

Summary of Results

Community Climate Change
Survey – October 2021

Regional Climate Action Roadmap

Creating our climate ready future

Overview

- Residents of Sunshine Coast and Noosa Council regions were invited to complete a survey on:
 - How they view climate change
 - How they view local and regional climate-related impacts and consequences
 - How they consider the need to be prepared for, and take local action on, climate change
- Survey was conducted as part of the Regional Climate Action Roadmap Project
 - Project proactively plans for the future needs of Noosa and Sunshine Coast communities in the face of climate change
 - Funded by the State Government as a Local Government Association of Queensland pilot project
- 1,347 total respondents across both Local Government Areas
- 270 additional youth respondents completed an abridged version of the survey This summary only includes a selection of the questions based on relevance



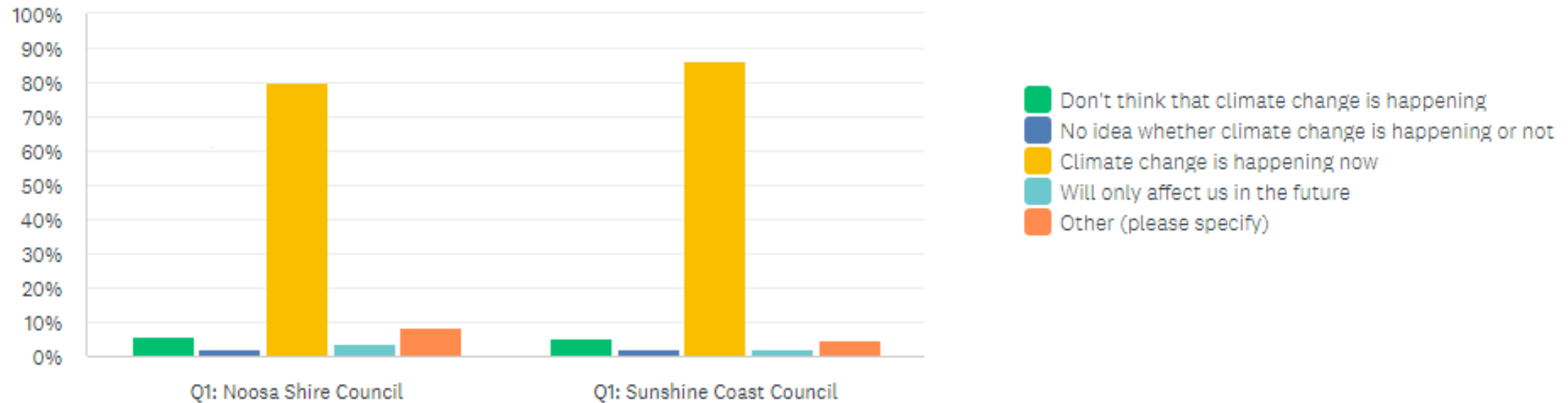
Purpose

- Understand community levels of awareness, understanding and acceptance of climate change and key implications
- Help identify where further action is required to build support for climate risk management, amend actions as required and implement
- Points for Clarity
 - This purpose is consistent with the project guidelines set out by the Queensland Climate Resilient Councils guidance
 - The Councils acknowledge that the survey is a quantitative snapshot in time
 - The survey is one of multiple lines of evidence that will inform the Roadmap, including existing climate modelling and data, governance assessments, Council staff workshops, Council staff survey, discussions with key sectors and community groups, etc.
 - The survey is not a detailed risk analysis and adaptation planning exercise. This requires more detailed analysis which is intended for subsequent phases of the framework if pursued



Opinion on Climate Change

At the regional level, over 85% of respondents believe climate change is happening now.

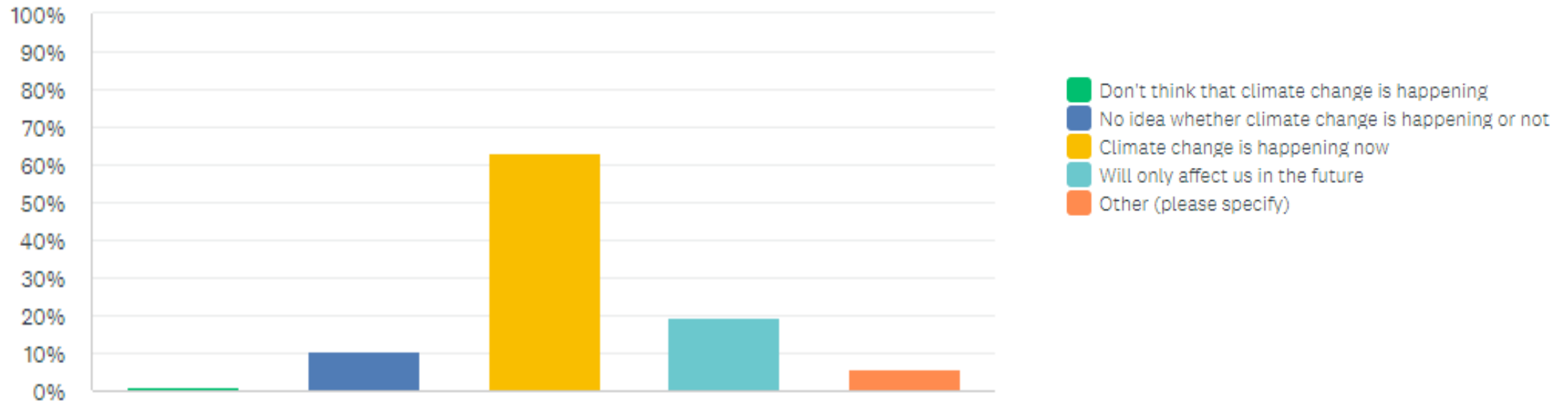


Q: Which of the following is closest to your opinion?



Youth Opinion on Climate Change

Out of 270 respondents to the separate youth survey, over 60% believe climate change is happening now.

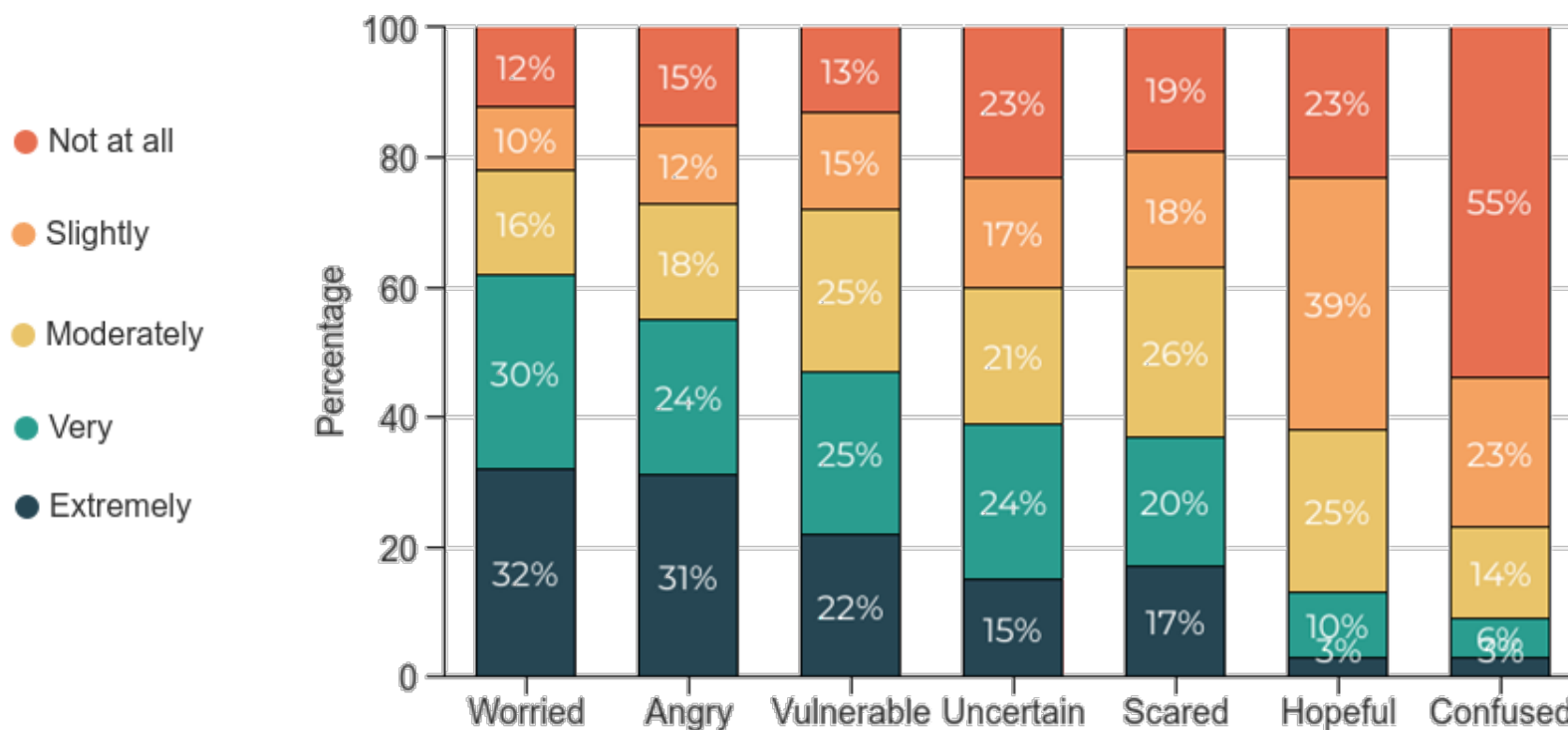


Q: Which of the following is closest to what you think about climate change?

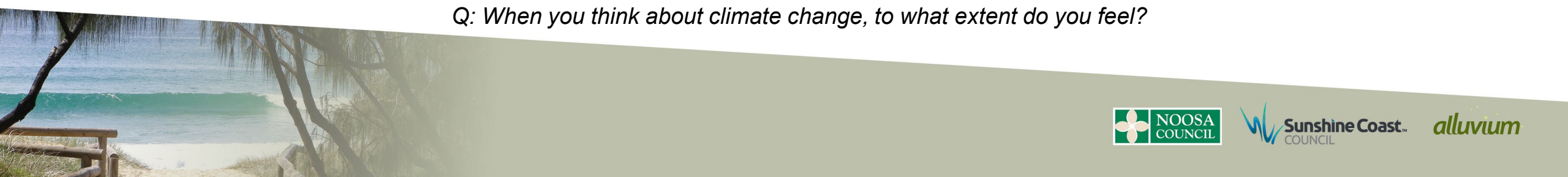


Perception on Climate Change

The majority of respondents feel worried and angry; not confused; and only slightly hopeful.

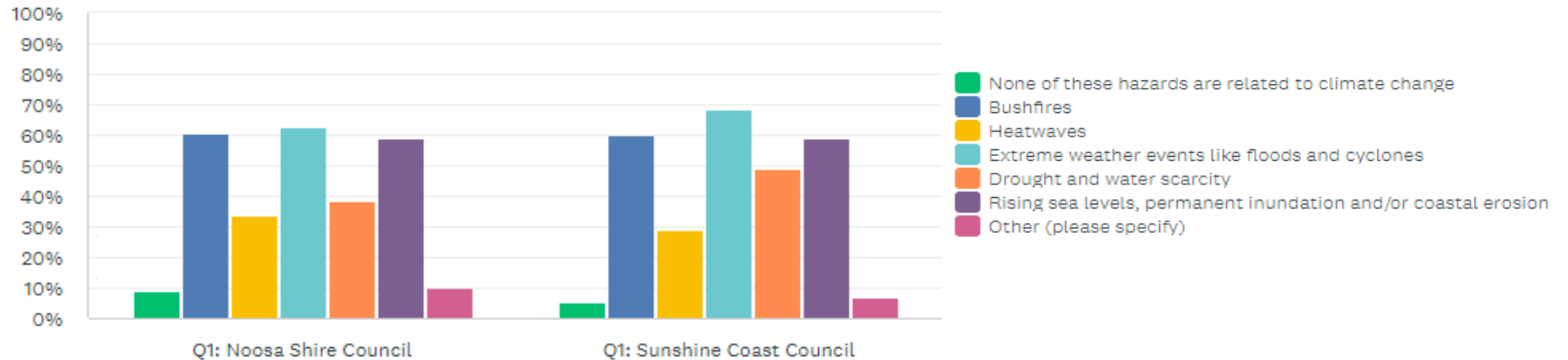


Q: When you think about climate change, to what extent do you feel?



Top 3 Perceived Climate Hazards

Extreme weather, bushfires and sea level rise are the top three perceived climate hazards.

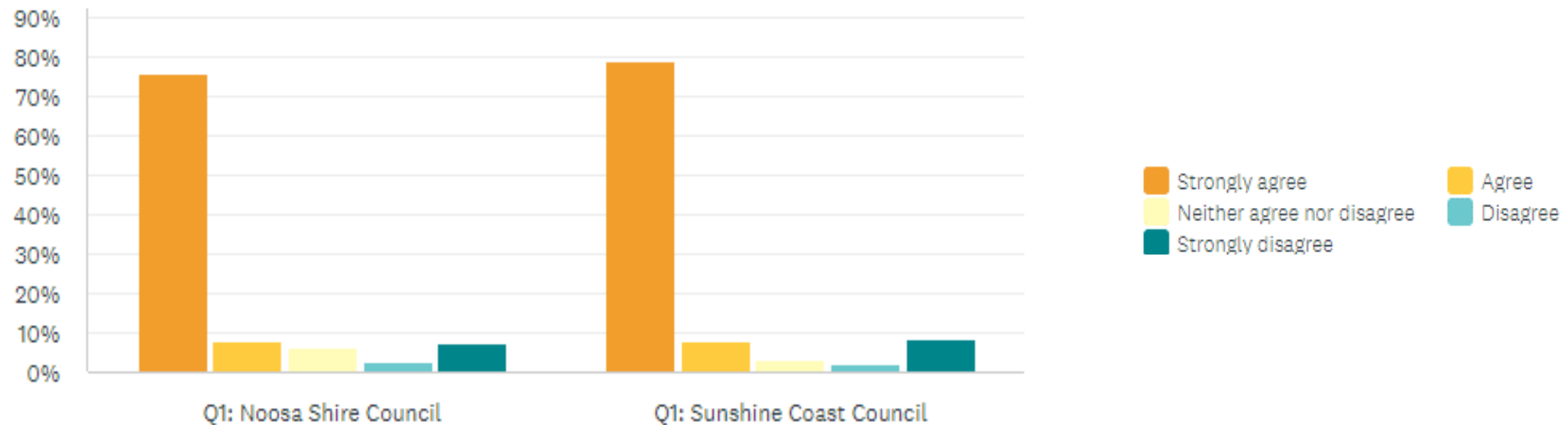


Q: Which of the following do you see as the top three hazards for the Noosa and/or Sunshine Coast local government areas?



Action on Climate Change

At the regional level, 78% of respondents believe action is required to address climate change.

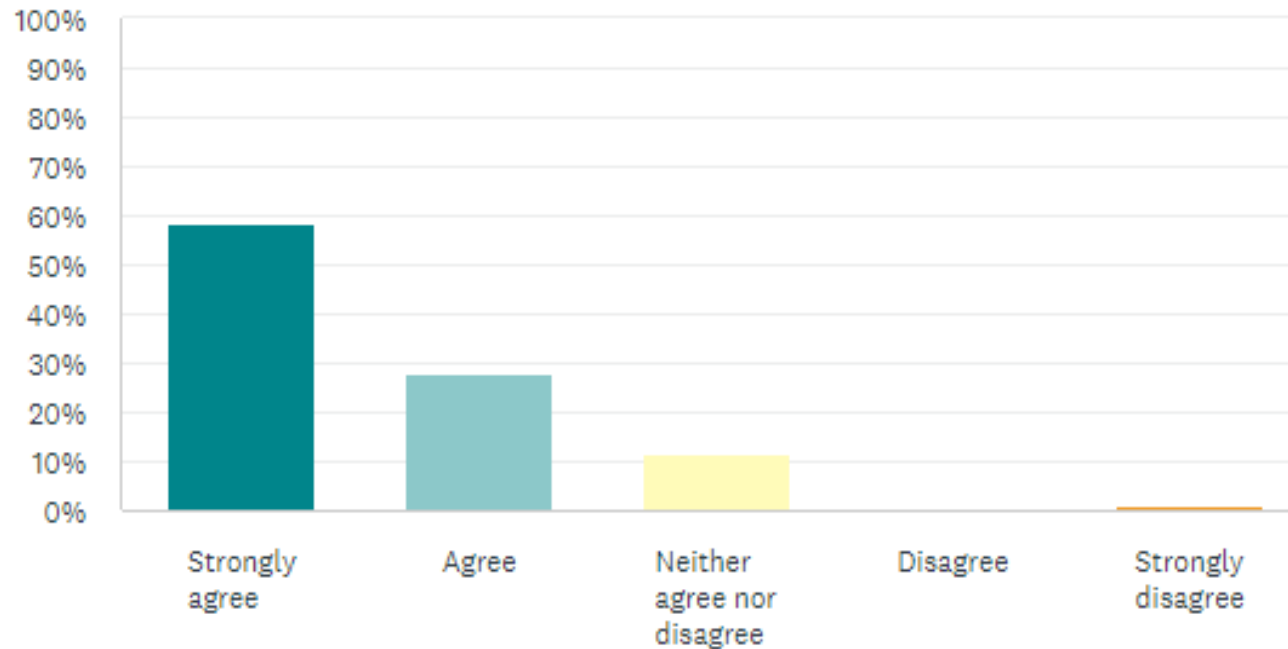


Q: Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the statement: I accept that action is required to respond to a changing climate and reduce emissions.

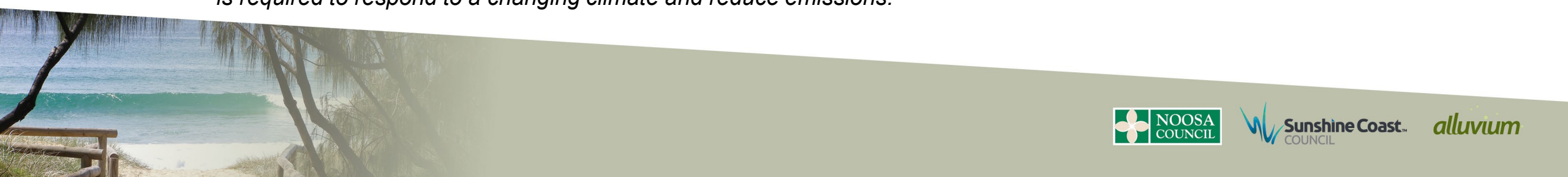


Youth Action on Climate Change

Over 80% of youth respondents believe action is required to address climate change.

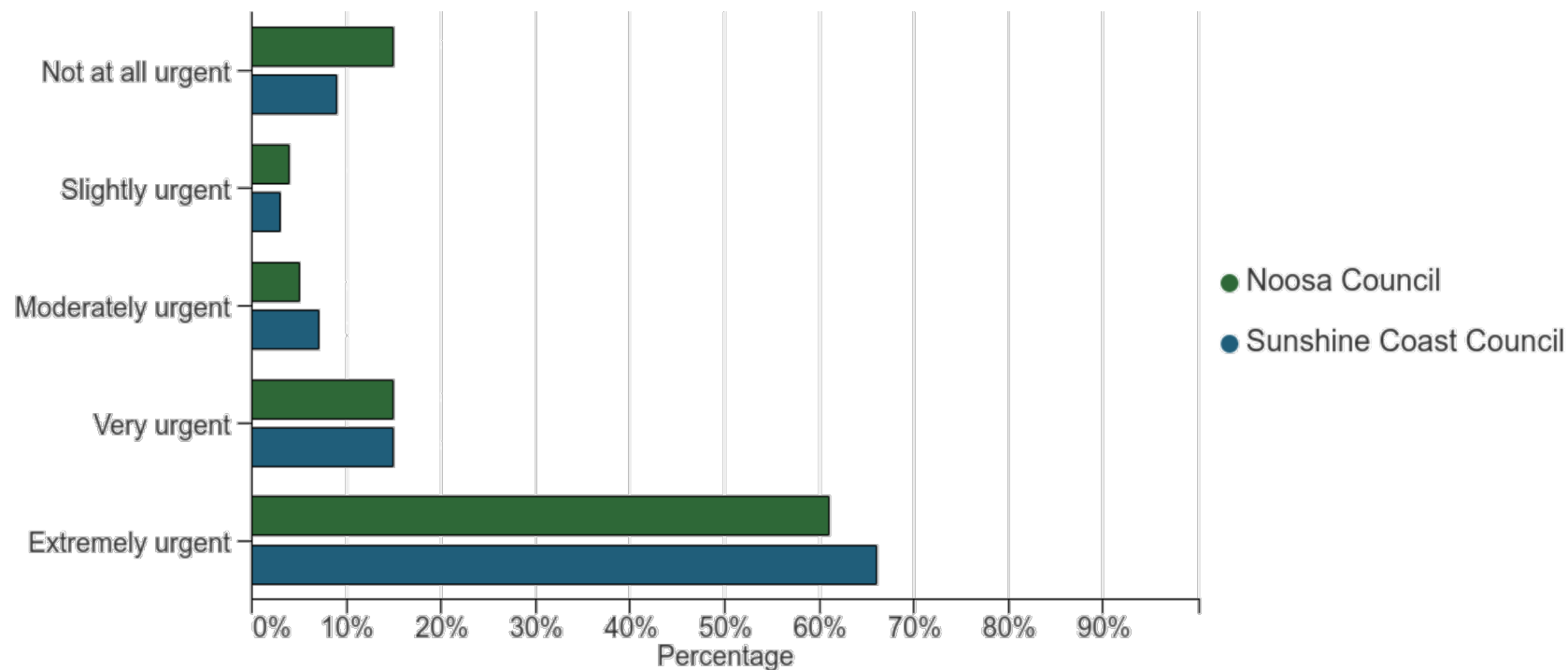


Q: Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the statement: I accept that action is required to respond to a changing climate and reduce emissions.



Level of Urgency

At the regional level, over 80% of respondents agree there is a very urgent or extremely urgent need to act.

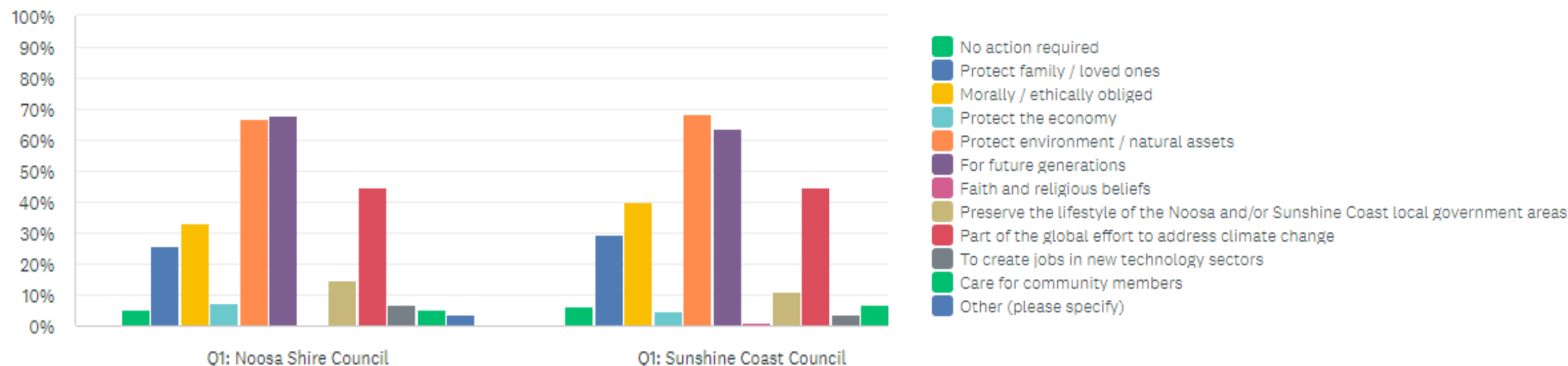


Q: How urgent do you think it is for your Council to prepare for a changing climate and reduce emissions?



Top 3 Reasons for Action

The primary reasons residents take action on climate change are for future generations and to protect the environment / natural assets



Q: How important to you are the following reasons for taking action to address changes to the climate? Please nominate your top three.



Collective Action

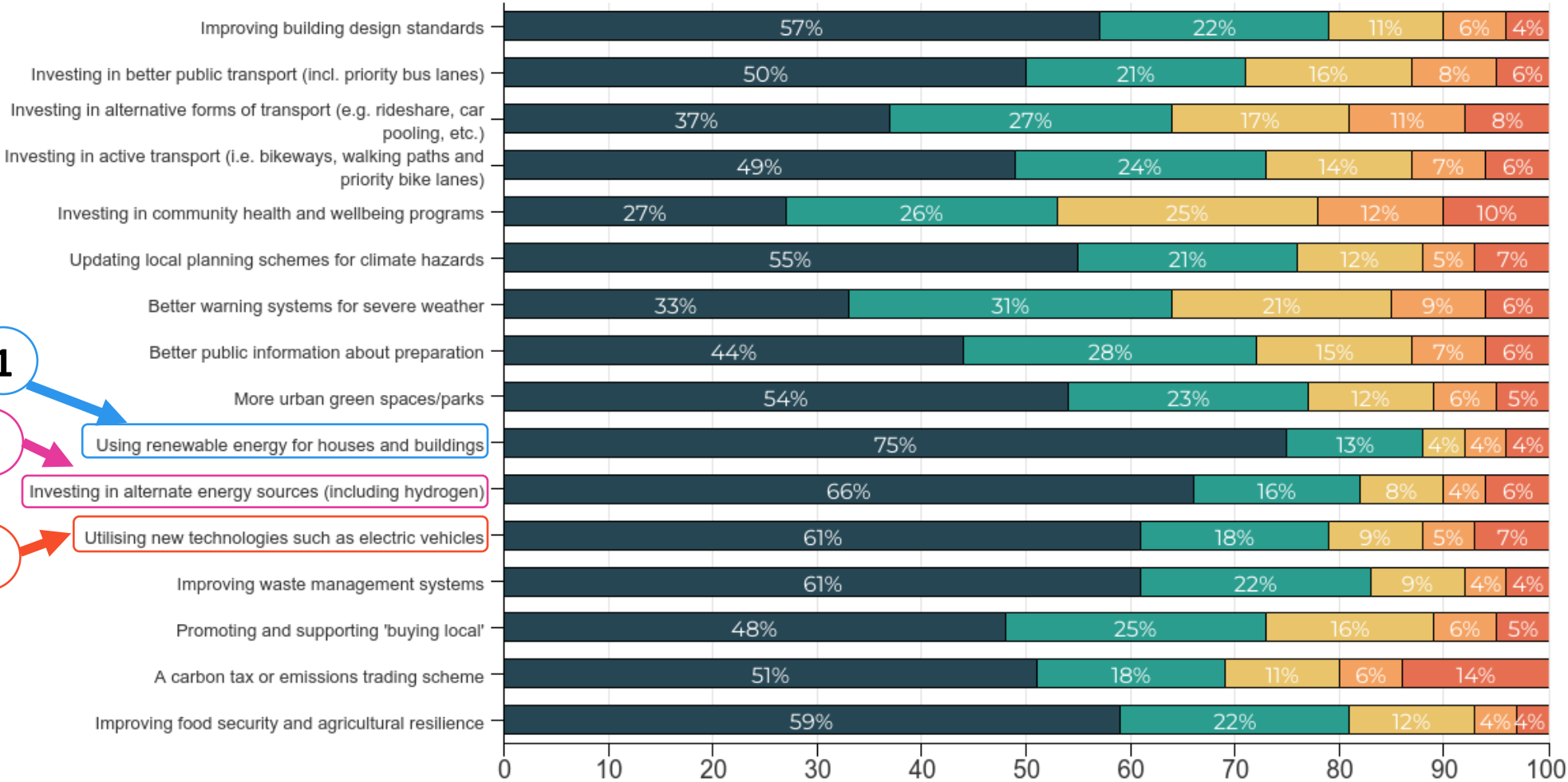
At the regional level, renewable energy, alternate energy and new technologies were ranked as the most helpful collective actions.

1
2
3

Using renewable energy for houses and buildings

Investing in alternate energy sources (including hydrogen)

Utilising new technologies such as electric vehicles

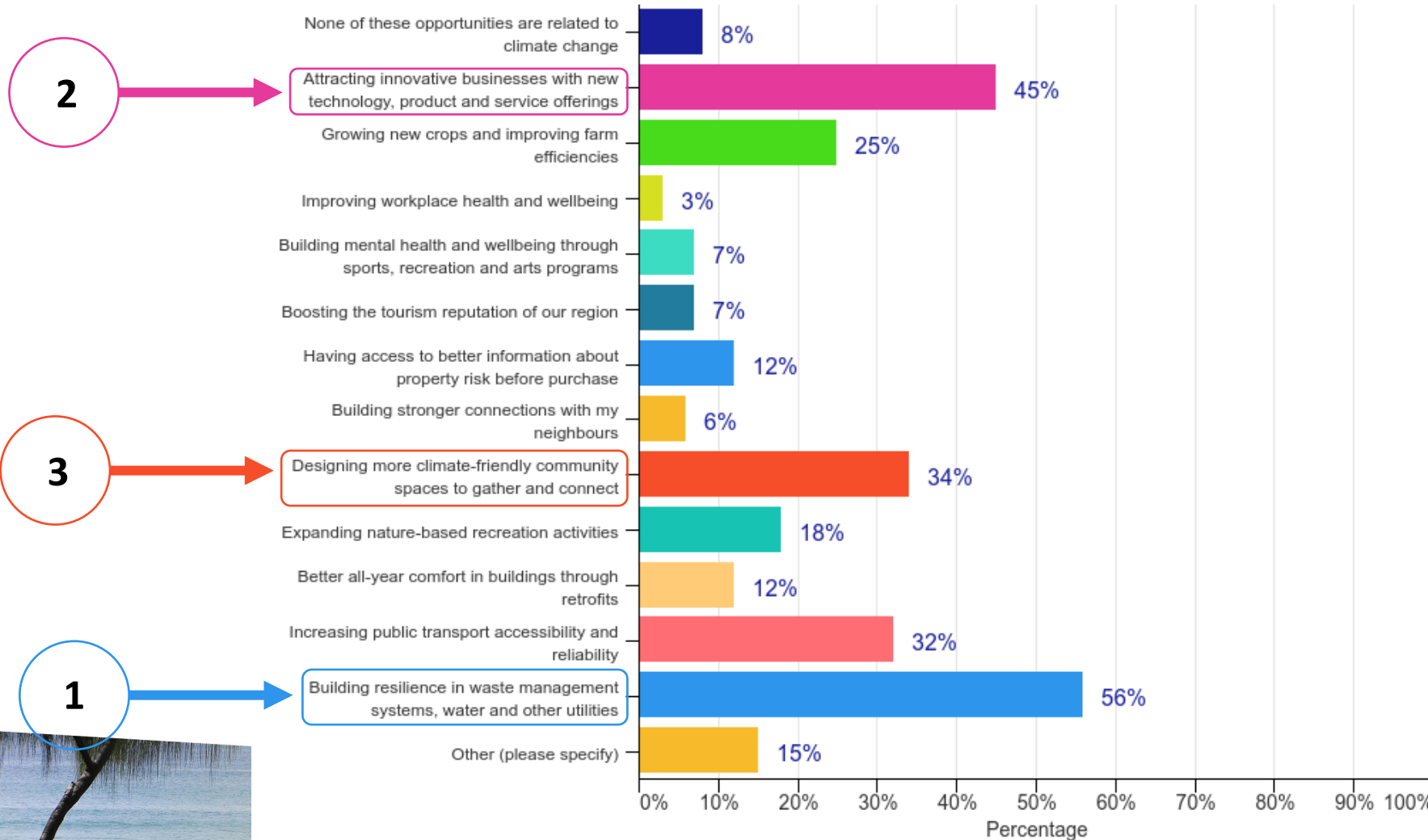


Q: To what degree do you believe the following collective actions can help the Noosa and Sunshine Coast region prepare for a changing climate?

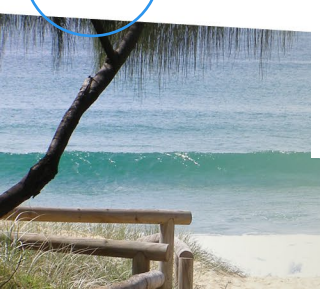
- To a large degree
- To a moderate degree
- To some degree
- To a small degree
- Not at all

Top 3 Potential Opportunities

The majority of respondents believe these are the top 3 opportunities:



Q: Which of the following do you see as the top three potential opportunities for the Noosa and/or Sunshine Coast local government areas to adapt to a changing climate?



Next Steps

- The results from this community survey, the youth survey, and the Council internal stakeholder survey are informing:
 - The development of the Roadmap
 - Future engagement activities
 - The development of tools required to improve awareness and understanding of climate change, climate risks and opportunities
 - Feeding into other areas of both Councils' climate action work.

Sunshine Coast Council and Noosa Council thank all participants for taking their time to complete the survey and provide important feedback on our shared path to respond to climate change

