



- **Representing** the case for a better deal for rural service provision
- **Exchanging** useful and relevant information
- **Developing and sharing** best practice



Public Service Cuts
- did we notice?
The Voice of Rural Parishes

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18th November

Rural Services Network
AGM

Public Service Cuts – did we notice?

- Over 1000 people surveyed in poll for BBC
- Headline results:

“Many people in the UK think the quality of public services overall have been maintained or improved in the past five years despite government cuts”
- LGA response:

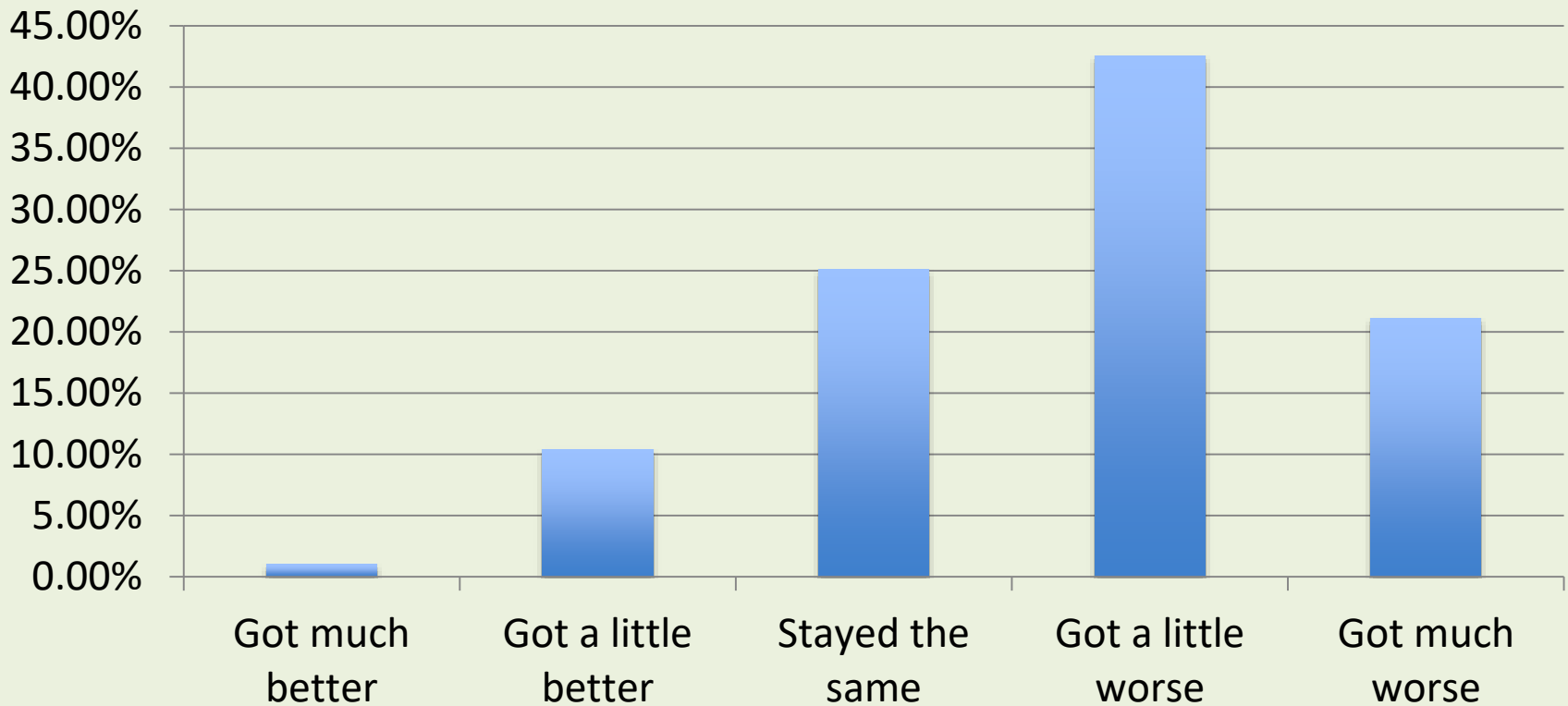
The Local Government Association says overall the results are testament to the resilience of councils, but says that unless finances become sustainable, satisfaction levels will decline.

The voice of Rural Parishes

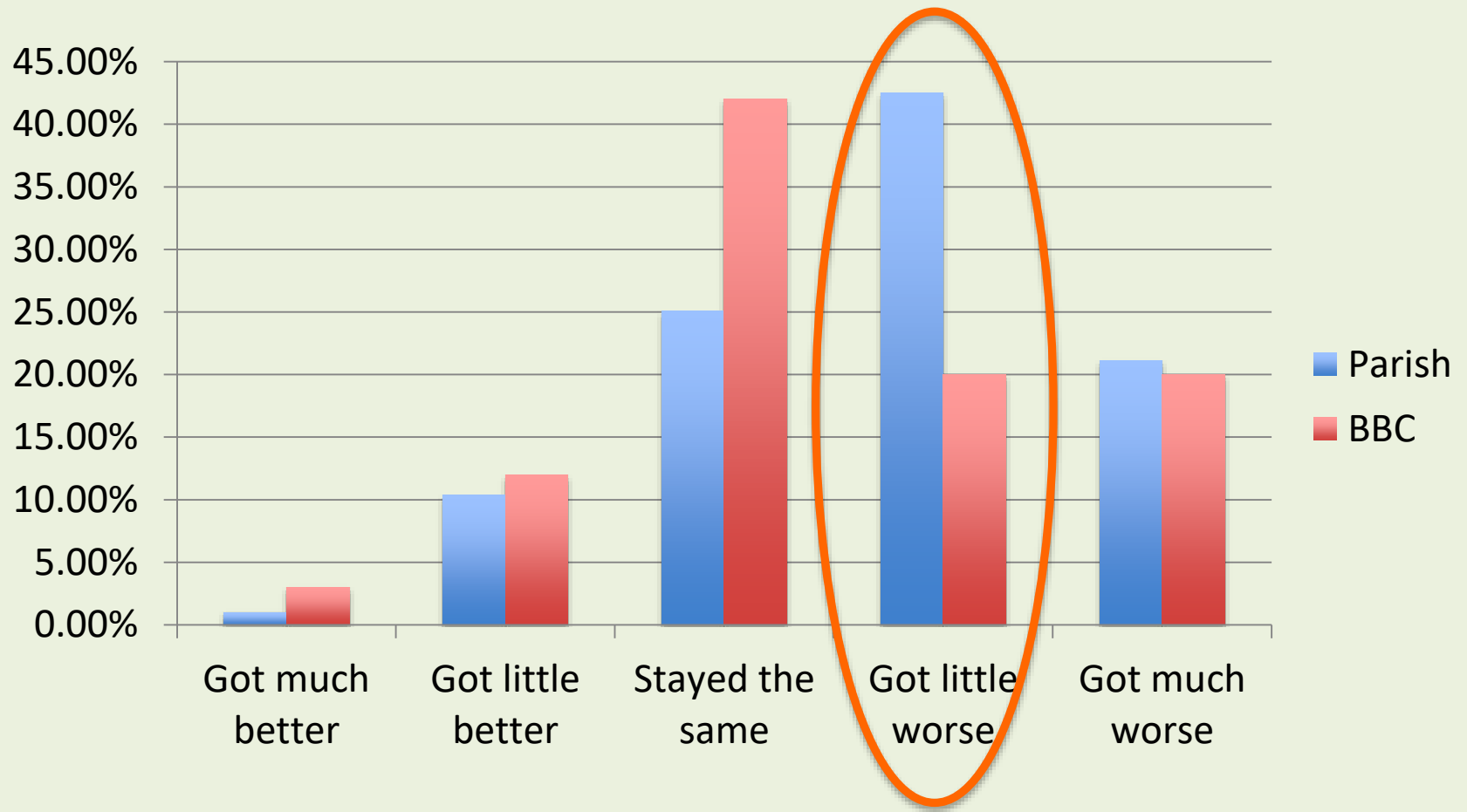
- Rural Services Network repeated survey with its network of Rural Parish Councils.
- Exactly same questions sent via survey monkey to parishes
- Over 1200 responses

Thinking about public services overall, do you think the quality of public services has got better or worse in the last 5 years, or stayed the same.

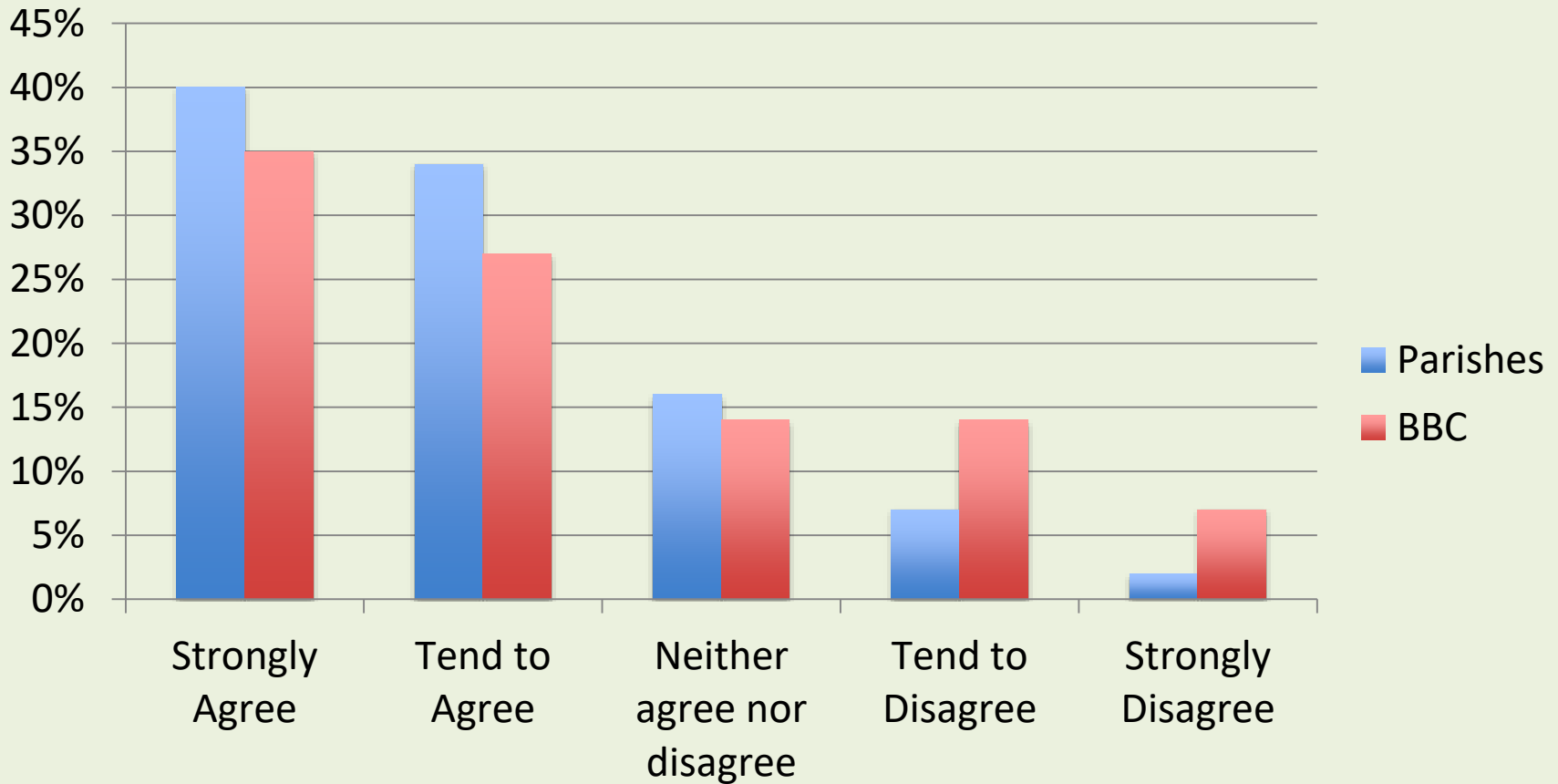
Parish Response



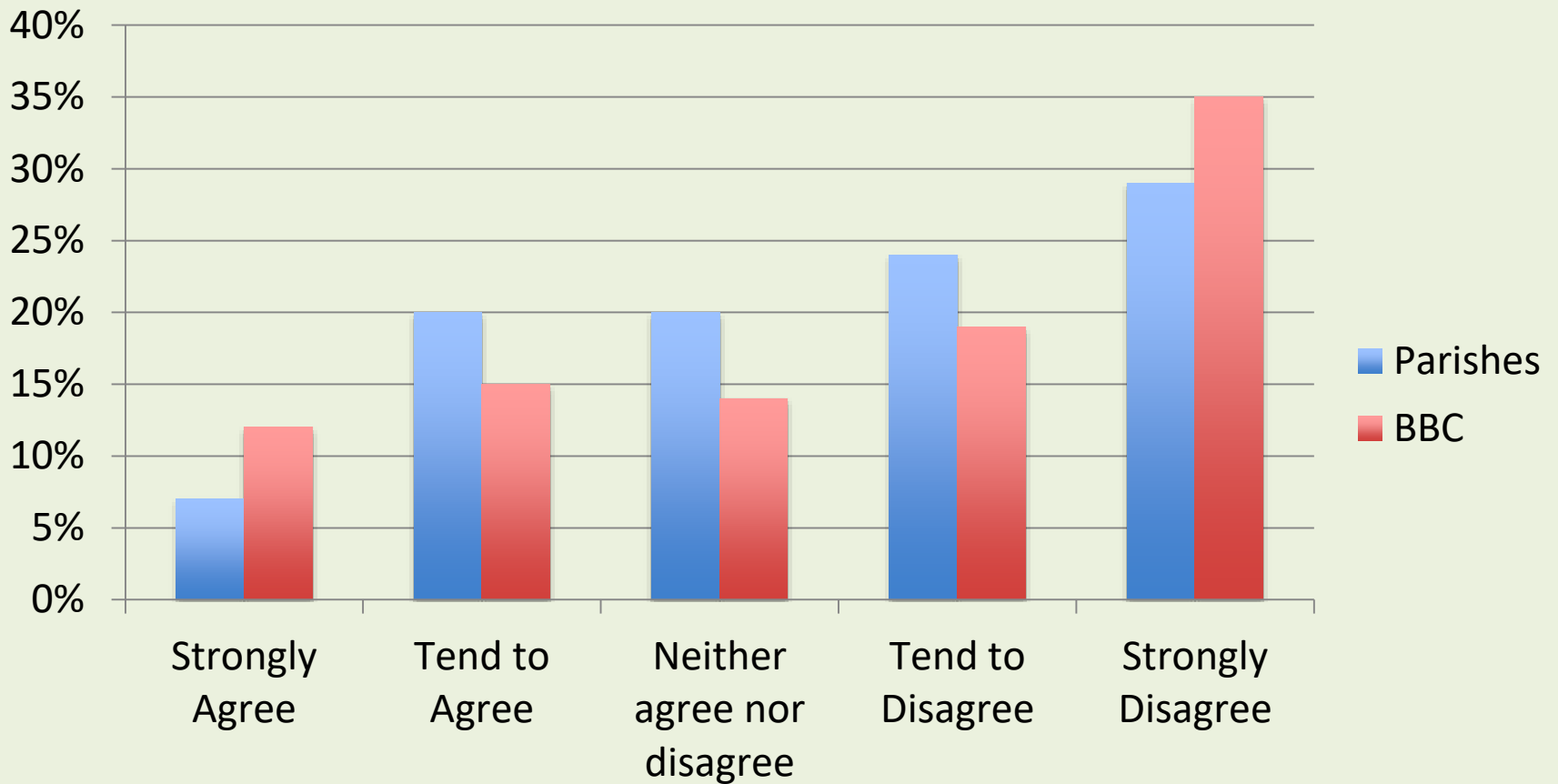
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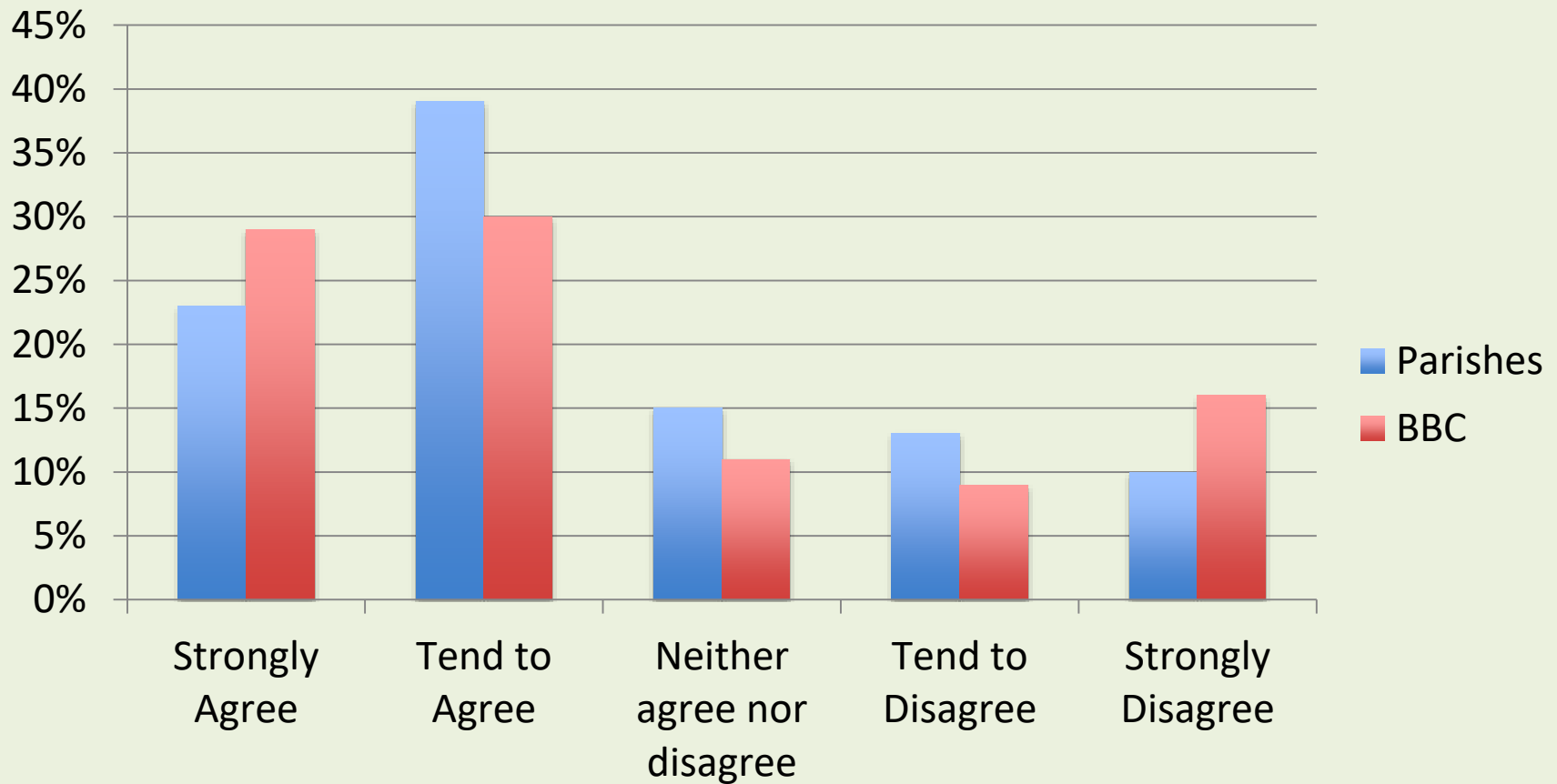
I am worried about cuts made to many public services



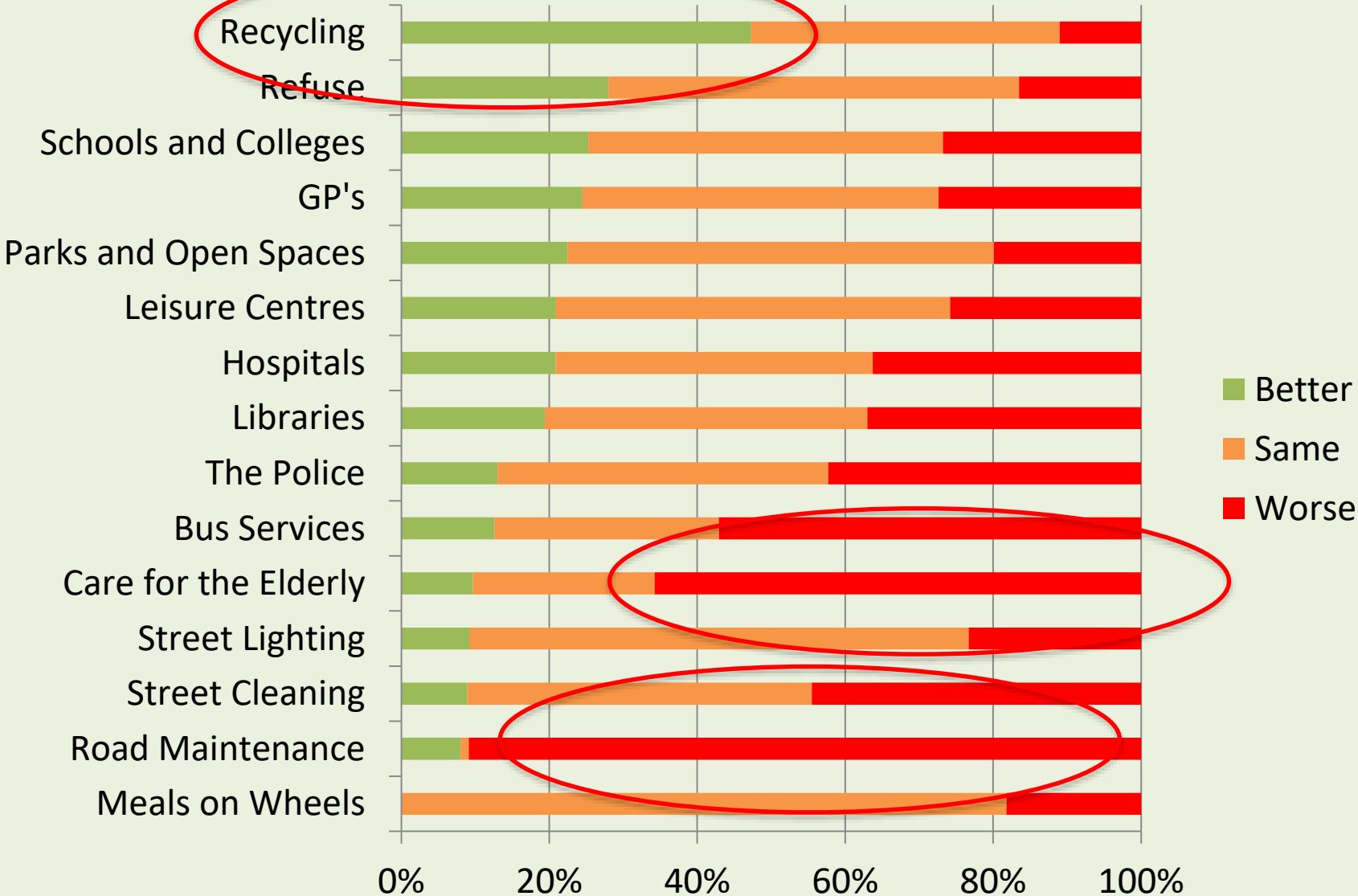
I think public sector spending needs to be reduced further



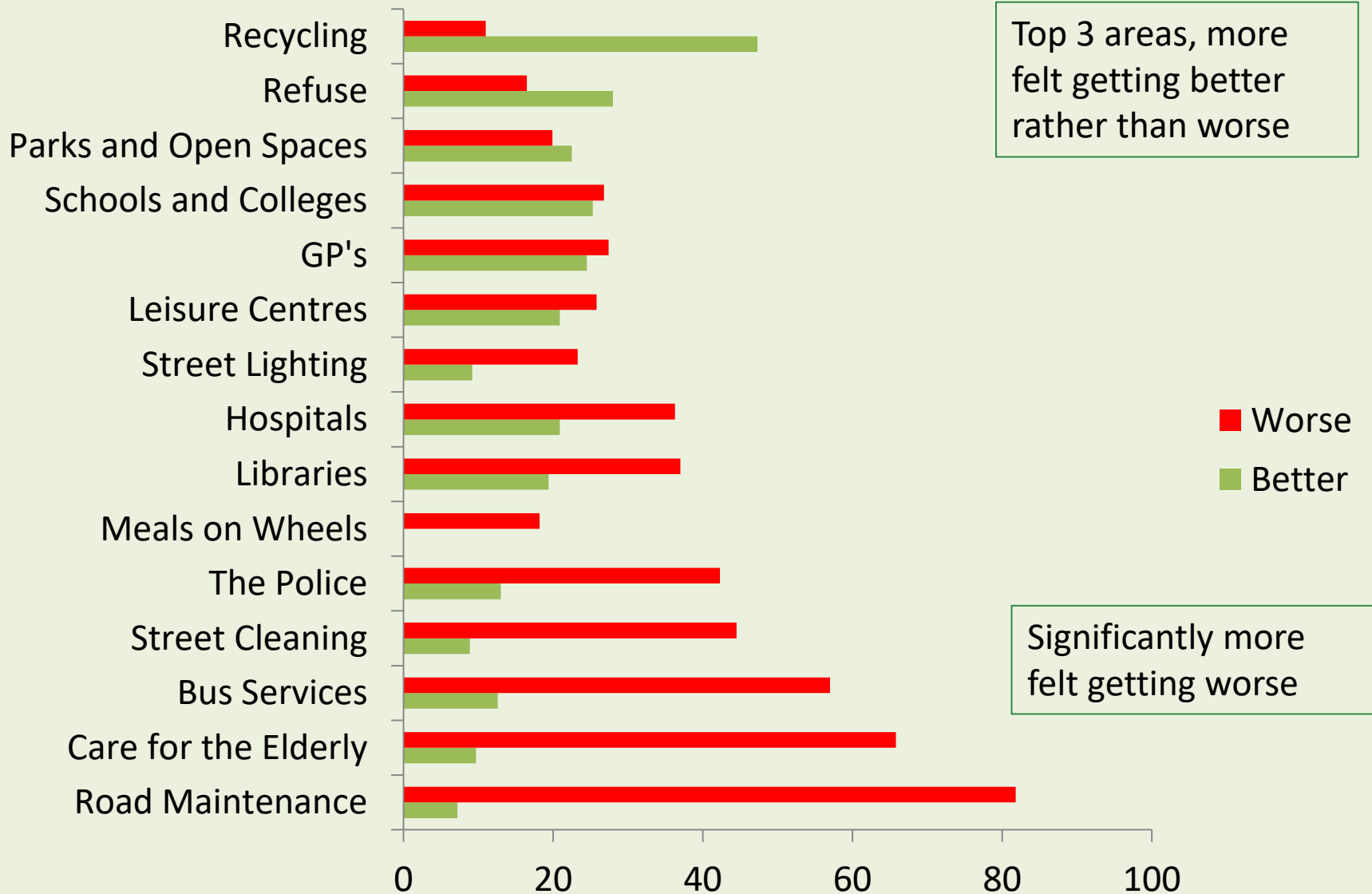
I think reductions in social welfare benefits have been necessary



Are services getting better? – by the users of the service



Are services getting better? – by the users of the service



Public service cuts – did we notice?

Yes we did!

- Differences in how services are perceived by Rural communities
- Resources in rural areas are scarce – fewer discretionary services which are hit first
- Impact over next 5 years....

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**RURAL
SERVICES
NETWORK**