

Putting Words Into Action

Matamata Piako Youth Consultation



MINISTRY OF
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO TAIOHI

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Youth Empowerment Service



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1. Executive Summary

Key issues

The three most important things for young people in the Matamata Piako region were family, education and friends. The three main sources of worry were good grades, family and money. This is in line with a wider survey of 1,000 young people in regional New Zealand in 2011.¹

More specific concerns expressed by the young people focused on alcohol and drugs, having nothing to do, and coping with bullying and/or peer pressure.

Recommendations

The Matamata Piako project team makes the following recommendations:

- engage other key stakeholders (iwi, schools and New Zealand Police) to receive feedback on the consultation findings and on how they can contribute to the proposed Youth Action Plan
- develop a Youth Action Plan that addresses the following concerns:
 - recreational spaces, organised activities or events
 - dealing with drugs and alcohol
 - youth employment
 - working with schools
 - supporting families
 - youth friendly spaces in the community.

2. Introduction

The Ministry of Youth Development (MYD), along with the Matamata-Piako District Council, Starfish, Te Ahurei a Rangatahi, and the Youth Empowerment Service, carried out a consultation with 276 young people aged 12-24 years living in the Matamata-Piako region. The objectives of this consultation were to support the Matamata-Piako region to:

- recognise key youth issues for young people
- recognise similarities and differences between communities within the Matamata-Piako region.

Nearly all of the young people consulted for this report were aged 10-17, identified as Maori or New Zealand European, were still at school, and were located in the three centres of Matamata, Te Aroha, and Morrinsville.

3. Methodology

There were two components to this consultation: a series of youth workshops and a survey of young people.

¹ Unpublished data.

Youth workshops

The youth workshops provided a space for young people to discuss what they like about their community and what they would change about their community. The five youth workshops were delivered in Te Aroha, Morrinsville and Matamata.

Survey

The *You and Your Community* survey provided an opportunity to highlight key concerns from young people. The survey was available online and hardcopy. Young people that were not able to attend the workshops were able to have their say through the survey. A total of 23 young people from outside the three main communities were surveyed, and their results are included in the general findings.

4. Issues and Worries that Young People Face

The most important thing to young people right now

While there was some variation between towns, the three most important things were: family (34 percent), education (24 percent) and friends (12 percent).

These results are similar to national findings, where “Doing well at school” was the most frequent response from the young people who took part in the *What Young People Are Saying* survey. “Family” came a close second, with “friends” in third place. “Sport” was a relatively distant fifth.

In feedback from workshops, young people recommended a focus on creating more employment opportunities for young people. There was also a mention about having positive role models, and schools supporting young people with extra-curricula activities.

Top Five Things Important to Young People

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Total
Family	33%	45%	26%	34%
Education/school work/tertiary studies	15%	29%	31%	24%
Friends	16%	2%	15%	12%
My social life/having fun	13%	7%	13%	11%
Sport	7%	9%	6%	6%

The main thing causing young people to worry

The main sources of worry were:

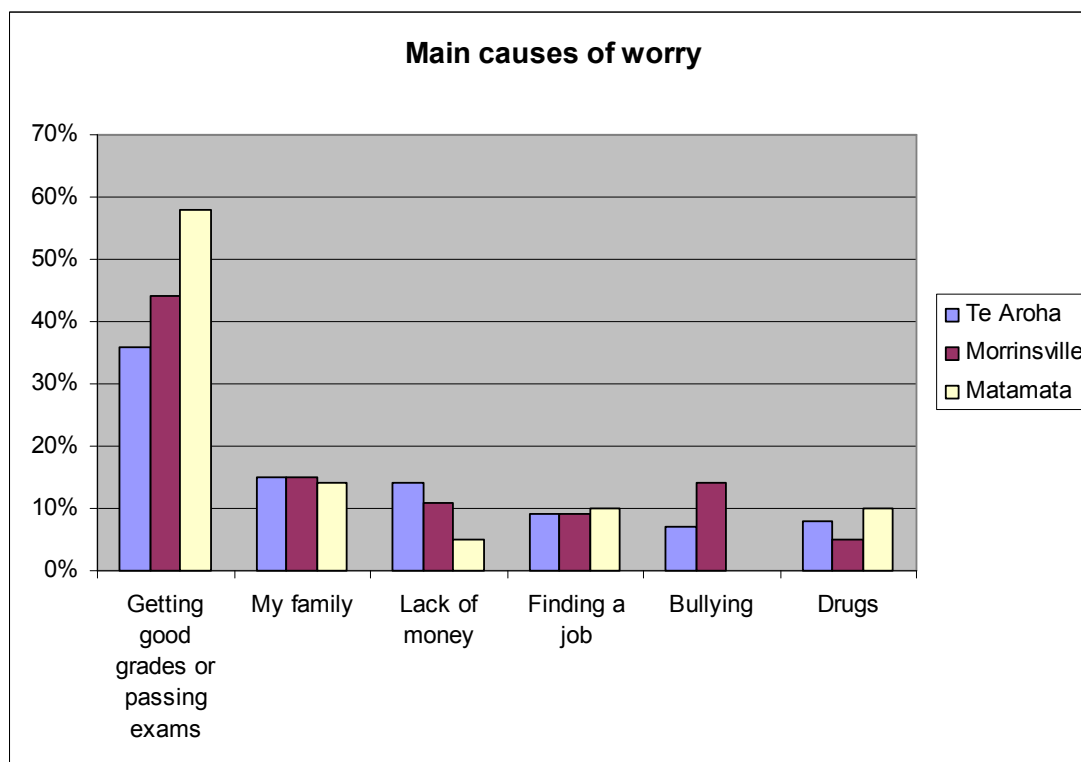
- getting good grades or passing exams (45 percent)
- family (15 percent)
- lack of money (12 percent).

In Matamata, good grades (58 percent) were the greatest worry, while drugs and finding a job (both 10 percent) were also a worry. In Morrinsville, bullying (14 percent) was a bigger worry.

In both national and regional surveys, anxiety about exams tops the list of worries. Anxiety about “family” and family circumstances comes next, followed by feelings of “pressure” and anxiety about “the future”.

In the workshops held in Te Aroha, Matamata and Morrinsville, across all three locations, youth employment and youth friendly spaces were among the top three worries for young people. In Te Aroha, improving the school environment was an

important worry, and in both Morrinsville and Matamata, the lack of youth friendly activities were a worry.



The three biggest issues facing young people

Given the opportunity to write any answer, the big issues did not always align with the main causes of worry. Where family was a worry for 15 percent (as shown above), for this question it was an issue for only three percent, with school and lack of money being an issue for only five and four percent respectively.

In responding to this survey, the young people could write-in up to three issues each. Across all responses, the four most commonly mentioned issues were:

- drugs (54 percent)
- nothing to do (42 percent)
- alcohol (37 percent)
- bullying/peer pressure (27 percent).

“Alcohol and drugs” was the overwhelming response to this question from the young people in the national survey in 2010, and from each of the 19 regions surveyed over April-June 2011. “Peer pressure” is also a common issue, often in the context of alcohol and drug use. Regional surveys also show that young people in smaller centres are more likely to say they are “bored” and there’s “nothing to do” than their counterparts in the cities.

Support organisations/people that can help young people with issues/concerns

Only 41 percent of young people knew of an organisation or person they could contact for help with their issues and concerns. 34 percent of young people identified one or more contacts they could go to for help. The three most common individual sources of help were:

- family (28 percent)
- a youth group or programme (23 percent)
- Council, District Council, or Mayor (18 percent).

Forty-one percent of responses mentioned either a specific phone helpline or phone helplines in general.

5. Activities in the Community

Activities that young people are involved in

More than one response could be given to this question. The top four activities are:

- sport (60 percent)
- informal physical activity (29 percent)
- music/performing arts (28 percent)
- youth groups/clubs (24 percent).

In Te Aroha, “nothing” (28 percent) was the second most common activity. In Morrinsville, music/performing arts (39 percent) was more popular than informal physical activity (20 percent).

Top Five Activities Young People do

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Total
Sport (organised/club)	57%	67%	60%	60%
Informal physical activity	26%	20%	46%	29%
Music/performing arts	19%	39%	27%	28%
Youth groups/clubs	15%	26%	37%	24%
Student councils	5%	26%	48%	22%

Activities that young people would like to see

The three most desired activities were:

- sport (55 percent)
- music/performing arts (37 percent)
- community events/fairs (36 percent).

In Te Aroha, community events were more desired (40 percent) than music/performing arts (35 percent).

In feedback from workshops, young people wanted a place/space where they could hang out. Young people wanted organised activities, youth groups and events. There was also a focus on having family events where young people could participate in activities with their family members, for example sack races.

Top Five Activities Young People Would Like to do

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Total
Sport	53%	62%	51%	55%
Music/performing arts	35%	49%	27%	37%
Community events/fairs	40%	44%	19%	36%
Youth groups/clubs	21%	41%	21%	26%
Creative/visual arts	18%	20%	21%	19%

What stops young people from participating in activities?

More than one response could be given to this question. The top four barriers to participation were:

- I'm not interested (31 percent)
- It costs too much (27 percent)
- I have other responsibilities (22 percent)
- I would feel shy, nervous or embarrassed (20 percent).

Top Five Barriers to Participation

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Total
I'm not interested	41%	21%	32%	31%
It costs too much	25%	33%	25%	27%
I have other responsibilities	15%	26%	32%	22%
I would feel shy, nervous or embarrassed	20%	23%	16%	20%
It takes too much time	16%	20%	17%	19%

In Morrinsville, cost was a more important factor (33 percent) than lack of interest (21 percent). In Matamata, “other responsibilities” were as much a factor as lack of interest (both 32 percent). In Te Aroha, lack of interest was greater (41 percent) while “other responsibilities” (15 percent) were not as much of a barrier.

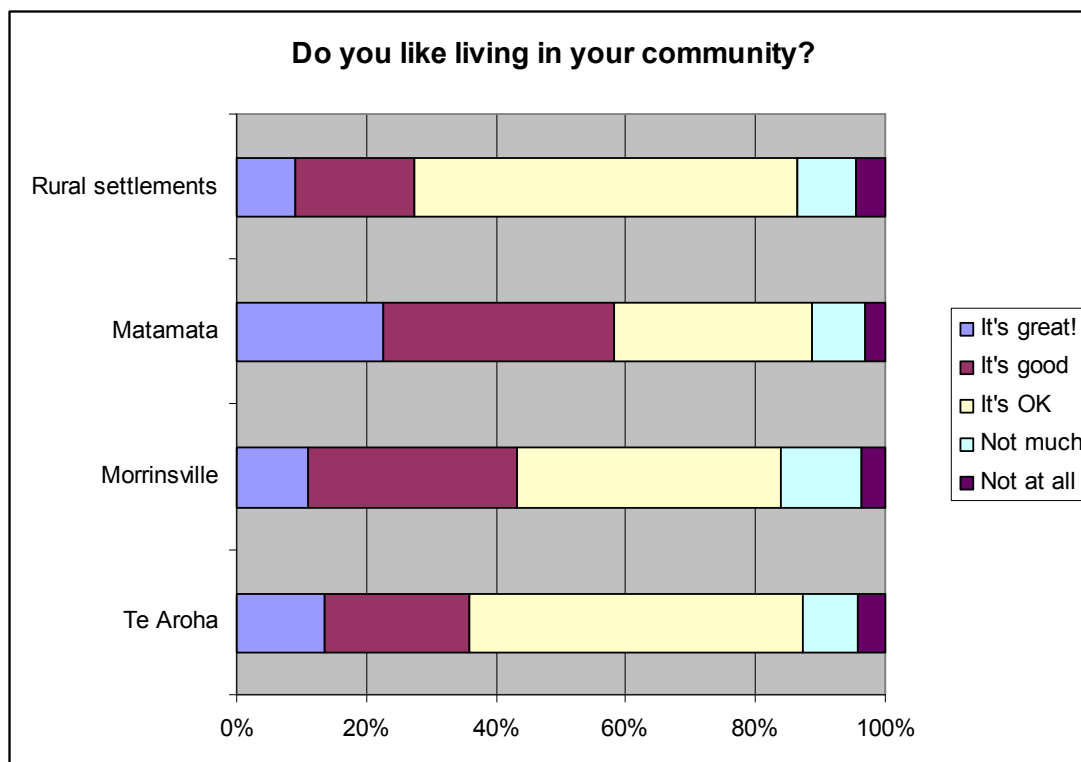
Participation in activities that have costs associated may be beyond the means of lower-income households. Cost was the second-most important barrier across the district. The surveyed communities are largely more deprived than the national median, although the Matamata-Piako district as a whole is slightly less deprived than the rest of New Zealand (53 percent of the community lives in deciles 1-5). For more information on how the New Zealand Deprivation score is calculated see Appendix II.

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Total
It costs too much	25%	33%	25%	27%
New Zealand Deprivation score	8	5 and 8	7 and 7	5-8

6. Local Community

Do young people like living in their community?

The most common response was “It’s OK” (43 percent), followed by “It’s good” (28 percent) and “It’s great” (15 percent). The most common free text responses explaining why, were on themes of “Nothing to do/boring” (22 percent), “positive community” (seven percent) and “friends/family” (six percent).



If they were Mayor, young people would change

Improve or create youth facilities and events (35 percent), improve parks, sports grounds and playgrounds (25 percent), and make our community safer (16 percent) were the three most popular choices.

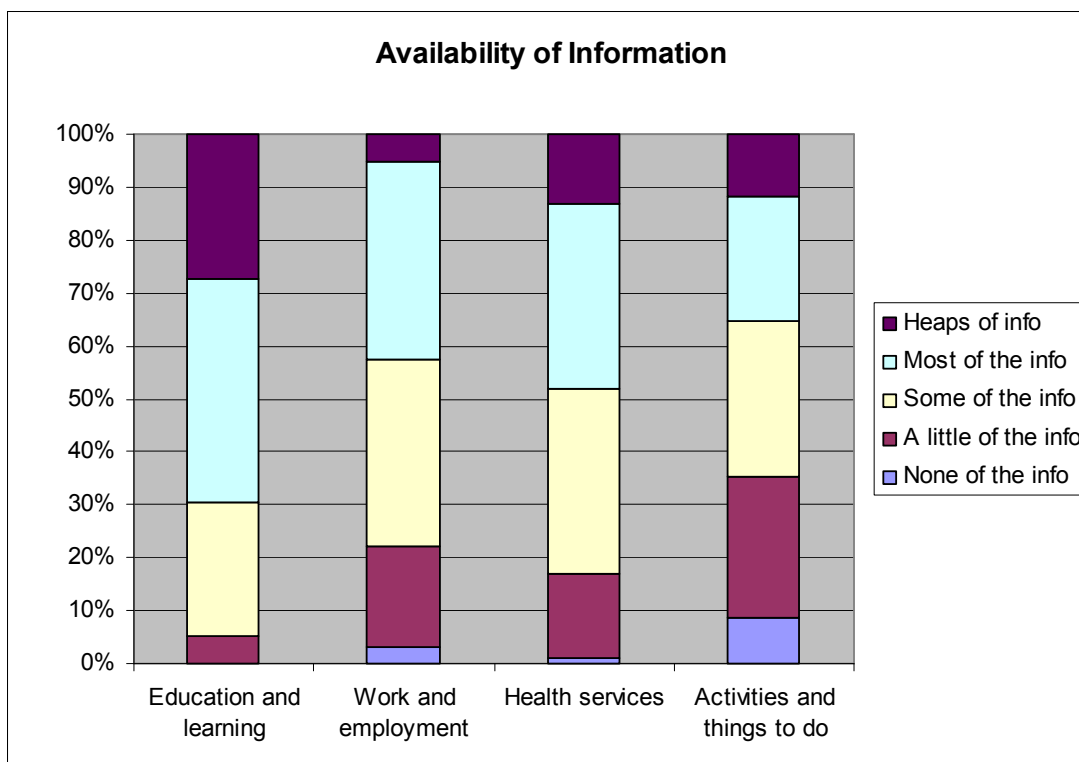
Top Five Things Young People Would Change

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Total
Improve or create youth facilities and events	38%	38%	34%	35%
Improve parks, sports grounds and playgrounds	21%	24%	31%	25%
Make our community safer	21%	20%	5%	16%
Support the community and young people in having their say	4%	11%	20%	11%
Improve environmental issues (water and lake pollution, recycling and waste management)	4%	4%	3%	4%

In the national survey, when young people were asked what they would do if Prime Minister, the greatest number of suggestions were clustered around: investment in education, tackling alcohol abuse, improving the environment, support for disadvantaged and lower income families, and support for youth-oriented initiatives.

Availability of information for decision-making by young people

In the survey, 42 percent felt they had “Most of the info” available for making education and learning decisions. For work and employment, 37 percent felt they had “Most of the info”. For health services, 35 percent felt they had either “Some of the info” or “Most of the info”. For activities and things to do, 30 percent felt they had “Some of the info”.



Sources of information for young people

The most common source of information was school (78 percent), followed by parents (70 percent) and friends (69 percent). Community services were the least common source of information (nine percent).

7. Conclusion and Recommendations

Issues and Worries that Young People Face

Family, education and friends were most important to young people. Getting good results at school, family, and a lack of money were sources of worry. The three main issues identified by young people were drugs and alcohol, having nothing to do, and bullying/peer pressure.

School is an important environment for young people, due to their concerns about getting good grades, worries about bullying, and because schools are a significant source of information for young people.

Family were both important and a major source of concern, although it is not clear why family were a concern. Lack of money and difficulties finding work were an issue. However, as 93 percent of the young people in the survey were attending secondary school, education was a more immediate worry for them.

Given their concerns with drugs, alcohol and bullying, having a safe environment becomes an issue for young people. Worries about serious crime, however, were small.

Less than half (41 percent) of young people felt they had someone they could go to for help with their issues and concerns. The most common sources of advice were phone helplines, family and youth groups/programmes.

Activities

Sport was the most popular activity (60 percent) that young people were involved in, attracting over double the interest of music/performing arts or youth groups/clubs. Sport was also the most desired activity that young people would like to see (55 percent), followed by music/performing arts and community events/fairs.

The main barriers to participation were lack of interest, cost, and other commitments. Lack of interest may reflect the limited choice of activities available in smaller communities. Employment opportunities might help young people overcome cost barriers to activities.

Local Communities

Most young people were relatively content with their community, with 86 percent finding it "OK", "good", or "great". Friends, family and a positive community atmosphere were reasons for liking a community, but 22 percent mentioned that their community was boring or had nothing for them to do.

If they were Mayor, young people would improve or create youth facilities and events, improve recreational facilities and make the community safer.

Schools, parents and friends are all important channels of information for young people. Young people were most well informed about education and learning, and least informed about activities and things to do.

Major Conclusions

The survey findings were similar to other recent regional and national surveys of young people.

Boredom and having nothing to do is a challenge for young people. While most young people find something to do with their leisure time, in small communities they feel that there is a lack of recreational facilities, community events and organised recreation activities.

Family and friends are important to young people, and are also an important source of information. Young people also worry about their families and about how well they are doing at school.

Recommendations

The next step to be taken by the project team is to organise a stakeholder meeting (including schools and New Zealand Police) to identify what actions everyone can contribute to. The approach that we will take to the stakeholders will include:

- promoting organised activities for young people
- promoting the drug and alcohol services that are available in the district
- promoting youth employment
- working with schools
- supporting families
- supporting youth friendly practices in the community.

Specific actions that the project team would like to see implemented are:

- ensure youth activities/camps in our community will be open to all young people across the district

- organise three inter-community events, with each event hosted by a different community
- utilise existing community events by ensuring they are youth friendly
- approach local media, such as the Piako Post and the Chronicle, to publish features promoting organised youth events, activities and support services
- develop a youth consultation process to ensure youth voices are included in community consultations.

Appendix I – Survey Form



You and your community

All about you

How old are you?

- 10 - 13 years
- 14 - 17 years
- 18 - 20 years
- 21 - 24 years

What best describes your current situation?

(Tick one)

- Primary school student
- Secondary school student
- Attending another training provider
- Working
- Unemployed/looking for work
- Stay at home parent

What town do you live in?

What ethnic group/s do you identify with?
(Tick those that apply)

- Māori
- NZ European
- Pacific Peoples
- Asian
- Middle Eastern/Latin American/African
- Other

What's on top for you

What is the most important thing to you right now?

(Tick one)

- Family
- Education/school work/tertiary studies
- Friends
- My job/work
- Sport
- Finding a job
- My social life/having fun
- Money/earning money
- My interests/hobbies
- Other *(please explain below)*

What is the main thing that causes you to worry?

(Tick one)

- Getting good grades or passing exams
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Bullying
- Lack of money
- My family
- Finding a job
- Other *(please explain below)*

Activities

What activities are you **involved** in?
(Tick those that apply)

- Informal physical activity
 - Sport (organised/club)
 - Music/performing arts
 - Creative/visual arts
 - Community events/fairs
 - Youth groups/clubs
 - Faith/church groups
 - Student councils
 - Community interest groups
 - Environmental activities
 - Volunteering activities
 - Nothing
 - Other *(please explain below)*
-

What stops you from participating in activities?
(Tick those that apply)

- it costs too much
 - I'm not interested
 - it takes too much time
 - none of my friends are involved
 - the sports I'm interested in aren't available
 - can't get there
 - I would feel shy, nervous or embarrassed
 - I have other responsibilities
 - my parents wouldn't let me
 - other (please explain)
-

Which of the following activities would you **like to see** in your town?
(Tick those that apply)

- Sport
 - Music/performing arts
 - Creative/visual arts
 - Community events/fairs
 - Youth groups/clubs
 - Faith/church groups
 - Environmental activities
 - Other *(please explain below)*
-

Your Community

Do you like living in your community?
(Please tick one)

- It's great!
- It's good
- It's OK
- Not much
- Not at all

Tell us why you feel this way? *(please explain below)*

What are the three biggest issues facing young people, living in the Matamata Piako region?

1

2

3

If you were Mayor, what is the one thing you would do to make living in the Matamata Piako region better than it is now?

(Please tick one)

- Improve or create youth facilities and events
- Support the community and young people in having their say
- Improve environmental issues (water and lake pollution, recycling and waste management)
- Make our community safer
- Improve parks, sports grounds and playgrounds
- Libraries and swimming pools
- Other (please explain below)

Do you know which organisation/business/person to call if you wanted someone to talk to about an issue/concern?

- Yes
- No

Can you list some of the organisations or people who you would talk to about an issue or concern:

Your future

Is there enough information available when you are making decisions about the following?

(Tick the circles that apply to you)

	Heaps of info	Most of the info	Some of the info	A little of the info	None of the info
Education and learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Work and employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Activities and things to do	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

I get the information I want from:

(Tick those that apply)

- School
- Parents
- Friends
- Internet
- Libraries
- Community service
- Other

Thank you for your participation!

Appendix II – Deprivation Scores

The New Zealand Index of Deprivation (NZDep) is a measure of socio-economic status calculated for small geographic areas. It shows the percentage of the population in a given area who live in each deprivation index decile.

The Index combines a range of key socio-economic factors from the Census and estimates a score of material and social deprivation for a particular area, on a scale of 1 (least deprived) to 10 (most deprived).

Deprivation scores generally reflect the ability of households to achieve positive outcomes in areas such as health, income, education and employment. The economic and social circumstances of people impact significantly on their ability to provide for their everyday needs and to participate fully as members of their communities.

Almost half the census area units in Matamata-Piako District have Deprivation scores of 4 to 6 (close to the national median), with most of the remaining area units scoring 7 or over (at the more deprived end of the scale).

Appendix III – Data tables

How old are you?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
10 - 13 years	17	14	12	1	1	45
14 - 17 years	74	59	48	20	7	208
18 - 20 years	4	9	2	1	5	21
21 - 24 years			1		1	2
Grand Total	95	82	63	22	14	276

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
10 - 13 years	18%	17%	19%	5%	7%	16%
14 - 17 years	78%	72%	76%	91%	50%	75%
18 - 20 years	4%	11%	3%	5%	36%	8%
21 - 24 years	0%	0%	2%	0%	7%	1%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

What town do you live in?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Number	95	82	63	22	14	276
Percent	34%	30%	23%	8%	5%	100%

What best describes your current situation?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Secondary school student	86	79	58	21	11	255
Primary school student	7					7
Working		2	1		2	5
Unemployed/looking for work	1		1	1	1	4
Attending another training provider	1		2			3
Stay at home parent			1			1
Grand Total	95	81	63	22	14	275

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Secondary school student	91%	98%	92%	95%	79%	93%
Primary school student	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%
Working	0%	2%	2%	0%	14%	2%
Attending another training provider	1%	0%	3%	0%	0%	1%
Unemployed/looking for work	1%	0%	2%	5%	7%	1%
Stay at home parent	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

What ethnic group/s do you identify with?

Ethnicity	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
NZ European	80	52	51	18	12	213
Māori	16	27	8	2	3	56
Asian	5	2	5			12
Pacific Peoples	2	3	1			6
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1	2	1			4
Other	6	5	4	2		17
Grand Total	110	91	70	22	15	308

Ethnicity	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
NZ European	84%	63%	81%	82%	86%	77%
Māori	17%	33%	13%	9%	21%	20%
Asian	5%	2%	8%	0%	0%	4%
Pacific Peoples	2%	4%	2%	0%	0%	2%
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1%	2%	2%	0%	0%	1%
Other	6%	6%	6%	9%	0%	6%

What is the most important thing to you right now?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Family	29	37	16	6	3	91
Education/school work/tertiary studies	13	24	19	6	3	65
Friends	14	2	9	4	2	31
My social life/having fun	12	6	8	2	1	29
Sport	6	7	4			17
Finding a job	6	3	2	2		13
My interests/hobbies	4	1	3		1	9
Money/earning money	4	1		1	2	8
My job/work			1		1	2
Other (please explain)	1	1		1		3
Grand Total	89	82	62	22	13	268

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Family	33%	45%	26%	27%	23%	34%
Education/school work/tertiary studies	15%	29%	31%	27%	23%	24%
Friends	16%	2%	15%	18%	15%	12%
My social life/having fun	13%	7%	13%	9%	8%	11%
Sport	7%	9%	6%	0%	0%	6%
Finding a job	7%	4%	3%	9%	0%	5%
Money/earning money	4%	1%	0%	5%	15%	3%
My interests/hobbies	4%	1%	5%	0%	8%	3%
My job/work	0%	0%	2%	0%	8%	1%
Other (please explain)	1%	1%	0%	5%	0%	1%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

What is the main thing that causes you to worry?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Getting good grades or passing exams	33	35	34	11	6	119
My family	14	12	8	5	1	40
Lack of money	13	9	3	3	3	31
Bullying	6	11		3	1	21
Finding a job	8	7	6			21
Drugs	7	4	6		2	19
Alcohol	1		1			2
Other (please explain)	10	2	1			13
Grand Total	92	80	59	22	13	266

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Getting good grades or passing exams	36%	44%	58%	50%	46%	45%
My family	15%	15%	14%	23%	8%	15%
Lack of money	14%	11%	5%	14%	23%	12%
Bullying	7%	14%	0%	14%	8%	8%
Finding a job	9%	9%	10%	0%	0%	8%
Drugs	8%	5%	10%	0%	15%	7%
Alcohol	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%	1%
Other (please explain)	11%	3%	2%	0%	0%	5%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

What are the three biggest issues facing young people, living in the Matamata Piako region?

Topic	Number	Percent	Example
Drugs	150	54%	
Nothing to do	117	42%	"No movie theatres", "No fast food", "Boredom", "People have nothing to do"
Alcohol	103	37%	
Bullying/peer pressure	74	27%	
Crime	37	13%	"Theft", "Fights", "Not feeling safe"
No jobs/opportunities	35	13%	
Gangs	20	7%	
Sex/STIs	16	6%	
School	14	5%	
Transport	14	5%	"Speeding", "Getting to events when rural", "Cost of petrol"
Lack of money	11	4%	
Family	8	3%	
Lack of support	6	2%	
Smoking	5	2%	
Racism	3	1%	
Lack of confidence	3	1%	"The shyness"
Don't know	3	1%	
No privacy	3	1%	"Everyone knows everything"
No youth input	2	0%	"No youth input into council"
Other	34	12%	"Judgement", "Losing stuff", "Bad influences"
Grand Total	276	100%	

What activities are you involved with?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Sport (organised/club)	54	55	38	12	7	166
Informal physical activity	25	16	29	10		80
Music/performing arts	18	32	17	5	4	76
Youth groups/clubs	14	21	23	4	4	66
Student councils	5	21	30	1	3	60
Nothing	27	6	10	5	2	50
Faith/church groups	11	11	15	4	3	44
Community events/fairs	6	11	5	0	1	23
Volunteering activities	9	8	2	1	3	23
Community interest groups	2	4	2			8
Environmental activities	2	1		1	2	6
Other	4	3	2	2	1	12
Grand Total	177	189	173	46	29	554

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Sport (organised/club)	57%	67%	60%	55%	50%	60%
Informal physical activity	26%	20%	46%	45%	0%	29%
Music/performing arts	19%	39%	27%	23%	29%	28%
Youth groups/clubs	15%	26%	37%	18%	29%	24%
Student councils	5%	26%	48%	5%	21%	22%
Nothing	28%	7%	16%	23%	14%	18%
Faith/church groups	12%	13%	24%	18%	21%	16%
Community events/fairs	6%	13%	8%	0%	7%	8%
Volunteering activities	9%	10%	3%	5%	21%	8%
Community interest groups	2%	5%	3%	0%	0%	3%
Environmental activities	2%	1%	0%	5%	14%	2%
Other	4%	4%	3%	9%	7%	4%

What stops you from participating in activities?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
I'm not interested	39	17	20	8	2	86
It costs too much	24	27	16	5	3	75
I have other responsibilities	14	21	20	4	1	60
I would feel shy, nervous or embarrassed	19	19	10	5	2	55
It takes too much time	15	16	11	5	6	53
None of my friends are involved	20	14	11	5	2	52
Can't get there	15	13	14	5		47
The sports I'm interested in aren't available	7	9	9	3		28
My parents wouldn't let me	7	5	8	3		23
Other (please explain)	12	4	7	1	2	26
Grand Total	172	145	126	44	18	505

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
I'm not interested	41%	21%	32%	36%	14%	31%
It costs too much	25%	33%	25%	23%	21%	27%
I have other responsibilities	15%	26%	32%	18%	7%	22%
I would feel shy, nervous or embarrassed	20%	23%	16%	23%	14%	20%
It takes too much time	16%	20%	17%	23%	43%	19%
None of my friends are involved	21%	17%	17%	23%	14%	19%
Can't get there	16%	16%	22%	23%	0%	17%
The sports I'm interested in aren't available	7%	11%	14%	14%	0%	10%
My parents wouldn't let me	7%	6%	13%	14%	0%	8%
Other (please explain)	13%	5%	11%	5%	14%	9%

Which of the following activities would you like to see in your town?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Sport	50	51	32	14	5	152
Music/performing arts	33	40	17	6	5	101
Community events/fairs	38	36	12	6	6	98
Youth groups/clubs	20	34	13	1	4	72
Creative/visual arts	17	16	13	2	5	53
Environmental activities	16	11	3	5	2	37
Faith/church groups	7	13	5		3	28
Other (please explain)	9	8	5	1	1	24

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Sport	53%	62%	51%	64%	36%	55%
Music/performing arts	35%	49%	27%	27%	36%	37%
Community events/fairs	40%	44%	19%	27%	43%	36%
Youth groups/clubs	21%	41%	21%	5%	29%	26%
Creative/visual arts	18%	20%	21%	9%	36%	19%
Environmental activities	17%	13%	5%	23%	14%	13%
Faith/church groups	7%	16%	8%	0%	21%	10%
Other (please explain)	9%	10%	8%	5%	7%	9%

Do you like living in your community?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
It's great!	13	9	14	2	3	41
It's good	21	26	22	4	4	77
It's OK	49	33	19	13	3	117
Not much	8	10	5	2	3	28
Not at all	4	3	2	1		10
Grand Total	95	81	62	22	13	273

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
It's great!	14%	11%	23%	9%	23%	15%
It's good	22%	32%	35%	18%	31%	28%
It's OK	52%	41%	31%	59%	23%	43%
Not much	8%	12%	8%	9%	23%	10%
Not at all	4%	4%	3%	5%	0%	4%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Why? (Do you like living in your community?)

Response	Total	Percent
Nothing to do/boring	61	22%
Positive community	18	7%
Friends/family	17	6%
Small/quiet	15	5%
It's great/good	11	4%
Safe	8	3%
No shops/cinema	8	3%
Distance	5	2%
Bullying	5	2%
No jobs	5	2%
Home town	6	2%
Recreation/sport	6	2%
No recreational facilities/youth activities	6	2%
Crime/graffiti/drugs/poor driving	5	2%
It's bad	2	1%
Could be improved	3	1%
Don't know	1	0%
Other	23	8%

Some responses had more than one answer.

If you were Mayor, what is the one thing you would do to make living in the Matamata Piako region better than it is now?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Improve or create youth facilities and events	31	30	21	5	2	89
Improve parks, sports grounds and playgrounds	17	19	19	8	1	64
Make our community safer	17	16	3	4	2	42
Support the community and young people in having their say	3	9	12	2	3	29
Improve environmental issues (water and lake pollution, recycling and waste management)	3	3	2	1	2	11
Libraries and swimming pools	4		2			6
Other (please explain)	7	2	2	2	1	14
Grand Total	82	79	61	22	11	255

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Improve or create youth facilities and events	38%	38%	34%	23%	18%	35%
Improve parks, sports grounds and playgrounds	21%	24%	31%	36%	9%	25%
Make our community safer	21%	20%	5%	18%	18%	16%
Support the community and young people in having their say	4%	11%	20%	9%	27%	11%
Improve environmental issues (water and lake pollution, recycling and waste management)	4%	4%	3%	5%	18%	4%
Libraries and swimming pools	5%	0%	3%	0%	0%	2%
Other (please explain)	9%	3%	3%	9%	9%	5%

Do you know which organisation/business/person to call if you wanted someone to talk to about an issue/concern?

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Yes	31	32	28	6	7	104
No	54	46	31	15	6	152
Grand Total	85	78	59	21	13	256

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Yes	36%	41%	47%	29%	54%	41%
No	64%	59%	53%	71%	46%	59%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Can you list some of the organisations or people who you would talk to about an issue or concern?

Organisation/Person	Responses	Percent
Family	24	28%
Youth Group/programme	20	23%
Council, District Council, or Mayor	16	18%
Helplines (unspecified)	15	17%
0800 Wasup (helpline)	13	15%
Friends	12	14%
School/teachers	8	9%
Kidsline (helpline)	8	9%
Other	21	24%
Total Responses	87	100%

One respondent could mention more than one organisation or person they would contact for help.

Is there enough information available when you are making decisions about the following?

Education and Learning	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	21	26	17	6	3	73
Most of the info	39	33	28	8	5	113
Some of the info	26	18	12	6	5	67
A little of the info	3	3	5	2	1	14
None of the info						
Grand Total	89	80	62	22	14	267

Education and Learning	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	24%	33%	27%	27%	21%	27%
Most of the info	44%	41%	45%	36%	36%	42%
Some of the info	29%	23%	19%	27%	36%	25%
A little of the info	3%	4%	8%	9%	7%	5%
None of the info						

Work and Employment	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	2	8	2	2		14
Most of the info	35	32	21	8	3	99
Some of the info	34	21	23	7	8	93
A little of the info	17	17	10	5	3	52
None of the info	2	1	6			9
Grand Total	90	79	62	22	14	267

Work and Employment	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	2%	10%	3%	9%	0%	5%
Most of the info	39%	41%	34%	36%	21%	37%
Some of the info	38%	27%	37%	32%	57%	35%
A little of the info	19%	22%	16%	23%	21%	19%
None of the info	2%	1%	10%	0%	0%	3%

Is there enough information available when you are making decisions about the following? (continued)

Health Services	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	6	17	6	4	1	34
Most of the info	29	37	15	8	4	93
Some of the info	37	18	27	6	6	94
A little of the info	18	7	10	4	3	42
None of the info			4			4
Grand Total	90	79	62	22	14	267

Health Services	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	7%	22%	10%	18%	7%	13%
Most of the info	32%	47%	24%	36%	29%	35%
Some of the info	41%	23%	44%	27%	43%	35%
A little of the info	20%	9%	16%	18%	21%	16%
None of the info	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	1%

Activities and things to do	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	7	11	8	2	3	31
Most of the info	27	19	9	6	2	63
Some of the info	29	24	18	3	5	79
A little of the info	20	19	18	11	3	71
None of the info	7	6	9		1	23
Grand Total	90	79	62	22	14	267

Activities and things to do	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Matamata	Rural Settlements	Unknown	Total
Heaps of info	8%	14%	13%	9%	21%	12%
Most of the info	30%	24%	15%	27%	14%	24%
Some of the info	32%	30%	29%	14%	36%	30%
A little of the info	22%	24%	29%	50%	21%	27%
None of the info	8%	8%	15%	0%	7%	9%

I get the information I want from

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Unknown	Rural Settlements	Matamata	Total
School	72	69	10	18	47	216
Parents	68	59	10	14	43	194
Friends	61	56	9	16	49	191
Internet	58	47	6	15	36	162
Libraries	14	15	2	1	3	35
Community service	9	9	2	1	4	25
Other	11	8	1	4	5	29

267 respondents to this question, who could select more than one response. Percentages based on total responses to the survey (276).

	Te Aroha	Morrinsville	Unknown	Rural Settlements	Matamata	Total
School	76%	84%	71%	82%	75%	78%
Parents	72%	72%	71%	64%	68%	70%
Friends	64%	68%	64%	73%	78%	69%
Internet	61%	57%	43%	68%	57%	59%
Libraries	15%	18%	14%	5%	5%	13%
Community service	9%	11%	14%	5%	6%	9%
Other	12%	10%	7%	18%	8%	11%