



City of York Council

Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Sep-22

The Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies ran from 27 June until 5 August 2022.

The survey sought feedback on the Health and Wellbeing, Climate Change and Economic Strategies. The public were asked if they thought the principles which are applied to each of the strategies are helpful, whether the priorities are right for the city and what the public can do to help deliver the strategies.

Some comments have minor elements of redaction as they contain an element of personalised details.

Question: Are you responding as an individual or as an organisation?

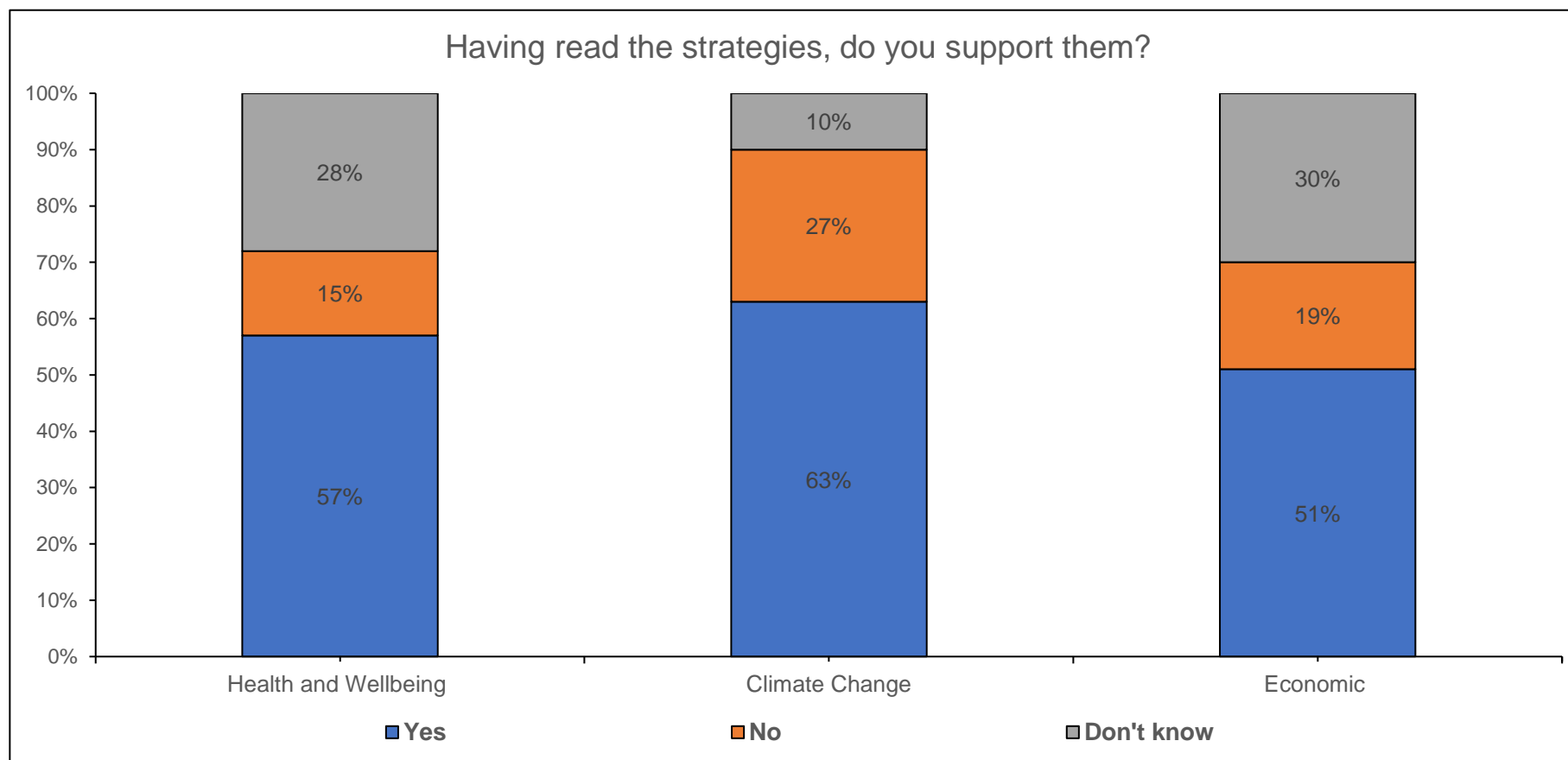
Answer Choices	Responses	% of total
A Resident	95	87%
An Organisation	4	4%
Other	10	9%
Total	109	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Question: Having read the strategies, do you support them:

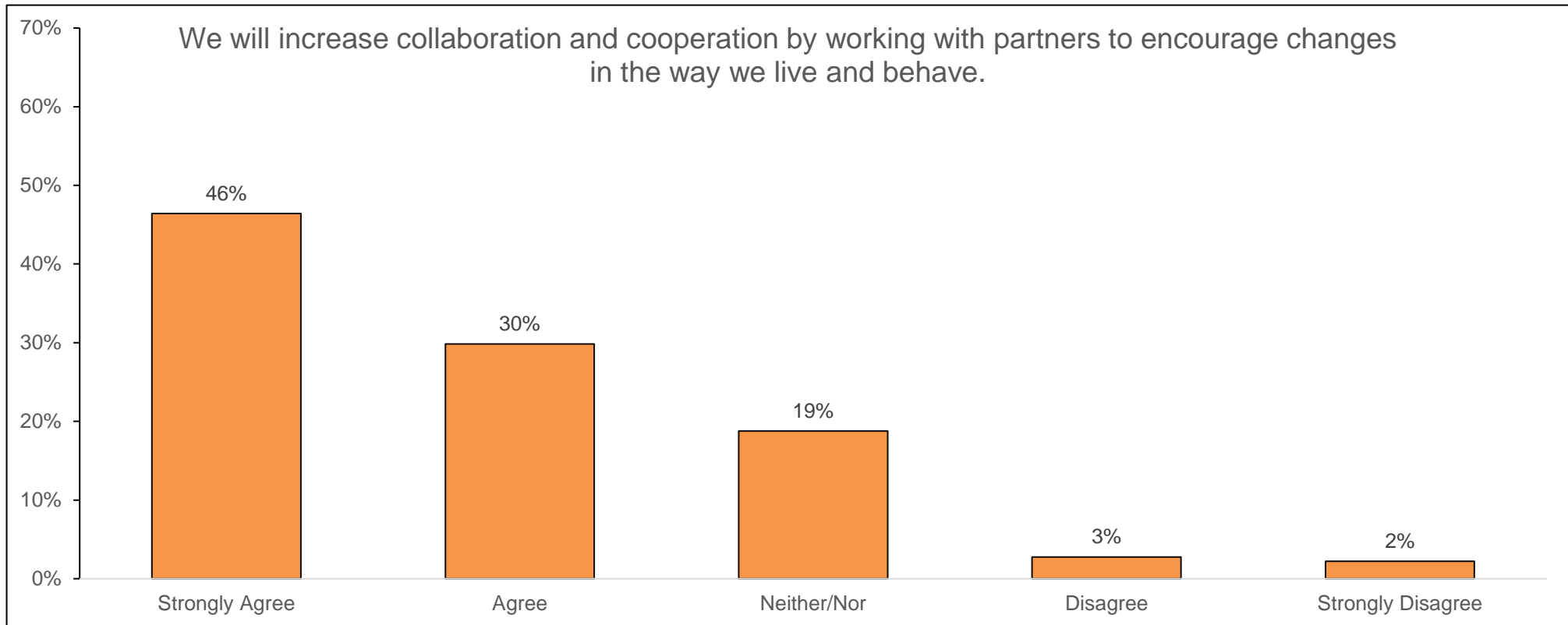
Strategies	Yes		No		Don't know	
Health and Wellbeing	102	57%	26	15%	51	28%
Climate Change	114	63%	49	27%	19	10%
Economic	92	51%	34	19%	53	30%
Total	308		109		123	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following principles are helpful? We will increase collaboration and cooperation by working with partners to encourage changes in the way we live and behave

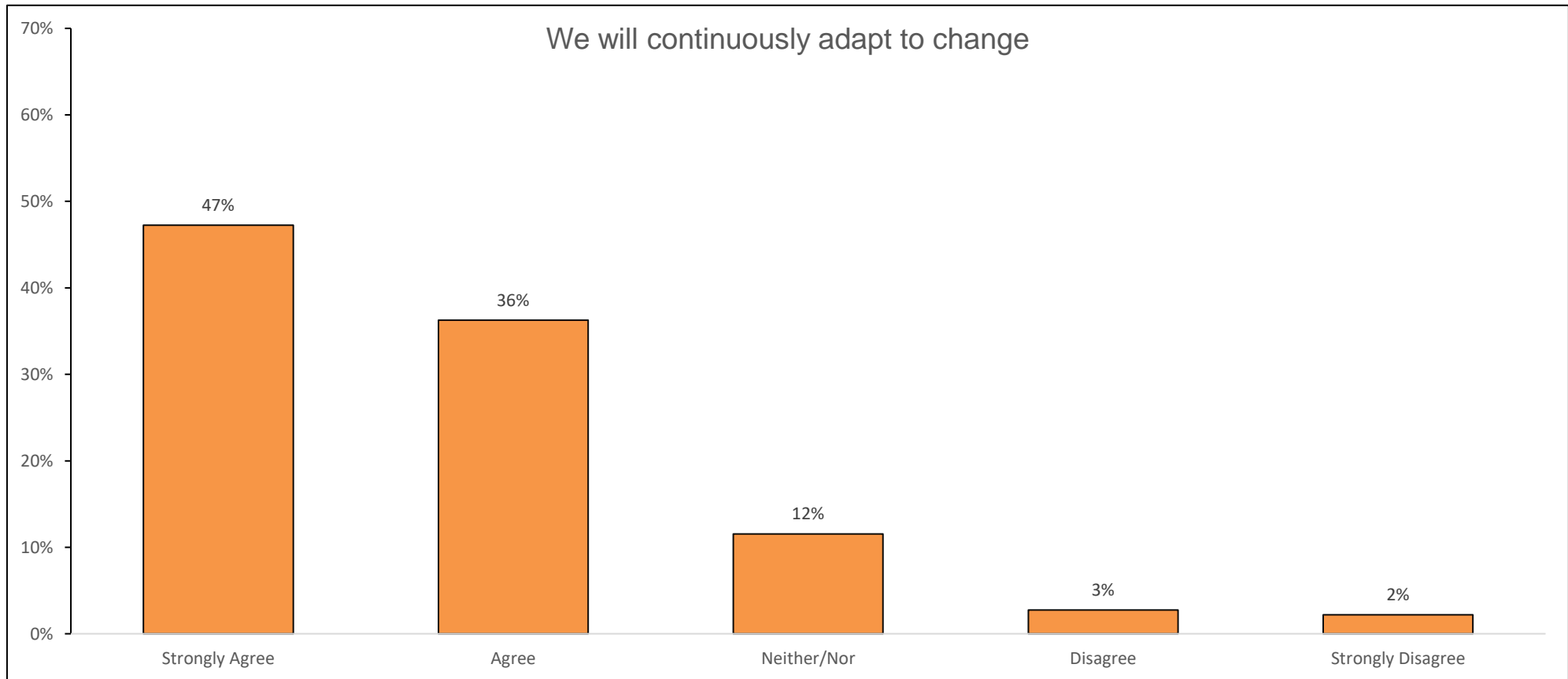
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Strongly Agree	84	46%
Agree	54	30%
Neither/Nor	34	19%
Disagree	5	3%
Strongly Disagree	4	2%
Total	181	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following principles are helpful? We will continuously adapt to change

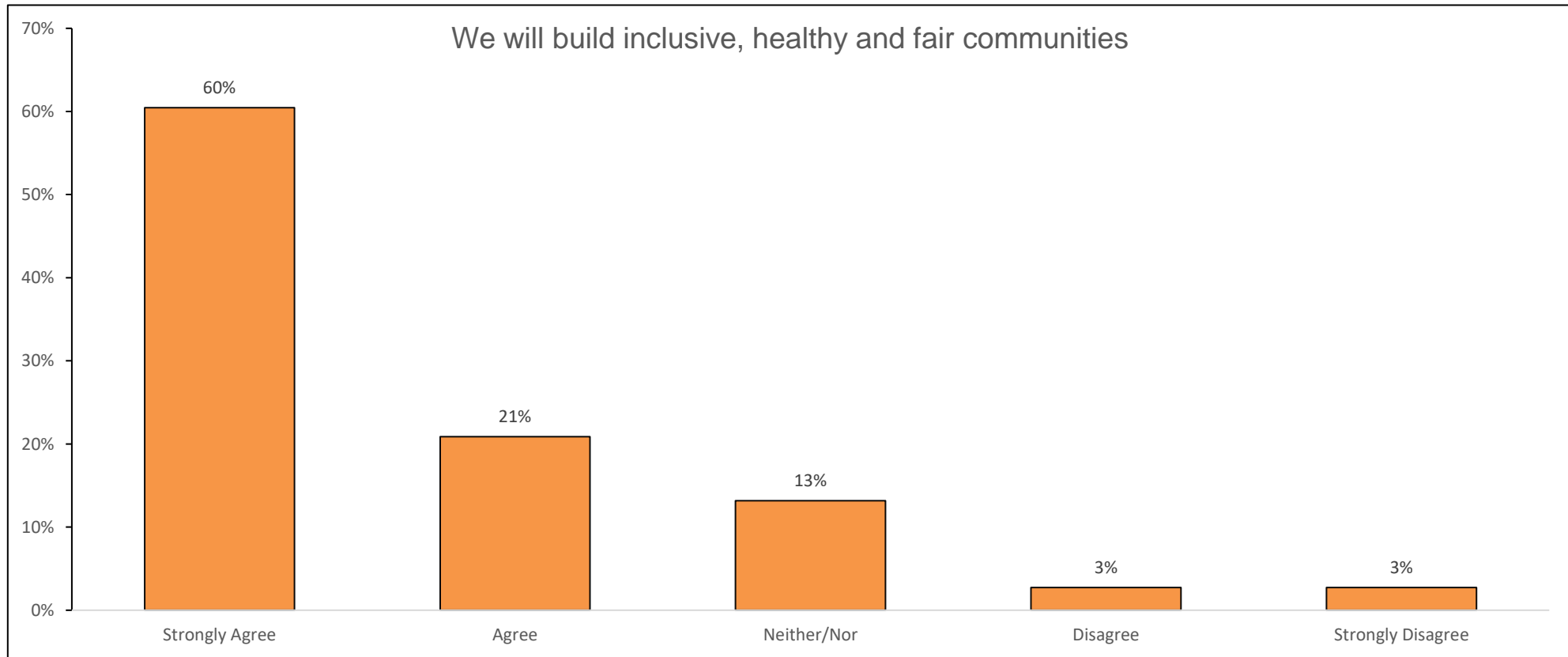
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Strongly Agree	86	47%
Agree	66	36%
Neither/Nor	21	12%
Disagree	5	3%
Strongly Disagree	4	2%
Total	182	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following principles are helpful? We will build inclusive, healthy and fair communities

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Strongly Agree	110	60%
Agree	38	21%
Neither/Nor	24	13%
Disagree	5	3%
Strongly Disagree	5	3%
Total	182	

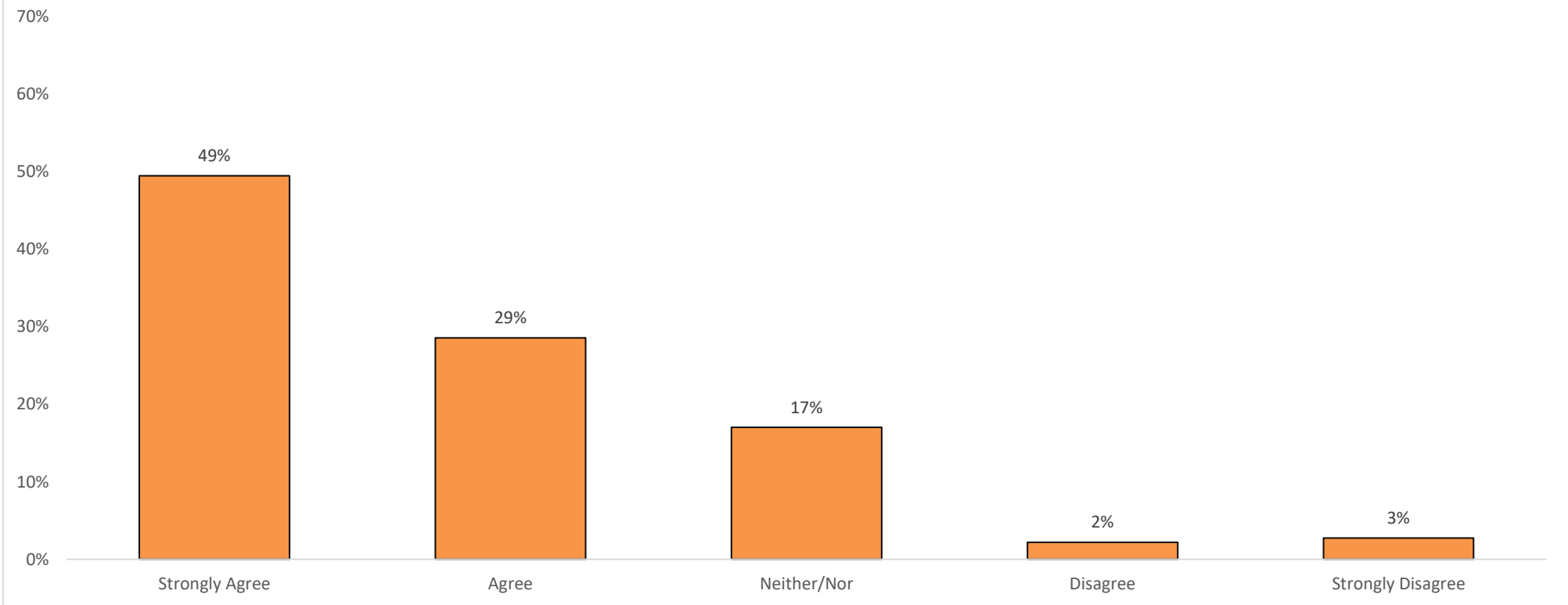


Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following principles are helpful? We will create new employment and investment opportunities

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Strongly Agree	90	49%
Agree	52	29%
Neither/Nor	31	17%
Disagree	4	2%
Strongly Disagree	5	3%
Total	182	

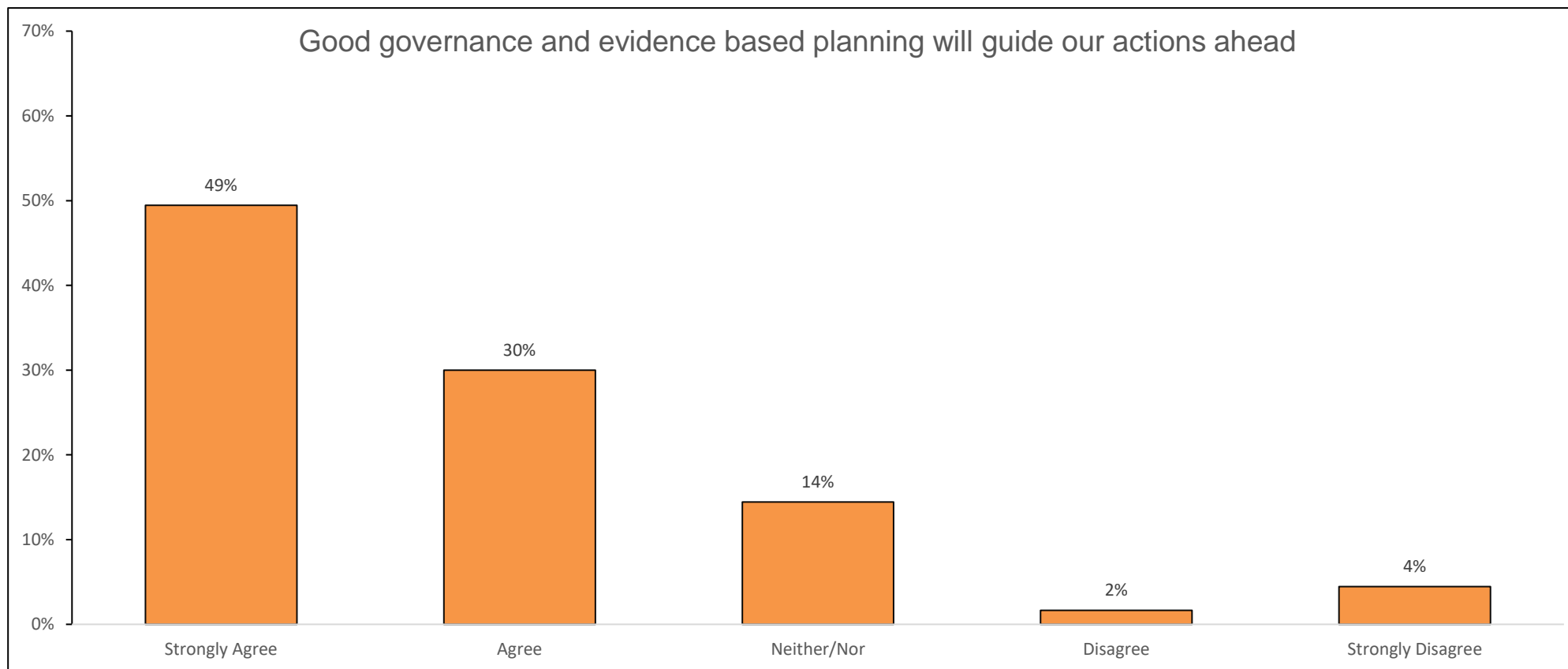
We will create new employment and investment opportunities



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following principles are helpful? Good governance and evidence based planning will guide our actions ahead

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Strongly Agree	89	49%
Agree	54	30%
Neither/Nor	26	14%
Disagree	3	2%
Strongly Disagree	8	4%
Total	180	



Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

113 comments received

- 1 Need to target excessive alcohol consumption in city centre so: a) local residents feel safer at weekends and evenings b) decrease violence and sexual assault crimes and c) decrease consumption of alcohol leading to a more healthy population

- 2 I feel the climate strategy document is a huge missed opportunity. There is a lot of talk, and no ambition to actually start taking action. Why has it taken 3 years since 2019's declaration of a climate emergency to get to this stage - and still no plan of action?

- 3 The climate Change strategy is completely inadequate against the ambition

- 4 They are not ambitious enough. I have indicated 'don't know' for each area as I feel that I agree with most but not all of the strategies... Plus the well-being strategy is not complete. Where are the impact assessments? It might sound good to increase employment in green jobs but how will you ensure that gender is taken into consideration? There is only one mention of care jobs in the summary of the economic strategy. This is a massive area! You need much more detail. And to consider the gendered impact of care. The figures in the economy strategy are not referenced. How can we check your analysis? How have you got to the affordability figures for housing, for example? Are they up to date? It is particularly unaffordable for single women. This should be included in your analysis as it's a real problem for women trying to leave abusive relationships. I can't believe you used census data from a decade ago in the environment strategy. Why not use the transport survey that is updated regularly? Housing should already be held to net zero standards. No new housing should be approved that is not meeting these targets. And affordable housing should be actually affordable. STOP building luxury flats for the holiday let market.

- 5 The Climate change strategy is not a strategy but a report. there is precious little information about how the climate disaster will be tackled in York. It is an EMERGENCY!

- 6 Clear actions in the climate strategy are missing, and the ambition to be net zero by 2050 is TOO LATE. If it is out of the councils control, then the council need to have further drastic action to impact other contributors and get everyone on the net zero by 2030 page.

- 7 While I have stated that I agree with the health and wellbeing and climate change strategies, as I believe that these are desperately needed, I feel that both strategies are lacking in ambition and are very vague on the details of how their principles will actually be achieved.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 8 Ambitions are well and good but too often, they are an administrator's code for kicking the can down the road. Unlimited economic growth is in irreconcilable conflict with climate change, hence why economic activity needs to be limited by the carrying capacity of local and global eco systems. (doughnut economics, see Amsterdam). Unchecked profit-making is detrimental to service user's and employee's well-being. This is particularly true when it comes to treating housing as a means to increase rentier/investor/developer profits. Inner city commonly owned land is increasingly sold for quick cash to ruthless property developers disinterested in the common good. I suggest a systems theory approach, which does not see economy, well-being or ecosystems as existing in a vacuum but as fundamentally linked. A thriving, informed and engaging democracy would arrive at that conclusion naturally. Take a leaf out of Iceland's book, where citizen assembly task forces receive devolved powers, assisted by a panel of scientific experts. There is, furthermore, no mention of an integrated public transport solution, getting private traffic and illegal levels of pollution out of the city.
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- 9 Totally insufficient and lacking in several key factors vital to a successful climate strategy. Targets need to be more ambitious as well as measurable and binding, furthermore the council must establish a system of accountability to avoid these targets are met. Other cities/areas' approaches should be reviewed so we can learn from more successful examples. Public transport links must be greatly improved to reduce reliance on cars rather than wasting investments on more roads that will contribute nothing to solving either the climate crisis or congestion. Council members, and anyone with relevant authority, should receive climate training through organisations such as AimHi Earth. Work with other councils to help put pressure on central government to improve their climate strategy, an example relevant to York would be the ending of renewable energy subsidies for biomass energy which is neither renewable or responsible. Encourage cycling and walking by improving the safety and quality of pedestrian paths and bike lanes. Review council investments to divest, and avoid further investment, in companies that do not align with goal of prevent climate catastrophe. Produce an urgent and binding timescale for implementing drastic climate strategy in York. It should be further noted that this Big Conversation is questionnaire seems rather transparent in its intention of cornering subjects into congratulating the council without room for fair criticism of what is a woefully insufficient strategy.
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- 10 It isn't clear who are the people within the council actively driving this no names or departments to look to to start conversations to discover who is doing what where & how in alignment with the strategies set out. Events about the strategies would go a long way to increase a network of folk who are aiming to align to these goals through their business or personal life. Contacts to have and hold discussions with are difficult to find. By reviewing the tendering process, to allow for a social value weighting based on the type of
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- 11 Regarding the Natural Environment part of the Objectives section in the Climate Change strategy: I would recommend having sections of pine forest within the York area. Pine trees are part of the native ecosystem of northern England, and they are fast growing and are among the best trees at capturing and storing carbon. The trees should be allowed to grow to adulthood before being cut down and buried underground to remove the carbon from the carbon cycle and therefore removing the carbon permanently from the environment. Growing and burying pine trees is a cheap and efficient method of carbon capture which we already have the technology to do.
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

12 1) You have failed to identify food demand as a driver for agricultural emissions (15% or more of global emissions). If we care about how our electrical energy is produced, we should care about how our food energy is produced for exactly the same reasons. The best savings here can be had by avoiding beef and dairy. That could be an objective for council catering services, school meals, and so on. There might also be an opportunity to educate businesses on low carbon food sources. 2) P 14 says: “The hottest summer day of the past 30 years in York was 33.9°C” But we’ve had temperatures approaching 40°C in July 2022, while this document was under consultation. This shows that the consequences of climate change may be underestimated, and illustrates the urgency of the climate emergency. 3) Footnote on page 14 is duplicated. The correct footnote number is “14”, but that footnote is not properly linked to the BBC target page.

13 Yes, this is set out later, in the free text section.

14

It is a very positive step to see a climate strategy for York as it lays down some baselines and ideas to encourage the city to pull together in order to improve on key areas and activities needed to achieve a net zero position. The proposed strategy does mention a vision of a net zero carbon city but the addition of a clear picture of what that vision would look and feel like could be added to make the future state more tangible. What will our homes and streets look like, what/how will we eat differently and how will we travel? How is it “better”? To get people and businesses on board, you need to paint a picture of a desirable future, especially as the council confirms they're only responsible for 4% of the city's carbon emissions. To get the rest of the city on board, it is essential to spell out in each section the benefits of climate action and adaptation - from it being significantly cheaper than disaster remediation to enabling better health, new jobs and a more liveable, greener city. This would make it a much stronger "call to action" such as Bristol makes with its One City Climate Strategy. The recent heatwave reaching 40 degrees Celsius (which needs referencing on p. 14) is a clear sign of how much the climate has changed already and how increasingly urgent it is for us to act. The term climate change does not really convey the seriousness of the situation and perhaps would be better replaced with the term climate crisis or emergency. It is good to see some key areas and “Where we need to be in 2030” set in the strategy. However, it is not clear what the targets/metrics are based on because the context, challenges and opportunities for each key theme are not really laid out clearly, though we understand that an action plan and further consultation with businesses will be forthcoming. This document needs to at least set the tone and give some indication as to how these are going to be addressed and by whom. There seems to be a curious mix of very high ambition in some places e.g., 100-fold increase in renewable energy generation, and very low in others such as a mere "3% reduction in road transport use" (which seems a little generic – are we shying away from specifically focusing on private car use?). Overall, the strategy does not provide a complete or fully clear picture of either where we are or where we're heading. It says: “Climate change is the greatest threat facing our planet. In York, we lead the way...” but how exactly are we leading the way? Where is the benchmark data or data points to show that we are ahead of the curve? What/how are we learning from other places further ahead on this journey either in the UK or elsewhere in the world? Including the council's own targets next to those for the city, even if others need to crystallise through partnership and joint commitments this would help to set the tone that CYC is truly “leading the way”.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

14 Feedback on themed sections: Buildings It is very good to see a fabric first approach to energy efficiency of buildings at the forefront of the buildings section. However, it is hard to judge the adequacy of the given 2030 targets without setting out the context such as the total number of households or number of council vs. private homes, and the challenges of retrofitting them. There is no mention of the lack of skilled contractors and general lack of awareness of how complex home retrofitting is if it is to both reduce energy demand and carbon emissions as well as make healthier and more comfortable buildings. Little progress will be made without acknowledging and ultimately addressing those gaps. If the rows are meant to flow, the columns don't always seem to match in obvious ways e.g., stats on fuel poverty and deep retrofit targets don't necessarily have to overlap as fuel poor households don't have the funds needed for deep retrofits so how do you ensure they benefit? Similarly, it is not clear whether electrification will be primarily targeted at the 12% of households without gas or not, and the implications. What is the split in the targets between different tenures? However, we appreciate that such specific targets would be better placed in a subsequent action plan rather than a strategy document. A bigger picture would be more appropriate here. This is the place for setting out standards for both new and retrofitted homes, spelling out the opportunities and challenges, talking about priorities such as addressing fuel poverty through retrofitting, or reconciling heritage conservation with the need to radically reduce heat loss and decarbonise. The dialogue around climate adaptation needs to be expanded and explored more fully. Surely, new developments in flood zones should be at least minimised and highly controlled and specified if not banned altogether. Transport Transport impacts on so many other areas of life in the city – from people's health (air pollution, obesity, mental health) to access, equality and fairness. Bristol puts it well: "For travel within the city our analysis shows we need to firstly reduce the number of vehicles on the roads, with more people using buses, walking and cycling instead of private cars. This would positively impact peoples' health due to reduced air pollution and an increase in exercise, as well as improved transport systems benefiting lower income households..." Their main target is total 40% reduction in vehicle miles. Focusing on travelling shorter distances, as York's draft strategy does, is somewhat meaningless as 10 miles travelled by car, bus or bicycle are not equal in their environmental or health impact. It's the fossil-fuelled vehicles that are a problem. The "3% reduction in road transport use" target, without specifying private car use, would by default include cycling, buses and taxis so again isn't very meaningful. It is also rather contradictory if the outer ring road dualling scheme goes ahead while cycle lanes get scrapped, though per the discussion at the recent XXX meeting we understand there are many other variables in play, nevertheless, in winning "hearts and minds" the optics around such decisions will have a material impact on buy in and success of the overall strategy. The headline topic really is ensuring access and facilitating movement where needed across the city without unduly increasing carbon emissions. It is good to see a target for increasing active travel but aiming for a specific modal split share of walking and cycling could actually encourage better provision. It is a shame not to see any mention of electric (cargo) bikes, which have the potential to get a lot more people travelling actively instead of driving and would also reduce freight emissions.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

- 14 **Waste** What is the strategy for reducing waste and increasing recycling? How are those targets going to be achieved? Why is consumption not mentioned at all? Mention is made of cutting overall volumes of waste produced but what isn't mentioned is the incinerator and that York is currently feeding it. You've specified local authority collected waste only whereas our (XXX) recycling participation rates are much higher; we average around XXX. The strategy also doesn't mention the standardisation of materials across the UK which will have massive impacts on York's capacity and vehicles (mention is made of transport infrastructure earlier on but not the CYC own bin wagons). The biggest impact could be that York has to increase the number of materials recycled and provide a separated food waste collection.
- Commercial & Industrial** Again, very little context is given so it is not clear how the council wants to influence this sphere in order to achieve the targets, or how those were even set. Many of the data points reference UK wide elements and are not specific to York. Has some work already been done to engage with the relevant businesses, apart from sending surveys? Mentioned at the XXX meeting was the fact that several surveys were sent at the same time – is this not a way to dilute the focus and attention on any single matter? Surely sending these at intervals would ensure they are better received by businesses, and they would have had appropriate time to give it due attention and consideration. Where will the green hydrogen come from (there is no mention of it in the energy section) and why should there be a “2% increase in natural gas usage”?
- Natural environment (vs. Agriculture)** It is particularly disappointing to see the theme of natural environment offering a highly reductionist view, conflating natural habitats with agricultural land and focusing on tree planting as opposed to habitats creation. We are not just in the middle of a climate crisis but also deep in the sixth mass extinction caused by human activities, and here we have a great but currently missed opportunity to address both. We would expect a more holistic approach here, especially given the joint work between St Nicks and City of York Council on green corridors, which looks at increasing biodiversity in conjunction with the myriad of benefits that green spaces bring to cities – from carbon sequestration to flood resilience building, air pollution reduction, cooling effect and healthier populations. Focusing on emissions is understandable in a climate strategy but ecosystems are complex and tree planting in the wrong places could actually increase them. Similarly, not all grasslands are equal so a blanket target for decreasing their coverage is not helpful. Green spaces can indeed improve our climate resilience, but they are also susceptible to climate impacts from warming temperatures and extreme weather events. For example, an increase in wildfires could potentially wipe out gains in carbon sequestration so this strategy needs to consider these impacts and how we deal with them.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

- 14 Finally, it is odd not to see food supply and agriculture discussed at all/more in the strategy. It may seem harder to influence in a city, but it is a major part of our individual carbon footprints and much of the tourist economy is linked to it too. Only the impact of livestock gets a mention without any mitigation measures, or a of sustainable food production and consumption. Energy The ambition to effectively increase renewable generation more than 100-fold in 10 years from 20MW in 2019 (although the table, which says 11.8MW, disagrees with the graph here) to the very specific 2,356.6MW is fantastic. Is this already in a pipeline? It's unclear how this will be achieved, given the slow progress in previous years when feed in tariffs still existed. It would be good to see here what the council is planning to install, which could help encourage others, and where they see others contributing. Such an increase is likely to also have a big impact on the local grid so it's odd to see just a vague target of "significant new energy storage and demand management". It is very good to see "Empower communities to own and manage local clean energy generation" as a target but again there is no indication of what the strategy is for doing so. Summary The creation of this strategy document is certainly a step in the right direction, and we recognise that there are significant challenges that lie ahead to make tangible progress towards different ways of living and working in York to build more sustainable ways of life. At the recent XXX meeting, there was discussion about engagement and behaviour change being wrap around strands to the overarching strategy. We feel that this is key in the near term in order to mobilise activities that will become embedded and deliver the changes we need by 2030. We understand this document is a strategy and not a policy or action plan but feel that in articulating the strategy the future state vision needs to be more compelling in order to gain buy-in and galvanise all groups and individuals into action. Key will be the action plan due in October, and we look forward to receiving this. XX XXXXX are fully committed to sustainable ways of living and already demonstrate that commitment on a daily basis in a variety of ways across York.
- 15 You use both "climate breakdown" and "climate change" interchangeably, please could you use the former only so that it helps prioritise people's thoughts? On page 5 you state that you will increase working with partners to encourage changes, yet in my experience, you have repeatedly shut out of all environment-related forums One Planet York CIC. Please change your ways. On page 10 regarding the UK Government, I would not rely on the current Government to take any meaningful action on climate breakdown as they are too occupied with the Ukraine war and the ensuing energy and food crisis. On page 20 the 'where we need to be in 2030' are along the right lines but need to be much more ambitious. '3%' reduction in road transport use' – seems really low. Maybe go for an ambitious 50% reduction in ICE road transport as a new target? At the top of page 21 regarding private hire/taxis, we need more action to stop Uber in the city as they are banned but heavily present! On page 22, the 'where we need to be in 2030' seems incorrect, why does it say that there has to be an increase in electricity and natural gas consumption – surely an error? On page 34, York Community woodland seems a good idea, but we need more 'mini' versions of these around York - maybe we could get regulations changed so that new housing estates have to plant woods around the estate?

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 16 The strategy completely lacks ambition. It fails to imagine the scale of change needed to ways of life to both adapt to and mitigate against climate change. It overestimates the contribution nature based solutions can make by 2030 and fails to offer alternatives to offsetting if these are not economically viable. Most significantly it ignores scope 3 emissions which therefore allows the city to continue to use materials and resources at an unsustainable rate. This is a huge area where the city council has the ability to take action immediately as it falls within its control. If you consider that Earth-overshoot day was July 28th in 2022, we need to live lives that halve our consumption of resources asap. This is much more significant than the level of ambition set out by the council in this strategy.
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- 17 Thank you for your commitment and rigor. We have to get this right, and we have to bring everyone with us. What ever your considered and informed strategies, please be aware that many of us are willing, determined, to go further, engage and act with even greater urgency. What most of us need is a trusted source of effective, available, local actions that we can respond to, and a powerful sense that we are all part of a whole community endeavor. Please strengthen Engagement 1.4. We need the kind of mass, community action response that we saw in the face of the pandemic, with high profile recognition of individual and grass roots efforts building a wave of communal activism. Our culture generally doesn't shout about "good citizenship". It's done quietly, behind the scenes. Our response to the climate emergency needs to embolden everyone to be an active and visible part of the local, national, global effort.
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- 18 The strategies are very expansive on the subject of consultation. I hope that the council carry out these intentions; the commitment and cost associated with this will be considerable and I hope that has been factored into the thinking. The ambitions are pretty unspectacular, they are what one would expect to see in any event. Are there more far-reaching issues to consider like the inability to have a Local Plan, to make use of the traffic consultant appointed some years ago to improve traffic and pedestrian flow in the city etc?
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- 19 None of these "strategies" is in practice a strategy, since all fail to set out how the objectives and targets will be met. This questionnaire is totally inadequate as a way of elaborating on these concerns.
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- 20 20% of the population are classed as disabled yet the strategy only names some protected groups, not all. Inclusion should mean inclusion of all residents in policies and decision making. The breaches of human rights for York residents around discrimination and access are not addressed in this draft strategy.
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- 21 Thank you for all the hard work that has obviously gone into producing these strategies. I have read all 3 carefully, but am afraid that I had to answer don't know to Q 1. I support each of them as necessary and priority, but don't think I can fully support the ambition - there's something lacking - the ambition I feel needs to be stronger and the strategies giving more of an insight into practically how things will be joined up / prioritised etc. (apologies if I have missed something really obvious about their purpose)
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- 22 Vague, need more direction.
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- 23 Reduce bureaucracy and promote task-based approach
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- 24 Yes. In these strategies, York shows it wants to become fit for affluent citizens and exile the poor. In pursuing these these strategies hide a dishonest approach to climate change.
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 25 The inter-connectedness between all 3 is clear and the ambition great. BUT whereas the Health and Wellbeing and the climate strategy overtly refer to one another, the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities is an omission as a key driver in the economic strategy and this should be integral
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- 26 The survey is too narrowly worded. I support the overall goals of the three strategies, but taken together they give insufficient weight to action on climate emergency rather than just talking about it, and still seem to encourage economic growth rather than emphasise the need for sustainability, particularly by reducing emissions, and far more than is covered by sequestration of CO2. I am disappointed that there is very little focus on local healthy food and on partnership working across York's agricultural hinterland in North and East Yorkshire. There is huge scope for reducing flood risk by regenerative agriculture, that will be more effective than building higher and higher flood defences and also regenerate wildlife and biodiversity and provide healthy food, locally and sustainably, with health benefits, provided there is sufficient access for people on low incomes, and financial benefits across the economy and particularly in the NHS.
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- 27 Given that 32% of York's greenhouse emissions come from domestic buildings, I couldn't find anything about working with housing providers to raise their ambitions to insulate better their existing housing stock and achieve higher energy efficiency than the required minimum in their new projects. What incentives will there be for private landlords, whose tenants, rather than they, are paying the energy bills? For 2030 there's a target of "47% of heating systems in domestic buildings are electrified ...". If this means gas boilers being replaced by air-source heat pumps, it cannot happen without improvements in the energy efficiency of the homes being heated, which means improvements in insulation. How will this be achieved? As an example, Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust currently displays very little ambition to invest significantly in this area.
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

28

You have fudged on the demands placed upon you when the climate emergency was declared. It asks the council to commit to zero carbon by 2030 this policy does not do this. It demands you take into account scope 1 2 and 3 emissions you do not do this. I do not know what the remit of the strategy was but this strategy fails to reach for the high bar set by the declaration of a climate emergency, so you are building in failure from the beginning. You need to include what it is that this strategy is trying to address. What is missing from this strategy is strategy! I am not sure what you think a strategy is but for me this is not a strategy. You do lay out to some extent where we are and that is helpful. You do lay out where we might need to get to, to partially fulfil the demands in the declaration, but you do not lay out a pathway in terms of any steps, approaches and policies or leverage to get from one to the other and that is what I would expect in a strategy. This is not what is needed. Missing from the strategy is clear proactive steps towards leadership from CYC. Everything in the document is passive, including not taking the population with you, education of adults and children, campaigning. What will you do when you need to bring in controversial measures and unpopular measures, what is the strategy to address this? How do you start now to build the path for the future? Missing from the strategy is seeing York as an active part of a wider whole (in North Yorkshire and the wider region of the 'The North' and as part of the 'UK'). Absent is a strategy to strengthen its influence and impact within that wider community, missing is the learning from that wider community, missing is a strategy to strengthen the voice and impact across these larger regions from working together. Missing from the strategy is anything about lobbying central government (in my opinion this can only be effective if done en masse by many councils coordinated and with the backing of the general population). Lobbying central government was written into the declaration so it is even more striking that this is missing from the strategy. Missing from the strategy is anything about assessing where the Council invests money, including its banks, the services it pays for and its pension providers. Are the council's financial activities funding the climate crisis it claims to be acting to mitigate? Changing these flows of money could make a hugely significant contribution to driving changes that we need to see. Missing from the strategy is clarity about the The York Climate Change commission. The commission explicitly wants to keep the committee to small number of 'powerful leaders' so they can be nimble in making decisions (see last scrutiny committee). What is the commission for? And given its purpose is this exclusive band the best way of ensuring it fulfils its purpose. What is the strategy on this? Missing from the strategy is anything on biodiversity and education around awareness of the natural world. Whilst this does not of itself address carbon reduction, it is one path into the wider population understanding the importance of climate change and it is essential that there is a biodiversity strategy for the city. I want to see a clear commitment and strategy around this in the document. Almost completely missing throughout this document are the residents of York. Where are they? Where is their contribution? Where are they as a progressive force?

29

Prioritise local resilience through growing local, buying local, producing local - applicable to skills, goods and services. Good example is Castle Hill Hospital running off solar panels: <https://chamberuk.com/the-uks-first-hospital-to-be-completely-powered-by-solar-energy/>

30

The strategies are just not very ambitious. For climate it seems like we are just doing the minimum. There is nothing new in the health strategy, it's all business as usual when there are serious challenges ahead.

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- 31 You've completely neglected the need for on street charging points for residents without off street parking. Yes the hyperhubs will be suitable for some but they won't be suitable for all, particularly those who drive high mileages. They also don't allow EV's to be charged when the grid is greenest which is almost always overnight.
- 32 Absolutely shocking that none of the strategies contain a plan for dealing with housing availability and affordability, a key constraint to all of the outcomes.
- 33 I think the strategies would have been better linked together: green jobs, healthy people, sustainable environment. Think there should be more focus on schools (local food sourcing, retrofitting, environmental education). Would have liked to see detail on the biodiversity targets e.g. pesticide / herbicide free York
- 34 The climate change strategy is too vague and unambitious.
- 35 Reading the environment document feels like a very long list of promises without much of a plan to implement a lot of what is said. While its hard to disagree with 'our air should be cleaner' 10 years seems an awfully short amount of time to achieve a lot of these goals, especially when there doesnt seem to be concrete plans for a lot of them.
- 36 Yes you have. CoYC leaders care zero about disabled ppl and their carers, trades workers, and smog. Cars in 1/2 mile long jams release more smog than cars driving. Also angry drivers are more dangerous to bikes than ever, but you dont care about that either.
- 37 these are NOT strategies: they are visions specially designed so the only answer can be yes.
- 38 No actual planning here. In your climate change strategy you reference active travel but then go on to talk about alternative transport and public transport? How are these active? Where do you reference actually doing something to encourage walking and cycling. I cannot see walking and cycling in any of these strategies. The strategies talk about change and future proofing infrastructure, but the authority has demonstrated recently that it is failing to adopt current national guidance on the kind of change required. Not one single development approved recently has included active travel elements which comply with LTN 120. These strategies talk about future proofing but you are not even complying with current guidance never mind future guidance. Ring road development, railway station development in the centre of York, Tadcaster Road development. None of them comply with national guidance and LTN120 to encourage cycling through safe infrastructure. If you can't match current guidance in this area how can this plan hope to achieve anything. I haven't found the word 'cycle' in any of these strategies (maybe I missed it? I hope so!). These strategies are a very poor box ticking exercise. Let's see some action. I'm sick of reading lots of waffle. When you cut off the cycling villagers North of the ring road with your upcoming plans to increase fast moving traffic on the A1237, I am one of the people who will be stopping 8 years of commuting to York on cycle and will be returning to my car. The strategies are meaningless, your current actions are the measure of you. Climate crisis indeed, you wouldn't think so looking at York City Councils current behaviour.
- 39 Climate strategy: Hopelessly inadequate
- 40 Speed bumps on XXXXX XXXXXX please

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 41 I feel like the strategies could be a touch more joined up. For instance in your health and wellbeing strategies you talk about inequality gaps or health inequalities. Could your economic strategy not also pick up on these issues to a greater extent, in terms of working to increase access, opportunities and support for marginalised groups in the workforce? For instance, I've volunteered in a programme offering support for carers, and in the course of that I've heard about how flexibility working arrangements, the ability to engage in job sharing, etc, could help carers who wish to also work outside the home, while still balancing the need to care for a loved one or relative. Or more generally, are there ways to incentivise businesses making efforts to be more inclusive, or more flexible, or to offer greater accessibility? The option to work from home, for instance, is a particularly good one for individuals with certain disability needs. You mention under economic strategy that 40% of residents working part time do so for a better work-life balance. What about considering trialing a 4-day work week in York, especially paying attention to how this might improve health and wellbeing, or accessibility to work? Other trials of 4-day work weeks elsewhere have generally shown that productivity is not negatively affected, but worker satisfaction increases. On another pragmatic note, I would imagine York has strategies to deal with flooding, but given we're now facing a greater risk of heatwaves due to climate change would it also be helpful to develop specific strategies for those? In terms of health and wellbeing, we know that mental health worsens in heatwaves. And disruptions to transport during heatwaves must also affect businesses. This could be another specific area of change where strategies could be more joined up going forwards.
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- 42 It is unclear whether the climate change strategy ambitions are feasible given the current situation
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- 43 Has to get the balance right between residents needs and tourism income generation
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- 44 I am interested in the climate change strategy in relation to transport. The ambition is fine. In the Table on p20, the strategy refers to "25% reduction in the average number of passenger miles travelled per person". It has been made clear in a presentation on York's emerging local transport strategy that the 25% is a reduction in PRIVATE CAR miles travelled, and that should be made clear in the climate change document. Also, there is no sign of York actually putting into practice the ambitions and policies outlined in the climate change strategy. For example, York wants a dramatic decrease in vehicle miles travelled, but is continuing with plans to expand road capacity, notably on the northern Ring Road. These two policies - decreasing vehicle miles and increasing road capacity - are incompatible. Such a mismatch between words and actions makes people lose trust in the good faith of those taking decisions.
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- 45 Health and Wellbeing strategy haven't included tackling loneliness and isolation which community learning supports, opportunities for people to engage via others ways such as social prescribing opportunities
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- 46 I am baffled by your "starting point is that strong and supportive communities are the best medicine, where we build on the strengths of our people, and give our citizens the best possible chance of staying healthy, especially through three key building blocks of health: good housing, jobs and education".
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- 47 Prioritise people over cars. There needs to be a definite hierarchy when spending money / planning the city infrastructure of pedestrians, cyclists and others transport e.g. e-scooter > public transport > other motor vehicles
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

- 48 The health strategy fails to recognise the importance of local environmental factors as a key driver of health inequalities. The strategy needs to explicitly recognise that clean air, safe opportunities to adopt active travel behaviours and access to good quality open green spaces, access to affordable fresh fruit & veg and protection against an epidemic of junk food (and sugar) are all crucial to improving health outcomes. Currently the strategy is too focused on individual behaviour change, without any mention of these wider public health issues. These environmental public health issues require that the health strategy, the economic strategy and the climate change strategy are more closely aligned around the focal issue of healthy living.
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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Climate change strategy: On page 5 you say you will increase collaboration and cooperation by working with partners to encourage changes in the way we live and behave. We will create partnerships among businesses, the public sector, civic organisations and our institutions in higher and further education....yet you have repeatedly shut the local CIC 'One Planet York' out of all environment related forums that you have run and have instead invited big businesses who are the main cause of climate breakdown. You need to change that bad habit. On page 9 in investment you discuss that you will need to: "work with the financial sector and attract external investment" yet earlier on page 5 in point 7.3 under energy you said you wanted to Support increase in local community energy ownership. I would hope you would focus at least partly on local, involved investment rather than big companies and financiers. As I hope you are aware, other Councils have issued low yielding bonds (1.2%) on platforms such as Abundance, although there are other crowdfunding style platforms and structures other than low yield bonds. You should consider this as an option with a low £100 etc minimum for local residents. Your terminology seems confused in this strategy, at points you say 'climate breakdown' (which is accurate and representative) and at other points you say 'climate change' which is an older and fluffier phrase that is inaccurate and doesn't sound serious to people. On page 10 regarding the UK Government, I would not rely on a Conservative Government to take any meaningful action on climate breakdown as they are too busy arresting heroic protesters and investing in fossil fuels here and abroad – a disgrace. On page 14 you say: 'the hottest summer day of the past 30 years in York was 33.9 degrees'; you will be aware but as a reminder, this record was massively smashed in mid-july 2022. On page 15 you say: 'The Business as Usual Pathway will not result in the scale of change required.' I am glad that CYC recognise this as many people, businesses and Conservatives do not. On page 16 you say: 'Continuing to reduce our total energy use and increasing local renewable generation across the city will therefore be important aspects of our transition to net zero.' This is correct as an overall principle to be aware of – well done. On page 16 you say: 'Significant emissions reduction along the Projected Emissions Reduction Pathway with actions that can be delivered with currently available technology, deployment rates and policy'. Relying on existing technology only is the correct way to look at these strategies and realistic futures – well done. On page 16 you say: 'Removing remaining emissions from the atmosphere through cost effective nature based and technological solutions'....You need to focus on the nature based solutions as they already exist, can be local and will be cheaper and more reliable than any technology. On page 16 you say: 'Adapting our city to the effects of a changing climate'. This is a key and often forgotten point, even with vast climate action we would not prevent temperature increase and climate change. Accordingly, the mitigation side of things does need to be considered, whether this is providing more shade, free public water from taps (a good idea in general), more rest areas, more tree cover etc.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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On page 17 you say: 'Lobby UK Government for policy change that accelerates the rate of decarbonisation nationally and locally. Push for local spending and policy powers that will allow us to go further and faster than the national net zero ambition'. I agree with this wholeheartedly – well done. You also say: '). Prioritising actions within the city boundary (insetting) to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere can provide additional environmental, social and financial benefit for York. Offsetting will only be considered as a last resort...' – I agree with this priority list. On page 18 you say: '1.1 Clear communication and information providing accurate, timely and relevant information about climate change and its impacts.' – this is vital because otherwise it is left to charities who can only get through to a few people and lack the Council's knowledge and economies of scale. Your objectives on page 18 and 19 are correct and necessary. Retrofitting and moving away from fossil-fuel embedded heating is vital – well done. On objective 2.4 – be aware of greenwashing on green tariffs. There are only a couple of companies in the UK that provide genuinely green tariffs by supporting independent generators and building more of their own renewable capacity. Buying 'REGOs' on a mass market is not a green tariff (bigger companies tend to lie and do the REGO method only). On the bottom of page 19 you say: 'New developments in flood zone built with flood resilience.'. It is hard to believe that with more extreme weather events and rising sea levels it would be contemplated that we need to build homes in flood zones. I suggest you use influence to avoid this if possible. On page 20 the 'where we need to be in 2030' are along the right lines but need to be much more ambitious. '3%' reduction in road transport use' – seems a bit half-hearted. At the top of page 21 regarding private hire/taxis, we need more action to stop Uber in the city as they are banned but heavily present. Regarding page 21 goals, I hope these are possible despite a previous administration's poor decision over the long term private incinerator at Allerton Park. Can you invest in some sort of local 'super recycling centre' (beyond current hazel court tip site) or more funding for local repair cafes and so on? On page 22, for objective 5.2, I would be sceptical about the origins and capacity of green hydrogen to make a real CO2 difference. There is a lack of extensive, independent scientific research into this subject yet. On page 22, the 'where we need to be in 2030' seems incorrect, why does it say that there has to be an increase in electricity and natural gas consumption – surely an error? One page 26 and 27, the table of economic, social and environmental benefits needs to be massively publicised and sent out to the public. We also need to see successful examples of these stats in action, even if from elsewhere. This will help bring people on board more. One page 27, in terms of the 'obesity' stats, you need a major focus on good, universal access to green spaces, cycle and walking routes so people can actually have a chance to engage in these activities. This includes new developments fully enabling universal active travel rather than miserable business as usual cars only rubbish.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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On page 28, for the flood resilience projects, an emphasis is needed on natural solutions, soft engineering and so on. Beaver re-introduction has had considerable benefits to flood risk reduction elsewhere, these cases should be studied and emulated. On page 29 in terms of housing, the ambitious plans are good and need to be kept up and strengthened. These sorts of ideas need to be placed within private sector housing sites as well, as much as CYC can do that. There should also be a focus on residents not being able to pave over and destroy green spaces (including their own gardens) or make alterations that increase car use or parking. On page 30 in terms of the e-mobility trials and Tier feedback, my main concern is the price of using this equipment. When I last checked it seemed to be quite expensive just to unlock the equipment, never mind ride it. Bike vouchers and free cycling lessons are important in your wider strategy. Perhaps the Council could try to do more to encourage cycling like urban and suburban 'bays' where people can leave their bikes, more and better cycle lanes and so on. On page 31, I am sceptical of UoY commitment and progress to green ideals. I heard they were building some sort of gas mini power plant at one point on their own grounds. On page 33, the impact of wasting less food should not be underestimated in carbon terms due to the often high carbon footprint of imported food. More emphasis and Council support needed in this area – waste food cafes and so on. On page 34, York Community woodland seems a good idea, but we need more 'mini' versions of these around York as just having one big site encourages car use to get to it, and it is inevitably a rural site – is there any public transport going there? On page 35 regarding the 'hyper hubs'; these seem reasonable and more will be required all around the city to make up for the often sporadic existing charging points, though they should be renewably powered. There still needs to be a big emphasis on using public transport instead of private in the City. Whatever can be done with local licensing, tendering and nationalisation, needs to be done. On page 36 regarding the 'holistic approach' – I agree with this and hope it will be looked at in this way. Schemes may seem 'expensive or inconvenient' to start with but they will have pay offs and future savings in numerous ways, even if these seem 'murky' to start with. To conclude, I agree with the ideas behind this strategy but would suggest a focus on local people's involvement in terms of finance, bottom up ideas and schemes, a sceptical view of potential future technological solutions, a priority for soft engineering, and a robust and ambitious vision throughout. I should hope that the unwanted North Yorkshire Mayor, WYCA, LEP, BIDs and future York CC administrations do not water these plans down. You may also not be accounting for tourism in-flows and outflows and their massive car-based carbon footprint. However, better transport choices will improve that situation as I am sure you intend. Health and wellbeing strategy: One page 4 regarding the: 'Reforms to the Health and Care System'; these are Conservative government attempts to stealth privatise the NHS. Private companies like Virgin will have more say over health in York than people will. If this strategy can somehow overcome that neo-liberal vision, then, good.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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On page 5 in terms of 'preventable ill health', you have mentioned: '2 in 3 adults overweight or obese' and '1 in 7 people with depression'. Unlike smoking, these two other realities are not a choice, and are linked to some uncontrollable underlying factors. The depression stat is probably a low estimate as well. Overweight or obese should not be seen as a clear choice; as people metabolism's and access to affordable, healthy food and good outdoor spaces vary massively depending on luck, living area and personal means. It should be noted that someone can be 'overweight' and be more healthy than a 'normal weight person'. Where is your stat on underweight and anorexic people? On page 7 you have said one of your big ten goals is: 'healthy weight'. This is slightly different to your mentioning of overweight and obese people as a 'preventable problem'. Healthy weight is a different concept to saying overweight and obese people are bad. I hope you will focus more on the concept of a healthy weight which includes options for underweight people and allows that people may be overweight on a BMI scale, but their weight may be healthy for them in their circumstances. On page 8 you have referenced the: 'life course'. This seems like a good idea to shape a strategy around and acknowledges wider, often uncontrollable (to the individual) factors that will influence or heavily shape their health. Accepting that health is not all about personal choices is important here. Blaming personal choices assumes equal access to all choices available which is obviously not a reality in modern capitalist life. On page 11 at point 5 you have said: 'Reverse the rise in the number of children and adults living with an unhealthy weight'. Allowing for biological factors and acknowledgement of what a person's healthy weight range can be (not just 'overweight' or not), to help more people maintain a healthy weight will require outcomes suggested in your climate change strategy regarding changing choices about transport among other things. Real advice from real local people (York) is needed in leaflets and so on to help local people find healthy food that is varied and affordable for the bottom decile of people, not just the York average decile. On page 12 at point 9 you have said: 'Reduce sedentary behaviour and increase physical activity by 5% across the whole population'. This is again linked to your climate change strategy in terms of people's access to green space, safe spaces, good public transport and healthy local yet affordable food. The interlinking of these should be seen as a motivation to be ambitious and not just silo these strategies and outcomes up into separate boxes. To conclude, I agree with the ideas behind this strategy but would suggest a focus on local people's involvement in terms of ways of achieving these aims including more local conversations, especially from the poorest deciled areas. I should hope that the unwanted North Yorkshire Mayor, WYCA, LEP, BIDs and future York CC administrations do not water these plans down. Economic strategy feedback: On page 1, 2 and others you use the word: 'flexible' a lot. This is a cover up for zero hours, and shift work that gives people no work life balance or ability to have a life because they don't know when their next shift is. This is not acceptable to me, or other people.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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Unreliable is a better word to use. On page 2 you have said: 'despite pay in York being higher than in surrounding areas'; I am assuming this is average pay and not median pay as there are a lot of minimum wage or thereabouts workers in York's shops. On page 3 you have said: 'we will work with that system to ensure that businesses can thrive in York'; I am assuming this is a plan outside of the reality of individual shops and offices becoming housing all the time? And the Government acceleration of that process? On page 4 you have said: 'We will provide accurate information that allows us to review progress and adapt actions if required.' Tracking progress is very important and I hope it will be thorough and consistent. On page 4 you have said: 'import, export and trade; inward investment; attracting customers from elsewhere'; I hope the carbon footprint of these imports and long haul flights are considered somewhere considering this is meant to run alongside your climate change strategy. On page 5 you have said: 'best opportunities to make a decent living'; my purpose isn't to make money for someone else or to struggle by until I die. Housing and a living income are a universal human right that is being denied. Capitalism will bring about it's own downfall through it's own greed. I would hope local self-sufficiency and subsistence rank higher on your list than they seem to. On page 5 you have said: 'adapt to new models hybrid and flexible working'; my own experience of this is being coerced into working from home a majority of the time which I didn't ask for. This also seems to be at odds with your earlier mentioning of new office space. On page 7 you have said: 'prevailing economic strategy since the 2008 financial crash – to focus on growing high-paid jobs - has borne fruit'....this is an insult to the numerous people on low wages. My partner works in the online gig economy for a lot less than minimum wage. This strategy has not helped her. On page 8 you have said: 'Encouraging new businesses and enterprising culture in York will be key to our new strategy as entrepreneurship is the lifeblood of our economy'; most people don't want to live an American Dream they just want to not have miserable, low pay, expensively housed, ignored lives. This Thatcherite nonsense needs to go. On page 9 you have said: 'the majority of jobs in the LCREE are set to be based in the development of 'alternative fuels''; hydrogen isn't a green fuel, it is another industry cover up to prevent actual renewables from taking off. This LCREE focus isn't a success, it's a greenwashed sham. On page 12 you have said: 'grow the value of tourism with a quality offer for visitors and locals'; this seems contradictory. The sycophancy of the city centre to tourism and gimmicks further alienates actual residents of York even further. Bringing in more tourists is vicariously increasing the City's shadow carbon footprint, which you are not accounting for. On page 12 you have said: 'support businesses to take advantage of new trade opportunities and expand in new markets'; you cannot support these neo-liberal world trade ideals and yet seriously take climate action. You are talking about the exporting of products thousands of miles away creating massive, pointless emissions. On page 13 you have included the alignment of: 'UK Government's post-Brexit new overseas trading relationship';

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- 49 is this the same one they made to undercut UK farmers and producers with low grade meat and other food products? This is contradictory to climate change commitments. On page 13 you have said: 'pioneer green construction and retrofit...' this is a very important idea to tackling the large housing based emissions reality of badly insulated housing and commercial space. On page 14 you have said: 'establish the use of electric vehicles as commonplace'; this should be a priority only after maximising potential walking and cycling/scooting. Electric cars alone will not do much to dent climate change overall. All cars have a massive in built carbon footprint of construction. On page 14 you have said: 'increase cycling and active travel to work where appropriate as modes commuting'; the 'where appropriate' part of this seems non-committal and a wish that people should carry on driving around in their polluting cars eternally just so they don't have to get a bus. Sustainable transport is always appropriate. On page 14 you have said: 'helping businesses to get the most from their employees'; this is insulting to all workers as it relegates them to the level of honey producing bees, or milk producing cows. On page 16 you have said: 'by incentivising the redevelopment and enhancement of sites'; I should hope this isn't more neo-liberal nonsense involving giving tax cuts to capitalists while people in the City starve or harm themselves in desperation. To conclude, I am sorry if that hasn't been a good read of feedback but my points need to be considered. Overall, the economic strategy especially needs to be cautious around its focus on 'increasing productivity/driving growth' etc when elsewhere you have recognised the mental health issues and environmental emergencies present in the world. My advice would be to pursue the climate change and wellbeing strategy more thoroughly, as those two link in more together. In terms of the economic strategy, there are some good ideas in there like supporting training and skills in York in terms of provision, uptake and future skills considerations. Increasing pay in low pay sectors is important if you can achieve it too. Perhaps encourage the independent living wage accreditation a lot more. A key element in the economic strategy to my mind is the building, development and maintenance of local shopping areas outside the city centre. All physical shops are having to compete with cheap, illegally produced imports from abroad and under the neo-liberal agenda, this won't be stopped or regulated. With this in mind and the ubiquitous rise of online giants you need to stop putting amazon lockers everywhere, or approving them, and start really supporting local shops with an annual booklet of local shops for people, have wider uptake of the York local shopping vouchers beyond BID, work to improve shopping area fronts with seating, planters and access as well as standardised signage on opening times.
- 50 I think we could be more ambitious. Serious changes are needed to address the climate crisis, and these changes can be beneficial for the local economy and people's wellbeing if carefully targeted and planned. The above statements, while I agree with them (and who wouldn't) are pretty lame, unspecific and uncontroversial. SMARTer targets would be better!
- 51 We need better cycling/walking infrastructure. The idea that we can "win" just by replacing petrol cars with electric ones is flawed. Cars (electric or petrol) are a selfish use of the limited space we have available. We should have more car-free streets, one-way systems, bus/taxi-only roads, widened pedestrian footways - essentially, anything we can do to stop people driving into the city. Walking or cycling is healthy, and we will see great health benefits in future if we ditch our cars. A lack of safe, spacious cycling infrastructure is a barrier to more people taking up cycling. York is a tiny city and most people who work in York could probably cycle to work.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 52 I think there is more scope in the economic plan for using the principles of Community Wealth Building, as seen in Preston, rather than relying so much on external private investment. I also do not think any of the plans go far enough on regulating landlords in order to ensure housing in York is affordable and high-quality.
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- 53 The lack of ambition is woeful. Particularly with respect to travel - York should be aiming to be like Utrecht or similar Dutch cities with high levels of cycling and walking and excellent integrated public transport - not the focus on EVs which will continue to congest and pollute York (plus expensive, do not contribute to health and well-being etc.)
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- 54 The Council declared a Climate Emergency three years ago, and it speaks volumes that it has taken until now to produce a strategy. I am extremely concerned about the lack of transformative actions, detail and ambition contained in the strategy, and the similar lack of emergency action taken to date. I read the draft in 40 degree heat knowing that this is a harbinger of a terrifying future for myself and everyone I love, and conscious of the enormous suffering already happening to others around the world. I am frightened every day and I know that my fear is rational - we are facing an emergency with the highest stakes, but very few people - including those with the power and responsibility to do so - seem to be acting proportionately. Here are a few key actions I urge the Council to implement: -Provide detailed, quality climate and nature training to all council decision makers as soon as possible. Organisations such as AimHi Earth are doing great work in this space. Following this work to build awareness, understanding and engagement within our local communities. -Collaborate with other councils to share best practice and put as much pressure as possible on national government, whose energy strategy and recent decision making is completely at odds with investment in a livable future. With particular relevance to our local area, demand that they end (renewable energy!) subsidies (~£1bn/year) for tree-burning power plant Drax and instead invest in actual renewable energy and home insulation. -Divert any investment in new driving infrastructure, especially new roads, into reliable and affordable public transport and support for active transport. -Assess where the Council invests money, including its banks, the services it pays for and its pension providers. Are the council's financial activities funding the climate crisis it claims to be acting to mitigate? Changing these flows of money could make a hugely significant contribution to driving changes that we need to see. -Include measurable and binding targets within the strategy and a system of accountability to make sure these important targets are met.
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- 55 define partners you should not combine employment and investment
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- 56 I would like to see a real commitment to the defining of measurable tangible outcomes defined in the climate change strategy, how will I see it impact on our local environment for example.
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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In relation to the climate change strategy, I believe that due to the warming potency of methane near term, there needs to be a stronger approach to dietary and agricultural emissions. E.g an extension service via Univ. of York and Askham Bryan, and DEFRA to transition to free range poultry as a substitute for cows and lamb in addition to arable alternatives. Other forms of climate smart agroforestry and Agroecology could also be promoted and NYCC should be brought into the partnership. Scope 3 emissions are also relevant in terms of the dietary shift of EAT and Lancet on Food in the Anthropocene, which could involve schools and which could educate children about the connections between sustainability, ecology and health in food. The Health Strategy is also relevant here from which dietary factors were absent. WHO's Health as the Pulse of the New Urban Agenda advocates a healthy food urban environment e.g. healthy alternatives to junk food- the burden of disease associated with excess sugar and salt is well chronicled and encouraging responsible drinking is also relevant. Regarding climate change and travel, there should be a means to allow residents to recommend active travel improvements via a participatory tool such as Maptionnaire. An example would be a new dedicated cycle bridge-which could have a separate pedestrian lane- across the Ouse in Rowntree Park to take pressure off the well utilized but crowded Millennium Bridge and provide an alternative to Skeldergate/ the risks of Tower St. A location such as from Blue Bridge Ln to South Bank would seem to be practical. Regarding climate change and travel, there should be a means to allow residents to recommend active travel improvements via a participatory tool such as Maptionnaire. An example would be a new dedicated cycle bridge-which could have a separate pedestrian lane- across the Ouse in Rowntree Park to take pressure off the well utilized but crowded Millennium Bridge and provide an alternative to Skeldergate/ the risks of Tower St. A location such as from Blue Bridge Ln to South Bank would seem to be practical. In terms of the Health Strategy, the health benefits of regular active travel- especially cycling- as reported by Biobank (on a study of commuters) and Gary Fuller of KCL, WHO and the RCP need to be included e.g lower BMI, lower CVD, reduced risk of certain types of cancer, reduced diabetes and higher overall LE. The overall reduction in road deaths during the lockdown, including in the UK reflects reduced car travel and connects climate and health strategies. Cities such as Copenhagen have reduced cycling deaths in absolute terms whilst increasing cycling, a pattern reflected across Denmark in recent decades and in the reduction in cycling deaths in London since the 90s notwithstanding its greater usage. A related subject which should be included in the health strategy is air pollution, with 30-40,000 early deaths having been attributed to air pollution in recent years in the UK, and a wider burden of disease and care, with ambient air pollution linked to strokes, CVD, cancers, respiratory disease impaired child lung development and pre-natal impairment. The RCP, in 2016, attributed air pollution to £20bn in costs across the UK. NO2 and NOx as NO2 exceed WHO recommended levels in many streets in York.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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The work of Brussels on the 10 minute City supported by the City Majority agreement and a broader cycling initiative to support cycle parking at schools, cycling safety and the involvement of parents- and similar minute-city initiatives should be drawn upon as should related work by Living Streets to promote walking. In connection w CC strategy, it should be noted higher mode share changes will in reality be needed to achieve a 25% reduction in general VKT and to prevent unnecessary and excessive emissions. At least a 100% increase should be sought for walking and probably a tripling of cycling share should be aimed for initially, considering York's geography. A bike hire scheme priced to offer a value for money alternative to buses, should also be unveiled as per Beryl in Manchester, TfL or Leicester. Taking into account the above, the health strategy should also explicitly incorporate placemaking (planning) due to the significant expansion of York planned over the next decade and planning should also be referenced in the climate strategy given the very differing emissions profiles of differing plans and places. Green spaces and continuous greenery, such as urban trees are also relevant to both strategies due to the general health benefits of green spaces (mental and physical), and the provision of shade in extreme heat- and shelter - which trees offer making active travel more attractive in places/ on routes. Extreme heat will need a place in the health strategy and the CC strategy will need to enable the expansion of sustainable cooling solutions which can be offered by District Heat networks, which could serve public buildings and shops and also by reversing the transfer on source heat pumps. In terms of CC strategy, quality greenfreeze should be used and promoted where more conventional air conditioning is needed. The position of low income families and vulnerable groups will also need to be considered to ensure that essentials such as fans, ice trays, and public health info are available. In terms of electrification, due to the connection between proximity and EV uptake, street lamp chargers should be considered which have been installed in for example Brighton. The plans for charger hubs are welcome to an extent but may not take the proximity factor into account. In addition there should be stronger and more definite plans to electrify 100% of taxis within a decade and roundtable discussions with businesses and leasehold companies for electrification of their fleets to take place by 2030. Electrification should also be referenced in the Economic strategy as a creator of green jobs and income. Finally, - the health strategy should explicitly consider social exclusion and the position of extremely vulnerable groups such as former residents of care homes, prisons and psychiatric hospitals as advised by WHO in the Social Determinants of Health, the Facts, 2nd Ed, - The Economic strategy should; - include and incorporate the economic benefits of active travel as identified by TfL, Newman and Kenworthy, RMIT (Melbourne) and New York City Department of Transportation. These include businesses saving money through cycle freight, consumers having more to spend through reduced car usage, and increased trading where pedestrianisation has occurred.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- A focus on gender equality, ending the pay gap and motherhood penalty, which has been discussed by Linda Miller in the Double X Economy - the enabling of union recognition and membership and the involvement of unions to reduce the inequalities referred to in the strategy - a new push for domestic tourists to help reduce the UK's aviation footprint, linking to the CC strategy In connection with all three strategies I reiterate my support for bus franchising as a means of achieving greater democratic control over buses- better planned services at regular intervals- rather than spoiler services and low cost services to compete better with more polluting cars. Buses should have priority at traffic lights as per Berne and Zurich and should be integrated with other modes e.g. discounts to encourage walking and cycling.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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On page 5 you say you will increase collaboration and cooperation by working with partners to encourage changes in the way we live and behave. We will create partnerships among businesses, the public sector, civic organisations and our institutions in higher and further education....yet you have repeatedly shut the local CIC 'One Planet York' out of all environment related forums that you have run and have instead invited big businesses who are the main cause of climate breakdown. You need to change that bad habit. On page 9 in investment you discuss that you will need to: "work with the financial sector and attract external investment" yet earlier on page 5 in point 7.3 under energy you said you wanted to Support increase in local community energy ownership. I would hope you would focus at least partly on local, involved investment rather than big companies and financiers. As I hope you are aware, other Councils have issued low yielding bonds (1.2%) on platforms such as Abundance, although there are other crowdfunding style platforms and structures other than low yield bonds. You should consider this as an option with a low £100 etc minimum for local residents. Your terminology seems confused in this strategy, at points you say 'climate breakdown' (which is accurate and representative) and at other points you say 'climate change' which is an older and fluffier phrase that is inaccurate and doesn't sound serious to people. On page 10 regarding the UK Government, I would not rely on a Conservative Government to take any meaningful action on climate breakdown as they are too busy arresting heroic protesters and investing in fossil fuels here and abroad – a disgrace. On page 14 you say: 'the hottest summer day of the past 30 years in York was 33.9 degrees'; you will be aware but as a reminder, this record was massively smashed in mid-july 2022. On page 15 you say: 'The Business as Usual Pathway will not result in the scale of change required.' I am glad that CYC recognise this as many people, businesses and Conservatives do not. On page 16 you say: 'Continuing to reduce our total energy use and increasing local renewable generation across the city will therefore be important aspects of our transition to net zero.' This is correct as an overall principle to be aware of – well done. On page 16 you say: 'Significant emissions reduction along the Projected Emissions Reduction Pathway with actions that can be delivered with currently available technology, deployment rates and policy'. Relying on existing technology only is the correct way to look at these strategies and realistic futures – well done. On page 16 you say: 'Removing remaining emissions from the atmosphere through cost effective nature based and technological solutions'....You need to focus on the nature based solutions as they already exist, can be local and will be cheaper and more reliable than any technology. On page 16 you say: 'Adapting our city to the effects of a changing climate'. This is a key and often forgotten point, even with vast climate action we would not prevent temperature increase and climate change. Accordingly, the mitigation side of things does need to be considered, whether this is providing more shade, free public water from taps (a good idea in general), more rest areas, more tree cover etc.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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On page 17 you say: 'Lobby UK Government for policy change that accelerates the rate of decarbonisation nationally and locally. Push for local spending and policy powers that will allow us to go further and faster than the national net zero ambition'. I agree with this wholeheartedly – well done. You also say: '). Prioritising actions within the city boundary (insetting) to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere can provide additional environmental, social and financial benefit for York. Offsetting will only be considered as a last resort...' – I agree with this priority list. On page 18 you say: '1.1 Clear communication and information providing accurate, timely and relevant information about climate change and its impacts.' – this is vital because otherwise it is left to charities who can only get through to a few people and lack the Council's knowledge and economies of scale. Your objectives on page 18 and 19 are correct and necessary. Retrofitting and moving away from fossil-fuel embedded heating is vital – well done. On objective 2.4 – be aware of greenwashing on green tariffs. There are only a couple of companies in the UK that provide genuinely green tariffs by supporting independent generators and building more of their own renewable capacity. Buying 'REGOs' on a mass market is not a green tariff (bigger companies tend to lie and do the REGO method only). On the bottom of page 19 you say: 'New developments in flood zone built with flood resilience.'. It is hard to believe that with more extreme weather events and rising sea levels it would be contemplated that we need to build homes in flood zones. I suggest you use influence to avoid this if possible. On page 20 the 'where we need to be in 2030' are along the right lines but need to be much more ambitious. '3%' reduction in road transport use' – seems a bit half-hearted. At the top of page 21 regarding private hire/taxis, we need more action to stop Uber in the city as they are banned but heavily present. Regarding page 21 goals, I hope these are possible despite a previous administration's poor decision over the long term private incinerator at Allerton Park. Can you invest in some sort of local 'super recycling centre' (beyond current hazel court tip site) or more funding for local repair cafes and so on? On page 22, for objective 5.2, I would be sceptical about the origins and capacity of green hydrogen to make a real CO2 difference. There is a lack of extensive, independent scientific research into this subject yet. On page 22, the 'where we need to be in 2030' seems incorrect, why does it say that there has to be an increase in electricity and natural gas consumption – surely an error? One page 26 and 27, the table of economic, social and environmental benefits needs to be massively publicised and sent out to the public. We also need to see successful examples of these stats in action, even if from elsewhere. This will help bring people on board more. One page 27, in terms of the 'obesity' stats, you need a major focus on good, universal access to green spaces, cycle and walking routes so people can actually have a chance to engage in these activities. This includes new developments fully enabling universal active travel rather than miserable business as usual cars only rubbish.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 58 On page 28, for the flood resilience projects, an emphasis is needed on natural solutions, soft engineering and so on. Beaver re-introduction has had considerable benefits to flood risk reduction elsewhere, these cases should be studied and emulated. On page 29 in terms of housing, the ambitious plans are good and need to be kept up and strengthened. These sorts of ideas need to be placed within private sector housing sites as well, as much as CYC can do that. There should also be a focus on residents not being able to pave over and destroy green spaces (including their own gardens) or make alterations that increase car use or parking. On page 30 in terms of the e-mobility trials and Tier feedback, my main concern is the price of using this equipment. When I last checked it seemed to be quite expensive just to unlock the equipment, never mind ride it. Bike vouchers and free cycling lessons are important in your wider strategy. Perhaps the Council could try to do more to encourage cycling like urban and suburban 'bays' where people can leave their bikes, more and better cycle lanes and so on. On page 31, I am sceptical of UoY commitment and progress to green ideals. I heard they were building some sort of gas mini power plant at one point on their own grounds. On page 33, the impact of wasting less food should not be underestimated in carbon terms due to the often high carbon footprint of imported food. More emphasis and Council support needed in this area – waste food cafes and so on. On page 34, York Community woodland seems a good idea, but we need more 'mini' versions of these around York as just having one big site encourages car use to get to it, and it is inevitably a rural site – is there any public transport going there? On page 35 regarding the 'hyper hubs'. These seem reasonable and more will be required all around the city to make up for the often sporadic existing charging points. There still needs to be a big emphasis on using public transport instead of private in the City. Whatever can be done with local licensing, tendering and nationalisation, needs to be done. On page 36 regarding the 'holistic approach' – I agree with this and hope it will be looked at in this way. Schemes may seem 'expensive or inconvenient' to start with but they will have pay offs and future savings in numerous ways, even if these seem 'murky' to start with.
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- 59 The climate change strategy doesn't set a clear target to reduce or remove cars from the city centre. It should include targets for new public transport systems to support low-carbon travel, such as improved bus services and a feasibility study to move towards a tram system.
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- 60 A Big conversation should allow for the exchange of ideas, comments, and votes, like other councils have done through crowdsourcing, a real listening exercise. Survey is frustrating and leaves no room to share ideas and learn how others feel.
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 61 It is encouraging to see a written strategy in place however there seems to be some confusion over net zero, and how this will be achieved. Annual targets are crucial and there are none included in the strategy. Perhaps this will be included in the plan, but it's not specified when the plan will emerge and how exactly it will differ from the strategy. Principle 1 states the council will increase collaboration with partners but doesn't say how or with whom. Per principle 3, the council states it will identify and help those who need support the most. How will this be done, both in terms of identification and then action? Per principle 4, what jobs will you create? Per principle 5, how do you propose to measure scope 1, 2, 3 emissions and other crucial metrics? Which organisation will you work with? What tracking system/software will be used? The strategy cites Our Big Conversation questionnaire results, but the questionnaire is still open. Will the strategy be edited once consultation closes? It was not easy to find the questionnaire. How has the council ensured that a wide spectrum of people have shared their views? There is a lack of detail about the 'focus groups' that fed into the strategy. How many groups were there, and who was involved? How were people informed about the groups? There is a commitment to lobby the UK government for policy change, but who will do this? It is certainly ambitious to use the phrase 'switch to electric vehicles', as there is still so far to go in terms of infrastructure and not much in the way of tangible developments to make EVs truly viable. There is a commitment to support local energy systems but no indication of what these are. The council's approach to reporting is fuzzy at best. The strategy says that national datasets and city-wide reporting will be used. Has the council considered use of national Themes, Outcomes and Measures (TOMs)? What is 'city wide reporting'? The strategy states it has identified and included suitable KPIs. To be considered a KPI, an indicator must have a target, a frequency, and a percentage showing compliance. There are therefore no KPIs in the strategy. The strategy rightly states that increased walking and cycling leads to happier populations. Possibly the most important thing about safe cycling is the road itself. There are countless areas in York, for example from Coney Street across Ouse Bridge, where it is simply not safe to cycle due to terrible road conditions.
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- 62 In the climate change strategy, more emphasis is needed on 'How' we will get to where we need to be. For example, how will we reduce the volume of waste by 24%? What new measures will be implemented to achieve this?
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- 63 it would be helpful to get rid of the holiday lets which are destroying communities and driving people out of York.
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

- 64 It's absolutely paramount to micro-manage infrastructure in a way that integrates, at the very least, greenspaces within communities. NOT between. The rapid development of newbuilds, (cheap in quality, but expensive in environmental cost, especially during construction!) directly contrasts with your goals to increase the level of natural areas or greenspaces. I'm not necessarily talking about large parks, I say 'micromanage' In a literal sense. Nature must be planned into every single inch of building. Grass verges must have wildflower and not be cut to dry lawn each month. Trees MUST be left, pruned yes.. but cut down?? absolutely not. ANY green-space that already exists, such as The Old Manor field, should be left and invested in, it already exists! make it functional! Selling that land to a privatised home developer when HECTARES of dry arid land lays next to the rail-line is unbelievably short-sighted. In the greater picture it doesn't really matter, The earth is already set to begin it's cycle very soon. (Atlantic phytoplankton is now dead, due to oil use, plastic disposal etc. Oceanic ecosystem collapse is estimated to occur within 10 years. After our world will change) But at the very least what we can do is try on every level, small and big, to make our city a deeply rooted and ecologically integrated safe-haven for our children when the inevitably does happen. Regardless of land use, It is clear that currently public transport in York is not only financially and punctually unviable, (First busses) but almost all of our bus routes are NOT electric. It is disgraceful. They are inefficient and seriously detrimental to the clean air we could be blessed with. In addition to this, It really should be a priority to put speedbumps on all 30mph residential roads. Not even taking into account the obvious safety reasons, people throttling their accelerator pedal increases fuel consumption MASSIVELY. Doing so would reduce road accidents, pet deaths, and school-children injuries, but would also curb car and motorcycle emissions.
- 65 The climate strategy lacks ambition Strangely it lacks strategy. it is vague has nothing to say about how and when clear milestones for each area will be shared
- 66 The need for increased levels of housing does not come through as a core theme. This is a significant inhibitor to growth, and the retention of our young people, and should be amongst the highest priority. Similarly, the need for more and better employment space, of all different kinds ranging from start up to growth to large business accommodation, should be higher up the pecking order. York is losing out to Leeds, Manchester and elsewhere because we can't cater for growing and aspirational businesses. In general, growth should be a key aim. The UK population is growing far faster than York's population. Without growth, the population will age and the city will become increasingly dependent on tourism - which would be disastrous. Good governance and evidence based planning sounds good, but the reality is that planning, and the draft Local Plan, is at odds with some of the other aspirations in this Economic Strategy.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

- 67 York needs to be bigger. The country grew by 6% over the past ten years, and York by 2.6%, We are in danger of being left behind. The Senior Officers at CYC are simply not good enough - they have no vision or ambition and can't seem to stand up to members or planning officers. We desperately need more housing and community facilities. We need better connectivity through a decent public transport system. Which family would pay £10 for the park and ride when they can park in town for less? The Council is simply out of touch with reality and appear to be focusing on the visitor economy over everything else. Whilst having a vibrant visitor economy is good, it largely supports low paid jobs and is seasonal. We need more, higher grade employment sites - better offices and innovation centres. The city has been fixated on York Central for too long and to the detriment of the rest of the city. The City Centre is falling apart, with huge swathes around Piccadilly ripe for development. We need higher massing.
- 68 The climate change strategy is woefully lacking in content/specifics, and ambition. How will you achieve the goals you describe? Why isn't there already an action plan? Why aren't supply chain emissions and embodied emissions of things we buy considered?
- 69 Budgets - these things always go wildly over budget. Then everything turns into a "we ran out of money" and the finished product is not at all what was set out to achieve. Consider realistic spending and be prepared to continue to put the money in
- 70 Cycle routes for all. Sustainable fair travel for those In villages around York
- 71 It seems to me that the strategy (and I am commenting here on the Climate Change Strategy only) is very broad brush stroke, sets targets which may or may not be enough, but is weak on how this will actually happen.
- 72 Eliminate holiday lets in residential areas - this is having too much of an adverse affect on the amenities.
- 73 I think there should be more emphasis on the physical environment and how that impacts health. There should be more emphasis on child friendly environments and we should be looking at how what the council has legislative powers over is supported to promote good health, and healthy environments. An example from last summer- tower gardens 'beach' area. Great idea for children, except it was basically a pub. Everything in York revolves around an alcohol licence. We are normalising alcohol to our children. Let's put more investment into open spaces in our housing estates and good play facilities rather than giving it all to sports clubs that people can't afford the membership fees to.
- 74 1. Climate change strategy far too weak at dealing with the imminent danger of housing within the city being permanently uninhabitable because of more frequent return events of flooding. Current proposed property resilience measures are totally inadequate at providing any significant improvement in "return to home" times which will still be dictated by insurance companies at around 6-8 months. This is an opportunity for the Council to think outside the box, use state of the art methods to protect its Georgian riverside properties from permanent dereliction. 2. Health & Wellbeing Strategy rather brief with no mention of the word disability.
- 75 To meet the Paris agreement, there needs to be a 76% carbon reduction. You are aiming for only 54%. You should endeavour to achieve the 54% reduction. Also, what about food? The growing and transport of food is crucial to carbon production. We should be eating more locally produced food, eating more seasonally. What do you propose to do about food? Who is accountable for your plans? What happens if you don't achieve the aims you're setting out? I see no accountability in your document

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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

- 76 Taking care of health workers, to reduce staff shortages in health institutions.. That's key.. if u have a health institution and no one to run it, it's not helpful at all
- 77 None of this means anything. Just words. We need action.
- 78 The principles are laudable, but woolly. While I agree with them as aspirations, I disagree that they are helpful without better definition embedded within them. Try re-writing as more focused goals?
- 79 You underplay the importance of CYC as an enabler through planning and transport strategies and their execution.
- 80 In the economic strategy, it's very important that young people and adults can access good information and guidance about the training and job options open to them. So there is a need to partner organisations offering this and fill gaps in provision. Strengthening links to business is good but must be made to work through good information and guidance which is easily available
- 81 There is no mention of supporting social economy business models, such as in Preston, that retain more money locally, are more equitable, and have superior environmental outcomes - it's all about private business and investment, which will just lead to money leaving the city and inequality
- 82 It seems like a lot of words. Exactly what will you DO. ? We need action. Better public transport. Less use of weed killers, mowing grassland that could support biodiversity.. more green spaces, wildflower meadows, help/ grants for people to improve the energy efficiency house ratings.. less new buildings, more use of those we already have.. protection of green belt land.. use of spaces above city centre properties for accommodation. Help for refugees and people in poverty. Please.
- 83 The procedure for implementing your health and well-being strategy
- 84 The health and wellbeing strategy is very thin, compared to the others. I have no sense of what is being planned, beyond the level of principle.
- 85 There is a big hospitality sector in York, and there is a large use of insecure contracts for employees (such as 0 hour contracts etc). It think it would be beneficial to consider this to meaningfully address employment opportunities and also healthy communities
- 86 Use brown field sites for new buildings before any green sites and be more realistic about such things as double glazing and solar panels for listed and similar buildings to enable their continued economic use in a Heritage Environment
- 87 These are noble goals but I think this questionnaire has been framed in a way that positive responses are more likely. I don't think the council is doing enough.
- 88 York needs to become predominantly a cycling city. This means safe roads for bikes. Proper barriers to separate them from the road, for example, not just painted lines on the ground. If safe routes are provided, more people including those who are not confident in road cycling and children will take this up. Great for health, fantastic for the environment... Fewer cars in York is a good idea but must make allowances for disabled folks whose only mode of transport is cars. Don't exclude them. Provide proper recycling of food stuff. This is especially important for homes without gardens and therefore lack the ability to compost food waste.
- 89 Making things accessible for people who have disabilities, eg- Information in easy read, and making buildings accessible.

Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

- 90 There also needs to be a nature recovery strategy for the area, not just tree planting. This would increase the number of green spaces, biodiversity and carbon storage as well as creating more spaces where people can improve their physical and mental health. The economic strategy also needs focus on promoting jobs that are consistent with cutting carbon emissions and protecting the environment and should be aimed at reducing the consumption of new raw materials (e.g. minerals). The health strategy needs to work on improving the current situation where most people are overweight and don't get enough exercise, as well as creating better conditions for future generations.
- 91 First and foremost, the climate strategy falls hugely short and is a missed opportunity to drive real change. The most glaring issue is that it's not even committing to decarbonise to the bare minimum levels required to meet the Paris agreement. Aside from being generally quite vague throughout, it also doesn't mention anything about who will be held accountable, specifically, if and when the goals aren't met. Lastly, it doesn't include anything about food. I would have thought that there would at least be something about reducing food waste, or creating a couple more allotment sites across the city (e.g. opposite the racecourse coach parking to give one easy example). It seems like growing more food, reducing food waste, and encouraging excess food to be redistributed around the city all fit very well with the ideals of fostering collaboration and community, as well as helping with climate change mitigation and adaptation. Secondly, across all three of the strategies, more attention should be given to green infrastructure. Again, increasing access to nature in the city by planting more trees, creating 'micro-parks', etc, is an empirically validated way of addressing environmental, economic and health issues in a very cost-effective way. This should be woven in across all three strategies.
- 92 Very comprehensive strategies but I am not sure they take into account the cost to individual residents.
- 93 There is nowhere near enough focus on poverty. It's estimated that 20,000 people in York earn less than the real living wage, yet that's not mentioned in the draft economic strategy. The strategy does mention "increasing both productivity and pay in lower paid sectors such as retail, tourism and social care", but doesn't say anything at all about HOW this will be done - especially in relation to low pay. Second, the draft health and wellbeing strategy says nothing about loneliness, despite clear evidence that loneliness and social isolation can lead to poor health, just as poor health can lead to loneliness and social isolation.
- 94 York is a unique city and as such needs a unique plan to balance it's economy, the environment and the needs of its population. We need to demolish the 1950's & 60's buildings blotting our city centre and open it up within the walls into open gardens and tourist attractions. The days of standard city centre shopping have gone we need to grasp tourism as the replacement and build our city centre to attract this money.
- 95 The needs of young people are being neglected in the city so they must have a voice in this process.
- 96 Actions speak louder than words. We need to see action and less glossy brochures and strategies
- 97 I agree with everything set out in the strategies
- 98 Good that importance of active transport and bus recognised but will serious action be taken? Will transport targets be incorporated into Local Transport Plan 4. We prioritise the car in York - even though we say we don't. If houses were built to Scandinavian standards we would not need to heat houses! This has been possible for many years.

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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 99 We have not asked our bin men to change the way we live. You're there to do a job that we pay you to do. Completely untalented, mediocre people like you should get back in your box, and stop the arrogant view that you can interfere with how the rest of us live.
-
- 100 Mostly waffle with no costings, milestones or details of enablers
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- 101 The problem is that you talk the talk on climate change, but your actions - specifically on transport - don't match the talk. £65 million on extra lanes on YORR means more traffic, when you say you want 25% fewer vehicle miles. It's completely hypocritical.
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- 102 It's all very well having strategies, but these need to be backed up with well fleshed-out action plans to actually DELIVER on the strategic aims.
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- 103 The strategies are sorely missing in ambition in new housing. Despite being a thriving city, the 2021 census shows that York's population has grown by a fraction of the national average over the last 10 years. New housing is critical for York to develop economically, and for people's wellbeing, especially young people. Denser development within York is one of the best things we can do to prevent sprawl and fight climate change.
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- 104 Little ambition to reverse fall in active travel numbers.
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- 105 RE: Health and Wellbeing In my view diet is a crucial component of this. In order to eat a sufficient variety of foods we need to have healthy teeth and gums. At present there are no dentists accepting new NHS patients in York. It really is very important that this is made a priority in the short and longer term. Local and Central government need to tackle this jointly.
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- 106 How many hot air balloons do you want in the city at once, if it is the interest of a few and it suits then then the rest of us can go to hell and back before anything is done. Thank you
-
- 107 More park area and it to have more diversaty, ie different types of trees flowers and grasses. Also have some small ponds with water lillies, fish and under water plants. also these parks could do with being natural rather than uniform rows, and let it go a bit wild leaving areas for small animals and insects.
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- 108 Youth Services need to be a higher priority Green spaces need greater protection
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Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

109 This strategy is a welcome step forwards in creating a framework for the whole city to sign up to as we work together towards the urgent task of tackling climate change. It offers a basic structure around which to build and implement the wide range of bold actions we need to tackle the Climate Emergency. It could also help the city to deliver the 'co-benefits' of climate action including reducing fuel poverty and energy bills, creating safer more vibrant local neighbourhoods and providing new good quality green jobs. We are pleased that the document has been produced, and we support many of the proposed actions, but we do believe there are some significant ways in which it needs to be improved. These are set out below. The ambition for emissions reduction The climate emergency motion put forward by the Green Party and approved almost unanimously by Full Council in 2019 called for York to be carbon neutral by 2030 (in line with strong scientific signals from the IPCC) and it is crucial that we all keep in mind that this is an Emergency! The motion explicitly mentions scope 1 (i.e. directly produced emissions such as from gas boilers or from petrol/diesel vehicles), scope 2 (i.e. indirect emissions for example using electricity that has been generated from fossil fuels) & scope 3 emissions (i.e. emissions that arise from producing the goods and services that we use - including manufacturing electric vehicles, building infrastructure, growing food or transporting it to our shops). If we want to protect York residents from worsening future flooding and heatwaves of the kind experienced in July 2022, we have to have bold targets and put reducing carbon emissions at the centre of everything that we do. Following pressure from Green Councillors, some critical actions have been identified and built into this draft strategy document, and these are very welcome. We are also pleased to see a commitment for the council itself, as an organisation, to being net zero by 2030, but it would be valuable if the text could make explicit that net zero in this case includes consideration of scope 1, 2 and scope 3 emissions. It also appears that some parts of the council and perhaps some councillors are not yet fully committed to achieving emissions reductions that are in line with the council's declared policy and compatible with the science. This is apparent in the gaps between the goals stated in the Climate Emergency motion, that was adopted almost unanimously, for the city to reach net zero by 2030, the Paris Aligned Pathway for net zero by 2050, and the document's "Projected Emissions Reduction Pathway" presented in figure 4. This 'Projected' pathway, apparently "includes the interventions that are achievable under existing conditions", but the document does not explain what criteria have been used to determine what is / is not achievable under existing conditions. What can be achieved Whilst we are concerned that the council's strategy should set out ambitious targets, it is also imperative that the council and the city take action quickly to reduce emissions. Therefore, we would rather encourage the council to use every power and influence at its disposal, including its regulatory and convening powers as the only elected local organisation, to work with others to bring about the changes that are needed (see further comments below).

110 Aligning health, economic and climate policies is essential. Your strategies need to go much further. 1. Health Services must prepare for huge impacts of climate change on our physical and mental health. 2. Economic growth is no remedy for poverty and inequality we need decent climate jobs + decent pay and conditions for keyworkers in health, care and other services. 3. Climate plan needs more clarity + less clutter and please stop ignoring excellent work done long before 2019 eg CYC Climate Plans 2011, work of York Civic Trust + XXXX XXXX to envision a better future York.

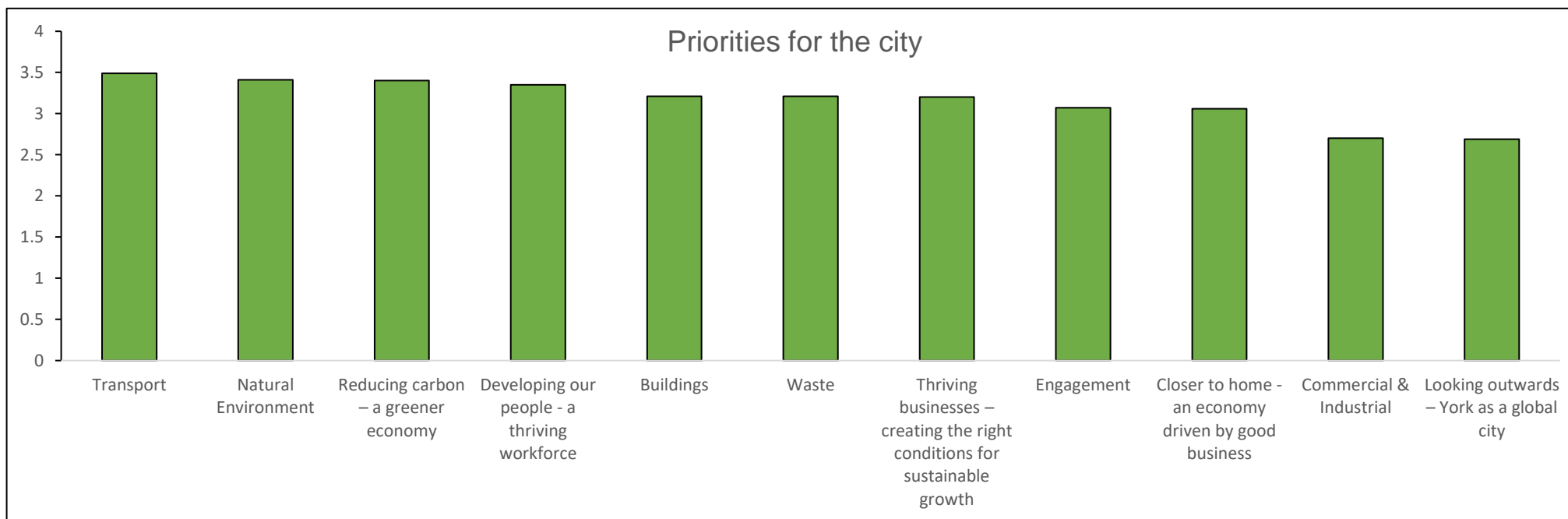
Do you have any views about the ambition set out in the strategies? Have we missed something that is important to you?

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- 111 As a general observation, we are disappointed by the lack of clarity and ambition in the document. There is no clear positive vision for a zero carbon city that might inspire York citizens of the benefits of reducing our carbon emissions, the majority of which are outside of the council's control. As a response to a self-acknowledged crisis, this does not bear any of the hallmarks of a body that is willing to take urgent and transformative action. Where there are specific and measurable goals no route to achieving them or interim milestones are set out other than the 2030 target, and these goals are set seemingly in isolation, with no rationale presented. We understand that this should come with the 'Action Plan', for the delivery of which, recursively, no timetable is provided. Overall, it is unacceptable that the strategy projects emissions reductions that do not meet the net zero goal that the Council has set for itself.
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- 112 Overall, this Strategy is woefully inadequate. In all sections goals are presented without rationale or context. It is not transparent and does not invite accountability. It represents a total failure of the Council as an authority to seriously resource and prioritise the climate crisis. This is not a respectable outcome of three years' work put into a top council priority. I very much hope that the strategy can be improved and that the Council will choose to make it a top priority. Everything is at stake.
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- 113 Table 3 p.26/27 section 4 climate change strategy - co benefits. Really important because things are interrelated this kind of presentation is useful - there is danger in separating out different aspects e.g. it is very difficult to cover a site in industrial buildings and use it to provide green spaces. - It can be done using rood gardens for instance but only if people are aware of a bigger picture. Multi agency working _____ essential so many issues cross the thee divisions of the strategy for York's future.
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Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city.

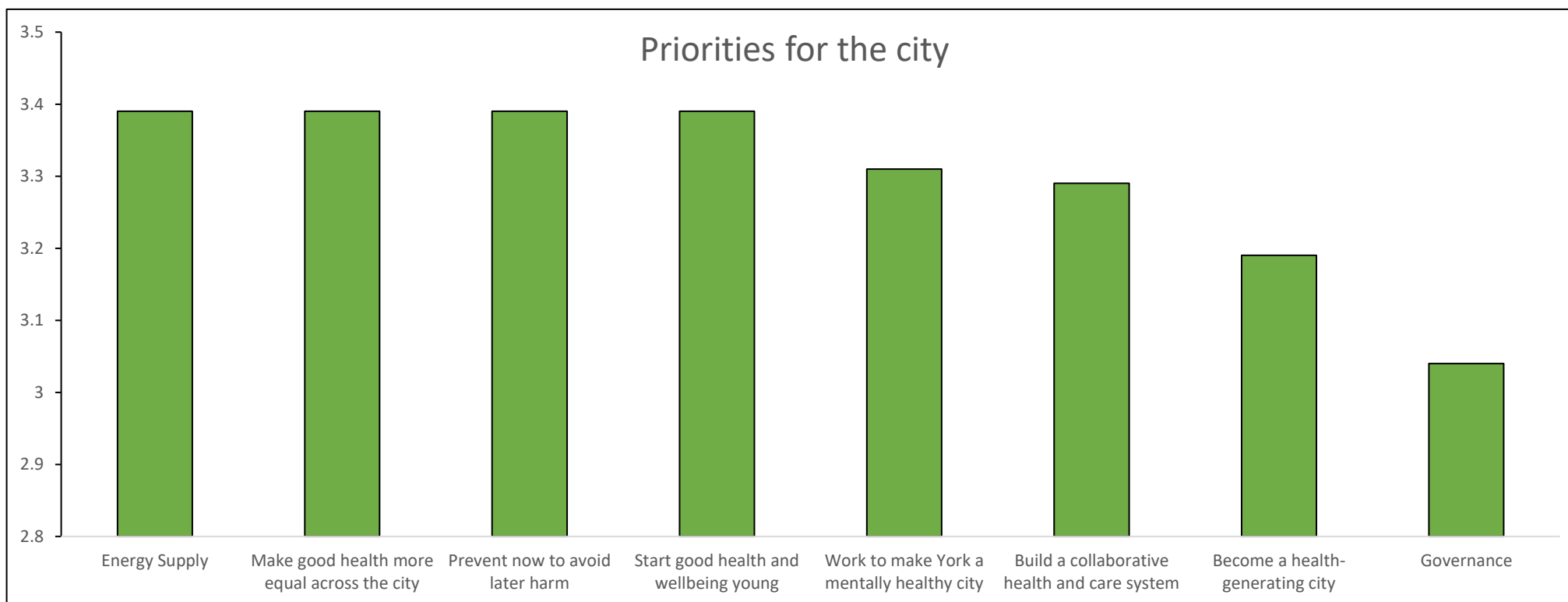
Priority	Weighted Average
Transport	3.49
Natural Environment	3.41
Reducing carbon – a greener economy	3.4
Developing our people - a thriving workforce	3.35
Buildings	3.21
Waste	3.21
Thriving businesses – creating the right conditions for sustainable growth	3.2
Engagement	3.07
Closer to home - an economy driven by good business	3.06
Commercial & Industrial	2.7
Looking outwards – York as a global city	2.69



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

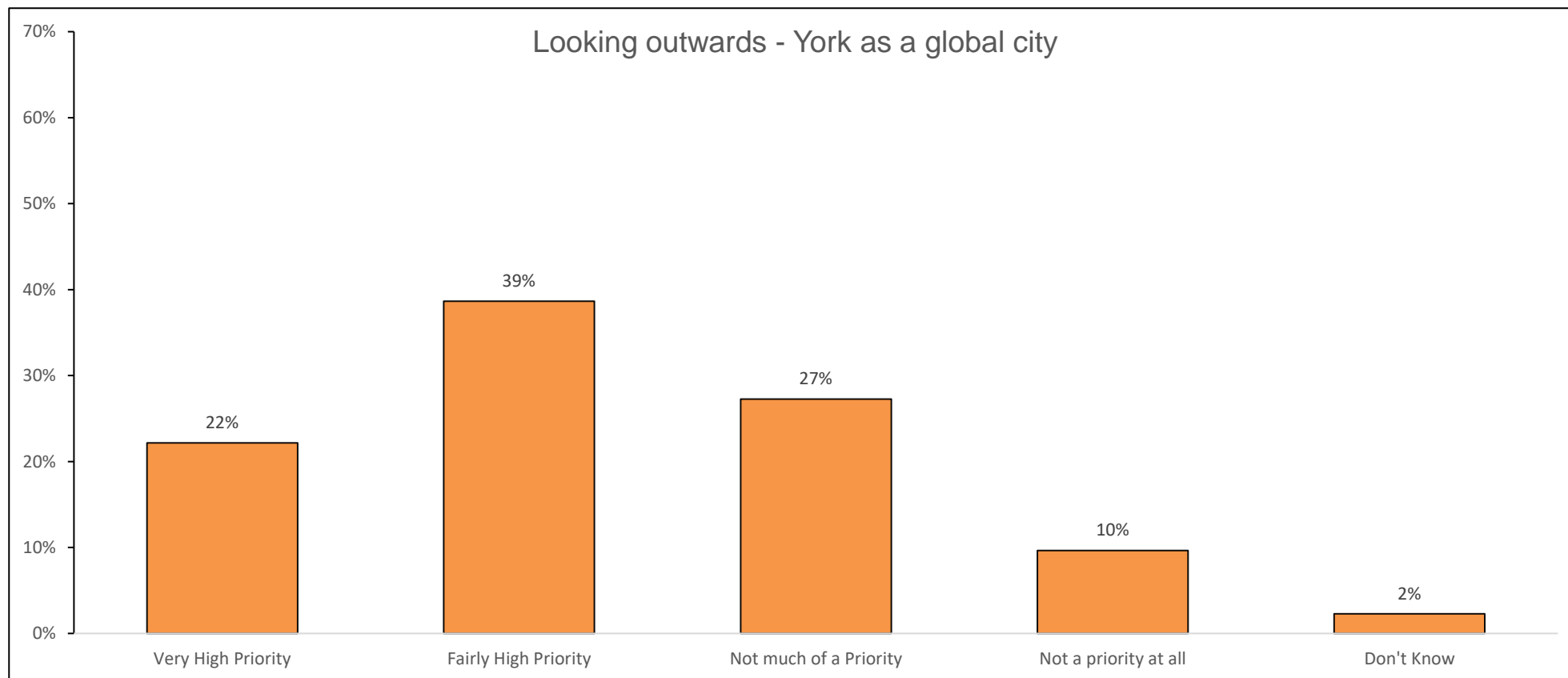
Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city.

Priority	Weighted Average
Energy Supply	3.39
Make good health more equal across the city	3.39
Prevent now to avoid later harm	3.39
Start good health and wellbeing young	3.39
Work to make York a mentally healthy city	3.31
Build a collaborative health and care system	3.29
Become a health-generating city	3.19
Governance	3.04



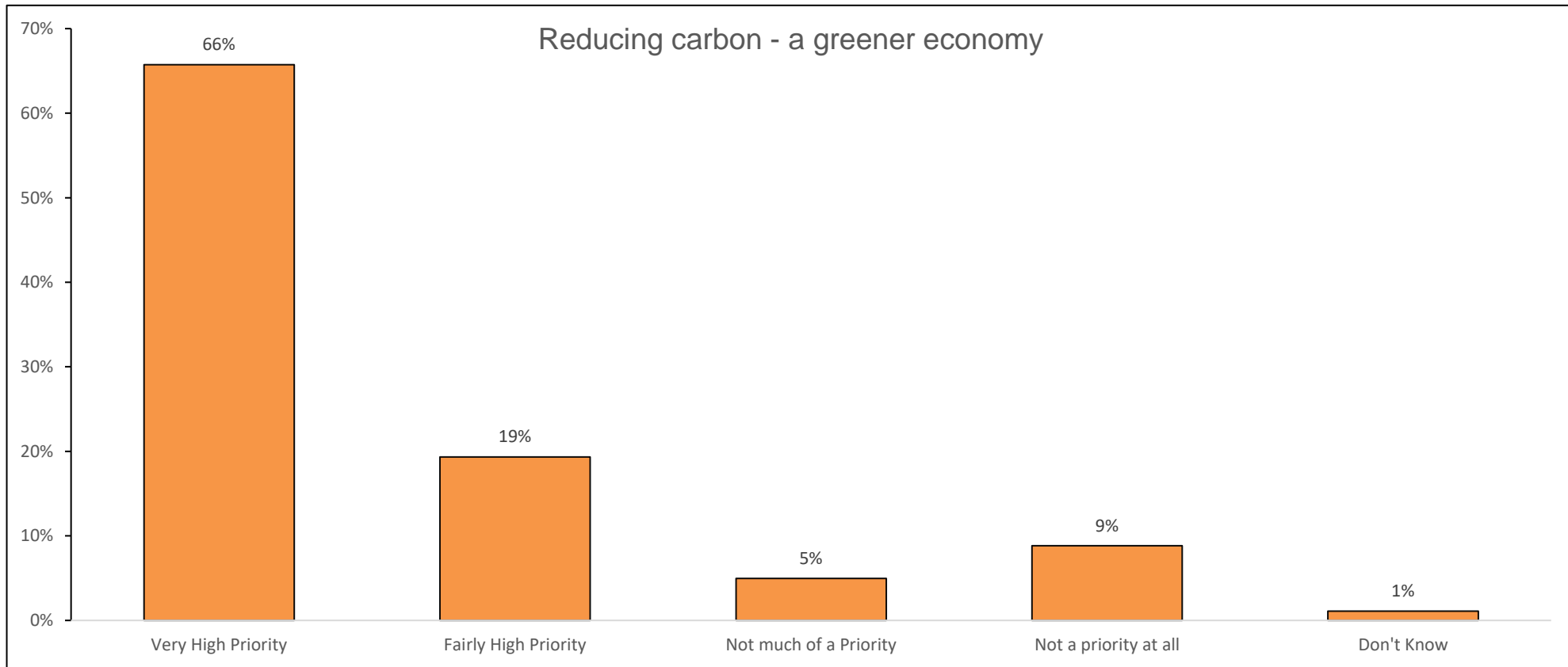
Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Looking outwards – York as a global city

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	39	22%
Fairly High Priority	68	39%
Not much of a Priority	48	27%
Not a priority at all	17	10%
Don't Know	4	2%
Total	176	



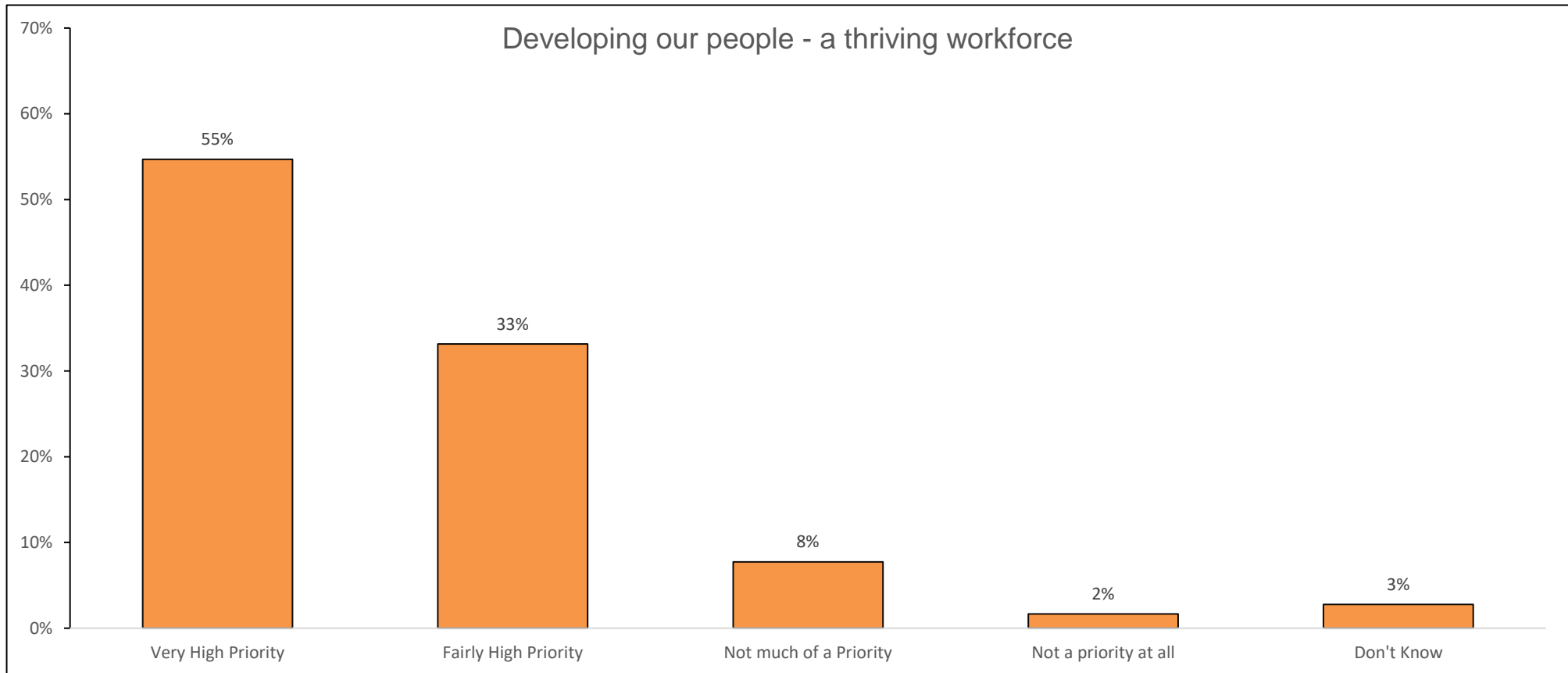
Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Reducing carbon – a greener economy

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	119	66%
Fairly High Priority	35	19%
Not much of a Priority	9	5%
Not a priority at all	16	9%
Don't Know	2	1%
Total	181	



Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Developing our people - a thriving workforce

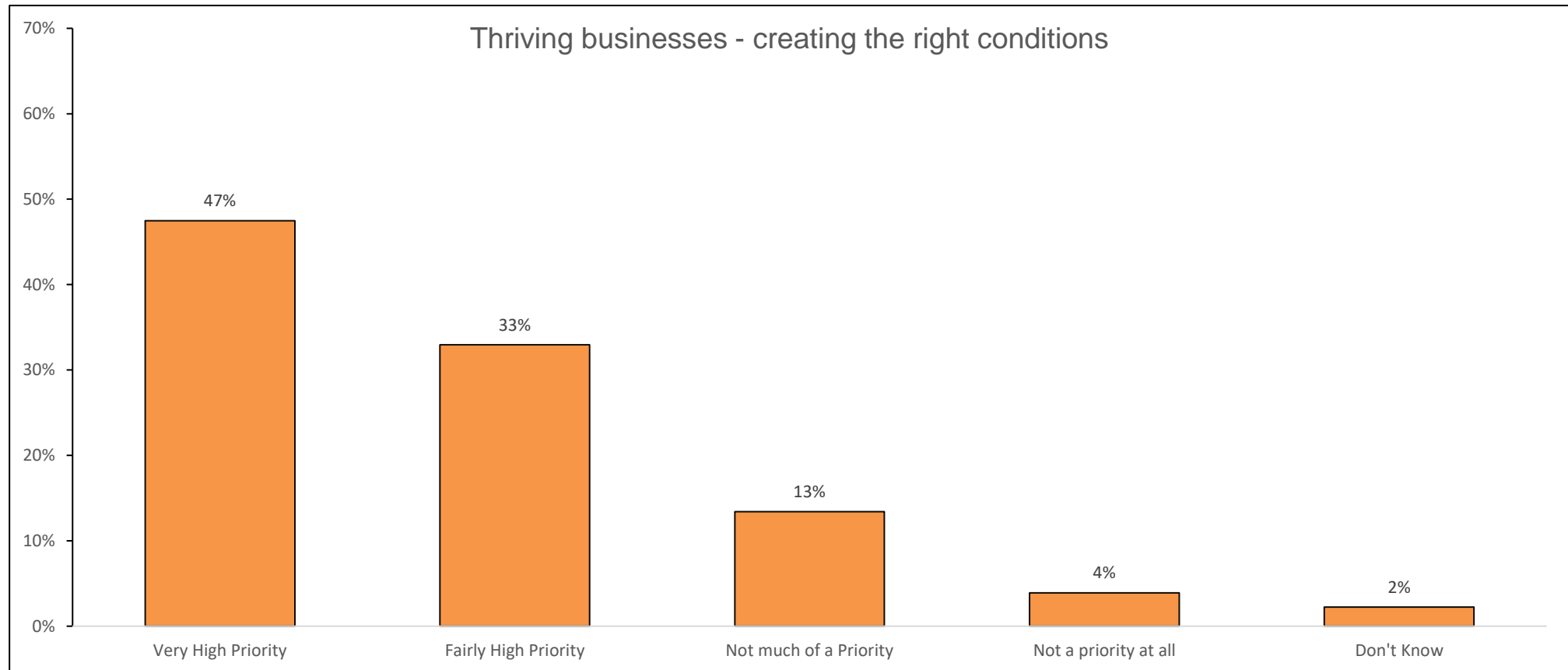
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	99	55%
Fairly High Priority	60	33%
Not much of a Priority	14	8%
Not a priority at all	3	2%
Don't Know	5	3%
Total	181	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Thriving businesses – creating the right conditions for sustainable growth

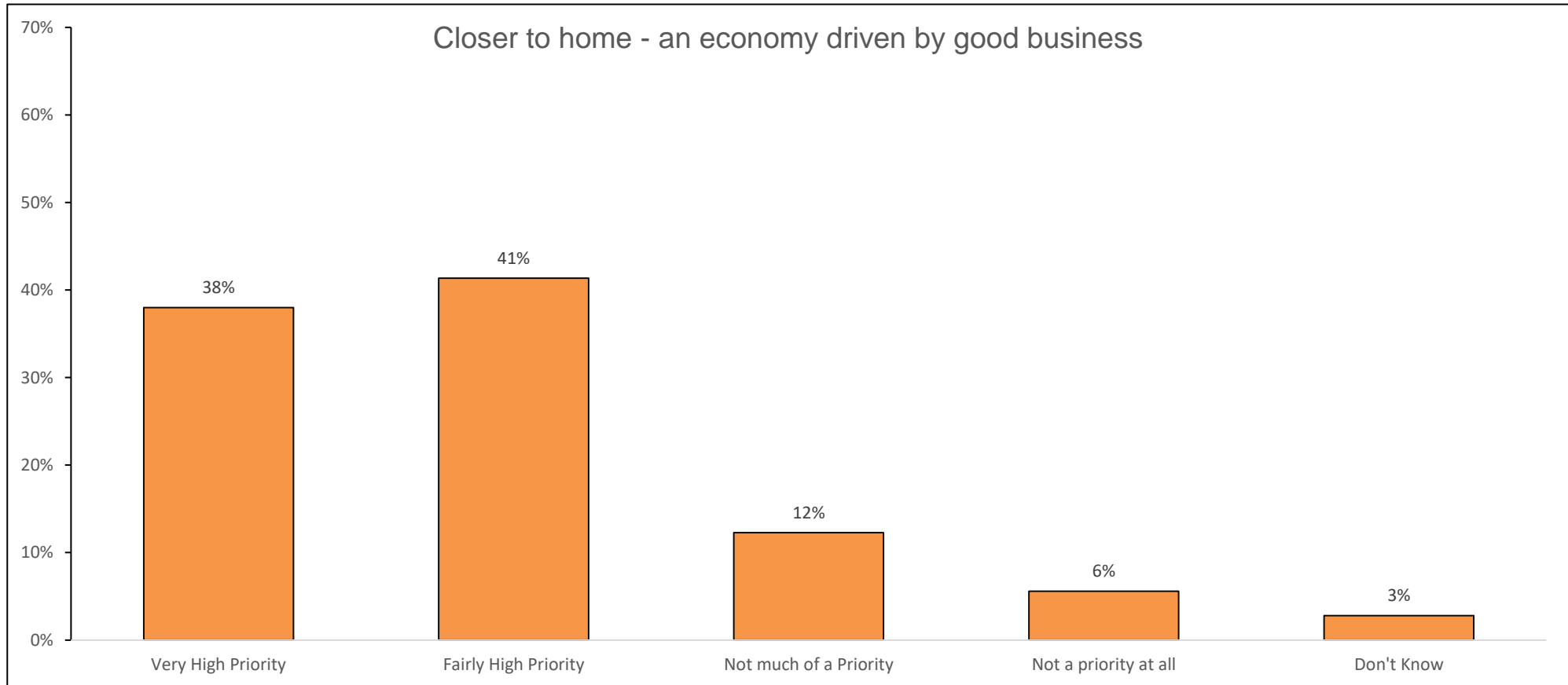
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	85	47%
Fairly High Priority	59	33%
Not much of a Priority	24	13%
Not a priority at all	7	4%
Don't Know	4	2%
Total	179	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Closer to home - an economy driven by good business

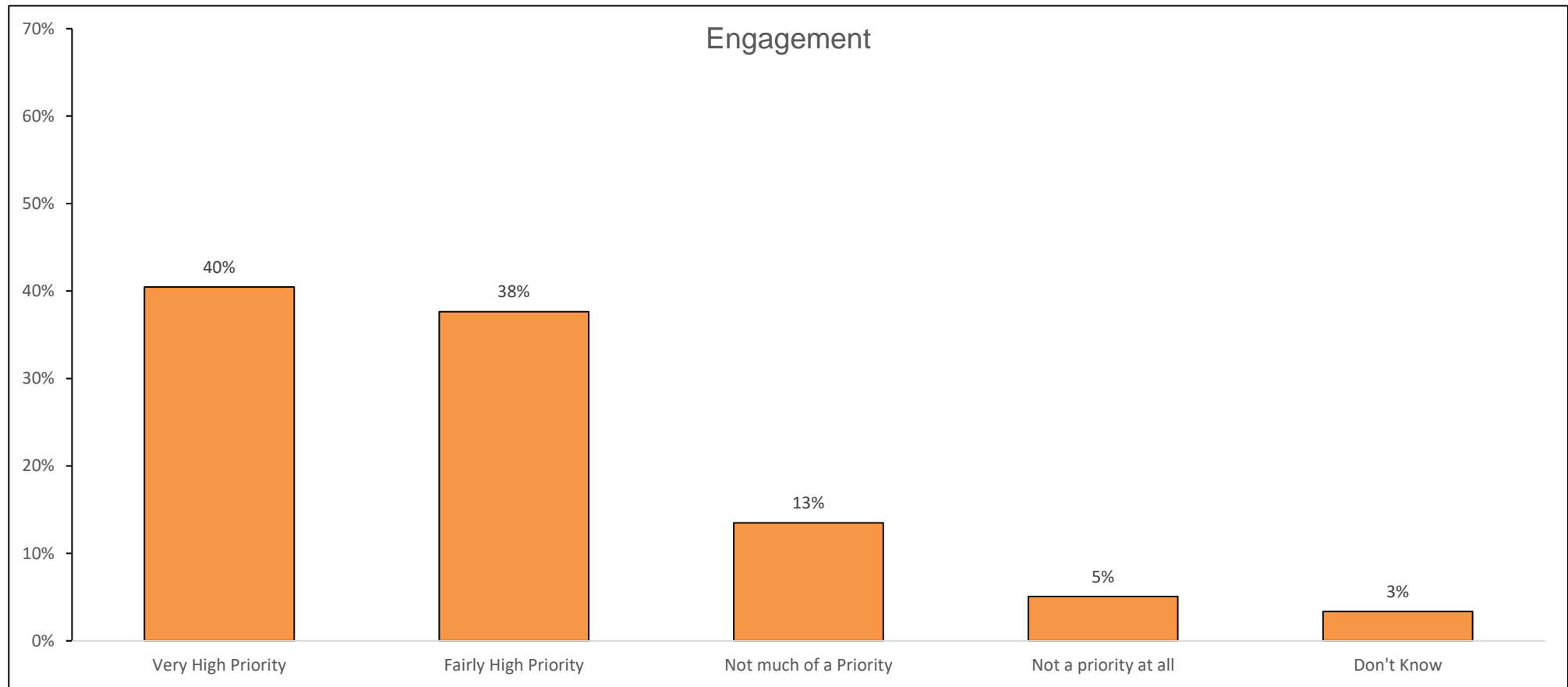
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	68	38%
Fairly High Priority	74	41%
Not much of a Priority	22	12%
Not a priority at all	10	6%
Don't Know	5	3%
Total	179	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Engagement

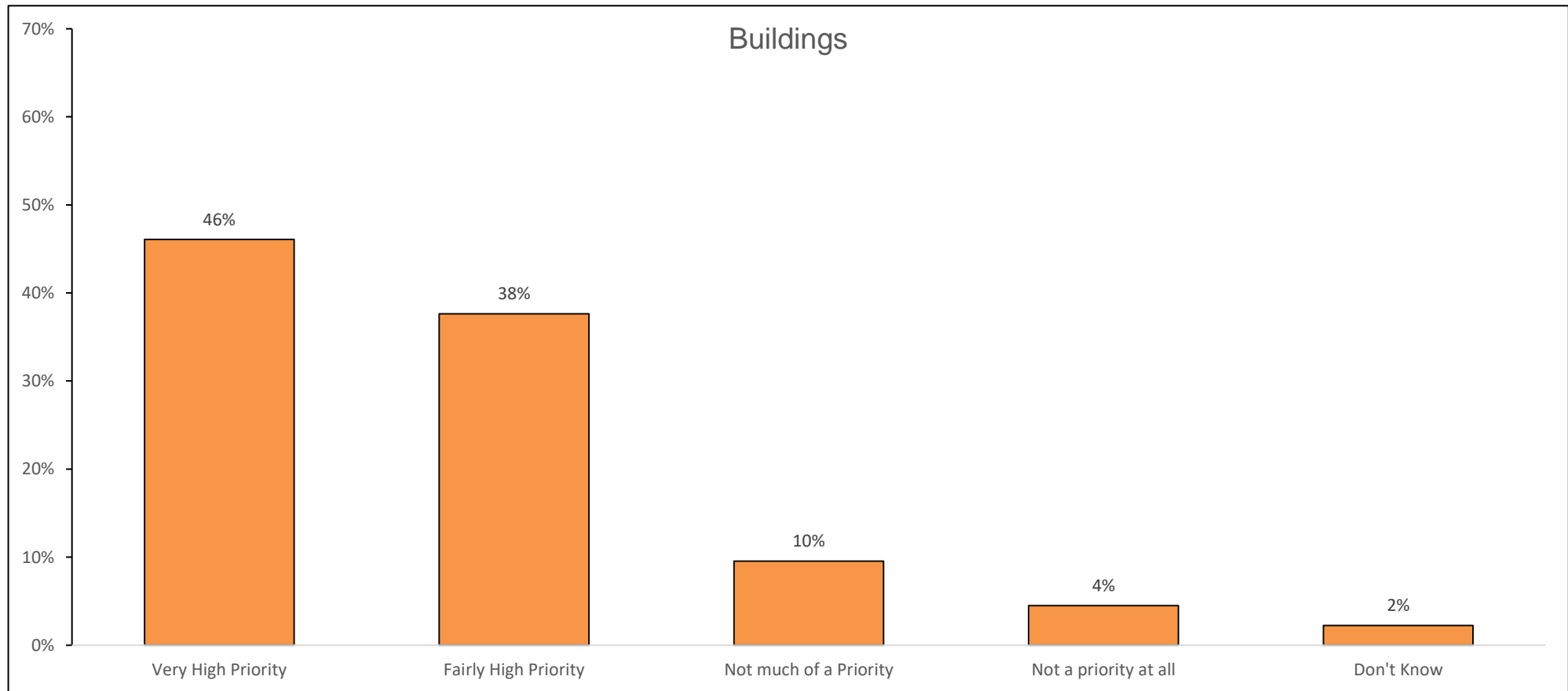
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	72	40%
Fairly High Priority	67	38%
Not much of a Priority	24	13%
Not a priority at all	9	5%
Don't Know	6	3%
Total	178	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Buildings

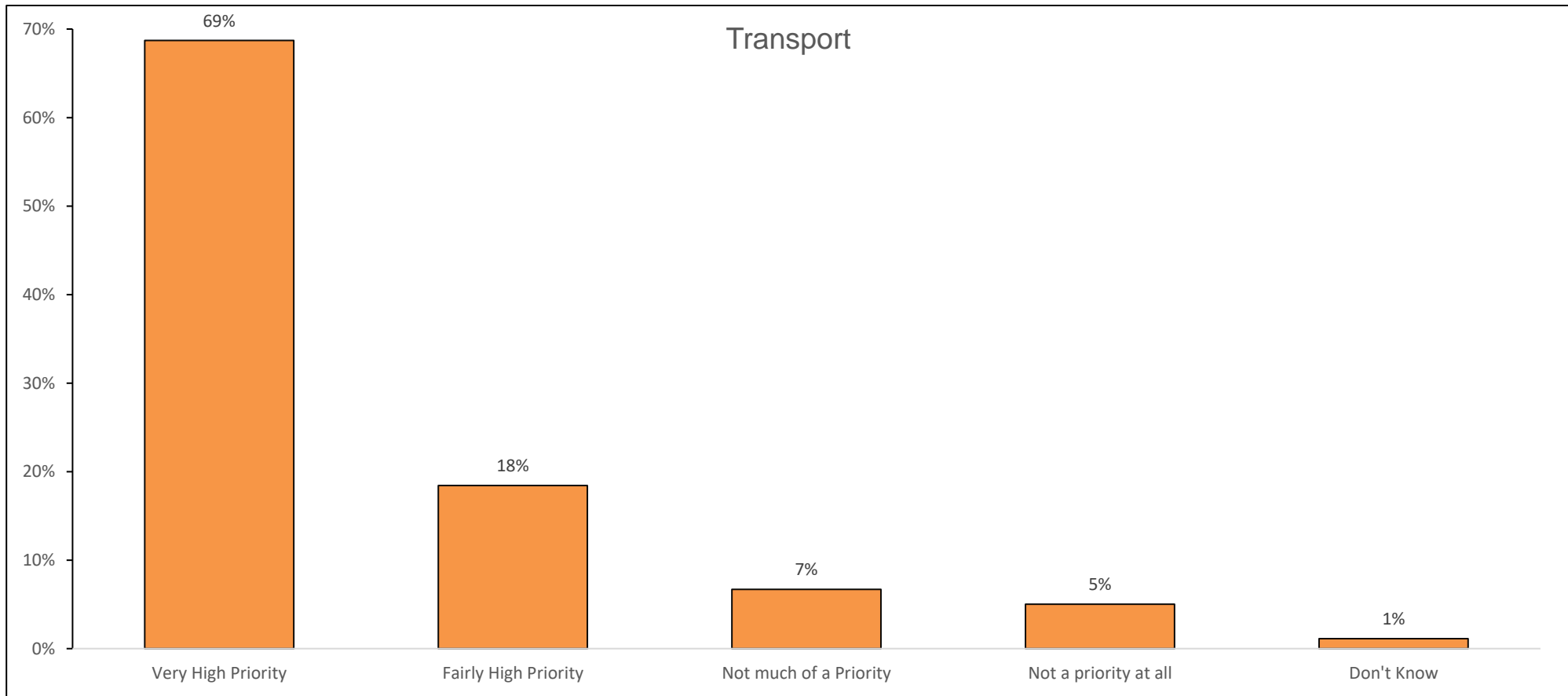
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	82	46%
Fairly High Priority	67	38%
Not much of a Priority	17	10%
Not a priority at all	8	4%
Don't Know	4	2%
Total	178	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Transport

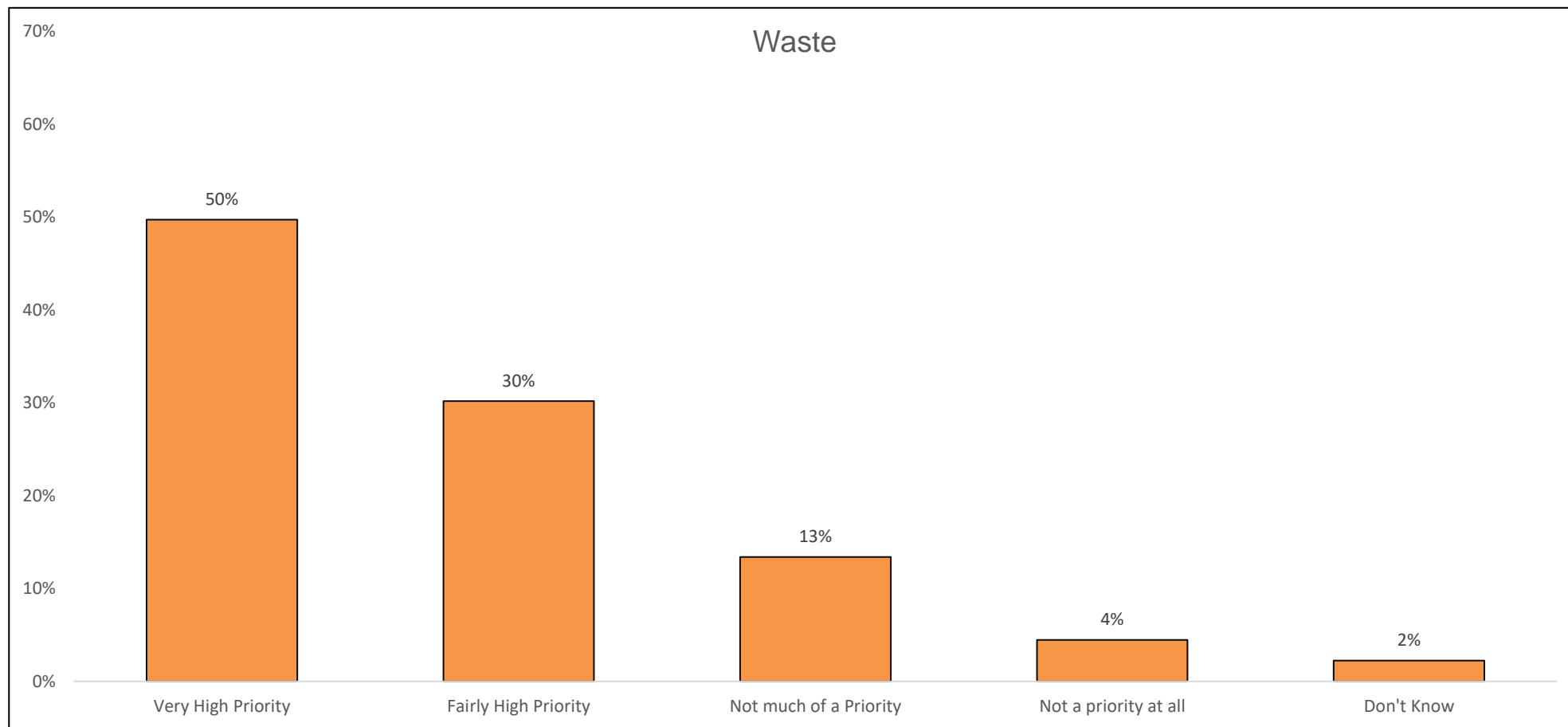
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	123	69%
Fairly High Priority	33	18%
Not much of a Priority	12	7%
Not a priority at all	9	5%
Don't Know	2	1%
Total	179	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Waste

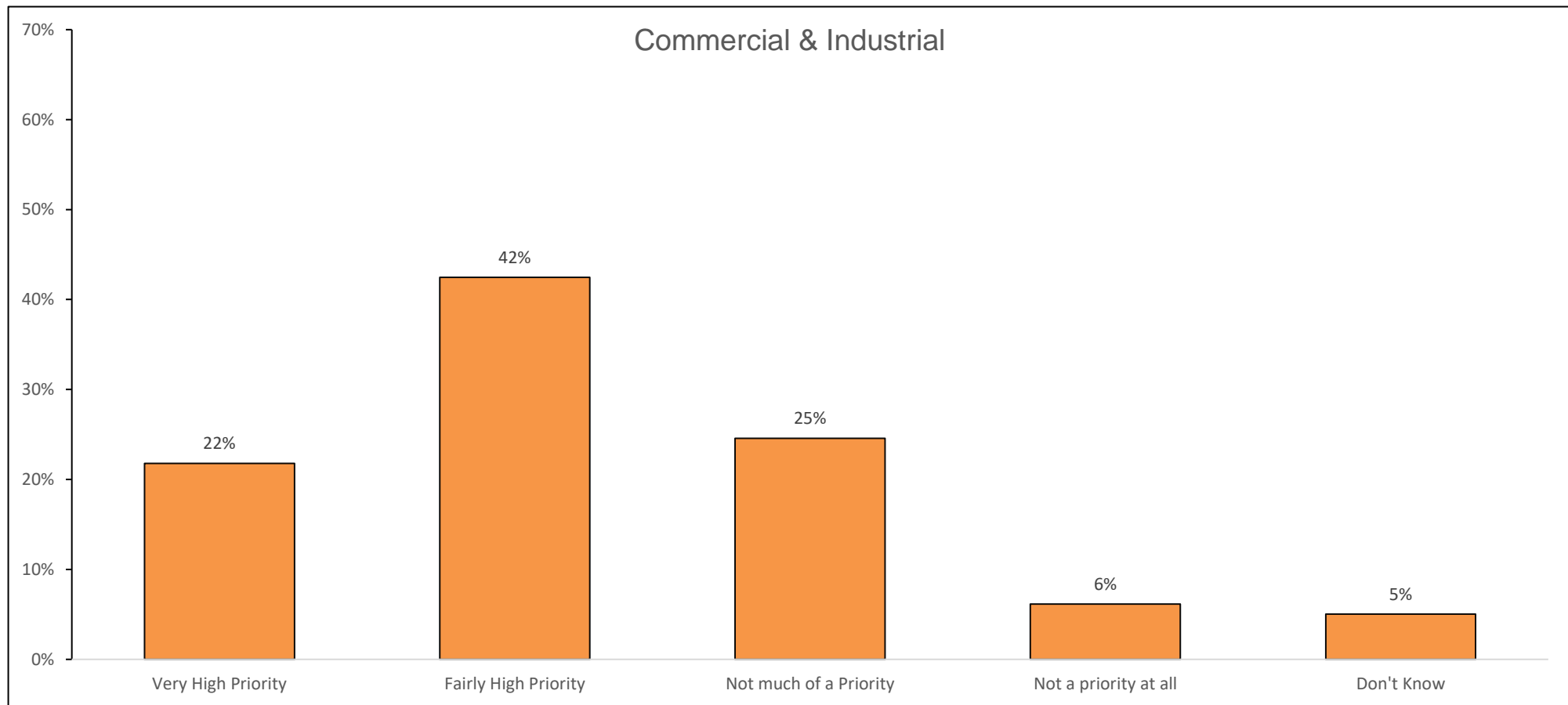
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	89	50%
Fairly High Priority	54	30%
Not much of a Priority	24	13%
Not a priority at all	8	4%
Don't Know	4	2%
Total	179	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Commercial & Industrial

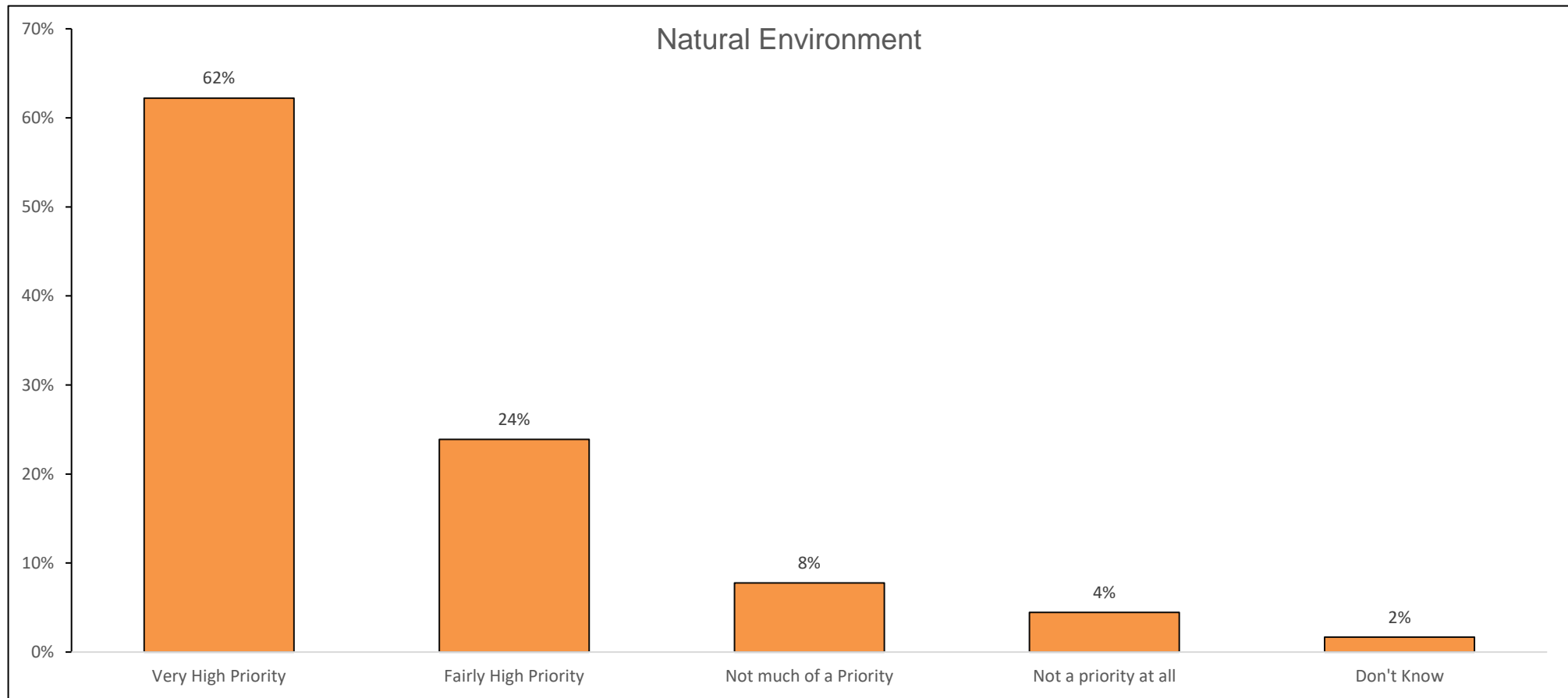
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	39	22%
Fairly High Priority	76	42%
Not much of a Priority	44	25%
Not a priority at all	11	6%
Don't Know	9	5%
Total	179	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Natural Environment

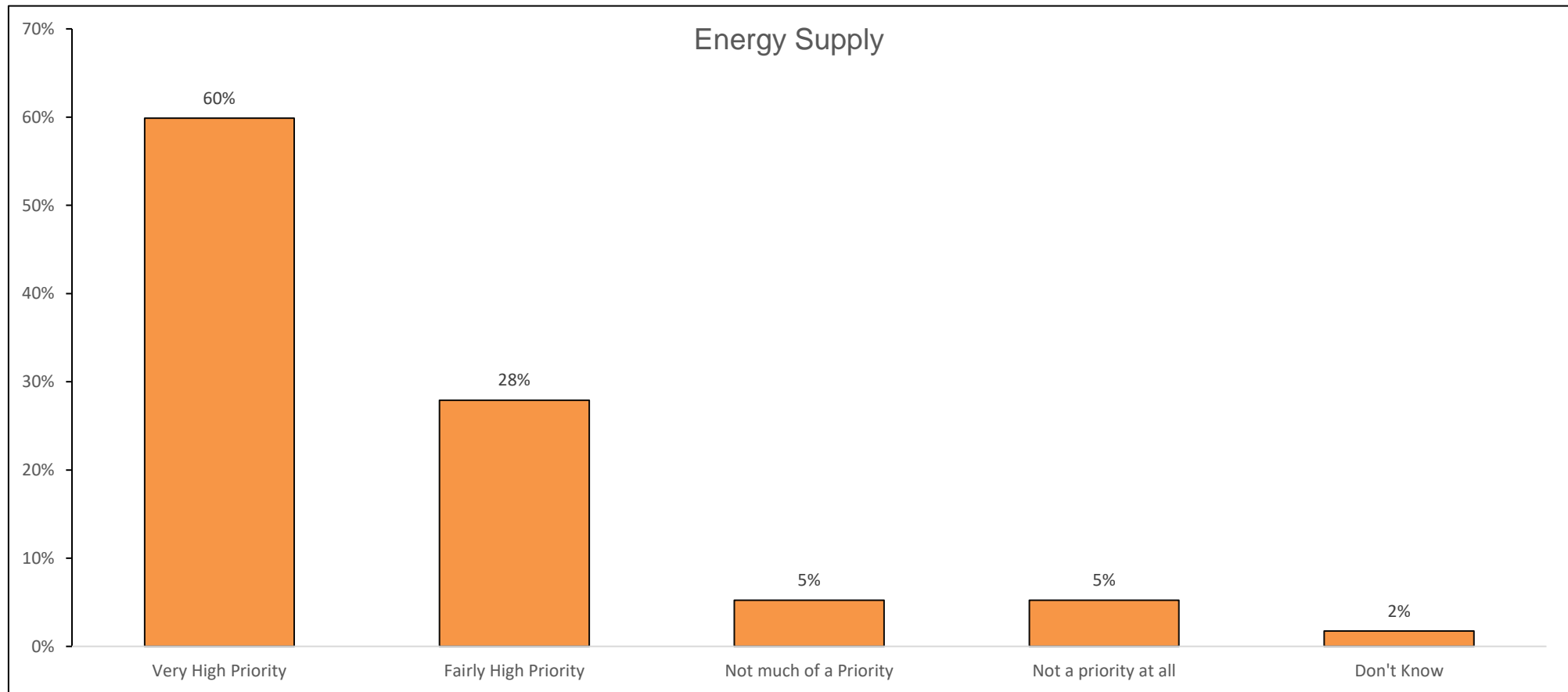
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	112	62%
Fairly High Priority	43	24%
Not much of a Priority	14	8%
Not a priority at all	8	4%
Don't Know	3	2%
Total	180	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Energy Supply

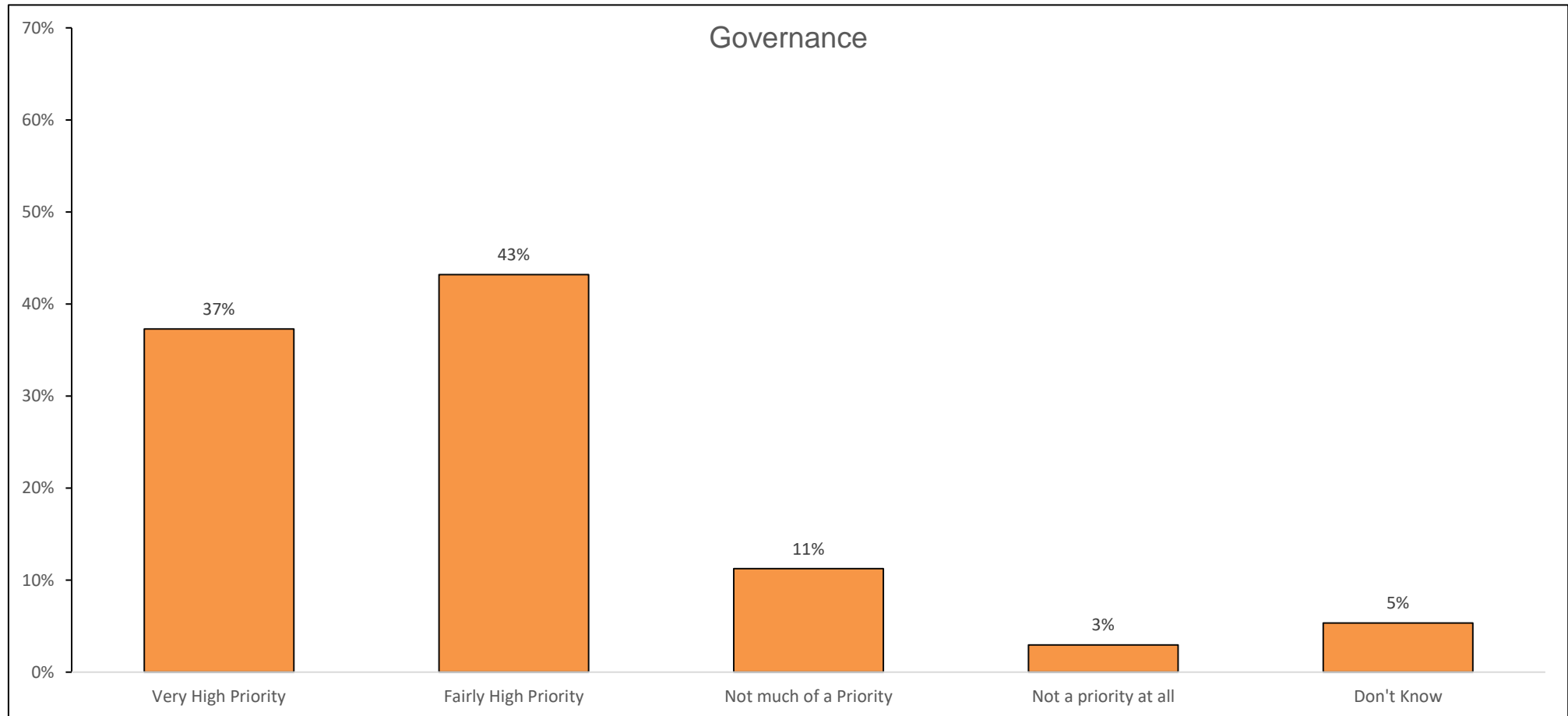
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	103	60%
Fairly High Priority	48	28%
Not much of a Priority	9	5%
Not a priority at all	9	5%
Don't Know	3	2%
Total	172	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

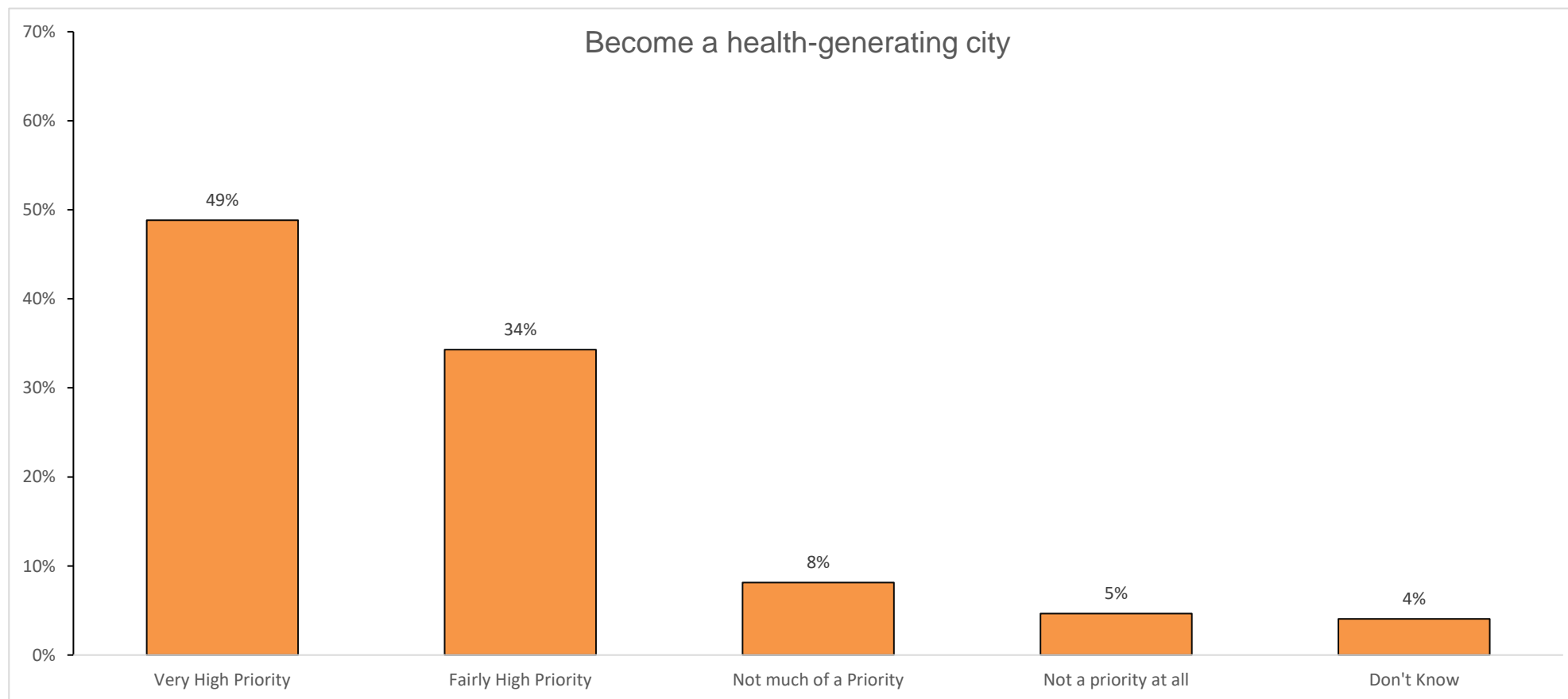
Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Governance

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	63	37%
Fairly High Priority	73	43%
Not much of a Priority	19	11%
Not a priority at all	5	3%
Don't Know	9	5%
Total	169	



Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Become a health-generating city

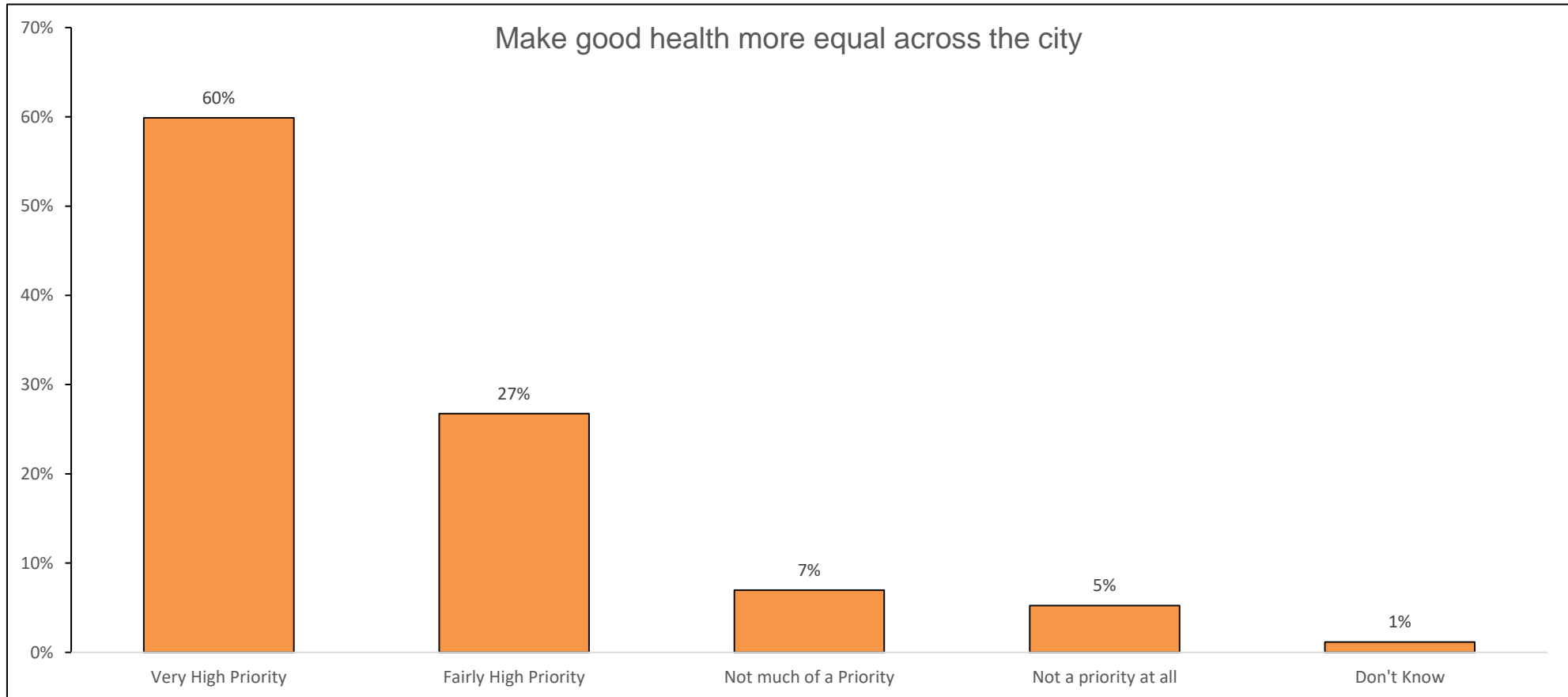
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	84	49%
Fairly High Priority	59	34%
Not much of a Priority	14	8%
Not a priority at all	8	5%
Don't Know	7	4%
Total	172	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Make good health more equal across the city

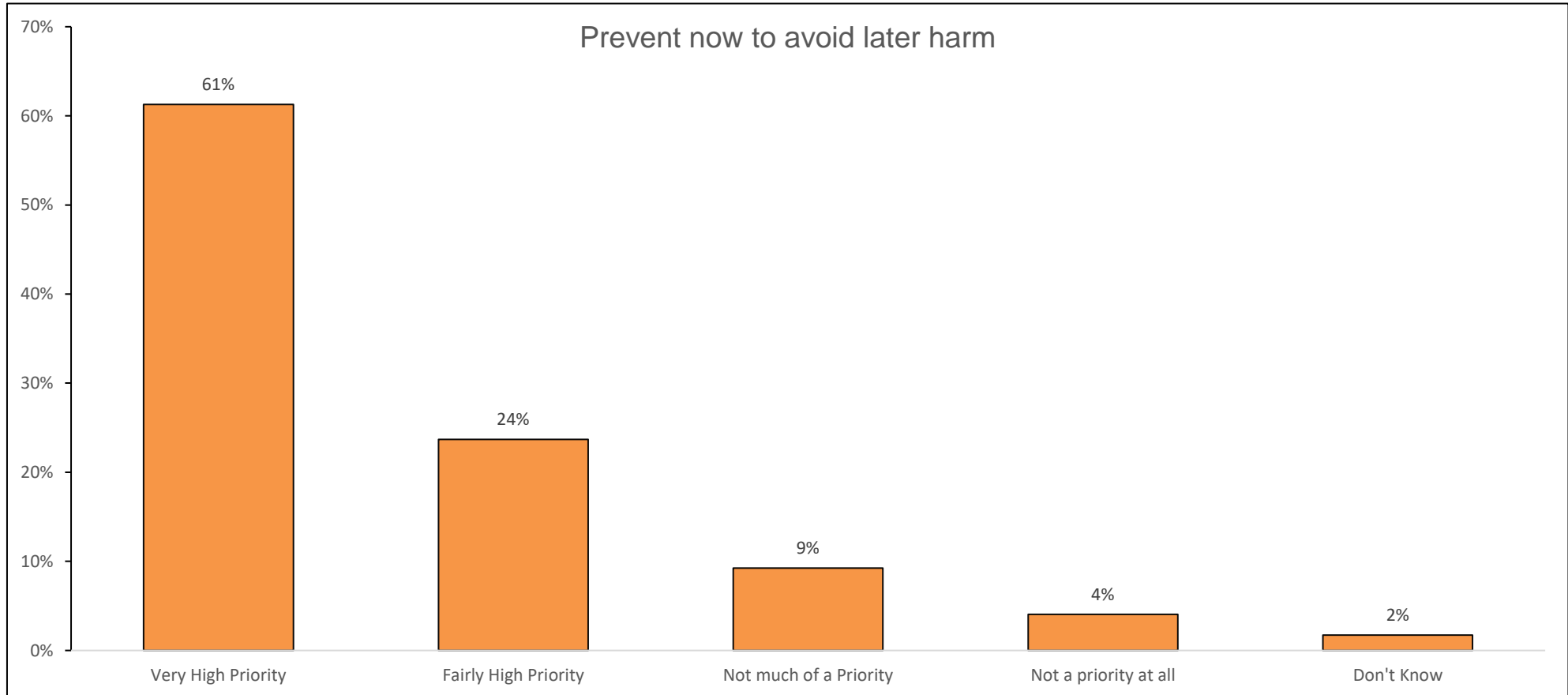
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	103	60%
Fairly High Priority	46	27%
Not much of a Priority	12	7%
Not a priority at all	9	5%
Don't Know	2	1%
Total	172	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

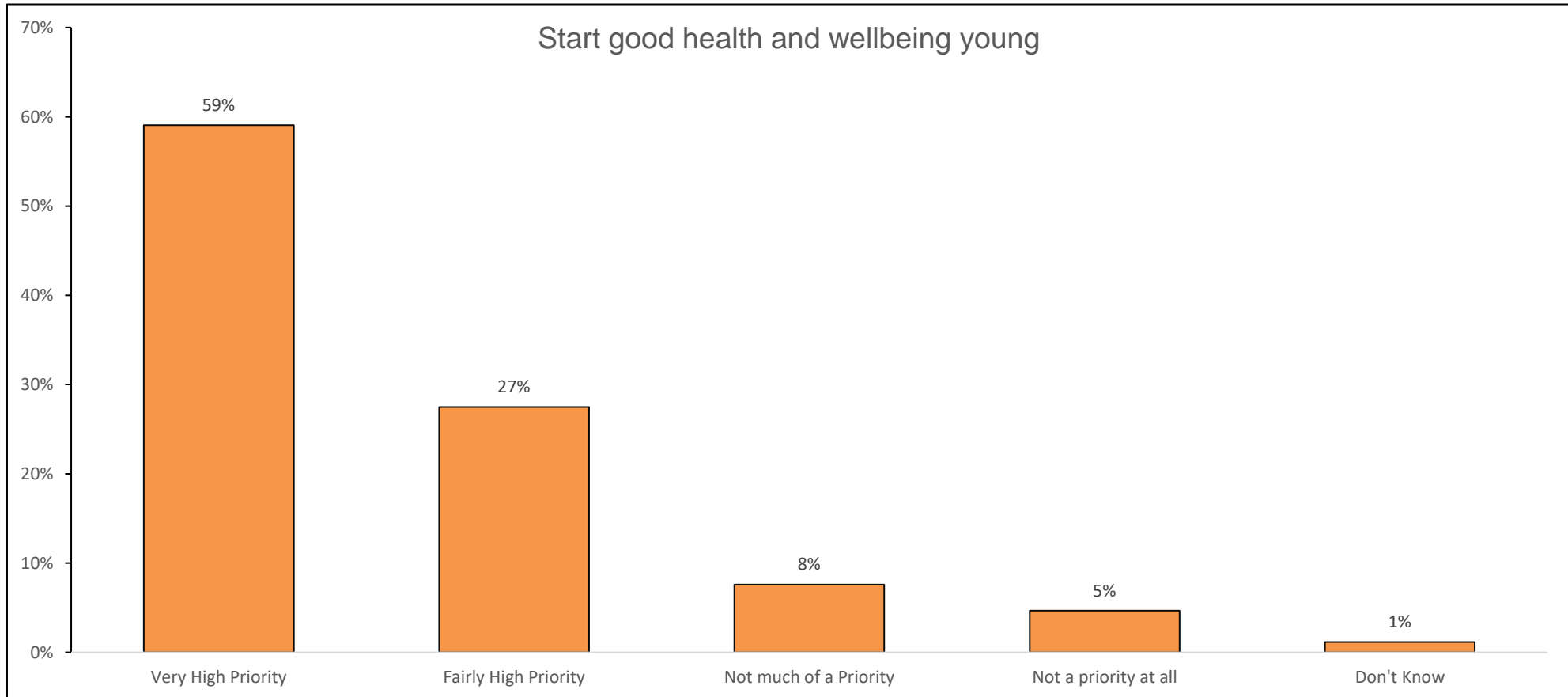
Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Prevent now to avoid later harm

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	106	61%
Fairly High Priority	41	24%
Not much of a Priority	16	9%
Not a priority at all	7	4%
Don't Know	3	2%
Total	173	



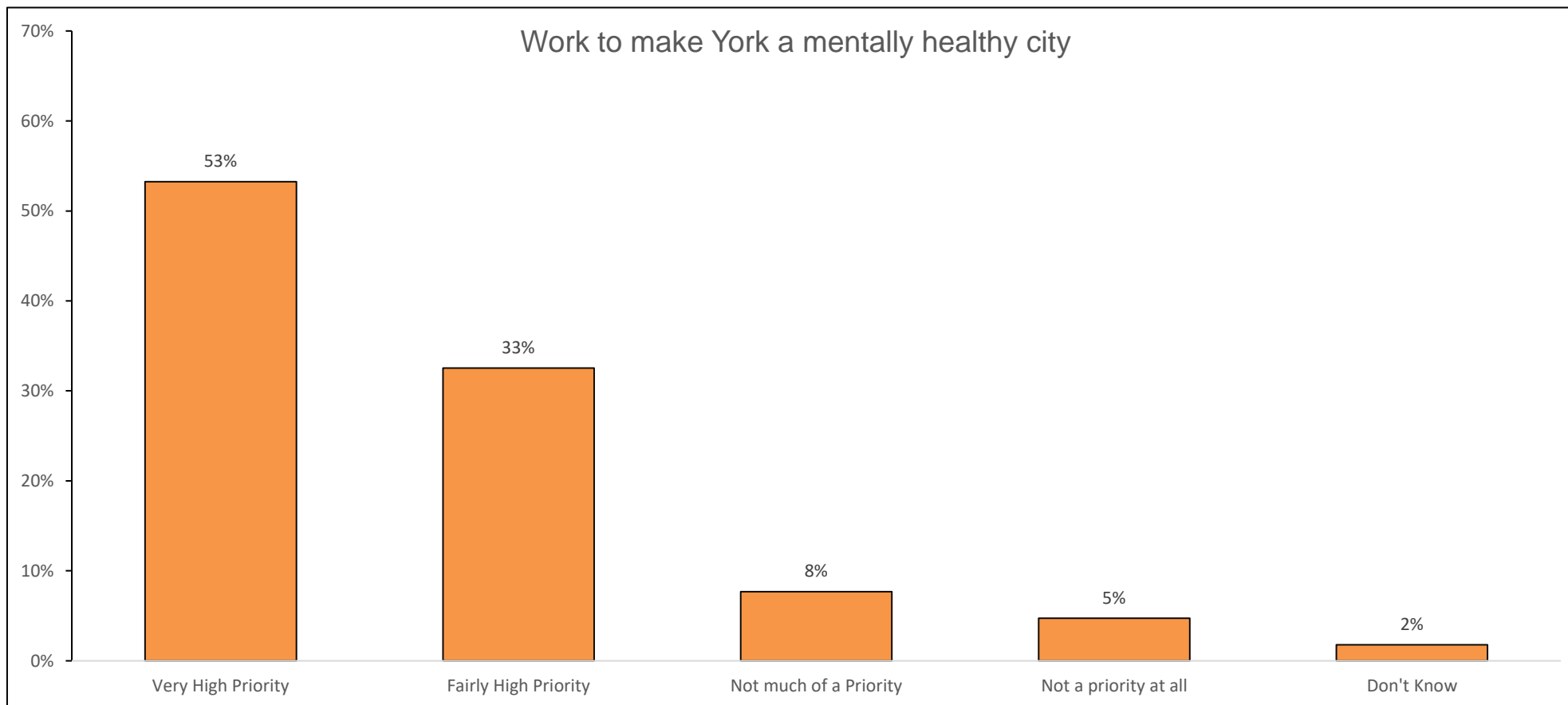
Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Start good health and wellbeing young

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	101	59%
Fairly High Priority	47	27%
Not much of a Priority	13	8%
Not a priority at all	8	5%
Don't Know	2	1%
Total	171	



Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Work to make York a mentally healthy city

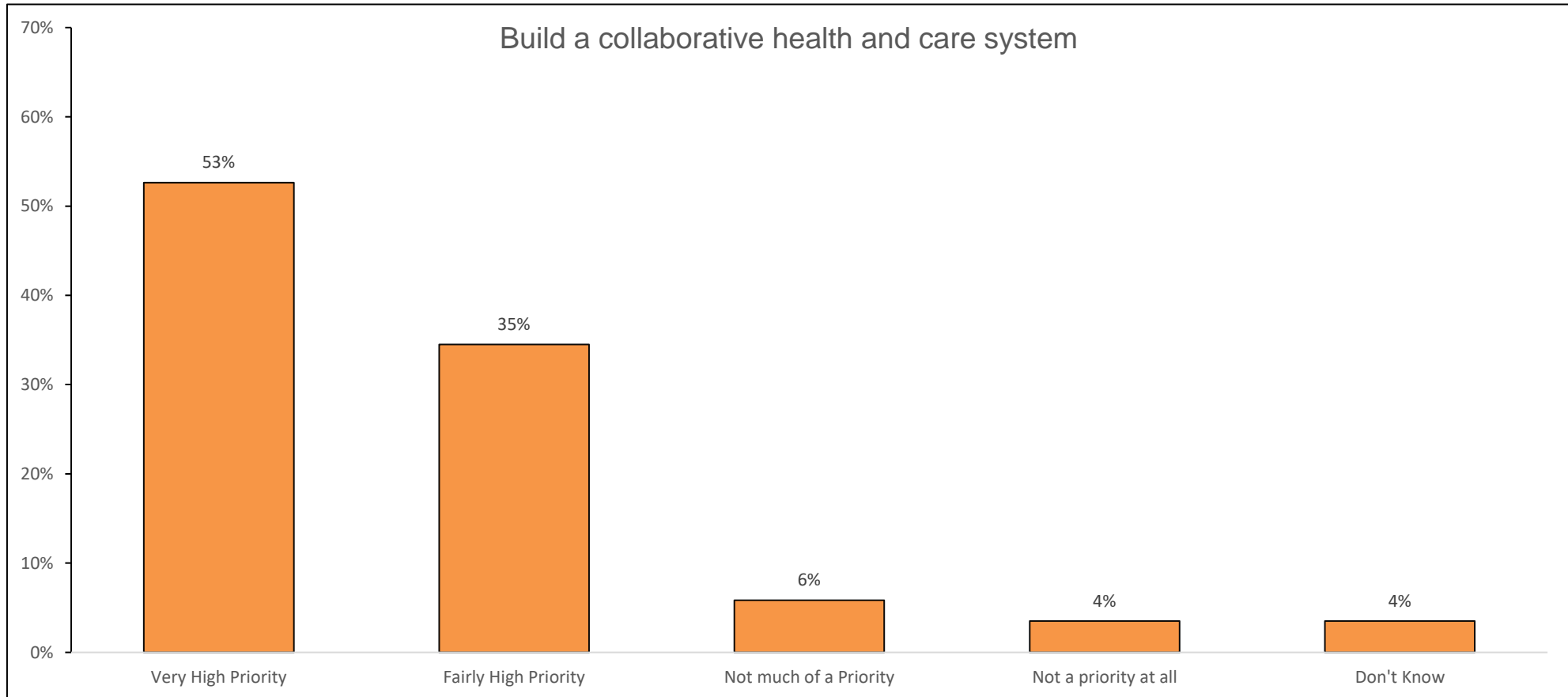
Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	90	53%
Fairly High Priority	55	33%
Not much of a Priority	13	8%
Not a priority at all	8	5%
Don't Know	3	2%
Total	169	



Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

Questions: Please tell us to what extent you think each is a priority for the city. Build a collaborative health and care system

Answer Choices	Responses	% of Total
Very High Priority	90	53%
Fairly High Priority	59	35%
Not much of a Priority	10	6%
Not a priority at all	6	4%
Don't Know	6	4%
Total	171	



What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

88 comments received

- 1 DLUHC is working to level up all areas.

- 2 You should be working with people across the city. XR York ran the Citizen's assembly and pulled well over 100 citizens who were motivated to change their city for the better for the future. Your document seems to ignore all the previous climate action work others have done and are doing in York and across the North of England. Stop ignoring the contribution others have already made and collaborate with other councils such as Leeds who really are leading the way in Climate action.

- 3 SHow me a stratergy, not this report and I'll do what ever I can to help.

- 4 XXXXXX XXXXX XXXX: we are keen to be involved in supporting citizen engagement and consultation; and in supporting climate mitigation and adaptation measures within our area.

- 5 Making informed consumer choices Lobbying businesses with more impact to improve their strategies

- 6 As a member of local environmental groups, I can continue to raise awareness of these issues with local residents and hold the council to account on its carbon-reduction ambitions.

- 7 I believe a representative cross section of York citizens, assisted by an expert panel in law, economy, health and ecology, drawn at random (jury service style) is better placed to arrive at solutions than party politics. The council can trial this method by devolving power to such citizen assembly task forces for individual issues at first and expand functions later on. This return to true democracy is a process that needs to be started now.

What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

- 8 Hi I'm XXXXXX, a member (joint owner) of XXXXXXXX a worker-owned tech co-operative based in XXXXX XXXXXX. XXXXXXXXXXXX delivers a range of workshops, digital services & tech for good projects for a mix of CICs, charities, unions, councils, and other organisations. Alongside this we also run a coworking space, XXXXXX, which, after a couple of successful years hosting various tech for good/community focussed events and incubating over 10 new tech co-ops, was recently granted a 10-year lease by XXXXXXXXXXXX council as part of their community wealth building / local economic / skills development drive for the area. Over the last 2 years, XX has delivered over £825,000 in social value to XXXXXXXXXXXX council which contributed to their overall total of £1.2million across the other coworking spaces they have backed in the area. XXXXXXXXXXXX also recently secured a £250,000 grant to build a Cooperative Development agency within the borough, which is helping new start-ups to become co-ops which means that all workers own their work. How does this relate to York, last year I made the move to XXXXX whilst still working with XXXXXXXXXXXX, we recently also hired a producer who lives in XXXXXXXXXXXX which has been also are looking at setting up something similar to what we have in XXXXXXXXXXXX here in York. I notice that York City council has commercial spaces available to rent, within the city. If the council is as they suggest open to building strong collaborations with organizations I would like to propose the idea of taking our learnings from the previous 4 years of running a XXXXXX and creating an Outpost York to expand Outlandish impact in our local communities and work with the council on edging closer to thier goals on the 10 year strategies. How what we do can help York reach its 10 year strategies York as a global city: We can stimulate the tech sector in York. Tech is a completely global sector and we can bring the jobs and the wealth that it creates to York. We can connect York to an international roster of clients and partners. A greener economy: XXXXXXXXXXXX builds lots of digital products that help bring a greener economy, including campaigns for Greenpeace and the Carbon Pledge tool we created for XXXXXXXXXXXX. We can bring these digital services to York. We can create a low-carbon workspace, that encourages people to stay in York rather than travel for work. We can bring people together in this workspace to share ideas for green economy and green campaigns. A thriving workforce: We can support the development of co-ops which are intrinsically people and community centred. Democratic businesses help people to reach their full potential by giving them the power to control their workplace and their community assets. They prioritise continuous professional development and training. We can deliver skills training, particularly in tech which is a highly valuable and high-growth sector Thriving businesses: We can create commercial opportunities for businesses in York. We have already helped to generate (£XXmillions - check in the case study) of commercial work for businesses in our workplace, and there is much more beyond through CoTech etc. We can help businesses to be more ethical and inclusive and diverse, through training and placements etc. An economy driven by good business: All of the above, plus we can measure it. All while hopefully increasing the coops within the city, we also worked with XXXXXXXX development network on setting up a uni coop where the students can own the business they work for as they progress through university, in turn keeping talented students in XXXXXXXX rather than have them leave the city when they graduate for work.
-
- 9 We are planning to move to a new place soon. We can improve our contribution by making our new home as energy efficient as possible.
-
- 10 As a home owner I continue to try and reduce my carbon footprint through energy saving, walking and taking the bus, making proactive consumer choices. I can do more.
-

What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

- 11 York Environment Forum has been working on climate change issues for many years and will take practical action, act as a focus for encouraging its members and the general public to be more active, and will contribute expertise to city-wide collaborations. Through the membership YEF is a conduit for networking, feedback and communication about climate change in the city.
- 12 XX XXXXX has proven methodologies and approaches which evidence we can and do achieve higher and more effective ways of working than the current broader council approach in many respects. We are happy to share data and/or insights as a champion of sustainable living - our activities cut across many of the strategy elements.
- 13 You can include groups such as One Planet York in environment related forums that you run
- 14 My experience is implementing decarbonisation strategies, particularly across industrial and commercial sectors, in regulated and non-regulated sectors. I could write a better, more relevant, realistic and ambitious net zero strategy than this one. I could also develop and implement actions starting immediately which would result in genuine carbon reductions from day 1 and provide a stronger signal to residents and businesses of the intended change of direction needed to become net zero.
- 15 I can promote and enable: active transport choices; car-lite living; good health, wellbeing and developmental opportunities for new families, 0-5 year olds and their parents; good health, wellbeing and quality of life for elders especially in residential care and the staff who care for them; signposting and networking; active campaigning eg XXX
- 16 Helping the Council focus on actions rather than aspirations.
- 17 Recycle, cycle to work, shop locally. Keep fit and healthy
- 18 Sadly not alot, yorks health care system is over worked due to the lack of funding and availability and such a large population.
- 19 Given a choice, we can decide on the solutions that work best for us and others
- 20 Only as much as a pensioner can do
- 21 I could advise York Council on policy.
- 22 XXXXX are positioned in key strategic locations across the City, supported by trained staff who are skilled in providing free access to information to residents. We are places that connect and bring people together, improving social isolation, we provide job and volunteering opportunities for residents, supporting economic growth and skills development. We also help people to get online - again to search for jobs, to build skills and to connect with others. Explore enables the achievement and delivery of the strategies in 2 distinct ways. 1) by being an independent organisation in our own right, we contribute to a thriving workforce, a greener city, improved wellbeing and b) as a library and archive service we support and enable residents to do the same via our events and activities programme and by being welcoming, safe, accessible spaces for being to use and be in
- 23 Good communication on when and where me and my neighbours can get involved helping to deliver on these strategies. York folk are good people who will work together on common goals. Let the people help.
- 24 I gave up driving a car more than 10 years ago. My main means of transport is bicycle. I gave up flying nearly 10 years ago. I use energy and water frugally and have taken steps to improve the insulation in my home. I'm retired and most of my time is devoted to voluntary work which I enjoy greatly.

Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

- 25 As a citizen of York I can try to hold you to account, to inject urgency into what you are doing (or not doing) and protest as visibly as possible if you carry on in this unfocussed way. I can reach out to my fellow citizens to start and continue conversations about climate change. I can invest in insulating my own home but it is striking that this strategy gives me no confidence whatsoever that the council will be by my side making these actions easier for me to take.
- 26 As much as any other citizen
- 27 I would compost my food waste if there were facilities available or a food waste collection service.
- 28 Promoting council initiatives to our library customers, supporting our customers in accessing information online and accessing council services, promote information literacy in the topics of climate and health, assess our own processes as an organisation and adjust these to limit our climate impact.
- 29 As a senior citizen very little
- 30 Help with developing a better EV strategy.
- 31 Remove ALL barriers to disabled people to access their city, remove the long lines of trapped idling cars, remove cycle barriers.
- 32 Ultimately employment
- 33 I already commute by cycle from XXXXXXXXXXXX to York, probably won't be doing so after the ring road extension makes it more dangerous for me to do so and fails to prioritise active travel effectively over cars.
- 34 Can volunteer if necessary
- 35 More disabled assess to york
- 36 I already volunteer in a local charity, and have done so for over a decade now. That's my contribution to health and wellbeing.
- 37 Recycle more and encourage friends and neighbours to do the same. Use our car less and avoid taking it into the city centre.
- 38 XXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXX have led the development of a Physical Activity and Sport strategy for the city (in conjunction with CYC Public Health). Working through this strategy we can contribute to a lot of the health and wellbeing themes, and also the active travel agenda around climate strategy.
- 39 I am happy to provide my opinion any time across a number of matters as a resident of 20+ years, homeowner, business owner and parent.
- 40 As individuals, look at minimising house emissions. We already make efforts to reduce rubbish/recycling, limit car use etc.
- 41 I'm an architect and Passivhaus Designer, work in public engagement and am a director of a community-led development group but frankly I think I can have limited impact with the strategy as it stands. Which is frustrating.
- 42 Walking and cycling advice in York, tips and so on. Some local bus advice including interesting local journeys. Green living advice for residents based on personal experience and research.
- 43 I'm a hypnotherapist and I'm interested in finding out if there is any way I could get funding to provide subsidised mental health support - anxiety, depression, working with young people etc, also supporting people to give up smoking.
- 44 I work at the XXXXXXXXXXXX which is already highlighted as being a key contributor to the strategies.

Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

- 45 I am always happy in my role as a scientist to support work towards building a liveable future. I can potentially help explain the scientific context of the threats to climate and nature
- 46 I would like to be contacted to offer my opinion on various topics ongoing
- 47 As an individual I want to see incentives for having no car, an increase in car parking charges and on street parking, reduced council tax to support sustainable travel. I.e. reward me by reducing my council tax so I have more to invest in using public transport.
- 48 Primarily so far through volunteering with OPY to support research and advocacy. We also need to develop a broader communications remit but this is unlikely to be effective on the social scale which is needed without suitable local and National policies to reduce emissions swiftly.
- 49 Doesn't feel like this is a constructive way to validate or share ideas and create involvement and engagement with the strategy, would have preferred a proper big conversation or online summit instead of a survey.
- 50 XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXX can support evidence-based, measurable initiatives through awareness raising and collaboration with other local environmental groups. We can work with CYC to raise awareness through our media and press channels. That said, we will hold CYC to account and commit to being highly vocal if promises are not met.
- 51 XXXX XX XXXX can be an exemplar for the climate change strategy... see a summary of what we are doing and will do at.
- 52 I am not and organisation but an OAP
- 53 I run a small-scale ceramic design brand which takes into consideration environmental sustainability throughout the batch production process. My Kiln is a Rhode eco-top series kiln which functions at only 16Amps due to it's proficient insulation. It is only run when energy is lower cost at night. And primarily uses wind power through the grid. The materials I buy are packaged with as little plastic as possible. All water used for the design process is collected through rainwater. Any waste materials are recycled and re-wedged into workable clay. Any materials that cannot be recycled is repurposed. For instance shattered glaze-ware is used as grog or as drainage for planting beds.
- 54 As one of the two University's in the city (XXX), we are prepared to work alongside partners to help deliver the economic strategy. We are happy to be part of new governance and partnership arrangements.
- 55 I could talk about some concrete actions we can actually take on climate change. For example we can actually take actions to become a circular economy, we can follow Preston's lead ensuring procurement is local and encouraging more businesses to do the same. We can improve public transport and reduce reliance on cars (switch to electric vehicles is not even close to enough considering the embodied emissions involved in their manufacture and the injustices involved in mining materials for the batteries). Look at somewhere like our twin city Munster and many other northern European towns: it is possible to discourage car use and make cities more pleasant to be in.
- 56 Reducing personal carbon footprint
- 57 As an individual, we should all take account of our action, not using the car in the city, eating local food, turning down the heating, reducing-reusing materials before even considering recycling or disposal
- 58 To pay attention as to how I use, work in, live in the city of York. To remember that as one person I can make a difference. To volunteer to help develop & improve the strategy.

Our Big Conversation 10 Year Strategies

What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

- 59 Would like to volunteer at the Community Woodland. As a home-owner I am looking at ways to retrofit my house to reduce my carbon footprint.
- 60 Housing availability /rent affordability to enable people adapt easily in their first experience of York
- 61 By asking awkward questions and holding those in power to account
- 62 As a newly retired person, with small business and big business experience, I have skills that could help new businesses thrive but no route to do so.
- 63 Improvement to efficiency of house insulation and fuel consumption. Transition from hybrid to full electric vehicle.
- 64 Personally I can help with consultations and stay up to date on CYC's aims etc.
- 65 XXXXXXXXXXXX of XXXX - a massive anchor organisation in the city, it has procurement budgets and vast knowledge capital to engage well with the city - there just needs to be encouraged more linking up with the city, which I'm working in a role to do
- 66 I'll take part in greening my local community, in sorting food waste, rubbish, litter.. economic growth really isn't feasible for a climate/ world in danger. We have to improve what we have and make it more efficient and less wasteful.
- 67 The Health and Wellbeing strategy should mean that Health Impact Assessments are conducted on major new policies and projects. What is your policy on this? I am an expert in this field.
- 68 Personally, we drive an electric car, we use the park & ride (please reopen Poppleton Bar!), we have solar panels and battery storage, we recycle as much as we can, we are good neighbours, we volunteer to help our wider community.
- 69 Professionally
- 70 Be involved in any community engagement, and take part in community level action
- 71 To follow guidelines provided
- 72 More labelling of products to show use of recycled products and more recycling being possible where it is not at present (i.e. so called compostable bags
- 73 To let people know about the strategy
- 74 I work for the XXXXXXXX - XXXXXXXX XXXX
- 75 Reduction of waste and increased use of public transport.
- 76 The voluntary, community and social enterprise sector can and will contribute to all of these strategies.
- 77 Educate our young people. But we need a fair funding formula. York gets £4300 per pupil in basic education funding but Manchester gets £5000. Why are our children worth less?
- 78 Working with volunteers outdoors promotes a sense of belonging, gives exercise and aides good mental and physical health
- 79 ensure the voice of the public is heard and acted upon
- 80 getting rid of a layer of management
- 81 That's a stupid question. The question should be why are public servants so arrogant they think they can tell us how to live??
- 82 Insufficient detail to judge

What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

-
- 83 We are communication, engagement and behavioural change experts who understand people and are used to working with business and government leadership - and the general public
-
- 84 From no education (childhood) to getting myself a useful degree, I am doing my best as a York Resident to get out of the gutter I was born in, but lack of job opportunities and a housing team that treats their residents like trash, to the point of dishonesty and forging signatures, I am not sure a future in York is where my best chance of thriving is.
-
- 85 What can be achieved Whilst we are concerned that the council's strategy should set out ambitious targets, it is also imperative that the council and the city take action quickly to reduce emissions. Therefore, we would rather encourage the council to use every power and influence at its disposal, including its regulatory and convening powers as the only elected local organisation, to work with others to bring about the changes that are needed (see further comments below). Emissions and the council's control The draft strategy identifies that CYC is directly responsible for only 4% of the direct emissions from the city as a whole and commits to reducing those to zero by 2030. It would be helpful to include a clear statement in relation to scope 3 emissions arising from CYC's activities in the context of this commitment. We welcome this commitment and the identification of the various further spheres of influence that the council can exert on the remaining city emissions on page 8 of the strategy. We believe that some 're-framing' of the 'stronger', 'medium' and 'weaker' categories could improve and strengthen the strategy. Whilst it is certainly true that the council cannot do this alone, it does have significant powers and influence. More detailed work is needed through the strategy and future action plans on how to exert influence through council procurement policies (and to actively encourage city partners to do the same) and more detail is needed on how the council's regulatory powers, including planning powers, can help to achieve the city's zero carbon ambitions. With respect to the 'medium and 'weaker' categories we would like to see more focus articulated in the strategy on the council's convening powers as the democratically elected lead organisation in the city. We welcome the work that the council has been doing to re-establish city-wide partnerships during and following Covid including the City Leaders Group and the work that group has been doing on the new Economic and Skills strategies, plus the over-arching city wide 10 Year Plan for York that is currently in production. The strategy needs to better articulate how the council will work through all these partnership forums to actively encourage and facilitate the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy. This should include expanding the work of the York Climate Commission to become a more transparent and publicly accountable organisation, adding to its membership, establishing working groups, reaching out to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors as well businesses large and small and organising more public events including some Citizen's Assemblies. More also needs to be done to reach out to residents with sustained information-sharing that not only explains the urgency of acting on climate change but inspires individuals and communities with examples of how climate solutions can improve every day life for everyone – whether through cheaper fuel bills, cleaner air or more green spaces. The strategy also needs to reference the council's own Action Plan for reducing its own direct emissions to zero by 2030, with clear annual milestones.
-

What contribution can you or your organisation make to delivering the strategy?

-
- 86 The Big conversation • I have taken part but, despite being registered with the Council as a XXXXXX XXXXXXXX, was only made aware of this consultation via a third party • This particular consultation response from myself, follows receipt of the City of York Council Climate Change Update received 3/8/2022 • The questions in the Big Conversation are not nuanced enough, are poorly framed and lack an evidence base for such an important document. Also, the 2000 respondents to the Big Conversation are a mix of residents and businesses and collectively represent just over 1.5% of the population of the City. Any % assessment of responses has to, therefore, be based on this small number of respondents. Stakeholders • The document references workshops and focus groups which I, as a resident was unaware of. • There is reference to a Technical Annex which purports to record feedback from these groups but is not attached. • No one I have talked to is aware of this document or the consultation associated with it.
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- 87 If you fail to plan health and emergency services for climate chaos, you are planning to fail us all. 1. Please do some reading: Health reports from IPCC Lancet Countdown on health + climate. The Spirit Level: Why equality is better for everyone Climate Jobs: Building a workforce for the climate emergency. Doughnut Economics 2. Try to emulate Yorks + Humber Climate Commission and work in other cities to engage with more residents and groups especially TU and green groups.
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- 88 Awareness of and behaviours to minimise carbon footprint - sharing with others what is already happening and how our choices have unintended consequences elsewhere leading to mass migration etc etc etc

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

56 comments received

- 1 The museum gardens is a major route for those on foot. It should be opened from 7.30am to facilitate and encourage families to walk to school rather than take the car, it is not just a tourist attraction. Before covid it was open at 7am, I have not seen any consultation regarding the much later opening.

- 2 Just about all of this is impossible to answer on a tick box form. This isn't a Big Conversation - a conversation is a discussion with opportunities to debate and reach an agreed result. The council is spattering this with unsubstantiated "facts" and "aspirations". Reaching Net Zero by 2025, or 2030, or whenever you move the goal posts next time, is imply impossible without the agreement of York residents to fairly draconian measures. As this is unlikely to happen with willing agreement, the council has to be prepared to bring in measures which will not be popular. Asking people if they drive less now than 2 years ago, is unlikely to get an honest result. Subsidising buses, help with buying e-bikes, school bike runs, encouraging deliveries by bike - introduce these first and then ask people if they would like to try them out. I'm sure a hive of York residents could also come up with many other things they would be prepared to try. Once habits are made, people tend to stick to them. Don't leave it until it's too late.

- 3 Prevention is better than cure and the council should prioritise more stricter licensing for pubs and clubs to stop serving alcohol earlier to reduce binge drinking. Also, ensure that sexual health services are easily accessible for all and fund them well enough so that they can actively target vulnerable women to reduce unplanned pregnancies.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

4 This document reads well. It sounds like there is some ambition to start taking action, and the baseline data and research is there. But this is not a strategy. It has no solid targets for what steps to take in the next 2 years. York saw 40 degrees heat 10 days ago. The urgency can surely no longer be in doubt. We need bold action. York needs to live up to its stated ambition to be a Leader. Time is running out. It has taken three years since the city declared a climate emergency to produce this document, which still has very little detail and no real roadmap to net zero. There is no clear roadmap of how the ambitions in the strategy might be achieved. The strategy outlines where we are now and where we need to be in 2030, but not how we will get from one to the other. There is mention of a 'climate change plan', but no timescale for when this might be produced. I am disappointed that there is nothing on the city being part of a much bigger whole and how they will build connection and cooperation with regional players. Nothing on looking at other councils' practice and learning from it. Trees, Nature and adaptation for York to cope with climate change, flood and heat spikes. There was very little in the strategy document about changing the urban environment to make a more livable city to help everyone cope with climate change. Protection for our current urban trees and creating a more green environment rather than a continuation of lots of hard landscaping is crucial. The appalling blank stone design of the York station, limited trees in York central plans, and the damage to trees that has happened with the current flood work all suggest that the benefits for a greener city are being missed. Trees to help with air quality, with reducing dangerous sudden water run off and using planting to create SUDS for flood resilience, plus and the cooling effect of green spaces in drought summers - all these benefits are being missed. Biodiversity Although building biodiversity does not of itself address climate change its such related issue I am surprised it is not addressed at all Awareness and understanding of the natural world does not of itself address climate change, I think this need to happen to increase peoples buy-in to the urgency of the issues Food security and sustainable agriculture Food security for residents is only touched on briefly and should be given much more focus. Here are a few key actions I urge the Council to implement: * Divert any investment in new driving infrastructure, especially new roads, into reliable and affordable public transport and support for active transport. * Assess where the Council invests money, including its banks, the services it pays for and its pension providers. Are the council's financial activities funding the climate crisis it claims to be acting to mitigate? Changing these flows of money could make a hugely significant contribution to driving changes that we need to see.

5 You need a publically built up strategy for Climate Change - that does look to deliver a 2030 net zero not shadow the government's 2050 strategy

6 It's not a strategy, or a plan.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

7

As befits a city which in 2019 declared a climate emergency, we are pleased that City of York Council has now produced its draft “York Climate Change Strategy: A city fit for the future”. We recognise the challenges which have delayed the draft over the last two years. And now, no further time must be lost, and no compromises made, in taking the action needed to make York fit for the future. XXXXXX XXXXX XXXX is a local climate change group within the area boundaried by XXXXXXXX XXXX, the XXXXX XXXX, the XXXXXXXXXXXX and XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXX. For the last ten years we have provided opportunities for local residents to engage in sustainability issues, primarily through projects and activities such as a community garden and community events aimed at reducing consumption and encouraging the local economy. We are an unincorporated association, with an organising group of about six local residents. XXXXXXXXXXXX We acknowledge that City of York Council is only responsible for 4% of the total emissions from the city as a whole. At the same time, members and officers should be in no doubt of the concern and urgency many local residents and local businesses feel is needed to face the challenges of our age - and the council must be seen to drive and support the changes required

Our key headlines on the draft Climate Change Strategy:

- 1)The strategy in general needs to be bolder, and to articulate a more radical and more specific set of proposals to address the challenges we as a city now face.
- 2)Though much of the focus of the strategy is on mitigation, the wider context is the strong likelihood that collectively the world will fail to keep global warming temperatures to within 1.5C in the early 2030’s (<https://theconversation.com/ipcc-says-earth-will-reach-temperature-rise-of-about-1-5-in-around-a-decade-but-limiting-any-global-warming-is-what-matters-most-165397>). York’s collective priority therefore needs to be on the changes needed to make the transition into a +1.5C-warmed world as peaceable and equitable as possible.
- 3)A focus on adaptation can also result in mitigation outcomes: the IPCC notes that if carefully planned, adaptation actions can reduce exposure to climate risk as well as reduce urban poverty, advance sustainable development and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions (IPCC Working Group II Sixth Assessment Report, Chapter 6, Cities, Settlements and Key Infrastructure, page 6-3).
- 4)The poorest and most vulnerable in the city will face the most risk and are the least resourced to protect themselves (ibid, page 6-119). The Strategy’s engagement and actions needs to prioritise the needs and voices of these groups.
- 5)The IPCC reports refer to a nexus of Water-Food-Energy-Health, and we regard these as the essential infrastructure and social priorities which the draft Strategy needs to focus on. We need to do what we can to protect water, food, energy and health from the threats that a +1.5C world will bring.
- 6)The draft Strategy aims to reduce emissions by only 54% by 2030, compared to the Paris Agreement targets of a 78% reduction requirement (<https://www.yorkpress.co.uk/news/20066823.yorks-climate-strategy-slammed-lacking-vision-ambition/>).

In more specific terms: We ask that the eight objectives be revised or expanded to include health, water and food. All the targets throughout the Strategy’s objectives need to be strengthened, to enable York to comply with its global mitigation responsibilities. We are concerned at the apparent lack of accountability should any of the targets not be met. Engagement: we support and encourage a wider range of genuine opportunities for citizens to engage.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

7

Citizens Assemblies, (such as the 2019 York Citizens Assembly) are an example of creative, radical ways for people to connect to each other and to the Council, and they can support and complement other existing democratic processes. Local communities are the most important resource for the success of local solutions, especially if externally-provided infrastructure is at risk. We have a vision of York communities which are more resourceful, more connected, and more resilient. The Council has huge potential for bringing together and promoting relationships between businesses, communities, the public sector and social change organisations. An example is the protection and promotion of health within the city, for example by supporting cross-sector coalitions with the power to propose and implement local effective solutions. Buildings: the welcome introduction of passivhaus standards for some new housing needs now to be the enforceable norm for all new buildings. We are delighted to hear about the flood resilience project (the first case study in the draft Strategy), with its benefits for other down-stream settlements as well as York. We urge the expansion of measures already taken to equip York tradespeople for eco-refitting of domestic and non-domestic buildings. Transport: bold measures to expand the car-free and reduced-car areas of York are needed. More 20mph streets will reduce pollution. We are concerned that active travel proposals are under threat (<https://yorkmix.com/campaigners-livid-as-active-travel-schemes-set-for-the-chop-in-york/>) but investment is being poured into the northern ring road: this seems an example of the exact opposite of the changes the draft Strategy itself says are needed. Limit new or renewed transport licences (e.g. buses, taxis) to electric or hybrid vehicles. Commercial and industrial: incentivise carbon-neutral businesses, through measures such as business rates, funding awards and by supporting a radical change to business-as-usual via the proposed Better Business Act (<https://betterbusinessact.org/>, equal legal responsibility for people, planet and profit). Energy: more direct support for community energy generation and storage projects across the city which invest the income to meet local needs, through incentives. Set an enforceable target for the number of these local energy generation and storage projects. Food security: incentivising more food production here in the city, more allotments, and releasing more public land for local food-growing and biodiversity projects. Incentivise community land-owning trusts which involve local people in learning and benefitting from food-growing skills. Commit to purchasing mainly locally-produced food, in all council-related contexts. Water security: support a campaign to make York the UK city with the highest proportion of water-metered properties (the current national average is believed to be 50%). Lead the way in water use reduction, by demonstrating the Council's reduction of water-use in its own buildings and in the services it purchases.

8 The strategy vocabulary is so vague - for example, what technology is going to be put in place, who is going to manufacture it, fund it, and how is this technology going to be implemented in York's buildings. How is the strategy going to give individuals access to greener energy choices, and how are these individuals going to be informed? One of your objectives is communication - how will you be communicating? On what platform? With what media? How are the people of York going to have access to this information?

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 9 The draft climate change strategy claims that York is a 'leader on climate action'. To make this statement true, the council needs to be showing much more ambition than it does here. While I welcome the strategy as a crucial step forward, I struggle to see how it has taken three years since the city's declaration of a climate emergency to produce this rather vague set of principles. Greater transparency and better communication are needed to make it clear for the public just what this strategy will involve in practice and what has informed its goals. One of the main problems I see with this strategy is that there is no clear roadmap of how the ambitions that are set out might be achieved. The strategy outlines where we are now and where we need to be in 2030, but not how we will get from one to the other. There is mention of a 'climate change plan', but no timescale for when this might be produced. Time is running out and the council needs to urgently scale up its ambitions to meet the challenge of the climate and ecological crisis.
- 10 I appreciate that all councillors act in good faith and according to the best of their knowledge. They are faced with the impossible task of pleasing influential businesses and their obligation of protecting the well-being of citizen for all future generations. It has to be understood that multi-national corporations like Nestle will never have our best interest at heart. If they threaten to take their business elsewhere, let them, but not before returning some of the wealth they have extracted from local and global communities. Taxation and financial commitments to retrain and employ staff are necessary.
- 11 my email is XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX im onXXXXXXXXXXXX. Would be good to talk to someone on the above. Thanks!
- 12 I would like to know how the annual action plan and annual report on each strategy would be available for scrutiny by the electorate of York.
- 13 Health strategy should say something about catering services, and energy reduction.
- 14 Actions speak louder than words, and I am not confident that YCC will deliver the urgent measures needed. I feel YCC officers will have their expertise and knowledge over-ridden by external political interference and internal disjointed departments. The boundary between what comes under YCC direct control and what is outside, is not clear. I sincerely hope that YCC control is extended through assertive planning policy, and assertive traffic planning policy. I strongly feel that York is at capacity in terms of visitors and this fixation of York as a global magnet is not sustainable and does not support the needs of residents - it only supports the hospitality sector which in this strategy appears to have neatly become food and drinks, whilst paying no attention to the significant carbon footprint this major sector produces. For Transport in collaboration with businesses - please sort out an integrated bus service for shift workers in places like Clifton Moor and Monks Cross. They will find employee retention vastly improves when workers can get a bus direct to them for a 6am start.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 15 XXXX XXXXXXXXXXXX Forum supports the aim of York becoming net zero carbon by 2030. However, we believe that the draft strategy will not achieve this. Previously the city has had policy initiatives designed to cut carbon, but these have been flawed in delivery. Much of the reduction in carbon emissions claimed as a success results from electricity being generated from renewable sources. The delay in the Monks Cross EV hub is an example which leads us to doubt the Council's ability to achieve the goals within the necessary time frame. It three years since the declaration of the climate emergency and progress has been very slow. A strategy would want to build on what has been successful and where the strengths lie. This does not bode well for the next ten years. Comments on the approach inherent in the strategy. Residents are not central to designing the strategy for net zero, residents appear to be an after thought. The strategy identifies home heating and transport of two examples of where residents; behaviour has significant impact on carbon emissions but those residents have not helped design the strategy. For a co-design approach to work it must be there from the start. Wanting to improve citizens' engagement is admirable but this requires relevant people within the council to act differently, and they may lack the skills to do so. It is doubtful too whether the relevant people are able to introduce approaches that motivate and enable residents to change their behaviour. 'Top down' approaches are not effective. The role of the other major partners is problematic when it comes to achieving the objectives. It is not clear how changes in their behaviour will be brought about. For instance there is market failure in insulating homes – how does the council propose to change this. There is little mention of how social enterprises and the third sector in general, could have greater impact on carbon reduction. The strategy does not look at the issue of tackling climate change as a complex system in which people have multiple roles, have a range of motivations, and are operating with less than perfect knowledge. Examples can be found in energy use and domestic homes – many variables affect what householders do, and in decisions on mode of transport various factors have influence but they are not discrete. Specific topics – substantive comments. Energy and buildings. Improving the energy efficiency of domestic buildings is affected by building construction, where it is sited, planning rules, options for heating systems and insulation methods, views of householders and any special needs they may have and availability of products and service providers / installers. The strategy needs to generate new interventions which go beyond expecting building companies to achieve the targets, as the current methods have not delivered what is needed. For instance there could be local training schemes to develop skills, and social enterprises to carry out insulation. Transport. The Transport section is fundamentally flawed and confuses increased Ultra-low emission car sales target, with overall fleet composition which has a major lag as we wait for all the old fossil fuel engined vehicles to reach the end of their life (average 14 years) and consequently the numbers don't add up and the Council lets itself off the hook in terms of trip and car share reductions. There is imprecise use of language. Transport objective 3.1 is to travel shorter distances. This would indeed be the case if all travel was by car and drivers changed their behaviour in the right direction, but if the car drivers went by bike for longer distances this would be a good thing. This objective assumes that everyone is a car owner. Some bold aspirations are made here including " 3% reduction in road transport use; 25% increase in bus use; 8% increase in rail transport" These will all involve seeking agreement from bus and rail companies, as well as the Council's
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- 16 We recognise the size of the challenge ahead, but feel that there is more that could be learned from other organisations and countries. If we are truly to lead the way, we may need to take radical and innovative steps to achieve the stated goals.
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Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 17 It's great that a strategy has been developed but time is short to limit the impact from climate change and actions need to be taken now. Resources need to be applied to action rather than strategy at this point. Scope 3 emissions and consumption must be included or resources will be wasted on actions which only make a marginal difference and don't deliver what is desperately needed. For example, it's great to say that new homes will be of the 'highest energy-efficiency standards' but this is not well defined. Also, the council grants planning permission without any limits on the scope 3 emissions of developments. If it required applicants to calculate and not exceed certain scope 3 emissions levels it would provide an incentive to reuse materials rather than use new materials and generate waste. Mecca Bingo is being demolished currently with very little reuse of materials. Permitted by the council. The council has allowed Thor's bar to open on Parliament Street constructed entirely from brand new timber rather than reusing materials. A man is allowed to run a diesel generator to run a bubble machine on his stall selling plastic junk in the city centre - all of which is a waste of resources and signals the council's permitting of unsustainable lifestyles. The council's approach needs to take a big step up to send the right signals and achieve change.
- 18 I'm told by my local councillor to make comments about the Victoria Bar traffic situation here, although I don't think it can be the right forum to do this. Since the council removed the 'Lego' brick that had been placed there the road is being used as a rat run again by people trying to jump a few places ahead of the queue on Nunnery Lane. The road does not lead directly to anywhere else so there is no reason to have it open. (Local people can exit and access at the Skeldergate Bridge end of Cromwell Road.) Please could you close the bar to cars again please? And asap. This fits your strategy of reducing car use. Generally I think the strategies in response to climate change are not ambitious enough. There should be a stronger emphasis on reducing car use - we are now at the stage where sticks are needed, not carrots! And cross party agreement is needed as I realise 'sticks' are not vote winners.
- 19 Please give your attention to the <https://www.ukmusic.org/campaigns/power-of-music/> as an impactful, low cost, inclusive, accessible, evidence based, Integrated Care Systems, national strategy that addresses many of your "preventative and early intervention health strategies", "healthy society", "good mental health", "partnership working", "building resilient economy" objectives.
- 20 Somewhere there needs to be a local and lower level practical focus on making York a more pleasant place to live and locate: cleaner streets, improved urban areas, safety in the city at all times.
- 21 Need to improve cycling routes around the city also addressing issue of Victoria bar being a rat run by making it one way or by reinstating rising bollards
- 22 Question 6 covers the aspirations in the Economic Strategy, which I can assess, and six of the sectors in the Climate Strategy, which give no indication of what is to be judged. Question 7 adds a further two and then covers the aspirations of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which again I can assess. This means that no opportunity is given to assess the content of the Climate Change Strategy.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 23 I appreciate that some reference is made to Air Quality in the Climate Strategy, but I am extremely concerned that the Health and Wellbeing Strategy does not have any focus directly on improving Air Quality as an Individuals and Population Health issue. - Infact, much of the Health Strategy focusses on individual rather than population. There are estimated 40,000 unnecessary deaths in the UK every year from poor Air Quality . Health conditions resulting from poor Air Quality rank by number and severity in the top 10 killers. Cost to Health Service is enormous. Yes I agree its important to help individuals give up smoking for their own benefit, but as a caring sustainable community, we have to become really serious about joined up improvement of air quality as a big priority More people would cycle and walk more if it were more pleasant on the roads to do so. More people would walk their children to school if they perceived that it were safer. In turn this would result in higher physical activity, social connections, healthy weight, and better Mental health (4 of the 10 big goals.) Fewer vehicles will help reduce accidents etc ... I recognise the strategies are overall aims, but having read all 3 carefully, I really have very little feel for how things will actually be taken forward.
- 24 Police are being overly relyed on the provide help which is down to health care professionals. Maybe mental health training for community suport workers?
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Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 25 Apart from creating new things, we should consider modernisation as a viable solution. To give an example, the existing local recycling centres (e.g. at the Morrison's car park in Acomb) should be re-designed and properly maintained. Also, we should recycle more plastic (now we are encouraged to recycle plastic bottles only!). Make cycling safer by REMOVING cycle lines from roads wherever possible and creating off-road lanes. The Germans and the Dutch have kilometers of separate cycle lines along pavements. This should encourage more people to switch to bikes. Install more places for physical activity in the open air throughout the city - not only for children. Activity parks for children, teenagers and adults with CCTV in every Ward will encourage people of all ages to be active - there must be some interesting solutions in other cities and countries, why not get inspired? Install wooden structures for dogs in popular dog walking areas to encourage dogs and owners to be more active and have more fun. Plant more trees; an increase of 3 % does not seem like a big achievement... Develop local grant schemes to improve energy efficiency in homes, not only for disadvantaged families! If the grants were given to local businesses (e.g. construction companies) for each project rather than individuals, we would strengthen the local economy, have the jobs done and have them done on a bigger scale thanks to affordability. Also, you want an increase in the use of EV and home charging points might encourage that. There are a lot of properties with no driveways but space to have one; it's quite costly to have them done. Why not make it easier and cheaper so that more households could afford their own driveway. This would also reduce the number of cars parked in the streets and make them safer. Finally, it might be a good idea to consider having a research team that would look for solutions and projects that already work well throughout the UK and all over the world... I hope the actual work will be done in the field rather than in offices and meeting rooms. I would not like to see the bureaucracy put into the projects to shine brighter than the achievements themselves. Good luck.
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- 26 I am sorry not to comment more fully within the very limited time scale given, but I applaud the ambition for ongoing public engagement, hopefully in a more meaningful way than these very limited and sometimes ambiguous closed questions.
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Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

27 Quote: 'Climate change is the greatest threat facing our planet. In York, we lead the way'. What? In what sense is this true? If you make a bold statement like that you need to justify it. If you believe this, you might get complacent! There is mention of a 'climate change plan', but no timescale for when this might be produced, nor any detail on what it will address and include. This should be laid out in a strategy Eight objectives One of your eight areas is Engagement. But much of it is so vague! 1.1 Clear communication and information..... from whom to whom? (If this involves the citizens of York and the council you need to include making sure this is two way street) 1.2 Increase awareness and understanding.... By whom of what? One strategic focus would be to prioritise all CYC officers and councillors 1.3 Build strong relationships and networks.... Between whom? How? 1.4 Identify best practice.... Where, of what?and why is 'identifying best practice' not an action point in every one of the eight boxes? All of the above might be bolstered by citizens assembly approach to decision making Another of your eight areas is Governance. Again, it is sooooo vague 8.1 Decide responsibility ... of/ for what? 8.2 Track action On/ of what 8.3 Monitor progress ... of what 8.4 Report annually on what... and why is not annual reporting in every one of the eight boxes When you go through the eight objectives in more detail, there are some clear statements of where we need to be ... but no explanation of where these figures came from, what the rationale behind them is. This is bewildering. Are these what you think is easily achievable? Or a real stretch? And, as ever, there is no indication of how these will be achieved or even what needs to happen to create the framework for these things to be achieved. On page 8, you talk about spheres of influence this is a very good example of how passive and lacking strategy this document is: Direct Control: Emissions sources directly owned or operationally controlled by the council. Stronger: Operators of emissions sources are clearly defined but not directly operated by the council; the council has the potential to influence (e.g. procurement and planning). Medium: Emissions sources do not relate to council owned assets, procurement or council led activities, however some convening power may exist. Weaker: Operators of emissions sources are not clearly defined, influence limited to lobbying central government If you took each of your spheres of influence and named key areas and key players and talked about a strategy to increase your influence on these, then this might be a strategic document, but as it is, it simply an observation. Thus, one of the few named players is central government. And you observe that your influence is 'limited to lobbying'. A strategy document would talk about how to increase your influence on central government for example by talking with the electorate about the issues with central government, supporting citizens to protest, by banding together with other councils to create a formidable lobbying group etc. etc. The following quote from the 'strategy' I read as temperatures pushed toward 40 degrees, this says it all about the gap between the crisis we face and the lack of focus in this document. The hottest summer day of the past 30 years in York was 33.9oC; but summers have been getting warmer, with four of the 10 hottest summers recorded in the past two decades. If global average temperatures increase 2o C above pre-industrial levels, the hottest summer day could be about 35.6oC, while temperatures above 30oC for two or more days can trigger a public-health warning. Please can we have some urgency something that has a pathway forward, something that sees the City of York Council as a key leader at the centre of a powerful and diverse web of groups that will move things forward.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 28 It feels like there are real missed opportunities because the strategies are vague. For example the links between education, good jobs, retraining and the green economy. We could be setting out a vision for retraining and upskilling workers to install the latest green tech and be an innovator, using council projects to deliver schemes and provide these training opportunities, but instead it is vague statements that could apply to any place any where. No concrete proposals to use assets like the universities and colleges and green tech and/or engineering innovation expertise already located here.
- 29 Mental health should be a big priority, access to mental health services should be easier and quicker. Conversations with businesses about climate solutions should be focused at the larger, more impactful industries.
- 30 Reducing emissions is not done by blocking roads funnelling all traffic onto less routes through the city. More concentration on integrated transport offering affordable fares for all. A reliable bus service will keep people from relying on their cars.
- 31 The Climate Strategy target of 3% reduction in road traffic is far too low. Improvement in public transport, including reduced fares and more frequent services must be part of this. Cycling can only be encouraged by improving roads and road safety. Cycle to work schemes and school schemes can work too. The whole strategy lacks ambition and focus. The predictions do not meet the 2030 target. There is no clear plan of step-by-step annual targets to achieve. There is too much reliance on unproven new technologies such as CCS. The report indicates that CYC is a leader on climate action but it has done very little since declaring the climate emergency. If dealing with an emergency is to do nothing for three years, then you cannot say you are acting, much less leading. Please take lessons from successful local government campaigns. Find simple, effective and proven ways of reducing private transport, better insulating homes and investing in genuine renewable energy sources i.e. not burning biomass.
- 32 It's a total lie that emissions will be erased by erasing cars. In 7.5 yrs, no more petrol vehicles will be sold in the UK, but York will still have traffic bc you hate cars and ppl who need them
- 33 Once again, none of these are strategies.
- 34 More box ticking, start doing something real. Why don't you apply LTN 120 to the developments you keep approving now. How can you talk about future proofing when you keep prioritising cars over everything else.
- 35 Hopelessly inadequate with regards to climate change. A climate emergency was declared 3 years ago - 3 years to produce a strategy. Action is needed NOW
- 36 Crime prevention
- 37 Remove the barriers
- 38 It is essential that these strategies are carried forward into actions plans with clear milestones allocated to specific people or organisations.
- 39 Just a word to ensure there is connectivity between the physical activity strategy and these strategies. For example the ambition of the physical activity strand in the H+W strategy outlines an ambition that isnt referenced in the Physical activity strategy, similarly with active travel. We just need to ensure these strategies connect with each other.
- 40 As mentioned before resident needs and views have to be part of decision making to prevent many of the issues we face today in our city.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 41 I would like to see a sharp reduction in plastic use e.g. ban plastic drinks bottles in cafés/restaurants. I would like to see garden centres engaged in reduction of sale of chemicals harmful to the environment and the sale of plants in plastic pots. No more out of town developments which encourage traffic and harm city centre trade. A rapid response now to improving facilities for cyclists so that pavements can be returned to pedestrians. Progress in all areas could be shared by a permanent public display in the city centre to encourage and educate - at the moment, recycling rates are displayed only at recycling depots.
- 42 I have MAJOR concerns about many aspects of the strategy including fundamentals - the top-down approach is I believe inappropriate; the programme of development of the strategy, action plan and co-design is back-to-front, the strategy ignores the power of citizenship, and the document is confusing in areas which - if I don't understand them as a specialist - I can't see how others will find their way through. There are many fundamental problems, but to highlight just one:- the document fails to identify the failures of governance which have prevented, and are preventing change. The graph on Page 15 shows a kink - a major change of direction - between the past and future. Firstly - this change of direction is actually far more drastic since almost all change to date has been national, rather than due to actions by the city. The line would be almost horizontal up to present without that. Secondly, it's shown in 2019 - we are already three years further on and the administration has failed to make significant shift even in obvious issues such as active travel. ANY strategy will be pointless - possibly harmful if it masks the need for alternative action - unless the council shows willingness to act differently and shape genuine change. I spent a sad day of my holiday reading and annotating the document and these are my specific page-by-page comments. Apologies if it all sounds critical, but this is on the basis of a life spent trying to do sustainable buildings and recent years in many conversations with various people in the council about climate change response. I genuinely hope it's helpful. Page 2 – “roads not built for modern traffic” depends on what we want modern traffic to be; maybe not suitable for late 20th century, but for what we want 21st century traffic to be? Page 4 – declaring climate emergency is just words unless backed by action. Emissions reduction since 2009 is almost entirely decarbonisation of the grid, we've made few changes so “we can do more” is ridiculous. Page 5 – “Engagement” fails to mention “listening” and “understanding” - it needs to be the council understanding the citizens, not simply the other way round. Good governance involves working in partnership and working with citizen-led change. Page 8 – responding to a questionnaire supporting action is fine, but most people assume the action will be by others. Page 9 - *I don't believe* that people have changed habits as they say they have. Page 13 – repeats claim about change to date – it's mostly the grid, not us. Page 18 – objectives – clear communication and information assumes one-way flow from expert council to people, whereas a two-way process is needed. The council needs to understand people's agendas so they can work with these. Buildings - *how* will efficiency be improved??? Local plan seems to have completely ignored sustainability with fragmented developments and no acknowledgement of impact on transport etc. Page 19 – table is incoherent mess; the where we are statistics are uncoordinated and the where we need to be's appear arbitrary. There is no coherent picture. The numbers suggest 89,000 dwellings and mentions retrofit to some of these, but fails to mention about 55,000. What about these? What do they need and how do we do it? Are the number required to go electric actually suitable for ASHP? What are the “highest standards” new homes will be built to? Can we avoid generalisations? Why on earth are we building in flood zones at all? Page 20 – travel over shorter distances will only happen when planning policy creates sustainable developments, and local plan currently largely ignores this.”Average distance” in table is unhelpful measure. How are active travel stats arrived at – they strike me as high. The EV figure is wrong – and shouldn't include hybrid vehicles – this is more likely the new sales figure; the general fleet will be far worse than this unless York is going to offer

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 43 This survey is very poor. There is lots of box-ticking, where the options given do not reflect the feedback I want to give. On the climate change strategy, you need to do FAR more to make residents understand the dramatic changes required, notably in relation to transport. Officers and councillors are carrying on with transport plans that are completely incompatible with the goals in the climate strategy. That gives the impression that the climate strategy is not being taken seriously, and the ambitions in it are not sincerely held by CYC.
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- 44 There's no mention in the Draft health and wellbeing Strategy of the importance of everyone understanding that each of us is responsible for our health. The NHS can try to repair but we have to prevent. There's no mention of ongoing campaigns to engage with residents to tell them and make them understand that what will kill them is mostly preventable but that the individual has to put in the effort it can't be done for us.
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Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 45 I wish to object strongly to the idea that "Assured Autonomy" should be explicitly included as a focus for the 10 year economic strategy for the city. Assured Autonomy is a highly specialised area that is used to describe one research group at the University of York. It is a highly technical term that few people outside of the university's Computer Science and Engineering departments will understand. Only a very small number of jobs are likely to be created in this small area - although related areas may generate many hundreds or thousands of jobs. Including that specific term in the city's economic strategy (and equating it with whole sectors such as media arts or bio-technology) smacks of corruption - giving excessive influence on future plans to one very small group of researchers. Some other terms that might include 'assured autonomy' - but would cover a much wider range of York businesses are: "High Integrity Systems Engineering" (or High Integrity Software Engineering), Robotics & Automation, Safety Critical Digital Systems. A conversation between CYC officers and the UoY might help to rephrase the text to provide a better direction for future investment decisions.
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Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

46

There was a character limit on the previous free text box asking for strategy feedback. The rest of my feedback on the economic strategy is given below: On page 16 you have said: 'improving out of town employment land and transport links, public transport provision'; the separate comma before public transport implies you intend to build more roads. More roads will lead to more cars leading to more roads leading to the earth burning down quicker. It's 100% public transport we need. On page 17 and elsewhere you mention jobs or industries from the sector of: 'biotech'; is this the same on destroying farmer's jobs and independent food sovereignty the world over? On page 18 you have mentioned: 'anchor institutions'; I am sceptical of most of these due to the recent obsessive forcing of people to work from home (which is often not in York). It is harder to believe these companies are anchors in York when they intentionally recruit people outside of it and or they work from home in Doncaster or wherever. It becomes meaningless and the Council themselves do it. On page 19 you have said: '...will accelerate growth in York'; I hope CYC understand that this endless neo-liberal obsession with growth is contradictory to the actual necessity of taking climate action which universally speaks that the earth is limited and we cannot just 'grow' forever. On page 19 you have said: 'Promote the benefits of flexible working to employers'; this is contradictory to any sort of York-based relevance. You are encouraging business to force people to work from home which they will do outside of York where housing is cheaper. Thereby money leaks out of York to Leeds or wherever. On page 20 and elsewhere you have said: 'support levelling up across the North.'. I don't care about the Conservative Government's flawed, meaningless phrases or ambitions. I care about people not starving to death, homeless people not dying on the street, people not living with heat or eat, people forced into crime to get money to eat. Either make things better for the worst off people or just admit you don't care. To conclude, I am sorry if that hasn't been a good read of feedback but my points need to be considered. Overall, the economic strategy especially needs to be cautious around its focus on 'increasing productivity/driving growth' etc when elsewhere you have recognised the mental health issues and environmental emergencies present in the world. My advice would be to pursue the climate change and wellbeing strategy more thoroughly, as those two link in more together. In terms of the economic strategy, there are some good ideas in there like supporting training and skills in York in terms of provision, uptake and future skills considerations. Increasing pay in low pay sectors is important if you can achieve it too. Perhaps encourage the independent living wage accreditation a lot more. A key element in the economic strategy to my mind is the building, development and maintenance of local shopping areas outside the city centre. All physical shops are having to compete with cheap, illegally produced imports from abroad and under the neo-liberal agenda, this won't be stopped or regulated. With this in mind and the ubiquitous rise of online giants you need to stop putting amazon lockers everywhere, or approving them, and start really supporting local shops with an annual booklet of local shops for people, have wider uptake of the York local shopping vouchers beyond BID, work to improve shopping area fronts with seating, planters and access as well as standardised signage on opening times.

47

A decisive shift to active travel would be a massive win for climate, health, wellbeing and safety. We need a much clearer ambition on this. Electric vehicles are positive, but should come second. Most journeys in York could and should be by bike or on foot. Only the council can make this happen.

48

We need to help households with lower incomes to reduce their carbon emissions. Building improvements are expensive, and most can't afford it. Landlords can help the cost-of-living crisis by improving their properties to require less heating which will lower energy bills for their tenants.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

- 49 I like the ambition overall but it must be backed up with action and over the last year I have been disappointed in the lack of action from the council on issues like improving the cycle infrastructure in York. In particular the Bootham redevelopment that was promised but so far no plans have been published.
- 50 The lack of ambition is staggeringly depressing. York can and should do better.
- 51 Over the last 15 years that I have been in York I have seen a gradual degradation in most environmental aspects in our part of Acomb at the boroughbridge road end of Beckfield Lane. Poor road strategy is a major part of this, but also short sighted planning of new developments. Having Millfield Lane blocked but Boroughbridge and A1257 roundabout gridlocked every day causes massive air pollution, Safety is awful - Having no road calming has directly led to life changing injuries at the lights a while back for a school kid hit by a car but those lights have a bug in the sequence leading to accidents. As for wildlife, we have lost 3 cats to speeding cars so I can't imagine hedgehogs have a chance. Even the reduce speed sign got ripped down never to be replaced. Beckfield should be a 20 zone with calming measures and Millfield Lane should be open to cars. Littering is a problem, we have poor positioning or lack of litter bins, and no enforcement when it comes to littering. Leading to community action to pick litter, but it's a chore we should not have to do. With regards to the new developments, The old council land was sold to the cheapest developer to make so many houses in a tiny area, with hardly any plan for social areas/ play areas / shopping/ recreational / green space areas, just a mass of houses in tiny plots. I personally saw them destroy a skateboard park and cut down several ancient trees in the process. but little effort will be made to replace areas for the inevitable influx of young people. where are they meant to play? The BMX bike area on Millfield Lane at the level crossing was land grabbed by Network Rail and now that green space is now a concrete storage / signaling area. The plan for the Sugar factory also is a "nature last" proposal, the current area did have trees which British Sugar felled with no consideration to the Forestry grant they had been given to begin with to plant those trees. Now we have deers roaming on the streets looking for a way in. that land is wasted. it should be open to the public. The plans for more housing have had no consideration for the extra traffic that will come about. There should be plans for a bridge over the railway so that traffic can filter out onto Great North Way rather than having to go back onto A59 and out that way. Again the current plan, plans for loads of incoming population with no consideration to infrastructure to support the people. we need half the houses built and the rest turned to wild areas, parks, green spaces, recreational areas. Need to keep the old trees, and green spaces, and re-wild - with an eye for public access, but these areas are the lungs of our city. The A1237 roundabouts are a disaster. wrong camber in a few cases and terrible cycle provisions. It is lethal cycling to the garden centre from Beckfield... try working out a route at rush hour which doesn't involve nearly dying. active travel needs to be provisioned for. If that is done the local traffic will reduce. We have seen bus routes either regularly being late, not turning up at all or in the case of the 59 service, the whole service just cancelled. so no wonder traffic is bad, everyone is forced to drive. In summary sort out active transport, make green areas a priority in any new plans, get someone who can plan roads properly. Invest in recreational areas, social areas - don't just maximise profit for building companies by maximising number of houses per acre. Also the environmental impact from construction is massive. those companies should be charged for their CO2 output in my opinion.
- 52 None of these can be argued against, the survey is very basic. You haven't asked me for example to order these in priorities which would have been more meaningful.

Is there anything else about the strategy that you would like to tell us?

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- 53 I did not mention the mental health and productivity benefits of active travel. These could also be brought into the Health Strategy.
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- 54 I'd prefer an ambitious set of strategies that are difficult to meet than these unambitious strategies that seem to have been created in order to demonstrate that they can easily be achieved.
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- 55 The strategy has not stated the important of Extinction Rebellion York's People's Assembly in encouraging the council to declare a climate emergency. This community event and the resulting 'Mandate for Change' document were fundamental to CYC's climate emergency declaration. The strategy has not paid credence to the many environmental groups in York who are already working so hard to raise awareness and seek real change, for example One Planet York. Rather than talking about electric vehicles, it would be more encouraging to see commitments to improve the public transport that already exists. Food security is only touched on briefly and should be given much more focus. There is no mention of the council's plan to dual the ring road, which is a hotly debated topic in environmental groups. If this is truly considered to be a strategy that will reduce car use in the city, then why has it not been included? Rather than building new roads, residents would sooner see improvements to those already there. The case studies at the end of the strategy are encouraging but I feel some are misplaced in a document setting out the council's own strategy. York Gin, for example, is an independent business. Its admirable sustainability has nothing to do with the council, and the same is true for the Real Junk Food project. If the aim here was to champion external successes, it should be clearly stated. The glossary of terms mentioned BEIS, but BEIS is not included in the strategy. I would urge the council to be aware that BEIS is frowned upon by countless environmental activist groups due to its ongoing support for fossil fuel companies, including Drax.
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- 56 The climate change strategy is rather long and occasionally repetitive. Whilst setting out the background and the problem is useful, I think there should be more emphasis on the solutions: HOW are we going to do XYZ. The tables from page 19 onwards are pretty good but need more about the 'how'. Also, why isn't there a table for the engagement theme?

Your Age:

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	2	2%
Under 16	0	0%
16-24	3	3%
25-39	26	23%
40-55	31	28%
56-59	4	4%
60-64	16	14%
65+	29	26%
Total	111	

Your Gender:

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	5	4%
Male	53	45%
Female	58	49%
Non-binary/Gender Variant	2	2%
Total	118	

Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	7	3%
Yes	107	46%
No	3	1%
Total	117	

What is your ethnic group?

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	9	8%
White	107	91%
Mixed/multiple	0	0%
Asian	2	2%
Black/Black British	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total	118	

Sexual Orientation:

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	15	13%
Bisexual	5	4%
Gay or Lesbian	6	5%
Heterosexual/straight	84	71%
Other	8	7%
Total	118	

Religion or Belief:

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	10	9%
Buddhist	2	2%
Christian	33	30%
Hindu	0	0%
Jewish	1	1%
Muslim	0	0%
Sikh	0	0%
No religion	50	46%
Other	13	12%
Total	109	

Do you look after, or give any help or support to, anyone because they have long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, or problems related to old age?

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	0	0%
Yes	22	20%
No	90	80%
Total	118	

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

Answer Choices	Responses	%
Prefer not to say	8	7%
Yes	27	24%
No	76	68%
Total	111	

If you answered “Yes” above, do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?

Answer Choices	Responses	%
A lot	3	3%
A little	18	16%
Not at all	23	21%
Total	44	