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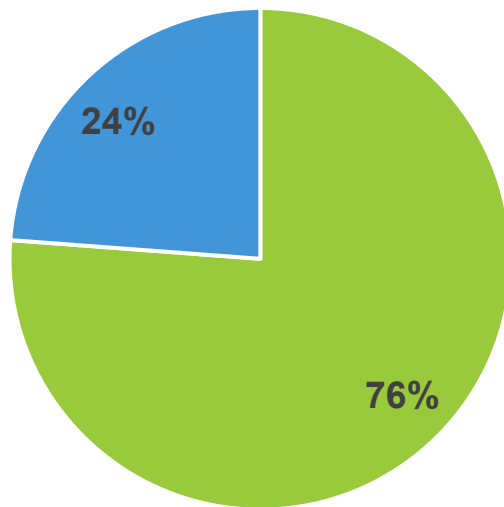
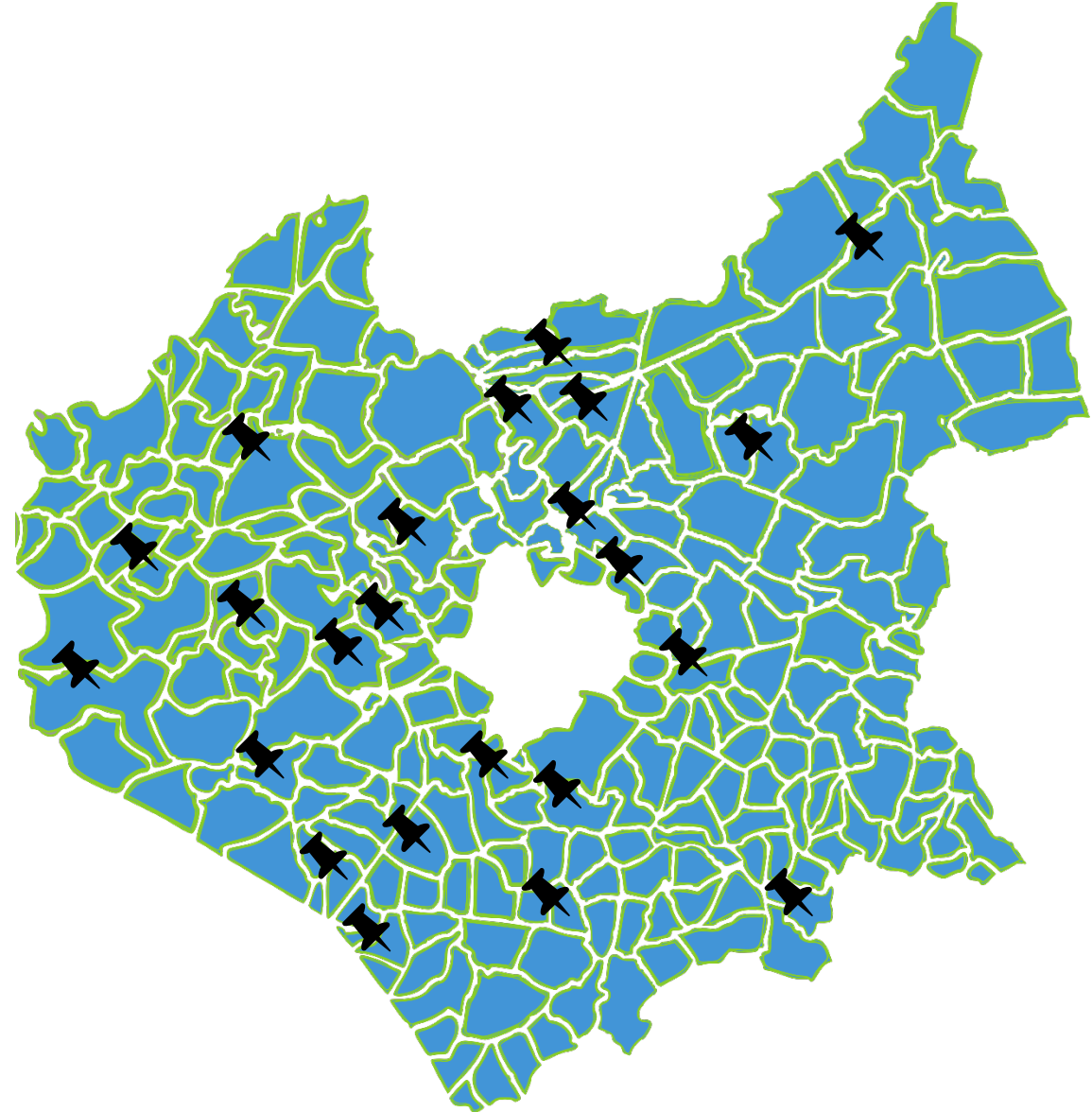
RURAL COMMUNITY PULSE CHECK

JULY 2021

TAKING A PULSE

We are actively talking to communities to better understand the ongoing impact, response, and recovery from Covid-19.

We undertook a pulse check survey in July 2021 with a 10% sample of rural communities across Leicestershire.

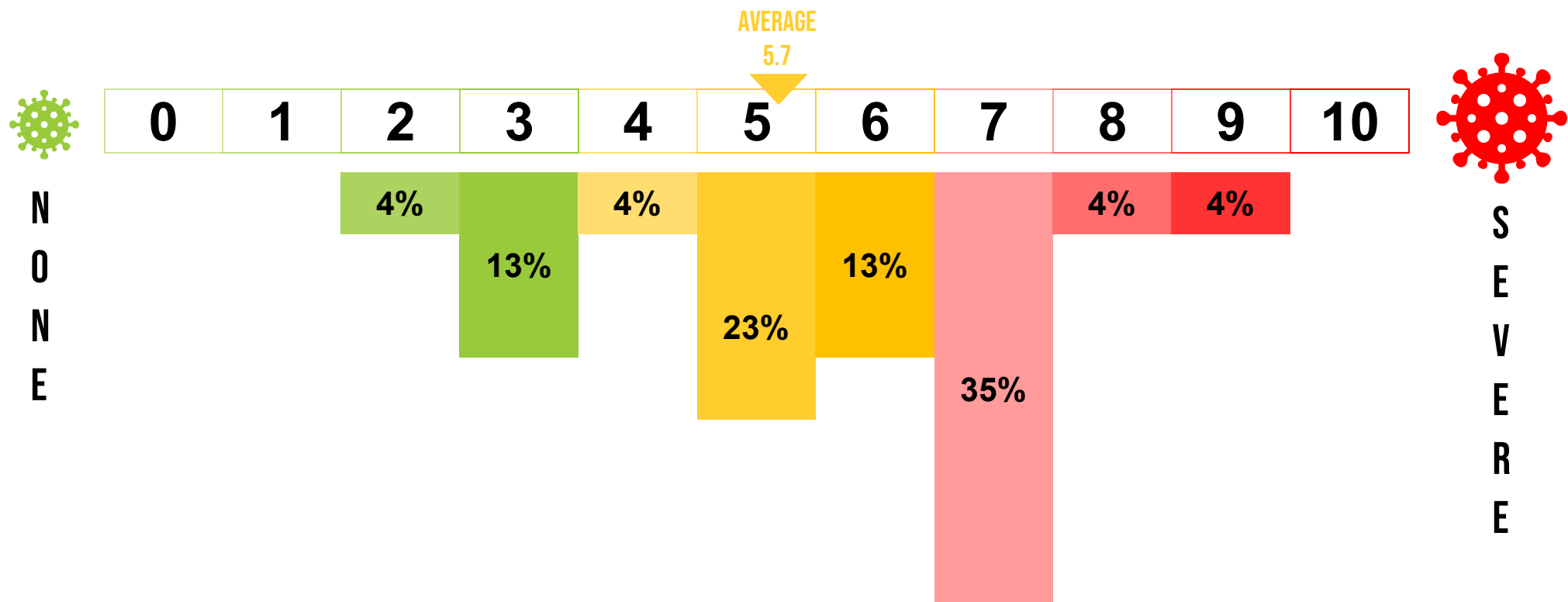


■ Rural Village / Hamlet ■ Suburban Village



IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC

We asked each community how severe the local impact of the coronavirus pandemic had been over the month preceding our survey.



The most significant ongoing impacts of the pandemic sighted included ongoing restrictions preventing or limiting opening of community facilities, confidence to re-connect, loneliness and isolation, and the loss / reduction in key services (e.g., banking, shops, pubs, street cleaning).

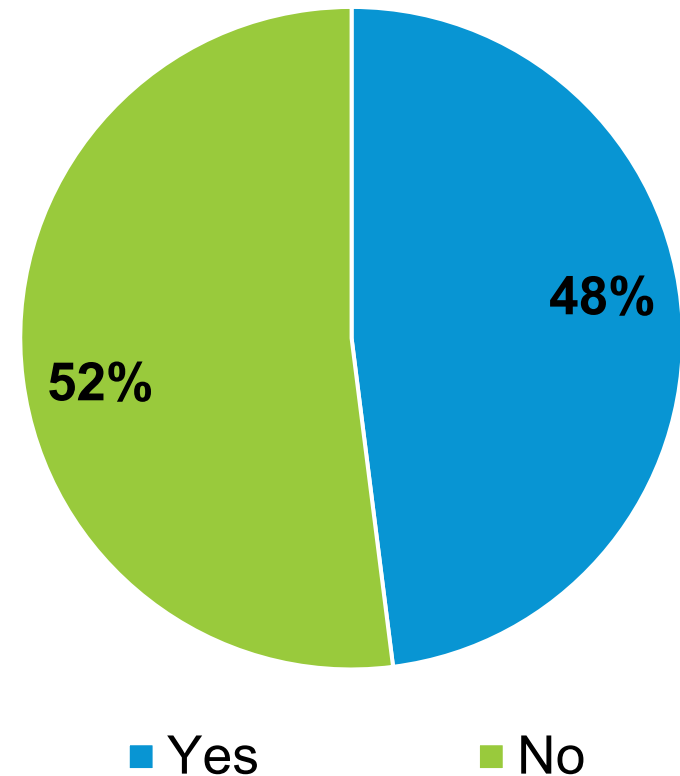


UNDERSTANDING & APPLYING RESTRICTIONS

We asked each community if people or organisations locally had faced any challenges in understanding, applying, or maintaining required social distancing measures as we have moved through the stages of the Governments Roadmap.

Of the communities that had faced difficulties, the majority (91%) were rural villages or hamlets. Challenges cited were almost exclusively related to the application of restrictions and included:

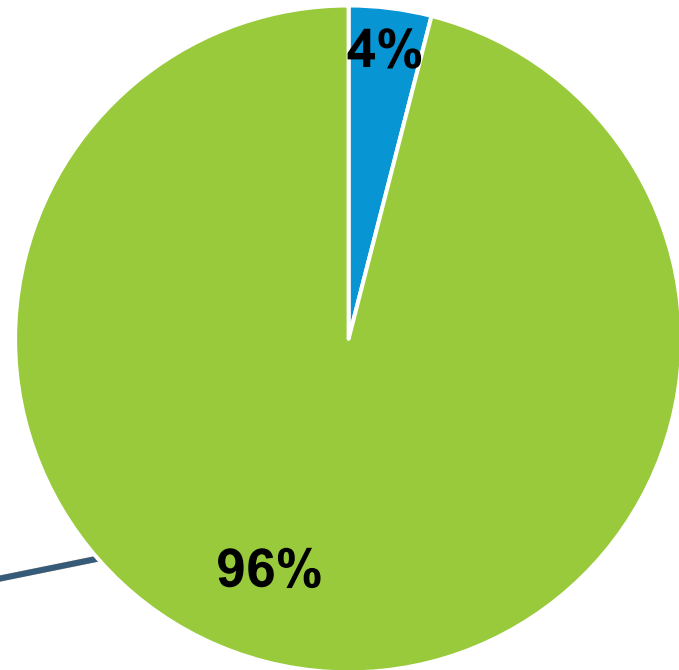
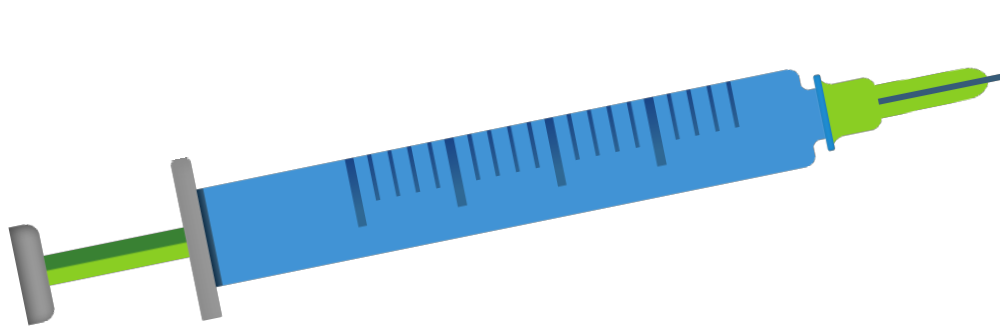
- Social distancing requirements leading to it being unviable to open small village halls and facilities.
- Pressure on volunteers to apply complex and changeable restrictions in many settings.



ACCESS & UPTAKE OF VACCINATIONS

We asked each community they were aware of any issues or barriers to local people getting fully vaccinated to protect against Covid-19.

The overwhelming majority (96%) cited no issues and praised the efficiency, speed and accessibility of the vaccine roll out within the County.



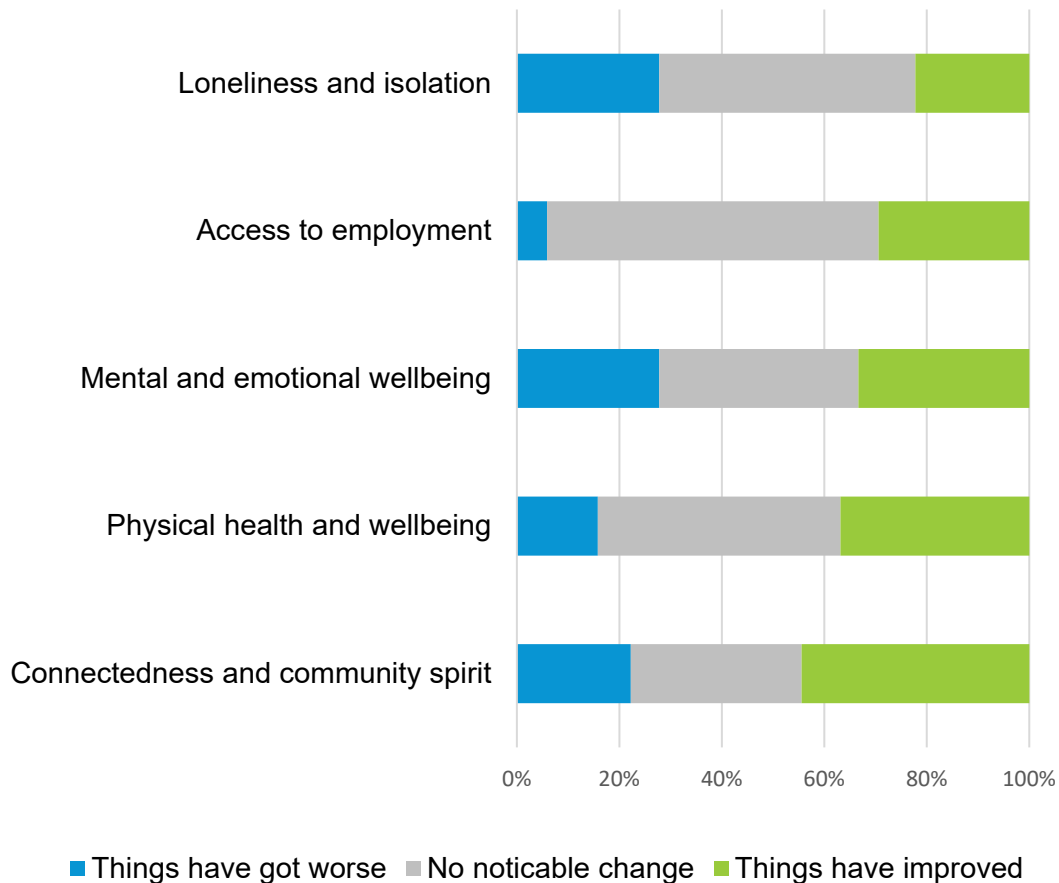
■ Yes

■ No



COMMUNITY WELLBEING

We explored some key indicators of community wellbeing and resilience to better understand the effects of the pandemic on local people. We use this knowledge to help guide the work of the charity and our local delivery partners.



THINGS THAT HAVE IMPROVED OVERALL



CONNECTEDNESS & COMMUNITY SPIRIT



ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT



PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING



MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

THINGS THAT HAVE GOT WORSE OVERALL



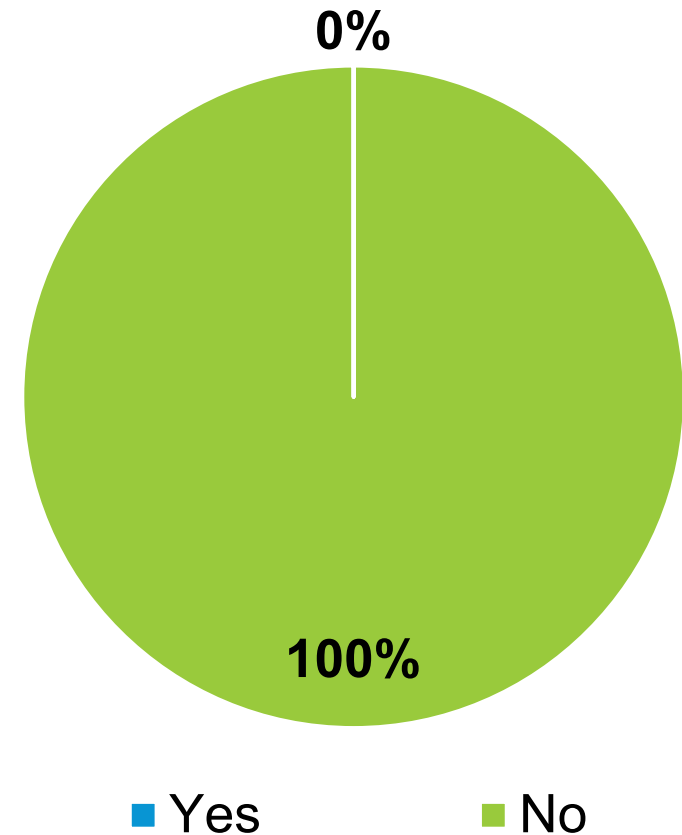
LONELINESS AND ISOLATION



UNMET NEED

Reassuringly, 100% of communities surveyed cited no other issues or unmet need that they were aware of in their local area.

Although positive, we must be mindful that many issues, particularly in more rural areas are hidden or hard to identify.





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