



Chatham Islands Investment Strategy

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:
SUMMARY FINDINGS DOCUMENT



chatham islands council



Chatham Islands
Enterprise Trust
Unit of Commerce





Background

The Chatham Islands Investment Strategy is a document that reflects the vision that Chatham Islanders have for their community. It helps to communicate that vision with government and other funders across five areas of investment – infrastructure, environment, economic, social, and cultural.

The document was first developed in 2019 by Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust, Hokotehi Moriori Trust, Chatham Islands Council and Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust (known as the four entities) and is scheduled to be reviewed in 2023.

As part of the review process the four entities agreed that the wider Chatham Islands community must be given an opportunity to have their say about what's important to them.

Objective

The purpose of community engagement was to ensure the voice of people on the Chatham Islands is clearly reflected in the Investment Strategy. More specifically, the results from the community engagement will support the identification and prioritisation of future initiatives under each of the five investment areas.

It was also intended to help identify whether the existing vision and wellbeing statement is still relevant and reflects the right aspirational goals for Chatham Islands.

Methodology

A community engagement plan was drafted in December 2022. A number of approaches for community engagement were initially identified as such:

- Pop-up stalls
- Kitchen Table Talks
- On-line submissions from individual

Following discussion with the four entities, it was agreed to conduct an online survey and mail drop to every post box on island given fiscal, resource and time constraints. An online poster, FAQ's and news article was developed to create awareness of the upcoming survey. These were published on the Council website and multiple social media platforms and newsletters during Jan- Feb 2023. Community engagement via the on-line survey occurred over the month of March 2023. Hard copy questionnaires were also delivered to every post box during the first week of March.

Questionnaire

The design of the survey questions was based on an extensive review of previous wellbeing surveys used across other councils, consultation with expert communication advisors at Department of Internal Affairs and Environment Canterbury and engagement with the four entities.

SURVEY RESULTS AT A GLANCE



94 Surveys completed
25 paper surveys (27%)
69 electronic surveys (73%)

15% Survey return rate for the Island
(Based on Island population of 631: Electoral Roll Eligibility – Electoral Commission)

A **good** survey response rate ranges between 5% and 30%. An excellent response rate is 50% or higher.

Over **50%** of respondents did not think the vision & wellbeing statement reflected the aspirational goals for Chatham Islands

What's good about living on Island?

1. Lifestyle **40%**
2. Sense of Community **38%**

What are the challenges about living on Island?

1. Cost of living **81%**
2. Housing **17%**

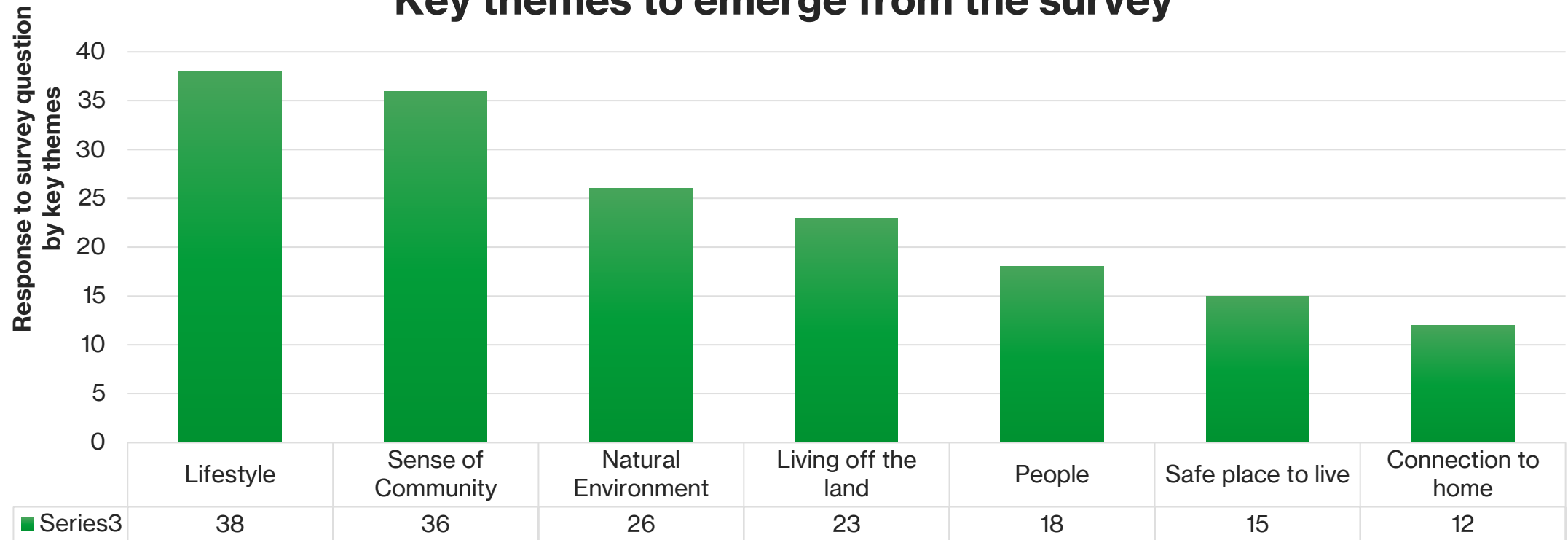
Out of all the projects, including your suggestions, what projects are most important to you?

1. Renewable energy (Cost of power)
2. Affordable Shipping/Air Freight
3. Housing



What do you think are the good things about living on Chatham Islands?

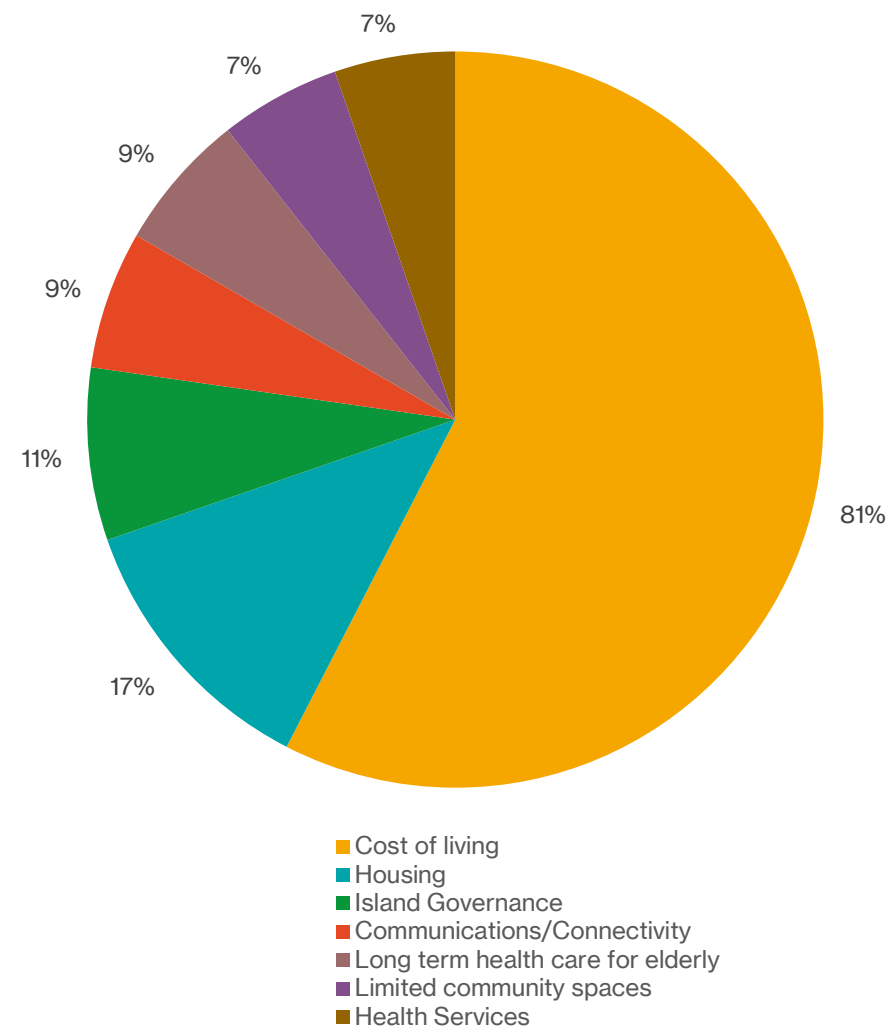
Key themes to emerge from the survey



What do you think are some of the challenges that affect you on the Chatham Islands?

- The **cost of the living** is the most significant challenge affecting respondents of the survey. Cost of living includes power, food, freight costs, petrol.
- Specific issues relating to **housing** include the number of available houses to rent, quality of homes and access to land.
- **Island Governance** relates to overlapping duties, roles and responsibilities, high number of administrative role, relationship between stakeholders, transparency of decision making.
- **Communications/Connectivity** relates primarily to inconsistent WIFI and cell phone connection.
- **Long-term health care for elderly** relates to the lack of services/facilities to care for elderly on island.
- **Limited community spaces** encompasses the lack of recreational and social spaces needed to create cohesion
- **Health Services** relates to staffing levels, frequency of service, ability to respond to emergency situations.
- Other minor themes to emerge: **Education, Mental Health, Regulations/Compliance, Roothing, Labour market.**

Key themes to emerge from the survey



**Chatham Islands Investment Strategy (2019) Vision statement:
“Our islands, our people, connecting locally and globally to be resilient,
innovative and prosperous”**

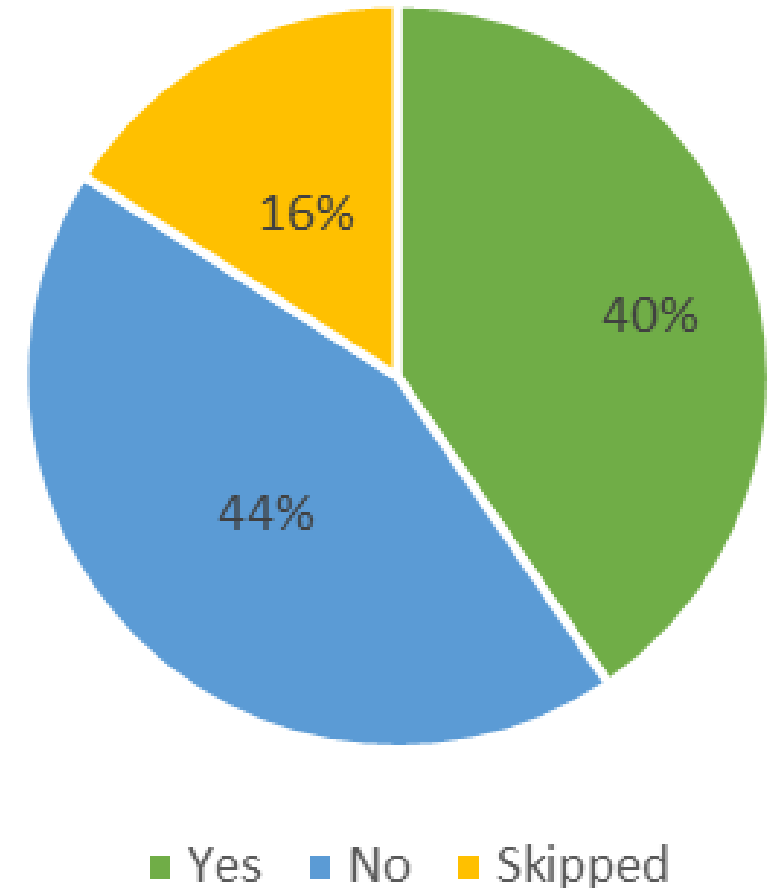
**Taking into consideration how you have answered the first two questions,
does this vision statement feel right for you?**

Over **50%** of respondents did not think the vision statement reflected the aspirational goals for Chatham Islands

Regarding your above response, please can you provide your comments outlining why you have chosen 'YES' or 'NO'

Key themes:

1. Need to address today's needs rather than tomorrow (Focus locally before globally)
2. How will it be measured?
3. Missing environmental goals and living sustainably



**Chatham Islands Investment Strategy (2019) Wellbeing Statement:
“All Chatham Islands people are resilient, sustainable, prosperous, and
connected”**

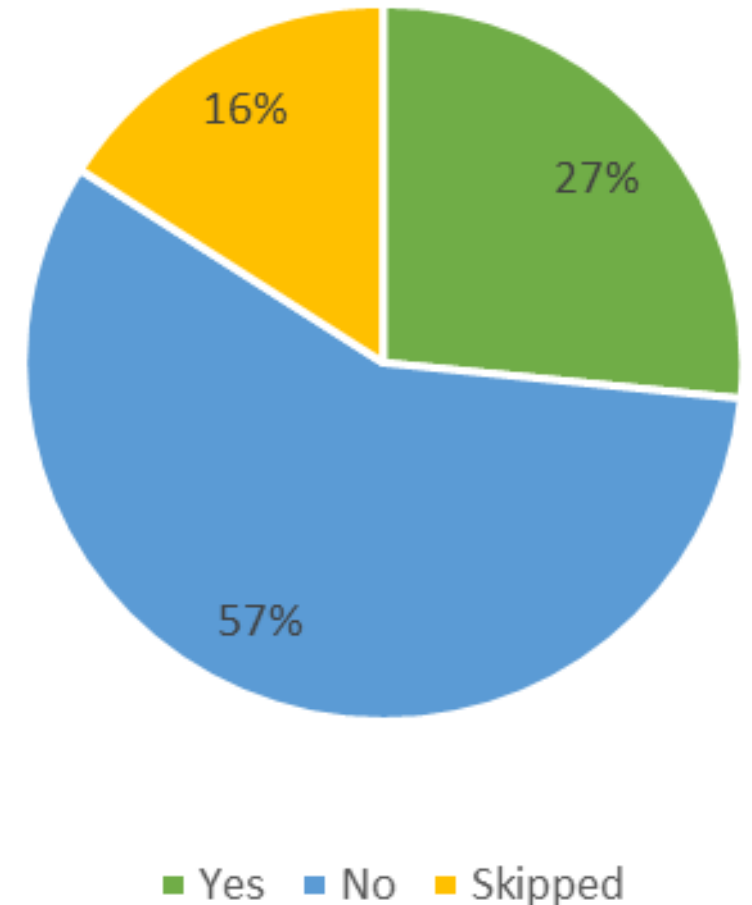
**Taking into consideration how you have answered the first two questions, does
this wellbeing statement feel right for you?**

57% of respondents did not think the wellbeing statement reflected the aspirational goals for Chatham Islands

**Regarding your above response, please can you provide your
comments outlining why you have chosen 'YES' or 'NO'**

Key themes:

1. Greater focus on healthy living needed and who we are as a people
2. Wellbeing statement doesn't reflect the reality at all
3. We are definitely resilient but not all are sustainable, prosperous and connected





Do you have any suggestions of additional projects that would help meet the vision you have for the Islands?

Infrastructure

1. Limited housing for workers and their families - difficult for businesses
2. Consistent delivery of telecommunications
3. Shipping/freight services
4. Roothing
5. Meat processing plant
6. Sewage and windows project
7. Improved water supply or supply systems for Te One and Owenga

Economic

1. Baseline funding for tourism
2. Attracting skilled people to the Island (Lawyers, Accountants etc)
3. Projects to reduce cost of living
4. Industry training
5. Tourism - world adventure race leg
6. Use wool instead of synthetic pink batts
7. Support the strategic priorities within the Tourism Chatham Islands Destination Plan
8. We need to invest in our young people in the farming and fishing
9. Sustainable/secure petrol & diesel supply.
10. Create a commercial area for industry to build infrastructure
11. Subsidized transport service

Do you have any suggestions of additional projects that would help meet the vision you have for the Islands? Continued

Environment

1. Recreational fishing remains a challenge
2. Bee community - disease free
3. Improve access to fisheries (restricted to local population)
4. Better visitor assets - walk ways
5. Research program developing bio diversity data on all specific pest and resource opportunities
6. Planting more trees
7. Protecting environmental assets
8. Green waste facility on island
9. Habitat restoration including Wetlands and dune systems
10. Climate change strategy
11. Establish a dark sky reserve. If Chathams infrastructure continues to increase without using animal friendly methods, we will continue to be the killing grounds for native species instead of a hub.
12. Creating a safe place on Chathams and Pitt to move species from south east and Mangere Islands
13. Island toxin free



Note: No additional projects were identified under the cultural investment area

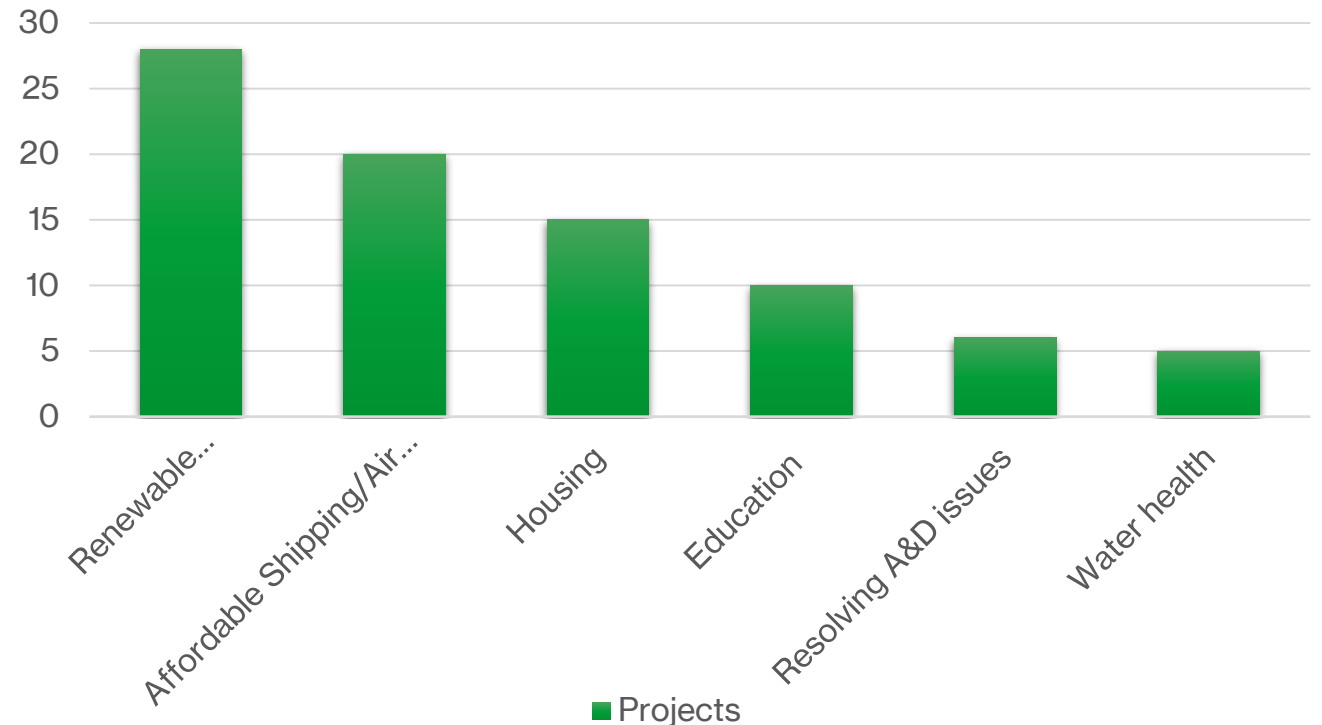
Social

1. Increase boarding allowance for CI secondary students
2. Te Whatu Ora - right to remain on Island with long term health care/Whanau centre for aged care/respice (aging population)
3. Ministry of Education - huge expense for education, more jobs, Industries focused education development, boarding school costs, developing younger people
4. Indoor recreation centre, including arts
5. Funding to fix and use assets we already have - Te One school Playcentre.
6. Something for the young people and next generation
7. Wellbeing and creating opportunities and support of young Chatham Islanders, particularly young women (but perhaps also young men) is missing.
8. The Norman Kirk Memorial Reserve and The Den need support for their forward planning of facilities.
9. Improve health and wellbeing - not just A&D
10. Merging of Maori Health care and the CI Health Centre
11. Market gardens
12. Swimming skills for kids

Out of all the projects, including your suggestions, what projects are most important to you?

- **Renewable energy** and affordable **Shipping/Air freight** was most frequently identified as important to respondents.
- Specific issues relating to **housing** include the number of available houses to rent, quality of homes and access to land.
- **Education** relates to availability of teachers, adequate classrooms, boarding expenses, range of qualifications, lack of industry training.
- **Water health** relates to habitat restoration, wetlands, waterways, water for Te One and Owenga
- Other minor themes to emerge: **Island Governance, Roving Sustainable fishing, Chatham Branding**

Key projects (themes) to emerge from the survey



Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

I think it is a great idea to gather information like this but also believe an event or follow up event to this would be great. I also think this would be an interesting discussion to have with a young demographic in Island for including primary ages children and high school students.

Don't compare us to anyone else

2 mile fishing area to come back to the Island

Need Autonomy for our 200 mile economic zone

More transparency

Predator free is contradictory to what people want = controlled possum numbers provides an income



How do the current list of projects reduce the current cost of living.

Start bringing the vision down into concrete activities by doing step by step.

What comes out of the Focus Group meetings? As someone who is not involved, does anything get achieved? Can this be communicated to the community?