



RESEARCH REPORT

2024 Community Survey Cairns Regional Council

October 2024



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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over 10,000 Cairns residents participated in the 2024 ‘Our Cairns’ survey, which was conducted in July/August 2024.

Among the key findings:

Vision for Cairns

Cairns was rated strongly as a place to live and visit (averaging 7.21 and 7.88 respectively on a 0-10 scale), but not as a place to own or operate a business (average 5.37).

Residents would most like to see healthcare and social assistance, tourism, education and training prioritised for development. The complex question most sought to be tackled (from a prompted list) was how to future proof the economy and protect it from shocks to tourism (prioritised by 30% of residents). This was followed by how to balance the need for agricultural land against the need for additional housing (23%).

When asked to provide other ideas, 29% of respondents focused on crime and anti-social behaviour, and 18% on environmental concerns.

Council Performance

Council satisfaction ratings were mixed. Almost two in five residents (38%) thought Council was doing a good or excellent job, against just 21% feeling it was poor or very poor. However, in relation to performance of Councillors, 31% rated this as good or excellent, against 27% poor or very poor.

Communication

When it came to receiving information about the Council’s activities, decisions, or community engagement opportunities, online channels were significantly more popular than traditional media.

Facebook was the preferred way to receive Council information for half of the residents surveyed. The Council website was the next

most preferred (41%), eNewsletter (32%), and My Cairns app (26%).

Topical Questions

On the topic of fluoride, 48% of residents were supportive of adding fluoride to the local water, against 37% opposed. These ratios are virtually unchanged on 2016 results.

Residents were evenly split on increased rates for underutilised land in developed areas and higher charges for short term accommodation but favoured the Esplanade dining precinct becoming a shared zone. One third of residents did not want an additional bin for green waste.

Liveability

More than half of residents felt that spending time in public parks and natural areas; and using tracks and shared paths for walking/exercising, enhance their lives greatly. More than half of residents felt that creative activities should be an important part of learning.

The majority of residents were happy with Council’s efforts to protect character places and buildings (70% satisfied), provide a liveable urban environment (70%), provide a socially inclusive environment (74%), and protect and conserve the natural environment (69%).

Environmental issues

There were mixed views on the environment, with 40% of residents stating to be “very” or “extremely” aware of environmental challenges facing Cairns, while a further 36% stated they were “moderately” aware.

However, only 24% supported an environmental levy to fund local environmental projects, while 56% opposed this initiative. Were such a levy to be implemented, more than half of residents



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

wanted waste management and recycling initiatives prioritised.

Urban Change

Residents struggled with the tension between perceived overdevelopment and the need for more affordable housing. When asked if they supported residential development in their suburb, 44% supported against 27% opposed.

However, only 40% agreed with the need for higher urban density, against 38% disagreeing.

Major Events

When asked what major events Cairns would most benefit from, more than half of residents said music events, ahead of broader festivals and spectator sporting events.

Crime and Community Safety

Four in 10 residents (43%) felt that CitySafe patrols were not effective, against 32% feeling they were effective. A further 41% were not aware of public space safety patrols.

Disaster Preparedness

Some 85% of residents said they knew their flood zone, 79% knew their storm tide zone, and 66% had a disaster emergency kit at home.



2. INTRODUCTION

2.1. BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES

Taverner Research (TRG) was commissioned by Cairns Regional Council (CRC) to conduct its 'Our Cairns' survey in 2024. The survey tracks Council's performance in service delivery, identifies priority areas and evaluates Council's customer service, communication and community priorities.

The objectives for the survey process were to:

- Seek feedback from the Cairns community on their satisfaction with specific Council facilities and services, identifying priorities and priority improvement areas
- Benchmark results against previous surveys (wherever possible)
- Seek feedback from the Cairns community about a range of local issues.

2.2. METHODOLOGY

The 2024 'Our Cairns' Survey collected 10,518 responses, mainly via an opt-in single URL online survey. To qualify, respondents had to be aged 15+ and live in the Cairns Regional Council Local Government Area. Median length of time for participation was just under 19 minutes.

The reported results have a margin of error of +/-0.91% at the 95% confidence level. This means that if the survey was repeated 100 times, in 95 times the results will be within 0.91% of true population value. This is a very robust sample and reliable for Council's planning and reporting.

Promotion of the Survey

The survey was fielded primarily online, though a hardcopy alternative was also provided (with 550 cases collected via hardcopy). The survey was available from 16 July to 2 September 2024 inclusive. It was promoted via:

- **Social media**
 - Meta (Facebook & Instagram) **paid ad campaign** from 17 July to 30 August:
 - Reach: 98,211
 - Impressions: 634,797
 - Link clicks: 10,069
 - Clicks: 57,910



2. INTRODUCTION

- **Facebook (7x organic posts)**
 - 17 July – Mayoral video to launch the survey
 - 19 July – survey outage
 - 22 July – “Are private security patrols reducing anti-social behaviour?”
 - 24 July – “How much will you be willing to pay for a green bin?”
 - 29 July – “Do you support adding fluoride to the city’s water supply?”
 - 6 August – “Should Council charge more to short-term accommodation?”
 - 23 August – “Last chance”.
- **Website:**
 - Media release – online from 17 July
 - Our Cairns 2024 page
 - Have Your Say Page – online from 17 July to 30 August
- **Council EDMs:**
 - Business newsletter (38,000+ local ABN holders)
 - Our Cairns Survey launched – 17 July
 - July edition – 26 July
 - August edition – 15 August
 - Living in Cairns (2,193 subscribers)
 - July edition – 26 July
 - Go Clubs (336 subscribers)
 - July edition – 31 July.
- **Use of QR codes:**
 - Rates insert (late-July)
 - Pull up banner at community engagement
 - Postcards & posters
 - Cairns Local News newspaper ads
 - 884 QR scans.



2. INTRODUCTION

- **Other:**
 - 33 days of staffed engagement (Cairns Show, shopping centres, Positive Ageing Expo)
 - Rates insert – 63,000+ letter boxes
 - Local radio advertising
 - Community newsletters
 - Stakeholder EDMs.

Cleaning of Online Data

As the 2024 'Our Cairns' survey had an opt-in ('all comers') sampling approach, there was a risk that residents would participate numerous times to push a particular point of view and skew results. To reduce this effect, duplicate IP addresses (except known CRC ones e.g. library) were investigated, and where there was heavy suspicion of multiple voting, the excess cases were removed.

Comparisons with Previous Surveys

Some comparisons of the 2024 results with those in the 2016 survey were possible, but the 2020 questionnaire was entirely different. In figures/tables that show 2016 results, options presented to 2016 respondents that were different to 2024 are omitted.

2.3. HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

Base Sizes

Due to the substantial size of the questionnaire, the final dataset included non-completers. There was also inclusion of hardcopy self-completion cases (where respondents could not be compelled to answer each question). Added together this meant base sizes were not stable or predictable (however, the differences are quite minor). Base sizes for 2024 were reported at each figure/table.

Statistical Differences

Differences between groups are described as significant differences if they reached statistical significance using an error rate of $\alpha=0.05$. This means that if repeated independent random samples of similar size were obtained from a population in which there was no actual difference, less than 5% of the samples would show a difference as large or larger than the one obtained.

Statistical significance is more often compared between sub-groups, however in some situations statistical significance is measured between response items within the total sample. This is clearly noted in the commentary.

The use of the term 'significant' throughout this report indicates statistical significance. The report may also use the terms 'more likely' and 'less likely' to indicate statistically significant differences.



2. INTRODUCTION

Subgroups

Comparison tests are used to test if there are statistically significant differences in 2024 survey results based on the demographic profile of respondents. Subgroup analysis was conducted using the following demographic questions:

- Gender
- Age
- Length of time lived in the Local Government Area
- Length of time plan to stay in the Local Government Area.

Sub-group commentary is shown in italics throughout the report, to differentiate it from other findings.

The Effect of Rounding

Note that where two or more responses have been combined the sum of the combination may be different (+/- 1%) to the sum of the individual items due to rounding.



2. INTRODUCTION

2.4. SAMPLE PROFILE

To obtain a clear view of the sample's profile and to conduct comparison tests, demographic characteristics were asked. The following tables detail the profile of the sample. Age and gender have been compared to results from 2016 (length of time have lived/expect to live in LGA were not asked in 2016). The 2024 age and gender proportions were very similar to 2016.

Table 1 Sample Profile – Gender

	2016	2024
Male	43%	42%
Female	57%	55%
Other/Non-binary/Refused	-	3%

Table 2 Sample Profile – Age

	2016	2024
15 to 24	3%	4%
25 to 34	15%	13%
35 to 44	21%	21%
45 to 54	23%	20%
55 to 64	19%	20%
65 to 74	13%	15%
75 to 84	3%	5%
85 and over	0%	0.4%
Prefer not to say	-	1%

Table 3 Sample Profile - How Long Lived in LGA/Plan to Stay (2024)

	Lived in LGA	Plan to stay
Less than 1 year	3%	1%
1 to 5 years	15%	6%
6 to 10 years	14%	9%
11 to 20 years	23%	15%
More than 20 years	45%	53%
Rather not say/Don't know	1%	16%



3. VISION FOR CAIRNS

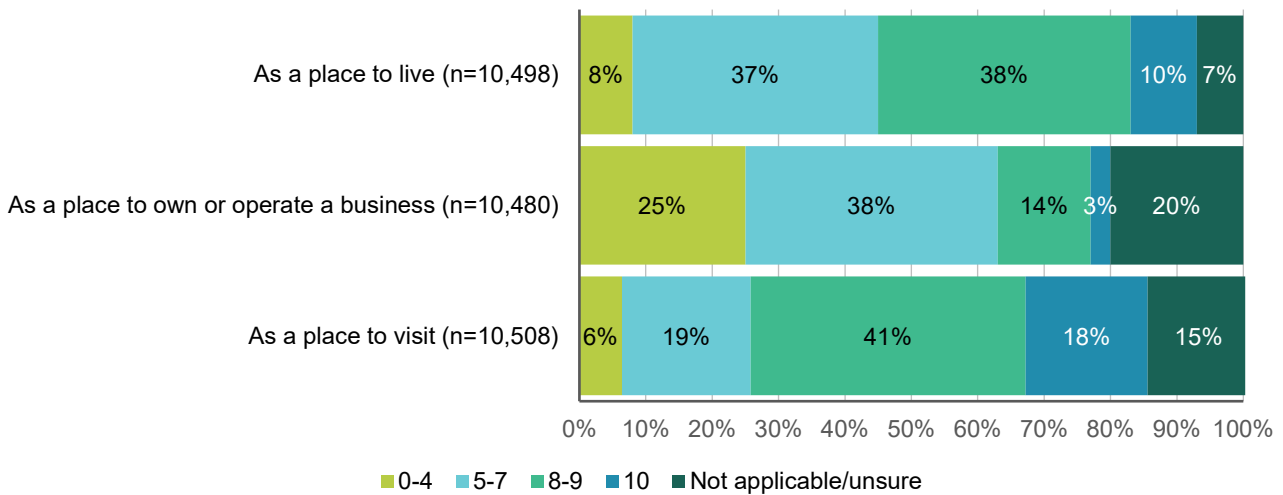
After the introductory demographic questions, respondents were asked a series of questions about how they felt about the Cairns region, including sectors and economic activities to prioritise.

When the 0-10 scales were expressed as mean (i.e. average) scores, Cairns was rated 7.88 out of 10 as a place to visit, 7.21 as a place to live, and 5.37 as a place to operate a business. As shown in **Figure 1**, below, opinion was quite polarised on Cairns as a place to own or operate a business – but solidly supportive on the other two measures.

Cairns was rated higher as a place to live by male residents surveyed than by females, and by those who intended to stay in the region 20+ years. Each age group rated Cairns higher on this than the age group younger than them (i.e. positivity increased with each age bracket). Cairns was rated higher as a place to operate a business by males, those aged 55+ and those who intended to stay in the region 20+ years. Cairns was rated higher as a place to visit by residents aged 65+ and those who had lived in the region for less than 20 years.

Figure 1 Rate Cairns

Q6. On a scale of 0-10, how would you rate Cairns in the following areas?



As shown in **Figure 2** (next page), nearly half of respondents considered Liveability to be among their three most important themes to ensure the region meets the needs of the community now and into the future.

Female residents surveyed were more likely than males to say health care, environment, housing availability, sustainability and education. Responses for health care; and waste, water and energy increased with each successive age group.

Conversely, responses for housing availability decreased with each successive age group.



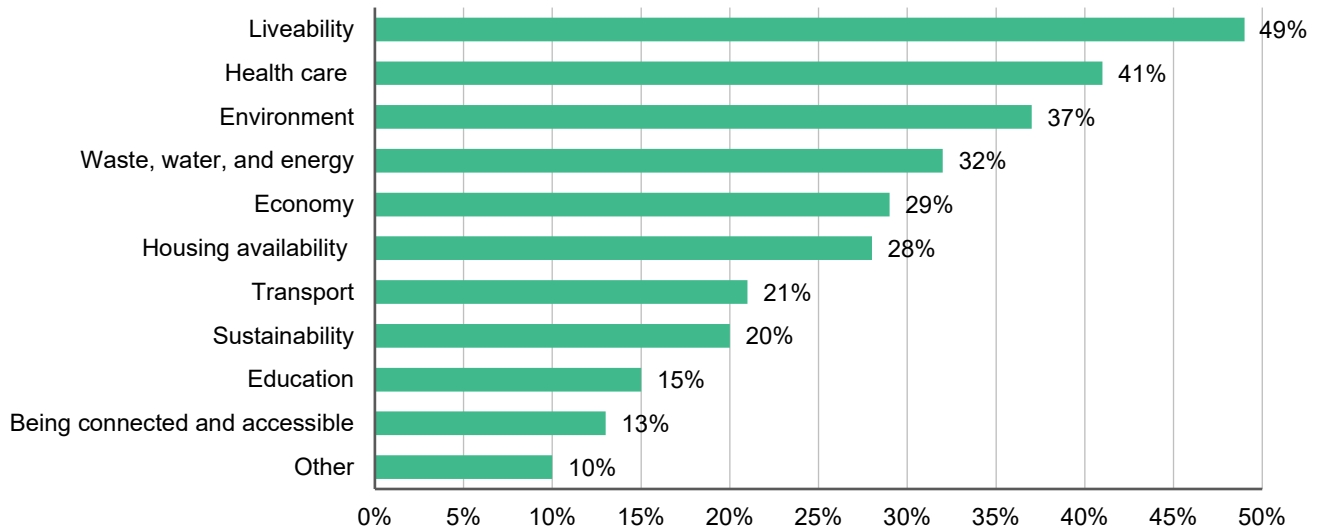
3. VISION FOR CAIRNS

Residents who intended to stay in the region less than 20 years were more likely to say Environment; Housing availability; Transport; Sustainability; and Being connected and accessible. Residents who intended to stay more than 20 years were more likely to say Health care; Waste, water and energy; and Economy.

Figure 2 Three Things Most Important (2024)

Q7. What are the three things most important to you to ensure our region meets the needs of the community now and into the future?

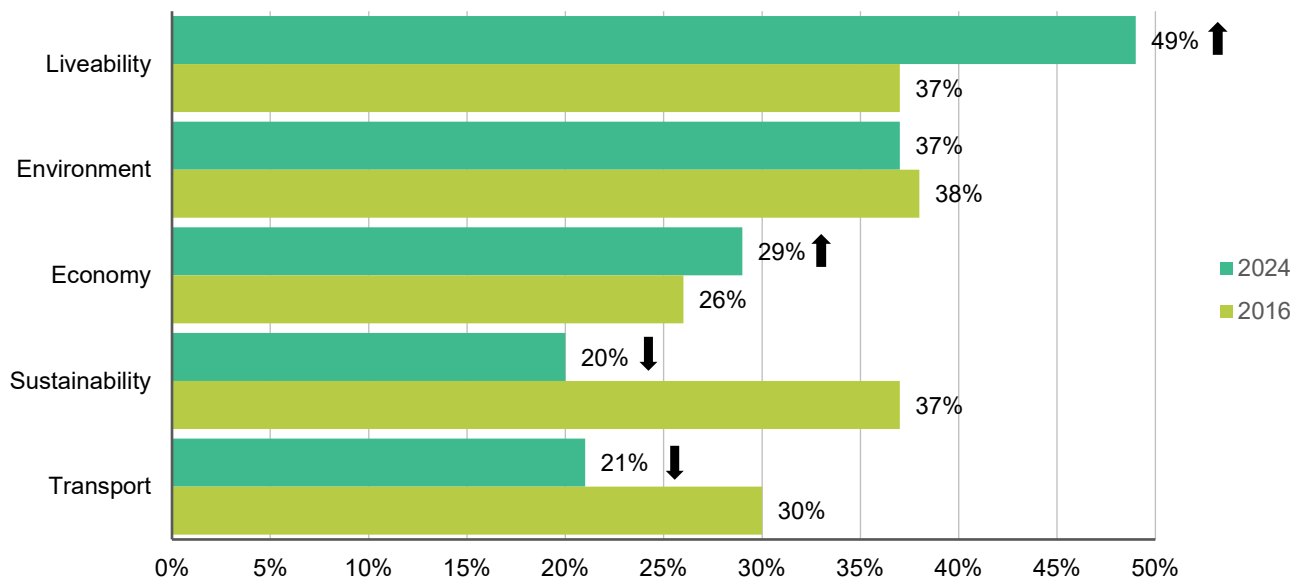
Base: All responses 2024 (n=10,509)



As shown in **Figure 3** below, nominating the three most important things was also asked about in 2016, so some of the responses could be compared. The arrows show what was significantly higher and lower between these two years, with Environment being quite a stable result.

Figure 3 Most Important (2016 vs. 2024)

Q7 (2024), Q12 (2016)





3. VISION FOR CAIRNS

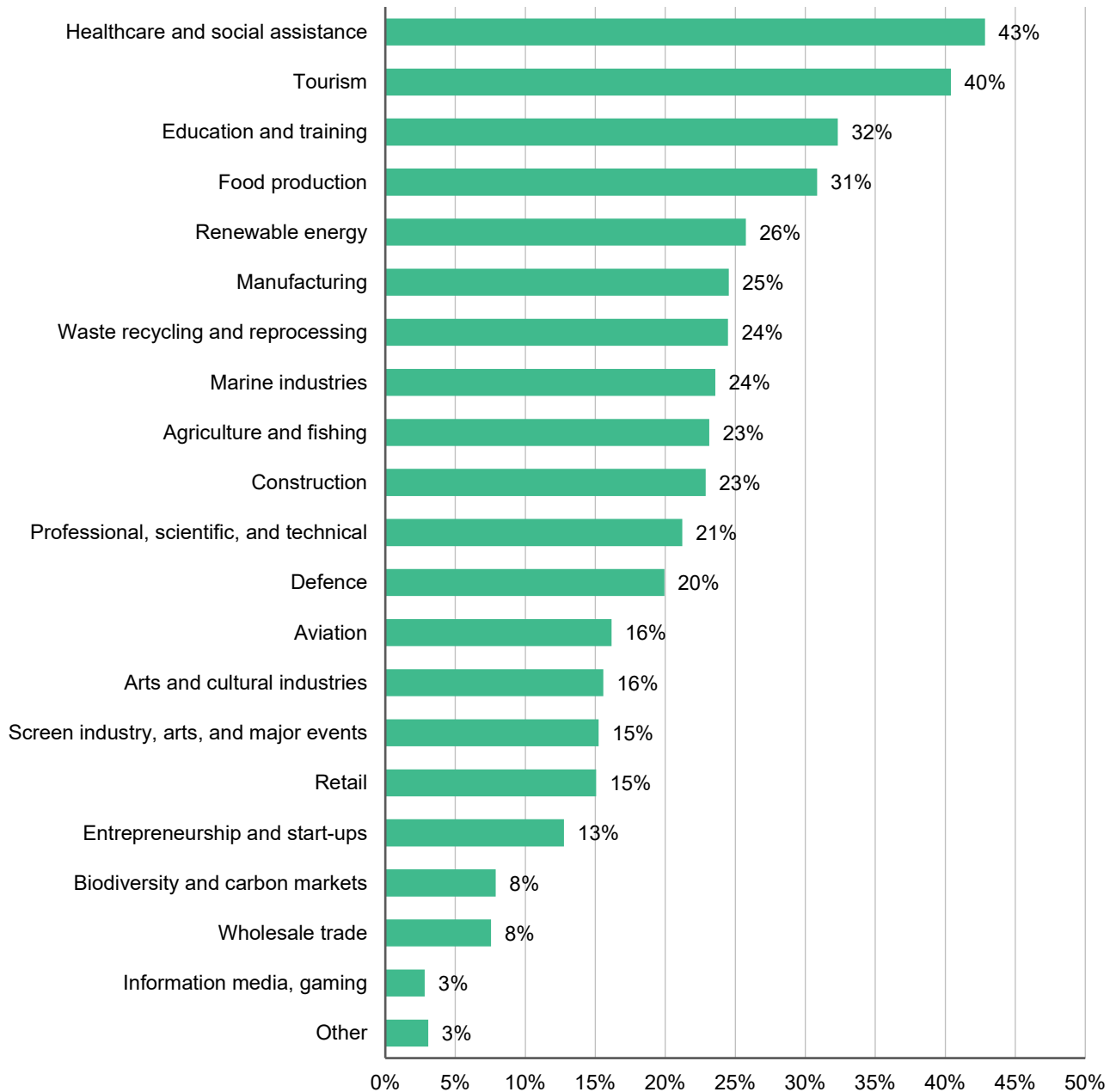
As shown in **Figure 4** below, Healthcare and social assistance overtook the mainstay of Tourism as the industry Cairns residents would most like to see prioritised.

Residents surveyed who plan to stay in the region less than 20 years were more likely to say Renewable energy; Professional, scientific and technical; Arts and cultural industries; Entrepreneurship and start-ups; and Biodiversity and carbon markets. Residents who plan to stay in the region 20+ years were more likely to say Food production; Manufacturing; Marine industries; Agriculture and fishing; Construction; Defence; and Wholesale trade.

Figure 4 Industries to Prioritise

Q8. A diversified economy is important for our region. Which industries in Cairns would you like to see prioritised for stimulus and development?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=10,509)



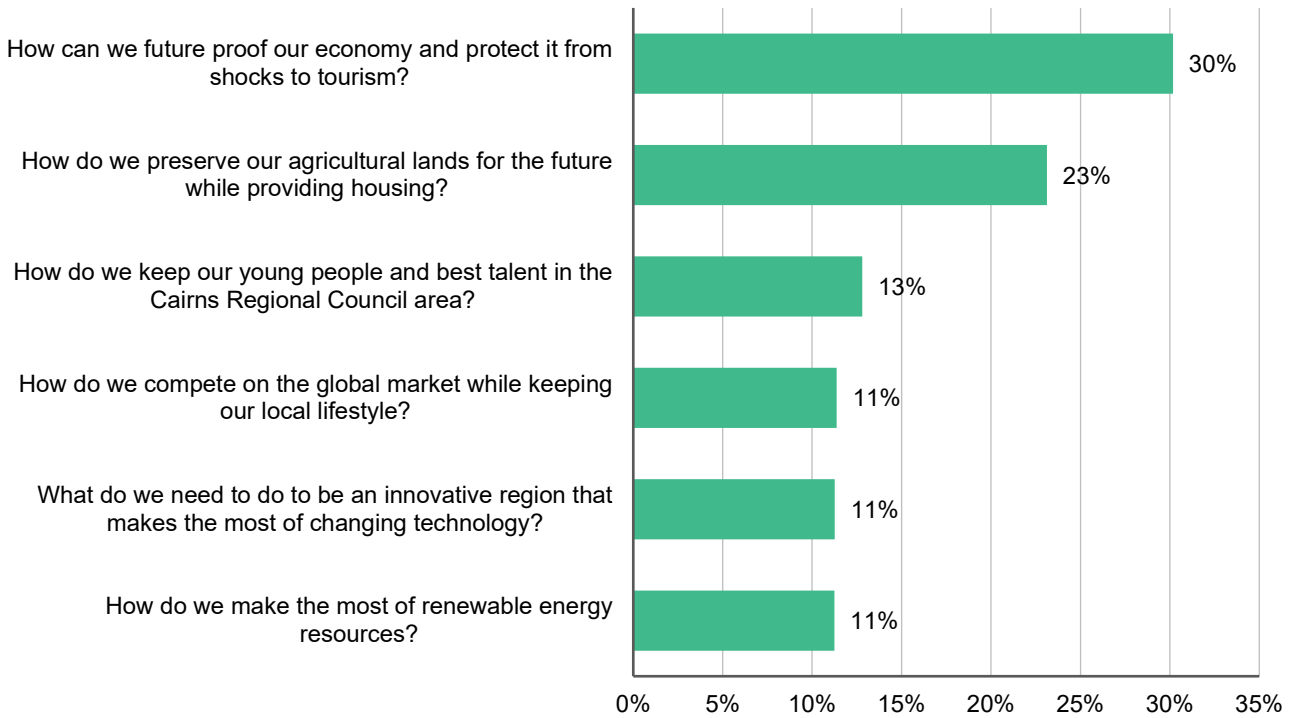


3. VISION FOR CAIRNS

As shown in **Figure 5** below, nearly a third of respondents sought to protect the economy from shocks to tourism (perhaps with COVID-lockdowns in mind). This question was asked in 2016, however respondents were not limited to one response, and so it is not comparable to 2024.

Figure 5 Complex Question to Tackle

Q38. Which complex question would you most like Cairns to tackle?
 Base: All responses 2024 (n=8,983)



Male residents surveyed were more likely to cite Future proofing the economy from shocks to tourism; and What we need to do to be an innovative region. Female residents were more likely to cite Preserving agricultural land while also providing for housing; and Making the most of renewable energy. In 2024, there was a middle band of ages (35-64) which were more likely to cite Future proofing the economy from shocks to tourism; and less likely (than those in younger and older age groups) to cite Preserving agricultural land while also providing for housing.



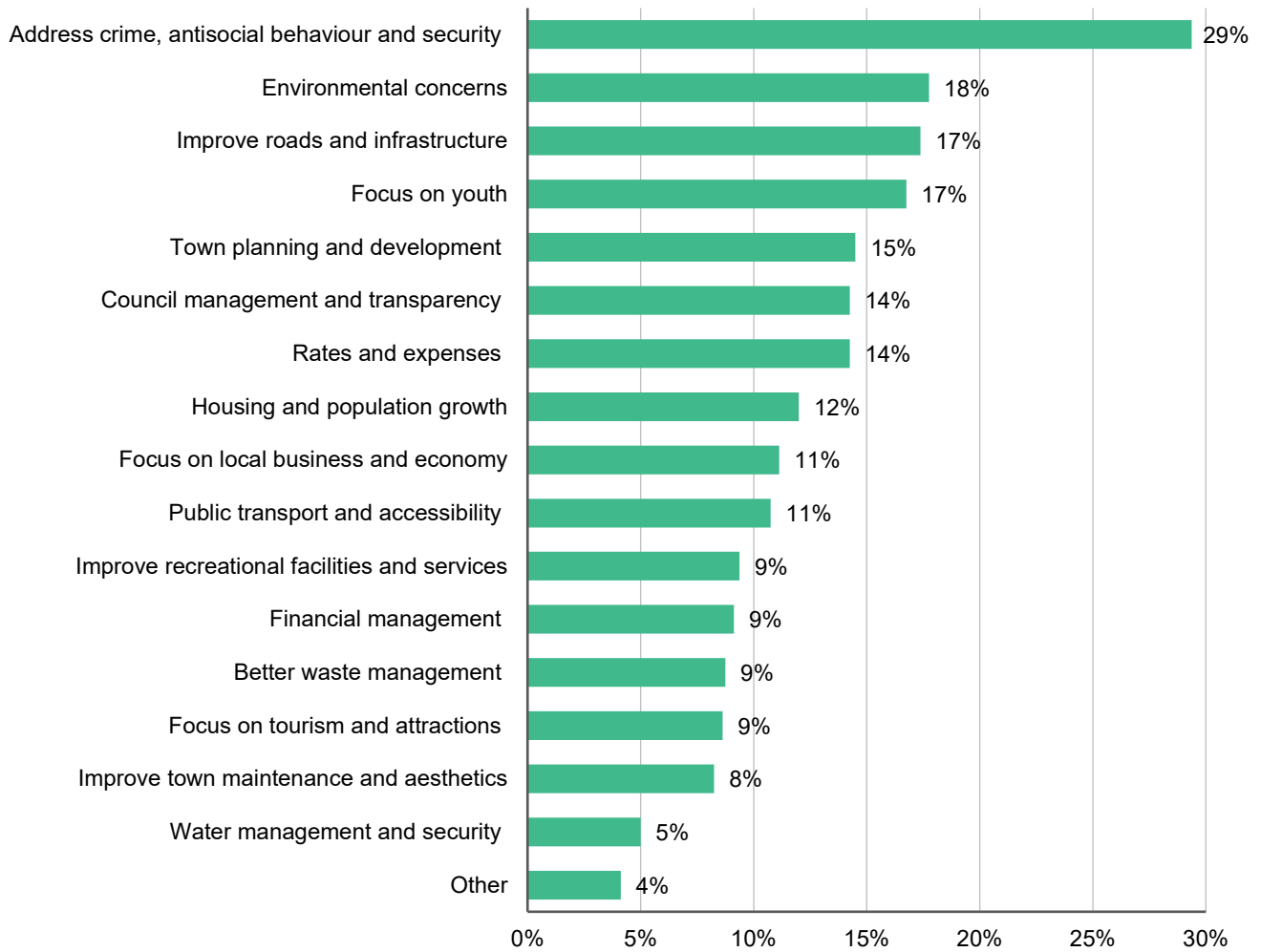
3. VISION FOR CAIRNS

Figure 6, below, shows other comments about a complex question that the respondent would most like Cairns to tackle. This was an open-ended question, with a random selection tagged to be quantified (verbatim comments are supplied to Council as a separate spreadsheet). By an 11% margin, residents surveyed wished to most see crime/anti-social behaviour/security addressed – with environmental concerns, improving roads and infrastructure and focussing on youth the next most popular comments.

Figure 6 Other suggestions or ideas

Q39. Are there any other ideas or suggestions you would like us to be aware of?

Base: Random selection of 2024 responses (n=800)



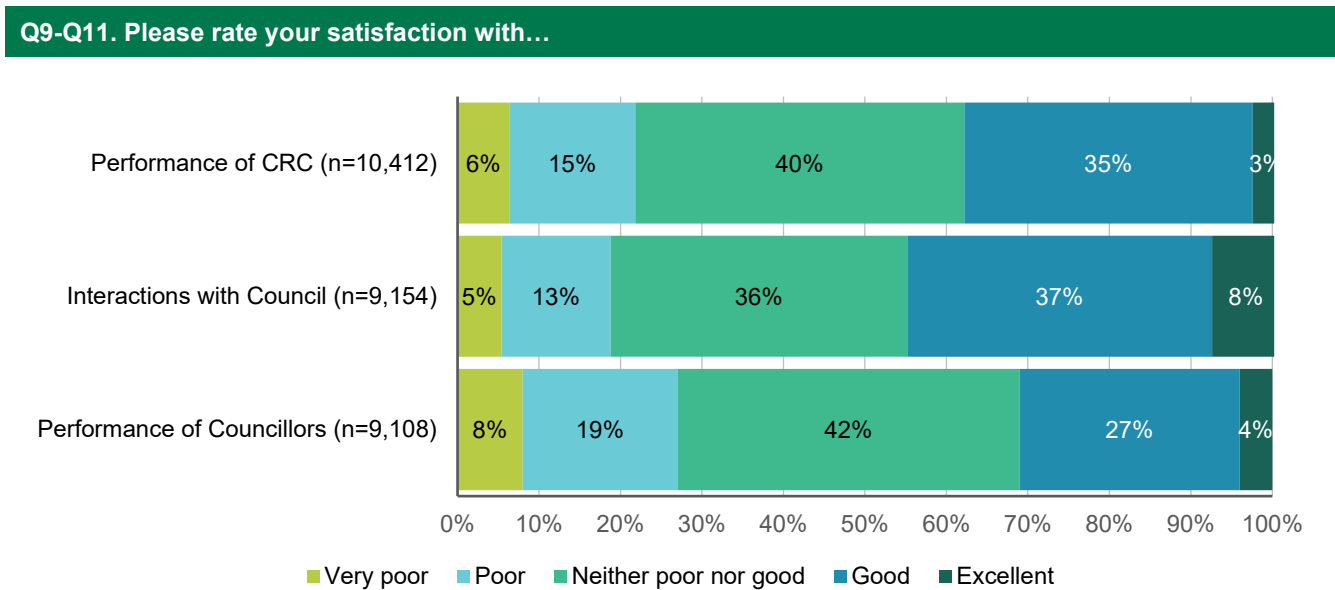


4. COUNCIL PERFORMANCE

Respondents were asked to rate three elements of Council performance, using a 1-5 scale where 1 was very poor and 5 was excellent.

Not included in the middle bar of **Figure 7** below were the 12% of respondents who had no interactions with CRC, and not included in the bottom bar were the 13% of respondents who were unsure of the performance of Councillors. On a 1-5 scale, the performance of CRC recorded a mean of 3.14, interactions with Council a mean of 3.29 and the performance of Councillors a mean of 3.01.

Figure 7 Satisfaction with Council



Female residents surveyed had higher overall satisfaction with CRC than males. Residents 15-34 and 65+ had higher overall satisfaction with CRC than those aged 35-64. Residents who plan to stay in the region less than 20 years and, particularly, those who had lived in the region for less than 20 years, had higher overall satisfaction with CRC than those who had lived/plan to stay for 20+ years.

Female residents had higher satisfaction in their interactions with CRC than did males. Residents aged 65+ had higher satisfaction in their interactions with CRC than other age groups. Residents who had lived in the region less than 20 years had higher satisfaction in their interactions with CRC than those who had lived there more than 20 years.

Female residents had higher satisfaction with the performance of Councillors than did males. Residents aged 65+ had higher satisfaction than other age groups with the performance of Councillors. Residents who plan to stay in the region less than 20 years and those who had lived in the region for less than 20 years, had higher overall satisfaction with performance of Councillors than those who had lived/plan to stay for 20+ years.



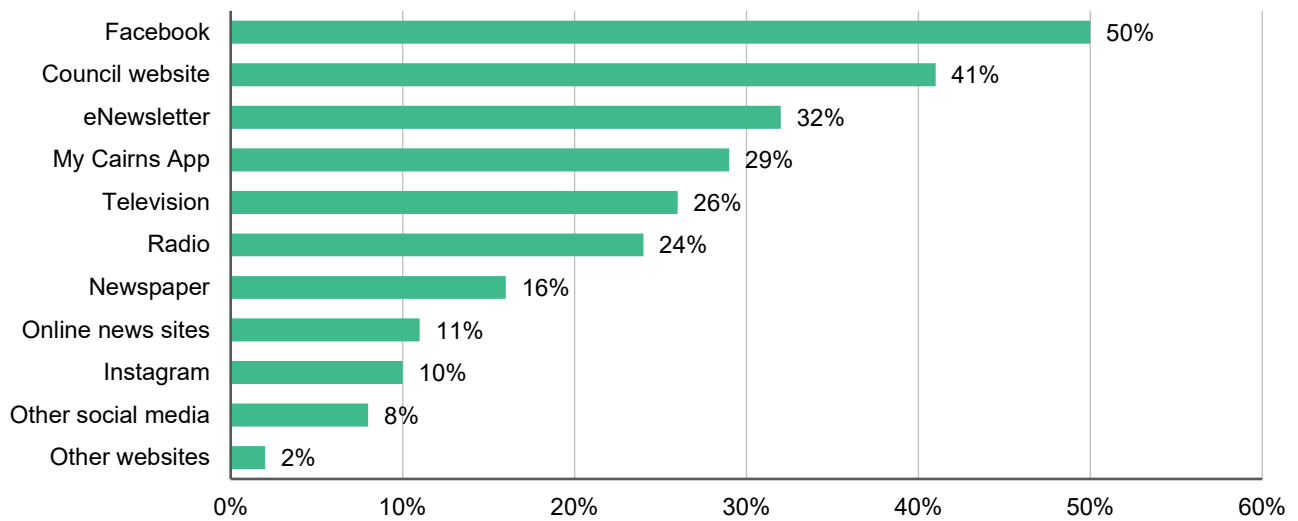
5. COMMUNICATION

As shown in **Figure 8** below, online channels were significantly more popular than traditional media. *Facebook and Instagram were preferred more by females, and less by each successive age group. Newspapers were more likely to be preferred by those aged 55+, television by those 45+, and radio by those aged 45-54.*

Figure 8 Preferred Way to Receive Information (2024)

Q12. What is your preferred way to receive information about Council's activities, decisions, or community engagement opportunities? (Please choose up to three options.)

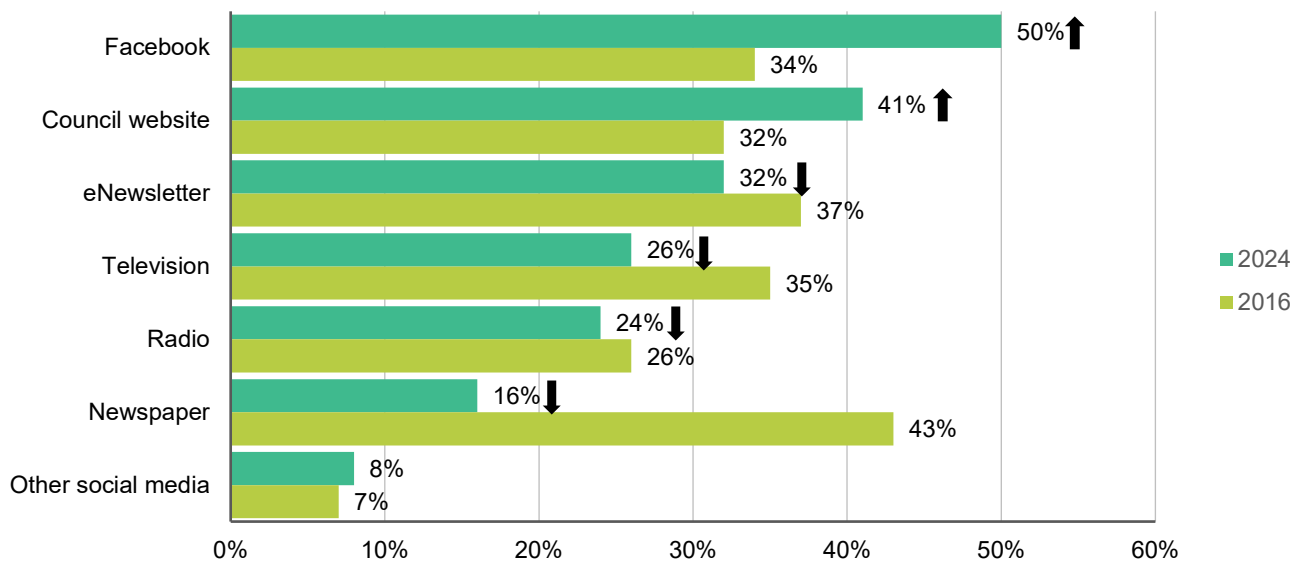
Base: All responses 2024 (n=10,340)



As shown in **Figure 9** below, preferred sources of Council information was also asked about in 2016, so some of the responses could be compared. The arrows show what were significantly different between these two years - during this time preference for traditional media dropped particularly.

Figure 9 Preferred Way to Receive Information (2016 vs. 2024)

Q12 (2024), Q21 (2016)





5. COMMUNICATION

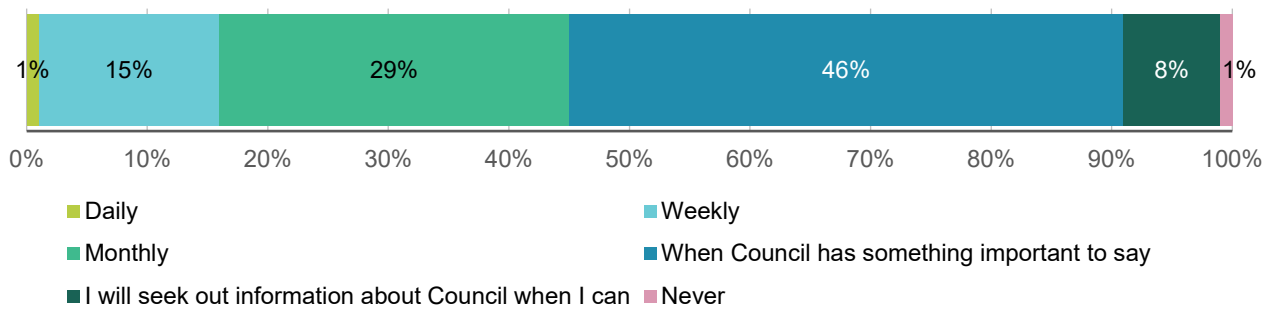
As shown in **Figure 10**, below, only 45% of respondents sought to hear from Council with any regularity.

Each successive age group had a lower response of weekly, and a higher response of monthly (so 15 to 34-year-olds had the highest response of weekly and lowest response of monthly, and residents surveyed aged 65+ had the lowest response of weekly and the highest response of monthly).

Figure 10 How Often Like to Hear from Council

Q13. How often would you like to hear from Council?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=10,444)





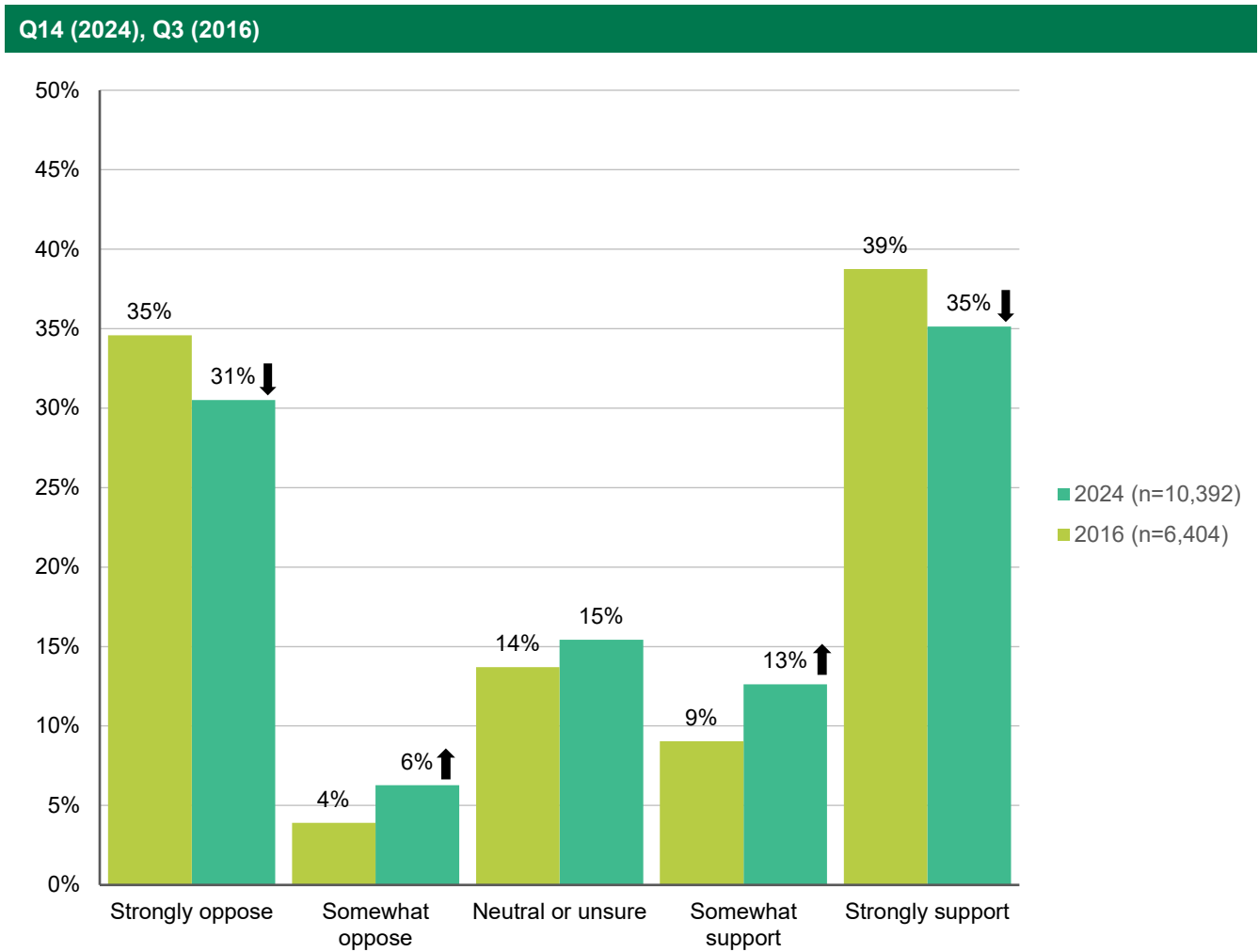
6. TOPICAL QUESTIONS

Respondents were then asked eight questions about water supply, land use and bins.

Fluoride in water supply

As shown by the arrows in **Figure 11** below, there were significant decreases in both 'Strongly oppose' and 'Strongly support' in 2024 compared to 2016. The 2024 mean was the same as in 2016 (both 3.16). Please note that the printed percentages are slightly different to the length of the bars due to rounding up/down to the nearest whole number.

Figure 11 Support or Oppose Fluoride in Water



Male residents surveyed were more likely than females to support water fluoridation, but no age group had a significant difference of its mean compared to other age groups in 2024. Residents who had lived in the region less than 20 years were more likely to support fluoride in water, as were residents who plan to stay less than 20 years.



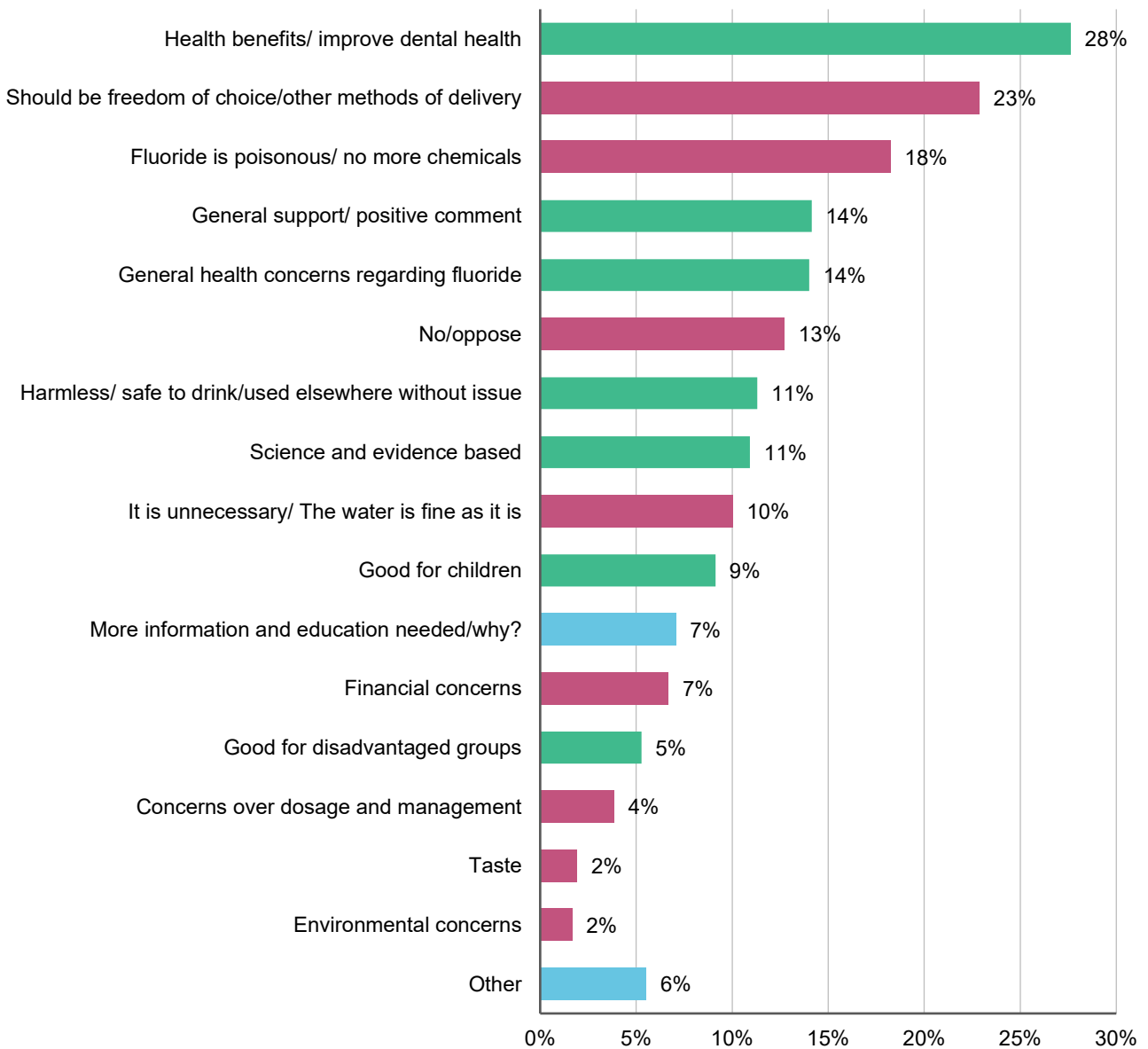
6. TOPICAL QUESTIONS

Respondents were asked if they had additional comments on adding fluoride to water (this was an open-ended question, full verbatims delivered to Council in separate spreadsheet). **Figure 12** (below) shows a quantifying of a random selection of these comments, with supportive comments in green and those opposed in pink. Comments were given multiple tags, so this adds to more than 100%.

Figure 12 Additional Comments about Fluoridated Water

Q14a. Did you want to add a comment on this?

Base: Random selection of 2024 responses (n=778)





6. TOPICAL QUESTIONS

Figure 13 and Figure 14 below show these for those who support/oppose fluoridation at Q14. Demographic comparisons were not conducted, as it is not sufficiently representative.

Figure 13 Additional Comments about Fluoridated Water - Supporters

Q14a. Did you want to add a comment on this?
 Base: Random selection of 2024 responses, support fluoridation (n=335)

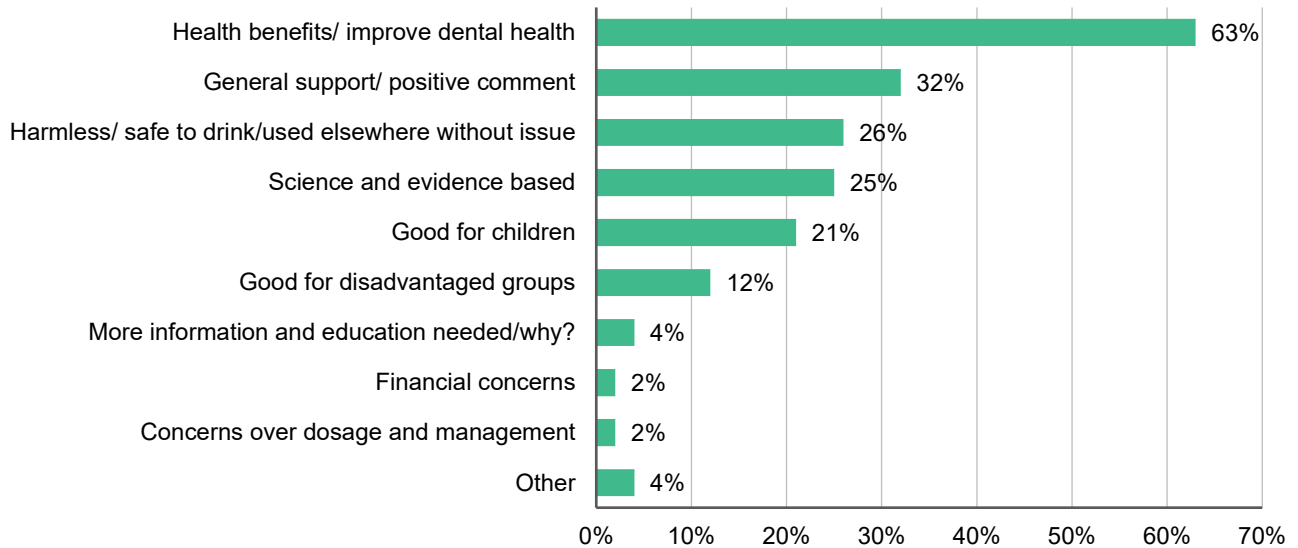
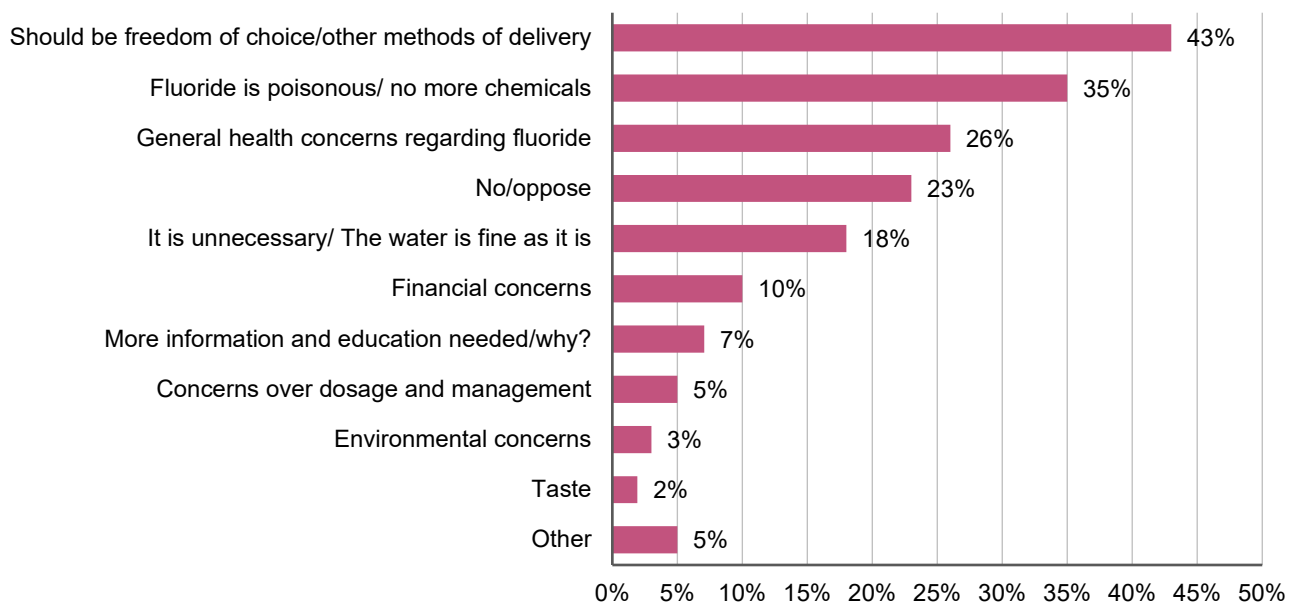


Figure 14 Additional Comments about Fluoridated Water - Opposers

Q14a. Did you want to add a comment on this?
 Base: Random selection of 2024 responses, oppose fluoridation (n=398)



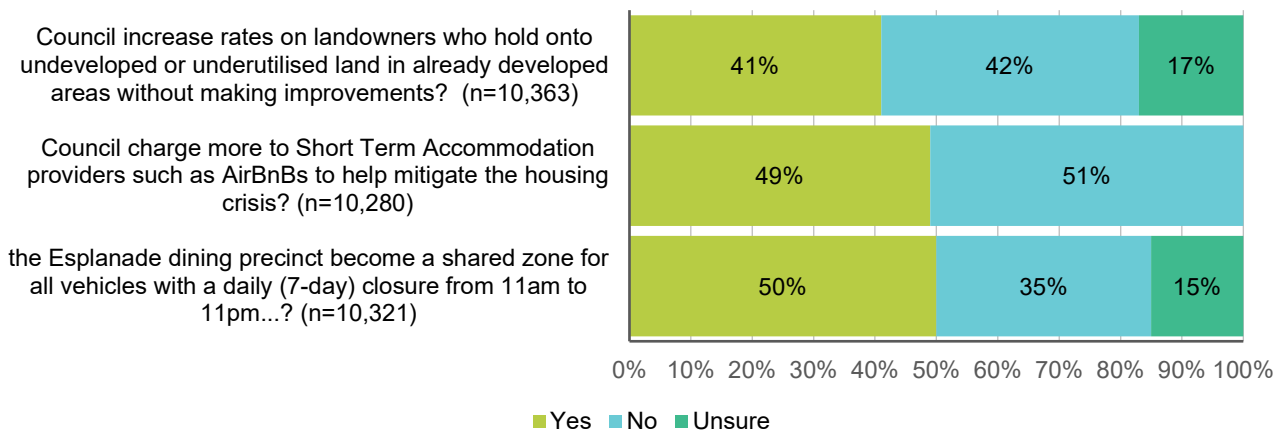


6. TOPICAL QUESTIONS

Land Use factors

Figure 15 Land Use Factors

Q15-Q17. Should....



The Esplanade

In 2016 there was a question posed about part closure of the Esplanade, but it lacked comparability with Q17 of 2024. In 2024, 49% of respondents supported The Esplanade becoming a shared zone, with limited vehicle access between 11am and 11pm, while 35% opposed this idea.

Male residents were more likely than females to support the Esplanade dining precinct becoming a shared zone. Residents aged 45+ were more likely to support this than those younger. Residents who plan to stay less than 20 years were more likely to support the shared zone than those who plan to stay 20+ years.

Increased rates on undeveloped/under-utilised land

Opinion was split down the middle on this question, with 41% each supportive and opposed.

Male residents surveyed were more likely than females to support increased rates on landowners who hold onto underutilised land in developed areas. Residents aged 15-44 years and 65+ were more likely to support increased rates on underutilised land than those aged 45-64. Residents who had lived in the region less than 20 years were more likely to support such increased rates, as were residents who plan to stay less than 20 years.

Increased charges to short-term accommodation providers

Again, views were polarised on this subject, with 49% supportive and 51% opposed to increasing charges for short-term accommodation providers.

Residents aged 15-44 years and 65+ were more likely to support charging more to short-term accommodation providers than those aged 45-64. Residents who had lived in the region less than 20 years were more likely to support such increased charges, as were residents who plan to stay less than 20 years.



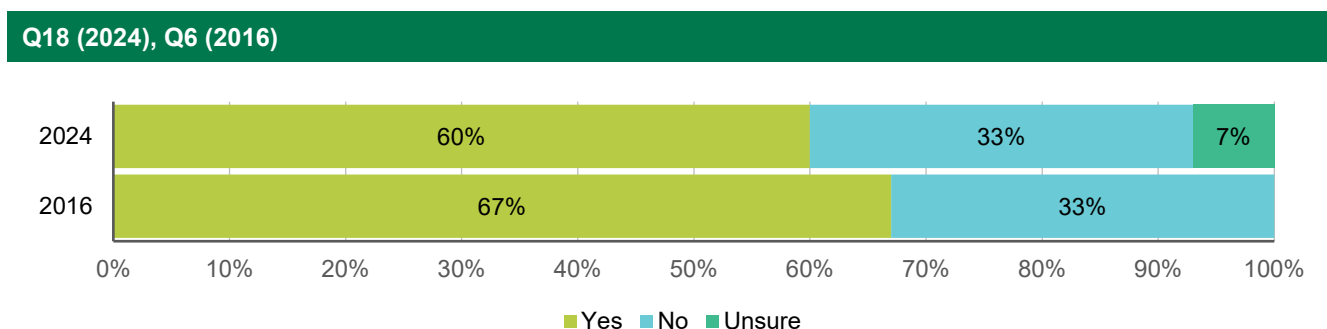
6. TOPICAL QUESTIONS

Waste questions

Extra green bin

Sixty per cent of residents said they would like an additional green bin, against 67% in 2016. In each survey 33% said ‘no’ - noting ‘unsure’ was not an option in 2016. (See **Figure 16**, below).

Figure 16 Like Additional Green Bin



Female residents, and those who either had lived in the region or plan to stay in the region less than 20 years were more likely to want an additional bin for green waste. The younger age groups were more likely to want an extra bin than the older age groups.

Cost of extra green bin

Only those who said they would like an additional green waste bin (or were unsure) were asked Q19 (**Table 4** below). In 2016, the mean amount people were prepared to pay was \$51. This dropped to \$43 in 2024, heavily influenced by the increase in the response of \$0 from 26% to 41%.

Male residents, and those who either had lived in the region or plan to stay in the region less than 20 years, were willing to pay more for an additional bin. Residents aged 15-54 were willing to pay \$47, whereas those aged 65+ were willing to pay \$35.

Table 4 Amount Willing to Pay for Green Bin

Q19. Amount Extra per Annum	2016 (n=4,249)	2024 (n=6,912)
\$0	26%	41%
\$20	10%	14%
\$40	18%	9%
\$60	15%	8%
\$80	5%	4%
\$100	21%	16%
\$120	1%	3%
\$140	2%	1%
\$160	0%	1%
\$180	0%	0%
\$200	2%	3%



6. TOPICAL QUESTIONS

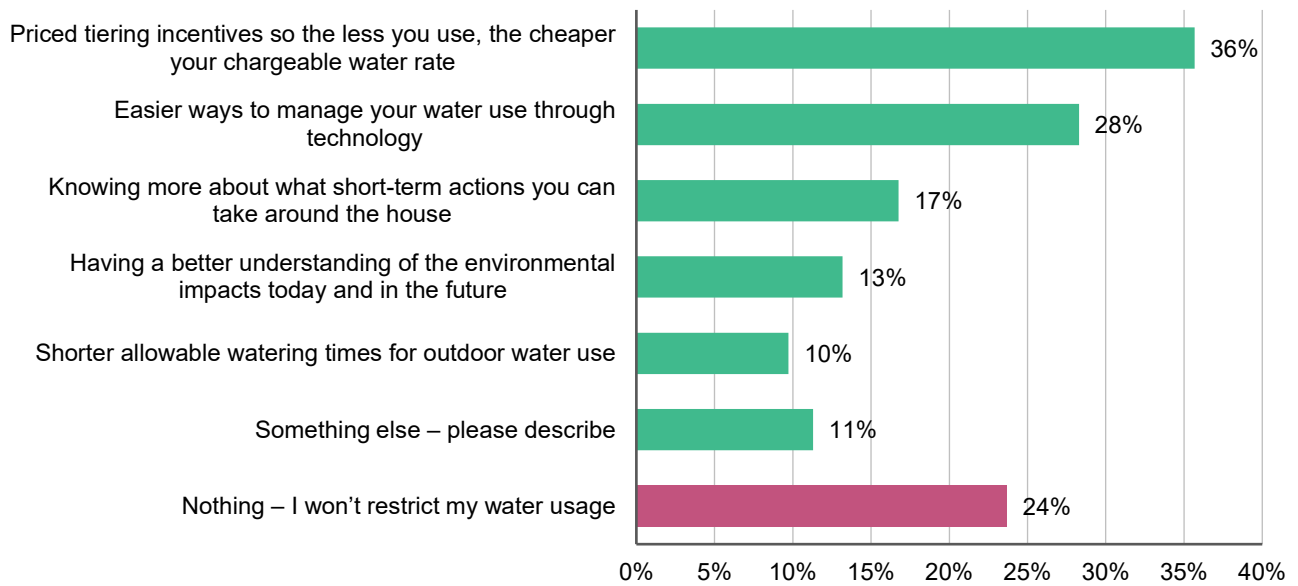
Reducing water usage

As shown in **Figure 17**, below, more than a third of residents surveyed felt they would be most motivated to reduce water usage via financial incentives. One-quarter (24%) said they would not restrict their water usage regardless of the method.

Figure 17 Influence you to Reduce Water Usage

Q20. What would influence or motivate you to reduce your water usage in and around your home and garden?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=10,234)



Male residents, and those who either had lived in the region or plan to stay in the region 20+ years, had lower responses for all the options except 'Nothing- I won't restrict my water usage'. Priced tiering incentives were most popular among those aged 15-34 and 65+. Each successive age group had a lower response for managing water use through technology. Residents aged 15-34 had higher responses than other age groups regarding short-term actions taken around the house, and better understanding of the environmental impacts. Residents aged 65+ had a higher response for shorter allowable watering times for outdoor water use.

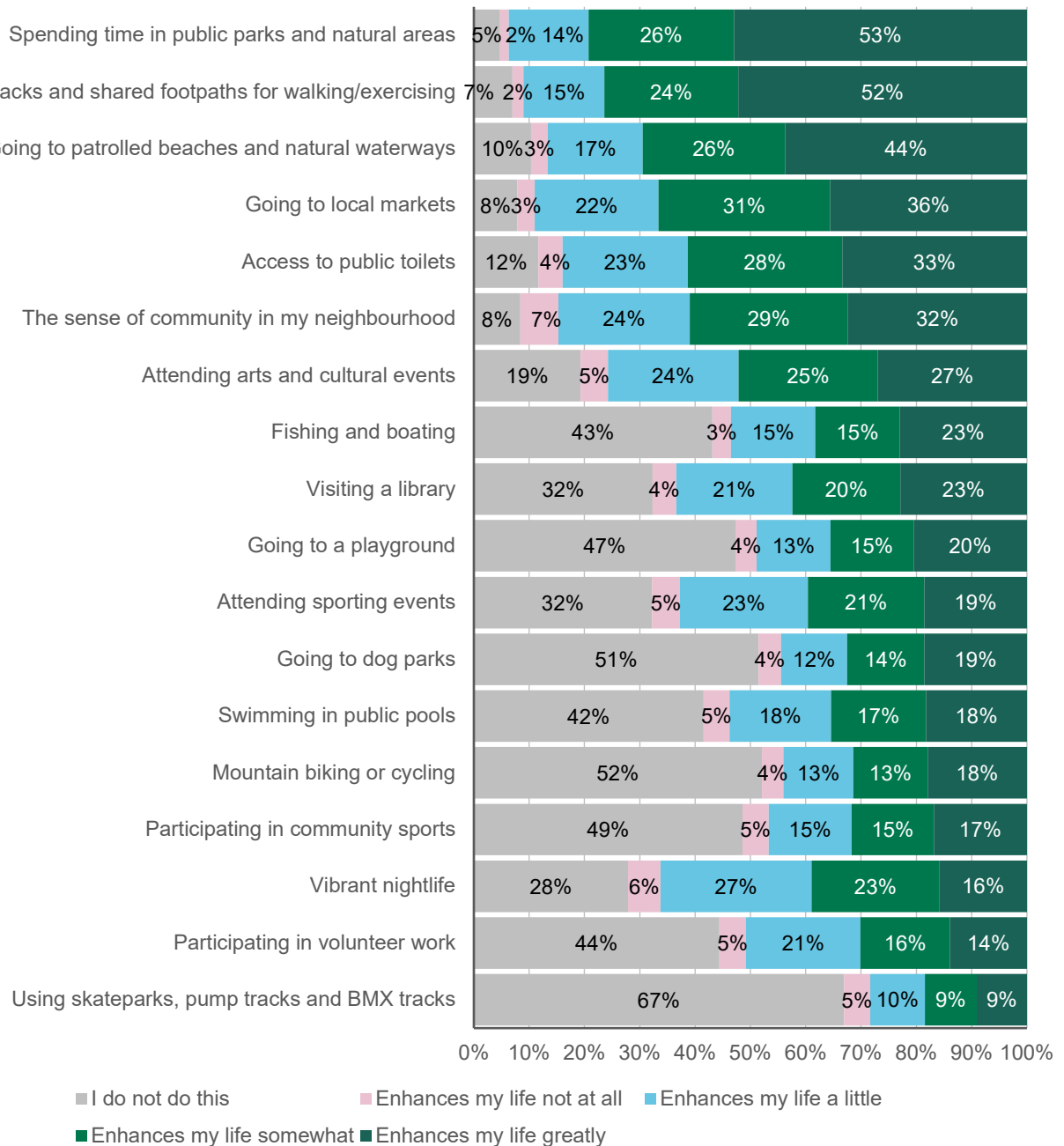


7. LIVEABILITY

Respondents were then asked several questions about liveability, starting with two large grids of activities.

Figure 18 Activities Enhance Quality of Life

Q21. To what extent do the following activities enhance liveability/your quality of life in Cairns?
 Base: All responses 2024 (n=10,090)





7. LIVEABILITY

Value of specific quality of life measures

Value of different local activities

Respondents were asked to what extent they valued a range of 18 different activities. When the 1-5 responses were converted into mean scores (out of 4, where 'I do not do this' = 0, and 'Enhances my life greatly' = 4), **Table 5**, below, shows responses sorted from highest to lowest.

Table 5 Activities Enhance My Life - Means

Activity	Mean	Activity	Mean	Activity	Mean
Spending time in public parks and natural areas	3.21	Attending arts and cultural events	2.35	Going to a playground	1.58
Using tracks and shared footpaths for walking/exercising	3.13	Visiting a library	1.96	Participating in volunteer work	1.50
Going to patrolled beaches and natural waterways	2.89	Vibrant nightlife	1.93	Participating in community sports	1.47
Going to local markets	2.83	Attending sporting events	1.89	Going to dog parks	1.44
The sense of community in my neighbourhood	2.70	Fishing and boating	1.72	Mountain biking or cycling	1.41
Access to public toilets	2.67	Swimming in public pools	1.66	Using skateparks, pump tracks and BMX tracks	0.89

Male residents surveyed were more likely than female to rate higher for attending sporting events, fishing and boating, participating in community sports, and mountain biking or cycling. Residents who had lived in the region 20+ years were more likely than those who had lived there shorter to rate higher for fishing and boating. Residents who plan to stay in the region 20+ years were more likely than those who had plan to stay there shorter to rate higher for attending sporting events, fishing and boating, and going to a playground.

Ratings for going to local markets, access to public toilets and vibrant nightlife decreased with each successive age group. Residents aged 45+ had a higher rating for participating in volunteer work. Residents aged 65+ had a higher rating for visiting a library than other age groups. Residents aged 35-44 had higher ratings for most of the remaining activities than other age groups, and those aged 65+ had the lowest ratings.

How local facilities and activities meet expectations

Public parks and natural areas had the highest meeting of expectations, while skateparks and BMX tracks had the lowest. **Table 6** (next page) shows the 1-6 responses converted into mean scores (out of 5, where 'I do not do this' = 0, and 'Exceeds my expectations' = 5). The highest five are shown in green, with the lowest five shown in red.



7. LIVEABILITY

Table 6 Rate Activities

Activity	I do not do this	Meets my expectations not at all	Meets my expectations a little	Mostly meets my expectations	Meets my expectations	Exceeds my expectations	Mean score
Using tracks and shared footpaths for walking/exercising	8%	4%	17%	32%	30%	8%	2.97
Spending time in public parks and natural areas	6%	2%	15%	31%	34%	11%	3.16
Attending arts and cultural events	23%	4%	19%	27%	22%	5%	2.37
Visiting a library	34%	2%	11%	20%	25%	8%	2.23
Participating in community sports	53%	3%	11%	16%	14%	3%	1.44
Attending sporting events	38%	4%	18%	22%	15%	3%	1.81
Mountain biking or cycling	56%	3%	10%	15%	13%	4%	1.37
Going to local markets	9%	3%	17%	30%	33%	8%	2.98
Participating in volunteer work	49%	3%	13%	16%	15%	4%	1.59
Fishing and boating	47%	3%	11%	19%	17%	5%	1.69
Swimming in public pools	43%	3%	12%	19%	18%	4%	1.78
Going to dog parks	54%	3%	10%	15%	14%	4%	1.43
Using skateparks, pump tracks, and BMX tracks	70%	2%	7%	10%	8%	2%	0.89
Going to a playground	49%	3%	13%	18%	14%	3%	1.55
Access to public toilets	12%	10%	26%	31%	17%	3%	2.41
Going to patrolled beaches and natural waterways	12%	3%	14%	30%	33%	8%	2.94
The sense of community in my neighbourhood	10%	11%	28%	27%	18%	6%	2.48
Vibrant nightlife	31%	6%	21%	25%	14%	3%	1.93

Female residents surveyed had higher ratings than males for using footpaths for walking/exercising, time in parks and natural areas, arts and cultural events, visiting a library, local markets, volunteer work, public pools, playgrounds, patrolled beaches and natural waterways, and sense of community. Residents who had lived in the region 20+ years had a higher rating for participating in volunteer work, and residents who plan to stay 20+ years had higher ratings for participating in community sports, attending sporting events, fishing and boating, and going to a playground.

Ratings for going to local markets and vibrant nightlife decreased as respondents got older. Residents surveyed aged 45+ had a higher rating for participating in volunteer work. Residents aged 35-54 had



7. LIVEABILITY

higher ratings for most of the remaining activities than other age groups, and those aged 65+ had the lowest ratings.

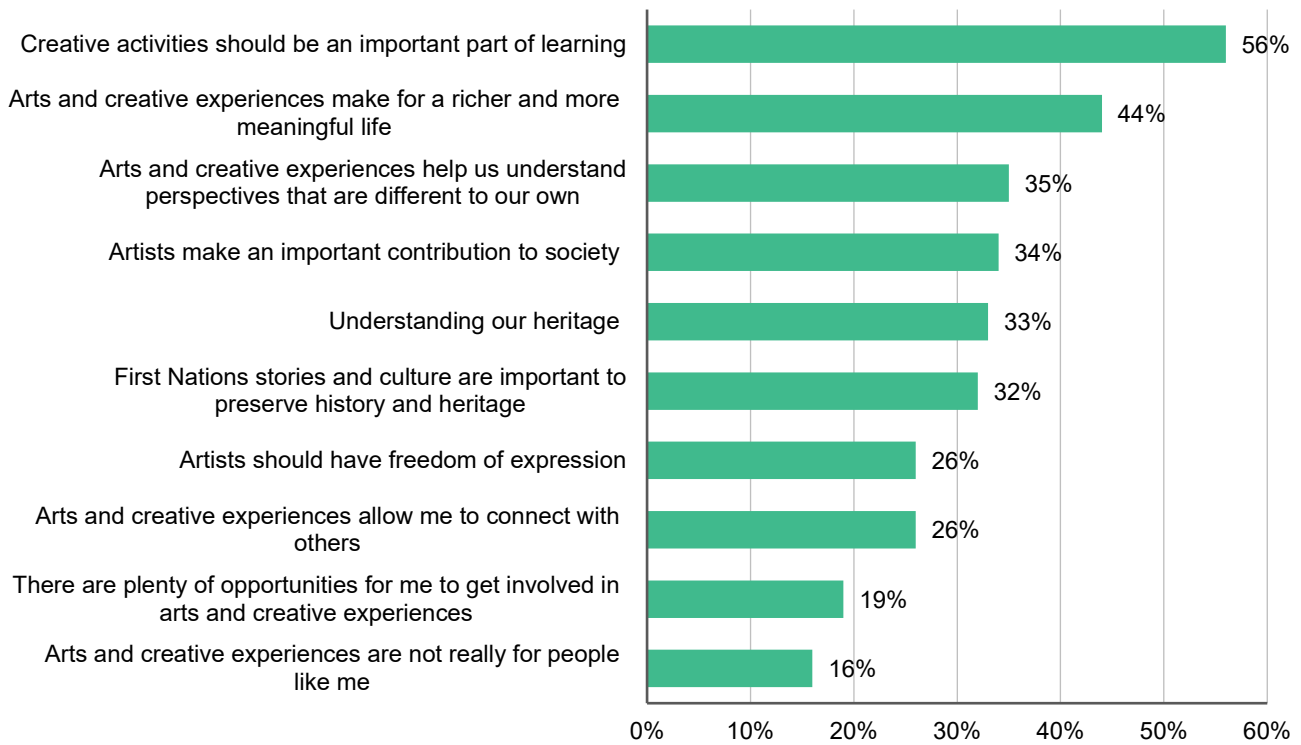
Importance of arts and culture

As shown in **Figure 19**, below, more than half of Cairns residents surveyed in 2024 felt that creative activities should be an important part of learning. That, and the second-highest response ('making for a richer and more meaningful life'), show how arts play an important role in quality of life.

Figure 19 Most Important Local Arts

Q23. In relation to local arts and culture, please tell us which of these (up to four factors) are the most valuable or important to you.

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,346)



Male residents were more likely than female to mention understanding heritage, that artists should have freedom of expression, and that there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. Residents who had lived in the region, or plan to stay in the region, 20+ years were more likely to mention understanding heritage, that there are plenty of opportunities, and that arts are not really for people like them.

Residents aged up to 54 years old were more likely to mention that arts and creative experiences help them understand perspectives different to their own, and First Nations stories and culture are important to preserve history and culture. Residents aged up to 44 years were more likely to mention that artists should have freedom of expression. Residents aged 45+ years were more likely to mention understanding heritage. Residents aged 55+ were more likely to mention that artists make an important contribution to society.



7. LIVEABILITY

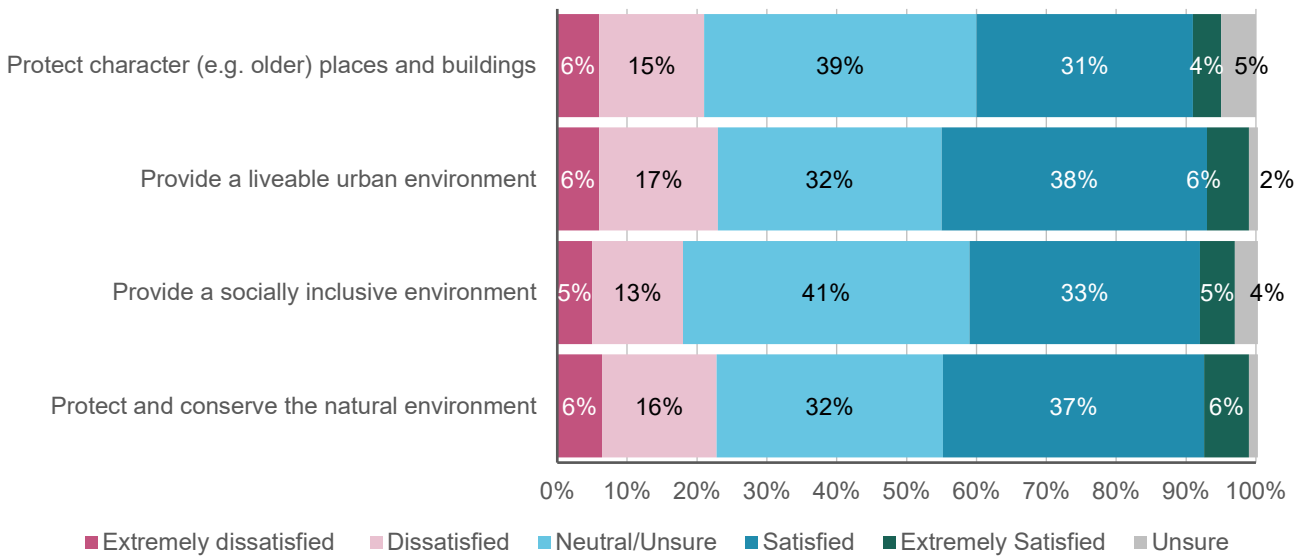
Council’s role in protecting the built and natural environment

Figure 20, below, shows community sentiment around Council’s efforts to protect the built and natural environments.

The majority of residents – in fact between 69% and 74% for all statements – were satisfied with Council’s efforts to protect character (e.g. older) places, provide a liveable environment, provide a socially inclusive environment, and protect and conserve the natural environment. Dissatisfaction sat at 18% to 23% across the four statements.

Figure 20 Satisfied with Council Efforts

Q24. How satisfied are you with efforts being made by Council in your community to:
 Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,286)



When the 1-5 responses were converted into mean scores (excluding ‘Unsure’), Protect and conserve the natural environment recorded 3.22 out of 5, Provide a socially inclusive environment 3.21, Provide a liveable environment 3.20 and Protect character places 3.13 – all above the ‘neutral’ rating of 3.0. These scores would be useful to benchmark in any future research.

Female residents had higher means than males for Provide a liveable urban environment. Females had lower means for Protect and conserve the natural environment and Protect character buildings and places. Residents who had lived in the region less than 20 years had higher means for Protect and conserve the natural environment, and for Provide a socially inclusive environment. Residents who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, less than 20 years had higher means for Provide a liveable urban environment, and for Protect character buildings and places.

Residents aged 65+ had a higher mean than other age groups for Provide a liveable urban environment. Residents aged up to 54 years (particularly those aged up to 34) had a higher mean than older ages for Protect character buildings and places.



8. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

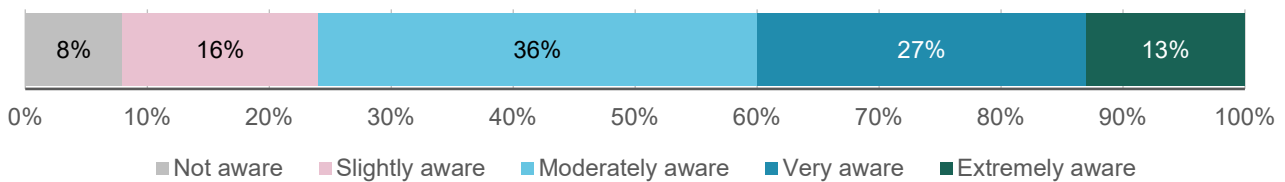
Respondents were then asked four questions about the Cairns environment, particularly relating to whether there should be a dedicated levy for this.

Forty per cent of residents said they were ‘very’ or ‘extremely’ aware of environmental challenges facing Cairns, while a further 36% said ‘moderately’ aware. When converted into a mean with ‘Not aware’ = 1 and ‘Extremely aware’ = 5, a mean of 3.19 out of 5 for the total sample resulted.

Figure 21 Aware of Environmental Challenges facing Cairns

Q25. How aware are you of the current environmental challenges facing Cairns? (e.g. climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss).

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,276)



Male residents surveyed had a higher mean than females, and those who had lived, or plan to stay, in the region 20+ years had higher means than those stating less than 20 years. Mean scores increased for each age group (youngest age with lowest mean, highest age with highest mean).

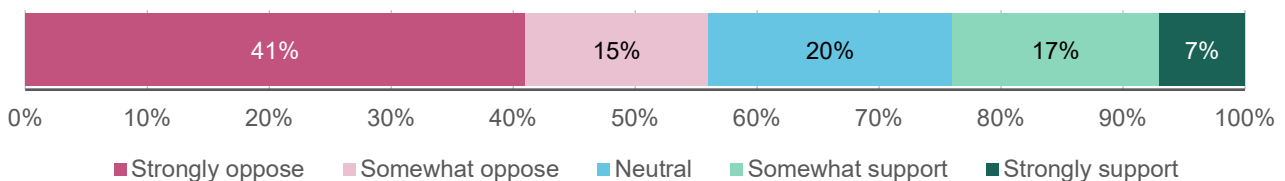
Residents were next asked if they supported or opposed the introduction of an environmental levy to fund local environmental projects and initiatives – and to what extent. The results are shown in **Figure 22**, below.

A majority of residents (56%) were opposed, against just 24% supportive. When expressed as a mean, the resultant 2.34 out of 5 again suggests majority opposition.

Figure 22 Support Environmental Levy

Q26. Would you support the introduction of an environmental levy to fund local environmental projects and initiatives?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,259)



Female residents surveyed were more in favour than males, as were residents who either had lived in the region, or plan to stay, less than 20 years. Support means decreased with each successive age group until 55–64-year-olds, with those aged 65+ showing slightly-increased support.



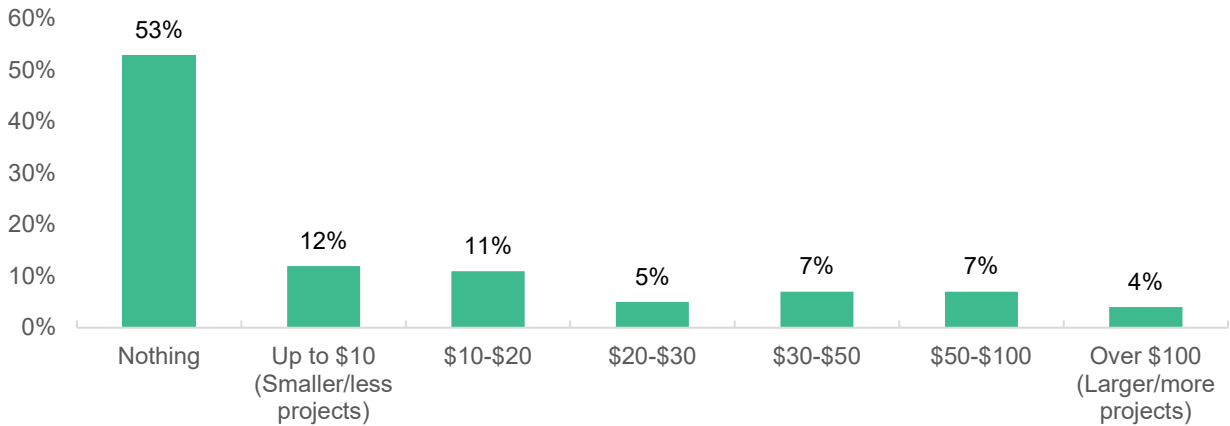
8. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Figure 23, below, shows how much residents would be prepared to pay for this levy. The average for all respondents was just under \$16. Excluding those 53% saying ‘Nothing’, the mean for the remainder was \$34.

Figure 23 How Much Extra for Environmental Levy

Q27. If an environmental levy were introduced, how much extra would you be willing to pay per annum to support local environmental projects?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,249)



Residents who either had lived in the region, or plan to stay, less than 20 years had higher means than those of greater longevity for how much extra they would be willing to pay for this levy. Means decreased as age advanced (youngest respondents were willing to pay more, oldest respondents were willing to pay less).



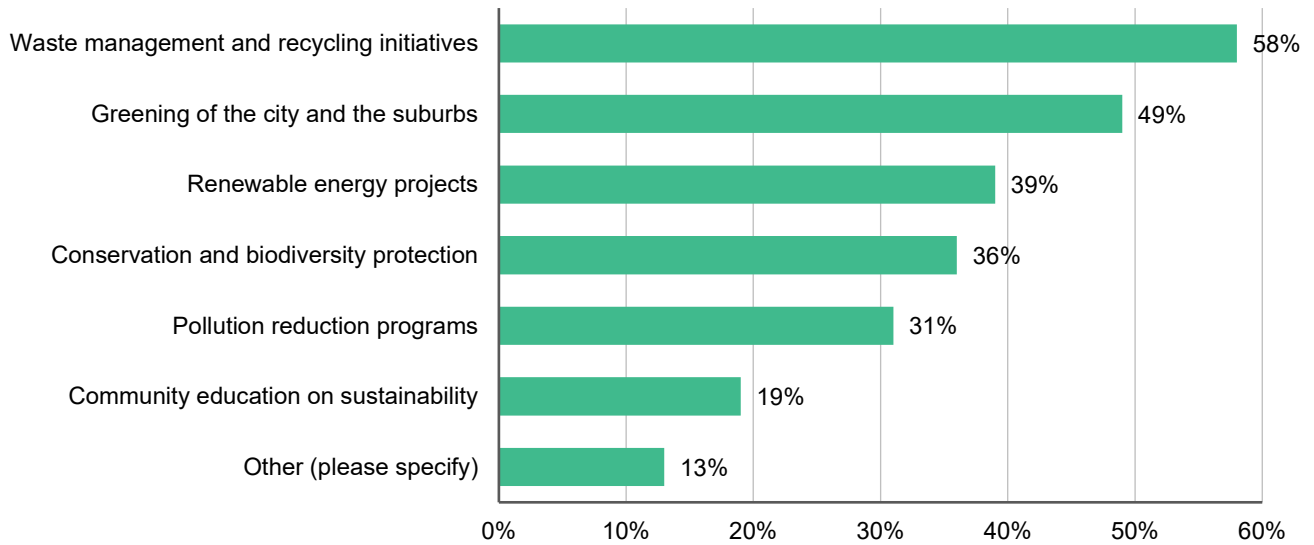
8. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

As shown in **Figure 24**, below, more than half of respondents in 2024 preferred that an environmental levy be prioritised for waste management and recycling initiatives. Other popular options were greening of the city and suburbs, renewable energy projects, and conservation/biodiversity protection.

Figure 24 Prioritised for Funding by Environmental Levy

Q28. If an environmental levy is implemented, which of the following areas do you think should be prioritised for funding? (Please choose up to three options.)

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,195)



Female residents surveyed were more likely to say Waste management and recycling initiatives, Renewable energy projects, Conservation and biodiversity protection, and Community education on sustainability. Residents who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, under 20 years were more likely to say Renewable energy projects, and Conservation and biodiversity protection.

Responses of Renewable energy projects, and Conservation and biodiversity protection decreased for older age groups compared to younger age groups. Greening of the city and the suburbs was mentioned by those under 45 years and those 65+ more than by those aged 45-64. Pollution reduction programs was predominantly mentioned by those under 35 years and those 65+.



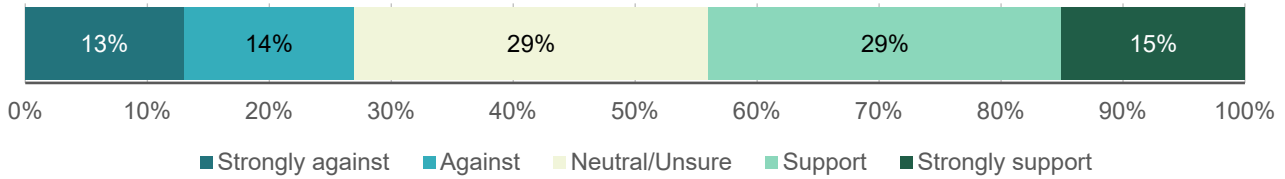
9. URBAN CHANGE

Residents were next asked if they were supportive of residential development in their suburb to accommodate population and economic growth in Cairns. **Figure 25**, below, shows that 44% were supportive, vs. 27% against.

Figure 25 Support Residential Development in your Suburb

Q29. How supportive are you of residential development in your suburb to accommodate population and economic growth in Cairns?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,229)

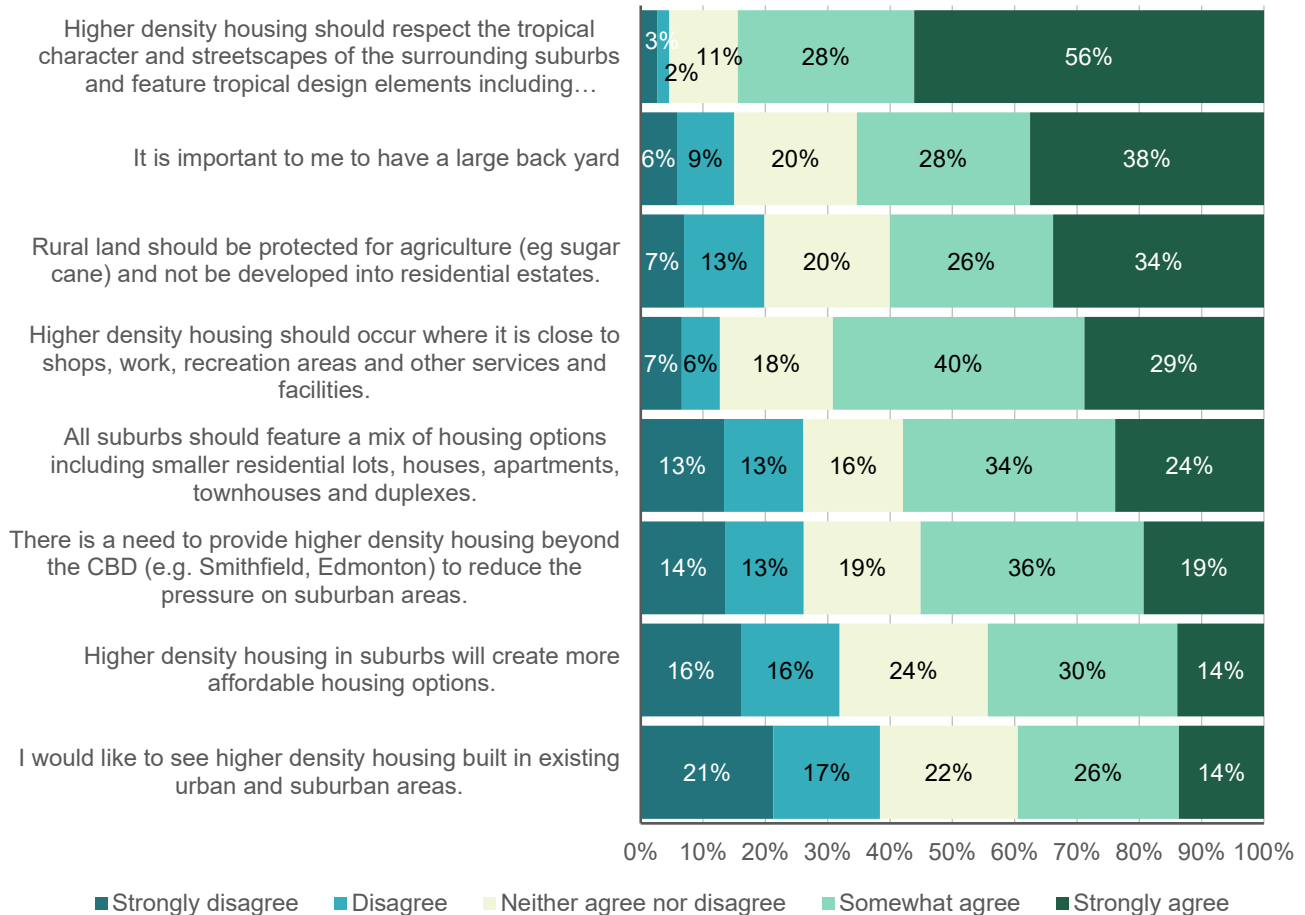


Male residents had a higher support mean score than females. Residents who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, under 20 years had higher support mean scores than those of greater longevity. Support means scores were lower with each higher age group in 2024.

Figure 26 Housing Density Statements

Q30. Please rate your agreement/disagreement with the following statements about housing density:

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,106)





9. URBAN CHANGE

Table 7, below, shows the mean scores derived from **Figure 26** (previous page), ranked from highest to lowest mean score. The mean score for the statement 'I would like to see higher density housing built in existing urban and suburban areas' was slightly below the midpoint (3, out of 5), so it leans slightly towards disagreement.

Table 7 Housing Density Statements - Means

Statement	Mean	Statement	Mean
Higher density housing should respect the tropical character and streetscapes of the surrounding suburbs and feature tropical design elements including balconies, wide eaves, landscaping and lush foliage	4.33	All suburbs should feature a mix of housing options including smaller residential lots, houses, apartments, townhouses and duplexes	3.42
It is important to me to have a large backyard	3.82	There is a need to provide higher density housing beyond the CBD (e.g. Smithfield, Edmonton) to reduce the pressure on suburban areas	3.35
Higher density housing should occur where it is close to shops, work, recreation areas and other services and facilities	3.79	Higher density housing in suburbs will create more affordable housing options	3.10
Rural land should be protected for agriculture (e.g. sugar cane) and not be developed into residential estates	3.67	I would like to see higher density housing built in existing urban and suburban areas	2.93

Female residents surveyed had higher agreement mean scores than males for respecting the tropical character; protecting rural land; all suburbs featuring a mix of options; higher density beyond the CBD; and higher density in suburbs creating more affordable options. Residents who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, 20+ years had higher agreement mean scores than those of shorter longevity for the importance of a large backyard.

Agreement means scores were higher for younger ages (and lower for older ages) for importance of a large backyard; higher density housing should occur close to services; a need to provide higher density housing beyond the CBD; and liking to see higher density housing built in existing urban and suburban areas. Residents aged 65+ were more likely than other age groups to agree that rural land should be protected for agriculture.



10. MAJOR EVENTS

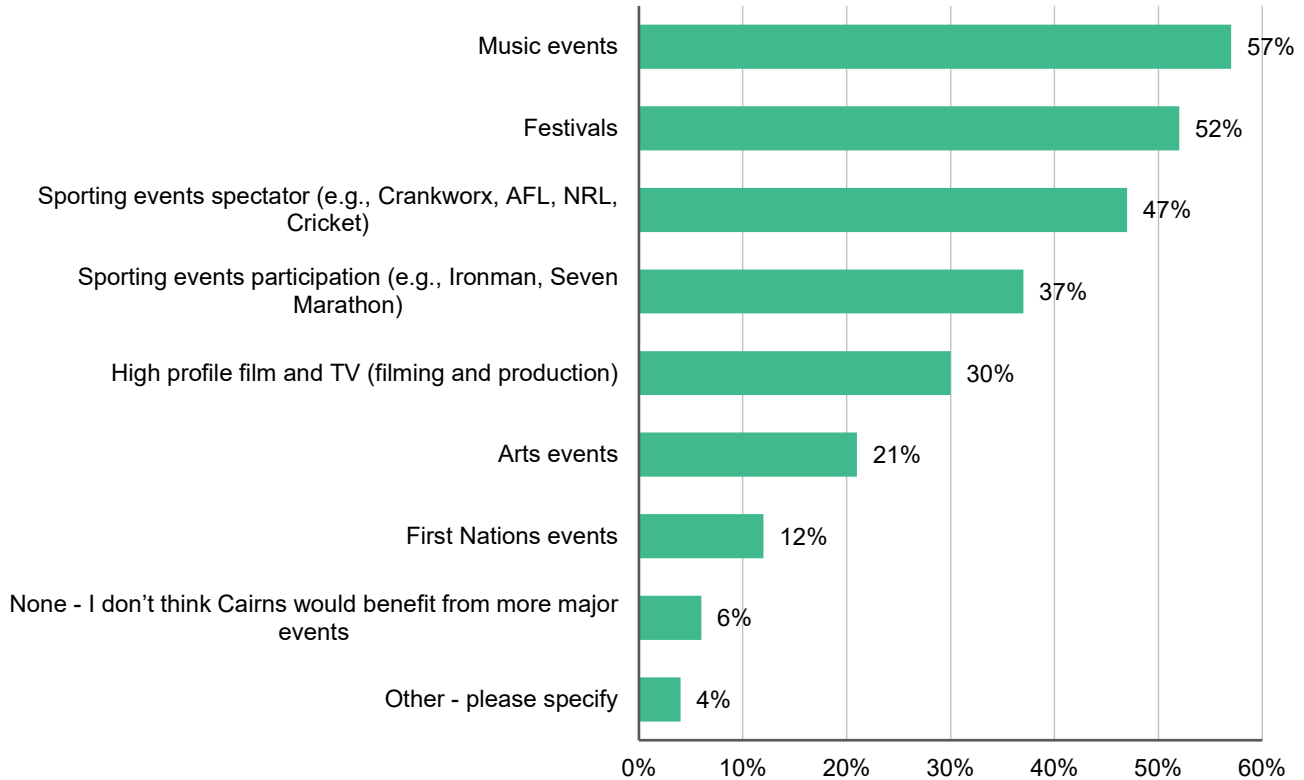
Respondents were then asked one question about major events.

As shown in **Figure 27**, below, music events were more sought after than broader festivals or sports.

Figure 27 Major Event Most Benefit

Q31. What type of major events do you think Cairns would most benefit from having more of? (Please choose up to three)

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,100)



Male residents surveyed were more likely than females to seek sporting events (both spectator and participation), as were those who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, 20+ years. Younger age groups had higher responses for music events, and spectator sporting events. Residents aged 55+ were more likely than younger ages to want arts events, and those aged 45+ were more likely than younger ages to want high profile film and TV (filming and production).



11. SAFETY

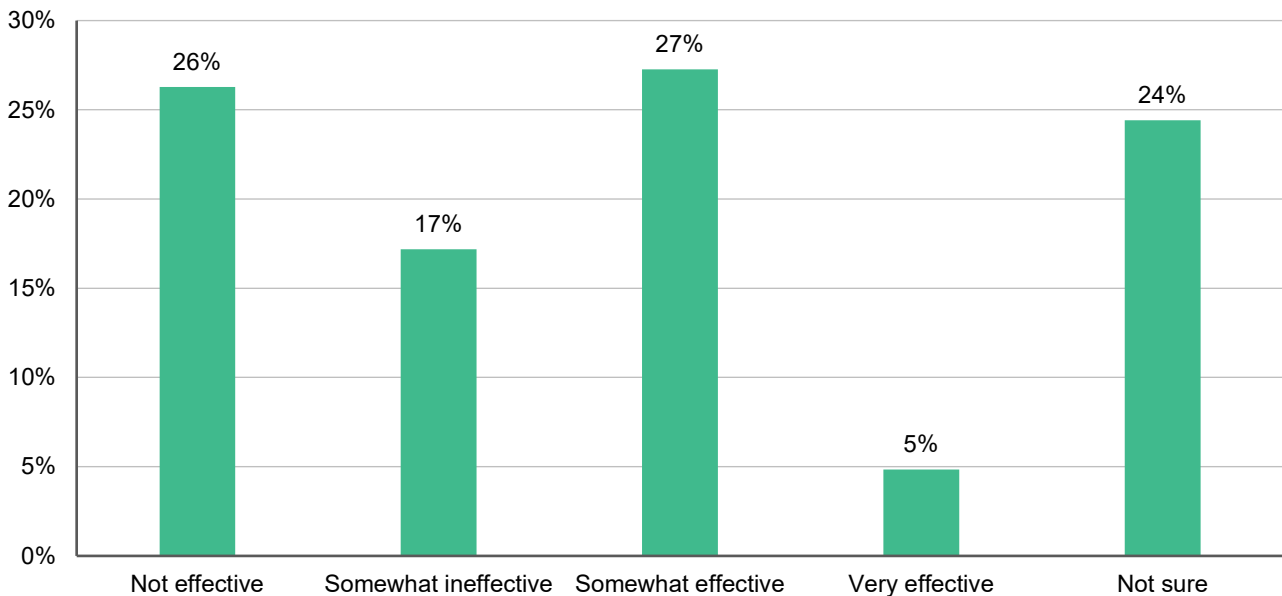
Residents were also asked how effective they thought Council’s CitySafe security patrols were in reducing anti-social behaviour in the CBD (**Figure 28**, below). Please note that the printed percentages are slightly different to the length of the bars due to rounding up/down to the nearest whole number.

When expressed as a mean (with ‘Not effective’ = 1, ‘Very effective’ = 4, and ‘Not sure’ excluded), the resultant 2.14 out of 4 again suggests a lean towards feeling CitySafe is ineffective (a mean of 2.5 would be exactly on the fence).

Figure 28 How Effective CitySafe

Q32. How effective do you think Council’s CitySafe security patrols are in reducing anti-social behaviour in the CBD?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,032)



Residents surveyed who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, less than 20 years were more likely to feel CitySafe was effective than those with greater longevity. Residents aged 15-34 more so felt CitySafe was effective compared to residents 65+.



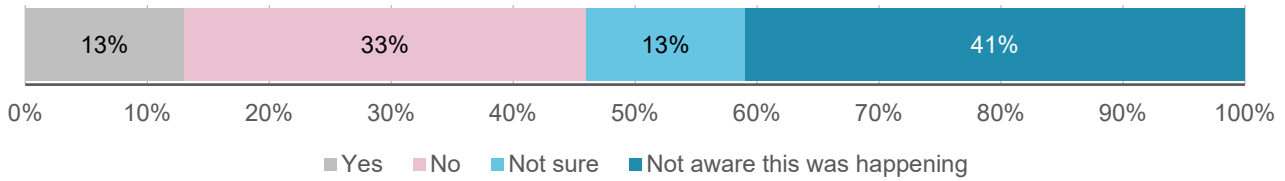
11. SAFETY

They were next asked if the introduction of Council’s public space safety patrols makes them feel safer in their neighbourhood. Thirteen percent answered in the affirmative, against 33% ‘no’ and 13% ‘unsure’. Some 41% of respondents were unaware this service existed.

Figure 29 Public Space Safety Patrols make you Feel Safer

Q33. Does the introduction of Council’s public space safety patrols make you feel safer in your neighbourhood?

Base: All responses 2024 (n=9,096)



Residents surveyed who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, less than 20 years had higher responses that public space safety patrols made them feel safer than residents with greater longevity. Residents aged 15-34 were more likely to feel safer, and those aged 65+ were least likely to.

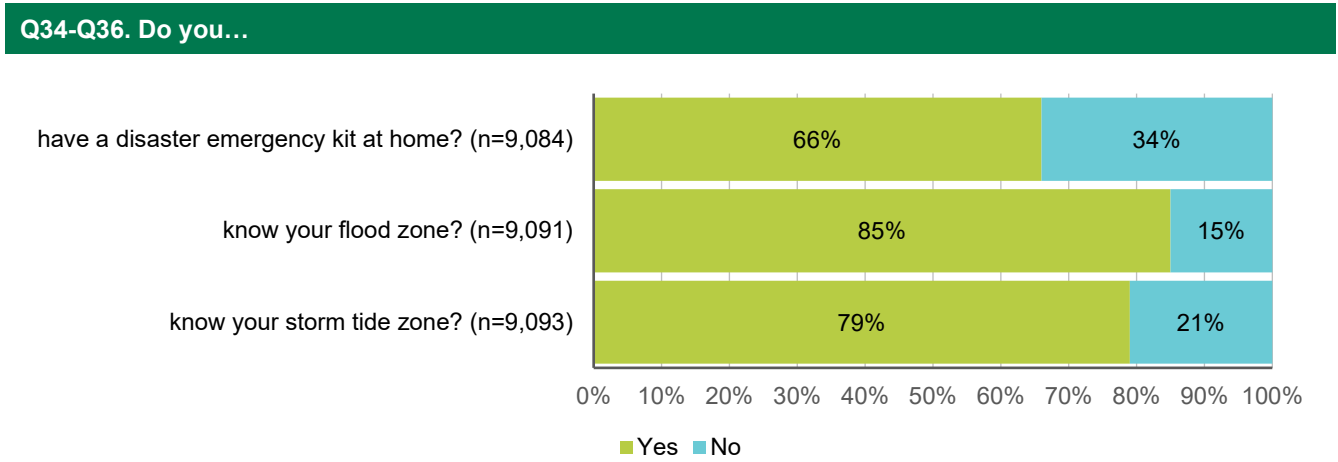
Female residents were more likely than males to not be aware this was happening. Residents who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, less than 20 years had higher responses of not being aware. Residents aged 15-44 years were more likely than those in other age groups to not be aware.



12. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Finally, respondents were asked three Yes/No questions, then an open-ended verbatim question, about disaster preparedness. As shown in **Figure 30**, below, the majority of residents answered each question in the affirmative. However, it may be a concern that 34% of residents said they didn't have a disaster emergency kit at home.

Figure 30 Disaster Checklist



Male residents surveyed in 2024 were more likely than females to have a disaster emergency kit at home. Residents who had lived in the region, or plan to stay, 20+ years were more likely to know their flood zone, their storm tide zone, and to have a disaster emergency kit at home, than those with lower longevity.

Residents aged 15-34 were less likely than all older age groups to know their flood zone, their storm tide zone, or to have a disaster emergency kit at home.



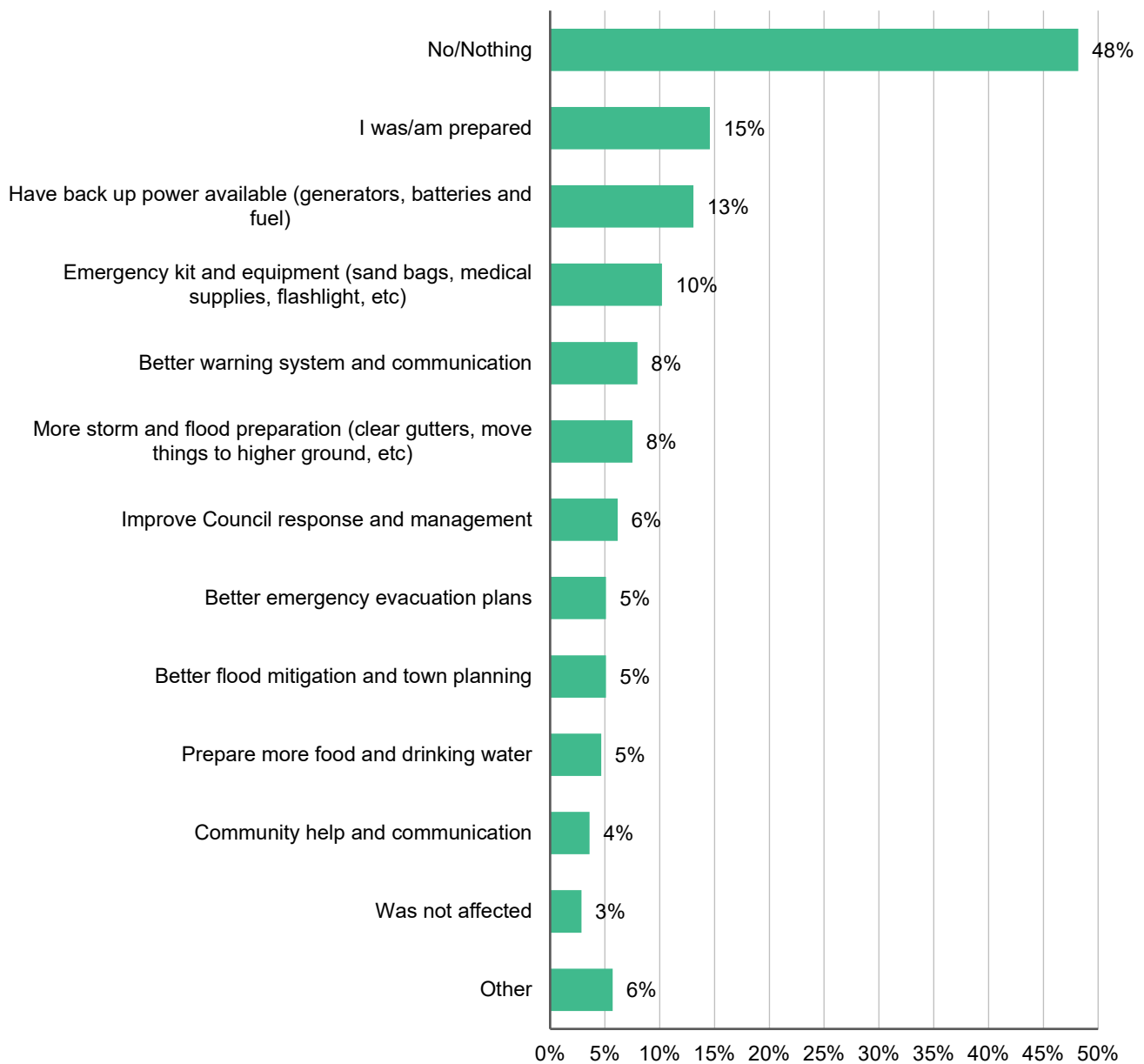
12. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The final question asked was open-ended (verbatim comments are supplied to Council as a separate spreadsheet), asking what, if anything, respondents would do differently next time in an emergency situation. **Figure 31**, below, shows the quantifying of a random selection of these comments. Nearly half (48%) of respondents felt they would not do anything differently next time, with backup power and emergency kits topping the list of specific ideas.

Figure 31 Do Differently Next Time

Q37. Given the recent Tropical Cyclone Jasper and flood events, is there anything that you would do differently next time in an emergency situation? (e.g. Purchasing equipment, pre-storm preparation, evacuation plans)

Base: Random selection of 2024 responses (n=665)



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

HEAD: **Welcome to the Cairns Regional Council Our Cairns Survey 2024.**

INTRO: **Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. The results will help us learn more about resident views, help fine-tune service delivery and help guide Council's priorities for a better Cairns.**

The survey will be open until 6PM on Friday, 30 August 2024.

If you have any questions about completing the survey please call Taverner Research on (02) 9212 2900 or email research@taverner.com.au.

Please click the NEXT button below to begin the survey.

(Taverner Privacy information and link here.)

S1. Do you live in the Cairns Regional Council local government area?

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Yes
2. No **Thank and terminate**

Demographic Questions

Q1. Which suburb/town do you live in?

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Aeroglen | 11. Brinsmead | 21. Edge Hill |
| 2. Aloomba | 12. Bungalow | 22. Edmonton |
| 3. Babinda | 13. Cairns City | 23. Ellis Beach |
| 4. Barron | 14. Cairns North | 24. Eubenangee |
| 5. Barron Gorge | 15. Caravonica | 25. Fishery Falls |
| 6. Bartle Frere | 16. Clifton Beach | 26. Fitzroy Island |
| 7. Bayview Heights | 17. Deeral | 27. Freshwater |
| 8. Bellenden Ker | 18. Earlville | 28. Glen Boughton |
| 9. Bentley Park | 19. East Russell | 29. Goldsborough |
| 10. Bramston Beach | 20. East Trinity | 30. Gordonvale |



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| 31. Green Hill | 44. Mooroolbool | 57. Waugh Pocket |
| 32. Green Island | 45. Mount Peter | 58. Westcourt |
| 33. Holloways Beach | 46. Mount Sheridan | 59. White Rock |
| 34. Kamerunga | 47. Ngatjan | 60. Whitfield |
| 35. Kanimbla | 48. Packers Camp | 61. Woopen Creek |
| 36. Kewarra Beach | 49. Palm Cove | 62. Wooroonooran |
| 37. Lamb Range | 50. Parramatta Park | 63. Woree |
| 38. Little Mulgrave | 51. Portsmouth | 64. Wrights Creek |
| 39. Macalister Range | 52. Redlynch | 65. Yorkeys Knob |
| 40. Machans Beach | 53. Smithfield | 66. Other (in Cairns
Regional Council
area) - specify |
| 41. Manoora | 54. Stratford | |
| 42. Manunda | 55. Trinity Beach | |
| 43. Mirriwinni | 56. Trinity Park | |

Q2. And would your age range be between...

1. Under 15 years Thank and terminate
2. 15-24
3. 25-34
4. 35-44
5. 45-54
6. 55-64
7. 65-74
8. 75-84
9. 85+
10. Rather not say



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Q3. With which gender do you identify?

1. Male
2. Female
3. Non-binary
4. Other
5. Rather not say

Q4. How long have you lived in the Cairns region?

1. Less than 1 year
2. 1 to 5 years
3. 6 to 10 years
4. 11 to 20 years
5. More than 20 years
6. Rather not say

Q5. How long do you plan to stay in the Cairns region?

1. Less than 1 year
2. 1 to 5 years
3. 6 to 10 years
4. 11 to 20 years
5. More than 20 years
6. Don't know

GRID

Q6. On a scale of 0-10, how would you rate Cairns in the following areas? (0=very poor, 10=excellent) Scale 0 to 10 + Not applicable /unsure

COLUMNS

- A. As a place to live
- B. As a place to own or operate a business
- C. As a place to visit



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Q7. What are the three things most important to you to ensure our region meets the needs of the community now and into the future?

(Please choose a maximum of THREE options.)

MULTI-RESPONSE MAX 3

1. Environment
2. Liveability
3. Sustainability
4. Transport
5. Economy
6. Waste, water, and energy
7. Education
8. Being connected and accessible
9. Housing availability
10. Health care
11. Other (specify)

Q8. A diversified economy is important for our region. Which industries in Cairns would you like to see prioritised for stimulus and development?

(Please choose a maximum of FIVE options).

MULTI-RESPONSE MAX 5 RANDOMISE 3 COLUMNS PLEASE

1. Healthcare and social assistance
2. Defence
3. Entrepreneurship and start-ups
4. Marine industries
5. Aviation
6. Construction
7. Manufacturing
8. Professional, scientific, and technical
9. Waste recycling and reprocessing
10. Arts and cultural industries
11. Renewable energy
12. Information media, gaming



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

13. Screen industry, arts, and major events
14. Retail
15. Tourism
16. Agriculture and fishing
17. Wholesale trade
18. Education and training
19. Food production
20. Biodiversity and carbon markets
21. Other (specify) [ANCHOR]

Council Performance

Q9. What is your overall satisfaction with the performance of Cairns Regional Council?

1. Very Poor
2. Poor
3. Neither poor nor good
4. Good
5. Excellent

Q10. Overall, how would you rate your interactions with Council?

1. Very Poor
 2. Poor
 3. Neither poor nor good
 4. Good
 5. Excellent
99. Not applicable (no interactions)



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Q11. Overall, how would you rate the performance of Councillors?

1. Very Poor
2. Poor
3. Neither poor nor good
4. Good
5. Excellent
99. Unsure

Communication

Q12. What is your preferred way to receive information about Council's activities, decisions, or community engagement opportunities?

(Please choose up to THREE options.)

MULTI RESPONSE

1. Television
2. Newspaper
3. eNewsletter
4. Facebook
5. Instagram
6. Radio
7. Council website
8. Online news sites
9. Other social media
10. Other websites

My Cairns App



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Q13. How often would you like to hear from Council?

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Daily
2. Weekly
3. Monthly
4. When Council has something important to say
5. I will seek out information about Council when I can
6. Never

Topical Questions

PLEASE PUT Q14 AND Q14A ON SAME PAGE

Q14. Do you support or oppose the addition of fluoride to the city's water supply?

1. Strongly oppose
2. Somewhat oppose
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat support
5. Strongly support

Q14a. Did you want to add a comment on this?

LARGE-ISH TYPE-IN BOX NON-MANDATORY

Q15. Should Council increase rates on landowners who hold onto undeveloped or underutilised land in already developed areas without making improvements?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Q16. Should Council charge more to Short Term Accommodation providers such as AirBnBs to help mitigate the housing crisis?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure

Q17. Should the Esplanade dining precinct become a shared zone for all vehicles with a daily (7-day) closure from 11am to 11pm, to restrict traffic movements during high pedestrian and dining periods while allowing access for service vehicles?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure

Q18. Would you like an additional bin for green waste?

1. Yes
2. No **Skip to Q20**
3. Unsure

Ask Q19 if Q18=1 (yes) or 3 (unsure)

Q19. How much more would you be willing to pay per annum to have an additional bin for green waste?

1. \$0
2. \$20
3. \$40
4. \$60
5. \$80
6. \$100
7. \$120
8. \$140
9. \$160
10. \$180
11. \$200



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

ASK ALL

Q20. What would influence or motivate you to reduce your water usage in and around your home and garden?

(Select all that apply or “Nothing...”)

MULTI-RESPONSE

1. Nothing – I won't restrict my water usage. [EXCLUSIVE]
2. Shorter allowable watering times for outdoor water use
3. Priced tiering incentives so the less you use, the cheaper your chargeable water rate
4. Knowing more about what short-term actions you can take around the house
5. Having a better understanding of the environmental impacts today and in the future
6. Easier ways to manage your water use through technology
7. Something else – please describe

Liveability

GRID

Q21. To what extent do the following activities enhance liveability/your quality of life in Cairns?

ROWS

1. I do not do this
2. Enhances my life not at all
3. Enhances my life a little
4. Enhances my life somewhat
5. Enhances my life greatly

COLUMNS

PLEASE RANDOMISE

- A. Using tracks and shared footpaths for walking/exercising
- B. Spending time in public parks and natural areas
- C. Attending arts and cultural events
- D. Visiting a library
- E. Participating in community sports
- F. Attending sporting events
- G. Mountain biking or cycling
- H. Going to local markets



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

- I. Participating in volunteer work
- J. Fishing and boating
- K. Swimming in public pools
- L. Going to dog parks
- M. Using skateparks, pump tracks, and BMX tracks
- N. Going to a playground
- O. Access to public toilets
- P. Going to patrolled beaches and natural waterways
- Q. The sense of community in my neighbourhood
- R. Vibrant nightlife

GRID

Q22. How do you rate the following activities?

PLEASE HAVE ALL RESPONSES SAME SIZE

ROWS

1. I do not do this
2. Meets my expectations not at all
3. Meets my expectations a little
4. Mostly meets my expectations
5. Meets my expectations
6. Exceeds my expectations



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

COLUMNS

PLEASE RANDOMISE

- A. Using tracks and shared footpaths for walking/exercising
- B. Spending time in public parks and natural areas
- C. Attending arts and cultural events
- D. Visiting a library
- E. Participating in community sports
- F. Attending sporting events
- G. Mountain biking or cycling
- H. Going to local markets
- I. Participating in volunteer work
- J. Fishing and boating
- K. Swimming in public pools
- L. Going to dog parks
- M. Using skateparks, pump tracks, and BMX tracks
- N. Going to a playground
- O. Access to public toilets
- P. Going to patrolled beaches and natural waterways
- Q. The sense of community in my neighbourhood
- R. Vibrant nightlife

MULTI-RESPONSE

MAX FOUR RESPONSES

Q23a. In relation to local arts and culture, please tell us which of these (up to four factors) are the most valuable or important to you.

1. Creative activities should be an important part of learning
2. First Nations stories and culture are important to preserve history and heritage
3. Understanding our heritage
4. Arts and creative experiences allow me to connect with others
5. There are plenty of opportunities for me to get involved in arts and creative experiences
6. Arts and creative experiences make for a richer and more meaningful life
7. Arts and creative experiences are not really for people like me
8. Arts and creative experiences help us understand perspectives that are different to our own
9. Artists make an important contribution to society
10. Artists should have freedom of expression



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

GRID

Q24. How satisfied are you with efforts being made by Council in your community to:

PLEASE HAVE ALL RESPONSES SAME SIZE

1. Extremely dissatisfied
2. Dissatisfied
3. Neutral
4. Satisfied
5. Extremely Satisfied
6. Unsure

COLUMNS

PLEASE RANDOMISE

- A. Protect and conserve the natural environment
- B. Provide a socially inclusive environment
- C. Provide a liveable urban environment
- D. Protect character (e.g. older) places and buildings

Environmental Issues

Q25. How aware are you of the current environmental challenges facing Cairns? (e.g. climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss)

1. Not aware
2. Slightly aware
3. Moderately aware
4. Very aware
5. Extremely aware



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Q26. Would you support the introduction of an environmental levy to fund local environmental projects and initiatives?

1. Strongly oppose
2. Somewhat oppose
3. Neutral
4. Somewhat support
5. Strongly support

Q27. If an environmental levy were introduced, how much extra would you be willing to pay per annum to support local environmental projects?

SINGLE RESPONSE - SCALE

1. Nothing
2. Up to \$10 (Smaller/less projects)
3. \$10-\$20
4. \$20-\$30
5. \$30-\$50
6. \$50-\$100
7. Over \$100 (Larger/more projects)

Q28. If an environmental levy is implemented, which of the following areas do you think should be prioritised for funding?

(Please choose up to THREE options.)

MULTI-RESPONSE MAX 3

1. Greening of the city and the suburbs
2. Renewable energy projects
3. Conservation and biodiversity protection
4. Pollution reduction programs
5. Community education on sustainability
6. Waste management and recycling initiatives
7. Other (please specify)



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Urban Change

Q29. How supportive are you of residential development in your suburb to accommodate population and economic growth in Cairns?

1. Strongly Against
2. Against
3. Not Sure
4. Support
5. Strongly support
6. Unsure

GRID

Q30. Please rate your agreement/disagreement with the following statements about housing density:

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

COLUMNS PLEASE RANDOMISE

- A. There is a need to provide higher density housing beyond the CBD (e.g. Smithfield, Edmonton) to reduce the pressure on suburban areas.
- B. Higher density housing should occur where it is close to shops, work, recreation areas and other services and facilities.
- C. Rural land should be protected for agriculture (eg sugar cane) and not be developed into residential estates.
- D. I would like to see higher density housing built in existing urban and suburban areas.
- E. All suburbs should feature a mix of housing options including smaller residential lots, houses, apartments, townhouses and duplexes.
- F. Higher density housing in suburbs will create more affordable housing options.



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

G. Higher density should respect the tropical character and streetscapes of the surrounding suburbs and feature tropical design elements including balconies, wide eaves and landscaping and lush foliage.

H. It is important to me to have a large back yard.

Major Events

Q31. **What type of major events do you think Cairns would MOST benefit from having more of?**

(Please choose up to THREE)

MULTI-RESPONSE MAX 3

1. Arts events
2. Festivals
3. High profile film and TV (filming and production)
4. Music events
5. First Nations events
6. Sporting events participation (e.g., Ironman, Seven Marathon)
7. Sporting events spectator (e.g., Crankworx, AFL, NRL, Cricket)
8. None - I don't think Cairns would benefit from more major events [EXCLUSIVE]
9. Other - please specify

Safety

Q32. **How effective do you think Council's CitySafe security patrols are in reducing anti-social behaviour in the CBD?**

1. Not effective
2. Somewhat ineffective
3. Somewhat effective
4. Very effective
5. Not sure



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

Q33. Does the introduction of Council's Public Space Safety Patrols make you feel safer in your neighbourhood?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure
4. Not aware this was happening

Disaster

Q34. Do you know your storm tide zone?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know

Q35. Do you know your flood zone?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know

Q36. Do you have a disaster emergency kit at home?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know

Q37. Given the recent Tropical Cyclone Jasper and flood events, is there anything that you would do differently next time in an emergency situation? (e.g. purchasing equipment, pre-storm preparation, evacuation plans)

LARGE TYPE-IN BOX MANDATORY

PLEASE PUT Q38 AND Q39 ON SAME PAGE

Q38. Which complex question would you most like Cairns to tackle?



13. APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please choose ONE only.)

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. How can we future proof our economy and protect it from shocks to tourism?
2. How do we make the most of renewable energy resources?
3. How do we compete on the global market while keeping our local lifestyle?
4. How do we keep our young people and best talent in Cairns Regional Council?
5. How do we preserve our agricultural lands for the future while providing housing?
6. What do we need to do to be an innovative region that makes the most of changing technology?

Q39. Are there any other ideas or suggestions you would like us to be aware of?

LARGE-ISH TYPE-IN BOX NON-MANDATORY

D4. And lastly, would you be interested in taking part in Council's resident research panel?

(As part of this panel you would have the opportunity to take part in further research and community feedback for Council. Any participation would be voluntary. Your email address would be held by Cairns Regional Council, and not shared with any third parties. You can withdraw from the panel at any time.)

1. Yes (please provide email address for further details)
2. No

OUTRO: Thank you, that is the end of the survey. Cairns Regional Council greatly appreciates your time and feedback. A summary of results will be shared with residents in coming months.



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