

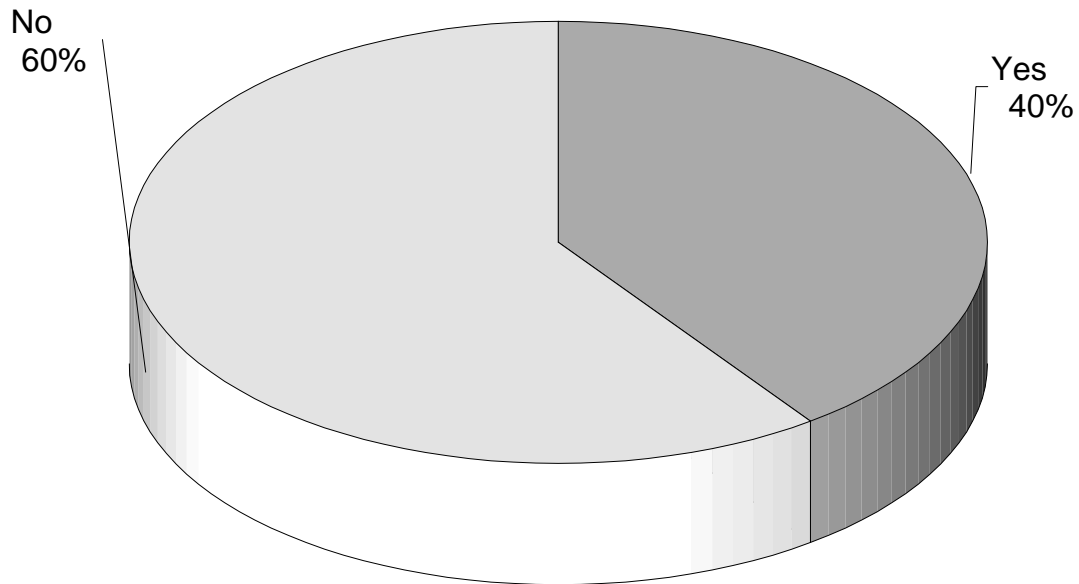
BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

CAR PARKING SURVEY RELATING TO TOURISM

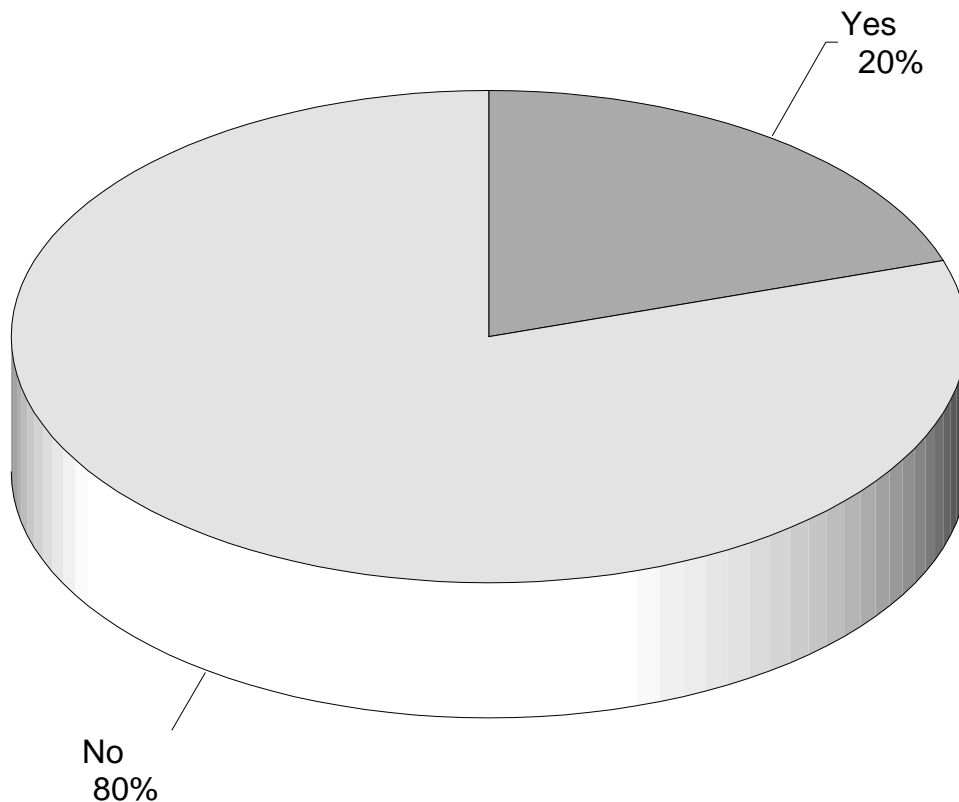
As at the end of 23 November 2001 we had received 10 responses from Tourist Information Centres.

Listed below are the findings:-

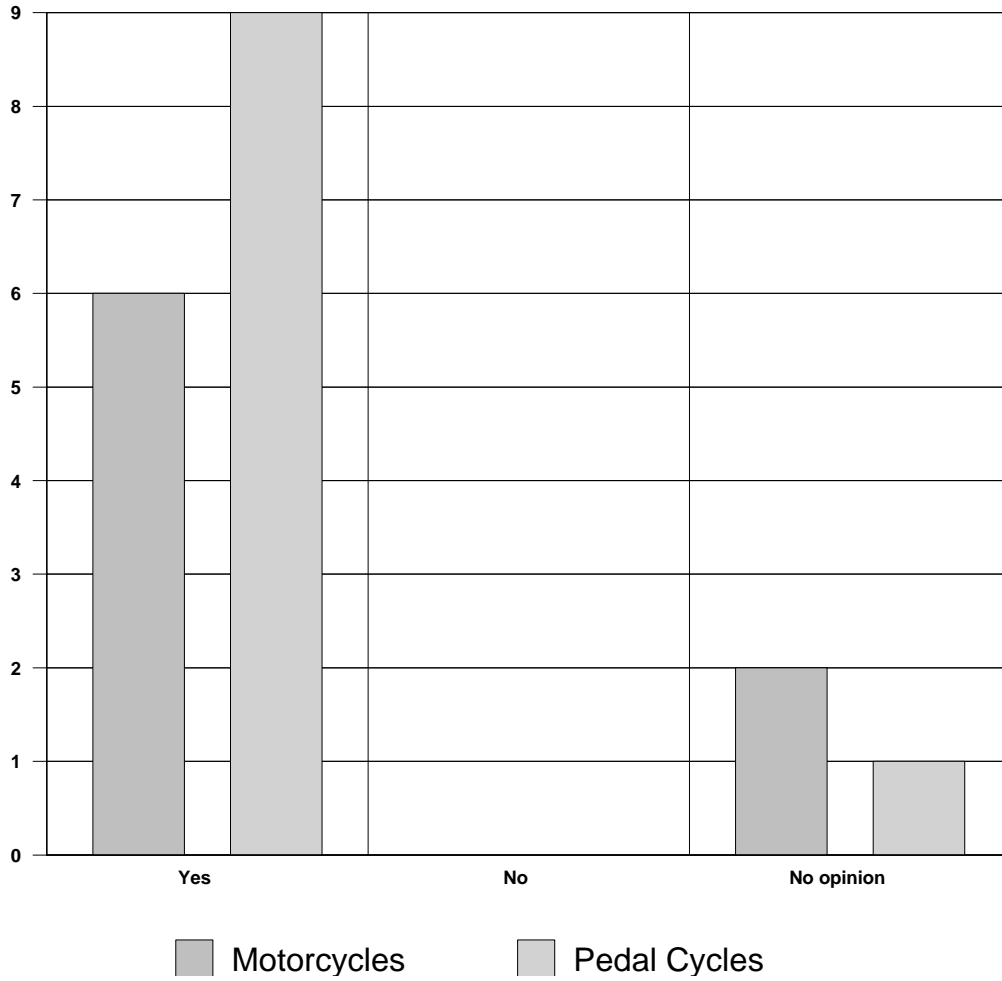
Q1 Do you think there are enough car parking spaces for tourists in the District generally?



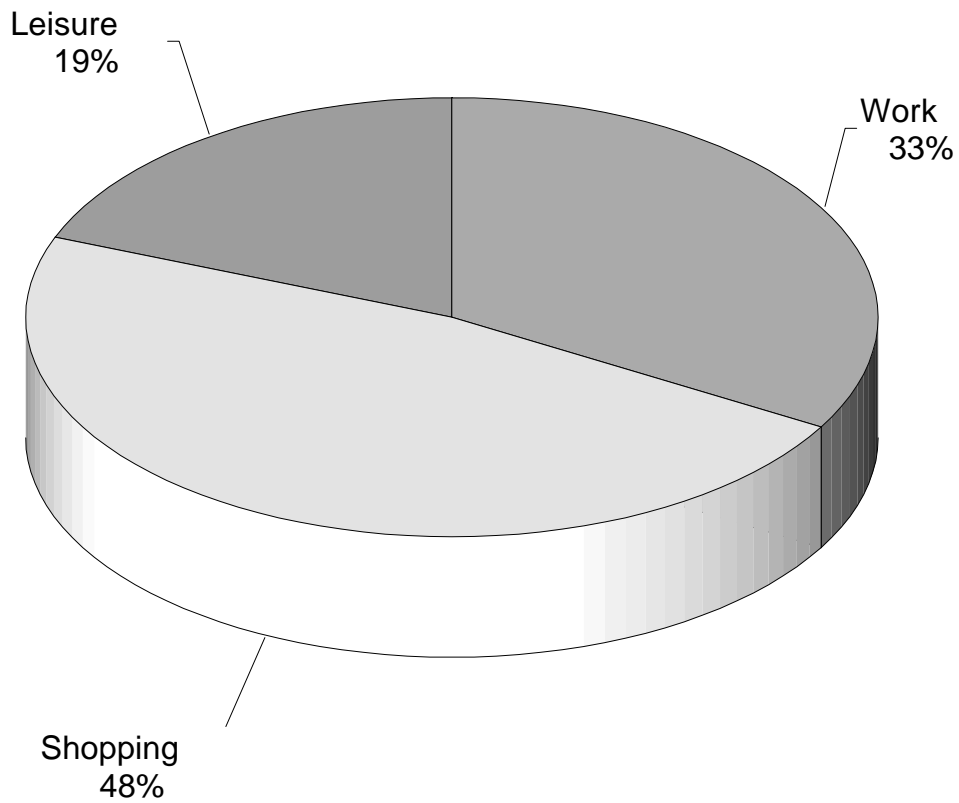
Q2 Do you think there are enough long stay spaces in Hadleigh, Sudbury and Lavenham?



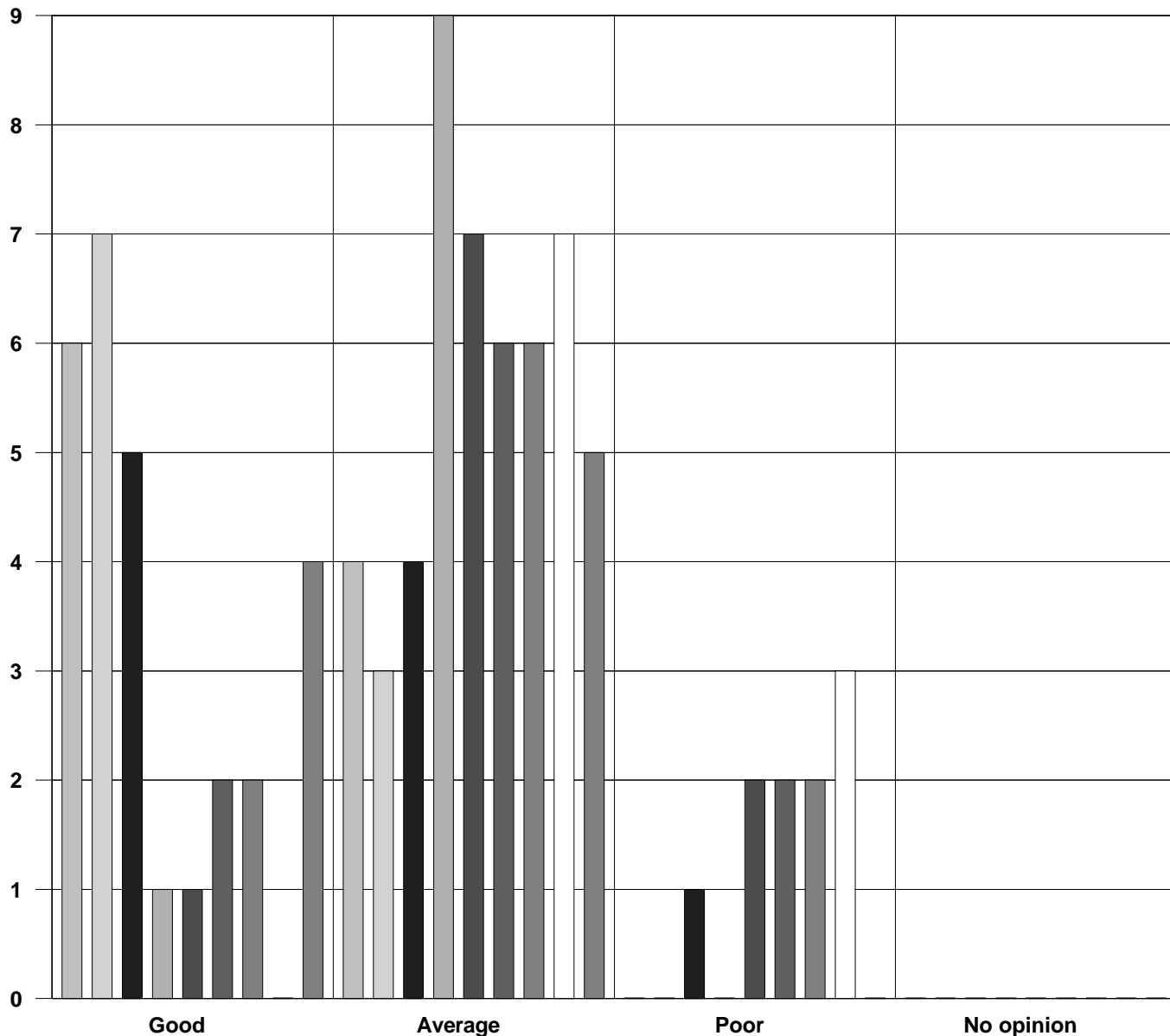
Q3 Would you like to see dedicated parking spaces for:



Q4 Do you have a view on the main reason for public's use of the off-street car parks in the district?

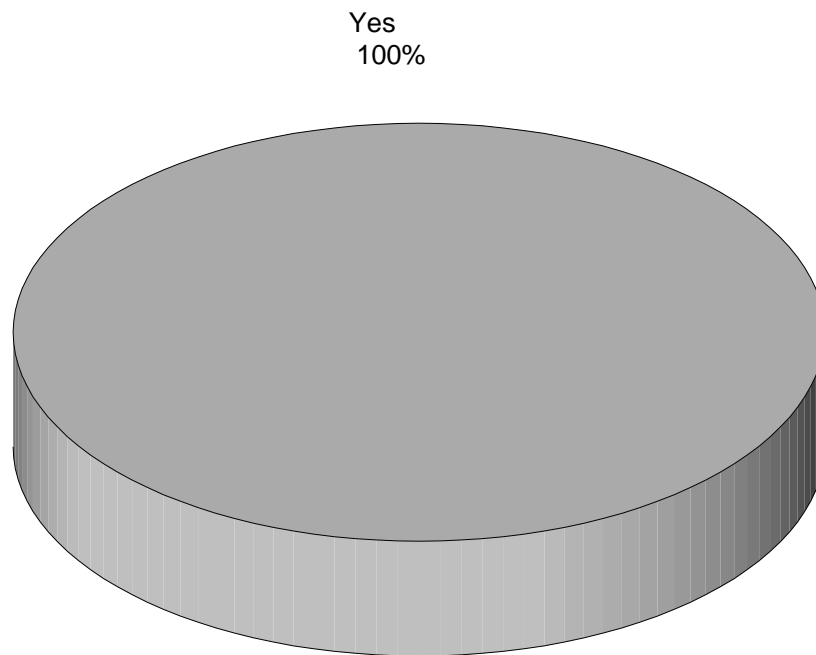


Q5 Please indicate how you rate the following in relation to the Council's car parks.



- Cleanliness
- Landscaping
- Surfacing
- Lighting
- Directional signs leading to car parks
- Information signs within car parks
- Entry/exit arrangements
- Traffic circulation
- Town centre locations

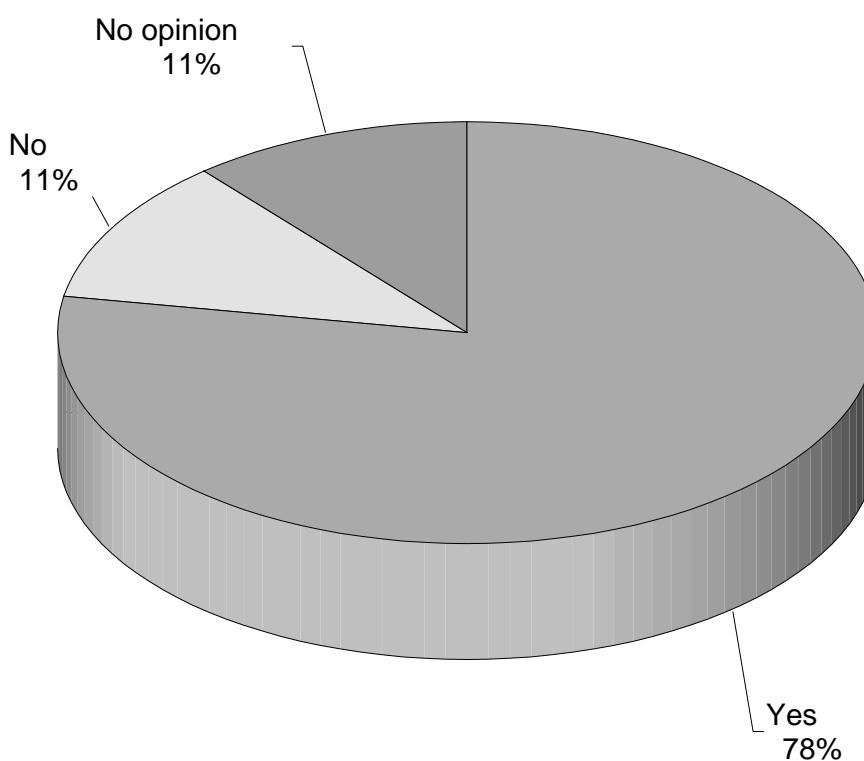
Q6 Would you like to see other information displayed in our car parks eg. town maps?



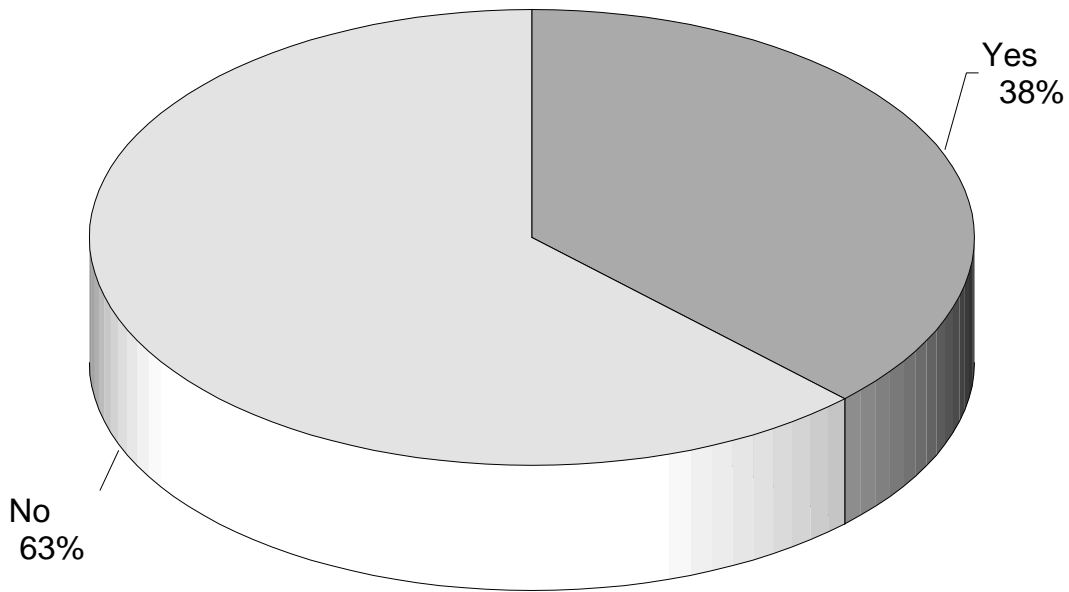
Q7 If yes, please indicate what information you feel would be helpful.

- Town maps - places of interest
- Town map and guide.
- Town maps.
- Basic town map, other car parks in case full.
- Information re. Tourist Office particularly.
- Maps and Places of Interest
- Map and Index to key points

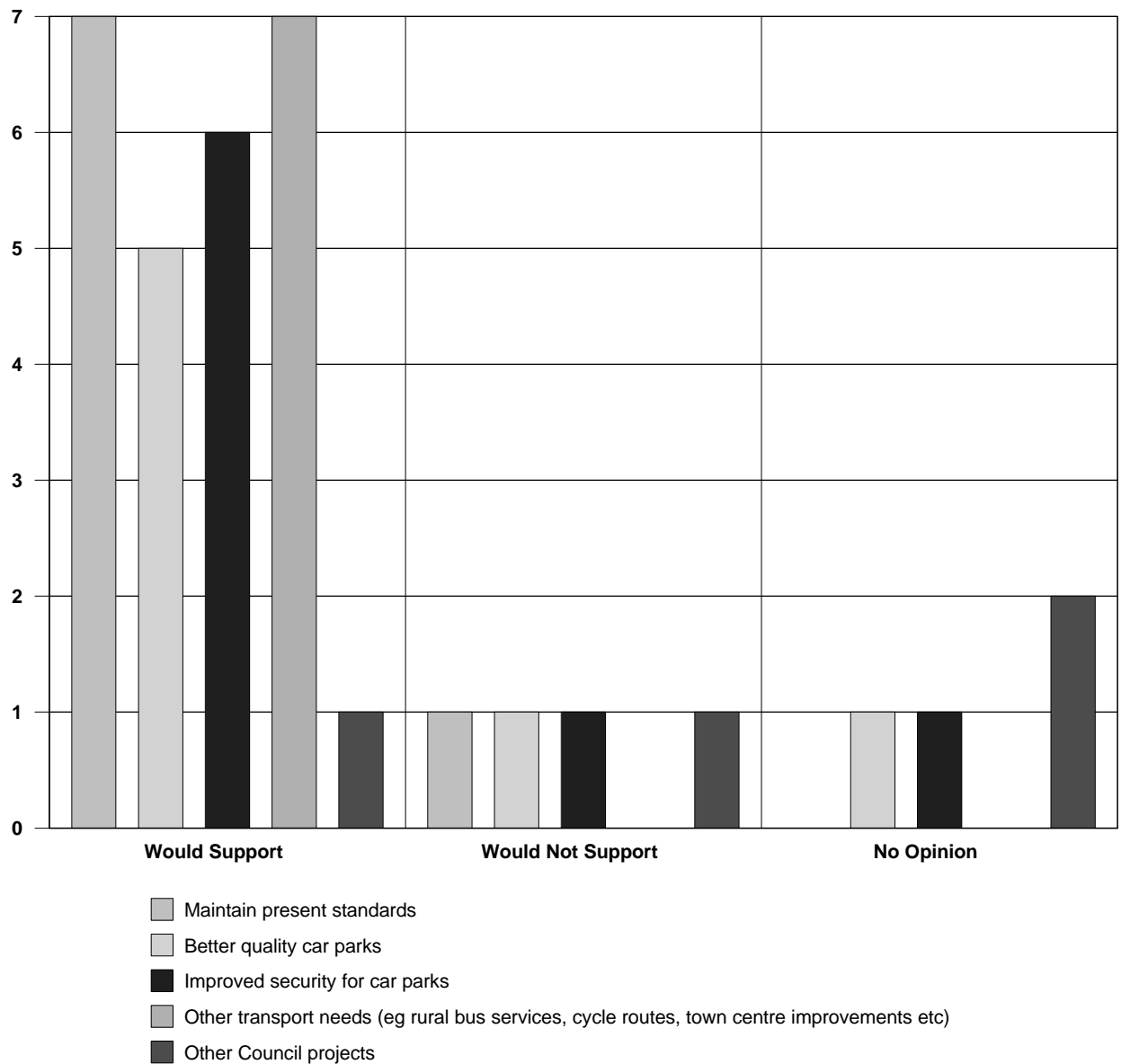
Q8 Would you like to see emergency contact points in our town centre car parks?



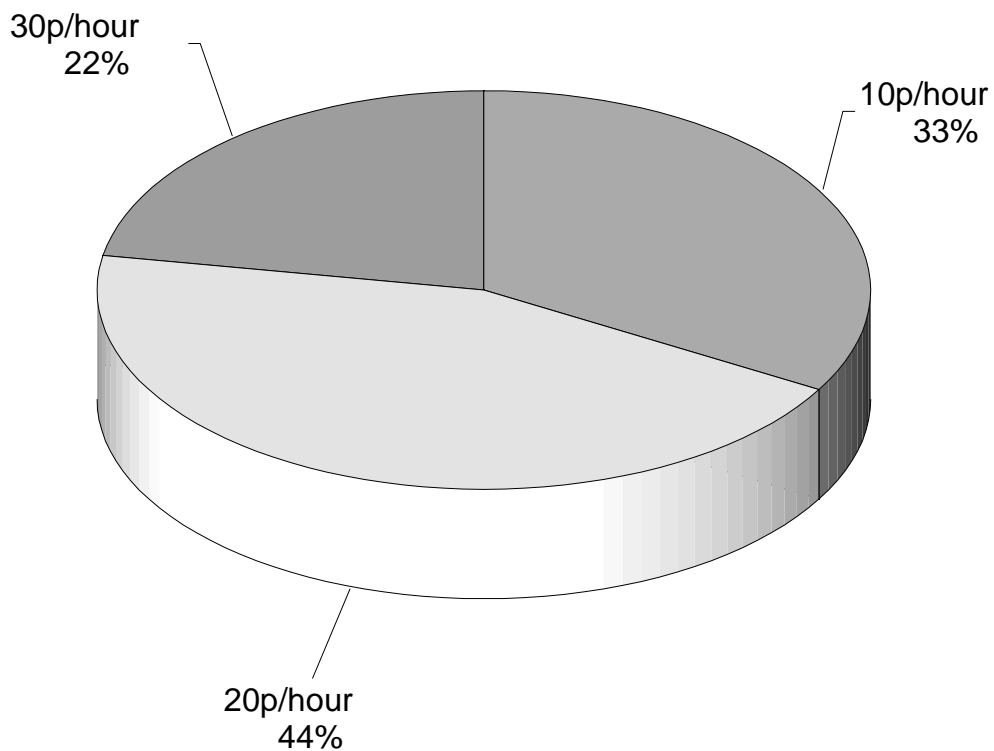
Q9 Is there enough parking provision for the disabled in our car parks?



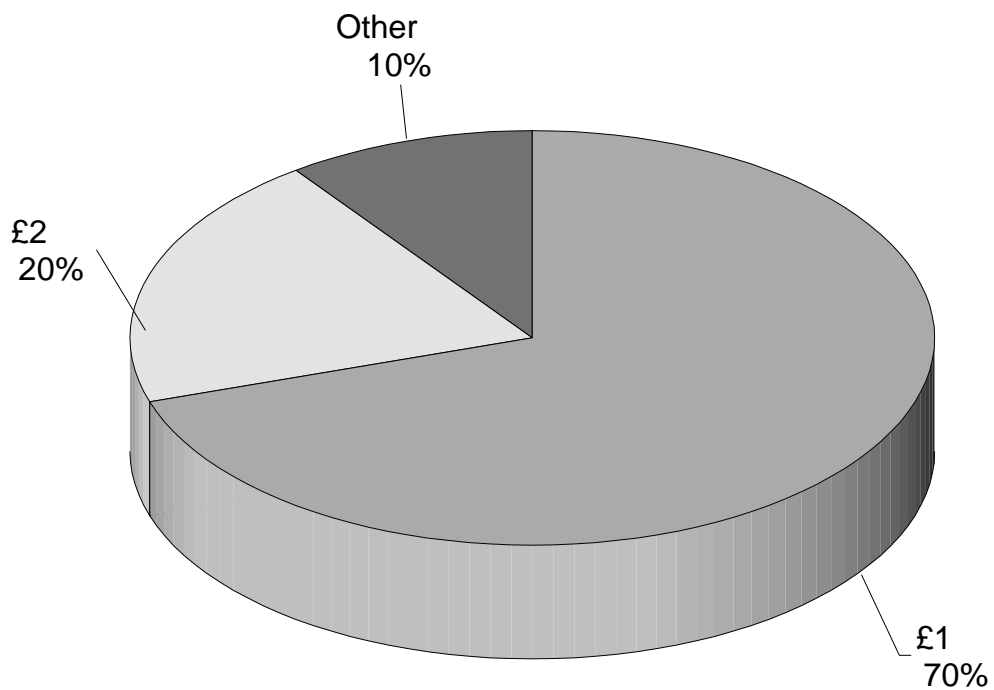
Q10 Please indicate whether you would support the following issues through raising income from parking charges.



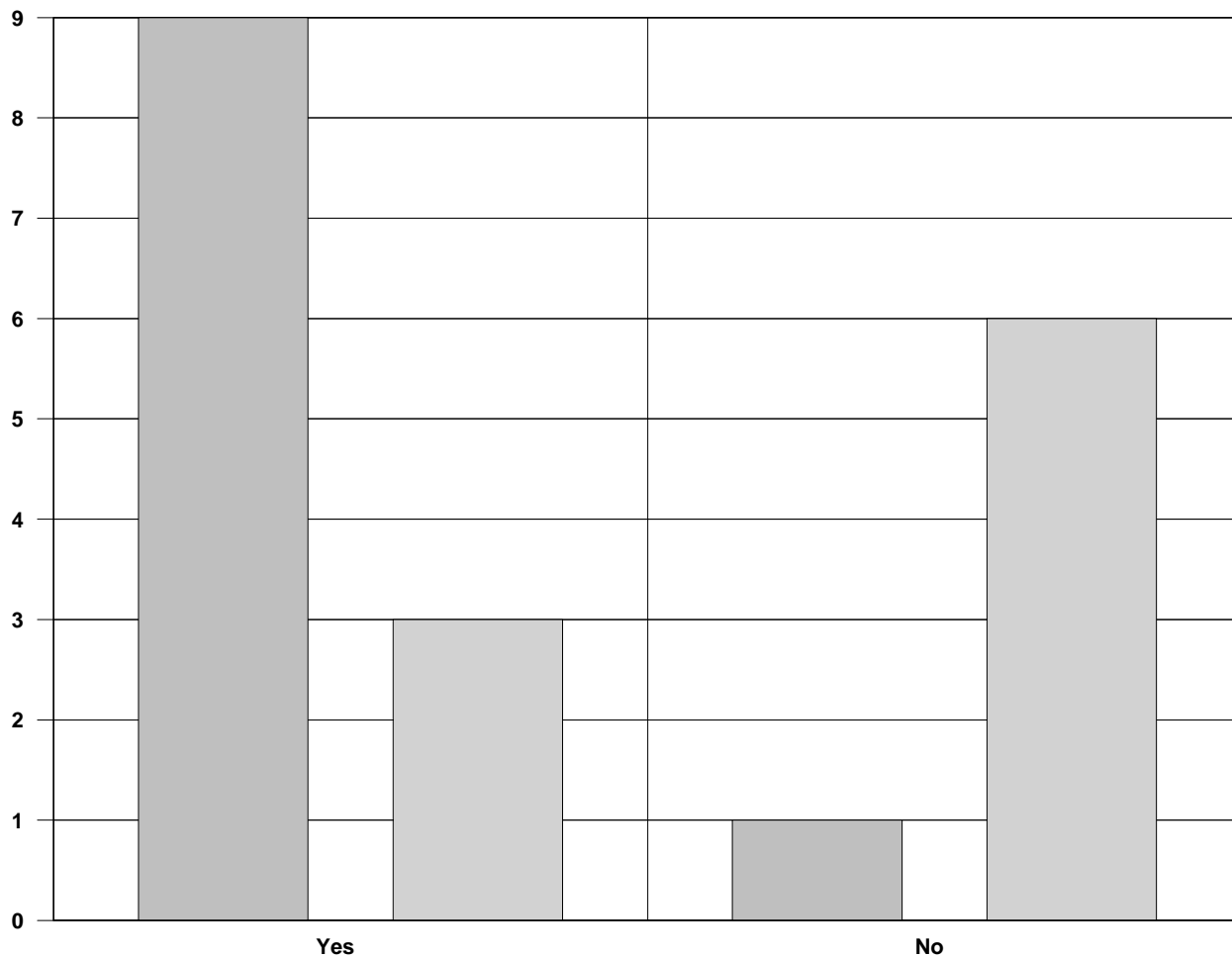
Q11 What would you consider to be a reasonable charge for short stay parking for tourists?



Q12 What would you consider to be a reasonable charge for long stay (over 4 hours) parking? (Per day)

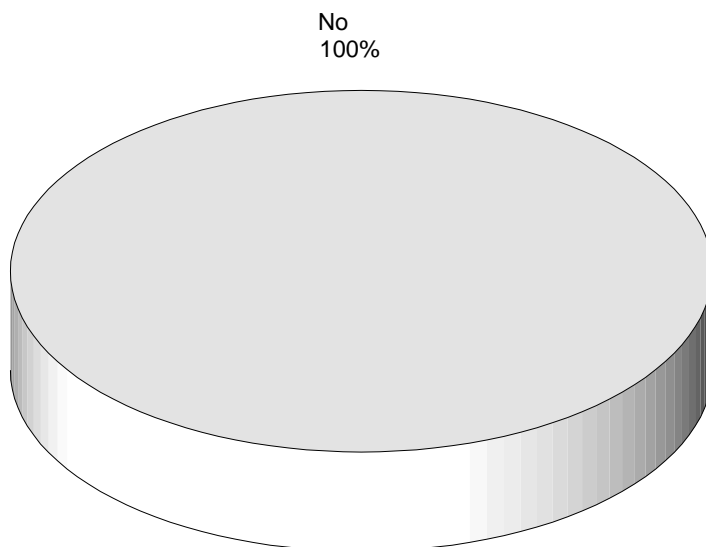


Q13 Should the following should be considered for the Centre car parks or on-street parking?



- Season tickets for car parking
- District permits for Tourists

Q14 Do you think there should be parking charges on Sundays and Bank Holidays



Q15 Are there any other comments you would like to make about our off street car parking service with regard to tourism in our District?

- I do not think permits for tourists is a good idea - it would be too cumbersome to operate and I don't think they should be treated any differently to residents.
- 60p is the maximum fee for long stay otherwise people may go elsewhere for their shopping (eg. Bury St Edmunds is 60p per long stay).
- In Lavenham, car parking charges are very likely to encourage more people to park on the street, taking spaces away from residents (unless you introduce a "residents permits zone" which means more signage and road markings) and cluttering up the street which is what we are trying to avoid.
- Sudbury is the only place that might benefit from parking charges in my opinion, cause a) there is no alternative (ie. very little on-street parking) and b) it can be very difficult to park on a Saturday, so a charge might make people stay for a shorter time (but that won't be so good for the local traders!).
- Hadleigh parking is not very good (not enough spaces).
- I do think that car parking charges have to be considered in conjunction with double yellow lines on the streets - we don't want to see the streets full of parked cars and the car parks empty, which is the situation we have in East Bergholt.
- Are charges absolutely necessary? People are always pleasantly surprised when they don't have to pay ('feel good factor').
- If tourist numbers continue to rise in Lavenham, it may be an idea to restrict parking in certain residential areas at peak times (ie. Sundays, BH in season) to avoid friction with homeowners. Parking in the Market Square, Lavenham could also be limited to disabled/elderly visitors, those with children and short stay as many older visitors have problems walking from bus drop off points at the church.
- I am against car park charges. It is something very positive for Sudbury and I feel sure it will not be good for the town. Visitors may well not call into the Town Centre and carry on through to Lavenham and other villages - not going to pay extra charges, if they don't need to (Although I have filled in Q.10 I am not positive regarding charges in the first place).
- We must ensure that we do not charge too high a fee as this will put tourists/residents off from staying longer in the town and therefore affecting the tourism economy. We do not want to drive people off to other districts.
- I think that the fact that we do not have charges for car parking in Sudbury is very much in Sudbury's favour - a positive selling point for the town!