

---

**SCOTLAND'S CONSULTANCY  
FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

**ELSPETH WRAY**

Web: [consulting.transform.scot](http://consulting.transform.scot)

Tel: +44 (0)131 243 2691

[consulting@transform.scot](mailto:consulting@transform.scot)

**transform**  
consulting

**Cycling  
Scotland**

**ACCESS  
TO BIKE  
SCHEMES**



# WHAT ARE ACCESS TO BIKE SCHEMES?

Schemes that make it easier or more affordable for people to get hold of a bike

- On street bike hire
- Pool bike fleets (e.g. nursery, school, employer)
- Bike loans
- Grants to buy a new bike
- Cycle to work salary sacrifice
- Bike recycling
- Bike libraries





BOMBAY RESTAURANT  
Italian fresh pasta daily

Edinburgh

15

14

13

12

10

9

8

7

6

Transport for Edinburgh

Transport for Edinburgh

JUST EAT

JUST EAT

10195 Adele

10231 Macmillan

# WHAT WE DID

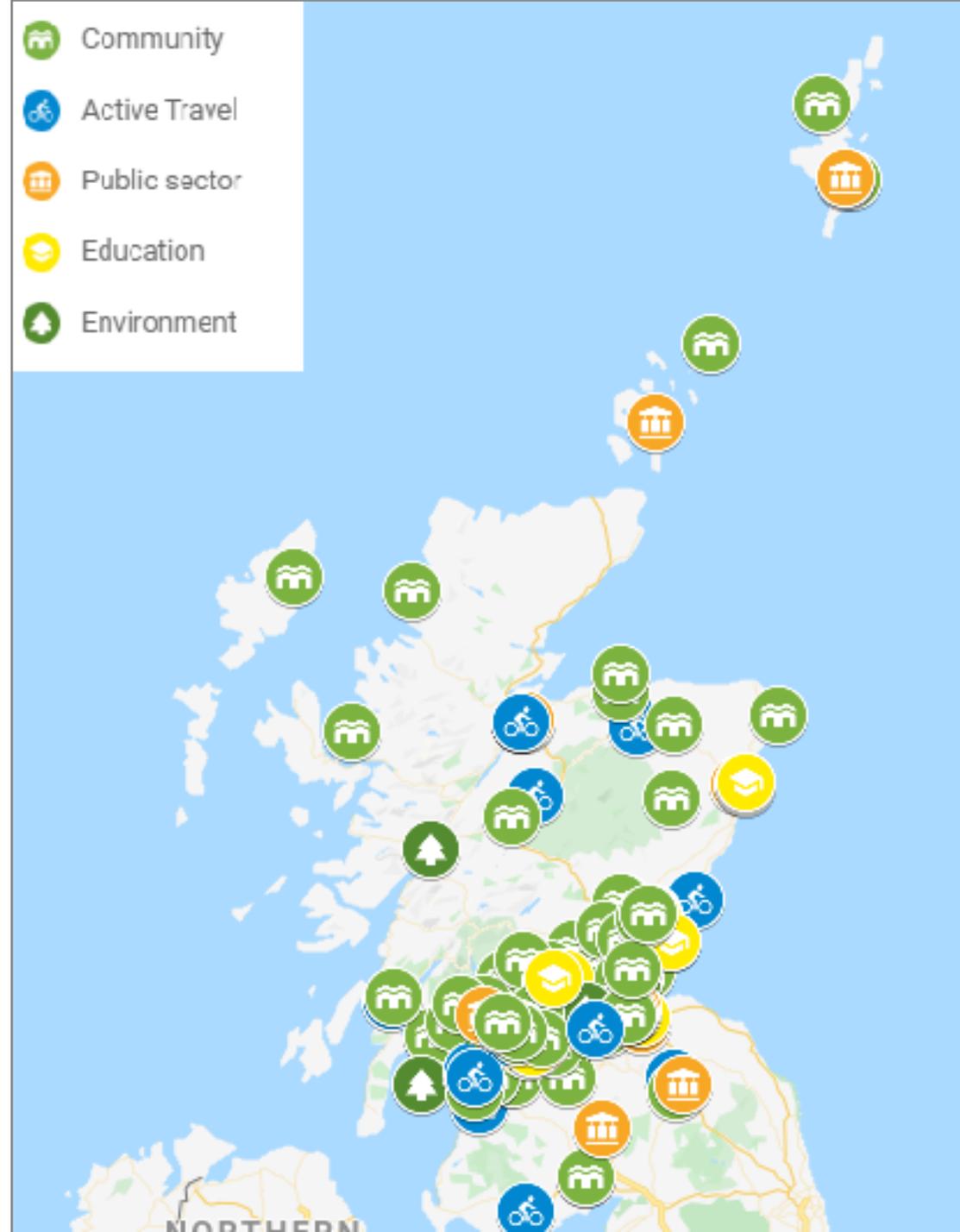
1. Scoping - spoke to experts to find existing information
2. Compiled a list of all known access to bike schemes
3. Undertook an online survey of organisations that ran an access to bike scheme(s). Survey went to c. 200 organisations and had 50% response rate
4. Research was undertaken last year - covid will have had an impact

Almost 200 organisations:

- 47% community groups
- 23% active travel groups
- 13% public sector
- 11% education sector
- 6% environment groups

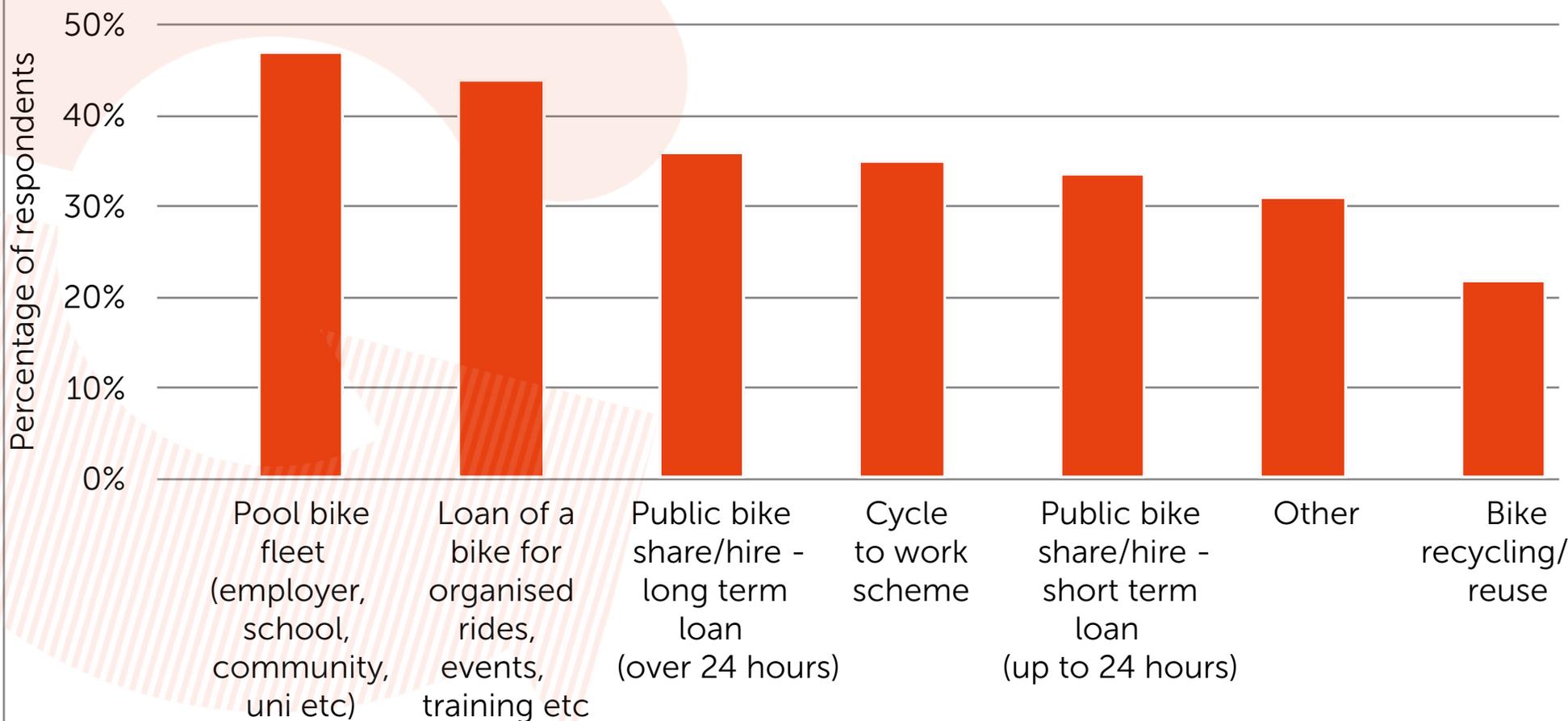
From big to small:

- **small** projects run by community groups (majority of schemes)
- **medium** projects from cycling charities, on-street bike hire, universities, local authorities or NHS
- **national** projects e.g. cycle to work salary sacrifice, government grants and loans



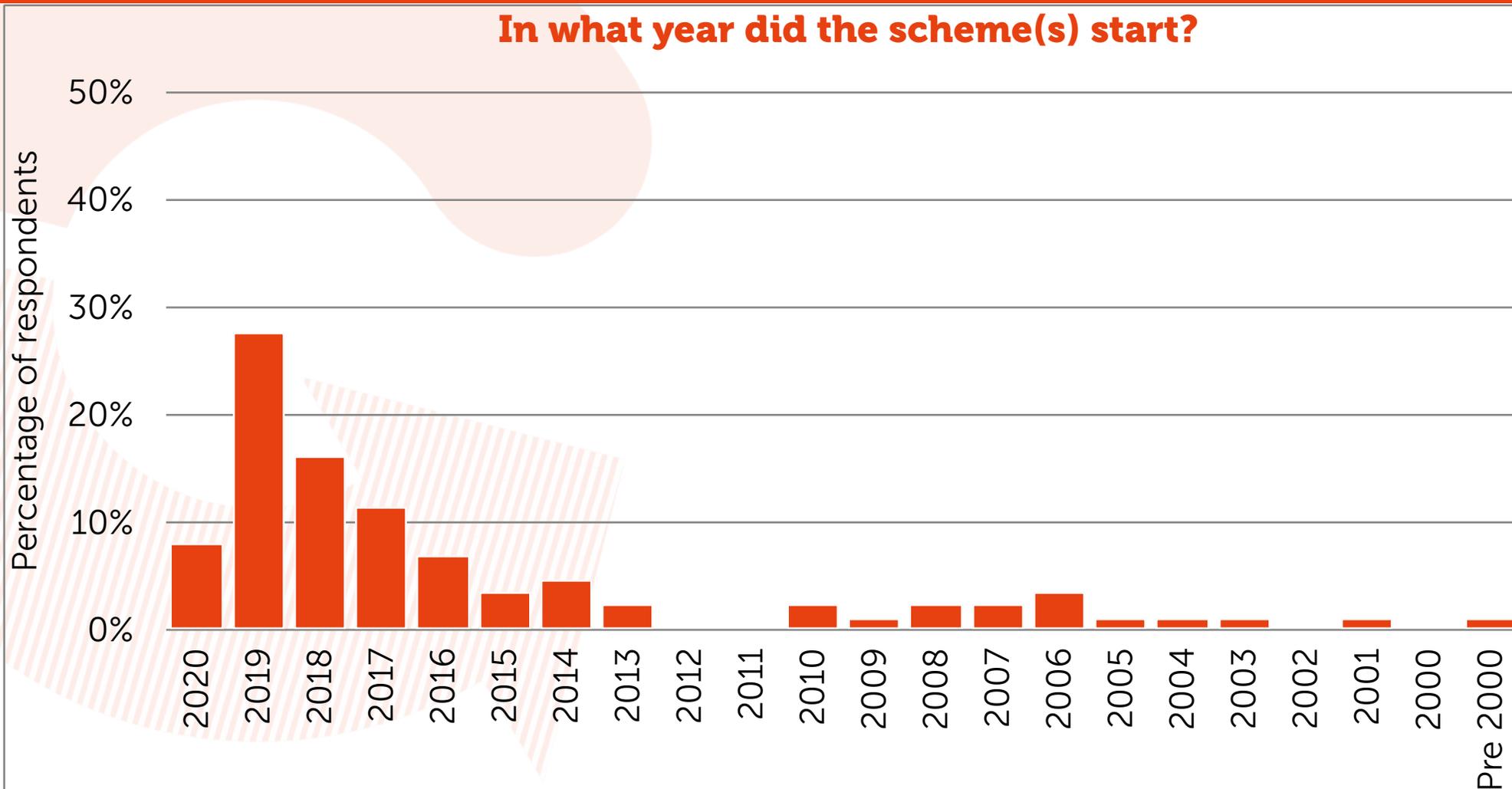
# WHAT TYPE OF SCHEME?

**What type of access to bike scheme(s) do you run? (please tick all that apply)**



# HOW OLD?

**In what year did the scheme(s) start?**



# WHERE?

## Which Local Authority Areas Does Your Scheme Operate In?

Glasgow City Council	24	Aberdeen City Council	10	North Ayrshire Council	8
City of Edinburgh Council	17	Shetland Islands Council	10	Scottish Borders Council	8
Aberdeenshire Council	12	Dumfries and Galloway Council	9	West Dunbartonshire Council	8
Dundee City Council	12	North Lanarkshire Council	9	East Renfrewshire Council	7
Falkirk Council	12	Angus Council	8	Orkney Islands Council	7
Stirling Council	12	Argyll and Bute Council	8	Perth and Kinross Council	7
Clackmannanshire Council	11	East Ayrshire Council	8	Renfrewshire Council	7
Fife Council	11	East Dunbartonshire Council	8	The Moray Council	7
South Lanarkshire Council	11	East Lothian Council	8	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	6
The Highland Council	11	Inverclyde Council	8	South Ayrshire Council	6
West Lothian Council	11	Midlothian Council	8		

## Who is the target audience for the scheme(s)?

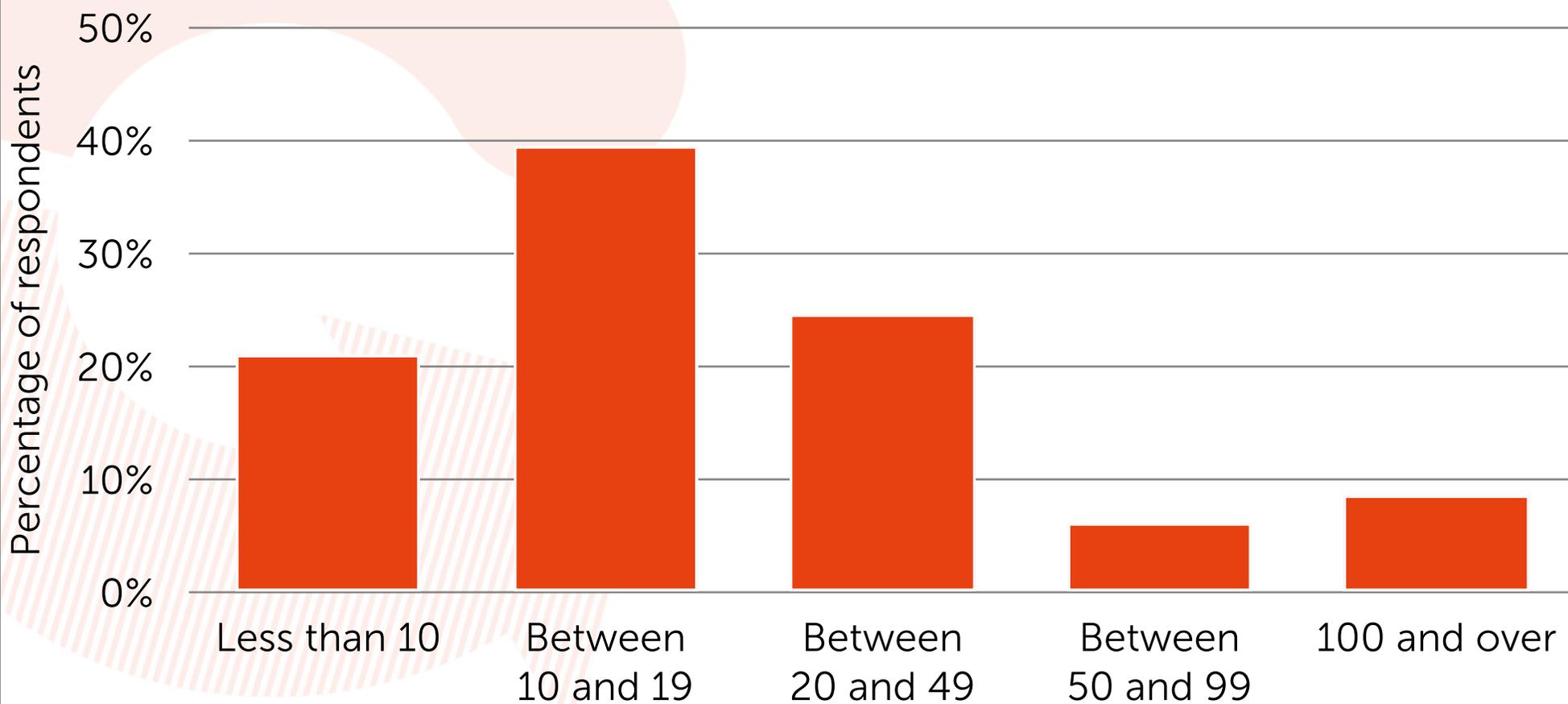
43 organisations ran schemes for "everyone"

55 organisations ran schemes for a target audience

- Mainly staff, students or children/young people
- Also older adults, people in low income areas, people with health conditions, commuters, refugees/asylum seekers, people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities/reduced mobility

# HOW MANY BIKES?

## How many bikes are included in the scheme(s)?

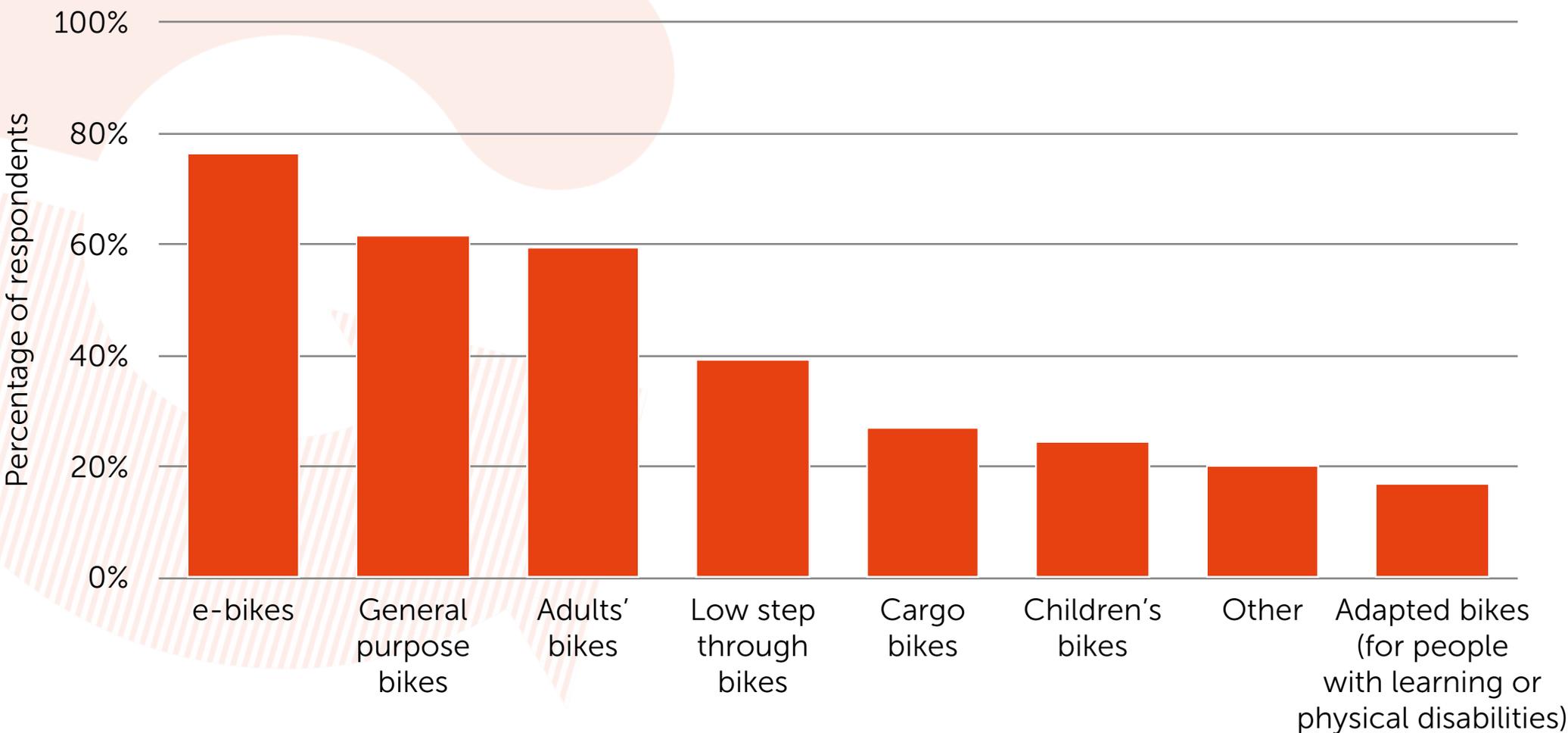


# SOME LARGER SCHEMES

- Bike for Good
- Bike Town
- Bikes for Refugees
- Cycle Solutions
- Cyclescheme
- Cycle2Work
- Cycling Scotland
- Edinburgh Bike Hire
- Energy Saving Trust
- Forth Bike
- nextbike
- North Ayrshire Council
- Recyke-a-Bike
- SEStran
- Sustrans
- University of Aberdeen
- University of St Andrews
- West Lothian Bike Library
- Wheels of Fleet

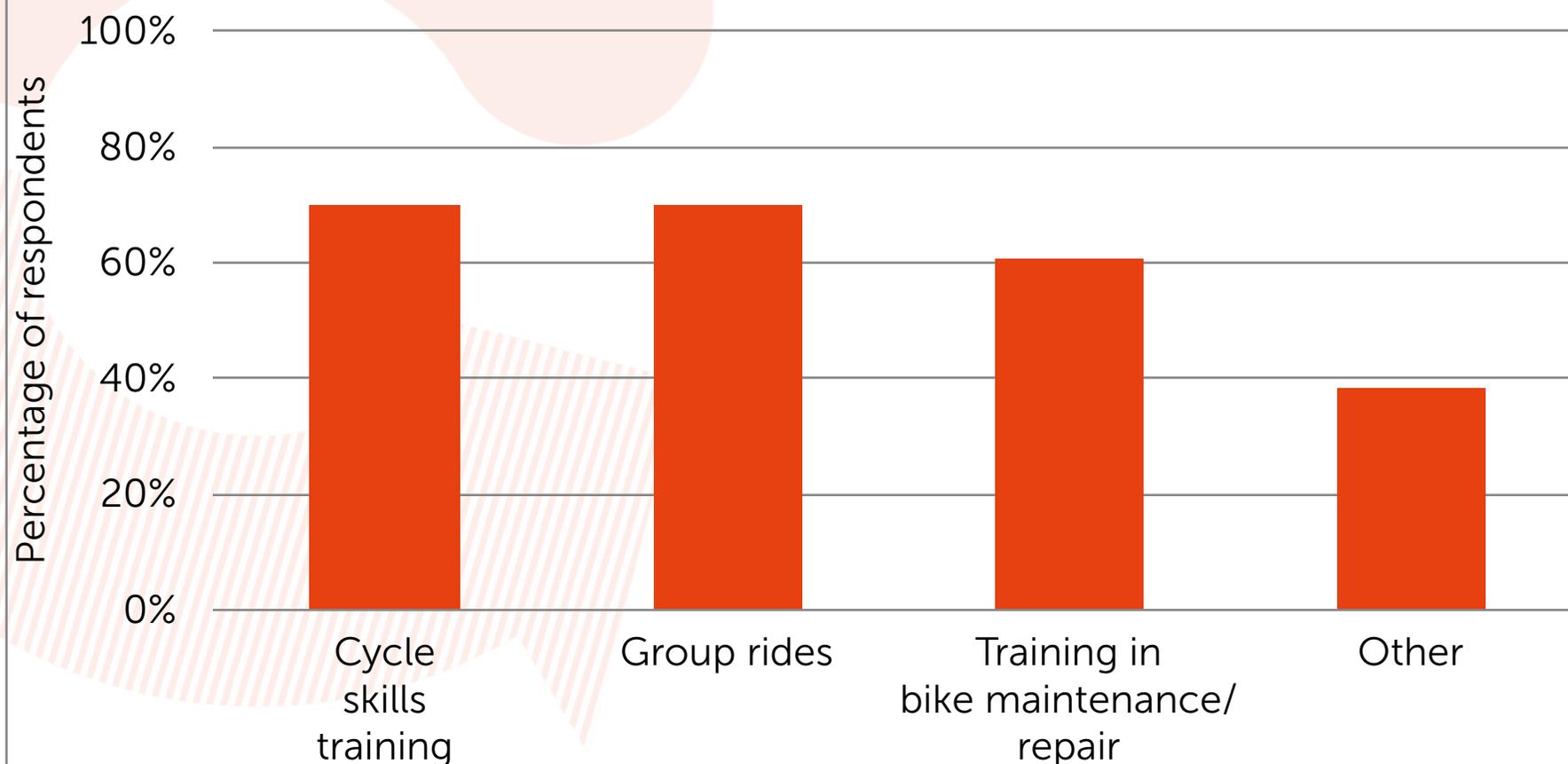
# WHAT TYPE OF BIKE?

**What type of bikes are included in the scheme(s)? (please tick all that apply)**



# OTHER SERVICES AND BENEFITS

**Do you offer any of the following training or support as part of the scheme(s)? (please tick all that apply)**



**“There are a myriad of benefits with this project - carbon reduction, health benefits, as well as a talking point for the community - a project that is inclusive and accessible to all in the community”**



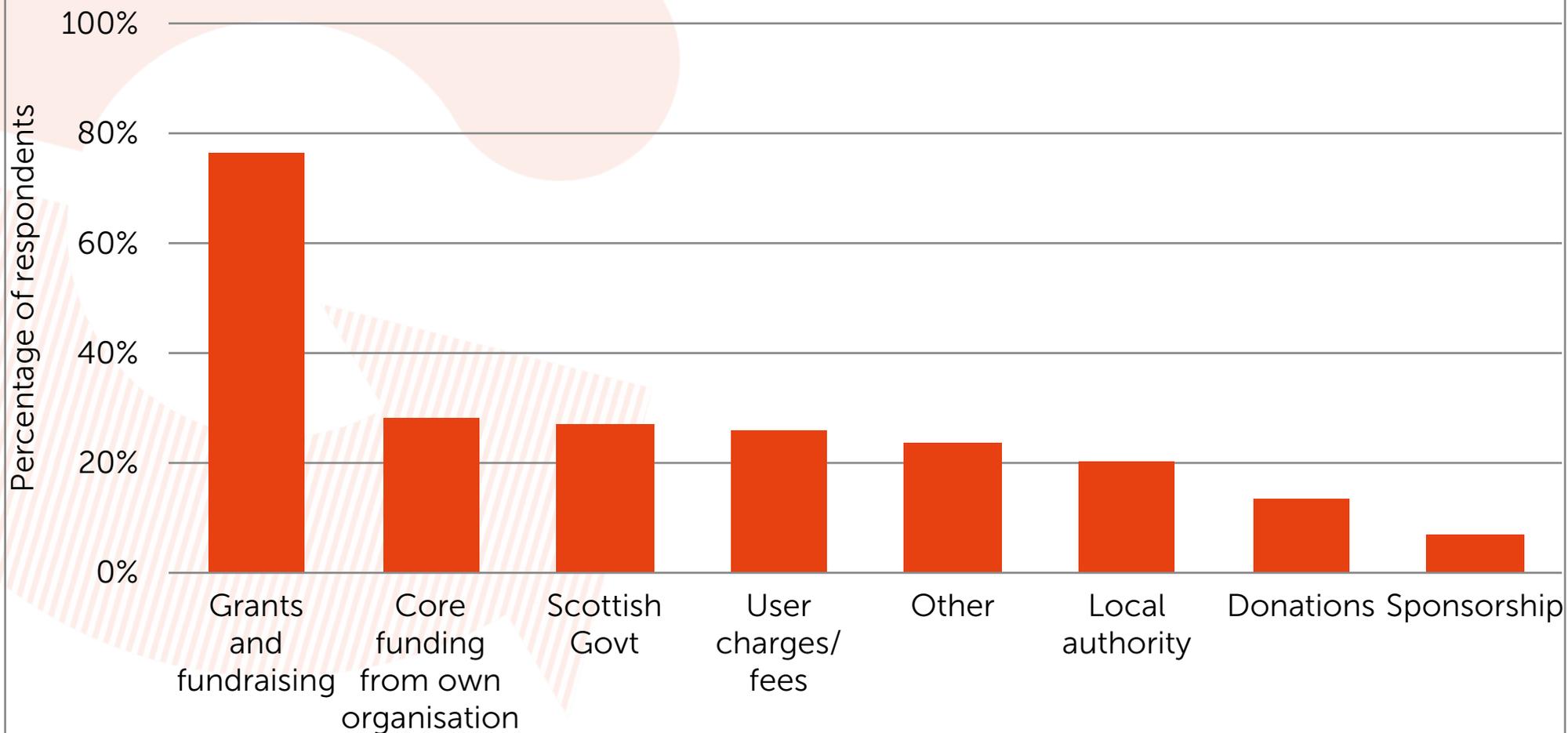
# WHO RUNS THE SCHEMES?

**Who is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the scheme(s)? (please tick all that apply)**



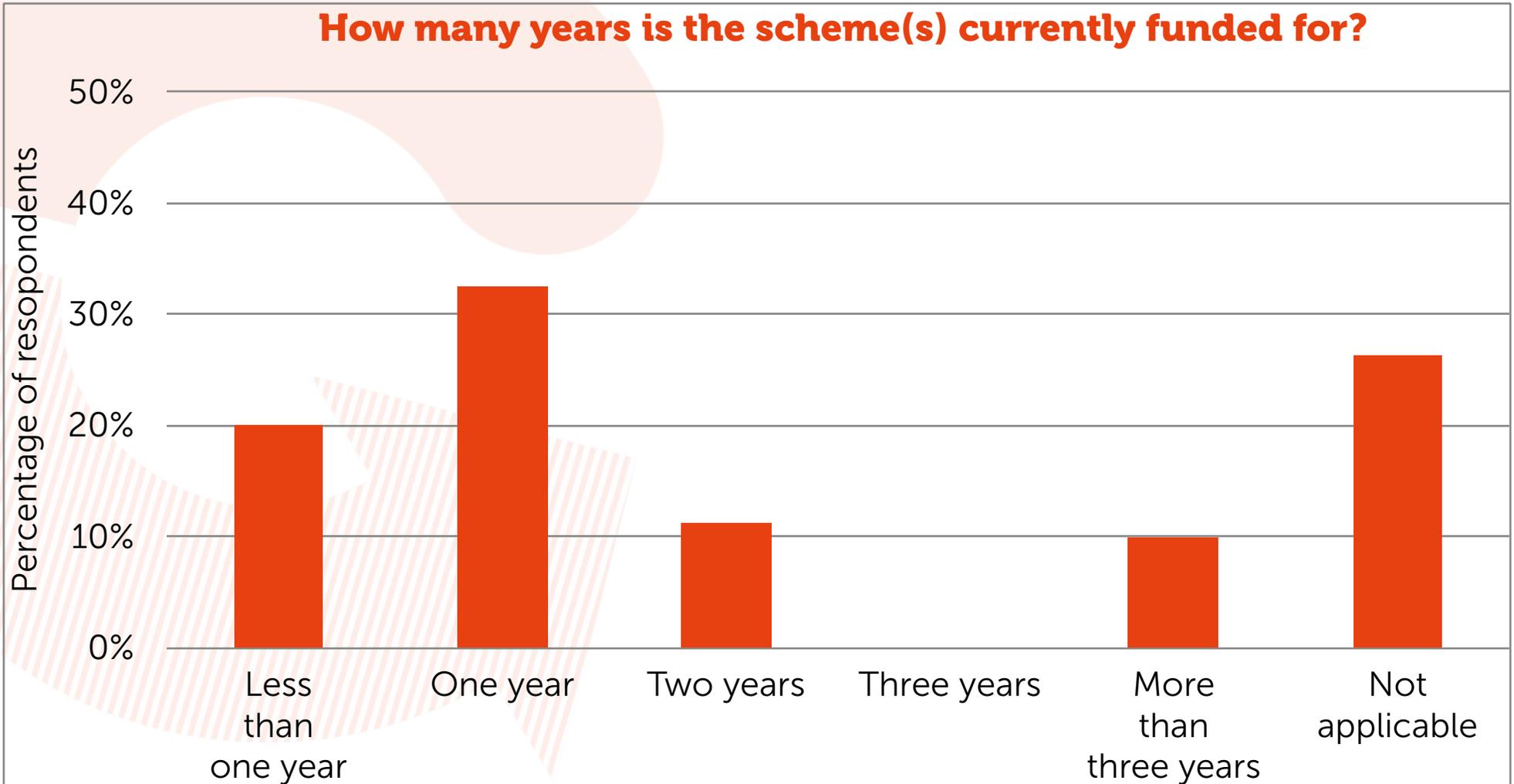
# HOW ARE SCHEMES FUNDED?

**Where does funding for the scheme(s) come from? (please tick all that apply)**



# HOW LONG ARE SCHEMES FUNDED FOR?

**How many years is the scheme(s) currently funded for?**





**“Our funding period comes to an end today with our main funder. We have enough money from Cycling Scotland grant to pay our two paid staff until the end of June. Awaiting to hear back from Big Lottery Fund.”**

**“We were successful in applying for funding for the bikes and the service we provide will be absorbed into our other projects.”**



# HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

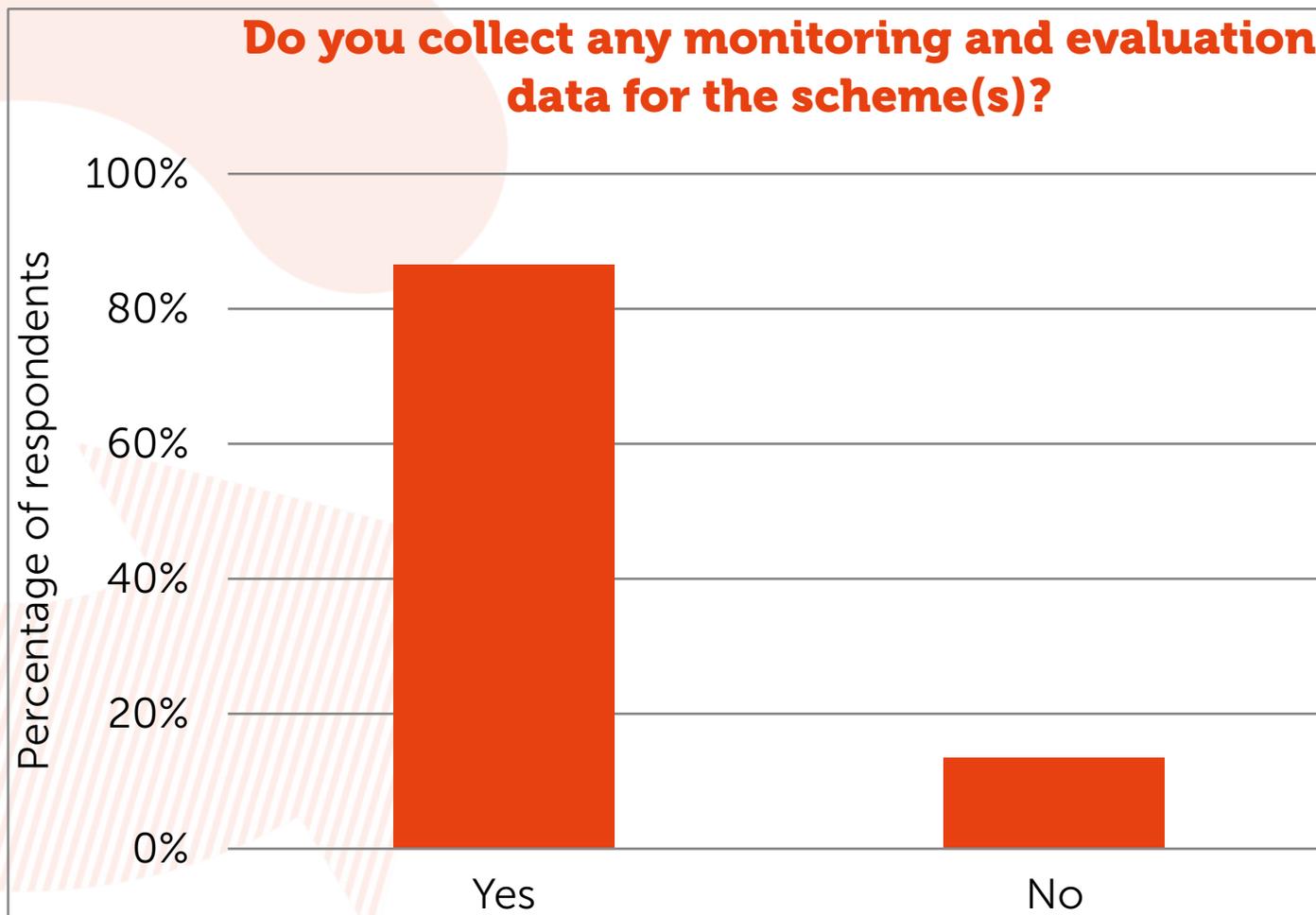
- Impossible to generalise
- Difference between cost of purchasing bikes (easier to quantify) vs. ongoing operating costs (difficult to quantify)

**“The eBike project is factored into a greater project so difficult to pinpoint exact cost of running the scheme.”**

**“The bikes we own outright. Maintenance of them, building and running cost along with staffing is variable.”**

# LONG TERM PLANS

- Expand scheme to reach more people/new audiences (41 respondents)
- Secure more funding (15 respondents)
- Increase uptake of existing scheme (9 respondents)
- Increase modal shift (9 respondents)
- Continue as is (9 respondents)



# WHAT SORT OF DATA?

Data collection was very varied

Mainly

- Behaviour change/impact
- Customer satisfaction
- Operating data (e.g. number of bookings, number of participants)
- Distance cycled (especially e-bikes)

Also

- Trip purpose, trip duration, carbon savings etc

# KEY THEMES



**1) There is a big variety of access to bike schemes across Scotland**

**2) Schemes attempt to reach a broad audience, BUT some gaps remain**

**3) Government funding has made a clear difference BUT funding is an ongoing challenge**

**4) We could do with more data on trip purpose and modal shift (short, everyday journeys) and bike recycling**

# WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

- 2020 **Programme for Government** new 5 year baseline of active travel funding at £100m a year to 2025, for infrastructure, access to bikes and behaviour change
- Work continues to increase access to bikes through **Active Travel Delivery Partners** e.g. Cycling Friendly development grant funding for bikes schemes in community, workplace, campus and secondary school settings; Energy Saving Trust ebike grants and loans.
- Manifesto commitment on providing **bikes for children**
- New research on affordable **access to recycled bikes** with involvement from Zero Waste Scotland and Scottish Enterprise.
- Research to identify **priority audiences** for access to bikes and storage.

THANK YOU

transform  
consulting



**transform**  
consulting

# Cycling Scotland

---

**SCOTLAND'S CONSULTANCY  
FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

Web: [consulting.transform.scot](http://consulting.transform.scot)

Tel: +44 (0)131 243 2691

[consulting@transform.scot](mailto:consulting@transform.scot)