ISLE OF MAN
**ELECTORAL**
COMMISSION

# Public Consultation to inform the work of the Electoral Commission : Summary report

This report was created on Monday 07 August 2023 at 14:40 and includes **191** responses.
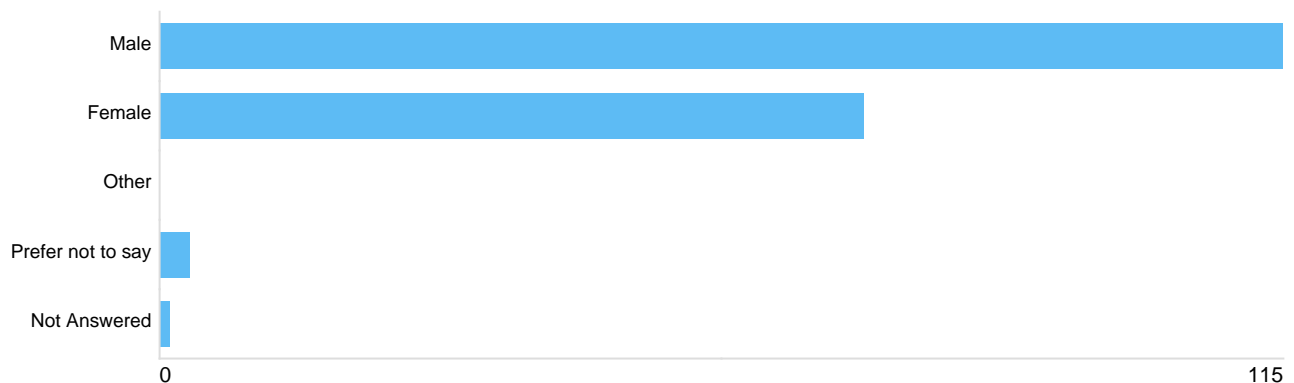
The activity ran from 23/05/2023 to 28/07/2023.

## Contents

## What is your gender?

*Select one - Gender*

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Male | 115 | 60.21% |
| Female | 72 | 37.70% |
| Other | 0 | 0.00% |
| Prefer not to say | 3 | 1.57% |
| Not Answered | 1 | 0.52% |

## What age range are you within?

*Select one - Age*
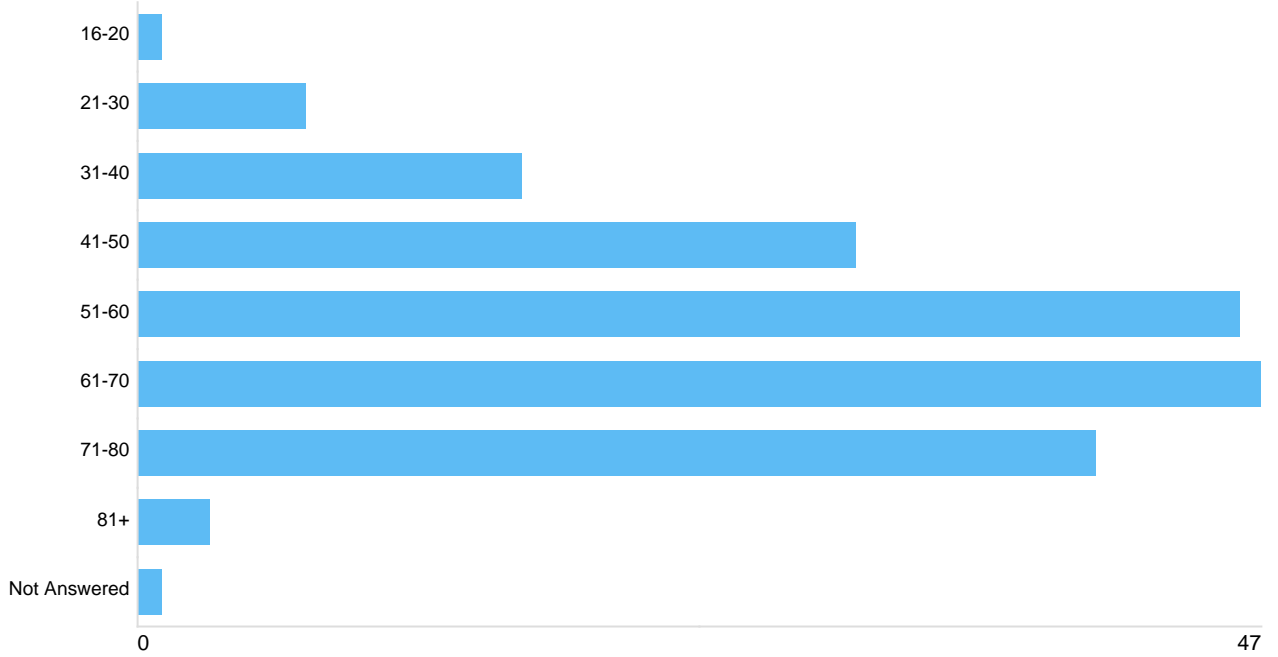


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| 16-20 | 1 | 0.52% |
| 21-30 | 7 | 3.66% |
| 31-40 | 16 | 8.38% |
| 41-50 | 30 | 15.71% |
| 51-60 | 46 | 24.08% |
| 61-70 | 47 | 24.61% |
| 71-80 | 40 | 20.94% |
| 81+ | 3 | 1.57% |
| Not Answered | 1 | 0.52% |

## Are you eligible to register to vote?

*Yes/no - Eligible to register to vote*
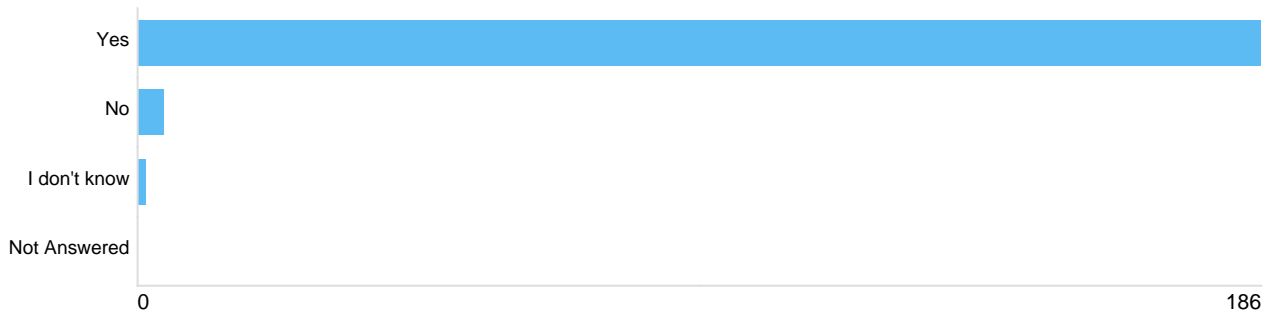
| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 186 | 97.38% |
| No | 4 | 2.09% |
| I don't know | 1 | 0.52% |
| Not Answered | 0 | 0.00% |

## Have you registered to vote?

### *Yes/no - Registered to vote*
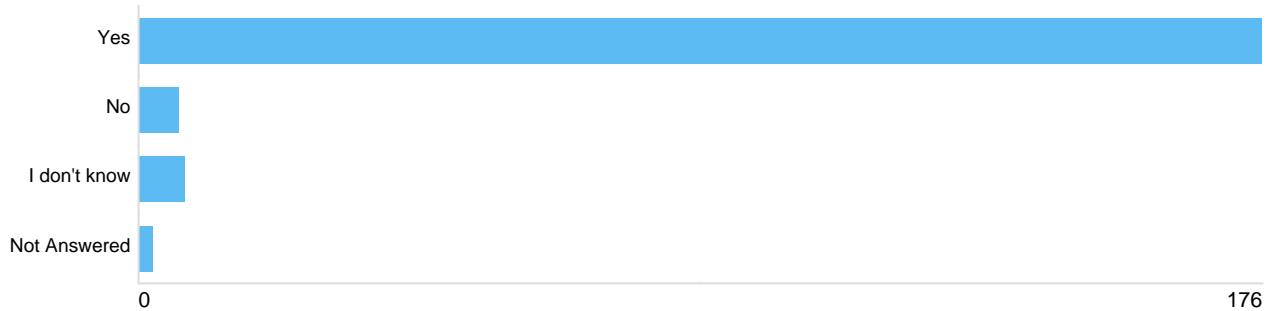


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 176 | 92.15% |
| No | 6 | 3.14% |
| I don't know | 7 | 3.66% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 1.05% |

## Currently, the Isle of Man has 12 Keys constituencies with 2 members in each. Should this remain the same for the future?

### *Yes/no - Should the 12 Keys constituencies with 2 members in each remain the same*
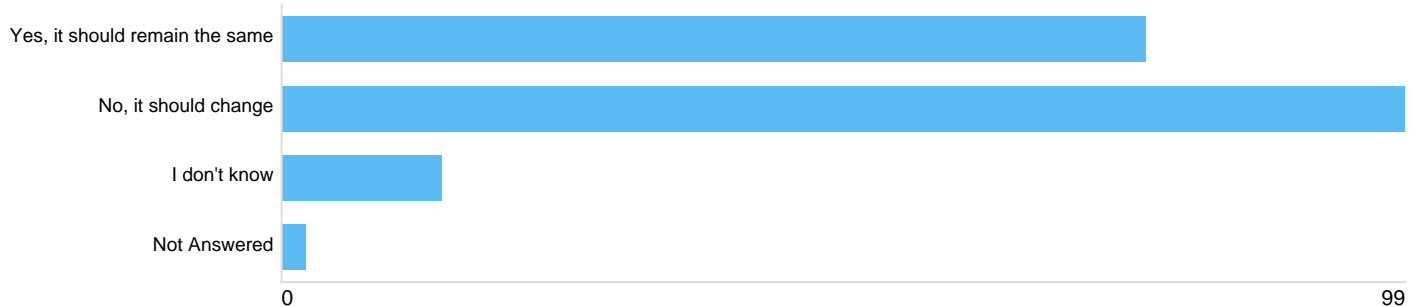


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, it should remain the same | 76 | 39.79% |
| No, it should change | 99 | 51.83% |
| I don't know | 14 | 7.33% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 1.05% |

### *Comments box - Yes, number of constituencies and members to remain the same*

There were **80** responses to this part of the question.

### *Comments box - No, number of constituencies and members should change*

There were **100** responses to this part of the question.

**Currently, each constituency's size is based on population number to meet the principle of equality of representation. Should the basis on which constituency size is established remain the same?**

*Yes/no - Constituency size criteria to remain the same*
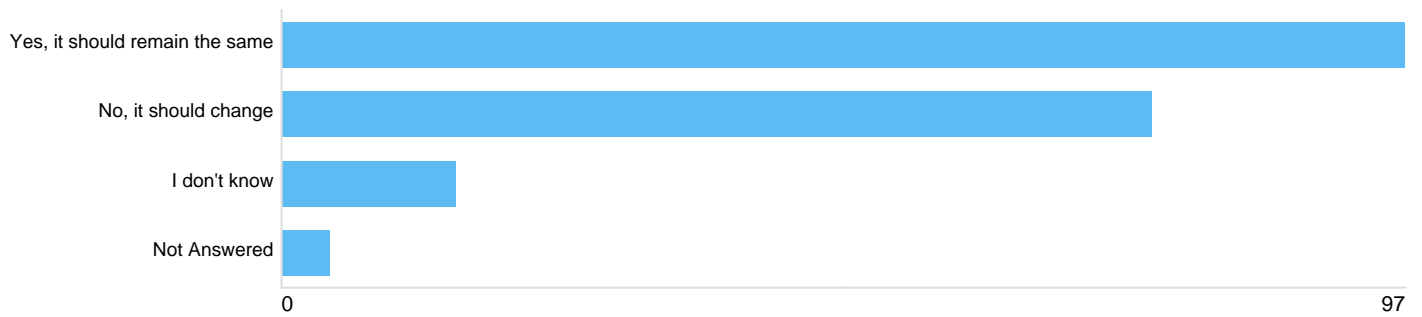


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, it should remain the same | 97 | 50.79% |
| No, it should change | 75 | 39.27% |
| I don't know | 15 | 7.85% |
| Not Answered | 4 | 2.09% |

*Comments box - Constituency's size criteria to remain the same*

There were **123** responses to this part of the question.

**If you feel that each constituency's size should not be based upon population numbers, what should it be based on?**

*Select one - What should the constituency size criteria be based on*
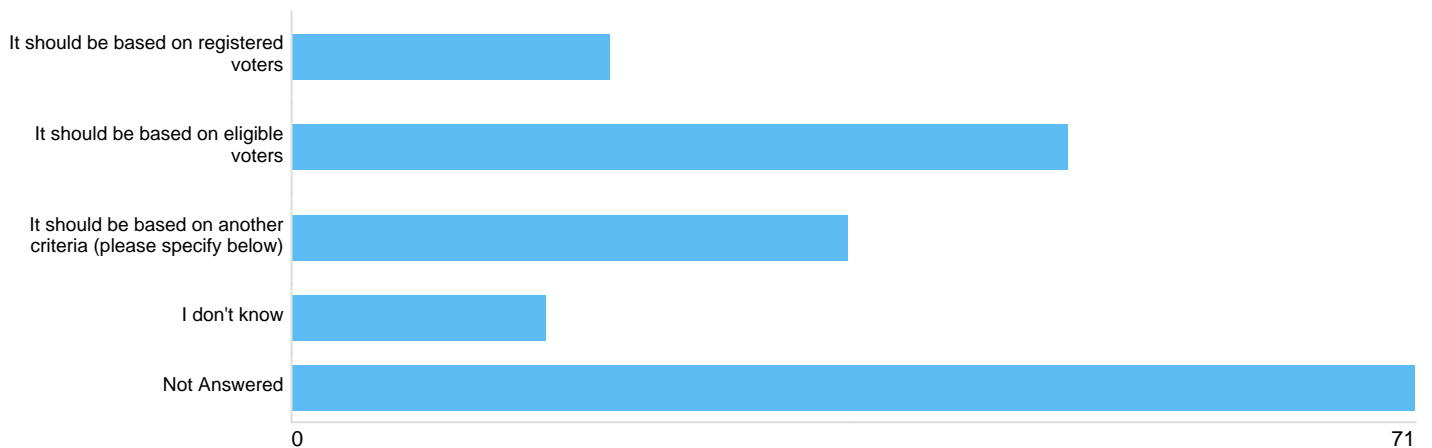


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| It should be based on registered voters | 20 | 10.47% |
| It should be based on eligible voters | 49 | 25.65% |
| It should be based on another criteria (please specify below) | 35 | 18.32% |
| I don't know | 16 | 8.38% |
| Not Answered | 71 | 37.17% |

*Comments box - Other criteria constituency size should be based on*

There were **59** responses to this part of the question.

**Existing boundaries of constituencies have been established that meet the principle of equivalency of population size. Should other factors take priority when setting boundaries?**

*Yes/no - Other factors should take priority when setting boundaries*
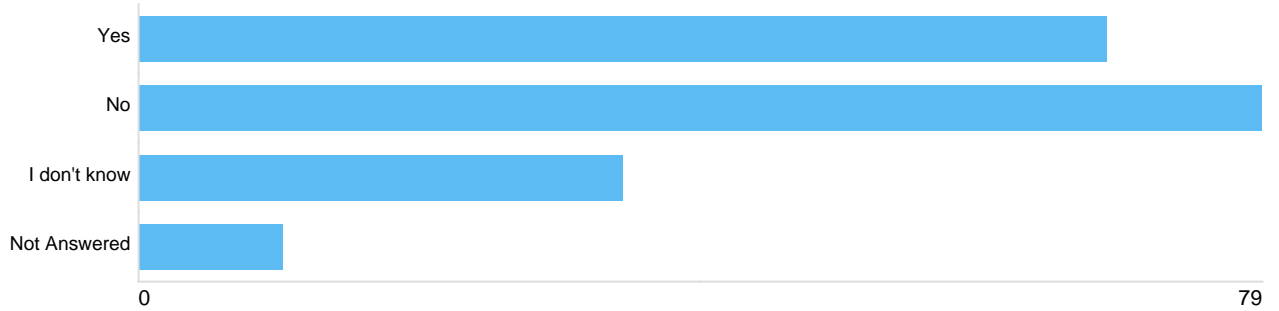


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 68 | 35.60% |
| No | 79 | 41.36% |
| I don't know | 34 | 17.80% |
| Not Answered | 10 | 5.24% |

*Comments box - Other factors should take priority when setting boundaries*

There were **94** responses to this part of the question.

**If you think other factors should take priority when setting boundaries, which of the following should take priority?**

*Select one - Which other factor should take priority when setting constituency boundaries*
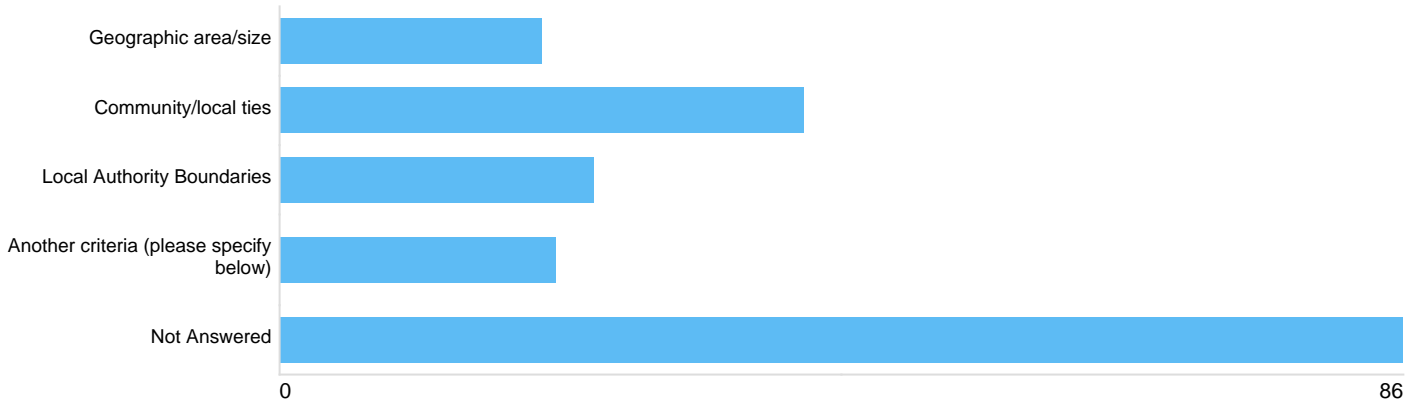


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Geographic area/size | 20 | 10.47% |
| Community/local ties | 40 | 20.94% |
| Local Authority Boundaries | 24 | 12.57% |
| Another criteria (please specify below) | 21 | 10.99% |
| Not Answered | 86 | 45.03% |

*Comments box - Which other factor should take priority when setting constituency boundaries*

There were **58** responses to this part of the question.

**The size of the Island's constituencies are currently based on population. In order to ensure equal voting power a maximum of 15% variance is permitted from the average population size (or whatever other criteria is chosen instead). Would exceeding this level of variation ever be justified?**

*Yes/no - Exceeding 15% level of variation be justified*
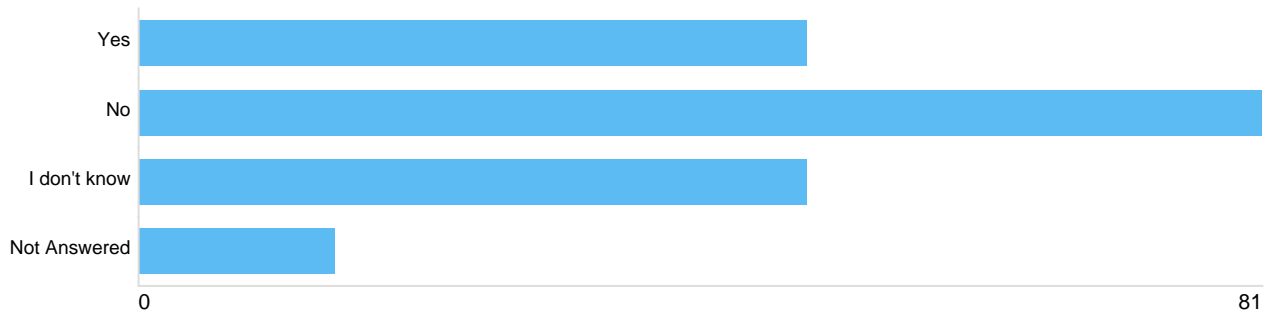


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 48 | 25.13% |
| No | 81 | 42.41% |
| I don't know | 48 | 25.13% |
| Not Answered | 14 | 7.33% |

*Comments box - Yes to exceeding the 15% variance level*

There were **46** responses to this part of the question.

*Comments box - No to exceeding the 15% variance level*

There were **53** responses to this part of the question.

**If you feel that you may fall within one or more of the above categories, as a result, were you discouraged from or were you unable to vote in the 2021 General Election?**

*Yes/no - Discourage or unable to vote in the 2021 General Election*



| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 36 | 18.85% |
| No | 99 | 51.83% |
| Not Answered | 56 | 29.32% |

*Comments box - Reasons for being discouraged or unable to vote in the 2021 General Election*

There were **36** responses to this part of the question.

**If you did vote, did you experience difficulties in exercising your right to vote on the day of the 2021 General Election?**

*Yes/no - Difficulties in exercising your right to vote on the day of the 2021 General Election*

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 26 | 13.61% |
| No | 127 | 66.49% |
| Not Answered | 38 | 19.90% |

*Comments box - Explanation of what the difficulties on the day of the 2021 General Election were*

There were **29** responses to this part of the question.

## Was there a problem for you in respect of physical accessibility to the station or casting your vote within the polling station you attended?

*Yes/no - Problem with physical accessibility to the station or casting vote*



| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 18 | 9.42% |
| No | 136 | 71.20% |
| Not Answered | 37 | 19.37% |

*Comments box - Explanation of physical accessibility problem*

There were **19** responses to this part of the question.

## If you have additional needs that affect your accessibility to vote, were you aware that you could contact the Deputy Returning Officer for your constituency in advance to make arrangements to vote?

*Yes/no - Aware that they could contact the Deputy Returning Officer for their constituency in advance to make arrangements to vote*
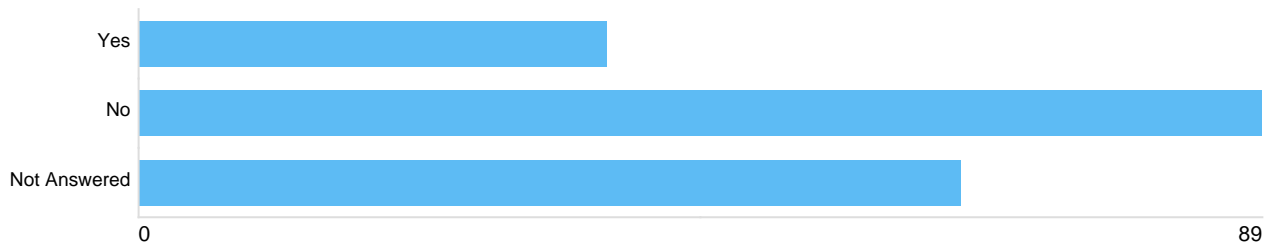
| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 37 | 19.37% |
| No | 89 | 46.60% |
| Not Answered | 65 | 34.03% |

**Would voting be made easier or would you have been more inclined to vote if the following options were also available to you? (Please tick all that apply)**

*Select all that apply - Options that would make voting easier*
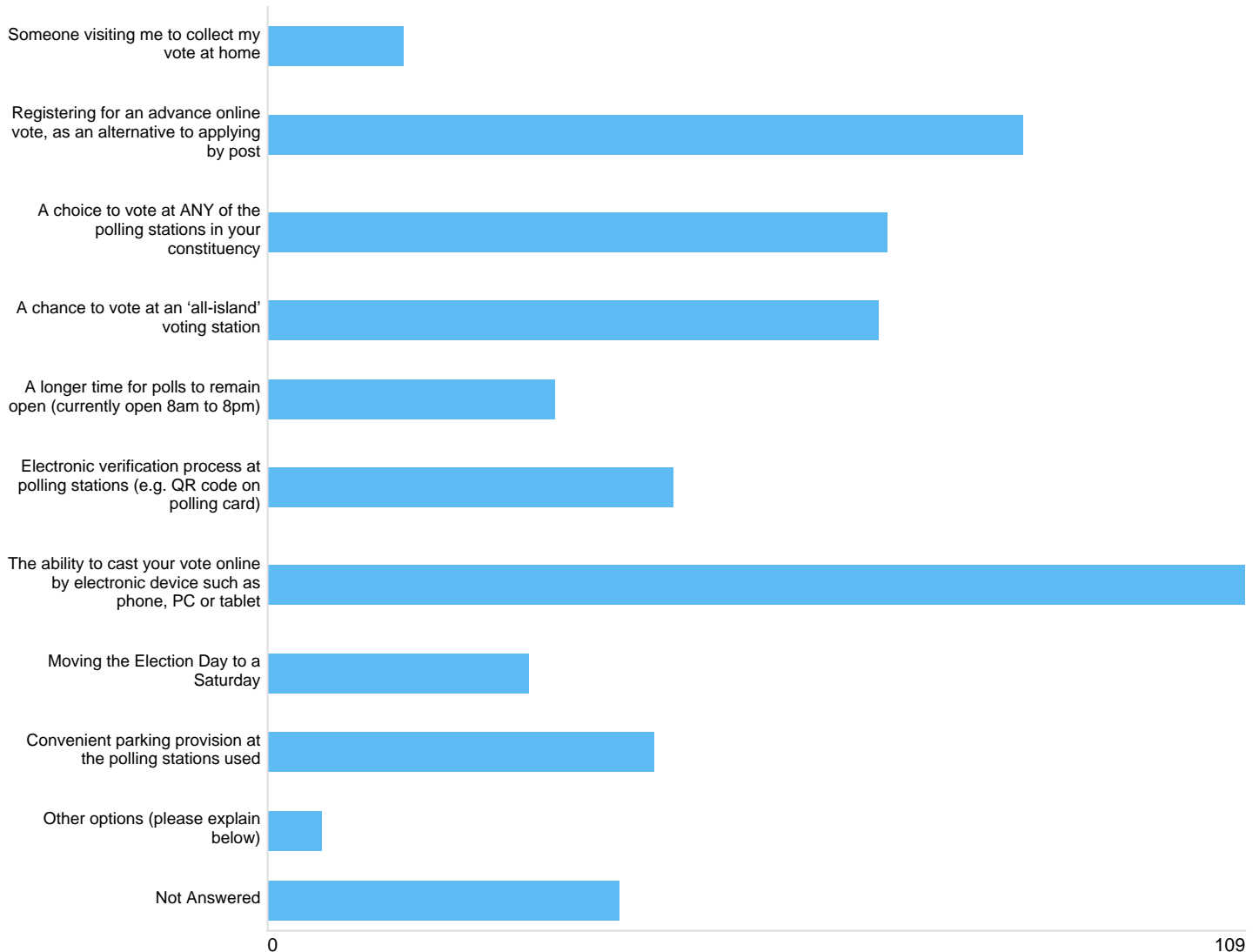


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Someone visiting me to collect my vote at home | 15 | 7.85% |
| Registering for an advance online vote, as an alternative to applying by post | 84 | 43.98% |
| A choice to vote at ANY of the polling stations in your constituency | 69 | 36.13% |
| A chance to vote at an 'all-island' voting station | 68 | 35.60% |
| A longer time for polls to remain open (currently open 8am to 8pm) | 32 | 16.75% |
| Electronic verification process at polling stations (e.g. QR code on polling card) | 45 | 23.56% |
| The ability to cast your vote online by electronic device such as phone, PC or tablet | 109 | 57.07% |
| Moving the Election Day to a Saturday | 29 | 15.18% |
| Convenient parking provision at the polling stations used | 43 | 22.51% |
| Other options (please explain below) | 6 | 3.14% |
| Not Answered | 39 | 20.42% |

*Comments box - Options that would make voting easier*

There were **67** responses to this part of the question.

**Did you know that you can choose to use a postal vote as an alternative to voting in person should you wish to do so?**

*Yes/no - Aware that postal vote could be used as an alternative to voting in person*

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 148 | 77.49% |
| No | 40 | 20.94% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 1.57% |

**Did you use a postal vote in the 2021 General Election?**

*Yes/no - Used postal vote in the 2021 General Election*
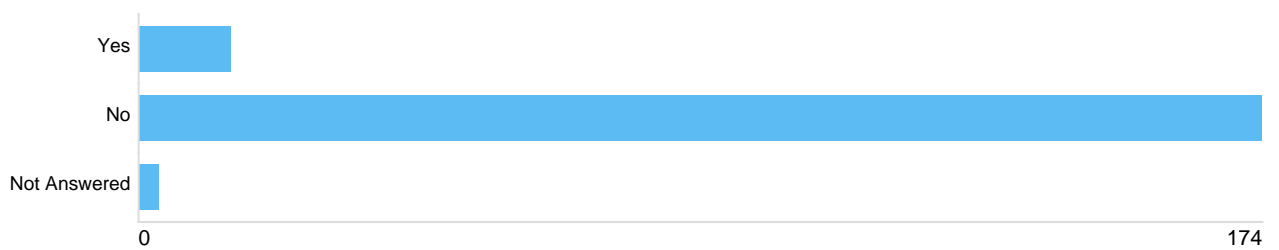
| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 14 | 7.33% |
| No | 174 | 91.10% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 1.57% |

**If you did use a postal vote in the 2021 General Election, did you find the postal voting process easy to understand and follow?**

*Yes/no - Found the postal voting process easy to understand and follow*

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 14 | 7.33% |
| No | 26 | 13.61% |
| Not Answered | 151 | 79.06% |

*Comments box - Found the postal voting process easy to understand and follow*

There were **15** responses to this part of the question.

# Would you consider using a postal vote in the future?

*Yes/no - Would consider using a postal vote in the future*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | | |
| No | | |
| I don't know | | |
| Not Answered | | |

0          97
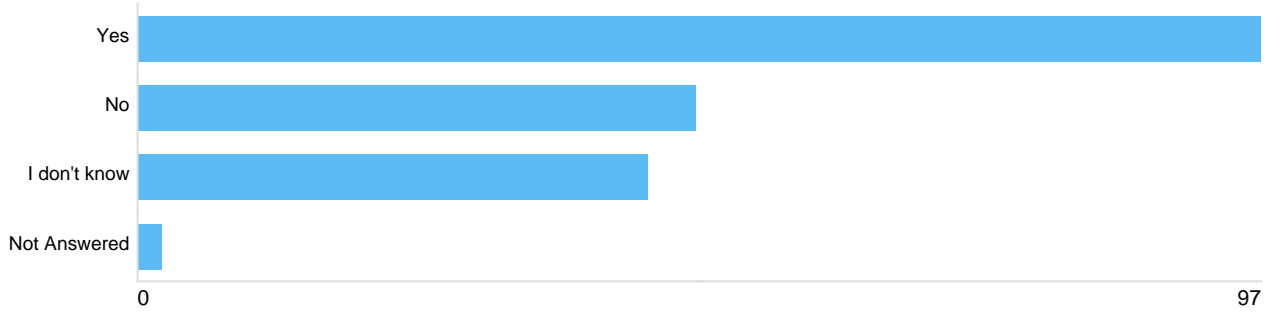
| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 97 | 50.79% |
| No | 48 | 25.13% |
| I don't know | 44 | 23.04% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 1.05% |

# Did you appoint a proxy to vote in the 2021 General Election?

*Yes/no - Appointed a proxy to vote in the 2021 General Election*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | | |
| No | | |
| Not Answered | | |

0          185

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 3 | 1.57% |
| No | 185 | 96.86% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 1.57% |

# If you did appoint a proxy to vote in the 2021 General Election, did you find the process to appoint a proxy easy to understand and follow?

*Yes/no - Found the process to appoint a proxy easy to understand and follow*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | | |
| No | | |
| Not Answered | | |

0          165

| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 3 | 1.57% |
| No | 23 | 12.04% |
| Not Answered | 165 | 86.39% |

*Comments box - Found the process to appoint a proxy easy to understand and follow*

There were **8** responses to this part of the question.

**The final date and time for submitting an application to vote by proxy is 5pm the day before poll. Do you think that this time should be extended to allow applications to appoint a proxy up until the close of the poll?**

*Yes/no - Extend the deadline to apply to vote by proxy*
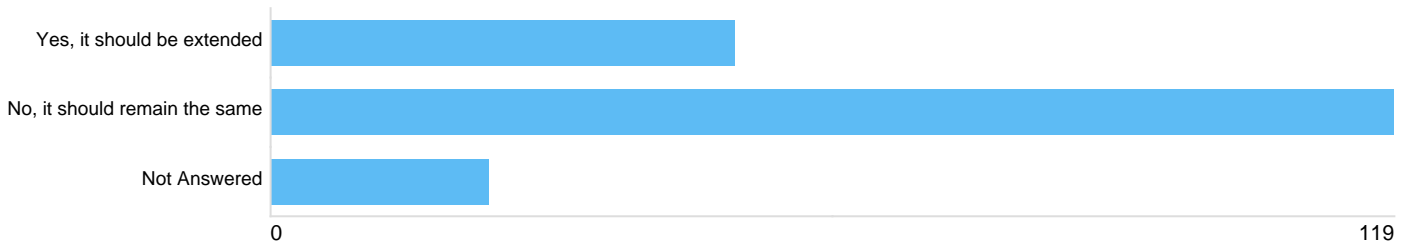


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes, it should be extended | 49 | 25.65% |
| No, it should remain the same | 119 | 62.30% |
| Not Answered | 23 | 12.04% |

**Would you find it more convenient to vote at any of the polling stations within your constituency if this option was made available?**

*Yes/no - Vote at any of the polling stations within your constituency*
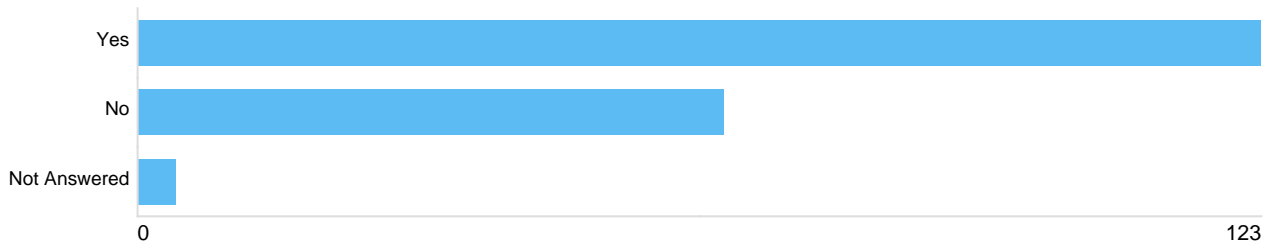


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 123 | 64.40% |
| No | 64 | 33.51% |
| Not Answered | 4 | 2.09% |

**Would you find it convenient to vote at any polling station on the island if this option was made available?**

*Yes/no - Vote at any polling station on the island*
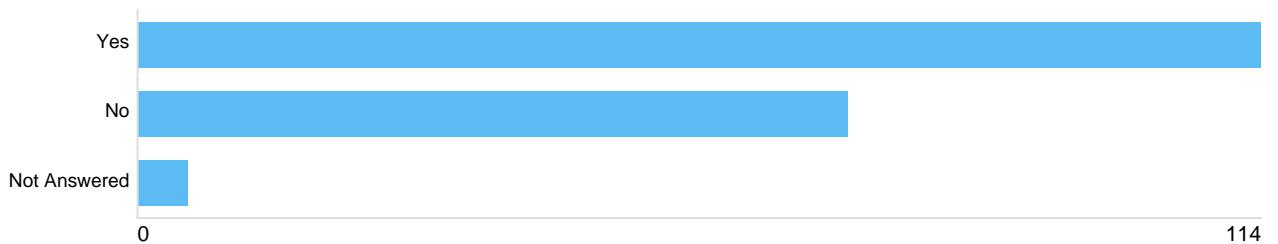
| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 114 | 59.69% |
| No | 72 | 37.70% |
| Not Answered | 5 | 2.62% |

**If the online security controls were implemented according to accepted global standards, would you be willing to vote online via the internet?**
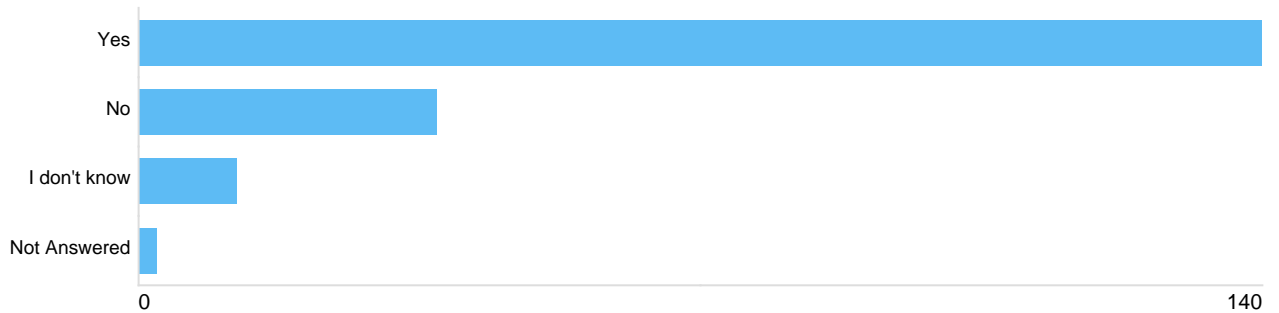
*Yes/no - Willing to vote online via the internet*



| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 140 | 73.30% |
| No | 37 | 19.37% |
| I don't know | 12 | 6.28% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 1.05% |

*Comments box - Willing to vote online via the internet*

There were **95** responses to this part of the question.

**Do you think that the Isle of Man should aim to offer online internet voting in addition to the methods of voting currently available?**

*Yes/no - IoM should offer online internet voting in addition to the methods of voting currently available*
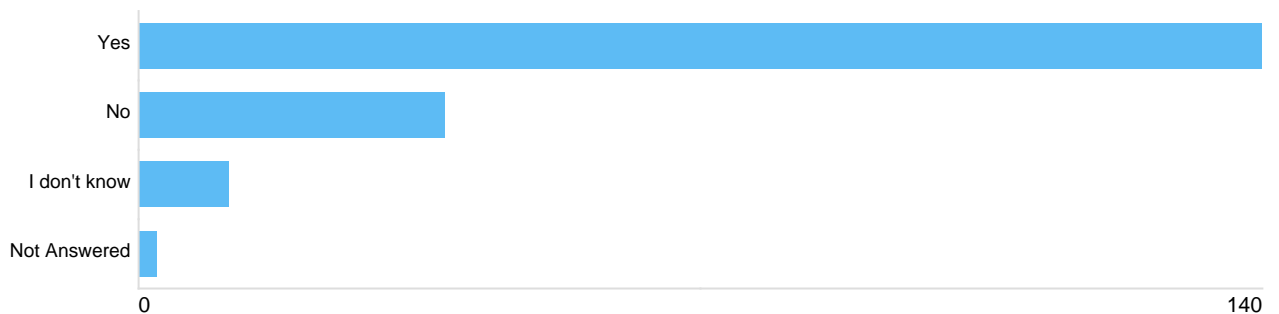
| Option | Total | Percent |
|--------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 140 | 73.30% |
| No | 38 | 19.90% |
| I don't know | 11 | 5.76% |
| Not Answered | 2 | 1.05% |

## How would you prefer to receive campaign materials in relation to candidates within your constituency?

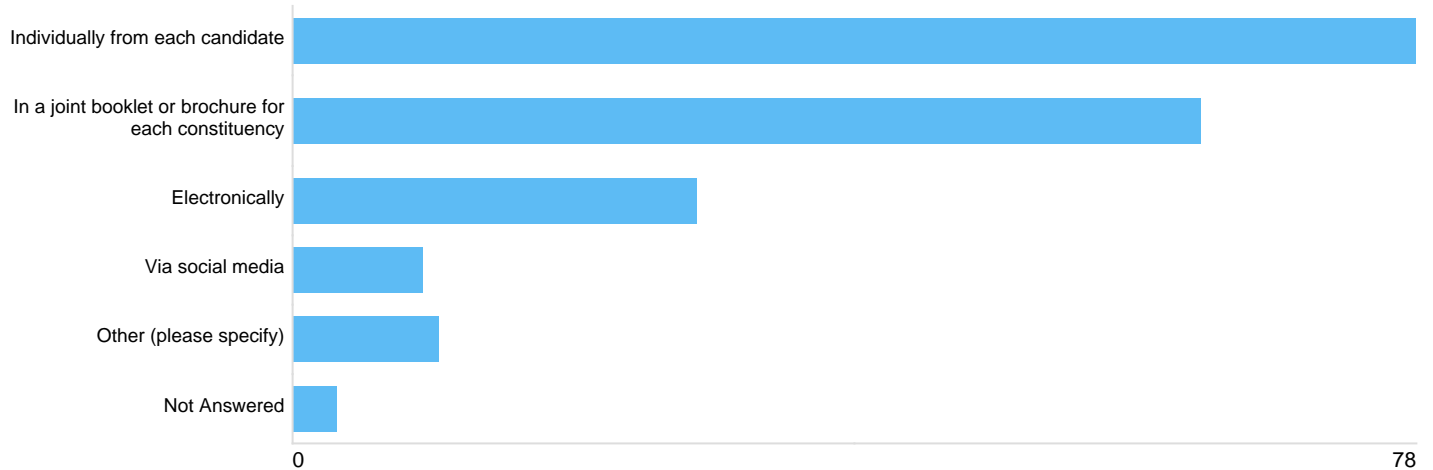*Select one - Preferred method to receive campaign materials from candidates*



| Option | Total | Percent |
|--------|-------|---------|
| Individually from each candidate | 78 | 40.84% |
| In a joint booklet or brochure for each constituency | 63 | 32.98% |
| Electronically | 28 | 14.66% |
| Via social media | 9 | 4.71% |
| Other (please specify) | 10 | 5.24% |
| Not Answered | 3 | 1.57% |

*Comments box - Preferred method to receive campaign materials from candidates*

There were **110** responses to this part of the question.

## Do you consider that there is consistent and effective enforcement of the rules that exist in relation to campaign materials?

*Yes/no - There is consistent and effective enforcement of the rules that exist in relation to campaign materials*
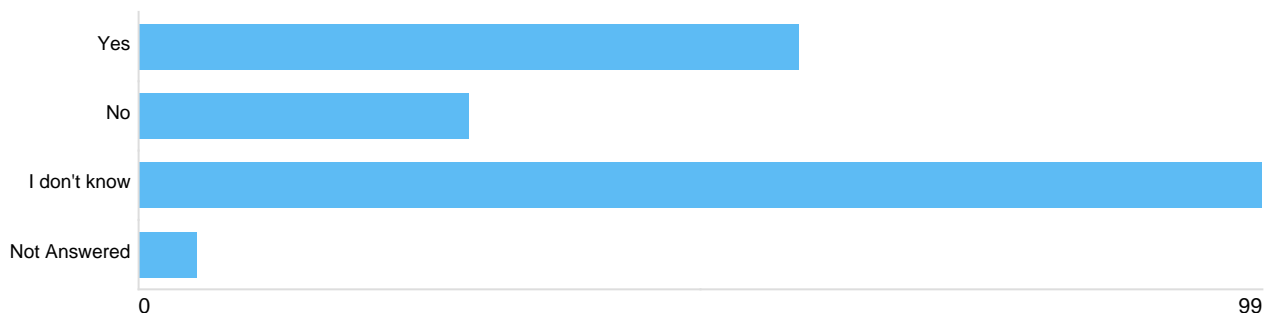


| Option | Total | Percent |
|--------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 58 | 30.37% |
| No | 29 | 15.18% |
| I don't know | 99 | 51.83% |
| Not Answered | 5 | 2.62% |

*Comments box - Consistent and effective enforcement of the campaign material rules*

There were **51** responses to this part of the question.

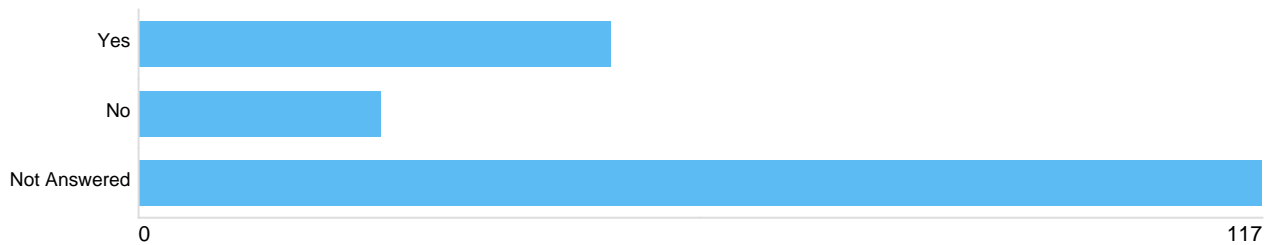**Did you attend a pre-election meeting within the constituency in which you voted?**

*Yes/no - Attended a pre-election meeting within the constituency*
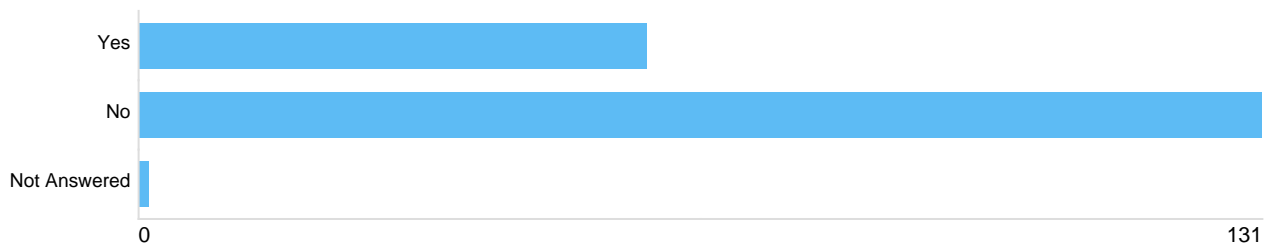


| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 59 | 30.89% |
| No | 131 | 68.59% |
| Not Answered | 1 | 0.52% |

**If you did attend a pre-election meeting, did you find the meeting useful?**

*Yes/no - Found pre-election meeting useful*



| Option | Total | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 49 | 25.65% |
| No | 25 | 13.09% |
| Not Answered | 117 | 61.26% |

*Comments box - Found pre-election meeting useful*

There were **57** responses to this part of the question.

**If you have any other comment to make in respect of the organisation or running of the 2021 General Election or future elections on the Isle of Man please include them below:**

*Comment box - General comments*

There were **82** responses to this part of the question.