Social Policy &
Parliamentary Unit
Working for the eradication of poverty in New Zealand
Te Ope Whakaora

STATE of our COMMUNITIES 2022

SUMMARY DOCUMENT

Petone

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PETONE

SOOC22 is a snapshot that provides a platform to record and report the stories, challenges, solutions and aspirations of local communities. There were 167 surveys carried out with locals in Petone and four key informant interviews.

Petone's attributes: What do you like about Petone?

'The people are friendly, it's easy to get around, there is a sense of community and support amongst neighbours and of course the great coffee at playscape!'

The **environment (85%)** the beach, the natural environment, close to walking tracks and local parks. **Accessibility (84%)**, it's easy to access other areas of Wellington. Petone is small, it has all the services, **facilities and amenities (79%)** locals would need. The main commercial street, **Jackson Street (75%)**, and other business were a key highlight with many commenting on the array of local restaurants and cafes. The **community (74%)** is diverse, laid back, **safe (19%)**, friendly and close-knit. Petone is **family friendly (33%)** and a great place to raise children.

Petone's challenges: What are some challenges Petone faces?

'Traffic no cycle pathway to town without going on the motorway,, hard to get an appointment with a doctor when needed climate change and rising sea level.'

Traffic (67%), the increase of traffic often makes it unsafe for families and children. Lack of planning and inadequacies in local **infrastructure (27%)**. The cost of **housing (61%)**, the high **cost of living (51%)** makes it financially difficult for families. **Climate change (36%)** flooding, sea level rises and tsunami risks.

Investing in Petone: If you were given a billion dollars to invest in Petone, what are three to five areas would you invest it in and why?

'Investigating options for climate change/sea level rise protection or planning for managed retreat if this is going to be required.'

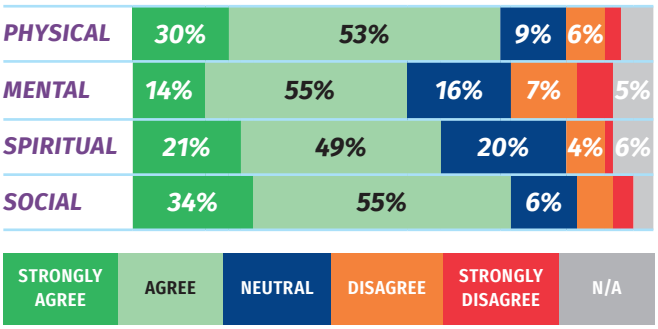
Housing (85%) affordable rentals for families, housing for homeless people and apartment-styled housing for seniors. Develop rent-to-buy schemes for locals with low income. **Healthcare (63%)** there is a lack of doctors, specialised mental health services and maternity care. Investment in **infrastructure (37%)** was often noted in relation to both **traffic (34%)** issues and **climate change (24%)** mitigation.

Petone's aspirations: In five years' time what changes would you like to see in Petone?

'Better infrastructure, more community events.'

To have affordable, warm and quality **housing (54%)**. Access basic **healthcare (38%)** with a bigger medical centre that has an array of medical services. More **parks (32%)** and better usage of the Petone waterfront. More spaces for **children (20%)**, youth, families and the **community (24%)**. Improved **traffic (32%)** congestion, better **infrastructure (17%)** and more **public transport (33%)** options.

The Petone community and my wellbeing: I can find support for my wellbeing in my community.



Physical wellbeing: many locals are established so have secure housing and a local GP, however, locals highlighted that these are challenges for newcomers. They cannot secure a local GP and healthcare costs are concerning, and there is a lack of affordable housing. Mental and emotional support was found outside of formal services, such as church and other religious groups which support spiritual wellbeing—including the beach. Most social support is from family and friends.