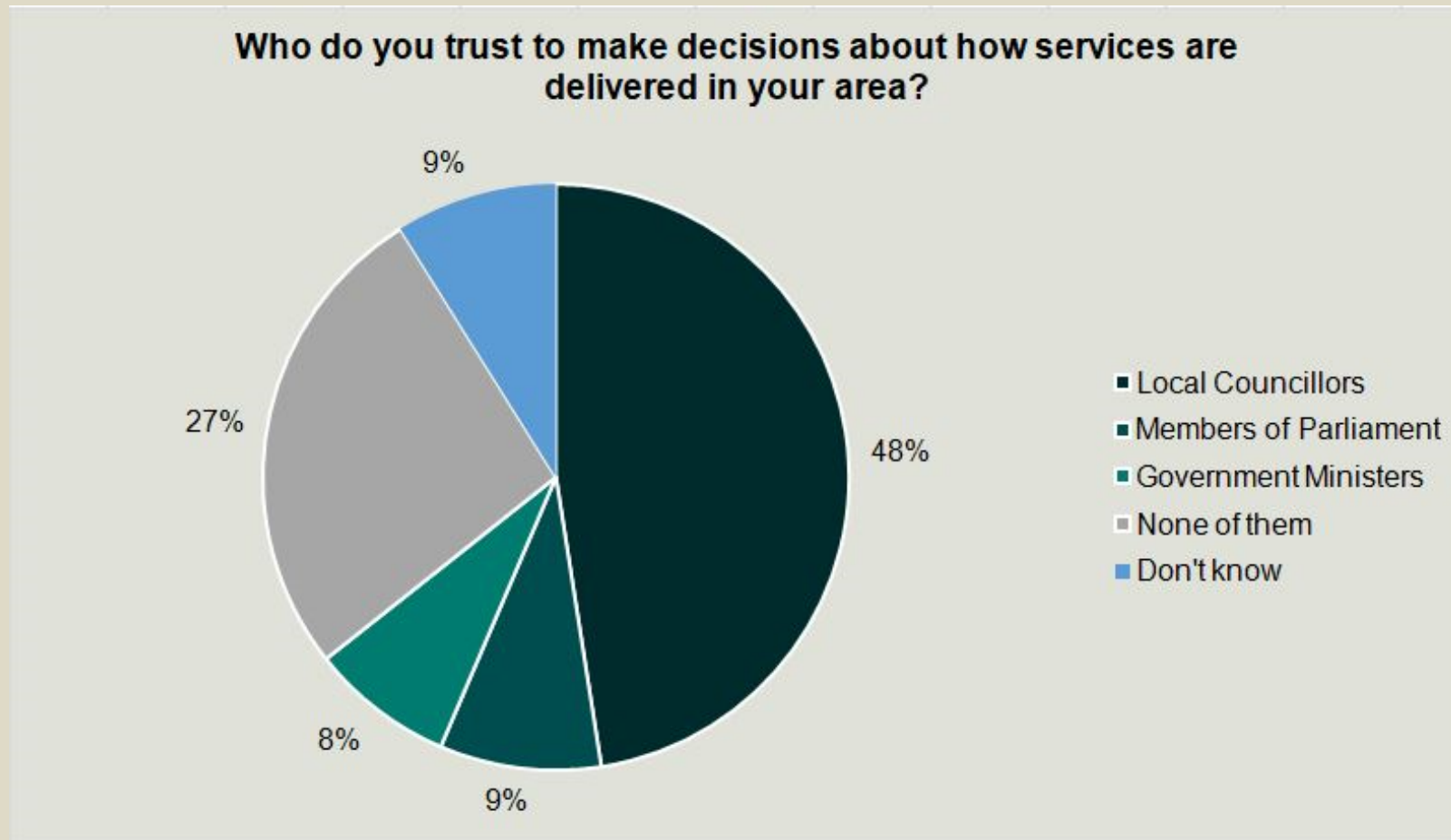
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## Trust relatively high Councils v Government



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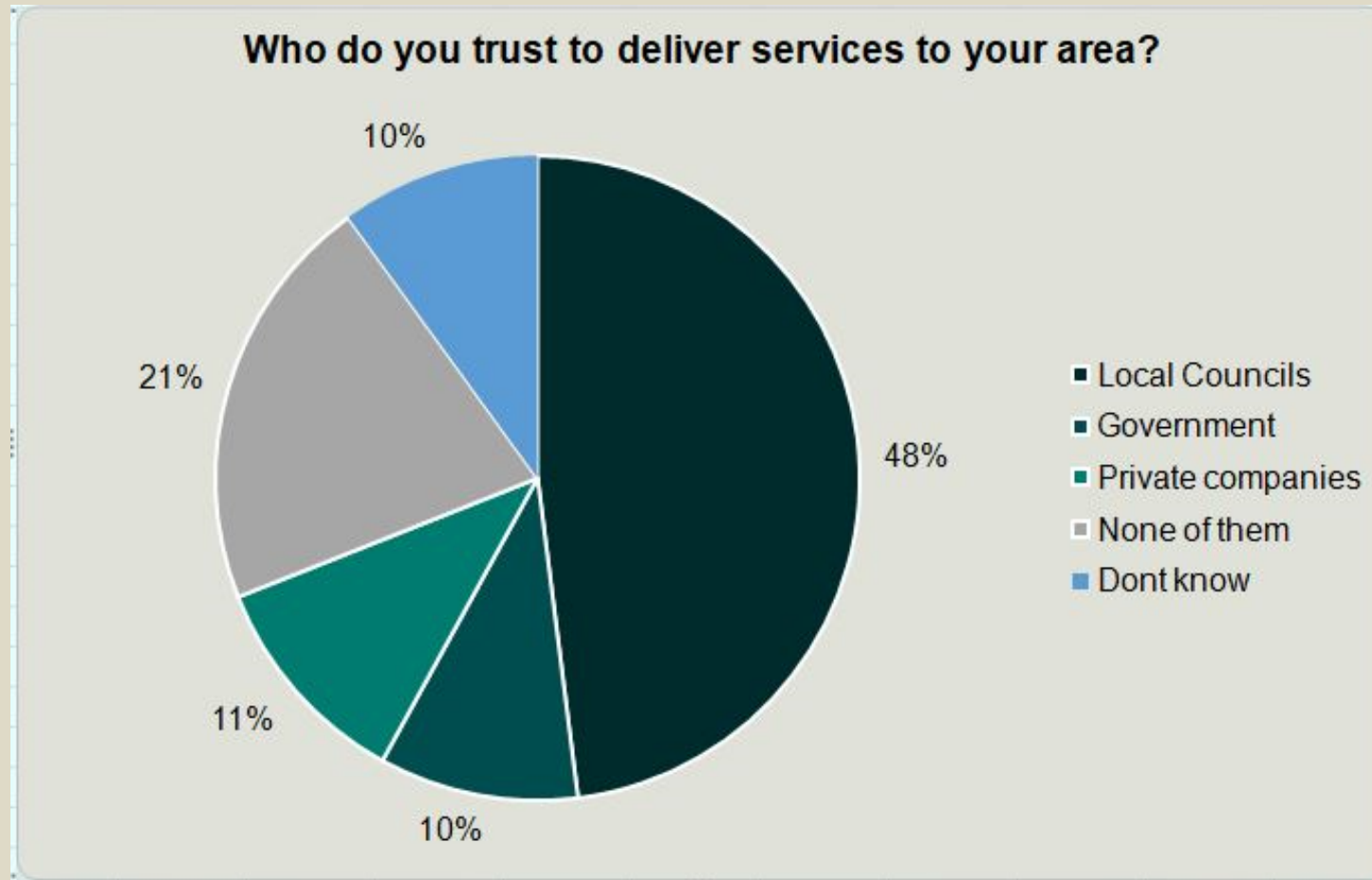
## Trust relatively high in Councilors v others



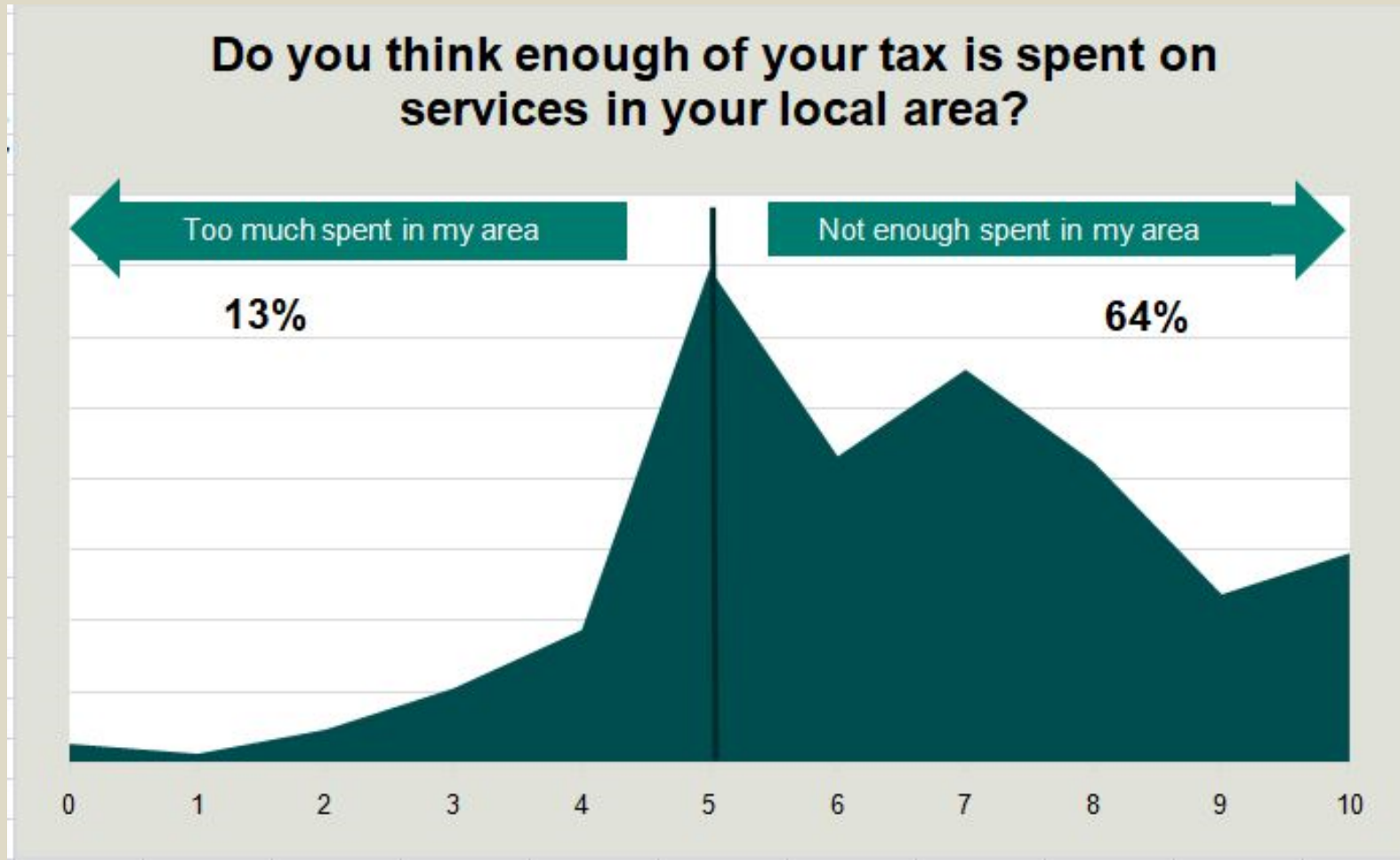


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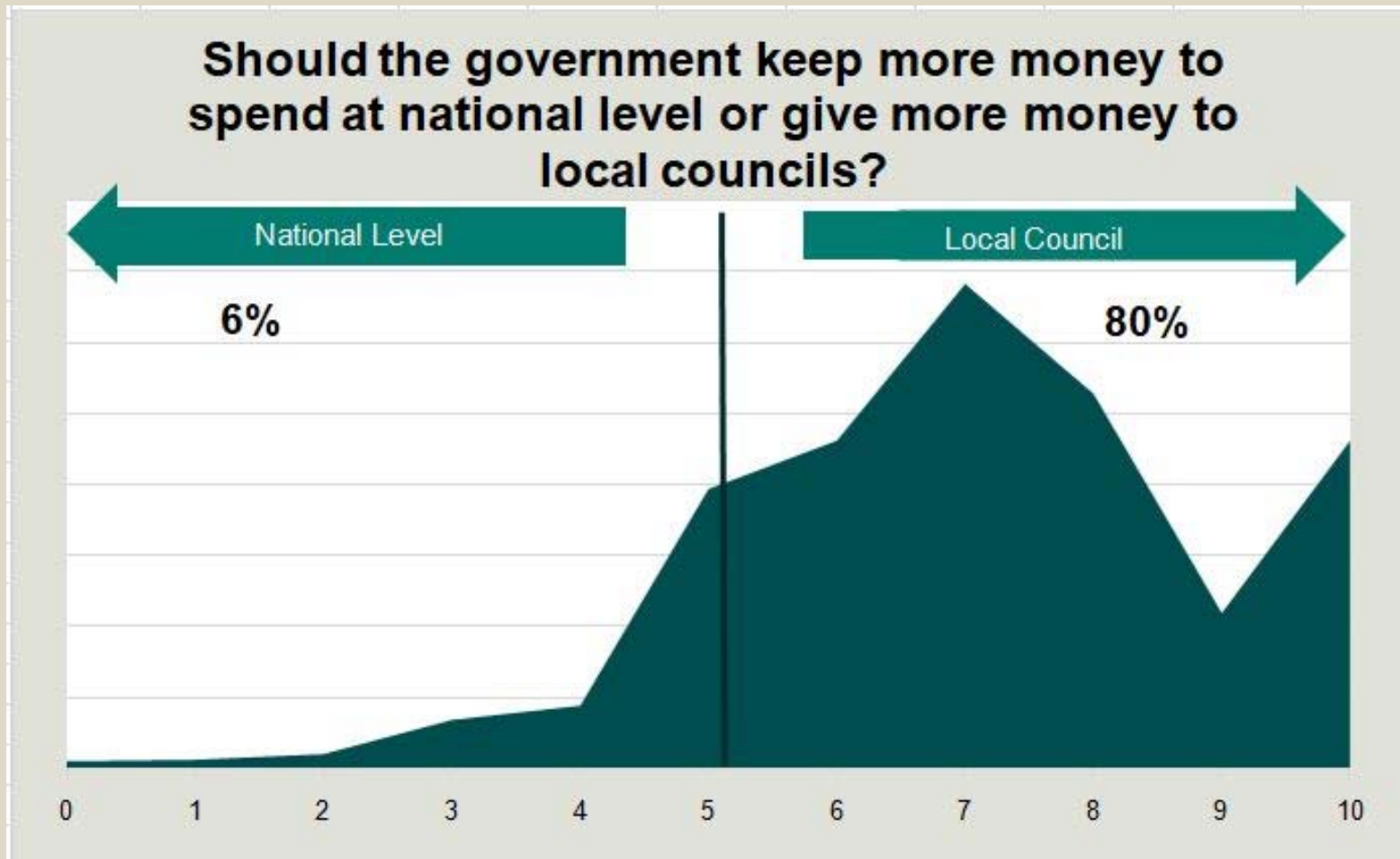
## Trust high in Councils to deliver services



# Enough of your taxes spent in the your area?



# Should Government give Councils more funds?

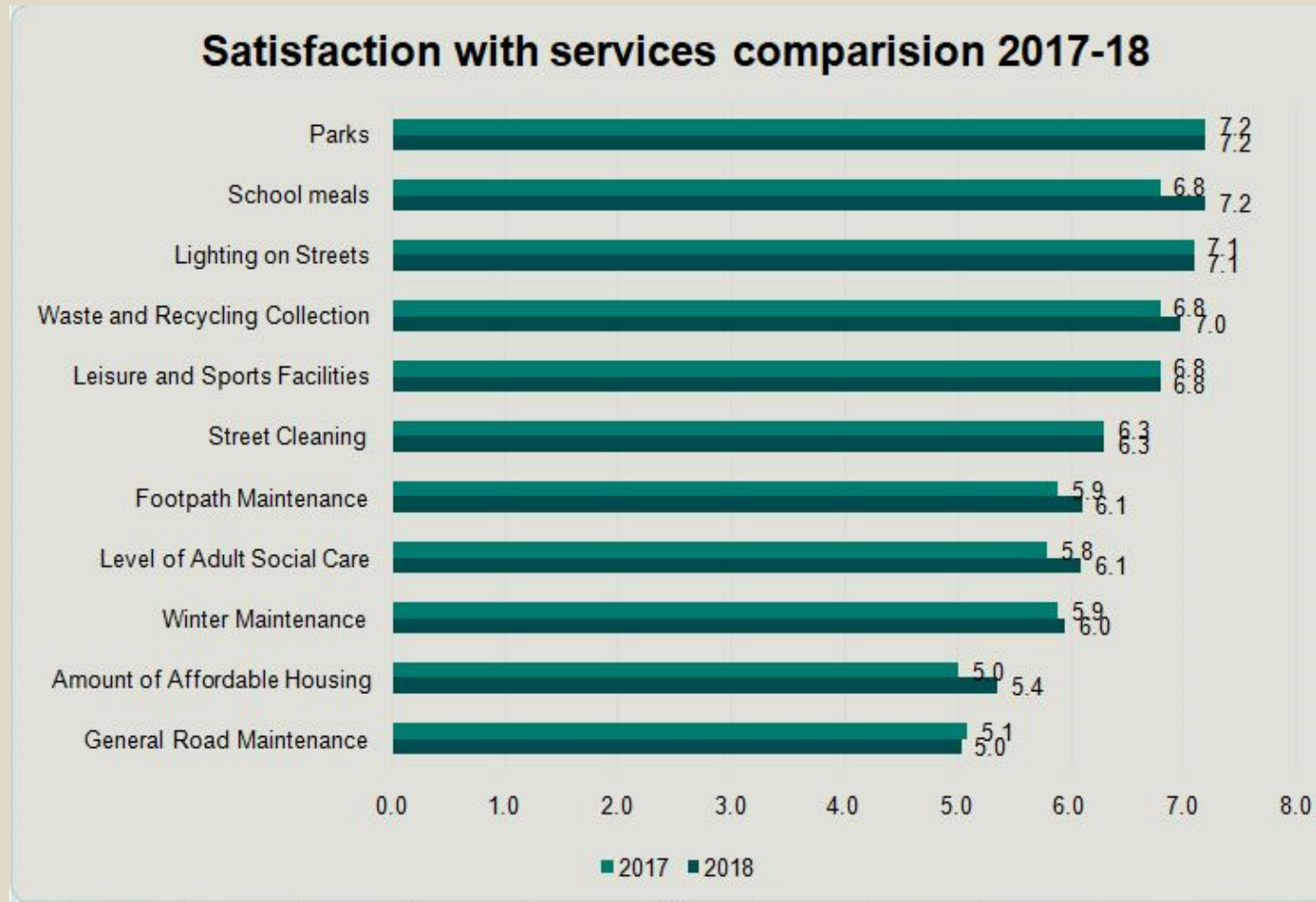


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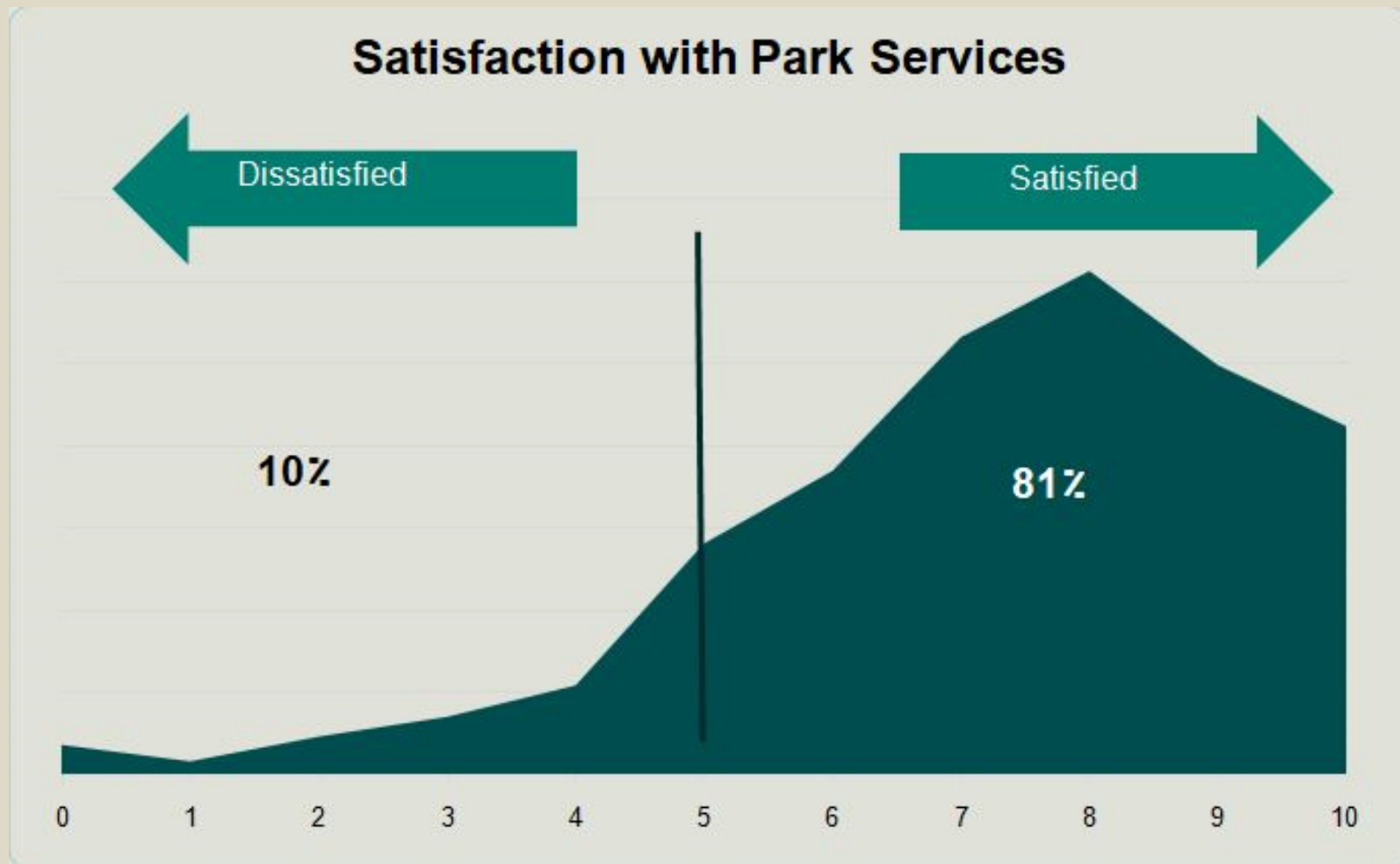
# Performance of Councils services positive



# Performance mostly steady on last year

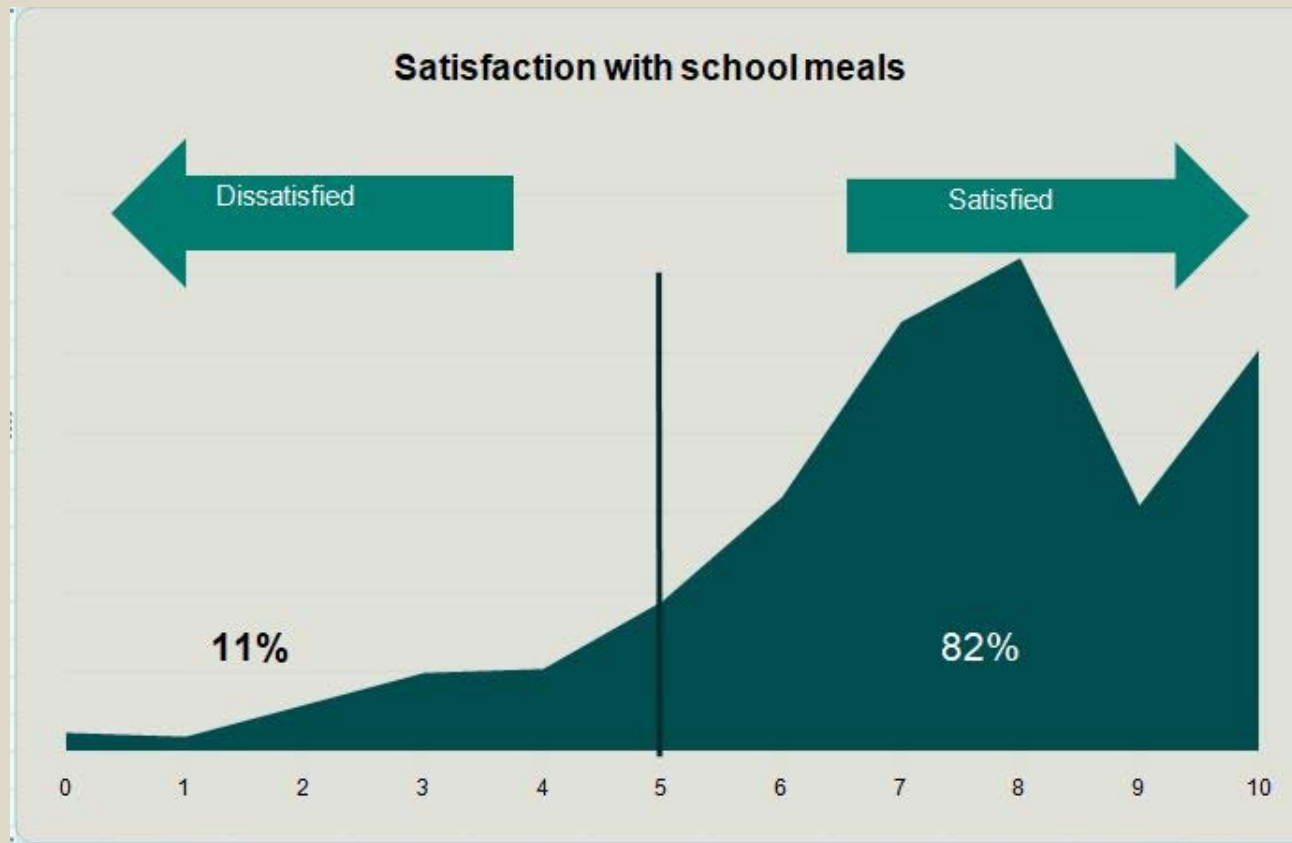


## 7.2 Parks



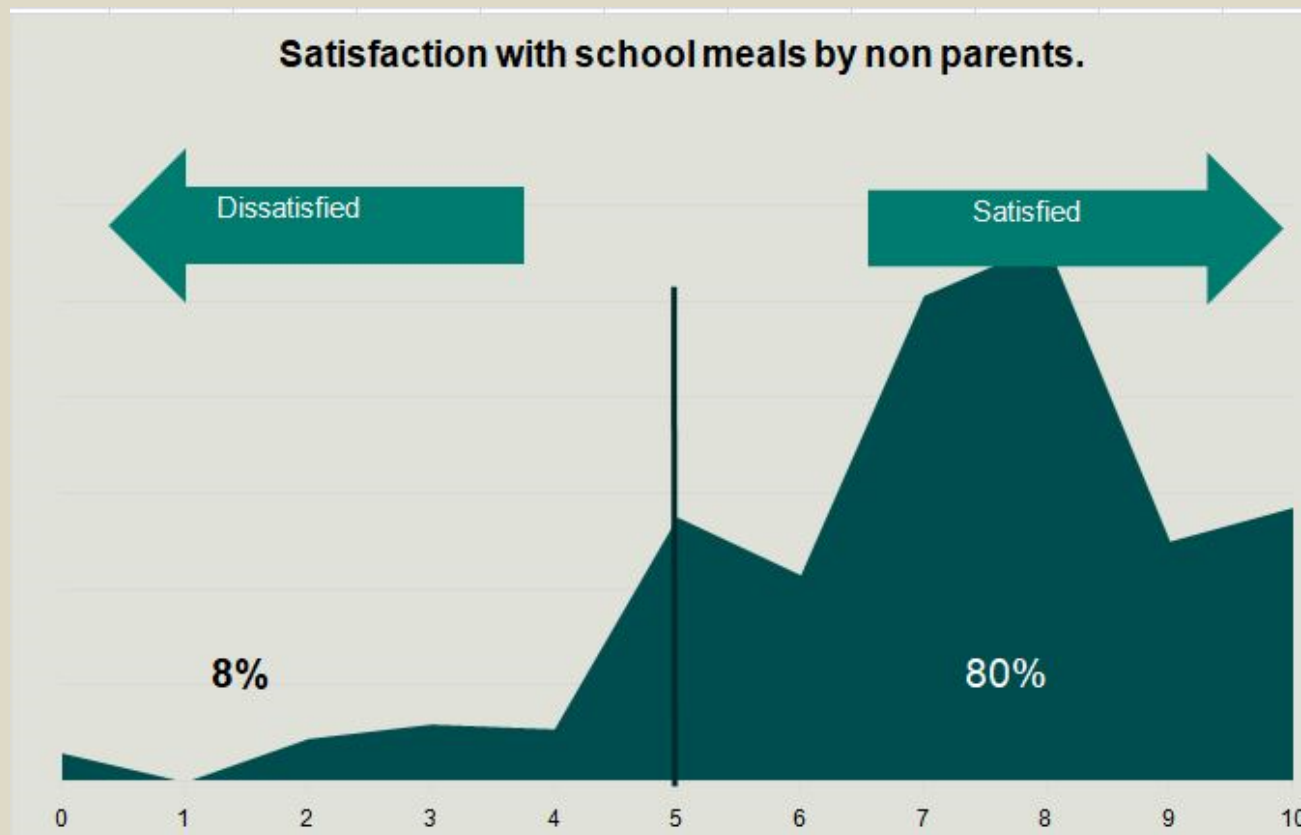
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## 7.2 School Meals with children at school



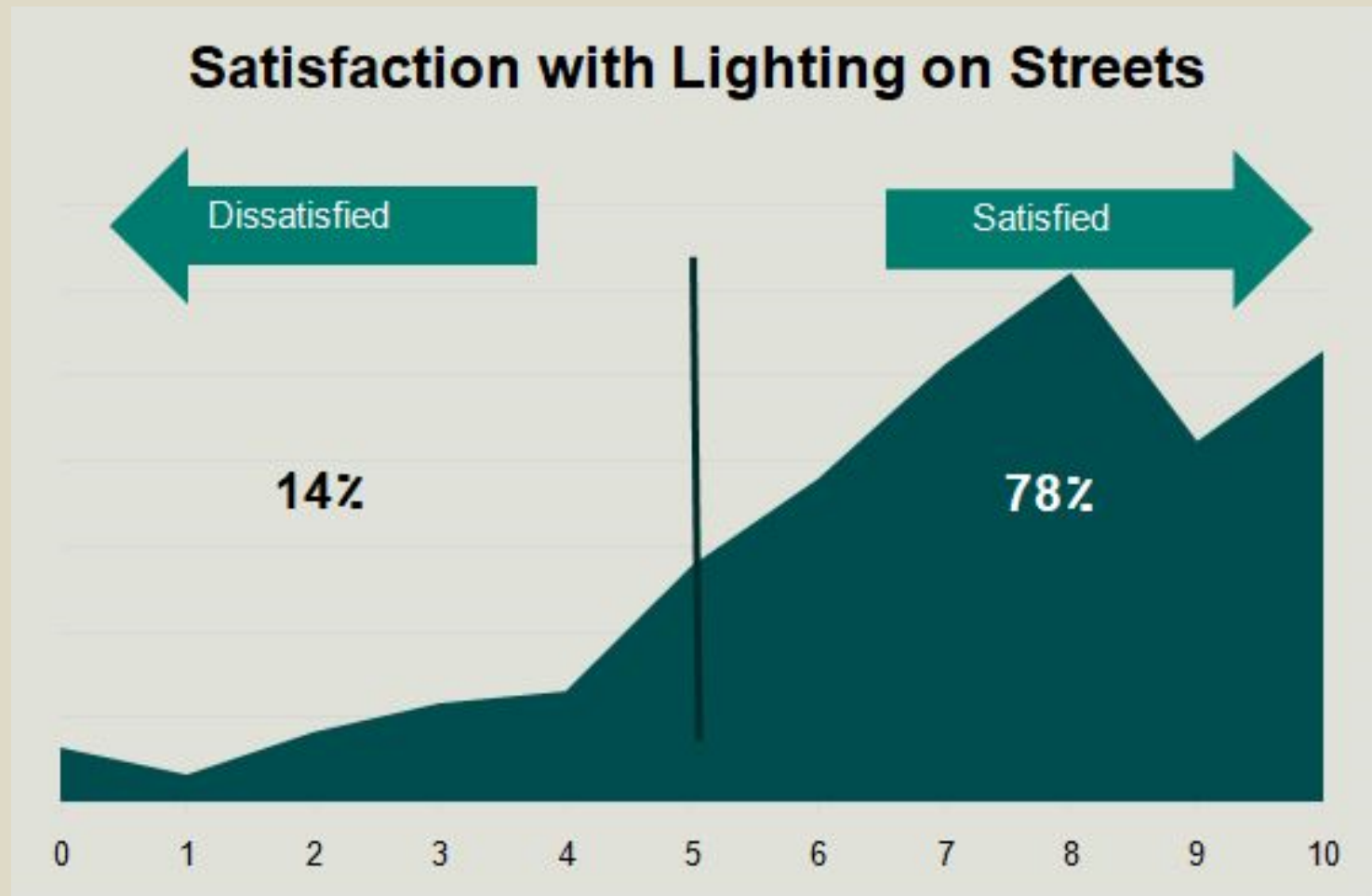
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## 7.1 School Meals without children as school





## 7.1 Street Lighting



## 7.0 Waste and Recycling



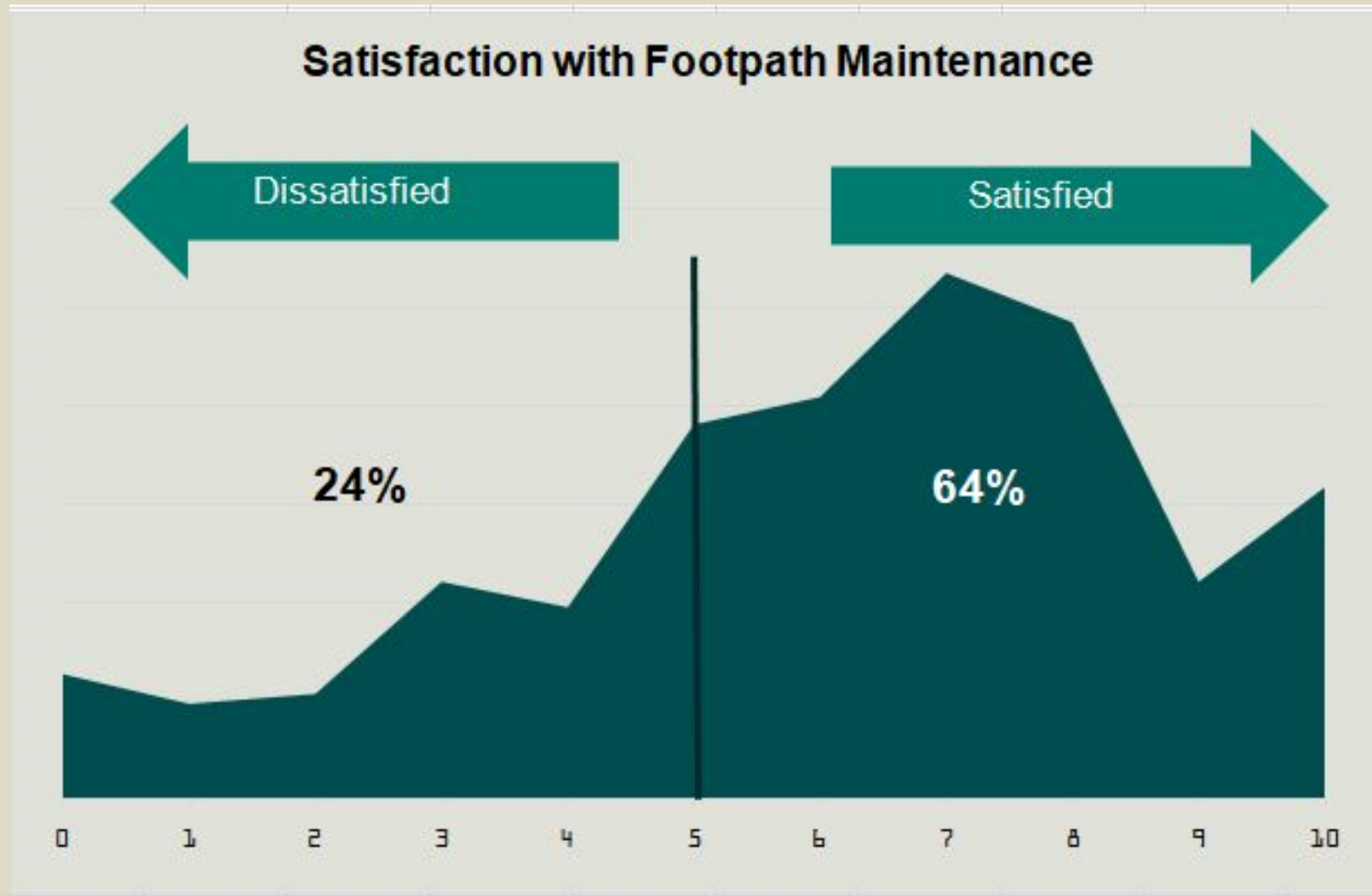
## 6.8 Leisure and Sports



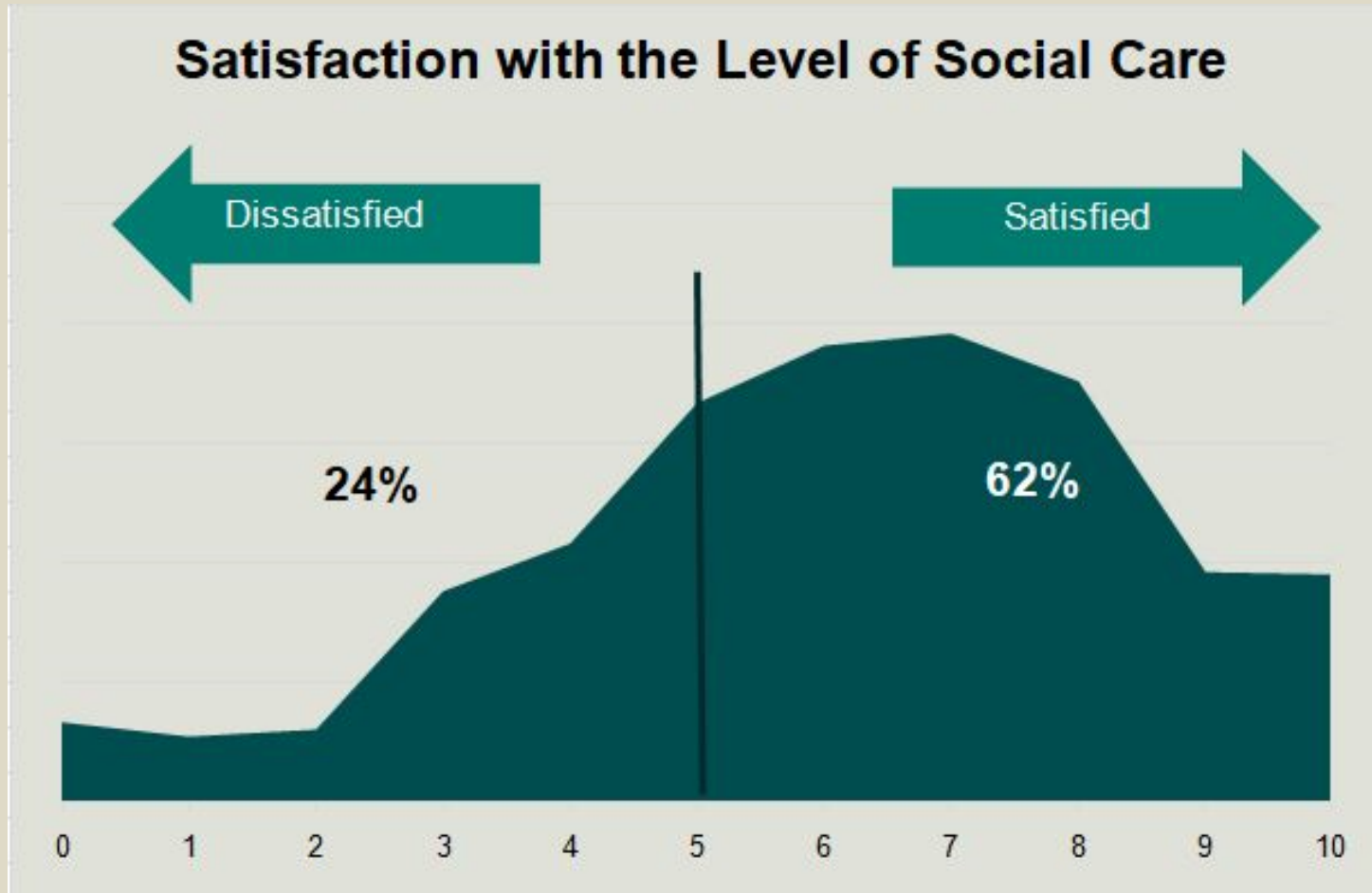
## 6.3 Street Cleaning



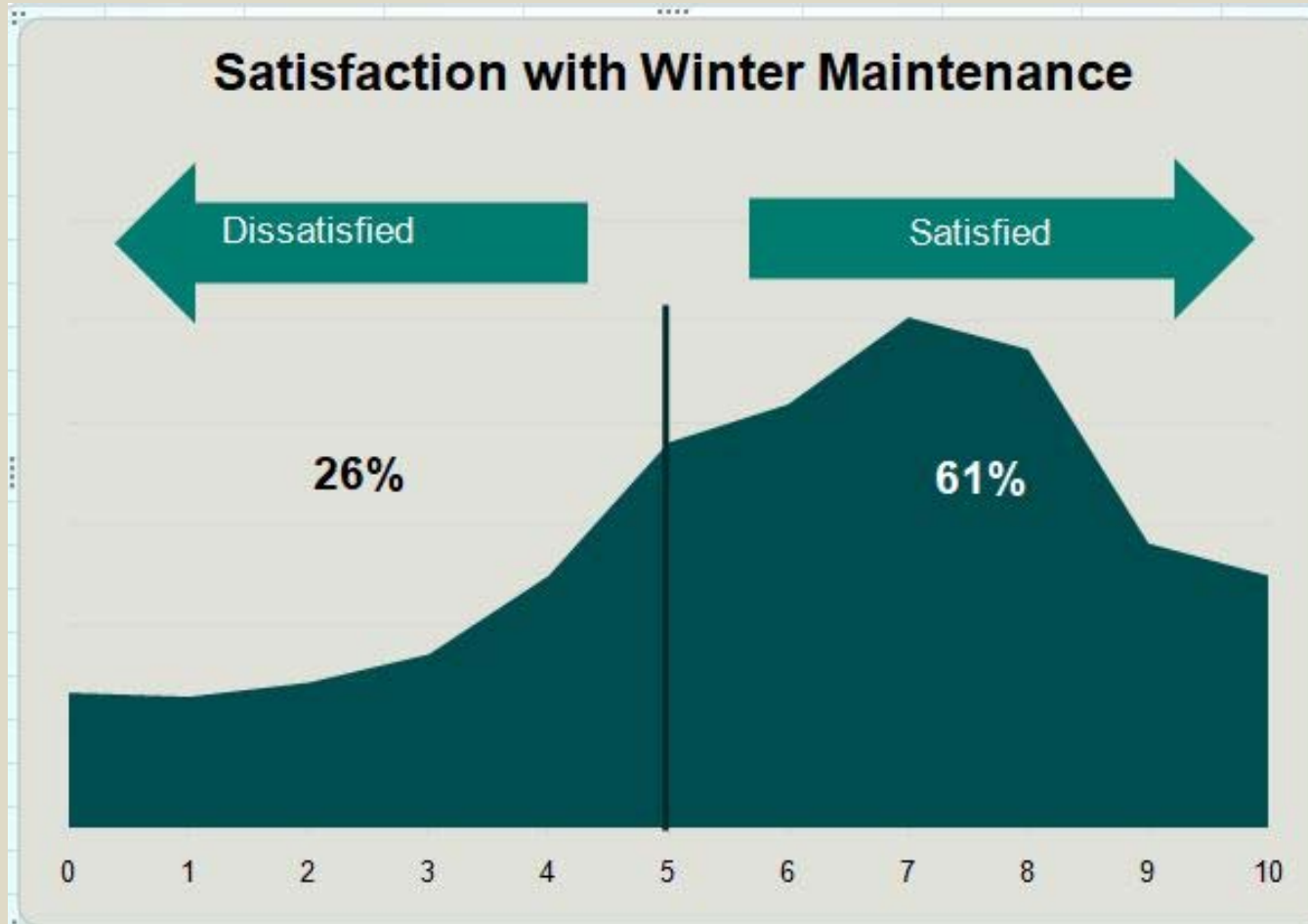
## 6.1 Footpath maintenance



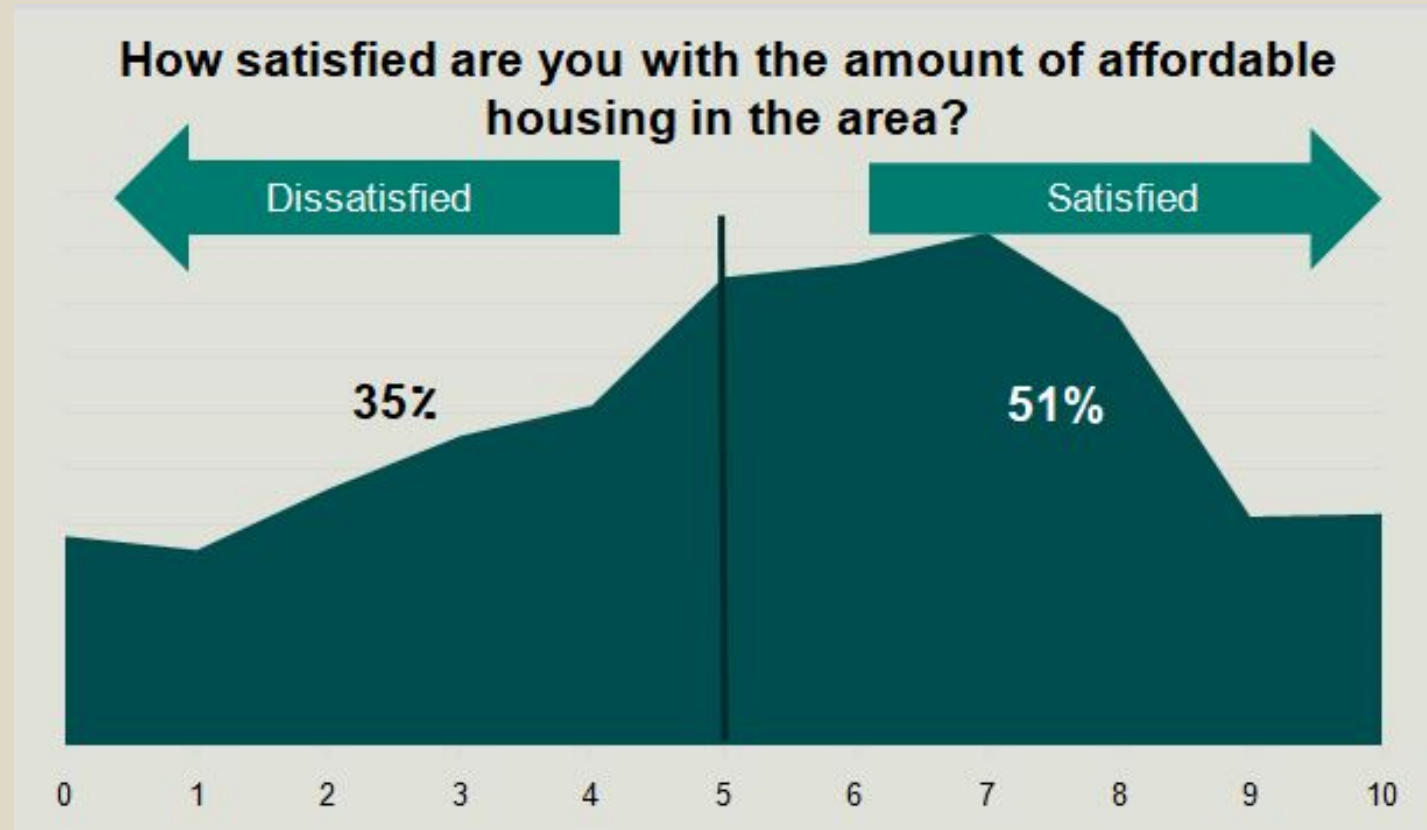
## 6.1 Level of Social Care



## 6.0 Winter Maintenance

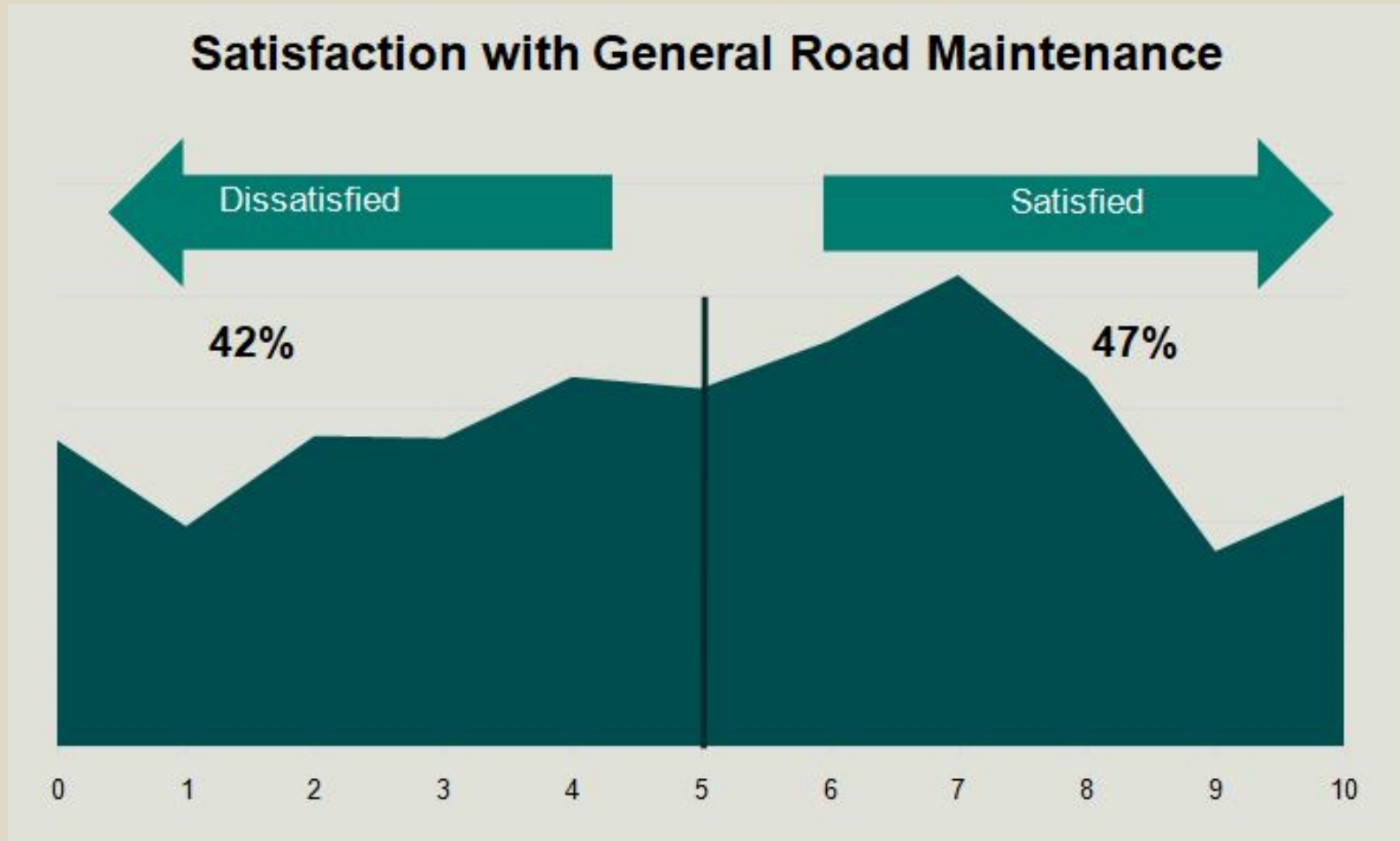


## 5.4 Housing



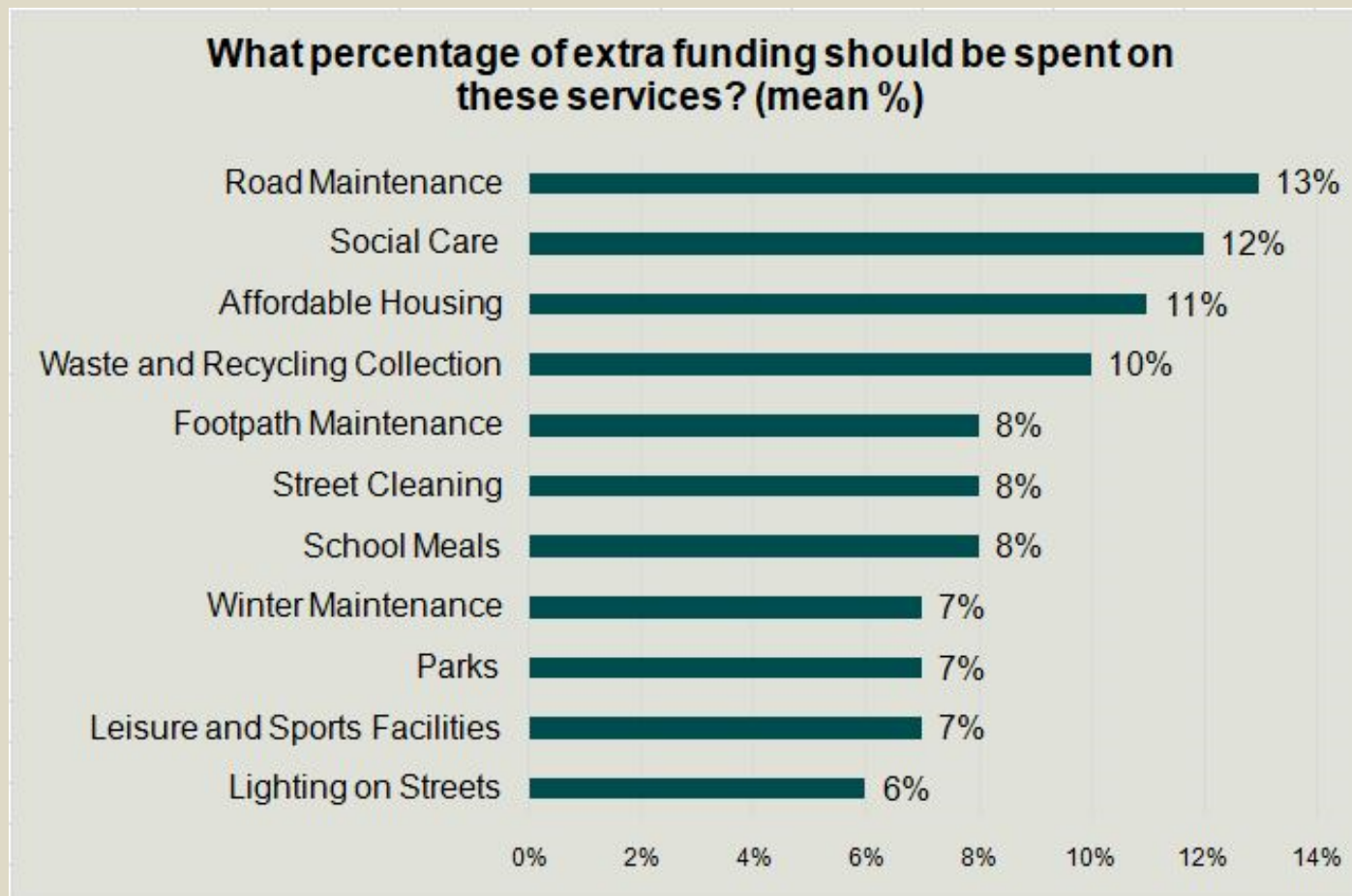


## 5.0 Road maintenance

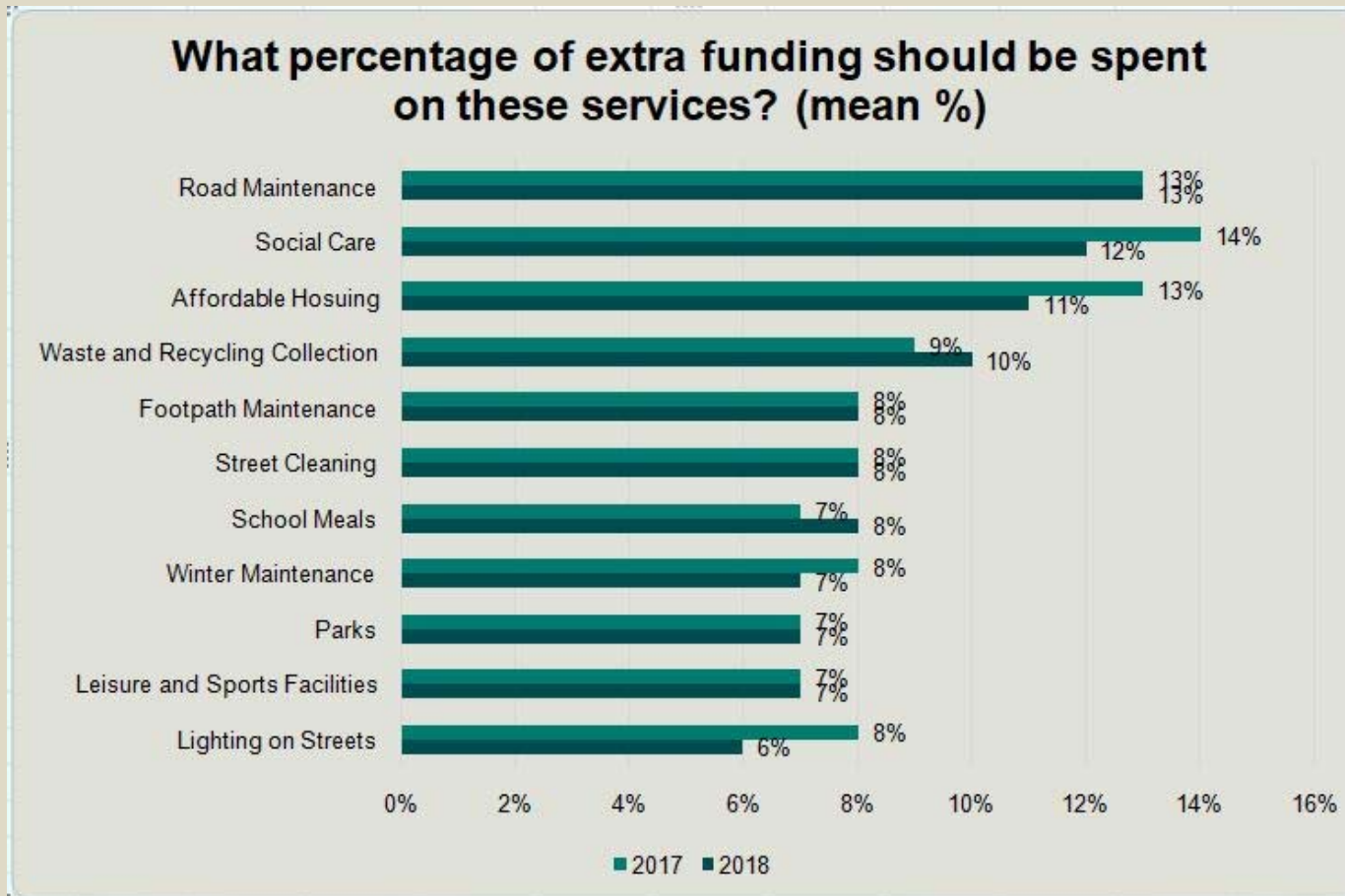


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# How the public would like extra funds spent



# How the public priorities compare to last year



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**For more information**

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