

Coordinated by the Department of Government Services on behalf of Victorian councils

Stonnington City

Council



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Background and objectives

The Victorian Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) creates a vital interface between the council and their community.

Held annually, the CSS asks the opinions of local people about the place they live, work and play and provides confidence for councils in their efforts and abilities.

Now in its twenty-fourth year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

- councils' overall performance, with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- · value for money in services and infrastructure
- community consultation and engagement
- · decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service, local infrastructure, facilities, services and
- · overall council direction.

When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable historical source of the community's views since 1998. A selection of results from the last ten years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

Serving Victoria for 24 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 24 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

Participation in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is optional. Participating councils have various choices as to the content of the questionnaire and the sample size to be surveyed, depending on their individual strategic, financial and other considerations.

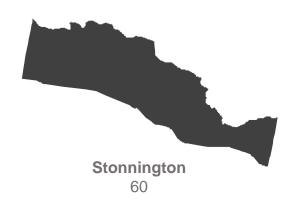


Stonnington City Council – at a glance



Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.









State-wide 56

Council performance compared to group average



Summary of core measures



Index scores







ty Making











Overall Council Direction



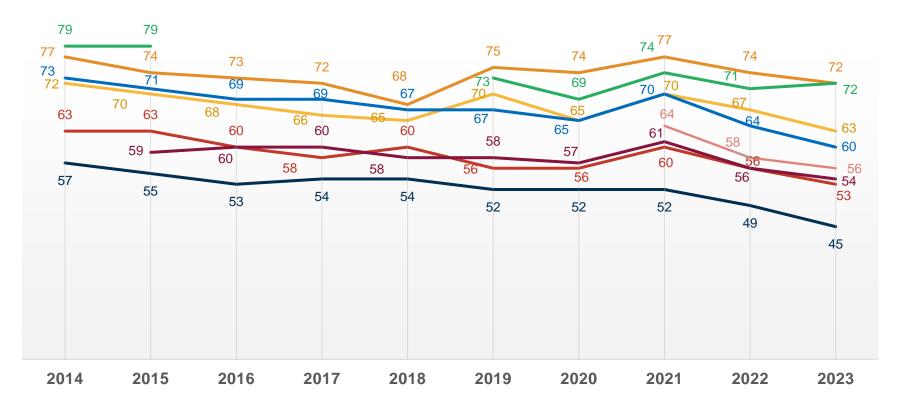
Value for money

Community Consultation

Community Decisions

Sealed Local Roads

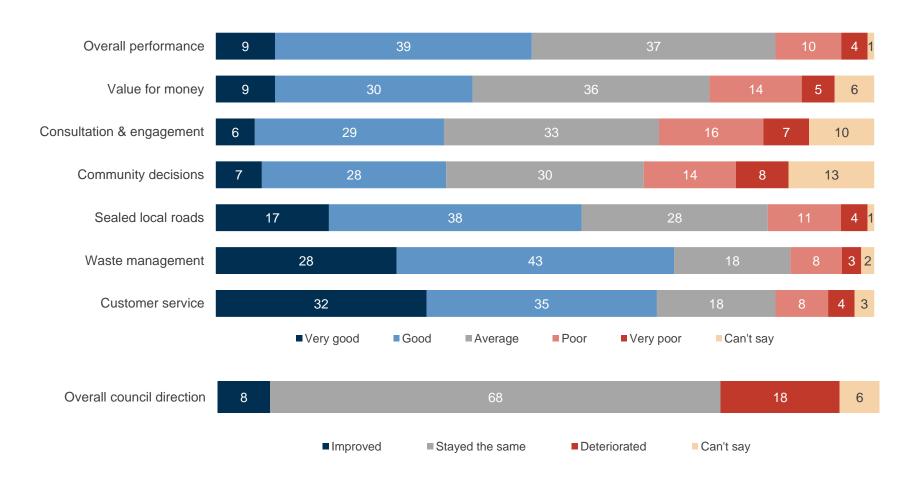
waste management



Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Stonnington City Council performance



Services		Stonnington 2023	Stonnington 2022	Metro 2023	State- wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
(%	Overall performance	60	64	62	56	South Ward residents, Aged 18-34 years, North Ward residents, Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
S	Value for money	56	58	56	49	South Ward residents, Aged 35-49 residents	Aged 50-64 years
+	Overall council direction	45	49	49	46	South Ward residents, North Ward residents	East Ward residents, Aged 50-54 years
	Customer service	72	74	71	67	Women	Aged 50-64 years
\$ /	Art centres & libraries	76	72	75	73	Aged 35-49 years, Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
<u>.</u>	Appearance of public areas	73	77	68	67	East Ward residents, Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
ず	Recreational facilities	72	71	72	68	Aged 18-34 years, East Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years, North Ward residents
	Waste management	72	71	68	66	Aged 65+ years, Men, Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Community & cultural	68	64	67	66	South Ward residents	North Ward residents

Summary of Stonnington City Council performance



Services		Stonnington 2023	Stonnington 2022	Metro 2023	State- wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
	Enforcement of local laws	65	67	62	61	Aged 18-34 years	Users, Aged 50- 64 years
A	Sealed local roads	63	67	61	48	Aged 35-49 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Informing the community	60	59	60	57	Aged 35-49 years	Aged 50-64 years
2	Environmental sustainability	60	58	62	60	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
air.	Local footpaths	58	-	57	52	Aged 35-49 years	Aged 65+ years, Aged 50-64 years
	Business & community dev.	56	-	58	57	South Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Traffic management	55	60	55	55	Aged 35-49 years	North Ward residents, Aged 18-34 years, Aged 50-64 years
***	Community decisions	54	56	55	51	South Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Consultation & engagement	53	56	55	52	Users, Aged 35- 49 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Parking facilities	53	57	54	55	East Ward residents	South Ward residents

Summary of Stonnington City Council performance



Services		Stonnington 2023	Stonnington 2022	Metro 2023	State- wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
	Town planning policy	50	56	52	50	Men	Aged 50-64 years
<u>.</u>	Lobbying	49	52	53	51	South Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Planning & building permits	45	54	50	47	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Perceptions of Stonnington City Council's overall performance have dropped significantly for the second year in a row. This year's result sets another 10 year low for Council's overall performance in the past decade. The decline is evident in deteriorating perceptions of performance in multiple service areas evaluated, although it is important to note that significant declines were experienced on the same measures, and more, across both the Metropolitan group and State-wide averages.

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance Council should focus on improving performance on low rating service areas that most influence perceptions of overall performance, such as lobbying, town planning policy, and planning and building permits. Council should also continue to focus on its performance in recreational facilities and the appearance of public areas, as they are influential on overall perceptions of performance. Community decisions is a strong influence area and improved efforts here have the best potential to drive improved perceptions of overall performance.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Council rates in line with the Metropolitan group average for the majority of individual service areas evaluated. Performance is rated significantly higher than the Metropolitan group average for Council's higher rating service areas, such as appearance of public areas, waste management and enforcement of local laws, whereas it is rated significantly lower on the poorly rated areas of planning and building permits, and lobbying. Council rates at or significantly above the State-wide average on all service areas measured.

Maintain current ratings and abate declines

In the year ahead, Council should seek to abate declining perceptions among residents aged 50 to 64 years, as this cohort continues to consistently rate Council's performance lowest on almost all areas. Council should endeavor to maintain current performance ratings and be mindful of emerging downward trends on services even where significant declines were not apparent this year, e.g. enforcement of local laws, community decisions, and consultation and engagement.

DETAILED FINDINGS







The overall performance index score of 60 for Stonnington City Council represents a significant four point decline on the 2022 result, and marks Council's lowest overall performance rating in a decade.

Stonnington City Council's overall performance is rated in line with the average rating for councils in the Metropolitan group and is rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the Statewide average for councils (index scores of 62 and 56 respectively, both of which also declined significantly this year).

- This year, all geographic and demographic cohorts experienced some decline in perceptions of overall performance, significantly so for men and 18 to 34 year olds.
- 18 to 34 year-old residents (index score of 61) are one of Council's highest rating cohorts despite a second year of significant decline.

Two in five residents (39%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. This is twice as many as those who rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor' (19%). A further 36% rate Council as 'average' in terms of providing value for money.





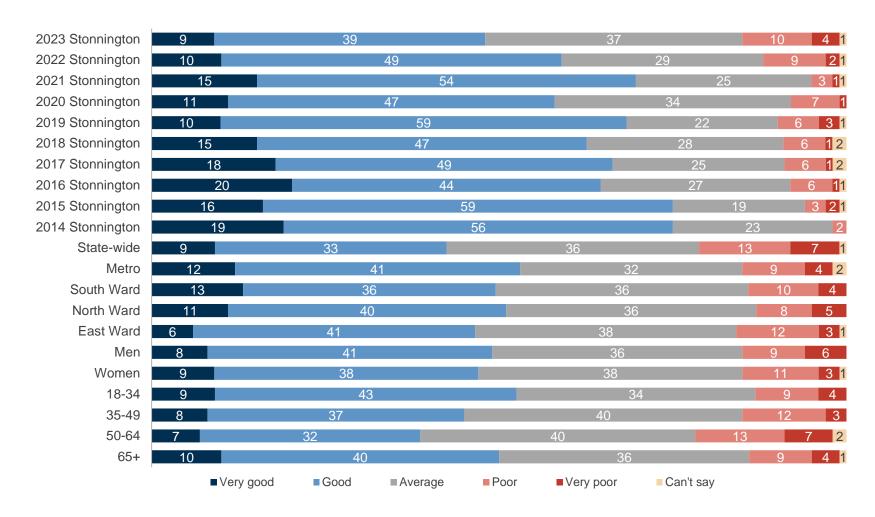
2023 overall performance (index scores)

2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 2014





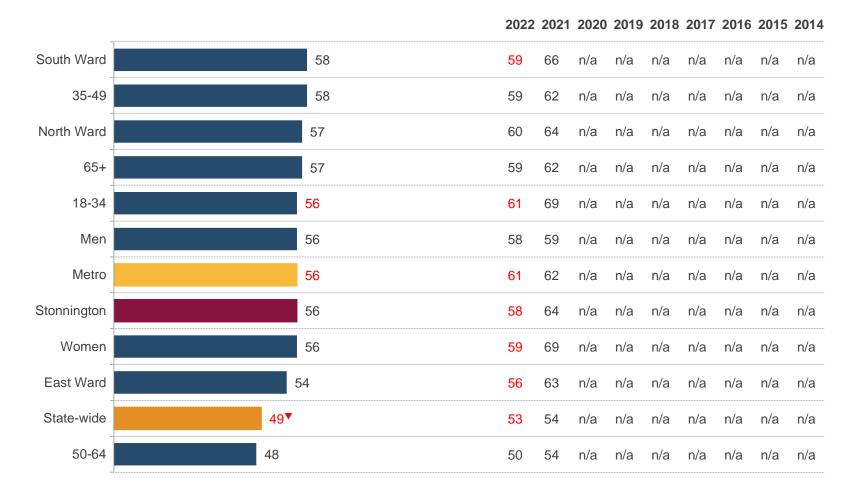
2023 overall performance (%)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



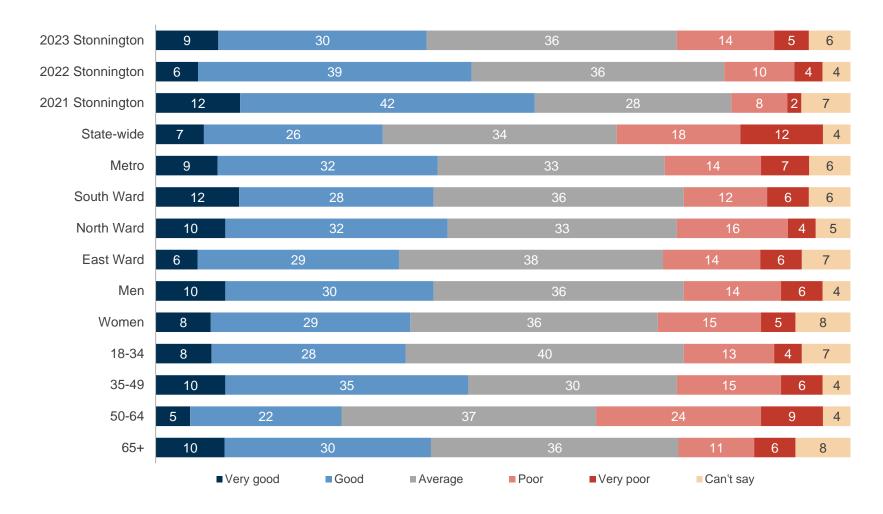
2023 value for money (index scores)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



2023 value for money (%)



Top performing service areas

Art centres and libraries (index score of 76) is the service area where Council performed best in 2023, returning close to peak 2018 levels with a significant four-point rating increase.

- Council performs in line with the Metropolitan group and significantly higher than the State-wide average in this service area.
- Perceptions of performance in this area increased significantly among those aged 35 to 49 years, East and South Wards residents and men.

Appearance of public areas is Council's next highest rated service area (index score of 73), despite a significant decline of four index points in the past year.

 Council rates significantly higher than both the Metropolitan group and State-wide averages in this service area (index scores of 68 and 67 respectively, both of which declined significantly for the second year running).

Recreational facilities and waste management (index scores of 72) are also rated highly by residents.

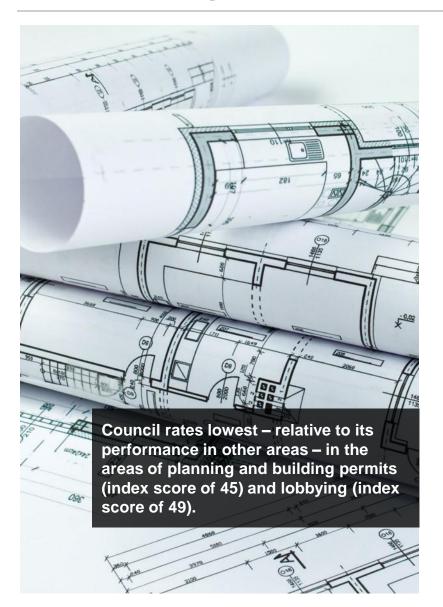
Moreover, a quarter of residents (25%) volunteer parks and gardens as one of the best things about Council. This is a positive results for Council, as recreational facilities and the appearance of public areas are influential on overall performance.





Low performing service areas





Council experienced significant declines on many service areas evaluated in the past 12 months. Council performance is rated lowest in the area of planning and building permits (index score of 45).

- Perceptions of performance on planning and building permits declined significantly in 2023 and on most geographic and demographic cohorts.
- Residents aged 50 to 64 years rate Council's performance significantly lower than average.

Lobbying (index score of 49) is Council's next lowest performing service area evaluated.

 Council is rated in line with the State-wide average and significantly lower than the Metropolitan group average on this measure, both of which experienced significant declines in the past year.

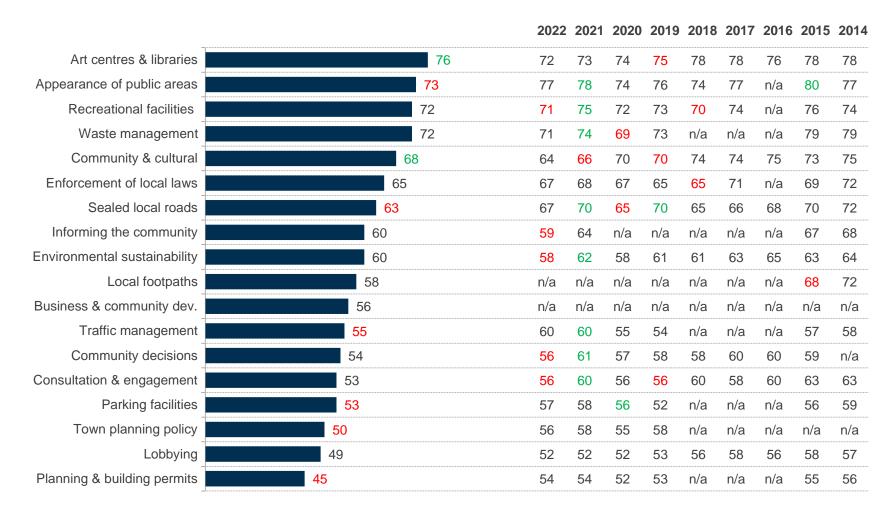
Town planning (index score of 50) performance declined significantly in the last 12 months, now representing Council's lowest performance rating for this service area.

In the years evaluated, the aforementioned service areas have consistently been where Council performance rates the lowest. It is recommended that Council aim to elevate these scores, especially as they each have an influence on perceptions of overall performance.

Individual service area performance



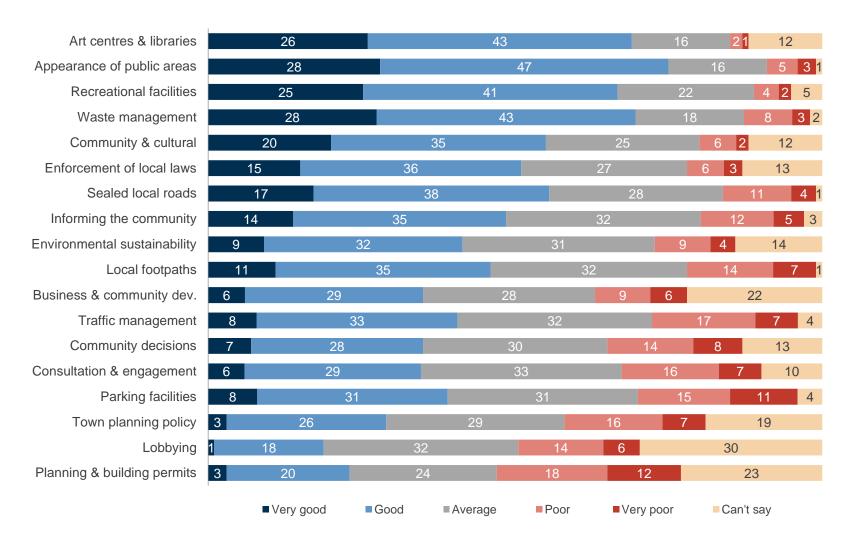
2023 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



2023 individual service area performance (%)



Individual service area importance



2023 individual service area importance (index scores)

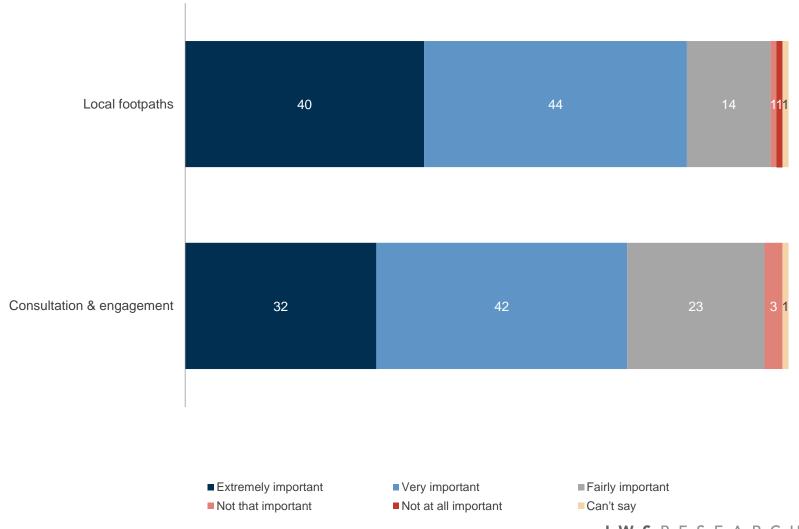




Individual service area importance



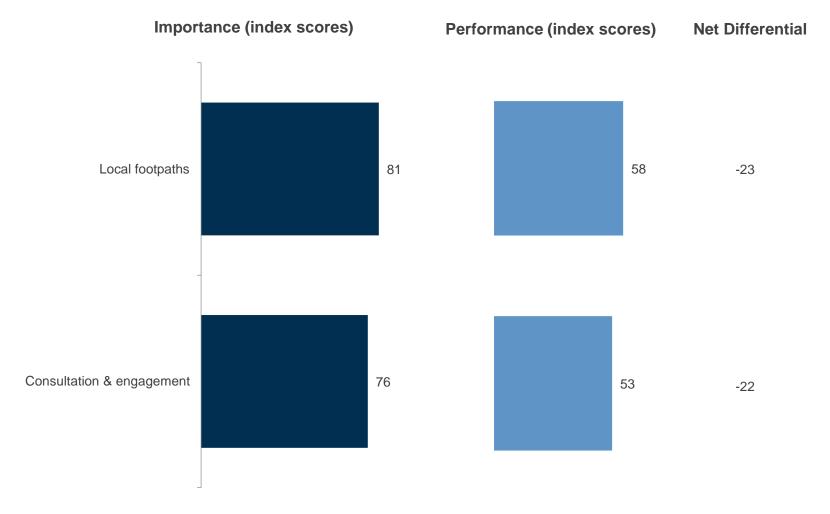
2023 individual service area importance (%)



Individual service areas importance vs performance



Service areas where importance exceeds performance by 10 points or more, suggesting further investigation is necessary.



Influences on perceptions of overall performance

The individual service area that has the strongest influence on the overall performance rating (based on regression analysis) is:

• Decisions made in the interest of the community.

Good communication and transparency with residents about decisions Council has made in the community's interest provides the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council's performance.

Following on from that, other individual service areas with a more moderate influence on the overall performance rating are:

- The condition of sealed local roads
- · Informing the community
- · Recreational facilities
- The appearance of public areas
- Town planning
- Lobbying on behalf of the community
- · Business and community development
- Planning and building permits
- · The enforcement of local laws.

Looking at these key service areas only, Council performs best on the appearance of public areas and recreational facilities (index of 73 and 72 respectively). Maintaining these positive results should remain a focus – but there is greater work to be done elsewhere.

In addition to community decisions (performance index of 54), Council is performing less well on the more moderate influences of town planning and business and community development (index of 50 and 56 respectively).

Ensuring resident needs and concerns are addressed in relation to planning and development issues can also help shore up positive overall opinion of Council.

However, most in need of attention are the areas of planning and building permits and lobbying, which are poorly rated (performance index of 45 and 49 respectively) and a moderate influence on overall community opinion.

It will be important to demonstrate Council efforts to advocate for residents and address their concerns about planning and building permits to help improve overall ratings of Council performance.

Regression analysis explained



We use regression analysis to investigate which individual service areas, such as community consultation, condition of sealed local roads, etc. (the independent variables) are influencing respondent perceptions of overall council performance (the dependent variable).

In the charts that follow:

- The horizontal axis represents the council performance index for each individual service.
 Service areas appearing on the right side of the chart have a higher performance index than those on the left.
- The vertical axis represents the Standardised Beta Coefficient from the multiple regression performed.
 This measures the contribution of each service area to the model. Service areas near the top of the chart have a greater positive effect on overall performance ratings than service areas located closer to the axis.

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

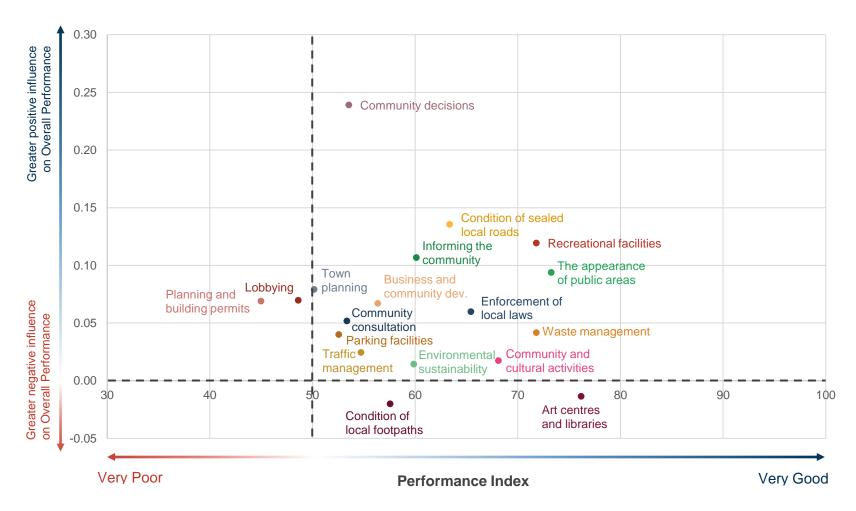
- 1. The first chart shows the results of a regression analysis of *all* individual service areas selected by Council.
- 2. The second chart shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas with a weak influence on overall performance (i.e. a low Standardised Beta Coefficient) have been excluded from the analysis.

Key insights from this analysis are derived from the second chart.

Influence on overall performance: all service areas



2023 regression analysis (all service areas)

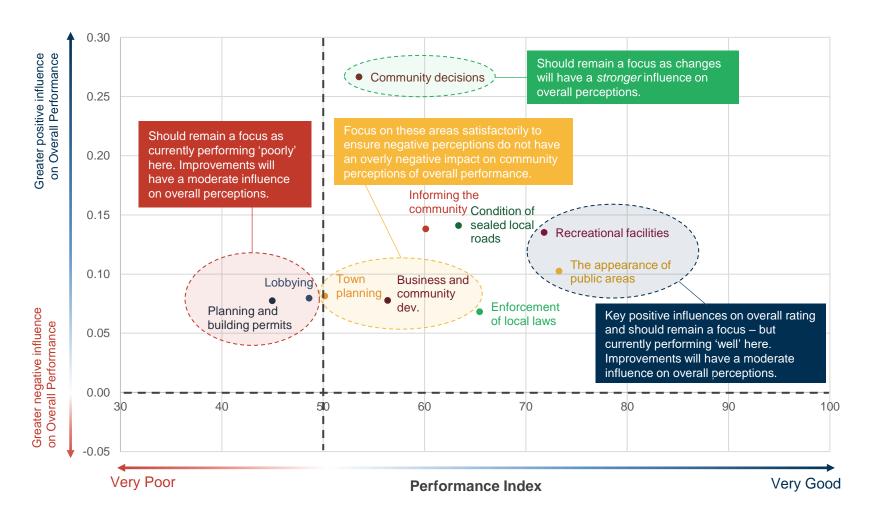


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R^2 value of 0.630 and adjusted R^2 value of 0.622, which means that 62% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 74.01. This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.

Influence on overall performance: key service areas



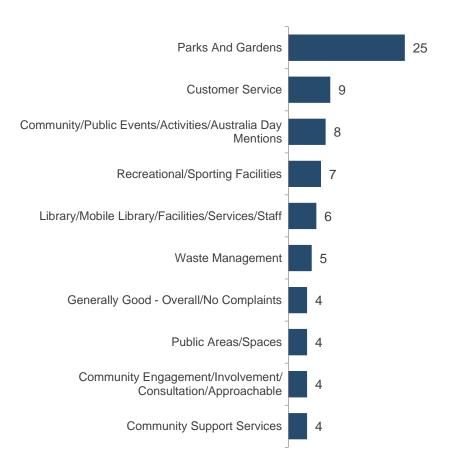
2023 regression analysis (key service areas)



Best things about Council and areas for improvement



2023 best things about Council (%) - Top mentions only -



2023 areas for improvement (%) - Top mentions only -



Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about Stonnington City Council? It could be about any of the issues or services we have covered in this survey or it could be about something else altogether?

Base: All respondents, Councils asked State-wide: 33 Councils asked group: 8

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 33 Councils asked group: 8



Customer service

Contact with council and customer service

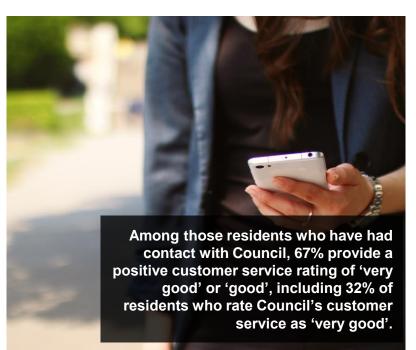


Contact with council

Rate of contact with Council (70%) in the last 12 months has risen significantly, returning to the record high seen in 2020.

 Among residents of East Ward and those aged 35 to 49 years, contact is significantly higher than in 2022.

The main method of contact returned to telephone (35%), overtaking 2022's main method of email (29%), then followed by contact in person (19%), via the website (14%) and in writing (12%).



Customer service

Stonnington City Council's customer service index of 72 remains in line with 2022.

Council's customer service is rated in line with the Metropolitan group and significantly higher than the State-wide average (index scores of 71 and 67 respectively).

- Perceptions of customer service among North and East Ward residents (each with ratings of 73) have not changed significantly in the last 12 months.
 However perceptions among South Ward residents declined significantly (index score of 67, down nine index points).
- Residents aged 18 to 34 years (index scores of 72, down seven index points) also rate customer service significantly lower than in 2022.

Two thirds of residents (67%) provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good', a further 18% rate it average, and one in ten (12%) give it a rating of 'very poor' or 'poor'.

Customer service ratings are highest among residents who communicated with Council in-person (index score of 80) and by telephone (75).

Contact with council



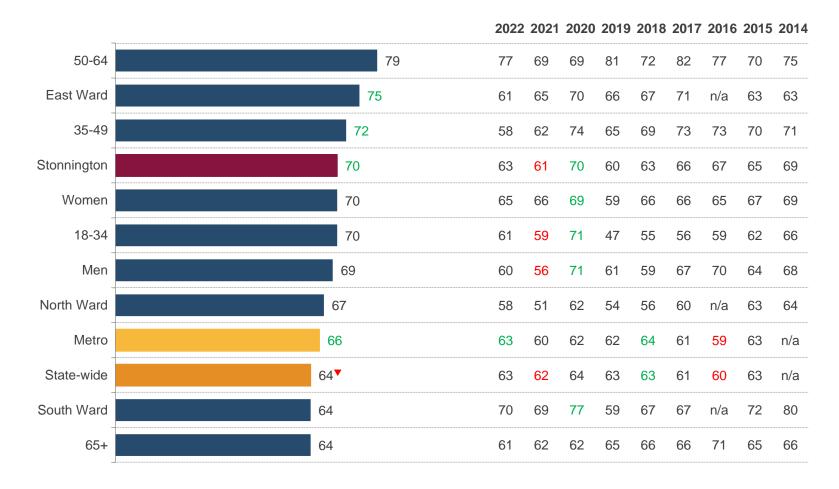
2023 contact with council (%) Have had contact



Contact with council



2023 contact with council (%)

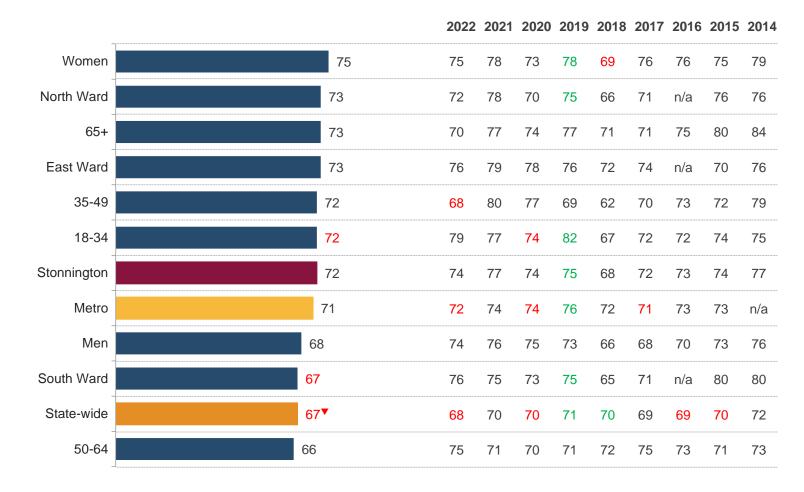


Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Stonnington City Council in any of the following ways?

Customer service rating



2023 customer service rating (index scores)



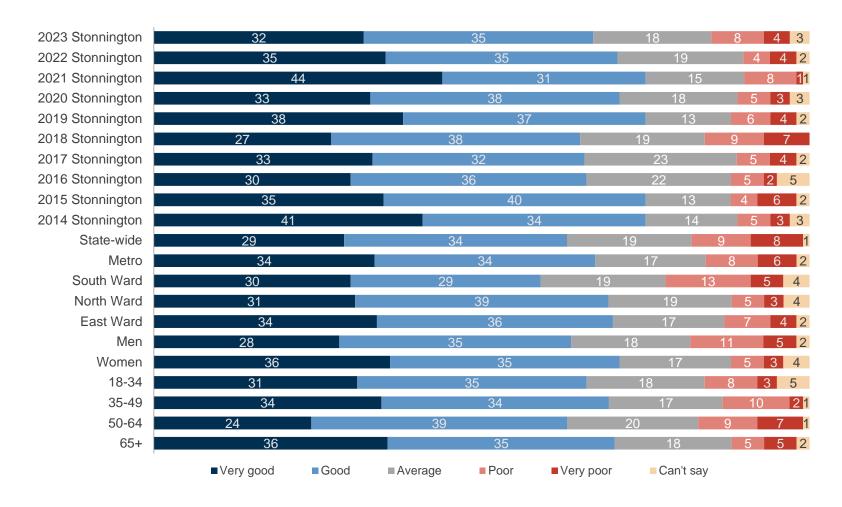
Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Stonnington City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 16

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Customer service rating



2023 customer service rating (%)



Method of contact with council



2023 method of contact (%)















In Person

In Writing

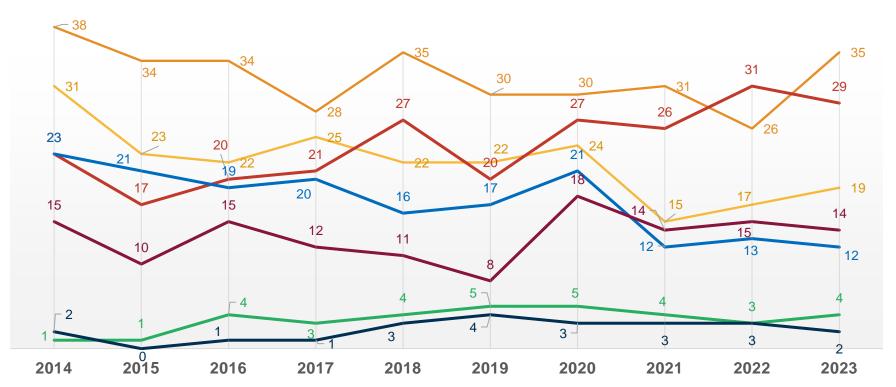
By Telephone

By Text Message

By Email

Via Website

By Social Media



Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Stonnington City Council in any of the following ways?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 8

Customer service rating by method of last contact



2023 customer service rating (index score by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Stonnington City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 8

Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 8

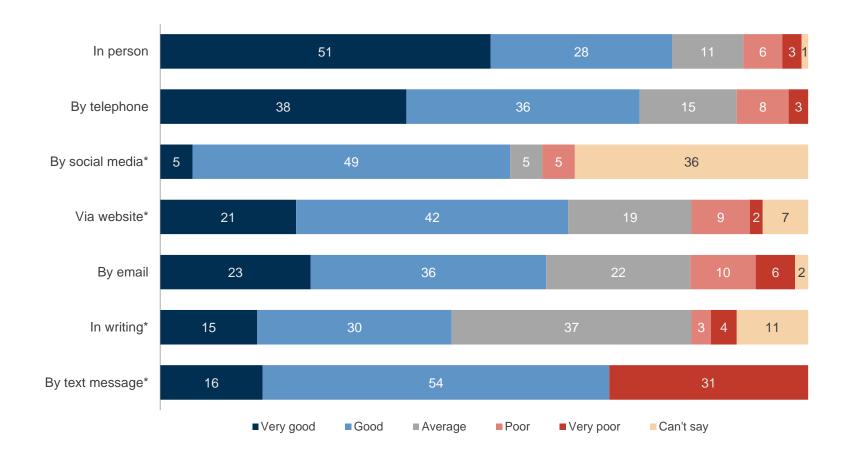
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

*Caution: small sample size < n=30

Customer service rating by method of last contact



2023 customer service rating (% by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Stonnington City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 8

*Caution: small sample size < n=30



Communication

The preferred form of communication from Council about news and information and upcoming events is a newsletter sent via email (43%), rising eight percentage points from 2022. This is followed by a newsletter sent via mail (31%).

By contrast, social media has taken a steep decline in preference, with only 6% (down seven percentage points) now rating it as their preference.

- The preferred form of communication from Council for residents aged <u>under 50 years</u> is a newsletter sent via email (45%, up 12 percentage points since last year). Other forms of communication remain largely unchanged from 2022, the exception being the decline in preference for social media (9%, halving its 2022 result).
- The preferred form of communication among those aged <u>50 years or older</u> is a match between a newsletter sent either via mail (42%) or email (41%).



Best form of communication



2023 best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Stonnington City Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 10 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

Best form of communication: under 50s



2023 under 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council **Newsletter** via Mail



Council **Newsletter** via Email



Council **Newsletter** as **Local Paper Insert**

2019

2020



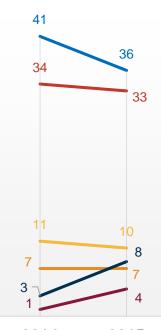
Council Website

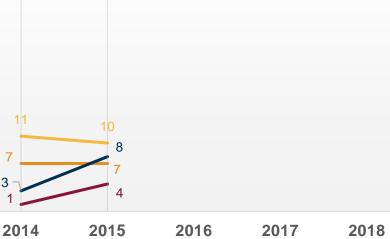


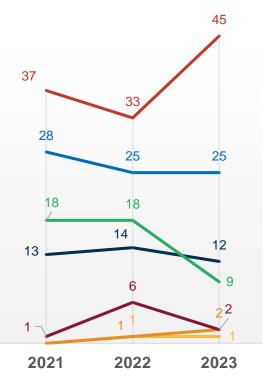
Text Message



Social Media







Q13. If Stonnington City Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents aged under 50. Councils asked State-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 10 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

Best form of communication: over 50s



2023 over 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



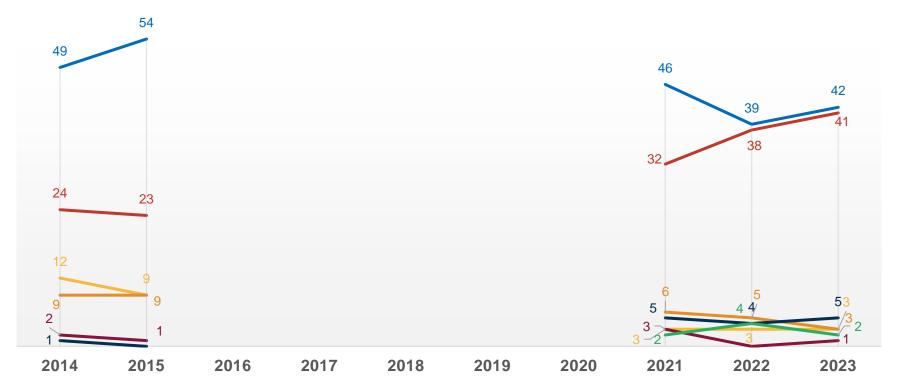
Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Stonnington City Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents aged over 50. Councils asked State-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 10

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.



Council direction

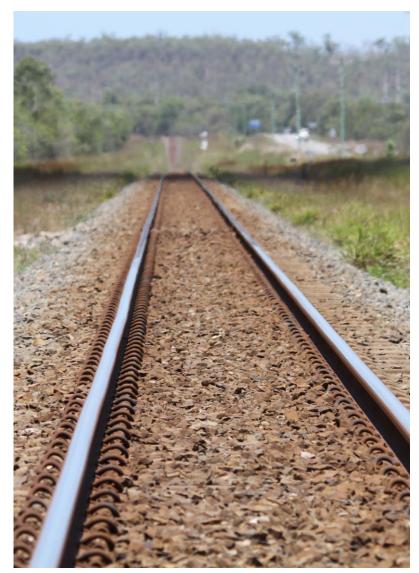
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In the last 12 months, perceptions of the direction of Council's overall performance have declined significantly (index score of 45), representing Council's lowest score in the past decade on this measure.

- Council rates in line with the State-wide average and significantly lower than the Metropolitan group average (index scores of 46 and 49 respectively).
 Both averages also received their lowest ratings for overall direction in the past ten years.
- Women and younger residents aged 18 to 34 declined significantly from 2022 (both with an index score of 44) in their perceptions of Council direction.

Over two thirds (68%) of residents believe Council's direction has stayed the same in the last 12 months. 8% believe direction has improved, and almost two in ten (18%, increasing seven percentage points) believe it has deteriorated.

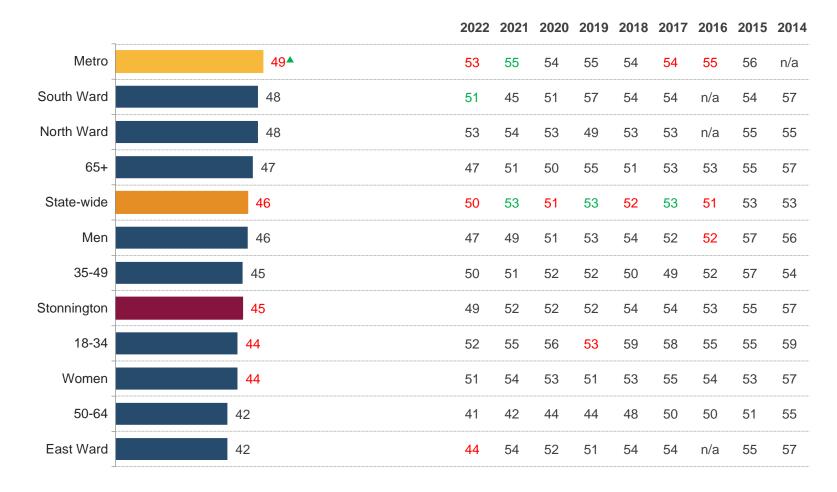
The <u>most</u> satisfied with Council direction are residents of North and South Wards (index score of 48 for both), while 50 to 64 years olds and East Ward residents remain the <u>least</u> satisfied cohorts (index score of 42 for both), noting that none of these results differ significantly from the Council average.



Overall council direction last 12 months



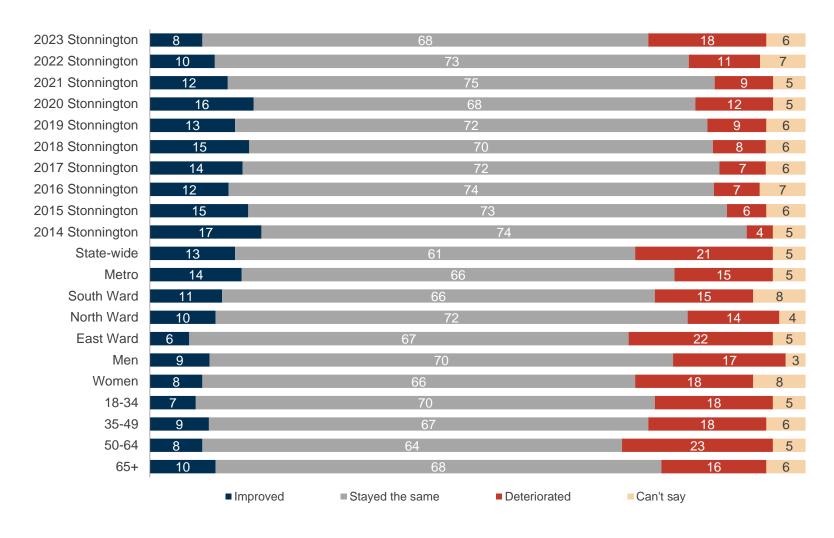
2023 overall council direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



2023 overall council direction (%)





2018 2017

Community consultation and engagement importance



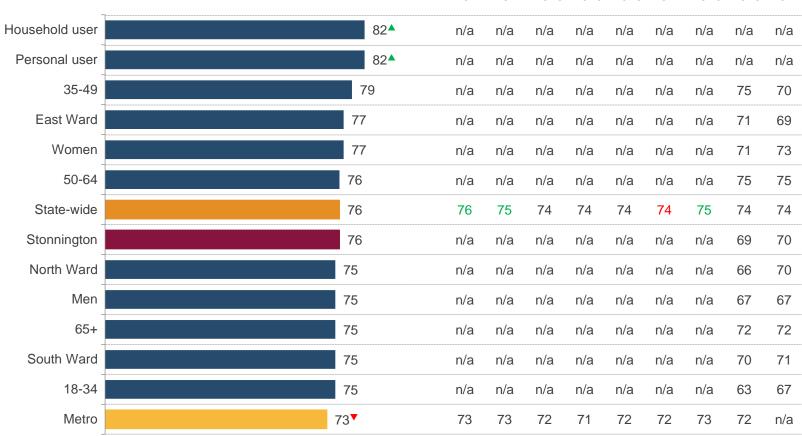
2016 2015 2014



2023 consultation and engagement importance (index scores)

2022 2021

2020 2019

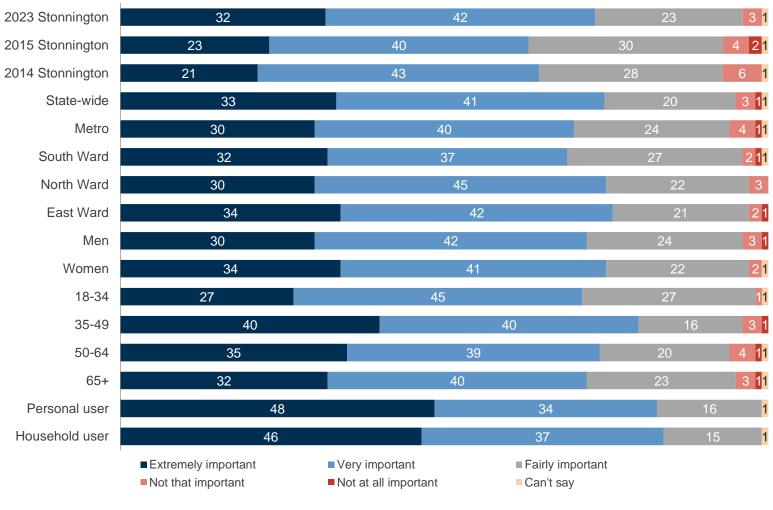


Community consultation and engagement importance





2023 consultation and engagement importance (%)



Community consultation and engagement performance





2023 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

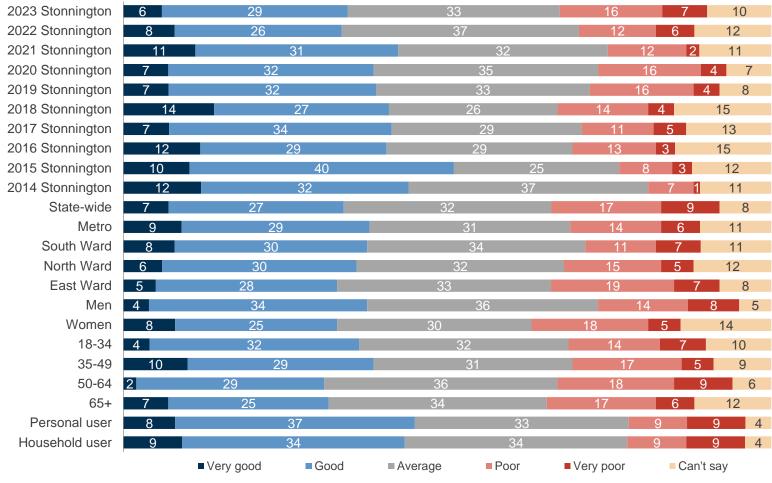


Community consultation and engagement performance





2023 consultation and engagement performance (%)

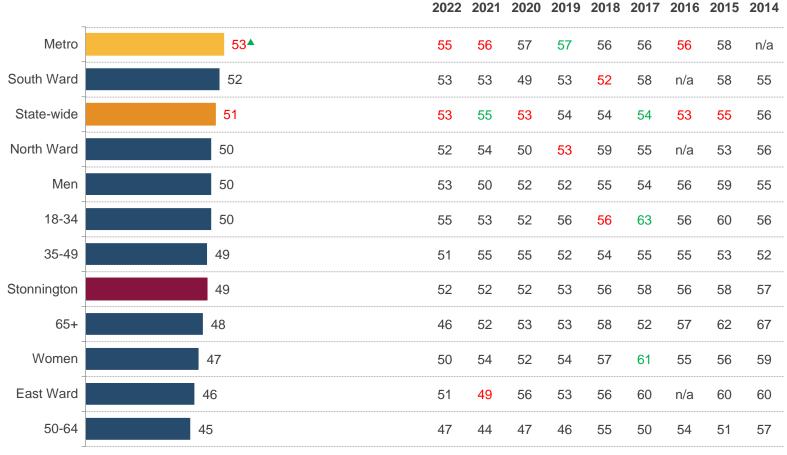


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2023 lobbying performance (index scores)

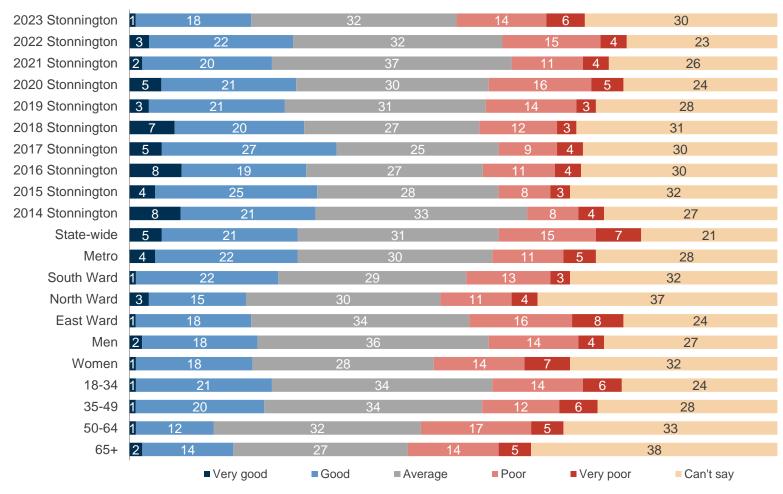


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2023 lobbying performance (%)



Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





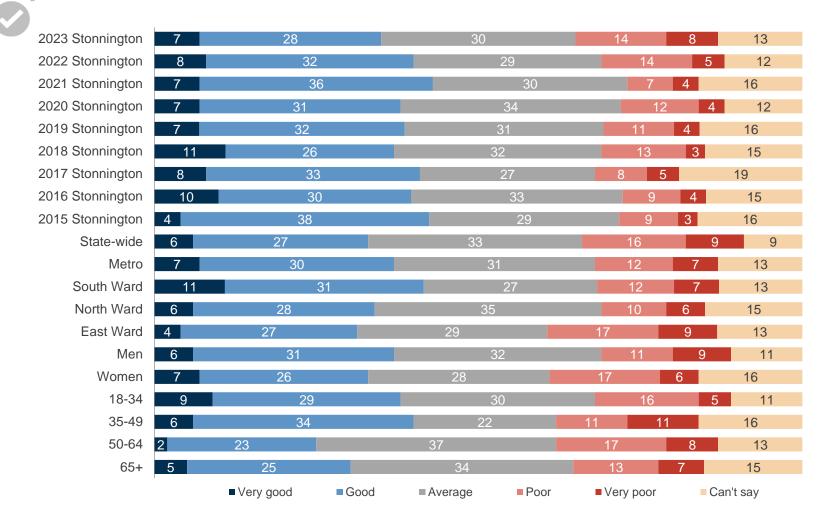
2023 community decisions made performance (index scores)



Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





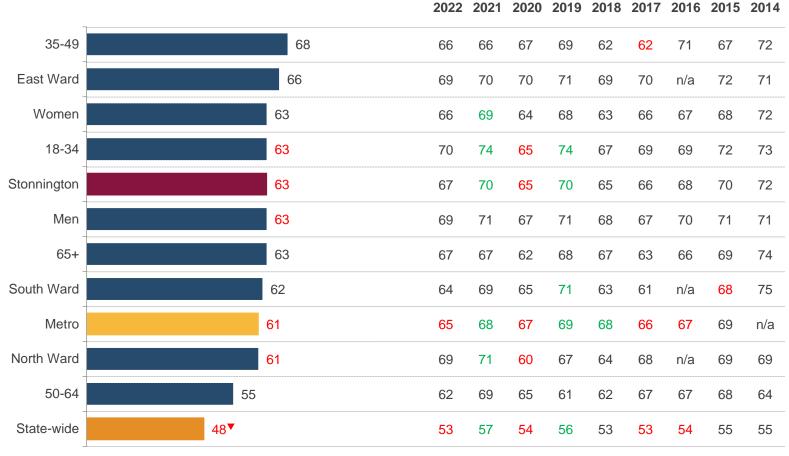


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

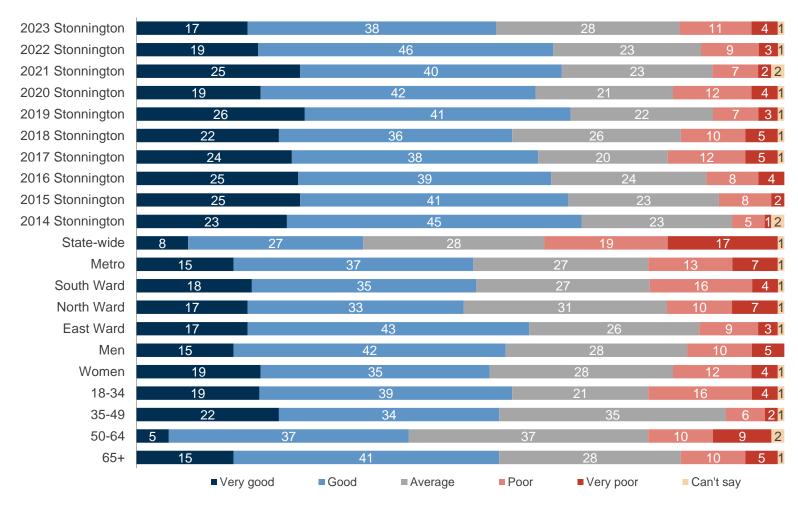


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (%)

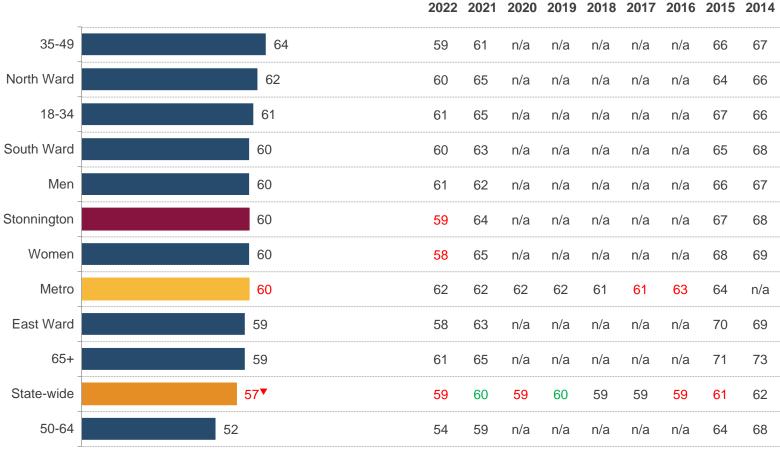


Informing the community performance





2023 informing community performance (index scores)

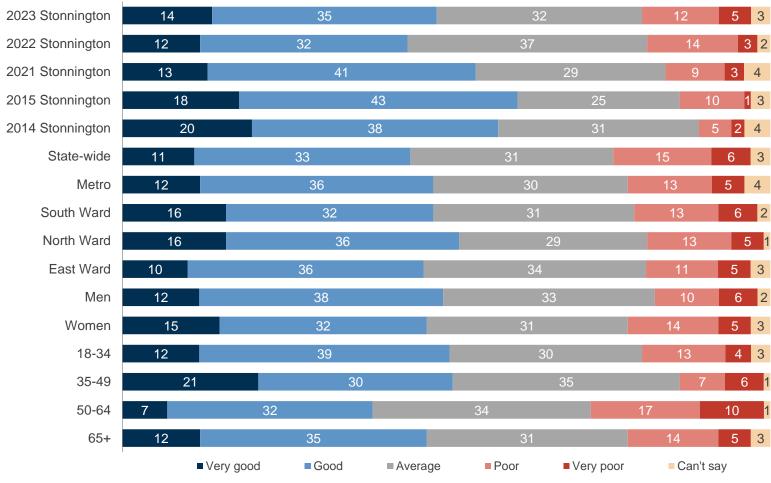


Informing the community performance





2023 informing community performance (%)

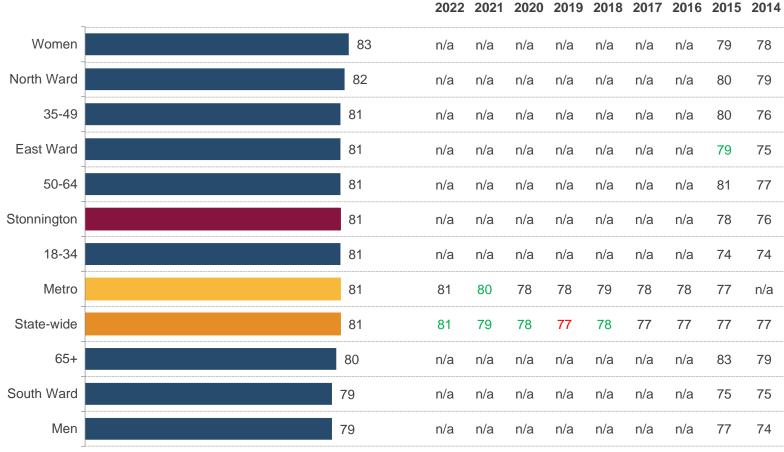


The condition of local footpaths in your area importance





2023 footpaths importance (index scores)

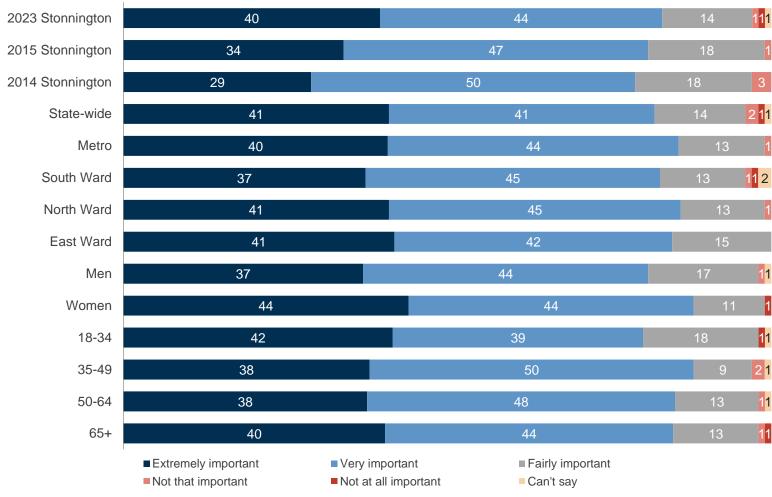


The condition of local footpaths in your area importance





2023 footpaths importance (%)

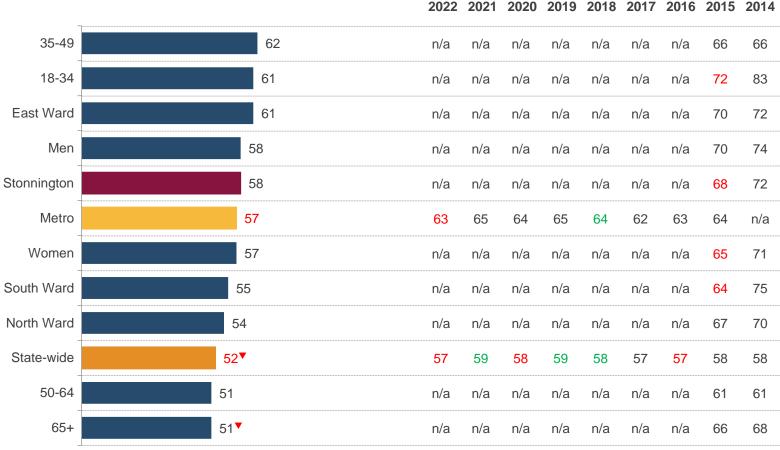


The condition of local footpaths in your area performance





2023 footpaths performance (index scores)

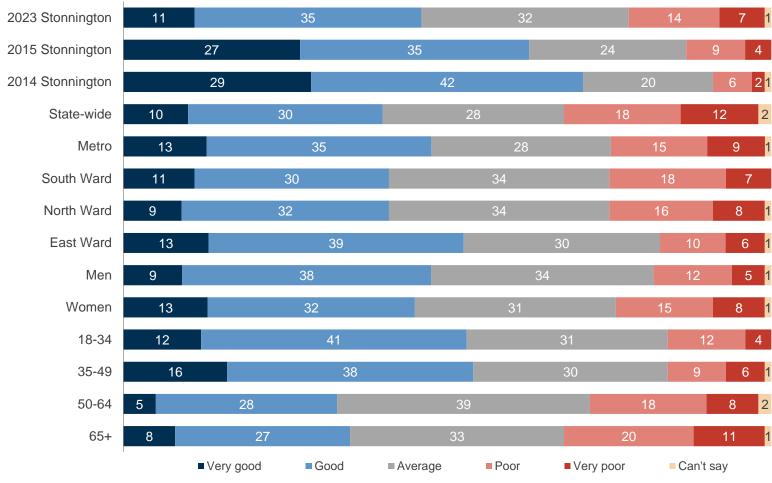


The condition of local footpaths in your area performance





2023 footpaths performance (%)

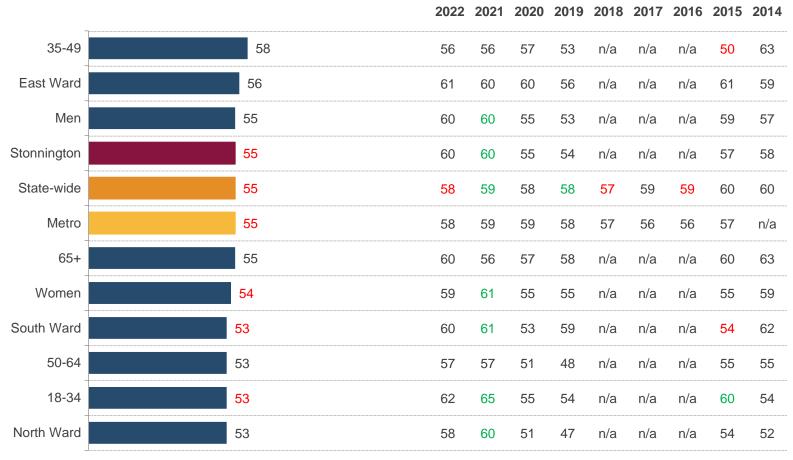


Traffic management performance





2023 traffic management performance (index scores)

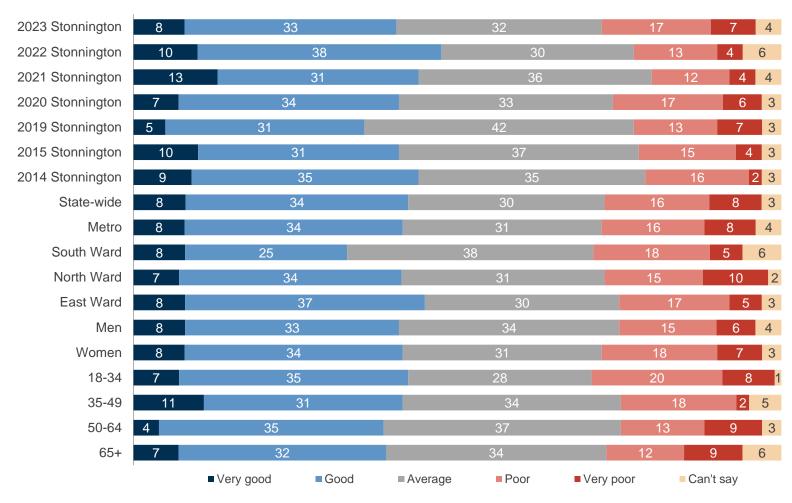


Traffic management performance





2023 traffic management performance (%)

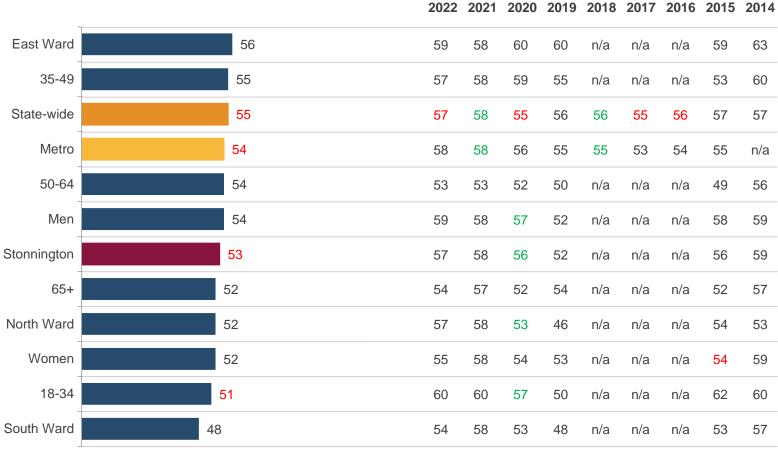


Parking facilities performance





2023 parking performance (index scores)

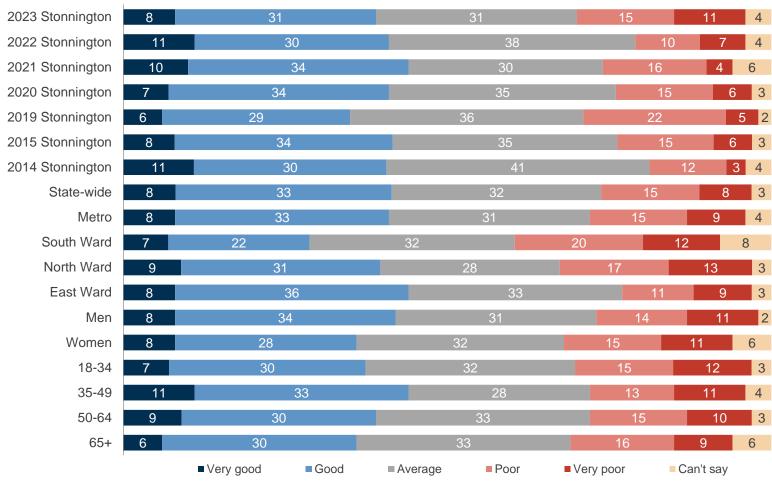


Parking facilities performance





2023 parking performance (%)



Enforcement of local laws performance





2023 law enforcement performance (index scores)

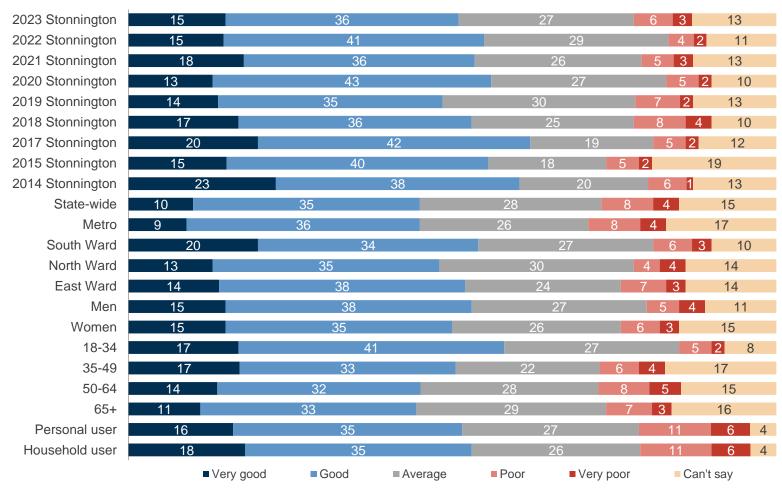


Enforcement of local laws performance





2023 law enforcement performance (%)



Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

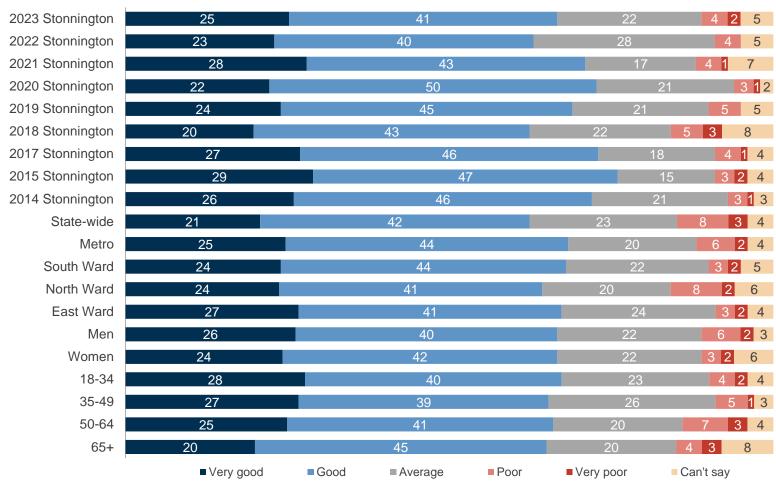


Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (%)



The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (index scores)

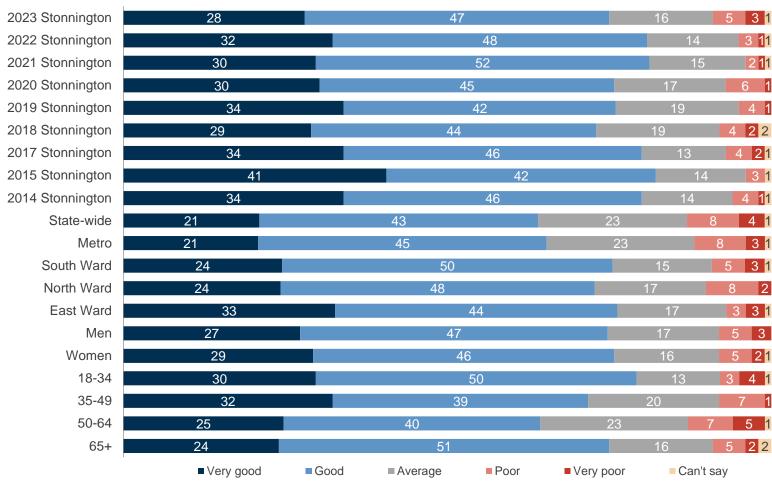


The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (%)



Art centres and libraries performance





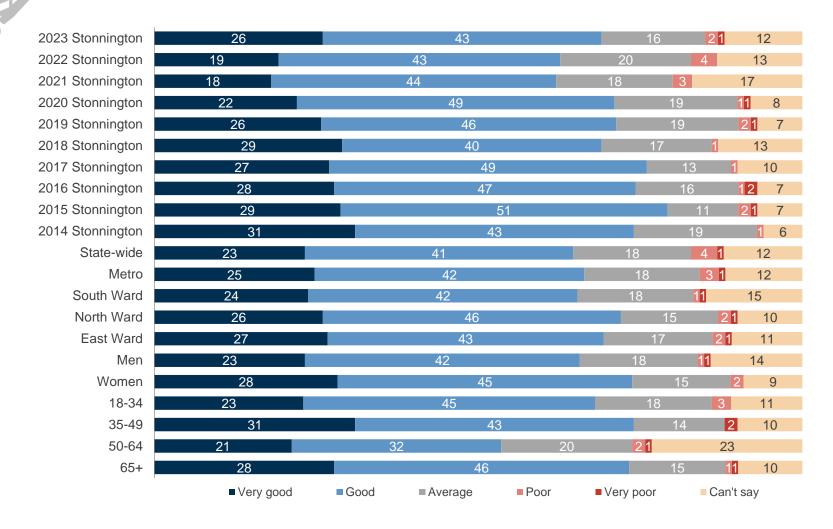
2023 art centres and libraries performance (index scores)



Art centres and libraries performance



2023 art centres and libraries performance (%)

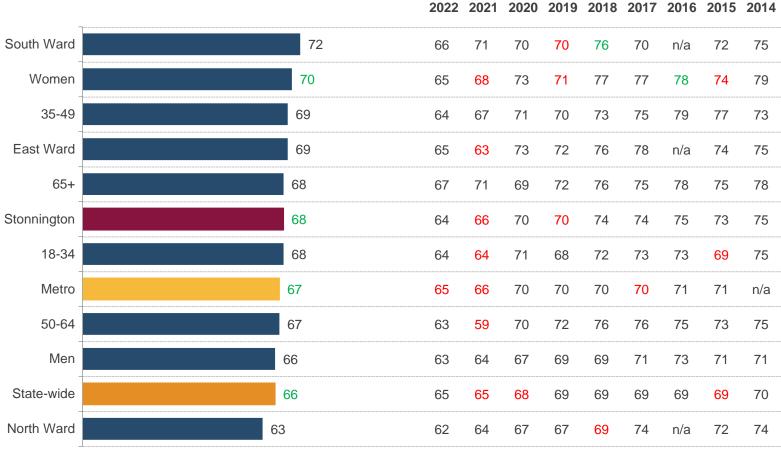


Community and cultural activities performance





2023 community and cultural activities performance (index scores)

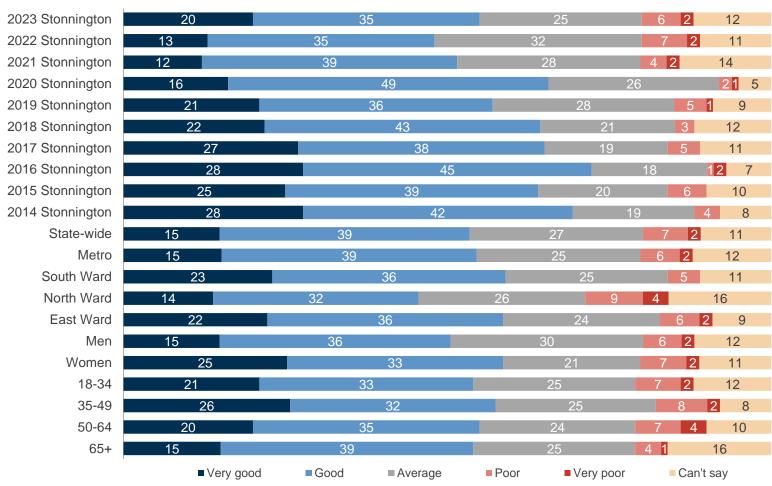


Community and cultural activities performance





2023 community and cultural activities performance (%)



Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (index scores)

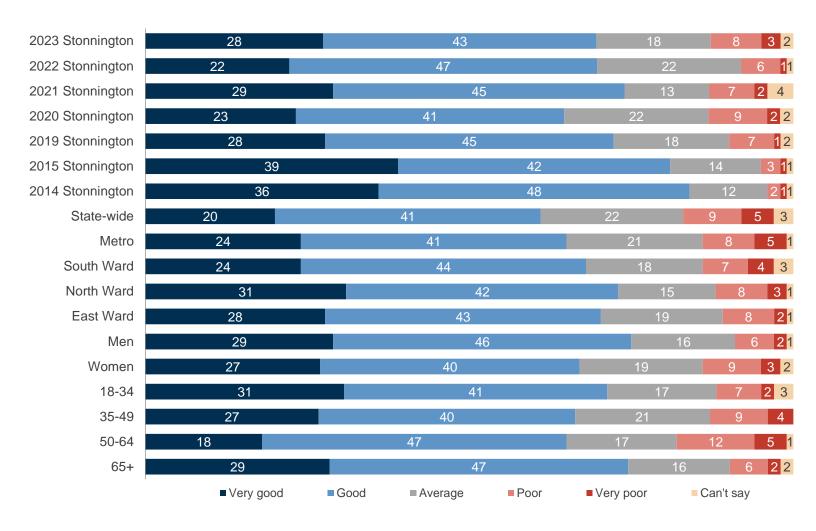


Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (%)

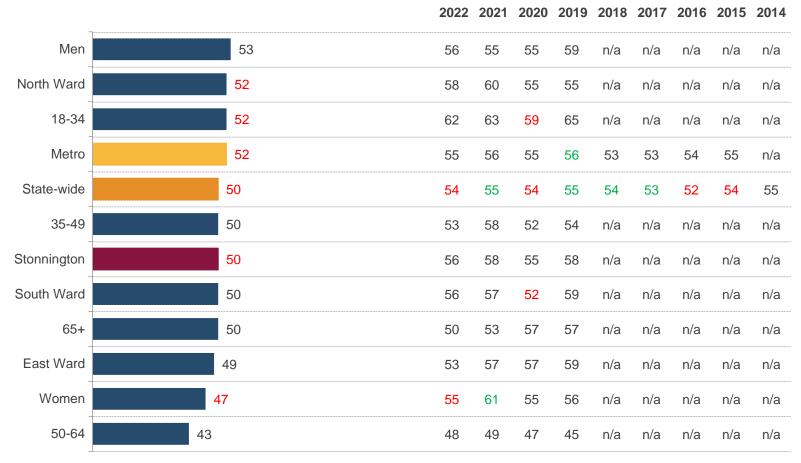


Council's general town planning policy performance





2023 town planning performance (index scores)

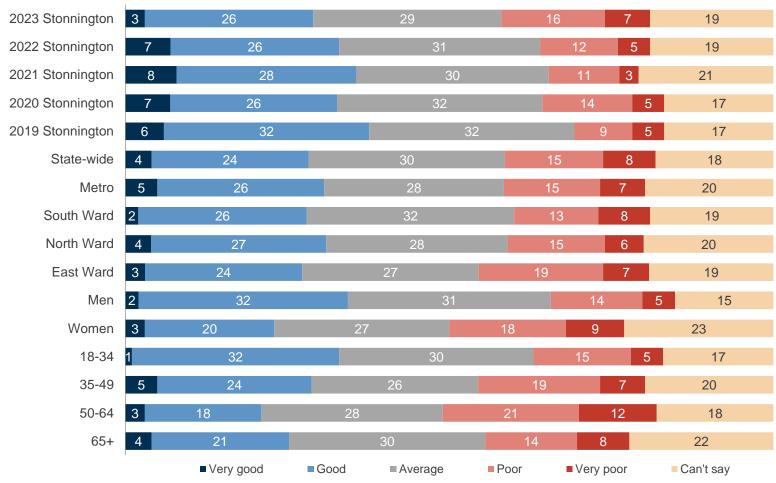


Council's general town planning policy performance





2023 town planning performance (%)

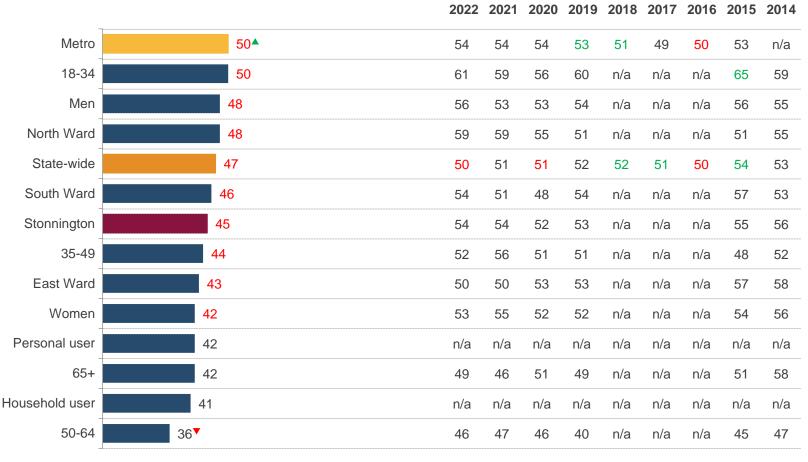


Planning and building permits performance





2023 planning and building permits performance (index scores)

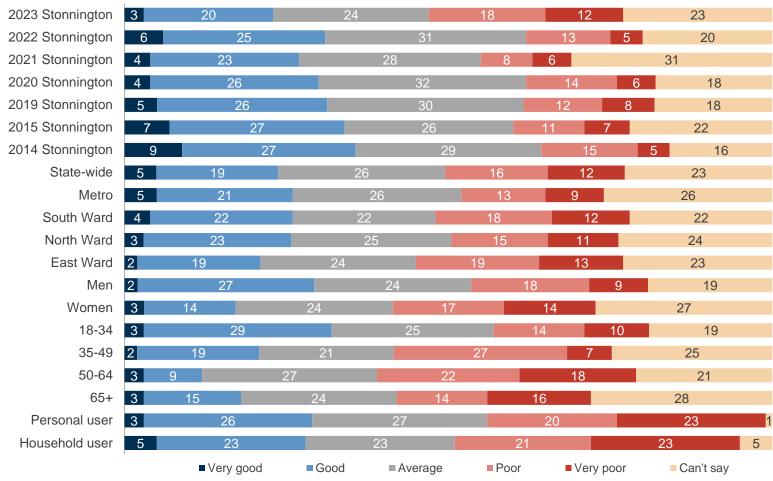


Planning and building permits performance





2023 planning and building permits performance (%)

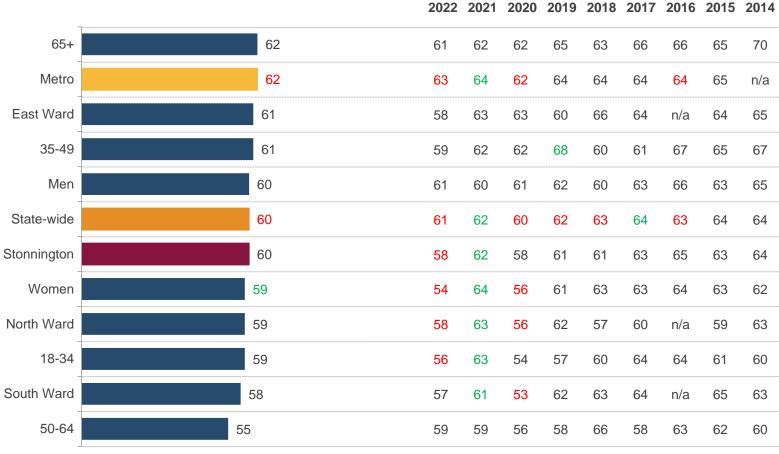


Environmental sustainability performance





2023 environmental sustainability performance (index scores)

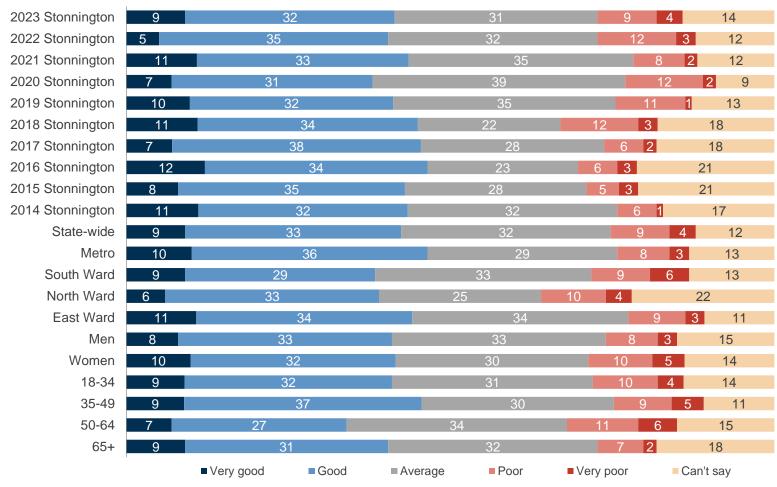


Environmental sustainability performance





2023 environmental sustainability performance (%)

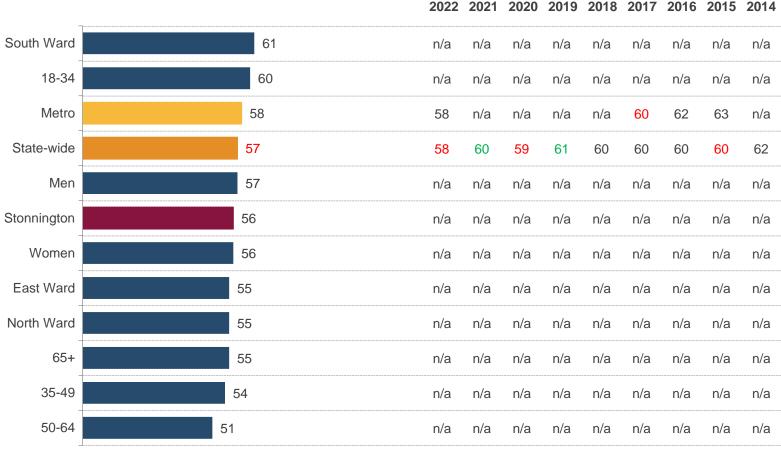


Business and community development performance





2023 business/community development performance (index scores)

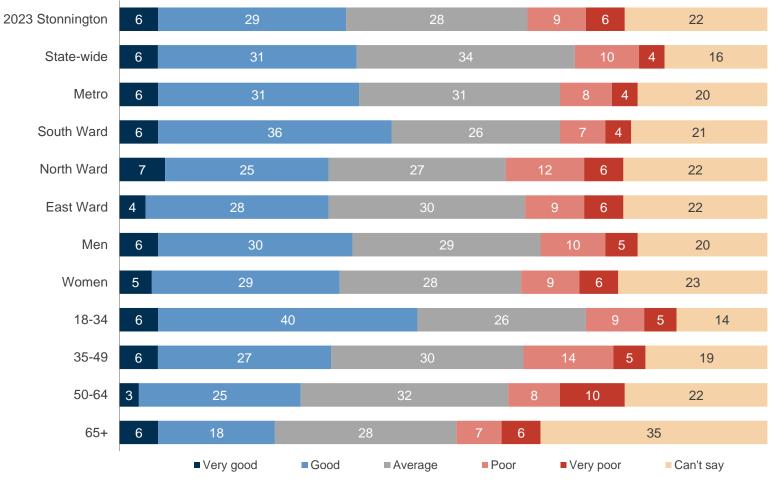


Business and community development performance





2023 business/community development performance (%)

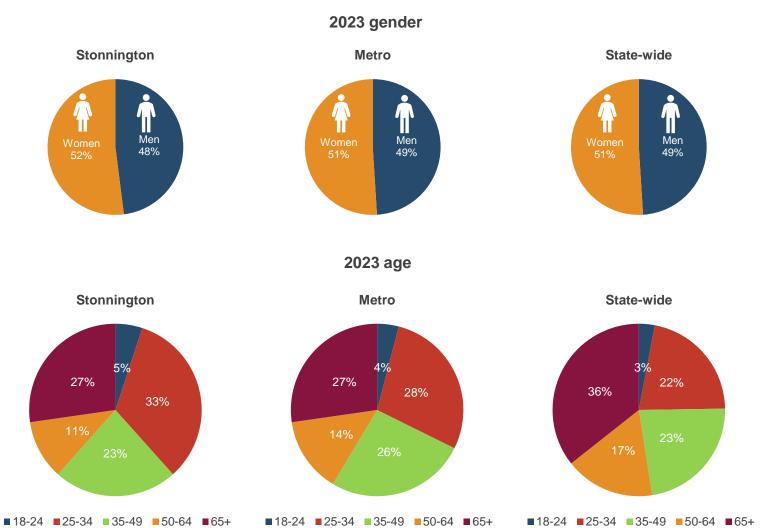




Detailed demographics

Gender and age profile

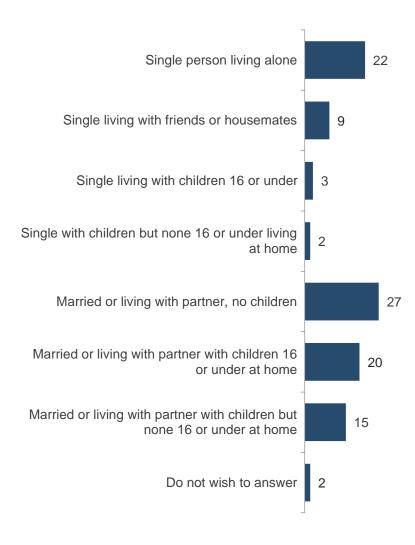




Household structure



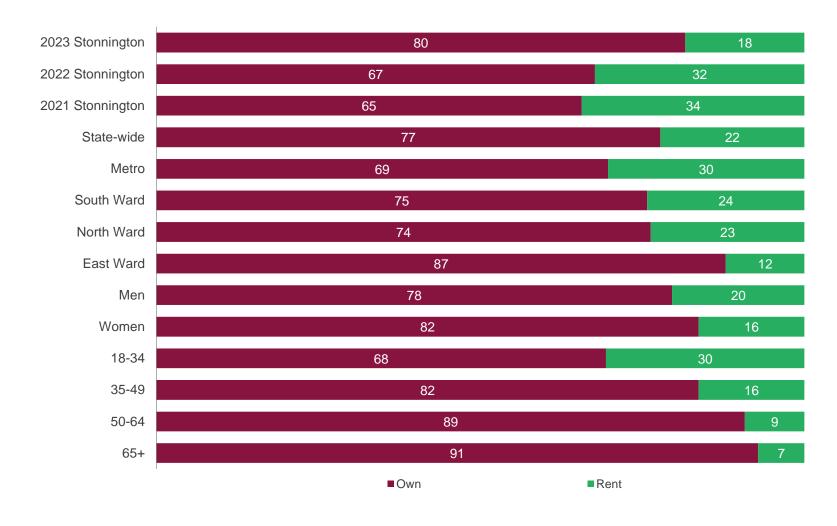
2023 household structure (%)



Home ownership



2023 home ownership (%)

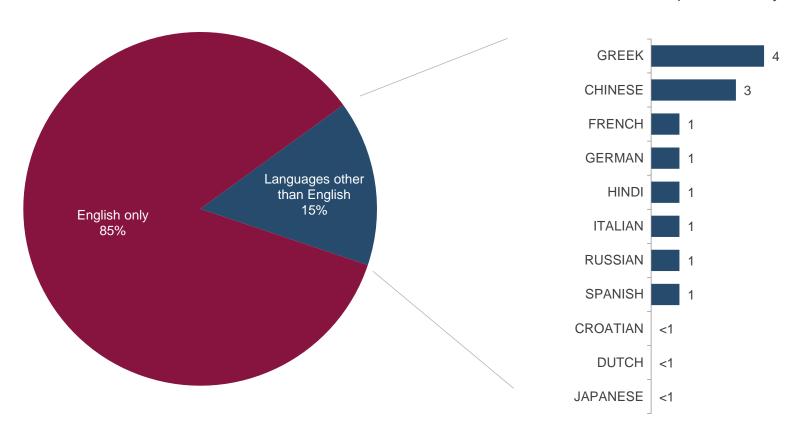


Languages spoken at home



2023 languages spoken at home (%)

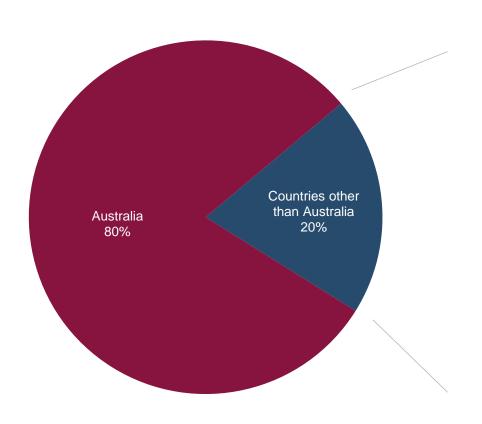
- Top mentions only -



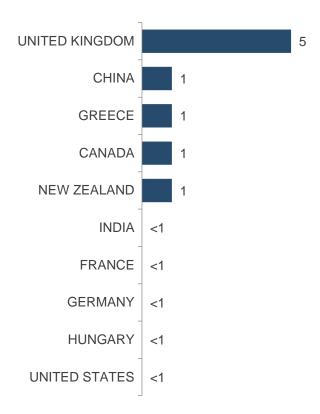
Country of birth



2023 country of birth (%)



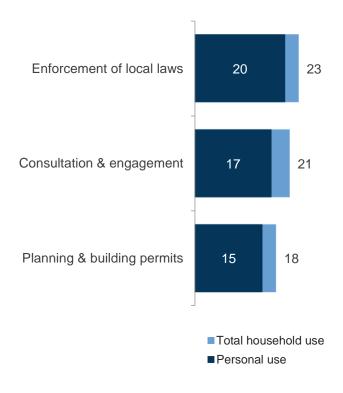
- Top mentions only -



Personal and household use and experience of council services



2023 personal and household use and experience of services (%)





Appendix A: Index Scores



Index Scores

Many questions ask respondents to rate council performance on a five-point scale, for example, from 'very good' to 'very poor', with 'can't say' also a possible response category. To facilitate ease of reporting and comparison of results over time, starting from the 2012 survey and measured against the statewide result and the council group, an 'Index Score' has been calculated for such measures.

The Index Score is calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale), with 'can't say' responses excluded from the analysis. The '% RESULT' for each scale category is multiplied by the 'INDEX FACTOR'. This produces an 'INDEX VALUE' for each category, which are then summed to produce the 'INDEX SCORE', equating to '60' in the following example.

Similarly, an Index Score has been calculated for the Core question 'Performance direction in the last 12 months', based on the following scale for each performance measure category, with 'Can't say' responses excluded from the calculation.

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Very good	9%	100	9
Good	40%	75	30
Average	37%	50	19
Poor	9%	25	2
Very poor	4%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 60

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Improved	36%	100	36
Stayed the same	40%	50	20
Deteriorated	23%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 56

Appendix A: Margins of error

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The sample size for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Stonnington City Council was n=800. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=800 interviews is +/-3.5% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 46.5% - 53.5%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 91,100 people aged 18 years or over for Stonnington City Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Stonnington City Council	800	400	+/-3.5
Men	363	190	+/-5.1
Women	437	210	+/-4.7
South Ward	187	100	+/-7.2
North Ward	238	114	+/-6.4
East Ward	375	186	+/-5.1
18-34 years	163	153	+/-7.7
35-49 years	106	94	+/-9.6
50-64 years	152	44	+/-8.0
65+ years	379	110	+/-5.0

Appendix A: Significant difference reporting notation



Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing green () and downward directing red arrows ().

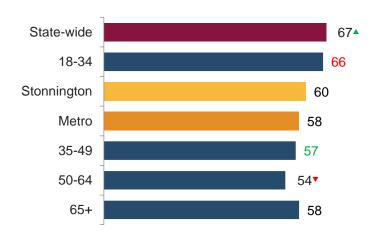
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2022. Therefore in the example below:

- The result among 35-49 year olds in the council is significantly higher than the result achieved among this group in 2022.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2022.

2023 overall performance (index scores) (example extract only)



Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation



The test applied to the Indexes was an Independent Mean Test, as follows:

Z Score =
$$(\$1 - \$2) / Sqrt ((\$5^2 / \$3) + (\$6^2 / \$4))$$

Where:

- \$1 = Index Score 1
- \$2 = Index Score 2
- \$3 = unweighted sample count 1
- \$4 = unweighted sample count 2
- \$5 = standard deviation 1
- \$6 = standard deviation 2

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

The test was applied at the 95% confidence interval, so if the Z Score was greater than +/- 1.954 the scores are significantly different.

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Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in this section including:

- · Background and objectives
- · Analysis and reporting
- Glossary of terms

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

(03) 8685 8555 or via email: admin@jwsresearch.com

Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling

The 2023 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2022, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 24th March.
- 2021, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 28th January – 18th March.
- 2020, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March.
- 2019, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=403 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2015, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2014, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.

Minimum quotas of gender within age groups were applied during the fieldwork phase. Post-survey weighting was then conducted to ensure accurate representation of the age and gender profile of the Stonnington City Council area.

Any variation of +/-1% between individual results and net scores in this report or the detailed survey tabulations is due to rounding. In reporting, '—' denotes not mentioned and '0%' denotes mentioned by less than 1% of respondents. 'Net' scores refer to two or more response categories being combined into one category for simplicity of reporting.

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years in Stonnington City Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Stonnington City Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 60% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Stonnington City Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=800 completed interviews were achieved in Stonnington City Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted across four quarters from 16th June 2022 – 19th March 2023.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

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All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2023, 66 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2023 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Stonnington City Council is classified as a Metropolitan council according to the following classification list:

 Metropolitan, Interface, Regional Centres, Large Rural & Small Rural.

Councils participating in the Metropolitan group are:

 Banyule, Boroondara, Brimbank, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Melbourne, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Whitehorse. Wherever appropriate, results for Stonnington City Council for this 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Metropolitan group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time can not be made within the reported charts.

Appendix B: 2012 survey revision

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The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years or over in local councils, whereas previously it was conducted as a 'head of household' survey.
- As part of the change to a representative resident survey, results are now weighted post survey to the known population distribution of Stonnington City Council according to the most recently available Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates, whereas the results were previously not weighted.
- The service responsibility area performance measures have changed significantly and the rating scale used to assess performance has also changed.

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. Comparisons in the period 2012-2023 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

Appendix B: Core, optional and tailored questions



Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

- Overall performance last 12 months (Overall performance)
- Value for money in services and infrastructure (Value for money)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Waste management

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

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Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the State government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/our-programs/council-community-satisfaction-survey

Tailored questions commissioned by individual councils are reported only to the commissioning council and not otherwise shared unless by express written approval of the commissioning council.

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

Core questions: Compulsory inclusion questions for all councils participating in the CSS.

CSS: 2023 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council group: One of five classified groups, comprising: metropolitan, interface, regional centres, large rural and small rural.

Council group average: The average result for all participating councils in the council group.

Highest / lowest: The result described is the highest or lowest result across a particular demographic subgroup e.g. men, for the specific question being reported. Reference to the result for a demographic sub-group being the highest or lowest does not imply that it is significantly higher or lower, unless this is specifically mentioned.

Index score: A score calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale). This score is sometimes reported as a figure in brackets next to the category being described, e.g. men 50+ (60).

Optional questions: Questions which councils had an option to include or not.

Percentages: Also referred to as 'detailed results', meaning the proportion of responses, expressed as a percentage.

Sample: The number of completed interviews, e.g. for a council or within a demographic sub-group.

Significantly higher / lower: The result described is significantly higher or lower than the comparison result based on a statistical significance test at the 95% confidence limit. If the result referenced is statistically higher or lower then this will be specifically mentioned, however not all significantly higher or lower results are referenced in summary reporting.

State-wide average: The average result for all participating councils in the State.

Tailored questions: Individual questions tailored by and only reported to the commissioning council.

Weighting: Weighting factors are applied to the sample for each council based on available age and gender proportions from ABS census information to ensure reported results are proportionate to the actual population of the council, rather than the achieved survey sample.

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