

ESSENDON AIRPORT

SURVEY OF ESSENDON, ESSENDON NORTH AND AIRPORT WEST RESIDENTS

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

RESIDENT SURVEY

Covering letter from Bill Shorten

Dear «Salutation»,

Essendon Airport Survey

The Essendon Airport has been in operation for approximately 90 years. Once Victoria's main international and domestic airport, it is now used largely by emergency services, air-freight, flying schools, private jets and charter flights.

And while it is a well known part of the local area, as your Federal Member I am focused on ensuring the airport works closely with the local community to address any issues that may arise from the airport's operations.

Last year I was a member of the Essendon Airport Noise Management Working Group. This group came up with 16 recommendations to the Federal Minister for Transport. The report can be found at: <http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/environmental/eanwg.aspx>.

One recommendation was to establish a local Community Committee to meet regularly and discuss the operations of the airport and its impact on residents. One of the members of the committee, Drew Arthurson, has sought my assistance in conducting a survey of local residents to help guide the committee and its work.

Drew's survey is enclosed with this letter. If you have a few minutes, please take the time to complete it and return it in the postage paid envelope provided.

Your assistance with this important local community issue is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Shorten MP
Federal Member for Maribyrnong

RESIDENT SURVEY

Survey provided to residents

My name is Drew Arthurson. I live in Airport West and am your local community representative on the Essendon Airport Community Consultative Committee.

This group has been set-up to discuss the operations of the Essendon Airport and to take action on any issues that may be effecting you and the community overall.

To help me get a better understanding of the different issues that are important to residents, I am hoping you can take a minute to complete the four questions listed below and return in the postage paid envelope provided.

If you would like to contact me personally regarding the work of this Committee, feel free to email me at: darthurson@me.com or include a note or question in the envelope provided.

Thanks for your time.

Drew Arthurson
Airport West Resident

| QUESTION | YES | NO | N/A |
|---|-----|----|-----|
| 1. Do the operations of Essendon Airport effect you at home, at work or in the community? | | | |
| 2. Is noise from Essendon Airport an issue that concerns you? If no, please list other issues below. | | | |
| <i>Other issue(s):</i> | | | |
| 3. One option to reduce noise from the airport is the shortening of the north-south runway. Would you support this? | | | |
| 4. Would you support the full closure of the north-south runway? | | | |
| Do you have any other comments or concerns related to the operation of Essendon Airport? | | | |

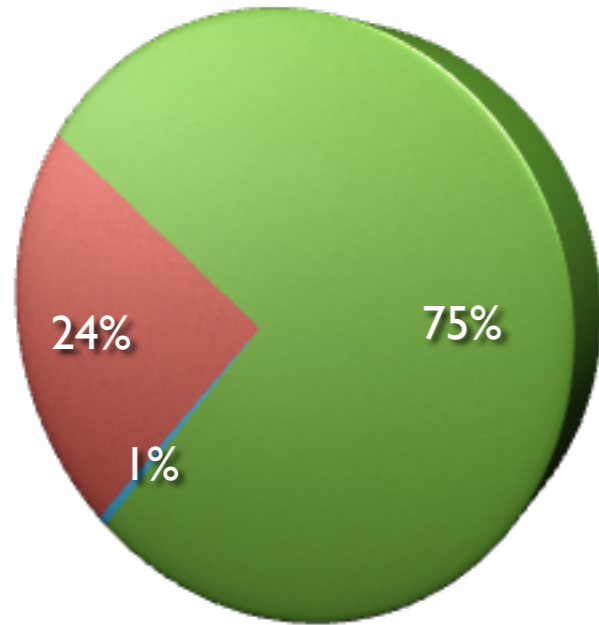
RESIDENT SURVEY

Methodology

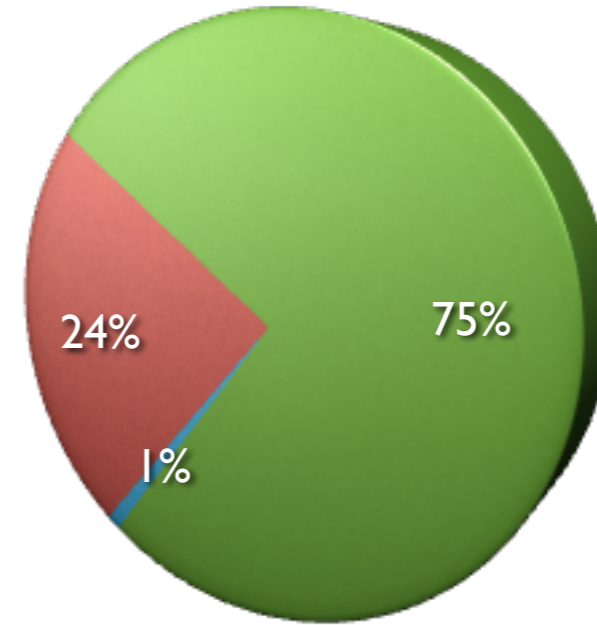
- ➔ Survey was sent to 1,927 randomly selected residents in Essendon, Essendon North and Airport West.
- ➔ The random selections were based on residents that lived close to the airport and/or the airport's flight paths.
- ➔ The survey was sent in the mail and residents were provided with a postage paid envelope to return their completed survey.
- ➔ 345 surveys were received - a response rate of 18%.
- ➔ The following slides provide a breakdown of those responses, including qualitative responses from residents regarding their views, issues and general comments on the operations and future of the airport.

OVERALL SURVEY FINDINGS

1. Do the operations of Essendon Airport effect you at home, at work or in the community?

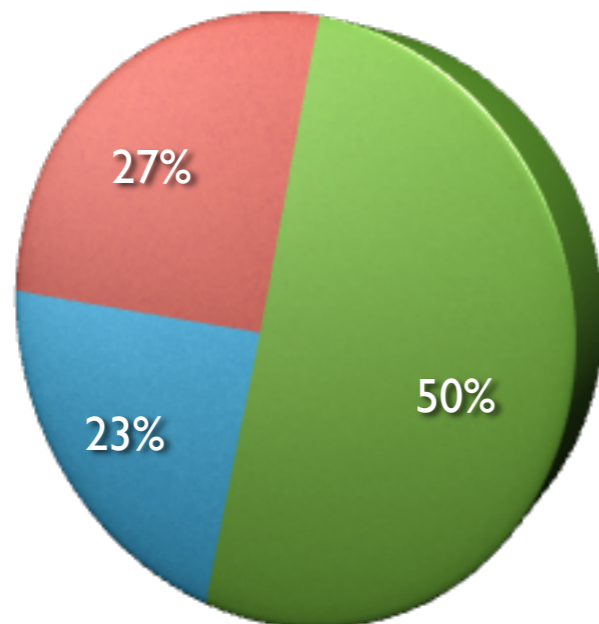


2. Is noise from Essendon Airport an issue that concerns you?

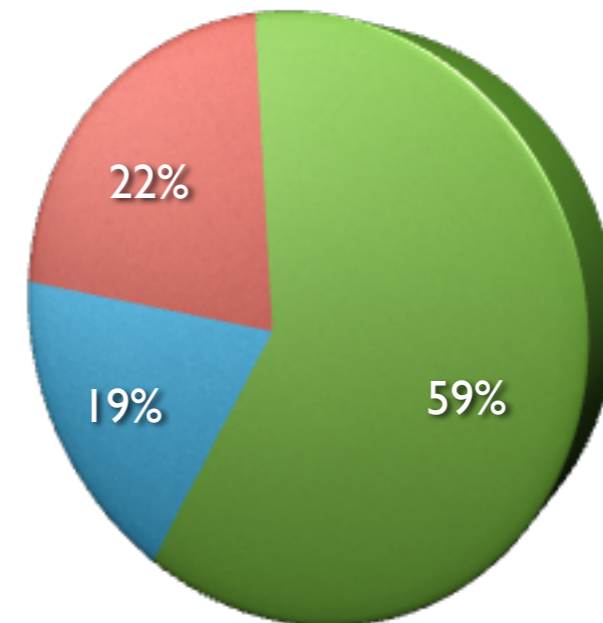


● Yes
● No
● N/A

3. One option to reduce noise from the airport is the shortening of the north-south runway. Would you support this?



4. Would you support the full closure of the north-south runway?



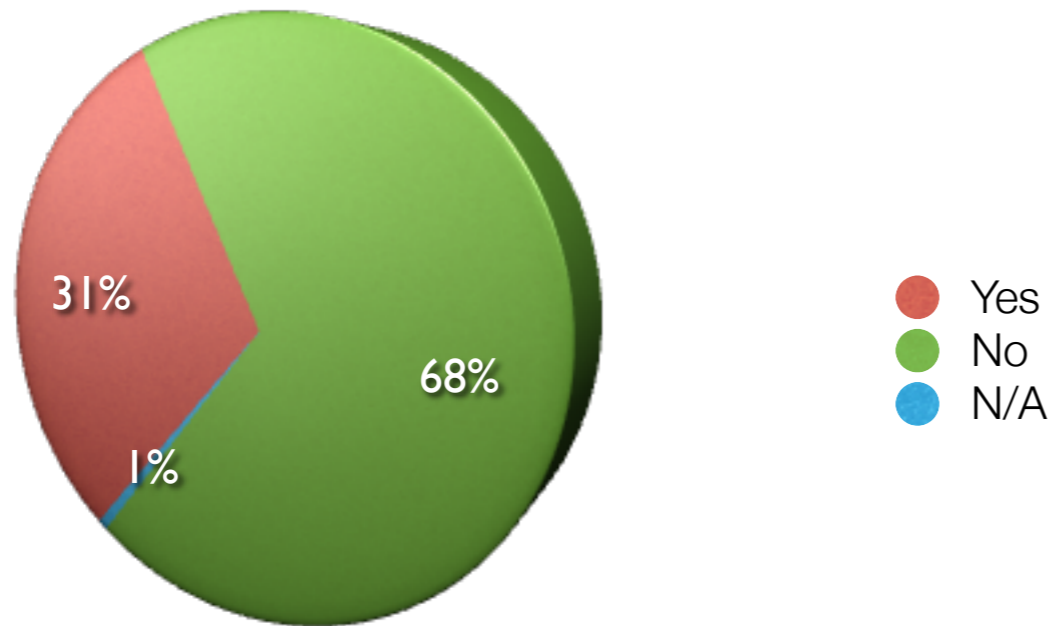
● Yes
● No
● N/A

NB: Number of returned surveys = 345. Returned surveys represent 18% of total survey distribution (n = 1,927).

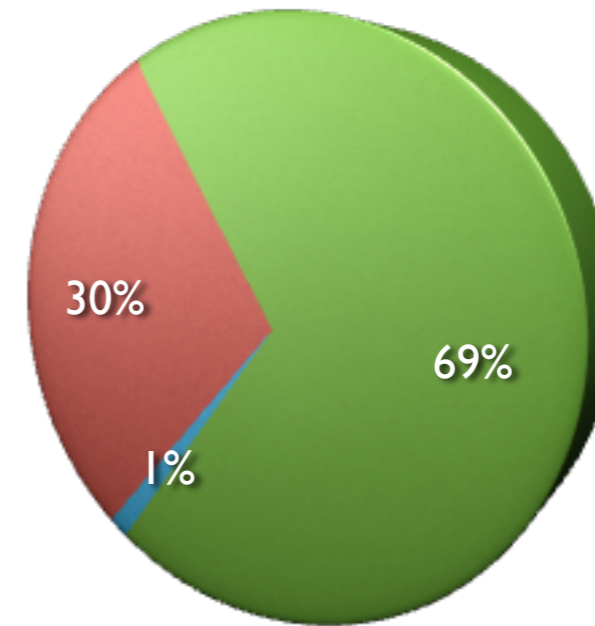
SURVEY FINDINGS:

ESSENDON & ESSENDON NORTH RESIDENTS

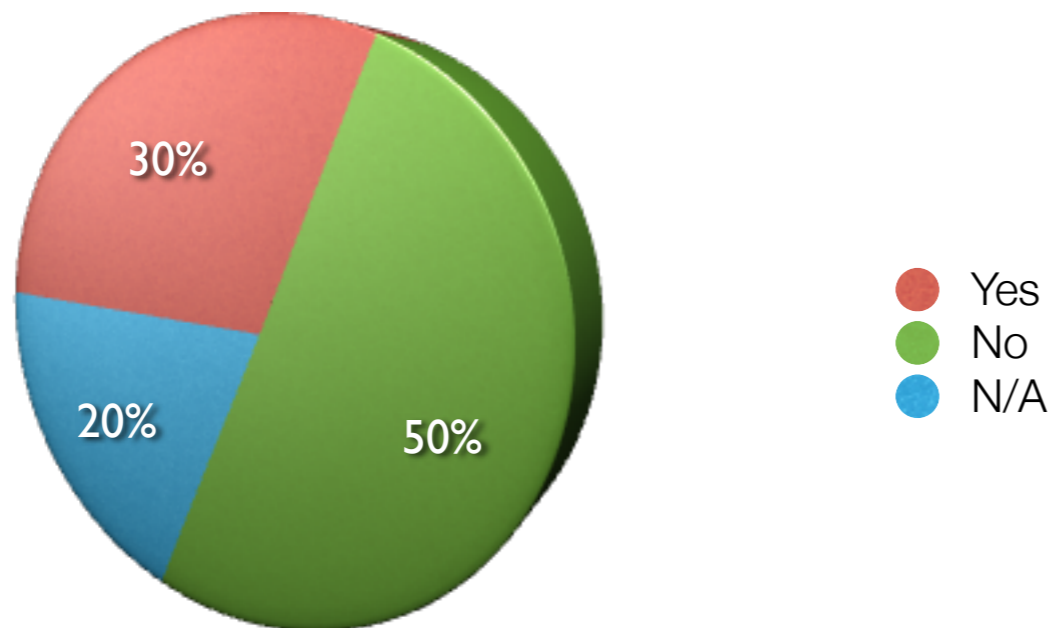
1. Do the operations of Essendon Airport effect you at home, at work or in the community?



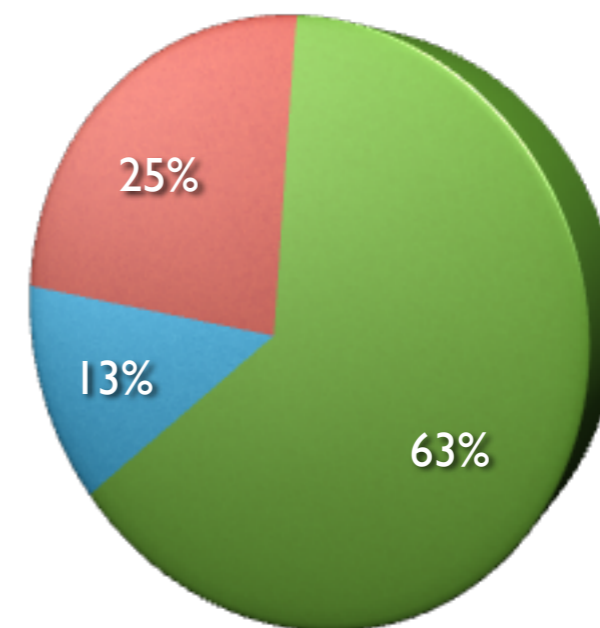
2. Is noise from Essendon Airport an issue that concerns you?



3. One option to reduce noise from the airport is the shortening of the north-south runway. Would you support this?



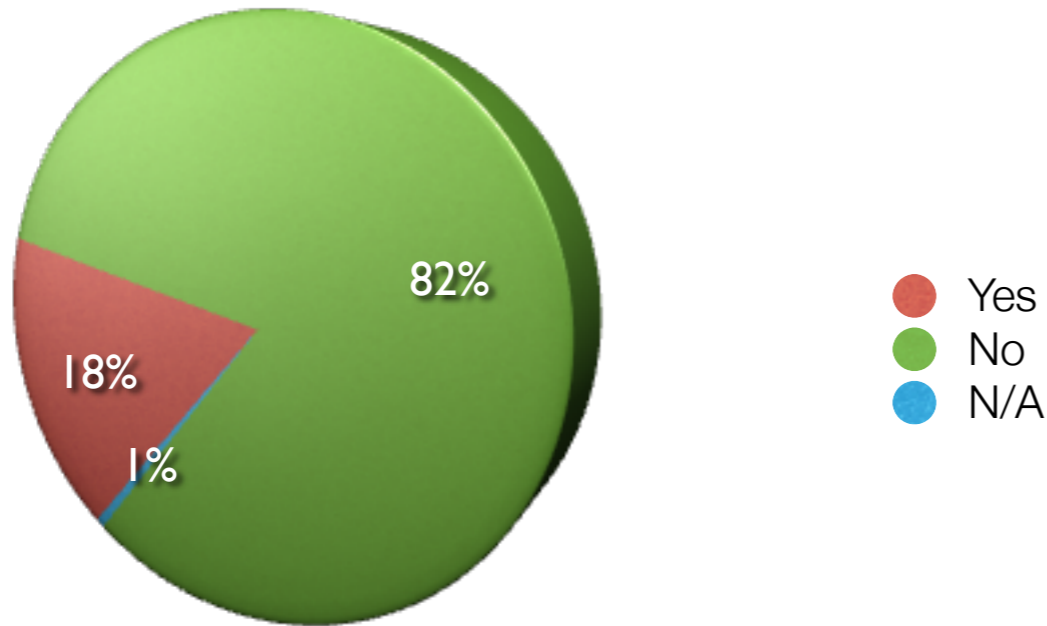
4. Would you support the full closure of the north-south runway?



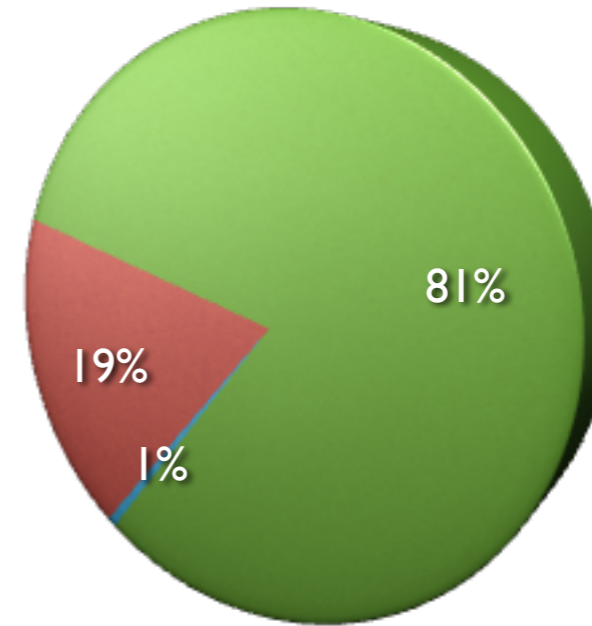
NB: Number of returned surveys for Essendon and Essendon North residents = 163.

SURVEY FINDINGS: AIRPORT WEST RESIDENTS

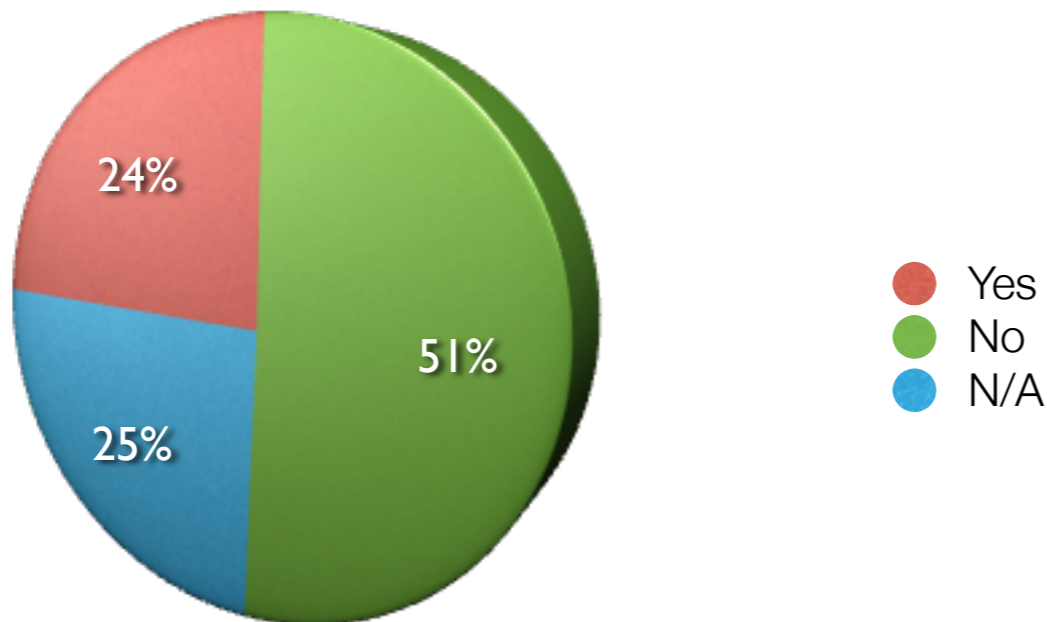
1. Do the operations of Essendon Airport effect you at home, at work or in the community?



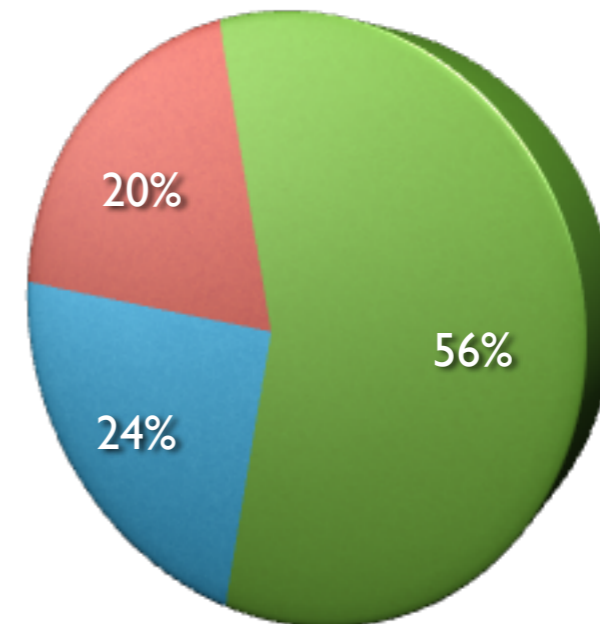
2. Is noise from Essendon Airport an issue that concerns you?



3. One option to reduce noise from the airport is the shortening of the north-south runway. Would you support this?



4. Would you support the full closure of the north-south runway?



NB: Number of returned surveys for Airport West residents = 182.

BREAKDOWN OF SURVEY FINDINGS

Table details responses to Q1 - 4; Responses overall and by suburb

| | Q1 Do the operations of Essendon Airport effect you at home, at work or in the community? | Q2 Is noise from Essendon Airport an issue that concerns you? | Q3 One option to reduce noise from the airport is the shortening of the north-south runway. Would you support this? | Q4 Would you support the full closure of the north-south runway? |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Overall Responses (n = 345) | | | | |
| Yes | 83 | 83 | 93 | 77 |
| No | 260 | 259 | 174 | 204 |
| N/A | 2 | 3 | 78 | 64 |
| Total | 345 | 345 | 345 | 345 |
| Essendon & Essendon North (n = 163) | | | | |
| Yes | 51 | 49 | 49 | 40 |
| No | 111 | 112 | 82 | 102 |
| N/A | 1 | 2 | 32 | 21 |
| Total | 163 | 163 | 163 | 163 |
| Airport West (n = 182) | | | | |
| Yes | 32 | 34 | 44 | 37 |
| No | 149 | 147 | 92 | 102 |
| N/A | 1 | 1 | 46 | 43 |
| Total | 182 | 182 | 182 | 182 |

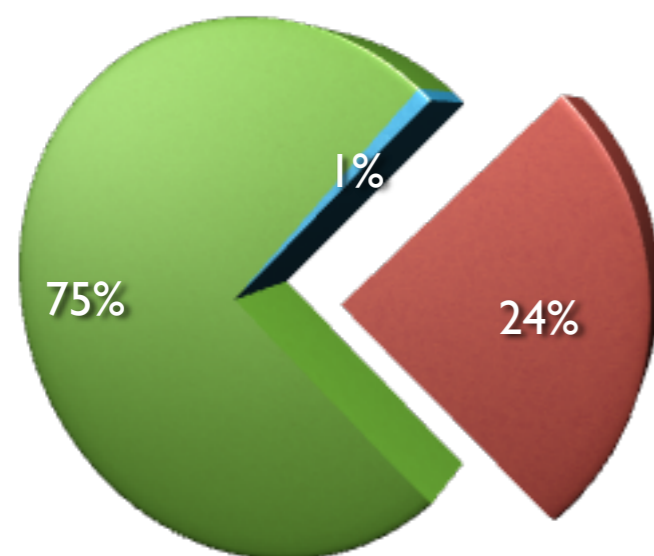
FURTHER OBSERVATION ON FINDINGS

Analysis of responses re: noise issues and north-south runway

There was a large degree of consistency between residents affected by noise and support for the shortening or closure of the north-south runway.

Of the residents that identified noise as an issue (24% of respondents to the survey), approximately eight out of ten of these respondents supported the shortening and/or closure of the north-south runway.

2. *Is noise from Essendon Airport an issue that concerns you?*



3. *One option to reduce noise from the airport is the shortening of the north-south runway. Would you support this?*

Of the 24% that said 'Yes' to Question 2 (see left), 80% (n = 61) also said 'Yes' to Question 3

4. *Would you support the full closure of the north-south runway?*

Of the 24% that said 'Yes' to Question 2 (see far left), 80% (n = 65) also said 'Yes' to Question 4.

ISSUES AND COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Responses from residents in returned surveys

- ➔ In the ‘comments/concerns’ section of the survey, residents outlined a range of views and issues on the operation and future of the Essendon Airport.
- ➔ Of the 345 returned surveys, 13 residents commented that they would like the airport to close. This represents 4% of all returned surveys.
- ➔ Some of the comments and issues raised by residents included:
 - *“It is has been here longer than any of us and am happy for it to stay open.”*
 - *“We worry that closure (of the airport) and alternative land use would create extra traffic congestion in our area.”*
 - *“The area surrounding the airport is so built up in 2010 I would be concerned about residential safety.”*
 - *“It would be good to see the airport closed. The noise factor is an issue and has been for 45 years.”*
 - *“I have lived in the local area all my life, have even lived in the flight path, it is part of our history and has never bothered me, leave it alone.”*
 - *“The helicopters make the most noise, these often wake us at night, but we know they are emergency helicopters and there's really no other base for them this close to the city hospitals.”*