

# **Albert-Eden Draft Local Board Plan 2023 Summary of Feedback**





# Summary of feedback on the draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2023

## Purpose

This report summarises feedback received during the public consultation in July/August to inform the development of the Albert-Eden Local Board Plan. This summary aims to capture themes rather than detail every point of feedback received.

## Executive Summary

Local board plans are strategic three-year plans developed in consultation with the community. They set out the direction for the local area reflecting community aspirations and priorities, and guide:

- decisions on local activities, projects, and facilities
- local board input into the council’s regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland Plan
- how local boards will work with other agencies, including community groups, central government agencies and council-controlled organisations that play key roles in the area.
- funding and investment decisions.

Local board plans focus on the key areas local boards are responsible for and include objectives and some of the key initiatives that will be carried out to achieve them.

## Engagement Approach

The draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2023 was developed using feedback received from public engagement carried out between November 2022 and April 2023. Feedback previously heard from the community on a wide range of topics, particularly during the 2023 Annual Budget consultation period, was also considered.

Between 13 July and 14 August 2023 the local board consulted on the draft plan to hear the community’s thoughts. Official submissions were received via: the AK Have Your Say website, hard copy forms dropped off at libraries or posted in, direct emails and letters. Feedback was received through a Have Your Say drop-in event, various community activations, library pop-ups and feedback boards.

This report summarises the key activities that took place and the feedback that was heard during both the early engagement and the consultation period.



## Mana whenua engagement

The draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2023 was developed with consideration to existing input from mana whenua received through the Annual Budget consultation, and previous engagement with the local board and wider council.

A co-ordinated approach was taken centrally across all local boards so that mana whenua were invited to engage with relevant local boards in one hui rather than receiving separate invitations from each. Those Mana whenua who expressed an interest in the Albert-Eden draft Local Board Plan were Ngaati Te Ata, Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Te Akitai Waiohua, Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua. Each were sent copies of the draft plan and invited to provide input.

Two online information sessions for mana whenua were held on 8 and 13 June 2023. These sessions provided an opportunity to discuss the consultation process and how the perspective of Māori is reflected through their input, and opportunities to be more involved.

Of submissions received, 16 identified as Māori, comprising 7 per cent of overall numbers. No feedback was received from mana whenua specifically on the Albert-Eden plan draft.

## Mataawaka engagement

No engagement activities with Mataawaka groups / individuals was held during this consultation.

## Stakeholder and community engagement

### Early engagement

Auckland Council publicly consulted from 28 February to 28 March 2023 to seek community views on the proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024. This included consultation on the Albert-Eden Local Board's proposed priorities for 2023/2024 and proposed local activities to discontinue, reduce spending on, or increase fees to meet the Governing Body's proposed reduction in local board funding.

Over 5,000 submissions were received from the Albert-Eden Local Board area and that feedback was used to shape the draft local board plan. High level results were:

- strong support for climate action, waterway restoration and environmental projects.
- strong support for local arts, community development, libraries, and community events.
- low support for proposed reductions to operating spend.
- roughly equal support for three different funding options: proposed increases to rates and debt, further rates increases and further use of debt.
- strong support for storm response.

### Special Consultative Procedure engagement activities

Table 2: Summary of consultation activities during the consultation period



Activity	Who was involved	How many people participated
Library pop-ups and information booths Mt Albert 22 July, 12 August Epsom Library 26 July, 29 July, 1 August	Audience: library visitors, Mt Albert community, Epsom community	Approx. 20 each discussions held each event. 100+ feedback notes received.
Creative Kids Collective Market information stand Mt Albert War Memorial Hall, 22 July	Audience: general public, children and families, Mt Albert community	300 at event
Chinese Network meeting – Sip & Play social group submission and question and answer event Epsom Community Centre, 24 July	Audience: Epsom Chinese Association network	40+
Volunteer Recognition Awards Night information stand 27 July Mt Albert War Memorial Hall	Audience: those invited to the event, community volunteers and public from cross the board area.	50 at event
Coyle Park Basketball Court opening 29 July Coyle Park, Pt Chev	Audience: Pt Chevalier community public including schools	100 at event
Indian Community Group, discussion and question and answer Bharatiya Mandir Balmoral Community Centre Hall, 2 August	Audience: local Indian community	40+
Gribblehirst Monday Market information stand Gribblehirst Community Hub, 5 August	Audience: general public, Sandringham community and wider, stall holders	100 at event
Have Your Say drop-in event Mt Eden War Memorial Hall, 7 August	Audience: General public	1

## Summary of feedback

A total of 288 pieces of stakeholder and community feedback was received, including 218 submissions through the online survey tool, 55 hard copy submissions and 15 emails.

### Māori Outcomes

Delivering outcomes for Māori is an important feature of the draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan.

Māori outcomes respond to Council's legislative obligations and to extensive engagement with Auckland's Māori communities.

This plan proposes initiatives to align with the following Māori outcomes:

- Kia ora te hononga - Effective Māori participation
- Kia ora te taiao - Kaitiakitanga/ Guardianship
- Kia ora te ahurea - Māori identity and culture
- Kia ora te reo - Te reo Māori.

There were not many comments provided on Māori outcomes across the consultation questions and the feedback was mixed, with some comments supporting the approach and some not supporting the approach.

### Climate action

Local Boards also have an important role to play in leading and supporting Auckland's response to the climate emergency, including supporting regional climate plan initiatives, integrating climate awareness into all decisions, including community investment.

The draft plan proposed to meet the challenge of taking climate action by including initiatives aimed at improving climate action knowledge and education, improving transport choices and minimising climate impacts on the environment and people.

Initiatives to support these are spread across the plan in Our People, Our Environment, Our Community and Our Places.

Overall, there was support for the proposed climate action objectives and initiatives in the draft plan. Common themes from comments were that climate action and the environment were top priority, climate action was urgently required, and the draft should make a stronger link between climate impacts and transport choices.

### Our People

The draft plan included the following objectives and initiatives: Our people are thriving, have a strong sense of connection to Albert-Eden and celebrate our differences. Te ao Māori is valued and reflected in the rohe.

What we want to achieve:

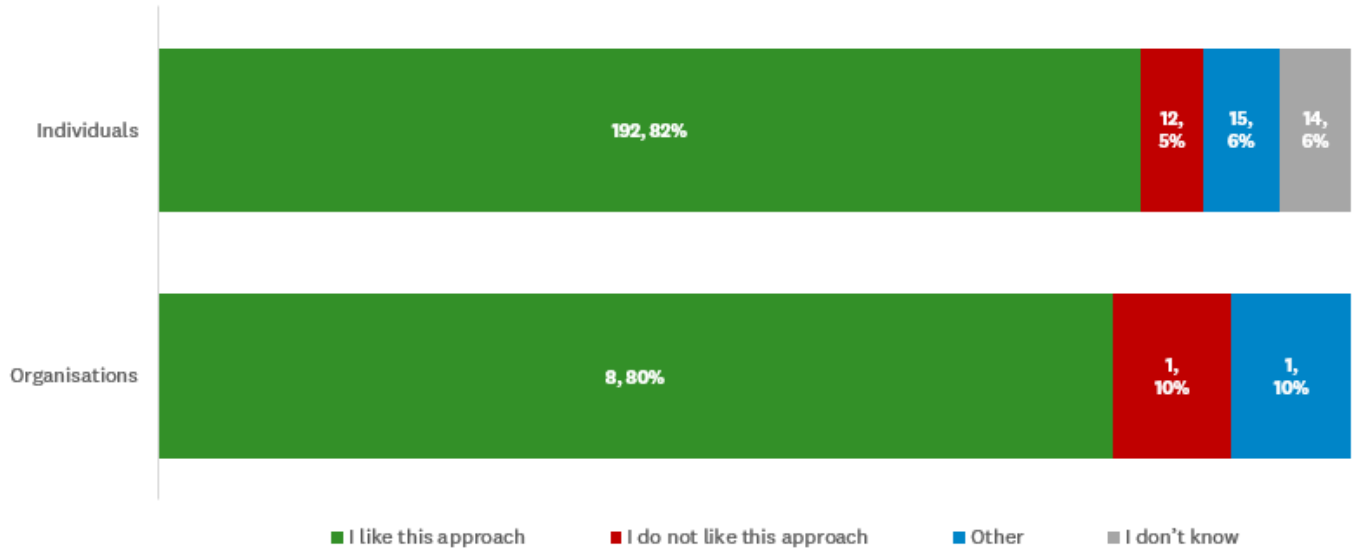
- We celebrate and value diversity, making sure everyone is included
- Communities of greatest need are a focus of support



- Foster te ao Māori.



The consultation materials asked the following question: To support communities to thrive and for people to have a sense of place, we will focus on including everyone, celebrating our differences, and supporting those in need. What do you think of this approach?



150 comments were provided, from those the key themes were:

- support celebrating diversity, different ethnicities and cultures (37 feedback points).
- inclusiveness/ include everyone (28 feedback points).
- agree with the approach (17 feedback points).
- the plan needs to be more specific (15 feedback points).
- support those in need/ don't leave anyone behind (14 feedback points).
- treat everyone the same/ too much focus on one group (12 feedback points).

## Our Environment

The draft plan included the following objectives, initiatives and advocacy: Our natural environment is valued and cared for, people feel a connection to our local parks, awa (streams) and coast and are involved in improving for them. Individuals, households, neighbourhoods, businesses and communities adopt climate-friendly practices and transition to low carbon, sustainable lifestyles.

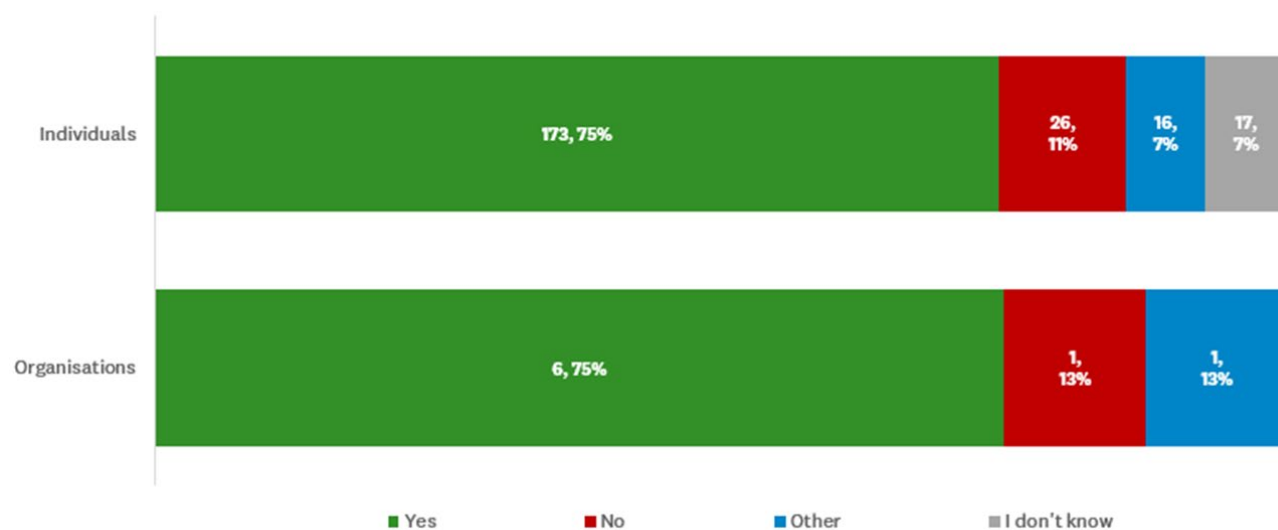
What we want to achieve:

- The natural environment is cared for and valued
- Water quality in Te Auaunga / Oakley Creek, Waitiitiko / Meola Creek and the Waitematā Harbour improves
- Water is managed to reduce risks to people and property
- People live low carbon lives and know how to take climate action.

Advocacy will be focused on funding for environmental and education projects, enforcement of environmental regulations and new government policies for waste and carbon emissions.



The consultation materials asked the following question: We focus on supporting community environmental and climate action, working with volunteers and mana whenua for better water quality and biodiversity. Do you think this will support the community’s environmental vision?



139 comments were provided, from those the key themes were:

- climate and environment are priorities (40 feedback points).
- support the importance of volunteers and community efforts (20 feedback points).
- support this vision (14 feedback points).
- waterways and water quality are important (13 feedback points).

## Our Community

The draft plan included the following objectives, initiatives and advocacy: Our communities have the places and activities that enhance their lifestyles. There is strong local leadership and participation in decision-making processes. Our community is resilient and supportive, particularly through times of change and challenge, so we can thrive.

What we want to achieve:

- Our parks and open space meet the needs of our changing and growing population
- Transition our services and facilities to meet the needs of our changing community
- Our community knows how to get involved and feels heard
- Resilient communities who have strong local connections, support each other and can tackle challenges together.

Advocacy will be focussed on funding to improve our parks, buildings and services, and changes to policy so that it better meets our communities needs.

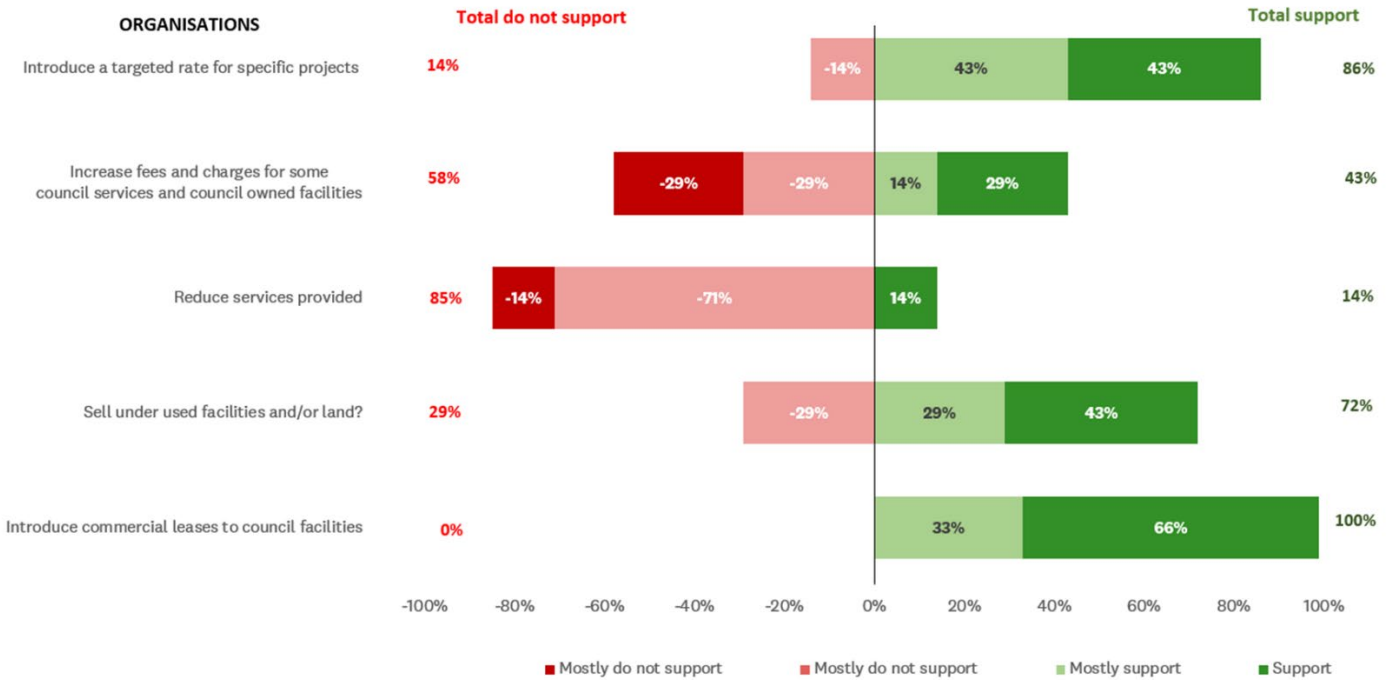
The consultation materials asked the following question: We cannot afford to maintain all local services and facilities. Your feedback on the following options will help us find a solution. We will consult with you again before making any changes. How much do you support looking into the following options?



**INDIVIDUALS**



**ORGANISATIONS**



**Our Places**

The draft plan included the following objectives, initiatives and advocacy: Our changing neighbourhoods reflect our unique identity and are well-designed, creating places that are great to live, work and play. There are many options to move around which are safe and easy to use.

What we want to achieve:

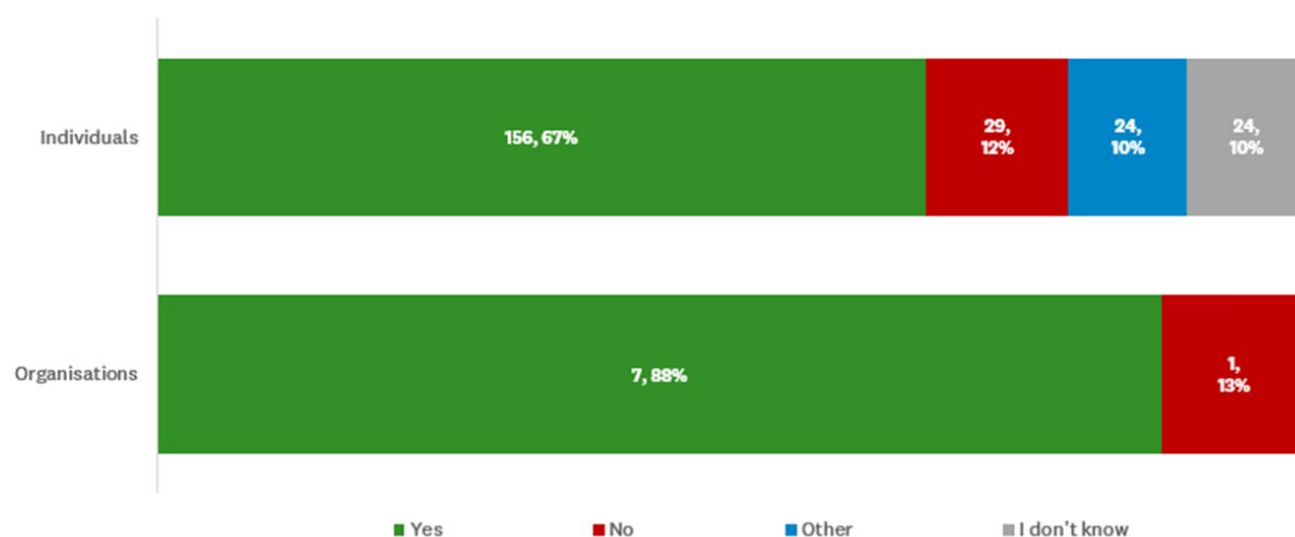




- The history, identity and character of our neighbourhoods are celebrated
- New neighbourhoods are well planned, built and serviced, with a focus on Carrington, Epsom and Owairaka
- Town centres are hubs of business and social life
- Light rail provides transformational transport, social and housing outcomes for our community
- There are a range of options for moving around that are safe, reliable and easy to use.

Advocacy will be focussed on protecting heritage features, working with others to achieve good outcomes for our community and environment through transport or urban development projects.

The consultation materials asked the following question: Do you think that by working towards good outcomes from large development, transport projects, safety, and keeping the character of our neighbourhoods, we are supporting our communities to be great places to live, work and play?



147 comments were provided , from those the key themes were:

- importance of public/active transport connections (26 feedback points).
- support good design of community spaces (18 feedback points).
- Auckland Transport related comments (15 feedback points).
- agree preserving character is a priority (14 feedback points).
- agree density/ housing is a priority (14 feedback points).

## Our Economy

The draft plan included the following objectives, initiatives and advocacy: Our town centres thrive and support a varied business landscape. Albert-Eden is a vibrant and exciting place to visit.

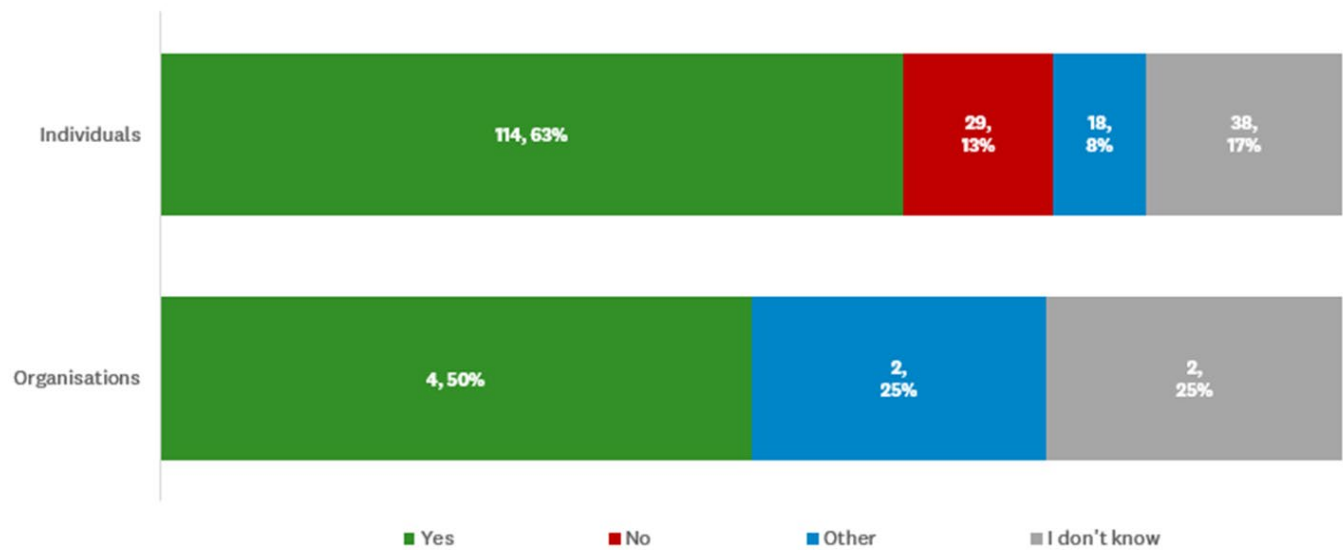
What we want to achieve:

- Thriving town centre business areas
- Albert-Eden is a vibrant and exciting destination to visit.

Advocacy will be focussed on encouraging our Business Associations and Business Improvement Districts to be successful and share their knowledge, and events coming to our area.



The consultation materials asked the following question: By supporting local business groups and opportunities to attract visitors to the area, do you think that the draft plan helps build lively town centres and sustainable business hubs?



118 comments were provided, from those the key themes were:

- town centre improvements and good design is a priority (36 feedback points).
- local business is a priority (23 feedback points).
- good public transport/ active transport is a priority (19 feedback points).
- bringing visitors to the area is important (13 feedback points).

## Other questions asked

As part of the draft local board plan consultation, the following additional question was asked.

Do you have any other feedback on the draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan?

186 comments were provided under any other feedback, from those the key themes were:

- support replacing Pt Chevalier library (50 feedback points).
- stormwater or flooding concerns (16 feedback points).
- support all ethnicity not just one group (15 feedback points).
- Auckland Transport improvements, for example parking/ roading/ cycleways (15 feedback points).

## Who we heard from

The tables and graphs below indicate the demographic profile of those that answered the demographic questions.

14 organisations provided feedback specifically on the draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan:

- Community – Mt Albert Residents Association, The Y Mt Albert, Civic Trust Auckland, Afghan Family Services Charity NZ
- Sport and recreation – Aktive, Gillies Avenue Sports Complex, Sport Auckland
- Business association – Uptown Business Association

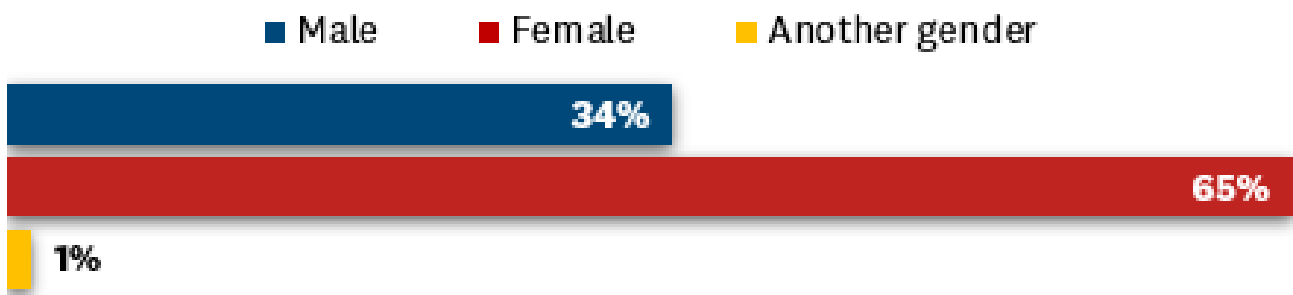


- Environment – Royal Forest and Bird, The Tree Council, Friends of Oakley Creek
- Cycling – Big Street Bikers, Bike Kingsland, Bike Pt Chev, Bike Auckland

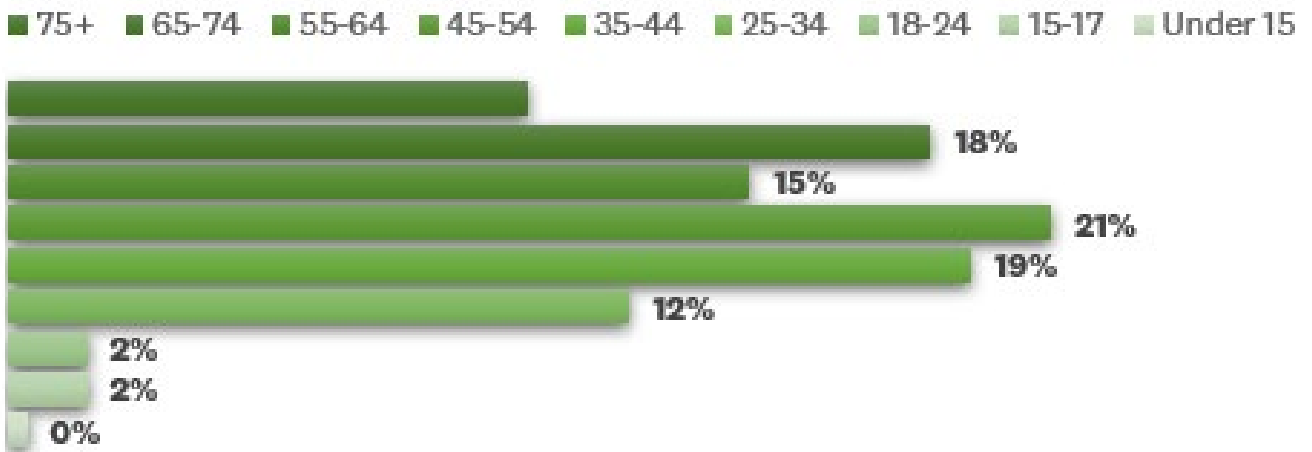
Some of those submission also contained feedback to other, or all 21, local board plans. In addition, three organisations provided feedback to all local board plans:

- Disabled Persons Assembly New Zealand
- Community groups feeding the homeless
- Community Cat Coalition.

### Gender

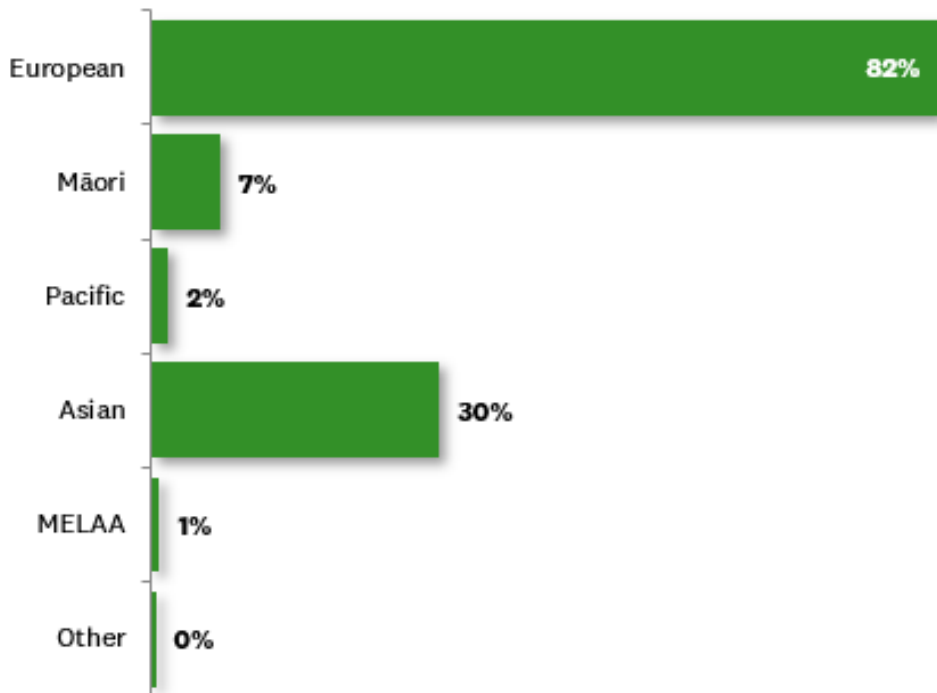


### Age





## Ethnicity



## Ethnicity compared to census data

