

Section B – Local Involvement

In the last 12 months have you given any unpaid help to any groups, clubs or organisations?

4.25 Almost half (44%) of all respondents indicated that they have given unpaid help to groups, clubs or organisations in the last 12 months. The table below shows the specific types of unpaid help they have provided to groups, clubs or organisations.

Type of help	Count	%
Organising or helping to run an activity or event	216	44.4%
Raising or managing money	214	43.9%
Leading or helping to run a group	201	41.3%
Being a member of a committee	197	40.5%
Practical help (e.g. gardening, DIY, shopping, helping at school)	120	24.6%
Secretarial, admin or clerical work	99	20.3%
Visiting people	92	18.9%
Providing information, advice or counselling	82	16.8%
Befriending or mentoring	70	14.4%
Providing transport or driving	67	13.8%
Public service (magistrate, special constable, school governor)	65	13.3%
Other	41	8.4%
Campaigning	40	8.2%
Representation or advocacy	25	5.1%

(Base number: 488)

4.26 Other types of help given included unpaid help to a charity (7), and care work (5).

By age

4.27 Those aged 35 – 74 had given more unpaid help to groups, clubs or organisations in the last 12 months:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	18	34.6%	12	21.1%	29	34.1%	136	49.1%	168	49.3%	80	52.6%	39	31.5%
No	34	65.4%	45	78.9%	56	65.9%	141	50.9%	173	50.7%	72	47.4%	85	68.5%

By area

4.28 Respondents in the Bedford Borough area were more likely to give this type of unpaid help compared with respondents from the other two areas:

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	307	50.0%	103	39.0%	78	35.1%
No	307	50.0%	161	61.0%	144	64.9%

By ethnicity

4.29 There were no significant differences between white and non white respondents:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
Yes	465	44.2%	14	40.0%
No	586	55.8%	21	60.0%

By disability

4.30 Disabled respondents were also more likely to give up their time compared to the disabled respondents

Disability	Disabled		Non-disabled	
	n	%	n	%
Yes	62	36.0%	417	45.7%
No	110	64.0%	495	54.3%

By gender

4.31 Male respondents were marginally more likely to give unpaid help compared to female respondents.

Gender	Male		Female	
	n	%	n	%
Yes	176	45.1%	307	43.9%
No	214	54.9%	393	56.1%

By qualification

4.32 It was very interesting that the more qualified a respondent was, the more likely they were to give unpaid help to groups, clubs or organisations:

Qualification	None		NVQ level 1 & 2		NVQ level 3 & 4		Higher degree	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	96	29.6%	94	40.7%	213	54.3%	69	60.0%
No	228	70.4%	137	59.3%	179	45.7%	46	40.0%

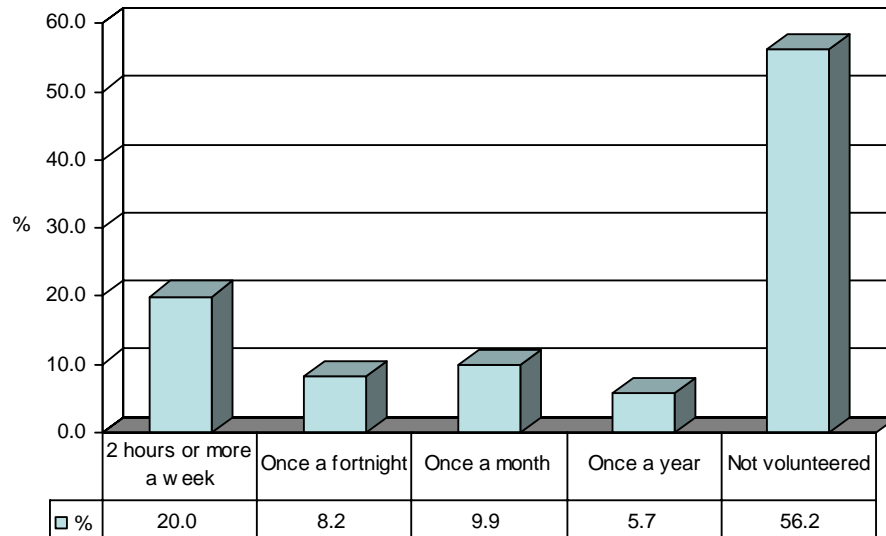
By work status

4.33 The following table shows the result split by work status:

Work Status	Employed		Full/part time education		Unemployed		Not in paid work /caring/other		Retired	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	275	45.1%	16	37.2%	21	40.4%	36	47.4%	134	43.9%
No	335	54.9%	27	62.8%	31	59.6%	40	52.6%	171	56.1%

Overall, how often over the last 12 months have you done something to help any groups, clubs or organisations?

4.34 A fifth of all respondents had volunteered for more than two hours a week, 8% volunteered at least once a fortnight, 10% volunteered once a month and 6% volunteered once a year. However, more than half the sample had not volunteered in the last 12 months.



(Base number: 1100)

By age

4.35 The younger age groups were less likely to volunteer on a frequent basis:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	7	13.5%	4	7.0%	13	15.3%	55	19.9%	68	19.9%	52	34.2%	18	14.5%
At least once a fortnight	3	5.8%	2	3.5%	3	3.5%	23	8.3%	35	10.3%	17	11.2%	7	5.6%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	3	5.8%	2	3.5%	9	10.6%	33	11.9%	41	12.0%	7	4.6%	12	9.7%
At least once in the last 12 months	5	9.6%	4	7.0%	4	4.7%	23	8.3%	22	6.5%	4	2.6%	1	0.8%
Not volunteered	34	65.4%	45	78.9%	56	65.9%	143	51.6%	175	51.3%	72	47.4%	86	69.4%

By area

4.36 Overall, respondents in Bedford Borough were the more likely to volunteer for at least 2 hours a week:

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	144	23.5%	47	17.8%	29	13.1%
At least once a fortnight	67	10.9%	11	4.2%	12	5.4%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	57	9.3%	28	10.6%	24	10.8%
At least once in the last 12 months	33	5.4%	17	6.4%	13	5.9%
Not volunteered	313	51.0%	161	61.0%	144	64.9%

By ethnicity

4.37 White respondents were more likely to volunteer for an average of two hours or more per week:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	213	20.3%	4	11.4%
At least once a fortnight	84	8.0%	5	14.3%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	104	9.9%	2	5.7%
At least once in the last 12 months	60	5.7%	2	5.7%
Not volunteered	590	56.1%	22	62.9%

By disability

4.38 The same question is split by disability:

Disability	Disabled		Non disabled	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	31	18.0%	185	20.3%
At least once a fortnight	12	7.0%	77	8.4%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	12	7.0%	95	10.4%
At least once in the last 12 months	5	2.9%	57	6.3%
Not volunteered	112	65.1%	498	54.6%

By gender

4.39 There was little significant difference when analysed by gender:

Gender	Male		Female	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	84	21.5%	135	19.3%
At least once a fortnight	37	9.5%	53	7.6%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	37	9.5%	69	9.9%
At least once in the last 12 months	17	4.4%	46	6.6%
Not volunteered	215	55.1%	397	56.7%

By qualification

4.40 Those with higher levels of education were more likely to volunteer for at least two hours a week:

Qualification	None		NVQ level 1 & 2		NVQ level 3 & 4		Higher degree	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	53	16.4%	33	14.3%	94	24.0%	32	27.8%
At least once a fortnight	14	4.3%	26	11.3%	37	9.4%	12	10.4%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	21	6.5%	16	6.9%	53	13.5%	15	13.0%
At least once in the last 12 months	8	2.5%	18	7.8%	27	6.9%	9	7.8%
Not volunteered	228	70.4%	138	59.7%	181	46.2%	47	40.9%

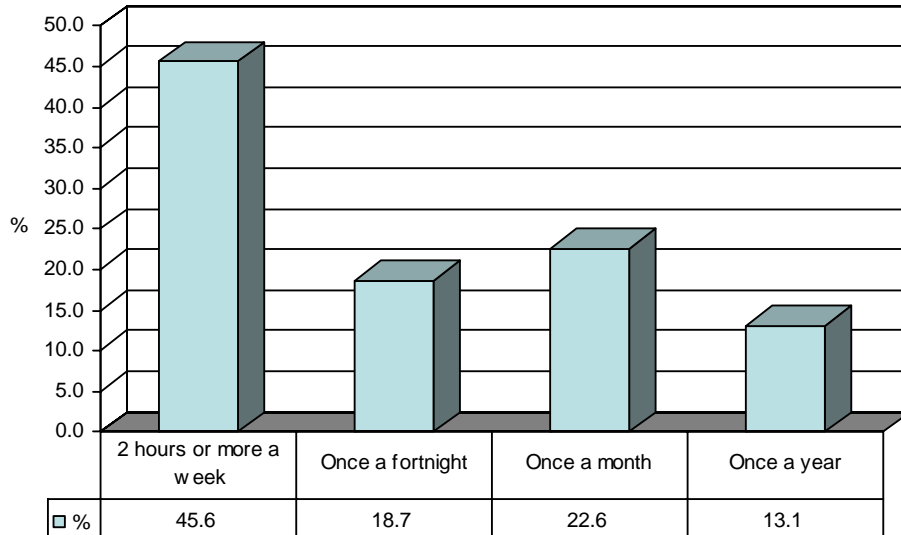
By work status

4.41 Those respondents that were retired, not in paid work, caring for somebody or unemployed were more likely to volunteer on a more regular basis:

Work Status	Employed		Full/part time education		Unemployed		Not in paid work /caring/other		Retired	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	105	17.2%	5	11.6%	12	23.1%	17	22.4%	78	25.6%
At least once a fortnight	48	7.9%	4	9.3%	3	5.8%	7	9.2%	26	8.5%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	72	11.8%	4	9.3%	4	7.7%	5	6.6%	23	7.5%
At least once in the last 12 months	48	7.9%	3	7.0%	2	3.8%	5	6.6%	5	1.6%
Not volunteered	337	55.2%	27	62.8%	31	59.6%	42	55.3%	173	56.7%

If volunteered, how often over the last 12 months have you done something to help any groups, clubs or organisations?

4.42 The chart below shows how often over the last 12 month the respondents have given unpaid help to groups, clubs, or organisations. Almost half (46%) of these respondents provided unpaid help frequently, i.e. an average of two hours or more a week and almost a fifth help out once a fortnight.



(Base number: 482)

By age

4.43 The older age groups, especially those aged over 65, are much more likely to give their time compared with the younger age groups:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Two hours or more a week	7	38.9%	4	33.3%	13	44.8%	55	41.0%	68	41.0%	52	65.0%	18	47.4%
At least once a fortnight	3	16.7%	2	16.7%	3	10.3%	23	17.2%	35	21.1%	17	21.3%	7	18.4%
At least once a month	3	16.7%	2	16.7%	9	31.0%	33	24.6%	41	24.7%	7	8.8%	12	31.6%
At least once in the last 12 months	5	27.8%	4	33.3%	4	13.8%	23	17.2%	22	13.3%	4	5.0%	1	2.6%

By area

4.44 Respondents from the Bedford Borough and Mid Bedfordshire areas were more likely to give unpaid help on a more frequent basis (two or more hours a week):

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	144	47.8%	47	45.6%	29	37.2%
At least once a fortnight	67	22.3%	11	10.7%	12	15.4%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	57	18.9%	28	27.2%	24	30.8%
At least once in the last 12 months	33	11.0%	17	16.5%	13	16.7%

By ethnicity

4.45 This was also true for white respondents when compared against non white respondents:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	213	46.2%	4	30.8%
At least once a fortnight	84	18.2%	5	38.5%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	104	22.6%	2	15.4%
At least once in the last 12 months	60	13.0%	2	15.4%

By disability

4.46 The following table shows the same question cross analysed by disability:

Disability	Disabled		Non disable	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	31	51.7%	185	44.7%
At least once a fortnight	12	20.0%	77	18.6%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	12	20.0%	95	22.9%
At least once in the last 12 months	5	8.3%	57	13.8%

By gender

4.47 Male respondents were more likely to give unpaid help on a more frequent basis (two or more hours a week):

Gender	Male		Female	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	84	48.0%	135	44.6%
At least once a fortnight	37	21.1%	53	17.5%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	37	21.1%	69	22.8%
At least once in the last 12 months	17	9.7%	46	15.2%

By qualification

4.48 There were no significant variances when analysed by level of qualification:

Qualification	None		NVQ level 1 & 2		NVQ level 3 & 4		Higher degree	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	53	55.2%	33	35.5%	94	44.5%	32	47.1%
At least once a fortnight	14	14.6%	26	28.0%	37	17.5%	12	17.6%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	21	21.9%	16	17.2%	53	25.1%	15	22.1%
At least once in the last 12 months	8	8.3%	18	19.4%	27	12.8%	9	13.2%

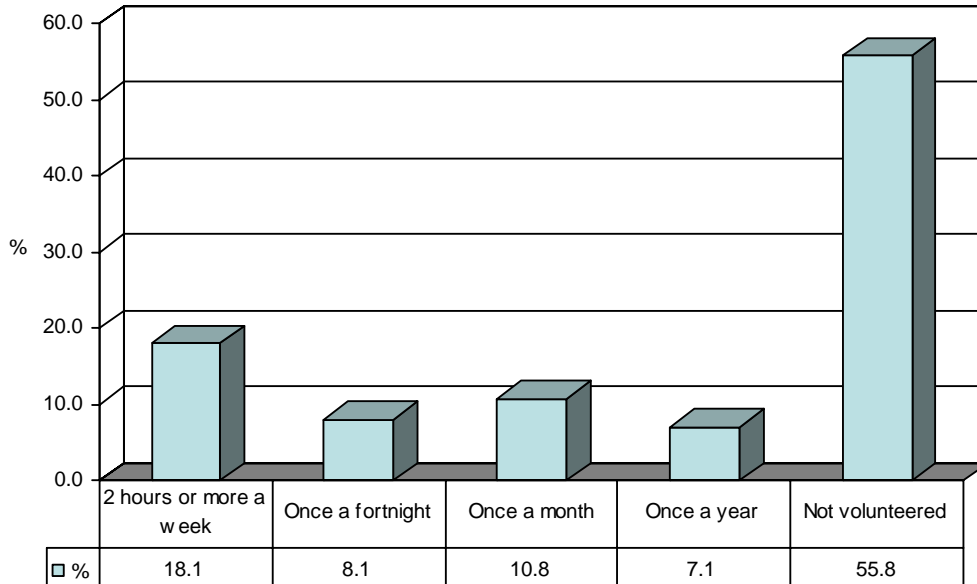
By work status

4.49 Those respondents that are unemployed or retired were more likely to give up their time for at least two hours a week:

Work Status	Employed		Full/part time education		Unemployed		Not in paid work /caring/other		Retired	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	105	38.5%	5	31.3%	12	57.1%	17	50.0%	78	59.1%
At least once a fortnight	48	17.6%	4	25.0%	3	14.3%	7	20.6%	26	19.7%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	72	26.4%	4	25.0%	4	19.0%	5	14.7%	23	17.4%
At least once in the last 12 months	48	17.6%	3	18.8%	2	9.5%	5	14.7%	5	3.8%

Overall, how often over the last 12 months have you done something to help any groups, clubs or organisations? (Only those aged 16-64)

4.50 The following chart shows that although 56% of respondents aged 16 – 64 did not volunteer, 18% volunteered for at least 2 hours a week and 8% volunteered once a fortnight.



(Base number: 812)

By age

4.51 This is also split by the five different age categories within the 16 – 64 age range:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	7	13.5%	4	7.0%	13	15.3%	55	19.9%	68	19.9%
At least once a fortnight	3	5.8%	2	3.5%	3	3.5%	23	8.3%	35	10.3%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	3	5.8%	2	3.5%	9	10.6%	33	11.9%	41	12.0%
At least once in the last 12 months	5	9.6%	4	7.0%	4	4.7%	23	8.3%	22	6.5%
Not volunteered	34	65.4%	45	78.9%	56	65.9%	143	51.6%	175	51.3%

By area

4.52 Respondents living in the Bedford Borough were more likely to volunteer on a more regular basis:

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	97	21.4%	31	15.4%	19	12.1%
At least once a fortnight	50	11.0%	8	4.0%	8	5.1%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	44	9.7%	25	12.4%	19	12.1%
At least once in the last 12 months	31	6.8%	14	7.0%	13	8.3%
Not volunteered	232	51.1%	123	61.2%	98	62.4%

By ethnicity

4.53 White respondents were also more likely to give their unpaid time for an average of two hours or more a week:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	142	18.3%	3	9.4%
At least once a fortnight	62	8.0%	4	12.5%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	84	10.9%	2	6.3%
At least once in the last 12 months	55	7.1%	2	6.3%
Not volunteered	431	55.7%	21	65.6%

By disability

4.54 The following table shows the same question cross analysed by disability:

Disability	Disabled		Non disabled	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	18	23.4%	128	17.5%
At least once a fortnight	6	7.8%	60	8.2%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	6	7.8%	81	11.1%
At least once in the last 12 months	4	5.2%	53	7.3%
Not volunteered	43	55.8%	409	56.0%

By gender

4.55 There were no significant differences between male and female respondents:

Gender	Male		Female	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	46	17.0%	101	18.7%
At least once a fortnight	24	8.9%	42	7.8%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	30	11.1%	57	10.6%
At least once in the last 12 months	14	5.2%	44	8.1%
Not volunteered	157	57.9%	296	54.8%

By qualification

4.56 Respondents with higher levels of qualifications were more likely to volunteer for an average of two hours a week:

Qualification	None		NVQ level 1 & 2		NVQ level 3 & 4		Higher degree	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	17	11.4%	31	14.8%	74	21.7%	23	23.2%
At least once a fortnight	6	4.0%	20	9.5%	27	7.9%	12	12.1%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	9	6.0%	15	7.1%	49	14.4%	13	13.1%
At least once in the last 12 months	7	4.7%	18	8.6%	25	7.3%	7	7.1%
Not volunteered	110	73.8%	126	60.0%	166	48.7%	44	44.4%

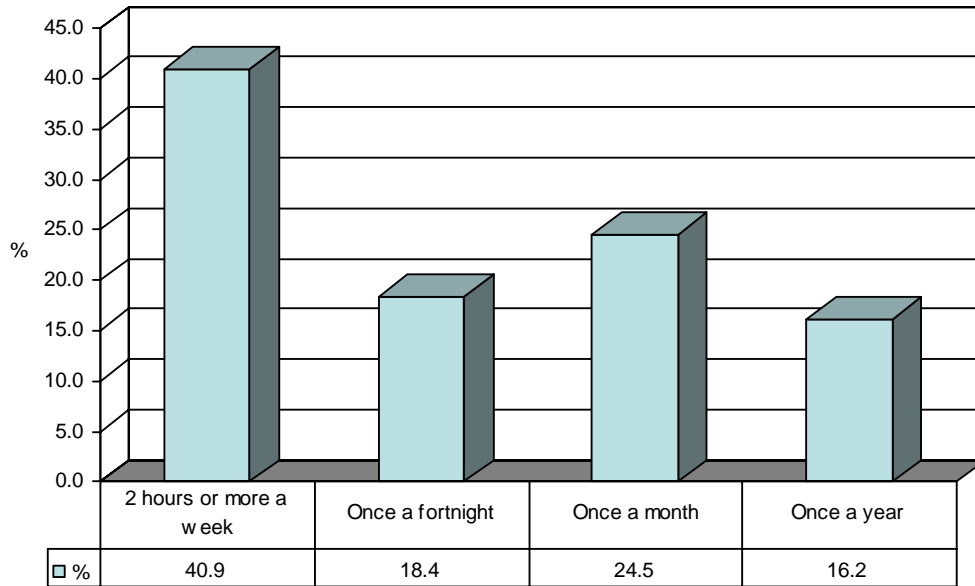
By work status

4.57 The table below shows the question split by work status:

Work Status	Employed		Full/part time education		Unemployed		Not in paid work /caring/other		Retired	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	98	16.8%	5	11.6%	12	24.5%	12	17.6%	18	29.0%
At least once a fortnight	44	7.5%	4	9.3%	3	6.1%	7	10.3%	6	9.7%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	69	11.8%	4	9.3%	4	8.2%	5	7.4%	6	9.7%
At least once in the last 12 months	47	8.1%	3	7.0%	1	2.0%	5	7.4%	2	3.2%
Not volunteered	325	55.7%	27	62.8%	29	59.2%	39	57.4%	30	48.4%

If volunteered, how often over the last 12 months have you done something to help any groups, clubs or organisations? (Only those aged 16-64)

4.58 The majority of those respondents who had given up their time to help a group, club or organisation did so for 2 hours or more a week:



(Base number: 359)

By age

4.59 A slightly smaller percentage of the older aged respondents within the 16 – 64 age groups were more likely to volunteer for an average of 2 hours a week:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	7	38.9%	4	33.3%	13	44.8%	55	41.0%	68	41.0%
At least once a fortnight	3	16.7%	2	16.7%	3	10.3%	23	17.2%	35	21.1%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	3	16.7%	2	16.7%	9	31.0%	33	24.6%	41	24.7%
At least once in the last 12 months	5	27.8%	4	33.3%	4	13.8%	23	17.2%	22	13.3%

By area

4.60 The following table shows the breakdown by area:

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	97	43.7%	31	39.7%	19	32.2%
At least once a fortnight	50	22.5%	8	10.3%	8	13.6%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	44	19.8%	25	32.1%	19	32.2%
At least once in the last 12 months	31	14.0%	14	17.9%	13	22.0%

By ethnicity

4.61 White respondents were more likely to give such unpaid time more frequently compared with non white respondents:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	142	41.4%	3	27.3%
At least once a fortnight	62	18.1%	4	36.4%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	84	24.5%	2	18.2%
At least once in the last 12 months	55	16.0%	2	18.2%

By disability

4.62 Disabled respondents were also more likely to give their time more frequently:

Disability	Disabled		Non disabled	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	18	52.9%	128	39.8%
At least once a fortnight	6	17.6%	60	18.6%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	6	17.6%	81	25.2%
At least once in the last 12 months	4	11.8%	53	16.5%

By gender

4.63 There was little variance between male and female respondents:

Gender	Male		Female	
	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	46	40.4%	101	41.4%
At least once a fortnight	24	21.1%	42	17.2%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	30	26.3%	57	23.4%
At least once in the last 12 months	14	12.3%	44	18.0%

By qualification

4.64 The table below shows the breakdown by qualification:

Qualification	None		NVQ level 1 & 2		NVQ level 3 & 4		Higher degree	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	17	43.6%	31	36.9%	74	42.3%	23	41.8%
At least once a fortnight	6	15.4%	20	23.8%	27	15.4%	12	21.8%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	9	23.1%	15	17.9%	49	28.0%	13	23.6%
At least once in the last 12 months	7	17.9%	18	21.4%	25	14.3%	7	12.7%

By work status

4.65 Those respondents aged between 16-64 and who were either unemployed or retired were more likely to give unpaid help for an average of two hours or more per week:

Work Status	Employed		Full/part time education		Unemployed		Not in paid work /caring/other		Retired	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
An average of two hours or more a week	98	38.0%	5	31.3%	12	60.0%	12	41.4%	18	56.3%
At least once a fortnight	44	17.1%	4	25.0%	3	15.0%	7	24.1%	6	18.8%
At least once a month in the last 12 months	69	26.7%	4	25.0%	4	20.0%	5	17.2%	6	18.8%
At least once in the last 12 months	47	18.2%	3	18.8%	1	5.0%	5	17.2%	2	6.3%