

Engaging Communities Project: Community Consultation and Engagement





Objectives

- To gain understanding of the impact of the South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme (SWPLPS) Engaging Communities Project to enable measurement and evaluation for reporting purposes.
- To obtain feedback from community groups involved in the Engaging Communities Project
- To understand community groups experience of the community grants scheme process and involvement in the SWPLPS
- To gain insight into the impact and legacy outcomes of community groups projects.

Methodology



- To maximise the opportunity for success (participation and response) 2 x surveys/questionnaires were compiled and hosted on google forms:
 1. [South West Peak Landscape Partnership Engaging Communities Project. Community Grants Scheme Grant Recipients Experience and Involvement Survey 2021 \(google.com\)](#)
 2. [South West Peak Landscape Partnership Engaging Communities Project - Impact and Legacy Outcomes Survey for Grant Recipients \(google.com\)](#)
- The link to the survey was sent via email to 67 people representing 58 organisations

Survey 1 - Questions



1. How did you learn about the opportunity to apply for a community grant from the South West Peak Landscape Partnership (SWPLP)?
2. What motivated you to apply for a grant award?
3. In applying for the grant how easy did you find the process?
4. How valuable was the support from the grants team at SWPLP/Support Staffordshire in helping to put together your application?
5. How important was the SWPLP grant in enabling your project to go ahead?
6. Is/was the funded activity part of a larger project for your organisation?
7. If the funded activity was part of a larger project, please describe the larger project
8. To what extent has the process of applying for the grant (for example, in making the case, assessing benefits, producing estimates) helped to build the confidence and capacity of your organisation in potentially applying for other sources of funding?
9. If you could, would you apply again?
10. In reporting about your project and submitting your grant claims(s) how easy did you find the process?
11. If you found the process of reporting and claiming difficult, please tell us what the difficulties and/or problems you encountered were.
12. If you found the process of reporting and claiming your grant award was difficult, can you suggest something or several things that would have made it easier for you?
13. In general, how important do you feel that a community grants scheme is for landscape development and conservation in the South West Peak area?
14. Please tell us (in as many or as few words as you like) what you know and think about the South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme
15. Please tell us (in as many or as few words as you like) what you think and know about the Engaging Communities Project

16. If you would you like to elaborate on any of your previous responses, please write the details here.
17. If there is anything else you would like us to know about or consider please write the details here.

Survey 2 - Questions

1. Did your project involve setting up a new community group?
2. Was it a new project that your group were undertaking or part of an existing project?
3. Did the project attract new members or volunteers to get involved with your group/activity?
4. If your project attracted new members and/or volunteers were these members/volunteers local residents?
5. If your project attracted new members/volunteers have they continued to be involved in your group?
6. Have you, your group members/volunteers learned new skills or gained knowledge? (please check all that apply)
7. If you, your group members/volunteers learned new skills or gained knowledge please tell us what they were
8. To what extent has your project enhanced the sustainability of you group?
9. To what extent has your group's involvement in the SWPLP (South West Peak Landscape Partnership) enhanced the sustainability of your group?
10. To what extent has your project improved understanding and relationships with other groups and/or communities?
11. Has your project resulted in any or all of the following (please check all that apply)?
12. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of conserving, protecting, and/ or enhancing natural, built or cultural heritage?
13. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of helping people learn about their natural, built or cultural heritage?
14. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of helping communities celebrate the natural, built or cultural heritage?
15. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of increasing people's awareness and enjoyment of the South West Peak area for residents and/ or those working in or visiting the area?
16. Please tell us what about your project makes you feel most proud e.g. what would you say to someone else about it?
17. Please tell us what your group plans to do next in the South West Peak area?
18. Please add anything else below that you would like us to know about which is connected to your project and/or the SWPLP Scheme

Survey 1 - The Response

- 25 responses received
 - 37% of people responded
 - 43% of organisations responded

Questions Responses **25** Settings

South West Peak Landscape Partnership Engaging Communities Project. Community Grants Scheme Grant Recipients Experience and Involvement Survey 2021

This survey is intended to help us learn about your experience and your involvement in the community grants scheme. Thank you for making time to complete it for us.

Image title



Survey 2 - The Response

- 23 responses received
 - 34% of people responded
 - 40% of organisations responded

Questions Responses **23** Settings

South West Peak Landscape Partnership Engaging Communities Project - Impact and Legacy Outcomes Survey for Grant Recipients

This survey is intended to help us to understand the impact and legacy your project and your involvement in the South West Peak Landscape Partnership (SWPLP) Scheme has had on your organisation, your members and your community. Thank you for making the time to complete it for us.

Image title



Survey 1 - Response Highlights

- 100% of respondents said the grant award was important in enabling their ‘project’ to go ahead
- 92% of respondents said they felt the Community Grants Scheme was essential/important for landscape development and conservation in the South West Peak area
- Over 80% of respondents said the application process has helped to build their confidence/capacity to apply for other sources of funding
- 74% said they found the help from the grants team was very valuable/valuable

Comments:

- The Engaging Communities Project: “..seeks to engage people in the South West Peak area, involving them in practical activities which build connections between communities and the landscape.”
- “I have become aware of this particular strand of the SWPLP's work partly by virtue of being a member of the Community Grants Panel and partly through direct contact, awareness and involvement with some projects. I know that some wonderful opportunities, studies and experiences have occurred, friendships established, which are unlikely to have been possible without the support and encouragement of SWPLP...”
- “.....We are aware the project funding is via the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The SWPLPs website provides comprehensive information about it's plans and projects.”
- “Extremely impressed with all aspects of the SWPLPS that we've encountered and engaged with. The various activities and projects are invaluable and innovative, but most impressive has been all of the staff and volunteers, each of them knowledgeable, dedicated and friendly!”

Survey 2 - Response Highlights

- 95.6% of respondents feel that their project supports the SWPLP Scheme objective of conserving, protecting, and/or enhancing natural, built or cultural heritage
- 92% of respondents said they felt the Community Grants Scheme was essential/important for landscape development and conservation in the South West Peak area
- 91% of respondents feel that their project supports the SWPLP Scheme objective of helping people learn about their natural, built or cultural heritage AND the objective of helping communities celebrate the natural, built or cultural heritage
- 87% of respondents said they felt that their project supports the SWPLP Scheme objective of increasing people's awareness and enjoyment of the South West Peak area for residents and/ or those working in or visiting the area?

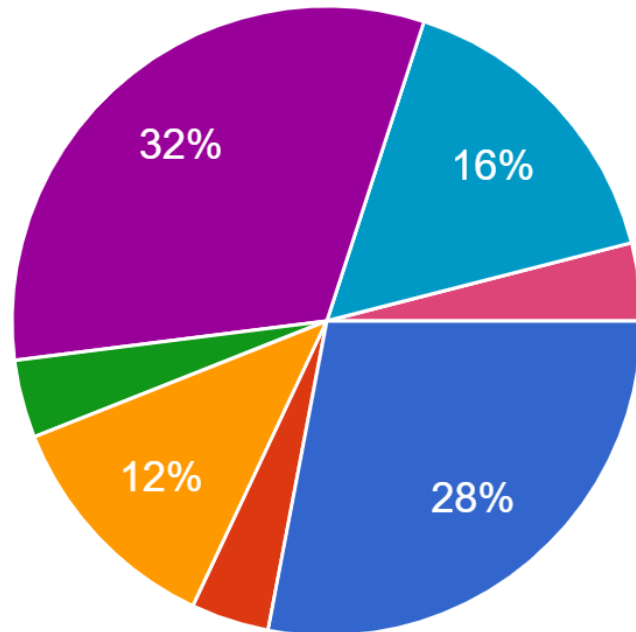
Comments:

- “Our project into the South Peaks has given the young carers experiences they would never have normally been given at a time they needed it the most. We are proud of the fact we gave them a positive experience they will remember into adult life and hopefully find the inspiration to explore the countryside as adults. Our favorite quote from a young person was "I haven't felt this happy for ages".”
- “I believe the project was primarily of relevance/interest to a specific community within South West Peak. I have been told by many people who live within that community, or those who used to live in it, now scattered around the UK and elsewhere in the World, that the outcome provided much joy, pleasure, and happy memories of times past. It is a record for posterity, much of which would almost certainly have been lost without engaging in the project.”
- “We have loved this scheme :)”
- “Grants are vital when volunteers are giving so much of their time, not just for their own benefit but, for the future of communities beyond their own lifetime.”

Appendix – Survey 1 Responses in detail

1. How did you learn about the opportunity to apply for a community grant from the South West Peak Landscape Partnership (SWPLP)?

25 responses



- From Support Staffordshire
- From SWPLP partners
- From SWPLP website
- From local press
- Word of mouth
- At an event
- Other

2. What motivated you to apply for a grant award?

25 responses

The financial opportunity to improve natural heritage for the sake of both our beneficiaries and for biodiversity, as well as the opportunity to work and engage with partners and raise the profile of the organisation.

Match funding

Offers of financial help for the church.

Encouragement from Support Staffordshire

To receive support from a local funder

We needed financial help with our projects

partnership working

needed additional funding for a community project developing a church interior

I wished to take part in this very worthwhile scheme

Getting young carers to be able to experience something new

To assist with delivering project to build two new camping pods

It was a local project, that I hoped would meet their aims and they would be able to provide support for a grant application.

At YMCA North Staffordshire we provide new opportunities and experiences that could change the paths of young people's lives. We knew from consultation that young people wanted more outdoor activities and that exercise and nature has a positive effect on mental health, so this opportunity fitted perfectly.

We needed to raise funds well in excess of what we could raise through our own operations. From prior experience I believe that an approach to a local award body is far more likely to be successful than approaching a national body.

We felt it would allow a worthwhile project to go ahead

We are trying to improve our village Hall with improved facilities

My predecessor did

The SWPLP objectives appeared compatible with those for our planned project

We were looking for funding for outdoor activities and the SWPLP criteria fitted our project.

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The desire to run a series of workshops across the SWP area

Five sections of the Peak District Boundary Walk (PDBW) are in the SWP area.

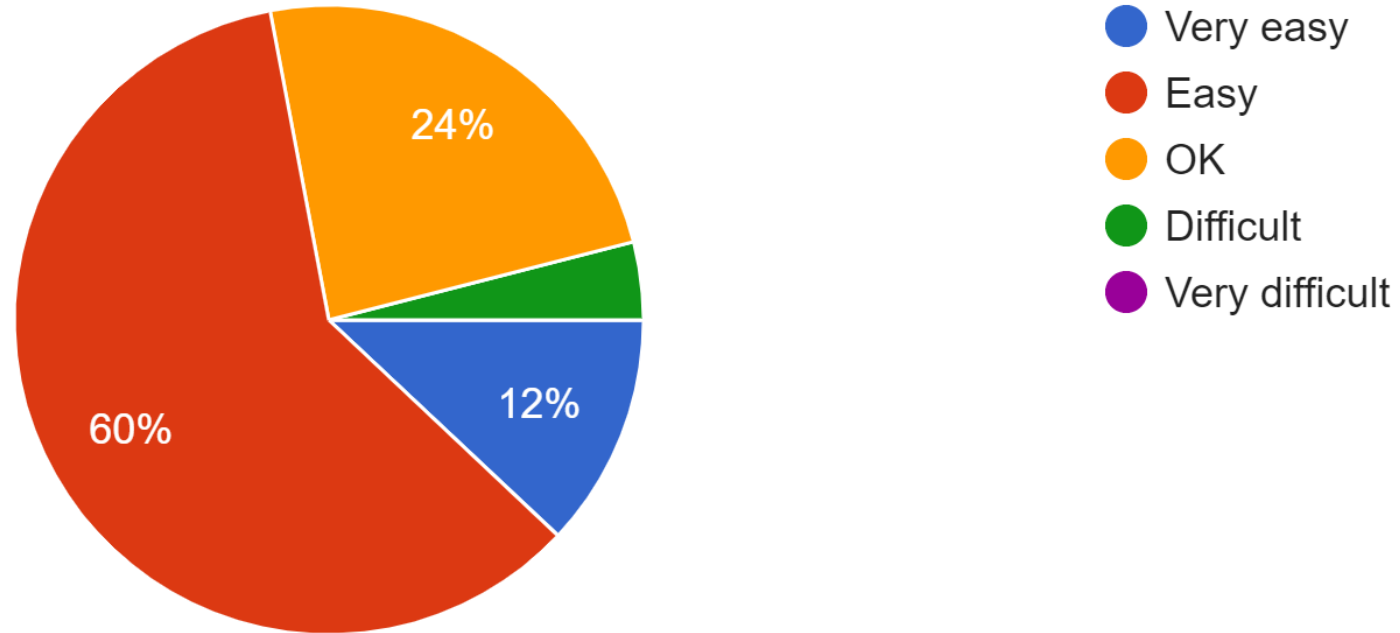
Encouragement from Sally and Ruth

Encouraged by conversation with SWP representative

It allowed us to extend research we had done in Derbyshire and continue it over the border into Staffordshire

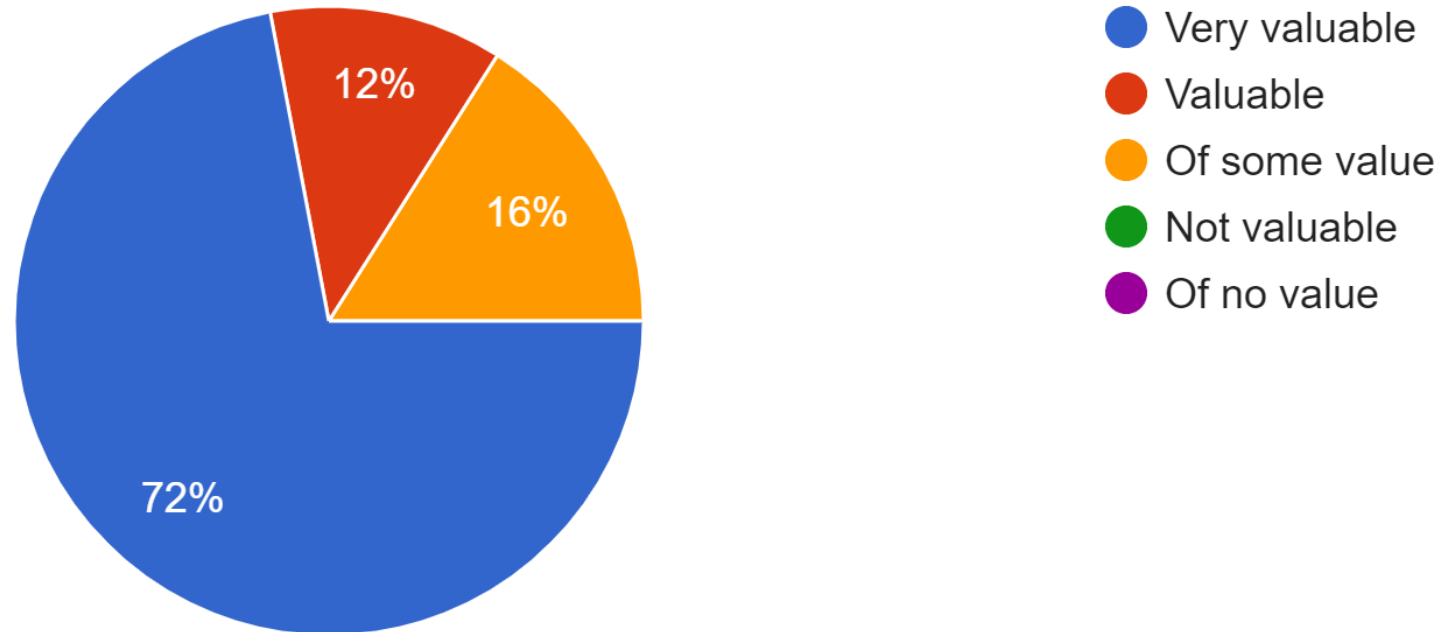
3. In applying for the grant how easy did you find the process?

25 responses



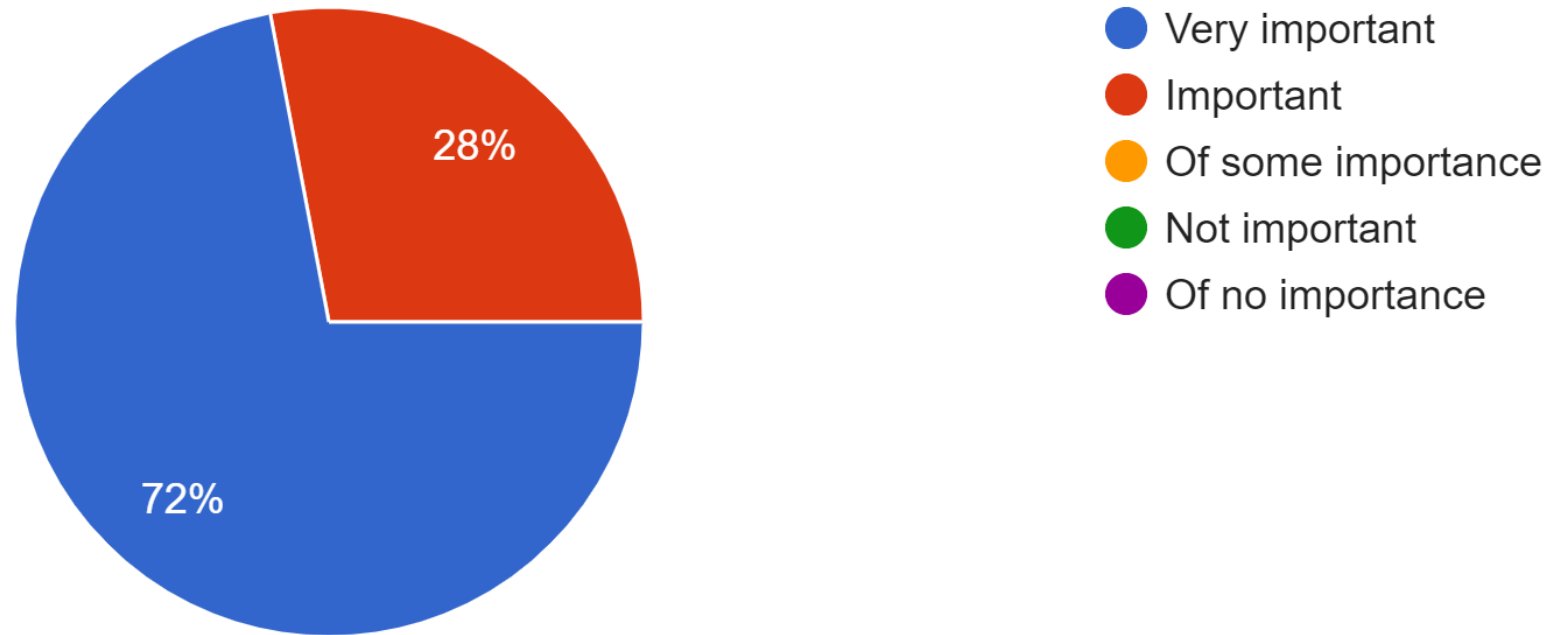
4. How valuable was the support from the grants team at SWPLP/Support Staffordshire in helping to put together your application?

25 responses



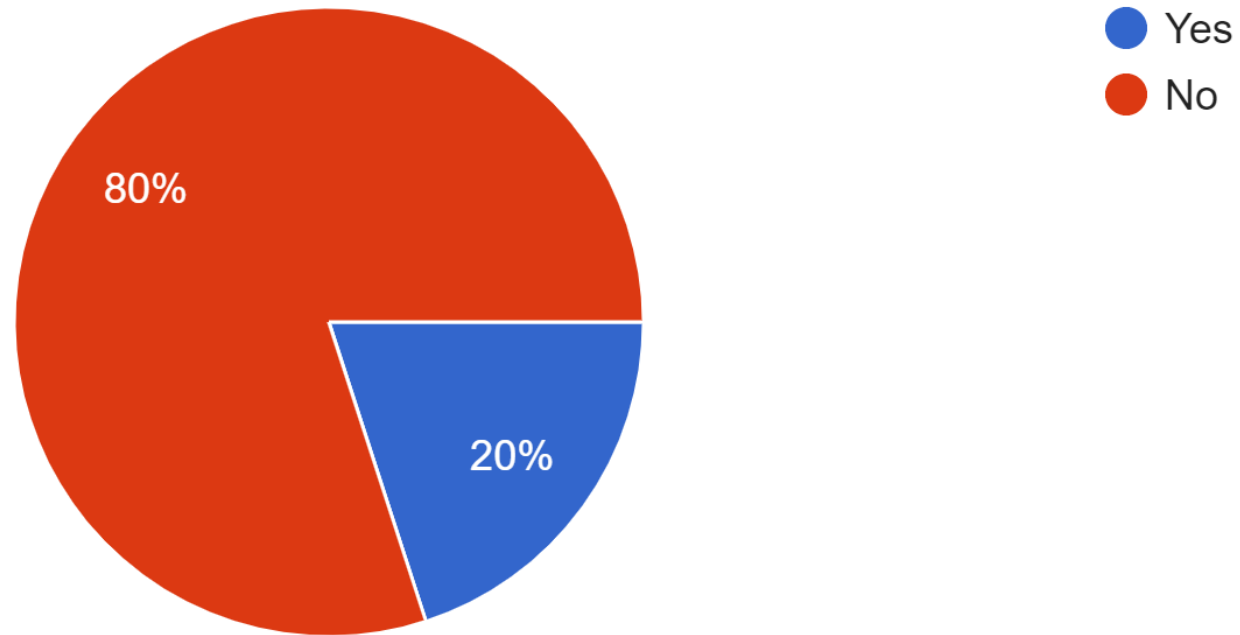
5. How important was the SWPLP grant in enabling your project to go ahead?

25 responses



6. Is/was the funded activity part of a larger project for your organisation?

25 responses



7. If the funded activity was part of a larger project, please describe the larger project

9 responses

Not applicable

Reordering of a church interior to creat a large, flexible warm space. (Budget - £ 250,000)

We already run a young carers project; funding enabled access to a specific activity.

We are just completing a major improvement program for the Village Hall to make it more attractive to users. This includes the kitchen, the roof and heating of the hall.

We had additional walks outside the SWP area

n/a

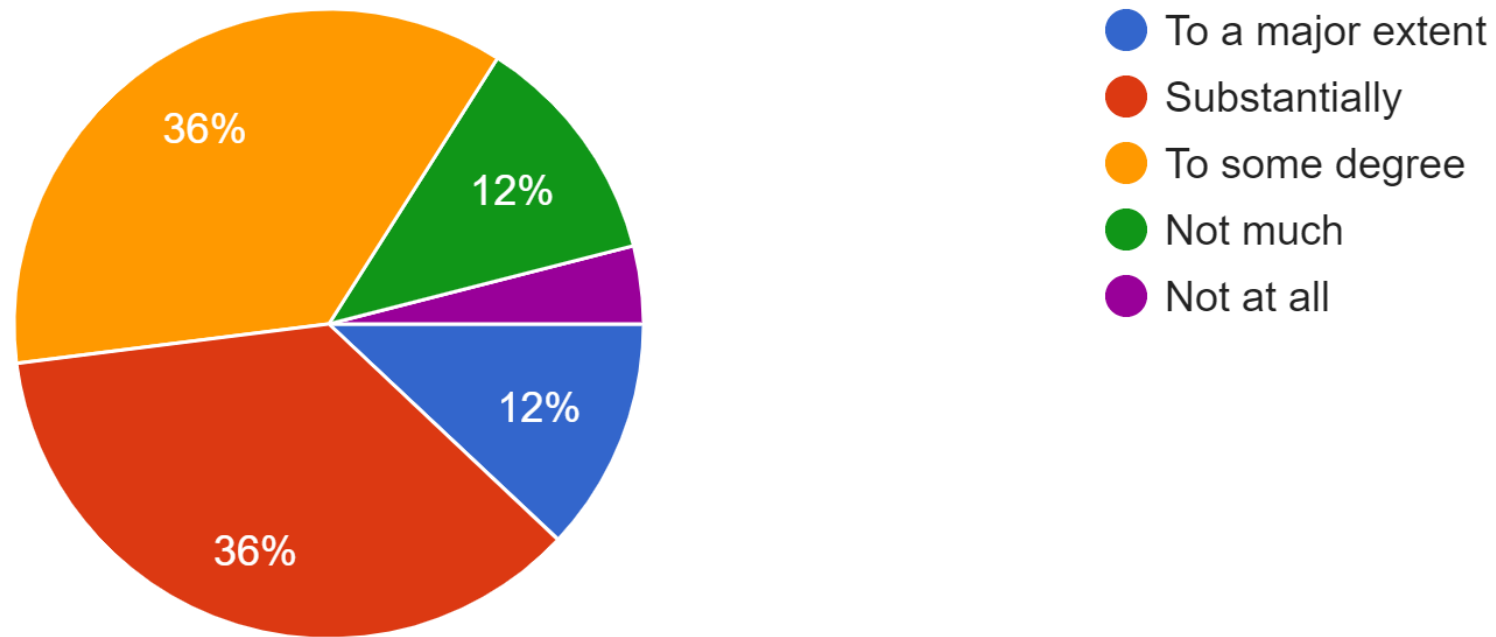
IT WASN'T. SEE ANSWER TO #6 ABOVE. THIS SHOULD NOT BE AN ESSENTIAL QUESTION TO REPLY TO

The Peak District Boundary Walk covers whole Peak District National Park boundary.

NA

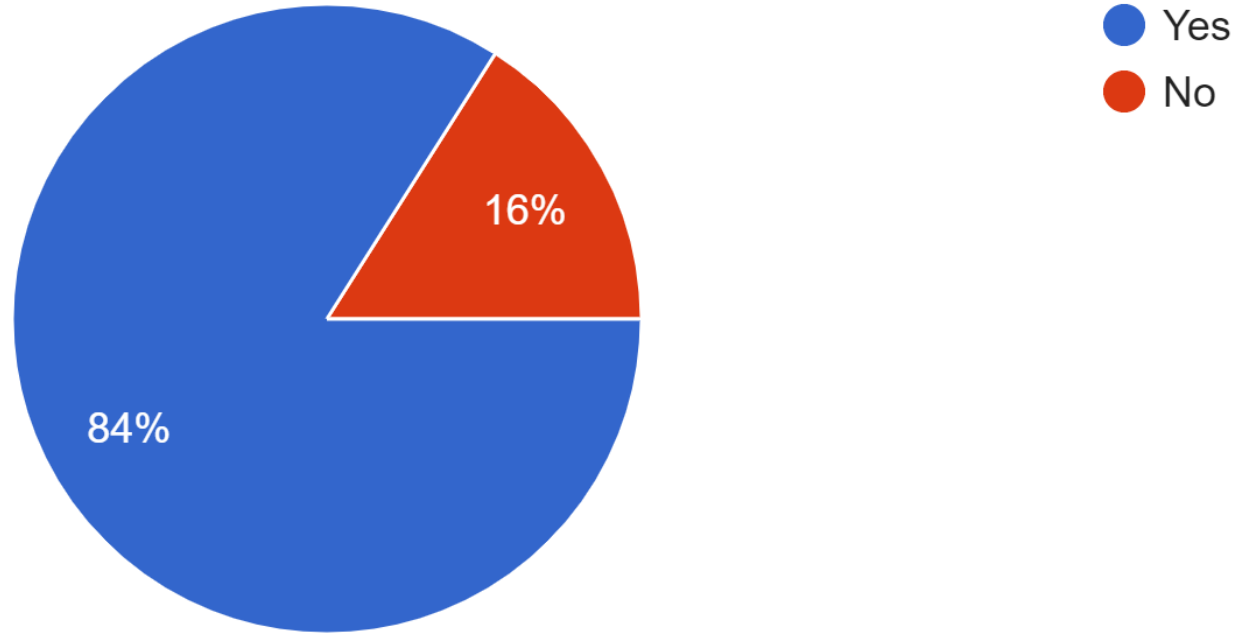
8. To what extent has the process of applying for the grant (for example, in making the case, assessing benefits, producing estimates) helped to...potentially applying for other sources of funding?

25 responses



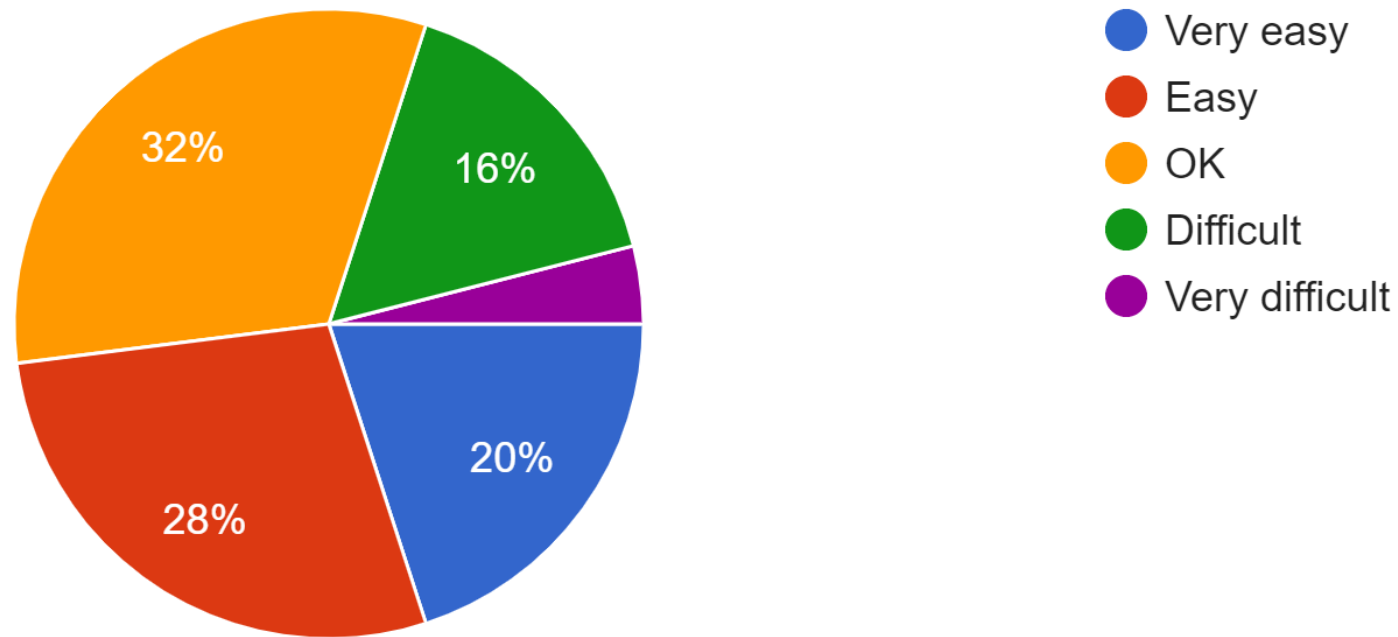
9. If you could, would you apply again?

25 responses



10. In reporting about your project and submitting your grant claims(s) how easy did you find the process?

25 responses



11. If you found the process of reporting and claiming difficult, please tell us what the difficulties and/or problems you encountered were.

14 responses

I found the level of detail required a lot of work compared to the amount of the grant

We needed to make a case for the help.

Not applicable

Straightforward

Working out how much we could claim. Project officer very happy to help with this.

The evidence required was not comparative to other funds for similar amounts. Gathering data and evidence of match funding / receipts is not usually a requirement for many funds and we as a YMCA have that information if funders require a spot check but it is not usually a mandatory part of claiming.

We found the claim calculations difficult to understand and unclear

I found the matching/in kind donations difficult, partly as I hadn't been there from the initial applicatioj

n/a

Our difficulty was only because of delays due to Covid-19 in completing our project and changes of personnel within our charity. We now understand the process so if we were to receive further grants it would be more straightforward. We would prefer 'non match funded' grants.

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SEE ABOVE ANSWER TO #7

A former colleague submitted the original bid prior to leaving the organisation. I took over responsibility for ensuring the project completed successfully. The original bid was completed in an incoherent way, with unrealistically ambitious outcomes.

The claim amounts were difficult to understand and calculate

12. If you found the process of reporting and claiming your grant award was difficult, can you suggest something or several things that would have made it easier for you?

13 responses

I found the level of detail required excessive compared to the amount of the grant. The process needs to be made much simpler for grants of say under £2000.

More publicity about the help available.

Not applicable

N?A

Make the claim calculation easier

Its a tricky one but I would suggest looking at other funders distributing similar amounts and what there claims process comprises of.

Clearer guidelines on the amounts you can claim, clearer guidance on the value of volunteer time in relation to matched funding

n/a

We would prefer the simplicity of non match funded grant awards.

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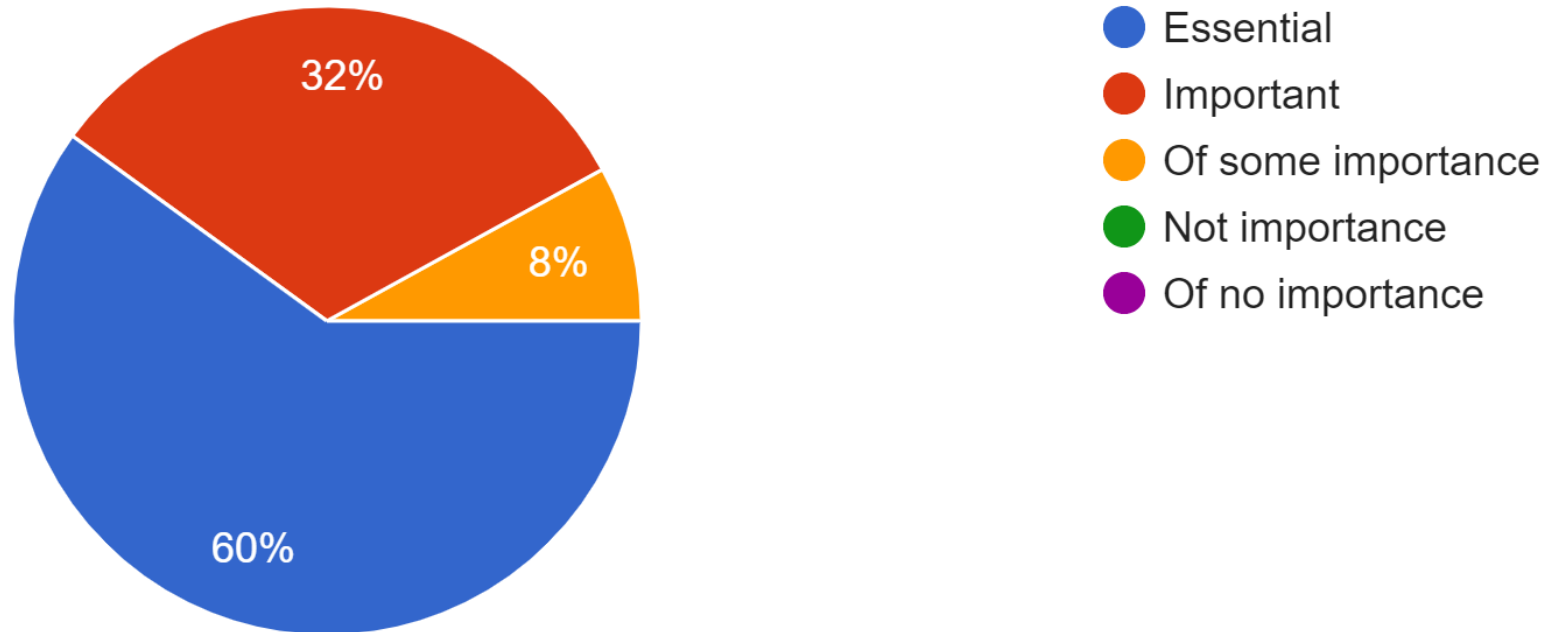
SEE ANSWERS ABOVE, #7, #11. THIS IS A BADLY DESIGNED FORM

It was unclear that the total amount claimed for would need to be accounted for in order to claim the SWP grant. One would expect only the sections relevant to the SWP grant given would need to be accounted for in terms of invoices. The way the grant is paid out in stages does not relate directly to the expenditure incurred, which was confusing.

Staff members at Support Staffordshire helped us greatly with this

13. In general, how important do you feel that a community grants scheme is for landscape development and conservation in the South West Peak area?

25 responses



14. Please tell us (in as many or as few words as you like) what you know and think about the South

West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme

25 responses

Extremely impressed with all aspects of the SWPLPS that we've encountered and engaged with. The various activities and projects are invaluable and innovative, but most impressive has been all of the staff and volunteers, each of them knowledgeable, dedicated and friendly!

I know the aims of the Partnership and what it is trying to achieve.

Very good scheme, with helpful advisors.

Probably covers too large a geographical area. Lack of engagement with existing conservation volunteer groups. Have doubts about legacy.

Funding to develop communities, protect heritage and benefit the local area.

The organisation is pro-active in offering help and advice. This gives us a chance to think more about what we might achieve with their help. Finally they are there to 'hold your hand' to guide you through the many aspects that can arise when taking on new ventures. Very, very impressive!

I dont know that much about the partnership other than through my experience with the grant

Encouraging and supportive to have an umbrella organisation helping community groups

Excellent

Inclusive, enabling

Very supportive and happy to help out with practical aspects of grants process

SWPLP is a group of organisations working to restore, protect, and improve the landscape of the South West Peak, which with the help of the National Lottery Heritage Fund supports projects with grant funding. As SWP is a local organisations it is able to provide help and assistance in grant applications for local projects that meet the aims and requirements of the SWP.

The South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme is an umbrella organisation that brings a number of partners together to maximise footfall, learning, experiences and volunteering in the geographical area of the South West Peak.

Aware of lots of other groups who have benefited

The scene is helping to revitalise the community, building bridges and helping innovation.

It's a group which aims to improve and protect the landscape while building stringer communities within it

The South West Peak Landscape Partnership Scheme is an umbrella organisation that brings a number of partners together to maximise footfall, learning, experiences and volunteering in the geographical area of the South West Peak.

Scheme is rooted in valuing the culture and people of the Staffordshire Moorlands and white Peak areas. I valued the advice and dialogue with advisers of SWPLPS - positive, approachable, informed and enabling. Our Village Hall underpins so much of the social interactions within the rural community. It is a 96 year old building and a vital element for our White Peak village. We are ten miles from an urban centre and the Scheme readily recognises the role the building plays to our community.

I felt it was a very important mechanism to encourage development projects in the South West Peak.

They have been very helpful in suggesting areas of improvement for the hall.

Good opportunity to provide people with access to a space they wouldn't normally connect with

It has been a beneficial and timely scheme, in my opinion. One reason is that much of the area embraced by the Scheme has been 'off the radar', a quiet backwater not normally attracting the attention of 'external' agencies, in spite of large parts being within the boundary of the Peak District National Park. The Scheme has calmly promoted opportunities for the enjoyment, appreciation and understanding of the South West Peak's landscape qualities and heritage values. It has also provided mechanisms to support the people who live there, as well as those who visit it, and it has also brought closer ties between several of the agencies operating in South West Peak. I am sorry the Scheme will end; I think a problem with time-constrained projects, especially in rural areas, is that they often lack continuity/sustainability. Hopefully, at least some of the mechanisms put in place can continue in one form or another.

We are proud of the area we live in and believe in its importance for all. In particular for our beneficiaries. The various projects SWPLP supports fit with our ethos of protecting the landscape for future generations and encouraging a 'life-long' love of the outdoors in children and young people (CYP). By engaging with our community, with the support of SWPLP grant, we have been able to provide and promote outdoor activities for CYP who might otherwise not be able to access such activities due to their particular special needs and/or circumstances. We are aware the project funding is via the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The SWPLPs website provides comprehensive information about it's plans and proiects.

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The principle is excellent but sometimes the boundaries around the work feel constraining eg it could recognise that the Moorlands area draws in people from towns like Leek and Buxton and allowing engagement activities to work in those areas makes a big difference to spreading information about the area (in our project we had to work strictly to the boundaries - it was very frustrating when a mile or two would allow access to many more people - other groups and activites did not seem to be so constrained)

The SWP LPS seems to be useful in engaging local groups in the SWP area.

15. Please tell us (in as many or as few words as you like) what you think and know about the Engaging Communities Project

25 responses

- As above, invaluable and innovative. Hope it can continue in some form.
- I do not know anything about this project
- A worthwhile idea.
- No real knowledge about the EC Project
- A good initiative to enable and inform people in the local community
- Don't know much and so cannot make an informed comment.
- Very little specific informaton i am afraid
- Do not know enough to comment
- Very good
- Accessible for all
- Not really aware of overarching project
- I think that the Engaging Communities Project within SWP is excellent. It is able to provide help and advice for a diverse range of projects, which if applicable can be supported with a grant application. The amount of the grant application can be for small amounts of money which have a huge impact on the community projects.
- The Engaging Communities project seeks to engage different communities in accessing the South West Peak through various ways.
- Aims to create a legacy by encouraging local community involvement. In requiring match funding it encourages partnership working and active involvement from conception of an initiative through to delivery. This builds capacity and appropriate skills within the community. I totally support and endorse such an approach.
- I don't know anything about the Engaging Communities Project.

Maybe we don't know enough? But probably our own fault....

NA

I have become aware of this particular strand of the SWPLP's work partly by virtue of being a member of the Community Grants Panel and partly through direct contact, awareness and involvement with some projects. I know that some wonderful opportunities, studies and experiences have occurred, friendships established, which are unlikely to have been possible without the support and encouragement of SWPLP. Again, I think there may be a question mark over continuity.

We are aware applicants for grants must have projects which contribute to at least one of the key objectives of:

1. Conserving, protecting, and/ or enhancing natural, built or cultural heritage
2. Helping people learn about their natural, built or cultural heritage
3. Helping communities celebrate the natural, built or cultural heritage
4. Increasing people's awareness and enjoyment of the South West Peak area for residents and/or those working in or visiting the area

We are aware grants must currently be match funded and the maximum grant available is £10K

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4. Increasing people's awareness and enjoyment of the South West Peak area for residents and/or those working in or visiting the area

We are aware grants must currently be match funded and the maximum grant available is £10K.

The principle was sound but there could have bene more support in promoting activities within projects that had got grant funding - or even recognition that they were going on

The Engaging Communities Project seems very effective in bringing volunteers and community groups together, especially to learn about the natural environment.

Not much

The project is really helping to connect people and reduce isolation in rural areas

It seeks to engage people in the South West Peak area, involving them in practical activities which build connections between communities and the landscape

16. If you would you like to elaborate on any of your previous responses, please write the details here.

3 responses

The grant was very much needed.

We felt that we were working alone a lot of the time - presence on the website and promotion through the SWP social media might have helped

Some of the difficulty of completing this funded project was that the person in our charity that completed the original application form left the organisation part-way through the life of the funded project. I therefore can't comment on questions 1-4.

17. If there is anything else you would like us to know about or consider please write the details here.

7 responses

We would like to thank SWPLP for their help and guidance and, of course, for the grant previously received.

If any further help is forthcoming.

A follow up visit from Celia Muir was appreciated and her enthusiasm for the project as completed so far was great as was her advice for our future plans.

I think that it is important to have organisations like the SWP, which I hope is reflected around the country as it provides help and advice at a local level, which shouldn't be underestimated. It is important that communities can call on these organisations for help, advice and their knowledge. It also helps to promote the National Heritage Lottery Fund at a local level for the funding that has been provided.

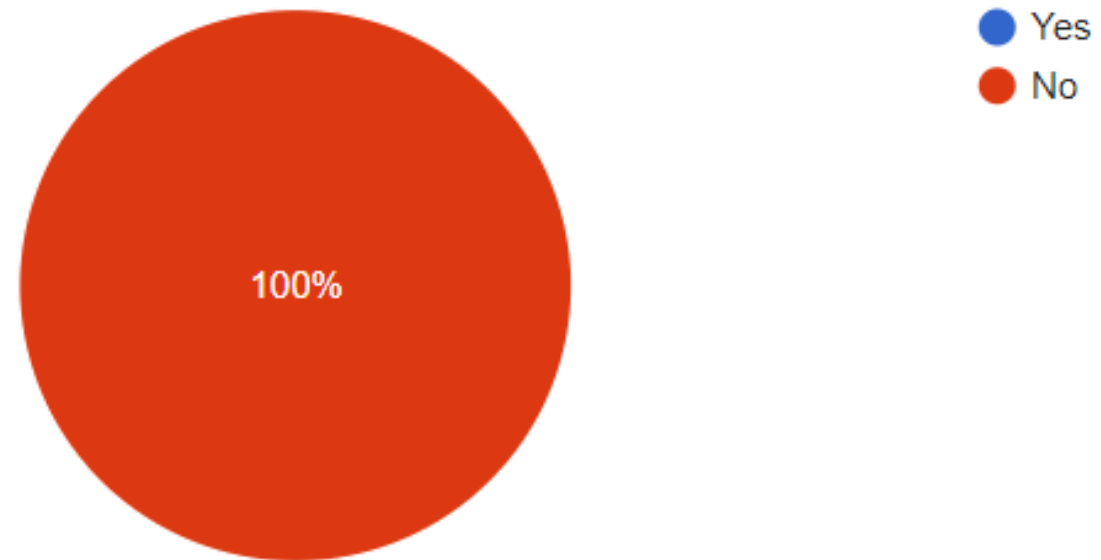
The South West project has offered unique and valuable opportunities to young people and we have seen young people transformed by these opportunities.

I have found the entire involvement with SWPLP enjoyable and beneficial. Advisers have been knowledgeable and enabling and a major refurbishment initiative of Hartington Village Hall could not have proceeded without the support of SWPLP.

Appendix – Survey 2 Responses in detail

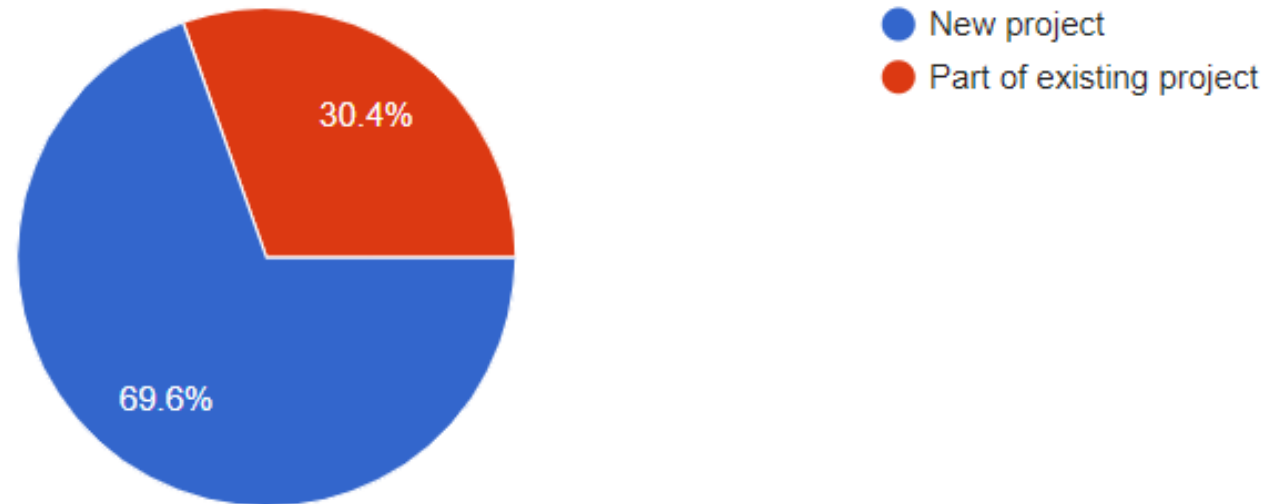
1. Did your project involve setting up a new community group?

23 responses



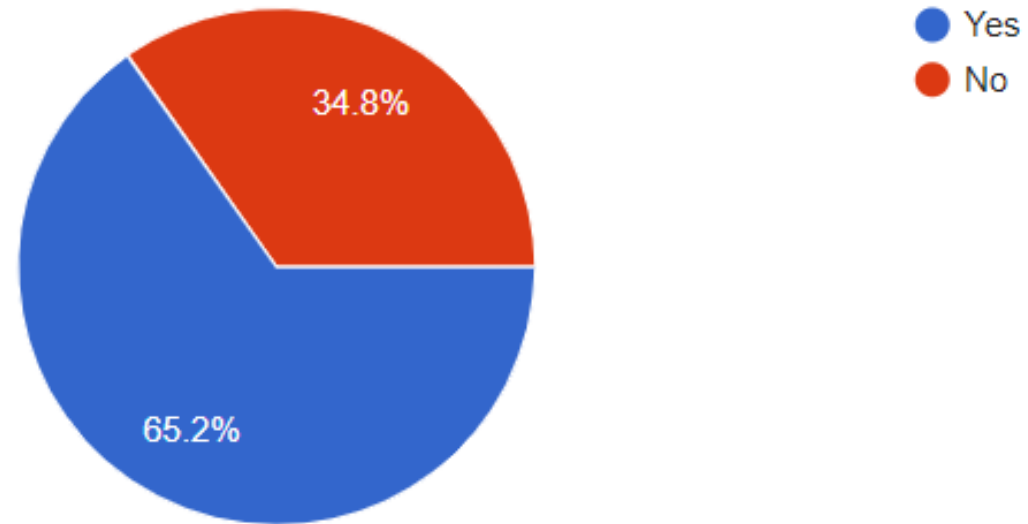
2. Was it a new project that your group were undertaking or part of an existing project?

23 responses



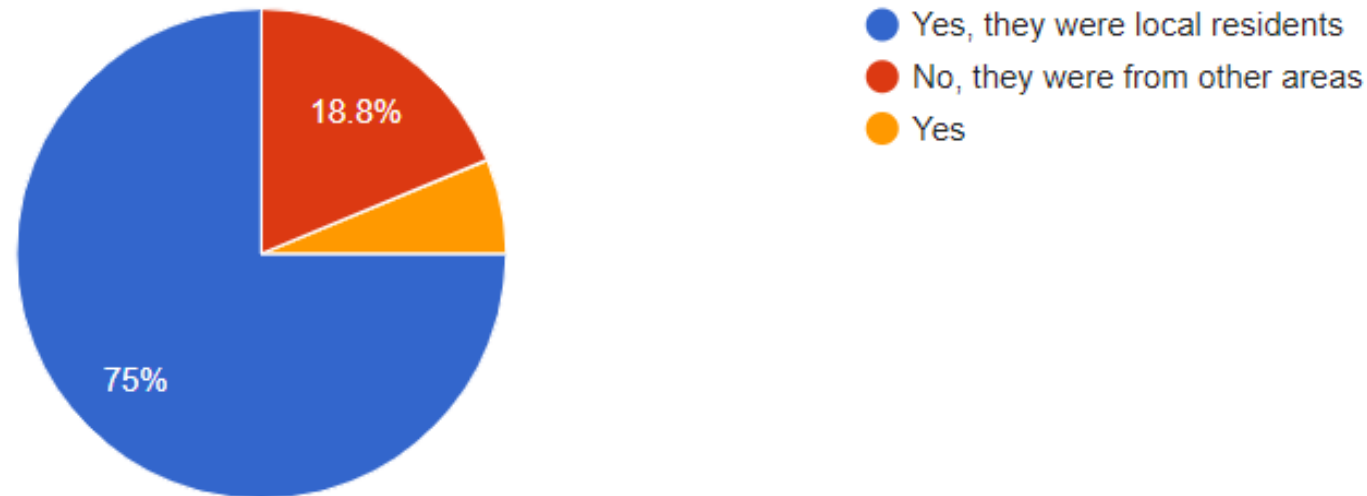
3. Did the project attract new members or volunteers to get involved with your group/activity?

23 responses



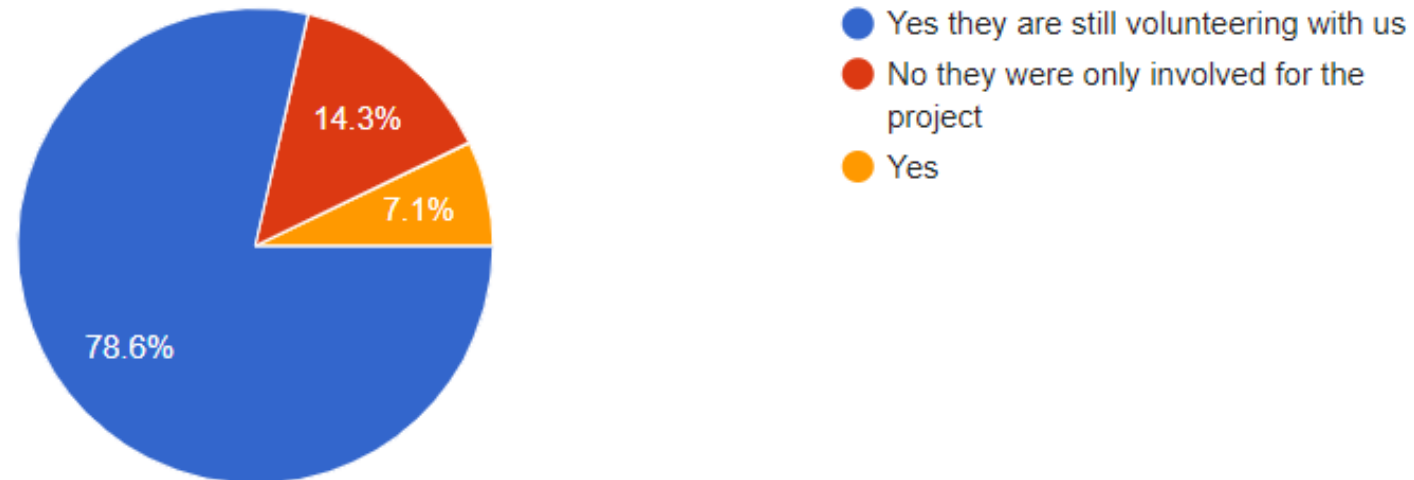
4. If your project attracted new members and/or volunteers were these members/volunteers local residents?

16 responses



5. If your project attracted new members/volunteers have they continued to be involved in your group?

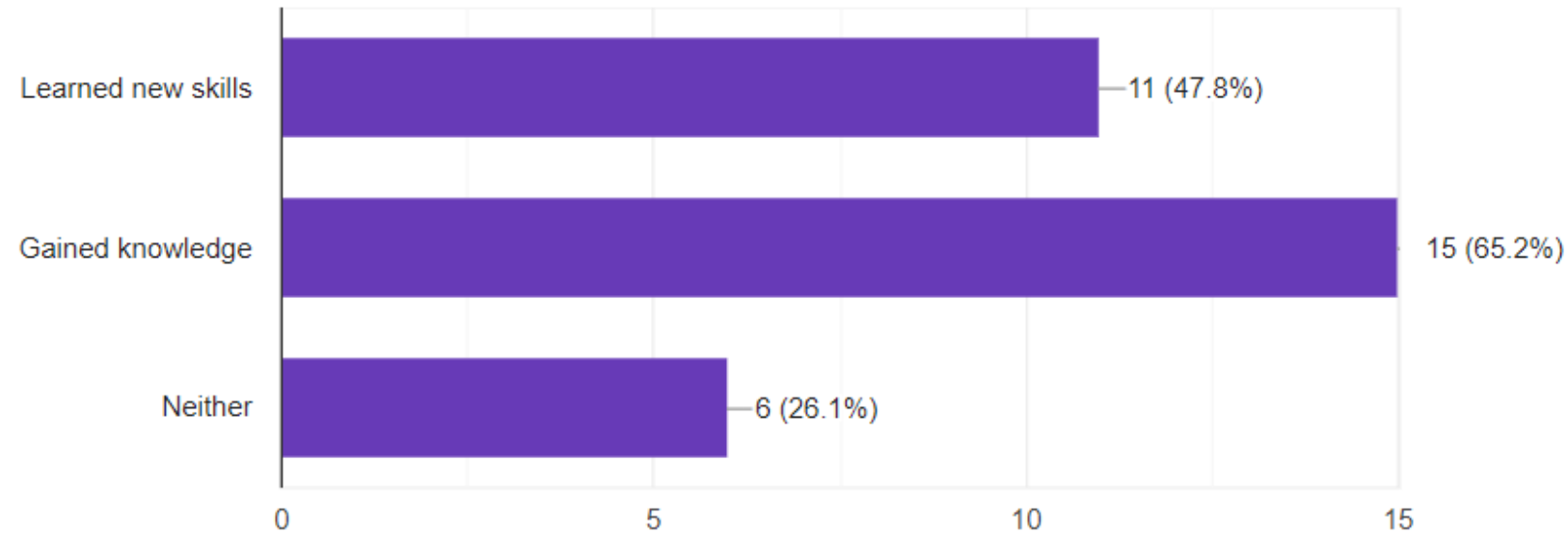
14 responses



6. Have you, your group members/volunteers learned new skills or gained knowledge?
(please check all that apply)



23 responses



7. If you, your group members/volunteers learned new skills or gained knowledge please tell us what they were

23 responses

We worked with volunteers on community workshop skills, as a group we added to our wildlife knowledge

Proof reading documentation
Knowledge of their local area, the geography and history

Young people participating have learnt more about conservation and the environment. One young person learnt how to climb and now he has joined a climbing club. Another young person fell in love with the outdoors and now has taken up full time employment with an outdoors education centre.

Building / joinery skills

Gain knowledge of the importance of the south west peak.

Taught us that help is available if you know where to look

New skills around navigating and engaging with a different space

The ability to apply for grants, negotiate with suppliers, oversee a project, keep records

Many volunteers have learned new skills and gained knowledge around conserving and enhancing habitats for wildlife and biodiversity as a direct result of the project and its outcomes

n/a

The project was carried out by professional contractors, the skills we developed was in the preparation of the grant application considering all the groups and organisations that would benefit from the project.

Project management, fund raising strategic planning, use of social media.

None

Walkers will be able to appreciate and enjoy lesser-known areas of the SWP.

The new church interior has meant that community activities in the village can be expanded. New activity groups have been formed, management skills have had to be developed and strategies to involve wider community engagement are continuing to be discussed and developed - post-pandemic this is proving to be vital to encourage people to join in and be part of our active village.

Gained knowledge of the landscape and how it was used by Romany families in the past, such as using plants for medicines and food, and how this influenced the Travelling routes across the Staffordshire Moorlands and beyond.

better knowledge of ecology

Not sure we learned new skills.

We gathered a great quantity of local historical material that might otherwise have remained dormant or lost, particularly in the form of stories/memories. We learnt how to access archived material. We became more skilled at 'interviewing' elderly people. We learnt more about the pros and cons of compiling written and spoken material into a suitable format for publication.

We had a good community spirit, during the decorating and afterwards

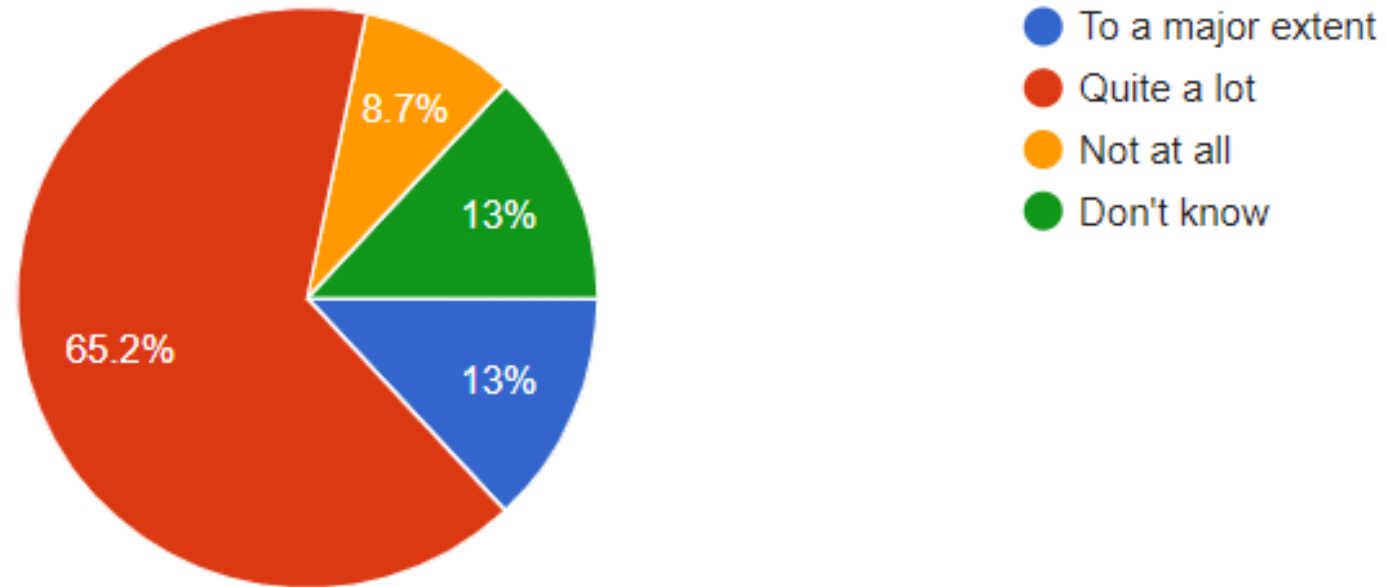
Both group members and beneficiaries gained new knowledge about the surrounding area and outdoor activities. Given that our project rested on helping children and young people with special educational needs gain access to the outdoors, children tried new activities in these contexts. This not only helped improve their confidence but they learnt new skills as well, such as climbing.

Plant identification, local farming practice, wild foods, health benefits of being outside in nature.

there were no skills or knowledge gained per say

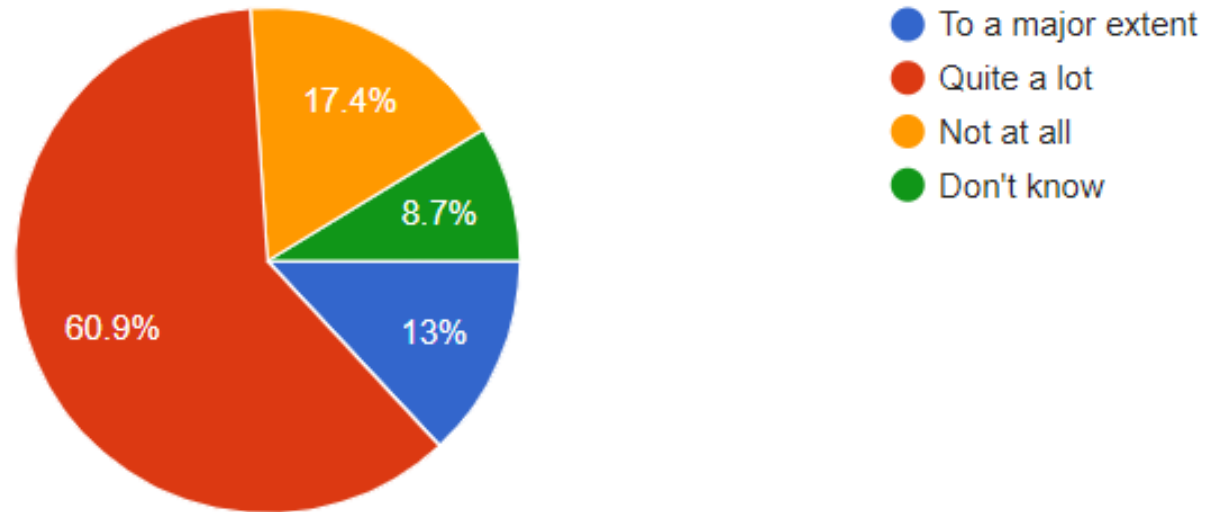
8. To what extent has your project enhanced the sustainability of you group?

23 responses



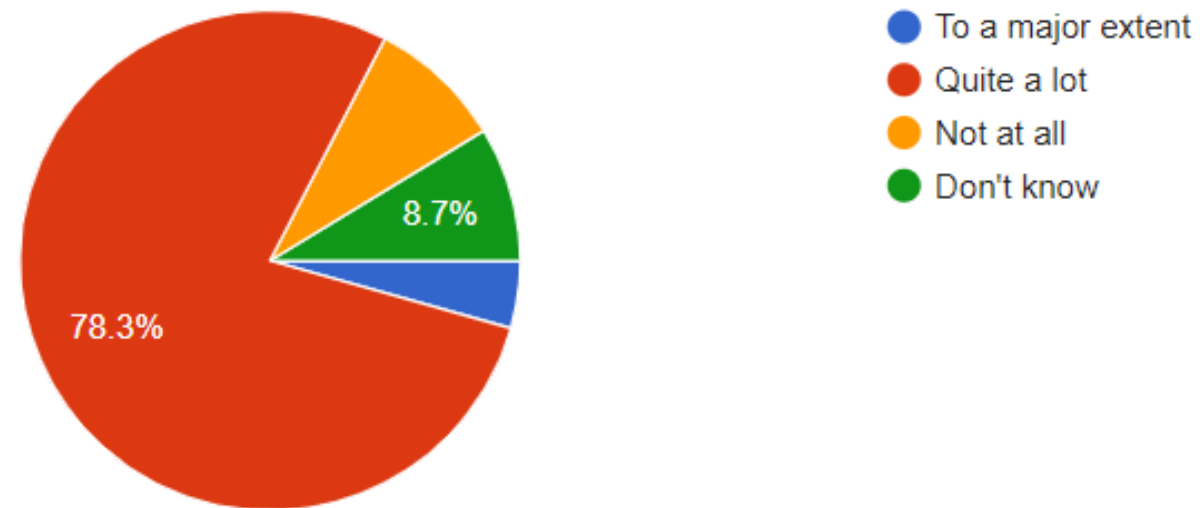
9. To what extent has your group's involvement in the SWPLP (South West Peak Landscape Partnership) enhanced the sustainability of your group?

23 responses



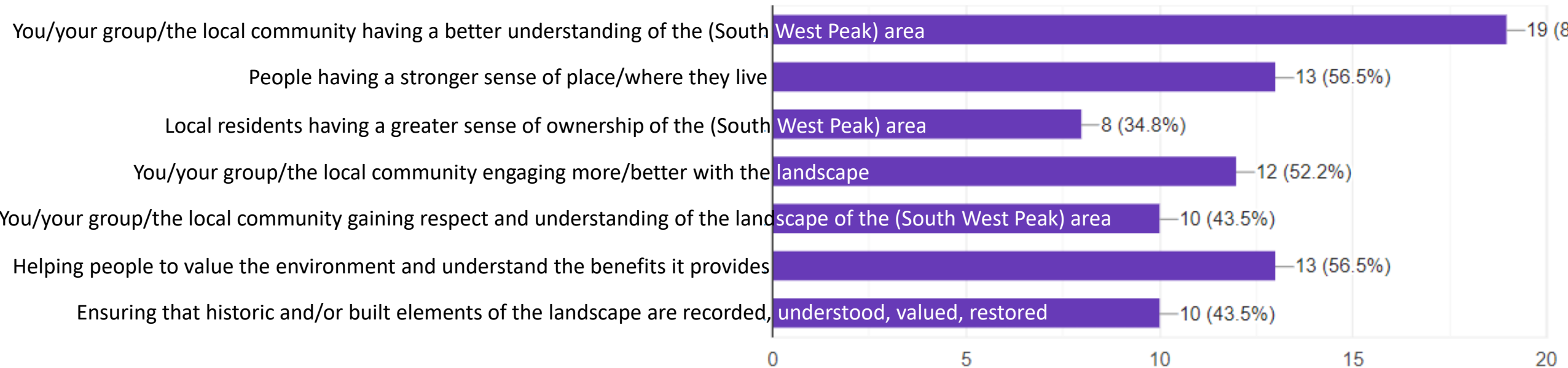
10. To what extent has your project improved understanding and relationships with other groups and/or communities?

23 responses



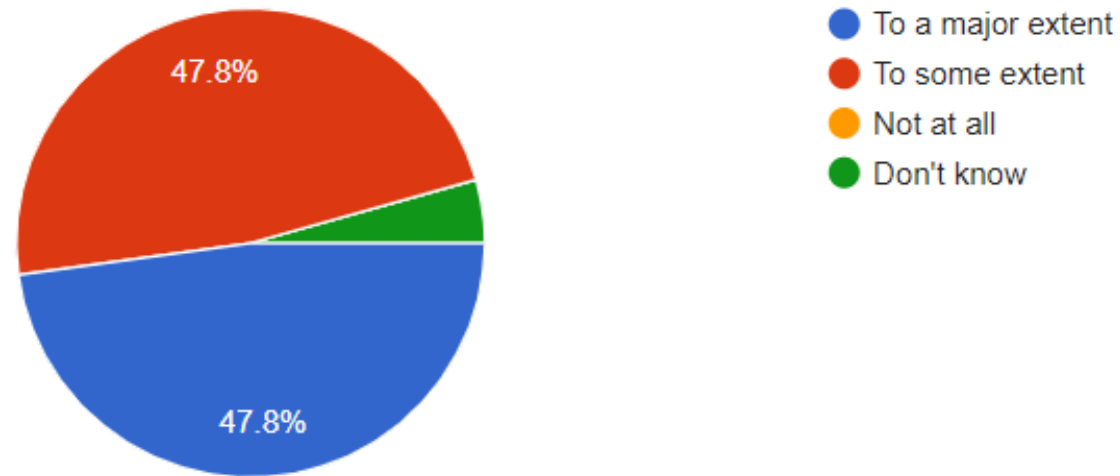
11. Has your project resulted in any or all of the following (please check all that apply)?

23 responses



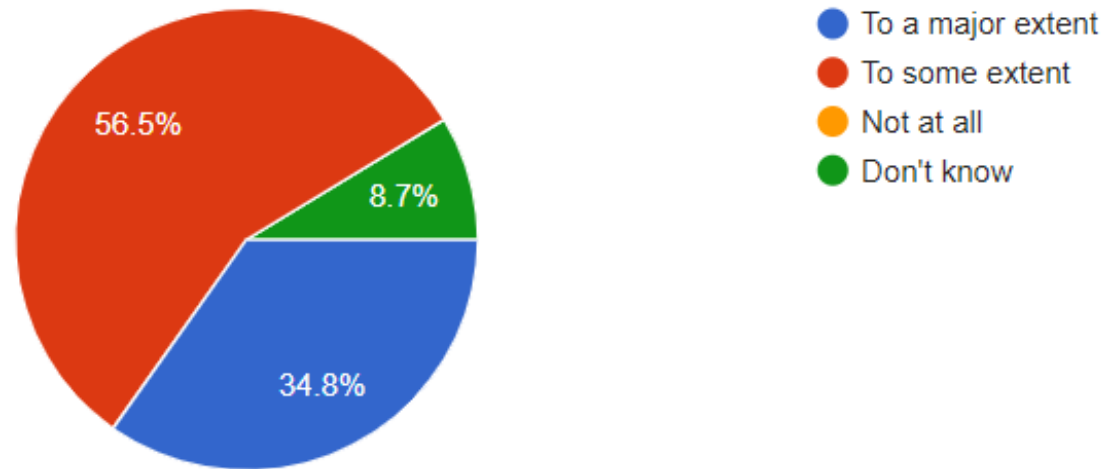
12. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of conserving, protecting, and/ or enhancing natural, built or cultural heritage?

23 responses



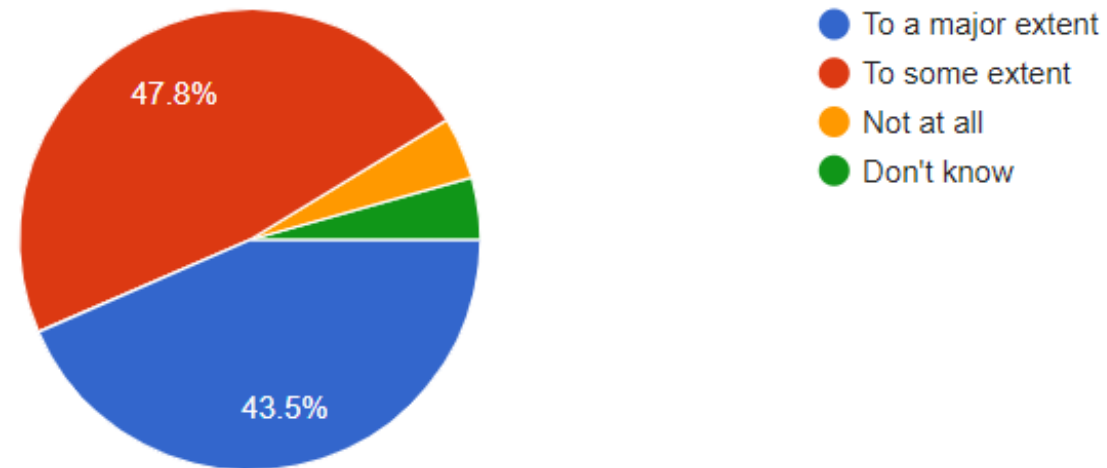
13. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of helping people learn about their natural, built or cultural heritage?

23 responses



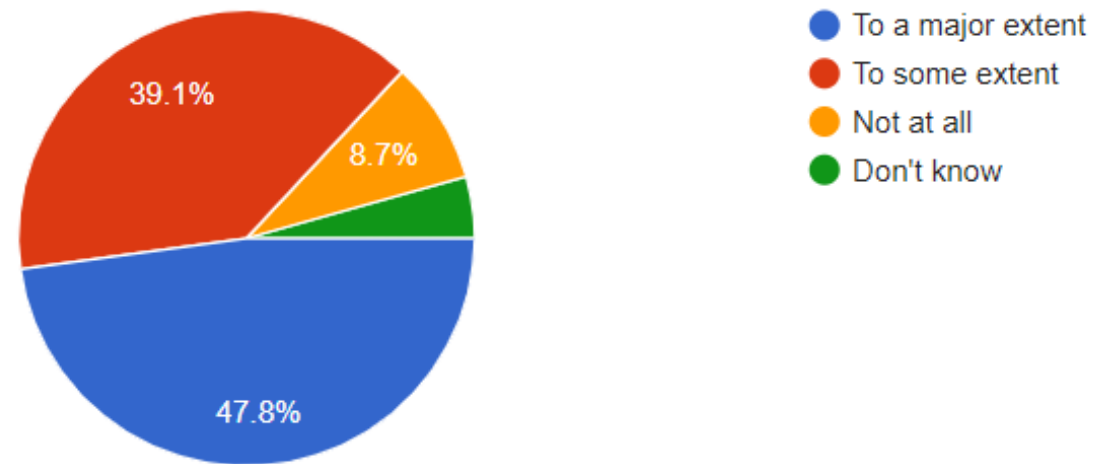
14. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of helping communities celebrate the natural, built or cultural heritage?

23 responses



15. To what extent do you feel that your project is supporting the SWPLP Scheme objective of increasing people's awareness and enjoyment of the South West Peak area for residents and/or those working in or visiting the area?

23 responses



16. Please tell us what about your project makes you feel most proud e.g. what would you say to someone else about it?

23 responses

providing events in small villages where public events do not often take place

It is a fun and interactive way to encourage people to get out in their local countryside and learn about the history and ecology of the area.

There are a number of things but the main things:

Getting young people who are low in confidence / poor mental health engaging in activities and seeing the transformation from the beginning of the day and at the end

Seeing a young person gain employment in a field he never knew about until participating in the SWP project

Seeing young people so happy to get outdoors again after lockdown

Winning the Queens Award at the YMCA and this project contributing to that

The Creative Youth Minds exhibition where young people displayed their creative work inspired by their engagement with the south west Peak

Take up of camping pods by customers and more importantly, local groups

Help with the preservation of the building.

Helped to make the venue more attractive

People's enjoyment of interacting with the local area.

We have enhanced the use of the village hall, and thus the enjoyment of those who use it.

We have facilitated people's access to less well known footpaths in the SWP.

The huge amount of money needed to complete our project was a joint effort between local fundraising and grants, we are proud that our community was able to raise such an amount to create a viable future for the most significant building in our village.

Brought the community together behind a common cause

Helping improve public rights of way

It has raised awareness of the fact that Romany Gypsy and Irish Traveler families have been part of the fabric of the Staffordshire Moorlands for hundreds of years, benefiting communities by bringing skills and hard-to-come-by goods to rurally remote areas.

it involved volunteers with SEN

We hope we are improving recognition of Flash as the highest Village in the UK and what the surrounding area offers to walkers, cyclists, holidaymakers and local residents

I believe the project was primarily of relevance/interest to a specific community within South West Peak. I have been told by many people who live within that community, or those who used to live in it, now scattered around the UK and elsewhere in the World, that the outcome provided much joy, pleasure, and happy memories of times past. It is a record for posterity, much of which would almost certainly have been lost without engaging in the project.

Our grant helped to pay for new lighting and painting of the local church

Our project plays a remarkable part in increasing the confidence of children and young people (CYP) with special education needs through the outdoors. We allow CYP to gain access to the outdoors and try activities they may not have tried before. This is extremely helpful not just in confidence-building but allowing them to have fun, push their comfort zone boundaries and help with their mental well-being. Both the children, teachers and their families have reported back to us how important it has been to show where the children need extra support and their capabilities.

Taking young people to wild places in a part of the country they have never been. Our young carers miss out on exploring and seeing larger and more rugged places. Our project into the South Peaks has given the young carers experiences they would never have normally been given at a time they needed it the most. We are proud of the fact we gave them a positive experience they will remember into adult life and hopefully find the inspiration to explore the countryside as adults. Our favorite quote from a young person was "I haven't felt this happy for ages".

It opened up the church building to visitors to the area providing support particularly during the covid lockdown

The feedback from users and beneficiaries who always comment on how much they've enjoyed the environment and wildlife around them when they visit, in particular those people who don't normally have opportunities to engage with and enjoy nature, wildlife and green spaces

Helped us to preserve a listed building

We tell people that the project has secured the long term viability of the property for at least the next 50 years if not longer. Just look at how good the building looks and how it blends in with the surroundings. We let people know how proud we are of the success of the project and the support we received from the SWP and National Heritage Lottery Fund.



SOUTH WEST PEAK
LANDSCAPE AT A CROSSROADS



HERITAGE
FUND

17. Please tell us what your group plans to do next in the South West Peak area?

21 responses



more workshops - Longnor, Leek, definitely

No current plans, but always open to new ideas.

Continue with our walks and exploring the area

Activity shelter on site

Enhance the church yard.

Promote footpaths and walks round this beautiful area

NA

Not sure

Continue to provide information on the SWP sections of the Peak District Boundary Walk (PDBW)

Improve facilities - kitchen, storage and toilets - in the building.

No further plans yet

Continue to grow engagement with the natural world

Still planning

It expects to continue gathering and archiving historical community materials, storing them accessibly for use by present and future generations.

Due to vivid we have no plans at the moment

We would like to plan more trips into the South Peak, perhaps making more challenging expeditions or linking with local rangers to give the young people a more in depth insight in to each landscape. A camping trip would be fab too.

Continuing the Trust's usual work of providing opportunities for the most disadvantaged and disenfranchised in society to be able to visit the area. Specific project ideas involve continuing to conserve and enhance habitats for wildlife including potentially a building a wildlife observation pond and restoring dry stone walls

Continue to preserve our buildings and offer opportunities for people to stay within the area.

The project lets us offer the facilities to other groups and organisations well into the future. This will allow a greater number of people to take part in a range of outdoor activities.

Continue to refurbish our 96 year old village hall.

Submit applications to Staffordshire County Council to upgrade footpaths that were historically used by horses to bridleways

18. Please add anything else below that you would like us to know about which is connected to your project and/or the SWPLP Scheme

8 responses

We have loved this scheme :)

We have been so fortunate to have been left a substantial legacy which has enabled us to complete other maintenance and improvements.

Our project did not set up a new group in itself, but our Project Development Manager connected with groups and businesses in the SWP to inform them about the PDBW. Our dedicated web pages and video on the sections of the PDBW in the SWP are available for all members of the public to access. We are unable to quantify how many members of the public have walked the SWP sections of the boundary walk as a result of the information that we have provided.

Grants are vital when volunteers are giving so much of their time, not just for their own benefit but, for the future of communities beyond their own lifetime.

I am grateful to the SWPLP Scheme for the valuable, always positive, help and support received.

I would like to thank Celia for her patience and understand in dealing with our project. We have really appreciated the opportunity and would hope we can connect again in the future for more exciting adventure.

For Question No.4 above, our project attracted new volunteers from BOTH the local area and further afield across the country

Without the help of the SWPLP Scheme it would have taken us many years to reach the position we are in today.



SOUTH WEST PEAK
LANDSCAPE AT A CROSSROADS

