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LEICESTERSHIRE

RURAL COMMUNITY PULSE CHECK

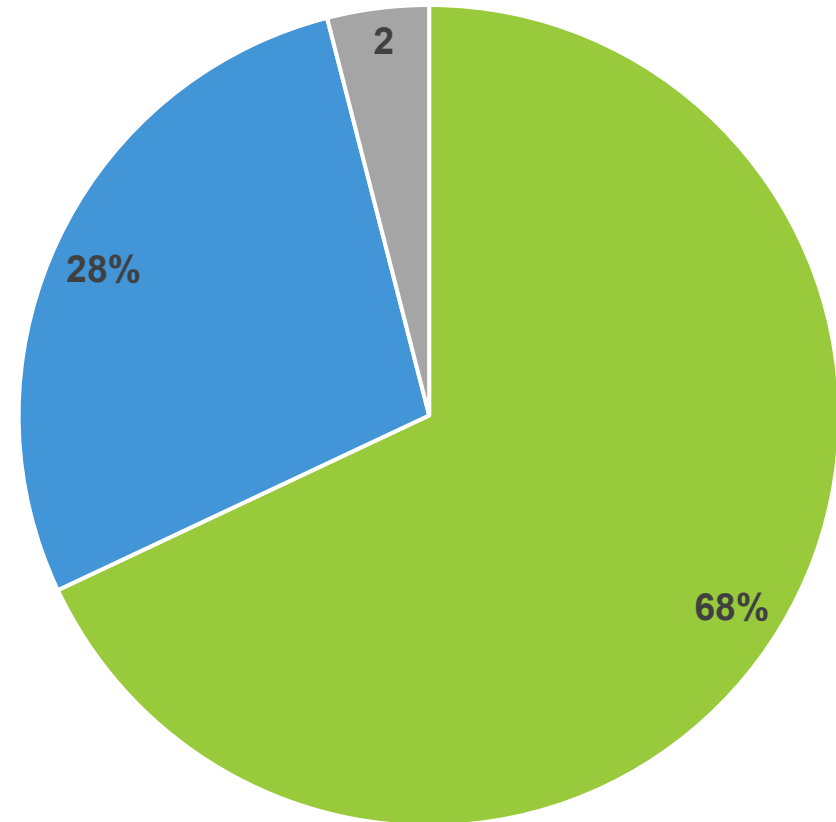
SEPTEMBER 2021

TAKING A PULSE

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

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

We followed this up with a second pulse check in September 2021, the results of which are detailed in this report.

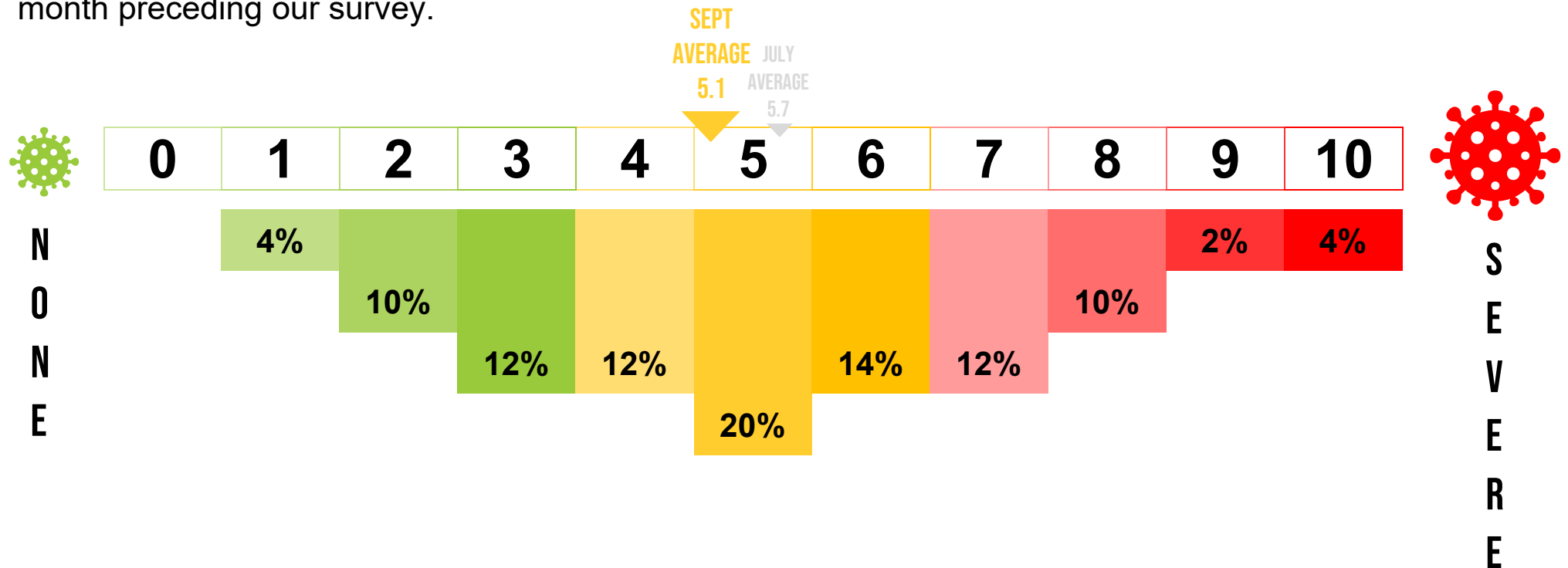


- Rural Village / Hamlet
- Suburban Village / Market Town
- Other



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 overall impact on rural communities has reduced however perhaps not by as much as anticipated. Ongoing impacts sighted included confidence of some to re-connect, over confidence of others, loneliness and isolation, and the impact of self-isolation (particularly on young families).

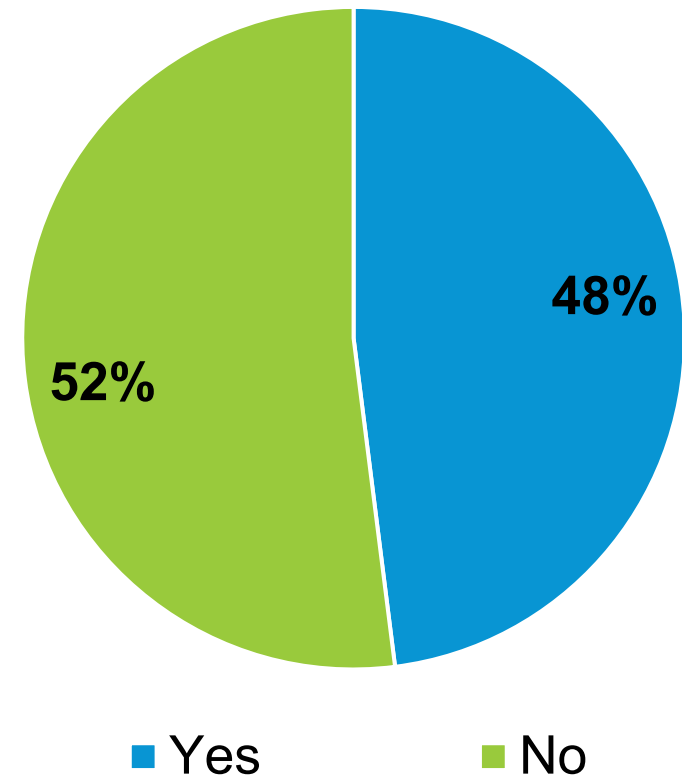


UNDERSTANDING & APPLYING GUIDELINES

We asked each community if people or organisations locally had faced any challenges in understanding, applying, or following Covid-19 guidelines remaining in place over the summer.

Of the communities that cited challenges, the most common observations included:

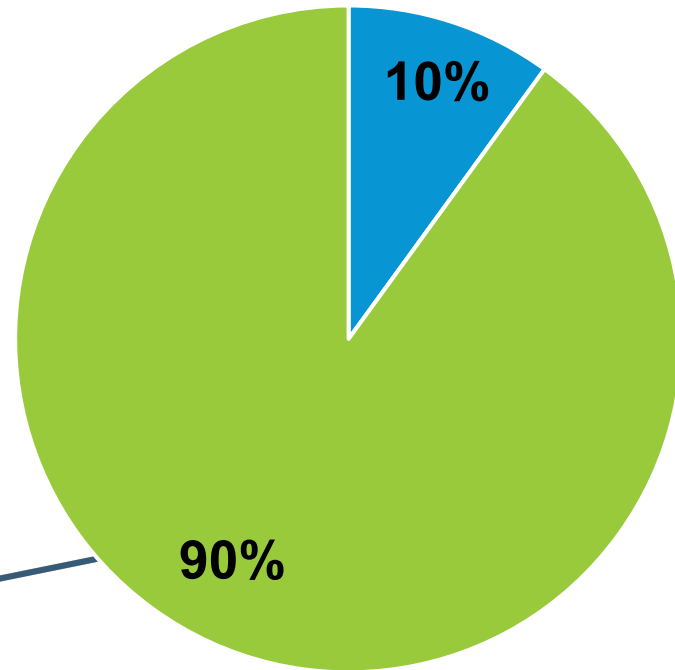
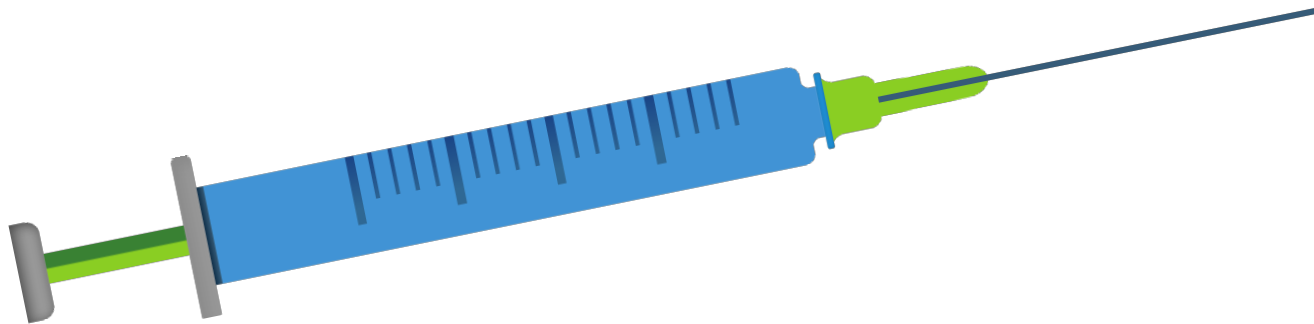
- People lapsing all measures and seemingly returning to pre pandemic behaviours.
- People lacking confidence to re-connect and retaining all previous protective measures.
- Lack of understanding of guidelines due to the rapid move from Government control to individual responsibility / risk assessment.



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.

An increased minority of 10% (up from 4% in July) identified issues including the spread of misinformation, anti-vaccination campaigns, and increasing opposition to the mandatory vaccination of care home staff.



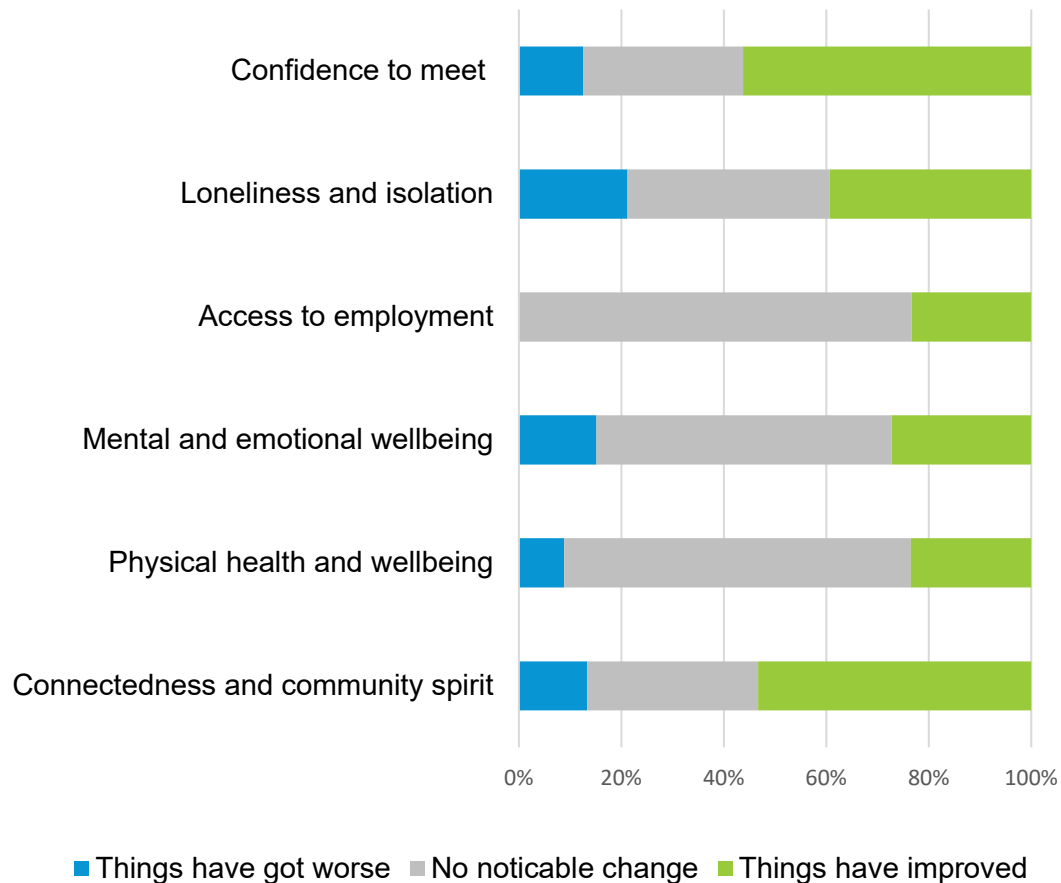
■ Yes

■ 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



LONELINESS AND ISOLATION



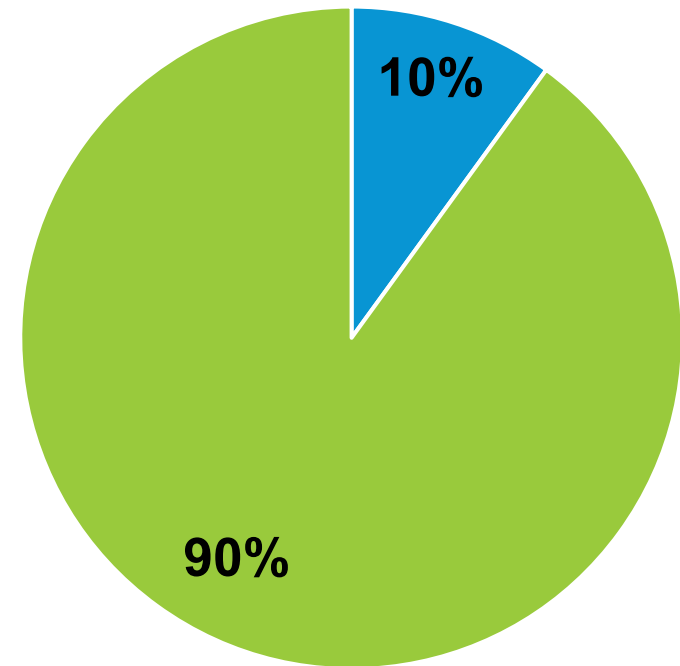
CONFIDENCE TO MEET FACE TO FACE



UNMET NEED

Just 10% communities surveyed cited other issues or unmet need that they were aware of in their local area.

All but two identified pressures on or restricted access to GP services as a major concern. Other issues included damaging impact on the financial security of Village Halls and insufficient ongoing support.



■ Yes

■ No





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