

Summary of

# Community Pulse 2021

# UK

Data last updated:  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2021



# Community Pulse

## Anxiety



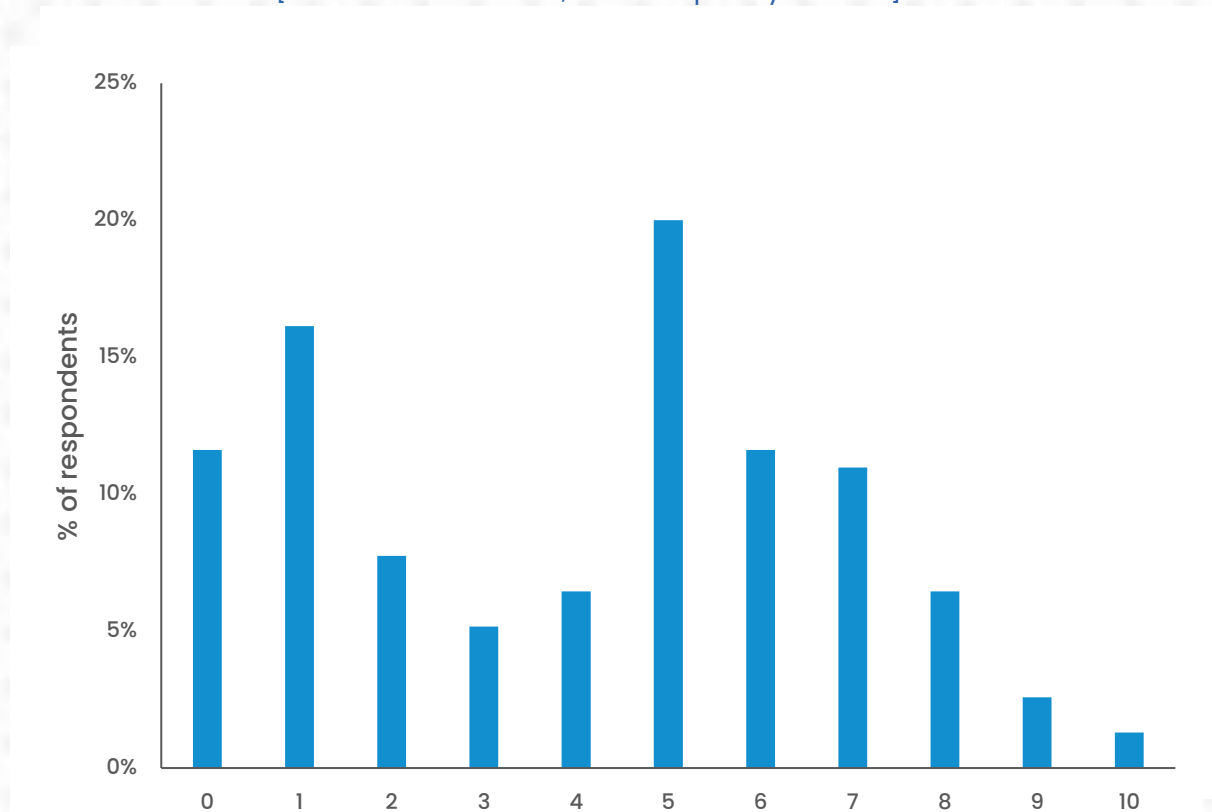
Response:

160

21st Jan 2021 –  
23rd Feb 2021

### Reported levels of anxiety - ONS measure

[0 = not at all anxious, 10 = completely anxious]



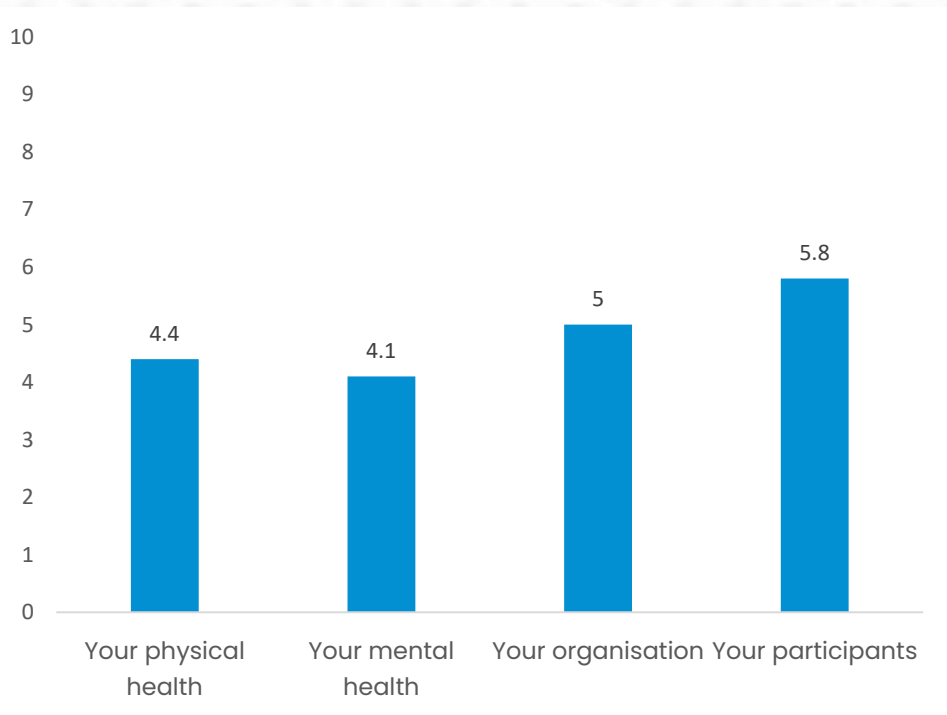
**In 2019 the national anxiety average for the general population was 2.83. This increased to 3.05 in 2020.**

**Average reported anxiety score for group leaders was 4.1 – which is 1 full point higher than the UK average.**

## Anxiety

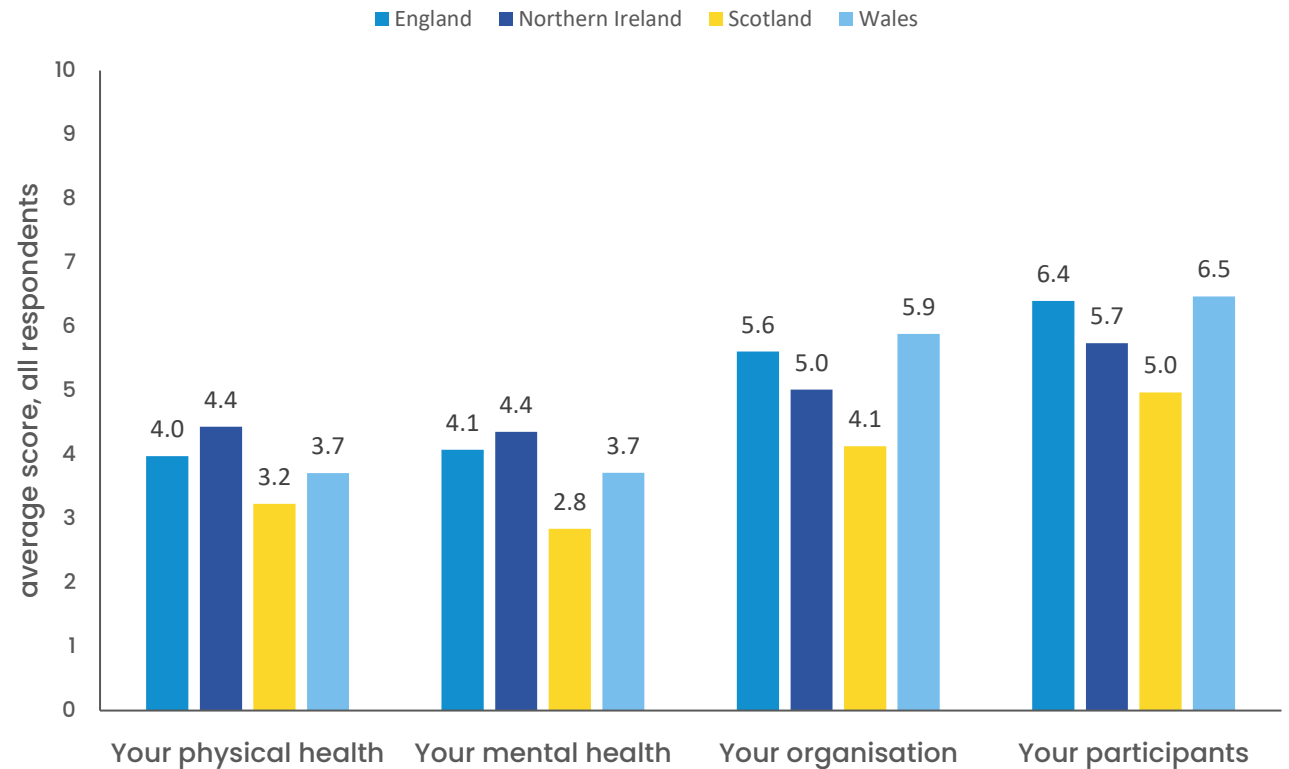
**Group leaders are most anxious about their participants.**

**Reported levels of anxiety, in relation to different aspects**  
[0 = not at all anxious, 10 = completely anxious]



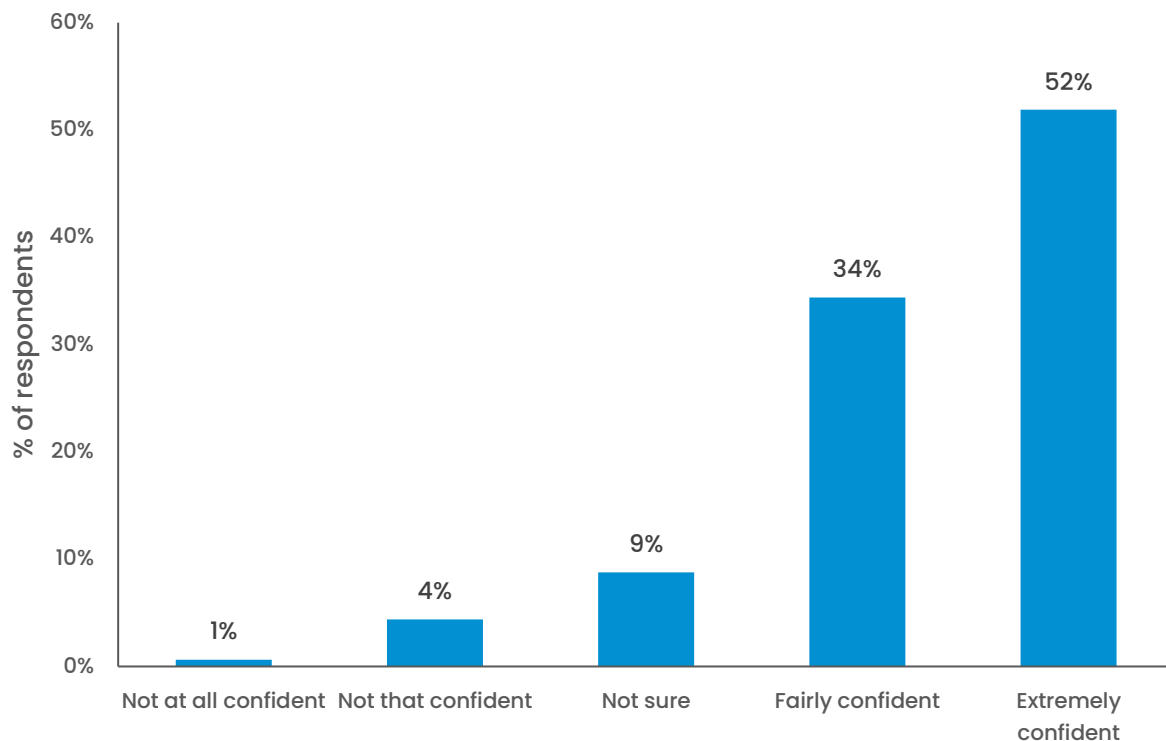
**Group leaders in Scotland report being less anxious than other nations in all areas.**

**Reported levels of anxiety, in relation to different aspects**  
[0 = not at all anxious, 10 = completely anxious]



## Survival

Confidence of group's survival in 6 months' times



**86% are confident their group will survive the next 6 months**

**Despite confidence in group survival, many highlighted broader challenges getting people active again.**

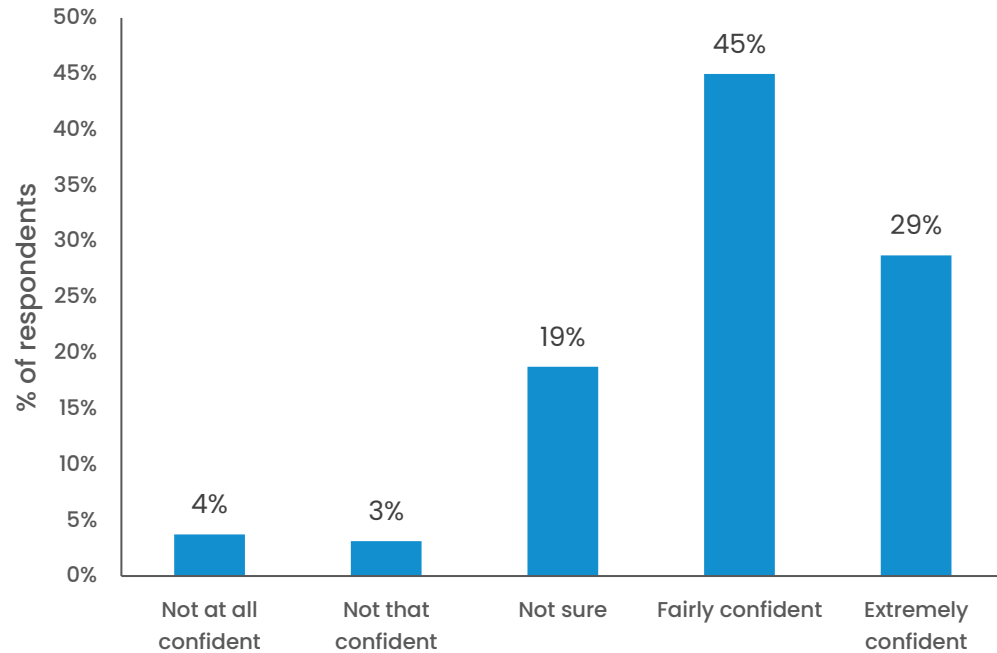
“Not knowing when we will be able to resume makes it very difficult to plan anything. Also, some facilities may not open for community use so we'd have nowhere to play.”

“The fact that online support does not work with every type of participant and community, keeping the morale of our service users is challenging when there is no exit plan from authorities and steps to ensure that groups are part of the solution in the long term.”

“Team sports need participation together, a year apart will be hard to overcome.”

## Confidence

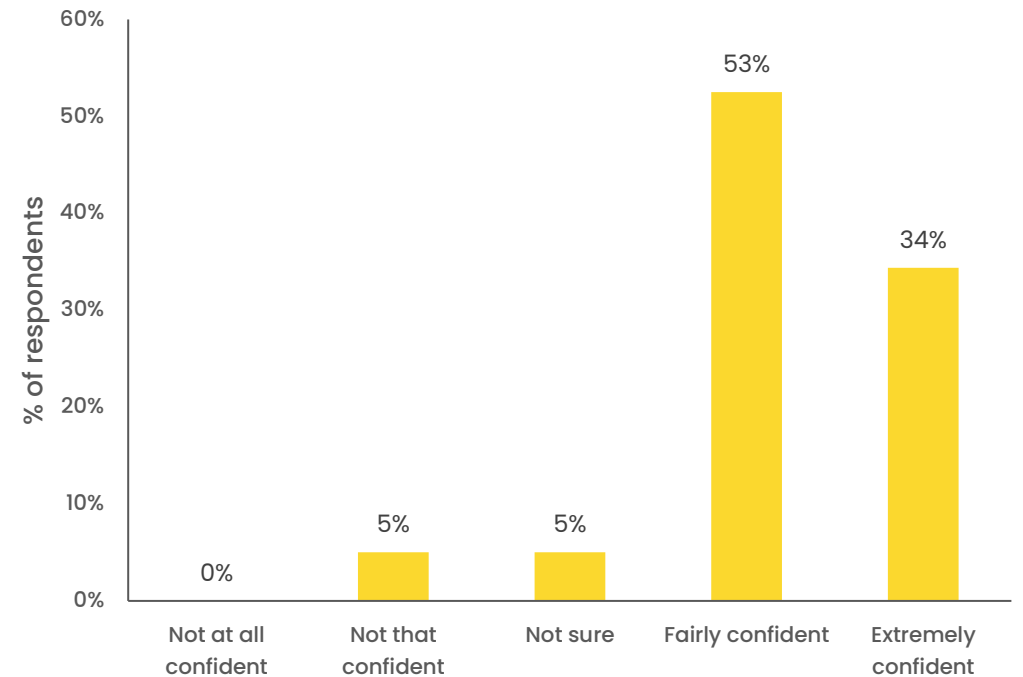
### Confidence that participants will return in the future



**26% of groups are not confident or not sure that their participants will return in the future.**

**Over 1 in 3 groups are extremely confident about reopening once government restrictions allow.**

### Confidence in reopening once government restrictions allow



## Main frustrations and concerns

### Areas of frustration and concern identified by group leaders



"We are under financial pressure our insurance is due for renewal in April if we can't offer a service to our members how can we justify asking them to renew their membership?"

"The Government and guidelines about community venues and not being recognised as a key support service."

"The lack of information from Government and the speed to which we are expected to implement these changes."

"The same as majority of population, isolation, keeping myself positive for everyone else - unable to plan."

"I am concerned that the lack of our activities in particular the opportunities to meet at competitions and events has reduced the momentum for involvement and fundraising."

# Community Pulse

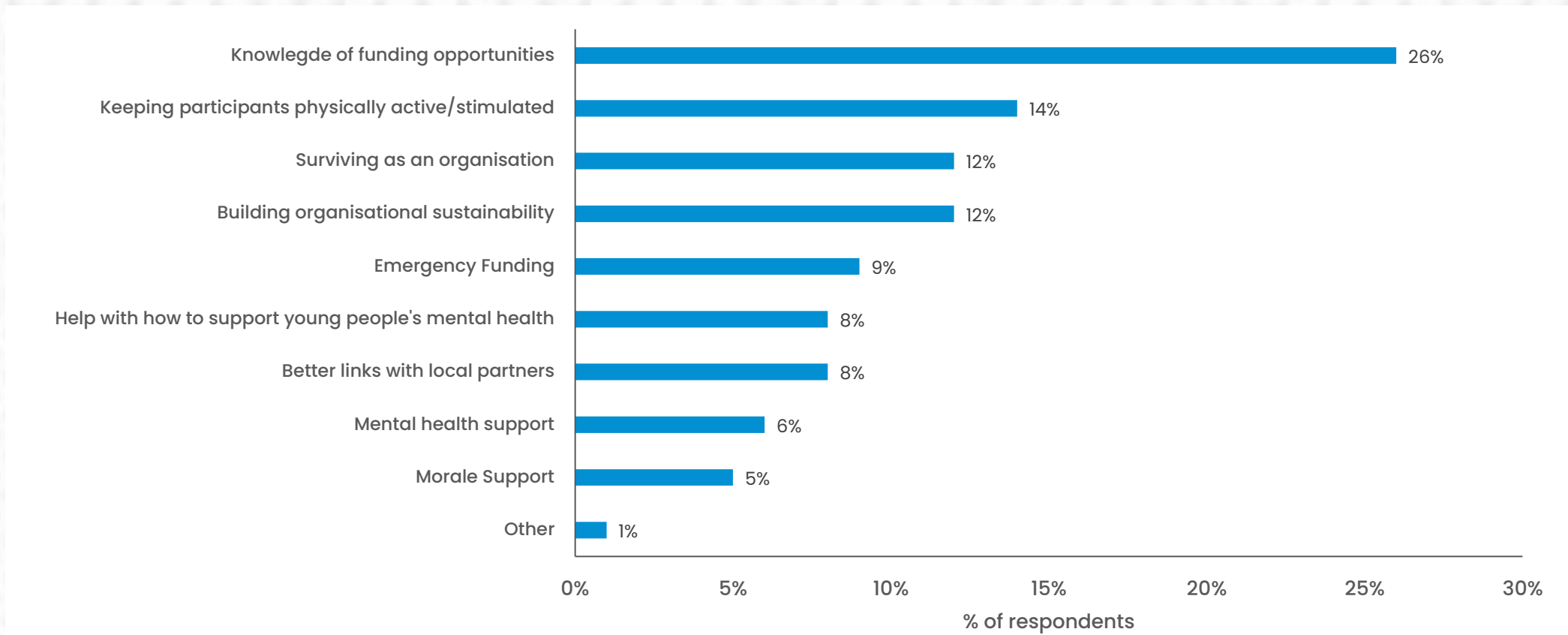
## Priorities

Group priorities for the next 2-3 weeks



## Support needs now

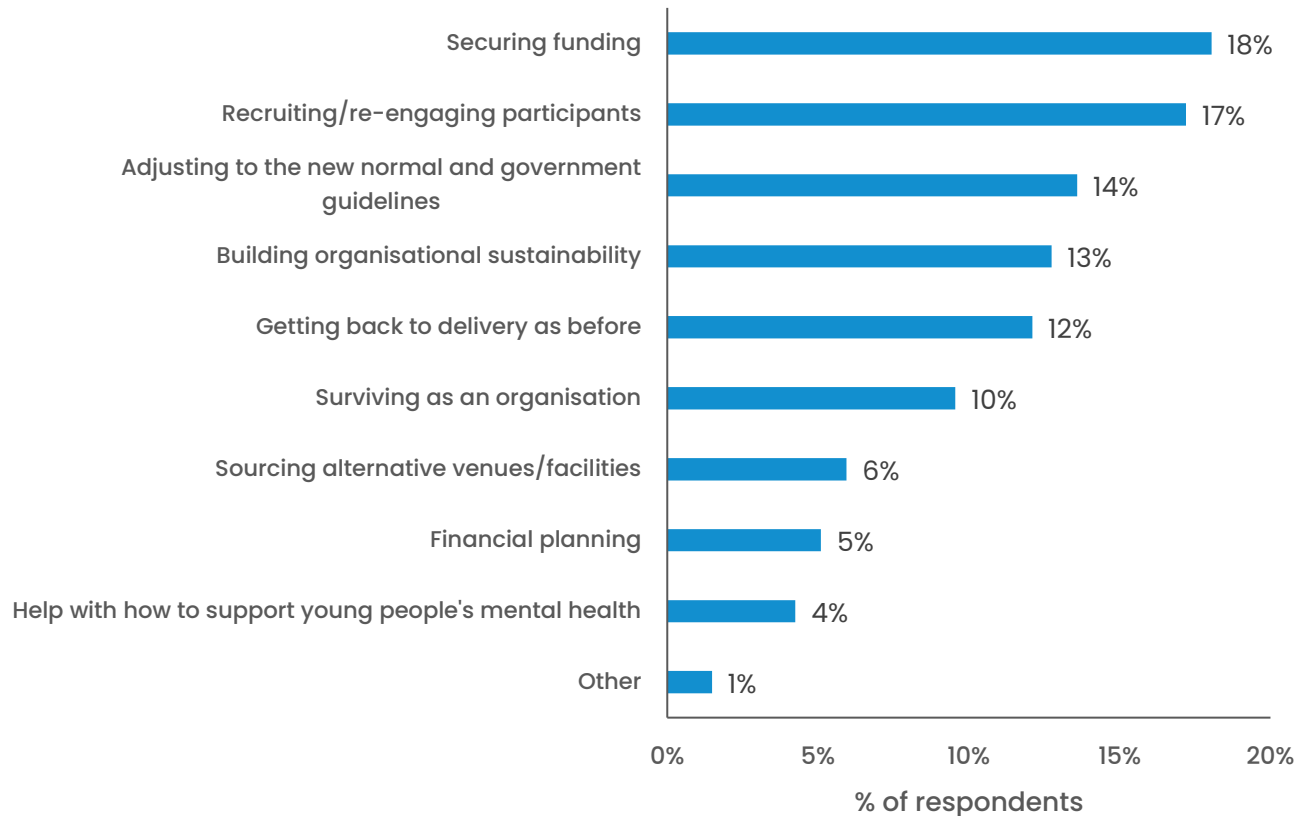
Areas of support that would be most helpful to groups now





## Support needs once reopened

### Areas of support that would be most helpful once reopened



### Other key areas identified:

#### Cashflow concerns

"We can't run sessions while still having van costs to pay out. We are in overdraft and need support accessing funding."

"We need to restart funding efforts because there is a lack of funding opportunities on top of reduced numbers revenue."

#### Local authority limitations

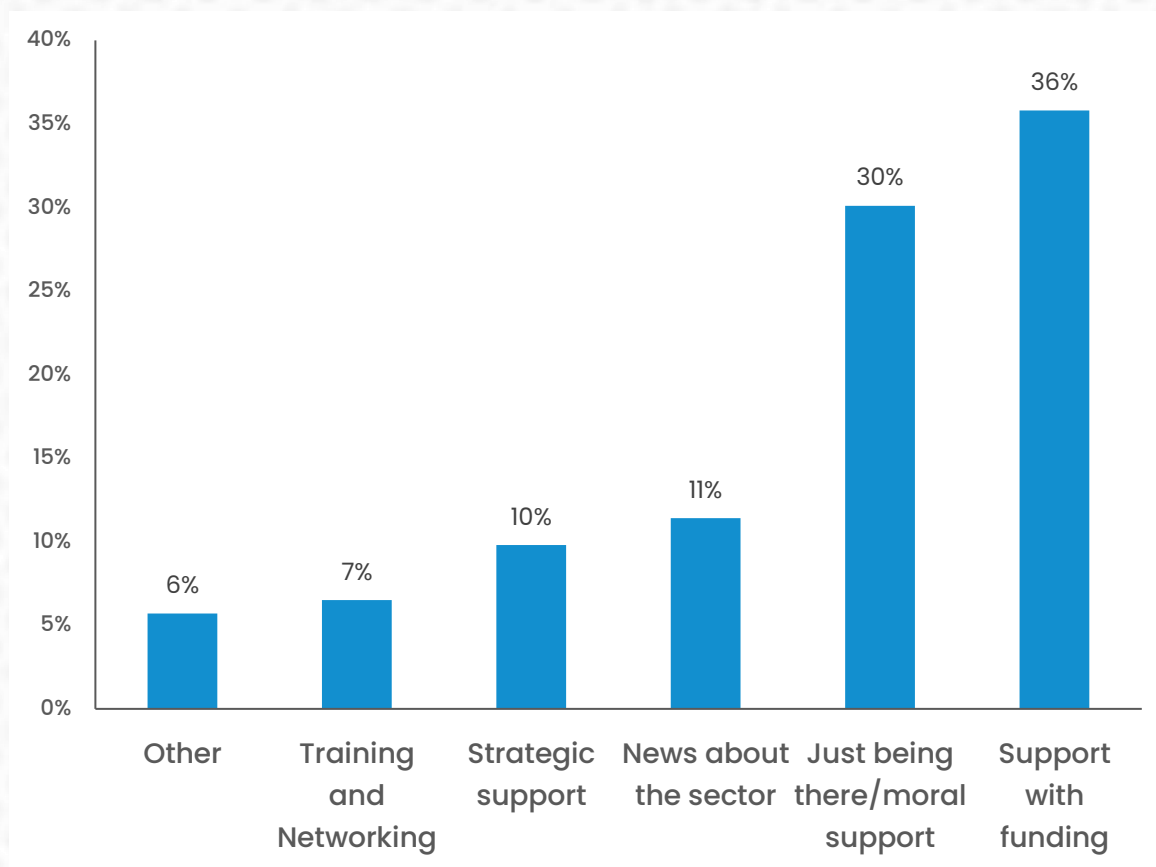
"At the moment we can't organise anything until local authorities allow."

#### Lobbying

"Lobbying the education and Skills Funding Agency to make their training funds accessible to the voluntary sector."

## How Sported has helped so far

Areas of support from Sported that have been helpful throughout the pandemic



“Just knowing that there's someone to offer support if needed.”

“Just having someone to talk to and help me concentrate on the important things.”

“Sported have been crucial to us by giving technical and financial advice on our short and long term goals. Showing us how to utilise digital technologies ie. Excel documents. Helping us with funding applications. Regularly keeping in touch with our organisation.”

“Regular newsletters with fundraising ideas and funding opportunities listed.”

“Business planning support has been excellent.”

“Listening to webinars about project planning and learning about the Project 51 programme which I would like our club to be involved in”

## How Sported is adapting

- **Running funding sessions in each nation**
- **Ensuring we provide up-to-date and clear information around the roadmaps out of lockdown across the UK**
- **Running sessions focussing on connecting with and re-engaging with participants**
- **Running a webinar around planning, to support groups with planning for the future**
- **Ensuring we promote all relevant funds to members and connect to key funders where possible**
- **Coordinating with funders and partners to share insight and coordinate support**