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Background and objectives

The Victorian Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) creates a vital interface between the council and their community.

Held annually, the CSS asks the opinions of local people about the place they live, work and play and provides confidence for councils in their efforts and abilities.

Now in its twenty-first year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

- councils' overall performance with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- community consultation and engagement
- advocacy and lobbying on behalf of the community
- · customer service, local infrastructure, facilities and
- overall council direction.

When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable historical source of the community's views since 1998. A selection of results from the last nine years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

Serving Victoria for 21 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this Statewide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 21 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

Participation in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is optional. Participating councils have various choices as to the content of the questionnaire and the sample size to be surveyed, depending on their individual strategic, financial and other considerations.



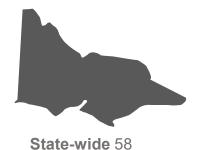
Stonnington City Council – at a glance



Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.





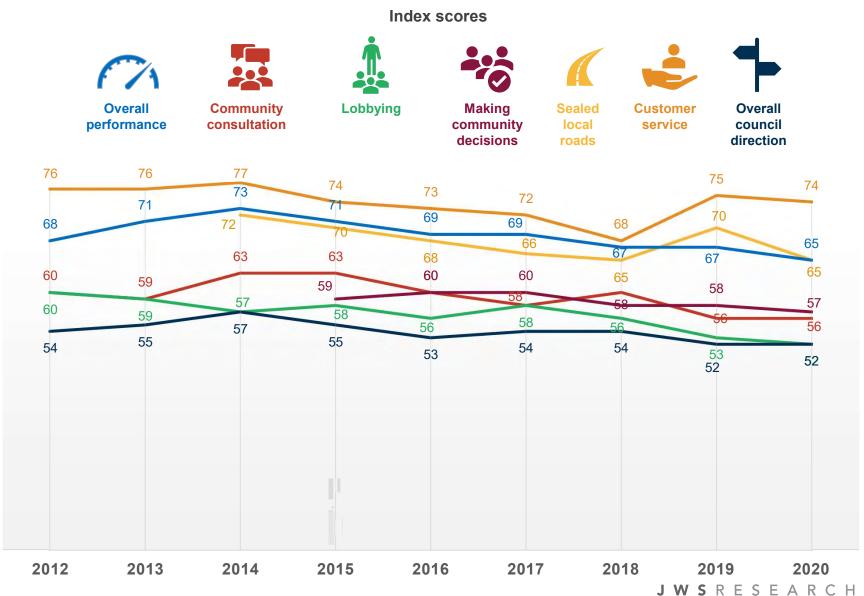


Council performance compared to State-wide and group averages

Areas where Council The three areas where Council performance is significantly performance is significantly higher by the widest margin lower Sealed local roads Traffic management Compared to State-wide average Enforcement of local laws Waste management Lobbying None Compared to group average Environmental sustainability Traffic management

Summary of core measures

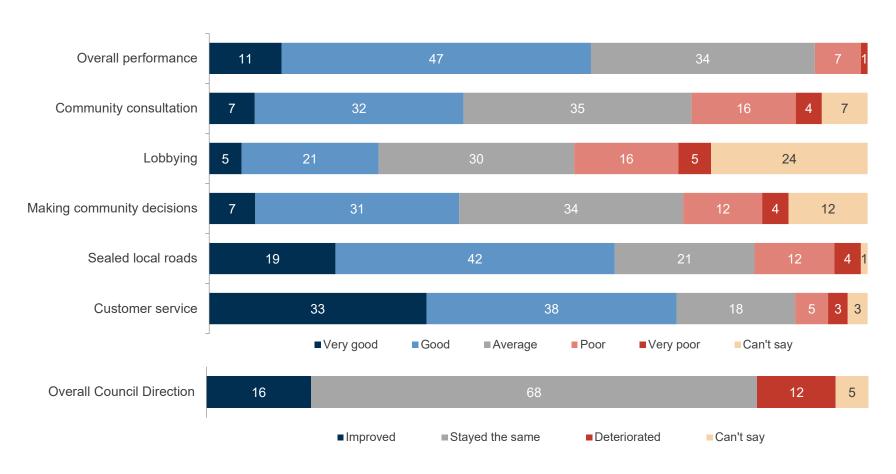




Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Stonnington City Council performance



Services	S	Stonnington 2020	Stonnington 2019	Metro 2020	State-wide 2020	Highest score	Lowest score
C/A	Overall performance	65	67	66	58	Aged 65+ years, East Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years
4	Overall council direction	52	52	54	51	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
ė	Customer service	74	75	74	70	East Ward residents	North Ward residents, Aged 50-64 years
.=1	Appearance of public areas	74	76	73	72	East Ward residents	South Ward residents
	Art centres and libraries	74	75	75	74	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
外	Recreational facilities	72	73	74	70	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
C SE	Community and cultural	70	70	70	68	Women, East Ward residents	North Ward residents, Men
	Waste management	69	73	70	65	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
	Enforcement of local laws	67	65	65	63	North Ward residents	Aged 65+ years, East Ward residents
1	Sealed local roads	65	70	67	54	East Ward residents	North Ward residents

Summary of Stonnington City Council performance



Service	s	Stonnington 2020	Stonnington 2019	Metro 2020	State-wide 2020	Highest score	Lowest score
23	Environmental sustainability	58	61	62	60	East Ward residents	South Ward residents
芒圈	Bus/community dev./tourism	57	57	59	59	Women	Men, Aged 35- 49 years
**	Community decisions	57	58	59	53	East Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Consultation and engagement	56	56	58	55	East Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Parking facilities	56	52	56	55	East Ward residents	Aged 50+ years
	Traffic management	55	54	59	58	East Ward residents	North Ward residents, Aged 50-64 years
	Town planning policy	55	58	55	54	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
1	Lobbying	52	53	57	53	East Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Building and planning permits	52	53	54	51	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Perceptions of Stonnington City Council performance have been maintained over the past 12 months on most individual service areas and have improved in the area of parking facilities. While Council's overall performance index of 65 is only slightly lower than last year, it continues a longer term decline from a peak of 73 in 2014. Council performance has declined significantly this year in two of its better performing areas of waste management and sealed local roads.

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance

Council should focus on maintaining and improving performance in the individual service areas that most influence perceptions of overall performance: town planning, community decisions, recreational facilities, environmental sustainability and the appearance of public areas. While this set includes some of Council's strongest performing areas, in public areas and recreational facilities, it also includes one of its lowest performers, town planning.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Council performance is rated largely in line with the Metropolitan group average and significantly higher than the State-wide average on overall performance, customer service and five out of 16 individual service areas. However, Council is rated significantly below the group average on lobbying, traffic management and environmental sustainability and below the State average for traffic management.

Regaining and driving positive perceptions

To prevent further decline in community opinion, Council should target its waste management (most important area to residents) and maintenance of sealed local roads (a key positive influence on overall performance ratings). It should also look to improve its general communication and transparency with residents, particularly around planning issues, and to promote its sustainability initiatives. Council should also work to consolidate improved perceptions of its performance on parking facilities over the next year.

DETAILED FINDINGS





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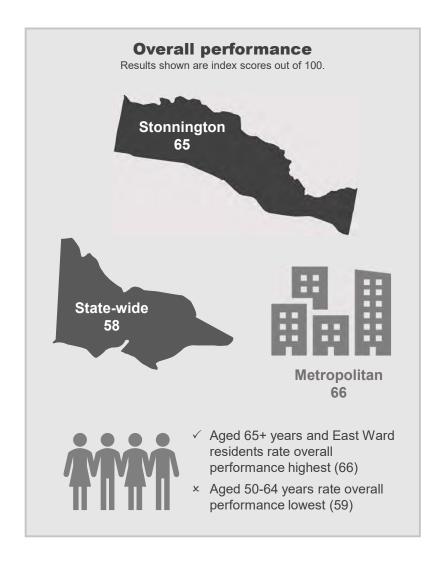
The overall performance index score of 65 for Stonnington City Council represents a two-point decline on the 2019 result.

 While not a statistically significant change, this continues a relatively steady decline from a high of 73 in 2014 to Council's lowest score to date.

Council's overall performance index is in line with the average rating for councils in the Metropolitan group and statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the State-wide average (index score of 66 and 58 respectively).

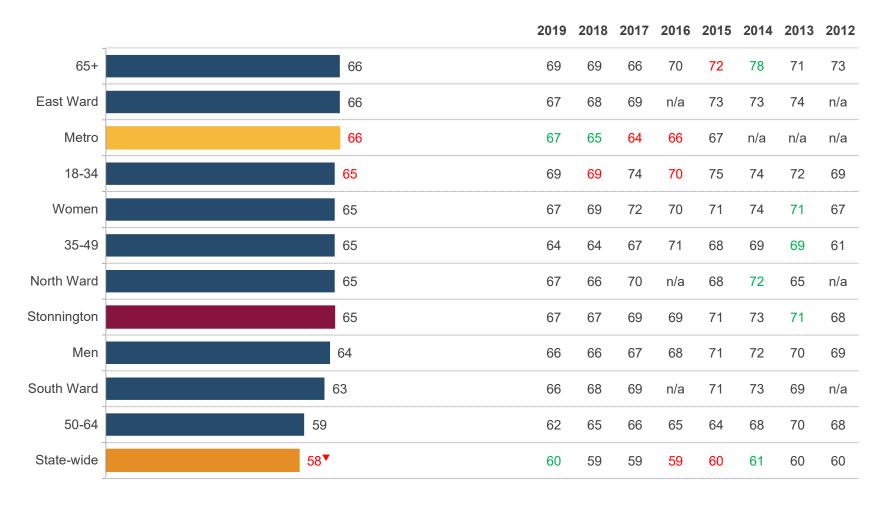
 In line with the overall trend, perceptions among most demographic and geographic cohorts declined slightly over the past year, many to their lowest level to date.
 However, ratings among residents aged 18 to 34 years declined significantly (down four points).

Nonetheless, a majority of residents (58%) continue to rate Council's overall performance as 'very good' or 'good' and the proportion who rate it as 'very poor' or 'poor' is negligible (8%). A further 34% sit mid-scale, rating Council's overall performance as 'average'.



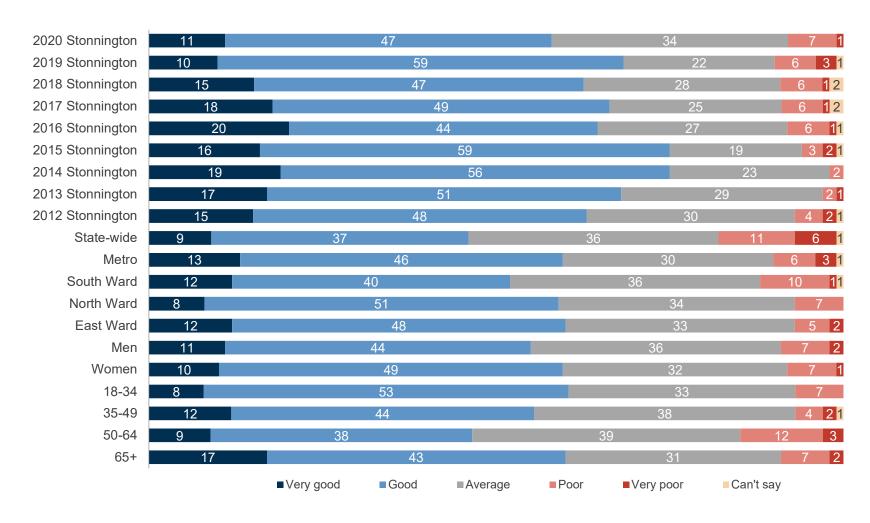


2020 overall performance (index scores)





2020 overall performance (%)



Top performing service areas

Art centres and libraries and the appearance of public areas are where Stonnington City Council performs best in 2020 (index score of 74 for each). Perceptions of these service areas are similar to recent years, further consolidating their

On the appearance of public areas:

position as Council's top performing areas.

- Ratings are significantly higher in the East Ward (index score of 79) and lower in the South Ward (index score of 66, down 12 points) compared to the Council-wide average.
- Additionally, residents are most likely to nominate parks and gardens (22%) and public areas (10%) as the best thing about Council.

Recreational facilities remains another high performing area for Council (index score of 72).

 Performance has improved in the North Ward since last year (index score of 75, up seven points) and is rated significantly higher than average among residents aged 18 to 34 years (index score of 76).

Council performs in line with the Metropolitan group and State-wide averages for these three leading service areas.

Notably, perceptions of Council performance have improved significantly on parking facilities this year (index score of 56, up four points) but decreased for two of its stronger areas, waste management and sealed local roads.





Low performing service areas





Lobbying and building and planning permits (index score of 52 for each) continue to be where Stonnington City Council rates lowest.

Perceptions of Council performance on lobbying have been gradually declining from an index score of 58 in 2017 and are now at their lowest point to date.

- Council is also rated below the Metropolitan group average for this service area.
- While there were no significant declines over the past year among demographic and geographic groups, perceptions of Council lobbying among women and 18 to 34 year olds have steadily declined since 2017.

Perceptions of building and planning permits are where the greatest gap between importance to residents (index score of 79) and Council performance occurs, and inappropriate or over-development is the Council area most frequently cited by residents as needing to improve (13%).

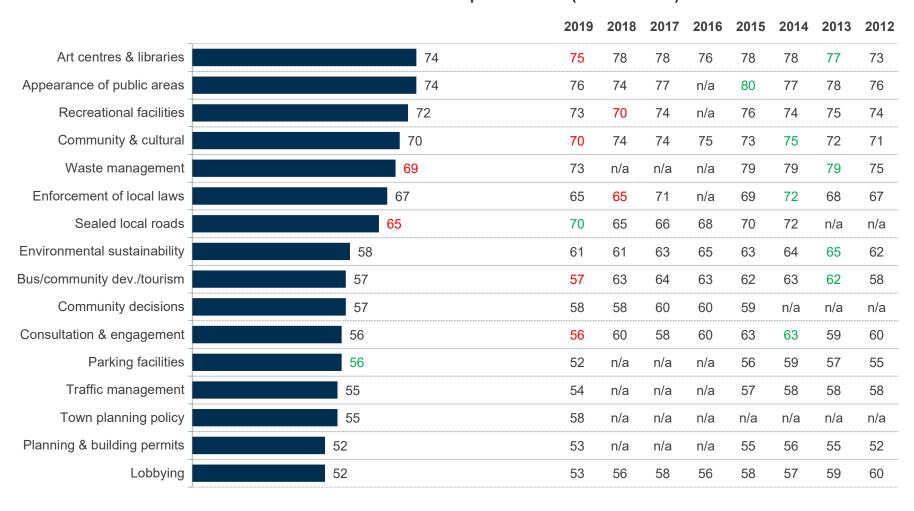
Other related and lower performing areas for Council include town planning and traffic management (index score of 55 for each). Both also feature among the top areas mentioned by residents as needing to improve (7% and 11% respectively).

 Perceptions of town planning performance have declined significantly among South Ward residents over the past year.

Individual service area performance



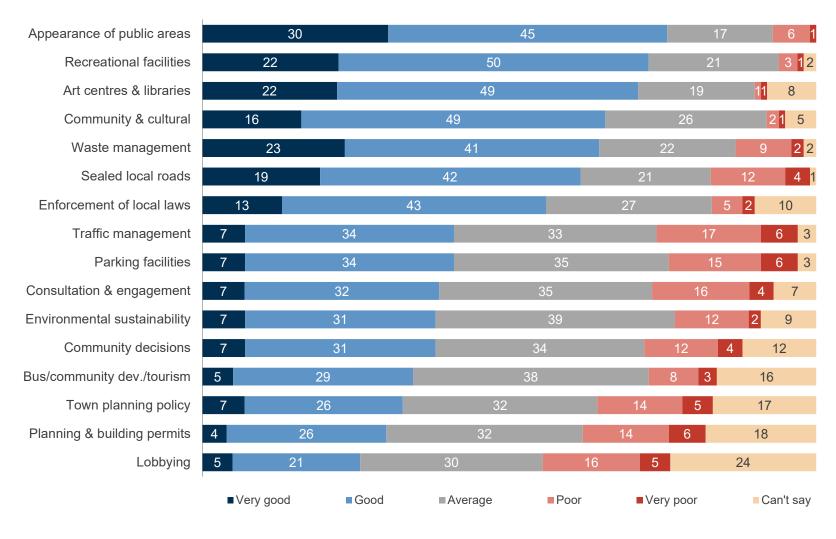
2020 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



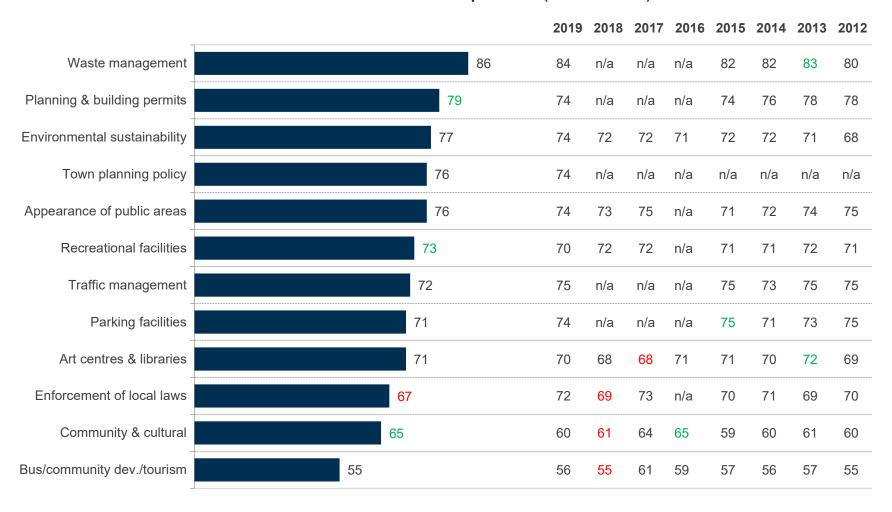
2020 individual service area performance (%)



Individual service area importance



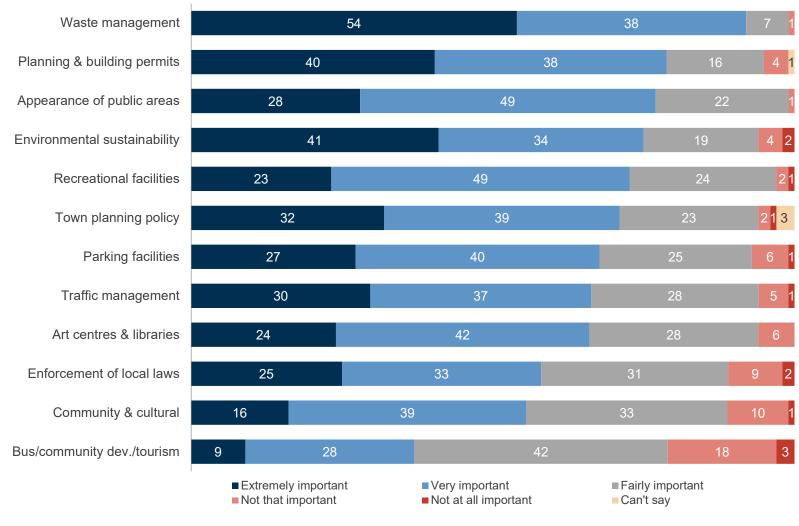
2020 individual service area importance (index scores)



Individual service area importance



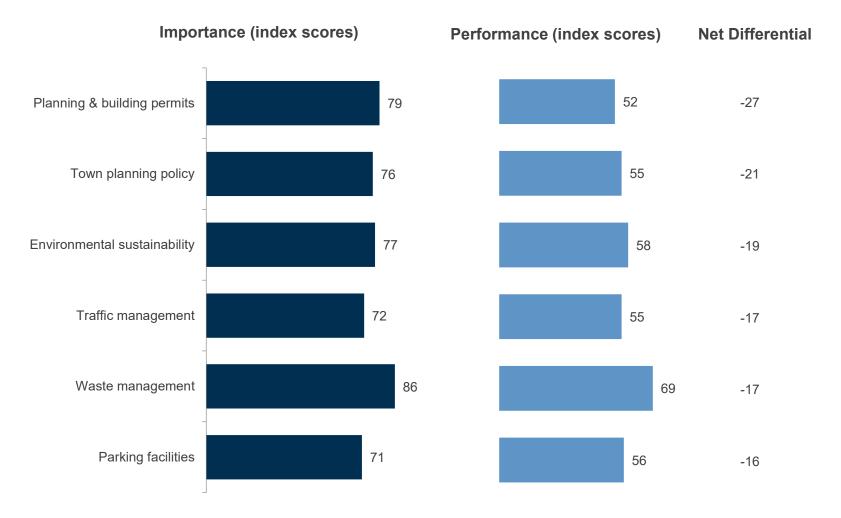
2020 individual service area importance (%)



Individual service areas importance vs performance



Service areas where importance exceeds performance by 10 points or more, suggesting further investigation is necessary.



Influences on perceptions of overall performance



The individual service areas that have the strongest influence on the overall performance rating (based on regression analysis) are:

- Town planning
- · Decisions made in the interest of the community
- Recreational facilities
- Environmental sustainability.

Focus on good communication and transparency with residents about Council decisions made in the community's interest, particularly in relation to town planning in combination with maintaining the standard of recreational facilities (high performance index of 72) and promoting Council's sustainability initiatives, provide the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council.

Other individual service areas with a moderate influence on the overall performance rating are:

- The appearance of public areas
- The condition of sealed local roads, excluding VicRoads
- Business, community development and tourism.

The appearance of public areas has a high performance index (74) and a moderate positive influence on the overall performance rating, therefore maintaining this positive result should also remain a focus.

Regression analysis explained



We use regression analysis to investigate which individual service areas, such as community consultation, condition of sealed local roads, etc. (the independent variables) are influencing respondent perceptions of overall council performance (the dependent variable).

In the charts that follow:

- The horizontal axis represents the council performance index for each individual service.
 Service areas appearing on the right-side of the chart have a higher performance index than those on the left.
- The vertical axis represents the Standardised Beta Coefficient from the multiple regression performed.
 This measures the contribution of each service area to the model. Service areas near the top of the chart have a greater positive effect on overall performance ratings than service areas located closer to the axis.

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

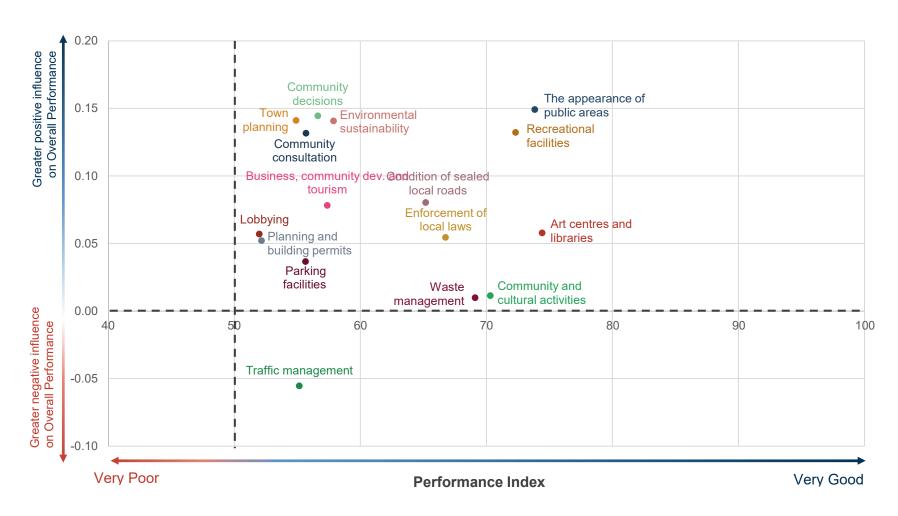
- **1. The first chart** shows the results of a regression analysis of *all* individual service areas selected by Council.
- 2. The second chart shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas with a weak influence on overall performance (i.e. a low Standardised Beta Coefficient) have been excluded from the analysis.

Key insights from this analysis are derived from the second chart.

Influence on overall performance: all service areas



2020 regression analysis (all service areas)

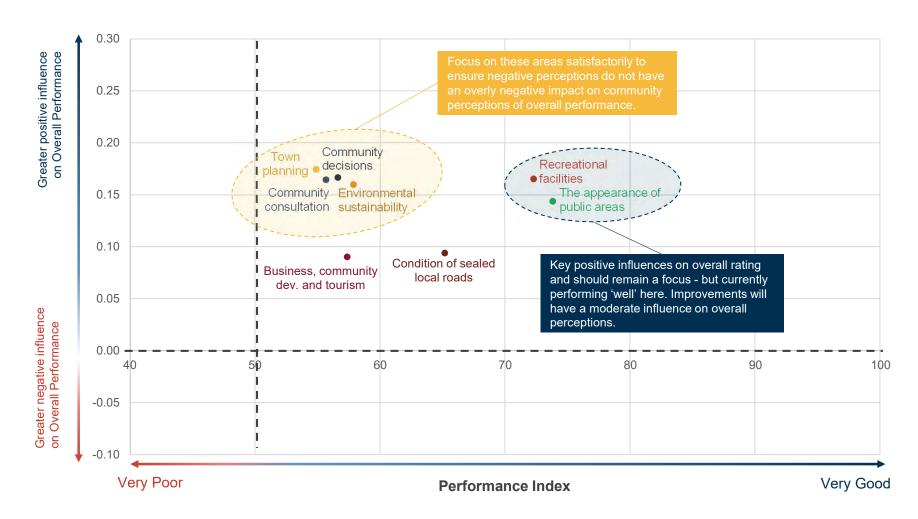


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R-squared value of 0.619 and adjusted R-square value of 0.603, which means that 62% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 38.9. This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.

Influence on overall performance: key service areas



2020 regression analysis (key service areas)

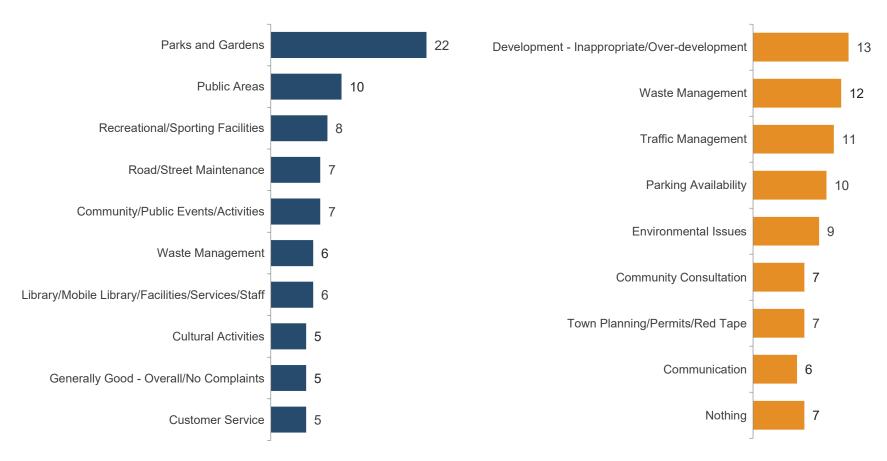


Best things about Council and areas for improvement





2020 areas for improvement (%) - Top mentions only -



Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about Stonnington City Council? It could be about any of the issues or services we have covered in this survey or it could be about something else altogether?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 9

Q17. What does Stonnington City Council MOST need to do to improve its performance?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 11

A verbatim listing of responses to these questions can be found in the accompanying dashboard.



Customer service

Contact with council and customer service



Contact with council

Seven in ten Stonnington City Council residents (70%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact has increased by ten points since last year to its highest point to date.

Residents have used a range of methods to contact Council – telephone (30%), email (27%), in person (24%), in writing (21%) and via the website (18%). Contact via email and the website has increased significantly in the past year.



Customer service

Stonnington City Council's customer service index of 74 is similar to 2019. Positively, Council reversed a long-term downward trend in customer service ratings last year and has consolidated those gains this year.

 Customer service in 2020 is rated significantly higher than the State-wide average and in line with the Metropolitan group average (index score of 70 and 74 respectively).

Among those who have had contact with Council, seven in ten (71%) provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good'.

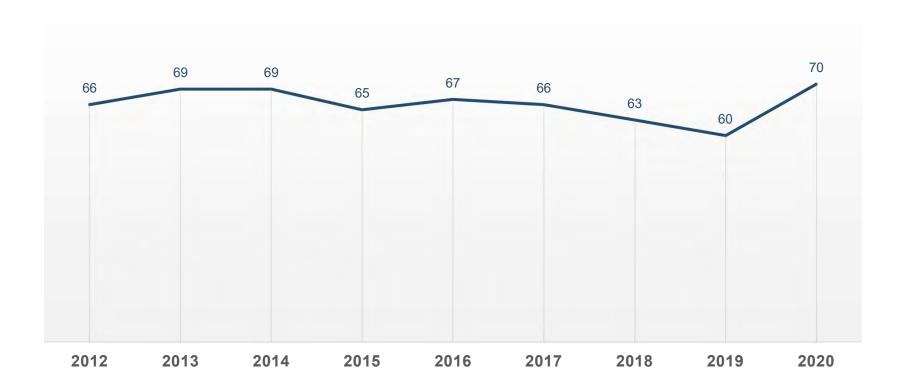
 Notably, perceptions of customer service among residents aged 18 to 34 years declined significantly in the past year (index score of 74, down eight points), while their rate of contact increased significantly (71%, up 24 points).

For Council's most common methods of contact, customer service ratings are high for in person, telephone and email (index score of 79, 78 and 72 respectively) but lower for in writing (index score of 65). Perceptions among those whose most recent contact was via the Council website have declined since last year and, although based on a small sample, may warrant some further investigation.

Contact with council



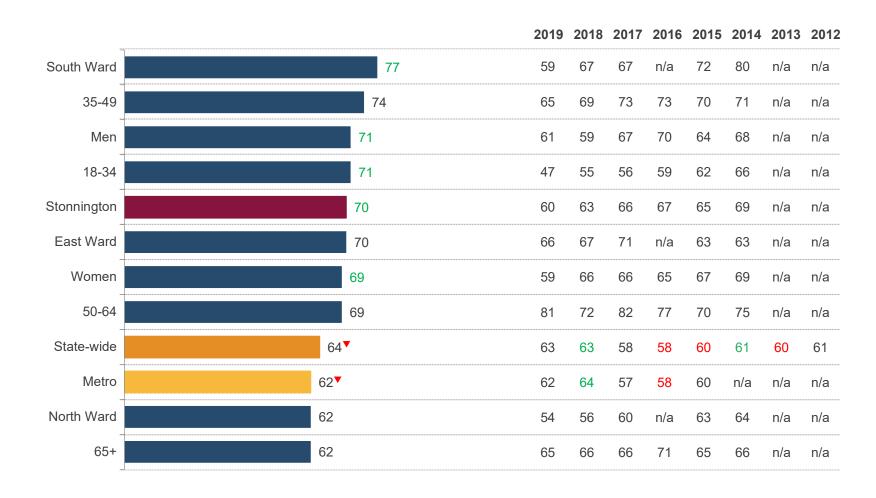
2020 contact with council (%) Have had contact



Contact with council



2020 contact with council (%)



Customer service rating



2020 customer service rating (index scores)

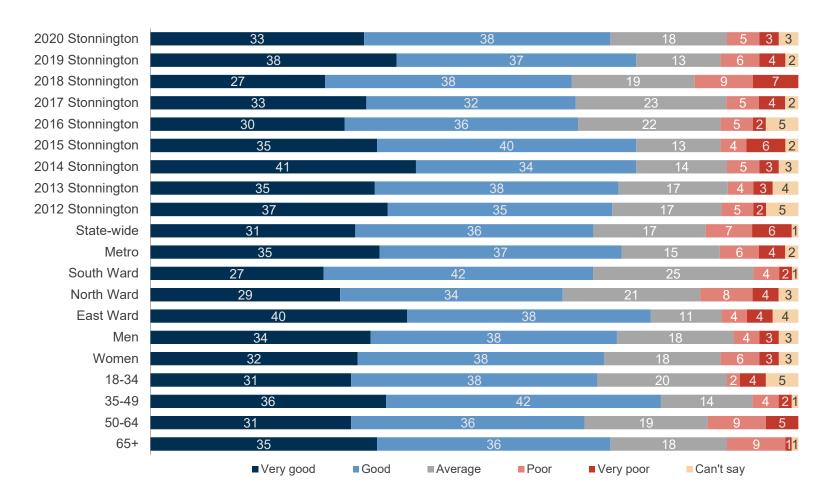


Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Stonnington City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked state-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 14
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Customer service rating



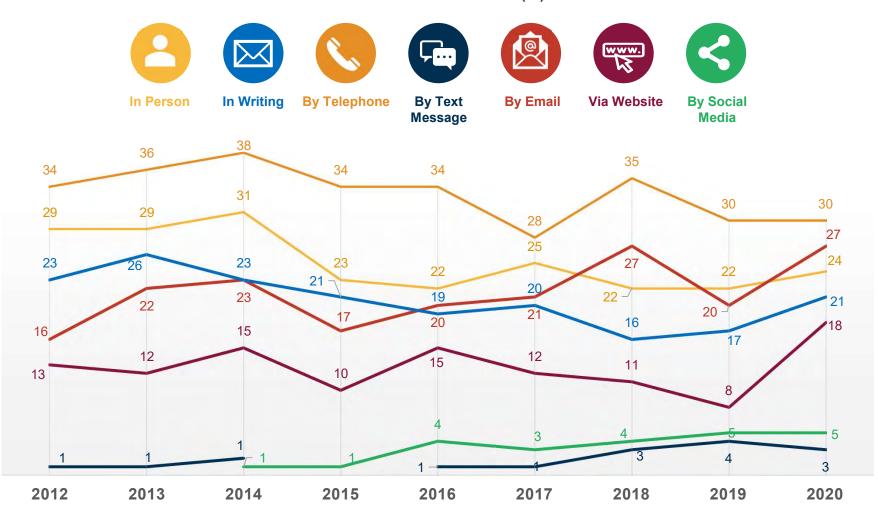
2020 customer service rating (%)



Method of contact with council



2020 method of contact (%)



Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Stonnington City Council in any of the following ways?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 7

Note: Respondents could name multiple contacts methods so responses may add to more than 100%

Customer service rating by method of last contact



2020 customer service rating (index score by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Stonnington City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked state-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 7

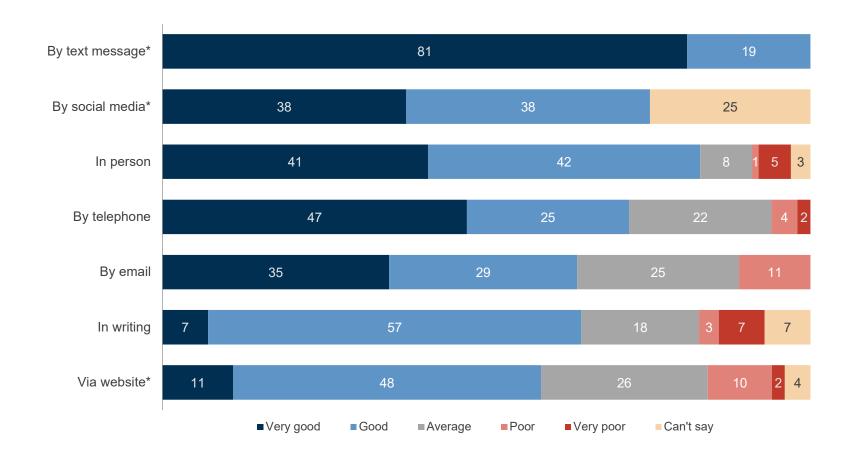
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

*Caution: small sample size < n=30

Customer service rating by method of last contact



2020 customer service rating (% by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Stonnington City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked state-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 7 *Caution: small sample size < n=30

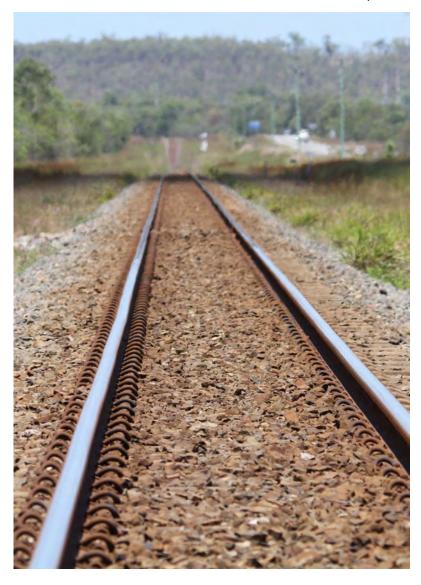


Council direction

Perceptions of the direction of Stonnington City Council's overall performance are similar to 2019.

More than two thirds of residents (68%) believe the direction of Council's overall performance has stayed the same over the last 12 months (down four points from 2019).

- 16% believe it has improved (up three points).
- 12% believe it has deteriorated (up three points).
- Most satisfied with the direction of Council performance are those aged 18 to 34 years.
- <u>Least</u> satisfied with the direction of Council performance are those aged 50 to 64 years (index score of 44, significantly lower than the Council-wide average).

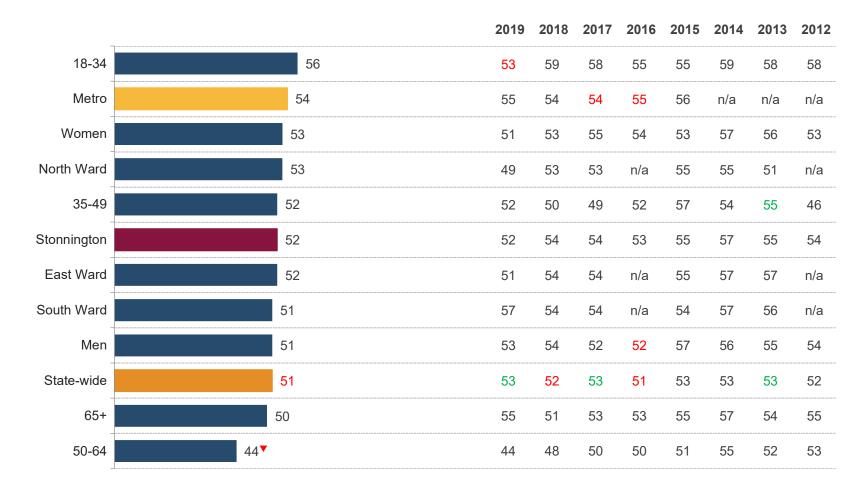




Overall council direction last 12 months



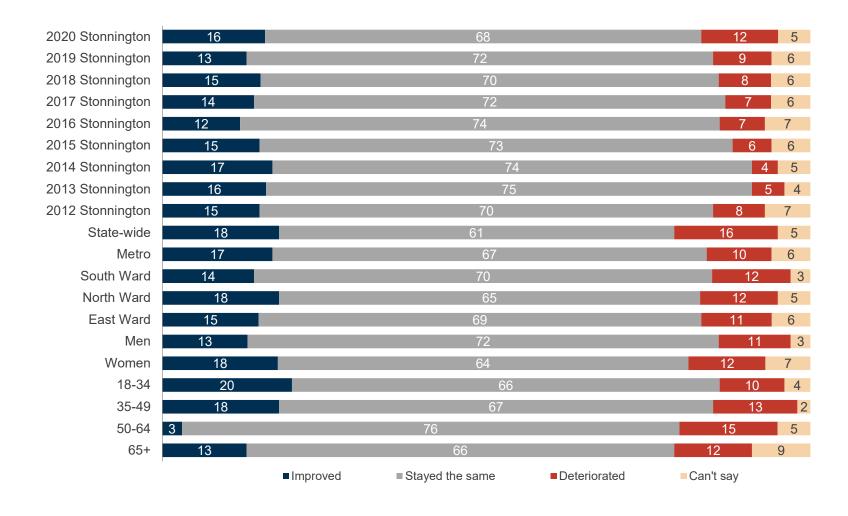
2020 overall direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



2020 overall council direction (%)



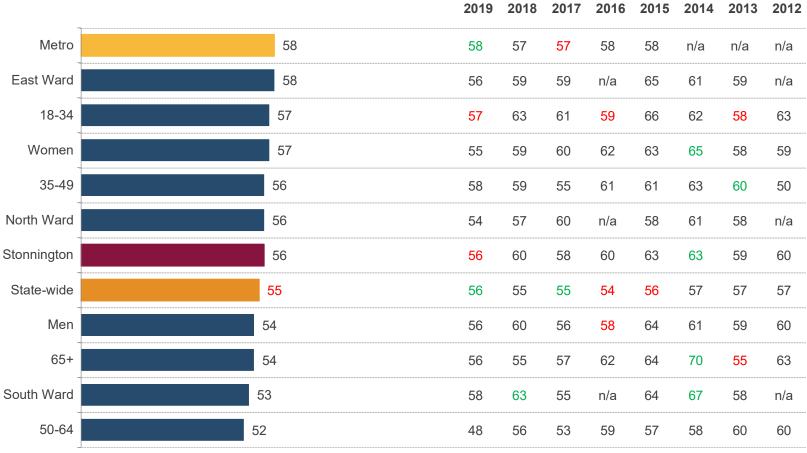


Community consultation and engagement performance





2020 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

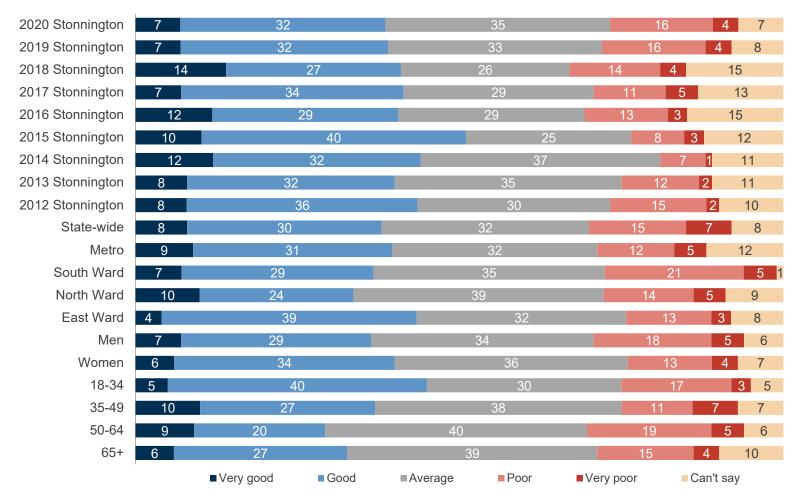


Community consultation and engagement performance





2020 consultation and engagement performance (%)

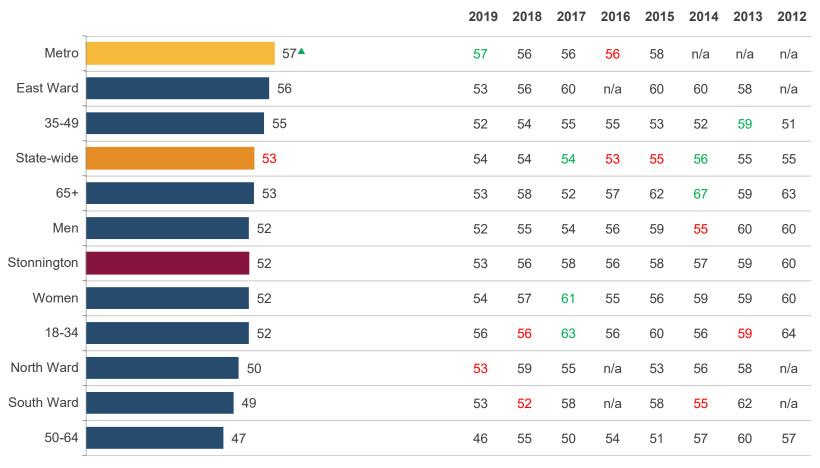


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2020 lobbying performance (index scores)

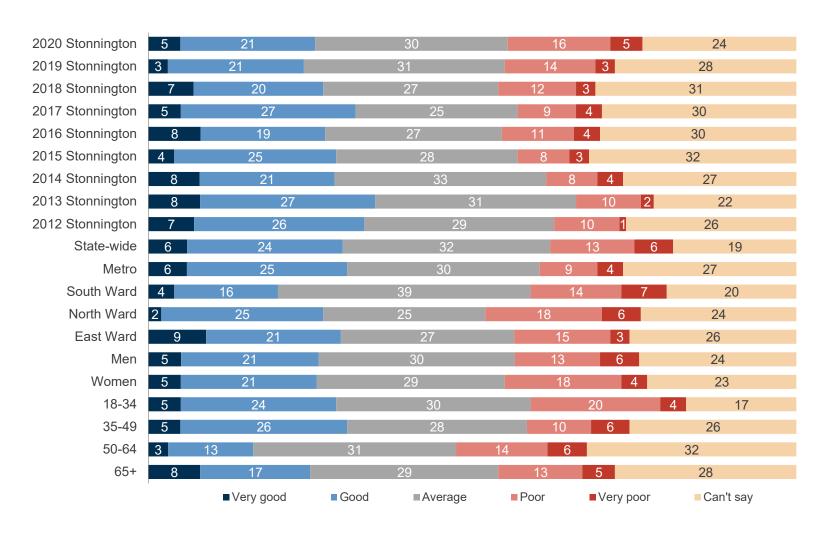


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2020 lobbying performance (%)

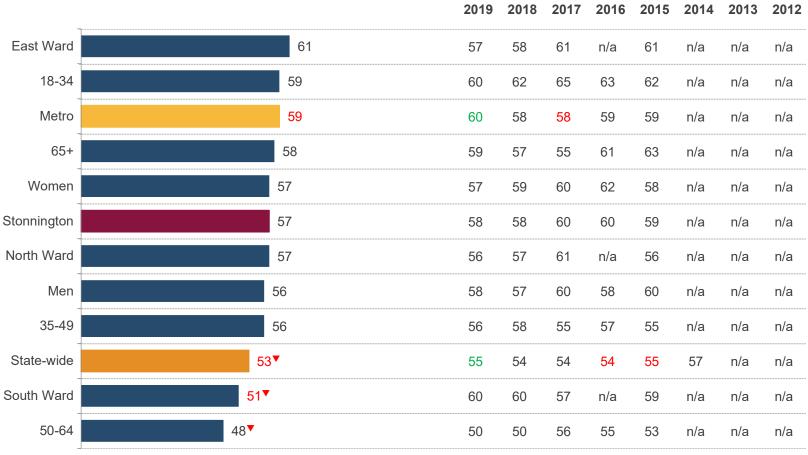


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2020 community decisions made performance (index scores)

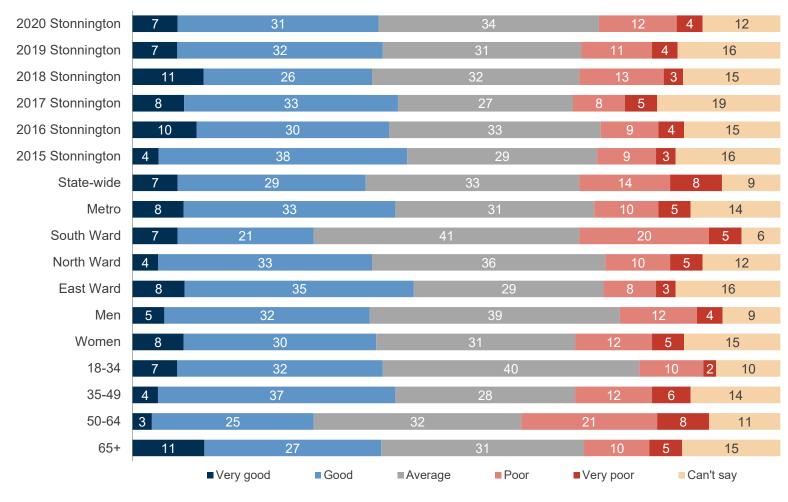


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2020 community decisions made performance (%)

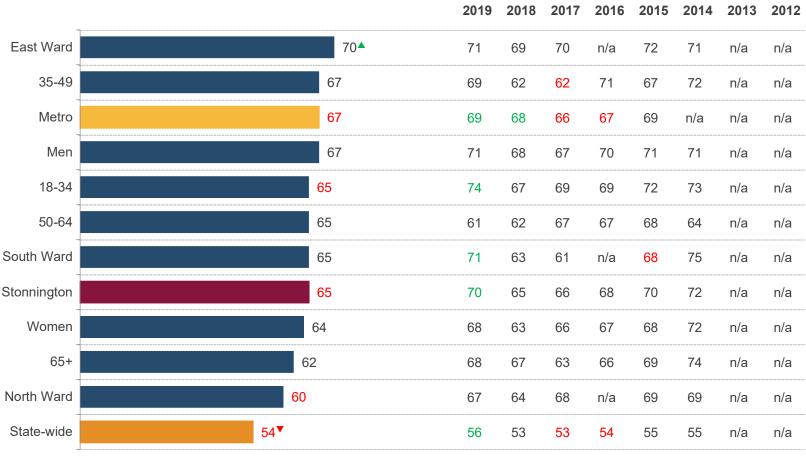


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2020 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

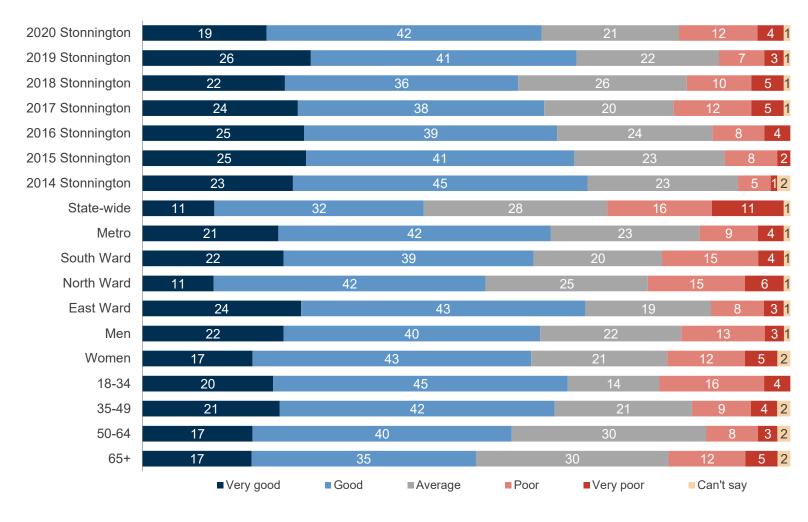


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2020 sealed local roads performance (%)



Traffic management importance





2020 traffic management importance (index scores)

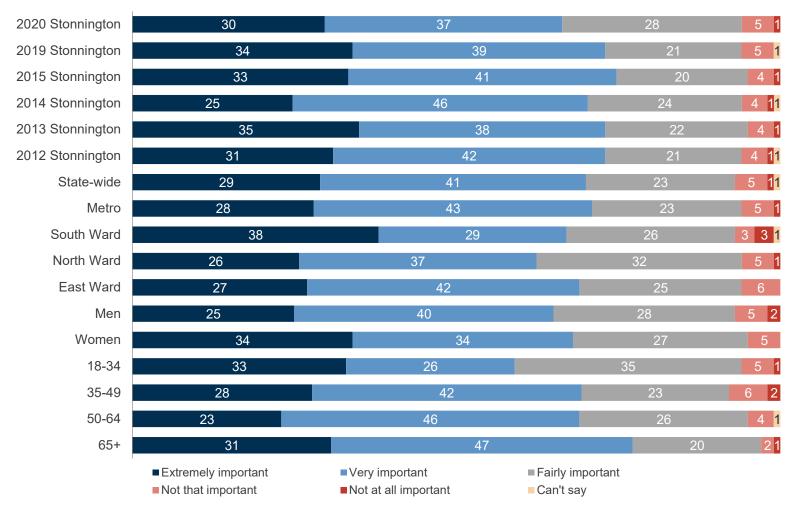


Traffic management importance





2020 traffic management importance (%)



Traffic management performance





2020 traffic management performance (index scores)

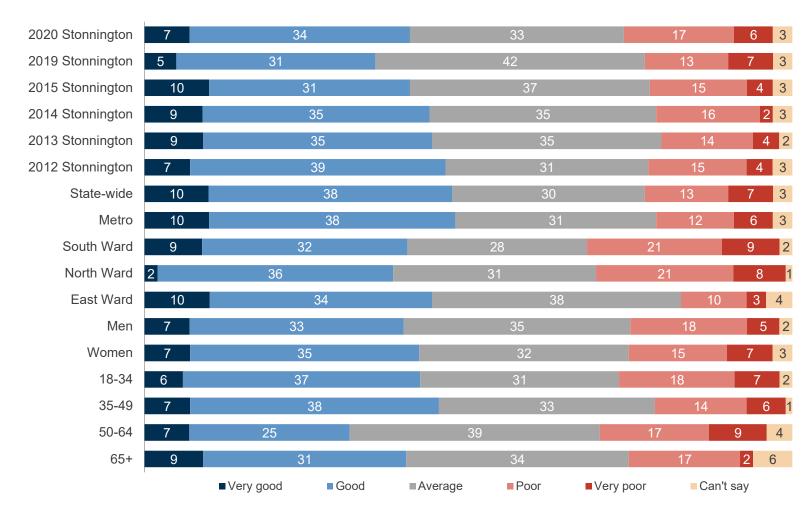


Traffic management performance





2020 traffic management performance (%)

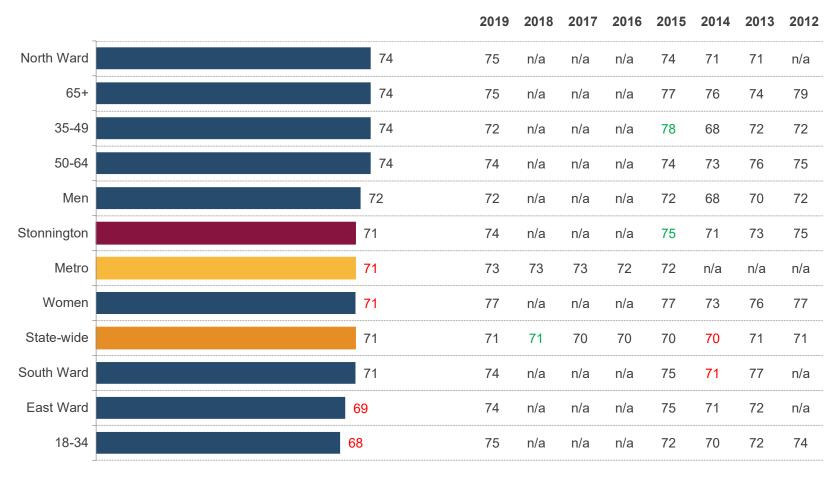


Parking facilities importance





2020 parking importance (index scores)

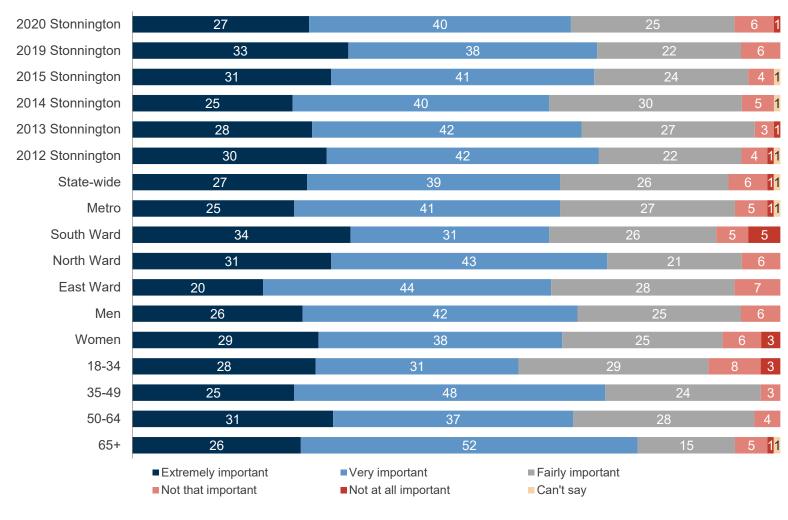


Parking facilities importance





2020 parking importance (%)

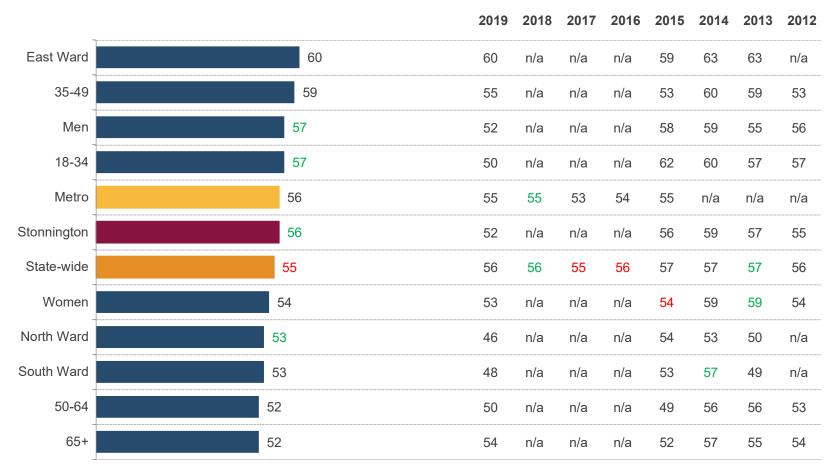


Parking facilities performance





2020 parking performance (index scores)

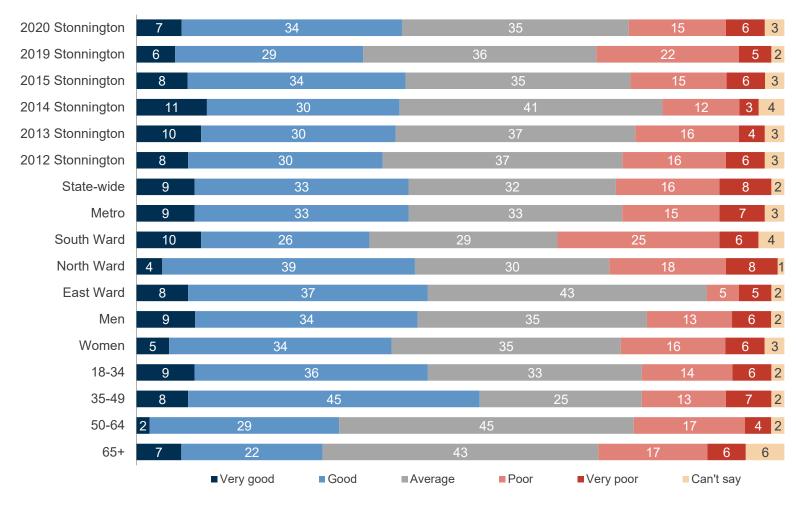


Parking facilities performance





2020 parking performance (%)

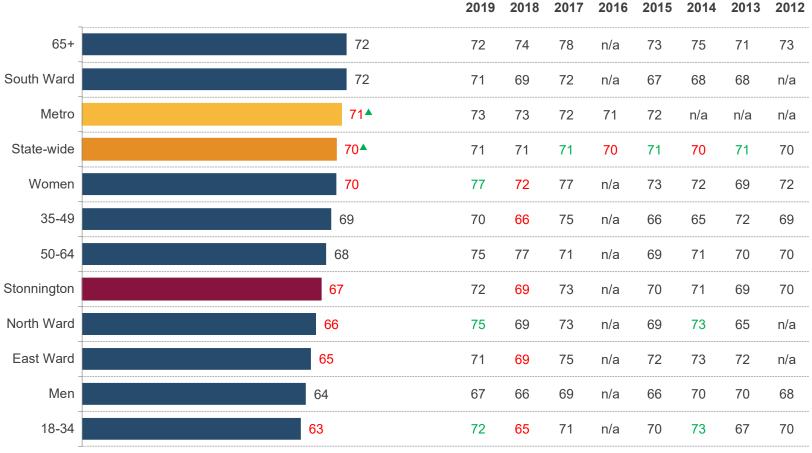


Enforcement of local laws importance





2020 law enforcement importance (index scores)

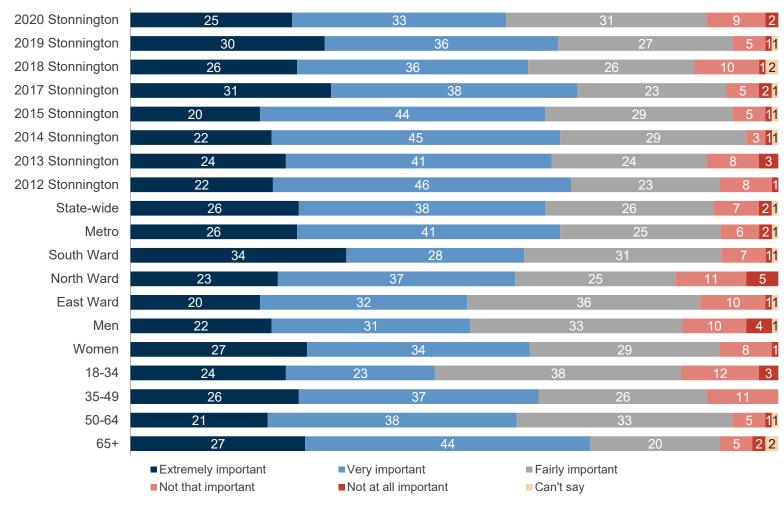


Enforcement of local laws importance





2020 law enforcement importance (%)



Enforcement of local laws performance





2020 law enforcement performance (index scores)

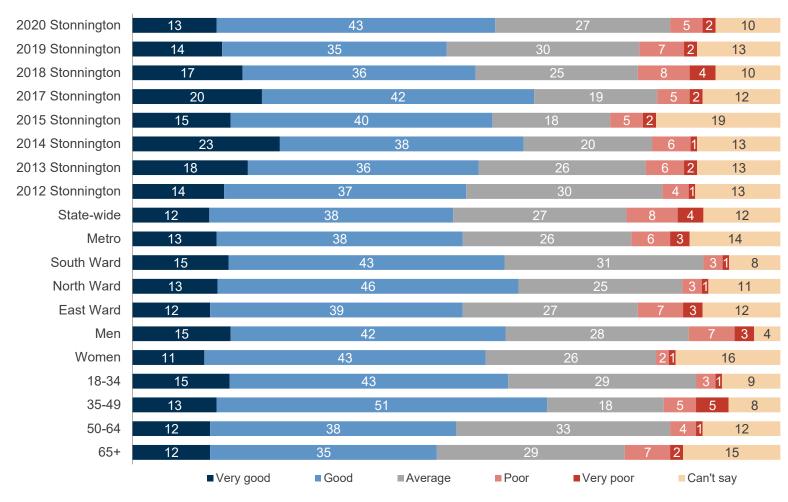


Enforcement of local laws performance





2020 law enforcement performance (%)



Recreational facilities importance





2020 recreational facilities importance (index scores)

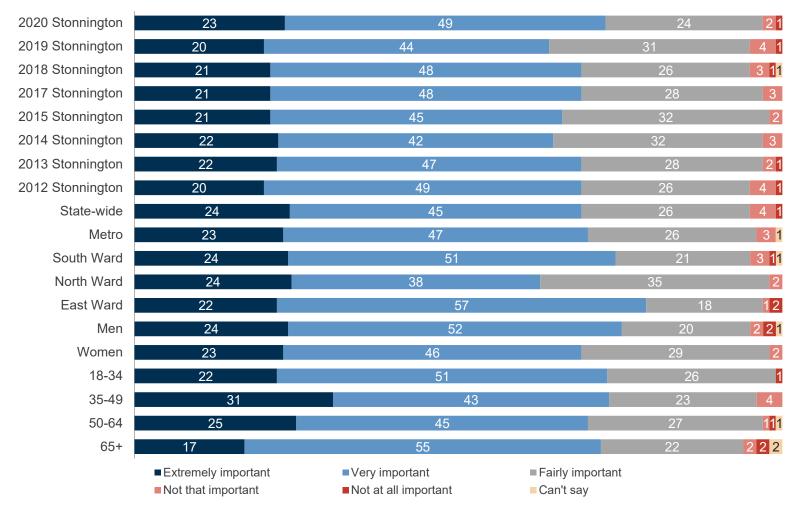


Recreational facilities importance





2020 recreational facilities importance (%)

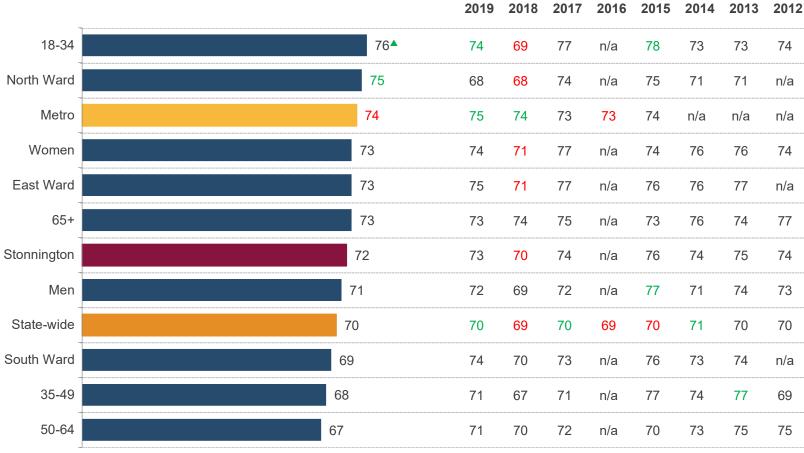


Recreational facilities performance





2020 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

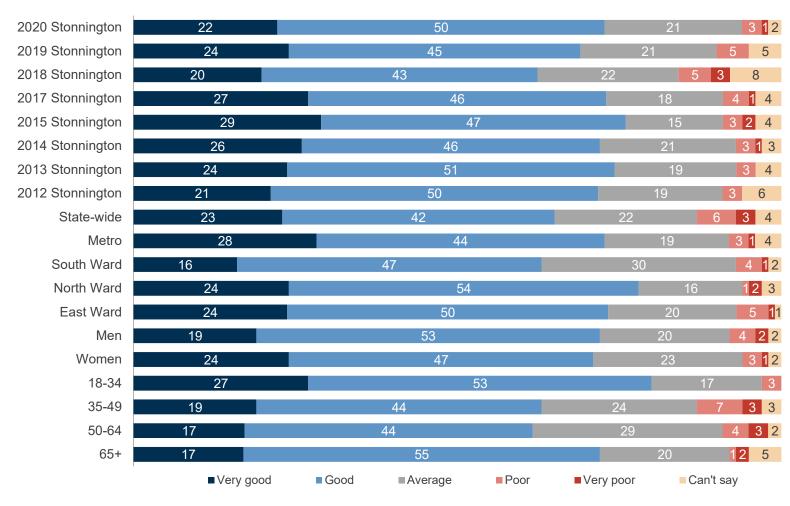


Recreational facilities performance





2020 recreational facilities performance (%)



The appearance of public areas importance





2020 public areas importance (index scores)

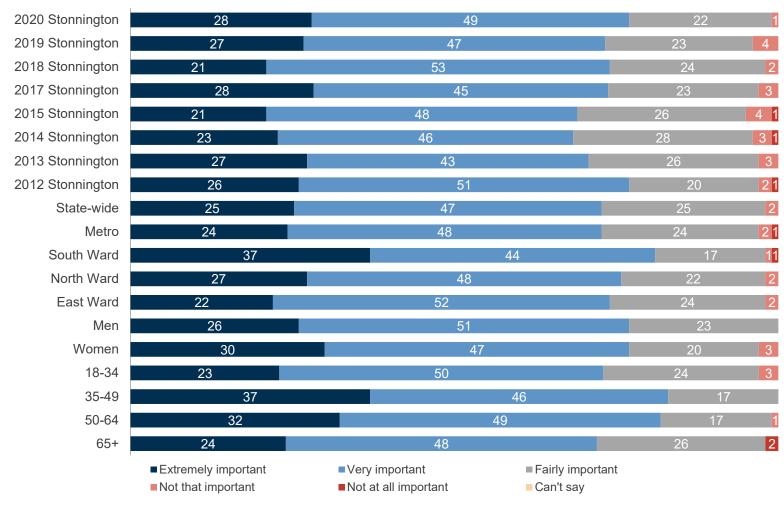


The appearance of public areas importance





2020 public areas importance (%)

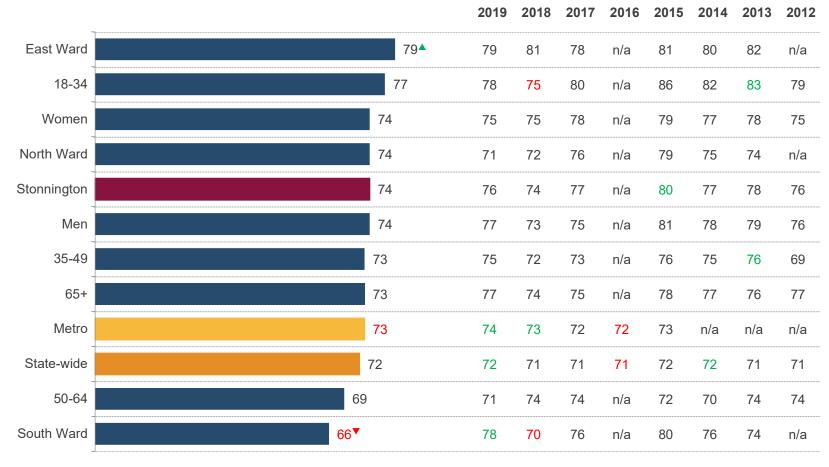


The appearance of public areas performance





2020 public areas performance (index scores)

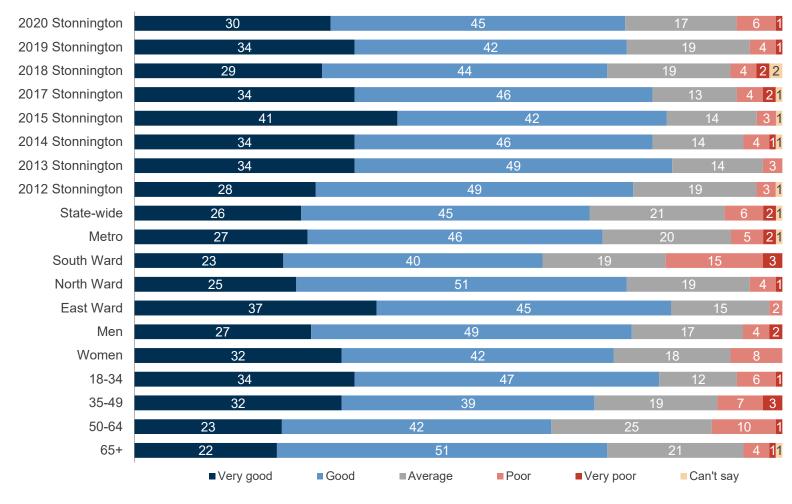


The appearance of public areas performance





2020 public areas performance (%)

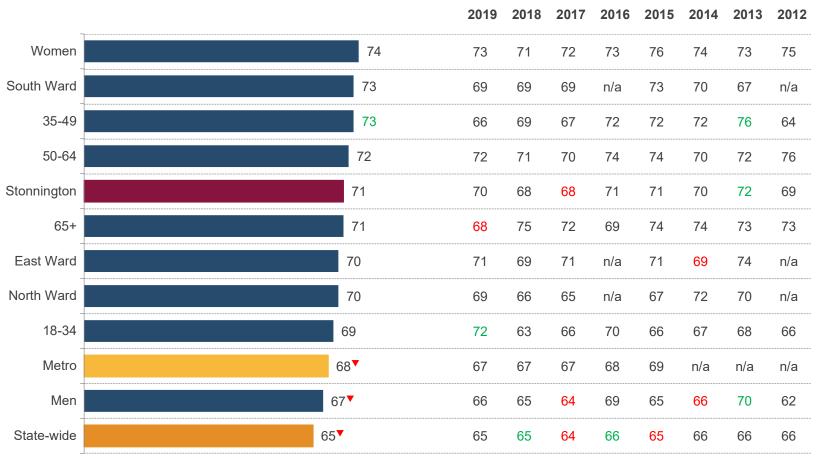


Art centres and libraries importance





2020 art centres and libraries importance (index scores)

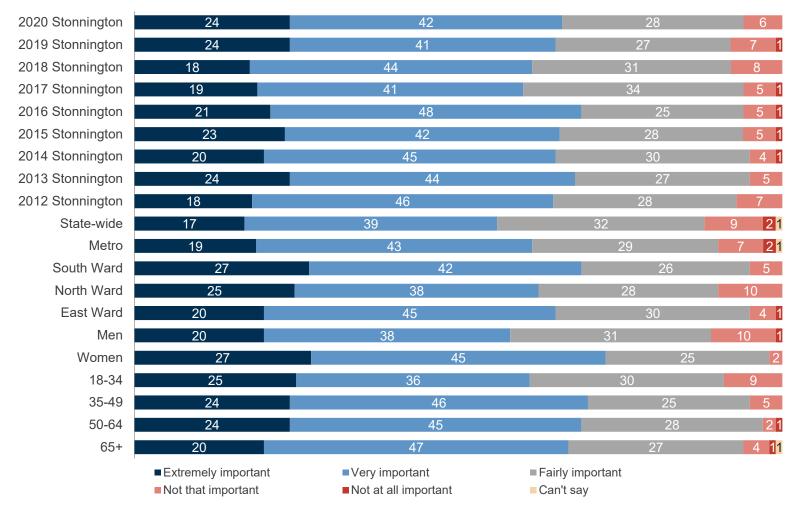


Art centres and libraries importance





2020 art centres and libraries importance (%)

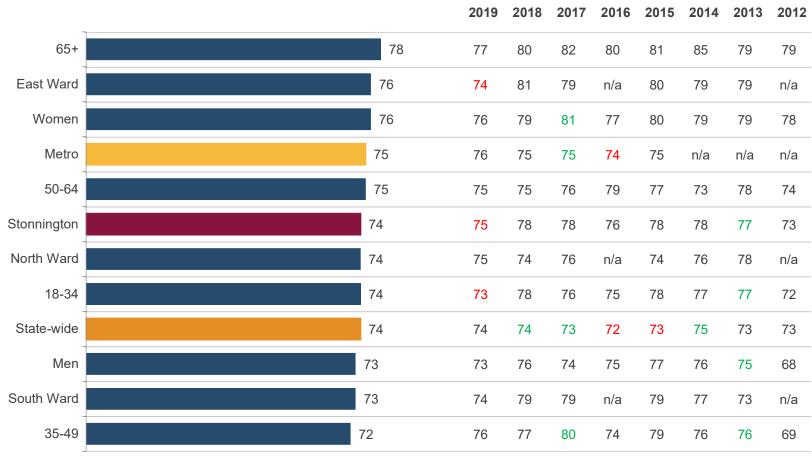


Art centres and libraries performance





2020 art centres and libraries performance (index scores)

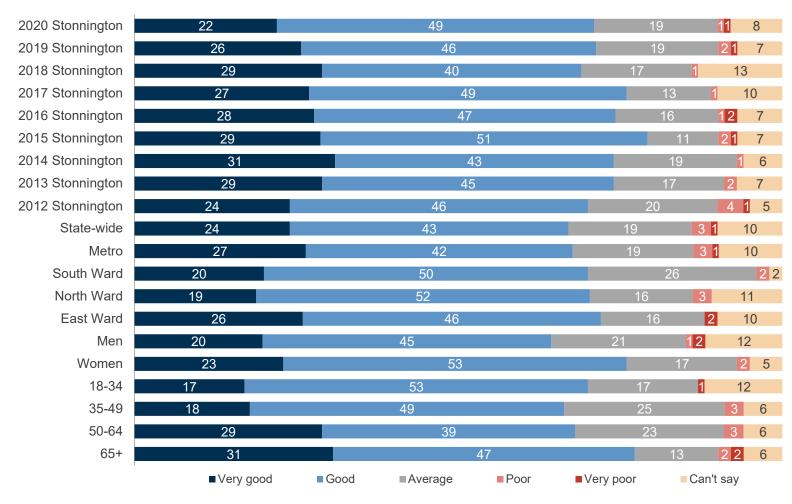


Art centres and libraries performance





2020 art centres and libraries performance (%)



Community and cultural activities importance





2020 community and cultural activities importance (index scores)

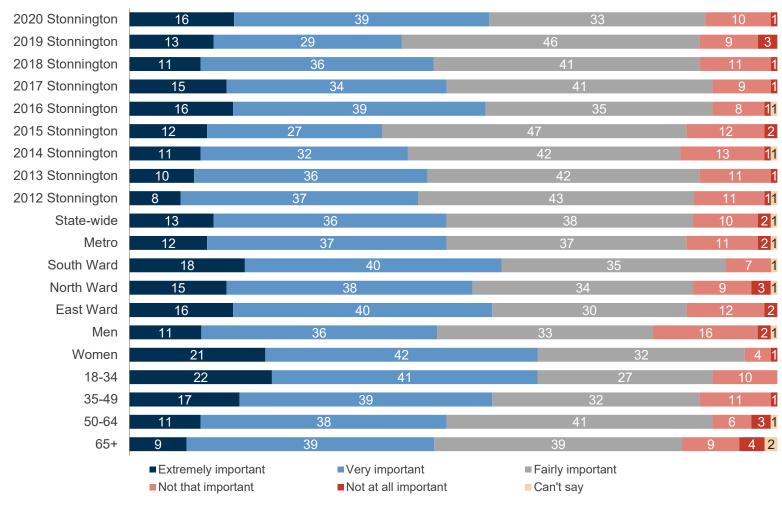


Community and cultural activities importance





2020 community and cultural activities importance (%)

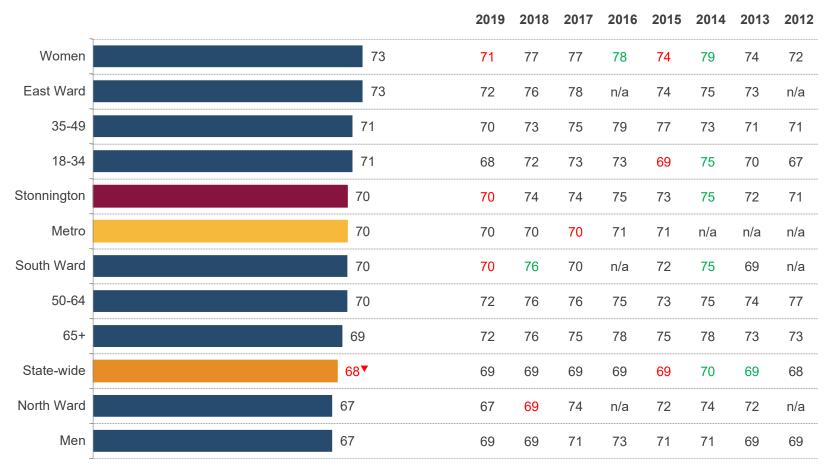


Community and cultural activities performance





2020 community and cultural activities performance (index scores)

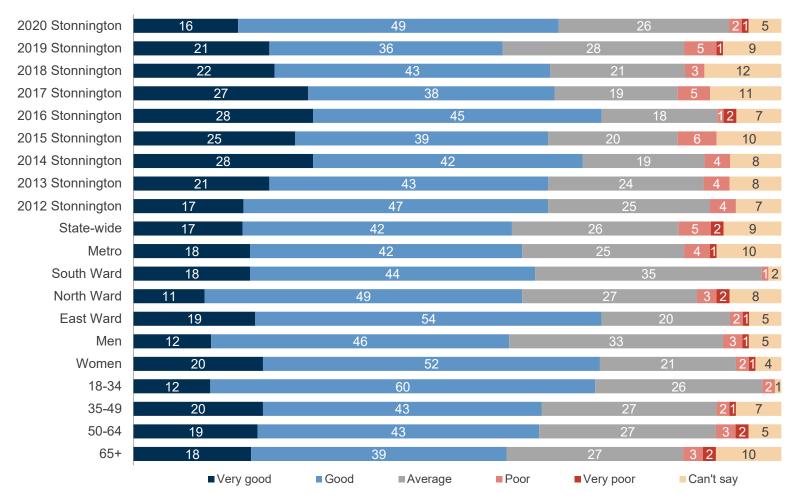


Community and cultural activities performance





2020 community and cultural activities performance (%)



Waste management importance





2020 waste management importance (index scores)

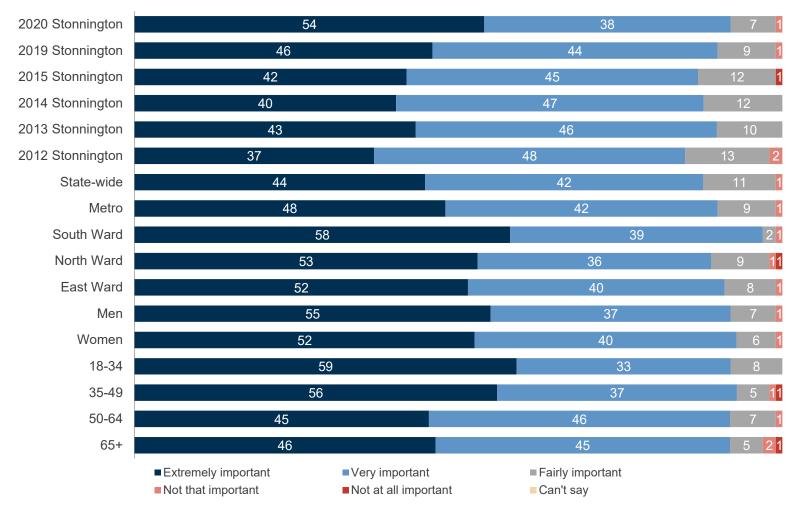


Waste management importance





2020 waste management importance (%)



Waste management performance





2020 waste management performance (index scores)

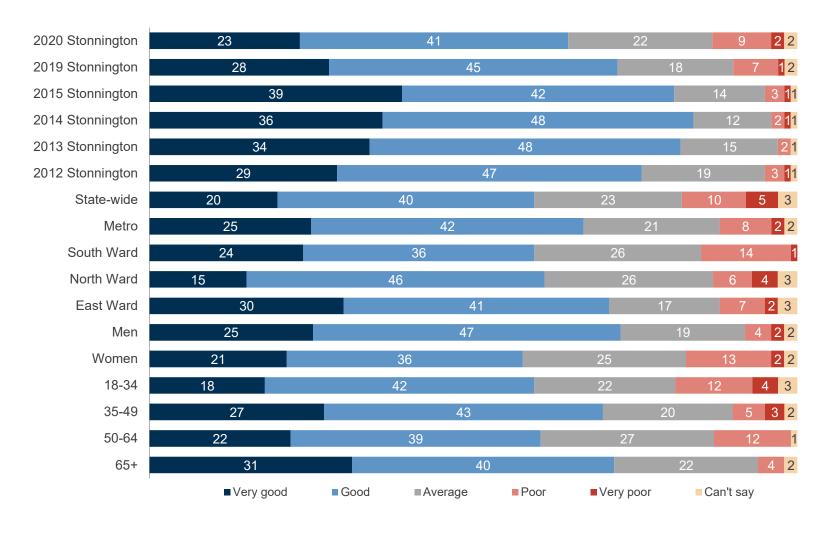


Waste management performance





2020 waste management performance (%)



Business and community development and tourism importance





2020 business/development/tourism importance (index scores)

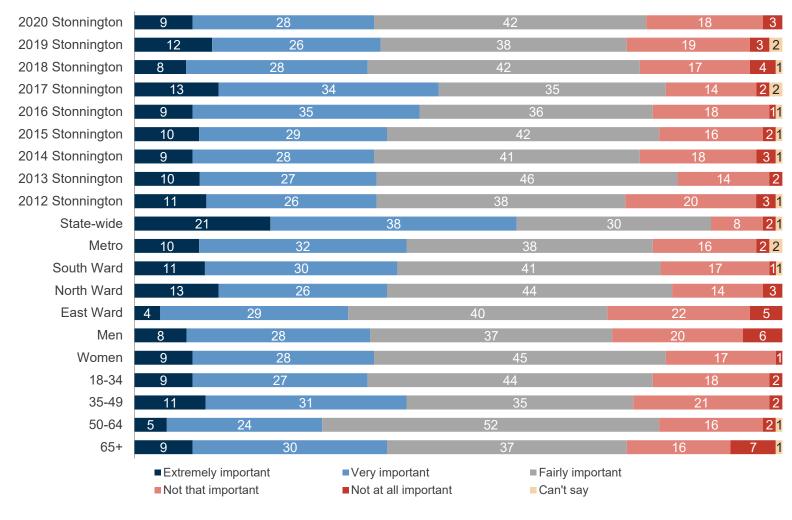


Business and community development and tourism importance





2020 business/development/tourism importance (%)

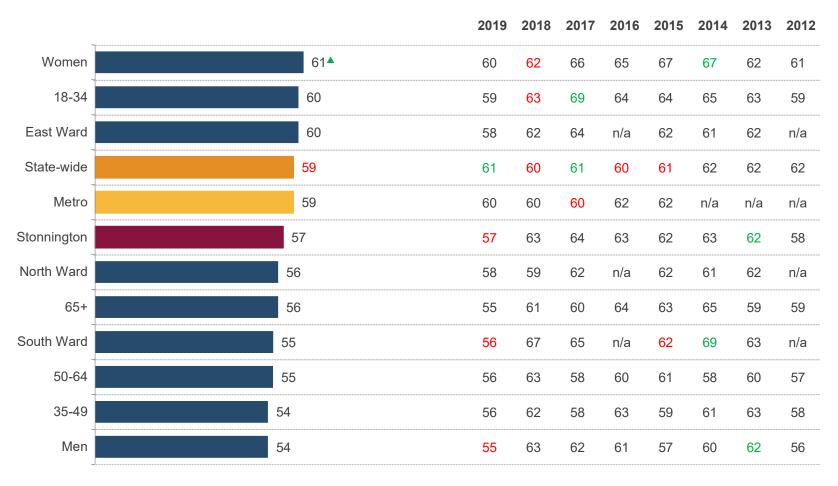


Business and community development and tourism performance





2020 business/development/tourism performance (index scores)

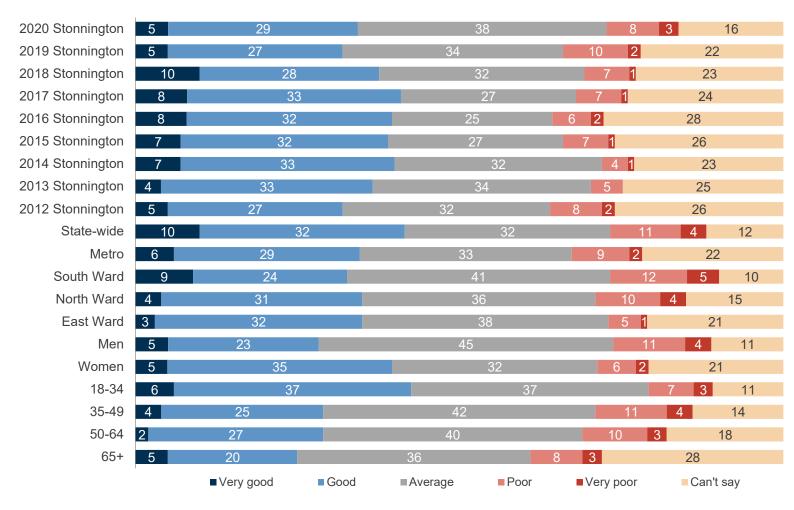


Business and community development and tourism performance





2020 business/development/tourism performance (%)

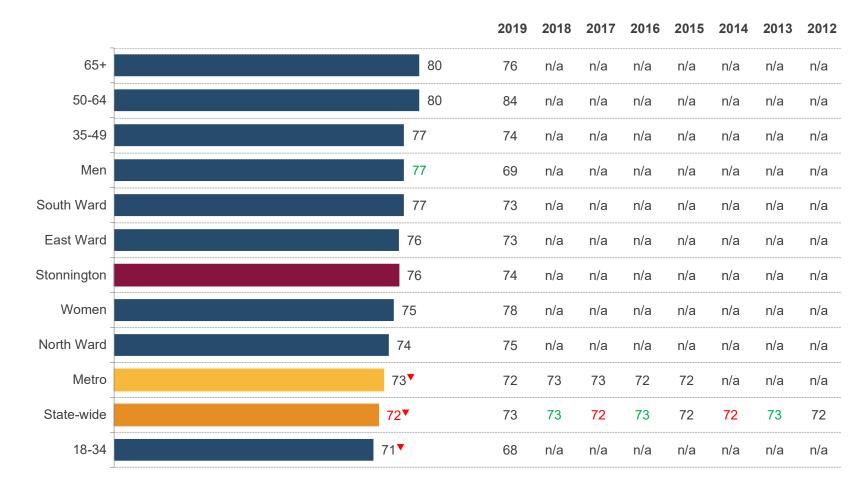


Council's general town planning policy importance





2020 town planning importance (index scores)

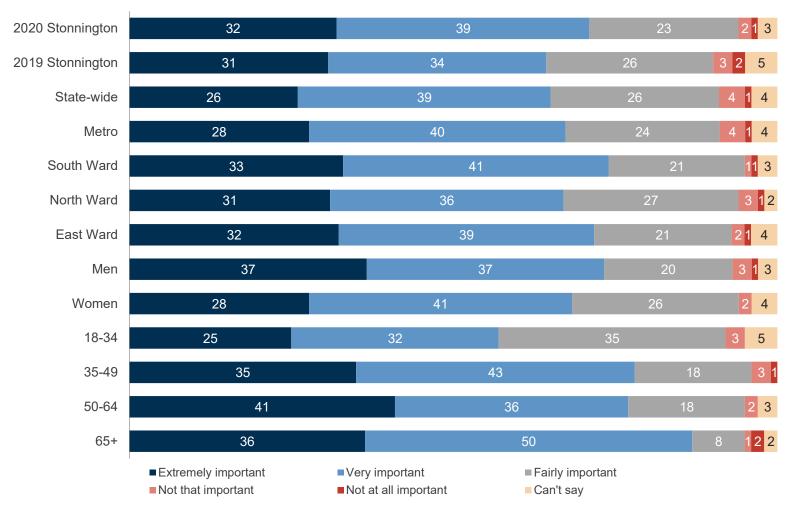


Council's general town planning policy importance





2020 town planning importance (%)

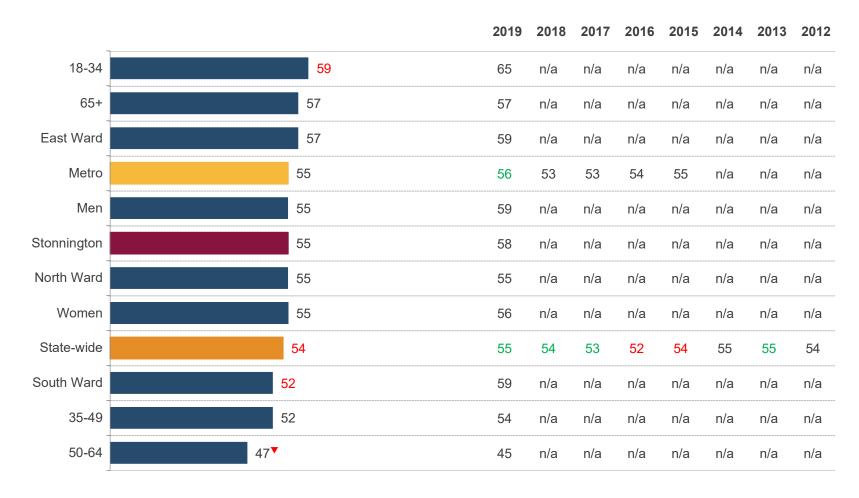


Council's general town planning policy performance





2020 town planning performance (index scores)

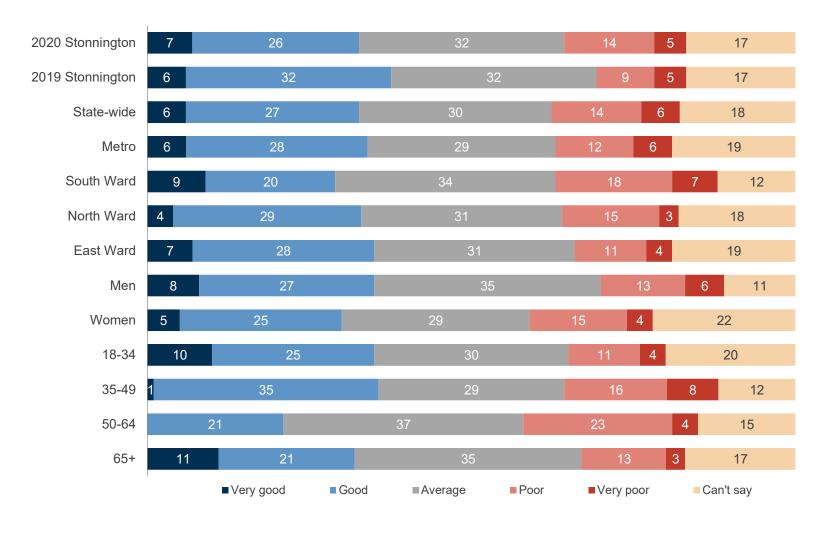


Council's general town planning policy performance





2020 town planning performance (%)

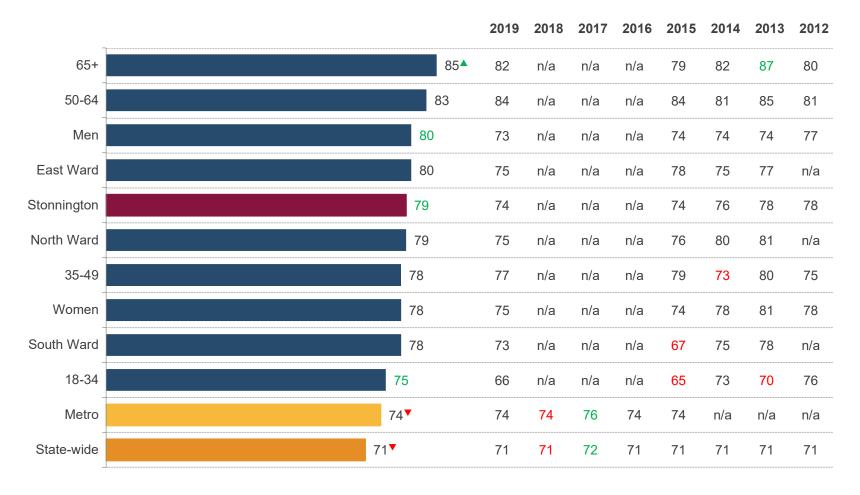


Planning and building permits importance





2020 planning and building permits importance (index scores)

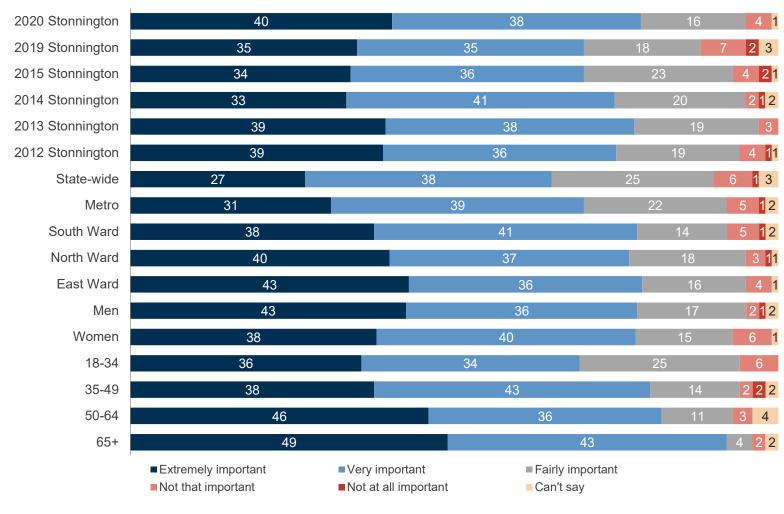


Planning and building permits importance





2020 planning and building permits importance (%)

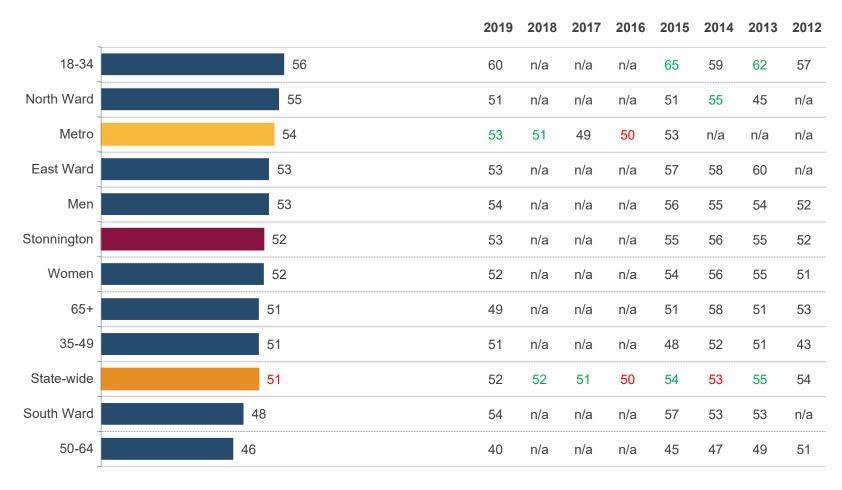


Planning and building permits performance





2020 planning and building permits performance (index scores)

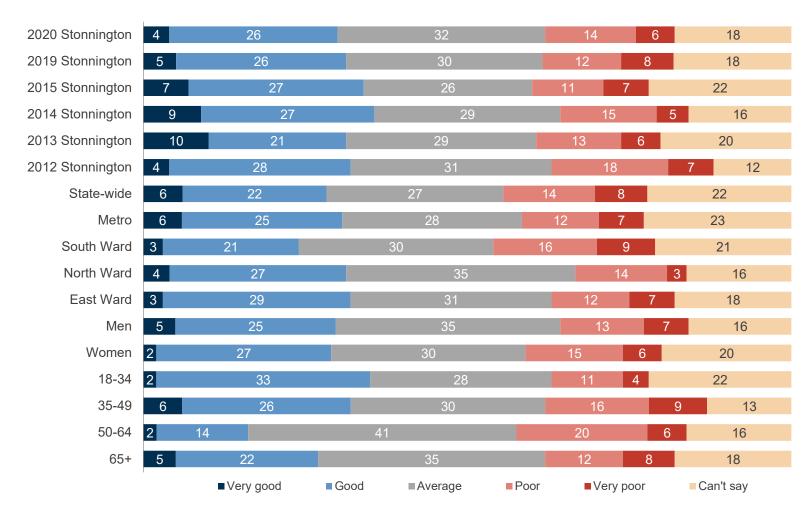


Planning and building permits performance





2020 planning and building permits performance (%)

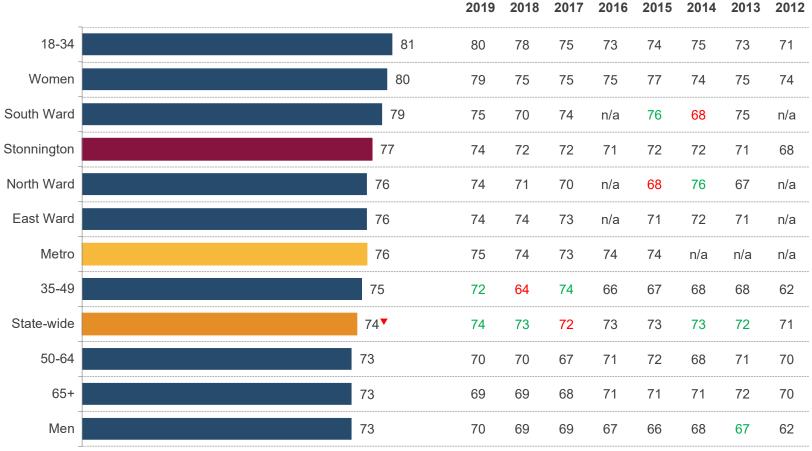


Environmental sustainability importance





2020 environmental sustainability importance (index scores)

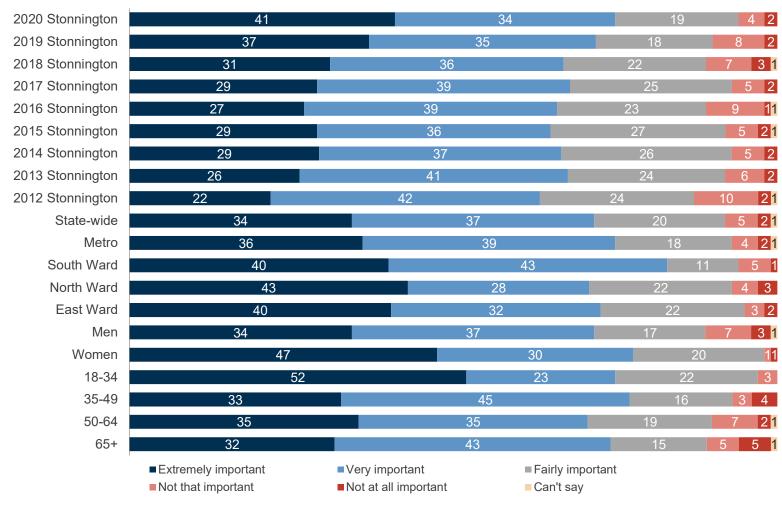


Environmental sustainability importance





2020 environmental sustainability importance (%)



Environmental sustainability performance





2020 environmental sustainability performance (index scores)

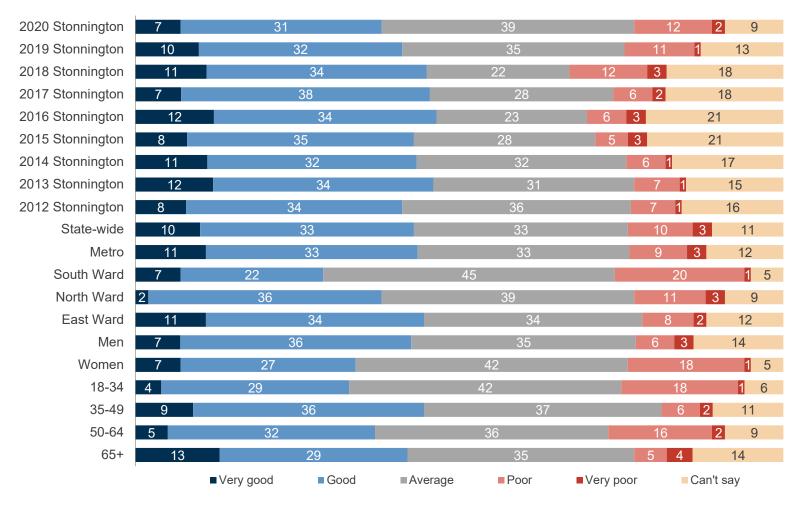


Environmental sustainability performance





2020 environmental sustainability performance (%)

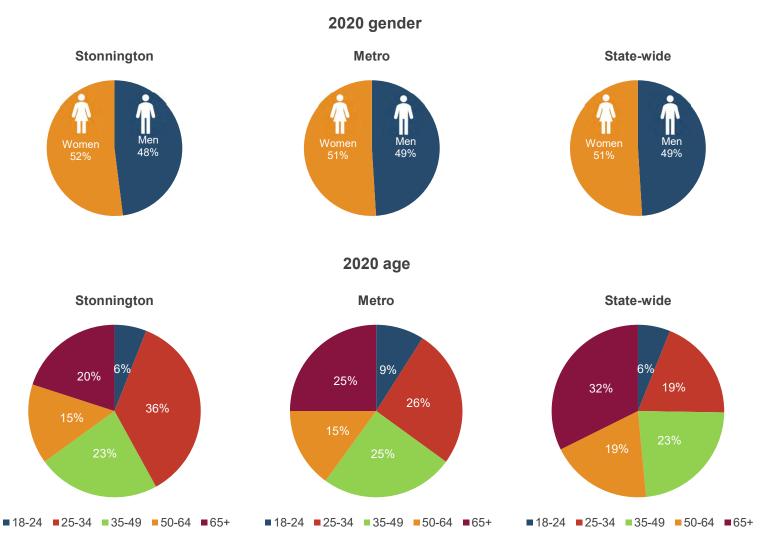




Detailed demographics

Gender and age profile







Appendix A: Index Scores



Index Scores

Many questions ask respondents to rate council performance on a five-point scale, for example, from 'very good' to 'very poor', with 'can't say' also a possible response category. To facilitate ease of reporting and comparison of results over time, starting from the 2012 survey and measured against the statewide result and the council group, an 'Index Score' has been calculated for such measures.

The Index Score is calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale), with 'can't say' responses excluded from the analysis. The '% RESULT' for each scale category is multiplied by the 'INDEX FACTOR'. This produces an 'INDEX VALUE' for each category, which are then summed to produce the 'INDEX SCORE', equating to '60' in the following example.

Similarly, an Index Score has been calculated for the Core question 'Performance direction in the last 12 months', based on the following scale for each performance measure category, with 'Can't say' responses excluded from the calculation.

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Very good	9%	100	9
Good	40%	75	30
Average	37%	50	19
Poor	9%	25	2
Very poor	4%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 60

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Improved	36%	100	36
Stayed the same	40%	50	20
Deteriorated	23%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 56

Appendix A: Margins of error

The sample size for the 2020 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Stonnington City Council was n=401. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=401 interviews is +/-4.9% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 45.1% - 54.9%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 99,000 people aged 18 years or over for Stonnington City Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Stonnington City Council	401	400	+/-4.9
Men	203	191	+/-6.9
Women	198	209	+/-7.0
South Ward	108	110	+/-9.5
North Ward	124	131	+/-8.8
East Ward	169	159	+/-7.6
18-34 years	77	169	+/-11.2
35-49 years	104	91	+/-9.7
50-64 years	93	59	+/-10.2
65+ years	127	80	+/-8.7

Appendix A: Significant difference reporting notation



Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing green () and downward directing red arrows ().

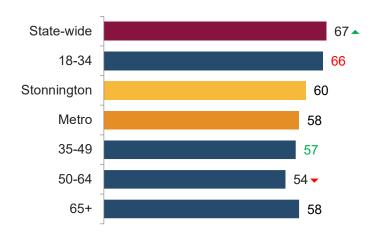
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2019. Therefore in the example below:

- The result among 35-49 year olds in the council is significantly higher than the result achieved among this group in 2019.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2019.

Overall Performance – Index Scores (example extract only)



Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation



The test applied to the Indexes was an Independent Mean Test, as follows:

 $Z Score = (\$1 - \$2) / Sqrt ((\$5^2 / \$3) + (\$6^2 / \$4))$ Where:

- \$1 = Index Score 1
- \$2 = Index Score 2
- \$3 = unweighted sample count 1
- \$4 = unweighted sample count 2
- \$5 = standard deviation 1
- \$6 = standard deviation 2

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

The test was applied at the 95% confidence interval, so if the Z Score was greater than +/- 1.954 the scores are significantly different.



Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in this section including:

- · Background and objectives
- · Analysis and reporting
- Glossary of terms

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2020 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

(03) 8685 8555 or via email: admin@jwsresearch.com

Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling



The 2020 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2020, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March.
- 2019, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=403 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2015, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2014, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.
- 2013, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 24th March.
- 2012, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 18th May – 30th June.

Minimum quotas of gender within age groups were applied during the fieldwork phase. Post-survey weighting was then conducted to ensure accurate representation of the age and gender profile of the Stonnington City Council area.

Any variation of +/-1% between individual results and net scores in this report or the detailed survey tabulations is due to rounding. In reporting, '—' denotes not mentioned and '0%' denotes mentioned by less than 1% of respondents. 'Net' scores refer to two or more response categories being combined into one category for simplicity of reporting.

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years in Stonnington City Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Stonnington City Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 60% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Stonnington City Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=401 completed interviews were achieved in Stonnington City Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March, 2020.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting



All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2020, 62 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2020 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Stonnington City Council is classified as a Metropolitan council according to the following classification list:

 Metropolitan, Interface, Regional Centres, Large Rural and Small Rural.

Councils participating in the Metropolitan group are:

 Banyule, Boroondara, Brimbank, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Frankston, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Melbourne, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Whitehorse. Wherever appropriate, results for Stonnington City Council for this 2020 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Metropolitan group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time can not be made within the reported charts.

Appendix B: 2012 survey revision

W

The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years or over in local councils, whereas previously it was conducted as a 'head of household' survey.
- As part of the change to a representative resident survey, results are now weighted post survey to the known population distribution of Stonnington City Council according to the most recently available Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates, whereas the results were previously not weighted.
- The service responsibility area performance measures have changed significantly and the rating scale used to assess performance has also changed.

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. Comparisons in the period 2012-2020 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

Appendix B: Core, optional and tailored questions



Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2020 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

- Overall performance last 12 months (Overall performance)
- Lobbying on behalf of community (Advocacy)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2020 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2020 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the State government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/localgovernment/strengthening-councils/council-communitysatisfaction-survey.

Tailored questions commissioned by individual councils are reported only to the commissioning council and not otherwise shared unless by express written approval of the commissioning council.

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

W

Core questions: Compulsory inclusion questions for all councils participating in the CSS.

CSS: 2020 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council group: One of five classified groups, comprising: metropolitan, interface, regional centres, large rural and small rural.

Council group average: The average result for all participating councils in the council group.

Highest / lowest: The result described is the highest or lowest result across a particular demographic subgroup e.g. men, for the specific question being reported. Reference to the result for a demographic sub-group being the highest or lowest does not imply that it is significantly higher or lower, unless this is specifically mentioned.

Index score: A score calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale). This score is sometimes reported as a figure in brackets next to the category being described, e.g. men 50+ (60).

Optional questions: Questions which councils had an option to include or not.

Percentages: Also referred to as 'detailed results', meaning the proportion of responses, expressed as a percentage.

Sample: The number of completed interviews, e.g. for a council or within a demographic sub-group.

Significantly higher / lower: The result described is significantly higher or lower than the comparison result based on a statistical significance test at the 95% confidence limit. If the result referenced is statistically higher or lower then this will be specifically mentioned, however not all significantly higher or lower results are referenced in summary reporting.

Statewide average: The average result for all participating councils in the State.

Tailored questions: Individual questions tailored by and only reported to the commissioning council.

Weighting: Weighting factors are applied to the sample for each council based on available age and gender proportions from ABS census information to ensure reported results are proportionate to the actual population of the council, rather than the achieved survey sample.

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