Identifying cultural trends and activities:
Young People's attitudes to Drugs, Sex and Relationships.

November 2005

Introduction

- The peer research project has been funded by the Kensington and Chelsea small Grants Fund 2004/2005 in order to conduct a health-related cultural attitude survey of young people (12-25) in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Aims of the consultation

The Specific outcomes/objectives of the research are:

- To increase the participation of local young people in health issues which affect them – specifically drug misuse and sexual health.
- To understand local drug and sexual health issues for young people and the culture around usage/engagement.
- To support the priority areas as defined by the PCT strategic priorities – Better health for all and better services.
- To support the improvement of access for young people, particularly BMER community members.

Methodology

- **Recruitment**

- **Training**
  - **Drug Awareness Training**
  - **Sexual Health Training**
  - **Research Training**

- **Data collection & Analysis**

Focus Groups

- What is a relationship? – How long? Is it important to be in a relationship when you have sex?

- Who should take responsibility for contraception in a relationship?

- What do you think influences young people to take drugs? – is it for the experience or attractive lifestyle?

- Is cannabis a drug? Is cannabis legal?

- Should young people get information about drugs and sexual health at school? How? Who buy? Where? When?
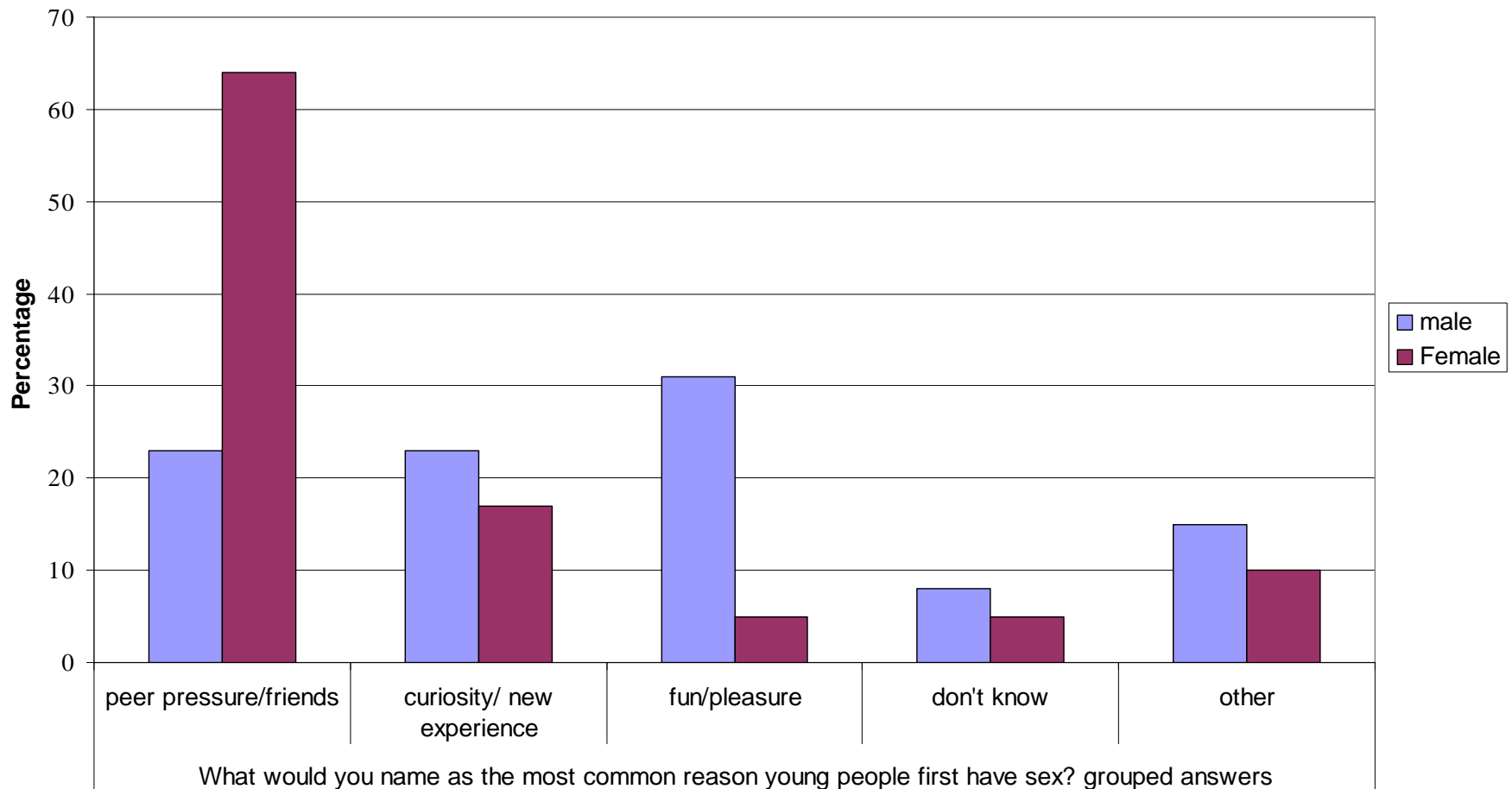
Key Findings

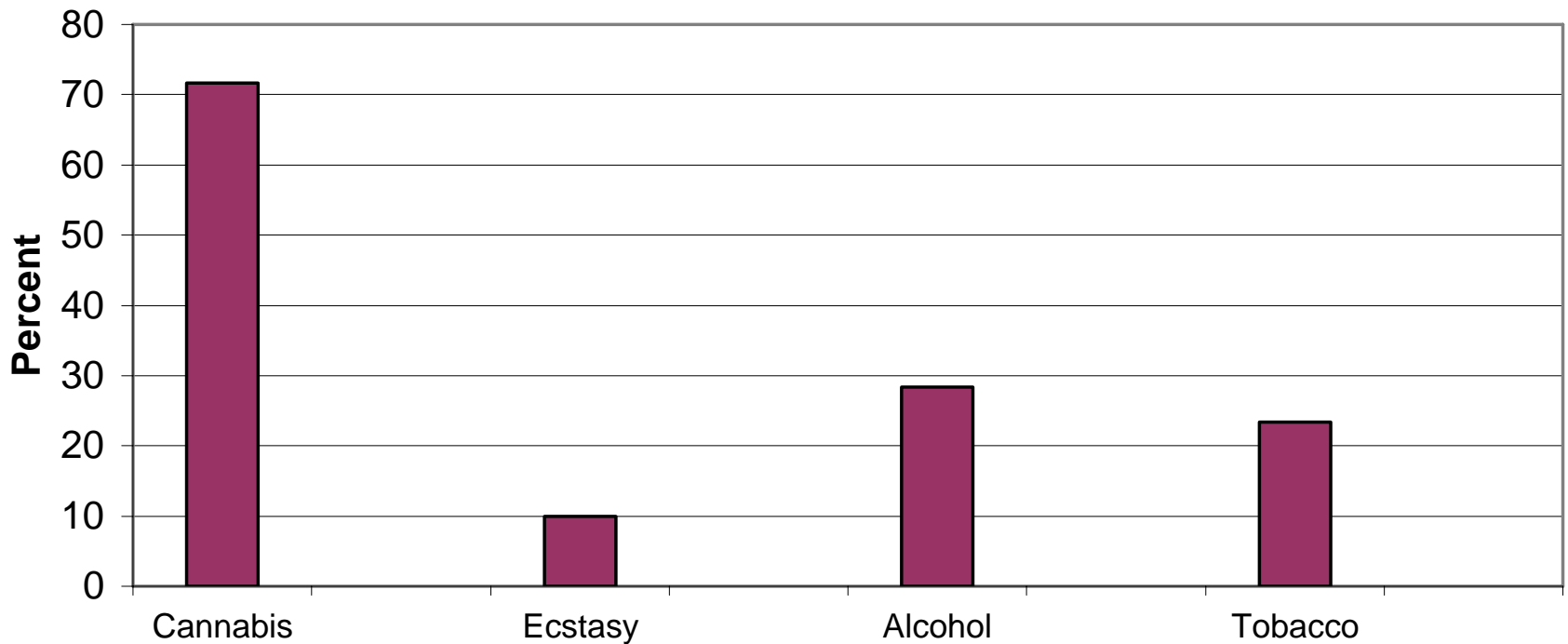**"Do you think you need to be in a relationship before you have sex?" By gender**
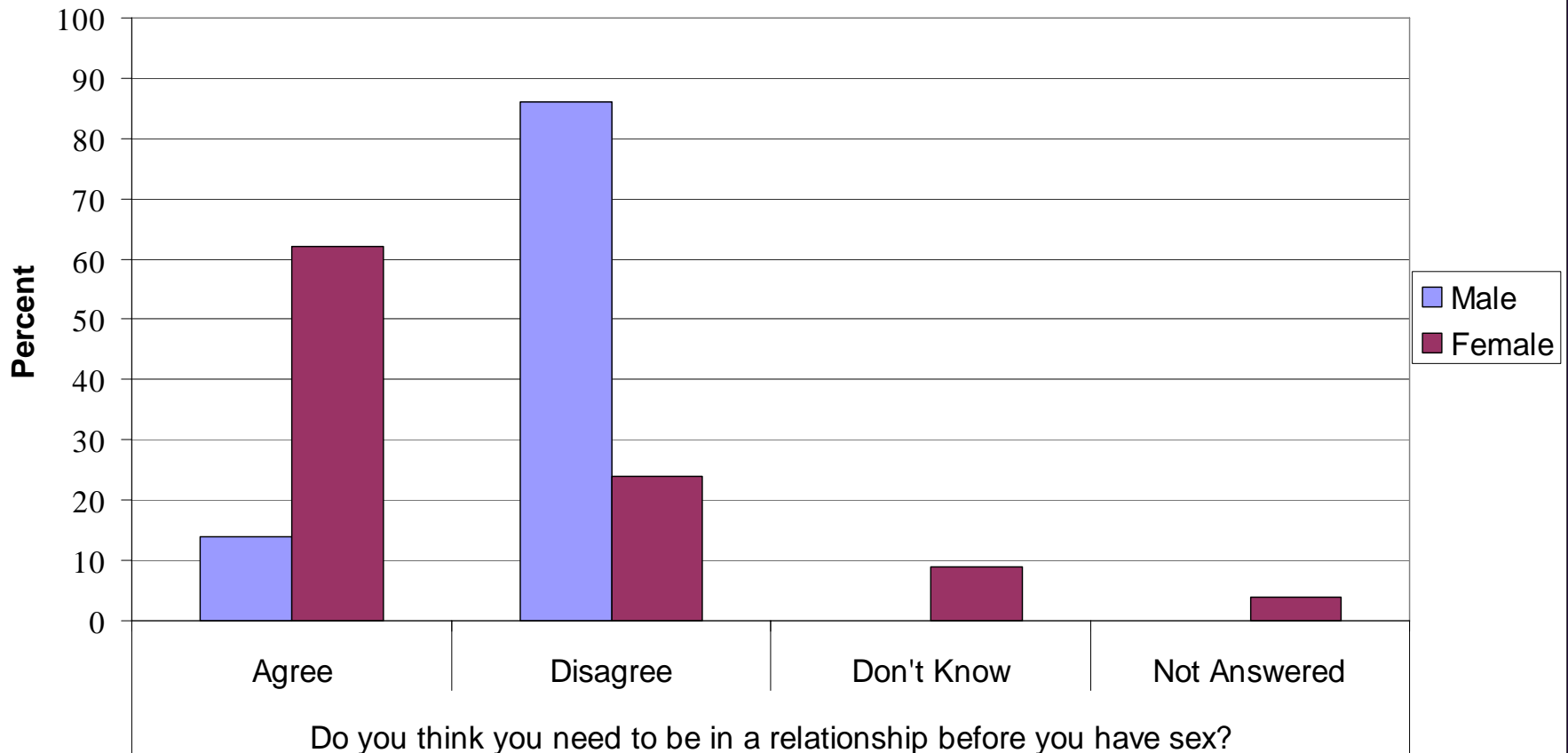
Key Findings cont.

**"What would you name as the most common reason young people first have sex?" By gender**

Percentage

70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0

peer pressure/friends   curiosity/ new experience   fun/pleasure   don't know   other

What would you name as the most common reason young people first have sex? grouped answers
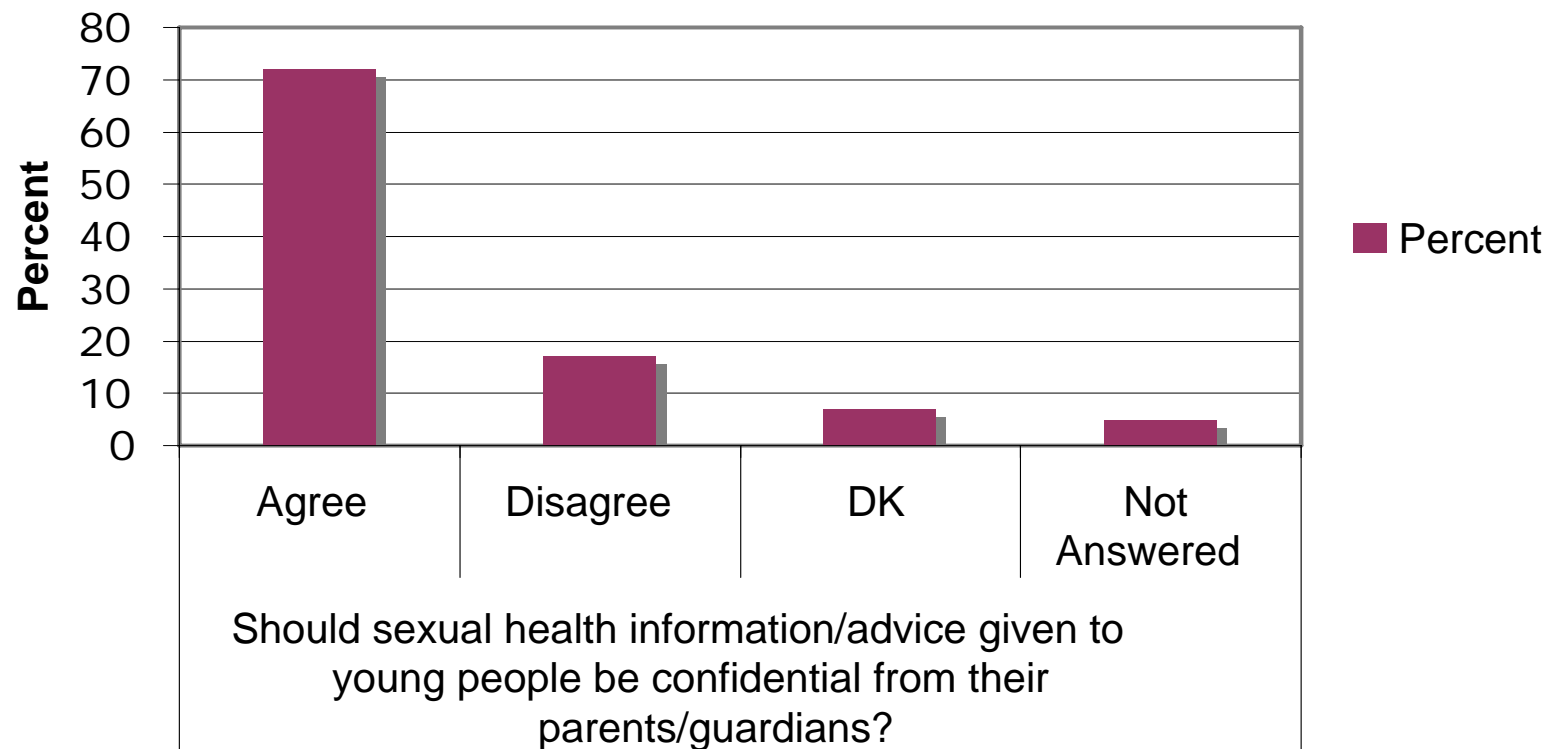
male
Female

Key findings cont.

Key findings cont.

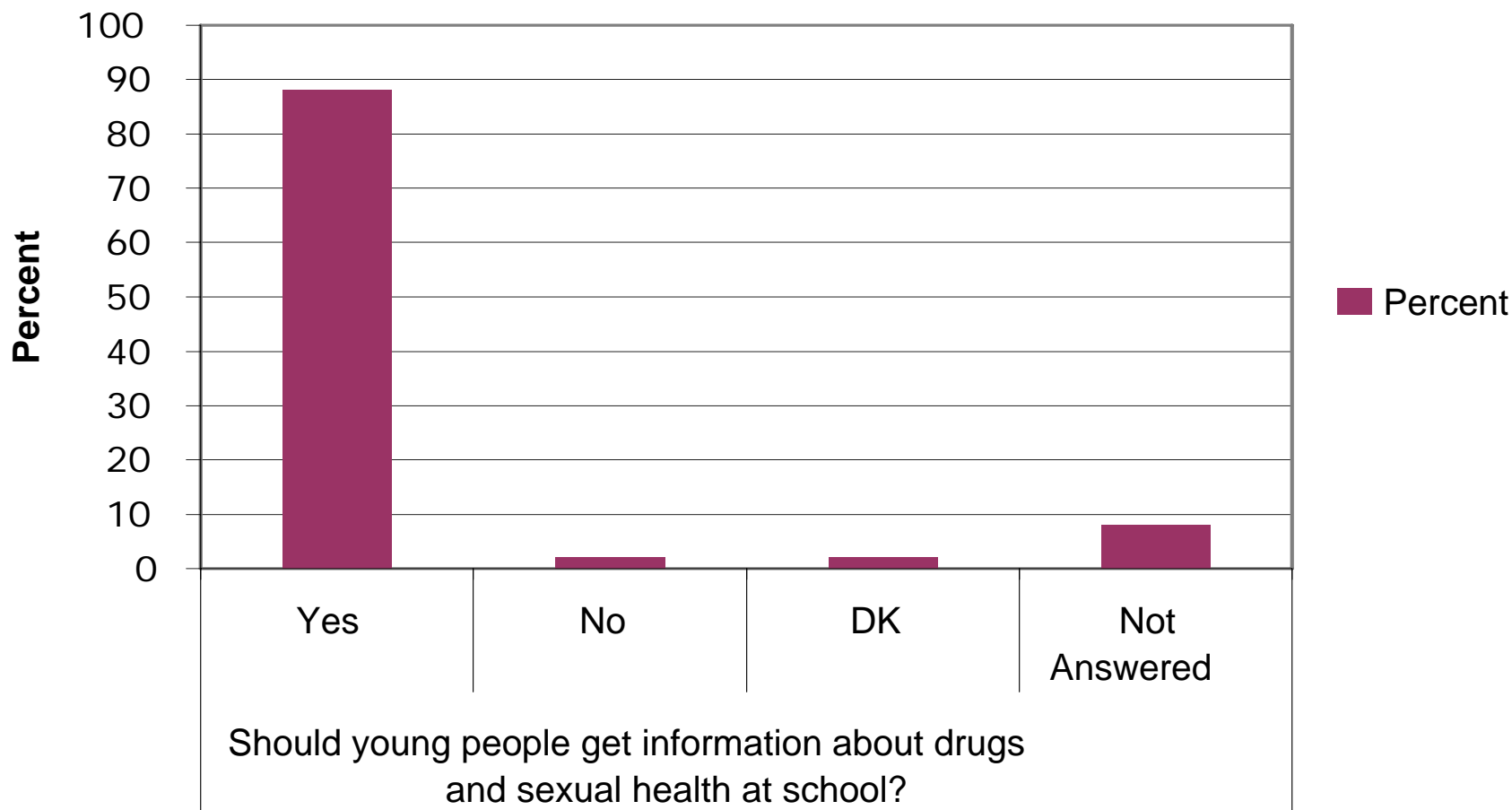**'Do you think any of the following drugs are ok for young people aged 12 or over to take?'**
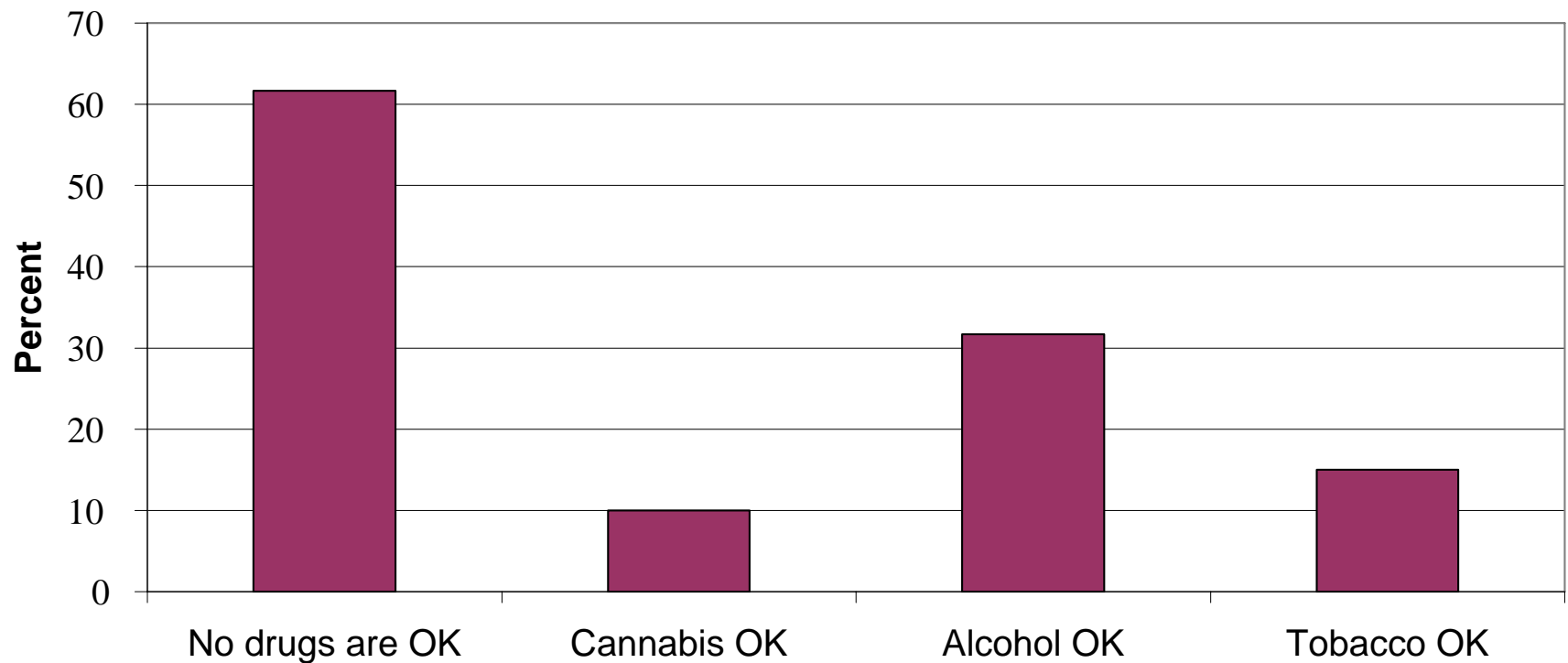
Key findings cont.

"Should sexual health information give to young people be confidential from their parents/guardians?"

Key findings cont.

"Should Young People Get Information about Drugs and Sexual Health at School?"

Recommendations

The Space KC puts the following recommendations forward for operational and strategic areas:

- Workshop development and delivery review
- Awareness raising of maintaining confidential services
- Parent training and information exchange (through schools)
- Clarification campaign
- Localised action research
- Sex education focus (put pleasure back into sex)