

Number of responses

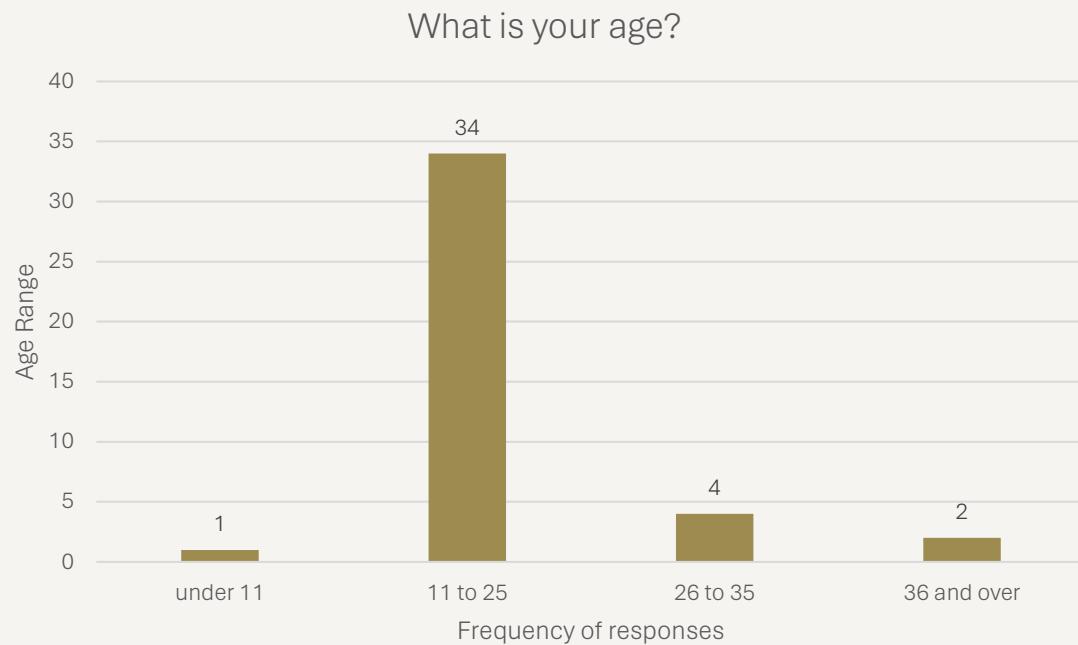
The survey run from the 4th June 2025 – 1st September 2025 we received 41 completed surveys

A massive 82% (34 out of 41) of all survey completed was via the online survey link / QR code)

The remaining 18% got completed in person at the numerous events that the Youth Board attended!

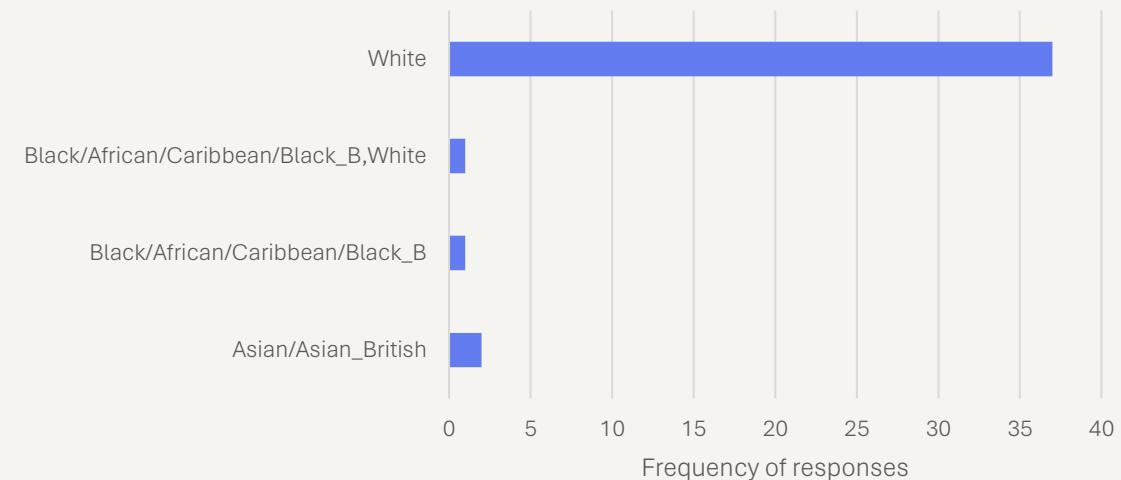
Demographics

Age



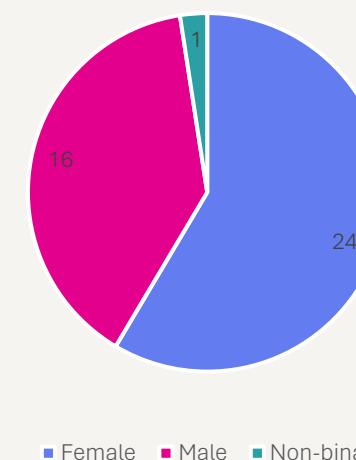
Ethnicity

Which of these best describes your ethnicity?

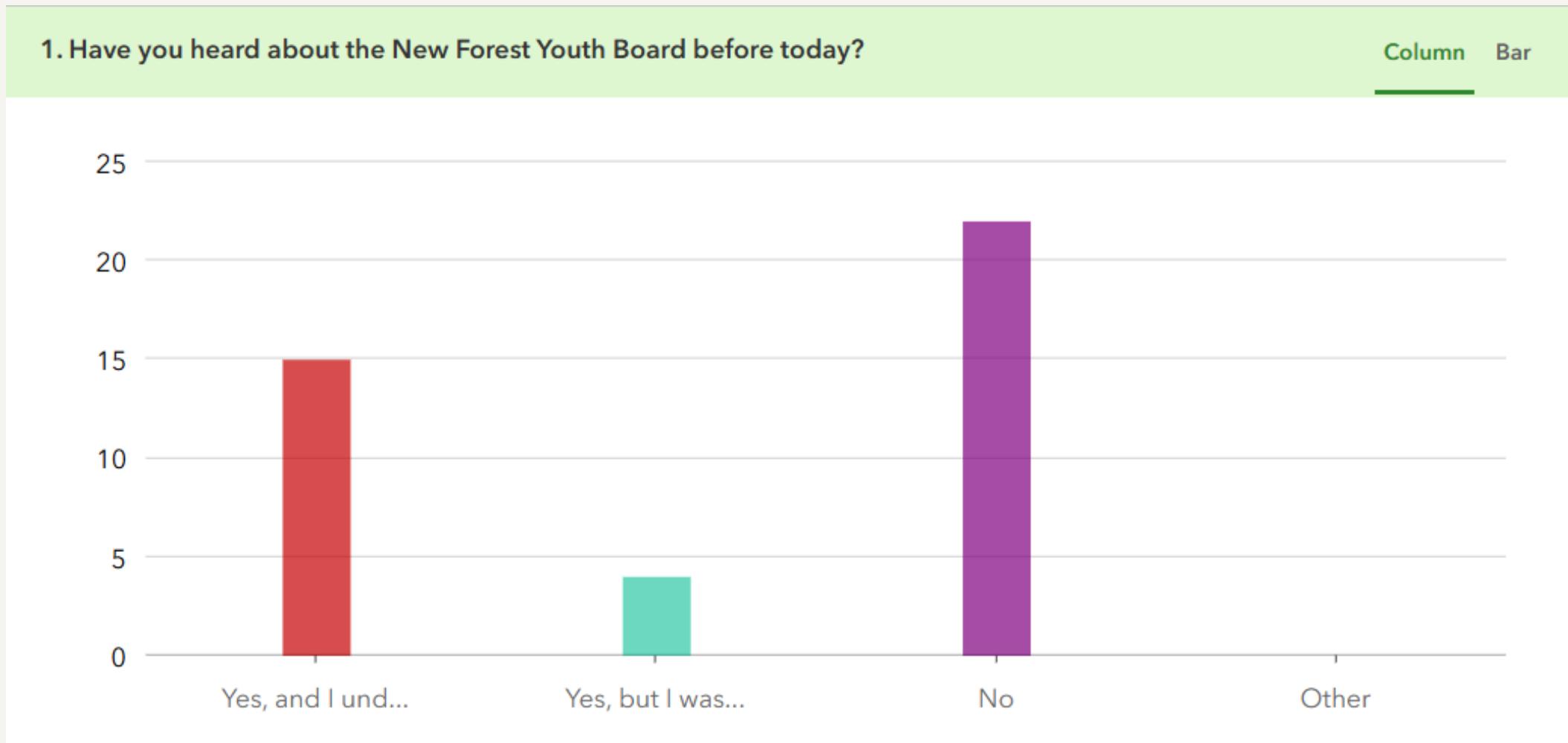


Gender

Which of these best describes your gender?



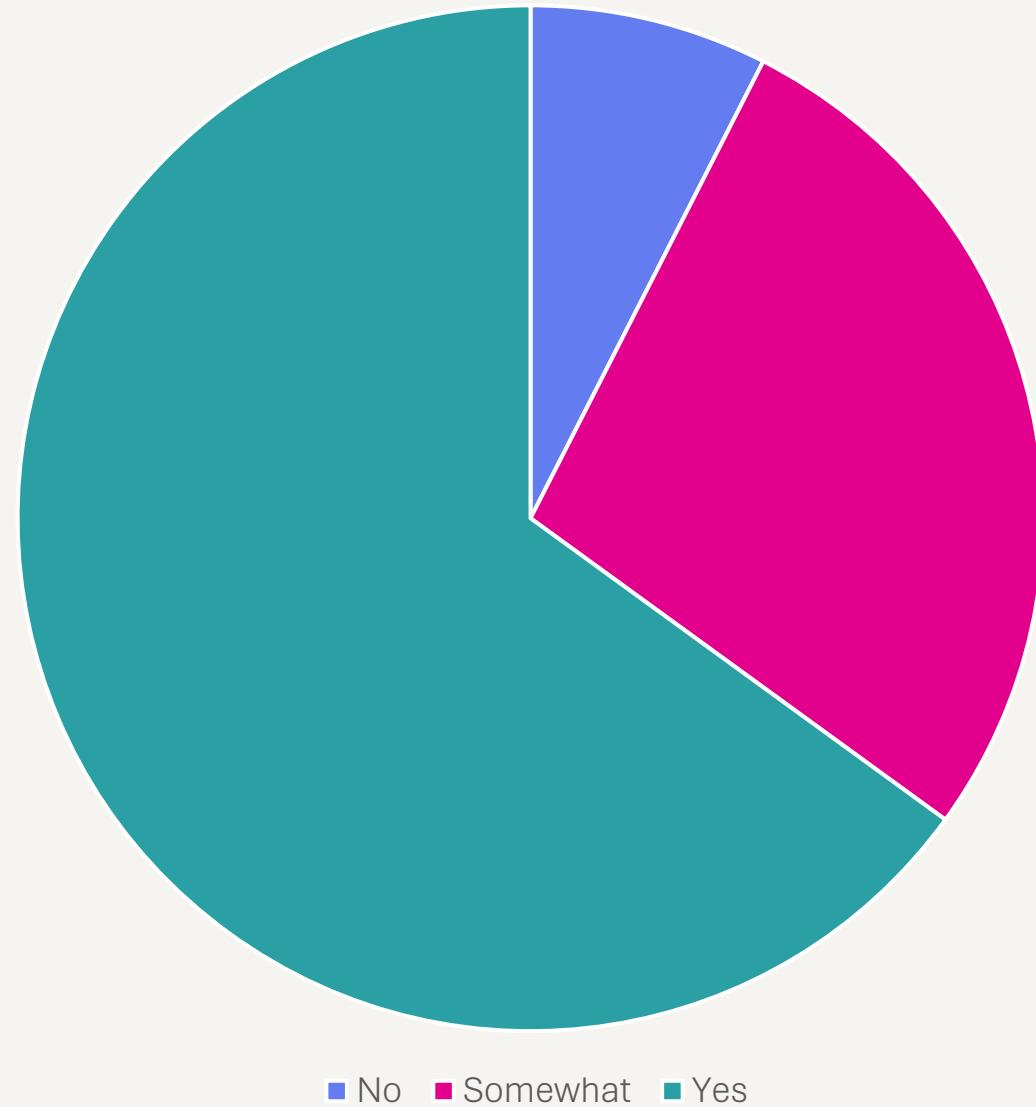
1. Youth Board reach



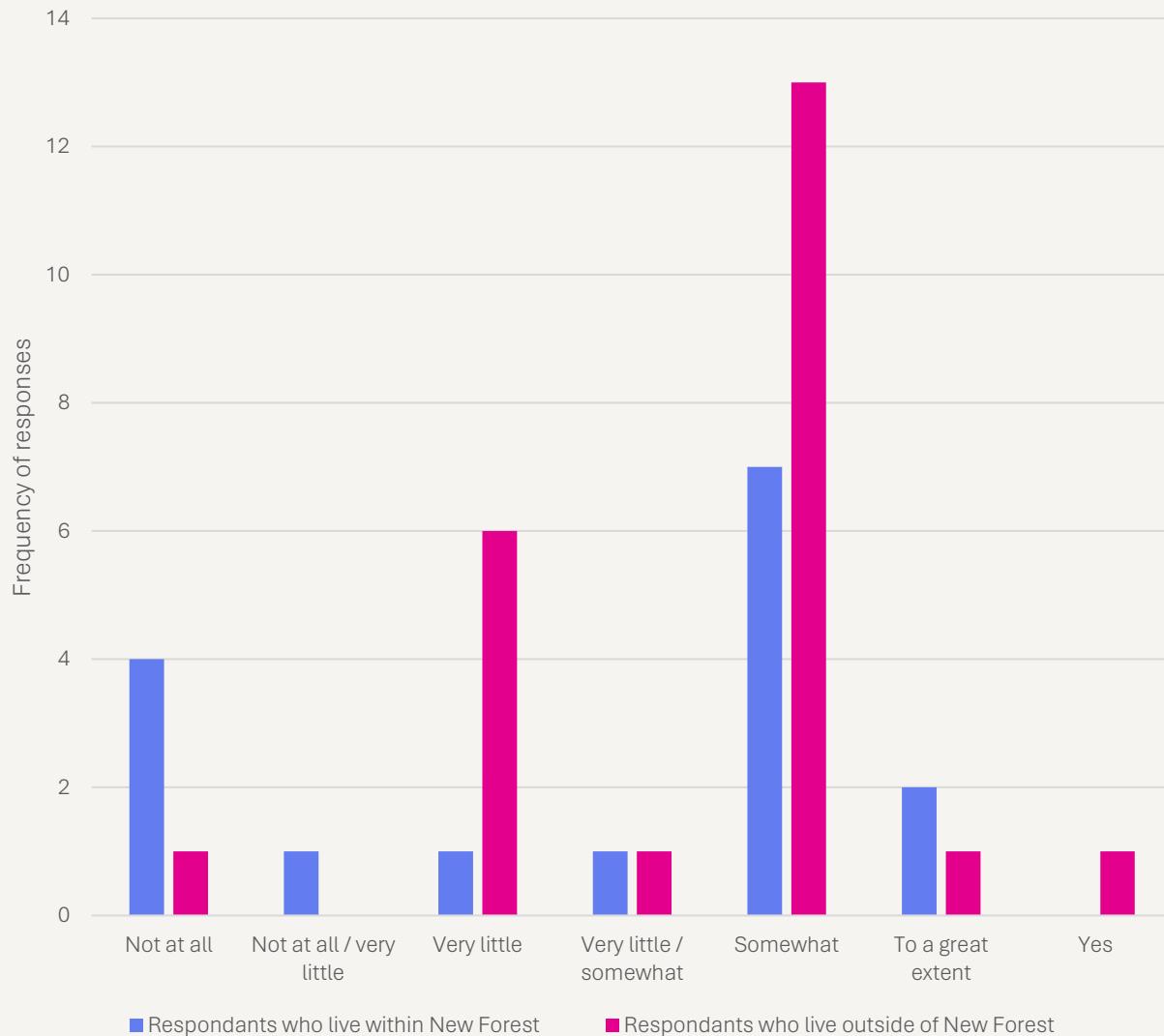
2. Accessibility & Transport

- 26 – Yes the National Park is accessible
- 11 – Somewhat accessible
- 3 – Not accessible

Do you feel the New Forest National Park is accessible to all?



3. Do you feel there is sufficient public transport to and around the New Forest National Park?



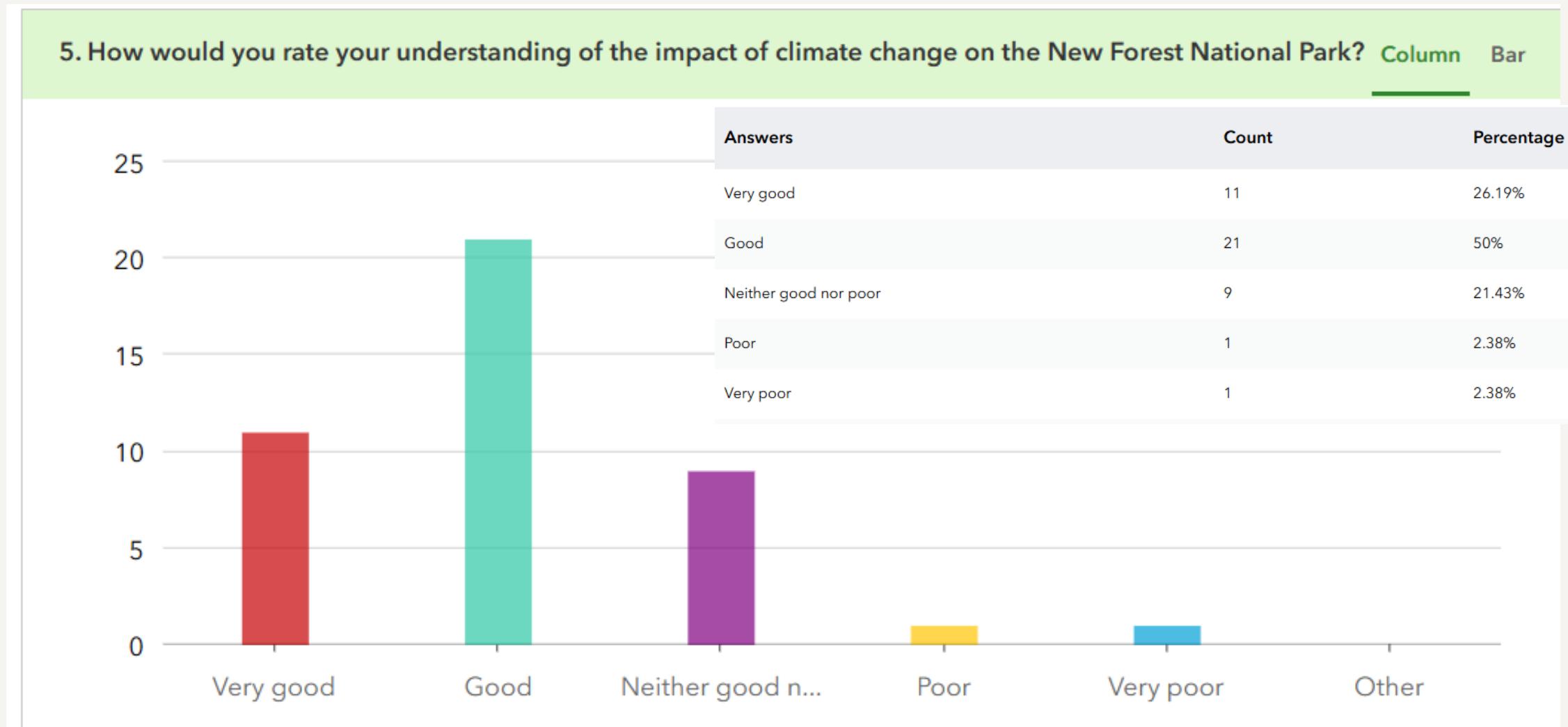
3. Location & Accessibility

4. Recommendations for increased accessibility in the National Park

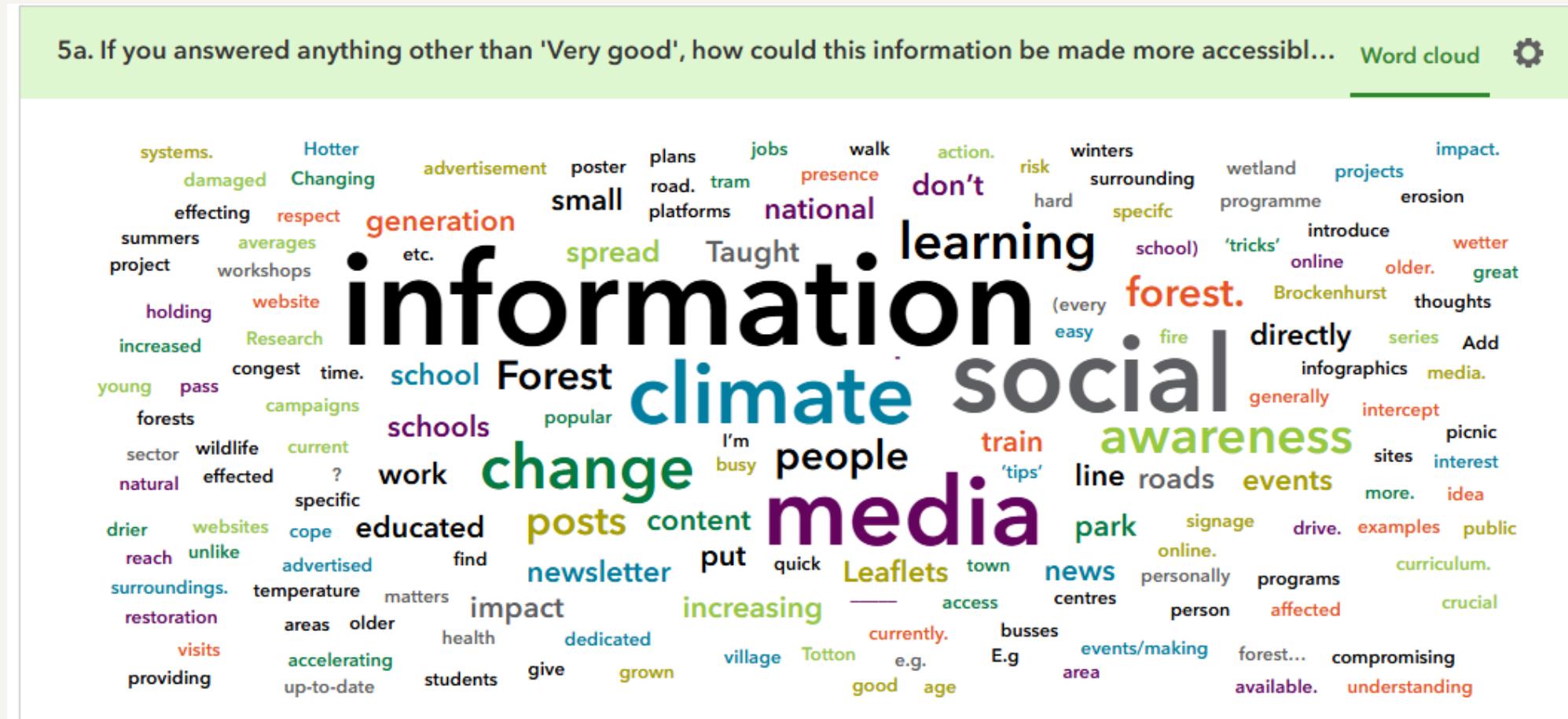
Buses **public** **bus** **routes**

existing popular villages. Hop are. comprehensive aren't affordable LINE. OPENED
electric locations. disabled are. Boltons Bench. dog litter pubs driven expensive
expansion services perhaps? put accessibility Ride shuttle people abundance
proposed back! bluestar drive/easier TRAIN route. full abundance
infrequent open UP. year car Add forest
more? widespread N/a reliable areas travel run car Add people
busses etc. access stations car Add forest
visitors possibly months. time can't operate stop parks
verwood Park cycle attention stations car Add forest
mess direct information don't feel top enable taxi Lyndhurst
direct ponies. tour Provide top enable taxi Lyndhurst
regular petting summer comment area due maps seats round
website enclosures service. haven't network places necessarily
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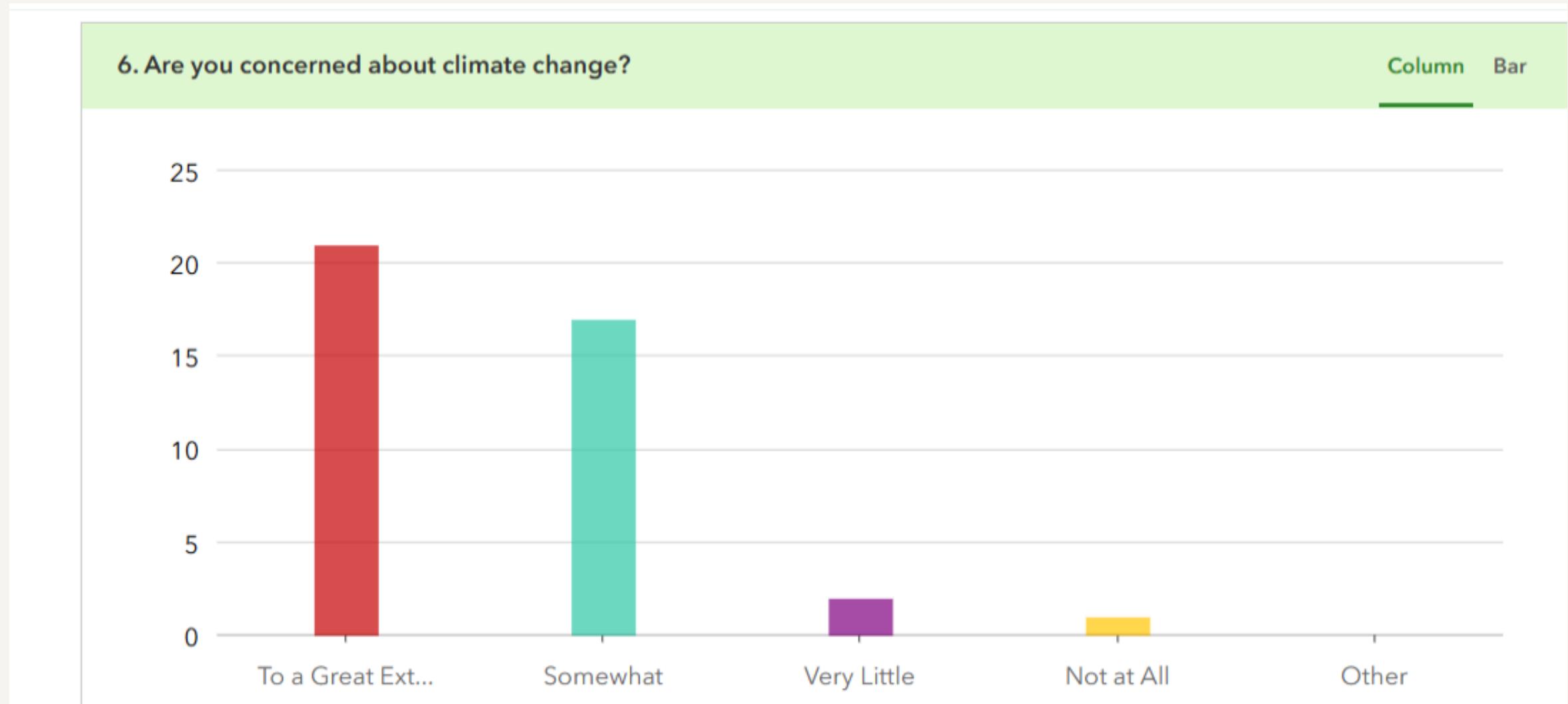
5. Understanding of climate change



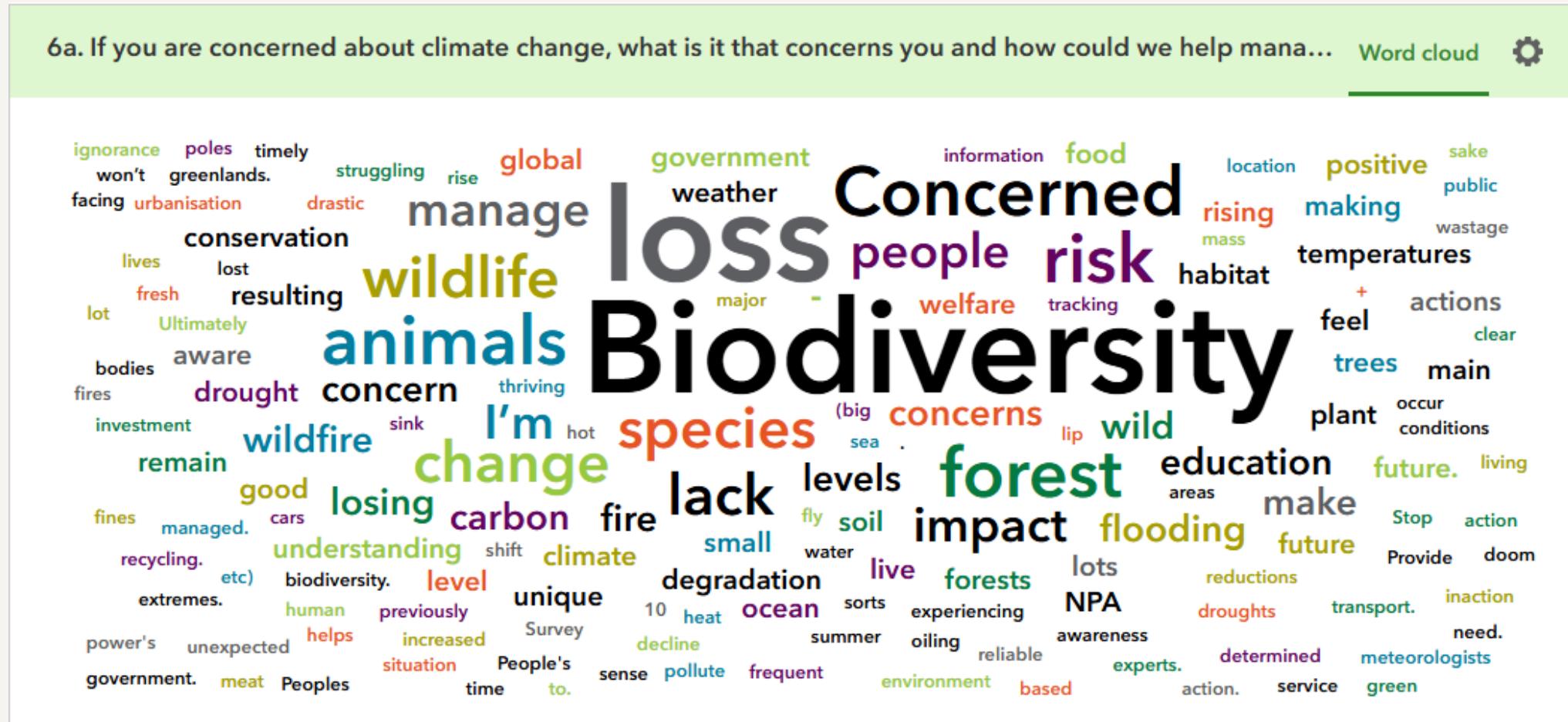
5a. Recommendations on how to make climate change messaging more accessible



6. Climate change concerns



6a. What are the biggest concerns from climate change in the National Park?



7. Project accessibility

When asked:

"Do you have any suggestions or recommendations on how we could make nature restoration and climate change projects more accessible?"

13/31 responses mentioned
"advertising" "publicity"
"awareness" or "social media"



Some responses included...

Project accessibility

"Clear and more wide ranged advertising"

"Better advertising online would be great so people know what is happening when"

"Social media e.g. TikTok"

"Advertise where to sign up for such projects..."

"...maybe just advertising them more, I personally haven't seen anything about volunteering in the New Forest..."

"More publicity"

8. Barriers to living in the National Park

"If you don't live within the New Forest National Park but would like to, what barriers are you facing that prevent this?"

70% of responses when asked mentioned "price" or "lack of affordable housing"



The residents that already live there. Properties are expensive. The public transport is poor. The thought of invading the animals habitat as they were there first. We are trying to battle climate change, but cutting down trees doesn't solve the problem, by building a posh 5 bedroom house where they once were isn't going to solve anything. The connectivity with the industrial areas that hold schools, hospitals etc but that's not the whole point of the forest, to live in it. I rely on public transport and I am unable to drive, so this wouldn't be an option due to irregularities.

Public transport for commuting to work (for my job, I have to be commutable to a mid-large sized hospital)
Significant lack of affordable housing for young people / first time buyers. More flexible housing options that are cheaper would be amazing, e.g. opportunities to buy a small plot of land to live on in a small semi-permanent pre-fabricated hut.

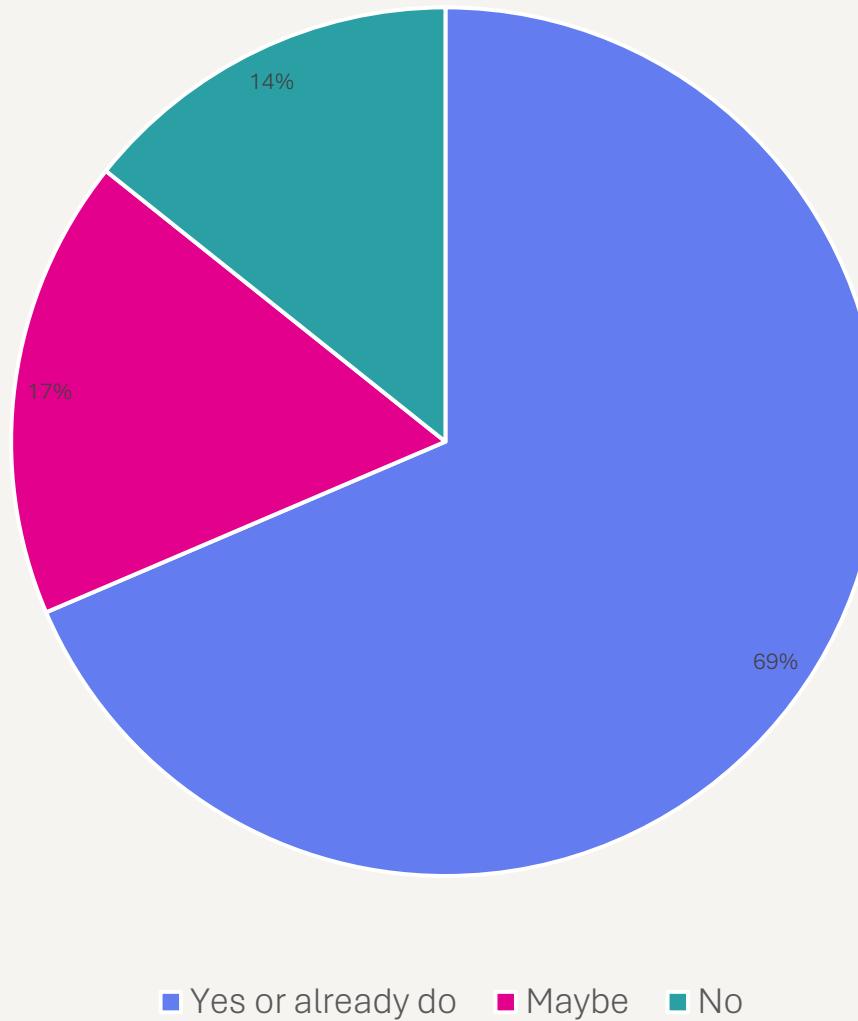
Public transport

Price and jobs

Price

9. Green careers

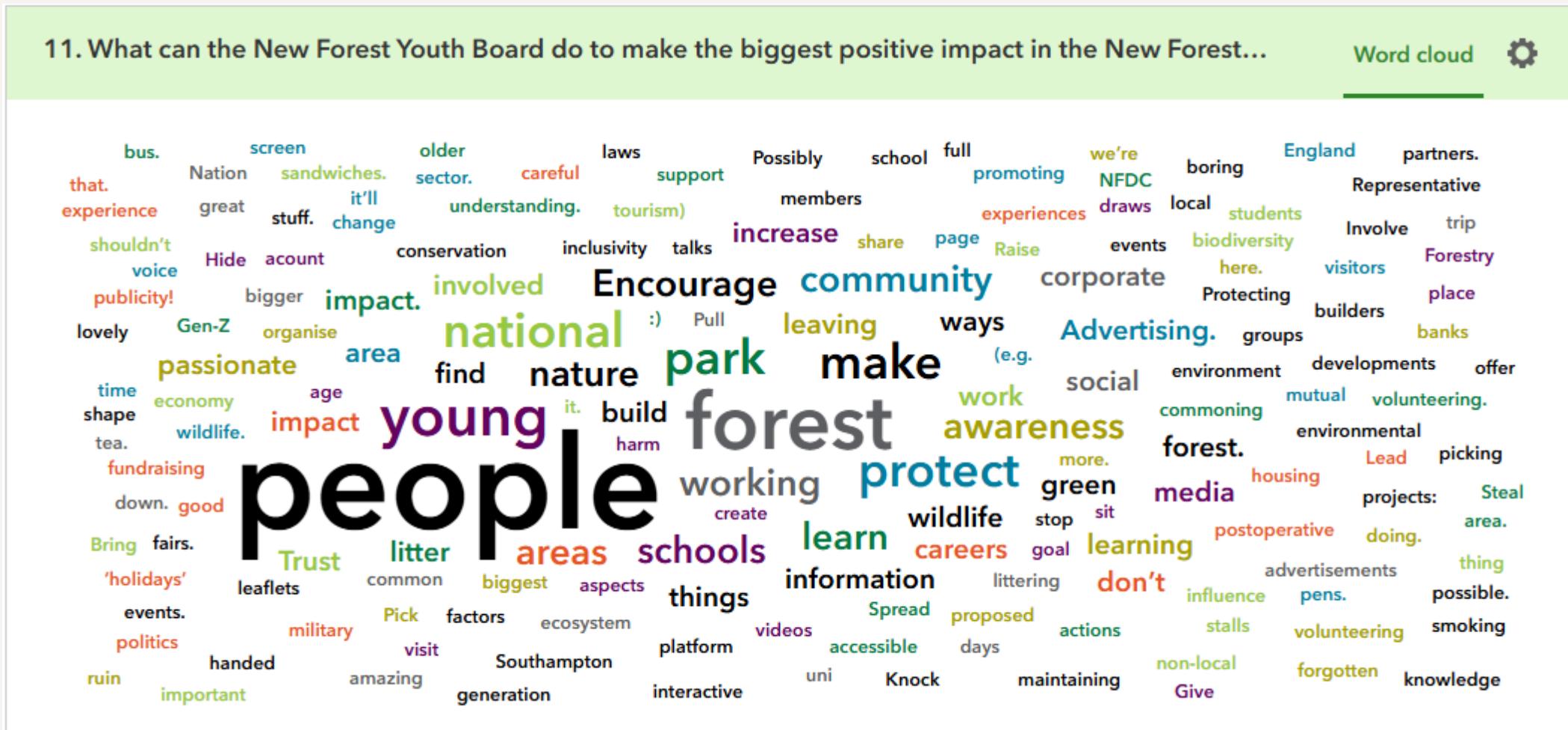
Would you consider working in a green career / the environmental sector if you don't already?



10. Would you attend events hosted by the New Forest Youth Board?

Response	Count
Yes	17
Yes. Maybe invite community groups and small school groups to experience the environment too.	1
Yes, maybe things like workshops.	1
Yes, definitely.	1
Yes, as I very much care about the environment I live in and would like to know more about what can be done to improve it further.	1
yes if they were on weekends	1
Yes if it was mandatory like in schools I would not otherwise	1
Yes I would. It would be greatly interesting.	1
Yes I would	1
Yes but sometimes I might not attend	1
Unlikely for guided walks or panel discussions. When I visit, I go to relax on my own or with friends. As I'm not	1

11. How can the New Forest Youth Board make the biggest positive impact on the National Park?



Response

They could protect wildlife and try to stop littering some more as it can harm wildlife.

Spread awareness and use inclusivity

Raise awareness and maybe organise fundraising events to help the environment

Pull together people who work in different aspects and areas of the New Forest (e.g., commoning, nature conservation, tourism) to try and encourage them to share learning and experiences between members of these groups so that those working for and within the Forest are working towards a common goal and have a mutual understanding.

Protecting biodiversity is the biggest postoperative impact on the park as aside from the environmental factors the new forest ecosystem draws visitors that support the local economy

protect nature from all the proposed housing developments

Protect green areas from builders trying to build on the green areas

Probably have a bigger social media account or something like that so people know how they can help or how to change their actions

Pick up litter and be careful of the wildlife

More talks in schools etc

More leaflets and advertisements

Make videos promoting the National forest

Make accessible from Southampton for the students more.

Lead community projects: such as litter picking days Maybe create a social media page as Gen-Z use this platform to get information and trust it.

Keep doing what you're doing. It's good stuff. Make sure young people, especially school leaving and uni leaving age know that there are careers in the sector. Find ways to get young people into volunteering.

Keep doing what we're doing and increase awareness and publicity!

Project opportunities (already offered)



Rae – Ringwood Repair Café - I'd like to propose a challenge to the youth team: to design an innovative and environmentally friendly wheelie bin storage unit with a pollinator-friendly green roof.



Hayley - greater involvement in governance/policy within the national park (get a young person/YB member on the Authority Board) – write to our CEO, input into next People Plan (national park values and ways of working), ask for YB to be included in Authority meetings - join meeting (no voting power), provide perspective on papers, to include a YB update section on each meeting).



Hayley - invite to the Transport Summit - deliver a workshop on survey results relating to transport/access with ideas for change, be a part of a keynote panel discussion to give inclusive view point to transport issues, be involved in the day – have a youth board stand, be included in the afternoon workshops, attend the summit(conference) for free

Project ideas from survey results

'Spread awareness and use inclusivity'

- Social media creation – more advertising of volunteering opportunities,
- Engage young people to stop littering
- Series of talks in schools/education program – on climate change, nature restoration, how to protect green spaces,
- Workshops with different demographics – older, younger, communities, etc
- Lead community projects, fundraising events
- Project on getting young people into green careers – internships, work experience program
- How to keep young people in the area – affordable housing, decent pay
- Collaborate with partners and other youth groups across NPUK
- Transport initiative – cycle to work/school days?
- Social media work with Cllr Hannah Phillips
- Create a podcast with specific themed episodes and invited guests
- Create interpretation signs for areas of the Forest, and for local parks/community gardens/allotments
- Share positive stories on social media, radio and news outlets?

'Build a community of young passionate people who want to protect the national park for the next generation'