

South Copeland resident research, autumn 2024

OCTOBER 2024

.YONDER

Methodology

Survey methodology

Between 8 September and 2 October 2024, Yonder oversaw a survey of 200 residents (16+) interviewed in person across the wards of Millom and Millom Without. The interviews were conducted by Red Research, on behalf of Yonder.

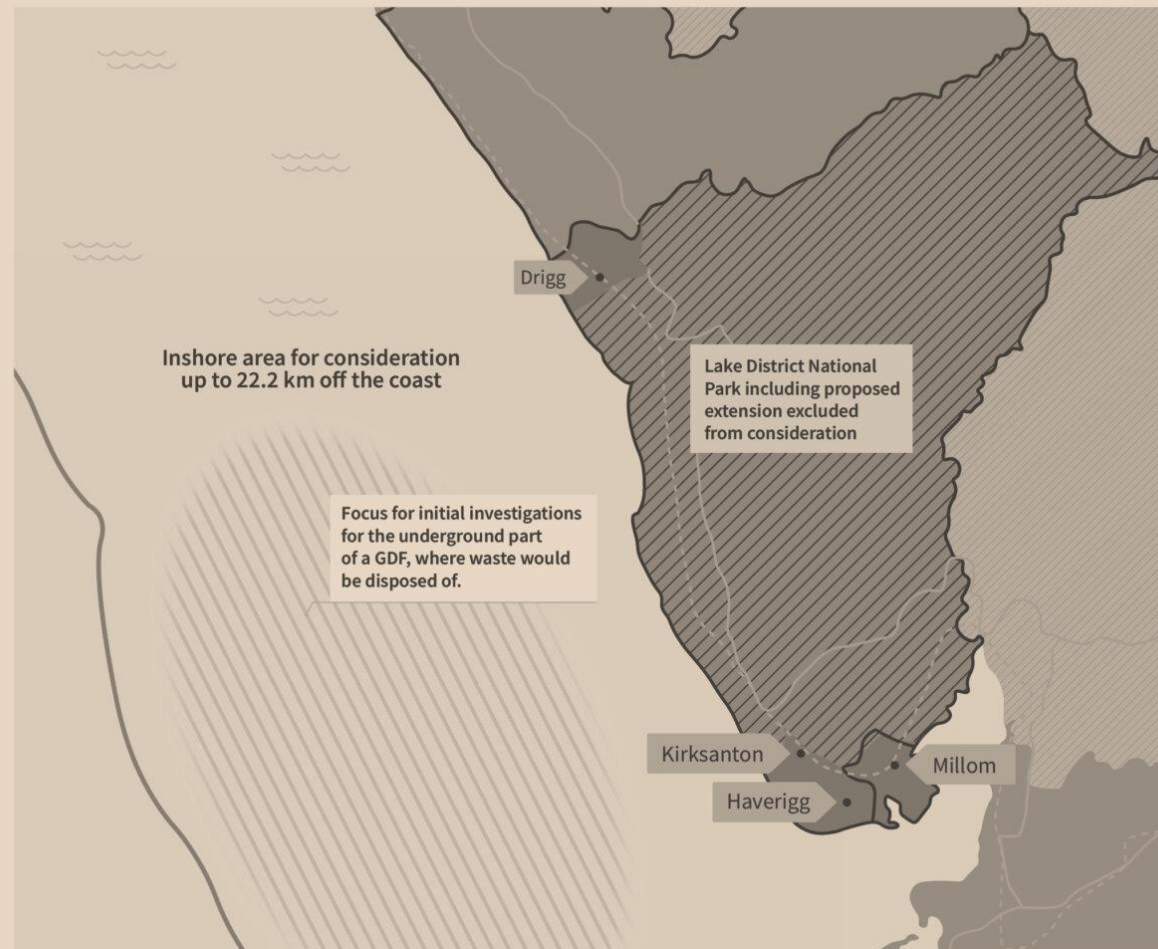
Quotas were employed to ensure the resident sample was representative of the relative populations of the two wards. Weighting was then employed to ensure the sample was representative in terms of the age and sex profile of the population in question.

With a sample of 200 and a 95% confidence interval, a margin of error of +/- 7% is expected (though confidence intervals do vary depending on the values involved).

Yonder is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules. For more information, see www.yonderconsulting.com.

South Copeland Search Area

Millom Without and Millom electoral wards



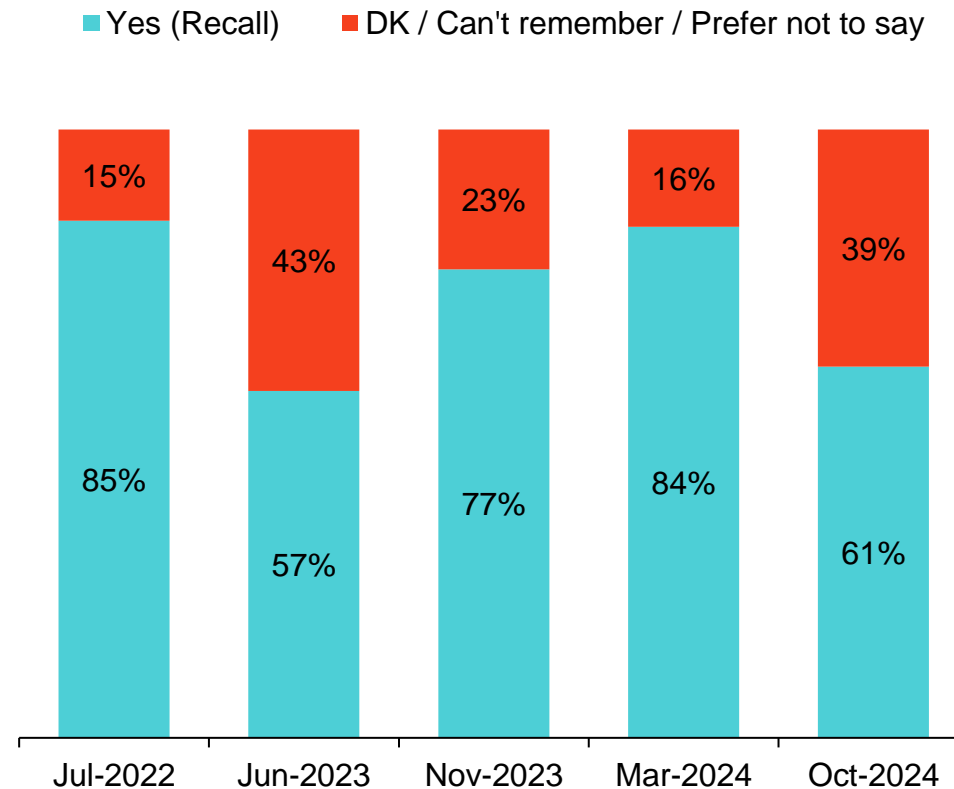
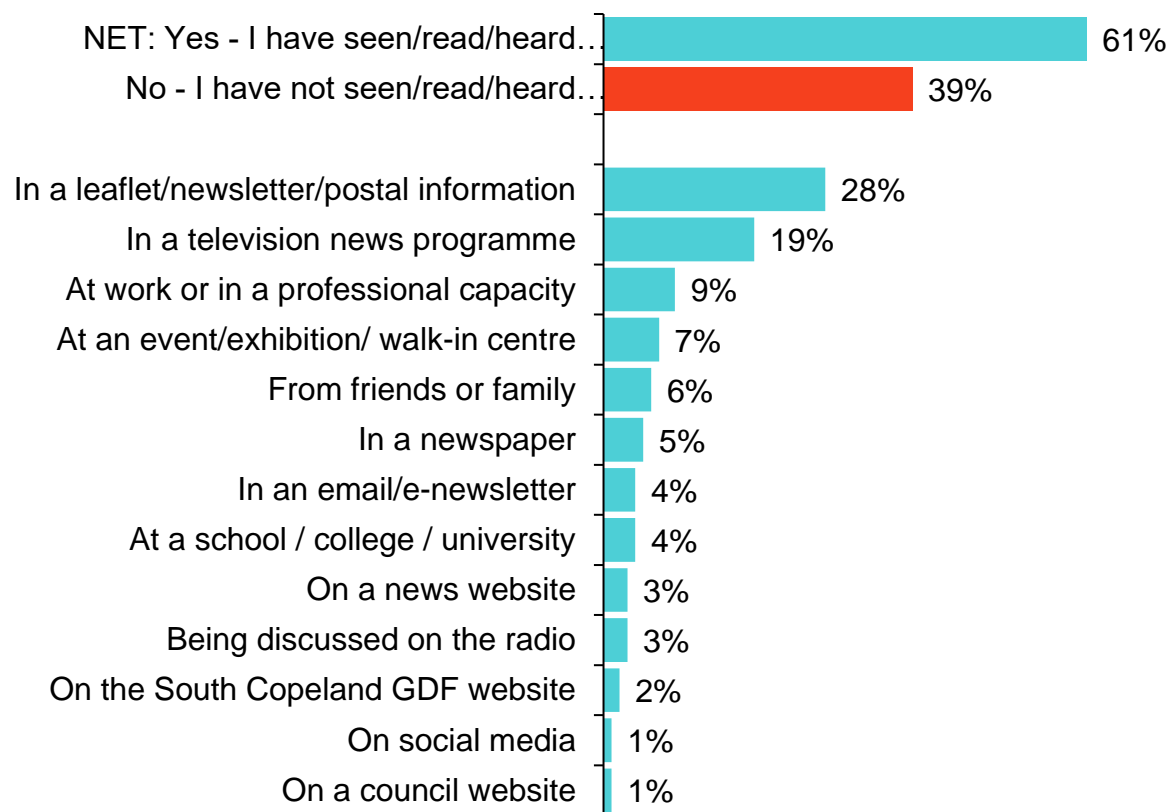
Illustrative map of South Copeland Search Area defined using new ward boundaries from April 2023

- Onshore area for consideration
- Excluded from consideration, retains funding
- Inshore area for consideration
- Inshore area boundary
- Electoral ward boundary

Awareness and understanding

61% recalled seeing, reading, or hearing something in the past year. 28% attributed their awareness to a leaflet or newsletter

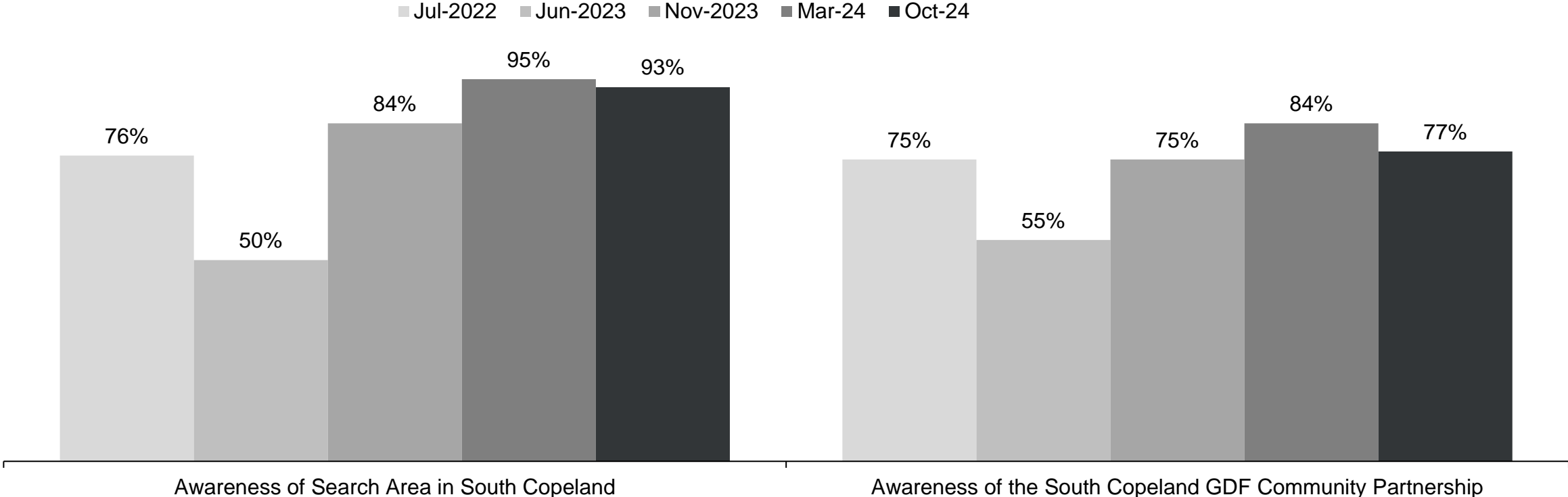
Q. Before today, have you seen or read or heard anything about nuclear waste or geological disposal or a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) anywhere over the past year? If so, where?



Awareness of the Community Partnership and the South Copeland Search Area remained high

Q. Before today, were you aware or unaware of the following?

[% of residents saying they were aware]



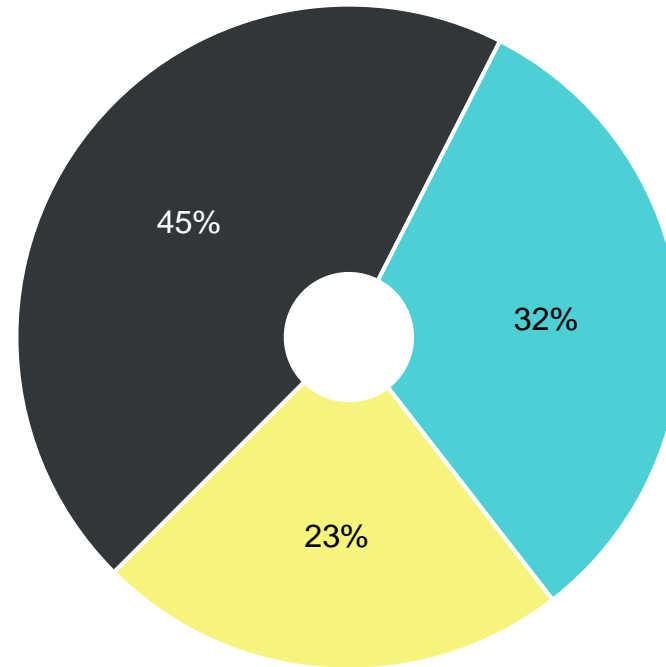
Source: South Copeland resident research autumn 2024

Base: total respondents Jul 2022 (158); total respondents Jun 2023 (187); total respondents Nov 2023 (203); total respondents Mar 2024 (201); total respondents Oct 2024 (200)

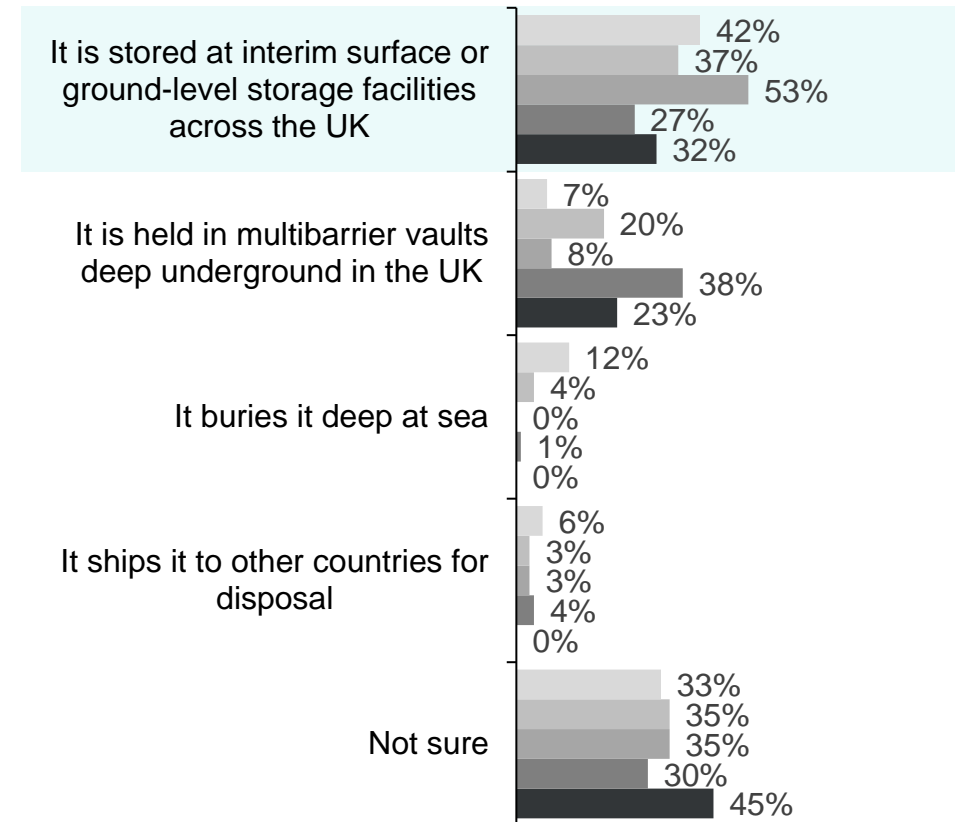
1-in-3 correctly identified the current storage approach for the most hazardous waste, while nearly half were not sure

Q. And what best describes your understanding of how the UK currently manages, stores or disposes of its **most hazardous radioactive waste**** – the most radioactive of waste?

- It is stored at interim surface or ground-level storage facilities across the UK
- It is held in multibarrier vaults deep underground in the UK
- It ships it to other countries for disposal
- It buries it deep at sea
- Not sure



■ Jul-22 ■ Jun-23 ■ Nov-23 ■ Mar-24 ■ Oct-24



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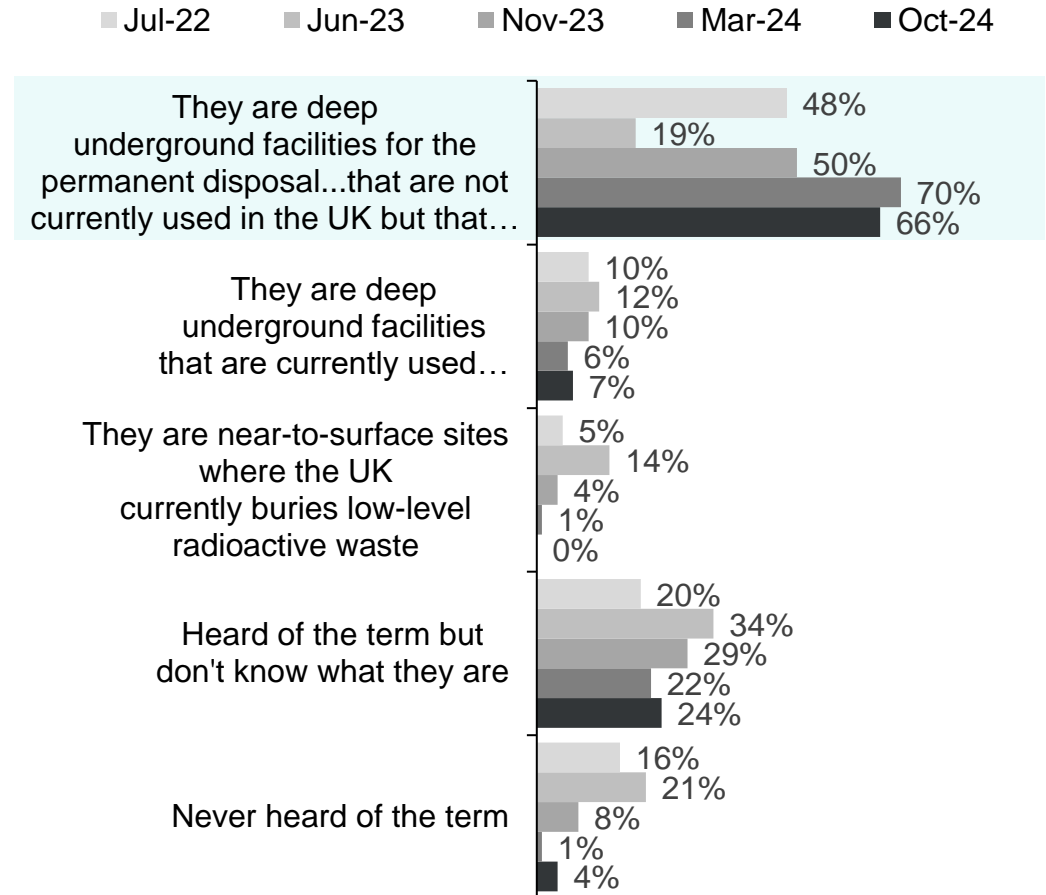
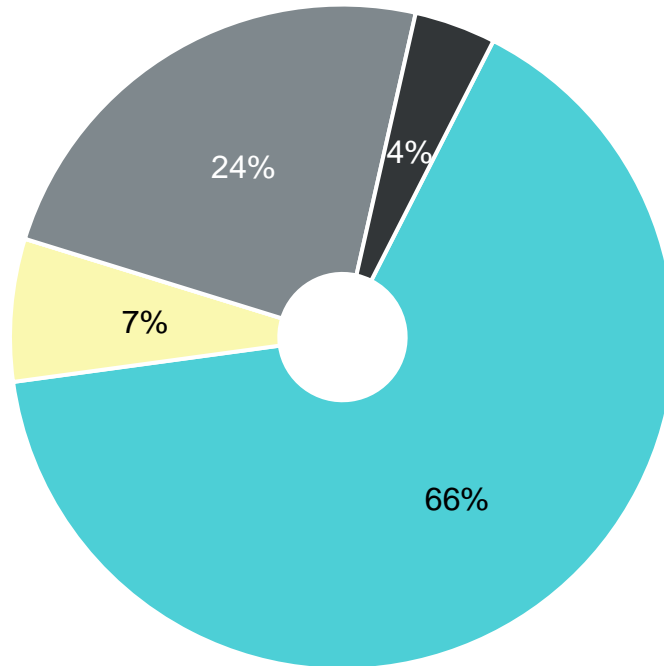
Source: South Copeland resident research autumn 2024

**Prior to October 2024, this was referred to as 'higher activity radioactive waste'

Two-in-three (66%) correctly identified the accurate description of a GDF

Q. Which, if any, of the following statements best describes what you know (if anything) about Geological Disposal Facilities?

- They are deep underground facilities for the permanent disposal of nuclear waste that are not currently used in the UK
- They are deep underground facilities that are currently used in the UK for the permanent disposal of nuclear waste
- They are near-to-surface sites where the UK currently buries low-level radioactive waste
- Heard of the term but don't know what they are
- Never heard of the term



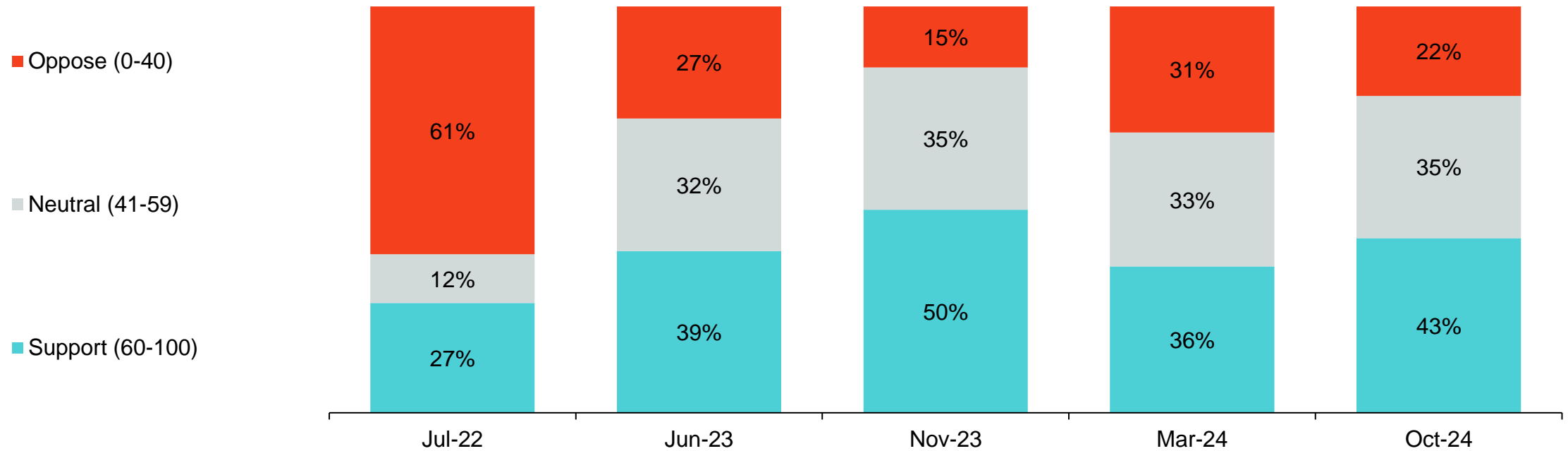
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Geological disposal

43% supported the construction of a GDF within the Search Area, whilst 22% opposed it

Q. Please imagine that the government proposed to construct Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) within the South Copeland Search Area – which covers parts of the wards of Millom and Millom Without as well as areas underneath the seabed off the coast of Copeland.*



NET support:

-34

+11

+35

+5

+21

*Note: Question wording changed to reflect revised boundaries in June 2023

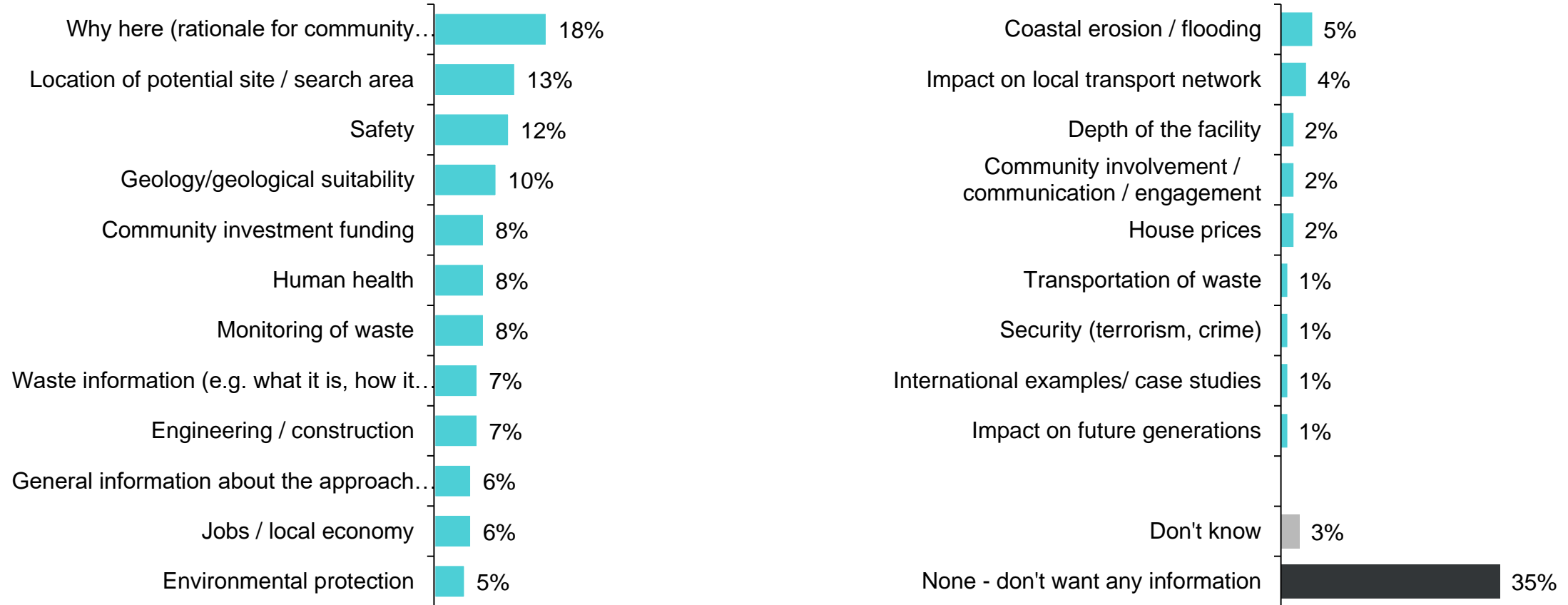
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Information needs & engagement

Respondents primarily wanted information about the location ('why here?' and 'where?')

Q. What kind of information would you like to receive regarding geological disposal and the siting process?*



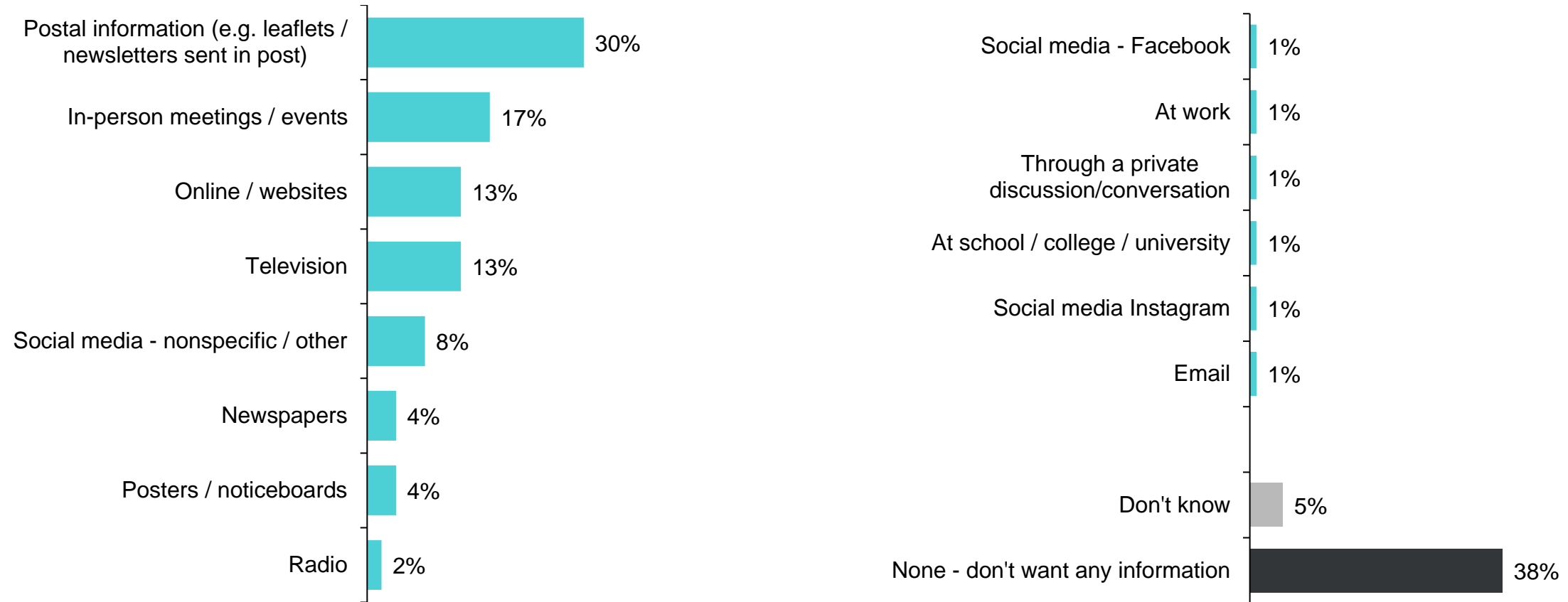
*Note: question was open-ended. Respondents' spontaneous answers have been grouped into consistent themes for the purpose of analysis

Base: total respondents October 2024 (200)

Source: South Copeland resident research autumn 2024

Postal information was the favoured method for communication about geological disposal and the siting process

Q. How would you like to receive information about geological disposal and the siting process?*



*Note: question was open-ended. Respondents' spontaneous answers have been grouped into consistent themes for the purpose of analysis

Source: South Copeland resident research autumn 2024

Base: total respondents October 2024 (200)

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