

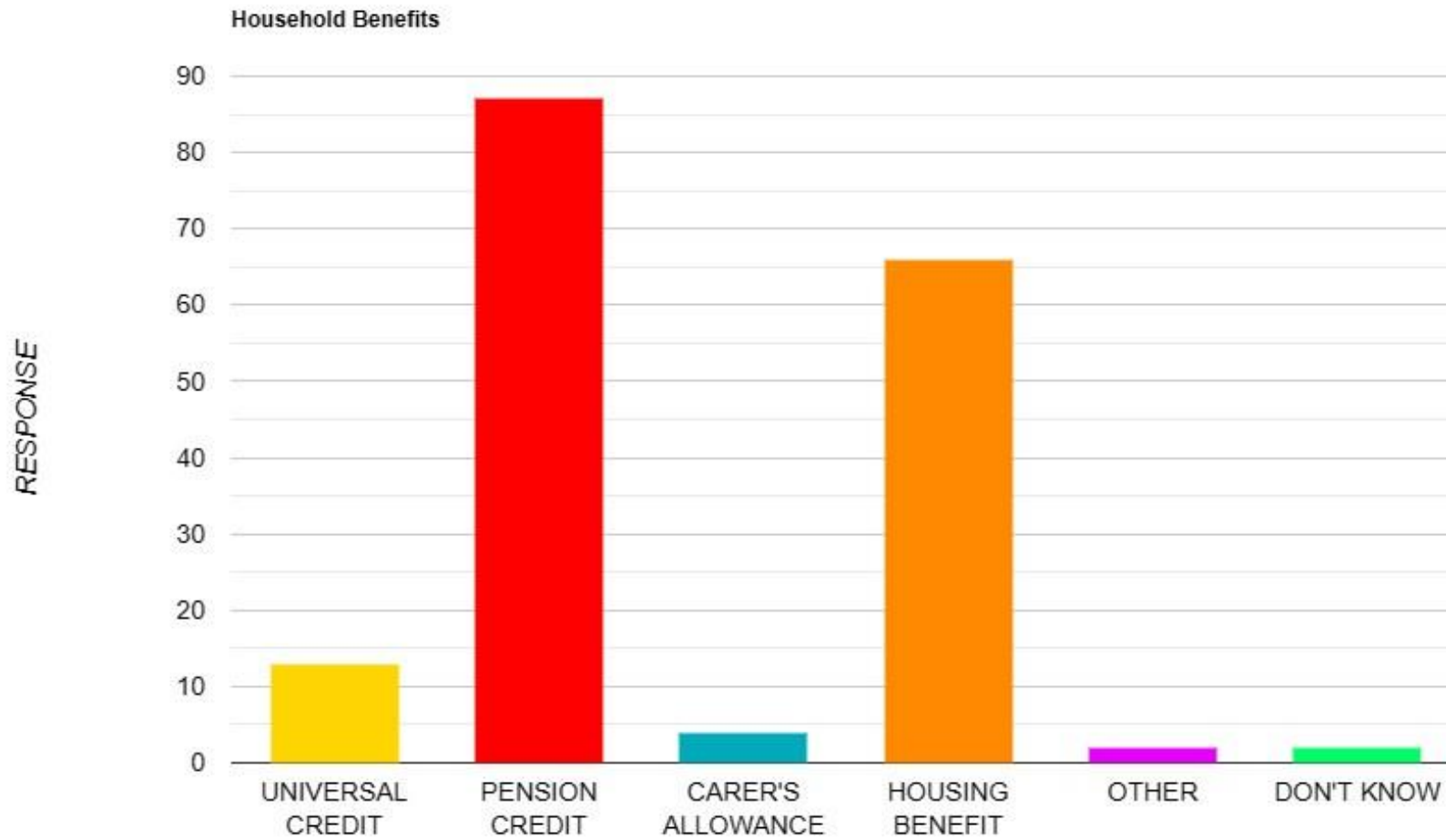
CPAR 2 key findings



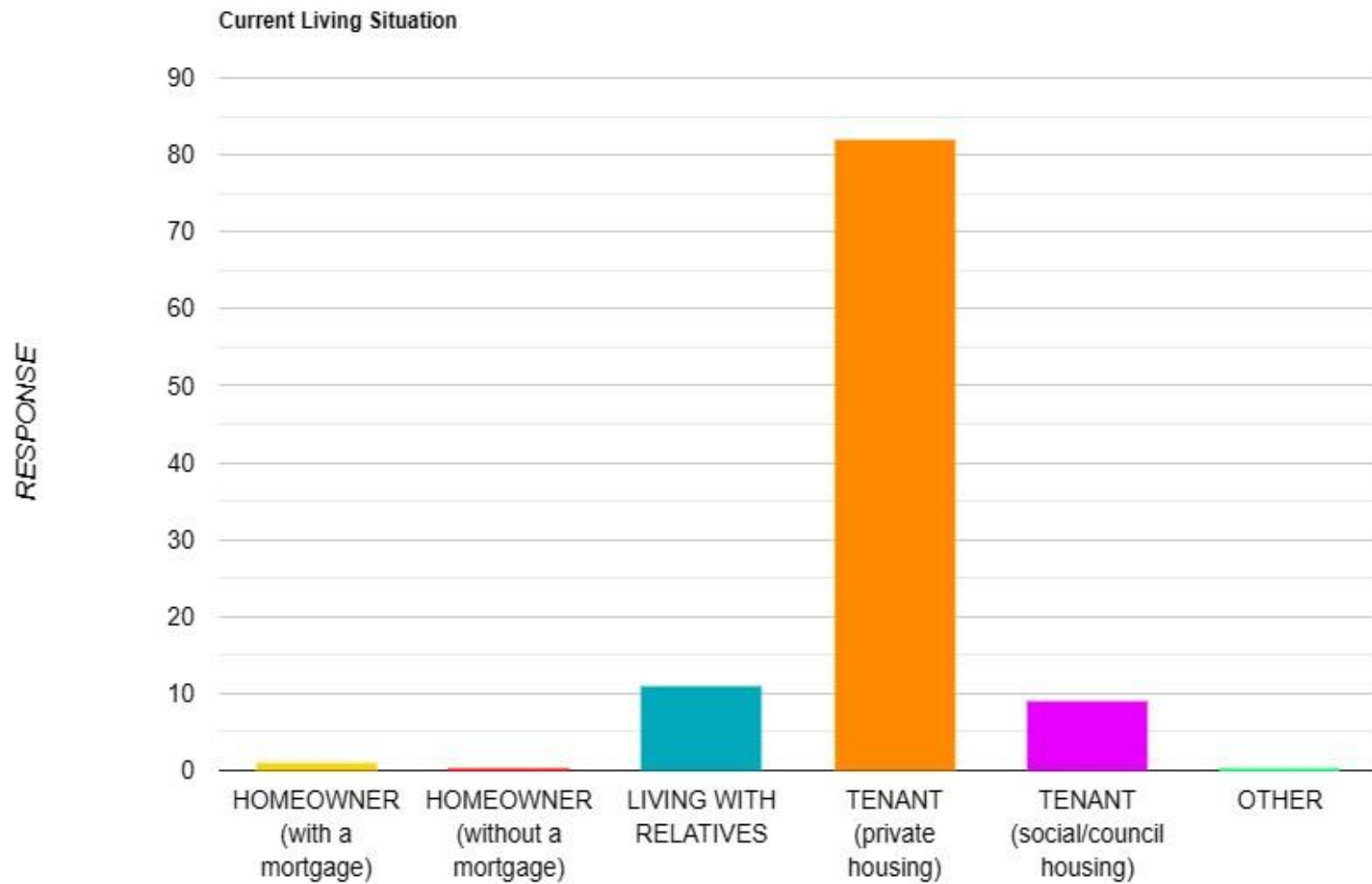
University of
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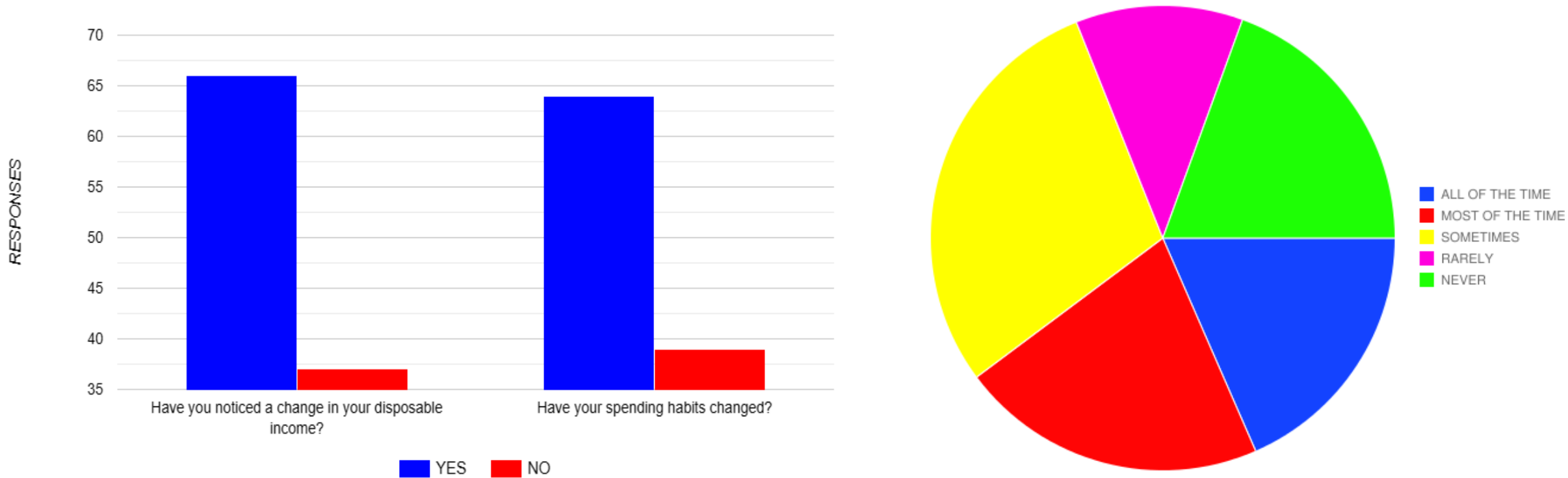
Folkestone Nepalese Community Centre



Most of the beneficiaries receive their income from Pension Credit. This is a means-tested benefit that helps those on lower incomes by giving them extra money throughout retirement. Housing Benefit is also a very common among the FNC Centre beneficiaries. This is a means-tested social security benefit that is intended to help meet housing costs for rented accommodation.

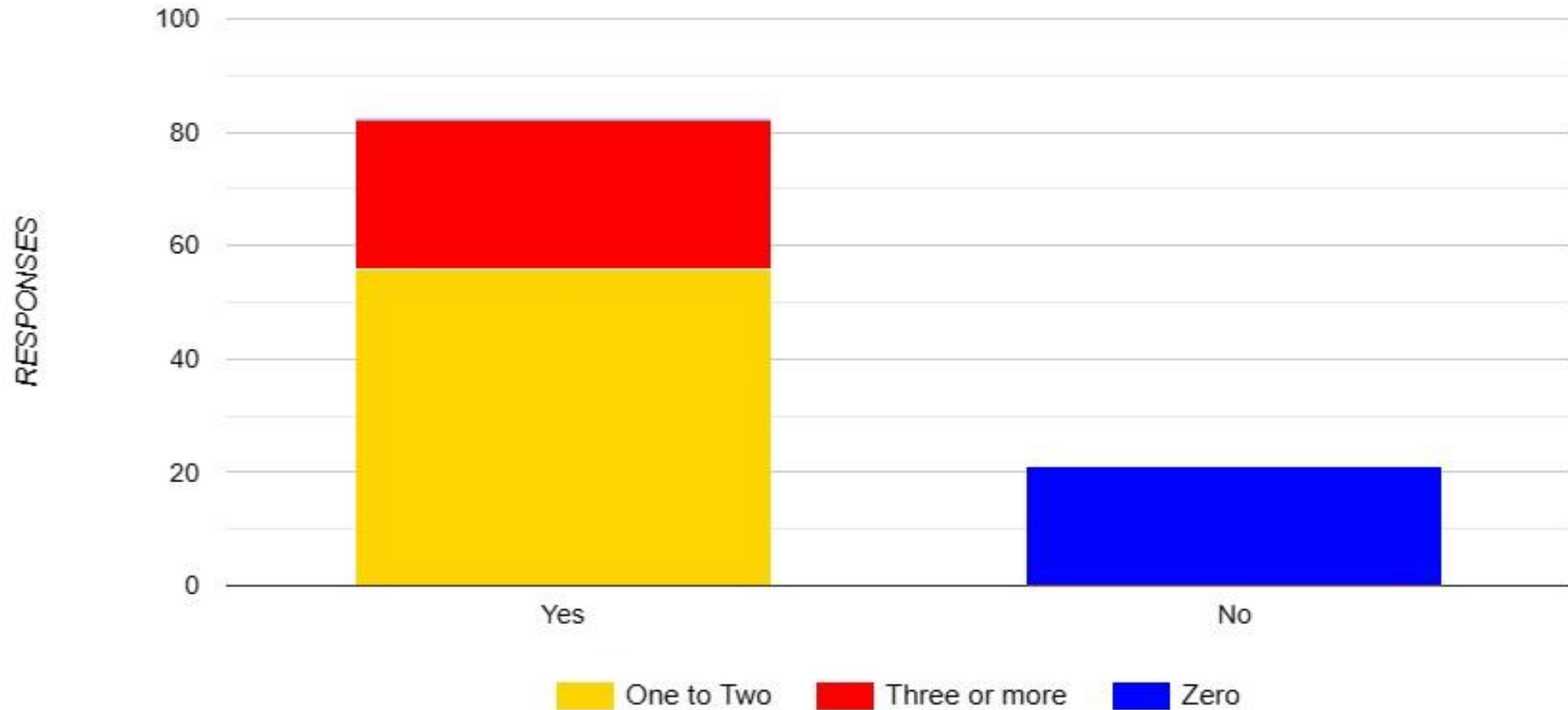


79.6% of beneficiaries were living as private tenants on rent. This is because of its relative low cost and the queue on social housing.

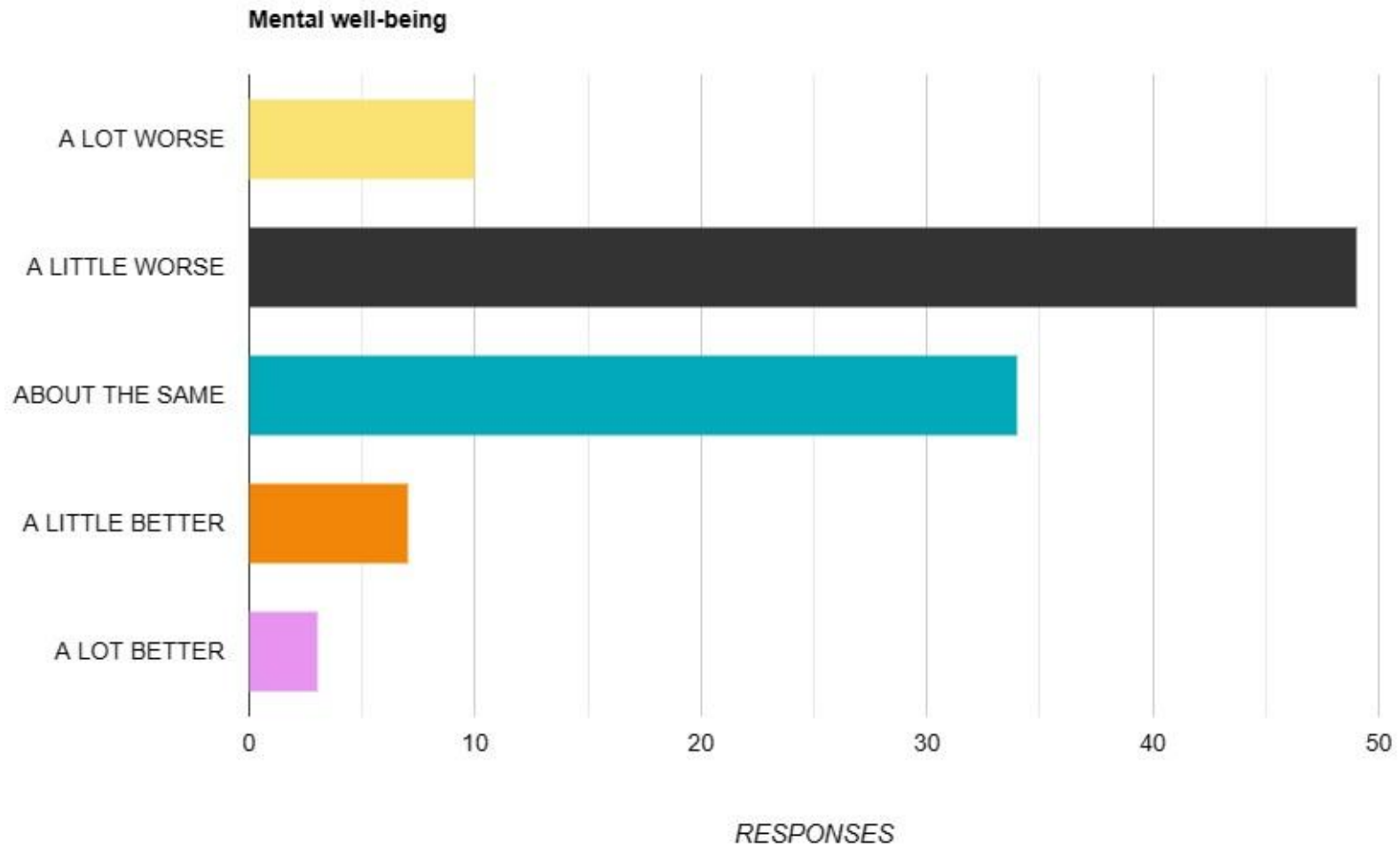


62.1% of beneficiaries thought their spending habits of changed with a lot of the responses relating to how everything has become more expensive. Although there was no direct translation of cost-of-living to Nepalese, once we explained to them in simplified terms many of the beneficiaries realised the crisis affected them too.

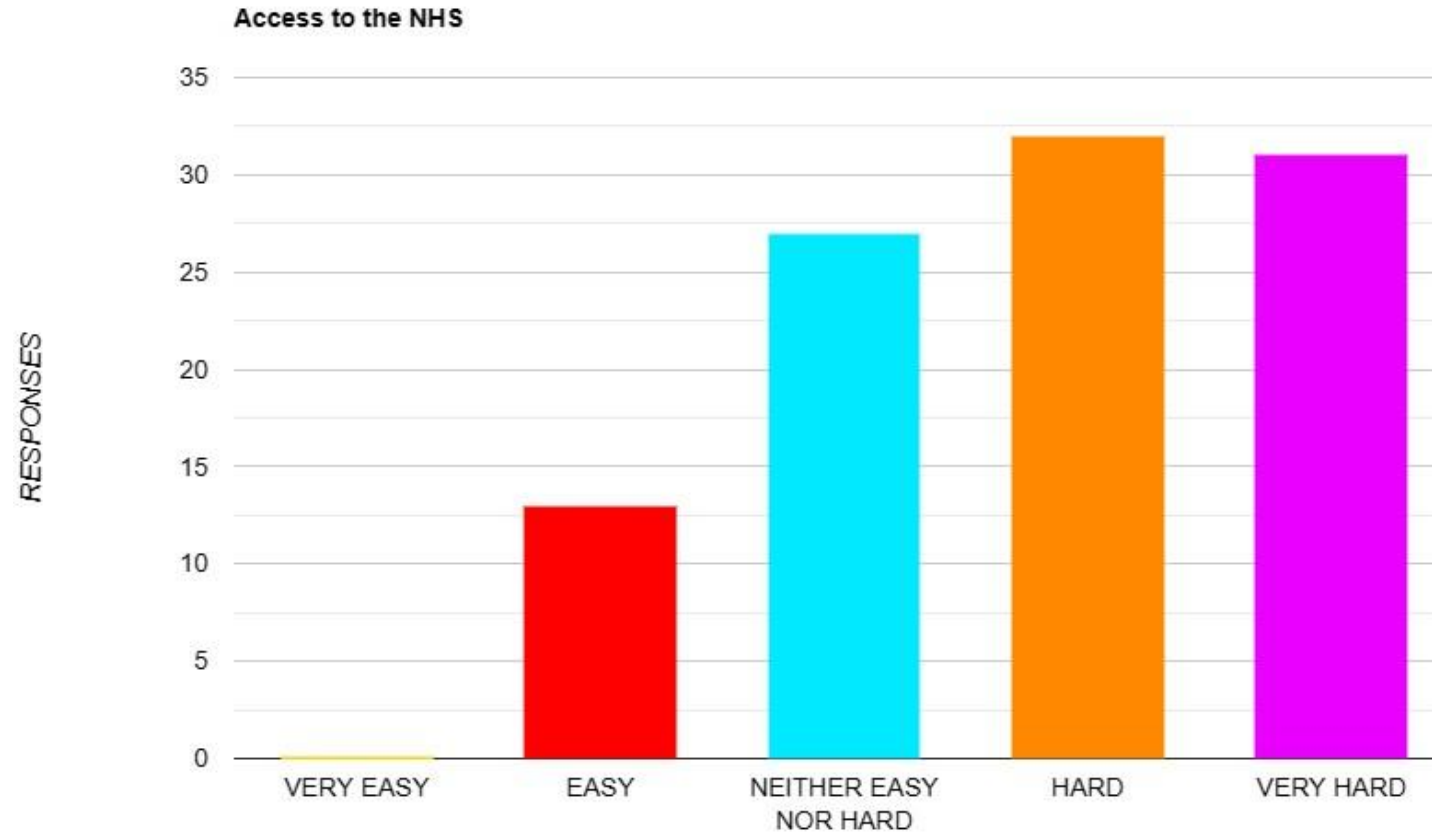
68.9% of beneficiaries struggled to pay at least one of their bills, with 18.4% of the beneficiaries stating they always struggle to pay. Most of the responses stated it was the utility bill they struggled to pay.



79.6% of those who took the survey sent money back to their relatives in Nepal, with 31.7% of those going to 3 or more relatives. This is perhaps the biggest surprise of our quantitative data especially when you consider their age.



Responses ranged from worrying about their family in Nepal to simple age-related concerns.



More than 60% found the access to the NHS hard or very hard. A lot of the concerns were about how difficult it was to communicate due to the language barrier and how there should be more face-to-face interactions at the GP.

Video interviews

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oLxy5CwcjrPtWiF_rH_hZdKWU8pnZlIB/view

Conclusion

The research shows that the cost-of-living crisis has had a sizeable effect on many of the beneficiaries even if they had not realised this until we explained it to them. This highlights the importance of continuing support either through official services or through community work, especially to those that are in the lowest income bracket like so many of those who visit Folkestone Nepalese Community Centre. Furthermore, there needs to be a concerted effort to understand the culture if we are genuinely trying to help a community such as ours as it would make supporting them more effective.