

# Listed Places of Worship Grant Impact Assessment

April- May 2010

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# Background

## Repair grants for Places of Worship scheme

Since 2002, English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund have made over £171 million in repair grants to **over 1,850 projects** in listed places of worship across England -under the Repair Grants for Places of Worship Scheme (RGPoW).

Administered by EH the scheme is:

**Designed to help congregations to care for historic churches, synagogues and other places of worship.**

## Listed Places of Worship scheme

Running concurrently to the RGPoW scheme is the Treasury funded Listed Places of Worship Scheme (LPoW). **This returns, in grant aid, all or part of the amount spent on VAT on eligible repairs to listed place of worship.** -it includes repair work funded through the RGPoW Scheme, and through other grant schemes or fundraising.

**Since April 2004, the full amount of VAT can be reclaimed.**

This scheme is due to end in March 2011 and generates between 300 and 500 claims every month.

# Research Approach

**In the context of these two schemes, there was a requirement to conduct an assessment of the impact of these schemes on the state of the places of worship sector. For both RGPoW and LPoW, an assessment was required of:**

- The impact of the scheme on the buildings themselves;
- The impact on faith groups;
- The impact of the grant conditions;
- The relationship between the schemes and PoW at Risk.

*For the RGPoW Scheme, a statistical analysis of grant recipients and the nature of their grants was also required.*

\*The results of the RGPoW Scheme specific research are documented in a separate presentation.

**This report focuses on the impact of the LPoW grant**

# Methodology

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**25<sup>th</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

**100 telephone interviews among RGPoW grant recipients**

Interviews among RGPoW grant recipients who received their initial grant in 2005 or more recently and who have completed their project –*defined by 'initial offer date: November 2005 or later'*

**27<sup>th</sup> April – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

**201 telephone interviews among LPoW recipients who have not received an RGPoW grant**

Interviews among LPoW recipients who have not received an RGPoW grant and who received an LPoW grant in 2005 or more recently

-101 Less than £10,000 LPoW grant

-100 More than £10,000 LPoW grant

# Representativeness of data

To ensure that the data analysed is as representative as possible the following steps were taken:

## RGPoW interviews (n=100): Quotas were placed to represent the sample by:

Grant Size	Actual (received RGPoW grant in 2005 or more recently)	Achieved	Faith	Actual (received grant in 2005 or more recently)	Achieved
Less than or equal to £47,000	19%	25%	Church of England	94%	94%
Greater than £47,000, less than £78,000	23%	24%	Non Church of England	6%	6%
Greater than or equal to £78,000, less than or equal to £127,000	28%	26%			
Greater than £127,000	31%	25%			

## LPoW interviews (n=201): weighting was applied to data for:

Faith	Actual (received LPoW grant in 2005 or more recently)	Achieved
Church of England/ Anglican	90%	157 interviews (78%)
Non Church of England/ Anglican	10%	44 interviews (22%)

## For analysis of all LPoW recipients (n=301; this includes 100 interviews from the RGPoW sample) data was weighted by:

Grant Type	Actual (received LPoW grant in 2005 or more recently)	Achieved
LPoW grant received after first RGPoW grant* *RGPoW last amended date 2005 onwards	28.1%	100 interviews (33%)
Major LPoW grant (non-RGPoW)** (LPoW £10,000 +)	4.0%	100 interviews (33%)
Minor LPoW grant (non-RGPoW)** (LPoW <£10,000)	67.9%	101 interviews (34%)

\*\* Definition of Non-RGPoW recipients defined by Non-RGPoW claim or LPoW payment made date prior to first 'RGPoW initial offer date'.

# Research findings

# Research Findings

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## Research Findings

- Background:
  - why are grants needed
- Getting funding for repair and maintenance work
- How important is LPoW grant for repairs and maintenance
- Impact of repair and maintenance work grant was received for
- Repair and maintenance in the future



# Background

–why are grants  
needed?

# Repairs and maintenance for their place of worship is a constant major concern for well over half of both RGPoW and non-RGPoW recipients

Q14. Which of these statements most accurately reflects your experience of maintaining your listed Place of Worship? Repairs and maintenance for you Place of Worship is....

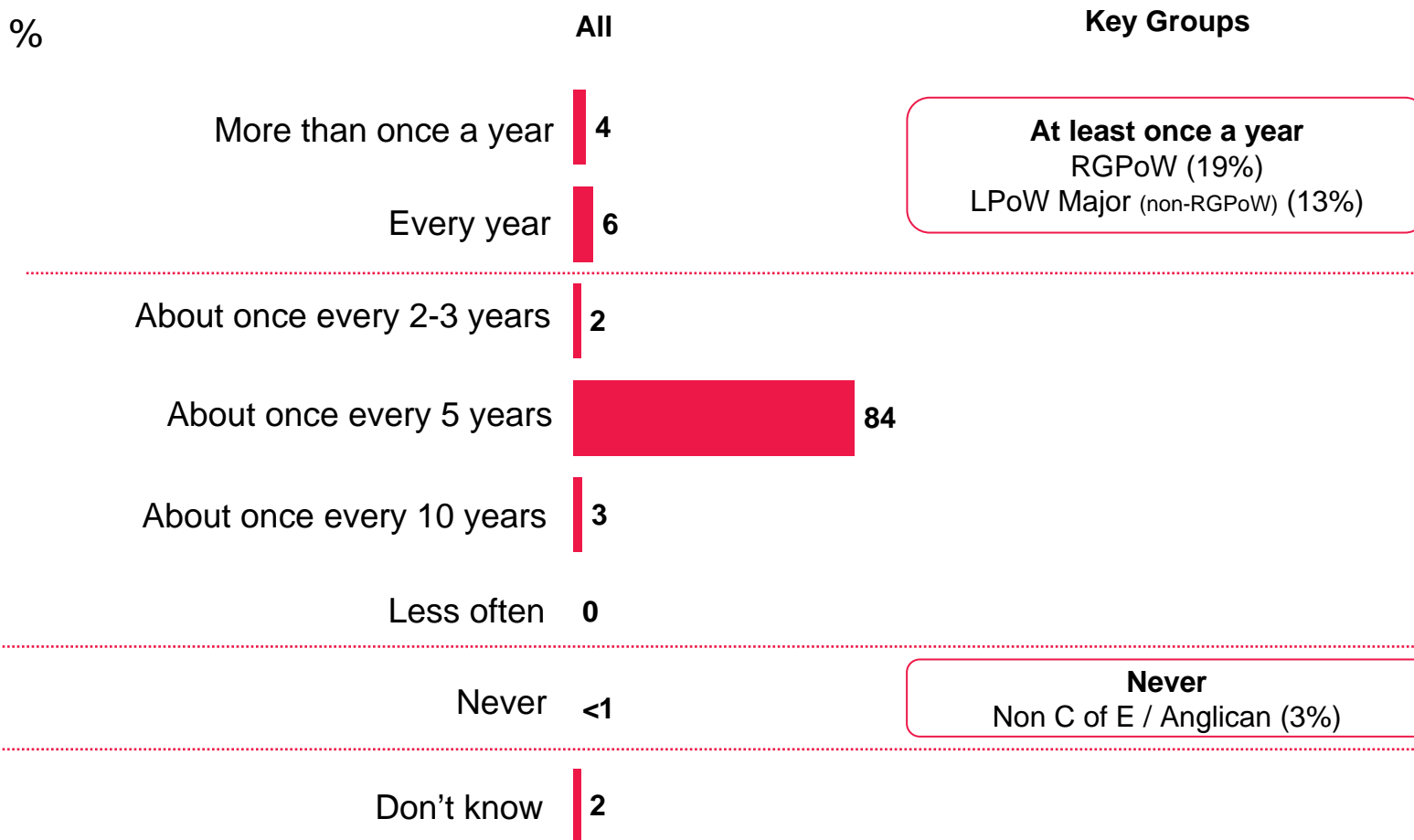
%



Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (n=85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216)

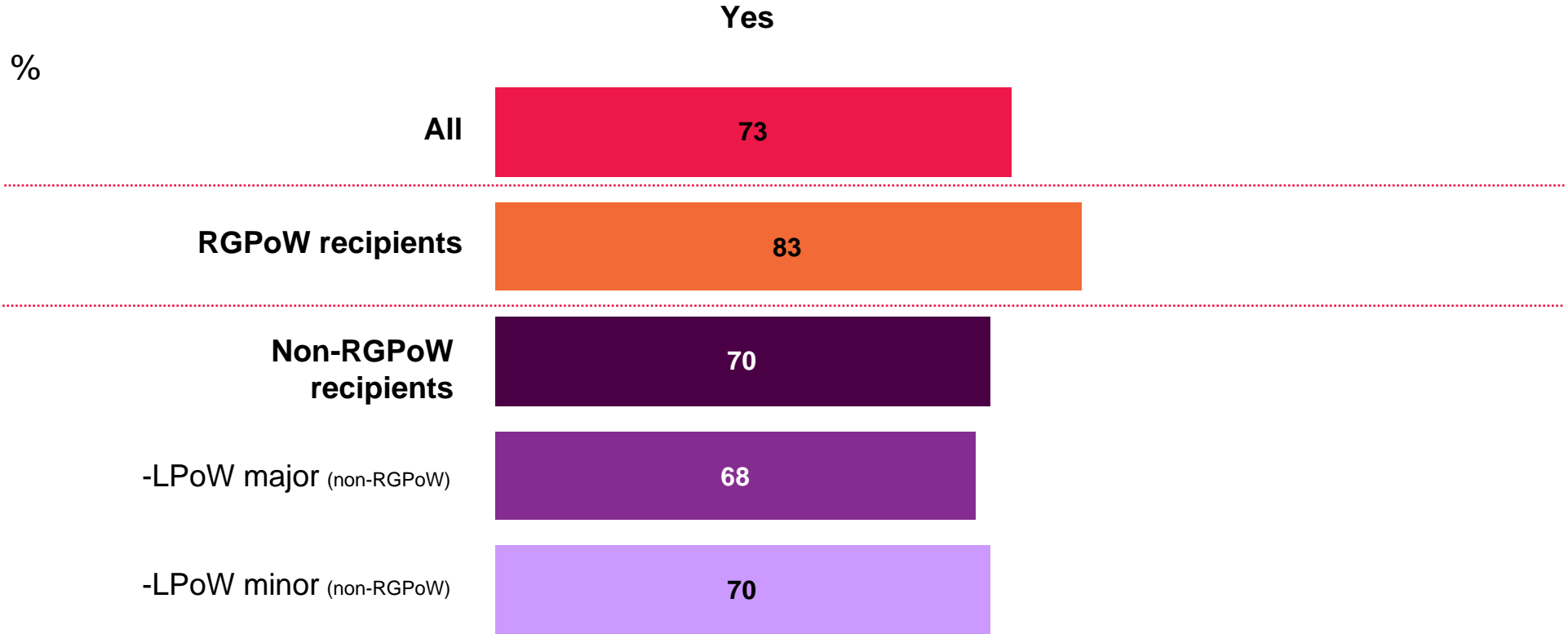
# Surveyor and architect inspections most likely to take place at least every 5 years (95%); More frequent 'at least yearly' inspections more likely among RGPoW and Major LPoW recipients

Q19. How often, if at all, is your Place of Worship inspected by the surveyor or architect?



# Inspection reports are a strong trigger to carry out repair and maintenance work, notable among all recipient types but strongest among RGPoW recipients

Q20. And was this repair and maintenance work carried out as a result of an inspection report? You might also know this as a condition survey or a quinquennial review.

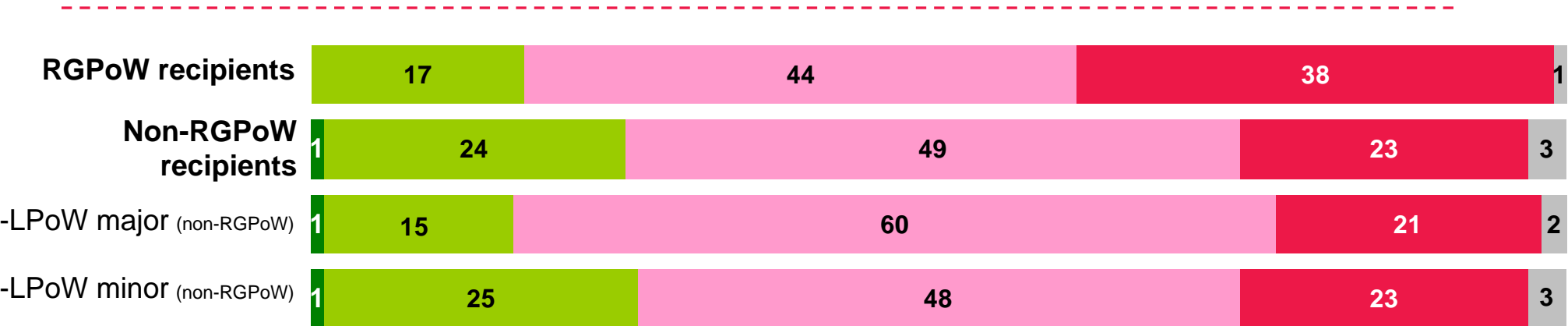
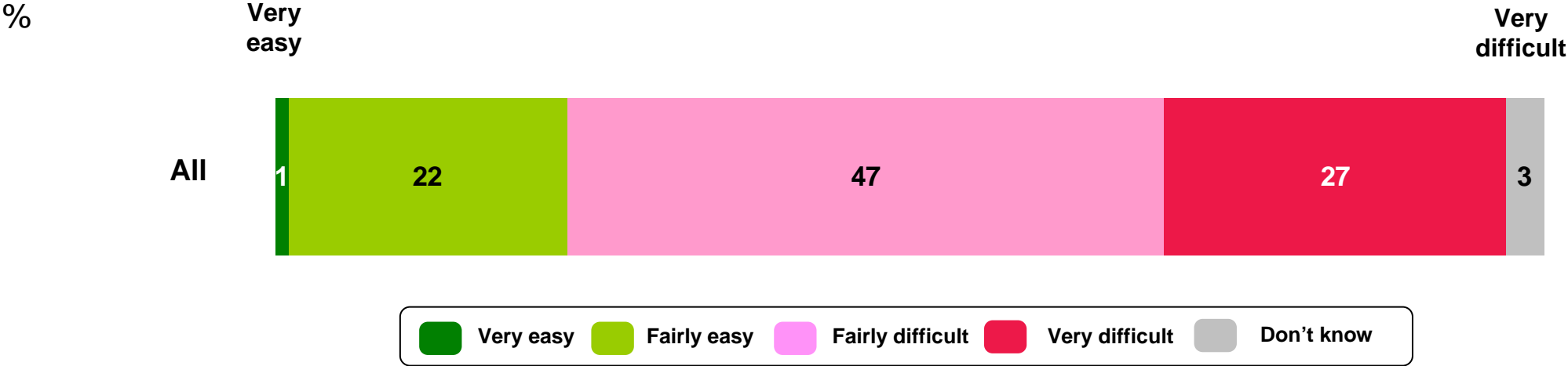


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# Getting funding

# Funds are difficult to raise for repair and maintenance work

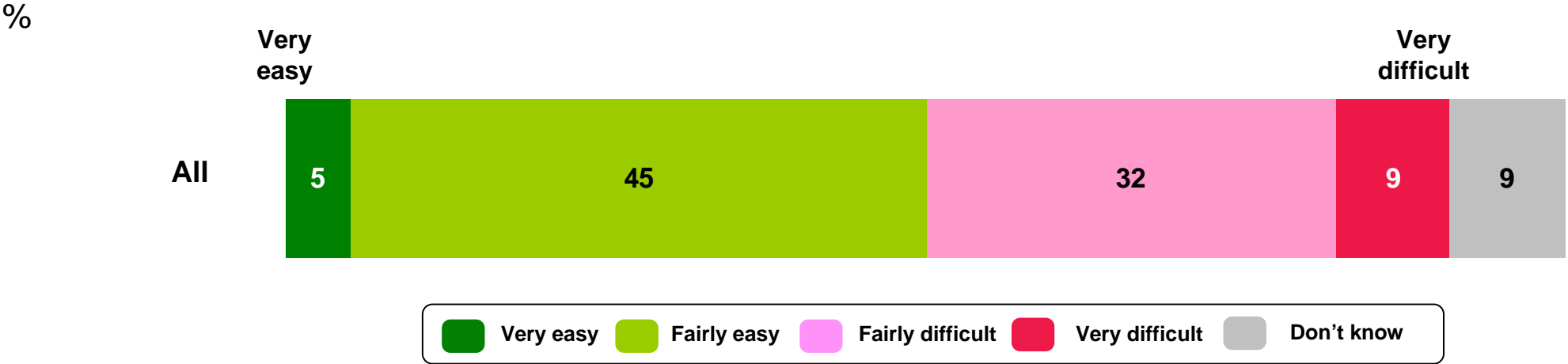
Q15. And generally, how easy or difficult does your Place of Worship find it to raise funds for repairs and maintenance



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# Grants can be difficult to find out about

Q16. Which of the following describes how easy or difficult it is for you to find out about the range of grants available for the repair and maintenance of your Place of Worship?



RGPoW recipients



Non-RGPoW recipients



-LPoW major (non-RGPoW)



-LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)



Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (n=85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) -major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) -minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)

# Vast majority found LPoW application process easy; over one third considered it to be very easy

Ease of RGPoW application  
(base RGPoW recipients n=100)



Q6. How easy or difficult did you find the process for applying for the Listed Places of Worship grant?

%

Very easy

Very difficult

All



Very easy



Fairly easy



Fairly difficult



Very difficult



Don't know

RGPoW recipients



Non-RGPoW recipients



-LPoW major (non-RGPoW)



-LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)



Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (n=85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) -major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) -minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)



# What makes the LPoW application process easy

“  
They were **very helpful dealing with queries**, very helpful

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' RGPoW recipient

The **whole operation went more smoothly than I had expected**. The **people that I dealt with were very helpful**

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' RGPoW recipient

We could not have done the work without it.  
**Its very fast sending the money and good advice on the phone**

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' RGPoW recipient

I was most impressed by **the ease and the speed and approachability of the people I spoke to**

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' LPoW Minor recipient

**Its easy to get the info**, fill the form out, response was pretty quick to be honest

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' LPoW Major recipient

It was **relatively simple and easy to administer**

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' LPoW Major recipient

The dealings that I've had with it - I find **the forms quite easy to follow** - and if you did have a query there was **someone on the other end of the phone to get back to you**

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' LPoW Major recipient

I thought the application process was **straightforward and we are grateful**

Source: 'Any other comments on the LPoW scheme' LPoW Minor recipient”

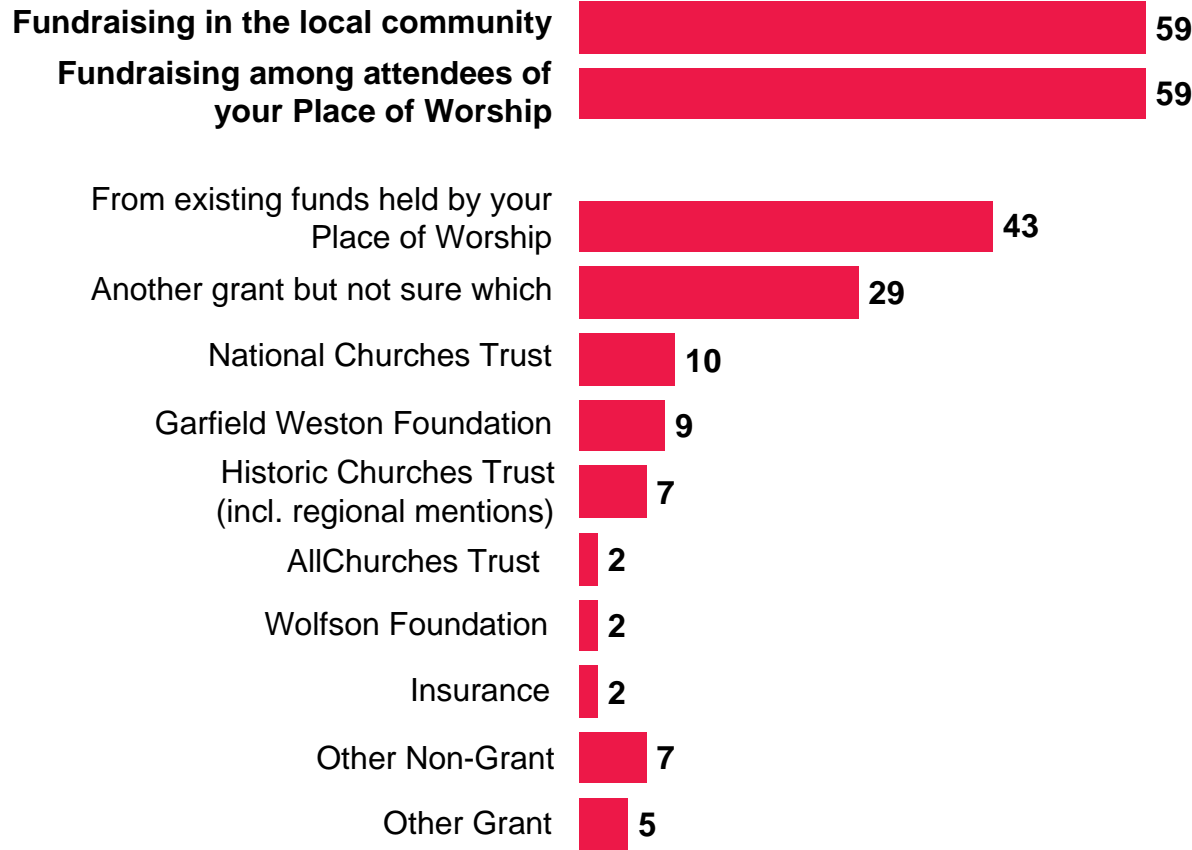


How important is the LPoW grant in carrying out repairs and maintenance

# Source of funding varies by RGPoW and Non-RGPoW recipients (I)

Q1. How did you raise the funds for this repair and maintenance work?

%



	RGPoW	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)
Fundraising in the local community	85	53	48
Fundraising among attendees of your Place of Worship	75	58	52
From existing funds held by your Place of Worship	17	44	54
Another grant but not sure which	40	20	25
National Churches Trust	25	5	3
Garfield Weston Foundation	27	6	1
Historic Churches Trust (incl. regional mentions)	14	10	4
AllChurches Trust	8	1	0
Wolfson Foundation	6	3	0
Insurance	0	6	2
Other Non-Grant	9	3	7
Other Grant	11	12	2

Also: Donations/ Legacies (1%); Loan (<1%); Sale of assets (<1%); HLF (<1%)

Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (n=85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) –major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) –minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)

# Source of funding varies by RGPoW and Non-RGPoW recipients (2)

Q1. How did you raise the funds for this repair and maintenance work?

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E/ Anglican	Non C of E / Anglican
Existing Funds Only	18	-	25	16	26	18	22
Fundraising Only OR Fundraising + existing funds and/or other non-grant	37	32	39	29	39	35	53
Any Other Grant	43	64	34	45	34	45	21
Other Non-Grant only	1	3	1	6	<1	1	4
Other combination only	1	1	1	3	1	1	<1%

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# LPoW grants serve a multitude of roles:

**RGPoW recipients:** Crucial in assisting over half of projects to take place at all

**Non-RGPoW recipients:** Speeds up process of repairs and increases amount of work that can be done

Q7. Which of these statements BEST applies to the Listed Places of Worship grant you received for this work?

%

**We would have been able to complete the repair and maintenance. . .**

**All**

**RGPoW recipients**

**Non-RGPoW recipients**

**LPoW major (non-RGPoW)**

**LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)**

. . .in the same time period **WITHOUT** the Listed Places or Worship grant



. . .**WITHOUT** the Listed Places of Worship grant, but it would have **TAKEN LONGER**



. . .**but ONLY SOME** of the work without the listed Places of Worship grant and had to defer the other work



**We would NOT** have been able to complete the repair and maintenance **AT ALL** without the Listed Places of Worship grant



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# LPoW grants serve a multitude of roles

## RGPoW recipients

*“Been very grateful for it all. It'd be quite an outcry in the village if it shut”*

*“I'd say it's invaluable. I look after 5 churches and on some bigger projects we could not have done the work without it. Its very fast sending the money and good advice on the phone”*

*“Its a major useful scheme for small churches, without the help there was no way we could raise in that time period.”*

*“Other than the fact without it this church would of taken a lot longer to re-open”*

*“We're just really grateful, because I don't think we would have a building without it”*

## LPoW major recipients (non-RGPoW)

*“It has been a very positive factor, we can do projects quicker, its enabled us to do more than we thought.”*

*“Absolutely excellent. Without it we were closed. Its enabled us to use a listed building and bring it back to life”*

*“Obviously it allowed us to do more than we could have done without it being there”*

## LPoW minor recipients (non-RGPoW)

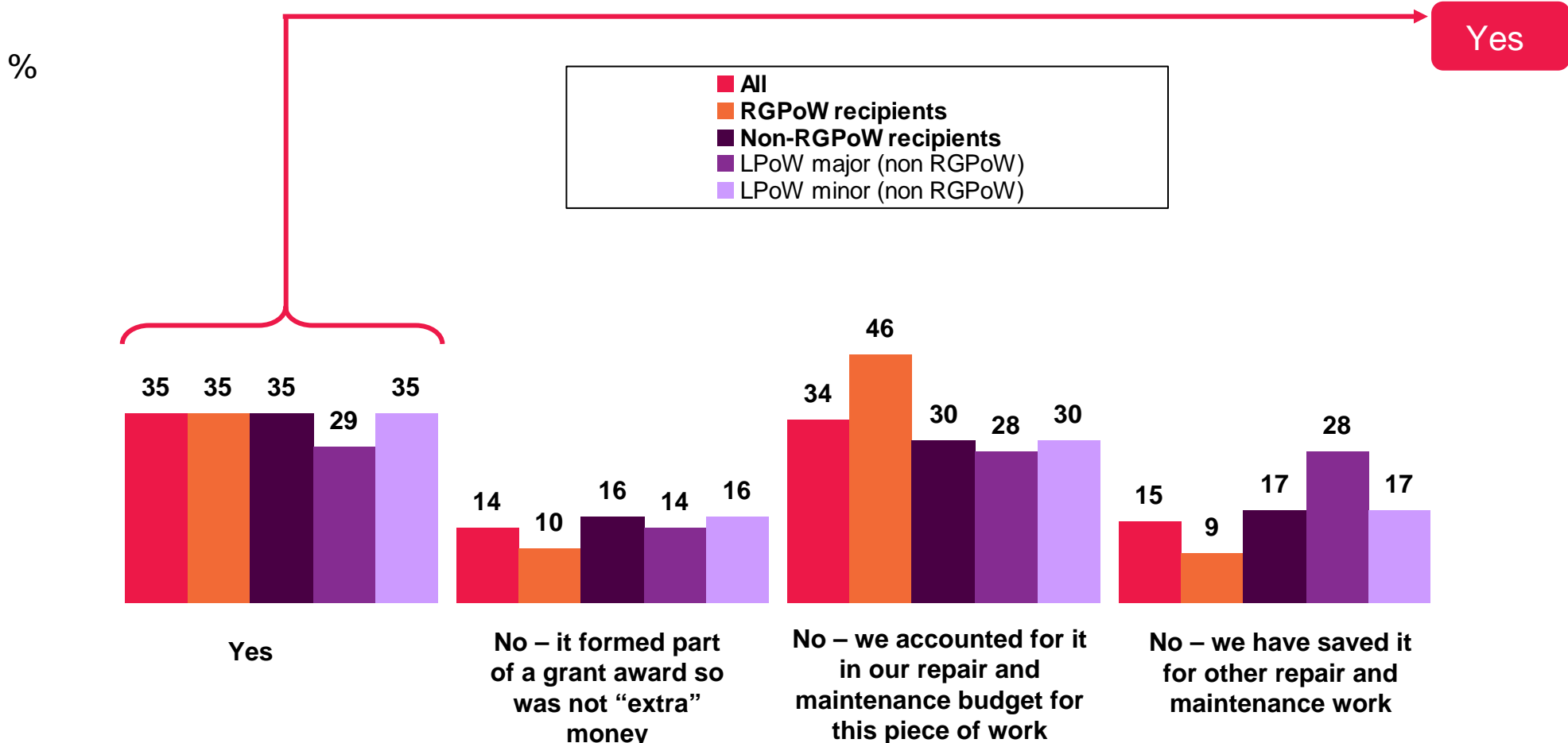
*“This scheme is an extremely valuable contribution to maintenance to medieval building”*

*“Its very important, churches are closing down they can't cope with the demand of the building”*



# One –third, overall, account for LPoW grant in their budget for repair and maintenance work. BUT, for another third it freed up money to allocate to other things

Q8b. Has LPoW freed up money to allocate to other things important to your congregation other than maintenance and repair?



Note: Don't know responses <4% not shown

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# Money freed up by LPoW grant was allocated to refurbishment projects and general up keep as well as other repair and maintenance projects

Q8c. What have you allocated this money [freed up by LPoW grant] to?



## RGPoW recipients

### Majority mentions

**“improve facilities/ refurbishment (including redecorate)”cc**

*“allocated money towards new facilities such as kitchen and bathroom facilities”*

*“We’ve got a lot of schemes so some of the money goes to re-decorating the church internally like replacing pews and our heating system is very bad”*

### “Other Projects”

*“to an extension on the church”*

*“list of repairs to finish, which we are addressing, its an on going process”*

### Other mentions for:

Replace/repair equipment (e.g. organs, bells)

Save for future

Donate to charity

## Non-RGPoW - Major

### Majority mentions

**“General Upkeep”**

*“General upkeep really”*

*“Just the general running of operations”*

### Other mentions linked to this were:

**Bills:** *“paying off loans”; “heating”*

**Replacing/ repairing equipment:**  
*“new hymn books and organ improvements”*

### Further mentions were for:

Other repairs & refurbishments

Future repair & maintenance projects

Events

Community & care projects

Employment

The quinquennial survey

## Non-RGPoW Minor

### Majority mentions

**“General Upkeep”**

*“General upkeep and running expenses”*

*“General running of the church”*

### Also mentions for “Other building projects”

#### Repair and maintenance:

*“Other parts of the building, more money you have the more you can do,, its an endless job looking after the building”*

#### Refurbishment and new facilities:

*“look into other parts of the building, new toilets”*

### Further mentions were for:

Charity/ community projects

Bills

General funds

Replacing equipment



Base: All who said LPoW freed up money to allocate to other things

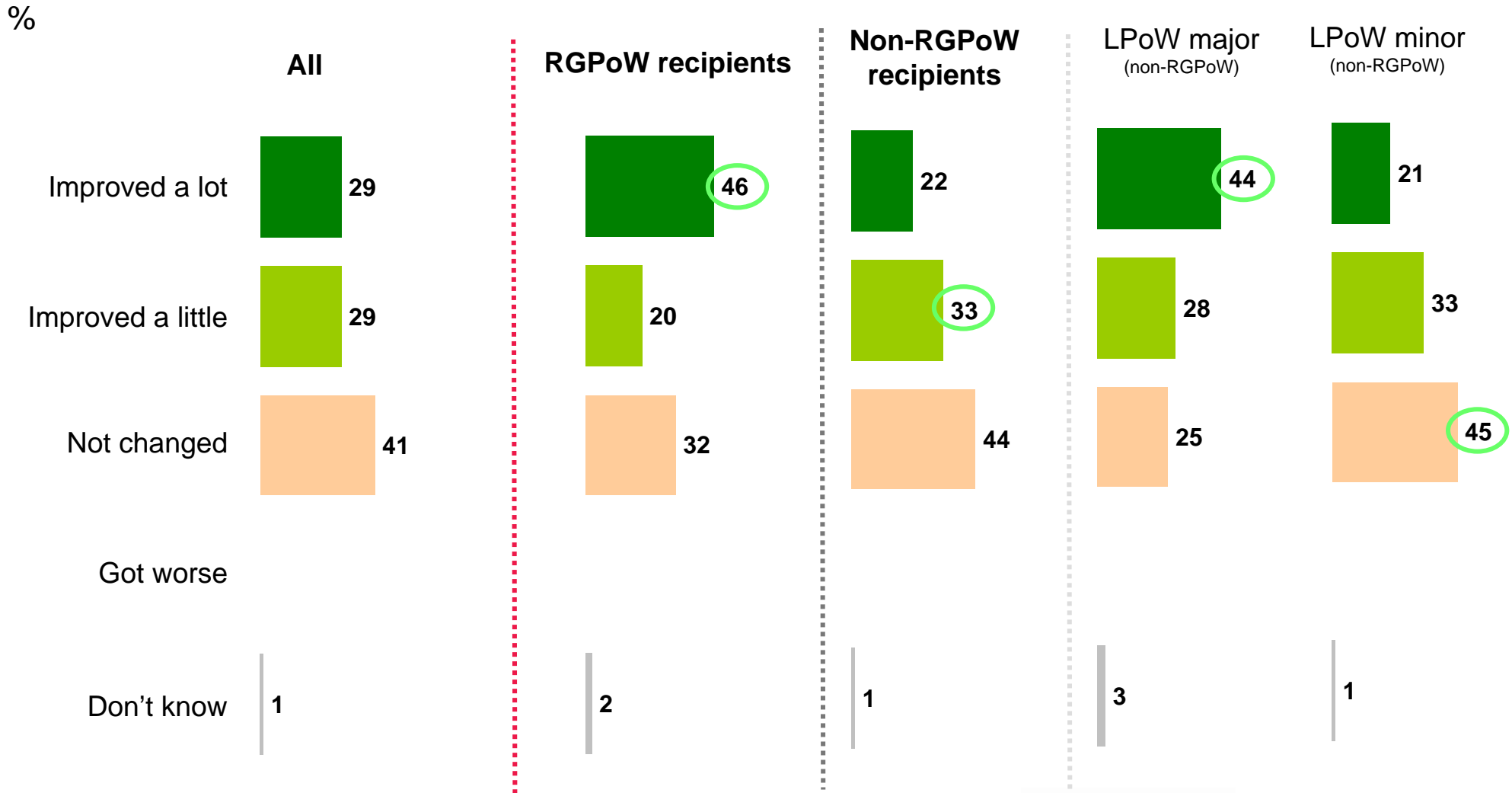


Impact of repair and  
maintenance work grant  
was received for



# Notable positive impact in quality of experience for regular attendees - strength of impact linked to size of grant/project

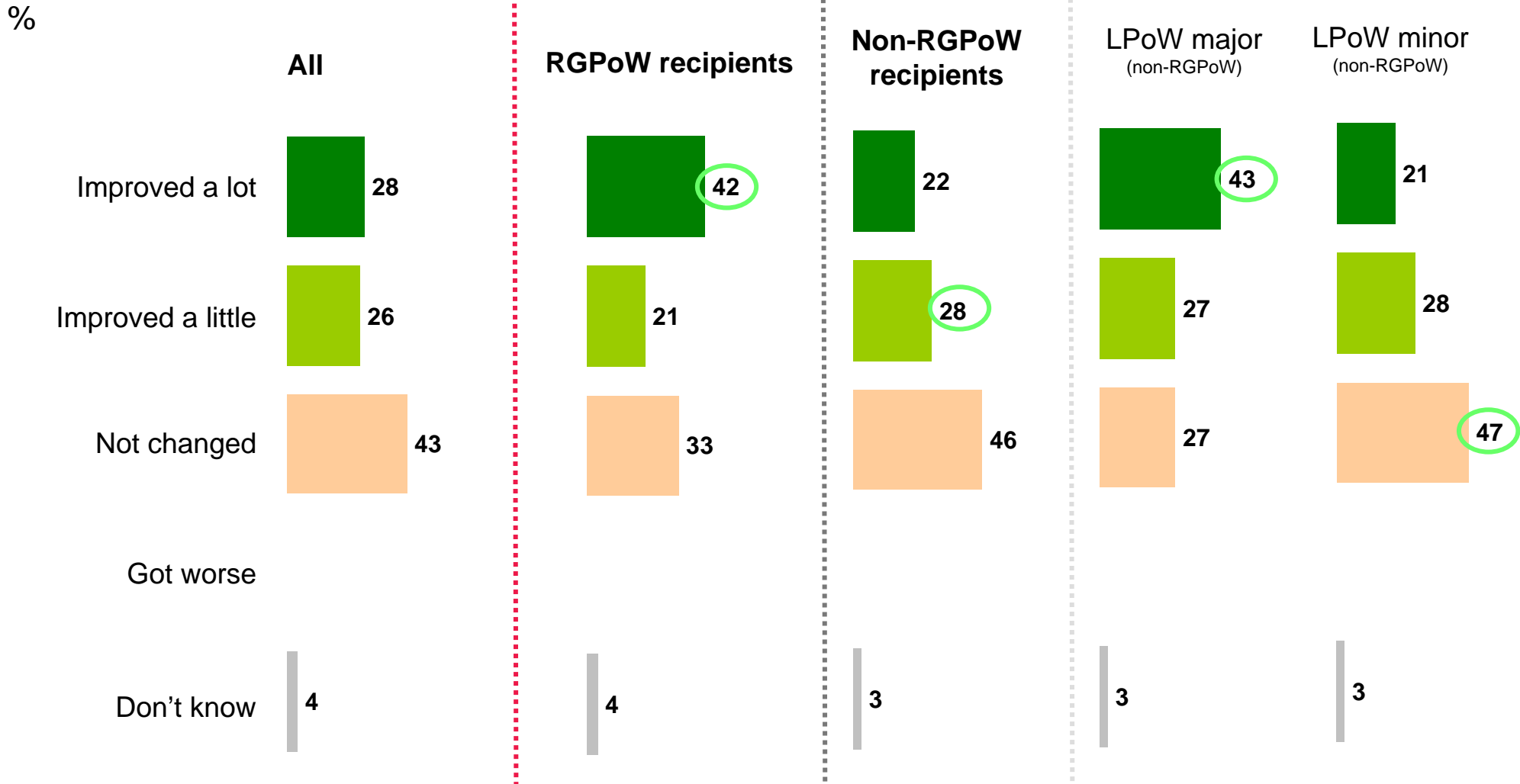
Q2. And since the repair and maintenance has been completed, which of these describes the extent to which the quality of visit experience has changed at the place of worship for.... **Attendees of regular services or meetings**



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# ...similar pattern of positive impact on quality of experience for Visitors at other times

Q2. And since the repair and maintenance has been completed, which of these describes the extent to which the quality of visit experience has changed at the place of worship for.... **Visitors at other times**

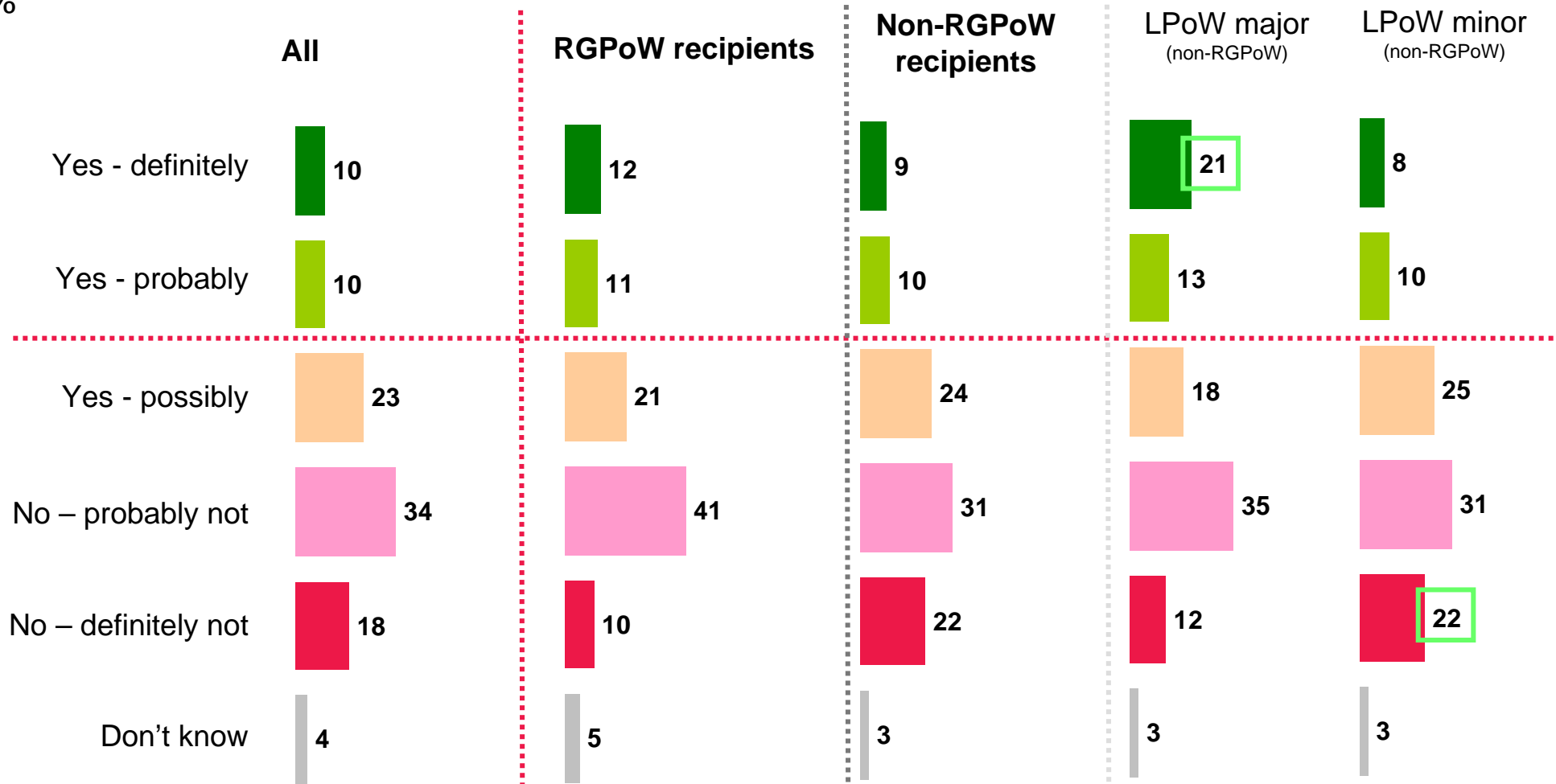


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# Notable increase in attendees of regular services/meetings

Q3. *And do you think that the number of visitors to your place of worship has increased as a result of this repair and maintenance work?* **Attendees of regular services or meetings**

%



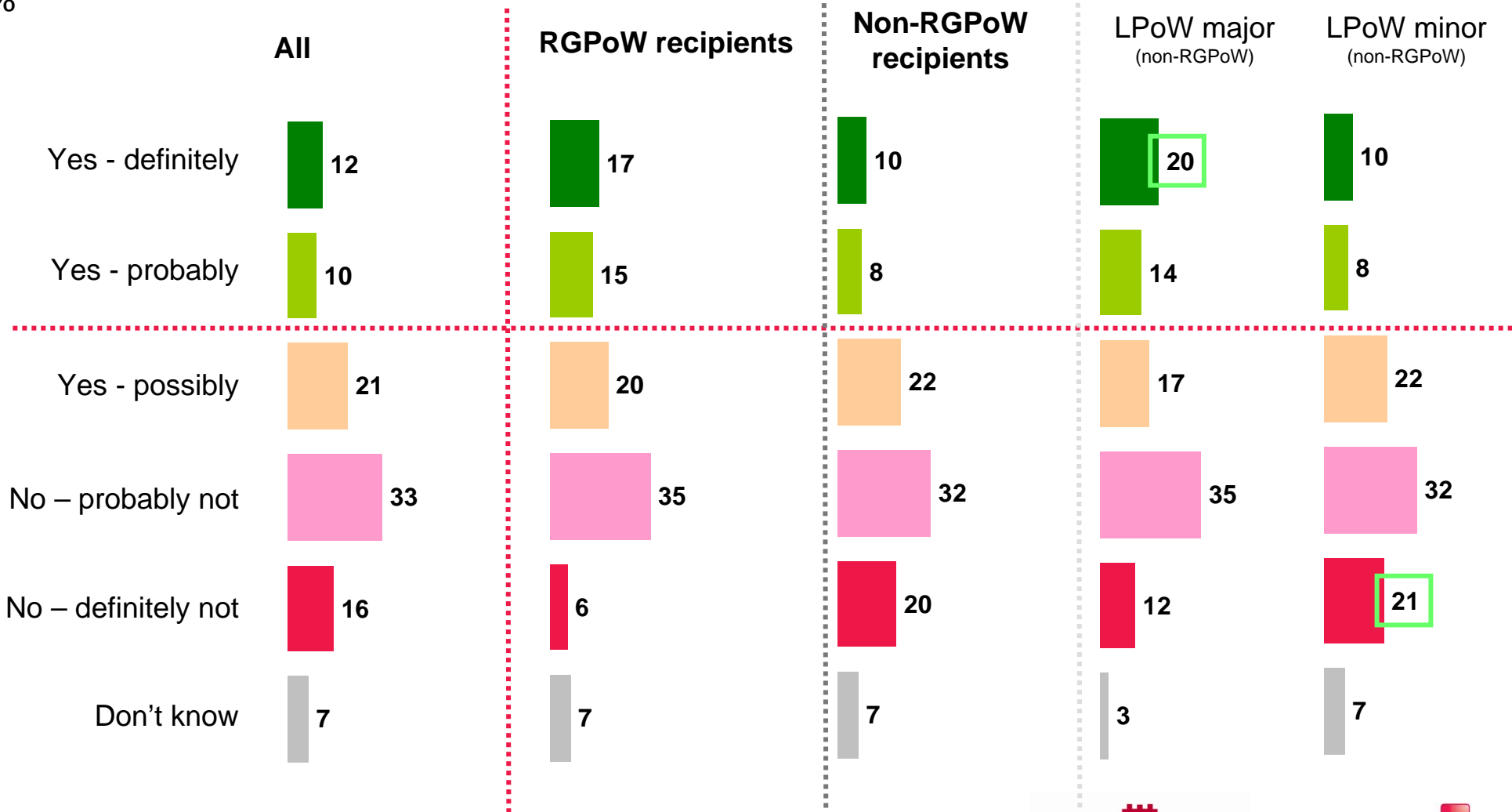
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# RGPoW recipients see further increase in visitors at other times

Q3. And do you think that the number of visitors to your place of worship has increased as a result of this repair and maintenance work?

## Visitors at other times

%



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# Overall a quarter observe 'at least probable increase' in at least one type of visitor

Q3. And do you think that the number of visitors to your place of worship has increased as a result of this repair and maintenance work? **NET: Regular / Non-Regular Attendees**

%

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E / Anglican	Non C of E / Anglican
<b>At least 'probable' increase</b>	27	<b>38</b>	22	<b>37</b>	21	27	19

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# Other reasons for change in visitor numbers actually often linked to repair and maintenance work

Since the work has been completed, other than the grants, have there been any other factors that have affected the number of visitors to your place of worship, either regular attendees or visitors at other times?

## RGPoW recipients

### Mention linked to repairs

*"they come in and find the church a lot more welcoming"*

*"Because we've opened up on an extra day of the week"*

*"The extra publicity that we got trying to raise funds has made people more aware but not dramatically"*

*"we get a fair number of visitors, and they are pleased this church stays open"*

*"we've been able to improve the general environment/ inside and outside the church"*

### Other Improvements

*"the other changes and improvements made have also made a difference to the number of visitors"*

### Events & Promotion

*"we have concerts and a few other activities"*

### Other

*"because of our location, we are right on the main road"*

Some declines (7%)

## Non-RGPoW – Major

### Outreach Activities

*"Because of the nature of the work we had done it meant we could improve our other outreach activities...for example we have twice a month lunch club for old people –this was a direct result of the work we had done"*

### Events & Promotion

*"Music based projects, Increase in weddings at the church"*

*"An art fair was held for at the place of worship"*

### Other mention linked to repairs

*"The church is now open to the public during daytime hours"*

### Other

New priest/ vicar

Holiday visitors

Some declines (3%)

## Non-RGPoW Minor

### Events

*"we do have quite a lot of concerts"*

*"flower festival and related activities"*

*"the number of visitors are affected by the fact that we're open on a Sunday afternoon in the summer, we've also had a Christmas Tree Festival, Heritage weekend and we've just had a Polish Cribs Exhibition"*

### Outreach

*"we started a youth club and junior church every Sunday morning"*

*"just general outreach and we started a crèche that encouraged young children to come"*

*"continue with open days and getting community involved trying to get a bigger atmosphere in the church"*

### Mention linked repairs/ other improvements

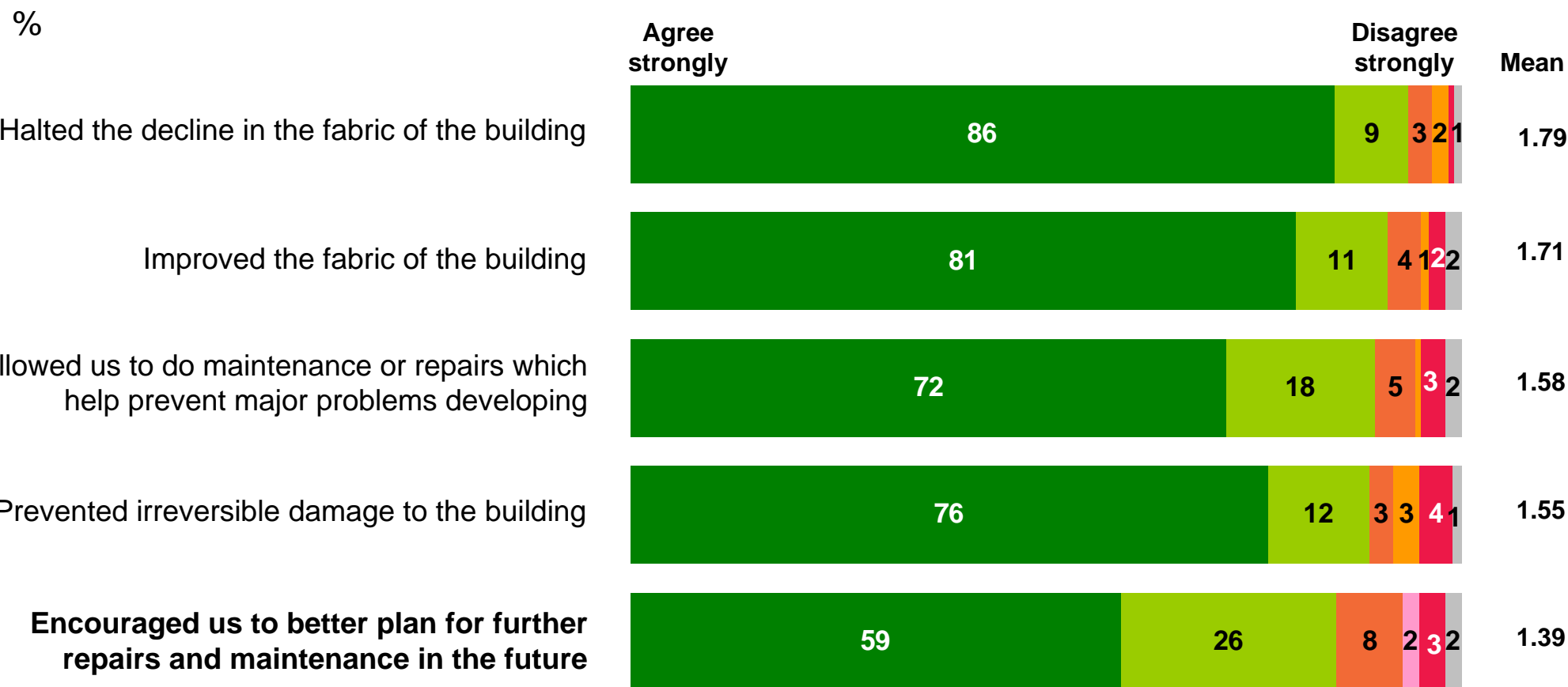
*"we did a complete refurbishment last year"*

*"it has because the church is more attractive"*

Some declines (4%)

# Particularly positive impact on aspects to do with 'preservation of the building'

Q5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following? The repairs and maintenance work has....



Mean Score [ +2 Agree Strongly to -2 Disagree Strongly

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# ...strength of impact linked to size of grant/project

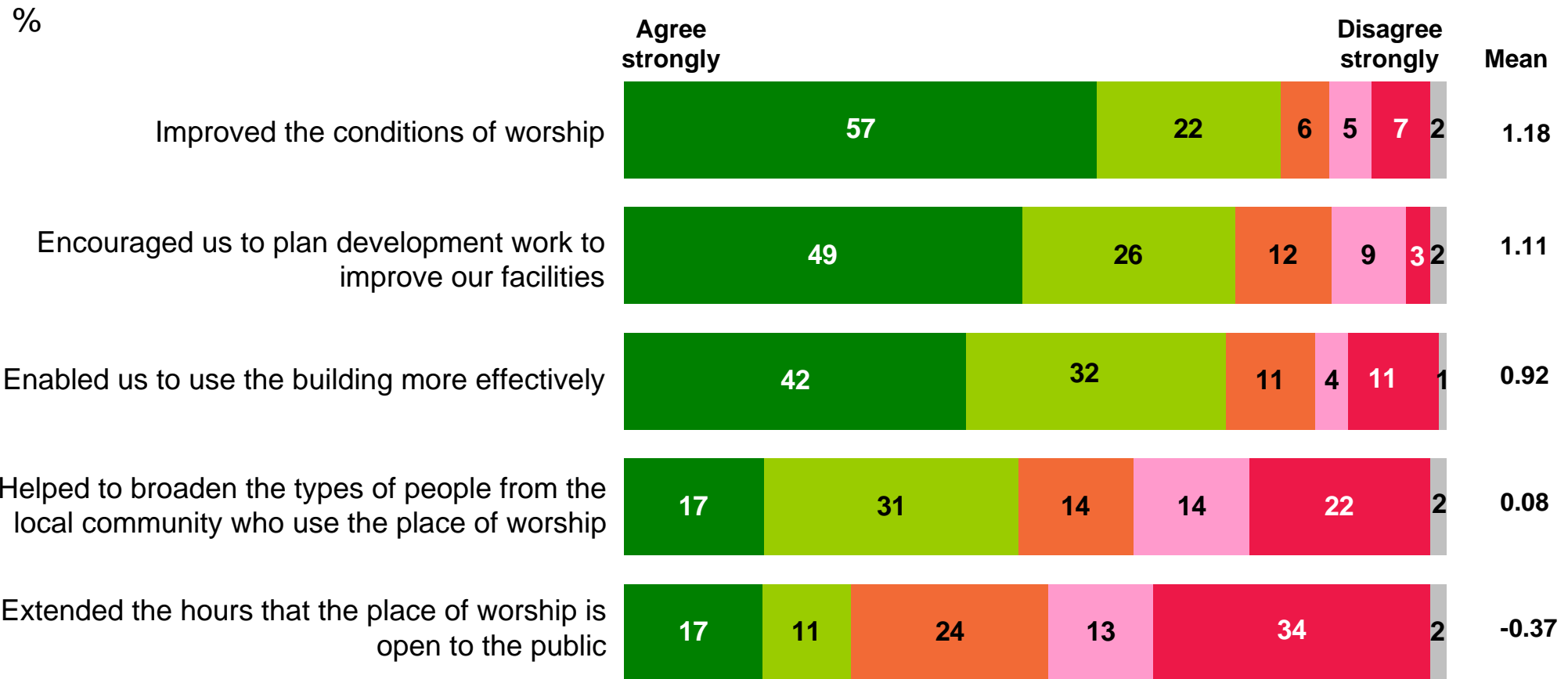
Q5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following? The repairs and maintenance work has....

Mean Score [ +2 Agree Strongly to -2 Disagree Strongly

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E / Anglican	Non C of E / Anglican
Halted the decline in the fabric of the building	1.79	1.95	1.73	1.85	1.72	1.81	1.61
Improved the fabric of the building	1.71	1.98	1.60	1.82	1.59	1.72	1.64
Allowed us to do maintenance or repairs which help prevent major problems developing	1.58	1.84	1.48	1.60	1.47	1.59	1.48
Prevented irreversible damage to the building	1.55	2.00	1.38	1.69	1.36	1.57	1.36
Encouraged us to better plan for further repairs and maintenance in the future	1.39	1.63	1.29	1.43	1.29	1.40	1.29

# Some strong agreement for positive impact on other aspects too

Q5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following? The repairs and maintenance work has....



Mean Score [ +2 Agree Strongly to -2 Disagree Strongly

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# Impact of 'Improving conditions of use' was particularly strong among major LPoW (non-RGPoW) recipients and at non-C of E/Anglican sites

Q5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following? The repairs and maintenance work has....

Mean Score [ +2 Agree Strongly to -2 Disagree Strongly

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E / Anglican	Non C of E / Anglican
Improved the conditions of worship	1.18	1.34	1.12	1.58	1.09	1.15	1.57
Encouraged us to plan development work to improve our facilities	1.11	1.29	1.04	1.24	1.03	1.10	1.21
Enabled us to use the building more effectively	0.92	0.99	0.89	1.25	0.86	0.87	1.39
Helped to broaden the types of people from the local community who use the place of worship	0.08	0.44	-0.06	0.40	-0.09	0.06	0.24
Extended the hours that the place of worship is open to the public	-0.37	0.15	-0.57	-0.15	-0.60	-0.40	-0.05

Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (n=85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) –major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) –minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)



# Two-thirds of LPoW recipients overall use local businesses

-this is driven by the high proportion of minor LPoW (non RGPoW) recipients who use local businesses

**Q5a. Was the repair and maintenance work, including professional advice, carried out by...**

%

**Key Groups**

A local business 15 miles or less away from the Place of Worship **65**  
(60% exclusively)

A regional business up to about 50 miles away **35**  
(30% exclusively)

A business elsewhere in England **3** (3% exclusively)

A European business

A business from elsewhere in the world

Other **<1**

Don't know **2**

LPoW Minor (non-RGPoW) 72%

RGPoW 49%  
LPoW Major (non RGPoW) 46%

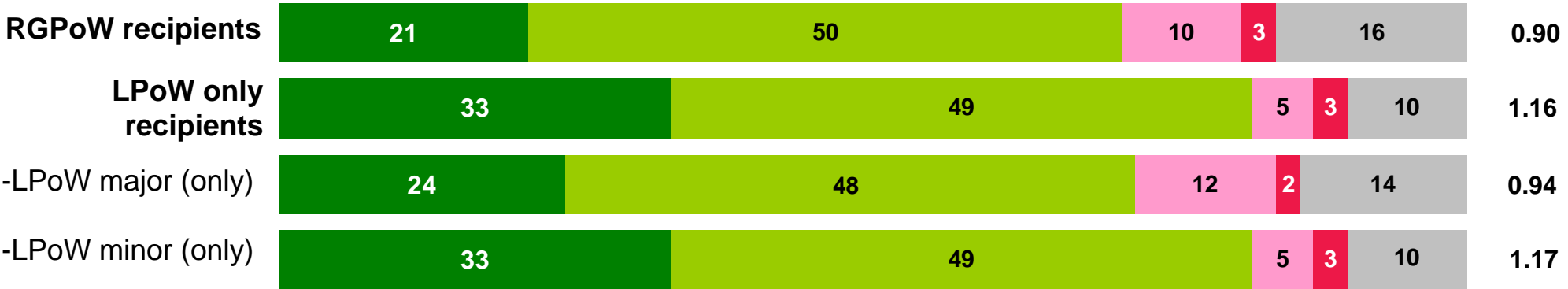
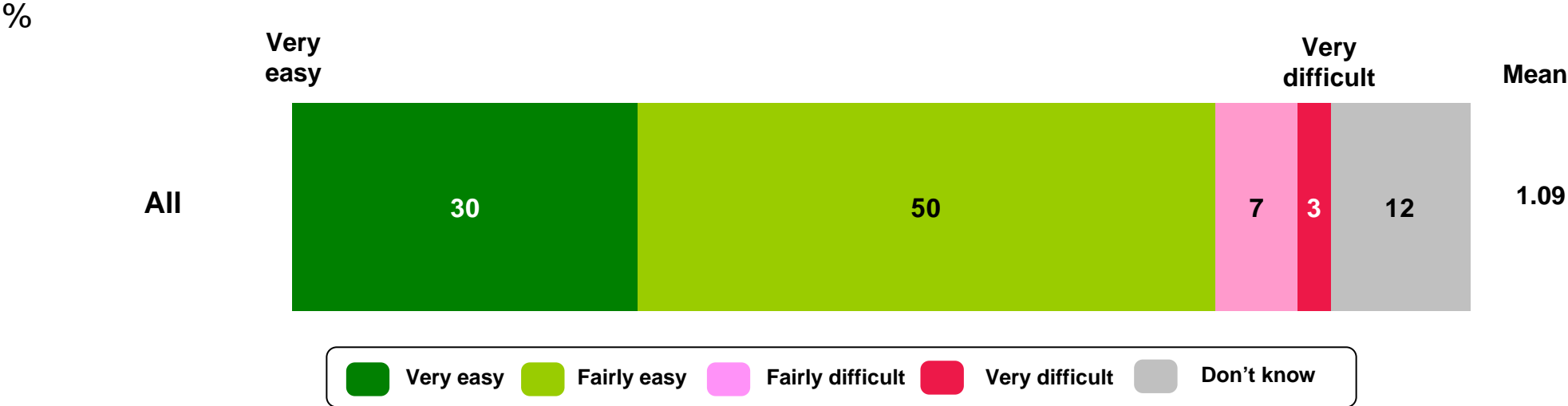
RGPoW 8%

**5% sourced from a combination of places**



# Most sourced local businesses with ease

**Q5b. And thinking about the actual repair and maintenance undertaken on your Place of Worship, how easy was it to source LOCAL businesses or individuals with the right craft skills to undertake this work?**



Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) –major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) –minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)

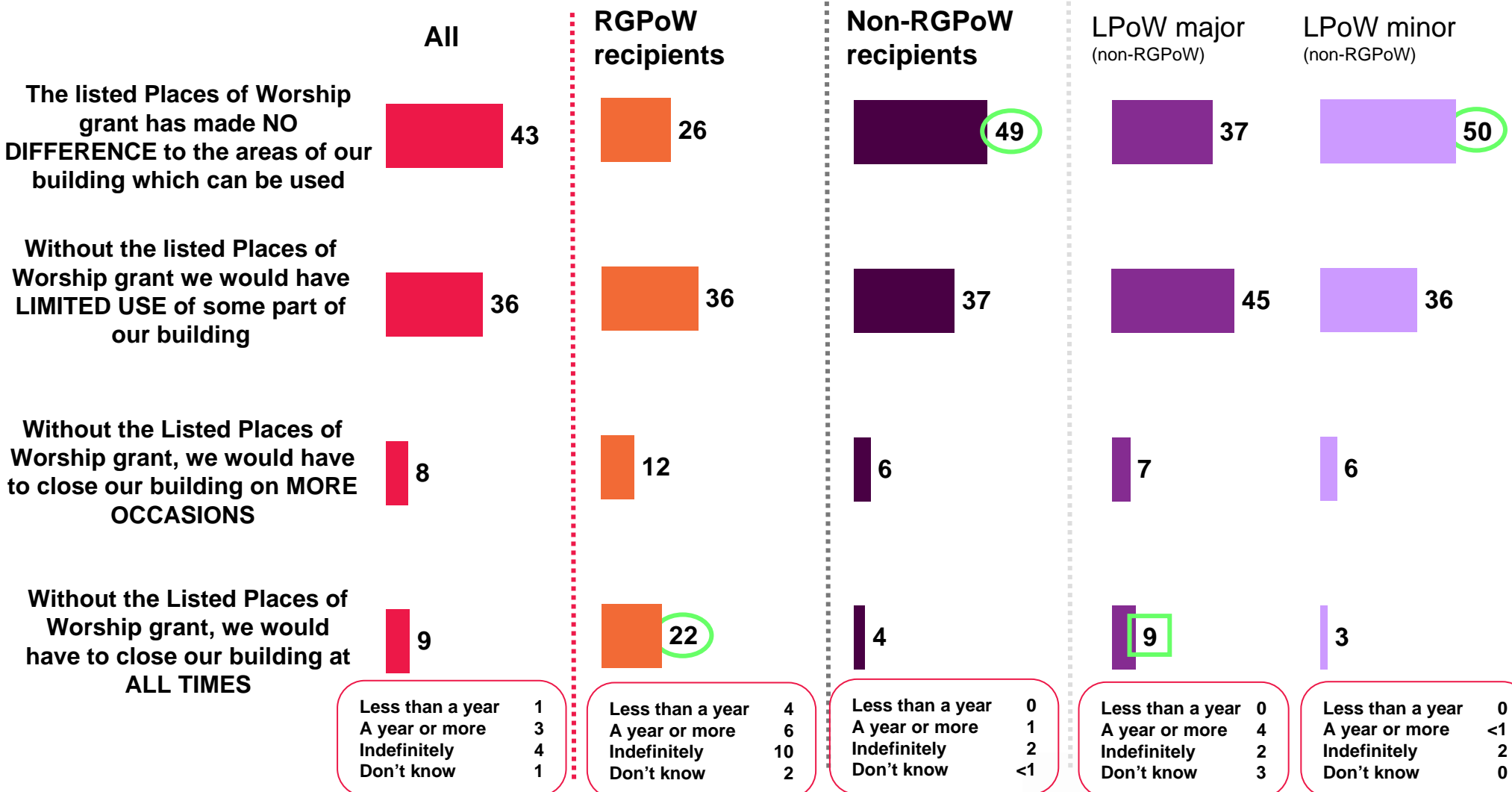
# LPoW plays significant role for RGPoW recipients in enabling site to open at all; For Non-RGPoW recipients LPoW impacts positively in increasing areas of the site that can be used

Q8. And which of these statements BEST applies to this Listed Places of Worship grant?

%

Q8a. How long would the building have been closed for?

Note: Don't Know responses <6% not shown



Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) –major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) –minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)

# LPoW plays significant role for RGPoW recipients in enabling site to open at all; For Non-RGPoW recipients LPoW impacts positively in increasing areas of the site that can be used

## RGPoW recipients

*“I would say its crucial to help Grade I buildings in running order, otherwise without it, it would be very difficult, beyond our ability to run”*

*“It remains a central element to keep old buildings in operation”*

*“It should continue and if we didn't have the help we wouldn't have been able to do all these repairs”*

*“VAT is a great help, it enables us to do the jobs, and reduces the cost and makes things more attainable”*

## LPoW major recipients (non-RGPoW)

*“Its very good - extremely welcoming. Admin paperwork is good, it certainly benefits the church and has a knock on effect for the community. Long may it continue”*

## LPoW minor recipients (non-RGPoW)

*“Without it thousands of Grade I listed buildings would be in disrepair. It would be a tragedy to see it go because its made a substantial difference to village churches like ours to be able to keep a Grade I building in a good state of repair for posterity”*

*“We found it a really useful scheme. Most churches are short of money - its very helpful”*



# Attitudes and behaviour towards repair and maintenance work in the future



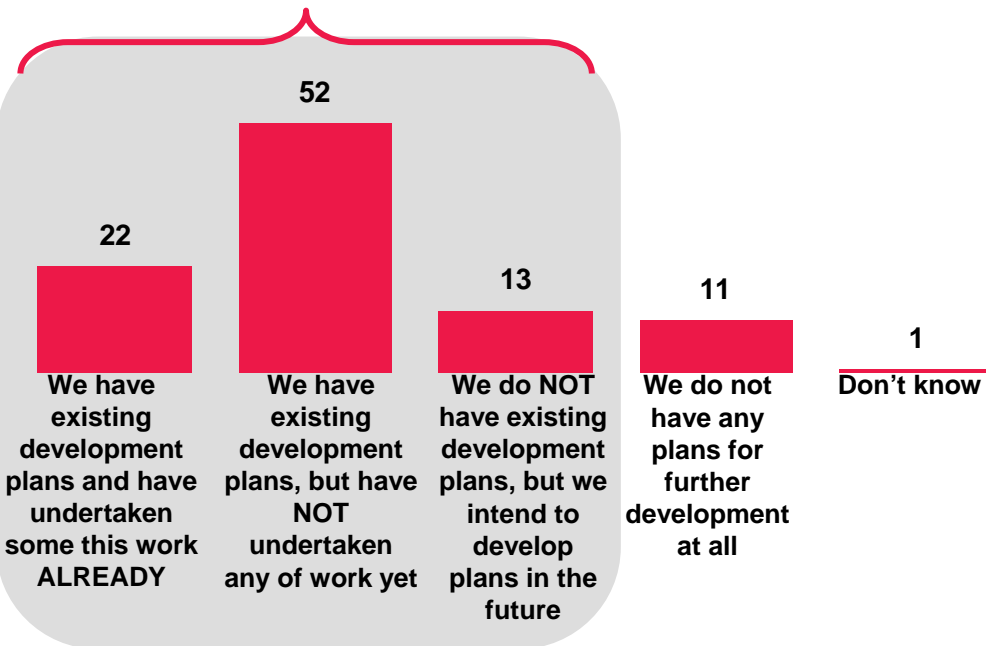


# 74% have existing development plans; a further 13% intend to develop plans in the future

Q17. Which of the following best describes any development plans your Place of Worship might have?

%

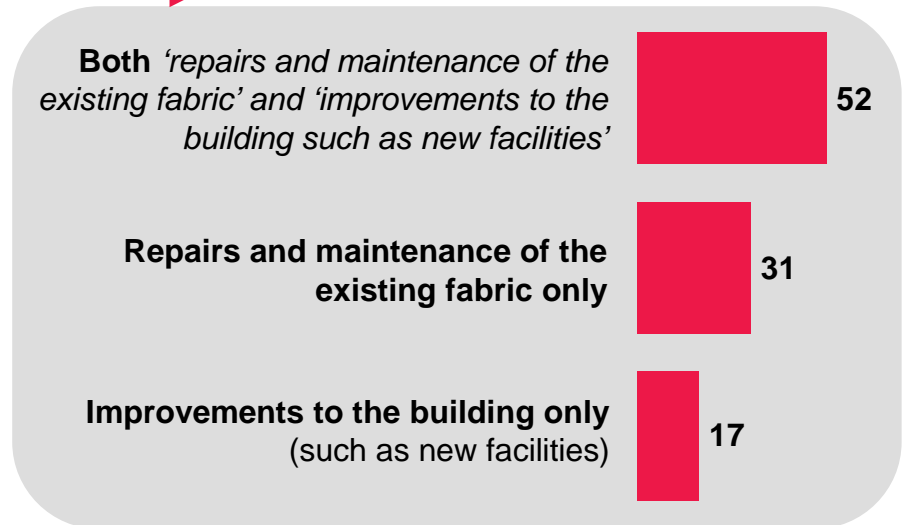
87% at least intend to make plans



Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301); weighted (n=301)

Q18. And are these plans for or likely to be for 'repairs and maintenance of the existing fabric' and/or 'improvements to the building for example new facilities'?

%



1% don't know

Base: All LPoW recipients who at least intend to make plans: unweighted (n=262); weighted (n=263)

# Plans for the future by grant type and denomination

Q17. Which of the following best describes any development plans your Place of Worship might have?

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E / Anglican	Non C of E / Anglican
We have existing development plans and have undertaken some this work ALREADY	22	22	22	23	22	23	19
We have existing development plans, but have NOT undertaken any of work yet	52	42	56	58	56	52	50
We do NOT have existing development plans, but we intend to develop plans in the future	13	21	10	6	10	13	11
We do not have any plans for further development at all	11	13	11	12	10	10	20

Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301); weighted (n=301)

Q18. And are these plans for or likely to be for 'repairs and maintenance of the existing fabric' and/or 'improvements to the building for example new facilities'?

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E / Anglican	Non C of E / Anglican
Repairs and maintenance of the existing fabric only	31	29	31	22	32	31	26
Improvements to the building only (such as new facilities)	17	22	14	14	14	17	15
Both	52	47	53	64	53	51	59

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Base: All LPoW recipients who at least intend to make plans: unweighted (n=262); weighted (n=263)

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# LPoW is viewed as very important for future plans

## RGPoW recipients

*"I'm alarmed to hear that its due to end on the 11th March next year. It'll be a serious problem for our own ongoing renovation and everybody else's. Its an important part of the funding."*

## LPoW major recipients (non-RGPoW)

*"At the moment we're in the middle of more major work and I'm hoping the church warden will apply"*

*"It was invaluable to us. The fact that we could get the VAT refunded has made a start on the fundraising towards phase 2 -the vestry and chancel roofs"*

*"I think it should continue past 2011 because we are carrying out works knowing we can get the VAT back, if the scheme wasn't there we'd have to defer it"*

*"...like it to continue, we got two churches and planning other things"*

## LPoW minor recipients (non-RGPoW)

*"I think its a very good idea. I think we'll be seeing you again"*

*"I'm going to apply again for the same building"*

*"We would be absolutely gutted if it was to disappear. We certainly have some claims coming through and getting that money in can mean we can get the roof in order. We're very keen that the scheme continues."*



# Many non-RGPoW recipients would like assistance with other types of work

## LPoW major recipients (non-RGPoW)

*"I would like to see it extended to cover all other facilities"*

*"I would like to thank them, but on another hand I was a bit disappointed that we weren't claim for some things that wasn't classed as work to the building like the pews in the church"*

*"Yes I think the electrical rewiring and plumbing and lighting should be taken into account - not just the stonework. What is allowable is far too restricted"*

## LPoW minor recipients (non-RGPoW)

*"It could cover a lot more things that are essential to keep the buildings going"*

*"There are restrictions on what money we can claim for, its just to the building and for nothing else like furniture or wiring to the building. If we were able to do that that would be so much more helpful"*

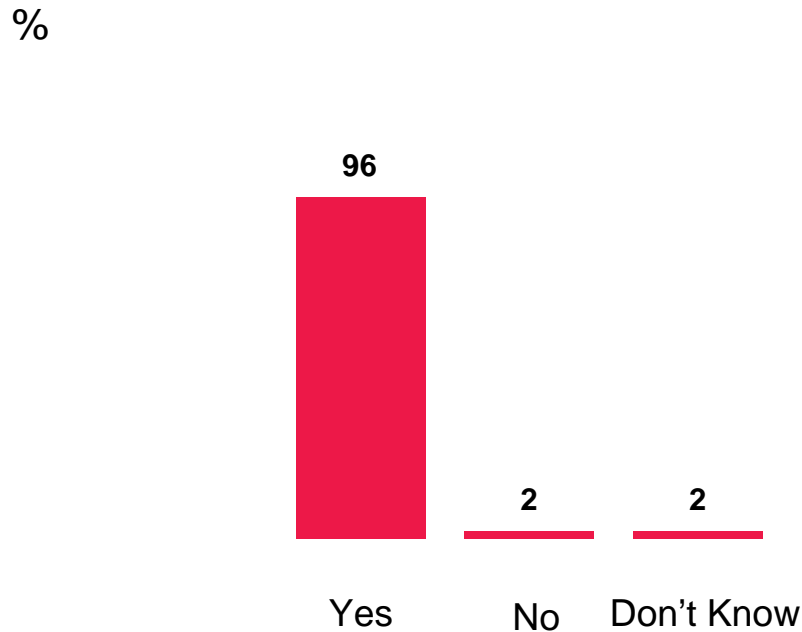
*"They have been helpful and it would be nice if it would be extended to facilities and not only for repairs"*

*"Yes, I would say please keep it going. It is a very resourceful fund. I think it should also cover church yard walls and not just maintenance of the fabric."*

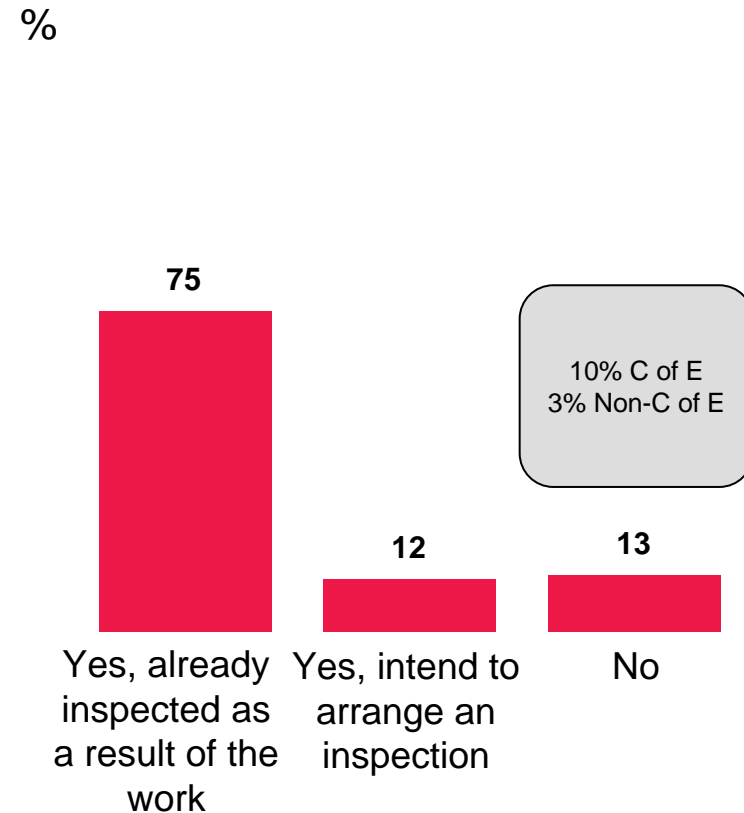


# Majority keep up to date record of all repair and maintenance work at site; Repair and maintenance encouraged 87% to continue/arrange inspections

**Q22. Do you keep an up to date record or log of all the repair and maintenance work carried out at the place of worship?**



**Q21. And did carrying out the repair and maintenance work encourage you to continue with your inspection regime or have regular condition surveys?**



Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (n=85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) –major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) –minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)



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# Some subgroups more likely to keep record of repair and maintenance work and arrange inspections

Q22. Do you keep an up to date record or log of all the repair and maintenance work carried out at the place of worship?

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E / Anglican	
Yes	96	99	95	95	95	97	89
No	2	1	3	4	3	1	11

Q21. And did carrying out the repair and maintenance work encourage you to continue with your inspection regime or have regular condition surveys?

	Total	Size of Grant				Denomination	
		RGPoW	Non-RGPoW recipients	LPoW major (non-RGPoW)	LPoW minor (non-RGPoW)	C of E / Anglican	Non C of E / Anglican
Yes, already inspected as a result of the work	75	79	74	68	74	78	47
Yes, intend to arrange an inspection	12	14	11	13	11	11	18
No	13	7	15	19	15	11	35

Base: All LPoW recipients unweighted (n=301) weighted (n=301) RGPoW recipients unweighted (n=100); weighted (n=85) LPoW (Non-RGPoW) recipients unweighted (n=201); weighted (n=216) –major unweighted (n=100) weighted (n=12) –minor unweighted (n=101) weighted (n=204)

# Notable support for scheme to continue

## RGPoW recipients

*"I just hope they continue their work, I find this funding really helpful"*

*"Extremely valuable mechanism, great relief when planning. I heard it will finish next year, that will be a great blow not to just our [place of] worship"*

*"If its gone, it will have a devastating affect on all churches and small communities. I think its very disrespectful to volunteers who do so much out of goodwill to help"*

*"I've been led to believe that its coming to an end. I would strongly oppose that. If we are to keep churches open and in good repair - it is essential"*

## LPoW major recipients (non-RGPoW)

*"...hope it will continue, seems to me we are effectively maintaining but at a huge expense."*

*"I hope the government keeps it going...it is extremely important for poor rural - and urban - churches to know there's a scheme for which they're eligible from the start"*

*"I think its an excellent scheme and should be continued for listed places of worship, its an absolute must"*

*"I hear its going to be withdrawn -I hope it isn't. The responsibility of maintaining these old churches falls on a relatively small group of people - any help is appreciated"*

*"Its a pity its coming to an end, its a great incentive to people to carry on"*

## LPoW minor recipients (non-RGPoW)

*"I hope the government will continue the scheme"*

*"Please don't abolish it."*

*"Sad to hear it will stop, everyone sings its praises"*

*"I don't think it should be abolished. Funds are tight enough as it is. Maintaining these listed buildings costs more and I think its vital"*

*"Sorry that the scheme is ending, considering the maintenance of the buildings is a labor of love, one considers the support of central government."*

*"We don't want it abolished. We've written to everyone we can think of"*



# Summary and conclusions



# Summary (I)

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Repairs and maintenance a major concern for 83% of places of worship (63% a constant major concern)

Places of worship find fundraising tough – three quarters claim to find it difficult, particularly the larger projects

Significant proportion feel that finding out about grants available to them is also difficult (41%). But once found, most find the application process easy P

Principal role of LPoW grant is to speed up the process of repairs and maintenance (40% claimed that without the grant the work would have taken longer) – perhaps preventing the requirement for future work

For RGPoW recipients, the LPoW grant played a more significant role – 54% would not have been able to complete the work at all without the LPoW grant

LPoW has increased the accessibility to the PoW on over half of occasions, primarily by increasing the areas of the building accessible (36%), but also broadening the opening times (8%) and even allowing the building to open at all (9%)



## Summary (2)

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The work completed improved the visit experience in over half of cases – 58% improved experience for regular attendees, 54% for visitors at other times. Even minor LPoW grants tended to improve the experience.

These grants also increased the number of visitors to places of worship in a notable minority of cases (27%). Again, impact was notable even among smaller grants

Work primarily halts the decline of / improves the fabric of the buildings and prevents the need for future repairs, but also encourages better future planning

Also encourages more effective use of the buildings, including conditions of worship, particularly for non C of E/Anglican places of worship, perhaps reflecting the nature of the buildings

Major positive impact of repair and maintenance work on local businesses – 60% use a business within 15 miles for the work, with a further 30% using a business up to 50 miles away

87% of places of worship either already have (74%) or plan to construct development plans, with over 80% of these containing some provision for repairs and maintenance work



# Conclusions

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There appears little doubt that places of worship feel that repairs and maintenance is a major concern impacting upon their ability to function effectively

Some strong evidence that LPoW grants either kick start or speed up the process of repairs and maintenance – perhaps reducing or even preventing major, large-scale future repair costs

For RGPoW recipients, the LPoW element of the work is often critical in its own right – fundamental in making the repair and maintenance work happen

Longer term impacts of conducting work would appear to be a greater willingness to plan for future repairs and maintenance – also perhaps limiting the major costs for ‘catastrophic’ repairs

Evidence that LPoW grants also increase the number of visitors to places of worship and their quality of visit – perhaps assisting future self-funding of work and less reliance on external grants



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