

Cockatoo Island /Wareamah Draft Concept Vision

General Community Consultation

Client: Harbour Trust

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Elton Consulting is now part of the WSP Group.

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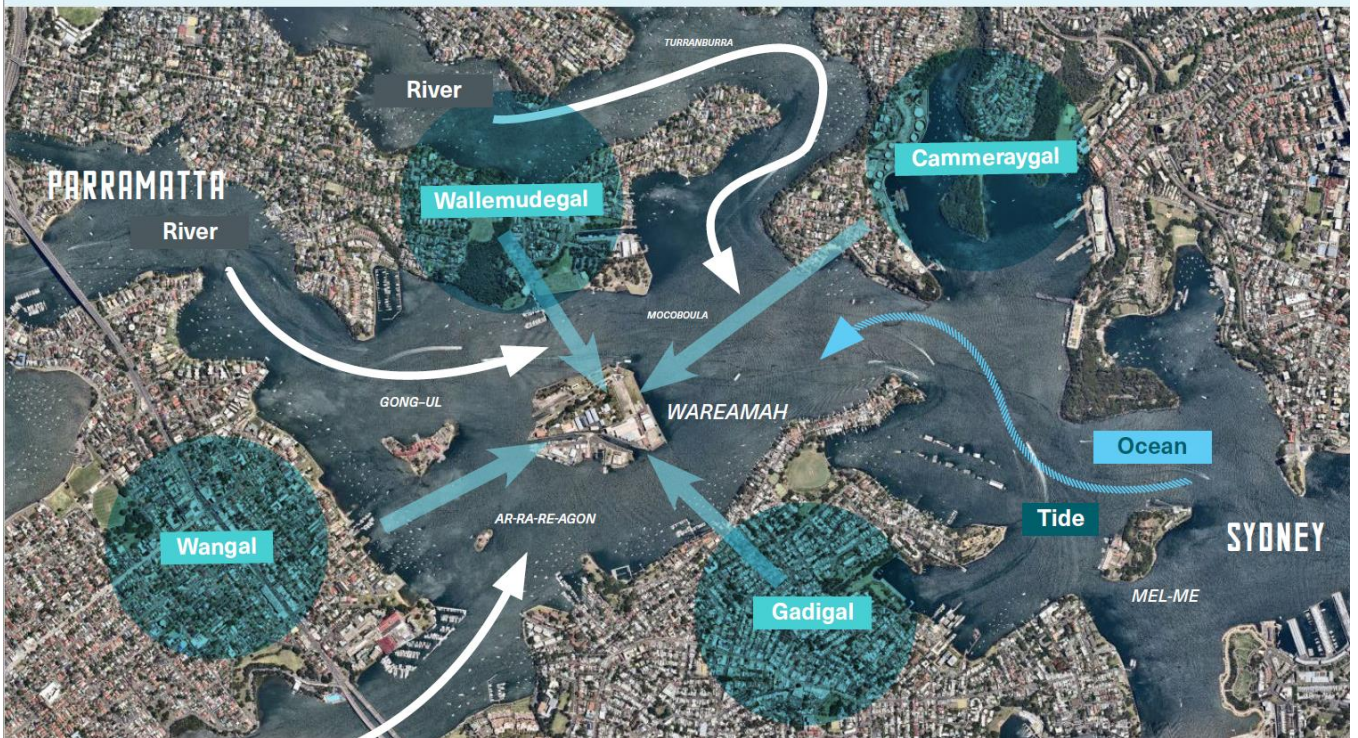
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A meeting place of four clans.



Acknowledgement of Country

Elton Consulting and the Harbour Trust respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

Cockatoo Island / Wareamah connects to the waterways and homelands of the Wallumedegal, Wangal, Cammeraygal and Gadigal people. We pay our respect to elders past, present and emerging.

Executive Summary

Engaging on the Draft Concept Vision

This report documents the outcomes of ongoing engagement as part of a continued conversation about the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

It has been prepared for the Harbour Trust by Elton Consulting to document and synthesise community and stakeholder feedback.

The UNESCO World-Heritage listed Cockatoo Island / Wareamah is a unique place with a rich and layered history. As our city grows and changes, we have been engaging in a discussion about the future of Cockatoo Island and ways to explore fresh ideas and opportunities for its ongoing enjoyment by Sydneysiders and visitors alike.

Engagement on the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah was undertaken between 4 May and 11 June 2021. The engagement process sought to build on early engagement towards a vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah undertaken in 2019.

Engagement with First Nations Peoples has been conducted by specialist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement consultancy Two Point Co and is provided in a separate report.

Who provided feedback on the Draft Concept Vision?

The Harbour Trust has been engaging with a wide range of people and organisations over many years to uncover the rich stories of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah and to understand community and stakeholder perspectives on the future of this important place.

This most recent chapter of the conversation – focused on the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah – involved locals, visitors and the broader Sydney community, the Harbour Trust Community Advisory Committee, volunteers and guides, representatives of nearby councils, creatives and innovators, and staff of the Harbour Trust.

Participation in the Draft Concept Vision engagement process was promoted through media launch, print and digital advertising, the Harbour Trust website, social channels and direct email campaigns to visitors and stakeholders.

Response to the Draft Concept Vision

Feedback in response to the Draft Concept Vision was broadly positive, with enthusiasm and excitement expressed about the potential future of this much-loved place.

There was strong support for maintaining and enhancing the island's unique qualities and reflecting its layered heritage.

Participants expressed a desire for ideas and initiatives that attract increased visitation to Cockatoo Island / Wareamah by locals, as well as visitors to Sydney. An expanded offer of activities and programs, and an increased permanent working population on the island were widely regarded as important.

Recognising and reflecting the stories of the island's past – including First Nations, maritime, military and convict histories – was regarded as being of central importance. Cockatoo Island / Wareamah was also identified as an important public open space, a place for learning, for tourism, for the arts, culture, making and innovation and a place with quality food and beverage and hospitality offerings across a range of price points. People want to see respectful and considered change, with support for Cockatoo Island's built and natural environments to be enhanced and celebrated.

Across the precincts, particular ideas attracted different levels of support – as discussed within this report. The proposed improvements to facilities and a light touch approach to particular parts of the island – including the Plateau and Campground precincts – were also supported.

Key issues for consideration in progressing from a Draft Concept Vision focused on: achieving a living heritage that successfully values and respects the past; funding enhancements through appropriate commercial activities; avoiding over commercialisation and over development of this place; articulating a funding approach that demonstrates value; minimising potential impacts such as noise from events; and addressing existing challenges including transport and infrastructure provision to support activities and events.

Above all, the Draft Concept Vision and precinct ideas should be grounded in authenticity to ensure the important values of this place are recognised and reflected to unlock its significant potential.

Country as Meeting Place - excerpt from the Draft Concept Vision



Country as Meeting Place

Our vision for Wareamah is to connect future with past and merge divergent cultural histories; for the island to be a healed and rejuvenated landscape where people meet and come together, celebrate, share knowledge, learn from, and experience Country. We will work closely with Traditional Owners in creating this vision.

1 Context for Engagement

1.1 In this report

The Harbour Trust released a Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah on 4 May 2021. This early vision for Cockatoo Island seeks to honour the layers of cultural, natural and historical importance that make up the past and present of this place and suggests ideas to reconnect, repair, repurpose and renature this place.

The Harbour Trust invited the community to have their say on the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah between 4 May and 11 June 2021.

Opportunities to find out more and provide feedback on the Draft Concept Vision included:

- » an introductory webinar
- » a Have Your Say web survey open to all members of the community
- » a walkshop on Cockatoo Island / Wareamah

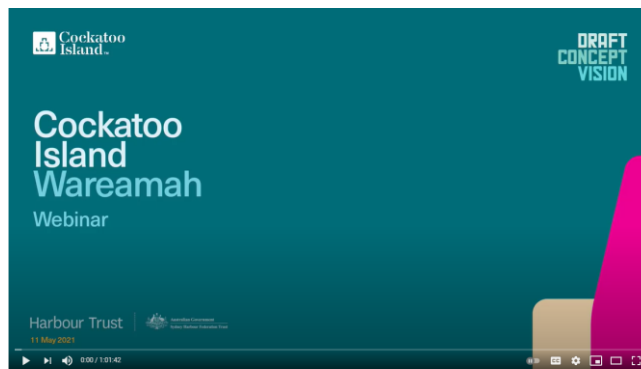
- » a series of workshops conducted with members of the community, local councils, creatives and innovators, volunteers and guides of Cockatoo Island, the Harbour Trust Community Advisory Committee and staff
- » a series of pop-ups in various locations
- » an online panel survey.

This report discusses the outcomes of the Draft Concept Vision engagement program as part of a continued conversation about the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah continuing on from the early engagement undertaken in 2019.

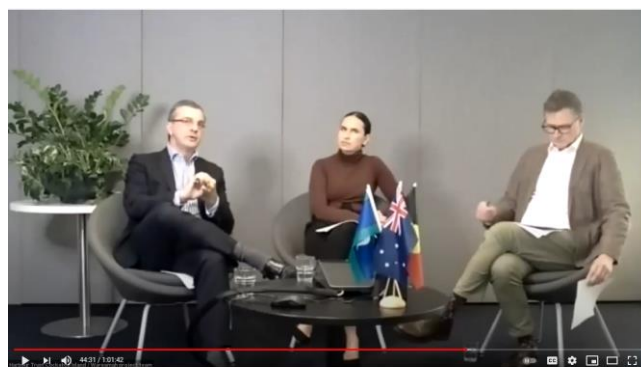
First Nations engagement was undertaken by specialist First Nations engagement practitioners Two Point Co and involved a survey, one-on-one interviews and a yarning session. This feedback is detailed in a separate report and is not covered here.

" Congratulations on the bold vision for Cockatoo Island. There is a significant array of activities envisaged to attract, engage and immerse visitors.

To become a visitor destination in its own right, it must be highly relevant to locals, as visitors want to hang out with locals.



Webinar: Cockatoo Island – Draft Concept Vision (11 May 2021)
219 views - May 12, 2021



Webinar: Cockatoo Island – Draft Concept Vision (11 May 2021)
219 views - May 12, 2021

1.2 About the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah



Cockatoo Island / Wareamah is both a geographic pivot point in Greater Sydney and the only place in Australia where the nation's story is told one place.

Cockatoo Island / Wareamah holds a unique place in the hearts and minds of a many people across a wide range of interests. Community consultation over the years has reinforced the strength and richness of the diverse stories this place is home to and the strong interest in contributing to its well planned future.

These conversations have identified diverse opportunities to honour and elevate the past and optimise the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah. The Island's stories are interwoven with Aboriginal, convict, colonial, defence and maritime histories.

Cockatoo Island / Wareamah is a unique and special place. The UNESCO World-Heritage Listed site at the junction of the Parramatta and Lane Cove rivers is unparalleled in its location. It is both the jewel in the heart of Sydney Harbour and a stepping-stone to Western Sydney.

The release of the Draft Concept Vision has provided an opportunity to engage with people with an interest in this place and to draw new voices into the conversation – through engagement that reaches out to diverse members of the community.

1.3 Engagement process

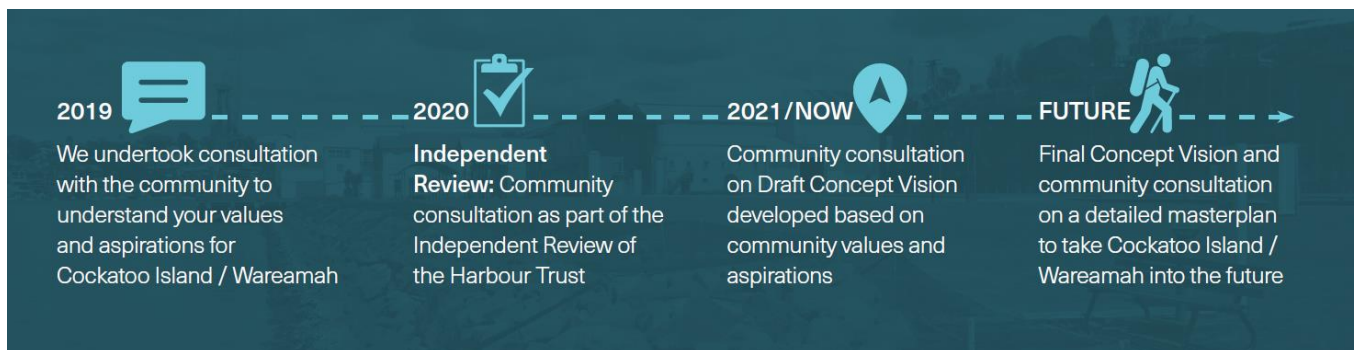
The Harbour Trust continues to be guided by the values and principles that formed the basis of its establishment and is committed to the appropriate and sensitive activation of the island, in conjunction with the NSW Government and the community.

The Draft Concept Vision provides an opportunity to continue the conversation about the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah and seek feedback from the community and stakeholders as this vision and concept evolves.

Engagement objectives

- » Build on local knowledge, supporting the generation of ideas and welcoming new voices to the conversation
- » Develop and strengthen meaningful relationships with the community and key stakeholders
- » Expand the platform for ongoing dialogue and conversations about the long term and sustainable evolution of Cockatoo Island as a city, state and national treasure
- » Provide opportunities for new and existing stakeholders provide feedback on the Draft Concept Vision.

1.4 The journey so far



In 2019, the Harbour Trust engaged with the broad community and First Nation's stakeholders through the [Cockatoo Island Dialogue](#).

The following suggested actions were identified in feedback:

- » Engaging and reimagining community benefit
- » Appealing to more diverse audiences
- » Offering more diverse experiences
- » Focusing on what is unique to this place
- » Respectfully enhancing this place.

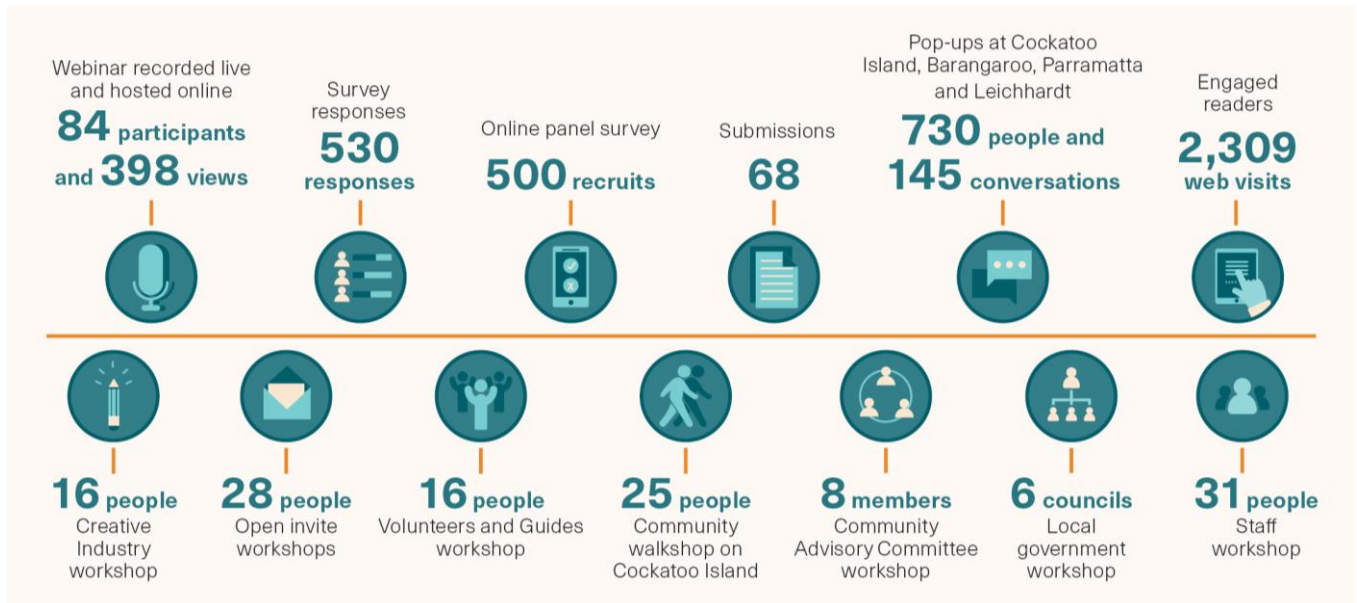
Consultations with First Nations communities and cultural leaders in 2019 also identified important themes:

- » Respecting and acknowledging Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a sacred women's place
- » Importance of caring for Country and identifying Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a place of cultural connection
- » Using Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a place that provides opportunities to care for and heal Country
- » Bringing culture to life
- » Using Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a place that provides access to commercial opportunities for First Nations businesses.

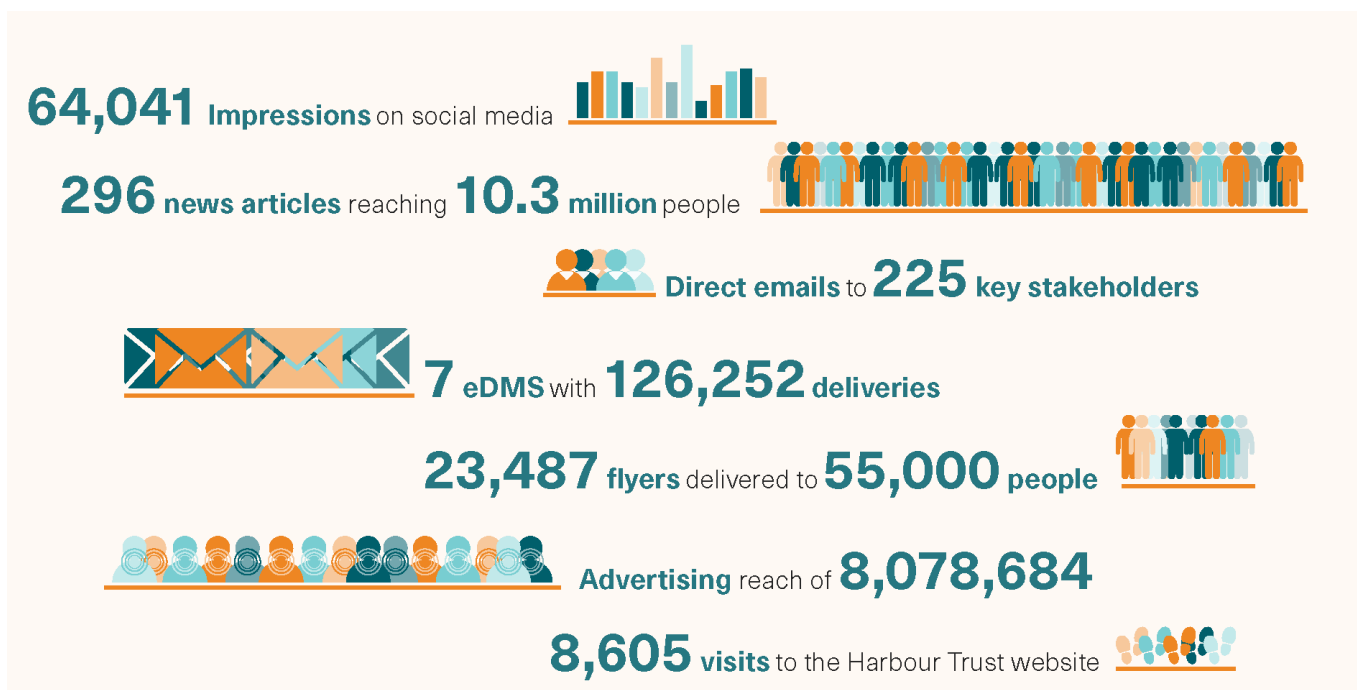
2 Engagement Approach

2.1 What we did – Snapshot

A wide range of communications and engagement activities were undertaken during the consultation period between 4 May and 11 June 2021 to support participation in person and online. Engagement highlights are summarised in the following sections: 'How did we engage?' and 'Who did we engage with?'



The Draft Concept Vision and related engagement process was promoted widely through print and social media and on the Harbour Trust website. Visitors and stakeholders were also targeted through direct email campaigns.



2.2 Who did we engage with?

The conversation about the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah engaged with members of the community and other stakeholders including:

- » **Visitors and non-visitors**, neighbours and community members from across Greater Sydney and beyond
- » Harbour Trust **Community Advisory Committee members** – volunteer members who provide advice and recommendations on the use of Harbour Trust lands
- » **Volunteers and guides of Cockatoo Island** – who have a high level of knowledge about Cockatoo Island and who engage with visitors and/or undertake volunteer/ restoration work on the island
- » **Representatives of nearby councils** including City of Sydney, Lane Cove Council, City of Ryde and City of Canada Bay
- » **Creatives and innovators** including participants from organisations such as Australian Festival Association, Biennale of Sydney, Business Events Sydney, Create NSW, Destination NSW, Festival of Dangerous Ideas, Greater Sydney Commission, Office of the Arts, Opera Australia, Screen Australia, Sydney Festival, Sydney Living Museums.
- » Harbour Trust staff from across the organisation.

Walkshop on Cockatoo Island



2.3 How did we engage?

Elton Consulting conducted broad and targeted engagement with the community and other stakeholders. The engagement process involved the following activities:

- » **An introductory webinar** – to introduce the Draft Concept Vision and provide an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to the Harbour Trust project team with 84 participants and over 400 further views on YouTube during and immediately after the consultation period
- » **Have your say survey** – completed by a total of 530 opt-in participants
- » **Online panel survey** – completed by a total of 500 residents of Greater Sydney (with participants recruited to ensure diversity of age, residential location, language spoken at home and gender)
- » Face-to-face and online **workshops** with Community Advisory Committee members, Harbour Trust staff, volunteers and guides of Cockatoo Island, representatives of nearby councils, creatives and innovators, arts and cultural stakeholders, past and present users, general community and open invitation
- » **Walkshop on Cockatoo Island** – providing an opportunity for visitors to share their ideas
- » **Pop-ups** at Cockatoo Island, Barangaroo, Parramatta and Leichhardt representing 165 conversations and a reach of over 730 people. People engaged through the pop up sessions were given a postcard encouraging them to complete the online survey via QR code.
- » Your Say Cockatoo Island / Wareamah **webpage and social media**
- » **Submissions** – a total of 68 submissions were received. These were lodged online, by email and post and were received from 53 individuals (including 17 submissions of a proforma format) and 15 organisations. Refer to Appendix C List of submitters for further information.



3 What we heard

3.1 Key insights - summary

A number of key insights relating to the Draft Concept Vision emerged in feedback received during the engagement process. These are identified below and discussed in further detail on the following pages.

1. Feedback was generally supportive of the Draft Concept Vision.
2. Stakeholders generally agreed on values for planning the future and were keen to understand how the Draft Concept Vision will be realised.
3. There was support for Cockatoo Island to offer a broad range of experiences and accommodation options for both locals and international visitors.
4. There was strong support to maintain the island's unique qualities including its layered heritage, essence of place and authenticity of experience.
5. People want to visit Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as not only a vibrant place for arts, creativity, entertainment and tourism, but also innovation and creation.
6. People want to see re-greening, re-wilding and more opportunities for children to enjoy the island.
7. There was broad support for First Nations culture and storytelling to be recognised and celebrated across the island.
8. Stakeholders want to see a stronger focus on maritime heritage and industries, and how this will be appropriately accommodated and brought to life across the island.
9. There was strong recognition and support for the preservation and interpretation of convict history – including retaining the island's UNESCO World Heritage status.
10. More consideration should be given to improving transport/access to the island and to infrastructure to support future use.



Key insights - explained

1. **Feedback was generally supportive of the Draft Concept Vision.**

Overarching positive commentary was provided in the workshops, submissions, surveys and pop-ups with enthusiasm noted for many aspects of the Draft Concept Vision.

2. **Stakeholders generally agreed on values for planning the future and were keen to understand how the Draft Concept Vision will be realised.**

Concerns about over-commercialisation and partnerships were raised during the webinar, workshops, the web survey and in submissions. Concerns were also noted about balance between restoration, preservation, interpretation and activation.

3. **There was support for Cockatoo Island to offer a broad range of experiences and accommodation options for both locals and international visitors.**

Stakeholders supported greater activation of the island and were keen to see a broad range of activities realised. Strong feedback was provided that the island should remain democratic, affordable and accessible to a broad public including families, working-class people and First Nations people and not be an exclusive 'play space for the rich'.

4. **There was strong support to maintain the island's unique qualities including its layered heritage, essence of place and authenticity of experiences.**

Stakeholders expressed awe and respect for the island's rawness, sense of 'brutality' and impressive large scale expanses and built form – from large industrial and maritime machines, structures and buildings, through to the quarried cliffs and aprons – and want to see these spaces and objects maintained.

Stakeholders want to see tranquil and reflective spaces maintained alongside activations and events, and it was regarded as very important that the island is authentic and does not take on a theme park feel.

"A far more nuanced approach is required that engages with this history and landscape, rather than imposing an entirely false layer upon this fragile place." – quote.

5. **People want to visit Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as not only a vibrant place for arts, creativity, entertainment and tourism, but also innovation and creation (particularly where this intersects with intrinsic aspects of the place such as its maritime industry).**

People commonly expressed support for festivals and events of all sizes to continue. There was support for improved food and beverage options to encourage people to stay for longer on the island. There was also a strong desire to see a 'creative island' concept expanded beyond the Creative Precinct to include making, restoration innovation and engineering. Almost half (49%) of panel survey respondents also supported Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a vibrant place of arts and creative industries, performance, exhibitions, events and hospitality. Over one quarter (28%) thought it should be home to active maritime industry, innovation, education and work.

6. **People want to see re-greening, re-wilding and more opportunities for children to enjoy the island.**

Stakeholders expressed a desire for Cockatoo Island to be a green and inviting place that celebrates the rich heritage of Sydney and Australia including Indigenous and convict heritage and working harbour. There was support for revegetating parts of the island with native species, for gardens, trees and shade. There were also high levels of support for the island to be a place for children to play, explore nature and learn about the environment and history.

7. **There was broad support for First Nations culture and storytelling to be recognised and celebrated across the island.**

People highlighted the important of a First Nations focus that is authentic, ongoing and First Nations led. Comments focused on accurate storytelling, Indigenous economic and business opportunities, and ongoing First Nations engagement by the Harbour Trust.

Some people suggested the First Nations focus of the Draft Concept Vision is disproportionately emphasised, inaccurate or comes at the expense of telling the convict and maritime histories of the island.

8. **Stakeholders want to see a stronger focus on maritime heritage and industries, and how this will be appropriately accommodated and brought to life across the island.**

There was support during the workshops, in the survey and in submissions for Cockatoo Island's maritime activities to continue to support a living and working harbour particularly through contemporary maritime activities within the Cockatoo Dockyards. There were suggestions for facilities to support water-based activities including kayaking and for recreational boat users such as the ability to moor for a day visit.

There were also strong calls to restore Fitzroy Dock to operational use as a potential home for the Sydney Heritage Fleet and / or Australian National Maritime Museum and calls for maritime heritage interpretation to be more strongly interwoven across the island, including the Slipways Precinct.

"We believe that there is a need to balance regeneration and creation of a combined tourist attraction and working island with preservation and restoration of the island's industrial heritage in the heart of Sydney Harbour." – quote.

9. **There was strong recognition and support for the preservation and interpretation of convict history – including retaining UNESCO World Heritage status.**

This was expressed particularly strongly during the webinar, workshops and in submissions, and also noted in both the web and panel surveys.

"The Barracks and Gaol area should be left with as much space around them as possible so they can stand alone as the UNESCO site. This also emphasises the rawness and bleak circumstances of the convict history." – quote.

10. **More consideration should be given to improving transport/access to the island and to infrastructure to support future use.**

Many stakeholders identified a need for improved access for day-to-day visitors, workers and staff and for attendees and organisers of events large and small. The creation of a permanent working population on the island was regarded as important to its vitality.

It was identified that planning should identify the underpinning infrastructure improvements and investments required to maintain, restore and unlock activities on the island. Stakeholders also wanted to see actions and ideas prioritised and provide value for money / cost-effectiveness.

Further precinct-based commentary is provided in Section 3.2 Feedback on the precincts.



Survey results

Participant profile

As part of the engagement process members of the community provided feedback in response to the Draft Concept Vision through:

- » The Have Your Say survey available on the Harbour Trust website and was open to all members of the community. A total of 530 people participated in this survey.
- » A panel survey conducted with members of the community through an existing survey panel provider. A total of 500 people participated in this survey.

The panel survey was designed to complement the Have Your Say survey by reaching diverse members of the community from across each of Greater Sydney's five districts, and supporting an understanding of broad community perspectives on the Draft Concept Vision.

Young people aged under 35 years and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds were targeted as members of the community who are less likely to participate in formal engagement processes.

The panel survey reached a greater proportion of 18-34 year olds (44%) than the Have Your Say survey (14%) and just under a quarter of all panel survey participants (24%) reported commonly speaking a language other than English at home.

Participant feedback

There was a high level of consistency in the survey results across the Have Your Say and panel surveys, with key areas of commonality and points of difference highlighted below.

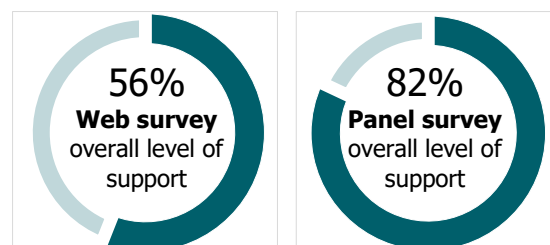
The survey results were analysed by demographic factors including age, gender, cultural diversity and location, with *statistically significant* differences between groups discussed below.

Overall level of support for the Draft Concept Vision

The majority of participants in both the Have Your Say and panel surveys expressed support for the Draft Concept Vision. This included 56% of people who participated in the Have Your Say survey and 82% of panel survey participants.

Analysis of participants' level of support for the Draft Concept Vision by demographic groups in the Have Your Say survey showed three statistically significant differences. Participants aged 35-54 were significantly more likely than those aged 55+ to support the Draft Concept Vision (65% vs 47% were supportive or strongly supportive). On the flipside, participants aged 35-54 were significantly less likely to be unsupportive of the Draft Concept Vision than those aged 55+ (24% vs 37% were unsupportive). Further to this, couples with children were significantly less likely to be unsupportive than other family types (26% vs 40%).

Analysis of the panel survey results found there were no statistically significant differences across groups relating to this question.



Appeal of a reimagined Cockatoo Island / Wareamah

Two thirds of Have Your Say survey respondents (63%) and as many as 80% of panel survey respondents indicated they would be likely to visit a reimagined Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

Analysis of the Have Your Say survey demonstrates that there were no statistically significant differences in terms of likelihood to visit the Island, across age groups (18-34, 35-54, 55+) or household types (couple families versus other household types).

The majority of Have Your Say survey respondents across all age groups reported being likely to visit a reimagined Cockatoo Island / Wareamah. This includes 74% of those aged 18-34, 68% of 35-54 year olds and 61% of those aged 55+. As many as

71% of families with children reported being likely to visit, compared with 57% of those in other types of household.

Analysis of the online panel survey data demonstrates that people who had visited the island in the last three years were significantly more likely to report being 'likely to visit' than those who had not visited (88% vs 74%). There were no further statistically significant differences across groups relating to this question.

Meeting community needs and expectations

The majority of Have Your Say survey respondents agreed that the Draft Concept Vision meets their needs and expectations

across all but one of the factors tested in the survey. Participants agreed that it: showcases the Island's heritage (66% agreed), features outdoor areas and spaces they find appealing (66% agreed), supports the types of activities and events that they would like to see (54% agreed) and features suitable food and beverage options (53% agreed). Just under half of Have Your Say survey respondents (46%) agreed that it features appropriate accommodation options (while 27% disagreed and the remaining 27% were neutral).

Analysis of how well the Draft Concept Vision meets Have Your Say participants' needs and expectations (across food and beverage offer, appropriate accommodation, showcasing the Island's heritage and other factors) by demographic groups showed no statistically significant differences.

The majority of Have Your Say survey respondents across all age groups agreed (ie strongly agreed or agreed) that their needs were met in relation to all the factors tested in the survey, with only two exceptions. Only 39% of respondents aged 55+ agreed that their needs for 'appropriate accommodation were met; and only 45% of people in this age group felt that their needs were met in terms of activities and events.

The panel survey revealed a high level of support for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a place that responds to many of the factors tested in the survey. In particular, respondents expressed strong support for it to be a green and inviting meeting place with trees, shade and native vegetation (62%); and a place to celebrate the rich heritage of Sydney and Australia including Indigenous and convict heritage and working harbour (60%). There was also high levels of support for the island to be a place for children to

play, explore nature and learn about the environment and history (60%). Almost half (49%) of respondents also supported Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a vibrant place of arts and creative industries, performance, exhibitions, events and hospitality. Over one quarter (28%) thought it should be home to living maritime industry, innovation, education and work.

Analysis of the panel survey data demonstrates that:

- » People who had visited the island in the last three years were significantly more likely to see the island become a vibrant place for arts and creative industries, performance, exhibitions and hospitality – than those who have not (59% vs 41%)
- » People who had visited the island in the last three years were significantly less likely to see the island as a place to celebrate the rich heritage of Sydney and Australia – including the Indigenous and convict heritage – than those who have not (51% vs 67%)
- » Men were significantly more likely to want to see the island become a home to living maritime industry, innovation, education and work – than women (35% vs 20%).

There were no further statistically significant differences across groups (ie age, cultural diversity) relating to this question.

A Draft Concept Vision that is informed by community participation

The majority of Have Your Say survey respondents agreed that **the Draft Concept Vision responds to the feedback received by the Harbour Trust when it consulted the community in 2019.** Responses showed high levels of agreement that the Draft Concept Vision: offers a wide variety of experiences and ways to enjoy the Island (61%), offers an immersive heritage experience and place for learning (54%), provides appeal for both Sydneysiders and visitors (54%), enhances the place in a way that respects the Island's cultural, historical and First Nations significance (54%), retains and enhances the unique qualities of the Island (52%).

Planning for the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah

In planning for the future of the Island, a clear majority of panel survey participants agreed it was important to consider the factors presented in the survey. This included: protect and enhance the island's natural

environment (87%); protect and enhance the island's built environment (84%); preserve the island's layered history and share this with visitors (83%), celebrate First Nations heritage and stories (79%); maximise public access to the island (74%); achieve a balance of public and commercial activities on the island (74%); and make the island a place for people (73%). It is worth noting that disagreement levels were consistently low across each of the considerations.

Analysis of the panel survey data identified only one statistically significant difference across groups: that people aged 65 years and over were significantly more likely than those aged 18-24 to agree that it is important to make the island a place for people (91% vs 58% agreed). There were no statistically

significant differences across groups relating to 'achieving a balance of public and commercial activities on the island'.

Further precinct-based commentary is provided in Section 3.2 Feedback on the precincts. It is noted that analysis of the panel survey data shows an overarching desire for change. Overall there was:

- » least desire for change in the Cockatoo Dockyard and Cockatoo Campground Precinct (with 21% and 20% of panel participants expressing a desire for 'no change')
- » greatest desire for change in the Arrival Precinct (with 7% of panel participants seeking 'no change').

3.2 Feedback on the precincts

Feedback is also discussed in relation to each of the precincts below.

Arrival Precinct

The engagement process uncovered support for a new public square and arrival space. Throughout the engagement activities the Arrival Precinct was commonly raised as an important welcoming point to the island that should elevate First Nations acknowledgement and interpretation, along with the role of visitors and guides, and providing improved facilities.

There was strong feedback about the importance of future visitors being able to meet and connect with people on the island, particularly to speak directly with Harbour Trust staff, volunteers and guides.

People who were familiar with the island and who visit often commented on the lack of facilities and desire to see basic improvements to toilets, waiting areas and weather protection (sun, wind and rain were all raised as issues). There were also calls to incorporate improved food and beverage options, for example a café or dining options open at different times, and for clear and useful information about transport services on offer.

There was strong feedback that the area should include improved information to assist visitors understand the experiences available, how to move around the island and to begin to be introduced to the history of the site. As a 'front door' to the island, it was suggested as an appropriate location for a guest and interpretative centre.



Key insights:

- » Arrival point improvements to acknowledge its role as a welcoming point such as guest and interpretative centre, improved signage, waiting and toilet facilities, and food and beverage were broadly supported
- » Ranked third of precincts people would 'most like to see introduced' in web survey
- » Overall the two most preferred initiatives for the Arrival Precinct noted by panel participants were:
 - > 'New public square and arrival space that promotes Convict, maritime and industrial history'
 - > 'New gardens, play spaces, amenities and pavilions'
 - > 'Significant renewal of this space'.



" This island is a gateway entry point into the Country; it should be restored to what it was to show people this is how it is."

" I hope that transportation to Cockatoo Island remains affordable and easily accessible."

" I have enjoyed being there on a few occasions but would have liked a guide to get the most benefit for my trip there."

Wareamah Tidal Terrace

Feedback indicated that the Draft Concept Vision for the Wareamah Tidal Terrace was polarising, ranging from enthusiastic support through to strong concerns.

For those who supported the idea, there was support for this area reimagined as a major parkland with water at the heart, improved Indigenous recognition, improved boardwalks and seating, re-wilding and the tidal terrace with play area. Feedback suggested there may be more culturally appropriate inclusions than clan poles on this country.

There was also support for improving gardens, shade and vegetation however many suggested palms may not be an appropriate species. Support was also expressed for the concept of being able to touch the water and for water-based activities from sailing, kayaking and canoeing through to adult swimming.

Those who criticised the tidal terrace concept presented concerns about cost, land contamination, safety of children near water and ongoing maintenance. Feedback also suggested that too much vegetation may obscure the sight of the escarpment and should be avoided as the exposed cliffs are such a visually striking aspect of Cockatoo Island's identity and past.

Overall most stakeholders noted that the tidal terrace concept should not preclude this space functioning as a flexible and adaptable gathering space for events.



Key insights:

- » Varying perspectives on the proposed Tidal Terrace ranging from strong support to strong concern with many wanting this space to remain flexible to support large events
- » Ranked second of precincts people would 'most like to see introduced' in web survey
- » Overall the two most preferred initiatives for the Wareamah Tidal Terrace noted by panel participants were:
 - > 'Bringing back the island edge with a tidal sandstone terrace, access to the water and new boardwalk'
 - > 'New major parkland with water at the heart of the place'
 - > 'Significant First Nations design input and interpretation'.



" Love the position of the tidal pool."

" Engineering and structural impact on this space seems way too problematic along with environmental concerns of allowing children to play in harbour water west of the bridge. More greenery is good to replace the concrete but scrap the tidal pool idea."

" Clan poles are not our way" (noted by Traditional Owners rejecting the use of clan poles)

" Don't forget, it would be a wonderful place to watch fireworks on New Year's Eve."

" More accessible opportunities. Offering novel opportunities for kids living with disability."

" Ensure adequate sun protection / shade."

Creative Precinct

Throughout the engagement, many people noted their familiarity and fondness for Cockatoo Island as having developed through visits to the island associated with music, visual and creative events and exhibitions such as the Biennale, Festival of Dangerous Ideas, All Tomorrow's parties.

There was strong support for this style of event to continue and enthusiasm for the concepts presented in the Draft Concept Vision for the Creative Precinct. There was discussion in online workshops around developing seasonal programming and the number of events the island could hold (both within the Creative Precinct and more broadly across the island) and the underlying investment and infrastructure requirements for this to occur.

It was noted that for the island to be a place for events, creative and artistic production, it would require ongoing investment and would unlikely be self-funding. It was also noted that inner Sydney has a constellation of creative precincts and that plans here should recognise that, for example connecting with Walsh Bay.

There was support for adaptive reuse of heritage buildings for public, volunteers and commercial uses (retaining the raw and industrial feel of these spaces) and for these spaces to be actively used. There were strong calls to use space to support workshops, maker spaces, studios, artists in resident spaces, along with space for small and larger scale events and exhibitions.

It was noted that the buildings and machinery should not form a static background for exhibitions and that there are important relationships between the buildings, machinery, the island's past and its possible future.

Polarised feedback was received on the laneway and inclusion of restaurants and bars, with supporters noting these activities would provide more people a reason to attend and to stay longer on the island, while others noted concern around impacts such as noise and over-commercialisation. There was also discussion as how longer term residential accommodation targeted at creatives/ artist in residence programs could be accommodated on the island in support of activity in the Creative Precinct.



Key insights:

- » Highest ranked precinct people would 'most like to see introduced' in web survey.
- » Support for adaptive re-use of the buildings and maintaining the scale and rawness of the buildings. Suggestions for seasonal programming and consideration of enabling infrastructure improvements.
- » Overall the two most preferred initiatives for the Creative Precinct noted by survey panel participants were:
 - > 'Upgraded buildings and materials (but retaining the raw industrial feel)'
 - > 'More green space, trees, softscape'
 - > 'Outdoor event and performance spaces'
- » People who had visited the island in the last three years were more likely to see the island become a vibrant place for arts and creative industries, performance, exhibitions and hospitality – than those who have not (59% vs 41%).



" Definitely a creative island approach would work well for storytelling – for global and local audiences – but it would require ongoing infrastructure to make this possible, not something that is turned on and off. We're always looking at how we can extend people's time – but it has to work authentically to appeal to a global audience."

" Outdoor festival type vibe with large outdoor permanent stage and facilities to accommodate awesome outdoor events with music, food stalls, community groups and events."

" Events that celebrate First Nations and international culture/ arts/ food/ small business. Live music events. Grass areas for people to sit and relax and make the most of their time on the Island."

" This needs an ongoing programming draw- to keep people returning. - cinema or music venue with programming 3-7 evenings a week."

" Considerations towards funding model and collaborations will be critical in order to have a sustainable and impactful core to ongoing operations."

" It needs contemporary input such as Australian Architecture which sits lightly on the earth."

" Let the Sydney heritage & identity breathe and speak for itself. People want to be transported to Sydney's history (be it First Nations and colonial history)."

" Just retaining the shell of the building(s) is not sufficient - the massive industrial machinery and the sense of massive open space are key to the retention of the history of the area."

Design Guidelines for all shops - we hope they would be First Nations business.





Fitzroy Dock

In the online panel survey the top three supported ideas for the Fitzroy Dock were for 'More green space, trees and softscape' followed by 'New exhibition spaces and public pavilion', and 'New retail, food and beverage'.

During the workshops and in submissions strong connections to Cockatoo Dockyards Precinct and an overarching desire to see Cockatoo Island remain an active maritime island were noted.

There were strong calls for the restoration of Fitzroy Dock and using the island's maritime history as a visitor attraction. Recommissioning the dock and using it to restore heritage vessels under the observation of visitors was proposed as a way to tell the shipbuilding story of the island in the future. It was often suggested that Sydney Heritage Fleet or the Australian National Maritime Museum would benefit from use of the dock.

Suggestions to provide recreational boating access and tall ship berthing were made along with a greater focus on volunteerism and maritime story-telling through displays, museums and festivals involving steam cranes and boats.

While concerns were raised by residents across the water about possible noise or visual impacts of a larger hotel/ conference facility several participants of the workshops were not against the adaptive re-use of the submarine building for accommodation and conference purposes. It was suggested to explore a range of accommodation options from high end/ boutique through to more affordable options.

There was interest and support in swimming as an activity on the island, however many suggested the Fitzroy Dock would not be an appropriate place for this activity to occur and that swimming and other water-based activities (such as kayaking) could be supported in other locations.



Key insights:

- » Strong calls for the restoration of the dry dock to working order and its ongoing use for maritime activities and interpretation.
- » Varied feedback to the inclusion of accommodation.
- » Overall the two most preferred initiatives for the Fitzroy Dock Precinct noted by survey panel participants were:
 - > 'More green space, trees and softscape'
 - > 'New exhibition spaces and public pavilion'
 - > 'New retail, food and beverage'.



" I don't have a problem with accommodation being put in as long as it is done sensitively, you might as well make use of the buildings. The swimming pool and dock is interesting, as long as there are safety barriers."

" Fitzroy dock should be restored as an operational dry dock to support heritage vessels such those owned and operated by the Sydney Heritage Fleet, Sydney Tall Ships and Australian National Maritime Museum. It offers a unique opportunity to showcase not only the ship building history of the island but also how heritage vessels are restored and maintained."

" Don't allow it to be overrun with wine bars and food outlets. The Maritime aspect is essential to the island."

" There should absolutely not be outdoor performance spaces. Sound travels unimpeded across water and this is directly opposite residences which will be severely impacted by outdoor performance noise."

Cockatoo Dockyard

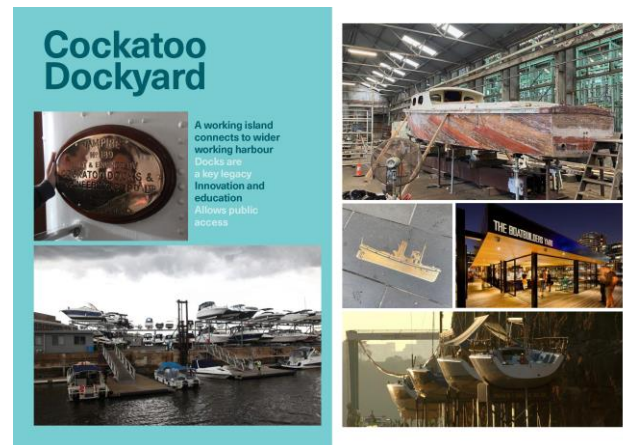
Strong support for working Cockatoo Dockyard, and for this precinct's role in activating the island with working and visitor populations, and to provide servicing infrastructure for the island and broader working harbour.

It was noted that further consideration should also be given to shoreside connections with the dockyard.

During the workshops, participants suggested that the dockyard could play a more active role in continuing the working history of Sydney's maritime culture. It was suggested that the dockyard would need to continue to house louder and dirtier activities that may not always interface well with event patrons.

Submissions were received noting the Cockatoo Dockyard should continue with current-day marine activity that supports residents, tourists and businesses on the harbour.

It was also noted that Cockatoo Boatyard supports employment and visitation along with critical services for events and exhibitions. Suggestions were received noting a mix and range of tenancies should be encouraged to establish on the island to provide a local economy and reduce the cost of providing services such as logistics and freight to businesses and events on the island.



Key insights:

- » Support for the continuation of maritime activities and the 'working harbour' in the dockyard
- » Overall the two most preferred initiatives for the Cockatoo Dockyard noted by survey panel participants were:
 - > 'Upgraded facilities and buildings'
 - > 'Ongoing use as a working dockyard'
 - > 'Public domain upgrades'.



" It is more than just the dry docking area. There is a need to heal spiritually. You need to be using the space, and have our people feel that it is their place. Make sure it [Indigenous knowledge] is embedded not just added in along the way. Don't just pop a bit in, make sure that there is Aboriginal people working there, running the ferries."

" Some marine industry should be maintained here. It is very difficult to get access to any hardstand areas for boaties in Sydney - all the usable space has been converted into apartments and slipways for the ultra-rich."

" Sydney needs a facility that can... support a cohesive technical training program supported by a reinvigorated TAFE producing shipwrights, sailmakers, boilermakers, electricians, fitters and other trades people who will support other industries and ship maintenance locations."

" I would prefer to see such machinery remain in place and perhaps working demonstrations made possible from time to time."

" Retaining the workplace environment is essential to the success of the island. It has a rich heritage for migrant workers over the last century and this needs to be recognised."

" From repairs to HMAS Melbourne to heavy steel fabrication for the Centrepont Tower Cockatoo island pioneered many new fabrication and welding technologies which are now commonplace. Reintroducing a working ship repair and storage facility offers an opportunity to include working demonstrations of long lost trades and skills which today's visitors might find entertaining and informative."

Plateau Precinct

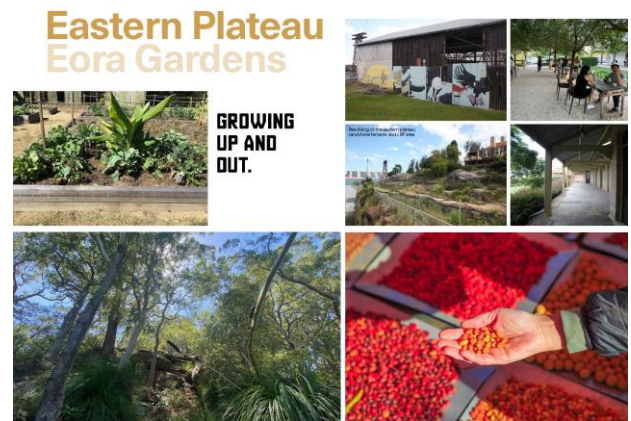
As home to the Gaol, Biloela and Silos there was strong support throughout the engagement for the ongoing protection of these cherished UNESCO World Heritage listed cultural assets.

Participants of the workshops suggested the convict sandstone sub-precinct is an important visitor experience and could have very 'light touch' public domain upgrades so that more people can learn about the island's convict history. It was noted that the site and its context should protect the convict buildings and continue to tell the site's harsh and confronting past.



In other areas on the plateau there was support for education, training and other adaptive reuses of other buildings. It was suggested that this precinct could provide affordable accommodation (e.g. for backpackers) to support activity in neighbouring precincts. Other ideas suggested included it could provide a working organic farm, native foods/medicinal garden with produce used in cafes/restaurants on the island, small conference facility, school camp facilities, an interactive working museum for children and young people.

Support for the concept of the Eora Gardens and for re-wilding and renaturing was also noted, however the name Eora Garden was not supported during First Nations engagement.



Key insights:

- » Overwhelming support for the protection of World Heritage assets and a 'light touch' to heritage restoration and any further initiatives in this precinct
- » Overall the most preferred initiatives for the Plateau Precinct among panel survey participants were:
 - > 'Protection of World Heritage assets and enhanced visitor experience through interpretation and curatorial approaches' (overwhelmingly ranked highest)
 - > 'New gardens including native re-wilding, furniture, seating and lighting'
 - > 'Public domain upgrades around the Convict Gaol and Ship Design Precinct' and 'Upgraded buildings, infrastructure and facilities including lifts, stairs and ramps' (equally third)



" The convict aspect is very unique and should be showcased."

" Retain its calm and historic nature with minimal development. sensitively upgrade the safety of the buildings retaining their character and make available their indoor spaces to community groups."

" The young girls incarcerated at Biloela need a voice."

" They were digging up the middens and using the material, they would crush up the shell and bone and use this as mortar. So, not only are these relics these places were used as burial sites, this is where remains were put once ready so there is ancestral blood in some of these buildings. You can tell just by looking at some. Sometimes there is shell bits in the mortar."

" Lack of support for the introduction of the term "Eora Gardens" (by Traditional Owners).

Slipways Playground

There was support for significant public play space and park including immersive play for children and perimeter walking track/loop for exercise.

At the pop-ups, the play aspects in the Wareamah Tidal Terrace and the Slipways Playground attracted the most positive responses, especially from families with children.

There was support for planning for play that involves learning, interpretation, wild-play and nature including for 2-7 year olds with aspects such as logs and trees, climbing, slides, swings and ropes.

It was suggested that the play space should strongly reflect and incorporate Cockatoo Island's unique layered histories, from interpretation and learning about First Nations and the environment, boating aspects such as ropes and knots, through to an appreciation of the maritime and industrial use of the slipways and role of the island in shipbuilding and wartime.

During the workshops and in submissions there were some concerns about whether a regional size play space would be too big and generate too much noise. It was also suggested that the slipways should continue to be able to be used as a landing place for kayaks and canoes.



Key insights:

- » Varied support for the proposed playground with suggestions it should support wild play and incorporate interpretation of maritime and First Nations heritage.
- » Desire to see a landing point for kayaks and canoes maintained.
- » Overall the top three most preferred initiatives for the Plateau Precinct identified by panel survey participants were:
 - > 'Significant public playground and park for people of all ages'
 - > 'Extensive swings and rope play, climbing areas, flying foxes, sand, water and wild play in Slipway No. 1'
 - > 'Educational, sensory and exploratory gardens, grasslands and rain gardens located on Slipway No. 2'



" You can add tree climbing, murals on walls that tells the story itself and even you can add the different art structures which depict the stories of that time or can add aboriginal arts."

" Please ensure there are enough changing facilities for toddlers / babies, handwashing taps, bubblers and toilets near the playground."

" I think there needs to be inclusion of Indigenous culture as part of the playground - e.g. artwork, child friendly facts, cultural aspects to be incorporated in playground design -with consultation with the Indigenous people of the area to see what is appropriate."

" Please ensure you maintain a landing place for kayaks, preferably a sandy beach which is easier and more enjoyable to use than a slipway ramp which can become slippery."

" Cockatoo Island was and should be retained as a working Shipyard. The proposal to turn the Slipway into a Kids Playground... does not do justice to this important Historical place in Australia's development as a Nation."

Cockatoo Campground

Many people acknowledged camping on the island as one of their favourite ways to experience the island and a terrific experience that they would like to see retained.

There was strong support during the workshops and surveys that modest improvements to the camping facilities such as to preparation areas, showers and amenities, and enhanced privacy between groups would be well received.

Some workshop participants suggested enhancements could be made to the bushland setting by more planting and gardens and that changes would facilitate families and school groups to access and experience the island overnight. Camping was noted as an affordable way to experience the island and feedback reiterated it should remain affordable.

Some support was also noted for adaptive re-use of harbour master's cottage for harbourside restaurant/function centre.

The precinct was ranked last in the survey, though notably the campgrounds were commonly referenced as a much loved experience on Cockatoo Island and this seems to reflect a high level of satisfaction with the existing facilities.



Key insights:

- » Support to see modest improvements to camping and supporting facilities so that future visitors can continue to visit and experience this unique place in the middle of Sydney Harbour
- » Overall the top two most preferred initiatives for the Plateau Precinct identified by panel survey participants were:
 - > Camping facilities remain available
 - > More planting and gardens to create a bushland setting'.



" Having a variety of accommodation options, low to medium budget options would be inclusive for a broader range of Sydney residents to be able to enjoy all the facilities on the island."

" Ensure the camping options remain accessible and affordable, not exclusive."

" Better food preparation as current very limited."

" Make it a glamping, luxury resort style experience on the Harbour rather than a cheap camping feel to appeal to foreign visitors from visiting & staying."

4 Next steps

4.1 What's next?

The Draft Concept Vision was prepared to explore what the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah could look like, drawing closely on what we heard from the community in 2019.

This report has been prepared for the Harbour Trust to document and synthesise community and stakeholder feedback received during the consultation period from 4 May to 11 June 2021.

All feedback will be considered by the Harbour Trust project team, leadership and Members of the Trust as the organisation progresses with planning for the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

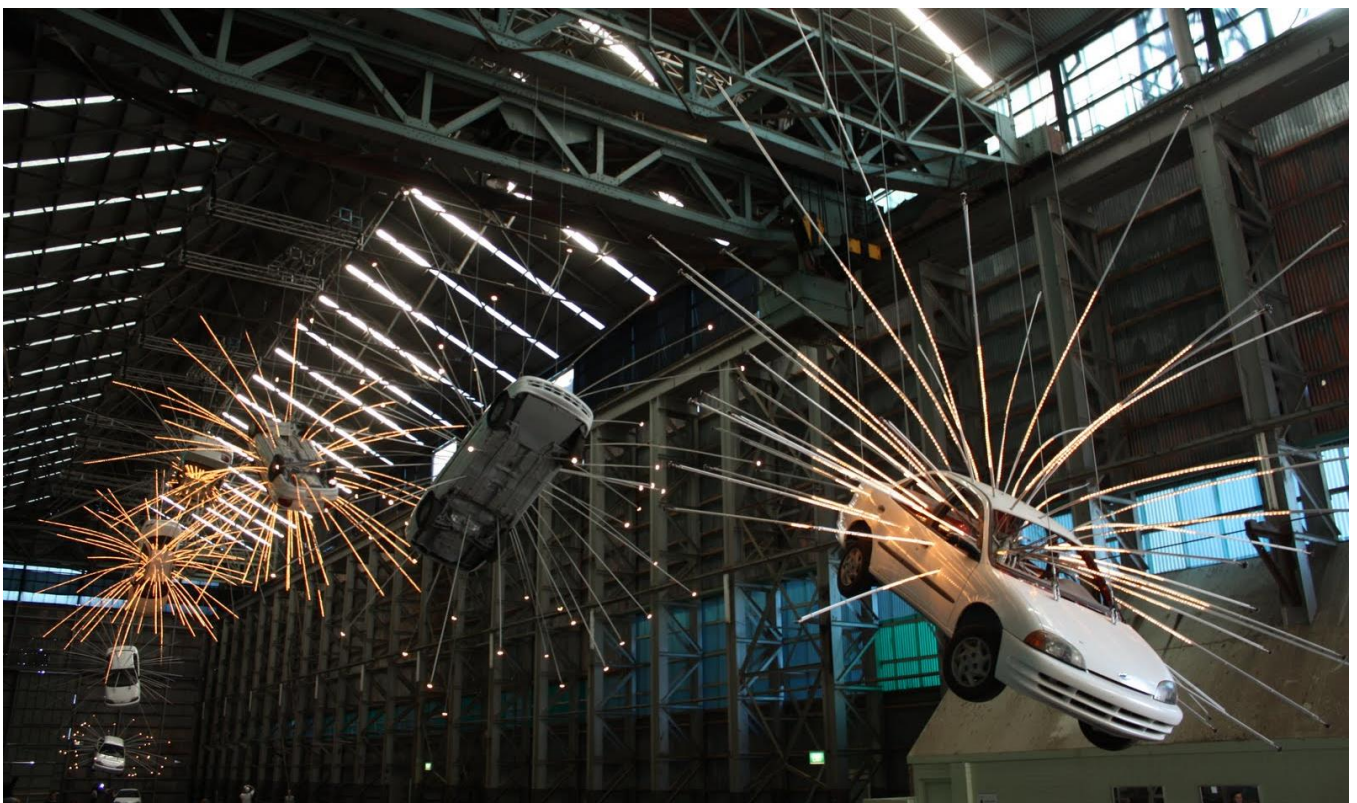
Your feedback on the Draft Concept Vision will help the Harbour Trust to find the right balance between celebrating Cockatoo Island / Wareamah's history, opening it up for more people to enjoy, and realising the places, facilities, partnerships and programs needed to make this possible.

This is only part of the journey, which started nearly 20 years ago with the formation of the Harbour Trust, consultation on the Comprehensive Plan, the community conversation in 2019, and the next steps towards engagement on a detailed master plan for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

4.2 Thank you

Thanks go out to all members of the community and other stakeholders who participated in the consultation process to share their feedback and ideas.

All Sydneysiders will play an important role in helping to realise Cockatoo Island / Wareamah's future. The Harbour Trust seeks to work closely with stakeholders and community to realise a shared vision and master plan for the future of Cockatoo Island that we will all be proud of.



Appendices

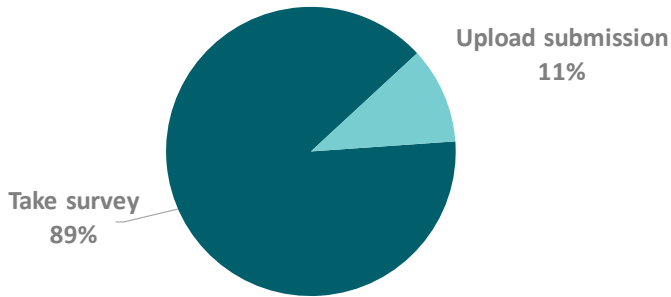
- A Have Your Say web survey results
- B Online panel survey results
- C List of submitters

A Have Your Say web survey results

Q1 Do you want to take the survey or upload your own submission?

There were 530 responses in total to the web survey.

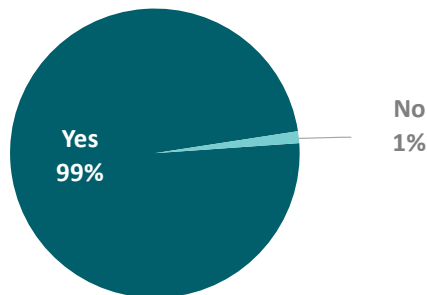
Do you want to take the survey or upload your own submission?



Q2 Do you live in Australia?

Almost all respondents live in Australia.

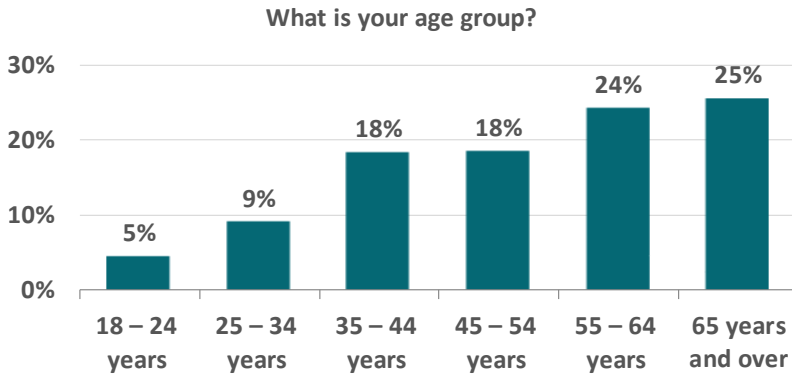
Do you live in Australia?



Q3 What is your name? (confidential)

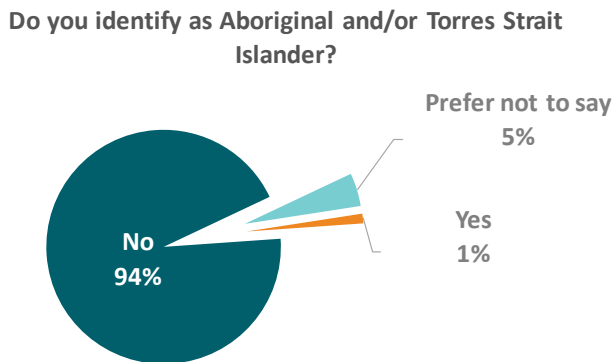
Q4 What is your age group?

Almost half (49.7%) of respondents to the web survey were over 55 years of age, with 85% aged over 35 years. This is in contrast with a media age of 36 years in Greater Sydney.



Q5 Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

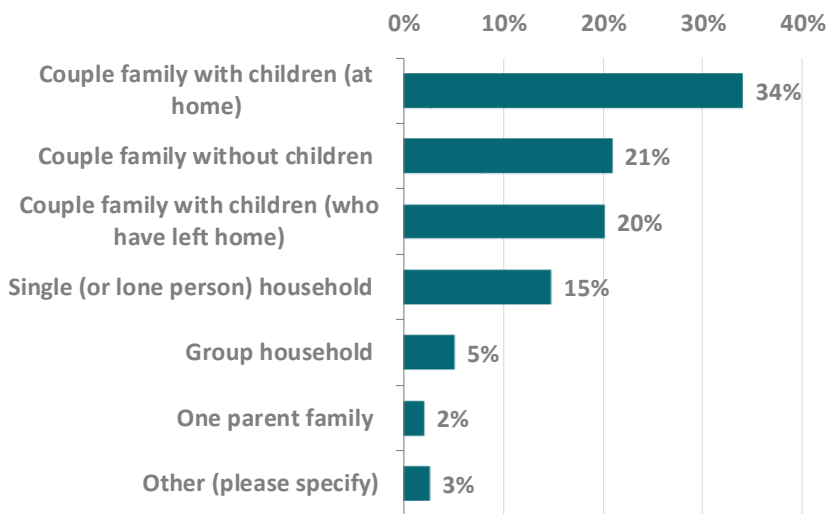
A small number of participants identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Island or did not specify.



Q6 Which of the following best describes your household?

Only a small number of respondents (5%) lived in group households, reflecting an older demographic.

Which of the following best describes your household?

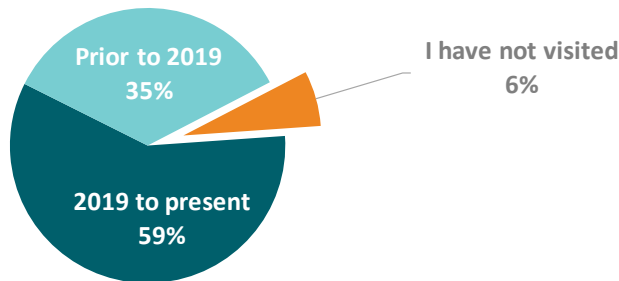


Q7 When did you most recently visit Cockatoo Island / Wareamah?

There was high level of visitation by respondents with only a small proportion (6%) not having visited.

Analysis of the Have Your Say survey demonstrates that there were no statistically significant differences in terms of level of visitation to the Island, across age groups (18-34, 35-54, 55+) or household types (couple families versus other household types).

When did you most recently visit Cockatoo Island / Wareamah?



Q8 Which initiatives would you like to see introduced? Please choose up to 5, where 1 is your most preferred.

Which initiatives would you like to see introduced?
(weighted ranking)

1st, Creative Precinct, 3.50
2nd, Wareamah Tidal terrace, 3.42
3rd, Arrival, 3.41
4th, Cockatoo Island Dockyard, 3.41
5th, Fitzroy Dock, 2.99
6th, The Plateau, 2.75
7th, Slipways Playground, 2.69
8th, Cockatoo Campground, 2.46

The Creative Precinct was the precinct with the highest level of support followed by Wareamah Tidal Terrace, Arrival Precinct, Cockatoo Island Dockyard, Fitzroy Dock Precinct, The Plateau Precinct, Slipways Playground and Cockatoo Campground.

Analysis of the first and second most preferred precincts identified in the Have Your Say survey by demographic groups showed just one statistically significant difference. Participants aged 35-54 were significantly more likely than those aged 55+ to identify the Slipways Playground precinct as their top or second most preferred precinct (38% vs 15%).

The top three precincts identified by people aged 18-34 were: Creative Precinct (69%), Wareamah Tidal Terrace (57%) and Arrival Precinct (54%). The top precincts identified by people aged 35-54 were: Wareamah Tidal Terrace (59%), Creative Precinct (50%) and Cockatoo Island Dockyard (48%). For those aged 55+ the top precincts were: Creative Precinct (60%), Arrival Precinct (60%) and Cockatoo Island Dockyard (59%).

Couples with children identified their top three precincts as: Creative Precinct (56%), Tidal Terrace (53%) and Cockatoo Dockyard (53%).

Q9 Which aspects do you like least? Please choose up to five, where 1 is your least preferred?

Precinct	Average score
Fitzroy Dock	2.7 (least preferred)
Slipways Playground	2.89
Wareamah Tidal Terrace	2.89
Cockatoo Island Dockyard	2.97
Arrival	3.08
Cockatoo Campground	3.35
The Plateau	3.39
Creative Precinct	3.74

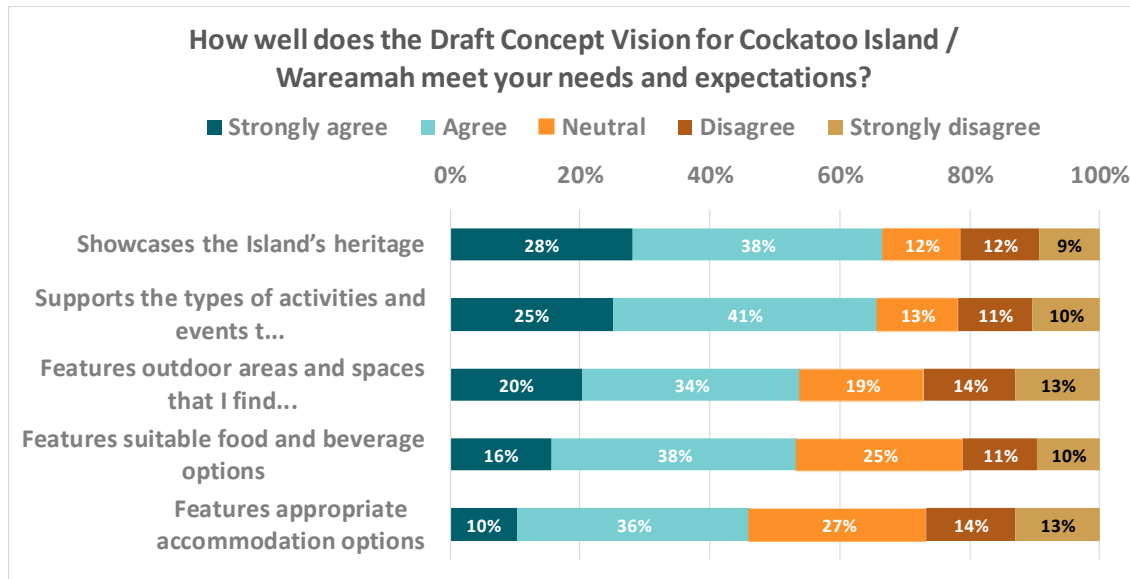
Q10 How well does the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah meet your needs and expectations?

The highest ranked preference was 'Showcases the Island's heritage' followed by 'Supports the types of activities and events that appeal to me', followed by 'Features outdoor areas and spaces that I find appealing' and

'Features suitable food and beverage options' with 54% agreement. Only 'Features appropriate accommodation options received less than majority agreement (46%) with equal numbers either neutral (27%) or in disagreement (27%) with the statement.

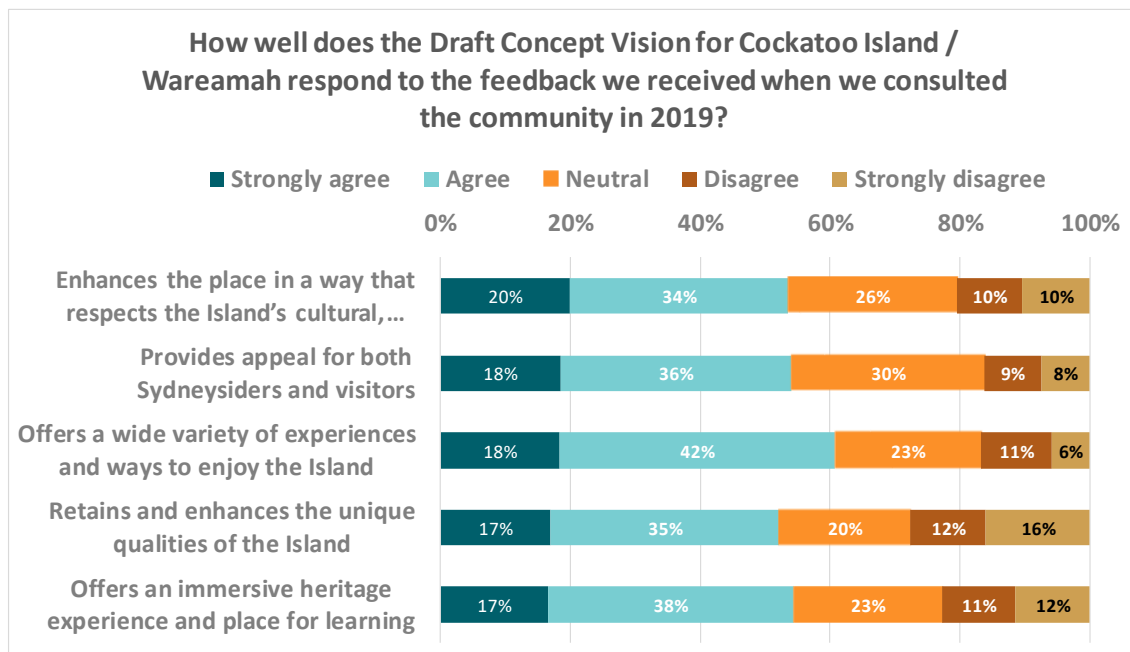
Analysis of how well the Draft Concept Vision meets participants' needs and expectations (across food and beverage offer, appropriate accommodation, showcasing the Island's heritage and so forth) by demographic groups showed no statistically significant differences.

The majority of respondents across all age groups agreed (i.e. strongly agreed or agreed) that their needs were met in relation to all the factors tested in the survey, with only two exceptions. Only 39% of respondents aged 55+ agreed that their needs for 'appropriate accommodation were met; and only 45% of people in this age group felt that their needs were met in terms of activities and events,

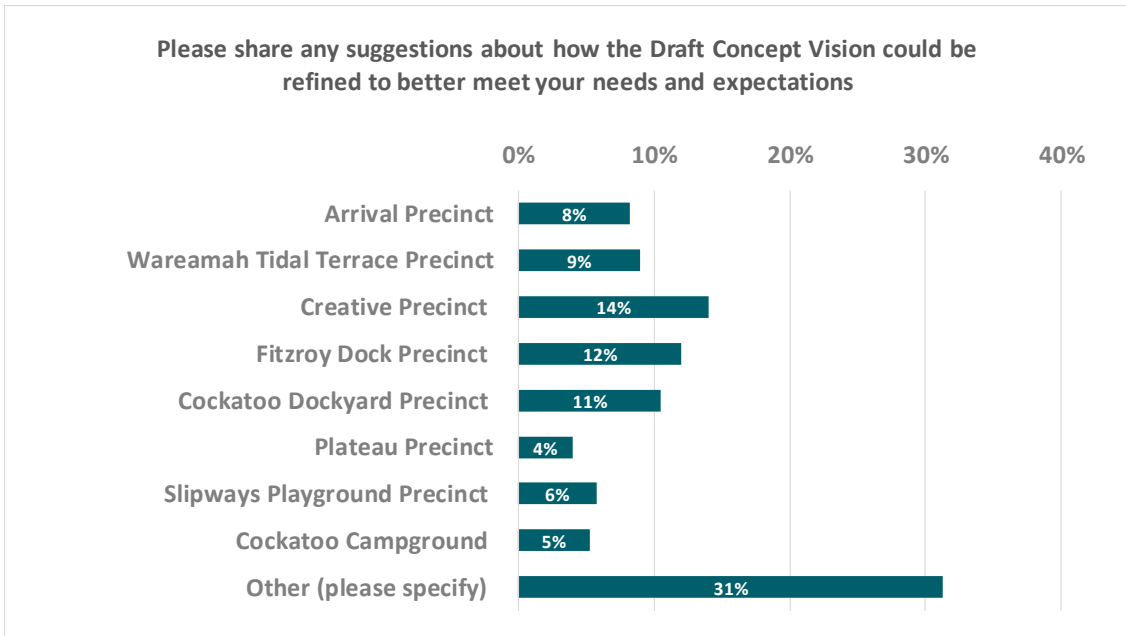


Q11 How well does the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah respond to the feedback we received when we consulted the community in 2019?

Each of the aspects received majority support ranging from 61% to 52% support.



Q12 Please share any suggestions about how the Draft Concept Vision could be refined to better meet your needs and expectations for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

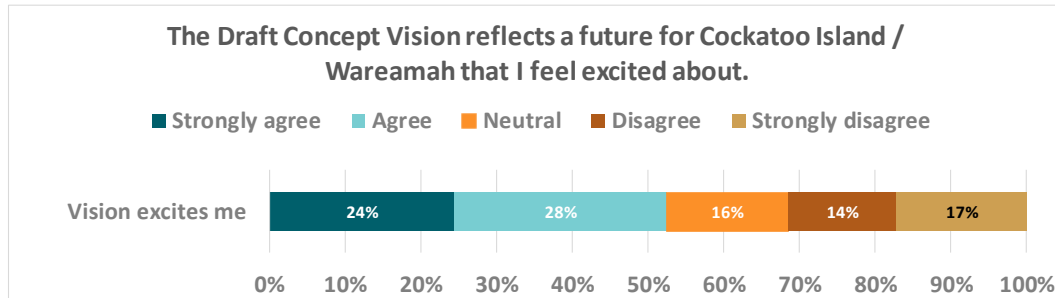


Survey participants provided commentary in 'Other (please specify)' that is reflected in the quotes and qualitative summary in the main body of the outcomes report and in the following word cloud.



Q13 The Draft Concept Vision reflects a future for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah that I feel excited about.

A majority of respondents (52%) agreed that Draft Concept Vision reflects a future that they feel excited about.

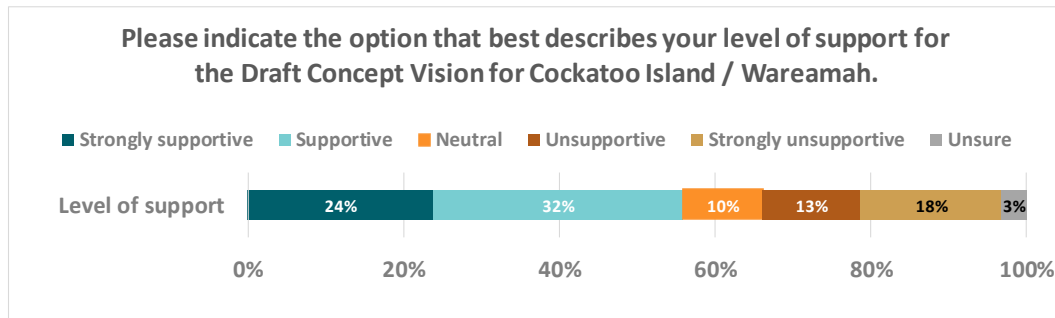


Q14 Please indicate the option that best describes your level of support for the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

A majority of respondents (56%) agreed that they supported the Draft Concept Vision.

Analysis of participants' level of support for the Draft Concept Vision by demographic groups showed three statistically significant differences.

Participants aged 35-54 were significantly more likely than those aged 55+ to support the Draft Concept Vision (65% vs 47% were supportive or strongly supportive). On the flipside, participants aged 35-54 were significantly less likely to be unsupportive of the Draft Concept Vision than those aged 55+ (24% vs 37% were unsupportive). Further to this, couples with children were significantly less likely to be unsupportive than other family types (26% vs 40%).

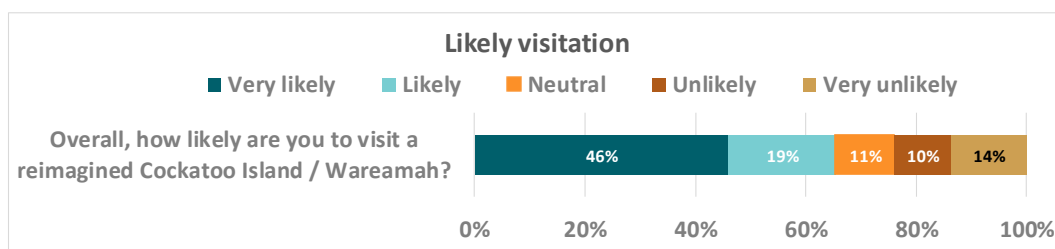


Q16 Overall, how likely are you to visit a reimagined Cockatoo Island / Wareamah?

A majority of respondents (63%) indicated they are likely to visit a reimagined Cockatoo Island / Wareamah.

Analysis of the Have Your Say survey demonstrates that there were no statistically significant differences in terms of likelihood to visit the Island, across age groups (18-34, 35-54, 55+) or household types (couple families versus other household types).

The majority of respondents across all age groups reported being likely to visit a reimagined Cockatoo Island / Wareamah. This includes 74% of those aged 18-34, 68% of 35-54 year olds and 61% of those aged 55+. As many as 71% of families with children reported being likely to visit, compared with 57% of those in other types of household.



B Online panel survey results

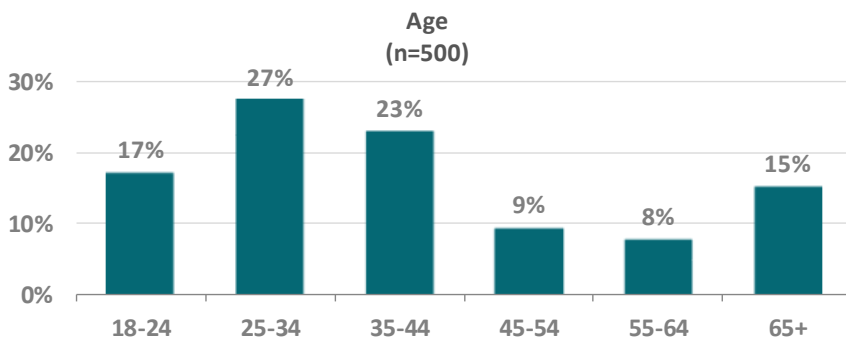
The online panel survey research provides an understanding of community perspectives on the Draft Concept Vision for Cockatoo Island and the various proposals for each of the precincts.

The research was conducted with a **sample of 500 residents of Greater Sydney** to targeting people across a range of ages and demographic groups.

Commentary is included below which compares the survey results by demographic variables such as age and gender to identify similarities or differences across those groups.

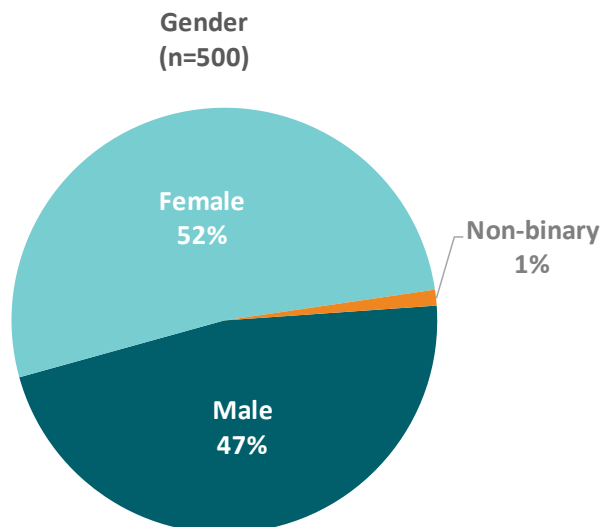
What is your age?

Almost half (44%) of all online panel survey participants were aged under 35 years with the remainder aged 35 years and over. This is slightly younger than the population of Greater Sydney which has a median age of 36 years, with 29% of the population of Greater Sydney aged 15 to 34 years.



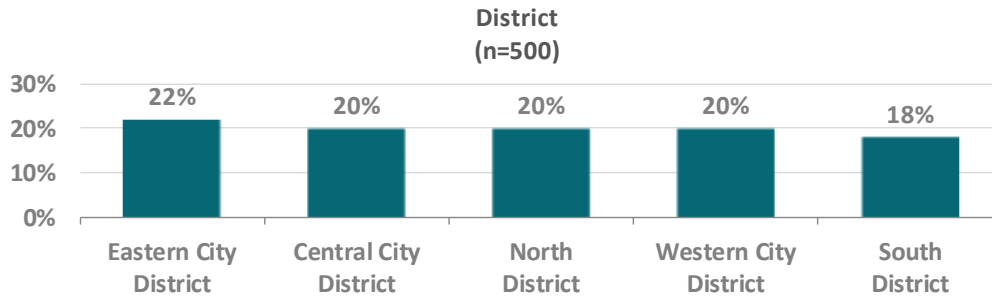
Do you identify as....?

A slightly higher proportion of women (52%) than men (47%) participated in the survey. This is generally consistent with the population of Greater Sydney which has a gender split of 50.7% female and 49.3% male.



Which local government area do you live in?

The survey achieved a balance of participants from across each of Greater Sydney’s five districts, as shown below.



Eastern City District: includes local government areas of Bayside, Burwood, Canada Bay, City of Sydney, Inner West, Randwick, Strathfield, Waverley and Woollahra.

Central City District: includes local government areas of Blacktown, Cumberland, Parramatta and the Hills Shire.

North District: includes local government areas of Hornsby, Hunter’s Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney, Northern Beaches, Ryde and Willoughby

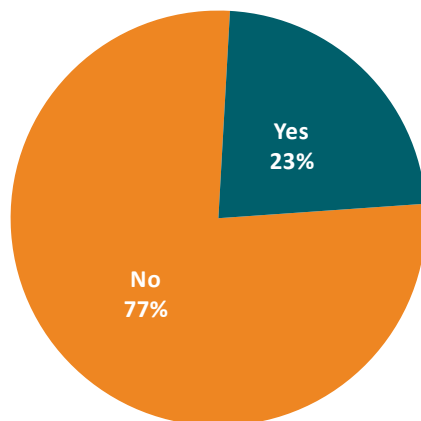
Western City District: includes local government areas of Blue Mountains, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Penrith and Wollondilly.

South District: includes local government areas of Canterbury-Bankstown, Georges River and Sutherland

Do you commonly speak a language other than English at home?

Almost a quarter (23%) of survey participants commonly speak a language other than English at home. This compares with 38% of Greater Sydney households where a language other than English is spoken.

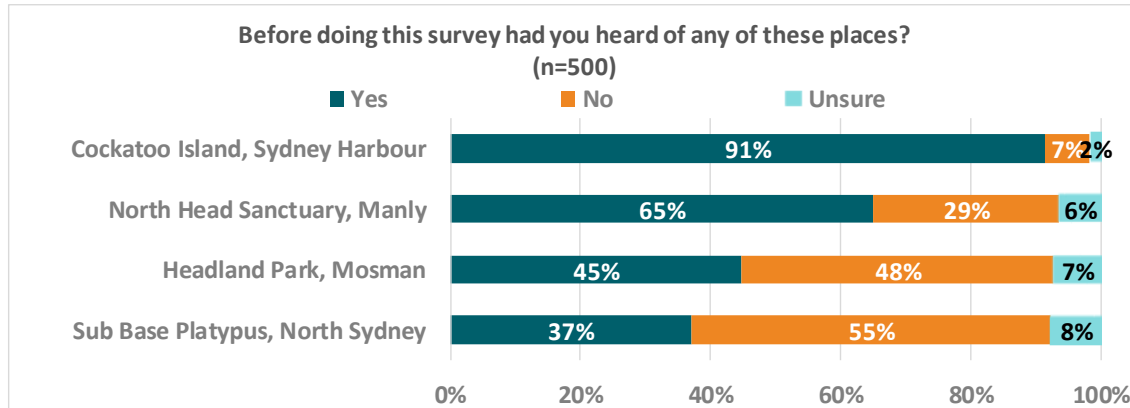
Do you commonly speak a language other than English at home? (n=500)



Awareness and visitation

There was a very high level of awareness of Cockatoo Island (91%) and almost half (46%) of all survey respondents had visited Cockatoo Island in the last three years.

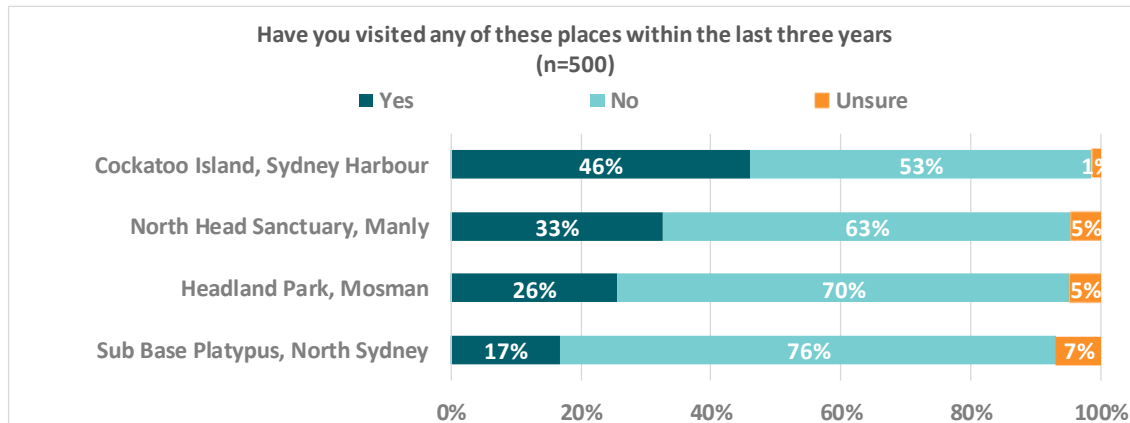
Q1 Before doing this survey had you heard of any of these places?



Q2 Have you visited any of these places within the last three years?

Just under half of all survey respondents (46%) had visited Cockatoo Island / Wareamah within the last three years. Another 53% had not and 1% were unsure. Analysis of the survey data demonstrates that:

- » People aged 25-34 were significantly more likely to have visited than those aged 55 and over (58% vs 26-30%)
- » Residents of Sydney’s Eastern City District were significantly more likely than those from the North District to have visited Cockatoo Island / Wareamah (70% vs 34% had visited).

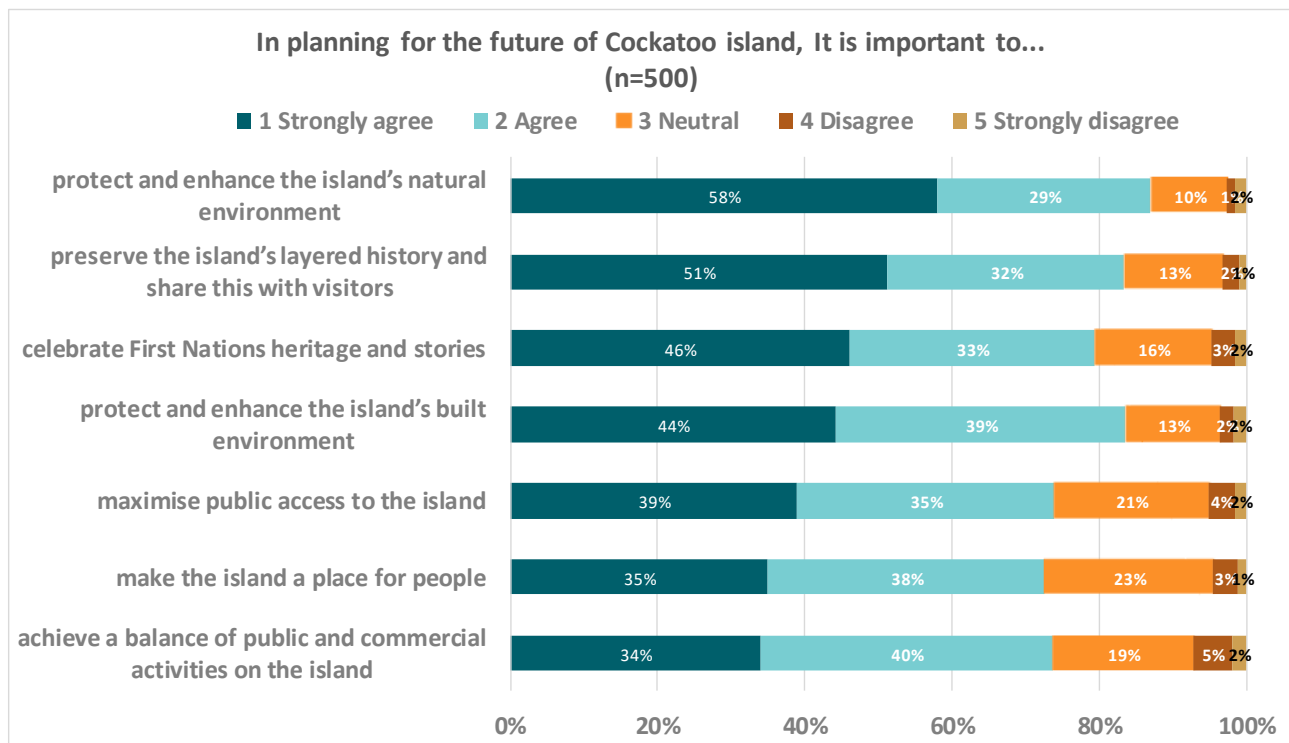


Values for planning the future

Q3 In planning for the future of Cockatoo Island, it is important to...?

A clear majority of respondents agreed with each of the following considerations for planning for the future of Cockatoo Island / Wareamah. Disagreement levels were consistently low across each of the considerations.

Analysis of the survey data identified only one statistically significant difference across groups: that people aged 65 years and over were significantly more likely than those aged 18-24 to agree that it is important to make the island a place for people (91% vs 58% agreed). There were no statistically significant differences across groups relating to 'achieving a balance of public and commercial activities on the island'.



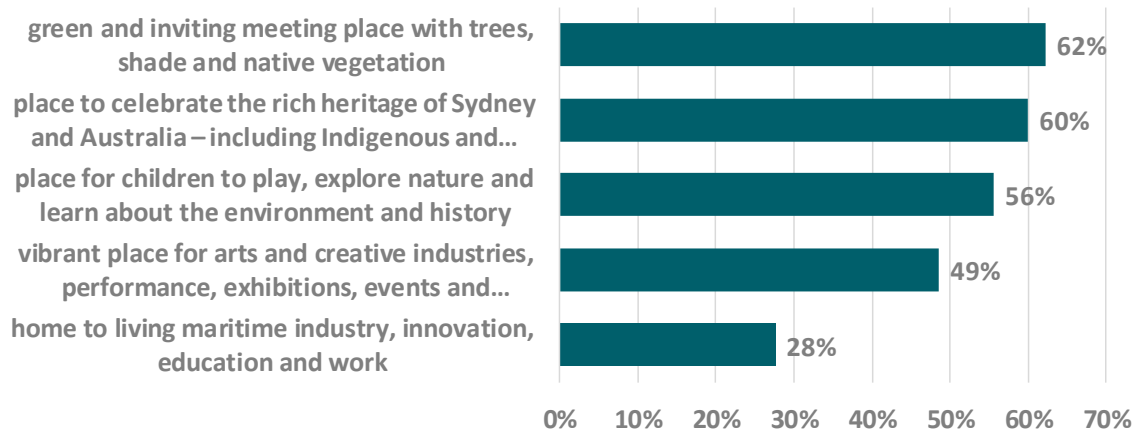
Q4 What sort of place would you most like Cockatoo Island to be?

There was high support for Cockatoo Island to be a green and inviting place that celebrates the rich heritage of Sydney and Australia including Indigenous and convict heritage and working harbour. There was also high levels of support for the island to be a place for children to play, explore nature and learn about the environment and history. Almost half (49%) of respondents also supported Cockatoo Island / Wareamah as a vibrant place of arts and creative industries, performance, exhibitions, events and hospitality. Over one quarter (28%) thought it should be home to living maritime industry, innovation, education and work.

Analysis of the survey data demonstrates that:

- » People who had visited the island in the last three years were significantly more likely to see the island become a vibrant place for arts and creative industries, performance, exhibitions and hospitality – than those who have not (59% vs 41%)
- » People who had visited the island in the last three years were significantly less likely to see the island as a place to celebrate the rich heritage of Sydney and Australia – including the Indigenous and convict heritage – than those who have not (51% vs 67%)
- » Men were significantly more likely to want to see the island become a home to living maritime industry, innovation, education and work – than women (35% vs 20%).

**What sort of place would you most like Cockatoo Island to be?
(n=500)**



Precinct feedback

The following sections outline participant feedback provided in response to the specific ideas for each precinct. Participants were asked to rank their top three choices for each precinct, with 1 being their most preferred.

The first chart for each precinct shows an overall weighted average ranking that puts the ideas in sequence of overall support. The second chart for each precinct shows the proportion of first, second and third ranks for each idea and is sorted by first preferences.

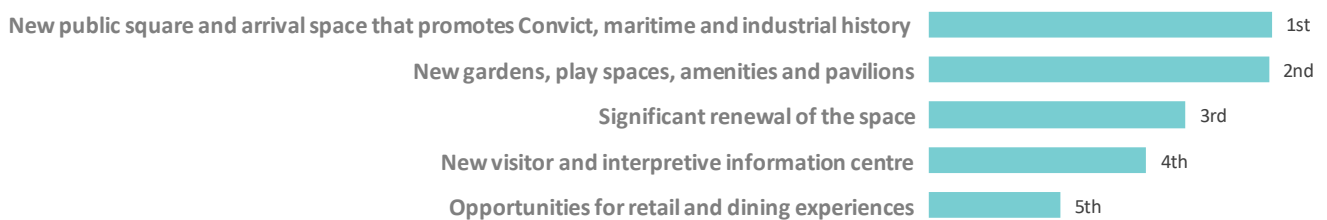
Q5 Arrival Precinct - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

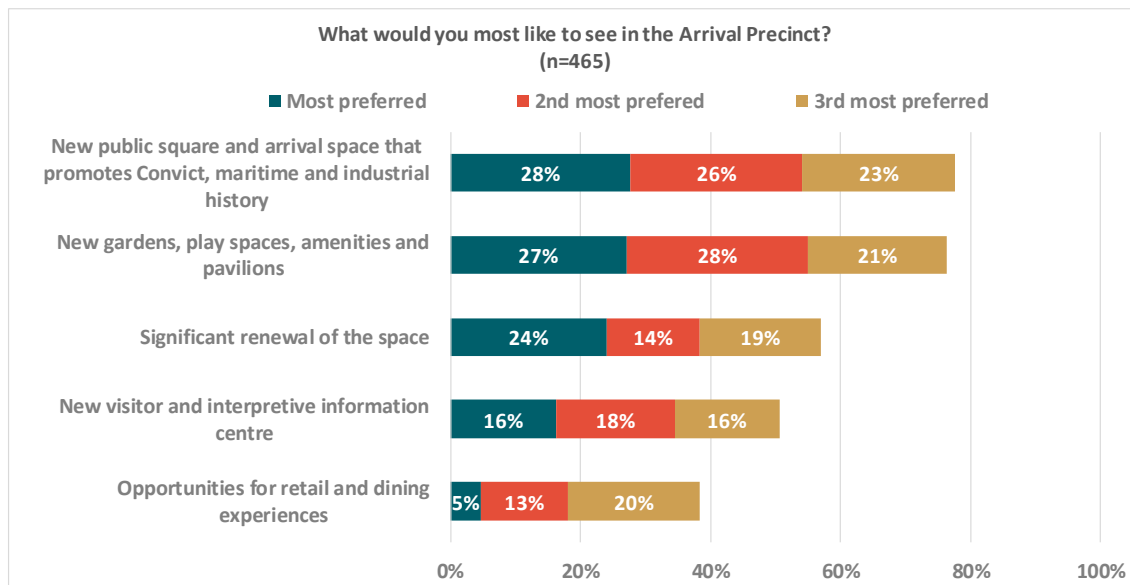
The two most preferred options for the Arrival Precinct were:

- » New public square and arrival space that promotes Convict, maritime and industrial history
- » New gardens, play spaces, amenities and pavilions.

There were no statistically significant differences across groups relating to any of the ideas – including ‘opportunities for retail and dining experiences’.

**What would you most like to see in the Arrival Precinct?
(weighted ranking)**



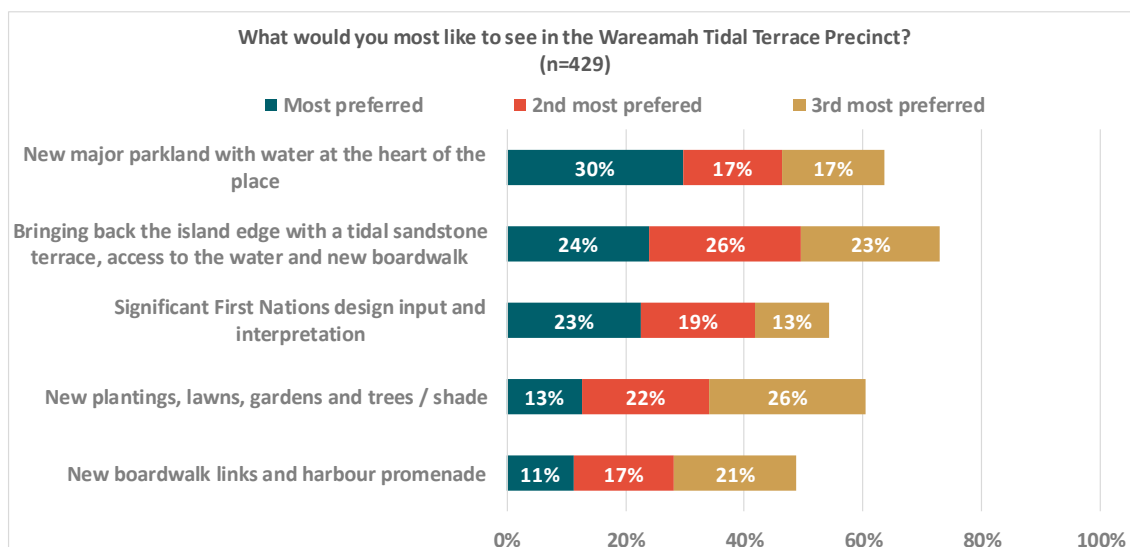
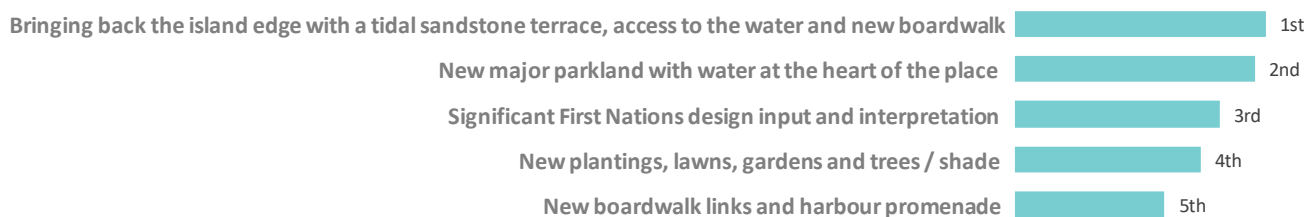


Q6 Wareamah Tidal Terrace - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

Overall the most preferred option was 'Bringing back the island edge with a tidal sandstone terrace, access to the water and new boardwalk' followed by 'New major parkland with water at the heart of the place'.

There were no statistically significant differences across groups in response to this question.

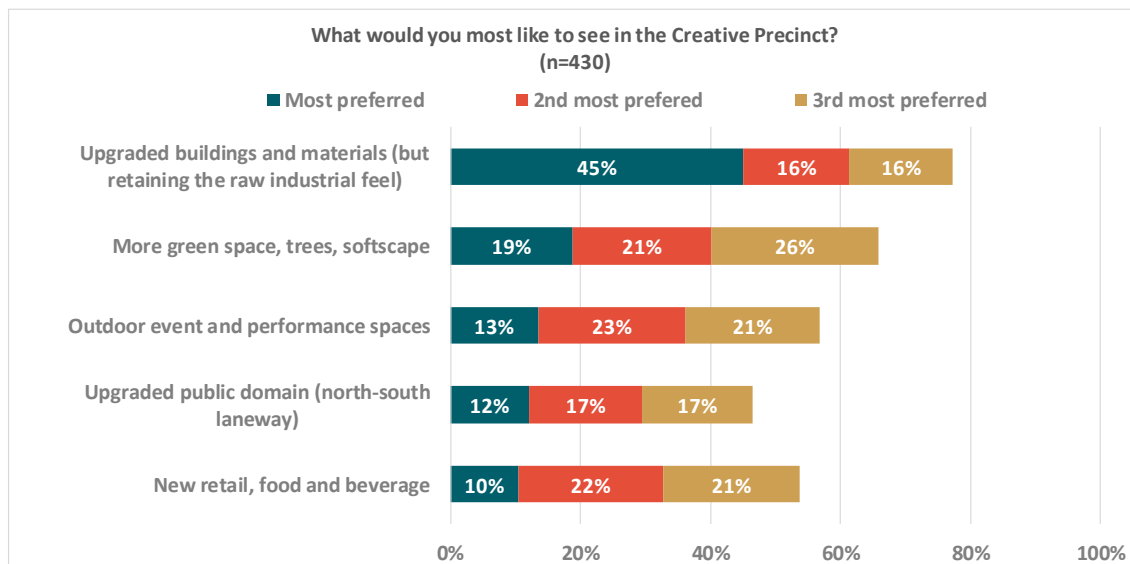
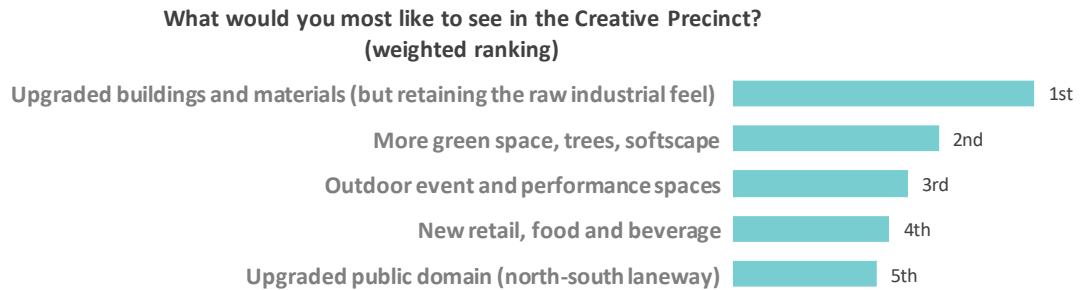
What would you most like to see in the Wareamah Tidal Terrace
(weighted ranking)



Q7 Creative Precinct - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

The most preferred option was 'Upgraded buildings and materials (but retaining the raw industrial feel)' followed by 'More green space, trees, softscape' and 'Outdoor event and performance spaces'.

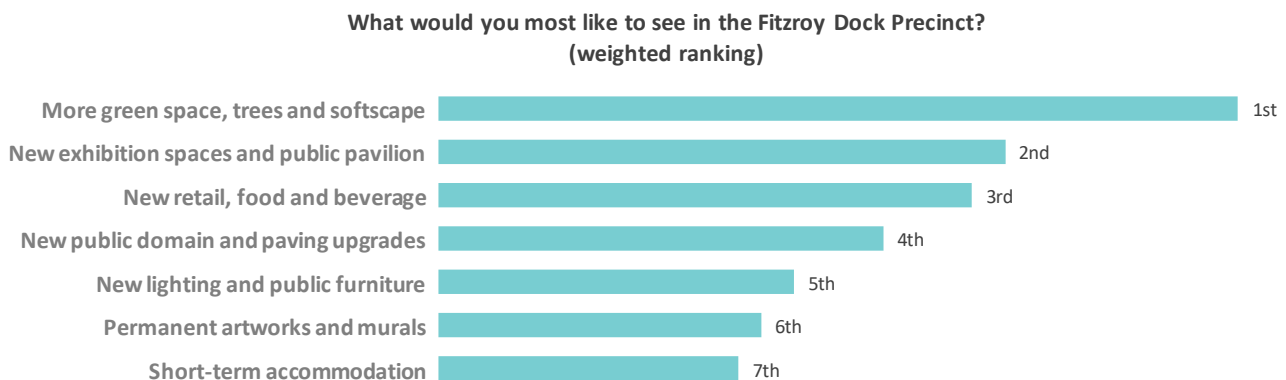
There were no statistically significant differences across groups relating to any of the ideas – including 'new retail, food and beverage'.

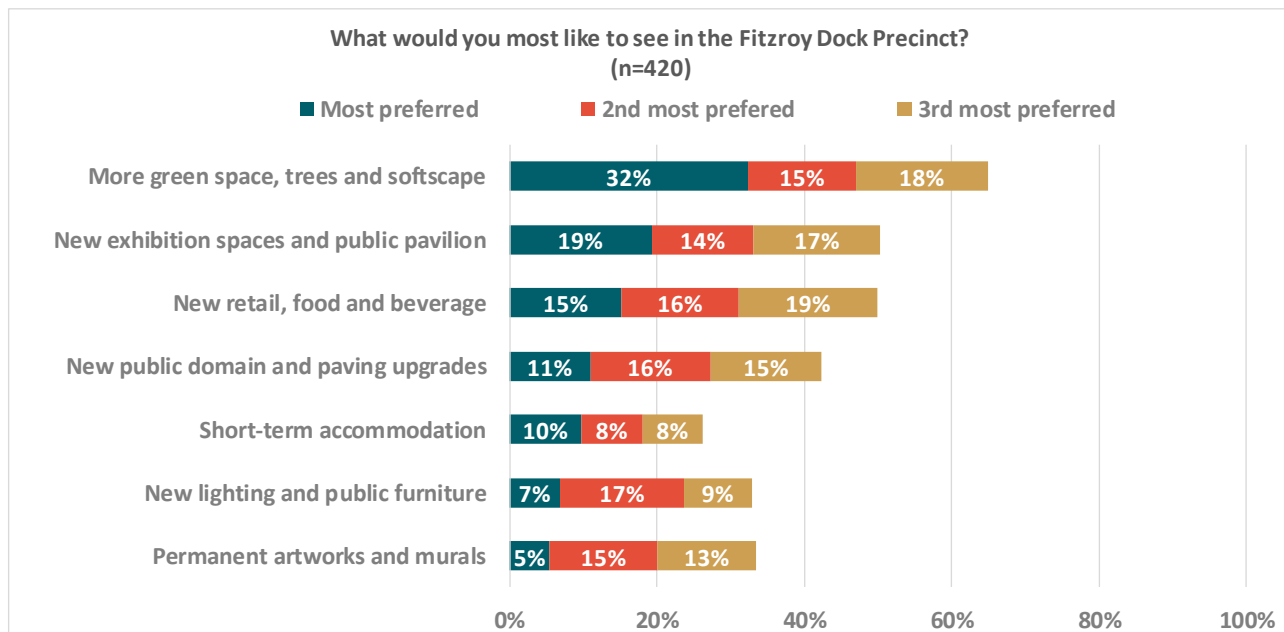


Q8 Fitzroy Dock - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

Overall the most preferred option was 'More green space, trees and softscape' followed by 'New exhibition spaces and public pavilion', and 'New retail, food and beverage'.

There were no statistically significant differences across groups relating to any of the ideas – including 'new retail, food and beverage'.

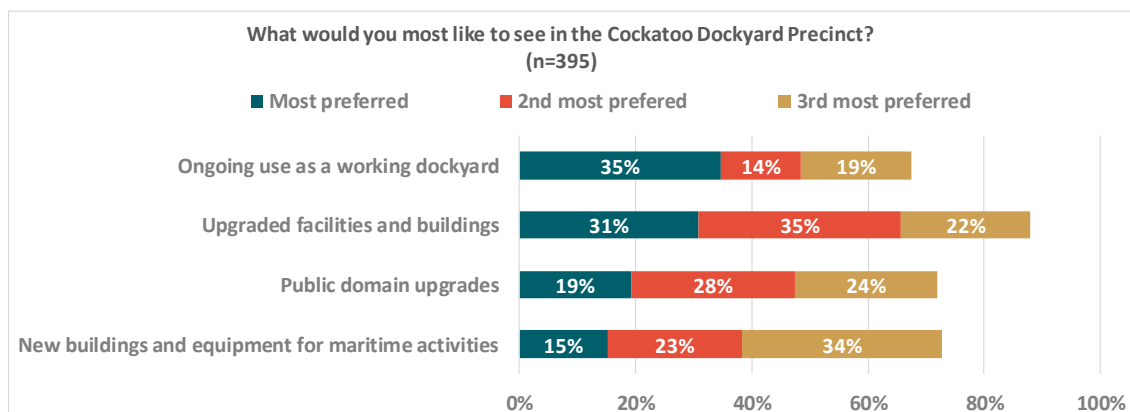
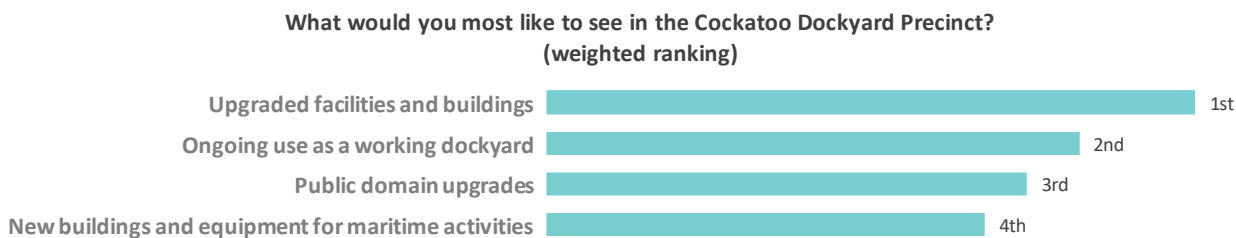




Q9 Cockatoo Dockyard - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

Overall the most preferred option was 'Upgraded facilities and buildings' followed by 'Ongoing use as a working dockyard'.

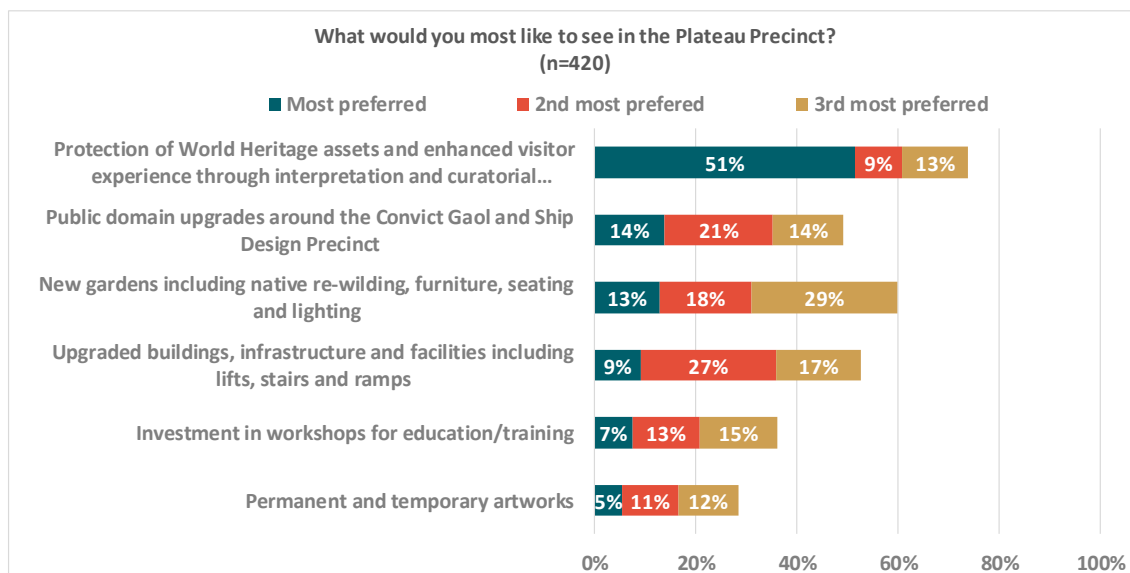
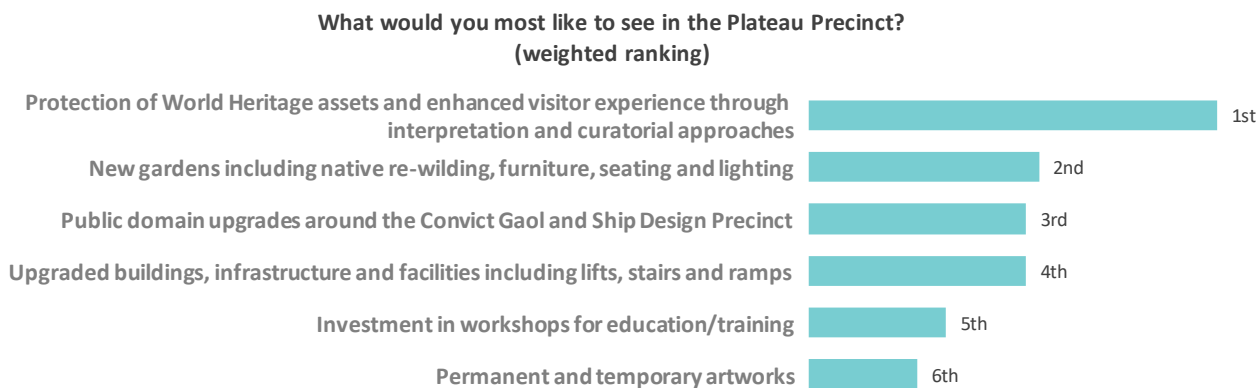
There were no statistically significant differences across groups in response to this question.



Q10 Plateau Precinct - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

Overwhelmingly 'Protection of World Heritage assets and enhanced visitor experience through interpretation and curatorial approaches' received the highest level of support, followed by 'New gardens including native re-wilding, furniture, seating and lighting', 'Public domain upgrades around the Convict Gaol and Ship Design Precinct' and 'Upgraded buildings, infrastructure and facilities including lifts, stairs and ramps'.

There were no statistically significant differences across groups in response to this question.



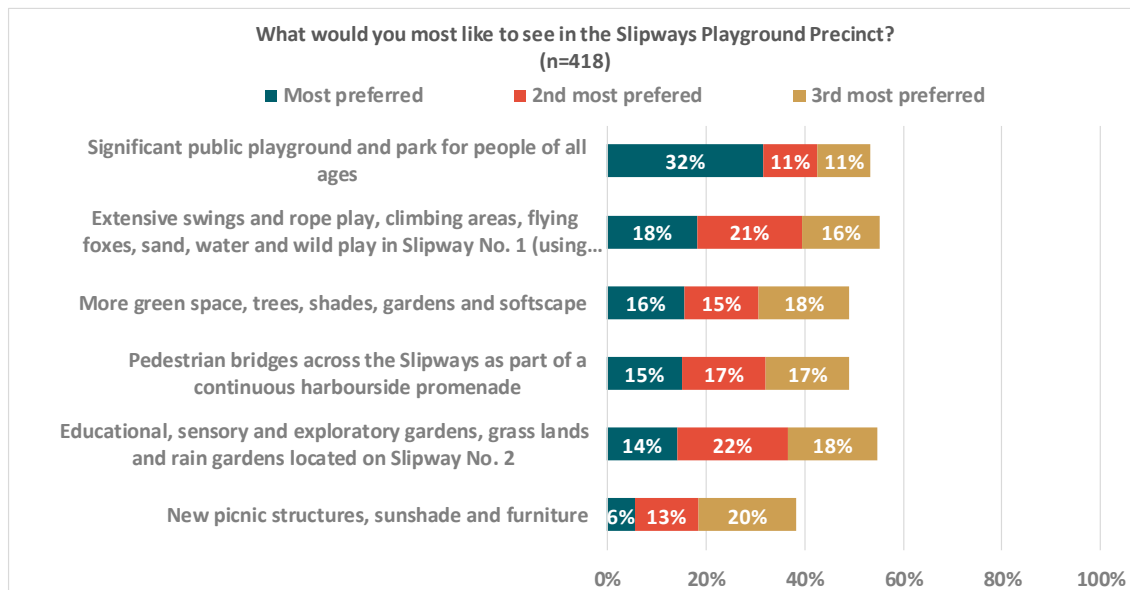
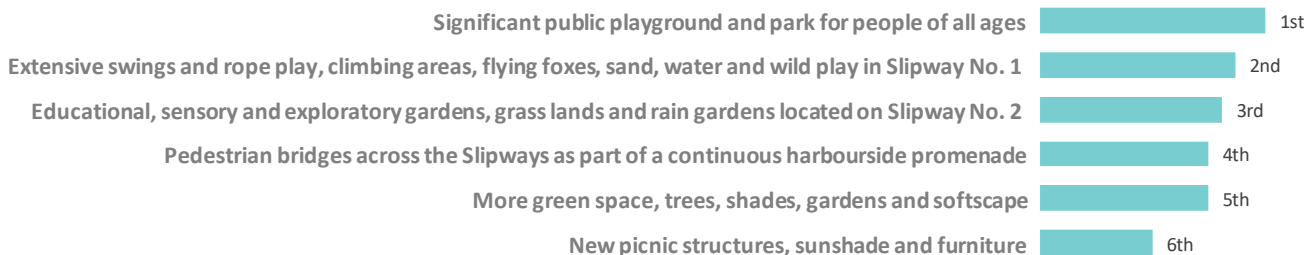
Q11 Slipways Playground - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

Overall the option that people would like to see in the Slipways Playground was 'Significant public playground and park for people of all ages' followed closely by 'Extensive swings and rope play, climbing areas, flying foxes, sand, water and wild play in Slipway No. 1' and 'Educational, sensory and exploratory gardens, grass lands and rain gardens located on Slipway No. 2'.

'Pedestrian bridges across the Slipways as part of a continuous harbourside promenade' and 'More green space, trees, shades, gardens and softscape' were also supported. The lowest ranked initiative was 'New picnic structures, sunshade and furniture'.

There were no statistically significant differences across groups in response to this question.

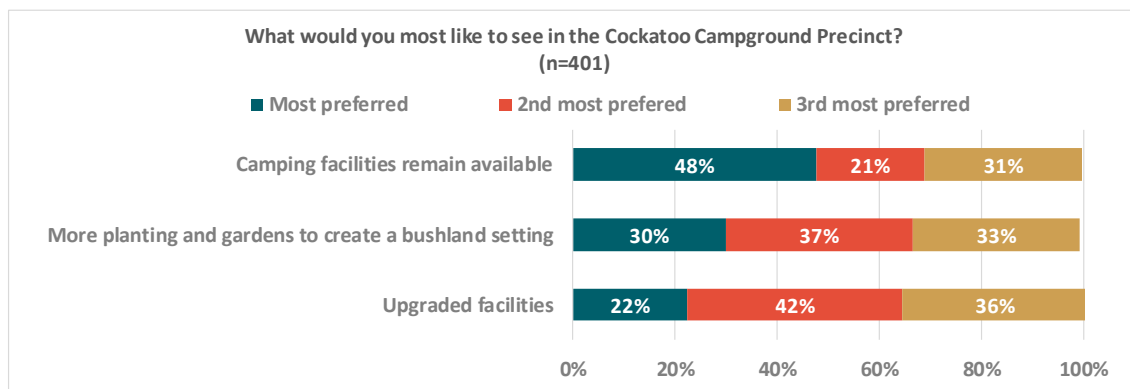
**What would you most like to see in the Slipways Playground Precinct?
(weighted ranking)**



Q12 Cockatoo Campground - What would you most like to see in this precinct?

Respondents most preferred option for the Cockatoo Campground was 'Camping facilities remain available'. There were no statistically significant differences across groups in response to this question.

**What would you most like to see in the Cockatoo Campground?
(weighted ranking)**



Precincts – Level of sample opposing change

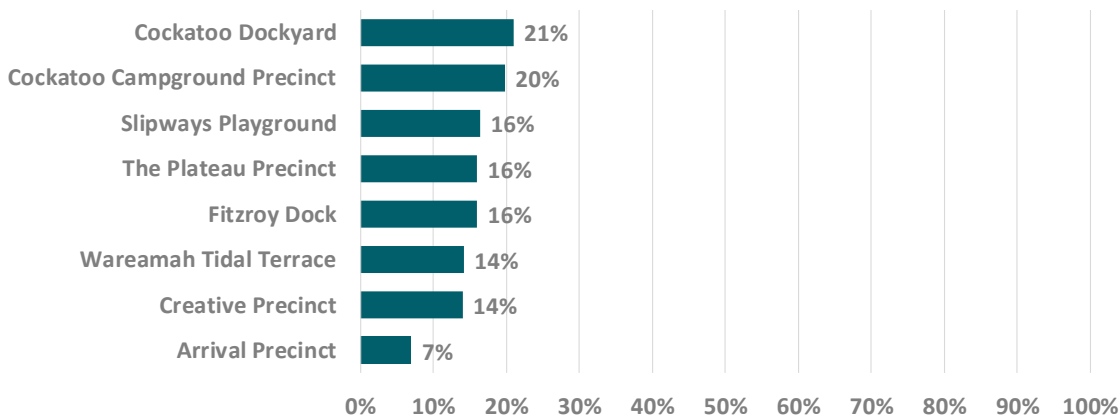
Q5-12 Percentage of sample choosing 'None of the above / would like to see this part of the island stay as is' for each precinct

A number of respondents opted out of ranking the ideas proposed in the precincts and instead chose 'None of the above / would like to see this part of the island stay as is'.

This was highest for the Cockatoo Dockyard (21%) followed by Cockatoo Campgrounds (20%). It was lowest for the Arrival Precinct with only 7% wanting this area to remain the same. The Creative Precinct and Wareamah Tidal Terrace then had the lowest responses of 14% for wanting these areas to remain the same.

There were no statistically significant differences across groups in response to this question.

Percentage of sample choosing None/Stay as is for each precinct (n=500)



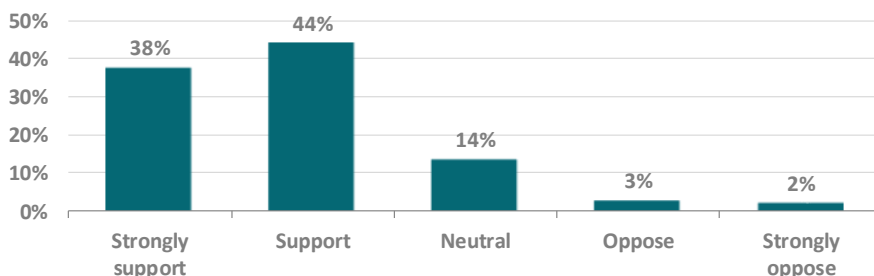
Overall level of support for the Draft Concept Vision

Q13 Overall, how do you feel about the vision and ideas for Cockatoo Island (described in the Draft Concept Vision)?

Overall there were very high levels of support for the vision and ideas for Cockatoo Island with 82% of respondents choosing 'Strongly support' or 'Support' and 14% choosing 'Neutral'. Only 5% of respondents chose 'Oppose' or 'Strongly Oppose'.

There were no statistically significant differences across groups relating to this question.

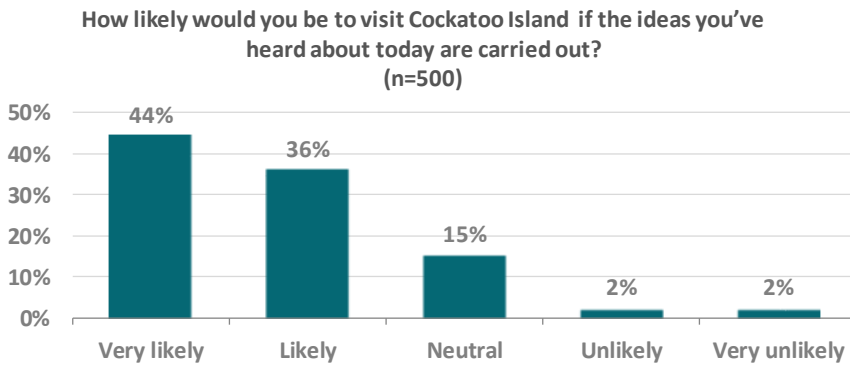
Overall, how do you feel about the vision and ideas for Cockatoo Island? (n=500)



Q14 How likely would you be to visit Cockatoo Island if the ideas you've heard about today are carried out?

A large proportion of respondents (80%) indicated they were 'Very likely' or 'Likely' to visit if the ideas presented in the survey were carried out while 15% chose 'Neutral' and 4% chose 'Unlikely' or 'Very unlikely' to visit.

Analysis of the survey data demonstrates that people who had visited the island in the last three years were significantly more likely to report being 'likely to visit' – than those who have not visited (88% vs 74%).



Final comments

Q15 Is there anything else you'd like to share with the Harbour Trust about the future of Cockatoo Island?



The word cloud above demonstrates the most common word groupings in open text responses to this question. A selection of indicative open text quotes from respondents are included below.

Overall comments:

- *I am glad to hear something happening at last.*
- *I like the ideas a lot.*
- *I think it should be left as it is. Just restoring the buildings to their former glory.*
- *I think more green plants would be better.*
- *Involving the First Nation people in this process and to have this as an interactive space to works towards future generations knowledge and learning together.*

- *Just do it justice and ask the local Indigenous leaders for input.*
- *Just pleased to see there is a vision for it and it will draw people to the harbour.*
- *Keep up the good work! You guys are awesome and continue making Sydney an awesome place to live and to visit. Thank you.*
- *Make it family friendly.*
- *More food! And more events.*
- *More parklands.*
- *More restaurants.*
- *Explain to the public how will bear the cost.*
- *Have the residents of the suburbs north & south of the island been consulted as regards increased sound, water traffic, lighting & increased public traffic?*
- *Please do not overdevelop the site. There is room for some additional retail (eg food service) but this must not become over commercialised or an overly vibrant night spot. The seclusion and peace of the site is one of its key drawing cards.*
- *Please do not spend too much, be careful about budget blowouts. This may be a good idea but with restraint.*
- *Thank you for respecting Aboriginal people and our history.*
- *The ideas put forward definitely will make the island more appealing for visitors.*
- *Very important to upgrade the facilities however maintain the history of the Island.*
- *While agreeing with upgrades I hope that the historical and heritage features are maintained. I remember the apprentice training there, the working dockyard and the Colonial silo in the sandstone...*
- *You can add tree climbing, murals on walls that tells the story itself and even you can add the different art structures which depict the stories of that time or can add aboriginal arts.*
- *Do not build private residential buildings.*

Accessibility

- *Easy accessibility to island.*
- *Ensure good wheelchair access.*
- *It needs to be very easily accessible by public transport and public transport connections. I have*

never visited (I think so) this part of "CBD" mainly because there is only one public ferry access there and the fares are not cheap. Going there for 'nothing' doesn't justify.

- *Make sure there are significant disability access with ramps, bathrooms, lifts etc.*
- *A bridge.*
- *It should be affordable for working class to visit and enjoy.*
- *I hope that transportation to Cockatoo Island remains affordable and easily accessible.*

Activities

- *Create more space for camping and create space for massive music festivals.*
- *Don't forget, it would be a wonderful place to watch fireworks on New Year's Eve.*
- *For the children's playground consider an outdoor water playground like the ones in Singapore.*
- *I have enjoyed being there on a few occasions but would have liked a guide to get the most benefit for my trip there.*
- *I have said my bit it would be a shame NOT to move the maritime museum there and it also presents an opportunity for an Aboriginal history and cultural centre.*
- *In the future, more tourists will be attracted to learn about the culture and art of Cockatoo Island.*
- *Maintain maritime activities, don't just turn it into a tourist destination.*
- *Please don't overdo any changes and lose what's there. I'm concerned adding so much stuff will end up overcrowding the island making it not as enjoyable to visit.*

Heritage

- *I do believe an upgrade is necessary but please preserve the history and heritage.*
- *I would like to see most of the history stay and not have a lot of new things built.*
- *Keep the heritage and make it more family orientated but prices as low as you can so everyone gets to see and camp.*
- *Please try to keep the island non-commercial to save its historical value.*
- *Preserve its heritage, don't turn it into a shopping/restaurant precinct or fun park.*

C List of submitters

A total of 68 submissions were received during the public consultation period. This includes:

- » 53 submissions from individuals (including 17 proforma submissions, names withheld), and
- » 15 submissions from organisations including:
 - > Art of Creative Strategy
 - > Australia ICOMOS
 - > Balmain Association
 - > Bay Steamers Maritime Museum
 - > Central Coast Machinery Club
 - > Cockatoo Boat Storage
 - > Engineering Heritage Sydney
 - > Headland Preservation Group
 - > Lane Cove Council
 - > National Trust
 - > Pyrmont Action
 - > Rail Train and Bus Union Retired Members Association (RTBU RMA)
 - > South Steyne
 - > Sydney Maritime Museum, home of the Sydney Heritage Fleet
 - > Unions NSW.