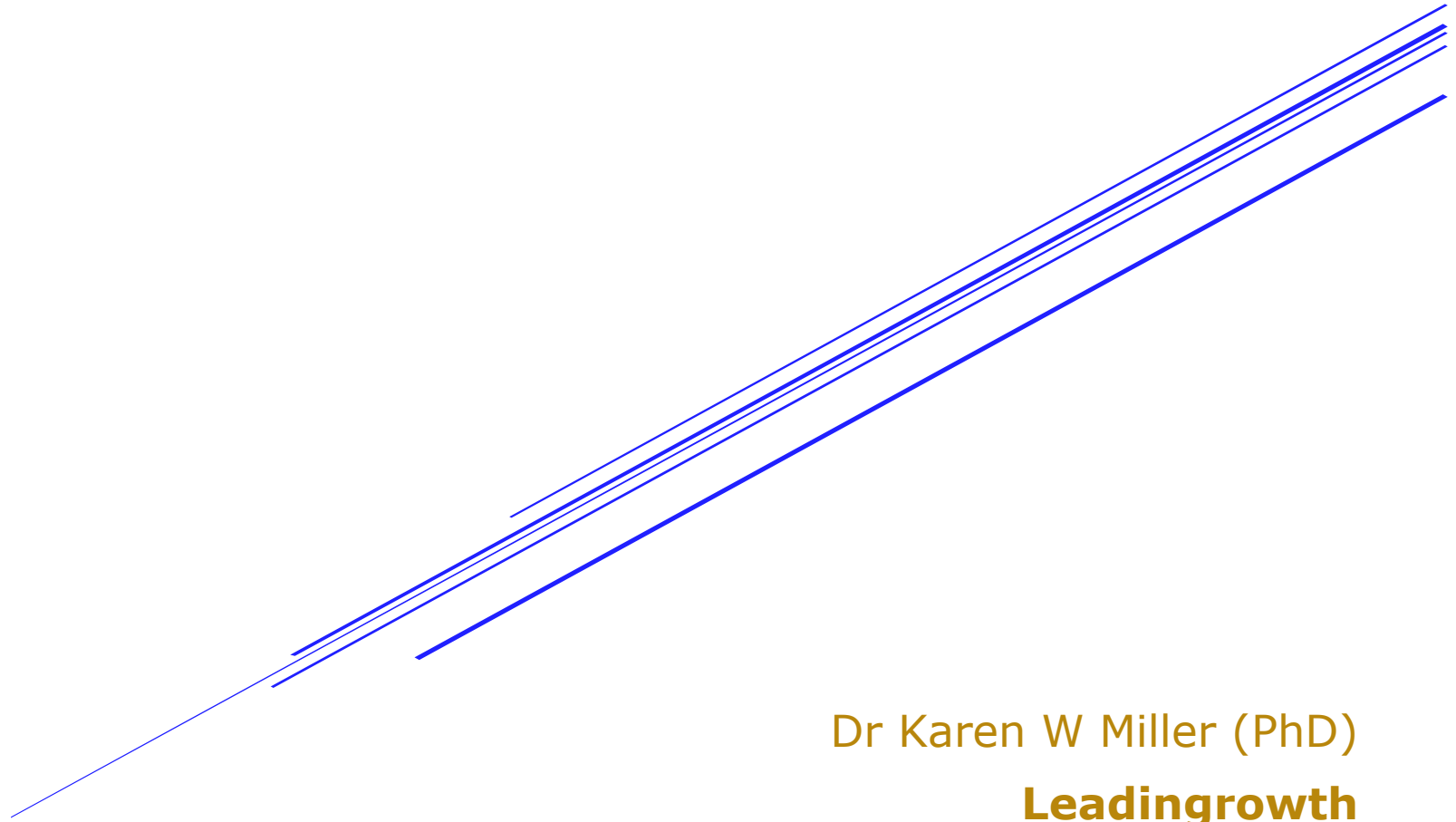


# ROBE COMMUNITY VOICES

Findings from the 2050 Community Survey



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**Leadingrowth**

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## Executive Summary

Regarding the survey participants, there was a 77%/23% split between people who live in the Robe District and people visiting Robe. 90% of the visitors answering the survey own their own home in the Robe District and visit Robe often spending anywhere between 5days and 4weeks at a time in Robe.

The visitors see Robe as a place of relaxation, rejuvenation and respite and want Robe to remain the same as it is now and would prefer Robe to grow 3% slower than it has in the past five years.

Most visitors to Robe and the residents of Robe are baby boomers and this is consistent with the ABS 2021 Census data. Concerning the baby boomers are health services, aged care services and retirement living options in Robe.

In contrast Generation Z are concerned with housing options to rent or to buy, career prospects, education services, and finding more staff or workers to relieve work / study pressures.

Residents of Robe District agree with the visitors and both groups want to see the original areas of Robe preserved and maintained so the village feel, the natural beauty of Robe and its character are maintained into 2050.

Robe residents would like to see areas outside of the tourist hub grow. The caveat is that any changes in block sizes, building heights, or building styles are unseen from the roads, coastline, Guichen Bay / Long Beach vista. Residents would like to see Robe grow 2% faster than previous five years.

Key areas that residents would like to see addressed are more vegetation, walking / biking tracks, more community gathering spaces and events, better traffic flow, reduced traffic congestion, and affordable housing for families, workers, and retirees wishing to downsize.

## Introduction

The purpose of the community survey is to hear all of the different voices of the people who live, work, invest in and visit Robe. Anyone 15 years or older and works, lives in or around the Robe District, invests in property in Robe, or is a visitor to Robe was eligible to participate in the community survey.

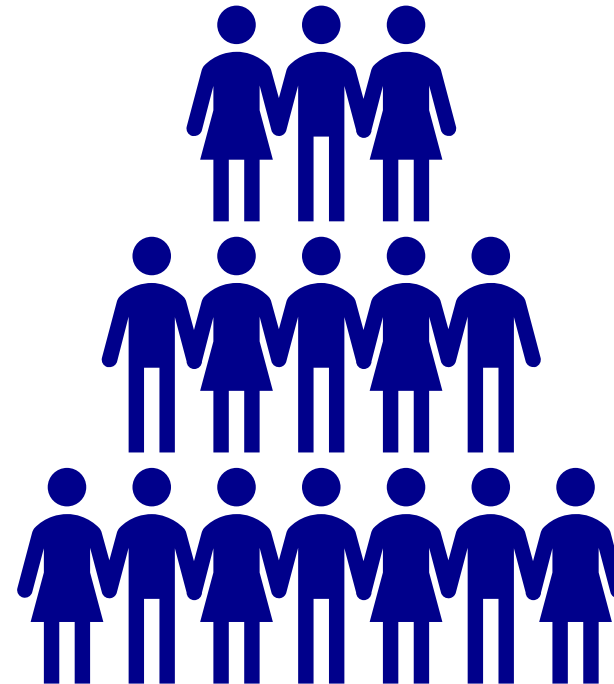
The survey questions were developed in consultation with the District Council of Robe and the community. The survey had 35 questions with some of the questions having multiple parts to them equating to over fifty questions in all. There were twenty-nine quantitative questions that measured frequency (numbers and percentages) of answers or levels of disagreement or agreement with statements. The survey had six open-ended qualitative questions. The qualitative questions encouraged the survey participants to write their views or ideas about the future of Robe. There were 16 questions with "other" boxes where participants could write up to 250 characters. The purpose of having a high degree of qualitative feedback in the survey is to gather a depth of understanding from the community on how they would like to see Robe grow.

The survey ran from June 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

Three hundred and ninety-eight people (n=398) responded to the survey. They took an average of 27 minutes to complete the survey.

The survey produced 187 pages of qualitative information. Many people wrote more half a page in response to the open-ended questions and up to a paragraph in response to the 16 "other" box questions to explain their answer or provide further information. The final question asked people if there was anything else they would like to add. This question yielded 162 responses (41%) where people wrote more detail on questions already addressed and/or added new information.

# Survey Participants



### Who participated in the survey?

The majority of the people participating in the survey are residents of the District of Robe (n=305; 77%).

Twenty-three percent (n = 93; 23%) of survey participants are visitors to Robe. 90% of these visitors own their own home in the District of Robe.

Looking at the people who live permanently in the District of Robe 72% (n=221) own their own home, 9% (n=26) live with their parents, family, or friends and 8% (n=25) rent or lease where they live.

#### People who live in the Robe District

221	Own my home
31	Live in the rural areas within the Robe District
26	Live with parents / family / friends in Robe
25	Rent / lease where I live
3	Work pays for where I live in Robe
305	Total

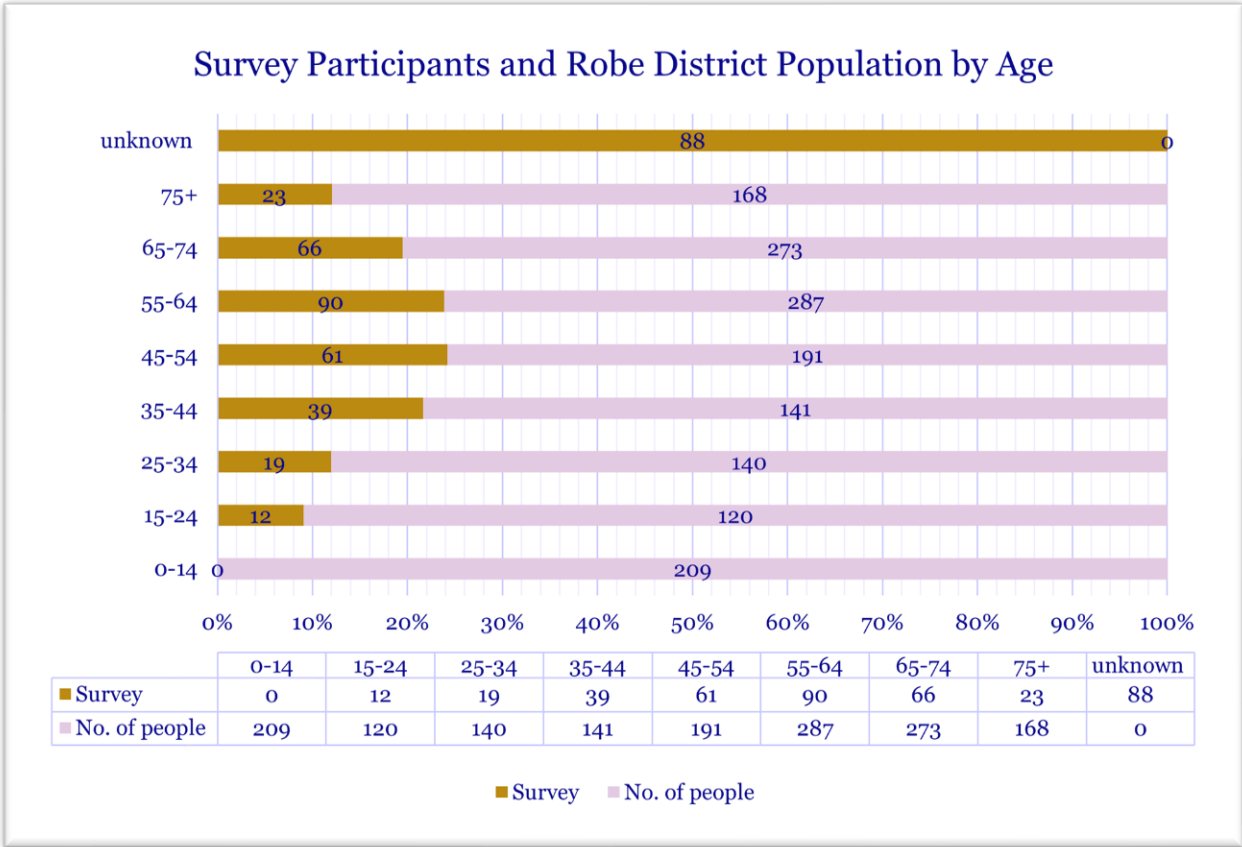
44% of Robe residents (n=135) plan to live in Robe for the rest of their lives.

9% (n=28) Robe residents plan to leave Robe within the next ten years.

73% (n=68) of visitors plan to live permanently in Robe home at some point in the future. Most of these are Baby Boomers or Generation X (45-54 years).

### Age of the survey participants

Most people participating in the survey are Baby Boomers aged 55 years to 74 years (n = 157; 39%). This is consistent with the ABS (2021) Census data showing that Baby Boomers are the largest generation living in the Robe District Council area accounting for 36% (n=560) of the population (n= 1529).



## Work status of survey participants

There are different ways the survey participants contribute to the community. Most people are employed full-time (28%). Reflecting the entrepreneurial nature of the community about a quarter of them identified as being self-employed / business owners (25%) who are farmers, in the fishing industry, retailers, or contractors.

Almost a quarter of survey participants undertake a volunteer role (23%) as well as being semi-retired, part-time carers or students.

In the survey people could select more than one option to describe their work status role and how they contribute to the economy. This is why the aggregate of percentages are above 100%.

<b>Workforce status</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Employed, fulltime	27.9%
Business Owner	25.38%
Volunteer	23.36%
Retired, self-funded	16.08%
Employed, part-time	11.56%
Semi-retired	6.28%
Retired, self-funded pension mix	4.52%
Student	4.20%



## Survey participants who are visitors to Robe

The survey was conducted during winter when there are the fewest visitors to Robe. 23% (n=93) of the survey participants identified as visitors to Robe.

Most of the visiting survey participants are visiting their own properties (n=84; 90%) staying between five days and four weeks on average (n = 48; 52%).

57% (n=53) of the visiting survey participants identify themselves as members of the Robe community with some of them saying they also volunteer their services when in Robe.

Fifteen visitors (16%) stay more than four months of the year in Robe.

Most of the visitors are visiting from the Limestone Coast / Adelaide (n= 65), Victoria (n=27) or elsewhere (n=1).

Only six of the visitors (6%) don't stay overnight in Robe. They come to Robe for work, sporting activities or to volunteer their services. These six people live in another District Council area within the Limestone Coast and regularly visit Robe.

Most of the visitors to Robe are regular visitors (36%). Some of the regular visitors to Robe come most days for work or sport. Others come every long weekend and school holidays. Some mentioned they regularly come about every four to six weeks.

Most visitors stay five or more days (52%) and stay in their own homes (90%).

<b>Robe visitation</b>	<b>(#)</b>	<b>(%)</b>
I regularly visit Robe	33	36%
I visit Robe at least 4 times a year	27	29%
I visit Robe at least monthly	19	20%
I visit Robe yearly	10	11%
I visit Robe at least fortnightly	4	4%
<b>Average length of stay</b>	<b>(#)</b>	<b>(%)</b>
9 or more days	25	27%
5-8 days	23	25%
3-4 days	22	24%
1-2 days	17	18%
Day visitor (less than 24 hours)	6	6%
<b>Accommodation during stay</b>	<b>(#)</b>	<b>(%)</b>
my own home	84	90%
with friends and family	2	2%
rent a holiday home	2	2%
hotel / motel / caravan / camping / cabin	5	6%
n=93		

Most visitors (81%) come to Robe for rest and relaxation with many stating that visiting Robe is helpful for their mental wellbeing and their soul. They say Robe gives them an opportunity to relax, enjoy the natural surroundings, and do regenerative activities like walking, fishing, golf, the beach, and bird watching.

<b>Top twenty reasons why people visit Robe</b>		
	<b>(#)</b>	<b>(%)</b>
1 Rest and relaxation	75	81%
2 Peace and quiet	59	63%
3 A short break / holiday	57	61%
4 I see Robe as my second home	52	56%
5 Outdoor and nature activities	48	52%
6 Main holiday destination	42	45%
7 Natural beauty	38	41%
8 Restaurants, cafes, pubs, or bars	37	40%
9 Fun	35	38%
10 Visit with family and friends	32	34%
11 Shopping	23	25%
12 Seafood	23	25%
13 Visit my investment property	23	25%
14 Heritage and history	21	23%
15 Sports and recreation	21	23%
16 Social occasion	18	19%
17 Art and culture	11	12%
18 Health	10	11%
19 Investment or business reasons	7	8%
20 Work purposes	6	7%

# Robe



## What people love most about Robe

All 398 participants wrote dot points, paragraphs or lengthy stories describing what they love most about Robe. From this we identified themes, synthesized what they said, and counted the frequency of responses to arrive at the top fifteen things people love about Robe.

People said they love Robe's beautiful beaches, the welcoming and supportive Robe community, the variety of walking opportunities in and around Robe: in particular, the cliff walks and beach walks. People love the character of Robe's township, including the boutiques and the high-quality restaurants and cafes.

	<b>The top fifteen</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	The beaches	250	62.8%
2	The community	133	33.4%
3	The walking trails/tracks/paths	118	29.6%
4	The character of the township	91	22.9%
5	The shops	68	17.1%
6	The cafes	67	16.8%
7	The people	65	16.3%
8	Natural landscapes	59	14.8%
9	Small town feel	55	13.8%
10	Restaurants	49	12.1%
11	Character buildings	36	9.0%
12	History	36	9.0%
13	Food	34	8.5%
14	Golf	27	6.8%
15	Parks	22	5.5%

### **1. Robe beaches (n=250)**

The number one thing the community love about Robe are its beaches (n= 250). Favourite beaches are Long Beach, Hooper's Beach, and West Beach. People love the vastness of the ocean surrounding Robe, how the ocean changes from wild to calm depending on the time of the year, they love the variety of beaches, they enjoy watching the ocean views when walking along the cliffs, relaxing on the beach, the choice of beaches, the surf, fishing, swimming, the coastal walks, and beachscape. What makes Robe different to other seaside towns are how relaxing the beaches are and that you can view the beaches from a variety of parks, walking tracks or pathways around Robe and buildings are largely unseen.

### **2. 7. The community and the people (n=133; 65)**

People love the sense of community in Robe (n=133). They love the friendliness of the community, the vibrancy of the community, friendships formed, how welcoming the community is, how supportive the community is, the diversity of the community, how safe the community is, and that the community spirit that is alive in Robe. The sense of community and community spirit is the second favourite thing that people loved about Robe.

### **3. The walking tracks / trails / pathways (n=118)**

People love Robe's long walks around Robe (n=118). This is their third favourite thing. They love the scenic walks, the ocean, beach, and coastal views, the new walking paths, the walking trails, the walking tracks, and the nature walks. One of the things people love most about Robe is being able to walk everywhere in the town, and that includes the kids walking safely to and from school.

#### **4. The character of the township (n=91)**

People love the character buildings, the character homes, the character of the main street, the unique streetscape with its character and boutique shops, the character of the makerspace (Industrial area) and its makers who are making unique things and creating a vibrant commercial hub that enhances the character of the town. People said businesses that add character to Robe are Mahalia's, Transmutation, Mikes, the Brewery, the Ice Cream shop, and the Black Swan.

#### **5. 6. 10. The shops, cafes, and restaurants (n=68; 67; 49)**

The fifth favourite thing the community love about Robe are the unique boutiques, the variety and quality within the shops, the cafes, and restaurants. The shops in Robe are unlike anywhere else and that is what makes them special. People said they love the café culture that exists in Robe. A number of people mentioned the cafes and restaurants are of the quality you would normally see in a big city, and this is a big attraction. The community said they love the wine tastings, the quality of the food in Robe, and that you can easily walk to them at night.

#### **8. The natural landscapes (n= 59)**

The eighth favourite thing people love is Robe's natural beauty. People love the natural landscape, the natural scrub, the trees, Robe's beaches, coastline, cliffs sand dunes, the wild ocean, and the natural stone buildings. People love to go bird watching and walking /biking in the natural scrub and landscapes. They love to take in the natural beauty of Robe. The natural landscapes are relaxing with many saying Robe's natural landscapes are good for their mental health.

## The biggest challenges to living in Robe

Challenges people see to living in Robe vary depending on their generation.

**Generation Z** (15-24 years) don't see health services, aged care, or retirement housing as impediments to living in Robe. Rather the challenges that Generation Z see to living in Robe are:

- affordable housing to rent 66%
- affordable housing to buy 50%
- long term rental housing 50%
- career prospects 50%
- education 50%
- more staff / workers needed 50%
- indoor experiences 42%

For the other generations distances to health services are at the top of their list. Other key challenges mentioned are:

- lack of after school care for children impacts on job opportunities
- parking in Victoria Street at peak times is dangerous and difficult
- supermarket shuts too early for workers
- not enough indoor entertainment and fun things to do
- crowds in January, the traffic congestion, parking problems and litter
- large groups of 4WD detrimental to dunes, environment, and kids safety
- behaviours of 4WD visitors on Long Beach, speeding, use of jet skis in crowded areas and being unsafe around children
- distance to hospitals and health services in Kingston or Mount Gambia



## Key challenges the community perceive to living in Robe

<b>Millennials (24-44 years)</b>		<b>Generation X (45-54 years)</b>	
Health services	70%	Health services	53%
Affordable housing to rent	58%	Aged care housing	45%
Long term rental housing	54%	Retirement living options	43%
Affordable housing to buy	51%	Long term rental housing	38%
Aged care	42%	More staff / workers needed	38%
Retirement living options	42%	Affordable housing to rent	38%
Career prospects	40%	Crowds	35%
Indoor experiences	40%	Affordable housing to buy	33%
More staff / workers needed	39%	Career prospects	23%
Job opportunities	32%	Housing for my staff to live	18%
Education opportunities	30%	Job opportunities	18%

<b>Baby Boomers (55-74 years)</b>		<b>Silent Generation (75+ years)</b>	
Health services	60%	Health services	55%
Aged care housing	52%	Aged care housing	50%
Retirement living options	40%	Crowds	36%
Crowds	40%	Long term rental homes	32%
Affordable housing to rent	35%	Retirement living options	32%
Affordable housing to buy	34%	Affordable housing to buy	27%
Long-term rental housing	32%	Services for disabilities	27%
More staff / workers needed	31%	Affordable housing to rent	27%
Services for disabilities	24%	Career prospects	22%
Business opening hours	15%	Job opportunities	18%
Retail options	13%	More staff / workers needed	18%

# Growing Robe & Social Impacts



## Growing the Robe community

The Robe community is especially important to Robe residents, ranked No.2 in reasons why people love Robe. Answering the survey, people talked about the importance of rebalancing the community by encouraging more families to live in Robe permanently and have the ability to rent or buy. In particular the community mentioned attracting younger couples or people with young families to live permanently and grow with the community.

People living in Robe (1-5 years) talk about how welcoming the community are to newcomers, and the importance new community members living close to town so they can feel like they are part of the community.

People speak about the need for human connections with other Robe residents, which is good for their mental health and wellbeing. They say there is a need to strengthen the community.

People talk about community events as being an important way for the community to interact with each other.

A number of people speak about the perceived reduction in community events as having a negative impact on growing the social aspects of the community. People speak about the overall wellbeing of the community diminishing as a result of less events in and around Robe.

Survey participants specify that Robe District residents should be the target of markets, events, fairs, or festivals. They say visitors and tourists are welcome to join in but should not be the focus. They want these events for the community so there are opportunities for people to feel like the community can heal, build, and grow. They want to spend time with friends. They want to build a stronger and more cohesive community.

### Growing the community through events & community infrastructure

Many Robe community members want to see more opportunities for community gatherings and entertainment for its residents in indoor and outdoor spaces. They see an increase in community gatherings as an opportunity to build a stronger a more cohesive community within the Robe District.

The community want to see large green community spaces along the foreshore used for regular community events. Suggestions are:

- community markets, music events, food and wine festivals, art festivals
- park runs, fun runs, walks
- an annual community fair
- an annual festival to pay homage to the Obelisk.

Suggestions to improve teenager, family-friendly community engagement activities by building community infrastructure such as:

- more walking pram/wheelchair pathways, BBQs, seating, bins, and tables
- shade coverings on playground for summer
- an expansion to the skatepark to include all-age skating opportunities
- outdoor climbing walls, outdoor gym / exercise equipment in the parks
- outdoor cinema, mini golf, outdoor teenager park infrastructure
- a swimming pool / waterpark for all year-round swimming and water fun
- indoor computer spaces for studying / gaming / businesses / arts & crafts
- indoor spaces for community meetings / exhibitions / competitions

### **Growing the community through a community centre**

Growing the community and building community engagement is really important to residents of Robe District.

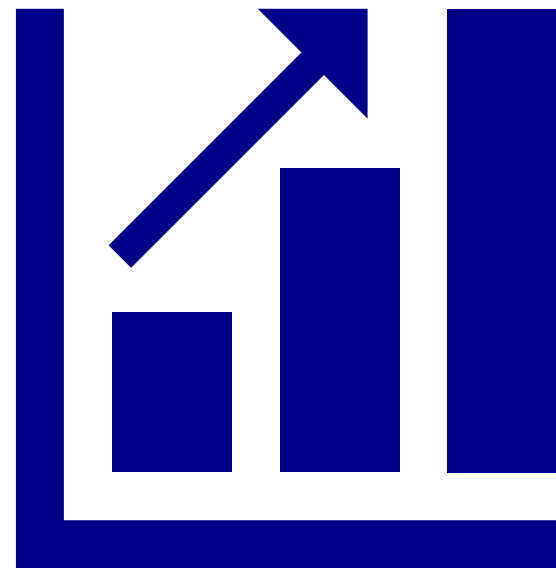
Many residents feel that there is a need to upgrade an existing building (i.e. RSL Club or Bowls Club) or build a community centre.

They want a meeting space that can change in size and in use to suit the needs of the community. They want it to be flexible so that the community can use it to meet, participate in arts and crafts, indoor gaming, fitness activities, gym, swimming, study groups, business groups, co-working space, workshops, exhibitions, community competitions and for community clubs to meet.

A number of people suggest the Bowls Club or the RSL Club for hosting community events. They suggest upgrading these venues with audio-visual equipment, study areas with computers and Internet access for students and community folk. They state the library is too small. They say update existing options (i.e. RSL / Bowls Club) or develop a new building at the marina (old Crayfish Factory site) or behind Long Beach (out towards the highway). The community want flexible spaces of different sizes and storage so that equipment can be moved or stored as different room requirements change.

A few people suggest that if a new building is built behind Long Beach that it could be a multipurpose community centre that incorporates health facilities, shops, cafes and includes aged care options (i.e. units). This way senior community members are within proximity to Robe and closer to Kingston Hospital. People suggest that developing a walking path into Robe from the community centre, which is consistent with Robe's walkability and beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the community.

# Growing Robe & Economic Impacts



## Growing Robe economically & maintaining its character

The character of the township of Robe is number four (4) on the list of why people love Robe. When talking about how to grow Robe, people talk about the importance of maintaining the character of Robe as it grows. To understand the meaning behind the character of Robe many people gave descriptions or examples.

*The factors contributing to Robe's character are:*

1. The unique character of the main street, including the unique and eclectic mix of historic and newish buildings, boutiques, cafes, and restaurants.
2. The character of the Makerspace (Industrial area) with its unique and eclectic mix of makers and businesses who do or make unique and interesting things that people want to learn more about whether they are locals or visitors. Examples given are Mahalia's, Transmutation, Mikes, the Brewery and Sky Seafoods.
3. The character buildings and the stone buildings in the original area of the Robe township, which mixes the history of Robe with modern Robe.
4. The village or small town feel of the main street add to the character

### Preserving the character and village feel of Robe

- The community says the area marked on the map should differ to other parts of the Robe township. Growth to occur outside this area.
- Cap or maintain stringent development and/or have architectural guidelines ensuring the adherence to the “character of Robe” in the area marked on the map. This area to maintain current block sizes and heights. Smaller block sizes and increased heights to occur elsewhere, as long as they are unseen when people are in the area marked on the map.
- The community suggests growing Long Beach, Boatswains Point and Nora Creina to help take the load off Robe and maintain its character / village feel.





- Change the zoning of the Makerspace (Industrial area) to Commercial. This will help to encourage more “makers / creatives” with retail shop fronts. These businesses add to the character of Robe. More makers / creatives should be encouraged into this area. Move the earth moving equipment, large sheds, anything that uses large trucks or creates dust out of this area. This would happen over time. Costs need to be considered.
- Develop residential housing, smaller block sizes, and units in Long Beach, Boatswains Point and Nora Creina to help take the load off Robe. Ensure any units, development, or housing cannot be seen from the area on the map.
- Develop the area from Long Beach out towards the airport. At the back of Long Beach (towards the highway) include provision for shops, cafes, restaurants for the locals. Doing this will help Robe keep the character of the town and grow economically. This will more effectively service the local and tourist trade into the future. Ensure the trees / scrub remains / grows along the highway to maintain the village feel as you drive into town.
- To keep Robe’s character ensure any small homes, units or multi-story housing are not seen from the main area of town. This way Robe retains its unique character, charm, and small-town feel. Keep Robe for tourists. Develop Long Beach for locals to ensure the character of Robe is maintained.
- New developments to be located west of the Commercial / Industrial area, or west and east of Beacon Hill, or between Long Beach and the Airport, or both sides of Southern Ports Highway and out to Sandy Lane, or between Nora Creina Road, Southern Ports Highway and Sandy Lane. Growing away from Robe will help to ensure it keeps its village feel.

### **The mixed-use Industrial / Commercial area**

To grow the character of Robe, people suggest the mixed-use zone area to be rezoned Commercial. This is so that businesses that add to the character of Robe can attract similar businesses to the same area.

Character businesses that add to the vibrancy of Robe include the makers / micro manufacturing businesses with a retail outlet like Mahalia's, Mikes, Transmutation, Sky Seafoods, and the Brewery. The community want them to stay and attract similar commercial ventures. They argue that this area has growth potential and an opportunity for it to draw tourists, and more makers to further enhance Robe's character.

The rezoning also to addresses growing safety concerns. Many people commented on the dangers associated with truck movements in town and their impact on children and congestion. People also spoke of how the trucks take away from the character and village feel of Robe. People mentioned that if the Industrial area is moved out of town that this would impact favourably on the safety of their children walking to and from school, the truck movements in town and the traffic congestions caused by the trucks.

Residents commented on the original Robe town plan that has the Industrial Area located near the airport. They said this would take the trucks out of town, keep with the unique character and village feel of Robe, and allow capacity for large trucks and heavy machinery to be outside of town, unseen.

There are some cost concerns with moving larger manufacturing, sheds, and earth moving equipment out of town near the Airport. People aren't sure how long it will take, whether you can ask businesses to move, or who is going to pay for them to move, or how much it is going to cost.

The quantitative results of the survey show that the majority of the participants believe that the retail shopping in the mixed-use zone Industrial / Commercial area should stay (n=271; 68%) or increase (n=239; 60%).

Residents like that this mixed-use area is away from the tourist part of town and is eclectic and vibrant and fast becoming a favourite community space. A number of people mentioned the music and the vibe on a Friday night at the Brewery, which is creating a place for locals to go. They love that this is away from the tourist area in town. They also add that having an alternative retail space away from the town helps with the traffic flow alleviating the traffic congestion.

Commercial / retail alternatives	Agree	Didn't say	No
Flint / White Sts as a vibrant retail / commercial area	68%	23%	9%
Extend retail shopping in Flint Sts /White Sts area	60%	23%	17%
Keep Flint St area as is & create Industrial out of town	48%	26%	26%
Create new shopping precinct away from Victoria St	42%	23%	35%
Create a shared retail shopping community / event	38%	24%	38%
Create a retail shopping precinct within Long Beach	34%	23%	43%
Turn Victoria Street into an outdoor mall / piazza	32%	22%	46%
Move all manufacturing businesses outside of town	27%	25%	48%

## Community quotes on the mixed-use Industrial / Commercial area

The industrial area has grown simply from makers attaching commercial fronts to their businesses and not for any other reason. Just like cellar doors attached to wineries, it is a cost-effective way to staff and sell your wares. Visitors are also drawn to the vibe of experiencing where and how products are created and this is part of the appeal. To be fair the strong entrepreneurship and marketing of several businesses and investment in that area like Mahalia Coffee and Sky Seafoods have drawn crowds and driven that precinct. Others would not have gone there without their pull. We need to be mindful of developing this further. Perhaps this area rezoned commercial and heavy machinery rezoned to a different area.

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Small manufacturing businesses like coffee roasting, brewery, beef jerky and Transmutation should stay in the current area. Big industrial businesses, like earth movers should move

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Existing industrial area to be rezoned commercial and a new industrial are to be built outside of town near the airport so there is capacity for large Double Bs and trucks but need to ensure Sandy Lane Bridge can cope with the industrial traffic

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Keeping existing warehouse manufacturing with its retail fronts and then moving the industrial area to an out-of-town location seems like a good solution if we are wanting to grow our retail space, although this could lead to more land clearing and a lot of businesses having to relocate

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## Growing Robe: parking and vehicle movements

A number of Robe community members spoke about the need to improve traffic flow, vehicle movements, and parking in the summer peak season. They speak of the bingles, traffic congestion, frustrations, negative experiences, lines, and holdups that occur in Main Street, Victoria Street and Robe Street during the summer school holidays.

People say this is because there are too many people driving in the summer for the roads and traffic flow. They say too many people are looking for a park, too many workers are parking on Victoria Street, Victoria Street is the main thoroughfare, and Main Street is where people drive to use the service station or the supermarket.

A number of people produced solutions for parking and vehicle movements around Robe.

### Suggestions about parking:

- Limit parking time or introduce paid parking in summer
- No parking in Victoria Street in summer
- Diagonal parking in Victoria Street & Robe Street
- Use school grounds for parking in summer. Put up a boom gate and charge \$2+ for parking with a parking sign on Victoria St pointing people to the paid parking.
- Use the old Crayfish Factory site for parking
- Do not put up a parking station as it will detract from the uniqueness, character, and village vibe of Robe.

### Suggestions about vehicle movements:

- Increase the supermarket and service station hours to reduce bottle necks, improve the traffic flow and relieve the congestion.
- Create a popup supermarket and/or food vans for the summer in Long Beach to reduce the need for vehicle movements into Robe
- Create a second supermarket / second service station or move the existing service station further out of town or on a new access road to improve vehicle movements.
- Create more footpaths / bike paths so people leave their cars at home and use their feet or a bike to get around.
- Create signature streets and a hub-and-spoke design, so that everything is not concentrated in the one area of Robe. Then create parking areas for these signature streets.
- Relocate the Industrial Area out of town to keep the trucks from Robe

### Suggestions about streets / roads:

- Extend Davenport Street to Evan's Cave Road to create another arterial road other than Robe St into the main part of town.
- Make Victoria Street one way (traffic to move west). The other lane to be a bike / walking lane. Improve walkability / biking options.
- Put in a traffic light / roundabout Robe St / Victoria St intersection
- Reduce the speed limit to 40kms in Victoria St and Robe St
- Create a second access road in/out of Robe

### Suggestions about removing cars:

- No cars in Victoria Street in the summer (pedestrians only)
- Make Victoria Street a mall in the summer and have hop on hop off driverless bus move the people up and down Victoria Street.
- More paving / footpaths to make it easier for people to walk and to leave their cars at home / accommodation, especially between Long Beach and Robe. Pram friendly footpaths.
- A Taxi or Uber option so people don't have to drive into town
- Have a bus / driverless hop-on-hop-off bus day / night to move people from Long Beach through to the Marina. The bus would go back and forth. This way people can park their car leaving it at their accommodation and walk to the centrally located bus stops. This effectively removes their cars from the streets and create a walkable Robe and keeps that village feel. A village feel should be a place where you leave the vehicle at home, and you can walk everywhere.

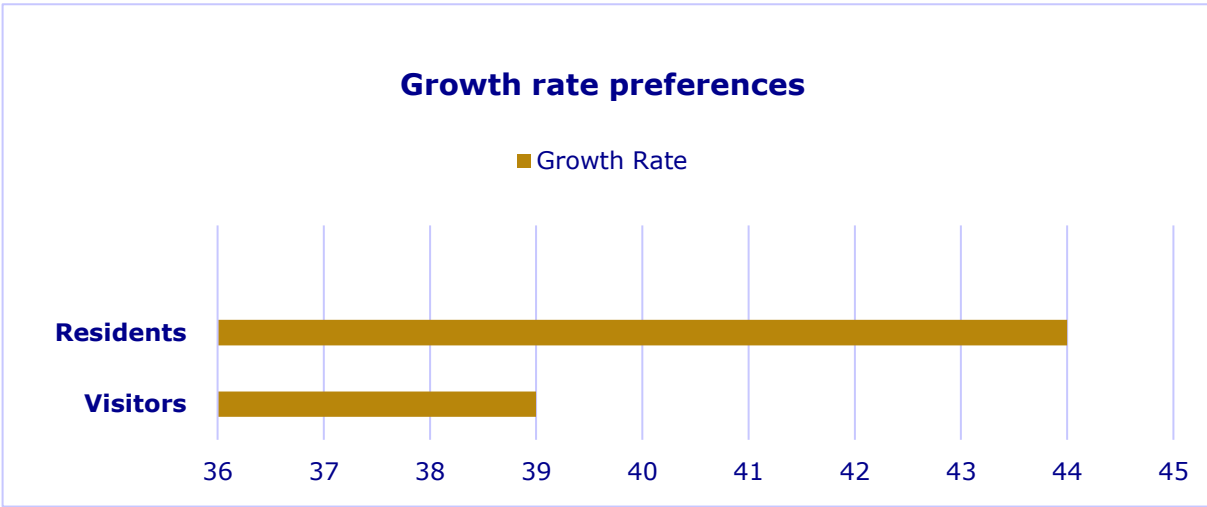
### Speed of growth

The survey mentioned that over the past five years (2017-2022) Robe has grown at a speed of 42/100 (42%). We asked the survey participants to select the rate of change they would like to see happen in Robe in the next five years.

We inspected the various groups of people who undertook the survey to see if everyone agrees with the slowness of the speed.

We found that visitors to Robe want to see Robe grow 5% slower than people who live in the Robe District. Robe residents want Robe to grow 2% faster than the previous five years.

- Robe District residents want to see Robe grow at 44% (2% faster)
- Visitors to Robe want to see Robe grow at 39% (3% slower)





Visitors want to see growth slowed. Visitors want Robe to look and feel the same each time they visit. They want Robe to have a “relaxed feel” around the natural environmental spaces (i.e. beaches, cliffs, scrub) and a vibrant village feel around the town with its eclectic mix of restaurants, cafes, and unique boutiques.

Residents of Robe District want to see the speed of growth increased so that Robe’s year-round liveability is improved. These ideas include:

- The development of more walkways, pathways, and walking tracks to improve the walkability around Robe, day/night, to and from cafes/restaurants in Robe and for residents who live in Long Beach. All new estates to develop walking footpaths for prams and safe walking. Making Robe more walkable will help ease the traffic congestion in summer, as people can walk or bike into Robe.
- The development of family friendly housing for long-term rental or to buy. This is to encourage more residents to live in Robe and to shift the balance of the community. Affordable family friendly housing will also assist with reducing the worker shortages, and help keep businesses open, viable and operating all year around. There is a concern that if the worker shortages aren’t addressed with affordable housing that Robe will die and not be able to service the locals or the tourists into the future.
- Develop a second and safe entry/exit to Robe that doesn’t allow trucks or that moves the trucks onto the new entry/exit. This is a safety concern and also addresses the traffic congestion that occurs on Robe St / Main St intersection.
- The development of high-speed Internet for remote worker opportunities, students, and the advancement of digital business opportunities.

## Economic opportunities: growing Long Beach

People felt Long Beach has more potential to grow than Robe.

- Robe is restricted geographically
- it is important to maintain Robe's unique character and village feel
- smaller block sizes and increased heights can happen in Long beach towards the airport, as long as they are unseen on the drive into Robe.

Ideas for growing Long Beach include temporary pop-up shops / bars and food vans for the summer in Long Beach. This is to address the food and beverage demand and social-interaction opportunities for Long Beach residents and for visitors.

Permanent or temporary shops will help with food/beverage/ supplies demand, community interactions, traffic flow for Robe District residents / visitors, and ease congestion in Robe when people drive into Robe for food, drinks, or socialising.

A convention / conference centre at the back of Long Beach. Rationale is because it doesn't require a view and wont negatively impact on the character and village feel of Robe. The building/s could include shopping, health services, residential units for workers, retirement living or aged care, cafes, and restaurants. Suggest between the airport and Long Beach.

A shopping centre at the back of Long Beach (away from the beach) with a supermarket, a butcher shop, a fruit shop, a service station, a hardware store, and a few cafes for the residents of Robe District. The Long Beach shopping precinct would relieve the congestion in summer or congestion that will occur with future growth. The shopping precinct will make it easy for Robe District residents to access without the need to come into town to buy groceries.

## Economic opportunities within the Robe District

- Create a shopping centre on Kingston Road, which is on high ground and wont flood plus it has room for parking.
- Incorporate a heath precinct / shopping / aged care precinct on Kingston Road as this is viable, and closer to existing health services.
- Kingston Hospital to remain viable, as this presents the best possibility for growing health services closer to Robe.
- Create a shopping centre in Nora Creina or Boatswain Point. These are areas for future growth. They are easy for locals to access and will relieve the pressure off Robe.

## Future economic / business opportunities

We asked the Robe community to imagine what businesses are likely to be in Robe in 2050. Most agree (above 85%) that retail, hospitality, tourism, fishing, accommodation, agriculture, outdoor and recreational experiences will be around in the Robe District in 2050. People said that digital versions of these businesses are likely to also emerge as Web 3.0 becomes mainstream.

	<b>Business likely to be in Robe in 2050</b>	<b>Level of agreement</b>
1	Retail and hospitality	97.78%
2	Tourism	95.56%
3	Fishing	93.02%
4	Accommodation	91.11%
5	Agriculture	87.62%
6	Outdoor & recreational experiences	87.30%
7	Health and wellbeing	79.68%
8	Housing and construction	77.76%
9	Creative arts	75.56%
10	Events, festivals, and conferences	75.56%
11	Aged care	68.57%
12	Professional services	66.98%
13	Circular economy	61.90%
14	Indoor recreational or tourism experiences	60.32%
15	Clean energy production	60.32%
16	Digital businesses	53.02%
17	Online education	49.84%
18	Manufacturing and processing	46.67%

## Robe District property ownership

Sixty-four percent (64%) own property in the Robe District. They own homes, business property, broad acres for development of housing allotments, lifestyle blocks just outside of town, marina berths or sheds in the Industrial area.

<b>Property ownership</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>(%)</b>
Own a home in the Robe District	256	64%
Own two or more properties	123	31%
Own a holiday home in Robe	84	21%
Own an investment property	70	18%
Own a business property (1 or more)	29	7%
Own the land I plan to build on	24	6%
Own accommodation property	17	4%
<b>Property Usage</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>(%)</b>
Personal usage only	183	46%
Rent property to holiday makers	54	14%
Rent property to family & friends (paid or free)	23	6%
Use property for commercial purposes	21	5%
Rent/lease property to long-term tenants	15	4%
Rent/lease business property	15	4%
Rent for staff (mine or another Robe business)	9	2%
<b>Future property ownership</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>(%)</b>
Keep my ownership about the same	196	49%
Did not say	143	36%
Increase my ownership of property in Robe	46	12%
Reduce my Robe property ownership	13	3%

N=398

## Growing Robe: building development preferences

Nearly 65% of people stated their preferences for residential housing (to rent or to purchase) to rebalance Robe into a thriving residential community. In the comments section, people said if there is somewhere for families to live, they can work and live in Robe, rebalance the population, and address the worker shortages that Robe experiences. There is strong opposition to resort-style accommodation and more holiday homes / Airbnb-style accommodation.

There is clear agreement for family / worker accommodation, retirement living options and for smaller homes. Some people suggest units rather than small houses. Many people talked about the need for smaller block sizes and gardens that are easy to manage / opportunity to downsize into a small house, townhouse, or unit. There is sufficient evidence to support the building of smaller affordable housing. People talk about houses/units for workers and their families to rent or to buy and or for retirees downsizing. People say there is a need for smaller housing to support families moving to Robe. They say this will help to grow and rebalance the community and address worker shortages.

Type of development	Yes	(%)	No comment	No	(%)
Worker accommodation	281	70.6%	91	26	6.5%
Retirement living	256	64.3%	93	49	12.3%
Tiny homes	207	52.0%	102	89	22.4%
Business / conference	148	37.1%	98	152	38.2%
Luxury accommodation	142	35.7%	104	152	38.2%
More hotel acc.	117	29.4%	99	178	44.7%
More holiday home acc.	101	25.3%	99	198	49.7%
Resort style acc.	95	23.9%	102	201	50.5%

### **Growing Robe: home improvement / building development options**

The Robe community voiced their opinions about the future of home improvements, residential building additions, building heights, land, and block sizes.

Many people commended the council for maintaining strict controls and capping development in the main part of Robe to ensure that Robe retains its character and village vibe and feel. They want the cap to remain in the tourist area: golf course boundary, O'Halloran Street / Lord Syleham St, and Town Beach.

Residents of Robe want to keep buildings unseen from coastal walks or town

People want the tourist area of Robe to retain strict building approval guidelines.

However, people felt the guidelines could be less strict in areas of Robe that are unseen, as they do not affect the character of the town, or the village feel of Robe. In the unseen areas building heights can lift and smaller block sizes.

Regarding development options, the community are in favour of adding a studio, separate office, or granny flat to existing houses. They felt this could add to business opportunities, remote work opportunities, help with caring for family members or address the housing shortages experienced.

→ Agree 80%      Disagree 20%

Many people commented on the opportunity to build large garages to house their boat, trailer, and caravan so they had access to them. People talked about how this option is more favourable than housing boats, trailers and caravans in the Industrial area or mooring boats in the marina. They said without dredging the marina boat mooring options are dwindling.

→ Agree 73%      Disagree 27%

There is moderate favourability for adding a business premise or retail outlet to an existing home on a rural property or on a residential town property. This is with the caveat of not diminishing the character of Robe in areas that are seen within the township.

→ Agree 53%      Disagree 47%

In unseen areas within the Robe township and at Long Beach people felt housing heights could be lifted, duplexes built, and smaller block sizes implemented. This would not diminish the character and village feel of Robe and could add to the community feel of Robe, as it rebalances to a residential community that attracts tourists.

→ Agree 50%      Disagree 50%

### **Growing Robe: location of future homes**

New residential developments:

- The rural areas surrounding Robe, including the small hamlets with lifestyle rural homes and small (1-5) acreage blocks      84% agree
- Long Beach and back to Southern Ports Highway      54% agree
- Robe Township      48% agree



When growing Robe, people said it is important to retain the “community feel” of Robe and that moving new community family members outside of Robe alienated them and isn’t conducive to building a stronger and cohesive community.

Suggestions are to create satellite communities with medium density housing behind Long Beach, Boatswains Point, or towards Nora Creina. Create smaller sized blocks with smaller homes for residents, retirees, and families / workers.

Suggest land adjacent to Brower Estate or around Beacon Hill along Beacon Hill Rd, either side and around the Beacon Hill Lookout. Also along Beacon Hill Rd and the unnamed track to Nora Creina Road and the new road from Nora Creina to Eliza Lane-Southern Ports Highway.

Realign Southern Ports Highway to create a residential / industrial / community development boundary – North (Steve Woolston Rd), East (Southern Ports Highway/Sandy Lane/Eliza Lane), South (unmade road 550m south of Evans Cave Rd/Beacon Hill Rd – Douglas Dawson Track – Nora Creina Road), West (Beach). Create overlays for future development within the broader development boundary for residential, rural residential, commercial, industrial, community (school, hospital, aged care, retirement living, sport, airport, cemetery, transport).

People suggest residential units / small houses be unseen from the main tourist areas.

New developments to be located west of the Commercial / Industrial area, or west and east of Beacon Hill, or between Long Beach and the airport, or both sides of Southern Ports Highway and out to Sandy Lane, or between Nora Creina Road, Southern Ports Highway and Sandy Lane.

Any further from Robe makes them unfriendly for retirees, or for workers and their families. Housing proximity should allow assimilation into the community.

## Growing Robe around its greatest asset

Robe's greatest asset are the views to Guichen Bay and Long Beach.

### Views to Guichen Bay and Long Beach

	Yes	Didn't say	No
View to Guichen Bay & Long Beach to stay largely the same as it is in 2022	67%	23%	10%
Set back any future buildings along Long Beach so they are unseen	62%	22%	16%
I want to see development along the Esplanade	28%	25%	47%

The Robe Community agree that the view out to Guichen Bay encompassing the Long Beach vista to remain largely the same as it is in 2022. They want the people in 2050 to see the same view Robe residents see now. The view is Robe's greatest community asset. The community want it to remain unchanged.

The community want any new development to be considerate of sharing the views to Guichen Bay and Long Beach with the community and consistent with the character and village feel of the town.

People don't want to see a house impede the view like the one that went up between the second and third ramp, as it ruins the natural view and appeal of Robe and Long Beach.

People want any new development to be unseen from the town to ensure Robe's hero is its view and natural beauty. The view to Guichen Bay and Long Beach to remain the hero of Robe.

In 2050, people imagine the view to Guichen Bay and Long Beach staying largely the same as it is in 2022. They see the view being enjoyed by families enjoying the view outside in the parks, playgrounds, or outdoor area (community spaces)

→ Agreement 76%      no opinion 22%      disagreement 2%

In 2050, the community see people enjoying the view as they walk either unaided or aided using a wheelchair along the pathway around the bay and through to Long Beach

→ Agreement 74%      no opinion 22%      disagreement 4%

In 2050, they see people enjoying the view to Guichen Bay and Long Beach from a community building such as a museum, art gallery or an event space

→ Agreement 42%      no opinion 23%      disagreement 35%

In 2050, they see people enjoying the view to Guichen Bay and Long Beach from a restaurant or a café or a bar (commercial building)

→ Agreement 36%      no opinion 47%      disagreement 17%

However, in 2050, the community don't see people enjoying the view to Guichen Bay and Long Beach from a digital environment (e.g. app, hologram, or augmented reality). Only 18% of the community could see people enjoying the views in a digital environment, 57% of people disagreed and 25% had no opinion.

People expressed concerns that if the view is available digitally that Robe could lose its charm, uniqueness, and village feel because people have other ways of seeing the view. The community of Robe want the view to Guichen Bay and Long Beach preserved as it is in 2022.

### Growing Robe: ideas on uses for community-owned vacant land

The vacant land near the marina, which used to be the Crayfish Factory is community owned. We asked the community how they would like to see that land used in the future. People could write as much as they liked. Two Hundred and eighty-one people (71%) responded to this question. We show their ideas in this word cloud developed from all 281 responses.



## Community Space

The community have expressed that they want a venue where there are opportunities for large and small gatherings. The venues suggested are the Bowls Club, the RSL and this vacant community-owned land. Some call it a community centre, others call it an events centre, an entertainment centre, a conference centre, or a convention centre. Each of these names are suggesting the same thing: a venue for different sized community functions that also has commercial opportunities to earn revenue for the community.

Many have suggested that this space needs to be flexible with options to change the space usage and accommodate different size groups and activities.

They would like to see it host large community meetings, events, entertainment, weddings, funerals, art exhibitions, community workshops, small, medium, and large community meeting spaces, co-working spaces, music, arts and crafts, indoor children's play area, computer study and gaming area for children, students, and adults, indoor climbing wall, gym, indoor swimming pool, fishing history and seafaring museum or exhibitions, conferences, a contemporary interpretation centre, an expanded library, and tourism information centre / interpretative tourism centre.

People have suggested that it needs to be at least two stories high to fit in with the other buildings around the Marina. Some have suggested that it could be three stories, others said four or six stories high, as its location won't affect the quaintness, uniqueness, character, and village feel of Robe.

Some suggest an opportunity to add to the character of Robe and to pay homage to the Obelisk is to somehow be incorporate the Obelisk into the architectural design of the building. This multipurpose building can house the history, seafaring, tourism, and an events space and be a community use building.

### **Restaurant**

The community favour a sea-view restaurant that looks out to the bay. Some people suggest a seafood restaurant to pay homage to the town and its fishing history. Others suggest family-friendly restaurants, a fish and chip cafe or multiple cafes, restaurants, and bars, all with views to harbour.

Many people suggest the restaurant/s can be incorporated into a community centre / events centre / function centre / convention centre / seafaring fisherman's museum, art gallery or a contemporary interpretative tourism centre. Some argue for a taller building with parking and accommodation.

### **Commercial**

Other ideas for the community-owned vacant land centre on increasing the commercial space, which includes shops, cafes, and restaurants. They suggest that utilising the land near the Marina opens up opportunities to extend the commercial centre of Robe in Victoria Street through to the Marina. A unique building could add to the character of Robe, and the reasons why people live or visit Robe. Robe attracts unique character shops, people, and businesses.

### **Seafaring Museum**

Many people mention a seafaring museum as a way to pay homage to the seafaring history of Robe. This includes the fishing history, stories of crayfishing, and shipwrecks. Some suggest a hall of fame / modernized museum / interpretative centre: using technology to show visitors the changing ocean and coastline, the geographical significance of Robe as a safe harbour, and the "life" on a fishing vessel or working with a fishing fleet.

### **Community quotes on uses for the vacant land near the Marina**

A community indoor area where children can play like a climbing wall, a study area, a gaming area, and other activities for teenagers and children. Upstairs to have family-friendly restaurants

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A contemporary interpretation centre that will include a historic museum that discusses seafaring including shipwrecks, transition of the fishing industry, land clearing and the history of the drains. It will also include a gallery, a restaurant and a display of "things" produced in Robe.

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Restaurants and cafes with a view to the water, shared with a community space for indoor activities, such as indoor climbing, art gallery, fishing museum all housed in a two or three-story building. You can increase the height in this area of town, as it doesn't encroach on the view out to the bay and long beach, which is Robe's greatest asset.

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An accommodation, retail, restaurant mix three stories high as the view is unspoilt from this position so we can increase the height here.

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A conference or convention centre with a restaurant

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A multifunction building for events / hire / balcony / rooftop three levels with views over the bay. Pop-up space for a summer restaurant / café / hub for the annual boat show.

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Four to six story hotel serviced apartments (4 star) with restaurant, bar, function centre

### **Growing Robe: ideas on how to honour the Obelisk**

We listened to all 273 ideas on how to honour the Obelisk. We noticed that many of the community have similar high-level ideas. We counted their agreement to arrive at a percentage of agreement. This enables us to prioritize the communities ideas. We list the ideas in order.

	<b>Ideas ranked in order</b>	<b>Percentage of agreement</b>
1	Build an attractive replica	70%
2	Create a tourist attraction	56%
3	Collect stories & pieces of the Obelisk	50%
4	Create a museum	30%
5	Honour the Obelisk outdoors (community space)	26%
6	An Obelisk gallery	24%
7	An attractive interactive display	16%
8	Annual Obelisk competitions	15%
9	Lightshow at night	12%
10	Obelisk hologram	9%

Many of these ideas work well together and can be workshopped into one or more solutions that adequately honour the Obelisk for future generations.

People said they want to develop a community committee comprising of members from all age groups to decide how to best honour the Obelisk. Together they can apply for grants to fund the successful ideas. No small 3-person committees. Suggestions are grant opportunities from State and Federal bodies Angel Investors and Go Fund Me crowd funding opportunities to pay for the successful ideas.



## **1. Build an attractive replica of the Obelisk (70%)**

Where?

- Outside in the centre of town
- Outside on the cliff walk
- Outside near the gaol
- Outside near the Encounter sign
- Replacing the existing sculpture
- Outside / inside as part of a museum (maritime or history)
- Outside / inside as part of a new Tourism Information Centre

How?

- From recycled materials, plastics from the ocean & fishing gear
- From Cape Jaffa limestone
- As an interactive display (in a museum / tourism centre)
- With a light on top (sitting on the cliffs) guiding boats

## **2. Create an Obelisk tourist attraction (56%)**

- For use all year with shelter / seats
- Attract winter tourists

Where?

- Near the gaol
- On the old crayfish factory site
- In a park on the foreshore
- On the cliffs / as part of the cliff walk
- In the new interpretative tourist centre

### **3. Collect stories and pieces of the Obelisk (50%)**

- Create a history timeline with stories from each decade
- Collect historical stories and share them
- Include shipwreck stories
- Stories from fishing families (history / current)
- Stories from locals about the Obelisk, driving around it, parties
- Stories about what the Obelisk means to different generations
- Collect and preserve the pieces of the Obelisk to keep with the stories
- Collect pieces of Obelisk as it falls and incorporate into a monument or tourist attraction / museum

### **4. Create a museum (30%)**

What?

- Create an Obelisk, seafaring, history museum
- Create the museum in shape that pays homage to the Obelisk
- Share / highlight the collected Obelisk stories / pieces in the museum
- Exhibit annual Obelisk competitions

### **5. Honour the Obelisk outdoors (26%)**

- In a park as a monument or an attractive replica
- With seating around it, picnic tables for families and a place the community can gather to have markets / events / fairs / shows
- An adventure park / water park / sports centre / swimming pool

## **6. An Obelisk gallery (24%)**

- Selling everything Obelisk
- Exhibiting Obelisk art, craft, sculpture, photography, poetry, creative writing, books, stories created by the community to sell or as entries into community competitions featuring the Obelisk.
- Indoor activity centre for winter aimed at families

How?

- Grant funding / community project

## **7. An attractive interactive display (16%)**

- On the cliff top walk so that people see it as they walk
- At the old gaol site near the carpark
- In a museum (maritime / history / Fisherman's Hall of Fame)
- A purpose built indoor or outdoor interactive experience that tells stories

How?

- Grant funding / community project / competition

## **8. Annual Obelisk competitions (15%)**

- A day / week each year to honour the Obelisk
- Children, family, and adult sections
- Short stories, poems, compositions, film, NFTs, digital art experiences
- Paintings, art, sculpture, craft, photography, drawings
- Colouring competitions for the smaller children

## 9. Lightshow at night (12%)

When?

- Every night (like the light installation at Uluru)
- During peak season
- During winter: attract winter tourists like Illuminate with an Obelisk theme
- Incorporate the lighthouse and shine red and white lights on the lighthouse to honour the Obelisk

## 10. Obelisk hologram (9%)

- Use one or more holograms to share stories of the past and bring them to life (like Shane Warne hologram at the MCG).
- If using multiple holograms use the seafaring stories from fishing families and shipwrecks so they bring history to life for future generations.
- Create a visual history of the Obelisk that shows the positioning of the Obelisk in the 1800s, showing it white then painted with red stripes, show the cliffs and coastline changing over time affecting the Obelisk.
- Use the hologram to help people understand the importance of the Obelisk to Robe and its history by bringing it to life.

Where?

- With the lightshow
- With an interactive display outdoors or indoors
- By using a QR code near monument / replica of Obelisk / outdoor display
- Inside museum, tourist experience centre
- On the cliff tops
- Along the foreshore in a park or near Encounter Signal

# Growing Robe & Environmental Impacts



## Growing Robe and preserving the natural environment

The community want to preserve the natural environment and the natural beauty around Robe for generations to come. The natural beauty of Robe, its landscape and sea views are the hero icons of Robe. They are the reasons people live and visit Robe. Some believe that some regeneration along the highway into Robe is required to preserve the 'relaxed feeling,' the environment, the native scrub, the birds, and the wildlife, which are reasons people love to live or visit Robe. Areas the community believe have the highest priority are:

### Natural beauty

- Visual natural beauty of the sea views to Guichen Bay, Long Beach
- Scenic bushscape, ocean, and beachscape views in all directions
- Coastal landscape, rugged cliffs, sand dunes, and sea views
- Attractiveness of significant land and sea scapes for residents and visitors on tourist driving routes, walking trails, riding trails, beach/sea.

### Walking

- Scenic walking trails along the cliffs, ocean, and beaches
- Walking from Commodore Lookout to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ramp, Long Beach

### Wildlife

- Scrub, native plants, sand dunes, coastal vegetation, trees to ensure the birds, kangaroos, wombats, and other wild animals have a habitat and that people can enjoy seeing them walking / biking along trails.

The majority of the community (86%) want to see the views incorporating Guichen Bay and Long Beach to remain the same as it is in 2022. People said this is one of Robe's natural assets. People want the view preserved. They don't want to see houses dotting Long Beach, they want them to remain unseen. The community want to see the sand dunes and vegetation preserved.

The only man-made additions people speak of seeing developed along the Guichen Bay / Long Beach coastal strip are walking paths / trails from Long Beach to Robe, seating, tables and BBQ facilities, a children's playground, and maybe a Surf Life Saving Club and kiosk. They want to see the sand dunes and natural scrub preserved. The Surf Life Saving Club should fit into the natural environment and not disturb the sand dunes. Similarly, the children's playground should be natural looking, lots of climbing equipment for all ages including teenagers. The playground and Surf Life Saving Club should be environmentally friendly and fit in with the natural environment. Consider recycled equipment.

People want the views and the natural beach / landscape and ocean views to be the icons of Robe and the heroes. For this reason, any new buildings to be set back so they are unseen, and for new development to not encroach the sand dunes or scrub along the beach.

People also don't want their coastal walks impeded by new developments so any new developments should not be seen along coastal walks. The environment and the natural beauty of the coastline and vast seascapes are preserved for future generations so that everyone can enjoy the natural beauty of Robe.

## Conclusion

This report provides the findings from the people who completed the Robe Community Survey and shared their views on how they would like to see Robe grow. Most of these people are residents of Robe (77%) or people that regularly visit Robe (23%) staying in their own homes for between 5-days and 4-weeks, many of which plan to live in Robe at some point in the future.

There is strong evidence to support Robe retaining its unique characteristics, which include the rugged natural coastline, the vast natural ocean and beach views, its boutique retail ambiance, high quality cafes and restaurants, old stone buildings, the quaintness, and village feel in the “tourist areas of the town”.

Adding to these characteristics are other areas in Robe, which includes the mixed-use commercial / industrial area, which is becoming a hub for makers, who showcase and sell their wares which are of interest to the local community and to visitors alike. There is support for consideration of rezoning this area to commercial and moving the industrial area out of town closer to the airport. The residents see this as helping to alleviate the congestion, traffic flows and improve the safety of vehicle movements and children who walk to and from school. However, there is concern about how long before these changes take place, how and much they will cost. Improving walking options are another way that traffic can be reduced, so people can leave their car parked at their accommodation.

The residents would like to see Robe grow out towards the airport, or in the rural hamlets around Robe. There is a 50/50 split on whether to increase housing heights, reduce block sizes and approve units. Most of the comments suggest agreement with these options if they are unseen. The residents believe this will help to alleviate worker shortages, attract families to Robe to rebalance the population, and provide retirement living / aged care options.