

# State of the Sector survey August 2020\* results



**Community  
Southwark**

The survey went out on 1 August and asked respondents to report on July

# Who answered the survey?

38 total responses

60% respondents were diverse-led\*

50% of respondents operate across the whole borough

Most respondents had income of under £25k (40%) or income of £100k - £500k (26%)

The user groups most represented by organisations were: those from BAME backgrounds, disabled people, general public, older people, people with mental health needs

\*51% or more of the board and senior management team are from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background, disabled, female or LGBT, OR the respondent self-defines as 'diverse-led'

# Community Southwark's response to survey results

We have launched more online training sessions covering topics that respondents have asked for support in: fundraising and re-opening. Please see our training calendar [here](#).

We did a call out for risk assessments but unfortunately did not receive any. Please see our guidance pack on re-opening, including risks assessments [here](#). You can also find more information on risk assessments [here](#).

We have also launched new network meeting dates for those interested in networking. Please sign up [here](#).

For those interested in a matching service with volunteers, please submit details of your volunteer role [here](#) and we will advertise it on your behalf.

We have launched a new website with resources related to areas of support that respondents were interested in. Please see governance and leadership resources [here](#), fundraising resources [here](#) and policy resources [here](#).



# What have been the biggest challenges facing your organisation in the last month? (78 responses)

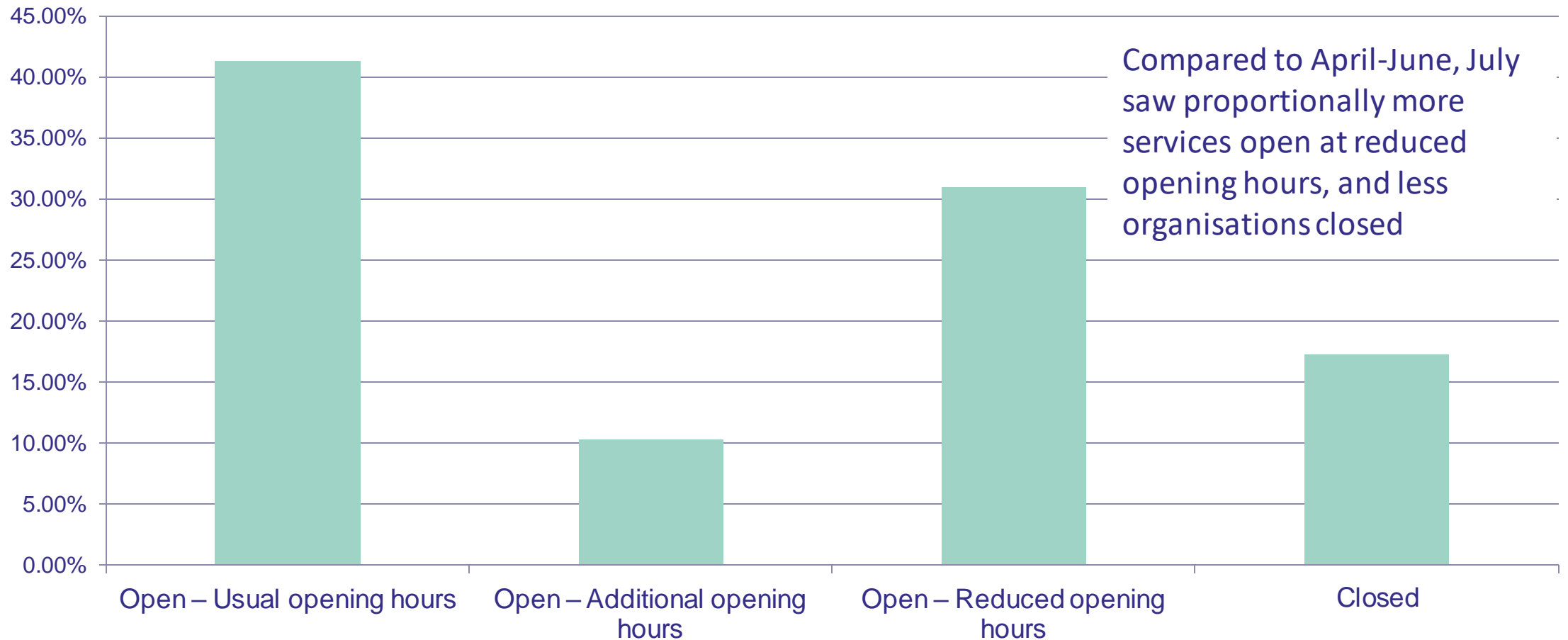
Lack of funding = 38% of responses. *(Remains from Apr-June)*

Planning next steps = 35% of responses. *(Remains from Apr-June)*

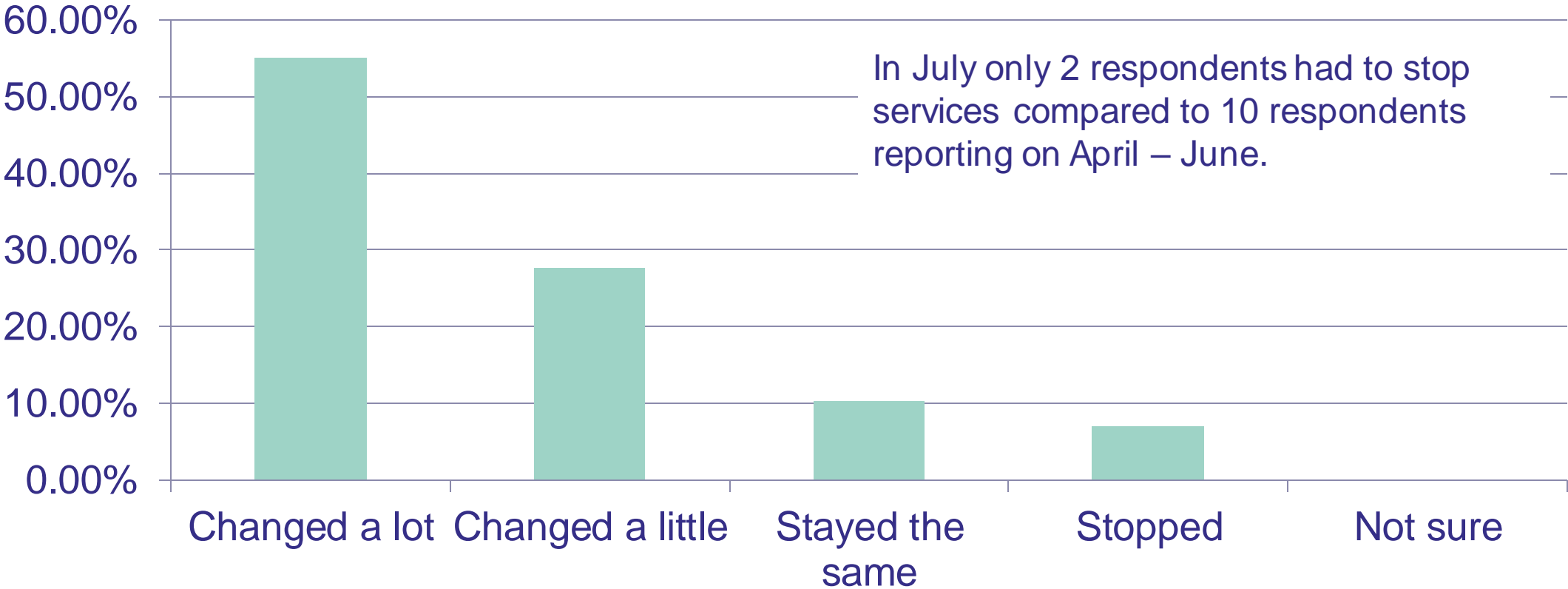
Social distancing in delivery = 35% of responses. *(New for July)*

*"The need to provide new or changed services" featured in the top three for Apr-June at 35%, and this month moved down to just 7% of responses*

# What is the current status of your organisation? (29 responses)



# In the last month, to what extent has the service you offer to beneficiaries changed or stayed the same? (29 responses)



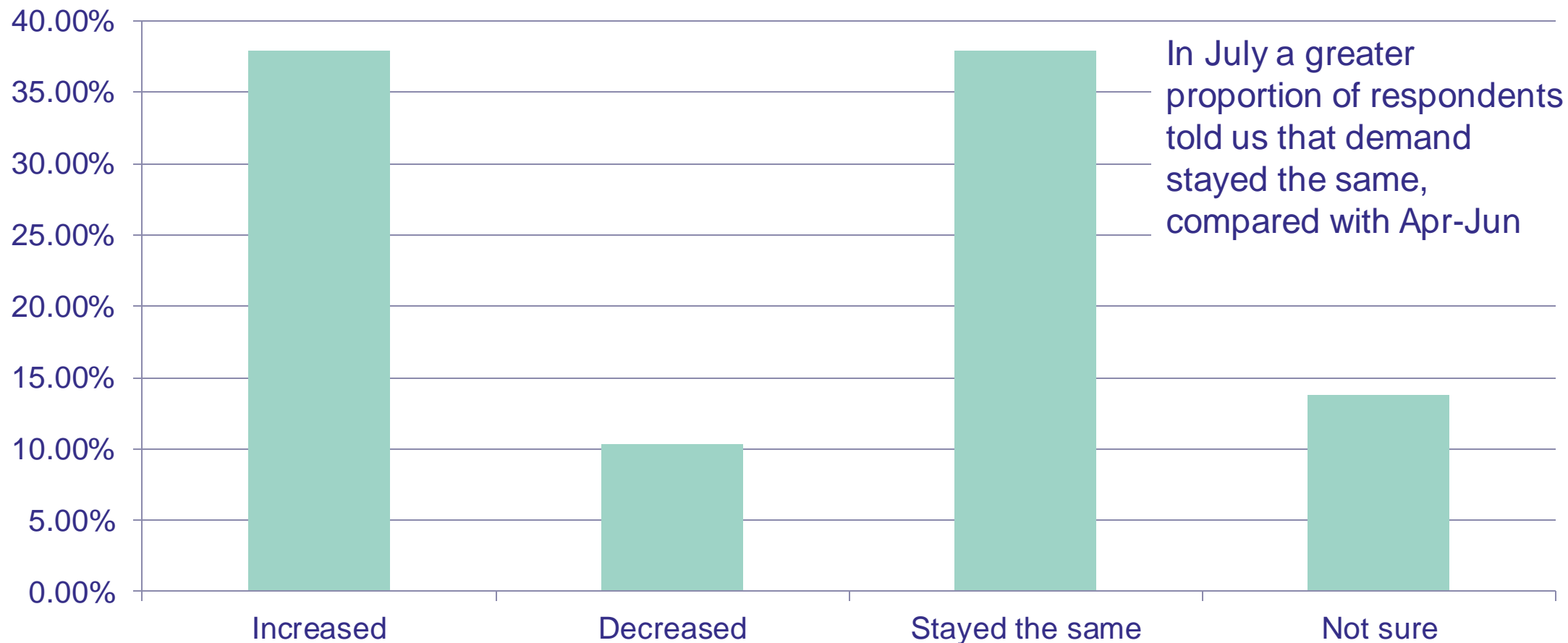
In the last three months, to what extent has the service you offer to beneficiaries changed or stayed the same? (29 responses)

## Key themes:

- Not able to provide face to face services
- Continue to provide services online/phone



# In the last month, demand for services has... (29 responses)





# Have you identified any opportunities?

The benefits of using  
online communication

More opportunities for  
partnership working

Opportunities to reach  
new clients and offer  
different services e.g.  
food provision



# Funding (29 responses)

12 organisations said they had full funding to enable them to continue service delivery until 31 March 2021, 9 said they were partly funded, and 6 said they didn't have funding. *Those without funding represent a higher proportion of respondents compared with Apr-June*

14 organisations said this was less funds than last year, 4 said they had more funds than the same time last year and 7 organisation said that their financial position was not different from the same time last year. *Those with less funding than last year represent a higher proportion of respondents compared with Apr-June*



# Where do you see your organisation in 6 months' time? (27 responses)

*Three main themes emerged within responses, with no significant changes from last month's responses:*

- 1. 12 responses mentioned the issue of uncertainty. Half of the 12 responses mentioned funding as a key part of this uncertainty which mirrors the findings from the previous survey.**

“Sinking or swimming, dependent on continued support from [the] government and/or obtaining income from other sources.”

“there are still many unknowns for the time being.”

“That is a very tricky question to answer as the future looks so uncertain, It feels like we just have to take each week as it comes.”

- 2. Four responses said that the situation would be the same as now**

- 3. Four organisations hoped that they would return to normal operations**



# Support from Community Southwark

Continuing from our last survey respondents wanted support in:

- Connecting with other organisations
- Fundraising

New to this month, organisations wanted to support in:

- Governance and policies
- Matching services with interested volunteers

Mirroring our last survey, respondents wanted to be supported through:

- Online training/workshops
- Knowledge sharing online event with other organisations
- Online networking event

