

Survey carried out over 3 weeks in November 2023.

The following statistics look at the UK National vs. Local results for Shropshire including Telford & Wrekin.

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The latest QES results show steadily growing confidence among UK SMEs, particularly compared to this time last year, when the UK was beset by a significant energy price shock and political instability.

However, while it's likely the UK will avoid a technical recession, these results provide more evidence of a very low growth climate as most SMEs continue to report no improvement to sales, cash flow, or investment.

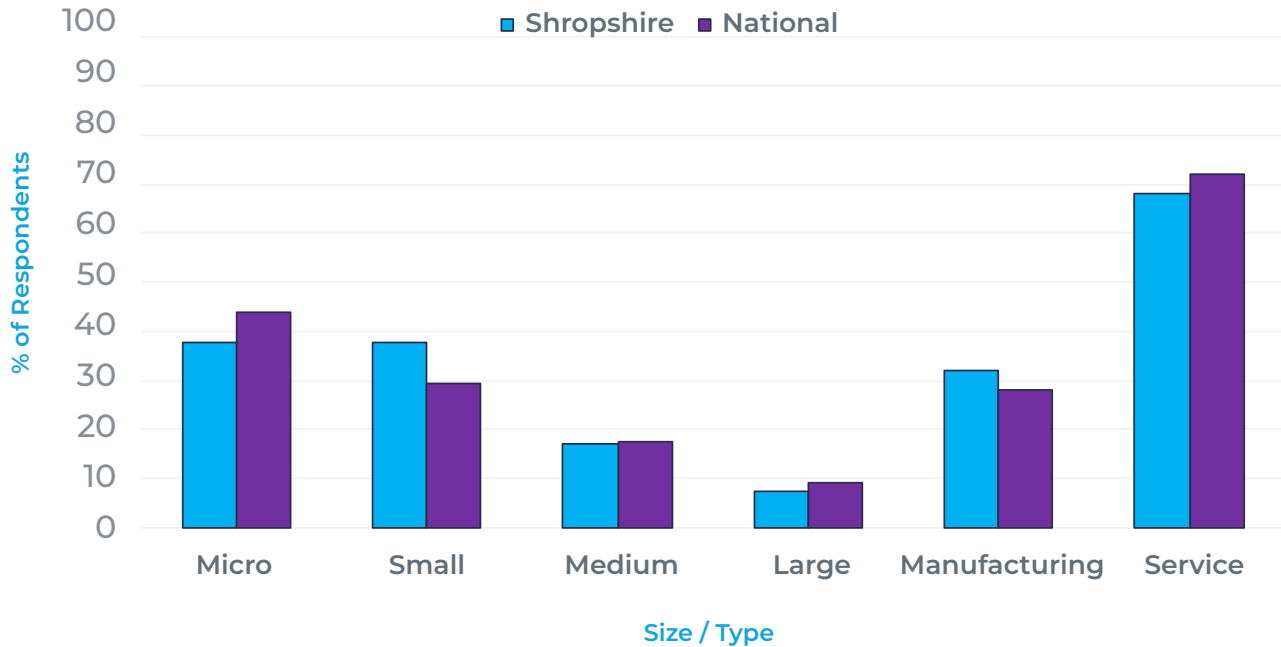
The data also reveals the disproportionate impacts of economic shocks on different types of businesses. Manufacturers, for example, are more likely to be exposed to the trade barriers established with Europe, while many firms in the retail and hospitality sector are reporting recessionary conditions.

David Bharier

Head of Research, British Chambers of Commerce

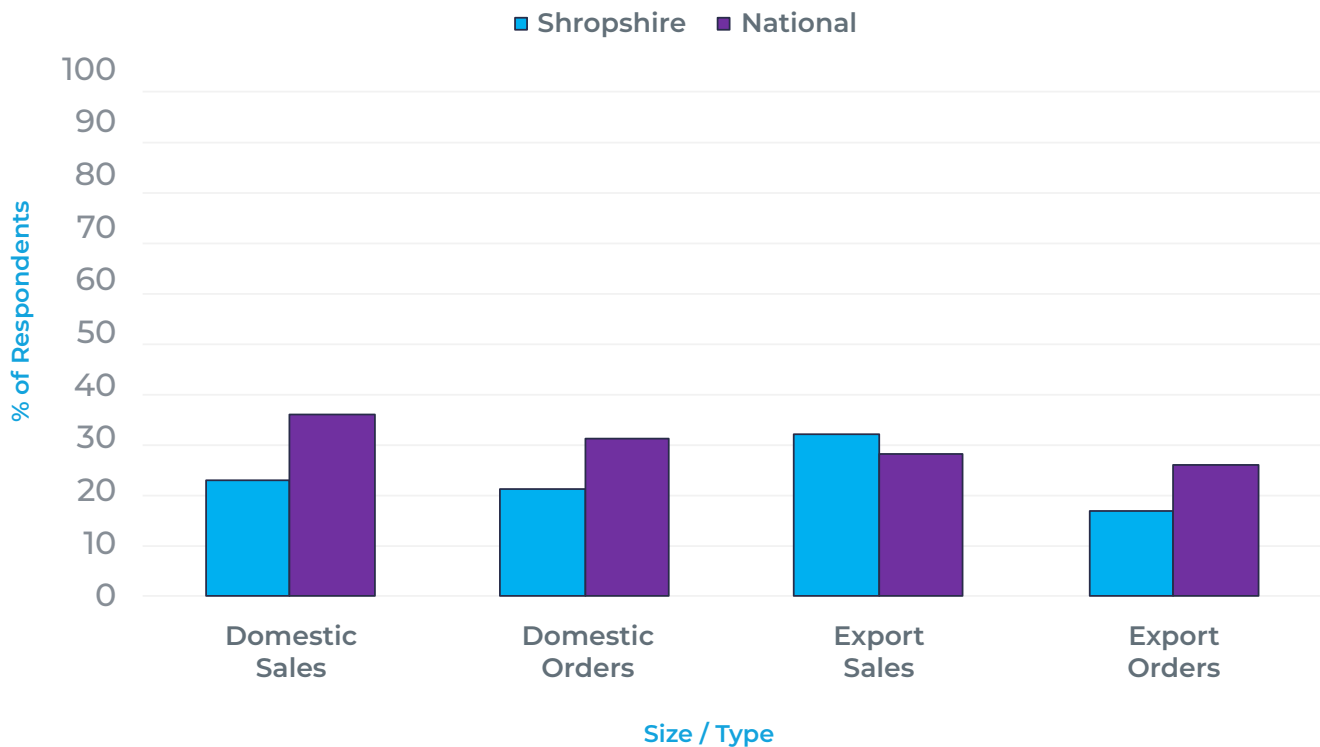
INTERVIEW SAMPLE BREAKDOWN

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



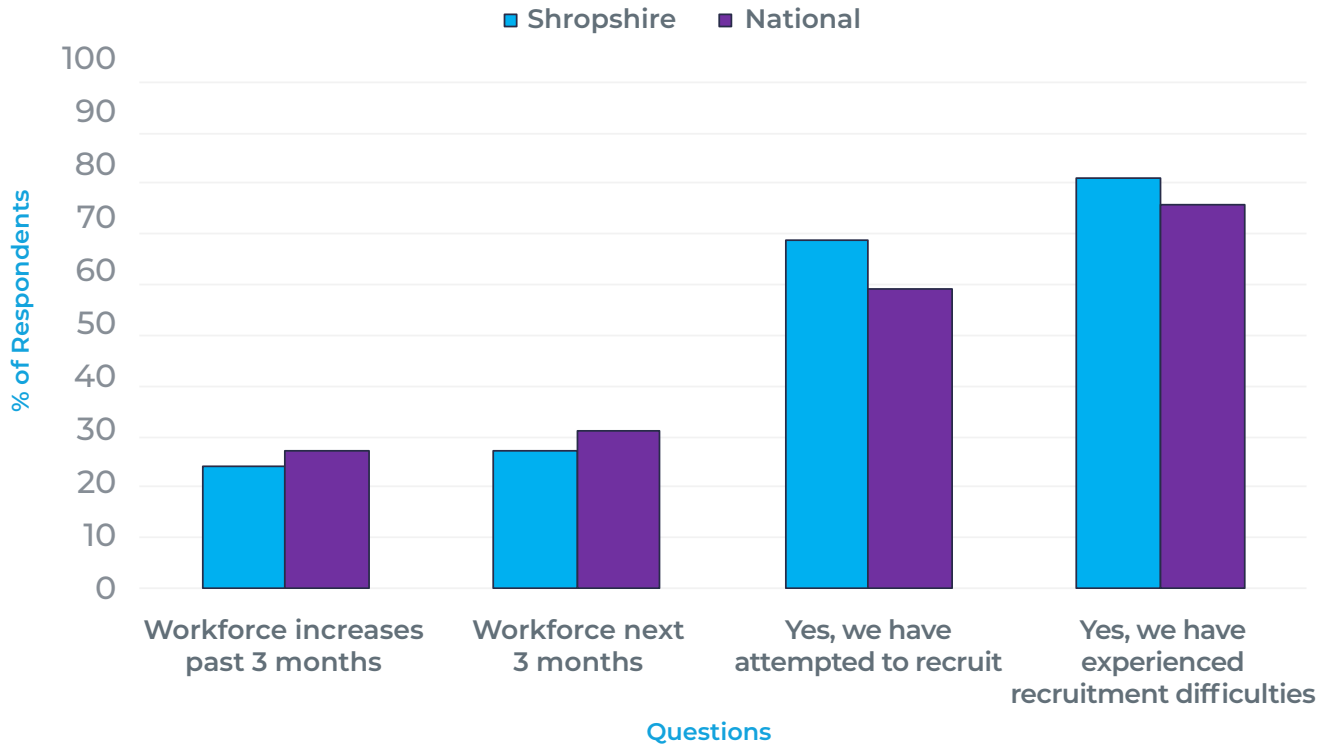
SALES & ORDERS INCREASED - DOMESTIC & EXPORT

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



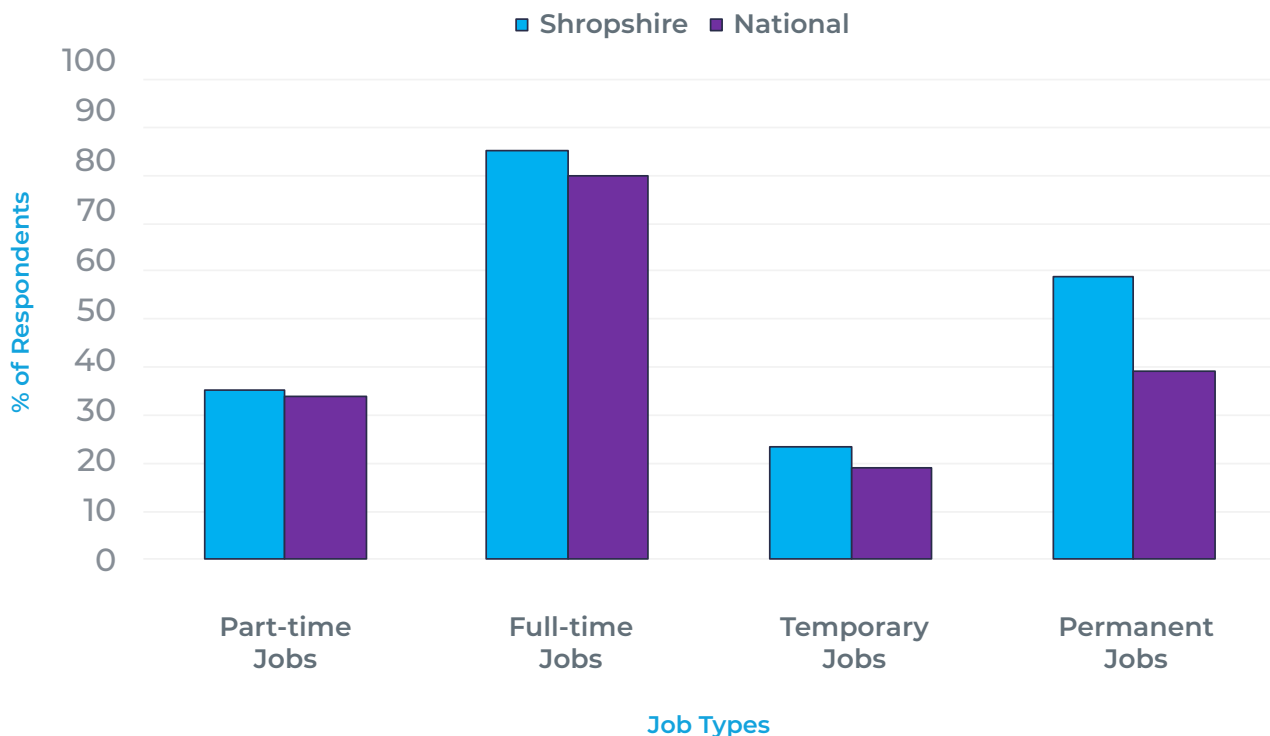
WORKFORCE INCREASES

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



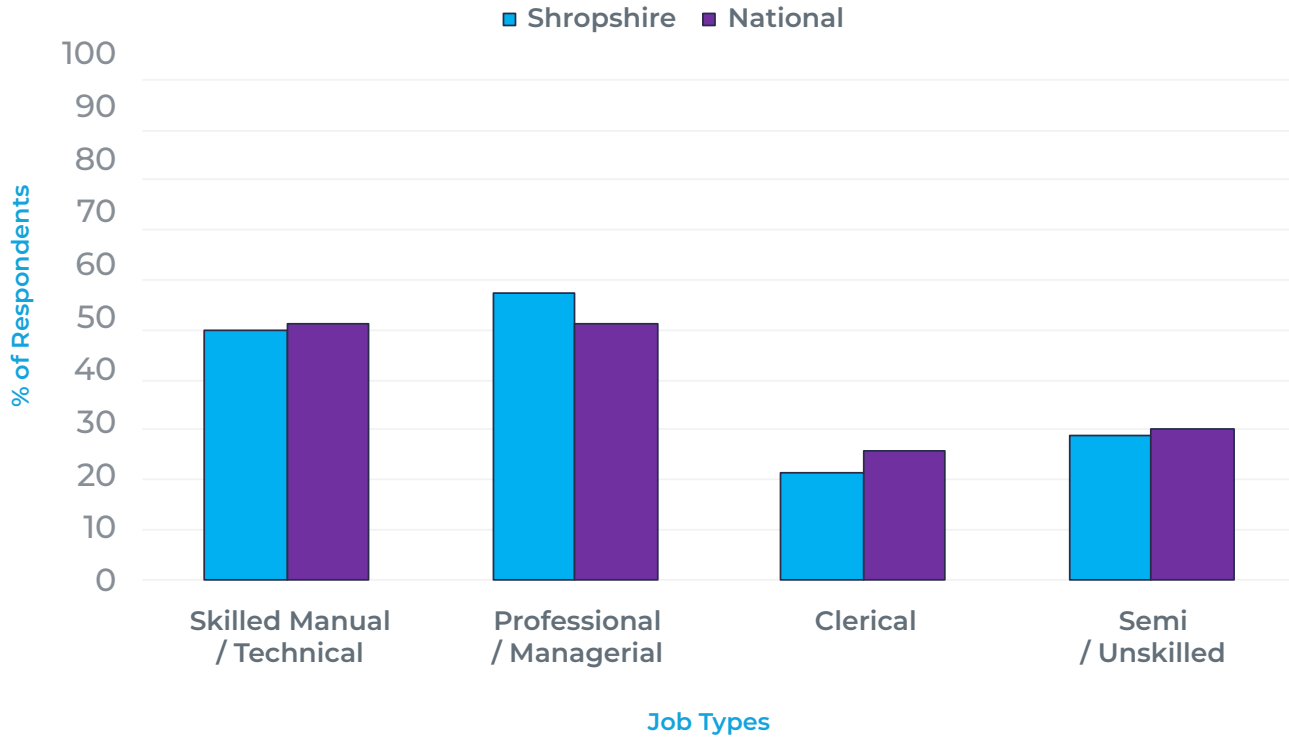
WORKFORCE RECRUITED JOB TYPES

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



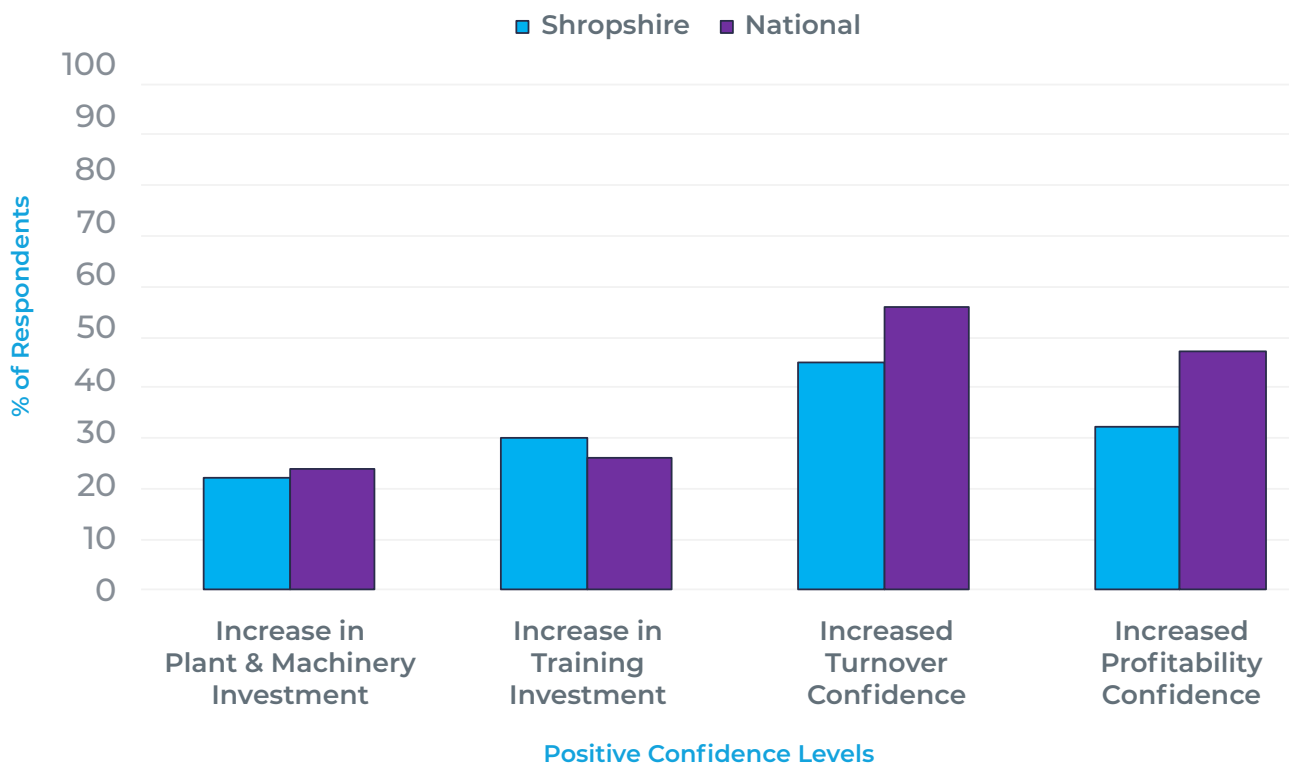
WORKFORCE RECRUITED SKILLS TYPE

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



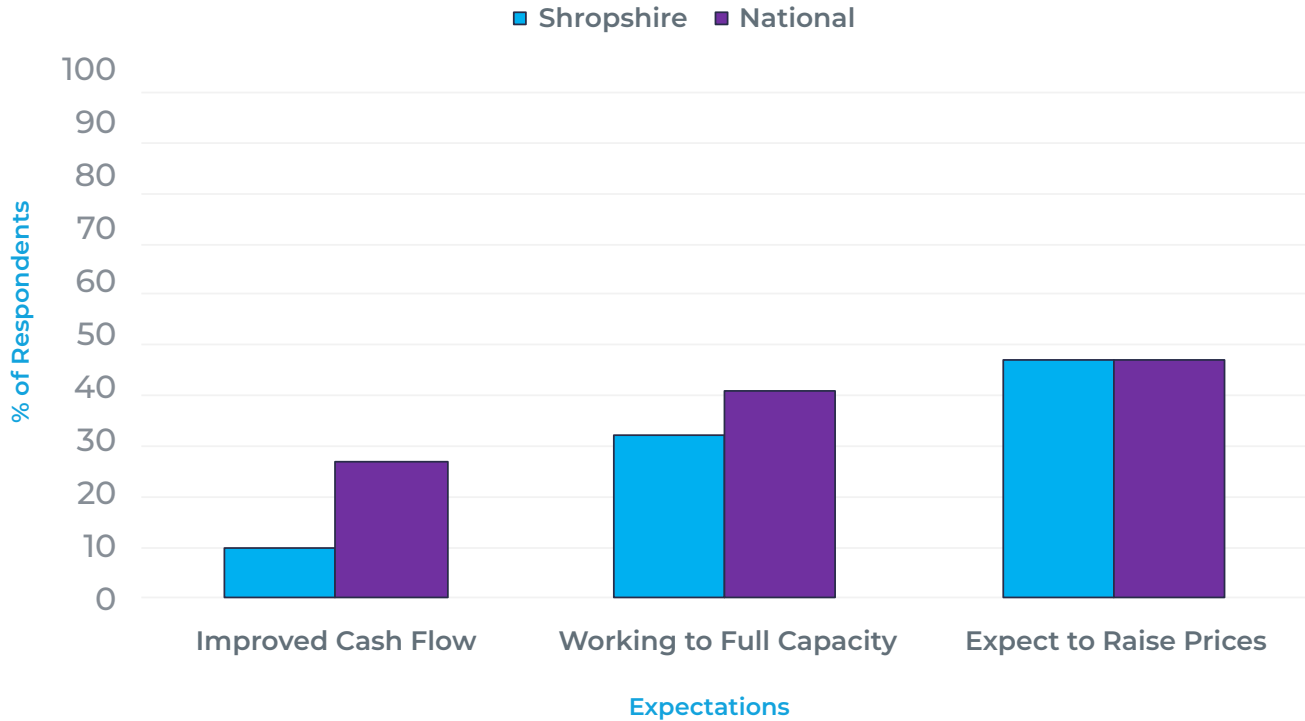
INCREASED INVESTMENT & CONFIDENCE

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



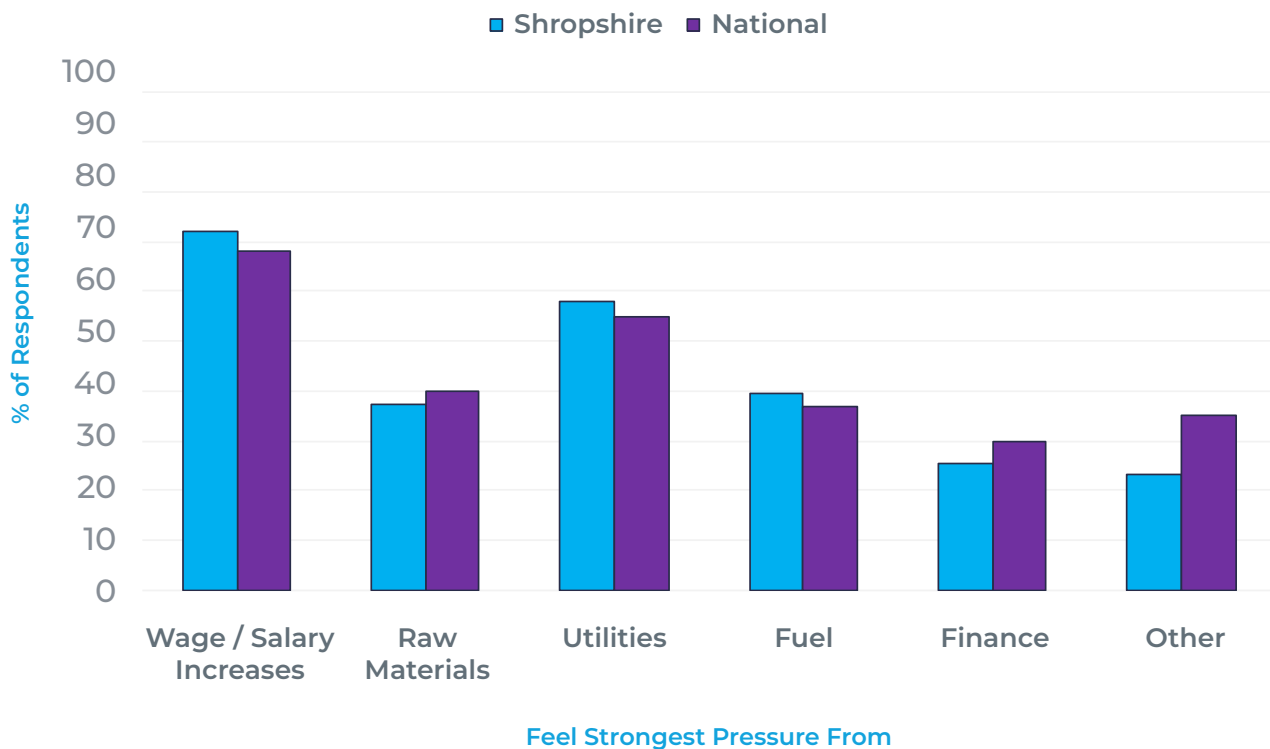
CASHFLOW, CAPACITY & PRICES

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



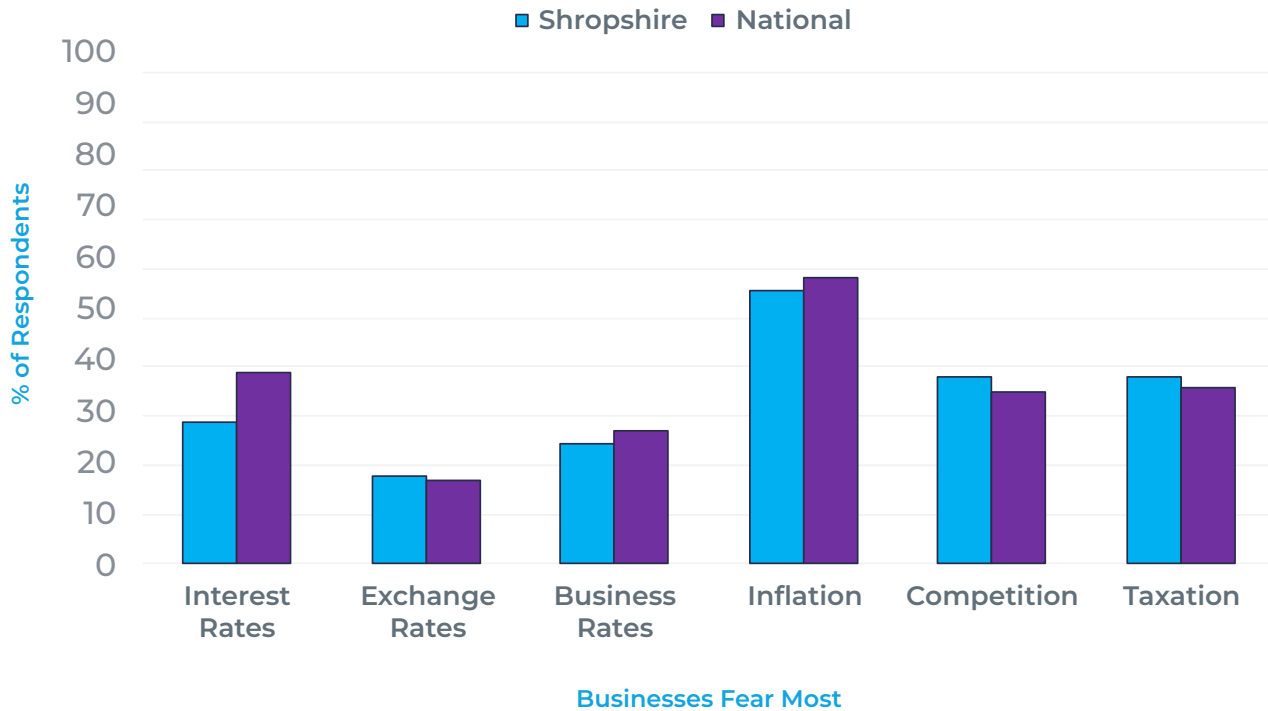
BUSINESS PRESSURES

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



BUSINESS FEARS

QES Quarter 4 - 2023



The QES (Quarterly Economic Survey) is carried out every year, four times per year.

The interview fieldwork is carried out over 3 weeks.

Quarter 1: February / March

Quarter 2: May / June

Quarter 3: August / September

Quarter 4: November

For further details and to receive invitations to take part in the surveys please email:

policy@shropshire-chamber.co.uk