

Waiheke Local Board Plan 2023 Summary of Feedback





Summary of feedback on the draft Waiheke Local Board Plan 2023

Purpose

This report summarises feedback received during the public consultation in July/August to inform the development of the Waiheke 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 Waiheke 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. Feedback was received through Have Your Say events, written submissions including online and hard copy forms, emails and letters.

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

A co-ordinated approach was taken by local boards so that mana whenua were invited to engage with relevant local boards in one hui rather than receiving separate invitations from each local board.

Mana whenua were sent a copy of the draft Waiheke Local Board Plan in June 2023 and encouraged to provide written feedback. There was no feedback received from mana whenua.

Mataawaka engagement

Two activities took place to engage with mataawaka during the early engagement and consultation periods. Seven submissions were received from those identifying as Māori, comprising 8% of submissions overall. Feedback was received from the Piritahi Marae Komiti during a hui with the local board.

Stakeholder and community engagement

The Waiheke Local Board took the opportunity to carry out early informal engagement on draft Local Board Plan priorities during Annual Budget consultation during Feb-Mar 2023. These events included:



- Artworks courtyard activation events
- Community Networks Waiheke
- Waiheke Resources Trust Kai Café
- W3 – Wonderful Waiheke Women
- Blackpool Residents Association
- Combined Residents Association meeting
- Neighbours Day
- Waiheke Resources Trust - Festival

Engagement activities carried out during the special consultative period on the draft Local Board Plan included:

- Waiheke Local Board Have Your Say (4 attendees)
- Waiheke High School (400 in attendance)
- Bike Hub launch (20 in attendance)
- Artworks events (various attendees)
- Waiheke Resources Trust kombucha (5 attendees)
- Kai Conscious Lunch
- Rebus (70 attendees)
- Ostend Markets
- Piritahi Marae Komiti hui (3 attendees)
- Waiheke Eastern End residents (40 attendees)
- Waiheke High School lunch (24 attendees)
- Mātiatia commuters (various)
- Waiheke Collective
- Blackpool Residents Assn (12 attendees)
- Little Oneroa Playground opening



Summary of feedback

Māori Outcomes

Delivering outcomes for Māori is an important feature of the Waiheke Local Board Plan.

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

The draft plan proposed to work and support mana whenua and mātāwaka to increase the wellbeing of all residents, with respect to te ao Māori and recognise the role of mana whenua as kaitiaki of land and water resources. The following initiatives were included to support Māori outcomes in our area:

- Develop mana whenua relationships to advance partnership and support mana whenua aspirations
- Continue to partner with Ngāti Paoa to support their aspirations, including involvement in the development of Mātiatia and reconvening the Rangihoua and Tawaipareira Reserve Management Subcommittee
- Create opportunities for effective Māori participation and influence in decision making
- Promote the use of te reo Māori
- Increase opportunities for rangatahi skill development and leadership
- Work with mātāwaka and Piritahi Marae to achieve their aspirations
- Invest in and support local place-based initiatives that celebrate Māori identity and culture including:
 - Te Kete Rukuruku (naming and dual naming of Parks), and
 - Implementation of Te Aranga Design principles in park, playground, and green space upgrades
- Recognise the Māori world view – te ao Māori – in all programmed work
- Create connection to place and heritage through the installation of historical and cultural markers in our open spaces
- Mātiatia is redeveloped in consultation with mana whenua, and subsequently with the community and all other stakeholders
- Ensure sites of significance are appropriately identified, marked, and managed
- Work with mana whenua to support the designation of appropriate areas for the internment of kōiwi tangata (burial of human remains)
- Support Piritahi Marae in its aspirations to further develop as a local community centre
- Support the development of kaupapa Māori-based learning and wānanga facilities
- Support initiatives that grow the local Māori economy, as well as employment

Māori initiatives were woven within the five strategic areas and there was general support for all outcomes.

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 in a number of ways, primarily by implementation of the ['Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan: Waiheke ki uta, Waiheke ki tai, Waiheke ki tua'](#) in line with the overarching objectives:

- To reduce and eventually eliminate our use of fossil fuels (petrol, oil diesel, gas, coal).

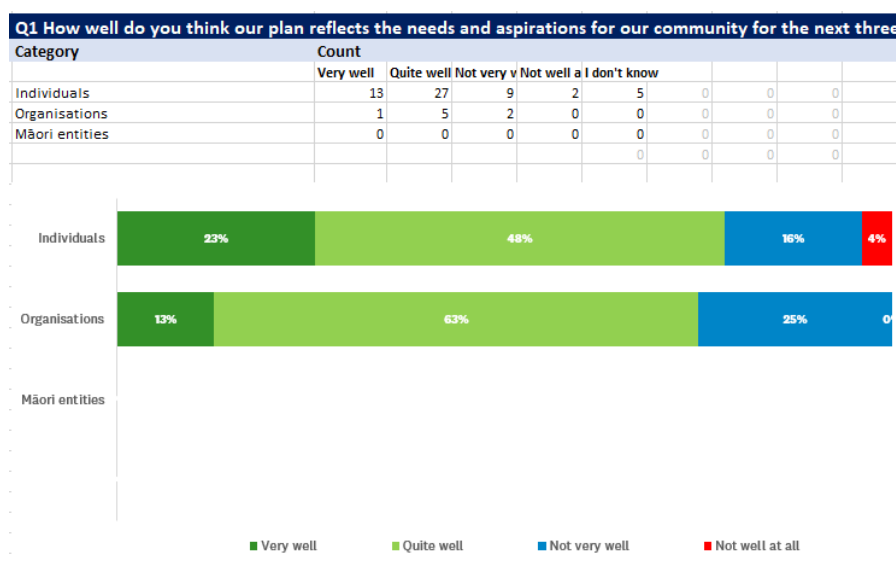


- To educate, encourage and incentivise changes to our lifestyles, businesses, infrastructure. buildings, consumption patterns, behaviour and environment that reduce or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation).
- To restore the natural environment (taiao on land (whenua) and sea (moana)).
- To increase our ability to respond to the climate changes already locked in by helping tāngata (people) prepare, adapt, and become more resilient.

Low carbon initiatives were also woven within the five strategic areas and there was general support for all outcomes.

Overall direction of the draft Plan

Waiheke residents were asked how well they think the plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community for the next three years. The below graph provides the responses from submitters.



Key themes from the feedback included:

Supportive themes:

- Affordable ferries
- Addressing environmental concerns
- Good broad coverage of issues

More focus suggested:

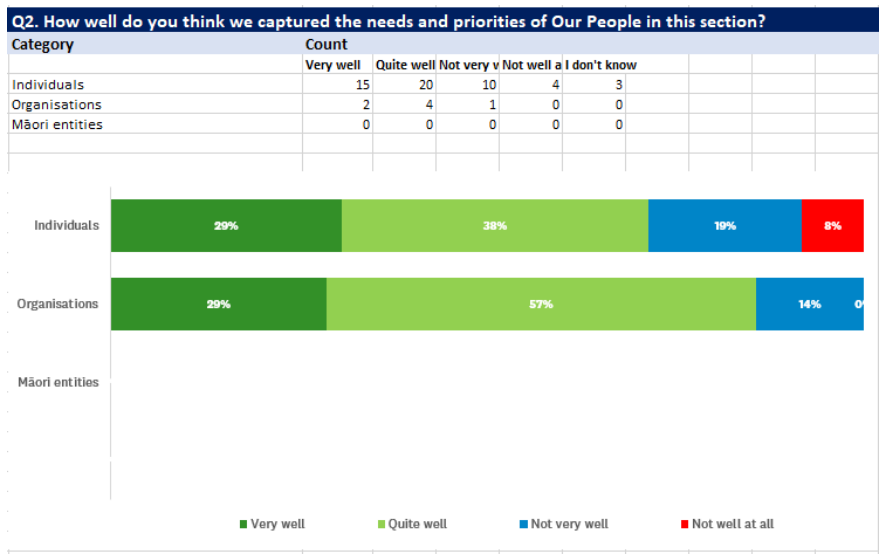
- Public transport – reliable ferries and bus service
- Availability and affordability of housing
- Safe roading, footpaths and cycleways
- More focus on community, less on tourism / commerce
- Clear deliverables



Our People

Waiheke residents have a strong sense of identity, connectedness and wellbeing which is enhanced through active community participation.

The community was asked how well the plan captured the needs and priorities of our people. The below graph provides the responses from submitters.



Key themes from the feedback included:

Supportive themes:

- Affordable and reliable ferries
- Importance of environment and conservation
- Connectedness of community
- Volunteers

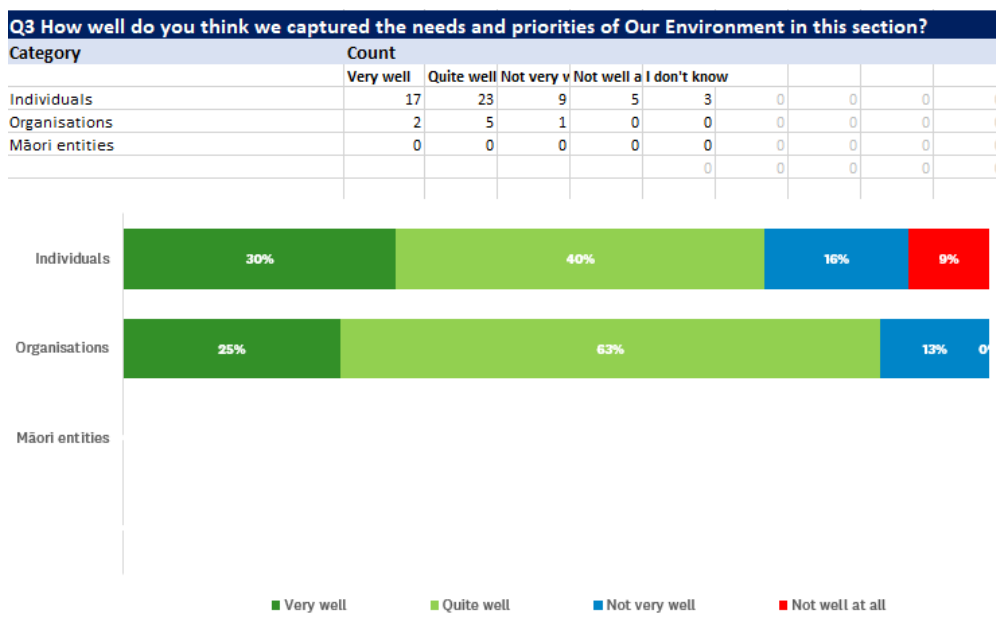
More focus suggested:

- Health facilities and older person services
- Emergency management and preparedness
- Working accommodation and housing accessibility
- Housing and social services generally
- Regulatory and infrastructure restraints
- Excessive helicopter flights
- Climate change and improving resiliency (including infrastructure)

Our Environment

We want to protect, maintain and enhance our unique islands' land, coastline, bush, wetland and marine environments for future generations.

Waiheke residents were asked how well the plan captured the needs and priorities of our environment. The below graph provides the responses from submitters.



Key themes from the feedback included:

Supportive themes:

- Stormwater management (strengthen education)
- Volunteering encouraged
- Marine, wetland and waterway protection

More focus suggested:

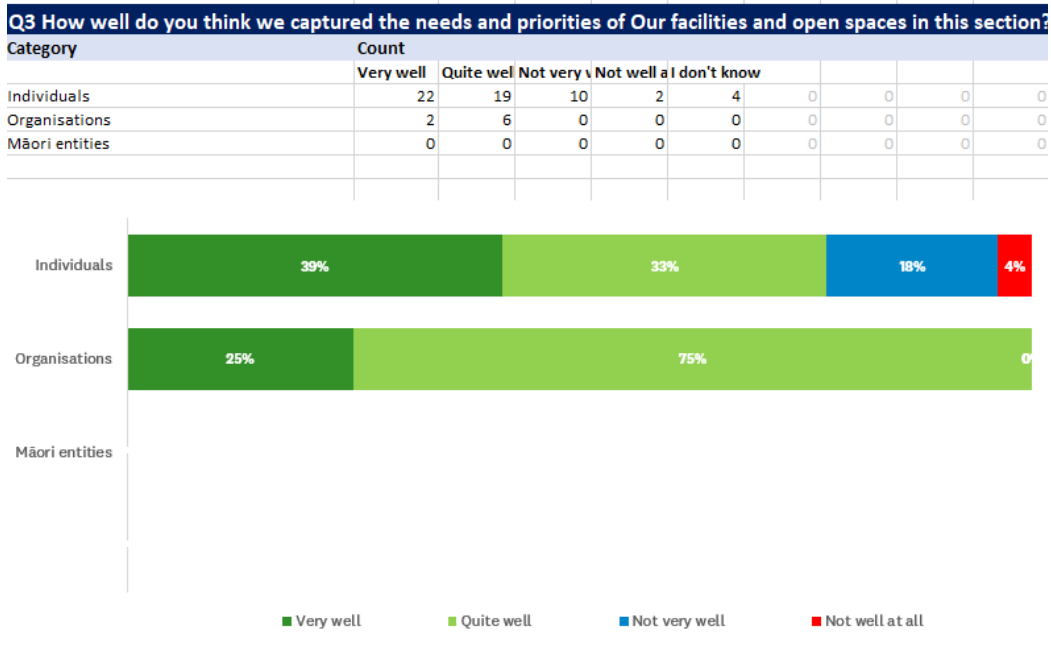
- Septic tank management and regulatory costs to improve (split of costs)
- Fire hazards and drought resilience
- Climate change resiliency
- Tree protection
- Waste management plan implementation including composting
- Emergency management plan (including fire)
- Road maintenance and run off management
- Dogs / bird protection (Rakino)
- Weed free / management
- Excessive helicopter flights



Our Facilities and Open Spaces

Our parks, reserves and beaches are enjoyed and respected by residents and visitors. Our community, arts and cultural facilities are well used and accessible.

Waiheke residents were asked how well the plan captured the needs and priorities of our facilities and open spaces. The below graph provides the responses from submitters.



Key themes from the feedback included:

Supportive themes:

- Track network (maintain and extend)
- Safe cycleways
- Park and reserve maintenance

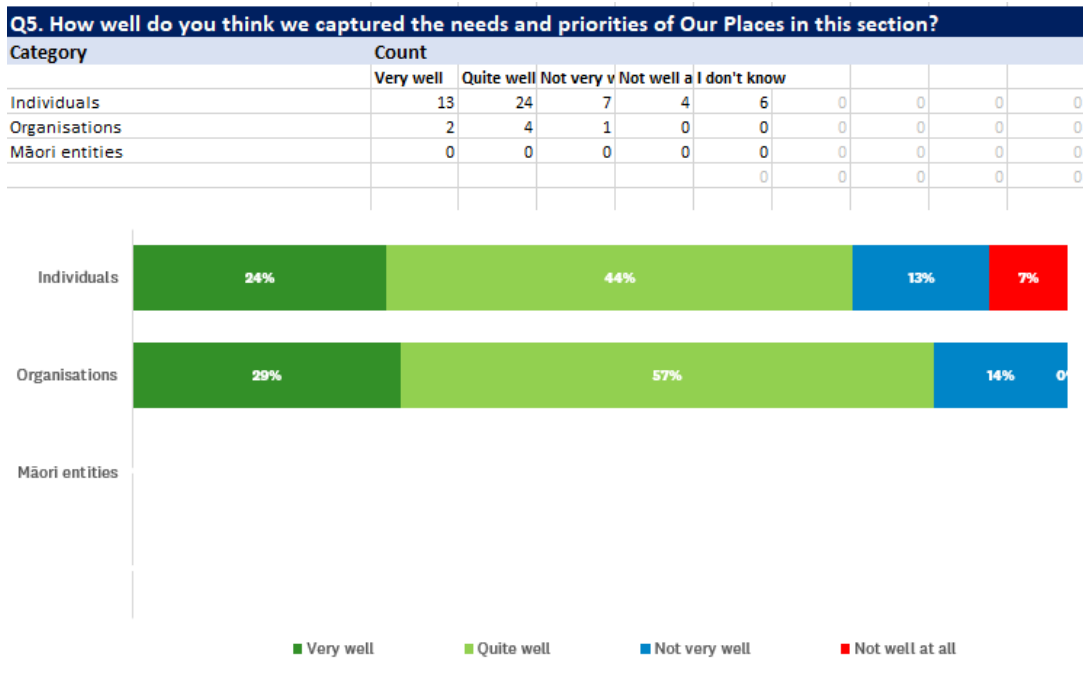
More focus suggested:

- Noxious weed management
- Cycleways (positives and negatives)
- Safe pedestrian access
- Rakino Hall replacement
- Rangihoua / OSP weed management
- Mana whenua cultural/interpretative signs

Our Places

The special character and values of Waiheke and inner gulf islands are protected and enhanced in line with the draft Waiheke Area Plan and principles of Essentially Waiheke.

Waiheke residents were asked how well the plan captured the needs and priorities of our places. The below graph provides the responses from submitters.



Key themes from the feedback included:

Supportive themes:

- Track network (maintain and extend)
- Affordable ferry services
- Implementing housing strategy
- Matiatia improvements

More focus suggested:

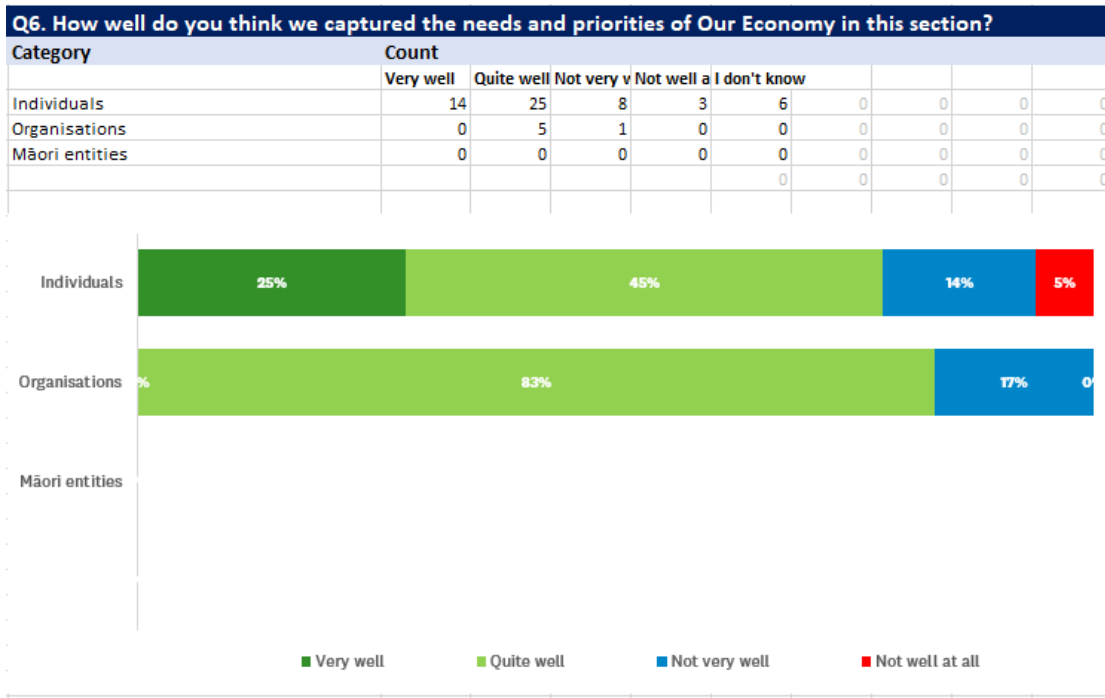
- Reduced regulatory costs for home improvements
- Rakino road maintenance
- Electric transport
- Ferry infrastructure and parking (KP)
- Safer pedestrian access (to schools / btw villages)
- Safe cycleways
- Reliable / integrated public transport (also Eastern end – Park & ride)
- Hospital or care facilities for older people
- Affordable housing / partnerships or alternative ownership models
- Support electric vehicles / buses / ferries



Our Economy

Our Waiheke community has a strong, independent, entrepreneurial spirit and our natural assets provide many economic and lifestyle opportunities.

Waiheke residents were asked how well the plan captured the needs and priorities of our economy. The below graph provides the responses from submitters.



Key themes from the feedback included:

Supportive themes:

- Arts destination
- Sanctuary in the Gulf

More focus suggested:

- Visitor numbers
- Worker accommodation
- Eco – tourism – biodiversity
- Pest and predator control

Other questions asked

As part of the draft local board plan consultation, the following additional questions were asked.

Do you have any other feedback on our proposed Local Board Plan, including how we could better meet our climate change goals or Māori outcome aspirations?

The following key points were raised:

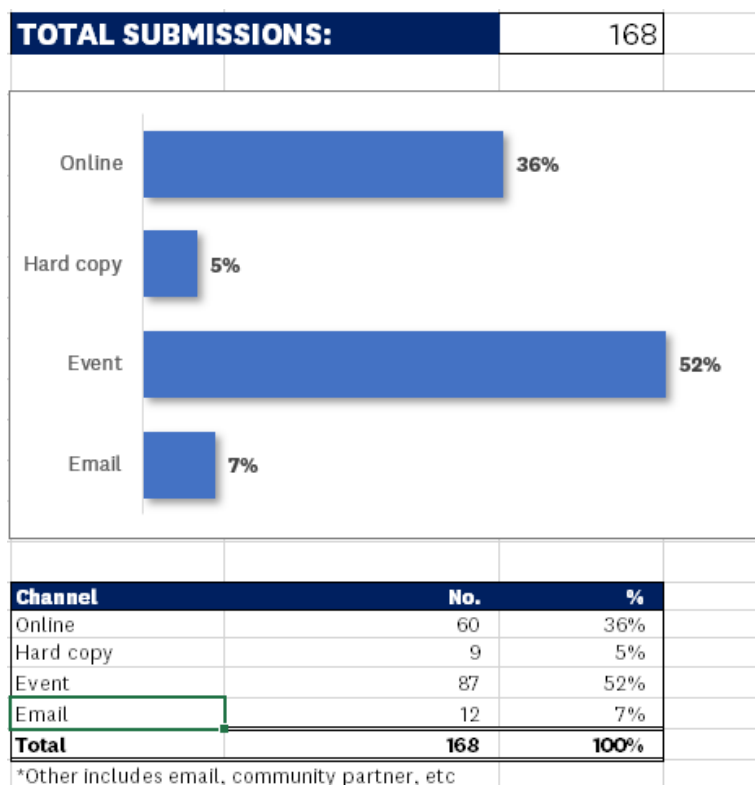
- Appreciate the work the local board is doing – moving forward correctly
- Increased attention on Rakino
- Visitor levy for environmental improvements



- Community sustainability and wellbeing
- Power supply reliability
- More local decision-making
- Emergency planning
- Mana whenua
- Waste
- Regulatory constraints to improve properties
- Dark Sky Waiheke
- Bikelane from Mātīatia – Onetangi
- Reduced car use
- Climate strategy
- Housing
- Ferries

Who we heard from

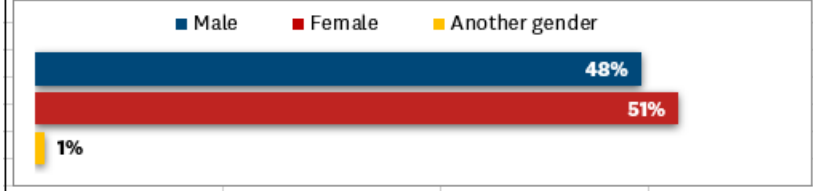
The tables and graphs below indicate the demographic profile of those that answered the demographic questions.





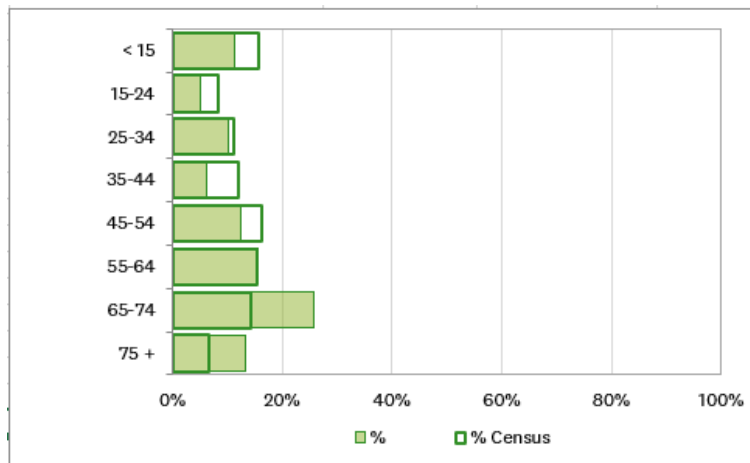
DEMOGRAPHICS (Overall, includes event)

Demographics		Count	%
Gender			135
	Male	65	48%
	Female	69	51%
	Another gender	1	1%

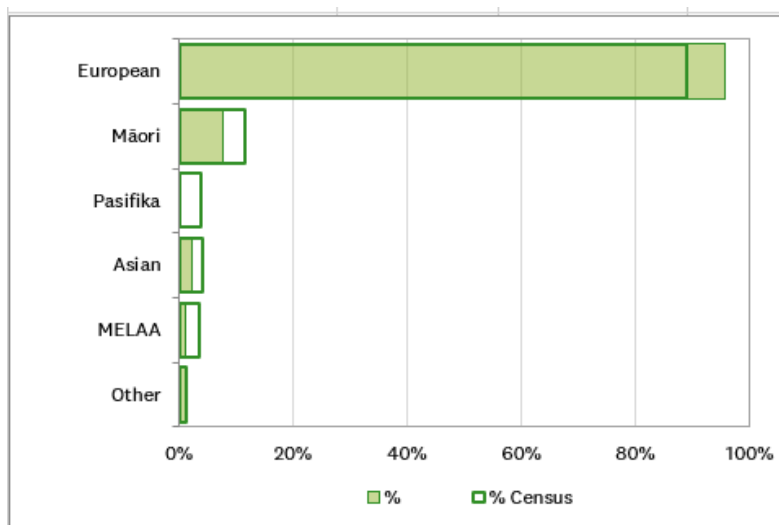


Submitters	No.	%
Individual	62	77%
Organisation	19	23%
Total	81	100%

Age Groups



Ethnicity



Submissions received from organisations:

- Dark Sky Waiheke
- Disabled Persons Assembly (DPA) NZ Inc
- Project Forever Waiheke
- Away Waiheke Ltd
- Sport Auckland
- Aktive
- Waiheke Community Housing Trust
- Coastal Custodians
- Big Street Bikers
- Protect Our Gulf
- Forest and Bird, Hauraki Islands Branch
- Waiheke Ratbusters
- Wildlife at Waiheke
- The Tree Council
- Civic Trust Auckland
- Bike Auckland
- Community Groups Feeding the Homeless Inc.
- Community Cat Coalition Inc.

