

NatCen

Social Research that works for society

What Voters Want From Brexit

Guy Goodwin

Chief Executive,
National Centre for Social Research

30 March 2017

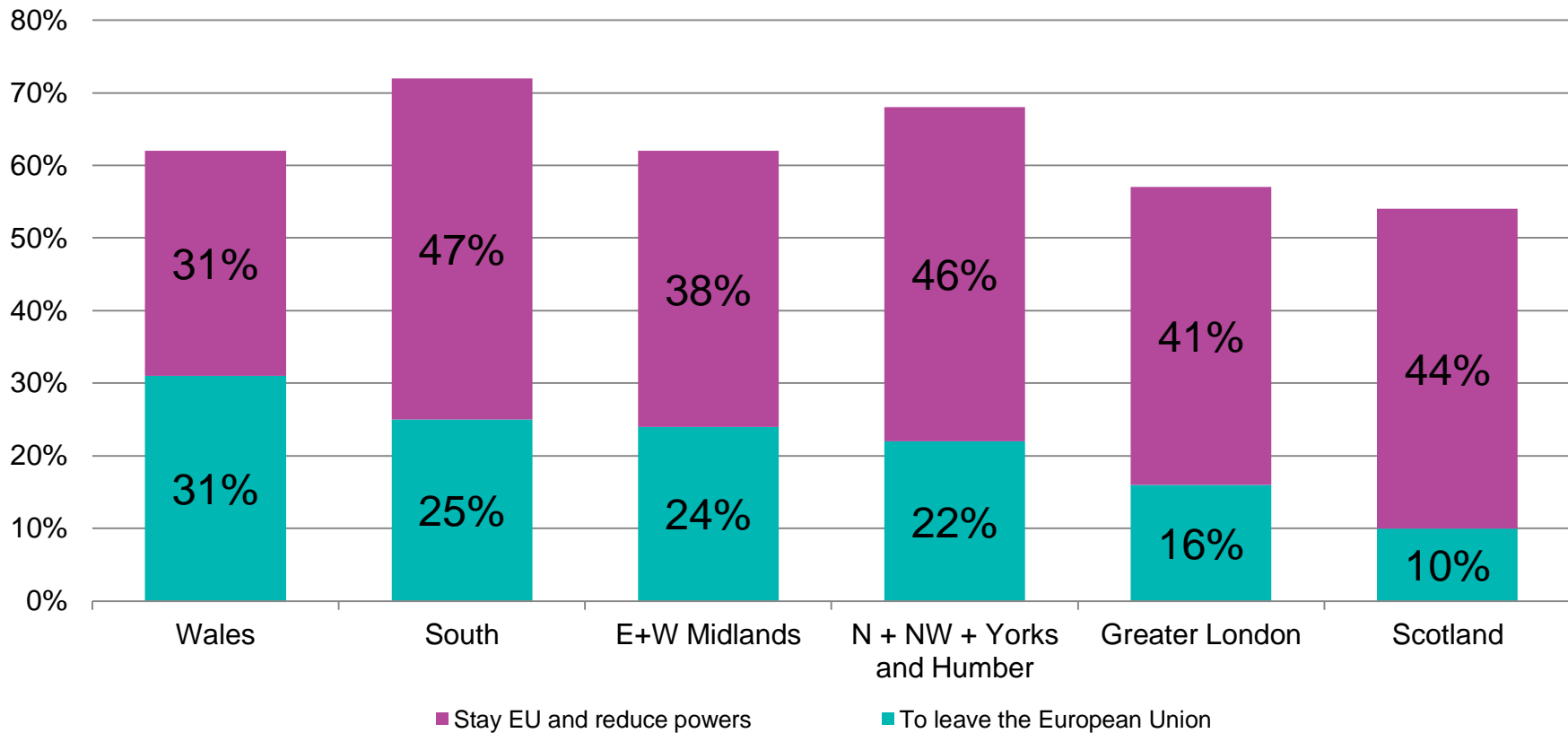


Context



Welsh support for the EU

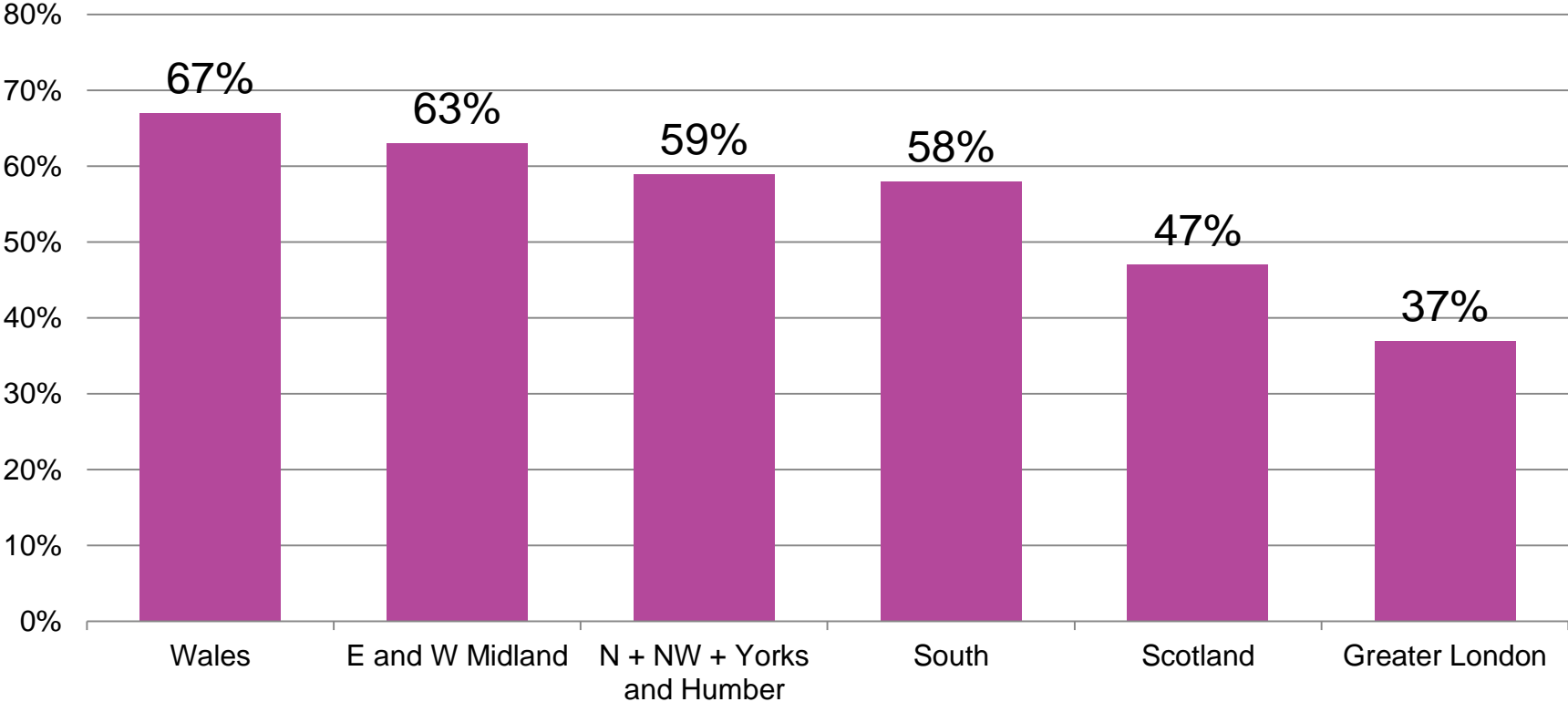
Extent of Euroscepticism in Britain



Source: NatCen British Social Attitudes survey 2015

Welsh views on immigration

Immigration to Britain should be reduced a lot



Source: NatCen British Social Attitudes survey 2013

**What does
Britain want
from Brexit?**



The Data

Respondents to NatCen's 2015 or 2016 British Social Attitudes Survey, an annual face to face random probability survey, who have agreed to do short follow-up surveys by internet/phone

Survey sent to 3,872 people; 2,322 successfully interviewed between 2 February and 5 March

Data weighted to reflect population profile and known differential drop-out

Recall EU referendum vote: Leave 50%; Remain 50%

Hard Brexit Items

Requiring people from the EU who want to come to live here to apply to do so in the same way as people from outside the EU

Requiring people from Britain who want to live and work in a EU country to apply to do so in the same way as anybody else from outside the EU has to do.

No longer allowing migrants from other EU countries to claim any welfare benefits in Britain

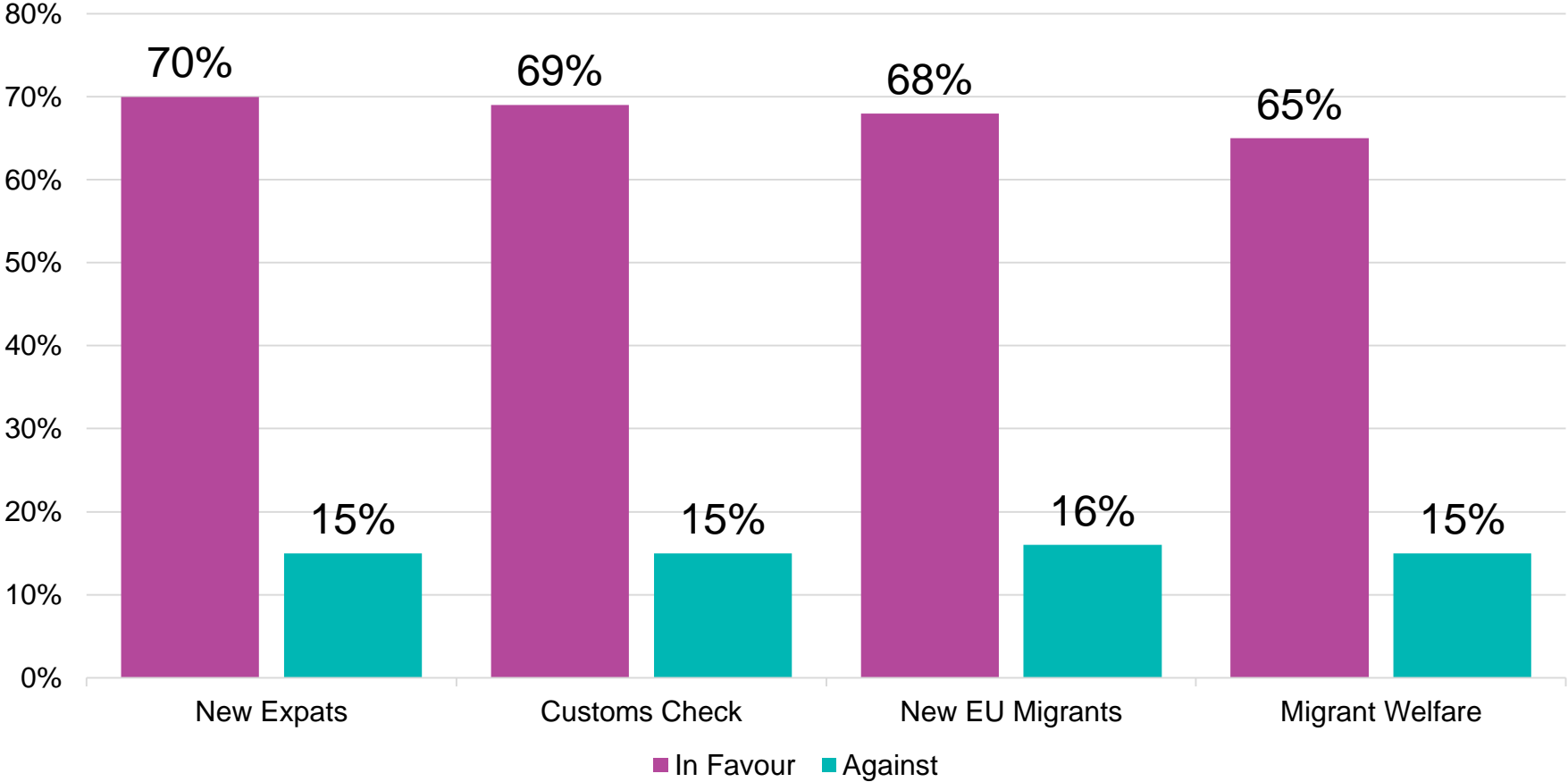
Reintroducing customs checks on people and goods coming to Britain from the EU

No longer requiring farmers in Britain to follow EU regulations on the use of pesticides

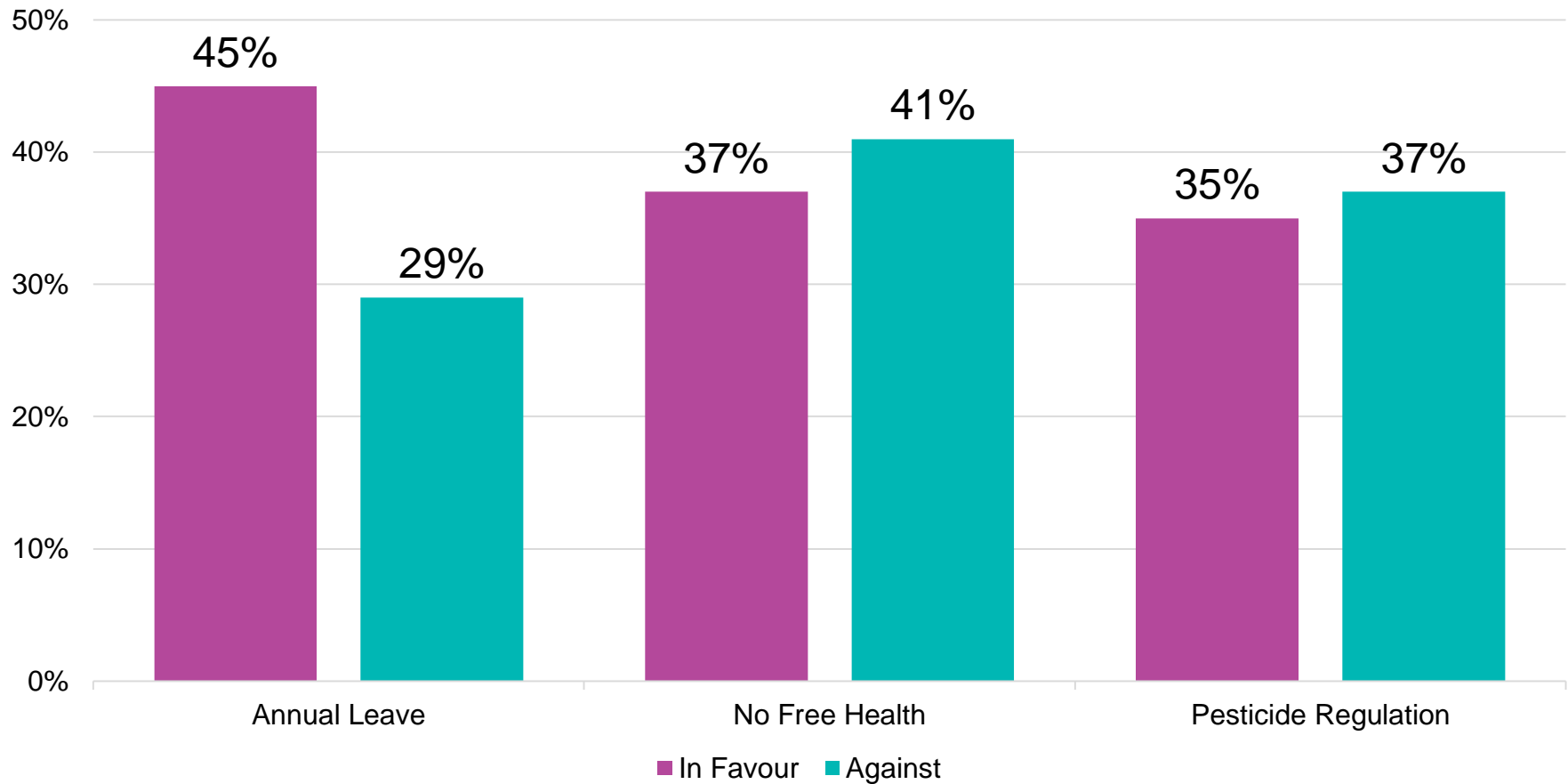
No longer allowing people from Britain who are visiting a EU country to get health treatment for free

Ending the ability of the EU to determine the minimum level of annual leave to which workers in Britain are entitled

On Immigration and Borders



But on Other Hard Matters



Soft Brexit Items

Allowing banks located in EU countries to provide services to people living in Britain while allowing British banks to provide services to people living in the EU

Allowing companies based in the EU to sell goods and services freely in Britain in return for allowing British companies to sell goods and services freely in the EU

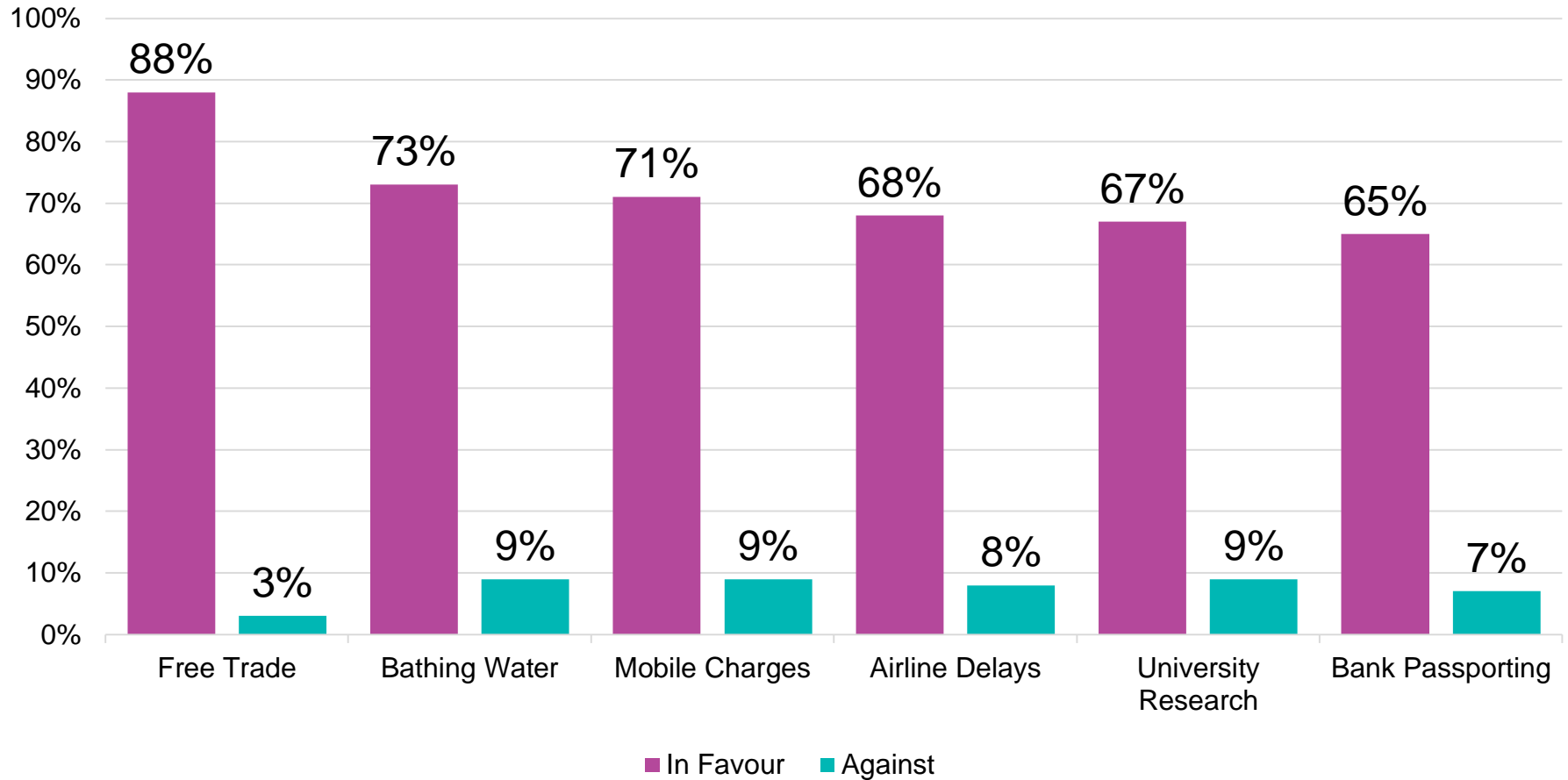
Requiring British-owned airlines to follow EU rules that require them to pay compensation to passengers who have been seriously delayed

Britain continuing to follow EU regulations which set minimum standards for the quality of the water at beaches where people swim

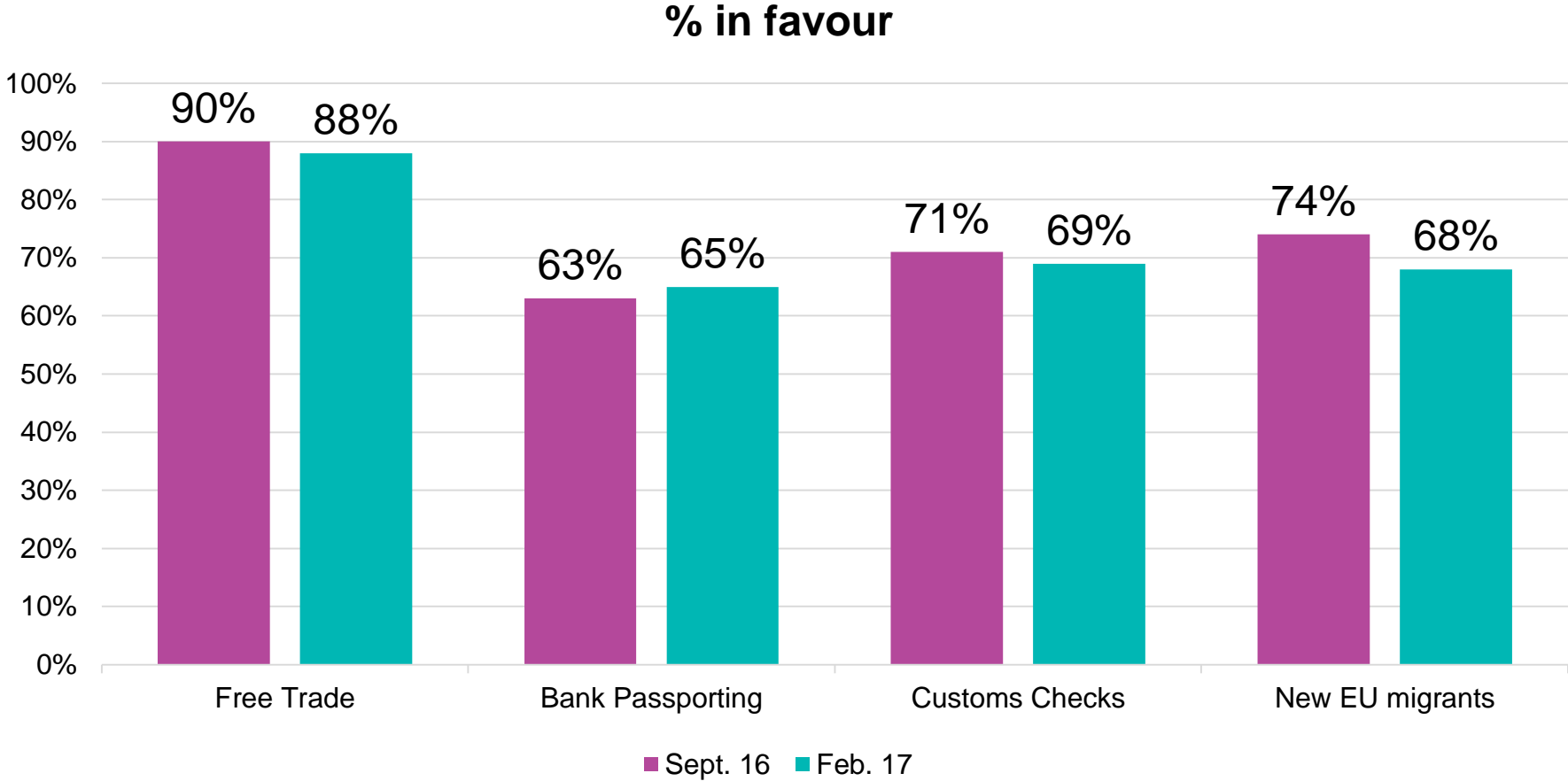
Britain continuing to participate in EU programmes for funding cross-national university research

Requiring British mobile phone companies to follow EU regulations that limit what they can charge customers for calls made abroad

Mostly Popular

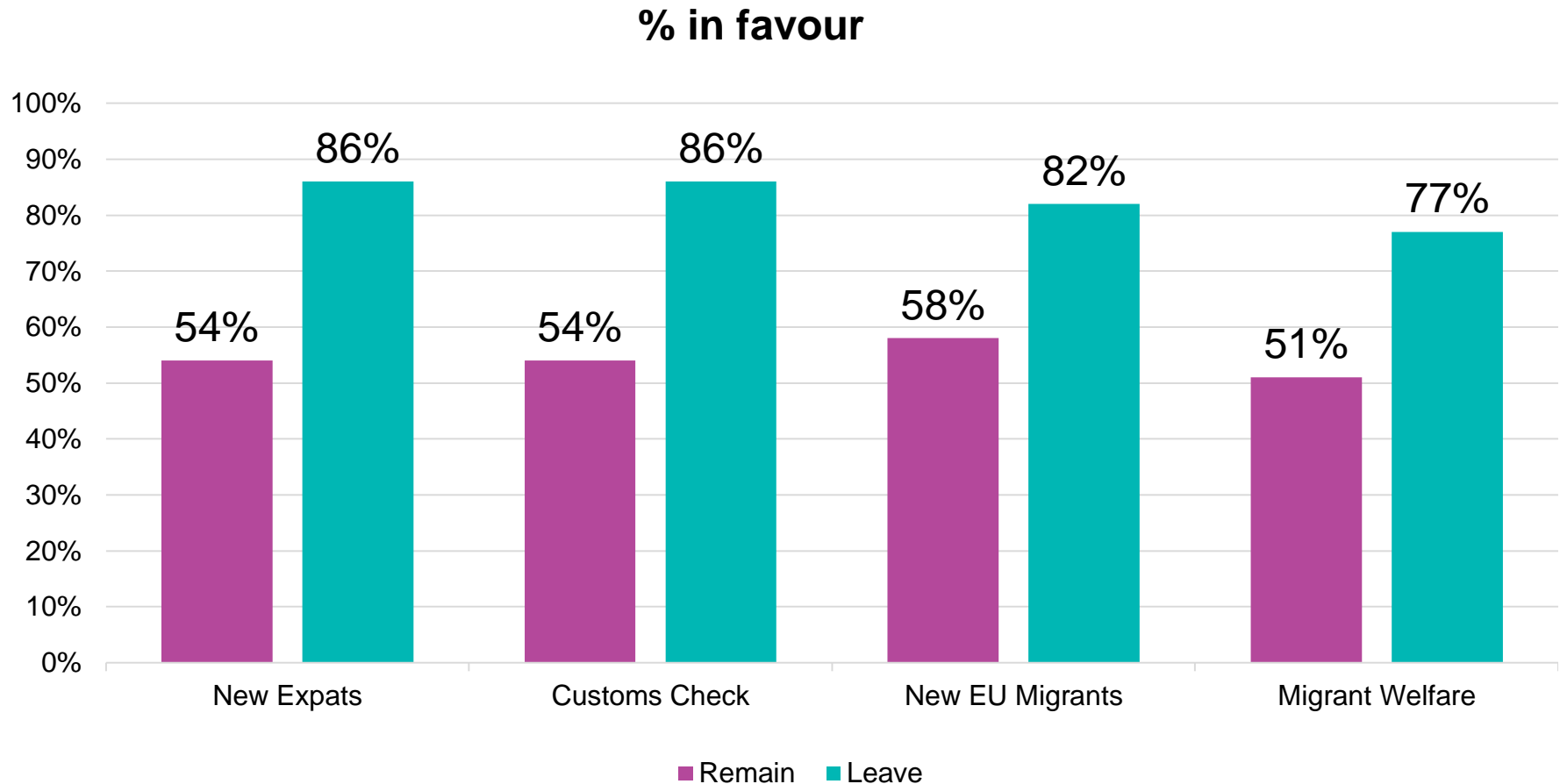


Are Attitudes Stable?



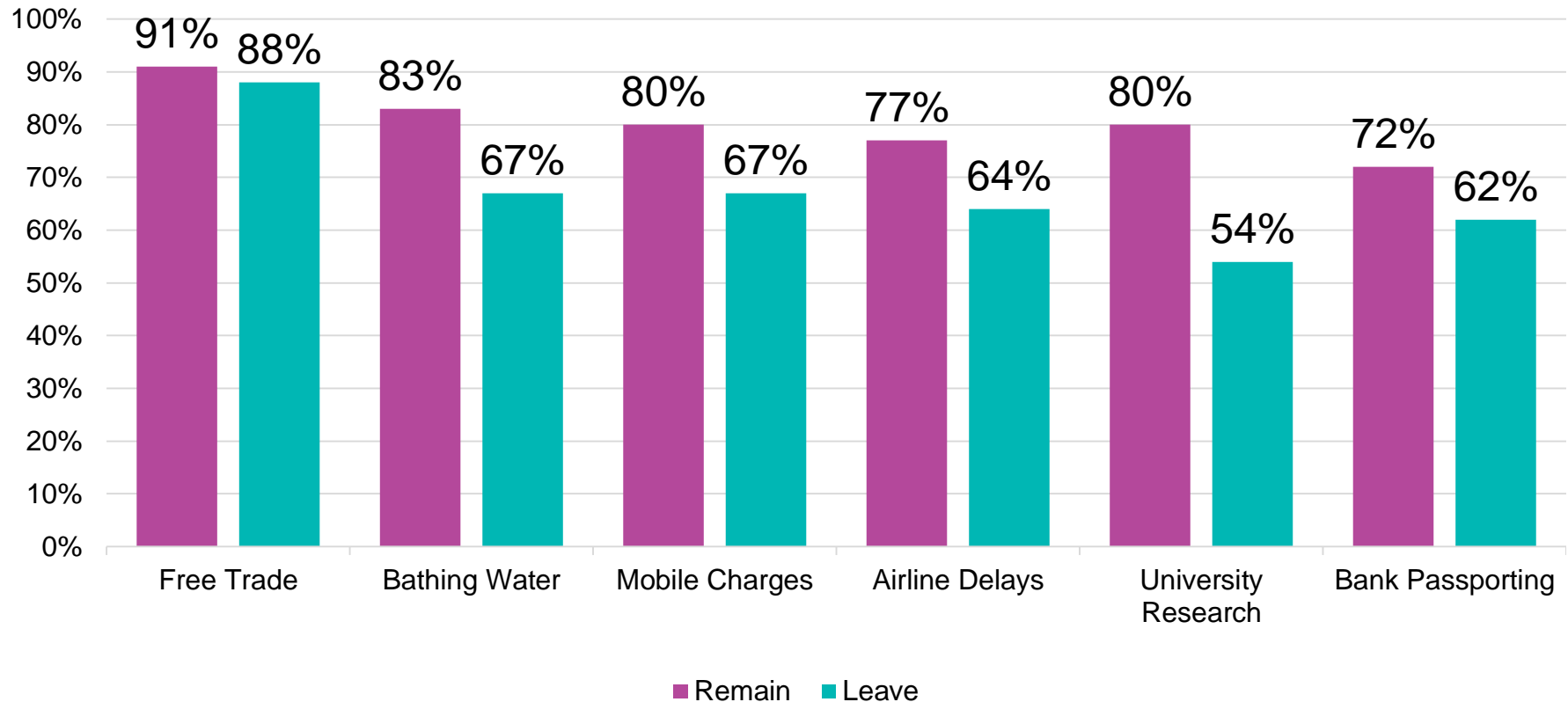
Source: NatCen Mixed Mode Panel Sept. 16 - Feb. 17

Leave and Remain on Immigration and Borders

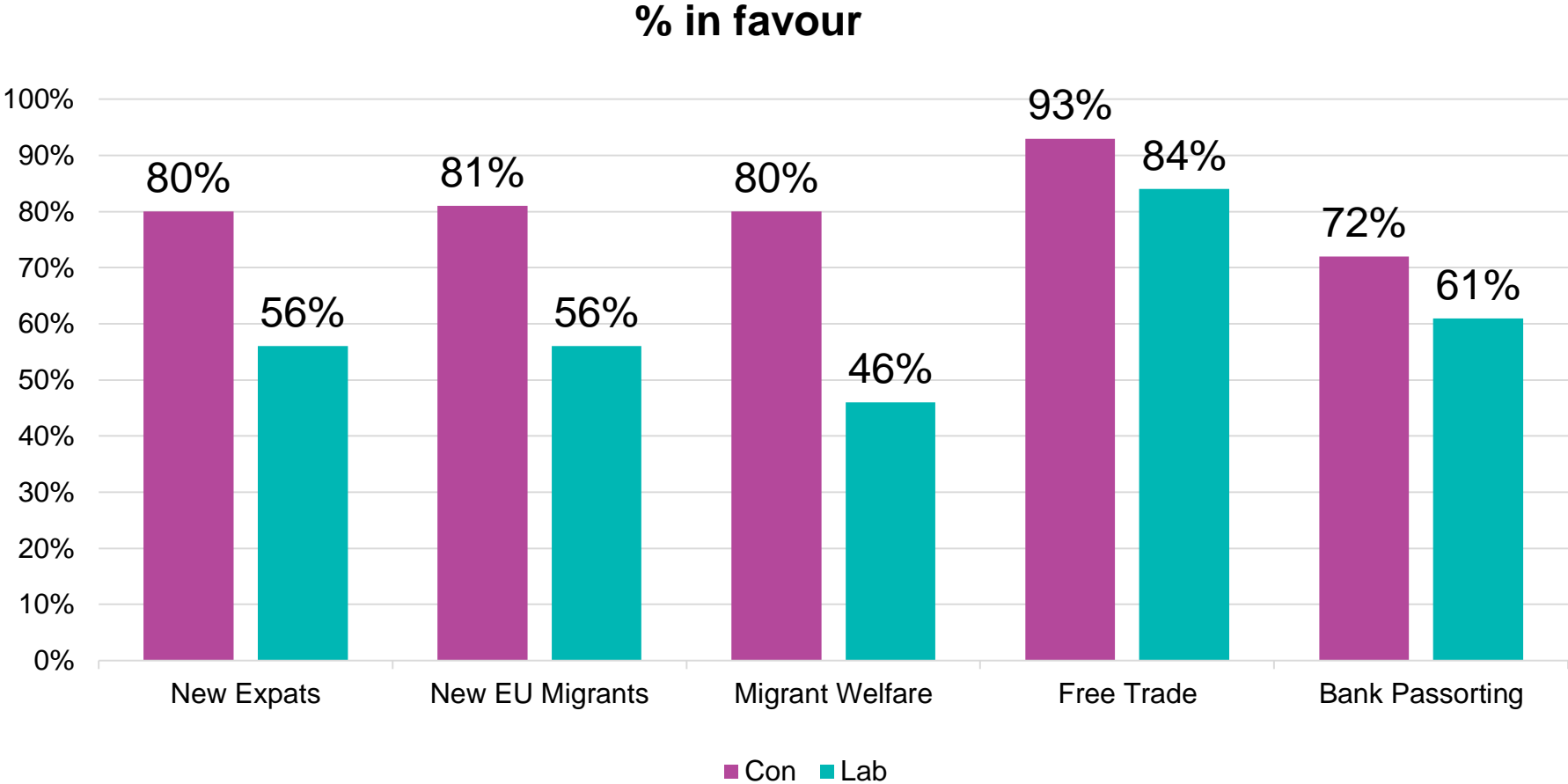


Leave and Remain on Soft Issues

% in favour



The Partisan Divide - 1



The Possible Trade-Off - 1

It has been argued that when Britain leaves the EU, British firms will only be allowed to continue to sell goods and services freely to people in the EU if people from the EU are still free to come here to live and work.

Do you think Britain should or should not allow people from the EU to freely come here to live and work in return for allowing British firms to sell goods and services freely in the EU.

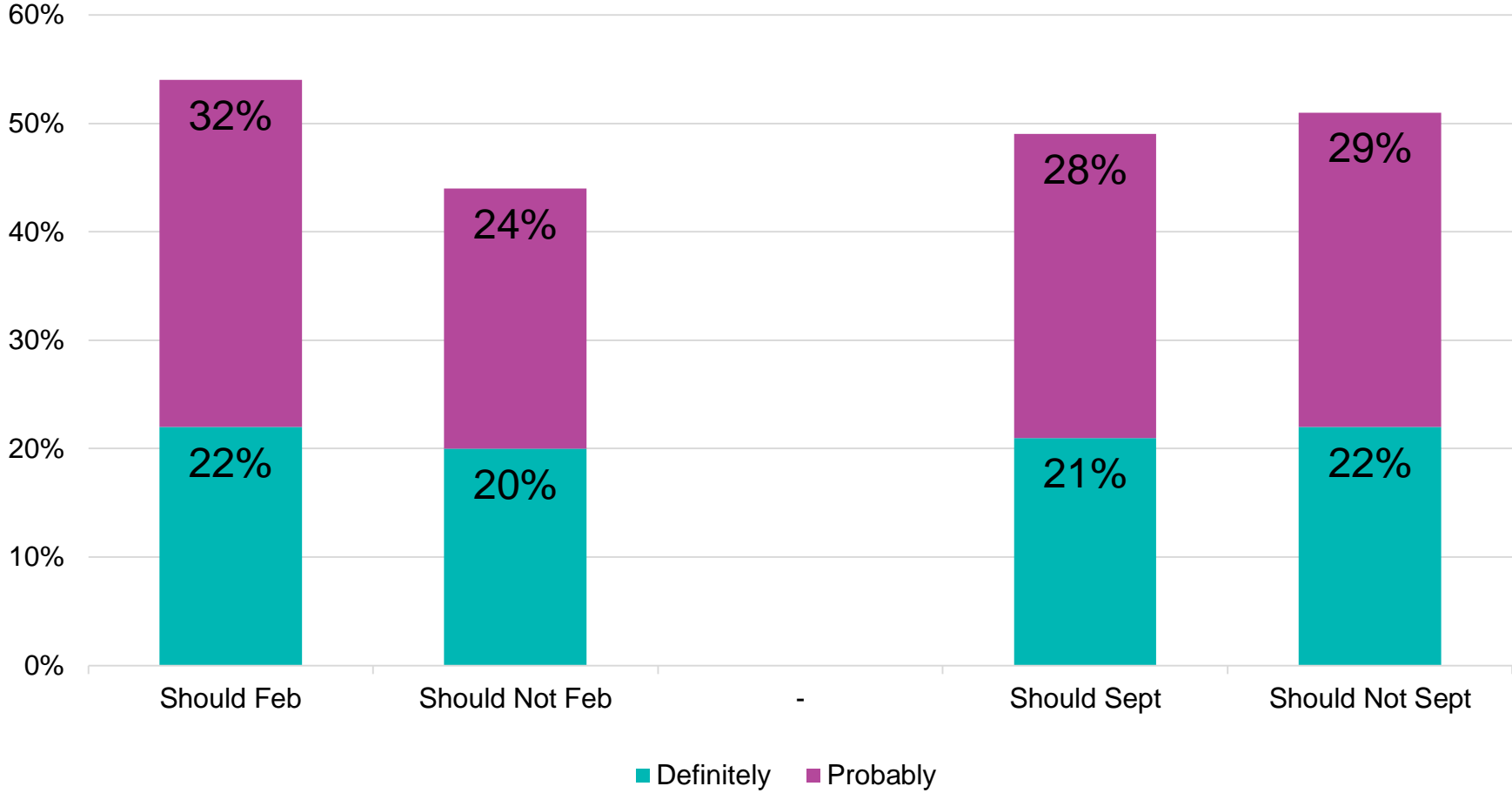
Definitely should allow people from the EU to come here to live and work

Probably should allow people from the EU to come here to live and work

Probably should not allow people from the EU to come here to live and work

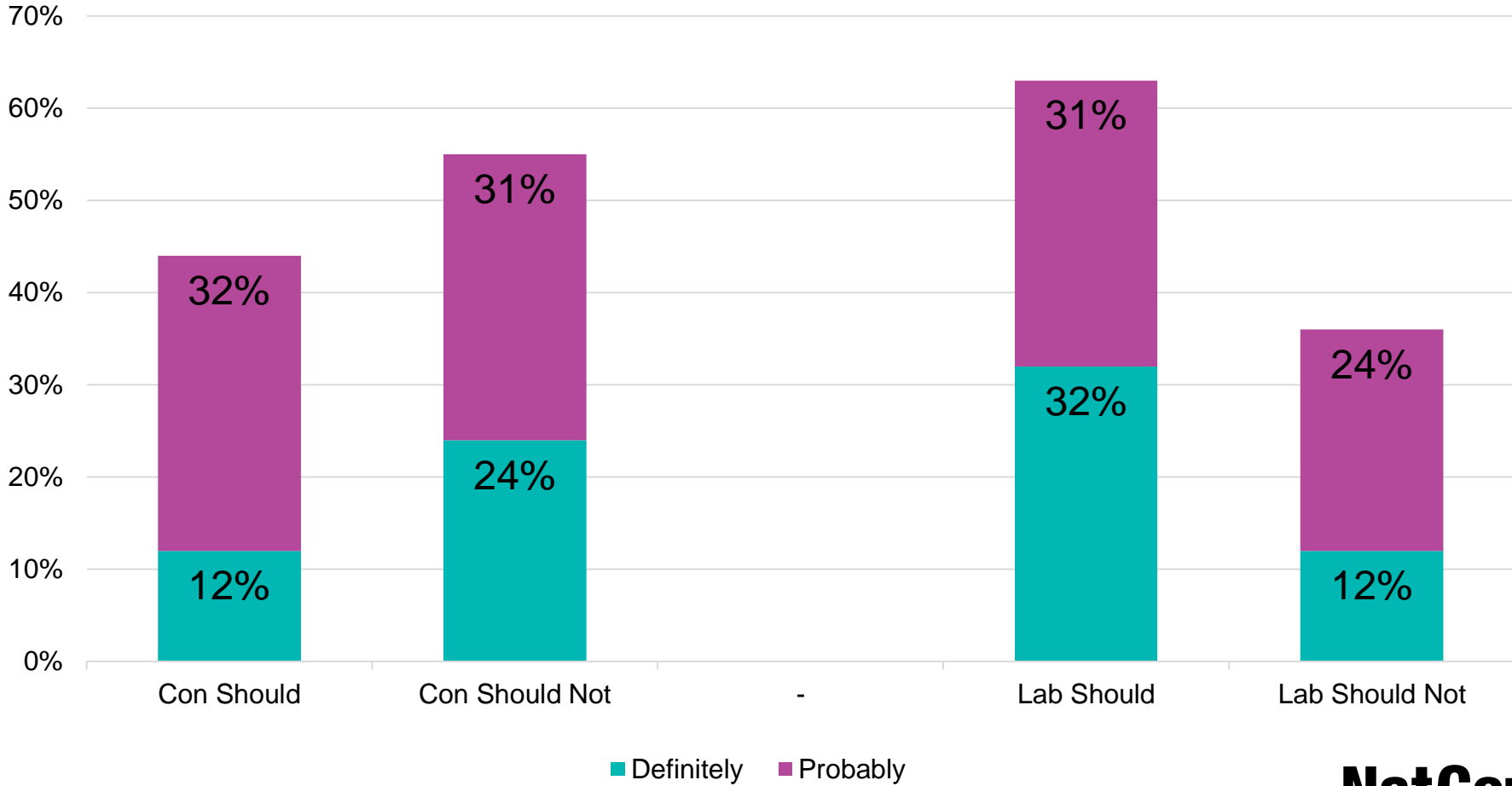
Definitely should not allow people from the EU to come here to live and work

The Possible Trade-Off - 2



Source: NatCen Mixed Mode Panel Sept. 10-11, 2014
NatCen
Social Research

A More Divided Set of Supporters?



Budgetary Matters - 1

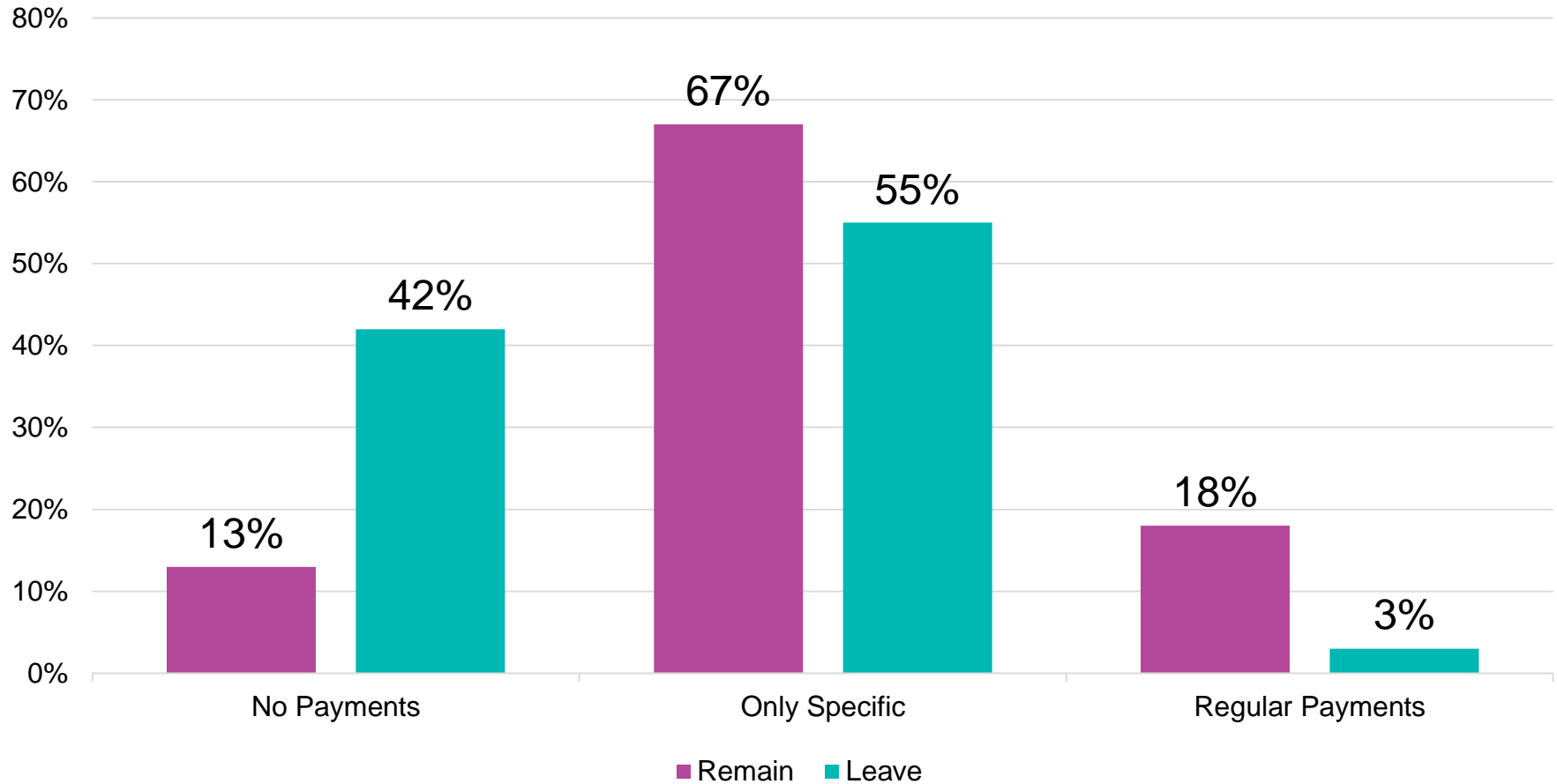
Which of the following comes closest to your view about Britain making payments into the EU Budget once it leaves the EU?

Britain should not make any payments into the EU Budget

Britain should only make payments for specific EU programmes, such as university student exchanges or grants for small businesses, in which it decides to participate

Britain should make a regular payment into the general EU Budget

Budgetary Matters - 2



Conclusion

Most voters, including at least half of Remain voters, want an end to freedom of movement

But most voters, including most Leave voters, back free trade (incl. bank passporting)

While on matters of consumer protection or health (though less so, employment) there is considerable support for the status quo

Con voters are especially likely to support both immigration control and free trade, and they are also most divided on which is the more important

Failure to deliver both could lead to disappointment

Contact

Guy Goodwin

Chief Executive

E. Guy.Goodwin@natcen.ac.uk

Visit us online, natcen.org.uk

NatCen

Social Research that works for society