



Stronger Charities.  
Stronger Communities.

2025

# MEMBERS' POLICY SURVEY



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Community Development and Pobal via  
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**An Roinn Forbartha  
Tuaithe agus Pobail**  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development



government supporting communities

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# Introduction

Each year since 2019, The Wheel has conducted a policy-focused survey of its members. The primary aim of this survey is to identify the key issues faced by our members, understand the magnitude of these challenges, and collect pertinent data to bolster our advocacy efforts throughout the year.

The community and voluntary, charity, and social enterprise sector stands as a vital pillar of Irish society, making a profound contribution to our economy and our communities. The sector manages €25 billion in annual income, generating nearly half of this through fundraising, thereby significantly subsidising the cost of essential public services. More than a quarter of a million people are employed in charities alone, with over 75,000 people volunteering as trustees. More than 1 million people volunteer each year in Ireland.<sup>1</sup>

The Irish State has long depended on the agility of the community and voluntary sector to respond to crises and fill gaps in public services and infrastructure, particularly in areas like housing, health, disability and social care. Workers and volunteers in the community and voluntary sector provide support to countless people across every county in Ireland.

Our annual policy survey provides insight into the work that is being carried out by our diverse members as well as the significant challenges they face. By undertaking this annually, we are able to identify trends and assess whether the environment in which our members operate is improving.

Some key findings from this year's survey include:

- **Almost half of respondents were unsure if they would have sufficient funding to provide their existing supports or services in 2025. A slight increase on last year.**
- **The cost of running an organisation has increased in the last 12 months for 93% of respondents. 80% of respondent organisations believed that increased costs would have a significant or very significant negative impact on their ability to offer services or supports in 2025.**
- **Almost a third of respondents stated that they were unable to sufficiently recruit and retain staff and volunteers.**

These issues reflect the feedback we have received from members through events and engagement forums such as our member networks. Sustainable funding for the sector, addressing recruitment and retention issues, and rising non-pay costs such as insurance, energy and housing remain high priority issues for our policy and advocacy work at The Wheel.

# Methodology

The target population for this survey comprises the membership base of The Wheel, which stands at 2,400 organisations at the time of drafting this report. A sample of 167 organisations participated in the survey. This sample was self-selected, with organisations themselves choosing to complete the survey. The survey was carried out in late 2024 and early 2025.

It is important to note the limitations of this survey. The data collected represents only those organisations that have chosen to join The Wheel and may not fully encapsulate the broader sector. Additionally, the self-selection of the survey participants could introduce bias, as it is possible that those who responded are not representative of the entire membership base in terms of size, scope, or issues faced. Most comparisons drawn are to The Wheel's previous member surveys, which contain similar core questions.

The aim of this survey is to gather pertinent insights into the challenges and needs of our members, supporting our ongoing advocacy and support efforts within the community and voluntary sector.

# 1. Ireland's community & voluntary sector

## a. Who's included in this report?

- 167 total responses
- 6.6% of 2543 total members

## b. Organisation type

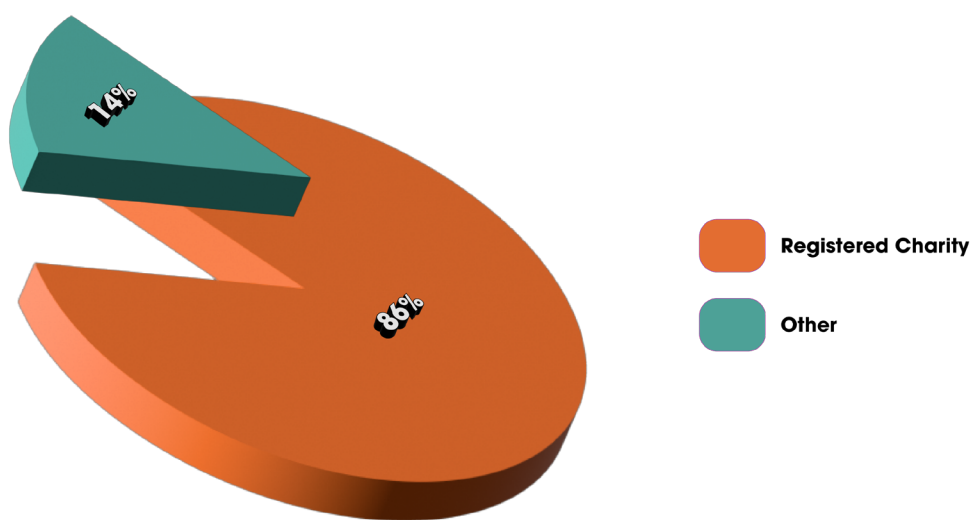


Fig. 1. Is your organisation a registered charity?

## c. Charitable purpose

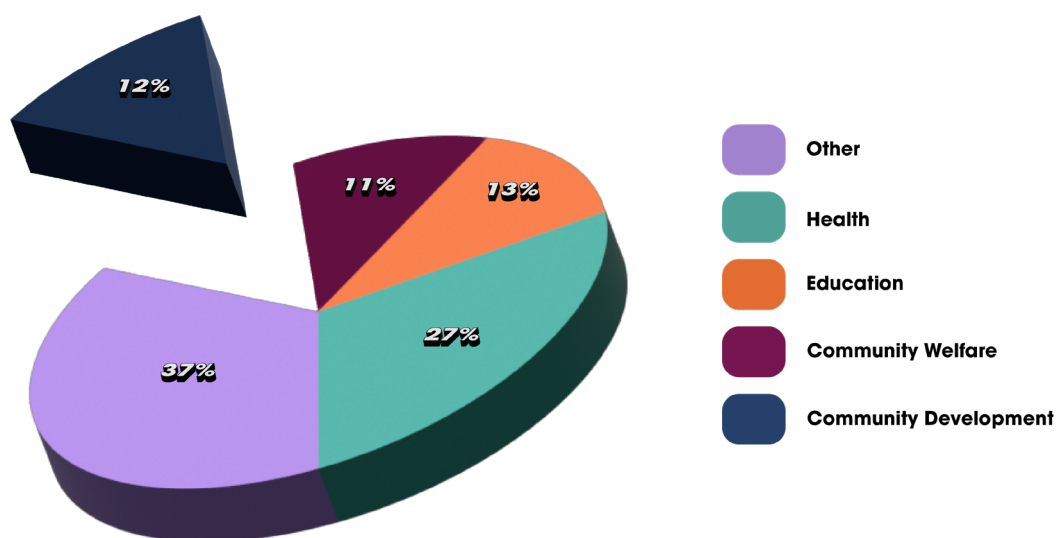


Fig. 2. What is your organisation's charitable purpose/ policy objective?

- 86% (N=139) of respondents to the survey are registered charities, around the same percentage as last year.
- There is a wide spread of charitable purpose represented in the survey respondents. In last year's survey, some clear differences emerged in the proportion of charities engaging in specific charitable purposes when comparing The Wheel's data with the Charities Regulator's. Most notably, health charities were a larger percentage in our sample, while education and religion are smaller. This remains the case in this year's survey, with health charities representing 27% (N=38) of respondents. However, the Charities Regulator includes charities with multiple stated purposes in the count for each one, while our survey asked respondents to select a single primary purpose. This impacts the comparability of the figures.

#### d. Location

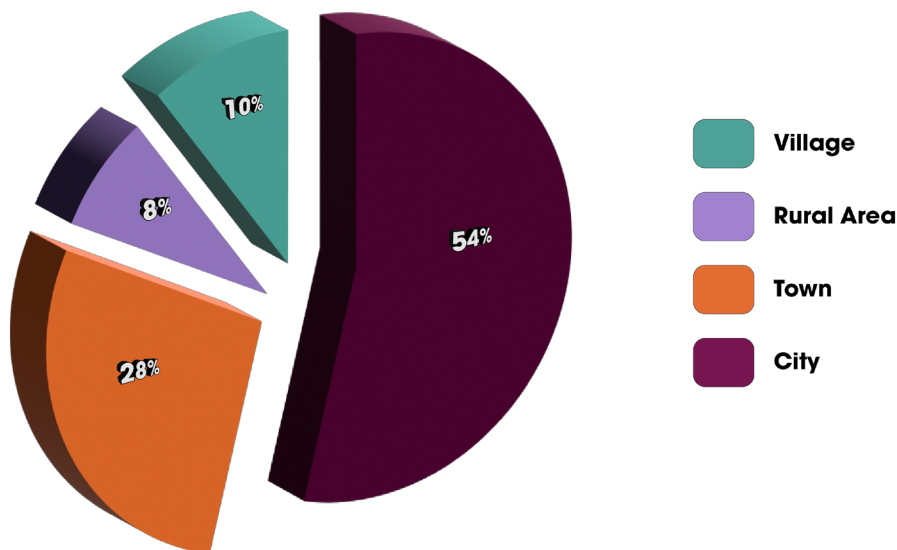


Fig. 3. Where is your organisation primarily located?

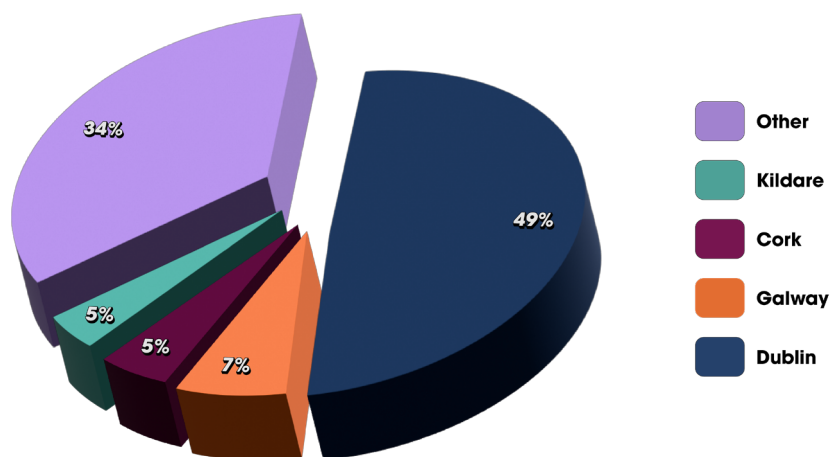


Fig. 4. In which county is your main office located?

- This year, there were respondents with head offices in 24 counties, almost the same as last year. We know that The Wheel has members spanning 30 counties so it remains an aim to increase representation in our surveys.
- As noted in last year’s report, compared to the Charities Regulator’s data, respondents to our survey were more concentrated in Dublin, at 49% (48% last year) compared to 27% of all charities.

e. Income

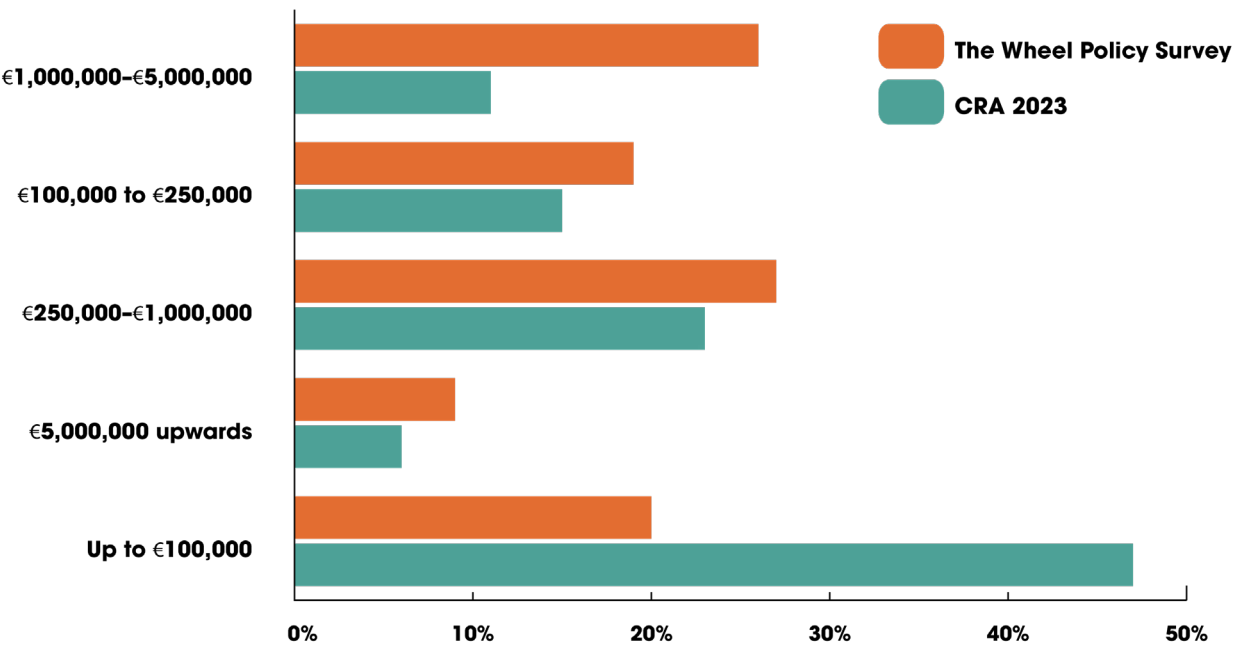


Fig. 5. What is your organisation’s (approximate) total annual income for the last calendar year or set of accounts?

	CRA 2023	The Wheel Policy Survey
€1,000,000–€5,000,000 Count	11%	25%
€100,000 to €250,000 Count	15%	20%
€250,000–€1,000,000 Count	23%	27%
€5,000,000 upwards Count	5%	8%
Up to €100,000 Count	47%	20%

Table 1: What is your organisation’s (approximate) total annual income for the last calendar year or set of accounts?

Income Level

- Similar to last year. Compared with Charities Regulator data, respondents to The Wheel survey reflects the input of a smaller proportion of small organisations and a larger proportion of larger organisations.

## 2. Funding

### a. Survey respondents

	Less Than 5%		5-10%		10-25%		25-50%		50-75%		75-100%	
<b>Statutory</b>	5	<b>6.0%</b>	5	<b>9.3%</b>	3	<b>6.7%</b>	12	<b>35.3%</b>	22	<b>71.0%</b>	48	<b>71%</b>
<b>Donations</b>	34	<b>40.5%</b>	19	<b>35.2%</b>	13	<b>28.9%</b>	6	<b>17.6%</b>	1	<b>3.2%</b>	12	<b>18%</b>
<b>Earned Income</b>	11	<b>13.1%</b>	12	<b>22.2%</b>	14	<b>31.1%</b>	10	<b>29.4%</b>	7	<b>22.6%</b>	7	<b>10%</b>
<b>Philanthropic Grants</b>	22	<b>26.2%</b>	11	<b>20.4%</b>	11	<b>24.4%</b>	4	<b>11.8%</b>	1	<b>3.2%</b>	1	<b>1%</b>
<b>Membership</b>	12	<b>14.3%</b>	7	<b>13.0%</b>	4	<b>8.9%</b>	2	<b>5.9%</b>	0	<b>0.0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>

Table 2: What (approximate) percentage of your overall income is represented by the funding sources below? Please ensure you have chosen a percentage for each of the funding sources listed below and that your answers equate to a total of 100%.

- The sector is hugely diverse, and individual organisations have many different approaches to funding their work. Funding models vary significantly across the sector, according to our data, showing a similar spread to previous years of this survey.

### b. Budgets and reserves

	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Less than 10%</b>	5	<b>10%</b>
<b>10-24%</b>	6	<b>13%</b>
<b>25-49%</b>	8	<b>17%</b>
<b>50-75%</b>	15	<b>32%</b>
<b>More than 75 but less than 100%</b>	13	<b>28%</b>

Table 3: What proportion of your 2025 Budget are you confident about?

- Adequate budgets remain a significant concern for the sector. More than 70% (N=47) of respondents, for example, are concerned about the sustainability of at least half their budget for the coming year, showing no improvement on last year's responses.

<b>Less than 5%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12.2%</b>
<b>5-9%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20.3%</b>
<b>10-49%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>48.6%</b>
<b>50-75%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8.1%</b>
<b>More than 75%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10.8%</b>

Table 4: What percentage of income do your reserves represent based on your most recent annual turnover?

	N	%
No	38	51%
Yes, in part	33	44%
Yes, in full	4	5%

Table 5: Did you, or do you anticipate that you will, use your reserves in 2024?

- Reserves are a portion of an organisation's budget set aside for unforeseen circumstances. For the majority (80%) of survey respondents (N=74), reserves represent less than 50% of their organisation's annual turnover. As noted in last year's report, organisations are generally discouraged from accumulating significant reserves under the Charities Regulator's Guidance for Charity Reserves. Accordingly, for most survey respondents, their reserves represent a small proportion of annual turnover.
- In 2025, half of respondents (N=38) did not use their reserves. A small percentage of respondents used all their reserves (N=4), while almost half used part of their reserves (N=33). Organisations remain in a difficult position regarding reserves. While it is clearly necessary for many organisations to retain reserves for unexpected cost increases or increased demand on services, in many cases, charity regulation limits their ability to do so.

### c. Statutory funding

	N	%
Yes	87	75%
No	29	25%

Table 6: Do you receive statutory funding?

	N	%
One	32	41%
Two	23	29%
Three	8	10%
More than three	16	20%

Table 7: How many statutory funders do you have?

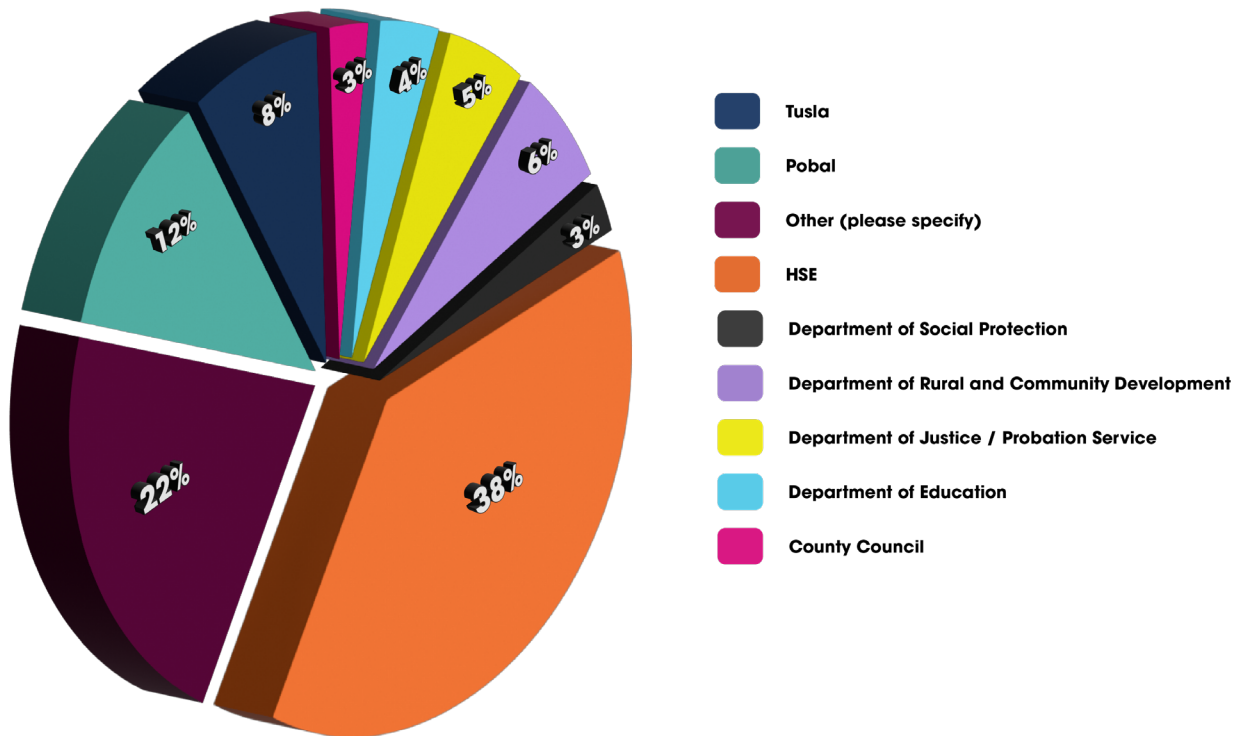


Fig. 6. Please name your main statutory funder (i.e. provides the highest proportion of your statutory funding)

- Government funding supports many groups and organisations in the sector, with three quarters (N=116) of survey respondents in receipt of statutory funding, similar to last year.
- Almost 60% of respondents have more than one statutory funder.
- Respondents were asked to select up to three main funders. The HSE remains a major funder of 38% of respondents (N=77), and Pobal at 12%. Other notable funders of the sector include the Department of Rural and Community Development, the Department of Social Protection, Tusla and the Department of Justice.

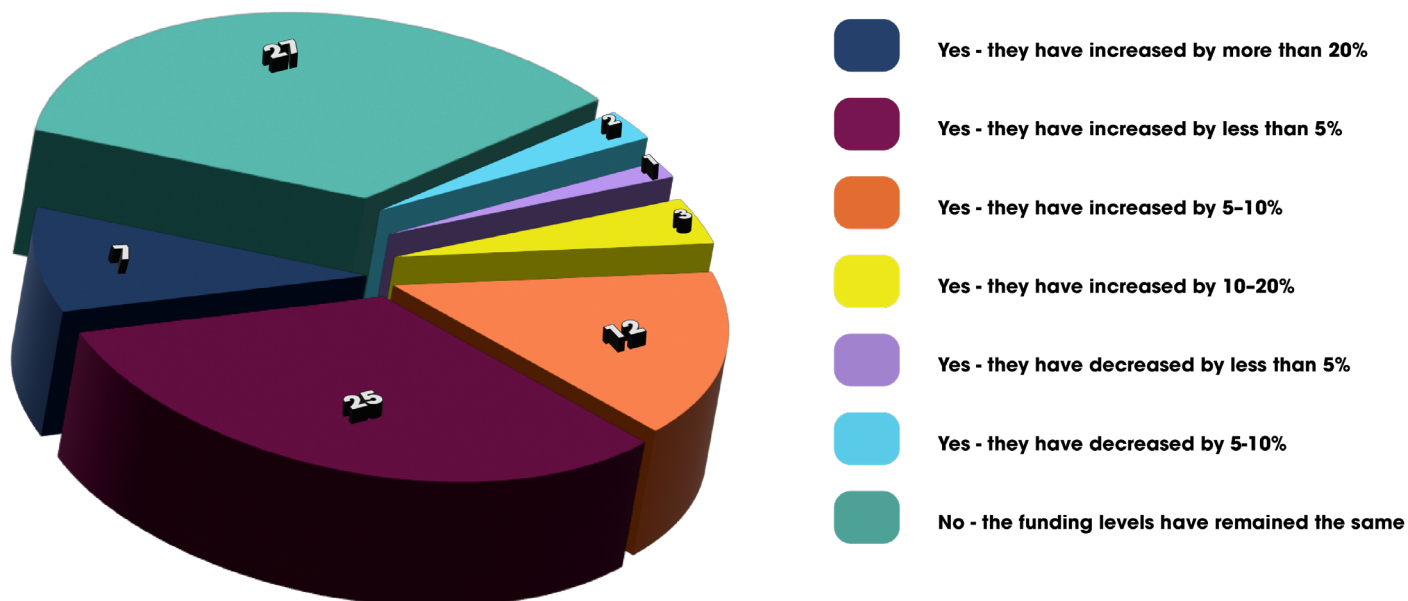


Fig. 7. Have your statutory funding levels changed in the last year? If so, by how much?

	N	%
Yes - they have increased by more than 20%	7	9%
Yes - they have increased by less than 5%	25	32%
Yes - they have increased by 5-10%	12	16%
Yes - they have increased by 10-20%	3	4%
Yes - they have decreased by less than 5%	1	1%
Yes - they have decreased by 5-10%	2	3%
No - the funding levels have remained the same	27	35%

Table 8: Have your statutory funding levels changed in the last year? If so, by how much?

- 61% (N=47) of respondents saw some increase in statutory funding.
- While a minority, a large proportion, 39% (N=30) saw no increase in statutory funding despite inflation and other rising costs.

	N	%
<b>25-49%</b>	12	<b>15%</b>
<b>50%-74%</b>	13	<b>17%</b>
<b>75%-100%</b>	42	<b>54%</b>
<b>Less than 25%</b>	11	<b>14%</b>

Table 9 What percentage of the costs for the specific services/supports you are funded to provide, are met by your statutory funding?

- Statutory funding is often ring-fenced and targeted for specific programmes or the delivery of specified services. Yet for around one third (N=36) of the survey respondents, less than three quarters of the costs of services/supports they deliver are met by their statutory funding.

#### d. Multiannual funding

	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	23	<b>29%</b>
<b>No</b>	55	<b>71%</b>

Table 10: Is your statutory funding multiannual?

- Less than 30% of respondents (N=78) received multiannual statutory funding, with three quarters (N=21) having their funding assessed every two to three years.

#### e. Service level agreements (SLAs)

	N	%
<b>Yes - Service Level Agreement</b>	54	<b>58%</b>
<b>Yes - Grant Aid Agreement</b>	29	<b>31%</b>
<b>No Agreement</b>	10	<b>11%</b>

Table 11: Are you funded under a formal Service Level Agreement/Arrangement with a statutory body? (tick all that apply)

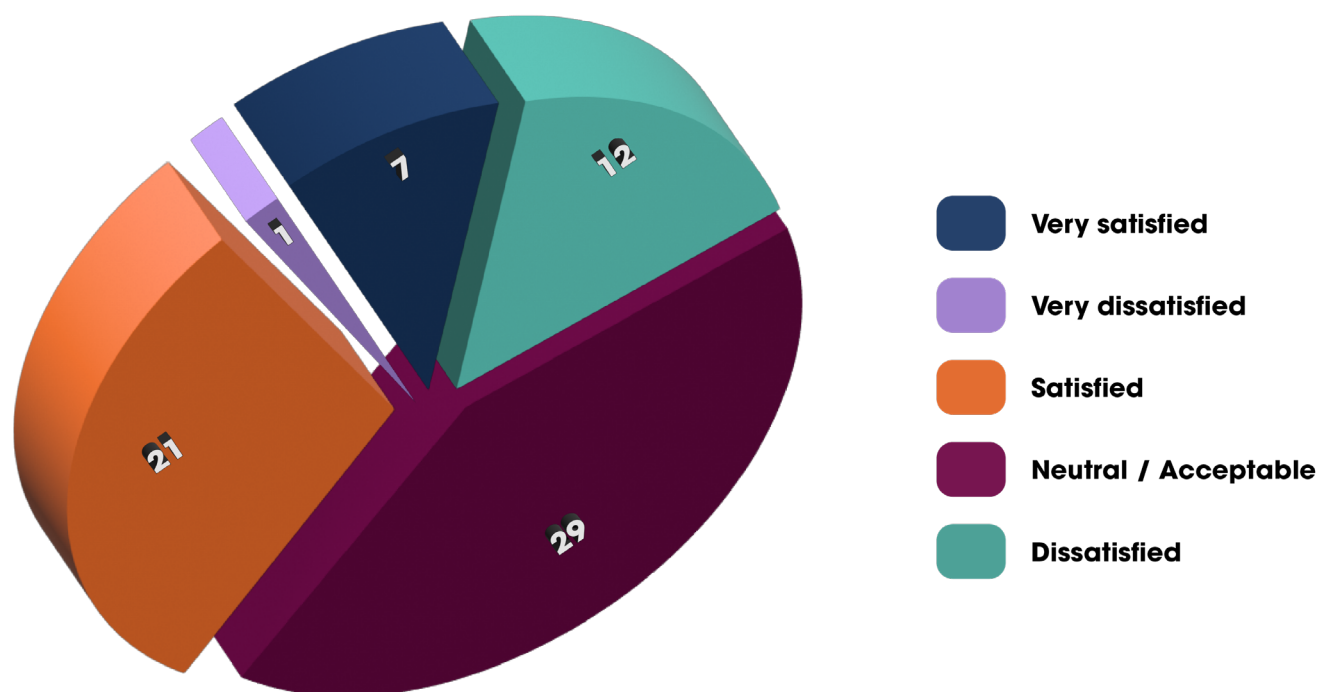


Fig. 8. What has been your experience of agreeing Service Level Agreements/Arrangements with your main statutory funder?

- Almost 90% of respondents (N=83) who receive statutory funding do so through a Service-Level Agreement (SLA) or Grant Aid Agreement.
- Of these (N=70), almost three quarters were either satisfied with the process or found it neutral/acceptable, leaving 18% dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. This shows continuity with last year's survey.

#### f. Section 39/56/10/40 funding and the 2023 pay deal

Yes	39	53%
No	35	47%
Total	74	

Table 12: Do you receive funding under Section 39 (HSE)/56 (Tusla)/10 (Housing Act)/40 (Department of Justice)?

- 53% of respondents (N=39) receive funding under under Section 39 (HSE)/56 (Tusla)/10 (Housing Act)/40 (Department of Justice).
- Of respondents to this question (N=38), 60% had either received additional funding for all staff or for some staff funded under section 39/56/10/40 arrangements.
- Remaining respondents were expecting to receive funding but had not at the time of the survey or did not expect to receive this funding. One respondent reported receiving 'interim' funding.

- When asked ‘What challenges remain for your organisation around the issue of pay parity for Section 39/56/10/40 organisations?’, several respondents stated that the funding received remains inadequate to fully implement the 8% across all relevant staff. It was also noted that only some staff within organisations are eligible, causing internal issues. Another common concern was the general uncertainty on the situation and the lack of multiannual funding, leaving organisations unable to put a coherent pay structure in place. The complexity of the application process was also referenced by respondents. Several respondents noted the ongoing impact of this issue of staff recruitment and retention and the insufficient nature of the pay increase when compared with subsequent public sector pay increases.

### 3. The cost of running an organisation

#### a. Operating costs and risks to services/supports

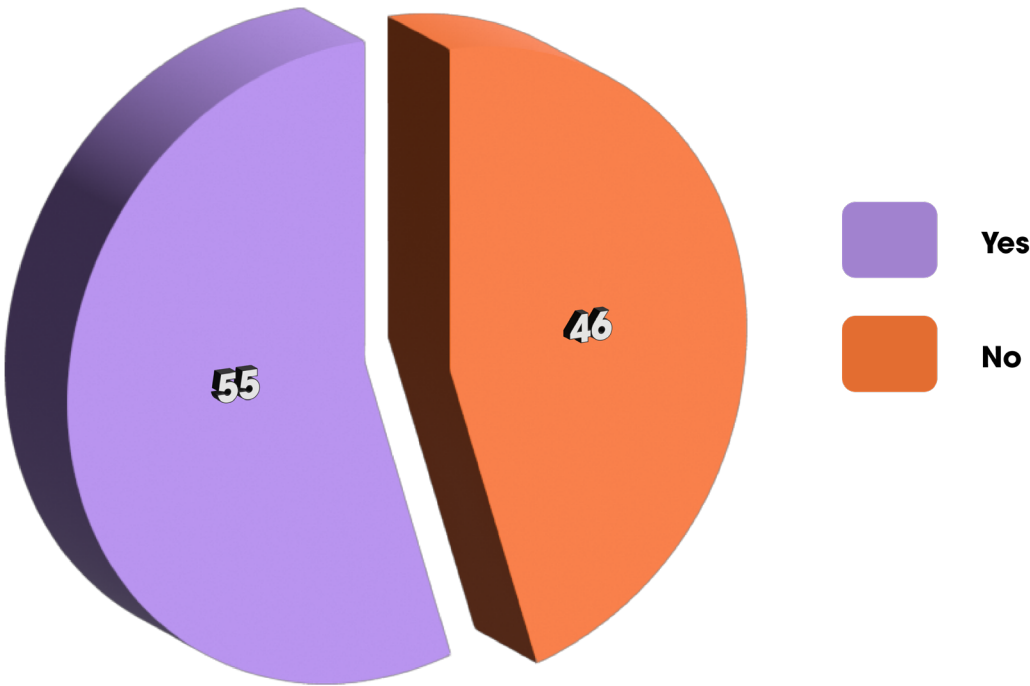


Fig. 9. Are you confident that your organisation will have sufficient funding to provide your existing supports/services in 2025?

A significant negative impact	60	67%
A very significant, negative impact	12	13%
No impact	18	20%

Table 13: How significantly will rising running costs impact your organisation’s capacity to offer services/supports in 2025?

- Almost half of respondents (N=46) were unsure if they would have sufficient funding to provide their existing supports or services in 2025. A slight increase on last year (41%, N=104).
- The cost of running an organisation has increased in the last 12 months for 93% (n=93), around the same as last year.
- 80% (N=92) of respondent organisations believed that increased costs would have a significant or very significant negative impact on their ability to offer services or supports in 2025.

## 4. Staff, volunteers, and trustees

### a. Staff

	N	%
No, volunteer only	14	15%
Paid Staff	82	85%

Table 14: Does your organisation have paid staff?

	N	%
Fewer than 1	1	2%
1-4	26	53%
5-19	2	4%
50-99	14	29%
100-250	3	6%
More than 250	3	6%

Table 15: How many full-time equivalent (FTE) employees does your organisation have?

- The proportion of organisations with paid staff appears higher among The Wheel's members than in the wider sector, with 85% (N=96) of respondents to our survey having paid staff.
- More than half of these have fewer than five members of full time paid staff.

	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	53	<b>65%</b>
<b>No</b>	29	<b>35%</b>

Table 16: Is your organisation able to recruit and retain staff sufficiently?

	N	%
No	35	<b>43%</b>
Yes, it has gotten better	14	<b>17%</b>
Yes, it has gotten worse	33	<b>40%</b>

Table 17: Has this changed over the past 12 months?

	N	%
Inability to offer attractive non-pay-related terms and conditions (eg. Annual leave)	2	<b>3%</b>
Inability to offer attractive pensions	3	<b>4%</b>
Inability to offer attractive rates of pay	62	<b>78%</b>
Other (please specify)	12	<b>15%</b>

Table 18: What do you see as the main barrier to staff recruitment and retention?

- 35% (N=29) of respondents stated that they were unable to sufficiently recruit and retain staff, while 65% (N=53) did not have difficulty.
- When asked if the recruitment and retention situation had changed in the previous 12 months, more than half stated that it had, with 40% (N=33) stating that it had gotten worse, and 17% (14) stating that it had gotten better.
- Overwhelmingly, the main barrier to recruitment and retention identified by respondent organisations was an inability to offer attractive rates of pay (78%, N=62).
- Other barriers identified included the temporary nature of contracts in the sector, a fear of working on progressive issues in the current political climate, reluctance to work in rural areas, high cost of living and competition from similar public sector roles.

## b. Volunteers

	N	%
<b>With Volunteers</b>	63	<b>66%</b>
<b>No Volunteers</b>	33	<b>34%</b>

Table 19: Does your organisation have volunteers (not including your board of trustees)?

<b>1-5 people</b>	12	<b>19%</b>
<b>5-20</b>	27	<b>43%</b>
<b>20-50</b>	9	<b>14%</b>
<b>50-100</b>	5	<b>8%</b>
<b>100-250</b>	7	<b>11%</b>
<b>More than 250</b>	3	<b>5%</b>

Table 20: How many volunteers does your organisation have?

- According to Census 2022, a total of 711,379 people (14% of the population) engaged in regular helping or voluntary work. Volunteer Ireland estimates that when more casual forms of volunteering are included, there are over a million volunteers in Ireland.
- Not including trustee boards, 66% (N=63) engaged volunteers, a similar figure to last year's survey. Of those, around 60% (N=39) have 20 or fewer volunteers and around a quarter have 50 or more volunteers.

	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Yes</b>	41	<b>65%</b>
<b>No</b>	22	<b>35%</b>

Table 21: Is your organisation able to recruit and retain volunteers sufficiently?

	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>No</b>	28	<b>44%</b>
<b>Yes, it has gotten worse</b>	12	<b>19%</b>
<b>Yes, it has gotten better</b>	23	<b>37%</b>

Table 22: Has this changed over the last 12 months?

- When asked about recruitment and retention of volunteers, 35% (N=41) reported that they had difficulty while 65% (N=22) did not.
- Almost half of respondents (N=28) stated that this had not changed over the last 12 months. 37% (N=23) felt it had improved, while almost 20% (N=12) said it had gotten worse.
- Almost half of respondents (N=30) saw time commitment as the most significant barrier to recruitment of volunteers. For 18% (N=11), having insufficient resources to recruit was a barrier.

### c. Trustees/board members

	N	%
Yes	65	<b>74%</b>
No	23	<b>26%</b>

Table 23: Is your organisation able to recruit and retain trustees sufficiently?

	N	%
No	56	<b>64%</b>
Yes, it has gotten worse	17	<b>19%</b>
Yes, it has gotten better	15	<b>17%</b>

Table 24: Has this changed over the past 12 months?

- Respondents to The Wheel's survey included charities, community groups, and voluntary organisations. While charities are required to have a board of trustees, this requirement is not mandatory for other types of organisations. 92% (N=88) of respondents have a board of trustees - a similar percentage to last year's survey.

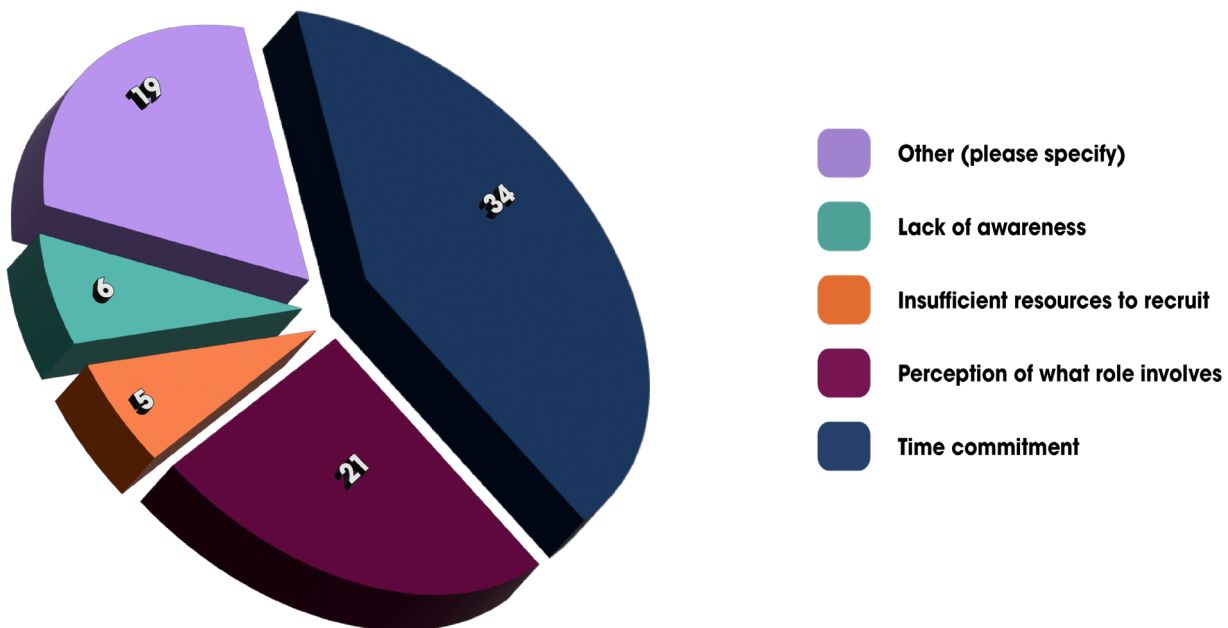


Fig. 10. What do you see as the main barriers to trustee recruitment?

- Almost three quarters (N=65) of respondents are able recruit and retain trustees, while the remaining 26% (N=23) were not.
- For 64% (N=56) of respondents, this had not changed much over the last 12 months. For 19% (N=17) the situation has gotten worse, while for 17% (N=15) it has improved.
- When asked about barriers to recruitment and retention of trustees, 40% (N=34) of respondents cited time commitment as the most significant barrier, with a quarter stating that perception of what the role involves is a significant factor (N=21).

## 5. Regulation and compliance

Charities Regulator register updates and annual returns	78	<b>82%</b>
Charities Governance Code	79	<b>83%</b>
Lobbying register returns	39	<b>41%</b>
Tusla funding reports	16	<b>17%</b>
Companies office register updates and annual reports	72	<b>76%</b>
Health Services Executive (HSE) funding reports	40	<b>42%</b>
Education and Training Board (ETB) funding reports	17	<b>18%</b>
Community Services Programme (CSP) funding reports	11	<b>12%</b>
Community Employment Scheme funding reports	17	<b>18%</b>
Housing agency funding reports	3	<b>3%</b>
European funding programme related reports (eg Interreg, Peace IV, Horizon, Erasmus etc.)	13	<b>14%</b>
LEADER funding reports	5	<b>5%</b>
Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) requirements	6	<b>6%</b>
Charities Regulator Fundraising Principles	45	<b>47%</b>
HSE Governance Code	24	<b>25%</b>
Housing Agency Governance Code	5	<b>5%</b>
Dublin Region Homeless Executive standards	3	<b>3%</b>
Community Services Programme/Community Employment Scheme requirements	17	<b>18%</b>
None of the above	8	<b>8%</b>
Other (please specify)	15	<b>16%</b>

Table 25: Which, if any, of the following are you required to comply with? Tick all that apply.

- Members are required to comply with a range of governance codes and reporting requirements. The survey provided a non-exhaustive list of requirements with which respondents must comply.
- It is unsurprising, given the high proportion of charities in the overall respondent cohort, that a large proportion are subject to both the Charities' Regulator register updates (82%, N=78) and annual returns and the Charities Governance Code (83%, N=79). These number are similar to last year's survey. The Charities Regulator Fundraising Principles also applied to almost half of all respondents (47%, N=45).
- Three quarters of respondents (76%, N=72) are also registered with the Companies Registration Office and are required to comply with register updates and annual reports.
- A quarter of respondents (25%, N=24) must comply with the HSE Governance Code and HSE funding reports (42%, N=40).

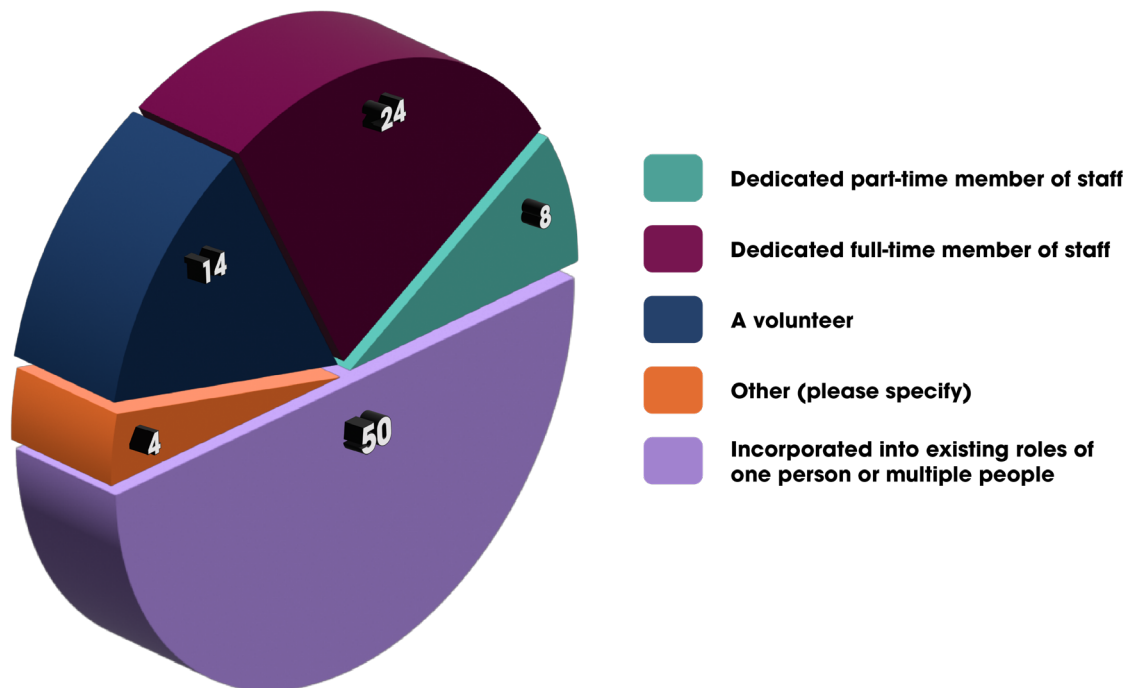


Fig. 11. By whom are funding-compliance and regulation-related processes undertaken in your organisation?

	N	%
Yes	62	65%
No	33	35%

Table 26: Are you required to report the same compliance data to more than one statutory source?

- Half of respondents incorporate compliance requirement work into existing full or part time roles (N=47), while 24% (N=23) have a dedicated full-time member of staff for this work, showing little change from last year's survey. 14% (N=13) rely on a volunteer.
- 65% (N=62) of respondents organisations indicated that they were required to report the same information to multiple sources while 35% (N=33) did not, demonstrating continuity with the previous year.

## 6. Policy priorities

Advocating for mainstream multi-annual funding and adequate funding levels for services generally	61	<b>29%</b>
Seeking an increase in funding for HSE-funded (Section 39 Health Act), Tusla-Funded (Section 56), Housing Act (Section 10) home-less services, DSGBV (Section 40) and other statutory-funded services	36	<b>17%</b>
Advocating for secure funding to address the recruitment and retention crisis and the pay parity issue for statutory-funded organisations	25	<b>12%</b>
Building social cohesion	19	<b>9%</b>
Advocating for an investment in a dedicated Workforce Skills and Training Framework for the Community and Voluntary Sector	19	<b>9%</b>
Advocating for funding to provide for the cost of compliance and the streamlining of regulatory and funding-related compliance requirements	18	<b>9%</b>
Seeking continued government action on insurance costs	12	<b>6%</b>
Supporting new communities	10	<b>5%</b>
Dedicating resources to deliver the three strategies for the community and voluntary sector, social enterprise, and volunteering	9	<b>4%</b>

Table 27: Rank The Wheel's current policy priorities in order of importance for your organisation. 1 being of highest priority and 8 being of lowest priority. Please make sure you assign a separate ranking to each priority listed. No two numbers should be repeated.

- Respondents were asked to rank several of The Wheel's ongoing policy areas in priority order. The main priorities identified were 'Advocating for mainstream multi-annual funding and adequate funding levels for services generally' (29%, N=61), 'Seeking an increase in funding for HSE-funded (Section 39 Health Act), Tusla-Funded (Section 56), Housing Act (Section 10) homeless services, DSGBV (Section 40) and other statutory-funded services' (17%, N=36) and 'Advocating for secure funding to address the recruitment and retention crisis and the pay parity issue for statutory-funded organisations' (12%, N=25).
- Asked to indicate what issues may have an impact on their ability to provide services, respondents cited funding and sustainability concerns above all, as well as recruitment issues for paid staff and volunteers, increased demand for services, rising costs, the impact of the housing crisis and of the international political situation including the war in Ukraine and risks to staff members working on progressive issues.

# List of questions

## Section 1: Organisation profile

1. I have read the above privacy statement and consent to moving forward with this survey conducted by The Wheel
2. Is your organisation a registered charity?
3. What is your organisation's charitable purpose/ policy objective?
4. What is your organisation's (approximate) total annual income for the last calendar year or set of accounts?
5. Where is your organisation primarily located?
6. In which county is your main office located?

## Section 2: Funding

7. What (approximate) percentage of your overall income is represented by the funding sources below? Please ensure you have chosen a percentage for each of the funding sources listed below and that your answers equate to a total of 100%.
8. Do you receive statutory funding?
9. What percentage of the costs for the specific services/supports you are funded to provide, are met by your statutory funding?
10. How many statutory funders do you have?
11. Who are your statutory funders? (tick all that apply)
12. Please name your main statutory funder (i.e. provides the highest proportion of your statutory funding)
13. Have your statutory funding levels changed in the last year? If so, by how much?
14. What percentage of your overheads are met by your statutory funding? (e.g. light/heat/rent/sundries/staff not involved in the frontline provision of services)
15. Is your statutory funding multi-annual?
16. How long does your multi-annual funding contract last?
17. Are you funded under a formal Service Level Agreement/Arrangement with a statutory body? (tick all that apply)
18. What has been your experience of agreeing Service Level Agreements/Arrangements with your main statutory funder?
19. Has your experience of agreeing Service Level Agreements/Arrangements with your main statutory funder changed in the last 12 months?
20. Do you receive funding under Section 39 (HSE)/56 (Tusla)/10 (Housing Act)/40 (Department of Justice)?
21. How were you impacted by the 2023 WRC Agreement to increase salaries by 8%?
22. What challenges remain for your organisation around the issue of pay parity for Section 39/56/10/40 organisations?

### Section 3: The cost of running and organisation

23. Are you confident that your organisation will have sufficient funding to provide your existing supports/services in 2025?
24. What percentage of your 2025 budget are you confident about?
25. How do you expect to cover any remaining costs?
26. Do you have reserves?
27. What percentage of income do your reserves represent based on your most recent annual turnover?
28. Did you, or do you anticipate that you will, use your reserves in 2024?
29. Has the cost of running your organisation increased in the last year?
30. By how much have your running costs (e.g. energy, rent, cost of doing business) increased in the last 12 months?
31. Which running costs have increased the most?
32. If you are in receipt of (statutory or non-statutory) grant income, has this been increased to cover increased costs (e.g. energy, rent, cost of doing business)?
33. How significantly will rising running costs impact your organisation's capacity to offer services/supports in 2025?
34. If the rising costs of business are negatively impacting your organisation, are you facing a threat of closure?

### Section 4: Staff, volunteers, and trustees

35. Does your organisation have paid staff?
36. How many full-time equivalent (FTE) employees does your organisation have?
37. Is your organisation able to recruit and retain staff sufficiently?
38. Has this changed over the past 12 months?
39. What do you see as the main barrier to staff recruitment and retention?
40. Does your organisation have volunteers (not including your board of trustees)?
41. How many volunteers does your organisation have?
42. Is your organisation able to recruit and retain volunteers sufficiently?
43. Has this changed over the past 12 months?
44. What do you see as the main barriers to volunteer recruitment?
45. Does your organisation have a board of trustees?
46. How many trustees does your organisation have?
47. Is your organisation able to recruit and retain trustees sufficiently?
48. Has this changed over the past 12 months?
49. What do you see as the main barriers to trustee recruitment?

## Section 5: Reporting and compliance

50. Which, if any, of the following are you required to comply with? Tick all that apply.
51. By whom are funding-compliance and regulation-related processes undertaken in your organisation?
52. Are you required to report the same compliance data to more than one statutory source?
53. What information are you required to report to the same statutory source?
54. What is likely to have an impact on your capacity to provide services in 2025

## Section 6: Policy priorities

55. Rank The Wheel's current policy priorities in order of importance for your organisation. 1 being of highest priority and 8 being of lowest priority. Please make sure you assign a separate ranking to each priority listed. No two numbers should be repeated.
56. If there are areas in which The Wheel's Advocacy Team can provide support for your advocacy work in 2025, please let us know.



The Wheel is Ireland's national association of charities, community groups, and social enterprises.

As a representative voice, we provide leadership to the sector and advocate on behalf of our growing community of members.

As a supportive resource, we offer advice, training, and other opportunities to people working or volunteering in the sector.

Find out more at [www.wheel.ie](http://www.wheel.ie)

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