



[1] Research Location.....

[2] Surveyor/s name.....

[3] Date.....

Residential Sustainability Questionnaire

City of Melbourne

This project is being conducted in **Melbourne**, as well as a number of other cities around the world. It is part of a research project into sustainability, both environmental and social. Your contribution will help in extending our understanding of the world around us. Please proceed **only** if you are over 18 years of age, and live in one of the postcode areas listed in question 1..

Your input is vital towards our understanding of your community. The results of this study will be used to as part of a collective input to government and to local groups in your neighbourhood to generate policies and programs to improve the quality of your life and that of your community and place.

This questionnaire has been developed by the Globalism Research Centre, RMIT University, as part of a joint project with the City of Melbourne. The results will be reported in a way which does not allow you to be identified. Thus your anonymity will be assured.

We know that it is difficult to give a simple answer in these kinds of questionnaires. Please take your time to think over the question and answer it as accurately as possible. If you do not wish to answer some questions then please feel free to skip to the next one.

Your time today is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

First, we would like to ask you some questions about your local neighbourhood. [4]

(local place, locale, village, *hauslain*)

1. What is the postcode of where you live (Please circle)?

3053 (Carlton) 3054 (Carlton North) 3008 (Docklands) 3002 (East Melbourne/Fishermans Bend)

3031 (Flemington/Jolimont/Kensington) 3000 (Melbourne) 3051 (North Melbourne)

3052 (Parkville) 3207 (Port Melbourne) 3141 (South Yarra) 3006 (Southbank)

3003 (West Melbourne)

If you do not live within one of these postcode areas, we thank you for your time, but cannot proceed.

Unless it is indicated otherwise, please tick one box only. If you make a mistake and tick more than one box, please indicate your final answer by crossing out the others.

2. What is your age? [30]

- 1 16–19 2 20–29 3 30–39 4 40–49 5 50–59 6 60–69
7 70–79 8 80–89 9 90–100 10 Don't know

If you are under 18 years old, we thank you for your time, but cannot proceed.

3. How long have you lived in this neighbourhood (or local place)? [5]

- 1 less than a year 2 1–5 yrs 3 6–10 yrs 4 11–20 yrs 5 21–50 yrs
6 more than 51 yrs

4. How long did you live in your previous neighbourhood (your home prior to this place)? [6]

- 1 less than a year 2 1–5 yrs 3 6–10 yrs 4 11–20 yrs 5 21–50 yrs
6 more than 51 yrs 7 I have lived in the same area/neighbourhood all of my life

5. What or whom do you identify as your main community? [7]

- 1 Your neighbourhood or place you live (like your village, town or suburb)?
2 A particular group of people (*extended family, clan, or tribe*)?
3 Your workplace?
4 Your local school?
5 Club, community centre, or religious centre (*church, synagogue, mosque, or temple*)?
6 More than one or all of the above
7 None of these
8 I am not sure

We now want to ask you about how satisfied or dissatisfied you are. Thinking about your own life and personal circumstances, please rank how you feel about the following questions on a scale of ‘very satisfied’ to ‘very unsatisfied’.

6. How satisfied are you with feeling part of your community? [8]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

7. How satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days? [10]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

8. How satisfied are you with how safe you feel? [12]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

9. How satisfied are you with the balance between your work (includes time spent working at home, housework) and social life (time spent with family, community, friends)? [13]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

We now want to ask about the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of ‘strongly agree’ to ‘strongly disagree’.

10. I feel that I can influence figures of authority who are relevant to my community: [14]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

11. I feel that formally-educated experts, such as government administrators, scientific experts and managers, can be trusted when dealing with local issues: [16]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

12. I feel that governments make decisions and laws that are good for the way I live locally: [17]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

13. I feel that most people can be trusted: [19]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

14. I believe that the past—the history of my people or country—influences the way I live: [20]

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

The next few questions are designed to get a sense of who you are, but the answers will not be linked with your name. You do not need to answer any question if you do not know the answer or the question seems inappropriate.

15. Whom do you live with? (That is, who lives in the same house as yourself?) [24]

- 1 Alone
- 2 As a single person with children
- 3 With just your husband/wife or partner
- 4 With your husband/wife or partner and another person or persons—child or adult
- 5 With others (not your family) such as friends or housemates
- 6 With one or both of your parents and/or brothers/sisters
- 7 With extended family (including, but going beyond parents and/or siblings)

16. How many people live in your household presently? [25]

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 More than 10 Note¹

17. Financially speaking, would you consider your household to be: [26]

- 1 Well-off 2 Comfortable 3 Struggling

18. Compared to other people in this city of the same age, do you consider yourself to be in good health or poor health? [27]

- 1 My health is generally good
- 2 My health is sometimes good and sometimes poor
- 3 My health is generally poor
- 4 I don't know

19. What is the highest level of formal or school education you have completed? [28]

- 0 No school
- 1 Primary school
- 2 Some secondary school
- 3 Finished secondary school
- 4 Trade training
- 5 University (undergraduate)
- 6 University (postgraduate)

20. What is your gender? [29]

- 1 Female 2 Male

Module 6. Sustainability

21. Do you: [131]

- 1 Have no fixed address
- 2 Rent
- 3 Paying off the home you live in now
- 4 Own the home that you live in now
- 5 Live in public housing
- 6 Live in community housing (coop)
- 0 Other

The next set of questions is about your attitudes and actions in relation to the task of achieving sustainability.

22. Experts will always find a way to solve environmental problems.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

No opinion

0

[132]

23. Humans should live in harmony with the Earth.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[133]

No opinion

24. Conserving natural resources is unnecessary, because alternatives will always be found.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[134]

No opinion

25. Industry is doing everything it can to prevent environmental damage.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[135]

No opinion

26. Human interference in nature always results in catastrophe.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[136]

No opinion

27. Environmental problems are always portrayed as being greater than they are in reality.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[137]

No opinion

28. Environmental problems in remote parts of the world are of little importance to me.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[138]

No opinion

29. My current lifestyle is environmentally sustainable.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[139]

No opinion

30. Eventually, every society's standard of living will be raised to that of developed nations.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[140]

No opinion

31. Humankind needs to radically change its basic values in order to address environmental problems.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[141]

No opinion

32. The rights of other species (wild and domestic animals) should be at least equal to humans.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[142]

No opinion

33. Current rates of resource use can be maintained indefinitely.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[143]

No opinion

34. A sustainable future is only possible if levels of material wealth are lowered.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[144]

No opinion

35. The lack of local green areas affects residents' quality of life in a negative way.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[145]

No opinion

36. Local species of plants and animals are disappearing rapidly because of human impacts.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[146]

No opinion

37. The most important concern of residents should be the city's economic growth.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[147]

No opinion

38. As residents, we have a moral obligation to protect our local areas of green space.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[148]

No opinion

39. City residents need to be more environmentally aware in the future.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[149]

No opinion

40. It is more important to build new public transport infrastructure than to build new roads

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[150]

No opinion

41. Reducing the environmental impact of every day life is the responsibility of every resident

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[151]

No opinion

42. I trust Council information on climate change.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[152]

No opinion

43. I feel overwhelmed by information on climate change.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[153]

No opinion

44. Council information about sustainability is a valuable contribution to Australia's attempts to address climate change.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[154]

No opinion

45. Council provides enough practical support to residents who want to reduce the environmental impact of their lifestyles.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[155]

No opinion

22. I know enough about global warming.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[156]

No opinion

47. On an average day, I do not do anything personally that causes greenhouse gas emissions.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[157]

No opinion

Please answer the following: TRUE, FALSE or UNSURE

48.	Restrictions on household water use currently apply in the city	True	False	Unsure	No opinion
49.	The hole in the ozone layer is the main cause of global warming	True	False	Unsure	No opinion
50.	Plastic bags should go into household recycling	True	False	Unsure	No opinion
51.	Air-conditioning doesn't contribute to household energy use.	True	False	Unsure	No opinion

48.=[158]; 49.=[159]; 50.=[160]; 51.=[161] No opinion [0]

52. Household environmental sustainability should be the responsibility of the resident.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[162]

No opinion

53. It is appropriate for Council to link the cost of rates to environmental features of a property (e.g. insulation, water tanks, etc).

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[163]

No opinion

54. It is appropriate for the State and/or Federal government to legislate certain environmental features of residential properties.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[164]

No opinion

55. It is more important to recycle than consume less.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[165]

No opinion

0

56. There is something that I can do about climate change as an individual.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[166]

No opinion

0

57. I always turn off the TV when it is not being used.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[167]

No opinion

0

58. I take a shower of four minutes or less.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[168]

No opinion

0

59. I avoid buying products with lots of packaging.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[169]

No opinion

0

60. I have thrown away at TV, DVD player, computer or other electronic device because I didn't want it anymore.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[170]

No opinion

0

61. I avoid using plastic bags to carry things that I have bought.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[171]

No opinion

0

62. I have a lot to lose through inaction on climate change.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[172]

No opinion

0

63. It is often difficult to act in environmentally friendly ways because I don't know where to begin.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[173]

No opinion

0

64. I try and buy less stuff to reduce the environmental impact of my lifestyle.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

[174]

No opinion

0

Do you have any comments or feedback you would like to provide either on the questionnaire itself or any of its themes?

**IF THIS PAGE IS COMPLETED, PLEASE
*REMOVE IT AND RETURN IT
SEPARATELY*
USING THE SMALL ENVELOPE**

**Thank you for taking part in the Community Sustainability Questionnaire.
We really appreciate your involvement.**

If you would like to receive further information from the City of Melbourne, in relation to the Residential Sustainability Strategy or any other aspect of the City's Climate Change policy or practices, please complete the details below and return by mail to the City of Melbourne.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____
