

Stakeholder Workshops

Tackling Congestion in Cambridgeshire

May 2008

Purposes

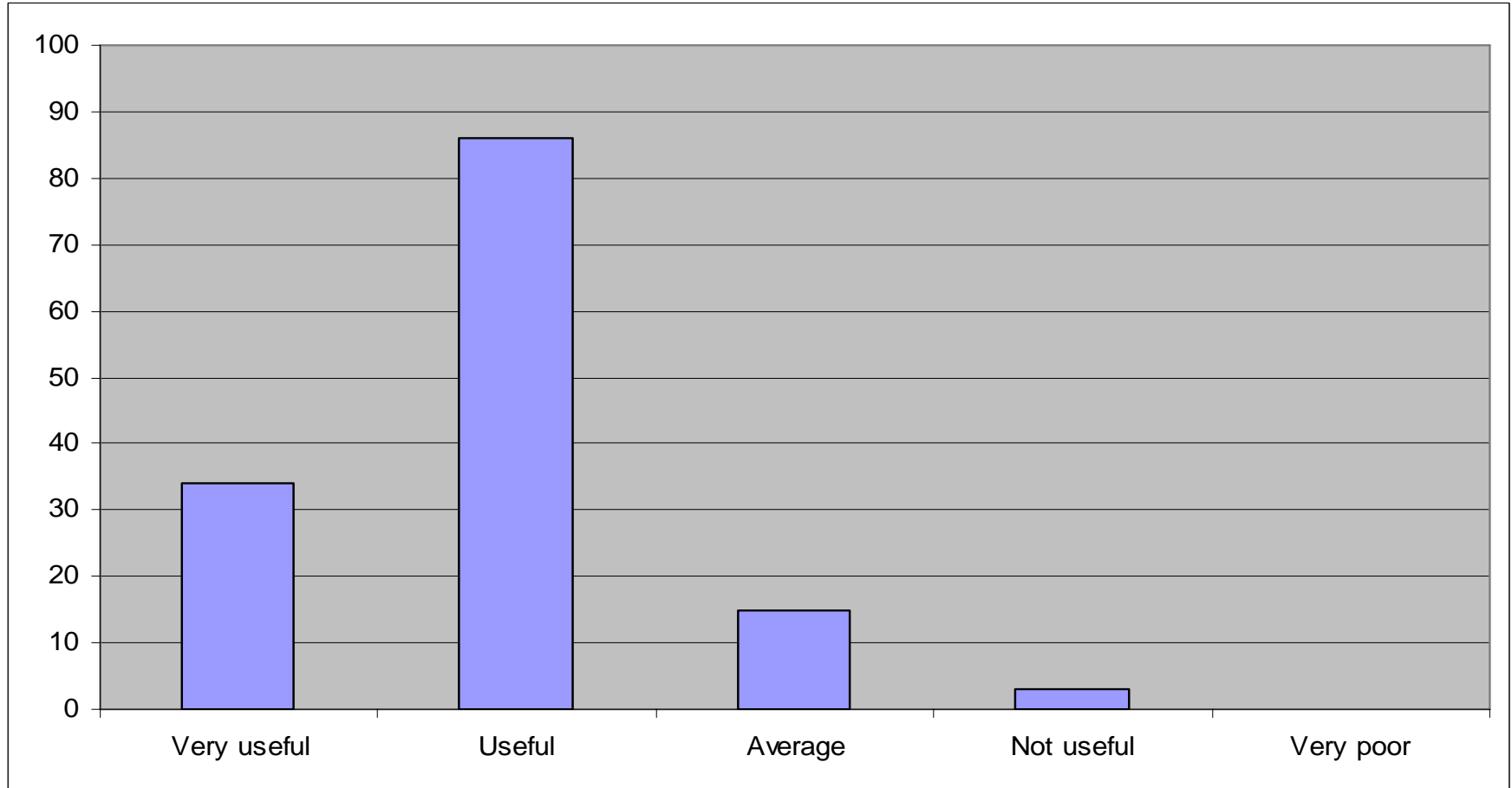
- To explore possible solutions to Cambridge's congestion problems
- For the County Council to hear ideas and concerns
- To discuss constraints and challenges around various solutions
- To help inform the County's transport strategy

Process

- Over 2500 stakeholders were invited from the following sectors:
 - Businesses
 - Schools
 - Parish Councils
 - Councillors
 - Residents associations
 - Partner organisations (health, welfare, advice and environmental)
 - Voluntary groups (advocacy/action groups, charity and community groups)
- 9 workshops held between Nov 2007 & Mar 2008
- Each workshop followed a similar structure

Evaluating the workshops

How useful did you find the workshops?



Near consensus on the problem

- Majority of stakeholders agree with the problem
- General agreement that something needs to be done for social, economic and environmental reasons
- A few participants challenged the need for intervention

Carrots

- Tended to relate to public transport
 - Improving bus routes
 - Extending start and finish times of buses and trains
 - Increasing the frequency of public transport
 - More integrated public transport (between buses and trains)
 - Free and efficient park and ride
 - A schools-only park and ride system / more school buses

Sticks

- Tended to relate to influencing car use
 - Increasing parking charges
 - Constraining the supply of parking
 - Penalties for not car sharing/ benefits for car sharing
 - Congestion charging
 - Traffic free zones

Questions & Comments

- Funding
- Consultation
- Congestion
- Congestion charge
- Public transport in general

Key message

- For congestion charging / demand management to be acceptable, the revenue generated needs to be for improving public transport and other measures to reduce congestion
- A strong need for carrots to be in place as, or before demand management measures are implemented.