

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

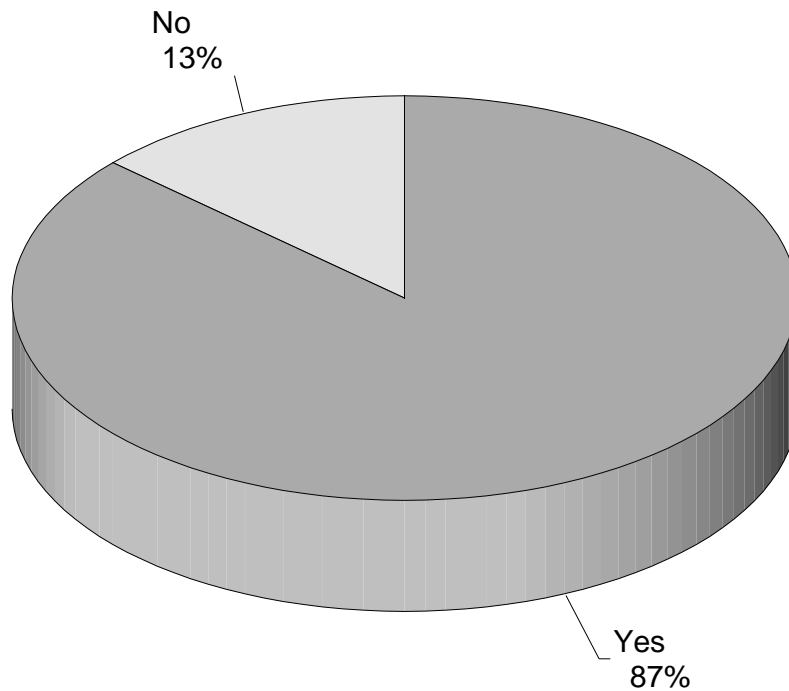
CAR PARKING SURVEY RELATING TO DISTRICT CAR PARKS GENERALLY

This questionnaire was sent to all Parish Councils - 76 in number.

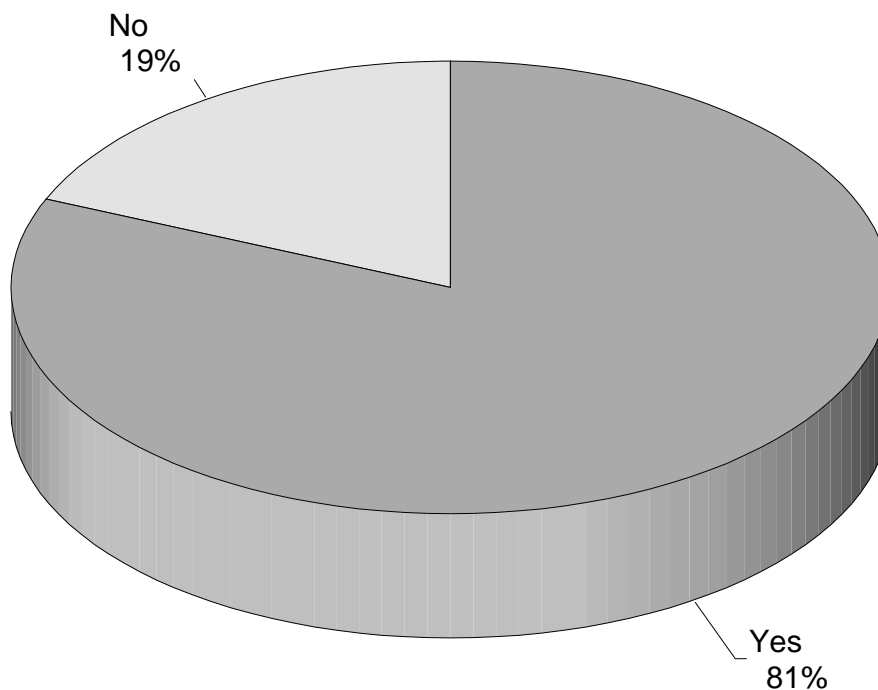
As at the end of 17 December 2001 we had received 46 responses relating to car parking generally in the district.

Listed below are the findings:-

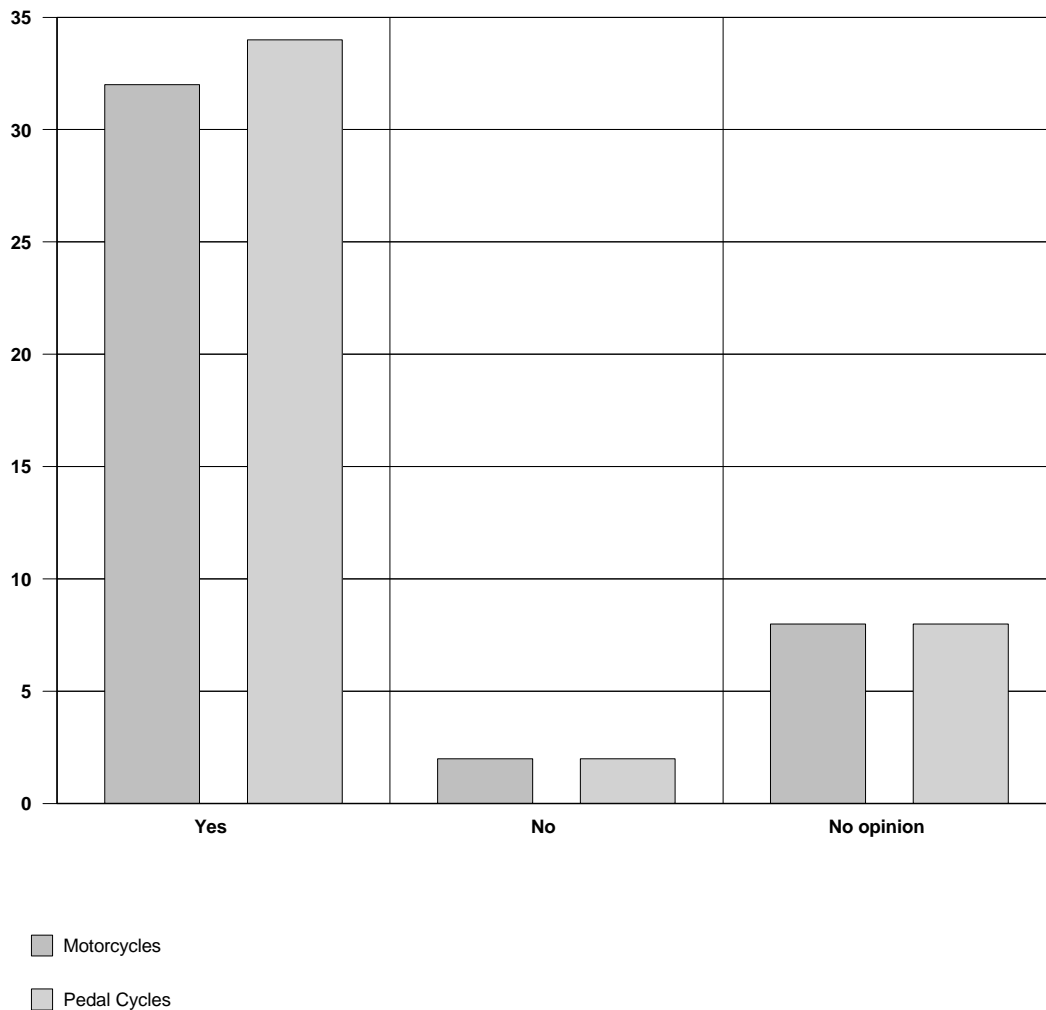
1. Do you think there are enough car parking spaces in the District generally?



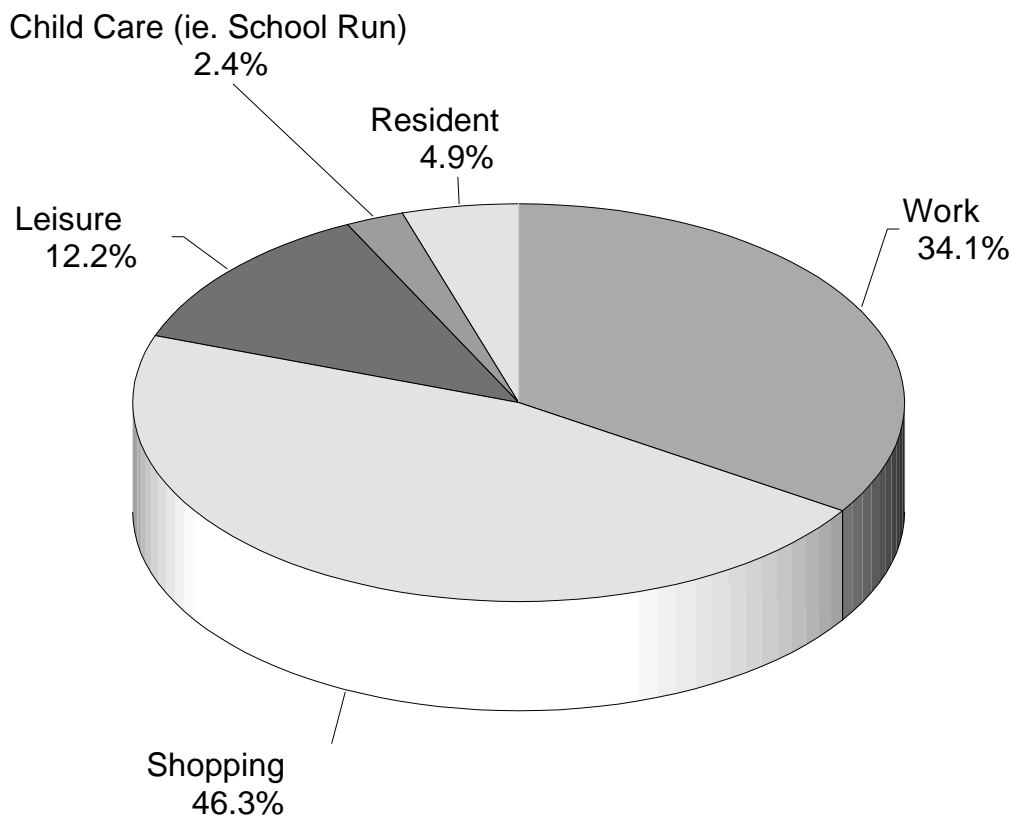
2. Do you think there are enough short stay (less than 4 hours) spaces in Hadleigh and Sudbury?



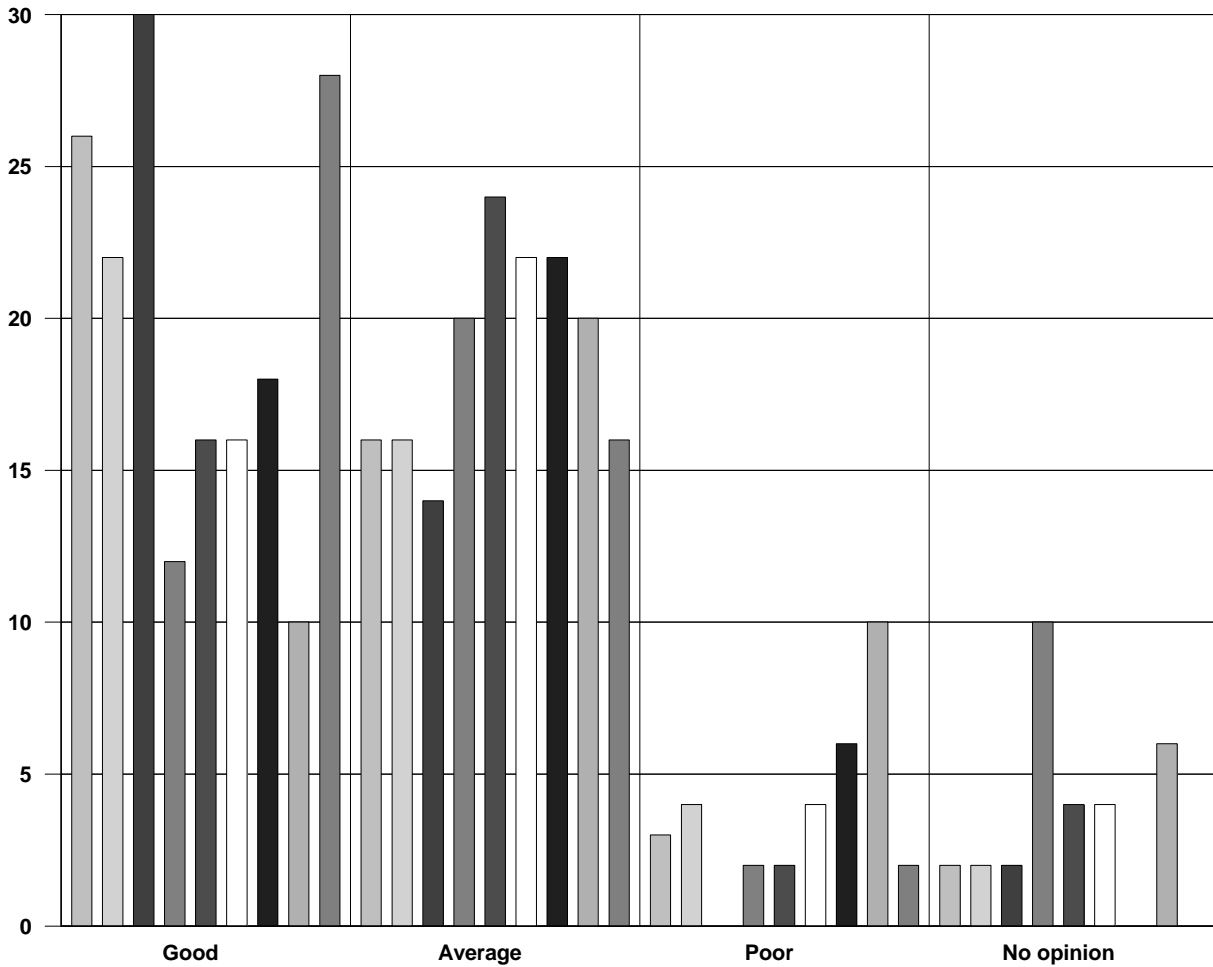
3. Would you like to see dedicated parking spaces for:



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

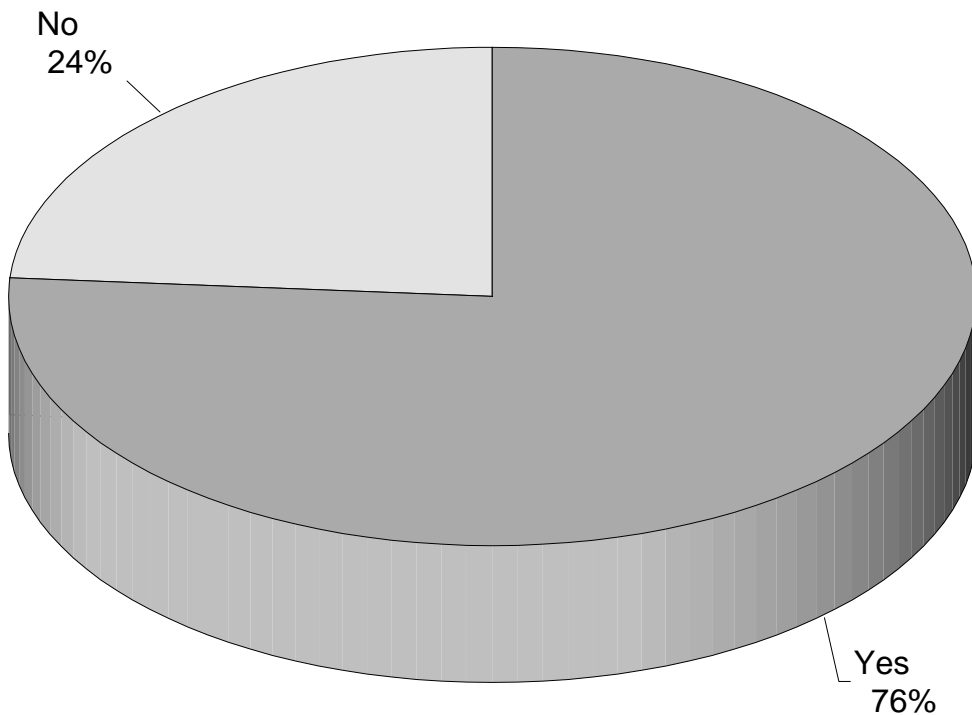


5. Please indicate how you rate the following in relation to the Council's car parks.



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

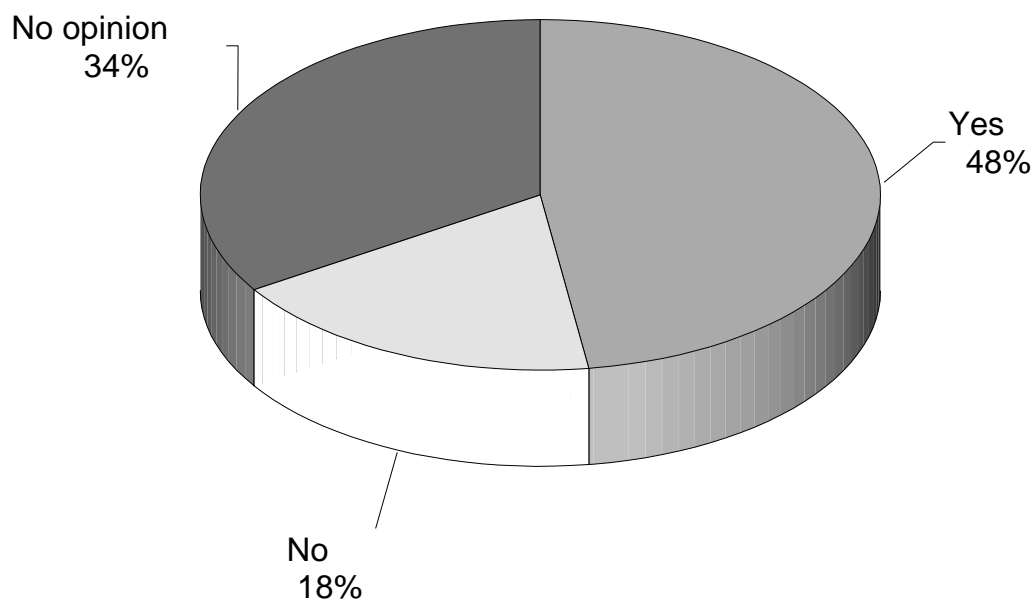
6. Would you like to see other information displayed in our car parks eg. town maps?



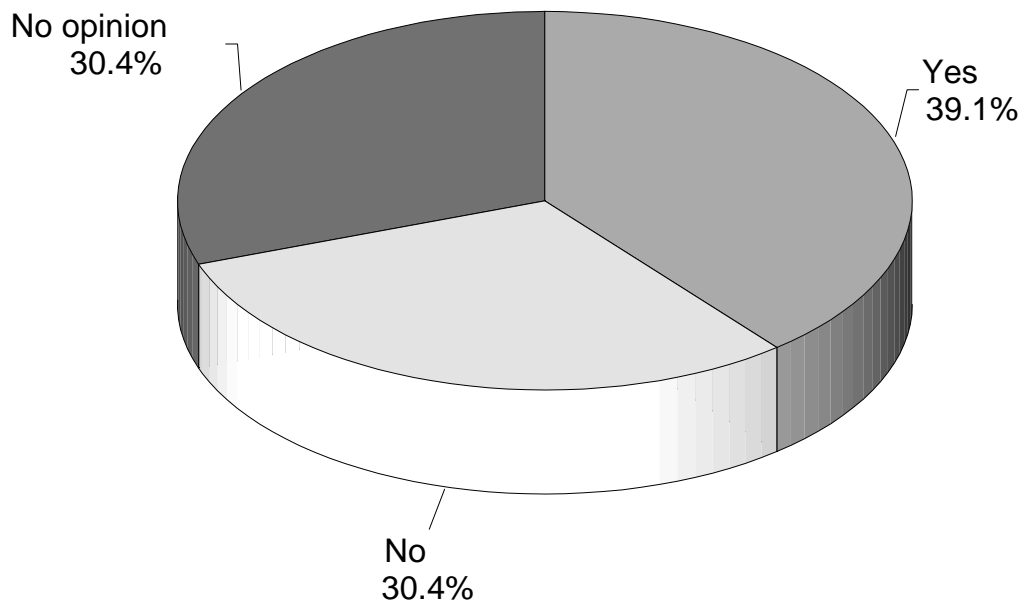
7. If yes, please indicate what information you feel would be helpful.

- SEE GROTON PC
- TOWN MAPS/INTEREST CENTRES
- TOWN MAPS/PUBLIC UTILITIES
- TOWN MAP
- COUNCIL OFFICES, LIBRARIES
- TOWN MAPS/WC
- SIGHTS/TOILETS/MAIN PLACES
- STREETS, SHOPS, WC, CAFES
- TOURIST INFORMATION
- GENERAL FOR VISITORS
- TOURIST INFO
- TOWN MAPS
- TOWN MAPS
- LOCAL BUSINESSES/INTEREST
- What to do if ticket machine is not working, some alternative on site.
- Town maps with centres of interest
- Town maps, public utilities
- Town map
- Council offices, libraries etc.
- Town maps, public conveniences
- Sights/toilets/main places of interest
- Streets, shops, toilets, cafes
- Tourist Information
- General - for visitors
- Tourist information
- Town maps - major attractions
- Town maps
- Local business and places of interest

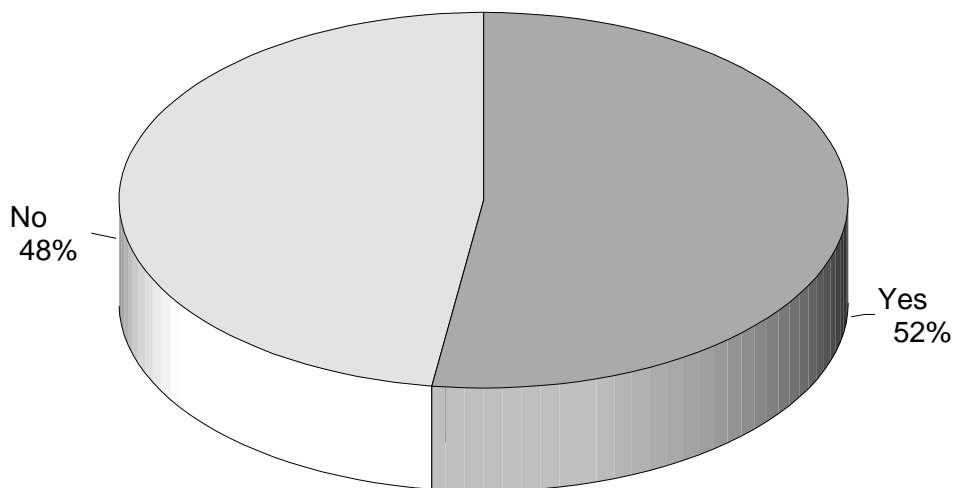
8. Would you like to see emergency contact points in our town centre car parks?



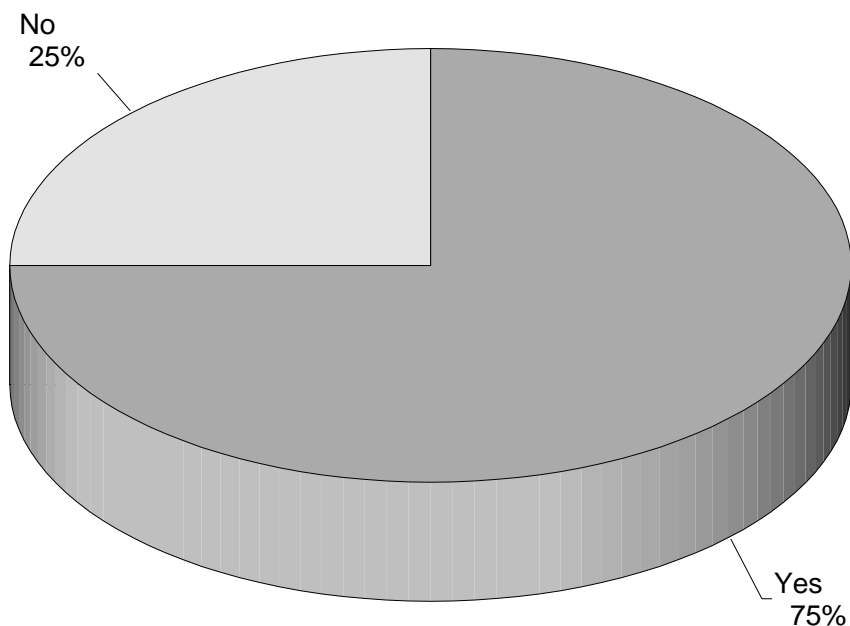
9. Is there enough parking provision for the disabled in our car parks?



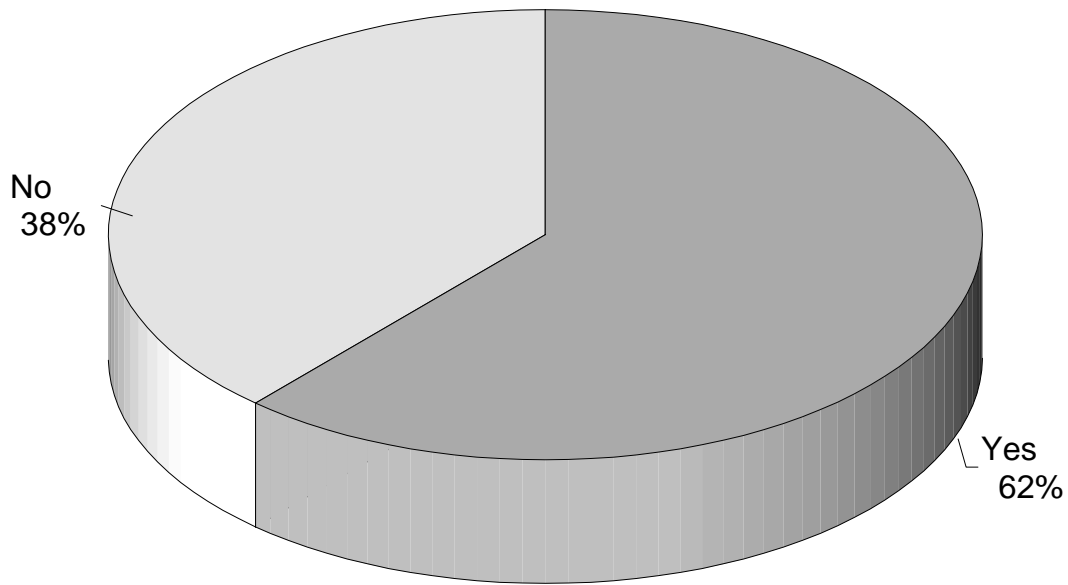
10. Were you aware of the level of spending on the Council's car parks, as set out in the accompanying letter?



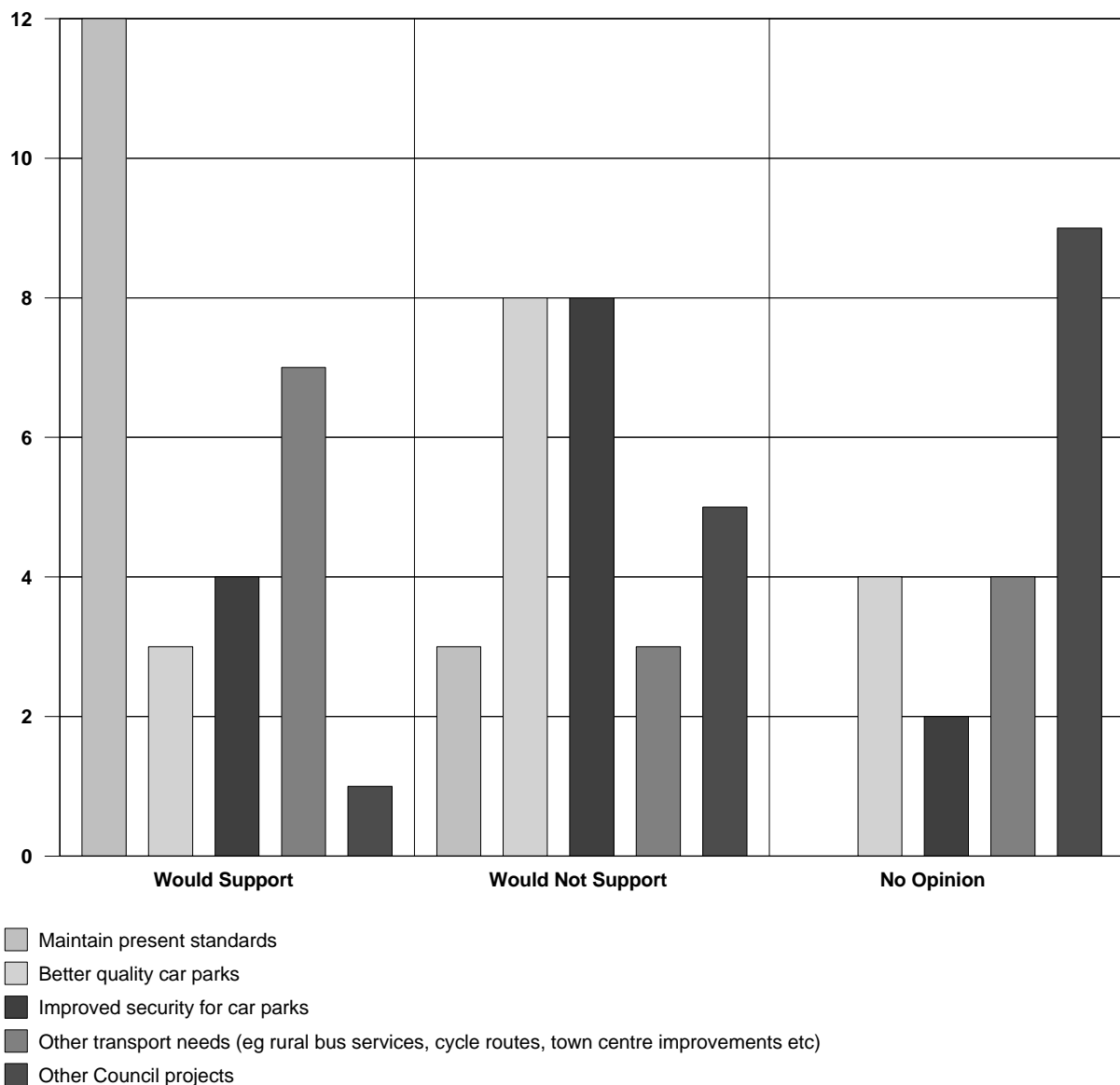
11. Are you happy for these costs to continue to be met by Council Tax payers?



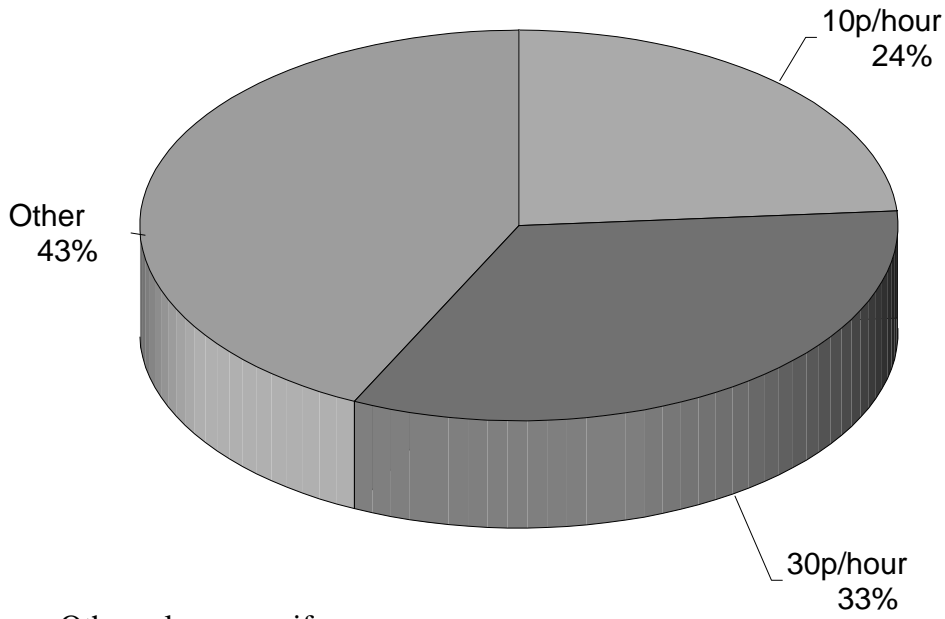
12. If no to question 11, would you support meeting these costs through car parking charges?



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



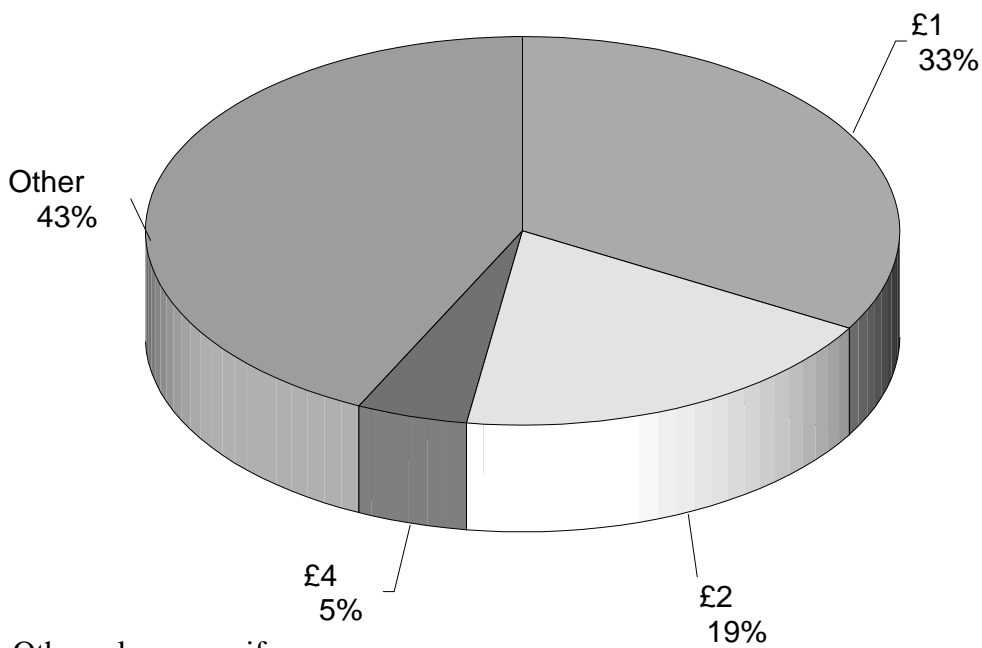
14. What would you consider to be a reasonable charge for short stay parking?



Other, please specify:-

- Free
- None
- No charge
- 50p / hour

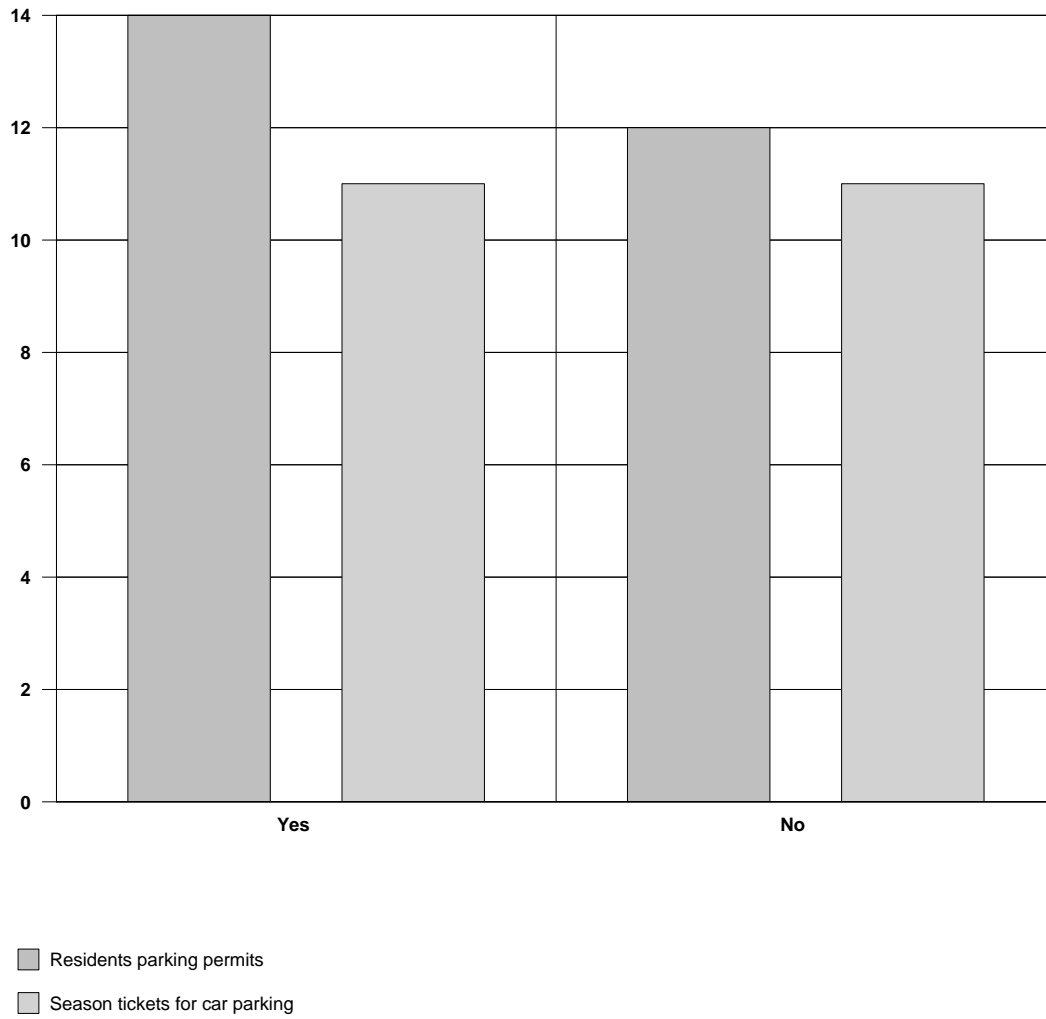
15. What would you consider to be a reasonable charge for long stay (over 4 hours) parking? (Per day)



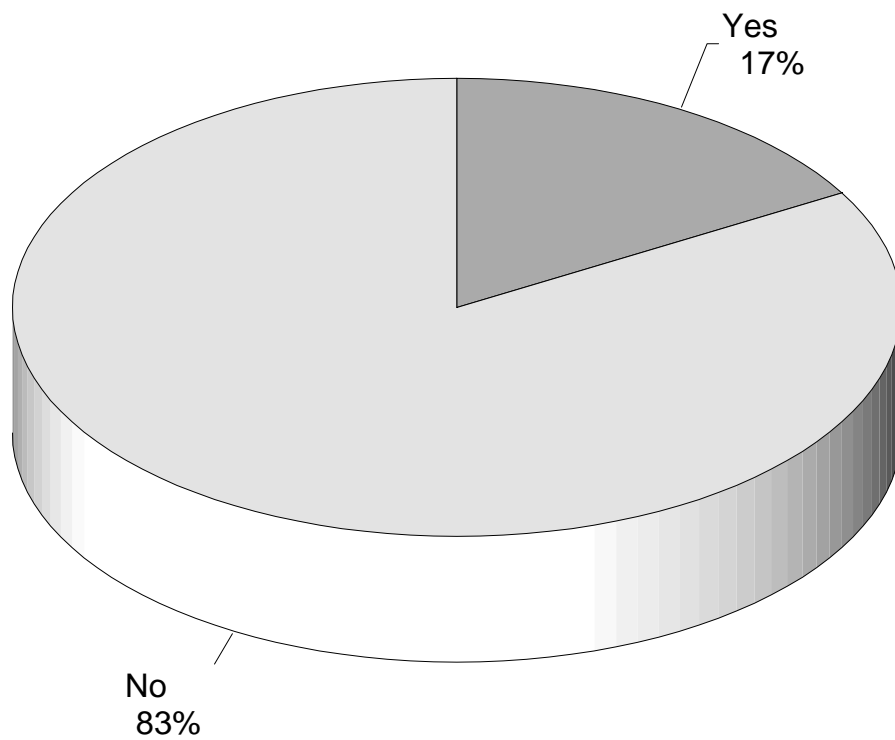
Other, please specify:-

- Free
- None
- No charge
- £5 / day

16. Do you think the following should be considered for the Centre car parks or on-street parking?



17. Do you think there should be parking charges on Sundays and Bank Holidays?



Are there any other comments you would like to make about our off street car parking service?

- Q.17 - If there is no charge on these days there'd be no need to pay an employee overtime (we assume you do pay extra for un social hours). There are plenty of car parks already and people start complaining about lack of parking on the run up to Christmas. Perhaps more businesses with own parking could be personalised to open up their car parks and weekends near Christmas, when they would normally stand empty. No reason why a car parking charge couldn't be made and given back to the business.
- Bad positioning of ticket machine Magdalen Road, should be High Street exit, Hadleigh. Market traders take up all road parking on Friday in Hadleigh Market Place.
- This needs to be better controlled and illegal parking particularly at the florists opposite the Co-op eliminated. Facilities need to be made to turnaround in the High Street. Extend High Street free parking further along the street. But do not introduce parking charges as this will kill Hadleigh (even the existing restrictions seem to be a waste of money) and if the salaries of the people who keep your machines filled with sticky labels (and the cost of labels!) and the cost of inefficient wardens - then you will not have to think of introducing charges.
- Members of the Council were unanimous in their opinion that parking should be free at point of use in Babergh. The appeal of smaller towns such as Sudbury and Hadleigh over larger centres such as Colchester and Ipswich is related to ease of access and parking. Any change in this situation is likely to have a detrimental effect on trading.
- We think there should be "No Parking" restrictions applied to Lavenham High St as it is difficult to negotiate through cars parked in some areas on both sides of the road especially as there are regular buses and other heavy traffic going up and down the hill. We also consider parking on the Market Sq, Lavenham, should be banned or at least restricted as the appearance of the area, especially the Guild Hall, is spoilt. Again we feel parking should not be allowed in Benton St Hadleigh from a safety point of view. Parking in Bildeston High St should also be reviewed, especially on the bends. Obviously provision must be made for disabled parking. We would like to see parking in car parks to continue to be uncharged as it is a great attraction for shoppers/tourists to the towns offering it. We do not agree with the argument that non-car owners are subsidising car-owners as the same could be said of many of the facilities paid for or subsidised out of Council tax, eg theatres swimming pool
- If charges for parking are brought in, it could well have adverse effect on income to the shops. Hadleigh is such a friendly place - don't change it. All the expansion of house building in Hadleigh will cause more pressure on car parking.
- Acton Parish Council thinks it would be very wrong to introduce car parking charges in Sudbury at this time. It is very important to everyone living in this area that Sudbury remains a viable Market Town. Sudbury has suffered dreadfully from recent roadworks and there is still the Ballingdon Bridge work to come. Nothing else should be done to deter people coming in to Sudbury. Whilst logically it would still be cheaper to travel to Sudbury and pay to park rather than to travel further away and pay to park the public do not always think logically. Sudbury needs to keep all the advantages it has.
- Not enough long term spaces in Magdalen Road. Ticket machine in Magdalen Road should be at the 1st point of entry.
- More long term for Hadleigh
- The dangers related to town centre car park charges are that they could drive people away from the town centre shops to peripheral shopping centres such as Tesco or Focus. Some thought should be given to the herringbone car park in the town centre. Through traffic is continually held up by cars having to reverse out onto the traffic flow, causing bad delays through the town.
- There should be no charge for parking in the town.
- You can raise extra money by not giving Babergh pay rises. Suffolk County Council could provide more money for local amenities if they didn't give themselves pay rises in 1999. They awarded themselves 12%. NB 'Childcare' should not feature on this form as it's not a man's problem.
- A charge of 10p/hour would offset the £150 p.a. per parking space presently quoted for car park maintenance. But the associated machine maintenance, provision of change, theft risk and so on would make such a charge nonsensical. The present regime is excellent and serves residents and

visitors well, bringing trade to Hadleigh and Sudbury where it is needed. Uncertainty over procedure when ticket machines are out of action may need to be addressed. Some parking fines have been incurred when it has not been possible to obtain a ticket, not to wait until the machine fault is rectified.

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