

Building Master Plan Community Survey

Summary of Results - September 2019



Blue Mountains
Insight Meditation
Centre

Survey Respondents

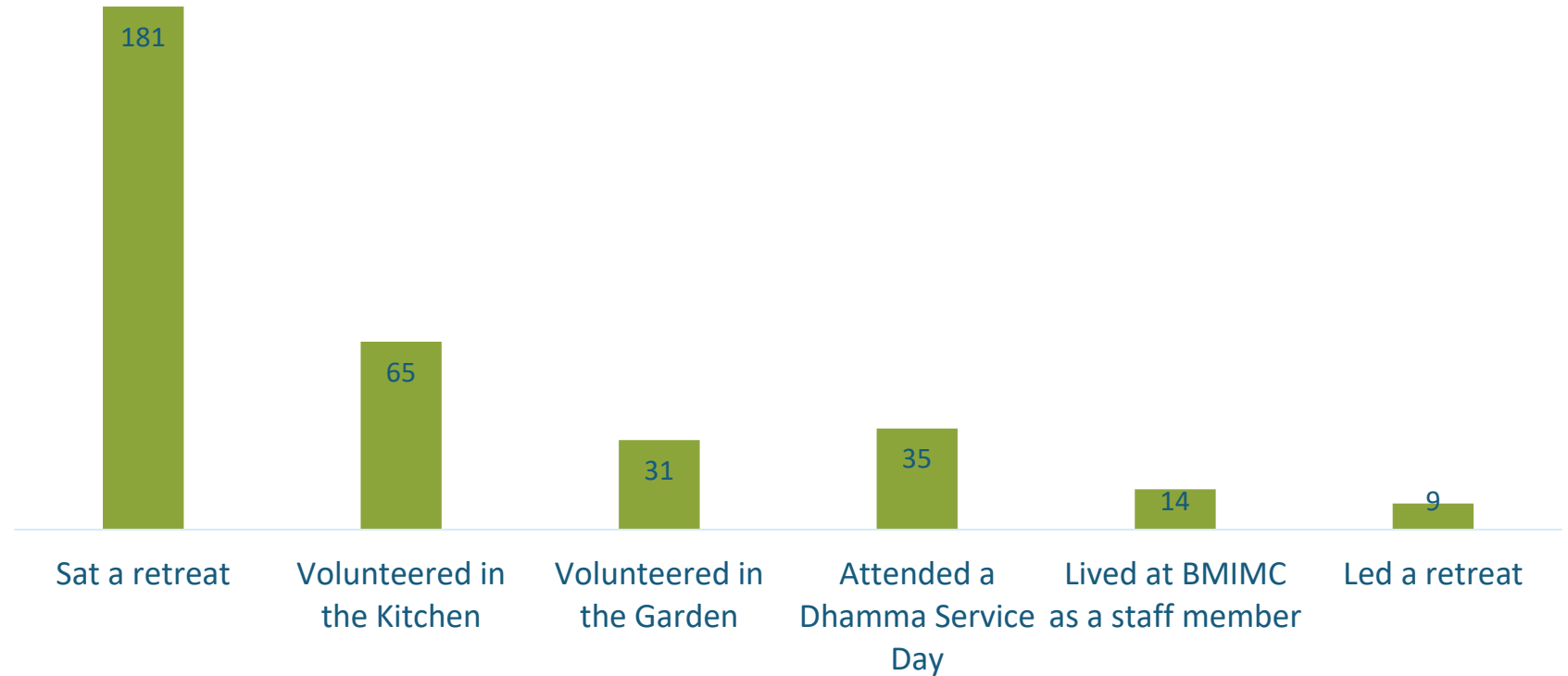
1137

Survey Invitations
sent by email

201

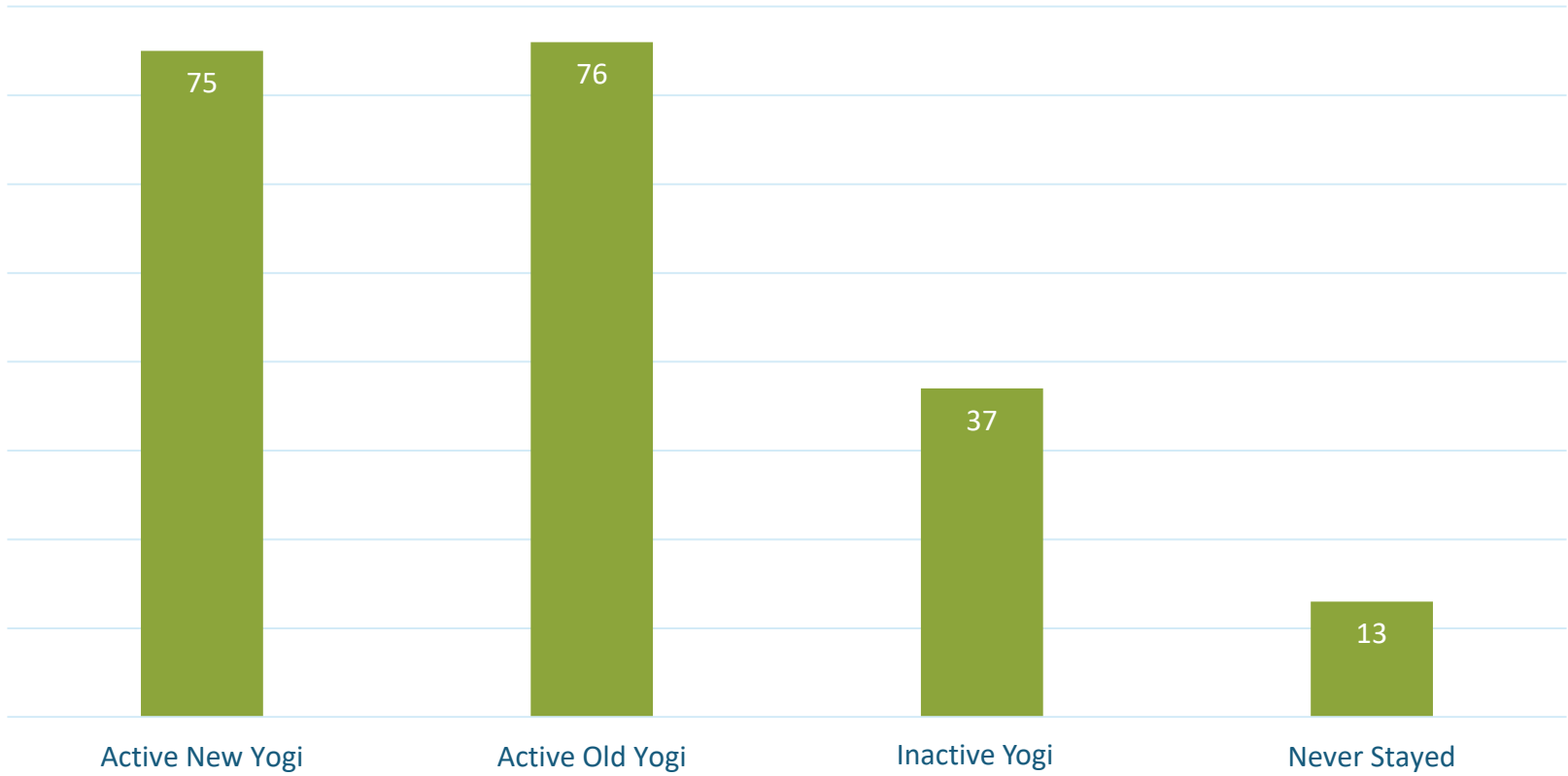
Completed
Responses

Respondents' Involvement with the Centre



Survey Respondents by Retreat Participation

Respondents by Retreat Participation



Active Old Yogi – First BMIMC retreat 6+ years ago and has attended in past 3 years

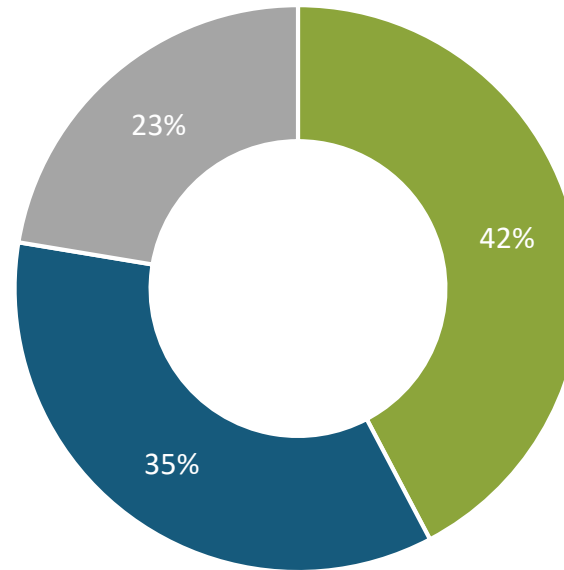
Active New Yogi – First BMIMC retreat in past 5 years ago and has attended in past 3 years

Inactive Yogi –Has sat retreat at BMIMC before but not in the past 3 years

Never Stayed– Never stayed overnight at BMIMC

Majority of respondents report missing out on retreats.

Question: How many times in the past three years have you missed out on attending a BMIMC retreat that you really wanted to attend because it was booked out?

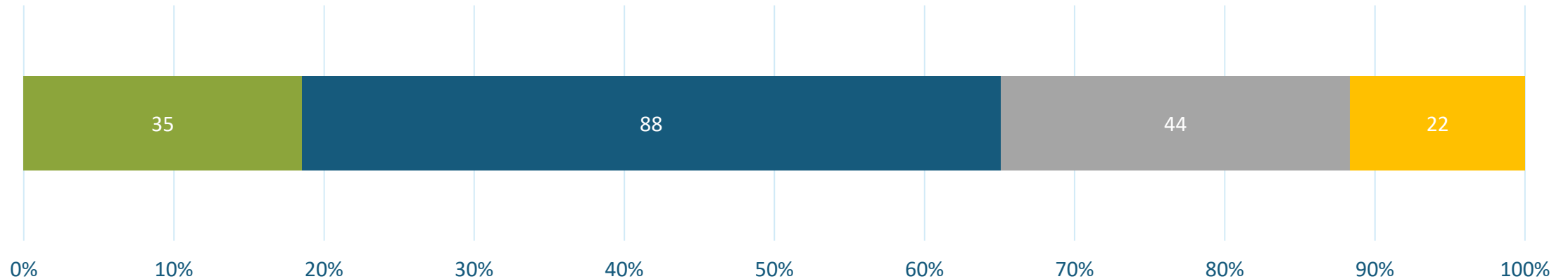


■ None ■ Once ■ Twice or more

N=201

Strong support for an increase in centre capacity

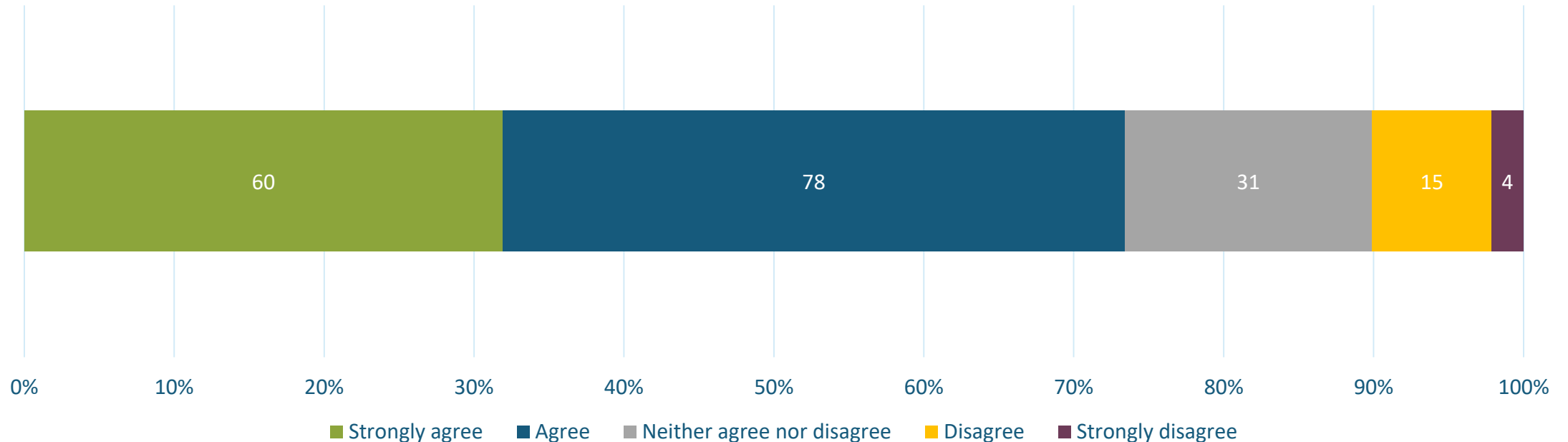
Question: We are looking to increase the capacity of retreats. The current capacity is 18 yogis. Which of the following statements best reflects your feeling about this?



- I would be comfortable if retreat capacity was increased to accommodate up to 40 yogis (for retreats with teachers who are willing to lead groups of that size)
- I would like there to be a small capacity increase, to around 24 yogis
- I don't have a strong view about this
- I would prefer we maintained retreat capacity at 18 yogis

Finding a suitable walking area in poor weather is clearly an issue for many yogis

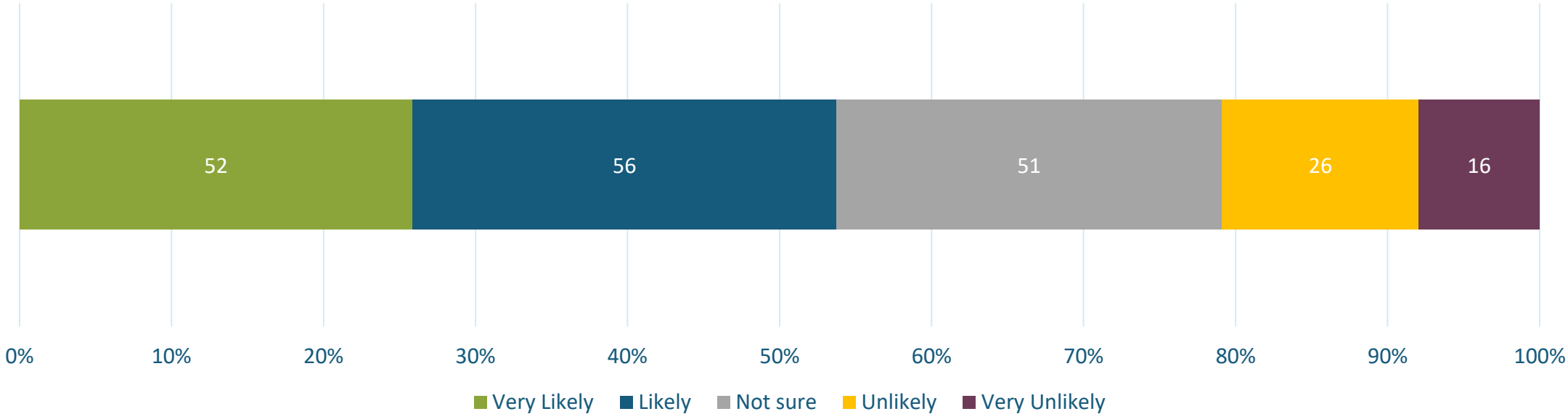
Question: We are considering adding an enclosed walking meditation area for wet and cold weather. To what extent do you agree with this statement: It is often difficult to find a suitable place for walking meditation in cold or wet weather



N=188 (Excludes yogis who have never stayed at BMIMC)

The prospect of self-retreat facilities has struck a chord

Q: We are considering adding private, detached, self-retreat units with basic cooking facilities and bathroom which would be available for experienced meditators. How likely would you be to use these facilities if they were available?



Feedback on the Accommodation

Question: Are there any improvements you would like to see made to the accommodation?

Key Themes in response:

- Improvements to room furnishings esp. wardrobes and mattresses (noting some may not be aware of recent mattress upgrades) - **10 responses**
- Toilet privacy either as en suite or enclosed cubicles in shared bathroom - **5 responses**
- Better Sound proofing - **4 responses**
- Better representation of the female gender skew (women's accom. always books out first) - **3 responses**

Feedback on the Meditation Hall

Q: Are there any improvements you would like to see made to the Meditation Hall?

Key Themes in response:

- Improve altar (to be more auspicious) – **9 responses**
- Improve climate control and ventilation – **8 responses**
- More space so yogis can spread out – **7 responses**
- Better/more chairs – **6 responses**
- Hearing difficulties in Dharma talks – **4 responses**

Feedback on the Dining Area

Q: Are there any improvements you would like to see made to the dining area?

Key Themes in response:

- Space is cramped even with current yogi levels (20 responses)
- Washing up arrangement could be improved and preferably be brought indoors (5 responses)

Feedback on the Grounds & Garden

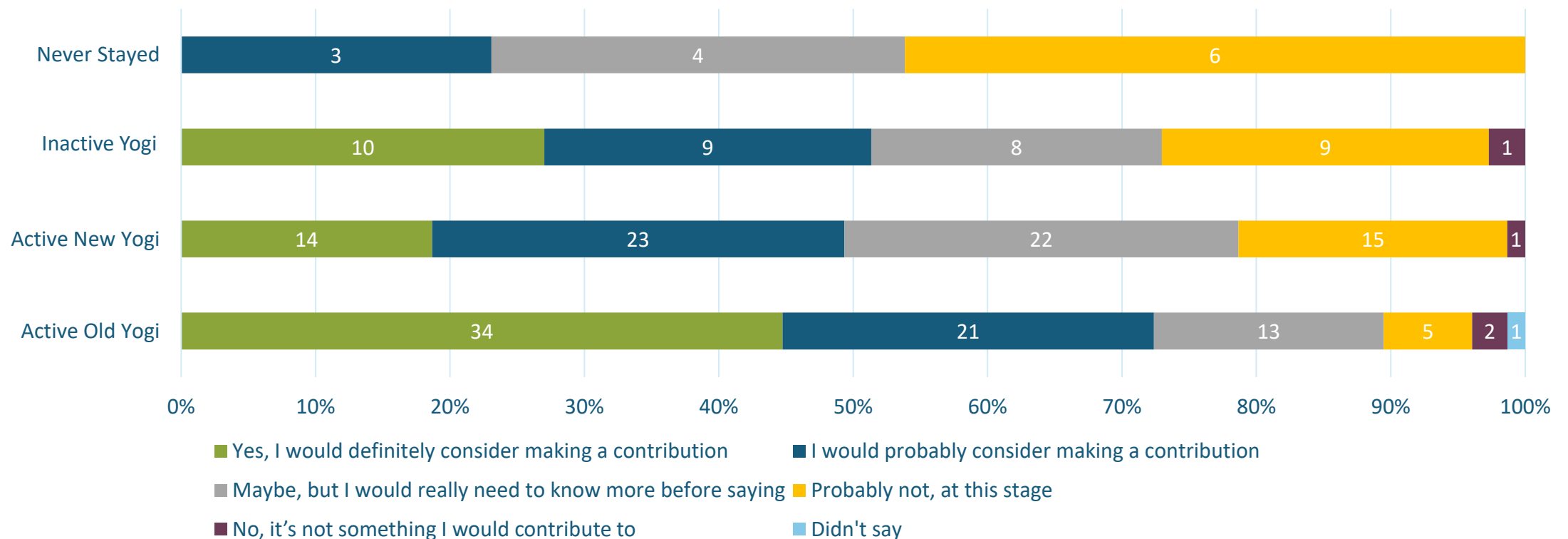
Q: Are there any improvements you would like to see made to the Grounds and garden?

Key Themes in response:

- More flat walking spaces/terracing of slopes – **13 responses**
- More outside sitting areas for contemplation – **5 responses**
- More covered walking tracks – **4 responses**
- Improved accessibility for aged and disabled people – **4 responses**

More than half the respondents indicated they would consider a financial contribution

Question: It is expected we will need to do significant fundraising to see this project realised. Would you consider contributing financially towards the improvement of the centre's facilities once you have more details about?



END