Vision 2030 for Thursley

78 responses

Publish analytics

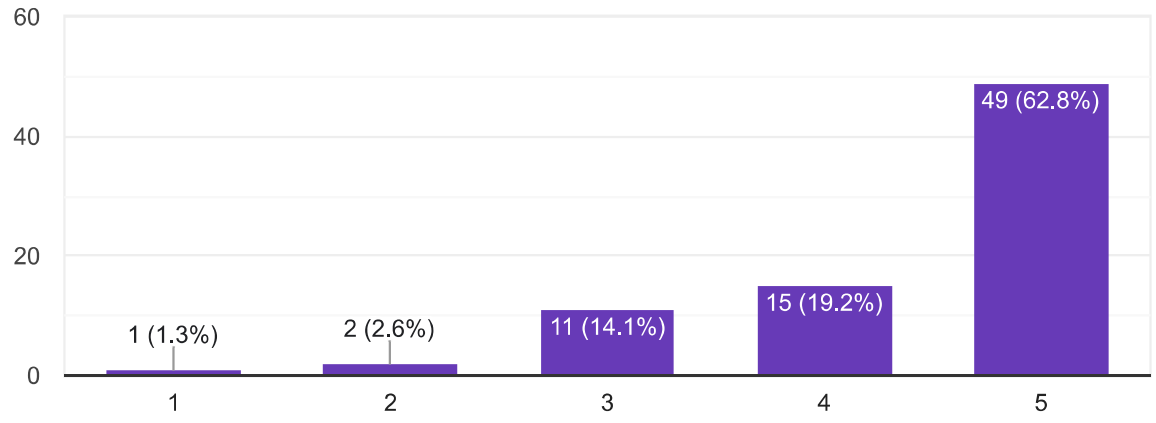
Introduction

A: How we get around

There are much better cycle paths throughout the area which encourages use for leisure and local travel

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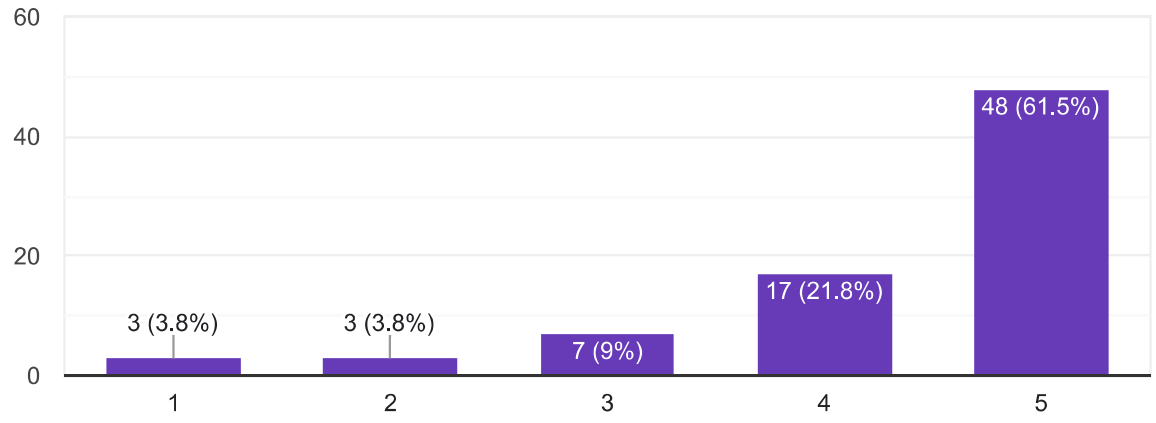
78 responses



There has been big shift to electric cars and vans

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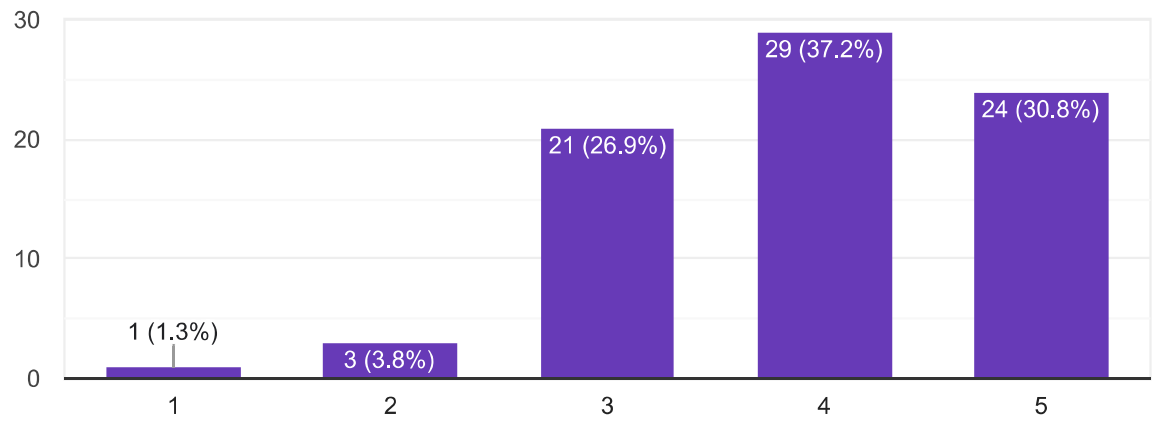
78 responses



A lift share scheme has been set up so people can sign up online to share a ride

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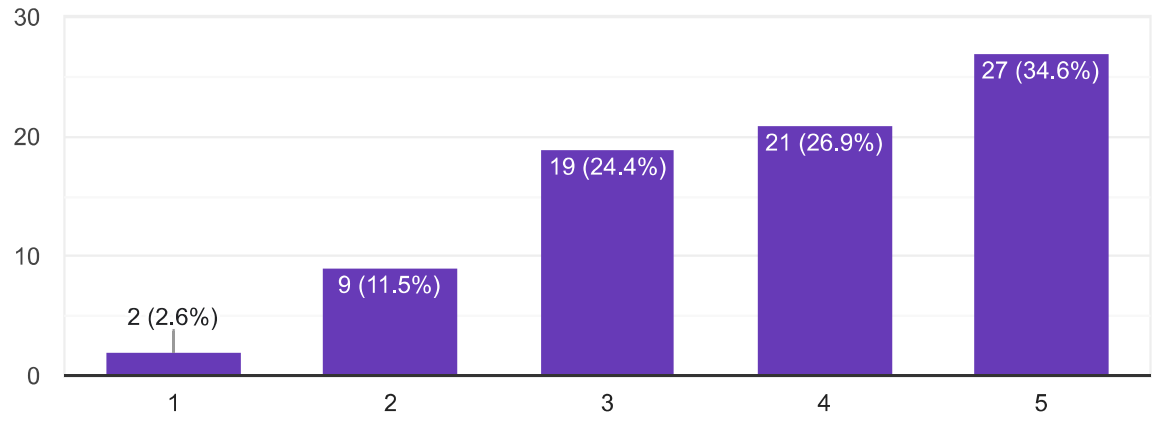
78 responses



People are using Waverley Hoppa or improved local bus services much more

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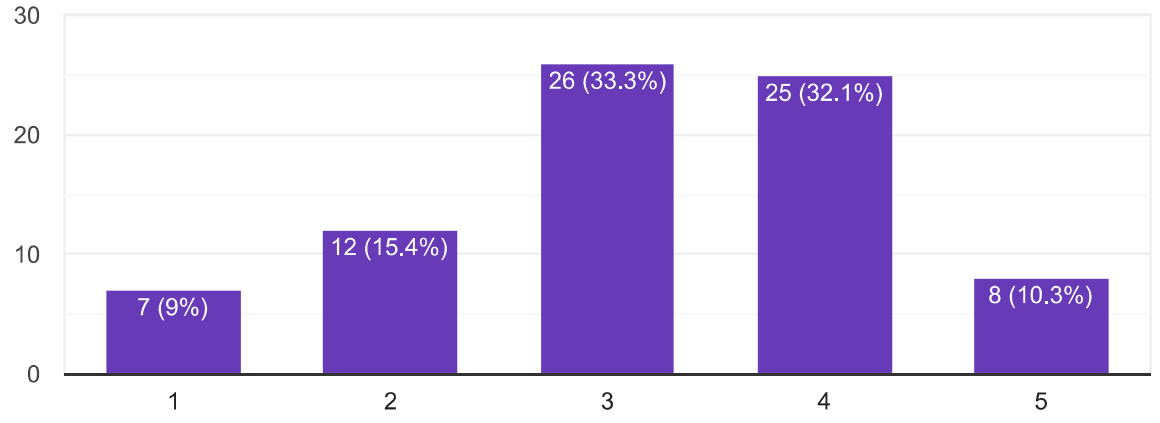
78 responses



There are many fewer privately owned cars

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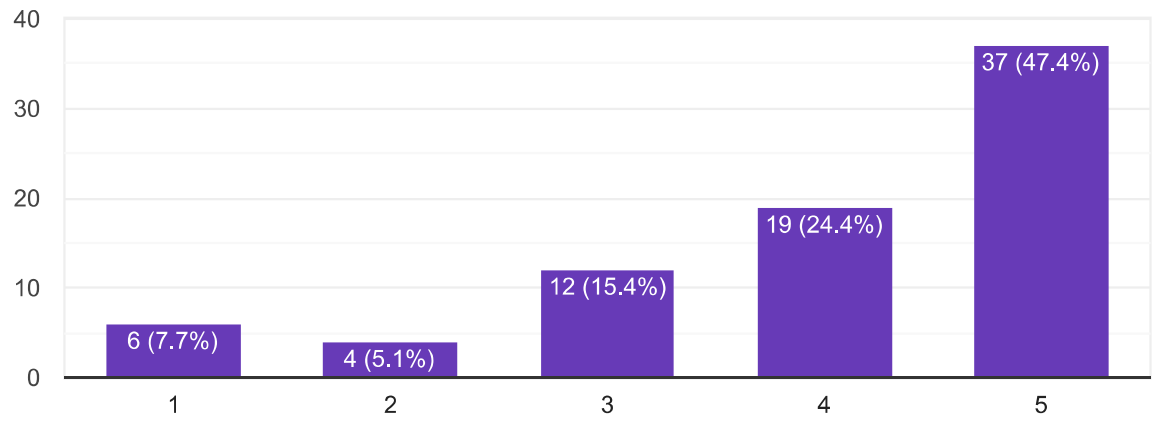
78 responses



Traffic calming measures encourage people to walk and cycle more

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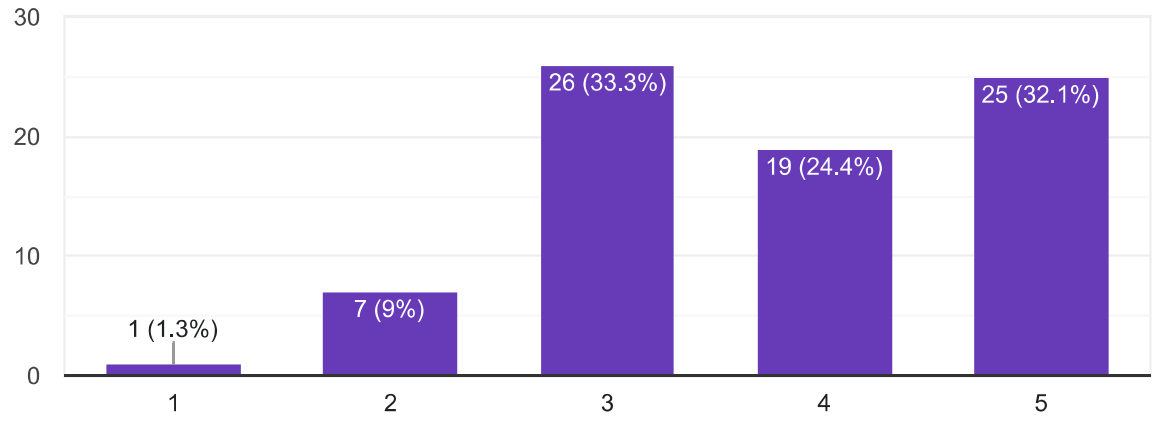
78 responses



Most people have cut back considerably on flying

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78 responses



What else would you like to see?

32 responses

More safe bridlepaths

Regular public transport options. There are too many cars in the villages and cars ruin the footfall in our local towns (Milford, Haslemere, Godalming).

Not convinced that electric vehicles are the answer!

Local and fast farm shop deliveries, in order to cut trips.

Lower speed limits on traffic travelling through Thursley . Better co-ordination and signage when A3 traffic diversions are required .

Better management of road surfacing and cleaning of footpaths. Being a rural area they are susceptible to mud and horse excrement.

A speed camera on Dye House Road

Bus service provided by council to collect children attending state and independent schools from homes or a pick up point. Some Independent schools provide this service for senior children but these services are school organised. This would reduce school run emissions significantly with electric buses in operation.

? School bus service to local schools? This would cut down on essential trips in car

More and cheaper parking at stations to continue to support train use. Haslemere in particular.

Cut verges to encourage walking. Also ensuring signs currently obscured by foliage are clear, eg School sign on entry to Thursley from Churt.

A local shop which would help not driving to Elstead

where there is no road-space to create a full pavement, a painted pedestrian walkway is identified on the road surface to remind motorists that they don't have the full carriageway.

More locally grown produce, maybe food swaps or a chance to buy fruit and veg from fellow villagers, especially when they have a glut of something.

Hoppa bus to have small villages on its route

More use of Renewable Energy

Would the village consider taking itself off the national electricity grid, with the installation of a solar farm and battery storage facility. Each household would be connected to the micro-grid through the existing transmission network and charged at cost for the amount of electricity

used? Once the installation costs were paid off, the electricity would continue to be charged, but the money re-used within the community.

Pavements and footpaths to encourage walking safely especially along Pitch Place. A Village community run shop so people don't need to always drive to pick up basic supplies and allow home grown produce to be sold / shared.

Collective buying power to reduce the number of delivery vans. into the village / collective buying power for solar power for example -

A bus stop in Thursley

Horses keeping to roads and bridleways and not using footpaths.

Get rid of the speed bumps in the village. They cause untold suspension damage. Instead enforce the 20mph limit with a speed camera in each direction. Also replace the road. It is worn out. Repairing potholes is a hopeless long term strategy.

Not sure we have many flights from thursley

Direct footpaths for pedestrians who want to walk to, for example, Milford. At the moment people are disincentivised to walk from Bowlhead Green to Milford as there is no direct route - you have to walk to near the bottom of French Lane to walk round Witley Park Estate.

Road improvements, better signage, better pedestrian access / more dedicated footpaths, better lighting, lower speed limits and more passing places to make the rural roads safer for all users, so that cars are not the only option

Deliveries drop off option at pub

less motorbikes on Devils punchbowl - bad for environment

Definitely a take up of EVs and renewables solutions like solar.

Local wind farms. Small locally run electricity providers

Electric commercial vehicles including farm vehicles are also more common - better for both fumes and noise pollution

Significant increased in sustainable domestic energy use and a community scheme

I'd like to see a local shop/post office/news agent in Thursley

Any comments or concerns to share?

17 responses

Could the Guildford park and rides become public transport hubs? Like Oxford. Perhaps they could stay open longer so that those of us that work evening shifts can use them.

A greater number of hydrogen powered vehicles on the roads

As above , particularly as we are seeing more commercial vehicles moving through Thursley .

Narrow roads and potholes undermine cycle path and walking options

More bike routes is good but essential to control bike use in areas of beauty like Thursley Common because they chew up and broaden what were footpaths

All byways re-assessed as to suitability for different types of transport and re-classified as a result.

Government incentives for small EV's (not large/luxury) re-instated along with a Diesel/Petrol scrapple scheme.

All of this requires a complete mind reset !

The shift to electric cars does not necessarily result in GGG savings, as this is dependent on the source of the electricity. In addition, the manufacture of electric vehicles requires the use of essential minerals and metals for batteries, with the generation of additional greenhouse to source and process.

These options are more challenging in a rural or semi-rural area.

Some of these points are a good idea in principle but I don't think having less cars and people not traveling long haul is realistic. Travel and exploring the world beyond is still to be encouraged.

Promoting electric vehicles is pointless. Battery technology requires cobalt and lithium which is mined in inhuman conditions in the likes of the DR Congo. Do not buy into this strategy. Stick to fossil fuels until technology advances.

Putting a limit of 50 mph on the road between Godalming and Haslemere has resulted in people driving at or above that limit. They seem to think that 50 mph is the 'safe' limit. In fact, driving that road every day as I did for over thirty years, on a sunny dry day it is safe to reach speeds of 60mph but on a rainy day it is dangerous to go over 40 mph!

I am concerned that there are too many Bikes and motorbikes on common lands whilst I am all for more cycle paths they should be on roads and not on footpaths and bridleways - there are far too many cyclists careering down footpaths and bridleways making it feel unsafe for pedestrians and horse riders

I think there's plenty of bicycle route access through thursley at the moment. I think the reality is the main towns are too far for people to walk / cycle every day so there needs to be another mode of transport or bringing a community shop to Thursley would allow villagers to be much more self sufficient. In this instance I could understand the requirement for a safer cycle route between thursley and Bowlhead green so it was accessible to all

The national and global level of worry doesn't seem enough and the village will reflect that. Where are the good deliverables from COP. Surely Climate Change is as serious as C19 where's the fear in anyone beyond Thunberg. More gov incentives to nudge and drive behaviour.

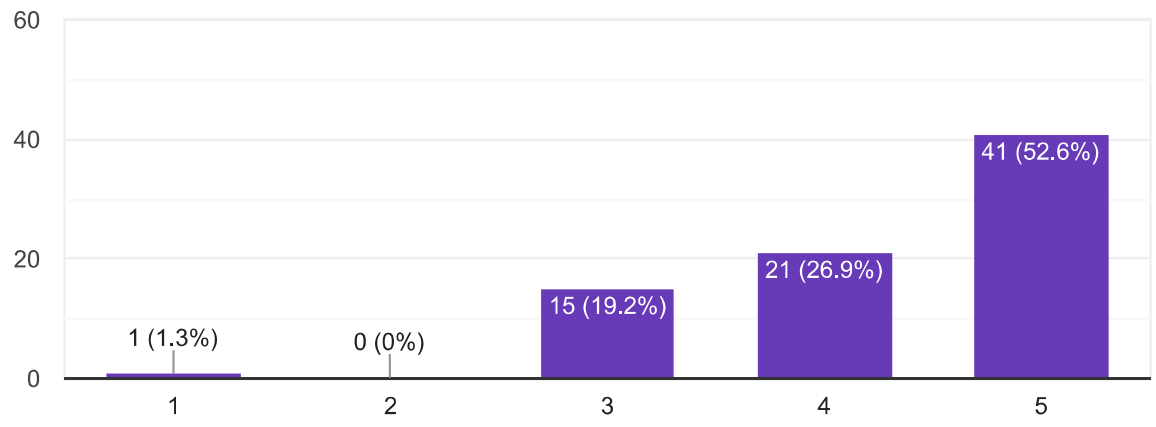
Believe in EV and alternatives, but in this area people will invest in their own private charging or local commercial outlets will provide charging points to attract visitors, so no need for public investment.

B: Our Homes

Almost all houses are energy efficient, with an EPC rating of C or better

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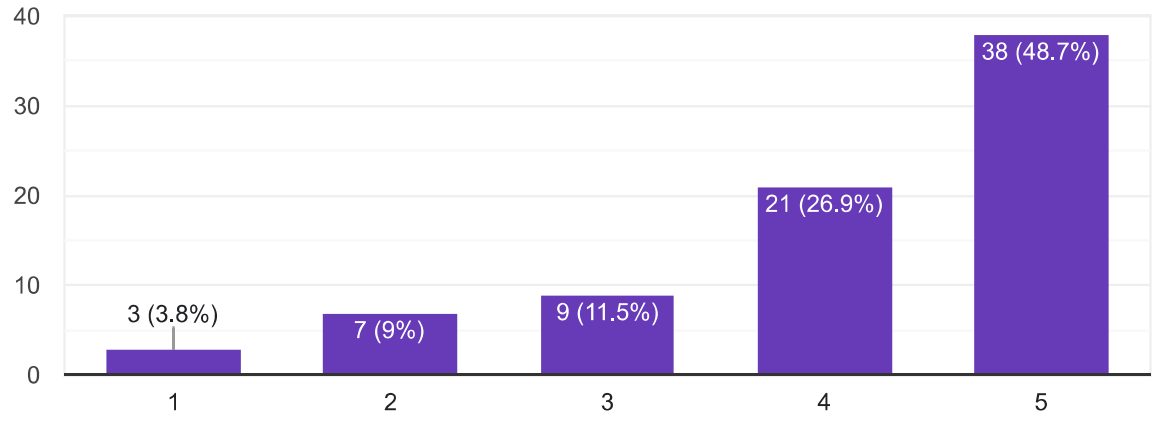
78 responses



Most houses use and are heated by green electricity

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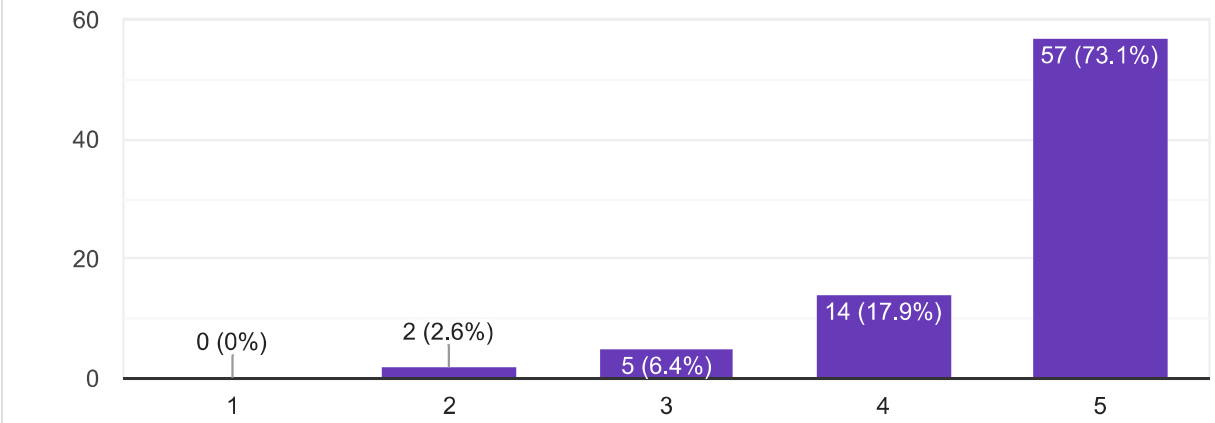
78 responses



All new housing is built to zero carbon standards and all extensions meet additional sustainability standards

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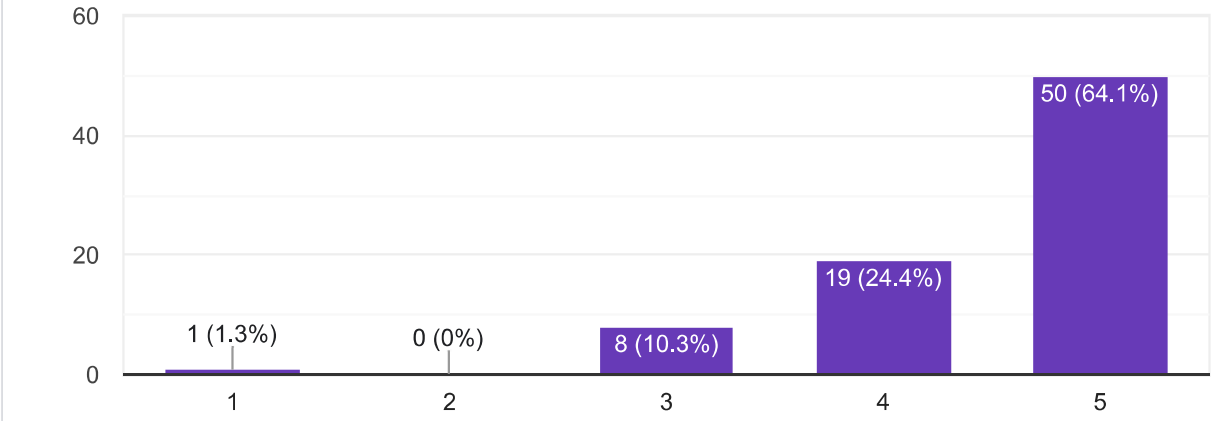
78 responses



We are much better at conserving water at home

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78 responses



What else would you like to see?

24 responses

Solar farm

New housing only built after public transport options improved, we need to reduce the amount of cars in the village.

I would support a “superhomes” initiative.

Waverley to have a green building consultant to help home owners plan the most effective and efficient energy saving systems in new build and existing properties.

Advice and potential funding for improving historic home insulation/efficiency

relaxation in planning permission required for heat pumps in certain situations

water companies maintain the leakage - significant amounts of water are lost by slow responses and poor decision making in the equipment used to repair leaks. More bore holes on properties, reservoir maintenance .

Great idea to improve efficiency of houses but c probably not realistic in listed or sim properties

Energy security is really important and will become more so.

Reliability of Thursley electricity is poor and needs to become more robust if you want people to stop using oil etc.

Could the village convert a field to a solar farm to provide local green electricity to our community?

There is a "Superhomes" initiative in other areas which would help with surveys and guidance.

Grant's that work for homeowners to become more efficient when upgrading their systems.

Government grants for roof insulation

Conservation officers allowing listed properties to be more energy efficient

Green energy solutions like solar panels.

Community solar farm

Small zero carbon homes for the elderly and single/couple occupancy that are priced at below the average national house price

Subsidies for solar and wind power

Village-wide initiatives - utilising wind/water power to generate electricity.

Planning and building regulations need to allow for greater changes if older houses are to reach the required EPC standards

grants for older homes to switch over- at the moment it isnt economically viable

Solar panels allowed on properties In the area

More support for making listed buildings energy efficient including grants for low carbon fuels to replace oil heating in the village.

Get taxed if you don't do stuff. Tax incentives if you do.

Increased take up in Solar PV

Any comments or concerns to share?

19 responses

As the owner of a Grade II listed cottage, I would be very interested to see what our options are concerning energy efficiency and the costs involved.

Although I would support a “superhomes” initiative, I rather doubt it will prove successful.

The difficulty of implementing sustainability outcomes in period properties.

Heat pumps and solar panels are not appropriate for older properties ; there needs to be some relaxation on planning requirements for such dwellings - allowing the installation of sympathetic double glazing for instance`.

Red tape involved in even basic improvements to insulate (eg change windows sympathetically) in a listed property is prohibitive - there should be help to encourage this not obstacles to make it nigh impossible

See above on electricity stability

Tax incentives for domestic Battery storage in combination with domestic PV panels, to better load balance electricity demand on networks

initiatives need to be backed up through appropriate level education

The super homes initiative sounds a good idea

Given many properties in Thursley are listed or of historic significance, the EPC rating of C or better will never be achieved without changes to the list building consent process and lifting of restrictions on changing the material fabric of older properties. For example, the replacement of single glazed windows for double/triple glazing to improve the insulation value of the home and reducing drafts

The replacement of oil / gas /LPG with Air source heat pumps is currently not viable for older properties, as air source heat pumps requires well insulated properties in order to work efficiently. In addition, air source heat pumps should be installed with solar / wind technologies to generate the electricity, otherwise there is no net benefit or GGG saving. Ground source heat pumps are better as they use the ground as the energy source, but require large areas of the land for installation.

Air/ground source still expensive to install and don’t work well in old houses

Easier said than done to convert to green ways of heating house - needs to be more cost effective to encourage change

There is a real concern about how people on lower or fixed incomes will be able to afford a switch to more electricity rather than using gas or oil. This needs to be taken into consideration.

Energy efficiency for listed properties needs to be discussed. Rules against upgrading windows to double glazing, for example.

Be realistic. New homes is one thing. One simply cannot “retrofit” old homes. It’s pie in the sky

Listed buildings will struggle with ground or air source heating

Please take listed buildings into sensible consideration
We have had negative experience of planning issues and would not wish to relive these in the future

I feel out of depth with a lot of this and am sceptical about government schemes having wasted too many hours trying to apply for loft insulation before the scheme was canned.

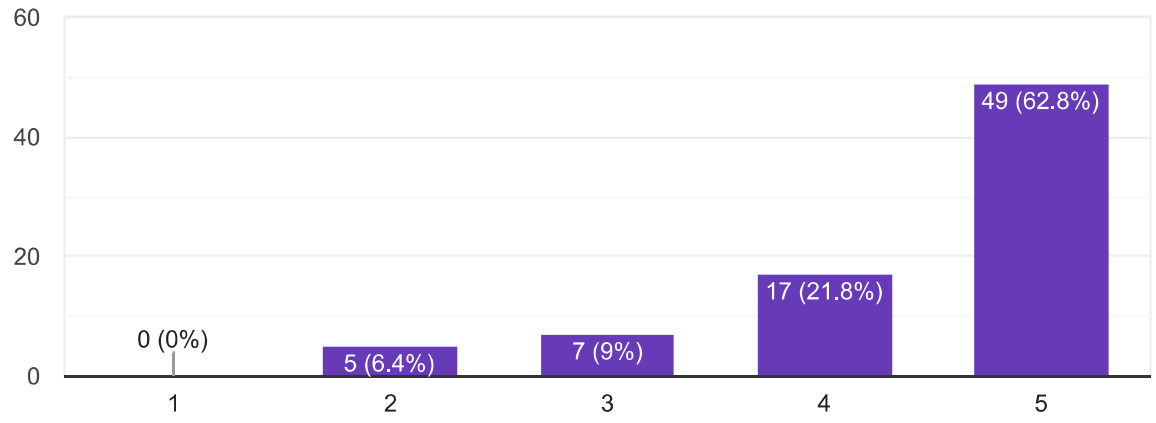
Same as before, without the proper seriousness and pressure in the man and woman on their sofa it's all to much like tomorrow's problem and not prepared to sacrifice today. I also think lots of folk somehow think it's the government and world leaders job to fix it. We need to take it personally.

C. Where our energy comes from

Most houses have Solar PV panels fitted

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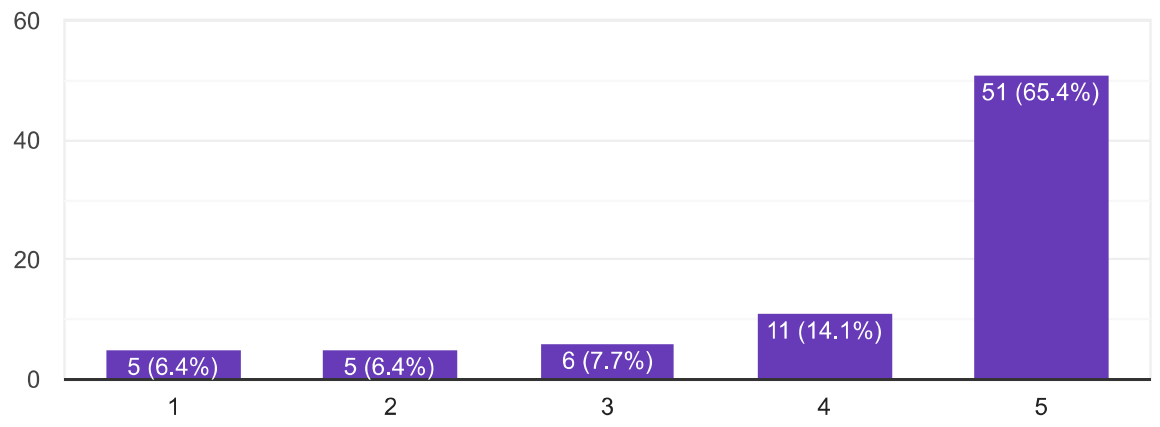
78 responses



There are Solar Farms in the Parish

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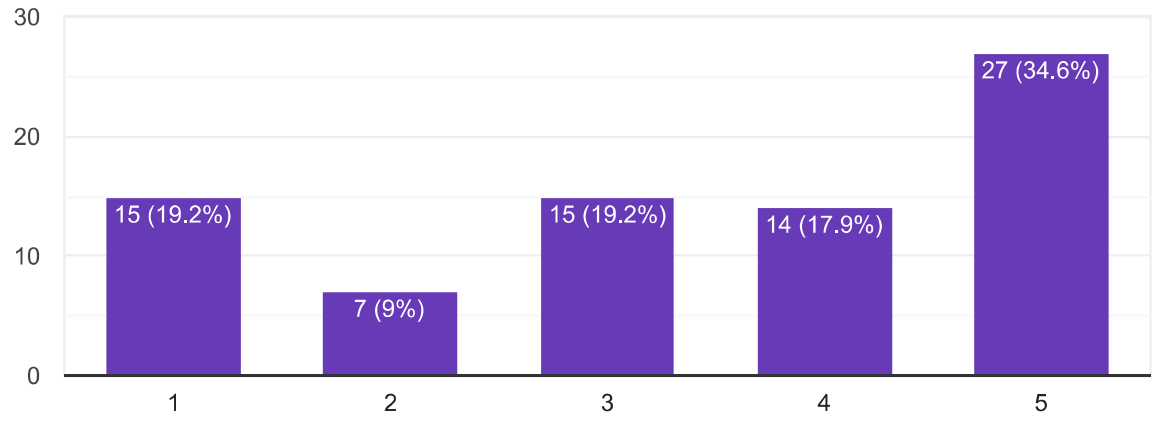
78 responses



There are some large Wind Turbines in the Surrey Hills AONB

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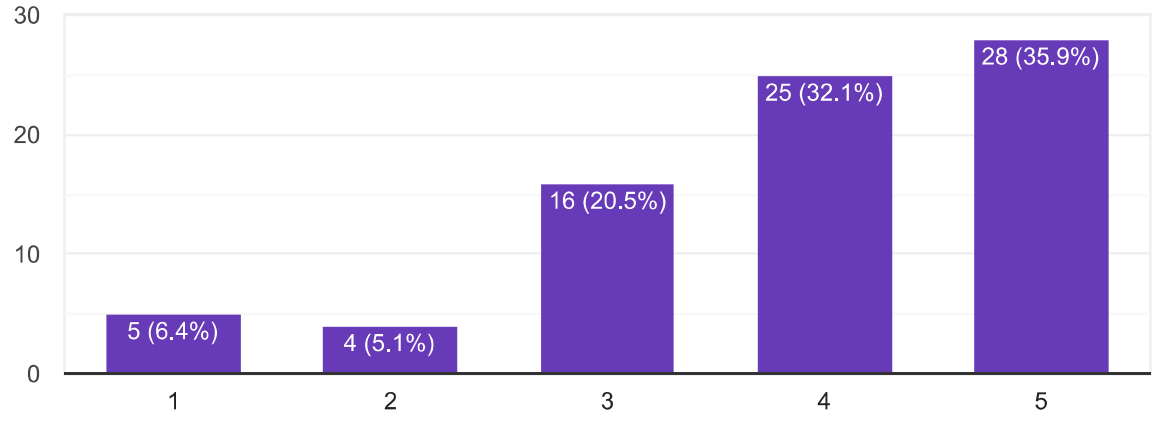
78 responses



Some farms or landowners are growing biomass for conversion to energy

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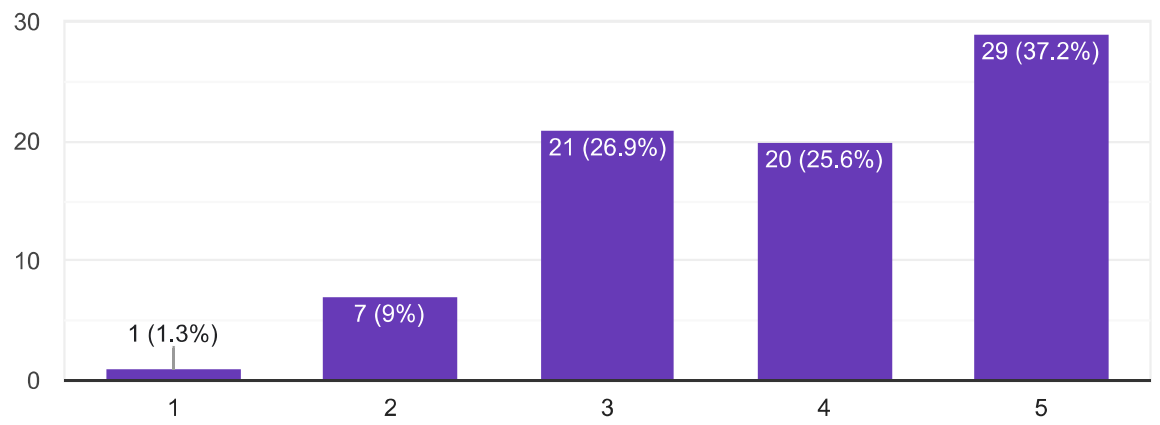
78 responses



There is a local Community Energy Group that allows people to invest in local energy schemes.

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78 responses



What else would you like to see?

10 responses

The easing of building regulation to enable listed properties owners to install solar PV panels on their land.

more community involvement in local green initiatives to make our community more energy self sufficient

Waverley to recognise that protecting the countryside in AONB cannot be just about keeping everything the same for fear of our green fields being destroyed. Solar panel farms can be discreet, small wind turbines can be hidden. Listed homes in Thursley need to be given a status to allow solar panel usage and small wind turbines on farmland as new sources of green energy alongside other properties. I would like to see a more homogenous approach to the issue of how together we can be greener rather than a list of exceptions that stop change.

Better help and advice on solar panels that wasn't by interested parties!

Tax incentives (or national loans facilities) for domestic investments in PV and Battery storage

More information on how a CEG would work

Solar on backs of listed buildings roofs

I believe there used to be mills on the river/stream running between Bowlhead Green and the A3. If that is the case, then it should be possible to generate hydro electricity.

Lots of farm buildings in the parish. Some sort of community scheme which installs PV, modest rent to the farmer, better gov feed in tariff, etc.

I really don't want to see woodland destroyed, we need to preserve our trees, they are the lungs of the earth.

Any comments or concerns to share?

17 responses

I am not sure about the Community Energy Group, would need to see stronger arguments for this.

Not sure about biomass fuels, I would need to know more. I would also like to see some independent research into the effect of wind turbines on bird populations over time in the Surrey area.

Any initiatives of this sort have to respect the area's designation of AONB , to be potentially disfigured by wind turbines, solar panels etc is not acceptable .

Use of wood-burning systems for domestic power is good - provided demand is not too high

We should not be covering farm land with Solar panels

Coppicing for biomass fuel needs careful consideration as can cause pollution

planning policy be amended in line with initiatives

Concerns about the placement of wind farms but it is windy here so a good idea. More grant's are needed to help home owners with solar panels etc.

concerned about the initial capital costs & disposal costs when the solar panels are worn out

Growing maize is terrible for the soil. It should be discouraged, not encouraged. Heat pumps are useless. Do not encourage this scam.

Productive land should be used for food production rather than energy we should make better use of buildings for solar rather than land offshore wind farms are better than on shore. Electricity providers should be forced to encourage solar

I previously suggested a wind turbine or two on the ridge behind Bowlhead Green and was told that 'the neighbours' wouldn't like it. In fact, I don't think they would be seen from Bowlhead Green!

Whilst I believe we will have to accept some change to historic buildings and natural landscapes to achieve these goals, wind turbines in AONBs are likely a step too far.

Again, please take owners of listed buildings/ houses in conservation area into reasonable consideration

If the gov feed in tariff was better we might have already got the solar farm!

Bulk purchasing direct from suppliers for solar panelling to reduce cost of installation for households

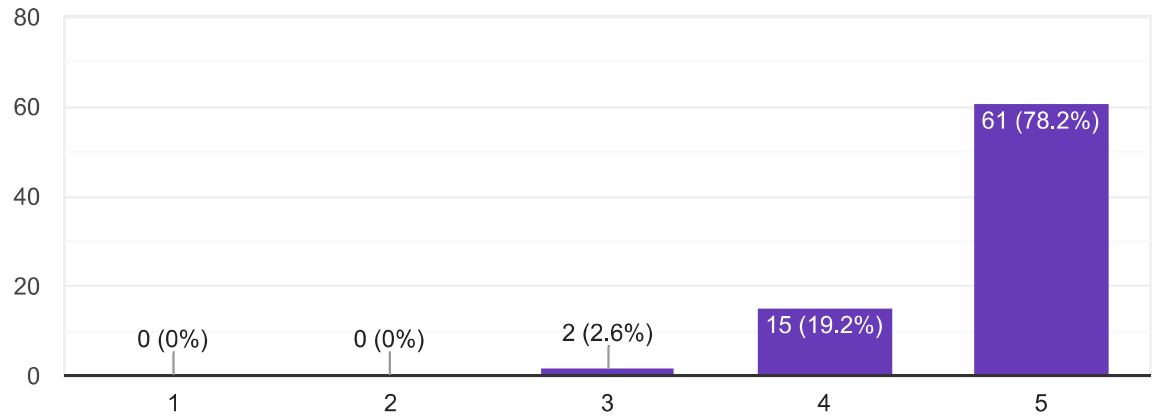
To have a truly sustainable energy strategy we need to accept that generation in our own back yard is a responsibility, not an option to push to someonelses back yard.

D. How we eat, shop and use resources

There has been a big reduction of food waste

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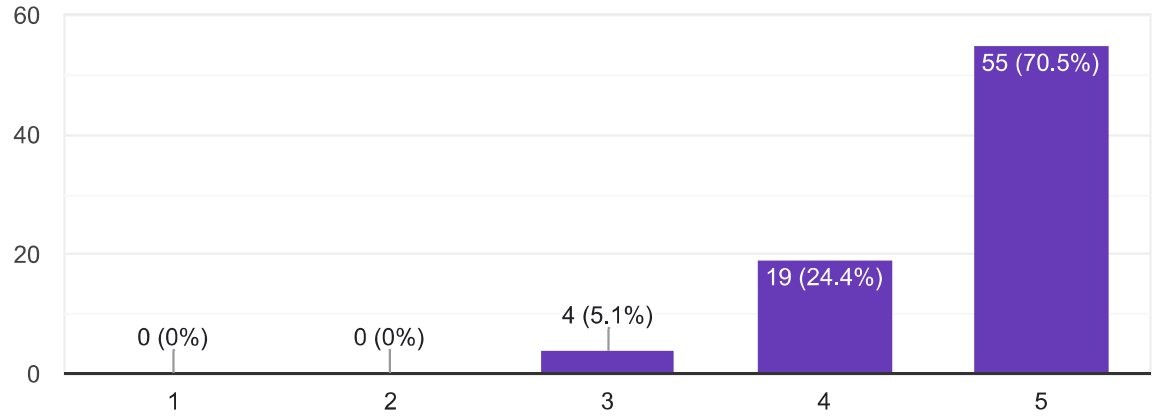
78 responses



A lot more of what we buy is grown or made locally

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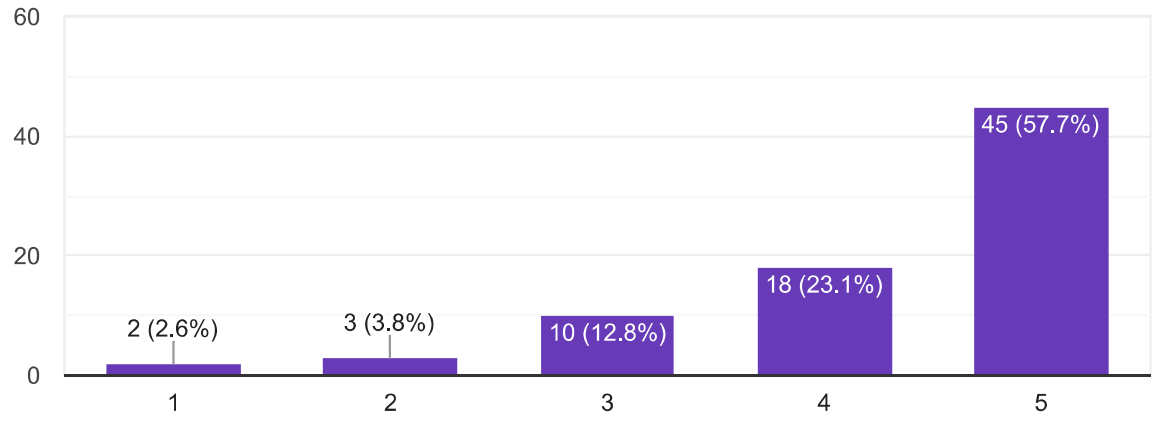
78 responses



More people are growing their own food

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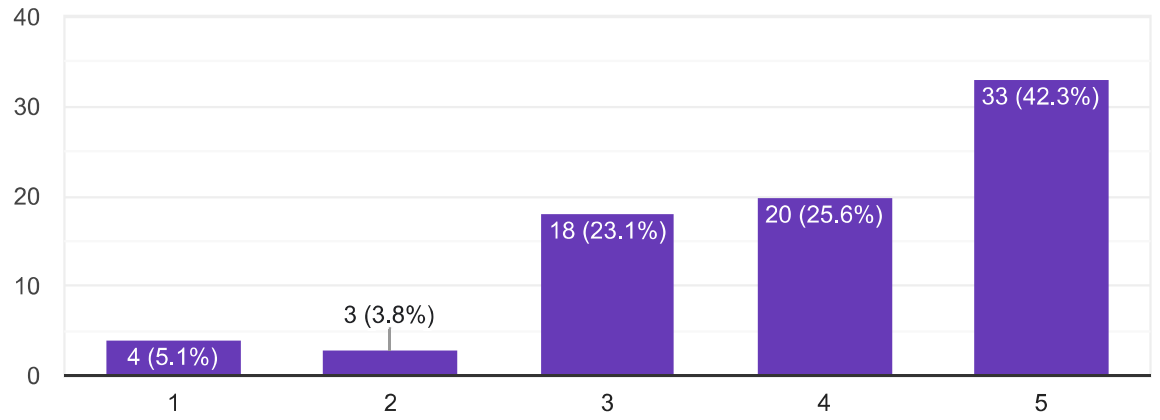
78 responses



Most of us are eating less meat

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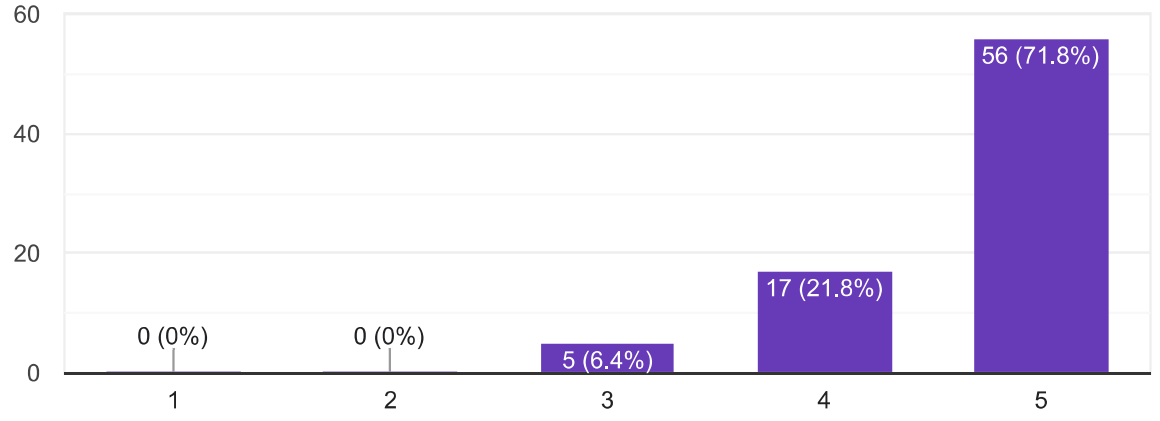
78 responses



We repair, reuse and recycle consumer items rather than throwing them away

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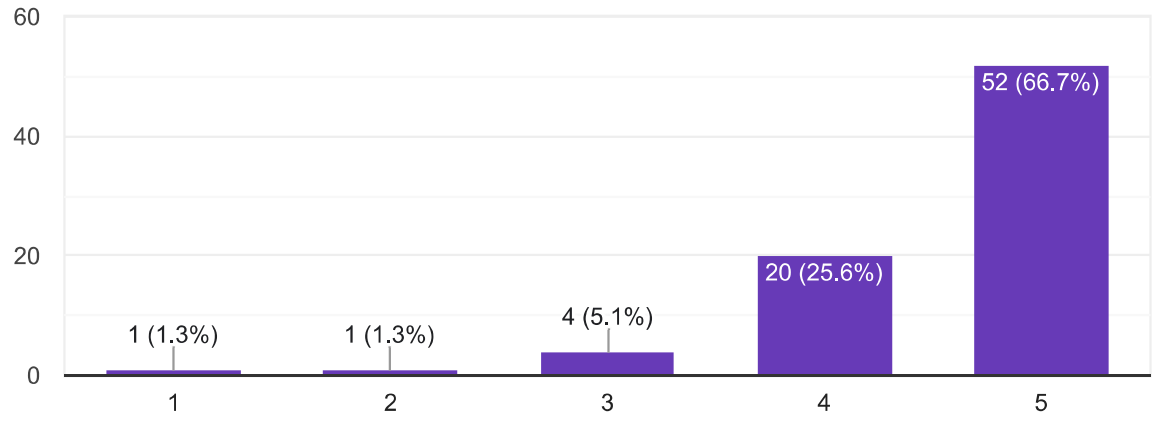
78 responses



There are more community collection points for hard-to-recycle items

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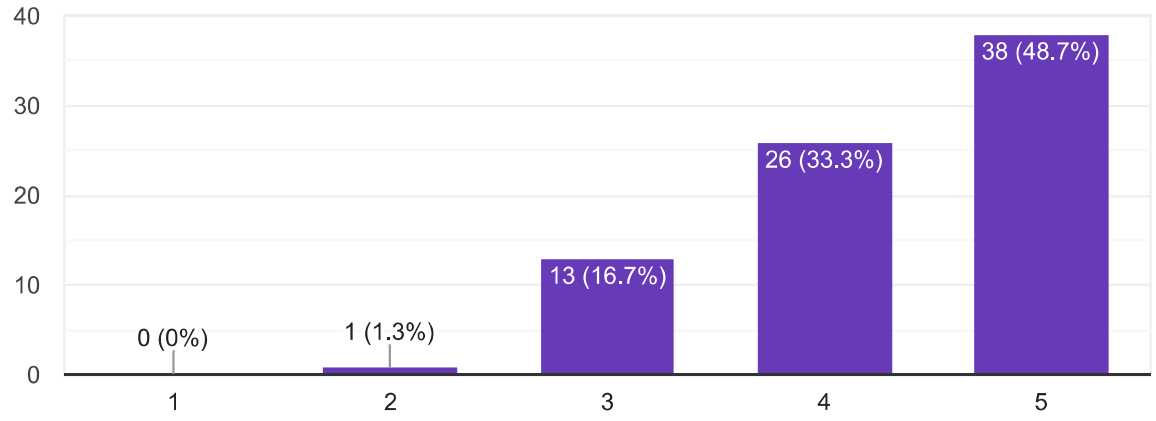
78 responses



We have vibrant and flourishing shops in Godalming, Haslemere and Farnham with most essentials available locally

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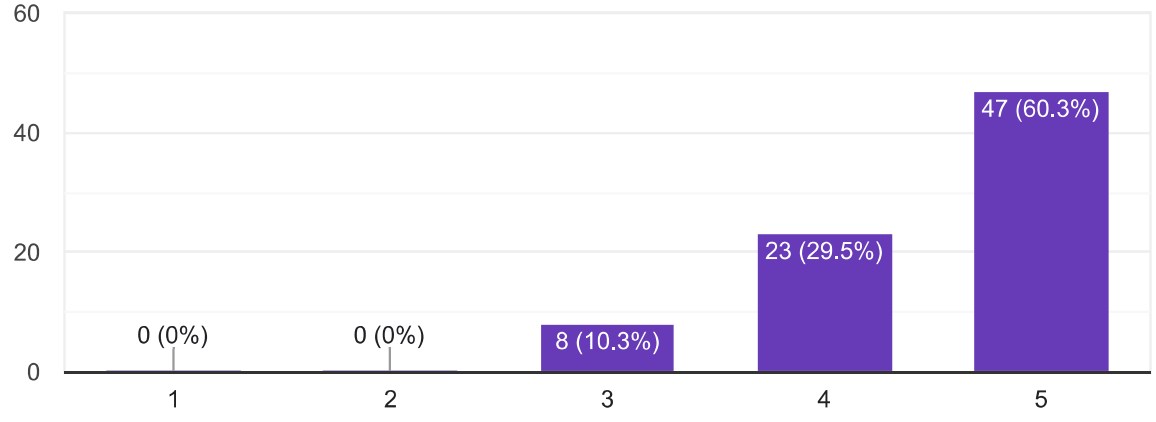
78 responses



We have reduced consumerism and "fast fashion"

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78 responses



What else would you like to see?

20 responses

Our local shops would benefit from more public transport. I'd also like the libraries to have some more investment. We now have 'co-working spaces' in Haslemere and Godalming, these used to be called 'libraries'.

A 30% less initiative. Eating meat is a personal choice, but surely eating less but paying more for good quality, locally produced meat would not affect farmers income? What do the farmers think?

How about delivery services from key suppliers (greengrocer, baker, butcher/fishmonger, grocer) to a designated drop spot for customer collection. (Helping to reduce multiple shopping journeys)

The awful SPA shop in Elstead replaced with a coop or something a little more upmarket

more local production and sharing of produce within the community

No charges at the tip for anything

More information about where the produce is sourced -Local farms labelling products grown at home. We know that buying blueberries from Supermarkets in the winter means maybe flown in, but how does this translate into (not purchasing) if your recipe says blueberries or you want healthy snacks for kids? To make a difference in purchasing habits how do we break the demand for the product out of season? I would like to see a return to seasonal purchasing and updated notifications on what's app for recycling in the area. Keeping messages short and in front of us.

Incentives to be more green/less wasteful.

Local commitment to support local food producers sufficiently to make it economical for local delivery (eg used to have Milk Rounds, Butchers and Bakery delivery, Grocery EV delivery)

community shop maybe in conjunction with community allotment

Local shop including local grown veg from villagers. A swoop shop for gluts of vegetables etc. Local place in the village to buy essentials like bread, milk, cheese etc.

Collection points for recycling need to be in small villages. There is no point in using petrol to travel to a collection point.

Community shop sharing home grown produce.

Village shop

A local market on the Rec once a week would be good. It could include the ability of locals (residents only?) selling unwanted items they would otherwise put on eBay

A greater understanding from the parish of where there food comes from and how it is produced

A regenerated High Street in Godalming with a mixture of shops and housing.

More branches of Zero Carbon, as in Guildford. Town centres to become cultural and community hubs rather than primarily shopping destinations.

Some homework on what is the most carbon and money efficient of supply of food and goods. Get it yourself or have it delivered where deliveries are coordinated. Maybe there are local drop off points. A travelling shop with cold unit?

This question doesn't require a good or bad idea answer it's an either or so isn't a great question We have vibrant and flourishing shops in Godalming, Haslemere and Farnham with most essentials available locally
*
The future of our local high street is under threat. Do you want to buy locally or are you happy to buy online? [Greenhouse Gas Savings = GG]

Any comments or concerns to share?

13 responses

The trouble is that artisan products are more expensive and are out of the reach of many people especially families.

One element that is never mentioned is the increased traffic/pollution caused by the deliveries resulting from the greater use of on line purchases - it's not joined up !

Sick of fly tipping

A lot of more environmentally friendly/less wasteful practices (eg reusable nappies that we use) actually cost more - both monetarily and in our time/energy. They actually save the council significantly on landfill - why not offer council tax incentives to encourage doing the right thing when it is a harder path to go down.

Must bear in mind that almost all humans are intrinsically selfish

We must try and keep as many local shops as possible but online is very convenient for some items

Need to be realistic about likely increase in vegetarianism

Farmers markets are too expensive and push people into Supermarkets as a result

One question talks of buying locally produced meat & dairy then another question talks of reducing meat eating and eating plant based food - no doubt tofu from Brazil! Think this section contains dodgy science

agree with using local meat. Plant based options should be abolished as there ingredients are not local. So totally contradicts the point of reducing emissions

Do not promote the consumption of meat & dairy

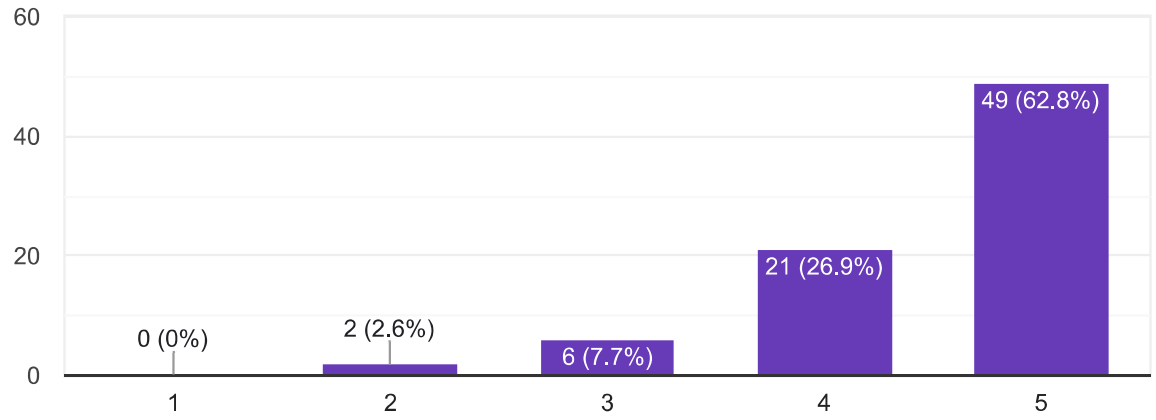
Living several miles away from shops it may be better to order online so that one vehicle is driving around rather than individuals driving to the shops. If we organised our food deliveries so that, for example, everyone in Thursley/Bowlhead Green was ordering from the same supermarket on the same day, a lot of fuel would be saved. Maybe this needs to be organised through a website?

Unaware of Terracycle , where can more info be found?

Many new trees have been planted in the area and existing trees preserved

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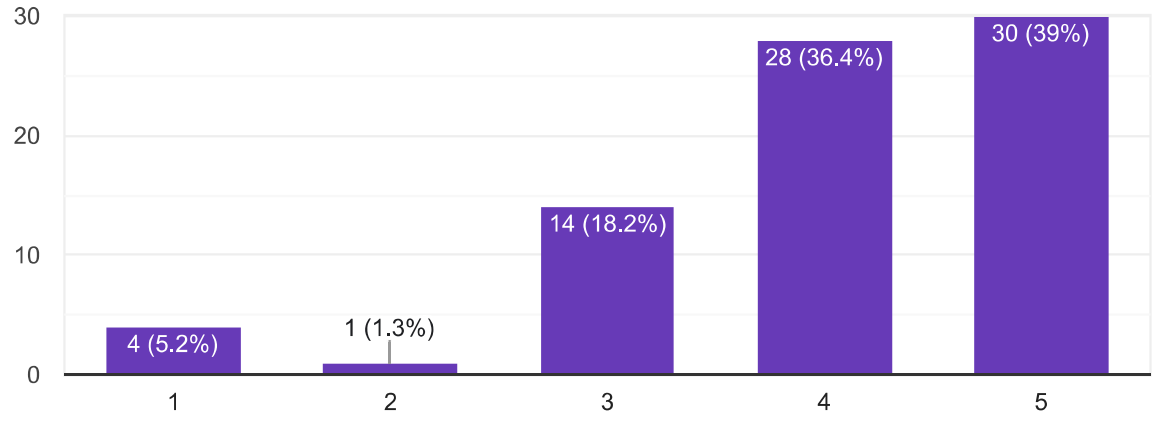
78 responses



The production of dairy, beef and lamb is maintained in our community

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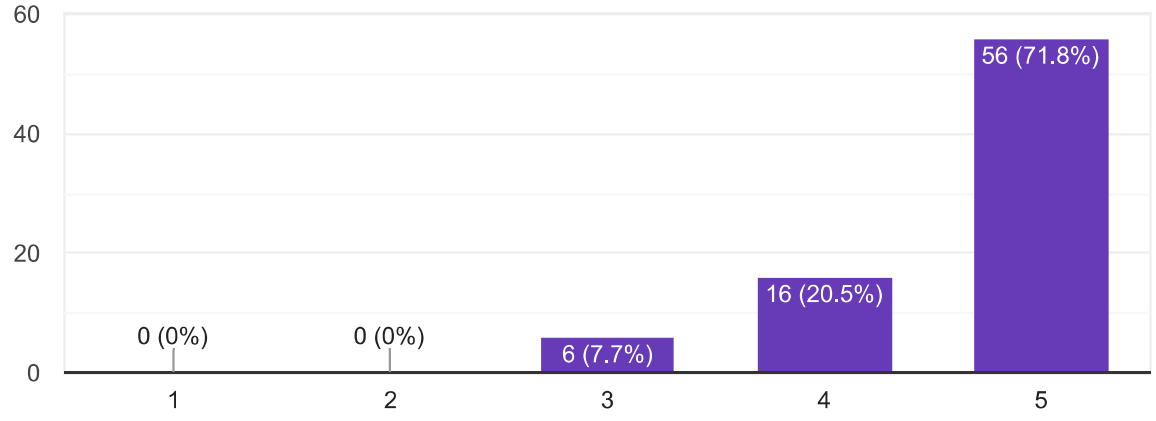
77 responses



More 'wildlife corridors' have been created throughout the area

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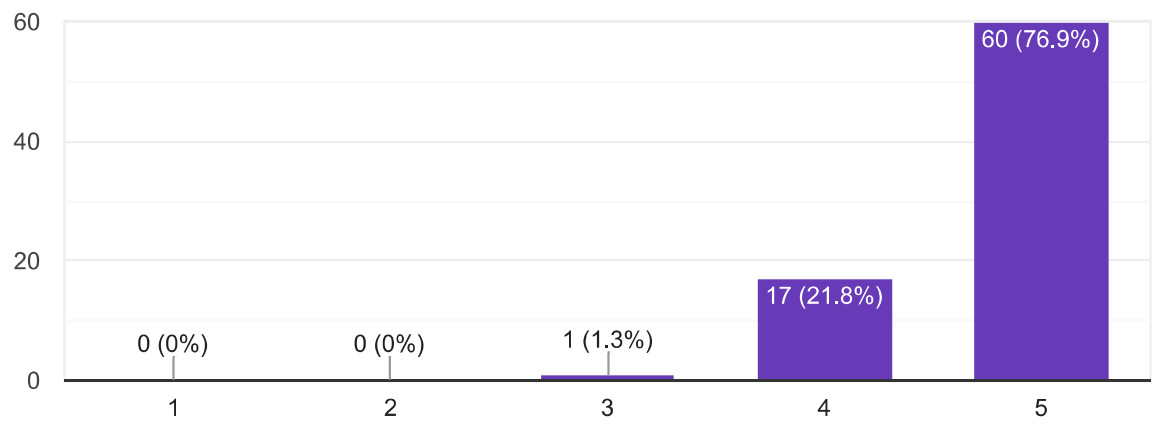
78 responses



Local farmers and landowners are working to encourage biodiversity on their land and minimise their environmental impact

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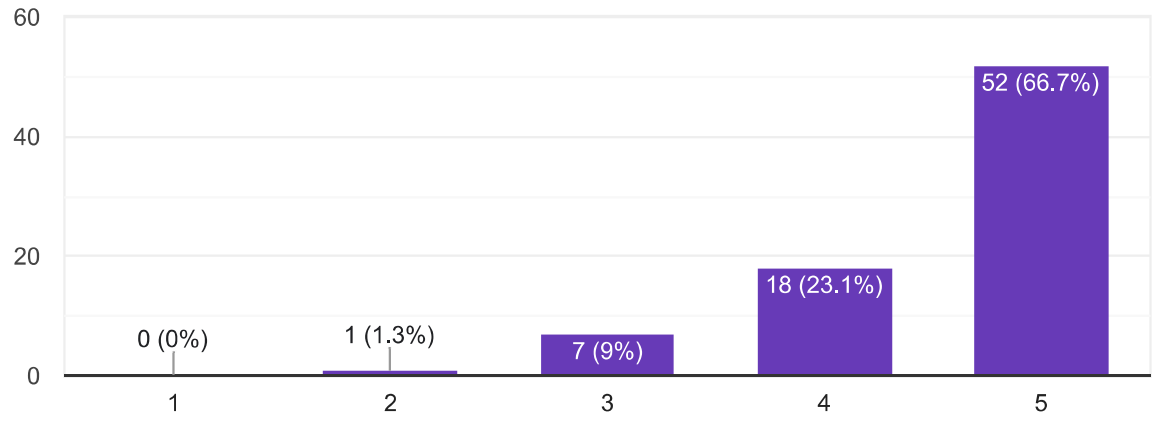
78 responses



Local councils are actively encouraging biodiversity on land they own or manage

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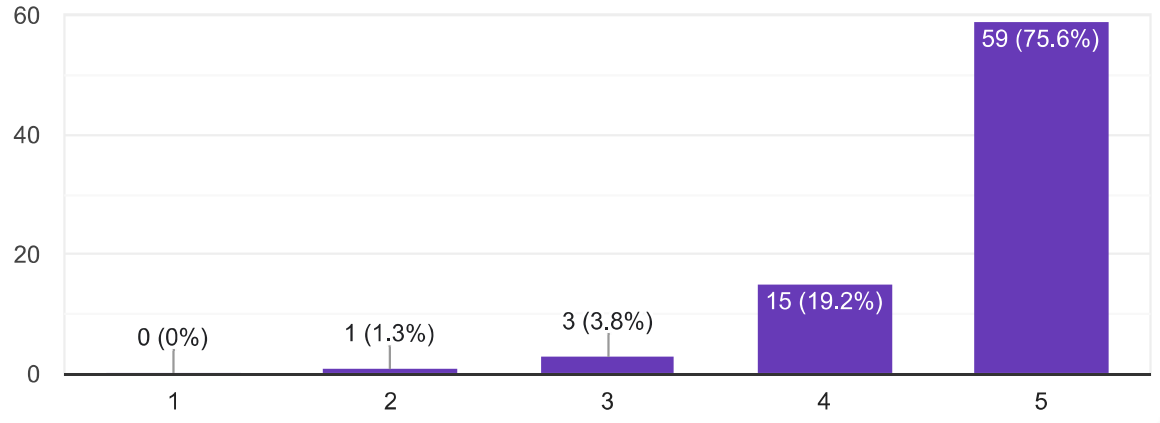
78 responses



Many more people are managing their garden to encourage wildlife

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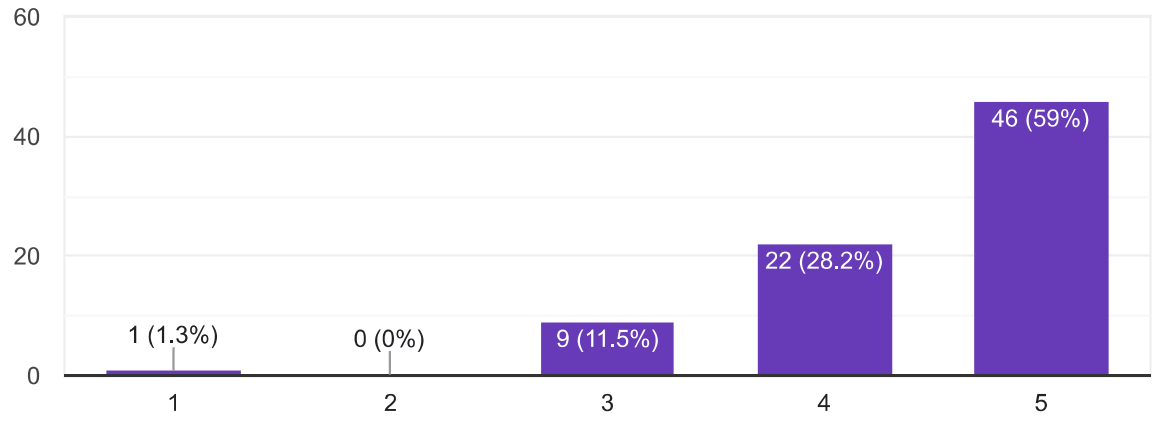
78 responses



Wildlife audits are carried out regularly so we can monitor changes in biodiversity

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78 responses



What else would you like to see?

9 responses

I would like to hear from farmers concerning the use of pesticides and fertiliser and the way forward. This is an area I have little understanding of and would like to know the advantages and disadvantages to a more biodiversity friendly way of farming.

Wild flowers on verges should be carefully managed or the result is a verge overtaken by noxious and poisonous weeds

Farmers to grow a wider array of food with less meat and more fruit and vegetables etc which require less resources (land, water etc). And to produce plant-based milk as well as dairy. The plant-based milk I see on sale only comes from Europe and not the UK.
And some say on where the meat and dairy the local farmers produce goes. To be sold locally through farm shops and at least to stay in this country through national supermarkets and not travel abroad. Over half of our food comes from abroad so this can be improved.

Community schemes to share expertise and encourage people to enjoy and look after the countryside

Better monitoring of river pollution from individual properties, in particular, equestrian properties

Enforcement is the key. If rules are introduced to limit, for example, run-off from dung heaps at equestrian properties L, this should be enforced. Some people ignore rules and need to be forced to comply.

An end to constant doom and gloom about this subject. Celebrate good news stories. An article in the parish magazine this year stated a local resident hadn't seen a starling since he lived here. We are inundated with them. Costing us hundreds of pounds a year. This needs to change or farms and landowners will give up doing all the good that they do or will do.

More hedgerows

The area here has become a national park. Reintroduction of wildlife currently lost.

Any comments or concerns to share?

14 responses

Where do our local farmers sell their meat?

There has to be a balanced approach in this area to meet the differing views /needs within our community . For instance , the current focus on rewilding seems to be driven by cost savings by the local authorities and results unkempt and uncontrolled growth of nettles and weeds - not oa pretty sight .

Very pro wildlife and wilding but if this is waverley's reasoning behind not mowing verges on lanes I think it's dangerous with restricted visibility.

People need a better understanding of the difference between environment and biodiversity

fields that are used to produce food should not be allowed to go wild

All this needs careful planning to get right. The objectives are fine, who could argue e.g. manage the verges properly of course, but 'wildflowers' mean wild flowers and not alien species that look nice. We have some of those. Monitoring is crucial but doesn't have to done by SWT - there are lots of good small consultancies. We need to resurrect the committee to discuss all these ideas.

The challenge is to control public access and recreation

I strongly support our local farmers

Meat and diary is heavily subsidised from our taxpayer's money so this would require government action to change what they subsidise farmers to farm otherwise they won't be able to make a living.
Unless power can be decentralised where communities have a bigger say on how they want to live their life, eg, boroughs could have democratic votes on how they choose to spend their allocated budget.

Adequate funds are spent enforcing the new policies.

You say our farms "are amongst the very best in the world measured by the carbon footprint of their dairy, beef and lamb production". Sorry, but they should move away from meat production to arable. Do nothing, please to encourage them to stay as they are.

Be careful what you wish for - do you really want everyone's gardens to just be full of wildflowers?

We have rated 2 questions 3 as farmer expertise here is important. Our farmers have been working this land for generations and their voice is specialised and important

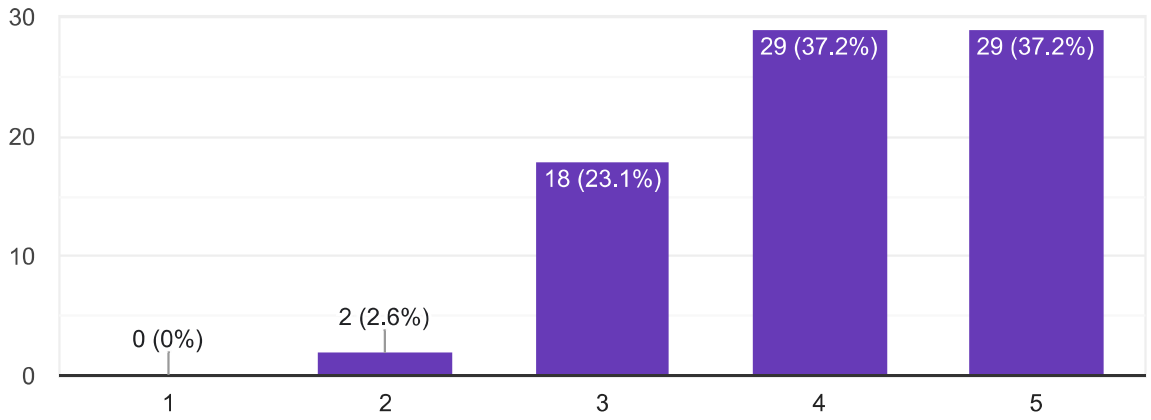
Dairy, beef farming question. Confused why we can't also do our bit and plant trees instead of leaving to others with higher footprint. May have misunderstood

Our Local Economy and Community

More people are working from home, or are employed locally

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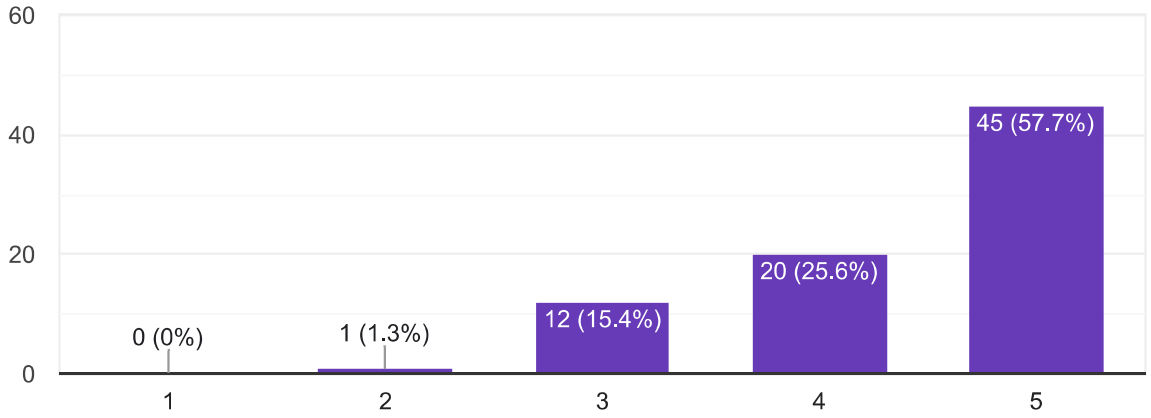
78 responses



There is a thriving local green economy

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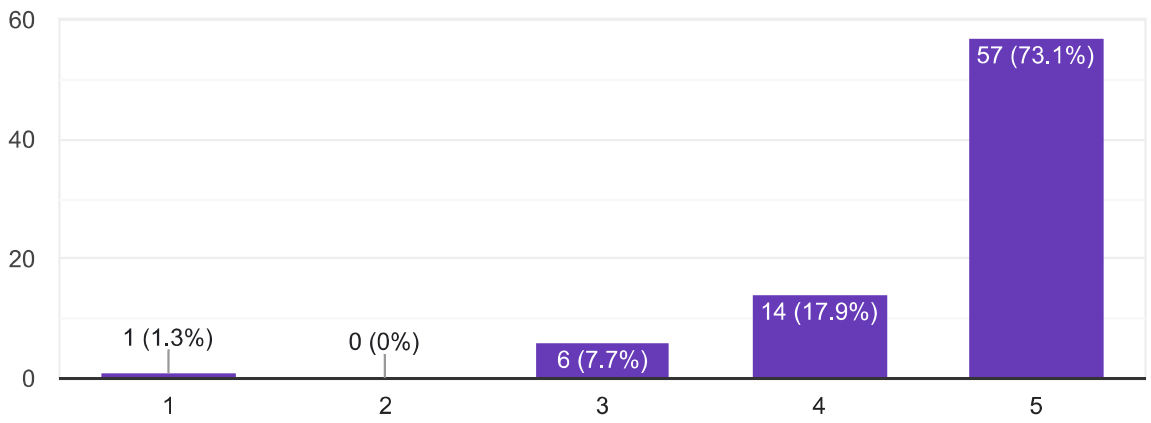
78 responses



Schools are doing more to encourage learning & engagement on climate and the environment

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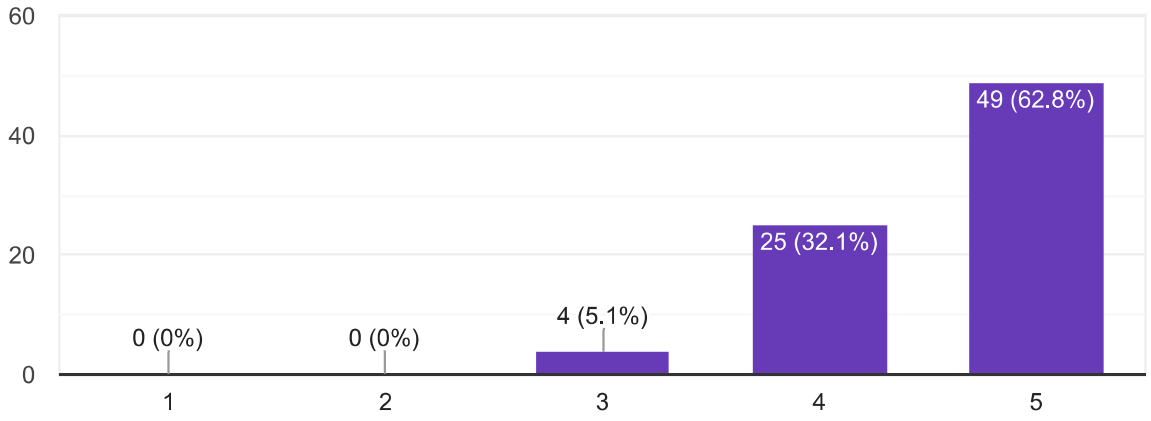
78 responses



We have a stronger sense of community cohesion

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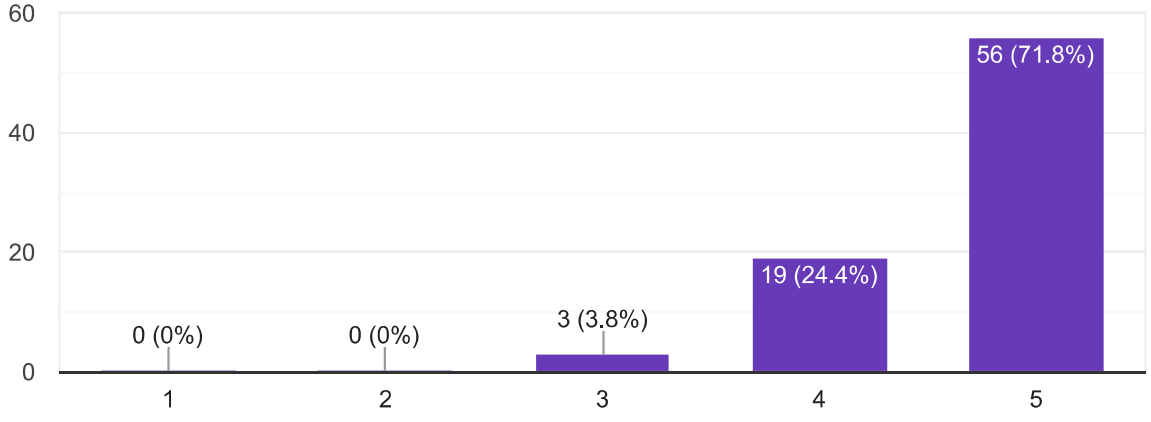
78 responses



We are much better at caring for vulnerable groups within the community

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78 responses



What else would you like to see?

6 responses

I would like more investment in our local libraries. We need public toilets in the libraries and a range of workspaces. We need public transport and safe cycleways to access them. Libraries benefit vulnerable people, students, jobseekers, all kinds of people. Thursley residents use the shops in Godalming and Haslemere but we would also like to be able to use the libraries. We could leave our cars at home (or at a park and ride) and spend the day out - this would reduce car journeys. People who cannot drive could have access to the wider community.

Viable choices for a shorter working week. A 3 or 4 day week would save carbon emissions and give people more time to engage locally with the proposed initiatives.

A change in demographics to include younger people and young families

A bus service to the local railway station.

Less littering.

It feels like there's a big opportunity with village hall adding a room to allow more community events to take place during the week. Opportunity for community shop in cricket pavilion ? Milland is a great example of a place where community shop operates brilliantly with a pub next door, and there is no issue with the shop stealing business. Together they make the village more of a destination

Any comments or concerns to share?

7 responses

I am worried that the electric car focus will just mean electric cars sitting in bumper to bumper traffic and clogging up village roads. More cars means more traffic.

Important for education to embrace the challenges of the implications of climate change . Improving local employment opportunities will also be helpful to the community at large . However , working from home is not a panacea - it remains important to have working places that allow regular social and business interaction , allowing people to develop their personal skills , teamworking abilities and enhancing their longer term career opportunities .

Better education in eco matters can only happen if the teachers understand the complexities

I repeat the point above - most of this is unarguably good. What we will actually look like in 2030 depends on the changing demographic of the village and such things as occupations, age distribution, planning decisions and priorities of new residents as well as external political imperatives.

This section describes the village as it used to be. It isn't like this now

Working from home in the winter requires heating of homes in the day. It's better to work in an office and travel there than heat millions of homes unnecessarily. People should commute and work in towns not at home.

Schools do a lot already. Ask any child: they know a lot about this. Important to value existing contribution if asking them to do even more

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