

# State of the Sector survey November 2020\* results



**Community  
Southwark**

The survey went out on 1 November and asked respondents to report on October

# Who answered the survey?

19 total responses

Three quarters of respondents were diverse-led\*

Respondents operated across the whole borough

Most respondents had income of £100k - £500k (52%)

The user groups most represented by organisations were: children and families, and 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, please sign up [here](#)

You asked for information on risk assessments. 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](#).



# \*New question\* Are there any issues or concerns that you would like Community Southwark to raise on your behalf to local decision makers?

“More support for Latin American charities. There are many people who do not speak English, for them [it] is hard to ask for help in different issues”

“Not sure what is happening regarding drawing up the service specification for the all age disabilities hub and whether our current services...will be included in the spec. We heard from [staff] last month that there is a move to services being focussed on "maintaining" people with learning disabilities rather than the prevention type services that we currently provide...targeted at people with physical disabilities.”

“Help to get more residents IT literate”

“Financial support to continue delivering project and services and financial support for running cost such as rent, services charge, IT and social media and insurances”



# Continued...

“The Early years FEEE for January 2021 to be based on 2020 head counts level and not 2021 headcount due to covid-19 attendance level continues to remain well below capacity.”

“We need to secure funding now for 2021/22. Covid Emergency funds help us cover costs this year, but need to raise 30% of income for next year and need funders to either confirm continuation or open for new applications.”

“Streetwise programme causing traffic delays so that delivering food... to our warehouse was difficult and delivering food parcels, particularly in the south of the borough, since the Dulwich village exclusion zone has been set up.”

“Southwark to make it easier to support benefit claimants during lockdown.”

“We would find it helpful to have an overall picture of the support that is being given to people in need over Christmas in Southwark, but are finding it hard to gain this information. It would be helpful to have a joined up approach.”



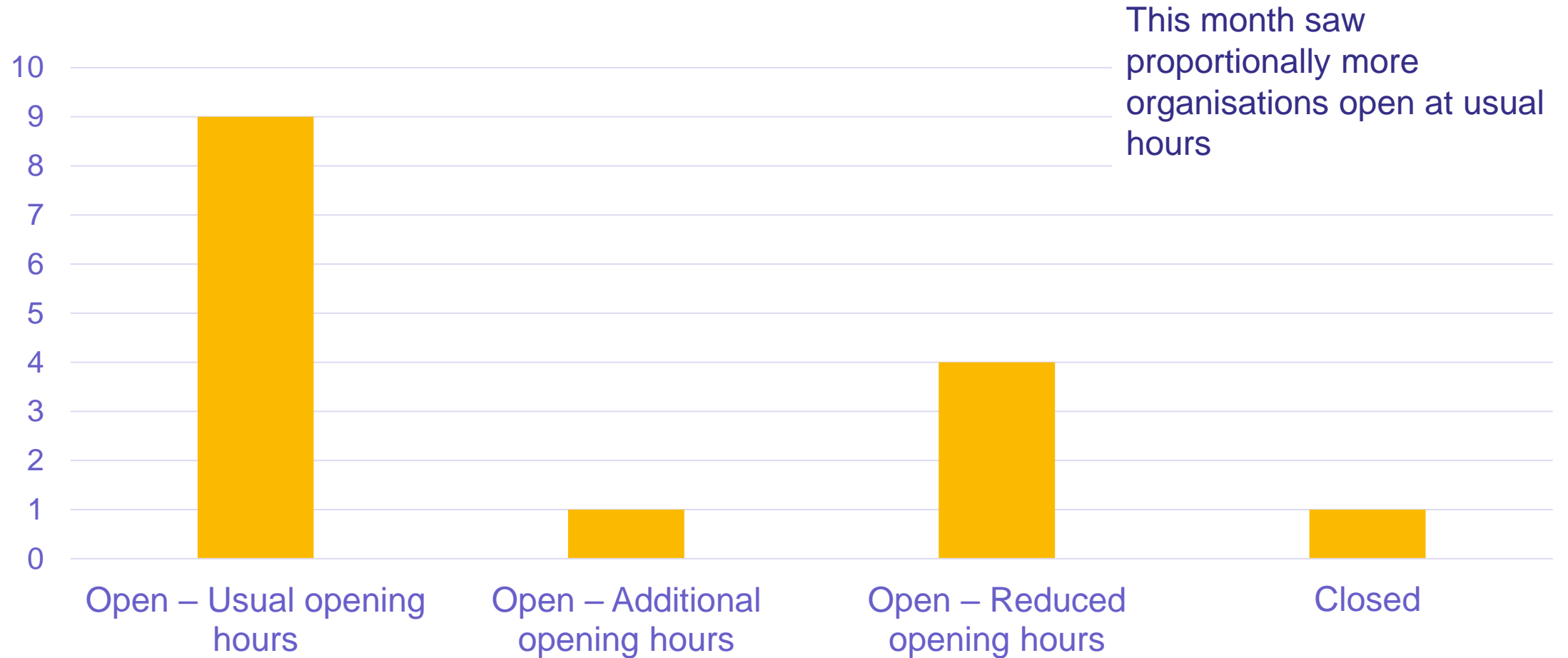
# What have been the biggest challenges facing your organisation in October? (40 responses)

Lack of funding = 40% of responses. *(Remains from September)*

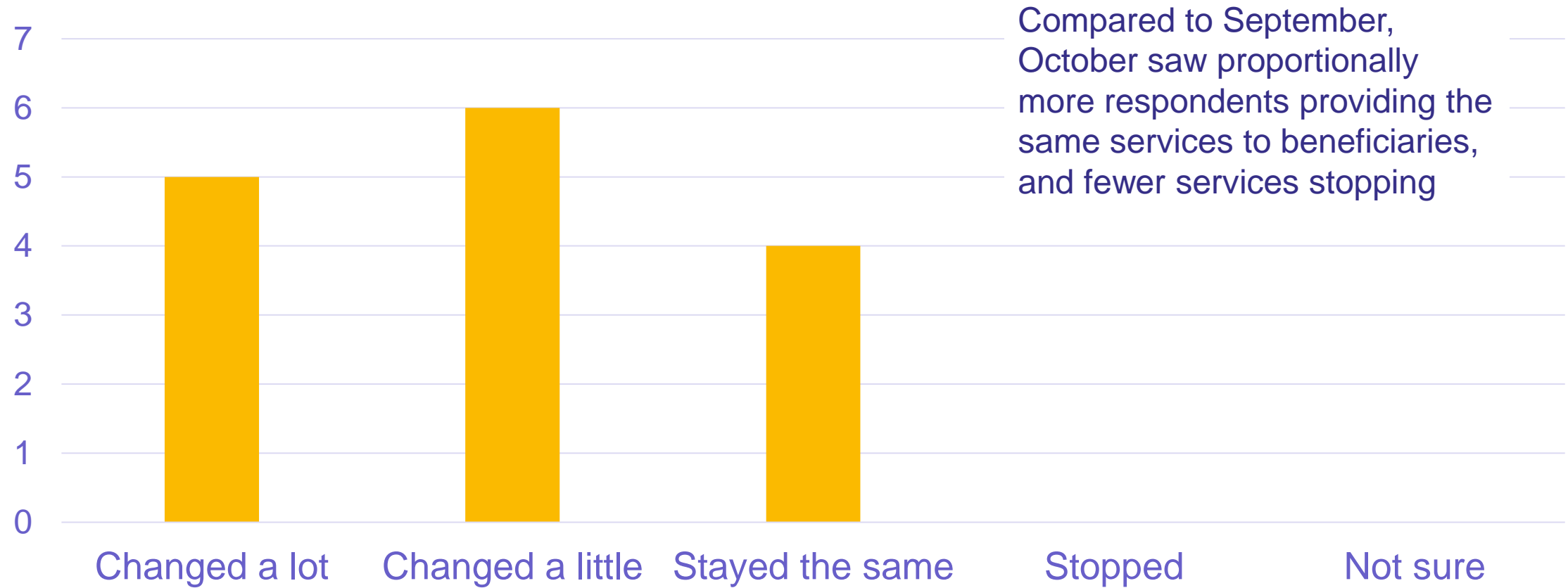
Social distancing in delivery = 33% of responses. *(Remains from September)*

Joint third = Planning next steps *(remains from September)*, access to urgent funding for new needs *(new for October)*, digital or tech equipment *(new for October)*

# What was the status of your organisation in October? (15 responses)



# In October, to what extent did the service you offered to beneficiaries change or stay the same? (15 responses)







# Funding (15 responses)

6 organisations said they had full funding to enable them to continue service delivery until 31 March 2021, 6 said they were partly funded, and 2 said they didn't have funding. *This is almost identical to September's results*

6 organisations said this was less funds than last year and 4 organisations said that their financial position was not different from the same time last year. *This presents very similar results to last month*

# Where do you see your organisation in 6 months' time? (14 responses)

As with previous months, uncertainty and funding continue to be key issues determining where organisations see themselves in the future, with 5 responses mentioning these.

On the whole, organisations highlighted their continued commitment to providing services to those in need (4 responses), with one organisation mentioning increased demand, whilst two others commenting on how their services will look different e.g. providing more holistic support.



# Where do you see your organisation in 6 months' time? (14 responses)

“Hopefully still solvent, subject to securing sufficient external funding.”

“Unless we received adequate funding to help us through this pandemic, the organisation may not be around in the next few months.”

“Working towards seeing a reduction in the demand for foodbanks and offering more holistic support.”

“Continuing to offer support to older people in Southwark, hopefully as part of the fully-functioning hub of Ageing Well Southwark”

“Even busier”

# Support from Community Southwark

Respondents wanted support in:

- Business continuity
- Fundraising
- Measuring your impact
- Risk assessing
- Safeguarding

Respondents wanted to be supported through:

- Online training/workshops
- Online networking event
- Factsheets and guidance docs

Other suggestions: training for trustees, staff wellbeing and mental health support

