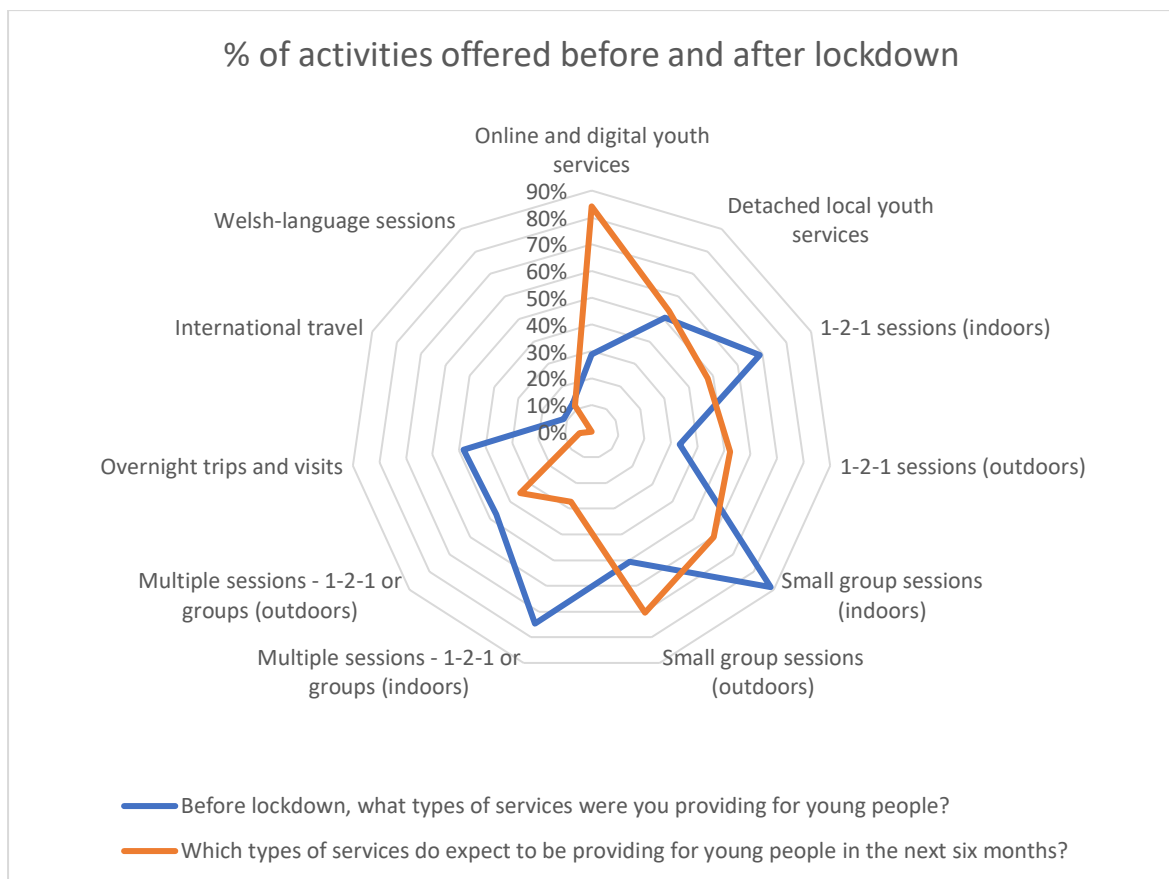


Data standard V1.1 Analysis Paper

In our second iteration of the data standard we focussed on the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on provision for young people. We will refer to our second survey as the “post lockdown” survey reflecting the time when our respondents completed the survey. We first look at headline results of the post lockdown survey, then examine the composition of organisations responding to both surveys, before turning our attention to the differences attributed to COVID-19 in the first survey and the post lockdown survey. Finally, we contrast the results of the largest subgroup in both surveys to get a clearer view of the evolving picture.

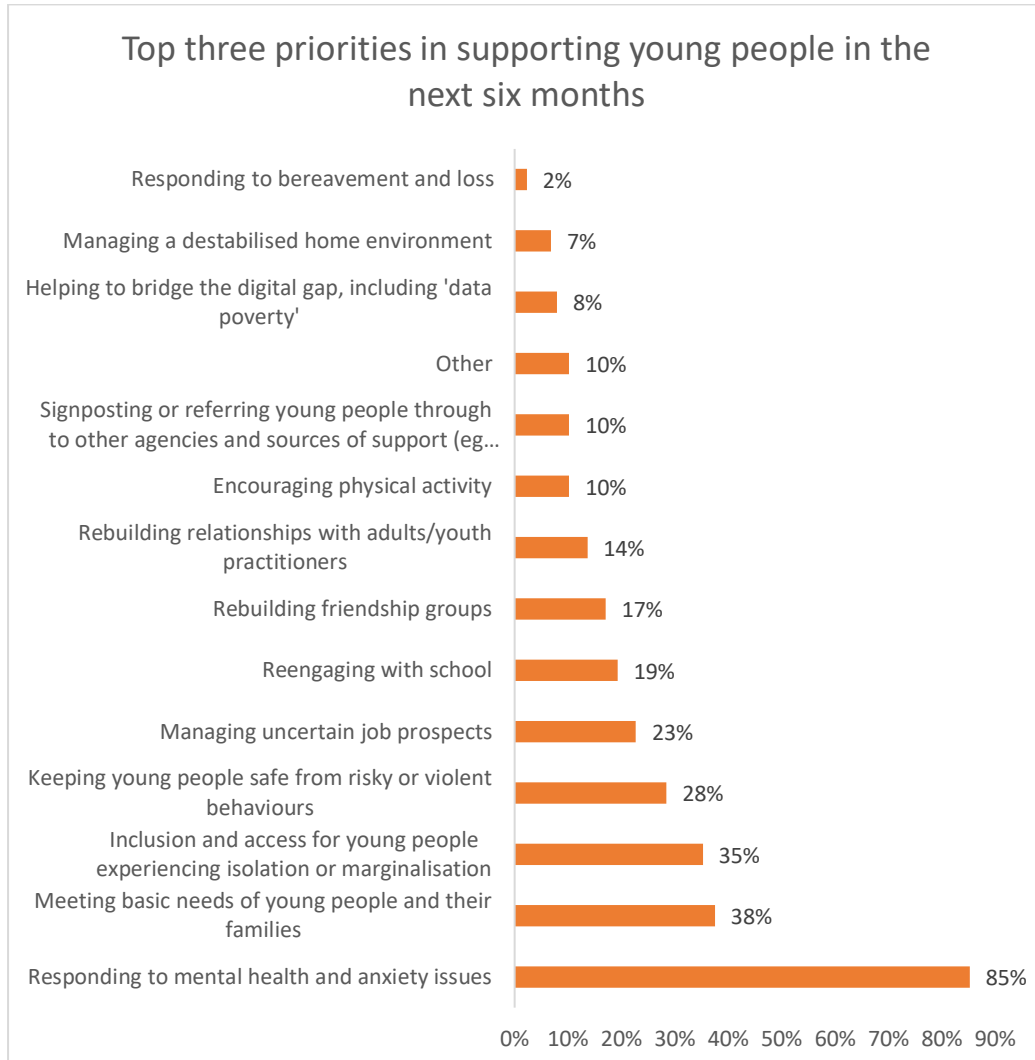
Noteworthy results of the post lockdown survey

We received 88 full, useable responses to the post lockdown survey, down from the full, useable 176 in our first survey at the end of April 2020. Perhaps unsurprisingly there has been a clear swing to online and digital offer with almost 80% of sampled organisations reporting that they are either providing this offer or expecting to within the next six months. This is up from the 29% who had offered it before lockdown. Offers consistent with social distancing are also apparent as organisation move from indoor activities to outdoor activities as well as work with smaller groups.

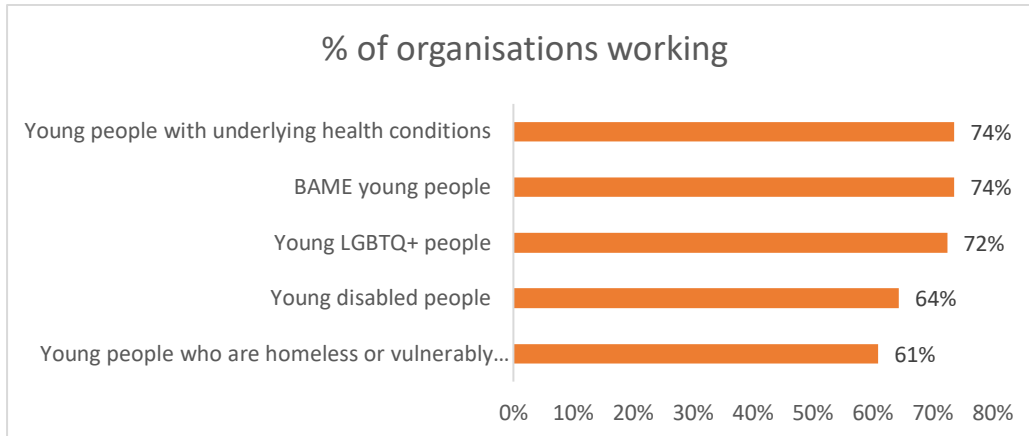


Responding to the mental health needs of young people is a clear support priority with 85% of organisations reporting that it was one of their three top priorities. Working toward meeting the basic needs of young people and their families was the second most included priority (38%) followed

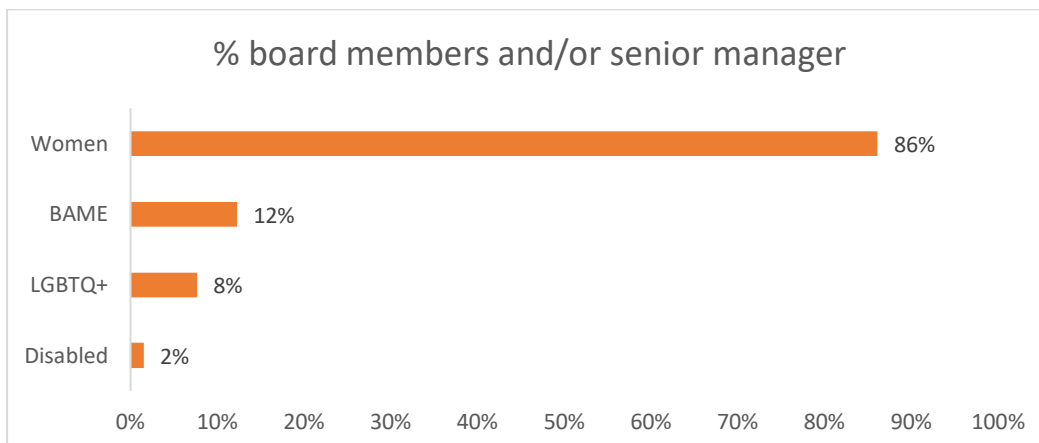
by inclusion of isolated young people (35%). One of interest is the relatively low reported incidence (8%) of supporting the bridging of the 'digital' gap and data poverty.



We also asked whether organisations work with groups of young people often deemed at higher risk. Just under 75% of organisations work with a range of young people including those with underlying health conditions, BAME young people, young LGBTQ+, young disabled and homeless or vulnerable housed young people representing between 61% and 64% of organisations.



To better understand the composition and diversity of organisations leadership teams, we asked whether 50% or more of the board membership and senior management team of organisations were made up of women, BAME young people, LGBTQ+ and disabled people. Women were reported in 86% of organisations, but otherwise Black and ethnic minority, disabled and LGBTQ+ were represented far less frequently at 12%,8% and 2% respectively.



We report on further findings within the post lockdown survey in relation to our first survey in the sections below.

Composition of our post lockdown survey

In our first survey roughly half of respondents reported turnovers less than £500 000, this remained similar in our post lockdown survey. However, those not reporting turnover increased markedly in the post lockdown survey. In both samples most respondents were from England, the post lockdown survey had an increase in Welsh organisations with Scottish and Northern Island decreasing as a proportion. The post lockdown survey had a greater number of organisations operating at a local scale, similarly the post lockdown survey included a greater proportion of organisations with more staff. 60% of both samples included views from organisations with a volunteer base of less than 25 volunteers. Interestingly the post lockdown survey reported the views of organisations whose staff worked on average of 70% the number of hours per week pre COVID-19 as compared to the first survey. Both samples were majority funded by grants and foundations, however the post lockdown survey included proportionately more organisations directly funded by Local Authorities. Also, worth noting is that the first survey reported nearly four times the amount of young people worked with as

a proportional measure when compared to the post lockdown survey. Lastly, we offered the opportunity for respondents in the post lockdown survey to identify their organisations, a big majority of 67 respondents did.

In summary the post lockdown survey included organisations whose turnover was proportionately less reported, whose membership included proportionately more Welsh organisations, whose scale of operation was proportionately more local, who had proportionately more staff working on average 70% the amount of hours per week working with close to four times less young people. Graphs charting the above can be found [here](#).

Considering the differences in the samples without further contextualization and interpretation, it could be argued that the data from our post lockdown survey emerged from organisations who had not contributed to the first survey. Therefore, the next section treats the analysis of differences in COVID-19 impacts carefully and tentatively as the organisational characteristics within samples differ. Simply said any differences between the two surveys could also be explained by underlying difference in organisational characteristics not the passage of time between the two surveys.

Comparison of results

This [page](#) illustrates the relative differences between the first survey and the post lockdown survey. Comparing the first sample with the post lockdown survey from a funding and finance point of view, the picture has brightened slightly albeit from a grim starting point with more organisations reporting less risk to their reserves and a more stable funding base.

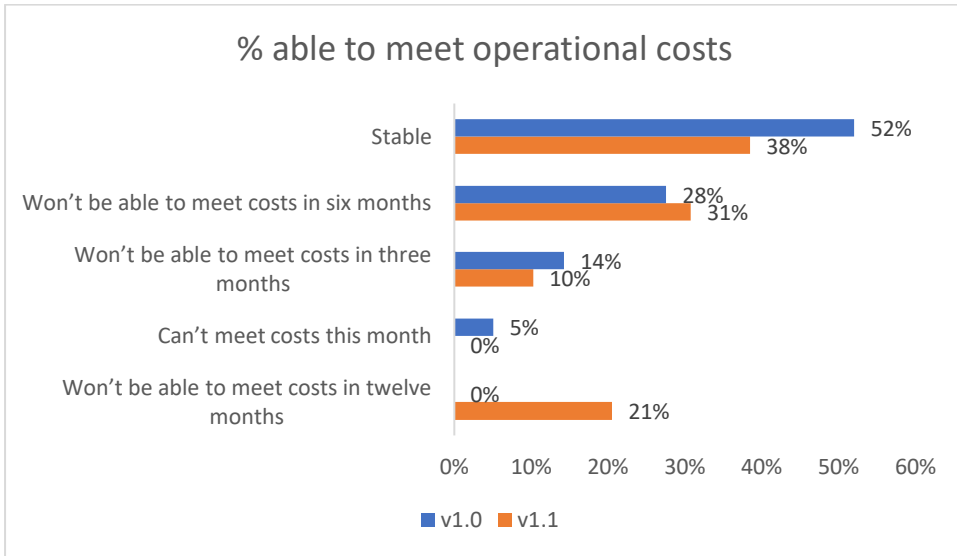
In terms of effects on staff reduction, the picture remained stable with similar numbers of staff furloughed or lost. Volunteer capacity however did reduce further in the second sample. The impact on provision was more acute in the second sample with more organisations stopping or pausing either all or most of their provision. Counterintuitively the impact on numbers of young people engaged remained broadly stable with roughly only a third of organisations in both surveys being able to engage more than half of their young people attending before COVID-19.

As stated previously, a proportion of the variance between surveys could be explained by inherent differences in the organisations themselves. That put aside one can believe that when the pandemic began, organisations lost or furloughed staff, lost their volunteer capacity, lost the ability to provide services and engage with the same young people prior to COVID-19 and became acutely concerned with their ongoing financial security. With government's partial support of employment, funders' continued support of organisations and the easing of lockdown one can see why the financial outlook organisations hold may have brightened somewhat. However, the impacts on young people in terms of lost provision remains severe.

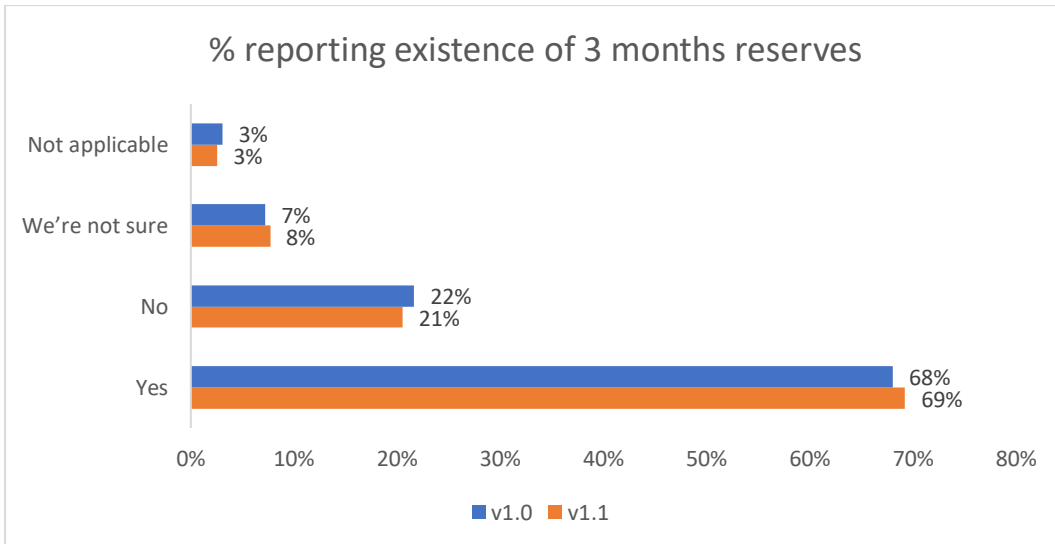
Finally, in order to get a clearer view of the emerging differences in surveys, we compare the results from the largest subgroup or subset of organisations, namely those reporting operating on a local level, who represent themselves as a charity or social enterprise. The first group contained an average of 97 useable responses, the post lockdown group less at 39 useable responses.

Local charities and social enterprises compared

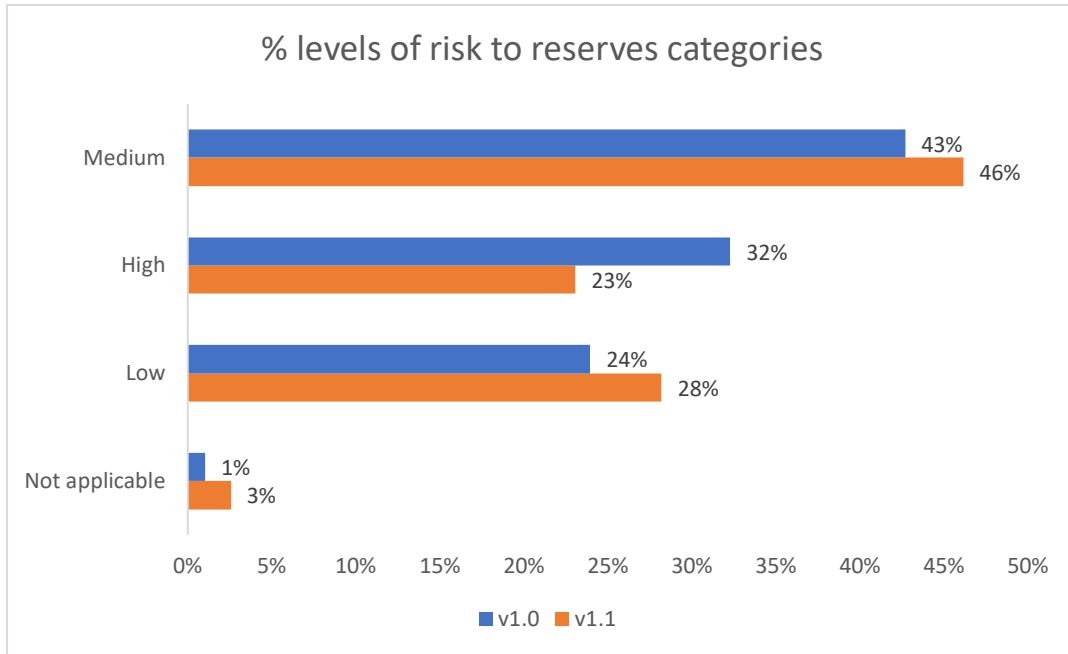
In terms of funding and finance, the three and six month reported ability to meet operational costs without additional funding, has remained relatively unchanged. However fewer organisations (38%) believe their ability to meet operational costs are stable, compared with 52% in the first survey.



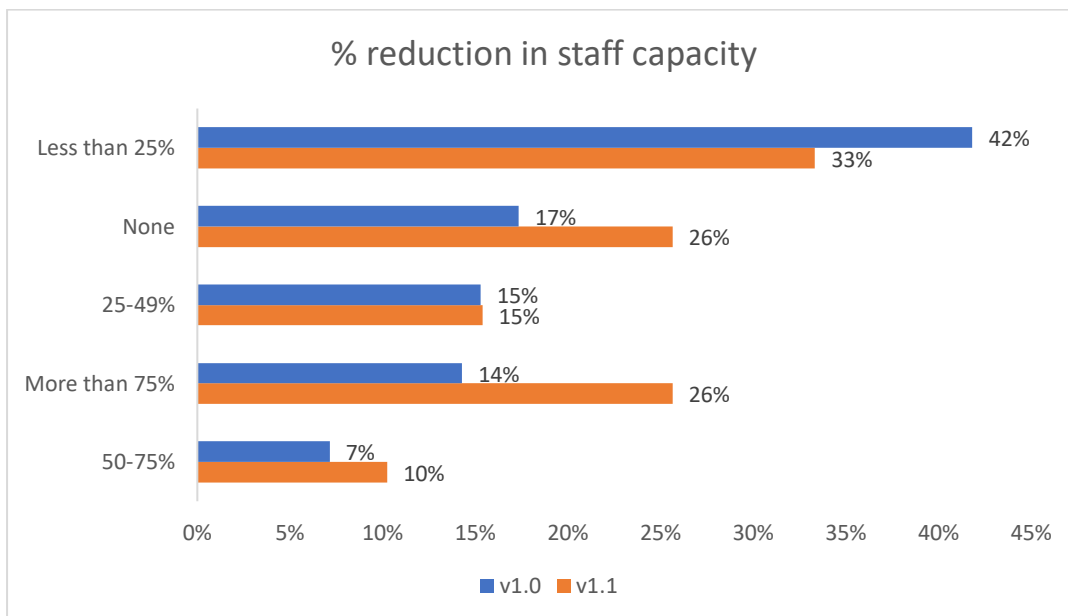
Similarly, the situation with regards to the percentage of organisations reporting three months reserves remained stable at just under 70%.



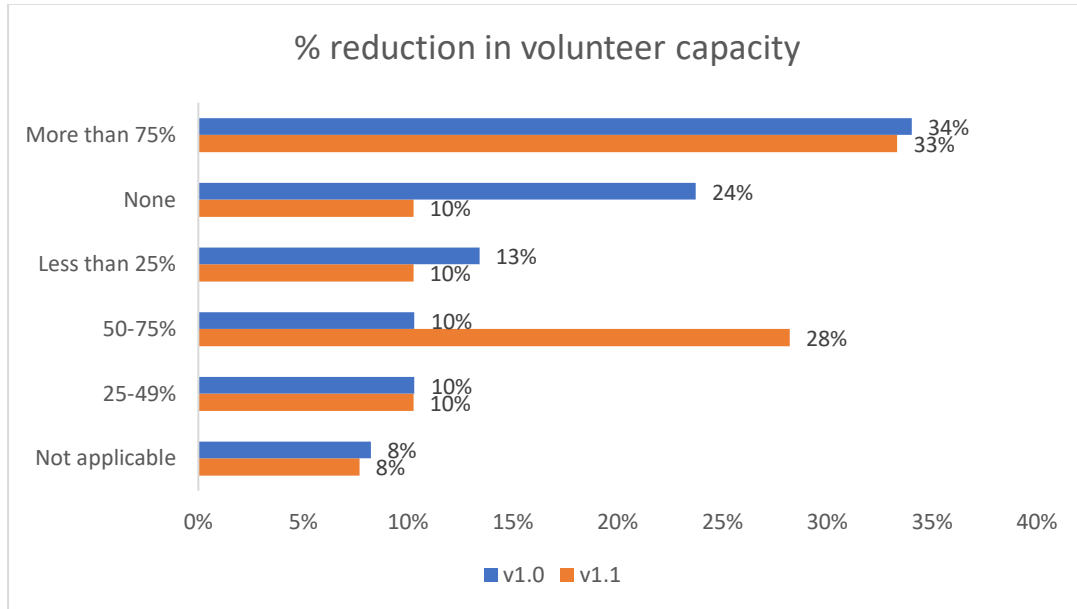
With respect to the level of risk to reserves, the situation improved marginally with 23% reporting high risks to reserves, down from 32% in the first survey.



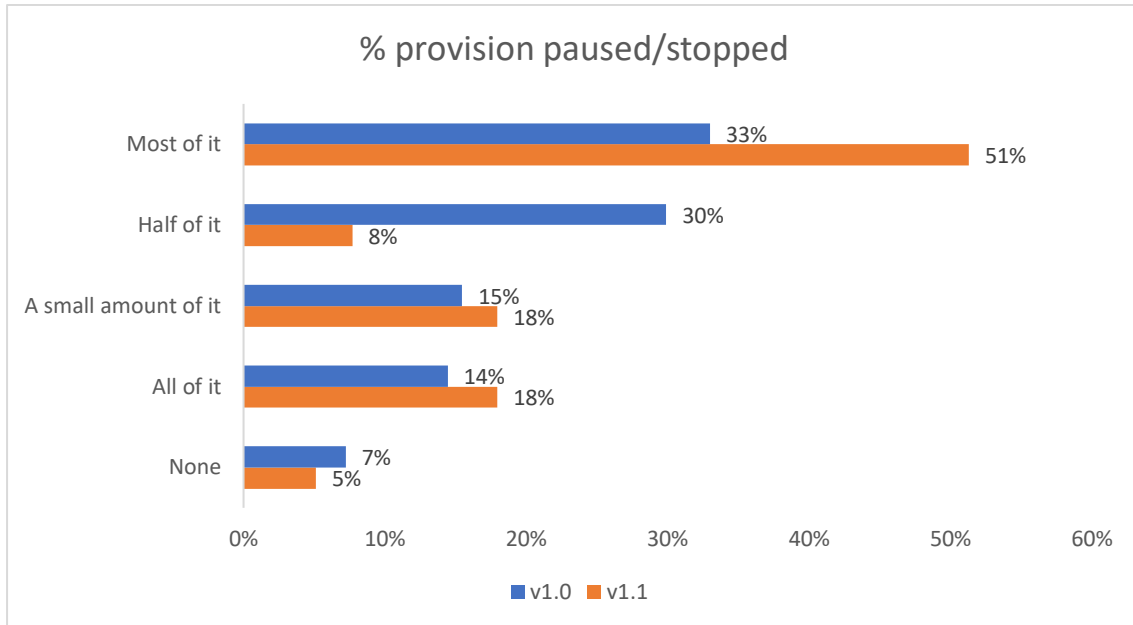
Overall organisations continued to operate with less staff capacity except for organisations reporting no reduction in staff capacity. This increased from 17% in the first survey to 26% in the post lockdown survey.



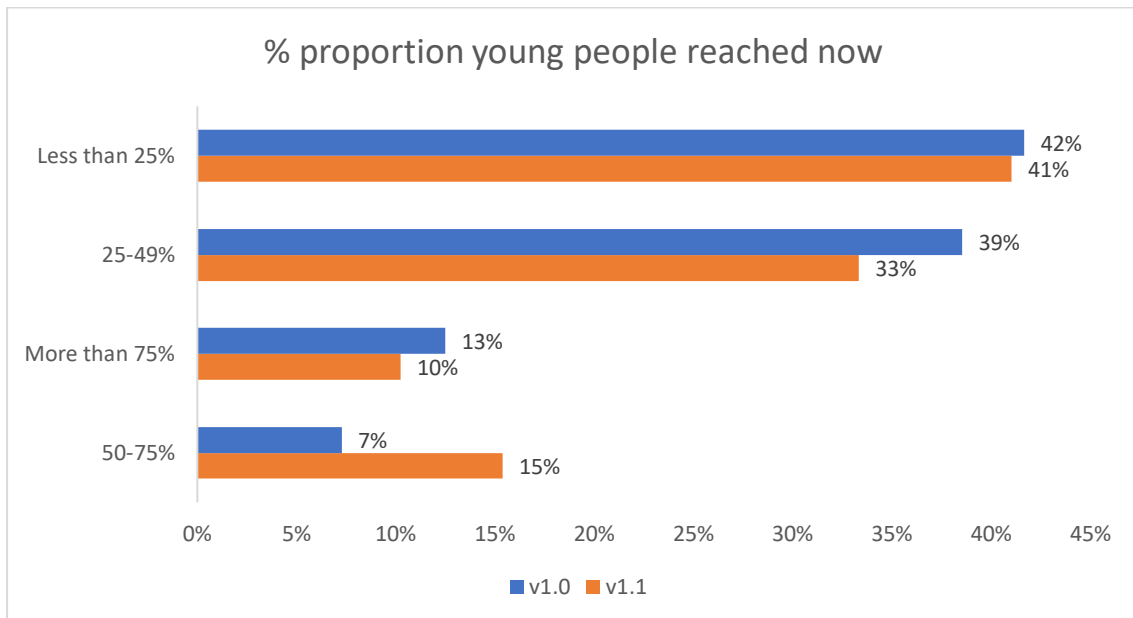
Regarding organisations' reduction in volunteer capacity, it is apparent that volunteer capacity continued to decrease. In the first survey 24% of organisations reported no loss of volunteer capacity, this decreased to only 10% in the post lockdown survey. Similarly, 28% of organisations report a loss of between 50% and 75% of volunteer capacity, up from 10% in the first survey.



The provision on offer for young people continued to decrease in the post lockdown survey. Just over half (51%) report stopping or pausing most of their provision, up from the 33% in the first survey.



Just over 40% of organisations continue reporting that they reach fewer than 25% of the young people they usually reach. This has remained unchanged between the surveys. There was a slight increase from 7% to 15% of organisations claiming they are reaching between half and three-quarters of their usual young people in the post lockdown survey.



In conclusion it can be seen that local charities and social enterprises responses broadly follow the pattern of all responses summarised by a slight brightening in financial assessments, but overall loss in staff and volunteer numbers and capacity, less provision for young people. However, organisations are beginning to show signs of recovering at least some of the pre-pandemic number of young people worked with possibly by pivoting to a more online offer.

Future directions

We have already acknowledged that comparing anonymous surveys with each other and drawing conclusions is a potential fraught enterprise. Future iterations of this survey are hoped to include organisational names or other identifiers. This will assist us to report on findings more confidently in greater detail and draw wider, more generalisable conclusions.