

# Membership Meeting 2016

Durham County Scout Council



# Welcome and Agenda

- Welcome and Apologies
- Constitution amendment
- County Satisfaction Survey
- Update on the County Strategy
- Question and Answers
- Refreshments



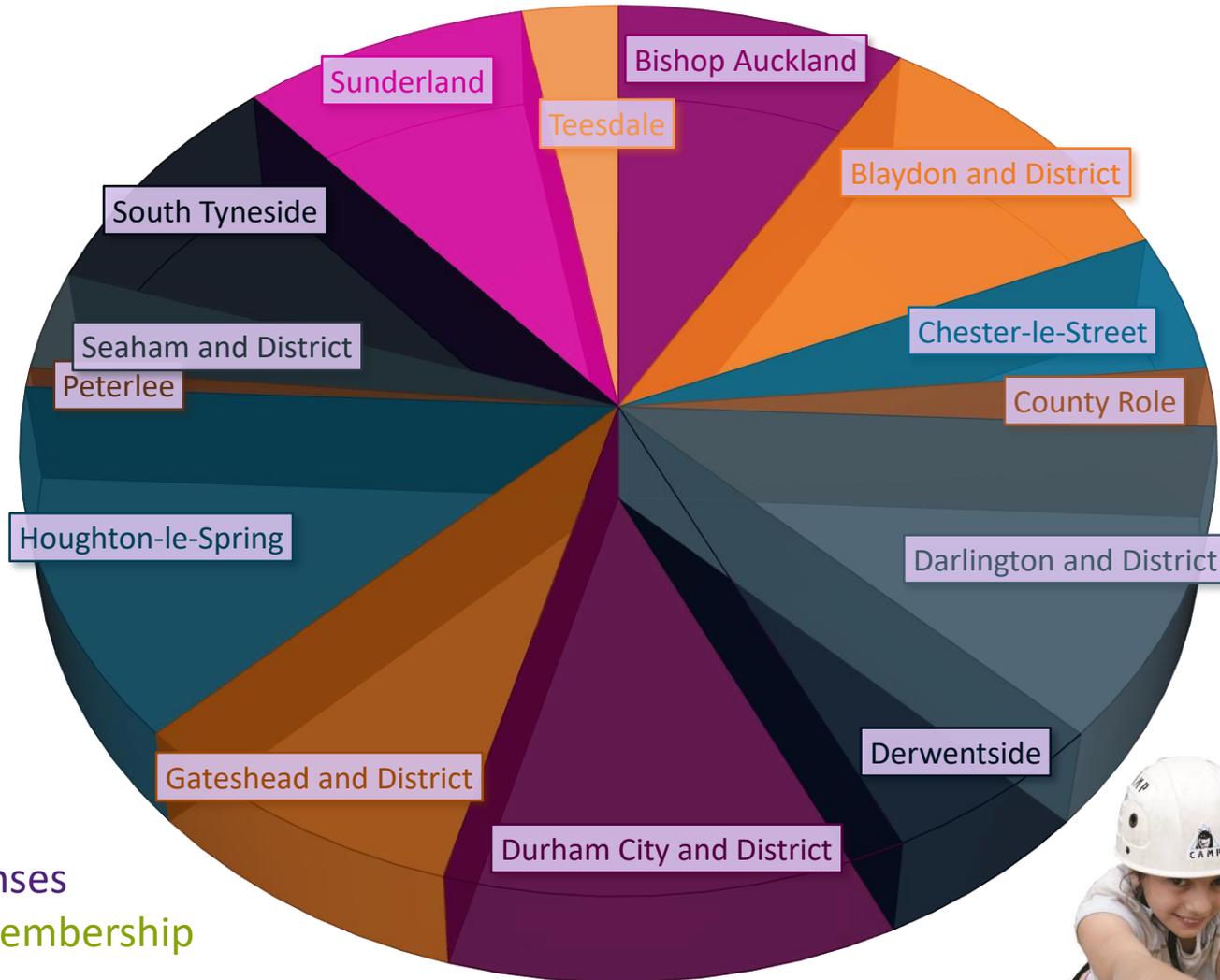
# Constitutional Amendment

# Constitutional Amendment

- An error has been spotted in the Constitution agreed at the last AGM
  - The footnote reference to POR 5.33(a) should refer to 5.35(a)
    - 5.33 (a) is intentionally blank
    - 5.35(a) covers Responsibilities of Appointments in the Scout County
- The agreement of the County Scout Council is sought to amend the error and update the constitution accordingly
- The agreement of the County Scout Council is also sought to allow the County Executive Committee to
  - Correct any such minor errors in future, without specific approval from the County Scout Council
  - Revise references to POR as required, without specific approval from the County Scout Council

# County Satisfaction Survey

# Response by District



140 responses  
~10% of membership

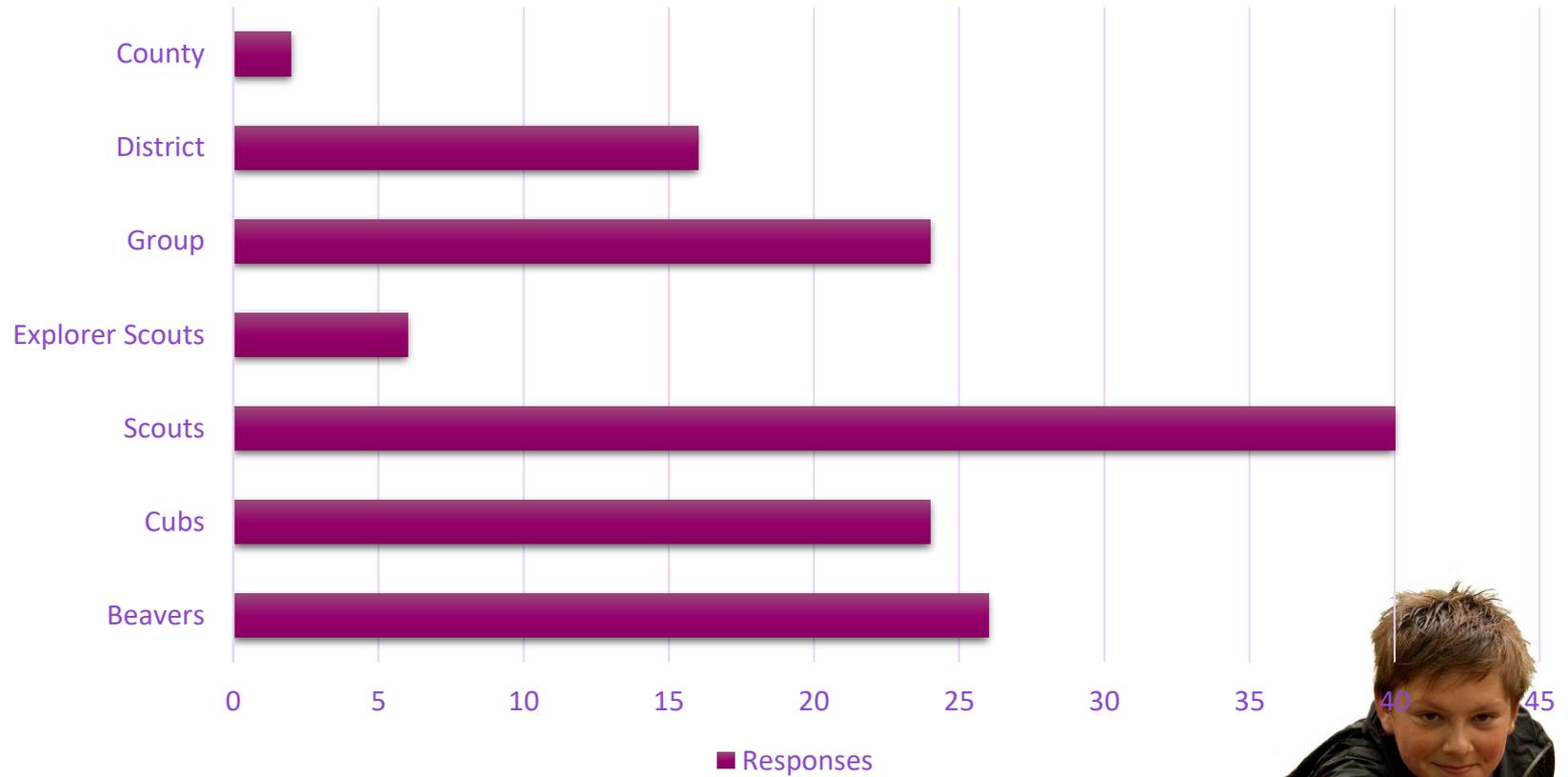


Durham Scout County



# Responses by Primary Role

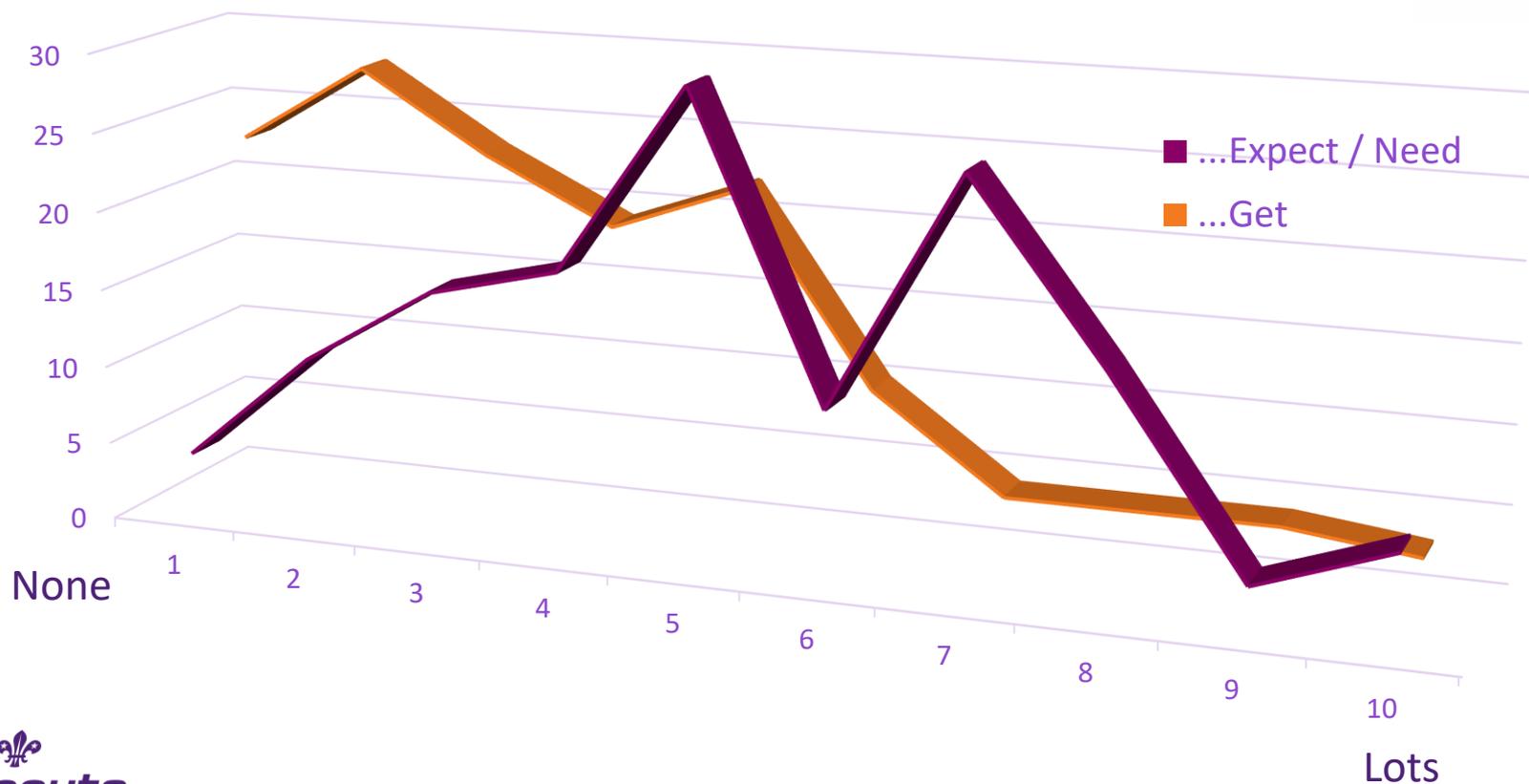
Responses



# Support Expectations vs Delivery

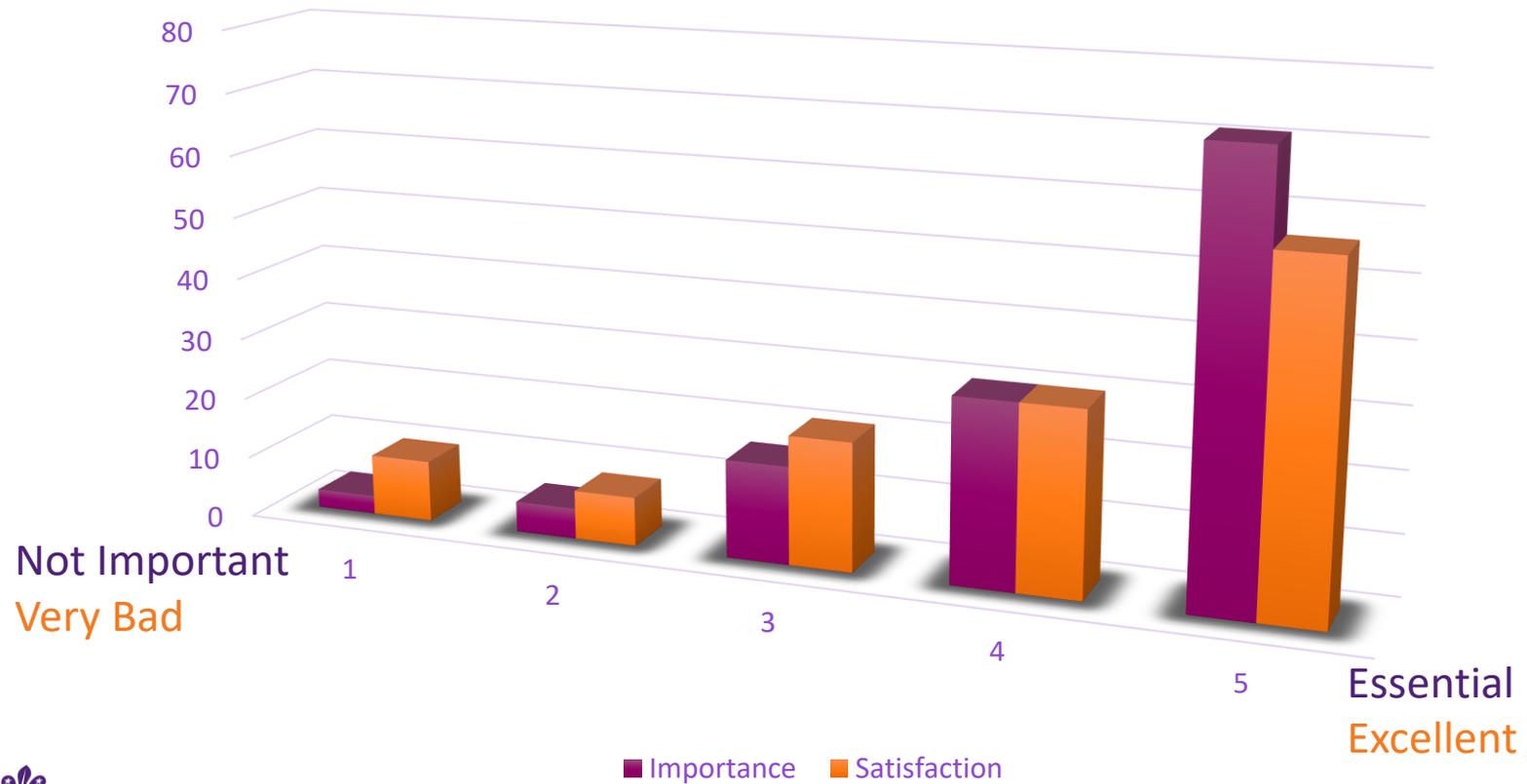


How Much County Support Do You...



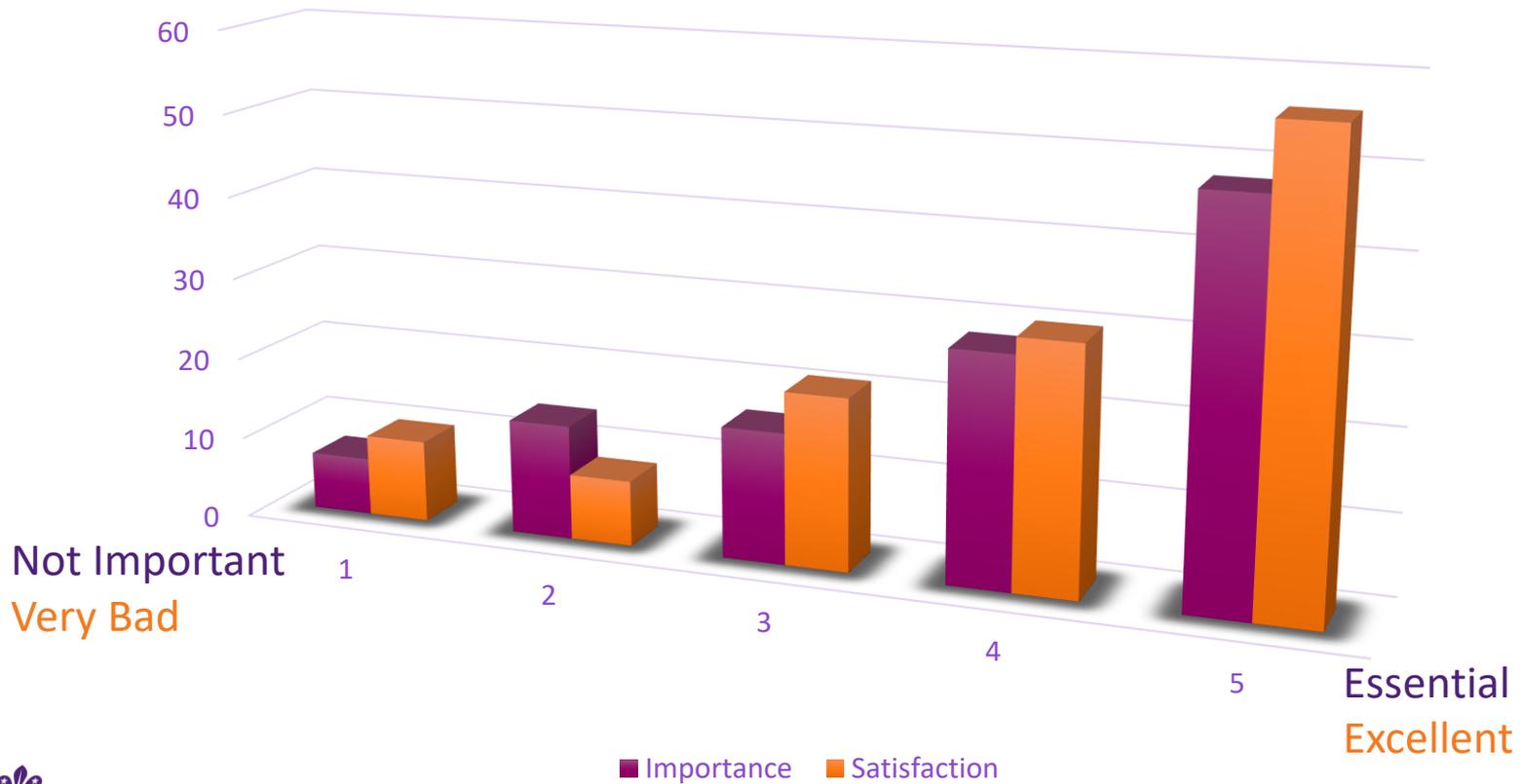
# Large County Events

## Importance vs Satisfaction



# County Competitions

## Importance vs Satisfaction



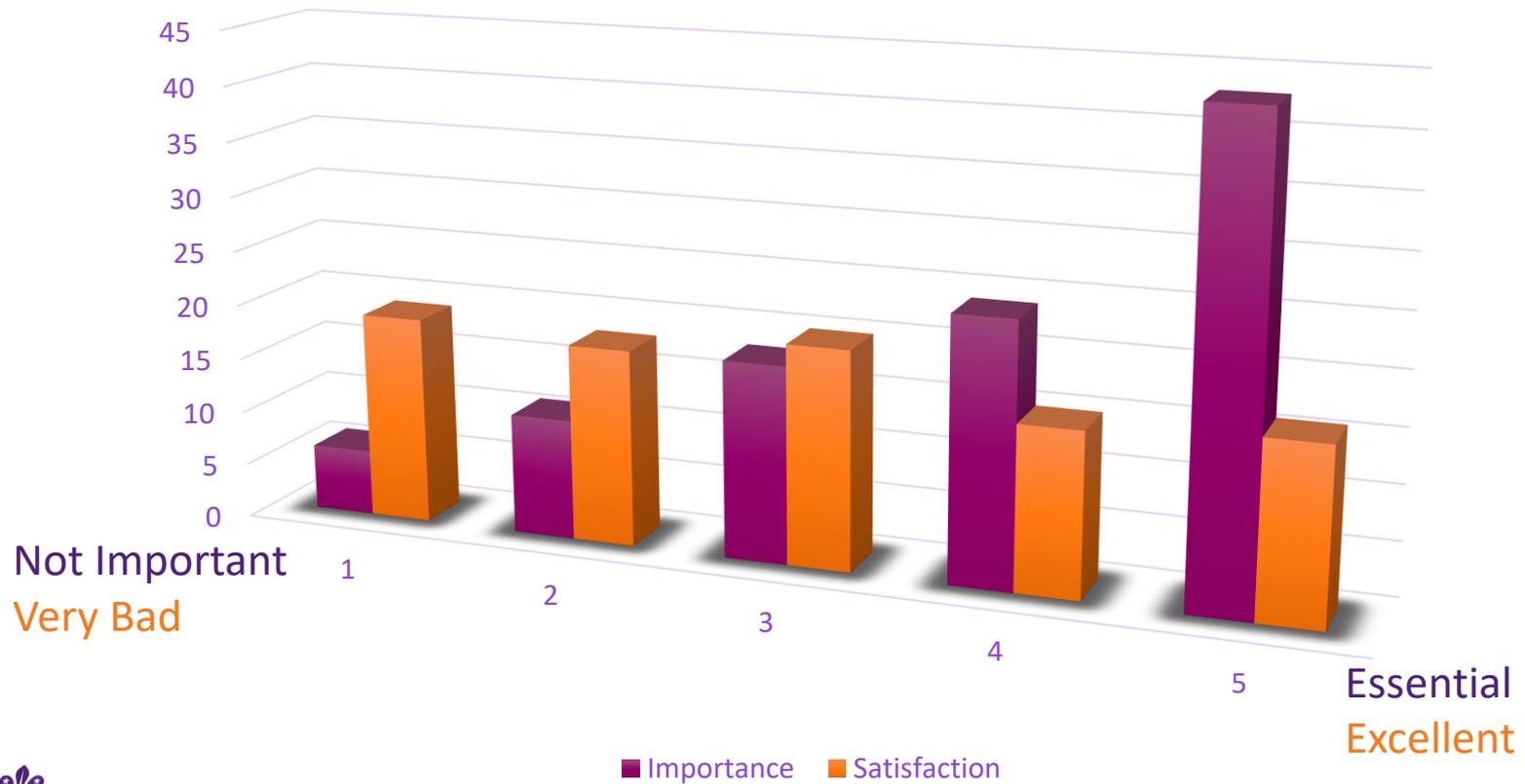
# Adult Training

## Importance vs Satisfaction



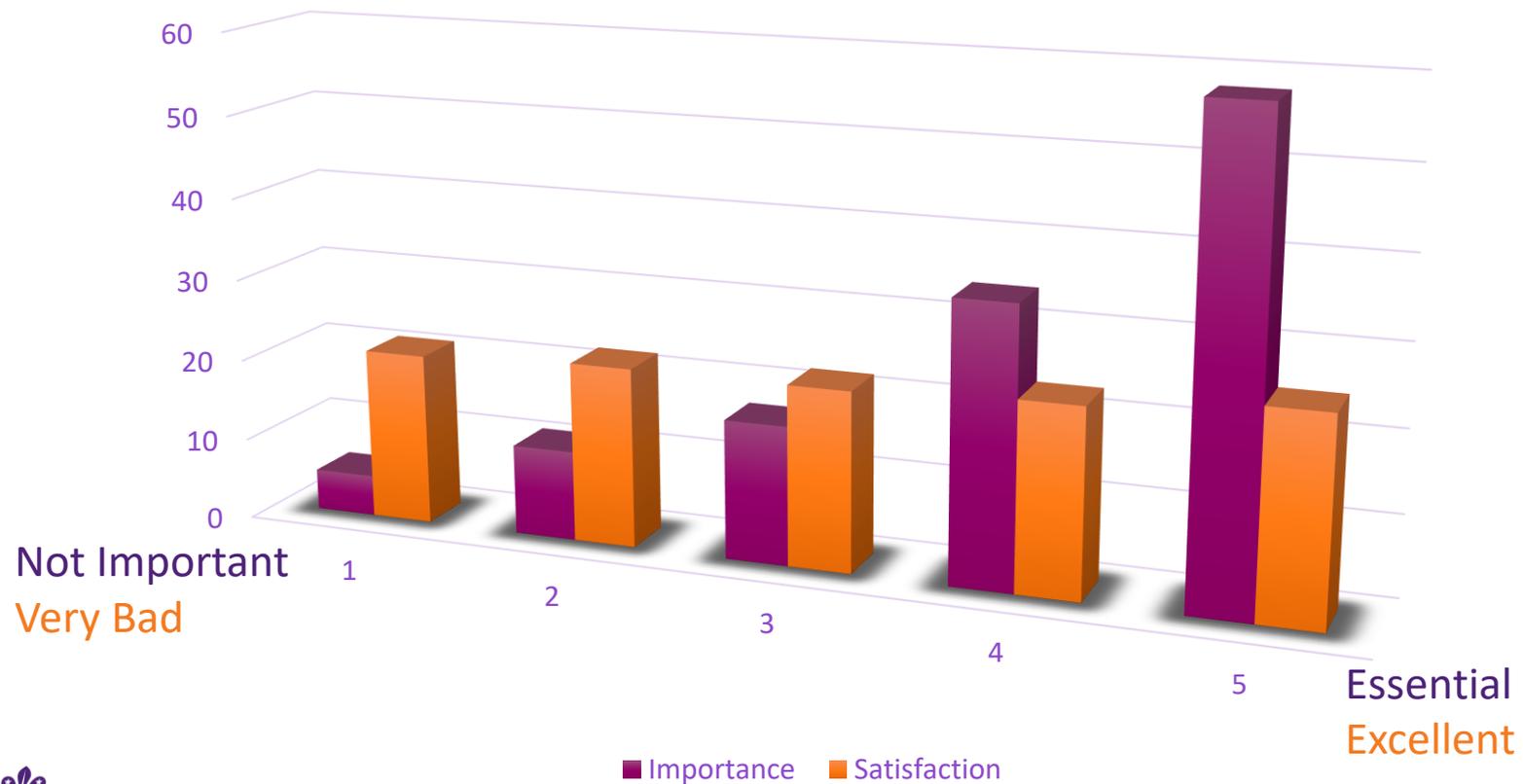
# Young Leader Training

## Importance vs Satisfaction



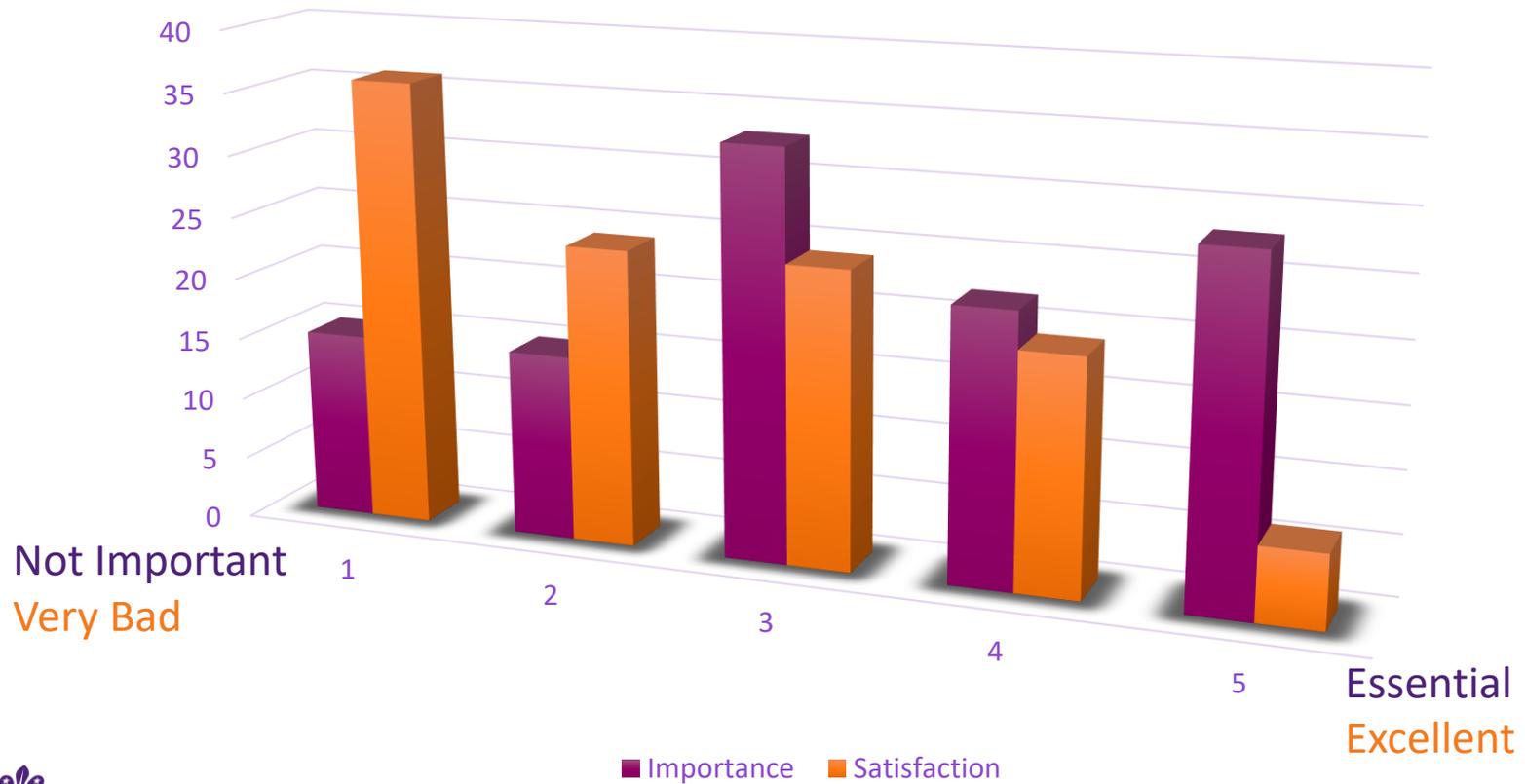
# Adventurous Activity Training and Assessment

## Importance vs Satisfaction



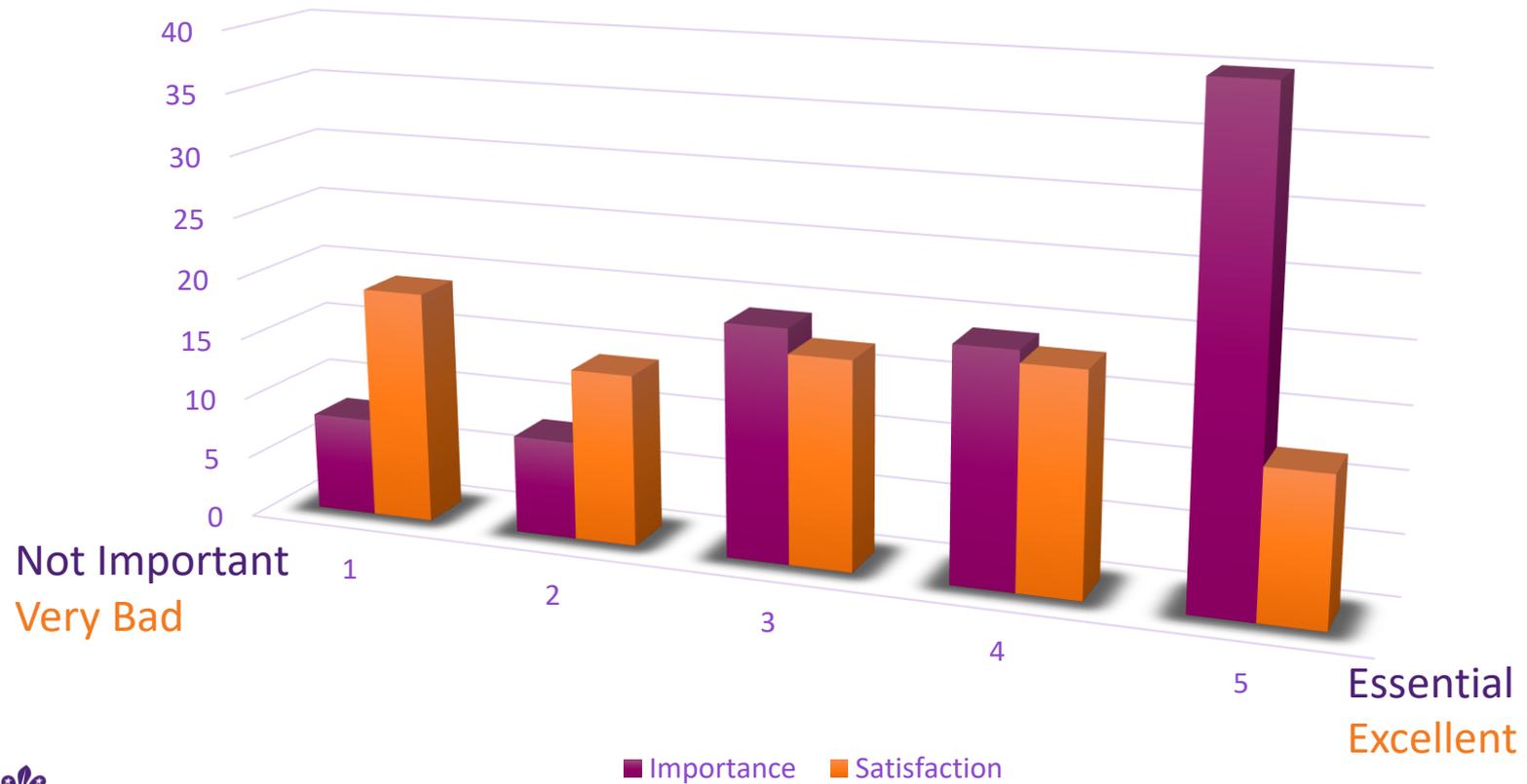
# Sectional Programme Support

## Importance vs Satisfaction



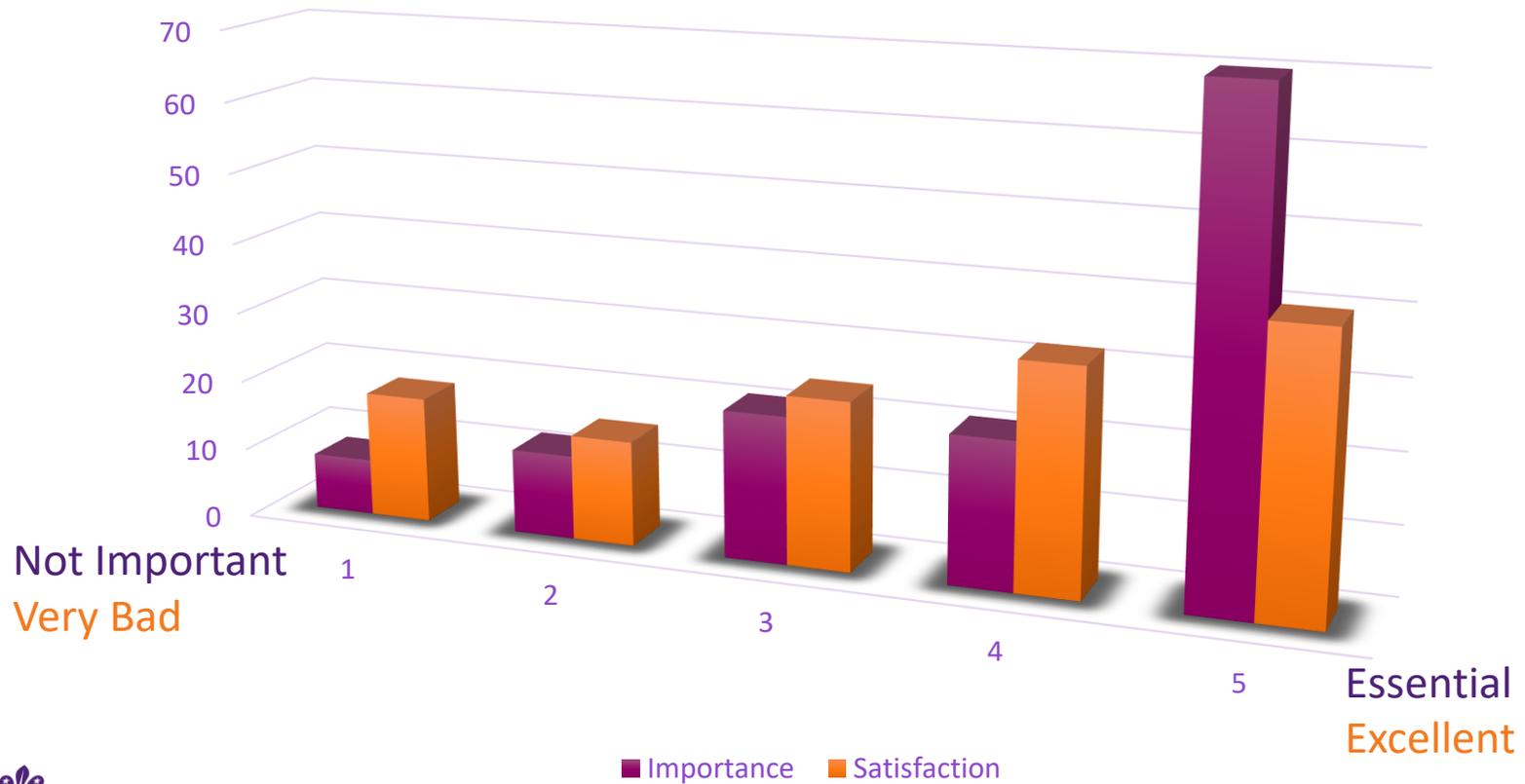
# International Support

## Importance vs Satisfaction



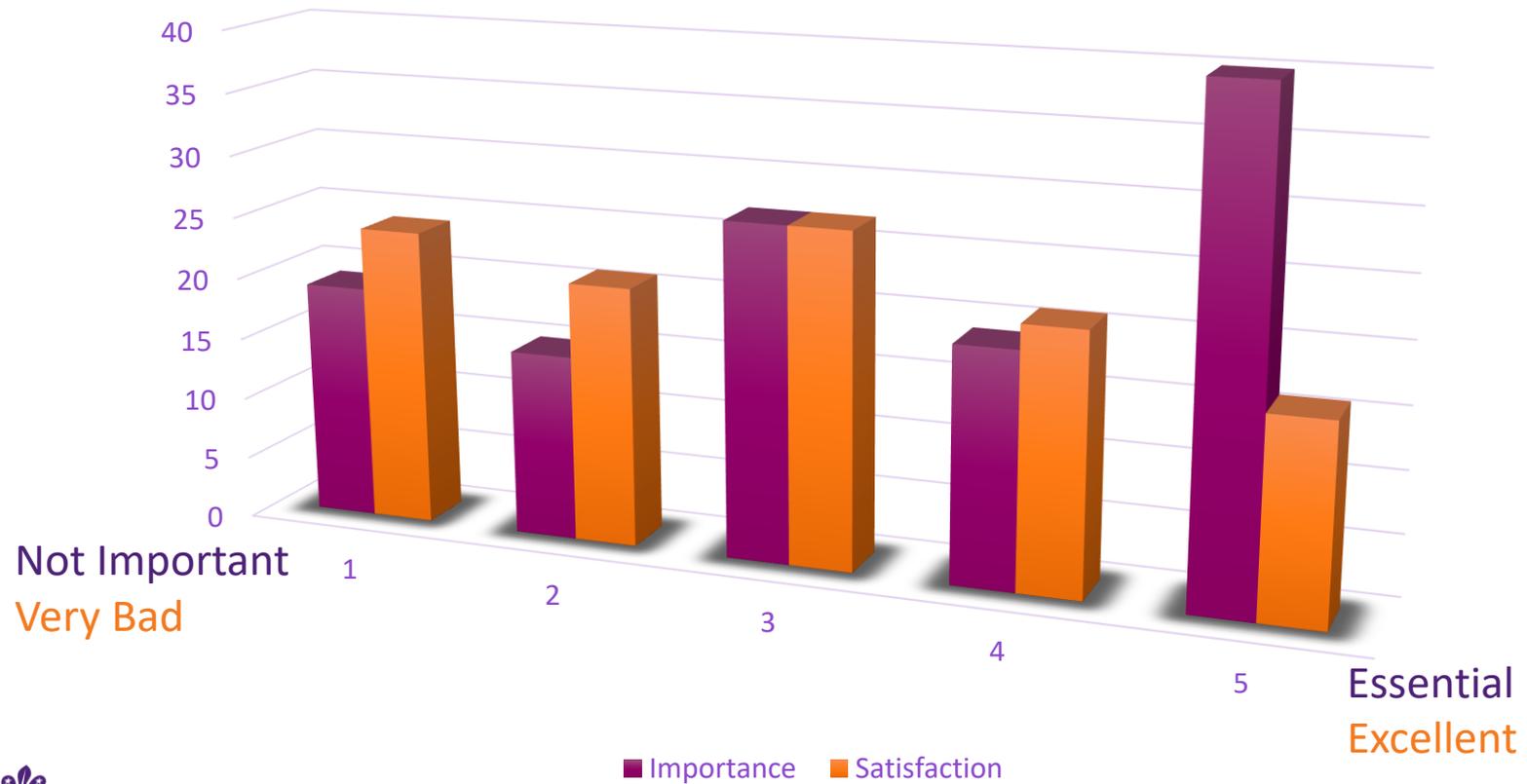
# Safeguarding Support

## Importance vs Satisfaction



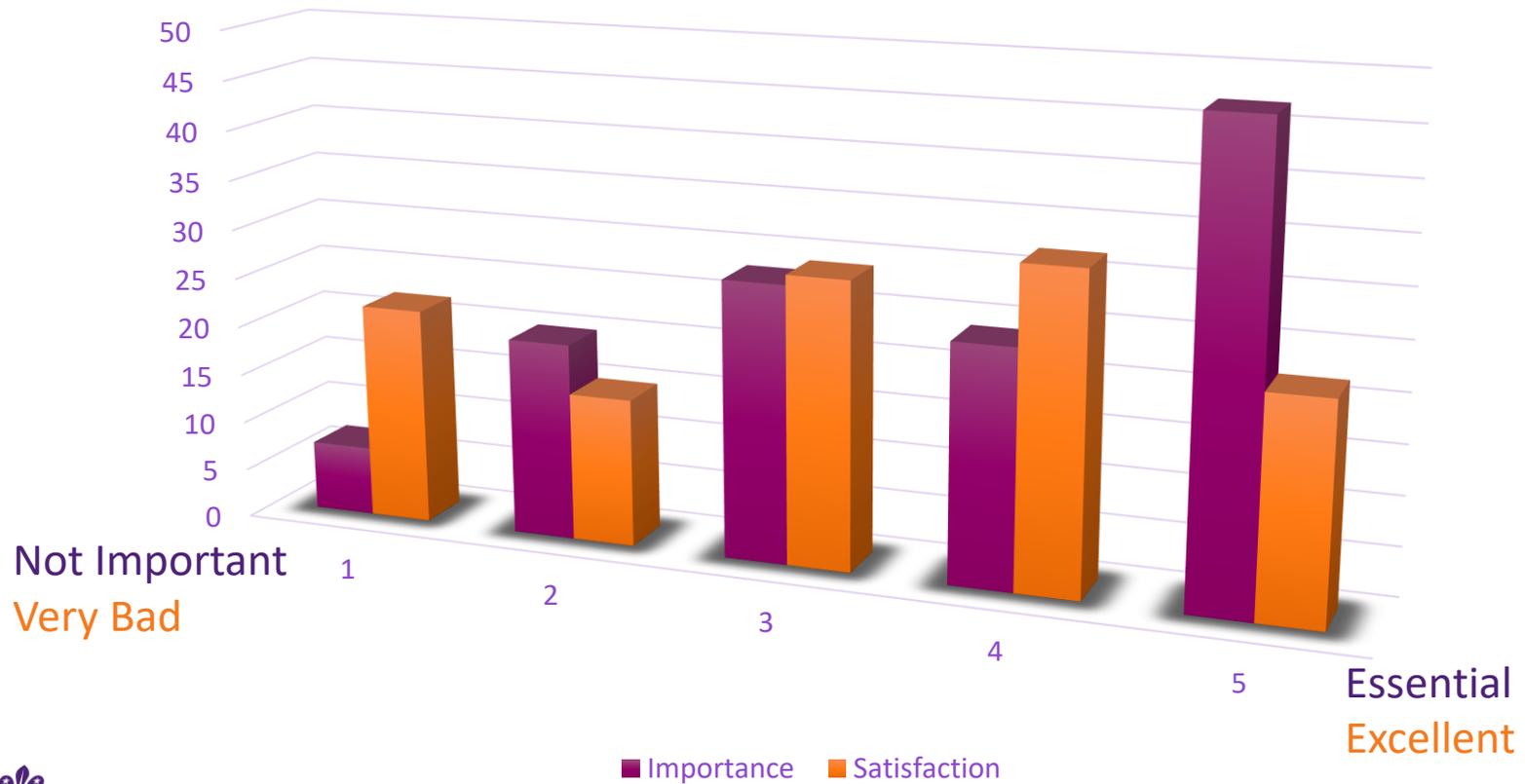
# Inclusivity Support

## Importance vs Satisfaction



# Moor House Activities

## Importance vs Satisfaction



# Other Support Ideas

More adult practical training – Practical skills workshop being planned

Badge support – Programme exchange workshop being planned

Support to group level members is not really used by my section, I would like more information and information about what support is available, as I'm not sure what support is available in the first place – looking at an A-Z index for County website

A personal contact that we can use to access information via the website, rather than scrolling through pages. I am new to the position so this may be available and I have just not accessed it as yet.

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Ideas for programmes / games – Programme exchange workshop being planned

Providing support for the growth of quality as well as the quantity of provision across districts should be a priority - targeting unstable provision and helping it grow. – Part of development planning process

Give us a feeling that we are part of a bigger, well organised family and not just working under a fractious and largely irrelevant county structure – did you come along this evening?

Operational standards – Planning 'cascade meetings' for Chairs and Treasurers and DC workshop day

Would like some more support for Network. – just ask!

# Other Support Ideas

Training other than first aid, just ticks a box does not provide enough support especially special needs and behaviour support. Still waiting on replies sent about Cubs 100 (too late now)

More support to help leaders carry out their roles. More chance to meet and talk with other leaders (this no longer happens in the district) and discuss programme ideas - **County programme support meetings**

Basic scouting skills training. – **Practical skills workshop being planned**

Moor House should support local scouts more, and reduce costs. – **self led activities now available at cost**

Toilets are also a disgrace - always disgustingly dirty.

more support cos I have autism and struggle to understand things

leadership team building days – **Come and help at Beaver Picnic / Cub Adventure Day**

Buddying system for new leaders. Better understanding of the training required

Closer support for activity planning/expectations/District and local events. New ideas to be utilised and not use the "old guard" ideas – **County Youth Team now in place**

stop trying to fight the world and change everything overnight we need to work as a team with baby steps and making the right changes effectively and slower **WE ARE VOLUNTEERS IN UNPAID ROLES – so are “we”**

groups and districts in the north of the county have always been looked after better by durham darlington always been poor relation – **not any more**

Development support, adult recruitment support – **Development planning and new appointment in place**

Skills training that will enable the leaders to give the scout, cubs and beavers more skills and enjoyment when coming to the evening and weekends. – **Practical skills workshop being planned**



# Other Support Ideas

Helping to solve district problems – just ask!

The general mood in mine and other districts is that Durham county is working against districts, rather than supporting it. The one thing we need from County in 2017 is to change that mood.

More skills training, small group venues for sleepovers eg 1 night options – Programme exchange workshop will include this, plus ideas now being published on County website

as a beginner it would be nice to have POCs on county website for different sections/resources/areas/etc – being added

The faces of County should make themselves known, I only know Dave Stokes and Steve Ramsey, Dave because used to work with him and Steve has taught me hill walking but also came to Explorers on various times – new page being prepared on County website

Adult Training - modular/flexible skills training (initial and refresher) – Practical skills workshop being planned

Open (possibly online) forums for people to express concerns and questions for more experienced leaders. I don't mean personal (possibly confidential) questions as that would then be a safeguarding issue – wider resources already available on-line

Training for adults in adventure activities like canoeing not just assessment.

Do not know

Information early to inform parents in advance to help support these events – sign up for e-mails



# Other Support Ideas

Support for districts who are struggling to fill district positions – part of growth and development support plans

Support for leader who are new to county events/ activities / involvement. Where to look who to contact and procedures– improved pages being prepared on County website

Not living at home at moment.

Opportunities to programme share/meet other leaders in our sections to network/share ideas – Programme exchange workshop being planned

I think that local leaders are not dealing with internal conflicts in a correct manner and I feel that the country should be stepping in to resolve some of the issues – we do, when invited

Opportunities to share best practices should be held the best places to go and things to do. Our district keep an online list of ideas. If this was county wide then it could be amazing. – Programme exchange workshop being planned County meetings are very top down and always go on about rules and regulations and mountain walking type activities. My cubs don't do that!

Make sure that scouting is represented at local level so that we're seen as a credible youth provider. – new media team planned

Leader training of activities e.g. archery etc. – already available

Easy access to more information about events training etc - often impossible to find on the website (application forms, closing dates, etc) – sign up for e-mails

stop interfering and help



# Other Support Ideas

Depends upon whatever is required

Stop pushing too much onto volunteers. We have training set out by HQ, Durham adds more training to that which you need to complete. – currently one small (Safeguarding) element only, in-line with HQ plans

Training should be simple so that volunteers can get on with what really matters. The young people.

CTM

sell Moorhouse its been a cash cow for years !!!!!!!!!!! – MHAC is generally cost neutral

Look at support/debrief for leaders having to deal with safeguarding issues. – please ask (we're not always told about District safeguarding issues)

Look at introducing badge "days" to help you people gain awards they might not get in there group. – part of Moor House Development Plan



# Other Comments

The survey should encompass different views - e.g. On the following page, there isn't the opportunity to input suggestions or comments about the definition of 'improved county services'. I've been asked what extra support could be given and then I have been asked whether I'd support undefined 'improved' support - i.e. what does 'improved' mean in context?

In view of distances involved any support which involves travel must be relevant, focussed and not just laid on because the system demands it.

There has been a lot of very positive change and the county team are doing really good. Thanks

Confido very good activities and organisation

A local trainer that can come to meet the new leaders and bring them up to the level they can all achieve. This is an area that has been left behind in the time I have been with the group Durham 17th Coxhoe.

Support is getting better but a long way to go

There are no Beaver Competitions - eg climbing not open to Beavers

just a big thank you for all that you do and provide. well done

We never get told of training, but we get loads of emails telling us what's great about the County but nothing telling us how we go about things



# Other Comments

Counties ensuring District management and structures (including appointment of effective GSLs) are appropriate, effective and in place is essential.

The County, has improved in communication since the new appointment of the County Commissioner. However, I believe the county can enaging with different groups and even individuals in a tailored way. I have an idea of how you can do that so I can approach the county with my solution at some point in the near future.

Moor house activities are too expensive to use regularly as a group.

Do not know

I find that whoever I ask for help and support, it is freely and (generally) promptly given

I don't know enough about the support available to be able to comment, **maybe this should be a concern**

The county seem to be the idealists, who say what the scouting organisation should be... they preach that they want parents to be more involved but then the 'old school' leaders within the local groups brush off, offers of support! **New ideas are not considered and then parents are out of from becoming more involved.**



# Other Comments

The county are going through a big period of change however the team trying to deliver this are yet to share a clear plan - your inexperience shows at times. You all mean well and give your time - which is appreciated and eventually some improvement will come.

don't see the point of a county ? get rid of it and the roles just have districts county does nothing to help or support anyway just tell us were crap and not doing enough and wonder around in uniform feeling ultra important

Happy with support offered

County events (Cubboree, confido etc) give our YP many opportunities for adventurous activities and new experiences that we would struggle to offer as a district or group and are therefore very important to us.

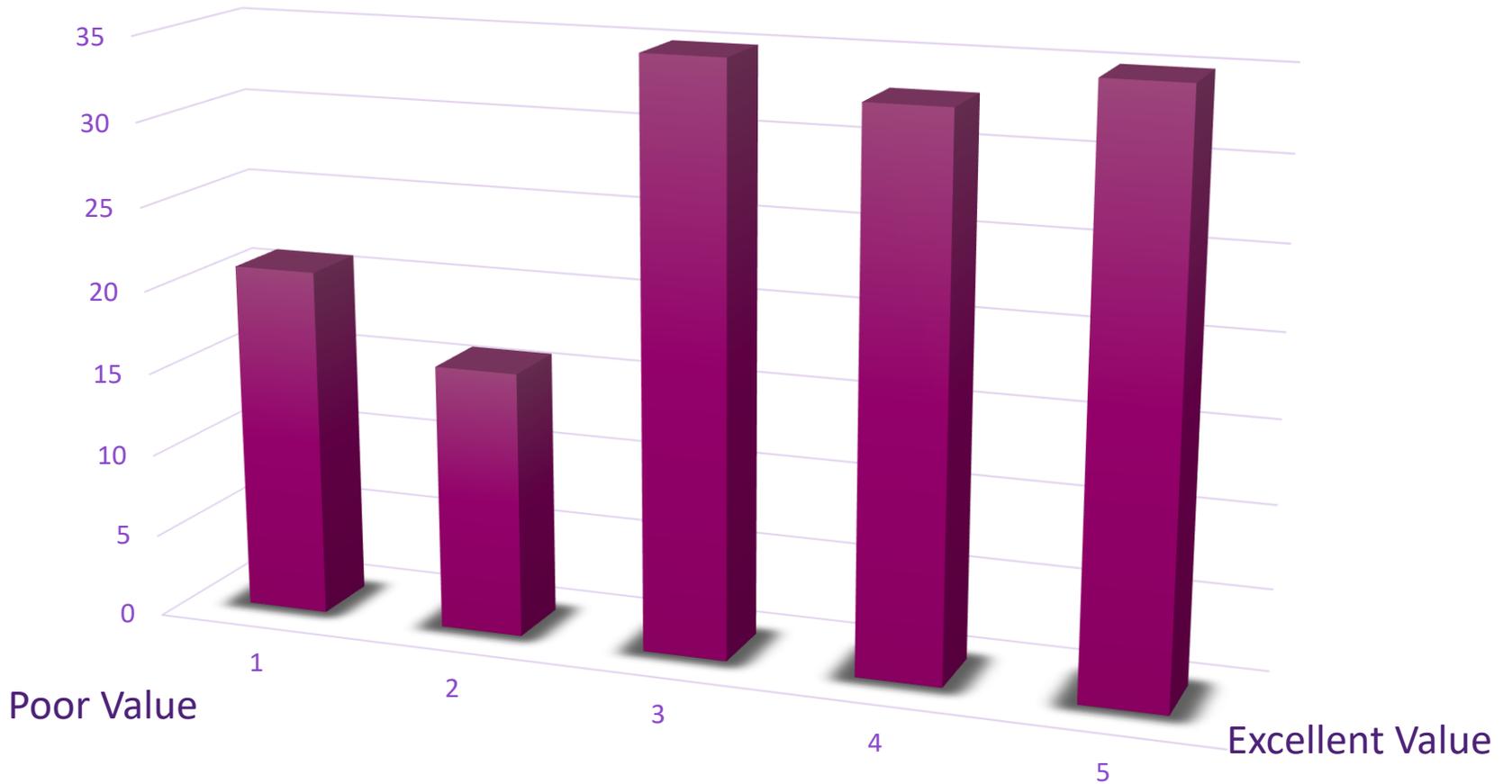
Communication is already better - thank you - but it still has quite a way to go. Some leaders I've met recently have still not updated their email preferences and it is not at all visible on the County's website. And I suspect that not all communications out from County are done using Mailchimp yet....

love my role in scouts

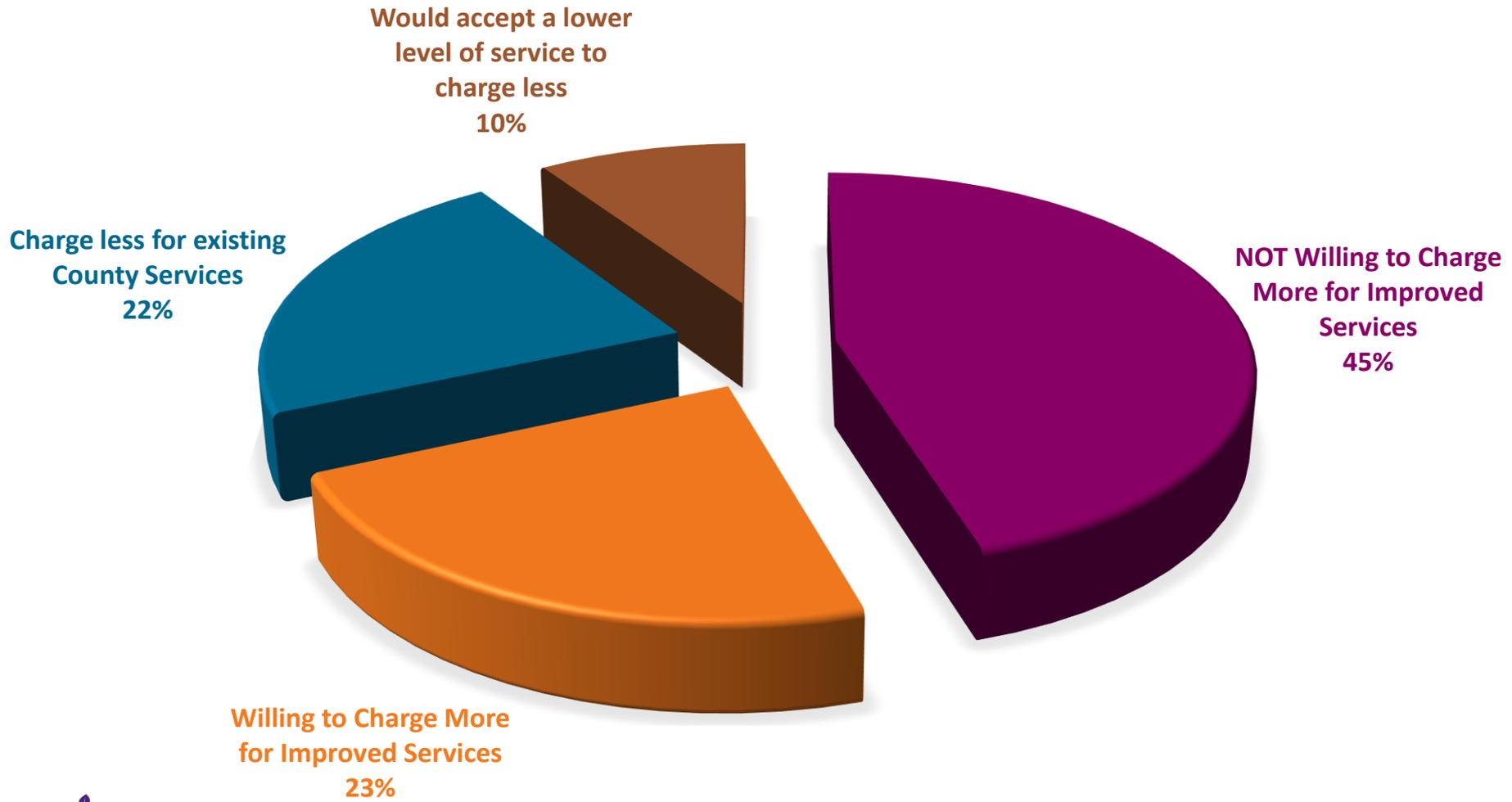
Moor House is far too expensive. Even the County rates are more than we have ever paid at other scout campsites including national sites. Facilities are not very good. No pioneering poles worth mentioning. Toilets are never clean and absolutely disgusting.



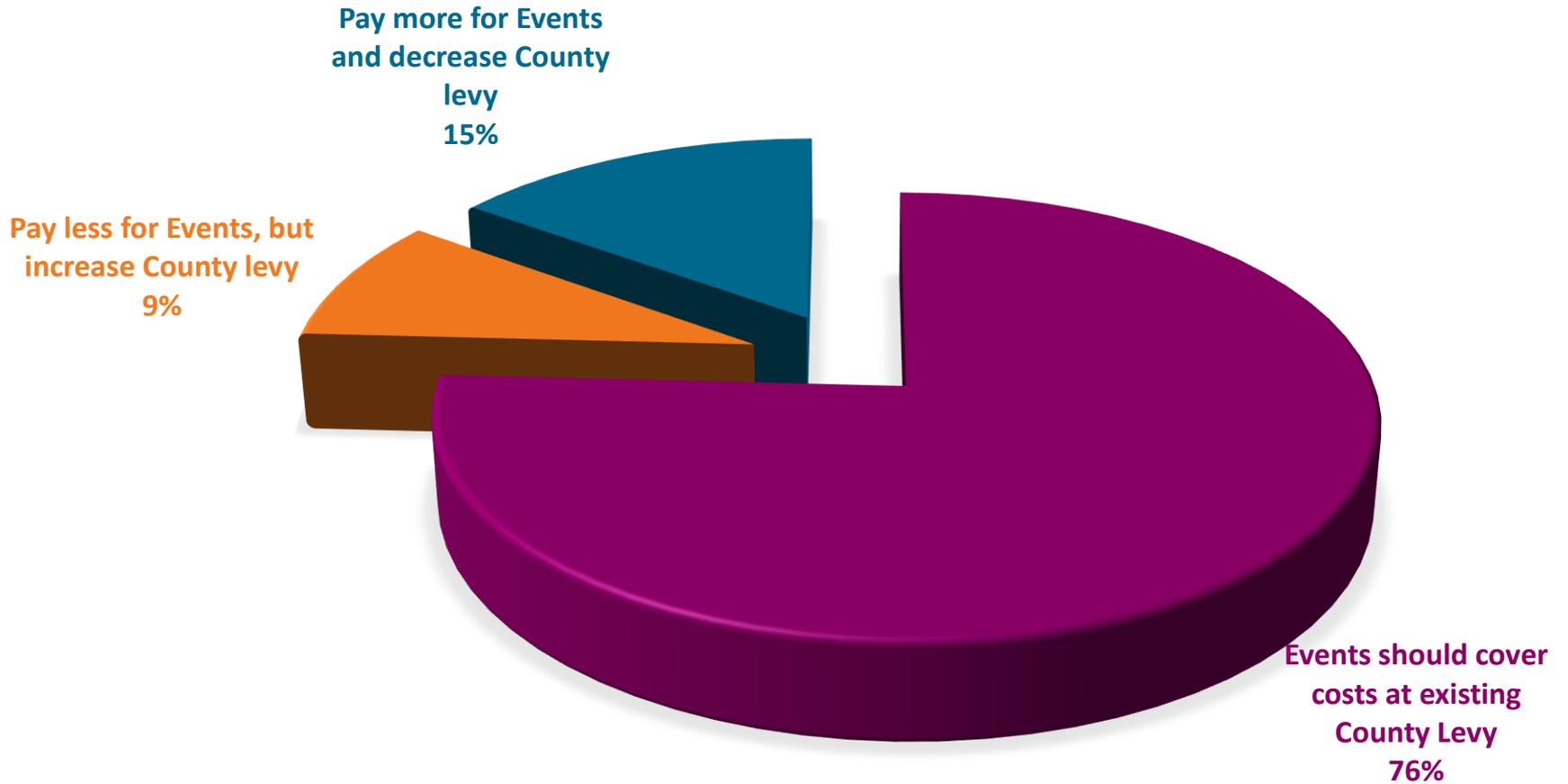
# Value for Money (County Levy)



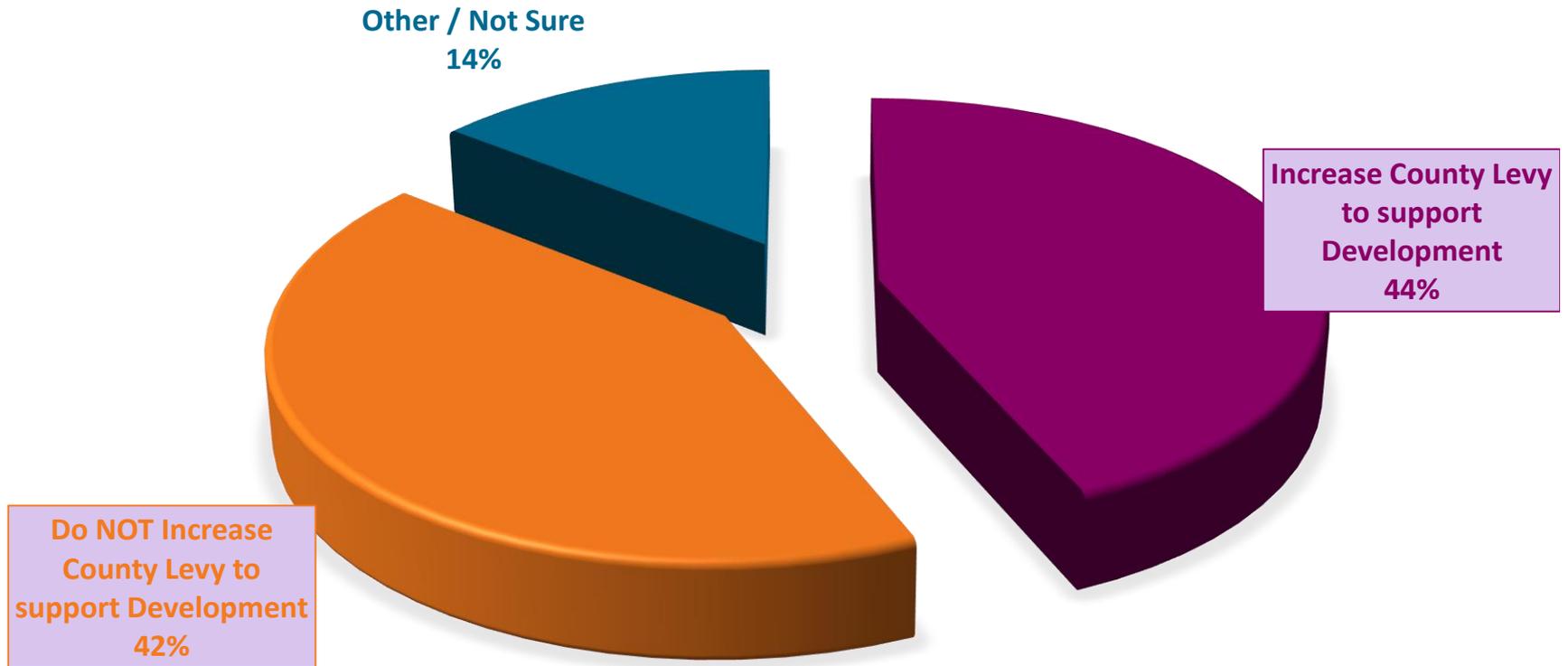
# County Membership Costs



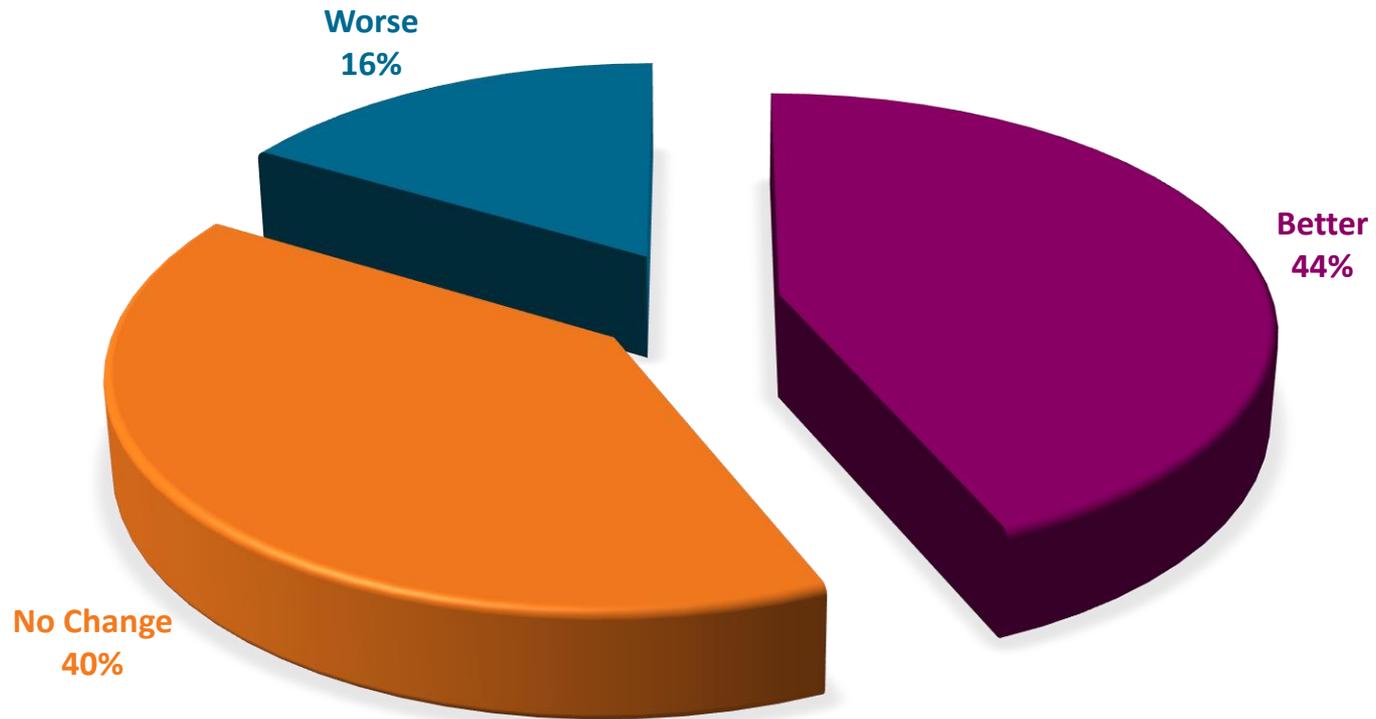
# County Event Costs



# Development Funding



# Are We Getting Better?



# County Strategy Update

Based up updates from 2016 AGM

# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- **New appointments**
  - County Team and District Commissioners
    - Prior to or at 2016 AGM
      - New ACC (Cubs), ACC (Scouts)
      - County Chair and County Treasurer
    - New DCs for
      - Darlington
      - South Tyneside
      - Sunderland
    - County Youth Commissioner and Deputies
    - Deputy County Commissioner (Growth and Development)
    - ACC (Explorer Scouts)
    - ACC (Young Leaders)
    - New DC searches started for Bishop Auckland, Derwentside and Peterlee
  - Other Appointments
    - Chair of Finance Management Board



Durham Scout County



# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- **Outstanding appointments**
  - **County Team and DCs**
    - Searches in progress for
      - ACC (Diversity and Inclusion)
    - New searches for
      - Deputy County Commissioner
      - County Training Manager
      - More DC searches start in 2Q17
        - Durham City
        - Seaham
  - **Other Appointments**
    - County Secretary
    - Members of Finance Management Board



# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- **New County Scout Active Support Units**
  - First Aid SASU formalised
  - Activities SASU formalised
  - New Media SASU being set up
  - New Diversity and Inclusion SASU to be set up
- **Improved support for the 6 – 25 year old programme**
  - On-going County programme support meetings coordinated by sectional ACCs
  - Sectional ACCs supporting sections in Districts as requested / required
  - Programme exchange workshop being planned for autumn 2017



**Durham Scout County**



# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- Greater focus on #YouShape Scouting
  - County Youth team now appointed
- More great County competitions and events
  - On-going
- Practical training and residential training
  - Practical skills day planned for 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017
  - Residential training deferred to 2018
- Further investment at Moor House Adventure Centre
  - Updated MHAC Development Plan
  - £20K of investment approved for 2016-18



Durham Scout County



# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- Continued improvements in governance
  - Financial and risk management
    - Executive Committee continues to work on this under leadership of new County Chair
    - Need to complete recruitment of new Finance Management Board
  - Openness and transparency via the County website and County Scout Council
    - Executive Committee minutes and Constitution now on County website
    - Additional meeting of County Scout Council
    - District 'Town Hall' meetings



# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- Continued improvements in communications
  - New County Commissioner's Blog
    - Regular updates
  - Reintroduction of County Newsletter
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition about to be published
  - New County e-mailing lists
    - Now set up and working
    - More members need to sign up and read
  - Monthly operations updates to County Team and DCs
    - Continue as planned
  - New Media SASU being established



# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- **Development and Growth**
  - Group and District led, supported by County and Regional Support Team
    - Growth and Development activities now agreed between Districts and Regional Development Team e.g.
      - District development workshops
      - Adult recruitment workshops
      - 'Grow your group' workshops
      - Support for opening new and missing sections
    - Significant Youth Investment Fund application submitted to Big Lottery for Darlington and Sunderland Districts (~£275K)
    - Appointed DCC (Growth and Development) to coordinate support for Districts

**Durham is a Growth County!**  
**4.2% growth in 2016**  
**Now 6,000+ youth members**



**Durham Scout County**

# County Strategy Update

Based on 2016 AGM

- **Development and Growth (cont'd)**
  - **County Development Plan**
    - Primarily intended to support growth and development of Scouting in Groups and Districts
      - A la carte – not a 'fixed menu'
        - Districts define their own priorities and chose what is right for them
  - To be based upon
    - Updated District Development Plans
    - County Strategy
    - Moor House Development Plan
    - Membership input via County Satisfaction Survey
  - Durham Scout County is activity engaged in the development of the Scout Association's next five year strategy



# Thank You

- Thank you to all of our volunteers...
  - On the County Executive Committee
  - On the County Team
  - Supporting County training, activities and events
- But most importantly
  - To our volunteers working with our young people



# Questions and Answers

