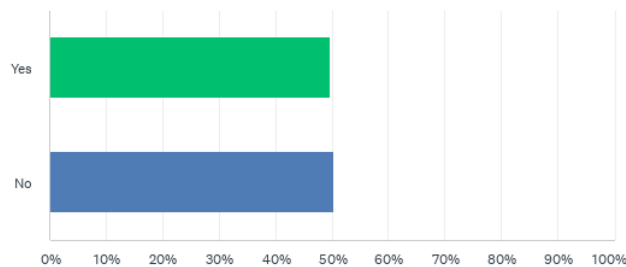


**Let's Talk Progress 2024-34 Survey – open ended responses summarised and question graphs.**

Q1 What three words best describe how you want the Stratford district to be known?



Q2 Imagine Stratford in 10 years' time. If Council continued doing what we're doing now would you be happy with the outcome?



**Key themes categorised under the four wellbeings**

Q3. People who said Yes to Q2 “Imagine Stratford in 10 years’ time. If Council continued doing what we’re doing now would you be happy with the outcome?” were asked what three areas we do well.

**Environmental:**

- Maintaining cleanliness in the town
- Preservation of green areas, parks, and walkways
- Protecting the environment and waterways
- Planning for sustainability and future-proofing financially

**Cultural:**

- Support for arts, culture, and community events
- Promotion of local identity and heritage

**Social:**

- Community involvement and engagement
- Events and activities for all age groups
- Provision of parks, playgrounds, and public spaces

- Youth programmes and spaces

**Economic:**

- Balancing budgets and prioritising spending
- Tourism promotion and development
- Supporting local businesses and markets
- Providing good basic facilities and infrastructure

**Q4. People who said No to Q2 “Imagine Stratford in 10 years’ time. If Council continued doing what we’re doing now would you be happy with the outcome?” were asked what three areas we should focus on for improvements.**

**Environmental:**

- Reduce through traffic in town centre
- Implement low-emission strategies
- Improve waste disposal and cleanliness
- Enhance the appearance of the district

**Cultural:**

- Promote arts, theater, and cultural events
- Embrace and showcase Māori culture
- Maintain the Shakespearean theme

**Social:**

- Support vulnerable individuals and families
- Provide opportunities and support for youth
- Foster a safe and inclusive community
- Maintain and improve community resources and facilities

**Economic:**

- Lower rates and control spending
- Invest in infrastructure and roads
- Attract diverse businesses
- Promote tourism
- Upgrade facilities and amenities in the town center

**Q5 People’s biggest worries about the future of our district**

**Environmental:**

- Climate change impacts
- Natural hazard concerns
- Rubbish accumulation and pollution
- Lack of recycling and sustainability practices

**Cultural:**

- Potential loss of cultural identity
- Lack of promotion and preservation of local history and heritage
- Māori language integration concerns

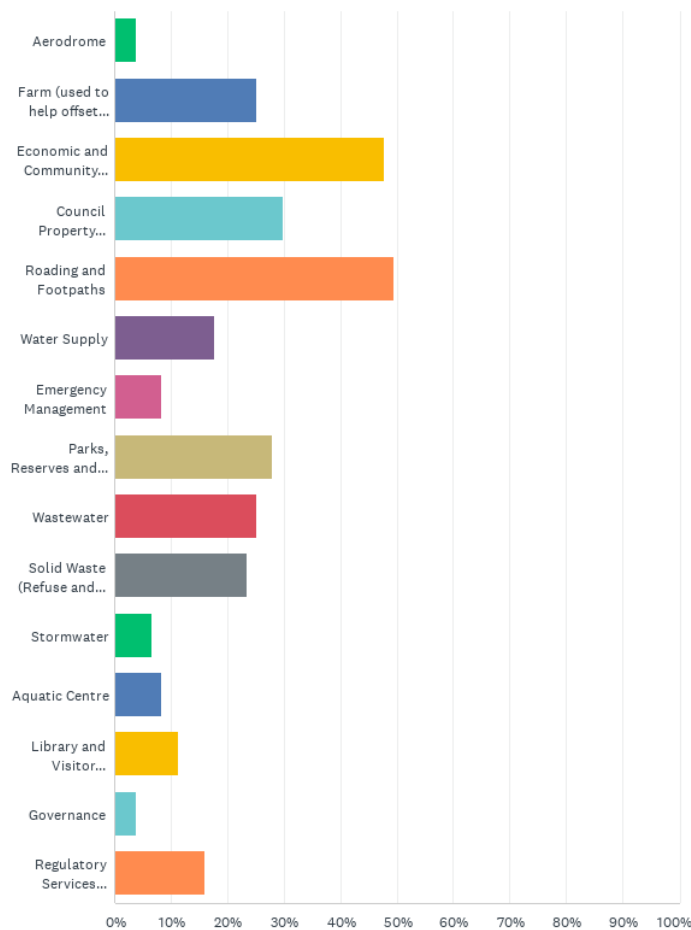
**Social:**

- Deterioration of community safety and increasing crime rates
- Decline in youth engagement and interest in activities
- Loss of community services and facilities

**Economic:**

- Business closures and loss of shops
- Rising rates and financial burden on residents
- Lack of economic development and investment
- Decreased affordability of housing and cost of living

Q6 This is the list of areas rates currently get spent on. What do you consider as the top three areas Council will need to invest in over the next 10 years? (Keeping in mind Water Supply, Stormwater and Wastewater are part of the current water reforms, and may not be delivered by Council when that is finalised). Tick just your top three.



**Note:** there was an error with this question above for a period of time while the survey was open, it had Roding and Footpaths twice and left out stormwater. This was amended, but Roads and Footpaths response should be higher than what is shown.

**Q7 Is there is anything else Council should be doing / spending rates on.**

These bullet points cover a selection of the types of answers received to this question. Much of what was suggested were existing services Council do, however respondents clearly don't know or don't think we do a good job of it and should invest more in that area.

**A few ideas from people:**

- More funding for cemeteries
- Funding for healthcare
- Support for education and schools
- Youth development programmes and activities
- Green waste pick-up and electronic waste disposal
- Dog park
- Urban rainwater collection tanks
- Finding a solution to support building owners to upgrade and preserve old buildings and shop fronts
- Charging stations for electric vehicles
- Safe and secure storage for bicycles in the town