

2019/2020 COMMUNITY NEEDS STUDY

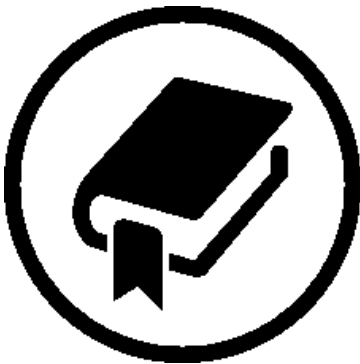


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Background	3
Methodology	3
Demographics of Leopold	4
Respondents' demographics	5
Community Participation	6
Leopold Ratings	9
Leopold - A good place to live	9
Leopold - A safe place to live	10
Leopold - Community supports	10
Leopold - Sport and recreation	11
Leopold - Environmental groups	11
Leopold - Facilities and infrastructure	12
Leopold - Education	12
Leopold - Emergency services	13
Leopold - Health and well-being	13
Respondents comments - Themes	14
Knowledge of Leopold Community Bank grants	19
Leopold Community Bank Board position interest	20
Recommendations	21

BACKGROUND

In 2013 Leopold Community Bank Board conducted a community needs survey which resulted in the Leopold Community Bank assisting many community projects. The largest being the establishment of the Leopold Community and Learning Centre - now located in the Leopold Community Hub and in conjunction with Club Italia negotiated the establishment of the Leopold Men's Shed.

Following the success of this survey and as we were keen to establish what our community of Leopold needs (safety, education, sporting, community, environmental or infrastructure etc.), the Board of Leopold Community Bank decided that it was timely to conduct a community needs study. The purpose of the survey was to identify how the Leopold community currently used its existing organisations, clubs and services and what they would like to see from future investment and development of the suburb.

METHODOLOGY

A survey was developed and distributed to almost 4000 homes in Leopold through a letterbox drop and was also available for completion online. The survey was advertised through the Leopold Local, direct emails to local community groups - then to their membership via newsletters and their social media pages; shareholders of Leopold Community Enterprises Limited, Facebook pages (Leopold Community Bank Branch and Leopold Community Watch), Community Noticeboard at Gateway Plaza, Leopold Primary School and Leopold Sportsmans Club.

Completed hard copy surveys were collected at various points throughout Leopold - Leopold Community Bank Branch, Dorothy Street and Ash Road Shopping Centres, Leopold Community and Learning Centre and Leopold Sportsmans Club over a 4-week period. The online version of the survey was available for an additional week, allowing last minute participants to have their say. Information received on hard copy were then input into the online survey system with the results detailed in this report.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF LEOPOLD

According to the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census, Leopold (State Suburbs) has a population of 12814 persons located in 5212 homes across the suburb. There are slightly more females in the suburb accounting for 51.7% of the population (6625 persons) than males who account for 48.3% of the population (6189 persons).

With the median age of 39 years, the population consists of 0-14 years 19.6% (2527 persons), 15-24 years 11.7% (1505 persons), 25-39 years 19.4% (2488 persons), 40-49 years 12.7% (1634 persons), 50-64 years 17.6% (2261 persons) and 65 years and over accounting for 18.7% (2416 persons). All age groups across Leopold are comparative to that recorded for the State of Victoria (within the margin of 1%) with the main exception being Leopold has 3.1% more in the 65+years age group.

In Leopold, of all households, 75.9% were family households (70.8% Vic), 22.2% were single person households (24.7% Vic) and 1.9% (4.5 Vic) were group households. Of the families in Leopold, 44.7% were couple families with children, 39.0% were couple families without children and 15.4% were one parent families.

Like many across the country, 19.2% undertook volunteer work through an organisation or club which is equivalent to that of Victoria.

Reference:

https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/SSC21484

RESPONDENTS DEMOGRAPHICS

Responses to the Community Needs Survey totaled 180. When comparing the respondents to the Community Needs Survey to that of the census population, the following comparison statistics were tallied.

Sex	Leopold Demographics	Census (percentage)	Participant demographics	Participant (percentage)
Male	6195	48.3%	56	31%
Female	6623	51.7%	123	68%
Other	No record	0%	0	0%
Not recorded			1	0.6%

Age group	Leopold Demographics	Census (percentage)	Participant demographics	Participant (percentage)
0-14 years	2527	19.6%	0	0%
15-24 years	1505	11.7%	5	2%
25-39 years	2488	19.4%	46	25%
40-49 years	1634	12.7%	34	18%
50-64 years	2261	17.6%	42	23%
65 years +	2416	18.7%	53	29%

In terms of living arrangements, the collected census data does not include the specifics of categories as requested in the survey questions. They are more broadly based in terms of family composition relating to with or without children and a subset of single parent families. For the purpose of this survey it was decided to look more deeply to establish the overall breakdown of all household options. The following table summarises the results of the survey question.

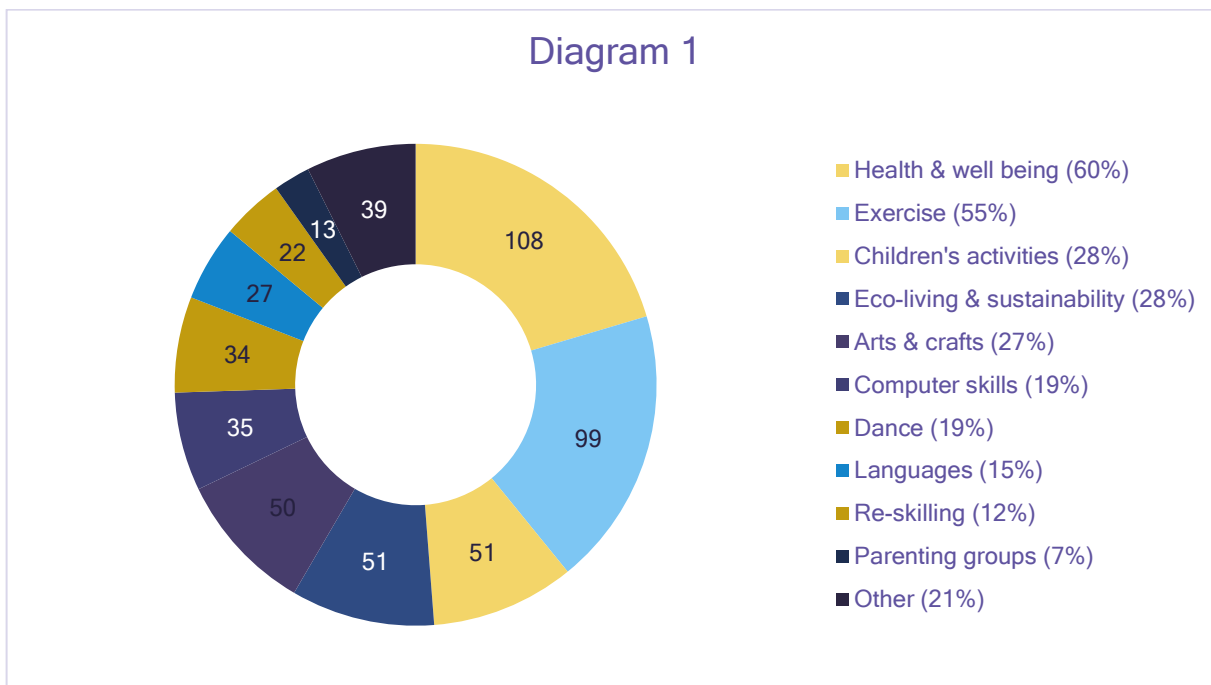
Household living arrangements	Participant demographics (number)	Participant demographics (percentage)
I live on my own	24	13%
I live with my partner only (couple no children)	50	27%
I live with other adults (share living)	5	2%
I live as a family unit with children who are under 18 years	21	11%
I live as a family unit with children over the age of 18 years	72	40%
I live as a family unit with children both over and under 18 years	8	4%

The survey asked the question “How long have you lived in the area”, this question is not recorded in the census collection data and therefore a sample comparison is not available. The results to this question are as follows.

Time in Leopold	Participant demographics (number)	Participant demographics (percentage)
0-1 years	10	5%
2-5 years	23	12%
6-10 years	34	18%
11 years +	113	62%

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The participants were asked to indicate what type of programs or activities they **would** participate in if they were available in Leopold. Multiple options were available to the respondents. Diagram 1 shows that the largest response was that for health and well-being activities (60%) closely followed by exercise (55%).



When asked to qualify specifics of their requirements the following details the most popular responses given.

Health and well-being	The most common responses were around health management programs including nutrition and health cooking classes, mental health management (men, women and families), mindfulness and wellness, alternative therapies information, improved lifestyle activities for young people, families and the ageing population, meditation, CPR and first aide refresher courses.
Exercise	Although there were a variety of activities nominated as areas of interest; age and ability specific exercise was most commonly reported. Gentle exercise for older persons and persons with disabilities was the most frequently reported. This included general exercise classes, yoga for all abilities, Pilates for strength and balance, Tai Chi and walking groups. Other activities mentioned were free fitness clubs, mums and bubs/parent group exercise, swimming, bootcamp, running and cycling groups.
Sport	Although many indicated that Leopold was well serviced for sporting activities, the following activities were mentioned as areas of interest. Table tennis, early year coordination activities such as gymnastics, volleyball, pool or snooker club, badminton and roller skating. Both Soccer and Basketball were specifically mentioned as a sporting groups that required better facilities and access to facilities.
Children and Youth activities	<p>The most common response for this section was activities for young people (teen and pre-teen). Youth group activities such as movie nights, social get togethers, games, cooking etc were seen as possible options for this age group.</p> <p>More broadly, activities for children included art classes and Zumba classes. It was also mentioned that community playgrounds in the area needed updating and a “clean up”.</p>
Eco-living and sustainability	The survey showed a real interest in community sustainably. This ranged from the most common responses of a community garden and gardening swap meets (vegetables and natives) to the establishment of a recycling hub such as Susty Hub in Ocean Grove and community produce markets (swap and sell).
Arts and crafts	Apart from the most common painting and drawing, there were no specific highlighted areas of interest in this area. The following ideas were generally submitted by less than 3 respondents and included knitting, crochet, patchwork, embroidery, photography, scrapbooking, pottery and needlework.
Computer skills	The requirement for information and support on computers was identified not for skilling for employment opportunities but as a user experience. These ranged from everyday computer skills (assistance with iPad, phones, internet banking, using Bluetooth) to more advanced requirements.
Dance	Although some mentioned specific dance classes, (Latin dance, line dancing, Scottish dancing, beginner adult ballet, couples dance, childrens dance classes) the most response was dance for exercise as social experience - dance for fun.
Languages	Interest in language development was expressed for many languages with the most common being German, French, Italian and Chinese. It was suggested that

	a social meeting to practice languages would be an ideal way to meet the language development requirements and also address possible issues of social isolation.
Re-skilling	Re-skilling for employment opportunities was not overly represented, however the gaining of skills in many areas was identified. This was particularly noticeable in the concept of the “Women’s Shed”. The concept was similar to that of the Men’s Shed however provided a safe place for women to meet. The most common purpose of this was to learn or improve on skills to do with home maintenance and also having confidence in dealing with tradespeople. Another idea was the requirement for refresher driving courses for aged drivers such as the Wiser Driver course offered by some Councils.
Parenting and Families	Overall, the fourth most commonly reported activity was the need for family events/activities. Specifics of which were not identified. Survey responses indicated that information and support for parents was important. Whether that be formal groups or classes or just access to information on parent tips and tricks for parenting all aged children was not specified.
Other	Timing of events and activities was indicated on a number of occasions with many working parents unable to participate in activities which were normally held during business hours. In some cases, activities that were mentioned were already available in Leopold which raises the issue of communication of what is available.

When asked about their **current involvement** in programs or activities in Leopold, the result was even with 50% participating in activities. Of those who indicated yes, the following lists the programs and activities the respondents were involved in. It is worth noting that many of the respondents are involved in multiple activities. Of the 88 who responded they were currently involved in activities or groups; they are involved in 117 activities or groups.

Allanvale Preschool	Leopold Community & Learning Centre	Leopold Swim School
Anytime Fitness	Leopold Cricket Club	Leopold Tennis Club
Auskick	Leopold Football Netball Club	Leopold Toy Library
Bellarine Probus Singers	Leopold History Group - Genealogy	Line dancing (PGLD)
Boomerang Bags	Leopold Kindergarten	Mothers Group
Church	Leopold Lakers Basketball	NetSetGo
Community meditations sessions	Leopold Library	Pilates
FC Leopold (soccer)	Leopold Lions	Probus Clubs
Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail	Leopold Men’s Shed	Volunteer - aged care
Karate	Leopold Playgroup	Volunteer - Young Mums
KF Dance	Leopold Primary School	Walking group
Leopold Book Club	Leopold Red Cross	West Coast Soarers
Leopold CFA		Yoga

Of the survey respondents 44% indicated that they undertook a **volunteer** role with a community group or organisation. Similarly, to the question regarding involvement in activities and organisations in Leopold, volunteering was undertaken by many at a number of places. (80 respondents at 97 places) Where they chose to undertake this varied but the most common were sporting groups, the Community Hub and church activities.

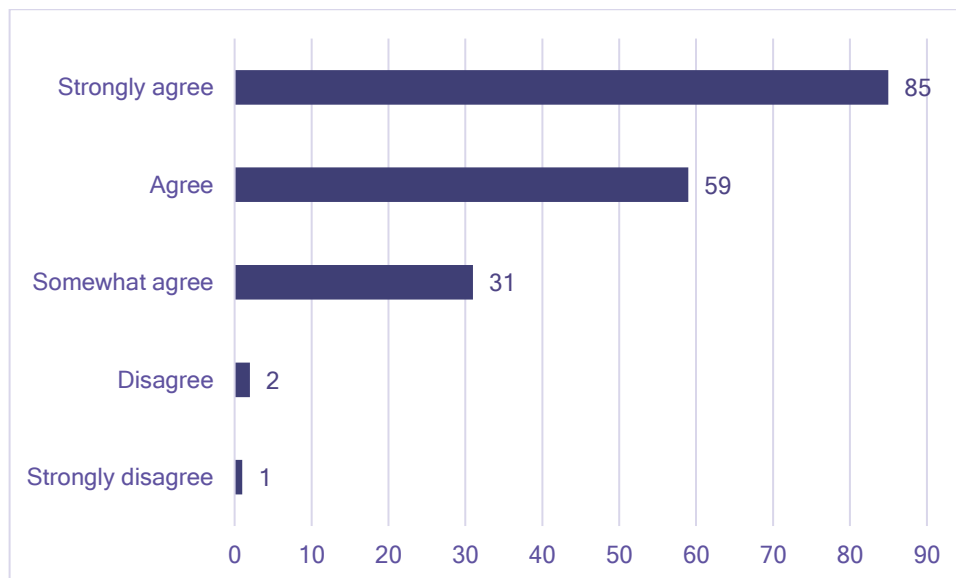
The most common response on where you would **find out about activities and programs** in Leopold was the Leopold Local with 47% of respondents selecting this. This was closely followed by social media (35%). All other options ranked under 7% of the surveyed responses.

LEOPOLD RATINGS

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree, their perception in regard to a variety of statements. It is important to note that the responses to this question are subjective. It should also be noted that when asked to clarify their “disagreeable” responses the comments made were generally one comment. This indicates that perhaps their responses are dictated by one issue impacting their rating - although again this is supposition.

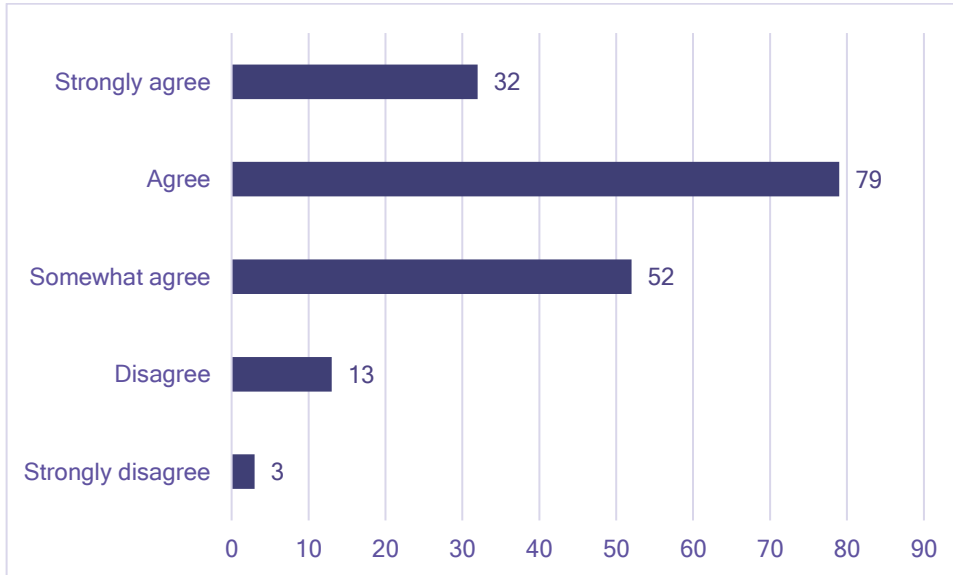
Leopold - A good place to live

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - “Leopold is a good place to live”. The below diagram shows the outcome of the responses. This table shows the vast majority agree that Leopold is a good place to live with 81% of the respondents indicating an agree or strongly agree response to the question. In addition, 17% indicated they somewhat agreed with the statement.



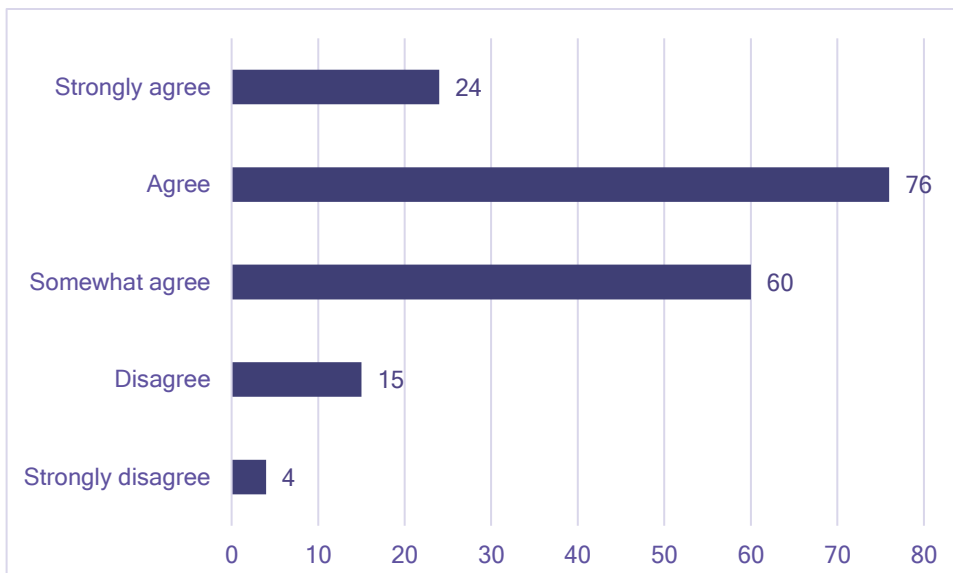
Leopold - A safe place to live

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - "Leopold is a safe place to live". The diagram below shows the outcome of the responses. This table shows the majority agree that Leopold is a safe place to live with 62% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question, with an additional 29% somewhat agreeing to the statement.



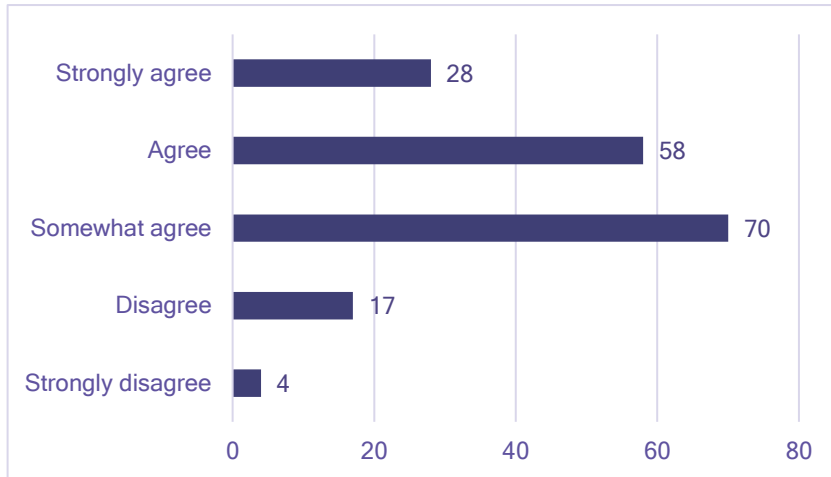
Leopold - Community supports

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - "Leopold has the community supports for myself and my family". The table below shows the outcome of the responses. This diagram shows the vast majority agree that Leopold has good community supports with 56% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question, with an additional 34% somewhat agreeing to the statement.



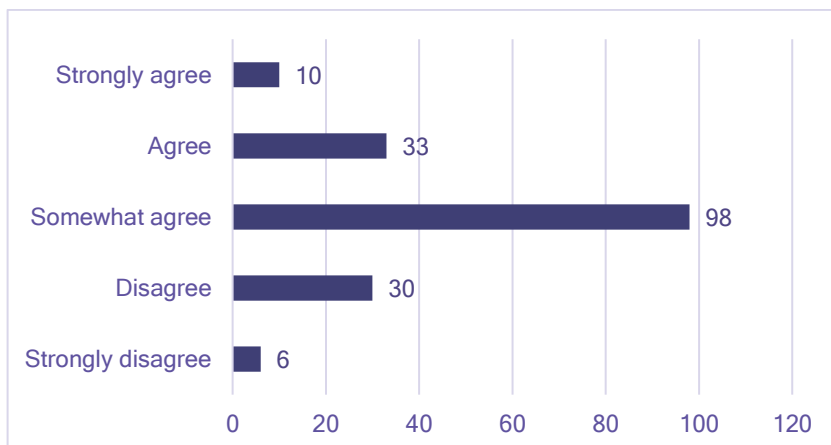
Leopold - Sport and recreation

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - "Leopold has the sport and recreation requirements for myself and my family". The table below shows the outcome of the responses. This diagram shows the majority agree that Leopold has good sport and recreation opportunities with 49% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question. In addition, the "somewhat agree" response was most common accounting for 39.5%. The reasoning to this is further demonstrated in the respondents' comments - Themes section of this report.



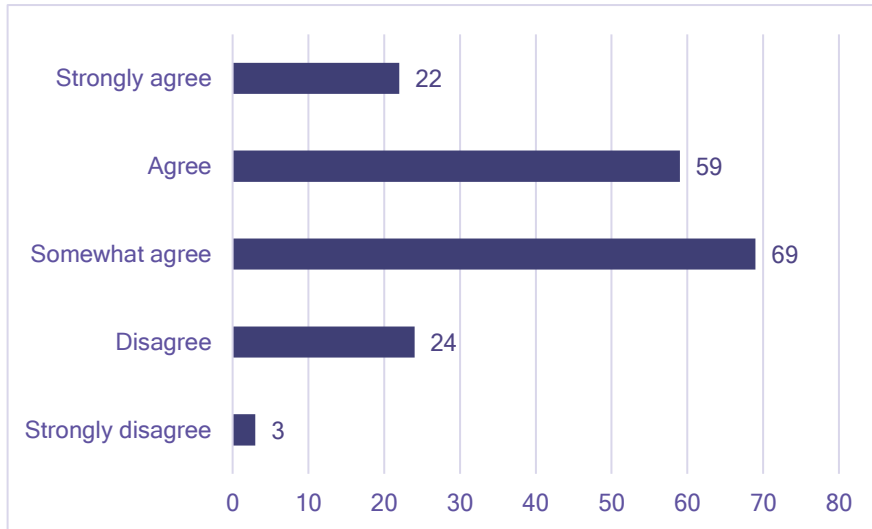
Leopold - Environmental groups

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - "Leopold has the environmental groups that you and your family are interested in". The table below shows the outcome of the responses. This diagram shows that there is agreement that Leopold has some opportunities for involvement in environmental groups with 24% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question; however, this is a much lower response than that of previous questions with the majority indicating "Somewhat agree" (55.4%). When looking at these responses in conjunction with the comments provided, there are specific areas which are highlighted as requiring attention. These comments are highlighted in the respondents' comments - Themes section of this report.



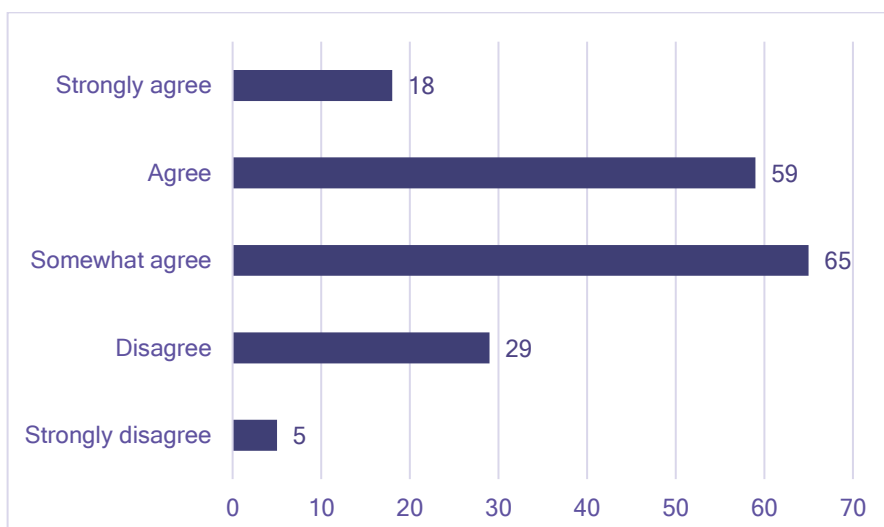
Leopold - Facilities and infrastructure

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - "Leopold has the community facilities and infrastructure to support myself and my family". The table below shows the outcome of the responses. This diagram shows the majority agree that Leopold has sufficient community facilities and infrastructure to support their needs with 46% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question. Additionally, 39% indicated a somewhat agree response. Information regarding the reasons behind the comments are located in respondents' comments - Themes section of this report.



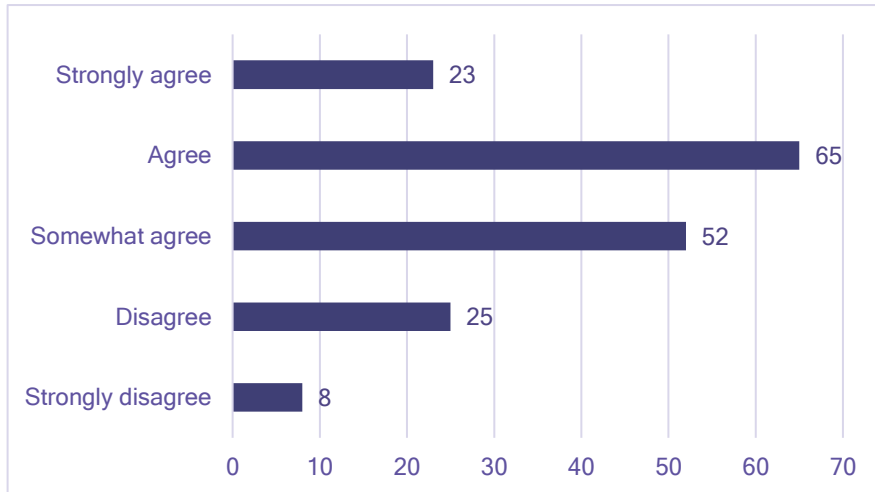
Leopold - Education

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - "Leopold has the educational supports for myself and my family". The table below shows the outcome of the responses. This diagram shows the vast majority agree that Leopold has suitable educational supports with 44% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question. In addition, 37% stated they somewhat agreed to the statement. When comparing this to the comments sections of this report, the primary reason was the lack of options for secondary education.



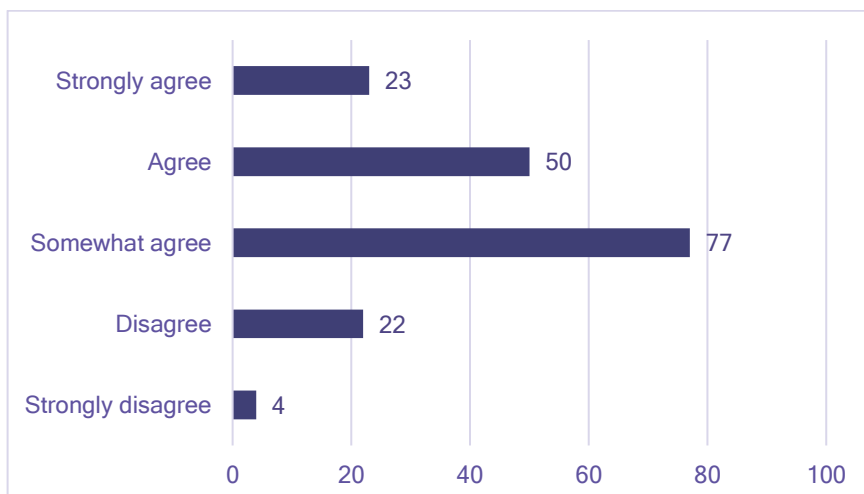
Leopold - Emergency services

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - “Leopold has the emergency services supports myself and my family”. The diagram below shows the outcome of the responses. This table shows the majority agree that Leopold has good emergency service supports with 51% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question. Additionally, 30% indicated they somewhat agree. Comments regarding their responses can be found in the respondents’ comments - Themes section of this report.



Leopold - Health and well-being

Respondents were asked to rank from strongly disagree to strongly agree their perception of the statement - “Leopold has sufficient health and well-being services to support myself and my family”. The table below shows the outcome of the responses. This diagram shows the vast majority agree that Leopold has sufficient health and well-being supports with 42% of the respondents indicating a positive response to the question. Additionally, 44% indicated they somewhat agreed with the statement. Given the age of the respondents (52% being 50 years and over), the type of clarity in comments is indicative to the response to the question. This is available in the respondents’ comments - Themes section of this report.



Respondents comments - Themes

Based on the respondents' comments to all areas of the survey, the following table is a summary of the feedback under specific themes.

Community	<p>The area of community raised a broad range of ideas, many of which were duplicated under other areas. The most highly represented from the respondents can be summarised as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Community event</u> An annual family event to celebrate the community which could include a market of local produce, family activities, movies, music and health and wellness activities. 2. <u>Better use of community facilities</u> Better use of the community hub with the expansion of offerings and after hour activities and courses. 3. <u>Promotion of activities and groups</u> Central place to find out what is happening in Leopold, services people have to offer and central bank of volunteers. 4. <u>Promotion of strip shopping</u> Better advertising opportunities on the highway for the strip shops of Ash Road and Dorothy streets. Make these an enticing place to shop whilst supporting our local businesses. 5. <u>Women's Shed</u> Opportunity to take the success of the Men's Shed concept and duplicate the concept specifically designed for women. 6. <u>Opportunities for young people</u> Outside sport and the skatepark, respondents expressed very limited knowledge of opportunities in Leopold for our young people.
Sport and recreation	<p>One third of respondents made comments relating to sport and recreation. It was largely identified that Leopold is well catered for sporting opportunities however some facilities were not seen as appropriate. Acknowledgement was made regarding the facilities of the Leopold Football Netball and Cricket clubs; however, there were areas that were particularly lacking for other sporting activities. One third of respondents commented two areas.</p> <p>The most commented was the need to invest in the establishment of facilities for basketball. Although the LINC was initially established with this in mind, Leopold Lakers Basketball Club has limited to no suitable access to this facility. Secondly, with soccer being the fastest growing young people participation sport, FC Leopold facilities were identified as needing attention. Issues identified included club rooms, toilet facilities, change rooms and parking.</p>

	<p>In terms of other recreation facilities, a cinema, a swimming pool and a multipurpose Centre for access to activities such as table tennis and volleyball were identified.</p> <p>Also raised was the need for better bicycle lanes and tracks, greater activities for teens, and general recreation activities (not sport) for children and young people.</p>
Environment	<p>50% of respondents made comment relating to the environment of Leopold. These have been categorised into 7 areas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Community Garden</u> This was the most commented on area. A community garden which had a focus on the growing of vegetables, fruits and native plants. It was seen that a community garden had many benefits to the community. 2. <u>Access to water ways</u> Of particular note was the desire to have access to both water ways which border the north (Corio Bay) and south (Lake Connewarre) of Leopold. 3. <u>Response to graffiti</u> Respondents identified the slow response to the removal of graffiti as a particular area of concern as this clearly impacted on the perception of the community of Leopold. This also led to the possible ways to divert this activity eg. Mural wall as part of the community in which to stem the vandalism type activity by providing a creative area. 4. <u>Sustainability and recycling</u> The area of sustainability (urban forestry, energy efficiency and waste reduction) and recycling (paper, cans and bottles) were the most commonly reported areas in this category. 5. <u>Use of the rail trail</u> Solar lighting, work out stations and more toilet facilities along the Rail Trail were items most commonly reported. 6. <u>Playground upgrades</u> Although respondents noted the availability of many playgrounds in pockets of Leopold, the overall comments reflected the need for these to be upgraded, maintenance required, shade required and general beautification of the playground surrounds to attract more users. 7. <u>Beautification</u> Often mentioned in conjunction with the above ideas was the need for overall activities to beautify the suburb of Leopold. The most common specific requirements mentioned included tree planting, more public rubbish bins, access to the waterways as areas for the community to gather, solar lighting of the wetlands area and the improvement of the median strip Bellarine highway. <p>Other areas not so commonly reported included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking area (off leash)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for “transition streets” which are an initiative that focuses on connecting and supporting neighbourhoods around the issues of sustainability, giving real meaning to the phrase, “think globally; act locally”. • Wildlife rescue • Gateway Sanctuary Friends Club • Clean up of the Sanctuary water system • Expansion of the Sanctuary • Greater promotion of Lake Connewarre. Use the area to promote the lakes involvement as a food bowl by indigenous community pre-white settlement. Bollards of aboriginal family/hunters could be sited there.
Infrastructure	<p>Around 25% of respondents commented on particular infrastructure requirements. Most commonly these related to 4 areas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Gateway Plaza</u> The items expressed included redesign of the carpark on Melaluka Road side to improve traffic flow and ease of entry to the Plaza and drainage issues on the exterior of the building. <p>Also mentioned was the opportunity for the Plaza to become the central hub of the suburb and visitors by providing a cinema, greater eating options, more variety of shops eg. jewellery, better women’s fashion, Centrelink and council outlets.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <u>Housing developments</u> There were two thoughts with regard to future housing developments - both for and against. Commonly stated was that if development was to continue that this needed to be controlled development with the required services being available to sustain the development eg. roads and schools. 3. <u>Better community facilities</u> Outside the requirements at the Soccer grounds and Basketball facilities, the next most common infrastructure was the development of suitable facilities for the Lions Club and how this land could be better developed for more community use. 4. <u>Signage</u> Two areas for improved signage was the signage at the Leopold Cemetery and the Leopold War Memorial. <p>Two other issues were raised being the lack of public toilets in Leopold, in particular on the Rail Trail and the opportunity for a playground behind the Community Hub.</p>
Transport & Public Roads	<p>Almost one third of respondents commented on requirements for improved roads and public transport.</p>

	<p>The most noted area of concern was issues with the intersection of Melaluka Road and the Bellarine Highway. Concerns raised were lack of turning lane from Melaluka Road east bound and sequencing of these traffic lights. It has become more prevalent with the Estuary development and the huge increase of cars in the peak times of the day. This also extended to Melaluka Road at Gateway Plaza and the Sporting Ovals carpark where issue for traffic flow are commonly reported; and the lack of adherence to the “No U Turn” on Bellarine Highway/Melaluka Road lights.</p> <p>Other areas most reported with regard to improved roads were maintenance of current footpaths and completion of footpaths where they are currently not available, general maintenance of roads eg. Potholes, access for parking around the school, surfacing of Clifton Avenue from Bellarine Highway to Portarlington Road, traffic lights at Kensington Road and Portarlington Road and the need for enforcement of speed in back streets.</p> <p>Areas most reported with regard to improved public transport were timetabling issues (especially on weekends and lack of coordination with train timetabling), more bus stops and access to South Geelong Railway Station.</p> <p>Also regularly reported was the need for a community bus and the lack of bike lanes throughout the suburb.</p>
Education	<p>Although Leopold Primary School was identified as a very good school, respondents noted the requirement for an additional primary school to cater for the growing population.</p> <p>Respondents of this section clearly noted the requirement of a secondary school in the Leopold area to cater for both Leopold itself and further along the Bellarine Peninsula who may choose to come inwards towards Geelong, eg. Wallington. This was supported by Leopold Primary School having an enrolment of over 800 students, Wallington Primary School enrolment of around 200 and the only public education opportunity being Newcomb Secondary College and Bellarine Secondary College; both of which are outside the eligibility for free bus service.</p> <p>In terms of both primary and secondary education, there was a number of requests for catholic education as an option to fill the gap for private education.</p> <p>With regard to adult education a number of areas were identified. The most common being adult language classes and assistance with technology (iPad, internet, Bluetooth, social media).</p>

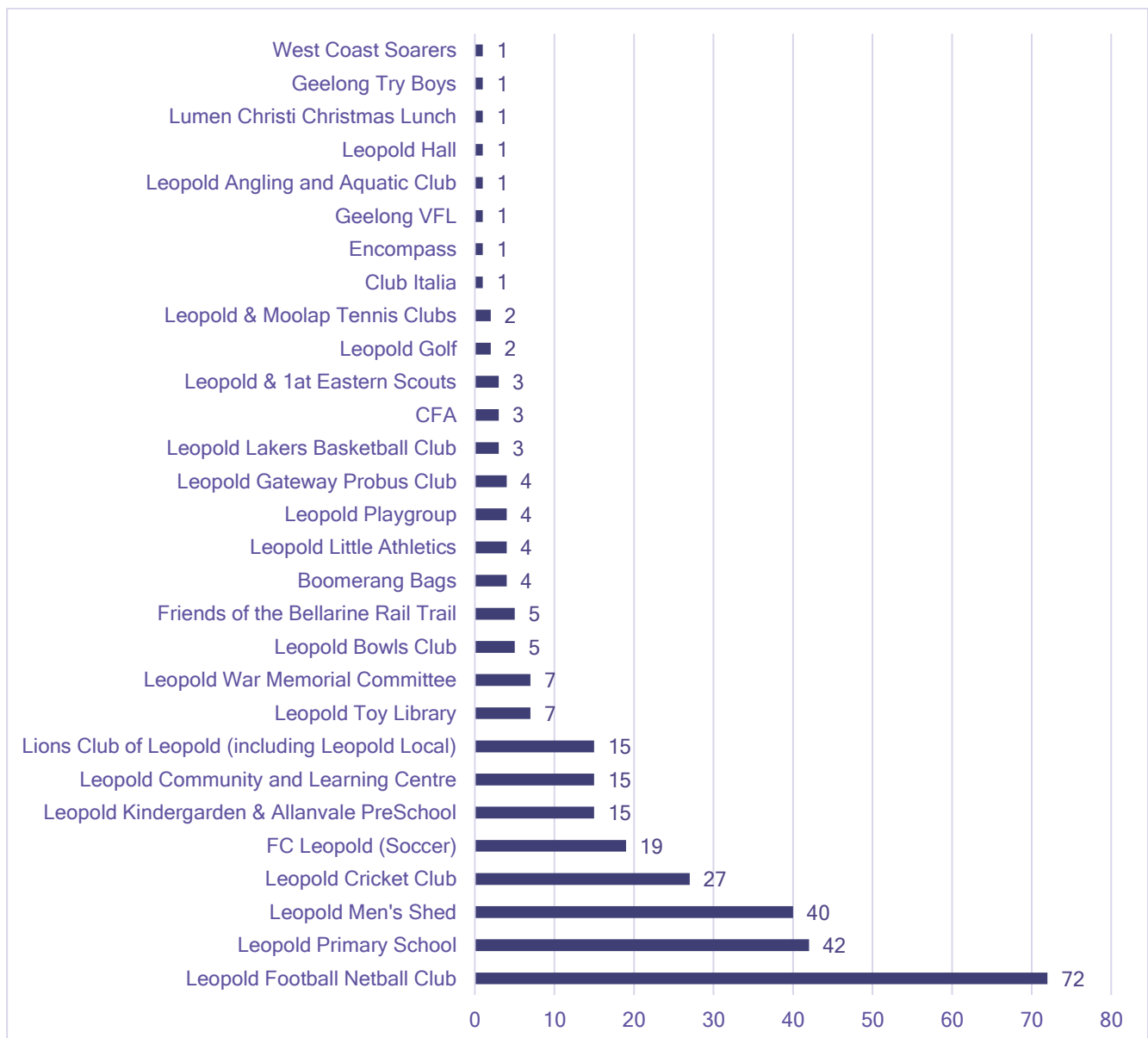
Emergency services	<p>Of the 180 respondents to the survey, 113 persons (63%) recorded comments in relation to emergency services; the largest response area. Although the respondents acknowledged the importance of the presence of the CFA and ambulance in our community; all respondents to this section noted the requirement of an increased police presence in the area.</p> <p>The most common request was for a 24/7 police station however many also commented on the need for a greater police presence and possible installation of CCTV in trouble spots throughout the suburb to deter crime.</p> <p>Also mentioned on a number of occasions is the concerns of the lack of repercussions for perpetrators of crime.</p>
Health and well-being	<p>The most prevalent comments for this area were the requirement for a Community Health Centre and/or provision of Allied Health Services. Particular reference was made to mental health and counselling services, skin checks, post op and outpatients clinic, x-ray, ultrasound facilities, podiatry services, clinical Pilates and men's health professionals.</p> <p>Most commonly reported with regard to general practitioners, was the lack of services available in Leopold, with most reporting difficulty of getting an appointment and/or doctors not taking on new patients. Also recorded was the requirement for more options to medical practitioners (GPs and visiting specialists) and better pathology facilities.</p> <p>In terms of general health and well-being the responses included access to first aid courses, health related exercise classes (both post op and general health), men's health support and meditation opportunities.</p> <p>In terms of the above it was suggested that Leopold has the opportunity to become the health and wellness hub for the Bellarine.</p>

Knowledge of Leopold Community Bank grants

The survey was also used as an opportunity to establish whether residents were aware of the wide variety of community activities that the Leopold Community Bank invests in. The respondents were asked to document their knowledge of sporting and community groups who they knew had received grants and sponsorships from Leopold Community Bank.

Of the 180 respondents to the Community Needs Survey; 2 persons (1%) stated they were aware the Community Bank supported community groups but could not provide details; 33 persons (18%) did not respond to this question or stated they were unaware and 145 persons (81%) responded and listed what they knew.

Of the 145 persons who responded, the following diagram details the 310 responses.



Although the knowledge of the respondents was extensive (31 community or sporting groups), the following 30 community groups have also received grants, donations and/or sponsorships from the Leopold Community Bank over the past 10 years. Total investment in community groups by the Leopold Community Bank Board over the past 10 years is close to \$1.4 million.

- Adopt a Family
- Ambulance Victoria (Leopold branch)
- Barwon Health Foundation
- Bellarine Community Health
- Bellarine Cricket Association
- Bellarine Living and Learning Centre
- Christ the King Primary School
- Cottage by the Sea
- East Geelong Men's Shed
- Geelong Racing Club
- Kids Day Out (Leopold Easter Egg Hunt)
- Leopold Auskick
- Leopold Girl Guides
- Leopold Neighbourhood Watch
- Leopold Senior Citizens Club
- Leopold Sportsmans Club
- Leopold Wildlife Service
- LINC
- One Voice
- Read the Play
- Red Cross
- Riding for the disabled
- St Vincent de Paul
- Starstruck Stables
- TeeUp4Kids
- Leopold Uniting Church
- Wallington Cricket Club
- Wallington Primary School
- Bellarine Bears (Baseball)
- Bellarine Wine Growers Association

Leopold Community Bank Board position interest

The Board of Leopold Community Bank is made up of volunteer directors and as such requires people with various skills and interests. As such the respondents were asked whether they were interested in volunteering their time to be on the Board of Leopold Community Bank. Of the 178 who answered the question, 29 persons indicated their interested in being involved. With 16% of the respondents indicating interest, this highlights an opportunity for future directorships for the Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results and comments made throughout the Community Needs Survey, Leopold Community Bank Board recommends the following actions to address the issues highlighted in the survey.

Although many of the expressed ideas are not something Leopold Community Bank can directly have an impact on, the Board commits to advocating for change by representing the community with the relevant authorities, and supporting organisations with applications for grants from relevant authorities.

Community event opportunities	Discuss with local community organisations the possibility of establishing some type of community event which could include market of local produce, family activities, music, health and wellbeing activities, promotion of community groups and the like. This could be an extension of The Paddock summer markets and the previous Kids Day Out.
Community Garden/Sustainability Project	Leopold Community Bank has committed to the establishment of a community garden with the Leopold Community and Learning Centre. (LCLC) Commit to working with this organisation to establish this and promote throughout the community. In addition, discuss the opportunity to broaden this to a Centre similar to that in Ocean Grove.
Improvement of the Bellarine Rail Trail (Leopold section)	Discuss with the City of Greater Geelong and Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail the opportunity of solar lighting along the Rail Trail.
Basketball opportunities	Work with Leopold Lakers Basketball Club and LINC to establish more suitable options for use of the facilities and/or investigate options for basketball for our local children.
Soccer stadium development	Leopold Community Bank has committed \$20000 towards the proposed Soccer Club redevelopment. Continue to work with them to ensure appropriate funding and commitment from local, state and federal representatives.
Improvement of community playgrounds	Meet with local government representatives to inform them of requirements for upgrades to and maintenance of community playgrounds.
Lions Club facilities	Investigate and advocate on behalf of the Lions Club of Leopold community opportunities for more suitable premises.
Promotion of activities/clubs	Continue to promote the activities and clubs it supports especially with the messaging of supporting the Branch is supporting the community. This is important to the future of the branch and thus access to funds for community organisations/clubs.

	Establish a central point/list of information on activities, groups and support organisations available in the Leopold community. Consider appropriateness of distribution to all households in Leopold.
Gateway Plaza improvements	Inform Centre Management of the particular results of the community survey with particular emphasis on car park design, traffic flow, drainage issues and expansion/diversity requirements.
Improved traffic conditions	Along with issues regarding lack of bike lanes, general road maintenance, enforcement of speed and traffic conditions; advocate to the City of Greater Geelong regarding the issues surrounding traffic management at the corner of Melaluka Road and Bellarine Highway, and the surfacing of Clifton Avenue between Bellarine Highway and Portarlington Road.
Education requirements	Discuss with the State Member regarding the possibility of a secondary school or subsidised transport costs to existing schools, and future expansion requirements/ alternatives for the primary school. Discuss with LCLC outcomes of the survey with regard to adult education and out of hours opportunities.
Community safety	Discuss with state member the results regarding community safety and propose opportunities for increasing a police presence in the community. Work with community organisations to improve information flow regarding community safety activities and support.
Community health and well being	Advocate to Barwon Health regarding opportunities to establish Leopold as a Health and Well Being Hub for the Bellarine and/or the extension of provision of allied health services to the community.
Women's Shed	Investigate opportunities for and the possibility of establishing a "Women's Shed" and/or work with existing services to meet the requirements of such an idea.
Graffiti Removal	Work with local government to establish a better response to graffiti removal.
Public access to waterways	Discuss with appropriate authorities, opportunities for future development of better public access to waterways on both sides of Leopold.
Directorships	The future of the Leopold Community is conditional on the Branch being used by the community for their banking services and having a volunteer Board who oversee the investment of the profits to shareholders and the community. The Board will make contact with those who indicated interest in early 2020. It is anticipated that an information session will be held to discuss the opportunity and requirements of a Board position; and applications be sort to fill the Board positions.

DISCLAIMER: This document has been prepared by the Board of Leopold Community Bank (Leopold Community Enterprises Limited) based on the Community Needs Survey of 2019. It does not intend to represent the ideas of all residents of Leopold but only of those who took the time to respond.