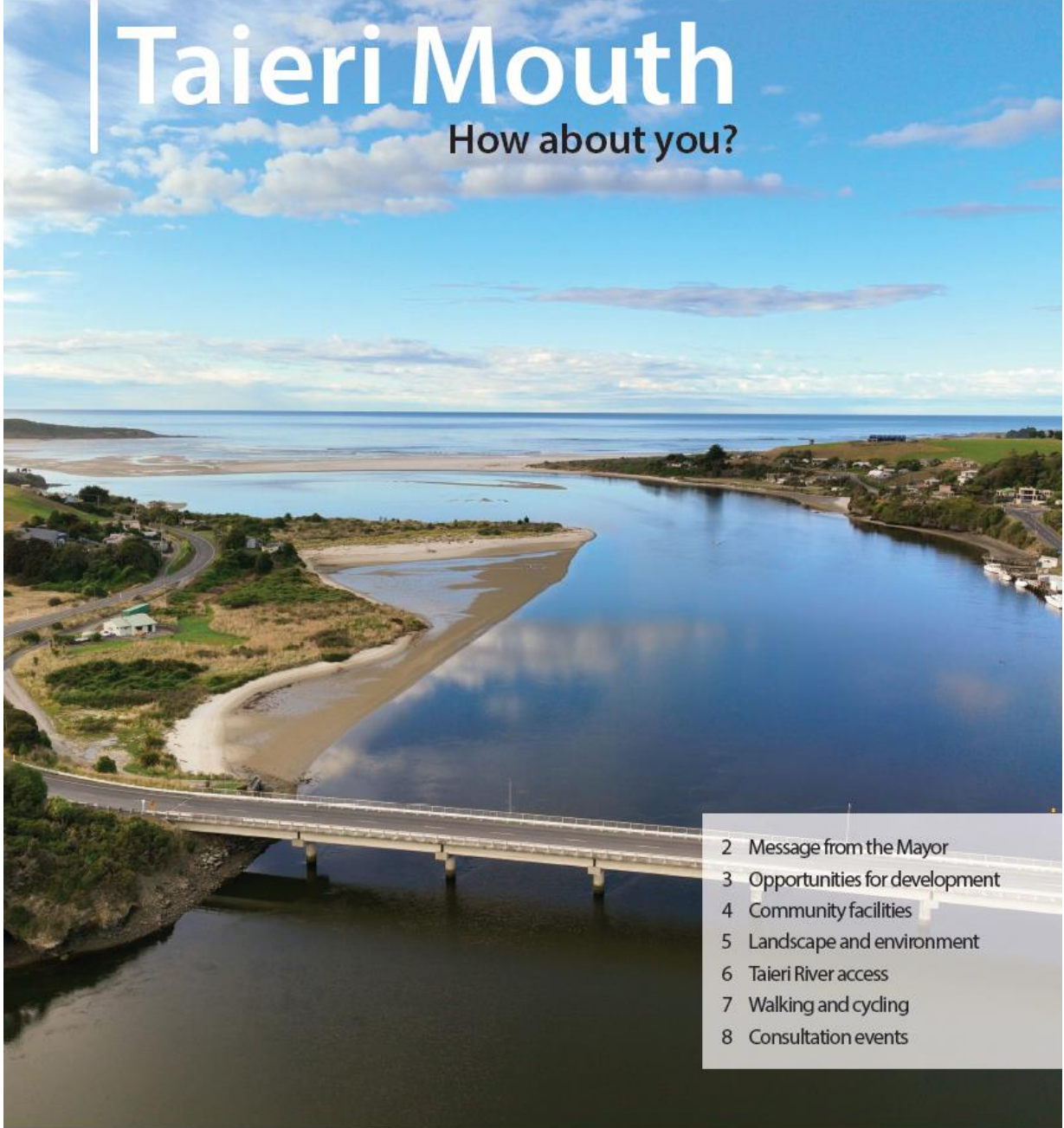


We're backing

Our Place

Taieri Mouth

How about you?



- 2 Message from the Mayor
- 3 Opportunities for development
- 4 Community facilities
- 5 Landscape and environment
- 6 Taieri River access
- 7 Walking and cycling
- 8 Consultation events



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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Consultation and engagement aimed to seek input from the community to inform the development of the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan. This report provides a summary of feedback received through two primary methods: people who responded using the Council-supplied survey form; and a series of community-based consultation events.

1.1 SURVEY RESULTS

The survey aspect of the consultation asked respondents to rate the importance of existing community facilities in Taieri Mouth, on a scale between 1 (not important) to 5 (very important). The results are shown in Table 1-1 and Figure 1-1.

Table 1-1 Average rating given to existing community facilities in Taieri Mouth

Rank	Survey Priority – how important are the following community facilities?	Average
1	Leitch Memorial Hall	4.73
2	Knarston Park	4.72
3	Livingstonia Park	4.70
4	Taieri Mouth Campground	4.32
5	Taieri Mouth Tennis Courts	3.46
6	Sawmill Park	3.39

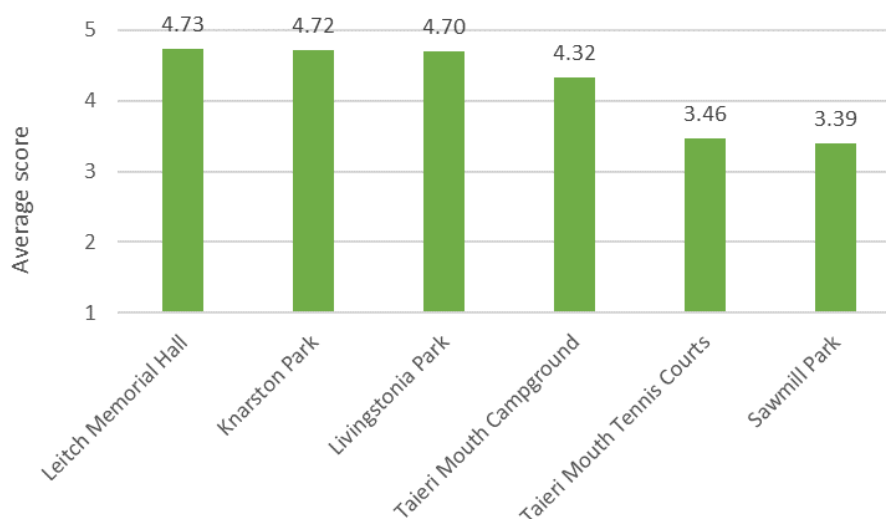


Figure 1-1 Average rating given to existing community facilities in the Taieri Mouth Area.

The survey also asked respondents to rate various new options and concepts on a scale between 1 and 5. The summary table and graph below show that *addressing riverbank erosion* was rated highest at 4.6 out of 5. Environmental projects, such as *restoring natural environments* and *community roadside clean-up / trail maintenance days* also rated highly.

Table 1-2 Average rating for each option listed in the survey.

Rank	Survey Priority – how important are the following options?	Average
1	Addressing riverbank erosion	4.6
2	Restoration of wetlands, dunes, and waterways	4.3
3	Community events to maintain walking trails or remove rubbish from roadsides	4.1
4	Improved walking and cycling opportunities	3.8
5	Investigate a Dark Skies Taieri Mouth initiative	3.3

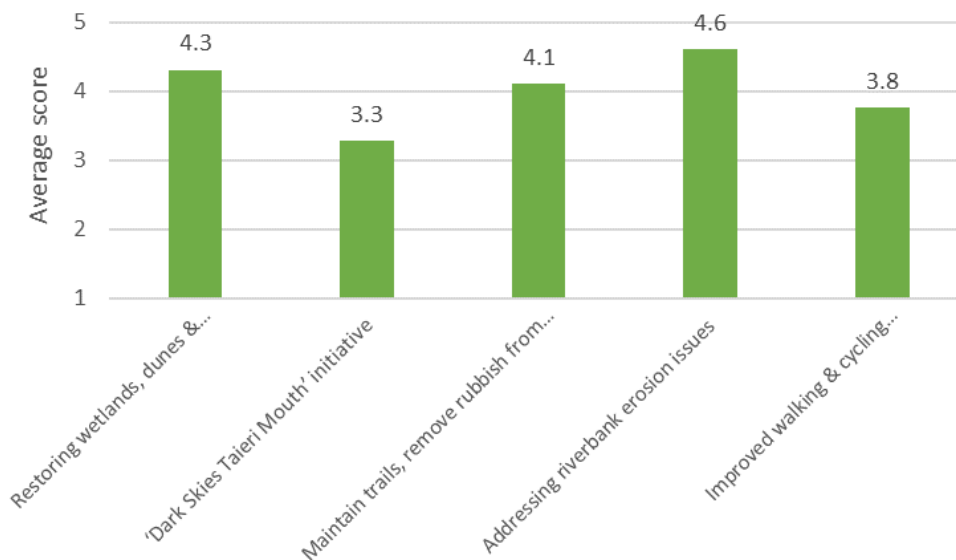


Figure 1-2 Average rating for each option listed in the survey.

1.2 OTHER FEEDBACK

At the public consultation events, members of the community were asked what was important to them and what they would like to see improved. This feedback was combined with comments received via the feedback form and other submissions. The feedback items were then assigned to one of the 'focus points' which formed the basis of the consultation material, and Figure 1-3 shows the number of items which related to each area.¹ The focus points which generated the largest number of feedback items were *community facilities, opportunities for development* and *landscape and environment*.

¹ As well as the six focus areas included in the consultation, two additional areas were added to this analysis, due to the large number of feedback items received on these topics – these were roading and waste management.

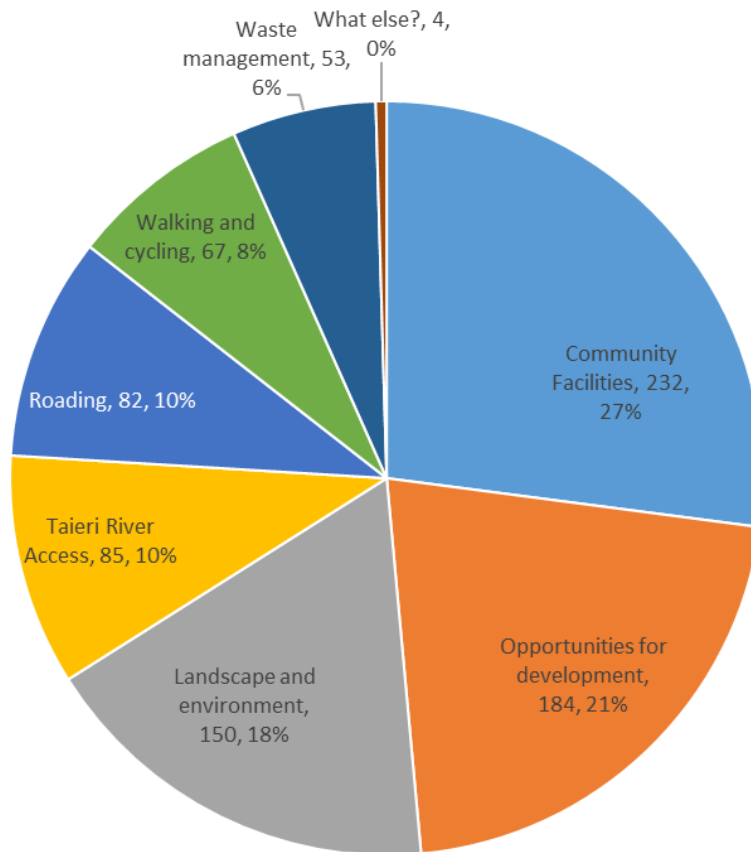


Figure 1-3 The number of feedback items relating to each of the Our Place Taieri Mouth focus points.

1.3 KEY FINDINGS AND POTENTIAL COMMUNITY PLAN PROJECTS

The consultation process helped to identify the things that are most valued by the Taieri Mouth community, and where additional work could be undertaken to improve existing assets or create new ones. Items which were rated highly, referenced more often, or could be included as projects within the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan are listed in the following table.

Community facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improved maintenance of existing community facilities is important. ○ Knarston Park improvements: includes assessing options to mitigate shoreline erosion, roading & parking, other facilities. ○ Livingstonia Park improvements or additional facilities.
Development Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No, or limited development within Taieri Mouth preferred. ○ Upgrades of existing infrastructure should be investigated (3 waters, roading)
Landscape & environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support for environmental projects: pest management & native plantings. ○ Review the Taieri Mouth Reserve Management Plan. ○ Monitor water quality in the Taieri River & share findings with the community.
Taieri River access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No, or limited development (e.g., commercial development or a community facility) in the Taieri River waterfront area. ○ Improvements to the boat ramp area. ○ Water safety initiatives should be a priority.
Roothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improving road safety in and around Taieri Mouth important. ○ Investigate potential improvements to Riverside Road – parking, erosion etc.
Walking & cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improvements to the existing footpath network, and/or walking trails within Taieri Mouth is a priority for this community.
Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strong support for recycling initiatives. ○ Assess the viability of a Council rubbish collection service.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the consultation objectives and outlines the key themes around which the consultation was focused.

2.1 THE CLUTHA DISTRICT LIVING AND WORKING STRATEGY

Clutha District Council's vision is that the Clutha District is a great place to live, work and play. This is a key platform in our Long Term Plan, and also ties closely with the 'Living and Working in Clutha Strategy' [\[link\]](#) which has been prepared to guide decision-making and overall progress towards three key outcomes:

1. *Clutha has vibrant rural towns and communities*
2. *Clutha is connected and collaborative, and*
3. *Clutha has a healthy and sustainable environment.*

The focus of the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan is to identify what Council can do to apply the Living and Working Strategy in Taieri Mouth. This report presents a summary of the consultation feedback received for the Our Place Taieri Mouth community planning project.

The feedback reported here will help identify projects and inform priorities for Council to consider, through its Long Term Plan and Annual Plan process. The actions and projects will also help inform the activities and decisions of community groups and third-party funders.

2.2 CONSULTATION PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

2.2.1 Purpose

Consultation and engagement for Our Place Taieri Mouth aimed to seek input from the community to inform the development of the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan.

2.2.2 Objectives

The consultation and engagement objectives were to:

- *Stimulate interest in Our Place Taieri Mouth project.*
- *Encourage feedback on the issues and options outlined.*
- *Develop stronger relationships and partnerships between Council and the community.*
- *Provide accurate information for decision-makers to assist them in making informed choices around the resourcing of future projects and initiatives.*

A Consultation and Engagement Plan for Our Place Taieri Mouth was prepared in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

2.2.3 Role of elected members

The role of the elected members to date has included:

- *Providing input and overall leadership for the Our Place project*
- *Approving consultation material and consultation/engagement approaches, and*
- *Promoting the Our Place consultation material and assisting with consultation and engagement activities.*

Elected representatives of the Clutha District Council (CDC) and the Taieri Mouth Amenities Society have assisted with this project. This Feedback Report provides councillors and the

community with the opportunity to consider all of the feedback received. This feedback will then inform the final Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan.

2.2.4 Project Group

A project group made up of council staff and two local councillors (Bruce Vollweiler & Gaynor Finch) undertook the following:

- *Contributing to and where applicable, prepare underlying information to give foundation to the Our Place plans.*
- *Reviewing the draft Our Place material and ensure that it is ready for consultation.*
- *Attending meetings and take part in consultation activities as required.*

The next step that this report relates to will be to:

- *Action elected member direction on 'where to from here'.*
- *Bring back for elected members approval of Our Place Taieri Mouth recommendations.*

2.3 FOCUS POINTS

Council engaged with community leaders to help identify six focus points, which were expected to generate significant feedback through the Our Place Taieri Mouth public consultation process. A short explanation of each focus point is provided in Table 2-1. These were included in the consultation document (see section 3.2 below) and other consultation material (posters etc.).

Table 2-1 Our Place Taieri Mouth focus points included in consultation material.

Focus Point	Explanation
1. Opportunities for development	What initiatives could be taken to make it easier for people to live and work in Taieri Mouth and the surrounding area?
2. Community facilities	The facilities and infrastructure which underpin local communities are critical. Consultation provides an opportunity to discuss the level of services currently provided, and any upgrades which may be required. Community facilities are often located on reserve land. Feedback was requested on how our parks and reserves could be improved, and what additional facilities could be added.
3. Landscape & environment	How do we ensure that the landscape and environmental values of the Taieri Mouth area are maintained for future generations?
4. Taieri River access	Improving water safety in the Taieri River. Explore ways of creating a community hub or a shared facility near the boat ramp area.
5. Walking and cycling	What opportunities are there to create new, or improve existing trails and links? What other facilities could be provided.
6. What else should be considered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management • Riverside Road parking • Wildlife protection



Figure 2-1 Aerial image of the Taieri Mouth area

3.0 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

3.1 PHASE ONE – STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT

Preliminary conversations and meetings with key stakeholders began in November 2023. This preliminary engagement helped to identify the key focus points listed above. These were used to develop the formal consultation material, as well as the consultation program.

3.2 PHASE TWO – PUBLIC CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT

The Taieri Mouth public consultation phase took place from February until March 2024. Events were held in the Leitch Memorial Hall, including a Council presence at the Taieri Mouth Amenities Society AGM, and drop-in sessions specifically for the Our Place consultation. Council staff and elected representatives also attended the Family Fun Day at Livingstonia Park to raise awareness of the Our Place program. The range of consultation methods used to engage with the Taieri Mouth community are described below.

3.2.1 Consultation Material

A consultation document was developed to help prompt ideas and discussion, particularly around the focus points listed in Table 2-1. This document was distributed via rural mail delivery in early February to mailboxes in the Taieri Mouth area. Copies of the document were also available as follows:

- *Rosebank (Balclutha) Council reception*
- *Balclutha Library and i-site*
- *Online via Council's website*
- *Links on Facebook to direct readers to the full document online.*

A series of posters were also produced, relating to the key focus points. These were mounted on boards to help generate discussion at consultation events.

3.2.2 Community-based consultation events

The community engagement program was designed to gather feedback from as many sectors of the population as possible. Four consultation events were held in Taieri Mouth to gather feedback and suggestions. These were held in summer to make the most of the warmer weather and longer days at this time of year. These events were either initiated by Council specifically for the Our Place program or formed part of pre-existing community events. They aimed to target local people at places they feel most comfortable in, such as the local hall and parks.

Staff and elected representatives talked with at least 53 people during these events. Feedback from these events is summarised in sections 5.0 to 12.0

3.2.3 Feedback form

Included within the consultation document was a feedback form, which included a structured survey for respondents to indicate the importance (or priority) for the ideas presented, and also provide comments or suggestions on the topics they believe are important. Both the consultation document and the feedback form used the same design style as previous 'Our Place' consultation material, including the 'Let's Talk' and 'Tell us what you think' catchphrases. The feedback form was structured around the focus points listed in Table 2-1, and also included space for any other feedback.

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The feedback form was available as a hard copy form, or as an online version of the same material from Council’s website. Submissions received via the feedback form are also incorporated into sections 5.0 to 12.0



Figure 3-1 Taieri Mouth Drop-in session, Thursday 8 February 2024

Our Place Taieri Mouth Consultation							
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
8	9	10	11	12	13		January
15	16	17	18	19	20		
22	23	24	25	26	27		
Taieri Mouth Amenities Society AGM, 7:30pm	30	31	1	2	3		February
			Drop in sessions 4-5pm; 6-7.30pm, Leitch Memorial Hall		Family Fun Day - Livingstonia Park		
1	6	7	8	9	10		
12	13	14	15	16	17		
19	20	21	22	23	24		
26	27	28	29	Consultation Finishes	1	2	

Figure 3-2 Key consultation dates for Our Place Taieri Mouth

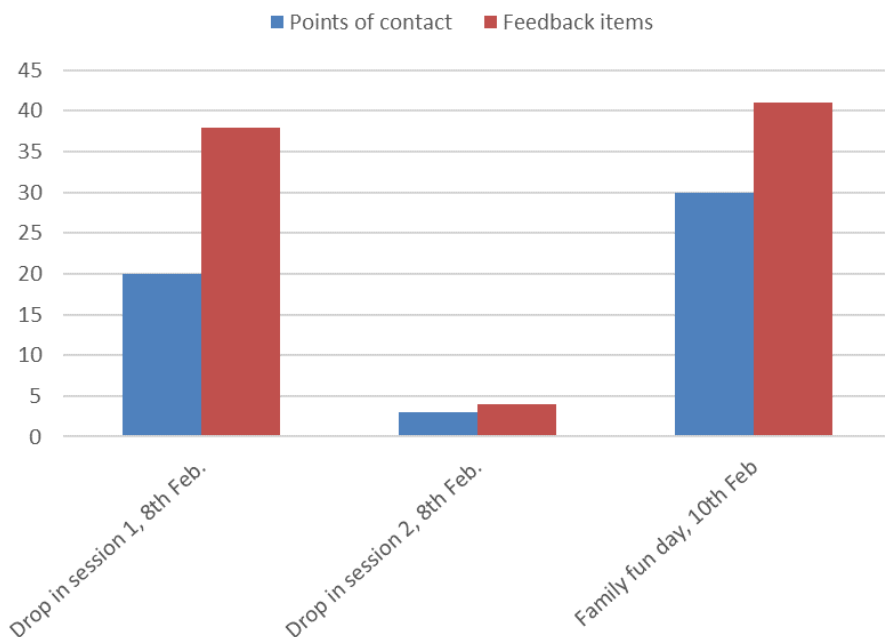


Figure 3-3 The number of people attending Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation events.

3.2.4 Print and social media

Posts promoting the Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation and community consultation events were made on Council’s Facebook page. An example is shown in Figure 3-4.



Figure 3-4 CDC Facebook post promoting Our Place Taieri Mouth

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4.0 THE TYPE AND AMOUNT OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED

4.1 TYPES OF FEEDBACK

There were three main types of feedback received through the consultation process, as described below:

1. Responses to structured questions included in the feedback form

Respondents were asked to rank the level of importance from 1 to 5, (with 1 being of little importance and 5 being very important) of various facilities and approaches, within the focus points identified in the consultation document. Respondents were also asked to indicate their preference for various options, through Yes/No questions.

2. Responses to unstructured questions in the feedback form

The feedback form included space for respondents to make comments or suggestions relating to the various focus areas. Most respondents took the opportunity to provide additional comments regarding the focus areas, or on other areas of concern to them.

Location of feedback form submitters

Of those that provided an address with their feedback form, the majority were people who live locally, and Figure 4-1 shows the number of submissions from Taieri Mouth, Taieri Beach & Riverside Road separately. Five people did not provide an address, and there were nine forms returned from people who live in Christchurch or Dunedin (some of whom noted that they are landowners in Taieri Mouth).

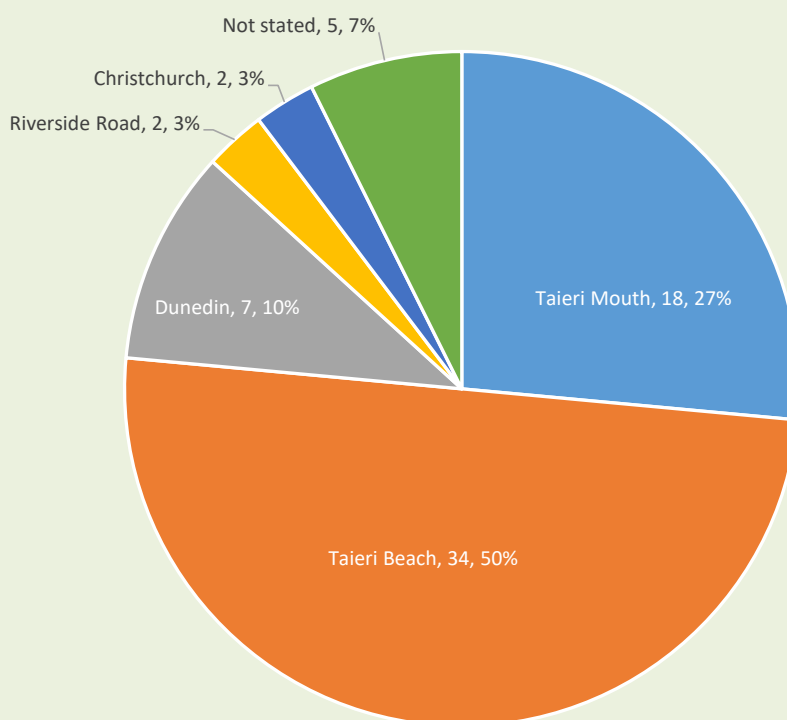


Figure 4-1 The number of respondents who returned the feedback form from various locations.

3. Feedback received during community-based consultation events

Conversations held with members of the public during the community consultation events were generally recorded on 'Post-it' notes, or on staff notepads.

4.2 AMOUNT OF FEEDBACK

The following points help to quantify the amount of feedback received:

- 68 feedback forms were received.
- Staff and elected representatives had conversations with approximately 53 members of the public during consultation events in the Taieri Mouth area.
- There were 857 feedback items received, and these were allocated to one of eight focus points (Figure 4-2).

More than a quarter of the feedback items received related to *Community Facilities* (including parks and reserves), 21% related to *Opportunities for development*, 18% related to *Landscape and environment*, with *Taieri River access*, *Roading*, *Walking and cycling*, *Waste management*, and 'other' making up the remainder (Figure 4-2).

The following sections summarise the main 'themes' identified within each of these eight focus areas.

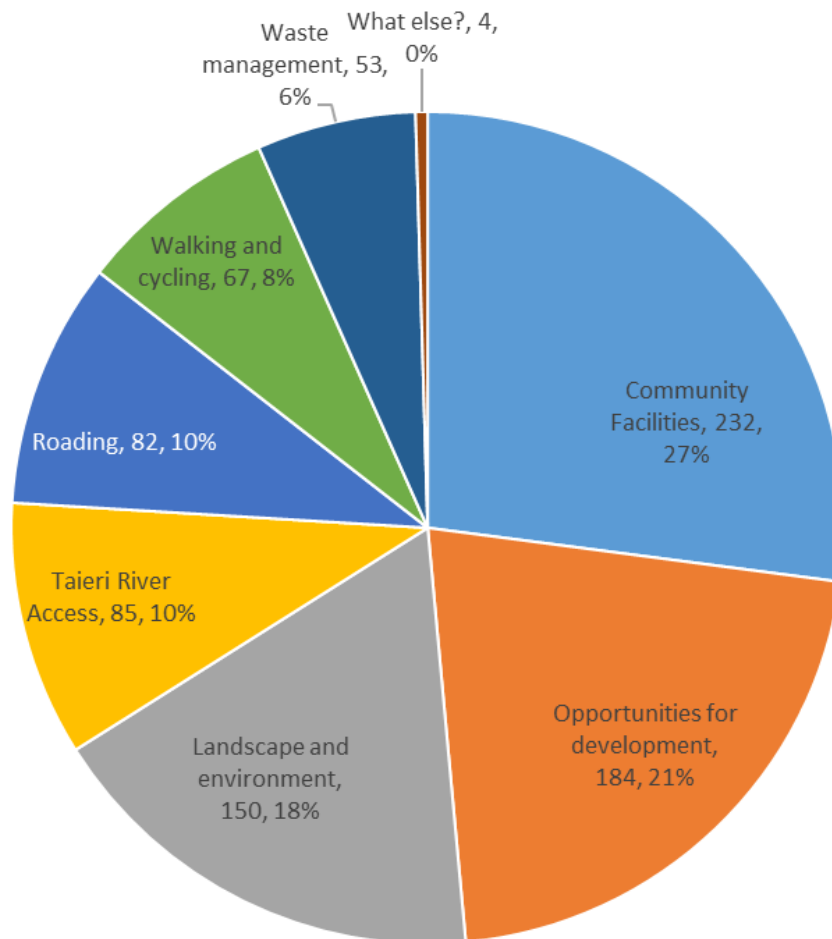


Figure 4-2 The number and proportion of feedback items relating to each of the eight focus points.

5.0 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The following section summarises feedback received on existing community facilities in Taieri Mouth, as well as potential new facilities that could be created.

5.1 SURVEY RESULTS

The Feedback From asked respondents to rate the importance of existing community facilities in Taieri Mouth, on a scale between 1 (not important) to 5 (very important). The results are shown in Table 5-1 and Figure 5-1. The Leitch Memorial Hall, and Knarston / Livingstonia parks were all rated very highly. Many people noted they do not know where Sawmill Park is, which is not surprising given the lack of maintenance or signage at this location.²

Table 5-1 Rankings assigned to community facilities in Taieri Mouth.

How important are the following community facilities?	Not Important					Very Important					Average score	Rank
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
Leitch Memorial Hall	2	0	2	6	56						4.73	1
Knarston Park	2	0	2	7	56						4.72	2
Livingstonia Park	1	0	3	10	53						4.70	3
Taieri Mouth Campground	3	2	8	10	42						4.32	4
Taieri Mouth Tennis Courts	8	7	16	15	19						3.46	5
Sawmill Park	10	5	14	7	20						3.39	6

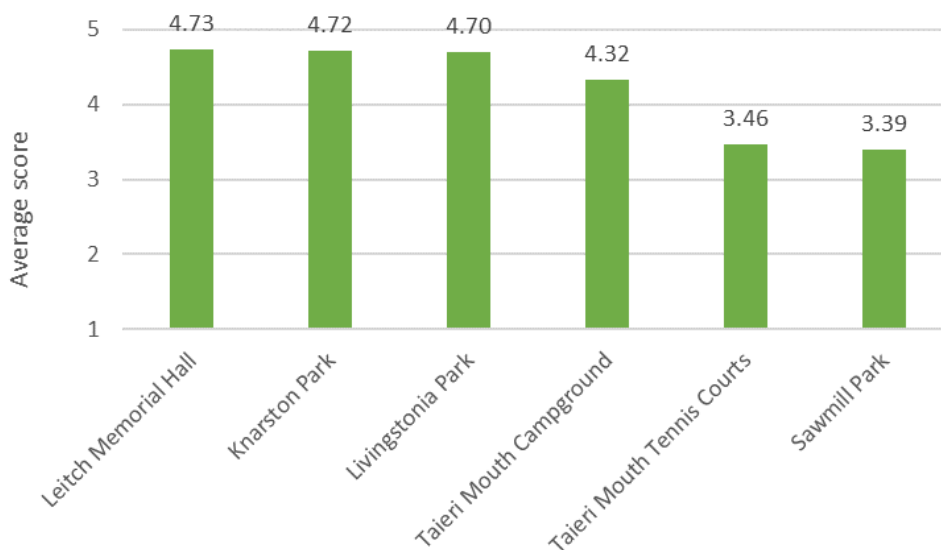


Figure 5-1 Average rating given to existing community facilities in the Taieri Mouth Area.

² The Taieri Mouth Reserve Management Plan (2003) states that Sawmill Park is located adjacent to Duckbend (Sawmill Creek) (on the seaward side).

5.2 OTHER FEEDBACK ITEMS

A total of 232 feedback items relating to community facilities were received through feedback form comments and from verbal feedback at the public consultation events. This feedback has been categorised, as shown in Figure 5-2.

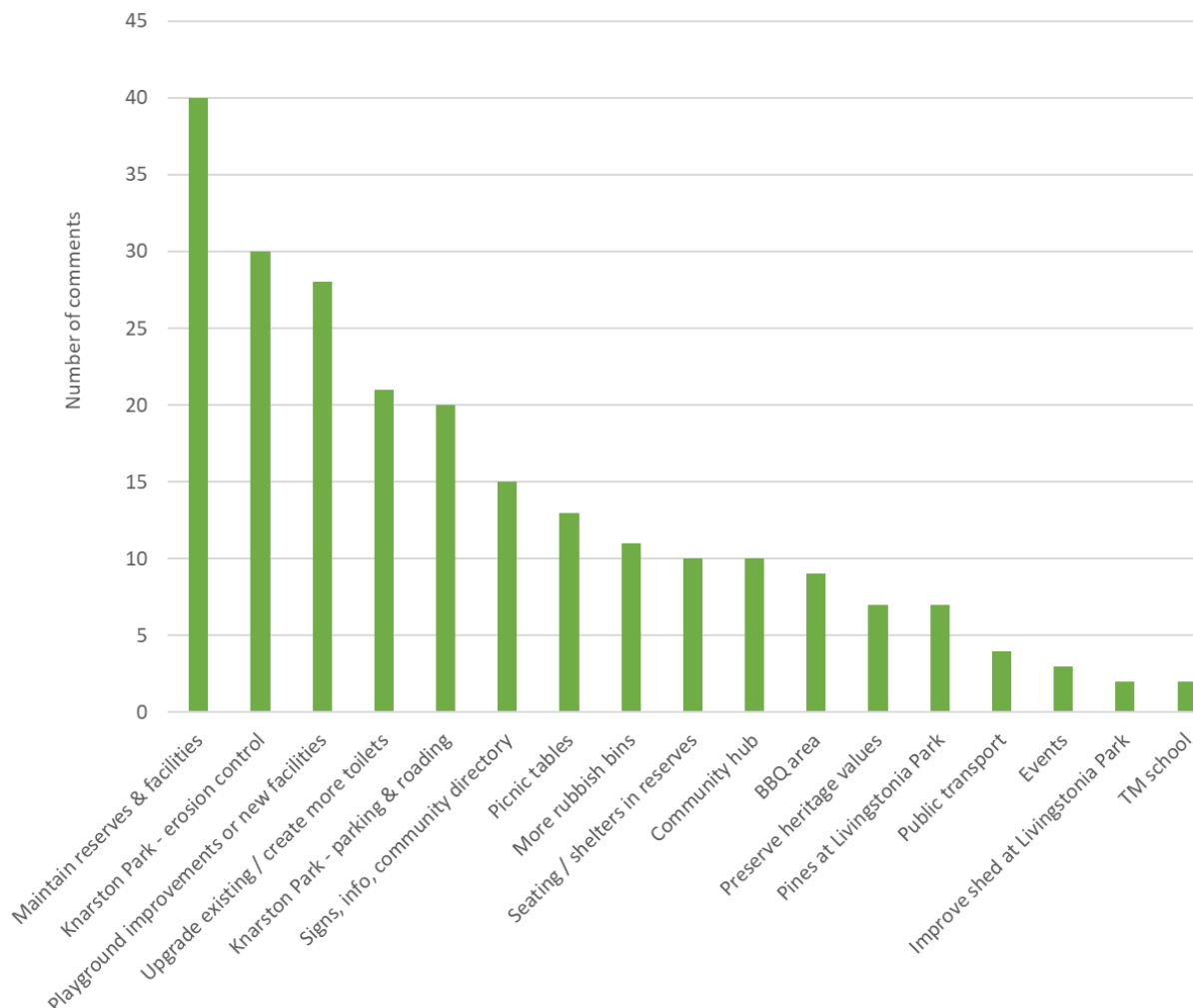


Figure 5-2 The number of comments received relating to community facilities.

5.2.1 Reserves and facilities

The theme which came through most strongly, with 40 feedback items, was maintenance of existing reserves and facilities (particularly those listed in section 5.1). Some of these items were accompanied by comments that no additional facilities were required in Taieri Mouth.

There were also 28 feedback items suggesting that playground improvements or new recreational facilities should be created. The most popular specific requests related to a new, upgraded or extended playground,³ and a BMX or scooter track.

Other feedback relating to upgrades of existing, or new community facilities included:

- *Toilets (21 comments)*
- *Picnic tables (13 comments) and/or seating/shelters (10 comments)*
- *More rubbish bins (11 comments)*
- *BBQ area (9 comments)*

³ Several respondents stated that Knarston Park would be a good location for a new playground.

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- *Improve or extend the Scout Shed at Livingstonia Park (2 comments)*



Figure 5-3 Livingstonia Park Playground.

5.2.2 Knarston Park

A total of 30 feedback items related to erosion of Knarston Park, and previous attempts to mitigate this through the placement of rocks along the shoreline (Figure 5-4). There was general consistency in this feedback that the rocks should be removed, and the sandy beach reinstated, although other suggestions included:

- *“find an effective erosion solution / address erosion issues;*
- *a sea wall ‘done properly’;*
- *rocks are a safety hazard;*
- *stabilise larger rocks on the bank;*
- *retaining wall needs permanent replacement; and*
- *erosion of Knarston Park riverbank is inevitable.”*

There were 20 comments relating to parking and road access at Knarston Park, with several people noting that rabbit holes and the generally uneven ground pose a hazard to users of this reserve.

Comments noted elsewhere within the community facilities focus area (e.g., those relating to toilets, BBQ’s, rubbish bins etc.) are also relevant to Knarston Park.



Figure 5-4 View of the riverbank at Knarston Park showing the grassed area, rock wall, and a mix of rocks and sand on the intertidal area.

5.2.3 Signs and information

There were 15 comments relating to more (or better) signs and information panels, or a community directory. These related to a range of issues, including heritage and environmental information, beach access, Riverside Road, and the boat ramp.

5.2.4 Community hub

There were 10 comments relating to the development of a community hub or store, and these are listed below:

1. “We need a community hub, a place to meet, to have a coffee that is beautiful. Native plants, sun, protection from wind views.
2. Would love a local store or café - a community meeting space.
3. We have two buildings the: hall and the scout building that are in the wrong place to "build" community and they are badly designed, not pleasant places to be - no sun, no view.
4. Preserve the older buildings like the store. Have more telling information panels telling about the area, linking the “names” of the parks, etc. to the people.
5. Honour / preserve our heritage: Taieri Store.
6. A covered area with seating where food/coffee vans could be set up on a temporary or semi-permanent basis would be a great social facility for locals and visitors.
7. A community centre/hub with café/eatery – tasteful/quirky/special, that people take pride in and want to go to. A centre that encourages participation – a remakery/repair café/food swap/library.
8. We need a community hub comprising a community centre with a café.

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9. Currently our two main community facilities are at either end of Taieri Mouth, not in the centre. They are both badly designed. No sun or view so are very infrequently used. Not pleasant places to go.
10. A river-based community facility is totally inappropriate for a marine environment! A community hub centre in Knarston Park or the current Taieri Mouth general store (owned privately, but up for sale) would be far more appropriate. The heritage of this building will also be preserved.”

5.3 DISCUSSION & POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Improved maintenance of existing community facilities was the most common theme within this focus area. The Community Plan could therefore highlight that the maintenance of community facilities in Taieri Mouth is important to local people, with a budget for this work provided for, and funded through the Bruce Ward Community Services Rating Area. This would primarily be for Council-owned facilities (such as reserves, toilets and playgrounds) but could also apply to community facilities (such as the hall) through a grant system. Improved signage and information could also fall under this project.

Knarston Park was also confirmed as a key reserve in Taieri Mouth that is used by locals and visitors alike. A project which identifies some objectives for this reserve, and associated funding should therefore be included in the Community Plan. Elements could include addressing riverbank erosion, parking/roading, and additional facilities.

Similarly, *Livingstonia Park* is well-loved and used, with some important facilities. A range of improvements could be provided for through the Community Plan, including improving the Scout Shed and a vegetation plan (including the pines).

Lastly, investigating options for an improved *community hub* could be included as a Community Plan project, with 10 comments relating to this concept.

6.0 OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

The feedback form had a series of questions relating to this focus area. Survey results and other responses are discussed below.

6.1 SURVEY RESULTS

Respondents were asked whether Council should help to enable additional development in Taieri Mouth; whether residential or commercial. The results are shown in Figure 6-1. The number of negative responses outweighed favourable responses for both types of development. Council helping to enable residential development was the most popular option, although it only received 24 positive responses, compared to 31 negative ones.

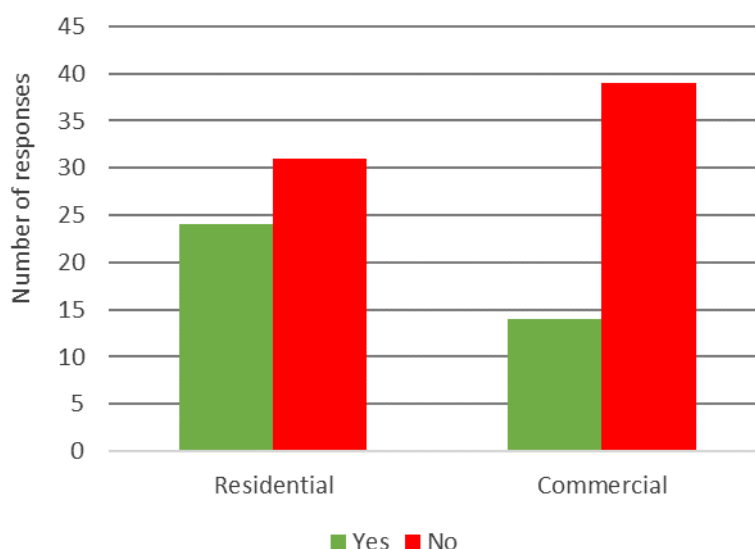


Figure 6-1 The number of responses relating to Council involvement in residential or commercial development in Taieri Mouth.

6.2 OTHER FEEDBACK ITEMS

Additional feedback relating to this focus point was received through feedback form comments, and verbal feedback during the consultation events in Taieri Mouth (184 comments in total). This feedback has been categorised and is summarised in Figure 6-2 below.

The most common themes within this focus area were:

- No need to change / leave Taieri Mouth as it is;
- No (or limit) additional residential development;
- Additional or improved infrastructure is required; and
- Ensure any new development is sensitive to the local environment.

A representative feedback response, which brought together these common themes is below:

“Taieri Mouth and surrounding areas offers a unique natural environment, and this must be protected first and foremost. Underpinning this is the need for adequate infrastructure. There is no reason to try and engineer change and development until the roads, facilities and related infrastructure can serve the current community.”

The feedback received makes it clear that most respondents are not in favour of significant residential or commercial development in Taieri Mouth, and that if any development is to occur, this should be sympathetic towards the existing natural and built environment. Avoiding development on ridgelines, or in plain view of the beach were common comments, as was the need to avoid natural hazards (e.g., the Akatore Fault and the impacts of sea level rise).

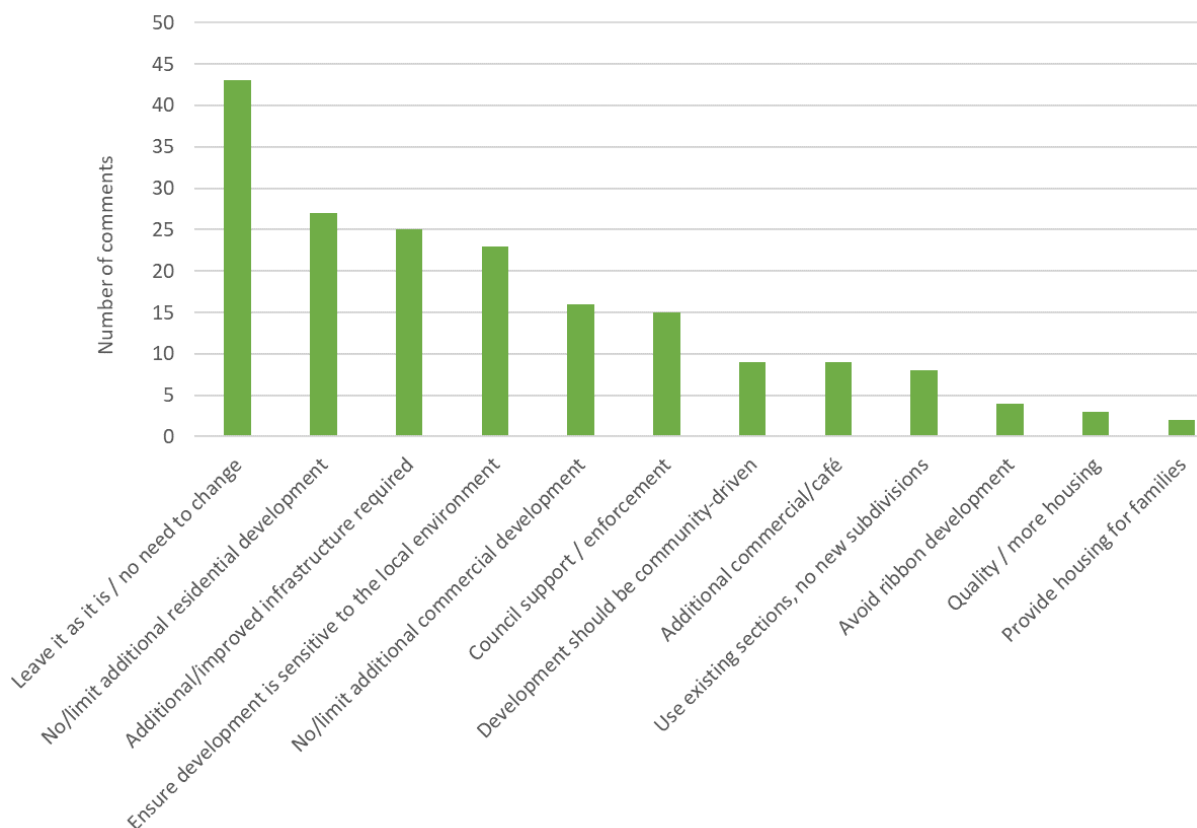


Figure 6-2 The number of comments received relating to the ‘opportunities for development’ focus point.

6.3 DISCUSSION & POTENTIAL PROJECTS

The consultation document and feedback form asked whether initiatives to attract younger people and families to Taieri Mouth should be a priority.⁴ The feedback shows that this is generally not important to this community, with only two feedback items relating to additional housing for families. Some submissions noted the distance from Taieri Mouth to any organised activities for children, and that young families which did move to the area often did not stay long for this reason. A few submissions suggested the local school should be closed, rather than supported to increase the roll.

The feedback is clear that the community is not in favour of specific initiatives, or support from Council to facilitate additional development, and this should not be included as a project within the Our Place plan. Council has limited ability to actually restrict additional residential or commercial development and is guided by legislative and District Plan requirements. However, the community’s preference to avoid additional development, to ‘leave it as it is’, and to consider the local environment should be noted within the Taieri Mouth Community Plan.

Initiatives to upgrade Council infrastructure in Taieri Mouth could be included as a Community Plan project, as there was some level of support for this. The number of times various infrastructure elements were noted as requiring upgrades are shown in Figure 6-3.⁵

⁴ Note that this material was informed by previous discussion with locals etc, as discussed in section 2.2.3

⁵ See also the analysis of feedback relating to roading, walking and cycling, and waste (sections 9.0, 10.0 and 10.0 respectively).

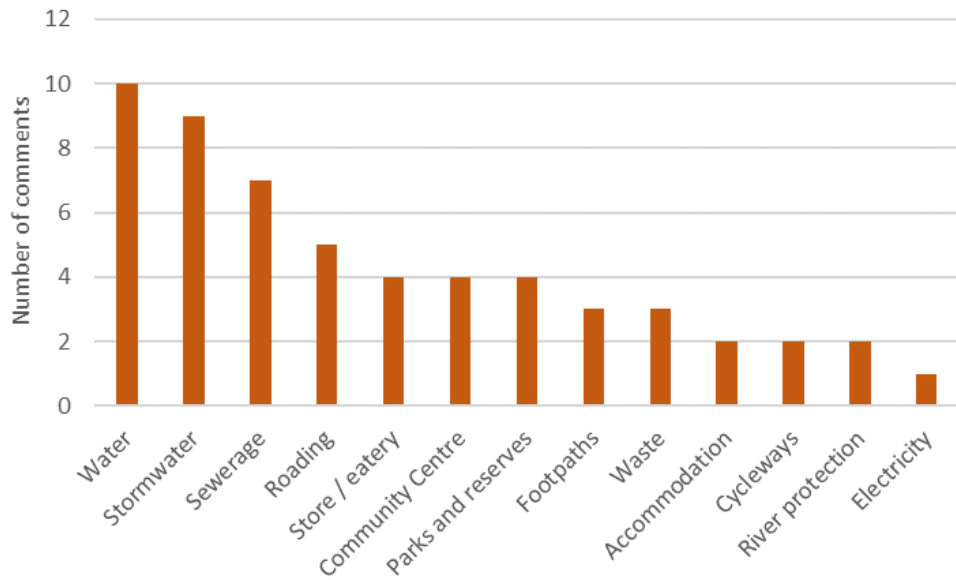


Figure 6-3 The number of comments received relating to potential infrastructure upgrades.

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7.0 LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT

7.1 SURVEY RESULTS

Respondents were asked to rate four potential environmental projects on a scale from 1 to 5. The highest average score was for addressing riverbank erosion issues (4.6 out of 5),⁶ while investigating a dark skies initiative scored lowest at 3.3 out of 5 (Table 7-1 and Figure 7-1).

Table 7-1 Rankings assigned to potential landscape and environment projects.

How important are the following environmental projects	Not Important					Very Important					Average score	Topic Rank
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
Addressing riverbank erosion issues	1	2	7	6	49						4.6	1
Restoration of wetlands, dunes, and waterways	3	2	10	6	43						4.3	2
Community events to maintain walking trails or remove rubbish from roadside areas	3	4	9	14	33						4.1	3
Investigating a 'Dark Skies Taieri Mouth' initiative	14	8	10	8	23						3.3	4

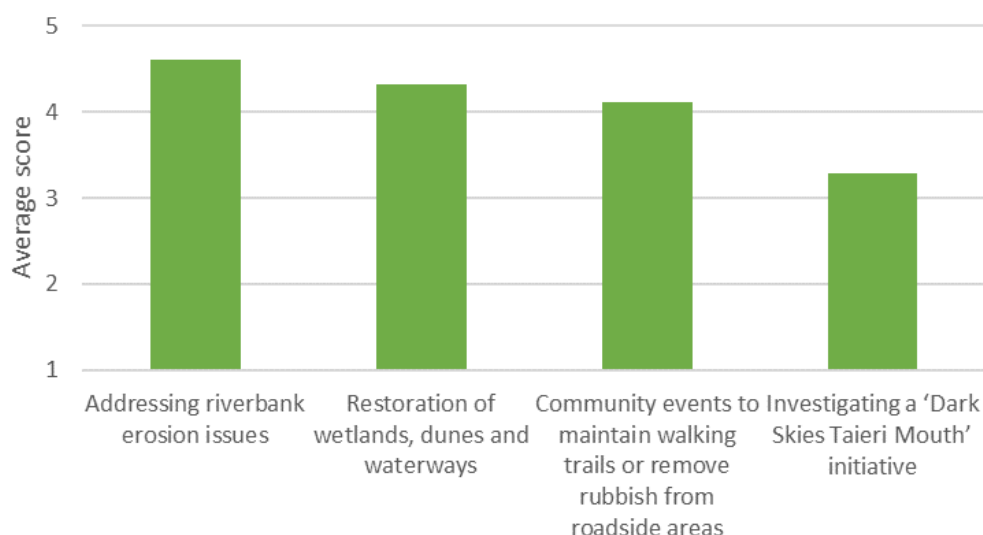


Figure 7-1 Average rating given to potential landscape and environment projects.

7.2 OTHER FEEDBACK ITEMS

Almost a fifth of all feedback items (from the feedback form and from verbal feedback) related to the landscape and environment focus area (Figure 1-3). This feedback (150 items in total) has been categorised, as shown in Figure 7-2 below. The most common themes were about *protecting nature and wildlife* and *looking after what we have* (58 comments in total), and this aligns well with the high score given to *restoration of wetlands, dunes etc* shown above.

⁶ See also Knarston Park erosion issues, as discussed in section 5.2.2

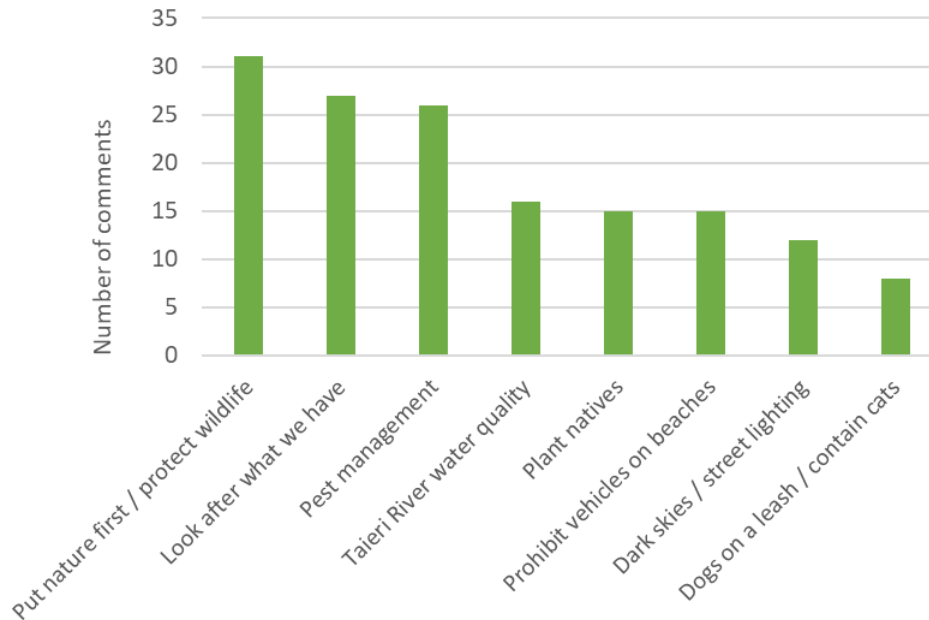


Figure 7-2 The number of comments received relating to the landscape and environment focus area.

Improved pest management received 26 feedback items. This related to both vegetation and pests such as rabbits and possums. The impact of the trapping program currently underway with support from the Otago Regional Council was noted by several respondents, along with the need to continue supporting this program.

The need to *improve water quality in the Taieri River* was mentioned 16 times, including 11 comments supplied by seven respondents within their feedback forms. A typical comment is provided below.

“The river is important to us, clean up the river please by removing Waihola sewage. Stop allowing Waihola subdivisions until this is done. This is a public health issue.”

Other themes were *planting natives*, *prohibiting vehicles on beaches*, *dark skies* and *keeping dogs on a leash / cats inside*.

7.3 DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL PROJECTS

The feedback received shows that protecting the landscape and environment is important to the Taieri Mouth community, and that some excellent work is already underway. Potential Community Plan projects might include:

1. *Working with the Otago Regional Council to monitor water quality at Taieri Mouth, and to communicate the results widely within the community.*
2. *Support for environmental restoration and protection, pest management, and native planting programs.*
3. *Incorporating relevant feedback into a review of the policies and objectives within the Taieri Mouth Reserve Management Plan.*

8.0 TAIERI RIVER ACCESS

Survey results and other responses relating to Taieri River access are discussed below.



Figure 8-1 Taieri River waterfront area (Source: Tim Dickey)

8.1 SURVEY RESULTS

The feedback form included two questions relating to this focus area. The first related to the potential development of a river-based community facility while the second related to additional water safety initiatives at Taieri Mouth. The results are shown in Figure 8-2.

Feedback was fairly evenly split on the development of a community facility, with 27 people in favour and 30 against. A clear majority of people were in favour of some form of water safety initiative however (45 in favour and 15 against).

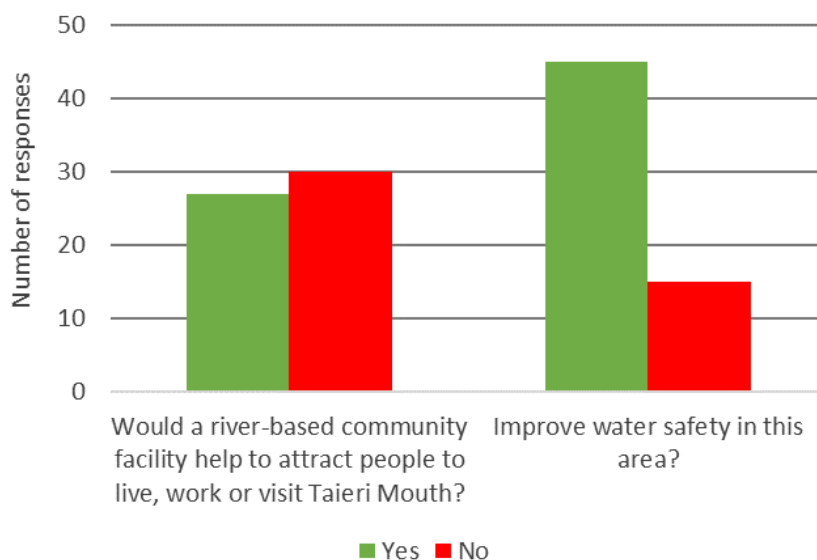


Figure 8-2 The number of responses relating to a river-based community facility and water safety.

8.2 OTHER FEEDBACK ITEMS

Additional feedback relating to this focus point was received through feedback form comments, and verbal feedback during consultation events (85 comments in total). This feedback has been categorised and is summarised in Figure 8-3 below.

There were 29 comments relating to additional water safety initiatives, and this aligns with feedback on the survey question described above. Improving the boat ramp area received 23 comments in total. There was little support for commercial development on the waterfront, with 12 submissions specifically stating that the current setup should not be changed, and/or that there should not be any additional commercial development.

A well-considered feedback response is included below:

“Yes, I think that such a facility would bring people to visit Taieri Mouth, but I do not necessarily think that we should be aiming to bring visitors here for such a purpose. The sand bar is such a dangerous place and bringing more people here for water activities would just result in a higher number of injuries. Any initiatives that I can think of to improve water safety are unlikely to be paid attention to by visitors.”

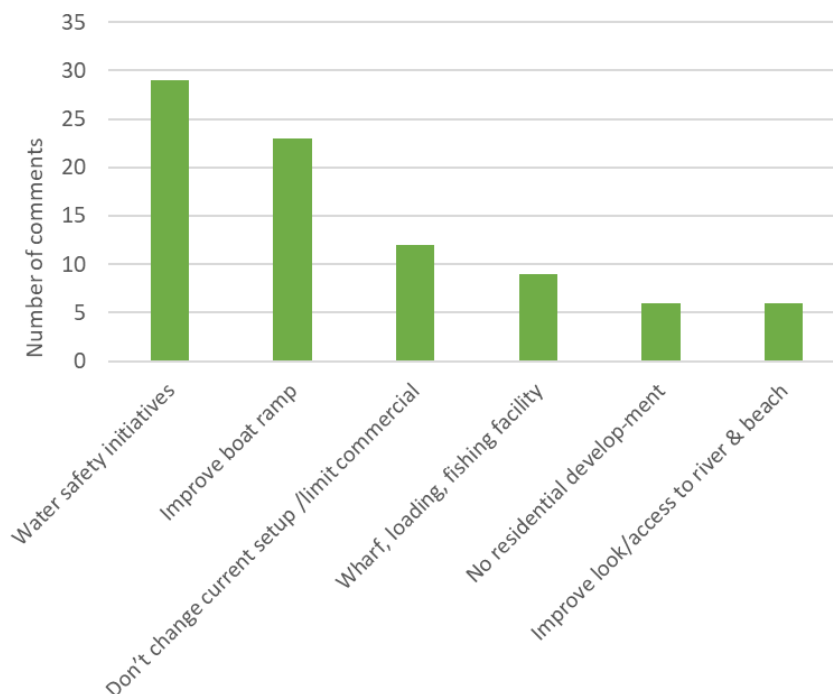


Figure 8-3 The number of comments received relating to the 'Taieri River access' focus point.

8.3 DISCUSSION & POTENTIAL PROJECTS

As for the 'opportunities for development' focus area, the feedback shows that the community is not especially keen on new initiatives to develop the water-front area, and this should not be included as a project within the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan.

Improving the boat ramp area and *water safety initiatives* both had a greater level of support, and these could potentially become projects included within the plan.

9.0 ROADING

Roading was not included as a specific focus area within the material produced for the Our Place consultation, although parking issues on Riverside Road were noted. There were 82 feedback items which related to roading issues, so this has been included as a separate reporting item. Roothing feedback received through the feedback form and consultation events was categorised and is shown in Figure 9-1.

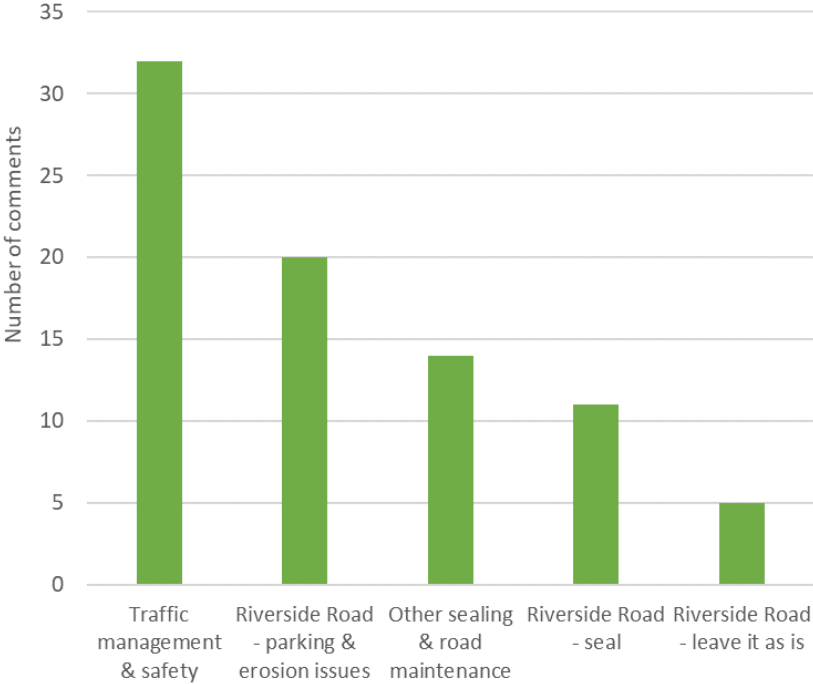


Figure 9-1 The number of comments received relating to roading.

9.1 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

The most common theme related to *traffic management and safety improvements* in and around the Taieri Mouth village. Within this category, there were 13 comments asking for lower speed limits, and a range of other traffic management requests, as shown in Figure 9-2.

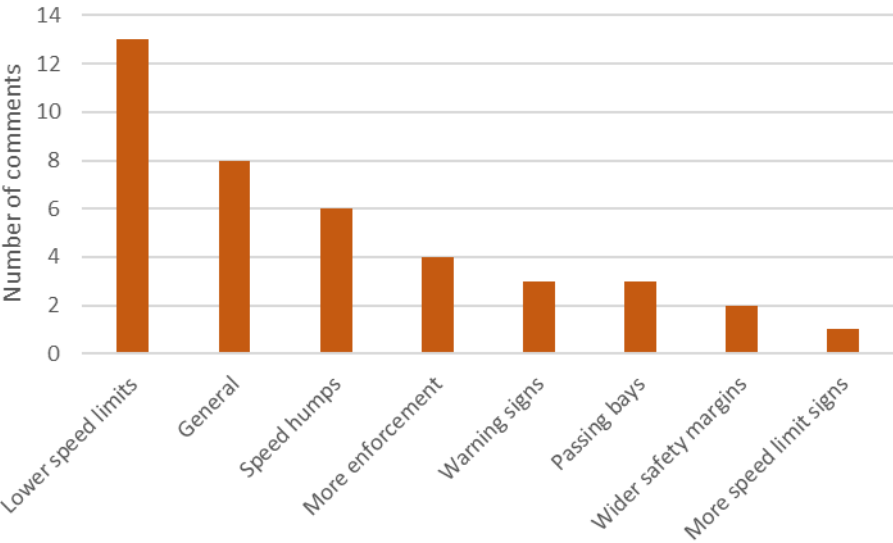


Figure 9-2 The number of comments received relating to traffic management & safety.

9.2 RIVERSIDE ROAD

There were a range of views expressed about issues on Riverside Road, as shown in Figure 9-1. There were 20 feedback items relating to the need to address parking and shoreline erosion issues, and 11 items asking for this road to be sealed. There were also five items asking for Riverside Road to be left as it is, including from respondents who live on Riverside Road.



Figure 9-3 View of Riverside Road shoreline and parking area.

9.3 DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL PROJECTS

A project to investigate ways to *improve road safety in an around Taieri Mouth* could be considered for inclusion in the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan, given the feedback received on this topic.

A separate investigation of what, if any improvements could be made at *Riverside Road* could also be included, based on further discussions with residents.

10.0 WALKING AND CYCLING OPTIONS

The consultation material asked for feedback on potential walking and cycling options, and also asked how important it is to create new walking and cycling links in Taieri Mouth. A wide range of views were expressed on this focus point, as discussed below.

10.1 SURVEY RESULTS

The feedback form asked respondents to rate the importance of improved walking & cycling opportunities, on a scale from 1 to 5. Of the 60 survey respondents who rated this focus point, half felt that in general, this is very important, resulting in an average score of 3.8 out of 5 (Table 10-1).

Table 10-1 Rankings assigned to walking and cycling options.

How important is it to...	Not Important		Very Important			Average score
	1	2	3	4	5	
Improve walking & cycling opportunities?	8	5	10	7	30	3.8

The feedback form also asked respondents whether or not they supported three potential walking & cycling options, with the results shown in Figure 10-1. Of the three options put forward, the most popular were extending/improving existing footpaths, or creating a footpath from one end of the village to another. There was less support for creating a new trail to a neighbouring area (such as Brighton or Waihola).

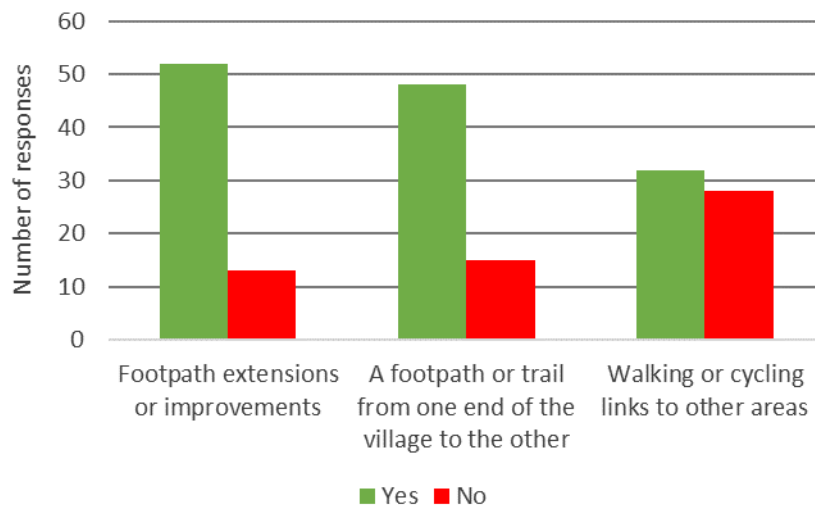


Figure 10-1 The number of responses relating to three potential walking and cycling options

A range of other comments were received relating to walking and cycling opportunities, and these are presented below.

10.2 OTHER FEEDBACK ITEMS

A total of 67 feedback items relating to walking and cycling options were received through comments on the feedback form, and verbal feedback during the consultation program. This feedback has been categorised, as shown in Figure 10-2. By far the most popular theme was to widen, build new, or maintain existing footpaths (31 feedback items).

General support for walking and cycling was noted 15 times, while there was more limited support for specific projects such as a cycle trail to Brighton (noting that this would be in the Dunedin City District), and a trail from Knarston Park to Livingstonia Park.

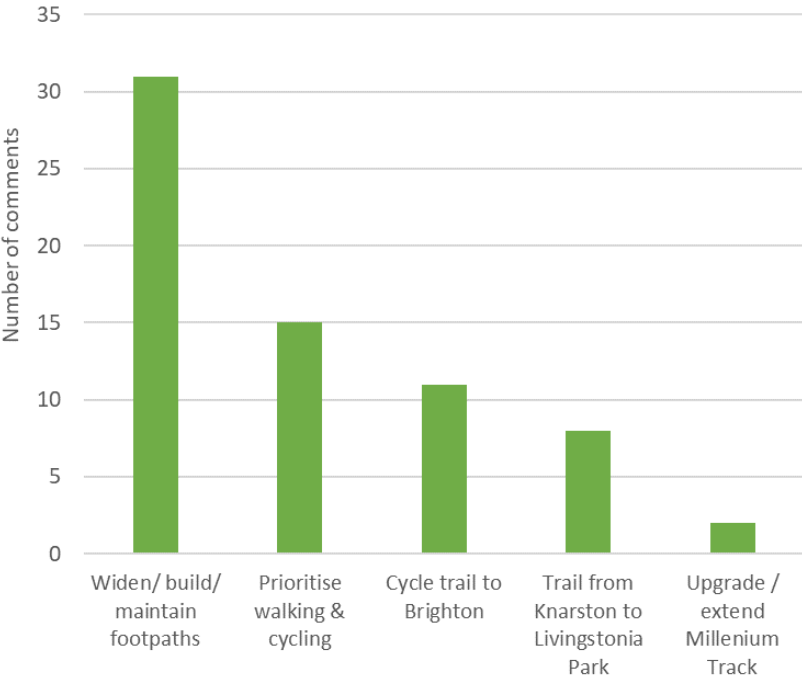


Figure 10-2 The number of comments received relating to the walking & cycling focus point.

10.3 DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL PROJECTS

From the feedback received, it is clear that a project to *improve the footpath/walking trail network* within Taieri Mouth should be included in the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan. The specific details/location for such a project would need to be investigated, as would the willingness of Taieri Mouth residents to fund this work through their rates.

11.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

The consultation material and feedback form included the following question about waste management: “What improvements could Council make to ensure that solid waste is well managed, and that recycling continues to be encouraged?”

There were 53 feedback items (6% of the total) which related to waste management. These have been categorised and are shown in Figure 11-1. Support for the existing recycling service, or additional recycling facilities was the most common feedback item within this focus area. There were also 17 requests for a Council rubbish collection, to replace the private service currently provided to residents, and 10 requests for “better waste management options”.

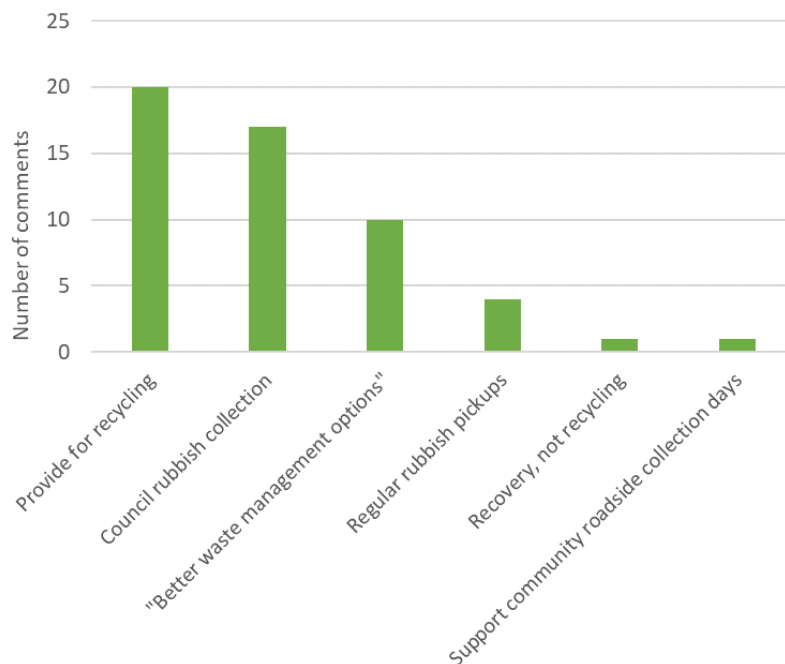


Figure 11-1 The number of comments received relating to waste management.

The feedback on this subject should be incorporated into the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan, particularly the support for recycling facilities, and a desire amongst some respondents to have a Council-operated rubbish collection system.

12.0 WHAT ELSE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

There were four other feedback items not captured by the above topics. There were two items asking for Māori placenames to be used, and another two which requested there are no rates increases for Taieri Mouth residents.