

Growing Our Community



Acknowledgement to Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land upon which we stand, work and play.

We acknowledge the Aboriginal People as the First Nation People and their connection to the land and waters, as the land and waters are a part of them; spiritually and culturally.

We acknowledge their ancestors, the Elders past and present, who have led the way for us to follow in their footsteps.

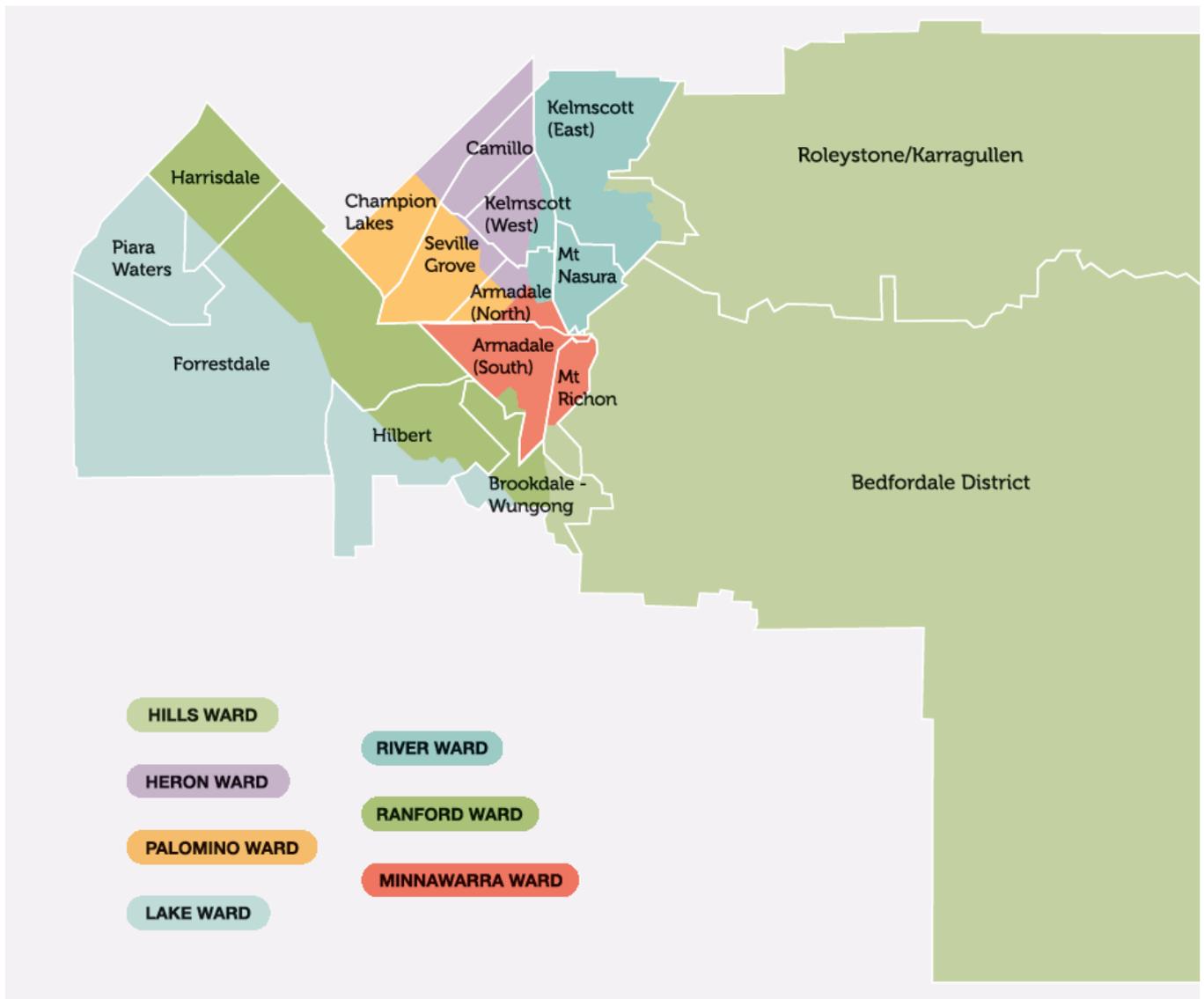


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Summary of the Project

The City of Armadale's 'Growing Our Community' project aimed to engage with community members and service providers to gather feedback about local aspirations and issues. This project was a vital element of a broader goal to identify the social priorities across the City's diverse suburbs to inform the optimum response by the City, the community and other stakeholders. In addition to the community and service provider feedback, the following data sets contributed to the approach of identifying suburb-level social priorities:

- Demographic suburb-level data and other relevant datasets.
- Service provider insights via feedback interviews.
- Strategic insight from high level state government committees and groups.

The following report provides information about the qualitative data that was collected during the community engagement process. This information was gathered directly from residents and service providers and offers an indication of trends and unique insights into the views of residents living in each suburb within the City of Armadale.

Feedback was collected from residents between February and April 2021. Two main questions were asked:

- What do you love about your suburb?
- What do you think is your suburbs biggest social issue?

711 responses were received, 431 of which were provided at 10 engagement activities across suburbs within the City of Armadale. City officers attended community events and spaces to engage face to face with residents. This included events such as the movie nights in Harrisdale, Kelmscott and Armadale, and the Heron Park Harmony Day Festival and engagement tables hosted at local shopping centres and markets. The remaining responses were provided online. Officers also interviewed services, organisations and community groups who work within the City of Armadale to gain their insight.



Introduction

The City of Armadale is the fourth fastest growing local government in WA and the fifteenth in Australia. The population is approximately 91,000 and is expected to grow to 141,000 by 2036. The population is currently growing annually at 3.6%. This is more than three times the state average (1.1%) and more than twice the Australian average (1.5%). Over 50% of the population is under 34 years of age.

The City covers an area of 560 square kilometres and consists of 19 diverse suburbs and localities. The Armadale City Centre is a designated Strategic Metropolitan Activity Centre. It is located 28 kilometres from the Perth CBD and is linked via the metropolitan rail and road network.

Approximately 30,000 people are expected to move into the residential growth spots of Forrestdale, Haynes, Hilbert, Harrisdale and Piara Waters between 2016 and 2036. On average 14 new homes are built per week in Armadale.

Social Priority Approach

The City of Armadale works to empower communities to meet their aspirations and respond to areas of concern. The City's approach to Community Development comprises of four steps:

- Ask residents what they like about their suburb, what they would like to see and what areas are of concern to identify
- Research what projects/services work well in similar communities – known as 'good practice' examples
- Identify the City's role in a potential action plan
- Explore possible projects/services with the community and local groups/organisations and invite them to be part of resulting action plans

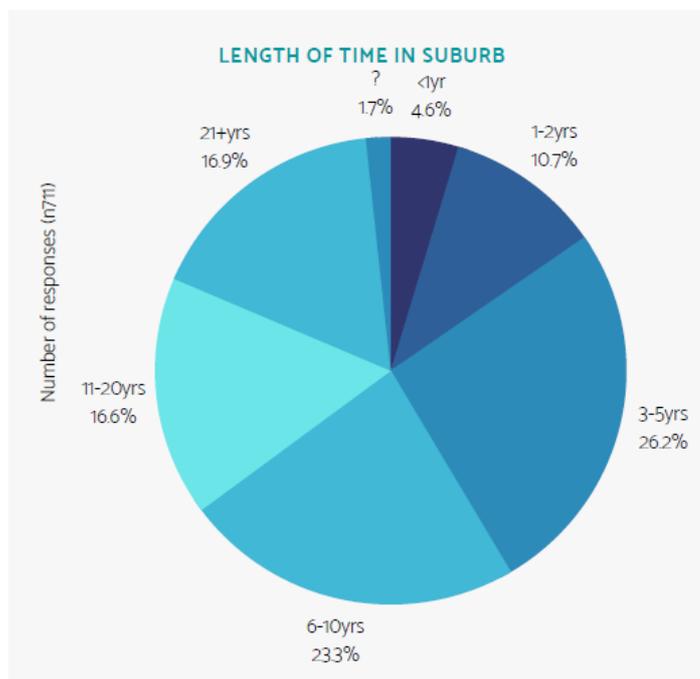
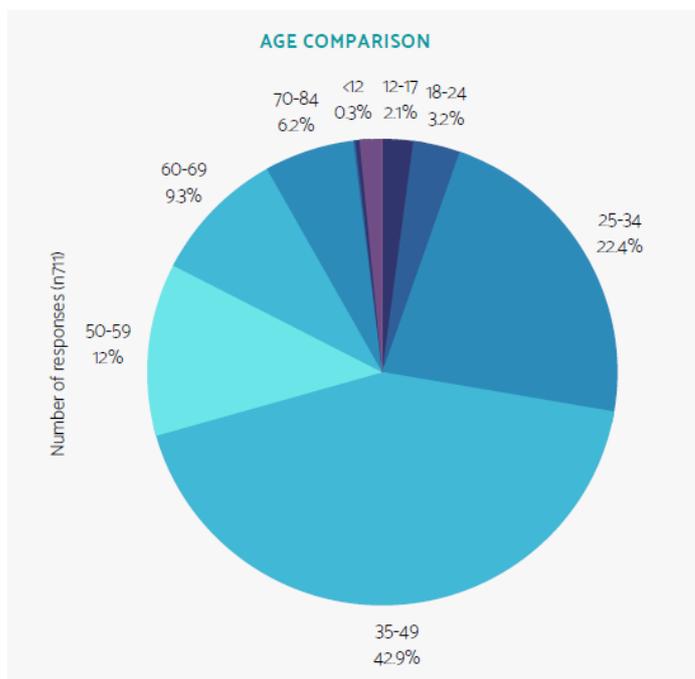
What the City can do as an organisation can be broadly categorised as follows:

- **Advocacy:** To advocate to the state and federal government the need for services, resources and facilities; the City has an Advocacy Strategy for this purpose
- **Coordination of services:** Working with the existing networks and specific stakeholder groups including community members to generate collective action
- **Contracting services:** Negotiating with a service provider to deliver services/programs via a Service Agreement
- **Capacity building:** Assisting groups with officer advice and links with other organisations and funding sources, the Community Grants program and providing training where relevant

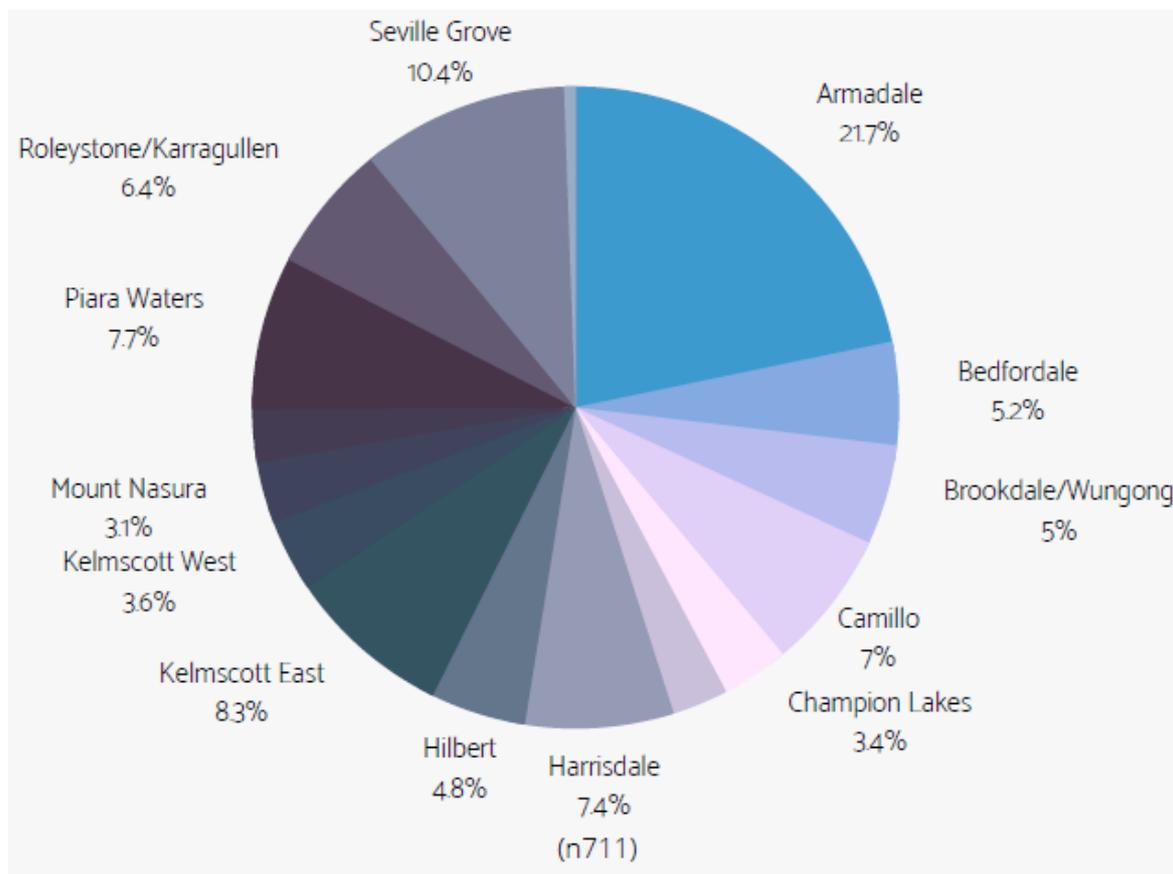


Response Data

Survey Responses received: 711



Percentage of Respondents by Suburb



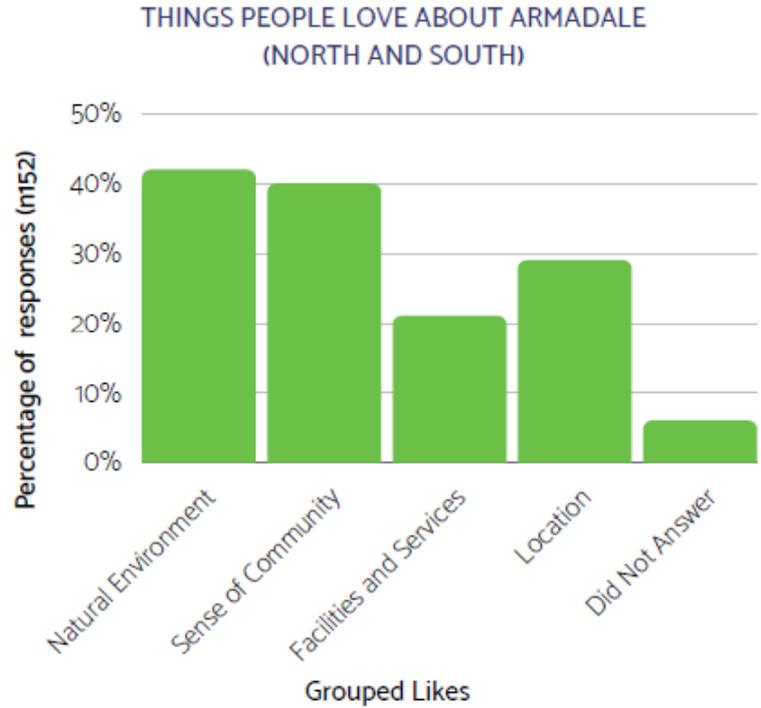
Armadale (North and South)

Survey Responses received: 152

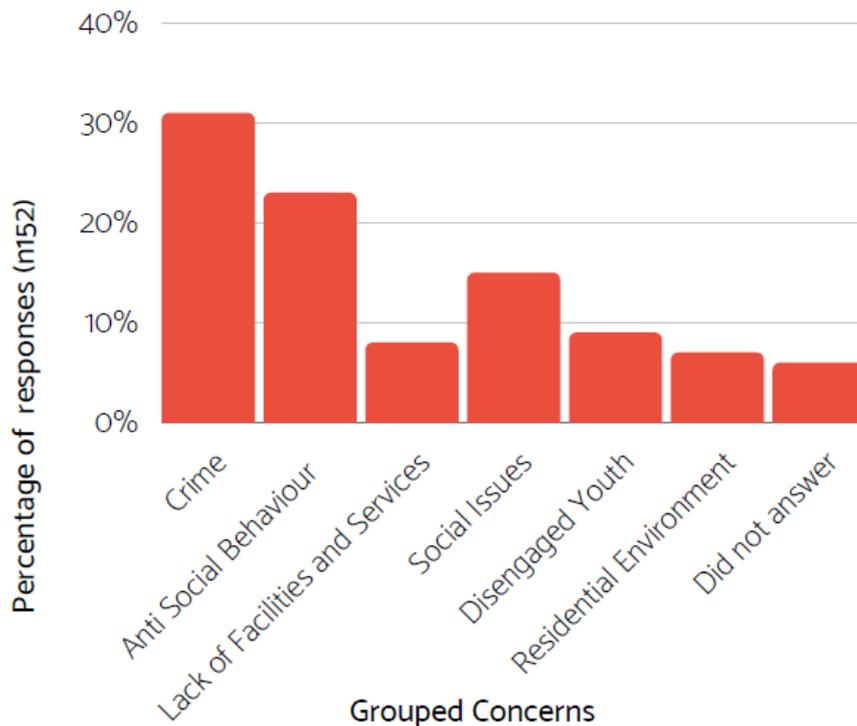
“I love where I live, it is close to shops and public transport and open spaces such as Minnawarra Park.”

“I love that there is plenty of places to go bush walking and that Armadale isn't far from dams. The shopping centres are great and there are lots of great events for families.”

“There are lots of places to walk with friends and my dog. Leafy green spaces and natural waterways. Access to shopping and transport is easy and my street, in particular, is full of lovely people and birdlife.”



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN ARMADALE (NORTH AND SOUTH)



Bedfordale

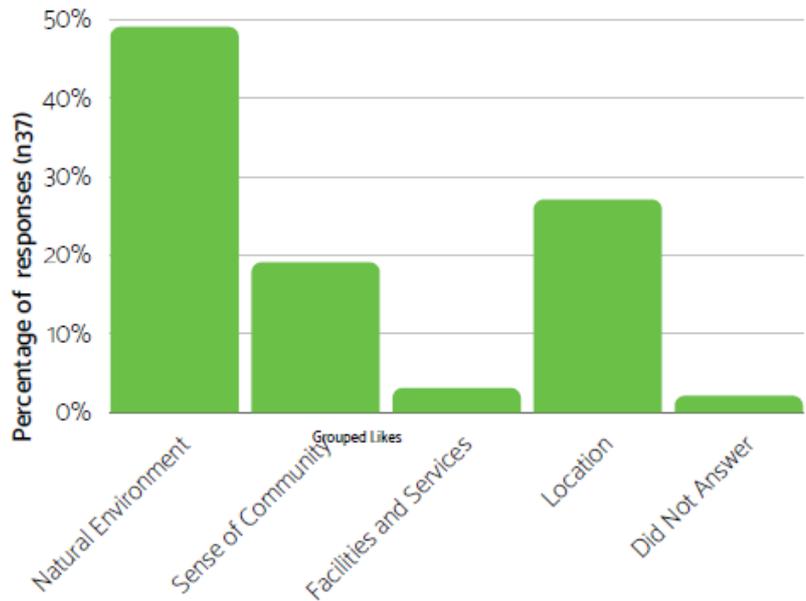
Survey Responses received: 37

“I love the sense of community here. Neighbours helping with fresh home grown produce or assisting with removing fallen trees or landscape equipment. The surrounding nature is beautiful and the local fire brigade’s commitment to the children on Christmas Day and Easter.”

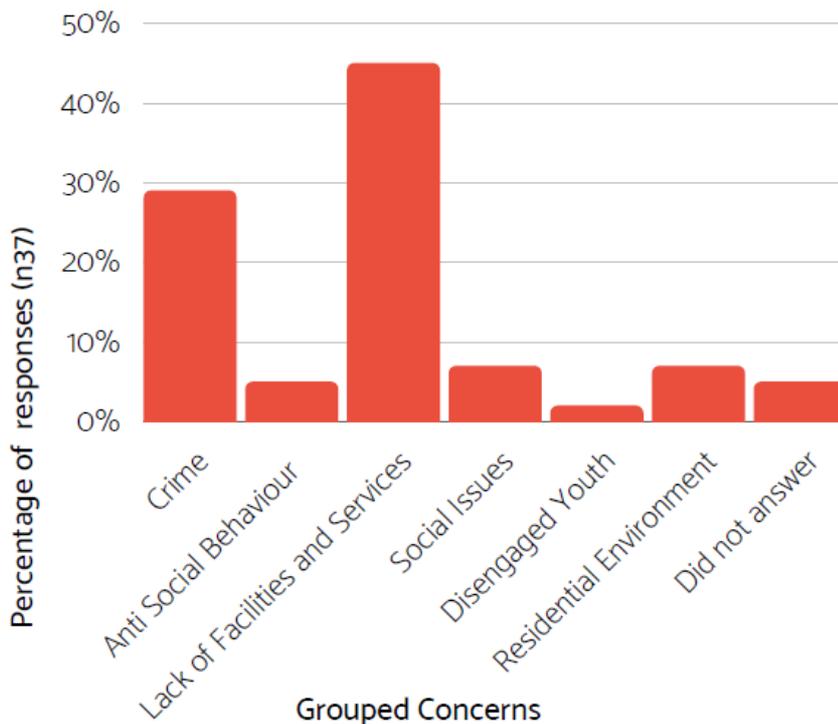
“I love the atmosphere it’s very quiet and peaceful, and the people are kind. It’s also a nice place to walk.”

“It is in the bush, yet near the shops. It is friendly, connected, people care about each other, the environment and so on. It’s beautiful. Many local groups - Bedfordale Markets, Residents' Association, Volunteer Firies, CWA, Bungendore Park, Settlers Common, etc.”

THINGS PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT BEDFORDALE



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN BEDFORDALE



Brookdale/Wungong

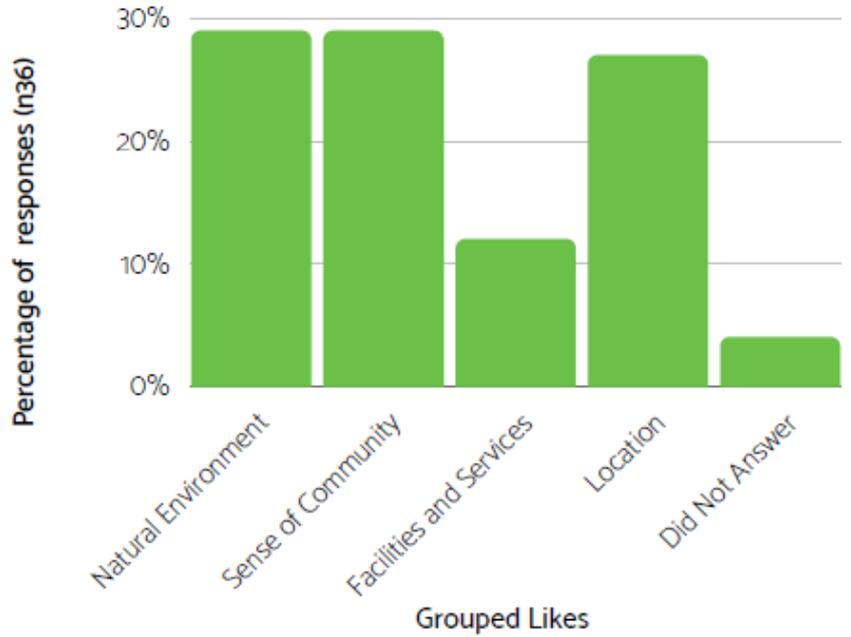
Survey Responses received: 36

“Gwynne Park Primary school and the community spirit within it.”

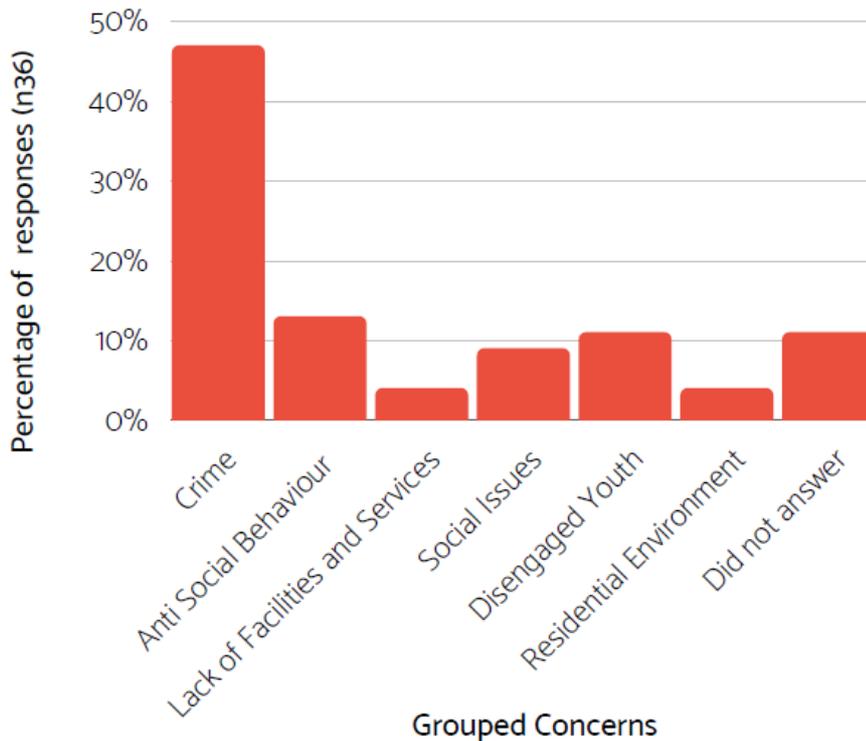
“I love the fact it's so close to pretty much everything. I've been in the Armadale area for 11 years now and love it. We have a vast variety of shops, restaurants, fast food outlets, even a movie theatre. Public transport, great parks, great schools, etc.”

“Lovely people all who will lend a hand anytime they see someone in need.”

THINGS PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT BROOKDALE/WUNGONG



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN BROOKDALE/WUNGONG



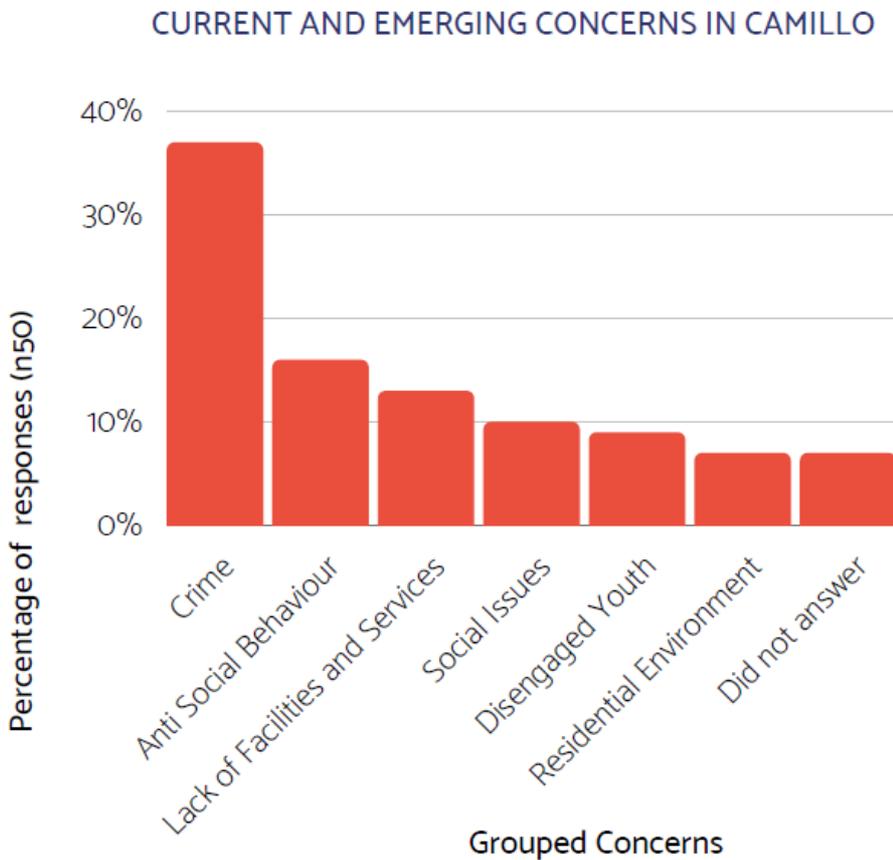
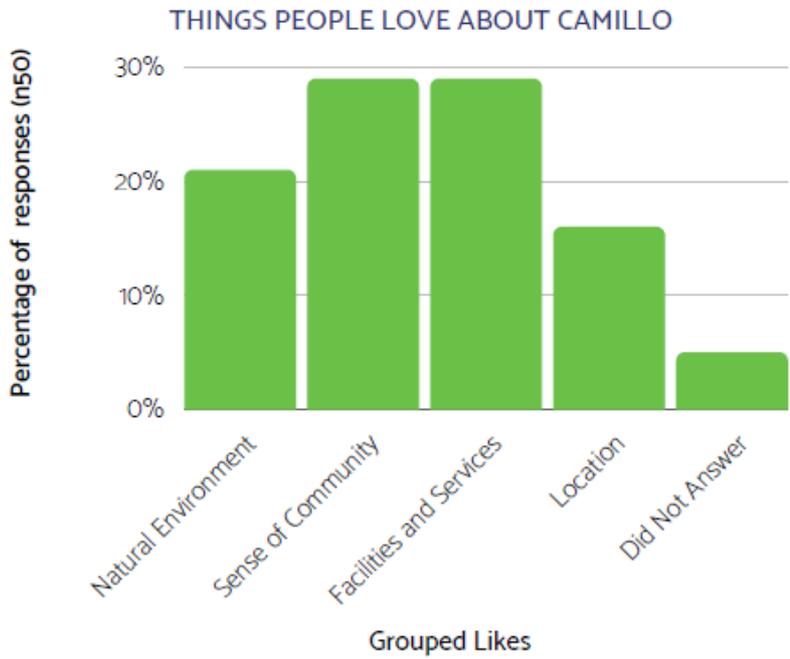
Camillo

Survey Responses received: 50

“I lived away for a while, but I have come back home is how I feel about my suburb.”

“The community spirit and how people offer to help others in need.”

“I liked the access to state schools for my children and access to ovals and community services. The environment and peace offered.”

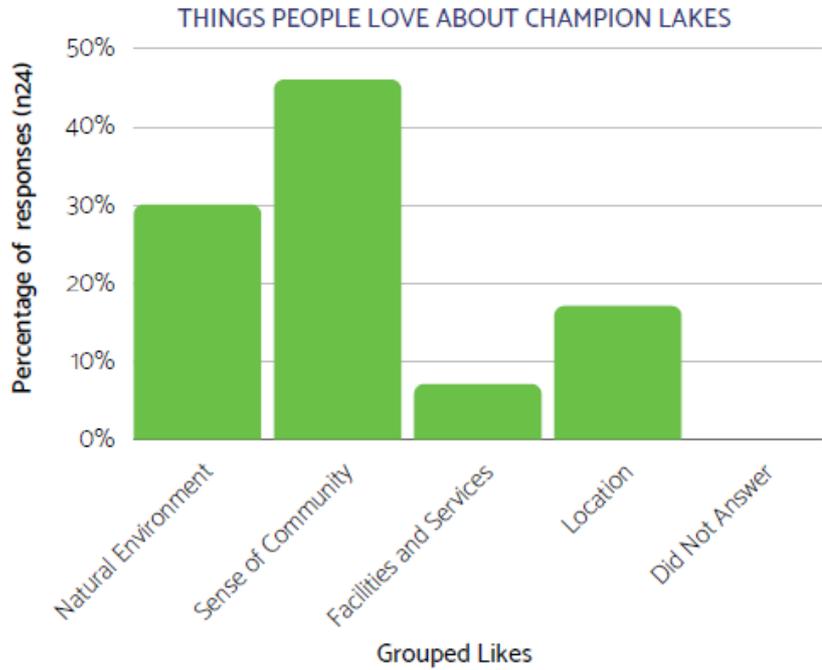


Champion Lakes

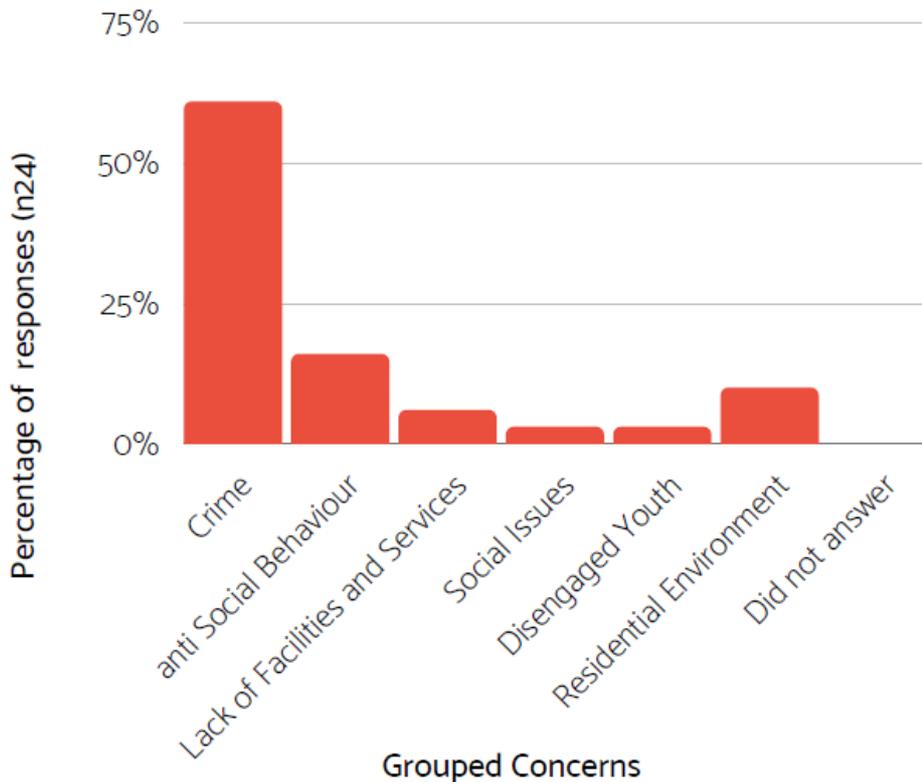
Survey Responses received: 24

“The environment, and very community-based neighbours. Whether you need a friend, a lift or simply a newspaper, someone is always willing to help.”

“We love having the lake on our doorstep, it's great for exercise or just to look at, and the birdlife is interesting. The community is very engaged and has a can-do attitude. The Residents Association is very active and progressive, and we have a number of events and busy bees throughout the year. Generally, the residents are a great group of people.”



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN CHAMPION LAKES



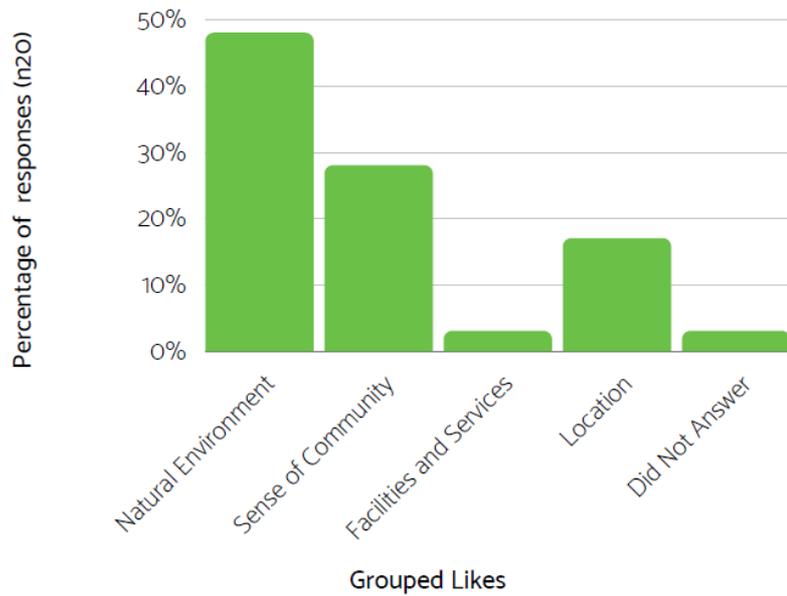
Forrestdale/Haynes

Survey Responses received: 20

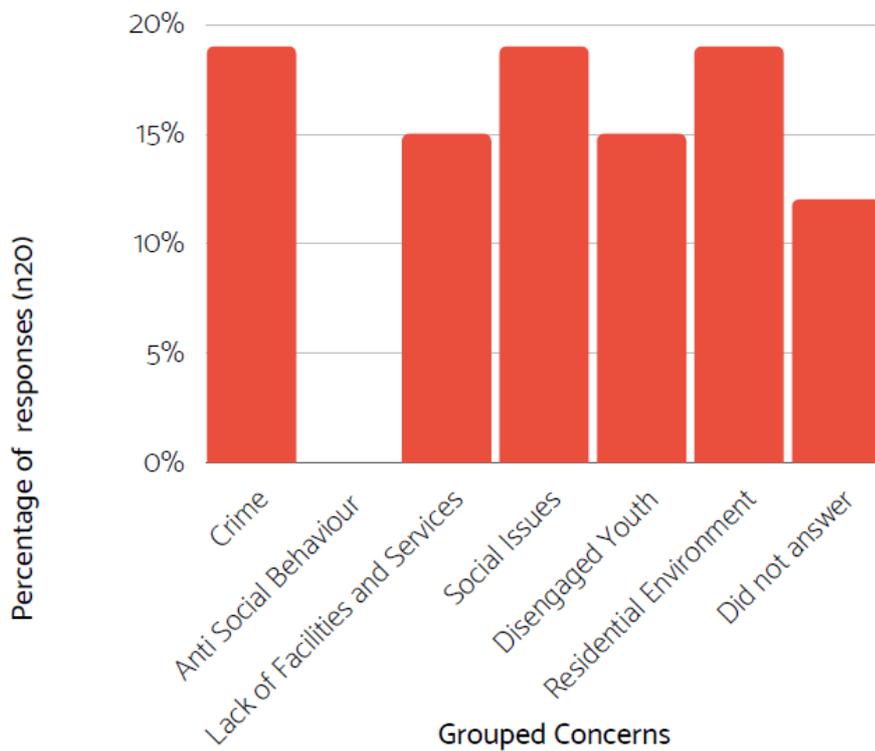
“Neighbours are friendly and warm. Lots of parks and greenery around that makes walks around the neighbourhood pleasant.”

“Love how peaceful and friendly it is great environment all round us. This area is perfect.”

THINGS PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT FORRESTDALE/HAYNES



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN FORRESTDALE/HAYNES

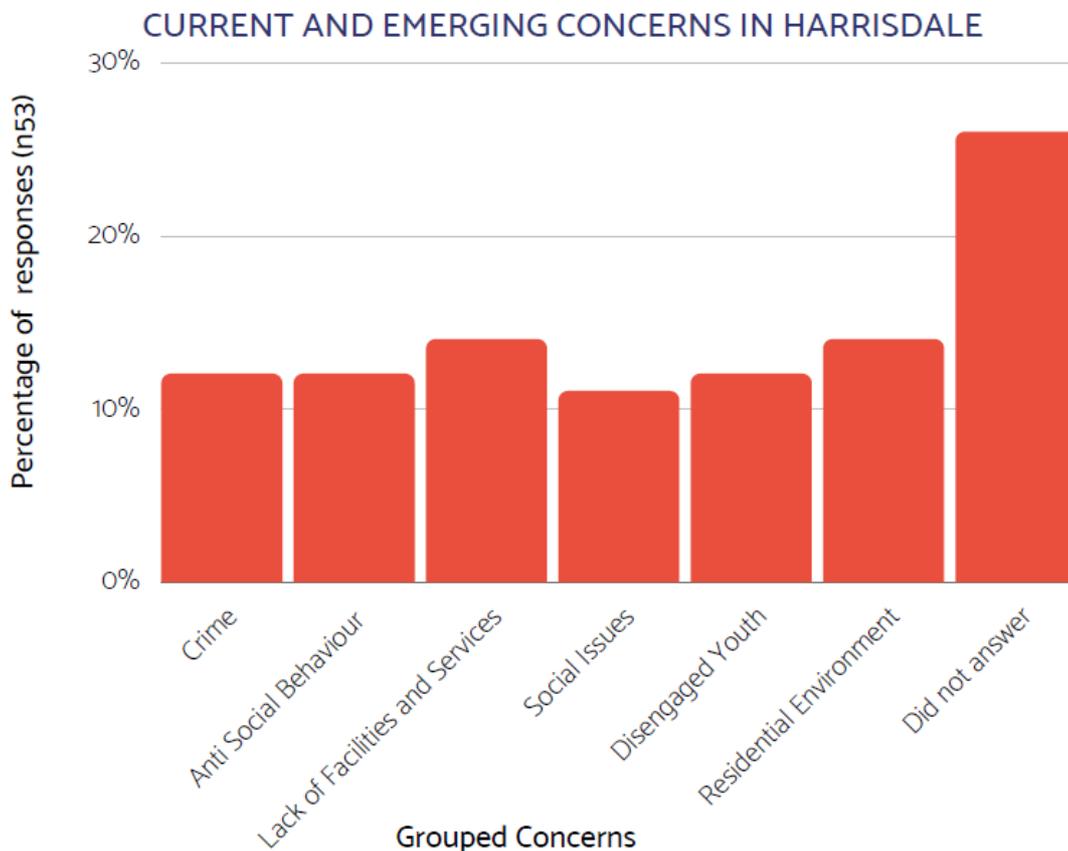
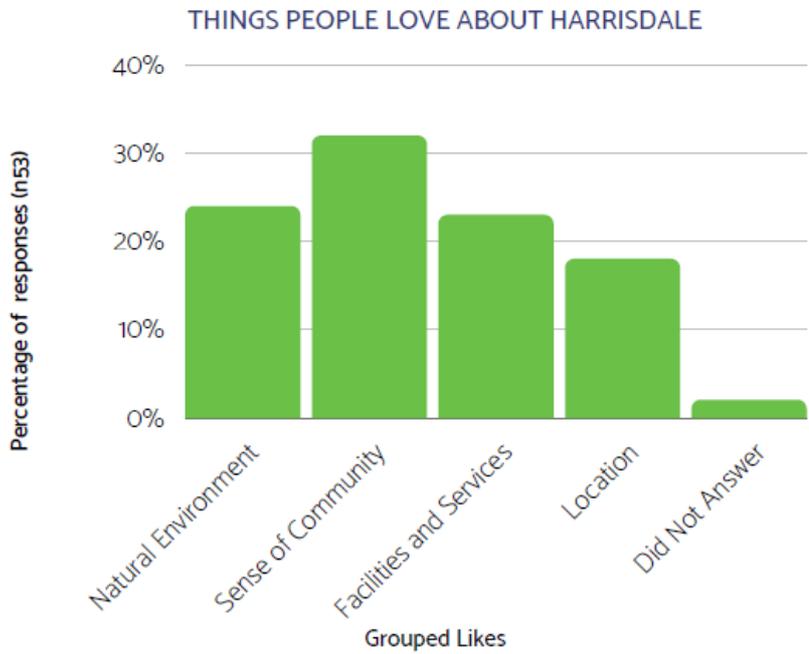


Harrisdale

Survey Responses received: 53

“I love everything. We have some great schools, wonderful parks, awesome walkways and we even have a waterway throughout the suburb. Our local shops are great as well and we have a very diverse and respectful community.”

“Love to live here because lots of community people, good communication children love to play with same age a good to learn language with different people, different language.”



Hilbert

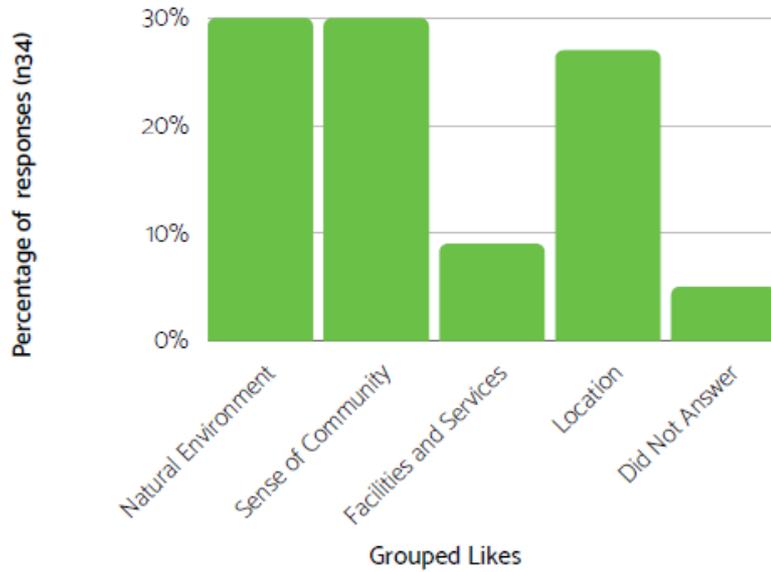
Survey Responses received: 34

“I love Shipwreck Park and the surrounding parklands area, perfect to walk our dog and future child. Plus, loads of schools close by for when they grow up!”

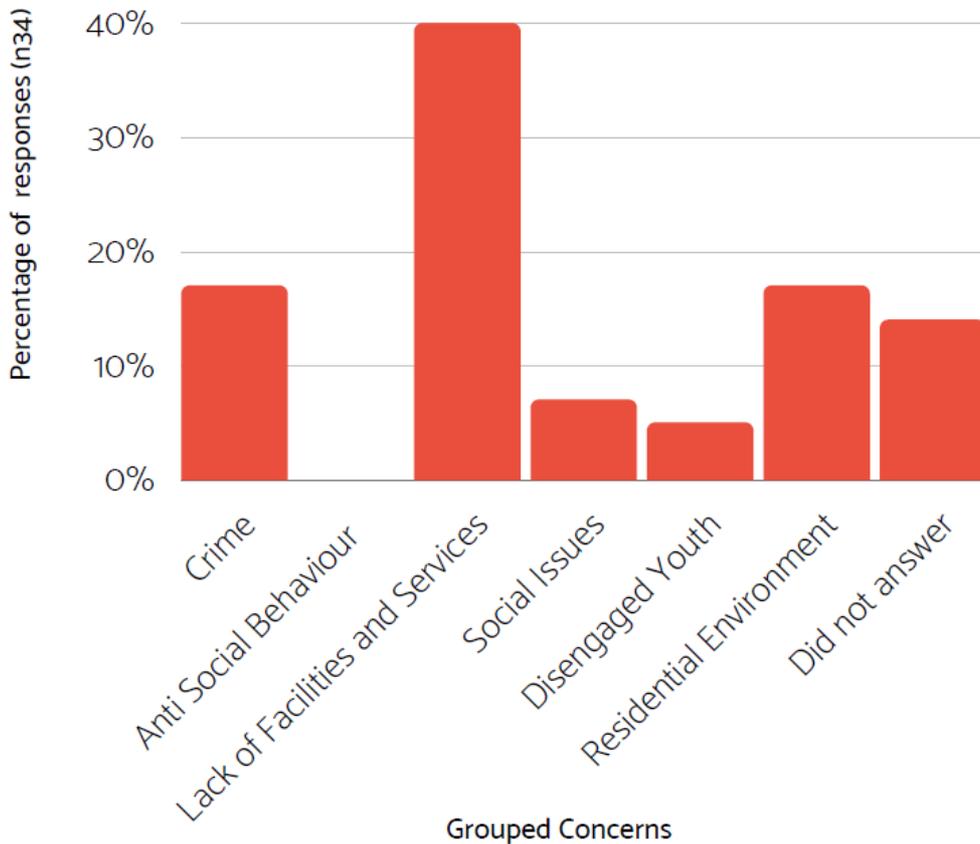
“I love my suburb because my neighbours are very friendly and very calm environments. I feel very safe being here.”

“My community is so engaging by harnessing the various cultures within. Many community celebrations occur that promote inclusion of all.”

THINGS PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT HILBERT



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN HILBERT



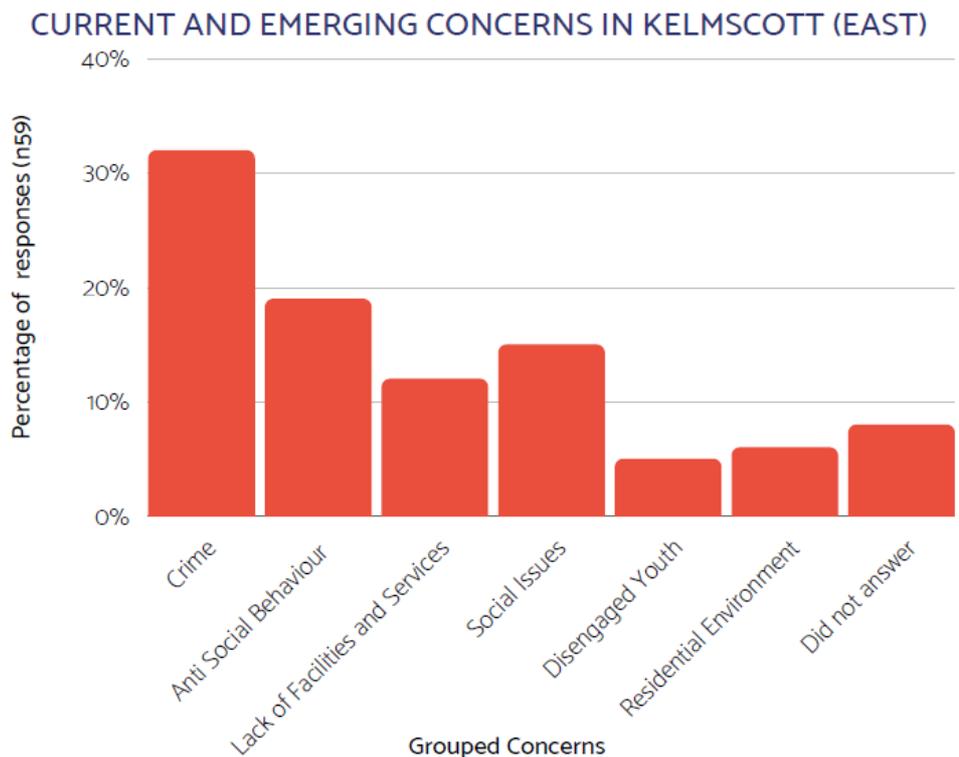
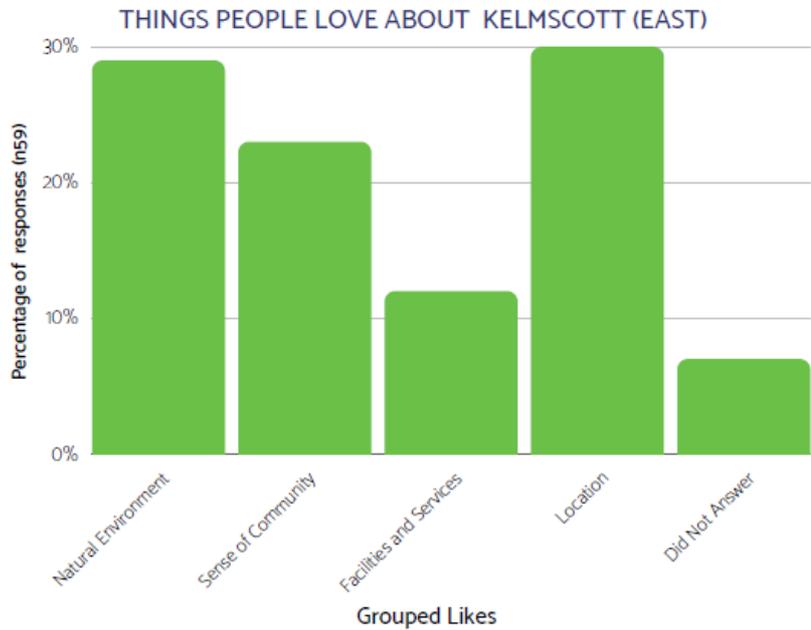
Kelmscott (East)

Survey Responses received: 59

“The amenities - parks, footpaths, well maintained surrounds. Well located and generally well-cared for properties. Everything is available locally. Beautiful area - CofA do an amazing job!”

“I live in Clifton Hills, and I love the beautiful surroundings, the closeness to nature, the local birds and wildlife, being close to the river, living in a beautiful family-friendly community, our local cafe the Pink Deli, and being walking distance from our local supermarket, sports oval and the school.”

“I love the sense of community. I love the feeling of security. I love that people know us and look out for myself and my kids. I love that so many of us that live in the area also choose to work in the same area. I love the events that we have access to throughout the year. I love that the City of Armadale hosts so many events and brings in local artists for performances. I love the Australia Day fireworks, the Kelmscott Show, Music in the Mall, Hawkers Markets, Carols by Candlelight and the parade. I love my local community orchestra that we rehearse locally for, perform locally and involve anyone in the community and that we can involve schools in these events. I love that there are lots of opportunities for our kids. I’m sure there is more... so much more.”



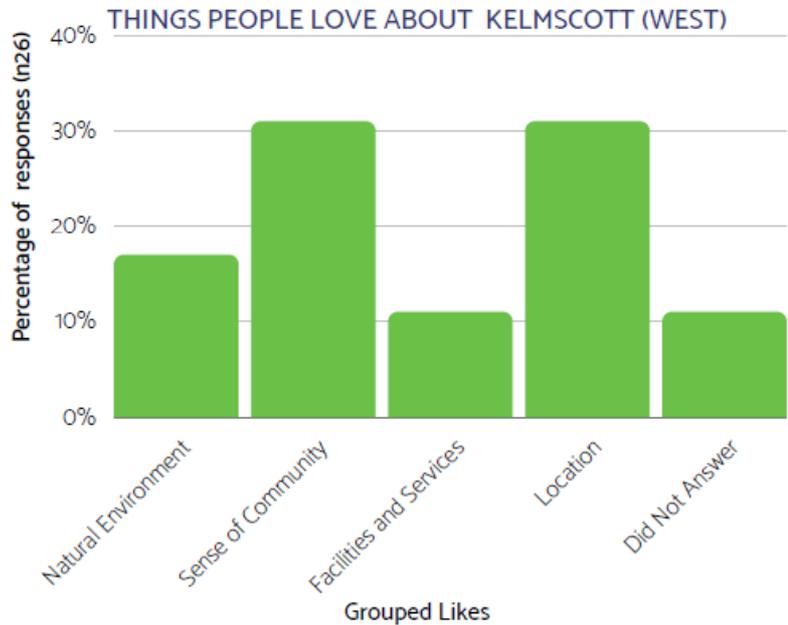
Kelmscott (West)

Survey Responses received: 26

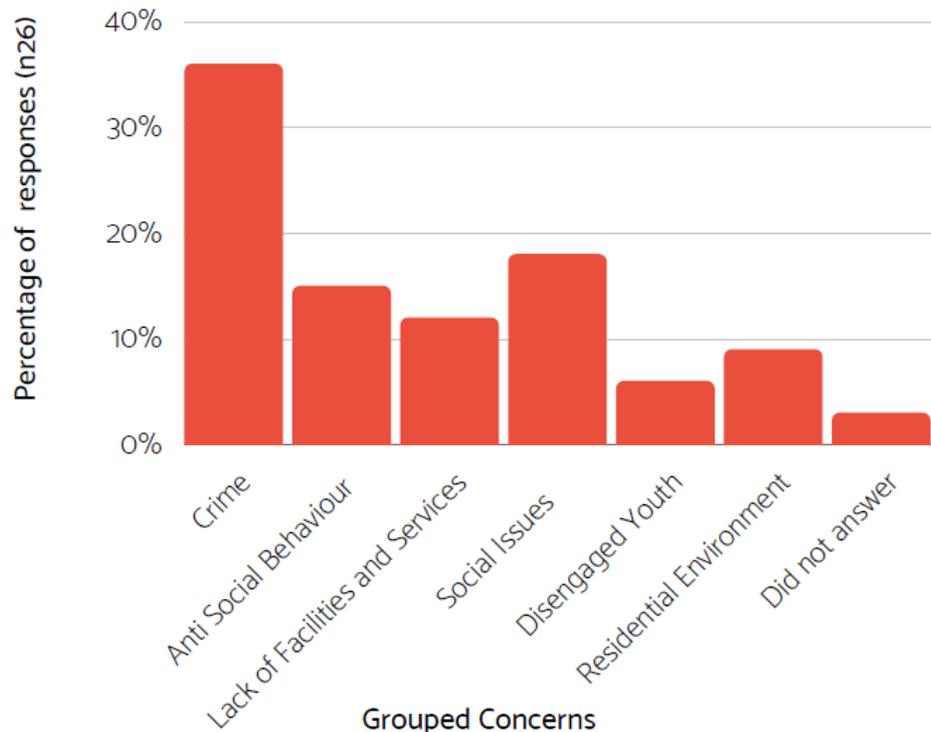
“My neighbours are the most giving and friendly people I have ever come across. I have lived in a number of suburbs (Merriwa, Quinns Rock, South Guildford, Hamersley, Scarborough) and never have I met a more caring community. I have had a lot of health problems and with four kids, I know I can count on the people around me to help if ever needed. Even being out in the community such as shops, op shops etc., people are so nice and helpful. It's really a lovely suburb/area. Also, the Council do a great job at keeping the parks around me clean and tidy. There is a park located at the back of my home and my kids always play basketball at the half court there. The Council were just there yesterday and took them all day to cut and tidy the lawn. It really makes the area nicer to be in. “

“Peaceful, green, safe, friendly, sports clubs, kids.”

“It's close to bush walking tracks. Around the corner from train station, aquatic centre, hospital, some urban bush tracks to walk the dog, any supermarket is within 2kms. Crossways Training Café is great!”



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN KELMSCOTT (WEST)



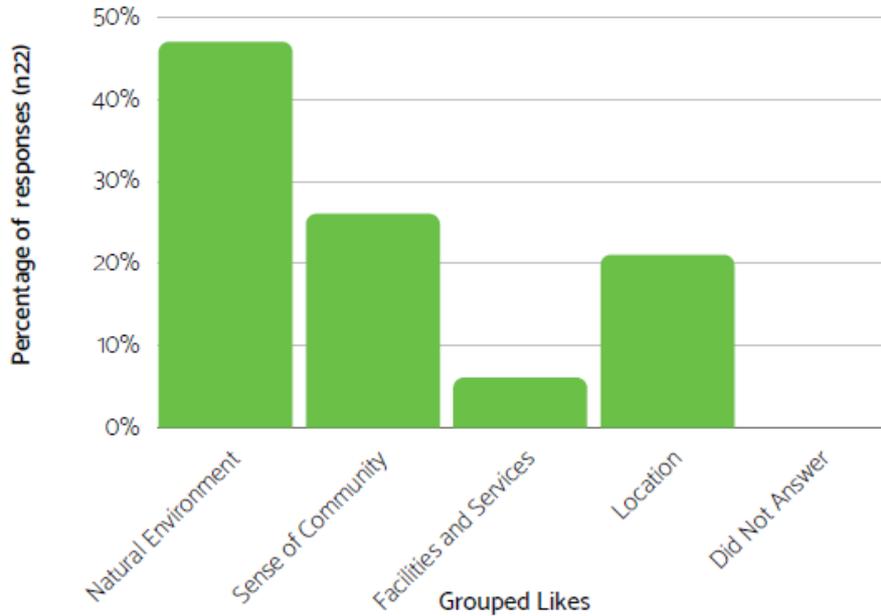
Mount Nasura

Survey Responses received: 22

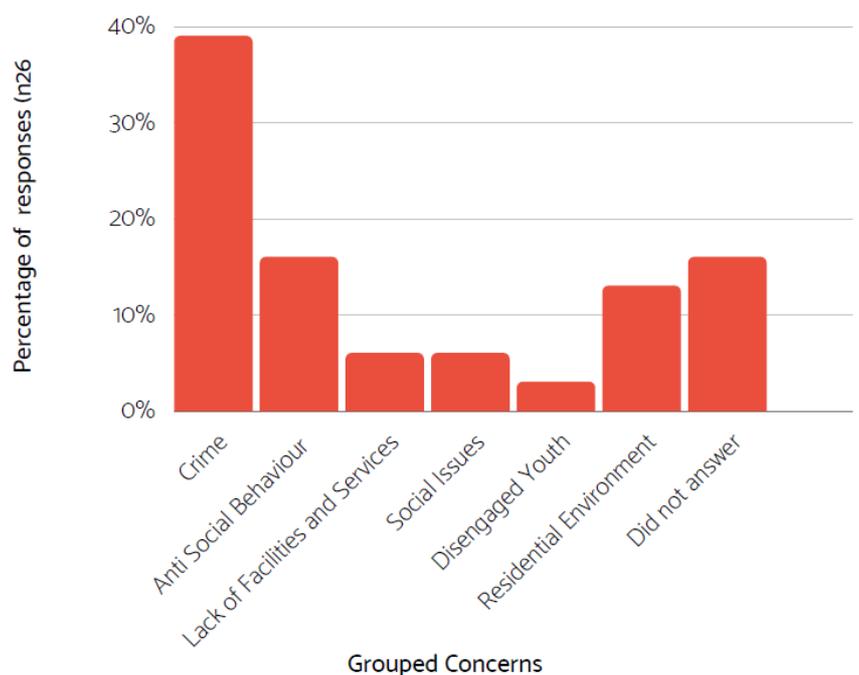
"I have moved here two years ago from Byford. The people on my street are absolutely amazing. We help each other out e.g., Covid...we spoke to each other from the front yards, put things each other needed in the letterboxes such as masks, and food for the elderly who could not go anywhere. We got a letter in the letterbox from the lady down the road saying she was a nurse and if anybody needed any help she was there. We are so lucky to have amazing people around us. The fb page we have is amazing too, we have a Grow Free stall a lady puts out regularly where we can drop off fruit and plants magazines etc. and swap for something. It's just amazing!"

"Mount Nasura has everything for a nature loving person. A decade ago, myself and my wife just came here for a drive. We got an exceptional touch of this mount, and this caused us to relocate here. Hill: The suburb has a great hill area. Fortunate people get either a hill or valley view. Water stream: We have a beautiful, natural, water stream that is within the view of our home. This small pond is known as 'Peaceful Pond'. Caring neighbourhood: Our neighbourhood is filled with friendly people and personal intimacy is obvious. I know 100 people in the mount by name. Leaders in the community: MP, MLA, Mayor and Councillors are very friendly, approachable and many of us know them personally. Fantastic school: Armadale School is the best school in the area. Amenities: Armadale hospital, shopping centres and Elizabethan pub are just minutes away from the mount."

THINGS PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT MOUNT NASURA



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN MOUNT NASURA



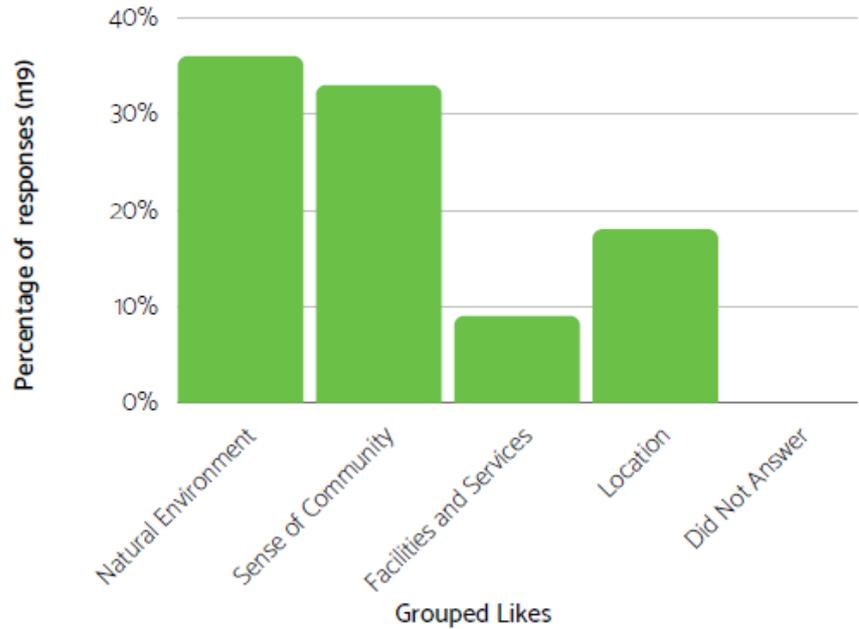
Mount Richon

Survey Responses received: 19

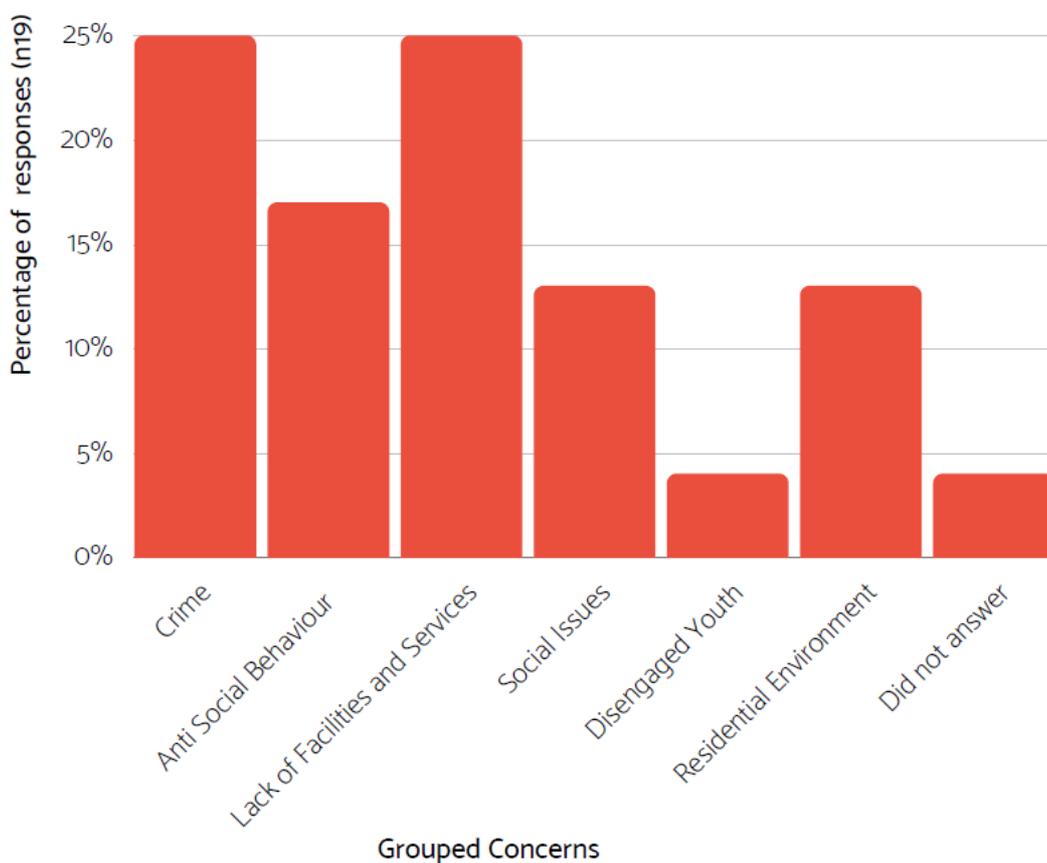
“Living on the hill is very special: we are blessed with wildlife, wonderful trees, and a community full of caring and interesting people. The help and support given to the residents through the Mt. Richon Facebook page is heart-warming.”

“Love the larger blocks and bush/hills background. Also love the community in our area. Neighbours know each other and look out for each other. It is a real community.”

THINGS PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT MOUNT RICHON



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN MOUNT RICHON



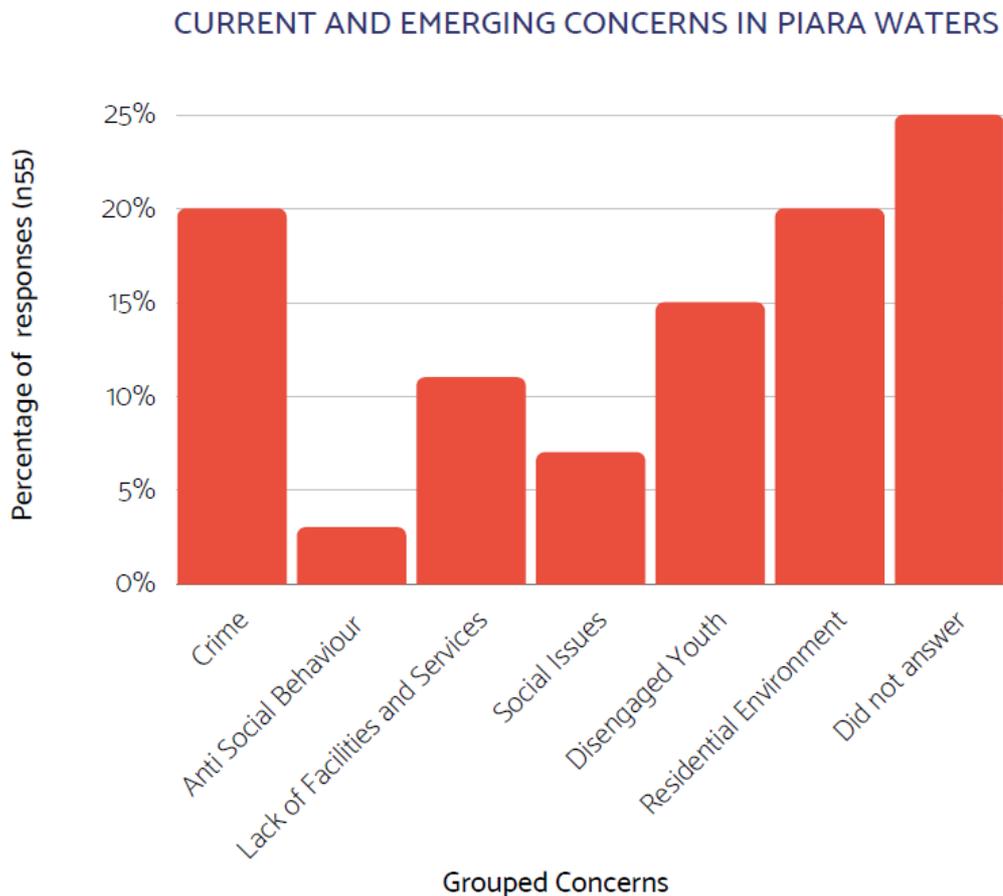
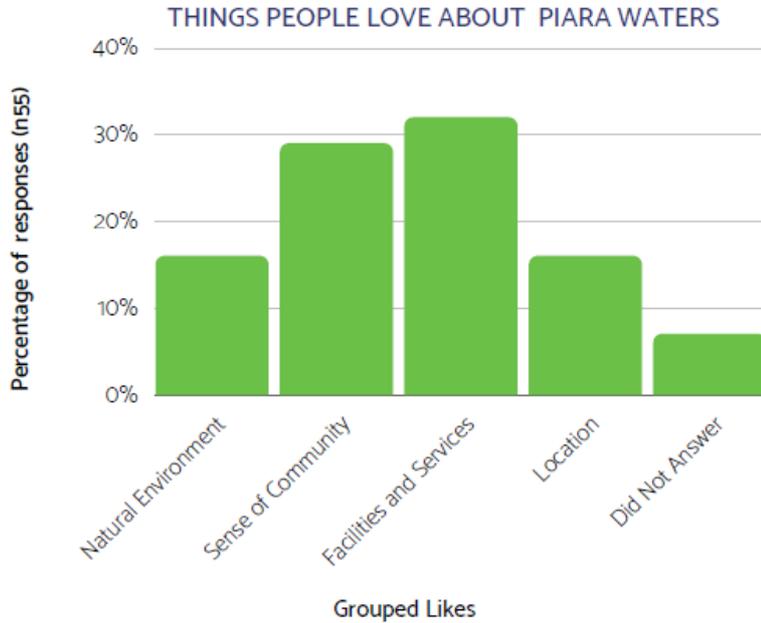
Piara Waters

Survey Responses received: 55

“There is a great sense of community. Knowing your neighbours and helping each other.”

“I like that it is safe for our family. Many people of many nationalities. Diversity is the key to a safer future for our kids. We can teach them to understand cultures and respect them.”

“Quiet and peaceful neighbourhood. Friday Night bites event. Mother’s group and child health nurses at Bakers House. Lots of parks and grass areas.”



Roleystone/Karragullen

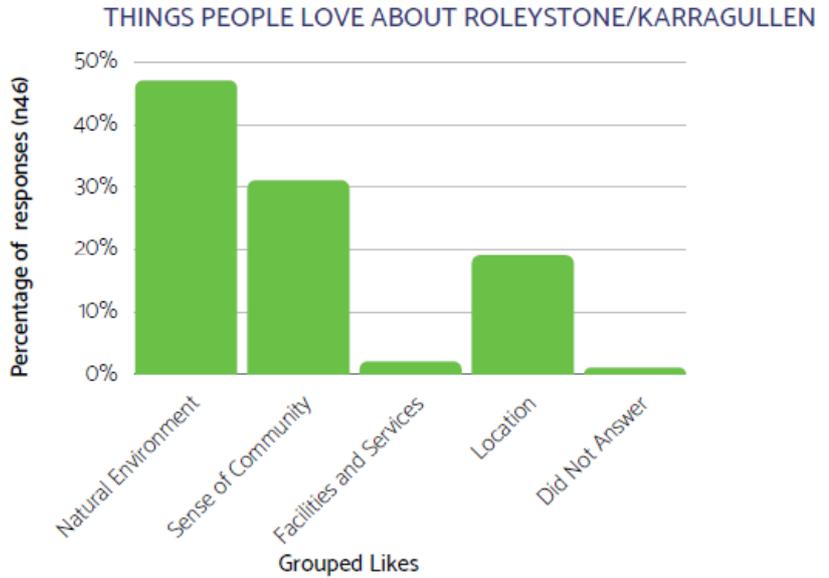
Survey Responses received: 46

“Quiet and friendly community. Amazing food places and natural environment.”

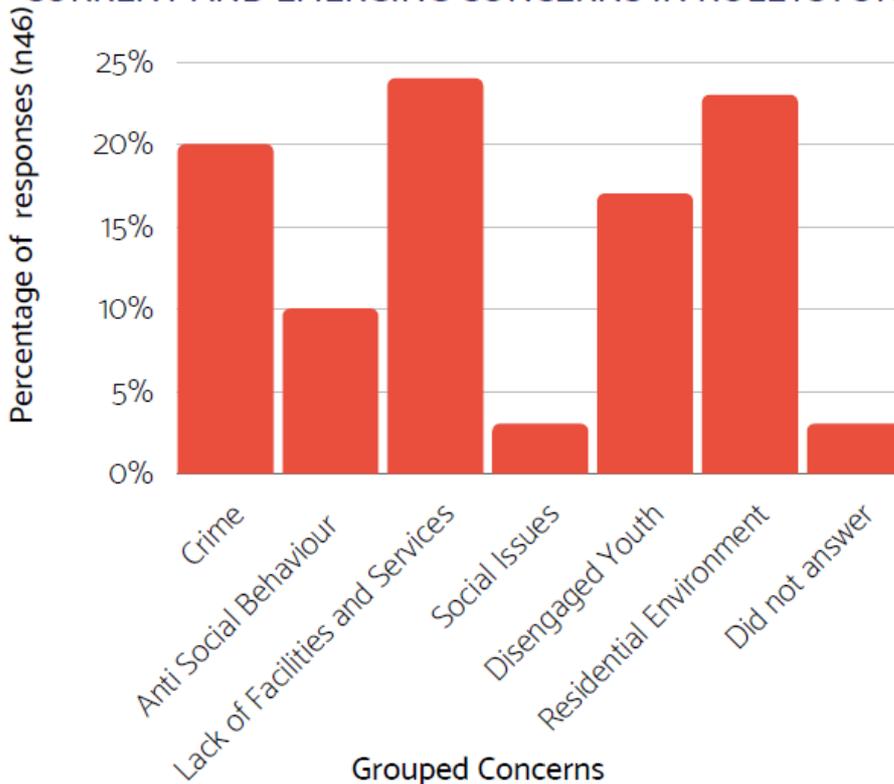
“The peace and quiet of living in the bush, being able to see so much of our native wildlife and the beautiful wildflowers. The laid-back lifestyle.”

“Sense of community. The amenity. Trees everywhere, amazing views, big blocks. The village feel. The centre of the village being Cross Park, Hall, Family Centre and the IGA

Shopping Centre. The Community College. The wildlife, birds, bandicoots, possums, kangaroos etc. The people, incredibly friendly and welcoming. The Roleystone Club.”



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN ROLEYSTONE/KARRAGULLEN



Seville Grove

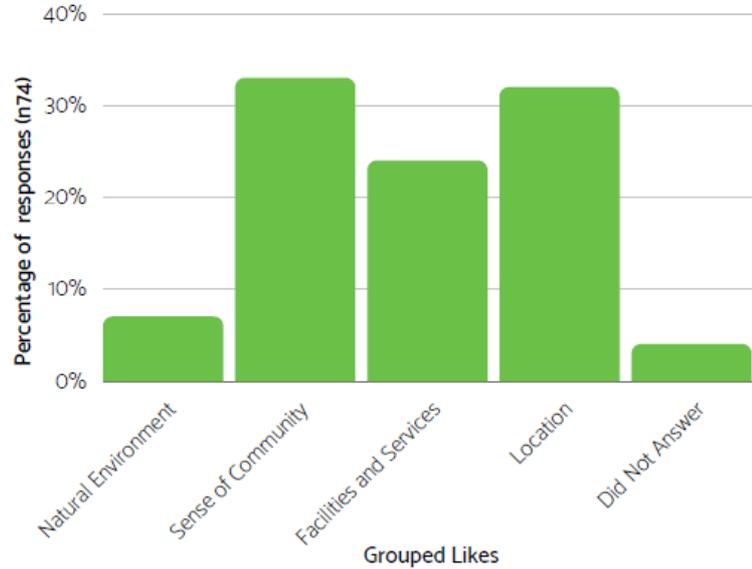
Survey Responses received: 74

“Love the neighbours and the whole neighbourhood. Everyone helps each other and warns each other if something is suspicious. Everyone is looking for each other - true spirit. Like the parks around and that schools are nearby.”

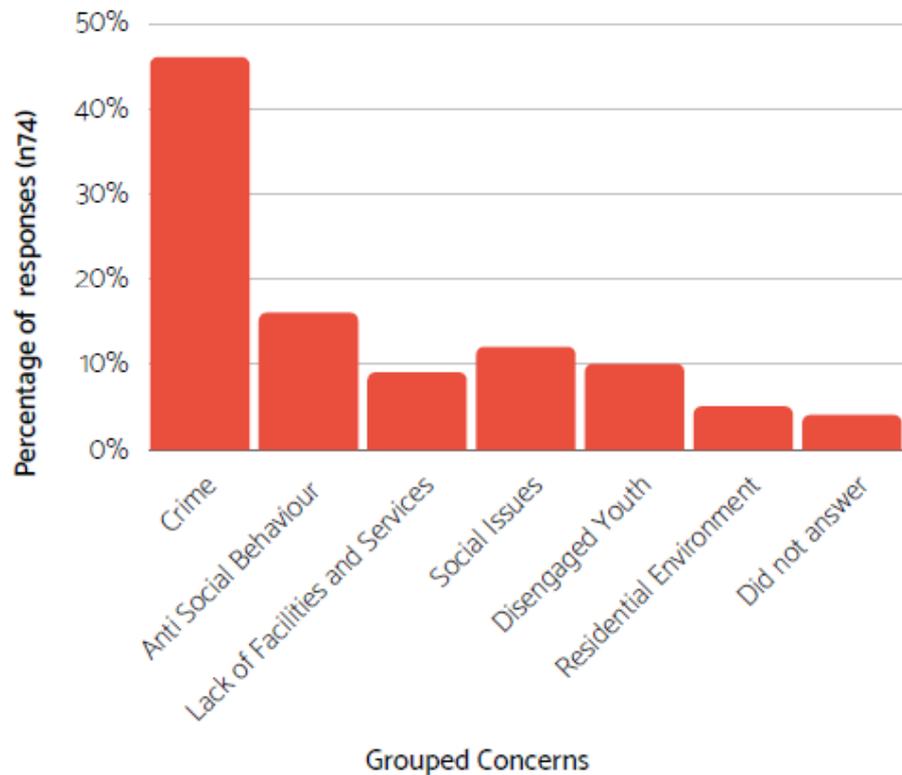
“The thing I love most about our suburb is the multiculturalism. We have a park that we drive past every day on the way home from work and it is always being used by different people, friends, family and neighbours playing, chatting and exercising. It makes me happy every day to see people using the community facilities in such a positive and wholesome way.”

“I love seeing all the large, old trees down Armadale Road and surrounding streets on my way home. I love seeing the parrot groups that sit on open grass areas and sometimes visit my lawn too. I enjoy having access to useful shops and services - everything is local. And when I feel like exploring, access to bush tracks is just down the road.”

THINGS PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT SEVILLE GROVE



CURRENT AND EMERGING CONCERNS IN SEVILLE GROVE



Where to Next?

Social Priorities for 2021-2023

Identified Social Priorities and Identified Suburbs for 2021-2023



Camillo – Youth Engagement and Education

- Data indicates there is a particularly high level of youth disengagement.
- Data shows that unemployment, single parent families and the percentage of people with no qualifications are high.
- Data from the Department of Communities and the WA Police are concerning.
- Stakeholders identified Camillo as having significant social issues comprising of family and domestic violence, crime, access to services, community cohesion, poverty, and mental health issues.
- Residents identified crime and anti-social behavior as primary concerns, with other social issues, lack of services/facilities and youth disengagement as equal concern.
- Residents feel a sense of community and identified facilities and services as a strength.

Camillo: ABS and AEDC data

Data Set	Camillo	CoA	Greater Perth
SEIFA	911	994	1025
Housing stress %	16.6	13.2	10.7
Social housing %	4.3	2.6	3.1
Unemployment %	13	9.3	8.3
Low income %	18.2	15.5	15.7
No qualifications %	52	42.2	38.1
Youth disengagement %	20.4	14.6	9.4
Median age	34	33	36
Single parents %	15.3	12.2	9.8
AEDC (2 or more domain)	11.3	11.7	9.4 (WA)



Armadale North and South – Connection to Community and Services

- Data indicates a high level of disadvantage exists across demographic cohort and facets of life in these communities reflected by the lowest SEIFA scores in the City.
- There is a high level of developmental vulnerability of children aged 0-5 measured by the AEDC.
- High level of youth disengagement.
- Many households with low incomes and many experiencing housing stress.
- Data sets from Department of Communities and WA Police for Armadale (North and South) are concerning.
- Stakeholders also identify Armadale (North and South) as having significant social issues comprising family and domestic violence, crime, access to services, community cohesion, poverty and mental health issues.
- Residents identify crime, anti-social behaviour, youth disengagement as their primary concern.
- Residents enjoy living in the location and feel a sense of community.

Armadale: ABS and AEDC data

Data Set	Armadale North	Armadale South	CoA	Greater Perth
SEIFA	883.8	843	994	1025
Housing stress %	19.3	21.2	13.2	10.7
Social housing %	4.3	7.6	2.6	3.1
Unemployment %	13.6	15.6	9.3	8.3
Low income %	23.1	29.8	15.5	15.7
No qualifications %	48.9	48.2	42.2	38.1
Youth disengagement %	22.1	27.3	14.6	9.4
Median age	35	37	33	36
Single parents %	18.6	15.7	12.2	9.8
AEDC (2 or more domain)	20.2	20.2	11.7	9.4 (WA)



Kelmscott (West) – Early Years and Family Support

- Data indicates there is a particularly high level of developmental vulnerability of children aged 0 – 5 measured by the AEDC.
- A high number of single parent families and a high number of households with low incomes.
- Data from the Department of Communities and the WA Police are also concerning.
- Residents identified crime, social issues and anti-social behaviour as primary concerns along with lack of services/facilities and youth disengagement.
- Residents identified feeling a sense of community and stated that the location is a strength.

Kelmscott West: ABS and AEDC data

Data Set	Kelmscott West	CoA	Greater Perth
SEIFA	894.1	994	1025
Housing stress %	18.3	13.2	10.7
Social housing %	6	2.6	3.1
Unemployment %	12.4	9.3	8.3
Low income %	24.9	15.5	15.7
No qualifications %	46.9	42.2	38.1
Youth disengagement %	16.1	14.6	9.4
Median age	35	33	36
Single parents %	16.1	12.2	9.8
AEDC (2 or more domain)	20.4	11.7	9.4 (WA)



All Suburbs – Community Safety

- The response from 711 residents across the City's suburbs indicate that crime and anti-social behavior are of significant concern.
- The data from the City's Health and Wellbeing survey (over 1000 people) indicated that **'feeling safe in the community'** was most important to the health of the individual respondents and the wider community with an 'unsafe community' identified as the second primary concern.
- Data from the WA Police confirms this and also demonstrates that while some suburbs experience higher levels of crime and different categories of crime than others, the fact that community safety is cited as an overwhelming priority across the City means that residents recognise that the issue is widespread.
- Crime hot-spots (and types of crime) identified by the WA Police will be used as a key way of determining the location and type of activities to be undertaken.

City of Armadale: ABS and AEDC data

Data Set	CoA	Greater Perth
SEIFA	994	1025
Housing stress %	13.2	10.7
Social housing %	2.6	3.1
Unemployment %	9.3	8.3
Low income %	15.5	15.7
No qualifications %	42.2	38.1
Youth disengagement %	14.6	9.4
Median age	33	36
Single parents %	12.2	9.8
AEDC (2 or more domain)	11.7	9.4 (WA)



The City of Armadale wishes to thank all those who gave their time and participated in the survey.



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