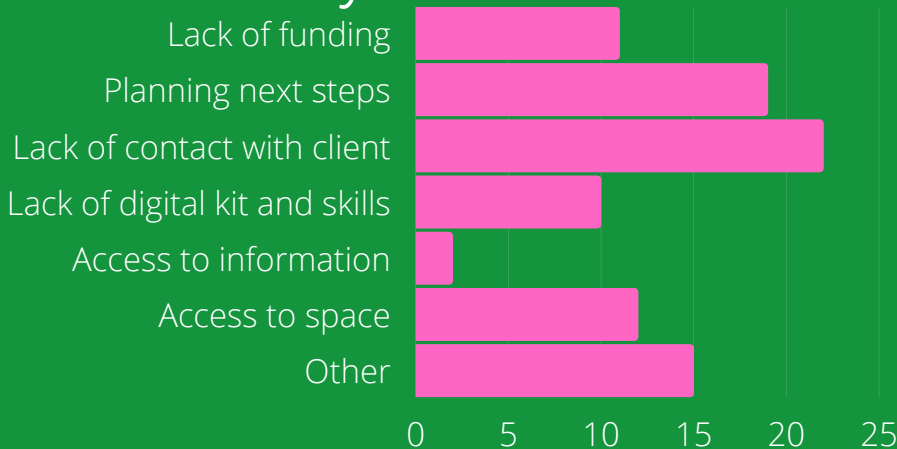
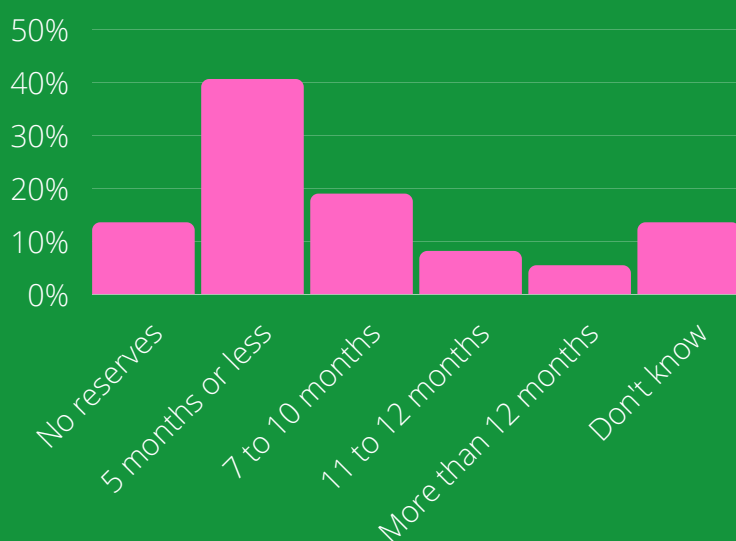
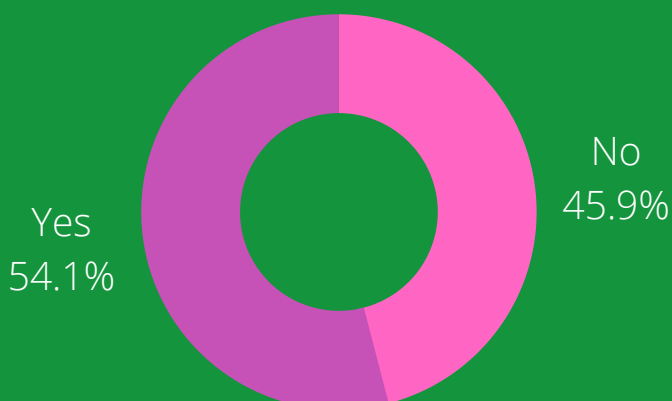


# State of the Sector Survey October 2020

Lack of contact with clients is the biggest challenge for the sector



46% told us they were using reserves with a majority having 5 months or less



"Concern about smaller providers closing and losing some of the richness of provision from the VCSE sector."

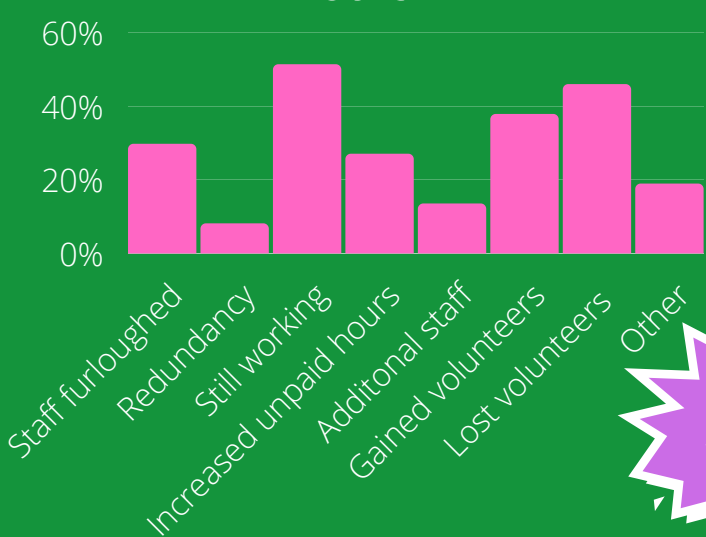
"Funding is a big issue now to survive."

"Not looking good."

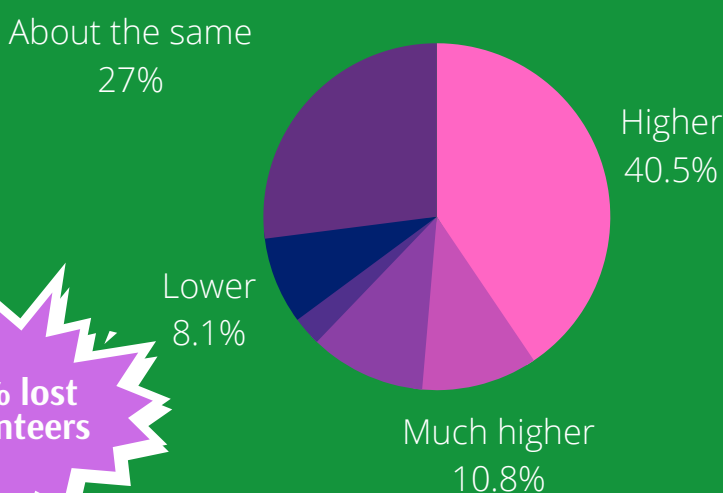
"Our regular funding is petering out so our reserves will run out."

27% are working increased unpaid hours

51% report higher or much higher demand



**46% lost volunteers**



Clients are seeking support in a variety of ways



68% seek emotional support, but help is being sought across the board, especially, food, digital, funds, and other forms of physical support and activities. The "other" option includes help for domestic abuse, shelter and signposting to other organisations.

The biggest challenge clients face during the COVID-19 outbreak

"It is not easy for most of our members to do everything online. There are lot of pressure of too much digital information and most people still feel **isolated** as they need physical contact in real life. Virtual adaptation can work temporary for a short period of time, but not for long."

"The main impact has been **isolation** for many people - particularly those who are vulnerable - older people and single parent families."

- ★ 68% social isolation
- ★ 51% mental health
- ★ 30% digital exclusion
- ★ 24% low income
- ★ 24% lack of employment
- ★ 24% Social distancing rules
- ★ 22% Access to food and essentials
- ★ 22% Family tensions

"We have seen how well the local community has worked together to support one another."

"Opportunities to try new ways of working and also to improve our organisational systems and process."

