

Climate Change Action Plan

Background

At Strathbogie Shire Council's March 2021 Council Meeting Councillors Sally Hayes Burke and Reg Dickinson lodged a Notice of Motion (NOM) recommending the declaration of a Climate Emergency.

The motion was, that Council:

1. Declare a Climate Emergency; and
2. Following community engagement, develop an Emissions Reduction Pledge under the Climate Change Act 2017 and in accordance with the Sustainable Strathbogie 2030 Strategy and Action Plan.

This motion was deferred at this meeting, to allow community engagement before a declaration.

At the April 2021 Council Meeting Strathbogie Shire Council became the 100th Council in Australia to declare a Climate Emergency and just the third to pass this Notice of Motion unanimously.

Since then, Council has run an extensive community engagement program to develop a Climate Change Action Plan with our community.

The Engagement Approach

Councill officers created a carefully planned four-stage community engagement program to ensure input into every stage of the Climate Change Action Plan.

Our aim was to focus the discussion on our actions and outputs, rather than a debate about Climate Change itself.

Our approach to communications and engagement on this topic was two-fold.

1. Communications materials that provide clear, simple information, and
2. Community engagement that seeks to prioritise Council actions.

Council spent more than eight months running many different stages of community engagement opportunities. Our engagement approached used online and face-to-face engagement methods to ensure our community was able to participate using their preferred approach.

We also used a mixture of quantitative and qualitative tools to understand general community support, but also to enable us to drill down and ask more questions when we needed further information and clarification. The stages, purpose, tools and methods are outlined in the table below.

Project Stage	Engagement Goals	Tools and Methods
One (March 2021 to April 2021)	Inform. To ensure the Strathbogie Shire community understand the impacts of declaring a Climate Emergency. To provide clear, simple to understand communications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website copy • Advertising • Social Media • Media release • Letters to stakeholders • FAQs
Two (March 2021 to April 2021)	Engage To ensure the Strathbogie Shire community understand how to provide feedback on the NoM. To gain an understand of the community's service priorities, which include Climate Change and the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website content • Social Media • Advertising • Letters to stakeholders • Face-to-face opportunities in townships. • MyStrathbogie Bulletin • FAQs
Three A (May 2021)	Engage To seek advice from Council staff on Climate Change actions and priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal workshops
Three B (October 2021 to December 2021)	Engage To seek input from the community into their mitigation, adaption and resilience actions. To provide an opportunity for locals to hear from Climate experts and share their thoughts, feedback and advice. To ensure community input into the development of a Draft Climate Change Action Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey • Videos from Climate experts • Share Strathbogie priority survey • Media releases • Social Media • Advertising • eNews • Website content • Letters to stakeholders and community
Three C (March - June 2022)	Engage To provide in-depth opportunities for discussions with Councillors and Council Officers on the Draft Climate Change Action Plan. To create simple, clear communications, that ensure the community understands how to provide feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Councillor roundtables • Letters to stakeholders and community • Media releases • Submission form • Share Strathbogie Update • eNews • Advertising

	To test officers have captured the community's thinking in the Draft Climate Change Action Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website content • Videos seeking feedback. • Councillor workshop
Four	To close the loop with the community by releasing the Climate Change Action Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters to stakeholders and community. • Video • Website content • Social Media • Share Strathbogie update • eNews • Media release • Advertising

Depth: Collaborate

Public participation goal: To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.

Promise to the public: We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.

Participation and reach

- The Share Strathbogie page on our engagement hub received 1210 views
- There were 111 contributions on Share Strathbogie.
- About 65 people registered to participate in the Climate Forum, which was cancelled due to coronavirus restrictions. All registered attendees received emails urging them to have their say online.
- More than 20 people attended Councillor roundtables
- Six formal submissions and 57 comments were received to the Draft Plan.
- Our social media achieved a reach of more than 9000.

What our community told us

Support for Climate Action: Our community was clear on its support for Council to take action. Through the face-to-face sessions held across our municipality to develop our 2021/25 Council Plan we heard our community was passionate about action on Climate Change. When asked to rank their service priorities from 23 different services, Climate Change and the environment were ranked priority two and five respectively.

Engage, engage, engage: We listened to our community when they said they wanted a say. We spent more than eight months engaging – and used face-to-face and online engagement methods to ensure people could have their say in the way that best suited them. All this as we worked through coronavirus (COVID

Be bold: Our community called for us to be bold in our Community Vision and we heard it again at the Councillor roundtable sessions. There were many times we were told to be strong and look for bolder targets in shorter timeframes.

Be careful: On the other hand, some in our community told us to proceed with caution. There was a message of focus on Council operations first and foremost, then work on partnering with groups who are already achieving great things.

Recommendations

It is recommended the following actions be added to the Climate Change Action Plan, based on feedback received on the draft plan.

Protecting our natural environment

- Work with the Euroa Arboretum to promote the Gardens for Wildlife program across the Shire to increase biodiversity in our urban areas.
- Work with our partner Councils to update the Sustainable Gardening Guide and include further information on the benefits of Roadside Vegetation
- Update the Nature Strip Planting Policy to reflect a consistent approach to urban plantings to increase biodiversity in our townships.

Reducing our emissions

- Water: Passive irrigation of street trees be a training priority for the Parks and Gardens team in order to implement best practice water saving techniques across street tree infrastructure in the Strathbogie Shire.
- Waste : All events held on Council owned or managed land must adhere to the Waste Wise Events guide to minimise waste at events.

Moving sustainably – Transport

- Update action 34 to including 'walking', making it an 'Active & Connected Cycling and Walking Strategy'.

Submissions

Submission 1. Euroa Environment Group Inc (in conjunction with Strathbogie Voices)

Introduction

Members of the Strathbogie community met on two specific occasions to discuss how our Council Plan could better address climate change, caring for our environment and using the resources of our region more sustainably. In total, approximately 70 community members met and provided input at these two meetings.

What follows is an attempt to give expression to the comments and contribution of the community. Three councillors (Cr. John Mason, Cr. Mick Williams and Cr. Kate Stothers) attended the first of these meetings. Carole Hammond (Sustainable Development Officer) attended the second meeting.

In some sections, there is an emphasis on specific actions in Euroa. This reflects the location of the meetings. Most of the actions recommended remain broad and are pertinent to the whole Shire. The Strathbogie ranges and Violet Town and surrounds were also well represented.

Communities across the state recognise the need for urgent climate action. People want change to 'business as usual'. In many parts of the world:

- renewable energy is now mainstream and the Euroa Microgrid Demonstration Initiative (2021) which benefits business and renters illustrates scope;
- reduction of waste is now routine and we saw an increased turn out at the 2022 Clean Up Australia Day effort;
- altered farming and business practices are understood to be pivotal to sustaining livelihoods and recognizing this Farmers for Climate Action is meeting at Euroa on 4th April; and
- the easy option of planting masses of street trees to address the urban heat island effect is well recognized as a massive local government opportunity which has community support and beneficially impacts vulnerable community members.

Community members present at both meetings are engaged with these issues. We are solution oriented and we want the Shire to be curious, ambitious and ethical, both generally and specifically with respect to climate change and sustainability action.

Local people want to be involved in initiatives. We have expertise and know the community.

Authorship: The first Community Meeting was held on Sunday 12th February at the Flour Mill. There were at least 50 community members present including representatives from Euroa Arboretum, Euroa Environment Group, Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network, Strathbogie Sustainable Forest Group, Friends of the Sevens, and various Landcare Groups.

The second meeting was held on Saturday 4th March at a local Euroa residence with other community members with special expertise. Summary data from the first meeting was presented and further discussion with a particular focus on actions was robust and compelling.

Both meetings were facilitated by Lisa Rasmussen, a local landholder from Upotipotpon. She brought expertise in facilitation, health and land conservation to the proceedings. This summary document has been written by Lisa Rasmussen, Shirley Saywell, Andi Kofler, Kate Auty and Charlie Brydon.

March 2017

Goals

We want a shire with a big vision, which:

- is ambitious, curious and ethical.
- is inclusive of community expertise.
- recognises and includes Indigenous people and culture, and commits to the Treaty, 'Voice' and truth telling processes.
- fosters community leadership and local employment.
- embraces the shift to the regions which is the outcome of the Covid pandemic.
- promotes social justice and welcomes refugees.
- cultivates a physically and mentally healthy community, living harmoniously and sustainably.
- assists its community to adjust to a changing climate.
- protects and enhances the natural environment.
- meets the needs of the present generation without diminishing the opportunities of future generations.
- communicates all these opportunities with verve and intelligence to the community and its changing demographic.

Contents

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Governance

Council needs to take on a leadership role – it should not be alone in the implementation of all tasks. We have a shire of citizens ... transparency and community engagement are paramount in building a sustainable living environment – a sustainable shire'

Actions The Shire should:

- Train Council staff in climate change mitigation and adaptation and support staff to implement and evaluate changes
- Embed sustainability across all operations in the shire and monitor progress, committing to state government initiatives like Recycling Victoria.
- Reconsider and audit current competitive tendering practices so that they can embrace their potential to drive unsustainable, seemingly 'lowest cost' approaches. The Shire should consider the recent Australian Institute of Company Directors advice to board directors about their ever growing responsibilities to consider and respond to climate change realities (and the environment) in decision making.

- Build a commitment to ethical and green procurement. The Council should review all existing contracts in the light of sustainable practices, thereby actively helping to mitigate climate change. Together Council and contractors should for example
 - review energy usage
 - consider the sustainability of materials used
 - adopt recycling practices
 - factor in the disposal of end products and
 - embrace ethical labour issues.
- Actively partner with other councils as part of the Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance by deploying councillors and staff and requiring reports which should be publicly tabled.
- Employ a grants officer and actively pursue every grant opportunity.
- Consistently and transparently communicate sustainability and environmental policies to the community, taking the lead when necessary to ensure best science communication tools are adopted.
- Review the council fleet policy – electrify the fleet, install GIS vehicles to determine best practice use, embrace the easy wins in practices such as the training of council employees in eco-driving, and ensure that contractors are operating as eco-drivers.
- Develop sustainable social enterprise initiatives, including implementing a ‘Solar Savers’ initiative for retirees and those in social housing; sourcing bulk buy insulation opportunities; working closely with organisations with expertise such as the Moreland Energy Foundation Ltd (MEFL) and Yarra Energy Foundation.
- Develop a solar power strategy for all council buildings and implement it, reporting on progress in every Annual Report.
- Develop a sustainability policy for ALL contractors and ensure this is monitored and evaluated and reported in the Annual Report.
- Collaborate with community organisations (eg Chamber of Business) to conduct an awareness raising program for local businesses and community to understand how we can shift our investments to options that are both less damaging to the environment and that mitigate climate change. There are many experts who could guide this initiative. University partnerships should be explored, webinars and other forums should be well advertised and Council staff should be provided with time in lieu when engaging after hours in this sort of professional development.
- Review the Council Plan in the last year of the plan and conduct an audit of all actions in this Community Development Plan.
- Engage in regular conversation cafes with the community to propose new projects and new opportunities.
- Develop a communication strategy using all media, building on the work which has been undertaken over the last 18 months. Embrace the use of video and other means of communicating achievements and encourage our community to become more ‘media-savvy’ by holding up-skilling forums.

Economic Development

‘We have many strengths to work from: our mix of cultures, our natural environment and current industries. The shire itself should take steps to be a positive role model. It could take up solar power ... this could be effected by shifting its superannuation to a fund that does not invest in fossil fuels and ... actively investing in local sustainable initiatives’.

Actions The Shire should:

- Implement and review the strategies in the existing Strathbogie Planning Scheme - Sustainable Economic Growth (Municipal Strategic Statement 2013 – Clause 21.06).

- Stimulate an investment culture by exploring the establishment of a Community Bank.
- Stimulate interest in community owned assets eg. a renewable energy storage company . . . eg Redflow Advanced Energy Storage, or building a Community Battery.
- Drive and encourage economic initiatives that focus on environmentally sustainable food production, reduced food packaging, increased local food production. This would involve:
 - building on the award winning program offered by the click and collect provider Strathbogie Local (partnered by the Open Food Network in Violet Town);
 - augmenting the stalls offered at Farmers' Markets;
 - start a nature strip garden program;
 - introduce community compost; and
 - promote sustainable buying choices.
- Investigate partnerships / franchise opportunities / co-op models in regard to:
 - Pre-fab housing production - Euroa Timber Yard, Ford McKernan Engineering
 - Restoration of heritage buildings eg Northey – as a training facility for hospitality students and eco-tourism ventures
 - Feral Animal Pet Food / Fur factory – from culled kangaroo / carp / rabbits / foxes
 - Wool / Alpaca industry value adding
 - Forest / Fitness / Food / Tourism – incorporating home-stay / Air BnB / Forest Tree Houses
 - Meet and establish partnership with 'Plastic Forests' at Strathmerton to recycle baling twine and other agricultural by-products.
- Resource and partner with others to build capacity in local businesses to audit their energy, water, waste and procurement.
- Develop a sporting hub focusing on active and healthy lives and building on the climate change and sport research which illustrates just how changes in our climate will affect every facet of community life.
- Develop a sustainable farming methods program, partnering with universities and others to build capacity.
- Develop a renewable energy program. This will involve a blend of wind, solar, new battery technology and potentially pumped hydro. Our Shire is well placed to advance all of these opportunities.
- Promote reduce, reuse and recycle through:
 - bulk purchasing
 - the Boomerang Bags initiative
 - a Shire-led education initiative to work with all businesses (one-on-one) to reduce, re-use and recycle in their own practices
 - the Men's Shed to become a 'fix-it' station
 - tip to become a 'Go-round' centre
 - an e-waste program in compliance with proposed legislation.
- Transport initiatives including:
 - bike hire
 - bike track to the arboretum
 - increase the bike parking areas throughout our towns
 - regular bus services to Shepparton, Benalla and Seymour
 - strategic sharing of existing mini and school bus services
 - link with politicians Dr. Helen Haines and Jaclyn Symes to promote a better rail service
 - car-pooling program to help people travel to their places of work and commonly visited regional services (possibly via electronic media)

- an electric charging vehicle station
- Uber for Towns and the district
- Ensure that the community effort which has produced our water recycling work in 'Greening Euroa' is well publicized, shared with other councils and water boards, promoted for awards, and replicated when ever possible both across the Shire and more broadly.
- Introduce by-laws to establish a plastic bag free Shire.

Health and well-being and sustainability

'Climate change is the greatest threat to our health. It is greater than any other health threat we have ever faced as a rural community. Our carbon consuming, over-eating and sedentary habits are literally killing us. Luckily, what is good for the planet is good for our health. Tackling climate change could be the greatest health opportunity of the 21st century'.

Actions The Shire should:

- Implement and review the strategies in the existing Strathbogie Planning Scheme - Sustainable Communities (Municipal Strategic Statement 2013 – Clause 21.05) Shire Infrastructure priorities must include:
- The re-establishment of the local community centre in Euroa to ensure the community has access to sustainability programs and grants about chronic and acute health matters, healthy living, healthy eating, climate change issues, and about the successful programs in other Shires.
- Facilitate and lead community education programs on kitchen gardens, reduced meat consumption, cooking with plant-based foods, active travel and exercise programs. There are easy wins here – the Shire should be installing bike racks at its premises, encouraging staff to use them and publicly advancing the use of e-bikes by providing charging stations at work.
- The retention and development of the Euroa Swimming pool (and all other public pools in the region). Development should include extending pool season including making further provision for early morning swimming which avoids sun burn issues, utilising solar energy, water aerobics, hydro-therapy programs, more shade trees, development of a healthy eating business at pool, building a community garden associated with the pool.
- A heat island effect policy – including a urban forest strategy, widespread increase in shade trees throughout all towns, reduce concrete/asphalt surfaces, increase parks and artificial shade.
- Install drinking fountains and conduct an education campaign around choosing tap water. Maintain those which currently exist.
- Install exercise stations in parks and promote their use in the Shire's social media.
- Encourage the use of nature strips for local healthy food production and provide demonstration sites – for instance robust herb gardens could be installed at the Shire Offices.
- Three bins should be provided in every tea room in Shire premises so that staff are encouraged to compost in their daily operations.

With respect to general wellbeing the Shire must implement:

- A reviewed and renewed Healthy Communities Strategy to address social challenges presented by such proposals as the introduction of poker machines in our towns and to ensure that seniors and youth are considered in the development of Shire policies.
- A reviewed and renewed Inclusive Communities Strategy to embrace and support refugee and other marginalised communities and to include the establishment of a refugee welcome zone.

With respect to advocacy and service delivery the Shire should:

- Continue to lobby and advocate with others, for sub-acute public beds at the Euroa hospital.
- Adopt every available VicHealth and other State and Federal program to support mental health services for all of the community, including links to institutions like Uni of Melbourne Rural Health, and the National Institute of Farmer Health at Deakin University.
- Support emergency services essential for climate change conditions including those available for heatwaves and fires.

Infrastructure and the Built Environment

‘Community members are solution oriented and they want sustainability action that will properly address climate change. For example, we need a public transport revolution not an evolution. We need a multidirectional system not just a line down a corridor. Local people want to be involved in initiatives. They have expertise and they know the community.’

Actions The Shire should:

- Implement and review the strategies in the existing Strathbogie Planning Scheme - Sustainable Infrastructure (Municipal Strategic Statement 2013 – Clause 21.07).
- Implement and review the strategies in the existing Strathbogie Planning Scheme - Sustainable Settlement (Municipal Strategic Statement 2013 – Clause 21.02).
- Utilise existing local government networks eg. Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) and Built Environment Sustainability Scorecard (BESS), RMIT Centre for Urban Research and other university institutes

With respect to transport the shire should:

- Actively promote and resource action and discussion about a comprehensive integrated transport system (passengers and freight) for the Shire. This system needs to address transport within towns, between towns and from major centres like Melbourne and Sydney.
- Actively work with State and Federal government to support fast train options between major centres. Council should ensure that the Inland Rail railway precinct in Euroa meets best and most contemporary railway design and support the community’s aspirations for such development.
- Conduct a feasibility study and a 12-month trial into cost effective options, using local buses and car pooling programs for travel between surrounding towns. Council should walk the walk and ensure it promotes car pooling in all its operations.
- Start a walking bus at council to create political momentum including a ‘front carriage’.
- Promote cycling across the Shire, including the uptake of e-bikes, offering salary sacrifice to staff to take up the option.

With respect to streets (specific to Euroa) the Shire should:

- Make Binney Street more pedestrian friendly between Brock St and Railway St to calm traffic and promote the better use of the space for periodic retail and markets (consider closure - between certain times) or making this section a one-way street.
- Change the quadrant – Kirkland – Anderson – Clifton – Railway Street to a mixed traffic zone.
- Reduce traffic speeds in residential areas and install speed controls and a pedestrian crossing at kindergarten.

- Develop McGuinness St car park as a caravan/camper parking precinct with well-placed signage.
- Install E/V chargers in multiple locations (Burtons Carpark, Railway Street for train users, schools and churches).

With respect to sustainability for residential and business premises the Shire should:

- Lead a sustainability program and provide a sustainability portal for residential premises to support knowledge sharing.

With respect to Sustainability and Shire buildings the Shire should:

- Meet basic sustainability requirements on energy, water and waste and all implemented changes need to be subject to monitoring and measurement.

With respect to sustainable community services the Shire should:

- The Shire should develop a visitor information centre in Violet Town and actively promote the Euroa Hub. Shire should work towards the Euroa Railway Station Goods Shed being resumed for community use, including as an Information Hub. Shire should actively seek out an opportunity to receive funding and support through the Victorian Vacant Railway Buildings program.
- The Shire should lobby for better internet infrastructure with Federal and State Government.

Natural Environment

'Many environmental programs that have been available in recent times have been eroded or have disappeared and gaps are found in the current Shire Environment Strategy and Roadside Management Plan.'

Actions The Shire should:

- Implement and review the strategies in the existing Strathbogie Planning Scheme - Sustainable Environment (Municipal Strategic Statement 2013 – Clause 21.04)

The Shire should ensure:

- That forests and special local places like Mount Wombat, Gooram Falls, Polly McQuinns, and catchments and ecology are valued, promoted, and considered in decisions about the economic (including tourism), social, cultural and environmental future of the region
- A weeds policy is appropriately resourced with respect to Shire roads and roadsides. This must include measures to ensure contractors comply with the use of appropriate herbicides for native roadside vegetation.
- Works contractors are supervised and penalties are applied when breaches occur.
- The ambiguity of the native vegetation clearance rules is clarified to prevent the further loss of valuable remnant vegetation.
- That it adopts a program to increase paddock trees and that it advertises and appropriately enforces the protections available to existing paddock trees
- That it advertises the availability and support the delivery of incentives for the protection of the natural environment including paddock trees, grasslands and remnant vegetation.
- The introduction of a land management program that supports land managers to contribute to conserving our natural vegetation eg. extending roadside vegetation adjacent to private land. This could be supported by rate rebates, but administered by Trust for Nature (TFN). This would relieve Council of the administrative burden.
- It supports other Victorian Councils in their pro-active stance on the creation of the Great Forest National Park (GFNP).

- That the Roadside Management Plan and the Environment Strategy 2011 are reviewed, updated and implemented (in the next 6 months).
- That it efficiently and inclusively supports, resources and uses the community knowledge bank available in the Shire of Strathbogie about the natural environment (including the Euroa Arboretum and its staff and volunteers), and any education program could and should include digital technologies and other sources of information.
- The development and implementation of a feral cats, foxes, rabbits and kangaroos policy.
- A firewood collection policy is developed and enforced.
- Enforcement of native vegetation clearance regulations with prosecutions and fines in a timely manner.
- Staff training in land management best practice is mandated
- The development of a package for landowners that sells the Shire as a place that values the natural environment. This must include a list of appropriate plantings, State and Federal prohibited weeds and relevant land management regulations. This will need to involve close collaboration with real estate agents and potential new land holders.
- Reduce speed limits on country roads (rather than remove natural vegetation) to both minimize high fatality traffic zones and protect known wildlife populations

Sustainable land use

‘Sustainability is meeting the needs of the present generation without diminishing the opportunities of future generations.’

Actions The Shire should:

- Recognise the diversity of land types in the region and prioritise the development of land use strategies which reflect climate change and the need to adapt.
- Promote and support a detailed examination of which farming practices will continue to be efficient / effective/ beneficial to the community in the longer term.
- Acknowledge the number of new landholders entering the Shire and assist community environmental organisations to provide support, education and guidance as to available resources and how to access them.
- Facilitate candid and open discussion about the move to intensive agriculture in some areas and provide a forum to address all potential conflicts with established farming practices and community interests.
- Facilitate discussion about practices such as stubble burning for cropping and poor firebreaks around old paddock-trees and provide guidance about improvements.
- Work with Trust for Nature and other philanthropic groups to reintroduce the rate reduction as an effective inducement for more responsible land management practices.
- Employ a grants officer to obtain grants and promote knowledge in the farming and general community of all available funding sources.
- Assist the farming community with Conservation Management Plans and other transition techniques to other farm business models which promote the producing of more with less, and assist the community to understand and address the issues of lifestyle properties.
- Monitor land use management practices rigorously and transparently, reporting on programs and developments. This monitoring work must be resourced adequately and it should encourage community involvement in the process. Reporting must be used to educate and communicate the outcomes whether positive or negative.

Submission 2: Renewable Avenel Energy

Avenel Renewable Energy RAE is a sub organisation of Avenel Active Inc and are in the process of developing a Strategic Plan to build on our current project of installing PV panels and Batteries in 10 Avenel residential properties that might not be able to afford to do so without financial help.

This has been made possible by a benefactor in Avenel providing 10 interest free loans of \$10000 over 10 years payback time at \$1000 per year.

Avenel is the ideal size community to develop a mini grid of Solar and battery.

What form this takes in the future will be shaped by our consultants and our aim of developing a strategic plan for Avenel to be a self sustaining mini grid providing cheap electricity for our community in the future.

We see our project as well advanced and just need the support from the shire to help bring it to fruition.

We have conducted extensive consultation with our community by way of public meetings and guest speakers and have a committed group working to achieve our aims.

Our Strategic Plan is designed to facilitate the application for large scale funding when it is available to install PV panels and batteries either community or individual. OR the installation of large scale solar farm on a property just north of Avenel to provide for our community battery.

Submission 3: Resident

- 1 7 Glossary: the definitions of Recycled Water and Renewable Energy need to be swapped over as they are currently incorrect.
- 2 7 Glossary: Change “Resilience” to “Climate Resilience” as given definition is focussed on climate resilience only.
- 3 9 Delete “unique” from line 1. It is factually incorrect.
- 4 10 Line 1, fourth word - incorrect spelling of “its”
- 5 11 Municipal Emissions Snapshot: Paragraph 1 introduces SSC’s Community emissions profile, and where it is derived from. Paragraph 3 then states that the information is not suitable to use as a benchmark. Why include this information if it is not relevant?
- 6 12 First paragraph, line 2: the following groups support this plan: ?? There are no groups listed as supporting the plan.
- 7 12 I believe that SSC took part in the Watts Working Regional street lighting upgrade program a few years ago (circa 2013-2015). I assume that you listing “street-lighting changeovers” in the schedule because we did not complete of the street-lighting for the whole shire. Which areas need to be completed?
- 8 14 First paragraph, line 2: Include the word “Shire” after Strathbogie. We in Nagambie also like living here, and I guess some of the people in Euroa and Miepoll do too.
- 9 14 Item 1 in Action List needs to consider the required and specified performance Levels of Service for Roads and of the Road and Bridge Assets. Drivers need and require a safe roadway. Road clearance envelopes, sight distances at intersections, drainage functionality, bridge waterway clearances and associated maintenance must have the priority.

- 10 14 Items 4-7 in Action List appear to focus on street trees. There is no mention of non-street tree planting programs. This needs to be highlighted. Council Reports focus on street trees. There are other spaces in the Urban Areas.
- 11 17 Item 9 in Action List - Report every 12 months on Council's Emission Reduction performance. Do we have an agreed baseline to report against, or is Year 1 establishing the baseline? Page 11 paragraph 3 states that the information presented on that page is not suitable for our Shire.
- 12 17 Items 11 and 17: These are basically the same. Do you need them both?
- 13 17 Item 12: should this be "planning for the safe disposal of construction waste", or similar?
- 14 17 Item 15: this statement needs to be reworked as I do not think it means what you intend. I believe that you mean if the recycled product has the same quality and performance requirements of the new product, and it is up to 10% more expensive than the new product, the recycled product should be bought? Is my interpretation correct? Does this also mean that it is ok to overrun budgets by 10%?
- 15 17 Item 16: Waste: Monitor paper use and implement paper saving measures across the organisation. Given that we now have a new corporate logo this action is now complete. (Refer to Council Meeting 2022-05-17, Report 9.6.1, Policy Considerations, Climate Change p143) Apparently we could not reduce paper usage without a new logo.
- 16 18 Item 19: What about including recycled items in playgrounds and playground equipment? We have more of these planned. There are also more recycled product options becoming available for better looking street and park furniture as opposed to the bulky, vulgar looking street furniture.
- 17 20 Item 23: Council commenced this in FY2022 when it included \$400k over the next four years (FY22-FY25) for tree planting in the FY2022 budget. What happened to that? How many did we plant this year, and where? Must include planting in Reserves and Parks. Set targets for Urban Tree Canopy cover to overcome the shortfall.
- 18 21 Item 28: Should this include distribution of information to all households of Climate Resilience Packages, similar to the Flooding Resilience Packages that have been provided previously in various townships. Also the benefits of relevant insulation practices, and water and greywater usage options.
- 19 25 Items 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 are all items under the control of Council, and therefore need to be shifted to Target Area 1, Protecting the Natural Environment.
- 20 General comments on the Action Plan: Delete all large colour photos – they take up a lot of space and toner to print. If we must have photos make them smaller, therefore fewer pages Check that the document is still accessible when printed in grey-scale. Some text disappears into the background, visibility issues.

Submission 4: Resident

Can Council please take the time to understand that a one size fits all approach to climate initiatives can be problematic.

I live in a rural area and are 100% off grid generating my own solar power, with tank water and bottled gas for cooking and hot water.

I also have a 13,000 volt diesel generator for the times, predominantly in winter where there is not enough solar input due to inclement weather.

I note that a lot of Councils are banning gas appliances in new builds. I am concerned that this may become a thing for replacement appliances as well. The problem is that any item

that creates heat uses maximum electricity and if I were forced to use electric appliances my entire system would collapse. I would need to double battery capacity and inverter capability at a cost of around \$30,000.

The same would be if I had an Electric vehicle. I would need to charge it overnight using a diesel generator.

One other issue council need to consider is that Euroa has an unreliable base load power supply. The local chicken farm in Drysdale Rd are routinely called by AGL to turn on their massive diesel generators in time of high demand to prevent blackouts.

A further push to more electric powered items will put considerably more strain on an already stretched system. I already live off grid and feel I have done the right thing for climate change.

A generic policy might inadvertently penalise my, and others early adopter approach, so please allow for wriggle room in policy making.

I would happily entertain any Councillors that would like a tour to get a better understanding of what an off grid system looks like in the real world and the real word challenges of same.

Submission 5: Resident

it would be great to see a bring back the bush initiative from council by involving locals to plant local, in both their gardens and verge.

This could tie a few things together. Bulk buy of indigenous plants from the Euroa Arboretum. This would be putting back into the local community, supporting a non profit (the arb) as well helping ratepayers create climate resilient gardens. Flow on effect (pun intended) would be to reduce water use, help our local flora and fauna and educate people to the amazing plants and animals that live in this district.

The verge. An untapped resource.

This would not have to be limited to just people's gardens either. Council could help encourage people to plant out there verges, pointing to the quite good verge planting guide that was developed by council some years ago.

Our current verges are unsustainable, full of weeds and emit a lot of carbon to keep them mown. A native verge requires no pesticides, a trim every few years so much less maintenance and will bring the joy of native butterflies and birds into suburbia. What a wonderful legacy to leave the next generation, a town chock full of native bugs, bees and birds.

Increasingly urban environments are refuges for our flora and fauna. It is our responsibility to ensure that these species survive.

In addition, Euroa Arboretum, which is powered by volunteers, is one of the largest seed collectors in Victoria. We have a massive task to meet the goals of the Victorian governments stated re-vegetation plan so if council can provide support to this organisation through buying plants it really is a win for everyone.

For community, for keeping dollars local and for our environment (carbon and biodiversity).

Submission 6: Resident

Climate Change is a multi headed hydra. Meaning there a many facets to this situation that humanity finds its self in. Strathbogie Shire Council!

You need to pay attention to a minor piece of house keeping if your Climate Change statement is to have any credibility.

Euroa refuse and recycle station is a disgrace. There is rubbish strewn all over the site and I might add blowing were ever the wind takes it. Surely Council can do better than this. I have visited many refuse and recycling facilities over the past five years and as far as presentation goes for this site, It is the worst. It's not a big site, so surely keeping it in a presentable order would be a beneficial positive for the local environment and immediate surrounds.

Secondly; although Council doesn't manage the sewage treatment plant over the road the huge nutrient and blackwater reservoirs could be far better utilised for either growing trees for timber or establishing firewood plantations on, relieving the pressure on firewood collection from more sensitive areas.

Thirdly and finally, Technology on its own will not ameliorate Climate Change, its highest potential is to stop any further filth being thrust into the atmosphere. The only precise way of dealing with Climate Change is to re-establish landscapes to their former vegetation community on a vast scale. This not only resequesters CO₂ out of the atmosphere but also sequesters it into more stable soil profiles.

The bill for Climate is due now and all we're doing towards paying it off is talking to the bank manager to get a loan to pay it off.

With the Climate there are no free lunches.

Further findings

The following report outlines the findings from the survey completed during stage 3B from October to December 2021.



**SHARE
STRATH
BOGIE**

**Share Strathbogie
Project Report**

Developing a Climate Change Action Plan

8th October 2021 - 3rd December 2021
(8 week feedback period)

Project Performance

Share Strathbogie

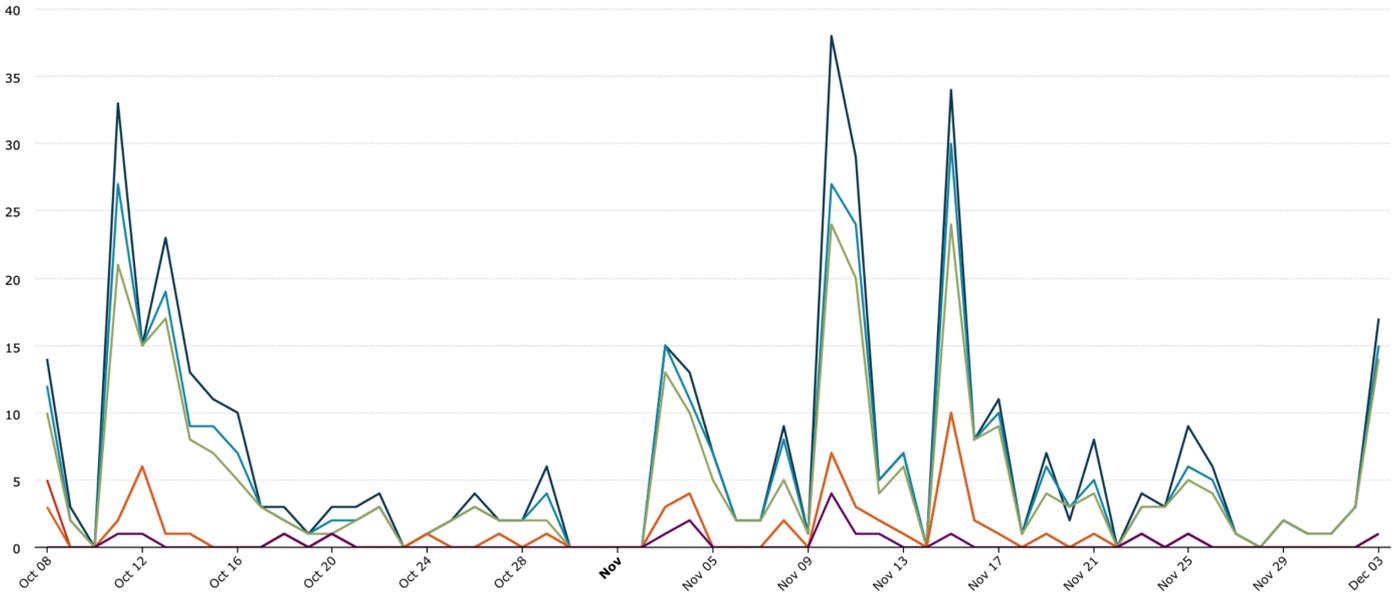
Report Type: Project

Project Name: Developing a Climate Change Action Plan

Date Range: 08-10-2021 - 03-12-2021

Performance Summary

Information regarding key visitation and utilisation metrics for your Site or projects.



402
Views

339
Visits

228
Visitors

55
Contributions

51
Contributors

17
Followers

Views - The number of times a Visitor views any page on a Site.

Visits - The number of end-user sessions associated with a single Visitor.

Visitors - The number of unique public or end-users to a Site. A Visitor is only counted once, even if they visit a Site several times in one day.

Contributions - The total number of responses or feedback collected through the participation tools.

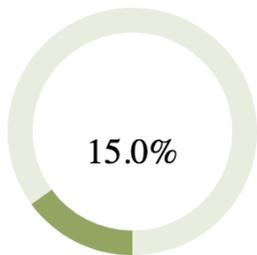
Contributors - The unique number of Visitors who have left feedback or Contributions on a Site through the participation tools.

Followers - The number of Visitors who have 'subscribed' to a project using the 'Follow' button.

Conversions

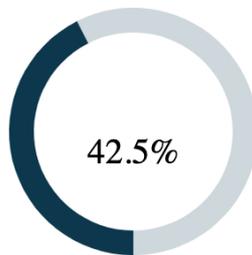
Information regarding how well your engagement websites converted Visitors to perform defined key actions.

Feedback



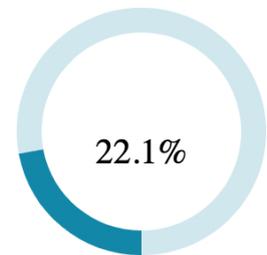
Percentage of visits where at least **1 contribution** was made.

Attention



Percentage of visits that lasted at least **1 active minute**.

Actions



Percentage of visits where at least **2 actions** were performed.

Projects

The current number and status of your Site's projects (e.g. engagement websites)

Engagement Time		Top Visited Pages			
Summary information for the top five most visited Pages.		Page Name	Visitation %	Visits	Visitors
0	20				
Days	Hours	7			
		Minutes			
Nov 15th 2021 Peak Visitation Date		Monday Peak Visitation Day			
		Developing a Climate Change Action Plan	99.7%	338	228

Acquisition

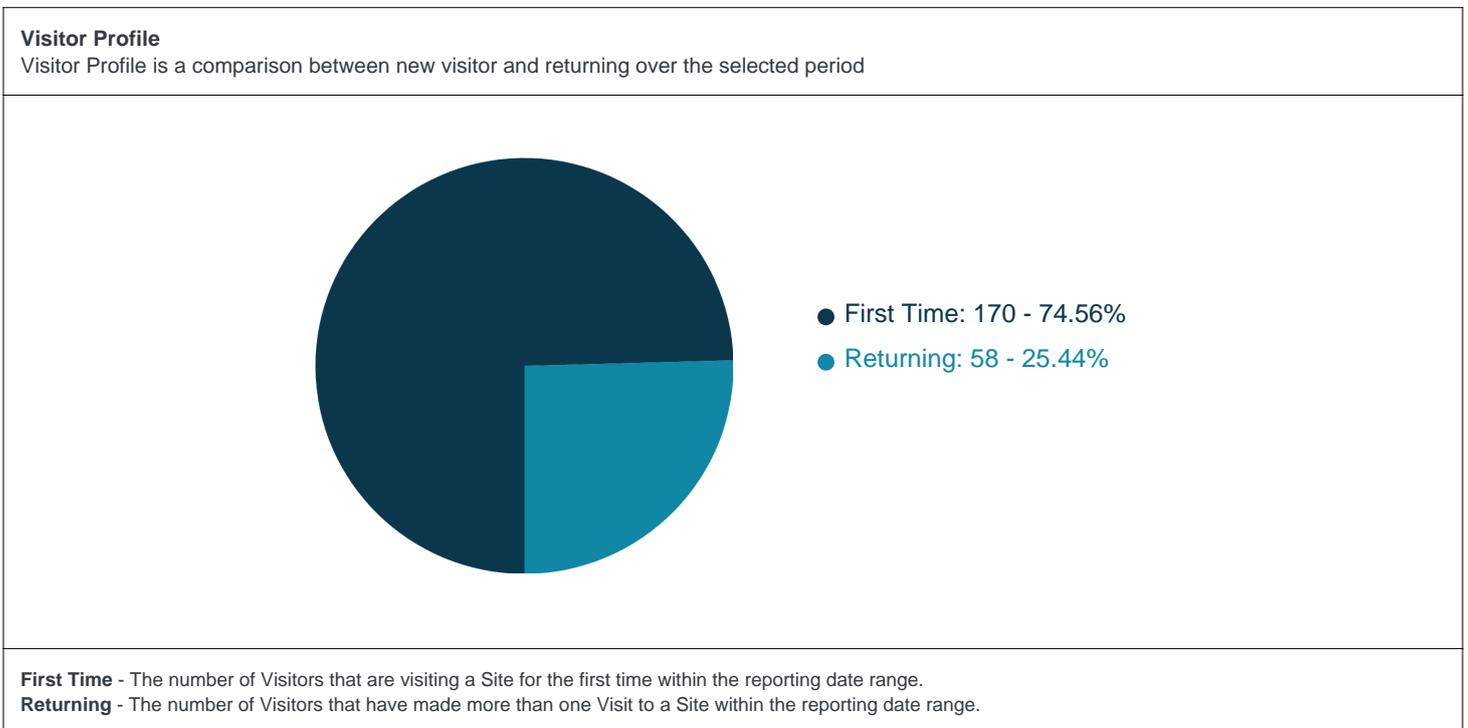
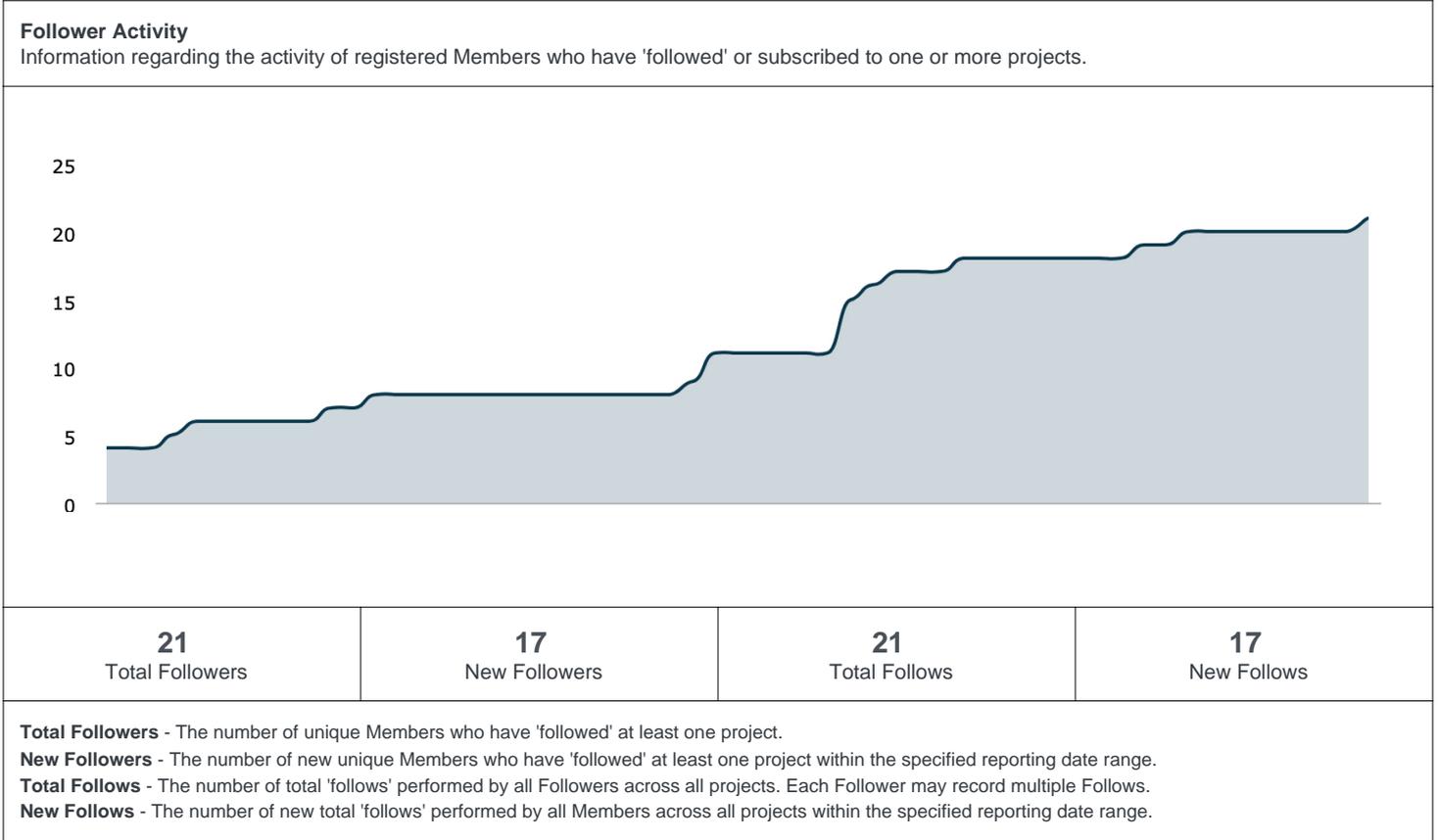
Information regarding the method by which Visitors arrived to your Site or projects.

Referral Types
Referral traffic is the segment of traffic that arrives on your website through another source, like through a link on another domain.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Direct: 118 - 49.17% ● Social Media: 88 - 36.67% ● Search Engine: 19 - 7.92% ● Websites: 15 - 6.25% ● Other: 0 - 0.00%
<p>Direct - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by entering the exact web address or URL of the page.</p> <p>Search Engine - Visitors who have arrived at a Site via a search engine. Such as Google, Yahoo, etc.</p> <p>Websites - Visitors who have arrived at the Site after clicking a link located on an external website.</p> <p>Social Media - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by clicking a link from a known social media site such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.</p> <p>Other - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by undetermined means. This may include those arriving from a direct marketing campaign.</p>

People

Information regarding who has participated in your projects and activities.



Survey Results - **Summary**

Prioritise Climate Change Actions - Survey

Report Type: Form Results Summary

Date Range: 08-10-2021 - 03-12-2021

Closed

Prioritise Climate Change Actions - Survey
[Developing a Climate Change Action Plan](#)

51
Contributors

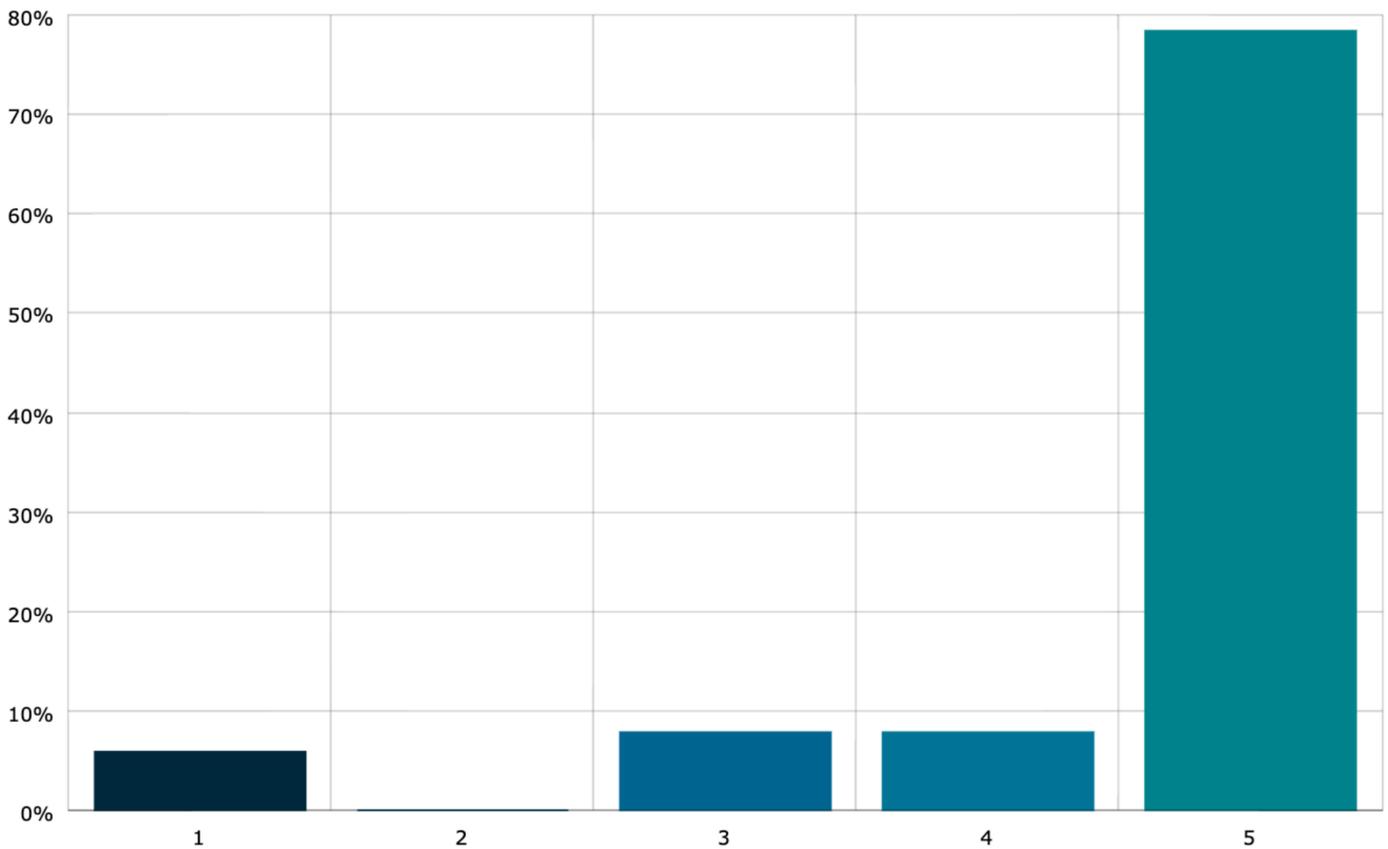
55
Contributions

Contribution summary

Mitigation Actions

1. Investigate potential funding sources for a community battery or microgrid

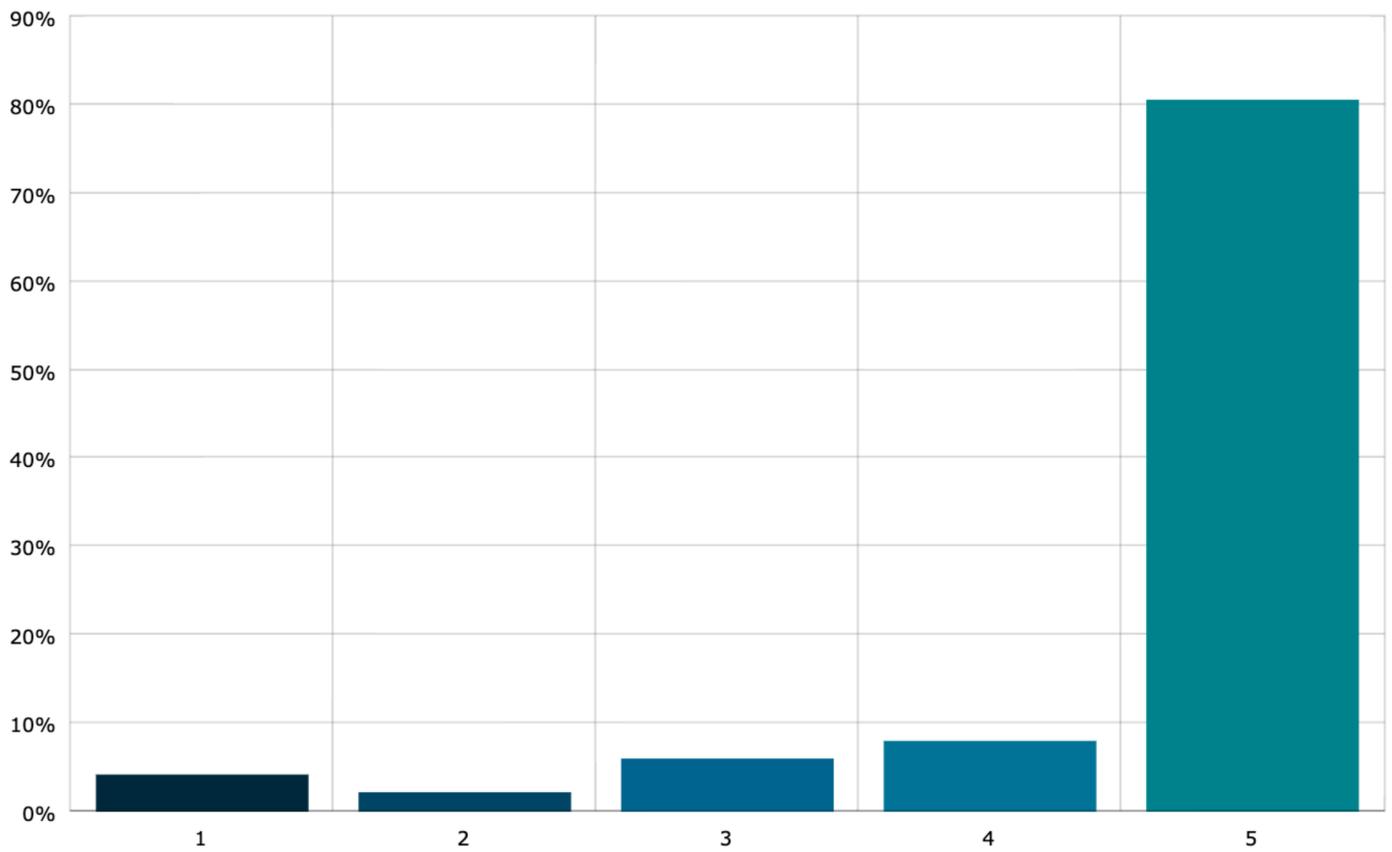
Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
5.88%	0%	7.84%	7.84%	78.43%	51	4.53
3	0	4	4	40		

2. Advocate on behalf of our community for a federal Carbon Net zero goal

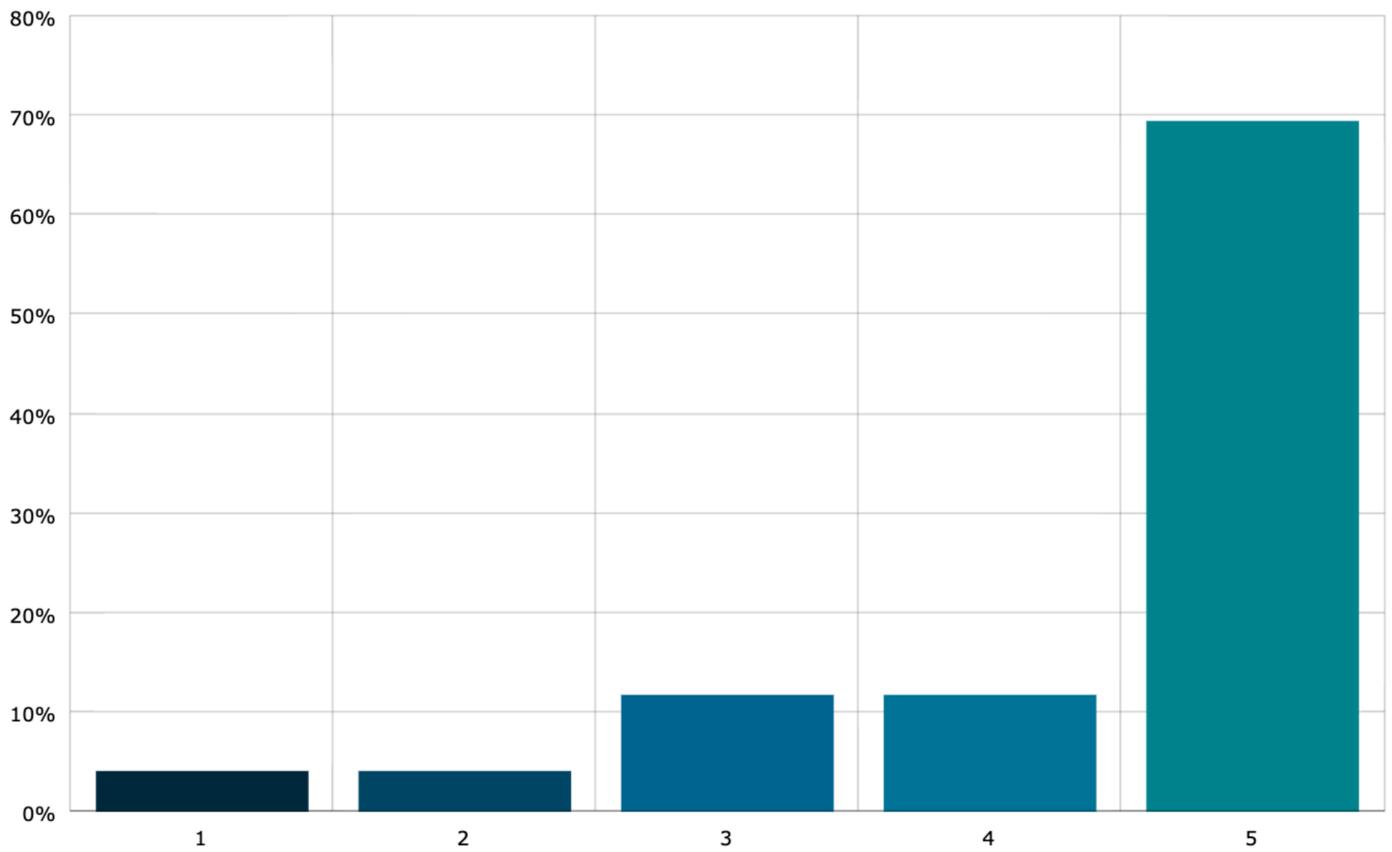
Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
3.92%	1.96%	5.88%	7.84%	80.39%	51	4.59
2	1	3	4	41		

3. Support local low income households to improve water and energy efficiency in their homes

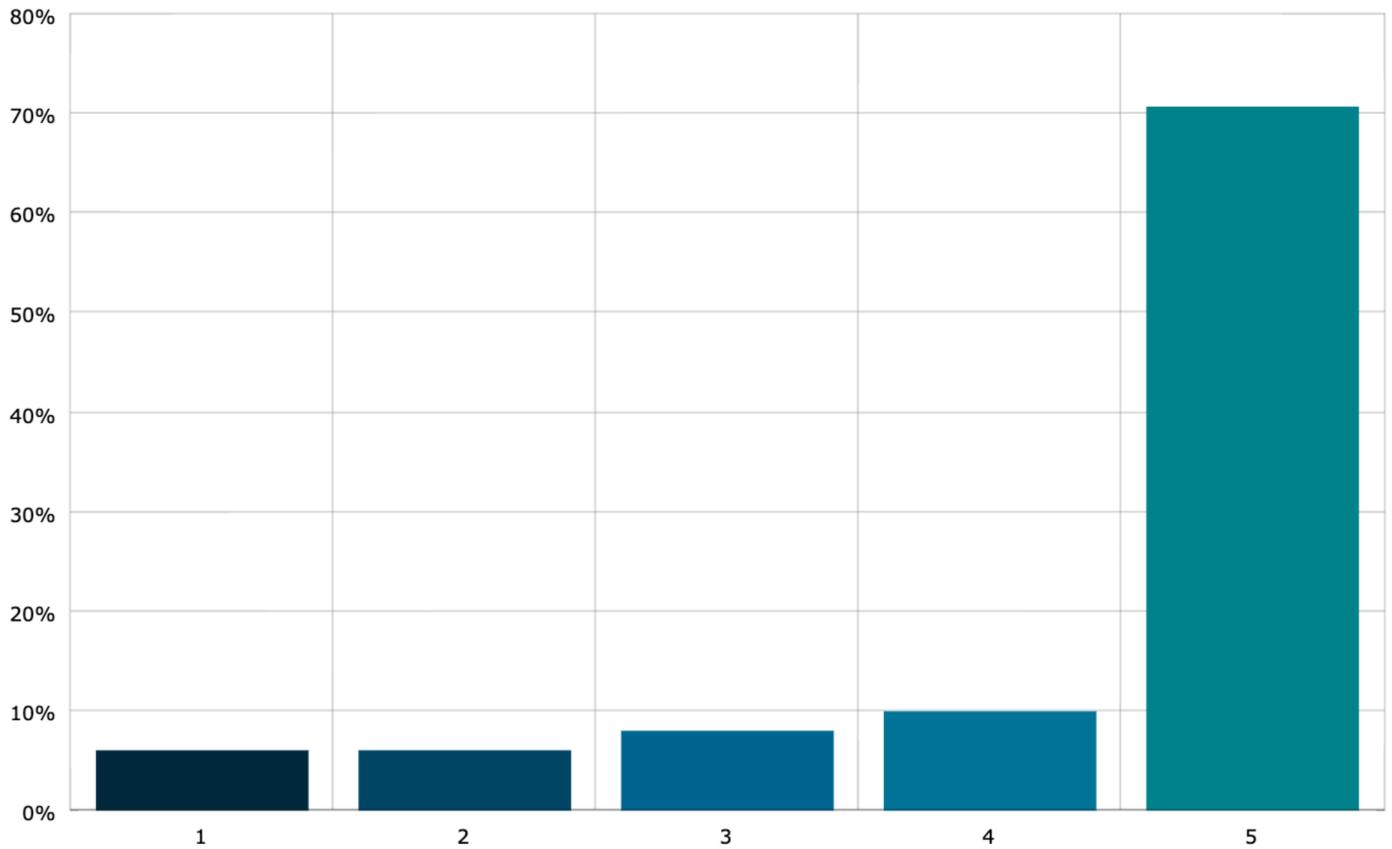
Rating | Skipped: 3 | Answered: 52 (94.5%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
3.85%	3.85%	11.54%	11.54%	69.23%	52	4.38
2	2	6	6	36		

4. Ensure internal and external capital works contracts and project briefs include planning for construction and demolition waste

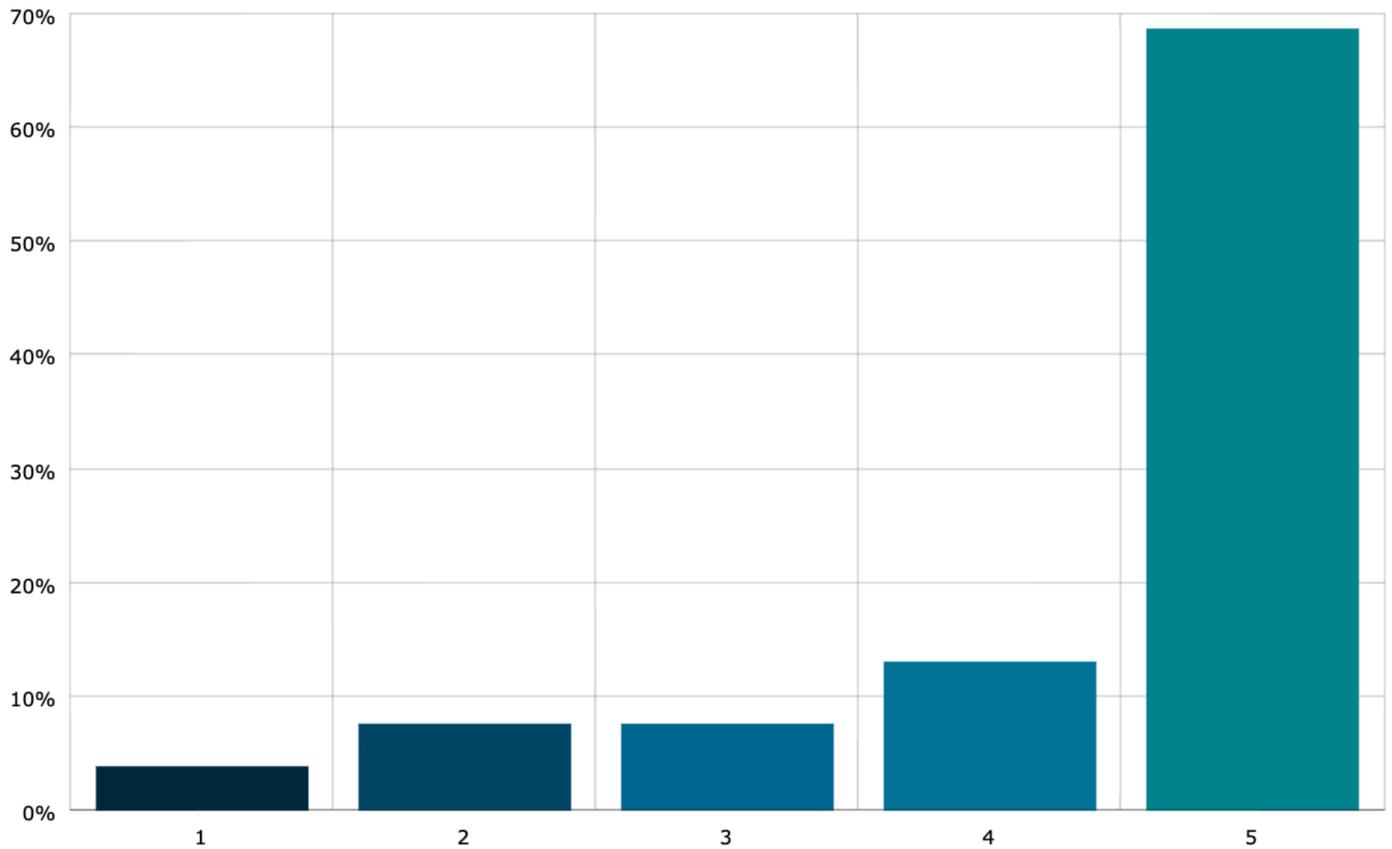
Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
5.88%	5.88%	7.84%	9.80%	70.59%	51	4.33
3	3	4	5	36		

5. Support local groups and businesses engaging in waste reduction projects and events that reduce emissions, and waste going to landfill via the community grant process

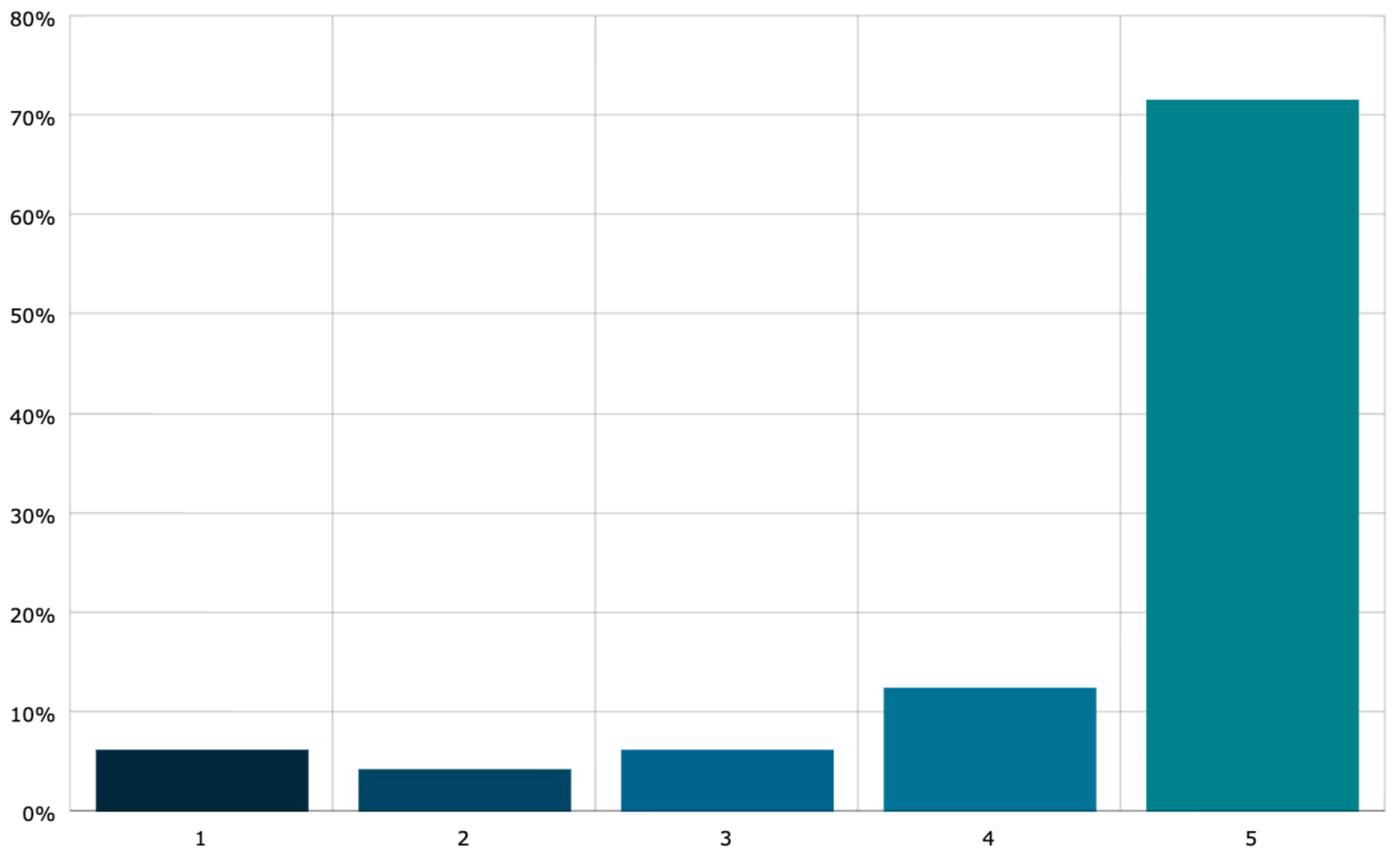
Rating | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 54 (98.2%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
3.70%	7.41%	7.41%	12.96%	68.52%	54	4.35
2	4	4	7	37		

6. Advocate for electric vehicle infrastructure in our local communities

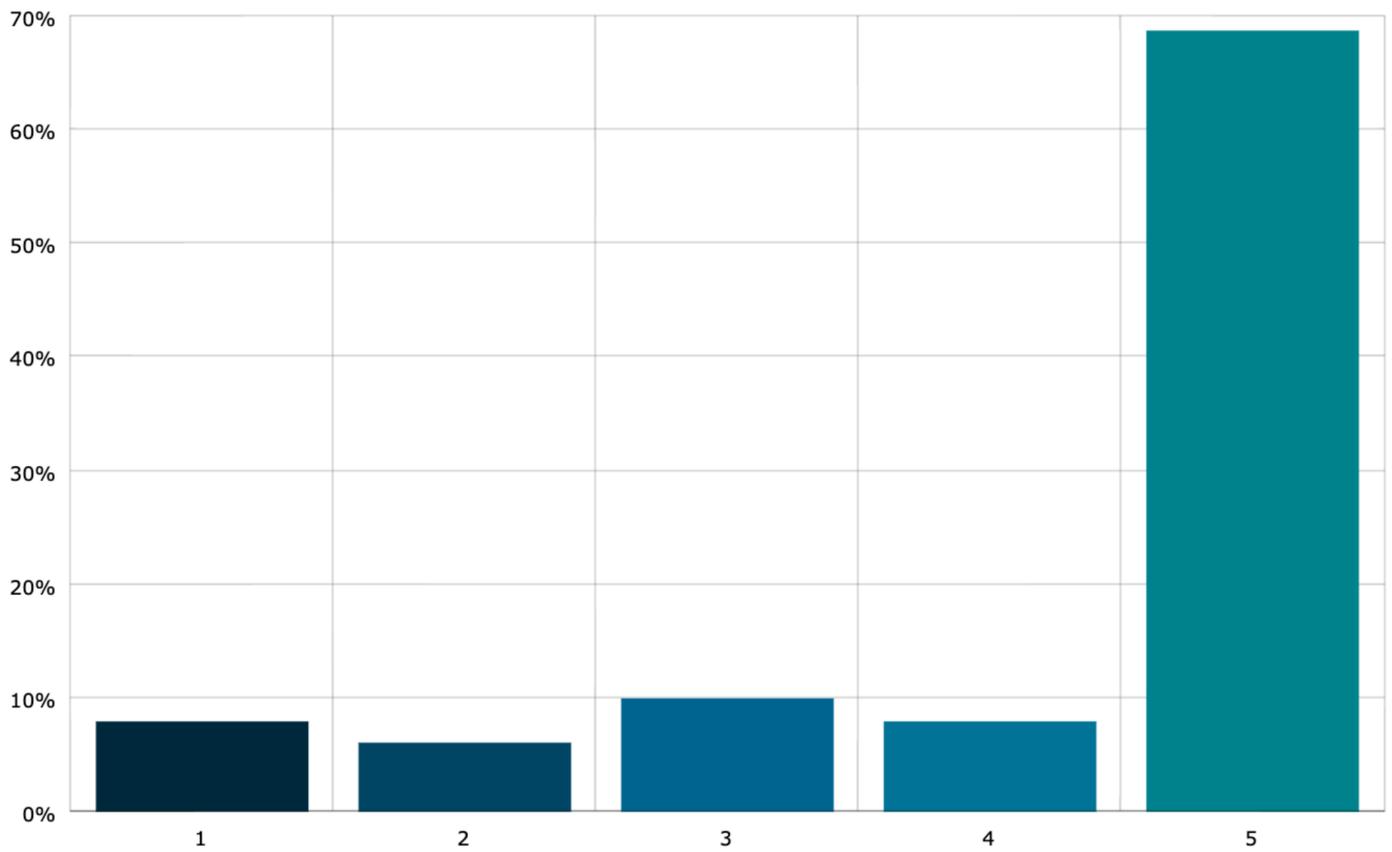
Rating | Skipped: 6 | Answered: 49 (89.1%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
6.12%	4.08%	6.12%	12.24%	71.43%	49	4.39
3	2	3	6	35		

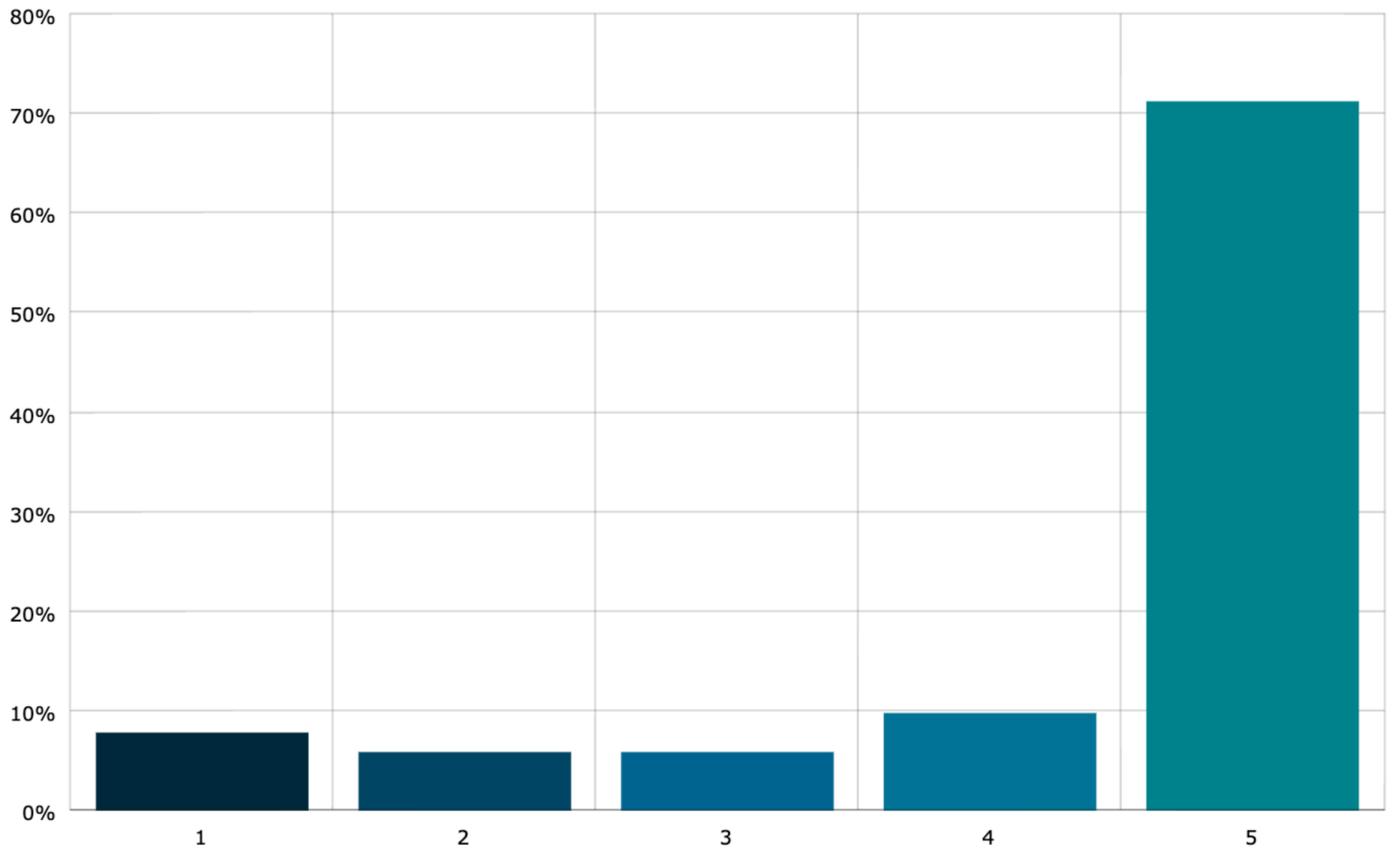
7. Include low carbon vehicles in Councils fleet and trial vehicles to deliver services to our community.

Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
7.84%	5.88%	9.80%	7.84%	68.63%	51	4.24
4	3	5	4	35		

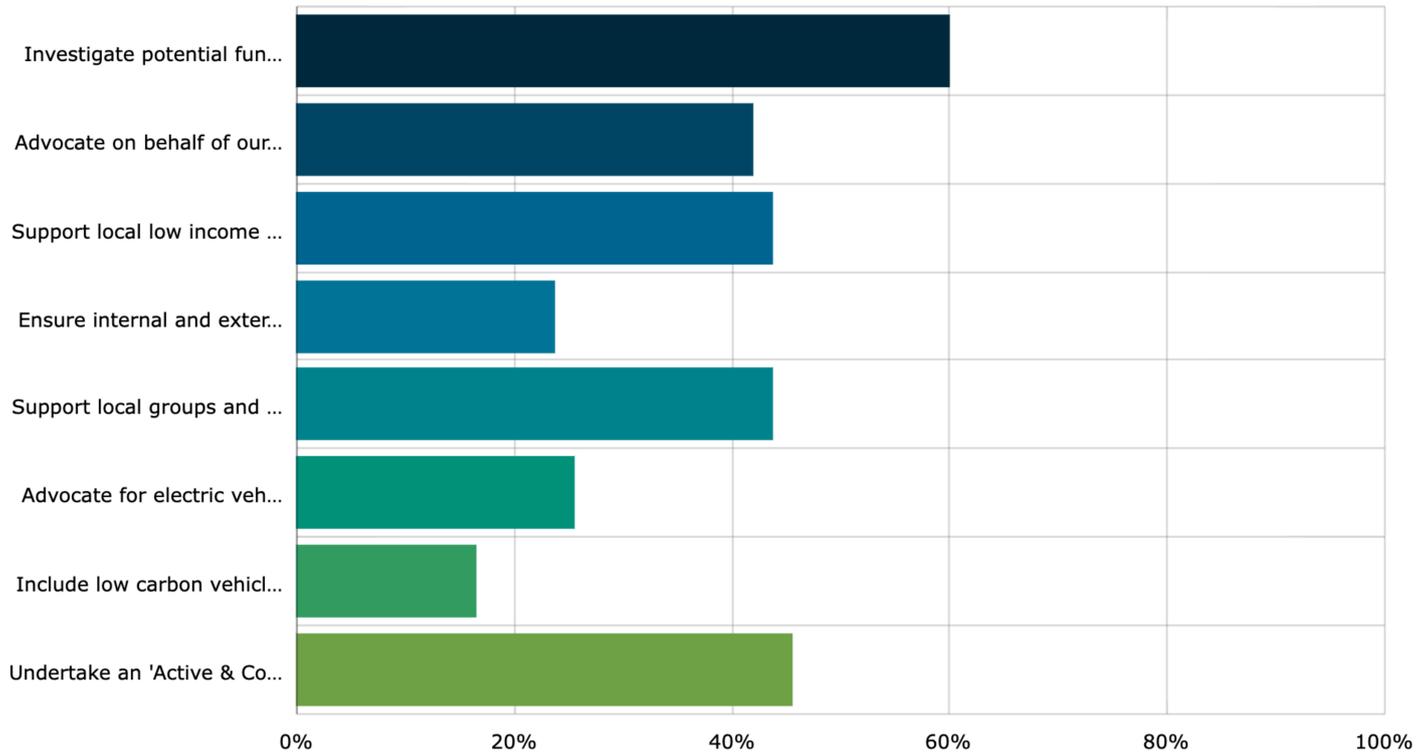
8. Undertake an 'Active & Connected Cycling Strategy' and review the opportunities and barriers, infrastructure, routes, and social initiatives required for residents and visitors to access a safe and enjoyable cycling lifestyle in Strathbogie Shire
 Rating | Skipped: 3 | Answered: 52 (94.5%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
7.69%	5.77%	5.77%	9.62%	71.15%	52	4.31
4	3	3	5	37		

9. Please select three of these eight actions to prioritise

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 55 (100%)

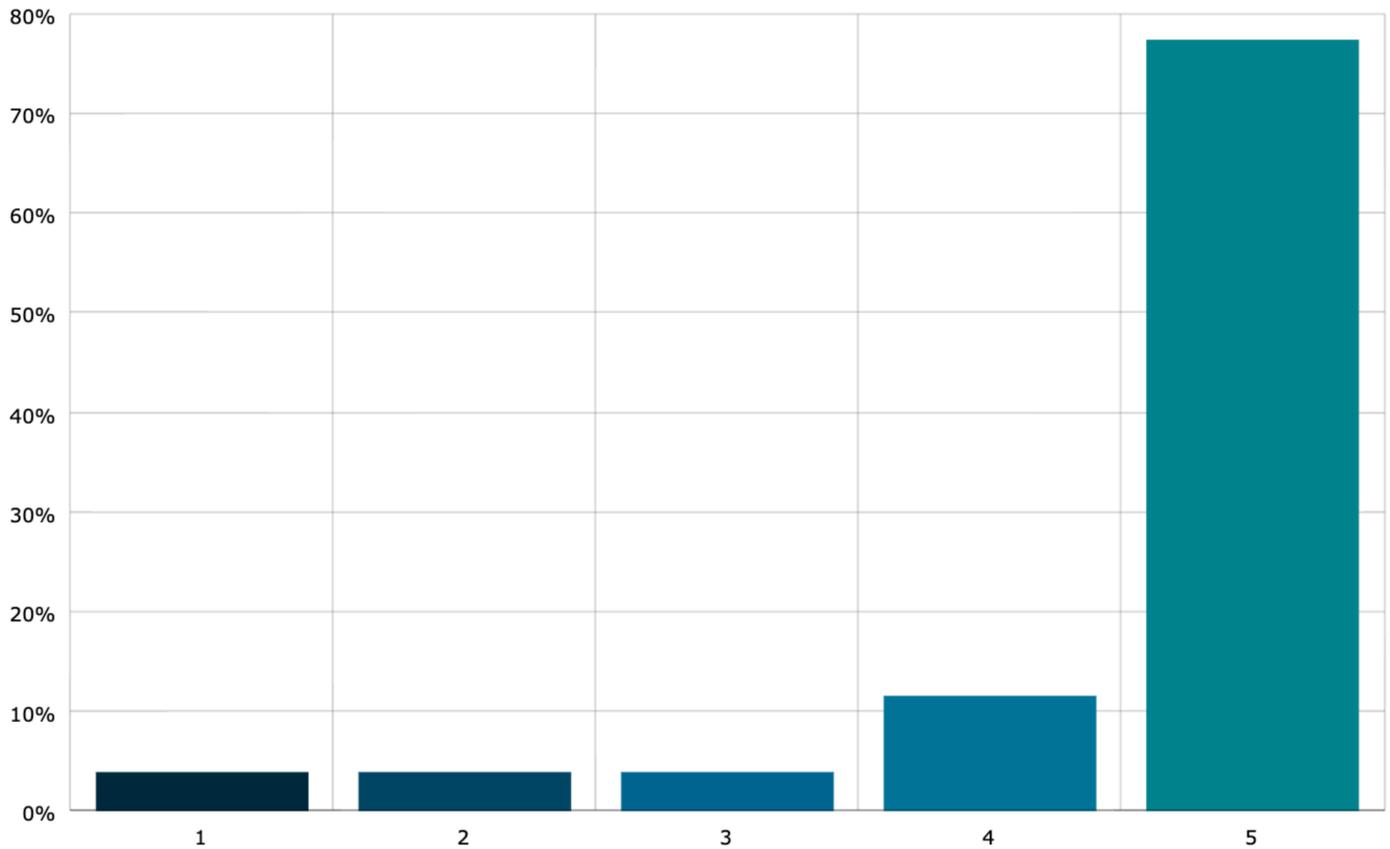


Answer choices	Percent	Count
Investigate potential funding sources for a community battery or microgrid	60.00%	33
Advocate on behalf of our community for a federal Carbon Net zero goal	41.82%	23
Support local low income households to improve water and energy efficiency in their homes	43.64%	24
Ensure internal and external capital works contracts and project briefs include planning for construction and demolition waste	23.64%	13
Support local groups and businesses engaging in waste reduction projects and events that reduce emissions, and waste going to landfill via the community grant process	43.64%	24
Advocate for electric vehicle infrastructure in our local communities	25.45%	14
Include low carbon vehicles in Councils fleet and trial vehicles to deliver services to our community	16.36%	9
Undertake an 'Active & Connected Cycling Strategy' and review the opportunities and barriers, infrastructure, routes, and social initiatives required for residents and visitors to access a safe and enjoyable cycling lifestyle in Strathbogie Shire	45.45%	25

Adaptation Actions

10. Update Councils current Roadside Management Plan to reflect best practise for protecting biodiversity

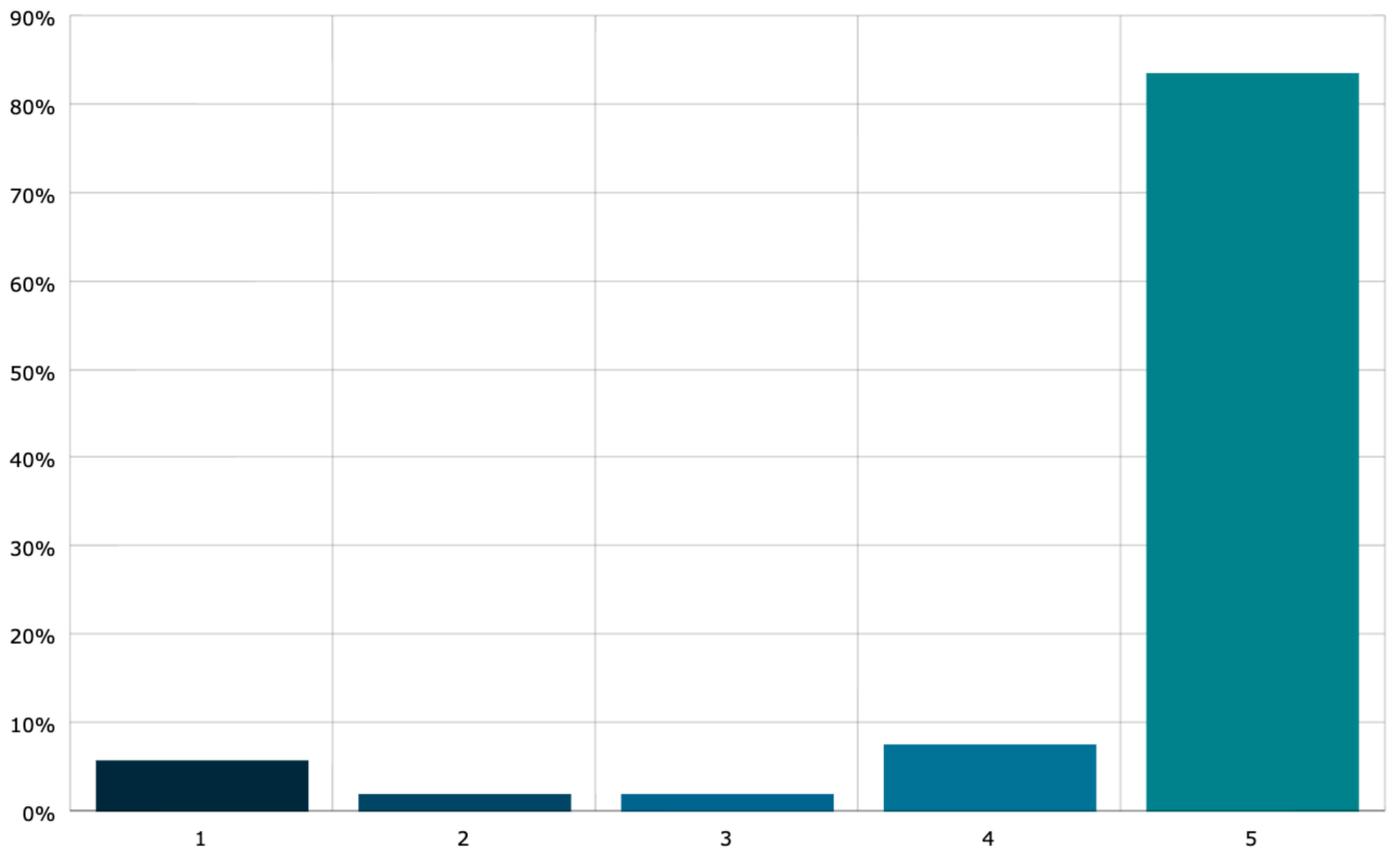
Rating | Skipped: 2 | Answered: 53 (96.4%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
3.77%	3.77%	3.77%	11.32%	77.36%	53	4.55
2	2	2	6	41		

11. Ensure that all new developments consider Water Sensitive Urban Design during the planning process

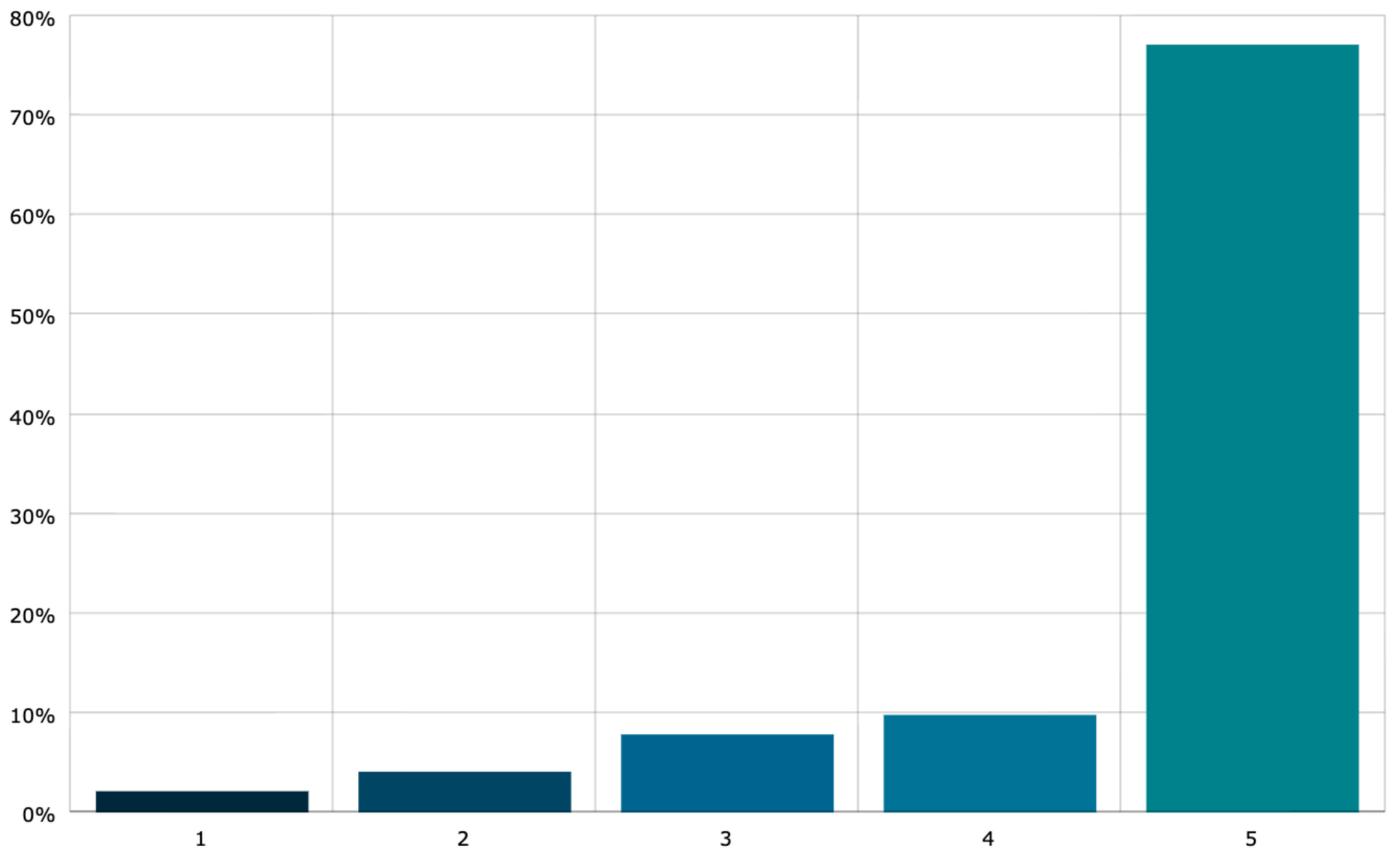
Rating | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 54 (98.2%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
5.56%	1.85%	1.85%	7.41%	83.33%	54	4.61
3	1	1	4	45		

12. Undertake and support water use audits, retrofits, integrate rainwater and water re-use principles into operations and guidelines for Parks and Gardens, recreation areas, toilets, truck wash facilities, street tree watering and other identified users

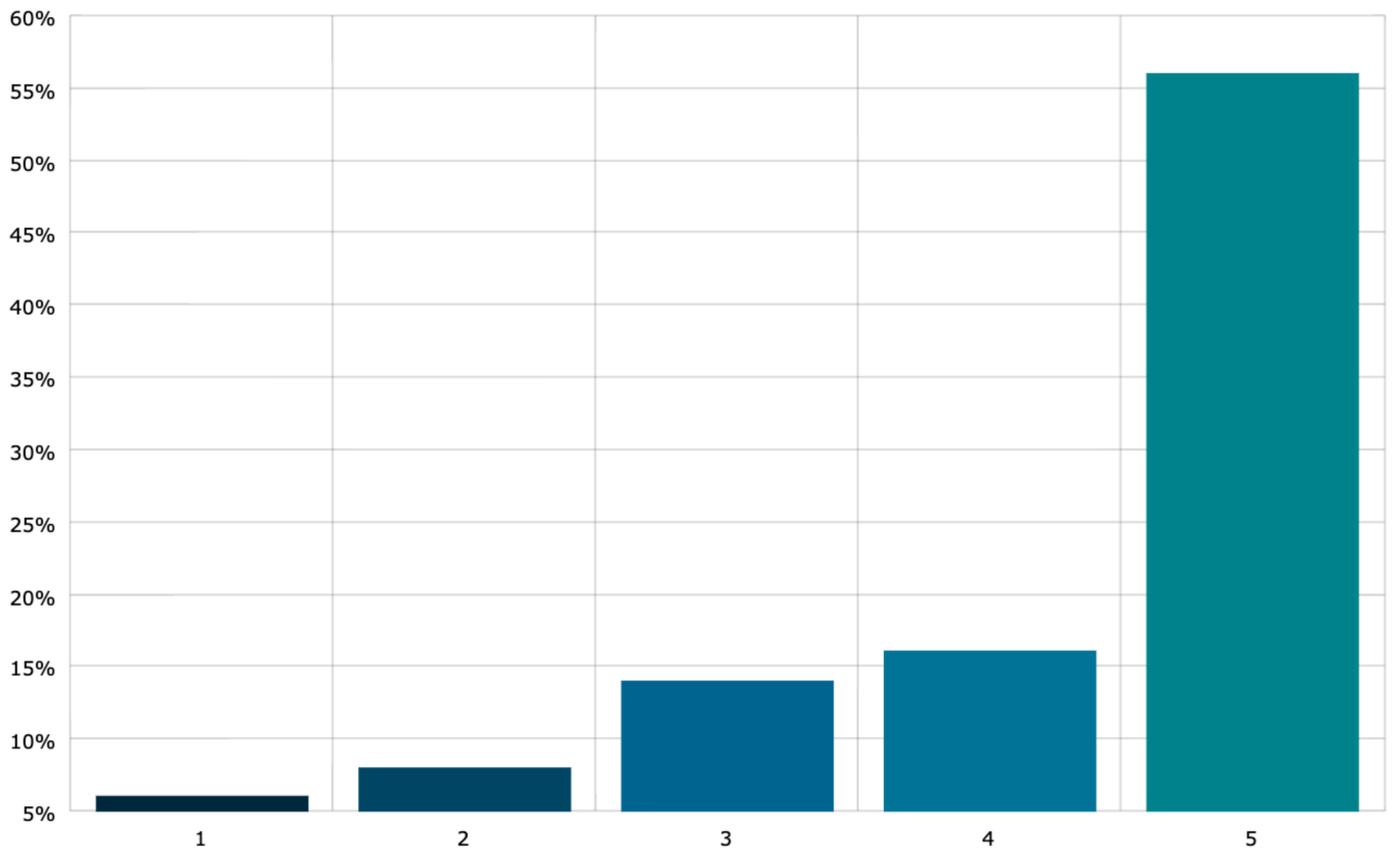
Rating | Skipped: 3 | Answered: 52 (94.5%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
1.92%	3.85%	7.69%	9.62%	76.92%	52	4.56
1	2	4	5	40		

13. Every 5 years update the Roadside Conservations Values Assessments

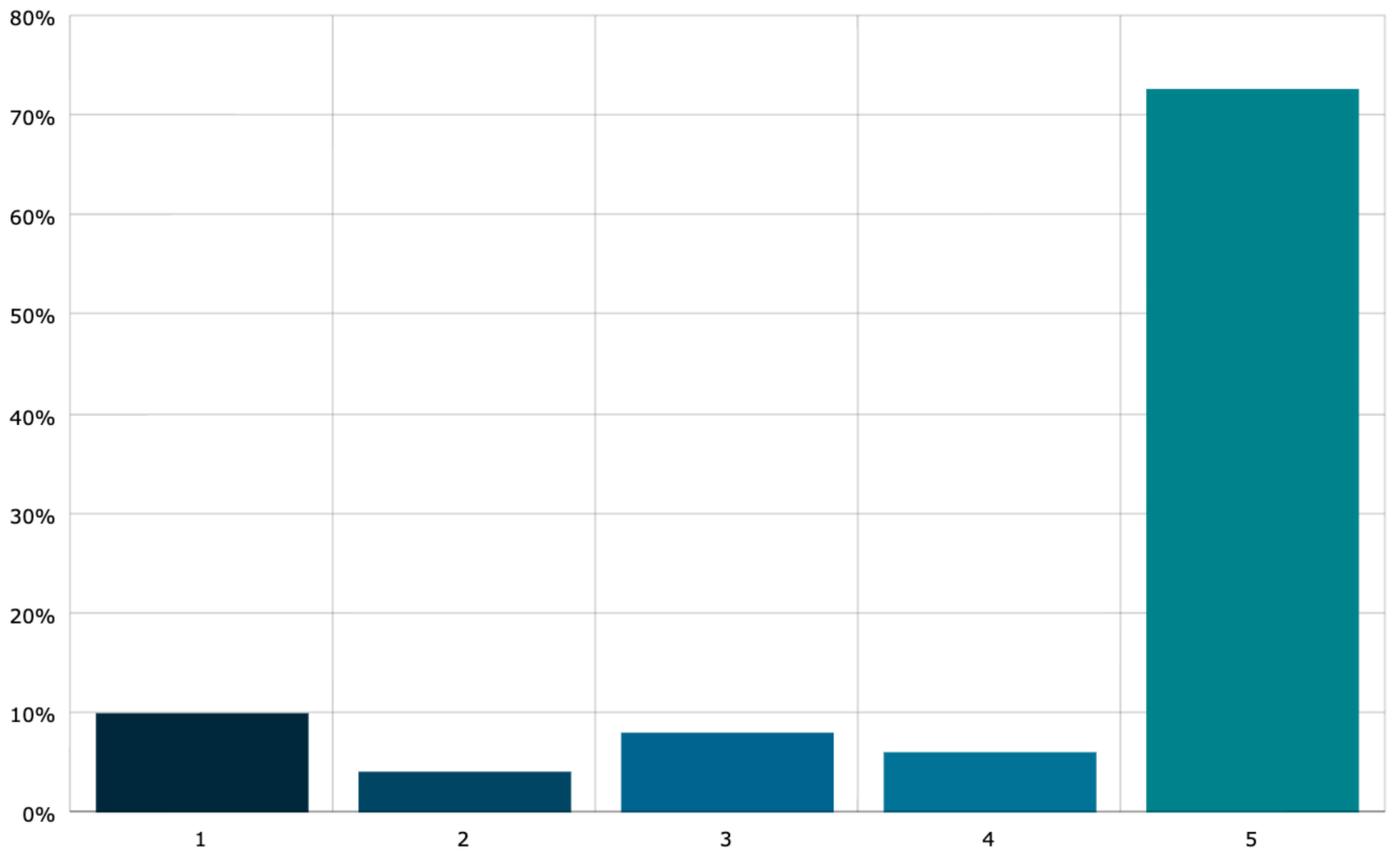
Rating | Skipped: 5 | Answered: 50 (90.9%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
6.00%	8.00%	14.00%	16.00%	56.00%	50	4.08
3	4	7	8	28		

14. Design a Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate Policy to lock up carbon, and protect biodiversity for landowners who have land registered for a conservation covenant on the Cert of Title, and create a Rebate Program to enhance the properties biodiversity values

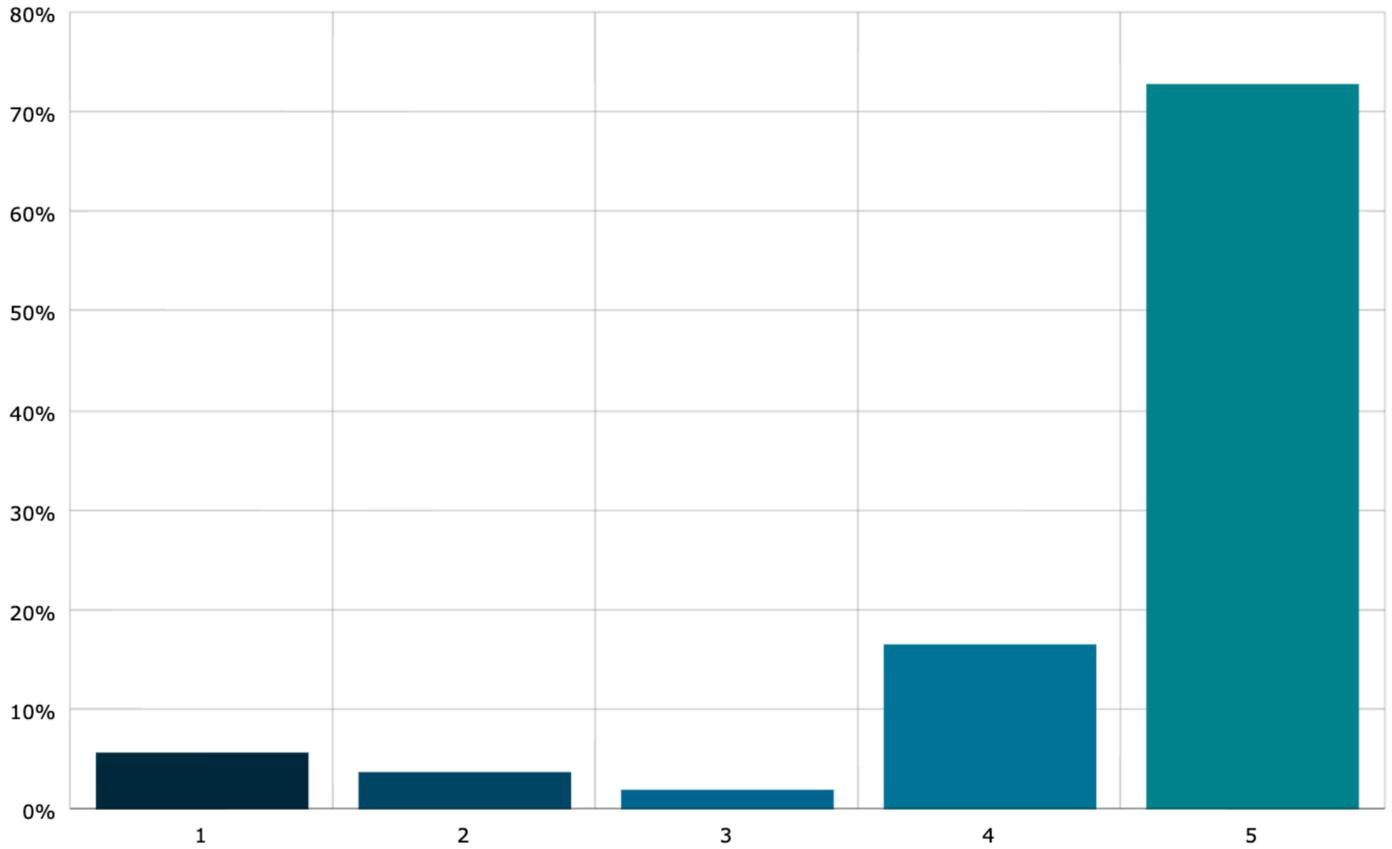
Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
9.80%	3.92%	7.84%	5.88%	72.55%	51	4.27
5	2	4	3	37		

15. Development of a 10 year, climate-appropriate, street tree planting plan and budget for the Shire's townships that increases and maintains a combination of street and water sensitive urban design plantings from 15 to 200 per annum by 2022, and that water sensitive urban design and the passive irrigation of street trees be a training priority for the Parks and Gardens team in order to implement best practice water saving techniques across street tree infrastructure in the Strathbogie Shire

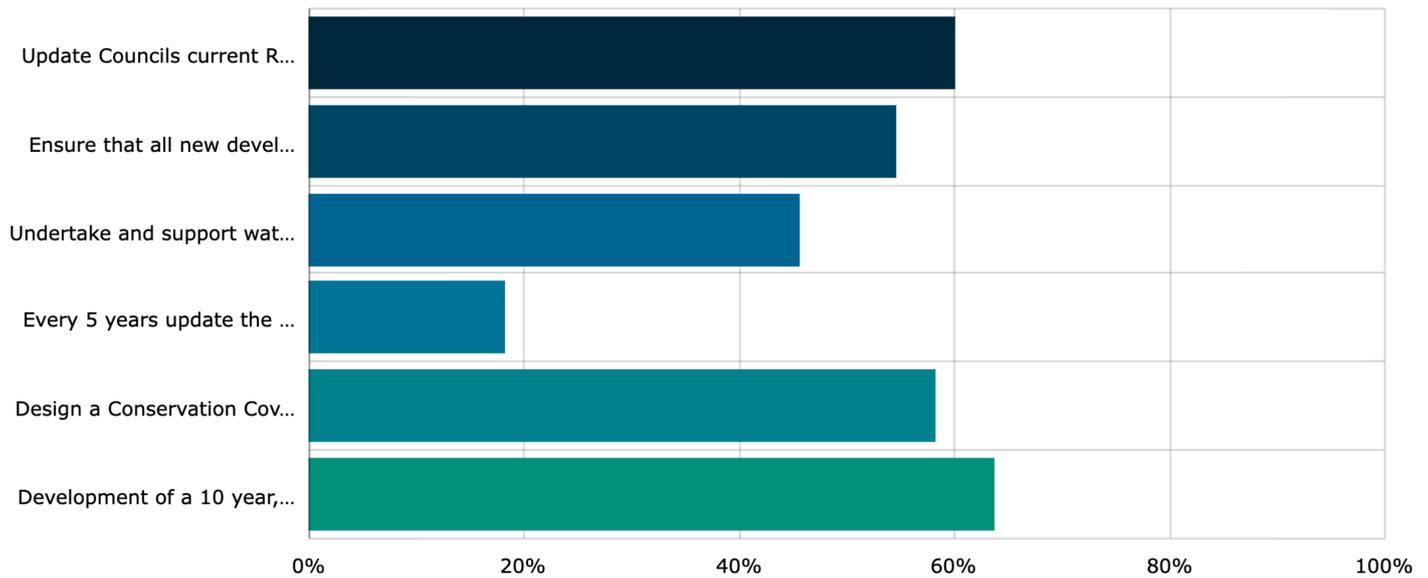
Rating | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 55 (100%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
5.45%	3.64%	1.82%	16.36%	72.73%	55	4.47
3	2	1	9	40		

16. Please select three of these six actions to prioritise

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 55 (100%)

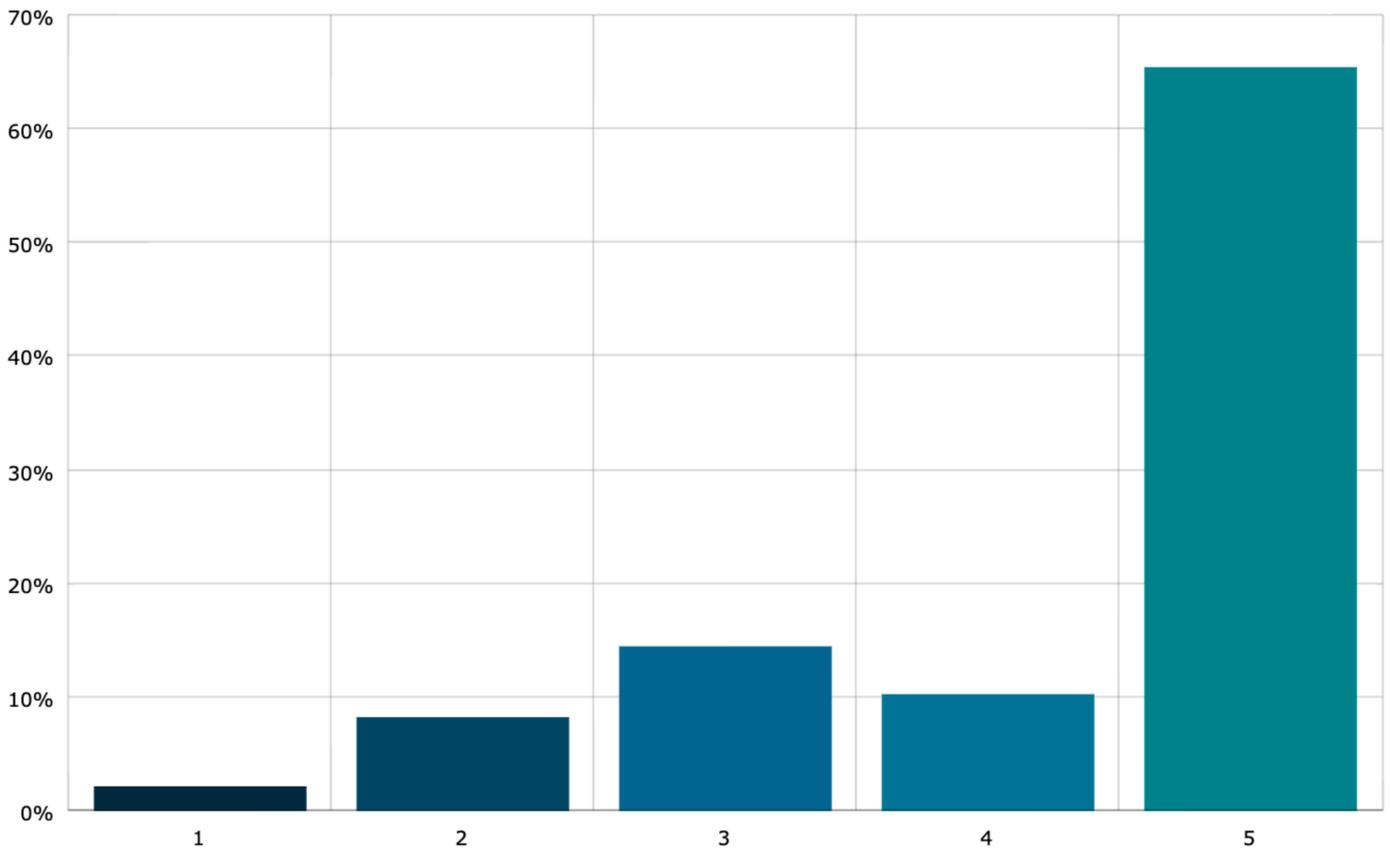


Answer choices	Percent	Count
Update Councils current Roadside Management Plan to reflect best practise for protecting biodiversity	60.00%	33
Ensure that all new developments consider Water Sensitive Urban Design during the planning process	54.55%	30
Undertake and support water use audits, retrofits, integrate rainwater and water re-use principles into operations and guidelines for Parks and Gardens, recreation areas, toilets, truck wash facilities, street tree watering and other identified users	45.45%	25
Every 5 years update the Roadside Conservations Values Assessments	18.18%	10
Design a Conservation Covenant Rate Rebate Policy to lock up carbon, protect biodiversity for landowners who have land registered for a conservation covenant on the Cert of Title, and create a Rebate Program to enhance the properties biodiversity values	58.18%	32
Development of a 10 year, climate-appropriate, street tree planting plan and budget for the Shire's townships	63.64%	35

Resilience Actions

17. Review and commence the implementation of existing facilities in each major township capable of operating independently to be available to the community during extreme climate events

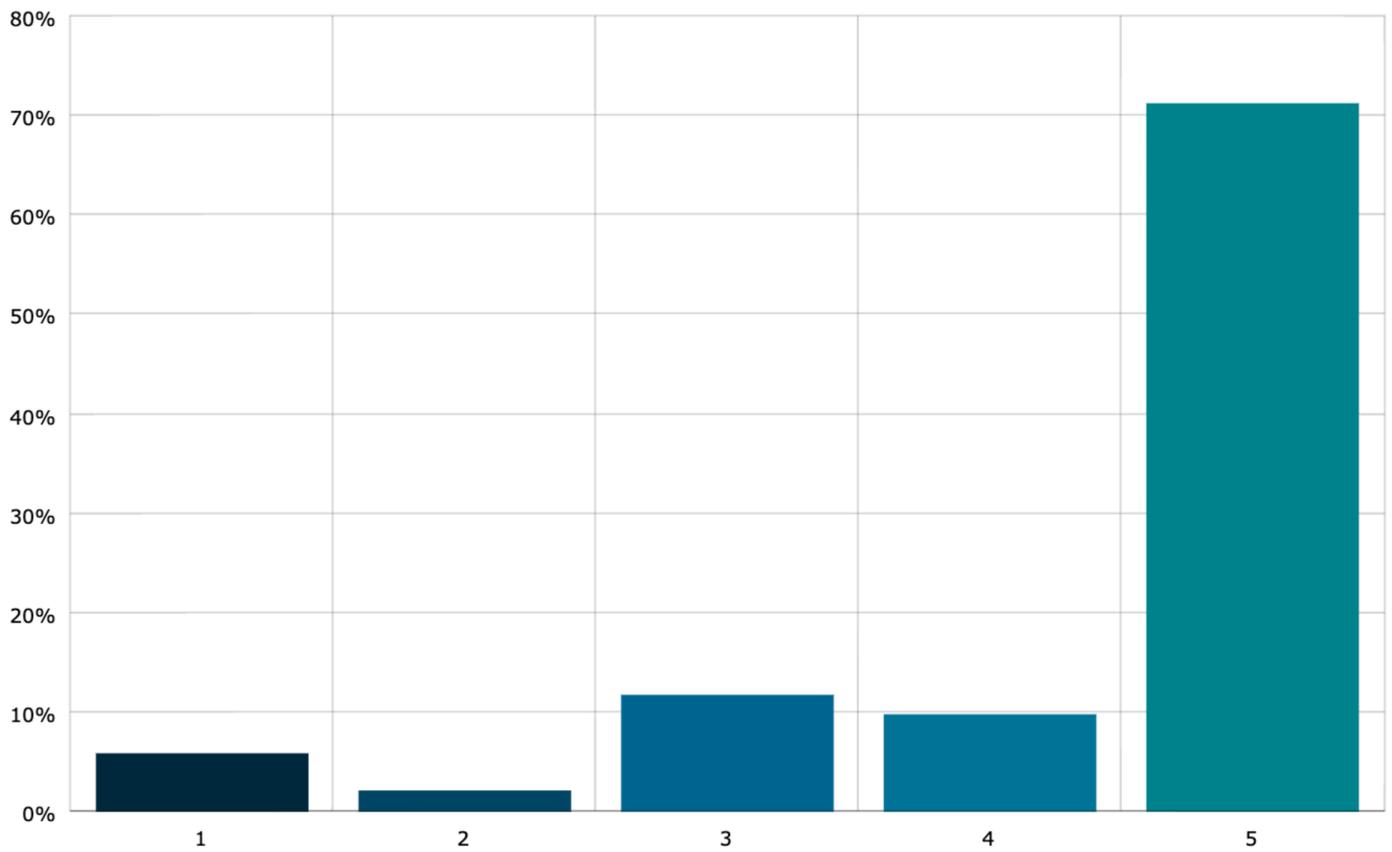
Rating | Skipped: 6 | Answered: 49 (89.1%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
2.04%	8.16%	14.29%	10.20%	65.31%	49	4.29
1	4	7	5	32		

18. Undertake urban heat island mapping in each township and plan planting to increase active transport corridors

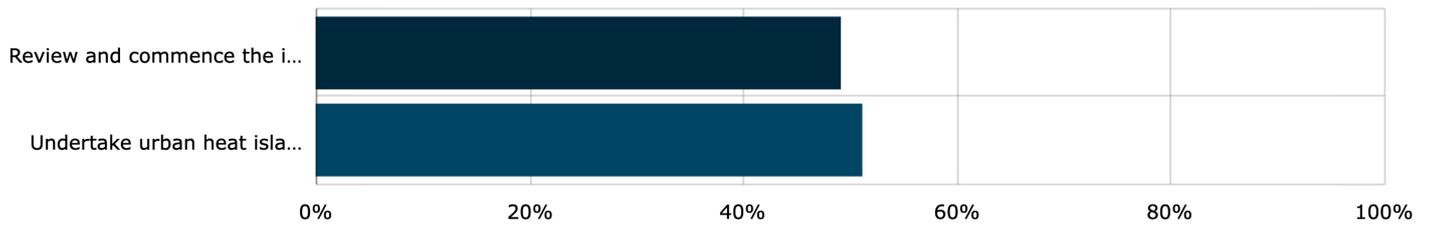
Rating | Skipped: 3 | Answered: 52 (94.5%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
5.77%	1.92%	11.54%	9.62%	71.15%	52	4.38
3	1	6	5	37		

19. Please select one of these two actions to prioritise

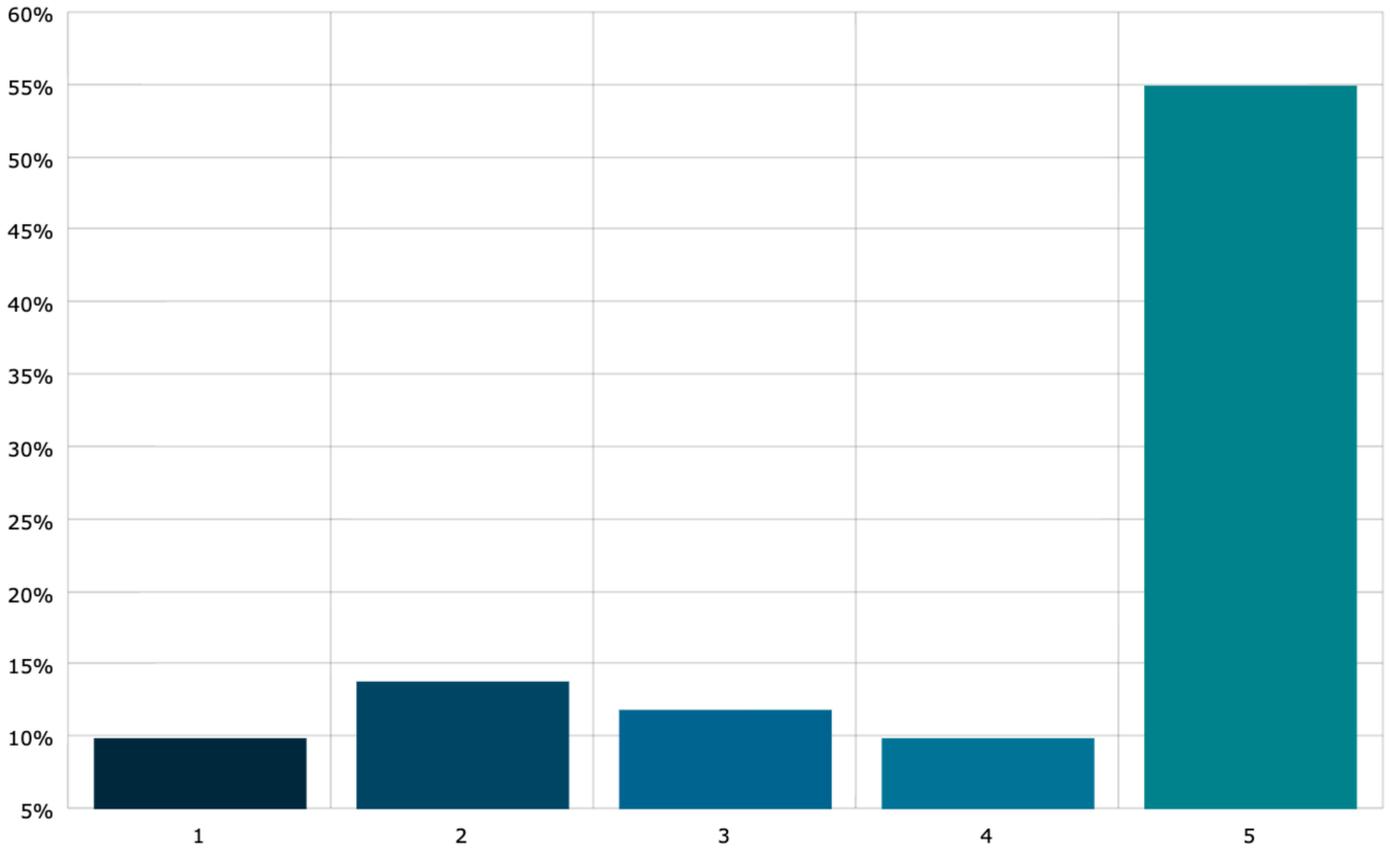
Multi Choice | Skipped: 2 | Answered: 53 (96.4%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Review and commence the implementation of existing facilities in each major township capable of operating independently to be available to the community during extreme climate events	49.06%	26
Undertake urban heat island mapping in each township and plan planting to increase active transport corridors	50.94%	27

Engagement Actions

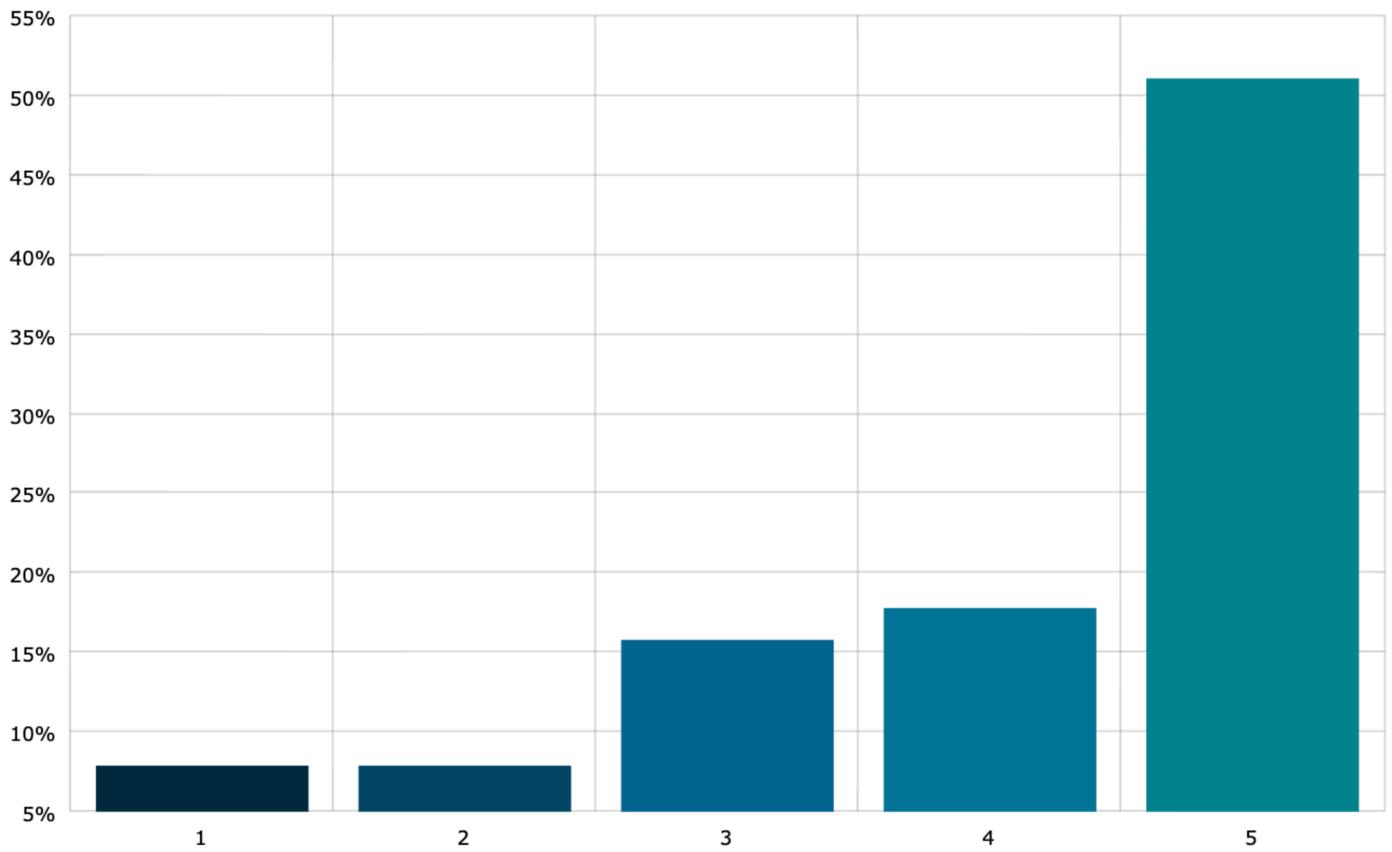
20. Partner with local environment groups to have a screening of environmental films like 2040 at the Community Cinema
 Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
9.80%	13.73%	11.76%	9.80%	54.90%	51	3.86
5	7	6	5	28		

21. Report every 6 months on Councils emissions reduction figures

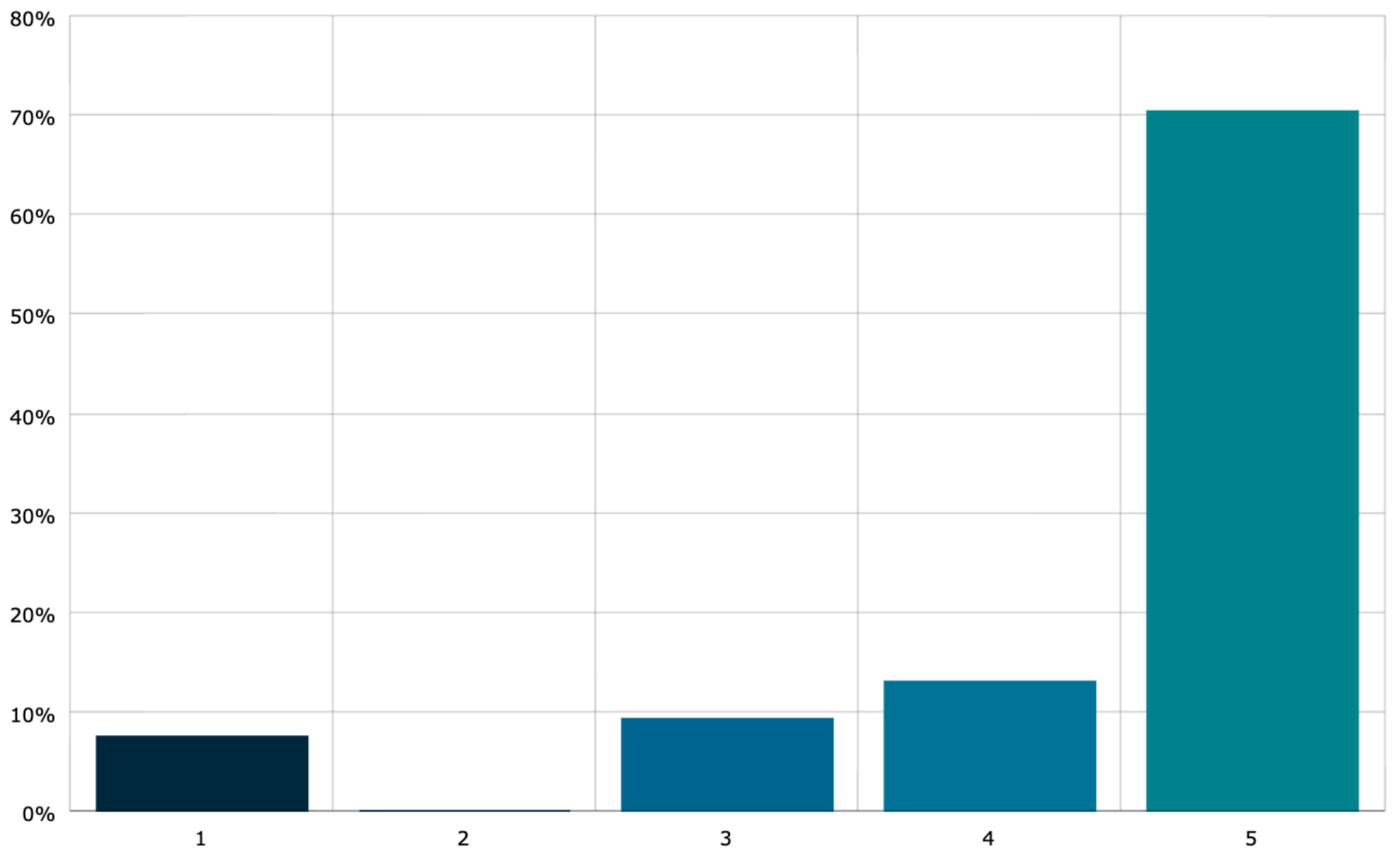
Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
7.84%	7.84%	15.69%	17.65%	50.98%	51	3.96
4	4	8	9	26		

22. List all Climate Change Actions on Councils website which is updated as each action is completed

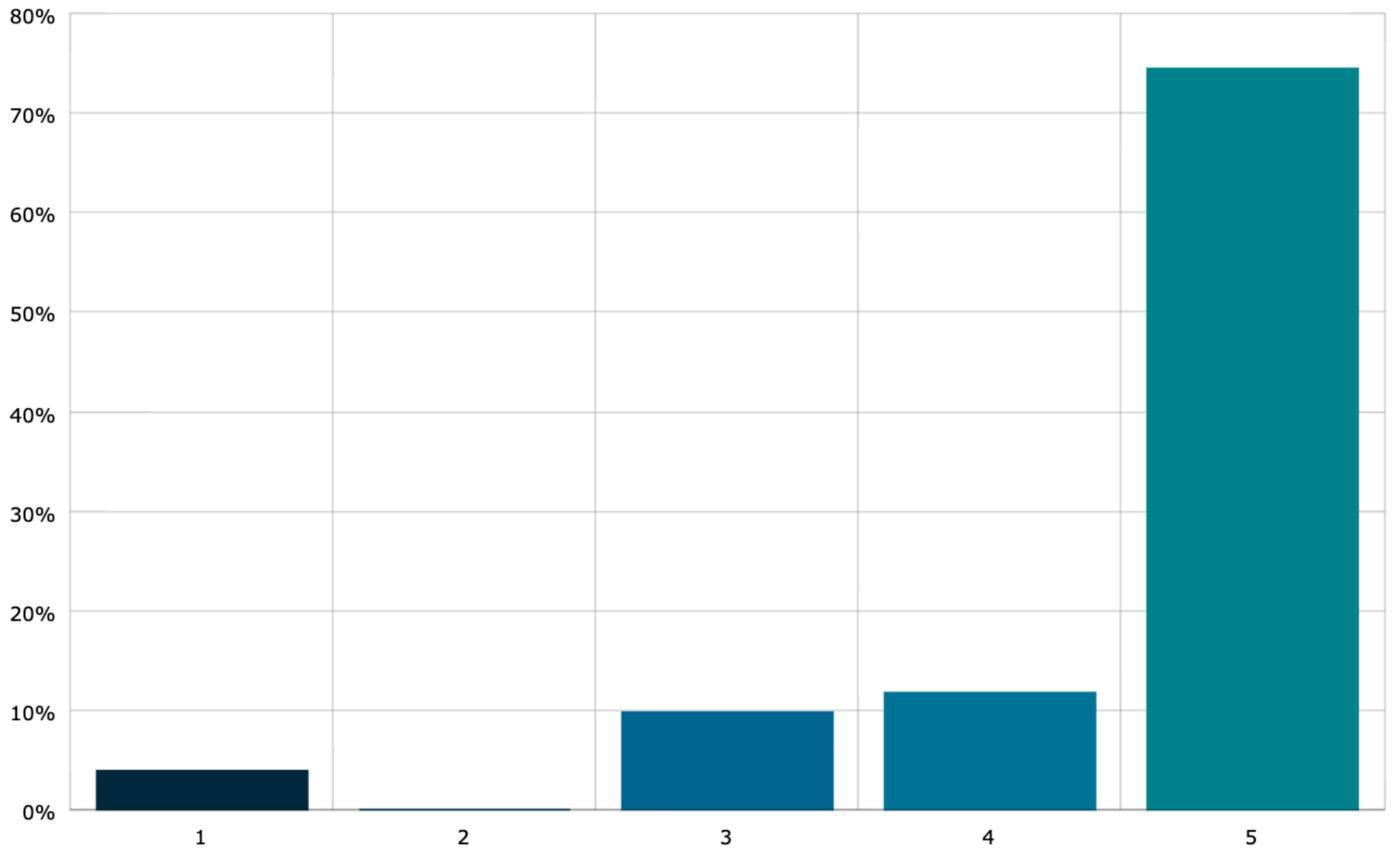
Rating | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 54 (98.2%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
7.41%	0%	9.26%	12.96%	70.37%	54	4.39
4	0	5	7	38		

23. Encourage community grant funding opportunities through Council for local projects that mitigate or adapt to our changing climate

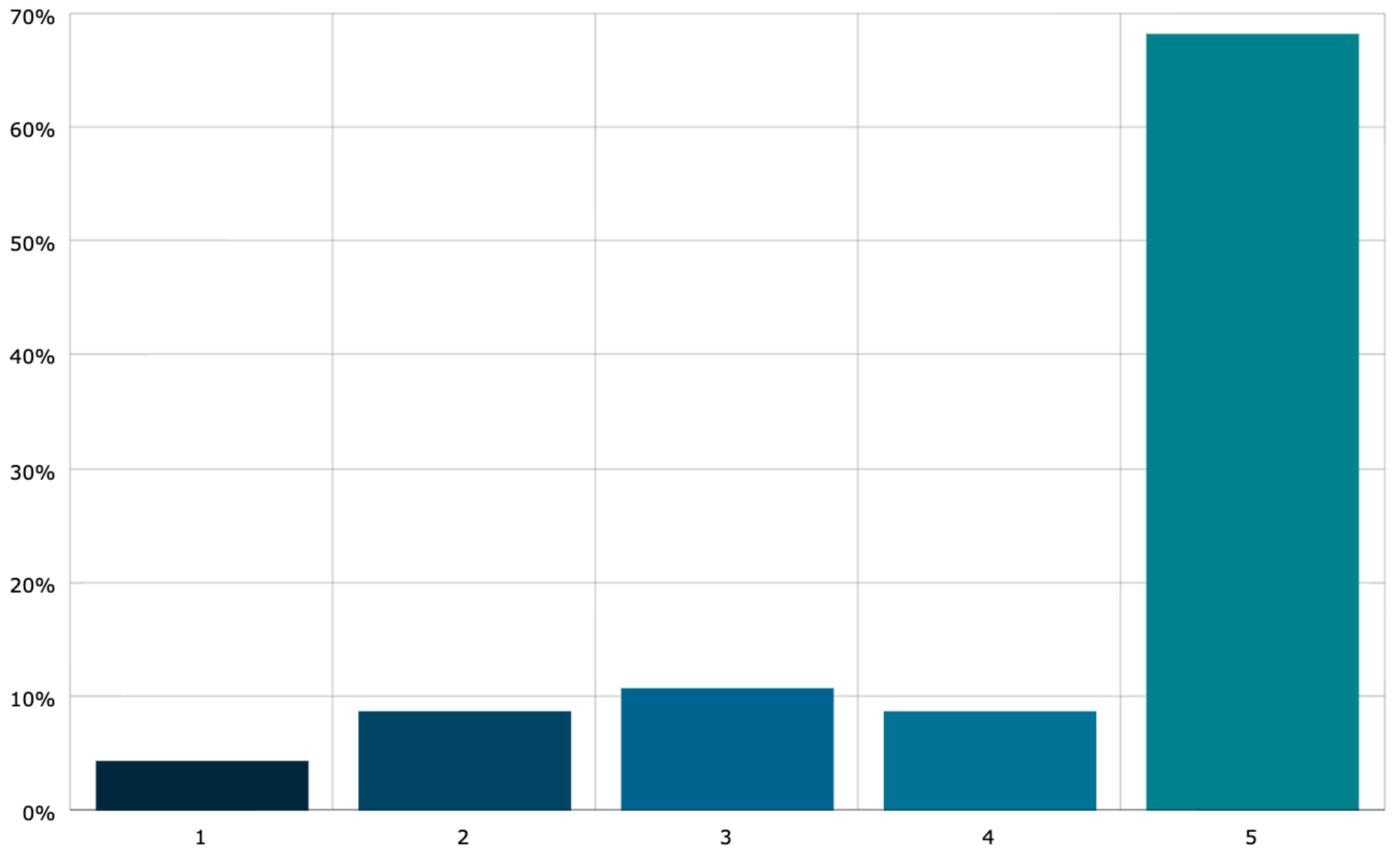
Rating | Skipped: 4 | Answered: 51 (92.7%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
3.92%	0%	9.80%	11.76%	74.51%	51	4.53
2	0	5	6	38		

24. Advertise for community members to be on an Environment Reference Group to support the delivery of Council's Climate Change aspirations

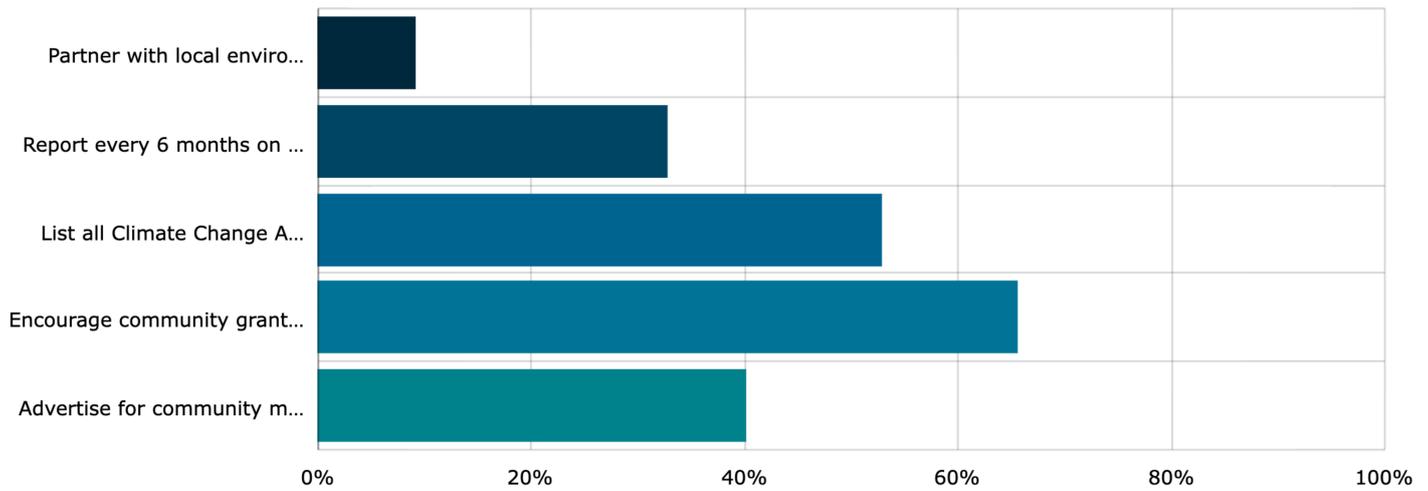
Rating | Skipped: 8 | Answered: 47 (85.5%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
4.26%	8.51%	10.64%	8.51%	68.09%	47	4.28
2	4	5	4	32		

25. Please select two of these five actions to prioritise

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 55 (100%)

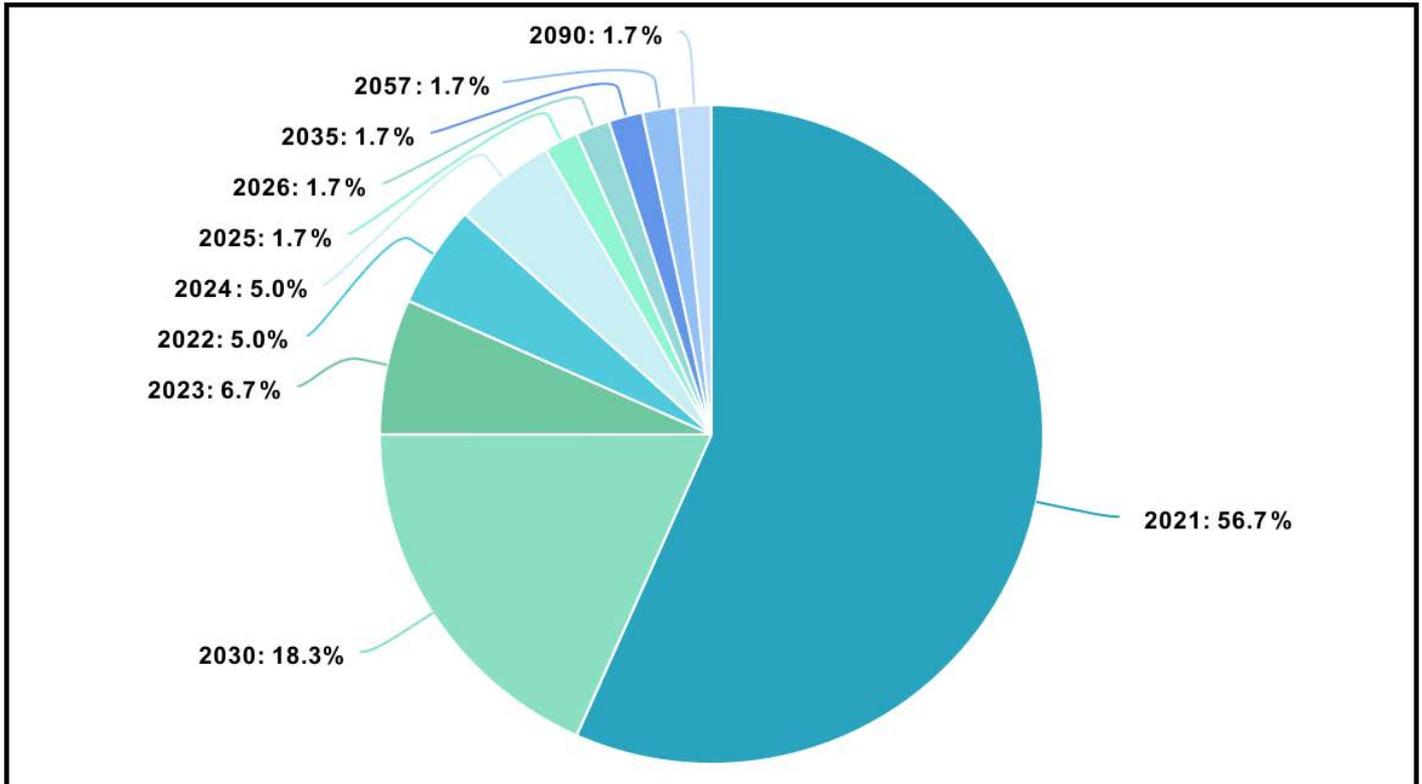


Answer choices	Percent	Count
Partner with local environment groups to have a screening of environmental films like 2040 at the Community Cinema	9.09%	5
Report every 6 months on Councils emissions reduction figures	32.73%	18
List all Climate Change Actions on Councils website which is updated as each action is completed	52.73%	29
Encourage community grant funding opportunities through Council for local projects that mitigate or adapt to our changing climate	65.45%	36
Advertise for community members to be on an Environment Reference Group to support the delivery of Council's Climate Change aspirations	40.00%	22

Final Thoughts

26. When do you think that Council should be net zero by (noting that due to legacy emissions from the Violet Town Landfill and no fit for purpose solution for heavy plant some emissions will need to be offset)

Date | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 55 (100%)



27. Are there are other actions you think should be included in a Climate Change Action Plan?

Long Text | Skipped: 18 | Answered: 37 (67.3%)

1	<p>Provide funding for education programs to be undertaken at early childhood services and schools to support the development of an ecological identity for children.</p> <p>Provide community grants to encourage passive shade corridors along footpaths, enhancing biodiversity..</p>
2	<p>All still existing natural environments from native grasslands to Tall native forest must have the highest protection from All sorts of influences that local government can afford to give them.</p> <p>This may include the use of fire.</p>
3	<p>Increasing the opportunities for zero emissions public transport. In particular, the pandemic will result in an increased number of "hybrid" workers, who may live in Strathbogie Shire but commute to Melbourne 1-2 days per week. Currently the very poor level of train service (no morning arrivals), the extremely high fares, and the diesel rollingstock mean that most people are likely to drive (to perhaps Wandong, where the fares are cheaper), and those that do take the train locally are emitting carbon. A strategy for hydrogen powered rollingstock on the Albury line with an increased level of service (particularly for commuting) and more appropriate fares would be a great approach to reducing inter-regional emissions.</p>
4	<p>Give choices. Climate change is not everyone's priority</p>
5	<p>Community facilities solar and battery upgrades. Council coordinating all community facilities energy utilities for a green energy bill buy.</p> <p>Ensure council owned and community facilities Are a captured.</p>
6	<p>Rebates for farmers working with Regenerative Agriculture principals.</p> <p>Education for farmers to learn how to implement Regenerative Agriculture Principals.</p>
7	<p>encourage upcycling of materials and creative projects using waste to keep recycling front of mind</p> <p>use a sustainability lens when planning events, programs, making decisions - circular economy and reuse</p> <p>education about reducing what we consume as a part of the answer and how what we buy and how it's made matters</p> <p>increase value of the environment for children through nature playgrounds and recycled interactive water play stations for children like in Benalla's rose garden.</p> <p>People need to connect with nature to appreciate it, not everyone lives on farms and has that exposure daily, deliver experiences that promote that connection in an engaging why... help the public to care about our environment though play, education and connection with others.</p>
8	<p>I think all existing tracts of native trees and bush should be retained and be joined and added to with future plantings.</p> <p>I think we should be preventing waste that goes to landfill and removing the need for so many new products by introducing a tip store and opportunities for picking of parts and repairs of repairable items from resources at tips.</p> <p>I think we should be funding programs that reuse and recycle waste into new products.</p> <p>I think stores should be discouraged and eventually banned from use single use packaging.</p>

9	<p>Waste sorting and sale - resource recovery for people to reuse such as tip shops are great. Passive watering of trees through redesigned street drainage, allowing some water to direct into depressions in the nature strip for trees, or rain gardens for filtering and infiltration. Consideration of bush fire risks, whilst we all love to have native species, incorporating oaks etc can reduce fire risks. Management of bushland as it gets closer to population centres by indigenous rangers undertaking cultural burning (being much more gentle and beneficial to life compared to typical hazard reduction burns). In general, consultation and leadership by local indigenous people should be encouraged, along with everyone who is interested in the community.</p>
10	<p>A plan for extreme regular winds. As expected with Global Warming.</p> <p>A plan for emergency protocol to deal with extreme climate events, where our shire is left isolated from help.</p>
11	<p>Council should start using the language coming out of the Glasgow COP and be talking about its 'decarbonisation' program. To do so would take it out of the mundane 'greenhouse audits' which have typified efforts at local Government to date. Council should also start talking about 'electrifying everything' Clean Energy. Council should be celebrating the success of the Euroa Microgrid Demonstration Initiative developed by Euroa Energy with Mondo and AusNet and working to link it to the new ARENA program for Regional Microgrid. Council does a much better job of getting its message out under the current administration but more could always be done.</p>
12	<p>Increase our ability to deal with our own waste i.e look at soft plastic recycling and expand put tip into these areas.</p> <p>Use recycled water for watering our sportsfields and schools.</p> <p>Limit irrigation practices for farmers.</p> <p>Invest in our creek, commission a report on the health of the creek system and produce a staged investment to support it's health and ongoing vitality</p>
13	<p>Programs/projects to engage/educate: school kids, pre-school kids, Secondary School, TAFE and Seniors; Work with TAFE to offer environment aligned Cert III courses to be incorporated into years 10-12; Develop an annual Environment Festival to celebrate/educate/advocate with music! Develop festival event for Clean up Australia Day - maybe make that the Envirofest date - and make a display out of the mounds of rubbish collected; Create a pop-up art event 'Sculpture on the Sevens' where the theme is always the environment (or the major prizes are) - it could be a 7 day event which starts with Clean up Australia Day and culminates in the Environment Festival - would also be a seasonal attraction for tourists. Could run it during school holidays to attract campers, caravaners AirBnB, Visiting Friends and relatives.</p>
14	<p>Tree planting. If the type of tree could be given more consideration I would cheer from the rooftops.</p> <p>Trees are continually being planted under wires which then require lopping as the species grow into the street pole wires. Why?</p> <p>Manchuria pear, Chinese elm, crepe myrtle, callistemon salignus etc, do well without excessive care needed after a year or two. These trees provide shade and species that do well in the local area should be the ones that get planted. Without the need to hack them in half.</p>
15	<p>Immediately stop planting inappropriate vegetation . Encourage and implement community gardens. Cease land clearing and destruction of old growth trees and woodlands within the shire eg. save the 51 trees in Nagambie, the town in the shire of Strathbogie which currently has the least amount of tree coverage.</p>

16	<p>Better house design - to ensure houses capture passive solar and are fully insulated.</p> <p>Site responsive developments - so residential developers are not permitted to remove vegetation or other important landscape assets. Landscape character is not only important for social/ health reasons, but for environmental health.</p>
17	<p>We need to plant thousands of trees a year not 200 and no old trees should be removed in any development projects.</p>
18	<p>Not at this stage.</p>
19	<p>You missed the mark completely.</p>
20	<p>No it's been well covered in questions</p>
21	<p>Advocate to get adequate public transport links in the area. Buses to Shepparton daily, for work and study. Trains running between Seymour and Wodonga for shopping, schooling, work. To encourage those working in Seymour Shepparton or Benalla, to leave their car at home and take public transport. Massive increase in tree, bush and ground covers, to reduce heat in townships.</p> <p>Ensure all new housing, buildings built are to the highest environmental standards. So no more black roofs, large area of concrete driveways etc, which act as a heat bank and mean more energy is needed to cool our buildings, homes. Highest energy rating homes. Waterless composting toilets or recycled water flush toilets. All new /renovated buildings to have minimum 20,000 ltr water storage tanks, collected from their roofs.</p> <p>More water storage solutions for our rivers and creeks, so aquatic animals and plants have water during longer extended dry summers.</p> <p>More removal of feral vegetation along our waterways. Plantings of native species.</p> <p>Street plantings suitable for drier summers and wetter winter/spring. Naturestrip plantings to slow the flow of water.</p> <p>More programs and seminars and workshops on Nature Corridors. Fodder species to grow, for a changing climate. Alternative farming enterprises. Not just sheep, dairy and cattle emphasis. But animals, products or services that require less water, survive longer drier weather. Encourage Solar/wind/hydro for on farm energy use.</p> <p>Encourage and support smaller farm operators with new business ideas, eg: native bush foods, herbs, speciality foods suitable for the changing climate.</p> <p>Regular guided bushwalks through our hills, waterways, bushland. With a Ranger experienced in local topography, fauna, flora, first nations history of the area, etc.</p> <p>Cats to be inside by 6pm and not let back outside til 6am. I personally would prefer that all cats are contained within their property boundaries and not allowed to wander into my property or areas where native animals live, feed and breed. Be more proactive in supporting organisations who are protecting the land, waters, vegetation and animals. To protect these species, so we can increase their populations to healthy sizes once again. And that will mean, campaigning to get State and Federal Governments on board.</p>
22	<p>We definitely need more tree planting along our town streets-and the removal of old trees for development should be banned or subject to large offsets.</p> <p>Shade is such an important measure along roadsides to reduce summer heat.</p> <p>Rural roadsides need to be managed according to best practice, whilst carefully carrying out fire reduction measures such as cool burns, removal of excessive debris (without causing damage to other vegetation etc).</p>

23	<p>Protection of waterway corridors through privately owned farm land (Needs State legislation). Utilisation of farm dams as biodiversity 'islands'. Stop spraying council roadsides, it kills off native plants to make a come back.</p>
24	<p>*A ban on the removal of large old trees and tree hollows that the Strathbogie Shire/ developers in and around Nagambie are currently proposing to be removed *Planting 1000's of native trees, shrubs and native grasses in the shire on roundabouts, in towns etc *Protect our existing landscapes, woodlands and wetlands. Developers are quickly turning Nagambie into Craigeburn and we haven't the infrastructure here to cope. Developers must incorporate all natural assets, not destroy them. *Use the Euroa Native Nursery for plantings *Hard rubbish collection 2x per year. This will solve dumping of hard rubbish in the bush *Ban jetskis and wakeboats on the Goulburn River and Lake Nagambie. Jetskis are a menace to wildlife, non motor craft and swimmers. Also creating erosion along the river and lake, pods can be placed along eroded areas with native water reeds to help repair damage/prevent further damage</p>
25	<p>With Landcare groups, the council should identify rural roadsides that can be replanted with indigenous trees as art of creating a carbon sink. The removal of all old trees should be prohibited (except in very limited circumstances). The council could encourage covenanting and rate rebates for landholders that replant (and maintain) indigenous vegetation. With increased likelihood of wildfire, the council should initiate management of roadside vegetation by cool burning to remove hazardous fine fuel (introduced grasses) and promote native grasses which are much lower risk.</p>
26	<p>Somehow work with businesses to reduce waste and incentivise proper recycling and responsible energy usage.</p> <p>Work with farmers to incentivise and educate about regenerative agricultural practices, run workshops and give farmers access to resources and local support and advice for improving sustainability on their farms.</p>
27	<p>Plastic bag free shire - also to bring in the Red-Cycle soft plastic system into the shire</p>
28	<p>Electric vehicle numbers will be rising as more affordable options slowly become available. More charging infrastructure will help grow eco tourism. Charging partners well with commerce. People wait for the vehicles to be ready and go and spend money somewhere in town. Win win. Plant a shit tonne of trees. Everyone loves trees. Reporting on successes and failures honestly is important. Get to it! No time to waste.</p>
29	<p>Building permits - homes to be built north-facing, or have good solar gain on the north side; mandate eaves; no black roofing</p>

30	<p>Greater importance for existing large trees in townships. These trees should never be removed. Fencing off trees is always an option.</p> <p>More exposure out side the Shire about the great biodiversity assets in the shire. Many people live here because of these assets , not the agricultural assets.</p>
31	<p>Better protection of the natural environment from development/developers</p>
32	<p>Collaborative partnerships with other responsible authorities and Councils that immediately action climate change mitigation policy development and implementation.</p> <p>Locally implement David Attenborough's "rewilding" habitat improvement solution across Council controlled land as well as in cooperation with other responsible authorities and private owners within the LGA.</p> <p>Join or create a National Local Government Advocacy Body for Action on Climate Change.</p> <p>Influence community attitudes, culture and ecotourism growth toward environmental rehabilitation by promoting the lifestyle, well being and conservation benefits of low impact engagement with and ongoing improvement of local Nature Reserves, Tracks and Trails for cycling and walking. Realise the concept of a Great Strathbogie Walking Trail and inter LGA Rail Trail and Township Cycling linkages. Actively discourage internal combustion based recreation such as dirt motor bike riding, power boats and jet skis.</p> <p>Go all electric as Council tools and equipment require replacement.</p> <p>Work with the great things already in place instead of constant reviewing and rewriting.</p> <p>Embrace the skills and experience environmentally conscious volunteers have to offer. Employ a dedicated Volunteer Liaison Officer.</p> <p>Provide practical Climate Change minimisation educational tools and resources to the community. Employ a Climate Change Officer.</p>
33	<p>Ensure all relevant Council staff receive induction on Council policy. For example, all outdoor staff, planners and envt staff should fully understand the rules and guidelines in the Shire's Roadside Management Plan.</p>
34	<p>We need to see better care taken for the environments we have locally</p> <p>Valuing our trees parklands etc</p> <p>Better building practices and developments in the area</p>
35	<p>On Council land, assess, declare, and monitor conservation areas</p>
36	<p>Combine with our electrical issues due to ausnets lack of infrastructure upgrades I think our town nagambie is perfect for a renewable energy project.</p> <p>A solar farm backed up by hydro from the weir would be perfect.</p>
37	<p>I would really like to see an emphasis on tree planting throughout the town and surrounding areas</p> <p>I would also like to see a push for businesses and households to use less plastic</p>

28. Do you have any further feedback?

Long Text | Skipped: 29 | Answered: 26 (47.3%)

1	<p>As we're all aware greenhouse gases are a huge contributor to global warming. However another elephant in the room that no one seems to speak of is land conversion. Since Europeans first arrived on these shores we've been converting landscapes for various purposes to suit the way we conduct business on this landscape. The wheels of climate change turn extremely slowly but very deliberately to show us that the way we've conducted agricultural practices on this landscape is negative.</p> <p>The way we've designed our cities and living spaces is negative, Covid is certainly showing this up. If we continue down the same old path then I hold very little hope for humanity and it's capacity to truly turn the leviathan around and make good the troubles we've caused since usurping this land. Sustainability can be achieved, however this means we have to work like we've never worked before because the party of our previous existence is over.</p>
2	<p>Don't push the expense of this onto business, industry and development. Don't put restrictions on them to discourage them</p>
3	<p>Regenerative Agriculture is the way forward. To return carbon to the ground, where it belongs will be far more effective than purchasing electric vehicles or investing in any other infrastructure which uses carbon to be created.</p>
4	<p>Think beyond yourselves before you act.</p>
5	<p>I feel that climate change survival protocol should be of equal importance to climate change reduction protocols.</p> <p>Example Water, food, shelter and energy security for community survival of an extreme whether or planetary event.</p>
6	<p>The number of trees to be planted lacks ambition and also fails to recognise the imperative of addressing the Urban Heat Island Effect. This is particularly so given the obvious gaps in our tree canopy and the ageing and vulnerable population. It is clear the community will assist with this - as per the plantings in Bury, Sutherland and Kennedy Streets in Euroa. All have been a resounding success. Council should be marketing what was done and promoting more of this. Notably — we could be planting around the perimeter of the dog park (which by the way I don't use).</p>
7	<p>Become the environment capital of Central Victoria - the sustainable capital - change the vision statement. Innovate on solutions at the local level. Celebrate wins with 'viral videos and TikToks (give grants to local students to make)</p>
8	<p>Take ACTION now. Forget the reams of paper and meetings and talk and reports that don't do much to keep temperatures down. Without parking for cars under shade retail commerce will close up in the afternoons. High temperatures are unhealthy.</p> <p>Locals need to see some evidence that action is being taken.</p>
9	<p>Review watering of lawns, parks and gardens in the shire. Take action of the amount of litter left by visitors to our shire. Nagambie is trashed on a regular basis on weekends/holidays, threatening the health and well-being of the local platypus population. Stop shire workers using round up and other glyphosate products - they do harm the bees!</p>

10	<p>Please 200 trees per annum !! We must plant at scale now - if we seriously wish to counter a drying climate. Planting programs for 1,000's of trees to be planted per annum must be put in place immediately.</p> <p>We must do this now and at scale - time is running out.</p>
11	Not at this stage.
12	Your survey completely missed the mark on what actions are really important to lead climate change
13	No thanks
14	We can support our farmers, manufacturers, and businesses to implement climate change practices for best outcome, and then encourage all to buy local.
15	Congratulations on declaring a Climate Emergency and making this survey available.
16	each adopted action plan must have a time line attached to it and be reported on regularly.
17	<p>I am extremely disappointed that after the councils Declaration of a Climate Emergency this year, another 90 trees are proposed for removal in Nagambie. 22 of these along Mullers Rd. Council must do better to help protect our wildlife and trees. With Nagambie growing at a rapid rate, we MUST protect our environment especially as we have the least amount of tree cover- as per Strathbogie Shire website. We need to build around trees, they were here first. AVOID at all costs or MINIMISE second option. As per DEWLP recommendations.</p>
18	Thanks for the opportunity to comment.
19	Let's take some action! Looking forward to seeing what is developed
20	Great survey
21	Great initiative
22	I strongly feel Strathbogie Shire Council would benefit significantly by being demonstrably more respectful of those willing to cooperatively contribute their skills, experience, time, effort and other resources to the benefit of our local communities and environment. My experience of enthusiastically committing to work with the Shire in this area was bitterly disappointing and it should never have been that way. I sincerely hope this aspect of engaging with the community regarding action on climate change will be done much better.
23	Councillors and Shire Management are to be applauded for developing CC priorities and including the community in the process.

24	<p>It would be great to see the Shire support better developments that include green space and saving of trees.</p> <p>Also to advise and support building practices for better built new homes.</p> <p>Advise home owners of grants for solar power, water tanks etc</p>
25	<p>Voting in favour of the development that cuts down 51 mature trees only to spend countless dollars on other projects seems very counterproductive.</p> <p>Council should never have voting in favour of that development. And should be reviewing that decision if possible.</p>
26	<p>I believe community engagement and education is important in achieving the objectives set. I would like to see Euroa as a town who is self-sustainable. I reject the notion that it's not progressive to revert back to some of our old practices of living and engaging with the environment. We moved to Euroa because of its heritage and its proximity to bushland. I would love to see more community engagement and community days where we can get involved in contributing in part to the action plan. It could be as simple as getting adults and children (families) outside learning about planting trees in the community and educating them on what rubbish does to our environment. I remember doing 'Clean up Australia' when I was in primary school but not really understanding its importance except that naughty people litter! Fast forward to my adulthood where I appreciate now it's the product itself that's the problem. It was only a few years ago that I learnt a plastic toothbrush can take hundreds of years to decompose as opposed to a bamboo toothbrush which takes several years. If we can get households and businesses to support an eco-friendly way of living particularly around plastic, it could be the push needed. We are in a particularly unique time where digital acceleration has afforded people a slower lifestyle so I would love to see the council support the community in adopting a different way of life that is less disposable and more resourceful.</p>



**SHARE
STRATH
BOGIE**

**Share Strathbogie
Project Report**

Developing a Climate Change Action Plan

- PROJECT OVERVIEW

16th June 2021 - 7th June 2022

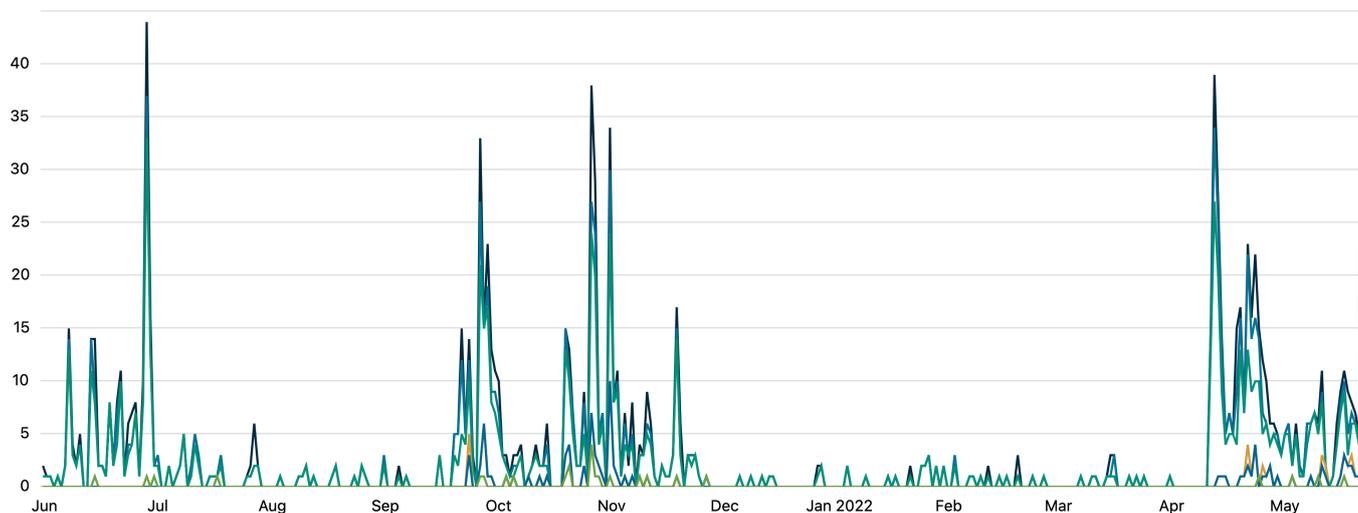
Developing a Climate Change Action Plan

Share Strathbogie Project Overview

Date Range: 15-06-2021 - 07-06-2022

Performance Summary

Information regarding key visitation and utilisation metrics for your Site or projects.



1,210
Views

1,032
Visits

871
Visitors

111
Contributions

95
Contributors

27
Followers

Views - The number of times a Visitor views any page on a Site.

Visits - The number of end-user sessions associated with a single Visitor.

Visitors - The number of unique public or end-users to a Site. A Visitor is only counted once, even if they visit a Site several times in one day.

Contributions - The total number of responses or feedback collected through the participation tools.

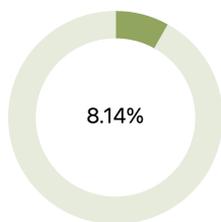
Contributors - The unique number of Visitors who have left feedback or Contributions on a Site through the participation tools.

Followers - The number of Visitors who have 'subscribed' to a project using the 'Follow' button.

Conversions

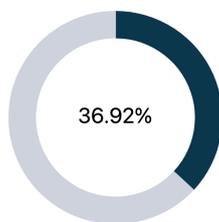
Information regarding how well your engagement websites converted Visitors to perform defined key actions.

Feedback



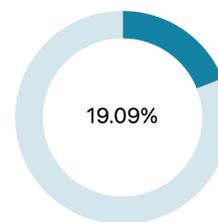
Percentage of visits where at least **1 contribution** was made.

Attention



Percentage of visits that lasted at least **1 active minute**.

Actions



Percentage of visits where at least **2 actions** were performed.

Participation

Information regarding how people have participated in your projects and activities.

Contributions by Activity				
Contributions by Activity is a breakdown of contributions across each tool				
Activity	Contributions			%
 Form	90	<div style="width: 81.08%;"></div>		81.08%
 Gather	16	<div style="width: 14.41%;"></div>		14.41%
 Q&A	5	<div style="width: 4.5%;"></div>		4.5%

Top Activities				
Top Activities is the top 5 tools that received the highest contributions				
Activity	Page Name	Contributions	Contributors	
 Form	Developing a Climate Change Action Plan	29	29	
 Gather	Developing a Climate Change Action Plan	16	8	
 Form	Developing a Climate Change Action Plan	6	6	

Projects

The current number and status of your Site's projects (e.g. engagement websites)

Engagement Time	
1 Days	17 Hours
	40 Minutes
Jun 7th 2022 Peak Visitation Date	Wednesday Peak Visitation Day

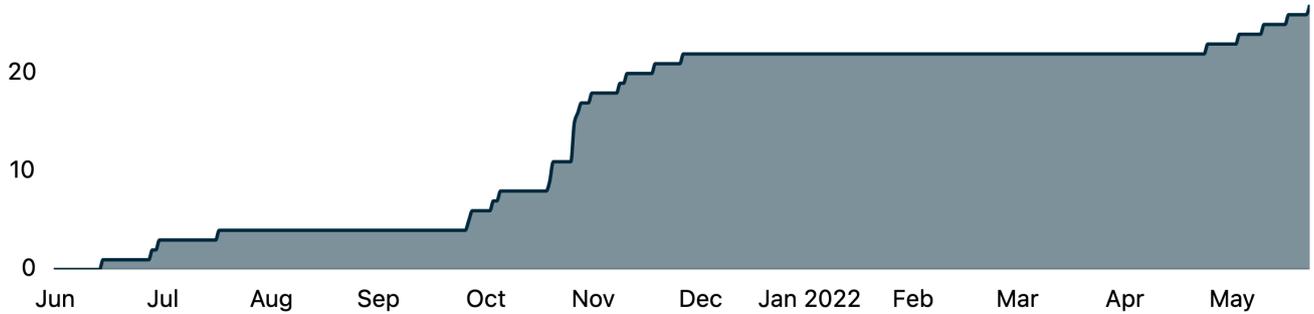
Top Visited Pages			
Summary information for the top five most visited Pages.			
Page Name	Visitation %	Visits	Visitors
Developing a Climate Change Action Plan	100%	1,031	633

People

Information regarding who has participated in your projects and activities.

Follower Activity

Information regarding the activity of registered Members who have 'followed' or subscribed to one or more projects.



27
Total Followers

27
New Followers

27
Total Follows

27
New Follows

Total Followers - The number of unique Members who have 'followed' at least one project.

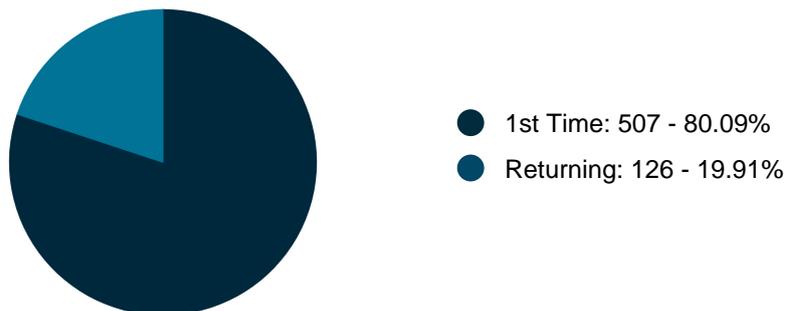
New Followers - The number of new unique Members who have 'followed' at least one project within the specified reporting date range.

Total Follows - The number of total 'follows' performed by all Followers across all projects. Each Follower may record multiple Follows.

New Follows - The number of new total 'follows' performed by all Members across all projects within the specified reporting date range.

Visitor Profile

Visitor Profile is a comparison between new visitor and returning over the selected period



First Time - The number of Visitors that are visiting a Site for the first time within the reporting date range.

Returning - The number of Visitors that have made more than one Visit to a Site within the reporting date range.

Acquisition

Information regarding the method by which Visitors arrived to your Site or projects.

Referral Types

Referral traffic is the segment of traffic that arrives on your website through another source, like through a link on another domain.



Direct - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by entering the exact web address or URL of the page.

Search Engine - Visitors who have arrived at a Site via a search engine. Such as Google, Yahoo, etc.

Websites - Visitors who have arrived at the Site after clicking a link located on an external website.

Social Media - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by clicking a link from a known social media site such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.

Campaigns - Visitors who have arrived through a campaign (using a UTM). See your email campaign report for more details on campaigns sent from this platform.

Downloads

Information regarding your downloads, the total set of unique documents downloaded, total downloads of all files, and your top downloads.

 13 Total Documents	 1,582 Total Downloads
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Top Downloads Top file downloads in your selection, ordered by the number of downloads.		
File Title	File Type	Downloads
Climate Change FAQ's + Key Informant Insights.pdf	PDF	310
Sustainable_Strathbogie_2030_FINAL_AUG_2019.pdf	PDF	255
Climate Emergency NOM.pdf	PDF	248
Fact Sheet - FAQ's Climate Emergency.pdf	PDF	209
Draft Climate Change Action Plan.pdf	PDF	193