

# 2021 RESIDENTS' SURVEY RESULTS

August 2021

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## Introduction

This report details the results of the 2021 Central Otago District Council Residents' Survey which was carried out between 3 June and 27 June 2021.

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 sixth 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.

The survey was promoted via:

- community newspaper and news bulletin advertising
- local radio advertising
- promotion on Council's website
- CODC Facebook page
- app-vertising on The Central App
- onelan screen promotion at our libraries, visitor centres and swim centres.

A print version was available for those without internet access. One (1) hard copy was completed and returned.

We had 632 people take the survey and 488 respondents fully complete all the mandatory questions. This was a completion rate of 77%.

The following is an analysis of this year's survey results based on the 488 fully complete surveys.

# How representative is this survey?

The following tables compare the demographics of this year's survey sample to the 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 surveys and against Census 2018 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.

#### Q1 Gender

The table below shows that once again the sample is skewed towards women. There was a slight increase in the percentage of men completing the survey compared to 2020. It is a common characteristic of un-weighted surveys to be skewed towards women. This year we allowed more than one survey to be completed per IP address to see if this made any difference to the number of men completing the survey. Though there was a slight increase, it is not significant enough to draw the conclusion that more than one survey able to be completed per IP address played a material part in the increase.

	2021 sample %	2020 sample %	2019 sample %	2018 sample %	2017 sample %	2018 Census counts %
Male	33%	30	35	34	34	50.9
Female	66%	70	65	66	66	49.1
Gender	0.4%	-	-	-	-	
diverse						

# Q2 Age

The number of respondents in all age brackets has remained very consistent with the 2020 data. The under 40 age bracket continues to be under-represented when compared to the 2018 census data, though this is not unexpected. The 60 and over age bracket is over-represented, and this has been the trend since 2017.

	2021 sample %	2020 sample %	2019 sample %	2018 sample %	2017 sample %	2018 Census counts %
Under 40	21	23	16	23	23	42
40-49	19	17	14	18	18	12
50-59	20	19	23	22	20	15
60 and over	40	41	47	37	39	31

# Q3 Ward

The 2021 survey sample is representative of the district with both Maniototo and Teviot Valley being slightly over-represented when compared to the 2016 electoral roll percentages. Cromwell is slightly under-represented.

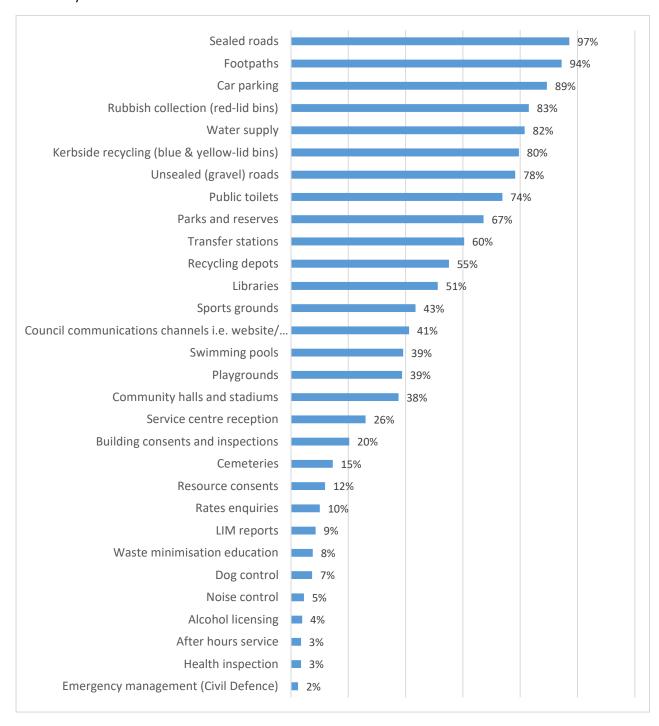
	2021 sample %	2020 sample %	% of district population by ward based on electoral roll
Vincent	46	54	47
Cromwell	30	33	37
Maniototo	15	9	8
Teviot Valley	9	4	8

# Q4 Services and amenities used or experienced in the last 12 months

Respondents were asked to select which of Council's services and amenities they had used or experienced in the last 12 months.

The next question then showed each respondent a list containing only those services and amenities they selected and asked them to indicate whether or not they were satisfied with them.

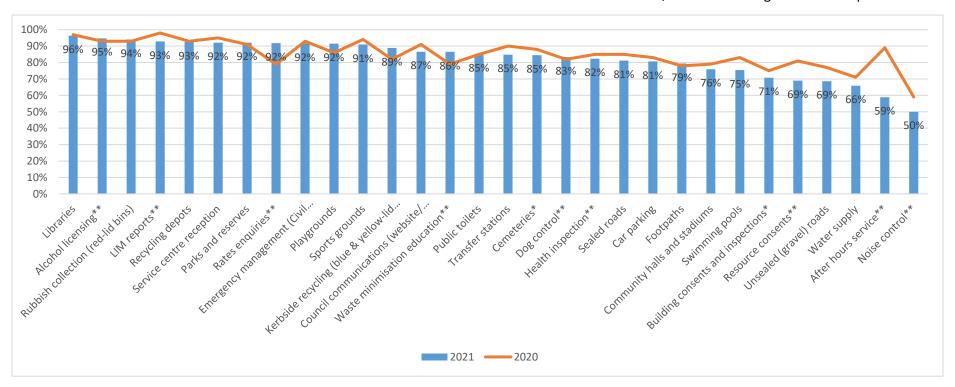
The graph below shows the percentage of respondents who have used or experienced each service or amenity.



#### Q5 Satisfaction with services and amenities

The graph below shows the 2021 results compared to the results from 2020. Of note, satisfaction with rates enquiries increased from 79% in 2020 to 92% in 2021. Playgrounds and kerbside recycling both had slight increases in satisfaction from 2020 to 2021, as did waste minimisation education.

Unsealed (gravel) roads had a decrease in satisfaction from 77% in 2020 to 69% in 2021. Satisfaction with after-hours service decreased from 89% in 2020 to 59% in 2021 and resource consents also decreased in satisfaction from 81% to 69%. For these two services, it is worth noting the small sample sizes.



<sup>\*</sup>Low sample size between 50 - 100 respondents

<sup>\*\*</sup>Very low sample size 49 or fewer respondents

# Q6 Positive experiences with Council

Respondents were asked, 'Have you had a great experience with Council in the past 12 months that you'd like to tell us about?' There were 157 comments made and the most commonly mentioned themes are detailed below.

'No' (49) – 49 comments simply said no, they hadn't had a positive experience they'd like to share.

**Customer Service/Staff** (31 comments) – the majority of these comments mentioned knowledgeable, friendly and helpful staff, in particular front reception staff across all four service centres. Many mentioned quick and timely responses to inquiries.

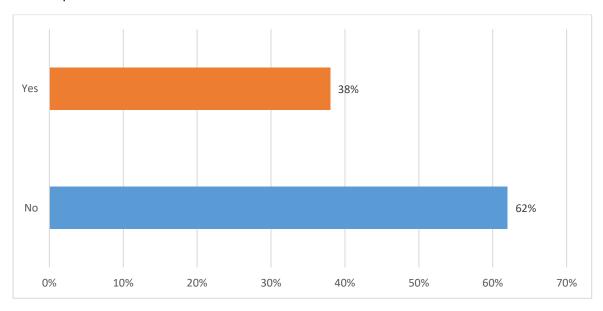
**Planning** – *including Building Consents, Resource Consents and LIMs* (18 comments) – these comments mentioned prompt, helpful and understanding staff when working through consent processes; good service from contractors.

**Libraries** (14 comments) – all of these comments referred to the libraries being a wonderful service and library staff being welcoming, friendly and helpful.

# Q7 Issues/problems with services or amenities

Respondents were asked 'In the past 12 months have you personally experienced any issues or problems with any of Council services or amenities?' Thirty-eight percent of people said yes, slightly more than in 2020 (36%).

Answering in the affirmative brought up question 8 for this group asking more detail about their issue or problem.



## Q8 Problems faced

There were 176 comments provided by respondents. The main problems experienced by residents fell into the following categories. The information below describes the most commonly mentioned themes in each category:

**Roading** (51 comments) – safety issues with broken (tree root damage) and uneven footpaths; roads in poor condition and being badly maintained i.e. pot hole repairs; dissatisfaction with gravel roads not being maintained to a decent standard i.e. grading and corrugations; a lack of car parking (particularly in Cromwell).

**Waste** (35 comments) – dissatisfaction with how often the red bin is collected particularly in summer months; rubbish bins being full and not emptied often enough; issues with staff not being helpful or friendly particularly at Cromwell transfer station and a lack of recycling options around the district.

**Water Services** (34 comments) – dissatisfaction with the quality of the water supply – lime scale was most referred to, as well as issues with the taste of the water; dissatisfaction with having to be under boil water notice (Ranfurly/Naseby).

**Parks and Recreation** (27 comments) – inadequate maintenance of greenways, parks, reserves and verges i.e. lack of mowing and tree trimming and weeding; lack of allocated dog parks. Issues with the cleanliness of swimming pools and changing facilities; irregular opening hours and issues with the temperature of pools.

**Planning** – *including Building Consents, Resource Consents and LIMs* (26 comments) – waiting times for building and resource consent outcomes; issues with unclear rules around consent requirements and the cost of consents.

**Communications** (13 comments) – issues with not receiving responses to queries in a satisfactory timeframe; CODC website difficult to navigate.

**Regulatory** (9 comments) – most comments related to unsatisfactory outcomes to noise control complaints; lack of dog control enforcement, dog poo not being picked up and dogs being off the lead on tracks, trails and around town.

# Q9 How could the Council improve services?

Respondents were asked, "In your opinion, how could Council improve services?" The information below outlines the areas in which respondents felt Council could improve services as well as the most commonly mentioned themes in each area. The majority of comments did not provide the 'how', but more so the 'what'.

**Roading** (101 comments) – footpaths to be kept in good condition through regular inspection and repairs; repair sealed roads faster and to a higher standard i.e. potholes; maintain unsealed (gravel) roads – regular grading to a better standard and repair them after weather events; more car parks particularly in Cromwell; monitor and enforce time restricted parking areas.

**Waste** (72 comments) – many people said they felt the waste collection schedule needed to be updated with suggestions that the blue-lid bin needs to be collected more frequently and the red-lid bin needs to be picked up weekly (particularly during summer); ability to recycle more types of plastic; more education/information about different recyclables and how best to recycle each; more public rubbish bins, emptied more often (especially during peak times) and at more locations.

**Water Services** (47 comments) – the majority of these comments were about dissatisfaction with the quality of the water and removing lime from the water supply; respondents commented particularly about the need for water supply improvements in Maniototo (Ranfurly and Naseby); resident's expressed dissatisfaction with boil water notices.

**Planning** – *including building consents, building inspections and resource consents* (40 comments) – faster building and resource consent processes (e.g. more staff/resource for consents); better communication with applicants throughout the consent process with a suggestion to have more information about the process available online; reduce waiting times for building inspections.

**Parks & Recreation** (26 comments) – better maintenance of parks and greenways (weeding); upgrade sports grounds and facilities (e.g. cricket pitches, hockey turf); suggestions to upgrade playground equipment to cater for different age groups with particular reference to toddlers; education around track and trail usage to keep both cyclists and walkers safe.

**Communications and engagement** (25 comments) – more regular updates on council projects i.e. water supply; better, more simplified communication; engage via different channels (e.g. email, daily updates) with a suggestion to create a 'user portal' where all information can be in one place (i.e. 'my codc'); more positive news about from council; staff to take ownership of issues at first contact rather than passing on to someone else.

**Pools** (19 comments) – pools and change facilities need to be cleaned more regularly along with general upkeep and maintenance (i.e. water fountain, coat hooks); reduce the cost to swim at pools; communicate directly with regular swimmers when there is an issue at the pool.

# Q10 Priority Issues

Respondents were asked to tick up to four priority issues that they considered Council should give high priority in the next one to three years.

2021 Ranking	Answer Choices	Responses (%)	Actual Count	2020 ranking
1	Water Supply	35%	171	1
2	Community Planning	17%	85	4
3	Footpaths	16%	76	2
4	Unsealed (gravel roads)	15%	72	12
5	Community halls and stadiums	15%	71	13
6	Economic development	15%	71	3
7	Sewerage system	14%	69	6
8	Sealed roads	14%	66	9
9	Litter bins	13%	62	14
10	Walking/cycle tracks	13%	62	5

Water remains the top priority for our district at large. Footpaths and community planning are also high priorities for respondents, as they were in 2020. Unsealed (gravel roads) ranked 4 and community halls and stadiums (ranked 5) have moved up the priority list for the community from ranking 12 and 13 respectively in 2020.

#### **Top Priorities by Year**

The table below shows the priorities identified in 2021 compared with the previous three years.

Ranking	2021 Priorities	2020 Priorities	2019 Priorities	2018 Priorities
1	Water Supply	Water Supply	Water Supply	Water Supply
2	Community Planning	Footpaths	Footpaths	Community Planning
3	Footpaths	Economic Development	Community Planning	Sewerage System
4	Unsealed (gravel) roads	Community Planning	Walking / Cycling Tracks	Litter Bins
5	Community halls and stadiums	Walking / Cycling Tracks	Economic Development	Footpaths
6	Economic development	Sewerage System	Sewerage System	Public Toilets

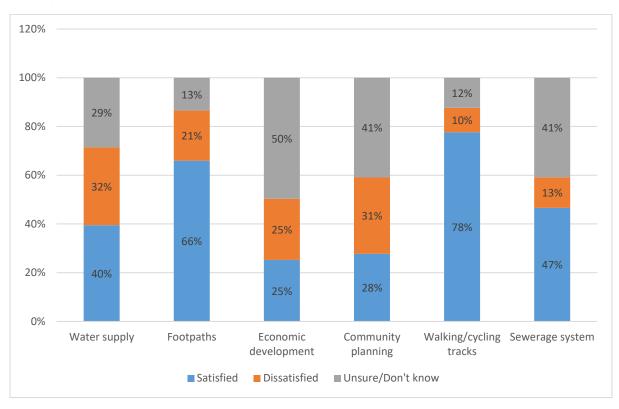
## **Top Priorities by Ward**

The following issues had greater significance to particular wards. They are listed in priority order for that ward.

Ward	2021
Vincent	1. water supply
	2. economic development
	3. sewerage system
Cromwell	<ol> <li>community halls and stadiums</li> </ol>
	2. car parking
	3. water supply
Maniototo	1. water supply
	2. unsealed (gravel) roads
	3. sealed roads
Teviot Valley	unsealed (gravel) roads
	2. litter bins
	3. sealed roads

# Q11 Satisfaction with Council's efforts on priority issues during the last year

Respondents were asked 'Please indicate how satisfied you are with the Council's efforts on these issues during the last year'. There were three options to choose from: satisfied, dissatisfied, unsure/don't know.

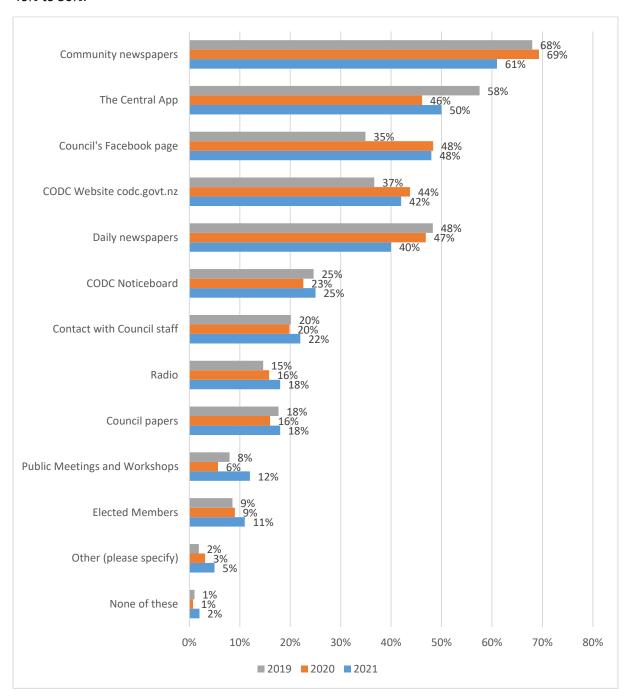


# Q12 Where do you obtain Council information?

The graph below compares the results from 2021 with the previous two years.

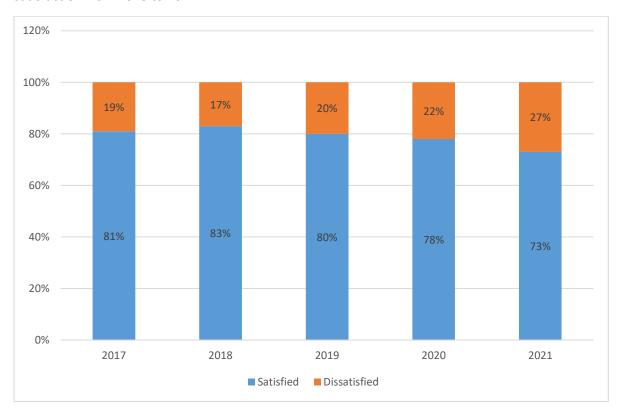
Community newspapers (61%) continues to be the most common source of Council information for respondents, though it has decreased slightly in 2021 when compared to the previous two years. Daily newspapers has decreased in popularity as a Council information source, and public meetings and workshops and elected members have both increased slightly.

The number of respondents getting Council information from The Central App has increased from 46% to 50%.



# Q13 Satisfaction with level of information from Council

There has been a slight decrease in residents' satisfaction with how well they have been kept informed by Council, from 78% in 2020 to 73% in 2021. There has been a gradual decline in satisfaction from 2018 to 2021.

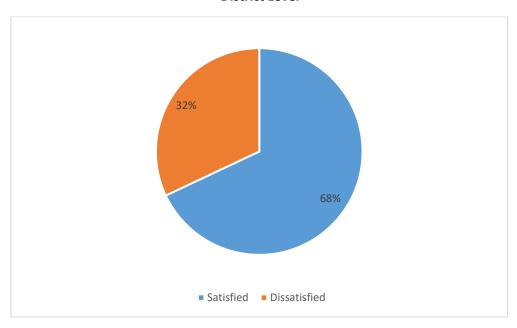


# Q14 – 15 Elected Member Performance

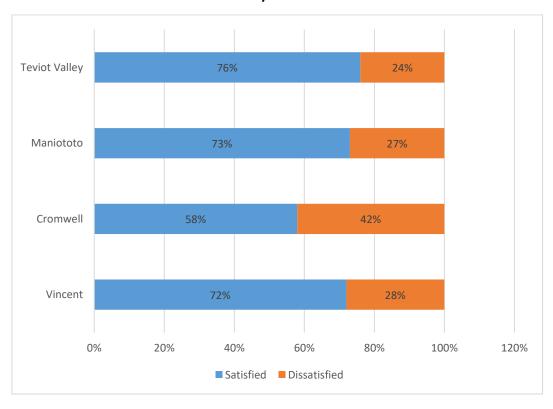
#### Q14 Performance of Councillors

Respondents were asked, 'Please indicate how you feel about the performance of your elected Councillors in the past 12 months?'

#### **District Level**



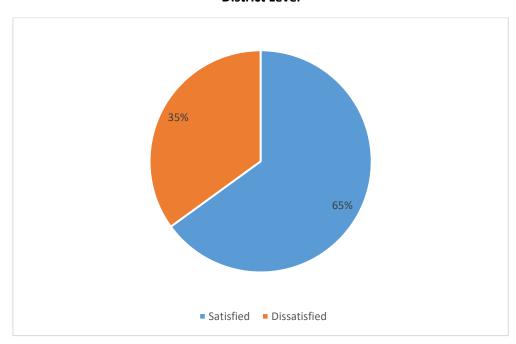
#### By Ward



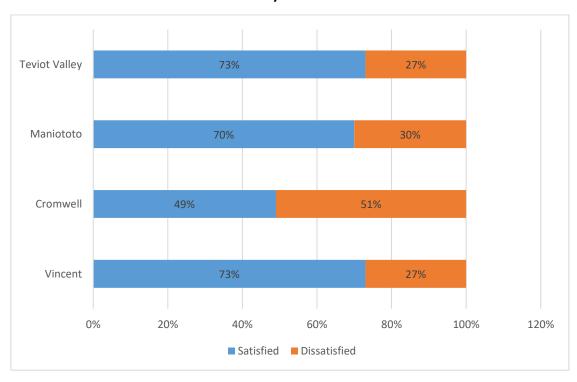
#### Q15 Performance of Community Board Memembers

Respondents were asked, 'Please indicate how you feel about the performance of your local community board in the past 12 months?'

#### **District Level**



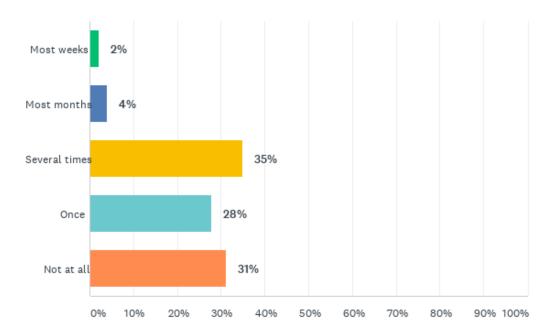
#### By Ward



# Q 16 - 19 Contact with Council

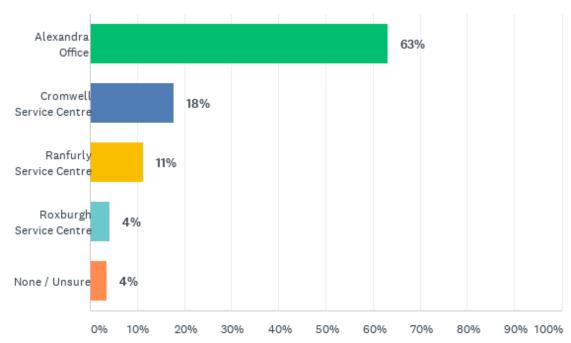
#### Q16 How often have you contacted Council in the last 12 months?

69% of respondents had contacted Council at least once in the last 12 months, with 41% having been in contact multiple times. 31% of respondents had not contacted Council at all in the last 12 months.

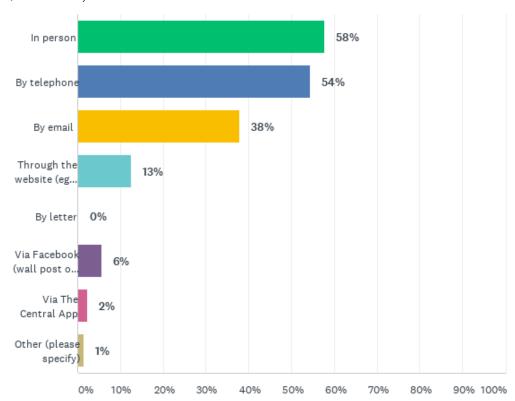


#### Q17 Which CODC office did you have most contact with in the last 12 months?

The majority of respondents had had most of their contact with Council through the Alexandra office (63%) and the Cromwell office (18%).

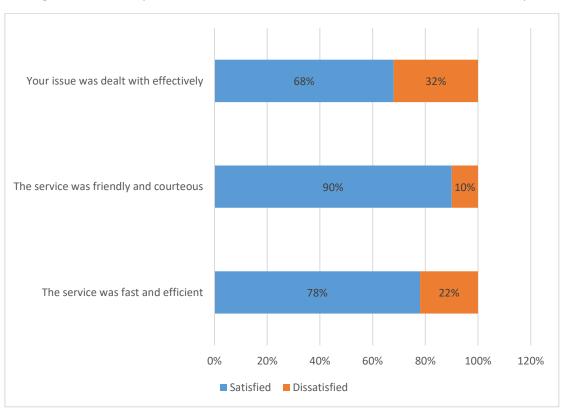


#### Q18 How did you make contact?



Q19 Thinking of the initial contact or response you received, how satisfied were you with the following...

In the majority of cases respondents felt that their contact with Council was a positive experience, even though for 32% of respondents the issue was not or could not be dealt with effectively.



# APPENDIX ONE COPY OF THE SURVEY

#### Introduction

Welcome to the Central Otago District Council's 2021 Resident's Survey.

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

We want to hear from you about our Council services and amenities.

Everyone who completes the survey can choose to go in the draw for one of six \$50 supermarket vouchers - a total value of \$300 in prizes. Simply enter your contact details on the last page. The survey is confidential so please feel free to express your opinions.

The survey should take between 5 and 10 minutes.

# **About you**

1. Are you (please	tick one)				
Male	tion only				
Female					
2. Which of the fol	owing age grou	ps do you be	long to? <b>(pleas</b>	e tick one)	
Under 20					
20-29					
30-39					
40-49					
50-59					
60-69					
70 and over					
Vincent  Maniototo  Teviot Valley					
Teviot Valley					

# **Use of Council services**

Sealed Roads  Unsealed (gravel) Roads  LIM Reports  Playgrounds  Public Tollets  Public Tollets  Sports Grounds  Rubbish Collection (red-lid bins)  Transfer Stations  Kerbside Recycling (blue & yellowlid bins)  Recycling Depots  Cemeteries  Waste Minimisation Education  Resource Consents  Parks and Reserves  Playgrounds  Public Tollets  Sports Grounds  Swimming Pools  Rates Enquiries  Service Centre Reception  After Hours Service  Council Communications of i.e. website/ Facebook	Footpaths	Building Consents and Inspections	Libraries
Car Parking Health Inspection Public Toilets  Water Supply Alcohol Licensing Sports Grounds  Rubbish Collection (red-lid bins) Noise Control Swimming Pools  Transfer Stations Dog Control Rates Enquiries  Kerbside Recycling (blue & yellow-lid bins) Emergency Management (Civil Defence)  Recycling Depots Cemeteries Council Communications of	Sealed Roads	Resource Consents	Parks and Reserves
Water Supply	Unsealed (gravel) Roads	LIM Reports	Playgrounds
Rubbish Collection (red-lid bins)  Noise Control  Swimming Pools  Transfer Stations  Dog Control  Rates Enquiries  Service Centre Reception  Defence)  After Hours Service  Council Communications	Car Parking	Health Inspection	Public Toilets
Transfer Stations  Dog Control  Rates Enquiries  Kerbside Recycling (blue & yellow- lid bins)  Defence)  Recycling Depots  Cemeteries  Council Communications	Water Supply	Alcohol Licensing	Sports Grounds
Kerbside Recycling (blue & yellow- lid bins)  Emergency Management (Civil Service Centre Reception Defence)  After Hours Service  Cemeteries  Council Communications (Civil Service Centre Reception Centre Re	Rubbish Collection (red-lid bins)	Noise Control	Swimming Pools
lid bins)  Defence)  Recycling Depots  Cemeteries  Council Communications of	Transfer Stations	Dog Control	Rates Enquiries
Recycling Depots Cemeteries Council Communications C			Service Centre Reception
Council Communications (		,	After Hours Service
Waste Minimisation Education Community Halls and Stadiums i.e. website/ Facebook			

# **Satisfaction with Council services & amenities**

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied
-ootpaths		0
Sealed Roads	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
Unsealed (gravel) Roads		
Car Parking		
Nater Supply		
Rubbish Collection (red-lid bins)	$\bigcirc$	
Transfer Stations		0
Kerbside Recycling blue & yellow-lid bins)	$\bigcirc$	
Recycling Depots		0
Waste Minimisation Education		
Building Consents and nspections	0	0
Resource Consents		$\bigcirc$
LIM Reports		
Health Inspection		$\bigcirc$
Alcohol Licensing		
Noise Control		
Dog Control	0	0
Emergency Management (Civil Defence)		
Cemeteries	0	0
Community Halls and Stadiums	0	0
Libraries	0	0
Parks and Reserves	0	0
Playgrounds		0

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied
Public Toilets		
Rates Enquiries		
Sports Grounds		
Service Centre Reception	0	
Swimming Pools	$\bigcirc$	
fter Hours Service		
Council Communications Channels i.e. website/ Facebook		
* 7 In the nast 12 months	have you personally experienced	any issues or problems with any of Coun
* 7. In the past 12 months services or amenities? (pl Yes (please answer Q8 I) No (please answer only	ease tick one) below, then go to Q9)	any issues or problems with any of Coun
services or amenities? (pl	ease tick one) below, then go to Q9)	any issues or problems with any of Coun
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services or amenities? (pl	ease tick one) below, then go to Q9)	any issues or problems with any of Coun
services or amenities? (pl	ease tick one) below, then go to Q9)	any issues or problems with any of Cour

# Issues & problems

3. IF YES: What i	ssues or problems	have you faced'	? (please be a	s specific as p	ossible)	
			· ·			

# Improvements to Council services and amenities


# 2021-24 Priorities

Footpaths	Building Consents and Inspections	Playgrounds
Sealed roads	Resource Consents	Public Toilets
Unsealed (gravel) roads	LIM Reports	Sports Grounds
Car Parking	Health Inspection	Swimming Pools
Water Supply	Alcohol Licensing	Walking/Cycling Tracks
Sewerage System	Noise Control	Economic Development
Stormwater	Dog Control	Community Planning
Rubbish Collection (red bins)	Emergency Management (Civil	Regional Identity – World o
Transfer Stations	Defence)	Difference
Kerbside Recycling (blue & yellow	Cemeteries	Tourism Marketing and Development
bins)  Recycling Depots	Community Halls and Stadiums  Council's Elderly Persons' Housing	After Hours Answer Service
Waste Minimisation Education	units	Council Communications
Litter Bins	Libraries	None of these
Litter Biris	Parks and Reserves	
Other (please specify)	_	

# 2020-21 Priorities

st 11. 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 Council's efforts on each of these issues during
the last year.

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Unsure / Don't Know
Water supply			
Footpaths			
Economic development			
Community planning			
Walking / cycling tracks			
Sewerage system			

# **Council communications**

Council papers/documents
Council's Facebook page
Daily newspapers
Community newspapers and bulletins
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 specify)

# **Satisfaction with Council information**

Council.			
Satisfied			
Dissatisfied			
Comments			

# **Elected member performance**

nonths?		
Satisfied		
Dissatisfied		
15. Please indicate nonths?	how you feel about the performance of your local community board in the	e past 12
Satisfied		
Dissatisfied		

# **Contact With Council**

Most Weeks			
Most Months			
Several Times			
Once			
Not at All (please go to Q18)	1		

# **Contact with Council**

Alexandra Office		
Cromwell Service Centre		
Ranfurly Service Centre		
Roxburgh Service Centre		
None / Unsure (please go	o to Q18)	
18. How did you make cor	ntact with Council? (please tick al	I that apply)
In person		
By telephone		
By email		
Through the website (eg o	online feedback or service request forms)	
By letter		
Via Facebook (wall post o	or private message)	
Via The Central App		
Other (please specify)		
_	act or response you received, how	v satisfied were you with the following
. Thinking of the initial cont ease tick one per row)	act or response you received, how	
ease tick one per row)	act or response you received, how	satisfied were you with the following  Dissatisfied
_		
ease tick one per row) he service was fast		
he service was fast nd efficient he service was friendly		
he service was fast and efficient he service was friendly and courteous our issue was dealt		
he service was fast and efficient he service was friendly and courteous our issue was dealt		