



Programme Area: Bioenergy

Project: Public Perceptions

Title: Summary Presentation of Bioenergy Survey Results 2017

Abstract:

This document presents the results of a survey on public perceptions of bioenergy carried out by YouGov for the ETI from 15th – 18th August 2017. The total sample size was 3,232 GB (Great Britain) adults and the figures in this document have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+). The survey found that there is strong public support for producing bioenergy in the UK from both biomass and waste, with 80% of respondents in favour of bioenergy playing a bigger part in the UK energy mix. Readers should note that any percentages calculated based on fewer than 50 respondents do not represent a wide enough cross-section of the target population to be considered statistically reliable. The questionnaire was developed by the ETI and reviewed by specialists in social science research.

An insights paper, 'Public Perceptions of Bioenergy', based on the findings from the 2015 and 2016 surveys is available on the ETI website: http://www.eti.co.uk/library/public-perceptions-of-bioenergy-in-the-uk-1 A shorter perspective on the results from all three surveys is available here: http://www.eti.co.uk/library/an-eti-perspective-public-perceptions-of-bioenergy

Context:

To complement its existing analysis of the bioenergy sector, the ETI wanted to find out more about current public opinion of bioenergy in the UK and the potential drivers behind those opinions. To do this the ETI developed a survey which was carried out by YouGov in 2015. An extended version of the survey was repeated in 2016.

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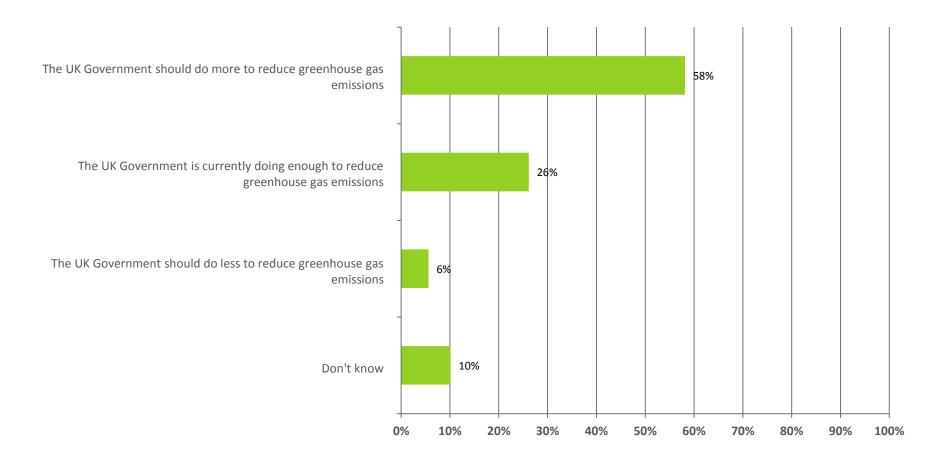
Conducted by YouGov on behalf of Energy Technology Institute

Fieldwork Dates: 15th - 18th August 2017



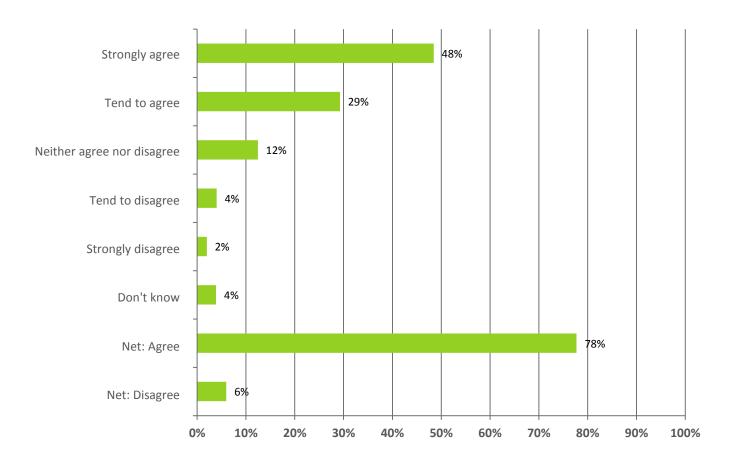


WEB_qa_new. Taking into account all the different priorities the UK Government has... Do you think the UK Government should do more or less to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the UK, or are they currently doing enough?



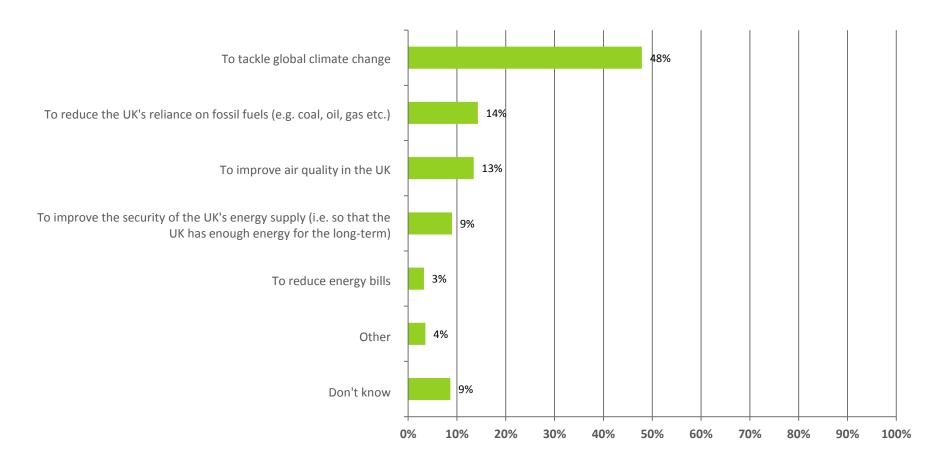


WEB_q1. For the following questions, by 'the UK', we mean the UK public as well as the UK Government. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The UK should be trying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions



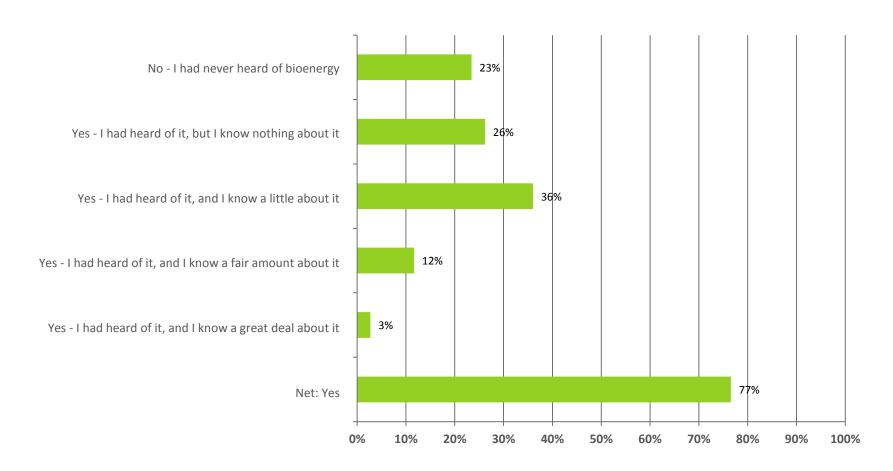


WEB_q2. As a reminder, by 'the UK', we mean the UK public as well as the UK Government. The UK has committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions. Which ONE, if any, of the following do you think is the MAIN reason for this?



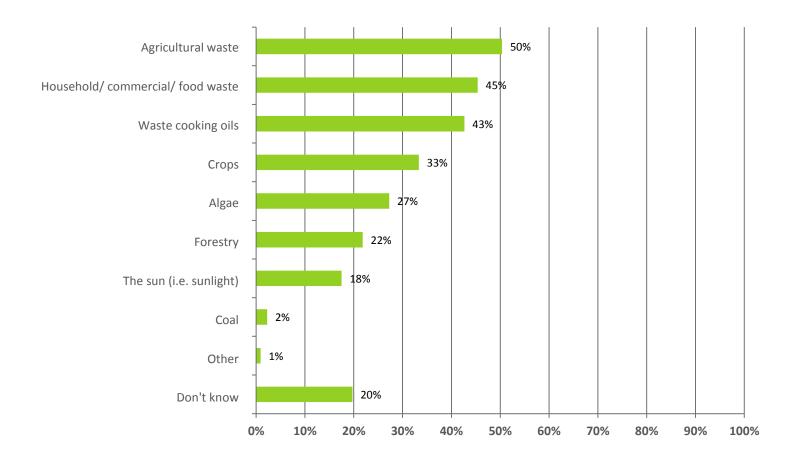


WEB_q7. Before taking this survey, had you ever heard of bioenergy? (Please select the option that best applies)



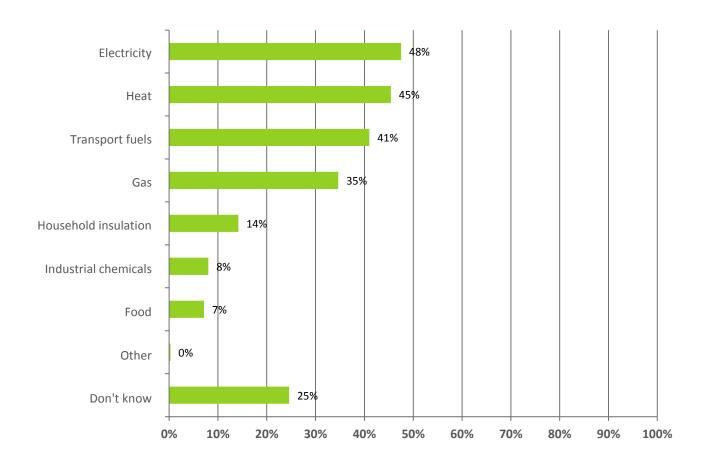


WEB_q4. \$energy Which, if any, of the following do you think bioenergy is directly produced from? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)



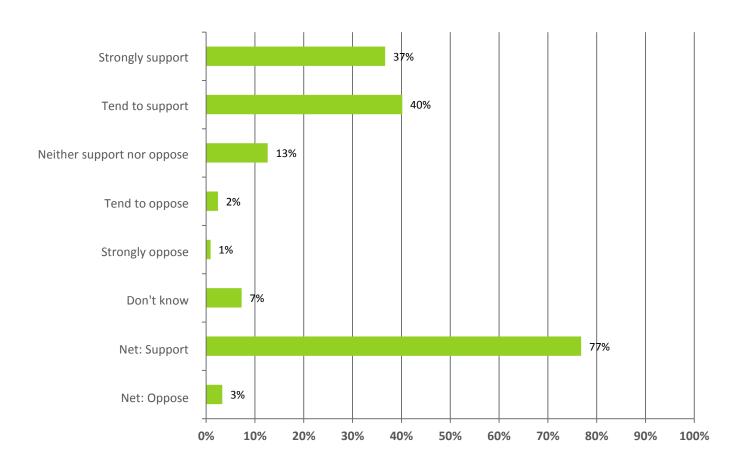


WEB_q5. \$energy And which, if any, of the following do you think bioenergy can take the form of? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)



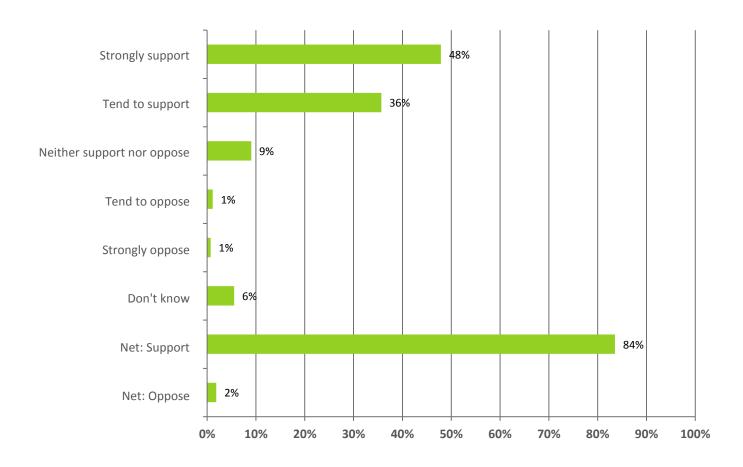


WEB_q8a. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of biomass to produce bioenergy in the UK?



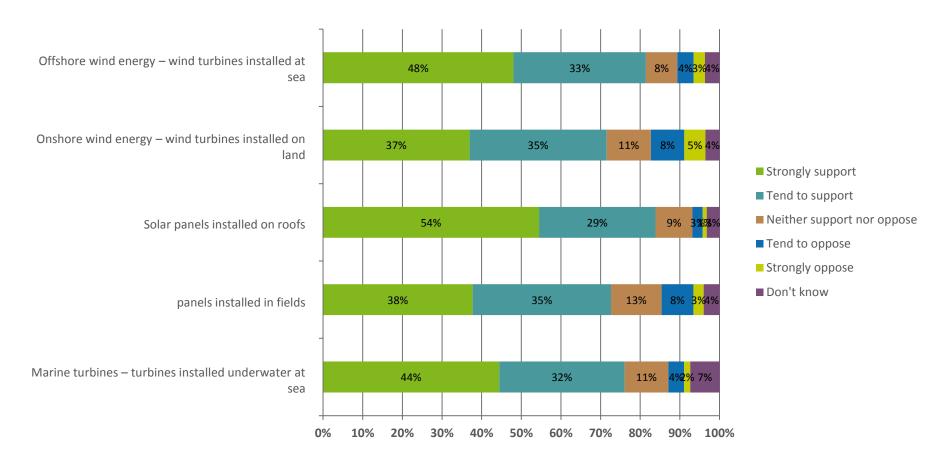


WEB_q8b. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of waste to produce bioenergy in the UK?



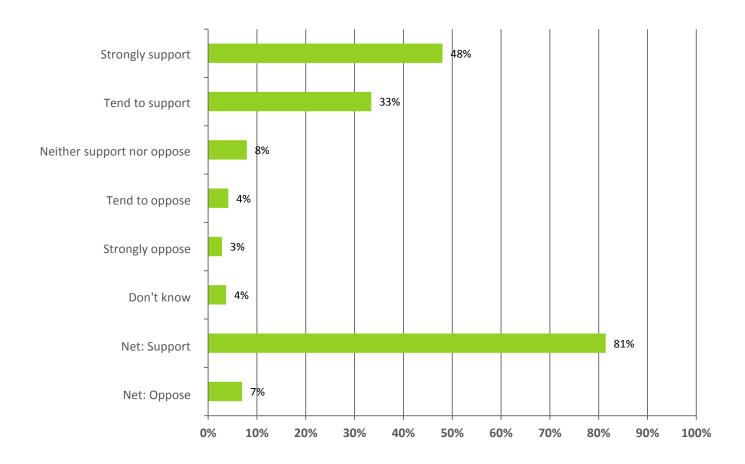


WEB_qb_new. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of each of the following renewable energy technologies to produce energy in the UK? (Please select one option in each row)



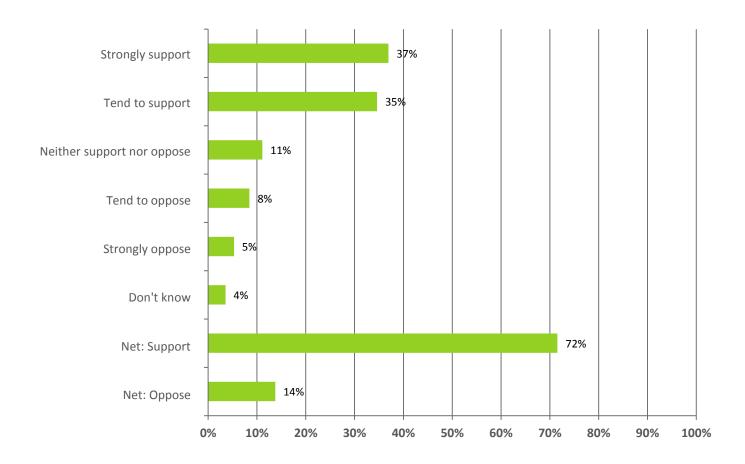


qb_new_1. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of each of the following renewable energy technologies to produce energy in the UK? (Please select one option in each row) - Offshore wind energy – wind turbines installed at sea



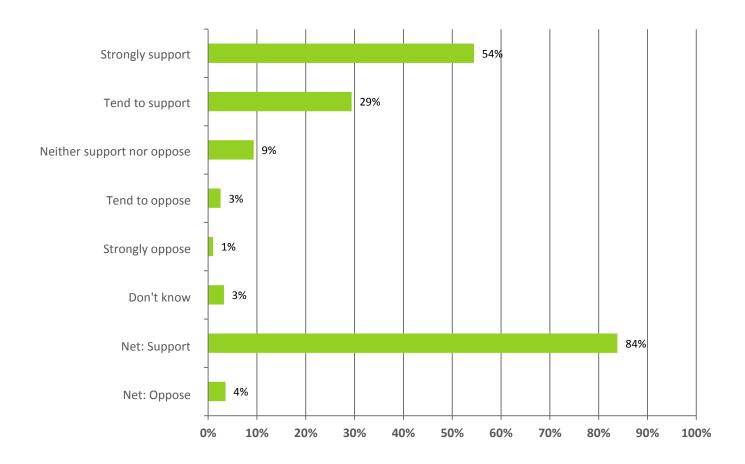


qb_new_2. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of each of the following renewable energy technologies to produce energy in the UK? (Please select one option in each row) - Onshore wind energy – wind turbines installed on land



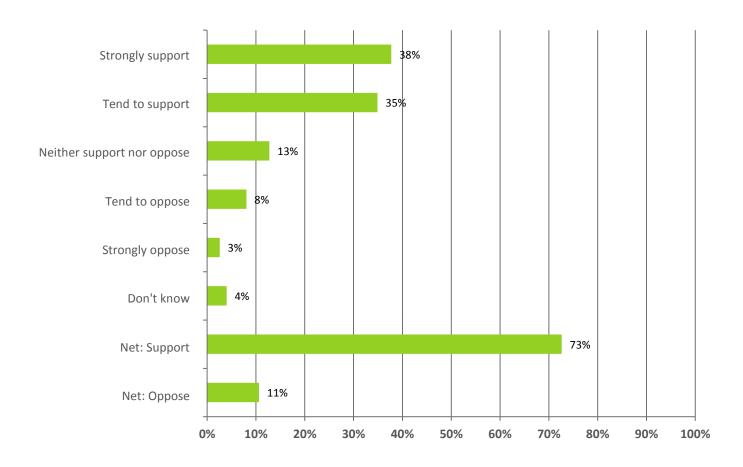


qb_new_3. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of each of the following renewable energy technologies to produce energy in the UK? (Please select one option in each row) - Solar panels installed on roofs



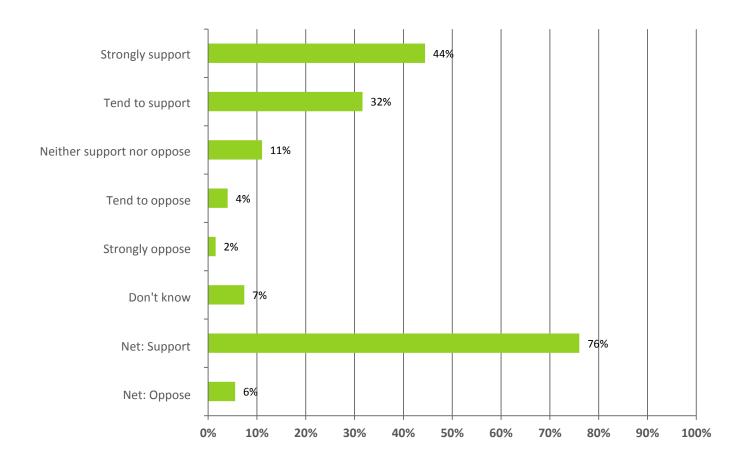


qb_new_4. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of each of the following renewable energy technologies to produce energy in the UK? (Please select one option in each row) - Solar parks - panels installed in fields



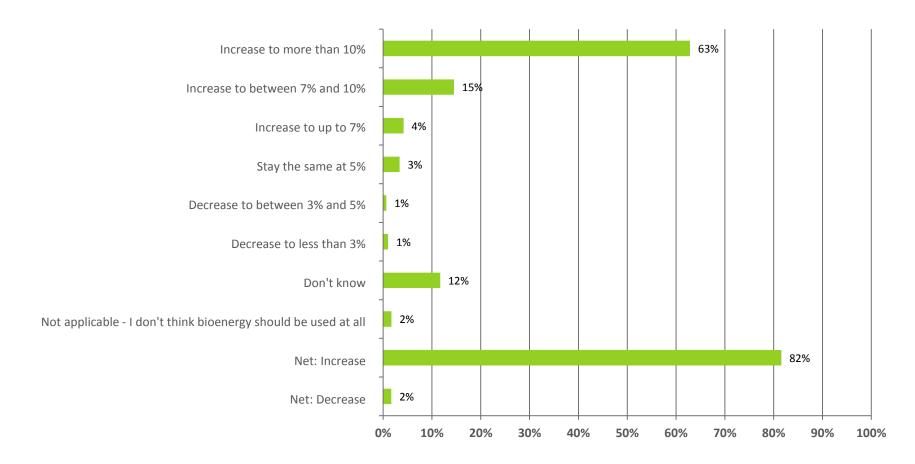


qb_new_5. In general, to what extent do you support or oppose the use of each of the following renewable energy technologies to produce energy in the UK? (Please select one option in each row) - Marine turbines – turbines installed underwater at sea



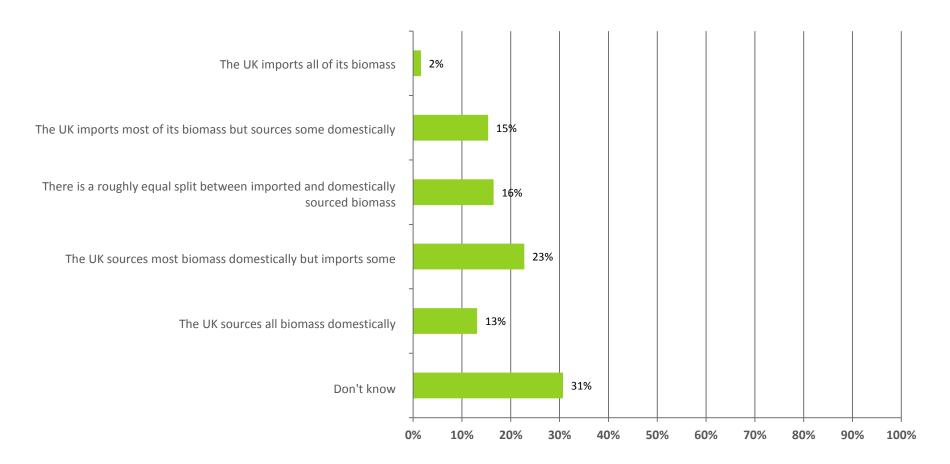


WEB_q9. Bioenergy currently meets 5% of all of the UK's total energy demand. To what extent do you think this percentage should increase or decrease, or do you think it should stay the same?



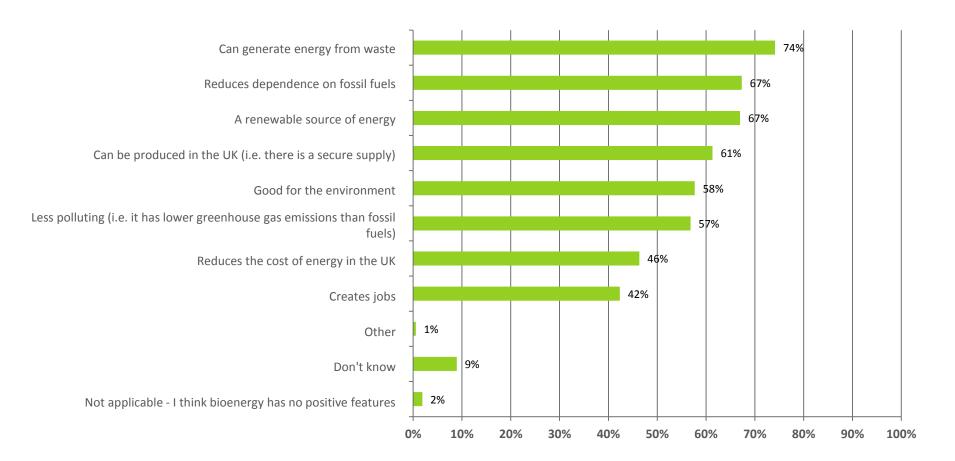


WEB_q10. As a reminder, 'biomass' is any purpose-grown material (e.g. crops, forestry or algae). Which ONE of the following statements BEST describes where you think the UK currently sources its biomass for bioenergy? (Please select the option that BEST applies)



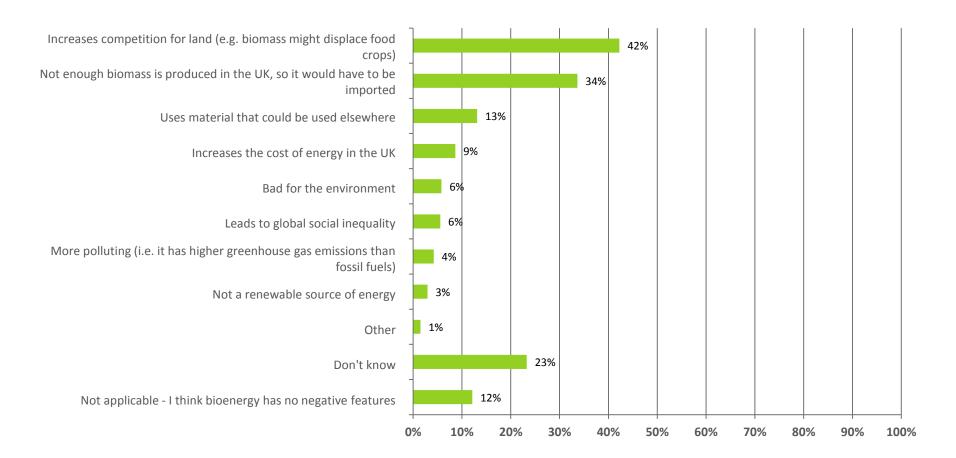


WEB_q11. In general, which, if any, of the following would you say are positive features of bioenergy? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)



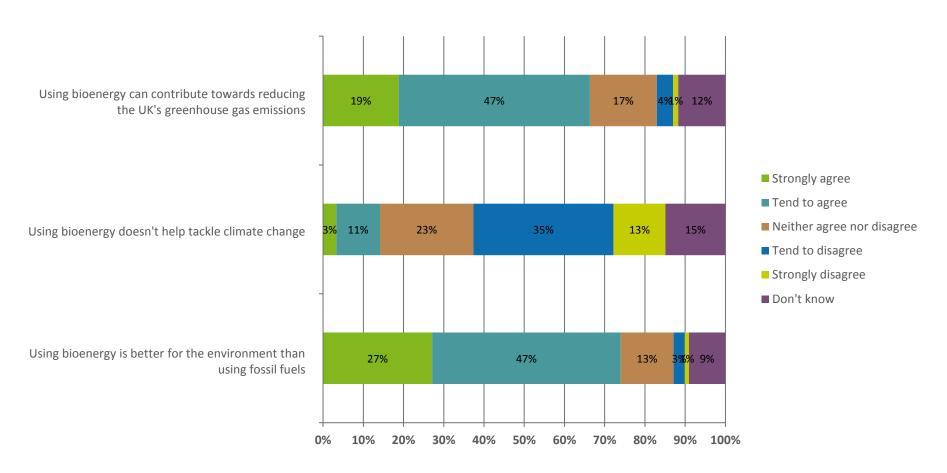


WEB_q12. And which, if any, of the following would you say are negative features of bioenergy? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)



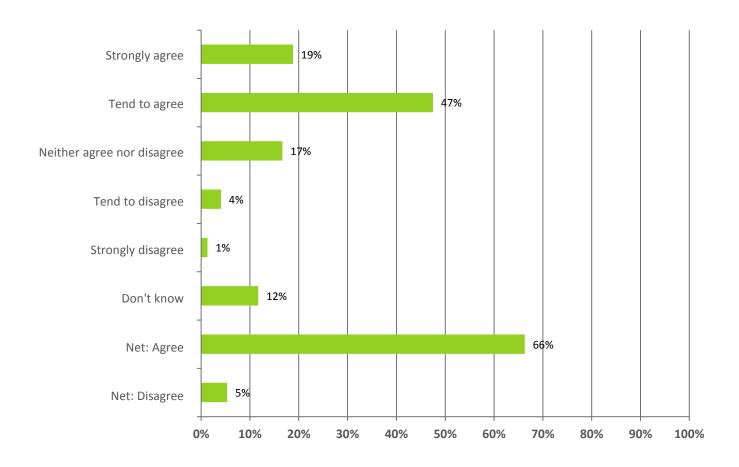


WEB_q13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?



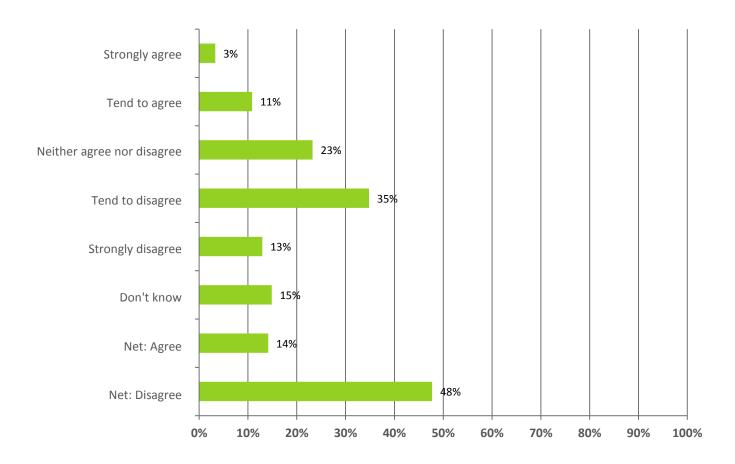


web_q13_1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Using bioenergy can contribute towards reducing the UK's greenhouse gas emissions



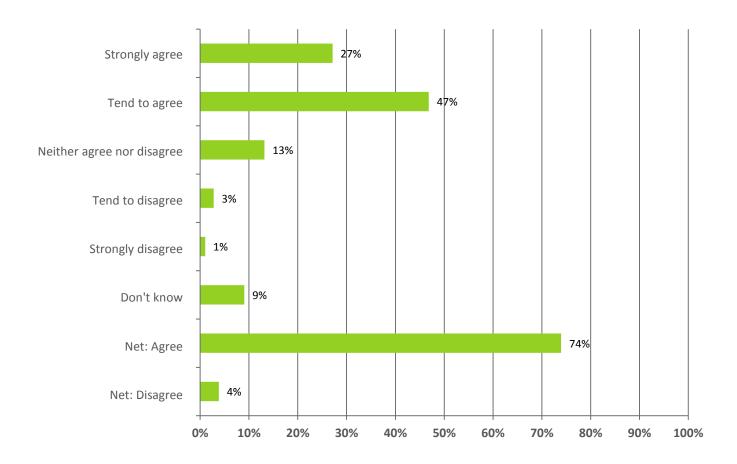


web_q13_2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Using bioenergy doesn't help tackle climate change



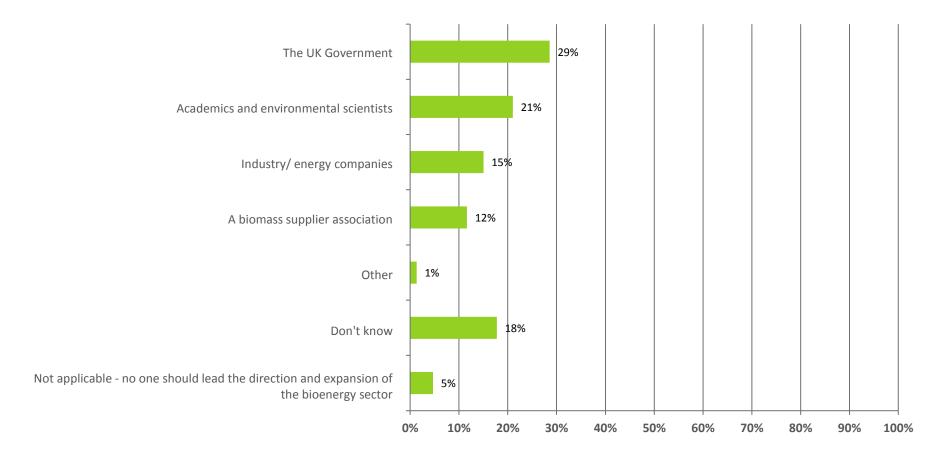


web_q13_3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Using bioenergy is better for the environment than using fossil fuels



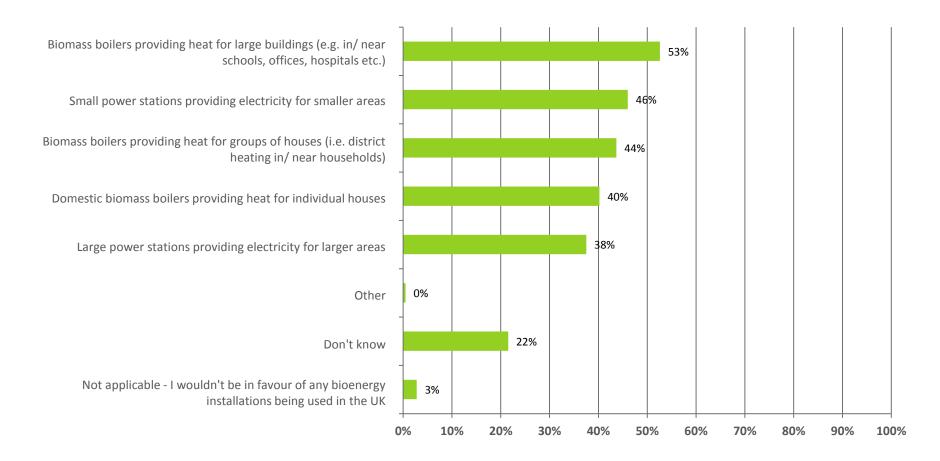


WEB_q17. The use of bioenergy in the UK is increasing. Some people believe that the direction and expansion of the bioenergy sector should be led by an organisation. Which ONE, if any, of the following do you think should be the MAIN leader of the bioenergy sector? (If your answer is not shown in the list below, please type it in the 'other' box)



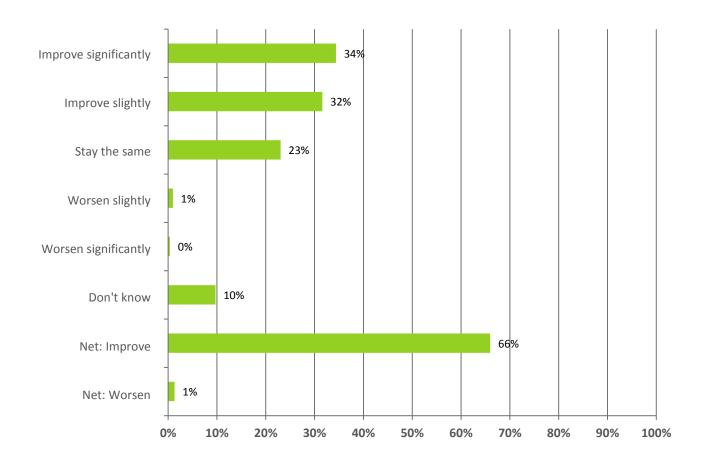


WEB_q18. Bioenergy installations that generate electricity or heat come in various sizes. Which, if any, of the following bioenergy installations would you be in favour of being used in the UK? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)



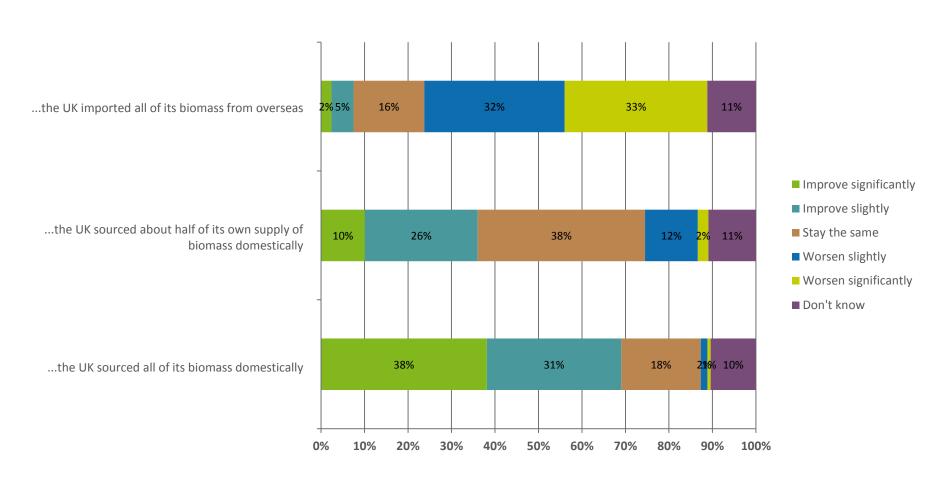


WEB_q20b. For the following question, please imagine you were shown conclusive scientific evidence that proved the following statement to be correct; Bioenergy reduces greenhouse gas emissions Based on this, would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve or worsen, or would it stay the same?



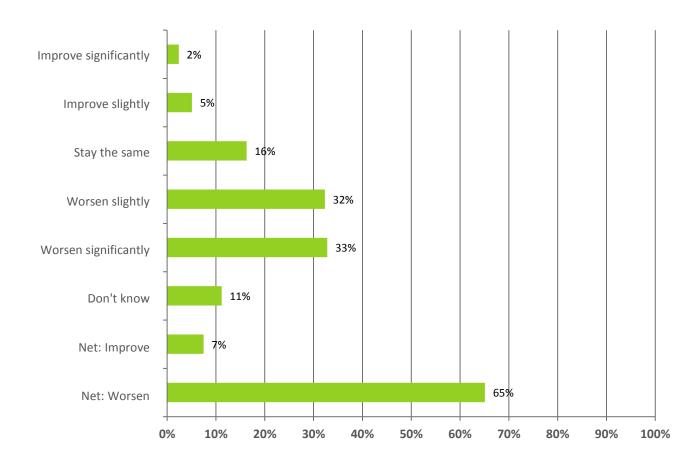


WEB_q21a. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that...



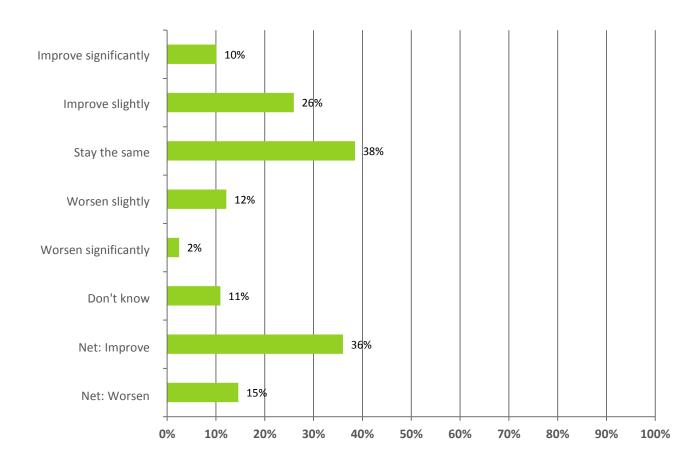


web_q21a_a. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that... - ...the UK imported all of its biomass from overseas



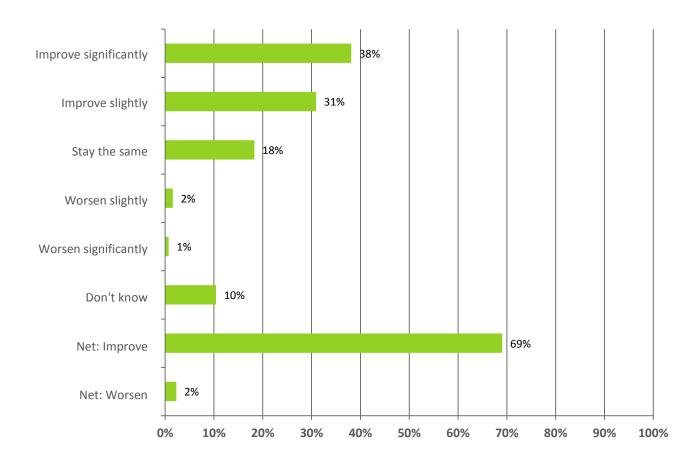


web_q21a_b. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that... - ...the UK sourced about half of its own supply of biomass domestically



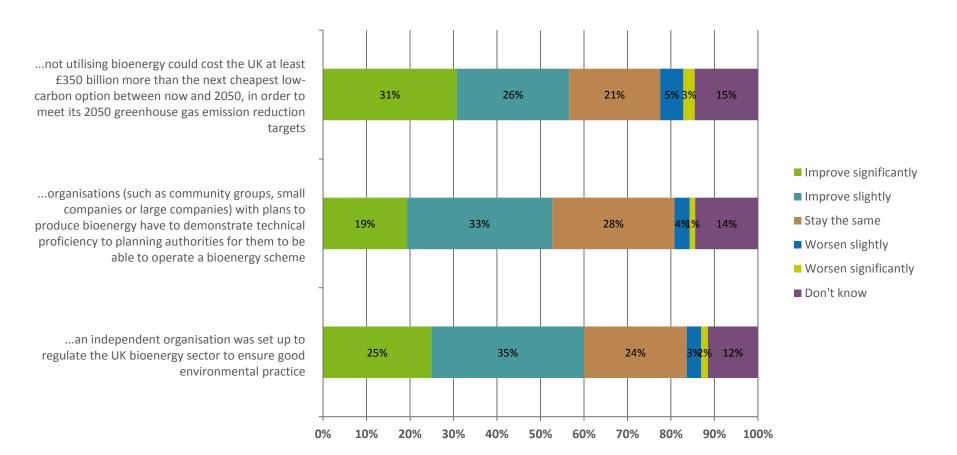


web_q21a_c. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that... - ...the UK sourced all of its biomass domestically



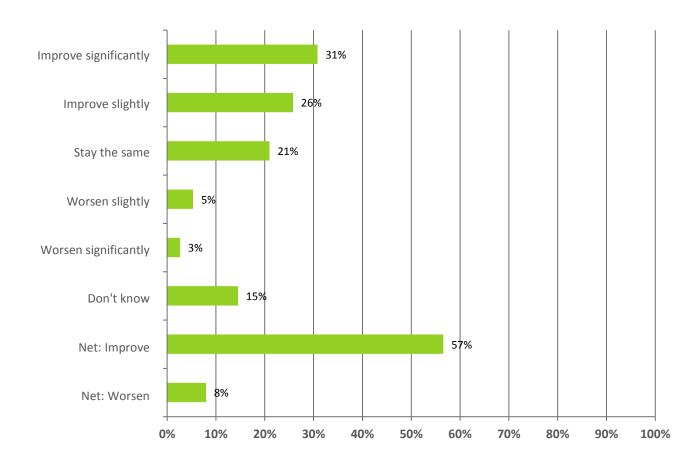


WEB_q22. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that...



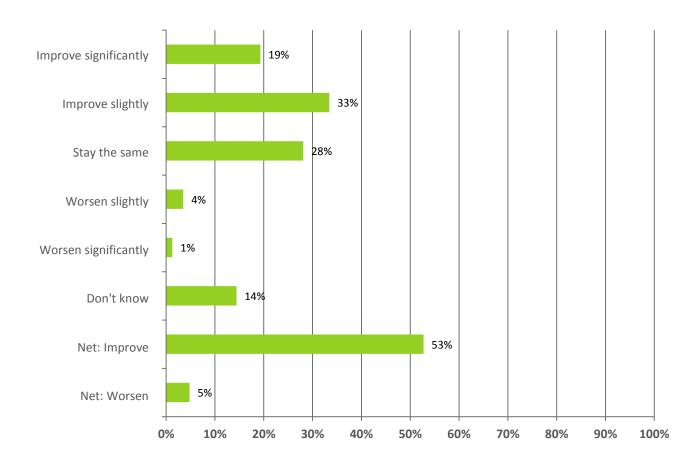


web_q22_a. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that... - ...not utilising bioenergy could cost the UK at least £350 billion more than the next cheapest low-carbon option between now and 2050, in order to meet its 2050 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets



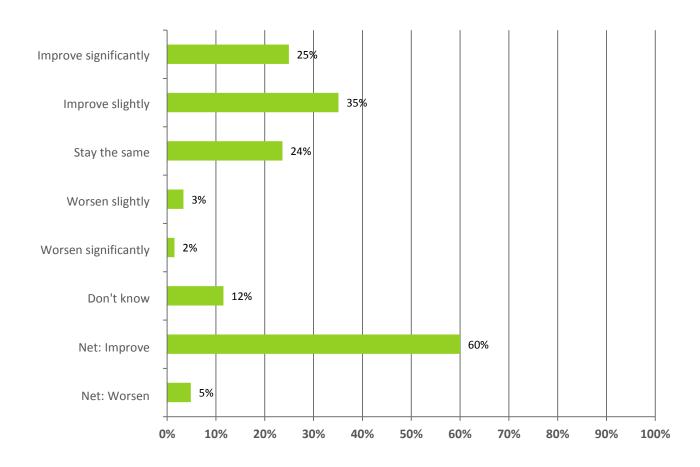


web_q22_b. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that... - ...organisations (such as community groups, small companies or large companies) with plans to produce bioenergy have to demonstrate technical proficiency to planning authorities for them to be able to operate a bioenergy scheme



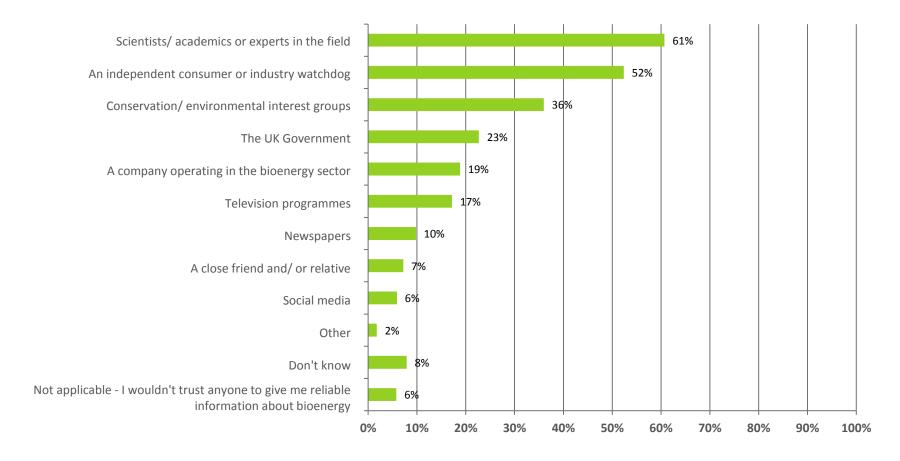


web_q22_c. Would your opinion of the use of bioenergy in the UK improve, worsen or stay the same if you were told that... - ...an independent organisation was set up to regulate the UK bioenergy sector to ensure good environmental practice



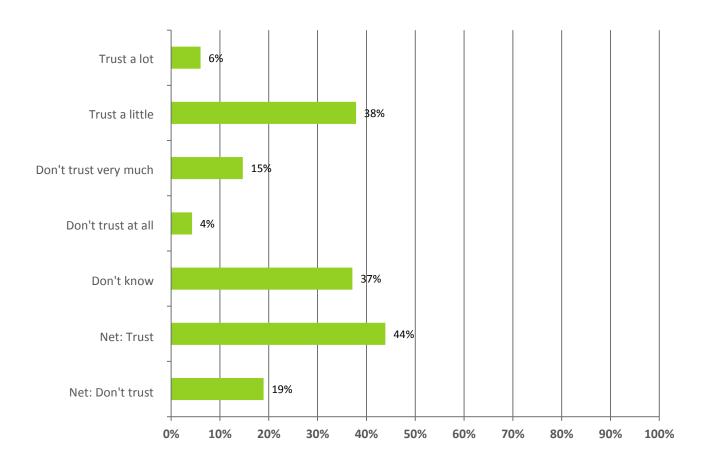


WEB_q23. Please imagine you were interested in finding out more information on bioenergy... Which, if any, of the following would you trust to give you reliable information? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)



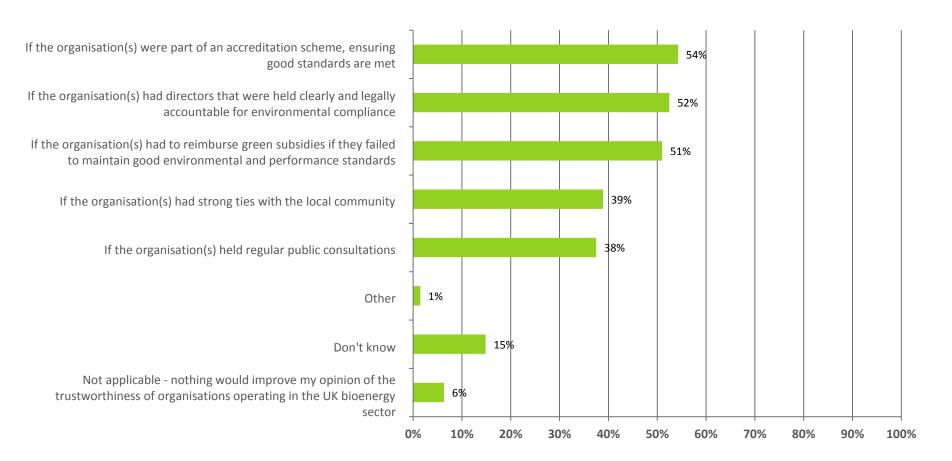


WEB_q25. Overall, to what extent, if at all, do you trust organisations operating in the UK bioenergy sector?





WEB_q24. Which, if any, of the following do you think would improve your opinion of the trustworthiness of organisations operating in the UK bioenergy sector? (Please select all that apply. If any of your answers are not shown in the list below, please type them in the 'other' box)





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