

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

Budget 2023 – 24

Community Engagement Report

FEBRUARY 2023

Background

Councils are required to develop a *Budget* annually in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* ('Act'). This must be developed in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Policy* which was adopted on 23 February 2021.

The objectives of the community engagement process for the *Budget* are to:

- Accurately represent community need, opinions and aspirations in the final plans and associated actions and report back to the community how their input was used to inform decision-making.

This internal report provides the empirical feedback we received from the community on preferred spending priorities for Budget 2023-24, in stage one of the engagement process. In stage two of the engagement process scheduled between January and March 2023, we will report back to the community on what we heard and provide further opportunities for consultation if needed.

Community Engagement

Stage one engagement was carried out between 3 November and 18 December 2022 at the 'Consult' level with the following promises to the community:

Consult: We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

Council's current spending priorities have been informed by community feedback we received on the *Community Vision*, our *Council Plan* and our last two budgets.

In the stage one engagement period, we conducted two online surveys to check-in with the community to see if the priorities they had previously identified are still important to them.

In each survey we asked the community to select the top three priority areas that they would like to see more money spent on, and the top three they would like to see less money spent on.

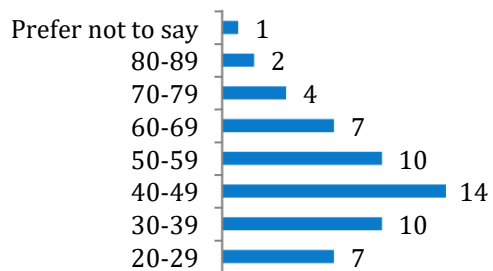
We promoted participation in the surveys via social media and our community engagement e-newsletter.

Date	What	How many
3 Nov – 16 Dec	Have Your Say online survey	57 surveys completed
29 Nov – 18 Dec	Community Voice online survey	191 surveys completed
3 Nov – 18 Dec	Instagram and Facebook	2386 people reached
13 Dec	Community Engagement E-newsletter	4221 subscribers 134 clicks

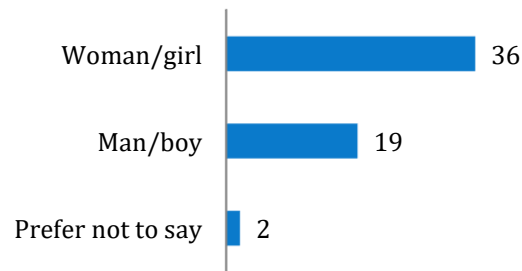
1. HAVE YOUR SAY - ONLINE SURVEY RESPONSES

- 57 people participated.
- Age 40-49 was the most active age group.
- There were 19 male and 36 female respondents. Two respondents preferred not to say.
- The top three categories where participants want Council to **increase** spending were:
 1. Maintenance for roads and footpaths
 2. Climate response initiatives
 3. Open space
- The top three categories where participants want Council to **reduce** spending were:
 1. Sport, leisure and recreation
 2. Business and community support
 3. Libraries, arts, culture and events

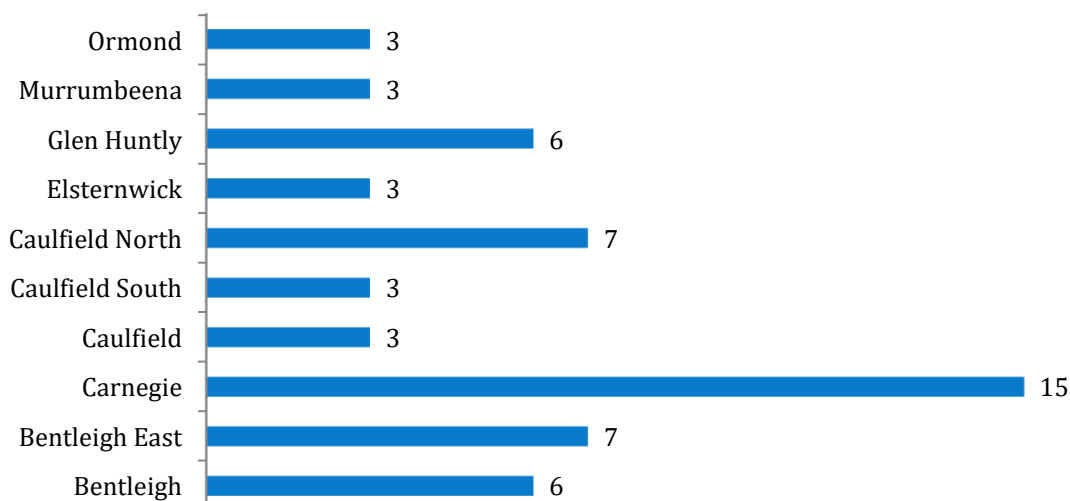
Age



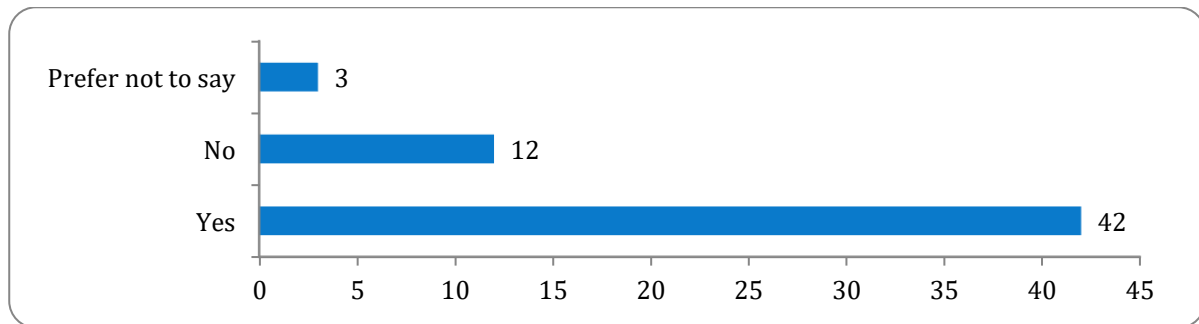
Gender



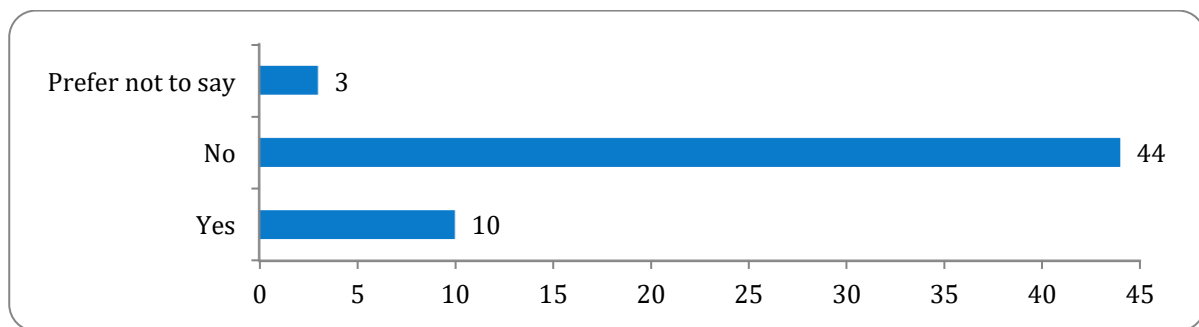
Suburb



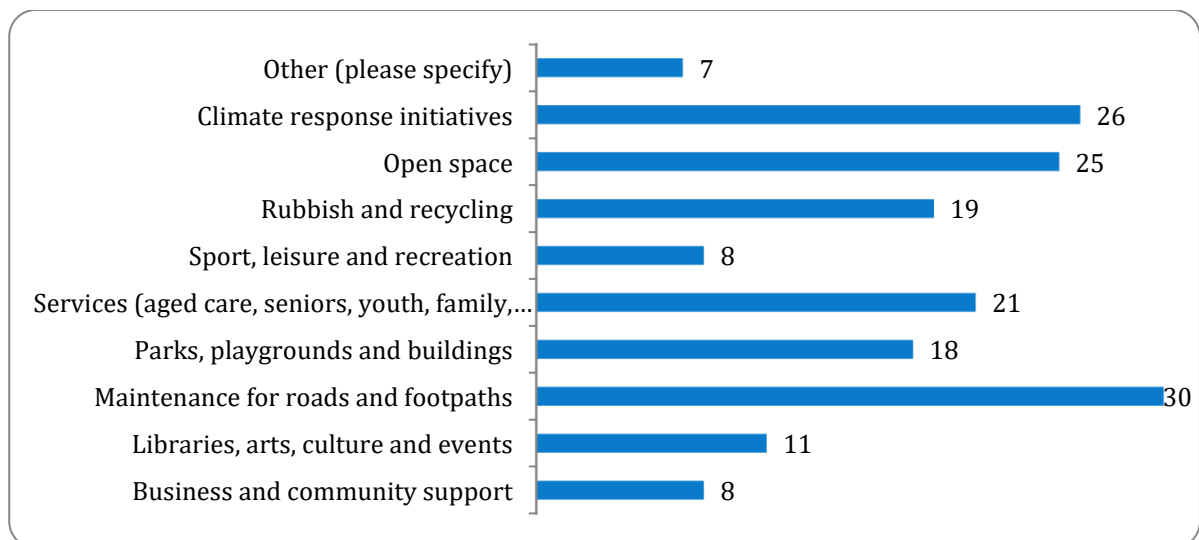
Were you born in Australia?



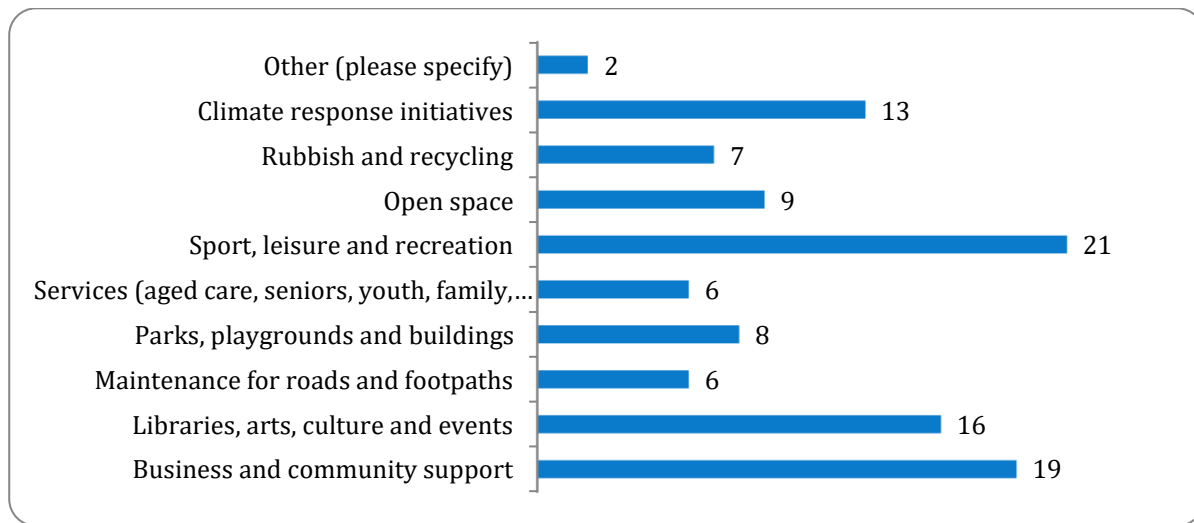
Do you speak a language other than English at home?



On what areas would you like to see Council spend **more**? (Select your top three preferences.)



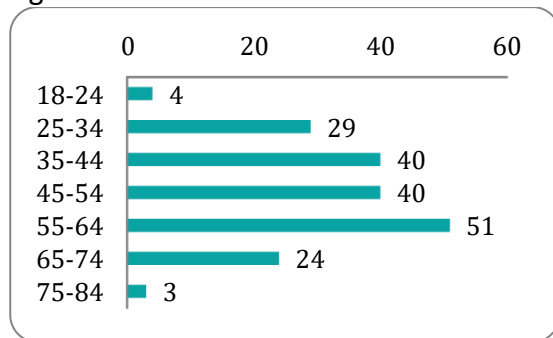
On what areas would you like to see Council spend **less**? (Select your top three preferences.)



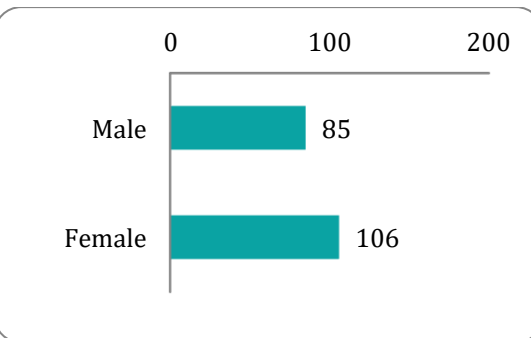
2. COMMUNITY VOICE - ONLINE SURVEY RESPONSES

- The survey was sent to the Community Voice cohort of 500 residents and 191 participated.
- Age 55-64 was the most active age group [Note: age groups are approximate as this data is collected when the member joins. There is a possibility that some members have moved into the next age bracket without our knowledge. We will be rectifying this in the next survey.]
- There were 85 male and 106 female respondents
- The top three categories where participants want Council to **increase** spending were:
 1. Maintenance for roads and footpaths
 2. Climate response initiatives
 3. Services (aged care, seniors, youth, family, children, disability, accessibility and pets.)
- The top three categories where participants want Council to **reduce** spending were:
 4. Business and community support
 5. Sport, leisure and recreation
 6. Climate response initiatives

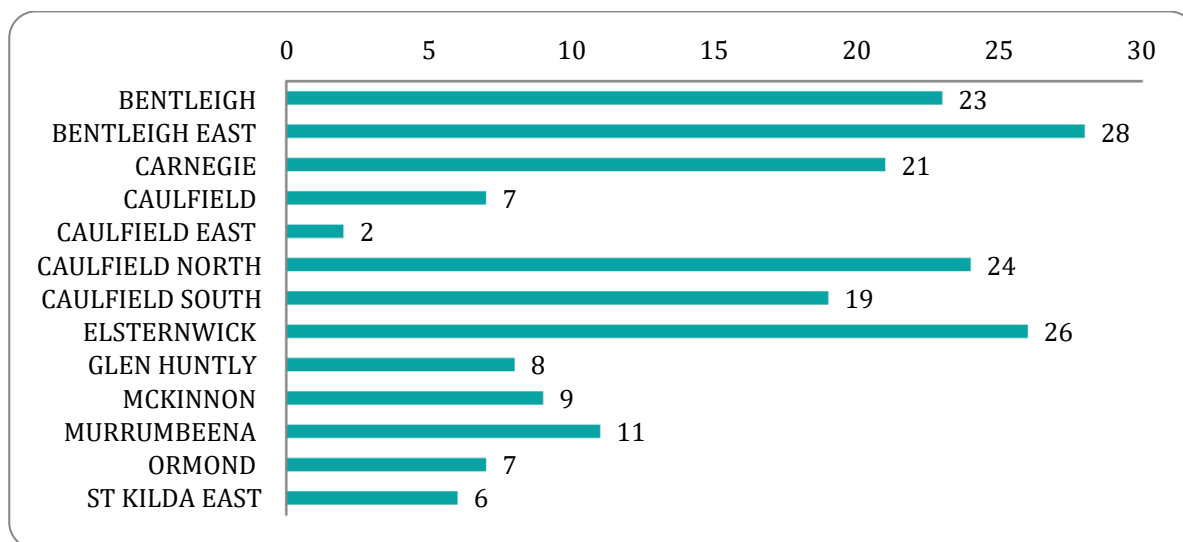
Age



Gender



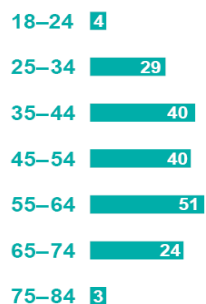
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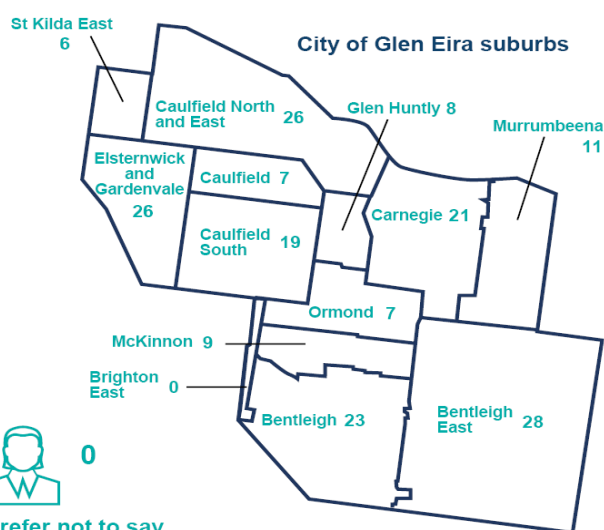
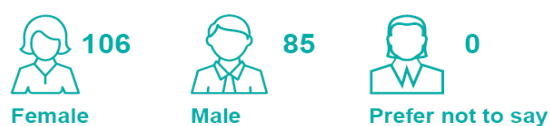
Final Survey 2022
191 responses

Community Voice Panel
500 members

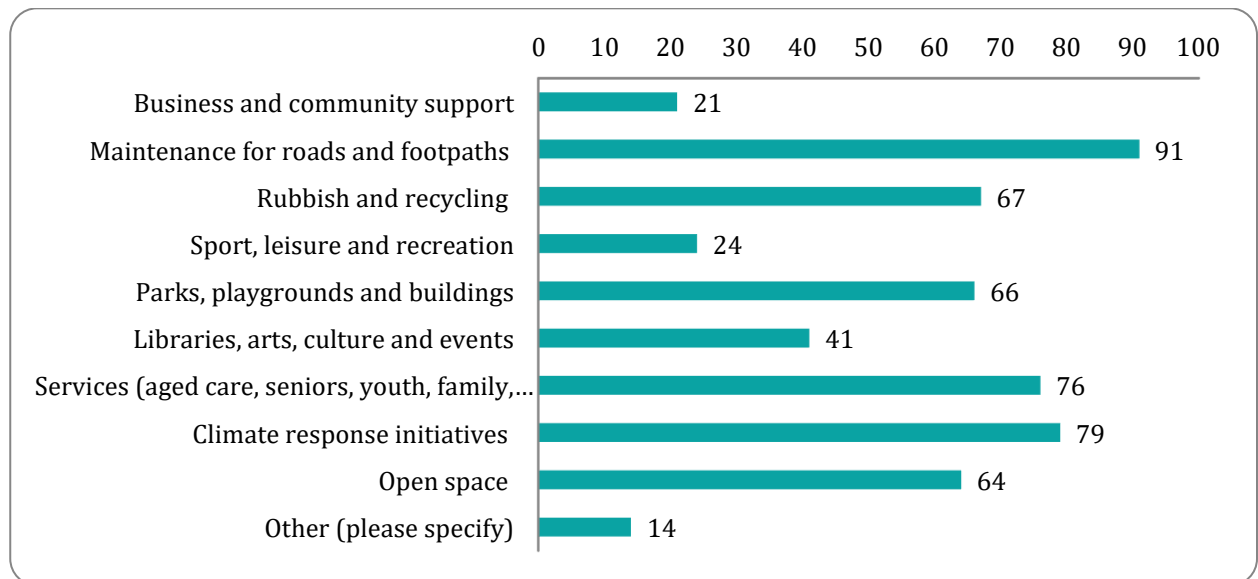
Age groups



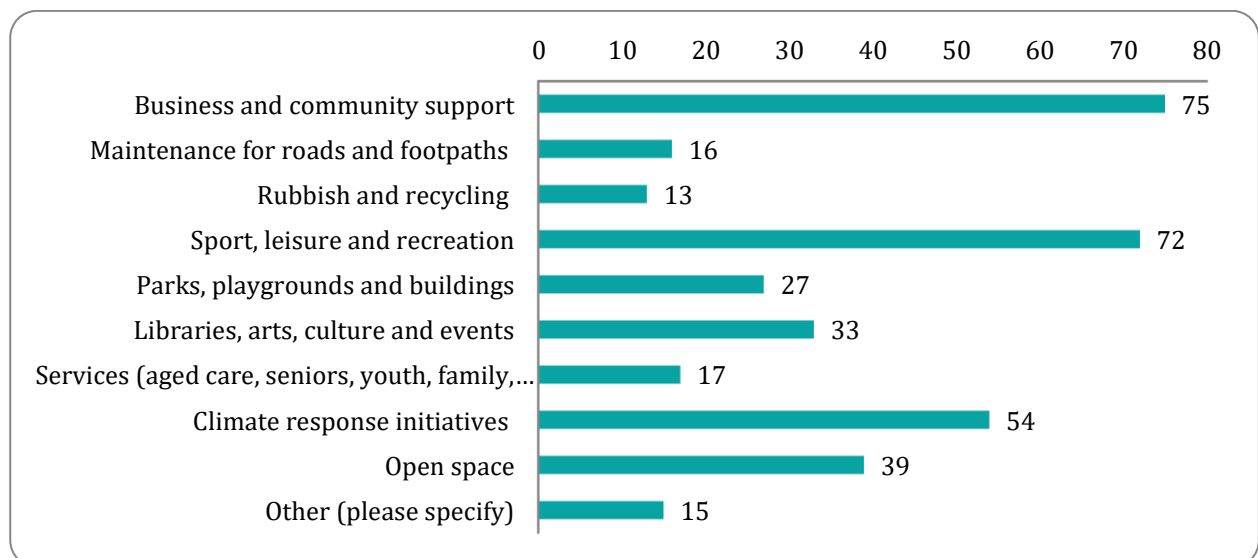
Gender



On what areas would you like to see Council spend **more**? (select your top three preferences)



On what areas would you like to see Council spend **less**? (select your top three preferences)



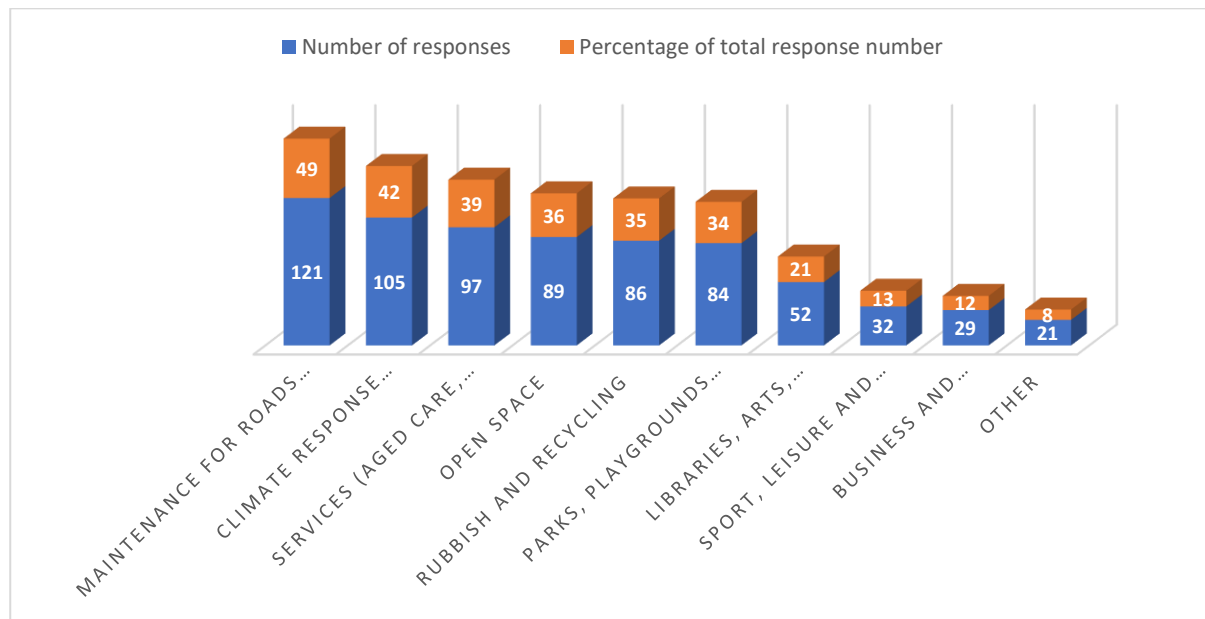
3. COMBINED SURVEY OUTCOMES

248 people participated across the two surveys.

On what areas would you like to see Council spend **more**? (select your top three preferences)

The top three preferences were:

1. Maintenance for roads and footpaths
2. Climate response initiatives
3. Services (aged care, seniors, youth, family, children, disability, accessibility and pets)



On what areas would you like to see Council spend **less**? (select your top three preferences)

The top three preferences were:

1. Business and community support
2. Sport, leisure and recreation
3. Climate response initiatives

