

avalon community energy co-op

Facebook survey results
July 2014

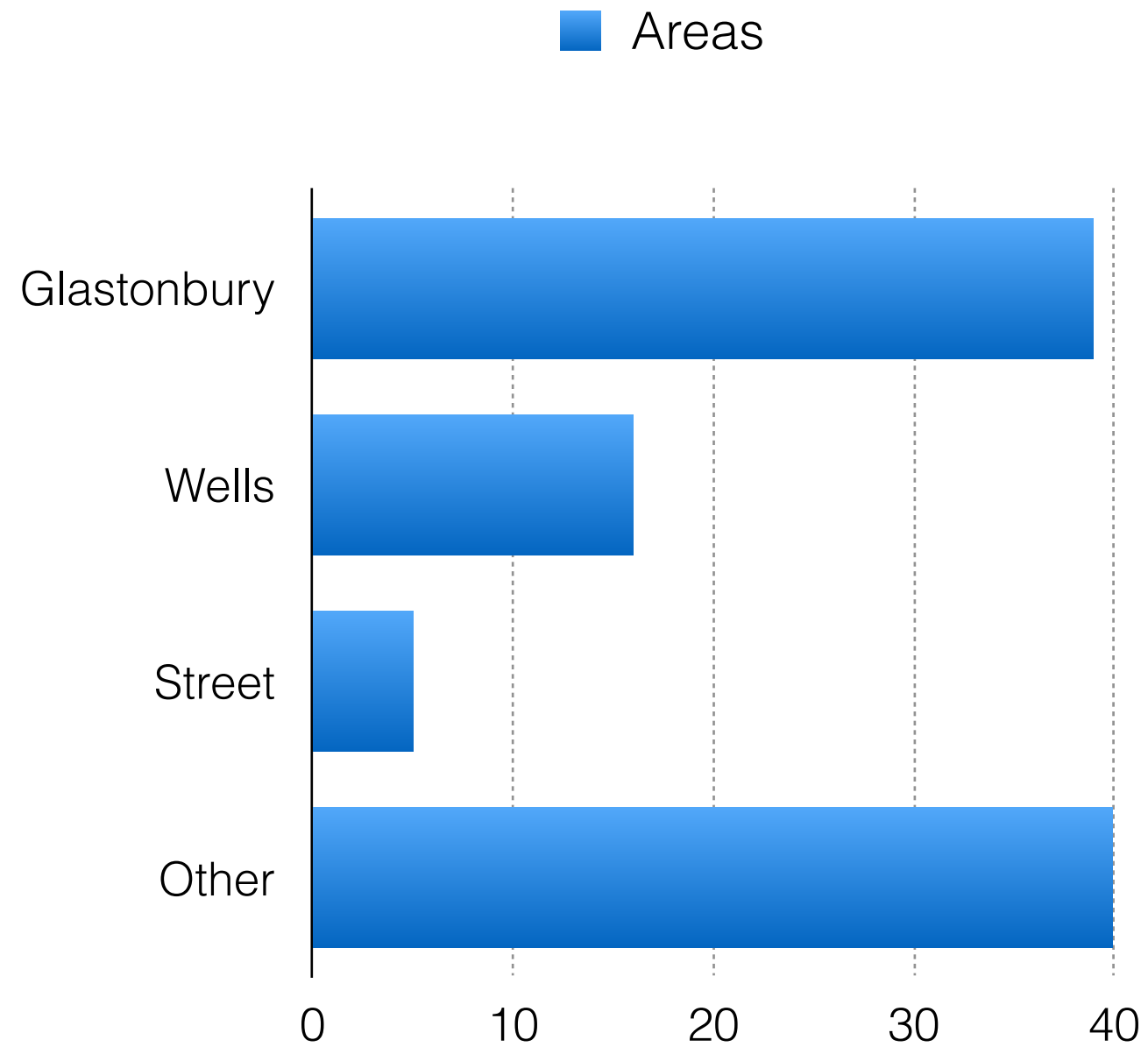
**avalon
community
energy**

renewable energy is ACE!

About the survey

- A big warm thank you to everyone who took part in the survey
- The survey was sent out to our facebook members (over 170 people), and other local contacts, via the on line survey tool, surveymonkey from May to July 2014.
- 64 people responded @ 24th July 2014
- Results show overwhelming support for renewable energy
- Survey results will be used to support our Rural Community Energy Fund application and other funding applications.
- The survey is still open if want to take part - see our facebook page.
- Responses to the survey questions are set out below.

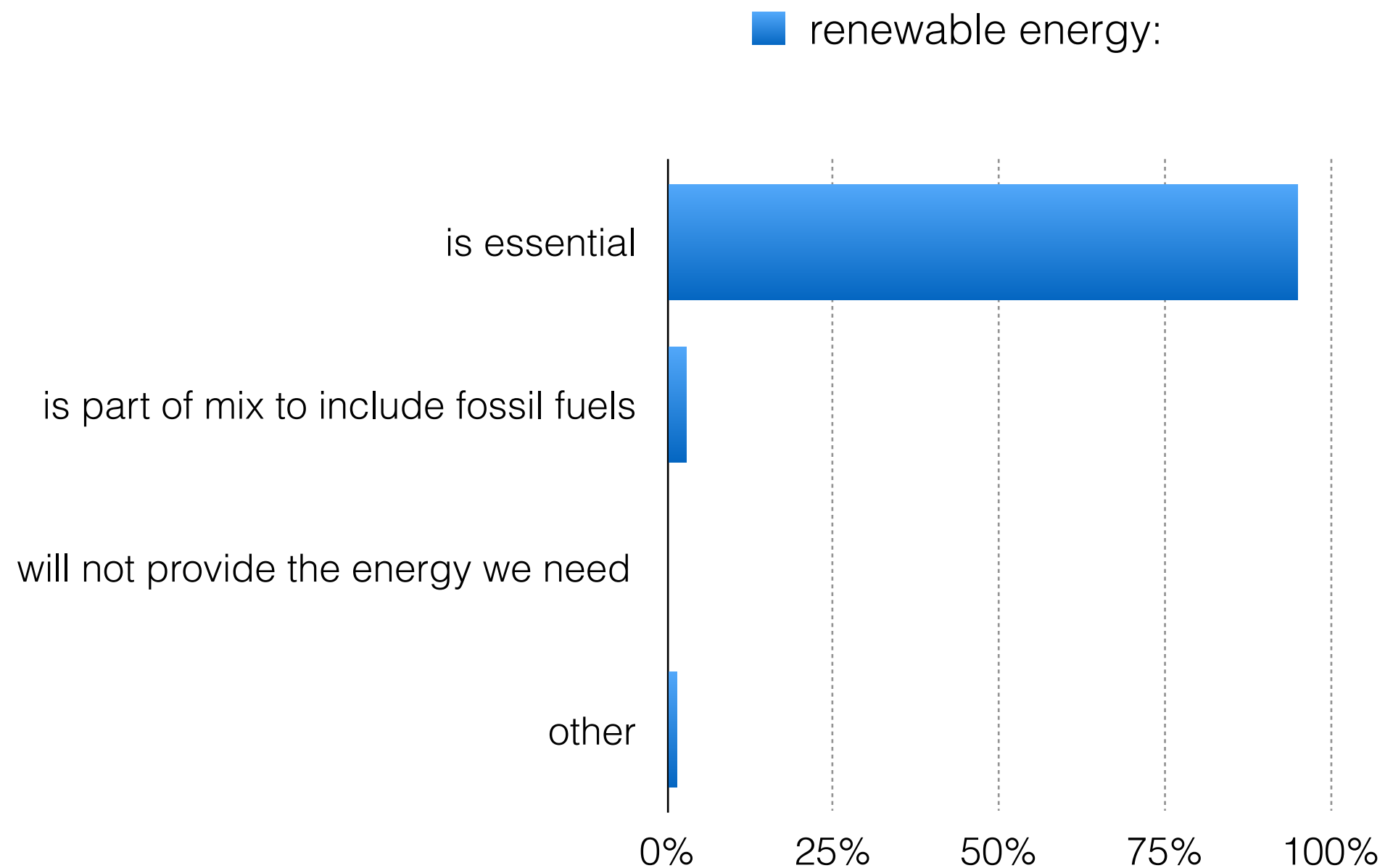
1) Where do you live?



Other.....

- We had respondents from all over Somerset including: Shepton, Draycott, West Compton, Baltonsborough and Langport, to name but a few

2) How important do you think renewable energy technologies are as potential sources of local energy?
Please choose the statement which most closely matches your view.

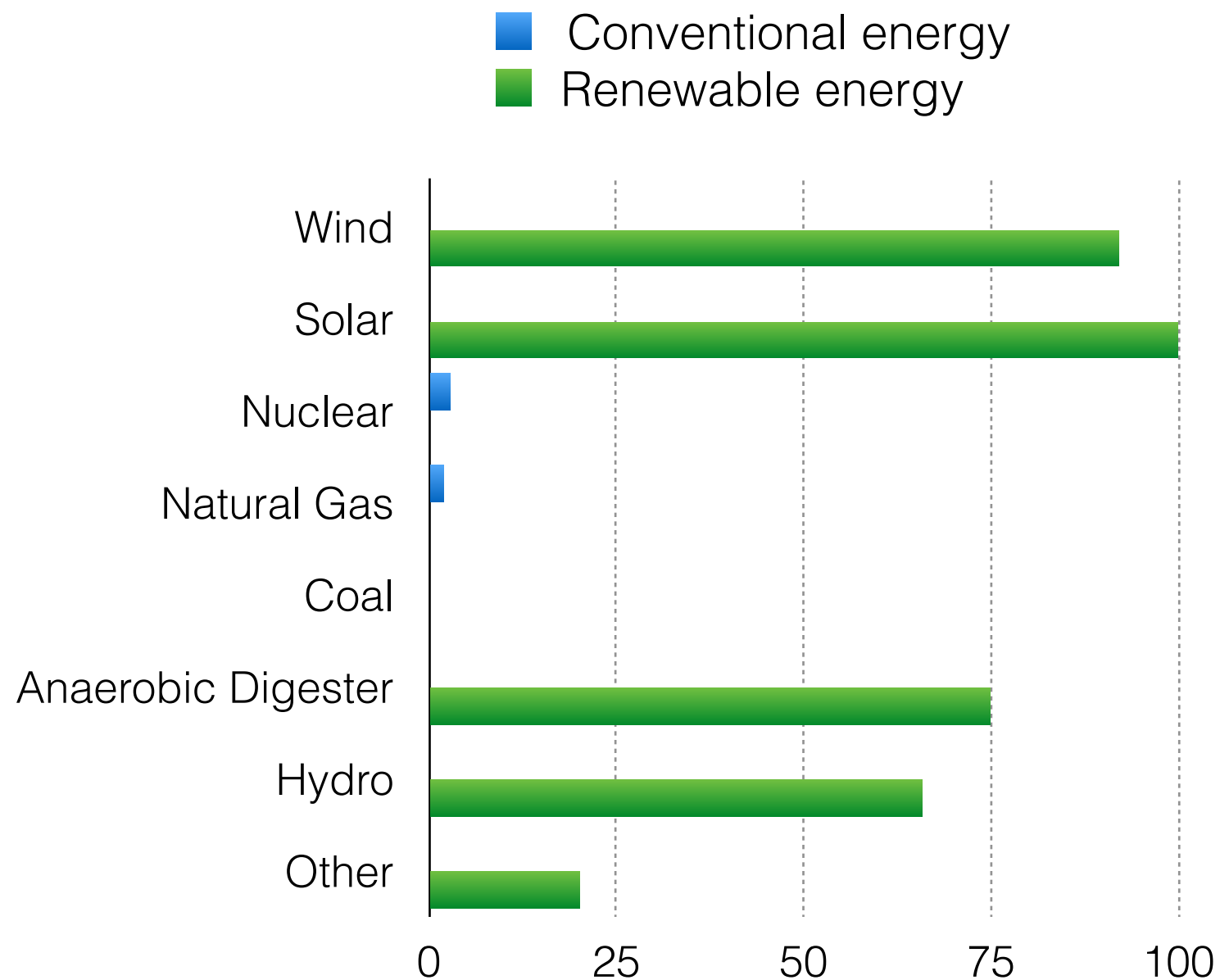


Comments.....

Just one comment:

“Mixture of the first 2- renewables is vital, but other clean technologies will at the divine right time build and overtake that.”

3) Which of the following energy sources do you think are suitable for the Avalon area?

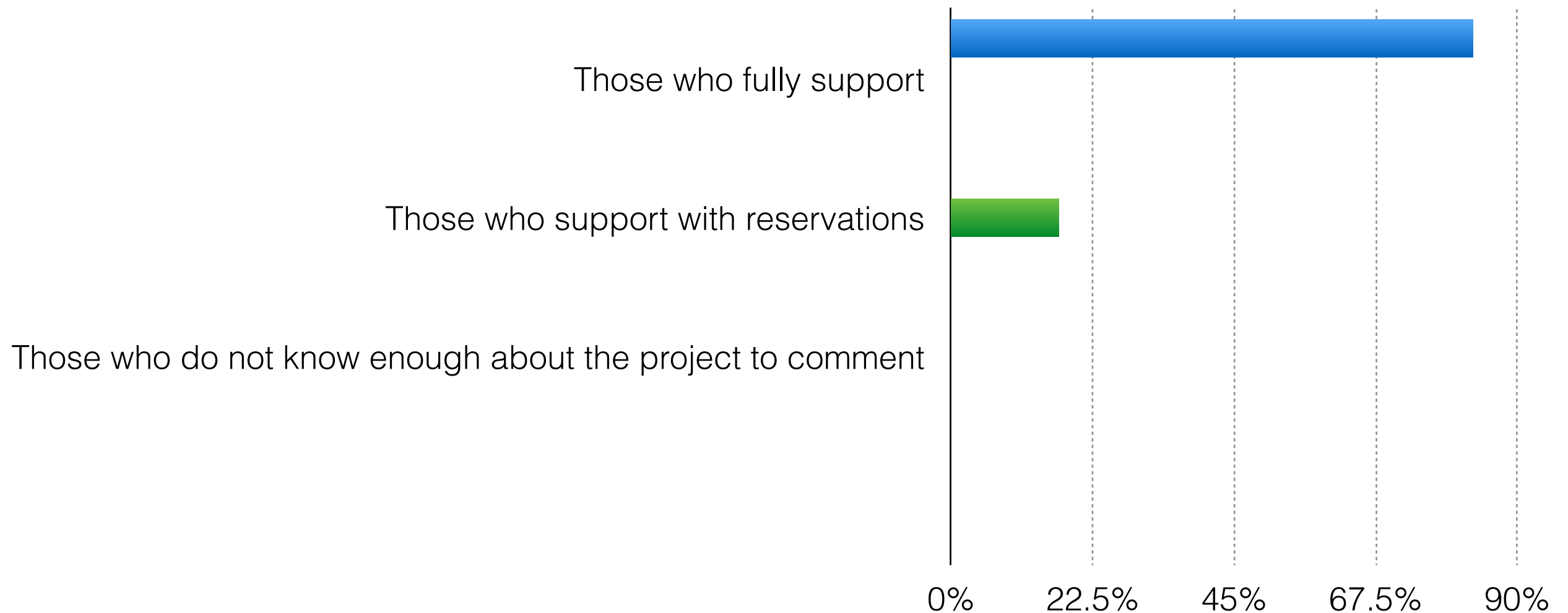


Comments

You said other possible technologies include:

- Biomass
- Breakthrough technologies
- Tesla and other exotic technologies should be tested
- Ground/air/ water heat source
- People power
- Mini hydro
- Solar thermal
- Tidal

4) ACE is considering setting up an energy park, which will include a solar array and another renewable technology, such as an anaerobic digester or hydro plant. The park will also include some food production e.g aquaponics, beekeeping, sheep grazing. What is your view of this type of project?

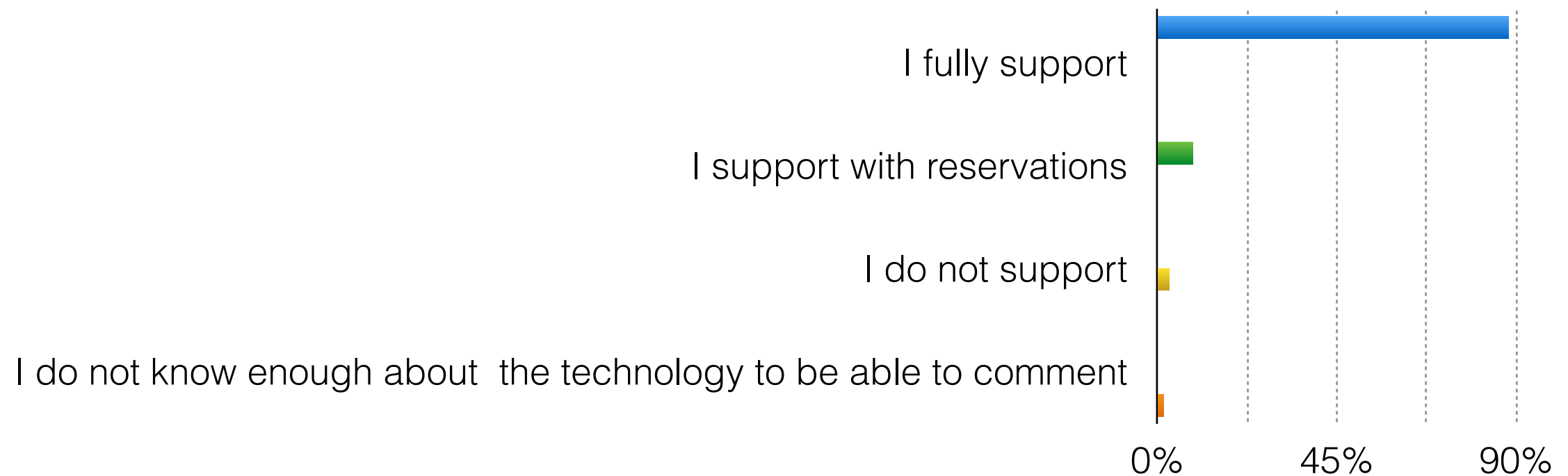


Comments.....

You said:

- All sounds great
- All sounds great and would fully support if it's the real thing
- Piloting AD would be great especially if waste can be sourced, or reeds used from the wetland nature reserves. Food production anymore complicated than sheep grazing, is like to be a cash sink without expert oversight. Even if food is viable the returns are uncertain, subject to market vagaries.

5) ACE is considering offering roof top solar as part of its energy mix. This would give people access to free solar panels, with the co-op generating income for the local community from the feed in tariff. What is your view of this proposal?

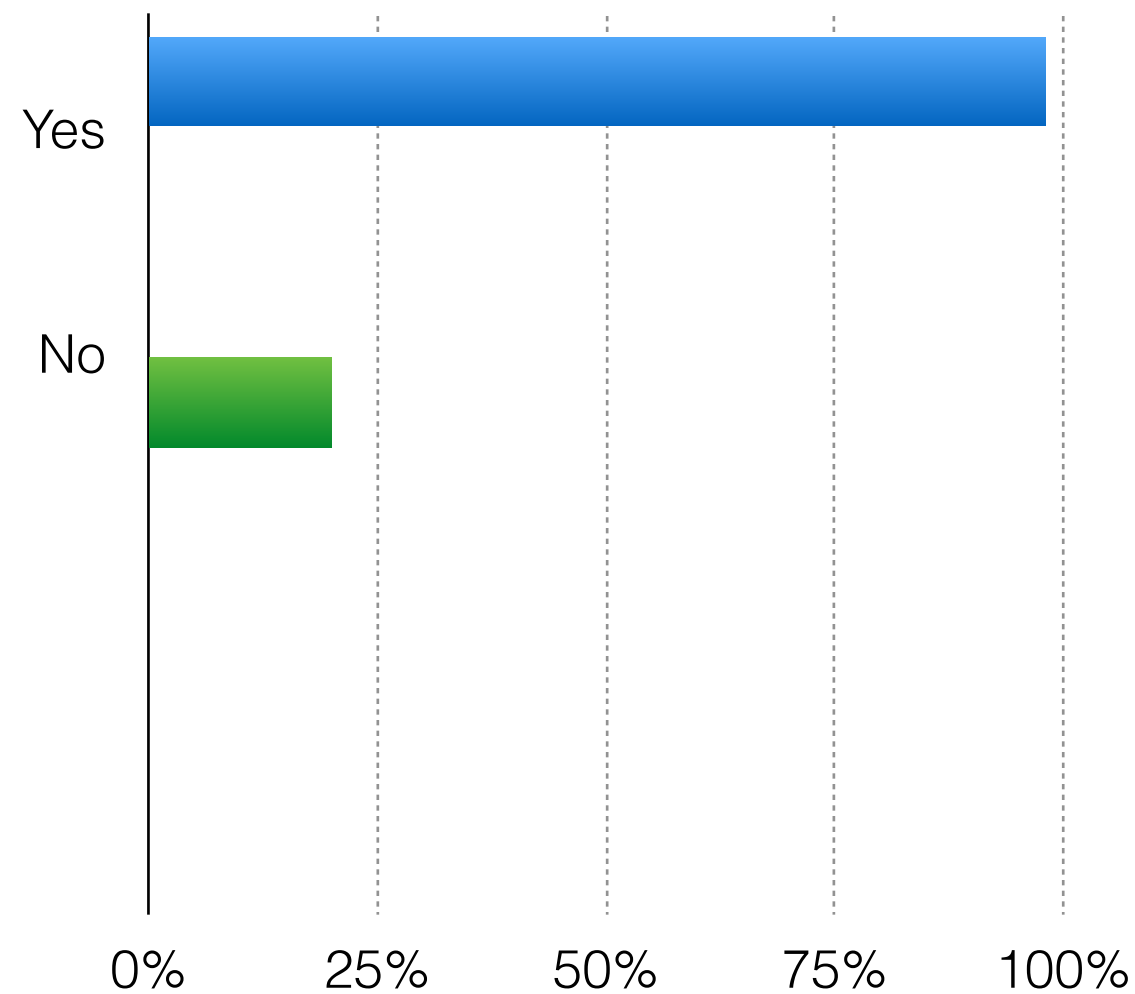


Comments.....

You said:

- As long as it's geared to the local community and not benefitting the utility companies. I would like to be independent of those parasites
- I'd like housing association and council properties which are not home owner to also have solar panels
- Who would own the panels and take the Fit income stream? The key stakeholder here is not the fuel poor, but their landlords. If these landlords want panels adding value to their properties they can buy them themselves. If they want to lease roof space then great (however rent a roof died a death after the mortgage providers got spooked). I don't see what ACE is adding that other local solar providers don't already fill. there's no ready to go large supply of council accommodation like the Lockleaze estate for Bristol Solar Co-op
- This 'free' rooftop business model has been around for some years and is largely discredited for various reasons, such as the hassle for people moving house, maintenance of the panels and who moves the panels etc.
- I see it that if money was invested in this instead of the proposed 2nd Hinkley we would all benefit from this wise choice.
- Proposal not sufficiently explained
- Get the housing association on board please!

6) Apart from offering roof top solar to community buildings, all ACE members could possibly be entitled to purchase electricity at a discount of up to 20% from our renewable energy park. Is this something that would interest you for your home or business?

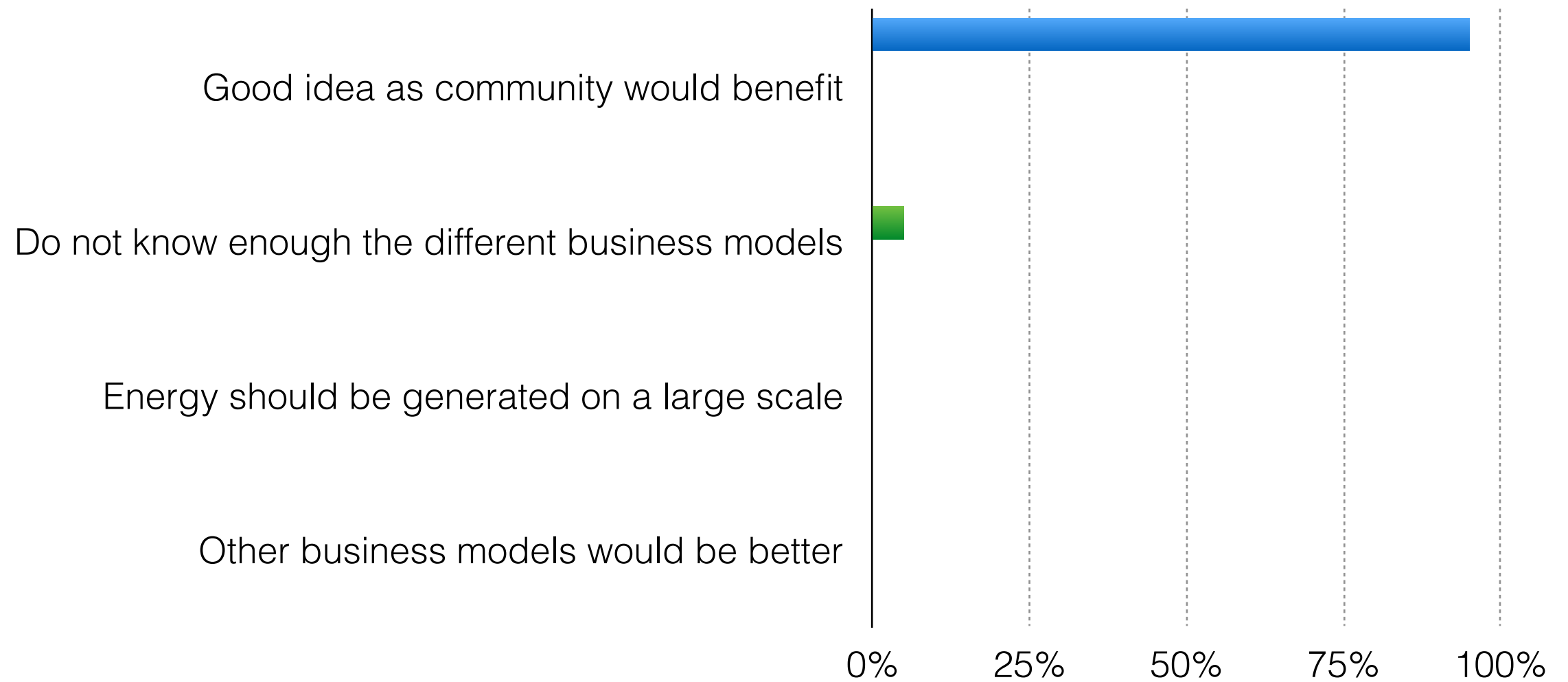


Comments

You said:

- Already have solar.
- Possibly it depends how it would be operated, I'd need to understand how it would work for the community.
- This would be dead easy if you just replicate the deal Good Energy did with the residents of Delabole. I don't know how they made it legal so while it would be great to pick Good Energy's brains. once we've done that we don't necessarily have to through them (e.g. Ovo/Ecotricity). Please be under absolutely no illusion that being a licensed small generator of electricity is different to being an Ofgem licensed energy supplier able to send bills to people from their meter readings. Unfortunately ACE need middle man, but there's good options available.
- Interesting idea though no idea how this would work! Are you talking about setting up your own energy supplier business.
- Possibly.
- Already with Good Energy and have 2Kw solar system on my roof.

7) What is your view of a local co-operative generating renewable energy in the local area?



Comments

You said:

- I do support the idea, although I think free energy for all is the way forward. I guess it's progress..not sure about the anaerobic digester though, and it would be good to know the details of the technology proposed.
- I think it would be excellent if the community could provide all its energy needs like this. How is the income raised and where does it go? How does this 'model' work?

Summary

- There is excellent support for project proposals
- You want to see those in fuel poverty and social housing benefit
- We need to provide more detail about how the community as a whole will benefit.
- We need to keep an open mind about the different technologies we might use

Many thanks for your responses. We will collect your questions and start to produce a frequently asked questions sheet to be published on our website www.avaloncommunityenergy.com