

CITY OF CLARENCE

Rosny Youth Activity

Consultation Report

September 2025





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Background

Context

Concerns about anti-social behaviour and crowding around the Rosny CBD and bus mall were raised through the Youth Safety in Clarence Network. Partners agreed a practical, youth-positive response was needed during the busy 2:30 – 4:30 pm window on school days. Our Community Development and Youth Services Team, with Mission Australia Youth Beat and Pulse Youth Health Service, scoped a trial pop-up activity zone to offer a safe, visible place to spend time, connect with peers and access light-touch support.

The consultation sought to test assumptions, surface risks, and co-design the trial locations and features with the young people most likely to use it.

Purpose

The survey was designed to:

- understand how and why young people spend time in Rosny after school, and what gets in the way
- identify preferred locations, activities, and practical supports for a pop-up activity zone
- confirm whether the proposed program identity resonated and collect better name ideas if not
- capture observations from adults (limited version) without diluting the youth voice.

Background

Rationale for question design

The survey was designed as youth-first and low-burden to support quick, mobile completion during intercept engagement. Questions targeted actionable inputs needed for the Term 4 trial (site, activity mix, equipment and supports), segmented both users and non-users of the CBD, and used multi-select formats to reflect real behaviour. Two brief open-text items captured ideas we may have missed. A short over-25 pathway gathered useful observations without diluting youth voices. No identifying data was collected and demographics were optional to promote safety and honest responses.

Feedback sought

We asked how young people used the Rosny CBD after school, where they went, why they were there and when they left. We sought barriers to staying (for example safety, cost or “nothing to do”) and what would make the area safer and more welcoming. We tested preferred activities and supports (such as food, Wi-Fi, charging, homework help, games, chill spaces or mentoring), shortlisted locations for the trial, and gauged reactions to the working name (“Rosny Arvos”), with space to suggest alternatives. Adults over 25 provided a shortened set of observations.

Structure of the survey

Survey questions were structured according to the strategies within each Structure Plan theme. As several options had not been previously tested with the community, the survey was designed to assess public sentiment and the level of support for each option

What we did

How the community engagement was promoted



179 unique visitors to the Rosny Youth Activity Survey **Your Say** webpage and **368 page views**



Flyer with QR link to the Your Say webpage distributed to local schools and colleges, Youth Safety in Clarence network, working groups and stakeholders, and Eastlands shopping centre.



Consultation pop-ups at Off the Couch (August 2025) and various **informal promotion** around Rosny CBD and Eastlands.



Direct emails sent to Community Development networks.

Ways people engaged and provided feedback



102

online survey responses



281

Direct referrals to the page (likely QR code)



Face-to-face promotions around Rosny and at Off the Couch



Youth focus sessions at Clarence Youth Services and PCYC

Length of time survey was run

3 weeks (6 – 27 August 2025)

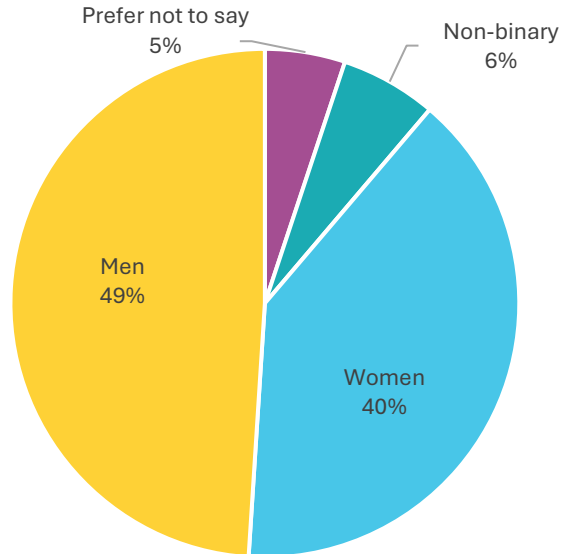
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Engagement Results

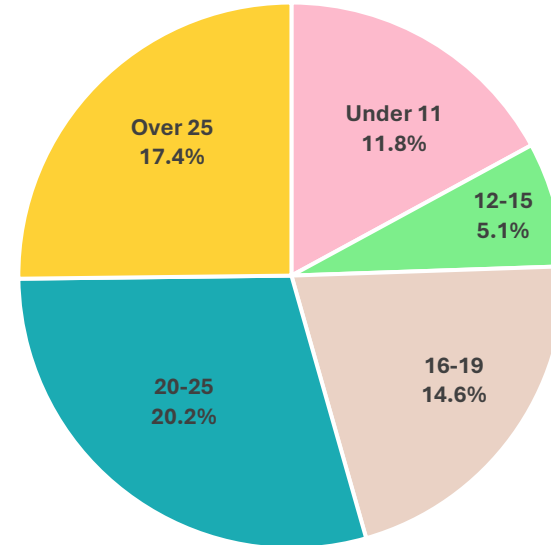


Demographics

Gender

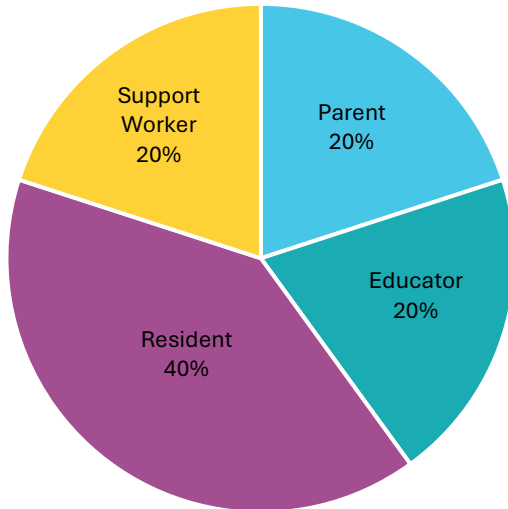


Age

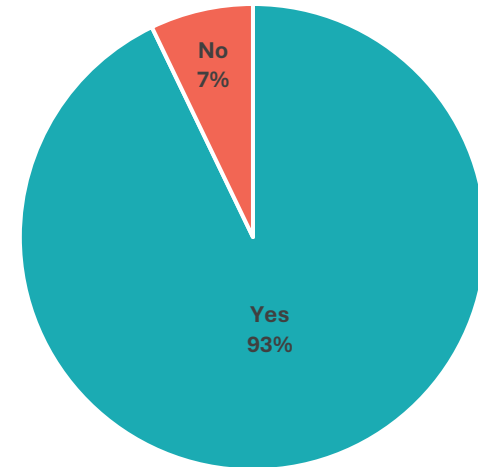


Demographics

I am a.... (over 25yr)

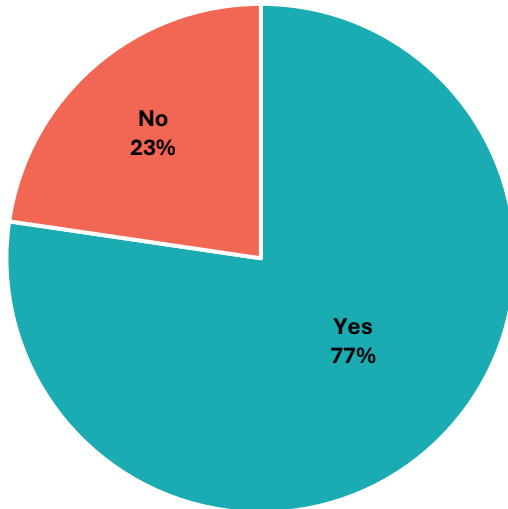


Attending school, college, or TAFE

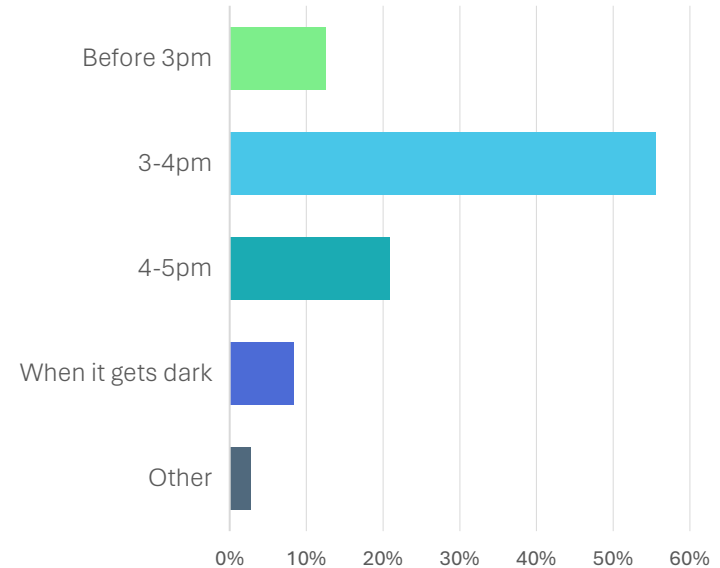


Demographics

Hang-out in Rosny after 2:30pm on weekdays?



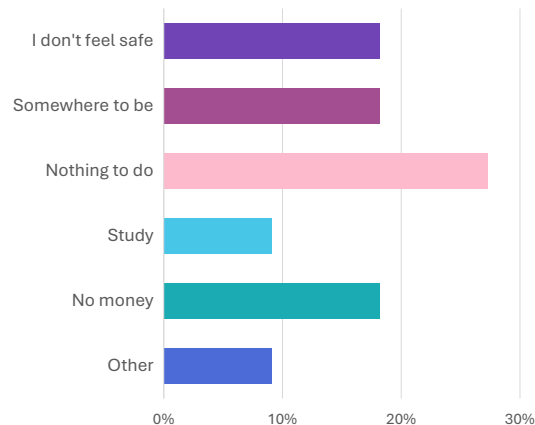
Time youth leave Rosny on a weekday



Hanging out in Rosny on weekdays

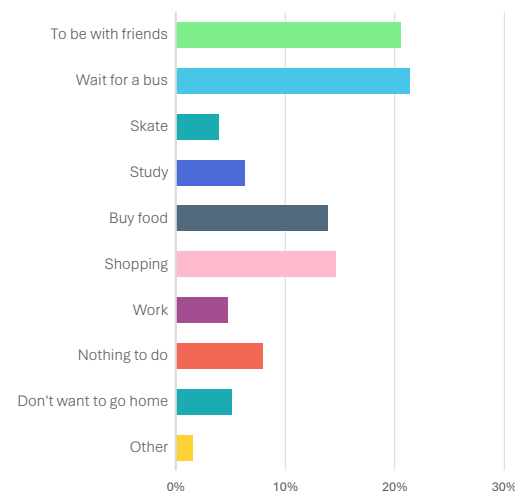
Why don't they?

Youth who don't hang out in Rosny after 2:30pm reported the primary reason was there was nothing to do, followed by not feeling safe, having somewhere to be, not having money equally.



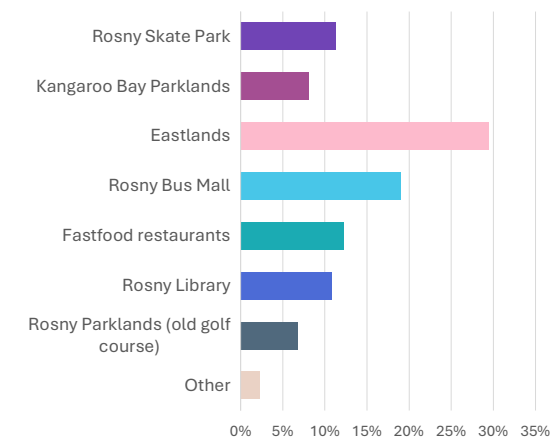
Why do they?

Youth who hang out in Rosny after 2:30pm reported the primary reason was to wait for a bus, followed closely by hanging out with friends. Other common responses were to buy food and go shopping. However, around 17% said they didn't want to go home.



Where?

Youth reported spending most of their time in Rosny after 2:30pm at Eastlands, with the second most common place being the bus mall.



Community response

What would make Rosny better?



Safety and behaviour – 26 mentions

What would help: a visible, friendly presence after school; youth workers or peer mentors; clear smoke-free zones; simple ways to report issues; positive activities nearby to draw crowds into safer spaces.



Free or low-cost activities and food – 18 mentions

What would help: regular free activities, hot snacks or a sausage sizzle, pop-up sport and games, a casual gaming or music space, and a homework/chill zone that is inclusive.



Place-making and green space – 7 mentions

What would help: murals and colour, more trees and small green areas, better lighting for comfort, and co-designed spaces that feel welcoming.



Transport and bus services – 11 mentions

What would help: more frequent services at peak after-school times, clearer service info and wayfinding, safer and closer bus stops, and better shelter while waiting.



Cleanliness and maintenance – 7 mentions

What would help: daily tidy-ups, more bins where they are needed, consistent smoke-free enforcement, and youth-led clean-up days to build pride of place.



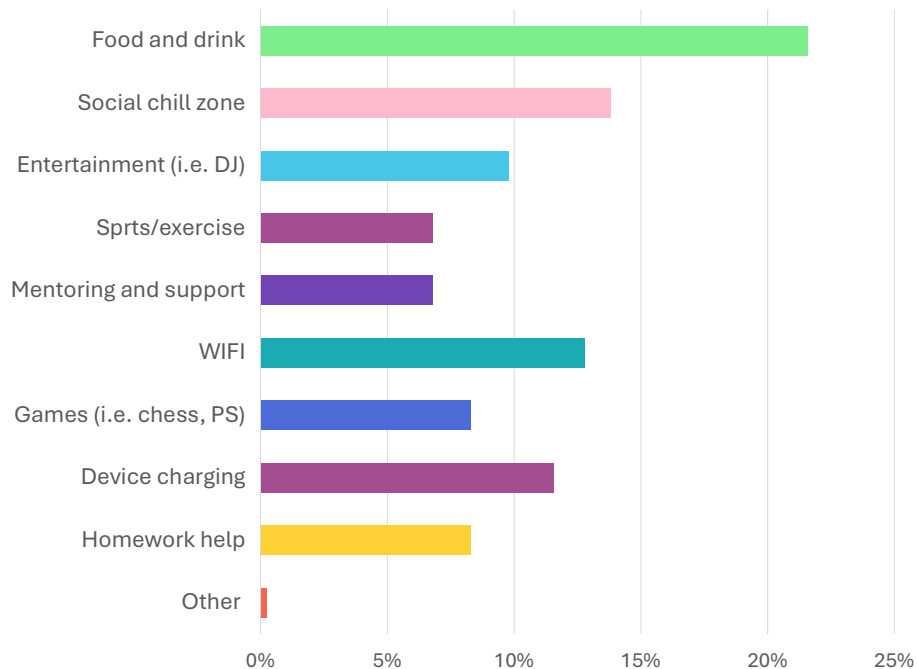
Seating and shelter for waiting – 6 mentions

What would help: more benches, covered smoke-free waiting areas with windbreaks, and practical touches like device charging while you wait.

Community response

Free stuff young people want/need on weekday afternoons

People preferred everyday, low-barrier supports that make after-school time easier and more welcoming. Top picks were free food and drink, a relaxed chill zone, Wi-Fi and device charging; mid-tier choices included entertainment/DJ, games and homework help. Sports/exercise and mentoring ranked lower. The clear theme is inclusive, practical comforts that make waiting safer and more pleasant, encourage positive time on site, and are easy to use often.

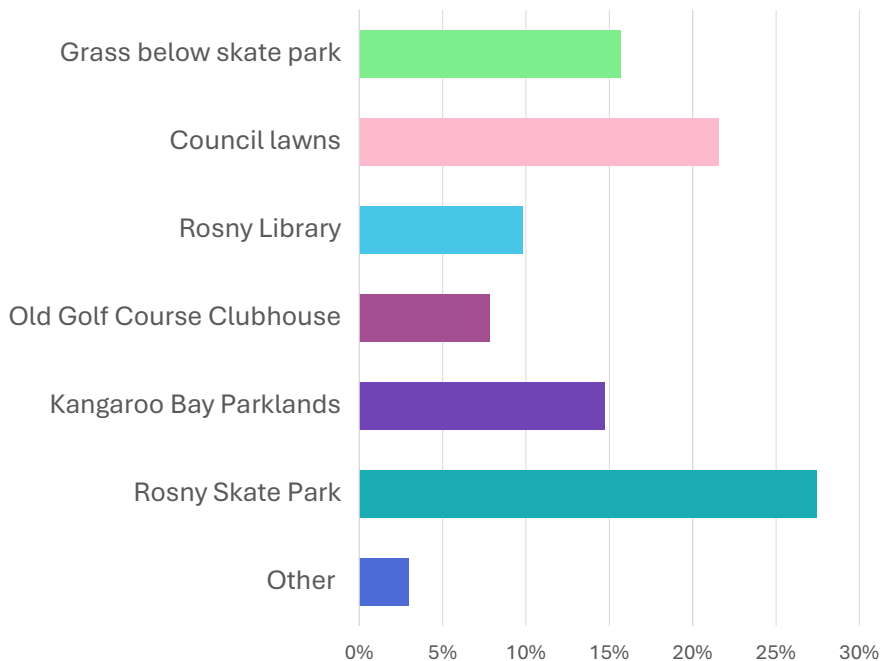


Community response

What is the best location for an afternoon youth pop-up program?

Preferences clustered around existing youth hotspots and visible, central spaces. The Rosny Skate Park was the top choice (27%), followed by the Council lawns opposite KFC (21%).

A second tier included the corner grass below the Skate Park at Rosny Hill Rd/Kangaroo Bay Dr and Kangaroo Bay Parklands. Quieter or indoor options rated lower, including Rosny Library and the Old Golf Course Clubhouse. Overall, selections favour easy-to-find, high-activity locations near buses, food and friends.



Summary

Overall sentiment is supportive. Young people backed a pop-up activity zone that makes after-school time safer, more comfortable and easy to use. The strongest theme was safety and amenity in and around existing hotspots, with clear asks for a visible, friendly presence, clean and smoke-free waiting areas, better lighting and wayfinding, and regular tidy-ups.

Respondents valued everyday, low-barrier supports over structured programs. Free food and drink, a relaxed chill space, Wi-Fi and device charging were the top preferences, with moderate interest in games, entertainment and homework help. More formal sport offers or mentoring on their own drew less interest.

Location choices favoured central, high-activity sites near buses, shops and friends. The Skate Park and the Council lawns received the strongest support, while quieter or indoor options were less preferred. This points to activation that sits alongside where young people already spend time, rather than asking them to move elsewhere.

Participants described an operating approach that paired comfort with safety. They asked for a friendly on-site presence (youth workers or peer mentors), clean and smoke-free waiting areas, more seating and shelter, better lighting and simple wayfinding.

Regular tidy-ups, extra bins and easy reporting channels were also suggested to lift amenity and encourage positive use.

Most respondents were comfortable with the working name “Rosny Arvos,” with a small number offering alternatives. Across the feedback, the non-negotiables were safety, cleanliness, visibility, inclusive comforts and proximity to buses and friends.