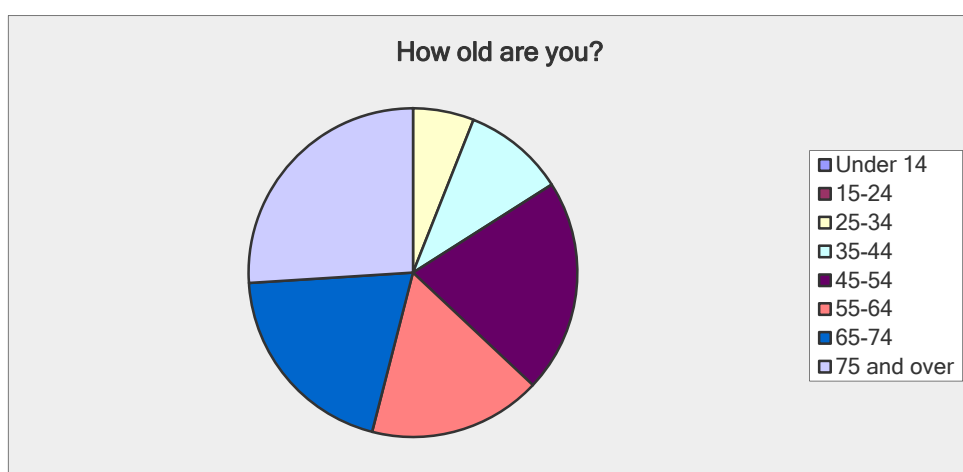


There were a total of 103 surveys returned to the Loddon Shire Council following a random mail-out of surveys to residences located within the Loddon Shire.

## Tell us a bit about yourself

72 percent of respondents who completed the survey were female, 1 (1%) respondent identified themselves as having an aboriginal heritage and 97 (99%) didn't identify as having either an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage.

As per the graph below, the majority of survey respondents were 75 years or over representing 26%, followed by 45-54 years old with 21% and 65-74 years old representing 20% of survey respondents. There were no survey participants aged under 25 years old.

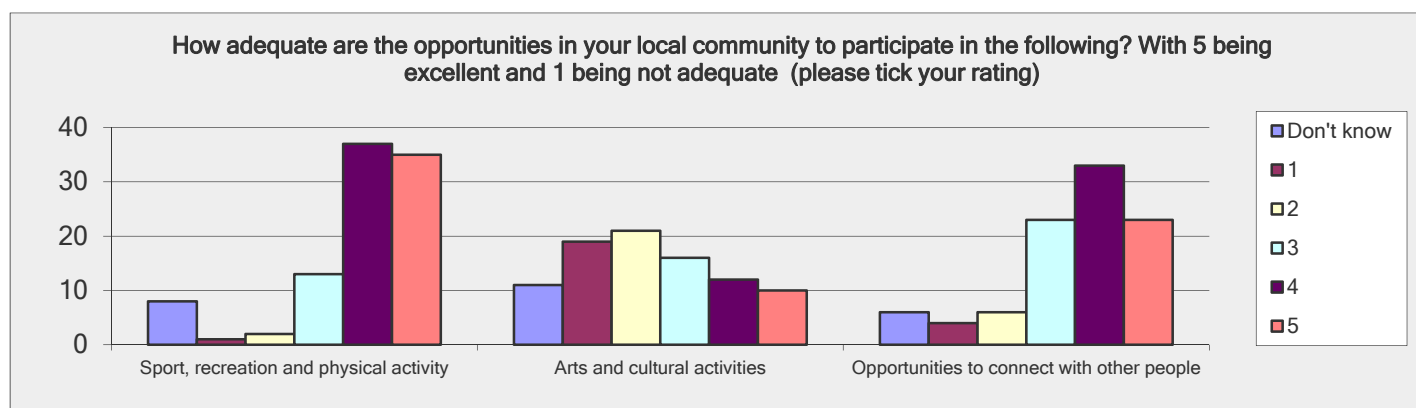


78% of respondents reside in a Loddon Shire township, with the highest number of respondents residing in or near Boort (26.5%), followed by Inglewood (20.4%) and Wedderburn (16.3%). One respondent resided outside the Loddon Shire municipality, indicating they were living in or near Maiden Gully.

## Opportunities to participate in the Loddon Shire Community

As per the below graph, respondents identified that sport, recreation and physical activity along with opportunities to connect with older people as providing a greater opportunity to participate in the local community than arts and cultural activities.

36.73% of respondents identified sport, recreation and physical activity as excellent compared with 10.99% for arts and cultural activities and 23.71% for opportunities to connect with other people. 23.08% of respondents identified arts and cultural activities as being inadequate.



## MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN – Survey Results

46 respondents provided ideas for improving opportunities to participate in their local community, the most common responses were in relation to:

- More advertising
- Offering social/exercise classes
- More community events
- Providing better facilities
- Clubs and groups being more inclusive

### Utilising community services or facilities

As per the table below, only 8.1% of respondents identified that they hadn't used any of the community services or facilities identified in the survey within the last 12 months. 80.8% had attended a local town hall or community meeting place. The least attended venue a local library with only 33.3% of respondents attending.

Answer Options	Response Percent
A local library	33.3%
A local park or playground	66.7%
A local town hall or community meeting venue	80.8%
Any places where art is publicly exhibited in your local area? (e.g. local studio, café, gallery)	40.4%
A local recreation facility or other open space venue	64.6%
A nature space (waterway, National/State Park etc)	61.6%
None of the above	8.1%

84.5% of respondents had attended an event that brings people together (fetes, shows, festivals etc.) in the last 6 months.

The biggest factors identified which limited participation in community activities included:

lack of time with 44%,

no activities and/or programs that interest or suit you with 32.6% and

difficulty finding information about activities with 29.2%.

The least limiting factor was language difficulties or other barriers which accounted for 1.1% of respondents.

Respondents advised that factors such as including activities after 5pm and on weekends, more advertising and information and also lower costs would make it easier for them to participate in community activities.

## Living in a Loddon Shire Community

Some of the common benefits of living in a Loddon Shire Community identified by 72 respondents included:

- A sense of community
- Good community spirit
- Feeling of safety
- Friendly
- Open spaces

Respondents were asked what their top three social issues impacting the community are, and of the 68 responses the most common were:

- Lack of employment opportunities and unemployment
- Drugs
- People leaving/moving away
- Mental Health
- Transport (lack of)
- Ageing community

As per the table below, respondents were asked whether they or someone close to them had experienced any of the following within the last 12 months. Of the 88 responses received 61.4% of respondents advised they had not experienced any of the options available, followed by 31.8% who had experienced significant illness.

Answer Options	Response Percent
Divorce or separation	11.4%
Not able to get a job	14.8%
Involuntary loss of job	9.1%
Alcohol or drug related problems	4.5%
Witness to violence	2.3%
Abuse or violent crime	1.1%
Family violence	2.3%
Trouble with the police	1.1%
Gambling problem	1.1%
Significance illness	31.8%
None of the above	61.4%

## Importance of Health and Wellbeing Activities

Respondents were asked how important a list of health and wellbeing activities were, ranking from 5 (very important) to 1 (unimportant).

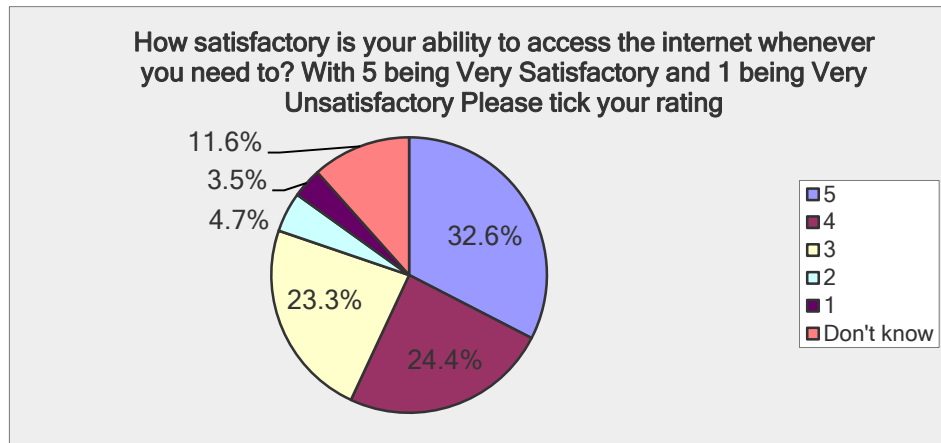
92 respondents answered the question, and identified 'reducing the impact of illegal drug use on the community' as most important to them, followed by 'prevention around violence and injury, particularly family violence' and 'improving mental health' as the top three.

Respondents rated 'tobacco free living' and 'improving sexual and reproductive health' as the most unimportant activity.

86 respondents advised that the most common ways they would like to improve their health and wellbeing were 'increased physical activity' with 59.3%, 'weight loss' with 43% and 'stress reduction' and also 'increased healthy food choices' with 37.2% each.

## Internet Access

As per the table below, of the 86 responses received regarding internet satisfaction, 32.6% advised that their connectivity is very satisfactory, and 3.5% advised that their connectivity is very unsatisfactory. When asked what would improve your ability to access the internet, the majority of respondents advised that better coverage/access would improve this.



## Community Values

95 respondents provided their top three things that they value in their community from a list of 18 options. The top three answers were:

- It is a safe place
- Local job opportunities/employment
- Local shops

As per the table below, respondents were asked how important the recognition of our traditional owners is to them with 5 being very important and 1 being less important. Of the 82 responses, 26.8% believe it is very important.

Answer Options	Response Percent
5	26.8%
4	14.6%
3	23.2%
2	15.9%
1	15.9%
Don't know	3.7%

## MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN – Survey Results

The final question of the survey asked respondents to pick their top three most important things that would improve their community's health and wellbeing. 89 respondents provided an answer for this question with the top option being 'better local job opportunities' with 43.8%, followed by 'better roads and road maintenance' with 29.2% and 'better opportunities for business growth' with 24.7%. The table below provides all percentage answers for this question.

Answer Options	Response Percent
Better education facilities / options	13.5%
Better early years facilities (e.g. playgroups, kindergartens, maternal & child health)	3.4%
Better local job opportunities	43.8%
Better opportunities for business growth	24.7%
Tidier towns	6.7%
More local events and activities	15.7%
More affordable living	11.2%
More inclusive communities	10.1%
More footpaths	20.2%
Better local shops	19.1%
Better recreation facilities	9.0%
Better nature strips, street trees and front gardens	12.4%
Better cycling and footpath networks	12.4%
Being close to family and friends	7.9%
Better access to health services	20.2%
Being close to community groups/activities	4.5%
Better internet connectivity	6.7%
Better roads and road maintenance	29.2%