

Summary of findings from the Three Reports for Developing Lucan as a Tourism Destination

The following is a summary of the results of a Public Survey, Questionnaire, and Stakeholder Consultations carried out by CHL Consulting on behalf of South Dublin County Council from June 2021 to July 2022 for developing Lucan as a Tourism Destination

First Report is a Public Survey this was completed online and had 494 respondents. The survey covered all of the following topics, you can find all the detailed replies to these issues in this first report.

- Traffic and Parking,
- Pedestrianisation,
- Reclaiming of History/Heritage Buildings and Sites,
- Improved Public Realm,
- Events and Festivals,
- Improvements for Cyclists,
- Improvements for Pedestrians,
- Improvements to the Parks,
- Better Public Transport Links,
- New/Better Dining, Markets/Artisan Producers,
- Providing Experiences for Locals,
- Tourist Information Centre,
- Use of the River and Canals,
- Outdoor Activities, Improved Water Based Activities,
- Better Safety,
- Family Activities,
- Retail, Destination Concept

Second Report on Lucan as a Tourism destination this was completed online and had 494 responses to 11 key multichoice questions.

- The questions covered topics such as do you welcome the proposal to develop Lucan as a destination for visitors, what do you see Lucan's strengths in attracting visitors, what challenges do you see in developing Lucan as a destination for visitors and also covered key questions on Lucan Demesne, St Catherine's Park, and River Liffey.
- The responses to these questions were then ranked according to percentage according to the answers selected in the multi-choice.

Third Report on Stakeholder Consultations, there were fifteen one to one consultations undertaken, by phone, video and in person.

LUCAN SURVEY 2021 – OPEN ENDED QUESTION ANALYSIS

Traffic and Parking

Responses

- Parking and traffic is a huge issue and keeps people away from the village, it's nightmare.
- Need more parking, stop the village from being a rat run
- There are too many cars going through the village. It's dangerous and ugly.
- We need more roads, very bad traffic to get Lucan; Chapel Hill/Lucan Rd/R835 make an ideal local bypass.
- Less speed bumps and less traffic lights
- Main street is too narrow and already fully parked
- Parking would need to be a priority
- Need more parking before any development takes place. There is absolutely no point in offering tourist attraction if it causes traffic/no parking for residents on a regular occurrence.
- only if there is sufficient free parking.
- Parking & traffic is a huge issue
- Traffic in the village needs to be eased,
- Parking and traffic needs to be sorted as it's bad enough at the moment
- More parking is needed in the village (at a reasonable cost),
- through traffic in the evenings for people avoiding the M50 tolls is a big issue,
- the horrendous traffic in the village sorted
- Traffic is a real problem and why lots of people avoid the village. How to have less people use the main bridge of Lucan would be the biggest help.
- Lack of off street parking is a serious issue especially at weekends when the village is used as a free park and ride I no longer shop or visit very much because of this.
- Lucan Bridge should be tolled to stop M50-dodgers using it.
- Traffic is awful with many using Lucan as a cut through to avoid paying M50 Toll.
- Main issues is access to the village & enjoyment. This destroys the enjoyment of the village for locals & visitors.
- Take lorries off and lower speeds on Newcastle/Adamstown to village road. Better parking
- Tourist buses parking????
- Parking and traffic definitely need to be addressed
- There is a huge problem with traffic congestion. During school days it can take 15 minutes to drive from St Mary's Church to the entrance of Laraghcon at the weir. There is also a serious lack of parking in the village. Fix those issues before looking at trying to actively draw extra people to the area
- Traffic and parking will be a massive challenge.
- Improve parking facilities in the village
- Traffic and parking already a problem so this will need to be carefully planned for

- There is not enough parking in the village
- We need more parking in the village
- Crisis of parking hinders businesses as does paid parking competing with free parking in Liffey Valley.
- Traffic avoiding M50 tolls and causing congestion to Laraghcon is at a crisis point.
- Traffic management needs to be improved as still used as rat run to avoid m50
- Parking and traffic will be an issue as already is a problem
- The big issue is the lack of parking and traffic through the village
- Traffic is a horrendous issue - I tend to avoid the village as it is so difficult to get through.
- Traffic congestion is the biggest deterrent all over Lucan not just in the village which can be a nightmare to get to at times.
- Traffic and parking need to be sorted for locals first
- believe one of the biggest issues is sufficient parking (preferably free) within walking distance of amenities.
- the traffic issues need to be addressed first
- There is a desperate need for more parking facilities as the village is already busy and it would turn visitors off not finding parking easy.
- Traffic is appalling
- Parking is terrible
- the traffic congestion, which seems to worsen year in year out.
- Parking and traffic in the village needs to be addressed first. It is a nightmare as things are never mind if additional visitors come.
- There is a massive problem with traffic in the village. Commuters use the village to avoid paying for the toll bridge. Until that issue is solved the village will continue to be a car park and not an attractive tourist destination.
- traffic management needs careful consideration.
- Also the previous indicated plans to widen/change the bridge through the village are not in keeping with the current setting and would destroy the look of the old bridge and weir area, maybe another crossing locating further down river could be explored
- Traffic and parking will be an issue.
- Traffic congestion is a huge issue 7 days a week in Lucan. A strategic plan addressing better traffic flow through Lucan is essential.
- Traffic congestion urgently needs to be addressed
- Ongar link road is critical to get traffic away from village. Without a reduction in traffic on laraghcon hill & village, the village cant breathe or flourish. A one way traffic system through Main Street village would give space for more footpaths, cycle paths, and reduce traffic. etc.
- try to reduce through traffic;
- Addressing the issue of people misusing Lucan village as a drive through option to Clonee/Castleknock/Blanchardstown to avoid paying the toll needs to be addressed
- Traffic is horrendous in the village something will have to be done before all this happens. Plus wall outside embassy still hasn't been fixed
- Parking needs to be addressed but the centre of the village is not the answer. The on street parking on the roads around the village are great. Being able to use the parking app for the 30 mins free parking would help.

- no capacity for additional road traffic.
- A one way traffic system.
- Traffic issues
- People are put off going to the village as it is clogged with cars. Another way for cars to cross to the other side of the river will be needed to reduce traffic through the village and develop it as a destination rather than a through way to avoid the M50 toll. If the M50 toll was redesigned to be spread out along the length of the M50, or removed altogether, people would use it rather than trying to drive through the one small bridge in Lucan village.
- Parking and traffic congestion in village a big problem,
- The biggest issue in Lucan is traffic and always has been. This needs to be addresses before inviting more people into the town.
- The traffic system needs to change as trying to get through village at centra is a disaster
- Traffic management through village as people avoid the m50 toll for clonee needs addressing.
- The provision of a car parking area. Dealing with the continuous traffic jams through the village both during the week and at weekends.
- No cars in lower part of village. Would love to see the triangle in the village for pedestrian
- Address traffic solutions
- I think it's too late for Lucan , 25 years here
- The traffic, parking needs to be addressed
- Traffic is such a big issue
- Traffic management including parking need attention
- Parking is a issue
- then additional car parking somewhere on the outskirts of the village would be necessary as more cars trying to get into and through the village will not only upset locals but will destroy any 'touristic appeal' the town may hope to develop.
- Address the traffic issue
- serious issues with traffic and parking -if village is to be developed strong consideration need to be given to this.
- There needs to be better traffic management, less parking
- Without a doubt parking & traffic control is of the upmost importance
- Traffic traffic traffic
- Very worried about traffic. As it is traffic is very bad in the village
- Traffic is a major problem all around Lucan
- I feel Lucan village is a prime candidate for a one way traffic system - would allow for better walking and cycling infrastructure and also outdoor dining.
- Traffic is an issue.
- Sort out the traffic in the village and it would be a more attractive place to visit.

Pedestrianisation

Responses

- I think there needs to be some holistic thinking around traffic in the village and possibly looking at the pedestrianisation/one-way system to remove traffic from the village to provide a better experience for locals and tourists.
- One way traffic system
- Traffic free main street.
- might be a good idea to pedestrianise one side of the village or it all.
- The village green and main street would be a wonderful space if car traffic could be removed.
- Pedestrianising the village at certain times...allow for safe access walking & cycling
- Would love to see the triangle pedestrianized and a parking area made available nearby
- Make the one way system go from AIB around up past the boys school and back around by the girls school.
- Pedestrianise the are beside Carrols and the park and use it for restaurant/cafe/markets
- Require a one way traffic system and removal of parking spaces from the village to make it more attractive to walk and relax for families, couples and friends. This would allow for more outdoor dining to the front of pubs and cafe's which is very nice to look at.
- have to start with pedestrianising the village itself, sort out traffic blackspots...
- However if you pedestrians the village local shops will suffer from trade as it would be too inconvenient to shop there then.
- Perhaps pedestrianise parts of the village
- To fully succeed and maximise the village potential, you'd need to remove cars from some sections. Pedestrianisation from 10AM (post shop delivery)
- Pedestrianise Lucan and provide a carpark
- Pedestrianised areas, and eco co conscious planning would be beneficial to the area and as a marketing tool.
- Consider pedestrianising part of the village and incorporate the village park
- If the Italian ambassadors Res was acquired it could be an amazing amenity in the centre of the village
- The village needs to be made pedestrian. There is too much traffic going through it most of the time.
- Traffic needs to be banned from the majority of the village in order for seating to be installed for the pubs and restaurants outside.
- At the moment, the centre of Lucan is unattractive for pedestrians and there's no incentive to linger.
- Pedestrian area beside the green .
- Pedestrianised Main Street

Reclaiming of history/heritage / heritage buildings and sites

Responses

- Better cooperation with the Italian embassy & urgent repair of the wall.
- QR scan style systems to be introduced with guided tours/heritage trails.
- Incorporate the local hotels such as Spa and Finnstown as they have historical aspects, Finnstown Castle hotel recently renovated the whole building and has incorporated the castle walls into the new design.
- In the Adamstown lands there are a number of historical buildings/ruins that should be protected. There are plans to upgrade the embankment between Castle Riada and MoyGlas and a heritage piece of the Esker Glacier which is unique in Ireland should be included with these plans and all relevant plans.
- While there is emphasis on water activities along the River Liffey could the canal be looked at regarding history tours along the water/canal (not sure what transport if any is used these days) and the old buildings along the canal to be included in Lucan's heritage trails.
- The restoration of Shackleton's Mill
- The Italian embassy needs to be accessed by the public with amenities.
- The Liffey bridge is the longest single span stone bridge in Ireland. It is one of the most scenic areas in Lucan. Please do not put a metal cycle bridge next to it destroying this beautiful vista.
- DESPERATE need to conserve existing derelict historic buildings around the village. Please invest in heritage innovation and promotion.
- If walking tours could be organised it would be great. It might create difficulty in the village with the narrow paths but could be timed for quieter times.
- Old Esker Cemetery to have graves remarked simply and some genealogical titbits could be good also and a coffee hub around that area would also encourage a nice stopping point on way to St. Finian's etc and signage or an app location markers for self guided tours
- I would love to see St Finian's cemetery and the old mill on the Liffey being restored. The mill could be a great historic tourist site
- The site is obviously dangerous but I would love to see something done with the ruins of the old house in St. Catherine's park. Even as a minimum some visible information on the history of the Colthurst Vesey's.
- Different houses and buildings could have simple non- expensive plaques or cards giving brief interesting info about the place.
- Lucan could be a brand for a place with a history including: it's geological features, Vikings on the Liffey, Normans, Sarsfield's, Hanson, Mills.
- Open the historic building that currently serves to house the Italian ambassador. Give it back to OPW
- Utilise the local historians who contribute on the local Lucan old society website.
- We need a proper heritage trail
- Take back the Italian embassy grounds.
- tour of the churches in village
- buy the Italian embassy back open to tourist develop that area for tourist and recreation
- Preserve as many old buildings as possible.... tourists want to feel character.

- Heritage signs needed all over Lucan
- Maintenance of old historic bridges must be an importance
- Embrace the past and its history for future generations'. Look at the stories from Hills Woollen mills and Shackleton's. Also the 12th lock .
- Napper Tandy and Sarsfield.
- Stop trying to change what we have by taking away the historical sights. Encourage and promote them in the community first to see how people feel. The old cemeteries should be promoted. Have tours about some of the local characters and how they shaped Lucan to what it is today.
- also more historical information
- street plan showing churches, mills, graveyards & notable historic buildings for family tree researchers who want to walk in the footsteps of their ancestors.
- A fully signed heritage trail giving info on the buildings in the Village.
- The square in the centre of the village is overwhelmed by traffic - the obvious option is the west side - should be fully pedestrianised. Traffic should be confined to the east side, which means this would need to become a two-way street. Right now, both sides are clogged with traffic, making for an unpleasant experience for those on foot.
- the historic Lucan House and grounds should be made available to the public. It would make an amazing public park and has terrific views over the Liffey.
- It would be great to have a guide on walks in and around Lucan village as the majority of places we have just found through word of mouth and also a consolidated data base (online or a book) outlining the history of Lucan.
- Shackleton mills
- Develop Shackleton Mills old site, also maybe put something up about coffee house that used to be in village
- Guided tours offered daily with free coffee/ snack in village included...
- has a huge amount of history (Grandon's house, Italian ambassador residence, old schoolhouse, the Spa at the hotel etc)
- Repair king johns bridge to its original state.
- Open up castle and church in village to visitors
- Restore St Johns Bridge
- Make a walkway down the banks of the Liffey from the bridge to Shackleton
- Huge amount of potential considering all the heritage sites in Lucan. We need to cherish them
- Protection and promotion of Lucan's built heritage. Any development for the sake of tourism should enhance the village and not overshadow or negatively alter Lucan's historic buildings and bridges.
- More signage at historical points of interest, well thought out walking routes to link key areas of historical interest and natural beauty.
- Development of Shackleton's Mills for the benefit of the local community/tourism would help bridge the river and take full advantage of the natural beauty of the Strawberry Beds and river Liffey. It would also boost business for the great pubs and restaurants along the Lower Rd.
- Local history trail/visitors centre
- Development of Shackleton Mill

Improved public realm / toilets / presentation of the village / signage

Responses

- Provision of comfortable seating along river walking routes, in parks etc. Are no option for elderly, mobility impaired or the very young
- floral displays on all shopfronts
- The paths around the shops beside Circle One petrol station need to be redone. They look tatty and uninviting.
- Public Toilets as in Catherine's Park which are always kept clean, with toilet rolls and are always spotless.
- Provided public toilets. More kayaking facilities
- More public toilets and benches in Griffeen Park
- No public toilets
- Bring back the old fashioned water fonts (wrought iron with lions head on them) and paint them the one bright colour, and replace current phone boxes with two or three of the old phone boxes to be used as sculptures. put lights inside that light up the boxes at night, vandal proof (have a man on the phone made of chicken wire and covered in lights call them fearr lasta lampa! Just an idea, there has to be something different to entice people to come here and the Christmas lights need to be magnificent....
- Signage re history, ensure bins and amenities, stop charging so much for parking!!!!
- Fix the footpaths in the village (without cutting down the trees)
- Develop a proper path along the Liffey towards Palmerstown/strawberry beds
- More access to/viewings of the Italian Embassy
- Encourage people in to the village, clean up shop fronts encourage uniformity . Invest in beautiful street lamps similar to the Phoenix park but solar panelled.
- Clean up the park take away the metal railings which cheapen the village park
- Need Toilets at the weir
- Need bigger bins
- Stop pulling up brambles from river edge destroying nesting areas
- management of litter needs to be addressed
- There are no public toilets in Lucan village
- Lucan has a serious litter problem, especially so in the parks and footpaths and will deter visitors to the town.
- Finger post direction signs, benches & public toilets would be great.
- Use trees as an asset. Don't go down the 'flat' landscaping route
- wider pavements,
- village, sometimes blighted by litter,
- Lighting the weir/Lucan bridge at night

Events and Festivals

Responses

- Some live theatre/music on the Weir would be amazing , or in the park in Lucan village similar to an amphitheatre type atmosphere or setting
- An area for outdoor event - with power and a covered space
- I think we need to get a Lucan festival going? Celebrate our heritage and local talent while promoting local businesses
- We need to broaden to village as it is such a lovely place
- Weir and Green would both be great venues for more events.
- I It would be great to have a small theatre or at least an annual organised cultural programme of plays, concerts, recitals, etc
- There are some large open areas in Westmanstown that would make excellent market or mini festival venues. They are pretty close to Lucan Village too
- Evening entertainment with cultural events e.g. jazz festival, traditional events, choirs and bands based in Lucan giving performances
- There are stunning outdoor areas, perhaps temporary parking and events in these spaces would be a pull
- would love to see toots train like in Malahide village.
- introduce events in small green area
- Important that development doesn't come at the loss of the character of the village, Liffey bridge , the village green etc . More events like Lucan festival / Christmas lights / outdoor performances / work with local business to host music sessions or cultural events in the evenings etc
- Small villages, especially during warmer months should be busy in the evenings, weather its outdoor dining or exhibitions. More.people on the streets also means a safer environment and would encourage visitors and spending in the area
- events especially throughout the spring and summer
- Lucan is a beautiful and atmospheric village at its heart. It would be wonderful to see more use of it in the evenings especially- entertainment options
- The village green as a venue for small local concerts/ performances.
- Evening music performances in Castle and/or Lucan House/ ruins in park, day time picnics/coffee in Demesne along the lines of Ashtown castle's excellent set up.
- Outdoor performance Place for musical other lunchtime i.e. Martin Place, Sydney

Improvements for cyclists

Responses

- Introduction of a plan to integrate the cycle route with traffic management
- Promote a circuit cycle route through the village, Demesne, St Catherine's back to village
- A new bridge crossing at the top end of Lucan Demesne over to St Catherine's side
- better cycling facilities link canals off road
- We need to give priority to those coming to Lucan by bike.
- More cycle ways
- No cycle track through the housing estates - is a ridiculous idea
- More cycle lanes and cycle parking are also urgently required throughout the village as it is currently a gauntlet for cyclists with just 6 bicycle spaces in the entire village.
- Needs to be more cycle friendly
- Develop cycle paths along the rivers and canals.
- The canal also especially for cycling cohort
- Greenway for bikes
- The cycleway needs to be thought out better, ridiculous to bring tourist through housing estates and opening up cul de sacs
- develop cycle lanes all over Lucan, link the canal to Lucan village develop cycle lanes all over Lucan, link the canal to Lucan village
- Develop a greenway along the Liffey from Lucan to Chapolizod
- more cycling and dog friendly initiatives,
- investment in cycle lanes.
- cycling access all need to be addressed.
- Better cycle paths
- Ideally a safe walking/cycling route reaching as far as phoenix Park at anglers rest entrance
- Marked walking trails and cycle routes
- possibly cycle lanes and somewhere paved that people can congregate - a place for people to meet and stop (maybe after arriving by bicycle).
- Dedicated cycling trails with Lucan as a start/finish point.

Improvements for pedestrians

Responses

- better walking facilities link canals off road
- More access to along the Liffey. JOIN walk to Chapelizod walk. Great for locals and tourists.
- We need to give priority to pedestrians
- Needs to be more pedestrian friendly
- Develop a greenway along the Liffey from Lucan to chapelizod,
- Development of walks along the Liffey towards city centre.
- Ideally a safe walking/cycling route reaching as far as phoenix Park at anglers rest entrance
- Marked walking trails and cycle routes

- Dedicated walking trails with Lucan as a start/finish point.
- More sustainable transport infrastructure (cycling, walking, local bus loop) to make village safer and discourage the use of cars for local transport

Improvements to the Parks

Responses

- A new bridge crossing at the top end of Lucan Demesne over to St Catherine's side
- bigger skate/cycle/scooter park, callisthenics bars in all parks,
- Another big addition would be a loop system in the Demense. Where you enter opposite McDonalds you should be able to walk up over the bridge at the waterworks, back down other side and have some kind of bridge back over to the McDonald's side carpark or leading on into the village. It's a pity to have to backtrack doing the walk starting from that carpark. A lot of people say that so I feel it would be a great addition. Another option would be a walk starting or ending from village directly into the Demesne and back again.
- Provide a footbridge over the Liffey at the McDonalds end of Catherine's park to facilitate looped walking.
- Better amenities in Griffeen Park – e.g. coffee shop
- Introduction a cafe in Catherine's park.
- Development of the Sluice in Catherine's park. Lights etc
- St Catherine park and the Demesne are a big attraction
- There is a need to develop Griffeen Valley Park and maintain it similar to Corkagh Park
- Keep the parks clean, dogs on a lead,
- The village park needs a revamp, it's not very inviting and not many people use it
- A café & facilities in Griffeen park is badly needed
- Lucan demise is absolutely thriving in wildlife but most people don't know about it or see it, there's rare butterflies kingfishers Buzzards water voles stoats wild rabbits wild deer many beautiful wild flowers that go unnoticed it would be fantastic to run biodiversity walks here put up information about the wildlife and encourage rare species such as the red squirrel to breed here
- People like to walk now and developing the parks further with great places to eat and shop would be great.
- more organised activities in Lucan demesne and at Catherine's.. a park run for example
- In St. Catherine's Park dogs are not on their leads and some owners don't clean after them, have said this and nothing is done,,want to go for a walk stress free but if I see a dog coming for me it can be stressful, there should be o the spot fines for this

Better public transport links

Responses

- Improve bus service from adjoining estates locally and open Kishoge Railway Station
- better transport links
- Bring the Luas to Lucan to free up a lot of traffic coming in
- Luas extension would help with the traffic
- Luas, parking facilities
- We need to give priority to those coming to Lucan by public transport.
- Possibly a better transport system - extend LUAS?
- I think bringing the LUAS out to Lucan would be amazing and reduce traffic considerably
- Get Luas for Lucan sorted.
- Better bus links
- Increasing public transport to in/near the village (the elusive Luas plans?),
- Poor public transport infrastructure
- Also public transport would need to be provided - the buses from town are very busy and can be slow. Train/DART/LUAS is badly needed for such a populous area.
- any additional visitor numbers would really have to be encouraged as public transport users.
- Also, 25a/b connecting Lucan to city centre is not frequent enough (compared to 145, 39, 39a) and always full! More, frequent buses badly needed, could tackle traffic jams and pollution issues, as well.
- better public transport links
- Public transport links need to be improved

New / better dining

Responses

- More outdoor dining space would be great
- More food places!!
- More food outlets
- There are not enough restaurants in the village
- Lucan has a poor choice in food offerings (we have to head to Leixlip or Maynooth for a higher standard meal.
- A greater variety of eating establishments would be great as a lot of people tend to go to Maynooth for the choice.
- No more expensive cafes
- outdoor dining areas
- Turn it into a dining town - see in Maynooth restaurants buzzing with outdoor dining - embrace this in Lucan
- More room for outdoor dining facilities,
- The building across from Courtney's which has been for sale for a long time is going to waste. This would make a great cafe or antique shop.

- outdoor seated dining area
- lack of restaurants
- Enhancing the Weir, Shackleton's Mills, with the emphasis on outdoor dining
- Cafe culture – more cafes
- On street dining/permanent awnings

Markets / artisan producers / crafts people

Responses

- Place for farmer's market stalls in village
- street traders perhaps at the Weir or in the Domain would be great, a regular Lucan Market would be good too (maybe on the village green)
- Community based small market units for home based business. E.g. crafter's
- Home Bakers,
- Use village park for restaurant/cafe/markets (if pedestrianised)
- Farmers markets
- More markets
- Would benefit from farmers market
- Craft shops
- The sale of local arts and crafts could be encouraged whereby visitors could buy unique items.
- farmers market
- encourage more small or artisan stores to set up business and bring more shoppers into the village
- Business that reflect local themes or that are more artisan in nature. Maybe a craft hub showcasing handmade goods.
- encouraging independent retailers, craft makers,
- Close off one side of the village and open the farmers market In The village on a weekend (like have in Dun Laoghaire)
- Promoting local artists
- focus on artisan small businesses and local produce
- Markets in the village would work. All sorts of stalls, 2nd hand pieces, fruits and veg, food trucks.
- lack of artisan cafes and shops
- Weekly market/ fair
- Market area at the weir
- a better urban market (needs to be more like Dun Laoghaire market)
- Weekly Village Market on the green

More use of the river and canals

Responses

- Link a green way from the village to the grand canal
- The river bank by the bridge has great potential
- Walks and sit down areas along the banks of the Liffey.
- Linking 2 canals
- Develop Liffey promenade area - install kiosks with food and drinks help
- Maybe being able to walk along the river or have another walking bridge over the river
- promotion of river and environment
- We have fabulous amenities with the Liffey and being close to both canals and these are currently underdeveloped for outdoor and water activities. Also there are an opportunity to look along the Liffey eastwards to Shackleton Mills and beyond.... (leaving as much trees and wildness but developing better access)
- Development along the Liffey so it can be used for cycling, walking etc
- Development of the Weir area
- Use of the river Liffey - Boat trips to Shackleton mills and perhaps into the city.
- developments at weir
- Riverside walk from Lucan weir along the bank of the Liffey to Shackleton-Mill
- Develop a walk along the Liffey, there's one through the woods in Edmundsbury but more accessibility and clear routes, if possible a crossing to strawberry beds.
- Advertising the grand canal as a walking route and have access to Grange castle from the canal for pedestrians
- Liffey side walkway
- Install a Boat area at the weir in Lucan village
- connect the canals
- It would be lovely to extend the river walk in Lucan Demesne through the grounds of Lucan House, joining up with the Liffey.

More outdoor activities / attractions (not water-based)

Responses

- Outdoor amenities with parking linked to local businesses – e.g. . Buy a parking ticket get a reduction in a local pub
- More publicity and public access to golf clubs
- It might be good if there was greater availability of adventure sport facilities e.g. kayaking, mountain biking, zip lining etc. This might attract corporate team-building events. But the needs of ordinary family activities and walkers in parks would have to be protected.
- More attractions outside of the centre of the village to avoid over-concentration in a small area
- More sports facilities for example free tennis courts like in Marlay Park
- Na Gaeil Óga CLG is one of Lucan's biggest treasures. With over 600 members, in the last six years the club has created the largest community of Irish speakers in the country outside of

the Gaeltacht who use Irish on a daily basis outside of schools. As such Lucan is the only place on the eastern seaboard where large volumes of people are speaking Irish on a daily basis. With over 2m US citizens enrolled in Irish language Duolingo courses this is a particular USP for the area. Efforts should be made to give Na Gaeil Óga a more central and visible role in the community to help highlight Lucan's strong link with traditional Irish language and culture.

- Connect the village with Lucan Demesne

Focus on providing experiences for locals

Responses

- focus on local tourism - i.e. people who live in Dublin and surrounding areas - would be very beneficial.
- It might be important to consider some different access / options for local residents.
- Help local businesses to attract more customers and develop their premises.
- Lack of vision of Lucan businesses to promote and invest in their KSP - Businesses need a development plan coordinator and online presence
- I don't think Lucan should be aimed as a destination village it should have better amenities for the people living in Lucan & the local areas such as Leixlip..Celbridge..Newcastle etc
- Lucan has a beautiful village and is a great place to live. We need to mind and show off the natural beauty of our villages.
- Population increase a lot since few years but no facilities to enjoy a life in here
- Create more green spaces and encourage Active Movement
- set up summer projects for teenagers to join and develop
- cafes and eateries /restaurants in Griffeen are (village has enough).
- Limit housing developments so we have a green belt
- more green space.
- The area beside the scout den towards St Edmundbury being developed into a tourist/open space

Tourist information / visitor centre provision

Responses

- Use of the Muintir na Tire building to provide information and a central point – could also be used as a heritage centre with coffee shop which would benefit the village too
- Develop Vesey park, the hollow connecting the priests house as a visitor centre.
- Visitor/tourist office be required, old school house an ideal location and s building worth preserving.
- Needs a Tourist information centre
- The old priest house beside the Roma takeaway should be used as a walk in tourism information point, this was the historic building can stay and be useful without damaging the building.

- An information office which included organised village tours would be good to have. I also think the little building beside Courtney's should be used for something. It's beautiful but so neglected
- A small tourist office could help too.

More / improved water-based activities

Responses

- Highlight the Liffey route from Celbridge to Chapelizod. Have a boat tour.
- water based activity facilities on canals
- More water activities
- Water activities which you don't need to be part of a club to access.
- Lucan is the home of kayaking in Dublin. Allowing the ongoing use and development of water sports activities is essential
- Access to activities such as water sports is also an issue, i.e. you've to be a member of a club as well as having to have your own equipment.
- investment in water sports cycle lanes.
- Something in general with the river Liffey. Maybe bike rentals, boat rentals? Summer water bouncy castles, amenities?

Better safety

Responses

- Increase Garda patrol as Lucan is not a safe place to be after 8pm
- Reduce scum bags in village as their problems will end up on social media quickly
- Improve safety on strawberry beds for cyclists and pedestrians to Phoenix park.
- Give the homeless person currently sleeping in a tent in the village park a proper home, sad to see someone living in the park
- Homeless people in centre green not a good look for village
- it's become an unsafe place to live . Visitors would be ripe for the picking
- Need to address swimming in weir by teenagers as puts off people going down there
- sort out anti-social behaviour
- Safety - higher level of police visibility

Family activities

Responses

- Invest in more tourist attractions for children and younger audience to bring families to the area
- More for youth to do

- You need to draw people in with attractions (activities, music etc) and then keep them there with quality food & accommodation that is also appealing to families

Retail

Responses

- need more interesting/different types of shops, (craft shops, clothes etc) in the village
- Lucan Village needs more small retail shops and fewer hairdressers/nail bars/beauticians and showrooms.
- Shackleton's mill could be developed as an Avoca type outlet

Destination Town concept

Responses

- Lucan could definitely be made into a **great destination town**. As somebody who has grown up in Malahide, the development that has gone into Malahide over the years to make it a destination village is something to strive towards.
- Learn from the past. Lucan was a tourist destination in the past promoted as a River resort. Make tourists feel that they are part of that tradition.
- Lucan needs a 'destination' restaurant.
- hope that developing Lucan as a tourist destination doesn't alter the beautiful village we have, with the fabulous village green. It is so nice to see a traditional green rather than the plaza style areas that have become so popular and are not nearly as attractive.
- It's too close to Dublin to be a destination in itself without regard to Dublin. It's a lovely destination from which to visit Dublin.

Accommodation

Responses

- More select accommodation, boutique hotel? Primrose lane? Fishing lessons? Weekend packages etc.
- Needs a hotel
- Address local hotels to become more attractive
- I would love to see the spa hotel being revamped internally with a high quality dining option, maintaining its unique exterior feel but with modern interior to be a desirable accommodation and destination dining experience to attract people to stay in Lucan
- The spa needs to be developed more

Develop areas

Responses

- Think that the Strawberry beds could be used to better advantage; currently it's not safe to walk or cycle.
- The land in St Ed's needs to be linked up along the Liffey
- I think fishing tourism and historic places should also link Leixlip and Celbridge together for tourists
- A tourist bus or road train from Dublin City centre along the historic route of James Street through the Phoenix park down the Strawberry beds out to "Lucan for Lunch "
- Better development of green areas that are there and would benefit all and attract tourists e.g. make it a place outside the city for people to do day trips too instead of the other way around.
- Better infrastructure on North side of the Liffey Bridge, to make the Strawberry Beds and Fort Lucan more accessible to cyclist and families without access to cars As is the North of the Liffey/Lower Road is inaccessible and dangerous.
- We need more to do in Lucan Village.
- Greenway from Lucan village to the phoenix Park would be a fantastic amenity.

Social media presence

Responses

- Maybe more of a social media presence. So many beautiful outdoor places.... Other places along the N4 / M4 that they pass us when they're going to it....

Don't over-develop

Responses

- Don't overdevelop. what has happened in Tallaght and Saggart is an utter disgrace Lucan needs to keep its character. For starters the suggestion to develop the historic bridge over the Liffey at Laraghcon is wrong and should not proceed
- It'll ruin the beauty of little Lucan village. Its not a tourist destination its residential
- It is a ridiculous idea. We're a small suburban town that is already overrun.
- The village is very pretty but there isn't a lot there for people.
- Hugely important to keep the character and "village" feel in mind in any development.
- Avoid inappropriate development
- The plan ought to have created by a bottom up approach, drawing on local interests and knowledge, not an imposition as a sequel to grant money being made available. Tat way people would 'buy into it.

Lucan Tourism Destination

494 responses

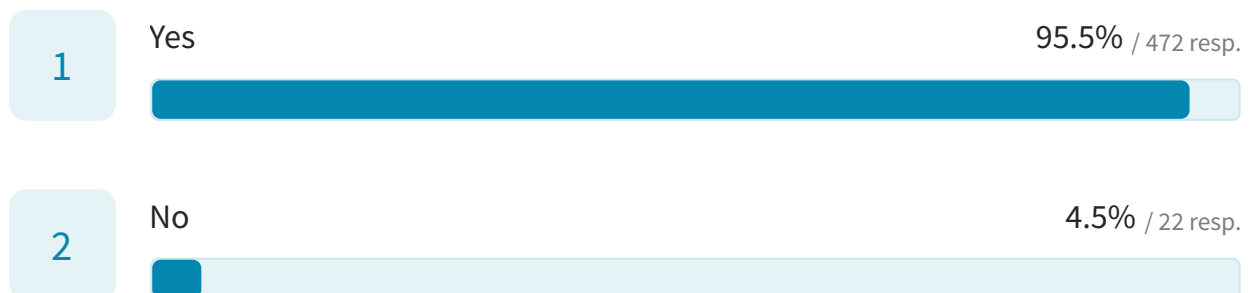
PRIVACY NOTICE.

This survey is being hosted and administered by CHL on behalf of South Dublin County Council. CHL is the data controller and is responsible for the personal data it gathers for the purposes of administering your response to the survey.

Individual personal data will not be shared and all results will be aggregated and anonymised before sharing with the Council and other relevant organisations. Your personal data will not be shared or disclosed without your consent, unless the law permits or places an obligation on CHL to do so. The personal data is held and stored by CHL in a safe and secure manner, and in compliance with data protection legislation. If you have any queries regarding the processing of your personal information, please contact Freya Watson, fwatson@chl.ie.

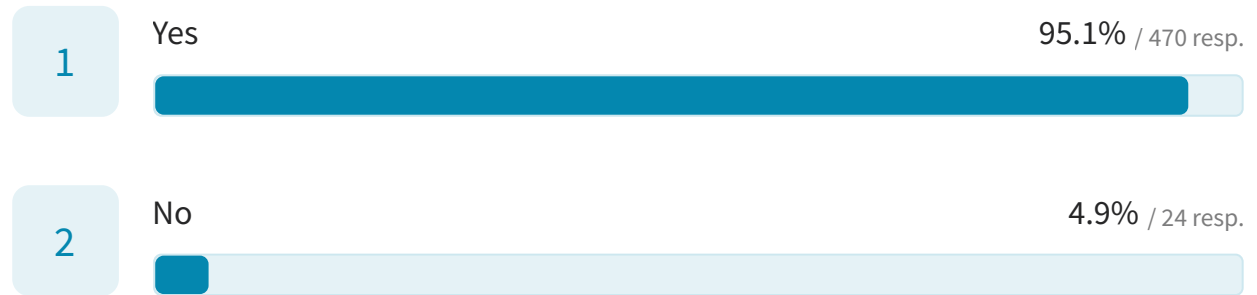
I consent to providing my data to CHL and understand that the basis for the request is for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest.

494 out of 494 answered



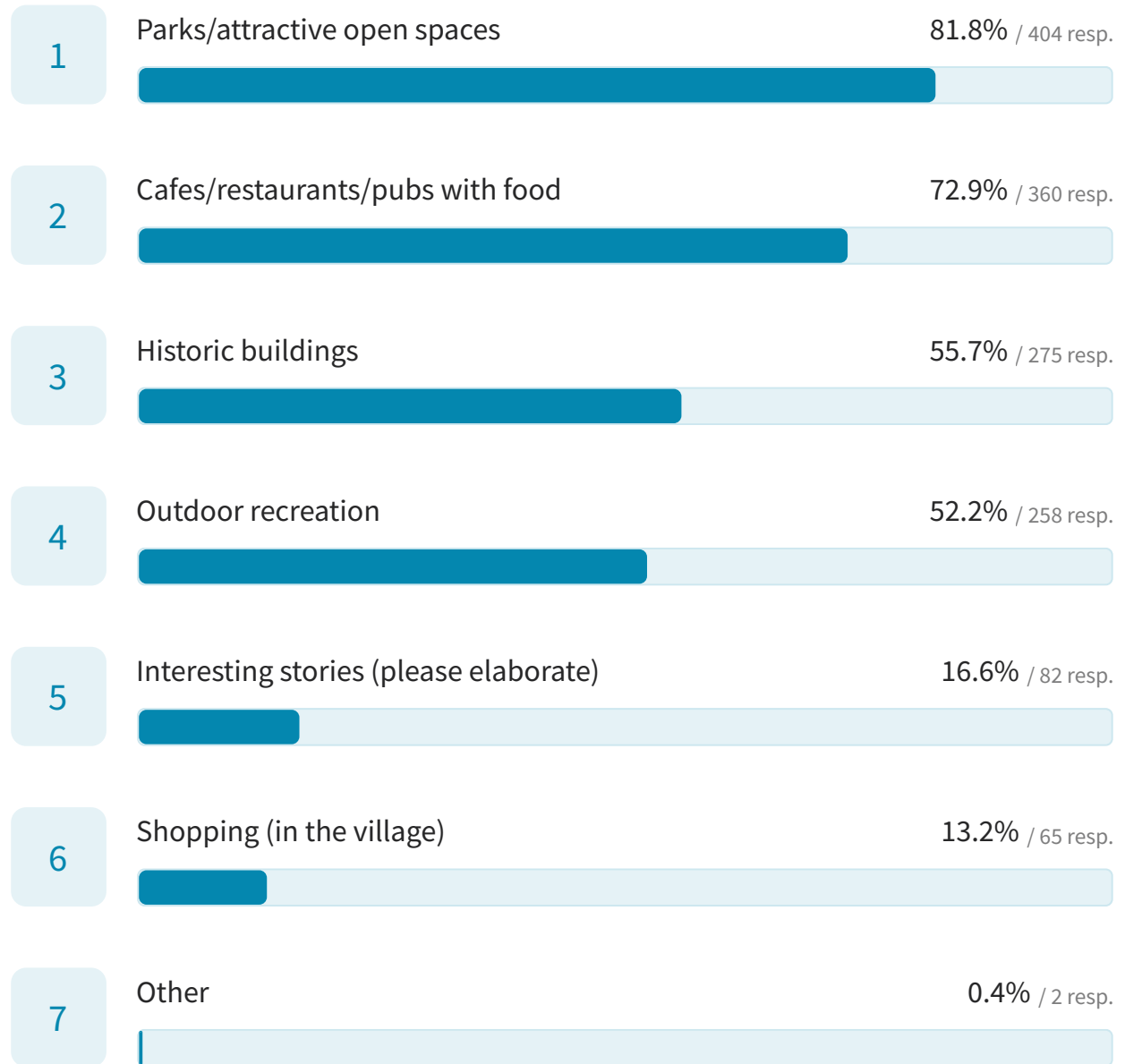
Broadly speaking, do you welcome the proposal to develop Lucan as a destination for visitors?

494 out of 494 answered



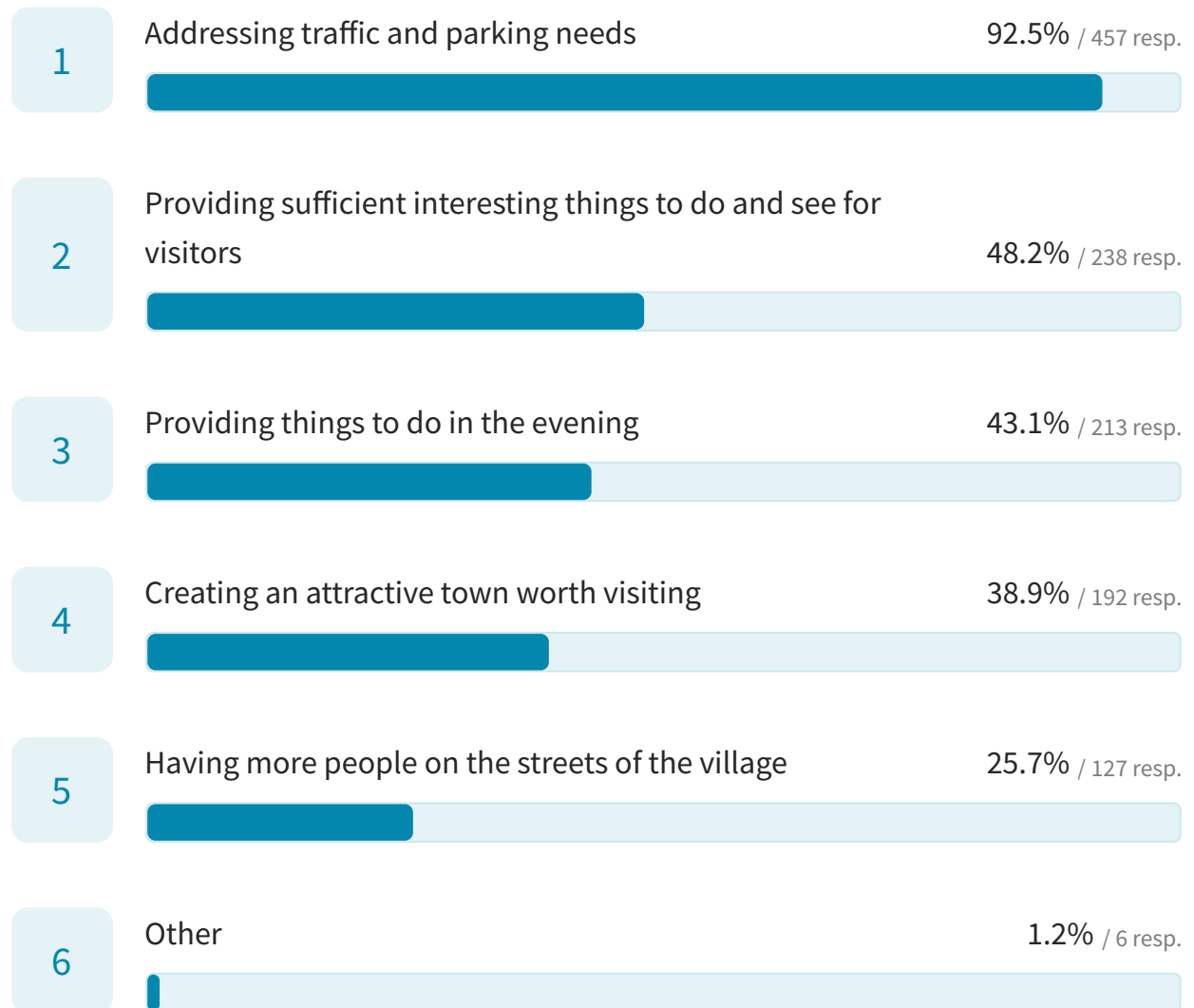
What do you see as Lucan's strengths in attracting visitors? Select any that are relevant from the following list or add your own

494 out of 494 answered



What do you see as the challenges of developing Lucan as a destination for visitors? Select any that are relevant from the following list or add your own.

494 out of 494 answered





Do you visit Lucan Demesne:

494 out of 494 answered

1

Yes, regularly (once a month or more)

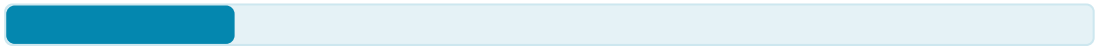
68.2% / 337 resp.



2

Yes, but infrequently (roughly once or twice a year)

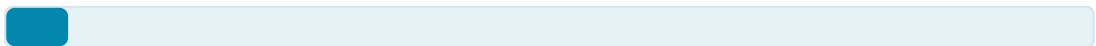
21.1% / 104 resp.



3

Never

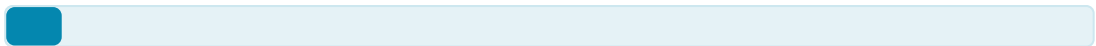
5.7% / 28 resp.



4

Yes, but rarely (less than once a year)

5.1% / 25 resp.





Do you take part in, or have you ever taken part in, water-based activities on the River Liffey:

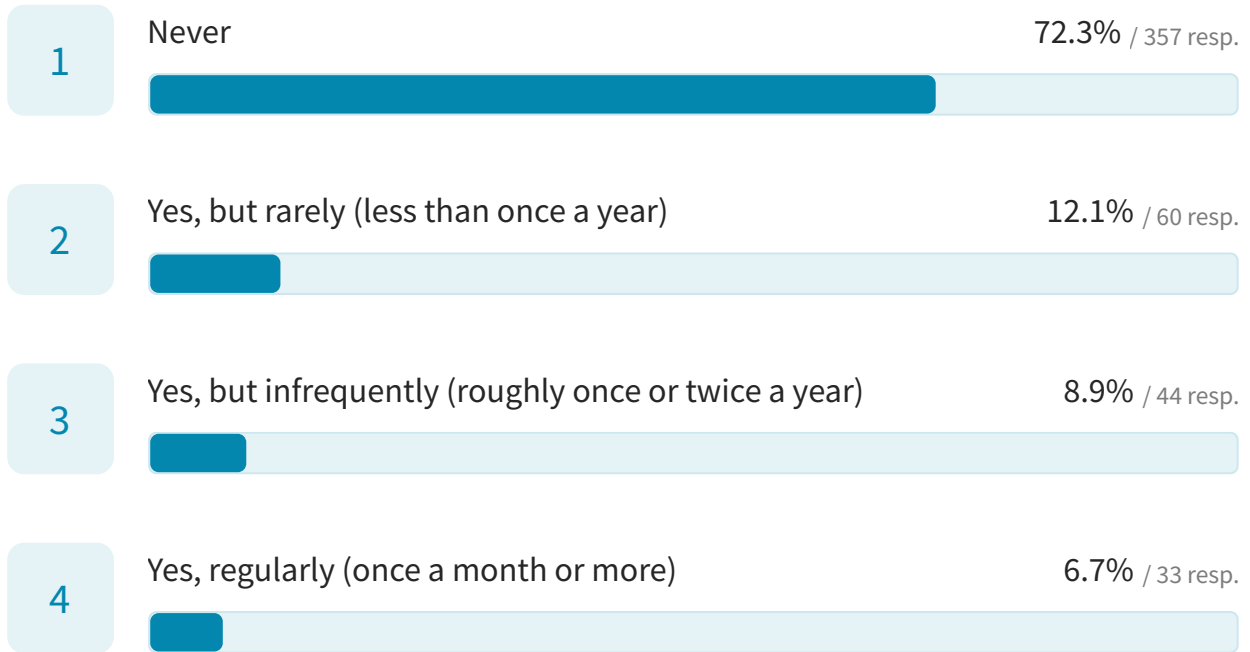
494 out of 494 answered





Do you use, or have you ever used, a Guided Heritage Trail in the village:

494 out of 494 answered





Do you visit, or have you ever visited/used St. Catherine's Park:

494 out of 494 answered

1

Yes, regularly (once a month or more)

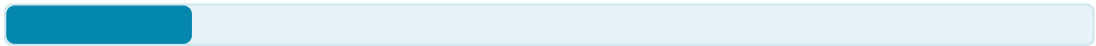
76.5% / 378 resp.



2

Yes, but infrequently (roughly once or twice a year)

17.2% / 85 resp.



3

Yes, but rarely (less than once a year)

3.2% / 16 resp.



4

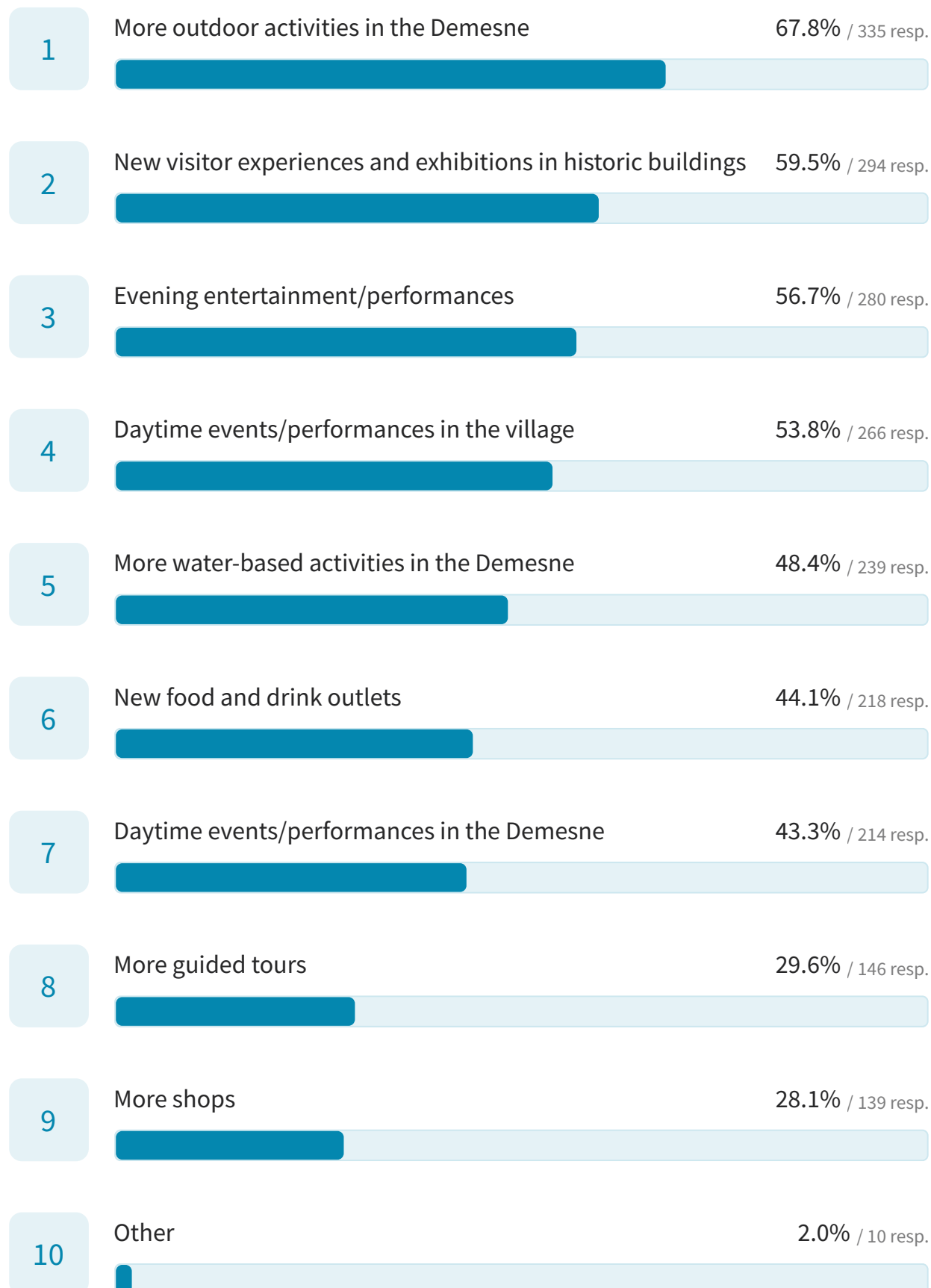
Never

3.0% / 15 resp.



In developing the village, which of the following would you like to see considered?

494 out of 494 answered



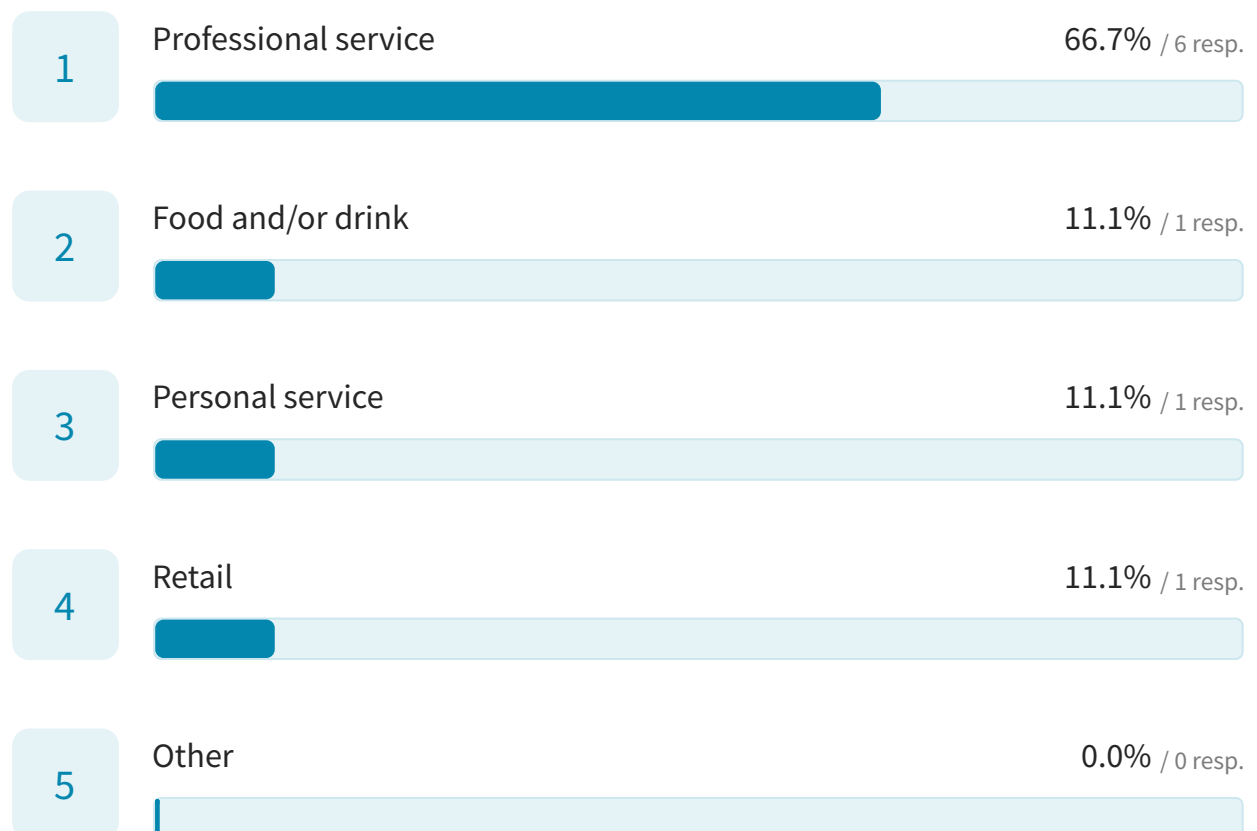
Do you own a business in the town?

494 out of 494 answered



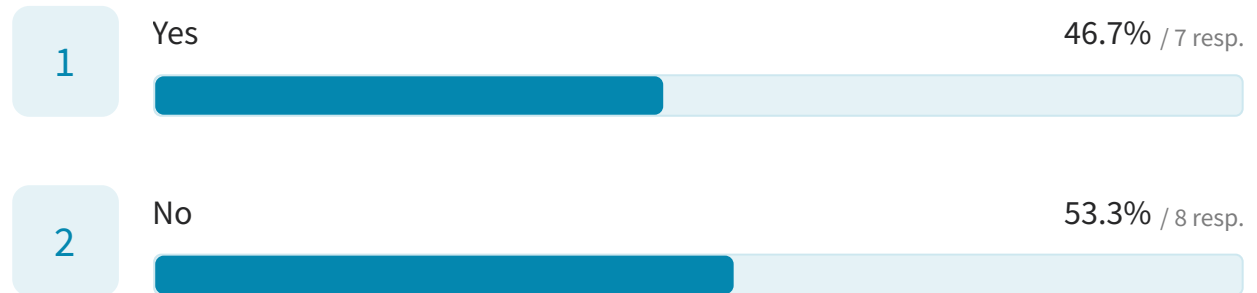
If yes, please indicate the type of business:

9 out of 494 answered



Do you see any opportunities for your business from attracting more visitors to Lucan?

15 out of 494 answered



Do you see any issues for your business from attracting more visitors to Lucan?

15 out of 494 answered



Stakeholder Consultations

- Fifteen one-to-one consultations undertaken, by phone, video and in-person
- There is a general welcome for the development of Lucan for visitors, though skepticism about ability to address key barriers, especially traffic and water quality.
- There is also a general acceptance that Lucan is not an 'easy sell' as a tourism destination.
- The business community is positively inclined towards opportunities to develop new/expanded experiences.
- The unique 'village green' nature of the core is seen as the key asset.
- The public realm work at the three locations of the Weir, the Green and the Demesne are very welcome, although not all understand what is involved.
- Most mentioned the Ambassador's Residence and the desire that an arrangement might be reached that would allow access.
- Anonymised detailed feedback is provided in the following pages

Lucan Stakeholder Consultations – Summary Notes

- Lucan village is a small area surrounded by a lot of housing. It is difficult to get people to identify with the village.
- The village has a real country feel, with its village green, and is very family friendly.
- It has a huge and interesting history, with many protected structures.
- There is a medieval 12th Century graveyard and ruins of a church hidden away behind the shops, connected to the grounds of the Italian Ambassador's residence. The Council has the keys.
- The Ambassador's residence is open once a year, usually during the Lucan Festival in September.
- There are four denominations of Churches.
- Signage is poor to non-existent.
- Traffic is the major issue but no obvious solution.
- There is a closed pub on the N4 entrance that might serve as a coach park - the Fox Hunter.
- A shortage of accommodation. The hotel is outside the village and the few B&Bs that exist are mainly catering for Intel staff.
- There is no information point in the village
- The dilapidated School Master's House offers potential, perhaps as an information point or hub of some kind.
- Similarly, there are four old phone boxes on the main street that could be an opportunity for tourist information.
- The Muintir na Tíre building has some space available too that could be used.
- Currently there are barely any visitors in the village, apart from the odd stray one that wanders down from the hotel but has difficulty navigating the area.
- Angling and golf offer opportunities (angling in the Demesne, golf at Lucan and the Hermitage golf clubs).
- The locals are a great resource for stories and history.
- If more tourists are to be encouraged to the area, there needs to be more resources and facilities, e.g. public toilets, belly bins.
- There used to be a tourism group in Lucan but not any longer.
- The local businesses are very keen and would be open to discussing tourism opportunities, but need to be careful to manage expectations.
- Two main things the village really needs: a signed heritage trail and the opening up of the Ambassador's Residence and grounds.
- There are two Lucans - the area of the village and the area with most of the housing estates on the other side of the N4.
- The village's strength is definitely its authentic character but much of what is interesting about it is hidden.
- It has two great pubs full of character, Kenny's and Courtney's, and a number of good restaurants.
- Pedestrianisation is essential in order to get people to stay in the village.
- The Demesne is wonderful but a bit away from the main village - it doesn't spring easily to mind, even for families who will readily travel to Malahide Castle for a weekend outing.

- There has been much discussion about the Ambassador's Residence and the grounds. The current Ambassador is not as willing to open the property and grounds as previous ones were but there have been some discussions about allowing access to the area where the spa well is - not a major structure, and wouldn't attract much tourism, but a good asset to add to the overall heritage appeal of the village.
- There has been a push at local level to bring the Luas to Lucan.
- The Demesne lacks entrance visibility; car park is awful; can't see over the walls into the Demesne
- Plan to create a new entrance. This will move carpark across the road to currently unused land – in doing so, will lose 16 spaces and gain 17 – a net increase of, which means parking will continue to be a problem.
- The proposed plan for the Demesne includes platform with coffee shop (incl. toilets), better access to water for kayaks and a boathouse below the café. (Kayak club have been seeking to have a boathouse in the Demesne.) A raised walkway through the trees, as at Avondale and Lough Key, would be a good asset.
- A second entrance near Leixlip would be useful as a service entrance and, possibly, for public as well.
- Shame that Greenway is not going through the Demesne.
- Commercial kayaking trips along the Liffey attract mostly tourists (80%) as Dubliners are negative about the Liffey
- Kayaks can enter the river at the weir on opposite side of river to Italian ambassador's residence. The Demesne would be preferable but there is no access for vans/trailers to car park due to high bar across entrance. And it is impossible to turn a van and trailer in the car park.
- An access point through the wall to bring kayaks down to the river below the car park is needed. There is a relatively little used dead-end road running along there.
- In the past, there has been much anti-social behaviour at the Demesne, but this has improved. Greater visibility into the Demesne would be a good thing.
- Water quality deteriorated badly in 90s and 00s, and then improved. But has deteriorated again in last 2-3 years. Biggest issue is Leixlip treatment plant. EPA has also issued discharge licences to industry covering untreated waste. Irish Water unresponsive.
- Rainwater is also plumbed into the sewage system which causes overflows in heavy rain.
- There used to be a tunnel through to Demesne from Spa Hotel. Could the Hotel site be brought into greater play by reopening tunnel and using very large car park at the Hotel & the Lucan County Bar for Demesne users?
- There is also an unused piece of land on the far side of the motorway, under the bridge adjacent to the existing car park entrance. This could potentially provide a lot of spaces.
- Lucan used to have a thriving nightlife, based around its pubs.
- Works with the D15 Tourism Group who have set up a Liffey Valley trail taking in Dunsink, Farmleigh, Luttrellstown etc. – north side only at the moment but this could be extended to include sites south of the river.

- There is money in FCC's budget for Shackleton Mill, and a development there could use Lucan as a hub.
- The key to success in any town or village is having an active local tourism group. Engage with local businesses as they may know the unique stories of the area.
- Introduce a sustainability charter for businesses.
- The historical character of Lucan has been overlooked and the town has been prioritized for housing.
- Overall, there are about 30 sites of interest in terms of heritage/history/folklore.
- Key sites in Lucan include the remains of King John's Bridge and St. Finian's Old Esker Church, Garda Station (former RIC barracks), the ruins of the medieval Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Vesey's Bridge and the stone bridge across the Liffey, and Lucan House. However, many sites are inaccessible and/or invisible, and not all are located in the village.
- Guided tours are really valuable to enable people to appreciate the heritage.
- Good interpretive signage is required.
- Demesne was a big draw over 100 years ago. Had its spa and it was open to the public for fetes, open days, picnics etc. A tram service enabled Dubliners to get out to Lucan.
- Is the spa revivable? The Council installed a tap for the water in 1977.
- The weir area could be adapted to take more people- a viewing deck and coffee dock would be good.
- Overall, the river is underused – could it be made more accessible and fun?
- Old Lucan walks have a mix of participants – many are local, generally adults. They are trying a tour for newcomers to Lucan to familiarize =new residents with the town.
- The Society's events are attended by locals and catchment population; appeal to families.
- Will publicize the survey, and will send further material on Lucan's heritage.
- The market operators see the potential for growth at Corkagh Park and at the Pfizer Campus (both within DCC) but no other site in Lucan. They would be delighted if St. Catherine's Park was in SDCC rather than in Fingal, who are behind in their strategic approach to outdoor animation and amenity in general.