

# WARINGSTOWN VILLAGE ASSESSMENT

# Contents

Acknowledgements

Background and introduction

The Methodology – How we went about it

The Findings

Who are we?

Survey respondents

2001 Census population, demographics, health and care

Waringstown Ward

Waringstown Settlement

Age groups in respondent's homes

Age groups compared to the 2001 Census

Ages compared to Northern Ireland averages

Marital status of adults

Education, employment and economic activity

Employment

Housing

How many years in my current home

How many years have we lived in Waringstown

Transport

Weekly and monthly use of facilities

Waringstown levels of deprivation

# Contents

## The Findings (continued)

### What do we think about Waringstown?

- Public services

- Service satisfaction

- What would encourage us to use the bus

- Policing

- Neighbourhood policing

- Leisure facilities

- Activities (adults)

- Activities (children)

### What are the barriers to a better quality of life?

- Community spirit

- Minor problems

- Major problems

- Main issues

- Main issues facing older people

- Wider issues

### How can we all make life in Waringstown better?

## The Way Forward

## Bibliography

## Appendices

# Acknowledgements

This assessment was carried out by local people on a voluntary basis without outside financial assistance. It was only made possible through the encouragement, advice and contributions in-kind from many individuals and organisations. Waringstown Community Development Association would like to thank all those who were involved, in particular Banbridge District Council and Waringstown Presbyterian Church for their help with photocopying; the volunteers who distributed the survey questionnaires; and the Post Office, NISA and Mace Supermarkets which acted as collection points for completed questionnaires. The time invested by all those who completed the questionnaires is also not taken for granted.

# Background and introduction

Waringstown Community Development Association was formed in June 2009. The Committee is made up of Waringstown people who want to promote community in the Waringstown area. Our vision is for a Waringstown where people know and trust each other, look out for each other, and look after the village. We have already put a lot of work into setting up the organisation and making contact with people who can help. The recently completed village assessment is the next step in the process

This report summarises the findings of the village assessment carried out in Waringstown by Waringstown Community Development Association in the Spring of 2011. The assessment was carried out in order to establish baseline information about Waringstown, what the quality of life in the village is like at present, and how it might be improved.

Although the assessment will inform the future direction, planning and work of the Association we are acutely aware that Waringstown's rich history and resources do not 'belong' to any specific group within the village. Likewise, we all share responsibility for the future development of the village. We hope that by carrying out this assessment and by making the findings public Waringstown people will recognise shared concerns and the potential for working together to make Waringstown an even better place to live.

An outline summary cannot do justice to the wide range of household situations found in Waringstown and runs the risk of painting a caricature of a 'typical' Waringstown household and the views and aspirations represented. Waringstown Community Development Association values diversity and believes that each individual should be celebrated and not expected to conform to any stereotype or statistical norm. With this in mind, all of the comments and opinions offered in the Questionnaires have been included in the Appendices.

# How we went about it

## Desk Survey

A desk survey was carried out in order to identify and access existing information relating to Waringstown. Sources included the 2001 Census and other documents listed in the bibliography

## Survey Questionnaire

### Design

The Questionnaire was designed on the basis of a review of similar village surveys and taking into account the need to gather comprehensive information and, at the same time, to limit the size of the questionnaire. The design was intended to obtain qualitative information as well as quantitative information that can be cross-referenced with previous and future Census data. The survey was anonymous and questionnaires were not traceable in any way to the individuals or families who completed them.

### Piloting

The Questionnaire was piloted with a small number of individuals and slight amendments made on the basis of their helpful feedback .

### Printing

Over 1500 copies of the questionnaire were printed.

### Distribution

1522 questionnaires were distributed within the Waringstown settlement boundary as outlined below.

### Collection

258 completed questionnaires were returned to drop-off points at the Post Office, and at the Mace and NISA Supermarkets.

### Collation

All of the, entirely anonymous, information contained in the completed questionnaires was manually entered onto a spreadsheet.

### Presentation

Individual comments were collated and have been presented in full, while statistical information has been analysed and presented in the form of percentages and/or charts. Much of this information 'speaks for itself' but some written summary is also included.

## Stakeholder Interviews

Semi-structured interviews were carried out in order to obtain further relevant information and views from agencies, including the Southern Divisional Planning Office, who are key to the future development of the village.

# The Findings - Who are we?

## Survey respondents

The 258 survey questionnaires returned showed broadly similar household age groupings to the Census but with a larger percentage of older people (20.9%) represented. This perhaps suggests that a greater number of older people took the time to complete the survey. Better comparisons will be possible when the findings of the 2011 Census are available.

## 2001 Census population

The 2001 Census recorded 906 households within the Waringstown settlement limits (NISRA Key Statistics for Settlements Tables, 2005) and identified Waringstown as a Band F Intermediate Settlement with a 'usually resident population' of 2529 people. Waringstown Ward had an estimated population of 3998 in 2008 an increase of 18.3% on the 2001 figure compared with the recorded 5.1% increase for Northern Ireland as a whole over the same period. The Waringstown 2 Super Output Area (SOA, see below) had a resident population of 1697 in 2001 and an estimated population of 1947 in 2008. The SOA's population was then made up of:

22.9% children	(less than 16 years)
31.1% young working age adults	(16-39 year olds)
31.8% older working age adults	(males 40-64 and females 40-59 years)
14.1% older people	

*Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Services (NINIS) Area Profile*

# The Findings - Who are we?

The 2001 Census showed that the Waringstown Settlement was made up as follows:

## Demographics

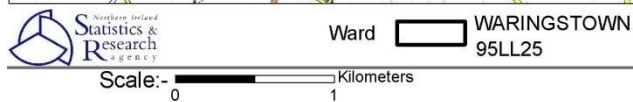
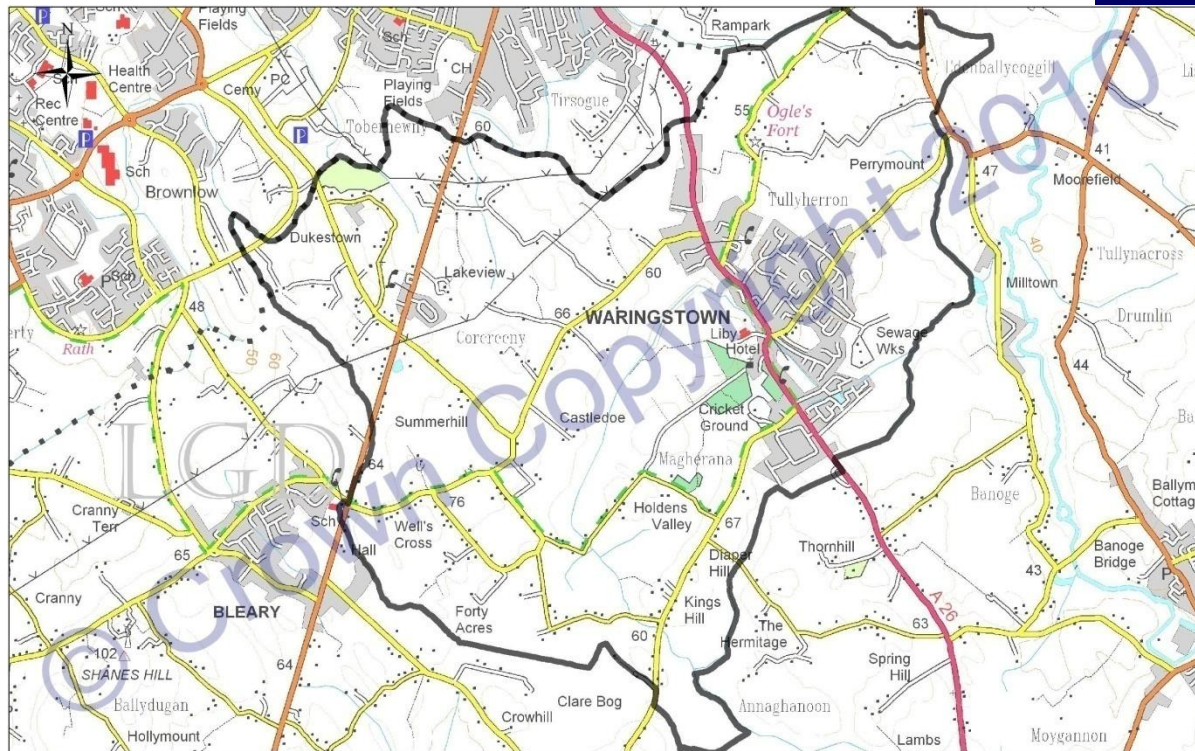
- 49.0% of the population were male and 51.1% were female
  - 5.4% were from a Catholic Community Background
  - 92.2% were from a 'Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)' Community Background
  - 7.2% were born outside Northern Ireland
  - 0.8% were from an ethnic group other than white.
- 
- average household size was 2.79 persons per household (NI level 2.65 persons per household)
  - 77.3% of households were one family households
  - 5.7% were lone-parent households with dependent children.  
(46% of births in Waringstown in 2008 were to unmarried mothers)

## Health and Care

- 13.8% of people had a limiting long-term illness, health problem or disability
- 288 people noted that they provided unpaid care to family, friends, neighbours or others  
(73 providing 20 or more hours of care per week)
  - 30.9% of households had at least one person with a limiting long term illness.

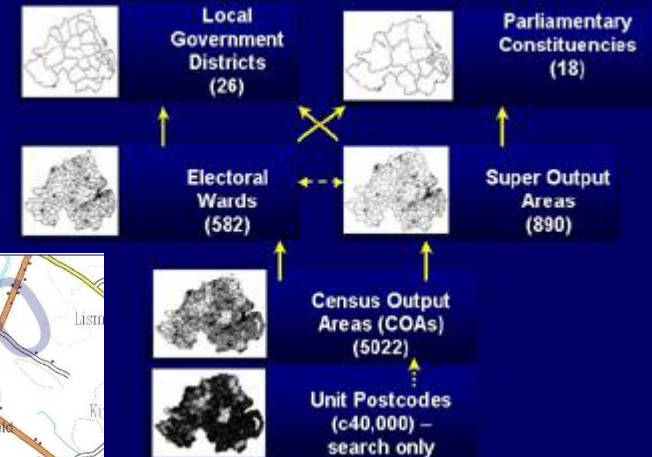


# Waringstown Ward



This material is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. Crown Copyright and database rights NIMA MOU207.2

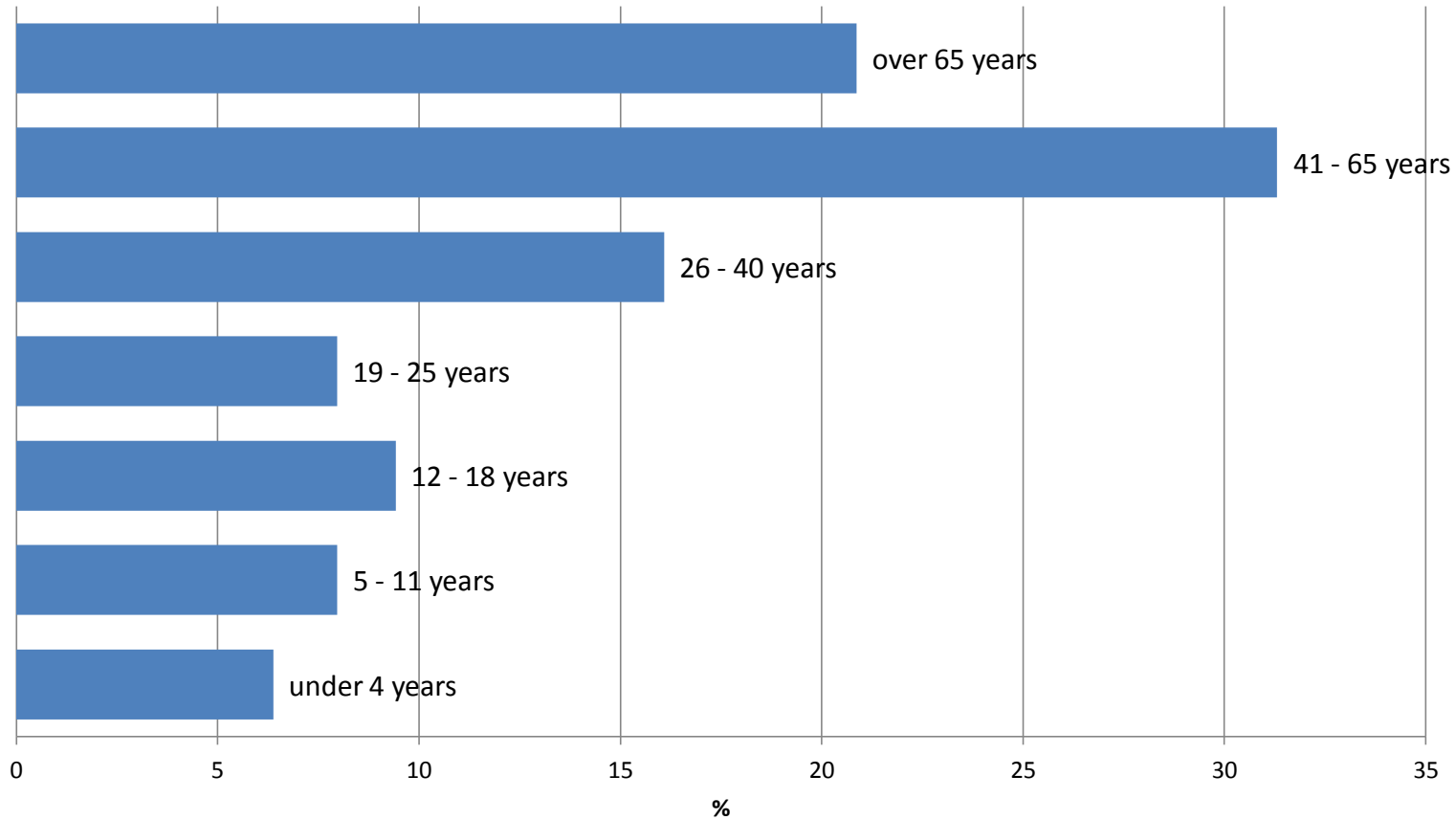
## Statistical Geography Hierarchy



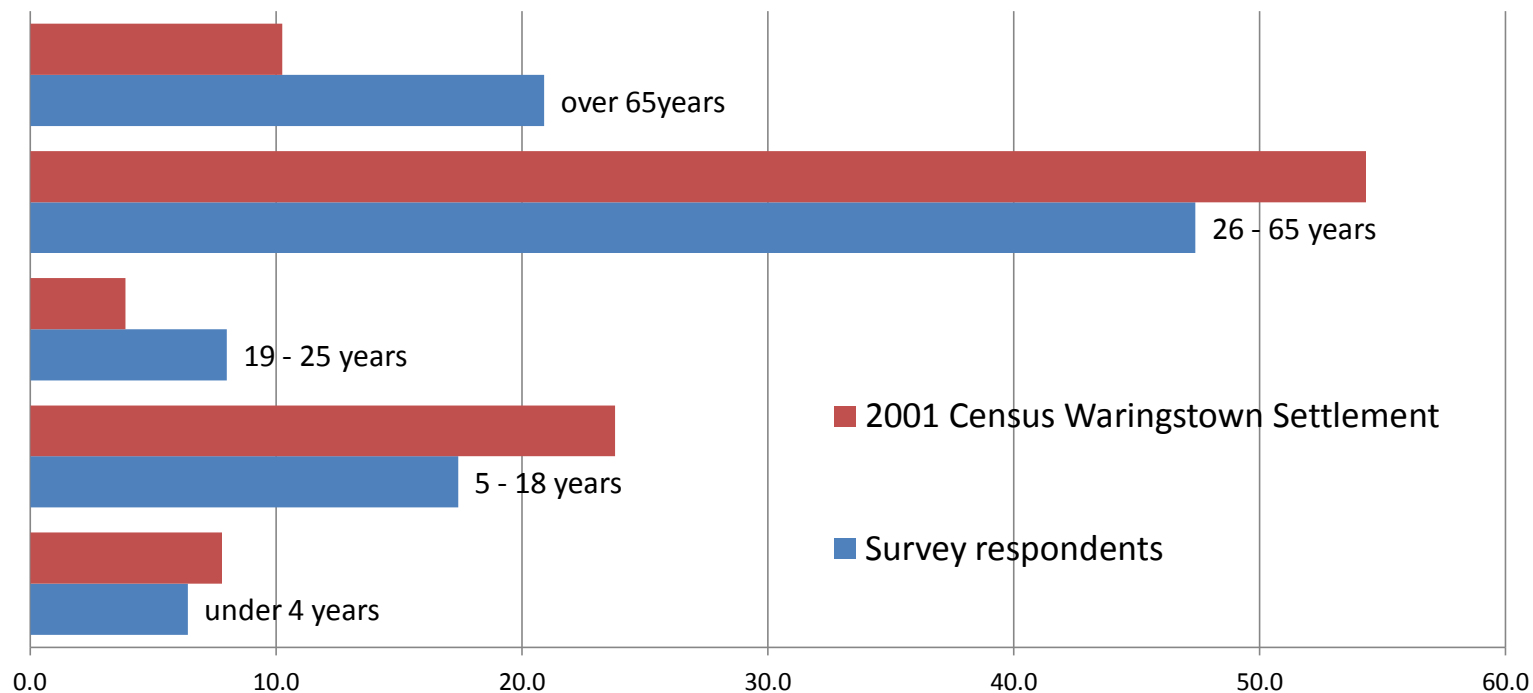
# Waringstown Settlement



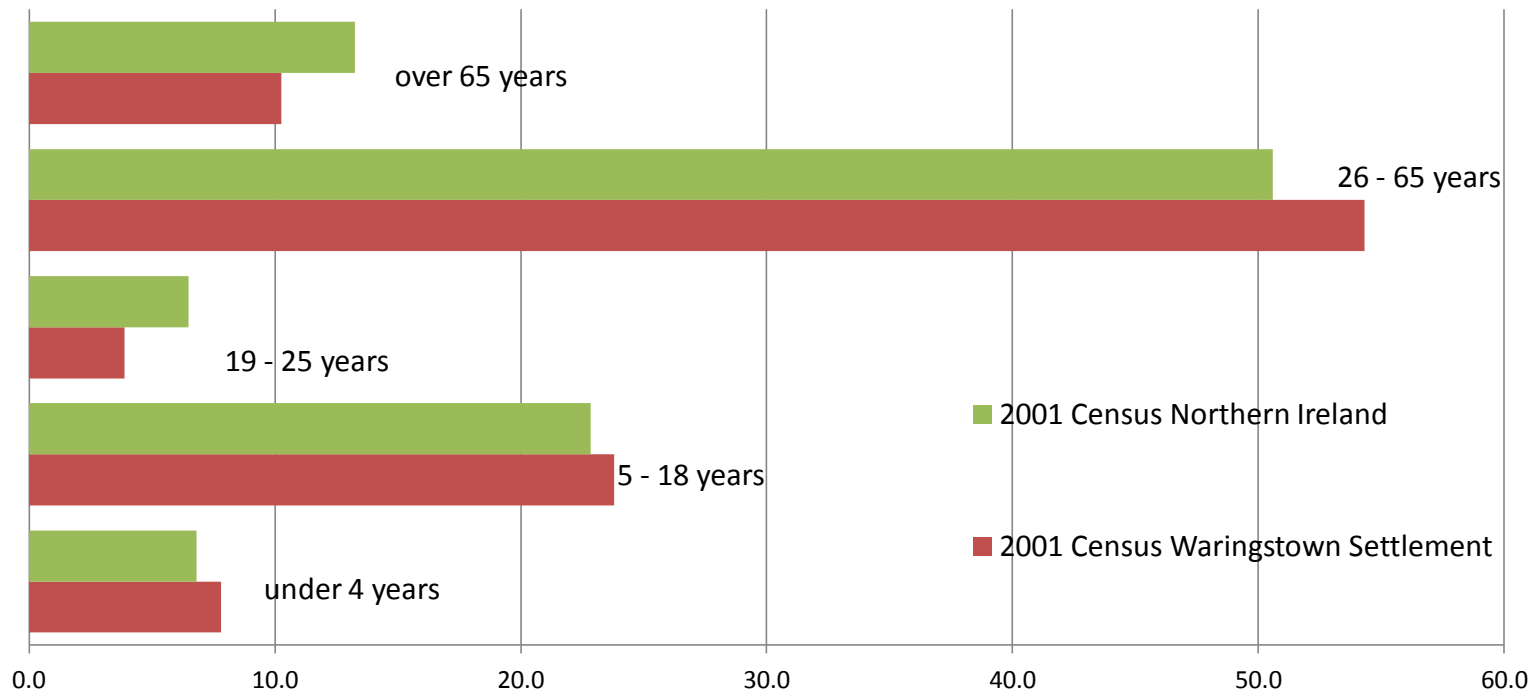
## Age groups in respondent's homes



## Age groups in respondent's homes

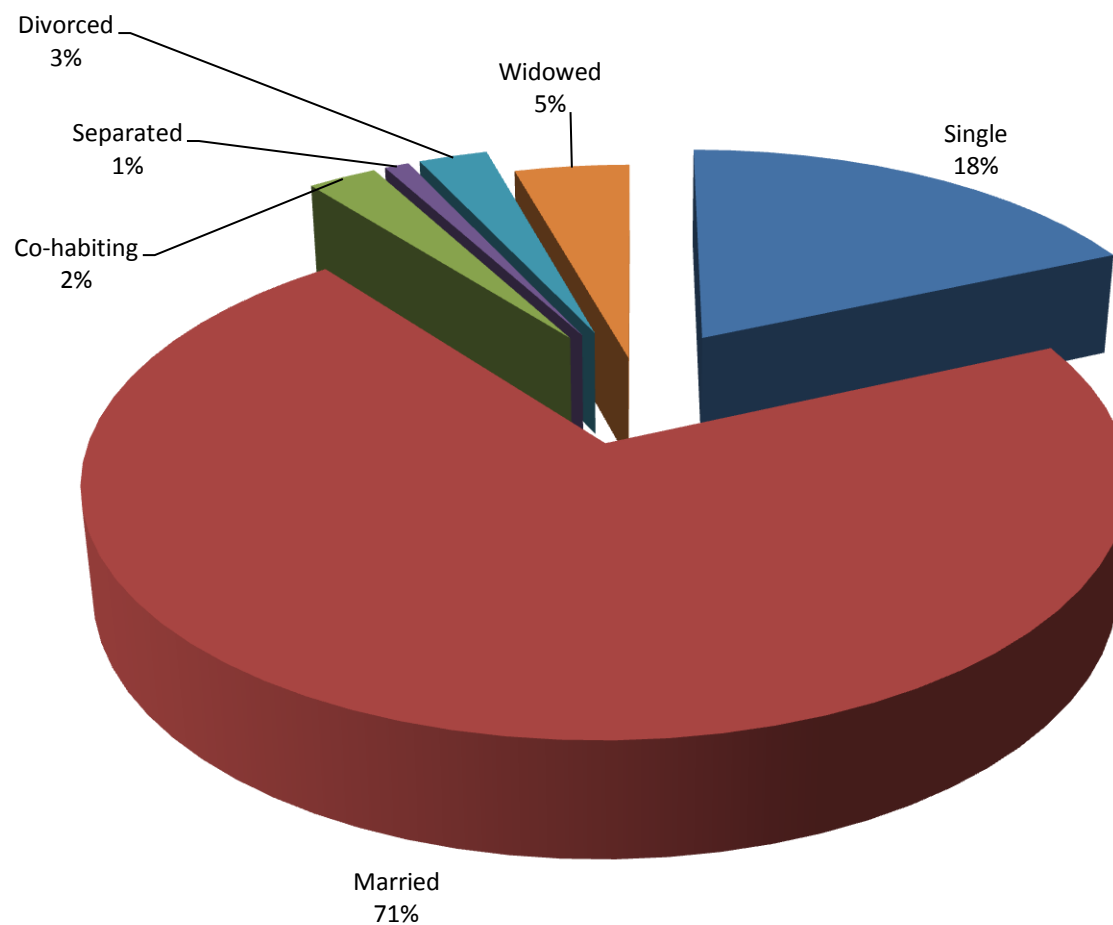


## Ages compared with NI averages





## Marital status of adults



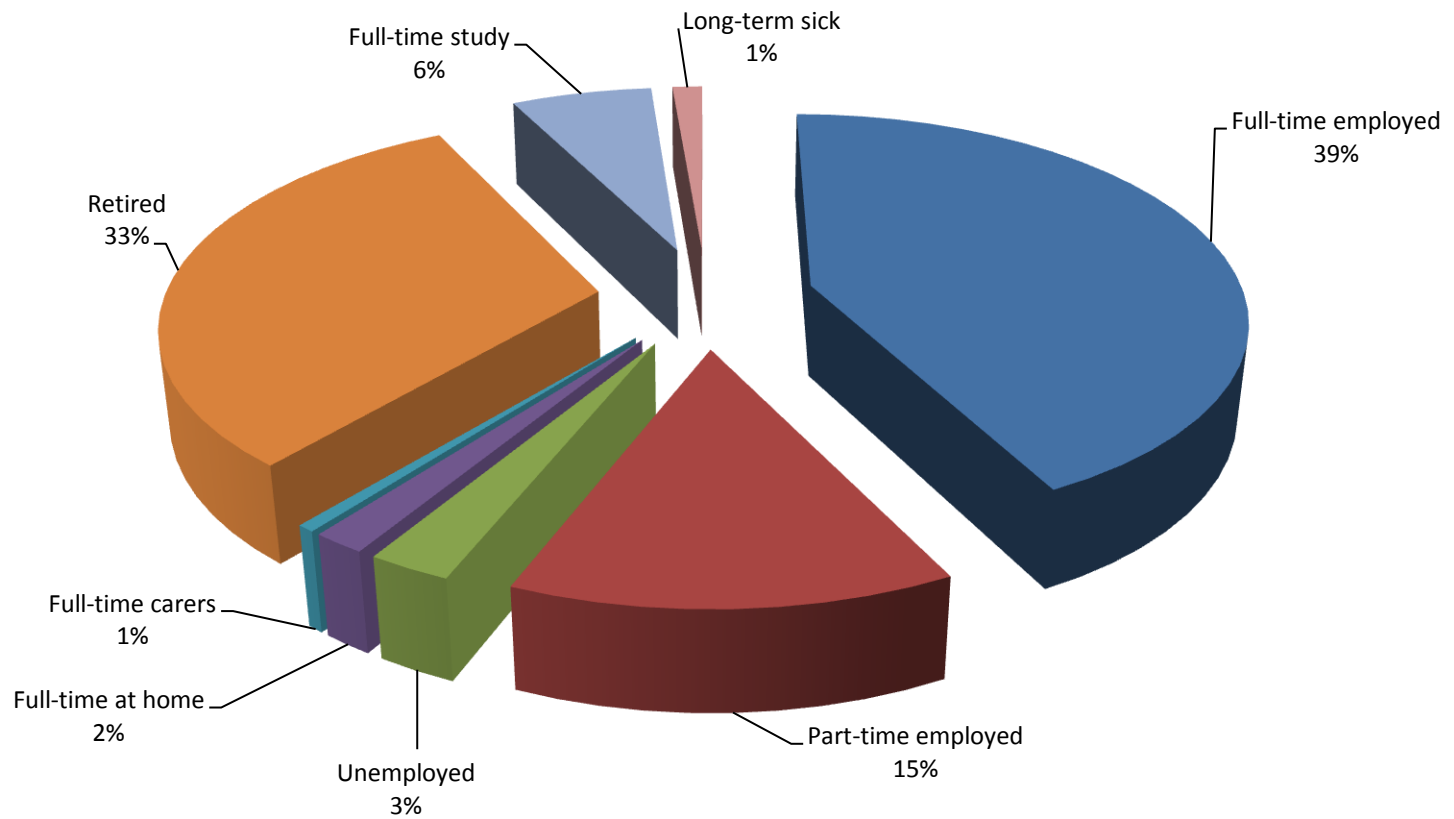
# The Findings - Who are we?

## **Education, Employment and Economic Activity**

Census 2001 employment statistics show that of the 1188 people aged 16-74 who were in employment

- 47.1% were female;
- 52.9% were male
- 25.6% were employed as 'Managers, Senior Officials or in Professional Occupations'.
- 1.7% of people aged 16-74 were unemployed.
- 20.1% of the population aged 16-74 had degree level or higher qualifications;
- 31.5% had no qualifications.

# Employment





# The Findings - Who are we?

## Housing

The 2001 Census showed that of the 936 household spaces in Waringstown:

- 59.7% of household spaces were either a detached house or bungalow
- 27.0% of households were owned outright, 59.6% were owned with a mortgage or loan
- 12.8% were rented.

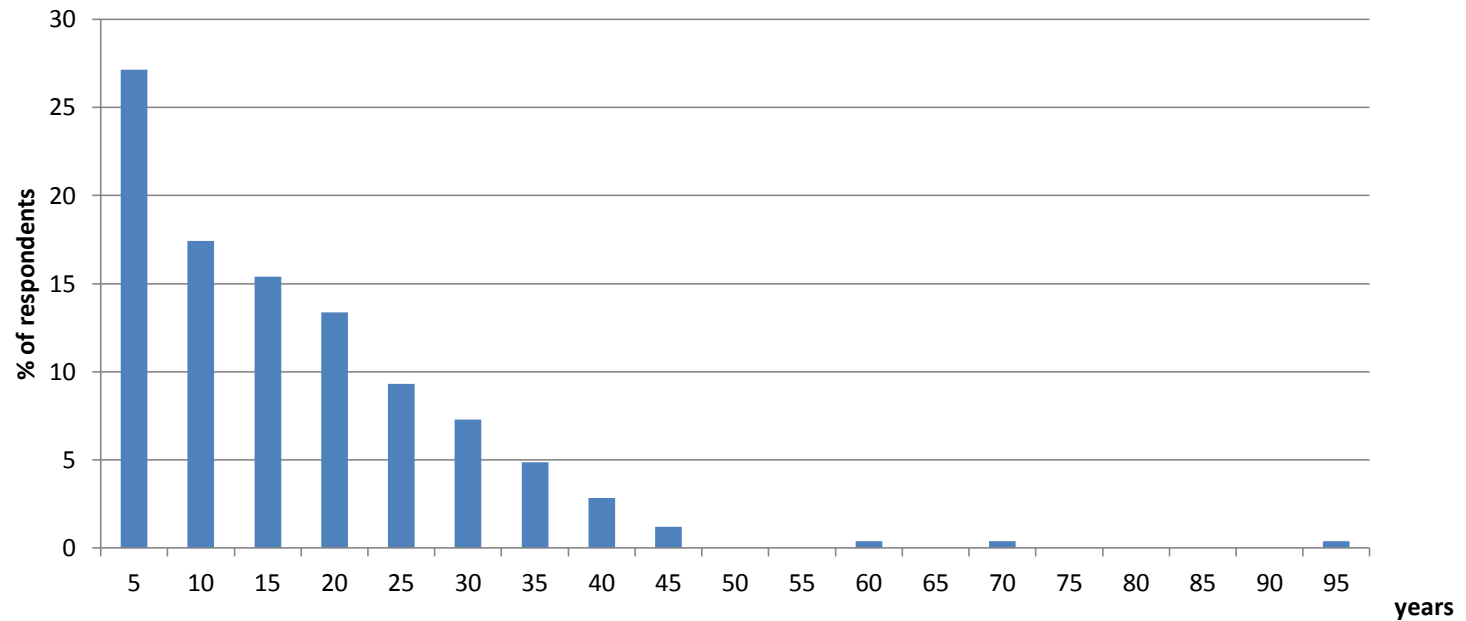
16% of survey respondents moved to Waringstown within the last 5 years and 34% within the last 10 years

63% have not moved home since coming to live in Waringstown

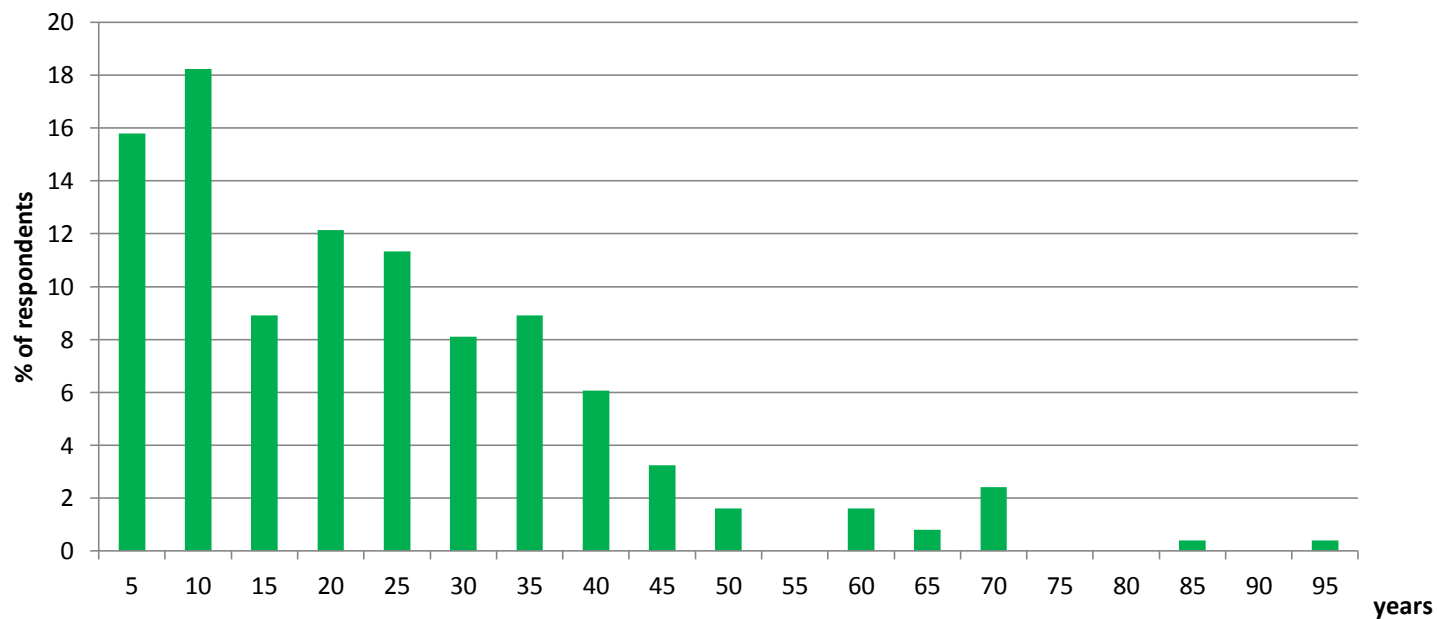
27% have lived in their current home for up to 5 years

45% have lived in their current home for between 5 and 20 years

## How many years in my current home



## How many years have we lived in Waringstown



# The Findings - Who are we?

## Transport

The 2001 Census recorded 1369 cars or vans in the Waringstown area:

- Only 9.4% of households did not have a van or car (the lowest percentage of all 22 Intermediate Settlements in N. Ireland).
- 81.8% of households had one or two
- 1.8% had four or more

Only 11 of the 258 survey respondents did not have a car in their household and the average (and median) number of cars per household was 2.

The Census showed that of the 1188 people aged 16-74 who lived in Waringstown and were in employment:

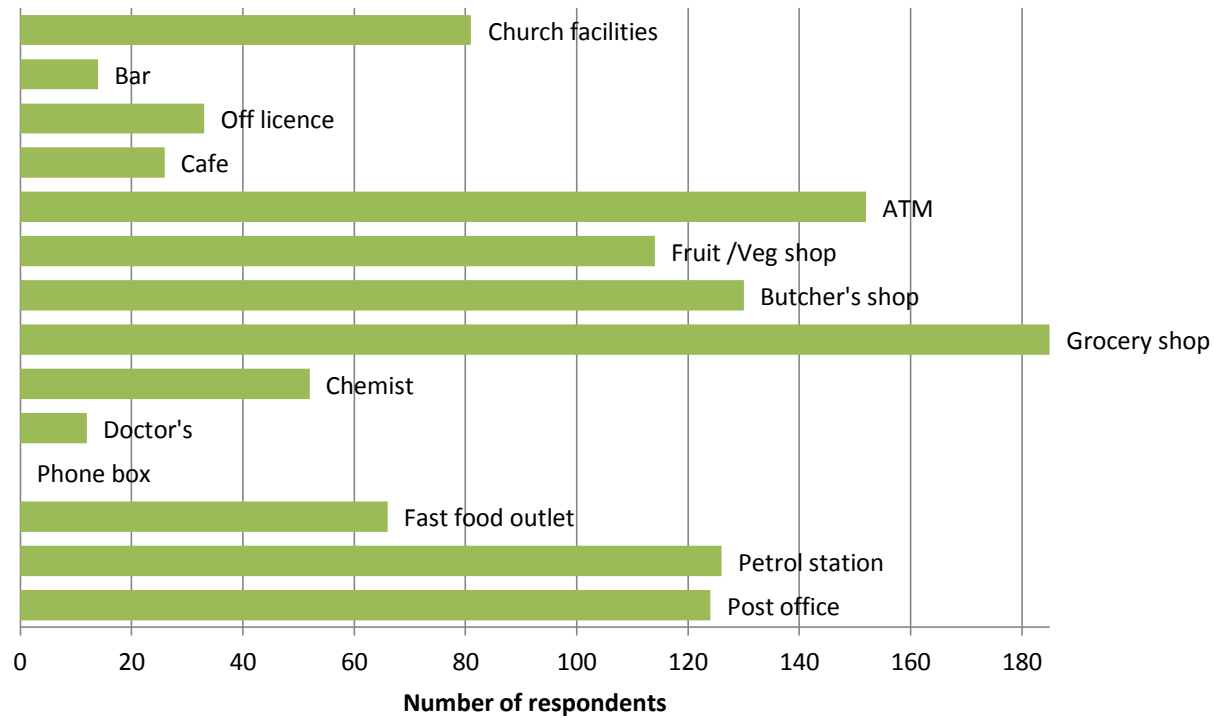
- 84.5% usually travelled to work by car
- 7.8% usually worked at or from home.

The survey indicated an average travel to work distance of 15 miles among respondents and 10 miles as the most common distance travelled to work.

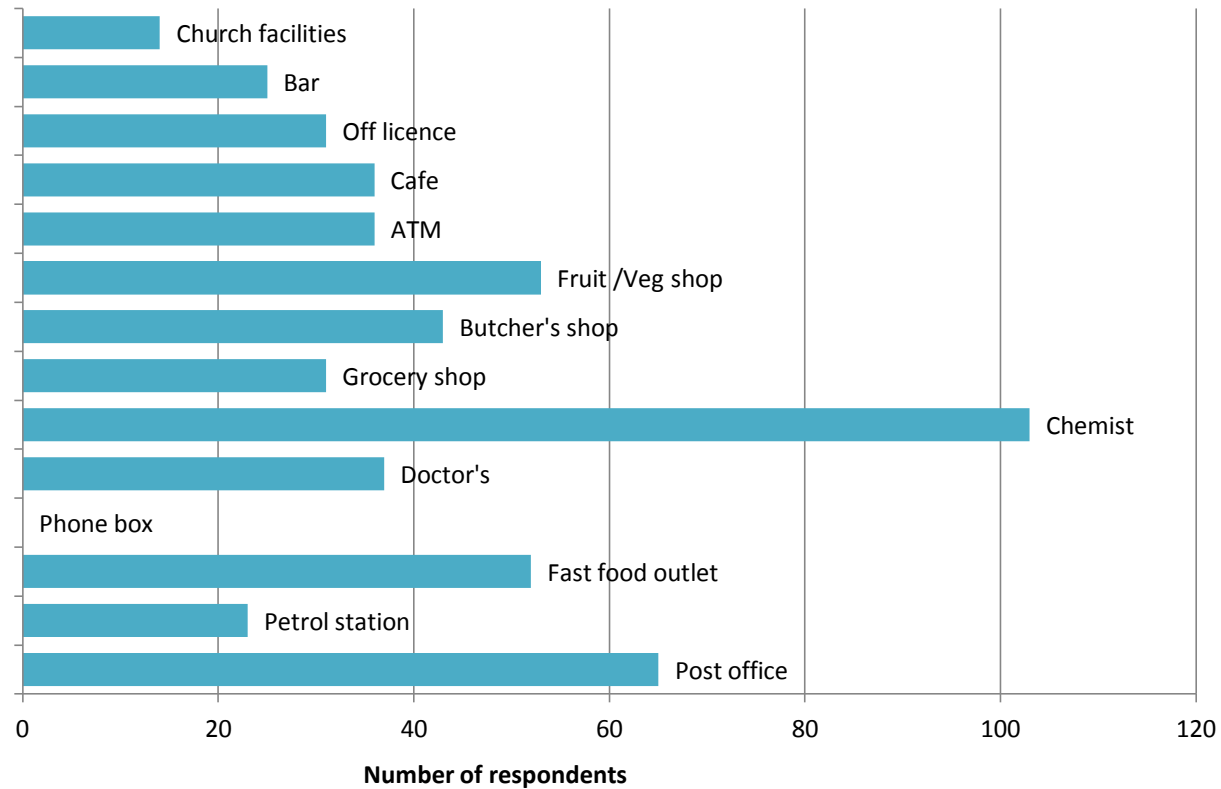
Almost half (47%) of drivers said that they would consider lift-sharing.

Speeding was viewed as a major issue by nearly half of all respondents and as a minor issue by another quarter of respondents.

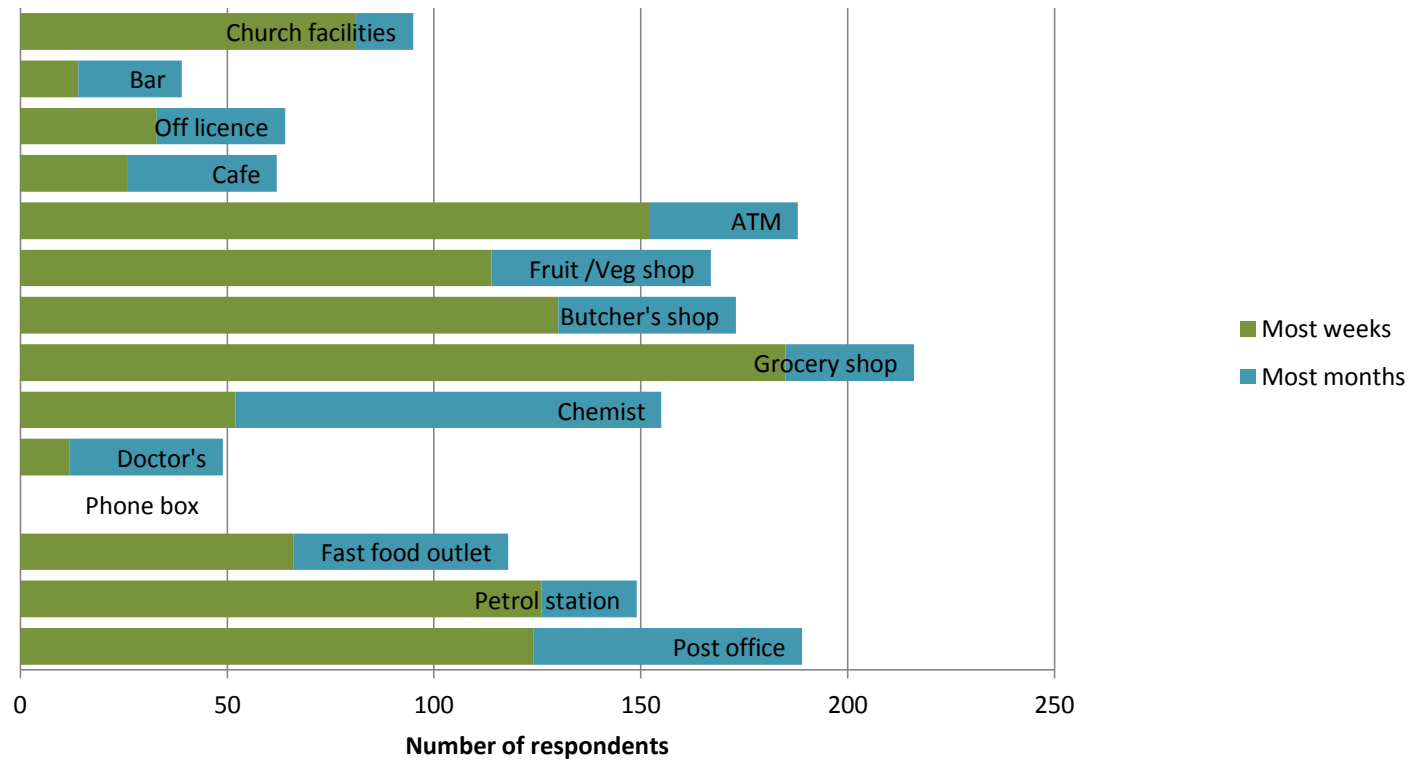
# Use of facilities - most weeks



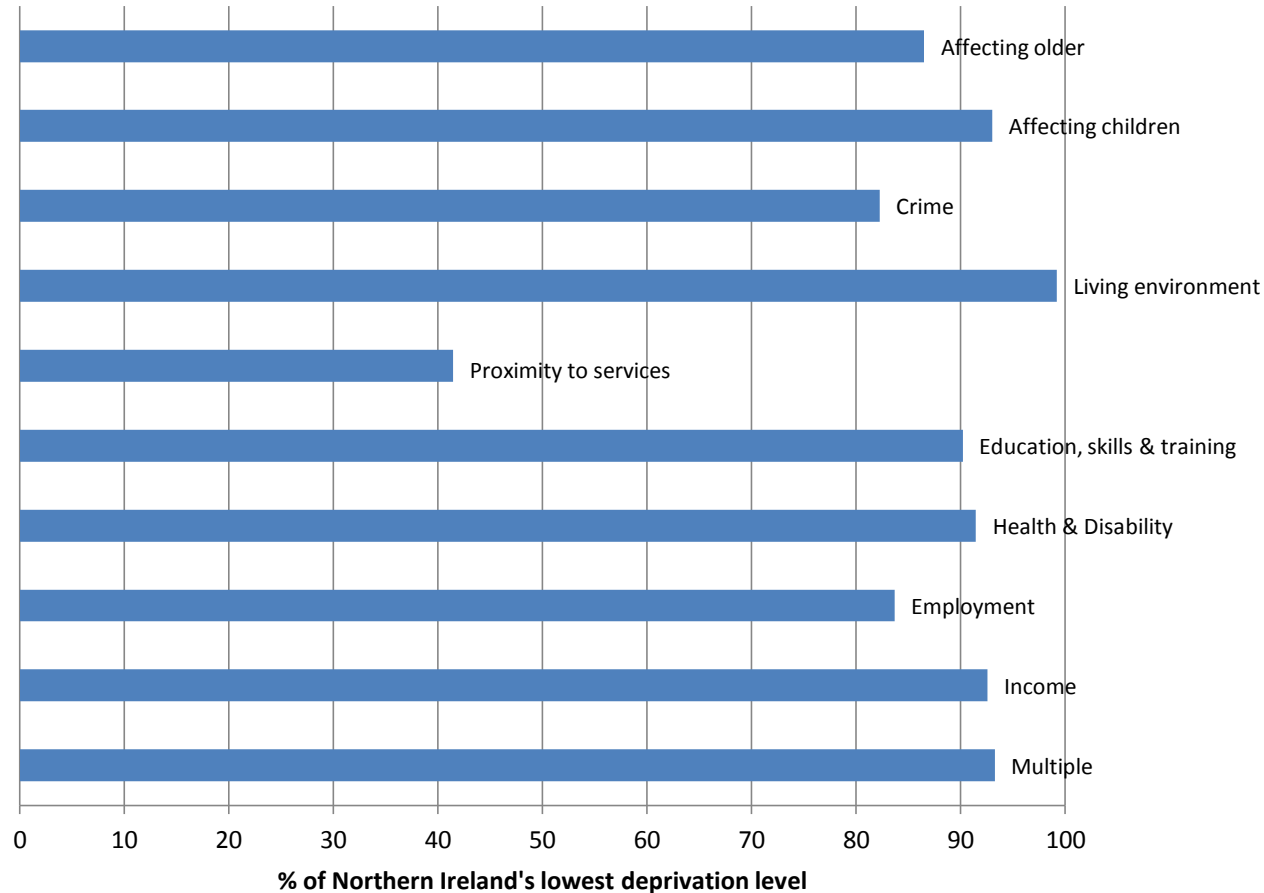
# Use of facilities - most months



# Use of facilities - overview



# Waringstown's Levels of Deprivation (2010)





# Findings - What do we think?

## Public services

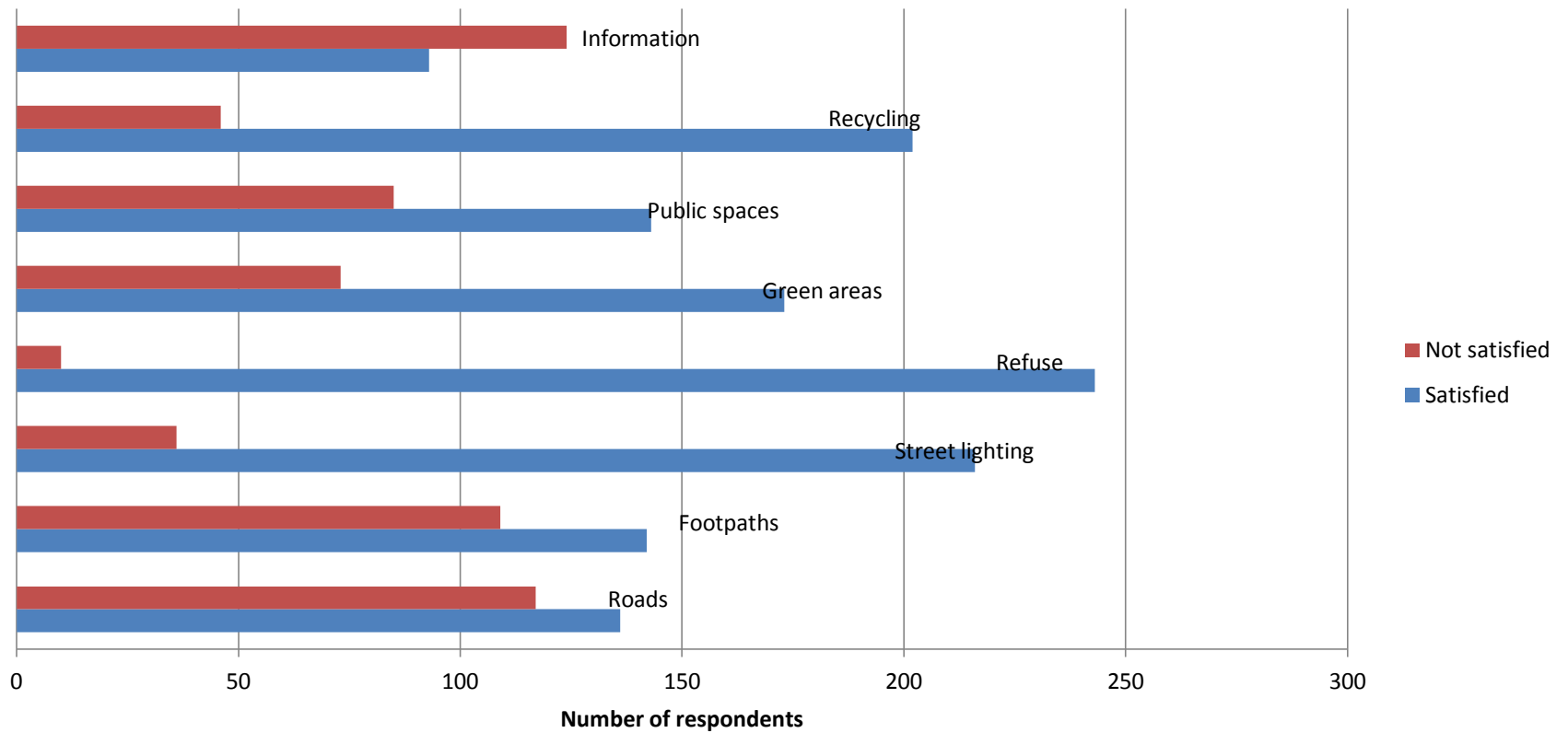
Although respondents were satisfied with public services in Waringstown in 69% of cases, levels of dissatisfaction with the maintenance of roads (46%) and the maintenance of footpaths (43%) were particularly high and this is also reflected in the high number of people who ranked dog-fouling and litter among the village's main problems. A lack of wheelchair/mobility scooter access on pavements was also highlighted. More people (57%) were dissatisfied than were satisfied with levels of information being provided about availability of services.

As the questionnaires that were returned represented approximately 17% of homes within the Waringstown Settlement limits, these figures translate to over 640 households in the village being dissatisfied with levels of road and pavement maintenance, 500 households dissatisfied with the maintenance of public spaces, and over 720 households dissatisfied with the levels of information being provided.

78% of the homes surveyed are currently accessing internet services.

The lack of public toilets in the village was highlighted by a number of respondents

# Service satisfaction



# Findings - What do we think?

## Public transport

Only 7% of respondents households regularly use a public bus but almost a third use one occasionally. Many people (57%) said that they would make more use of the bus if more frequent services were available. A list of additional routes that would be welcomed is included (below). The high cost of fares was an issue for 33% of respondents and 10% thought that more or better bus shelters were needed.

I would use the bus service more frequently if there were additional routes .....

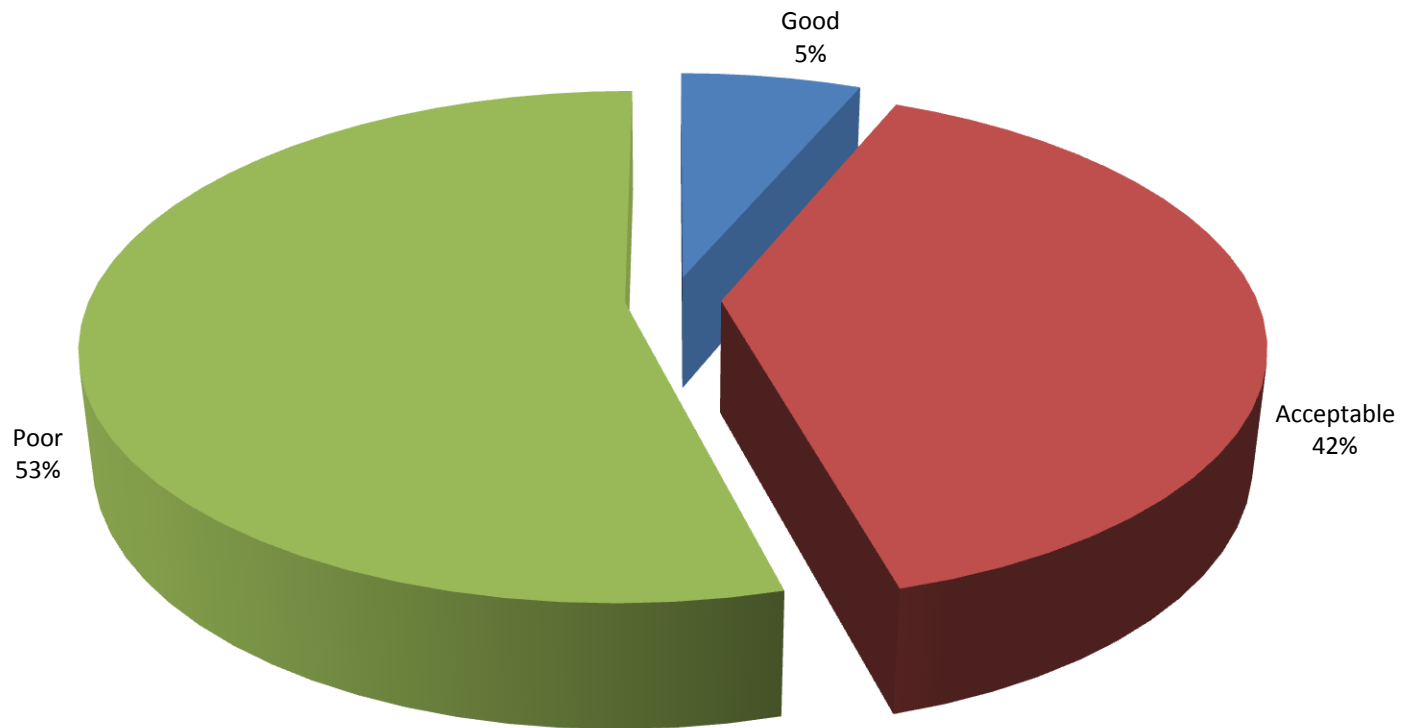
**to**

Craigavon Hospital x 3  
Craigavon Shopping Centre x 2  
Portadown x 5  
Dromore x 2  
Tandragee  
Sprucefield  
Gilford  
Lurgan  
Banbridge x 2  
Lisburn x 5  
Moir a x 3  
Belfast x 5

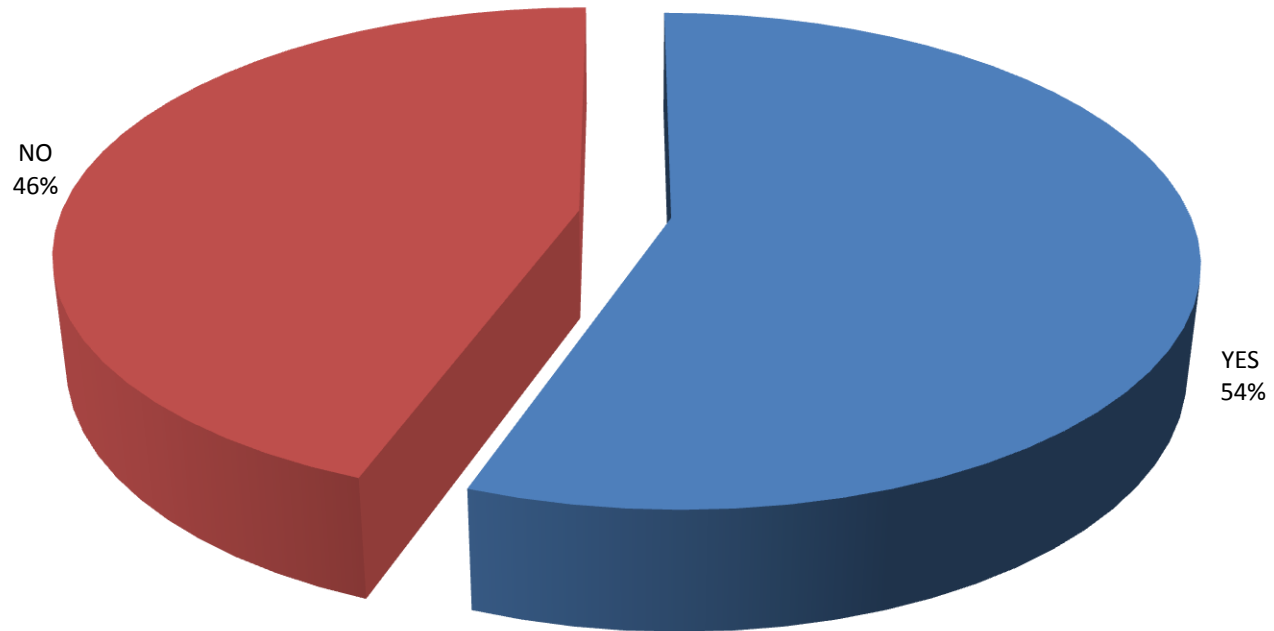
**and**

better links with Banbridge Road bus times  
an evening service x 3  
low steps

## Rating of policing in Waringstown



## Aware of neighbourhood police



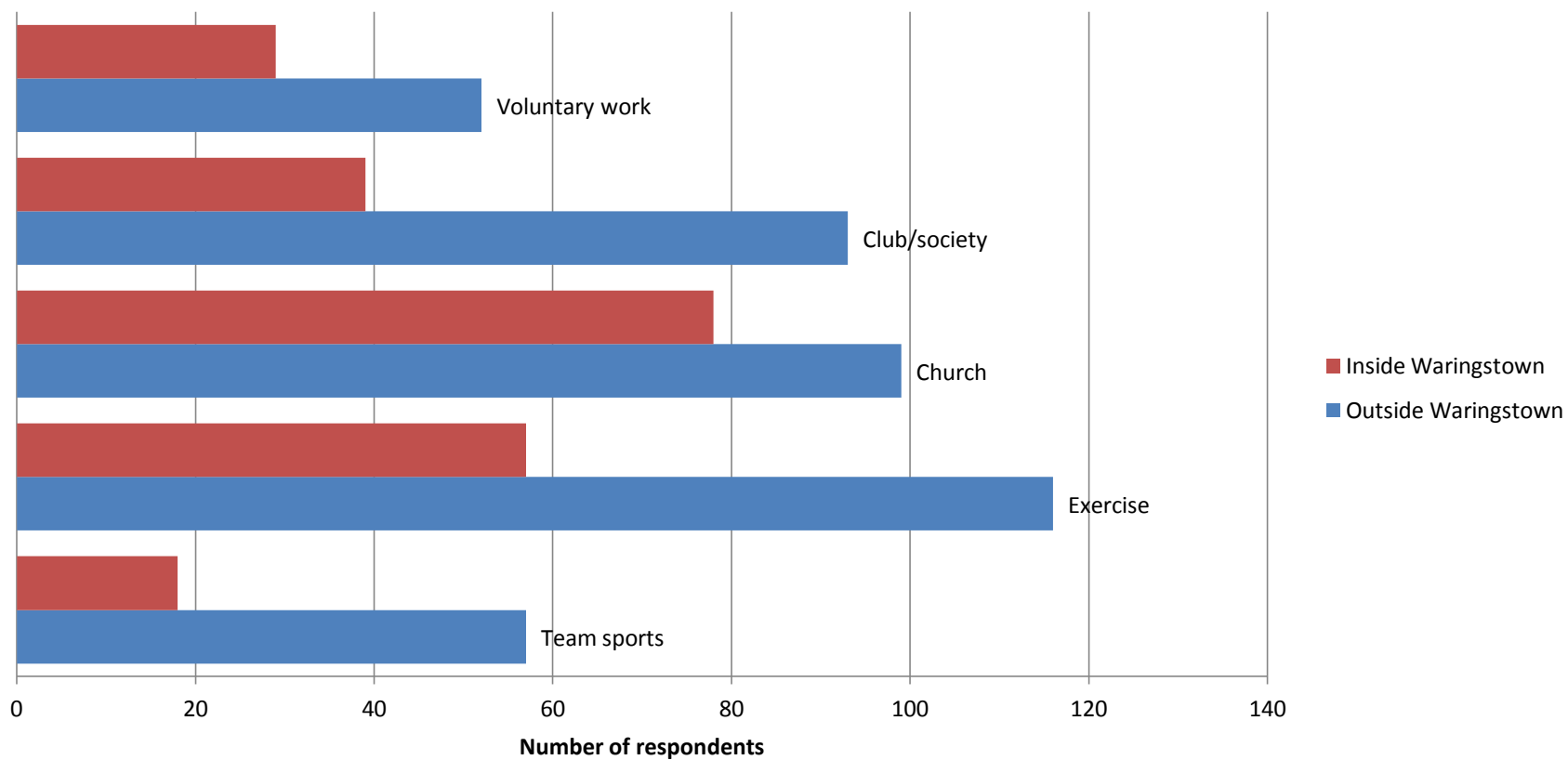
# Findings - What do we think?

## Leisure facilities

It would be impossible to provide facilities within Waringstown to cater for the sports and leisure interests of everyone in the village and the survey shows that many people are travelling outside the village to sport's and social activities. The fact that adults are travelling twice as often to activities outside Waringstown as they take part in activities inside Waringstown, and that children travel over three times more often to activities outside Waringstown than they take part in activities within the village does indicate need for improved local facilities.

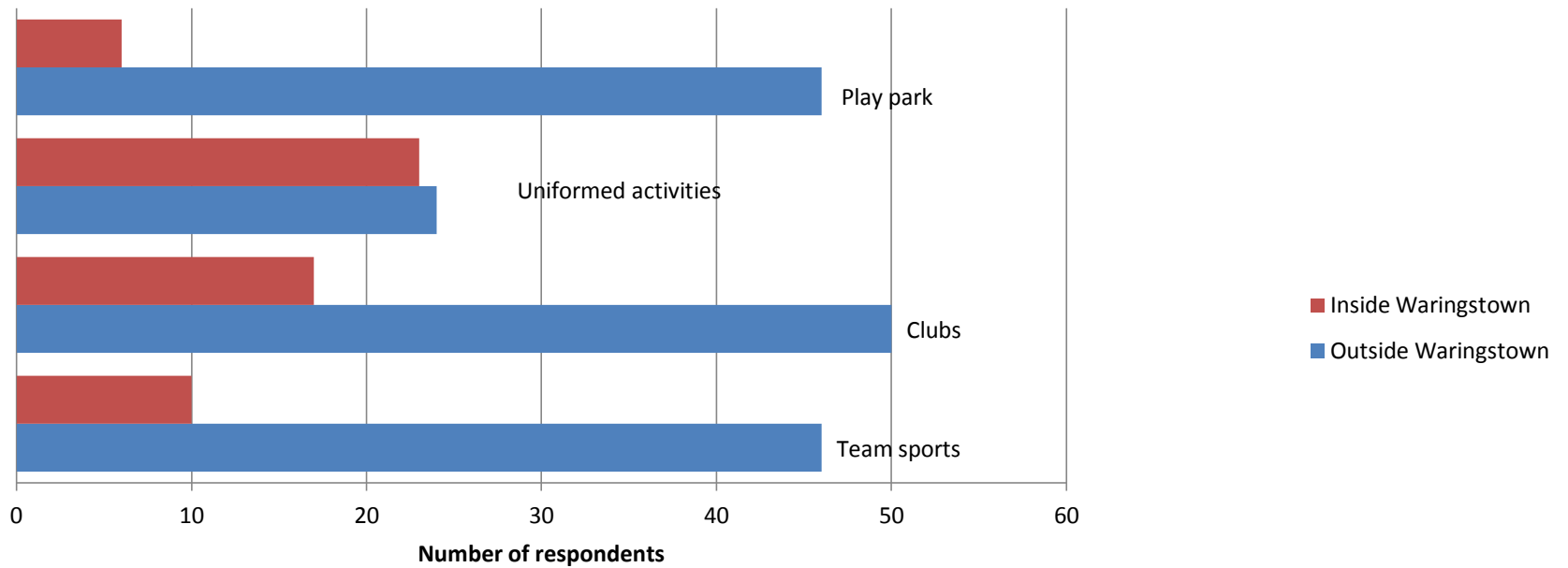
Questionnaire responses highlight the strength of uniformed children's organisations within the village and the valuable contribution that they are making. The survey also make it clear that most people believe that play facilities for children within the village are inadequate and often children are taken to play parks outside the village.

# Activities (adults)





# Activities (children)



# The Findings - What are the barriers to a better life?

More than half of respondents thought that community spirit in Waringstown was good, although many also commented that it was not what it used to be.

Dog fouling and litter were consistently noted as major problems.

Speeding is also seen as a major problem in the village .

Anti-social behaviour is viewed as a minor problem by over one quarter (27%) of respondents with nearly a third (31%) reporting that they had had a problem with anti-social behaviour in the past twelve months.

Alcohol abuse, especially among young adults is seen as a major problem.

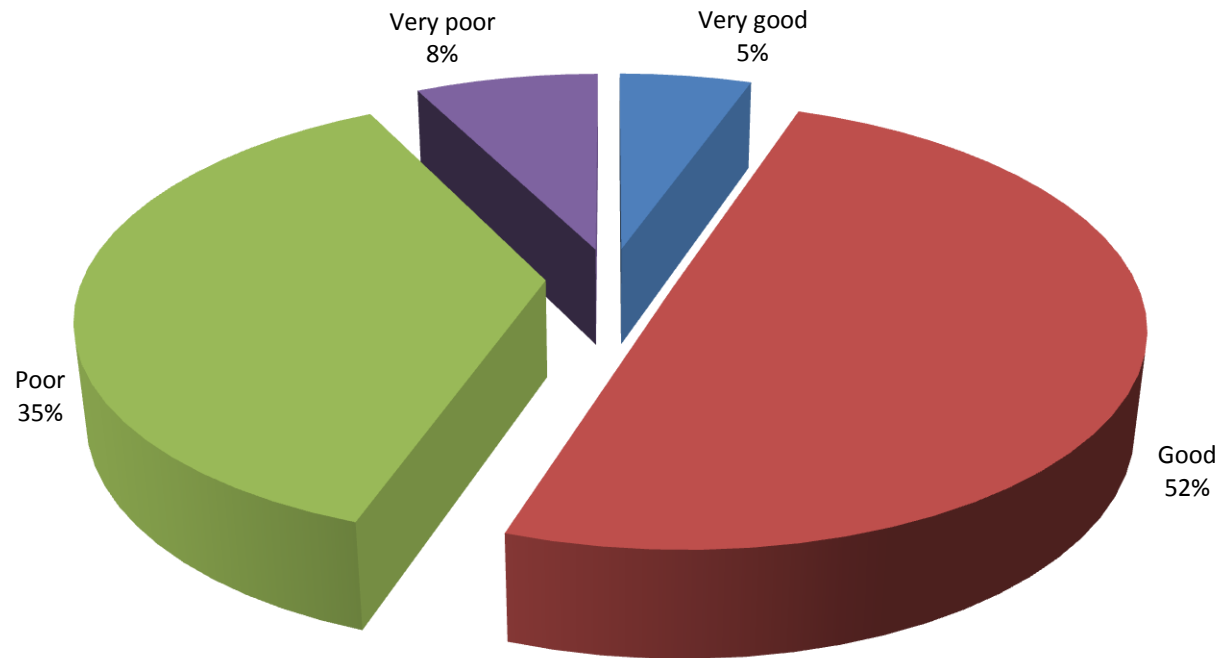
Almost 2/3 of respondents thought that pre-school provision was poor and ¾ thought that after-school and summer provision for children was poor.

Burglary was also thought to be a problem by 27% of respondents and 8% said that they had had a problem with crime in the village over the past twelve months.

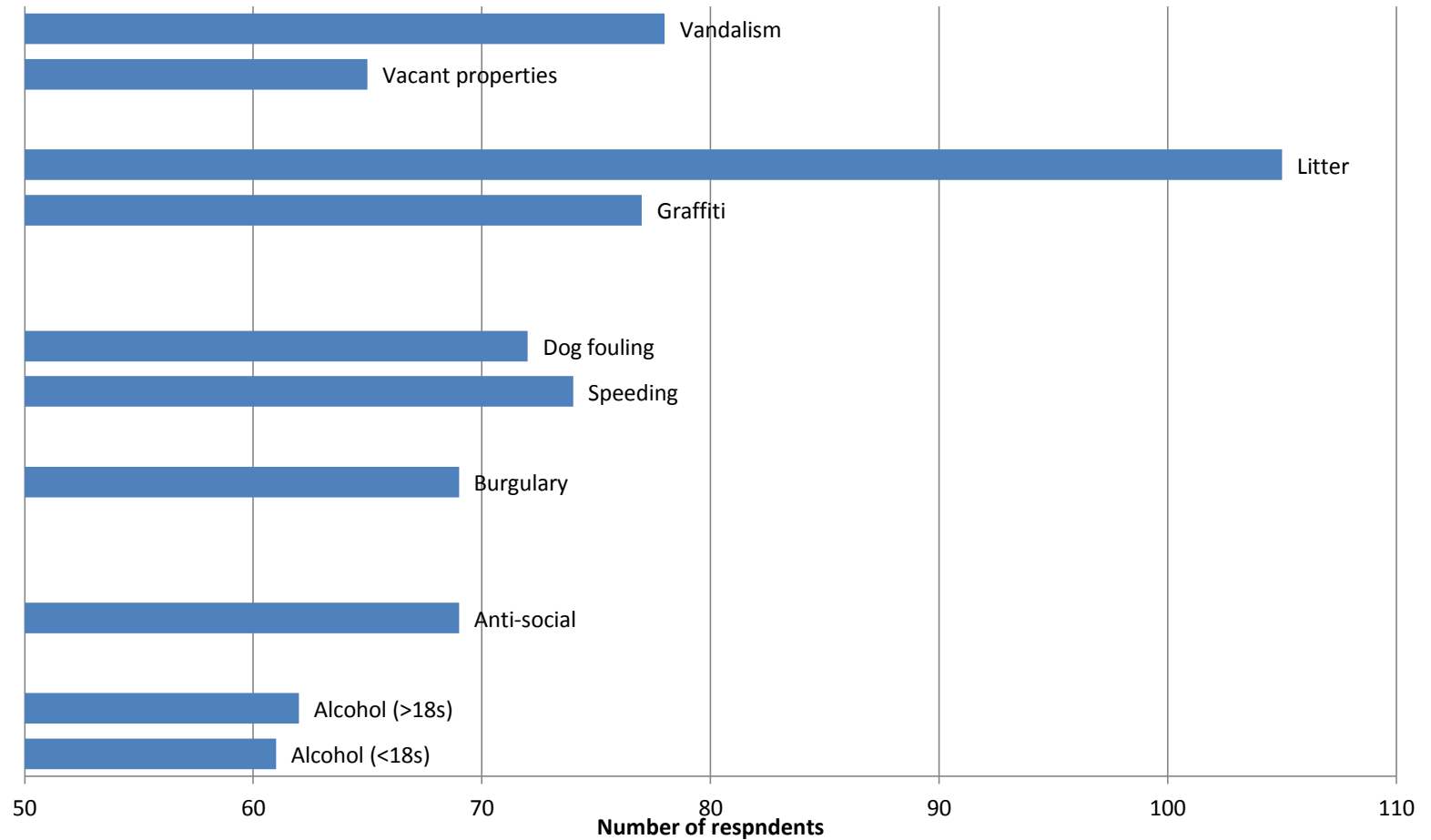
Many people described Waringstown as a 'quiet' and 'peaceful' village but the disturbance caused by band parades was also commented on by a number of respondents.

Barriers to a better quality of life are also highlighted in the comments listed under 'The Worst Thing About Living in Waringstown', Appendix 4.

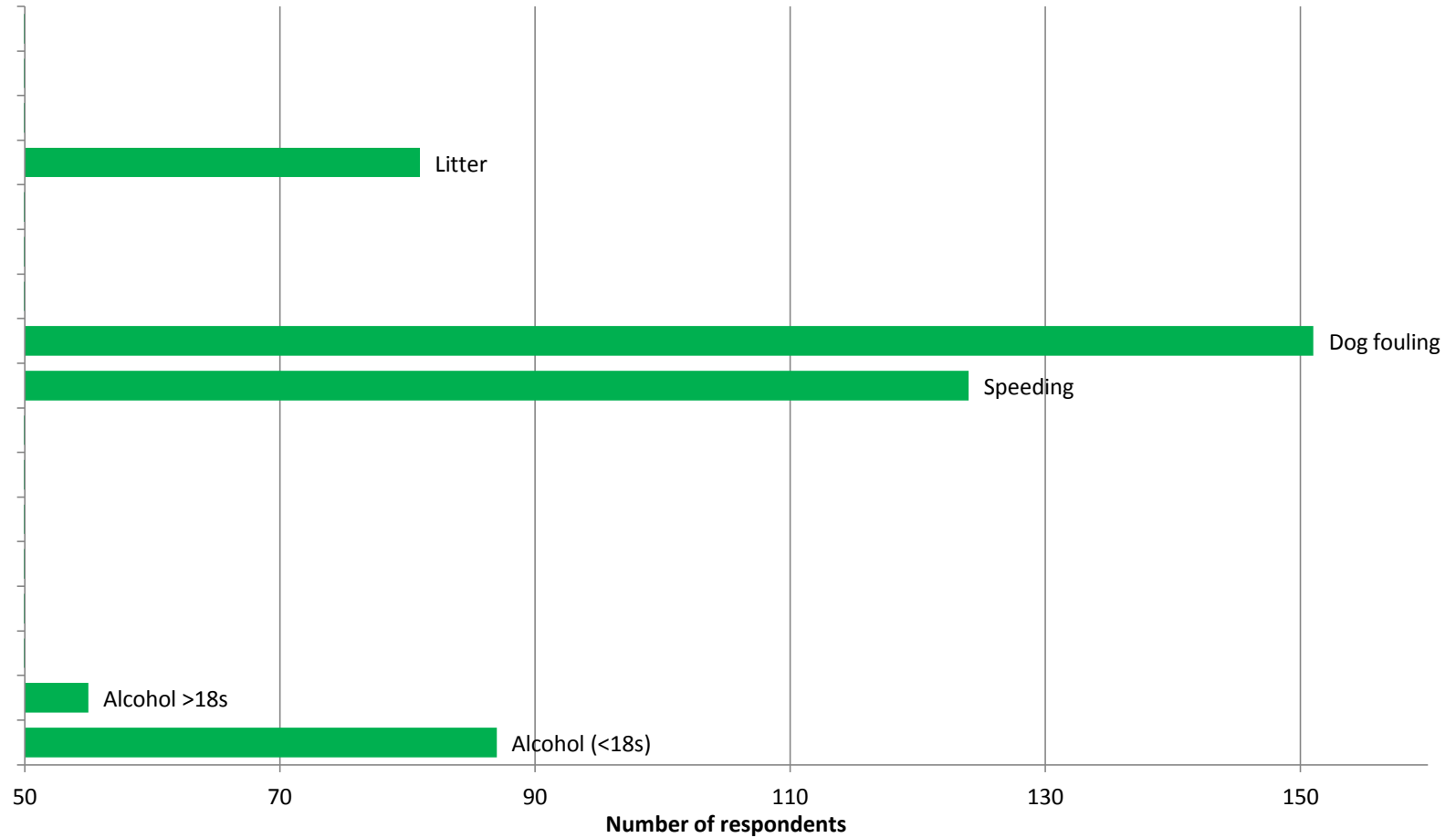
# How we rate our community spirit



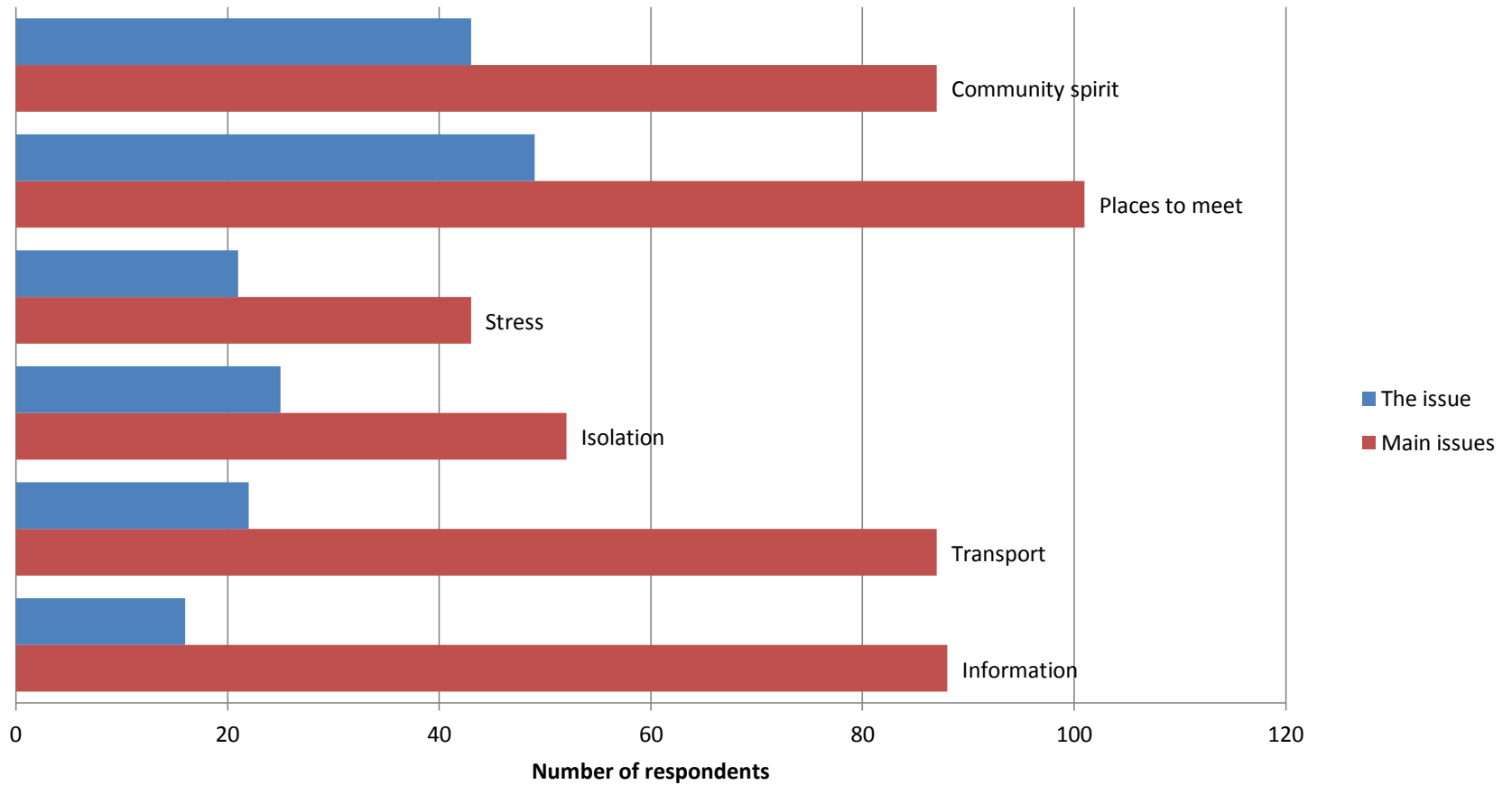
# "Minor problems"



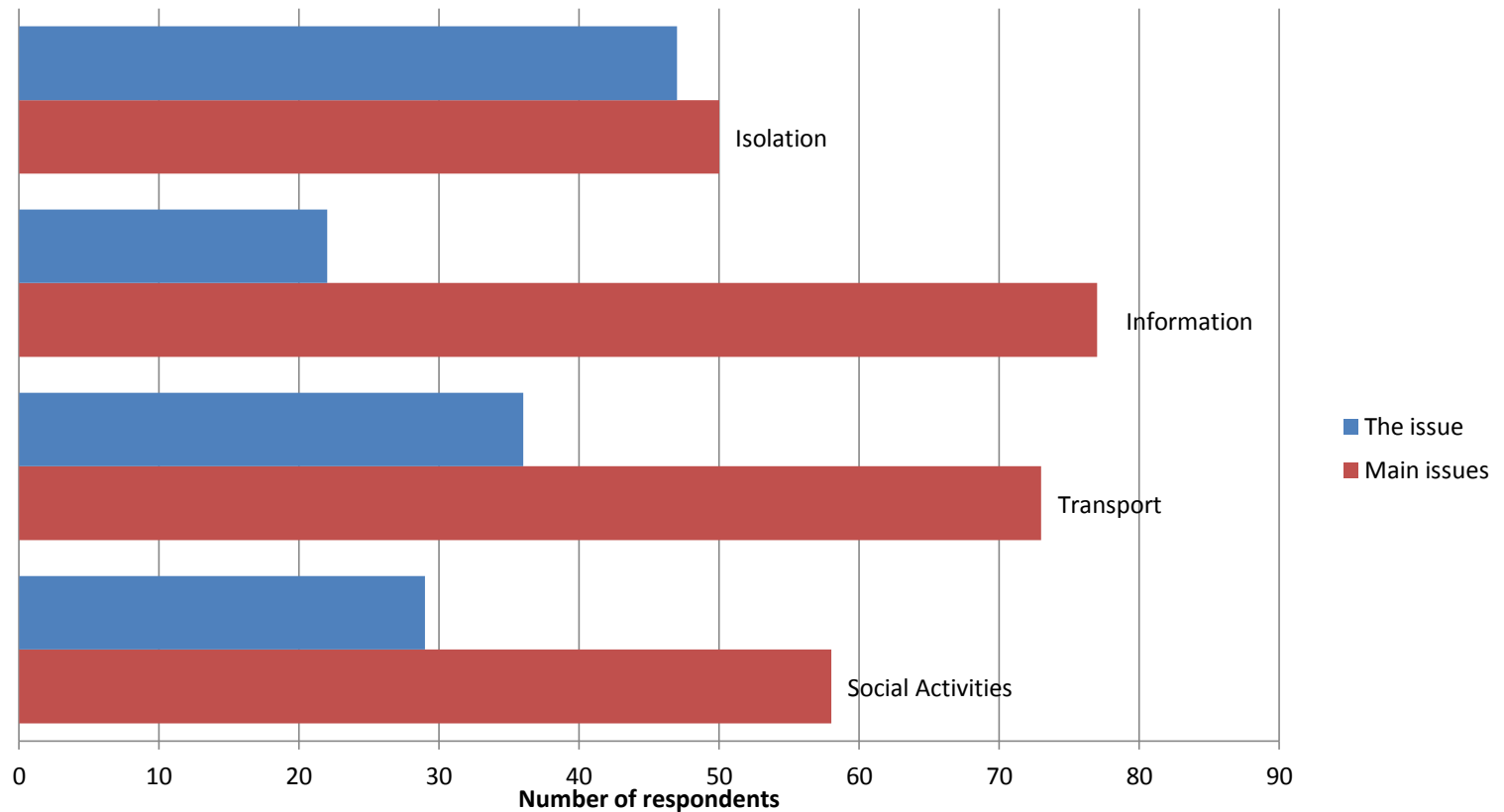
# "Major problems"



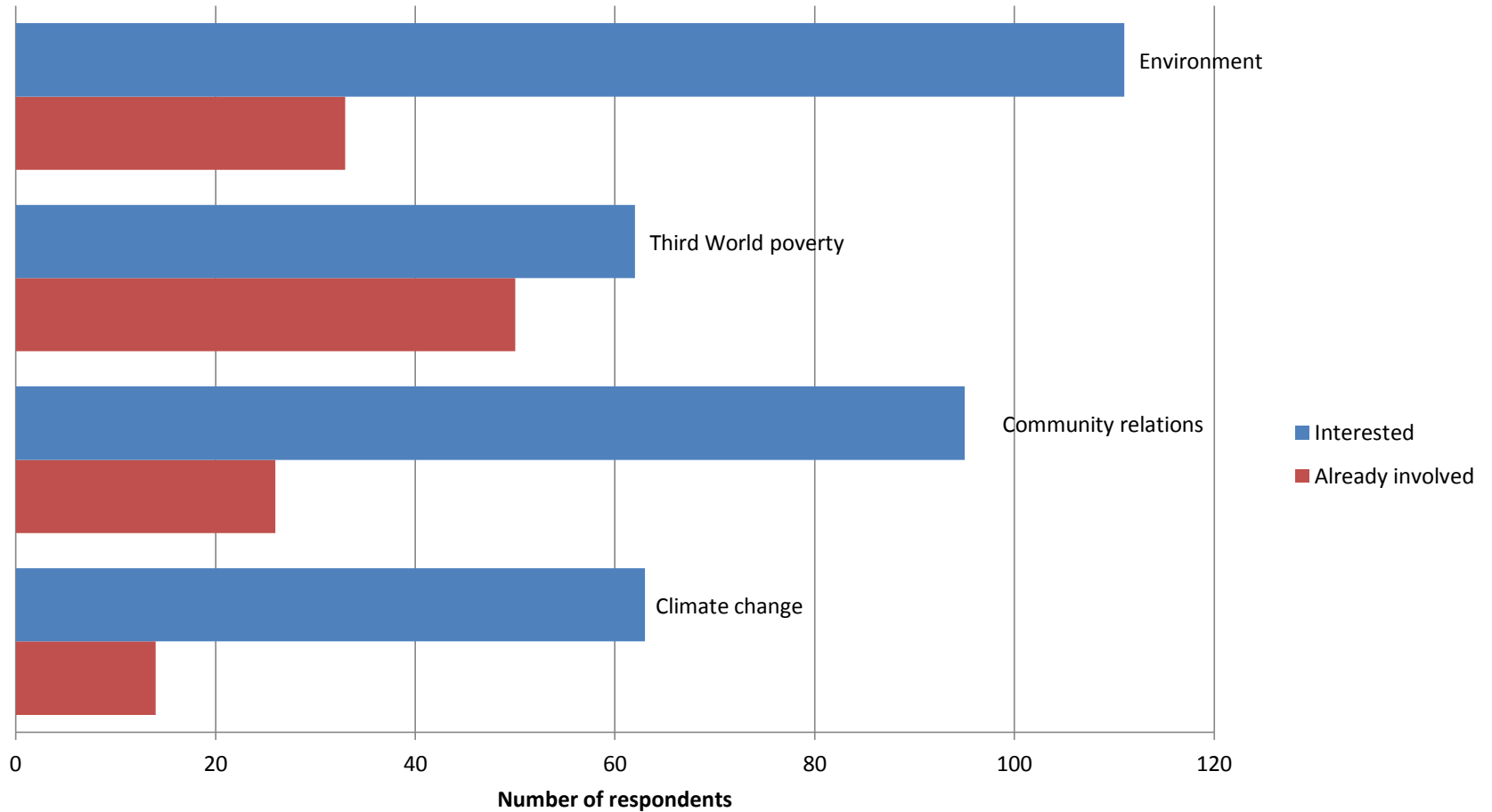
# Main issues



# Main issues facing older people



# Wider issues





# The Findings – How can we all make life in Waringstown better?

It is clear from the survey that most people in Waringstown value living in the village, citing positive aspects including an accessible location, peace and quiet, and a friendly atmosphere (Appendix 5).

The survey identified an, often passionate, interest in preserving and enhancing the quality of life in Waringstown. Almost half of respondents said that they would be able to get involved in the work of Waringstown Community Development Association (WCDA) on at least an occasional basis.

There was overwhelming interest (97%) in seeing more information about Waringstown's past made available within the village, with 87% saying that this information should also be highlighted outside Waringstown. Practical ideas for carrying this out were put forward (Appendix 1).

Respondents noted a wide range of activities (from a chess club to dance classes, and from a book club to archery – see Appendices 3 and 4) that they would be interested in, if they were to be organised within Waringstown. Interest in wider concerns, including the environment and community relations, was also high.

Views on ways in which Waringstown might be improved and on how Waringstown should develop are listed in full in Appendices 6 and 7. No attempt has been made to group or prioritise issues and opinions at this stage. Further comments (including very welcome words of appreciation for WCDA's work in carrying out the survey) are set out, again in full, in Appendix 8.

# The Way Forward

The excellent response to the village-wide assessment has provided a good picture of people's experience of living in Waringstown. The findings of the 2011 Census will make this picture even clearer, when they become available, hopefully some time in 2012.

The assessment also gives a clear understanding of the views and concerns of the people of Waringstown, the issues that they want to address, and how they would like to see life in the village develop and improve.

Waringstown Community Development Association (WCDA) will use the results of the assessment as the basis for planning and for prioritising action to improve the quality of life in Waringstown . They will also encourage other groups and individuals to address the common problems and interests that have been identified and will, where possible, help and support them in their efforts.

# Appendices

*Appendix 1 – How we might conserve and upgrade Waringstown's heritage*

*Appendix 2 – Interests (Adults)*

*Appendix 3 – Interests (Young people)*

*Appendix 4 – The worst thing about living in Waringstown*

*Appendix 5 – The best thing about living in Waringstown*

*Appendix 6 – How Waringstown might be improved*

*Appendix 7 – Waringstown in 5 years time*

*Appendix 8 – Other comments*

*Appendix 9 – Questionnaire*

# Bibliography

Community Audits, Rural Community Network Factsheet 3

Community Audit From Self Help To Consultant Workshop Report, Rural Community Network – Publications

<http://www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org/publications/publicationdocument.aspx?doc=170>

Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS)

<http://www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk/mapxtreme/InteractiveMaps/ward/ward%20ks01/Main.HTML>

Portballintrae Community Audit Needs Analysis Report, June 2004. Coleraine Rural & Urban Network (CRUN)

Aghagallon & District Steering Group Community Survey, November 2008