

Summary of the Citizens' Panel Survey of the Disability Equality Scheme

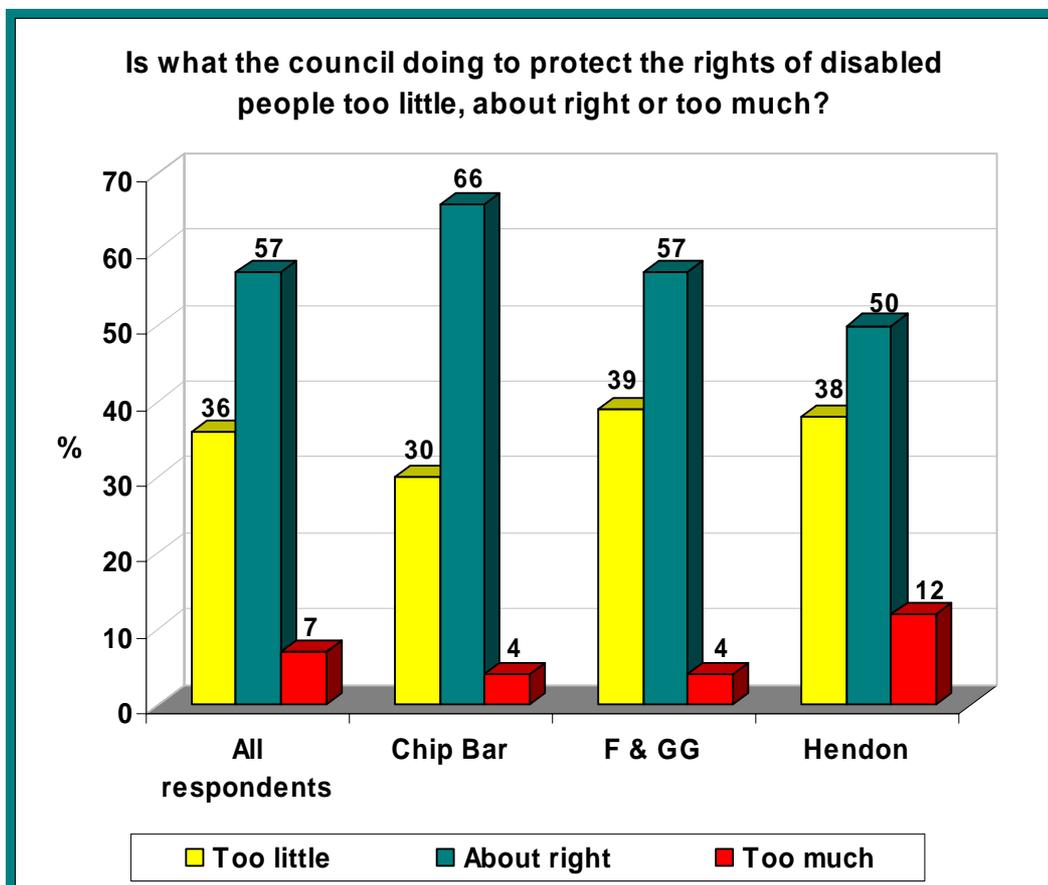
The Citizens Panel survey was completed in August 2006. The survey was designed to inform the Disability and Race Equality Schemes, looking in particular at residents' priorities for disability and race equality.

This is an extract into the findings relating to the Disability Equality Scheme

Protecting the rights of people with a disability

- Disabled respondents are more likely to say the council is doing too little to protect the rights of disabled people compared to non-disabled respondents.

Chart 1: Is what the council doing to protect the rights people with a disability too little, about right or too much?



Prejudices against disabled people compared to five years ago¹

Respondents were asked how much prejudice is there against disabled people in their local area compared to five years ago?

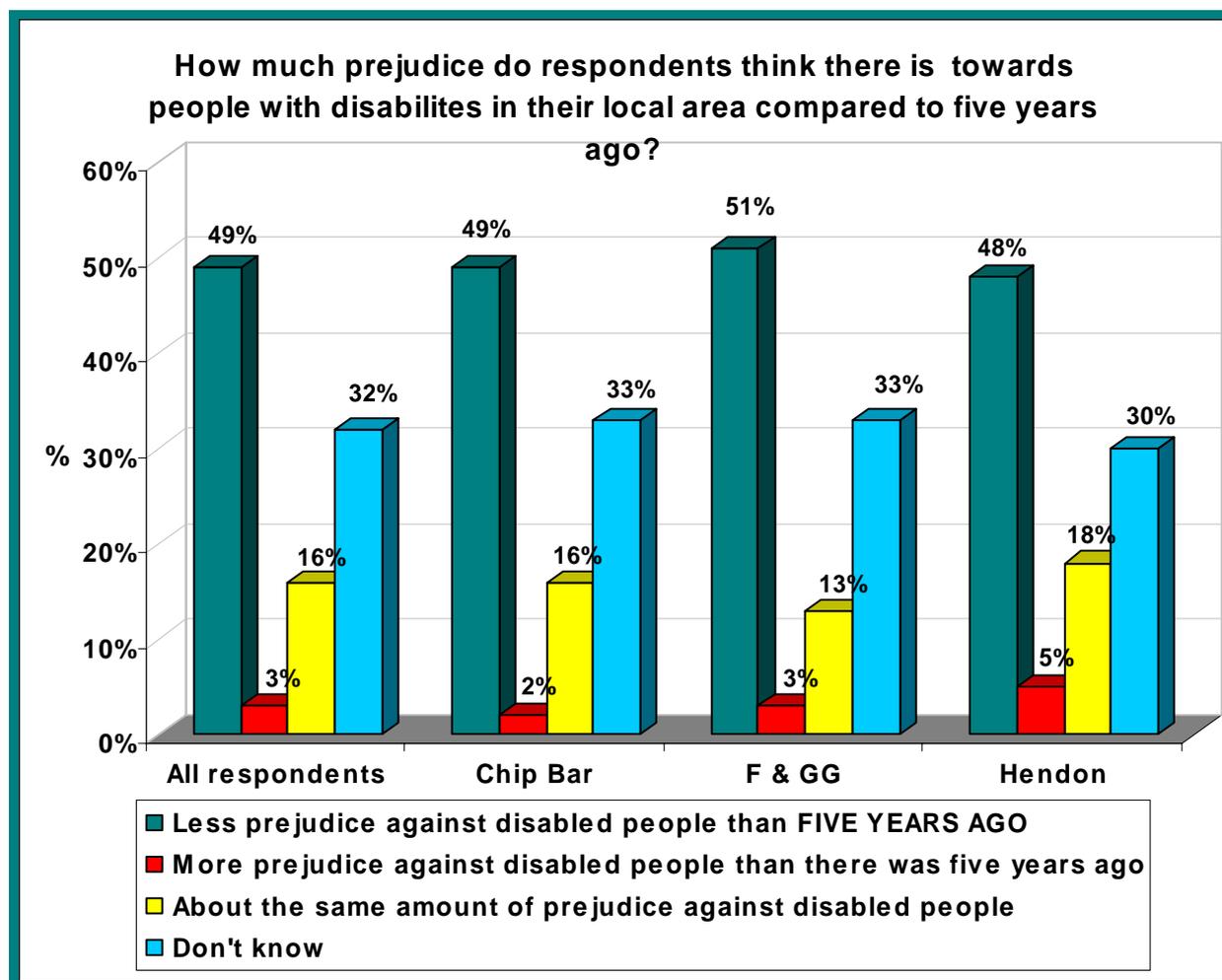
- Chart 1 shows that just under half the respondents (49%), who answered this question, think there is less prejudice against disabled people compared to five years ago.
- 16% of respondents think there is about the same amount of prejudice against disabled people than there was five years ago and a small minority (3%) feel there is more prejudice than there was five years ago.
- However, a third of respondents (32%) of respondents said they did not know.
- There is only a small variation in answers when comparing constituencies.
- Disabled respondents are more likely to say that there is about the same amount of prejudice than there was five years ago compared to non-disabled respondents.
- Women are more likely than men to say there is less prejudice against disabled people than five years ago. Conversely, men are more likely to say they don't know if there is more or less prejudice than five years ago.
- 18-24 year olds are more likely than older respondents to say there is less prejudice against disabled people compared to five years ago.
- Respondents of BME origin are more likely than white respondents to say they don't know if there is more prejudice against disabled people than five years ago.

¹ Questions relate to the Home Office Citizenship Survey 2005

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Chart 1 : How much prejudice is there around disabled people in your local area compared to five years ago

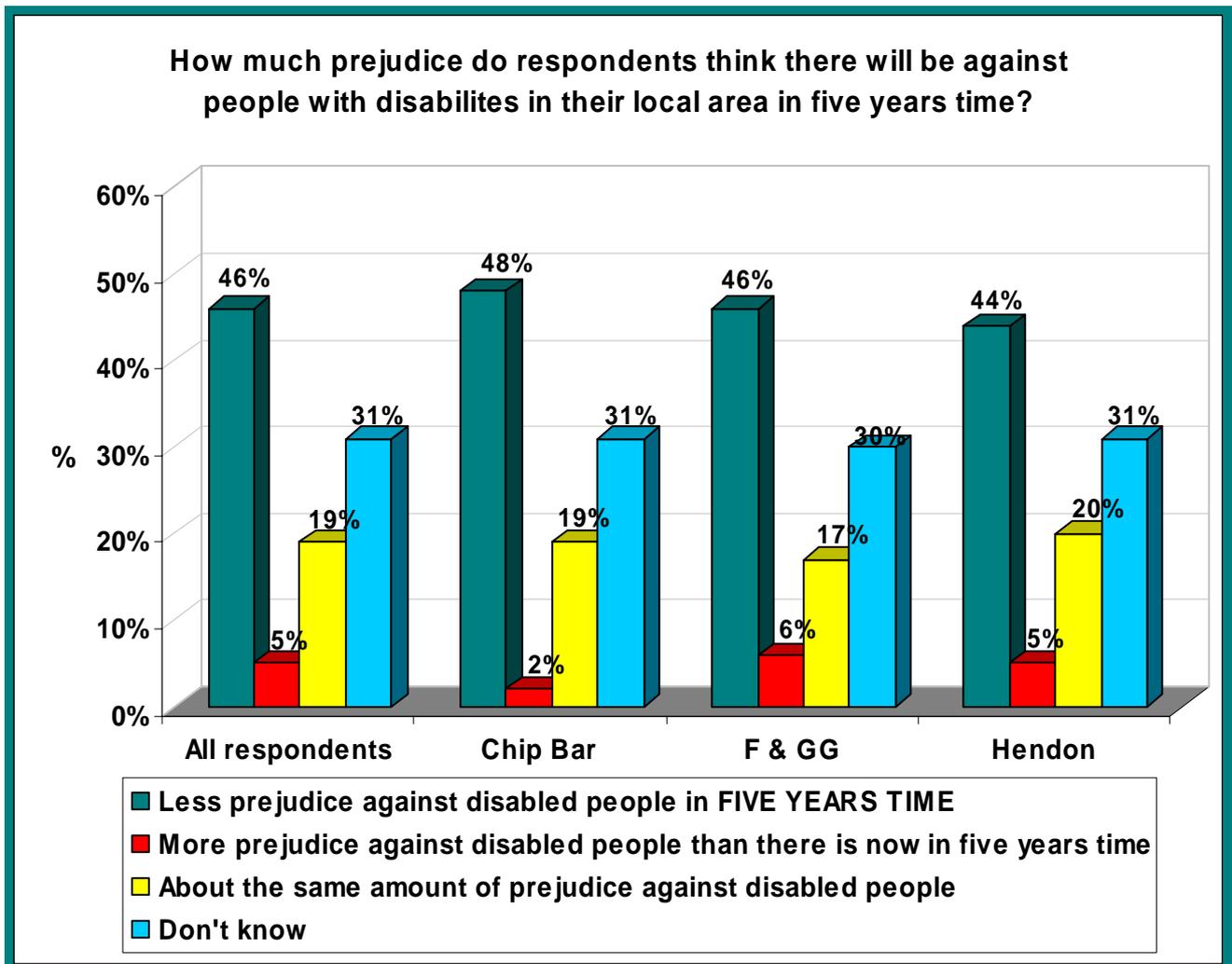


Prejudices against disabled people in five years time

Respondents were asked how much prejudice they think there will be against people with disabilities in their local area in five years time.

- The chart over the page shows that just under half of the respondents (46%) think there will be less prejudice against people with a disability in five years time.
- Around a fifth of respondents (19%) think there will be the same amount of prejudice against disabled people in five years time. 5% feel there will be more prejudice against disabled people in five years time than there is at present.
- Just under a third of respondents (31%) said they did not know.

Chart 2: How much prejudice will there be against disabled people in your local area in five years time?



- There is only a small variation in answers when comparing constituencies.
- 18-24 year olds are more likely to say there will be less prejudice against disabled people in five years time compared to older respondents.
- Respondents of BME origin are more likely than white respondents to say they do not know if there will be more prejudice against disabled people in five years time.

Most important services/issues for the council to focus on order to promote disability equality

Respondents were presented with a list of services/issues and asked to say which are the most important for the council to focus on in order to promote disability equality.

Table 1 highlights the top five services/issues respondents feel are the most important to focus on in order to promote disability equality:

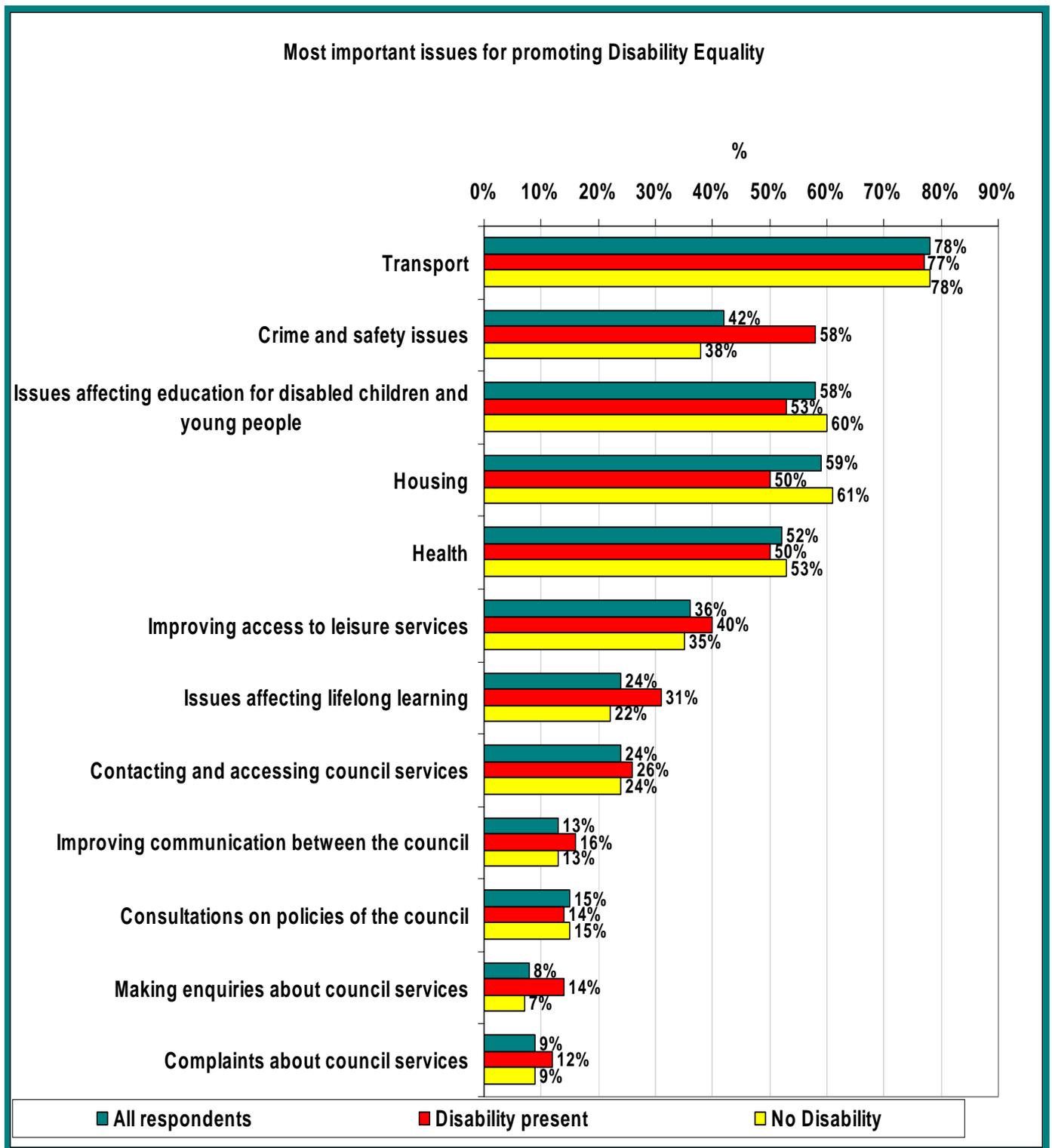
- Transport (78%); Housing (59%); Issues effecting education for disabled children and young people affecting (58%); Health (52%) and Crime and Safety Issue (42%).

Table 1: Which issues/services do respondents think are most important for promoting disability equality?

Most important for promoting disability equality?	All respondents	Disability present	Disability not present
Transport	78%	77%	78%
Housing	59%	50%	61%
Issues affecting education for disabled children and young people	58%	53%	60%
Health	52%	50%	53%
Crime and safety issues	42%	58%	38%
Improving access to leisure services	36%	40%	35%
Issues affecting lifelong learning	24%	31%	22%
Contacting and accessing council services	24%	26%	24%
Consultations on policies of the council	15%	14%	15%
Improving communication between the council	13%	16%	13%
Complaints about council services	9%	12%	9%
Making enquiries about council services	8%	14%	7%
Don't know	7%	3%	8%
None of these	0%	0	0%

- Priorities for disabled respondents are very similar to non-disabled respondents. The only exception to this is 'crime and safety issues'. Disabled respondents rank this as the second most important issue to focus on in order to promote disability equality whereas non-disabled respondents ranked 'crime and safety issues' as fifth. Conversely, disabled respondents ranked 'housing' as the fourth most important issues to focus on (equal with health) whereas non-disabled respondents ranked 'housing' as second.

Chart 3: Most important service/issue for promoting disability equality - ranked in order of priorities for respondents with a disability



Services/issues, which are in most need of improving in order to promote disability equality

Respondents were asked to indicate from the same list which five services/issues they feel need most improving in order to promote disability equality. All of these items may be considered important to residents but the question attempts to establish residents' priorities on what needs improving in Barnet around promoting disability equality.

Table 2 summarises the top five issues which respondents feel most need improving in order to promote disability equality:

- Transport (56%); Issues affecting education for disabled children and young people (44%); Housing (38%), Health (37%); and Crime and Safety Issues (31%).

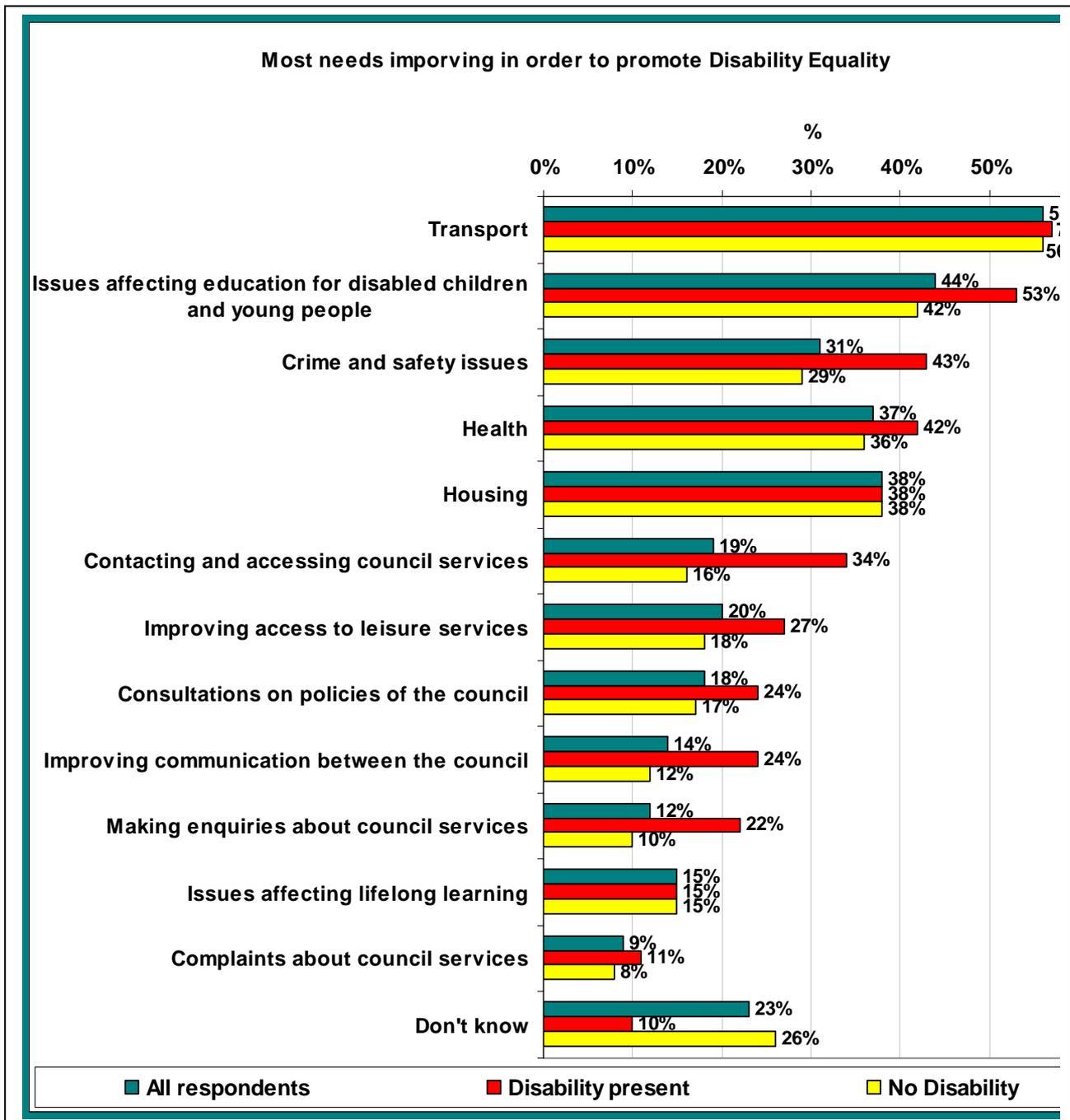
Table 2: Which issues/services most need improving in order to promote disability equality?

Issues/services which most need improving in order to promote disability equality	All respondents	Disability present	No Disability
Transport	56%	57%	56%
Issues affecting education for disabled children and young people	44%	53%	42%
Housing	38%	38%	38%
Health	37%	42%	36%
Crime and safety issues	31%	43%	29%
Improving access to leisure services	20%	27%	18%
Contacting and accessing council services	19%	34%	16%
Consultations on policies of the council	18%	24%	17%
Issues affecting lifelong learning	15%	15%	15%
Improving communication between the council	14%	24%	12%
Making enquiries about council services	12%	22%	10%
Complaints about council services	9%	11%	8%
None of these	1%	0	1%
Don't know	23%	10%	26%

- The services/ issues which disabled respondents feel need improving are very similar to non-disabled respondents.
- The exception to this is that disabled respondents rank 'crime and safety issues' as the third service/issues which most needs improving, compared to non-disabled respondents who rank this issue fifth. Also, respondents with a disability rank 'housing' as fifth compared to non-disabled respondents who rank 'housing' third.

- 'Issues affecting education for disabled children and young people' is ranked second by both disabled and non-disabled respondents.

Chart 4: Services/Issues which most need improving in order to promote disability equality - ranked in order of what most needs improving for disabled respondents



All respondents - Importance versus what most needs improving

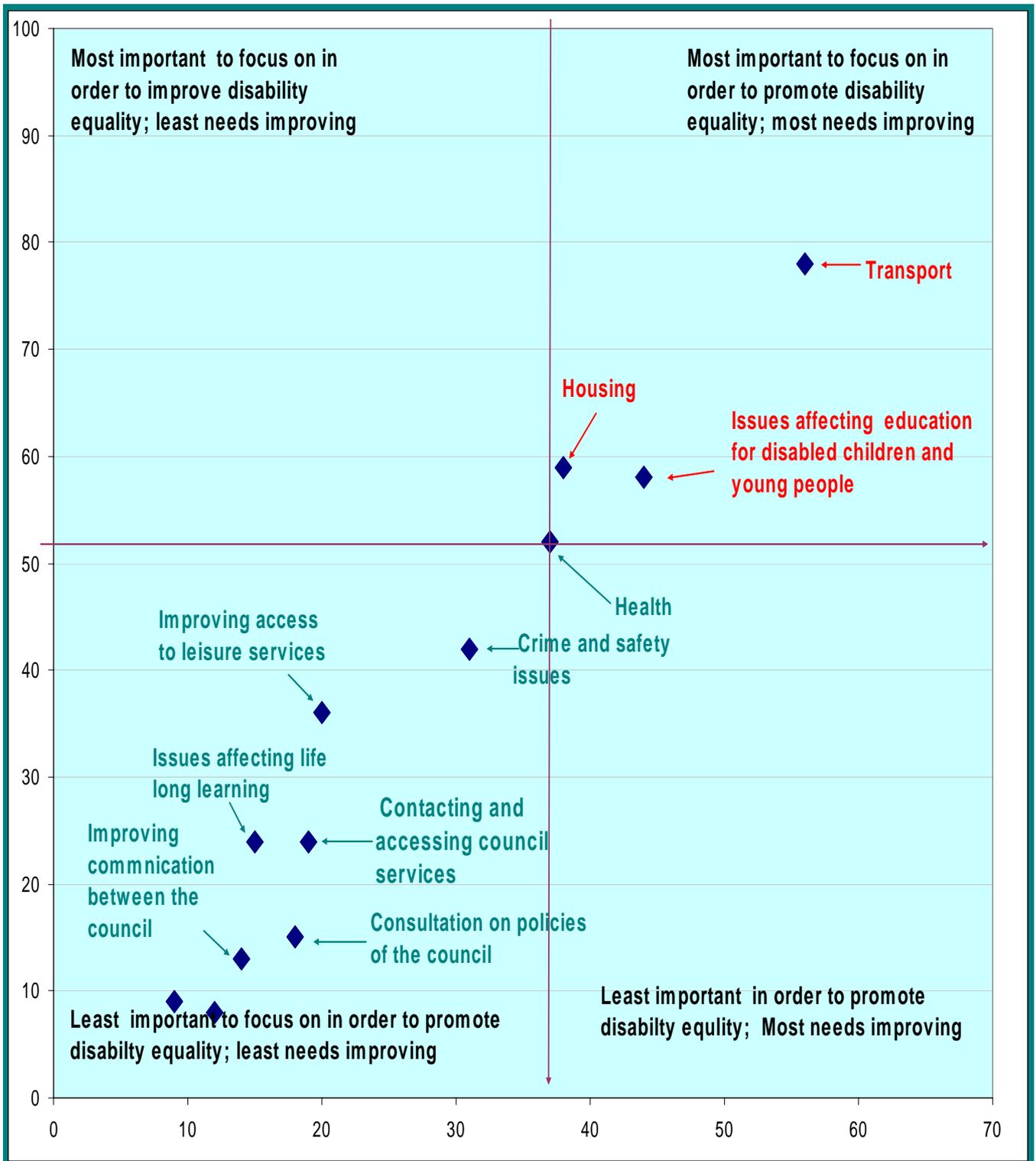
It is also important to understand the weight which residents give to those things which they consider most need improving around disability equality in their local area by comparing which items they consider most important in order to improve disability equality in their local area.

Chart 5 (overleaf) looks at priorities through a combined measure of what most needs improving locally and what is most important in order to improve disability equality. The latter question establishes a basic model of residents' 'ideal' locale (i.e. what they consider in general is most important in promoting disability equality) and compares that to what respondents consider most needs improving in order to promote disability equality. This may be seen as a more meaningful measure of residents' priorities since it is more than just a list of things that need to be 'fixed' or improved. Looking at residents' priorities in this way (plotting the two questions or 'dimensions') of priority against each other in a 'quadrant analysis' produces a more meaningful statement of residents' priorities.

The top right hand quadrant of the chart below answers the question 'of those services/issues which most need improving and are considered the most important in order to promote disability equality.

<p>Those items in the top right quadrant of Chart 5 (i.e. top priorities) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Transport➤ Issues affecting education of disabled children and young people➤ Housing	<p>Items in the bottom right quadrant of Chart 5 (things that 'need fixing' but which are less important than those in top right quadrant) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Health is bordering on this box
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Chart 5: Importance versus what needs improving –all respondents



Disabled respondents - importance versus what most needs improving

The chart illustrates that the priorities for disabled respondents are similar to the whole sample. However 'crime and safety issues' has moved into the top right quadrant and is a high priority. Whereas, housing has dropped out of the top right quadrant and become a lower priority.

<p>Those items in the top right quadrant of Chart 6 (i.e. top priorities) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Transport ➤ Issues affecting education of disabled children and young people ➤ Crime and safety issues 	<p>Items in the bottom right quadrant of Chart 6 (things that 'need fixing' but which are less important than those in top right quadrant) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Health is bordering on this box
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Chart 6: Importance versus what needs improving – Disabled respondents only

