Ministerial Advisory Group
for Architecture and the Built Environment

Our Changing World Survey

1. <u>Executive Summary</u>

1.1. The survey ran from 13 May 2020 to 1 June 2020.

1.2. Almost three-fifths (58%) of respondents felt that lockdown has had a balance of positive and negative impact on their wellbeing.

1.3. Two-fifths (39%) of respondents lived in the suburbs. Over half (52%) of respondents lived in a detached house. Almost all respondents (97%) had access to outdoor space, of which 96% had access to a private garden.

1.4. When asked what they spent most of their weekday time doing at home prior to lockdown, two-fifths (40%) of respondents ranked relaxing in first place. During lockdown, this dropped to 15%, with three in five (59%) respondents ranking paid work as the activity they spent most of their time doing at home during weekdays.

1.5. Over two-fifths (43%) of respondents felt they were more productive during lockdown, whilst over a third (35%) felt they were less productive. Almost two-fifths (39%) said that a different home working space could have improved their productivity. A number of those commenting on what would make them more productive mentioned 'better internet' or IT issues.

1.6. Before lockdown, just over half (51%) of respondents spoke to or connected with one or two neighbours on a weekly basis. Almost all (98%) of the respondents confirmed that this connection was in person. During lockdown, almost half (47%) of respondents answered that the number of neighbours they have connected with on a weekly basis has increased. Again, almost all (94%) respondents who had connected with their neighbours had done so in person.

1.7. Before lockdown, the majority of respondents (86%) shopped in their neighbourhood and three-quarters (75%) participated in exercise/hobbies. During lockdown, just under two-thirds (65%) of respondents spent less time

shopping in their neighbourhood. Three-quarters (75%) of respondents have spent more time in their private outdoor spaces, and almost three-fifths (58%) had increased the time they spent exercising in their neighbourhood.

1.8.   Before lockdown, over half (56%) of respondents ranked travelling about their neighbourhood by private car as their number one mode of transport. During lockdown this changed with three-quarters of respondents (75%) ranking travel by foot as their number one form of travel, while only 23% of respondents ranked travel by private car as number one.

1.9.   The thing that people valued most during lockdown was having their own outdoor space (nine out of ten, or 90%, of responses). This was followed by 'roads for walking and cycling routes', with just over three-fifths (62%) of respondents valuing this.

2. Introduction

2.1.   In May 2020, the Department for Communities (the Department), on behalf of the Ministerial Advisory Group for Architecture and the Built Environment, launched a survey in response to the Covid 19 pandemic. The purpose of the survey was to better understand how lock-down was impacting on people's experience of private and public spaces.

2.2.   The survey, which ran from 13 May 2020 to 1 June 2020, sought views from the general public on the impact of the lockdown on the use of their homes and neighbourhoods and how they spend time in their places of work, leisure, learning and living. These were categorised under the following headings:

- Private spaces before lockdown
- Private spaces during lockdown
- Activity in neighbourhood before lockdown
- Activity in neighbourhood during lockdown

2.3.   The questions were asked through an online survey and this report provides a summary of responses received. There was a total of 257 responses received.

2.4.   Survey responses have been analysed by statisticians within the Professional Services Unit of the Department.

3. Survey Responses

3.1. The questions were asked through an online survey and this report provides a summary of responses received. The survey included questions on specific aspects of private spaces before and during lockdown, and on activity within the respondent's neighbourhood before and during lockdown. It also provided an opportunity for additional comment on a variety of areas. A total of 257 responses were received.

3.2. The survey was open to the general public via the Department for Communities website.

3.3. A summary of the main points raised is provided in each relevant section of the analysis where appropriate.

3.4. Note: Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Percentages quoted in commentary are based on actual response counts, and are rounded, and therefore may not equal the sum of individual rounded values within corresponding tables.

3.5. Where respondents have provided comments to the open questions, it may be the case that they raised more than one point. Therefore, the number of points made may be greater than the overall number of comments.

4. The impact of lockdown on wellbeing

4.1. Respondents were initially asked a question to gauge how the lockdown was affecting their wellbeing.

How much of an impact has lockdown had on your wellbeing?

Base: 255
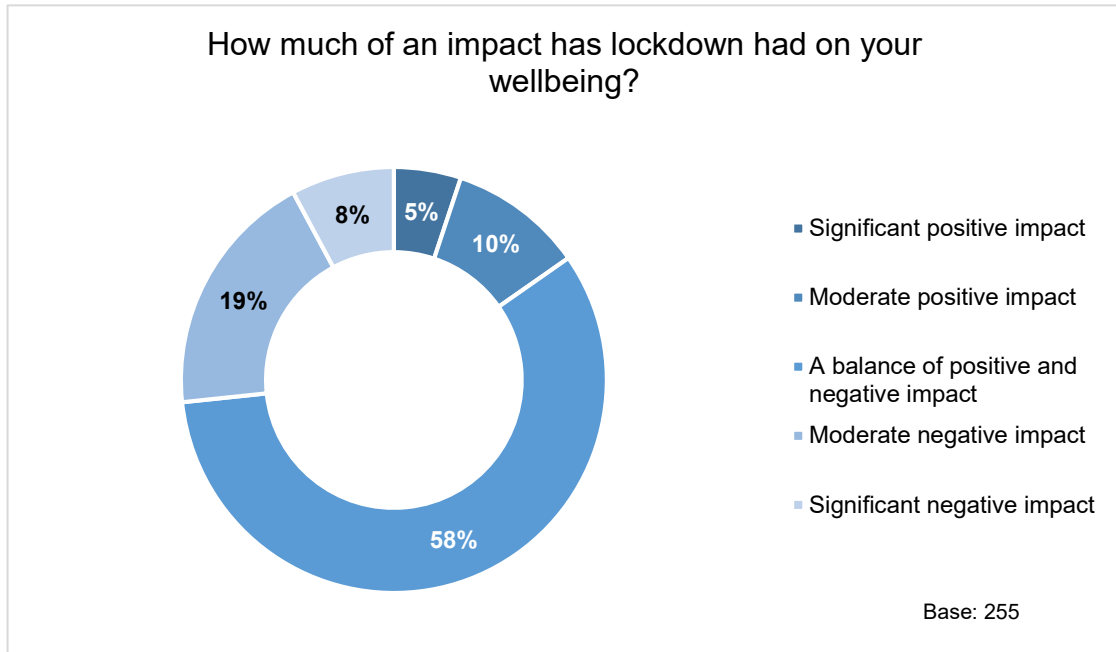
4.2. Almost three-fifths (58%) of respondents felt that lockdown has had a balance of positive and negative impact on their wellbeing. Over a quarter (27%) reported that it has had either a negative or significantly negative impact, while the remaining 15% said it had a positive or significantly positive impact on wellbeing.

5. Your private spaces before lockdown

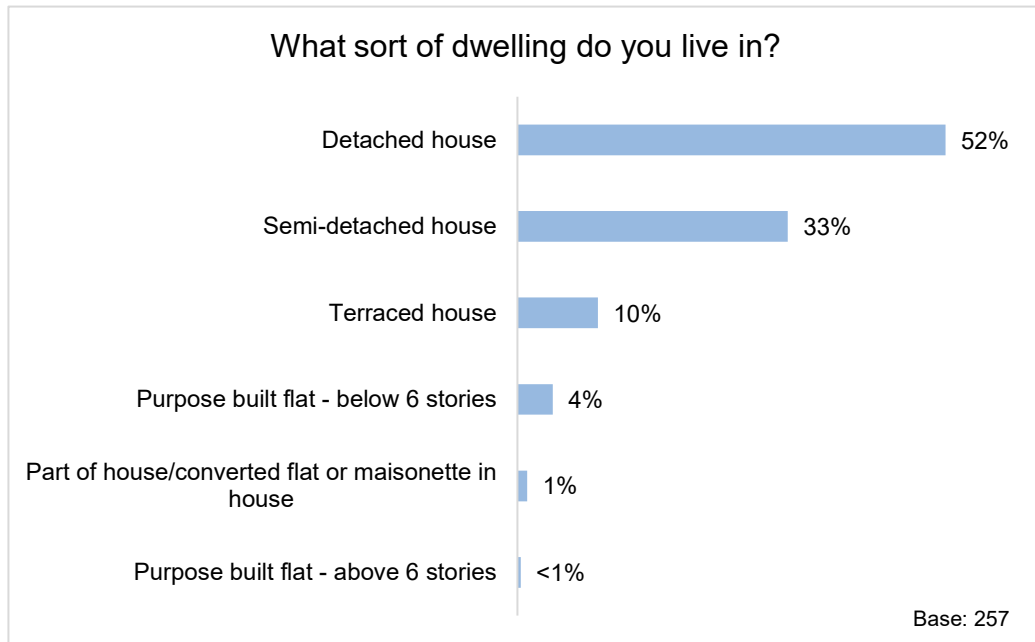5.1. Respondents were asked a number of questions relating to where they were living and the use of their private space prior to lockdown. The first of these questions asked them to describe the area that they were living in.

How would you describe where you live?

Suburb - outside of city centre	39%
Rural	17%
Large sized town	16%
Village	9%
Medium sized town	7%
Small town	6%
City Centre	6%

Base: 257
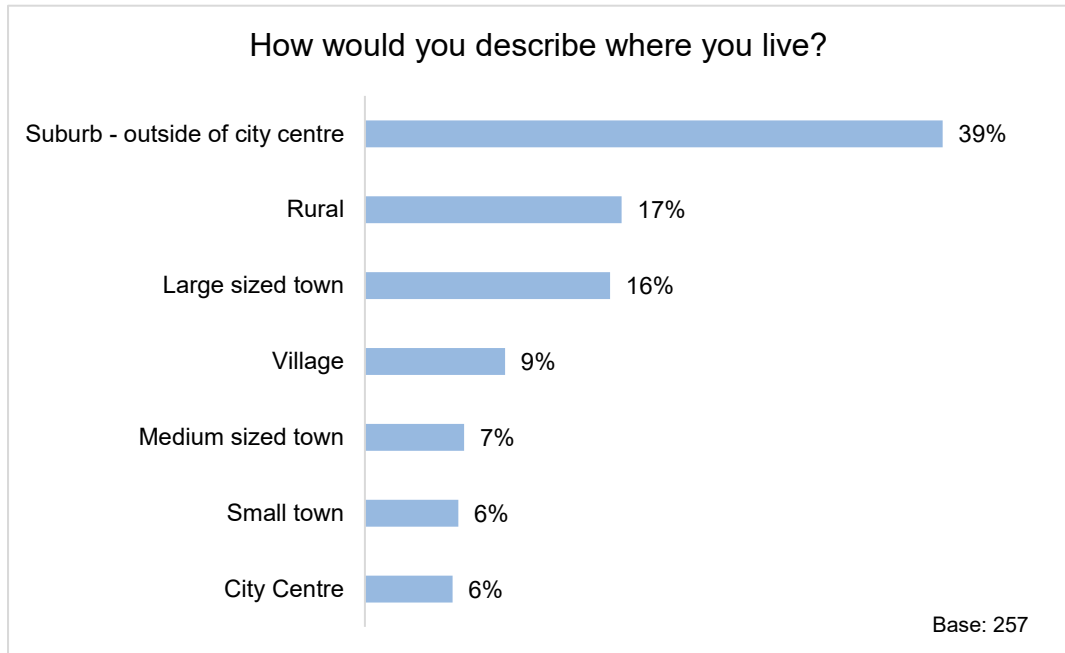
Large sized town – more than 18,000 people, Medium sized town – between 10,000 and 18,000 people, Small sized town – between 2,500 and 10,000 people, Village – less than 2,500 people.
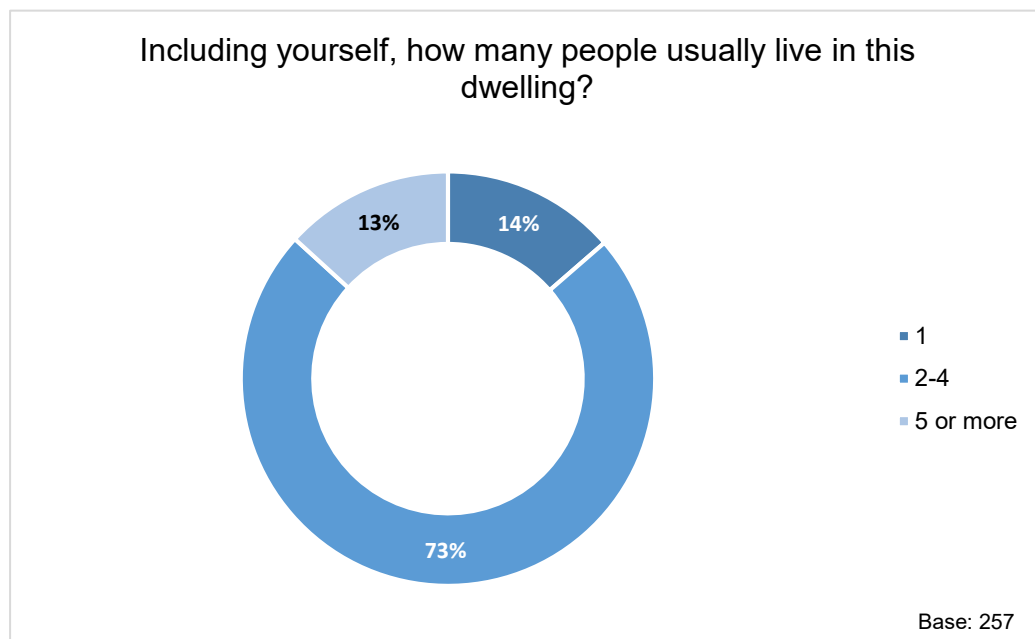
5.2. Two-fifths (39%) of respondents defined the area they live in as a suburb. Almost a fifth live in a rural area (17%), and a similar proportion live in a large sized town (16%).

5.3.   Respondents were next asked what type of property they lived in.

What sort of dwelling do you live in?

Dwelling type	Percentage
Detached house	52%
Semi-detached house	33%
Terraced house	10%
Purpose built flat - below 6 stories	4%
Part of house/converted flat or maisonette in house	1%
Purpose built flat - above 6 stories	<1%

Base: 257

5.4.   Over half (52%) of respondents live in a detached house, and a third (33%) live in a semi-detached house.

5.5.   Respondents were then asked how many people, including themselves, lived at their address. Those that did live with other people were also asked to confirm if they were related to the people they shared an address with.

Including yourself, how many people usually live in this dwelling?

- 1 — 14%
- 2-4 — 73%
- 5 or more — 13%

Base: 257

5.6. Almost three-quarters (73%) of respondents live in a household of between two and four people (including themselves).

Are you related to any of these people?

- Yes
- No

5% 95%

Base: 221
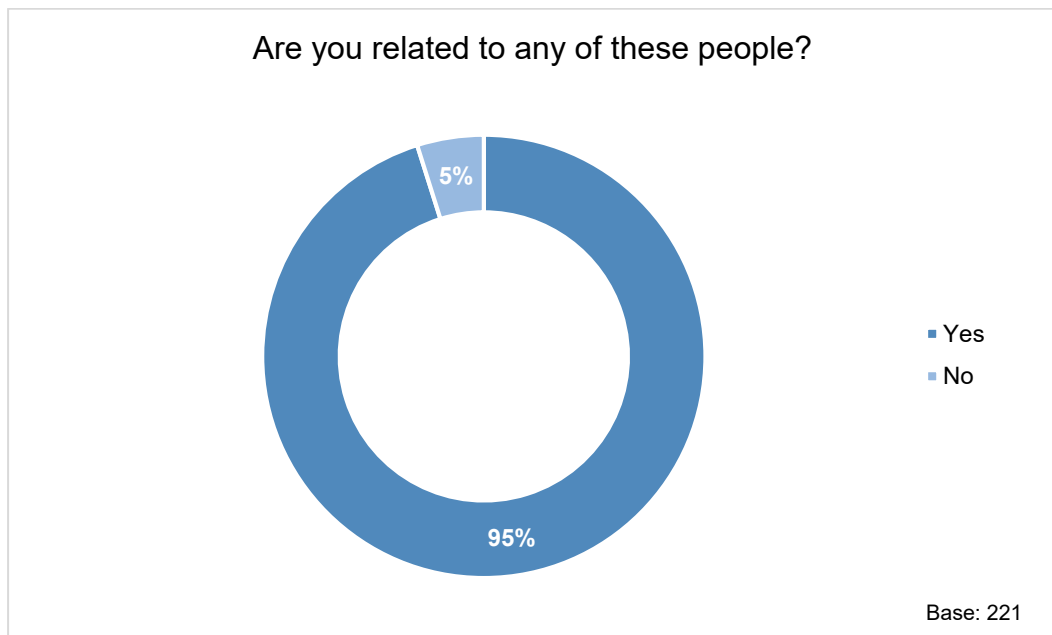
5.7. Of those who live with other people, almost all (95%) are related to the people they live with.

5.8. Respondents were asked if they had outdoor space that was accessible from their dwelling, with those who responded 'yes' asked to confirm what type of outdoor space was accessible.
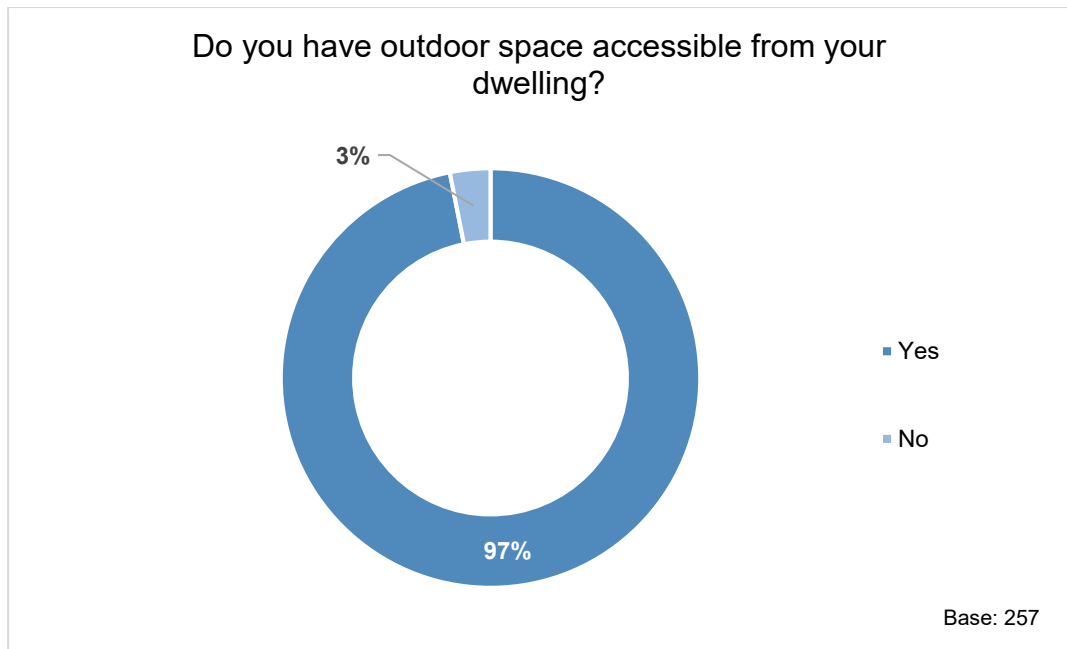
Do you have outdoor space accessible from your dwelling?

3%

97%

- Yes
- No

Base: 257

5.9. Almost all respondents (97%) had access to outdoor space from their dwelling.

Is this outdoor space for sole private use, is it private but shared, or is it public?

Private - garden	96%
Public	4%
Private balcony	3%
Private shared - shared courtyard or garden	2%

Base: 246
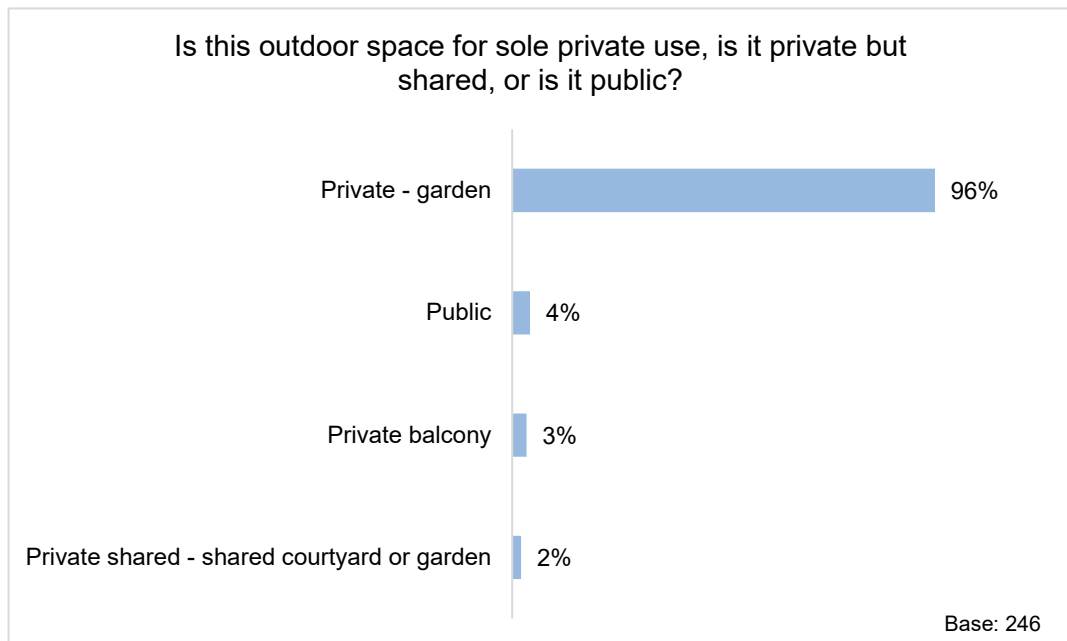
5.10. Almost all (96%) of those who had access to outdoor space from their dwelling have access to a private garden.

5.11. Respondents were presented with a list of five spaces/areas within their homes, and were asked to rank each of the spaces/areas based on the amount of time they spent in each, with 1 being most time spent and 5 indicating least time spent.

Space	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Communal space/living room	171	38	23	10	11
Private space/bedroom	28	103	47	54	16
Space used for working	21	28	35	55	77
Outdoors	14	54	107	50	16
Other	13	14	18	24	30
All respondents	247	237	230	193	150

5.12. Over two-thirds (69%) of respondents ranked communal space/living room first. Just over two-fifths (43%) of respondents ranked private space/bedroom second. Outdoors was ranked third by 47% of respondents.

5.13. Respondents were then presented with a list of seven of activities and were asked to rank each activity, if relevant, based on the amount of time they spent on each activity during a weekday in their home. Again 1 indicated most time spent and 7 indicated least time spent.

Activity	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Relaxing (eg. watching tv, reading, playing music etc)	97	67	31	21	20	10	6
Domestic work/ chores	57	76	72	22	12	7	2
Socialising	16	32	52	60	32	27	5
Voluntary work/ study	14	23	22	36	24	31	13
Care/ support roles	17	24	25	25	27	22	15
Paid work	31	10	15	12	14	21	51
Other	10	2	7	9	13	10	16
All respondents	242	234	224	185	142	128	108

5.14. Two-fifths (40%) of respondents ranked relaxing first, a further 29% ranked relaxing second.

6. Your private space during lockdown

6.1. To assess if use of space had changed during lockdown respondents were again asked a series of questions based on their use of private space during lockdown, along with some questions relating to home-working.

6.2. Respondents were presented with a list of five spaces/areas within their homes, and were asked to rank each of the spaces/areas based on the amount of time they spent in each, with 1 being most time spent and 5 indicating least time spent.
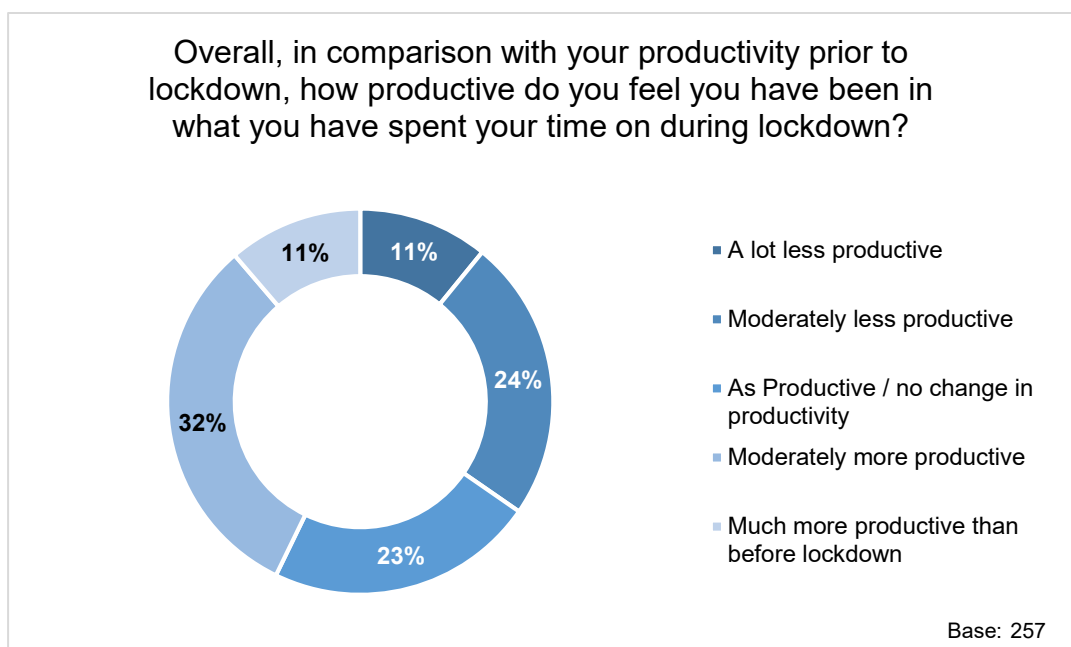
Space	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Communal space/living room	80	95	51	16	6
Space used for working	126	29	30	18	19
Outdoors	20	50	77	76	17
Private space/bedroom	12	53	66	87	23
Other	6	7	13	16	45
All respondents	244	234	237	213	110

6.3. Just over half (52%) of respondents ranked space used for working first. A third (33%) of respondents ranked communal space/living room first.

6.4. Respondents were then presented with a list of seven of activities and were asked to rank each activity, if relevant, based on the amount of time they spent on each activity during a weekday in their home. Again 1 indicated most time spent and 7 indicated least time spent.

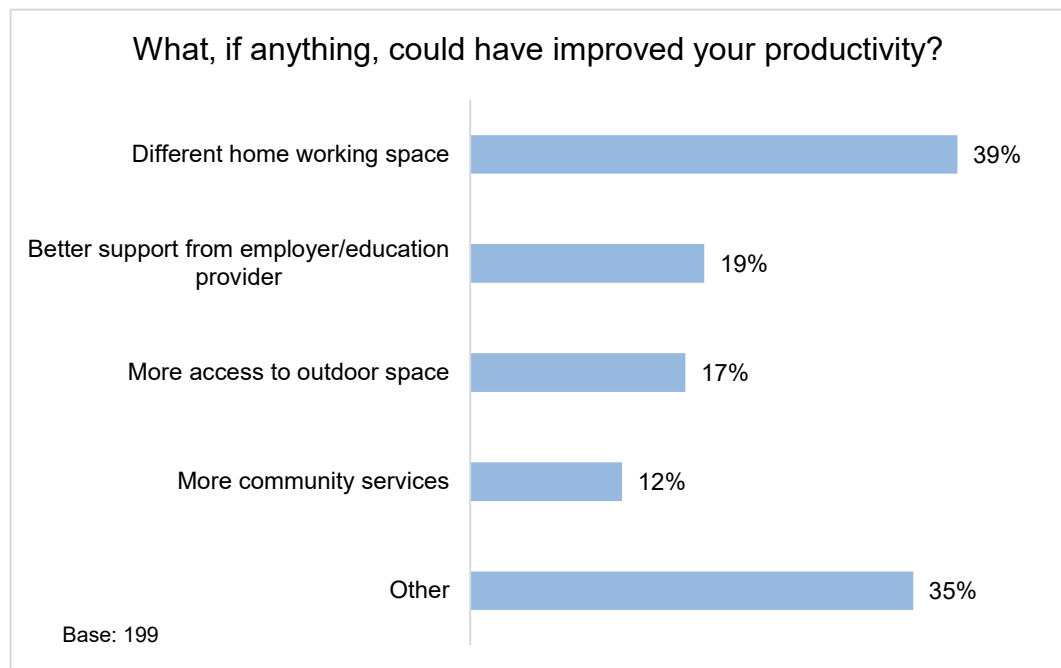| Activity	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Domestic work/ chores	25	82	76	40	11	3	2
Paid work	142	16	11	10	5	11	18
Relaxing (eg. Watching tv, reading, playing music etc)	36	62	70	41	23	13	3
Care/ support roles	18	39	28	20	24	17	7
Voluntary work/ study	5	17	21	29	35	27	15
Socialising	8	7	22	25	23	31	43
Other	8	9	5	7	14	10	23
All respondents	242	232	233	172	135	112	111

6.5.   Three in five respondents (59%) ranked paid work first. Only 15% of respondents ranked relaxing first, compared with 40% prior to lockdown.

6.6.   Respondents were next asked 'Overall, in comparison with your productivity prior to lockdown, how productive do you feel you have been in what you have spent your time on during lockdown?'

Overall, in comparison with your productivity prior to lockdown, how productive do you feel you have been in what you have spent your time on during lockdown?

- A lot less productive
- Moderately less productive
- As Productive / no change in productivity
- Moderately more productive
- Much more productive than before lockdown

Base: 257

6.7.   Over two-fifths (43%) of respondents felt they were more productive during lockdown, over a third (35%) felt they were less productive, and almost a quarter (23%) gave a neutral response.

6.8. Respondents were then asked if there was anything that could have improved their productivity. Respondents could select more than one answer.

What, if anything, could have improved your productivity?

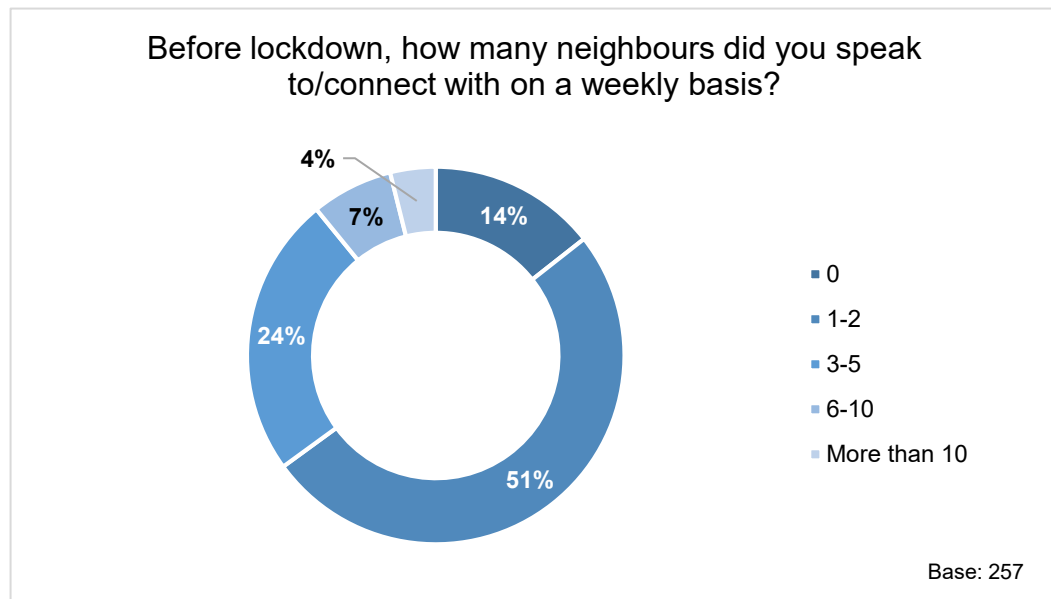| Category	Percentage
Different home working space	39%
Better support from employer/education provider	19%
More access to outdoor space	17%
More community services	12%
Other	35%

Base: 199

6.9. Almost two-fifths (39%) of respondents said that a different home working space could have improved their productivity. A fifth (19%) felt that better support from their employer or education provider could have improved their productivity.

6.10. Those who selected 'other' were given the opportunity to provide additional comment. Two common themes emerged from the comments. The first was having better IT/broadband, along with a proper office set up including desks and chairs. The second theme was the issue of childcare/home-schooling affecting productivity. As one respondent stated, *"Having an 8 and 4 year old at home all day cuts work productivity"*, while another commented that it is *"Impossible to work full time and home school children. Compromises on both activities."*
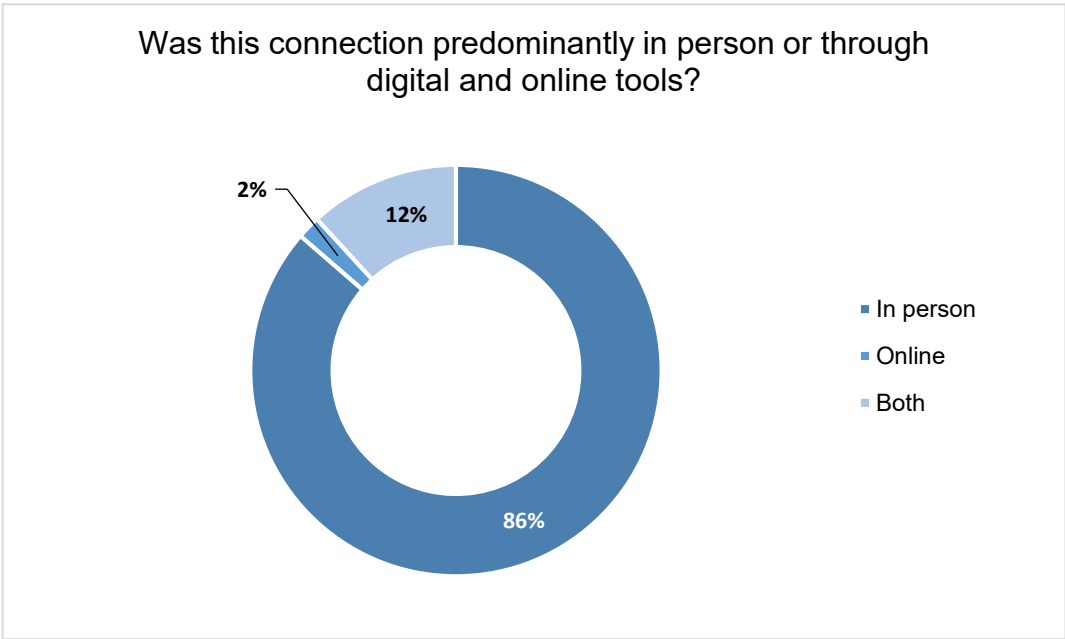
7. Your activity before lockdown – your neighbourhood

7.1.   Respondents were asked a number of questions based on their neighbourhood and interaction with neighbours and the local community prior to lockdown. The first question in this section of the survey asked the respondents to confirm how many neighbours they would have connected with/spoken with on a weekly basis.

Before lockdown, how many neighbours did you speak to/connect with on a weekly basis?

- 0
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6-10
- More than 10

14%
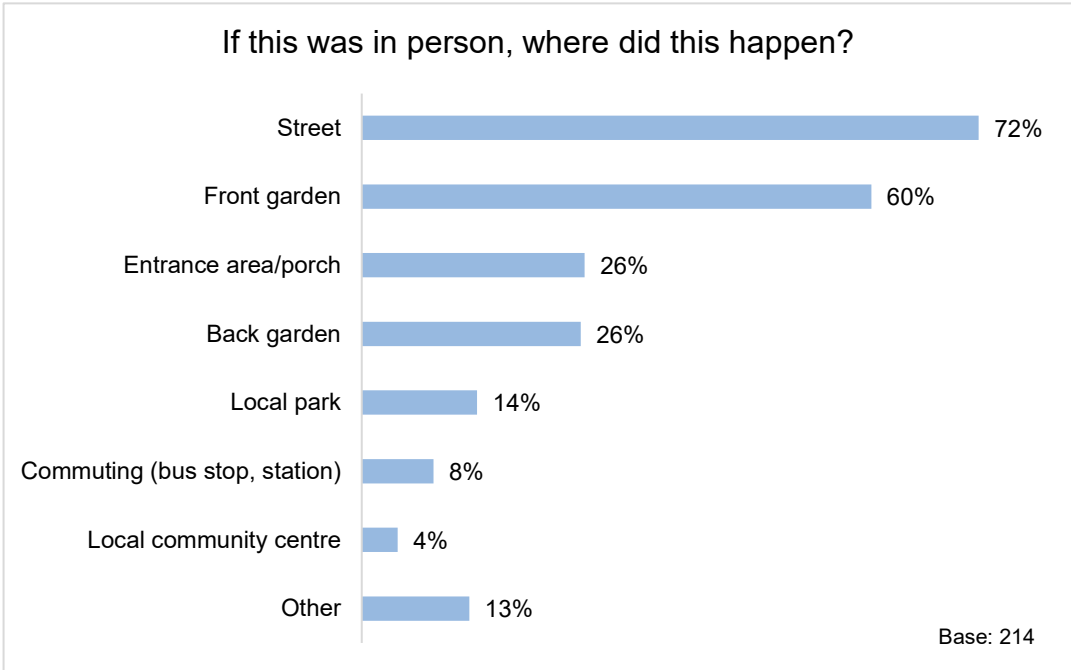4%
7%
24%
51%

Base: 257

7.2.   Just over half (51%) of respondents spoke to or connected with one or two neighbours on a weekly basis. Almost a quarter (24%) spoke to or connected with between three and five neighbours.

7.3.   Respondents were then asked whether the connection was predominantly in person, online or a mix of both.

Was this connection predominantly in person or through digital and online tools?

- 2%
- 12%
- 86%

Legend:
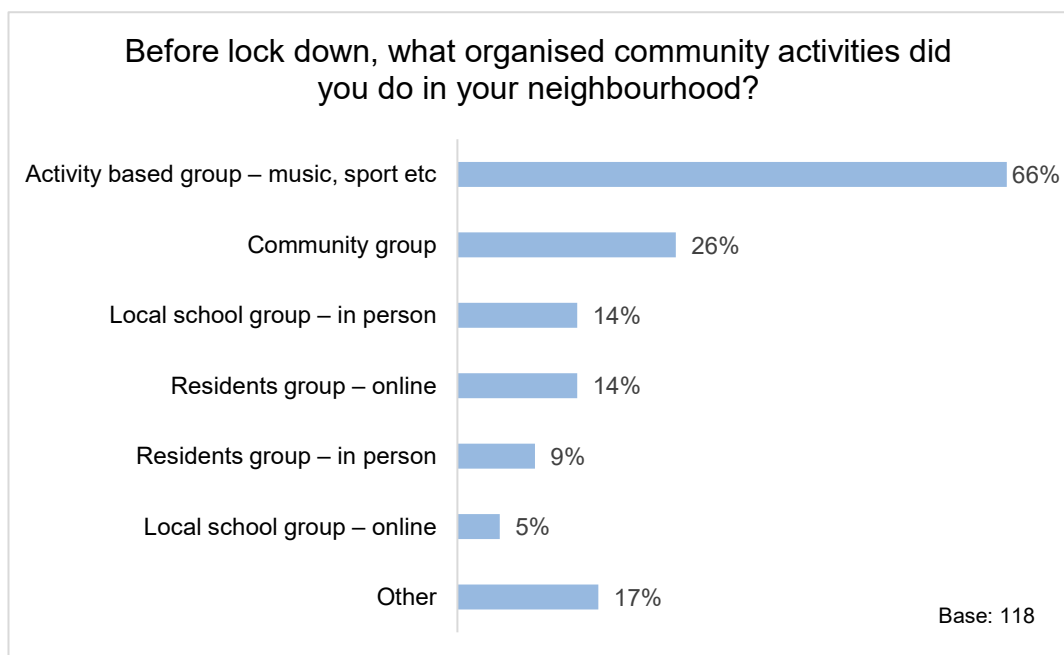- In person
- Online
- Both

7.4.   Almost all (98%) respondents connected with their neighbours in person, with the majority (86%) solely in person and a further 12% both in person and online.

7.5.   Respondents who had met with their neighbours in person were then asked where they had met. Respondents could select more than one answer.

If this was in person, where did this happen?

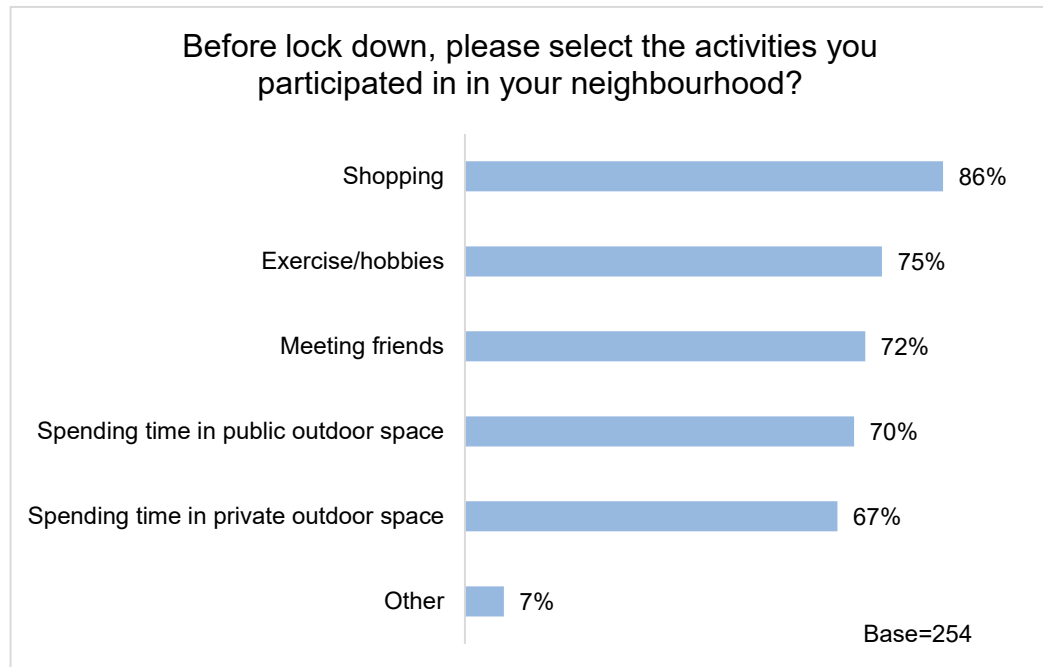| Location	Percentage
Street	72%
Front garden	60%
Entrance area/porch	26%
Back garden	26%
Local park	14%
Commuting (bus stop, station)	8%
Local community centre	4%
Other	13%

Base: 214

7.6. The majority of respondents who answered this question met either in the street (72%) of in the front garden (60%).

7.7. The respondents who selected 'other' were asked for additional comment to specify where they had met with their neighbours. The most common answers provided were in each other's homes or at church.

7.8. Respondents were asked to confirm any community based activities they were involved in within their neighbourhood prior to lockdown. Respondents could select more than one answer.

Before lock down, what organised community activities did you do in your neighbourhood?

Activity	%
Activity based group – music, sport etc	66%
Community group	26%
Local school group – in person	14%
Residents group – online	14%
Residents group – in person	9%
Local school group – online	5%
Other	17%

Base: 118

7.9. Two-thirds (66%) of those who participated in a community activity in their neighbourhood before lockdown described it as group-based activity such as music or sport.

7.10. Of the respondents who selected 'other', the most common additional comment provided was church, which accounted for almost half of the responses.

7.11.   Respondents were then asked to confirm what activities they participated in in their neighbourhood prior to lockdown. Respondents could select more than one answer.

Before lock down, please select the activities you participated in in your neighbourhood?

Activity	Percentage
Shopping	86%
Exercise/hobbies	75%
Meeting friends	72%
Spending time in public outdoor space	70%
Spending time in private outdoor space	67%
Other	7%

Base=254

7.12.   Almost nine in every ten respondents (86%) participated in shopping in their neighbourhood, while three quarters (75%) participated in exercise/hobbies, and 72% would meet friends in their neighbourhood.

7.13.   Of the respondents who answered 'other', the most common additional comment provided was church, which accounted for approximately a third of the responses.

7.14.   Respondents were asked how they travelled around their neighbourhood on a weekly basis, prior to lockdown. They were presented with seven modes of transport, and were asked to rank these in order of most frequently used, with 1 being most frequent and 7 being least frequent. Respondents were asked to rank only the options which were relevant.

Form of travel	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Private car	137	65	23	4	6	6	3
Foot	87	97	28	8	8	3	6
Bus	8	25	37	21	16	12	8
Bike	9	16	30	13	9	10	24
Taxi	1	8	19	31	19	19	9
Train	4	7	21	17	19	18	4
Other	1	0	2	6	2	5	17
All respondents	247	218	160	100	79	73	71

7.15.   Over half (55%) of respondents ranked travelling about their neighbourhood by private car as their number one mode of transport. Just over a third (35%) ranked travelling by foot in first place.

7.16.   Respondents were asked how much time they would spend per journey for each of the relevant modes of transport prior to lockdown. The options given to respondents ranged between 'up to 10 minutes' to 'over 30 minutes', with 5 minute increments in between.
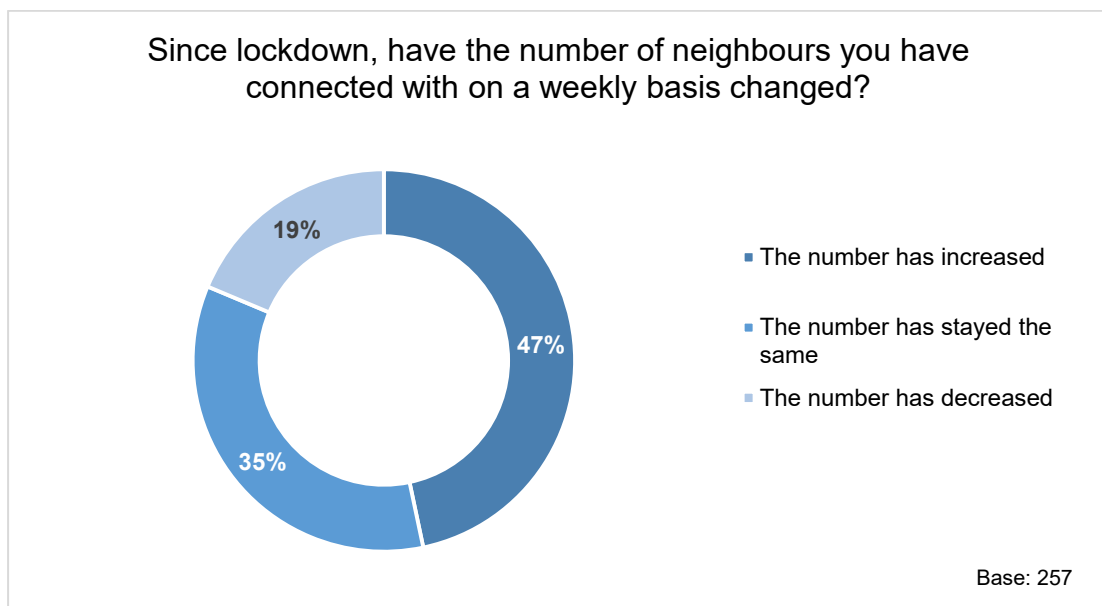
Form of travel	<10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	>30	All respondents
Private car	39	40	36	24	18	83	**240**
Foot	28	28	32	21	27	105	**241**
Bus	18	15	15	17	20	23	**108**
Bike	27	11	12	7	11	24	**92**
Taxi	29	22	16	9	5	0	**81**
Train	19	7	9	10	3	28	**76**
Other	14	3	0	1	0	1	**19**

7.17.   Over two-fifths (44%) of the respondents travelling by foot in their neighbourhood spent more than 30 minutes on each journey before

lockdown, while over a third (35%) of respondents who travelled by private car spent more than 30 minutes on each journey.

8. Your activity during lockdown

8.1. In order to assess the impact of lockdown, respondents were again asked a number of questions based on their neighbourhood and interaction with neighbours and the local community. Respondents were initially asked if there had been a change to the number of neighbours they had connected with since lockdown.

Since lockdown, have the number of neighbours you have connected with on a weekly basis changed?

- The number has increased
- The number has stayed the same
- The number has decreased
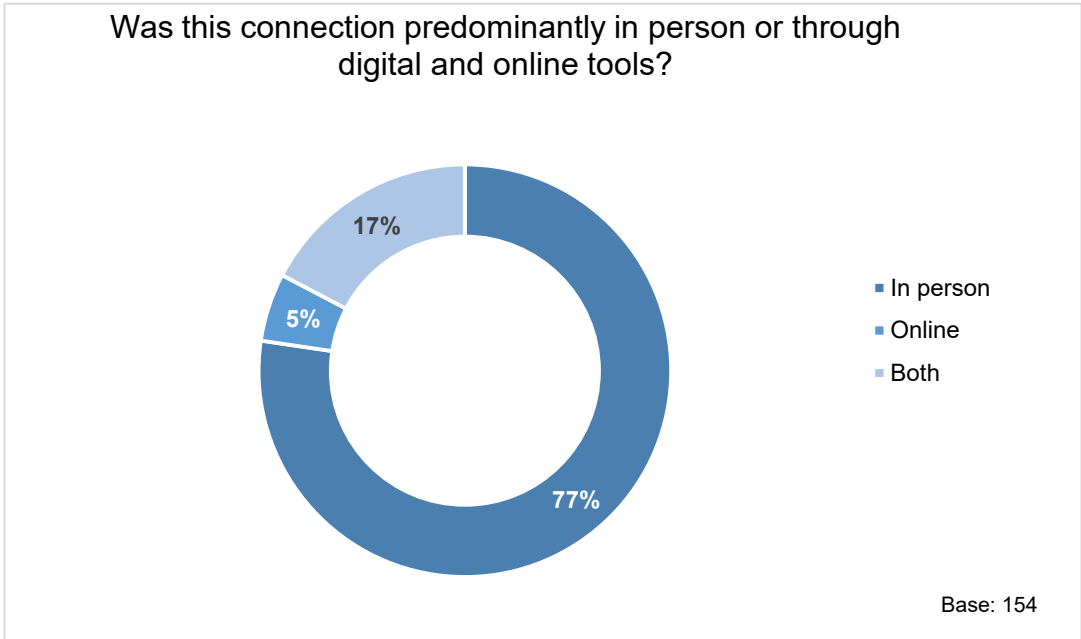
47%

35%

19%

Base: 257

8.2. Almost half (47%) of respondents answered that since lockdown the number of neighbours they have connected with on a weekly basis has increased. Over a third (35%) stated that the number had remained the same.
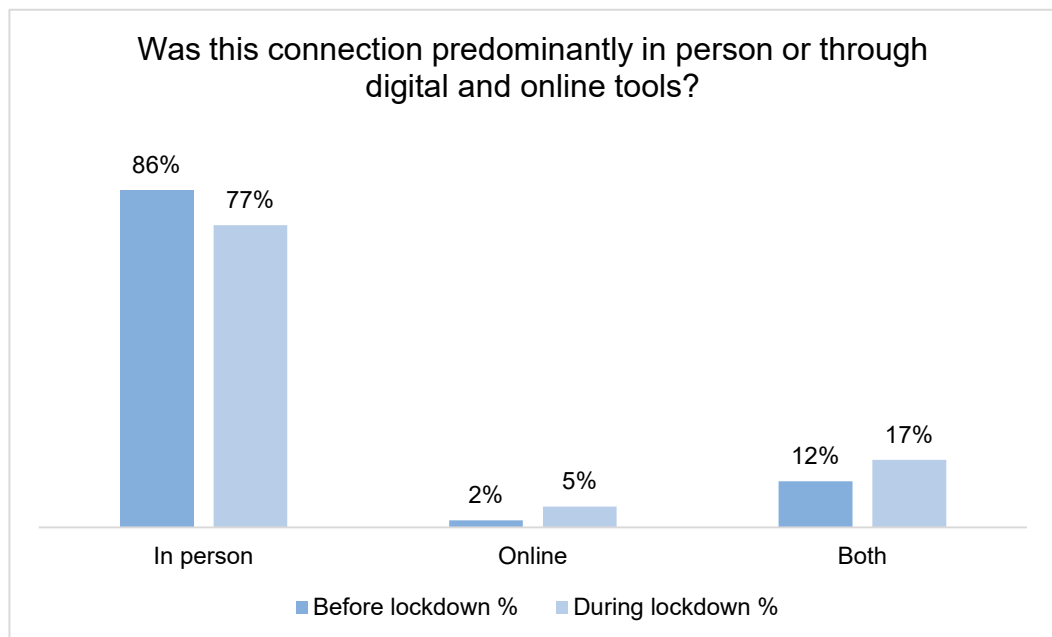
8.3. Respondents who had connected with more neighbours since lockdown were then asked to confirm the number of people it had increased by, with seven in every ten (70%) stating that it had increased by 3 or more.

If so by how many people?

31% — 1-2

35% — 3-4

35% — 5 or more

Base: 150
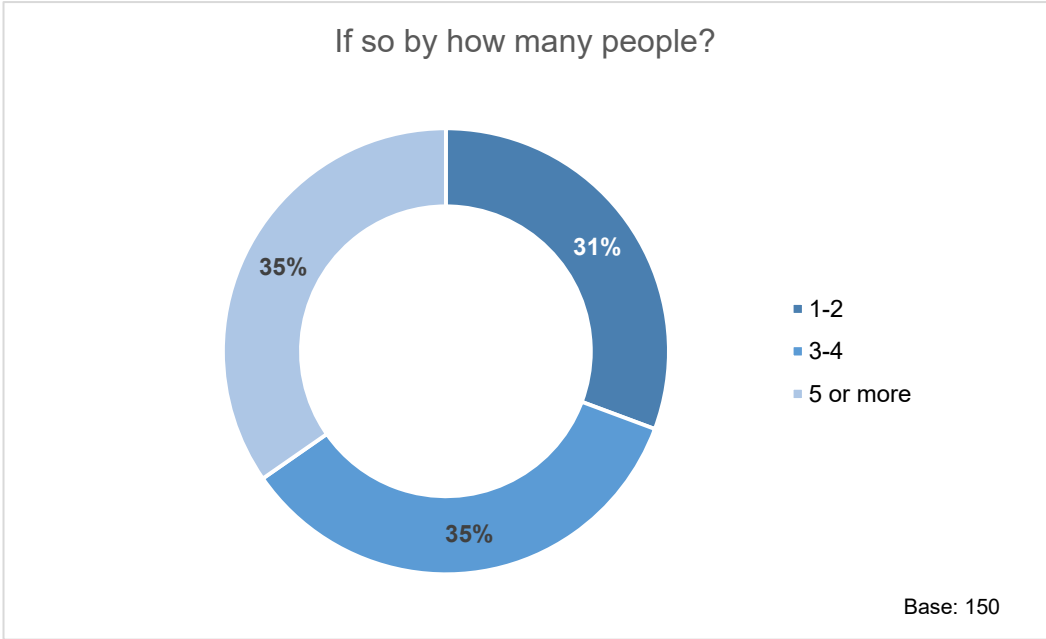
8.4. Respondents were asked to whether the connection with their neighbours was predominantly in person, online, or a mix of both.

Was this connection predominantly in person or through digital and online tools?

77% — In person

5% — Online

17% — Both

Base: 154

8.5.   Almost all (94%) of respondents connected with their neighbours in person, with more than three-quarters (77%) connecting solely in person and 17% connecting both in person and online.

Was this connection predominantly in person or through digital and online tools?

	In person	Online	Both
Before lockdown %	86%	2%	12%
During lockdown %	77%	5%	17%

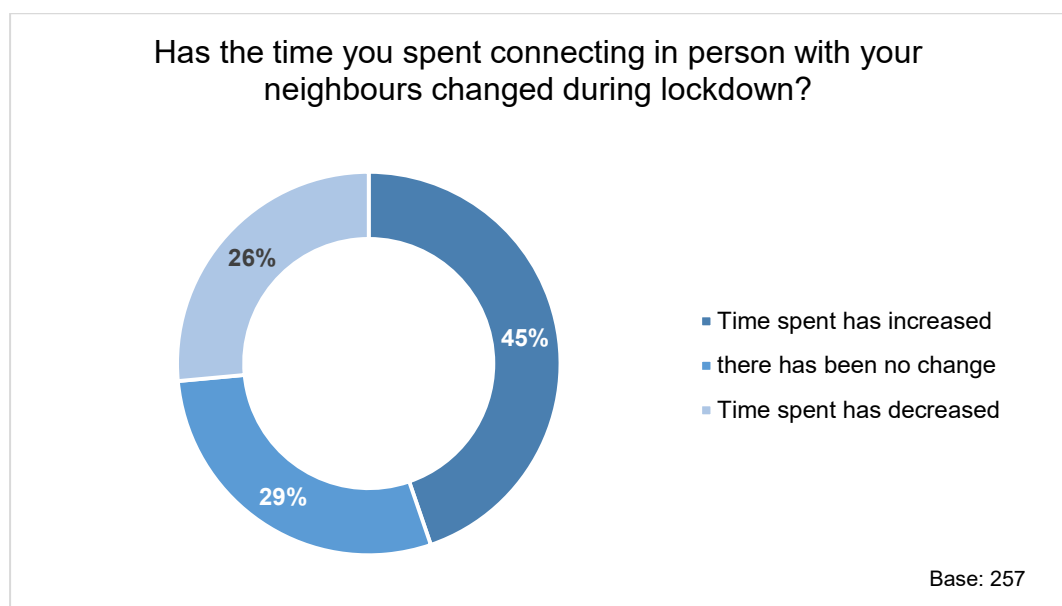Base=220(pre), 154 (during)

8.6.   A comparison between before lockdown and during lockdown shows that those meeting their neighbours predominantly in person had fallen by almost 10 percentage points, while the proportions of those meeting predominantly online, or through both online methods and in person, had increased.

8.7.   Respondents who had met with neighbours in person were then asked to confirm where this had taken place.

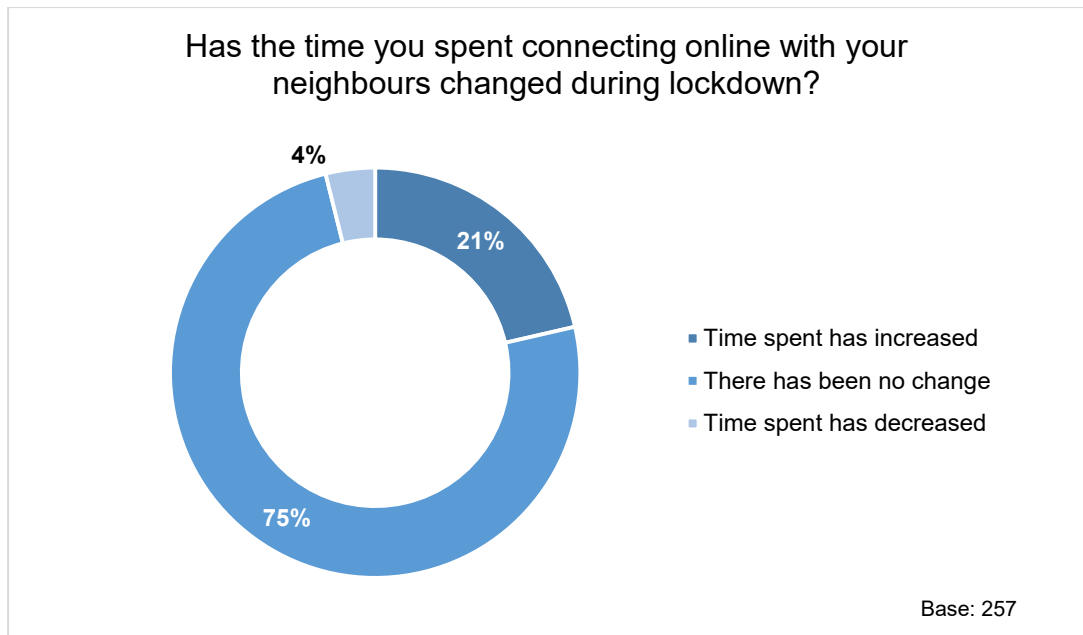| Place	Response count	Response %	Response before lockdown %	Difference
Street	119	80%	71%	+9pps
Front garden	81	55%	60%	-5pps
Entrance area/ porch	19	13%	26%	-13pps
Back garden	24	16%	26%	-10pps
Local park	19	13%	14%	-1pps
Other	13	9%	25%	-16pps
All respondents	**148**	**100%**	**100%**	

pps Percentage points

8.8. Of those respondents who met in person, four-fifths (80%) met on the street and over half (55%) met in the front garden.

8.9. Of the 9 respondents who selected 'other', comments were varied and included; while out walking, and at the local shops.

8.10. Respondents were asked if the amount of time they had spent connecting with their neighbours in person had changed since lockdown.

Has the time you spent connecting in person with your neighbours changed during lockdown?

45%
26%
29%

- Time spent has increased
- there has been no change
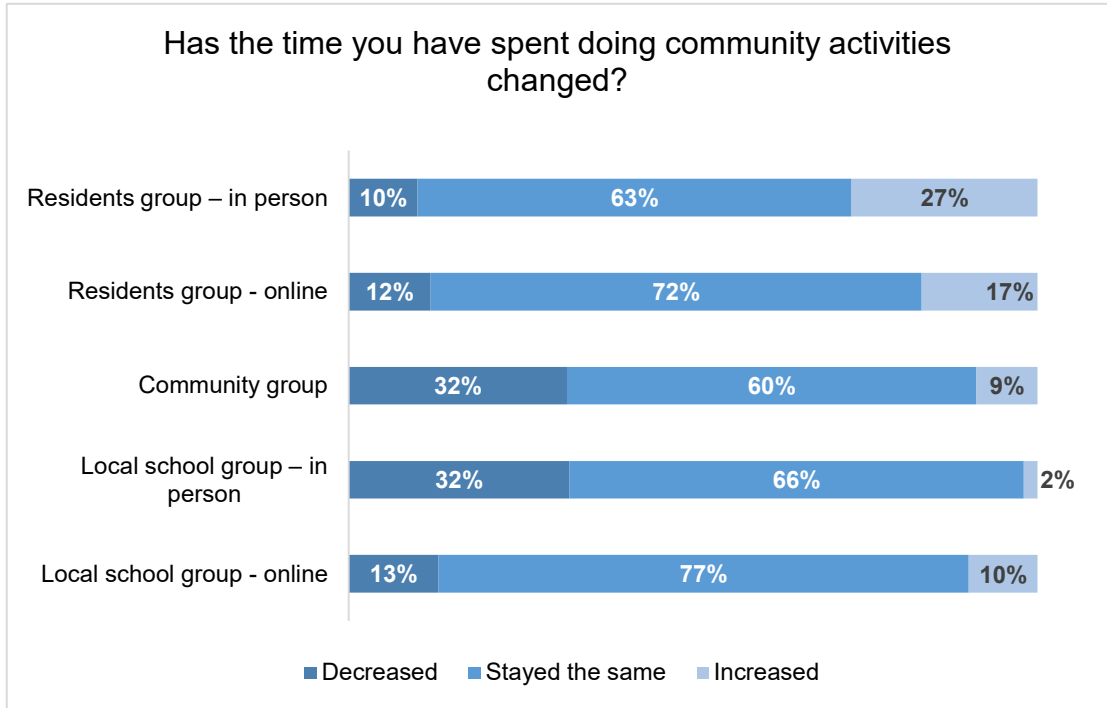- Time spent has decreased

Base: 257

8.11. Just over a quarter (26%) of respondents said that the time spent connecting in person with neighbours had decreased during lockdown and 45% reported that it had increased.

8.12. Respondents were also asked if the time spent connecting with their neighbours online had changed since lockdown.

Has the time you spent connecting online with your neighbours changed during lockdown?

4%

21%

75%

- Time spent has increased
- There has been no change
- Time spent has decreased

Base: 257

8.13. For three-quarters (75%) of respondents lockdown has had no impact on the time spent connecting online with neighbours during lockdown.

8.14. Respondents were asked if there had been any change to the amount of time they had spent doing community based activities in their neighbourhood during lockdown.

Has the time you have spent doing community activities changed?

Activity	Decreased	Stayed the same	Increased
Residents group – in person	10%	63%	27%
Residents group - online	12%	72%	17%
Community group	32%	60%	9%
Local school group – in person	32%	66%	2%
Local school group - online	13%	77%	10%

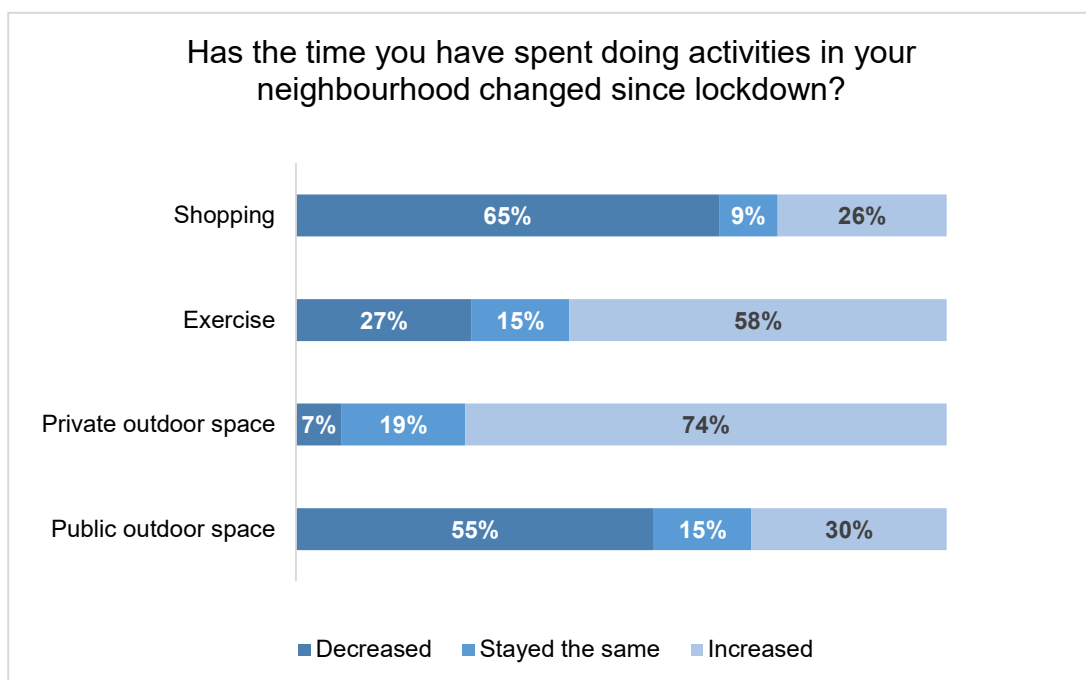■ Decreased ■ Stayed the same ■ Increased

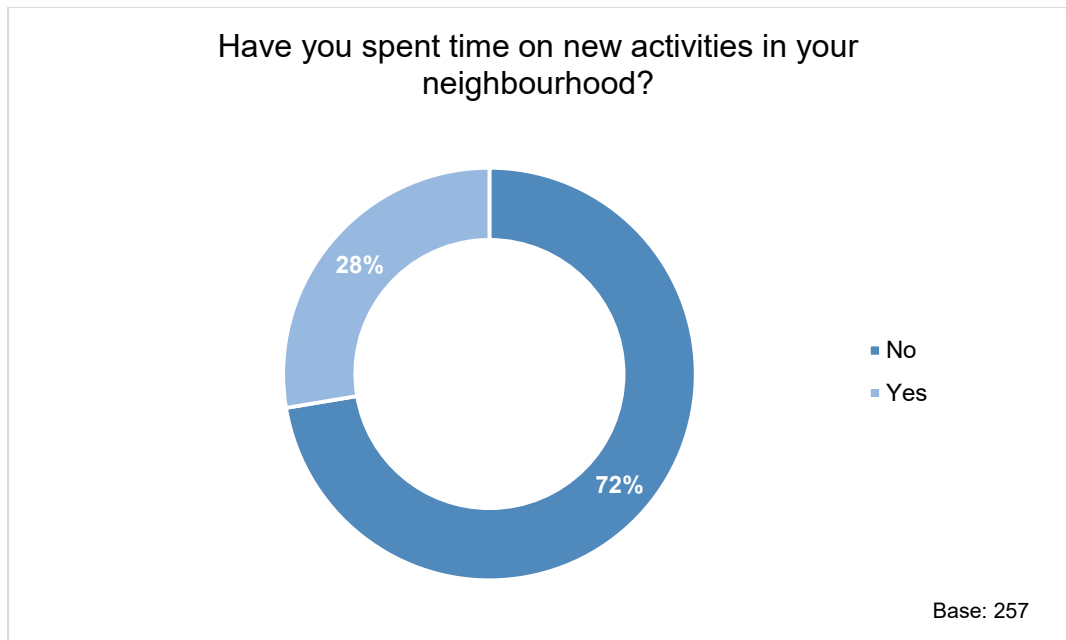8.15. Over a quarter (27%) of respondents have seen an increase in the time spent engaging with residents groups (in person).

8.16. Respondents were then asked if they had spent time doing any new community based activities in their neighbourhood during lockdown.
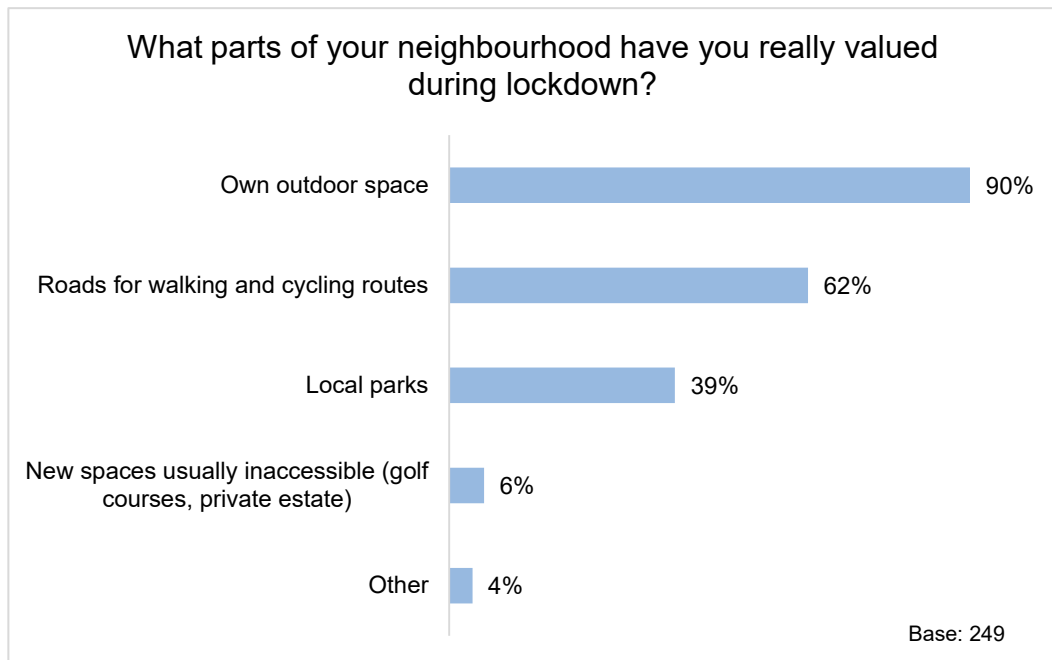
Have you spent time doing new community based activities?

14% Yes
86% No

■ No
■ Yes

Base: 257
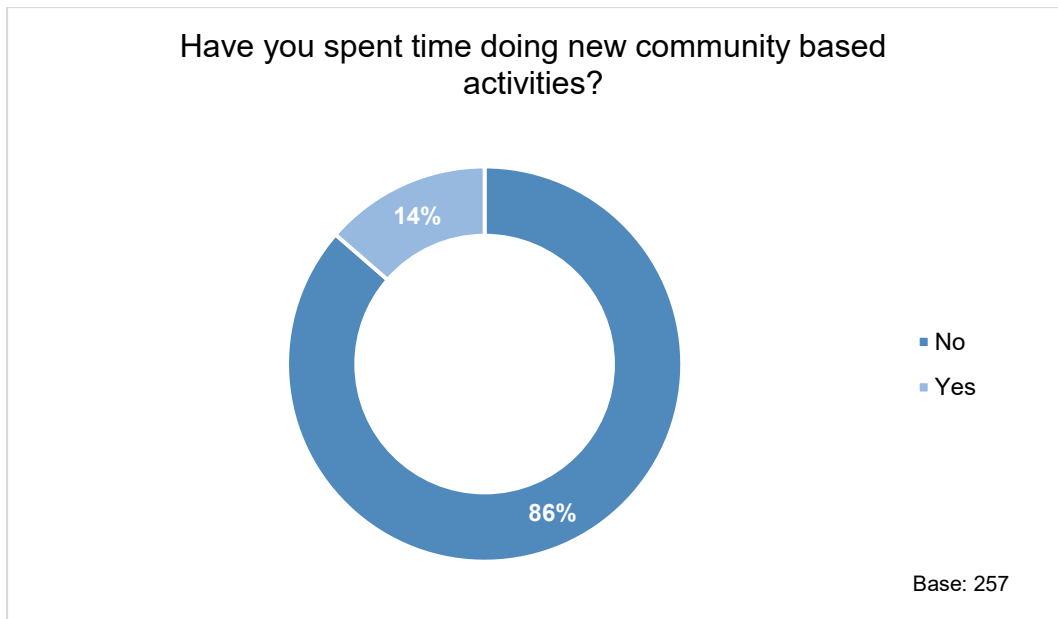
8.17. Less than one in five (14%) of respondents have spent time doing new community based activities during lockdown.

8.18. The most common new community based activity for those who answered 'yes' was delivering food and shopping to vulnerable neighbours and family members.

8.19. Respondents were asked if the time they had spent doing activities within their neighbourhood had changed during lockdown.

Has the time you have spent doing activities in your neighbourhood changed since lockdown?

Activity	Decreased	Stayed the same	Increased
Shopping	65%	9%	26%
Exercise	27%	15%	58%
Private outdoor space	7%	19%	74%
Public outdoor space	55%	15%	30%

■ Decreased ■ Stayed the same ■ Increased

8.20. Almost two-thirds (65%) of respondents had seen a decrease in the time spent shopping in their neighbourhood during lockdown. Almost three-fifths (58%) of respondents said that during lockdown they had spent more time on exercise in their neighbourhood.

8.21. Respondents were then asked if they had spent time on any new activities within their neighbourhood during lockdown.

Have you spent time on new activities in your neighbourhood?

28%

72%

- No
- Yes

Base: 257

8.22. Over a quarter (28%) of respondents have spent time on new activities in their neighbourhood during lockdown.

8.23. Of the respondents who confirmed that they were spending time on new activities, approximately two thirds of the additional comments mentioned exercising, which included walking, cycling, and online yoga classes.

8.24. Respondents were asked to confirm what parts of their neighbourhood they had really valued during lockdown. Respondents could choose more than one answer.

What parts of your neighbourhood have you really valued during lockdown?

Category	Percentage
Own outdoor space	90%
Roads for walking and cycling routes	62%
Local parks	39%
New spaces usually inaccessible (golf courses, private estate)	6%
Other	4%

Base: 249

8.25. Nine in ten (90%) respondents said they valued their own outdoor space during lockdown. Over three-fifths (62%) valued roads for walking and cycling routes.

8.26. Respondents who selected 'other' were asked to provide additional comment. There were 22 additional comments. Just under half of the respondents made mention of outdoor space in their comments, including the beach, coastal walks, and local heritage sites.

8.27. Respondents were asked if they had explored new places during lockdown, and if so where. Overall, 97 comments were received. However, over a third of respondents stated they had not explored new places. Reasons mentioned included lockdown rules (*"I have not travelled to new places as we are not supposed to make any unnecessary journeys."),* and public spaces being closed to public.

8.28. There were 61 comments which did mention exploration of new places. Whilst comments were varied, a number discussed discovering new routes or new streets while out walking around their neighbourhood for exercise. Comments included *"Enjoyed finding new local routes for long walks"*, *"Trying to vary my routes to the local parks via different streets. Try to select*

the quietest and ones with attractive front gardens." and *"I have walked round some new areas in the neighbourhood now for exercise"*. Others commented on access to parks and golf courses which were open to the public.

8.29. Respondents were asked if they had been willing to increase their travel time to reach new places during lockdown.
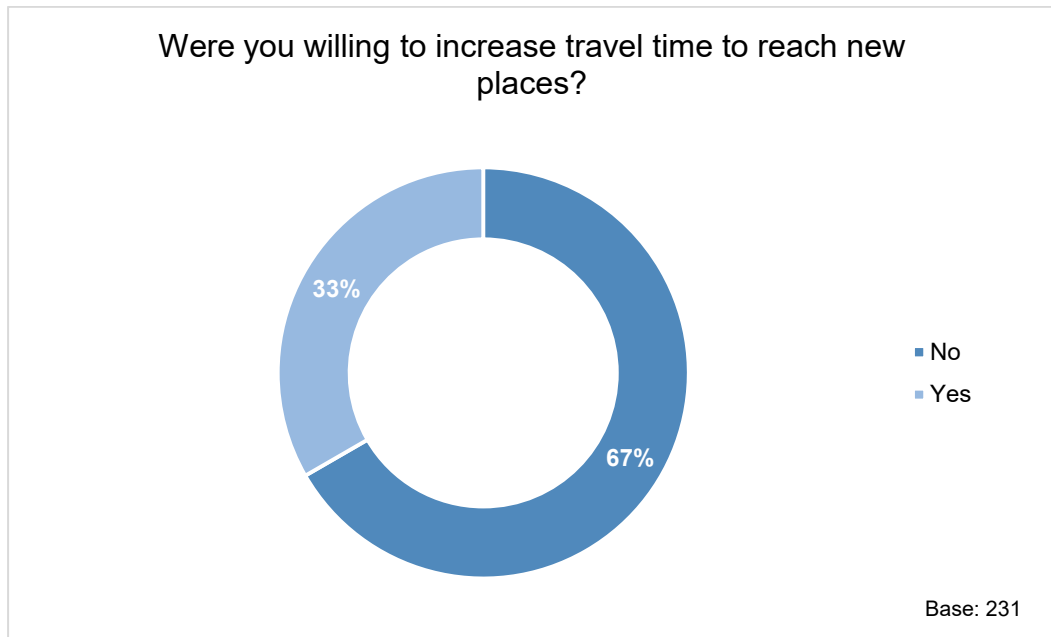
8.30. A third of respondents (33%) were willing to increase travel time to reach new places and two thirds (67%) were not.

8.31. Respondents were asked how they travelled around their neighbourhood on a weekly basis, during lockdown. They were presented with seven modes of transport, and were asked to rank these in order of most frequently used, with 1 being most frequent and 7 being least frequent. Respondents were asked to rank only the options which were relevant.

Form of travel	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Foot	180	47	3	1	1	5	4
Private car	50	106	33	6	4	5	14
Bike	7	34	25	5	3	3	13
Bus	0	5	9	5	8	8	8
Taxi	1	1	2	11	5	7	5
Train	0	1	3	7	10	7	1
Other	4	1	2	3	2	2	10
All respondents	**242**	**195**	**77**	**38**	**33**	**37**	**55**

8.32. Travel by foot was ranked first by three-quarters (74%) of respondents who used this form of travel. This is in contrast to 35% before lockdown.

8.33. Respondents were asked how much time they would spend per journey for each of the relevant modes of transport during lockdown. The options given to respondents ranged between 'up to 10 minutes' to 'over 30 minutes', with 5 minute increments between.

Form of travel	<10 mins	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	>30	All respondents
Foot	11	16	15	8	22	166	**238**
Private car	60	56	29	16	17	40	**218**
Bike	21	11	3	5	11	37	**88**
Bus	15	5	1	5	1	3	**30**
Taxi	22	1	1	1	0	1	**26**
Train	18	2	1	0	1	1	**23**
Other	15	1	0	1	0	0	**17**

8.34. Seven in ten (70%) of the respondents travelling by foot in their neighbourhood spent more than 30 minutes on each journey. Only 18% of respondents who travelled by private car spent more than 30 minutes on each journey, compared with 35% before lockdown. While almost three in ten (28%) of respondents travelling by private car spent less than 10 minutes per journey.

9. After lockdown and any other comments

9.1. Respondents were asked 'where is the first place you will go after lockdown?'. All 257 respondents provided a response. Whilst there was a great degree of variety in the answers provided, two main themes emerged. The most common theme identified, with approximately half of the responses, was visiting family and friends. The other theme was going out to a restaurant or pub, which accounted for almost a fifth of the comments.

9.2. Finally, respondents were asked if they wanted to provide any further comments, with 65 choosing to do so. A number of comments highlighted the positive aspects of lockdown including: no commuting, exercising more, cleaner air, less noise, and feeling more connected to their local neighbourhood. Others commented on the lockdown allowing them to step back and recognise the importance of family and achieving a better work-life balance – *"Lockdown has obviously many negative aspects but what it has shown many, including myself, that downtime, family and our local environment is incredibly important"*; *"I hope the lockdown has led others (particularly those in positions of influence) to reassess what is important in our lives and take steps towards achieving better work / life balances for all"*. Another theme was that of missing the social aspect of work and the camaraderie of the office, with one respondent stating that they were *"more aware of how important the workplace is for connecting with other people on a face to face as opposed to virtual level and how important it is for my mental health"*, and another commenting that they *"miss even short social breaks with colleagues just even to chat for 5 minutes"*.

Concluding summary

The purpose of this survey was to better understand how lockdown was impacting on people's experience of private and public spaces. Based on the responses received and analysed, we outline the following key learnings:

- The experience of lockdown has had a balance of positive and negative impacts on people's wellbeing;
- People felt that access to a private outdoor space was their most valued thing during lockdown;
- Outdoor space beyond the domestic setting was similarly valuable, with a noticeable increase seen in walking and cycling;
- The importance of streets, gardens and entrances to people's homes was emphasised as the main interface with neighbours and the wider community;
- Overall, connections in person with neighbours were good and have improved during lockdown;
- There was a sizeable increase in travel on foot compared to pre-lockdown.

To compare the full results against the different stages of Covid-19 restrictions over the past year, we will carry out a follow up survey in the spring of 2021. The information will then be collated and analysed in order to document and produce a set of key learnings and recommendations post-lockdown. This information will also be used in MAG's ongoing work on updating the Architecture and Built Environment Policy.