

# **Neighbourhood Planning: What do rural communities think?**

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Rural Services Network

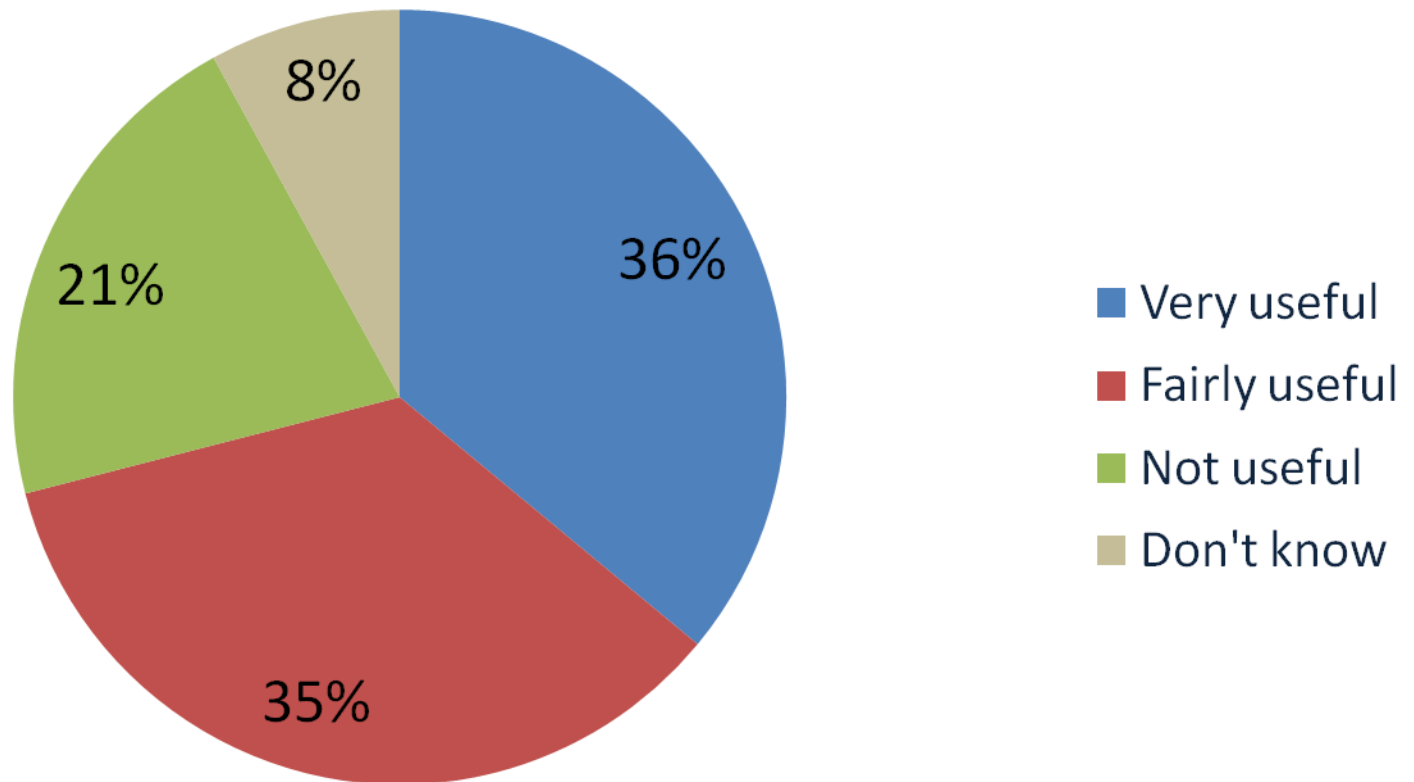
# The Online Survey

- Sent to Community Group members of the RSN
- Conducted during November 2011
- Received 371 survey responses by the deadline
- With a good geographic and size distribution

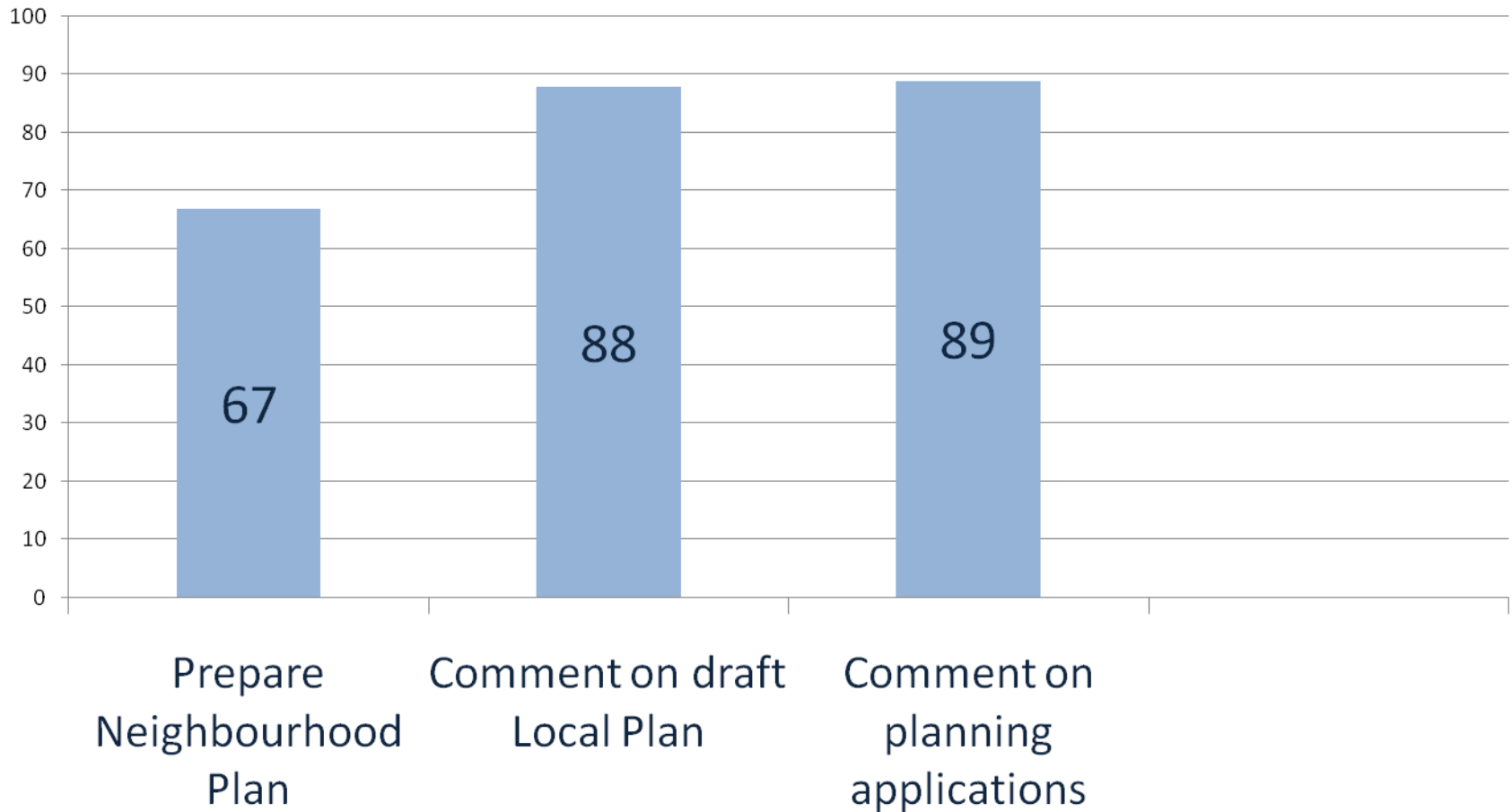
*To explore with rural community bodies:*

- Whether NP proposals were seen as useful
- What aspects they liked and disliked
- What they would most like to do using NP

# How useful do you think proposals for statutory NP will be for communities like your own?



# Per cent who think it will be important for their community to do the following in future



# Likes and Dislikes

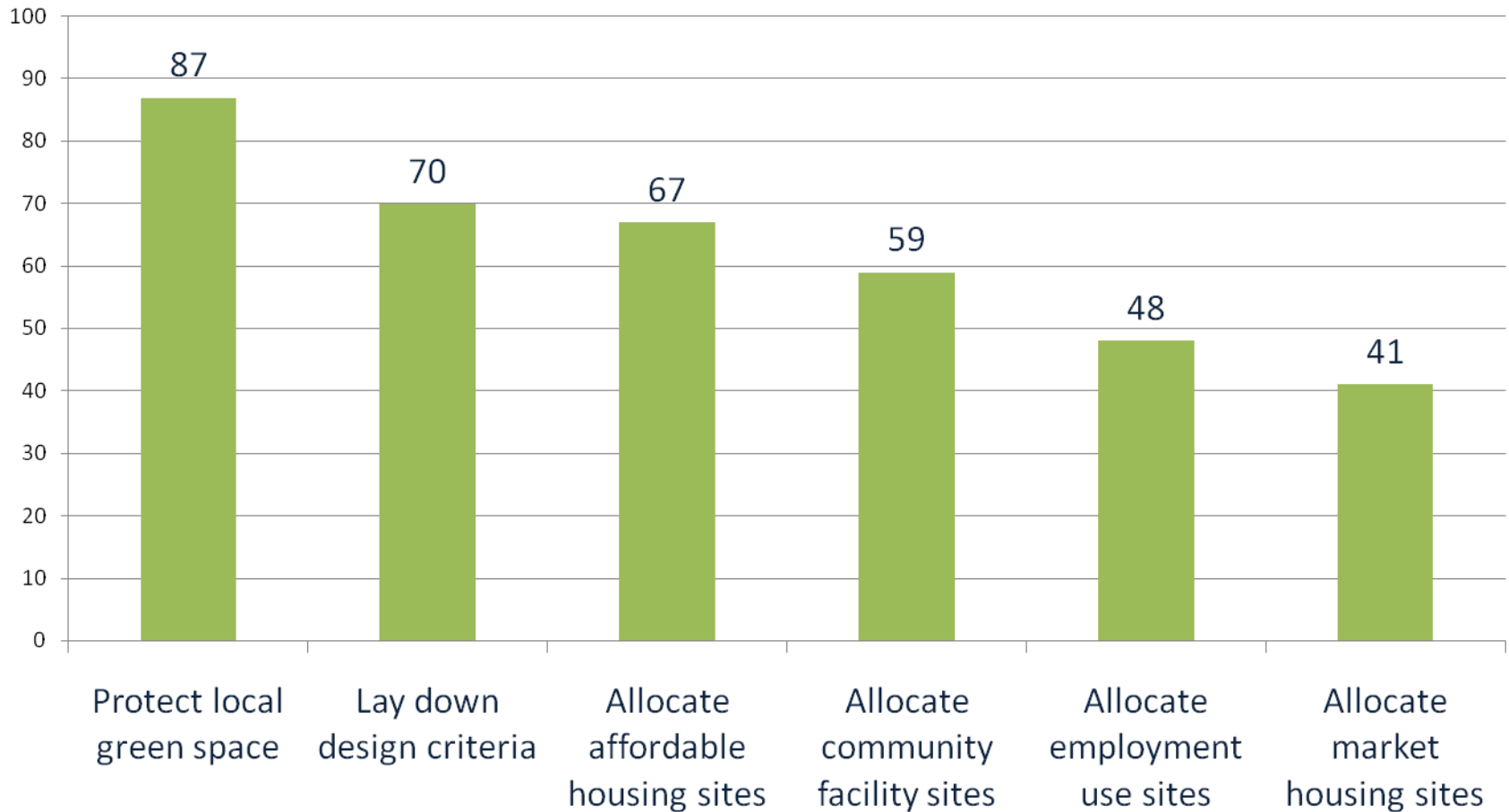
## *Likes:*

- More opportunity for local people to have a say about their area
- Less chance that development will be imposed from outside

## *Dislikes:*

- The expected cost of undertaking NP and lack of funding for it
- The expected workload associated with NP and its perceived complexity
- A view that principal authorities will be able to stop is happening

# Per cent who would like to be able to do the following things in their area



# Some Conclusions

- There was a considerable degree of rural interest in NP from the survey respondents
- It appears to tap into a sense of feeling distant from decision-making
- Larger rural communities are more likely to make use of it than smaller ones
- It is not true that NP is simply seen as a way to stop new development
- Its potential may go unrealised unless enough support and funding are available

Thanks for listening!

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