

# Share & Repair Network Sharing Library Impact Survey Report



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# Executive Summary

## Background

This survey was conducted in August and September 2023 by Circular Communities Scotland's **Share and Repair Network**. The aim was to provide an overview of the delivery and impact of sharing libraries. A total of **948** responses were received from current members of **16** sharing libraries across Scotland.

## Overview

The survey data presents a powerful demonstration of the positive impacts of community-based sharing projects.

### Economic impact

- **94%** of people said their use of the sharing library had saved them money.
- We estimate a total annual saving of **£953,251** for items borrowed rather than purchased.
- There is evidence of further indirect financial saving through individuals being able to repair items rather than buy new.

### Environmental impact

- **81%** of respondents stated that sharing library use had helped reduce their carbon footprint.
- We estimate that sharing projects generate a 10-year direct carbon saving of **2700 tonnes** from people borrowing rather than buying items. Further carbon savings are achieved by using loans for the repair of items rather than having to dispose and purchase new.
- **90%** of people said that their use of the sharing library had made them think twice before buying things in general.

### Social impact

- **82%** of respondents feel more a part of their community by being involved with a Sharing Library
- **68%** stated that involvement had helped them be more comfortable, healthy or happy.

The survey also covered factors impacting on project delivery. The results point to a desire from users for an overall increase in accessibility of projects in terms of opening hours.

# Impacts

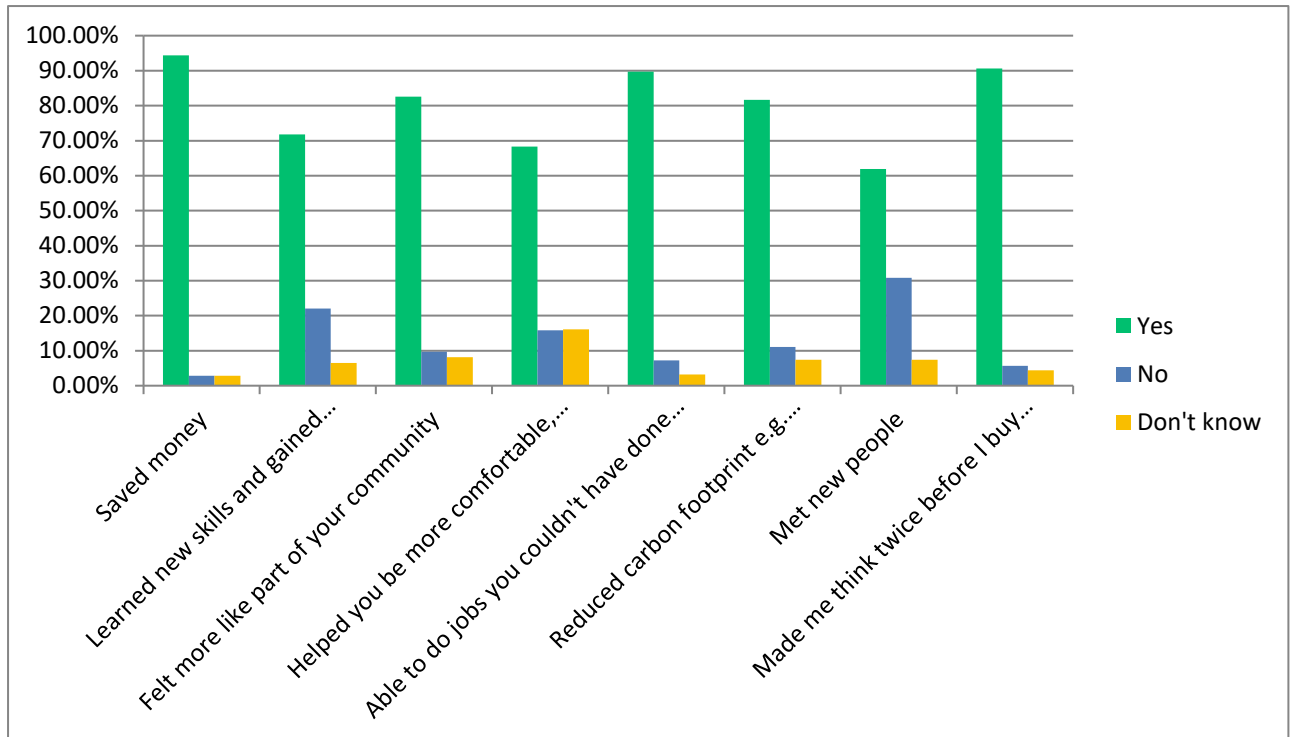


Figure 1. In the time you've been using your sharing library, have you benefited from the following?

## Financial savings

Over **94%** of respondents stated they had saved money by using a sharing library. This can be attributed to both direct and indirect savings.

### Direct savings

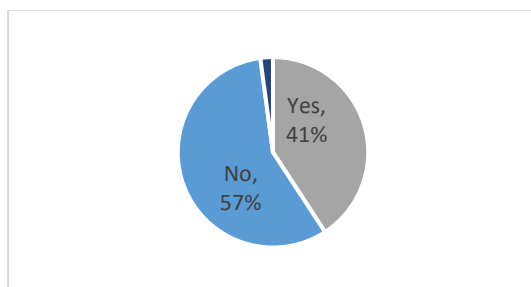


Figure 2. If you couldn't have borrowed this item, would you have purchased it new?

41% of respondents stated that they would have purchased an item if it had not been available to borrow. When asked to estimate how much they would have spent, the average of all responses was **£107**. We estimate that

there are approximately 21,729 loans in Scotland each year. Therefore, we can estimate that sharing libraries save communities approximately £953,251 per year.

“An indispensable community resource that allows low-income people like me to access resources I wouldn’t be able to otherwise.”

“Saved me a lot of money where the repair is essential and I’ve not owned the tools.”

“Just a fantastic concept - I can’t stress how transformative for me this has been. £100s saved on buying DIY equipment that would’ve sat in storage (that I don’t have).”

“I’ve just bought a flat and I am really struggling financially so to be able to borrow tools I might only need once or twice is an amazing service. ..I don’t have a car either so having this service locally is really great... It’s an amazing resource “

### Indirect savings

Through open questions, respondents shared stories of how access to items from the sharing libraries had saved them money. This included being able to repair items - saving respondents from either having to purchase new or pay someone to fix things for them.

“So useful in allowing me to access tools I couldn’t otherwise afford. I completed several woodworking repair jobs at home on bits of furniture I would have had to replace otherwise, so I saved more money there. I’m also glad I didn’t have to buy tools that I would only use rarely, it makes much more sense.”

“Discovering this community tool library has been absolutely wonderful. I have been able to complete projects around my home that were unaffordable before”

“It has really helped tackle new projects in my house and garden that I otherwise would’ve avoided due to not having the correct tools and not wanting to buy tools I don’t have space to keep. It’s also saved me a lot of money in cases where the repair is essential, and I’ve not owned the tools.”

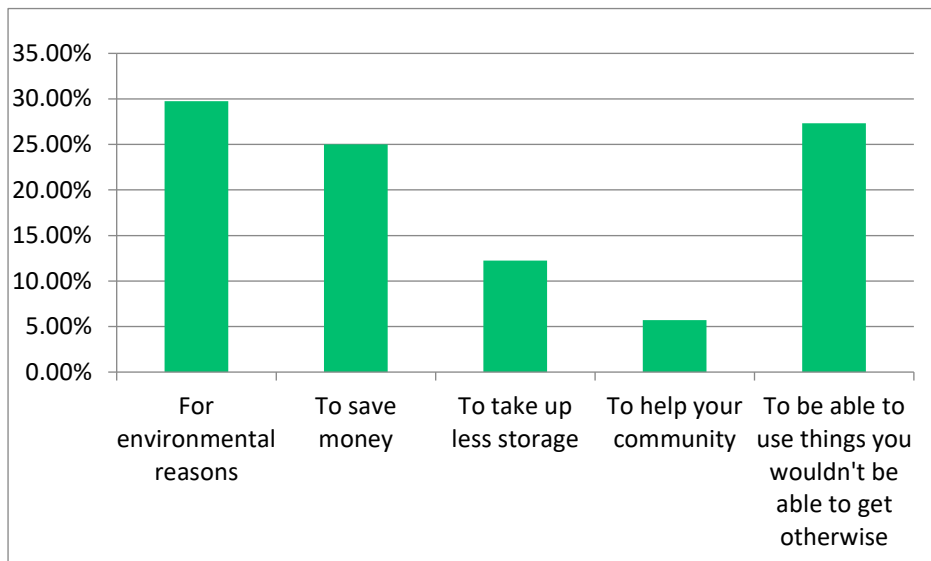


Figure 3. What is your main motivation for using a sharing library?

The financial and practical issues of cost saving, storage and having access to something that would otherwise be unavailable made up **64%** of the primary motivation for people to use a sharing library (Figure 3). This ties in with the findings of the [attitudinal survey](#) of the general public commissioned by the Share and Repair network in early 2023 which found money saving and practical considerations to be overriding factors that would prompt people to use a sharing project.

## Environmental impact

### Direct carbon savings

Annual direct carbon savings from purchases avoided (figure 1) have been estimated to be **279 tonnes**.<sup>1</sup> Assuming a 10-year lifetime to a sharing project this would be a saving of **2790 tonnes** over 10 years.

**81%** of respondents stated that sharing library use had helped reduce their carbon footprint ( Figure 1).

### Indirect carbon savings

There is evidence that Sharing Projects also have indirect positive impacts on carbon reduction. Open response questions demonstrate the use of loans to repair and upcycle items that otherwise would have gone to landfill and been replaced by new purchases. There was also evidence of carbon reduction through the loan of items that improved home efficiency or reductions in waste.

<sup>1</sup> 41% of people would have purchased an item if loan not available. Number of total loans based on estimate of 21,729 loans per annum across Scotland (2022 survey). Carbon savings calculated using [The Farnham Calculator](#) .

“Without you I’d have had several tons of waste to dispose of, but now [*by borrowing a shredder*] I have a ton of compost for my garden”

“When I used the sewing machine for example I repaired some clothes that I would otherwise have thrown out, and then bought a replacement for. It was great I could make this repair, save money and help the environment all at once!”

“..the thermal leak detector, which was the last thing I borrowed, I wouldn't have bought myself, so I wouldn't have done anything about the issues. I borrowed on a whim and found some glaring cold spots in my home, which I now know to tackle. Because it is mainly just draughts, it's simple fixes that I can solve myself, which will save me more money, and reduce my carbon footprint. If I hadn't had the option to try this out, I would have continued in blissful ignorance.”

“I upcycled a second-hand bed for my son using the tool library sander. I'd never used a power tool before so was a little nervous, but it was so easy it's given me the confidence to try more projects. I've been so grateful for the quality of the tools available. I'd never have been able to afford that level of quality”.

### Attitudinal change

There is clear evidence of positive attitudinal change. **90%** of people said that their use of the sharing library had made them think twice before buying things in general. [Figure 1]

When asked to select one factor that motivated them to join the sharing library, just over 30% stated environmental reasons, whilst cost of living and other practical issues combined to represent 64% of responses. [Figure 3]. Whilst it may be that environmental factors are not the primary motivator for involvement, there does appear to be an openness to embrace and celebrate the positive environmental impacts of using a project.

“The Tool Library has been a fantastic addition to the local community. The whole project is amazing and definitely made me think twice about the things I buy.”

“It has made me think more about borrowing rather than buying generally, has assisted me undertaking diy I wouldn't otherwise been able to do and helped me meet people in my new home. Love it!”

“an amazing resource and has definitely helped us think twice before buying tools we won't use often. Helping us live sustainably!”

“Overall I've learned how to reuse and recycle rather than buy new. I would contact the tool library before buying any tools that I'm not likely to use on a regular basis”

## Social Benefits

Open response questions showed the positive impacts of what can be achieved by borrowing from a sharing library. These statements help to describe the data response that **68%** of people were helped to be more comfortable, healthy or happy [Figure 3]. The fact that **82%** felt more like part of their community from using the library [Figure 3] further explains the positive well-being response.

Social benefits described included being able to afford to improve living conditions and home environment, being able to take part in activities that may otherwise not be available, meeting new people and having a positive sense of community involvement.

“Love the place! The best enterprise I have ever come across - I got new hobby, met amazing people, got involved with the community, don't feel as lonely and used workshops to build fun things for myself, friends and family. Planning to volunteer there to give back and pay forward!”

“Apple press has been used as part of a locally grown fruit festival, bringing people together as well as using fruit and providing apple juice”

“It is great to be able to borrow not just tools but other things like camping equipment to go on holiday in nature and not need to buy lots of new things that will be used so infrequently.”

I primarily borrow the carpet cleaner, this is not something I could afford to buy or rent and it makes such an impact on my mental and physical health. I am able to have a clean house, I have an elderly dog who sometimes has accidents and you can imagine that can cause me embarrassment when having visitors over. I started to borrow the more fun items such as a projector. This is so fun! I had a whole cinema night at home for my kids. I felt like a good mum being able to provide that experience.”

“The Tool Library has been a wonderful resource. It's not just tools, but having knowledgeable and friendly people who will give advice. (So, maybe I could have bought a mitre saw, for example, but without them I would not have known that was what I needed or how to use it.)”

“I've used all steamers available, and they were all decent, but the floor one is amazing. I had stains on my floors and I was worried about my deposit, I've tried everything to remove paint stains and it didn't work, but then I borrowed floor steamer and it cleaned it all. I feel so much relief and my life got so much easier.”

71% of respondents said they learned new skills and gained confidence from their involvement with the sharing library and this is backed up by open answers which cite the positive impact of knowledge sharing and skills enhancement. This relates to the fact that many projects are run by skilled and knowledgeable staff and volunteers, and many have a programme of skills workshops that run alongside the library service.

“I would never be able to afford tools and I was proud when I learned to use a drill”

“I have learnt so many new skills through this incredible place in a warm, safe, welcoming and super friendly environment”

“I’ve also had the opportunity to share my experience in building and repairing, with the community, and in turn learned quite a lot of new skills.”

## Project Delivery

The survey looked at the overall provision provided by projects across Scotland – what different projects provided and how they were used by their members.

### Regularity of library use

40% of respondents had borrowed more than 5 items within the previous year. This implies a strong habitual use of the library and touches again on the potential of projects to encourage and support behaviour change.

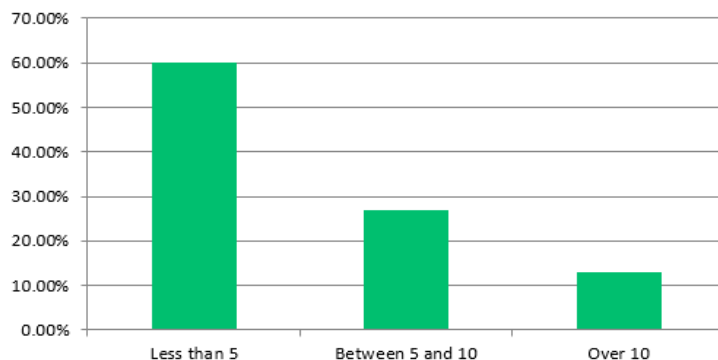


Figure 4. How many items have you borrowed in the last year?

## Variety of items borrowed

DIY tools make up the majority of loans at 55%, with gardening and landscaping making up 24%. The remaining 30% demonstrates the range of items available at libraries from musical instruments to camping equipment, sewing machines, carpet cleaners and thermal heat loss cameras. Social impact responses demonstrate there is clearly an appetite for borrowing a wide range of items.

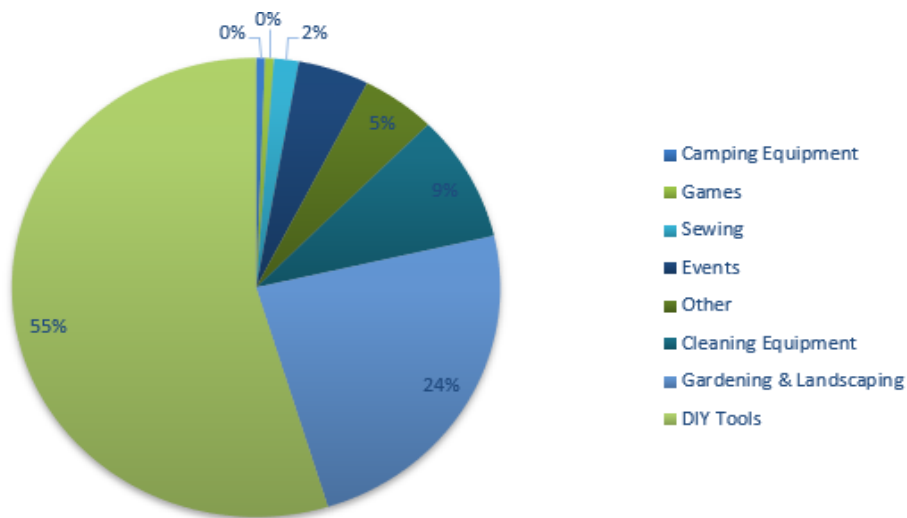


Figure 5. Items borrowed by category

## Factors that matter

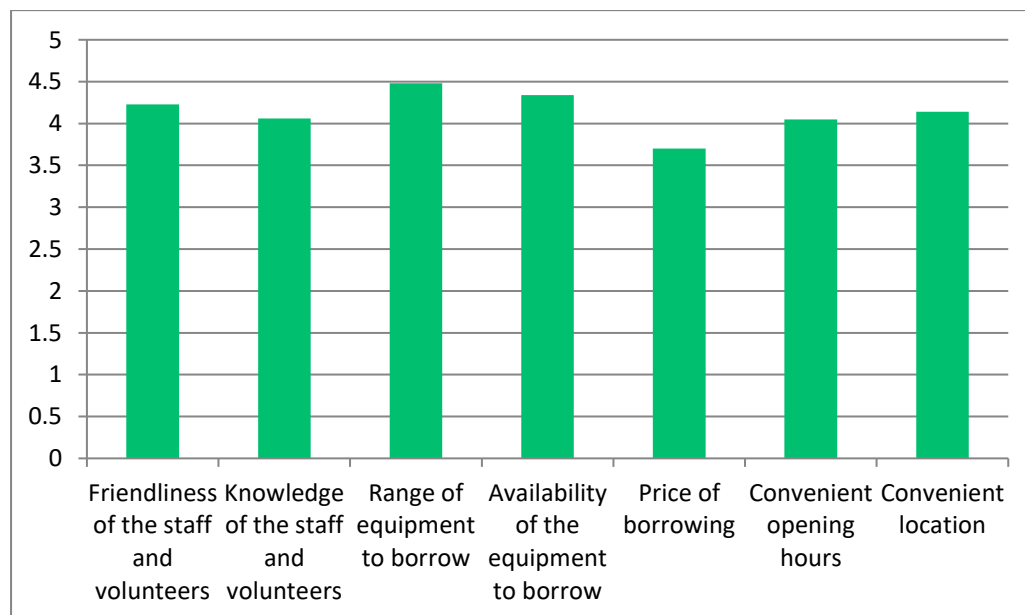
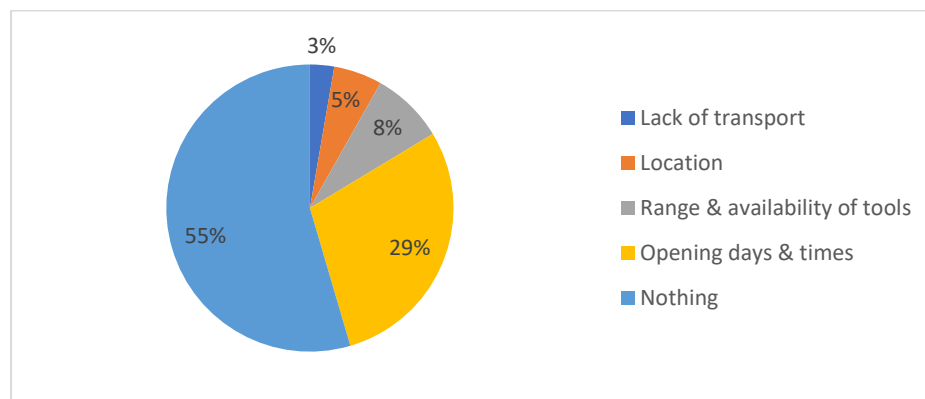


Figure 6. How much do the following matter to you? (answers weighted by average)

For current users who already know the benefits and costs of using a sharing library, **range and availability of equipment** top the list of factors they feel to be important with 55% (range) and 47% (availability) of people stating these factors are extremely important to them. This contrasts with 28% of people stating that the price of borrowing is extremely important. This could be because over 94% of people acknowledge that using the sharing library saves them money.

## Barriers

Is there anything that stops you from borrowing more from your tool library?



Nearly 30% of users cite opening dates and times as a barrier to more engagement. This is a significant percentage of current active users. Most sharing libraries have very limited opening hours - perhaps only 4 - 6 hours per week, due to funds and availability of volunteers.

This result ties in with results of the [Uncovering Key Consumer Insights report](#) where 41% of respondents said poor opening times would put them off visiting a sharing project. Consumers expect convenience. In order for projects to respond to this demand there would need to be a subsequent increase in funding to cover an increase in hours.

“I would use the service more regularly if it was closer to me or open longer hours”

“Working full time means it's hard to go there within opening hours”.

Availability of equipment can be limited as a consequence of a library being well used. Improving the range and quantity of equipment available can be a significant developmental step for all libraries and can be achieved through donations but has a subsequent impact on maintenance time and costs.

## Demographics

The 2023 [attitudinal survey](#) commissioned by the Share and Repair network demonstrated that there is a public perception that sharing projects are for everyone. This is largely born out by the results of this survey with data clearly showing that sharing projects are not the preserve of one sector of society. [Appendix 1]

- The proportion of women to men reflects Scotland wide statistics.
- 87% of survey respondents defined themselves as white, compared to a Scotland wide figure of [96%](#). This may reflect the high volume of responses from projects in ethnically diverse areas of Scotland's larger cities.
- 3% of those who responded identify as gay or lesbian - in line with [UK](#) wide statistics.
- Comparative data is not available for questions about gender identity. These statistics can be followed up when census information is published later in 2023.

The main discrepancy with the general population was regarding disability. 13% of respondents stated that they considered themselves to have a disability. This compares to the [Scottish Health Survey](#) estimate that 32% of adults in Scotland have a disability. There is possibly scope for the network to explore disability awareness and inclusivity training.

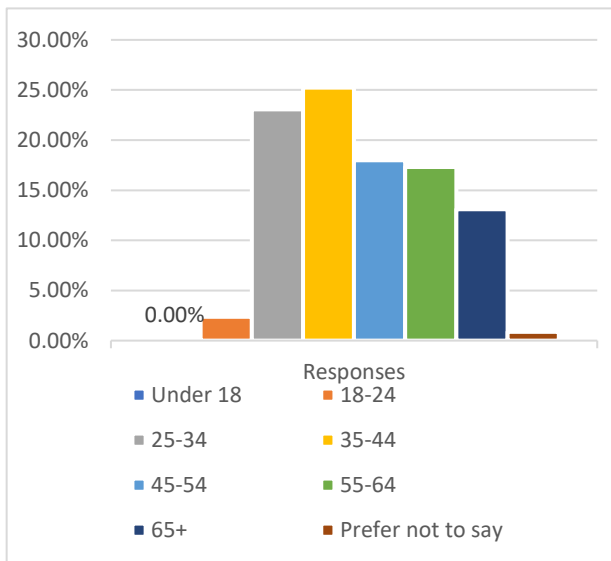
## Conclusion & recommendations

- The positive financial, environmental and social impacts of sharing libraries are clearly demonstrated and there is strong evidence that these projects are valued by their communities. This evidence is important for projects to reflect their impacts to funders, stakeholders and potential new users.
- Users do care about the positive environmental benefits of borrowing rather than buying, but saving money is important as well.
- There is scope for expansion of projects in relation to opening hours and range of inventory if there are ways that funding and staffing can be found to allow for this.
- It could be useful for projects to ask users specific questions relevant to the type of item lent in order to help further quantify their positive environmental and social impacts. For example:
  - For tools - Did the loan mean that something was fixed which otherwise would have gone to landfill?
  - For garden shredders - Did the loan mean you were able to increase your level of home composting?
  - For gazebos, tents, apple press etc - did your loan support a community activity?

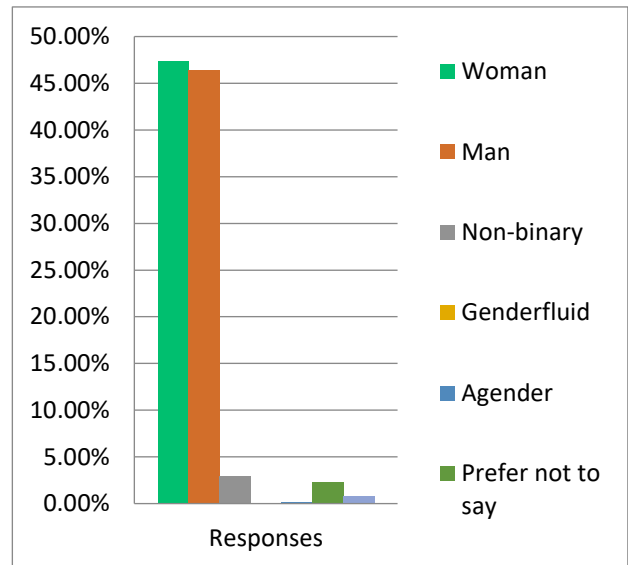
# Appendix 1

## Demographics

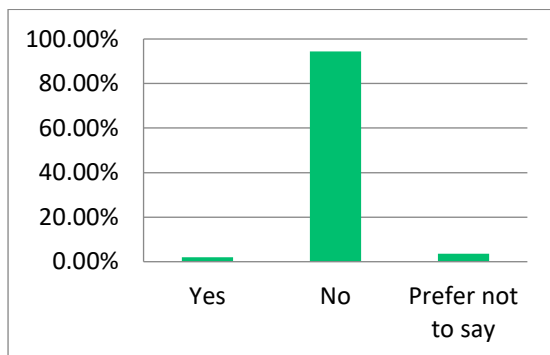
Age



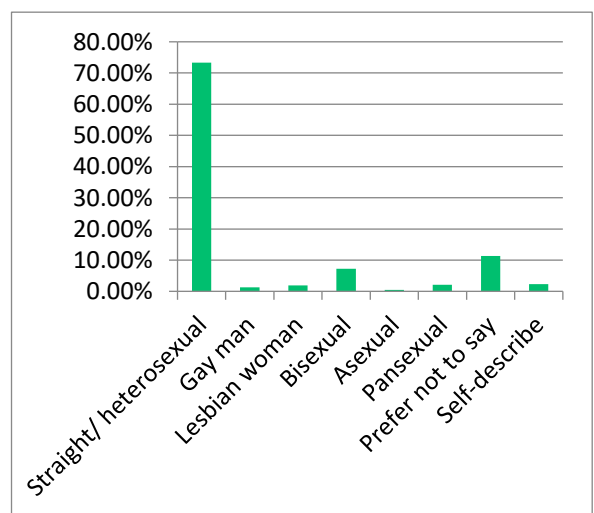
Gender



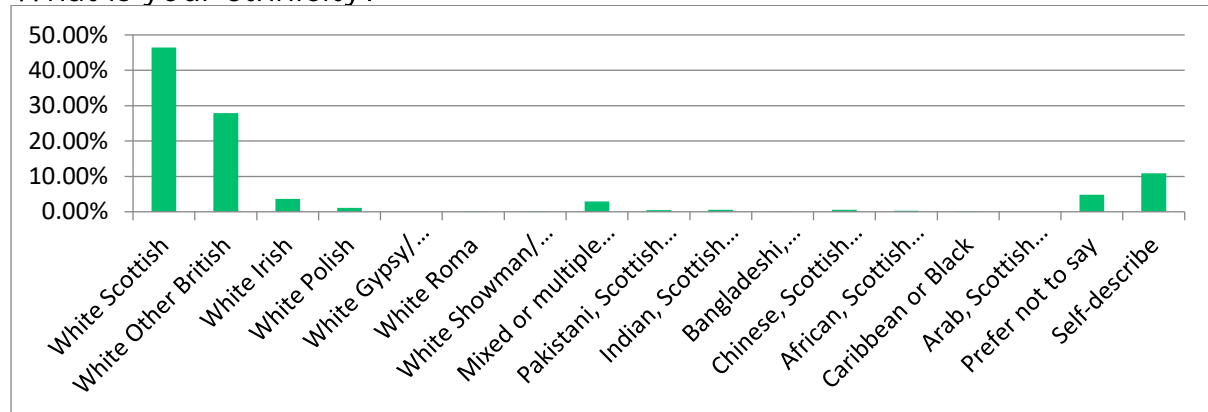
Do you consider yourself to have a trans identity?



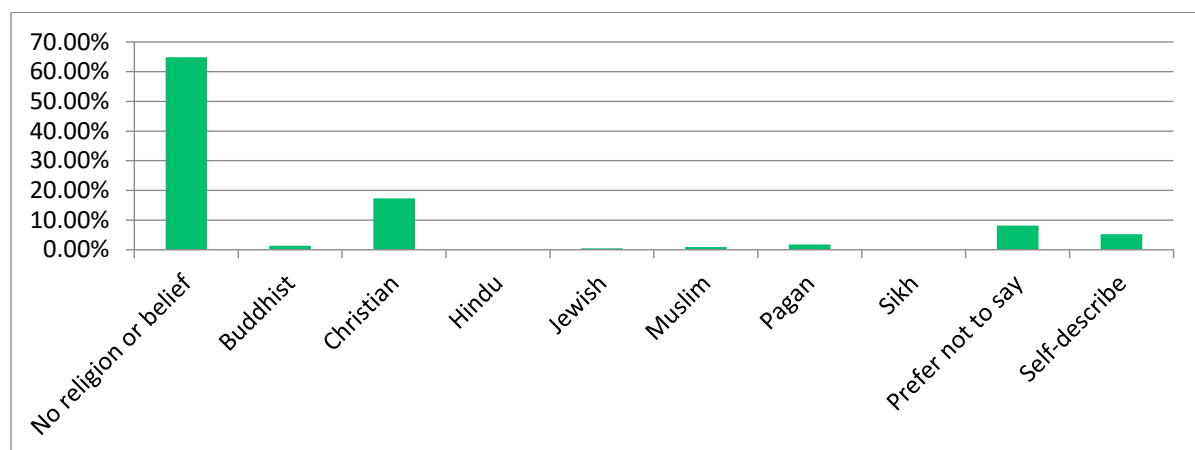
What is your sexual orientation?



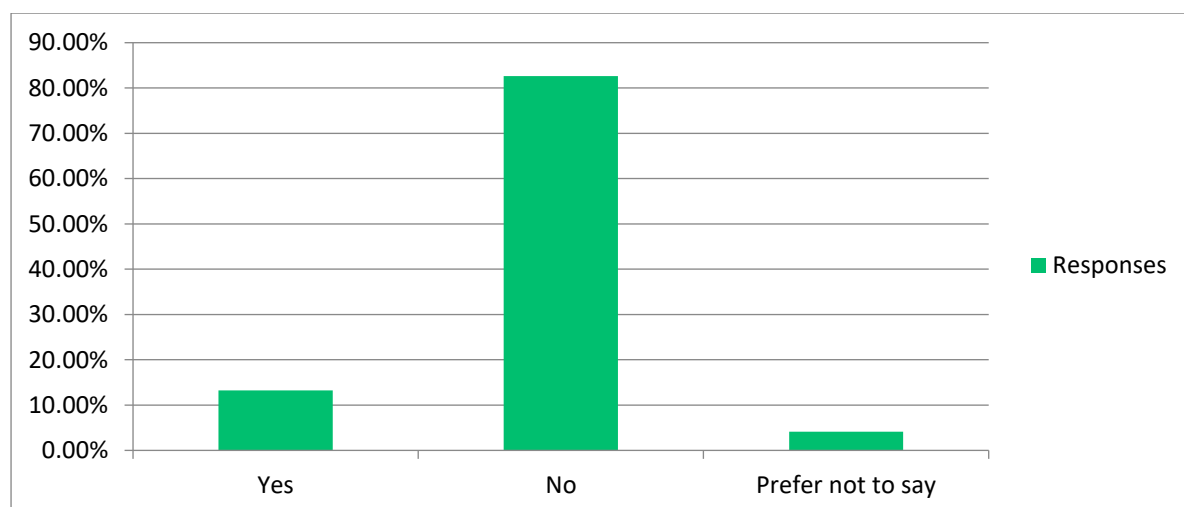
### What is your ethnicity?



### What is your religion or belief?



### Do you consider yourself to have any disabilities?



# Appendix 2

## Participating organisations

Many thanks to the following Share and Repair member organisations for taking part and surveying their members.

[Edinburgh Tool Library](#)  
[Transition Stirling](#)  
[Remake Scotland](#)  
[Southside tool library](#)  
[Wellbeing Works Community Toolbox](#)  
[Linlithgow Tool Library](#)  
[Glasgow Tool Library](#)  
[Fixing for a Future/ East Linton](#)  
[Recykillin](#)  
[Clachworks](#)  
[Edinburgh Board Game Library](#)  
[Glasgow Cloth Nappies](#)  
[Music Broth](#)  
[SW20](#)  
[Transition St Andrews](#)  
[University of Dundee](#)

# Appendix 3

## Open question about benefits

As a supplement to the quantitative data demonstrated in [figure 1](#), respondents were given the opportunity to further describe the benefits of being part of the Sharing Library. 403 people responded. These responses were overwhelmingly positive, providing a snapshot of the impact of these projects on people's lives. This is a sample of just a small randomised selection of the raw data.

the whole team is really great at the tool library, ive really enjoyed being part of the tool library and wish i had more time to contribute to being an active member
I really appreciate not having to buy things, as I'm not a fan of consumerism and I try not to buy needlessly. The Tool Library has been great in helping me not spend money on stuff that will end up taking up space and collecting dust. I built raised beds out of a fallen fence for my garden to grow my own veg--wins all around! The people are really friendly, too, though I haven't taken advantage of their workshops yet.
A shared asset is of value to me
We've borrowed drills and stud detectors multiple times and it's been really nice as we haven't had to buy a drill which is a tool we really wouldn't use that often. We're tiling our bathroom later this year and feel good knowing there are some tools we can borrow at GTL.
I have a very small flat, but many hobbies. The tool library is a good resource for jobs which I might not need a tool for all the time, so I don't have to buy it or store it at home.
I love it, local service, with a great ethos. I don't need to buy another thing I need to store. I feel good using this service.
The people at the sharing library were helpful and knowledgeable.
An excellent facility and the envy of many friends outwith Linlithgow who don't have access to or are unaware of any libraries in their areas. I'm fortunate that I have a good range of tools of my own but appreciate that for many this tool library will be a significant resource.
I am a new member to the Tool Library. By loaning items I have saved money and storage space. These items have helped me to do tasks that I would not have been able to do. The staff are always extremely happy to help and to chat. This has made me feel part of the community. I will continue to use this service for as long as it is available
I would use the service more regularly if it was closer to me or open longer hours
The tool library is excellent. I have been able to condense my personal tool collection and will always seek equipment from the tool library in the first instance.
A really excellent community resource that provides a wonderful service. I'm very grateful to have it locally
The people at the Tool Library are pleasant, helpful and knowledgeable. Even when my annual sub failed to get processed they were patient. The others in the building, although I don't have much contact with them are helpful, pleasant and informative.
Volunteers at Tool Library have given me excellent advice on how best to conduct some tasks.
I was a long term volunteer and member of two sharing libraries in the US (one tool library and one musical instrument library). I just moved here less than a month ago and am so happy that a tool library exists here. Sharing libraries are critical resources in an community.
Great availability on a wide range of tools.
I have borrowed many tools, many times, met some lovely people and done jobs that I wouldn't have been able to do, otherwise.
One trip we brought our Christmas tree home on the cargo bike!
Too many benefits to mention, but it's easy, saves on waste (new packaging and discarded tools), saves money. What's not to like.
Sharing these tools from our tool library makes me feel as I am helping to add less to landfill!
As someone who has just moved into a house of my own, the tool library has really helped me grow in confidence in doing things myself, I have gone to them saying 'this is what I want to do' and they have given me advice on which tool to use and how to use it. Without this service I would have spent a lot of money on potentially the wrong tools, wasting resources and contributing to a 'throw away' culture. I feel incredibly lucky to have the tool library within the community and look forward to using it more in the future.
This project is a great way to try something rather than impulse buying with good intentions to use it then it gathers dust.
I'm a bit biased as I not only use the tool library, but I volunteer with them. The entire volunteer team and the community of borrowers are an amazing resource of skills and experience, and they are so willing to share.
What a great sharing facility and wonderful volunteers. Thanks
I check the tool library to see stock before tool purchases.
Handy selection of tools and a great idea for the community
Used the Tool library for borrowing and for attending classes - it is a great community initiative - inclusive, encouraging and good for the environment too :)
Great ideal to have so many tools available at a fraction of the price by joining the tool library
Being part of a tool sharing community ticks all the boxes in question 6 as well. But the tool library has enabled me to take on jobs that I would not have attempted which has been empowering and the social and educational events are welcoming and inclusive. I am a single working woman who lives alone, and I often need some advice about choice of tools, and operating them. The tool library has made this very accessible.
I am happy to support the tool library even though my usage is infrequent because I think it is a great community resource. I have not engaged with the social community aspects of the tool library such as the shared workshop but I hear good things about them.
The Tool Library has benefitted me even more now that I live in a small flat with no storage, and in different ways to before. I would have suffered emotionally if I'd had to dwell on not being able to have tools or not being able to afford them or not knowing people I could borrow from. Instead, I have access to a vast array of tools, and I'm neither a burden nor an increasingly resentful person now. I'm happy and I'm grateful.

Being able to borrow resources opens up new activities for my group. We can undertake activities previously not open to us due to the cost of equipment.
I love to DIY but I have a small flat and a limited number of projects I can do in my home so it didn't make sense to buy all the tools (sander, jigsaw, tall ladder, wallpaper table, saw, wallpaper steamer, are just some of the tools I've borrowed since joining). And the fact about a drill only being used for something like 7 minutes in its lifetime and being sat around for the rest really resonated with me. I also really like the idea of shared 'ownership' of things, not everyone needs to own their own version of each tool, it's so wasteful. I have definitely done projects I wouldn't have considered otherwise if I'd had to buy the tools. And I've also learned new skills through the tool library like how to use a lathe, or a planer, or re-learned tools I've not used since high school.
I just love this borrowing facility and it's allowed me to increase my skills and develop my hobby.
Both borrowing and workshops have helped me learn new skills and carry out tasks easier.
The tool library model is ground-breaking in that it reduces the barriers to entry for individuals and small organisations to tackle building tasks within their local community. Their ongoing existence is central to our ability to overcome many of the problems of our time: reduced council funding; social isolation; rising carbon emissions. It's difficult to overstate their impact upon the community both at a physical and psychological level, people find it genuinely healing to know that organisations and volunteers like those at the tool library exist.
The tool library is a fantastic resource, it's accessible, allows me to go/become confident in doing my own DIY, save money and helps you feel like part of a wider community.
I've only borrowed one item from the Tool Library (an extendable lopper, which we used to trim high branches on trees and hedges in our garden), but I've made much greater use of their workshops, which have allowed me to take on custom furniture projects using large-format tools I'd never have been able to fit into the available space at home.
I have been struggling to set up my own business for some time / taking on the entire weight of it myself both financially and physically. As a disabled parent this has its own hurdles to overcome. The Tool library enables me to use tools vs buying allowing me to put the money saved towards my business
I have some tools myself, but things like the thermal leak detector, which was the last thing I borrowed, I wouldn't have bought myself, so I wouldn't have done anything about the issues. I borrowed on a whim and found some glaring cold spots in my home, which I now know to tackle. Because it is mainly just draughts, it's simple fixes that I can solve myself, which will save me more money, and reduce my carbon footprint. If I hadn't had the option to try this out, I would have continued in blissful ignorance.
The Tool Library is fab. So much free advice, so much time given when everything usually comes at a cost and is done in a rush. An invaluable community resource.
lots of tools are expensive and only used once, I've also donated tools to the tool library now.. I like the idea of them getting used rather than sitting in storage
I think the tool sharing model is great, particularly as I have a small flat with limited storage space. It's meant I could tackle DIY jobs myself and repair clothes without having to buy an expensive sewing machine. It also means I can access good quality tools rather than the entry level lower cost ones (I love SDS drills now but they'd be way too expensive to justify buying).
I was really pleased to discover there was a tool library. I'm part way through some redecorating diy and being able to borrow things like a wall paper stripper and carpet cleaning system isn't fantastic. They seem like things that would normally spend 95% of their time in a box. So a good use of resources, reduce need for storage in a flat and better for environment to reuse. The staff at the centre were friendly and I'm likely to be borrowing more in the future
It's a brilliant initiative
Having access to a wider range of tools has often made me think about making a particular item rather than buying it.
A fantastic and important service run by great knowledgeable people that feel like a community. Long may it thrive and grow.
A wonderful facility which has benefited me and my community in so many ways.
The tool library is fantastic. It means I'm able to complete projects without having to buy expensive tools which makes the hobby more accessible to people with less money. The volunteers at transition during always engage with me and they are very pleasant and helpful.
I primarily borrow the carpet cleaner, this is not something I could afford to buy or rent and it makes such an impact on my mental and physical health. I am able to have a clean house, I have an elderly dog who sometimes has accidents and you can imagine that can cause me embarrassment when having visitors over. I started to borrow the more fun items such as a projector. This is so fun! I had a whole cinema night at home for my kids. I felt like a good mum being able to provide that experience. I think the service needs to be advertised better because it is a sorely needed service. I would love to see more craft related items appear in the library such as sewing machines, overlockers, circuits etc. Thank you to everyone who makes this possible.
Chatted about tools and all sorts. Saved money, saved emissions from not buying new. Going to volunteer too.
I also believe it is a valuable place that can ease burdens from people that wouldn't be able to access items needed for DIY etc thus enabling better mental health by reducing stress by knowing such products are available in the community for all. EXCELLENT PROJECT.
Have just joined which is why I've only borrowed one item to date!
Ladder was for emery roof leak — diy fixed TY!!!
A great resource for doing odd jobs that you don't do very often, where buying new would be expensive and wasteful as the tool would be pretty much unused once the job is finished.

The tool library has allowed me to carry out jobs in my garden and house without purchasing new items or paying for a tradesperson. I have acquired new skills and I am more independent. The volunteers I have met are extremely helpful and friendly, this has made me feel I am part of a community of people who are caring for the environment.
This facility is of great benefit to our community - you have access to all sorts of assistance both tools and expertise. It helps foster new friendships and relationships post Pandemic.
great community facility - ticks so many boxes in our ever more acquisitive society....
It's excellent community service and reduces wastage. I wish I had known about it earlier and will definitely use it again
It's a great initiative and well used locally. It's a hub for ideas, helpful advice and useful items.
Being able to borrow proper tools for a job is a lot safer than trying to use my own lesser tools as a work around. Sharing makes much more sense than buying something to be used just a couple times before it is redundant.
Discovering this community tool library has been absolutely wonderful. I have been able to complete projects around my home that were unaffordable before, I have saved resources by fixing things instead of buying new, and I have found sense of community in the lovely people who make up this group.
The tool library is a brilliant resource. I have been able to access things from it that I couldn't afford to buy. It's allowed us to carry out jobs we couldn't have done.
I borrowed almost all the tools I needed to completely renovate my porch. I couldn't have done it without the tool library
The tool library is brilliant. It saves me buying tools I might only use once. It helps me being able to do a job in my home I couldn't do otherwise because I couldn't afford to buy a tool. I've bought tools in the past because there was no option. They have sat in my garage unused after that one time I needed them. It's been great to pass these on to the Tool Library. Its so much better sharing tools rather than everyone going out and buying more than they need.
It's such a wonderful idea as you often buy equipment for it to sit in your garage hardly used which is just a waste!!
It has been an invaluable resource to us as we undertook a garden project and will be first port of call for any further work.
It makes complete sense to borrow items which are very expensive and which you only use very occasionally than to buy them.
Tool Library is great, I fully intend to keep using it in the future.
Great service and a wide variety of tools and other items. Always clean and ready to use.
So useful and such a great way to save waste and money. Most folks spend the majority of their lives sitting on a shelf. This is such a wonderful resource
The tool library makes sense - so much so that we have donated items, such as a lawnmower and a sewing machine in the hopes that these can be available to others to use.
It's a fantastic resource, a treasure trove of items, have used tool library but also bought several items.
I love the idea of the tool library. It just seems crazy to buy things that we don't use regularly and can share with the community
The tool library has really helped some DIY - I can't afford the tools and also would not get the most use out of them even if I did buy them. The team are friendly and welcoming - they also are considerate of those who are unemployed or in need of state support.
This resource has helped me to do things in my house that I couldn't do otherwise. My house is feeling more like a home now that I have used some of the items from the toolbox (carpet cleaner. Wood planer, sander).
It is great to be able to borrow things you only need every now and again. Saves me money, storage space and is also better for the environment.
I couldn't have done any of the jobs I've done without the tool library, I can't afford the tools, I don't have the storage to keep tools, and it's helped me and my child so much to be able to access these things in order to improve our quality of life.
The service stops the needless buying of tools that are only needed occasionally, sharing a single highly quality set in the area just makes sense.
Such a great service, hope the collection grows, no one should own some types of machinery that one uses once a decade.
I would never be able to afford tools and I was proud when I learned to use a drill
This service is fantastic not only does it reduce waste and allow people to integrate more with the community it also gives people the ability to fix problems in their home while they are small not allowing them to grow into major problem that could affect the whole block!
I feel very lucky to have this facility and it should be available everywhere for all the reasons behind your questions. Lovely people run it as well.
great idea for the community in a cost of living crisis why buy something that you are only going to use once when you can borrow
I have used a range of tools and equipment for DIY, stalls and gardening. I am keen to reduce my carbon emissions and improve my skills in various areas. I am mindful of the scale of the climate and ecological crises and appreciate the importance of resilience in terms of food, energy usage and ecology. I hope our government will be providing much more funding for tool libraries and increasing resilience.