

Climate Change | What Will You Do?

Report of a Survey of NI People, Politicians and Key Decision Makers

Patricia Mackey
Sustainable Northern Ireland

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Background to Survey

- ❖ Survey carried out for the NICCIP by Sustainable Northern Ireland in March and April 2008.
- ❖ Results are based on survey returns from more than 400 members of the public, 28 MLAs, 55 key decision makers.
- ❖ Purpose of survey to help ascertain a suitable role for Northern Ireland.



Quick Survey facts – The Public

92% think human activity contributes to climate change

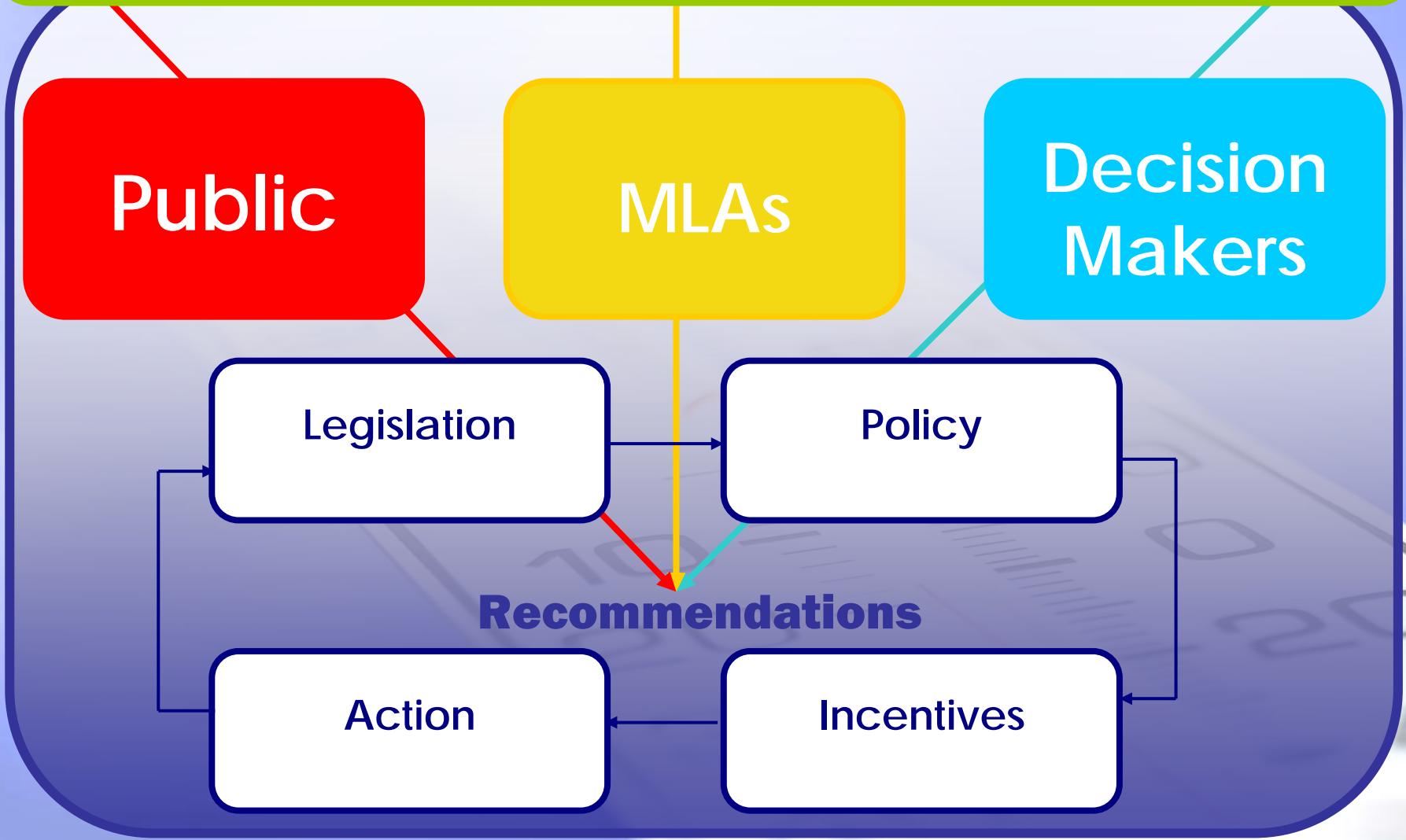
Destruction of the rainforests, powers stations, industry and transport are all thought to be significant contributors

Industry, international government and a co-ordinate approach are needed to tackle climate change

69% think there will be little or no impact on NI from climate change in the next five years

64% feel climate change will have a great deal of impact on NI in the next 50 years

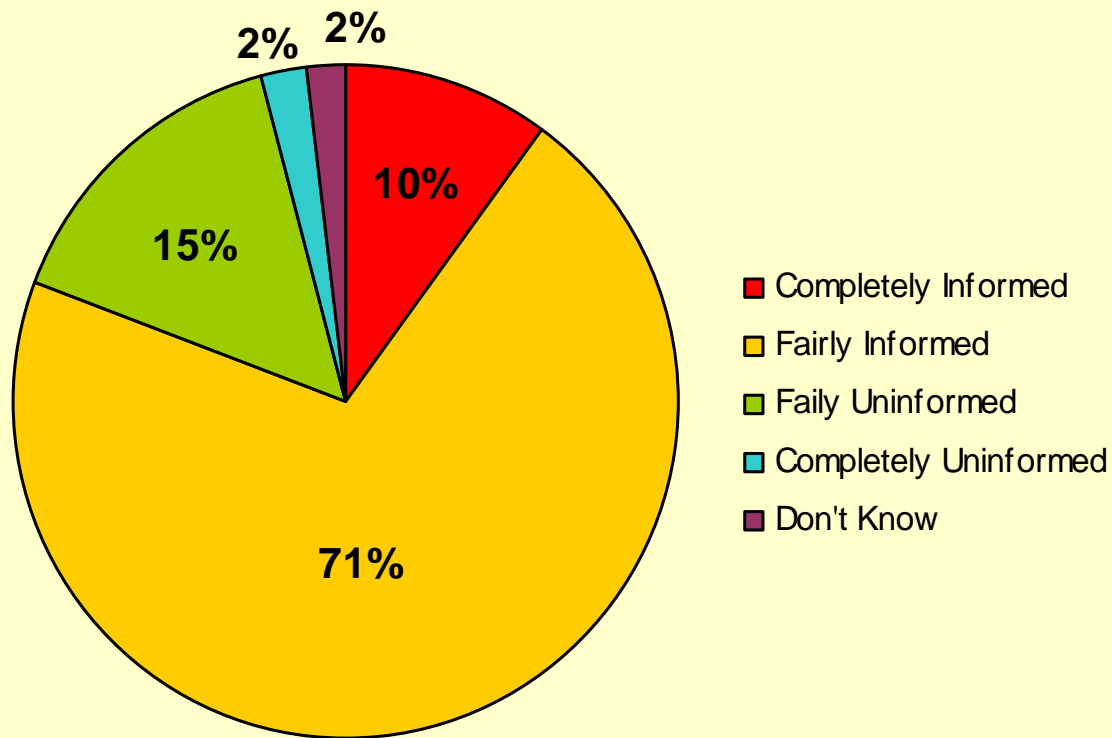
What is Northern Ireland doing about climate change?



What do the public think about climate change?

96% of respondents had heard of climate change prior to taking part in the survey

I am informed about climate change



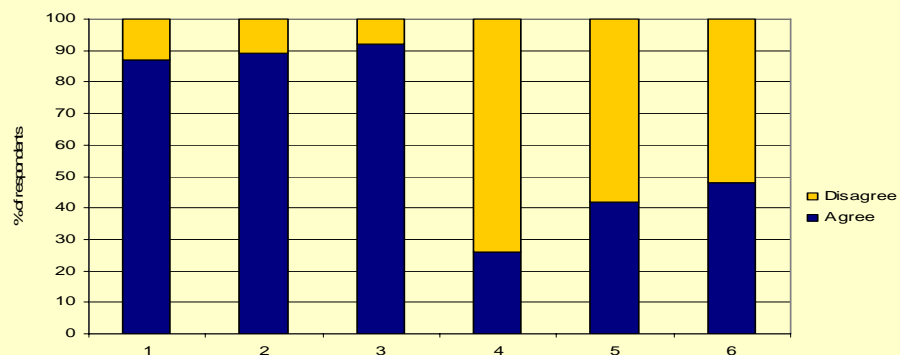
Base: 401 respondents, March 2008

Are the Public Willing to Make Lifestyle Changes?

YES

(but some help is needed)

Changing my lifestyle can make a difference



Statement 1: "I think changes to my lifestyle will help reduce climate change"

Statement 2: "I have already made changes to my lifestyle to help reduce climate changes"

Statement 3: "I would be prepared to make [more] changes to my lifestyle to help reduce climate change"

Statement 4: "I would only be prepared to make [more] changes to my lifestyle if I saw other people also making changes"

Statement 5: "I would only be prepared to make [more] changes to my lifestyle if I saw government (NI) providing the lead"

Statement 6: "I would be prepared to make [more] changes to my lifestyle as long as they do not cost me money"

Top five things the public are prepared to do ...

1. Install renewable energy
2. Sign up to an eco-tariff
3. Change to a more fuel efficient car
4. Reduce the number of electrical appliances in their house
5. Buy food with less packaging



But we don't really want to ...

- ✦ Buy 2nd hand clothes or furniture
- ✦ Grow our own food
- ✦ Eat less meat
- ✦ Take fewer flights



Quick Survey Facts - MLAs

**28 out of 104
MLAs responded**

**The NI Assembly can
have the same level of
impact as the UK
Government to help
reduce climate change**

**Only 1 feels
climate change is
a completely
natural process**

**22 feel NI's climate
is changing**

**19 MLAs think
climate change
will have an
impact on
economic
growth in NI**

**22 MLAs think that their
constituents will only be willing to
make lifestyle changes if they see
government in NI taking the lead**

**25 feel
human
activity
contributes
to climate
change**

Top Mitigation and Adaptation Priorities

Mitigation

 Increase the level of *renewable energy*

 *Lower the fuel consumption* of vehicles

 *Develop policies* to cut carbon emissions

Adaptation

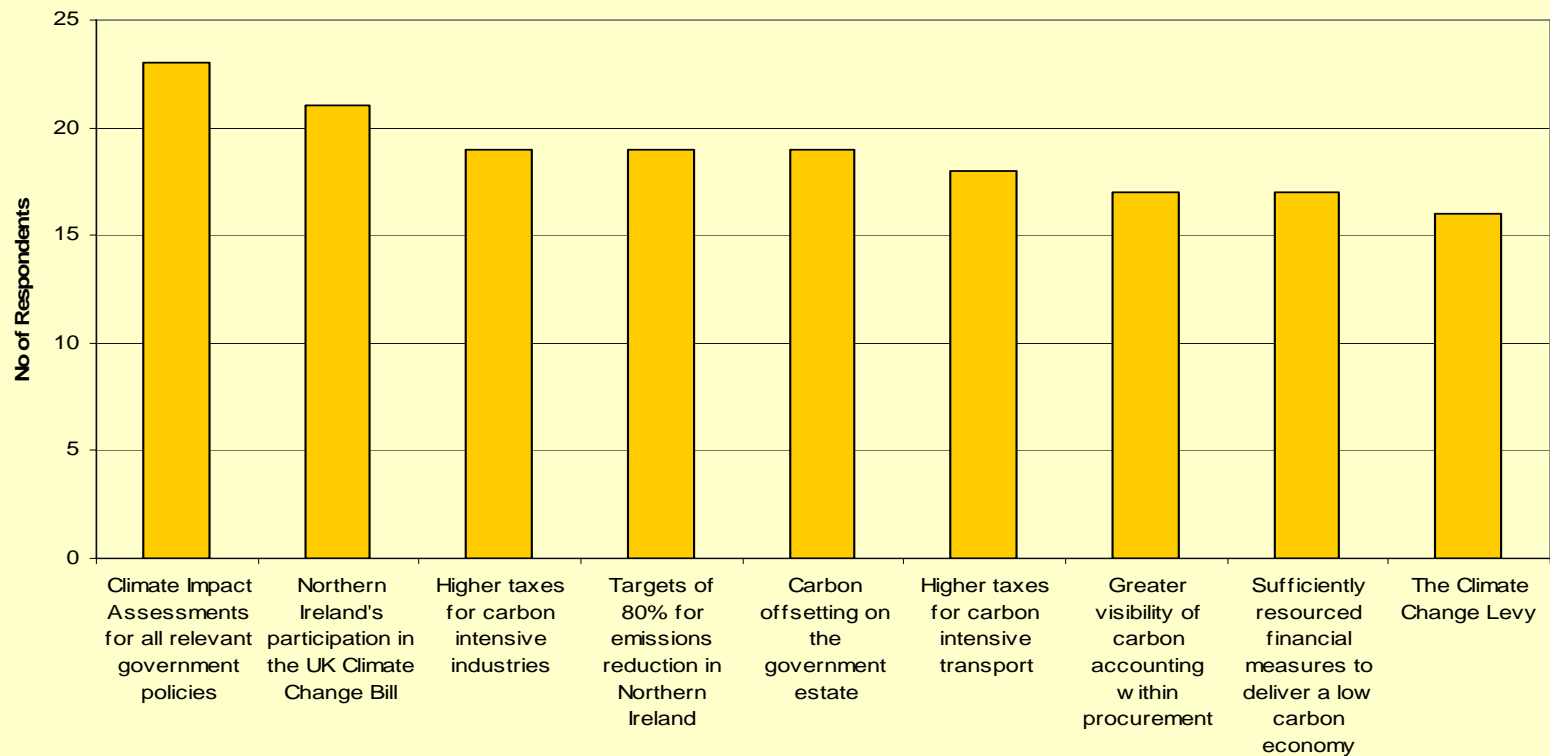
 Manage the *natural environment*

 *Update policies* to take account of climate change

 Manage *flood risks*

Incentives to reduce climate change

Climate change impact assessments for all relevant government policies



Results out of 28 respondents

Quick Survey Facts – Decision Makers

55 key decision makers responded to the survey

51 key decision makers feel either completely or fairly informed about climate change

World governments and industry could have the greatest impact to reduce climate change

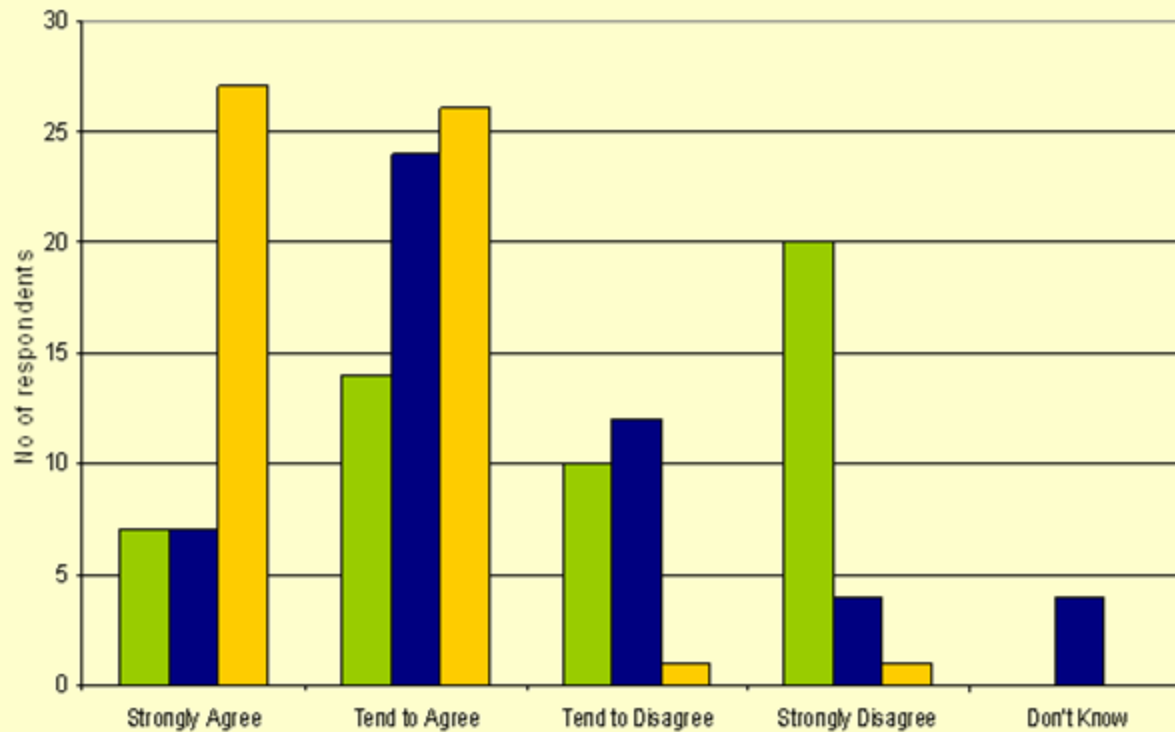
36 key decision makers have a good understanding of climate change and are developing a Strategy for their organisation

34 respondents feel the main driver for their organisations Strategy (or similar) is leadership from senior management

Other issues and lack of staff time stop organisations from giving climate change higher priority

A Role for Key Decision Makers?

Do you agree with the statements?



Climate change is more of a global issue than one for NI

Changes to the climate have already had an impact on this organisation

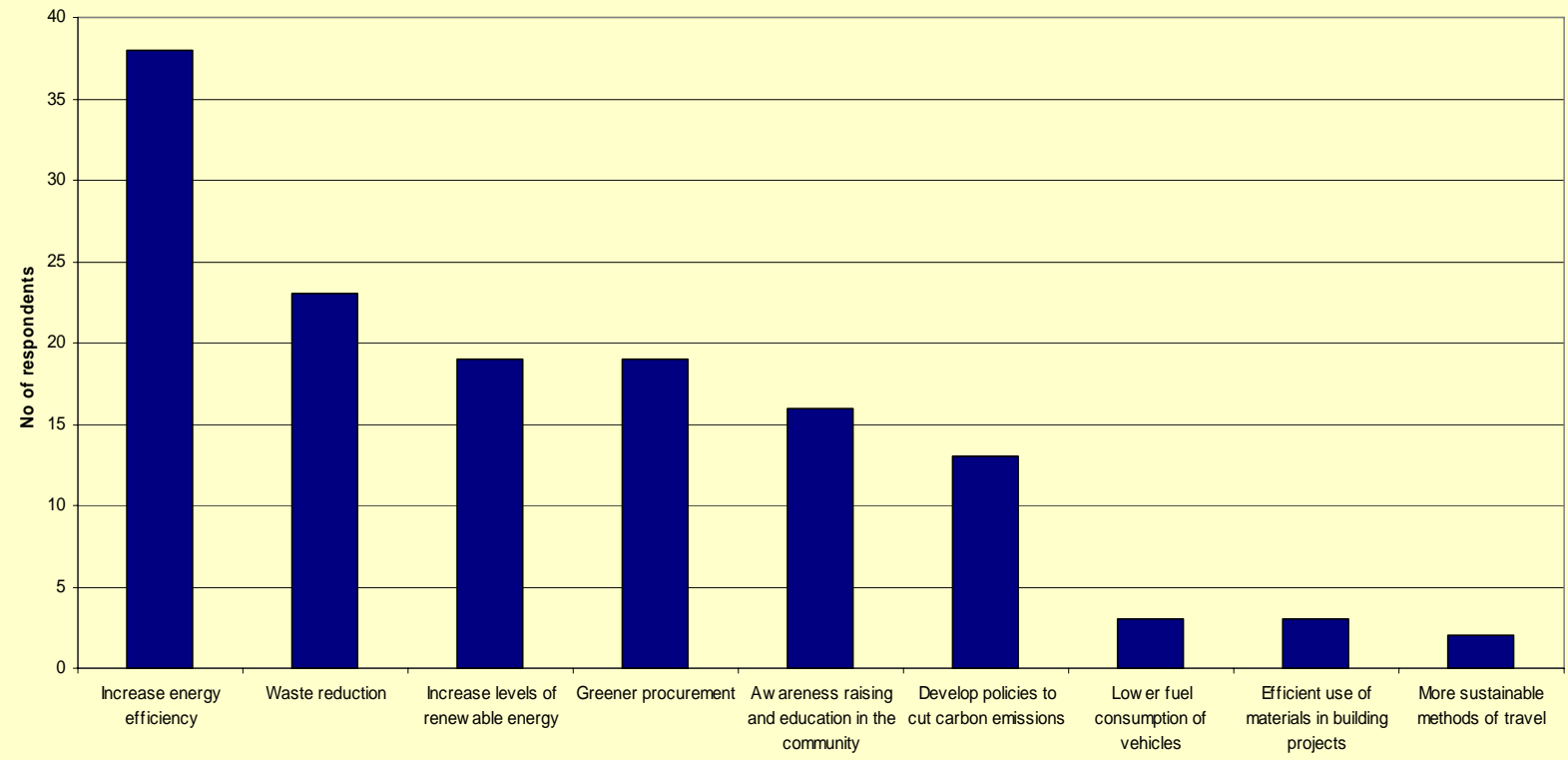
This organisation can contribute towards reducing climate change



KEY
DECISION
MAKERS

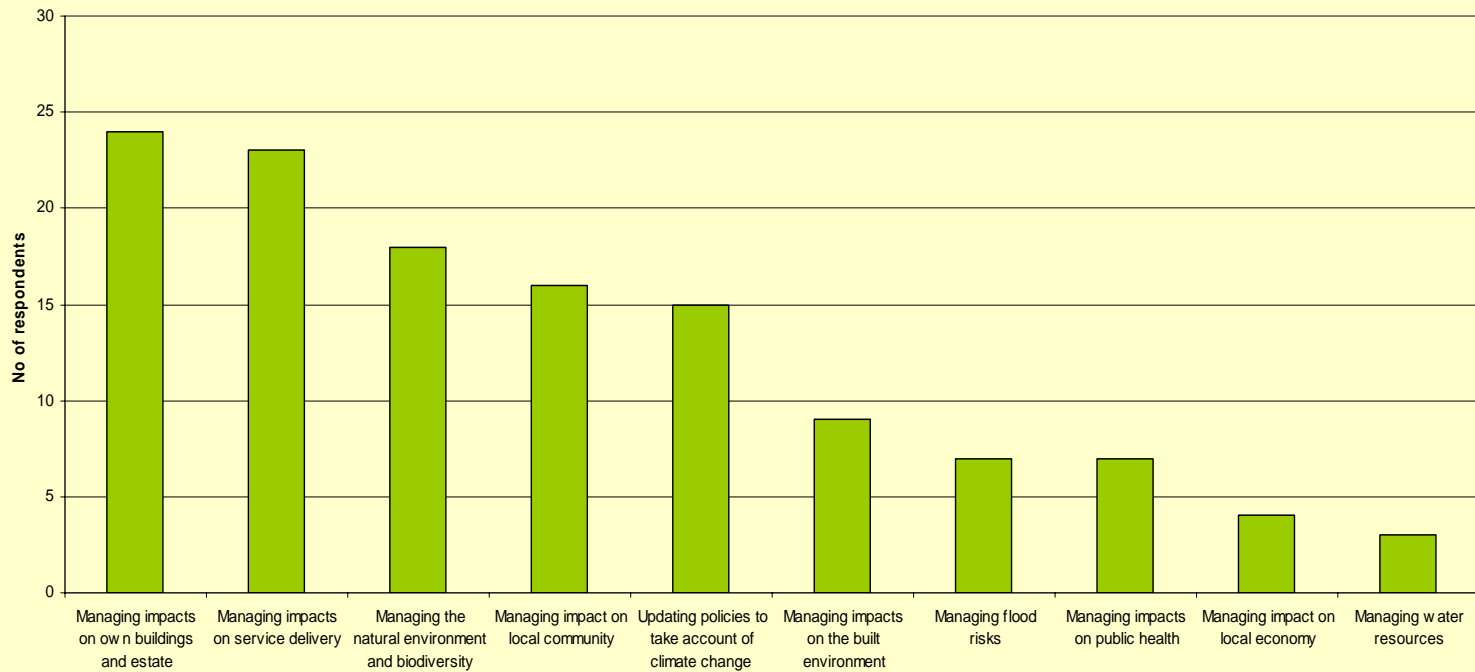
Mitigation Priorities

Mitigation priorities of decision makers



Adaptation Priorities

Adaptation priorities of decision makers



So What Next...

The Climate is Changing

There is consensus that human impact is one of the causes

Most respondents accept they have a role to play to deal with the problem

We need recommendations to complete the survey report

Questions to consider

What part should NI's play, what policies are needed, what to people need to do, what incentives are needed, can we measure the impact the actions may have