



***Macedon Ranges Shire Council
2017 Farming Zone Survey***

September 2017

Prepared for:

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Prepared by:

Metropolis Research
ACN 083 090 993

© Macedon Ranges Shire Council, 2017

This work is copyright. Apart from any use permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission from the Coordinator of Strategic Planning, Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

© Metropolis Research Pty Ltd, 2017

The survey form utilised in the commission of this project is copyright. Apart from any use permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission from the Managing Director Metropolis Research Pty Ltd.

Disclaimer

Any representation, statement, opinion or advice, expressed or implied in this publication is made in good faith but on the basis that Metropolis Research Pty Ltd, its agents and employees are not liable (whatever by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damages or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking action in respect of any representation, statement, or advice referred to above.

Contact Details

This report was prepared by Metropolis Research on behalf of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. For more information, please contact:

Dale Hubner
Managing Director
Metropolis Research Pty Ltd

P O Box 1357
CARLTON VIC 3053

(03) 9272 4600
d.hubner@metropolis-research.com

Gareth Hatley
Strategic Planning and Environment Department
Macedon Ranges Shire Council

P O Box 151
KYNETON VIC 3444

(03) 5421 9672
ghately@mrsc.vic.gov.au



Table of contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| INTRODUCTION | 5 |
| METHODOLOGY AND RESPONSE RATE | 5 |
| AREA OF LAND HOLDING | 6 |
| FARMING LAND IN THE MACEDON RANGES SHIRE | 8 |
| REASONS FOR PURCHASING FARMING LAND | 8 |
| TOTAL AREA OF LAND HOLDING..... | 10 |
| MULTIPLE LAND HOLDINGS | 12 |
| PERIOD OF LAND OWNERSHIP | 12 |
| MANAGED FARM LAND IN THE PAST..... | 14 |
| INTENTION OF SELLING THE PROPERTY | 14 |
| <i>Reasons for selling the property.....</i> | <i>15</i> |
| DWELLINGS ON THE PROPERTY | 17 |
| DWELLING ON THE LAND | 17 |
| SUBURB OF RESIDENCE..... | 18 |
| FREQUENCY OF VISITING THE PROPERTY | 19 |
| INTENTION OF BUILDING A DWELLING ON THE PROPERTY..... | 19 |
| PRIMARY PLACE OF RESIDENCE..... | 21 |
| FREQUENCY OF STAYING AT THE PROPERTY OVERNIGHT | 21 |
| PERIOD OF RESIDENCE AT THE PROPERTY..... | 22 |
| <i>Suburb of residence.....</i> | <i>23</i> |
| AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION..... | 24 |
| INCOME FROM AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION FROM LAND..... | 24 |
| LAND AREA IN USE FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE SHIRE..... | 25 |
| APPROXIMATE TURNOVER OF AGRIBUSINESS IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR | 27 |
| ESTIMATION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF EACH CATEGORY TO AGRIBUSINESS TURNOVER | 28 |
| PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME EARNED FROM AGRIBUSINESS | 31 |
| CHANGE IN GROSS INCOME FROM AGRIBUSINESS..... | 32 |
| LIKELIHOOD OF INCREASING PRODUCTION FROM AGRIBUSINESS..... | 33 |
| BARRIERS INHIBITING THE OPERATION OR EXPANSION OF AGRIBUSINESS..... | 34 |
| AGRIBUSINESS STAGE..... | 37 |
| CONSIDERING PURCHASING OR LEASING MORE AGRICULTURAL LAND | 38 |
| <i>Location.....</i> | <i>39</i> |
| POTENTIAL DIVERSIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS | 40 |
| PROPORTION OF FARMING INPUTS SOURCED FROM WITHIN THE SHIRE | 41 |
| LAND MANAGEMENT | 42 |
| MANAGING THE LAND AREA ON THE PROPERTY | 42 |
| LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES | 43 |
| ISSUES AS A CHALLENGE TO IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICE LAND MANAGEMENT | 44 |
| TOPICS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE | 49 |
| AGREEMENT WITH SELECTED STATEMENTS ABOUT THE FARMING ZONE | 53 |
| COMMUNITY SURVEY | 62 |
| ASPECTS MOST VALUED ABOUT THE LAND AND FARMING ACTIVITIES..... | 62 |
| PROTECTION OF SPECIAL PLACES | 64 |
| LOCATION AND REASON OF THE PROTECTION FOR FARMING..... | 64 |
| OPPORTUNITIES OF THE FARMING | 67 |
| ISSUES FOR THE FARMING AREAS..... | 69 |



| | |
|---|-----------|
| RESPONDENT PROFILE | 71 |
| AGE STRUCTURE | 71 |
| GENDER..... | 71 |
| LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME..... | 72 |
| HOUSEHOLD MEMBER WITH A DISABILITY..... | 73 |
| HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURE | 73 |
| OWNERSHIP OF FARMING LAND | 74 |
| SUBURB OF RESIDENCE..... | 74 |
| PERIOD OF RESIDENCE..... | 75 |
| GENERAL COMMENTS..... | 76 |
| APPENDIX ONE: SURVEY FORM | 93 |



Introduction

Metropolis Research was commissioned by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to undertake primary research of landholders in the rural zones of the Shire to explore a range of issues around rural land in the municipality. In addition a smaller community wide survey was available for residents from across Macedon Ranges Shire to complete online via Council's website.

The survey was designed specifically to provide data to inform the development of the Farming Zone Strategy currently being prepared by Council.

Specifically the survey aimed to explore the following:

- **Farming land in the shire** – including reasons for purchasing land, total area of landholdings, number of landholdings, period of land ownership, whether respondents have previously managed farming land, intention to sell the property and the reasons why.
- **Dwellings on the property** – including if there is currently a dwelling on the property:
 - If no dwelling then where does the respondent live, how often do they visit, and do they intend to build a dwelling on the property in the future.
 - If there is a dwelling then how frequently respondents stay overnight, period of residence at the property and previous suburb of residence.
- **Agricultural production** – including whether the respondent earns income from agricultural production, land area in use for agricultural, approximate agribusiness turnover, source of agribusiness income, proportion of household income from agribusiness, change in gross income from agribusiness in recent years, likelihood of increasing agribusiness production, barriers inhibiting operation or expansion of agribusiness, stage of agribusiness, considering acquiring more agricultural land, potential diversification of agribusiness, and proportion of farming inputs sourced from within the Shire.
- **Land management** – including how the land is managed, land management practices, challenges to implementing best practice land management, topics for further information on land management, and agreement with selected statements about land management.
- **Respondent profile** – including age, gender, language, household structure, and disability.

Methodology and response rate

The *Farming Zone Landowners Survey* was conducted as a mail-out and reply paid self completion survey comprising thirty-seven separate questions. The smaller *Community Survey* was conducted as a voluntary self-selecting online survey available on Council's website.

A paper survey was mailed to every landholder in the farming zones of the municipality, with the address details provided by Council.



The survey was open for completion for approximately three weeks. Landowners were provided with a paper survey form and a reply paid envelope, as well as an online completion option.

A total of 488 of the 1,876 surveys mailed to landowners were returned to Metropolis Research for inclusion in the sample, comprising 446 paper surveys and forty-two online surveys.

This provides for a response rate of 26.0%, which is a very solid response rate for a voluntary mail-out and online survey of this size and type.

The 95% confidence interval (margin of error) of these results is plus or minus 3.8%, at the fifty percent level. In other words, if a yes / no question obtain a result of fifty percent yes, it is 95% certain that the true value of this result is within the range of 46.2% and 53.8%. This is based on a total sample size of 488 respondents, and an underlying population of landholders in the rural zone of Macedon Ranges Shire of 1,862. The confidence interval for the five individual areas of the municipality is significantly larger than this municipal confidence interval of 3.8%, and this should be borne in mind when exploring area level results.

Area of land holding

Respondents were asked:

“Referring to the following map, in which area is your land holding/s located?”

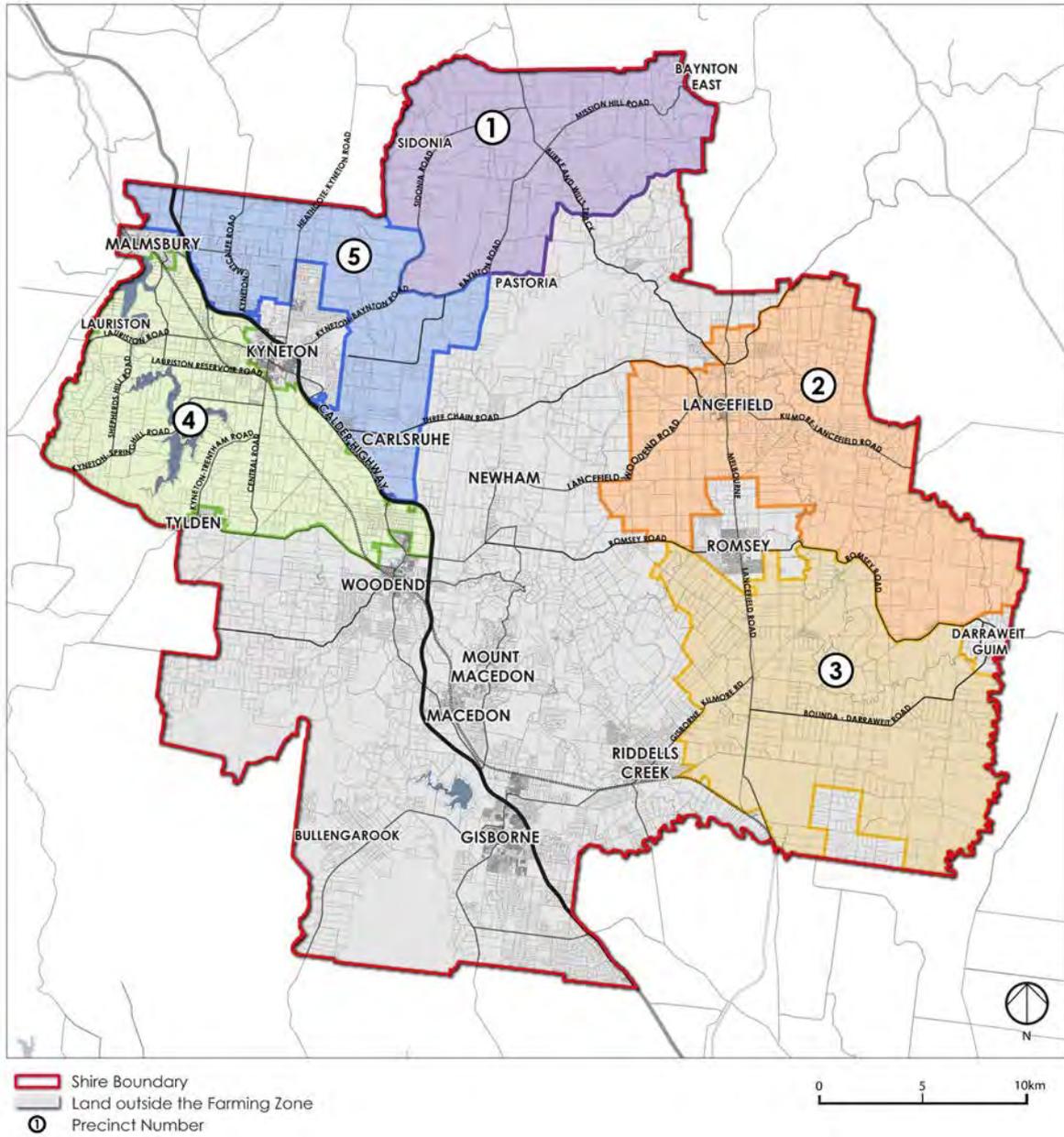
A significant number (104) of respondents to the Farming Zone Landowners Survey did not nominate in which of the five areas outlined on the map included on the survey form their landholdings were located.

Of those that did nominate an area, the largest proportion was located in Area Four.

Area of landholding/s
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Area | Landowners | |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Area One | 20 | 5.2% |
| Area Two | 69 | 18.0% |
| Area Three | 67 | 17.4% |
| Area Four | 129 | 33.6% |
| Area Five | 86 | 22.4% |
| Multiple areas | 13 | 3.4% |
| Not stated | 104 | |
| Total | 488 | 100% |





Farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire

Reasons for purchasing farming land

Respondents were asked:

“Why did you purchase farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire?”

By far the most common reason for purchasing farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire was the rural lifestyle, with a little less than two-thirds (63.9%) purchasing land for this reason. A little less than half (41.2%) of respondents purchased farming land to farm, and a little more than one-third (35.7%) purchased farming land in the Macedon Ranges because it was close to Melbourne.

A small proportion of respondents purchased farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire for a range of other reasons, with retirement (20.1%) being most prominent amongst the other reasons.

There was measurable and significant variation in the reasons for purchasing farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire observed between those earning some income from agricultural production from their property and those that do not, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Earn income from agricultural production** – respondents were measurably more likely than those that do not to select the reasons to farm, the productive agricultural soils, and availability of water.
- **Do not earn income from agricultural production** – respondents were measurably more likely than those that do earn income to select the reasons of rural lifestyle and to retire.

Reasons for purchasing farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Reason</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | | <i>Earn agri-income*</i> | |
|--|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Yes</i> | <i>No</i> |
| Rural lifestyle | 312 | 63.9% | 49.2% | 77.8% |
| To farm | 201 | 41.2% | 69.1% | 15.1% |
| Closeness to Melbourne | 174 | 35.7% | 36.0% | 35.3% |
| To retire | 98 | 20.1% | 12.3% | 27.4% |
| Productive agricultural soils | 80 | 16.4% | 27.1% | 6.3% |
| Availability of water | 73 | 15.0% | 20.3% | 9.9% |
| Availability to infrastructure | 39 | 8.0% | 8.5% | 7.5% |
| Closeness to markets | 32 | 6.6% | 11.0% | 2.4% |
| Other | 74 | 15.2% | 14.8% | 15.5% |
| Total responses | 1,083 | | 586 | 497 |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one reason</i> | <i>481</i> | | <i>230</i> | <i>251</i> |
| | <i>(98.6%)</i> | | <i>(97.5%)</i> | <i>(99.6%)</i> |

() Earn income from agricultural production on the land*

There was some variation in the reasons for purchasing farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire observed across the five areas comprising the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One and Two** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to purchase farming land to farm.
- **Area Three** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to purchase farming land to farm and because of the closeness to Melbourne.
- **Area Four** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to purchase farming land for the rural lifestyle and to retire.
- **Area Five** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to retire, for the availability of infrastructure, and for other reasons.

Reasons for purchasing farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire by area

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Reason</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Rural lifestyle | 30.0% | 65.2% | 64.2% | 76.7% | 68.6% |
| To farm | 70.0% | 60.9% | 52.2% | 27.9% | 31.4% |
| Closeness to Melbourne | 15.0% | 33.3% | 56.7% | 41.9% | 31.4% |
| To retire | 5.0% | 15.9% | 9.0% | 27.1% | 27.9% |
| Productive agricultural soils | 5.0% | 15.9% | 13.4% | 16.3% | 19.8% |
| Availability of water | 10.0% | 10.1% | 11.9% | 17.8% | 14.0% |
| Availability to infrastructure | 0.0% | 1.4% | 6.0% | 10.9% | 15.1% |
| Closeness to markets | 5.0% | 4.3% | 6.0% | 6.2% | 9.3% |
| Other | 15.0% | 10.1% | 10.4% | 11.6% | 23.3% |
| Total responses | 31 | 150 | 154 | 305 | 207 |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one reason</i> | <i>19</i> <i>(95.0%)</i> | <i>69</i> <i>(100%)</i> | <i>67</i> <i>(100%)</i> | <i>126</i> <i>(97.7%)</i> | <i>86</i> <i>(100%)</i> |

There were a range of other reasons for purchasing farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire raised by respondents, including most significantly that eighteen respondents reported that they had inherited their farming land.

Metropolis Research also notes that a number of respondents were purchasing land either to build a family home (6 respondents), as an investment (5 respondents), and for development / subdivision (4 respondents).



Other reasons for purchasing farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| <i>Reason</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Inherited | 18 | 26.9% |
| Equestrian / agist activities | 6 | 9.0% |
| Build a family home | 6 | 9.0% |
| Location | 5 | 7.5% |
| Beauty / peace / quiet | 5 | 7.5% |
| Investment | 5 | 7.5% |
| Development / sub-division | 4 | 6.0% |
| Agriculture / farming | 4 | 6.0% |
| Affordable | 3 | 4.5% |
| Holiday home | 2 | 3.0% |
| Hobby farm | 1 | 1.5% |
| Was rural living before purchase | 1 | 1.5% |
| Other | 7 | 10.4% |
| Not stated | 7 | |
| Total responses | 74 | 100% |

Total area of land holding

Respondents were asked:

“What is the total area of your land holding?”

Respondent land holdings were well distributed by size as is clearly outlined in the following table. There was measurable and significant variation in the size of the respondents’ property between those that earn some income from agricultural production on the land and those that do not.

Respondents that do not earn any income from agricultural production from their property (61.0%) were measurably and significantly (six times) more likely than those that do earn some income (10.2%) to have a property size of less than ten hectares.



Total area of land holdings
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Area | Macedon Ranges | | Earn agri-income* | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Less than 4 hectares | 99 | 20.5% | 3.8% | 36.1% |
| 4 to less than 10 hectares | 77 | 15.9% | 6.4% | 24.9% |
| 10 to less than 40 hectares | 136 | 28.2% | 30.3% | 26.1% |
| 40 to less than 100 hectares | 107 | 22.2% | 34.2% | 10.8% |
| 100 to less than 500 hectares | 49 | 10.1% | 18.8% | 2.0% |
| 500 hectares or more | 15 | 3.1% | 6.4% | 0.0% |
| Not stated | 5 | | 2 | 3 |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 236 | 252 |

(*) Earn income from agricultural production on the land

There was some variation in the size of the landholdings of respondents observed across the five areas. Particular attention is drawn to the following:

- **Area One** - respondents from Area One (70.0%) were significantly more likely than average to have a property of one hundred or more hectares, with almost half (45.0%) having a property of five hundred hectares or more. It is noted however that the sample from Area One was just twenty respondents.
- **Areas Four and Five** - Respondents from Area Four (44.5%) and Area Five (51.2%) were more likely than average to have smaller properties of less than ten hectares.
- **Areas Two and Three** - respondents from Area Two (66.6%) and Area Three (67.1%) were more like than average to have properties of between ten and less than one hundred hectares.

Total area of land holdings by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Area | Area One | Area Two | Area Three | Area Four | Area Five |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Less than 4 hectares | 5.0% | 13.0% | 14.9% | 26.2% | 23.8% |
| 4 to less than 10 hectares | 0.0% | 5.8% | 3.0% | 18.3% | 27.4% |
| 10 to less than 40 hectares | 5.0% | 24.6% | 34.3% | 32.5% | 27.4% |
| 40 to less than 100 hectares | 20.0% | 42.0% | 32.8% | 19.8% | 11.9% |
| 100 to less than 500 hectares | 25.0% | 13.0% | 11.9% | 3.2% | 9.5% |
| 500 hectares or more | 45.0% | 1.4% | 3.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Not stated | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Total | 20 | 69 | 67 | 129 | 86 |

Multiple land holdings

Respondents were asked:

“Do you have multiple land holdings in the Macedon Ranges Shire?”

The overwhelming majority (81.9%) of respondents have a single land holding in the Macedon Ranges Shire. Of those that have multiple land holdings, most (11.7%) have two holdings.

Multiple land holdings in Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Response | Landowners | |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Single land holding | 398 | 81.9% |
| Multiple land holdings | 88 | 18.1% |
| <i>two holdings</i> | 57 | 11.7% |
| <i>three holdings</i> | 10 | 2.1% |
| <i>four holdings</i> | 6 | 1.2% |
| <i>five or more holdings</i> | 4 | 0.8% |
| <i>number not stated</i> | 11 | 2.3% |
| Not stated | 2 | |
| Total | 488 | 100% |

Period of land ownership

Respondents were asked:

“How long have you owned your land holding/s in Macedon Ranges?”

Whilst the approximately two-thirds (66.7%) of respondents had owned their land in the Macedon Ranges for ten years or more, it is noted that one-fifth (20.2%) had owned their land for less than five years.

There was no meaningful variation in these results observed between respondents earning or not earning any income from agricultural production from the property.



Period of land ownership
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

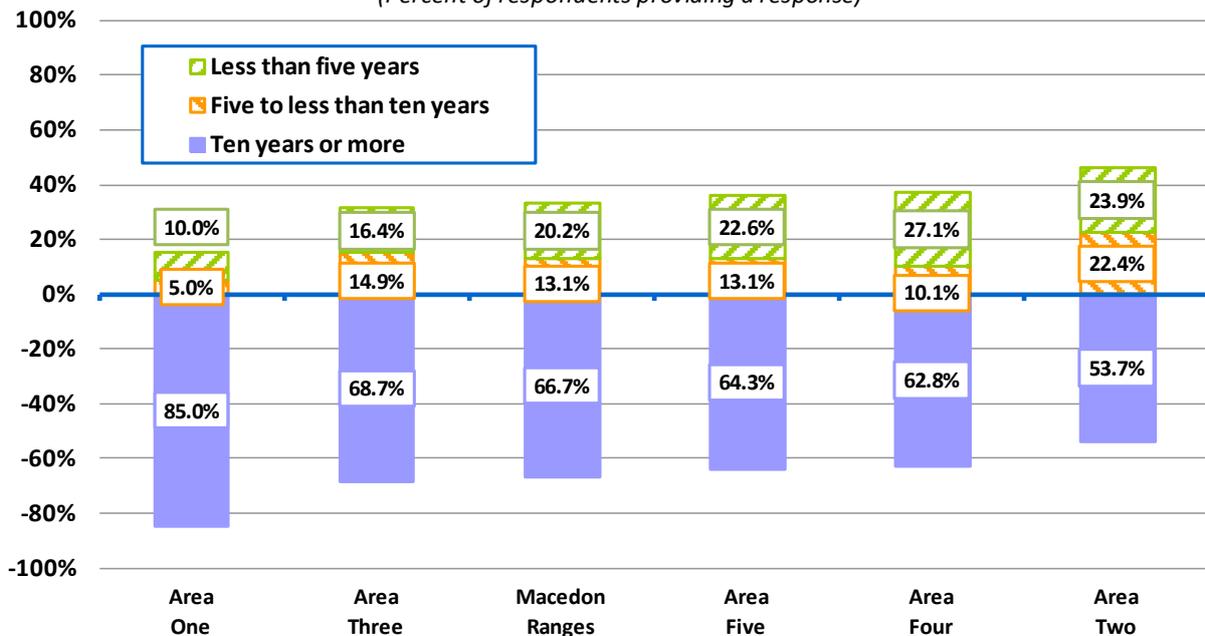
| Period of ownership | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Less than 5 years | 97 | 20.2% | 16.0% | 24.1% |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 63 | 13.1% | 13.0% | 13.3% |
| 10 years or more | 320 | 66.7% | 71.0% | 62.7% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 8 | | 5 | 3 |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 236 | 252 |

(*) Earn income from agricultural production on the land

There was some variation in the period of time that respondents had owned their land in the Macedon Ranges observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to have owned their property for ten years or more, although the small sample size of twenty respondents is noted.
- **Area Two** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to have owned their property for five to less than ten years.

Period of land ownership by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Percent of respondents providing a response)



Managed farm land in the past

Respondents that had owned land for less than 5 years were asked:

“Have you ever managed farm land in the past?”

Approximately half (55.7%) of the respondents that had owned their farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire for less than five years had not previously managed farm land in the past. Metropolis Research notes that this equates to eleven percent of the total sample of landowners in the Macedon Ranges being relatively new to managing farm land (i.e. less than five years).

Although the sample size relatively small, it is still noted that respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their property (56.8%) were notably more likely than those that do not earn any income (36.7%) to have previously managed farmland.

Previously managed farm land
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents that had owned land for less than 5 years)

| Response | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Yes | 43 | 44.3% | 56.8% | 36.7% |
| No | 54 | 55.7% | 43.2% | 63.3% |
| Total | 97 | 100% | 37 | 60 |

() Earn income from agricultural production on the land*

Intention of selling the property

Respondents were asked:

“Do you intend on selling the property within the next five years?”

Approximately one-sixth (18.9%) of respondents either definitely (7.2%) or possibly (11.7%) intend to sell the property within the next five years. This result was similar for respondents that do earn some income from agricultural production from their property (17.4%) and those that do not (20.2%).



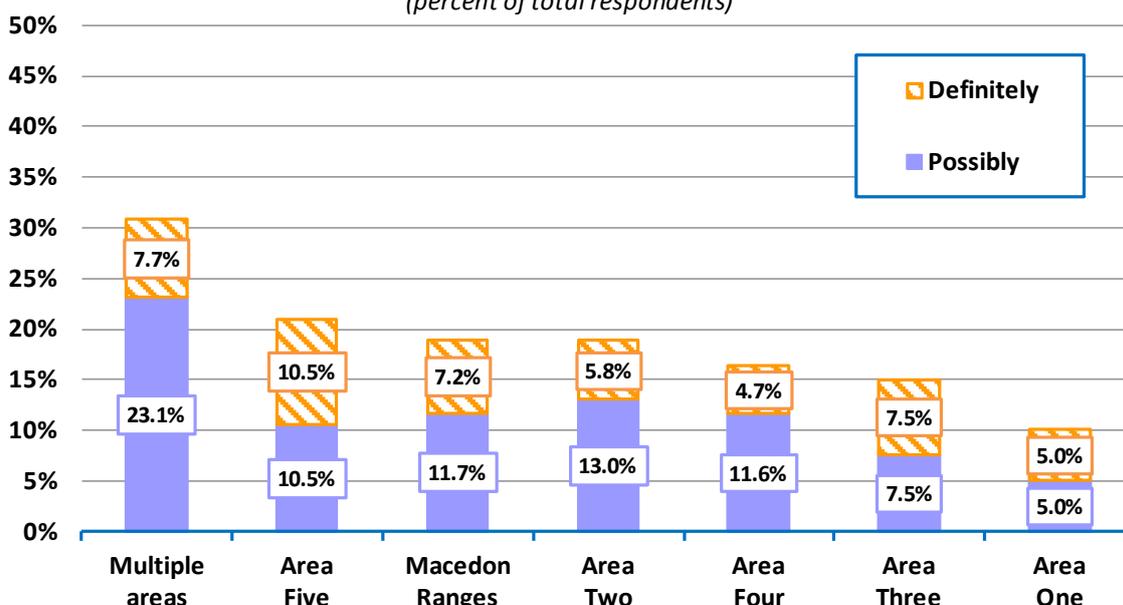
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of total respondents)

| Response | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Yes - definitely | 35 | 7.2% | 6.8% | 7.5% |
| Yes - possibly | 57 | 11.7% | 10.6% | 12.7% |
| No | 286 | 58.6% | 66.1% | 51.6% |
| Can't say / not stated | 110 | 22.5% | 16.5% | 28.2% |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 236 | 252 |

This result was relatively even across the municipality, although it is noted that respondents with farming land in multiple areas across Macedon Ranges Shire were somewhat more likely than average to be potentially selling some or all of those holdings within five years.

Intend to sell the property within 5 years
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
 (percent of total respondents)



Reasons for selling the property

Respondents were asked:

“If yes, why do you say that?”

Of the ninety-two respondents at least potentially selling their property within five years, only sixty-six provided a reason as to why they may potentially be selling the property.



Almost one-third (31.8%) of the respondents providing a response said that issues with age and retirement were reasons why they were considering selling, with a further 16.7% raising issues of downsizing or an inability to manage the property as reasons.

The other common reason identified by respondents was planning controls on buildings and development in the area.

Given the small number of respondents it is not possible to provide a breakdown of these results by area, or agricultural production from the property.

Reasons for selling the property within five years
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | |
|---|-------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Age / retirement | 21 | 31.8% |
| Planning controls on building / development | 12 | 18.2% |
| Downsizing / inability to manage | 11 | 16.7% |
| Moving elsewhere | 3 | 4.5% |
| Area changing | 2 | 3.0% |
| Cost of expansion | 2 | 3.0% |
| Cost of farming | 2 | 3.0% |
| Cost of rates | 2 | 3.0% |
| Equestrian / agist activities | 2 | 3.0% |
| Farm size too small | 2 | 3.0% |
| Lack of infrastructure in area | 1 | 1.5% |
| Other | 6 | 9.1% |
| Not stated | 26 | |
| Total | 92 | 100% |



Dwellings on the property

Dwelling on the land

Respondents were asked:

“Is there a dwelling on your land?”

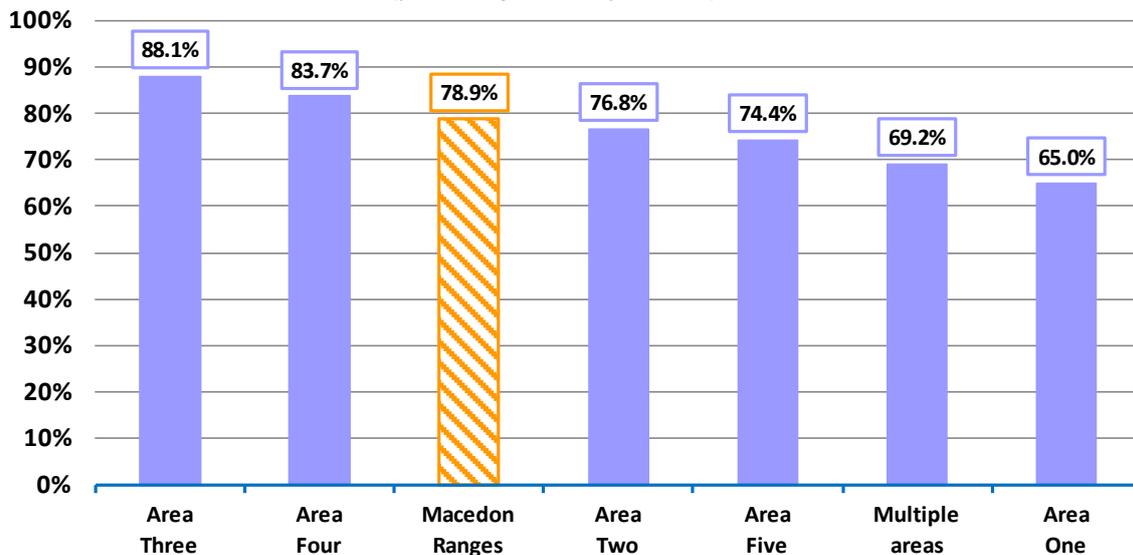
A little more than three-quarters (78.9%) of respondents reported that there was a dwelling on their property. There was no variation in this result between those earning some income from agricultural production from their property and those that do not.

Dwelling on the land
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| Response | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Yes | 385 | 78.9% | 78.8% | 79.0% |
| No | 103 | 21.1% | 21.2% | 21.0% |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 236 | 252 |

There was some variation in the proportion of respondents with a dwelling on their property observed across the municipality; with respondents from Area Three significantly more likely than average to have a dwelling on their property, and respondents from Area One significantly less likely.

Dwelling on the property by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(percent of total respondents)



Suburb of residence

Respondents with no dwelling on their property were asked:

“What is the postcode of your primary place of residence?”

Of the 103 respondents that do not have a dwelling on their property, a total of ninety-two provided details as to their postcode of residence. The most common locations at which respondents live were Kyneton (22 respondents), Woodend (8 respondents) and Benloch (4 respondents).

It is noted that a little less than half (44.6%) of respondents lived in metropolitan Melbourne

Postcode of primary place of residence
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of respondents with no dwelling on their property)

| Suburb | Number | Suburb | Number |
|------------------|--------|-----------------|------------|
| Kyneton | 22 | Surrey Hills | 1 |
| Woodend | 8 | Toorak | 1 |
| Benloch | 4 | Armadale | 1 |
| St Albans | 3 | Glen Iris | 1 |
| Hillside | 2 | Mt Waverley | 1 |
| Taylors Lakes | 2 | Brighton | 1 |
| Diamond Creek | 2 | Port Melbourne | 1 |
| Kew | 2 | Melton | 1 |
| Malmsbury | 2 | Coimadai | 1 |
| West Melbourne | 1 | Diggers Rest | 1 |
| Docklands | 1 | Sunbury | 1 |
| Deer Park | 1 | Riddells Creek | 1 |
| Altona | 1 | New Gisborne | 1 |
| Laverton | 1 | Macedon | 1 |
| Hoppers Crossing | 1 | Mount Macedon | 1 |
| Werribee | 1 | Daleysford | 1 |
| Keilor East | 1 | Tooborac | 1 |
| Essendon | 1 | Murchigon North | 1 |
| Tullamarine | 1 | Wyuna East | 1 |
| Parkville | 1 | Benalla | 1 |
| Carlton North | 1 | Murrindindi | 1 |
| Brunswick West | 1 | Wallan | 1 |
| Brunswick | 1 | Whittlesea | 1 |
| Greenvale | 1 | Kilmore | 1 |
| Ivanhoe | 1 | Emerald | 1 |
| Heidelberg | 1 | Interstate | 1 |
| Macleod | 1 | Not stated | 11 |
| Lower Plenty | 1 | Total | 103 |

Frequency of visiting the property

Respondents with no dwelling on their property were asked:

“How often do you typically visit the property?”

Approximately two-thirds (65.6%) of the 103 respondents that do not have a dwelling on their land reported that they typically visit the property at least once a month, with approximately one-sixth visiting once or twice a month (16.7%) or every few months (11.5%).

It is noted that respondents that earn some income from agricultural production on their land (78.3%) were notably more likely than those who do not (54.0%), to visit the property at least once a month.

Frequency of visiting the property

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of respondents with no dwelling on their property and providing a response)

| Frequency | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| At least once a month | 63 | 65.6% | 78.3% | 54.0% |
| Once or twice a month | 16 | 16.7% | 15.2% | 18.0% |
| Every few months | 11 | 11.5% | 4.3% | 18.0% |
| Once or twice a year | 6 | 6.3% | 2.2% | 10.0% |
| Not stated | 7 | | 4 | 3 |
| Total | 103 | 100% | 50 | 53 |

() Earn income from agricultural production on the land*

Intention of building a dwelling on the property

Respondents with no dwelling on their property were asked:

“Do you intend to build a dwelling on the property in the next ten years?”

The 103 respondents that do not currently have a dwelling on their property were relatively evenly split in relation to whether they intend to build a dwelling on the property within the next ten years.

It is noted however that only approximately one-sixth (16.5%) reported that they were not going to build a dwelling on the property within the next ten years.



Respondents that do not currently earn any income from agricultural production from the property (62.2%) were more likely than those that do earn some income (46.0%) to potentially build a dwelling on the property in the next ten years.

Intend to build a dwelling on the property in the next ten years

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of respondents with no dwelling on their property and providing a response)

| Response | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Yes - definitely | 28 | 27.2% | 28.0% | 26.4% |
| Yes - possibly | 28 | 27.2% | 18.0% | 35.8% |
| No | 17 | 16.5% | 24.0% | 9.4% |
| Can't say | 30 | 29.1% | 30.0% | 28.3% |
| Total | 103 | 100% | 50 | 53 |

() Earn income from agricultural production on the land*

Whilst there was some variation in the intention to build a dwelling on the property observed across the municipality; however Metropolis Research notes that the sample size at the individual area level is less than thirty respondents.

As a result, readers should exercise caution in the interpretation of variation at the area level for this question.

Intend to build a dwelling on the property in the next ten years by area

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of respondents with no dwelling on their property and providing a response)

| Response | Area | Area | Area | Area | Area |
|------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | One | Two | Three | Four | Five |
| Yes - definitely | 28.6% | 25.0% | 37.5% | 14.3% | 45.5% |
| Yes - possibly | 28.6% | 18.8% | 12.5% | 28.6% | 27.3% |
| No | 28.6% | 25.0% | 0.0% | 23.8% | 9.1% |
| Can't say | 14.3% | 31.3% | 50.0% | 33.3% | 18.2% |
| Total | 7 | 16 | 8 | 21 | 22 |

Primary place of residence

Respondents with a dwelling on their property were asked:

“Is this your primary place of residence?”

Approximately four-fifths (81.0%) of respondents with a dwelling on their property reported that it was their primary place of residence.

There was no variation in this result between respondents that earn or do not earn any income from agricultural production from the property.

Primary place of residence
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents with a dwelling on property)

| Response | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Yes | 312 | 81.0% | 79.6% | 82.4% |
| No | 73 | 19.0% | 20.4% | 17.6% |
| Total | 385 | 100% | 186 | 199 |

(*) Earn income from agricultural production on the land

Frequency of staying at the property overnight

Respondents with a dwelling on their property that is not the primary place of residence were asked:

“How often do you typically stay at the property overnight?”

There were only seventy-three respondents that have a dwelling on their property but which is not their primary place of residence.

These seventy-three respondents were relatively diverse in how often they would typically stay at the property overnight, with approximately one-third (34.9%) staying overnight at the property more than once a week, one-fifth (20.6%) staying overnight once a week, and almost one-quarter (23.8%) staying overnight only once or twice a year.

Given the small sample size, there is no breakdown of these results available by area or whether the respondents earn any income from agricultural production from their property.



Frequency of staying at the property overnight**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**

(Number and percent of respondents with dwelling on property that is not primary place of residence and providing a response)

| Frequency | Landowners | |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| More than once a week | 22 | 34.9% |
| Once a week | 13 | 20.6% |
| Once or twice a month | 9 | 14.3% |
| Every few months | 4 | 6.3% |
| Once or twice a year | 15 | 23.8% |
| The property is leased | 0 | 0.0% |
| Not stated | 10 | |
| Total | 73 | 100% |

Period of residence at the property

Respondents with a dwelling on their property that is the primary place of residence were asked:

“How long have you lived at the property?”

Of the 312 respondents that live on the property as their primary place of residence, approximately two-thirds (63.3%) had lived on the property for ten years or more, whilst just 4.5% had lived on the property for less than one year.

Period of time living at the property**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**

(Number and percent of respondents with a dwelling on their property that is the primary place of residence and providing a response)

| Period | Landowners | |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Less than one year | 14 | 4.5% |
| One to less than five years | 58 | 18.6% |
| Five to less than ten years | 42 | 13.5% |
| Ten years or more | 197 | 63.3% |
| Not stated | 1 | |
| Total | 312 | 100% |



Suburb of residence

Respondents that have lived for less than five years on the property:

“In which postcode did you previously live?”

A total of sixty-two respondents provided a previous postcode of residence. Of these thirty-one of the sixty-two (fifty percent) had previously lived in metropolitan Melbourne.

Previous postcode of residence
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of respondents living on property less than five years)

| <i>Suburb</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Suburb</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| International | 6 | Canterbury | 1 |
| Woodend | 5 | Ringwood East | 1 |
| Interstate | 4 | South Yarra | 1 |
| Cherokee | 3 | Ashburton | 1 |
| Werribee | 2 | Prahran | 1 |
| Ascot Vale | 2 | St Kilda East | 1 |
| Moonee Ponds | 2 | Brighton East | 1 |
| Hawthorn | 2 | Port Melbourne | 1 |
| Sunbury | 2 | Swan Island | 1 |
| Kyneton | 2 | Clunes | 1 |
| Melbourne | 1 | Diggers Rest | 1 |
| St Kilda Rd | 1 | Clarkefield | 1 |
| Southbank | 1 | Macedon | 1 |
| Yarraville | 1 | Malmsbury | 1 |
| Williamstown | 1 | Elphinstone | 1 |
| Glenroy | 1 | Elerated Plains | 1 |
| North Melbourne | 1 | Tooborac | 1 |
| Carlton North | 1 | Bendigo | 1 |
| Fawkner | 1 | Kilmore | 1 |
| Northcote | 1 | Moorooduc | 1 |
| Preston | 1 | Not stated | 23 |
| Eltham | 1 | Total | 85 |



Agricultural production

Income from agricultural production from land

Respondents were asked:

“Do you earn any income from agricultural production from your land located in the Macedon Ranges Shire?”

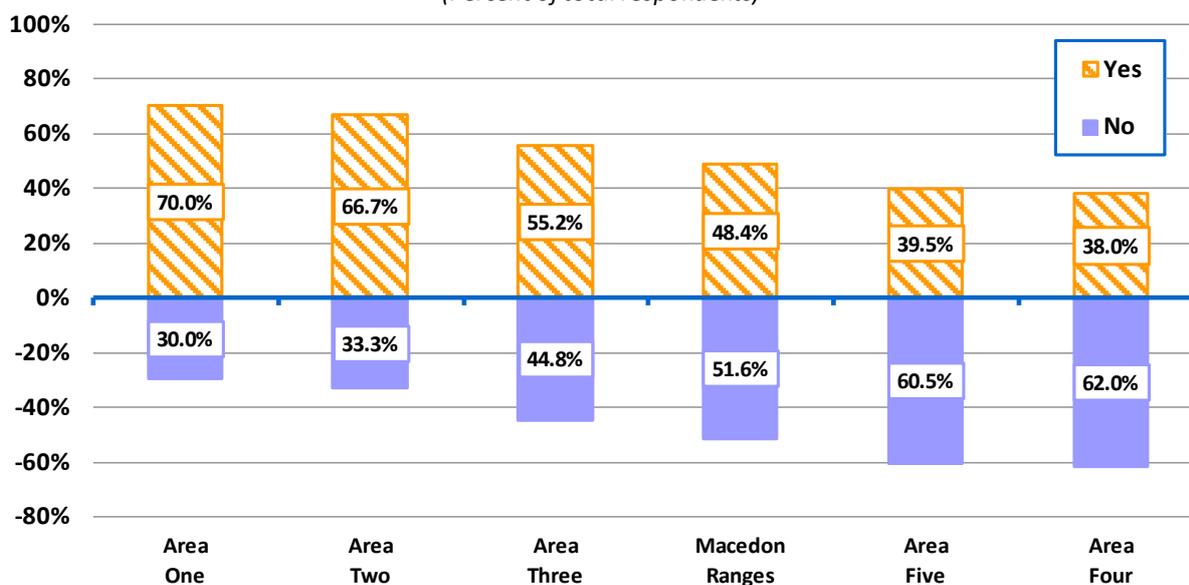
Respondents were almost evenly split between those that earn some income from agricultural production from their land (48.4%) and those that do not (51.6%). There was some variation in this result observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One and Two** – respondents were significantly more likely than to earn income from agricultural production from their land.
- **Area Four and Five** – respondents were significantly less likely than average to earn income from agricultural production from their land.

Earn income from agricultural production from land
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
 (Number and percent of total respondents)

| Response | Landowners | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Yes | 236 | 48.4% |
| No | 252 | 51.6% |
| Total | 488 | 100% |

Earn income from agricultural production from land by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
 (Percent of total respondents)



Land area in use for agriculture in the Shire

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“What is the land area you have in use for agriculture in the Shire?”

The majority of respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their property reported that they have between ten and less than 100 hectares of land in use for agriculture within the Shire. A little less than one-sixth (14.6%) have less than ten hectares in production, and approximately one-quarter (25.9%) have 100 hectares or more in production.

Land area in use for agriculture in the Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Land area | Landowners | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Less than 4 hectares | 17 | 7.3% |
| 4 to less than 10 hectares | 17 | 7.3% |
| 10 to less than 40 hectares | 63 | 27.2% |
| 40 to less than 100 hectares | 75 | 32.3% |
| 100 to less than 500 hectares | 45 | 19.4% |
| 500 hectares or more | 15 | 6.5% |
| Not stated | 4 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |

There was some variation in the land area in use for agriculture in the Shire observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – the overwhelming majority of the small sample from Area One had 100 hectares or more in use for agricultural production.
- **Area Two** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to have between forty and less than 100 hectares in use for agricultural production.
- **Area Four** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to have less than forty hectares in use for agricultural production.
- **Area Five** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to have between four and forty hectares in use for agricultural production.



Land area in use for agriculture in the Shire by area**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey***(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)*

| <i>Land area</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Less than 4 hectares | 7.1% | 2.2% | 5.6% | 14.6% | 8.8% |
| 4 to less than 40 hectares | 0.0% | 26.7% | 38.9% | 41.7% | 44.1% |
| 40 to less than 100 hectares | 7.1% | 51.1% | 27.8% | 35.4% | 26.5% |
| 100 hectares or more | 85.7% | 20.0% | 27.8% | 8.3% | 20.6% |
| Not stated | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 14 | 46 | 37 | 49 | 34 |

The following table provides a cross-tabulation of the land area in use for agricultural production against the total land holdings of respondents. The sample size for some of these groups of respondents is very small and this should be borne in mind when examining these results.

Metropolis Research notes that whilst almost all respondents with landholdings of 100 hectares or more have the overwhelming majority (more than ninety percent) of their total land holding in use for agricultural production, this is not as strong a finding for respondents with smaller land holdings.

Whilst more than four-fifths (86.1%) of respondents with total land holdings of between forty and less than 100 hectares have the same area in use for agricultural production, this drops to approximately three-quarters for those with landholdings of between ten and less than forty hectares (76.8%), and for those with landholdings of four to less than ten hectares (71.4%).

Land area in use for agriculture by total landholding size**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey***(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)*

| <i>Land area in production</i> | <i>Total land holding (hectares)</i> | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| | <i>Less than 4</i> | <i>4 to less than 10</i> | <i>10 to less than 40</i> | <i>40 to less than 100</i> | <i>100 to less than 500</i> | <i>500 or more</i> |
| Less than 4 hectares | 77.8% | 21.4% | 7.2% | 2.5% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| 4 to less than 10 hectares | 11.1% | 71.4% | 8.7% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| 10 to less than 40 hectares | 0.0% | 0.0% | 76.8% | 10.1% | 2.3% | 0.0% |
| 40 to less than 100 hectares | 11.1% | 7.1% | 7.2% | 86.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| 100 to less than 500 hectares | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.3% | 95.5% | 6.7% |
| 500 hectares or more | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.3% | 93.3% |
| Not stated | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 9 | 15 | 71 | 80 | 44 | 15 |



Approximate turnover of agribusiness in the last financial year

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“What was the approximate turnover of your agribusiness in the last financial year?”

Of the respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their land in the Macedon Ranges Shire, almost three-quarters (72.2%) turned over less than \$50,000 in the last financial year.

Approximate turnover of agribusiness in last financial year
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| <i>Income</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Less than \$10,000 | 68 | 37.2% |
| \$10,000 to less than \$20,000 | 25 | 13.7% |
| \$20,000 to less than \$50,000 | 39 | 21.3% |
| \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 | 21 | 11.5% |
| \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 | 16 | 8.7% |
| \$300,000 to less than \$500,000 | 6 | 3.3% |
| \$500,000 to less than \$1 million | 1 | 0.5% |
| \$1 million or more | 7 | 3.8% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 53 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |

There was some variation in the approximate turnover of the respondents agribusiness in the last financial year observed across the municipality, which does appear to be related, at least in part to the land area in use for agricultural production (discussed in the previous section).

Attention is drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – the small sample of respondents from Area One were more likely than average to turnover \$100,000 or more in the last financial year.
- **Area Two** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to turn over between \$20,000 and less than \$100,000 in the last financial year.
- **Area Four and Area Five** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to turn over less than \$20,000 in the last financial year.



Approximate turnover of agribusiness in last financial year by area**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey***(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)*

| <i>Income</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Less than \$20,000 | 14.3% | 36.8% | 40.0% | 64.9% | 67.7% |
| \$20,000 to less than \$50,000 | 0.0% | 31.6% | 33.3% | 8.1% | 19.4% |
| \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 | 14.3% | 18.4% | 3.3% | 21.6% | 3.2% |
| \$100,000 to less than \$500,000 | 57.1% | 10.5% | 16.7% | 5.4% | 9.7% |
| \$500,000 or more | 14.3% | 2.6% | 6.7% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 7 | 8 | 7 | 12 | 3 |
| Total | 14 | 46 | 37 | 49 | 34 |

Estimation of the contribution of each category to agribusiness turnover

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“Can you please estimate the percentage contribution of each category to your agribusiness turnover?”

Respondents earning some income from agricultural production from their landholdings were asked what proportion of their agribusiness was sourced from each of ten categories listed on the survey form.

The following table provides the proportion of respondents earning nothing and then quartiles of income, as well as the average percentage of income from each category and then finally the percent of respondents that earn at least something from each category.

Estimation of contribution of each category to agribusiness turnover**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey***(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)*

| <i>Category</i> | <i>0%</i> | <i>1% to 25%</i> | <i>26% - 50%</i> | <i>51% - 75%</i> | <i>76% - 100%</i> | <i>Average percent</i> | <i>Total percent</i> |
|---|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Livestock - sheep (<i>meat and wool</i>) | 60.6% | 6.4% | 10.2% | 5.9% | 16.9% | 26.1% | 39.4% |
| Livestock - cattle (<i>beef</i>) | 47.0% | 4.7% | 11.9% | 3.8% | 32.6% | 40.4% | 53.0% |
| Livestock products (<i>eggs, milk</i>) | 96.2% | 2.1% | 1.3% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 1.1% | 3.8% |
| Hay and silage | 76.7% | 17.8% | 3.4% | 0.8% | 1.3% | 5.6% | 23.3% |
| Broad-acre crops | 97.9% | 1.3% | 0.8% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.5% | 2.1% |
| Horticulture (<i>fruit and vegetables</i>) | 94.1% | 1.3% | 1.3% | 0.0% | 3.4% | 4.1% | 5.9% |
| Viticulture | 97.5% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 1.7% | 1.9% | 2.5% |
| Rural tourism (<i>e.g. holiday rentals</i>) | 96.2% | 0.8% | 0.8% | 0.0% | 2.1% | 2.3% | 3.8% |
| Equine | 91.5% | 1.7% | 0.8% | 0.0% | 5.9% | 6.3% | 8.5% |
| Other | 92.8% | 1.3% | 0.8% | 0.4% | 4.7% | 5.5% | 7.2% |

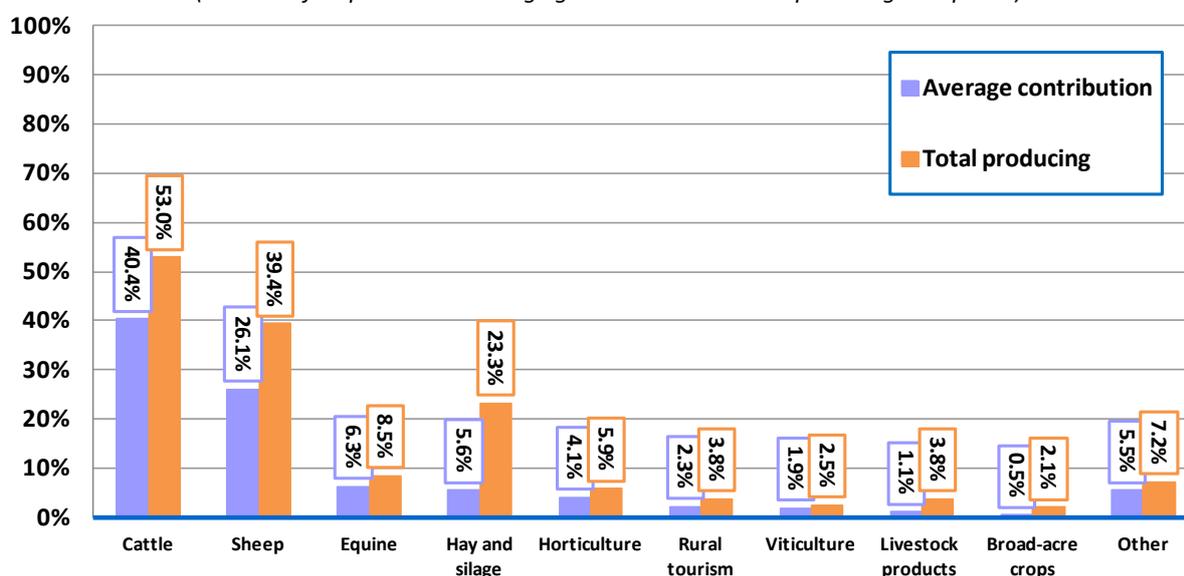


Livestock production both cattle (beef) and sheep (meat and wool) were the two most common categories of agricultural production that respondents earn income from in their agribusiness.

- **Livestock cattle (beef)** - a little more than half (53.0%) of respondents earn at least something from beef cattle, and on average beef cattle contributes 40.4% of their agribusiness turnover.
- **Livestock sheep (meat and wool)** - a little more than one-third (39.4%) of respondents earn at least something from sheep, and on average sheep contributes a little more than one-quarter (26.1%) of their agribusiness turnover.
- **Hay and silage** – almost one-quarter (23.3%) of respondents earn at least something from hay and silage, although on average this contributes less than six percent (5.6%) to their agribusiness turnover.

Average and total percentage contribution of each category to agribusiness turnover
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)



The following table provides a breakdown of these results for respondents from each of the municipality’s five rural areas. Attention is drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – the small sample of respondents from Area One were significantly more likely than average to be earning some income from cattle.
- **Area Two** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to be earning some income from hay and silage.
- **Area Three** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to be earning some income from equine.
- **Area Four** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to be earning some income from horticulture.
- **Area Five** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to be earning some income from hay and silage and rural tourism.



Estimation of contribution of each category to agribusiness turnover by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Category | Area One | | Area Two | | Area Three | | Area Four | | Area Five | |
|---|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Average | Total | Average | Total | Average | Total | Average | Total | Average | Total |
| Livestock - sheep (<i>meat and wool</i>) | 72.3% | 100.0% | 23.9% | 37.0% | 18.1% | 27.0% | 19.8% | 26.5% | 25.7% | 35.3% |
| Livestock - cattle (<i>beef</i>) | 20.1% | 50.0% | 45.4% | 58.7% | 46.3% | 62.2% | 41.1% | 49.0% | 32.4% | 38.2% |
| Livestock products (<i>eggs, milk</i>) | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.6% | 4.3% | 0.3% | 2.7% | 1.3% | 6.1% | 1.3% | 2.9% |
| Hay and silage | 0.0% | 0.0% | 8.5% | 34.8% | 2.7% | 10.8% | 3.8% | 16.3% | 9.0% | 35.3% |
| Broad-acre crops | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 5.4% | 1.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 2.9% |
| Horticulture (<i>fruit and vegetables</i>) | 6.8% | 14.3% | 0.9% | 2.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 10.6% | 14.3% | 7.4% | 8.8% |
| Viticulture | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.2% | 2.2% | 0.3% | 2.7% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 4.3% | 5.9% |
| Rural tourism (<i>e.g. holiday rentals</i>) | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 2.2% | 4.1% | 8.1% | 1.8% | 2.0% | 8.5% | 11.8% |
| Equine | 0.1% | 7.1% | 3.3% | 4.3% | 16.0% | 18.9% | 6.6% | 10.2% | 5.6% | 5.9% |
| Other | 0.7% | 7.1% | 5.6% | 8.7% | 6.0% | 8.1% | 6.1% | 6.1% | 1.8% | 2.9% |
| Total respondents | | 14 | | 46 | | 37 | | 49 | | 34 |

The following table outlines the other categories from which respondents earn some income for their agribusiness.

Other categories to agribusiness turnover
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Category | Landowners | |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Alpaca | 4 | 28.6% |
| Forestry | 3 | 21.4% |
| Flowers | 2 | 14.3% |
| Agistment | 1 | 7.1% |
| Conservation | 1 | 7.1% |
| Tree nursery | 1 | 7.1% |
| SPF chicken | 1 | 7.1% |
| Training | 1 | 7.1% |
| Not stated | 3 | |
| Total responses | 17 | 100% |

Proportion of household income earned from agribusiness

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“Approximately what proportion of your household income is earned from your agribusiness?”

Approximately two-thirds (68.2%) of respondents earning some income from agricultural production from their landholdings in the Macedon Ranges Shire reported that they earn less than thirty percent of their household income from their agribusiness, with almost half (47.3%) earning less than ten percent.

Proportion of household income earned from agribusiness
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| <i>Percentage</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Less than 10% | 86 | 47.3% |
| 10% to less than 30% | 38 | 20.9% |
| 30% to less than 50% | 15 | 8.2% |
| 50% or more | 43 | 23.6% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 54 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |

There was some variation in the proportion of household income earned from the agribusiness observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – the small sample of respondents from Area One were significantly more likely than average to earn between thirty and less than fifty percent of their household income from the agribusiness.
- **Area Four and Five** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to earn less than thirty percent of their household income from the agribusiness.

Proportion of household income earned from agribusiness by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| <i>Percentage</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Less than 10% | 7.7% | 50.0% | 42.9% | 55.3% | 58.6% |
| 10% to less than 30% | 0.0% | 17.6% | 21.4% | 28.9% | 24.1% |
| 30% to less than 50% | 92.3% | 11.8% | 17.9% | 2.6% | 6.9% |
| 50% or more | 0.0% | 20.6% | 17.9% | 13.2% | 10.3% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 1 | 12 | 9 | 11 | 5 |
| Total | 14 | 46 | 37 | 49 | 34 |

Change in gross income from agribusiness

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“Over the last five years, has the gross income from your agribusiness?”

Respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their landholdings in the Macedon Ranges Shire were more than twice as likely to have their agribusiness income increase (44.2%) than decrease (18.9%) in the last five years.

Approximately one-third (36.8%) reported that their agribusiness income had remained about the same in the last five years, and it is also noted that forty-six of the 236 respondents did not provide a response to this question.

Change in gross income from agribusiness in last 5 years
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| <i>Change</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Increased a lot | 18 | 9.5% |
| Increased a little | 66 | 34.7% |
| Remained about the same | 70 | 36.8% |
| Decreased a little | 12 | 6.3% |
| Decreased a lot | 24 | 12.6% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 46 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |

There was relatively little variation in the change in gross income from the agribusiness in the last five years observed across the municipality, although it is noted that:

- **Area One** – the small sample of respondents from Area One were notably more likely than average to report that their agribusiness income had increased in the last five years.



Change in gross income from agribusiness in the last 5 years by area**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey***(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)*

| <i>Change</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Increased (<i>a lot / a little</i>) | 76.9% | 39.5% | 36.7% | 45.7% | 46.4% |
| Remained about the same | 23.1% | 42.1% | 40.0% | 25.7% | 39.3% |
| Decreased (<i>a lot / a little</i>) | 0.0% | 18.5% | 23.3% | 28.5% | 14.3% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 1 | 8 | 7 | 14 | 6 |
| Total | 14 | 46 | 37 | 49 | 34 |

Likelihood of increasing production from agribusiness

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“How likely is it that your agribusiness will significantly increase production in the next ten years?”

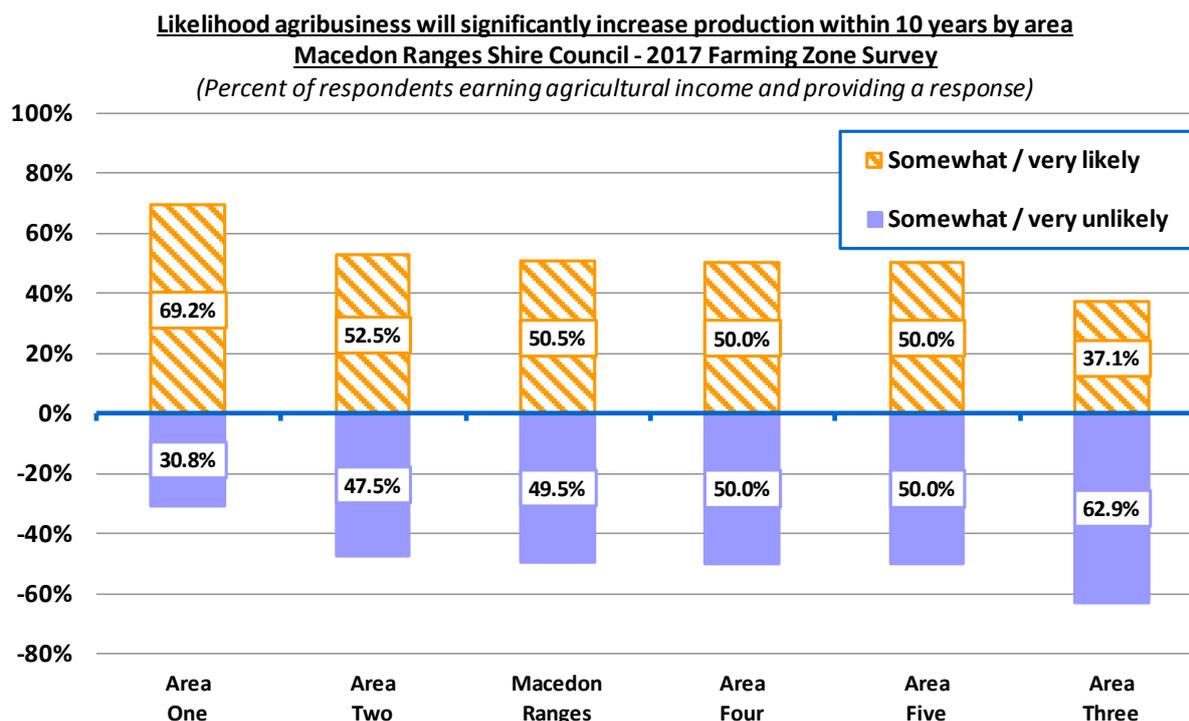
Respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their landholdings in the Macedon Ranges Shire were evenly split in terms of the likelihood that their agribusiness will significantly increase production within the next ten years.

Likelihood agribusiness will significant increase production within 10 years**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey***(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)*

| <i>Likelihood</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Very likely | 41 | 19.5% |
| Somewhat likely | 63 | 30.0% |
| Somewhat unlikely | 43 | 20.5% |
| Very unlikely | 63 | 30.0% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 26 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |

There was some variation in this result observed across the municipality, with the small sample of respondents from Area One somewhat more likely to significantly increase production in the next ten years, and respondents from Area Three somewhat less likely.





Barriers inhibiting the operation or expansion of agribusiness

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“On a scale from zero (not at all) to ten (very significant), to what degree are each of the following a barrier inhibiting the operation or expansion of your agribusiness?”

Respondents were asked to rate to what degree each of eight aspects were a barrier inhibiting the operation or expansion of their agribusiness.

The results are presented in two forms, firstly as an average significant score out of ten, where scores of more than five represent a degree of significance, and scores of less than five represent degrees of non-significance.

The results then also broken down into those respondents that considered the aspect a significant barrier (rated eight or more), those rating the aspect as neutral to somewhat significant (rating five to seven), and those rating the aspect as not a significant barrier (rating zero to four).

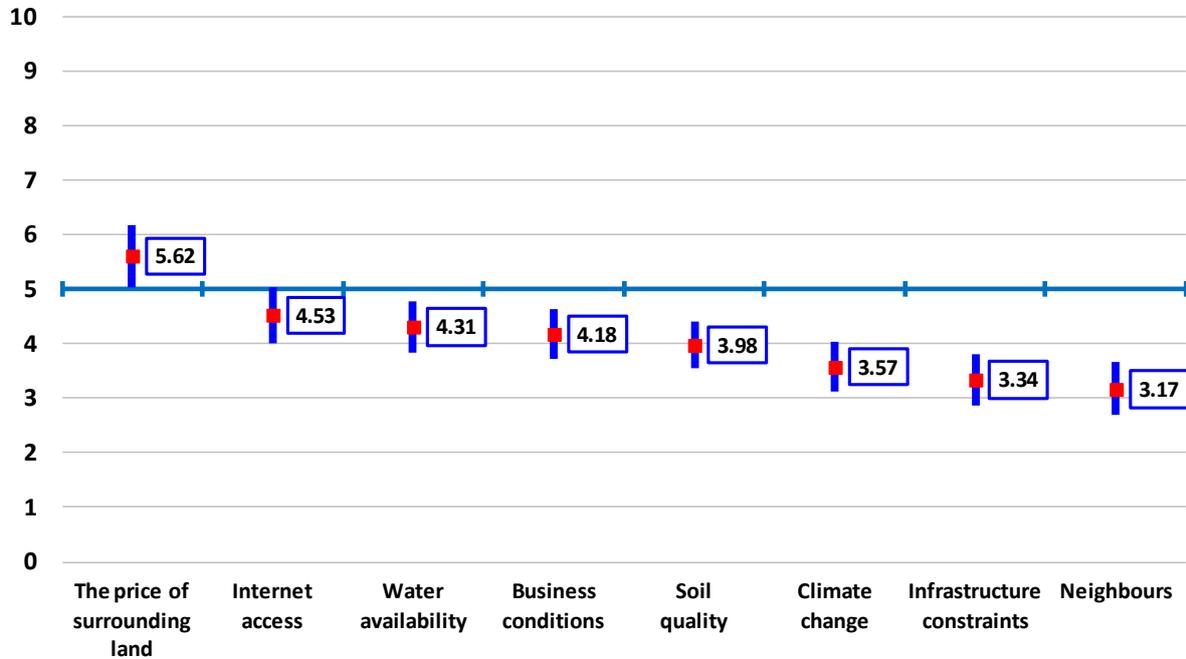
Attention is drawn to the fact that of the eight aspects, only one was on average rated as a barrier inhibiting the operation or expansion of the respondents’ agribusiness, with the price of surrounding land (5.62) rated on average as a mildly significant barrier. Almost half (46.2%) the respondents rated this as a significant barrier inhibiting the operation or expansion of their agribusiness.

Whilst on average respondents did not rate the other seven other aspects as significant barriers to the operation or expansion of their agribusiness, it is important to note that approximately one-sixth or more respondents rated each of the seven other aspects as a significant barrier to the operation or expansion of their agribusiness.

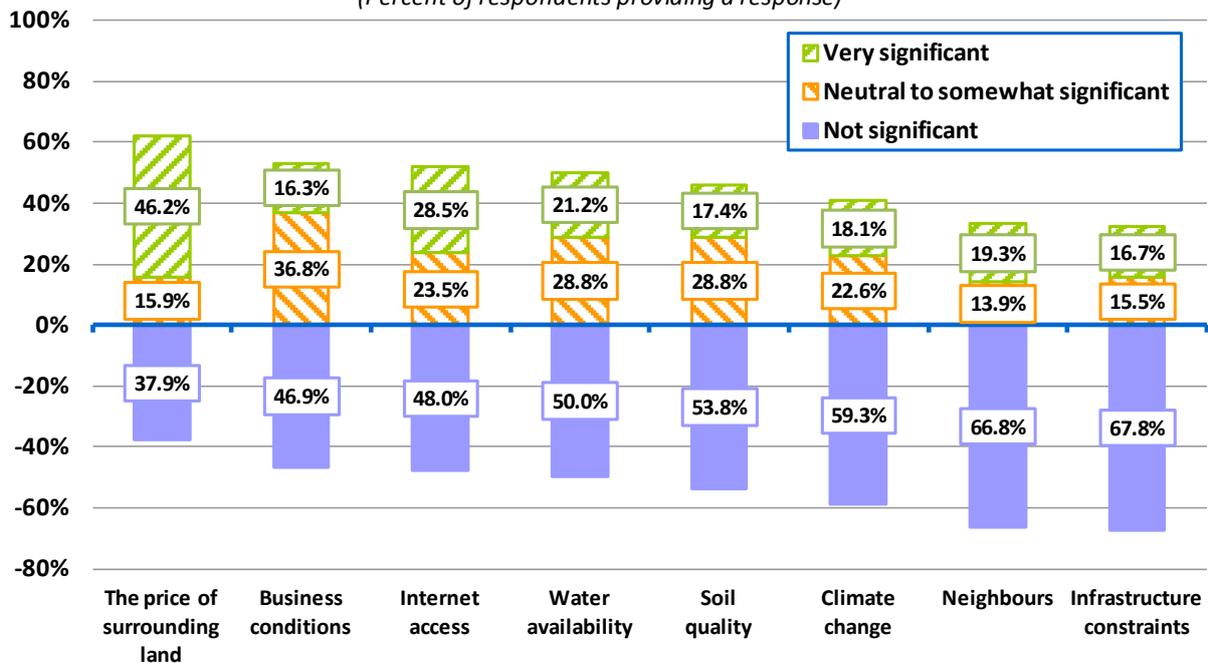


Particular attention is drawn to the fact that more than one-quarter (28.5%) of respondents rated internet access as a very significant barrier to the operation or expansion of their agribusiness.

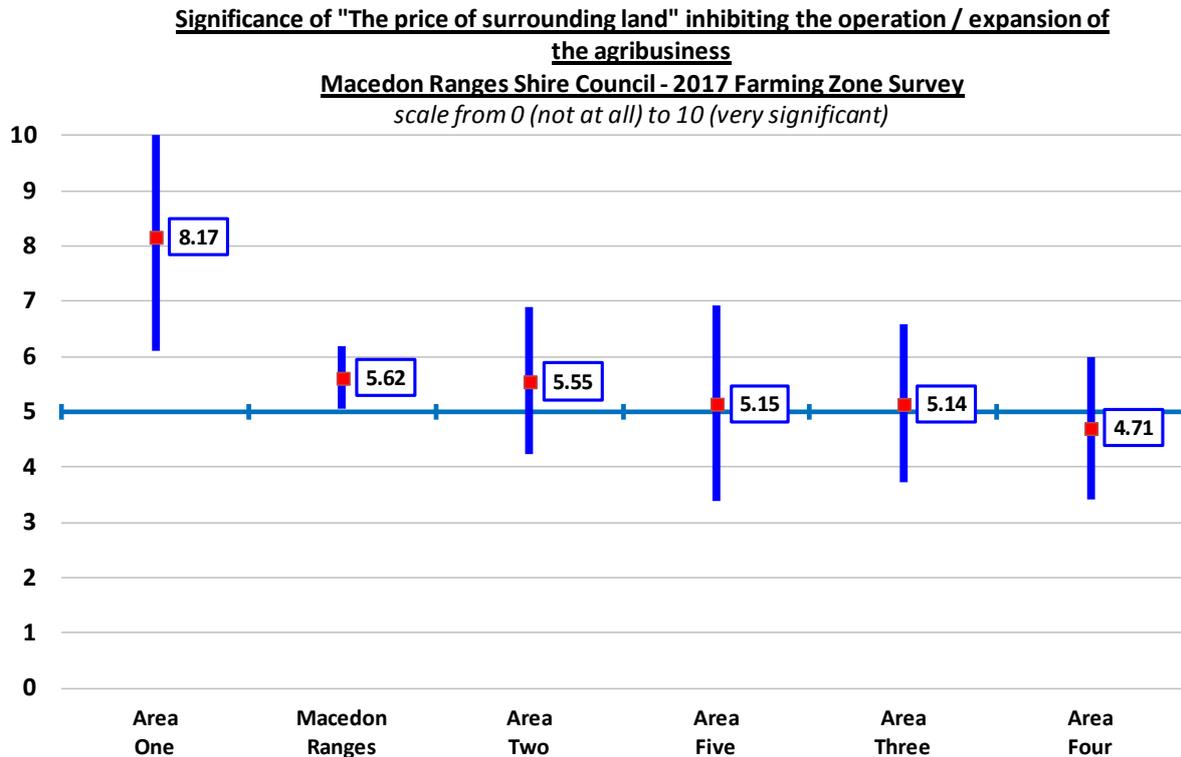
Significance of barriers inhibiting the operation / expansion of the agribusiness
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (very significant)



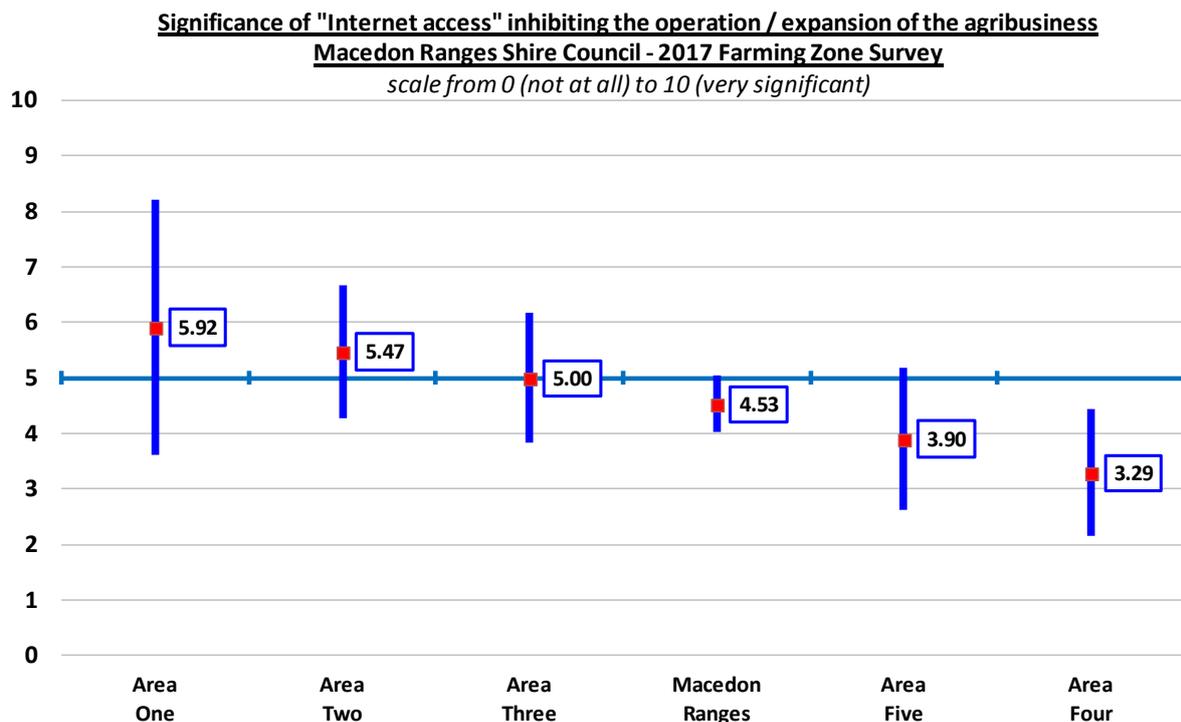
Significance of barriers inhibiting the operation / expansion of the agribusiness
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Percent of respondents providing a response)



The price of surrounding land was a significantly (albeit not measurably due to the small sample size) more of a barrier inhibiting their agribusiness for respondents from Area One.



Although not statistically significant due to the small sample sizes, it is noted that respondents from Areas One and Two rated internet access significantly more of a barrier inhibiting their agribusiness than respondents from Areas Four and Five.



Agribusiness stage

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“At what stage is your agribusiness?”

Whilst approximately two-thirds (63.4%) of respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their landholdings reported that their agribusiness was in a steady stage, approximately twice as many reported that it was in an expansion stage (24.9%) as a winding down stage (11.7%).

Agribusiness stage
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Stage | Landowners | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Expansion stage | 51 | 24.9% |
| Steady stage | 130 | 63.4% |
| Winding down stage | 24 | 11.7% |
| Prefer not to say / can't say | 31 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |

The small sample of respondents from Area One were notably more likely than average to report that their agribusiness was in an expansion stage.

Agribusiness stage by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Stage | Area One | Area Two | Area Three | Area Four | Area Five |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Expansion stage | 41.7% | 23.8% | 14.7% | 25.6% | 31.0% |
| Steady stage | 58.3% | 66.7% | 70.6% | 59.0% | 58.6% |
| Winding down stage | 0.0% | 9.5% | 14.7% | 15.4% | 10.3% |
| Prefer not to say / can't say | 2 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 5 |
| Total | 14 | 46 | 37 | 49 | 34 |



Considering purchasing or leasing more agricultural land

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“Are you considering purchasing or leasing more agricultural land in the Macedon Ranges Shire within the next ten years?”

A little less than one-third (30.6%) of respondents earning income from agricultural production from their landholdings reported that that they definitely (8.1%) or maybe (22.5%) considering purchasing or leasing more agricultural land in the Macedon Ranges Shire within the next ten years.

**Considering purchasing / leasing more agricultural land in Macedon Ranges
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Response | Landowners | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Yes - definitely | 19 | 8.1% |
| Yes - possibly | 53 | 22.5% |
| No | 142 | 60.2% |
| Prefer not to say / can't say | 22 | 9.3% |
| Total | 236 | 31% |

The small sample of respondents from Area One were notably more likely than average to definitely be considering purchasing or leasing more agricultural land in the Macedon Ranges Shire in the next ten years.

**Considering purchasing / leasing more agricultural land in Macedon Ranges by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Response | Area One | Area Two | Area Three | Area Four | Area Five |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Yes - definitely | 35.7% | 4.3% | 5.4% | 6.1% | 0.0% |
| Yes - possibly | 14.3% | 28.3% | 27.0% | 18.4% | 23.5% |
| No | 42.9% | 56.5% | 62.2% | 61.2% | 70.6% |
| Prefer not to say / can't say | 7.1% | 10.9% | 5.4% | 14.3% | 5.9% |
| Total | 14 | 46 | 37 | 49 | 34 |



Location

Respondents who earned agricultural income and considered purchasing / leasing more agricultural land were asked:

“If yes, where?”

Of the seventy-two respondents that may be considering purchasing or leasing more agricultural land in the Macedon Ranges Shire in the next ten years, only thirty-one provided a response as to the potential location. The most common responses were that they would prefer land as close as possible to their current landholdings, as is clearly outlined in the following table.

**Locations where considering purchasing / leasing more agricultural land in Macedon Ranges
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Response | Landowners | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| As close as possible / nearby / local | 14 | 45.2% |
| Kyneton area | 2 | 6.5% |
| Lancefield | 2 | 6.5% |
| Area 2 | 1 | 3.2% |
| Area 4 | 1 | 3.2% |
| Between Woodend and Kyneton | 1 | 3.2% |
| Farm area 3 | 1 | 3.2% |
| In the Spring Hill area | 1 | 3.2% |
| Kyneton south | 1 | 3.2% |
| Macedon Ranges | 1 | 3.2% |
| MRS | 1 | 3.2% |
| Mulsbury area | 1 | 3.2% |
| Pastoria | 1 | 3.2% |
| Ramsey Deistrict | 1 | 3.2% |
| Romsey / Lancefield | 1 | 3.2% |
| Sidonia | 1 | 3.2% |
| Not stated | 41 | |
| Total | 72 | 100% |



Potential diversification of agricultural business

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“Are you looking to diversify your agricultural business to include any of the following categories?”

A little less than half (40.3%) of respondents earning some income from agricultural production from their land identified at least one potential area of diversification of their agricultural business, identifying an average of less than two potential areas per respondent.

The most common areas of potential diversification were produce sales (23.7%) and accommodation (13.1%).

Metropolis Research does note however that a small number of respondents identified a wide range of areas of potential diversification of their agribusiness.

Potential diversification of agricultural business
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Response | Landowners | |
|--|-----------------------|---------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Produce sales | 56 | 23.7% |
| Accommodation | 31 | 13.1% |
| Equine | 17 | 7.2% |
| Animal training | 16 | 6.8% |
| Intensive animal industry | 11 | 4.7% |
| Place of assembly | 7 | 3.0% |
| Winery | 6 | 2.5% |
| Animal keeping | 5 | 2.1% |
| Rural industry | 5 | 2.1% |
| Restaurant | 2 | 0.8% |
| Other | 8 | 3.4% |
| Total responses | 164 | |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one potential new category</i> | <i>95 (40.3%)</i> | |

It is important to bear in mind when examining these results at the area level to take account of the small sample size at the area level of less than thirty respondents per area.



Attention is however drawn to the following:

- **Area Four** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to potentially diversify into accommodation.
- **Area Five** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to potentially diversify into produce sales, intensive animal industry, and place of assembly.

Potential diversification of agricultural business by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Produce sales | 21.4% | 26.1% | 10.8% | 20.4% | 41.2% |
| Accommodation | 7.1% | 6.5% | 10.8% | 22.4% | 14.7% |
| Equine | 0.0% | 6.5% | 8.1% | 8.2% | 8.8% |
| Animal training | 7.1% | 4.3% | 8.1% | 8.2% | 5.9% |
| Intensive animal industry | 0.0% | 2.2% | 0.0% | 6.1% | 11.8% |
| Place of assembly | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.7% | 4.1% | 8.8% |
| Winery | 0.0% | 2.2% | 5.4% | 4.1% | 0.0% |
| Animal keeping | 7.1% | 0.0% | 2.7% | 4.1% | 2.9% |
| Rural industry | 0.0% | 2.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.9% |
| Restaurant | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 4.1% | 0.0% |
| Other | 0.0% | 2.2% | 5.4% | 0.0% | 8.8% |
| Total responses | 6 | 24 | 20 | 40 | 36 |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one potential new category</i> | 5 (35.7%) | 18 (39.1%) | 11 (29.7%) | 20 (40.8%) | 20 (58.8%) |

Proportion of farming inputs sourced from within the Shire

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“What proportion of your farming inputs are sourced from within the Macedon Ranges Shire?”

Of the respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their land and able to provide a response to this questions, a little more than half (69.9%) reported that more than half of their farming inputs are sourced from within the Shire.

Proportion of farming inputs sourced from within Macedon Ranges
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Stage | Landowners | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| None | 19 | 9.7% |
| Less than half | 40 | 20.4% |
| More than half | 137 | 69.9% |
| Prefer not to say / can't say | 40 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |

Land management

Managing the land area on the property

Respondents who earned agricultural income were asked:

“How do you mostly manage the land area on your property?”

Of the respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their landholdings, the overwhelming majority (86.5%) farmed the property themselves (or their family), and a little more than ten percent (11.8%) had the property farmed by a third party.

Manage the land area on the property
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents earning agricultural income and providing a response)

| Stage | Landowners | |
|--|------------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Farmed by myself / my family | 198 | 86.5% |
| Farmed by a third party | 27 | 11.8% |
| Not farmed and managed by myself / my family | 1 | 0.4% |
| Not farmed and managed by a third party | 3 | 1.3% |
| Not stated | 7 | |
| Total | 236 | 100% |



Land management practices

Respondents were asked:

“Which of the following land management practices are you undertaking on your property?”

Almost all (95.3%) of respondents identified at least one land management practice undertaken on their property, and these respondents identified an average of more than four land management practices each.

The two land management practices most commonly undertaken by respondents were weed control (86.9%) and fire preparedness (82.4%).

More than half of the respondents reported that they were engaged in pasture improvement (54.3%), and pest animal control (54.3%). A significant proportion of respondents were also engaged in each of the other four listed practices.

There was measurable and significant variation in these results between respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their landholdings and those that do not. Respondents that earn some income from agricultural production from their land engaged in an average of 5.4 of the listed land management practices each, whilst respondents that do not earn income from agricultural production from their land engage in an average of 3.6 practices each.

It is noted however that regardless of whether they earn income from agricultural production from their land, more than four-fifths of respondents engage in both weed control and fire preparedness.

Land management practices undertaken on the property
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| Response | Landowners | | Earn agri-income* | |
|--|----------------|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Number | Percent | Yes | No |
| Weed control | 424 | 86.9% | 90.3% | 83.7% |
| Fire preparedness | 402 | 82.4% | 80.5% | 84.1% |
| Pasture improvement | 265 | 54.3% | 75.8% | 34.1% |
| Pest animal control | 265 | 54.3% | 73.7% | 36.1% |
| Soil health improvement | 219 | 44.9% | 62.3% | 28.6% |
| Revegetation / establishment of biolinks | 203 | 41.6% | 51.7% | 32.1% |
| Protection of native vegetation | 178 | 36.5% | 43.6% | 29.8% |
| Repairing soil erosion | 123 | 25.2% | 36.4% | 14.7% |
| Other | 24 | 4.9% | 4.2% | 5.6% |
| Total responses | 2,103 | | 1,224 | 879 |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one land management practice</i> | <i>465</i> | | <i>227</i> | <i>238</i> |
| | <i>(95.3%)</i> | | <i>(96.2%)</i> | <i>(94.4%)</i> |

(*) Earn income from agricultural production on the land

There was some variation in the land management practices undertaken on the property observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – the small sample of respondents from Area One were notably more likely than average to engage in pasture improvement, pest animal control, protection of native vegetation, and repairing soil erosion.
- **Area Two** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to engage in pasture improvement, pest animal control, protection of native vegetation, and repairing soil erosion.
- **Areas Three** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to engage in pasture improvement.

Land management practices undertaken on the property by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Weed control | 80.0% | 84.1% | 88.1% | 93.0% | 86.0% |
| Fire preparedness | 65.0% | 75.4% | 91.0% | 85.3% | 88.4% |
| Pasture improvement | 70.0% | 63.8% | 64.2% | 46.5% | 48.8% |
| Pest animal control | 90.0% | 63.8% | 58.2% | 48.8% | 45.3% |
| Soil health improvement | 50.0% | 44.9% | 50.7% | 47.3% | 40.7% |
| Revegetation / establishment of biolinks | 45.0% | 47.8% | 46.3% | 44.2% | 34.9% |
| Protection of native vegetation | 50.0% | 50.7% | 32.8% | 39.5% | 29.1% |
| Repairing soil erosion | 55.0% | 34.8% | 25.4% | 18.6% | 22.1% |
| Other | 10.0% | 4.3% | 6.0% | 3.9% | 8.1% |
| Total responses | 103 | 324 | 310 | 551 | 347 |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one land management practice</i> | <i>19</i> <i>(95.0%)</i> | <i>64</i> <i>(92.8%)</i> | <i>65</i> <i>(97.0%)</i> | <i>125</i> <i>(96.9%)</i> | <i>84</i> <i>(97.7%)</i> |

Issues as a challenge to implementing best practice land management

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale from zero (not at all) to ten (very significant), to what degree are each of the following a challenge to you implementing best practice land management?”

Respondents were asked to rate how significant each of four aspects were a challenge to them implementing best practice land management.

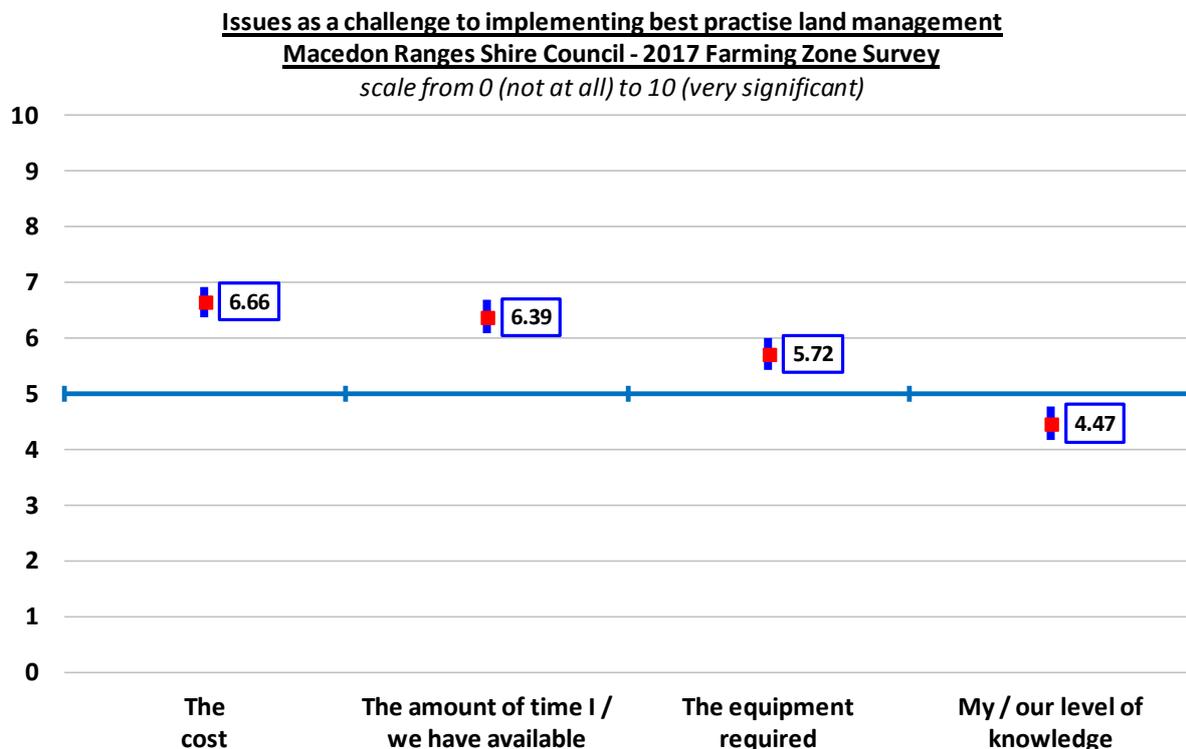
The following graphs provides firstly the average significance of these four aspects on a scale from zero (not at all) to ten (very significant) where five is neither significant not insignificant.

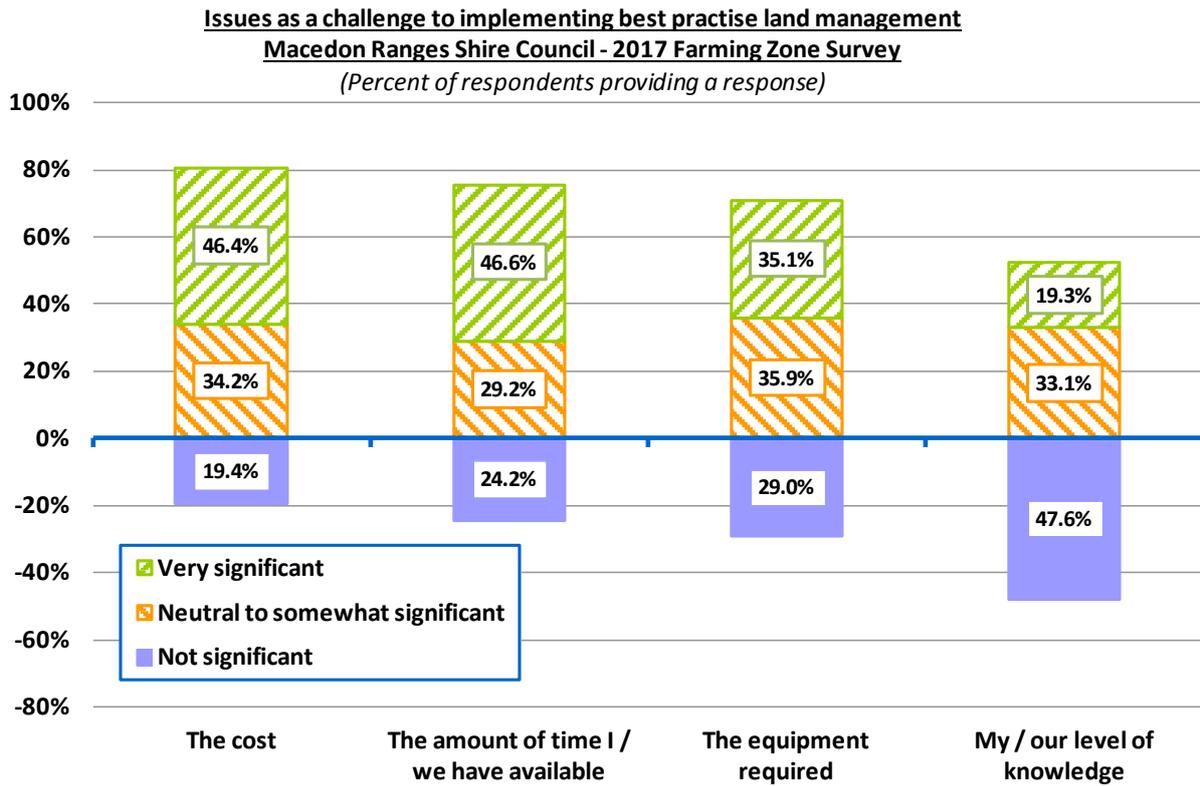


The second graph provides a breakdown of these results into those rating each aspect a very significant challenge (rating eight to ten), neutral to somewhat significant challenge (rating five to seven), and not a significant challenge (rating zero to four).

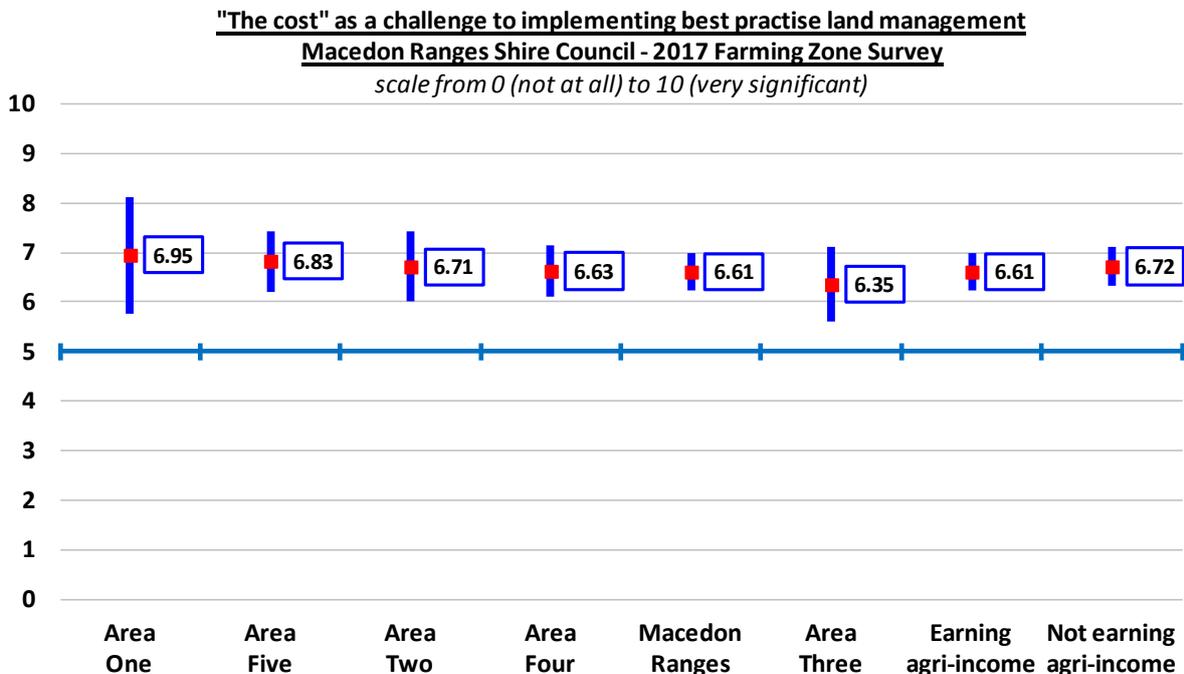
The average significance of these four aspects as a challenge to implementing best practice land management can best be summarised as follows:

- Moderately Significant** – the cost and the amount of time respondents have available. A little less than half of the respondents rated both of these aspects as a very significant challenge, whilst almost one-fifth (19.4%) rated the cost insignificant and one-quarter (24.2%) rated the amount of available time as insignificant as challenges to implementing best practice land management.
- Mildly Significant** – respondents on average rated the equipment required mildly significant, which reflects the fact that respondents were almost evenly split between those rating this very significant (35.1%), neutral to somewhat significant (35.9%), and insignificant (29.0%) as a challenge to implementing best practice land management.
- Mildly Insignificant** – respondents on average rated their level of knowledge as mildly insignificant as a challenge to implementing best practice land management. Almost half (47.6%) of respondents rated their level of knowledge as insignificant as a challenge, whilst almost one-fifth (19.3%) rated it significant as a challenge to implementing best practice land management.





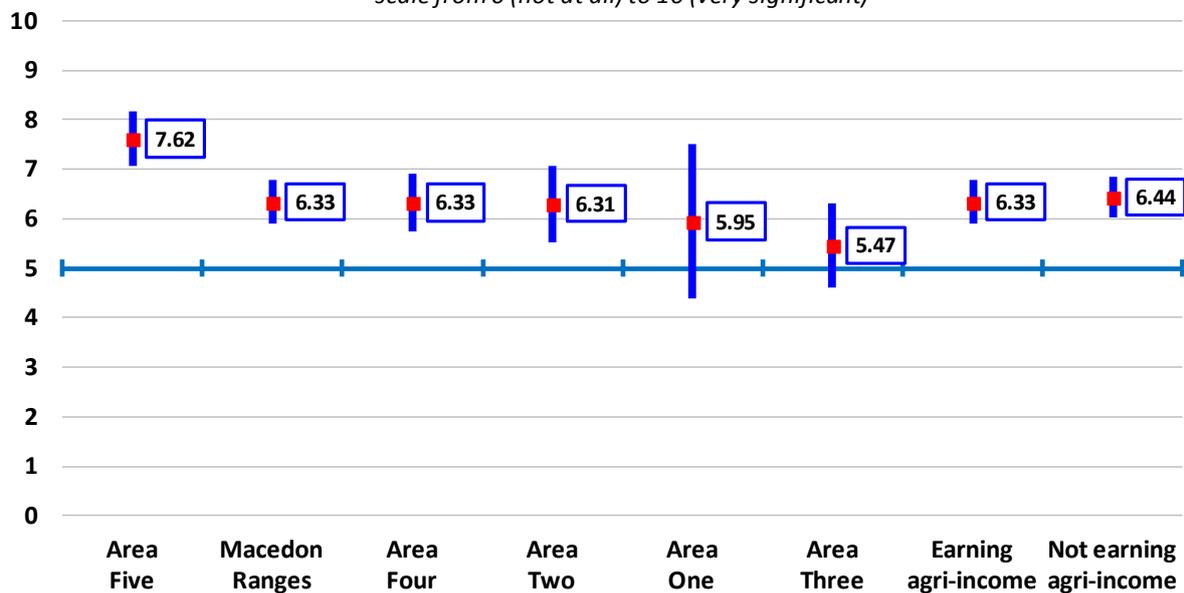
There was no measurable or significant variation in the average significance of cost as a challenge to implementing best practice land management observed across the municipality, or based on whether the respondents earn income from agricultural production from their landholdings.



There was measurable and significant variation in the average significance of the amount of time respondents have available as a challenge to implementing best practice land management observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area Five** – respondents rated the amount of time they have available measurably and significantly more of a challenge than average.
- **Area Three** – respondents rated the amount of time they have available somewhat, albeit not measurably less of a challenge than average.

"The amount of time I / we have available" as a challenge to implementing best practise land management
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (very significant)



There was no meaningful variation in the average significance of the equipment required as a challenge to implementing best practice land management observed across the municipality.

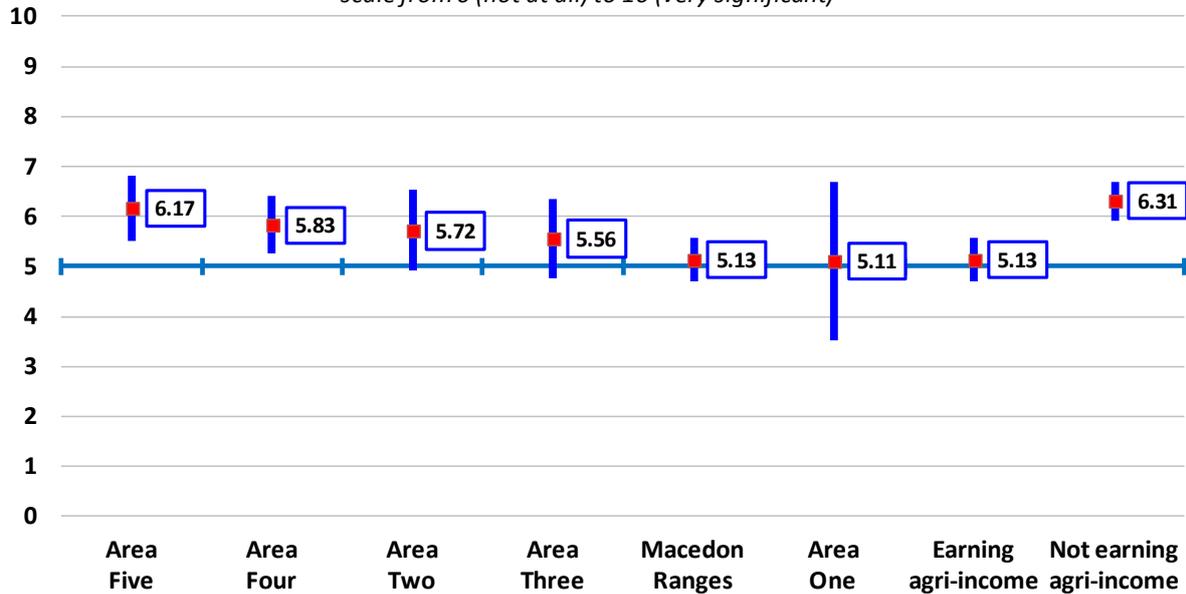
It is noted however that respondents that do not earn any income from agricultural production from their landholdings rated this aspect measurably and significantly higher as a challenge to implementing best practice land management than respondents that did earn income from their agricultural production.



"The equipment required" as a challenge to implementing best practise land management

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (very significant)

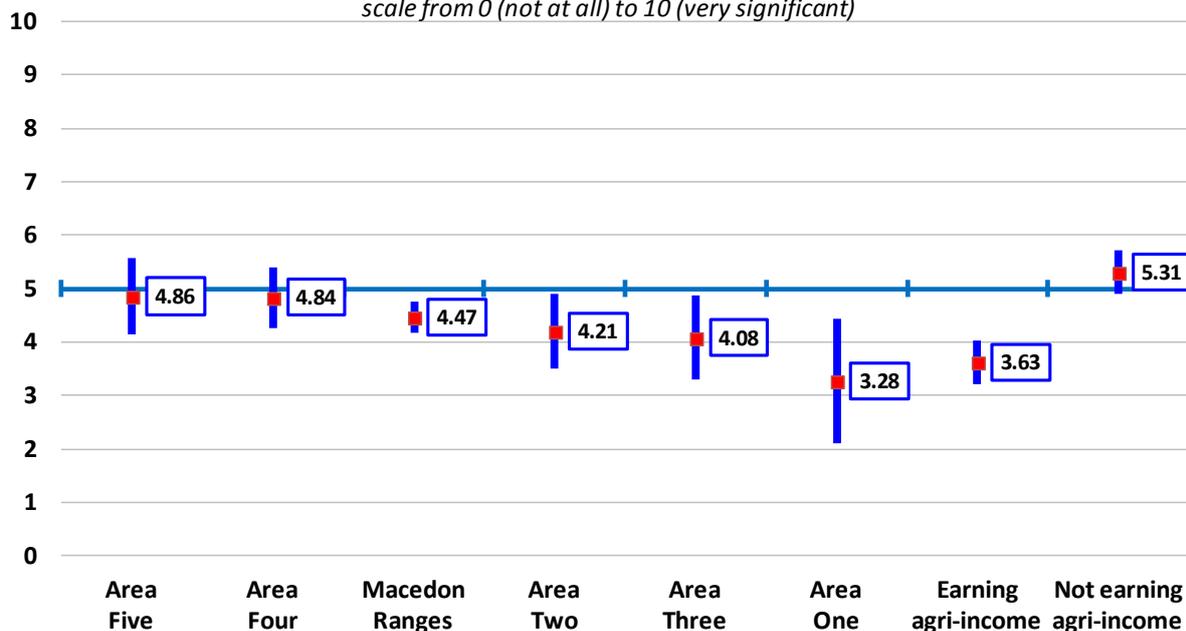


There was no measurable variation in the average significance of the respondents' level of knowledge as a challenge to implementing best practice land management observed across the municipality. It is noted however that respondents that do not earn income from agricultural production from their landholdings rated their level of knowledge as significantly more of a challenge to implementing best practice land management than respondents that do earn some income from agricultural production.

"My / our level of knowledge" as a challenge to implementing best practise land management

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (very significant)



Topics for further information or assistance

Respondents were asked:

“On which of the following topics would you like further information or assistance?”

A little less than two-thirds (61.7%) of respondents identified at least one topic about which they would like further information or assistance, identifying an average of approximately three topics per respondent.

The most common topics about which respondents would like further information or assistance were weed control (31.4%), pasture improvement (29.9%), soil health improvement (29.7%), and pest animal control (24.8%).

Metropolis Research notes that a small but significant proportion of respondents (more than ten percent) would like information or assistance on eight of the nine topics listed on the survey form.

There was some variation in the topics respondents about which respondents would like further information observed between those earning income from agricultural production from the landholdings, and those that do not, with attention drawn to the following:

- ***Earn income from agricultural production*** – respondents were more likely than those that do not earn income from agricultural production to want information on pasture improvement.
- ***Do not earn income from agricultural production*** – respondents were more likely than those that do earn income from agricultural production to want information on pest animal control.



Topics for further information or assistance
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | | <i>Earn agri-income*</i> | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Yes</i> | <i>No</i> |
| Weed control | 153 | 31.4% | 30.1% | 32.5% |
| Pasture improvement | 146 | 29.9% | 34.7% | 25.4% |
| Soil health improvement | 145 | 29.7% | 30.9% | 28.6% |
| Pest animal control | 121 | 24.8% | 22.5% | 27.0% |
| Revegetation / establishment of biolink: | 87 | 17.8% | 16.1% | 19.4% |
| Grazing | 72 | 14.8% | 15.7% | 13.9% |
| Fire preparedness | 60 | 12.3% | 10.2% | 14.3% |
| Protection of native vegetation | 59 | 12.1% | 9.3% | 14.7% |
| Repairing soil erosion | 41 | 8.4% | 10.2% | 6.7% |
| Other | 21 | 4.3% | 3.8% | 4.8% |
| Total responses | 905 | | 433 | 472 |
| <i>Resopndents identifying at least one topic about which they would like info. or assist</i> | <i>301</i> <i>(61.7%)</i> | | <i>138</i> <i>(58.5%)</i> | <i>163</i> <i>(64.7%)</i> |

(*) *Earn income from agricultural production on the land*



There was some variation in the topics about which respondents would like further information or assistance observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area Three** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to want information or assistance on pasture improvement.
- **Area Five** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to want information or assistance on soil health improvement.

Topics for further information or assistance by area
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Area One</i> | <i>Area Two</i> | <i>Area Three</i> | <i>Area Four</i> | <i>Area Five</i> |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Weed control | 15.0% | 33.3% | 34.3% | 31.8% | 33.7% |
| Pasture improvement | 30.0% | 27.5% | 37.3% | 26.4% | 33.7% |
| Soil health improvement | 25.0% | 27.5% | 29.9% | 31.8% | 40.7% |
| Pest animal control | 10.0% | 24.6% | 23.9% | 27.9% | 27.9% |
| Revegetation / establishment of biolinks | 10.0% | 21.7% | 19.4% | 14.0% | 22.1% |
| Grazing | 10.0% | 18.8% | 14.9% | 15.5% | 17.4% |
| Fire preparedness | 0.0% | 8.7% | 17.9% | 14.0% | 16.3% |
| Protection of native vegetation | 5.0% | 17.4% | 13.4% | 9.3% | 18.6% |
| Repairing soil erosion | 15.0% | 7.2% | 6.0% | 9.3% | 10.5% |
| Other | 0.0% | 4.3% | 6.0% | 4.7% | 3.5% |
| Total responses | 24 | 132 | 136 | 238 | 193 |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one topic about which they would like info. or assist</i> | <i>11</i> <i>(55.0%)</i> | <i>43</i> <i>(62.3%)</i> | <i>39</i> <i>(58.2%)</i> | <i>80</i> <i>(62.0%)</i> | <i>60</i> <i>(69.8%)</i> |



There were twenty-one responses received from respondents as to topics about which they would like more information or assistance, as outlined in the following table.

Other topics for further information or assistance
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|--|---------------|
| Subdivision | 4 |
| Kangaroo control | 2 |
| Best equipment here or purchase | 1 |
| Cat control | 1 |
| Chilean needle grass eradication | 1 |
| Grants for small business, integration into a tourism strategy for farm gate and promotion of MR as a primary prod | 1 |
| Grose control on road verges | 1 |
| Make it all easily accessible | 1 |
| On our new property | 1 |
| Organic low cost solutions to all of the above | 1 |
| Re-zoning | 1 |
| Reducing cost | 1 |
| Renewable energy initiatives | 1 |
| Rock removal | 1 |
| Water | 1 |
| Willow removal | 1 |
| Not stated | 1 |
| Total responses | 21 |



Agreement with selected statements about the farming zone

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale from zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree), please rate your agreement with the following statements about the farming zone?”

Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with fourteen statements about the farming zone land in the Macedon Ranges Shire. The results are presented as an average agreement score on a scale of zero to ten, where five is neither agree nor disagree. Results are also provided as a breakdown between respondent that strongly agreed (rating eight to ten), neutral to somewhat agreed (rating five to seven), and disagreed (rating zero to four).

The average agreement with these fourteen statements can best be summarised as follows:

- ***Strong Agreement*** – that respondents support rural based tourism in appropriate locations (7.93), that it is important that farm management plans address matters such as fencing of waterways, re-vegetation and weed control (7.71), respondents support farming land being used for innovative uses or niche production activities (7.60), it is important to protect opportunity for agriculture in the Shire (7.49), and facilitating farm activity, growth and expansion is important (7.29). Approximately two-thirds of respondents strongly agreed with each of these statements.
- ***Moderate Agreement*** – that considering alternative activities on properties that can't support agriculture is appropriate (6.86), new development on farming land should minimise visual impact, particularly from key landscape vantage points (6.69), the open farmed landscape should be protected as one of the defining visual characteristics of the Shire (6.37), and it is important to use land with high quality soils for agriculture (6.14). Approximately half of the respondents strongly agreed with each of these statements, and between one-fifth and one-sixth disagreed.
- ***Mild Agreement*** – that respondents are familiar with the controls in the farming zone in the planning scheme (5.45) and dwellings should only be allowed if they don't prejudice the continuation and expansion of farming activities (5.37). Respondents were relatively evenly split between those that strongly agreed and those that disagreed with these two statements.
- ***Mild Disagreement*** – that subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture (4.82). Almost half of the respondents disagreed with this statement, and a little more than one-third strongly agreed.
- ***Moderate Disagreement*** – that dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture and that respondents are involved in their local land care network. Whilst approximately one-quarter of respondents strongly agreed with these two statements, approximately two-thirds disagreed.



Agreement with selected statements about the farming zone**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**

(Number and percent of respondents providing a response, and average agreement on a scale from zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree))

| <i>Statement</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Disagree</i> | <i>Neutral to somewhat agree</i> | <i>Strongly agree</i> | <i>Average agreement</i> |
|---|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| I support rural based tourism in appropriate locations | 452 | 8% | 24% | 69% | 7.93 |
| It is important that farm management plans address matters such as fencing of waterways, re-vegetation and weed control | 453 | 11% | 24% | 65% | 7.71 |
| I support farming land being used for innovative uses or niche production activities | 446 | 10% | 28% | 63% | 7.60 |
| It is important to protect opportunity for agriculture in the Shire | 455 | 15% | 20% | 65% | 7.49 |
| Facilitating farm activity, growth and expansion is important | 451 | 16% | 26% | 58% | 7.29 |
| Considering alternative activities on properties that can't support agriculture is appropriate | 445 | 20% | 26% | 55% | 6.86 |
| New development on farming land should minimise visual impact, particularly from key landscape vantage points | 451 | 23% | 26% | 52% | 6.69 |
| The open farmed landscape should be protected as one of the defining visual characteristics of the Shire | 459 | 29% | 22% | 49% | 6.37 |
| It is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture | 456 | 29% | 25% | 46% | 6.14 |
| I am familiar with the controls in the farming zone in the planning scheme | 439 | 35% | 32% | 33% | 5.45 |
| Dwellings should only be allowed if they don't prejudice and continuation and expansion of farming activities | 454 | 41% | 17% | 42% | 5.37 |
| Subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture | 451 | 47% | 15% | 39% | 4.82 |
| Dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture | 455 | 61% | 14% | 25% | 3.60 |
| I am involved in my local land care network | 415 | 64% | 11% | 25% | 3.45 |



Dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture

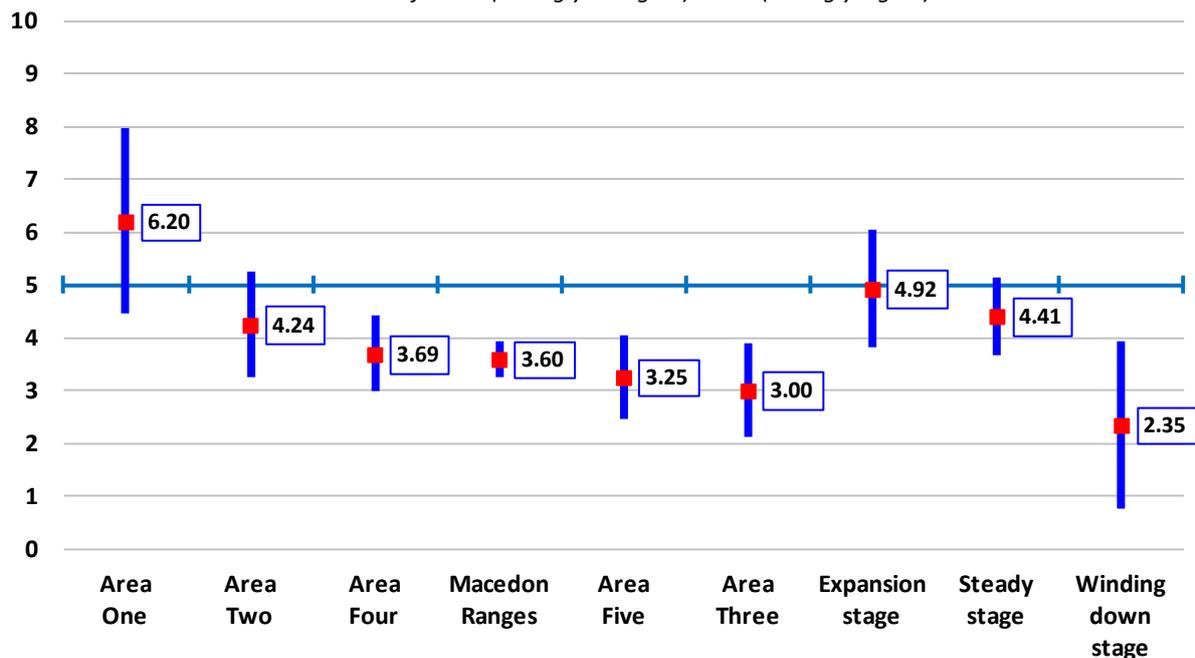
There was measurable variation in average agreement that dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture observed across the municipality, by stage of agricultural business, business turnover, and land area, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – the small sample of respondents from area one were measurably and significantly more in agreement than average that dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture.
- **Expansion and Steady stage** – respondents with their agribusiness in an expansion or steady stage were measurably and significantly more in agreement than average that dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture.

Agreement with "Dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture"

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



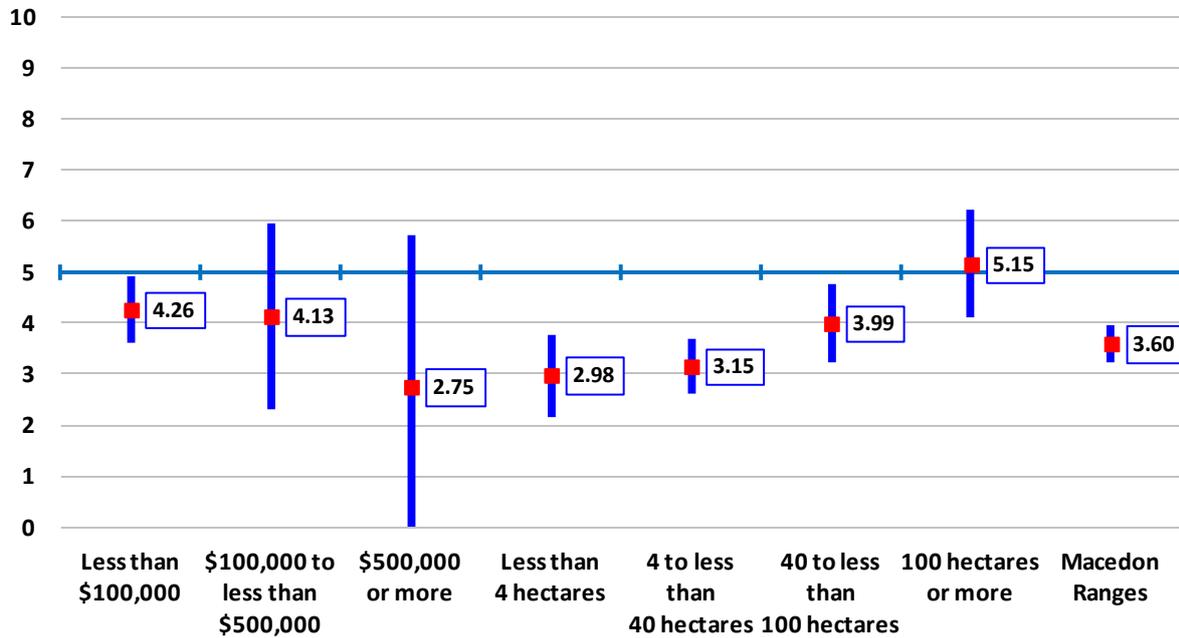
Whilst there was no statistically significant variation in average agreement that dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture observed based on the respondent agribusiness turnover (mainly due to the small sample sizes), it is noted that:

- **Larger landholdings** – respondents with a landholding of more than 100 hectares were measurably and significantly more in agreement than average that dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture.

Agreement with "Dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture"

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



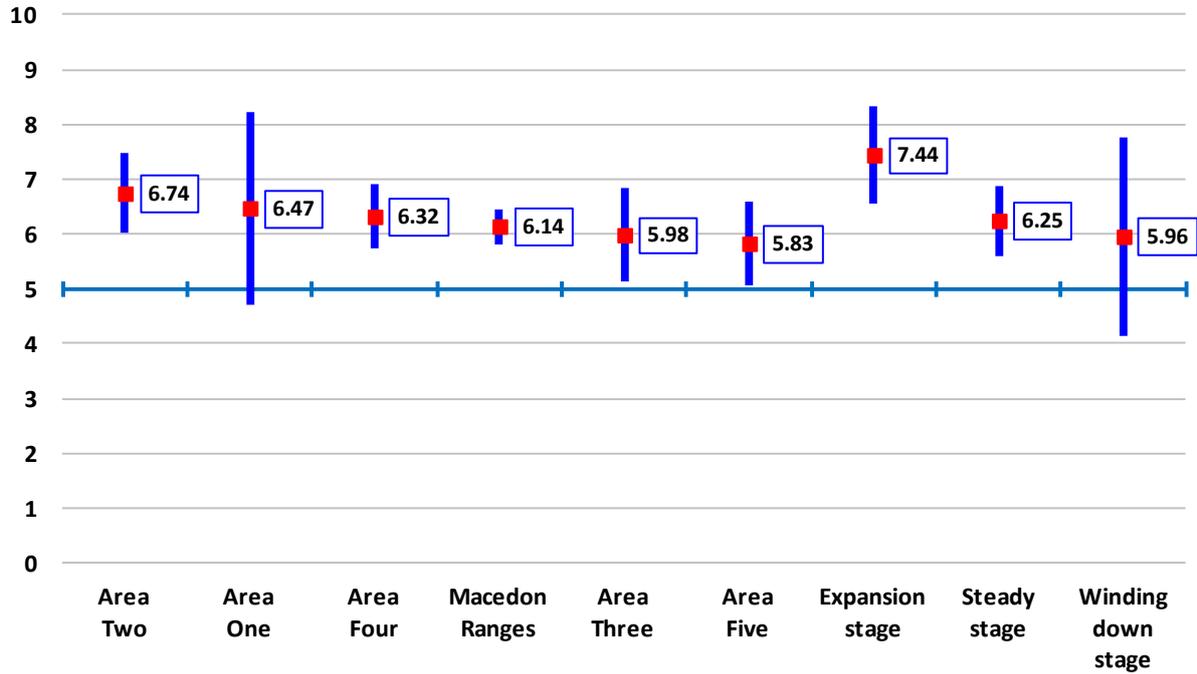
It is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture

There was no statistically significant variation in agreement that it is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture observed across the five areas of the municipality, although it is noted that:

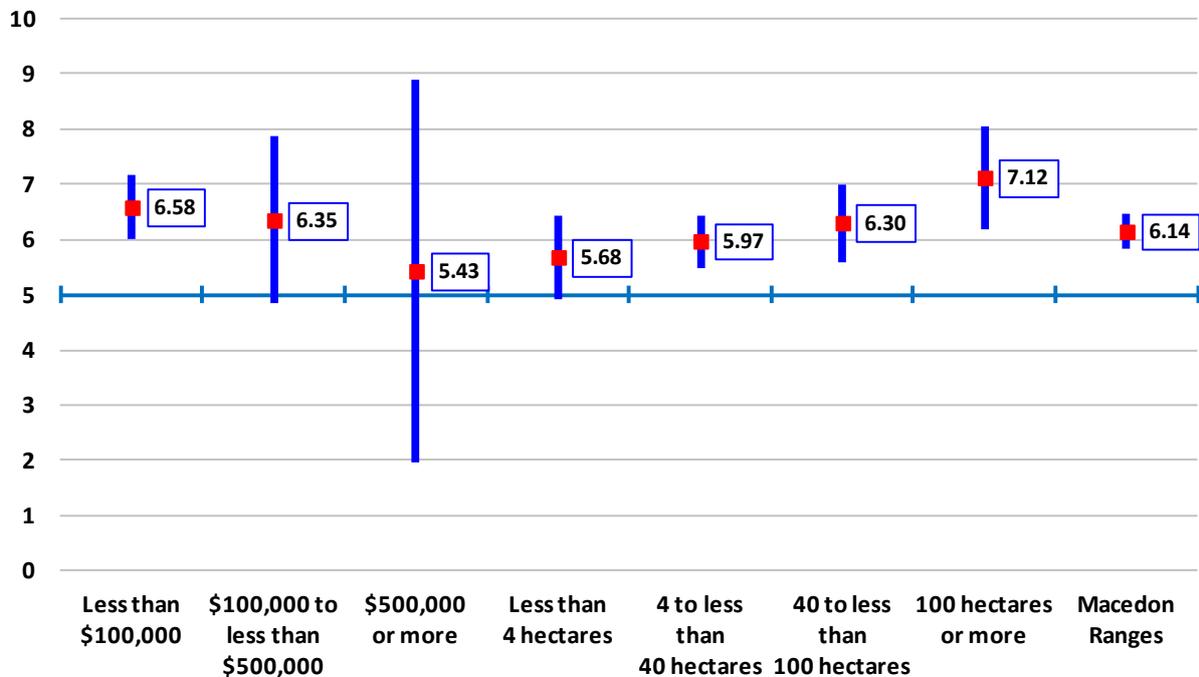
- **Expansion stage** – respondent with their agribusiness in an expansion stage were measurably and significantly more in agreement than average that it is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture.
- **Larger landholdings** – respondents with a landholding of more than 100 hectares were somewhat, albeit not measurably more in agreement than average that that it is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture.



Agreement with "It is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture"
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



Agreement with "It is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture"
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



Subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture

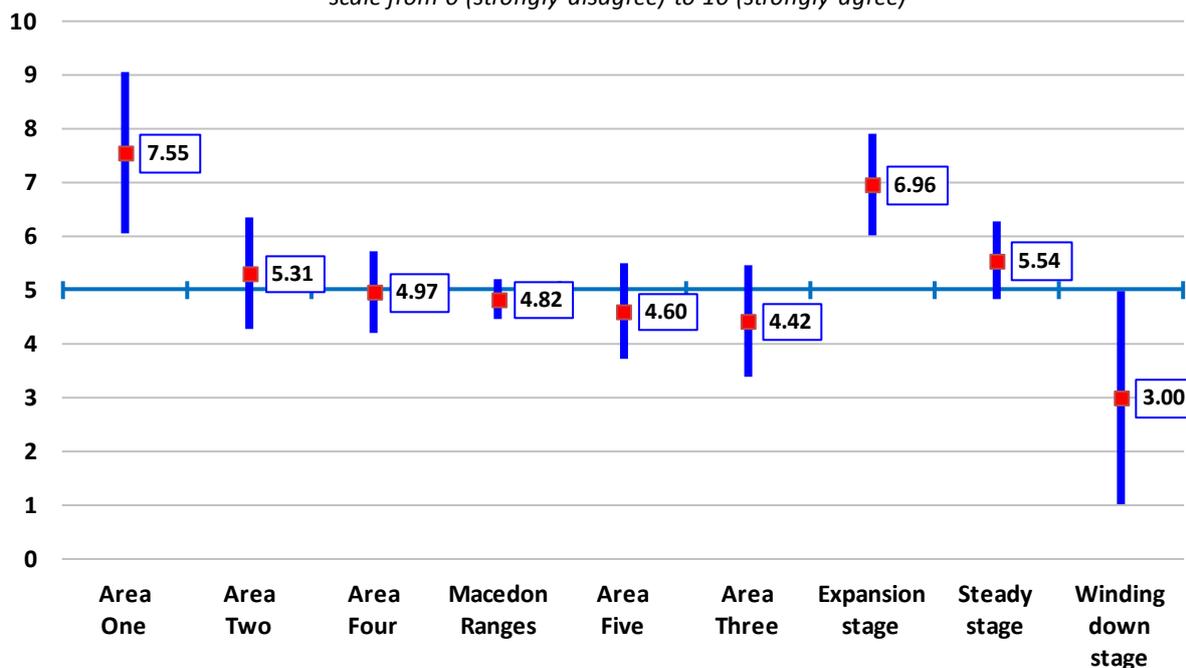
There was measurable and significant variation in agreement that subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture observed across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Area One** – the small sample of respondents from area one were measurably and significantly more in agreement than average that subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture.
- **Expansion stage** – respondents with their agribusiness in an expansion stage were measurably and significantly more in agreement than average that subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture.

Agreement with "Subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture"

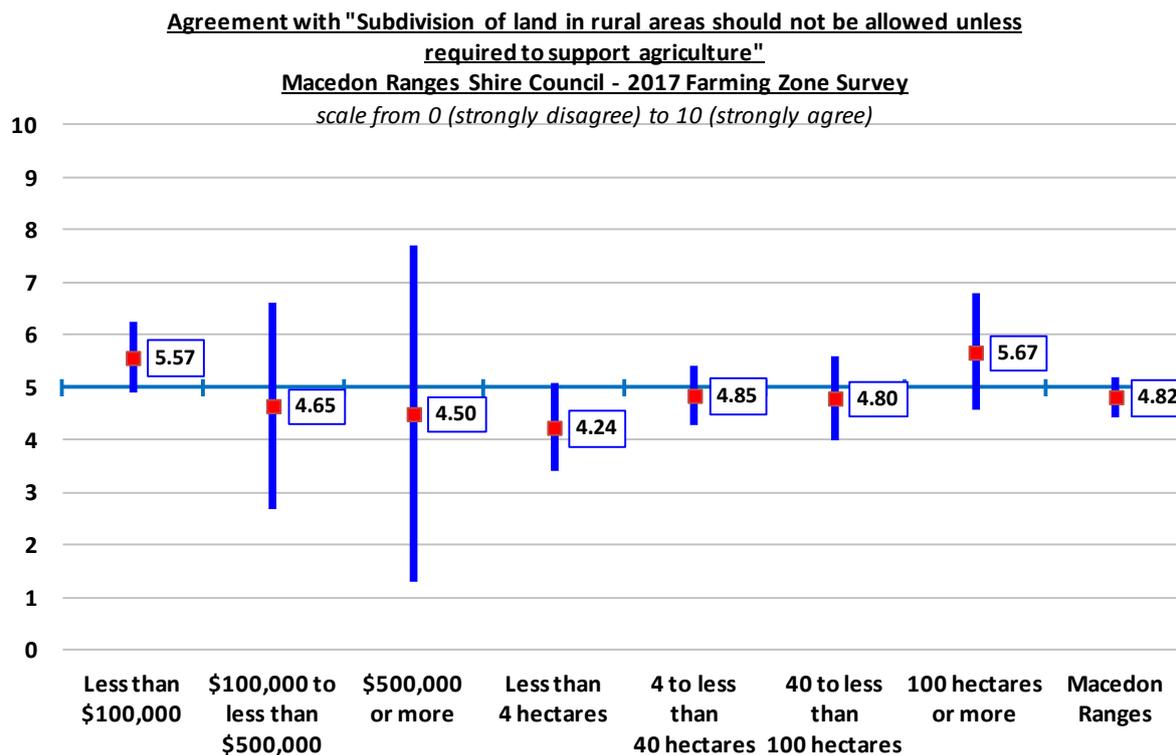
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



There was no statistically significant variation in agreement that subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture based on the agribusiness turnover or size of landholdings.





The following table provides the average agreement and breakdown of agreement with these fourteen statements by respondents to the online *Community Survey*.

The average agreement with these fourteen statements by Community Survey respondents can best be summarised as follows:

- Strong Agreement** – that respondents support farming land being used for innovative uses or niche production activities, it is important to protect opportunities for agriculture in the Shire, respondents support rural based tourism in appropriate locations, it is important that farm management plans address matters such as fencing of waterways, re-vegetation, and weed control, it is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture, and new development on farming land should minimise visual impact, particularly from key landscape vantage points.
- Moderate Agreement** – that facilitating farm activity, growth and expansion is important, and the open farmed landscape should be protected as one of the defining visual characteristics of the Shire.
- Mild Agreement** – that respondents are familiar with controls in the farming zone in the planning scheme, subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture, considering alternative activities on properties that can't support agriculture is appropriate, and dwelling should only be allowed if they don't prejudice the continuation and expansion of farming activities.
- Mild Disagreement** – that dwelling should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture and respondents are involved in their local land care network.



There were some notable differences in the average agreement with these fourteen statements observed between respondents to the *Landowners Survey* and respondents to the *Community Survey*. Given the relatively small sample size for the *Community Survey*, some caution should be exercised in the interpretation of this variation, although attention is still drawn to the following:

- **Community Survey** – respondents to the *Community Survey* rated agreement that it is important to use land with high quality soils for agriculture, the subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture, dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture, and respondents are involved in their local land care network somewhat higher than respondents to the *Landowners Survey*.
- **Landowners Survey** – respondents to the *Landowners Survey* rated agreement that considering alternative activities on properties that can't support agriculture is appropriate somewhat higher than respondents to the *Community Survey*.

These variations, although based on a relatively small *Community Survey* sample size do suggest that members of the broader Macedon Ranges Shire (or at least those sufficiently engaged to participate in the *Community Survey*) are less in favour of the development of land in the rural zones for uses other than agriculture than are the landowners themselves.



Agreement with selected statements about the farming zone (Community Survey)**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Community Survey**

(Number and percent of respondents providing a response, and average agreement on a scale from zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree))

| <i>Statement</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Disagree</i> | <i>Neutral to somewhat agree</i> | <i>Strongly agree</i> | <i>Average agreement</i> |
|---|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| I support farming land being used for innovative uses or niche production activities | 33 | 15% | 18% | 67% | 7.85 |
| It is important to protect opportunity for agriculture in the Shire | 33 | 18% | 12% | 70% | 7.79 |
| I support rural based tourism in appropriate locations | 34 | 18% | 18% | 65% | 7.71 |
| It is important that farm management plans address matters such as fencing of waterways, re-vegetation and weed control | 33 | 12% | 24% | 64% | 7.67 |
| It is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture | 31 | 23% | 19% | 58% | 7.19 |
| New development on farming land should minimise visual impact, particularly from key landscape vantage points | 33 | 27% | 3% | 70% | 7.12 |
| Facilitating farm activity, growth and expansion is important | 32 | 28% | 19% | 53% | 6.81 |
| The open farmed landscape should be protected as one of the defining visual characteristics of the Shire | 32 | 34% | 13% | 53% | 6.69 |
| I am familiar with the controls in the farming zone in the planning scheme | 34 | 35% | 21% | 44% | 5.91 |
| Subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture | 32 | 38% | 9% | 53% | 5.72 |
| Considering alternative activities on properties that can't support agriculture is appropriate | 31 | 36% | 26% | 39% | 5.48 |
| Dwellings should only be allowed if they don't prejudice and continuation and expansion of farming activities | 33 | 46% | 12% | 42% | 5.03 |
| Dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture | 32 | 47% | 13% | 41% | 4.94 |
| I am involved in my local land care network | 30 | 47% | 20% | 33% | 4.70 |



Community Survey

Aspects most valued about the land and farming activities

Community survey respondents were asked:

“What are all the aspects you value about the land and farming activities occurring in the Farming Zone in Macedon Ranges Shire?”

Almost all the thirty-four Community Survey respondents identified at least one aspect that they value about the land and farming activities occurring in the Farming Zone.

The most commonly valued aspect was the country feel, with almost three-quarters (73.5%) of respondents identifying this aspect.

It is noted however that almost half or more of the respondents value each of the aspects listed on the survey form.

Aspects most value about the land and farming activities in the Farming Zone within the Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Community</i> | |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Its country feel | 25 | 73.5% |
| The agricultural production (what it produces) | 22 | 64.7% |
| The open landscape and the break it creates between settlements | 21 | 61.8% |
| The productivity of the soils | 19 | 55.9% |
| Its biodiversity and ecological values | 19 | 55.9% |
| The employment that farming brings | 16 | 47.1% |
| Other | 14 | 41.2% |
| Total responses | 136 | |
| <i>Respondents identifying at least one aspect they value about the land and farming activities</i> | <i>33</i> | <i>(97.1%)</i> |

The following table provides the “other” aspects that the respondents value about the land and farming activities.



**Other aspects most value about the land and farming activities in the
Farming Zone within the Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Community</i> | |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Ability to live in a rural setting | 2 | 14.3% |
| Ability to subdivide | 1 | 7.1% |
| Closeness to Melbourne and Bendigo | 1 | 7.1% |
| Food security | 1 | 7.1% |
| Future agricultural production for future generations | 1 | 7.1% |
| Local food production | 1 | 7.1% |
| Means there are less houses and more rolling hills with farm infrastructure only | 1 | 7.1% |
| My connection to the land and farming in this area over generations | 1 | 7.1% |
| Proximity to Melbourne and to Tullamarine and the tourism opportunities that this presents | 1 | 7.1% |
| The heritage | 1 | 7.1% |
| City farming interaction | 1 | 7.1% |
| Fresh air | 1 | 7.1% |
| Proximity to markets | 1 | 7.1% |
| Total | 14 | 100% |



Protection of special places

Community survey respondents were asked:

“Are there special places that should be protected for farming within Macedon Ranges Shire?”

A little more than half (55.9%) of respondents to the *Community Survey* believed that there were special places in Macedon Ranges Shire that should be protected for farming.

**Special places to be protected for farming within the
Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**
(Number and percent of total respondents)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Community</i> | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Yes | 19 | 55.9% |
| No | 6 | 17.6% |
| Don't know | 9 | 26.5% |
| Total | 34 | 100% |

Location and reason of the protection for farming

Community survey respondents were asked:

“What are the areas that should be protected for farming, and why should they be protected?”

The areas that *Community Survey* respondents consider should be protected for farming and the reasons why are outlined in the following table.



Location and reason of the protection for farming
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of responses)

| <i>Location</i> | <i>Reason</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|---|---|---------------|
| 10 km out of any town centre | Support rural area and support economic development | 1 |
| All areas of highly productive soil | Australia has many non productive areas that should be built on. Destroying rich soil areas is irresponsible | 1 |
| | Grow food for future generations | 1 |
| | Looking after food production capacity is essential | 1 |
| All existing farming zones | Food production even from small land holders makes an important contribution to the total from Australia | 1 |
| | Potential for agricultural production close to markets | 1 |
| | We need food production | 1 |
| As much as possible of the land outside the major townships, especially in the north of the shire | It is prime agricultural land, still likely to be viable into the future when climate changes is likely to happen | 1 |
| Baynton, Sidonia | Still relatively large farms, open landscape, biodiversity | 1 |
| East of Calder at Carlsruhe out to Pipers Creek, Cobaws and Newham | Fertile grazing land, good pasture and open spaces | 1 |
| Hesket, Kerrie, and Surrounds | Good, old soil for growing almost anything. Pristine Landscapes | 1 |
| Malmsbury/Lauriston | Catchment area | 1 |
| | Distance from catchment, land being subdivided makes farming difficult with proximity to residential areas | 1 |
| | Good soil, water supply | 1 |



Location and reason of the protection for farming
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of responses)

| <i>Location</i> | <i>Reason</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|---|--|---------------|
| Mt William Rd valley | Agri business and tourism | 1 |
| | Australia has many non productive areas that should be built on. Destroying rich soil areas is irresponsible | 1 |
| Most productive farming land in the Macedon ranges | It is in the high rainfall zone and it provides food and employment | 1 |
| Native habitat | Conservation of native species of Flora and fauna | 1 |
| Romsey and Kyneton Newham area | Romsey region has very productive soils and need to ensure as well breaks between townships Kyneton | 1 |
| Romsey, Kyneton all land on outskirts of towns such as Woodend especially those on slopes | Maintain breaks and make use of productive spills a valid becoming housing estates | 1 |
| Romsey and Lancefield area | Great productive soil, close to Melbourne | 1 |
| Some parts of the Rural conservation zone | Because there is potential for our right to farm to be taken away | 1 |
| Waterways | Need water to grow food, pasture and animals | 1 |
| West of Calder out to Tylden, Spring Hill | Fertile grazing land, good pasture and open spaces. Also Water Catchment area | 1 |
| Not specified | Because of planning restrictions generally in this zone that don't necessarily sit well with farming | 1 |
| | Because of the limitations of activities such as farm gate sales that can occur | 1 |
| | They contain environmentally sensitive areas with undulating hills | 1 |



Opportunities of the farming

Community survey respondents were asked:

“What opportunities do you see for farming within Macedon Ranges Shire?”

A total of sixty responses were received from the thirty-four Community Survey respondents as to opportunities that they see for farming within the Macedon Ranges Shire. These verbatim responses are outlined in the following table.

Opportunities for farming within Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of responses)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|---|---------------|
| Small scale market gardens | 3 |
| Education | 2 |
| Employment | 2 |
| Horticulture | 2 |
| Opportunity to live in a rural setting | 2 |
| Organic produce close to markets | 2 |
| Agribusiness and economic | 1 |
| Aquaculture | 1 |
| Attracting the higher socio economic crowd | 1 |
| Being allowed to farm and undertake agricultural production and farming | 1 |
| Biodiversity awareness | 1 |
| Boutique farming ventures such as "Macedon Ranges Grown" | 1 |
| Catering for foodies - unique, clean, safe | 1 |
| Climate | 1 |
| Close to markets to sell products | 1 |
| Combine economic stimulus to the local community and country as a whole | 1 |
| Dairy production | 1 |
| Economic benefit from farming activities | 1 |
| Economic benefits to ensure ongoing viability from tourism such as B&B, farm gate shops cellar doors etc. which still maintains agricultural activity integrity | 1 |
| Extra support to those looking to increase biodiversity and have sustainable land use practices | 1 |
| Farmers working together more to be price makers rather than price takers | 1 |
| Farmgate sales | 1 |
| First need more farming | 1 |
| Fruits and wines | 1 |
| Grazing and pasture cropping | 1 |
| Grazing, sheep, cattle | 1 |



Opportunities for farming within Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of responses)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|--|---------------|
| Greater coordinated promotion of Macedon Ranges agricultural produce and direct supply to Melbourne market | 1 |
| Greater use of recycled water to irrigate high value crops and pasture | 1 |
| High quality and higher value food production with direct marketing into Melbourne - value adding | 1 |
| If Council supported houses on farm zone properties, the ability for landowners to be active and present on their properties would increase farm zone productivity significantly | 1 |
| Improved freight / transport of produce required particularly via rail rather than road | 1 |
| Improves food security and provides tourism opportunities | 1 |
| Increased agritourism opportunities | 1 |
| Lifestyle | 1 |
| Maintaining country feel | 1 |
| Market gardening in the quality soil areas | 1 |
| More specialised and targeted animal production | 1 |
| Niche farm production e.g. wine, vegetables, specific meats (i.e. ducks) | 1 |
| Niche farming zone activities that don't fit the outdated perception of what a farm is or has to be - i.e. removal of the 100 acre rule etc. | 1 |
| Non traditional farming activities | 1 |
| Nothing specific but as we lose the areas closer to Melbourne, this area should be protected | 1 |
| Opportunities to be part of a strong community | 1 |
| Opportunities to sustain an agricultural culture | 1 |
| Opportunity to connect with a strong agricultural community | 1 |
| Our closeness to Melbourne give people with no exposure to agriculture and food production the opportunity to visit and find out | 1 |
| Preservation of significant high value farmland on the edge of Melbourne, especially as farmland further south is lost to urban development | 1 |
| Promotion of being a potato growing area | 1 |
| Proximity to major populations therefore short food miles | 1 |
| Selling of produce locally | 1 |
| Smaller specialist enterprises | 1 |
| Soil quality | 1 |
| Some applied agricultural research activity to allow adaptation to changing conditions | 1 |
| Viticulture | 1 |

Total



Issues for the farming areas

Community survey respondents were asked:

“What, if any issues do you see for the farming areas within Macedon Ranges Shire?”

A total of fifty responses were received from the thirty-four respondents to the Community Survey as to the issues that they see for the farming areas within the Macedon Ranges Shire.

These verbatim responses are outlined in the following table.

Issues for farming areas within Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of responses)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|---|---------------|
| Tourism and population growth impacting on daily farming activities | 2 |
| Ability for people to be compensated for restraints on selling | 1 |
| Change in land use by the Council which will effect the productivity of farms | 1 |
| Changing climate is a large one that we are already experiencing | 1 |
| Changing population dynamic and lack of understanding of farming and farming practices. | 1 |
| The removal of the right to farm | 1 |
| Conflicting uses between genuine agricultural and rural residential | 1 |
| Conflicting uses between semi rural residential and genuine farming pursuits | 1 |
| Constant pressure for urbanization | 1 |
| Cost of land as it is so often given away by Council for 'lifestyle' reasons | 1 |
| Council and residential land owners putting unrealistic demands on farming practices | 1 |
| Failure to introduce a voluntary Environment Best Management Practice program | 1 |
| Farms becoming too small for broad acre crops | 1 |
| Gentrification of the Farming Zone which erodes the productivity values | 1 |
| Inappropriate zoning | 1 |
| Inappropriate zoning. My farm is 40 acres and is in Farming Zone but is totally surrounded by houses on 5 and 20 acre blocks with houses on them that do not engage in agricultural activities but Council knock back my application for a premium poll dorset sheep stud as they deemed it as a 'non bonafide agricultural pursuit' despite the farm plan, as one Councillor at the time said, was the best they have seen | 1 |
| Increased development pressure for lifestyle properties increasing fragmentation / rising prices | 1 |
| Increased housing development - increased pollution, increased risk of fire, theft, vandalism, damage to farming property, feral animals, cats and dogs | 1 |
| Increased weed / pest infestations. Bureaucracy / red tape. Movement of stock. Disease | 1 |
| Increased pressure for dwellings from urban hobby farmers | 1 |
| Increased rates due to location of housing and the raising of land values. Good if you want to sell but not so good if you want to keep farming and pass farm onto the next generation | 1 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Increased pressure from small but vocal minorities who want to lock more and more land up for "environmental" reasons. It is not in farmers interests to destroy or harm the land which provides their livelihood | 1 |
| Increasing land values from inappropriate dwelling approvals | 1 |
| Inflexible zoning - i.e. 1 size fits just does not work | 1 |
| Infrastructure very poor and has not kept up with demands roads in particular for stock movements and internet still poor given this is key communication tool and business promotion tool in the modern age | 1 |
| Lack of re-vegetation on erosion prone areas | 1 |
| Land banking farmzone properties to on-sell when permit acquired | 1 |
| Land values low for farming thus attractive to developers to purchase and plush for future housing estates | 1 |
| Limited issues | 1 |
| Macedon Ranges Shire Council Statutory Planners selective, discriminatory and negative | 1 |
| MRSC need to adopt a more flexible and reasonable approach to support landowners develop and pursue business opportunities on their farmzone property. At the moment, the Council actively works against most residents who do | 1 |
| Not being able to build on a block under 40ha, where the land is obviously not able to sustain farming practice | 1 |
| People buying farmlets/hobby farms and not doing their share of weed & vermin control | 1 |
| Planning constraints | 1 |
| Poor land management of the past may mean some parcels need rehabilitation and better land use practices to become productive again we should support this | 1 |
| Population density putting pressure on the waterways | 1 |
| Problems with proximity to houses, for instance complaints about noise and smell | 1 |
| Productive land being subdivided and then sold for housing. Once farming land is gone, it is gone | 1 |
| Prospect of land development for housing demand | 1 |
| Regulations around food production too onerous. We have lots of small farms and its hard for producers to get into the market | 1 |
| Resale value is low, difficult to sell large farms | 1 |
| Restrictions on sub divisions | 1 |
| Rezoning and sub-division of land | 1 |
| Severe winter conditions inhibits farming in this area. Shedding animals would be non viable due to high energy costs | 1 |
| Splitting up of older large farms in to smaller acreage | 1 |
| Support for young people to know how they can farm the land | 1 |
| The broader population does not value agriculture. The food comes from the supermarket | 1 |
| The disparity in land values between farming and housing causing pressure to eat away at valuable farming land | 1 |
| The unfair process by which permits are granted for dwellings | 1 |
| Weather | 1 |
| Total | 50 |



Respondent profile

Age structure

Age group

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Age group | Landowners | | Community | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Adolescents (15 to 19 years) | 2 | 0.4% | 1 | 3.0% |
| Young adults (20 to 34 years) | 13 | 2.7% | 3 | 9.1% |
| Adults (35 to 44 years) | 50 | 10.4% | 6 | 18.2% |
| Middle aged adults (45 to 59 years) | 176 | 36.7% | 18 | 54.5% |
| Older adults (60 - 74 years) | 189 | 39.5% | 5 | 15.2% |
| Senior citizens (75 years and over) | 33 | 6.9% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Household (multiple members) | 16 | 3.3% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Not stated | 9 | | 1 | |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 34 | 100% |

Gender

Gender

Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey

(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Gender | Landowners | | Community | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Male | 277 | 60.0% | 17 | 53.1% |
| Female | 139 | 30.1% | 14 | 43.8% |
| Other or non-specific gender | 1 | 0.2% | 1 | 3.1% |
| Couples | 45 | 9.7% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 26 | | 2 | |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 34 | 100% |

Language spoken at home

Language spoken at home
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| <i>Language</i> | <i>Landowners</i> | | <i>Community</i> | |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| English | 423 | 90.4% | 28 | 96.6% |
| Italian | 5 | 1.1% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Macedonian | 5 | 1.1% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Dutch | 4 | 0.9% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Croatian | 4 | 0.9% | 0 | 0.0% |
| French | 3 | 0.6% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Greek | 3 | 0.6% | 0 | 0.0% |
| German | 2 | 0.4% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Spanish | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Maltese | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Serbian | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Slovene | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Tamil | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Punjabi | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Indonesian | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Cantonese | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Mandarin | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Japanese | 1 | 0.2% | 1 | 3.4% |
| Korean | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Other languages n.f.d. | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Multiple | 7 | 1.5% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Not stated | 20 | | 5 | |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 34 | 100% |



Household member with a disability

Household member with a disability
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Response | Landowners | | Community | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Yes | 62 | 13.2% | 1 | 3.7% |
| No | 408 | 86.8% | 26 | 96.3% |
| Not stated | 18 | | 7 | |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 34 | 100% |

Household structure

Household structure
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| Structure | Landowners | | Community | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Two parent family total | 219 | 47.2% | 13 | 48.1% |
| <i>youngest child 0 - 4 years</i> | 27 | 5.8% | 5 | 18.5% |
| <i>youngest child 5 - 12 years</i> | 49 | 10.6% | 2 | 7.4% |
| <i>youngest child 13 - 18 years</i> | 45 | 9.7% | 3 | 11.1% |
| <i>adult children only</i> | 98 | 21.1% | 3 | 11.1% |
| One parent family total | 17 | 3.7% | 3 | 11.1% |
| <i>youngest child 0 - 4 years</i> | 1 | 0.2% | 1 | 3.7% |
| <i>youngest child 5 - 12 years</i> | 2 | 0.4% | 0 | 0.0% |
| <i>youngest child 13 - 18 years</i> | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| <i>adult children only</i> | 13 | 2.8% | 2 | 7.4% |
| Couple only household | 164 | 33.6% | 10 | 29.4% |
| Group household | 6 | 1.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Sole person household | 47 | 9.6% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Extended or multiple families | 11 | 2.3% | 1 | 3.0% |
| Not stated | 24 | | 7 | |
| Total | 488 | 100% | 34 | 100% |



Ownership of farming land

Own farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Community</i> | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Yes | 24 | 70.6% |
| No | 10 | 29.4% |
| Total | 34 | 100% |

Suburb of residence

Suburb of residence
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of respondents providing a response)

| <i>Suburb</i> | <i>Community</i> | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Kyneton | 8 | 23.5% |
| Gisborne | 5 | 14.7% |
| Lancefield | 3 | 8.8% |
| Newham | 3 | 8.8% |
| Carlsruhe | 2 | 5.9% |
| Darraweit Guim | 2 | 5.9% |
| Interstate | 2 | 5.9% |
| Lauriston | 2 | 5.9% |
| Romsey | 2 | 5.9% |
| Bullengarook | 1 | 2.9% |
| Macedon | 1 | 2.9% |
| Melbourne | 1 | 2.9% |
| Tylden | 1 | 2.9% |
| Various | 1 | 2.9% |
| Total | 34 | 100% |



Period of residence**Period of residence****Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey**
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

| <i>Response</i> | <i>Community</i> | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Less than 1 year | 1 | 3.1% |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 6 | 18.8% |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 7 | 21.9% |
| 10 years or more | 18 | 56.3% |
| Prefer not to say / not stated | 2 | |
| Total | 34 | 100% |



General comments

The following table outlines the verbatim general comments received from respondents to the *Landowners Survey*.

These comments have been broadly categorised for ease of analysis, and the following summary is provided:

- Support development – 118 comments
- Oppose development – 56 comments
- Weed and pest control – 16 comments
- Roads and infrastructure – 12 comments
- Pest animal management – 12 comments
- Rates – 10 comments
- General comments on development – 9 comments
- General negative comments – 8 comments
- General waste and cleanliness – 6 comments
- Agritourism – 5 comments
- Communication and awareness – 5 comments
- Comments on the survey – 5 comments
- Bushfire safety – 3 comments
- Other comments – 48 comments

There were also a total of twenty-five general comments received from the thirty-four Community Survey respondents. Many of these comments related to rubbish and litter mainly in the urban areas of the municipality.



General comments**Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey***(Number of responses)*

| <i>Comment</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|---|---------------|
| <i>Support development</i> | |
| 20 acres being rated at residential rates but again no house can be built. Owner has been advised to seek a permit and when this is rejected, apply to have the rating changed. Planning permit applications cost over \$500, why should the owner of the land wear this when the Shire can sort it out | 1 |
| 20 acres is too large to maintain and too small to be of any farm use | 1 |
| 30 acres on our immediate western boundary - again no house can be built. It is being left to the goose and blackberry | 1 |
| Abolish the ban on building residences on less than 100 acres, this rule is holding back development and values within the Shire - look at the values in the Dean Shire | 1 |
| All farms are too small and are not sustainable, should be allowed to be subdivided for hobby farms | 1 |
| Allow dwellings on farming land under 40 ha. 40ha. is insufficient to earn a living off | 1 |
| Allow subdivision of small farm zones next to existing residential lots. Less than 3 hectares cannot be productive | 1 |
| Area 5 in which we live and work, particularly around the Karlsruhe village is largely small residential holdings and 10 ore 20 acre allotments. Most of this area is not used for agricultural purposes and should be rezoned to reflect this change and current activity | 1 |
| As my property is in the South Kyneton framework plan is only 9 ha and within 700 metres of the train station long term agricultural pursuits are unlikely | 1 |
| Been the owner of the property for 35 years, but I cannot built a home, it is frustrating | 1 |
| Blocks of less than 40 acres of farming zone should be allowed to build a house. Not enough land to make a living but a lifestyle change | 1 |
| Building permits should be allowed on old titles or land over 10 acres | 1 |
| Building should be permitted on small land | 1 |
| Decision to restrict building of dwelling houses on land smaller than 100 acres was not wise. I will suggest to review this and allow all whose land is larger than 10 acres to have their dwelling houses on their properties | 1 |
| Dwellings should be allowed on plans of sub-division where there is little opportunity for good agricultural activities - e.g. poor soil. Need to be on site for equine breeding and this should be a recognised agricultural activity | 1 |
| Families should be able to obtain building permits on smaller lots of farmers land to enable older parents support | 1 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Farming are not environmentally viable, and when located close to a town and infrastructure, "environmentally friendly" subdivision should be permitted | 1 |
| Farming boundary in Malmsbury / Kyneton should be realigned and opened for development | 1 |
| Farming is only a hobby for properties under 200 ha as is not viable and titles should be able to be built on | 1 |
| Fragmented land zoning within Kyneton district 5 is unequal amongst community members. Farmers and farm hands require a personal place of residence to continue and maintain their farming enterprise without the need for ridiculous temporary mobile living | 1 |
| Had the land not been reclassified it would have sold and a house established, as with properties each side built before 2005, which would have raised increased rates for the Shire, I would appreciate the reclassification of our property back to rural ASAP so we can move on in life | 1 |
| Hence, an opportunity to subdivide with a restriction of 1/2-1 acre lots should be acceptable | 1 |
| I agree the farmland should be protected but I own 4 hectares which I brought hoping to build a residence which had already been subdivided years ago. I cannot see how I can farm it | 1 |
| I am of a mature age and my hope of downsizing into a small dwelling on my property is not possible with the acreage limit in the FZ - I do wish this could be changed, can you help me? | 1 |
| I believe all landholders big or small should be allowed a dwelling on their land | 1 |
| I believe farming zone should be lifted. I want to build a family home after my grand children can come and play, I've wanted this since 1984 | 1 |
| I believe people should be allowed to build a house on farming land regardless of size. A house is only miniscule portion of the land | 1 |
| I believe that if land is already subdivided that it is wrong to deny building permits | 1 |
| I believe that landowners with land under the 40 ha. should be able to build a dwelling on their land, not only because the land would be worthless if you couldn't, but I think small land owners look after the land more than a lot a larger farms | 1 |
| I believe that properties which are 7 acres or less would not classify as a significant rural property where sustainable agriculture can be achieved | 1 |
| I believe that the farming zone within the close boundaries to town should be changed to rural residential | 1 |
| I consider the agricultural land used solely for farming in the Macedon Ranges Shire due to size of properties, has become an unviable business proposition. It has turned into a "lifestyle" situation and consequently consider that more land should be available for development under 100 acres | 1 |
| I don't think the land around our area is good for farming as all of the properties are not really big enough to be productive farms. Most are hobby farms | 1 |
| I don't understand that you can only build a dwelling when farming when there seems to be no farming around my block and Tranters lane | 1 |



| | |
|---|---|
| I feel that subdivision of land zoned farming is appropriate in the right circumstances when it could be advantages to all stake holders | 1 |
| I have a 60 acre property in the Shire. I would love to build which in turn provides local jobs, however the current 100 acre permits rules stop this | 1 |
| I hope to build on my land | 1 |
| I require a building permit for each lot | 1 |
| I say encourage development as this will open up revenue for Council | 1 |
| I support the protection of farming land but where small subdivision has occurred as in our 20 acres, and many other areas, not much you can do with them. A blanket approach will not work, has to be more considered | 1 |
| I think building permits should be allowed on agricultural land down to 20 ha | 1 |
| I would be interested in exploring subdivision potential of my block (2*20 acre lots) With the planning, as properties on Murphy Rd, have already been subdivided historically | 1 |
| I would like to build a house on the farm but new rules forbid it, makes enterprise difficult. Did have building permit, but years ago | 1 |
| I would like to see development on some farming land | 1 |
| I would support farm stay and BnB development with a strong "right to farm" policy, to avoid conflicts, only | 1 |
| I would support subdivision into 10 hectare blocks. Romsey village requires support | 1 |
| If you have 200 acre or 80 hectares you can only build 2 dwellings, we have 3 children who want to work the farm and we were MRSC will not allow us to have houses on our land, only 1 house per 40 ha | 1 |
| If you have allowed people to subdivide their land then let them build on it | 1 |
| In this situation, one should be able to build shedding and a dwelling | 1 |
| It is also ridiculous that a property with two dwelling cannot be subdivided if less than 100 acres, that needs to be change | 1 |
| It is very important to permit building dwellings on existing small lots (i.e. less than 40 hectares) of farm land. These lots are too small for sustainable farming and will be better managed as residential / niche farming properties | 1 |
| Lack of 'as for right' to build dwelling on small allotment is holding back potential of niche farms | 1 |
| Land within close proximity of Woodend and other towns is not viable for farming purposes. This land is better listed for housing purposes that will in turn reduce pressure from other more viable land to accommodate dwelling | 1 |
| Land without dwellings should be allowed building permits where subdivision was approved before the 40 hectares rule | 1 |
| Let common sense prevail. There are numerous small blocks that are ideal home sites but not large enough for farming and permits should be allowed for building houses with careful management | 1 |
| Logical, petty Council over regulation creates excessively onerous conditions on any development or incentive in Macedon Ranges Shire | 1 |
| Long history of Macedon Ranges Shire failing to give opportunity to affected owners of property with regard to planning matters | 1 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Low density residential would make for more sense, look at lot sizes and position prior to zoning with factor | 1 |
| More flexibility on providing accommodation eg. granny flats / B&B should be allowed to be permanent dwellings | 1 |
| My property is surrounded by smaller size properties, i.e. 30 acres and yet I cannot subdivide under 100 hectares. This should change | 1 |
| Near our property we have 5-10-20 acres blocks where homes should be allowed to be built on. Council can get more rates and the block will be better maintained | 1 |
| Need greater flexibility for building or planning permits on small (4 hectare or less) pockets of lands currently zoned as farming | 1 |
| On properties like ours of 40 acres or less, they are not viable as farms, but could provide a rural lifestyle and reduce congestion in the towns if subdivision was allowed | 1 |
| Opportunities to be able to build a house/holiday home | 1 |
| Our farms soils are the same as exists in all subdivisions in Lancefield. We, as are most pursuits, unprofitable. We wish to eventually rezone and subdivide into smaller parcels, like less than 2 ha. This is sustainable as we are on the towns interface | 1 |
| Our land is a small allotment of 15 hectares that is adjacent town with poor soil. It is ridiculous to zone such holdings as farming zone 1, as the lot sizes do not accommodate financial viability for agricultural | 1 |
| People should be allowed small hobby farm holding for their own self sustainability and to be able to build appropriate living accommodation and shedding | 1 |
| Planning permits should be available for properties less than 40 ha.(100 acre) that have been subdivided prior to the introduction of farming zone overlays | 1 |
| Please detain the 100 acre minimum block area's | 1 |
| Please minimise the expansion of new high-density housing developments within the Shire | 1 |
| Properties in our area range from 5-100 acres. Most are near or retired. Very few crops, only cattle, sheep, goat or alpaca farming. It is too late for large scale farming in this district and not profitable | 1 |
| Property values in the Macedon Ranges are so high, families have invested financially and physically in their properties under 100 acres should be able to subdivide their faming land into parcels for their children | 1 |
| Proximity to Melbourne and the demand for housing will result that land in Macedon Ranges will have to change. | 1 |
| Refusal to issue permits restricts the sale of properties when the previous owner is no longer in a position to properly maintain | 1 |
| Restrictions against any expansion of dwellings on rural land are very limiting and not always reasonable. The water catchment overlay on our property has proven to be a very expensive obstacle to development although its importance is understandable | 1 |
| Ridiculous that a house cannot be built on acreage of less 100 acres | 1 |
| Seeking dwelling use right for 8 ha. minima for lots in the Fiddler Green Rd Kyneton area, Council should respect the history of subdivision | 1 |
| Should be allowed to subdivide to minimum 2 acres with building permit available | 1 |
| Should be more subdivision productive land, south of Romsey | 1 |
| Small acreages cannot support farming so building permits should be applicable | 1 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Small lot development actually enhances the environment (tree planning or gardens) as opposed to unviable agricultural land | 1 |
| Small lots that had previously subdivided as "rural residential" before "farm zone" implementation should be allowed to be built on, as this properties have no significance input in the farming sense, and limiting to these properties only | 1 |
| Small parcels of land which cannot be a hard to use for farming should be allowed to be subdivided and built on | 1 |
| Small titles that have had entitlements removed should be reinstated especially when amongst existing homes on similar sized allotments | 1 |
| Smaller acre blocks should be allowed to have houses rather than sitting with no activity improves the amenity and wealth of rural communities | 1 |
| Some areas that are designed farming zones are clearly not and should be not be included from farming zones. Specially the rural residential areas just north of Woodend | 1 |
| Some farming land should be opened up for subdivision were suited | 1 |
| Start developing Clarkfield as there is a train station and school (which is non-operational). The Shire needs more development to provide opportunities to residents. Not everyone can be a farmer | 1 |
| Subdivide into small 2-5 acre blocks | 1 |
| The 40 hectare minimum for dwelling is too prohibitive | 1 |
| The area I reside in has no prospects of sustainable farming | 1 |
| The change from Rural Living to Farm Zone was ill-considered for such a small allotment and has discriminated against those owners both financially and to carry out the lifestyle they wished for themselves | 1 |
| The constraints with farming zone are unfair for our 7 acre block. However, we have a permit for our house | 1 |
| The farming zone is overarched. Denying home construction of lots under 100 acres us not the best way to see "land" managed | 1 |
| The property was purchased by our parents to erect a dwelling and was never intended for any other purpose, due to illness our parent were not able to continue with their plans to build | 1 |
| The Shire needs to be more open minded and supportive of families that want a rural lifestyle and should invest and support more 'boutique' properties | 1 |
| The Shire should lessen restrictions on the use of farming land and welcome innovation | 1 |
| The Shire should let people under 100 acres be able to build home on their land | 1 |
| The threshold should be reduced to a more realistic level which would encourage agricultural activity while also providing residential opportunity | 1 |
| There should be a free design consultation for new homes on rural land, incorporating perma-culture or energy saving as a suggestion | 1 |
| There should be sympathetic consideration to proper subdivision and land being allowed where land so small for people agriculture | 1 |
| These properties should have been exempt from the strict conditions that exist in the farming zone areas. People purchased these properties before the rezoning of the land for hobby farming and retirement in the country | 1 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Unfortunately, urban sprawl is inevitable therefore subdivision should occur while keeping in mind rural views and pressure on local infrastructure | 1 |
| Very difficult to make a living on rural properties therefore additional opportunities should be allowed to have additional accommodation dwellings to support their B&B's for example. This assists with bringing tourism into the area | 1 |
| Viable farming is impossible to sustaining through legislation, 40 ha. min is nonsense, people should be free to sell titles with a planning permit | 1 |
| We bought the land in 1983 it was not a farming zone I don't understand why five acre lots were included in a farming zone what could you possibly farm on five acre and make a considerable profit | 1 |
| We can only speak for our situation, and we know our land is insufficient to farm as it has poor soil, and there is no opportunity to increase land size as we are bounded by industry, dwellings, urban development, there is a freeway at the back | 1 |
| We have found that it's almost impossible to earn a living from a property under ten acres. Farming zones should be lifted on properties under 20 acres in size. Development in these areas should be restricted to single acre lots to preserve the rural lifestyle and discourage high density development | 1 |
| We moved here because we love the area, I believe in local land release for appropriate development only to enable more people to live here | 1 |
| We support the preservation of a rural character in this Shire however we believe the current minimum planning size of 40 hectares is overly restrictive. This leaves a lot of farming land poorly managed | 1 |
| While I support the principle of retaining farmland for agriculture and maintaining the rural nature of the landscape, the current planning rules are arbitrarily preventing residential building on relatively large properties making it difficult to spend adequate time at the property to engage farming | 1 |
| Whilst I see maintaining agricultural land as very important, the Shire must address anomalies which have arisen due to past planning decisions. Three such problems are; 30 acres zoned farming amongst rural living. No house can be built and the land is worth 1/3rd of what it would be if zoned rural living | 1 |
| Would like Shire to consider innovate development and subdivision if there is a net benefit to all | 1 |
| Yes should be able to get a building permit to build on the land - of my size 40 hectares | 1 |
| The 100 acre threshold for dwellings on farming zone land is outdated. As long as it is sympathetic and appropriate smaller lots should be usable for this | 1 |
| With Melbourne getting so cluttered, it is important to make larger allotments available so people who want to have small acreage can do so | 1 |
| Although I believe farm land should not be subdivided I feel it is wrong to not allow people to build on acreage below the restrictions placed on them by the Council | 1 |
| I would like Harts Lane Kyneton rezone for one of my land holdings between Lauriston Reservoir Rd and Burton Ave | 1 |



Oppose development

| | |
|---|---|
| High density subdivision or development must be avoided, i.e. current rural or farming character of the Shire should be retained. If this is lost, we can never get it back | 4 |
| This is some of the best agricultural soil in Victoria and should be protected from urban sprawl and non-farm use | 3 |
| A relatively high rain fall area with some excellent friable soils that we have should also be a centre for horticulture. Being close to Melbourne means both freshness and low food kilometres | 1 |
| Do everything possible to keep as much land available for farming. No more subdivisions and expansions without a huge increase in local infrastructure | 1 |
| Farmland should not be broken up in smaller land parcels, the way it works now is very good | 1 |
| Good farm land should not be used for housing lots | 1 |
| Good farming land needs to be preserved as large enough farms to remain viable as farms into the future. Otherwise they will disappear due to the temptations of subdivision | 1 |
| I do not want the area to become a suburb, that's not why we moved here | 1 |
| I feel very strongly that the Macedon Ranges Shire retain its agricultural and farming land. Farmers should be supported to continue moving here | 1 |
| I know rules have to be made but unless the enterprise is really destroying good farming land the less laws or restrictions the better | 1 |
| I would like my area remain as a farming area where already too much development in town | 1 |
| Important for food bowl proximity to Melbourne to be maintained | 1 |
| Inappropriate subdivision is most unwelcome insufficient attention is given to the supply of water to this area, railway maintenance needs upgrading and do the road sides | 1 |
| Inappropriate subdivision is a disaster that should be avoided | 1 |
| It is important to preserve quality farming land and agriculture | 1 |
| It is really important that farming land not be split or houses built on small blocks. Small blocks could otherwise be reunited into farm businesses | 1 |
| It is very important to keep farm agricultural rate system so to allow farming to continue in Macedon Ranges Shire | 1 |
| Macedon Shire should be protected | 1 |
| Marginal land should not be used for residential purposes as this displaces wildlife especially kangaroos, which are then forced on to producing farming land | 1 |
| One of the main issues that the Council subdivides and rezones too often, to get more rate payers and thus makes the land parcels too small to be productive | 1 |
| Our farming land must be preserved and not be all small subdivisions and we are not a suburb of Melbourne | 1 |
| Our property is an area with a minimum 100 acre subdivision and we have 220 acres, the rural amenity is important and the limit should remain | 1 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Planning has allowed lot sizes to be subdivided to an extent that they do not support agriculture | 1 |
| Productive land needs to be protected for future generations | 1 |
| Protection of your volcanic and productive land should be high on Council agenda | 1 |
| Residential growth should be confined to township areas and farming land left for agricultural purposes | 1 |
| Rural / farming accent of the Shire should be preserved at all cost, once gone, gone forever. Properly managed, it can different the Shire over the long term | 1 |
| Sick of seeing approvals for dwelling on farm zone land for "bogus" made up reasons, where the real reason is not to farm but for a lifestyle or to sell the property for more money | 1 |
| Splitting up farming land per small lifestyle properties will destroy the area and ruin good farming land forever | 1 |
| The surrounding rural landscape was a key factor in our property purchase, we feel very strongly that this rural character must be preserved | 1 |
| The suburban spread makes the Shire less and less appealing, keep our rural, farm native areas, free from what makes this area special | 1 |
| Tight subdivision control must be maintained | 1 |
| Using farming land for non-agricultural uses should not be allowed to continue i.e. no new approval | 1 |
| We are strongly of the view that the existing farming land and agriculture within the shire be maintained as it currently is | 1 |
| We do not want satellite suburbs especially when many haven't got proper backyards for infrastructure to support it. 'Grand Designs' on TV recently did a program on suburbs and allowing diversity in developments beyond the developer's idea of building - allowing independent architectural differences | 1 |
| We moved to 3433 for a country lifestyle and do not want subdivision of large farms under any circumstances | 1 |
| We need to maintain the unique and beautiful aspects of Macedon Ranges' natural landscape and limit housing growth to big town | 1 |
| We specifically purchased Farming Zone land to realise our business that we have been studying, developing and researching for five years. We wanted land where agricultural use was a right | 1 |
| Would hate to see Macedon Ranges area become another Melbourne suburb | 1 |
| Too many house going up that don't fit into the landscape | 1 |
| We chose Macedon Ranges (Hume, Mitchell etc.) because we were confident that the Shire would preserve our farmland and the land surrounding it | 1 |
| I would be very disappointed to see an ugly expansion of our town | 1 |
| Small holding misuse of land eg. dumping ground for old cars, business waste etc. | 1 |
| The Shire have brilliantly preserved the rural landscape north of Melbourne for some time | 1 |
| Individual farm holdings would need to be zoned never to be divided up otherwise the area will lose the farming industry. Poor land could be cut up into smaller lots but in keeping with the rural feel | 1 |
| I support the Shire's 100 acre min subdivision | 1 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Buyers of 'Farming Zone' land should consider the suitability and limitations of the land prior to purchase, rather than retrospectively trying to change regulations to suit their plans / their own personal interests | 1 |
| Farming land is not sustainable, e.g. my land is 2-63 ha. surrounded by houses including one built recently | 1 |
| Farming needs to be supported and not be further regulated | 1 |
| Farming needs to be supported and not interfered with, unless everyone is prepared to become a vegetarian | 1 |
| Surround towns as "rural living" i.e. Kyneton could be bounded by Pleasant Hill Rd, Windmore Farm, Black Hill etc. Any place outside these area would be classified "farming" and subject to present conditions | 1 |

General comments on development

| | |
|---|---|
| All applications for building approval should be assessed on merit | 1 |
| As a farmer, I value our land and work hard to maintain and improve it. The area Council would want to vegetate is too great, when you are paying a mortgage on a place. This needs to change in our Shire going forward | 1 |
| As for the Greenies who think they understand farming sitting in air-conditioned penthouse Council offices, paid by our rates while we farmers fight fires can't have it both ways. Want to restrict farming, change zones etc, we can all go hungry and eat imported can food full of sugar and salt | 1 |
| Consider reducing farm zone into 30 hectares | 1 |
| Some of our land is rural conservation zone, has been farmed for years. The rubbish you have to go through to do anything on this land is ridiculous | 1 |
| Better building siting control and colours used for outbuildings should be implemented. Too many ridge top house locations have been allowed | 1 |
| For some four years we have been attempting to sell our 4.047ha. approximately 11 acre block to no avail. This is because in 2005 the land was reclassified from rural or residential (when we bought the block in 1987) to farmland. For a block of this size to classified farmland beggars belief | 1 |
| From Old Calder Highway to Old Lancefield Rd and south of Kronks Lane, they are mostly build on and don't farm. Farming should be changed | 1 |
| I think the rejection of the Baringo development is sad because we should live more like Europeans in townhouses and apartments so that our land doesn't get encroached upon like current bad development occurring in Romsey | 1 |

Renewable energy

| | |
|--|---|
| Encourage renewables | 1 |
| Explore a range of opportunities for the land - if farming deemed not a viable path i.e. renewable energy / wind farms | 1 |
| No wind farms | 1 |
| Wind turbines should be allowed in Macedon Ranges in the Darraweit area due to the strong north winds | 1 |



Bushfire safety

| | |
|---|---|
| Being fire ready (safety) | 1 |
| Cleaning of unsafe or dangerous vegetation along roadside (fire hazard) | 1 |
| More money should be put into road side slashing for fire and road safety | 1 |

Agritourism

| | |
|---|---|
| Agritourism is the best way to keep farms viable. Poor soils and low rainfall in this area, we need all the support and income we can get as the cost of farming continually rises whilst the prices of the produce remains the same. Macedon Ranges needs to compete against rural areas | 1 |
| I am aware that tourism projects have been rejected by Council in the past, poor | 1 |
| I believe that land owners in farm zones should be able to create income streams, other than from farming practices. Tourism ventures or mixed use or farming gives landowners more options for revenue and takes pressure off earning solely from traditional practices | 1 |
| Like Mornington Peninsula, to get tourism dollars into the region, more support for agritourism projects would help. This area's quality of Vineyard Cellar Doors is poor and poorly marketed compared to other areas | 1 |
| We have travelled widely and seen agritourism on the rise around the world but we only have to look to the success of "The Farm" in Byron Bay to see this is drawing tourists in as much as a theme park | 1 |

Communication and awareness

| | |
|---|---|
| I would like more information regarding how land is classified and what plans are being considered | 1 |
| It would be great to run courses or workshops in the community centres to reach farming practices, raising flocks, vegetable farming, etc | 1 |
| Threat of introduction of disease and parasites by ill informed owners | 1 |
| Availability of information and seeds to improve soil | 1 |
| We would like to know the future plans for change to the farming zone, the south side of Lancefield | 1 |

Rates

| | |
|---|---|
| Rates are too high, lower them | 2 |
| Council out of touch, cannot make living on expensive high rates | 1 |
| Council rates are too high especially as the farmers provide the environmental ambience of the area | 1 |
| Council rates are too high especially as the farmers provide the environmental ambience of the area | 1 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Do not rate farmers out of business. If the community wishes to maintain the rural landscape, commercial agriculture must be viable, otherwise there will be neglect of the land and pressure to sub-divide | 1 |
| Do not use the strategic review as an excuse to change the rate structure or farming zone clarification | 1 |
| Formation of committee to look into rating farmer occupied dwelling the same as town protection and farming land being expected from Council rates | 1 |
| Rates and input costs continue to go up, farming prices fail to keep up | 1 |
| Rates payable do not reflect the services provided by Macedon Shire. Except for a cursory grading 2-3 times a year our access road (Kerrie Rd) is in poor condition, especially considering it is a school bus route and school access route | 1 |

Weed and pest control

| | |
|---|---|
| Council needs to markedly increase its efforts at weeds / gorse / pests control in public land and roadsides | 6 |
| Clear roadside of trees dead and useless ugly of so call native vegetation | 1 |
| Control of noxious weeds as gorse, bloodberry and briar rose should be compulsory for all landholders. If not Shire should engage contractors and charge the landholder | 1 |
| Land was bought in good faith so owners should be considered. Otherwise you are looking at a really bad weed problem | 1 |
| Native flora should not take precedence over people's lives | 1 |
| Protection of the environment should be the number one priority | 1 |
| Sick of seeing weed in farm lots, sick of the neglected properties with dangerous fences, i.e. barb wire laying on the ground | 1 |
| The Councils laneway next to my farm is out-grown with gorse | 1 |
| The indigenous revegetation of farmland, particularly along waterways should be supported and encouraged | 1 |
| There needs to be more emphasis on retaining and protecting remnant forest on private rural land. The strong drawcard for the Shire cannot be underestimated! | 1 |
| Weed control is a major job, agriculture is not viable on this property | 1 |

Roads and infrastructure

| | |
|---|---|
| Current planning scheme can make maintaining improving current infrastructure harder than it should do | 1 |
| Extend boundaries residential to rural. Main gas supplied to all household in Woodend | 1 |
| Internet is also a severe problem in the Macedon Ranges with poor connectivity meaning fire safety and business opportunities are severely hampered | 1 |
| Internet is shocking, we are only 50km out of the CBD | 1 |
| Lights at major intersections | 1 |
| Many Council roads unsuitable for the trucks and equipment required to run agricultural businesses | 1 |



| | |
|---|---|
| Road management is poor and in summer the road verges are major hazards | 1 |
| Roads, our main road (Weatherly Rd) is unsealed, need to improve because of soil erosion flooding and dust | 1 |
| Roadside dumping clean ups lacking impacts on farms, small holdings | 1 |
| The roads and infrastructure in our area do not support increased traffic due to rezoning and building of new dwellings. If rezoning occurred or further subdivision was allowed we would consider moving elsewhere | 1 |
| Traditional farming is become more difficult in the Shire. The cost of modern farm machinery makes it difficult to use contractors with modern, efficient machinery because of the road restrictions | 1 |
| We are unable to get internet | 1 |

General waste and cleanliness

| | |
|---|---|
| Don't allow junk everywhere in view | 1 |
| Needs to be a review of Council policy and change for the use of waste collection and recycling centre | 1 |
| Please note, we at Corrigans Land Darraweit Guim are sick and tired of the mess and rubbish being dumped on properties in our street and using it as a dumping ground for tyres, cars, containers and other industrial rubbish, within the Darraweit Perish | 1 |
| Problem with absentee landholders dumpling hard rubbish, it has been brought up with the shire but no action has been taken | 1 |
| Proliferation of rubbish | 1 |
| Tidiness is next to Godliness | 1 |
| Tip fees are high leading many people to dump rubbish and waste on the roads / reserves around our property. The Council does not take action to rectify this or clean-up | 1 |

Pest animal management

| | |
|---|---|
| Rabbit and fox control | 2 |
| Assistance with control of foxes and kangaroos would encourage agriculture | 1 |
| Kangaroo management is a major problem. There are roos on our property and they destroy crops and fences and permits to shoot them only cover small numbers. There should be a Shire management program | 1 |
| Kangaroo numbers need to be better managed, impacting on agriculture and road safety | 1 |
| Kangaroos are a huge problem for farmers, break fences eat feed for stock, a significant road hazard and need significant culling | 1 |
| Kangaroos are a problem and a plan should be considered to control population | 1 |
| Pest animals are a huge problem with neighbouring properties doing little or nothing, ruin plantings, and foxes kill lambs. Are looking to initiate farm income next year. | 1 |
| Access to water is invaluable | |
| Rapid increase in Kangaroo numbers a major problem | 1 |



| | |
|---|---|
| Rezoning farming land to Rural means dogs become a bigger issue. Dog act only covers issues after attacks (not much help to dead stock) | 1 |
| Some horse wails would be good | 1 |
| Very frustrated my plans for fruit and vegetable are redundant because Shire does not reduce the kangaroos | 1 |

General negative comments

| | |
|--|---|
| Council is out of touch with views and needs of residents | 1 |
| Farmers screwed enough by supermarkets without having Council screw us even more. Too many restrictions will force farmers out then in 10 years time when Councils are run by Chinese, they can take our land, destroy the land, suck it dry and ship all produce to China just like powdered baby formula | 1 |
| Farmers should be consulted more and non-farming "experts" (greenies, animal protection groups, urban environmentalists, with theoretical knowledge only) should not have overriding influence on planning decisions | 1 |
| I will be astonished if anything even vaguely productive emerges from this farrago. The Shire Council is the most egregious collection of self-important, fatuous incompetent buffoons I have ever encountered | 1 |
| Keep bureaucrats who have little understanding of real agricultural business out of investment decisions. Further the climate change debate needs to be kept in context and many local governments are showing little understanding of the real facts behind this and other issues relating to the land | 1 |
| Lack of understanding by Council on the true value of business to the economic welfare of the Macedon Ranges community | 1 |
| Macedon Ranges Shire are the biggest problem in the area, they should encourage farms as they create huge employment and spending in the area especially equine or horses | 1 |
| Not too farm for profit! For as far as the eye can see it's just empty land... very few owners are farming that isn't why they purchased the property, Macedon Shire Council are very difficult to deal with, and are not interested in what landowners want | 1 |

Survey

| | |
|---|---|
| Do not like this survey, it does not help for managing change | 1 |
| Question 31-14 what do you mean by rural based tourism | 1 |
| Re Q31/13 - I would support niche horticultural or agricultural activities only | 1 |
| The survey does not address true farmers | 1 |
| Why don't all farmers get this survey | 1 |



| <i>Other</i> | |
|---|---|
| Access to farms is important, travel and pick up goods, going off farm | 1 |
| Business purchasing agricultural land to store property of no commercial value | 1 |
| Climate change, and more drier climate and bushfires are a challenge here for all people, need to be very well prepared | 1 |
| Control roads, protect waterways, improve the land, prepare for bushfires, actively control land owners with respect to these key issues | 1 |
| Council should support small business | 1 |
| Diverse farming should be a priority. There needs to be a lot more small farm enterprises, particularly as viable horticulture requires much less farming area | 1 |
| Do not require high grade soil | 1 |
| Don't forget your charter | 1 |
| Don't pay water levy | 1 |
| Down sized from 2000 acres to retire and be closer to sons | 1 |
| Due to the negative and aggressive approach | 1 |
| Equestrian is seem to be an agricultural usage | 1 |
| Equestrian industry in all aspects must be supported by the Macedon Ranges Council | 1 |
| Farming alone will not support the area | 1 |
| Farming and agriculture land use creates the lungs for Melbourne | 1 |
| Farming land is better maintained and more productive when owners and farmers are actually living on the farming land. You only need to drive around Macedon Ranges Shire "Farm Land" to see the difference when there is a residential house on the land | 1 |
| Farming zone should be include light rural industry, i.e. production of farm gates and stock yards | 1 |
| I am very surprised that a farming property can have many large mining vehicles and portable offices. This is very off putting to potential buyers when selling ones property as the noise factor and ugly sight is the first question asked | 1 |
| I have an issue with a skip business next to rural dwellings with stock | 1 |
| I have lived in this area for over thirty years, we want to see the town go ahead and we need provide help to all members of the Shire not just those who live in the township | 1 |
| I have spoken to all my neighbouring properties about this and they answer that MRSC's priority is not about the economics of farm size, it is about ratable properties | 1 |
| I strongly disagree on the focus and encouragement on cattle and houses while ignoring all other farming activities | 1 |
| I think it is really important to get much more productivity out of smaller farm if they are managed on a larger unit. Farms are large, but owned by many people living on farm (but walking away), will give the Shire increased productivity, aesthetics and environmental protection. But also allows people to live in the landscape. Have to talk about this; I have a couple of good case study. Call me if you are interested 0423944526 | 1 |
| I think we should do all we can to support farming in our Shire | 1 |



| | |
|--|------------|
| In an attempt to fatten calves we were forced to supplement their feed as the land couldn't support three cows through winter | 1 |
| Interested opportunities for alternative use of land | 1 |
| Land holdings | 1 |
| Like bio diversity in the environment, economic diversity balances out the vagaries of the market. This is particularly true in a farming community | 1 |
| Little value placed on things like gross turnover, number of staff employed, international or trade business, advertising, public awareness, national or international profile, amount of investment, percent of turnover re-invested locally etc. | 1 |
| More equine facilities and activities | 1 |
| More restrictions on farming parcels, do not encourage farming, it is adding more cost | 1 |
| Need to look at alternatives to traditional farming and agricultural usage of land | 1 |
| Neighbours will also impact on our business | 1 |
| No to any additional mining | 1 |
| No to cypress-type rows along boundaries fronting roadways (these block views of landscape) | 1 |
| Noise can be an issue | 1 |
| Opportunities to collaborate with like niche businesses for procurement, deliveries, agritourism, staff, marketing, etc. | 1 |
| Our property is rocky poor quality country in Area 3 (as per previous evaluations done by you), with many neighbouring small properties that are not maintained properly | 1 |
| People should be managed to move to the area and be allowed to promote the economic growth so that the region grows and becomes more vibrant and attractive | 1 |
| Small business awards were won by small boutique industries like family wineries instead of those what contributed far more to the economy locally | 1 |
| Towards Darraweitt, the soil is very low grade, the soil tests performed by the testing facility confirmed this | 1 |
| We are slowly revegetation but hampered by the cost of fencing | 1 |
| We believe that overall farming within the Shire has diminished and that more of the Shire has become lifestyle holdings. We feel that farming are limited | 1 |
| We don't want to lose the natural beauty of the Macedon Ranges landscape | 1 |
| What happens to the land inside "land outside farming zone" | 1 |
| Whether it 1000 ha. or 1 ha. generally there will be stock on it and being farmed | 1 |
| Why is so much outside the farming zone | 1 |
| Working owners all have another source of income. B&B's need to be managed better by the Shire | 1 |
| Total | 318 |



General comments (Community Survey)
Macedon Ranges Shire Council - 2017 Farming Zone Survey
(Number of responses)

| <i>Comment</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|---|---------------|
| Lot of rubbish left on the streets especially a high density / busy areas | 3 |
| Bins overflowing | 2 |
| Never seen any | 2 |
| So much rubbish in parks | 2 |
| Some areas have a lot of rubbish | 2 |
| Collection of litter need to be better | 1 |
| Could be better | 1 |
| High St is very dirty | 1 |
| Litter in park bins and rubbish needs improving | 1 |
| Lot more than it used to be | 1 |
| More bins needed | 1 |
| Needs to be looked at mainly near railway | 1 |
| Not enough bins | 1 |
| Not often | 1 |
| Preston South - graffiti and litter problems | 1 |
| See litter in public areas | 1 |
| Sometimes they dump a lot of rubbish and don't take care of trolleys left | 1 |
| Sometimes they leave it | 1 |
| There is a much used footpath that runs along the train line to the Station St shops - it needs maintenance | 1 |
| Total | 25 |



Appendix One: survey form

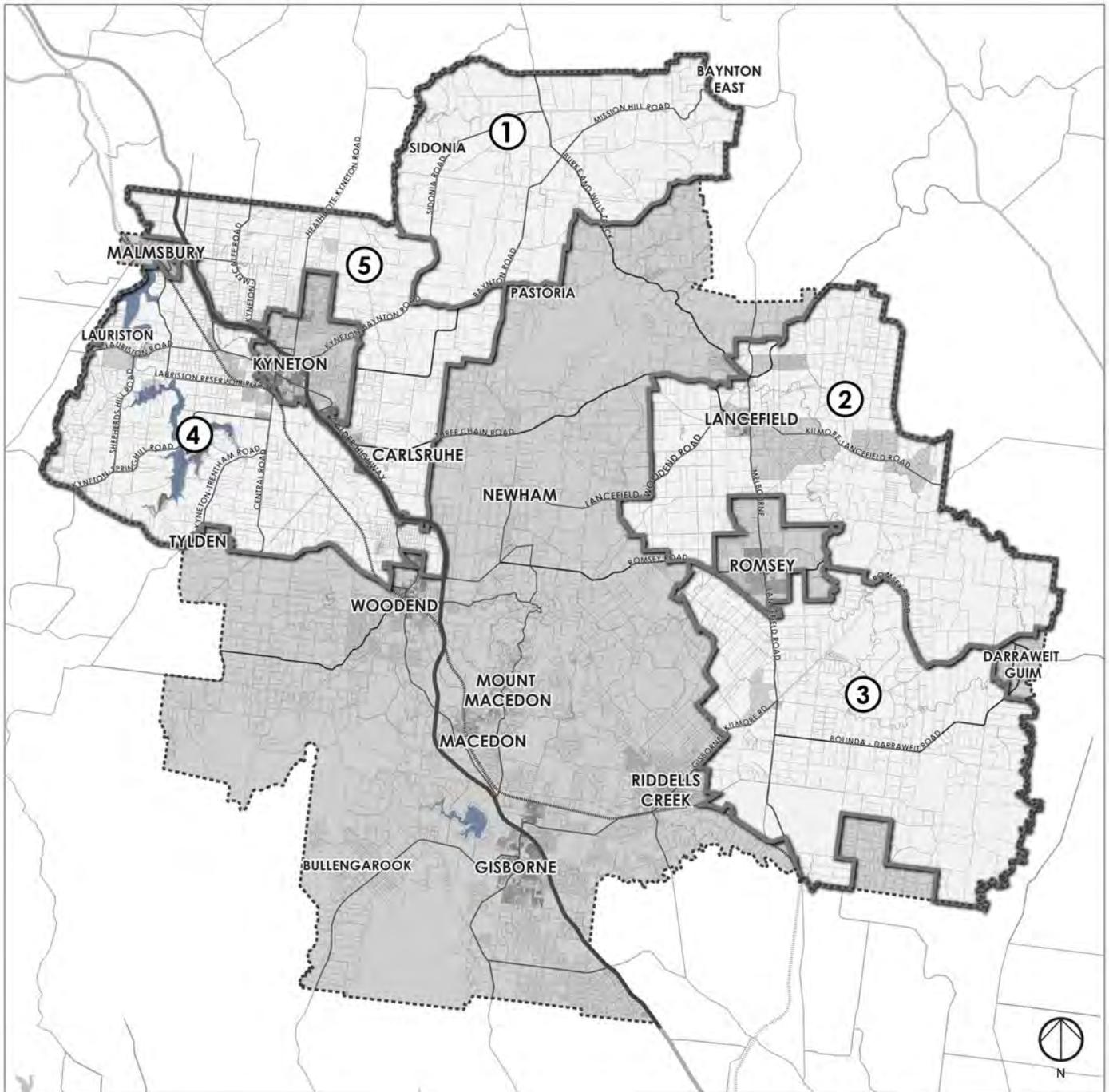




1

Referring to the following map, in which area is your land holding/s located?

| | | | |
|------------|---|----------------|---|
| Area One | 1 | Area Four | 4 |
| Area Two | 2 | Area Five | 5 |
| Area Three | 3 | Multiple areas | 6 |



Shire Boundary
 Land outside the Farming Zone
 Precinct Number

0 5 10km

2**Why did you purchase farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire?***(please select as many as appropriate)*

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| To farm | 1 | Closeness to Melbourne | 6 |
| Productive agricultural soils | 2 | Rural lifestyle | 7 |
| Availability of water | 3 | To retire | 8 |
| Availability of infrastructure | 4 | Other <i>(specify)</i> : | 9 |
| Closeness to markets | 5 | _____ | |

3**What is the total area of your land holding?**

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Less than 4 hectares | 1 | 40 to less than 100 hectares | 4 |
| 4 to less than 10 hectares | 2 | 100 to less than 500 hectares | 5 |
| 10 to less than 40 hectares | 3 | 500 hectares or more | 6 |

4**Do you have multiple land holdings in the Macedon Ranges Shire?**

| | | | |
|-----|---|----|---|
| Yes | 1 | No | 2 |
|-----|---|----|---|

If YES, how many holdings do you have?

5**How long have you owned your land holding/s in Macedon Ranges?**

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Less than 5 years <i>(go to q.6)</i> | 1 | 10 years or more <i>(go to q.7)</i> | 3 |
| 5 to less than 10 years <i>(go to q.7)</i> | 2 | Prefer not to say <i>(go to q.7)</i> | 9 |

6**Have you ever managed farm land in the past?**

| | | | |
|-----|---|----|---|
| Yes | 1 | No | 2 |
|-----|---|----|---|

7**Do you intend on selling the property within the next five years?**

| | | | |
|------------------|---|-----------|---|
| Yes - definitely | 1 | No | 3 |
| Yes - possibly | 2 | Can't say | 9 |

If Yes, why do you say that?

8**Is there a dwelling on your land?**

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Yes <i>(go to q.12)</i> | 1 | No <i>(go to q.9)</i> | 2 |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|

If there is no dwelling on your property**9****What is the postcode of your primary place of residence?**

Postcode:

10**How often do you typically visit the property?**

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| At least once a week | 1 | Every few months | 3 |
| Once or twice a month | 2 | Once or twice a year | 4 |

11**Do you intend to build a dwelling on the property in the next ten years?**

| | | | |
|------------------|---|-----------|---|
| Yes - definitely | 1 | No | 3 |
| Yes - possibly | 2 | Can't say | 9 |

If there is a dwelling on your property**12****Is this your primary place of residence?**

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| Yes (<i>go to Q.14</i>) | 1 | No (<i>go to Q.13</i>) | 2 |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|

13**How often do you typically stay at the property overnight?**

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| More than once a week | 1 | Every few months | 4 |
| Once a week | 2 | Once or twice a year | 5 |
| Once or twice a month | 3 | The property is leased | 6 |

14**How long have you lived at the property?**

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Less than one year | 1 | Five to less than ten years | 3 |
| One to less than five years | 2 | Ten years or more | 4 |

If less than 5 yrs, in what postcode did you previously live?

All respondents answer**15****Do you earn any income from agricultural production from your land located in the Macedon Ranges Shire?**

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| Yes (<i>go to Q.16</i>) | 1 | No (<i>go to Q.28</i>) | 2 |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|

If you earn income from agriculture on your land**16****What is the land area you have in use for agriculture in the Shire?**

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Less than 4 hectares | 1 | 40 to less than 100 hectares | 5 |
| 4 to less than 10 hectares | 2 | 100 to less than 500 hectares | 6 |
| 10 to less than 40 hectares | 3 | 500 hectares or more | 7 |

17**What was the approximate turnover of your agribusiness in the last financial year?**

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|----|
| Less than \$10,000 | 1 | \$300,000 to less than \$500,000 | 6 |
| \$10,000 to less than \$20,000 | 2 | \$500,000 to less than \$1 million | 7 |
| \$20,000 to less than \$50,000 | 3 | \$1 million or more | 8 |
| \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 | 4 | Prefer not to say | 10 |
| \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 | 5 | | |

18

Can you please estimate the percentage contribution of each category to your agribusiness turnover?

(please write in the percentage for each category and sum to 100%)

Livestock - sheep (*meat and wool*)

Horticulture (*fruit and vegetables*)

Livestock - cattle (*beef*)

Viticulture

Livestock products (*eggs, milk*)

Rural tourism (*e.g. holiday rentals*)

Hay and silage

Equine

Broad-acre crops

Other (*specify*): _____

19

Approximately what proportion of your household income is earned from your agribusiness?

Less than 10%

1

50% or more

4

10% to less than 30%

2

Prefer not to say

9

30% to less than 50%

3

20

Over the last five years, has the gross income from your agribusiness?

Increased a lot

1

Decreased a little

4

Increased a little

2

Decreased a lot

5

Remained about the same

3

Prefer not to say / can't say

9

21

How likely is it that your agribusiness will significantly increase production in the next ten years?

Very likely

1

Very unlikely

4

Somewhat likely

2

Prefer not to say / can't say

9

Somewhat unlikely

3

22

On a scale from zero (not at all) to ten (very significant), to what degree are each of the following a barrier inhibiting the operation or expansion of your agribusiness?

(please circle one number for each aspect)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----------|
| 1. Business conditions | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 2. The price of surrounding land | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 3. Infrastructure constraints (<i>e.g. bridges, roads, other physical infrastructure</i>) | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 4. Internet access | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 5. The availability of water | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 6. Soil quality | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 7. Neighbours (<i>e.g. complaints or incompatible land uses</i>) | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 8. Climate change | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 9. Other (<i>specify</i>): _____ | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |

23**At what stage is your agribusiness?**

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Expansion stage | 1 | Winding down stage | 3 |
| Steady stage | 2 | Prefer not to say / can't say | 9 |

24**Are you considering purchasing or leasing more agricultural land in the Macedon Ranges Shire within the next ten years?**

| | | | |
|------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Yes - definitely | 1 | No | 3 |
| Yes - possibly | 2 | Prefer not to say / can't say | 9 |

If Yes, where?

25**Are you looking to diversify your agricultural business to include any of the following categories?***(please select as many as appropriate)*

| | | | |
|--|---|--|----|
| Accommodation (e.g. Bed and Breakfast, group accommodation or a hotel) | 1 | Intensive animal industry (e.g. cattle feedlot or broiler farm) | 7 |
| Animal keeping (e.g. dog breeding) | 2 | Restaurant | 8 |
| Animal training (e.g. horse riding) | 3 | Winery | 9 |
| Produce sales from goods grown, produced or processed on the land | 4 | Rural industry (e.g. Abattoir or an area that processes animal products) | 10 |
| Place of assembly (e.g. function centre) | 5 | Other (specify): | 11 |
| Equine | 6 | _____ | |

26**What proportion of your farming inputs are sourced from within the Macedon Ranges Shire?**

| | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| None | 1 | More than half | 3 |
| Less than half | 2 | Prefer not to say / can't say | 9 |

27**How do you mostly manage the land area on your property?**

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| Farmed by myself / my family | 1 | Not farmed and managed by myself / my family | 3 |
| Farmed by a third party (leased / share farming arrangement / caretaker) | 2 | Not farmed and managed by a third party (contractor / caretaker) | 4 |

All respondents answer**28****Which of the following land management practices are you undertaking on your property?***(please select as many as appropriate)*

| | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Pasture improvement | 1 | Soil health improvement | 6 |
| Fire preparedness (e.g. mowing and slashing) | 2 | Repairing soil erosion | 7 |
| Weed control | 3 | Protection of native vegetation | 8 |
| Pest animal control (e.g. rabbits, foxes) | 4 | Other (specify): _____ | 9 |
| Revegetation / establishment of biolinks | 5 | _____ | |

29

On a scale from zero (not at all) to ten (very significant), to what degree are each of the following a challenge to you implementing best practice land management?

(please circle one number for each aspect)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----------|
| 1. The amount of time I / we have available | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 2. The cost | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 3. My / our level of knowledge | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 4. The equipment required | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 5. Other <i>(specify):</i> _____ | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |

30

On which of the following topics would you like further information or assistance?

(please select as many as appropriate)

| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|----|
| Pasture improvement | 1 | Soil health improvement | 6 |
| Fire preparedness <i>(e.g. mowing and slashing)</i> | 2 | Repairing soil erosion | 7 |
| Weed control | 3 | Protection of native vegetation | 8 |
| Pest animal control <i>(e.g. rabbits, foxes)</i> | 4 | Grazing | 9 |
| Revegetation / establishment of biolinks | 5 | Other (specify): _____ | 10 |

31

On a scale from zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree), please rate your agreement with the following statements about the farming zone?

(please circle one number for each statement)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----------|
| 1. I am familiar with the controls in the farming zone in the planning scheme. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 2. It is important to protect opportunity for agriculture in the Shire. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 3. Considering alternative activities on properties that can't support agriculture is appropriate. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 4. Facilitating farm activity, growth and expansion is important. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 5. Dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 6. It is important to use land with high quality soils only for agriculture. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 7. Subdivision of land in rural areas should not be allowed unless required to support agriculture. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 8. Dwellings should only be allowed if they don't prejudice the continuation and expansion of farming activities in the area. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |

31

On a scale from zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree), please rate your agreement with the following statements about the farming zone?

(please circle one number for each statement)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----------|
| 9. The open farmed landscape should be protected as one of the defining visual characteristics of the Shire. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 10. New development on farming land should minimise visual impact, particularly from key landscape vantage points. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 11. It is important that farm management plans address matters such as fencing of waterways, re-vegetation of degraded areas and weed control | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 12. I am involved in my local land care network. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 13. I support farming land being used for innovative uses or niche production activities. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |
| 14. I support rural based tourism in appropriate locations. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Can't say |

A few questions about you and your household

32

Please indicate which of the following age groups best describes you?

| | | | |
|---------------|---|------------------|---|
| 15 - 19 Years | 1 | 45 - 59 Years | 4 |
| 20 - 34 Years | 2 | 60 - 74 Years | 5 |
| 35 - 44 Years | 3 | 75 Years or Over | 6 |

33

With which gender do you identify?

| | | | |
|--------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Male | 1 | Other | 3 |
| Female | 2 | Prefer not to say / not stated | 9 |

34

Do any members of this household speak a language other than English at home?

| | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|
| English only | 1 | Other : _____ | 2 |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|

35

Do any members of this household have a permanent or long-term disability?

| | | | |
|-----|---|----|---|
| Yes | 1 | No | 2 |
|-----|---|----|---|

36

What is the structure of this household?

| | | | |
|---|---|--|----|
| Two parent family (<i>youngest child 0 - 4 yrs</i>) | 1 | One parent family (<i>youngest 13-18 yrs</i>) | 7 |
| Two parent family (<i>youngest child 5 – 12 yrs</i>) | 2 | One parent family (<i>adult children only</i>) | 8 |
| Two parent family (<i>youngest child 13 - 18 yrs</i>) | 3 | Extended or multiple families | 9 |
| Two parent family (<i>adult children only</i>) | 4 | Group household | 10 |
| One parent family (<i>youngest child 0 - 4 yrs</i>) | 5 | Sole person household | 11 |
| One parent family (<i>youngest child 5 – 12 yrs</i>) | 6 | Couple only household | 12 |

37

Do you have any other comments about issues and opportunities for farming land and agriculture within Macedon Ranges Shire?

| |
|--|
| |
| |
| |
| |

If you would like to stay updated about this project, please provide your email address?

(this information is confidential and will not be kept with your survey responses)

Email address:

Thank you for your time in completing this survey

(c) Metropolis Research 2017

Farming Zone Community Survey

About your farming land

1. Do you own farming land in the Macedon Ranges Shire? *

- Yes
- No

2. What are all the aspects you value about the land and farming activities occurring in the Farming Zone in Macedon Ranges Shire?

(please select as many as appropriate)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Its country feel | <input type="checkbox"/> Its biodiversity and ecological values |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The productivity of the soils | <input type="checkbox"/> The employment that farming brings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The agricultural production (what it produces) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Write In <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The open landscape and the break it creates between settlements | <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Write In <input type="text"/> |

3. Are there special places that should be protected for farming within Macedon Ranges Shire? *

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

4. What are the areas that should be protected for farming, and why should they be protected?

| | Location | Reason |
|-------|----------------------|----------------------|
| One | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Two | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Three | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

Opportunities in the Farming Zone

5. What opportunities do you see for farming within Macedon Ranges Shire?

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| One | <input type="text"/> |
| Two | <input type="text"/> |
| Three | <input type="text"/> |

Issues in the Farming Zone

What, if any issues do you see for the farming areas within Macedon Ranges Shire?

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| One | <input type="text"/> |
| Two | <input type="text"/> |
| Three | <input type="text"/> |

Statements about the farming zone

6. On a scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree), please rate

your agreement with the following statements about the farming zone? *

Zero One Two Three Four Five Six Seven Eight Nine T

I am familiar with the controls in the farming zone in the planning scheme

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

It is important to protect opportunity for agriculture in the Shire

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

Considering alternative activities on properties that can't support agriculture is appropriate

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

Facilitating farm activity, growth and expansion is important

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

Dwellings should not be allowed on agricultural land unless required to support agriculture

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

It is important to use land with quality soils for agriculture

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

Subdivision of land in rural areas should not be

areas and
weed control

I am involved
in my local
land care
network

I support
farming land
being used for
innovative
uses or niche
production
activities

I support rural
based tourism
in appropriate
locations

A few questions about you and your household

7. Where do you live? *

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Gisborne | <input type="radio"/> Woodend | <input type="radio"/> Newham |
| <input type="radio"/> Kyneton | <input type="radio"/> Ashbourne | <input type="radio"/> Lauriston |
| <input type="radio"/> Lancefield | <input type="radio"/> Benloch | <input type="radio"/> elsewhere in country Victoria |
| <input type="radio"/> Macedon | <input type="radio"/> Bullengarook | <input type="radio"/> metropolitan Melbourne |
| <input type="radio"/> Malmsbury | <input type="radio"/> Carlsruhe | <input type="radio"/> Interstate |
| <input type="radio"/> Riddells Creek | <input type="radio"/> Darraweit Guim | <input type="radio"/> Overseas |
| <input type="radio"/> Romsey | <input type="radio"/> Tylden | |

8. With which gender do you identify? *

- Male
- Female
- Other
- Prefer not to say

9. How long have you lived in the Macedon Ranges Shire? *

- Less than 1 year
- 1 to less than 5 years
- 5 to less than 10 years
- 10 years or more
- Prefer not to say

10. Which of the following age groups best describes you? *

- 15 to 19 years
- 20 to 34 years
- 35 to 44 years
- 45 to 59 years
- 60 to 74 years
- 75 years and over
- Prefer not to say

11. Do any members of this household prefer to speak a language other than English at home? *

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

12. What language do they speak?

13. Do any members of this household have a permanent or long-term disability? *

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

14. What is the structure of this household? *

- Two parent family (youngest child 0 to 4 years)
- Two parent family (youngest child 5 to 12 years)
- Two parent family (youngest child 13 to 18 years)
- Two parent family (adult children only)
- One parent family (youngest child 0 to 4 years)
- One parent family (youngest child 5 to 12 years)
- One parent family (youngest child 13 to 18 years)
- One parent family (adult children only)
- Extended or multiple families
- Group household (unrelated flatmates)
- Sole person household
- Couple only household
- Prefer not to say

(untitled)

15. Do you have any other comments you would like to share?

16. If you would like to stay updated about this project, please provide your email address below?

(please note this information is confidential and will not be kept with your survey responses)