



# King Island Council

## Media Release

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### COMMUNITY SURVEY PUBLISHED

Earlier this week, Councillors reviewed and noted the findings of the King Island Community Needs Survey. This survey was carried out in March and April of this year and focused on capturing a broad range of thoughts, ideas and comments from community members.

King Island Mayor Duncan McFie was very pleased with the level of community participation which saw 10 % of the total population contribute to the survey. "Other organisations are delighted to receive feedback from less than 5% of their population which shows how engaged our community is with local issues and how eager they are to be heard", he commented.

King Island Council used a variety of methods to try and ensure that all sections of the community were able to contribute. There was an online survey accessible from most computers and smartphones, paper versions of the survey were also available from various locations, one-to-one interviews were on offer and three generous community members hosted informal Kitchen Table Conversations to which they invited neighbours and friends.

The responses from the survey were analysed using qualitative data software which scanned written responses to detect which words were used most frequently. The word which stood out among all the responses was **Road** which occurred with almost 70 % more frequency than the word in second place which was **Shipping**. The prominence of both these topics will come as little surprise to Councillors but it provides firm evidence which they are already using to inform their decision making. This year's Annual Plan, for example, includes road sealing projects to Cape Wickham Road, Old Grassy Road and South Road in addition to resheeting on Lancaster Road, Mount Stanley Road, Robbins Road and Missons Road. Council's General Manager David Laugher confirmed, "King Island Council's recent survey indicated that roads were still very much a priority for King Islanders; accordingly, improving our road network will continue to be a major focus for Council".

Other areas of community interest were also highlighted in the survey such as activities for young people and recycling which are issues Councillors will also be considering throughout this year.

Mayor McFie is keen to point out that this survey is just the beginning of further community consultation and looks forward to learning more from the community during consultation around imminent projects such as the Town Master Plans, Currie Skate Park and Grassy Playground, "My colleagues on Council appreciate the time taken to offer this valuable feedback and look forward to learning more from our community as we start to implement our ambitious plans over the next financial year".

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