

Relationships with the public sector:

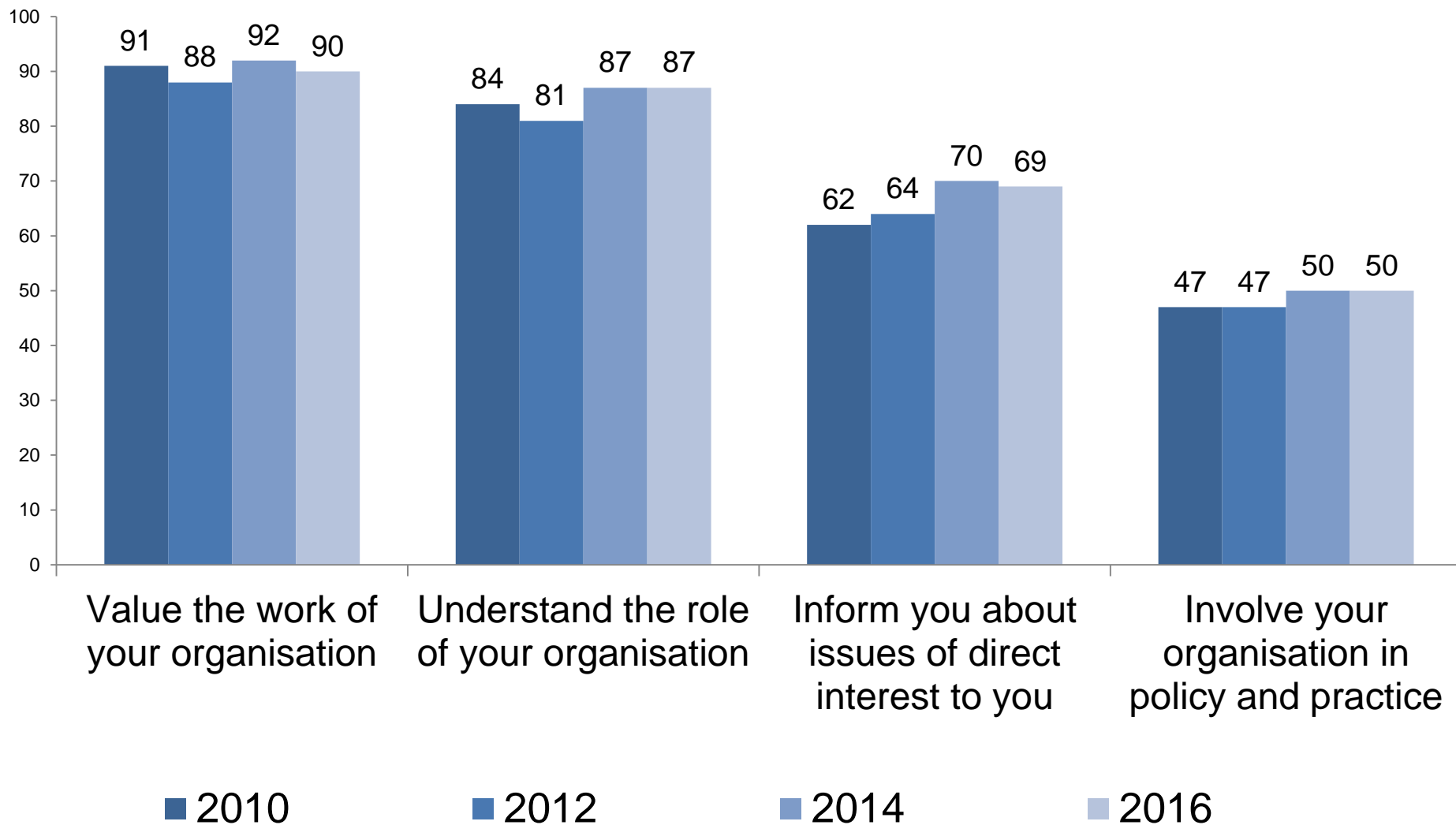
Evidence from Third Sector Trends

The future of civil society in Tees Valley,
ILG Seminar, Riverside Stadium, 5th July 2019

Tony Chapman, St Chad's College, Durham University



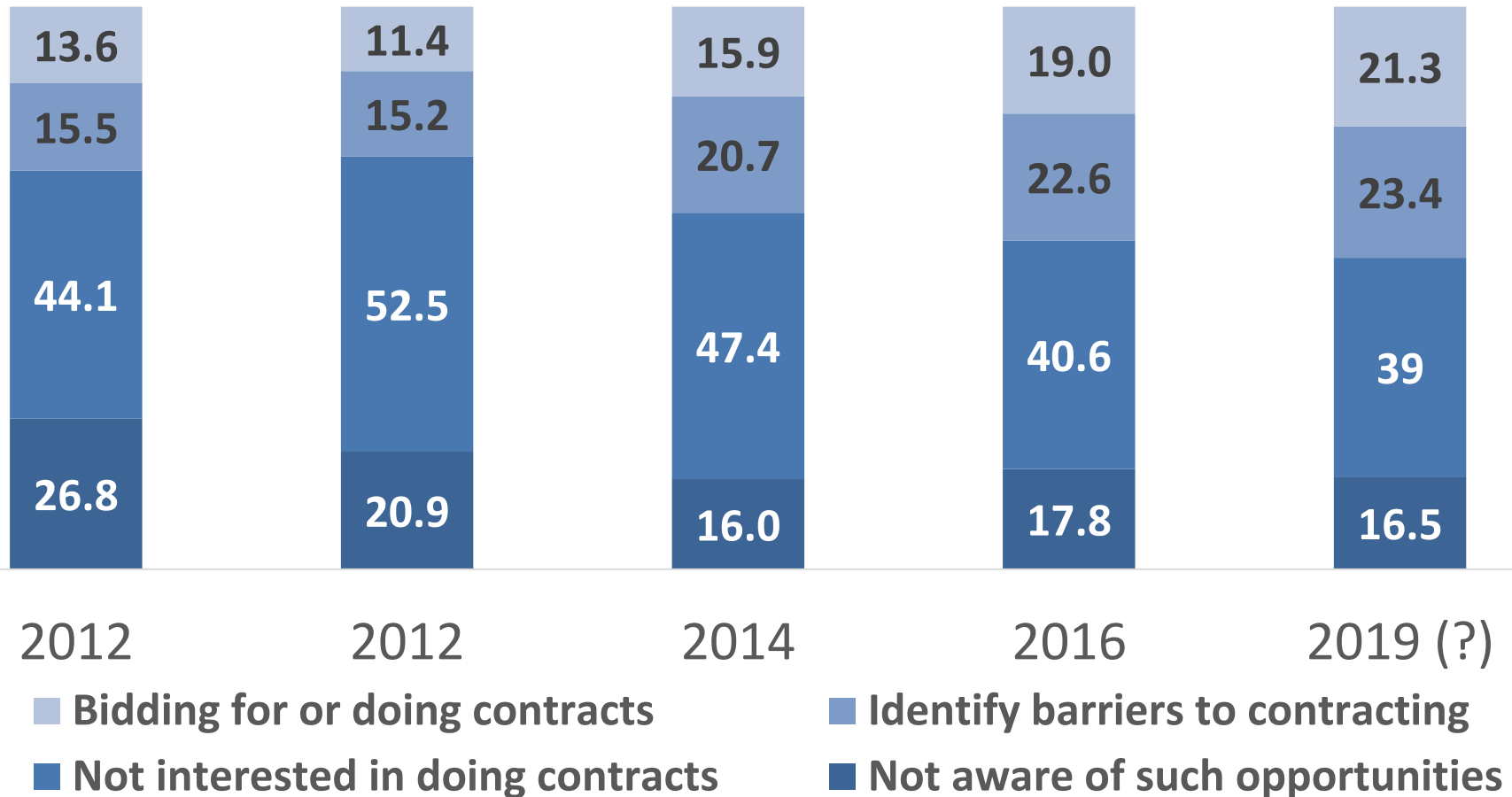
How do TSOs feel about working with the public sector?



Who wants to influence the public sector?

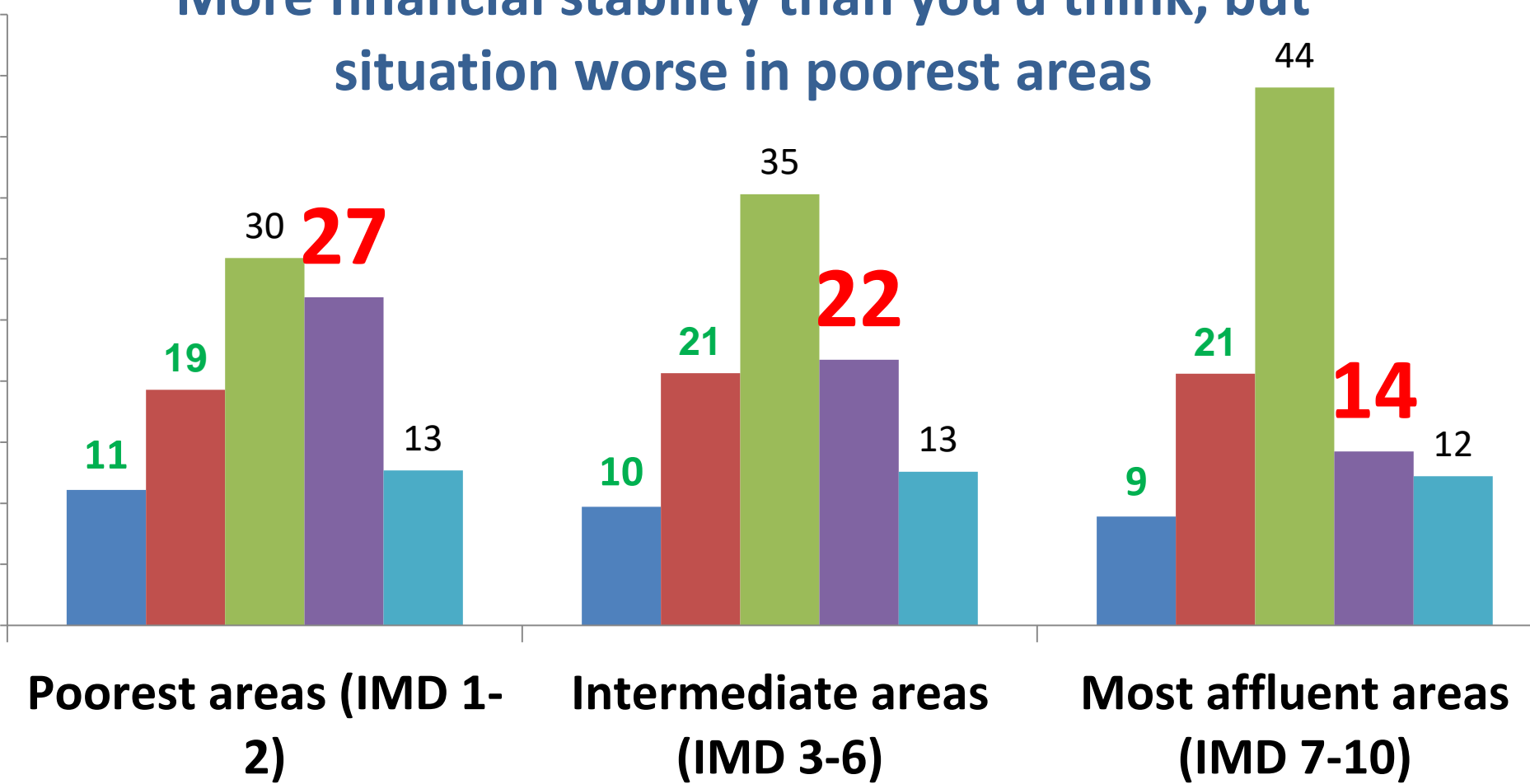
<i>Percentage of TSOs which “strongly agree” with statements</i>	“We want to influence local decision makers in the public sector so that more is achieved in our area”
Rugged independents	9.0%
Independent with informal connections	15.4%
Work closely but informally	24.6%
Plan to work more formally	41.2%
Have formal working relationships	46.2%
Bid successfully in partnership	62.9%

How many are getting involved in public service delivery?*



These data are for general illustration only. The first three bars related to the NE and Cumbria, and are not comparable with the remaining bars. 2016 data are for the whole of the North, and 2019 data are from an incomplete study and are therefore indicative only.

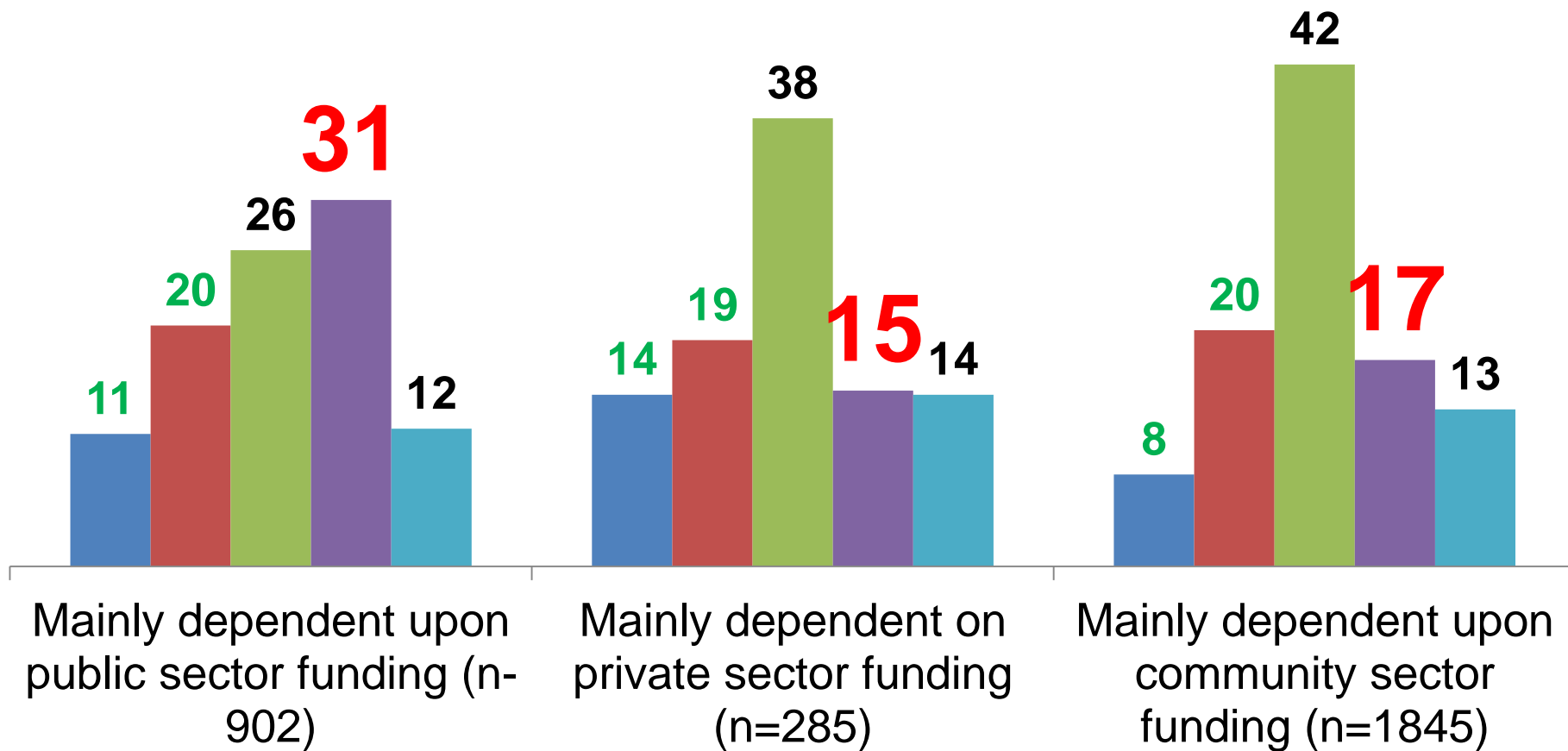
More financial stability than you'd think, but situation worse in poorest areas



- In a very strong position
- In a stable position
- Experiencing mixed fortunes

- In a strong position
- In a weak position

TSOs' wellbeing by main income source, those funded mainly by public sector more vulnerable



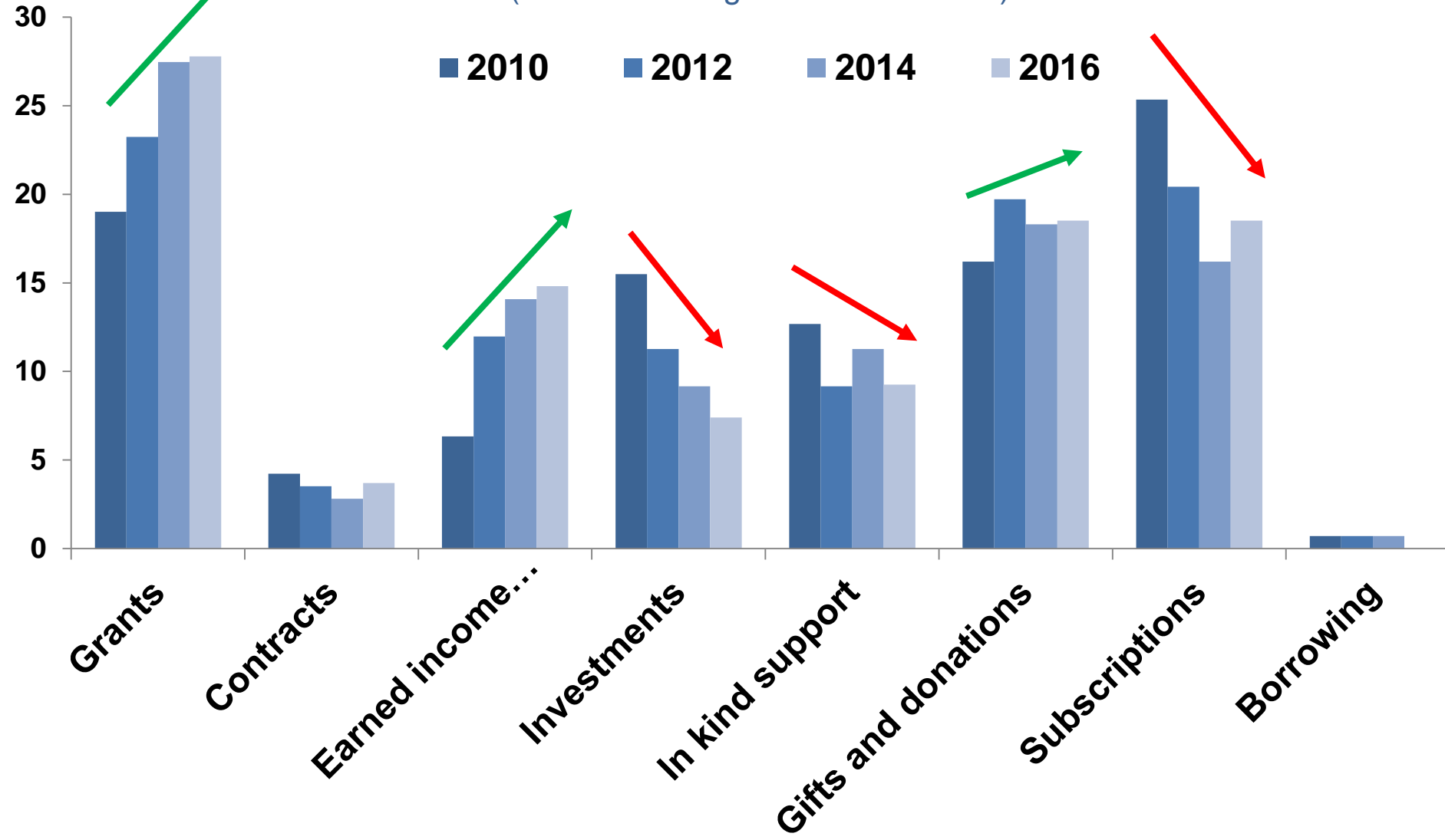
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Use of reserves in North East England sub-regions 2016 (2014 data in parentheses)	Northumberland	Tyne and Wear	County Durham	Tees Valley	North East England
No reserves	16.1 (19.8)	20.7 (21.1)	20.8 (27.6)	20.3 (26.4)	19.7 (23.1)
Reserves not used	41.4 (34.1)	37.3 (39.9)	43.8 (36.8)	35.9 (32.2)	39.0 (36.5)
Reserves used for development	13.4 (16.8)	15.5 (12.7)	10.1 (9.8)	16.9 (13.0)	14.4 (13.2)
Reserves used for essential costs	21.5 (21.3)	21.6 (21.7)	15.2 (20.7)	19.5 (18.7)	19.8 (20.9)
Reserves used for a mix of purposes	7.5 (7.9)	5.0 (4.5)	10.1 (5.1)	7.4 (9.7)	7.0 (6.4)
N=	186 (193)	343 (308)	178 (171)	231 (147)	938 (819)

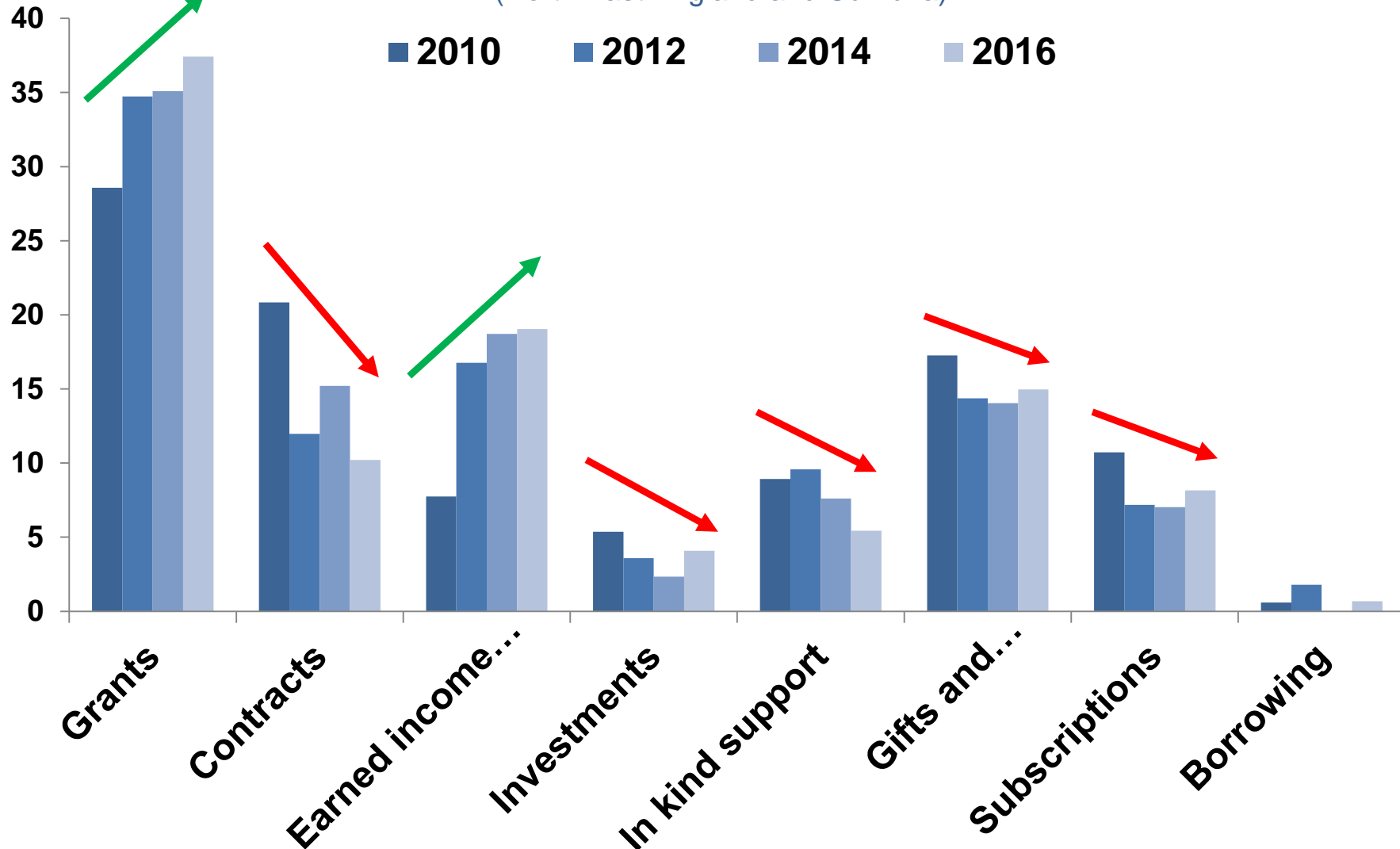
Relative dependence on income sources by smaller TSOs (under £50,000 income)

(North East England and Cumbria)



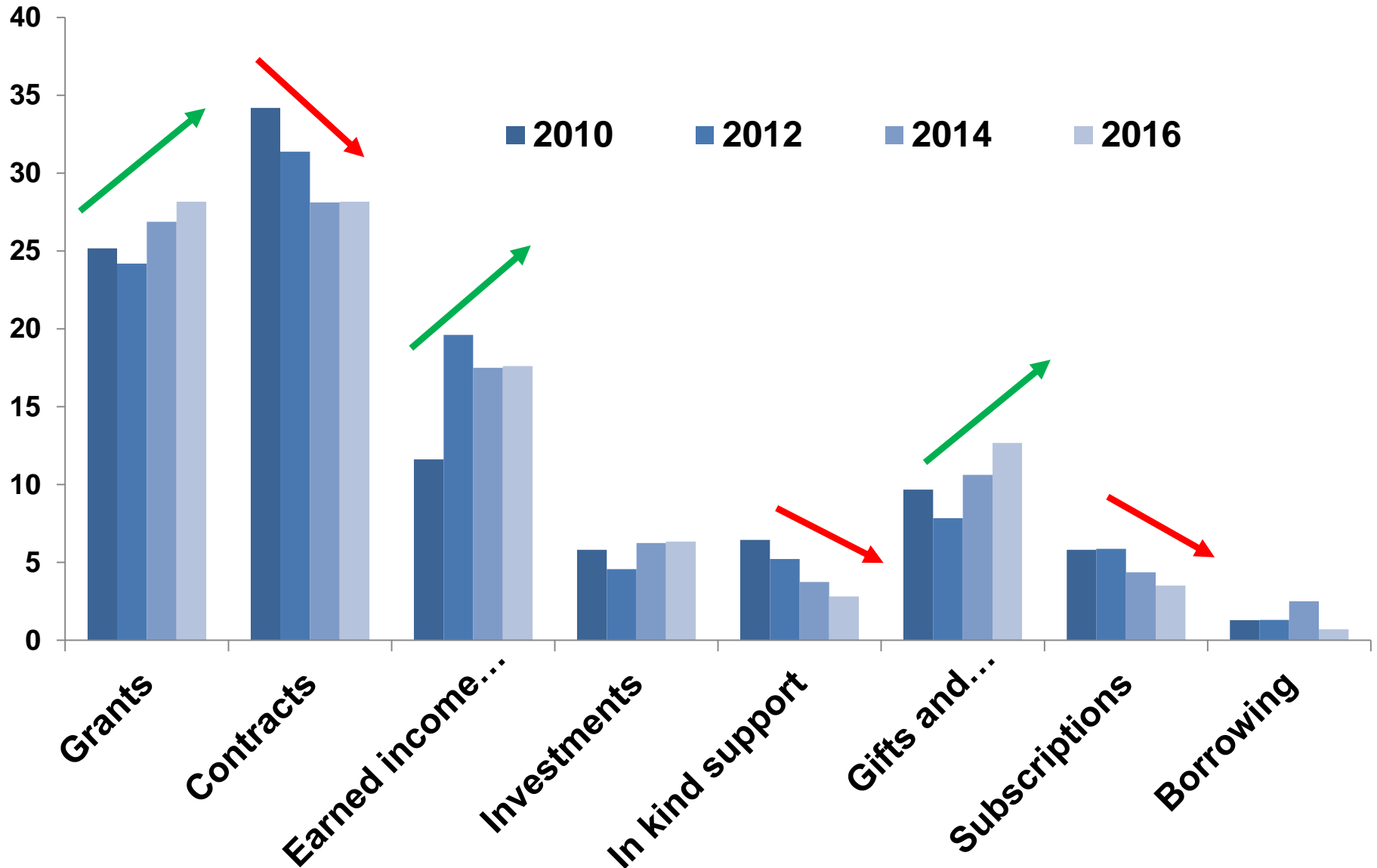
Relative dependence on income sources by medium sized TSOs (£50,001- £250,000 income)

(North East England and Cumbria)



Relative dependence on income sources by larger TSOs (£250,001 or more)

(North East England and Cumbria)



Key questions to consider?

- **Contracts** are getting bigger, more demanding and more complex – but their value is falling – why do them if you're losing money?
- **Grants** for big and small organisations are vital, especially in poorer areas – but are they serving the right purposes?
- Other forms of '**trading**' are growing in importance – but is this the future for everyone?

Please do the survey!!

<https://durham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/third-sector-trends-in-the-north-of-england-2019-live-s-2>

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