

Democracy Commission

Tuesday 7 September 2010
6.00 pm
Southwark Town Hall

Supplemental Agenda

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Item No.	Title	Page No.
6.	Reviewing evidence gathered so far	18 - 46
	The commission will consider the following evidence:	
	1. Focus groups – held with residents, elected members and community leaders	
	2. Questionnaires	
	3. Oral testimonies and vox pops	
	4. Conference: Panel discussion, workshops and cafe conversations from the conference	
	5. Plain English paper on options for changing the decision making powers of Council Assembly	
	6. Minutes of meetings	

Deborah Collins, monitoring officer, will be available to assist members with any legal and constitutional questions arising out of items 5 and 6.

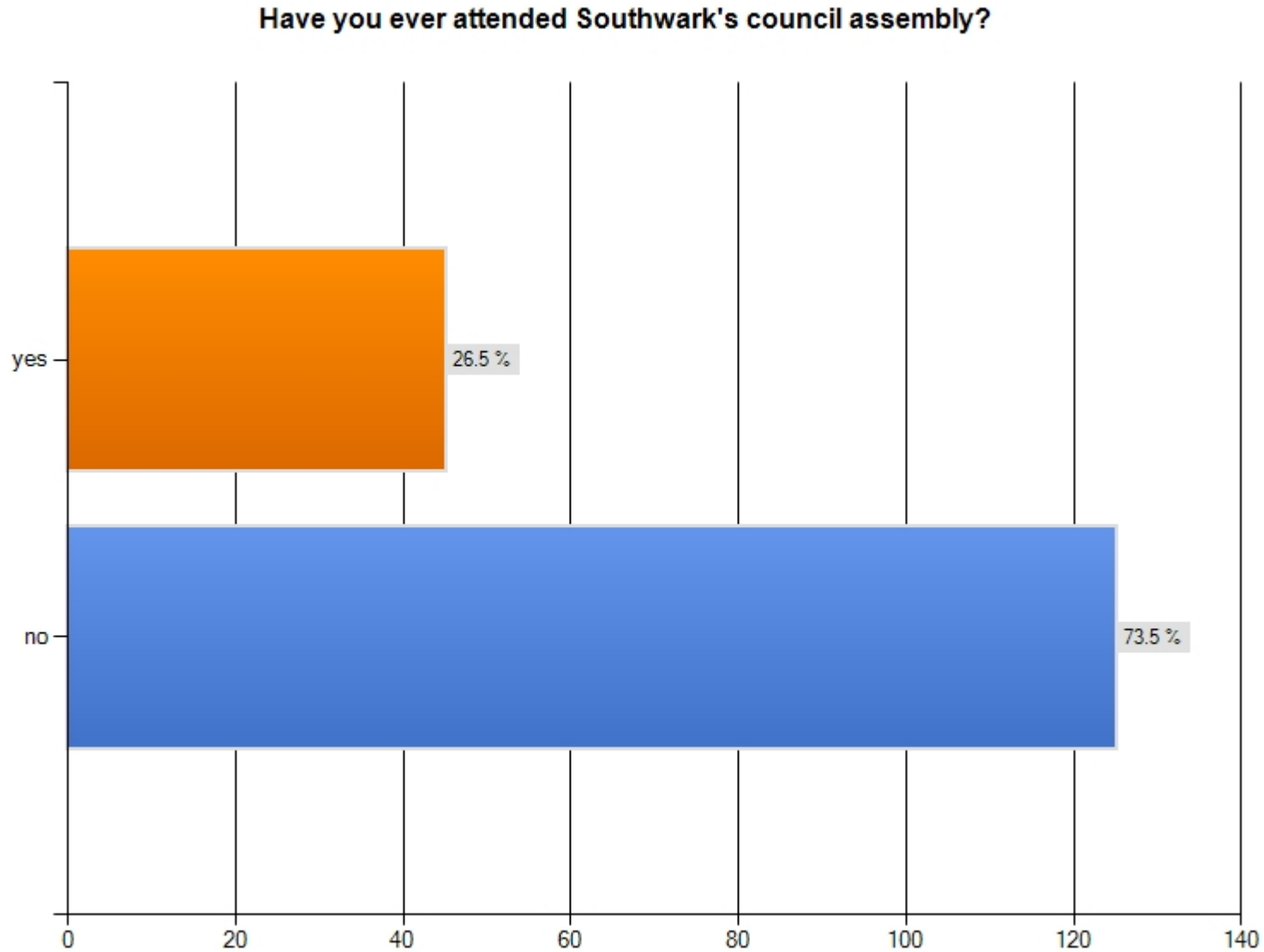
Ian Mark , Senior Lawyer , will also attend .

Contact Julie Timbrell 020 7525 0514 or email: julie.timbrell@southwark.gov.uk

Webpage: www.southwark.gov.uk/democracy

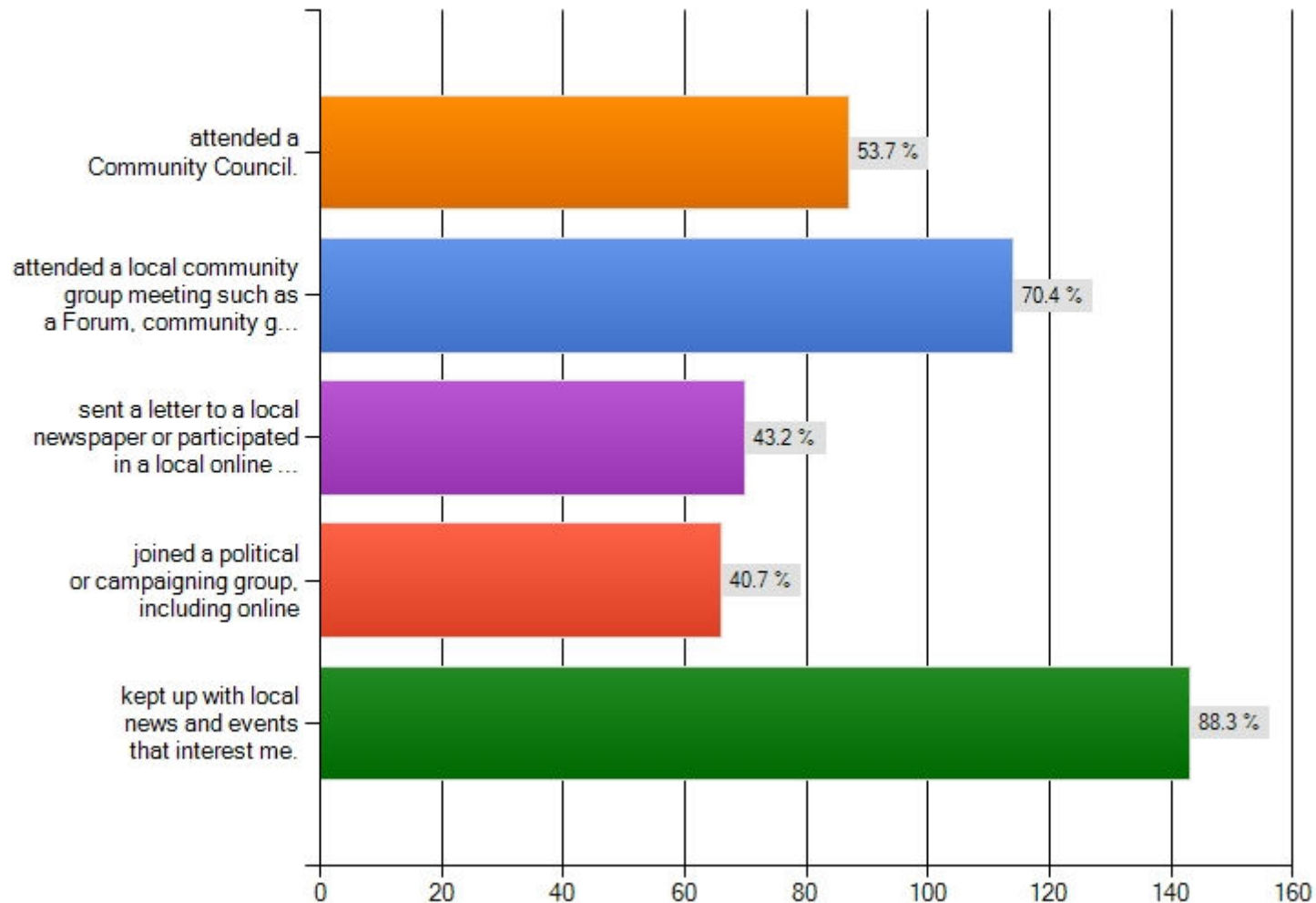
Date: 3 September 2010

Have you ever attended Council Assembly?



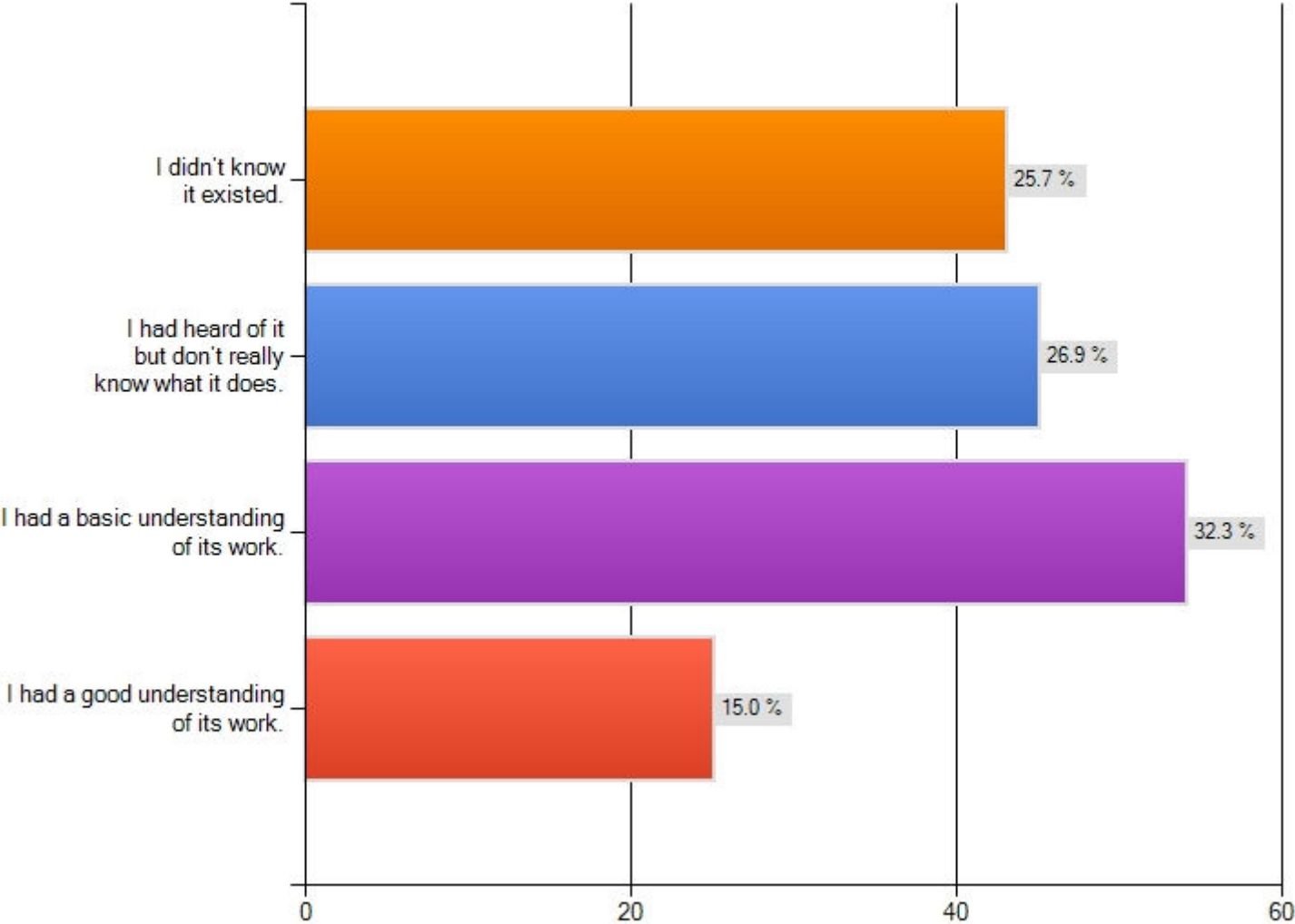
How active are you in your local community?

How active are you in your local community? Tell us about the different ways you have been involved in local activities and decision making. I have:



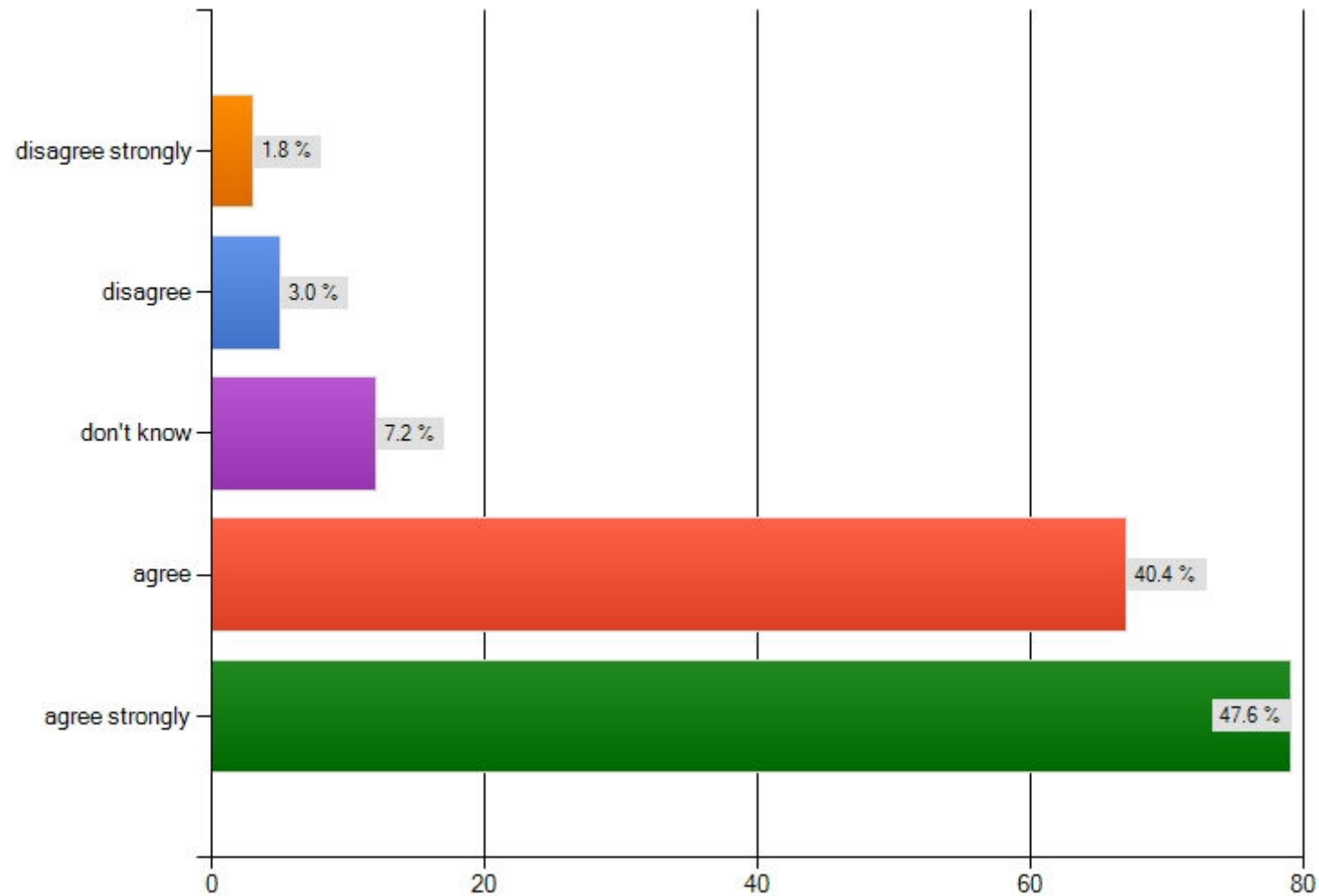
What you already knew about Council Assembly

Tell us what you already knew about the council assembly before completing this survey.



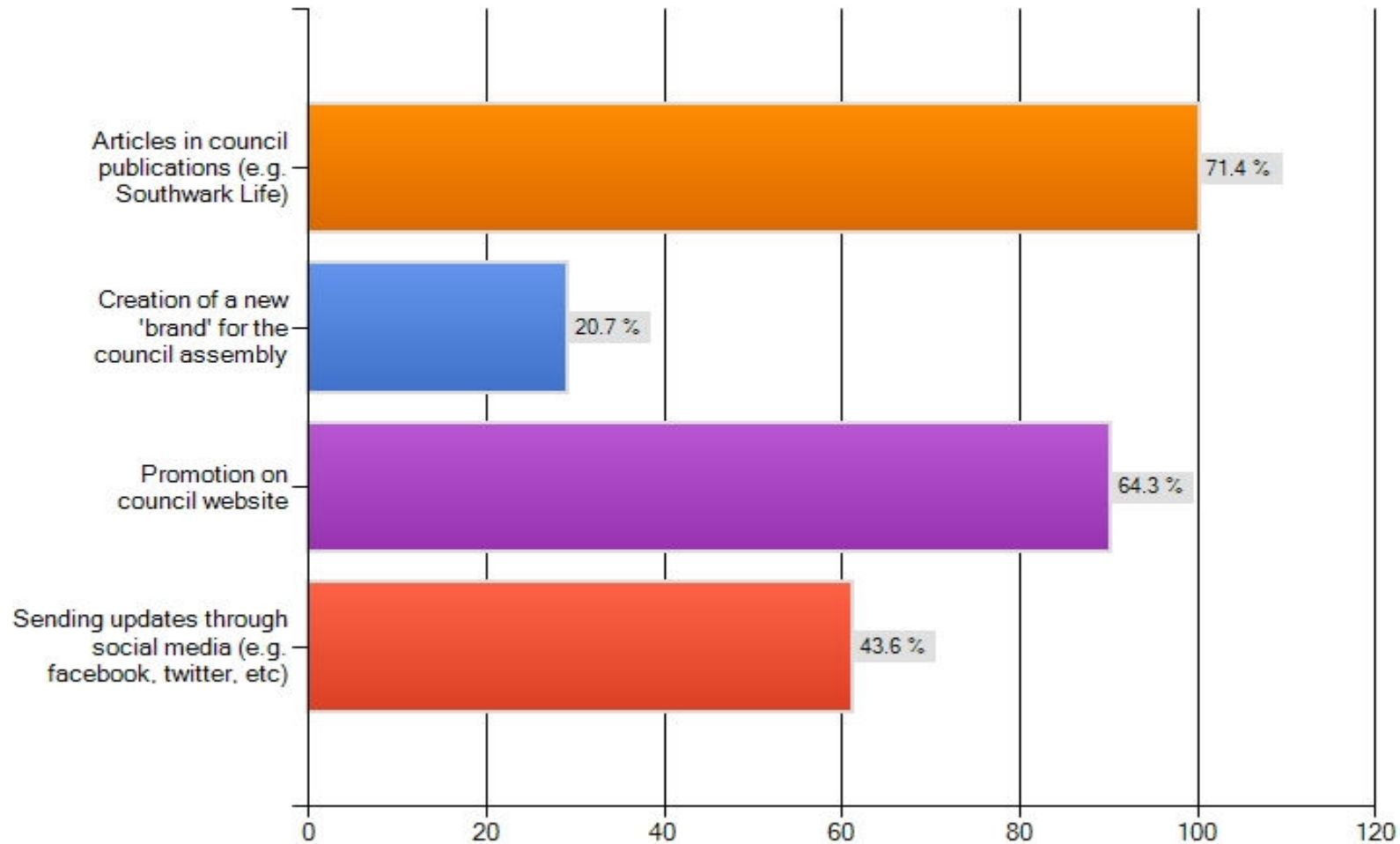
Should we do more to promote Council Assembly?

We should do more to promote council assembly so people know what it is and what it does.
(please check the box that best reflects your opinion about the statement that follow)



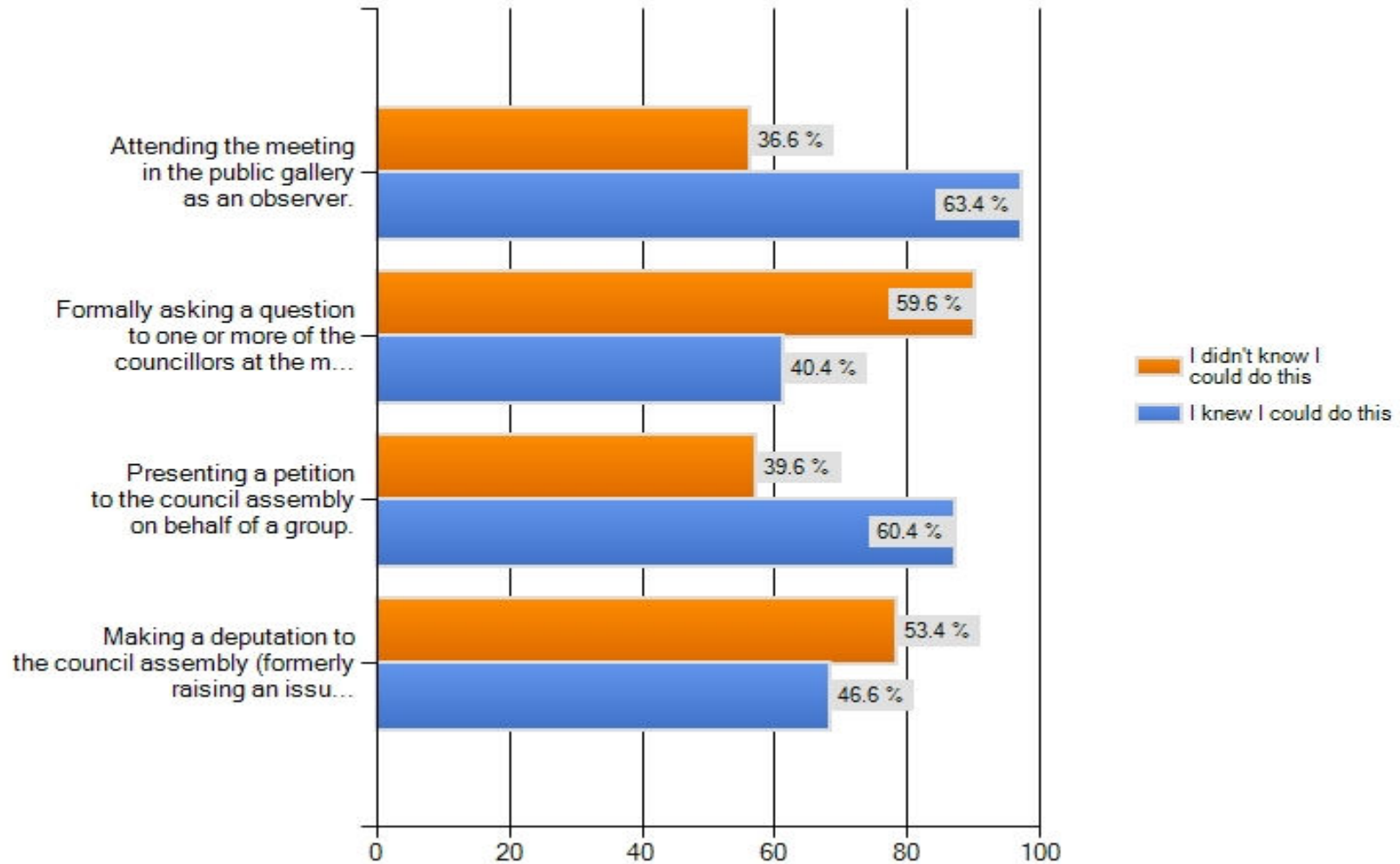
Promoting Council Assembly

We would like to find out the best way of letting people know about the council assembly and how it works. Which of the following do you think would work? Do you have any other ideas for promoting council assembly?



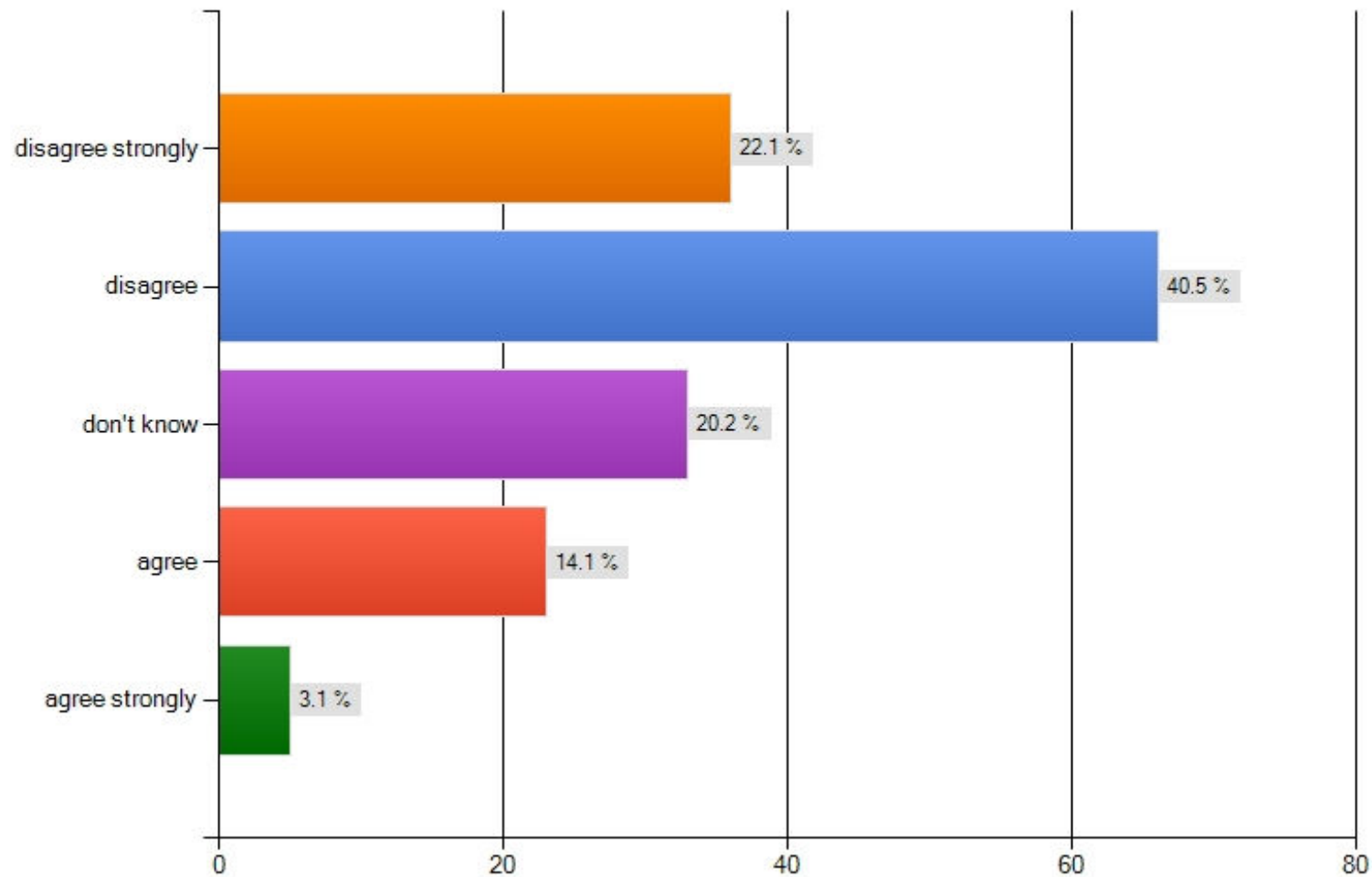
Knowledge and views on each type of involvement

Please check the box or boxes to describe your knowledge and views on each type of involvement.



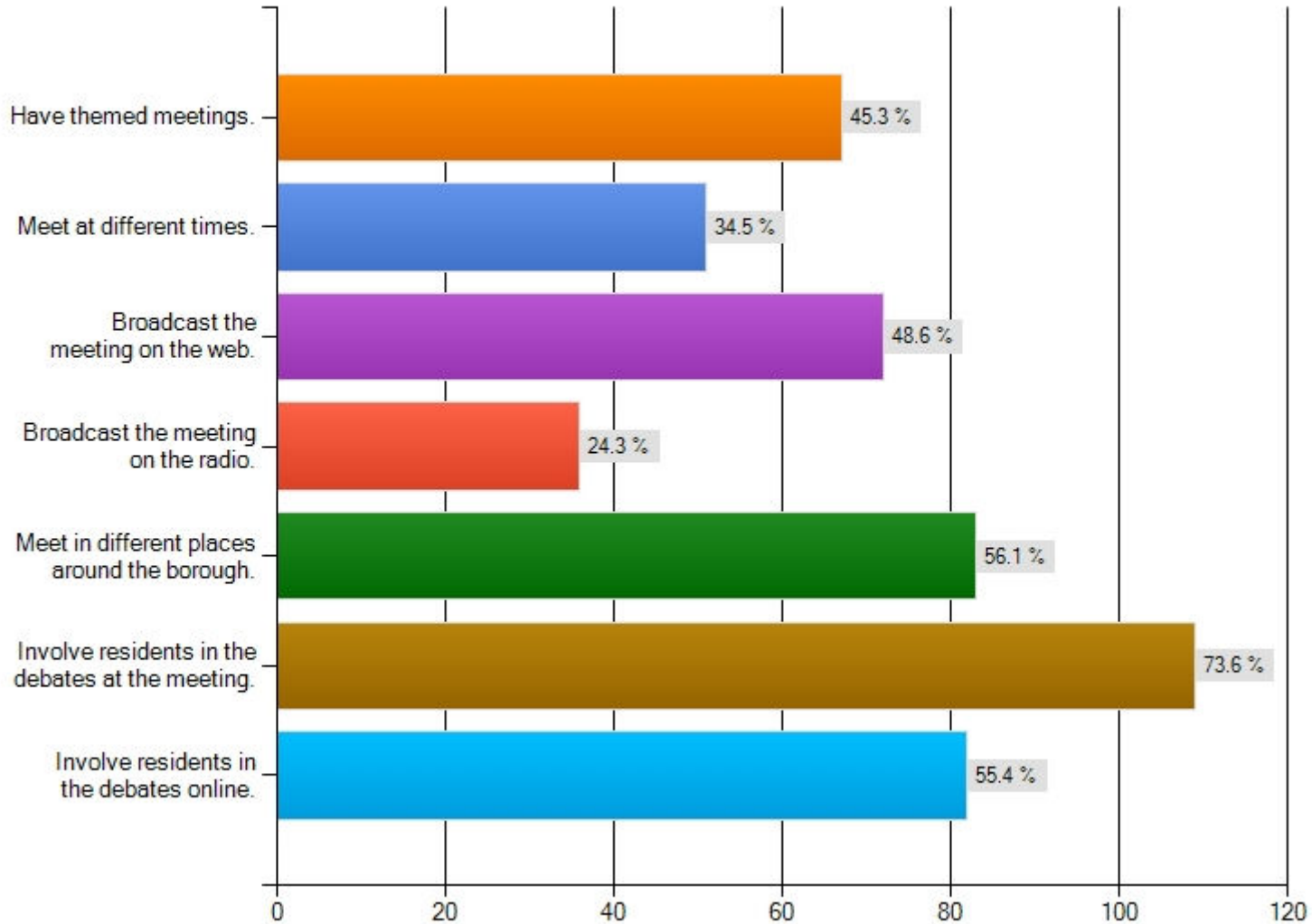
Is there enough information available?

I believe there is sufficient information and help available to enable me and other people to make the most of the above opportunities.(please check the box that best reflects your opinion about the statement that follows)



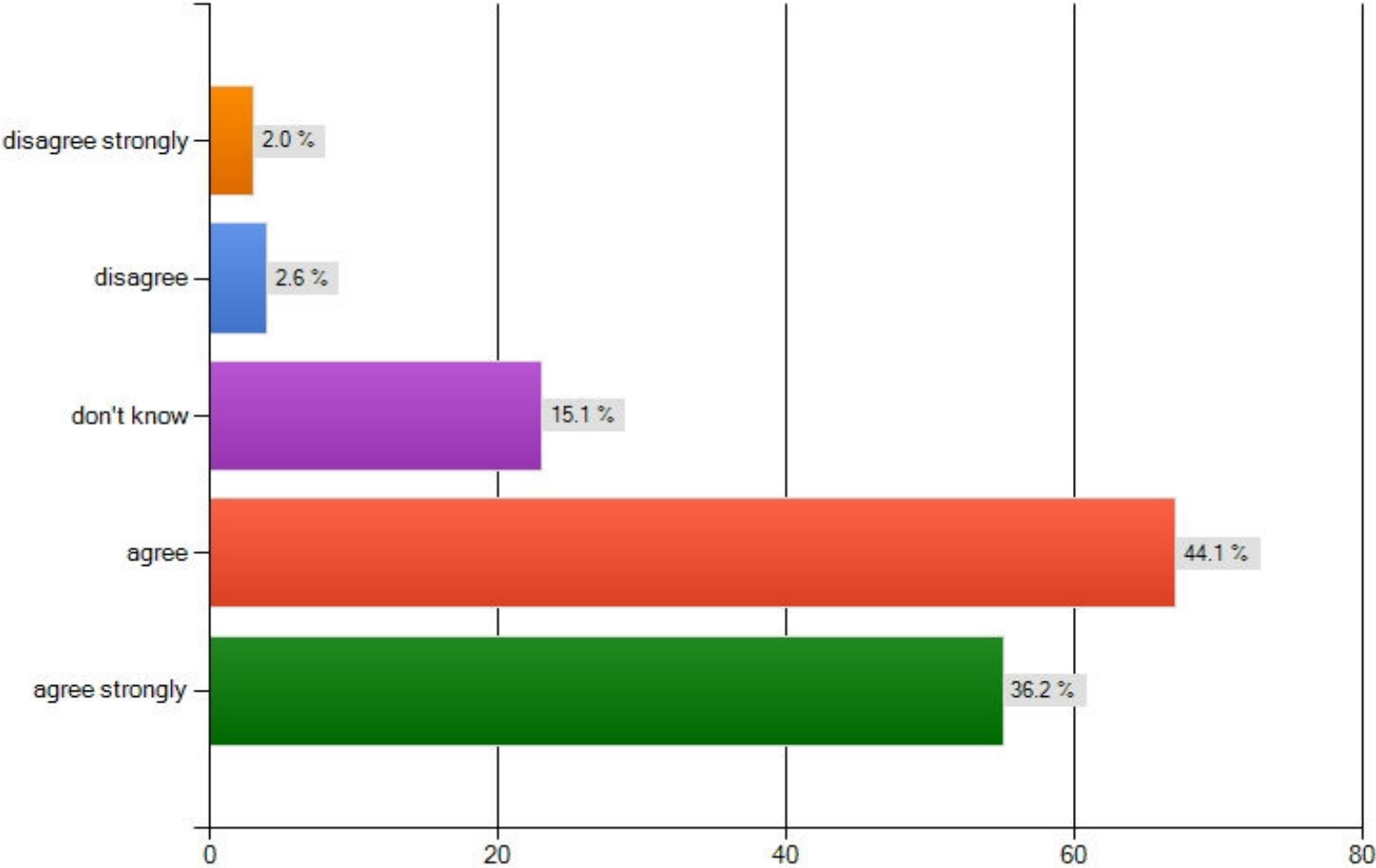
What could be done differently?

What could be done differently ? (Please tick any you think might be a good idea)



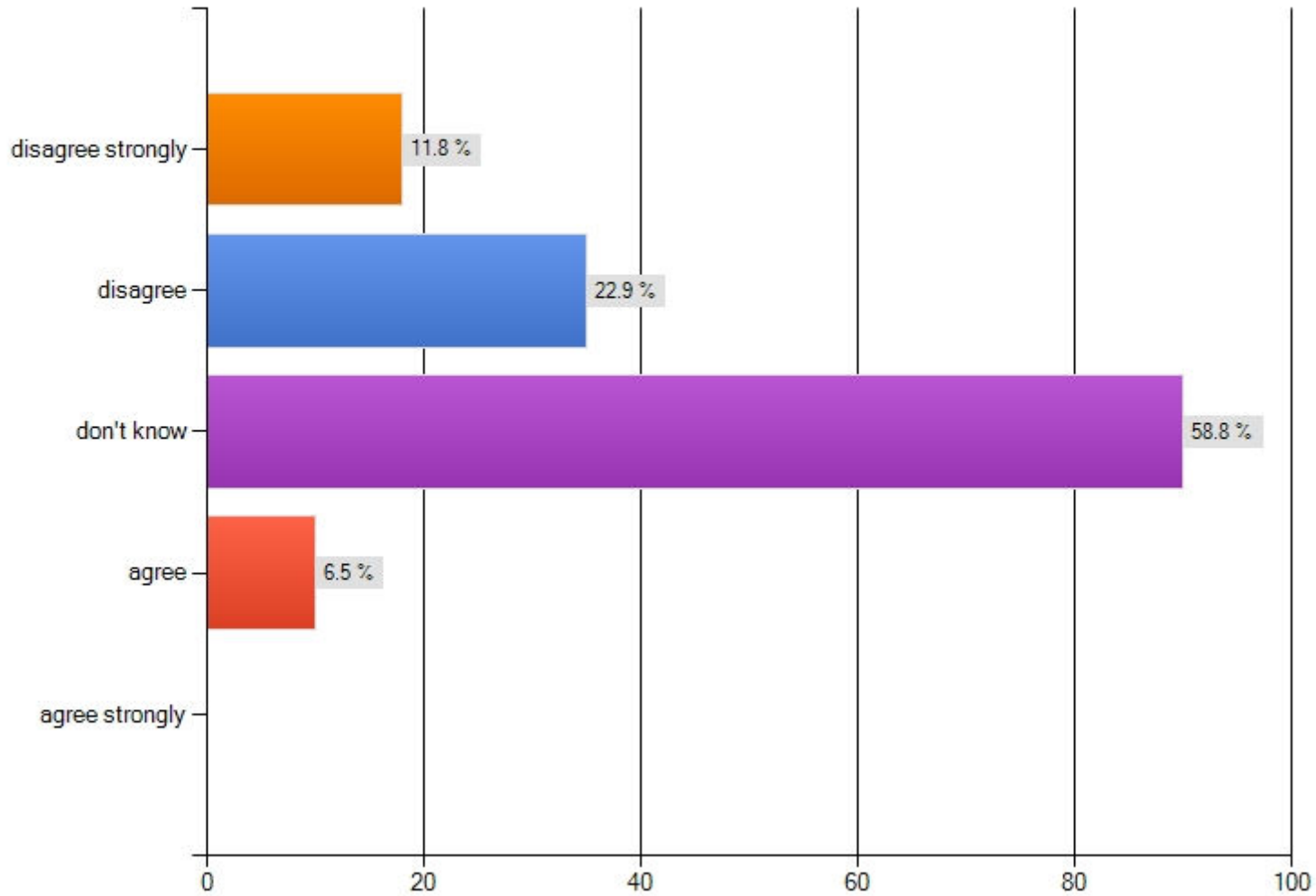
Should we make changes?

We should make changes to council assembly to help people become more willing and able to get involved.(please check the box that best reflects your opinion about the statement that follows)



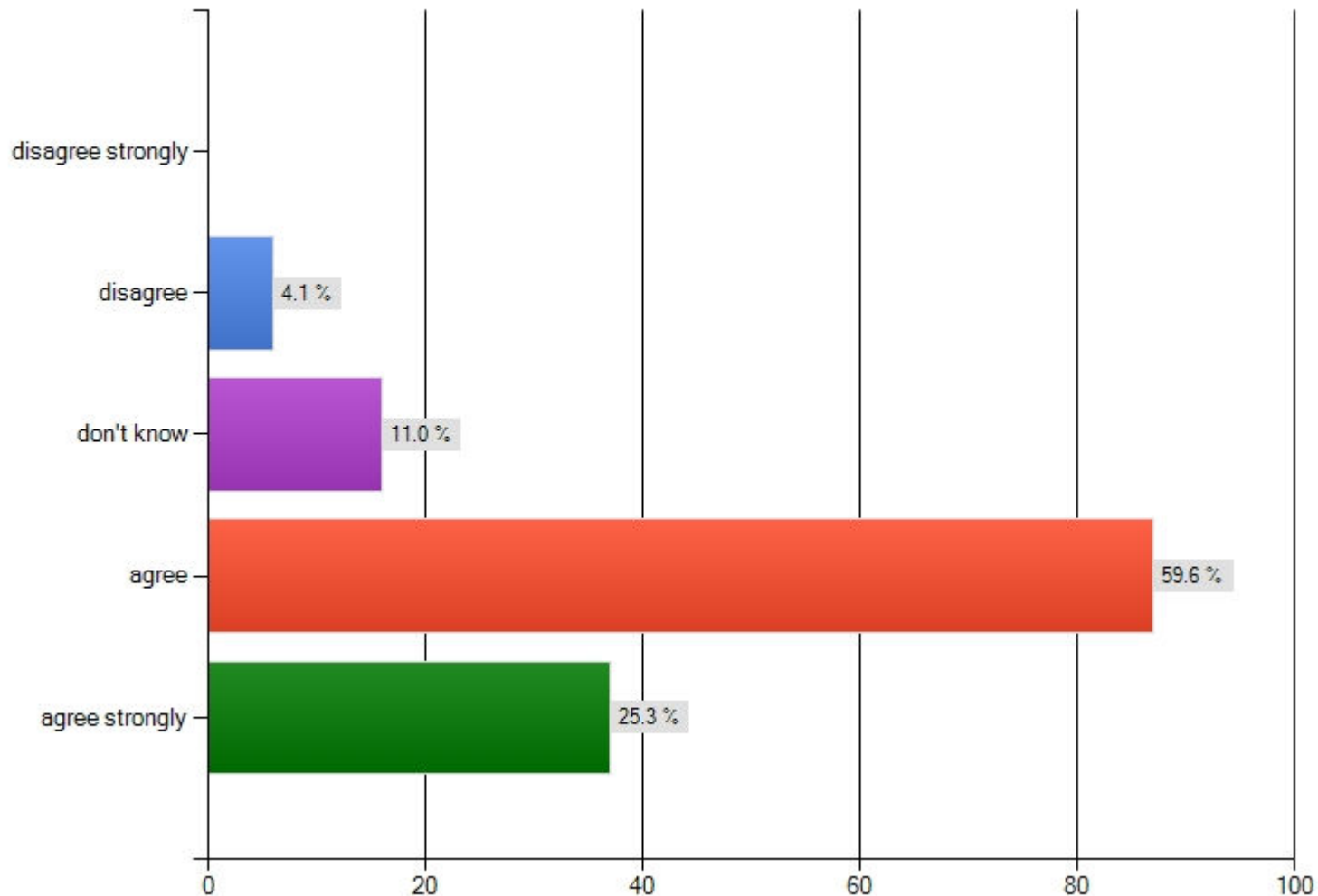
The current format works well...?

The council assembly works well in its current format.(please check the box that best reflects your opinion about the statement that follows)



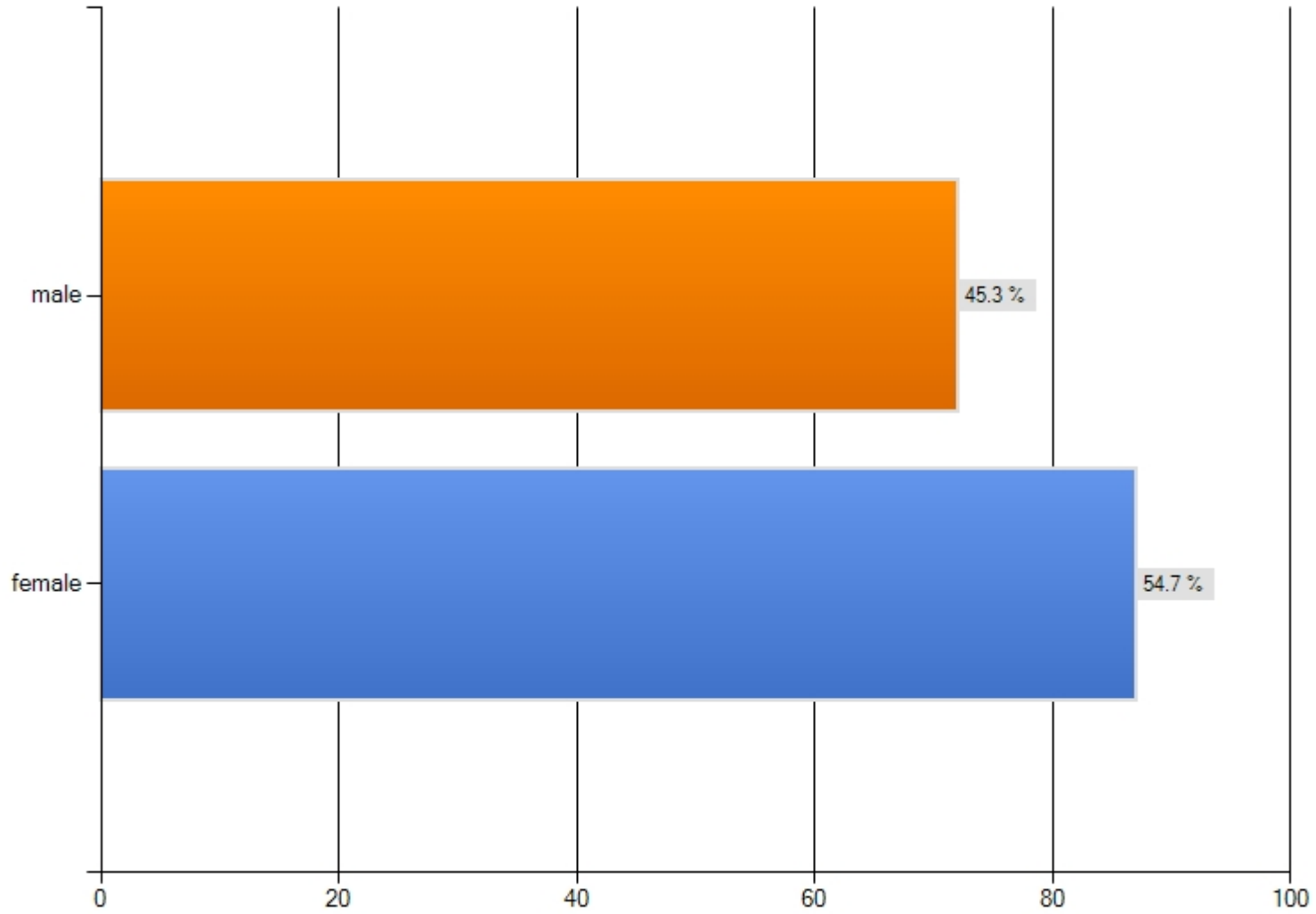
I would consider attending a Council Assembly meeting in future

I would consider attending a council assembly meeting in the future.(please check the box that best reflects your opinion about the statement that follows)



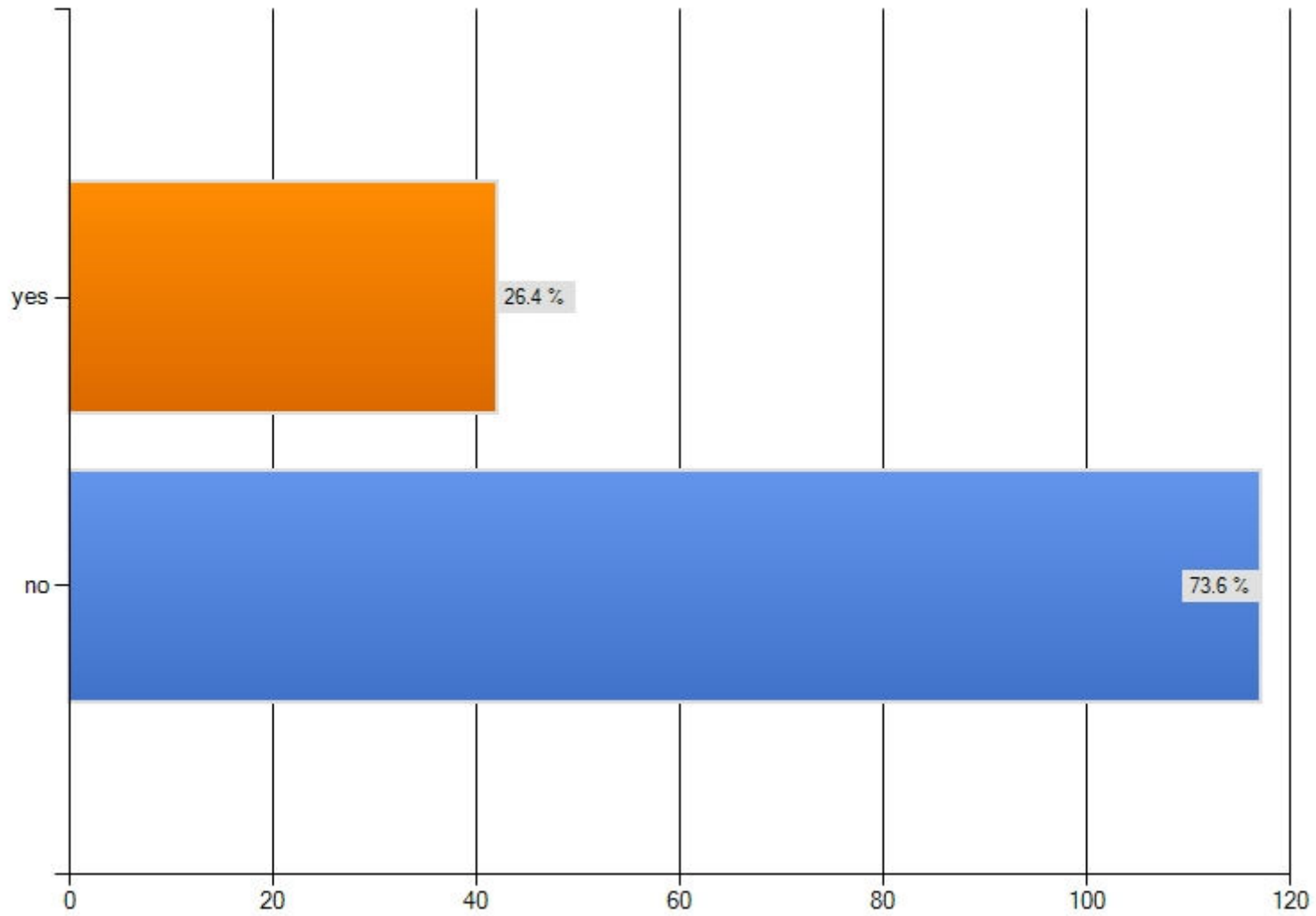
Gender

Are you male or female?



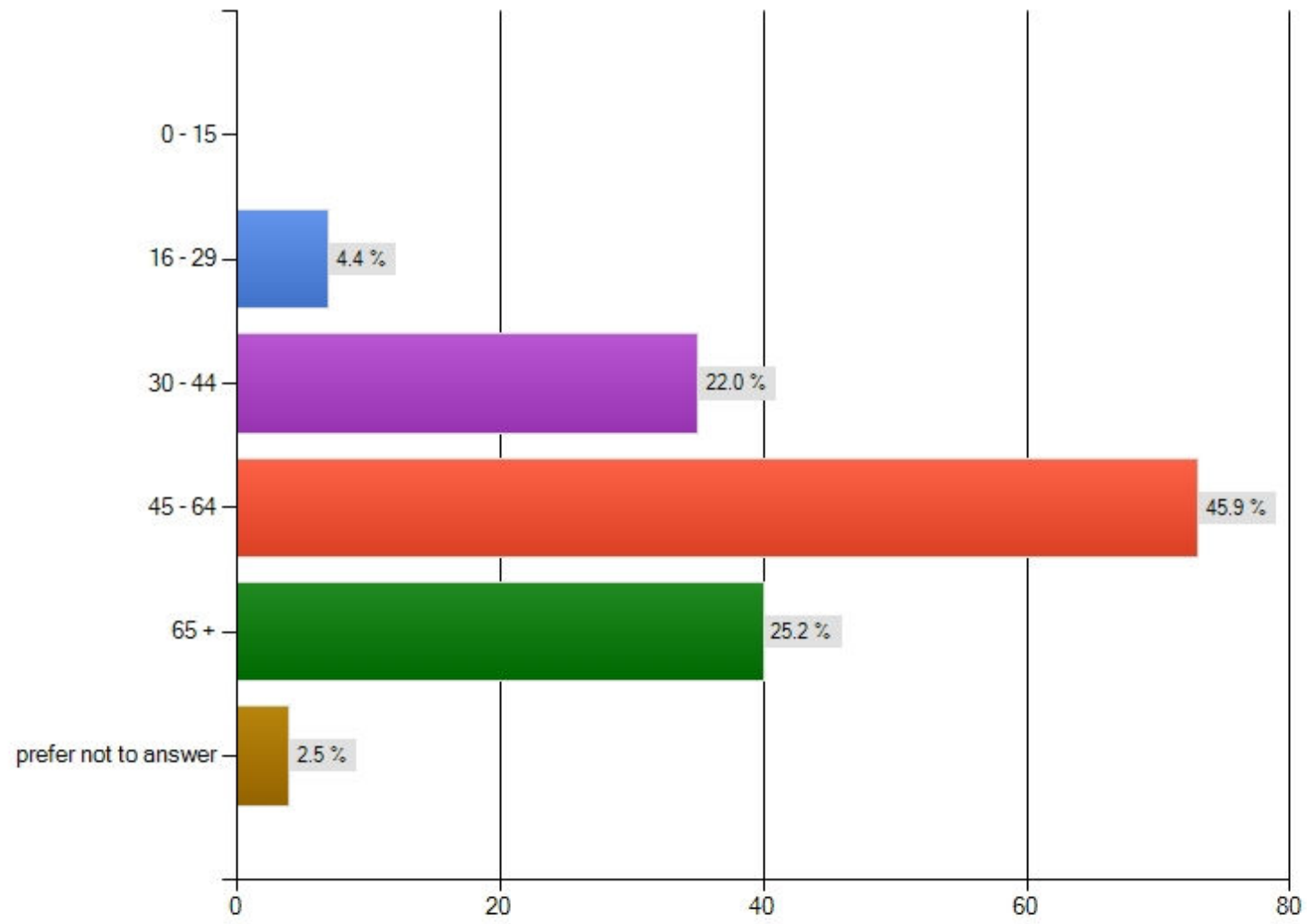
Disability

Do you consider yourself to have a disability or long term illness?



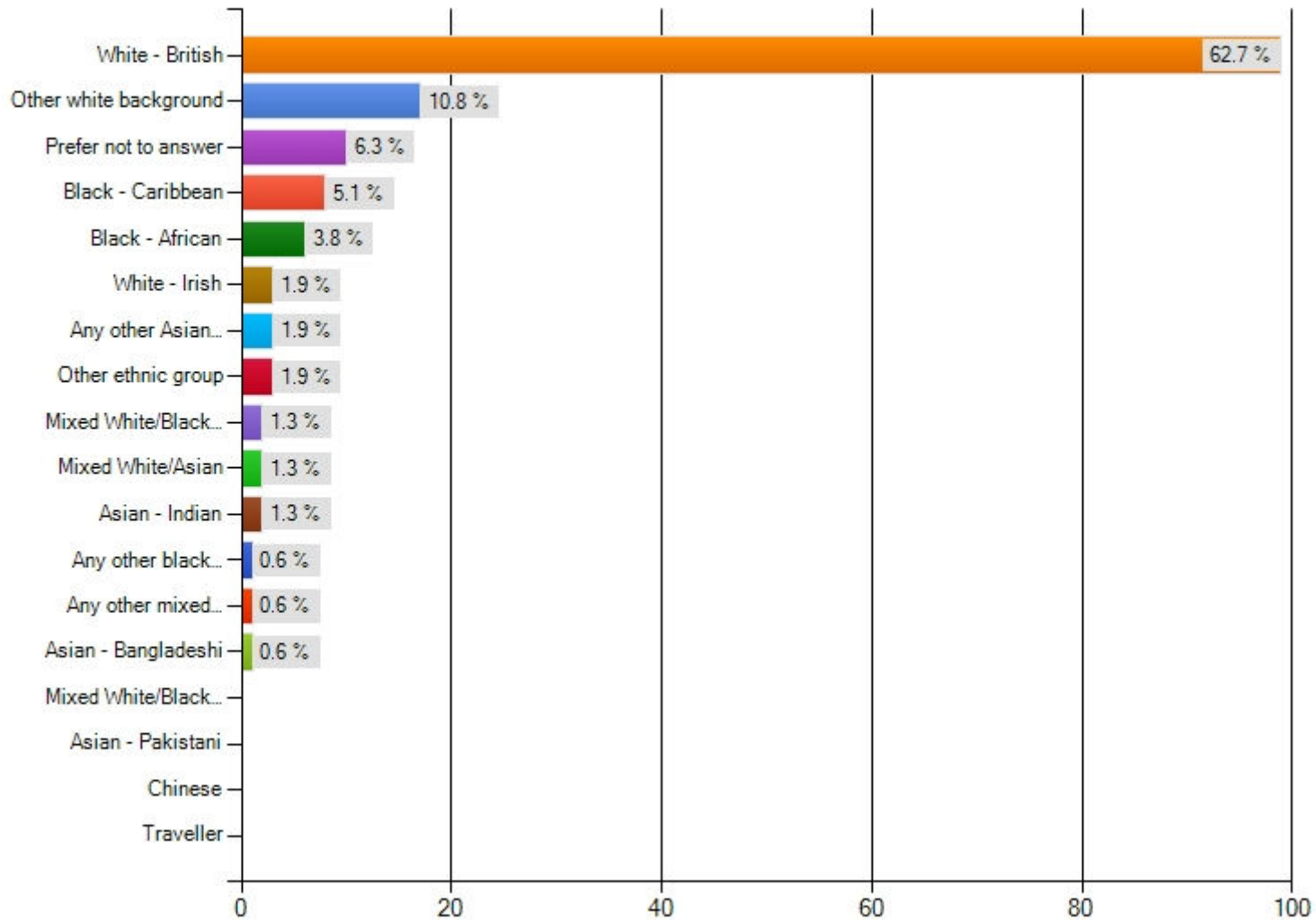
Age group

What is your age group?



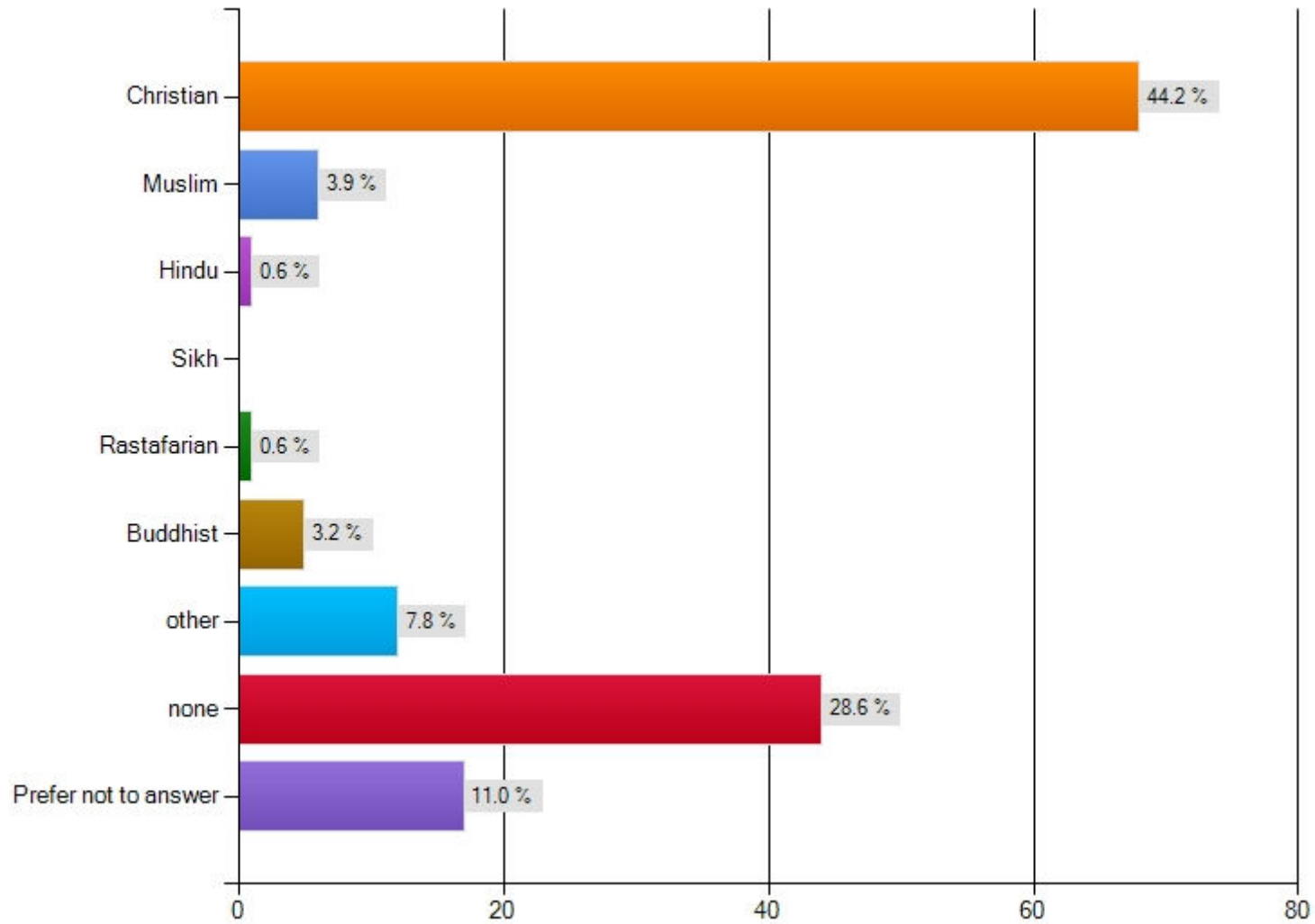
Ethnicity

What is your ethnic group?



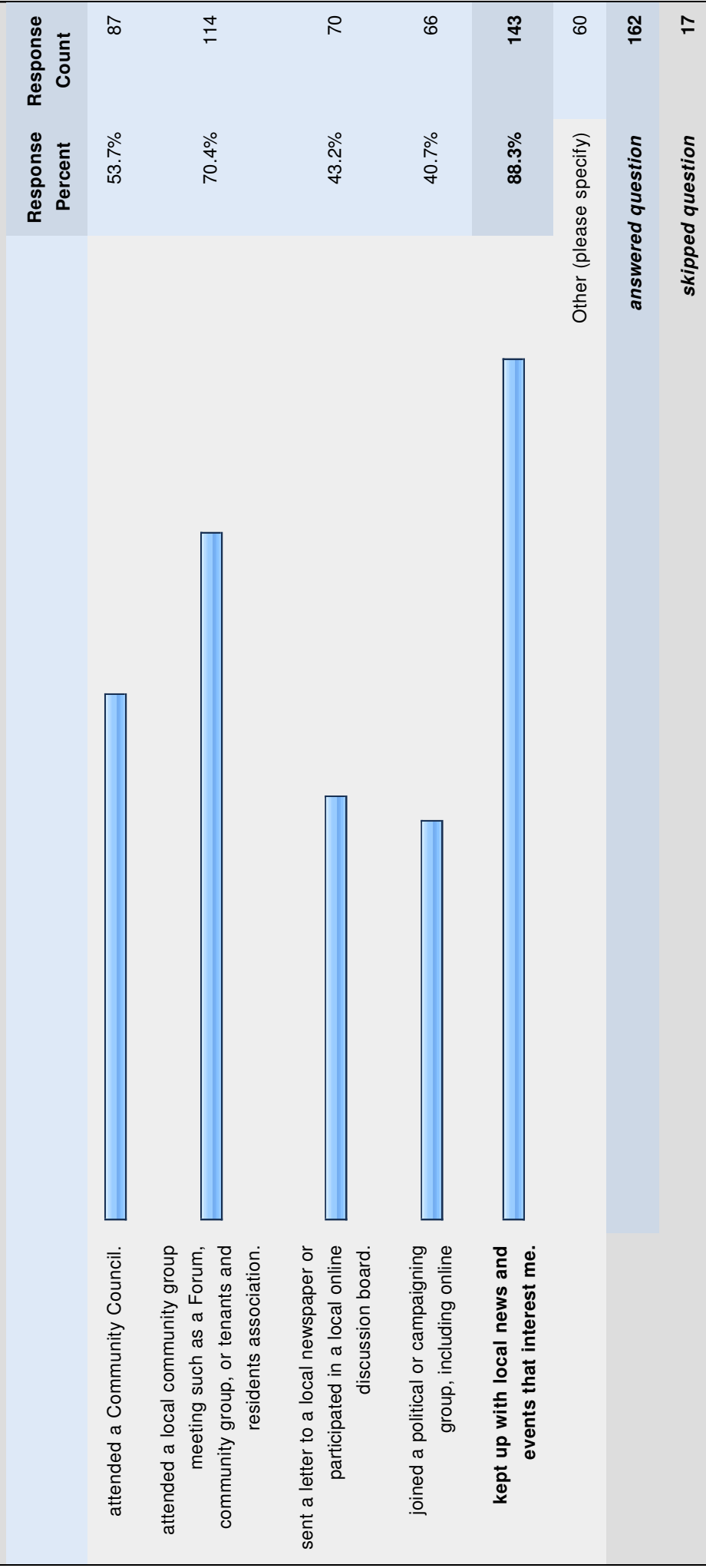
Religion

What is your religion or belief?



Southwark democracy commission survey

How active are you in your local community? Tell us about the different ways you have been involved in local activities and decision making. I have:



Other (please specify)	
1	Very Inactive
2	helped up set up a local community group. helped set up public meetings made FoI requests
	Jul 28, 2010 3:13 PM
	Jul 30, 2010 8:40 AM

Other (please specify)		
3	Chair a TRA, support a local charity	Jul 31, 2010 1:28 PM
4	written to MP - but never a councillor	Aug 2, 2010 12:52 PM
5	Served on - school governors' board, charity trustees' boards, statutory health forums/LINKs Stood as local council candidate (x3) Made Planning objections and contributions, mainly on housing developments Voluntary work - Surrey Docks Farm	Aug 2, 2010 2:14 PM
6	School governor	Aug 2, 2010 2:54 PM
7	Attend Police Ward Panels	Aug 2, 2010 2:54 PM
8	Regularly converse with council about local issues.	Aug 2, 2010 6:37 PM
9	Communicated regularly with my local Councillor	Aug 2, 2010 6:53 PM
10	not active	Aug 4, 2010 2:09 PM
11	Run a community group and have put on BHM event. Also, have acted as a volunteer for local community eventt	Aug 8, 2010 6:54 AM
12	Active Streetleader, making regular reports and attending visual audits of my area.	Aug 8, 2010 5:04 PM
13	Also Chair of A patient's forum, and sit on 2 committees with NHS Southwark	Aug 12, 2010 1:51 PM
14	Involved in organising tenants and residents to host a community event	Aug 12, 2010 4:35 PM
15	Written to my MP and Councillor	Aug 12, 2010 5:26 PM
16	I am a member of Southern Rail Users Group (SRUG) campaigning for better train passenger services for south Londoners.	Aug 12, 2010 6:04 PM
17	I am a Streetleader	Aug 13, 2010 8:03 AM
18	Have been invited to speak at a council assembly meeting, but no date has been settled.	Aug 13, 2010 8:59 AM
19	Member of the Southwark Civic Association	Aug 13, 2010 11:59 AM
20	Police Ward Panel and SPCG	Aug 14, 2010 3:42 PM
21	I have been excluded from community politics by a vicious local hate campaign that was facilitated by Southwark Council officials.	Aug 16, 2010 9:01 AM
22	I am captain of a local tennis club. I am involved with dulwich helpline and with Penge citizens advice bureau.	Aug 17, 2010 6:24 PM
23	Contacted a local councillor	Aug 18, 2010 3:41 PM
24	Have and continue to take an active interest in local traffic management schemes, including making representations to the Council on matters needing improvement. Also active member of Friends of Dulwich Park	Aug 19, 2010 9:47 AM
25	I am a trade union official	Aug 20, 2010 10:23 AM
26	run a local community website, Dulwich OnView - www.dulwichonview.org.uk	Aug 20, 2010 4:41 PM
27	Worked with SLam on a mental health training scheme: I am 81; and bi-polar 1	Aug 21, 2010 9:32 AM
28	Run Local Community Group for Children and Young People	Aug 22, 2010 9:56 AM
29	Member of The Herne Hill Society Chair of Ruskin Readers, adult literacy club	Aug 23, 2010 4:15 PM

Other (please specify)		
30	21 years as secretary of the T&RA, 6.5 years setting up a TMO, secretary of the local police forum, treasurer of my church, etc. Very involved.	Aug 27, 2010 4:51 PM
31	elected member of Education security committee	Aug 29, 2010 6:24 PM
32	As a leaseholder and resident I face strong opposition from the TRA chairman	Aug 31, 2010 12:46 PM
33	I am a trustee of two local charities.	Sep 1, 2010 7:33 AM
34	Dulwich Society's Tree Committee	Sep 1, 2010 8:54 AM
35	Lots of things.	Sep 1, 2010 9:01 AM
36	All council meetings.	Sep 1, 2010 9:07 AM
37	Was member of the Southwark Alliance for some years etc.	Sep 1, 2010 9:23 AM
38	Written to politicians.	Sep 1, 2010 9:53 AM
39	Visiting older people.	Sep 1, 2010 10:07 AM
40	Editor of Peckham Society News for over 20 years. Written a lot of local history books.	Sep 1, 2010 10:11 AM
41	None	Sep 1, 2010 10:29 AM
42	Trustee / board member for various local charities and groups.	Sep 1, 2010 10:47 AM
43	Member of South Bermondsey Ward Panel (Community Police).	Sep 1, 2010 10:52 AM
44	I am a street leader for Sutherland Walk SE17.	Sep 1, 2010 10:55 AM
45	N/A	Sep 1, 2010 11:06 AM
46	All other council meetings.	Sep 1, 2010 11:09 AM
47	Cossall TRA committee member.	Sep 1, 2010 11:58 AM
48	Working in local hospitals.	Sep 1, 2010 12:06 PM
49	Co-founded SE5 Forum for Camberwell Member of Residents Association Committee Member of So Camberwell SNT panel	Sep 1, 2010 12:11 PM
50	Independent candidate (May 2010) for Newington Ward.	Sep 1, 2010 12:17 PM
51	Sent letters and emails to local councillors about issues I felt they needed to address.	Sep 1, 2010 12:26 PM
52	Emails to council.	Sep 1, 2010 12:30 PM
53	School governor	Sep 1, 2010 12:38 PM
54	1) Wrote to Boris Johnson regarding crime on buses ie pickpockets. 2) Wrote to Gordon Brown stating concern of lack of council houses, libraries, demolishing council housing and reluctantly replacing with so-called affordable housing.	Sep 1, 2010 12:43 PM
55	Honoured ctz, Southwark Millenium Fellow Union of Youth.	Sep 1, 2010 1:06 PM
56	TA chair	Sep 1, 2010 1:17 PM
57	Executive member of local groups.	Sep 1, 2010 1:33 PM
58	Campaigned for disabled and elderly.	Sep 1, 2010 1:36 PM

Other (please specify)	
59	Chair of the Crystal Palace Community Association.
60	Volunteer in the community.
	Sep 1, 2010 2:59 PM
	Sep 2, 2010 8:49 AM

Southwark democracy commission survey

Tell us what you already knew about the council assembly before completing this survey.

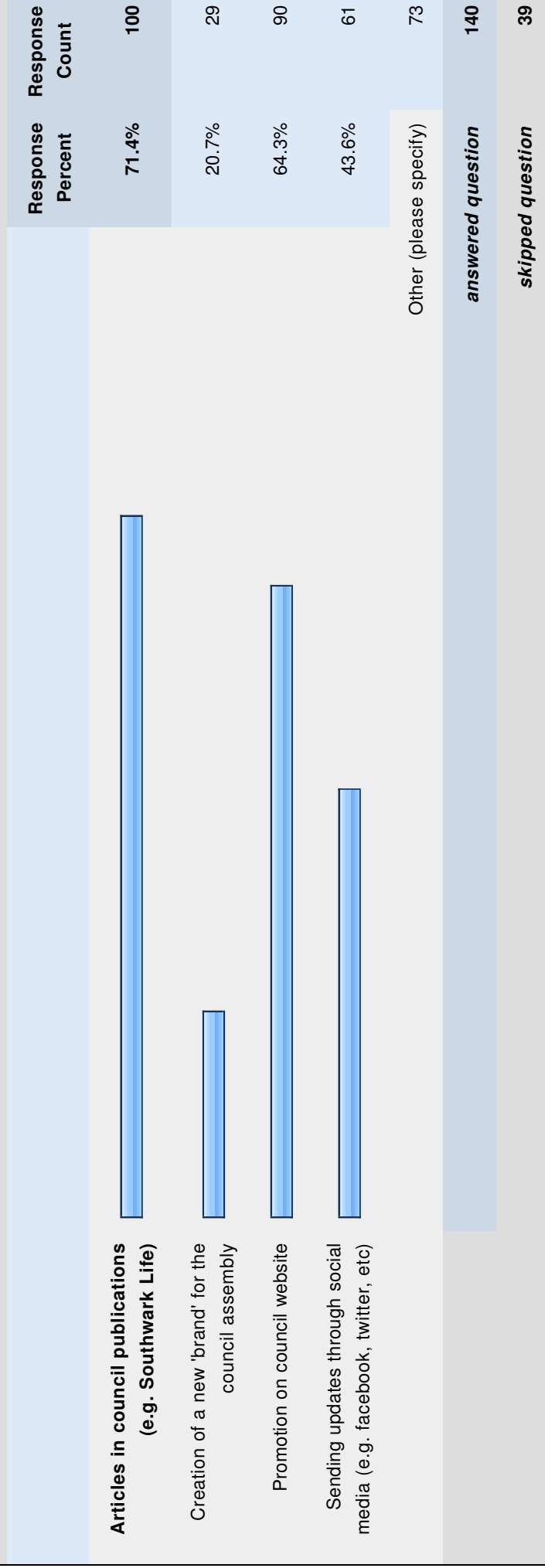
	Response Percent	Response Count
I didn't know it existed.	25.7%	43
I had heard of it but don't really know what it does.	26.9%	45
I had a basic understanding of its work.	32.3%	54
I had a good understanding of its work.	15.0%	25
Other (please specify)		8
answered question		167
skipped question		12

Other (please specify)

1	My understanding is in between "basic" and "good", due to repeated reforms of its structure and governance over the last 15 years.	Aug 2, 2010 2:17 PM
2	new-to-me	Aug 5, 2010 4:36 AM
3	Only because of my work in another borough	Aug 18, 2010 3:41 PM
4	Not sure whether this is another name for Southwark Council or an offshoot.	Aug 23, 2010 4:23 PM
5	Meetings are not explained and promoted, for example in the local press	Sep 1, 2010 7:36 AM
6	I have had deputations before council.	Sep 1, 2010 8:59 AM
7	None	Sep 1, 2010 10:30 AM
8	No public input was surprise.	Sep 1, 2010 12:17 PM

Southwark democracy commission survey

We would like to find out the best way of letting people know about the council assembly and how it works. Which of the following do you think would work? Do you have any other ideas for promoting council assembly?



Other (please specify)

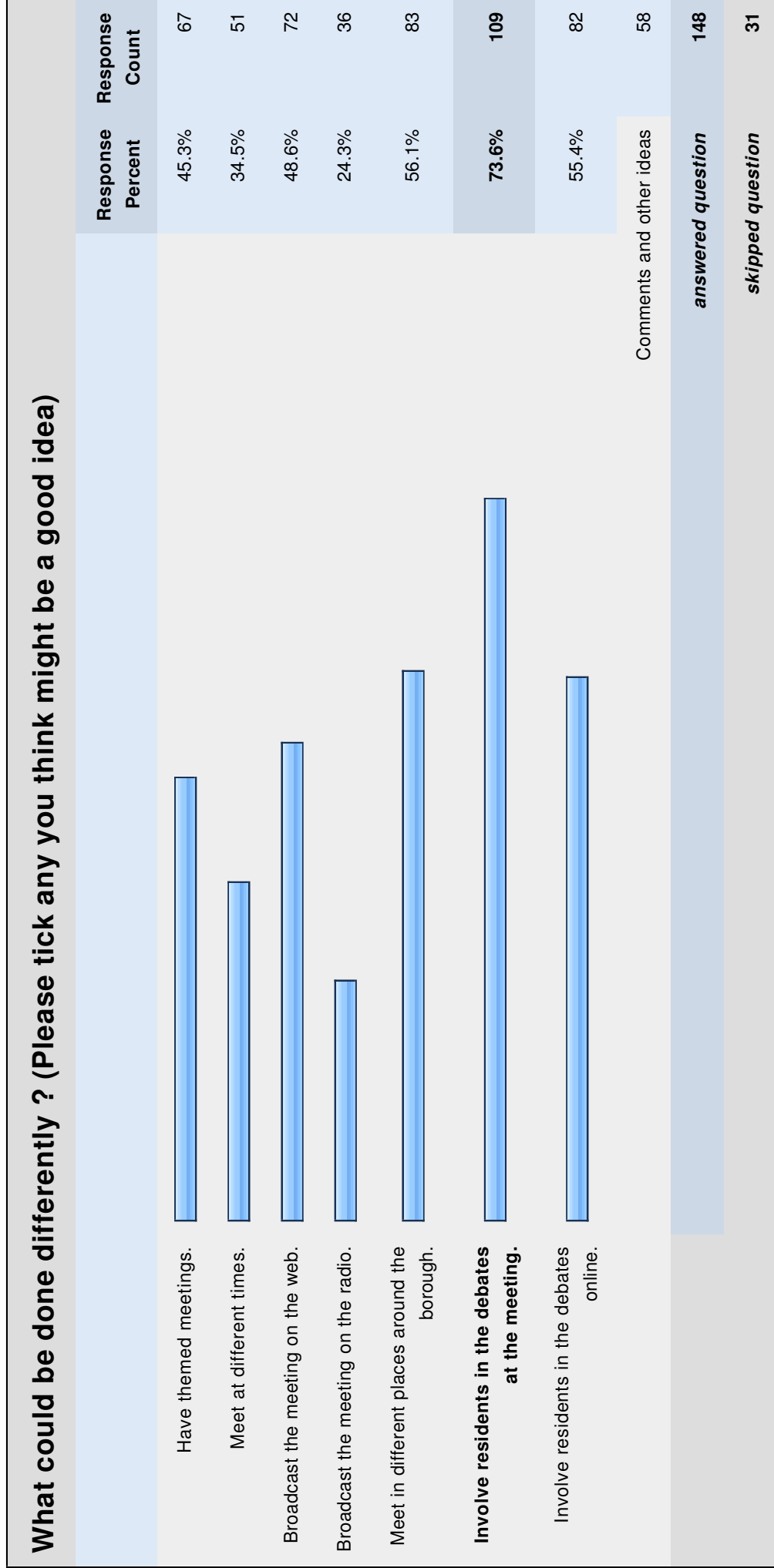
1	workshops to let people know how the whole council works and the part they can take part in the decision process	Jul 30, 2010 8:44 AM
2	Attending tenants and residents' meetings and engaging with them. Attending as many community group meetings as possible and being part of that community - some Voluntary Sector organisations and phantom 'umbrella' groups the council seems to rely on for feedback are many times removed from those communities.	Aug 2, 2010 9:49 AM

Other (please specify)		
3	We sell off all the town halls & store all the mayor's kit & voting stuff etc somewhere in Tooley St. The council meetings are then held in a different part of the borough each time, in any large, suitable building - eg schools, church halls, community halls etc. this would enable greater participation through: meetings being held near to where all the population lives on a revolving basis meetings are held in buildings people are already familiar with & therefore feel less intimidated times of meetings could also vary to suit each venue & to encourage wider participation there are probably lots of other potential benefits, but I've used up all my creativity!	Aug 2, 2010 12:54 PM
4	visiting local groups to discuss (childrens centres, day centres etc)	Aug 2, 2010 1:46 PM
5	monthly email. Southwark Life just ends up in the bin -sorry recycling box!	Aug 2, 2010 1:52 PM
6	Giving it a purpose other than a 'rubber stamp'. All the rest of the tickboxes are a waste of money and time, if it remains a rubber-stamping exercise, with a few long-winded political speeches, a bit of barnstorming to no great effect, and rigid, ruthless voting control.	Aug 2, 2010 2:17 PM
7	Two of these seem good. Southwark Life not - I've lived in the borough for ten years, and only had it delivered twice. What you should do is put agandas and minutes for these meetings on their own RSS feed, so folk can see what's coming up a week in advance. Early Wednesday evening may be fine for people with public-sector jobs, but it's the middle of rush-hour for most of us.	Aug 2, 2010 2:18 PM
8	News items in the local press	Aug 2, 2010 2:55 PM
9	The online East Dulwich Forum is very popular.	Aug 2, 2010 2:56 PM
10	Emails to people who have attended council assembly meetings or who have expressed an interest in council assemblies	Aug 2, 2010 2:58 PM
11	Local forums (that's how I found out it even existed!).	Aug 2, 2010 3:22 PM
12	Please no "new brands" We have the council corporate style - use it! Keep things simple!	Aug 2, 2010 5:18 PM
13	Whatever is don should be done at minimum cost. I do not support council funded publications promoting council activities	Aug 2, 2010 5:50 PM
14	A newsletter - hard-copy or email.	Aug 2, 2010 6:38 PM
15	Have a regular Newsletter deliverable by email	Aug 2, 2010 6:54 PM
16	Email/text messages	Aug 4, 2010 5:41 PM
17	what is meant by 'new brand'?	Aug 4, 2010 7:28 PM
18	Feeding through existing community fora e.g. Community Councils, community meetings, showcases at local libraries etc	Aug 8, 2010 6:55 AM
19	Utilise busy council places ie public libraries and 'one stop shops' to promote the assembly through posters and leaflets. Also, an awarness could be raised at local tenants and residents association through either advertising or a council representative speaker.	Aug 8, 2010 9:43 AM
20	Advertise in local press and at Community Councils.	Aug 8, 2010 5:15 PM
21	Look to reach people through existing networks rather than re-inventing the wheel. Tailor the information so that it is of interest to people - relate it to their day-to-day lives.	Aug 12, 2010 2:30 PM
22	Sending updates in the email newsletter.	Aug 12, 2010 2:37 PM
23	Workign more closely with tenant associations to promote ideas and interests from local people	Aug 12, 2010 3:01 PM
24	Send flyers to all who pay council tax, with brief explanation,an date of next assembly	Aug 12, 2010 4:25 PM
25	Enuring that whatever information comes out about the assembly is not too jargonstic.	Aug 12, 2010 4:37 PM

Other (please specify)		
26	Face to face outreach to promote the assembly, attending community events and generally getting out and about where people go	Aug 12, 2010 5:27 PM
27	Announcements in local press with, perhaps, a specific recognisable regular Council Assembly article.	Aug 12, 2010 6:07 PM
28	promot through tenants & residents associations	Aug 12, 2010 9:48 PM
29	Council publications such as Southwark Life are a waste of our money. Use local independent print media such as Southwark News and SLP and popular online forums such as SE1 and Urban75.	Aug 16, 2010 9:04 AM
30	Regular newsletters and an annual report highlighting public involvement in decision making	Aug 16, 2010 11:03 AM
31	* Local Radio * Local question time * Most important impact of Council works is improving the quality of life of Southwark residents, and it should take precedent over the political correctness.	Aug 16, 2010 12:41 PM
32	Have 'meet the assembly' sessions in visible, easily accessible places such as dulwich park, goose green or local pubs.	Aug 17, 2010 6:28 PM
33	Suggest you set up a voluntary email mailing list system to let interested people know what issues are coming up in the council assembly meetings	Aug 19, 2010 9:52 AM
34	A dedicated but simple leaflet/pamphlet to be posted and left to take, in libraries, doctor's surgeries, community centres, leisure centres etc. and any places in Southwark, where people tend to gather/attend.	Aug 20, 2010 8:56 AM
35	Place advertisements in local press clearly stating the agenda and decisions to be made in plenty of time for the meeting	Aug 20, 2010 10:25 AM
36	Tell people what it is for - in plain english and what decisions it does and does not make and how people can best influence these decisions and find out about them before they are presented with a "fait accompli"	Aug 20, 2010 11:29 AM
37	Sending out emails to all interested, with Minutes of meetings, or perhaps summaries of main decisions taken	Aug 20, 2010 7:10 PM
38	It will also be very helpful if some attempts are made to look at how to train some other communities to get involved and be active in these meetings	Aug 22, 2010 9:58 AM
39	Tryb promoting, with good relevant and (attractive to the media) active stories to tell to South London Press, Evening Standard, BBC London	Aug 25, 2010 11:56 AM
40	public libraries (perhaps using posters)	Aug 26, 2010 11:47 AM
41	Promotion at community council	Aug 27, 2010 10:41 AM
42	Put up posters in libraries. People who read books would be interested in attending as they have enquiring minds.	Aug 27, 2010 4:53 PM
43	Posters, noticeboards, distribution lists ...	Aug 28, 2010 12:23 PM
44	not all people read southwark life, or twitter. consider the disability act 2005, learning disabilities, dyslexia, use radio to promote and leaflet to doors, all political councillors should promote the service based on residents voting for them. We need to be involved and aware what the council is doing for the borough therefore it is in their interest to use all forms of media to inform residents.	Aug 29, 2010 6:28 PM
45	Email updates to community contacts eg TRAs.	Aug 30, 2010 4:51 PM
46	Build a database of local people who are interested.	Aug 30, 2010 5:43 PM
47	Local paper Southwark News	Aug 31, 2010 4:14 PM
48	Personal visits	Aug 31, 2010 4:19 PM

Other (please specify)		
49	Articles in the local press; direct contact with local voluntary organisations	Sep 1, 2010 7:36 AM
50	Large signs at key areas eg Bermondsey Tube.	Sep 1, 2010 8:48 AM
51	Setting dates of Assembly and keeping to them.	Sep 1, 2010 8:59 AM
52	Meetings.	Sep 1, 2010 9:08 AM
53	Southwark News. South London Press.	Sep 1, 2010 10:12 AM
54	None	Sep 1, 2010 10:30 AM
55	Community notice boards eg Surrey Quays. Community Council.	Sep 1, 2010 10:38 AM
56	Local newspapers.	Sep 1, 2010 10:44 AM
57	Informing rather than promoting. Please be careful not to miss out those with no internet etc. It's no good having day-long meetings - people don't want to give up that much time when they're desperate for lunch and / or company.	Sep 1, 2010 10:48 AM
58	Make it an item at the Community Councils.	Sep 1, 2010 10:53 AM
59	Stickers on Southwark's wheelie bins.	Sep 1, 2010 10:56 AM
60	Through T&RA meetings.	Sep 1, 2010 11:09 AM
61	Email distribution lists SE5 Forum for Camberwell website Councillors encouraging their constituents to attend	Sep 1, 2010 12:12 PM
62	Unless more public involved, rest is pointless.	Sep 1, 2010 12:17 PM
63	Have one or two single online links, and guarantee a meaningful response within 48 hours.	Sep 1, 2010 12:28 PM
64	By creating activities for people to get the awareness.	Sep 1, 2010 12:39 PM
65	Not Southwark Life, only used to present council through rosie spectacles when Liberal council was in control - always used as a Conservative Con or Condem. Use Southwark News as a supplement.	Sep 1, 2010 12:45 PM
66	SE1 newsletter.	Sep 1, 2010 12:52 PM
67	Sending updates through TRAs, schools, organisations and local businesses.	Sep 1, 2010 1:21 PM
68	Southwark News. Sputh London Press.	Sep 1, 2010 1:28 PM
69	Ensure those affected are informed.	Sep 1, 2010 1:37 PM
70	Identify and notify organisations and representative groups directly. Many will be listed on the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Sep 1, 2010 3:01 PM
71	I think that this question put the cart before the horse. I do not think that this is an issue of presentation but content. At present what goes on in Council Assembly is unlikely to be of that much interest to the majority of citizens in Southwark as it is largely devoted to party positioning. Until that issue is addressed as to the purpose of the assembly there is not much point in promoting it to a wider audience.	Sep 1, 2010 3:28 PM
72	Send out publications in time as I received this on 17.8.10 too late to attend Peckham library.	Sep 2, 2010 8:45 AM
73	Local tv advertisement.	Sep 2, 2010 8:49 AM

Southwark democracy commission survey



Comments and other ideas	
1	As long as it is a whipped political meeting attendance is pointless.
2	publish the agenda to assembly and community council meetings ahead of event, not all agenda items can be known at publication but it will give a basis for public discussion and feedback prior to meeting. publish meeting minutes within time limit, three days?, this gives everyone a chance to find out what happened and those who attended the opportunity to have altered any part they disagree with
	Jul 28, 2010 3:50 PM
	Jul 30, 2010 8:55 AM

Comments and other ideas		
3	I STRONGLY support the idea of meeting in other places around the Borough. You could use Community Council locations	Jul 31, 2010 1:32 PM
4	see suggestion re selling off town halls earlier in survey	Aug 2, 2010 12:57 PM
5	Council assemblies have never been magnets for public attendance. If the aim is to make them a 'draw', there will be no interest in a powerless talking shop, from the public, or the media, which once did bother to attend these events, not least because they had some civic dignity and gravitas, they represented something important about local life, until and unless there are some real decisions made at these meetings. If a decision is going to be made at an assembly there should be pre-publicity about that: like an important or finely-balanced vote in the House of Commons. If an issue was raised by the public via a Petition or Deputation, which clearly commanded great and genuine support - not falsified or coerced - and it was within the Council's powers to do something about it, it should be flagged up in advance and given a decent time-slot, not two minutes up front, to be sniffily dismissed by some spotty barrister wannabee politico as an affront on his intellectual prowess, as in 'how dare the plebs question my right to govern them'.	Aug 2, 2010 2:34 PM
6	Persuade us you will listen, and not just be reactive. Otherwise what is the point of us coming to hear you all speak about what you are going to do anyway. Public consultation is an oxymoron. The council does what it wants whether we like it or not. persuade us this is not true and we will come.	Aug 2, 2010 3:00 PM
7	Publicise meetings and agenda via website, local forums (eg: East Dulwich Forum), local press,	Aug 2, 2010 5:53 PM
8	Have councillors interviewed on LBC &/or BBC London	Aug 2, 2010 6:59 PM
9	Separate official council business out from meetings where residents can actually participate and put forward their views on important local issues.	Aug 12, 2010 2:39 PM
10	Use local tenant halls and community council venues for these meetings	Aug 12, 2010 3:08 PM
11	Attend community council evenings to discuss the local developments and what is interesting them A roadshow could be a way of engaging local people. I'm not sure if it is possible (or legal?) to set aside a certain amount of the agenda to deal specifically with issues in that one community council area. Doing so might ensure that local people might come along. Like me, if I come to a general meeting, a lot of the discussion might have no direct relevance to me.	Aug 12, 2010 4:49 PM
12	Free refreshments always go down well eg tea, coffee, biscuits, (you may do this already!).	Aug 12, 2010 5:02 PM
13	Have sandwich and coffee/tea break for Councillors to meet those sitting in gallery.	Aug 12, 2010 6:13 PM
14	Give residents a chance to send in "requests / questions / issues" beforehand, keep the meeting "short and sweet"	Aug 12, 2010 6:53 PM
15	Abolish cabinet government and have the council run by all the councillors.	Aug 14, 2010 1:05 PM
16	Live updating online and discussion via a web forum; swift preparation and publication of minutes online.	Aug 16, 2010 9:11 AM
17	In my experience, people prefer to meet at the same venue, and going somewhere like Peckham Town Hall, or Tooley Street does bring them closer to the Council. That said, if you meet in different places around the borough, you will attract new faces from that particular locality.	Aug 16, 2010 11:45 AM
18	Keep meetings to time ie. Less than 1.30 hours. Chairperson needs to stop rambling talkers and keep to agenda. Short comments from residents should be taken.	Aug 17, 2010 6:38 PM
19	There are live conferencing internet arrangements available for use with meetings, including allowing discussion/question contributions (usually through a moderator) . My professional institution (I Civil Engineers) uses it very successfully for lectures and similar, and I think it could easily be adapted for council meetings.	Aug 19, 2010 9:58 AM

Comments and other ideas		
20	Please see my suggestions in section 4.	Aug 20, 2010 9:21 AM
21	Meetings should take place outside of a normal working day. Support should be provided in the form of an "independent friend" to encourage deputations. More general participation in council business should be through consultation stages leading up to the production of reports and recommendations.	Aug 20, 2010 10:33 AM
22	make the decisions including the people not separately from them and then pretend to listen. If you don't want to be influenced - don't ask the questions	Aug 20, 2010 11:32 AM
23	I just need to experience some procedure that will explain how my involvement could possibly contribute to anything!	Aug 21, 2010 9:47 AM
24	Some of the meetings I have attended in the past have gone on until the early hours of the morning. This makes them inaccessible for most residents who have either to work the next day or have caring responsibilities etc.	Aug 24, 2010 7:44 AM
25	T&RA's heavily involve elderly people who don't use the web, Facebook or Twitter so don't exclude them by using such things. The assembly does not meet at the Town Hall, it meets at the old town hall in Peckham. You have to be clear what you mean if people are not to miss out or have a wasted journey.	Aug 27, 2010 5:01 PM
26	all is applicable for democracy	Aug 29, 2010 6:32 PM
27	Regular date (eg 2nd Tues of month), time and location helps. If you have an issue you want to address, you can anticipate assembly meetings and plan for them.	Aug 30, 2010 4:55 PM
28	A "webinar" available live AND as a download/podcast accompanied by written content would be very helpful, allowing me to select the parts of the event that are of particular interest to me. I assume this would also allow for direct feedback online.	Aug 30, 2010 5:46 PM
29	Create a news letter/email for recipients who wish to sign up/be kept notified.	Aug 31, 2010 12:49 PM
30	Never been to one so don't know.	Aug 31, 2010 4:14 PM
31	Home visits	Aug 31, 2010 4:20 PM
32	Thyere has been a tendency for political points scoring at these meetings to the detriment of the debates for a resident point of view	Sep 1, 2010 7:43 AM
33	Don't know.	Sep 1, 2010 8:41 AM
34	Council Assembly meetings are just that and although the public can attend it should be a Council Assembly meeting. Encouraging the public to participate will only extend matters / meetings further. Community group meetings are the place for community participation.	Sep 1, 2010 8:46 AM
35	Move the debates to a public gallery you can see proceedings from. The venue should be near a tube / railway station.	Sep 1, 2010 8:52 AM
36	Find ways of linking issues that are of significance to local neighbourhoods all the way through to the council level - Community Council - Cabinet - Scrutiny - Assembly. Help people make the link from the very local to the borough-wide issues, and vice versa.	Sep 1, 2010 9:06 AM
37	As above. Assembly hall where many people can attend.	Sep 1, 2010 10:00 AM
38	Making meetings more informal.	Sep 1, 2010 10:09 AM
39	None	Sep 1, 2010 10:31 AM
40	Success will depend on resulting action and responsiveness, not resistance, of councillors.	Sep 1, 2010 10:40 AM
41	I have ticked involving residents in the debates, but this needs to be done very carefully! I wide range of representative people must feel able to do this, rather than a few same old individuals droning on about their pet subjects.	Sep 1, 2010 10:51 AM
42	Sounds like the local Community Council to me.	Sep 1, 2010 10:54 AM

Comments and other ideas		
43	Publish agenda in communal residents' noticeboards and on Southwark's network of wheelie bins.	Sep 1, 2010 10:58 AM
44	- although this excludes those with no internet access.	Sep 1, 2010 11:05 AM
45	Clearer principles eg evidence. Clear willingness to respond / be open.	Sep 1, 2010 12:08 PM
46	I do not think people can be bothered to attend Assembly meetings as there is a feeling that the Assembly does what it likes/does not make the effort to explain issues/provides no feedback to groups who have petitioned, etc. It feels like an insiders club.	Sep 1, 2010 12:15 PM
47	Meetings in the 7 Community Councils areas.	Sep 1, 2010 12:19 PM
48	Is not everybody have access.	Sep 1, 2010 12:40 PM
49	And listen to the residents. Penalise councillors who don't attend meetings who wonder if their salary has been paid in.	Sep 1, 2010 12:47 PM
50	Have some meetings in the day-time.	Sep 1, 2010 12:50 PM
51	Have the meeting on the web for a prolonged period of time so people can see what happened.	Sep 1, 2010 12:53 PM
52	Sat mornings for those at work.	Sep 1, 2010 1:18 PM
53	Initial reminder before the day through local shops, betting shops, schools, voluntary organisations. More grass root publicity.	Sep 1, 2010 1:24 PM
54	Inform through local press and tenants meetings.	Sep 1, 2010 1:39 PM
55	Meet in the daytime for pensioners. Meet in different places around the borough to help elderly get around. Attend tenants association meetings.	Sep 1, 2010 1:42 PM
56	Local items of concern/interest could be topic based	Sep 1, 2010 3:07 PM
57	There are a number of issues here. There is the issue of the meetings being interesting. I think that interesting will mean more broadly "of concern or interest to people in Southwark" - that I think is an issue of the content/topics of the subjects being discussed and the way the meeting handles them (ie how long the debate goes on for and how long people speak for and whether what they say has any relevance to the topic being discussed). Secondly there is the issue of how easy it is to take part. Here the big question is whether it is a forum for Councillors or the the broader citizenry.	Sep 1, 2010 3:40 PM
58	It could be done earlier, the town hall has more space and is easily more accessible.	Sep 2, 2010 8:48 AM

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