



Who we heard from

75% of people who responded to the engagement campaign live in Waikanae, almost **20%** live in Paraparaumu, and the balance live in other parts of Kāpiti. **36%** of respondents were 70 years and older. **25%** of people told us they visit the library more than once per week.

Next steps

Councillors will take this feedback into account as they determine the way forward for the new facility. They'll also consider affordability, other priorities, and whether other building options identified during the feedback process could achieve the facility's objectives.

Other key findings

The top three reasons people currently use the library are:

- Borrowing books.
- Accessing Council services and information.
- Reading and leisure.

The three most important aspects for Council to consider when they decide which building option to progress are:

- The library should be a warm, welcoming and accepting space.
- The library should be large enough and be a multi-purpose hub for activities.
- Costs should be managed and financial impact evaluated for the development of the library.

All feedback was analysed by independent research and engagement company, PublicVoice.

This brochure is a summary of the feedback we received; you can read the whole report on our website or by scanning this QR code



Waikanae Library and Community Hub engagement – feedback summary



We invited the Kāpiti community to share their thoughts and ideas on a new library and community hub for Waikanae.

Between 12 June and 22 July 2023, more than 500 people visited our pop-up engagement centre and we spoke with dozens more at community markets and other venues. We received 440 completed feedback forms and online surveys, and more than 3000 comments via post-it notes and online.

Thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts and ideas with us!

Project objectives

We asked people to tell us what services a facility should offer and how it should look and feel if it were to achieve each objective and to select the three objectives most important to them. Insights gained from this part of the engagement exercise will feed into the design and operation of the new facility.

The order of preference and the top themes identified for the three most important objectives are:

1 Provide opportunities to learn, work and create:

- The library should have spaces for talks, classes, and the creative arts.
- The library should provide flexible spaces for studying, working, and meeting.
- The library should give access to books, magazines, newspapers, and online resources.

2 Support communities to connect:

- The library should provide multi-purpose gathering and meeting spaces with technology. These spaces should be soundproof and private.
- The library should have book clubs and events for adults and children.
- The library should have children's spaces for playing and reading.

3 Create a sense of place and belonging:

- The library should provide a warm and welcoming space.
- The library should have gathering or social places for various groups and activities.
- The library should be a space for diverse cultural and entertainment events.

4 Support cultural identity and understanding.

5 Build healthy and resilient individuals and community.

6 Be an exemplar for sustainable practices.

7 Champion inclusivity.



Site options

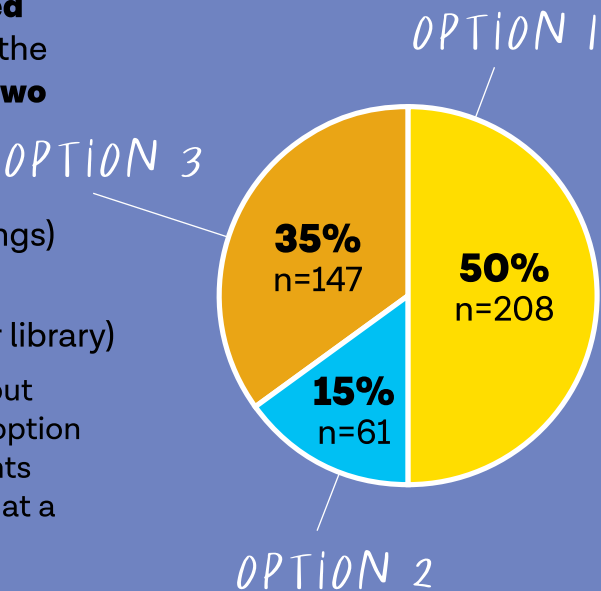
Community members were asked to rank the three building options in order of their preference and to note what they saw as the pros and cons of each option.

As their first choice, **50% of respondents preferred option 1** using one building (Refurbish and extend the former library) **while the other 50% opted to use two buildings split as follows:**

- **35% of respondents selected option 3**
Refurbish both former and pop-up library buildings)
- **15% of respondents selected option 2**
(Refurbish both buildings and extend the former library)

This result was driven mostly by people concerned about affordability. Rangatahi (youth) respondents selected option 3 at nearly twice the rate of other age groups. This points at young people being future-focussed and valuing what a community hub could offer.

Slightly more than half of Waikanae residents selected option 1 as their first choice while one third of them chose option 3. However, people living outside Waikanae favoured option 3 the most. This shows people see the facility will benefit the whole district and that they would travel to Waikanae to visit it.



OPTION 2

Refurbish both former and pop-up library buildings

Top three pros:

- Efficient use of space
- Pop-up library is a more inviting space/better location
- Acceptable timeline

Top three cons:

- Cost and rates concerns
- Multi-building concern
- Long-term inadequacy and space constraints

“The pop up locations have much more visibility and are a much brighter and lighter space than the old building. More encouraging for people to gather and utilise the facilities.”

“Option 1 is the better choice currently given the economy, building delays, inflation and rate increases. Optimally, option 3 is a better choice than option 2 given the small difference in cost and rates impact. However, that requires a more positive economic environment. So cut our cloth to suit our purse.”

OPTION 1

Refurbish and extend the former library

Top three pros:

- Affordability
- Minimal disruption
- No increase in rates

Top three cons:

- Long-term inadequacy
- Space constraints
- Cold space with limited natural light

“Project objectives can be achieved in a smaller space. Lowest cost and most sustainable option. Reusing the old library will revitalise Mahara Place while keeping the library in scale without dominating the area.”

“This option will be immediately too small for our community. Not thinking of the future.”

OPTION 3

Refurbish both buildings and extend the former library

Top three pros:

- Community appeal and revitalisation
- Future oriented
- Cost effective

Top three cons:

- Cost and rates concerns
- Multi-building concern
- Unnecessary service

“The cost is a non-issue. It’s not much money for a great facility for the community.”

“Too expensive and unaffordable. Council has many other priorities for investment. This amount of space is not needed for 20 years. Stage the expansion of Waikanae Library and make sure other areas get their share of investment.”