



German-British
Chamber of Industry & Commerce
Deutsch-Britische
Industrie- und Handelskammer

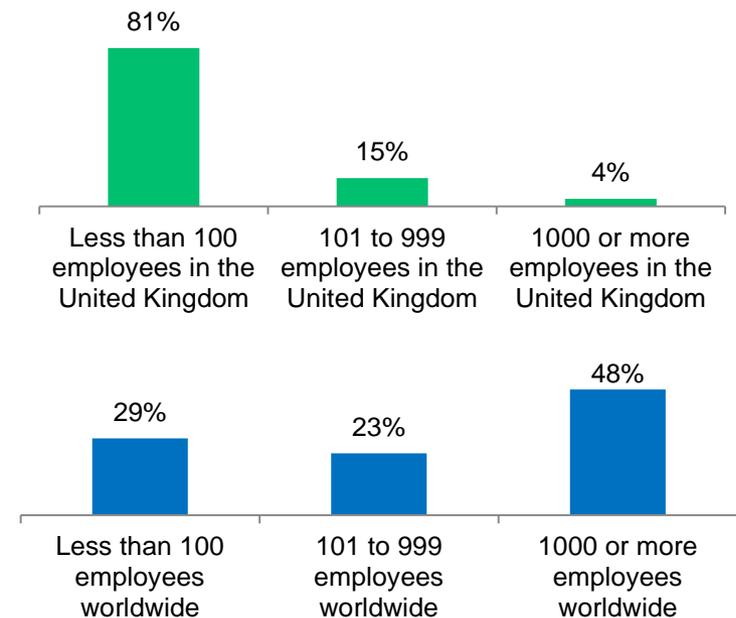
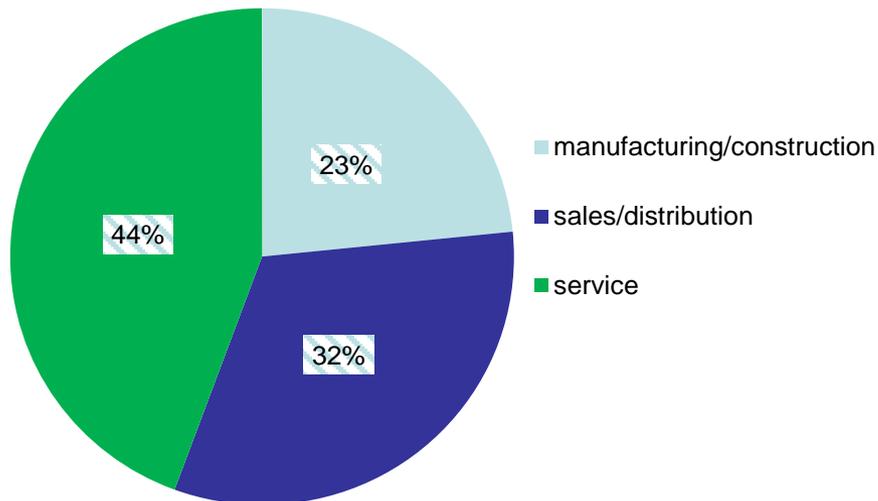
German-British Business Outlook Spring 2019

Summary:

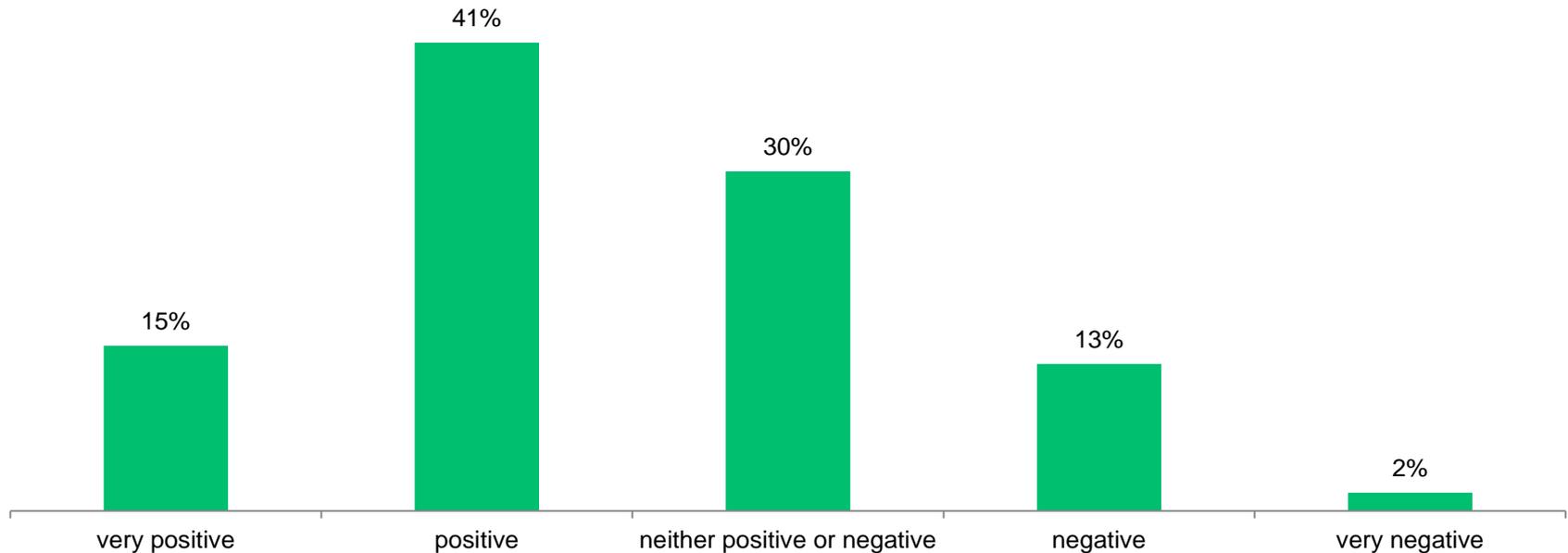
German-British business community is doing quite well in the current climate but lacks confidence in the UK's future economic prospects

The survey and its participants:

The results are based on 124 online interviews conducted between 24 and 30 April 2019 with companies from the German-British business community, which have operations in the UK

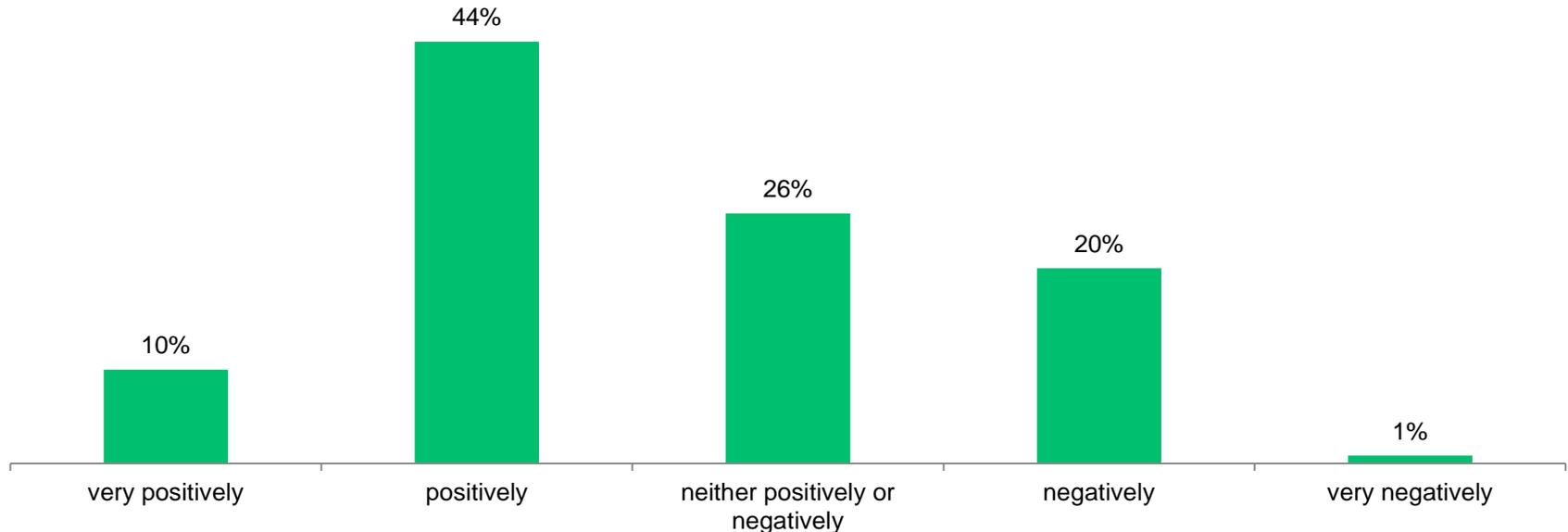


How would you describe the current situation of your company's operations in the UK?



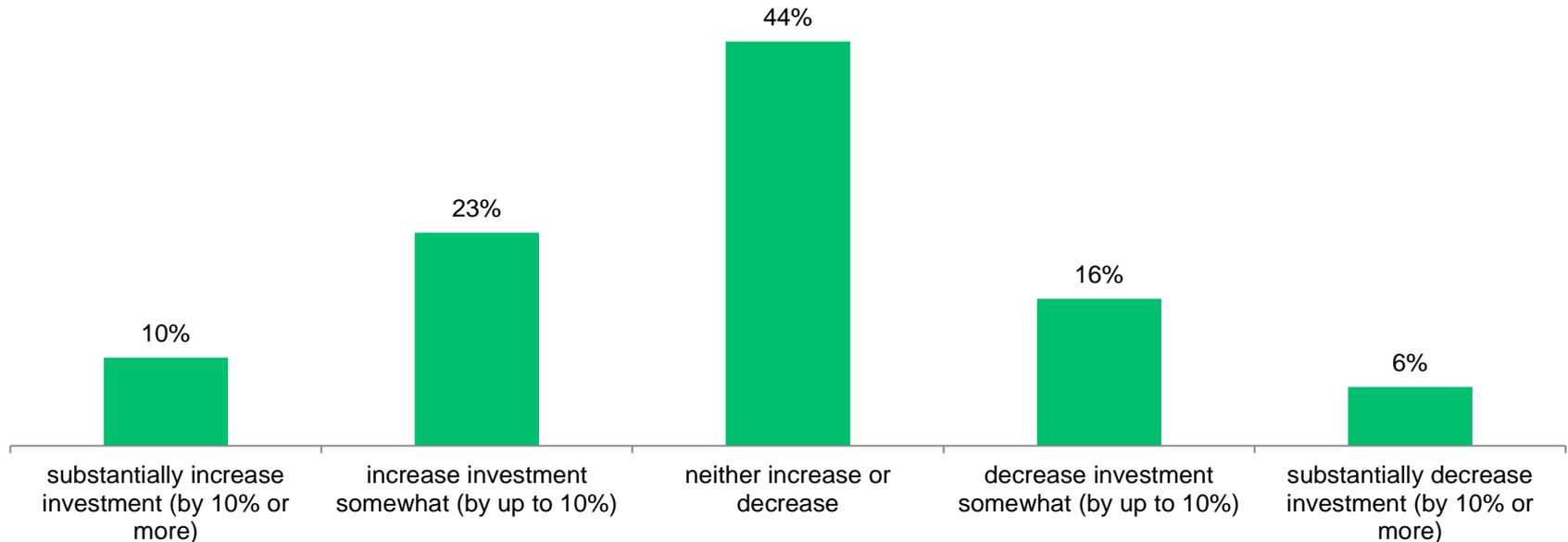
Independent of the Brexit uncertainty, a majority of companies view their own situation as positive (only 15% take a negative view).

How do you expect your UK operations to perform over the next twelve months?



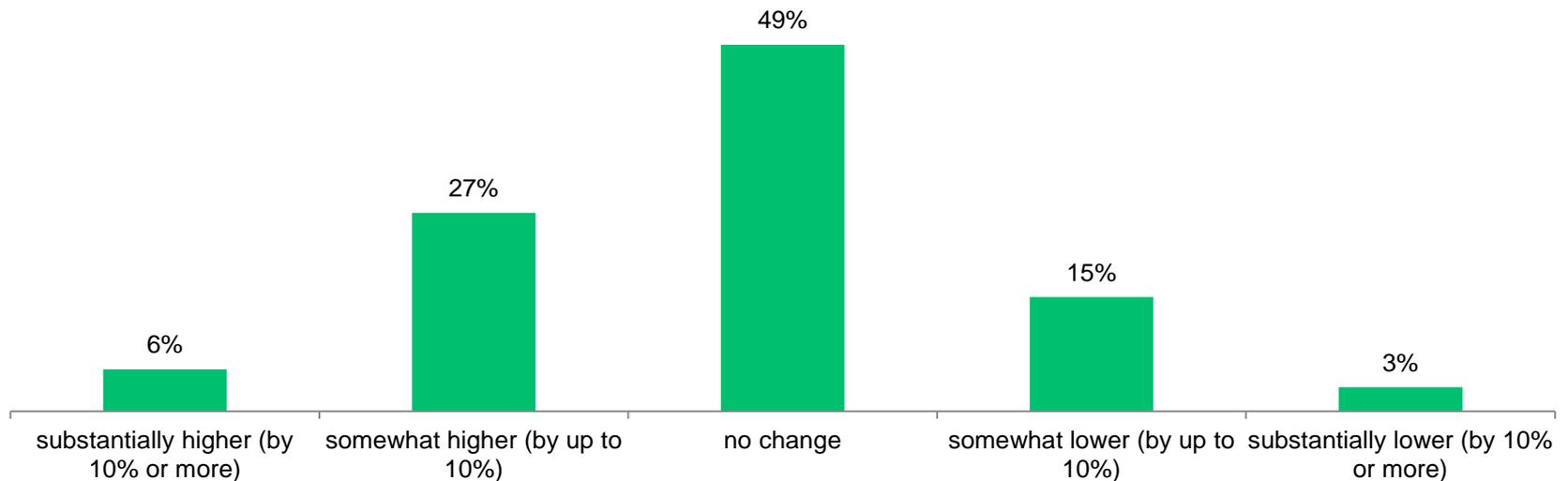
Again, with regard to the short-term outlook, companies are positive and only a fifth takes a negative view.

What are your investment plans for the next twelve months?



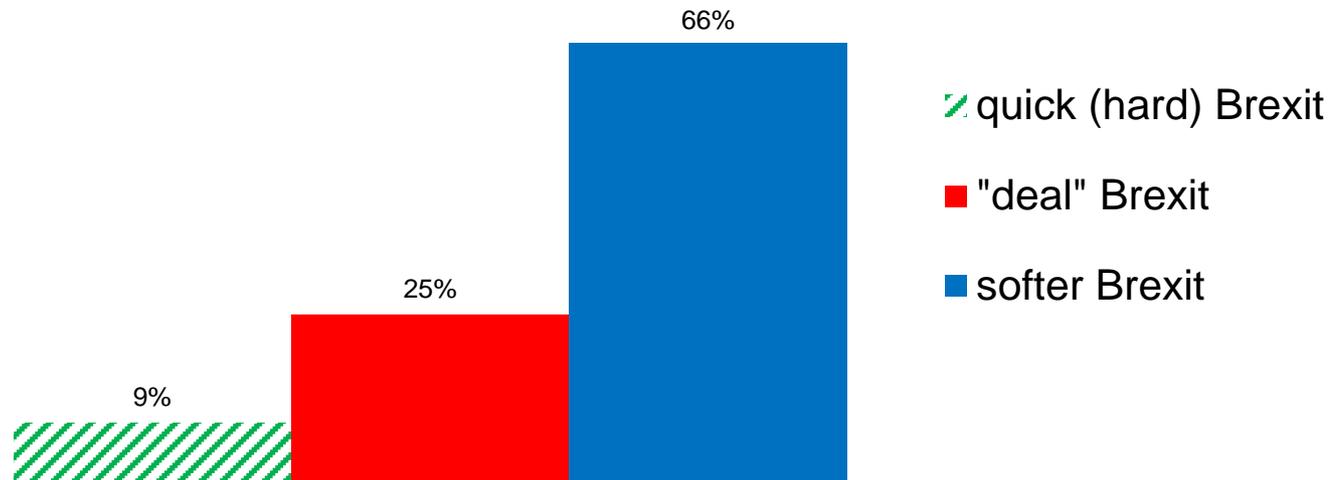
Despite the positive take on their own company's operations in the UK, only a third expects to increase investment in the near future. Most companies take a wait and see approach and a quarter plans to decrease their investment.

What will your staffing level look like in twelve months' time?



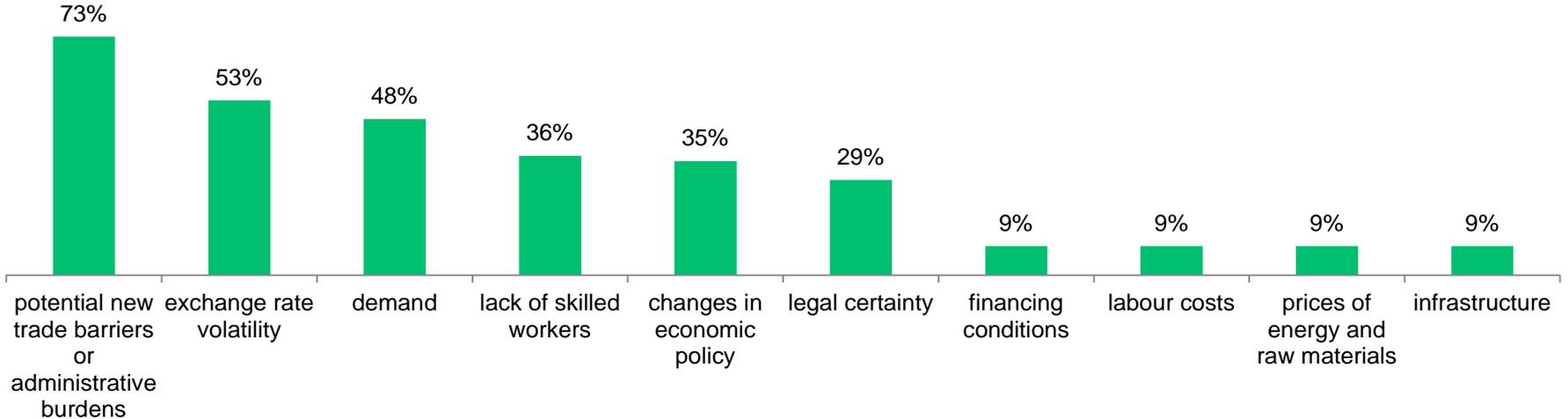
In line with future investment, only a third of respondents expect to increase the number of employees. Nearly half take a wait and see approach and a fifth expects to reduce staffing levels.

Given the current and potentially prolonged uncertainty surrounding the Brexit negotiations, what is the most preferable outcome for your company?



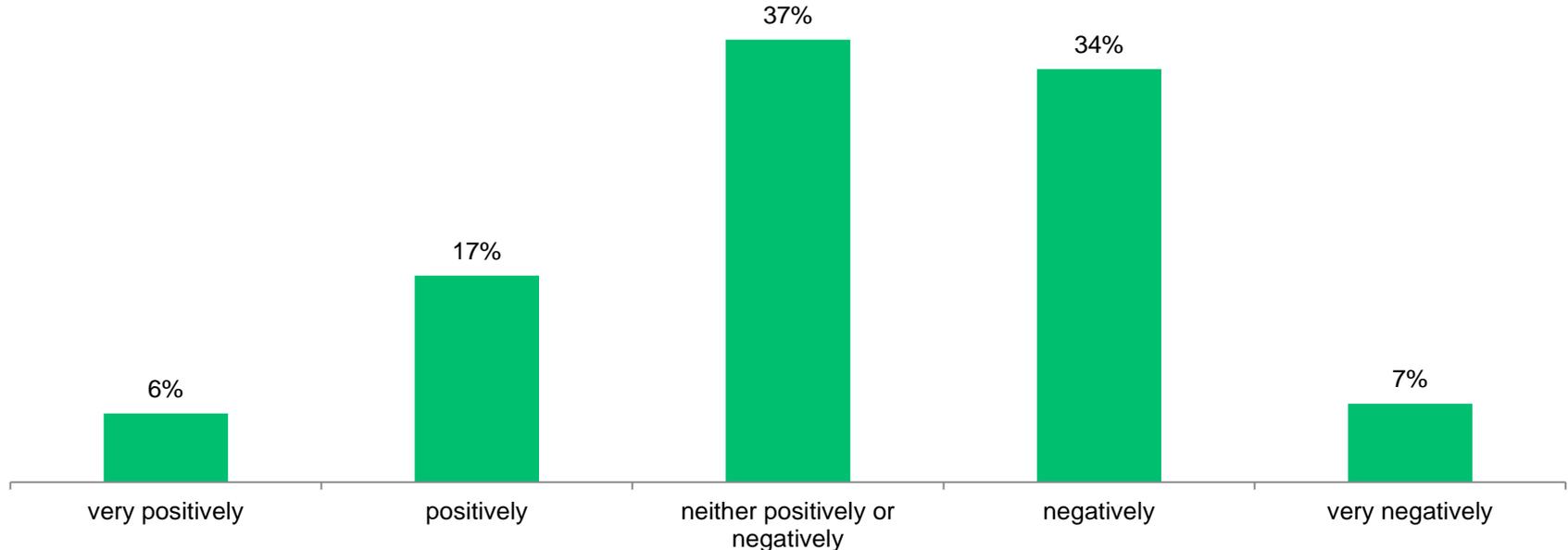
Nearly two thirds of respondents are willing to accept a much longer political uncertainty if it leads to a softer Brexit based on a customs union and close Single Market alignment.

What are the biggest risks for your operations in the UK over the next twelve months?



In line with the desire for a soft Brexit, potential new trade barriers or administrative burdens are perceived as the highest risk for their UK operations. Exchange rate volatility and lack of demand follow in 2nd and 3rd position.

How do you see the United Kingdom's economy performing in the medium-term? (3 to 5 years)



Despite their own positive current situation, companies are far more wary about the overall economic prospects of the UK in the medium-term.