

# Melton Botanic Garden

Between the 30th May 2025 and 30th June 2025 Melton City Council shared with the local community a Draft Master Plan draft update for the Melton Botanic Garden.

Feedback was collected via an online survey, intercept interviews, face to face sessions, email and phone. A total of 29 responses were received from the community. Below is a summary of the feedback that was collected.

This feedback helps Council to understand what is important to the community and why, as well as identify any other opportunities for improvements.

## Project Proposal Feedback

### Supported Master Plan Update recommendations

Feedback indicated that survey respondents visit the Melton Botanic Garden for several reasons, with walking and connecting with nature being the most popular activities. Social interaction, volunteering and learning about plants were other reasons cited for visitation.

Overall, the feedback on the masterplan update was positive indicating that the recommendations were well received. Several respondents mentioned that they were pleased to see the inclusion of recommendations for a lighting and car parking assessment, noting their concerns regarding the current provision of infrastructure in these areas.

The lack of entry, wayfinding and interpretive signage was also flagged, with feedback indicating support for the development of a signage strategy for the Garden. Dog waste was a key concern with a number of requests for signage requesting the removal of dog waste by owners.

The inclusion of the children's garden was supported, with the request to focus on plants and plant themed learning in this space.

Provision of park furniture was mentioned by a couple of respondents, with requests for additional bins and drinking fountains and a review of seating locations.

### Requests for Master plan changes

The Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden advocated for the section of the Ryans Creek Linear Reserve from High Street to the northern edge of the Melton Botanic Garden be included as part of the master plan. The visibility from High Street and subsequent connection to the main section of the Garden creates a higher level of connection and therefore is supported.

Several requests were made for items that cannot be addressed or that sit outside of the scope of the Master Plan Update. This includes the request for provision of improved public transport links which is the responsibility of Public Transport Victoria.

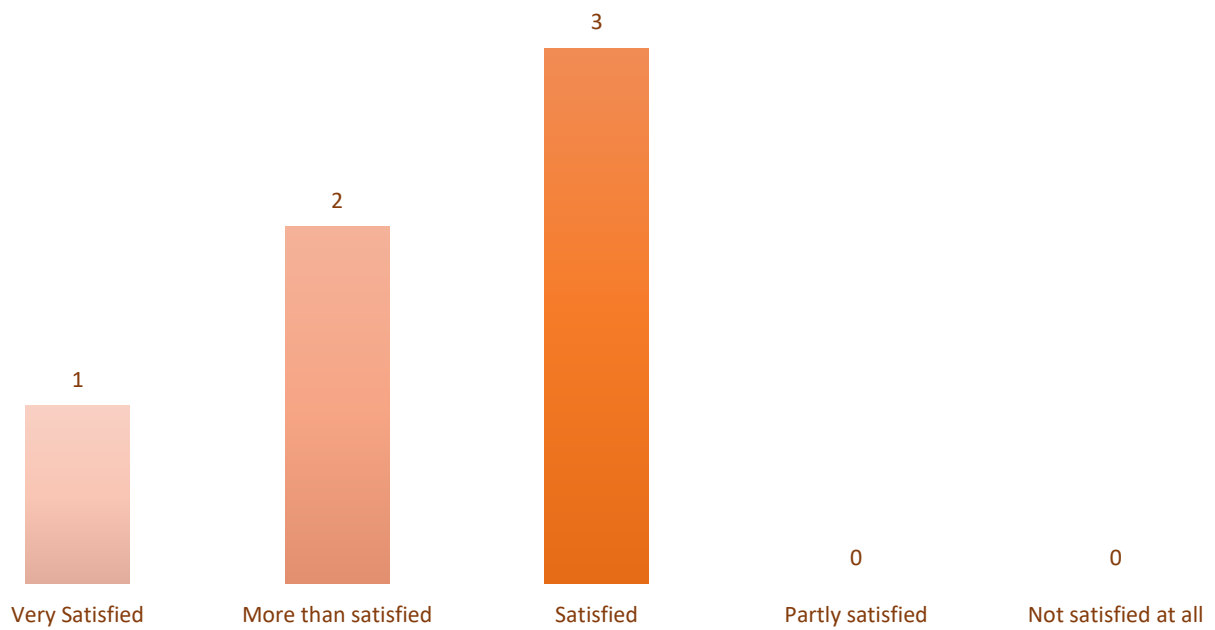
Traffic noise from the freeway was also reported to be a concern, with respondents requesting that noise attenuation measures be implemented. Provision of infrastructure such as sound barriers along the freeway interface are the responsibility of VicRoads and would need to be designed, funded and delivered accordingly.

A request for a dog park was also received. Botanic gardens are typically spaces for quieter, contemplative and passive recreation activities, and are not compatible with the high use, high intensity nature of a dog off lead area. The request for an off-lead area is therefore not supported.

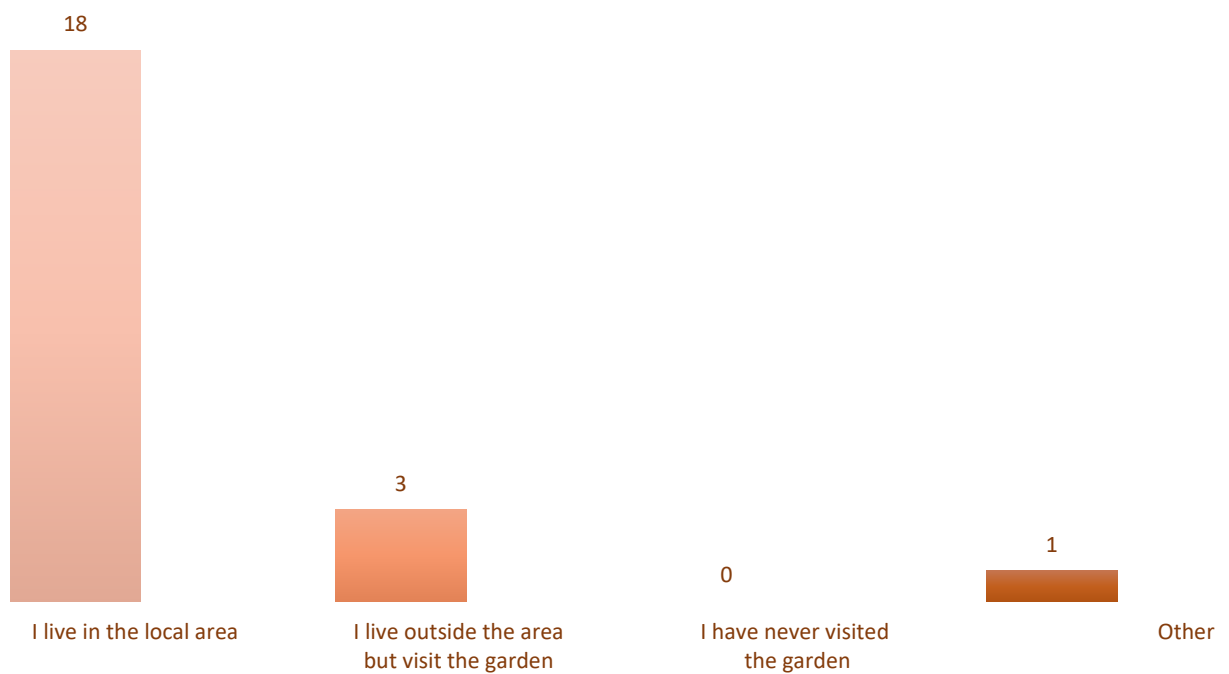
A number of respondents raised concerns regarding maintenance of the site. These concerns will be redirected for action, or for discussion via Melton Botanic Garden Memorandum of Understanding review.

A request for the cessation of fishing activities was also made and whilst Council generally support this is the responsibility of the State Government via Melbourne Water and the Victorian Fisheries Authority.

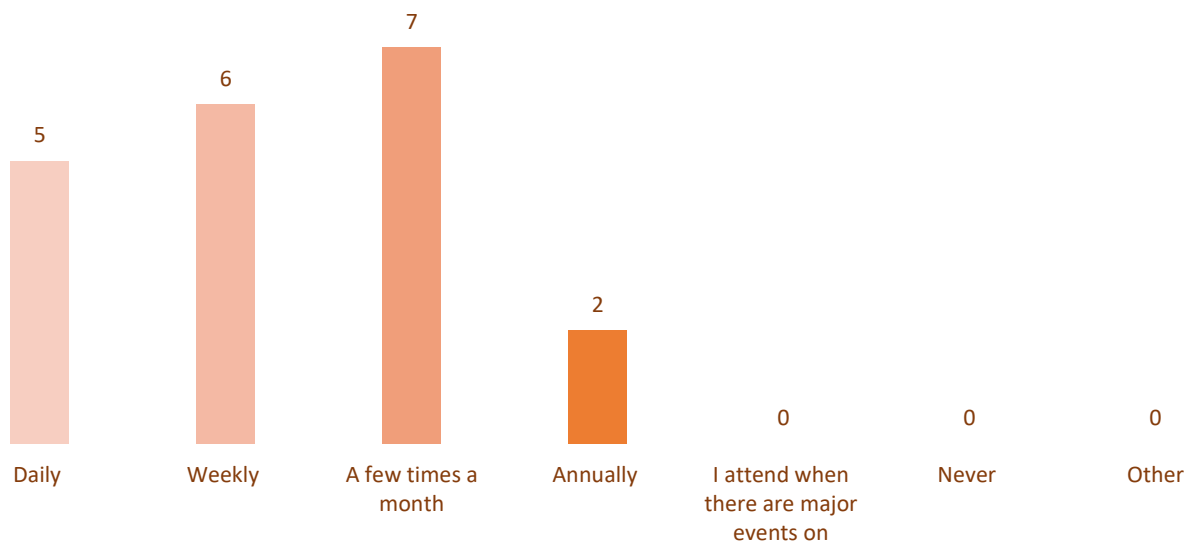
### How satisfied are you with the overall draft master plan?



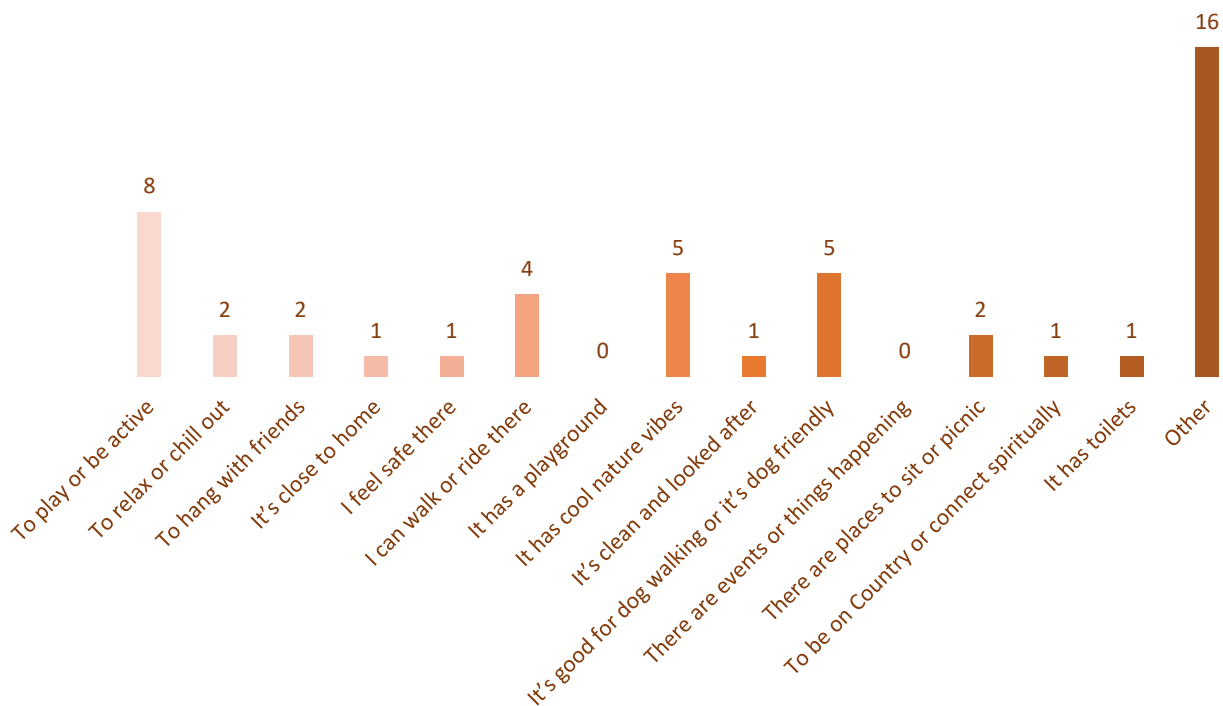
### Which of the following best describes your connection to MBG



## How often do you visit MBG?



## Why do you like to visit MBG?



## Other responses included:

- Working in the garden
- Plant observation, animal observation and relaxing
- Volunteering
- Walking/exercising
- Picking up rubbish (charity work)
- Seeing familiar faces to chat with
- Discovering new plants
- Reading about plants
- Dog walking
- Photography
- To see birds/nature
- Disability support program

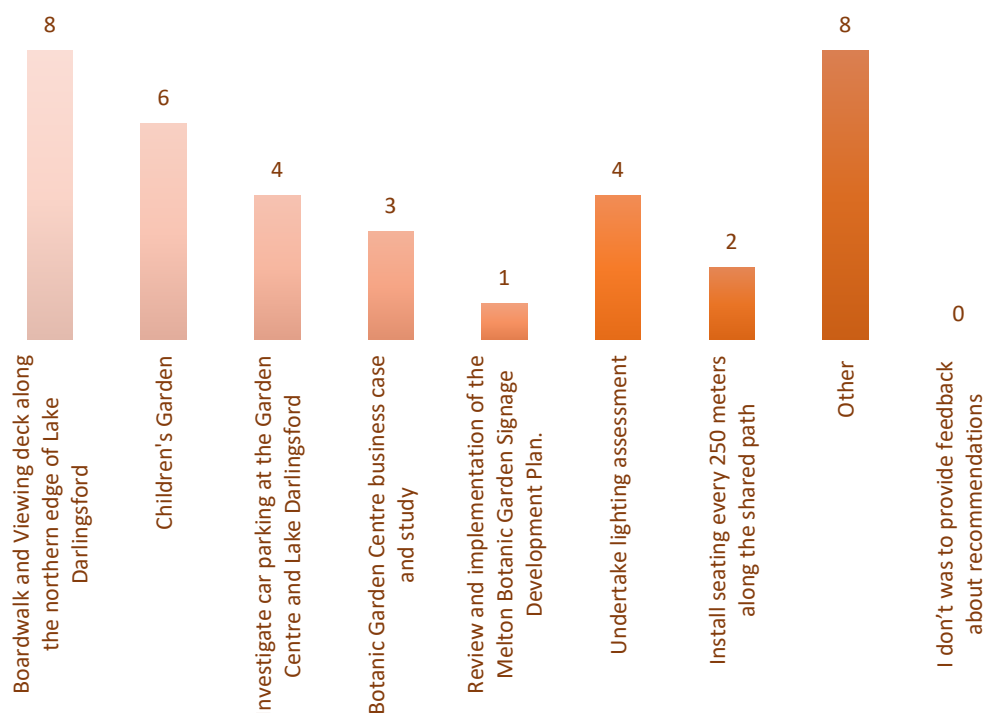
## Are you involved in any local friends or community groups?



## Other responses included:

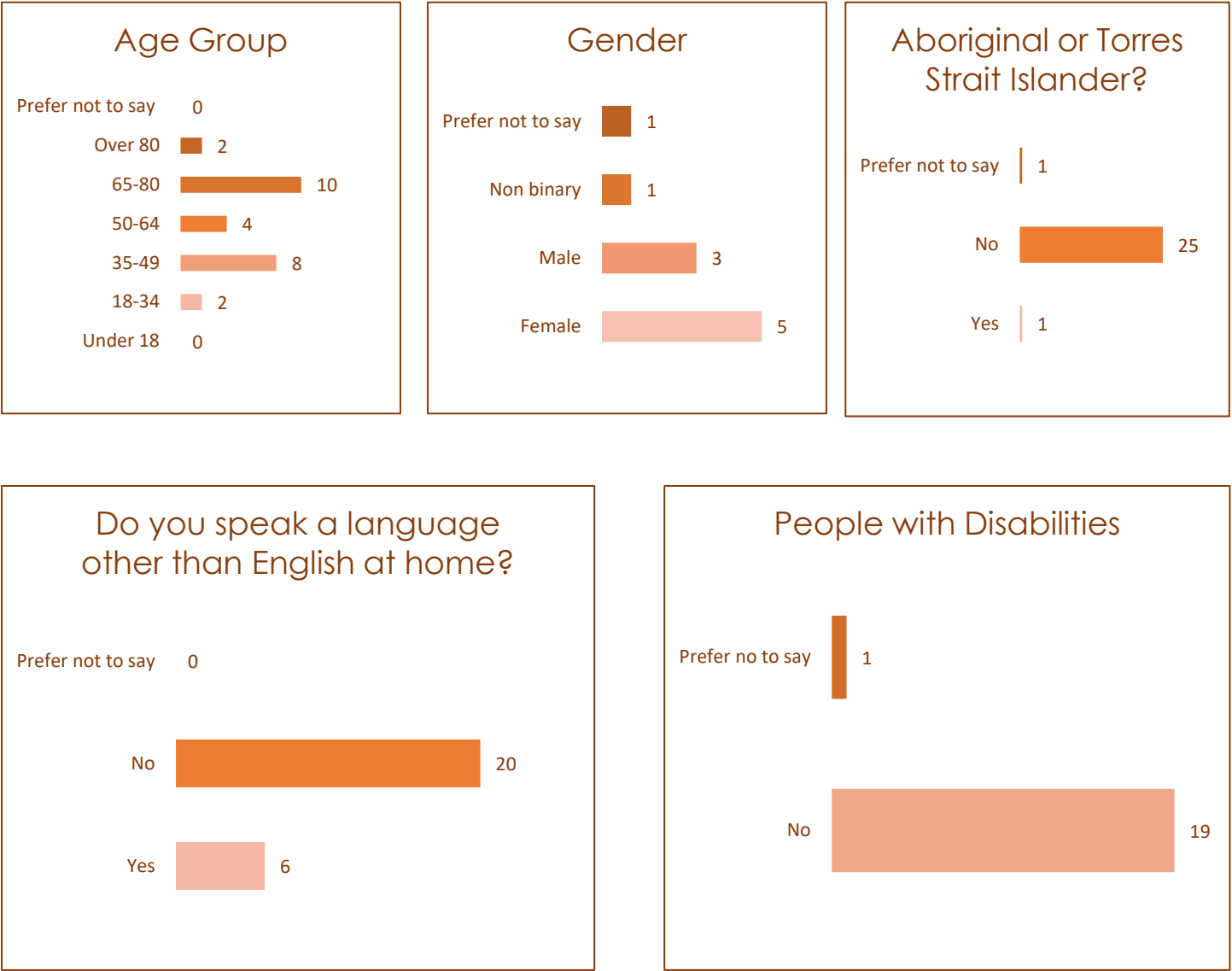
- Used to be a FMBG volunteer
- Regular invited guest speaker to FMBG
- Melton South Community Centre

## Which recommendations do you want to provide feedback on?



# Respondent demographics

Below is the distribution of respondents and their household details.



## Languages other than English spoken:

- Filipino
  - Hindi
- Italian
  - Tongan