REPORT

A review of Decade of Centenaries (2012-2023)

Conducted on behalf of Community Relations Council and Heritage Lottery Fund

June 2017

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1.0 Summary of Main Findings

1.1 76 organisations took part in the survey with 49% coming from the Community and Voluntary sector.

1.2 Two thirds of respondents (42%) indicated that their organisation had marked a significant anniversary in the previous 12 months.

1.3 Programme durations ranged from one day to three years with many ongoing.

1.4 Majority of respondents do not have an official policy, framework or principles for marking centenaries (57%).

1.5 Majority of organisations took the approach to *"Aim to increase understanding"* in regards to marking or supporting to mark significant centenaries (89%). 66% of respondents took the approach to "*Find partners to collaborate with"* as well as the *"Aim to include multiple stories",* respectively. 59% of organisations took the approach to *"Develop a thematic and inclusive approach*" and "*Focuses on anniversaries that have a significant local connection*", respectively.

1.6 The most widely used CRC/HLF resource was the *'Decade of Anniversaries Toolkit (2013)'* and the '*Nerve Centre's Centenaries website'* (24 respondents respectively). This was followed by the '*The CRC/HLF Principles for remembering in Public Space ("Start with the facts")*' (21 respondents). Fewer respondents used the '*Remembering the Future Discussion paper (2011)' (8 respondents)* than any other resource.

1.7 A number of organisations asked for additional information on CRC/HLF's Decade of Centenaries' resources.

1.8 82% of organisations marked the First World War in the last five years. 77% marked the Battle of the Somme and 75% marked the Easter Rising.

1.9 From an extensive list of activities, "*Visual arts and exhibitions*" (66%) worked best for organisations as well as "*Dialogue and discussion- workshops and panel discussions*" (61%) and "Lecture series" (61%). 50% of organisations felt 'Local history- human stories and complexities" worked for them, while 48% stated that "Drama" worked for them as an organisation. "Storytelling" as an activity worked for 41% of organisations, while 39% felt "Site visits" worked. 18% stated that "*Show and tell"* worked for their organisation, 16% of organisations stated that "*Music/song memorial book" worked for them, while 11% stated that* "*Parades*" worked for them.

1.10 The general public was the main target audience for events followed by community groups/associations and cross community/inclusive initiatives. Politicians and public sector representatives were less likely to be a target audience for organisations marking centenaries.

1.11 An increased learning in relation to commemoration and or contested histories was stated to be the overall effect of marking the centenaries on organisations (70%).

1.12 Organisations believed that participants found the events to be '*thought provoking*' (75%), 68% respectively felt that they '*learnt something new*' and '*it helped explore shared experiences'*. 66% stated that "*It inspired participants to explore the Decade further".*

55% of organisations believe that the events *"Increase in number of people who now have good or very good knowledge of the period 1912 – 1918 in British and Irish history*", 52% believe that "*There was an increase in the number of participants who have a greater awareness of different cultures and feel comfortable acknowledging and respecting cultural diversity*".

50% respectively believe that participants found "*It produced multiple stories"* and "*Participants are now more open to listening to and exploring some discussion with others who have diverse and opposing opinions".*

43% believe that "*it made them truly reflective",* while *39% respectively found "It was innovative in terms of content and delivery" and "They had a greater understanding of a shared community as a direct result of shared history 1916/1918 course*".

1.13 From a list of 22 events, 13 organisations plan to celebrate the Messines (1917). 11 respondents are planning to mark "*The King's Speech (1921) and Northern Ireland Parliament*". 10 respondents will mark "*Sectarian violence (1920-1922)"*, the "*Craig Collins Pact"* and "*End of War in Europe- upheaval and displacement*". 9 respondents are planning to mark the "*Irish Convention (1917-1918) to the Government of Ireland Act (1920) and Partition (1922)".*

1.14 In terms of planning, 64% of organisations are currently planning activities for marking centenaries and 57% are in "*Dialogue and discussions*". 45% are "*Using a mix of methodologies*" and "*Seeking collaboration between agencies and groups",* respectively. 38% of organisations are "*Targeting Youth*" and the "*Development of themes*".

1.15 Majority of organisations believe "*Finance/funding staff"* (63%) would assist them in marking centenaries. Organisations also felt they could be supported in relation to "*Public relations and communications support"* (58%) and a *"Commitment to inclusive commemoration" (58%).* 53% felt that "*Direction at Executive Office Level*" would be of assistance and 50% felt that "*Direction at Local Council Level"* would generally assist in marking centenaries.

1.16 Organisations stated that the '*Principles of Remembering'* was a 'useful' resource. More respondents found the '*Titanic and Ulster Museum Resource Fair (2016)'* to be 'beneficial' (23%) than any other resource, while fewer number of respondents derived 'benefit' from the *'Lecture series videos remembering the Future (2012)' (9%)* than any other resource.

1.17 When asked what role or actions should be taken forward to support the work in marking centenaries by CRC/HLF and the Decade Roundtable, 77% believe that they should have an "*Information sharing and networking*" role. 63% of respondents believe the role should be '*Encouraging co-operation and collaboration'*, 56% stated they should be 'Promoting good practice', 53% *'Promoting inclusivity'*, 53%

'E*ngaging government agencies and stakeholders'*. 49% respectively state the role should be "*Providing resources e.g. publications, video and the toolkit*", "*Promoting a framework in which to mark centenaries"* and "*Guidance and information on themes and approaches"*. 39% believe it should be an *"Opportunity for practitioners to reflect", "Accessing artefacts, speakers, drama etc."* and "*Providing guiding principles"*.

Respondents were less likely to suggest that CRC, HLF and the Decade Roundtable have a role in '*Reflecting'* (28%).

1.18 16 organisations commented when asked whether they developed other resources, some comments included; "*creating a website",* "interactive ibooks" while others engaged with experts.

1.19 When asked what was particularly good about their events, respondents referred to "*collaboration and inclusivity", "informative*" and "*open-mindedness"*. Others said it "Brought objectivity to bear on contentious issues/areas" and it "*Targeted an audience who would otherwise not have come to these types of things"*

1.20 When asked what, if anything, they would do differently, some said "*work harder at engaging with cross-border groups"*, "offer to a wider audience" and "more time and resources"

1.21 When asked how they thought the success of events will be measured, responses included "*By the knowledge that people have gained of the period and have a greater awareness of cultural differences. That people feel more comfortable acknowledging and respecting cultural diversity."* Other comments include "*continued partnerships and dialogue", "more open attitudes to both historical and current phenomena"* and one respondent stated it *"paid lip service"*.

1.22 More respondents felt that "*It's important to understand the context about what really happened"* when asked their level of importance for a number of statements on how to mark centenaries. This was followed by "*We need to acknowledged and respect that not everyone sees the past in the way we do*" and *"we need to see how our past influences our present and future*". The lowest levels of importance were placed with the statement "We developed a programme to lower community tensions"

1.23 When organisations were asked which statements they believe we are achieving through marking centenaries, 84% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement "*It's important to understand the context about what really happened*" in marking centenaries. 79% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement "*We acknowledge and respect that not everyone sees the past in the way we do"*. 67% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement *'We see the reality of how our past influences our present and future'*, while 65% believe we are achieving *"We acknowledge the implications of what happened"*. 63% "*We work towards being inclusive in how we mark the anniversaries"*. 61% "*We are mindful of the legacy of the Decade of Centenaries in terms of reconciliation"*. 40% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement, "*We engage with the historical dialogue in order to produce/develop shared narratives"*. 35% of respondents believe that we are achieving "*Lower community tensions"*.

1.24 Organisations were more likely to agree that events have been held across both communities, that a lot of activity has been visible and there has been mature reflection and less likely to agree that it has reduced community tensions.

2.0 Introduction

In March 2017, Stratagem was engaged by the Community Relations Council (CRC) and Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to undertake a survey of the Decade of Centenaries to elucidate the level of awareness, understanding and plans for commemoration of these politically significant years in the history of the island of Ireland.

Given the range and significance of these centenaries to date and those occurring between 2017-2023, it is timely to take stock of how communities, young and old are engaged in a forward looking process of marking anniversaries.

This research builds on the work of a survey previously conducted in 2014 with 100 organisations. It will now take into account the experience and practice to date, the methodologies of past programmes, plans to mark events and acknowledge the years ahead on a thematic basis and what information or support needs respondents require.

The role played by the '*Principles for remembering in Public Space'* and the usefulness/knowledge of the resources, guidance and events was included in this latest survey.

3.0 Background to the Decade of Centenaries

CRC and the HLF are working in partnership in promoting an open and public conversation about how we remember this period in public. The level of engagement with politics, academia, museums and heritage, cultural groups, agencies, councils and departments has been significant.

As outlined in the terms of reference for this piece of work, "*As society engages with the legacies of this revolutionary period there is potential to reinforce the development of political and civic culture – engaging with culture and identity, rights, what we mean by democracy and the nature of political change, increasing understanding of commemoration and ensuring the marking of the centenaries does not become divisive or reinforce division. We may also be able to acknowledge the legacy of the decade and support engagement with the complexity of our history".*

In 2011, CRC and HLF developed a set of principles for remembering in public space.

These have been widely endorsed and have assisted agencies and organisations at all levels to navigate through this period. The principles are

1 Start from the historical facts

2 Recognise the implications and consequences of what happened

3 Understand that different perceptions and interpretations exist

4 Show how events and activities can deepen understanding

All to be seen in the context of an 'inclusive and accepting society.

In taking this forward the Decade Roundtable was established in 2011. It has developed as a non-executive non decision making group to include historians and academics, arts, culture and heritage agencies and groups, government departments, council, NGO s and cultural groups.

A range of activities were undertaken at regional level which have been well received and which provided support and guidance and aided collaboration.

4.0 Review methodology

Key stakeholders were engaged through an online survey using Survey Monkey. A summary of the research methodology is shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Component	Sample sizes	Details	Timing
Inception Meeting	2 attendees	An inception meeting was held with CRC's Programme Director of Cultural Diversity Deirdre McBride and Claire Flynn, Senior Public Affairs Consultant from Stratagem to receive an update on the work of the Decade of Centenaries, handover any historical documents that may be of relevance and to begin the process of designing the questionnaire. An additional meeting took place on 10 April to review and agree the draft questionnaire.	27.03.17
Online survey	29 questions using Survey Monkey	The survey consisted of 29 questions using survey monkey and was sent out to 200 stakeholders. Respondents were give approximately two weeks to respond. Responses were received from 77 individuals (and organisations, equating to a response rate of 38%). www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DecadeOfCentenaries (Note: survey is closed now) It was agreed that the findings of the report would be shared by CRC/HLF once completed.	Initial survey link sent on 20.04.17 with a reminder sent on 27.04.17 with deadline date of 05.05.17

This survey largely contains different questions to the survey of 2014 and therefore direct comparisons cannot be made.

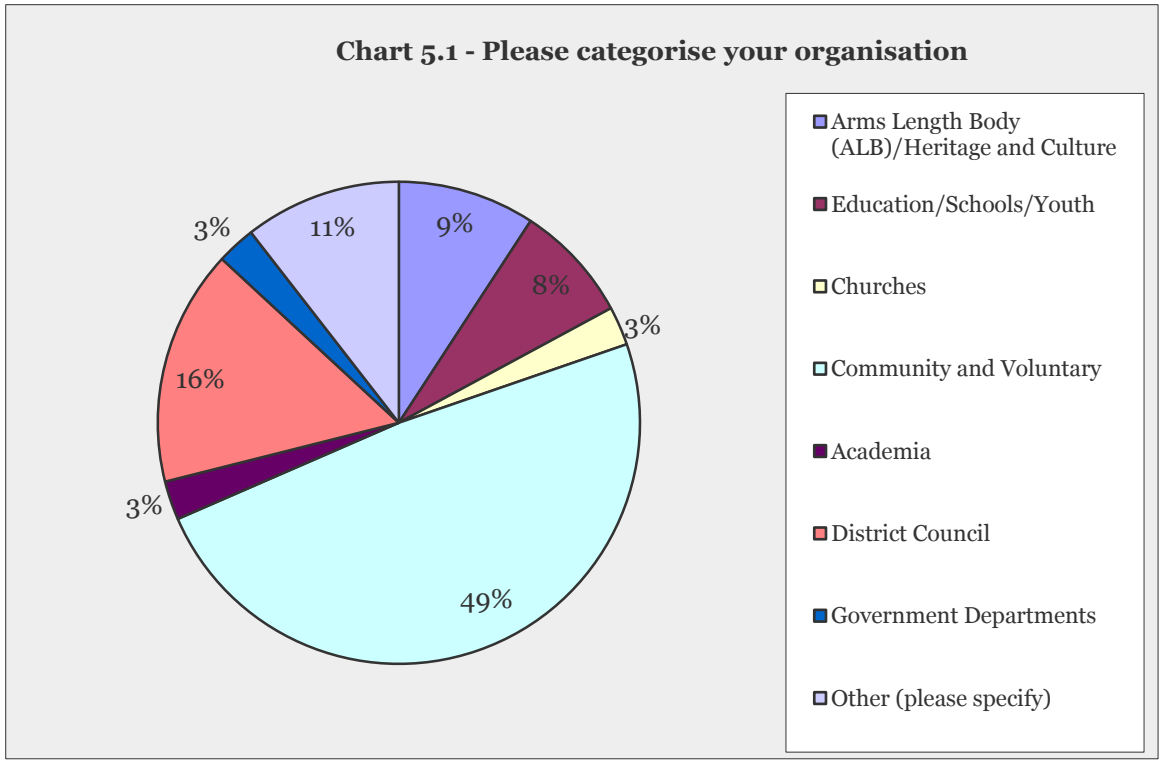
5. Main Findings

This section provides an overall representation of the findings obtained from the online survey.

5.1-5.3 Demographics

Questions one, two and three asked people their name, organisation and what category their organisation fell into. Those organisations are categorised as follows:

Chart 5.1



(Answered: 76, Skipped: 1)

The Community and Voluntary Sector made up 49% of respondents, followed by District Council (16%), 'Other' (11%), Arms length Bodies (9%) and Education (8%).

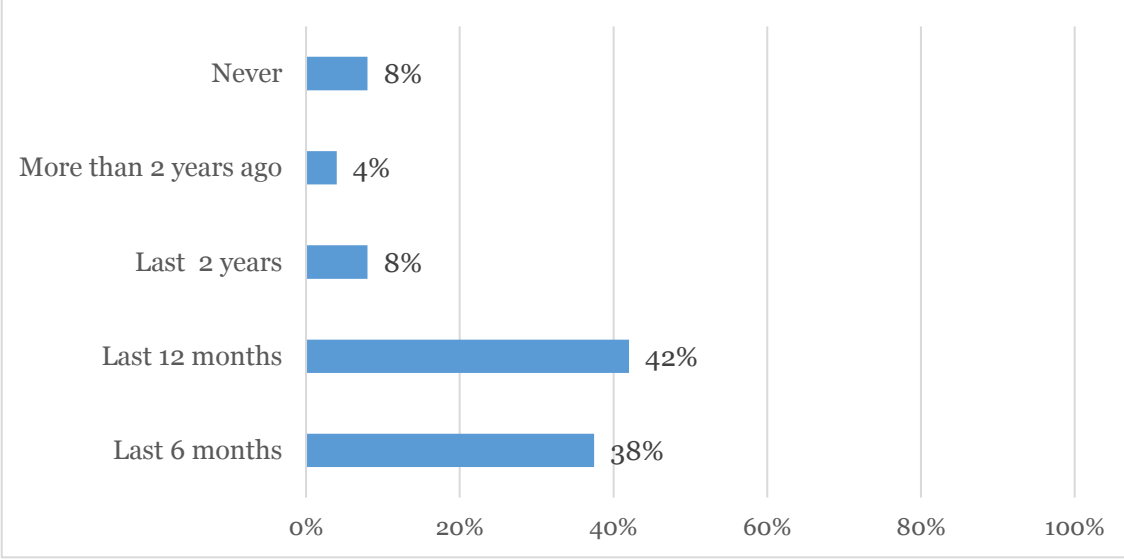
See Appendix 1 for a list of all organisations who completed the survey.

5.4 When was the last time your organisation marked, acknowledged or developed a programme for a significant centenary covering the period 1912-1923?

Over two thirds of respondents (42%) indicated that their organisation had marked a significant anniversary in the previous 12 months, with 38% stating that they marked, acknowledged or developed a programme for a significant centenary in the last 6 months. 9% of organisations stated that they had never marked a significant anniversary.

(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

Chart 5.4



5.5 What was the title of your programme?

Table 5.5

Events and personalities from the Decade of Anniversaries
Ireland on the Brink
Remembering the Somme
Shared History Lecture Programme
Walking tour of Belfast connected to its role in 1916
1st July 1916
East Belfast men who fought for the Czar in WW1
Irish Association/History Ireland Hedge Schools
IT Equipment
Commemorating Partition and Civil wars in Ireland, 2020-23
Decade of Centenaries
we have had two 1912 A hundred years on and 1916 - A hundred years on

Residential to Dublin
In Dreams Begin Responsibilities
Library men of WW1 digitisation of letters project
Towards A Divided Island- Ireland 1917-23'
Frontlines
Centenaries & Citizenship
Coleraine's Road to the Somme
Ethical Remembering
Splats, Hats and lots of Rats
Looking Back Moving Forward
1916 Front Lines (this is only one of a number of events and programmes)
The Prodger
We are outside these dates as there was significant activity across Ireland marking the 1907 Larkin and 1911 James Connolly - all trade union centenaries. We were also involved in a range of activity marking the involvement of women and unions in 1916. Reclaiming the history of women workers in Belfast Mills and Gallagher's. 'Dockers and Doffers' UNISON publication in collaboration with the Irish Labour History Society. Year long series of events making the Lockout 1913.
Belfast 1916 - The Belfast Story
The Easter Rising and Us
Belfast; Reflections on 1916
Decade of Centenaries educational resource
The History of Loughries True Blues LOL 1948, The Great War and its Legacy
Shared History - Different Allegiances
Shared History
Decade of Centenaries Programme
Battle of Jutland centenary day/wrns 100 project
WW1 Commemoration evening and exhibition
Creative Centenaries
Battle of Messines Centenary Programme
Belfast Somme 100
100 Years On
On the Brink 1914- 1916

(Answered: 40 Skipped: 37)

5.6 What was the duration of your programme?

Responses ranged from 1 day to three years. More than 20 responses were for less than a year with, eight citing one year, three citing 18 months, four lasting two years and two lasting three years. For some responses it wasn't clear of the duration as such as the number of events were perhaps listed.

Ongoing from the centenary of the Ulster Covenant	2 x 2 hour workshops
18 months	2 x theatre showings
Weeks	Year-long in each case
10 months	18 months
1 event	One year
10 mins	Year long
12 months and ongoing	Available until 2022 at least
2 years - 2013 & 2014	12 months
3 Years	2012-2014
12 Months	6 months
1 year - ongoing	12 weeks
1912-was 6 weeks and 1916 was 4 weeks and occasional extra performances	ongoing
2 Days	1 day / 2 months
Will be one day	One month
Ongoing	January 2014 to present
6 weeks	10 days
two evenings	6 months
Ongoing programme.	9 months
12 months	three years
1 day workshop	
6 weeks	
2 years	

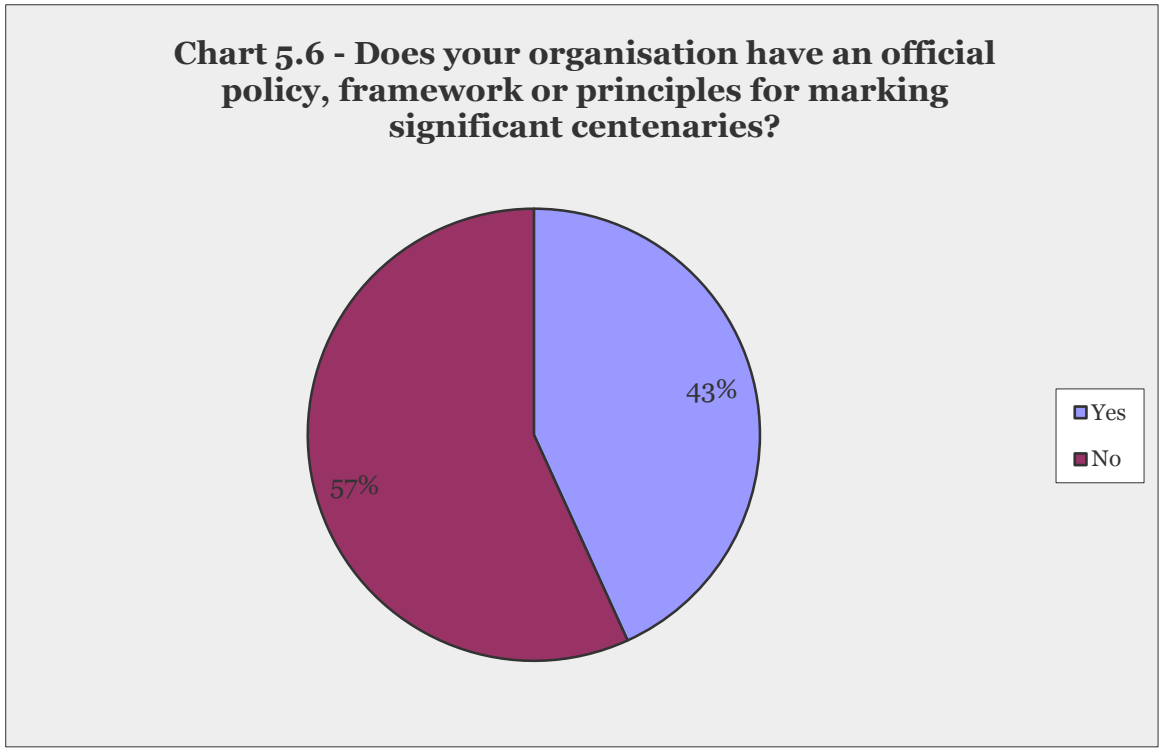
(Answered: 41 Skipped: 36)

5.7 Does your organisation have an official policy, framework or principles for marking centenaries?

Chart 5.7 below shows that the majority of respondents (57%) do not have an official policy, framework or principles for marking centenaries.

When asked this question in the 2014 survey, 64% of respondents stated that they did not have a formal approach to marking significant anniversaries.

Chart 5.6



(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

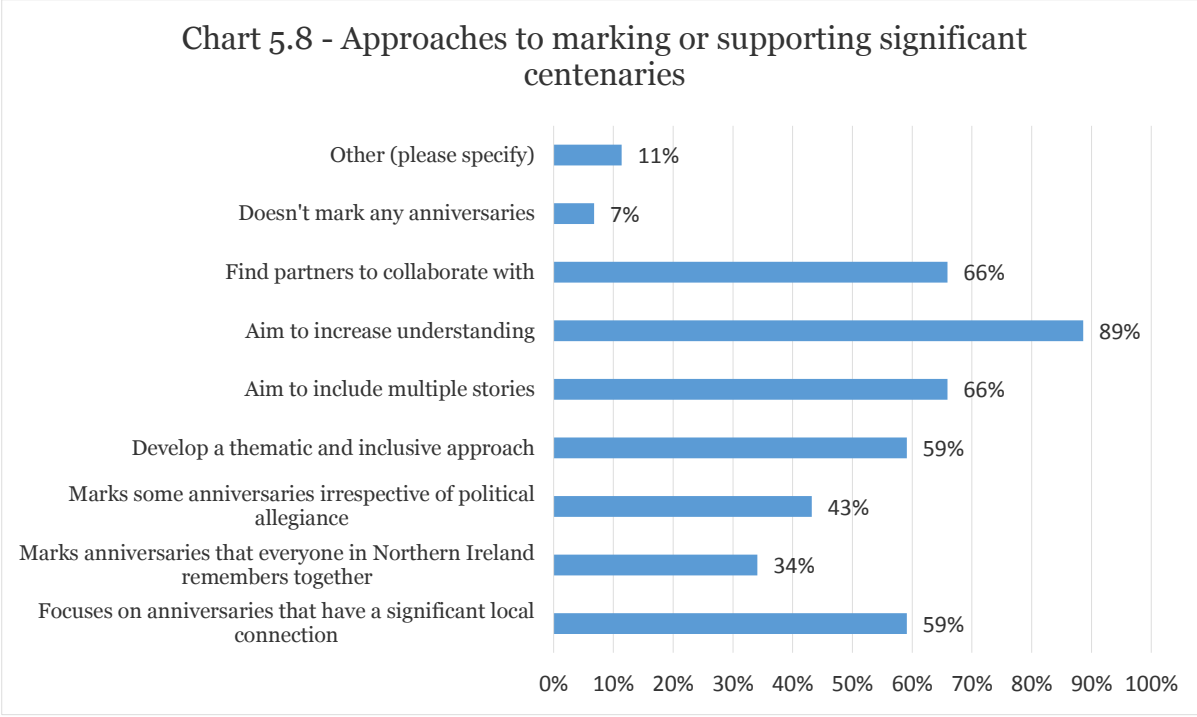
5.8 Which, if any, of the following approaches, does your organisation take regarding marking or supporting to mark significant centenaries?

A majority of respondents (89%) took the approach of *'Aiming to increase understanding'* when marking or supporting to mark significant centenaries. This was followed by 66% of respondents taking the approach to '*Find partners to collaborate with'* and '*Aim to include multiple stories*', respectively.

59% of respondents stated that they took the approach '*Focuses on anniversaries that have a significant local connection'* and '*Develop a thematic and inclusive approach'*, respectively.

43% of respondents "*Mark some anniversaries irrespective of political allegiance*".

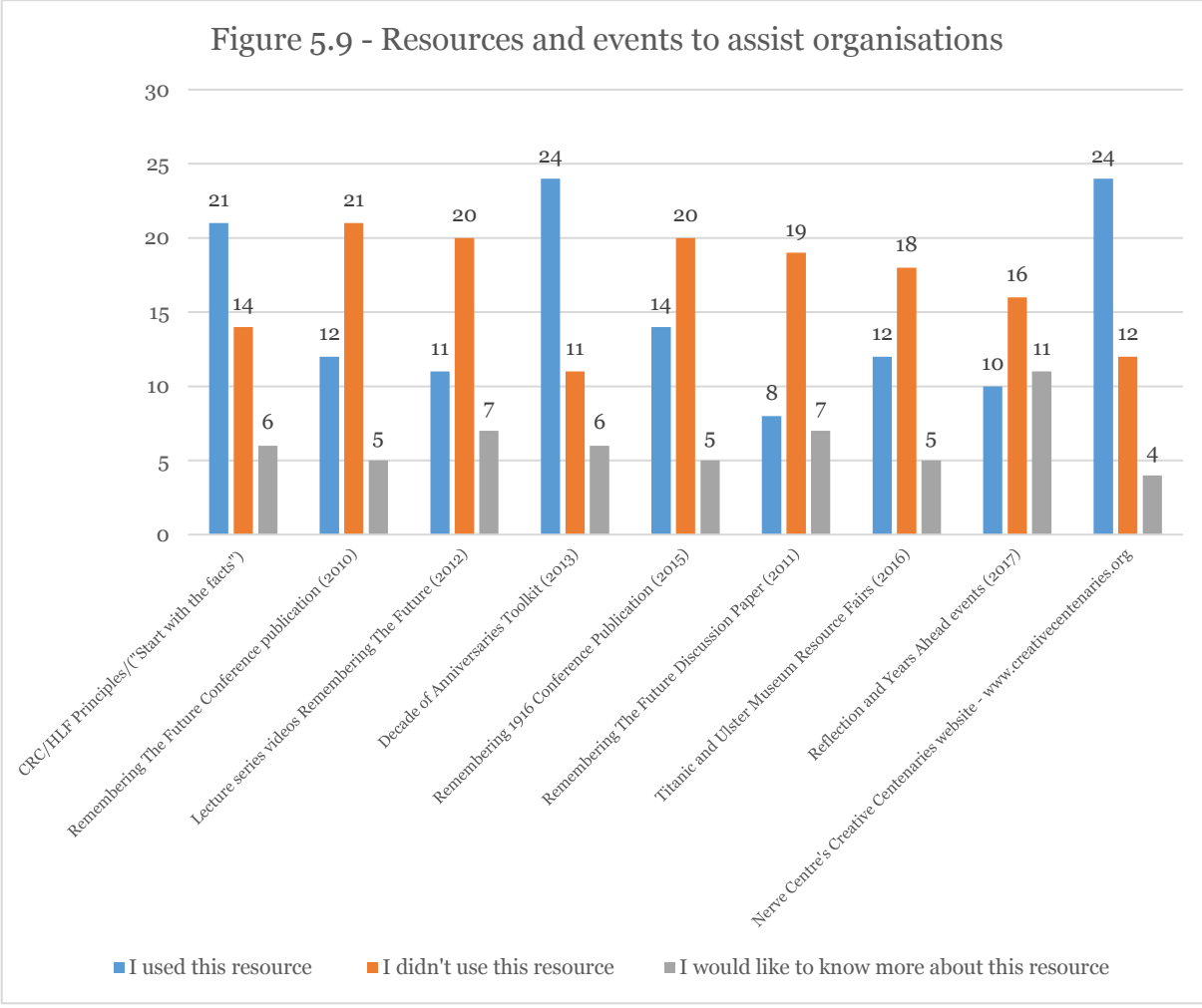
Chart 5.8



(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

5.9 Below is a list of resources and events that have been developed by the Community Relations Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund between 2011 and 2017 to assist groups in marking significant centenaries. If you are aware of them or would like more information, please answer this question.

Figure 5.9



(Answered: 43 Skipped: 34)

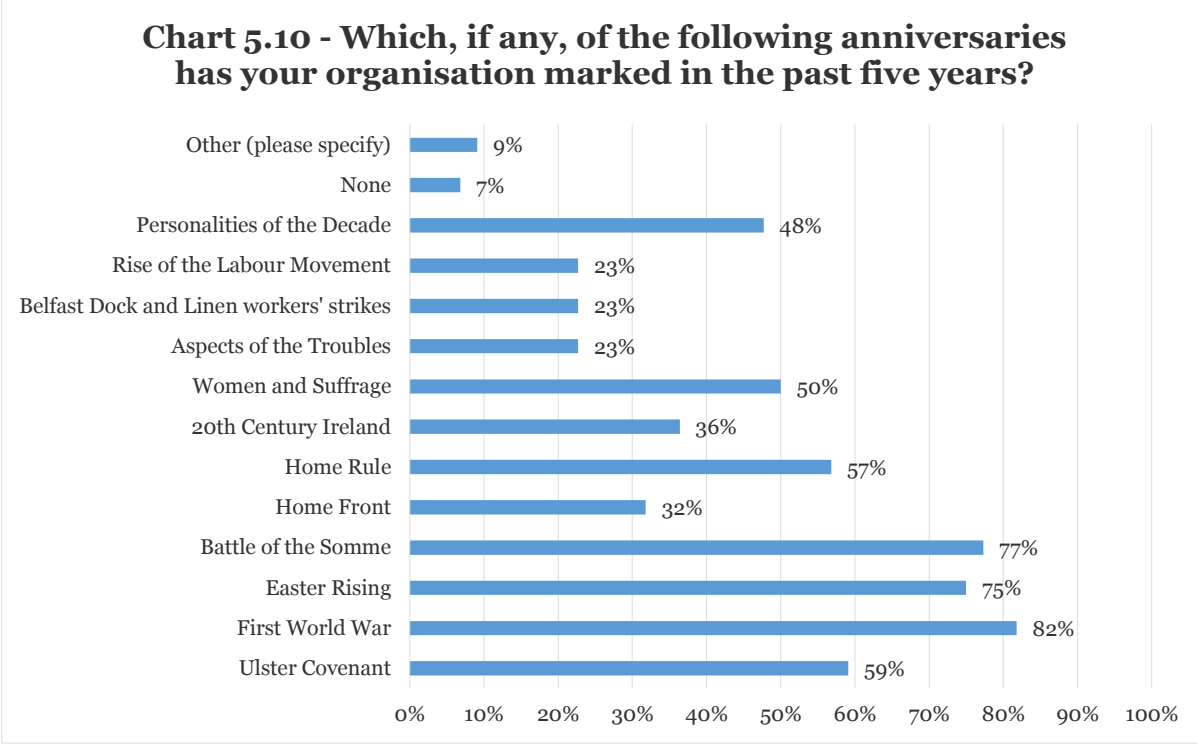
The most widely used resource was the *'Decade of Anniversaries Toolkit (2013)'* and the '*Nerve Centre's Centenaries website'*, (24 respondents respectively), followed closely by the '*The CRC/HLF Principles for remembering in Public Space ("Start with the facts")* (21 respondents).

Fewer respondents used the '*Remembering the Future Discussion paper (2011)' (8 respondents)* than any other resource.

While a number of respondents stated they did not use the various resources, others stated that they wanted more information about the resources.

5.10 Which, if any, of the following anniversaries has your organisation marked in the past five years?

Chart 5.10



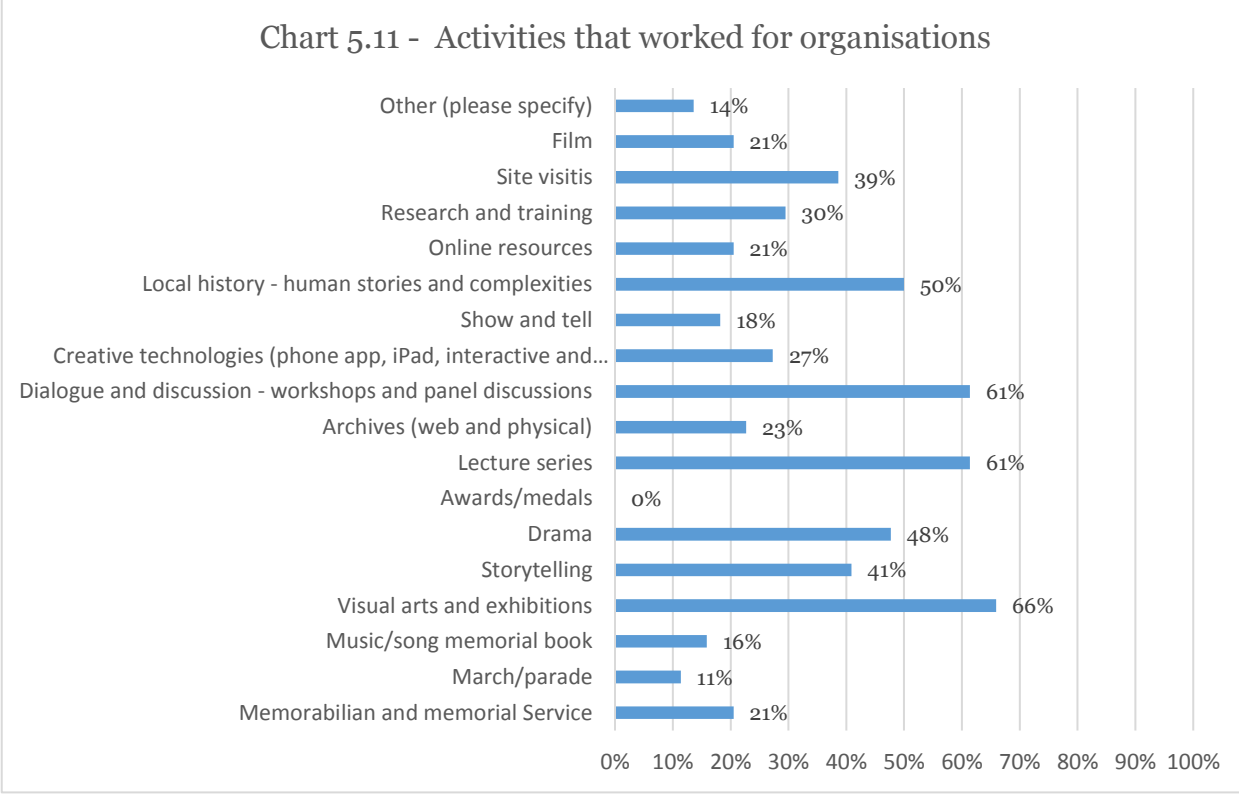
(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

82% of organisations marked the *First World War* in the last five years followed by 77% marking the *Battle of the Somme* and 75% marking the *Easter Rising*.

9% of organisations stated 'Other' and responses in regards to those anniversaries included : '*Balmoral Review, Importation of guns and Ulster Division March Past the City Hall'*, as well as *'The Eastern Front and East Belfast men who fought there'*, '*Ulster Volunteers; Ulster Plantation Reconsidered'* and '*Other services in WWI such as Medical, Naval etc.*'

5.11 Which activities do you feel worked for your organisation?

Chart 5.11



(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

From an extensive list of activities, "*Visual arts and exhibitions*" (66%) worked best for organisations as well as "*Dialogue and discussion- workshops and panel discussions*" (61%) and "Lecture series" (61%).

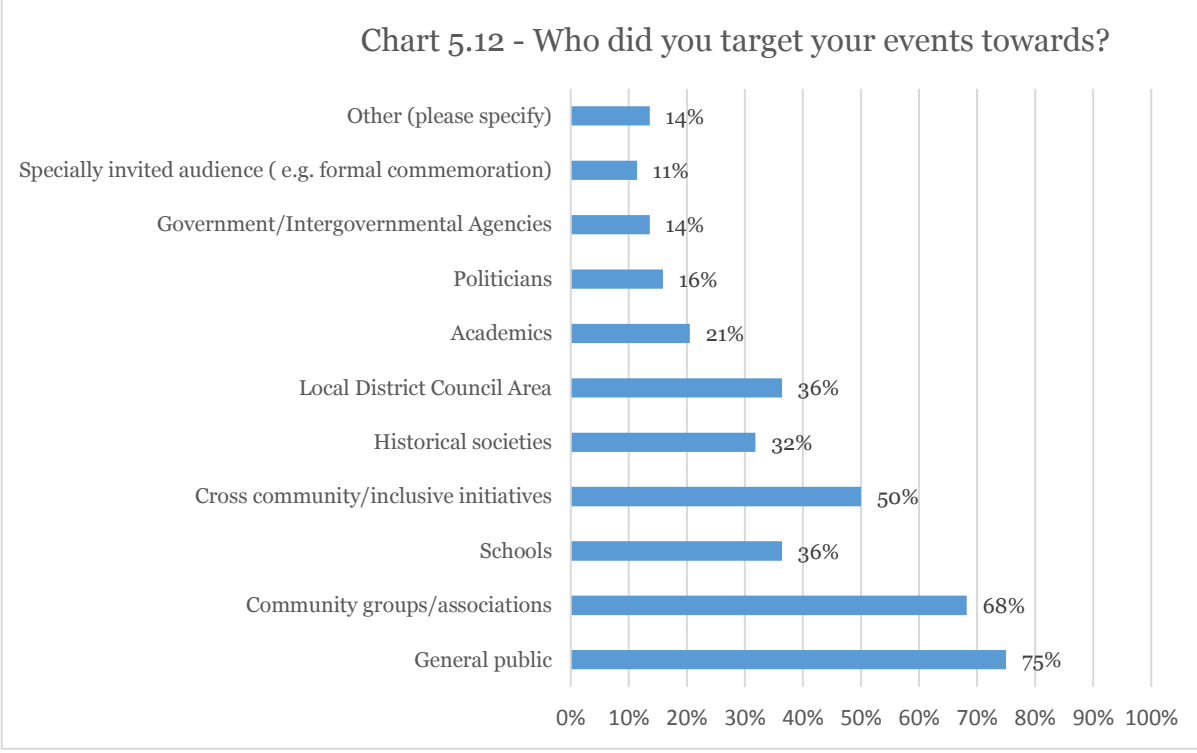
50% of organisations felt 'Local history- human stories and complexities" worked for them, while 48% stated that "Drama" worked for them as an organisation. "Storytelling" as an activity worked for 41% of organisations, while 39% felt "Site visits" worked. "*Music/song memorial book", "Show and tell"* and "*Parades*" were less likely to work for organisations.

The 14% who selected 'Other' cited examples such as: '*Themed booklets that can impart information around a specific theme', 'DVD of 1916 Halfway House Play', 'Re-enactments – e.g. Food ship to starving Dublin workers 1913', 'Genealogy - trips to PRONI",* and *'Local people and their connections with international events'.*

Looking at the data from 2014, '*Lecture series'* (56%), '*Workshops'* (55%) and 'Exhibitions' (51%) were the most popular responses in terms of what worked for their organisations.

5.12 Who did you target your events towards?

Chart 5.12



(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

Events were targeted at a wide range of audiences, mainly the *'General Public' (75%), 'Community groups/associations'* (68%) and '*Cross-community/inclusive initiatives' (50%).*

This was then followed by 'Local District Council Area', and 'Schools', 36% of respondents respectively. *'Specially invited audience' (11%), 'Government/Intergovernmental Agencies'* (14%) and '*Politicians'* (16%) were less likely to form the target audience.

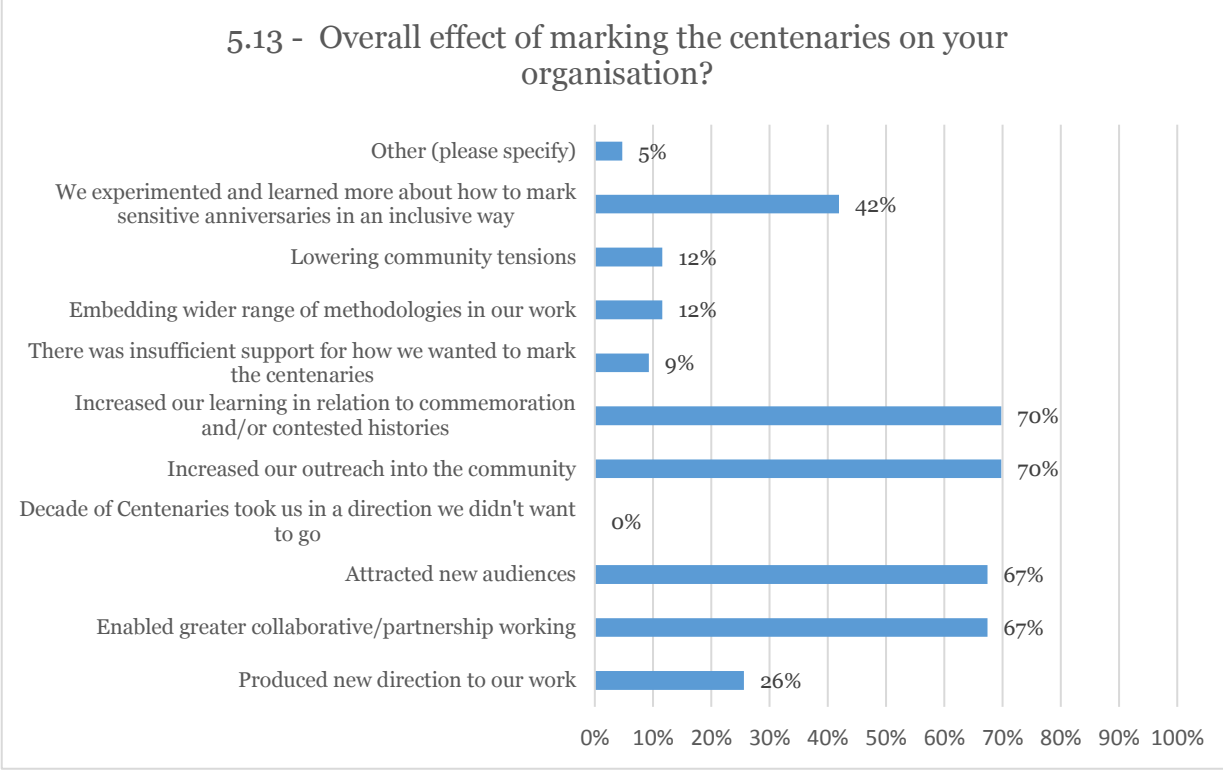
Of those respondents who selected 'Other', their audiences included: *'Our board and staff', 'Church/faith groups', 'Workers and trade unionists', 'Youth groups',* and *'Partnership with Mid Antrim's targeted large geography of community interests'.*

One organisation linked its event to its 40th anniversary celebration.

The results were largely similar to that of 2014.

5.13 Which, if any, of the following terms, would you say represented the overall effect of marking the centenaries on your organisation?

Charts 5.13



(Answered: 43 Skipped: 34)

70% of respondents stated the overall effect of marking the centenaries on their organisations was '*Increased our learning in relation to commemoration and/or contested histories*' and '*Increased our outreach into the community*', respectively.

This was followed by 67% of respondents stating it '*Attracted new audiences*' and *'Enabled greater collaborative/partnership working'*, respectively.

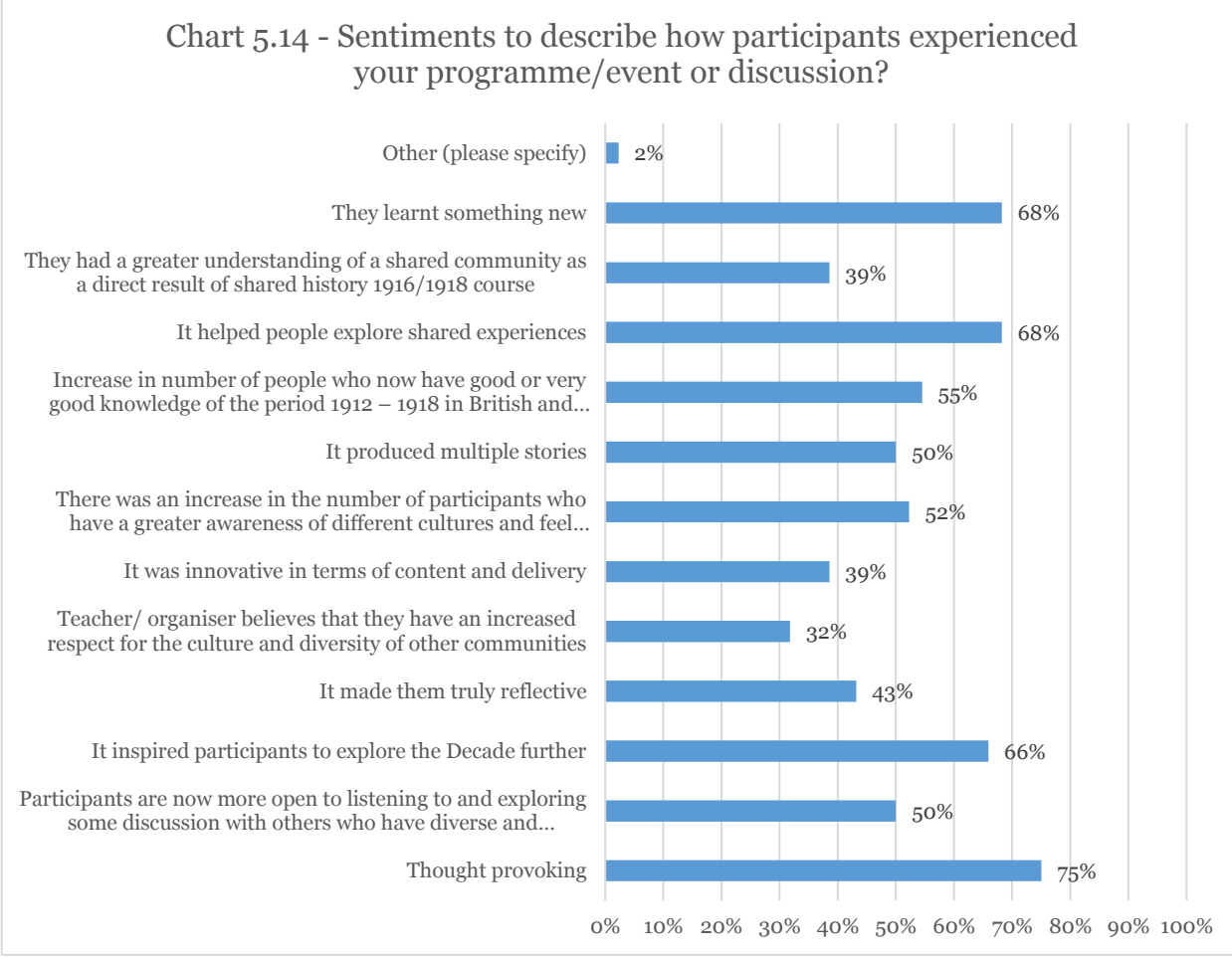
42% stated that "W*e experimented and learned more about how to mark sensitive anniversaries in an inclusive way*".

Respondents were less likely to say that '*There was insufficient support for how we wanted to mark the centenaries*' (9%), '*Lowering community tensions*' (12%) and *'Embedding wider range of methodologies in our work'* (12%). No respondents selected '*Decade of Centenaries took us in a direction we didn't want to go'.*

One respondent who chose to select '*Other*', stated the '*Role of volunteers in reaching wider communities, built museum collections through the programme'*, represented the overall effect of marking the centenaries on their organisation.

5.14 Which, if any, of the following sentiments would describe how participants experienced your programme/event or discussion?

Chart 5.14



(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

Organisations believed that participants found the events to be '*thought provoking*' (75%), 68% respectively felt that they '*learnt something new*' and '*it helped explore shared experiences*'. 66% stated that "*It inspired participants to explore the Decade further*". 55% of organisations believe that the events *"Increase in number of people who now have good or very good knowledge of the period 1912 – 1918 in British and Irish history*", 52% believe that "*There was an increase in the number of participants who have a greater awareness of different cultures and feel comfortable acknowledging and respecting cultural diversity*".

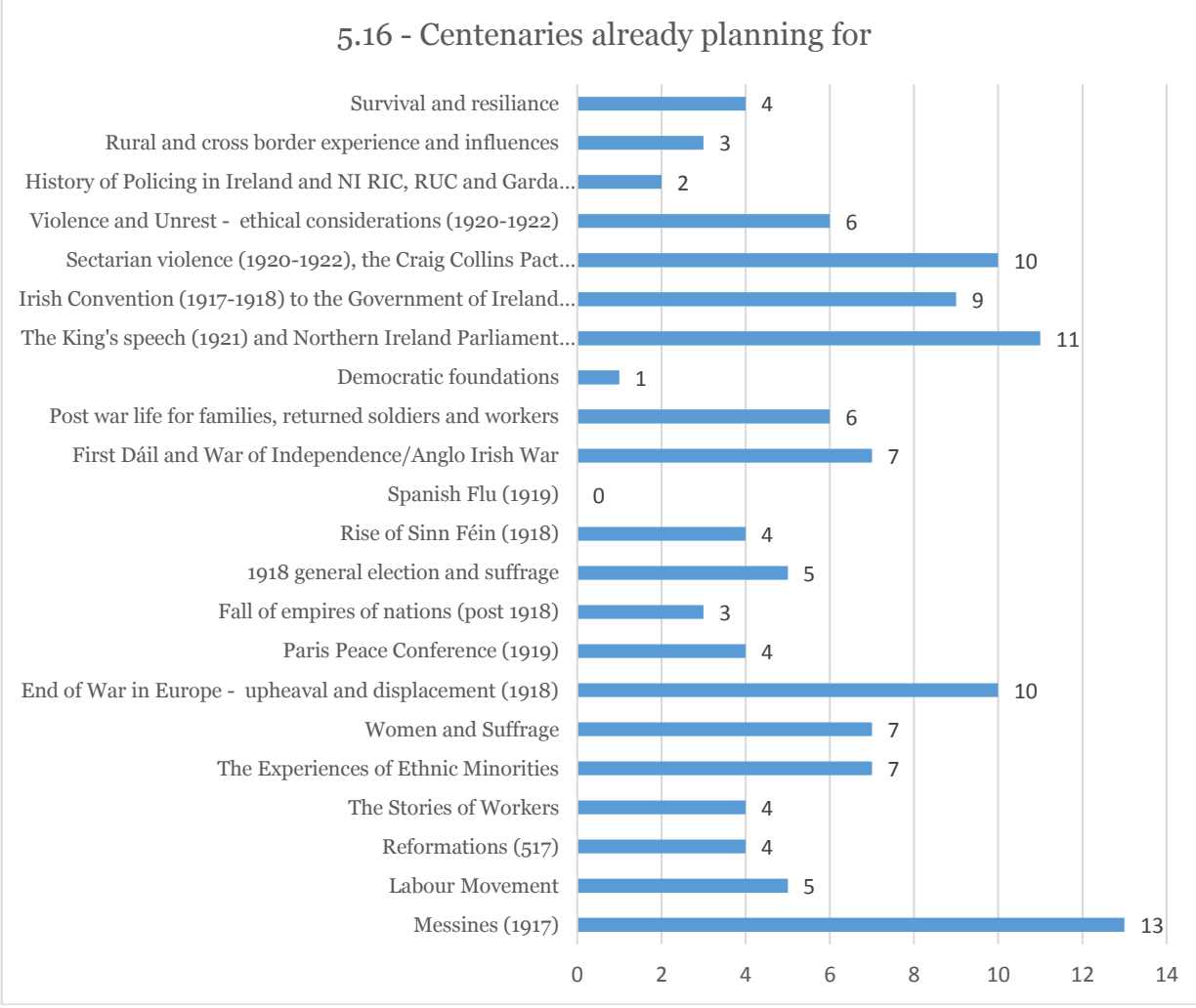
50% respectively believe that participants found "*It produced multiple stories"* and "*Participants are now more open to listening to and exploring some discussion with others who have diverse and opposing opinions*".

43% believe that "*it made them truly reflective",* while *39% respectively found "It was innovative in terms of content and delivery" and "They had a greater understanding of a shared community as a direct result of shared history 1916/1918 course*".

Respondents were less likely to state that "*Teacher/organiser believes that they have an increased respect for culture and diversity of other communities2 (31%), "It was innovative in terms of content and delivery"* (39%), and "*They had a greater understanding of a shared community as a direct result of shared history 1916-18 course".*

5.16 Which, if any, of the following centenaries covering the period 1912-1923 does your organisation plan to mark in the future or has already begun to make plans for?

Chart 5.16



(Answered: 37 Skipped: 40)

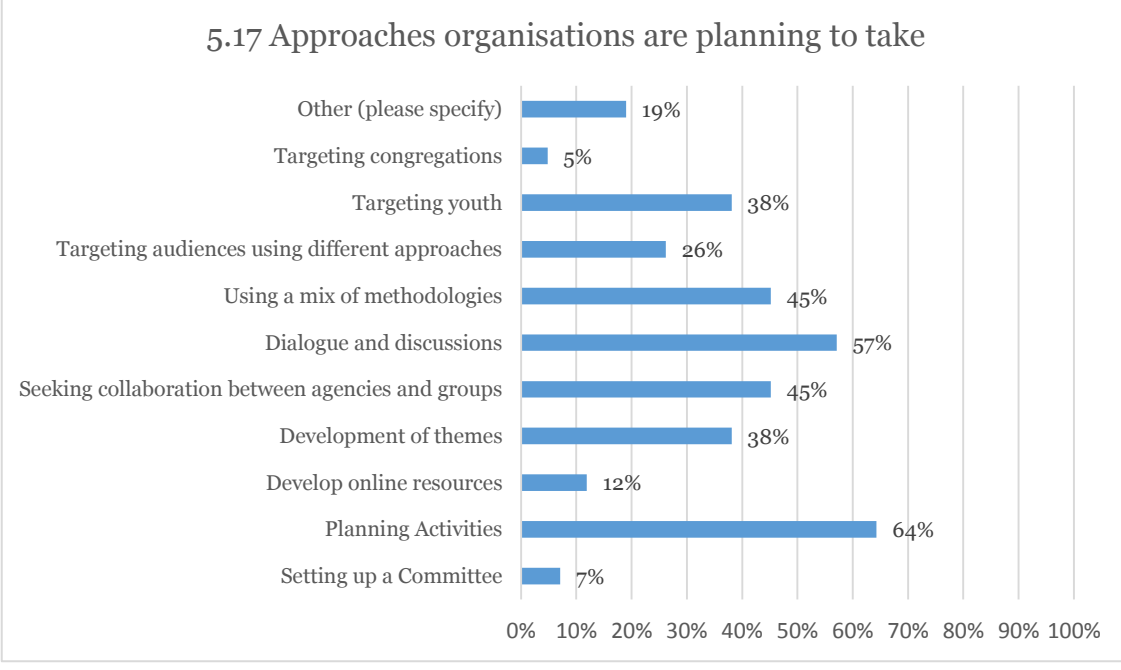
From a list of 22 events, 13 organisations plan to celebrate the Messines (1917). 11 respondents are planning to mark "*The King's Speech (1921) and Northern Ireland Parliament*". 10 respondents will mark "*Sectarian violence (1920-1922)*", the "*Craig Collins Pact*" and "*End of War in Europe- upheaval and displacement*". 9 respondents are planning to mark the "*Irish Convention (1917-1918) to the Government of Ireland Act (1920) and Partition (1922)*".

Additional comments to this question include:

- *Anniversary of the start of the conflict & civil rights movement 2019*
- *None*
- *We have not made any further plans as yet*
- *Politicisation of women*
- *Sorry - now retired - cannot answer this section*
- *Cannot answer due to uncertainty of our future with lack of funding*
- *Centenary of John Dunville VC's death*

5.17 In terms of your planning for marking centenaries, which if any of the following approaches are you currently or planning to take?

Chart 5.17



(Answered: 42 Skipped: 35)

In terms of planning, 64% of organisations are currently planning activities for marking centenaries and 57% are in "*Dialogue and discussions*". 45% are "*Using a*

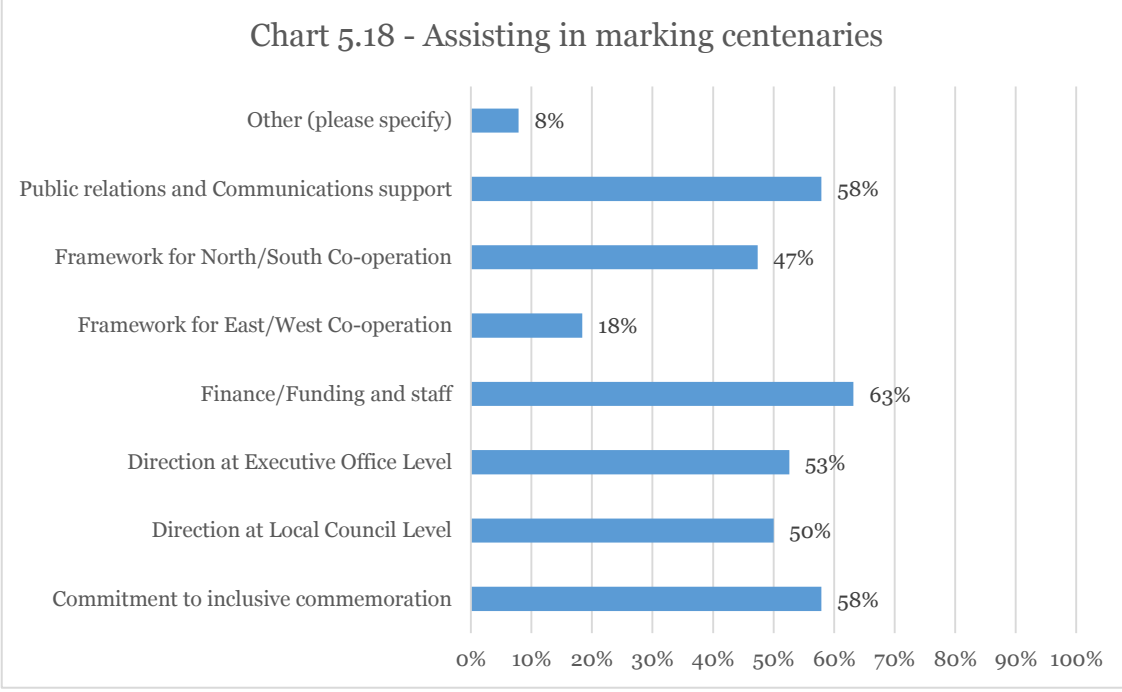
mix of methodologies" and "*Seeking collaboration between agencies and groups",* respectively. 38% of organisations are "*Targeting Youth*" and the "*Development of themes*". 5% of respondents are '*Targeting congregations'* and 7% are '*Setting up a Committee'*.

Additional comments to this question include:

- *Identifying gaps in commemoration output / engagement*
- *We as a community group do not directly target celebrating centenaries*
- *Undertaking research*
- *Targeting tourists*
- *Gaining political agreement/buy-in*
- *Drama*

5.18 - Below are listed a number of ways in which marking centenaries could be assisted generally. Please indicate if you think any of the following statements would generally assist in marking centenaries.

Chart 5.18



(Answered: 39 Skipped: 38)

63% of respondents were of the belief that '*Finance/funding of staff'* would assist them in the marking of centenaries. This was followed by 58% stating *'public relations and communications support'*, and '*Commitment to inclusive commemoration*' respectively. 53% selected '*Direction at Executive Office level',*

while 50% felt that '*Direction at Local Council Level*' would assist them in marking centenaries.

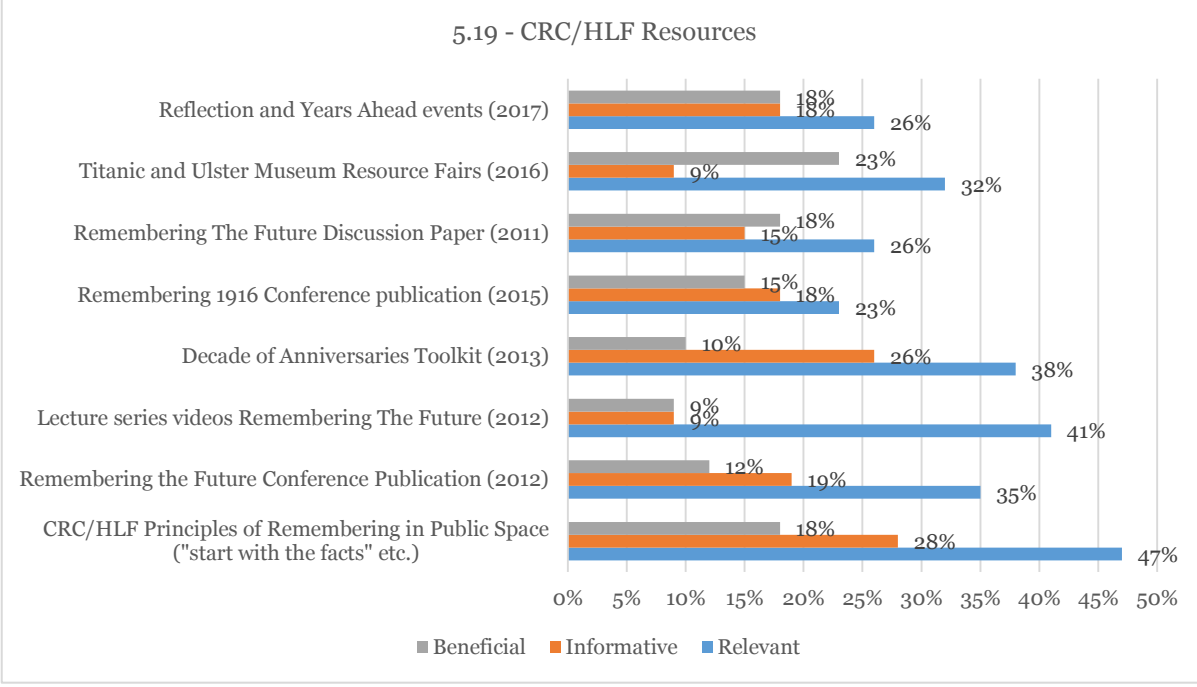
47% of respondents stated that a '*Framework for North/South Co-operation*' would assist organisations in marking centenaries, while 18% suggested a '*Framework for East/West Co-operation*'.

Additional comments to this question include:

- *Providing community with professional collaborator information*
- *Resources hub*

5.19 Please state how you found the following CRC/HLF resources, in developing your work on the Decade of Centenaries.

Chart 5.19



(Answered: 34 Skipped: 43)

More respondents found the '*Titanic and Ulster Museum Resource Fair (2016)*' to be beneficial (23%) than any other resource, while fewer number of respondents derived benefit from the *'Lecture series videos remembering the Future (2012)' (9%)* than any other resource.

More respondents found the '*CRC/HLF principles of remembering in public space – Start with the Facts'* both more relevant and informative than any other resource (47% finding it relevant and 28% finding it informative).

Fewer respondents found the *'Lecture series videos remembering the Future (2012)'* beneficial or informative than any other resource, however 41% found it relevant.

5.20 If you found some of the resources outlined in question 18 effective, can you give us an example of how it was useful to you?

Question 5.20 asked respondents to give examples of how the CRC/HLF resources identified in Q5.19 were of use. Comments are reflected in the table below.

Table 5.20

Toolkit useful in matching against one's own ideas for events
Networking and developing partnerships.
How events should be held and for information
Did not know of it but there is no option available
As part of research they were very useful
Useful learning/contextual framework
To 'Put On To CDs'
The Principles of Remembering have provided a resource for debate.
Setting our objectives
The principles of commemoration were useful
Gave me knowledge on a subject I knew very little about
For information and research purposes
Useful and guiding in the development of our programmes.
In developing our own governance procedures and guiding principles
As a means of giving the practical work gravitas
The principles assisted in setting the tone for political agreement on the broad approach to the Decade
Principles helped establish a framework for own practice
Helped us shape the design of the programme and increased understanding
Good to see examples of what others are doing
The principles provide a framework around which to underpin activities.
They were used as a jumping off point, and a useful handrail when programming events
Enlisting Council support for On the Brink Programme

(Answered: 24 Skipped: 53)

5.21 Did you develop or use other resources? If so, please list what you used.

16 organisations commented in Question 5.21 when asked whether they developed other resources, some comments included; "*creating a website",* "interactive ibooks" while others engaged with experts.

Speakers with specialist knowledge of the period and topic
Produced audio visual films and oral archives.
We have produced a booklet on the topic of the Eastern Front in WW1
Aspects for the Blind?
We have scripts and DVDs of Halfway House and these can be used by community and voluntary groups
Yes - The Junction resources
Our own collection of digitised letters from library staff involved in WW1
internet pages, local resources
Exhibitions, interactive tools
Al the Nerve Centre material on the Creative Centenaries website
Shared history course that provides accreditation routes for the young people
We engaged historians to talk about specific topics and / or events
CDs?
Creative Centenaries website, interactive iBooks, multiple animations exploring events in the decade, graphic novels reflecting on real life characters during the time, interactive touchscreen platforms, interactive version of the Decade of Anniversaries Toolkit, other educational aids.
Yes, PRONI has produced online resources and exhibitions on First World War, Countess Markievicz and her sister Eva Gore Booth, First World War sources guide, online transcriptions, teacher packages on women at war and recruitment. PRONI also made available archival material to the BBC, RTE, Ulster Museum, Letters 1916, Nerve Centre etc.
On the Brink 1914- 1916 learning resource and volunteer strand evaluation

(Answered: 16 Skipped: 61)

5.22 What role or actions should be taken forward to support the work in marking centenaries by CRC and HLF and the Decade Roundtable?

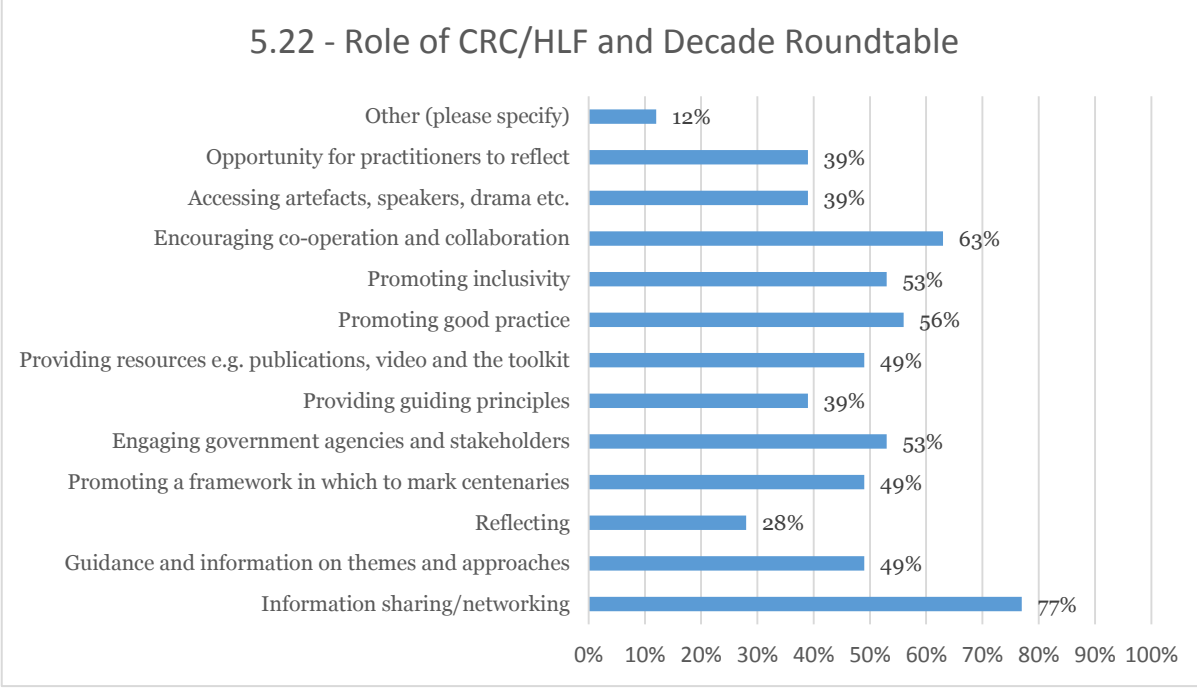
When asked what role or actions should be taken forward to support the work in marking centenaries by CRC/HLF and the Decade Roundtable, 77% believe that they should have an "*Information sharing and networking*" role.

63% of respondents believe the role should be '*Encouraging co-operation and collaboration'*, 56% stated they should be 'Promoting good practice', 53% *'Promoting inclusivity'*, 53% '*Engaging government agencies and stakeholders'*.

49% respectively state the role should be "*Providing resources e.g. publications, video and the toolkit*", "*Promoting a framework in which to mark centenaries"* and "*Guidance and information on themes and approaches"*. 39% believe it should be an *"Opportunity for practitioners to reflect", "Accessing artefacts, speakers, drama etc."* and "*Providing guiding principles"*.

Respondents were less likely to suggest that CRC, HLF and the Decade Roundtable have a role in '*Reflecting'* (28%).

Chart 5.22



(Answered: 44 Skipped: 33)

Additional comments in the question include:

- *Investment for risk-taking, challenging work*
- *More effective engagement of what is available to groups*
- *Any reflections or acknowledging must be from the grassroots of both communities*
- *Encouraging networking with specialists e.g. Museum/academics*

5.23 What do you think was particularly good about your events or events you have attended?

Question 5.23 asked respondents for comments which are reflected in the table below.

Table 5.23

Exchange of views on success and problems generated.
Collaboration and inclusivity. Breaking down barriers.
That they were a huge success
Informative
Independent, high-quality, provocative
They took place
Brought objectivity to bear on contentious issues/areas
Learning to be 'Open-minded'?
The opening up of history.
Quality of content and range of participants
Drama provides an opportunity for real engagement and having female characters in the 1916 -1966 Play Halfway House was helpful.
They were inclusive and practical
Talks in libraries attracted wide range of attendees. Good interaction with speakers.
Insight provided with regard to incidents/periods that were less well known
Targeted an audience who would otherwise not have come to these types of things
Participation in, between and across those attending.
Gave space to have open and honest debate and challenge views in a safe environment.
Full attendance
How differently we can look at the same subject, local information makes it more real to people
Those who participated were prepared to listen to and acknowledge the impact the events of this period had on the whole community and the realisation that there are two sides to every story surrounding the events of this period.
Participation of members. Follow up work with volunteers. Discussion and sharing, particularly with members from different community backgrounds on matters that would have been 'taboo' in the past.
Mature approach
Shared environments encouraged openness - museums
The content of the programme, the participants who came to events. Use of City Hall was a great venue
The desire to seek new insights and encouragement of inclusive engagement

very inclusive
Our historians gave incredibly balanced and informative accounts of events
No £?
Sharing of information and ideas
We travelled to Dublin in April 2016 with Eamon Phoenix
Variety and choice of events available across Northern Ireland, particularly during 2016. Opportunities to partner with other organisations and share resource. Opportunities for people, particularly young people, to access and take part in activities that they felt a part of or ownership towards (e.g. digital and interactive workshops).
Events have nearly all been inclusive, adhere to the CRC principles, and historically informative
There is a feeling of shared space for certain commemorations which has not been so evident before. There is a willingness to learn from all sides. There are too many lectures and not enough alternative routes to learning more. The market was oversaturated for some anniversaries and not for others. E.g. the US arriving into the war in 1917 was barely mentioned.
Partnership, inclusivity
Volunteer commitment and development, Battle of the Somme and

(Answered: 35 Skipped: 42)

5.24 What, if anything, would you do differently next time?

Question 5.24 asked respondents for comments which are reflected in the table below.

Table 5.24

Work harder at engaging with cross border groups.
Make them better, obtain additional resources.
Organise a more structured programme
Gauge impact(s)
To be 'Disabled Friendly' just like this Form?
Hope to get greater numbers-so many folk wanted the Play but some audience numbers were disappointing
Nothing
Work more closely with partners to avoid overlap of events etc.
Nothing
Offer to wider audience.
Nothing
Look for more funding
More time and resources
Make it shorter
More partnerships with community organisations in joint delivery of events
More direct engagement with the TV media news outlets as well as the online communication

more drama, fewer lectures
Pitching the right level to young people would have made the inputs more effective
£?
We have a much better idea of how Northern protestants participated in Irish developments
The biggest weakness has been bringing community groups to PRONI. On reflection, it would have more impact taking events to local communities, however that would require PRONI to realign priorities in particular achieving footfall of visitor targets at our Titanic Quarter HQ.
More planning time. Not replicating the same things - there needs to be more openness about plans. More working together across the city.
Improved volunteer charter, build in more appropriate staff time to manage support and motivate volunteers over such a long programme

(Answered: 24 Skipped: 53)

5.25 How do you think the success of events will be measured?

Table 5.25

Though difficult, by use of qualitative analysis, since quantitative analysis is only stage one of the exercise.
Continued partnerships and dialogue.
Complaints from outside and feedback from participants
Not sure
that when the commemoration comes round again as a society we are ready to ask different, more in-depth questions
Paid lip service
More open attitudes to both historical and current phenomena
Fine..!
Through ongoing networks and improved relationships
Our evaluations, feedback from people.
Better engagement-- but there's not much sign of leadership on the Hill for this!
In how well future commemorations are delivered and respected
If people locally continue to engage with future planned events.
by the fact we have been asked to do more with schools and young people
Measured through evaluation questionnaires.
With the individuals seeking more of the same
On how people remember them and what changes they make from attending
By the knowledge that people have gained of the period and have a greater awareness of cultural differences. That people feel more comfortable acknowledging and respecting cultural diversity.
Issues being discussed openly. Development of local project such as labour history in rural areas.
Return visits, continuing engagement
Evaluation and feedback

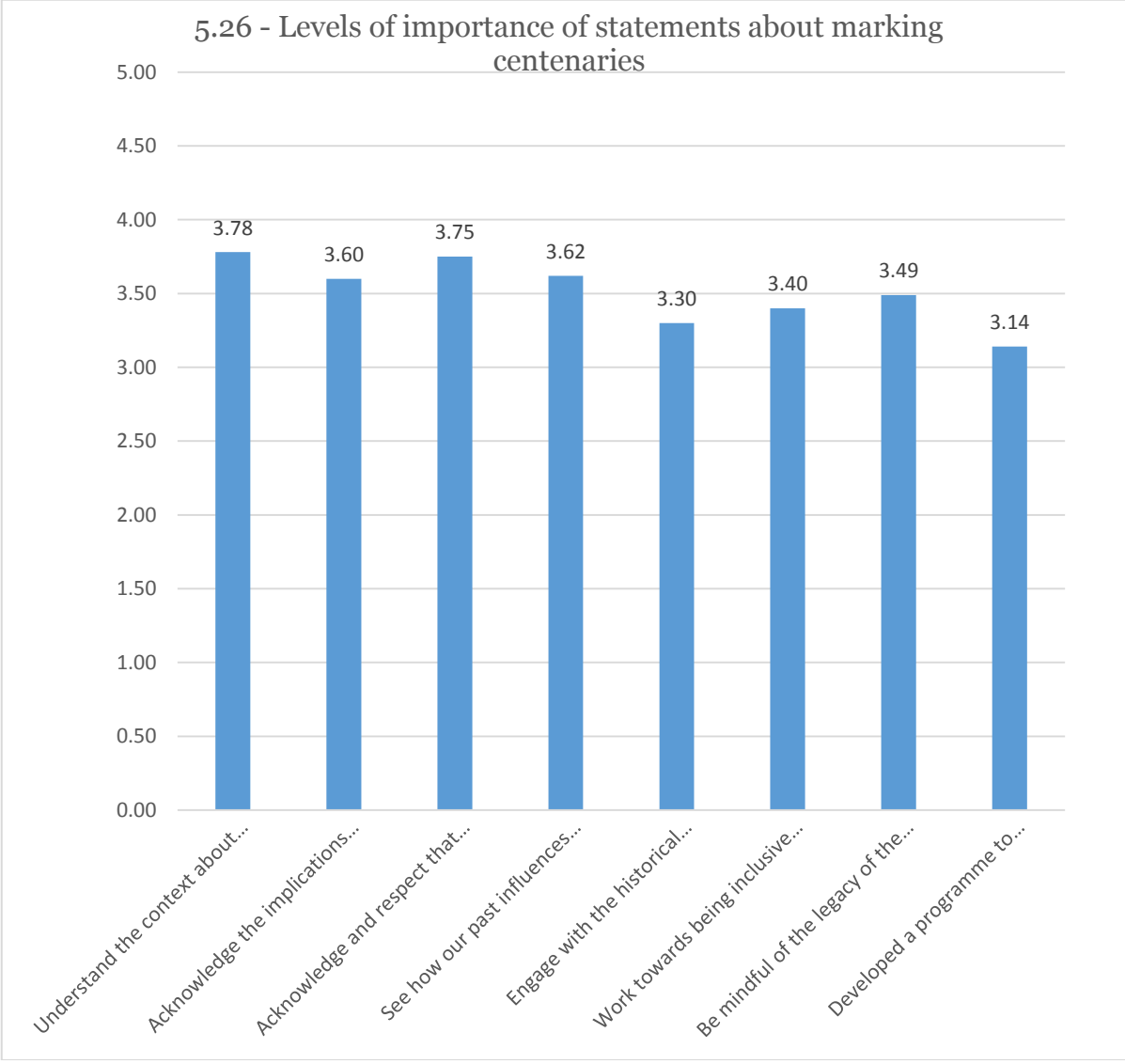
By the degree to which communities can engage positively with the 50th anniversaries of the most recent Troubles
feedback
Increased knowledge, developing attitudes of inclusivity, improved skills
Individual attitudinal change is the only way to measure impact.
£?
better understanding of shared events
Football for our exhibitions and local interest
Lack of controversy.
For PRONI, it has positioned us as the lead across the Department of Communities and facilitated much greater visibility across government and the general public
Each organisation will have done their own evaluation. An outside party needs to bring these all together to measure success in the round.
By continuing interest in acknowledging the shared nature of our history, and greater understanding of the context in which events took place a century ago
Ongoing willingness to continue dialogue

(Answered: 34 Skipped: 43)

5.26 Below is a list of statements people have made about how to mark centenaries in Northern Ireland. Can you state for each one whether you think they are important or not?

Chart 5.26 below shows a number of statements people have made about how to mark centenaries in Northern Ireland. Respondents were asked to state their level of importance for each statement, where 1=Not very important at all and 5=Very important. Therefore, the closer to 5, the more important the respondent felt about the statement.

Chart 5.26



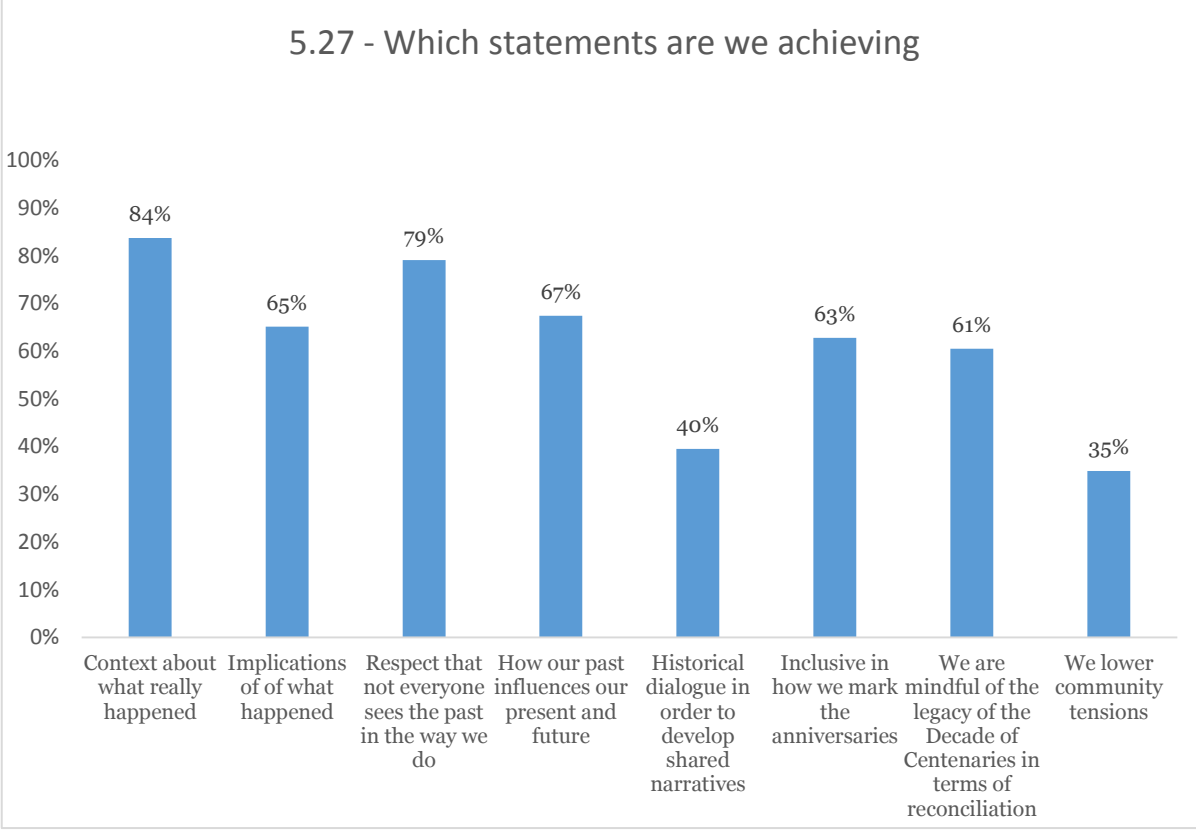
(Answered: 45 Skipped: 32)

Respondents felt all the statements were important with the highest levels of importance with the statement '*It's important to understand the context about what really happened*' (3.78). This was followed by the statements '*We need to acknowledge and respect that not everyone sees the past in the way we do*' (3.75) and '*We need to see how our past influences our present and future*' (3.62).

Lowest levels of importance were placed with the statement '*We developed a programme to lower community tensions*' (3.14).

5.27 Which, if any of these statements do you believe we are achieving through marking centenaries?

Figure 5.27



(Answered: 43 Skipped: 34)

Question 5.27 asked organisations which of the statements listed did they believe we are achieving through marking centenaries.

Figure 5.27 above shows that 84% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement "*It's important to understand the context about what really happened*" in marking centenaries.

79% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement "*We acknowledge and respect that not everyone sees the past in the way we do*".

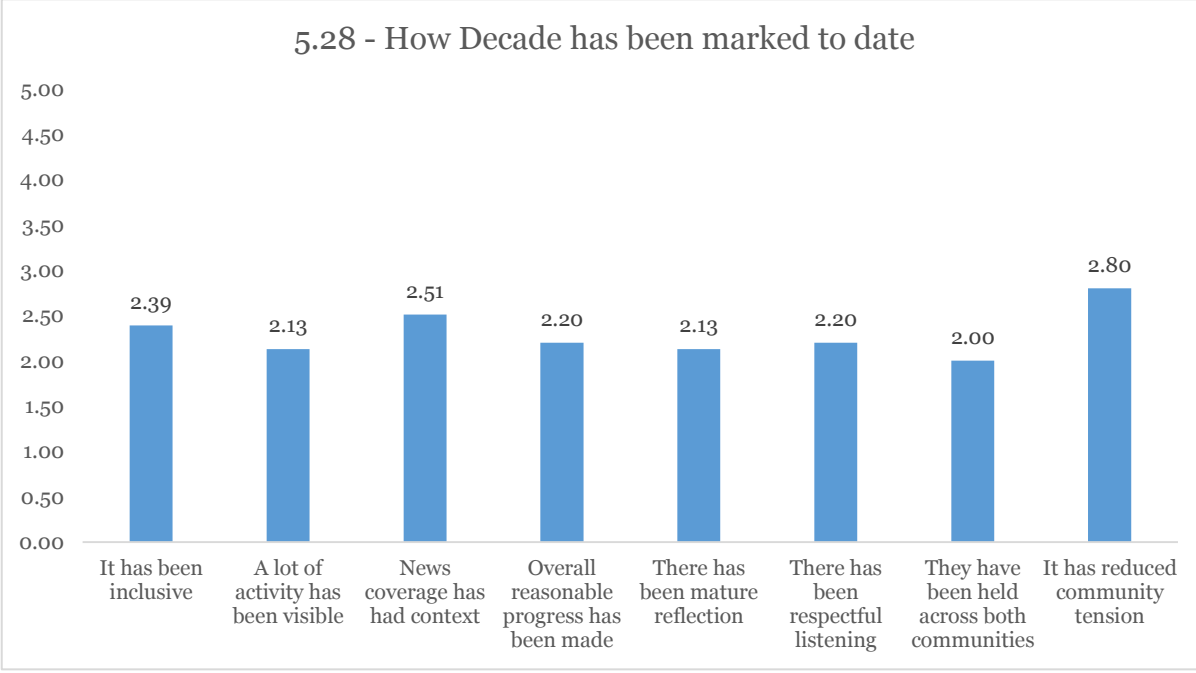
67% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement *'We see the reality of how our past influences our present and future'*, while 65% believe we are achieving *"We acknowledge the implications of what happened"*. 63% "*We work towards being inclusive in how we mark the anniversaries"*. 61% "*We are mindful of the legacy of the Decade of Centenaries in terms of reconciliation"*.

40% of respondents believe that we are achieving the statement, "*We engage with the historical dialogue in order to produce/develop shared narratives*".

35% of respondents believe that we are achieving "*Lower community tensions*".

5.28 Please state your level of agreement with the following statements regarding how the Decade of Centenaries has been marked to date.

Figure 5.28



(Answered: 45 Skipped: 32)

Figure 5.28 above shows a number of statements about how the Decade has been marked to date and where respondents were asked to state their level of agreement, where 1=strongly agree and 5=strongly disagree. Therefore the closer to 5, the higher the levels of disagreement about the statement.

Highest levels of agreement were with the statement '*They have been held across both communities*' and (2.00) and '*A lot of activity has been visible*' (2.13) and '*There has been mature reflection*' (2.13).

The highest levels of disagreement were with the statement *'It has reduced community tension'* (2.80) followed by '*News coverage has had context'* (2.51).

5.29 If you have any further comments on this questionnaire, please use this space below.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment
I remain of the opinion that when examining commemorations far too much emphasis is placed on historical approaches ignoring the vast majority of work conducted by political scientists, anthropologists and sociologists. As such it legitimises an historical approach to understanding our society and undermines an examination of the other causes of conflict.
As an educator this initiative has been a major catalyst for creating participant based programming - which may otherwise not have happened.
Funding for ATNNI 40th Event?
A lot of repetition
There was the potential of centenaries being a catalyst for fermenting community tensions, however the anniversaries to date have mostly been reflective, inclusive and respectful
Council supported our programme but then went on to fund BoS commemoration and not 1916 commemorations

5.30 Additional Comments

- One respondent made comments about accessibility of the survey

Appendix 1 – 76 Organisations who took part in the survey

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
The Somme Association
Unionist Centenary Committee
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council
Omagh Forum for Rural Associations
Donegall Pass Social History Group (DPSHG)
Castlewellan Churches Forum
Kabosh
DMRA
Lagan Village Youth and Community Group
ATNNI
Ballinascreen Commemoration Committee
Killyleagh Youth and Community Association
ATNNI
Antrim and Newtownabbey borough council
The Boys' Brigade - NI District
Queen's University Belfast
Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group
1916-2016 Commemoration Committee
Irish Association for Cultural, Economic & Social Relations
Contemporary Christianity
Northern Ireland Office
Ards and North Down Borough Council
Derry City and Strabane District Council
The John Hewitt Society
Libraries NI
174 Trust
Ulster GAA
Rural Community Network
Arts Council of Northern Ireland
Coleraine Festival Committee
The Junction
Rathenraw youth scheme
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Croí Éanna
The Fellowship of Messines Association
Glengormley Integrated Primary School
The Rainbow Project
Crumlin EPC
Rathfern Community Regeneration Group
Community Relations Forum
REACT (Reconciliation, Education And Community Training)
UNISON

Fáilte Feirste Thiar
Irish Linen Centre and Lisburn Museum
Belfast City Council
Forthspring Inter Community Group
Belfast & District Trades Union Council (BDTUC)
Robert Quigg VC Commemoration Society
School of Education Ulster University
The Wood Rural Development Association
Loughries Historical Society
Belfast City Council (formerly, now retired)
St. Peter's Immaculata Youth Club
Campbell College
Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group
Drogheda Civic Trust
ATNNI
Maghera Historical Society
History Teachers Association of Northern Ireland (HTANI)
HMS Caroline
Mid Ulster Council
Linen Hall Library
Resolve
Holywood U3A
Nerve Centre
History Hub Ulster
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
Building Communities Resource Centre
Marsh's Library
Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
Belfast Islamic Centre
Institute for Conflict Research

NB: One individual did not identify themselves with an organisation.