

MIRAMAR PENINSULA

Community Needs Assessment

Follow-up Survey Results

**Prepared for the
Wellington City Council**

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INTRODUCTION

1. Background

In May 1997 Corydon Consultants was contracted by the Wellington City Council to complete a Community Needs Assessment of the Miramar Peninsula, and to prepare a report to the Community, Culture and Recreation Committee. The aims of the Community Needs Assessment were:

- i). To provide better information about the Miramar Peninsula community to Wellington City councillors, to aid their decision making about investment in the area; and
- ii). To involve the Miramar Peninsula community in identifying priority needs in the area.

Data for the needs assessment came from:

- a random survey of Peninsula residents conducted around streets and shopping centres in Miramar, Seatoun and Strathmore;
- focus group interviews with key people from the Peninsula community;
- individual interviews with staff from a range of community agencies and public services; and
- data from the 1991 Census.

Following completion of the community needs assessment the Wellington City Council decided to conduct a survey of all households on the Peninsula to obtain community-wide feedback on the relative importance of the issues discussed in the community needs assessment.

2. Methodology

A summary of the key points of the needs assessment report was prepared and presented as a single sheet tabloid newsprint flier (along the lines of the City Council's *Absolutely Positively Wellington* community publications). The *Absolutely Positively Peninsula* included a submission form seeking the views of respondents on the issues discussed in the community needs assessment report. A total of 6,863 copies of *Absolutely Positively Peninsula* were delivered to households on the Peninsula on Friday 19 September 1997. Respondents were given until Wednesday 1 October to free-post their submissions to the City Council.

The *Absolutely Positively Peninsula* listed the suggested improvements to services, facilities and resources which were discussed in the community needs assessment report, as well as the features which the people involved in the community needs assessment said they liked about living and/or working on the

Peninsula. Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of each of these on a scale of 1 to 4, 1 being "very important" and 4 being "not important".

The returned submissions were entered into a database and the results analysed to identify the percentages of respondents who ranked each issue or feature from 1 to 4. This exercise was done for the entire sample as well as for each individual suburb, to identify any differences between suburbs. The results of this analysis are presented in the tables in sections 4 and 6 of this report. Because the figures in these tables have been rounded to include no decimal places, there are some instances where the totals (reading across the rows) do not add to a total of 100%. Additional written comments given by survey respondents were also entered into the database and have been summarised in sections 4, 5 and 6.

The issues and features listed in sections 4 and 6 of this report have been ranked in order of importance according to the results of the follow-up survey. This ranking was determined by calculating the mean average ranking for each question. Invalid (nil or unclear) responses were not counted. A response of 1 meant "very important" and a response of 4 "not important". Consequently *the lowest average ranking equates to the issue or feature of highest importance*. This ranking is based on an assessment of the entire sample. In the case of some issues there was significant variation between the responses from different suburbs. These are illustrated in the tables in sections 4 and 6.

SURVEY RESULTS

3. Geographical Distribution of Respondents

A total of 283 responses were received by the close-off date of Tuesday 7 October, representing a 4.1% return from those delivered. The following table shows the number of responses received from each suburb on the Peninsula.

Suburb	Number of Responses	Percentage of Total
Miramar	134	47.3%
Maupuia	8	2.8%
Strathmore	57	20.1%
Seatoun	52	18.4%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	14	4.9%
Suburb Not Specified	18	6.4%
TOTAL:	283	100%

Given the low return from Maupuia, little weight can be given to the results from this suburb.

4. Issues Regarding Services, Resources and Facilities

People involved in the community needs assessment focus groups were asked to list the improvements needed in terms of services, facilities and resources available to the Miramar Peninsula community. These issues were discussed in detail in the community needs assessment report. Summaries of these issues formed the bulk of the background information presented in the *Absolutely Positively Peninsula*, and have been included in sections 4.1 to 4.17 below.

4.1 Public Transport

Focus group participants said some Peninsula suburbs were not well serviced by public transport. They said the flatter suburbs were generally better off than hilly areas, and that Strathmore, Seatoun, Karaka, Worser and Breaker bays were particularly disadvantaged. People who live in these suburbs and who rely on public transport can have difficulty getting to the Miramar shops or other Peninsula suburbs. Residents of hilly suburbs who did not own cars (especially those with disabilities) tended to become socially isolated.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of public transport linking suburbs and shopping areas. Public transport was rated very highly by the survey respondents, with 87% ranking this as important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	70%	19%	6%	3%	1%
Maupuia	75%	13%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	70%	18%	9%	2%	2%
Seatoun	67%	13%	12%	8%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	57%	21%	21%	0%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	61%	28%	6%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	69%	18%	8%	4%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.46

4.1.1 Additional Comments: Bus Services

In general, public transport services were said to be of a good standard. Bus services 2, 9 and 31 were said to be excellent.

Several respondents said that bus services to Strathmore needed to be increased. Specific suggestions included increasing the operating hours of express services, providing more services on Sunday nights after 7 pm, providing more late night buses from Wellington on Friday and Saturday nights (e.g. providing a 12.30 am service), and generally improving the linkages between Strathmore and Miramar.

Suggested improvements to Miramar services included:

- providing more express buses during peak times;
- extending the Miramar service to the top half of Hobart Street and surrounding streets; and
- providing a service from Darlington Road to Wellington via Newtown during the weekends (for people who are unable to walk from this area to Miramar Avenue).

It was felt that more frequent services were needed for the eastern bays, as well as services from Seatoun during evenings and on Sunday mornings.

Small buses like the Number 28 Beacon Hill Shuttle were said to be ideal for the hilly Peninsula routes. It was suggested that this service should be linked to the Seatoun Express (Number 30) and to the Number 11 service.

Increasing the frequency of public transport links from the Peninsula to other parts of Wellington was seen by some respondents as very important.

It was suggested that children should not have to pay for school bus transport.

4.1.2 Additional Comments: Bus Shelters

Suggestions of where new shelters were needed at bus stops or where existing ones should be improved included at the corner of Hobart and Chelsea Streets, on the east side of Ferry Street in Seatoun (at the last stop before the tunnel), and at Breaker Bay.

Problems were identified with people seated in some bus shelters being unable to see approaching buses (an example being the Strathmore shops stop). Windows may be needed in these bus shelters.

Concern was expressed about the new location of the bus stop near the Miramar Central School, which requires that children cross roads to reach the bus. It was said that the previous location of this stop (outside the TAB) allowed children to reach the bus without having to cross any streets.

Appreciation was expressed for the repairs done to the bus shelter at the end of Tio Tio Road, described as being "speedy and thorough".

4.1.3 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate alternatives for improving transport services on the Peninsula, especially for people with transport difficulties and in the suburbs where problems were identified. Given the high percentage of respondents ranking public transport as important (87%), this recommendation is still valid.

4.2 Street Lighting

Focus group participants felt that the street lighting in some of the hilly suburbs needed to be improved. They said the areas with the least effective street lighting tended to be where the most car break-ins and similar crimes occurred.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of improved street lighting. Respondents saw this as an important issue, with 89% overall rating it as important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	60%	28%	10%	1%	1%
Maupuia	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	67%	21%	9%	4%	0%
Seatoun	71%	23%	6%	0%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	71%	14%	0%	14%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	22%	11%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	65%	24%	8%	2%	0%

Average Ranking: 1.48

4.2.1 Additional Comments

The areas noted as needing street lighting improvements were:

- the intersection of Beacon Hill and Tannadyce Street;
- Weka Street;
- Miramar North Road;
- the Centennial Park side of Darlington Road;
- Ellesmere Ave;
- Kauri Street;
- the general Seatoun area, including the shopping centre (five responses);
- the Seatoun Tunnel;
- pedestrian access walkways in Strathmore; and
- pedestrian access walkways between valley bottoms and hill suburbs.

Recent street lighting improvements in Glamis Avenue were appreciated.

4.2.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council make provision in the work programme for improving street lighting in areas where poor lighting is affecting residents' sense of safety. Given the high percentage of respondents rating this issue as important (89%) this recommendation stands, particularly for the areas noted in section 4.2.1.

4.3 Provision and Quality of Walkways and Footpaths

While focus group participants said that major paths such as the Eastern Walkway were of a high standard, it was suggested that some minor walkways and footpaths needed to be improved. A more frequent and comprehensive maintenance programme was suggested.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of better maintenance of walkways and footpaths. This issue was also rated very highly, with 89% considering it important or very important. The respondents from Strathmore and Seatoun rated this issue the most highly.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	60%	26%	12%	0%	2%
Maupuia	50%	38%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	60%	32%	9%	0%	0%
Seatoun	58%	35%	8%	0%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	57%	21%	14%	7%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	61%	39%	0%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	59%	30%	10%	0%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.51

4.3.1 Additional Comments

Some respondents said most footpaths very good. Recent improvements to the footpath on Miramar Avenue between Chelsea Street and the supermarket was greatly appreciated.

General suggestions about footpaths included the need for quicker restoration following maintenance or street works (e.g. for gas or water services), better maintenance of footpaths and cleaning of kerbside guttering, regular trimming of vegetation alongside coastal footpaths, and that overhanging trees on private properties should not be allowed to obstruct footpaths. Another suggestion was that well-used footpaths should have better access ramps for prams, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Specific footpaths noted as needing repair or upgrading included:

- Raukawa Street;
- the southern side of Broadway;
- Beacon Hill Road;
- Seatoun Heights Road;
- Ira Street;
- the northern side of Miramar Avenue;
- Para Street;
- the south side of Tahi Street;
- Chelsea Street (particularly near the intersection with Ellesmere Avenue);
- Marine Parade between Pinelands Avenue and Awa Road;
- Scorching Bay to Worser Bay (this was said to become dangerous due to fallen leaves and needed regular sweeping);
- Worser Bay School to the beach;
- the general Seatoun area (two responses);
- the Seatoun shopping area; and
- around Fort Dorset between Seatoun and Breaker Bay (suggestions included reducing the size of some of the bushes and trees in the Steeple Rock area).

4.3.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council review the maintenance programme for walkways and footpaths with a view to improving the quality of these facilities. This is supported by the follow-up survey results. Particular attention should be given to those footpaths cited in section 4.3.1 as needing repairs.

4.4 Traffic Congestion

Focus group participants said that congestion on roads into the central city was a problem during peak times. Problems include difficulty getting onto the roundabouts on Cobham Drive.

Respondents were asked to rank the importance of lowering traffic congestion on roads into the central City. This issue was rated important or very important by 86% of follow-up survey respondents.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	54%	28%	12%	4%	1%
Maupuia	50%	38%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	63%	23%	4%	9%	2%
Seatoun	60%	31%	10%	0%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	43%	43%	14%	0%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	61%	33%	0%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	57%	29%	9%	4%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.60

4.4.1 Additional Comments

Areas where traffic congestion was considered to be a particular problem included:

- Miramar Avenue;
- the Wellington Road / Ruahine Street intersection (it was suggested that this may need a roundabout);
- the Mount Victoria tunnel and roads to the airport. The continuation of the motorway to the airport was said by some respondents to be very important, particularly in view of the impending terminal upgrades.

Another suggestion was to investigate the possibility of enlarging the present foot tunnel between Coutts Street (Rongotai) and Miro Street in order to accommodate light traffic. This would provide better access to Kilbirnie and ease pressure at the northern end of the airport.

4.4.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate ways of improving traffic flow on the Cobham Drive roundabouts. In view of the follow-up survey results, Miramar Avenue and the other areas noted in section 4.4.1 should be included in these investigations.

4.5 Foot and/or Cycle Paths Along the Coast

Focus group respondents suggested that a path should be provided alongside the coastal road to make running, walking and cycling safer and more enjoyable.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of foot and/or cycle paths along the coast. 84% rated these facilities as important or very important, with particular emphasis being given by respondents from the eastern bays and Seatoun.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	51%	30%	14%	4%	1%
Maupuia	50%	38%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	58%	25%	7%	9%	2%
Seatoun	62%	27%	8%	4%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	79%	0%	7%	14%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	55%	29%	10%	5%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.65

4.5.1 Additional Comments

Some concern was expressed about the perceived danger to pedestrians involved in providing a dual-use path for walkers and cyclists.

4.5.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate options for providing footpaths along those sections of the coastal road where no footpath currently exists. In view of the high percentage of respondents from Seatoun and the eastern bays who said this was important, it is further recommended that this area be given high priority for provision of new footpaths.

4.6 Services for the Elderly and People with Disabilities

Some focus group participants said the Peninsula needed more services for elderly people and people with disabilities, such as door-to-door servicing. This was because people with mobility difficulties and/or who live in hilly areas have problems in accessing some existing services.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of more services and facilities for the elderly and people with disabilities. 82% rated these services as important or very important.

	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Suburb					
Miramar	54%	29%	12%	2%	2%
Maupuia	75%	13%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	54%	26%	12%	4%	4%
Seatoun	42%	33%	13%	12%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	43%	43%	7%	0%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	72%	17%	6%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	53%	29%	12%	4%	2%

Average Ranking: 1.66

4.6.1 Additional Comments

Door-to-door milk delivery was said to benefit people with mobility difficulties. The mobile library (a service primarily for those with mobility difficulties) was included in a list of specific facilities to be ranked for importance (see section 6.23 for results).

4.6.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate the need for door-to-door services for the elderly and others with mobility difficulties, and ways of providing such services. Given the high percentage of respondents rating this issue as important (82%), this remains a valid recommendation.

4.7 Dog Control

Some focus group participants were concerned about 'uncontrolled' dogs in the community, especially around the shopping centre and beaches.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rate the importance of improved dog control. This issue was rated important or very important by 79% of respondents, but particularly high numbers of "not important" responses were received from Strathmore and the eastern bays.

	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Suburb					
Miramar	58%	22%	10%	9%	1%
Maupuia	50%	25%	25%	0%	0%
Strathmore	61%	16%	9%	14%	0%
Seatoun	62%	17%	10%	12%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	57%	14%	14%	14%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	72%	17%	6%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	60%	19%	10%	10%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.70

4.7.1 Additional Comments

The fouling of beaches and footpaths by dogs was seen as a significant problem by 16 respondents. Respondents said that dog owners should be more responsible regarding the fouling of footpaths by their dogs, and a public education campaign was suggested as well as stricter control by the Council.

Some people thought that current dog control was not strict enough, particularly around beaches and schools. Control of barking and aggressive dogs was of particular concern for pedestrians and children. More dog patrols were suggested for parks and beaches.

On the other hand, eight respondents felt that more areas were needed for exercising dogs (particularly for well-trained dogs which caused no problems for other people) and that good dog owners should not be penalised for the behaviour bad ones. A suggestion was made that dog registration fees could be lower for "responsible" owners.

Some respondents said there was a need for greater control of cats which foul and damage other people's gardens.

4.7.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate the need to tighten dog control procedures within the Miramar Peninsula community, particularly around the shopping centre and on popular beaches. The City Council's new dog control policy may help to address many current concerns, but given the high level of importance given to this issue (79%), this recommendation remains valid. The problem of dog fouling in particular needs to be addressed.

4.8 Services and Facilities for Youth

The lack of services specifically for young people was of great concern to focus group participants, many of whom thought this issue needed urgent attention. People said there was a lack of after-school activities for young people (other than sports), and little for them to do in the evenings, which meant they tended to go into Kilbirnie or Wellington instead.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of special services and facilities for young people. This was rated as important or very important by 80% of respondents to the follow-up survey. Miramar respondents rated this higher than average while almost three times the average proportion of eastern bays respondents rated it as not important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	49%	33%	13%	1%	4%
Maupuia	63%	13%	25%	0%	0%
Strathmore	49%	28%	11%	9%	4%
Seatoun	37%	40%	15%	8%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	43%	21%	7%	14%	14%
Suburb Not Specified	50%	39%	11%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	47%	33%	13%	5%	3%

Average Ranking: 1.74

4.8.1 Additional Comments

It was considered very important that young people be involved in any decisions about providing youth services on the Peninsula. Some respondents said the Peninsula needed a permanent youth worker. The provision of services or entertainment to draw young families to the Peninsula was seen as important. It was suggested that empty shops in Strathmore or the buildings at Shelly Bay could be used as venues for youth facilities and services.

4.8.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate the resources and facilities needed by youth on the Peninsula and the alternatives available for providing for those needs, and that this should be done in consultation with youth workers, youth leaders and young people. This recommendation is backed up by the rankings and written responses from the follow-up survey.

4.9 Clean, Safe Public Toilets

Some focus group participants were unhappy with the public toilets in central Miramar, and suggested that they should either be upgraded or replaced. Between the time of the focus groups and the running of the follow-up survey, the public toilets on Park Road were upgraded by the Council.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of upgraded public toilets in Miramar. This issue was ranked important or very important by 73% of respondents. Respondents from the eastern bays and Strathmore rated this issue lower than average while respondents from Miramar rated it higher than average.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	52%	25%	16%	4%	2%
Maupuia	63%	25%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	35%	26%	26%	9%	4%
Seatoun	46%	25%	17%	10%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	29%	21%	29%	21%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	28%	0%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	48%	25%	18%	7%	2%

Average Ranking: 1.84

4.9.1 Additional Comments

The upgrading of the Park Road toilets was appreciated by many respondents with comments that it was a “vast improvement” and a “credit to the Council” (although one respondent said that the new toilets were unattractive in appearance).

It was suggested that additional public toilets were needed at the Miramar Public Library, at other locations within the Miramar shopping area (because one public toilet block was not considered sufficient for an elderly community), and at Scorching Bay (where problems sometimes occur because of high demand during summer).

One respondent suggested that more frequent maintenance of the public toilets in Miramar was required.

4.9.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council review the maintenance programme for public toilets, with a view to improving the quality of these facilities. The overall importance placed on this issue and the suggestions listed in section 4.9.1 back up this recommendation. However the recent upgrading of the facilities in Park Road has probably addressed this issue to a large degree.

4.10 More Play Areas

Many focus group respondents felt there were not enough good quality safe play areas for young children (with possible exceptions being Miramar North and Seatoun). Some suggested that some of the land currently used for sports fields could be used to develop quality playgrounds (without compromising sporting opportunities for other age groups).

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of more play areas for young children. This issue was ranked as important or very important by 72% of respondents. A higher than average ranking was given by Miramar respondents, while a lower than average ranking was given by Seatoun respondents.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	48%	28%	16%	6%	2%
Maupuia	50%	38%	0%	13%	0%
Strathmore	39%	35%	16%	9%	2%
Seatoun	38%	21%	23%	17%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	50%	21%	0%	21%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	44%	33%	17%	0%	6%
Peninsula as a Whole	44%	28%	16%	9%	2%

Average Ranking: 1.90

4.10.1 Additional Comments

Respondents expressed appreciation to the City Council for the work upgrading the playground and toilets at Churchill Park, for the Kekerenga Street play area, and for the Seatoun play area.

Suggested improvements included providing better lighting at the Monorgan Road play area to improve public safety, fencing this play area to protect children from traffic danger, and upgrading Seatoun Park playground.

4.10.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council make provision in the work programme for providing high quality children's play grounds in areas with a shortage of these facilities. The results of the follow-up survey support this recommendation. While 72% said the issue was important, respondents from Seatoun (which is recognised as being well provided with playgrounds) ranked this issue lower than those from other suburbs.

4.11 Community Information

Some focus group participants said the Peninsula needed better community information services. They said neither the Library nor the Citizens Advice Bureau had enough resources to be able to provide reliable information. One suggestion was to provide a high-quality free community newspaper. The need for up-to-date, publicly available information technology was also seen as important.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of a community information service. This issue was ranked as important or very important by 74% of respondents. A particularly low ranking was given by Seatoun respondents.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	34%	44%	16%	3%	2%
Maupuia	25%	75%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	40%	23%	28%	9%	0%
Seatoun	23%	42%	23%	12%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	21%	50%	14%	7%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	39%	44%	0%	17%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	33%	41%	18%	7%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.99

4.11.1 Additional Comments

It was suggested that community notice boards were needed for advertising local services and facilities.

4.11.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council identify methods of improving public information services for the community. Given that 74% of respondents ranked this issue as important, this remains a valid recommendation, although the importance of this issue for Seatoun residents may be less than for the average.

4.12 Child-care Services

Focus group participants said there was an urgent need for more accessible, low cost after-school child-care and holiday programmes. Although some services are available, many parents (particularly those in less wealthy suburbs) do not use them because they cannot afford to.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of low-cost child-care services. While 68% of respondents regarded this issue as important or very important, respondents from Miramar and Strathmore placed more importance on it than those from Seatoun and the eastern bays.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	45%	30%	11%	12%	2%
Maupuia	38%	38%	13%	13%	0%
Strathmore	42%	25%	12%	18%	4%
Seatoun	35%	19%	15%	29%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	21%	21%	7%	36%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	50%	33%	6%	6%	6%
Peninsula as a Whole	41%	27%	12%	17%	3%

Average Ranking: 2.08

4.12.1 Additional Comments

One suggestion was that measurable criteria were needed to judge the quality of child care services to ensure they were of an acceptable standard.

Parent support services such as Plunket were particularly mentioned by some as important, reflecting the high number of families with young children living on the Peninsula.

4.12.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate ways of providing affordable child-care facilities for both short-term and full-day care. The need for this is supported by the survey responses but appears to be greater in the less-wealthy suburbs.

4.13 More Retail / Commercial / Entertainment Services

Some focus group participants said the Peninsula was lacking in these services, with little to choose from in the way of supermarkets, for example.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of increasing the retail, commercial and/or entertainment services available on the Peninsula. 67% of respondents rated this as important or very important. Respondents from the eastern bays ranked this issue significantly lower than those from other suburbs.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	37%	31%	19%	11%	2%
Maupuia	50%	25%	13%	13%	0%
Strathmore	40%	30%	14%	16%	0%
Seatoun	21%	46%	19%	13%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	29%	7%	43%	14%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	28%	33%	28%	11%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	34%	33%	19%	13%	1%

Average Ranking: 2.11

4.13.1 Additional Comments

Twelve respondents said that Miramar needed more retail services, especially another supermarket. It was thought that another supermarket would improve competition, and help to reduce traffic congestion because fewer people would drive to the supermarket in Kilbirnie. Strathmore Park was also seen as needing more retail and commercial services, including a bank or an electronic banking outlet.

A greater diversity of retailing was seen as desirable for the Peninsula (e.g. more cafes). One respondent said the Peninsula suited small, quality establishments rather than large commercial developments.

It was suggested that incentives be used to encourage new tenants to occupy empty shops in Miramar, such as lower rentals or rating considerations (some felt that the new rates set by the Council may lead to the closure of some businesses).

Several people said that more post boxes were needed (particularly in residential areas).

In general, retail areas were seen to need upgrading. Suggestions included using street paving and providing seating and trees. It was suggested that the City Council's Urban Design Unit be involved in up-grading and revitalising the Peninsula's commercial centres.

4.13.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants made no recommendation on this issue in the Community Needs Assessment. However, given the importance placed on this by the respondents from some suburbs and the suggestions in section 4.13.1, there may be a role for Council in encouraging greater business investment in the area (e.g. through offering support for a Mainstreet programme if local retailers are prepared to initiate such a project).

4.14 Central Community Venue

Some focus group participants felt the Peninsula needed a central link or focus, such as a large venue to cater for indoor sports, school holiday programmes, social and cultural events. It was suggested that as Broadway was the geographic hub of the Peninsula it was the logical place for a central community focal point.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of a central community venue. This issue was ranked as important or very important by 65% of respondents, with those from Seatoun and the eastern bays rating it significantly lower than those from the other suburbs.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	32%	38%	22%	5%	3%
Maupuia	13%	75%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	32%	28%	18%	19%	4%
Seatoun	19%	37%	27%	15%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	14%	36%	21%	14%	14%
Suburb Not Specified	33%	39%	6%	17%	6%
Peninsula as a Whole	28%	37%	20%	11%	4%

Average Ranking: 2.15

4.14.1 Additional Comments

It was suggested that providing a central community venue could be a way of providing for some of the needs of the Peninsula's youth.

4.14.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate the level of community support for a large central community venue. The survey results suggest that this is not a highly significant issue for respondents when compared with other issues, but this recommendation is still valid given the level of support from Miramar and Strathmore.

4.15 Security around Changing Sheds

Some focus group participants were concerned about the safety and enjoyment of people using the changing sheds around the eastern bays, because of past problems with 'perverts'. One suggestion was that changing sheds should include single units to provide more privacy.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of more secure changing sheds. This issue was ranked as important or very important by 61% of respondents overall. Eastern bays respondents ranked it particularly highly while Strathmore respondents ranked it particularly low.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	34%	23%	28%	11%	4%
Maupuia	25%	63%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	30%	23%	25%	23%	0%
Seatoun	29%	35%	23%	12%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	43%	29%	7%	14%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	56%	33%	6%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	34%	27%	24%	13%	2%

Average Ranking: 2.17

4.15.1 Additional Comments

One respondent suggested that consideration needed to be given to the possible negative implications for public safety of dividing changing sheds into individual stalls.

4.15.2 Conclusion

Corydon consultants recommended that the City Council investigate the safety of the changing shed facilities on the eastern bays, and the level of demand for single stalls. Given its importance to respondents from the eastern bays, this is still a valid recommendation, although the issue received a comparatively low ranking overall.

4.16 English Language and Life Skills Education

Focus group participants said there was a need for more English language and life-skills training within the Peninsula community. They said this was especially important for new immigrants settling into the community, who needed help in accessing community facilities and services.

This issue was rated comparatively low by follow-up survey respondents, with 58% saying it was important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	31%	24%	25%	18%	2%
Teaupoia	38%	13%	50%	0%	0%
Wairathmore	33%	23%	21%	23%	0%
Teatoun	35%	29%	12%	25%	0%
Pororua/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	36%	36%	14%	0%	14%
Suburb Not Specified	28%	39%	22%	11%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	32%	26%	22%	18%	2%

Average Ranking: 2.27

4.16.1 Additional Comments

Several respondents felt that the provision of English language or life skills training to new immigrants should be the responsibility of the Immigration Department rather than the City Council.

4.16.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council investigate the level of support for formal English language and life skills training for new immigrants and, if warranted, consider ways of providing this training to meet the needs of participants. This issue received a comparatively low ranking. However, it is likely that new immigrants would not have responded to the follow-up survey, therefore investigating the level of community support for these services is still recommended.

4.17 Public Seating in Miramar

Several focus group participants said that Miramar needed more public seating in safe, warm places around the shopping centre.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of seating in the Miramar shopping area. This was the issue rated least important by respondents, with only 56% ranking it important or very important. Respondents from Miramar rated this issue higher than average, while eastern bays respondents rated it significantly lower.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	34%	29%	28%	7%	3%
Maupuia	25%	38%	38%	0%	0%
Strathmore	28%	23%	16%	30%	4%
Seatoun	25%	25%	27%	23%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	14%	14%	21%	43%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	44%	22%	22%	11%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	30%	26%	25%	16%	2%

Average Ranking: 2.28

4.17.1 Additional Comments

Areas noted as needing more public seating included:

- Park Road;
- the Strathmore shopping area bus stop;
- near beaches and other areas of high amenity value; and
- Broadway Green.

4.17.2 Conclusion

Corydon Consultants recommended that the City Council make provision in the work programme for providing additional public seating in the Miramar shopping centre. This recommendation is still valid (particularly for those areas noted in section 4.17.1), but the provision of public seating is clearly of lower importance to respondents than many other issues.

5. Other Issues Raised in the Follow-up Survey

5.1 Community Consultation

Some respondents expressed appreciation for the Council taking a pro-active approach to community consultation through the *Absolutely Positively Peninsula* survey. Others expressed scepticism about whether their comments would be taken on board, since "the Council has ignored the results of their community consultation before".

It was suggested that the Council should provide more feedback to the community in response to consultation input, and that Councillors should be more visible and accessible, as in the case of local M.P.s.

Several respondents said that before upgrading facilities or services or providing new ones, the Council should consult with those sectors of the community who would be directly affected.

5.2 Traffic Issues

A number of suggestions were advanced for improving traffic problems within the Peninsula and in other areas.

5.2.1 Pedestrian Crossings

It was suggested that pedestrian crossings were needed on Cobham Drive and Calabar Road. It was also suggested that the phasing of lights at pedestrian crossings should allow sufficient time for elderly people to cross.

5.2.2 Parking

Areas noted as needing more car parking space included the Miramar shops in Park Road (more angle parking was suggested), at the Strathmore shops, and outside the Aerodrome pub on Miramar Avenue.

Some said that parking on narrow suburban streets needed to be better organised. A suggestion was that, where available, Council land could be made available for off-street parking (especially on hills).

One respondent said that parking charges at the airport were becoming too high.

5.2.3 Traffic Calming Measures

Areas noted as requiring traffic calming measures included around the Miramar shopping area (particularly on the approaches to pedestrian crossings on Mira-

mar Avenue and Park Road), on Broadway, around the coastal road (particularly near residential and popular recreational areas), in Bowes Crescent and on Kauri Street.

5.2.4 *Street Design*

The layout of a number of streets and intersections were noted as contributing to traffic safety problems. These included:

- the intersection of Miramar Avenue and Park Road (traffic lights were suggested);
- the Cobham Drive roundabouts;
- the median barrier on Miramar Avenue (it was suggested that this either be removed or else lit by night);
- the entrance to Caledonia Street from Calabar Road (where the bus "sweep" allows other vehicles to enter Caledonia Street at high speed);
- the corner of Cobham Drive and Miramar Avenue (it was suggested that the old Harbour Board shed near Miramar Wharf should be removed and the curve of the corner altered to improve visibility and the flow of traffic);
- the intersections of Ellesmere Avenue and Devonshire Road, Ellesmere Avenue and Strathavon Road, and Ellesmere Avenue and Hobart Street (Stop or Give-Way signs were suggested);
- Seatoun Heights Road (said to require widening in places); and
- intersections in Seatoun (generally).

5.2.5 *Road Marking on Cobham Drive*

Three respondents suggested that the road markings on the Cobham Drive roundabouts should show more clearly the correct directions of travel for traffic entering and exiting these roundabouts. It was suggested that confusion arose between traffic travelling to the airport or Kilbirnie and the traffic going to the city (for example, city-bound traffic can mistakenly end up travelling south along Calabar Road).

5.2.6 *Signage*

Several respondents said that the Council's street signage was very good.

One respondent suggested that a sign was needed on Calabar Road to instruct north-bound traffic to use the left hand lane (to improve the efficiency of traffic flow, particularly for motorists exiting Caledonia Street).

Another respondent said that street signs in the central city were sometimes difficult to see because there were too many other signs sharing lamp-posts, and because some signs were too low so they were sometimes hidden from motorists by large vehicles.

Another suggestion was that residents should be encouraged to improve the numbering on their letterboxes so they could be seen at night.

A comment (from Seatoun) was that more consideration needed to be given to the protection of views in deciding the location of street signs.

5.2.7 *Street Maintenance and Cleaning*

The maintenance of streets, roads and footpaths was said to be very important for maintaining the value of houses. Several respondents suggested that streets and gutters needed more regular cleaning (specific examples included Miro Street, Miramar Avenue, Para Street and Hobart Street). Specific needs which were noted included:

- the resealing of Marine Parade;
- repainting of Seatoun Tunnel (particularly the pedestrian walkways);
- upgrading of the right of way from Camperdown Road to the tennis courts; and
- provision of kerb and channelling outside 11 Fettes Crescent, Miramar.

Some respondents said that grass verges needed to be better maintained and that this should be done by the Council. However others said the Council should encourage residents to maintain their own verges.

5.2.8 *Stewart Duff Drive*

A comment was made that the road between Moa Point and the end of Broadway must remain a public road, and that the airport should not be able to compromise public access to this route.

5.3 Rubbish Collection

Several respondents expressed concern about the quality of refuse collection services on the Peninsula. Problems were generally attributed to litter being left on the streets following waste collection, or being blown or spilt from open-topped green recycling bins. A suggestion to overcome this problem was to introduce wheely-bin rubbish collection. It was suggested that providing more rubbish bins in public places (particularly outside the supermarket and schools) would help to cut down on the amount of litter.

Concern was also expressed about litter dumped on the Peninsula's beaches. Community beach cleaning days were suggested.

It was suggested that replacement recycling bins should be free of charge to people who have lost them or had them stolen.

One respondent expressed a nostalgic preference for the days of back door rubbish collection.

5.4 Airport Noise

Six Miramar respondents and two Strathmore respondents expressed concern about airport noise. Specific comments included that:

- airport noise should be reduced, particularly during the evenings and in the early mornings;
- Air New Zealand should be required to buy whisper jets to operate out of Wellington; and
- the present curfew on airport noise should be maintained.

Nine respondents (eight from Miramar and one from Seatoun) said that airport noise was not a significant concern (one said this was conditional on the current operating times being maintained). Specific comments included that:

- the proximity of the airport to the city made it a great asset for Wellington;
- the runway should be extended to cater for more international flights;
- the sound of the planes was enjoyable;
- people living near the airport should expect to experience noise.

5.5 Shelly Bay and Fort Dorset

A number of suggestions were made regarding the future of the Shelly Bay and Fort Dorset sites. The general tone of these comments was that public rather than commercial interests should have precedence, and that any future use of Shelly Bay should be sympathetic to the amenity values of this area. Some respondents felt that the Council should negotiate with the Ministry of Defence to buy Shelly Bay. Suggestions for the Shelly Bay site included facilities or services for young people, or a Motor Camp. Suggestions for the Fort Dorset site included a primary school or a public reserve (with the playing fields being retained).

It was seen as important that the community be kept informed regarding what was happening with these sites.

5.6 Cobham Drive Upgrading

Six respondents suggested that the area on the seaward side of Cobham Drive should be upgraded. Specific suggestions included building an attractive Sea-wall, replacing the current Norfolk Pines with native trees, removing the Council caravans from the entrance to Miramar Wharf, and looking to Auckland's Mission Bay as an example.

One respondent suggested that the banners should be removed from the median strip because they made Wellington appear more windy than it actually is and because the messages on the banners are impossible to read, and suggested that they be replaced with fixed sign boards.

5.7 Civil Defence

A number of suggestions were made for improving community safety in case of an emergency such as a large earthquake. These included reducing overhead wiring and reducing the threat of pollution from airport fuel and underground gas leaks. A need to make provision for alternative medical, water, electricity facilities and supplies that would be available to the whole community in the event of an emergency was also mentioned.

5.8 Historical Sites

One respondent mentioned the need to provide better protection for historical sites (such as Fort Balance above Scorching Bay).

6. Features Most Valued by the Community

People involved in focus groups and the initial random survey for the community needs assessment were asked to list the factors which they most liked about living or working on the Peninsula, and to list the resources, facilities and services they regarded as the most important or most heavily used by the community.

Twenty-three of these factors were listed in the follow-up survey and respondents were asked to rank the importance of each. Sections 6.1 to 6.23 give short summaries of these features as discussed in the community needs assessment report and tables showing the results of the ranking. Additional written comments from survey respondents are also summarised.

6.1 Natural Amenity

Trees, parks, open spaces, the views from the hills, and general amenity values were highly valued by the focus group participants who.

Respondents to the follow-up survey were asked to rank the importance of trees, parks, open spaces and views. Almost 100% of respondents considered natural amenity to be either very important or important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	81%	13%	3%	1%	1%
Maupuia	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%
Seatoun	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	86%	7%	0%	0%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	85%	12%	1%	0%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.16

6.1.1 Additional Comments

The replanting and protection of the vandalised pohutokawa trees on Raukawa Street was noted with appreciation by some respondents. Improvements to Council grounds in the Maupuia Road area were also appreciated.

Protection of open spaces was seen as very important. Opposition was expressed to the proposed subdivision at Beacon Hill. It was suggested that there should be no further residential development around the Eastern Walkway.

Six respondents said that more trees were needed in public places on the Peninsula, particularly on roads and streets and around shopping areas. Other suggestions were to:

- plant large trees at the southern end Broadway Green;
- replace Norfolk Pines (such as those on Cobham Drive and Ira Street) with native trees;
- top and thin street trees to let more sunshine into residential properties and to improve harbour views from these properties;
- thin the trees at Seatoun Park;
- top the trees surrounding the Massey Memorial to make the monument more visible;
- provide more floral displays on public land, including traffic island displays;
- put services such as power and telephone lines underground in the coastal area; and
- exclude jet skis from areas near beaches.

6.2 The Coastline

The coastline (including beaches and pohutokawa trees) were highly valued by focus group participants. Kindergarten and school staff in particular valued the coastline, which they used for school activities such as science and sport.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the coastline and beaches. This was the second most highly valued amenity on the Peninsula.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	80%	14%	4%	0%	1%
Maupuia	88%	13%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	82%	14%	2%	0%	0%
Seatoun	98%	0%	2%	0%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	89%	11%	0%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	86%	11%	3%	0%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.20

6.3 Improvements Resulting from the Waste-water Treatment Plant

Improvements to the quality of the coastal environment resulting from the new waste-water treatment plant was seen by focus group participants as being of major benefit to the Peninsula's environment in general, and especially to recreational opportunities in the area.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the improved quality of the coastal environment resulting from the new sewage treatment plant. This was the third most highly valued feature from the survey.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	74%	19%	6%	1%	1%
Maupuia	0%	0%	38%	63%	0%
Strathmore	82%	12%	4%	2%	0%
Seatoun	77%	17%	4%	2%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	79%	21%	0%	0%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	72%	28%	0%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	76%	18%	4%	1%	0%

Average Ranking: 1.30

6.3.1 Additional Comments

Additional written comments from respondents about the new treatment plant included:

- that it should be better-screened from surrounding residential areas;
- that the treatment level is too high and therefore treatment is too expensive; and
- that it should have been located at Valley West rather than at Moa Point.

6.4 Recreational Opportunities

Recreational opportunities afforded by the bush and coastline, and walkways (particularly the Eastern Walkway) were highly valued by focus group participants. The flat coastal road was seen as being of particular value to recreational users. Sporting facilities were frequently mentioned as being important, and the Seatoun Wharf was also seen as a valuable community asset.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of recreational opportunities (including walkways).

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	66%	26%	4%	1%	1%
Maupuia	63%	38%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	75%	12%	11%	0%	0%
Seatoun	75%	23%	2%	0%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	64%	21%	0%	14%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	28%	6%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	70%	23%	5%	1%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.41

6.5 Schools and Kindergartens

Schools and kindergartens were regarded by focus group participants as being very important for the community, especially in light of the high proportion of children in the population.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of schools and/or kindergartens.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	78%	10%	6%	5%	1%
Maupuia	75%	13%	0%	13%	0%
Strathmore	72%	9%	9%	9%	2%
Seatoun	73%	15%	2%	10%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	64%	14%	7%	7%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	78%	17%	6%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	75%	12%	6%	7%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.44

6.6 Community Safety

Some people involved in the focus groups said that living on the Peninsula felt more safe from crime than other Wellington suburbs. Others suggested that the fact that the Peninsula was not as intensively developed as other areas helped to make the community safer.

Respondents to the follow-up survey were asked to rank safety from crime compared with other parts of Wellington City. The responses were as follows:

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	59%	30%	8%	1%	1%
Maupuia	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	63%	23%	5%	2%	7%
Seatoun	62%	37%	0%	0%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	57%	21%	14%	0%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	61%	28%	6%	0%	6%
Peninsula as a Whole	60%	30%	6%	1%	3%

Average Ranking: 1.46

6.6.1 Additional Comments

Six respondents said that they did not believe that the Peninsula was safer from crime than other parts of Wellington.

6.7 Seclusion

Some focus group participants said they liked the fact that the Peninsula was secluded from Wellington, and the feeling that they were leaving the city behind when they passed through the Miramar cutting.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of seclusion from Wellington and/or peace and quiet.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	59%	26%	10%	4%	0%
Maupuia	63%	25%	0%	13%	0%
Strathmore	68%	21%	9%	2%	0%
Seatoun	83%	13%	4%	0%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	79%	14%	7%	0%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	44%	39%	17%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	65%	23%	9%	3%	0%

Average Ranking: 1.49

6.8 The Miramar Library

All focus groups regarded the Miramar Library as one of the most important facilities for the community. They said it represented the social hub of the Peninsula, being the most central facility and the one used by the widest range of people, including many young and many elderly people.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the Miramar Library. The responses supported the finding of the earlier study. Of all the facilities on the Peninsula, the library was given the highest ranking.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	70%	21%	5%	4%	0%
Maupuia	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	58%	21%	16%	4%	2%
Seatoun	56%	23%	12%	10%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	79%	14%	0%	7%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	83%	11%	0%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	66%	21%	8%	5%	0%

Average Ranking: 1.52

6.8.1 Additional Comments

The Miramar Library was said to be "well-run with very helpful staff".

One suggestion was that branch library operating hours should be increased to include late nights (e.g. till 9.30 pm) and weekends (e.g. Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons). It was also suggested that libraries should receive more resources, and that more staff were needed to cater for more frequent class visits from schools. One respondent suggested that the Miramar library needed up-grading or improving.

6.9 Facilities and Services in Kilbirnie and/or Wellington

Although the Peninsula community is isolated and with limited facilities, the proximity to other services in Kilbirnie and Wellington City was seen as being of major benefit. However, while the proximity of alternative and more diverse services was seen as being positive for residents, this was regarded as a negative factor for local retailers and other service providers.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the proximity of services and facilities in Kilbirnie and Wellington.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	62%	31%	3%	4%	0%
Maupuia	50%	38%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	54%	26%	14%	4%	2%
Seatoun	56%	29%	12%	2%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	50%	36%	14%	0%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	17%	17%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	59%	29%	8%	3%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.55

6.10 Recent Coastal Work by the City Council

Recent work by the Council to upgrade beaches and access to beaches along the western side of the Peninsula was greatly appreciated by some focus group participants. However, others felt that more needed to be done, particularly for the needs of small boat owners.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of recent work by the City Council to upgrade access to beaches.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	57%	25%	14%	3%	1%
Maupuia	50%	38%	0%	0%	13%
Strathmore	60%	19%	14%	4%	4%
Seatoun	60%	31%	2%	4%	4%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	57%	21%	7%	14%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	59%	25%	10%	4%	2%

Average Ranking: 1.57

6.10.1 Additional Comments

Work by the Council to improve the coastal environment was generally supported and appreciated. A number of suggestions were made for further improvements to the coastal area, including:

- upgrading the Marine Parade sea-wall;
- providing good boat launching ramps at Seatoun, on the coast north of Seatoun, at Worser Bay, Island Bay and at Evans Bay (a marina similar to the one at Seaview was suggested for Evans Bay);
- providing steps down to the beach at Kau Bay;
- improving access to the Moa Point coastline once the sewage treatment plant is operational; and
- upgrading Worser Bay Beach (the sand hills were said to be growing, obstructing views and the footpath).

6.11 Health Services

Focus group participants saw the Miramar Medical Centre as a great asset to the community, as it meant people did not have to travel outside the Peninsula to visit a doctor or physiotherapist. Similarly, District Nurse visits to people on the Peninsula were seen as important.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the Miramar Medical Centre and District Nurse Visits.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	63%	24%	8%	5%	0%
Maupuia	50%	38%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	56%	14%	12%	16%	2%
Seatoun	48%	35%	8%	8%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	64%	14%	21%	0%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	28%	6%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	59%	24%	10%	7%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.65

6.12 Fewer Internal Traffic Problems

Focus group participants saw the Peninsula as having fewer internal traffic-related problems than other Wellington suburbs because of the absence of through-roads to other parts of the city. (However, peak-hour travel to and from the Peninsula was cited as a negative feature.)

Follow-up survey respondents were asked rank “fewer internal traffic problems than other areas of Wellington” as an advantage of living on the Peninsula. Over 80% considered this was important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	49%	34%	10%	4%	3%
Maupuia	63%	38%	0%	0%	0%
Strathmore	58%	33%	4%	4%	2%
Seatoun	54%	33%	12%	2%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	29%	36%	14%	7%	14%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	17%	11%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	52%	33%	9%	4%	2%

Average Ranking: 1.67

6.13 The Climate on the Peninsula

All focus groups expressed the opinion that the Peninsula’s climate was generally more benign than that of Wellington City, being warmer, drier and having longer sunshine hours.

Respondents were asked to rank the Peninsula’s climate as an advantage of living on the Peninsula. The earlier finding was supported with over 80% of respondents rating this as important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	52%	32%	8%	5%	2%
Maupuia	50%	38%	0%	13%	0%
Strathmore	63%	21%	4%	5%	7%
Seatoun	44%	37%	12%	8%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	50%	14%	14%	7%	14%
Suburb Not Specified	56%	22%	11%	11%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	53%	29%	8%	6%	3%

Average Ranking: 1.67

6.14 Children's Play Areas

Focus group participants said that children's play areas, particularly those in Seatoun (e.g. Churchill Park) and Miramar were appreciated and well used by the community.

Respondents were asked to rank children's play areas as a contributor to their enjoyment of living on the Peninsula. The responses largely reflected the distribution and quality of existing play areas, with the highest ranking coming from respondents in Seatoun and the eastern bays. The lowest ranking came from respondents in Strathmore, the suburb with the highest proportion of young children.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	53%	34%	5%	7%	1%
Maupuia	50%	38%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	51%	25%	9%	14%	2%
Seatoun	54%	25%	12%	10%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	64%	14%	0%	14%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	56%	39%	6%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	53%	30%	7%	8%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.70

6.15 Retail and Commercial Facilities and Services

The Miramar shopping area, and in particular the New World supermarket, was regarded highly by many participants in the focus groups and the initial street survey. The presence of the shopping centre meant that people's needs were catered for without the need to leave the Peninsula. However, other people preferred the shops in Kilbirnie over those available on the Peninsula (mainly because Kilbirnie offered more variety).

Respondents to the follow-up survey were asked to rank the importance of the quality of retail and commercial facilities and services available on the Peninsula. Follow-up survey respondents gave a lower ranking than that given for facilities and services in Kilbirnie and Wellington (see section 6.9). The highest ranking was given by respondents from Miramar, the suburb with the greatest proportion of elderly residents. The lowest rating was given by respondents in the eastern bays, which rank highly on socio-economic indicators.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	51%	31%	12%	5%	1%
Maupuia	63%	25%	0%	0%	13%
Strathmore	47%	33%	14%	4%	2%
Seatoun	44%	33%	19%	4%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	29%	21%	29%	14%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	50%	44%	6%	0%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	48%	32%	14%	5%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.75

6.16 Sense of Community

People in all focus groups felt that there was a strong sense of community on the Peninsula, which could be attributed to the geographical definition of the Peninsula as well as the settled, long-staying nature of many of the Peninsula's residents.

Respondents to the follow-up survey were asked to rank the importance of a "strong sense of community". The views of the focus groups were largely supported by the responses, with 81% rating this as important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	40%	43%	12%	2%	2%
Maupuia	25%	38%	38%	0%	0%
Strathmore	40%	35%	18%	4%	4%
Seatoun	46%	35%	15%	2%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bay	43%	43%	7%	7%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	44%	39%	11%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	41%	40%	14%	3%	2%

Average Ranking: 1.78

6.17 Community Centres

Focus group participants said the Peninsula's community centres (the Miramar Community Centre, the Strathmore Community Base and the Strathmore Park Community Hall) were very important because of the many activities and organisations they catered for. These centres contributed greatly to the diversity of activities available to elderly people within the community, and also provide children's play groups.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the community centres. Overall 74% considered these important or very important. Miramar gave the highest value to these facilities and Seatoun the lowest.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	52%	28%	13%	6%	1%
Maupuia	38%	50%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	39%	33%	18%	9%	2%
Seatoun	31%	29%	17%	23%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	29%	36%	21%	7%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	56%	17%	22%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	44%	30%	16%	10%	1%

Average Ranking: 1.90

6.17.1 Additional Comments

One respondent said the Strathmore Community Base needed upgrading.

6.18 Affordable Housing

Participants in the initial street survey said that housing prices in some Peninsula suburbs tended to be lower than those in most other Wellington suburbs, and that this was a factor in their decision to live on the Peninsula.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of affordable housing. The suburb with the highest proportion of respondents ranking this as important was Miramar. A lower than average ranking was given by Strathmore respondents — the suburb with the highest proportion of Housing New Zealand rental properties. This result may reflect the effect of market rate rentals on these properties or be a result of a low response rate from rental property residents (since responses were anonymous this cannot be confirmed).

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	51%	28%	13%	7%	1%
Maupuia	38%	50%	13%	0%	0%
Strathmore	46%	21%	19%	12%	2%
Seatoun	23%	29%	19%	27%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	21%	43%	7%	14%	14%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	17%	6%	11%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	44%	27%	15%	12%	2%

Average Ranking: 1.95

6.19 Flat Land

Some focus group participants mentioned that the flat land of some suburbs (a comparative rarity in Wellington) had great advantages in terms of accessibility and convenience, particularly for elderly residents and families with young children.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the flat land available in some suburbs on the Peninsula. This was rated by 58% of respondents as important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	46%	29%	17%	6%	1%
Maupuia	13%	63%	13%	13%	0%
Strathmore	35%	21%	16%	25%	4%
Seatoun	31%	37%	23%	8%	2%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	29%	0%	36%	36%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	33%	33%	22%	11%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	39%	29%	19%	12%	2%

Average Ranking: 2.05

6.20 Changing Sheds for Swimmers

Focus group participants (particularly residents of Seatoun and the eastern bays) regarded the changing sheds on the eastern coastline as being very important.

These facilities were among the lowest-ranked by respondents to the follow-up survey. The exception was the eastern bay suburbs where 72% of respondents ranked these as important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	33%	30%	25%	10%	2%
Maupuia	25%	50%	25%	0%	0%
Strathmore	35%	33%	11%	19%	2%
Seatoun	25%	37%	21%	17%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	43%	29%	0%	21%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	50%	28%	17%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	33%	32%	20%	13%	2%

Average Ranking: 2.13

6.21 The "Suitcase" Health Clinic

Focus group participants saw the "Suitcase" health clinic offered at the Strathmore Park Community Hall as extremely important for that suburb. The Clinic provides an affordable, accessible and culturally sensitive service in a generally less wealthy suburb, where many residents are unable to afford the charges for doctors' visits.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the "Suitcase" health clinic. The overall ranking of this service was low but this may reflect a low response rate from certain social groupings such as ethnic and low income groups (for which this service is primarily designed). As the survey was confidential this cannot be confirmed.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	32%	19%	19%	24%	6%
Maupuia	38%	38%	13%	13%	0%
Strathmore	39%	16%	16%	25%	5%
Seatoun	25%	15%	15%	40%	4%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	50%	21%	14%	7%	7%
Suburb Not Specified	67%	6%	6%	22%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	35%	18%	16%	26%	5%

Average Ranking: 2.34

6.22 Ethnic / Cultural / Age Group Diversity

The Peninsula's demographic diversity (particularly in terms of ethnic mix and age range) was regarded by most focus groups as enriching the community. Some people said that the various ethnic groups blended together well.

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of ethnic, cultural and/or age group diversity. In all suburbs except Seatoun over 50% of respondents ranked this as important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	23%	32%	22%	19%	3%
Maupuia	25%	25%	50%	0%	0%
Strathmore	26%	37%	25%	11%	2%
Seatoun	10%	31%	29%	27%	4%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	14%	50%	29%	7%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	33%	39%	22%	6%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	22%	34%	25%	17%	2%

Average Ranking: 2.38

6.23 The Mobile Library

Focus group participants said the Mobile Library was an important resource (although it was recognised that there were difficulties in terms of educating people about the availability of this service, and with house-bound people being unable to walk to this service when it was in their area).

Follow-up survey respondents were asked to rank the importance of the Mobile Library. In all suburbs at least 50% of respondents thought this facility was either important or very important.

Suburb	very important	important	less important	not important	nil response
Miramar	26%	25%	19%	28%	1%
Maupuia	25%	25%	25%	25%	0%
Strathmore	26%	30%	19%	23%	2%
Seatoun	40%	15%	17%	27%	0%
Scorching/Karaka/Worser/Breaker Bays	43%	21%	14%	21%	0%
Suburb Not Specified	61%	11%	11%	17%	0%
Peninsula as a Whole	32%	23%	18%	26%	1%

Average Ranking: 2.39

6.24 Other Important Features

Several other features not raised during the initial needs assessment study were regarded by follow up survey respondents as being important. These included:

- low density housing;
- landscaped public areas;
- the proximity of the airport; and
- the golf course.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Corydon Consultants recommend that the Wellington City Council establish a working party to consider:

- i). the findings of the Miramar Peninsula Community Needs Assessment and follow-up survey;
- ii). the prioritisation of community needs in the Miramar Peninsula area; and
- iii). the allocation of resources and priorities for Council investment within the Miramar Peninsula community.

Miramar Peninsula
Community Needs Assessment

Follow-up Survey
Results

