

Survey Report

By Dee Johnson

**BELLS BEACH SURFING RECREATION RESERVE COASTAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW 2018**

OCTOBER 2018

*Surf Coast Shire Council acknowledges the Wadawurrung people as the
traditional owners of the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve*

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This report was written by Dee Johnson, incorporating data analysis (including charts and weighting analysis) undertaken by Southern Moon.

Executive Summary

This report contains the results of the Bells Pop Up Survey (the survey) undertaken during July and August of 2018. The survey was the main engagement activity used to capture community views to help with updating the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015-2025 (CMP). While the CMP is a strategic document setting the reserve's management direction until 2025, Council is legally required to update the plan regularly – previously every three years under the Coastal Management Act and now every five years under the Marine and Coastal Act of 2018. This minor update will not change the plan's long term vision or guiding principles. The accompanying Implementation Plan for the reserve is being updated at the same time.

The survey sought input on specific management actions and also captured the demographics of respondents, use patterns and experience at the reserve. The majority of questions also had opportunity for open comment to provide greater clarity around responses. Photographs were included in the survey to assist with respondents' identification and understanding of issues.

The survey was widely promoted through various channels, including local and social media, the Bells Beach Committee, the stakeholder email list and posters at the reserve. The survey was available online through Council's website and a daily pop-up 'Van Chat' on site at the reserve for a week. The Van Chat provided the opportunity for face to face interaction with reserve users who were invited to complete the survey while enjoying a free coffee.

A total of 502 people responded, with half the surveys completed directly online and the other half at the reserve.

Demographic snapshot

There were more male respondents with two thirds male and a third female. Most respondents were in the 18 and 50 age group (62%), followed by over 50 (37%). The primary residence of respondents was predominantly in Surf Coast Shire (60%), mainly from Torquay/Jan Juc. Other Surf Coast locations included Anglesea, Bells Beach and Bellbrae. Other respondents were from Greater Melbourne (16%), Geelong (11%) and the rest from other regional Victoria, another Australian state or internationally.

Patterns of use

A large majority (93%) of respondents rated their overall experience at the reserve as excellent or very good. The reserve was visited frequently by respondents with 63% visiting at least once a fortnight and 25% daily or most days. Long term familiarity and usage is also revealed with 40% of respondents having visited the reserve for 20 years or more.

A wide variety of activities were undertaken at the reserve including surfing, walking, other sporting and fitness, environmental, sightseeing, event related, bird watching, photography and contemplative/wave watching. Most respondents use the reserve for more than one activity and the top two activities were walking and surfing. Over 57% of respondents use the reserve just to surf or to surf and participate in other activities, and surfing is the activity respondents spend most time doing at the reserve.

Specific Management Actions

Respondents recorded how they felt about a range of management actions through a scaled system - love it, like it, live with it and loathe it. For the five actions relating to pathways and beach access the emerging pattern was love or like it (combined) as the most frequent response, ranging from 32% to 50% of respondents, live with it ranging from 18% to 27% and the loathe it category ranging from 19% to 25%. The relative distribution of the response categories within each management action however varied with no consistent pattern evident.

A weighting system was also applied to the results and reported for comparison purposes with the raw data to check whether the overall results captured/reflected the views of Surf Coast Shire

residents, frequent users (visiting at least fortnightly) and surfers. Where the higher weighting was applied there was little difference showing in the results, indicating the overall results are also reflective of these sectors overall.

Path surface in the Winki top car park

- The main path between the car park and fence is gravel and options for changing the path surface are being explored. Respondents were asked how they would feel about changing the surface from gravel to a different material.
- 32% of respondents would love or like the change, 27% would live with it, 23% would loathe it and 18% were not sure.
- Comments were provided by 23% of respondents, and topics covered included keep it the same/support gravel, depends on the other material, functionality/design and access.
- If the surface was to be changed, the surface material respondents most frequently supported was sustainably harvested timber decking, followed by recycled timber-plastic composite and textured concrete stone aggregate.

Surface of the area and path leading to Hammerhead, lower, car park

- There is currently a wide gravel area and a gravel path leading to the lower Hammerhead car park. Changing the surface is being explored. Respondents were asked how they would feel about changing this section of gravel to a more stable surface such as textured concrete stone aggregate with a similar colour to the existing gravel.
- 44.0% of respondents would love or like the change and a further 27% would live with it, 20% would loathe it and 9% were not sure.
- Comments were provided by 13% of respondents and topics covered included functionality/design, erosion, keep it natural/the same, a range of views on concrete aggregate, alternative material suggestions and access.

Path leading to Winki surf breaks

- The concrete path leading to the Winki surf breaks is due for upgrading. An alternative to upgrading the existing concrete path would be to construct a permanent version of the temporary elevated path erected for the 2018 Rip Curl Pro. Respondents were asked how they would feel if a permanent section of elevated pathway about 40m long replaced this concrete path.
- Half of the respondents would love or like the change and a further 19% would live with it, 19% would loathe it and 12% were not sure.
- Comments were provided by 13% of respondents and topics covered included dislike/don't support proposal, keep it natural/the same, functionality/design, support/don't mind proposal, environmental matters and access.

Beach access stairs and lookouts

- The various beach access stairs and lookouts at the reserve are constructed of timber which weathers rapidly in the coastal environment. When maintaining the stairs and lookouts (e.g. hand rails or areas of rot) there are potentially longer-lasting or more sustainable material options. Respondents were asked how they would feel about materials other than timber being incorporated into the beach access stairs and lookouts on a maintenance needs basis.
- 42.0% of respondents would love or like it and a further 28% would live with it, 22% would loathe it and 8% were not sure.
- Comments were provided by 11% of respondents and topics covered included materials used, dislike/don't support proposal, keep it natural, functionality/design and support proposal.
- If materials other than timber were to be incorporated, the material most frequently supported was recycled timber-plastic composite (48%) followed by fibre-reinforced plastic products (22%).

Landing Platform at Winki beach

- The steps to the beach at Winki end on large uneven rocks. There is potential to install a small landing at the base of the stairs to improve access and safety. Respondents were asked how they would feel about the installation of a small landing at the base of the stairs at Winki Beach.

- 48% of respondents would love or like this change and a further 18% would live with it, 25% would loathe it and 9% were not sure.
- Comments were provided by 17% of respondents and topics covered included leave it as it is/not necessary, support for the landing, would not last/high maintenance, more access could be dangerous/negative impact and other ideas to address this issue.

The toilet block

- While works on the toilet block are not due during the next three years, it is time to start planning for improved toilet facilities at the reserve. Some facts about the current toilet block around age, access compliance, energy efficiency, the mural and location were provided.
- Respondents were similarly supportive of demolishing and rebuilding on the same site (36%) and demolishing and rebuilding in a new location (34%). This was followed by those preferring to retain the existing toilet block and undertake an internal refurbishment (25%).
- Comments were provided by 16% of respondents and topics covered included appropriate location, functionality/design, mural/artwork and reasons for retaining and refurbishing.

Interpretation of Indigenous and surfing culture and the natural environment

- There is potential for visitors to learn more about the reserve's Indigenous and Surfing cultural and heritage values and more about the natural environment at Bells. Guidance was sought on how to best do this.
- There was strong support for this action with a large majority of respondents (83%) feeling they would love or like this change. The top three options supported were on site creative works (27%), on-site signage (23%) and materials at the Australian National Surfing Museum (17%).
- Comments were provided by 10% of respondents and topics covered included functionality/design considerations, other ideas for types of interpretation and don't support onsite interpretation.

Conclusion

The survey has been effective in reaching a wide audience of visitors to the reserve with a high number of respondents, including 60% from Surf Coast Shire. The demographics of respondents, their use patterns, experience at the reserve and views on a number of specific management actions have been captured. A keen community interest in the reserve and a willingness to participate in engagement around planning for the reserve is evident.

Positive experience overall at the reserve is recorded by nearly all respondents and reflected in the significant number and variety of activities undertaken, and high frequency of usage. Long term familiarity and usage is also revealed with 40% of respondents having visited the reserve for 20 years or more.

Responses received through the survey have formed the basis of this report and the results will inform the update of the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015 - 25 and the development of a new three year Implementation Plan for the reserve.

1. Introduction

The Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015 - 25 (CMP) is a long term plan that sets the direction for the reserve until at least 2025. As the land manager for the reserve, Council is legally required to update the CMP regularly – previously every three years under the Coastal Management Act 1995 and now every five years under the Marine and Coastal Act 2018.

No changes are proposed to the CMP vision, guiding principles, core values and ongoing management approach as part of the update review. The review seeks input on specific management actions which will inform the update of the CMP and the development of a new three year Implementation Plan for the reserve.



2. Engagement Methodology

To inform the CMP review and the development of a new Implementation Plan for the reserve, the 'Bells Pop Up Survey' (the survey) was developed for reserve users as part of Council's engagement activities. The purpose of the survey was to seek reserve users' feedback on specific management actions, including pathway surfacing options, the long term future of the toilet block and the potential for an elevated walkway at Winki. The survey also collected information on respondents' patterns of use of the reserve, as well as general demographic characteristics.

The survey questions were developed by an external demographer and included photos to assist in identifying and understanding issues and the opportunity for respondents to indicate how they felt about a range of issues through a scaled system - love it, like it, live with it and loathe it. The majority of questions also had opportunity for open comment to provide greater clarity around responses.

The survey was widely promoted through various channels, including local and social media, the Bells Beach Committee, the stakeholder email list from developing the current CMP and posters at the reserve. The survey was available online through Council's website for three weeks from 26 July to 19 August 2018. Council also held a daily pop-up 'Van Chat' on site at the reserve for a week from 29 July to 4 August 2018. The Van Chat provided the opportunity for face to face interaction with reserve users who were invited to complete the survey while enjoying a free coffee.

Survey response:

- 252 were completed in hard copy at the reserve
- 250 were completed directly online
- **a total of 502 surveys**



3. Report methodology

Raw data: For each survey question the raw data results are presented with tables and charts, developed by an external data expert.

Weighting: A weighting system has also been applied to the results by an external data expert for comparison purposes with the raw data. The purpose of the weighting was to check whether the overall results captured/reflected the views of Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users (visiting at least fortnightly) and surfers. By scoring these aspects higher, it could be determined if there were any anomalies/significant differences between overall survey results and this main demographic. These results are referred to in the results summary for relevant questions, and the supporting comparison pie charts are included as Appendix 1.

Other category: A number of questions included “Other (please specify)” as an answer option. A summary of the “Other” answers is provided.

Comments: A number of questions also provided the option for respondents to provide comments. Not everyone took up this opportunity. The raw number of respondents who provided and did not provide comments is included for relevant questions. A summary of topics and comments raised is also included.

Results summary: main results arising from data

Survey questions: a copy of the survey is attached as Appendix 2.

Data note: The % of responses per category in the data table (raw data results), may at times differ very slightly to the pie charts. This occurs as the data tables show % of responses per category as a proportion of all 502 respondents, while the pie charts show % of responses per category as a proportion of respondents who answered that particular question. i.e. it excludes Nil Responses.

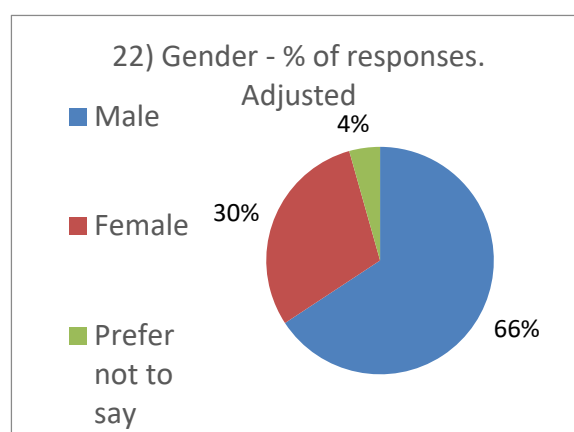
4. Demographics of survey respondents

From Survey Section 3: About you

Questions 19-23 were designed to capture information on respondents' gender, age, where they live and whether they belong to an organisation or group with an interest in the reserve. The raw data is provided first for each question. Then the summary of results for the five questions is provided.

Question 22. Gender

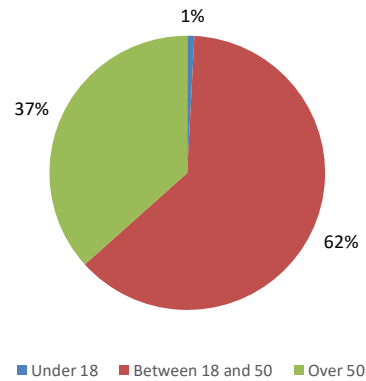
22) Gender - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Male	330	65.7
Female	150	29.9
Prefer not to say	4	0.8
Nil response	18	3.6
Total	502	100.0



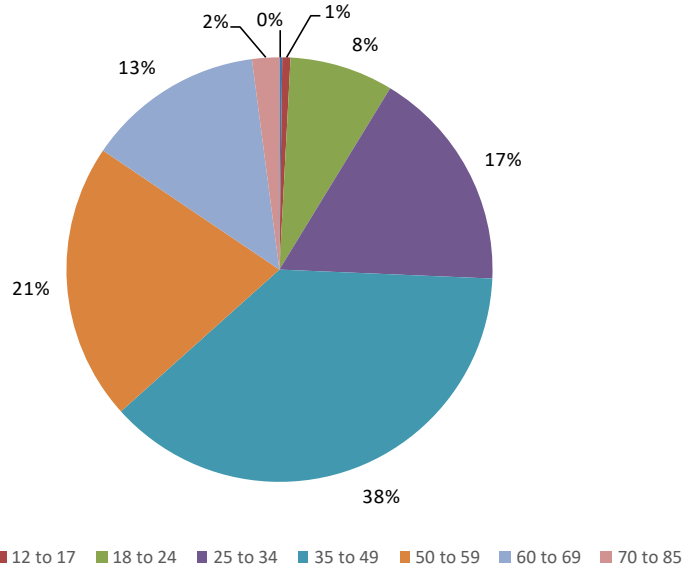
Question 21. Age group

21) Age group - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Under 12	1	0.2
12 to 17	3	0.6
18 to 24	38	7.6
25 to 34	82	16.3
35 to 49	182	36.3
50 to 59	102	20.3
60 to 69	65	12.9
70 to 85	10	2.0
Prefer not to say	1	0.2
Nil response	18	3.6
Total	502	100.0

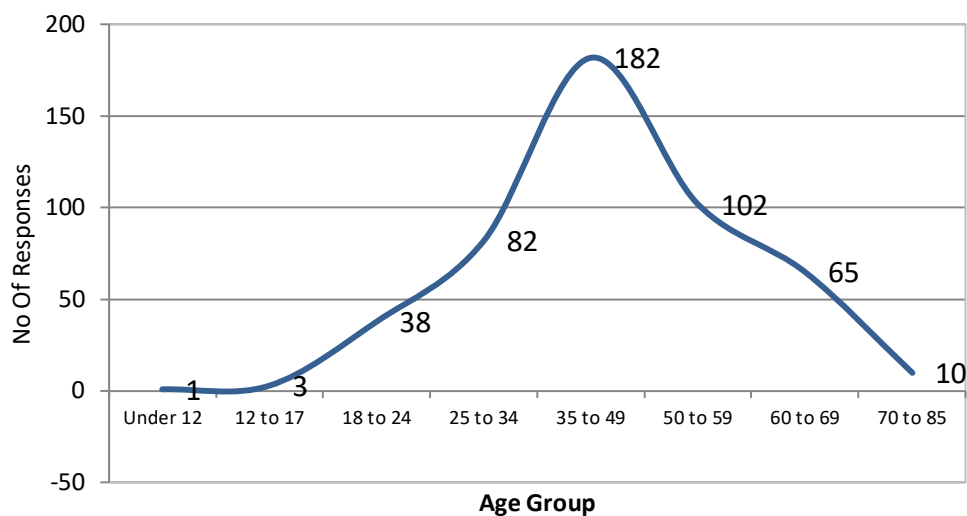
21) Age group - Grouped - % of responses.



21) Age group - % of responses.



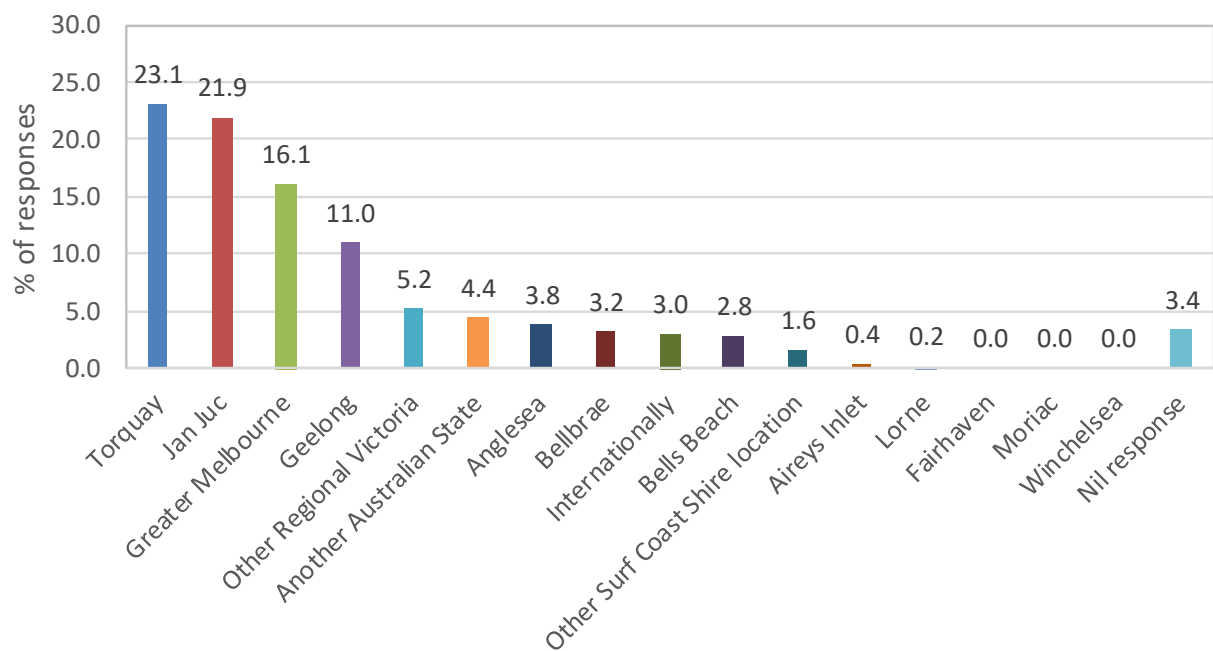
Age Group Bell Curve



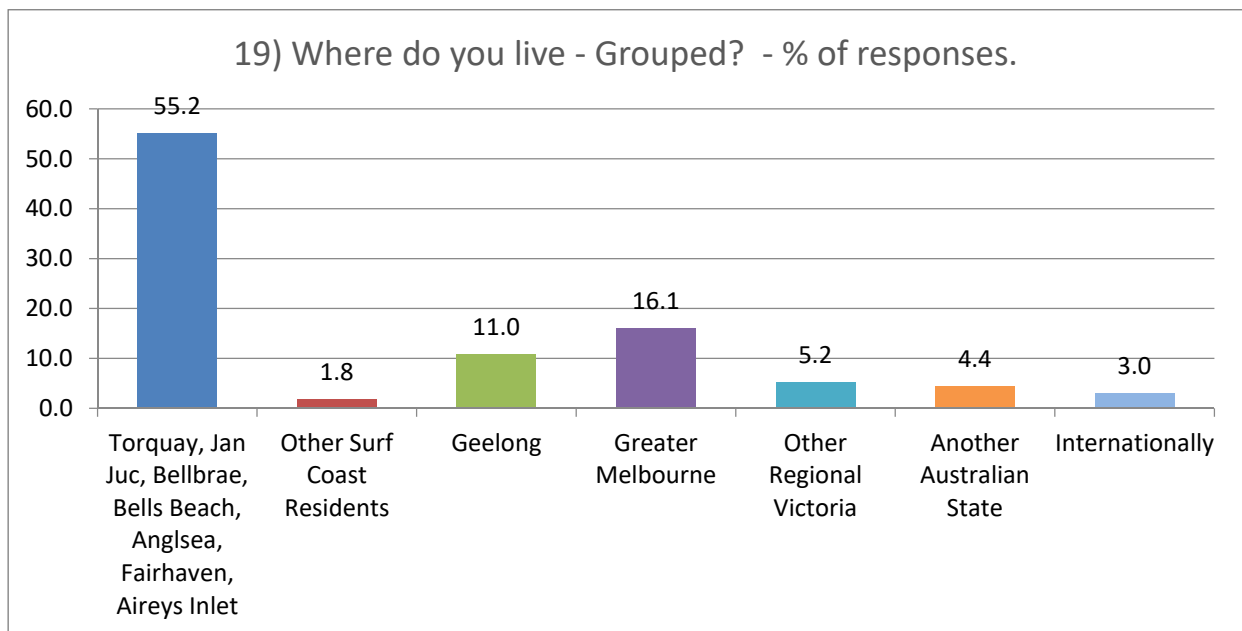
Question 19. Where do you live?

19) Where do you live? - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Torquay	116	23.1
Jan Juc	110	21.9
Anglesea	19	3.8
Aireys Inlet	2	0.4
Bells Beach	14	2.8
Bellbrae	16	3.2
Fairhaven	0	0.0
Lorne	1	0.2
Moriac	0	0.0
Winchelsea	0	0.0
Other Surf Coast Shire location	8	1.6
Geelong	55	11.0
Greater Melbourne	81	16.1
Other Regional Victoria	26	5.2
Another Australian State	22	4.4
Internationally	15	3.0
Nil response	17	3.4
Total	502	100.0

19) Where do you live? - % of responses.

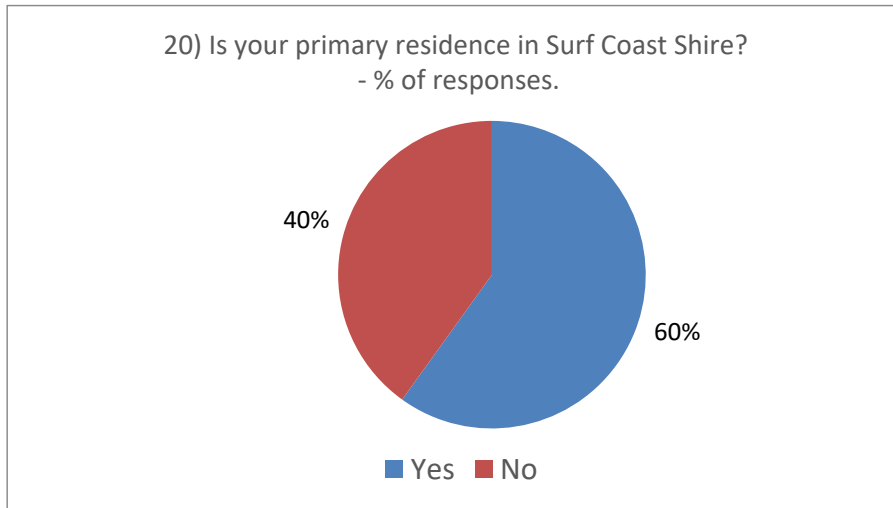


19) Where do you live - Grouped? - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Torquay, Jan Juc, Bellbrae, Bells Beach, Anglesea, Fairhaven, Aireys Inlet	277	55.2
Other Surf Coast Residents	9	1.8
Geelong	55	11.0
Greater Melbourne	81	16.1
Other Regional Victoria	26	5.2
Another Australian State	22	4.4
Internationally	15	3.0
N/A	17	3.4
Total	502	100.0



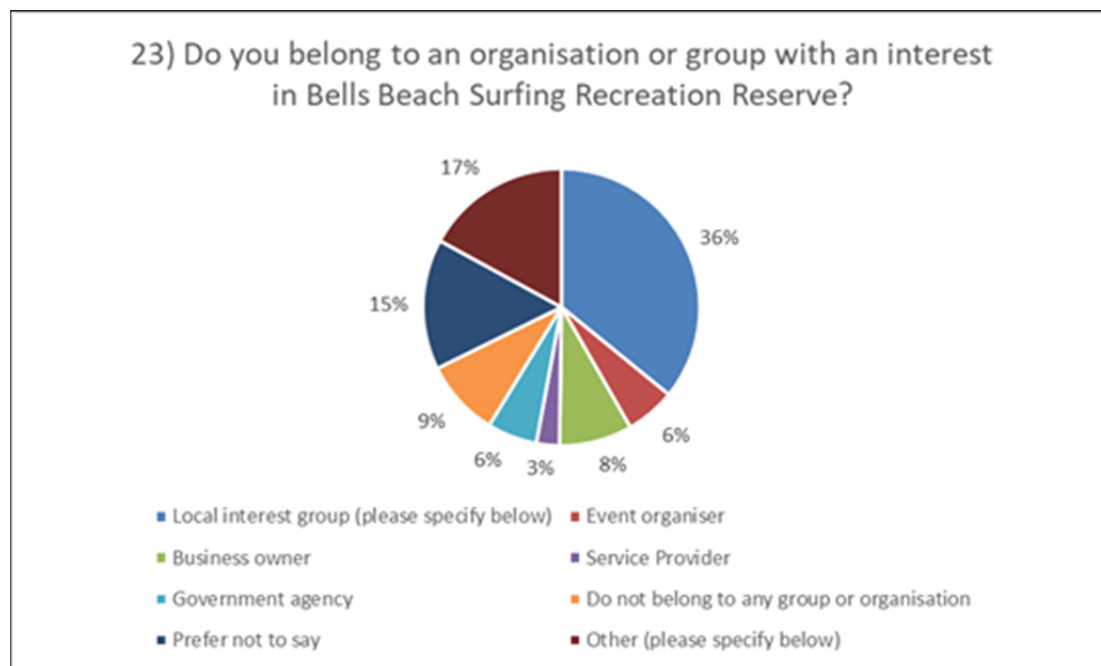
Question 20. Is your primary residence in Surf Coast Shire?

20) Is your primary residence in Surf Coast Shire? - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Yes	287	57.2
No	192	38.2
Nil response	23	4.6
Total	502	100.0



Question 23. Do you belong to an organisation or group with an interest in Bells Beach Surfing Recreation reserve?

Respondents could choose more than one category for this question. The chart below represents the answers of 425 respondents, with 77 respondents not providing an answer to this question.



“Other and Local interest group please specify” summary

Respondents who answered “Local Interest Group” or “Other” were asked to provide more detail. There were 110 respondents who chose these options and provided further detail. The types of organisations/groups noted were in 5 main categories:

- Hang gliding/paragliding
- Surfing
- Environmental
- School
- Other e.g. cultural, community

Results summary: Questions 19-23 – About you

- The majority of survey respondents were male (66%), 30% were female and 4% preferred not to say or did not respond.
- 62% of respondents were aged between 18 and 50, 37% were over 50 and 1% were under 18.
- The primary residence of respondents was predominantly in Surf Coast Shire (60%), mainly from Torquay/Jan Juc. Other Surf Coast Shire locations included Anglesea, Bells Beach and Bellbrae. Other respondents were from Greater Melbourne (16%), Geelong (11%) and the rest from other regional Victoria, another Australian state or internationally.
- For respondents belonging to an organisation or group with an interest in the reserve the highest response category was a local interest group (36%) followed by business owner (8%), government agency and event organiser (both 6%). There were also 17% indicating “other” covering a range of groups.

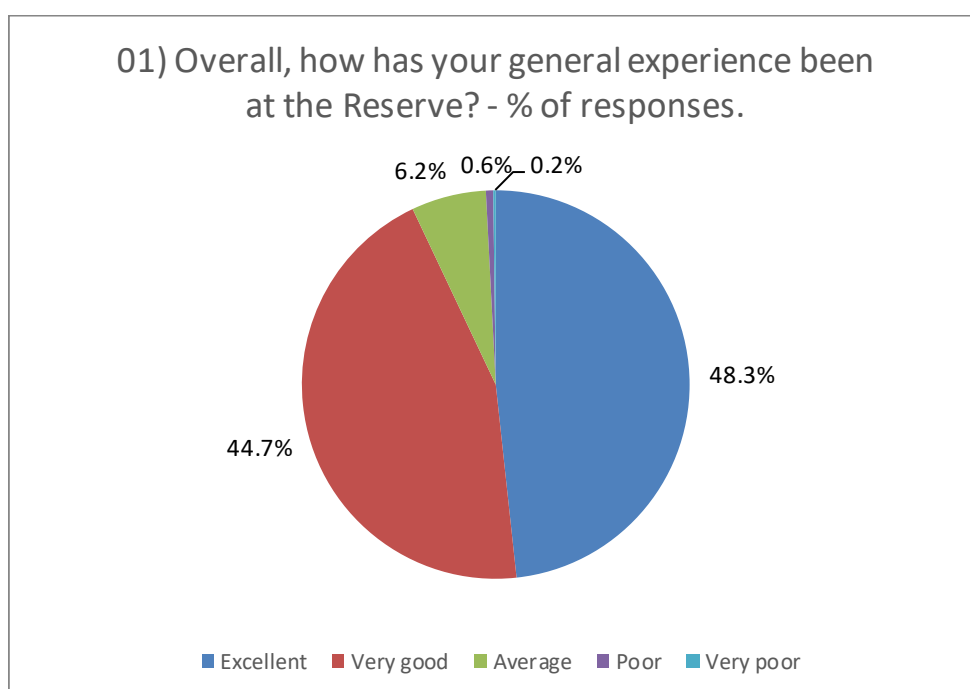
5. Use of Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve

From Survey Section 1: Use of Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve

This part of the survey captured data on use of the reserve – overall experience, frequency and duration of visits and type of activities at the reserve. The raw data has been provided first, then any comments and a summary of the results.

Question 1. Overall, how has your general experience been at the reserve?

01) Overall, how has your general experience been at the Reserve? - % of responses.	Number of responses per category	% of responses per category
Excellent	240	47.8
Very good	222	44.2
Average	31	6.2
Poor	3	0.6
Very poor	1	0.2
Nil Response	5	1.0
Total	502	100.0



Comments summary: Question 1

Question 1	Number of respondents
Providing comments	86
No comments provided	416
Survey respondents	502

Topic	Number	Comments Q1
General positive	26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beautiful/amazing place and scenery • Relaxing, enjoyable • Love the experience
Keep it natural/don't change/preserve/protect	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural, fragile, unique, national treasure • Needs to be preserved • Keep it as it is, don't change it
Improvements suggested/criticisms	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements required to infrastructure e.g. toilets, showers. • Too busy • Access to hang gliding launch when surf competitions on
Positive re facilities/reserve maintenance	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great facilities including paths • Clean • Good maintenance and protection work
Surf specific	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great surf • Beyond capacity on peak/good surf days • Concerns re poor surf etiquette
Other	5	
Total number of comments	86	

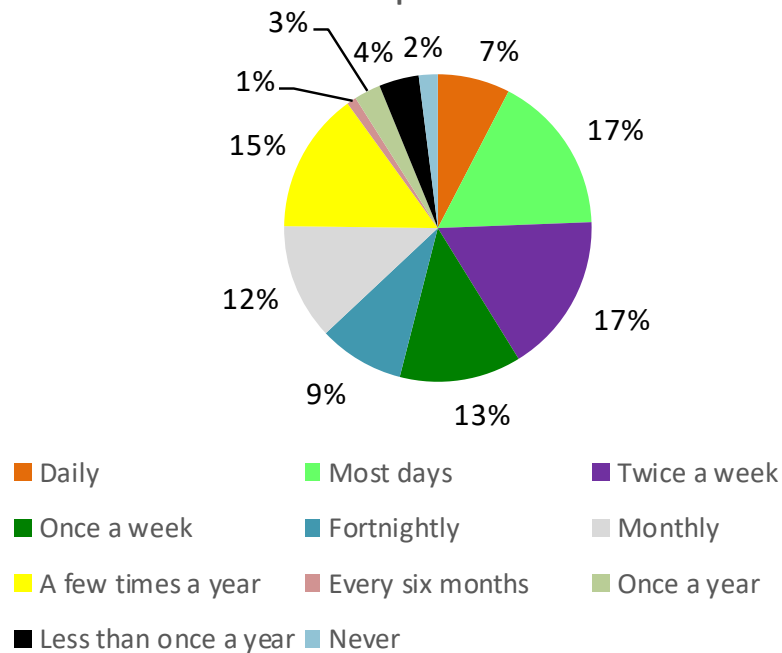
Results summary: Question 1 – General experience at reserve

- A large majority of respondents (93%) rated their general experience at the reserve as excellent (48.3%) or very good (44.7%).
- 6.2% rated their experience as average and 0.8% as poor or very poor.

Question 2. How often do you visit the reserve?

02) How often do you visit the Reserve? - % of responses.	Number of responses per category	% of responses per category
Daily	38	7.6
Most days	84	16.7
Twice a week	84	16.7
Once a week	64	12.7
Fortnightly	45	9.0
Monthly	61	12.2
A few times a year	74	14.7
Every six months	5	1.0
Once a year	14	2.8
Less than once a year	21	4.2
Never	10	2.0
Nil response	2	0.4
Total	502	100.0

02) How often do you visit the Reserve? - % of responses.



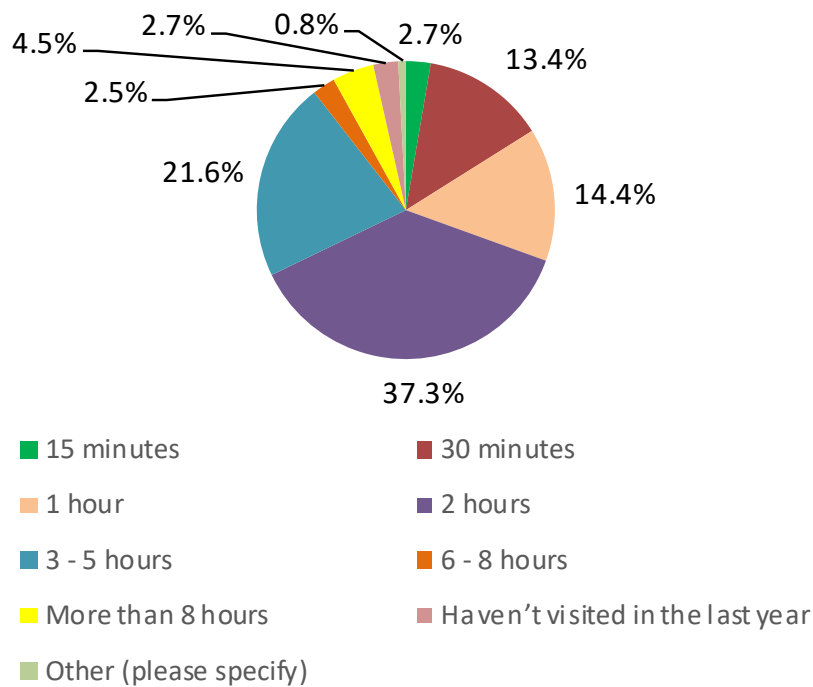
Results summary: Question 2 – How often do you visit the reserve

- The reserve was visited frequently by respondents with 63% of respondents (315 people), visiting the reserve at least once a fortnight.
- Nearly a quarter of respondents visited daily or most days.
- 12% visited monthly and 15% visited a few times a year.
- 9% visit once a year or less.

Question 3. During the last year, how long on average did you stay?

03) During the past year, how long on average did you stay? - % of responses.	Number of responses per category	% of responses per category
15 minutes	13	2.6
30 minutes	65	12.9
1 hour	70	13.9
2 hours	181	36.1
3 - 5 hours	105	20.9
6 - 8 hours	12	2.4
More than 8 hours	22	4.4
Haven't visited in the last year	13	2.6
Other (please specify)	4	0.8
Nil Response	17	3.4
Total	502	100.0

03) During the past year, how long on average did you stay? - % of responses.



“Other” category summary: Question 3

- It depends on the surf
- It depends on time available
- Some undertake different activities throughout the day
- Some stay all day
- It varies from visit to visit
- Some run through the reserve

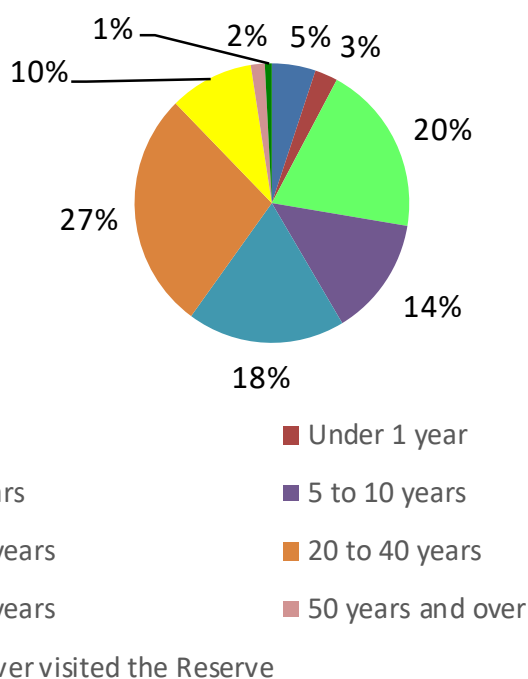
Results summary: Question 3 – How long on average did you stay

- Over half of the respondents (58.9%) stay between 2 - 5 hours at the reserve.
- Two hours was the most frequent amount of time respondents spent on average at the reserve (37.3%), followed by 3-5 hours (21.6%), 1 hour (14.4%) and 30 minutes (13.4%).
- 4.5% spent more than 8 hours on average.

Question 4. How long have you been visiting the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve?

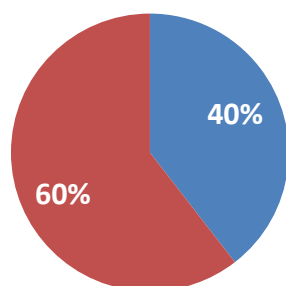
04) How long have you been visiting the Reserve? - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
First time	25	5.0
Under 1 year	13	2.6
1 to 5 years	96	19.1
5 to 10 years	67	13.3
10 to 20 years	90	17.9
20 to 40 years	134	26.7
40 to 50 years	48	9.6
50 years and over	8	1.6
I have never visited the Reserve	4	0.8
Nil response	17	3.4
Total	502	100.0

04) How long have you been visiting the Reserve? - % of responses.



04) How long have you been visiting the Reserve? - Grouped - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
More than 20 years	190	37.8
Less than 20 years	291	58.0
N/A	21	4.2
Total	502	100.0

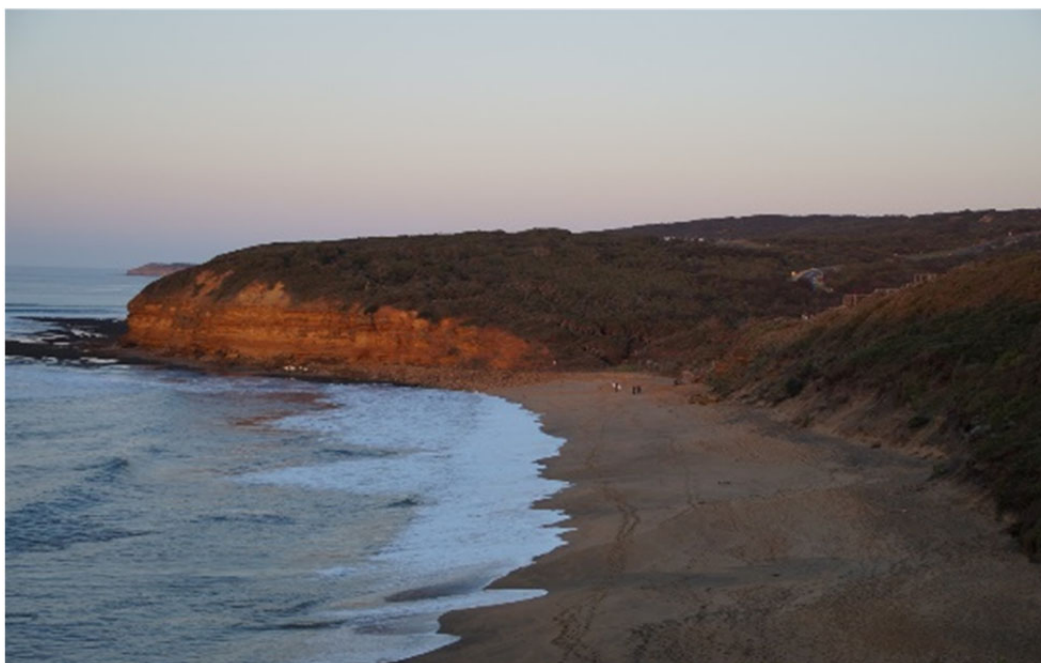
04) How long have you been visiting the Reserve? - Grouped - % of responses.



■ More than 20 years ■ Less than 20 years

Results summary: Question 4 – How long have you been visiting the reserve

- Long term familiarity with the reserve is evident with 40% of respondents visiting the reserve for more than 20 years.
- 60% have been visiting the reserve for less than 20 years.
- 20-40 years (27%) was most commonly selected, followed by 1-5 years (20%) and 10-20 years (18%).
- 12% have been visiting the reserve for 40 years or more.

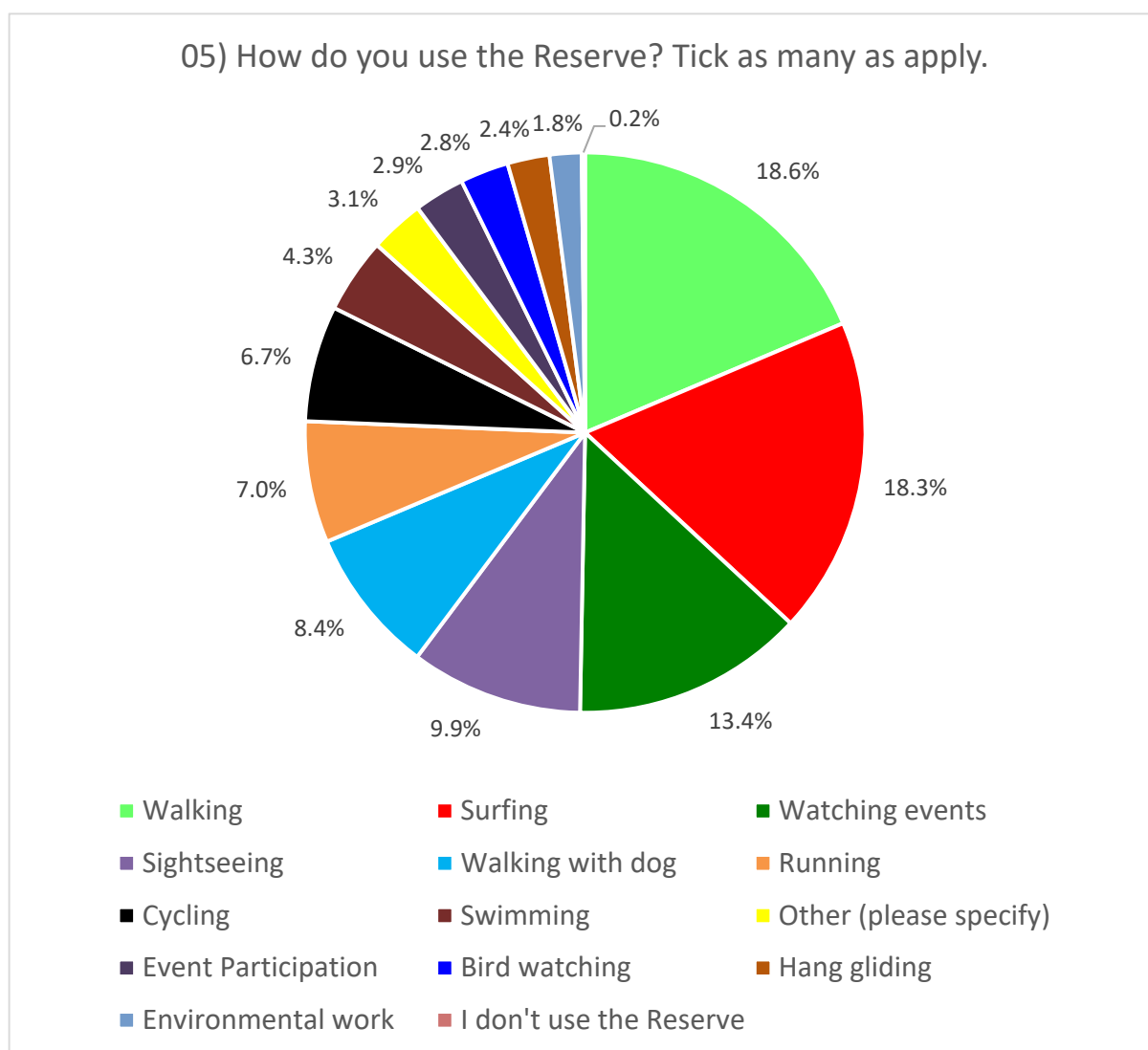


Demography Photography

Question 5. How do you use the Reserve?

This question allowed each respondent to select more than one activity. For example, many of the people who use the reserve predominately for surfing, also visit the reserve to take a walk, and so both activities were selected by these respondents.

05) How do you use the Reserve? Tick as many as apply.	Number of responses per category	% of responses per category
Walking	292	18.6
Surfing	287	18.3
Watching events	210	13.4
Sightseeing	156	9.9
Walking with dog	132	8.4
Running	110	7.0
Cycling	105	6.7
Swimming	68	4.3
Other (please specify)	49	3.1
Event Participation	46	2.9
Bird watching	44	2.8
Hang gliding	38	2.4
Environmental work	29	1.8
I don't use the Reserve	3	0.2
Total	1,569	100.0



This next table provides some further analysis of surfing activity at the reserve. It shows how many respondents selected surfing only, those that selected surfing and other activities combined, and those who only selected activities other than surfing.

Question 5 - surfing split out	Number of responses	Number of responses as a % of the total 502 respondents.
Respondents who selected 'Surfing' only in their responses to question 5.	58	11.6
Respondents who included 'Surfing' as one of their activities in their responses to question 5.	229	45.6
Total number of responses from question 5, who visit Bells to Surf only, or to Surf and participate in other activities.	287	57.2
Total number of respondents who did not include 'Surfing' as one of their activities in question 5.	209	41.6
Respondents who did not enter an activity against question 5.	6	1.2

“Other” category summary: Question 5

Other activities included:

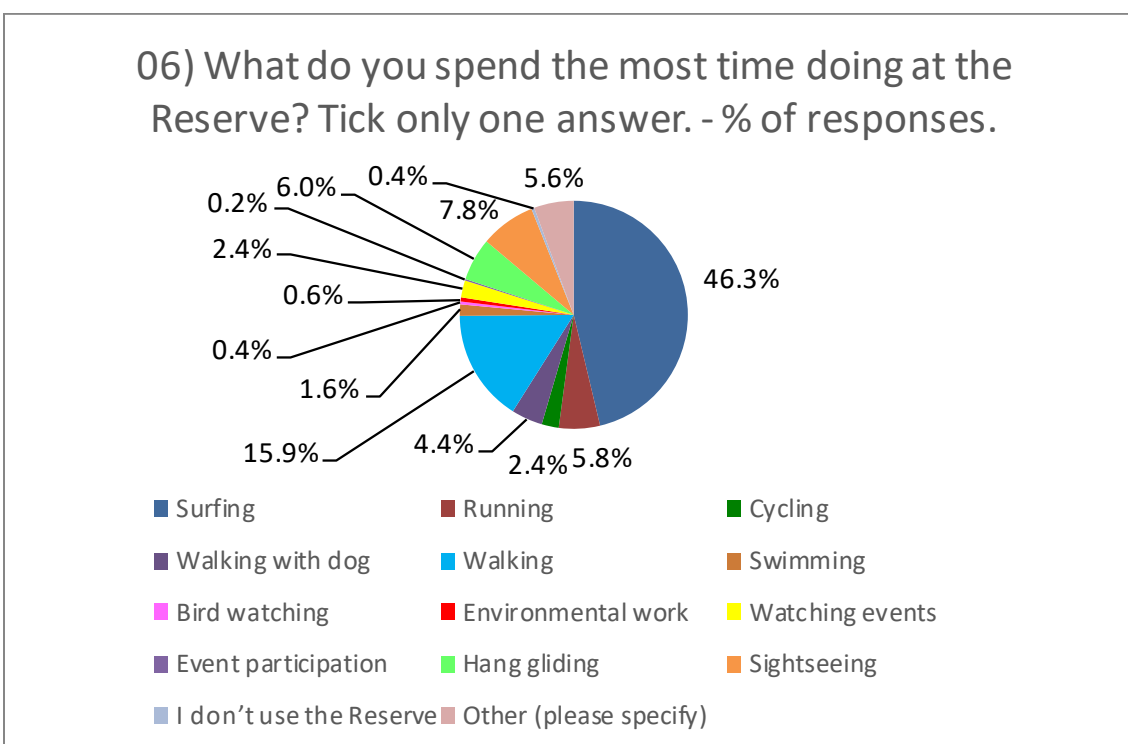
- Photography
- Relaxation, meditation, contemplation, mental wellbeing
- Connecting and interest in nature: plant, animal and sea life
- Watching the surf, the ocean
- Taking visitors
- Participating in clean up days
- Social gatherings/interaction
- Connecting with aboriginal heritage
- Snorkelling
- Skydiving
- Kitesurfing
- Paragliding (*note while respondents included this, paragliding is not permitted or possible within the reserve, it is possible from Southside which is managed by Parks Victoria*)

Results summary: Question 5 – Use of the reserve

- There were around 1,500 activities recorded by the 502 respondents to Question 5. This represents on average 3 activities per respondent
- A wide variety of activities were undertaken by respondents including sporting, other fitness, environmental, sightseeing, event related, photography and contemplative/wave watching.
- Most people use the reserve for more than one activity.
- The top two activities respondents use the reserve for are walking and surfing.
- Over half (57%) of reserve users use the reserve just to surf or to surf and participate in other activities.
- Only 12% use the reserve just to surf.

Question 6. What do you spend the most time doing at the reserve?

06) What do you spend the most time doing at the Reserve? Tick only one answer. - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Surfing	230	45.8
Running	29	5.8
Cycling	12	2.4
Walking with dog	22	4.4
Walking	79	15.7
Swimming	8	1.6
Bird watching	2	0.4
Environmental work	3	0.6
Watching events	12	2.4
Event participation	1	0.2
Hang gliding	30	6.0
Sightseeing	39	7.8
I don't use the Reserve	2	0.4
Other (please specify)	28	5.6
Nil response	5	1.0
Total	502	100.0

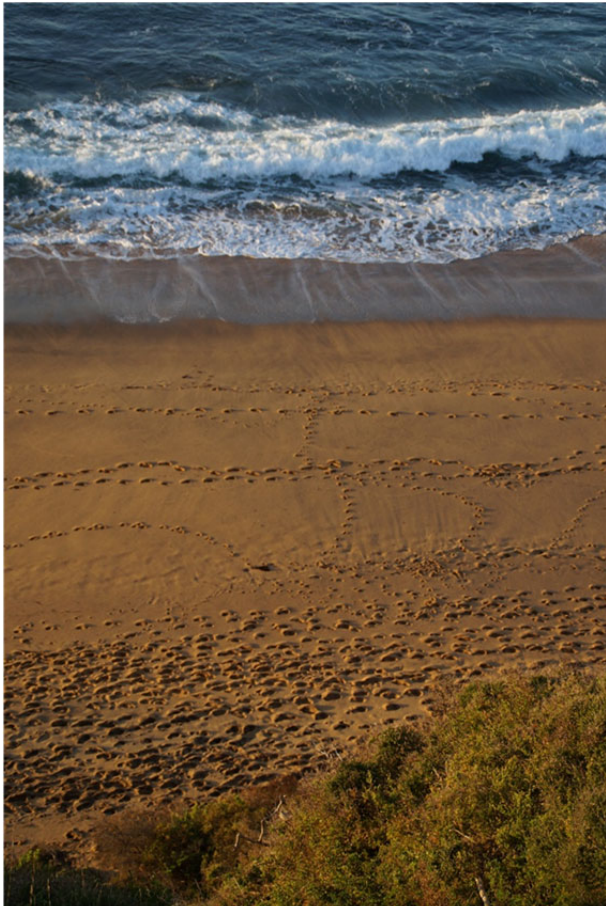


“Other” category summary: Question 6

- Watching the surf
- Paragliding/flying
- Reading in car
- Mental wellbeing
- Photography
- Event assistance

Results summary: Question 6 – Time spent doing activities at the reserve

- The activity respondents spend the most time doing was Surfing with 45.8% of the responses followed by Walking (15.7%).
- The difference between walking and surfing in the two questions reflects the way the questions were asked with Question 5 identifying the activities respondents participated in compared with Question 6, which asked respondents to consider the length of time spent doing their activities at the reserve.



Demography Photography

6. Pathways, beach access, toilet facilities and interpretation

From Survey Section 2: Pathways, beach access, toilet facilities and interpretation

This part of the survey asked respondents how they felt about pathways, beach access, toilet facilities and interpretation. The raw data has been provided first, then any comments and a summary of the results at the end.

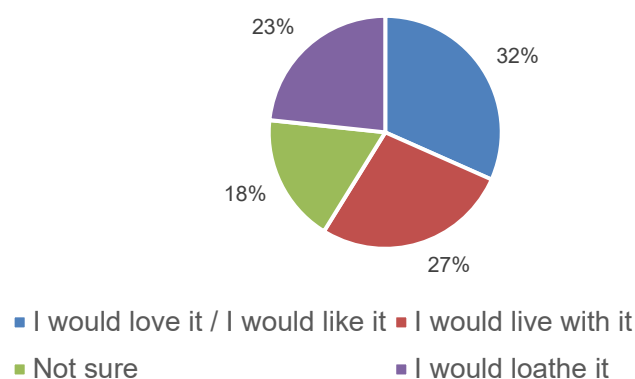
Path surface in the Winki top car park

Preamble to questions: The main path between the car park and fence is gravel; we are exploring options for changing the path surface. We are seeking your views on potential changes and materials that could be used. An alternative surface material might improve safety, be more comfortable for barefoot surfers, reduce erosion and provide improved access for people with mobility issues.

Question 7. How would you feel about changing the surface from gravel to a different material?

07) How would you feel about changing the surface of the Winki main carpark footpath from gravel to a different material?	Number	% of responses per category
I would love it	53	10.6
I would like it	103	20.5
I would live with it	134	26.7
Not sure	88	17.5
I would loathe it	115	22.9
Nil response	9	1.8
Total	502	100.0

07) How would you feel about changing the surface of the Winki main carpark footpath from gravel to a different material? - Grouped



Question 7	Number of respondents
Providing comments	113
No comments provided	389
Total Survey respondents	502

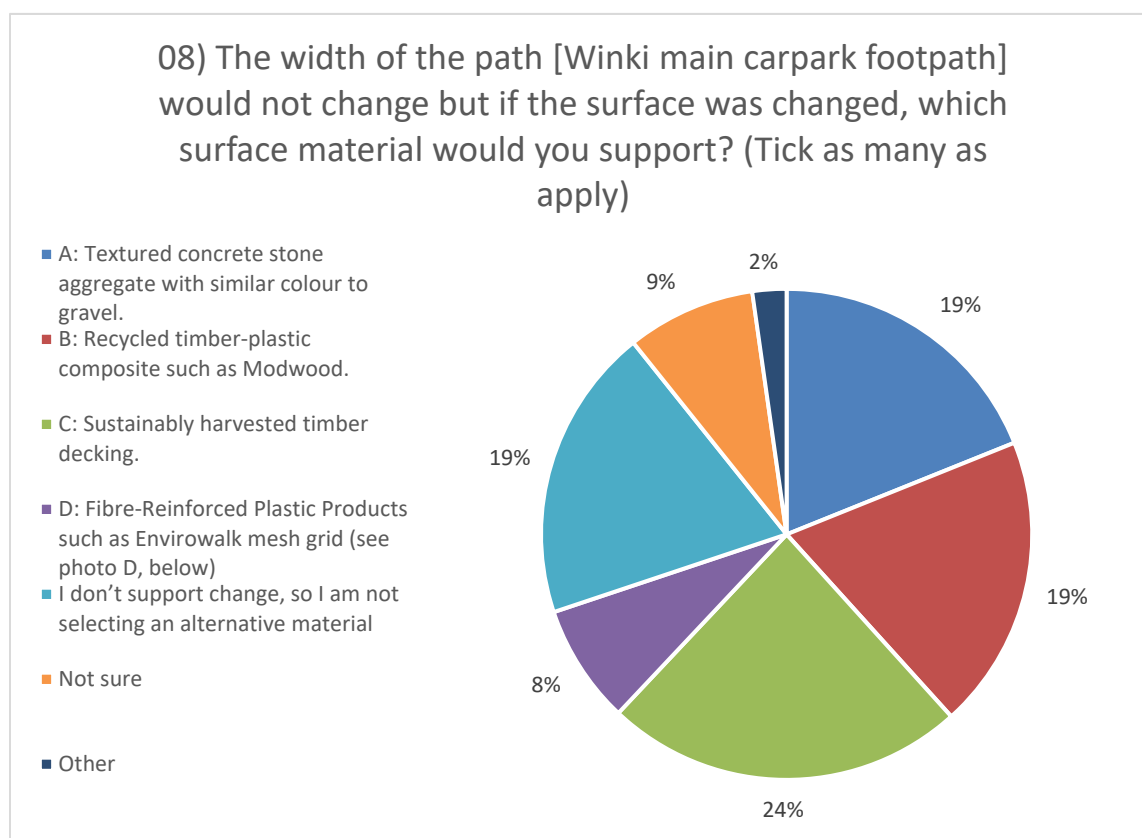
Topic	Number	Comments Q7
Keep it the same/support gravel	57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not necessary, no need for change, like it how it is • Gravel is nice, liked, preferred, in keeping with reserve environment, more natural • Keep path natural, better connection with place, should not be urbanised
Other material/option/depends on material	28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard surface not supported e.g. concrete, bitumen, asphalt • Support something environmentally friendly/sustainable, natural surface
Functionality/design including erosion/other impacts	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surfers have tough feet so don't change it - this is not a good reason • Support for something more comfortable than gravel • Change if it is beneficial re erosion/any change should not increase erosion • Consider impact on wildlife
Access	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravel is a safe surface • Gravel is unsafe - can be slippery, rolls under feet • Better access for people with mobility issues would be valued • Hard surface would increase accessibility for people with mobility issues
Other	3	
Total number of comments	113	

Results summary: Question 7 – Path surface, Winki top car park

- 32% of respondents would love or like the change and a further 27% would live with it.
- 23% would loathe it and 18% were not sure.
- With the higher weighting applied for Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users and surfers there is little difference showing in the results. See Appendix 1.

Question 8. The width of the path would not change but if the surface was changed, which surface material would you support?

08) The width of the path [Winki main carpark footpath] would not change but if the surface was changed, which surface material would you support? (Tick as many as apply)	Number of responses per category	% of responses per category
A: Textured concrete stone aggregate with similar colour to gravel.	118	18.9
B: Recycled timber-plastic composite such as Modwood.	121	19.4
C: Sustainably harvested timber decking.	148	23.7
D: Fibre-Reinforced Plastic Products such as Envirowalk mesh grid (see photo D, below)	49	7.9
I don't support change, so I am not selecting an alternative material	121	19.4
Not sure	53	8.5
Other (please specify)	14	2.2
Total	624	100.0



“Other” category summary: Question 8

Note this includes some additional comments provided by respondents who did not choose “Other”.

Question 8	Number of respondents
Providing “Other (please specify) comments or general comments	41
No comments provided	461
Total Survey respondents	502

“Other” category summary (and some general comments):

- **Keep it the same/gravel:** keep it natural, better for running
- **Dislike/don't support some material types:** don't like plastics, options don't look natural
- **Other material/option suggested:** sand, recycled rubber tyres, asphalt, other natural stone that doesn't wash away, less orange clay in gravel mix, rounded limestone based gravel
- **Functionality design:** safety most important, comfortable under foot, mesh grid uncomfortable on feet
- **Environment:** whatever least impact on environment, sustainable/recycling option
- **Only if necessary:** ticked an option in the instance that it's absolutely necessary.

Results summary: Question 8 – Other potential pathway materials, Winki main car park

- The most frequent choice was sustainably harvested timber decking (24%) followed by recycled timber-plastic composite and textured concrete stone aggregate (both 19%) and fibre-reinforced plastic products (8%).
- 19% do not support this change so did not select an alternative material.

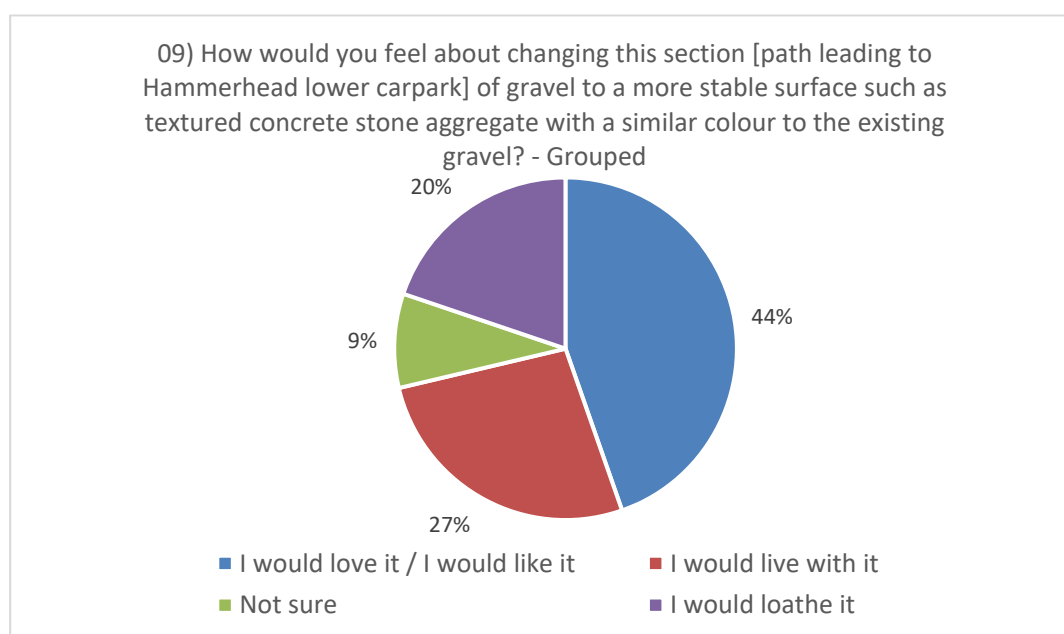


Surface of the area and path leading to Hammerhead, lower, car park

Preamble to question: There is currently a wide gravel area with two picnic tables and a gravel path leading to the lower Hammerhead car park. The gradient of this area leads to gravel constantly washing into the storm water system and erosion causing slip/trip hazards. Changing the surface is being explored. An alternative surface material might reduce erosion, improve safety and provide better access for surfers and people with mobility issues.

Question 9. How would you feel about changing this section of gravel to a more stable surface such as textured concrete stone aggregate with a similar colour to the existing gravel?

09) How would you feel about changing this section [path leading to Hammerhead lower carpark] of gravel to a more stable surface such as textured concrete stone aggregate with a similar colour to the existing gravel?	Number	% of responses per category
I would love it	77	15.3
I would like it	144	28.7
I would live with it	132	26.3
Not sure	44	8.8
I would loathe it	98	19.5
Nil response	7	1.4
Total	502	100.0



Comments summary: Question 9

Question 9	Number of respondents
Providing comments	64
No comments provided	438
Total Survey respondents	502

Topic	Number	Comments Q9
Functionality/design comments including erosion	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacing with concrete not the only way to reduce erosion • Manage runoff better, install drainage, revegetate, stabilise with geo grid mesh, use methods similar to Boobs carpark and the Wave, use WSUD (water-sensitive urban design) principles • Concrete very hot in summer • Concrete good for maintenance
Keep it natural/the same	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep it a natural surface, look and character • Fine the way it is
Other material/option suggested	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Something softer and more durable, recycled plastic decking • Plastic mesh with grass growing through, native grass • Path with timber steps/gravel, intermittent sleepers to stabilise surface, grass, permeable paving,
Dislike/don't support exposed aggregate	7	Not needed, concrete not appropriate, suburbia look
Support/don't mind exposed aggregate	3	Safer, less upkeep
Access issues	2	Support for better disability access
<i>Other</i>	8	
Total number of comments	64	

Results Summary: Question 9 – Surface of area and path leading to Hammerhead car park

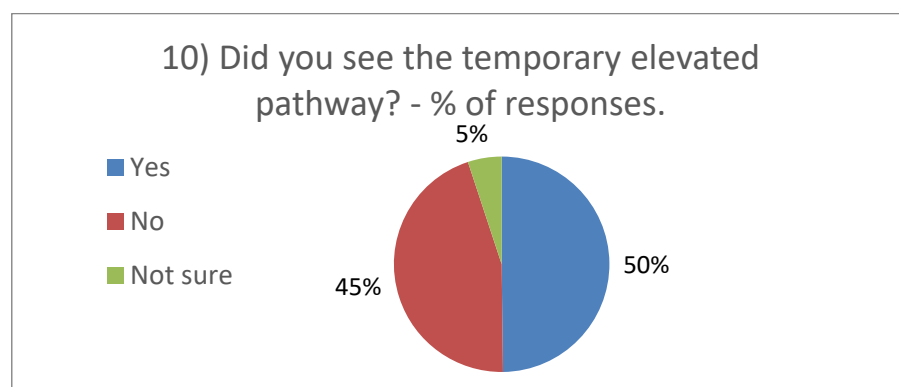
- 44.0% of respondents would love or like the change and a further 27% would live with it
- 20% would loathe it and 9% were not sure.
- With the higher weighting applied for Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users and surfers there is little difference showing in the results. See Appendix 1.

Path leading to Winki surf breaks

Preamble to questions: The concrete path leading to the Winki surf breaks is due for upgrading. During the 2018 Rip Curl Pro, a temporary elevated pathway about 40m long was erected above the concrete path (see photos below). The elevated pathway provided improved views of the Winki breaks without needing to trim the native vegetation. An alternative to upgrading the existing concrete path would be to construct a permanent version of the elevated pathway.

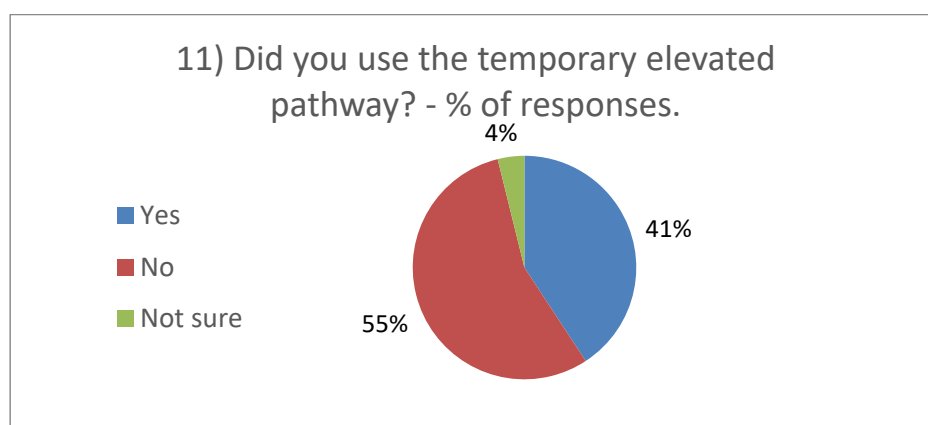
Question 10. Did you see the temporary elevated pathway?

10) Did you see the temporary elevated pathway? - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Yes	246	49.0
No	223	44.4
Not sure	25	5.0
Nil response	8	1.6
Total	502	100.0



Question 11. Did you use the temporary elevated pathway?

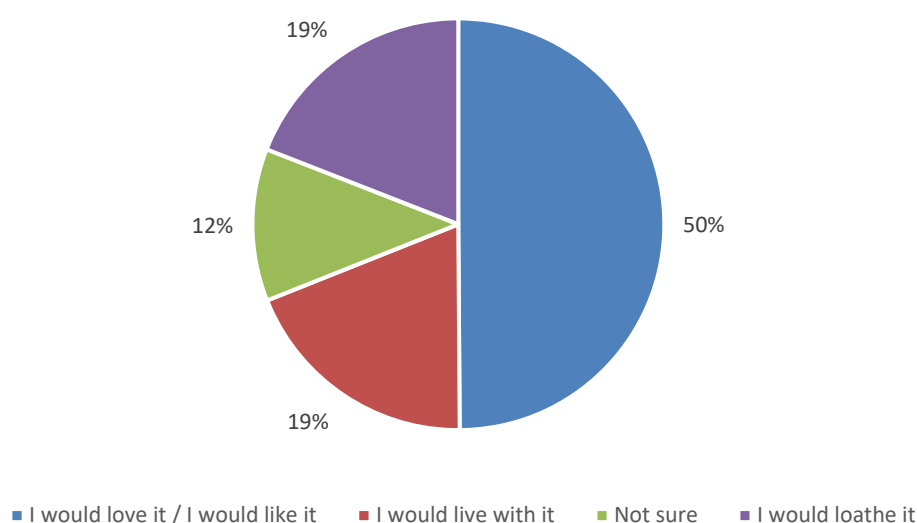
11) Did you use the temporary elevated pathway? - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Yes	201	40.0
No	273	54.4
Not sure	19	3.8
Nil response	9	1.8
Total	502	100.0



Question 12. How would you feel if a permanent section of elevated pathway about 40m long replaced this concrete path?

12) How would you feel if a permanent section of elevated pathway about 40m long replaced this concrete path? Path leading to Winki surf breaks.]	Number	% of responses per category
I would love it	94	18.7
I would like it	152	30.3
I would live with it	94	18.7
Not sure	59	11.8
I would loathe it	94	18.7
Nil response	9	1.8
Total	502	100.0

12) How would you feel if a permanent section of elevated pathway about 40m long replaced this concrete path? Path leading to Winki surf breaks.] - Grouped



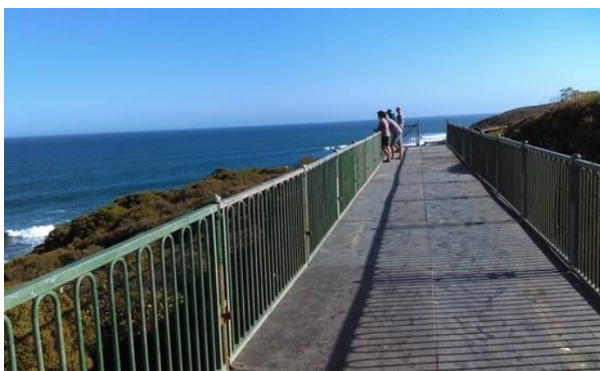
Comments summary: Question 12

Question 12	Number of respondents
Providing comments	66
No comments provided	436
Total Survey respondents	502

Topic	Number	Comments Q12
Dislike/don't support proposal	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave alone • Not required or necessary, enough platforms already, same view exists elsewhere • Contrary to CMP no added "raised" platforms • Only benefits event (and public will not get to use it during event) • Conflict/safety risk between surfer and tourist use
Keep it natural/the same	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave as it is, as natural as possible • Let vegetation grow naturally • Negative impact on natural landscape
Functionality/design	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep low visual impact, not visible from water • Build with timber/timber look, build artistically • Good for wildlife/animals to go under it • Already functional why change, keep at ground level
Support/don't mind proposal	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better surf viewing
Environmental	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support if better for environment • Don't destroy any vegetation
Access	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could it be an accessible design for people with mobility issues?
<i>Other</i>	2	
Total number of comments	66	

Results summary: Questions 10,11 and 12 – Elevated walkway - Winki

- 50% of respondents saw the temporary elevated pathway and 41% used it.
- Half of the respondents would love or like the change and a further 19% would live with it
- 19% would loathe it and 12% were not sure
- With the higher weighting applied for Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users and surfers there is little difference showing in the results. See Appendix 1.



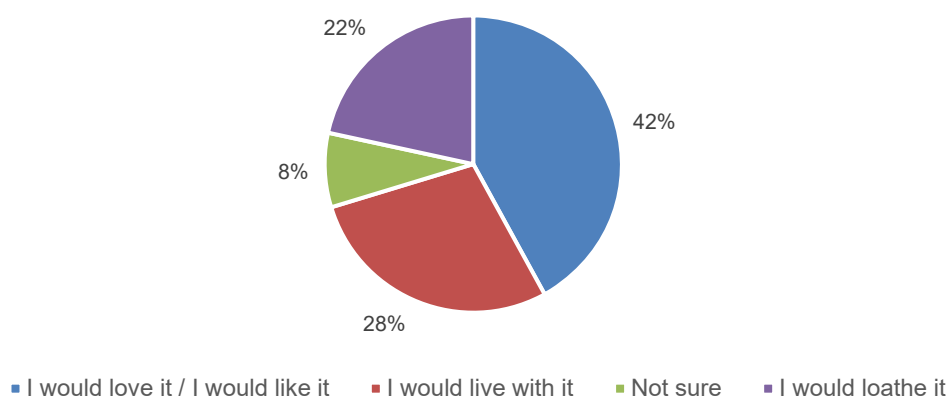
Beach access stairs and lookouts

Preamble to questions: The various beach access stairs and lookouts at the reserve are constructed of timber which weathers rapidly in the coastal environment. When maintaining the stairs and lookouts (e.g. hand rails or areas of rot) there are potentially longer-lasting or more sustainable material options such as Modwood or Envirowalk which could be used either in combination with the timber or as a timber replacement.

Question 13. How would you feel about materials other than timber being incorporated into the beach access stairs and lookouts on a maintenance needs basis?

13) How would you feel about materials other than timber being incorporated into the beach access stairs and lookouts on a maintenance needs basis?	Number	% of responses per category
I would love it	53	10.6
I would like it	155	30.9
I would live with it	140	27.9
Not sure	40	8.0
I would loathe it	107	21.3
Nil response	7	1.4
Total	502	100.0

13) How would you feel about materials other than timber being incorporated into the beach access stairs and lookouts on a maintenance needs basis? - Grouped



Comments summary: Question 13

Question 13	Number of respondents
Providing comments	57
No comments provided	445
Total Survey respondents	502

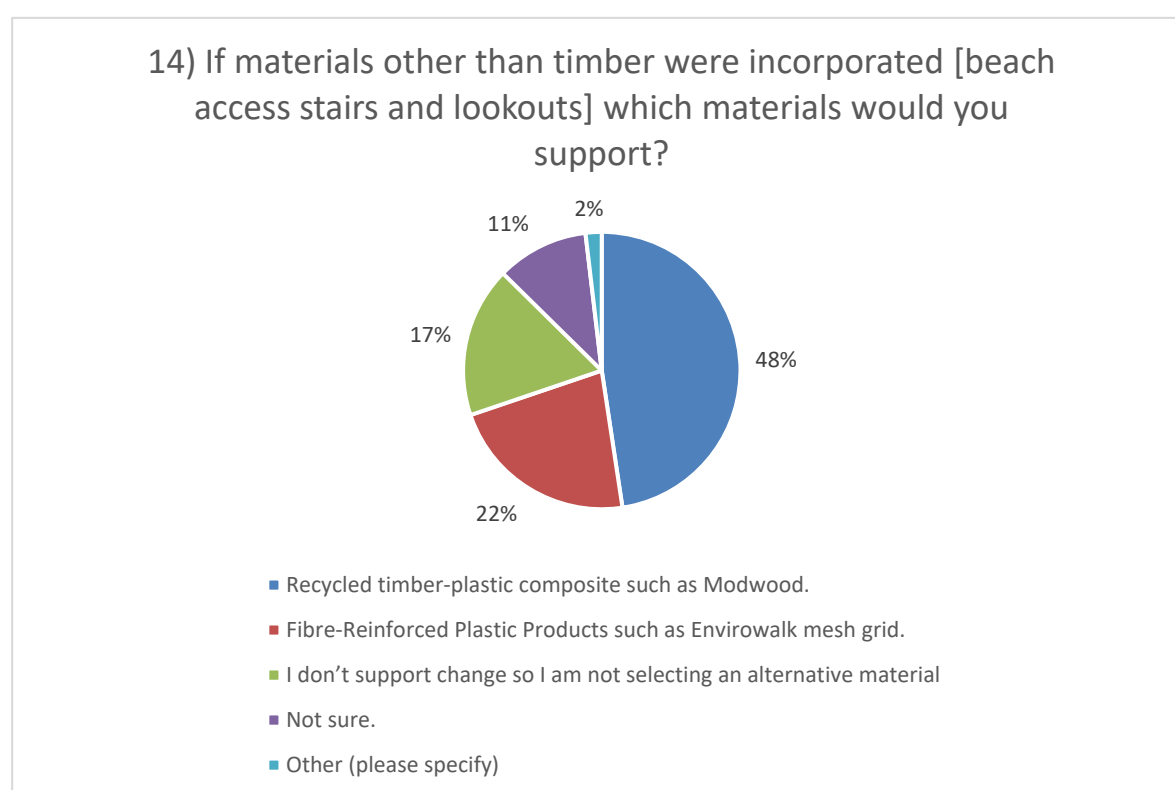
Topic	Number	Comments Q13
Materials used	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As long as it is sustainable, recycled • No plastics • Timber rots, slippery
Dislike/don't support proposal	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave it alone, why change? • It's fine as it is, timber is good, worth spending \$ on • Don't support plastic materials, environmental concerns
Keep it natural	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural look best • Timber stairs have character and suit environment. • Will lead to bigger changes at the reserve
Functionality/design	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As long as it blends in • Like the look of timber • Consider feeling under foot • Cost versus benefit needs to be assessed
Support it	3	
Total number of comments	57	

Results summary: Question 13 – Materials for beach access stairs and lookouts

- 42.0% of respondents would love or like it and a further 28% would live with it
- 22% would loathe it and 8% were not sure.
- With the higher weighting applied for Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users and surfers there is little difference showing in the results. See Appendix 1.

Question 14. If materials other than timber were incorporated which materials would you support?

14) If materials other than timber were incorporated [beach access stairs and lookouts] which materials would you support?	Number of responses per category	% of responses per category
Recycled timber-plastic composite such as Modwood.	279	47.6
Fibre-Reinforced Plastic Products such as Envirowalk mesh grid.	130	22.2
I don't support change so I am not selecting an alternative material	103	17.6
Not sure.	63	10.8
Other (please specify)	11	1.9
Total	586	100.0



“Other” category summary: Question 14

Note this includes some additional comments provided by respondents who didn't choose “Other”

Question 14	Number of respondents
Providing “Other (please specify) comments or general comments	28
No comments provided	474
Total Survey respondents	502

“Other” category summary (and some general comments):

- **Keep it the same, leave it as timber**
- **Fibre-reinforced Plastic Products not supported:** hard on feet, may be unsustainable, anything but this
- **Recycled timber-plastic composite:** timber like product looks much better, gets too hot in summer to walk on without shoes
- **Other material/option suggested:** natural materials e.g. rammed earth, maybe fibre-reinforced but a bio-material, no plastic/non-natural materials. The most sustainable plastic recycled material, timber products not sustainable
- **Qualities of the material used:** whichever is best environmentally, blends with environment, something durable, whatever is least slippery when wet e.g. timber/plastic will be slippery, weather proof material – in hot and cold.

Results summary: Question 14 – Materials other than timber, beach access stairs and lookout

- The most frequent choice was recycled timber-plastic composite (48%) followed by fibre-reinforced plastic products (22%).
- 17% do not support change so did not select an alternative material and 11% were not sure.

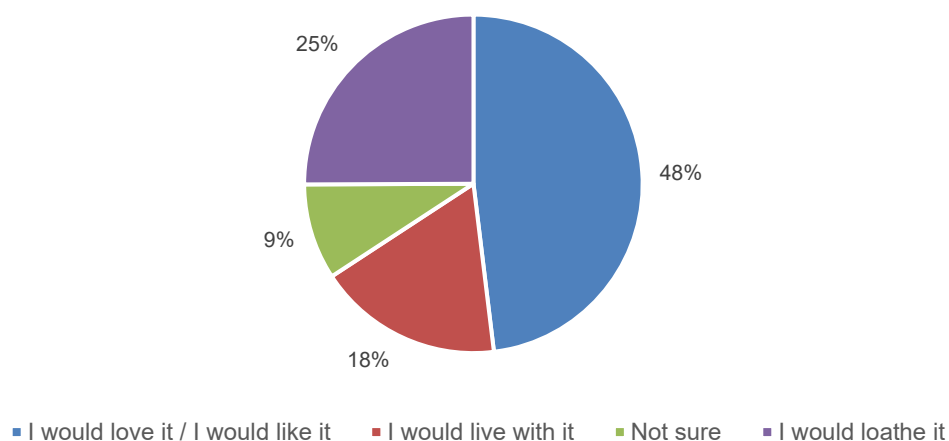
Landing Platform at Winki beach

Preamble to questions: The steps to the beach at Winki end on large uneven rocks. There is potential to install a small landing at the base of the stairs to improve access and safety. It would need to be made from materials tolerant of salt water (e.g. a non slip recycled product).

Question 15. How would you feel about the installation of a small landing at the base of the stairs at Winki Beach?

15) How would you feel about the installation of a small landing at the base of the stairs at Winki beach?	Number	% of responses per category
I would love it	87	17.3
I would like it	149	29.7
I would live with it	87	17.3
Not sure	45	9.0
I would loathe it	123	24.5
Nil response	11	2.2
Total	502	100.0

15) How would you feel about the installation of a small landing at the base of the stairs at Winki beach? - Grouped



Comments summary: Question 15

Question 15	Number of respondents
Providing comments	83
No comments provided	419
Total Survey respondents	502

Topic	Number	Comments Q15
Leave it as it is/not necessary	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experienced surfers no problem with rocks • Love the rocks/rock hopping • Keep it natural • Don't go if you can't manage
Support the landing	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better for safety • Increased accessibility for dogs/kids, older people • If designed for low impact on environment • Good for taking photos
Would not last/high maintenance	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would wash away/be destroyed/rubbish in ocean • High maintenance • Would be pulled down
More access could be dangerous/negative impact	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would encourage non experienced surfers to use break - not suitable - people would get into trouble. • Increased access to hazardous environment, including tourists • More people will damage coast
Other suggestions	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra steps between steps and rock • Cement/mortar existing rocks to create a "landing"
Other	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wouldn't use this, don't mind either way, leave to surfers to decide
Total	83	

Results summary: Question 15 – Landing platform at Winki beach

- 48% of respondents would love or like this change and a further 18% would live with it
- 25% would loathe it and 9% were not sure.
- With the higher weighting applied for Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users and surfers there is little difference showing in the results. See Appendix 1.



The toilet block

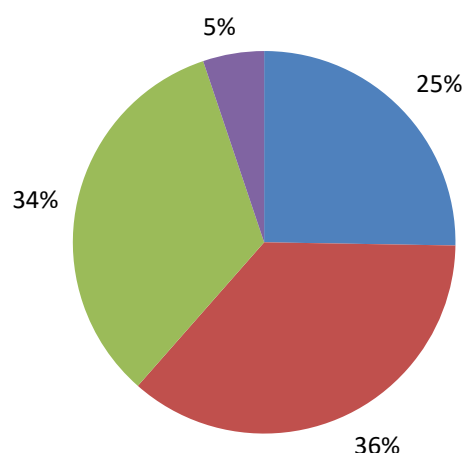
Question preamble: In the longer term we are wondering what to do with the toilet block (pictured below) in the lower, Hammerhead, car park. While works on the existing block are not due during the next three years, it is time to start planning for improved toilet facilities at Bells. The building: • is about 30 years old • does not have compliant access for people with mobility restrictions • is not water or energy efficient • is not convenient for people using the top (Winki) car park. In addition: • the mural is increasingly difficult to maintain • the artists feel that the mural has come to the end of its life, and the • Wadawurrung are keen to explore other interpretation opportunities to tell their story.

Question 16. With the above matters in mind, which of the following options do you prefer?

16) With the above matters in mind, which of the following options do you prefer? - % of responses.	Number	% of responses per category
Retain the existing toilet block and undertake an internal refurbishment.	122	24.3
Demolish the existing toilet block and on the same site construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment.	175	34.9
Demolish the existing toilet block and in a new location such as the mulched area west of the car park, construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment eg recessed into the slope, has an earthen roof etc.	161	32.1
Other, please specify	25	5.0
Nil response	19	3.8
Total	502	100.0

16) With the above matters in mind, which of the following options do you prefer? - % of responses.

- Retain the existing toilet block and undertake an internal refurbishment.
- Demolish the existing toilet block and on the same site construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment.
- Demolish the existing toilet block and in a new location such as the mulched area west of the car park, construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment eg recessed into the slope, has an earthen roof etc.
- Other, please specify



Comments summary: Question 16

Question 16	Number of respondents
Providing comments	82
No comments provided	420
Total Survey respondents	502



Topic	Number	Comments Q16
Location Comments	21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halfway between Winki and Bells/accessible to both locations • Build smaller additional toilet block at Winki • Need to know alternative location to comment, mulched area west of carpark has wildlife
Functionality/Design	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need updating, modern facilities/clean • Need consultation process • Build composting toilet • Environmentally friendly, low visual impact • Need to address people using bush as toilet
Mural/Artwork	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like the mural/preserve it • Incorporate indigenous art in any new design, maintain character in upgrade
Demolish Comments	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some indicating demolish support both the existing or a new location
Retain & Refurbish	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No need to demolish, improve what is there • Part of Bells history
General negative comments	4	
General positive comments	3	
Unsure	5	
Other	5	
Total number of comments	82	

Results summary: Question 16 – Future of toilet block

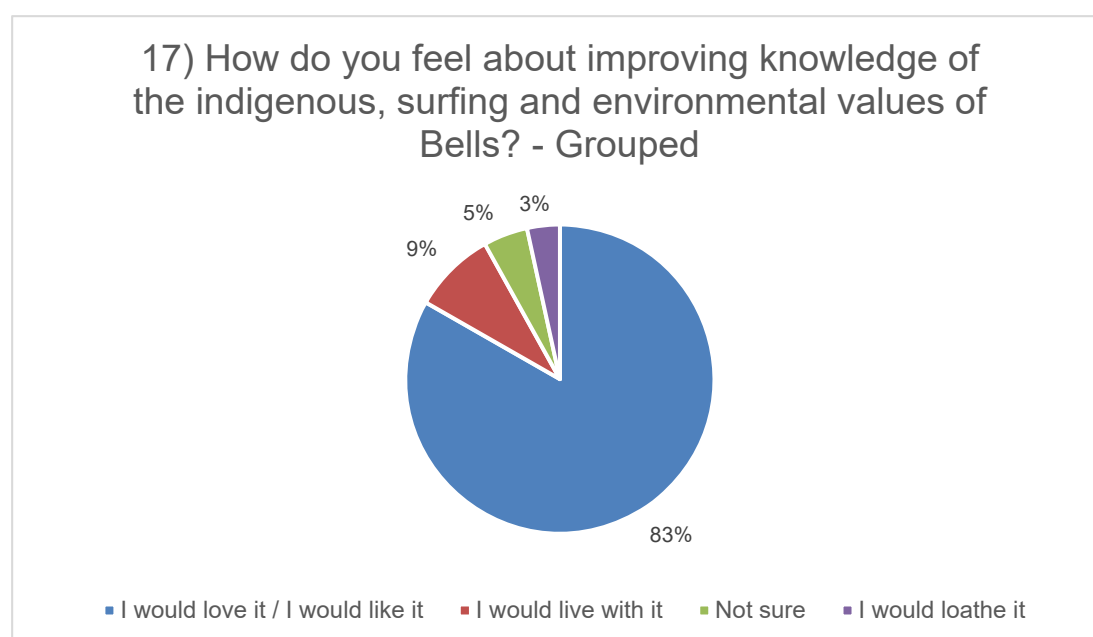
- 36% of respondents preferred demolishing the existing toilet block and rebuilding on the same site.
- 34% of respondents preferred demolishing the existing toilet block and rebuilding in a new location.
- 25% preferred retaining the existing toilet block and undertaking an internal refurbishment and 5% chose "Other".
- With the higher weighting applied for Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users and surfers there is no difference showing in the results. See Appendix 1.

Interpretation of Indigenous and surfing culture and the natural environment

Preamble to question: there is potential for visitors to learn more about the reserve's Indigenous and Surfing cultural and heritage values and more about the natural environment at Bells. We need some guidance on how to best do this.

Question 17. How do you feel about improving knowledge of the indigenous, surfing and environmental values of Bells?

17) How do you feel about improving knowledge of the indigenous, surfing and environmental values of Bells?	Number	% of responses per category
I would love it	266	53.0
I would like it	147	29.3
I would live with it	43	8.6
Not sure	23	4.6
I would loathe it	17	3.4
Nil response	6	1.2
Total	502	100.0



Comments summary: Question 17

Question 17	Number of respondents
Providing comments	8
No comments provided	494
Total Survey respondents	502

Comments:

- No more signs.
- Already have Surfing Museum/question spending \$ on this.
- Story telling important.

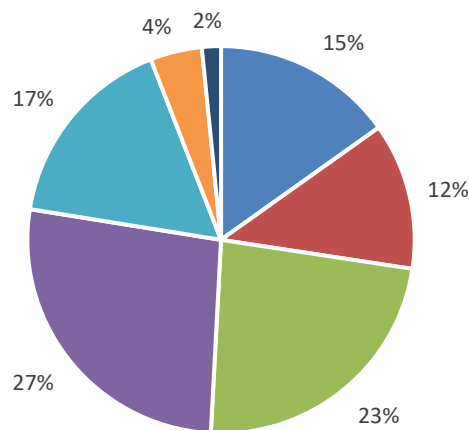
Results summary: Question 17 – Interpretation of indigenous and surfing culture and the natural environment

- A large majority of respondents (83%) would love or like this change and a further 9% would live with it.
- 5% are not sure and 3% would loathe it.
- With the higher weighting applied for Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users and surfers there is little difference showing in the results. See Appendix 1.

Question 18. What type of interpretation material would you support?

18) What type of interpretation material would you support?	Number of responses per category	% of responses per category
On-site story telling.	172	15.2
Multi-media material such as videos available via an app.	139	12.2
On site signage	266	23.4
On site creative works such as symbols in stone and wood	303	26.7
Materials at the Australian National Surfing Museum, Torquay	188	16.6
Not sure.	49	4.3
Other, please specify	18	1.6
Total	1,135	100.0

18) What type of interpretation material would you support?



- On-site story telling.
- Multi-media material such as videos available via an app.
- On site signage
- On site creative works such as symbols in stone and wood
- Materials at the Australian National Surfing Museum, Torquay
- Not sure.
- Other, please specify

Comments summary: Question 18

Question 18	Number of respondents
Providing comments	52
No comments provided	450
Total Survey respondents	502

Topic	Number	Comments Q18
Functionality/design	21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more signage • Incorporate in other structures, natural materials only • Signage should blend in, subtle, no lit material • App supported/leave the reserve sign free • Wadawurrung community should decide
Ideas for types of interpretation	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surf etiquette signage/training/history of hang gliding • Wadawurrung interpretive symbols in stone and wood • Low key cultural sculptures/local artists/stone plaque/structure like GOR • Digital would be good, no multi-media • Centre with lookout and cultural information
Dislike/don't support/no signage	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't support onsite interpretation • No more signage • Too touristy, it's a surfing reserve
Support/don't mind	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great idea, important • Involve Aboriginal community
<i>Other</i>	4	
Total number of comments	52	

Results summary: Question 18 – What type of interpretation material would you support

- The interpretation material with the highest response was on-site creative works (27%). This was followed by on-site signage (23%), materials at the Australian National Surfing Museum (17%), on-site story telling (15%) and multi-media material such as videos available via an app (12%).
- 4% were not sure.

Final question: open comments

Do you have any other comments you would like to make?

Topic	Number	Comments final Question
Keep it natural/the same	53	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Love and value the natural beauty and environment • Preserve/protect/revegetate • Leave it alone/keep it like it is • No more infrastructure/development, like the basic nature of facilities, no more hard surfaces • Only necessary/minimal changes, materials/changes that blend in • Maintain what is there, keep it clean, no further changes • Should not change for a once a year event
General support/positive feedback	39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beautiful place • Support survey being done • Great area is being looked after • Changes supported/good
Infrastructure	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More and different signage: to toilets/for traffic flows/surf etiquette/ No Smoking/not jumping fences/Wave carpark re Bells location/ new sign top of Bells stairs blocks view • Minimise signage • Toilets: Winki needs toilet/shower, any toilet needs to blend in • Paths and lookouts: accessible for people with mobility issues e.g. Path to Southside lookout, make Hammerhead carpark a garden carpark, don't change paths, current Winki lookout can't see due to vegetation • Additional facilities e.g. CCTV in carparks, pop up Coffee Van permanent, bike/locker facility, bike track to link Bells to Southside
Management/consultation	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting good (4th review) but outcome not what is suggested e.g. inexpensive requests such as bike racks ignored • Consult early morning when surfers are there • Reduce speed limits on road and carparks • Animal control: Foxes, dogs
Tourism	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on tourism: tourist bus access/facilities/Great Ocean Road premier tourist destination • Tourists access for all not just local community • Limit tourist buses. No more tourist bus carparking and keep buses out of 2 main carparks • Cater for surfers not tourists, patrol campervans, • Various carparking suggestions • Charge tourists to visit (to support maintenance)
Paragliding/Hang gliding (note paragliding is not permitted or possible within the reserve)	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support/improve hang gliding and paragliding facilities/activities, it's part of the cultural story
Events	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events too commercial • RipCurl pro reduces access, too lengthy • Don't change things around a single event • More permits for Torquay Boardriders and an event for the Adaptive Surf League

Surfing specific	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not just about surfing – other groups/interests • Surfing not commercial interests • Negative experience due to increasing lack of etiquette in water • Jan Juc Boardriders would like further involvement/consultation
Specific materials	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modwood looks good but gets too hot to walk on • Prefer timber to gravel for paths • Prefer timber but understand alternatives less maintenance and more sustainable
Development	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewerage overflows at Bells needs addressing • Contrasting views on land use around Bells • Strong population growth in Surf Coast/Geelong noted
<i>Other</i>	4	
Total number of comments	150	

7. Conclusion

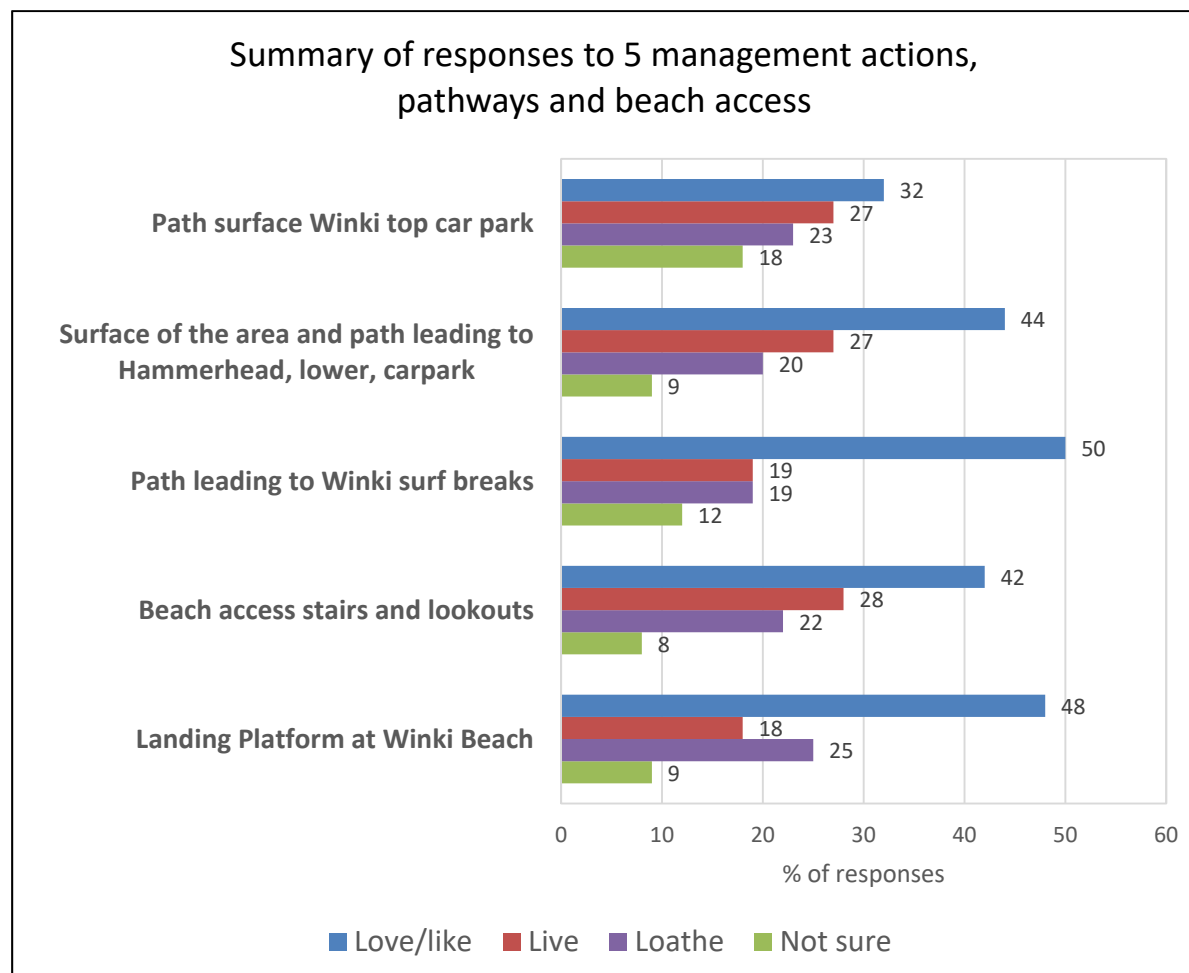
The survey has been effective in reaching a wide audience of visitors to the reserve with a high number of respondents (502), including 60% from Surf Coast Shire. A keen community interest in the reserve and a willingness to participate in engagement around planning for the reserve is evident.

The demographics of respondents, their use patterns, experience at the reserve and views on a number of specific management actions have been captured.

Positive experience overall at the reserve is recorded by nearly all respondents and reflected in the significant number and variety of activities undertaken, and high frequency of usage. Long term familiarity and usage is also revealed with 40% of respondents having visited the reserve for 20 years or more.

Respondents recorded how they felt about a range of management actions through a scaled system - love it, like it, live with it and loathe it. For the five actions relating to pathways and beach access the emerging pattern was love or like it (combined) as the most frequent response, ranging from 32% to 50% of respondents, live with it ranging from 18% to 27% and the loathe it category ranging from 19% to 25%. The relative distribution of the response categories within each management action however varied with no consistent pattern evident. See "Summary of responses" below.

Where the higher weighting was applied to check whether the overall results captured/reflected the views of Surf Coast Shire residents, frequent users (visiting at least fortnightly) and surfers there was little difference showing in the results, indicating the overall results are also reflective of these sectors overall.



With the future of the toilet block, respondents were similarly supportive of demolishing and rebuilding on the same site (36%) and demolishing and rebuilding in a new location (34%). This was followed by those preferring to retain the existing toilet block and undertake an internal refurbishment (25%).

There was a large majority supporting improved knowledge of indigenous, surfing and environmental values of Bells (83%). The top three options supported were on-site creative works (27%), on-site signage (23%) and materials at the Australian National Surfing Museum (17%).

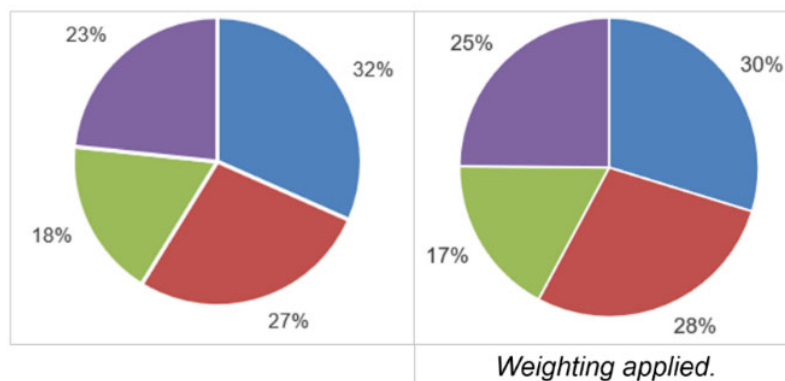
The survey responses received have formed the basis of this report.

The results will inform the update of the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015 - 25 and the development of a new three year Implementation Plan for the reserve.

8. Appendices

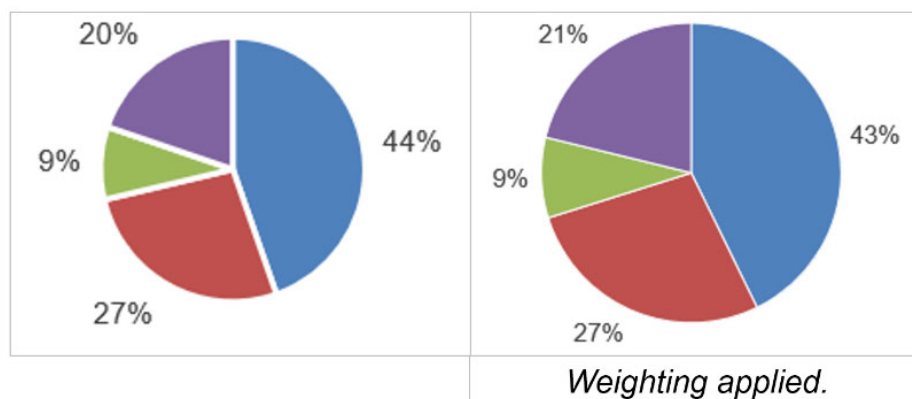
Appendix 1 Weighting comparison charts

07) How would you feel about changing the surface from gravel to a different material? [Main car park.] - Grouped.



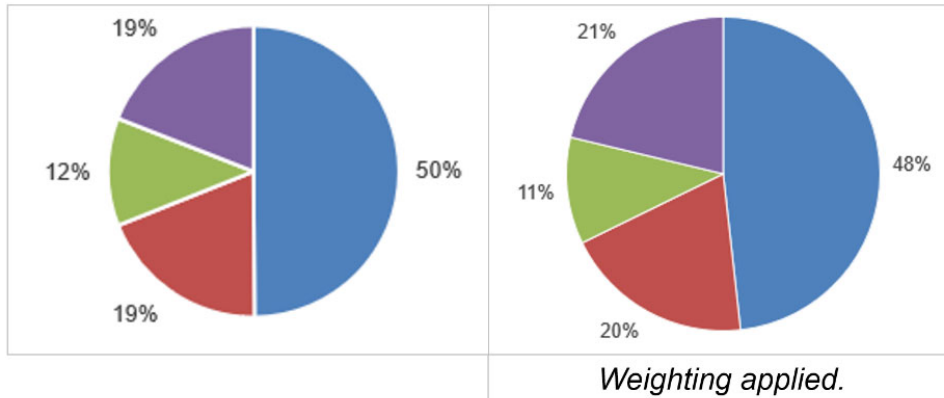
■ I would love it / I would like it ■ I would live with it ■ Not sure ■ I would loathe it

09) How would you feel about changing this section of gravel to a more stable surface such as textured concrete stone aggregate with a similar colour to the existing gravel? [Path to Hammerhead carpark.] Grouped.



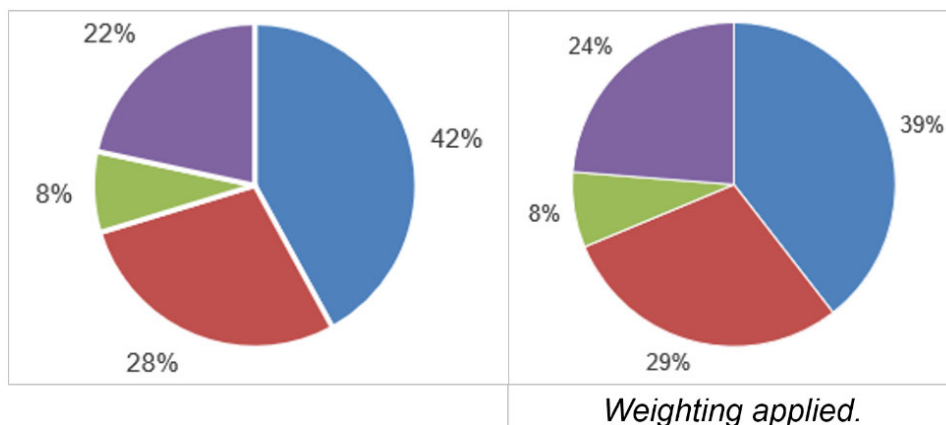
■ I would love it / I would like it ■ I would live with it ■ Not sure ■ I would loathe it

12) How would you feel if a permanent section of elevated pathway about 40m long replaced this concrete path? Grouped.



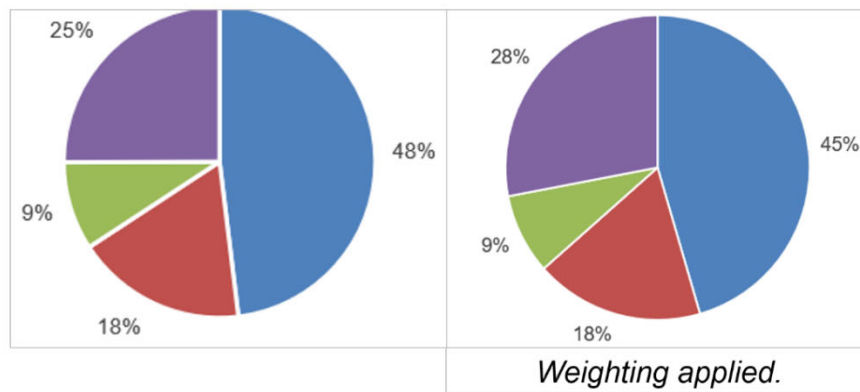
■ I would love it / I would like it ■ I would live with it ■ Not sure ■ I would loathe it

13) How would you feel about materials other than timber being incorporated into the beach access stairs and lookouts on a maintenance needs basis? Grouped.



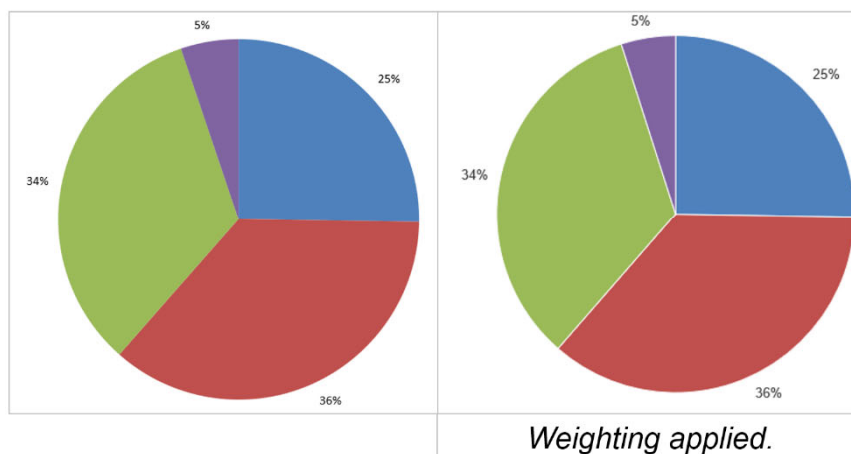
■ I would love it / I would like it ■ I would live with it ■ Not sure ■ I would loathe it

15) How would you feel about the installation of a small landing at the base of the stairs at Winki beach? Grouped



■ I would love it / I would like it ■ I would live with it ■ Not sure ■ I would loathe it

16) With the above matters in mind, which of the following options do you prefer? [Toilet Block]



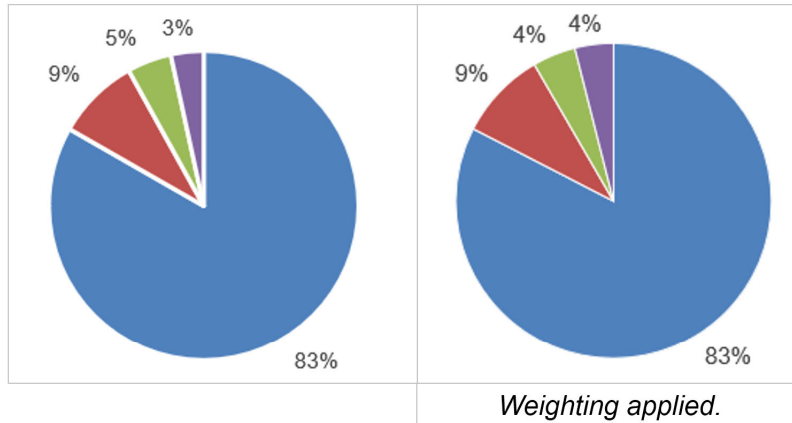
■ Retain the existing toilet block and undertake an internal refurbishment.

■ Demolish the existing toilet block and on the same site construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment.

■ Demolish the existing toilet block and in a new location such as the mulched area west of the car park, construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment eg recessed into the slope, has an earthen roof etc.

■ Other, please specify

17) How do you feel about improving knowledge of the indigenous, surfing and environmental values of Bells? Grouped.



■ I would love it / I would like it ■ I would live with it ■ Not sure ■ I would loathe it

Appendix 2 Bells Pop Up Survey

Bells Pop Up Survey

Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015-25

Surf Coast Shire Council is consulting the community for minor updating of the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015-2025 (CMP). Council is required to update the CMP every three years under the Coastal Management Act. This will not change the plan's long-term vision, values or guiding principles, but will seek your views on specific management actions. For more information on the CMP, its values and vision see [About Bells](https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Environment/Natural-environment/Coastal-land-and-beaches/About-Bells) <https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Environment/Natural-environment/Coastal-land-and-beaches/About-Bells>

Section 1: Use of Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve

All questions within this survey only relate to Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve (the Reserve), not nearby beaches eg Jan Juc, Point Addis

1. Overall, how has your general experience been at the Reserve? (Select one option)

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Very good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Very poor

Comments

2. How often do you visit the Reserve? (Select one option)

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Most days
- ☐ Twice a week
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Fortnightly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Every six months
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Less than once a year
- ☐ Never

3. During the past year, how long on average did you stay? (Select one option)

- ☐ 15 minutes
- ☐ 30 minutes
- ☐ 1 hour
- ☐ 2 hours
- ☐ 3 - 5 hours
- ☐ 6 - 8 hours
- ☐ More than 8 hours
- ☐ Haven't visited in the last year
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)

4. How long have you been visiting the Reserve? (Select one option)

- ☐ First time
- ☐ Under 1 year
- ☐ 1 to 5 years
- ☐ 5 to 10 years
- ☐ 10 to 20 years
- ☐ 20 to 40 years
- ☐ 40 to 50 years
- ☐ 50 years and over
- ☐ I have never visited the Reserve

5. How do you use the Reserve? Tick as many as apply. (Select one or more options)

- ☐ Surfing
- ☐ Running
- ☐ Cycling
- ☐ Walking with dog
- ☐ Walking
- ☐ Swimming
- ☐ Bird watching
- ☐ Environmental work
- ☐ Watching events
- ☐ Event participation
- ☐ Hang gliding
- ☐ Sightseeing
- ☐ I don't use the Reserve
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)

6. What do you spend the most time doing at the Reserve? Tick only one answer. (Select one option)

- ☐ Surfing
- ☐ Running
- ☐ Cycling
- ☐ Walking with dog
- ☐ Walking
- ☐ Swimming
- ☐ Bird watching
- ☐ Environmental work
- ☐ Watching events
- ☐ Event participation
- ☐ Hang gliding
- ☐ Sightseeing
- ☐ I don't use the Reserve
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)

Section 2: Pathways, beach access, toilet facilities and interpretation

Path surface in the Winki top car park

The main path between the car park and fence is gravel; we are exploring options for changing the path surface. We are seeking your views on potential changes and materials that could be used. An alternative surface material might improve safety, be more comfortable for barefoot surfers, reduce erosion and provide improved access for people with mobility issues.



7. How would you feel about changing the surface from gravel to a different material? (Select one option)

- ☐ I would love it
- ☐ I would like it
- ☐ I would live with it
- ☐ I would loathe it
- ☐ Not sure

Comments

8. The width of the path would not change but if the surface was changed, which surface material would you support? (Tick as many as apply) (Select one or more options)

- ☐ A: Textured concrete stone aggregate with similar colour to gravel (see photo A, below)
- ☐ B: Recycled timber-plastic composite such as Modwood (see photo B, below)
- ☐ C: Sustainably harvested timber decking (see photo C, below)
- ☐ D: Fibre-Reinforced Plastic Products such as Envirowalk mesh grid (see photo D, below)
- ☐ I don't support change, so I am not selecting an alternative material
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)







Surface of the area and path leading to Hammerhead, lower, car park

There is currently a wide gravel area with two picnic tables and a gravel path leading to the lower Hammerhead car park. The gradient of this area leads to gravel constantly washing into the storm water system and erosion causing slip/trip hazards. Changing the surface is being explored. An alternative surface material might reduce erosion, improve safety and provide better access for surfers and people with mobility issues.



9. How would you feel about changing this section of gravel to a more stable surface such as textured concrete stone aggregate with a similar colour to the existing gravel? (Select one option)

- ☐ I would love it
- ☐ I would like it
- ☐ I would live with it
- ☐ I would loathe it
- ☐ Not sure

Comments

Path leading to Winki surf breaks

The concrete path leading to the Winki surf breaks is due for upgrading. During the 2018 Rip Curl Pro, a temporary elevated pathway about 40m long was erected above the concrete path (see photos below). The elevated pathway provided improved views of the Winki breaks without needing to trim the native vegetation. An alternative to upgrading the existing concrete path would be to construct a permanent version of the elevated pathway.





10. Did you see the temporary elevated pathway? (Select one option)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

11. Did you use the temporary elevated pathway? (Select one option)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

12. How would you feel if a permanent section of elevated pathway about 40m long replaced this concrete path? (Select one option)

- ☐ I would love it
- ☐ I would like it
- ☐ I would live with it
- ☐ I would loathe it
- ☐ Not sure

Comments

Beach access stairs and lookouts

The various beach access stairs and lookouts at the Reserve are constructed of timber which weathers rapidly in the coastal environment. When maintaining the stairs and lookouts (e.g. hand rails or areas of rot) there are potentially longer-lasting or more sustainable material options such as Modwood or Envirowalk which could be used either in combination with the timber or as a timber replacement.

13. How would you feel about materials other than timber being incorporated into the beach access stairs and lookouts on a maintenance needs basis? (Select one option)

- ☐ I would love it
- ☐ I would like it
- ☐ I would live with it
- ☐ I would loathe it
- ☐ Not sure

Comments

14. If materials other than timber were incorporated which materials would you support? (tick as many as apply) (Select one or more options)

- ☐ Recycled timber-plastic composite such as Modwood (see photo A, below)
- ☐ Fibre-Reinforced Plastic Products such as Envirowalk mesh grid (see photo B, below)
- ☐ I don't support change so I am not selecting an alternative material
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)



Landing Platform at Winki beach

The steps to the beach at Winki end on large uneven rocks. There is potential to install a small landing at the base of the stairs to improve access and safety. It would need to be made from materials tolerant of salt water (e.g. a non-slip recycled product).

15. How would you feel about the installation of a small landing at the base of the stairs at Winki beach? (Select one option)

- ☐ I would love it
- ☐ I would like it
- ☐ I would live with it
- ☐ I would loathe it
- ☐ Not sure

Comments



The toilet block

In the longer term we are wondering what to do with the toilet block (pictured below) in the lower, Hammerhead, car park. While works on the existing block are not due during the next three years, it is time to start planning for improved toilet facilities at Bells. The building:

- is about 30 years old
- does not have compliant access for people with mobility restrictions
- is not water or energy efficient
- is not convenient for people using the top (Winki) car park.

In addition:

- the mural is increasingly difficult to maintain
- the artists feel that the mural has come to the end of its life, and the
- Wadawurrung are keen to explore other interpretation opportunities to tell their story.



16. With the above matters in mind, which of the following options do you prefer? (Select one option)

- ☐ Retain the existing toilet block and undertake an internal refurbishment
- ☐ Demolish the existing toilet block and *on the same site* construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment
- ☐ Demolish the existing toilet block and *in a new location* such as the mulched area west of the car park, construct a new water and energy efficient building which blends in with the environment eg recessed into the slope, has an earthen roof etc.
- ☐ Other, please specify

Other (please specify)

Interpretation of Indigenous and surfing culture and the natural environment

There is potential for visitors to learn more about the reserve's Indigenous and Surfing cultural and heritage values and more about the natural environment at Bells. We need some guidance on how to best do this.

17. How do you feel about improving knowledge of the indigenous, surfing and environmental values of Bells? (Select one option)

- ☐ I would love it
- ☐ I would like it
- ☐ I would live with it
- ☐ I would loathe it
- ☐ Not sure

Comments

18. What type of interpretation material would you support? (Tick as many as apply) (Select one or more options)

- ☐ On-site story telling
- ☐ Multi-media material such as videos available via an app
- ☐ On site signage
- ☐ On site creative works such as symbols in stone and wood
- ☐ Materials at the Australian National Surfing Museum, Torquay
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other, please specify

Other (please specify)

Section 3: About you

Your name

Email Required

19. Where do you live? (Select one option)

- ☐ Torquay
- ☐ Jan Juc
- ☐ Anglesea
- ☐ Aireys Inlet
- ☐ Bells Beach
- ☐ Bellbrae
- ☐ Fairhaven
- ☐ Lorne
- ☐ Moriac
- ☐ Winchelsea
- ☐ Other Surf Coast Shire location
- ☐ Geelong
- ☐ Greater Melbourne
- ☐ Other Regional Victoria
- ☐ Another Australian State
- ☐ Internationally

20. Is your primary residence in Surf Coast Shire? (Select one option)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

21. Age group (Select one option)

- ☐ under 12
- ☐ 12 to 17
- ☐ 18 to 24
- ☐ 25 to 34
- ☐ 35 to 49
- ☐ 50 to 59
- ☐ 60 to 69
- ☐ 70 to 85
- ☐ over 85
- ☐ Prefer not to say

22. Gender (Select one option)

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say

23. Do you belong to an organisation or group with an interest in Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve? (Select one or more options)

- ☐ Local interest group (please specify below)
- ☐ Event organiser
- ☐ Business owner
- ☐ Service Provider
- ☐ Government agency
- ☐ Do not belong to any group or organisation
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other (please specify below)

Other (including local interest group) please specify

Do you have any other comments you would like to make?

End of form