

August 2017

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#### Introduction

This report represents the results of the 2017 Central Otago District Council Residents' Survey.

Council carries out an annual survey to:

- · Measure its performance with respect to the services it provides during the year
- Identify issues for the coming year
- Identify priorities for the coming year

This year was the second year Council has conducted its survey online.

To ensure the sample was representative of our population, it was important that every household had access to the survey and that those who wanted to complete the survey had the chance to do so.

During the survey period we promoted it via:

- Community newspaper and news bulletin advertising
- Local radio advertising
- Promotion on Council's website, the CODC Facebook page and the Mayoral Facebook page
- App-vertising on the Central App
- Email signature banner on all external CODC emails
- Onelan screen promotion at our libraries, visitor centres and swim centres
- A postcard distributed to all households in the district with personal invite from the Mayor to give feedback

A print version was available for those without access to the internet. Eighteen people completed and returned a paper version of the survey. To guard against multiple completions from a single source, which may have skewed the results, the survey software allowed only one completion per IP address.

We had 781 people take the survey and 628 respondents fully complete all the mandatory questions. The survey was carried out between 23 May and 30 June 2017.

#### How representative is this survey?

The following tables compare the demographics of this year's survey sample to the 2016 survey and against Census 2013 and electoral roll population statistics.

Please note we have not attempted to weight the survey to population parameters or to select a random sample of residents. However, we have analysed the results by the following demographics and will note any significant differences between them.

**Gender:** Note that this sample is skewed towards women. This is a common characteristic of un-weighted surveys, especially those that limit participation to one entry per IP address.

	2016 sample %	2017 sample %	% Census 2013 counts
Male	33	34	49.9
Female	67	66	50.1

**Age:** We had a marked increase in the percentage of those 60+ completing the survey this year compared to 2016, illustrating that moving online is not a barrier to good feedback from this age bracket. The flipside of this shift is that we are down this year percentage-wise in the under 40 and 40-49 age bracket. However in terms of actual numbers Under 50s were only down slightly from 279 in 2016 to 257 in 2017; over 50s participants went from 195 last year to 371 this year.

	2016 sample %	2017 sample %	Population Census 2013
Under 40	34	23	40
40-49	25	18	14
50-59	20	20	16
60 and over	21	39	30

Ward: The 2017 survey achieved a more representative sample of our district.

	2016 sample %	2017 sample %	% of district population by ward based on electoral roll
Alexandra	40.1	34.2	31.0
Cromwell	30.6	38.1	33.7
Earnscleugh/Manuherikia	13.7	15.3	18.4
Maniototo	6.9	6.5	8.5
Teviot Valley	6.8	5.3	8.4
None of these	1.9	0.6	

**Community Priorities:** Water remains the top priority for our community at large. Public toilets also made the top six again.

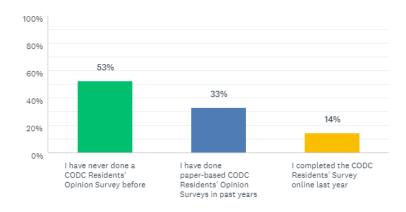
Ranking	2016 Priorities	2017 Priorities
1	Water quality	Water Supply
2	Tourism promotion	Community Planning
3	Economic development	Public Toilets
4	Elderly persons' housing	Community Halls
5	Rubbish collection	Footpaths
6	Public Toilets	Litter Bins

The following pages give an analysis of this year's survey results based on the 628 completed surveys. This is followed by an appendix with a copy of the survey.

## Question 1: Survey Respondents

We asked the initial survey question 'Which of the following best describes you?' to establish if we had attracted people who we had never heard from in the past.

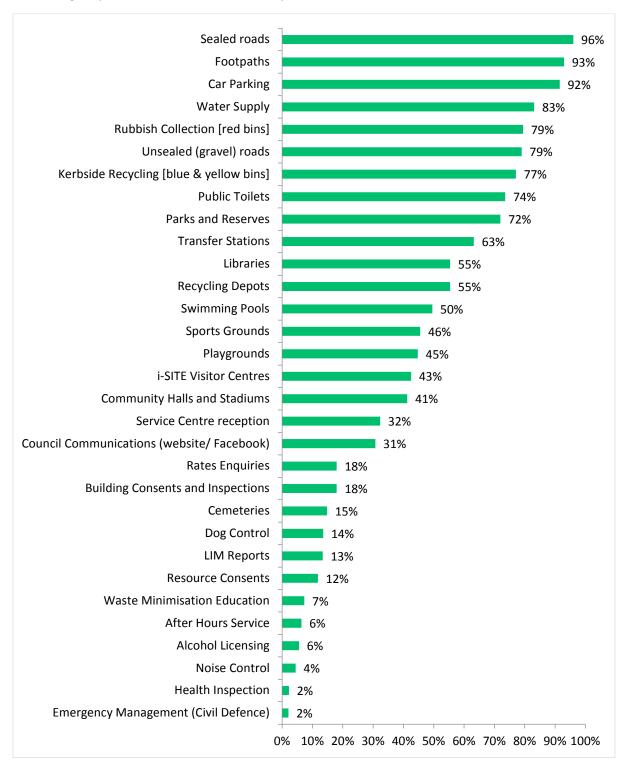
Overall 53% of respondents ticked that they had never done a CODC Residents' Survey before.



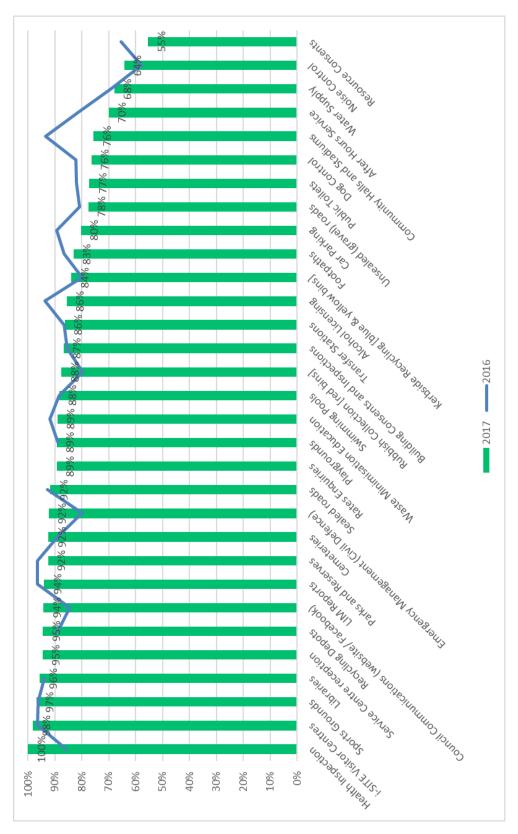
ANSWER CHOICES	▼ RESPONSES	*
▼ I have never done a CODC Residents' Opinion Survey before	53%	331
▼ I have done paper-based CODC Residents' Opinion Surveys in past years	33%	207
▼ I completed the CODC Residents' Survey online last year	14%	90
Total		628

#### Question 2: Services and amenities used or experienced in the last 12 months

Respondents were asked to tick boxes to indicate which of a list of services and amenities they had used or experienced in the last 12 months. The next question then showed each individual a list containing only those services/amenities they had used.



Question 3: Satisfaction with services and amenities



Note: two new options were added to the 2017 survey, 'Service Centre Reception' and 'Rates Enquiries', therefore there is no 2016 data to compare.

#### Question 4: Positive experiences with Council

We introduced this new question to our survey this year: 'Have you had a great experience with Council in the past 12 months that you'd like to tell us about?' We had identified there was a gap in our survey for allowing people to share their positive experiences and interactions.

**Customer Services** (57) – the majority of these comments mentioned knowledgeable, friendly and helpful staff; they have received good service and that responses had been prompt. A number of people commented specifically about the positive experience they had in dealing with service centre and reception staff.

'No' (43) – 43 comments simply said no, they hadn't had a positive experience they'd like to share.

**Planning** – building controls, LIMs (20) – building consent process is smooth and fast; helpful staff in the planning department; great building inspectors; timely LIMs.

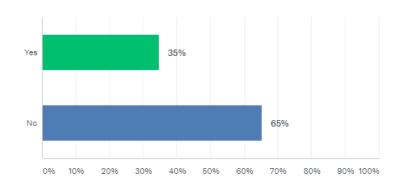
Water Services (12) – prompt, helpful feedback to enquiries; fast response times to fix water related issues.

**Pools** (12) – Cromwell Swim Centre is a great facility with good staff; excellent swim school teachers; pools are great facilities and an asset; attentive pool staff.

**Parks & Reserves** (11) – good consultation for upgrades to libraries and playgrounds; great staff consulting on greenways and walkways; Clyde Domain, Molyneux Stadium, Pioneer Park and sports fields are great.

#### Question 5: Issues/problems with services or amenities

We then posed the question 'In the past 12 months have you personally experienced any issues or problems with any of these services or amenities?' Thirty-five percent of people said yes (last year this was 49%). Answering in the affirmative brought up question 6 for this group asking more detail about their issue/problem.



ANSWER CHOICES   *	RESPONSES	*
▼ Yes	35%	218
▼ No	65%	410
Total		628

#### Question 6: Problems faced

The main problems experienced by residents fell into the following categories:

**Roading** (57 comments) – mix: dissatisfaction with gravel road conditions; roadside spraying; footpaths (lack of them, uneven surface, cars parking over them); need for improved lighting

**Water Services** (43 comments) – dissatisfaction with water quality, lime scale, water pressure, leaks, burst pipes, boil water notices

**Waste** (32 comments) – people wanting weekly rubbish collections back (especially over summer months), yellow bin collections twice a month, and blue bins collecting much less frequently; high cost of 'doing the right thing' with electronic waste

**Planning – including Building Consents, Resource Consents and LIMs** (32) – comments in general voicing frustrations with perceived inconsistency, timeframes and cost of consents.

**Parks and Recreation** (22 comments) – a mix; most frequent comments for this activity related to litter bins, need for more and frequent emptying; other comments included the desire to see more native planting; a request for a dog park; for developers to have to add green spaces and trees to beautify the streets; concerns around maintenance of formal gardens.

**Customer Services** (21 comments) – slow or no response to complaints or queries; request for more user-friendly online services; more communication from community boards;

**Public Toilets** (20 comments) – state of cleanliness of toilets (particular references to Clyde and Alexandra) toilets; need for more public toilets across district (particular request for one near playground in Anderson Park Cromwell)

**Dog control** (11 comments) – Roaming dogs; constantly barking dogs; suggestions of dog poo bins; dog "parks" - both a place to 'park' or tie dogs to at parks where children play and request for an actual off-leash dog park space

#### Question 7: How could the Council improve services?

Respondents felt that Council could improve services in the areas listed below. The majority of comments did not provide the 'how', but more so the 'what'.

**Roading** (112 comments) – inspect, assess and maintain gravel roads – more frequent grading; maintain footpaths – uneven surfaces, tree roots, clean gutters; more footpaths needed i.e. Pisa, Clyde; tar seal some gravel roads - Bendigo Loop Road, Aitken Road, Sandflat Road, Auripo Road, Ranfurly to Naseby Road; remove parking enforcement; more car parks particularly in Cromwell and Clyde; better street lighting.

**Waste** (84 comments) - review the collection frequency of the three bins – most wanting fortnightly for yellow and more regular collection of the red bin during the summer months; green waste kerbside collection; more public rubbish bins, emptied more regularly.

**Water Services** (59 comments) - majority of people want to see action/progress on improved water quality and supply (particularly Alexandra). Other themes included water rates being too high; slow response times to water related issues.

**Parks & Reserves** (45 comments) - need for planning of greenways in new subdivisions; provide a dog exercise park or have regard for people who have dogs with them and kids at park; shade protection for playgrounds; more rubbish bins at parks; public gardens, reserves and grass verges need to be tidy and well maintained.

**Toilets** (26 comments) – monitor and clean toilets more regularly; better, more modern toilet facilities i.e. to include baby changing facilities; more public toilet facilities to cater for increased demand.

**Planning – including Building Consents, Resource Consents and LIMs** (25 comments) – the majority of the comments received related to improvements in building and resource consents. More staff to meet increased demand who are accessible and have discretion to make decisions; consents are not timely and too costly; consent process needs to be quicker and more transparent; improve the availability of information regarding the consent process and the costs involved. Other themes included needing more land made available in Alexandra and ensuring greenways are included in new subdivisions.

**Customer Services** (25 comments) – timely responses to all enquiries with accurate information; responses from the right people; access to the people who can answer the query; staff to be helpful, friendly and polite.

**Communications** (20 comments) – consult with the community before making decisions; response to queries and complaints to be timely and from the appropriate people; increase public awareness/education; forms, requests and consultation online; up-to-date, easy-to-find information on the website.

Pools (18 comments) – temperatures too low; cost.

#### Question 8: Priority Issues

Respondents were asked to tick up to four priority issues that they considered Council should give high priority in the next year-three years. Here are the top 10 for the district.

2017 Ranking	Answer Choices	Responses (%)	Actual Count	Last year's ranking
1	Water Supply	34.6	217	1
2	Community Planning	20.1	126	7
3	Public Toilets	16.6	104	6
4	Community Halls	15.3	96	27
5	Footpaths	15.1	95	8
6	Litter Bins	14.6	92	13
7	Economic Development	13.2	83	3
8	Walking Tracks	12.9	81	11
9	Tourism	12.4	78	2
10	Sewerage	12.1	76	23

Of those who ticked the 'other' box in this question, the following issues were listed: rural requirements in general, public transport to/from Queenstown airport, cycle tracks/cycle friendly initiatives, electronics recycling collection, freedom camping, district plan, keeping rates down, safe crossings for children, street lighting, dog park, core business, sporting facilities, planning for effects of climate change, consultation, Alexandra retail

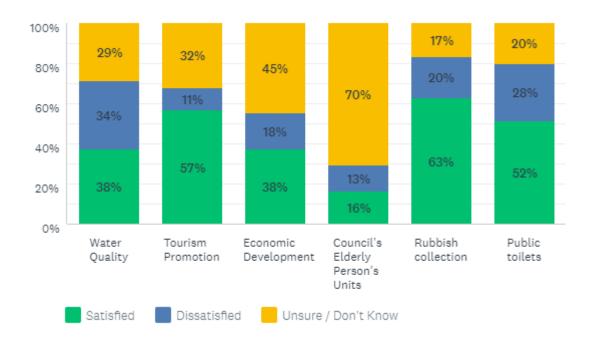
#### **Top Priorities by Ward**

The following issues had greater significance to particular wards. They are listed in order of the number favouring them in each ward.

Ward	Higher priority for
Alexandra	water supply
	litter bins
	public toilets
Cromwell	community planning
	community halls
	water supply
Earnscleugh/ Manuherikia	water supply
	sewerage system
	public toilets
Maniototo	unsealed roads
	footpaths
Teviot Valley	unsealed roads
	footpaths

## Question 9: Satisfaction with Council's efforts on these priority issues during the last year

In Q9 we asked 'Please indicate how satisfied you are with the Council's efforts on these priority issues during the last year'. For the second year we have had the three options satisfied, dissatisfied, unsure/don't know.



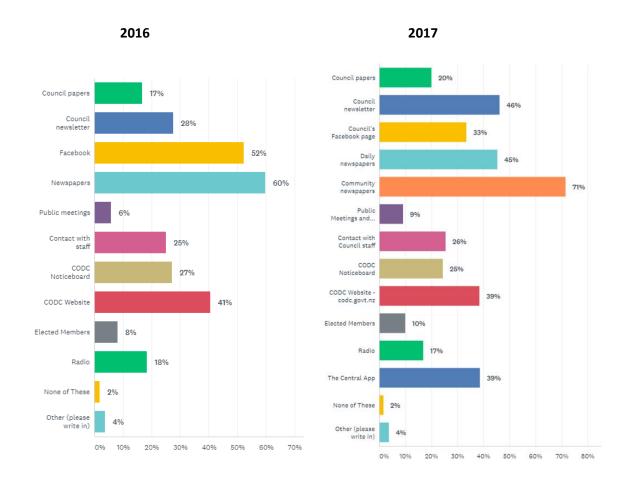
#### Question 10: Where do you obtain Council information?

This year we made some slight tweaks to this question – separating out 'newspapers' to 'daily newspapers' and 'community newspapers'. We also added in The Central App as a new local medium relaying Council news and messages (launched in November 2016).

The bar graphs for last year's results is shown below next to this year's results. The Council newsletter is now delivered twice a year to all residents as well as ratepayers (previously it was just inserted into rates demands) and this move has seen a jump in Council newsletters as a source of Council information from 27% to 46%.

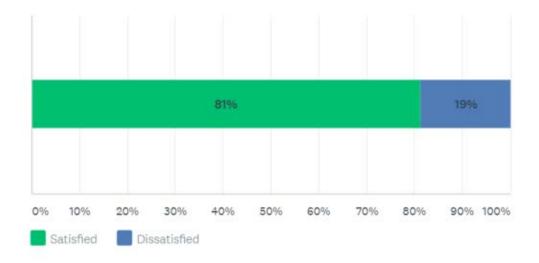
Community newspapers are the top sources of information. This is also where we have concentrated much effort into making our page 5 Noticeboard space a go-to spot for Council news in the past 12 months.

The Central App rated on a par with our Council website at 39%. This shows there is a fair proportion of smartphone users out there getting Council news via the App. Council has been a strong supporter of The App in its first year and has found the immediacy of the medium great for getting out alerts such as boil water notices, road conditions and unplanned facility closures.



#### Question 11: Satisfaction with level of information from Council

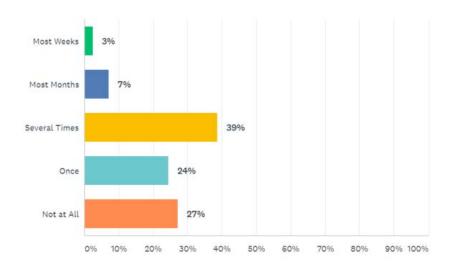
There is a slight, though not statistically significant, increase in residents' satisfaction levels with how well they have been kept informed by Council Last year this was 78%.



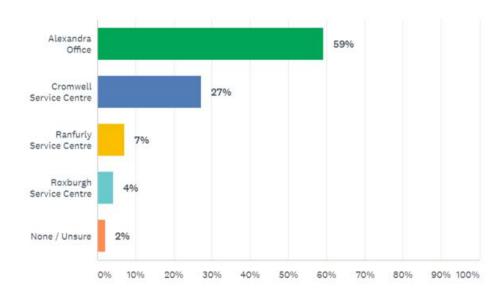
#### Questions 13-16: Contact with Council

Most respondents had contacted Council at least once in the last 12 months. Just under half the sample [49%] had been in contact multiple times. Though the vast majority [86%] had had most contact with the Alexandra and Cromwell offices – as the bulk of the survey sample came from these towns.

#### Q13. How often have you contacted Council in the last 12 months?

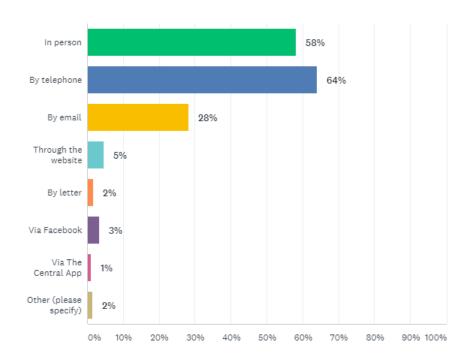


#### Q14. Which CODC office did you have most contact with in the last 12 months?



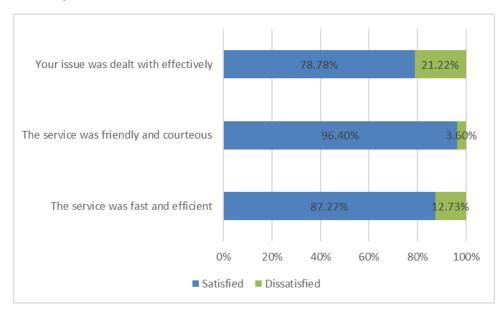
#### Q15. How did you make contact?

This year we split out 'by email or through the website' to separate choices – 'By email' and 'Through the website' (eg information, service request or general feedback online forms). We also added in via Facebook as we have been receiving service requests via Facebook's private message feature. We also added in 'via The Central App' as there is a button on the app linking to our online service request form.



In general the response provided received a positive rating from customers, even though, in a fifth of cases, the issue was not or could not be dealt with effectively.

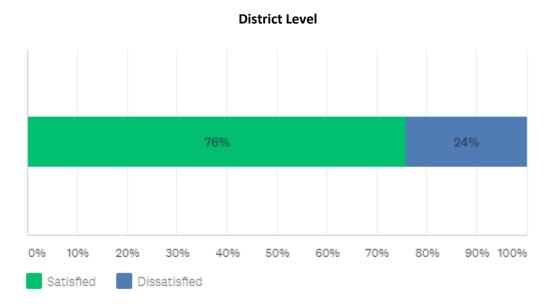
Q16. Thinking of the initial contact or response you received, how satisfied were you with the following...

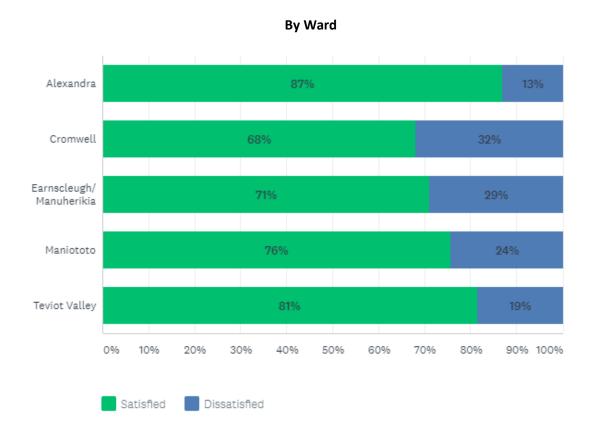


#### Questions 17-18: Elected Member Performance

#### Performance of Councillors

Q.17 Please indicate how you feel about the performance of your elected Councillors in the past 12 months?

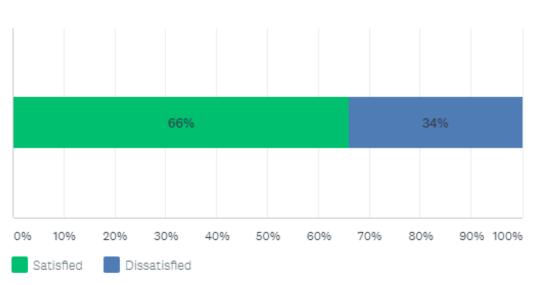




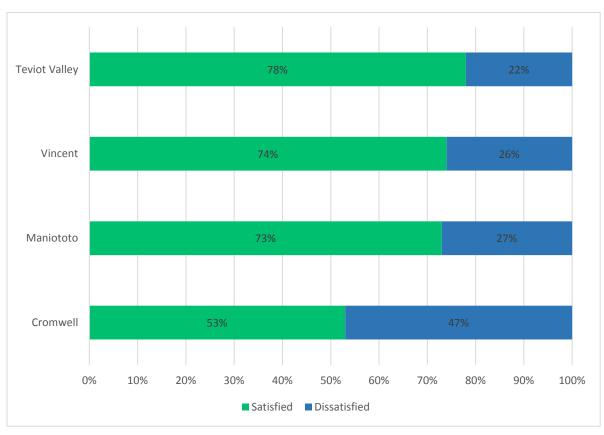
#### Performance of Community Board Memembers

Q18. Please indicate how you feel about the performance of your local community board in the past 12 months?





#### **By Ward**



#### Q.19: Other Comments/Questions about CODC services or amenities

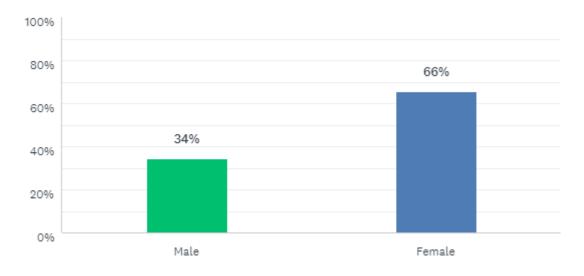
Comments in this question followed similar themes to those in Q6 and Q7. These included parks and reserves (24), roading (21), water services (20) and waste (16).

Some new themes that were raised included Cromwell Community Board (14), with the majority of comments relating to the Cromwell Memorial Hall redevelopment; and Governance (13), mix of comments related to visibility of members in the community.

## Questions 20-23: Demographic data

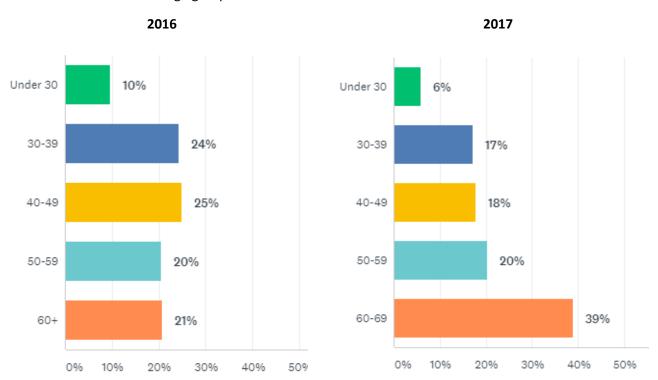
Gender

The gender profile for this year is very similar to 2016 where we had 33% male, 67% female respondents.



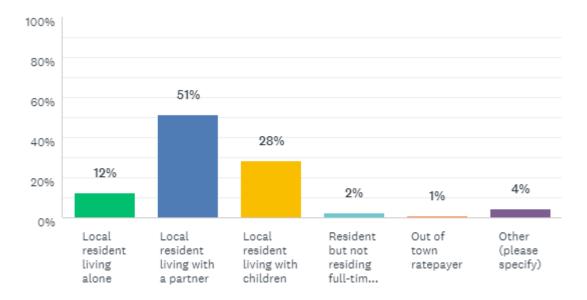
Age

The age profile of this year's survey sample is noticeably different from 2016 (see left graph below) with an increase in the 60+ age group.



#### What best describes you?

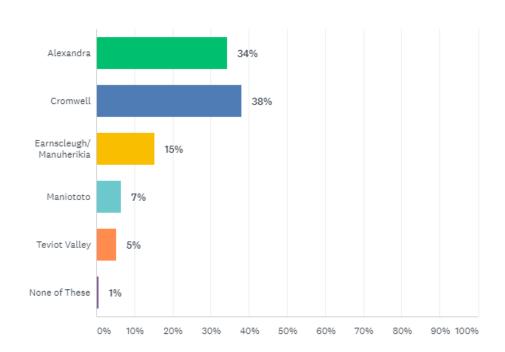
We added a new question in our demographic section this year to get a better understanding of who was answering our survey based on their household dynamic.



Other: included those who wanted to say they were living with a husband/wife (rather than 'partner'); and those who wanted a category 'living with partner and children'; living in a flatting situation; young person living with parents; seasonal worker boarding

#### Ward

The following graph shows the percentage of respondents based on what ward of our district they live in.



## **APPENDIX**



#### Introduction

Welcome to the Central Otago District Council's 2017 Residents' Opinion Survey.

This is the printed version of our confidential online survey. Please complete it and return in the envelope provided.

This is a confidential survey so please feel free to express your opinions about Council services and amenities.

The survey will take 5 to 10 minutes. Everyone who completes the survey may go in the draw for five \$50 Prezzy Cards - a total value of \$250 in prizes.

*(1)	Which of the following best describes you [please tick one]
	I have never done a CODC Residents' Opinion Survey before
	I have done paper-based CODC Residents' Opinion Surveys in past years
	I completed the CODC Residents' Survey online last year



## CODC Residents' Survey 2017

#### **Use of Council Services**

Please tick the boxes to indicate which of the following services and amenities you have used <u>or experienced</u> in the last twelve months and indicate [just for the ones you have used or experienced] whether you are <u>currently</u> satisfied or dissatisfied with them.

	Used in last 12 months	Satisfied	Dissatisfied
Footpaths			
Sealed roads			
Unsealed (gravel) roads			
Car Parking			
Water Supply			
Rubbish Collection [red bins]			
Transfer Stations			
Kerbside Recycling [blue & yellow bins]			
Recycling Depots			
Waste Minimisation Education			
Building Consents and Inspections			
Resource Consents			
LIM Reports			
Health Inspection			
Alcohol Licensing			
Noise Control			
Dog Control			



	Used in last 12 months	Satisfied	Dissatisfied
Emergency Management (Civil Defence)			
Cemeteries			
Community Halls and Stadiums			
Elderly Persons' Housing units			
Libraries			
Parks and Reserves			
Playgrounds			
Public Toilets			
Sports Grounds			
Swimming Pools			
i-SITE Visitor Centres			
Rates Enquiries			
Service Centre reception			
After Hours Answer Service			
Council Communications (website / Facebook)			

Have you had a great experience with Council in the past 12 months that you'd like to tell us about?

#### Issues, Problems, Improvements

*4	In the past 12 months have you personally experienced any issues or problems with any of these services or amenities? [please tick one]
	Yes [Please answer Q5 below, then go to Q6]
	No [Please answer only Q6]
5	IF YES: What problems have you faced? [please be as specific as possible]

In your opinion, how could the Council improve services? (please indicate the service you are referring to)



#### 2017-20 Priorities

7	Please tick up to four Priority Issues that you consider the Council should give high					
	priority to in the next year-three years.					
		Footpaths		Health Inspection		Stadiums
		Sealed roads		Alcohol Licensing		Swimming Pools
		Unsealed (gravel) roads		Noise Control		Walking Tracks
		Car Parking		Dog Control		Economic Development
		Water Supply		Emergency Management (Civil		Community Planning
		Rubbish Collection [red bins]		Defence)		Regional Identity – World of
		Transfer Stations		Cemeteries		Difference
		Kerbside Recycling [blue &	Ш	Community Halls and Stadiums	8	Tourism Marketing and Development
		yellow bins]		Council's Elderly Persons'		2010.00
		Recycling Depots		Housing units		iSITE Visitor Information Centres
		Waste Minimisation Education		Libraries		After Hours Answer Service
		Building Consents and		Parks and Reserves		
		Inspections		Playgrounds		Council Communications
		Resource Consents		Public Toilets		None of These
		LIM Reports		Sports Grounds		



# CODC Residents' Survey 2017

#### 2016-17 Priorities

Last year's survey highlighted the following issues the Council needed to give priority to. Please tick one box per issue to indicate how satisfied you are with the Council's efforts on these issues during the last year.

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Unsure / Don't Know
Water Quality			
Tourism Promotion			
Economic Development			
Council owned Elderly Persons' Units			
Rubbish collection			
Public toilets			



#### **Council Communications**

nere do you obtain information about Council? (please tick those you most often er to)
Council papers/documents
Council newsletter (The FlipSide) delivered to your mailbox
Council's Facebook page
Daily newspapers (Otago Daily Times / Southland Times)
Community newspapers (eg The News, The Mirror)
Public Meetings and Workshops
Contact with Council staff
CODC Noticeboard (page 5 The News)
CODC Website - www.codc.govt.nz
Local Community Boards/Elected Members
Radio
The Central App
None of These
Other (please write in)



10	Please indicate how satisfied you are with how well you have been kept informed by Council
	Satisfied
	Dissatisfied

11 Comments

# CODC Residents' Survey 2017

#### **Contact with Council**

$\binom{12}{}$	How often have you contacted the Council in the last 12 months? [please tick one]
	Most Weeks
	Most Months
	Several Times
	Once
	Not at All [Please go to Q16]
13	Which CODC office did you have most contact with in the last 12 months? [please tick one]
	Alexandra Office
	Cromwell Service Centre
	Ranfurly Service Centre
	Roxburgh Service Centre
	None / Unsure [Please go to Q16]



# CODC Residents' Survey 2017

14) And how did you mak	And how did you make contact? [please tick all that apply]					
In person						
By telephone	By telephone					
By email						
Through the website (e	g online feedback or service request	forms)				
By letter						
Via Facebook (wall pos	st or private message)					
Via The Central App						
Other (please specify)	Other (please specify)					
	Thinking of the initial contact or response you received, how satisfied were you wit					
the following [plea						
	Satisfied	Dissatisfied				
The service was fast and efficient						
The service was friendly and						
courteous						
Your issue was dealt with effectively						

#### **Elected Member Performance**

16	Please indicate how you feel about the performance of your elected councillors in the past 12 months?
	Satisfied
	Dissatisfied
17	Please indicate how you feel about the performance of your local community board in the past 12 months?
	Satisfied
	Dissatisfied

#### **Any Other Issues**

If you have any other comments or questions about CODC's services or amenities, please write in below.



#### **About You**

* 19	Are you [please tick one]
	○ Male
	Female
* 20	Which of the following age groups do you belong to? [please tick one]
	Under 20
	20-29
	30-39
	<b>40-49</b>
	50-59
	60-69
	70 and over
21	What best describes you? [please tick one]
	Local resident living alone
	Local resident living with a partner
	Local resident living with children
	Resident but not residing full-time in Central Otago (eg holiday home owner)
	Out of town ratepayer
	Other (please specify)



## CODC Residents' Survey 2017

#### What Ward Do You Live In?

\* And what ward of the district do you live in? [please tick one - check the map below if unsure]

Alexandra
Cromwell
Earnscleugh/ Manuherikia
Maniototo
Teviot Valley
None of These



# CODC Residents' Survey 2017

#### Go In the Draw

Thank you for completing the 2017 CODC Residents' Opinion Survey. If you would like to go in the draw for the five Prezzy vouchers, each valued at \$50, please write in your name, address and phone number in the box below.

The contents of this survey will remain confidential

23	Please write in your name, address and phone number, if you would like to go in the draw for the \$50 Prezzy vouchers						
	Name						
	Address						
	Phone						