

Ipsos UK Government priorities and milestones polling

May 2025

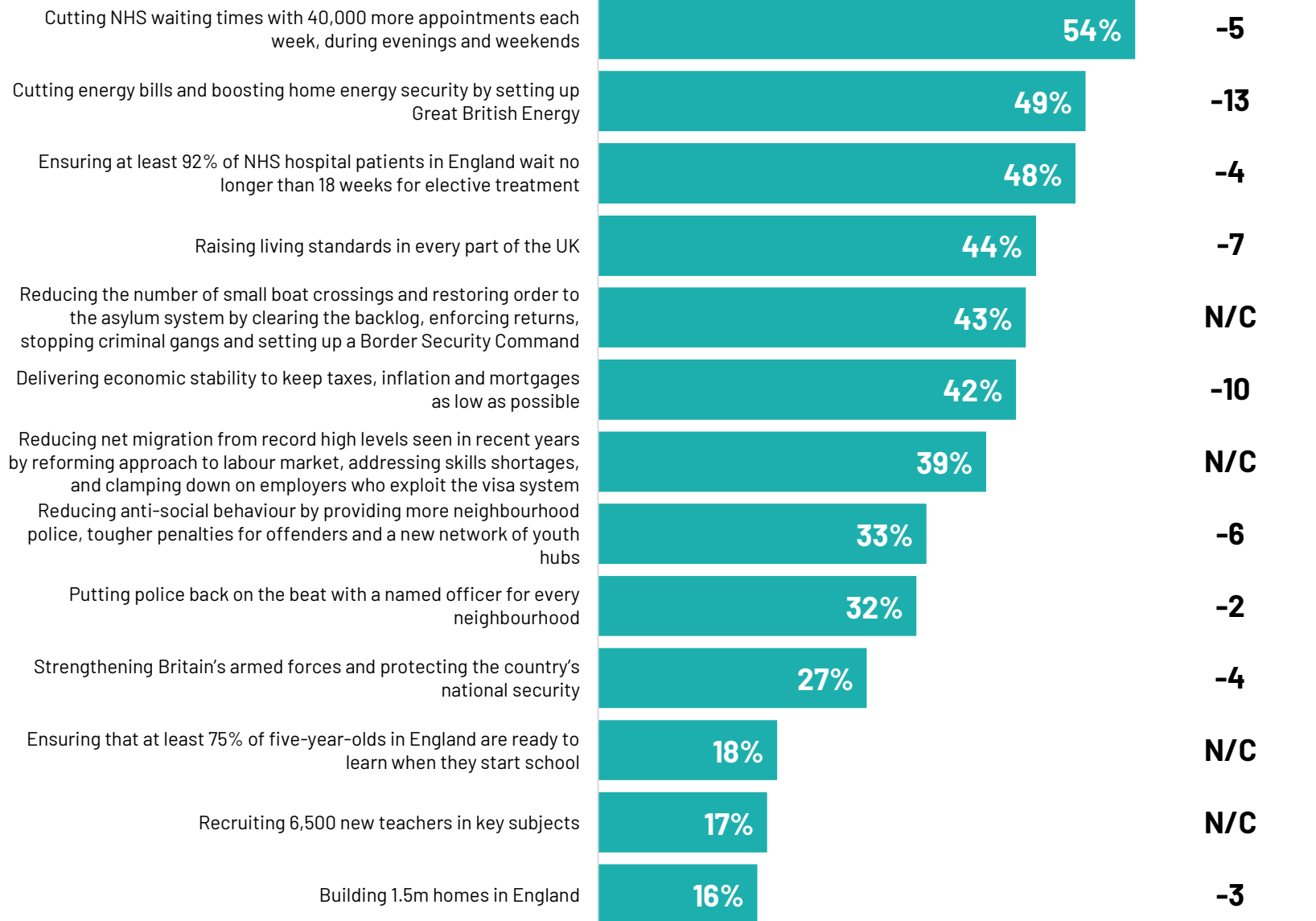
The government has set a number of priorities and milestones it wants to achieve by the end of this Parliament. We have tested public perceptions towards a range of these.

- Raising living standards in every part of the UK
- Delivering economic stability to keep taxes, inflation and mortgages as low as possible
- Building 1.5m homes in England
- Ensuring at least 92% of NHS hospital patients in England wait no longer than 18 weeks for elective treatment
- Putting police back on the beat with a named officer for every neighbourhood
- Recruiting 6,500 new teachers in key subjects
- Cutting energy bills and boosting home energy security by setting up Great British Energy
- Reducing net migration from the record high levels seen in recent years by reforming our approach to the labour market, addressing skills shortages here in the UK, and clamping down on employers who exploit the visa system
- Reducing the number of small boat crossings and restoring order to the asylum system by clearing the backlog, enforcing returns, stopping criminal gangs and setting up a Border Security Command
- Strengthening Britain's armed forces and protecting the country's national security
- Cutting NHS waiting times with 40,000 more appointments each week, during evenings and weekends
- Reducing anti-social behaviour by providing more neighbourhood police, tougher penalties for offenders and a new network of youth hubs
- Ensuring that at least 75% of five-year-olds in England are ready to learn when they start school

Cutting NHS waiting times is the most important priority for the public

Which of the below, if any, are the most important priorities for you?

Base: 1,084 Online British adults aged 18-75, 16-20 May 2025



Priorities related to the NHS and healthcare are most important to Labour and Liberal Democrat voters, whereas the main priority for Conservative and Reform UK voters is reducing the number of small boat crossings

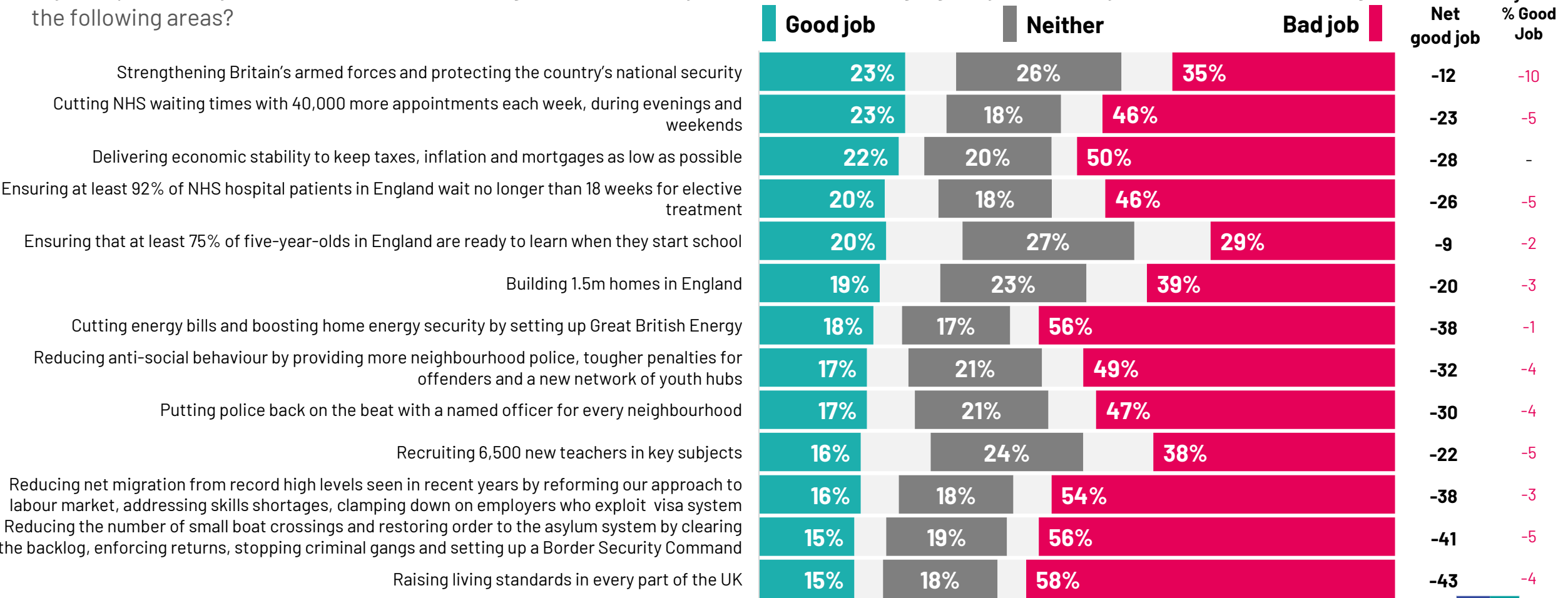
Which of the below, if any, are the most important priorities for you? Top 5 priorities by GE2024 vote

Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats*	Reform UK
Cutting NHS waiting times with 40,000 more appointments each week, during evenings and weekends 62%	Reducing the number of small boat crossings and restoring order to the asylum system by clearing the backlog, enforcing returns, stopping criminal gangs and setting up a Border Security Command 58%	Ensuring at least 92% of NHS hospital patients in England wait no longer than 18 weeks for elective treatment 61%	Reducing the number of small boat crossings and restoring order to the asylum system by clearing the backlog, enforcing returns, stopping criminal gangs and setting up a Border Security Command 75%
Raising living standards in every part of the UK 53%	Cutting NHS waiting times with 40,000 more appointments each week, during evenings and weekends 54%	Cutting NHS waiting times with 40,000 more appointments each week, during evenings and weekends 56%	Reducing net migration from the record high levels seen in recent years by reforming our approach to the labour market, addressing skills shortages here in the UK, and clamping down on employers who exploit the visa system 71%
Ensuring at least 92% of NHS hospital patients in England wait no longer than 18 weeks for elective treatment 52%	Ensuring at least 92% of NHS hospital patients in England wait no longer than 18 weeks for elective treatment 51%	Raising living standards in every part of the UK 53%	Cutting energy bills and boosting home energy security by setting up Great British Energy 49%
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Delivering economic stability to keep taxes, inflation and mortgages as low as possible 46%	Cutting energy bills and boosting home energy security by setting up Great British Energy 49%	Delivering economic stability to keep taxes, inflation and mortgages as low as possible/ Reducing anti-social behaviour by providing more neighbourhood police , tougher penalties for offenders and a new network of youth hubs 43%	Delivering economic stability to keep taxes, inflation and mortgages as low as possible 42%



Labour are seen as doing a net bad job on almost all their priorities with evaluation of most milestones and priorities worsening since March

In your opinion, do you think the current Labour government led by Keir Starmer is doing a good job or a bad job, if either, at delivering in the following areas?



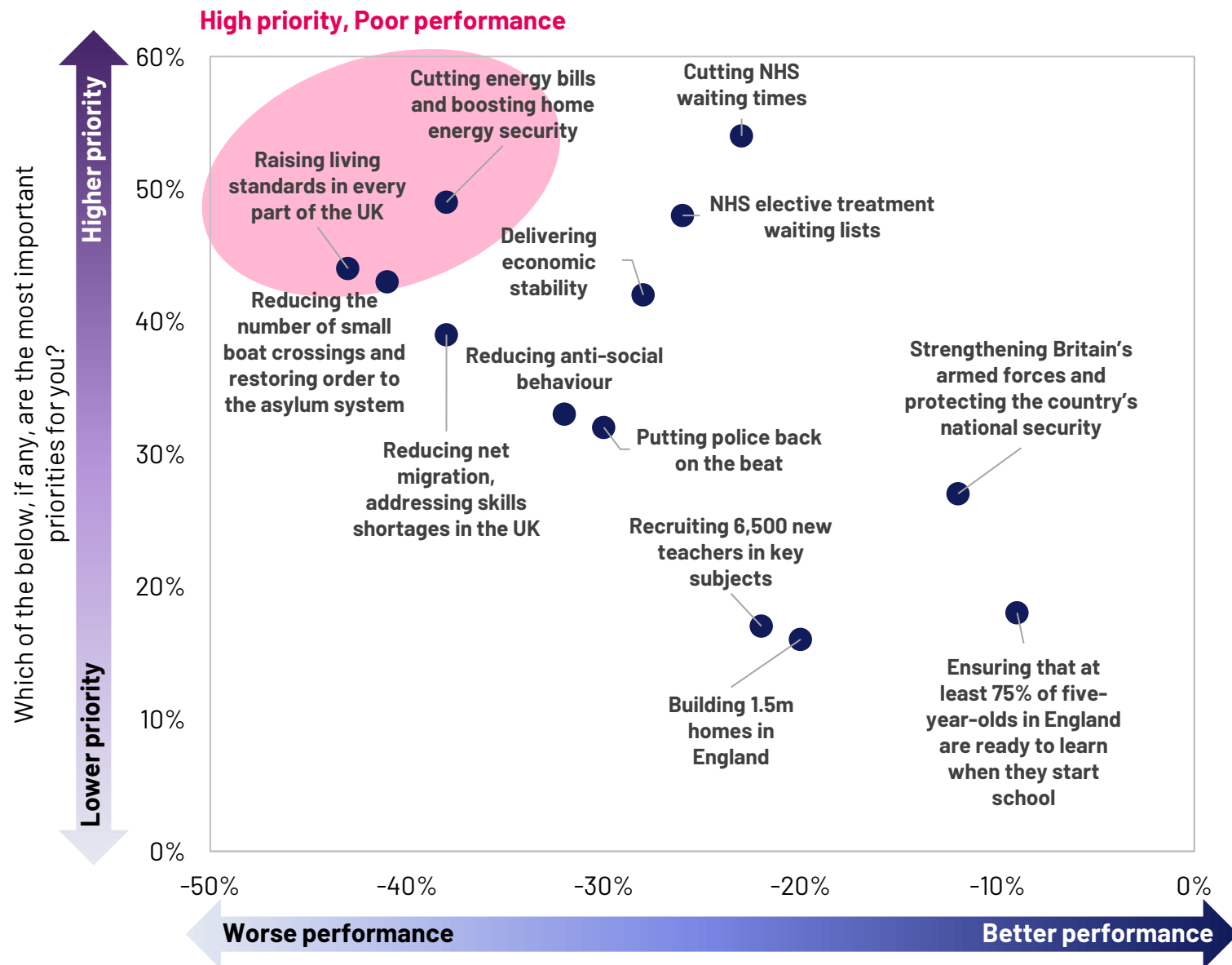
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Performance is rated lowest on issues that are most important to the public: living standards, small boats and energy bills

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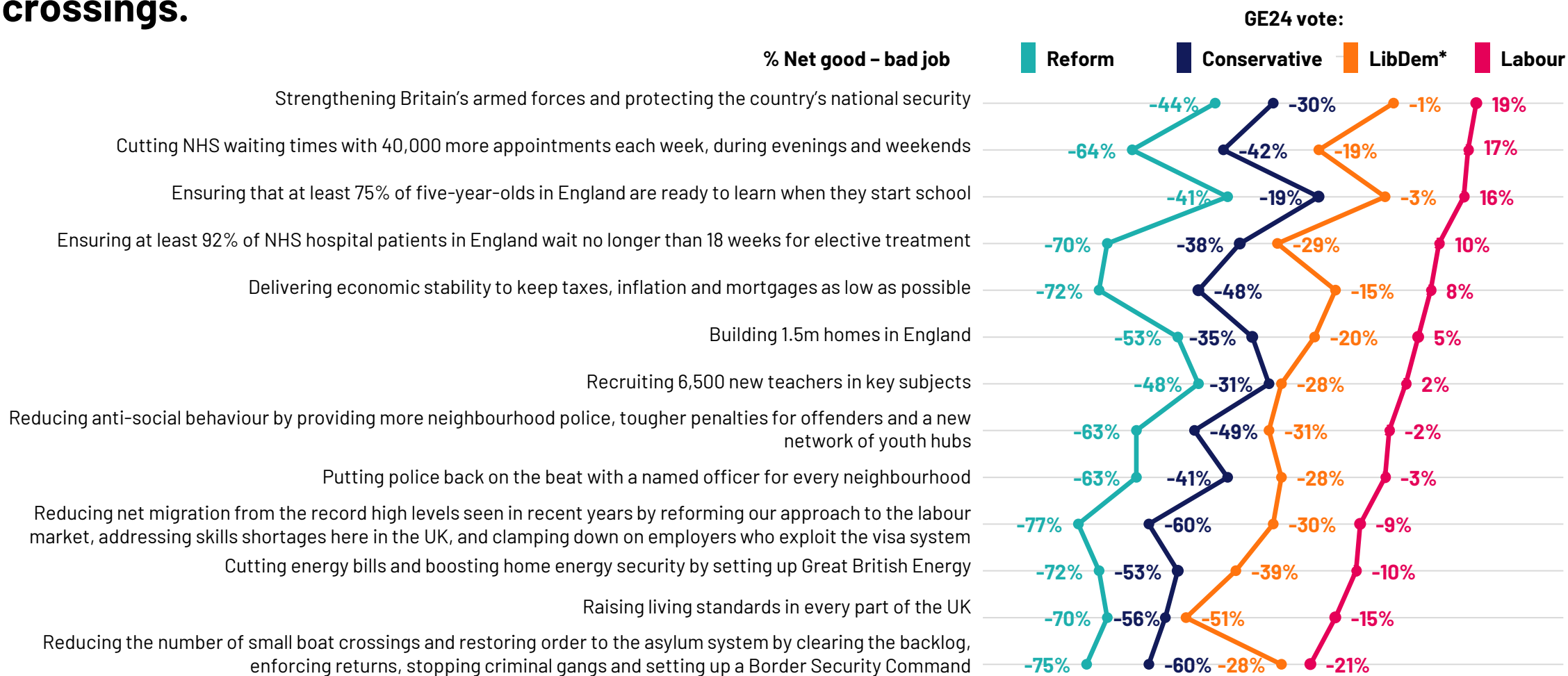
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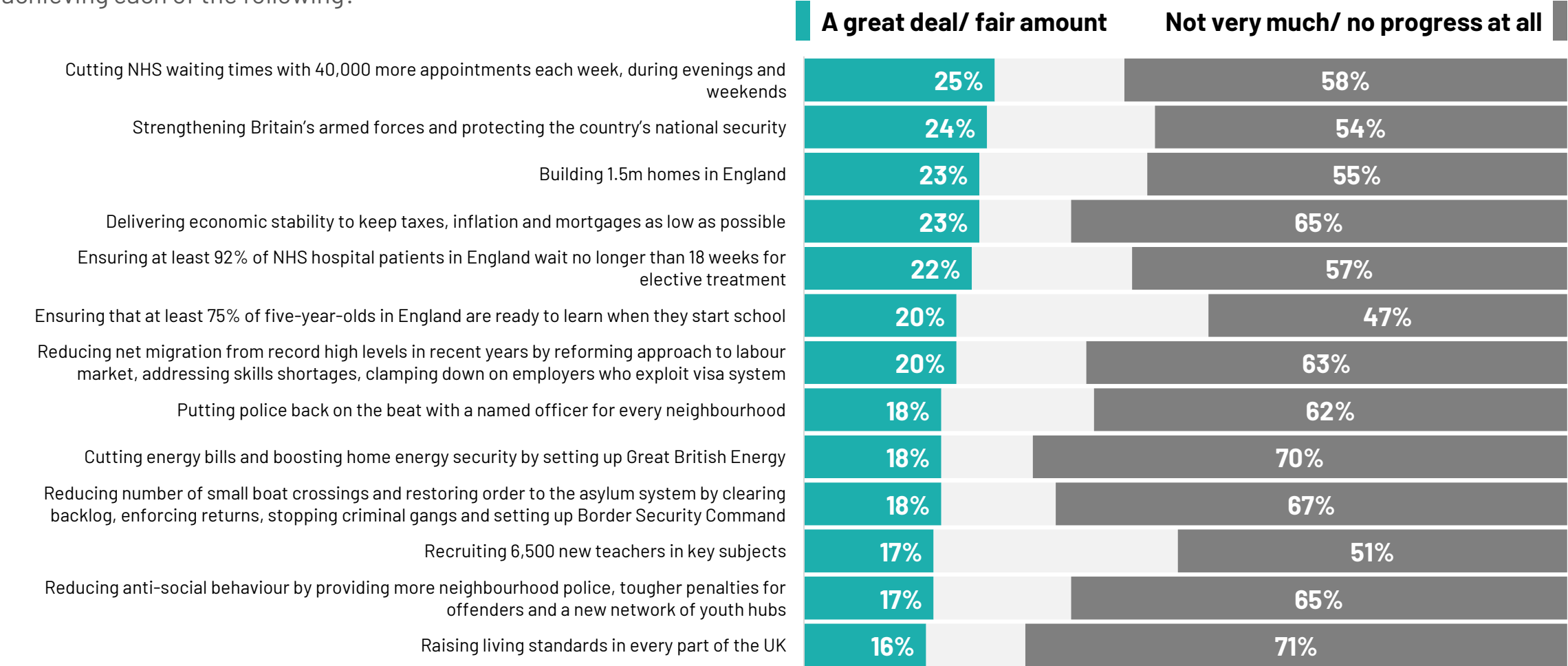
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Whilst Labour voters are generally more positive about the government’s performance, they only think Labour are doing a net good job on seven of their priorities. Reform UK voters are most negative, especially on issues like reducing net migration and small boat crossings.



A large proportion of the public say they have not noticed much progress by the government on any of their milestones since they were elected

Since the last election in July 2024, how much progress, if any, have you noticed being made by the current Labour government towards achieving each of the following?



Base: 1,084 Online British adults aged 18-75, 16-20 May 2025



For more information

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