KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HERITAGE CONSERVATION STRATEGY CONSULTATION REPORT

PREPARED BY LAKE MARKET RESEARCH

CONTENTS

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

Background

The draft Heritage Conservation Strategy sets out a vision for the future direction of Kent County Council's (KCC) approach to heritage conservation as implemented by the Heritage Conservation Service. It presents the context within which KCC operates, its strategic aims and objectives for the service, and the means by which the Authority proposes these will be delivered.

KCC has a key role to play in the conservation of Kent's heritage but Historic England is the government's statutory advisor on the historic environment; it is responsible for identifying and designating heritage assets of national significance and manages change at such sites. It also supports local partners with specialist advice and guidance. Local authorities are responsible for implementing planning law and policy. KCC's Heritage Conservation Service advises Kent local authorities on the impact of development proposals on Kent's heritage (primarily on archaeological and landscape matters). Local planning authorities also designate and manage Conservation Areas and develop heritage management policies and strategies in their Local Plans. Landowners and householders manage their own heritage assets in accordance with national legislation and national and local policies. A host of community groups support the conservation of Kent's heritage with projects and initiatives of their own.

Within this network of stakeholders and partners, KCC's main role is to manage heritage assets in its ownership, provide an advice service to other stakeholders (in particular local planning authorities), manage the Historic Environment Record (HER) as the main strategic information resource for Kent's historic environment and help the wider community access and enjoy Kent's heritage through a range of community initiatives.

KCC has produced a draft strategy that presents strategic aims and objectives for how it will conserve Kent's heritage and inspire citizen engagement and connection.

Consultation process

On the 19 October 2021 an eight-week consultation was launched and ran until the 13 December. The consultation provided the opportunity for residents and other stakeholders to find out about the proposed strategy and provide feedback. Feedback was captured via a consultation questionnaire which was available on the KCC engagement website. Hard copies of the consultation questionnaire were also available on request.

A consultation stage Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was carried out to assess the impact the strategy could have on those with protected characteristics. The EqIA was available as one of the consultation documents and the questionnaire invited respondents to comment on the assessment that had been carried out.

To raise awareness of the consultation and encourage participation, the following was undertaken:

- Email to stakeholder databases and organisations, including protected characteristic groups identified in EqIA.
- Links to the consultation on History and Heritage and Heritage volunteering pages on Kent County Council website.

- Invite to 6,013 people registered with Let's talk Kent who have expressed an interest in being kept informed of consultation regarding Arts and culture, Environment and countryside, General interest and Sports and leisure.
- Organic social media posts from KCC corporate accounts.
- Social Media posts shared on the Archaeology in Kent Facebook page.
- Article in KCC residents e-newsletter.
- Briefing email for all KCC Members prior to launch of consultation.
- Work with partner and stakeholder organisations to promote to their members.
- Press release at the start of the consultation.

A summary of engagement with the consultation webpage and material can be found below:

- 2,544 total visits to the consultation webpage; 2,293 unique visits to the consultation webpage.
- 782 document downloads from consultation webpage.
- 275 responses to the consultation were received – 272 responses were received online and 3 via hard copies of the consultation questionnaire. 2 letters were also received.

Points to note

- Consultees were given the choice of which objectives they wanted to answer questions on / provide comments. The number of consultees answering on each objective is between 50-87. The number of consultees providing an answer is shown on each chart featured in this report.

- Participation in consultations is self-selecting and this needs to be considered when interpreting responses.

- Responses to consultations do not wholly represent the wider Kent population and is reliant on awareness and propensity to take part based on the topic and interest.

- KCC was responsible for the design, promotion and collection of the consultation responses. Lake Market Research was appointed to conduct an independent analysis of feedback.

Profile of consultees responding

Consultees responding to the questionnaire are primarily Kent residents (90%). Representation from other groups is as follows:

- 1% as a representative of a local community group or residents' association.
- 1% as a representative of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council in an official capacity.
- 1% as a Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor.
- 3% on behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation.
- 2% on behalf of a professional organisation working in the heritage sector
- 1% as a resident of somewhere else.

The tables below show the demographic profile of Kent residents responding to the consultation. The proportion who left these questions blank or indicated they did not want to disclose this information has been included as applicable.

GENDER	Consultation Total %
Male	53%
Female	29%
Prefer not to say / blank	19%

AGE	Consultation Total %
16-24	1%
25-34	2%
35-49	9%
50-59	12%
60-64	15%
65-74	31%
75-84	13%
85 & over	1%
Prefer not to say / blank	16%

DISABILITY	Consultation Total %
Yes	6%
No	76%
Prefer not to say / blank	18%

ETHNICITY	Consultation Total %
White English	70%
White Scottish	1%
White Welsh	1%
White Northern Irish	1%
White Irish	1%
White other background	3%
Other ethnic group	4%
Prefer not to say / blank	19%

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall agreement for the proposed vision for Heritage Conservation is high with the vast majority of consultees agreeing (94%). Only 2% disagreed with the proposed vision.

Overall agreement with each of the strategic aims proposed is as follows:

- 90% agreement with strategic aim 1 – Continue to improve the high quality and timely historic environment advice provided to KCC, local authorities and other bodies involved in growth and change based on accessible and up to date information and understanding.

- 93% agreement with strategic aim 2 – Ensure, working with new and existing partners, that KCC's historic assets are conserved, enhanced, enjoyed and valued by Kent's residents and visitors.

- 92% agreement with strategic aim 3 – Increase awareness, knowledge and understanding of Kent's rich heritage and increase involvement in heritage activities amongst its local communities.

- 66% agreement with strategic aim 4 – Work towards the service becoming financially self-sustaining.

Overall agreement with each of the objectives proposed is as follows:

Archaeology and development

- 93% agreement with objective two – Explore and determine the potential for requiring archaeological contractors who undertake archaeological assessments on KCC projects to be Registered Archaeological Organisations.

KCC-owned heritage assets

- 89% agreement with objective five – Work across KCC to coordinate information on heritage assets and finalise the Kent Highways Heritage Protocol.

Windmills

- Agreement summary with objective six:
  - 98% agreement with the sub objective - To follow a management approach to KCC-owned windmills, so that mills capable of milling flour remain able to do so.
  - 98% agreement with the sub objective - The weatherproofing programme will be continued across the timeframe of this plan.
  - 94% agreement with the sub objective - Static mills will be returned to visual completeness subject to funding.
  - 88% agreement with the sub objective - Static mills will be made active wherever possible.

- 84% agreement with objective eight - Explore alternative funding mechanisms for the windmills, including setting up a Charitable Trust to oversee management.

Archaeological archives

- 94% agreement with objective nine - Assess options for the display and long-term storage of archaeological archives and ensure the KCC-held archives are placed in an appropriate repository.

Community archaeology

- 97% agreement with objective ten - Promote understanding and enjoyment of Kent's heritage using multiple media channels including digital media, print media and through direct experience.

- 95% agreement with objective eleven - Develop and deliver a community engagement strategy and communication plan for the Heritage Conservation team.

Metal detecting searching and chance discoveries

- 63% agreement with objective twelve – Agree and adopt a policy that metal detecting and 'by eye' searches will only be undertaken on KCC owned land as part of an approved project.

- 65% agreement with objective thirteen – Agree and adopt a policy that KCC should retain ownership of all finds found on its properties in perpetuity unless special exemptions apply.

- 56% agreement with objective fourteen – Agree and adopt a policy that magnet fishing will not be allowed on KCC owned land.

- 63% agreement with objective fifteen – KCC will work with coastal landowners to consider the benefits of a permit system for metal detecting in coastal and riverine foreshore areas.

Supporting the development of robust heritage strategies

- 95% agreement with objective sixteen – Explore developing a county level Kent Heritage Strategy to assist district authorities who could draw upon it as a framework for their own strategies as many issues and themes are commonly held.
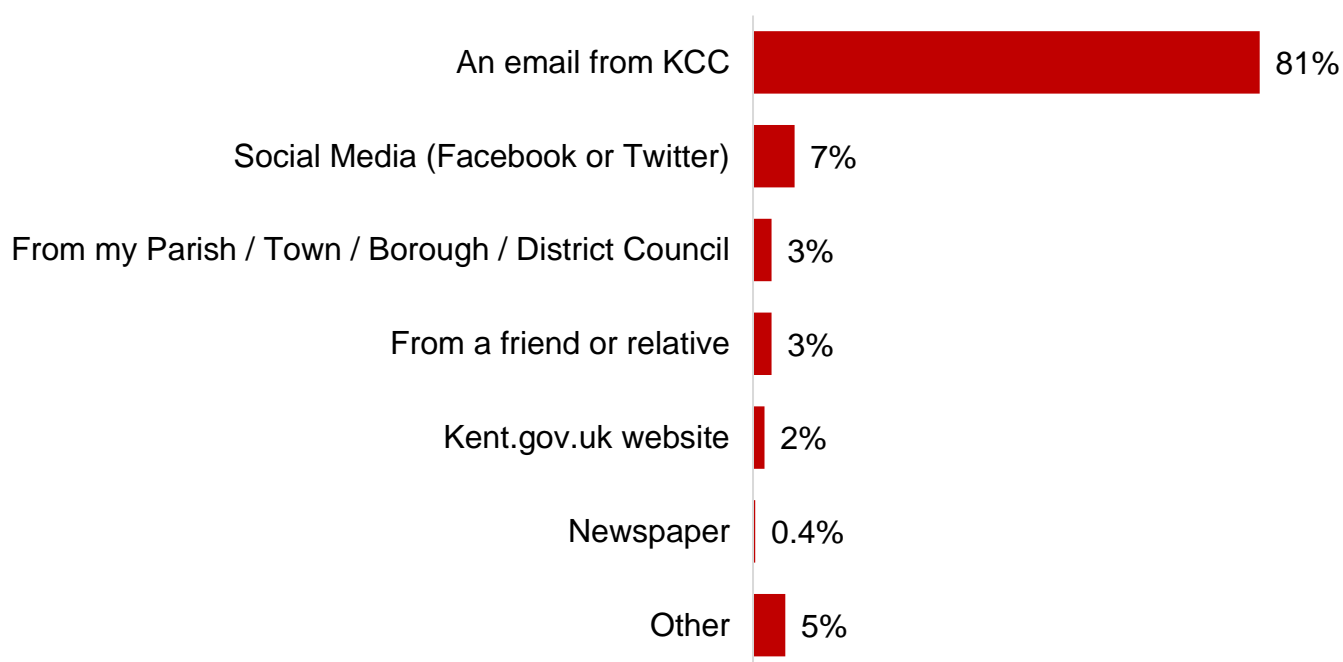
Benchmarking and resourcing

- 94% agreement with objective seventeen – Develop a cost recovery strategy for providing archaeological advice to developers for major planning applications and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project proposals.

- 82% agreement with objective eighteen – Develop a cost recovery strategy for the creation of Historic Environment Record records as a result of development related fieldwork.

- 81% agreement with objective nineteen – Determine and secure a funded approach to built historic environment advice.

CONSULTATION AWARENESS

- The majority of consultees became aware of the consultation via an email from KCC (81%).

- Just under one in ten (7%) became aware of the consultation via social media.

- 3% became aware of the consultation from the Parish / Town / Borough / District Council.

**How did you find out about this consultation?** Base: all answering (270)

An email from KCC — 81%

Social Media (Facebook or Twitter) — 7%

From my Parish / Town / Borough / District Council — 3%

From a friend or relative — 3%

Kent.gov.uk website — 2%

Newspaper — 0.4%

Other — 5%

SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	
An email from KCC	81%
Social Media (Facebook or Twitter)	7%
From my Parish / Town / Borough / District Council	3%
From a friend or relative	3%
Kent.gov.uk website	2%
Newspaper	0.4%
Other	5%

AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSED VISION AND AIMS

PROPOSED VISION

- The vast majority of consultees agree (94%) with the proposed vision for Heritage Conservation outlined in the strategy. 2% disagree with the proposed vision.

- Just over two thirds (69%) strongly agree with the proposed vision for Heritage Conservation.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed Vision for Heritage Conservation? Base: all providing a response (274)
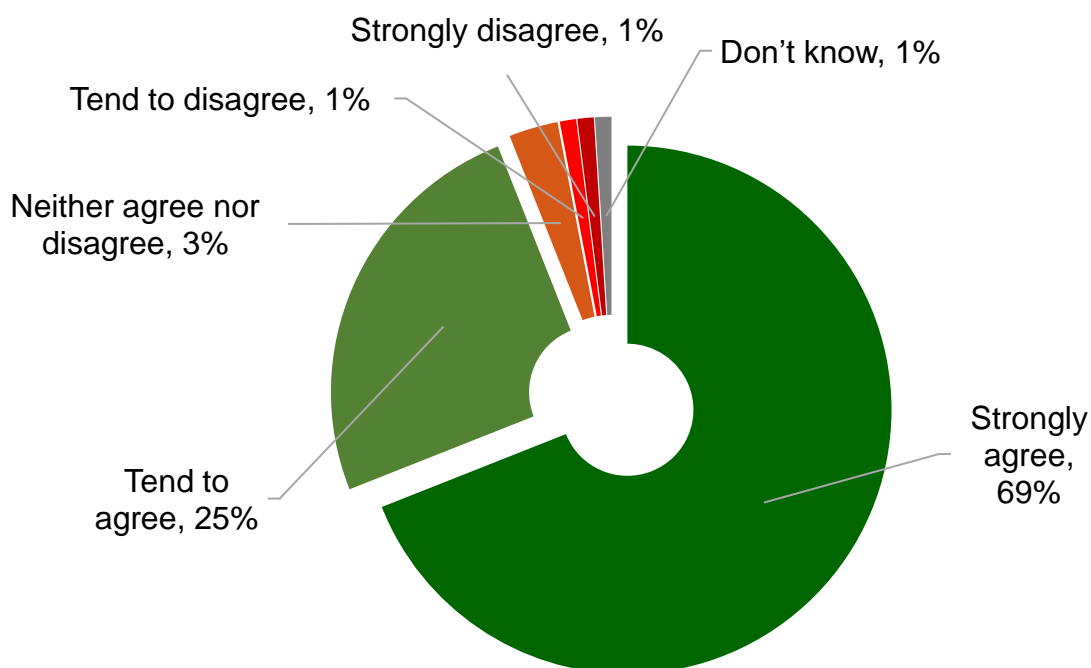
Strongly disagree, 1%

Don't know, 1%

Tend to disagree, 1%

Neither agree nor disagree, 3%

Tend to agree, 25%

Strongly agree, 69%

SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Proposed vision for Heritage Conservation	69%	25%	3%	1%	1%	1%

Consultees were given the opportunity to provide comments or suggestions on the Vision in their own words. For the purpose of reporting, we have reviewed respondents' comments and have grouped common responses together into themes. These are reported in the table below. 32% of consultees provided a comment at this question.

A quarter of consultees responding (25%) commented that it is critical to preserve and protect Kent's heritage for now and with consideration for the future. 10% commented on their support for the vision outlined.

Whilst recognising the consultation is asking for feedback on the proposed strategy, just under one in five (17%) felt the strategy document did not contain enough tangible detail and would like more information on aspects such as funding and how the objectives would work in practice.

14% commented that local housing development / development on greenfield sites contradicts the objectives outlined in the strategy.

If you have any comments or suggestions on the Vision, please tell us.
Base: all answering and providing a comment relevant to question (32% of respondents - 88)

THEMES AMONGST THOSE ANSWERING	%
Crucial to preserve and protect now and for the future	25%
Lacking detail / more information needed / questions posed / too high level	17%
Housing development / development on greenfield sites contradicts strategy	14%
In agreement with vision / support consultation	10%
Community / stakeholder engagement is crucial	8%
Consider climate change / eco / environmentally friendly approach	6%
Heritage can / should generate income	5%
Plans should include a variety of property assets / conservation areas	5%
Plans should include intangible heritage	5%
Plans should include all areas of Kent	5%
Collaboration with district / local councils is essential	5%
Wary of exploiting heritage for generating income	5%
Heritage should not hinder development / don't need to focus / spend money on past	5%
More promotion / awareness of heritage sites needed	2%

Some example comments highlighting the common themes can be found below:

> **"It is vital that all heritage sites and future sites are maintained for the welfare of the county and the country, they create much needed revenue from visitors, and huge educational value."**

> **"The duty is to maintain and preserve, not add to or distort history or appearances."**

"There are some heroic leaps of logic in the document which are unsubstantiated. As there is no indication of the cost of the strategy it is hard to know whether it is affordable."

"Too vague. I would like the benefits and opportunities to be more specific at the top level as well as within aims e.g. for learning, for health and wellbeing, for encouraging a sense of pride in our shared heritage, for economic growth?"

PROPOSED AIMS

- The vast majority agree with strategic aim 1 (90%), strategic aim 2 (93%) and strategic aim 3 (92%), with between 3-4% disagreeing with these aims.

- Agreement is comparably lower, but still in the majority, for strategic aim 4 at 66%. 17% neither agreed nor disagreed with this aim and 15% disagreed.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the four strategic aims proposed for the Heritage Conservation Strategy?
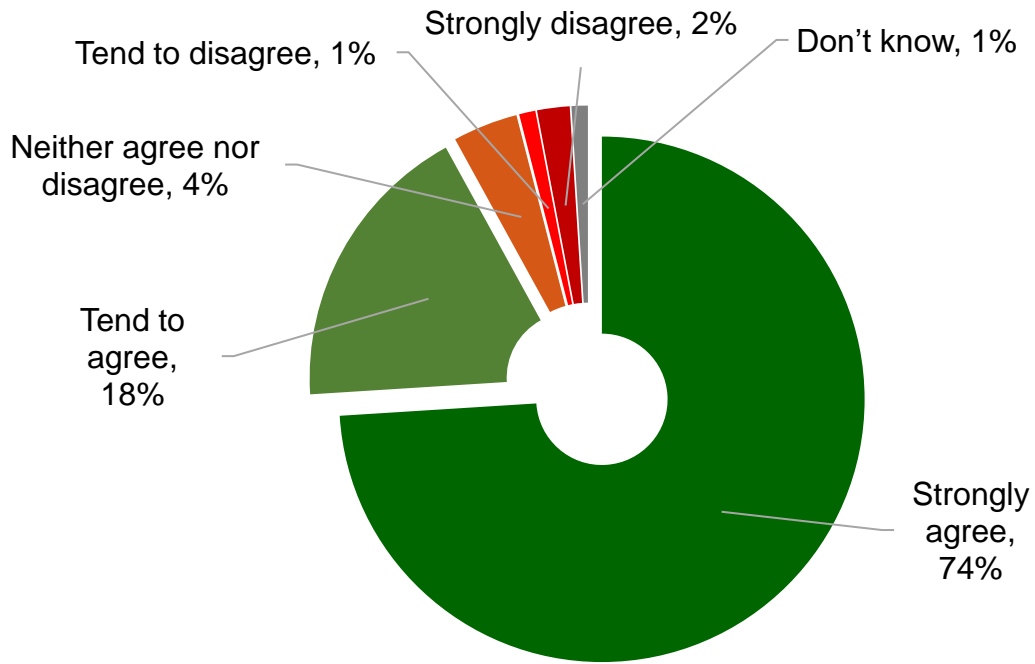
Level of agreement with strategic aim one - Base: all providing a response (273)
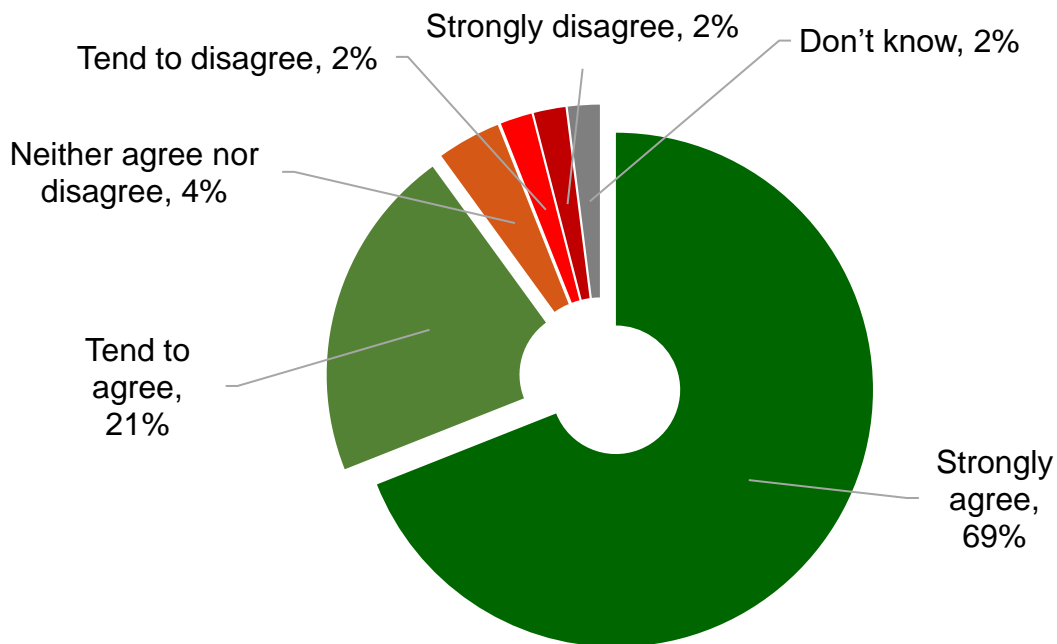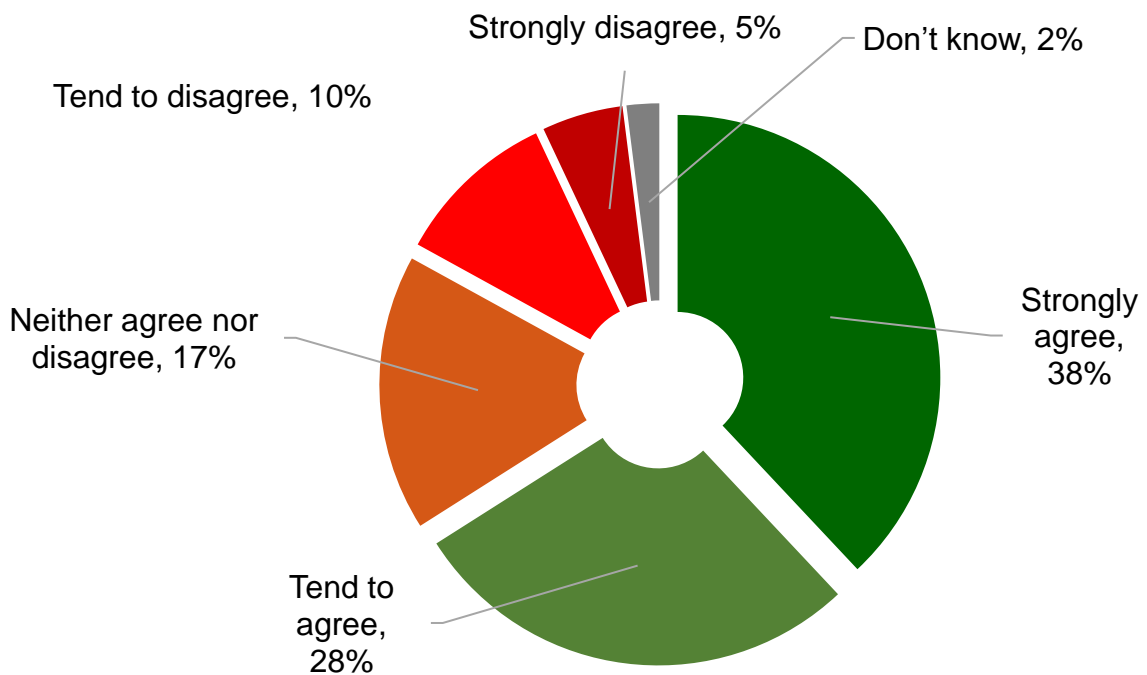

Level of agreement with strategic aim two - Base: all providing a response (271)
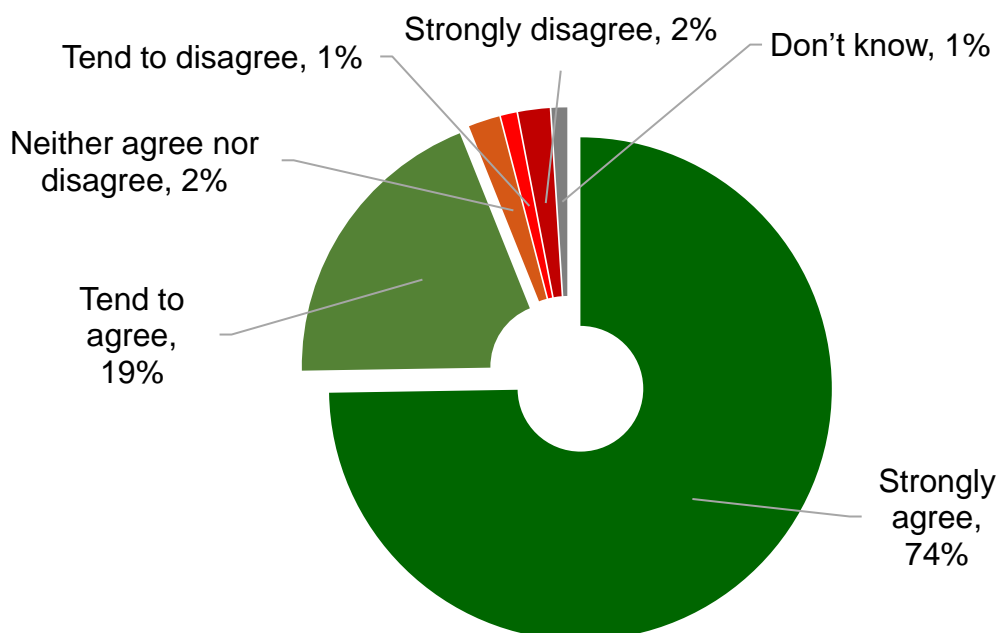
Level of agreement with strategic aim three - Base: all providing a response (271)

Tend to disagree, 1%

Strongly disagree, 2%

Don't know, 1%

Neither agree nor disagree, 4%

Tend to agree, 18%

Strongly agree, 74%

Level of agreement with strategic aim four - Base: all providing a response (270)

Strongly disagree, 5%

Don't know, 2%

Tend to disagree, 10%

Neither agree nor disagree, 17%

Strongly agree, 38%

Tend to agree, 28%

SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Strategic aim one	69%	21%	4%	2%	2%	%
Strategic aim two	74%	19%	2%	1%	2%	1%
Strategic aim three	74%	18%	4%	1%	2%	1%
Strategic aim four	38%	28%	17%	10%	5%	2%

Consultees were given the opportunity to provide comments or suggestions on the strategic aims in their own words. For the purpose of reporting, we have reviewed respondents' comments and have grouped common responses together into themes. These are reported in the table below. 35% of consultees provided a comment at this question.

Just over a quarter of consultees responding (26%) commented on Strategic Aim 4 specifically and believe self-sustaining approach will not work and they do not believe sufficient funds can generated for this to be possible. 11% also commented that funding should come from local authorities / the government.

Consistent with response to the proposed vision, 14% felt the strategy document did not contain enough tangible detail and would like more information on aspects such as funding and how the objectives would work in practice.

11% commented that community / stakeholder engagement is crucial and 10% referenced more promotion / awareness of heritage sites is needed.

If you have any comments or suggestions on the Strategic Aims, please tell us.
Base: all answering & providing a comment relevant to question (35% of respondents - 97)

THEMES AMONGST THOSE ANSWERING	%
Self-sustaining won't generate enough funds / negative impact / affect achievement of other aims	26%
Lacking detail / more info needed / questions posed / criticism of consultation	14%
Community / stakeholder engagement is crucial	11%
Heritage can / should generate income / be self-sustaining with caution / cover costs / be reasonable	11%
Funding should come from local authorities / government	11%
More promotion / awareness of heritage sites needed	10%

THEMES AMONGST THOSE ANSWERING	%
External funding should be sought	8%
Plans should include a variety of assets / areas	8%
Sites should be inclusive / accessible	7%
Suggestion related to heritage but not vision	6%
Crucial to preserve and protect now and for the future	5%
Heritage should not hinder development / don't need to focus/spend money on past / council should not fund this	5%
Housing development / development on greenfield sites contradicts strategy	4%
In agreement with vision / support consultation	3%
Collaboration with district / local councils is essential	3%
Suggestion for vision	3%
Consider climate change / eco/environmentally friendly approach	2%

Some example comments highlighting the common themes can be found below:

"I don't think that it is likely that the service will become financially self-sustaining as keeping these assets in good condition is expensive as a great number are listed buildings."

"I believe there will always be a degree of non self-supported funding required to keep our history in the best condition and to make it relevant to attract visitors."

"Is it realistic to think this can be financially self-sustaining whilst also being affordable?"

"The involvement of groups already working in this area and getting ordinary people involved as volunteers would enable the scheme to be viable. There is need for co-ordination with all groups to avoid duplication and to identify areas not already covered."

AGREEMENT WITH VISION OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE TWO (ARCHAEOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT)

Explore and determine the potential for requiring archaeological contractors who undertake archaeological assessments on KCC projects to be Registered Archaeological Organisations.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective two agree (93%) with its contents. 63% strongly agree and 1% disagree with objective two.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective two agree (91%) that archaeological contractors who undertake archaeological assessments or fieldwork on other large development-related archaeological projects in Kent should be Registered Archaeological Organisations. 66% strongly agree.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective two? Base: all providing a response (87)
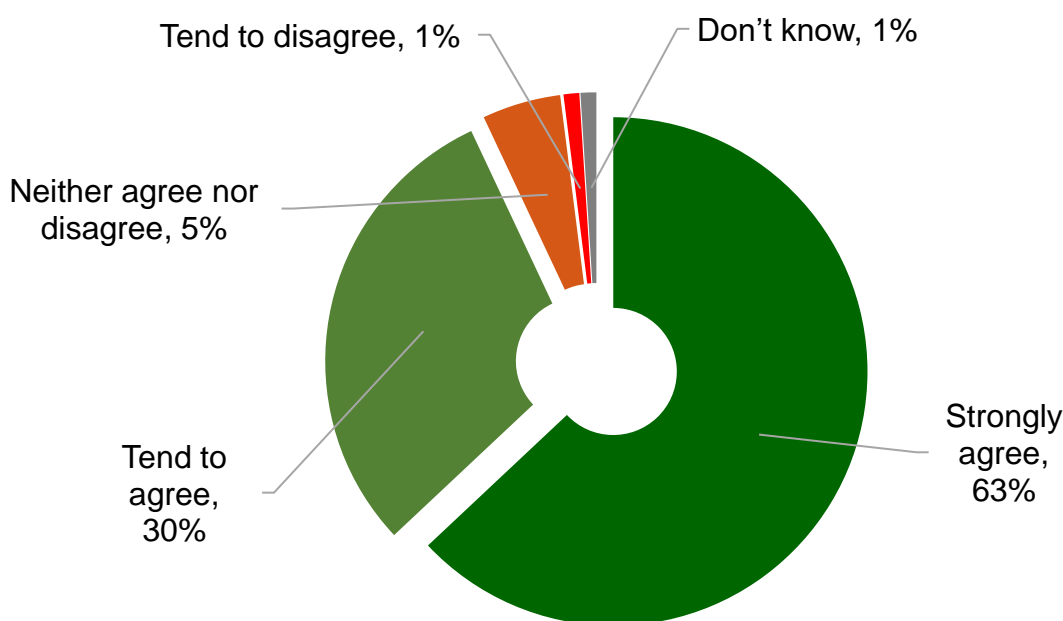
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective two	63%	30%	5%	1%	0%	1%

To what extent do you agree or disagree that archaeological contractors who undertake archaeological assessments or fieldwork on other large development-related archaeological projects in Kent should be Registered Archaeological Organisations? Base: all providing a response (87)
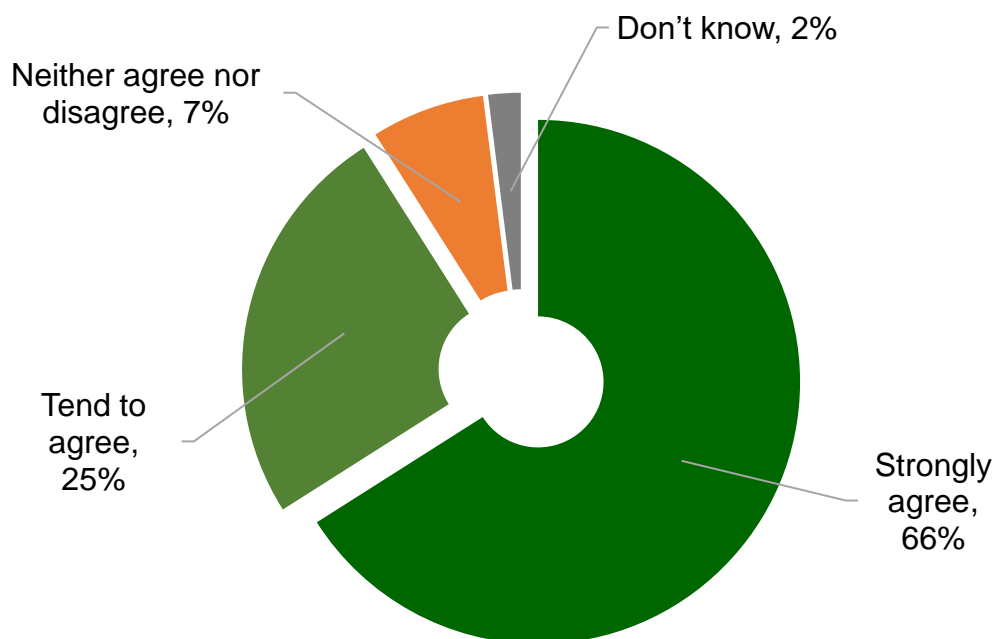
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Archaeological contractors should be Registered Archaeological Organisations	66%	25%	7%	0%	0%	2%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective two. 27 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

> **"It is important that any archaeological organisation undertaking archaeological work for KCC can be guaranteed to meet minimum appropriate professional standards. Being an RAO should help in weeding out archaeological contractors with insufficient professional expertise."**

> **"It's pretty clear that those with a degree of expertise in this area is a prerequisite to undertake archaeological assessments."**

However, some highlighted there could be some flexibility in the approach and local knowledge should be considered:

> **"I agree there should be Registered Organisations but think it's important to offer volunteering opportunities. Otherwise people from the local community only find**

out about projects after the fact and for those with an interest in archaeology and especially local archaeology, this is a very passive way of being involved. Allowing volunteers to be part of the projects allows them to be actively involved in their preservation and conserving the past, present and future of their local heritage. This is very encouraging and empowering; the positive knock on effect for securing the future of such projects could then be quite profitable and profound."

"A good general principle but maybe there should be scope for exercising discretion when considering decisions relating to this aspect."

"To provide a professional service, but consideration should also be given to include appropriate local historical organisation who on the whole have a more detailed knowledge base than Nationally based organisations. In many cases THS have had to correct in accurate statements from Archaeological Contractors."

"Registered Archaeological Organisations, tend to be larger national archaeological units that already hold a monopoly archaeological work, they often lack the local specialist knowledge that has been built are in smaller units over many decades, help should be given to help these units become registered."

Consultees were also given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement that Archaeological contractors who undertake archaeological assessments or fieldwork on other large development-related archaeological projects in Kent should be Registered Archaeological Organisations. 48 comments were made to this question. Example comments made supporting this statement can be found below:

"Only professional people will know the true value of what is required in this type of work."

"I assume that affiliates to the Register have to abide by a strict code of practice and are more accountable than non-affiliated organisations."

"Expert, Independent Archaeologists are required to ensure the preservation and safety of any finds. If developers employ their own Archaeologists, there is a danger that any finds will be downplayed and lost forever under new-builds."

"With the development pressures on the County this is an absolute necessity to maintain standards. I think there should be a quality assurance that they also work with and engage local communities where appropriate."

OBJECTIVE FIVE (KCC-OWNED HERITAGE ASSETS)

Work across KCC to coordinate information on heritage assets and finalise the Kent Highways Heritage protocol.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective five agree (89%) with its contents. 55% strongly agree and 1% disagree with objective five.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective five? Base: all providing a response (77)
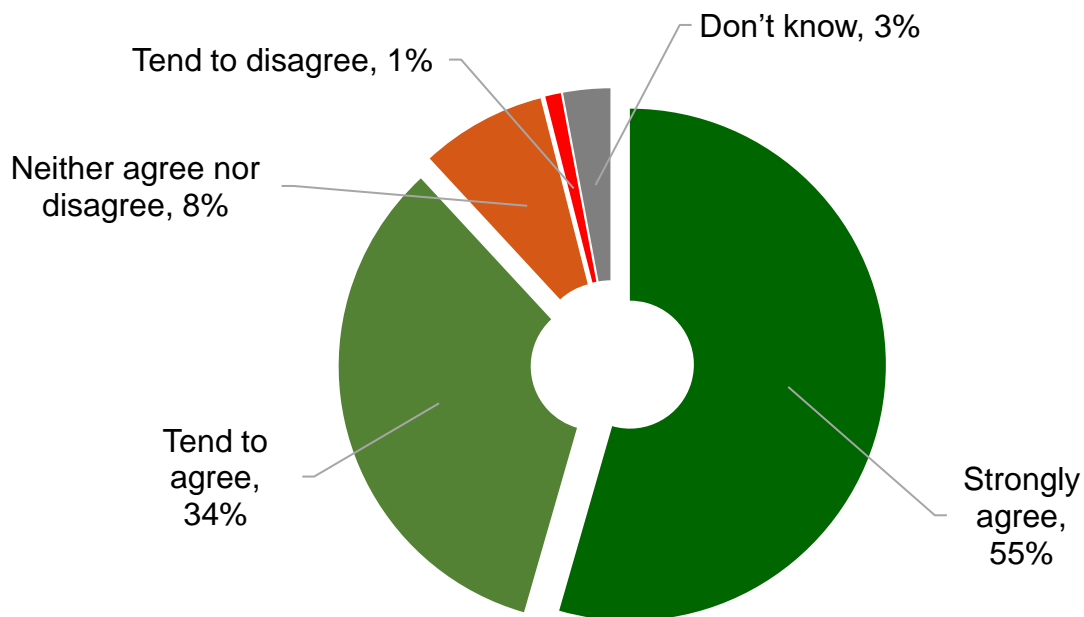
Don't know, 3%

Tend to disagree, 1%

Neither agree nor disagree, 8%

Tend to agree, 34%

Strongly agree, 55%

SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective five	55%	34%	8%	1%	0%	3%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective five. 18 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

> **"Interdepartmental collaboration is fundamental. Shared definitions are vital., e.g. what is 'historic'? I suggest that history encompasses every moment from yesterday backwards. Planning authorities can be too dismissive of the value of what was built in the comparatively recent past. Future generations will come to regret the loss of much that is distinctive if this is not recognised by all concerned in planning law."**

> **"The approach KCC Highways take to the replacement of street lighting and pavement surfaces in conservation areas and our historic settlements is inconsistent across the district. Listed lamp posts have been removed without consultation or the appropriate consents. We would welcome KCC Heritage taking the lead and agreeing a protocol with Highways."**

> **"Ensure the information on heritage assets includes detail about how the asset is likely to respond to the changing climate i.e. flood risks and over-heat risks to the fabric of the building and increasing likelihood of sink holes."**

> **"A number of groups across Kent have been concerned about the approach by Kent Highways towards granite kerb stones. The Society has had a number of complaints about granite kerb stones being replaced, especially in Conservation Areas. Other groups have had similar complaints. Granite kerb stones – especially in Conservation Areas – are an inherent and vital element in the designation of a Conservation Area."**

A few consultees indicated additional information / clarity would be useful alongside this objective:

> **"Other than the windmills, I am clueless as to what heritage assets KCC own, so it would be good for a list to be made public! Anything that safeguards heritage during construction should be commended in times when the Government are pushing excessive housing targets on us and allowing the desecration of green belt."**

> **"Kent Highways Heritage protocol? You need to explain what that is."**

OBJECTIVE SIX (WINDMILLS)

Follow a management approach to KCC-owned windmills, so that:

I. Mills capable of milling flour (Drapers Mill, Margate, and Cranbrook Mill) remain able to do so.
II. The weatherproofing programme will be continued across the timeframe of this Plan.
III. Static mills will be returned to visual completeness subject to funding
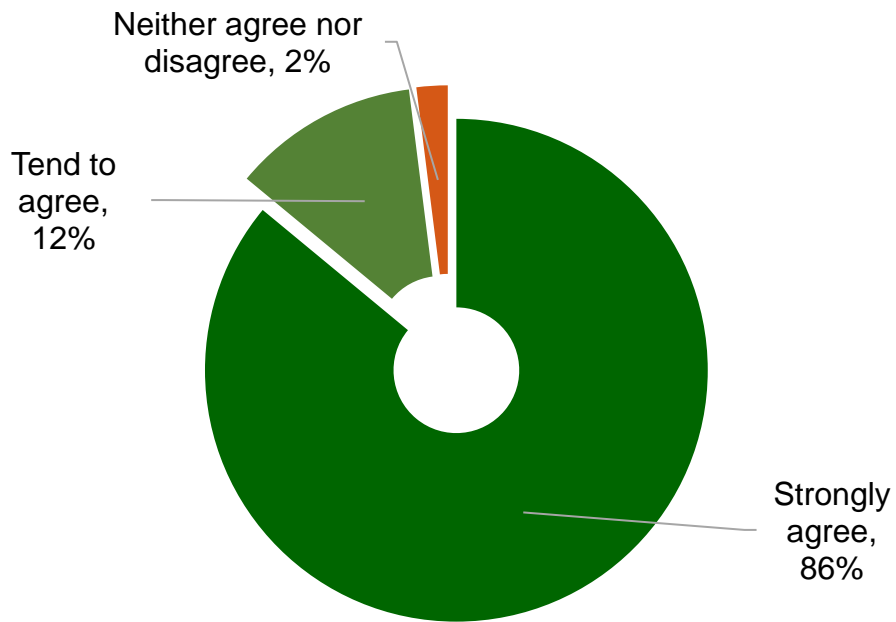IV. Static mills will be made active wherever possible.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective six agree KCC should follow a management approach to KCC-owned windmills so that mills capable of milling flour remain able to do so (98%), the weatherproofing programme will be continued across the timeframe of this Plan (98%).

- Whilst overall agreement remains high for static mills being returned to visual completeness subject to funding (94%) and static mills being made active wherever possible (88%), the proportion strongly agreeing is a little lower.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective six that we should follow a management approach to KCC-owned windmills, so that …? Base: all providing a response (50)

Mills capable of milling flour remain able to do so - Base: all providing a response (50)

Neither agree nor disagree, 2%

Tend to agree, 10%

Strongly agree, 88%
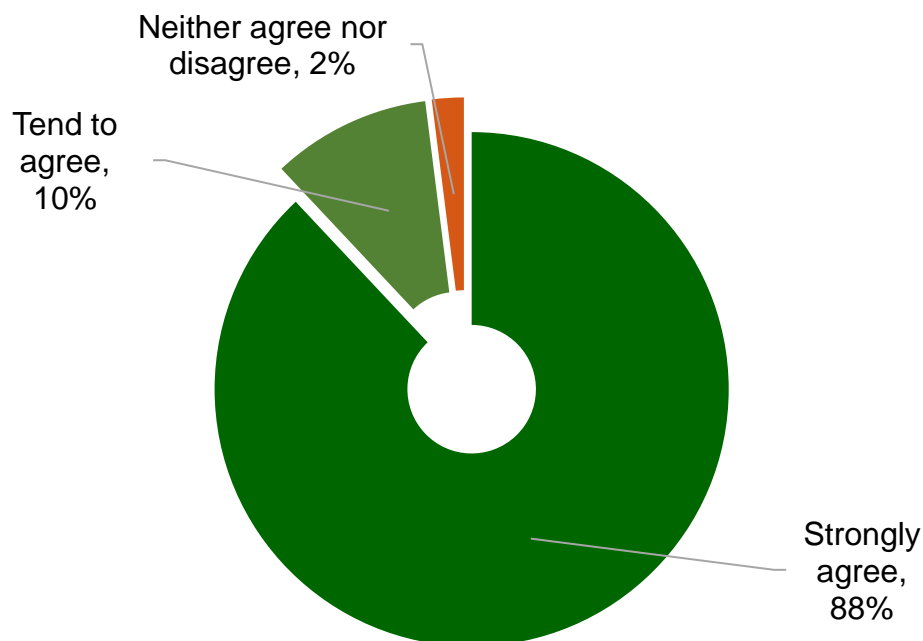
The weatherproofing programme will be continued across the timeframe of this Plan - Base: all providing a response (50)

Neither agree nor disagree, 2%

Tend to agree, 12%

Strongly agree, 86%

Static mills will be returned to visual completeness subject to funding - Base: all providing a response (50)

Neither agree nor disagree, 6%

Tend to agree, 20%
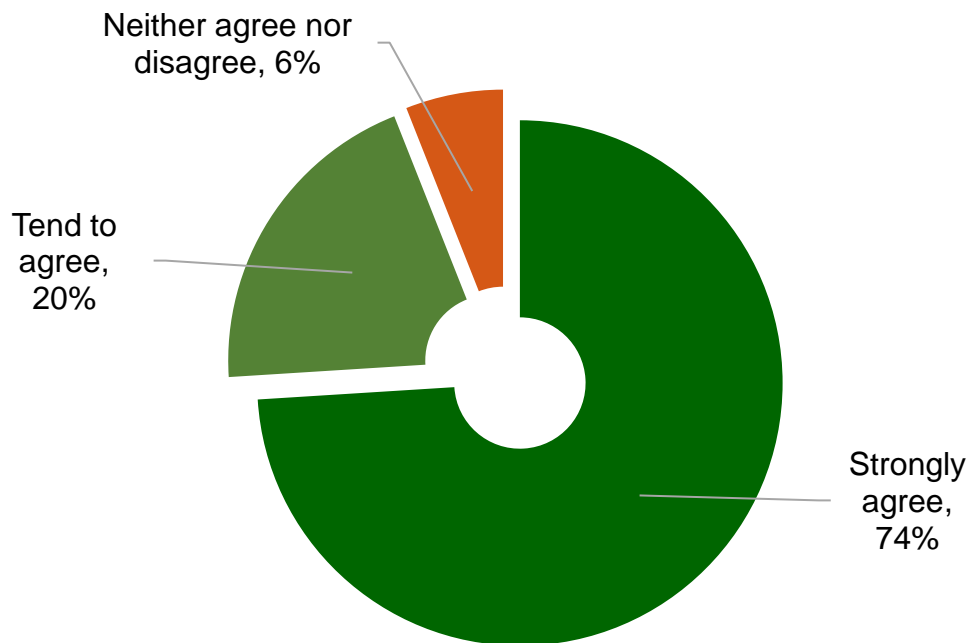
Strongly agree, 74%

Static mills will be made active wherever possible - Base: all providing a response (50)

Neither agree nor disagree, 12%

Tend to agree, 14%

Strongly agree, 74%

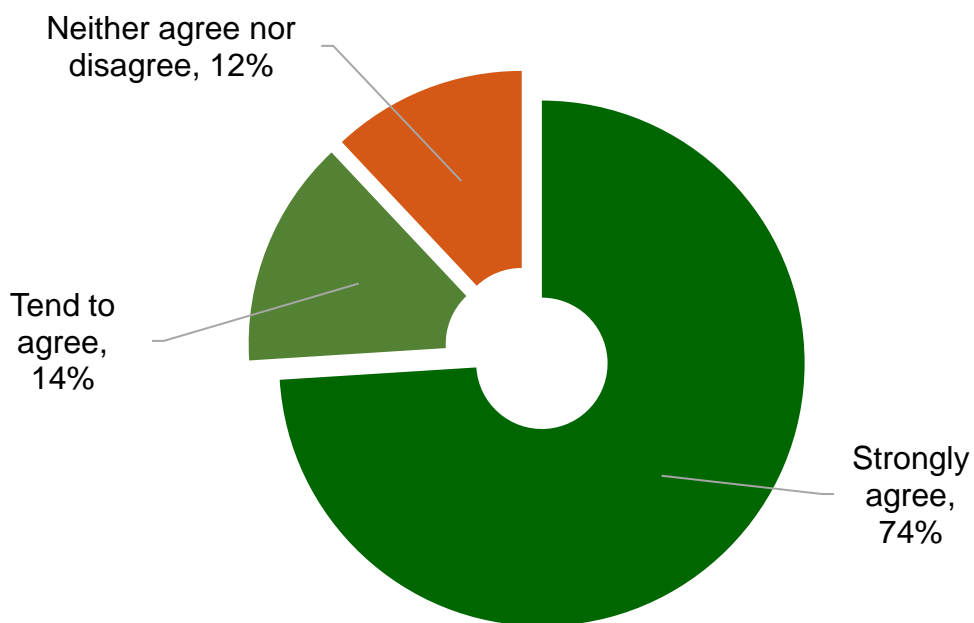| SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Mills capable of milling flour (Drapers Mill, Margate, and Cranbrook Mill) remain able to do so	88%	10%	2%	0%	0%	%
The weatherproofing programme will be continued across the timeframe of this Plan	86%	12%	2%	0%	0%	0%
Static mills will be returned to visual completeness subject to funding	74%	20%	6%	0%	0%	0%
Static mills will be made active wherever possible	74%	14%	12%	0%	0%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with the objective six statements. 22 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

"Keeping the past alive by making a physical connection, having working mills is key to making history relevant and gives us a connection to our ancestors."

"These assets should be maintained properly and prevented from deteriorating due to lack of maintenance."

A few consultees indicated they would like the objective to go further and return the mills to working order:

"I would love to see all windmills survive and, where possible, operational. My only concern is that the objectives are somewhat non-committal - we will make them look complete if we have the money and keep them maintained for as long as possible."

"Kent windmills contribute greatly to Kent's historic landscape character. KCC is to be congratulated in rescuing, in sunnier times, those mills now in its care and in subsequently safeguarding them. At the present time it is perhaps ambitious to expect mills to be returned to working order but every effort should be made to arrest deterioration and decay."

OBJECTIVE EIGHT (WINDMILLS)

Explore alternative funding mechanisms for the windmills, including setting up a Charitable Trust to oversee management.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective eight agree (84%) with its contents.

- Strength of agreement is lower than some of the other objectives at 44% strongly agreeing. 8% disagree with objective eight.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective eight? Base: all providing a response (50)
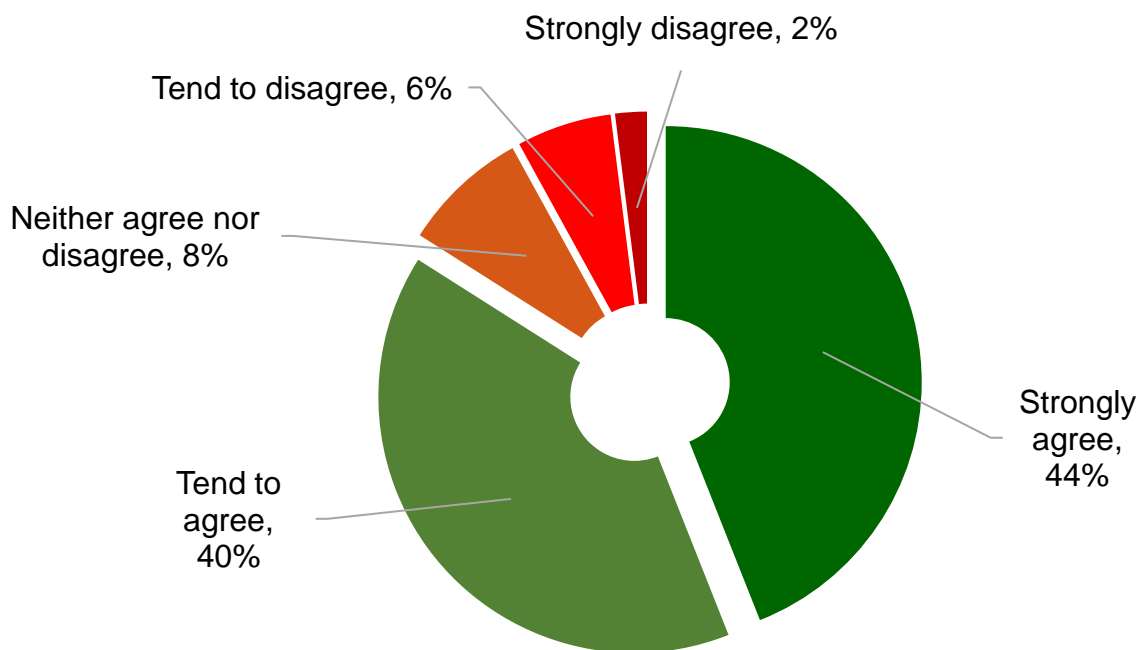
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective eight	44%	40%	8%	6%	2%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective eight. 18 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

"Charitable trusts are a good way of offering parties that are interested a vested opportunity to take ownership of local history."

"It remains to be seen what would be the best way forward therefore it is essential that an open minded exploration of alternatives be undertaken."

Whilst there is overall support for exploring alternative funding mechanisms, a few consultees expressed some hesitancy at the prospect of a Charitable Trust. Some consultees commented they would like to see KCC remain involved, careful setup of such a trust and plan for the long term to make such an approach viable:

"It is important to explore alternative funding mechanisms for the windmills and in the past the windmills have indeed benefited from HLF funding and the various mills groups have been invaluable in terms of their day to day maintenance and opening them to the public. Any offloading of responsibility needs to have a long term guarantee as to the conservation of the windmills as heritage assets and to the financial viability of the proposed solution - something that I suspect is extremely difficult at the present time."

"Charitable Trust must contain people who have an interest in the asset as well as KCC members and experts in the field. It would be good practice if the chair of a Charitable Trust was from amongst the people who have an interest in the asset rather than a KCC member."

"Think it would be hard for a charitable trust to raise necessary funds and ensure term commitment too much basic maintenance work already done by volunteers."

OBJECTIVE NINE (ARCHAEOLOGICAL ARCHIVES)

Assess options for the display and long-term storage of archaeological archives and ensure the KCC-held archives are placed in an appropriate repository.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective nine agree (94%) with its contents. 64% strongly agree and 1% disagree with objective nine.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective nine? Base: all providing a response (77)
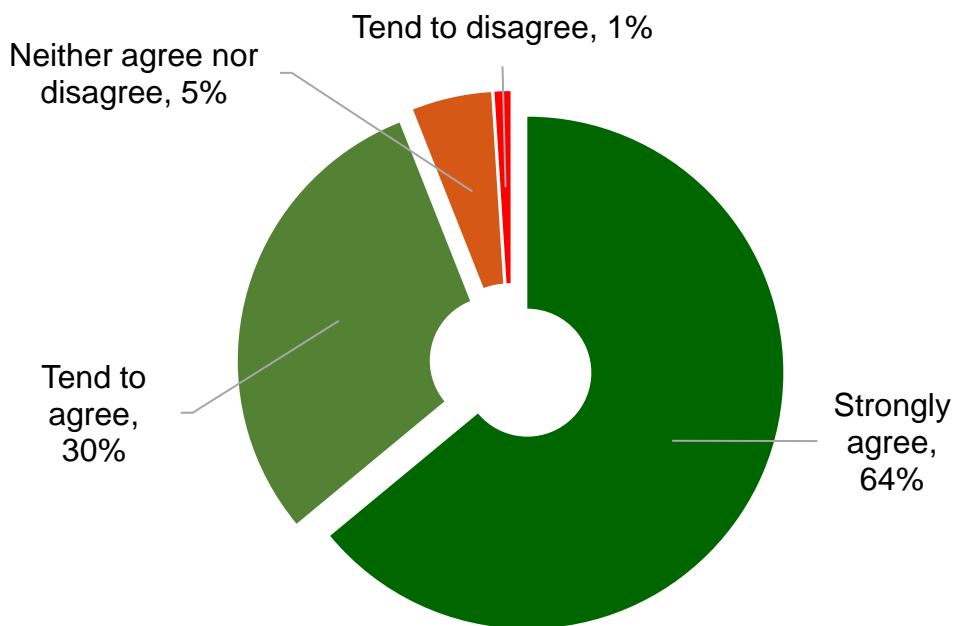
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective nine	64%	30%	5%	1%	0%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective nine. 40 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

“The KCC-held archives should be protected for future generations. Science continues to reveal new information about our ancestors and their material remains - these should be conserved for community benefit/potential future interrogation/public knowledge and wellbeing projects.”

“This is a problem not just for Kent but also for many parts of the country. It can be noted that Northamptonshire, for all its local government problems has just created an ARC at Irchester. There is a need to safeguard archaeological archives, both the finds and written records, and to make them accessible to scholars, the public and to schools. Kent has an outstanding 'archaeological archive'. I am not convinced that the solution is to put it into 'deep storage'. We are in difficult financial times at the moment but I would like to think that the way forward is through some sort of partnership solution in Kent and this needs to be continued to be explored.”

The display element of the objective was highlighted as being of particular importance in consultees comments to boost engagement and enjoyment of archaeological archives:

“When assessing options it would be great to consider additional ways to display and make them accessible rather than storing the majority out of site. Making use of existing buildings such as Libraries and Council Offices to display items could allow a great proportion to be enjoyed by the public. Perhaps these displays could be accompanied by a donation pot to try and offset the cost of rolling our more displays.”

“Why not a museum or indeed any number of museums rather than a repository which seems to me means that members of the public will not be able to view them.”

“I think it’s sad that we cannot find or fund a suitable site within Kent for our own heritage. Ideally it should have the ability to display a rotating selection of items from the county and provide a central focus point for all Kent based research. i.e. Centre of excellence.”

“Archives are an integral part of professional and amateur research and need to be appropriately preserved. Also in an accessible way so people of all levels of research background can easily search them and maximise their usefulness.”

A few consultees also commented on online access being important:

“The primary aim should be to make all historic asset records accessible online. However, a purpose-built repository for the collection should also be the aim. Surely this could be funded by grants from central government and developer contributions?”

"Enable easy online access to the digital copies of Tithe Maps. KHLC hold the originals and they were digitised via a Lottery grant and yet practicalities of accessing these copies are very difficult. It is not clear why."

OBJECTIVE TEN (COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY)

Promote understanding and enjoyment of Kent's heritage using multiple media channels including digital media (the online Historic Environment Record, KCC website and social media), print media (publications and press releases) and through direct experience (community archaeology).

- The vast majority of those answering on objective ten agree (97%) with its contents.

- Strength of agreement is high at 78% strongly agreeing. 2% disagree with Objective 10.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective ten? Base: all providing a response (63)
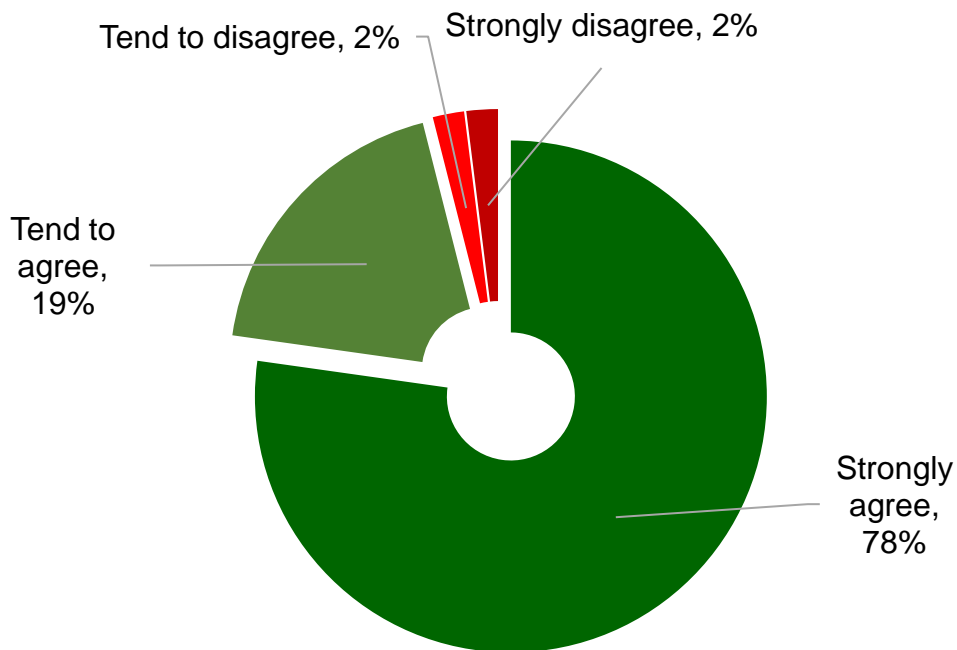
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective ten	78%	19%	0%	2%	2%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective ten. 26 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

"Accessibility is crucial if you are to encourage interest and research."

"To me, this Objective is critical in widening awareness and knowledge of the county's heritage and its existing sites / assets from the past. It is a key means of engaging the community in these areas, to the extent even of participation in uncovering, protecting / conserving such artefacts, something which I personally would very much like to be involved with."

"I see community archaeology as a way of engaging local people who probably would not normally consider that they can contribute to the rich heritage of their area. Encouraging people to work together on community projects is good for their physical and mental health."

Consultees commented on the need to engage young people in Kent's heritage and believe social media use could help achieve this:

"We need to find ways of enthusing our youth - they are the future custodians of our heritage."

"Social media is such a big part of our lives now, I think it's a perfect place to promote local Heritage, to educate the next generation, to keep out Heritage alive."

"I am always in favour of anything that helps people, particularly young people, learn about our history."

OBJECTIVE ELEVEN (COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY)

Develop and deliver a community engagement strategy and communication plan for the Heritage Conservation team.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective eleven agree (95%) with its contents. 67% strongly agree and 2% disagree with objective eleven.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective eleven? Base: all providing a response (61)
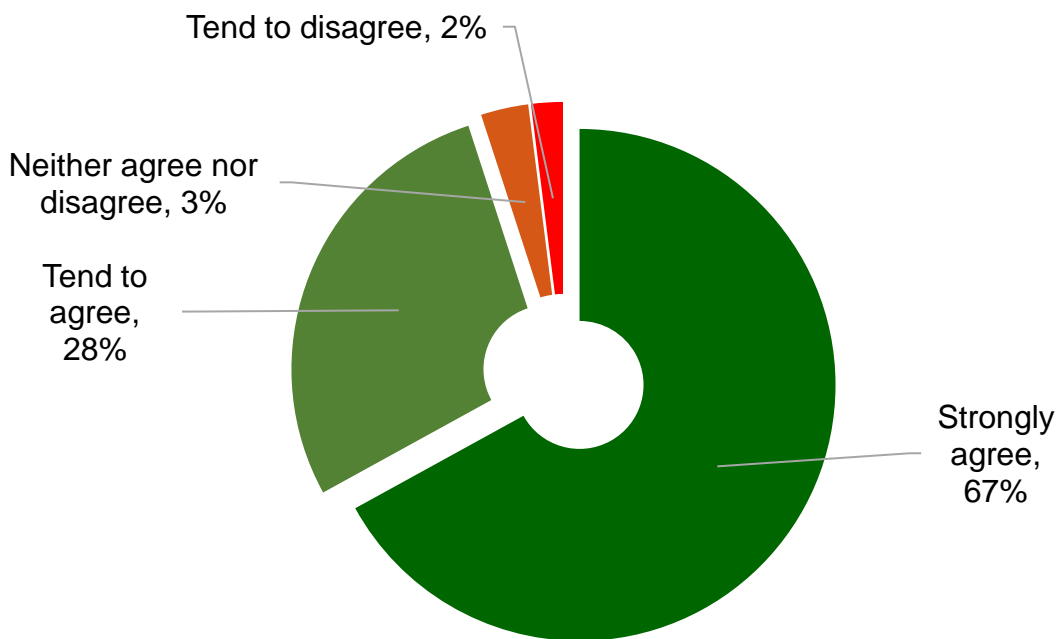
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective eleven	67%	28%	3%	2%	0%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective eleven. 18 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

> **"Engagement is vital if residents are to feel involved in their environment and hopefully greater understanding brings greater attachment and pride in an area."**

> **"The more people that know about Kent's rich heritage, the more likely they are to value it and care for it."**

A few consultees commented on the need for strategy to be county-wide and involve local communities but needs to consider the likely resourcing it will require:

> **"The strategy should include an objective to achieve county-wide visibility using displays of local archaeological and historic artefacts, as well as surviving built heritage, using funding (e.g. sponsorship) from local or larger organisations."**

> **"Make it localised and involve the community."**

> **"Community engagement is resource heavy. This is absolutely something that should be done, but the implications in terms of resourcing need consideration."**

OBJECTIVE TWELVE (METAL DETECTING SEARCHING AND CHANCE DISCOVERIES)

Agree and adopt a policy that metal detecting and 'by eye' searches will only be undertaken on KCC owned land as part of an approved project.

- Just under two thirds (63%) of those answering on objective twelve agree with its contents, with overall agreement lower than the other objectives under other areas.

- Strength of agreement is also low at 30% strongly agreeing. 15% neither agreed nor disagreed with the objective and 21% disagree with objective twelve.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective twelve? Base: all providing a response (61)
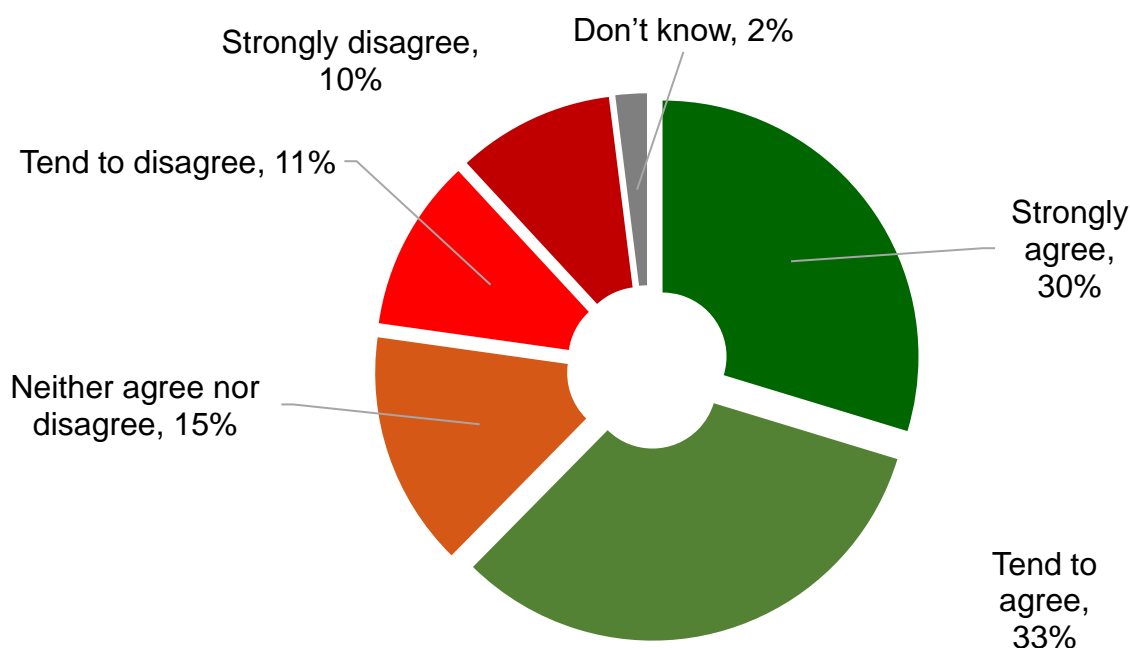
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective twelve	30%	33%	15%	11%	10%	2%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective twelve. 25 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

> **"It seems that retention of objects on KCC land would be sensible - as would discouraging unqualified disturbance of ground and potentially items of archaeological interest."**

> **"It is important to monitor these activities to ensure there is a genuine interest in the archaeology."**

However, some highlighted there could be some flexibility in allowing recreational searches in general and on specific land:

> **"I can see the thinking here, but it may be more effective to only allow registered detectorists/clubs to carry out searches, provided they report on and record all findings, as opposed to part of a project, which may restrict the findings over time."**

> **"Clearly metal detecting shouldn't take place on sites requiring specific protection, where damage to natural or archaeological resources may occur or where the interests of other members of the public may be impaired. On more run of the mill land, such as open or agricultural land where farming practices, development or environmental changes are already causing objects in the ground to deteriorate or be lost there is little reason why metal detecting could not be permitted and even some benefit."**

> **"Members of the public should not be prevented from engaging in a bit of metal detecting or 'by eye' searches as a family day out/ enjoyment."**

OBJECTIVE THIRTEEN (METAL DETECTING SEARCHING AND CHANCE DISCOVERIES)

Agree and adopt a policy that KCC should retain ownership of all finds found on its property in perpetuity unless special exemptions apply (e.g. loss of personal possession).

- Just under two thirds (65%) of those answering on objective thirteen agree with its contents, with overall agreement lower than the other objectives.

- Strength of agreement is also low at 35% strongly agreeing. 15% neither agreed nor disagreed with the objective and 20% disagree with objective thirteen.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective thirteen? Base: all providing a response (60)
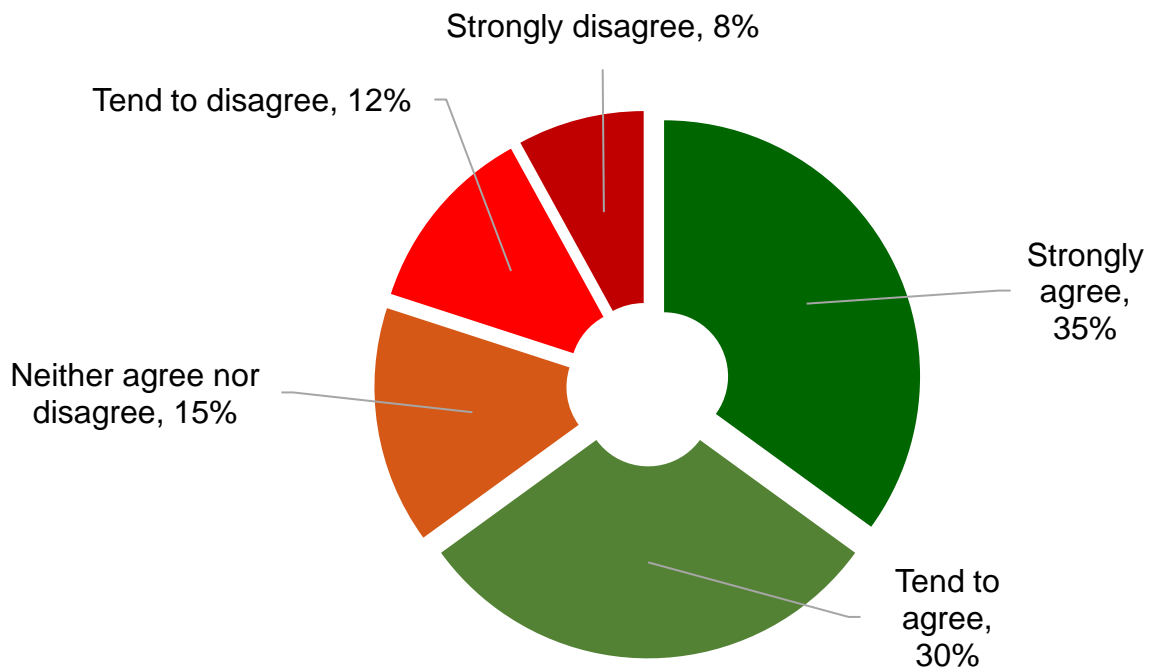
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective thirteen	35%	30%	15%	12%	8%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective thirteen. 21 comments were made to this question. Some highlighted there could be some flexibility in the ownership of local finds:

> **"This should depend on various factors, but if a find comes from a specific local area, it should at least be leased/loaned to a local museum or archive to keep the heritage in the local community."**

> **"Those that find stuff should be allow to keep it or sell it. As they are the people who found it and not the council."**

A few consultees highlighted challenges with the proposed approach put forward:

> **"This objective may bring challenges to the objective of managing archaeological archives as many finds are found each year, however by restricting searches on KCC land this may keep numbers down."**

> **"What land does KCC own therefore where will all the finds come from? Define all finds? i.e. Do all finds consist of for example rubbish and "modern" finds. Where will it be retained in perpetuity and under what conditions i.e. secure, suitable humidity and temperature etc. What will this cost?"**

> **"This objective appears to conflict with the requirement of the Treasure Act. Also what is KCC going to do with all these objects. It would be far more beneficial to ensure that such objects are properly recorded. Whilst the KCC hosted Portable Antiquities scheme records some objects it is so grossly underfunded so only a selection of objects are recorded. There are fairly easy and cost effective ways of increasing recording, for example extending self-recording, but this requires an initial investment to make the PAS database more user friendly and train recorders."**

OBJECTIVE FOURTEEN (METAL DETECTING SEARCHING AND CHANCE DISCOVERIES)

Agree and adopt a policy (to be discussed with river and coastal authorities) that magnet fishing will not be allowed on KCC owned land.

- Just under six in ten (56%) of those answering on objective fourteen agree with its contents, with overall agreement lower than the other objectives.

- Strength of agreement is also low at 36% strongly agreeing. 21% neither agreed nor disagreed with the objective and 16% disagree with objective fourteen.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective fourteen? Base: all providing a response (61)
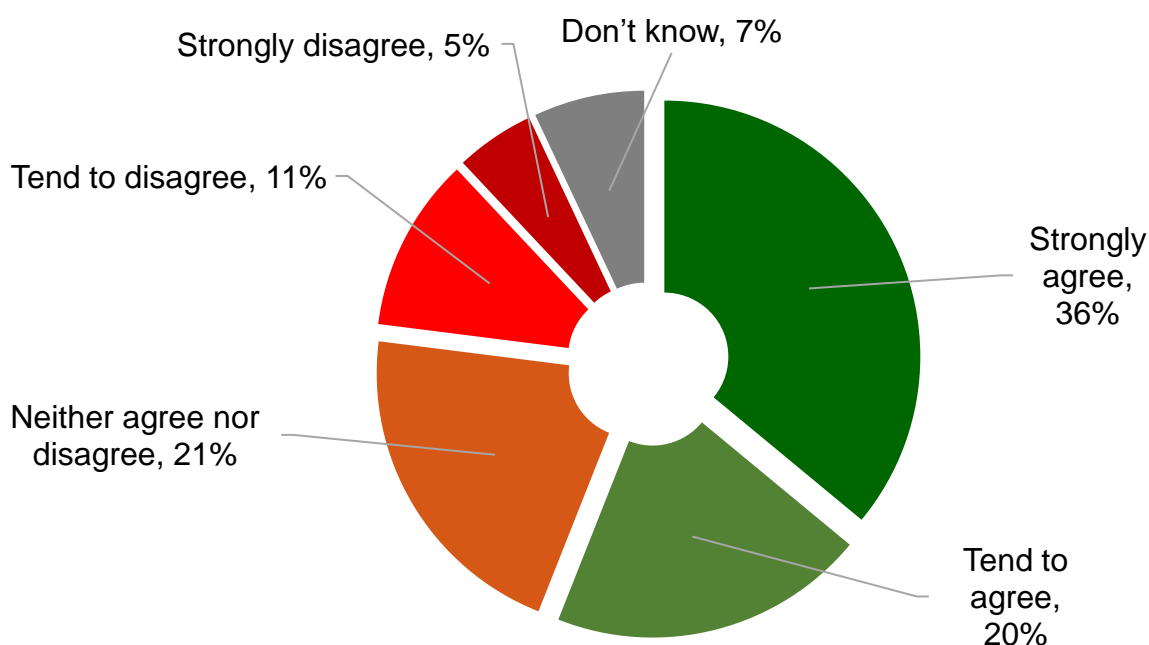
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective fourteen	36%	20%	21%	11%	5%	7%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective fourteen. 21 comments were made to this question. An example comment supporting this objective can be found below:

> **"Surely this can be a good way to clear the rivers of rubbish and at the same time the chance to discover artifacts."**

A few consultees commented that there could be some flexibility in the policy and there could be some exceptions made:

> **"I think it should be allowed, but subject to the same rules as metal detecting etc."**

> **"Does this need to be banned? Seems harmless enough. I would be more concerned about sewage flowing unchecked into Kent rivers."**

> **"There could and should be exceptions to this policy for specific approved projects and for police/criminal investigations."**

OBJECTIVE FIFTEEN (METAL DETECTING SEARCHING AND CHANCE DISCOVERIES)

KCC will work with coastal landowners to consider the benefits of a permit system for metal detecting in coastal and riverine foreshore areas.

- Just under two thirds (64%) of those answering on objective fifteen agree with its contents, with overall agreement lower than the other objectives under other areas.

- Strength of agreement is also low at 27% strongly agreeing. 5% neither agreed nor disagreed with the objective and 17% disagree with objective fifteen.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective fifteen? Base: all providing a response (62)
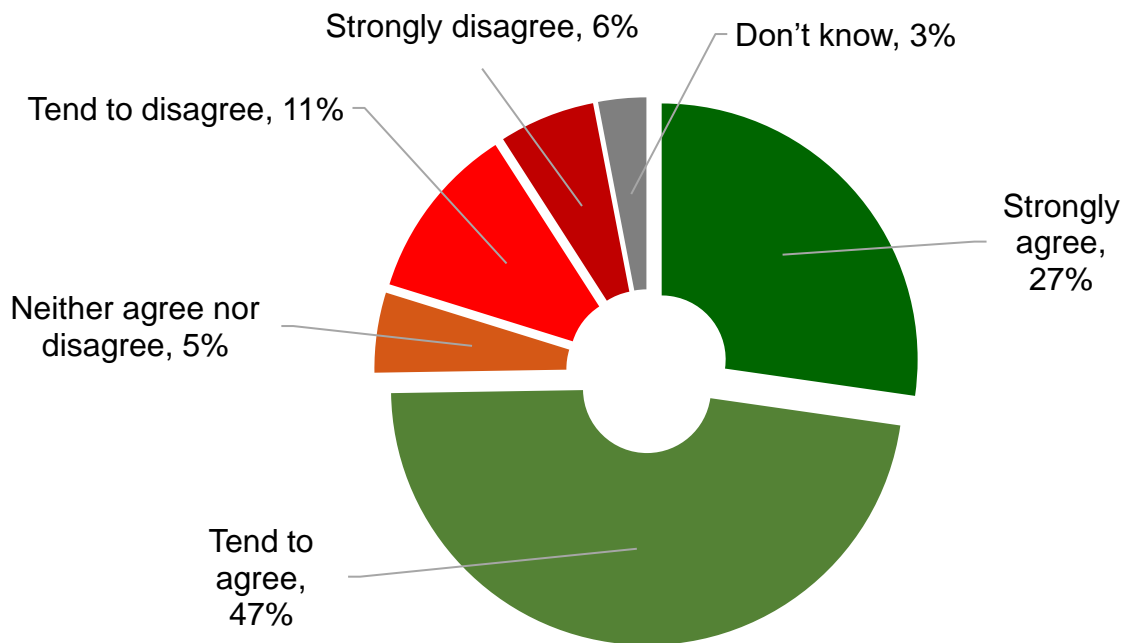
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective fifteen	27%	47%	5%	11%	6%	3%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective fifteen. 18 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

"Permits should only be given to qualified professionals and their helpers and students."

"Agree although we are concerned that it is unclear who would administer this scheme and whether it would have implications for LPA resources."

"Adequate control measures are good, as long as it's not exclusionary to anyone participating."

A few consultees commented that there could be some flexibility in the permit system and there could be some exceptions made:

"Coastal landowning should be about curation, not restriction."

"Should be allowed to detect on any beach anywhere."

OBJECTIVE SIXTEEN (SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ROBUST HERITAGE STRATEGIES)

Explore developing a county level Kent Heritage Strategy to assist district authorities who could draw upon it as a framework for their own strategies as many issues and themes are commonly held.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective sixteen agree (95%) with its contents. 66% strongly agree and 4% disagree with Objective sixteen.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective sixteen? Base: all providing a response (86)
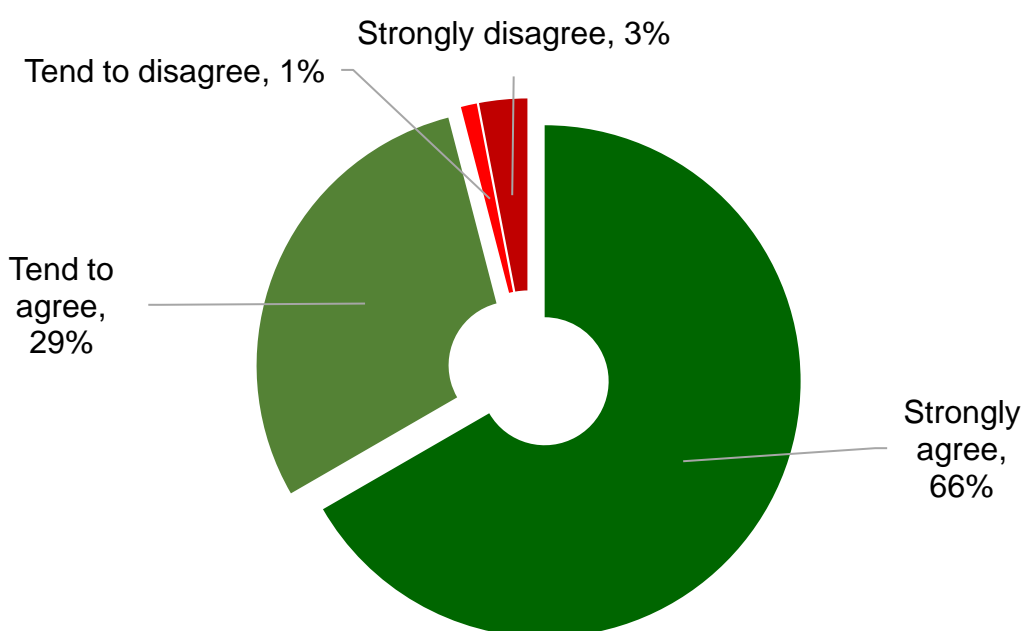
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective sixteen	66%	29%	0%	1%	3%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective sixteen. 43 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

> **"This is vital so that all the district and parish authorities have a definitive and trusted source of information to access. An over-arching framework would be very useful, especially as district and parish councils are significantly under-resourced in terms of conservation and heritage management."**

> **"Having consistency across the county is important."**

There are some concerns that specific districts / areas may not engage in the objective and that current engagement is inconsistent across the County:

> **"This should be Kent wide and not just focused on the "sexy" historic areas that are already well known and loved already, i.e. spread the economic benefit to some of the lesser well known areas of the county and pass on the lessons already learned elsewhere. Also maybe the focus overall is too focused on ancient history and maybe we should be making more use of recent historic assets such as repurposing industrial buildings, churches, town hall, banks, pubs, High Streets, etc. and the fascinating stories that lie behind these areas, buildings and industries. e.g. the various Thames and Medway forts might be a good place to start."**

> **"There have been some good District-level Heritage Strategies, including FHDC's, which sadly remains in draft form after several years. Encouraging the development and timely adoption of strategies in all local Districts would be a positive step to protecting Kent's heritage. Likewise, a County-wide strategy would be a useful starting point for District Councils."**

> **"Our local authority no longer has a Conservation Officer and it is noticeable that unsympathetic changes are being made to buildings in our local Conservation area."**

> **"'Explore', 'assist', 'could' are vague terms. A shared strategy is vital, not just a 'maybe'."**

> **"I agree with this Objective but local authorities need to use such strategies. The Kent Design Strategy is a good example and includes some excellent analyses in respect of coastal areas. But to what extent are they actually employed? What leverage can KCC put on local authorities?"**

OBJECTIVE SEVENTEEN (BENCHMARKING AND RESOURCING)

Develop a cost recovery strategy for providing archaeological advice to developers for major planning applications and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project proposal.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective seventeen agree (94%) with its contents. 66% strongly agree and 4% disagree with objective seventeen.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective seventeen? Base: all providing a response (86)
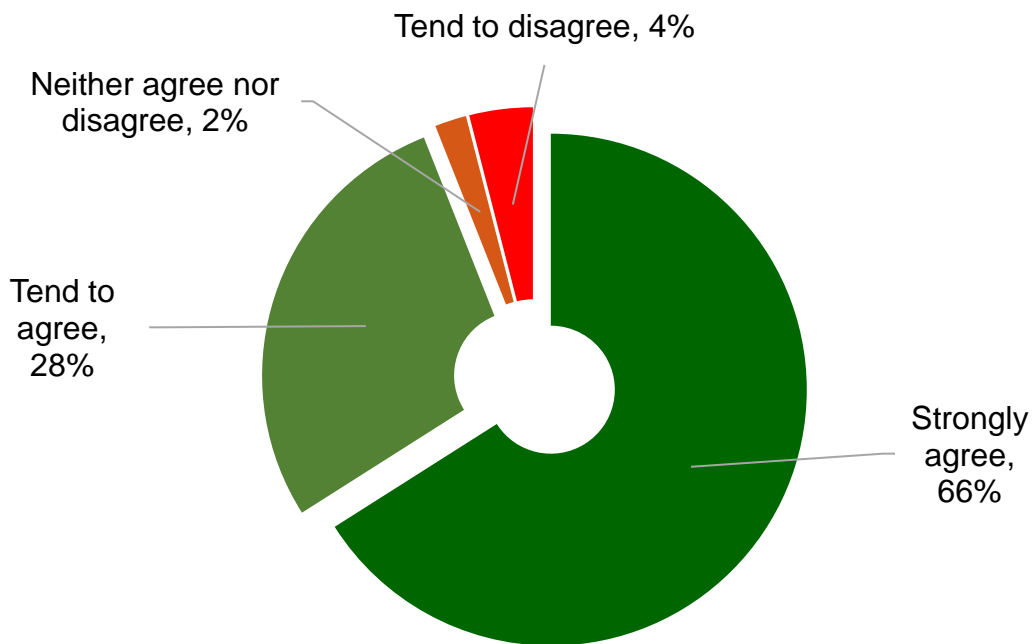
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective seventeen	66%	28%	2%	4%	0%	0%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective seventeen. 20 comments were made to this question. Example comments supporting this objective can be found below:

"It would be sensible to have a more uniform approach - not least so that developers don't encounter different charging regimes in different areas."

"Putting the preservation of heritage / archaeology at the forefront of development plans is critical to the success of this strategy."

A few consultees commented that whilst they agreed with the objective, they would like assurance that the income generated will be put back into service improvements:

"If this funding could be applied to caring for resulting archives and/or community projects, then I agree."

"I believe that increasing income by charging developers for services would be beneficial. However, this should not come at the cost of budget cuts but be used as additional income to improve the service where possible, e.g. hiring more staff to cope with a backlog of data entry."

OBJECTIVE EIGHTEEN (BENCHMARKING AND RESOURCING)

Develop a cost recovery strategy for the creation of Historic Environment Record records as a result of development related fieldwork.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective eighteen agree (82%) with its contents.
- Strength of agreement is lower than some of the other objectives at 43% strongly agreeing. 6% disagree with objective eighteen. 8% indicated they were unsure.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective eighteen? Base: all providing a response (50)
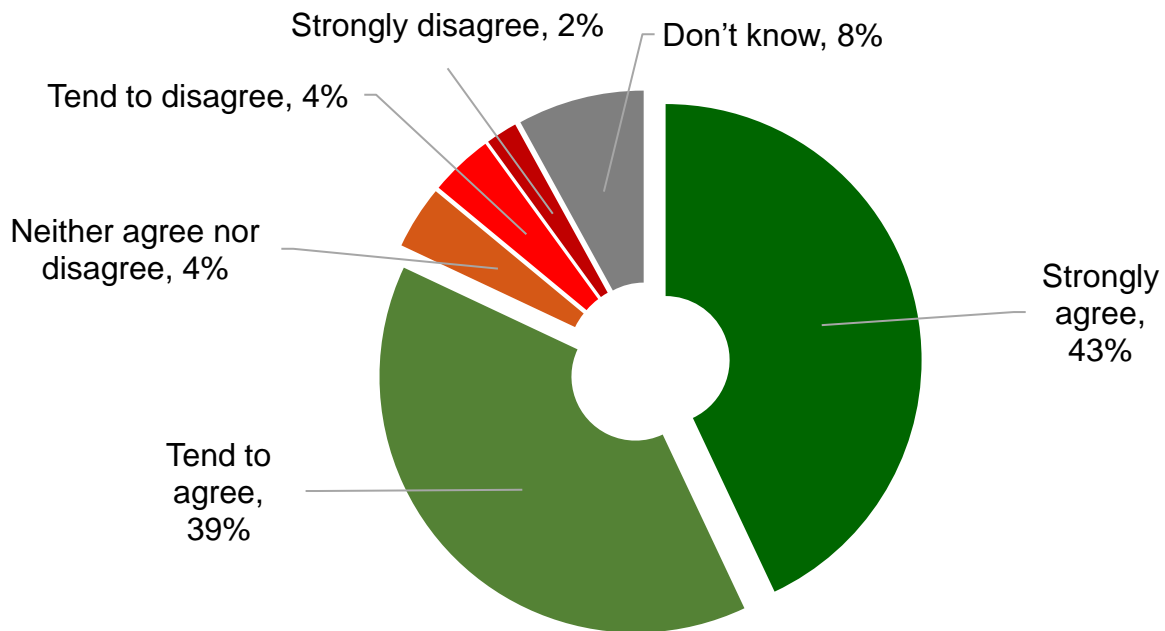
Strongly disagree, 2%
Don't know, 8%
Tend to disagree, 4%
Neither agree nor disagree, 4%
Strongly agree, 43%
Tend to agree, 39%

SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective eighteen	43%	38%	4%	4%	2%	8%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective eighteen. 18 comments were made to this question. An example comment supporting this objective can be found below:

"It is a common conception that any archaeological reports or findings from development are hidden or at least certainly not promoted for the public interests. Findings can help community archaeology and history group discover links with their research and plug gaps in their knowledge to enhance the local heritage vision. Making the Information available and accessible to the public should be a requirement, even an obligation to their development application."

A few consultees commented that they were uncertain how this objective would work and requested additional information:

"Unsure what this means - you need to offer more clarity."

"We would need more information about how this would happen in reality. We have no budget for archaeological advice and we would need to understand if the charging model would be similar to the Historic England one (larger applications and charged directly to the applicant rather than to the LPA) or if we would include it as part of a PPA. Overall exploring financial self-sufficiency for the service is important to securing its future so generally we support this principle but the mechanics of how this will be achieved need to be further detailed."

OBJECTIVE NINETEEN (BENCHMARKING AND RESOURCING)

Determine and secure a funded approach to built historic environment advice.

- The vast majority of those answering on objective nineteen agree (81%) with its contents.
- Strength of agreement is lower than some of the other objectives at 38% strongly agreeing. 4% disagree with objective nineteen.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with objective nineteen? Base: all providing a response (49)
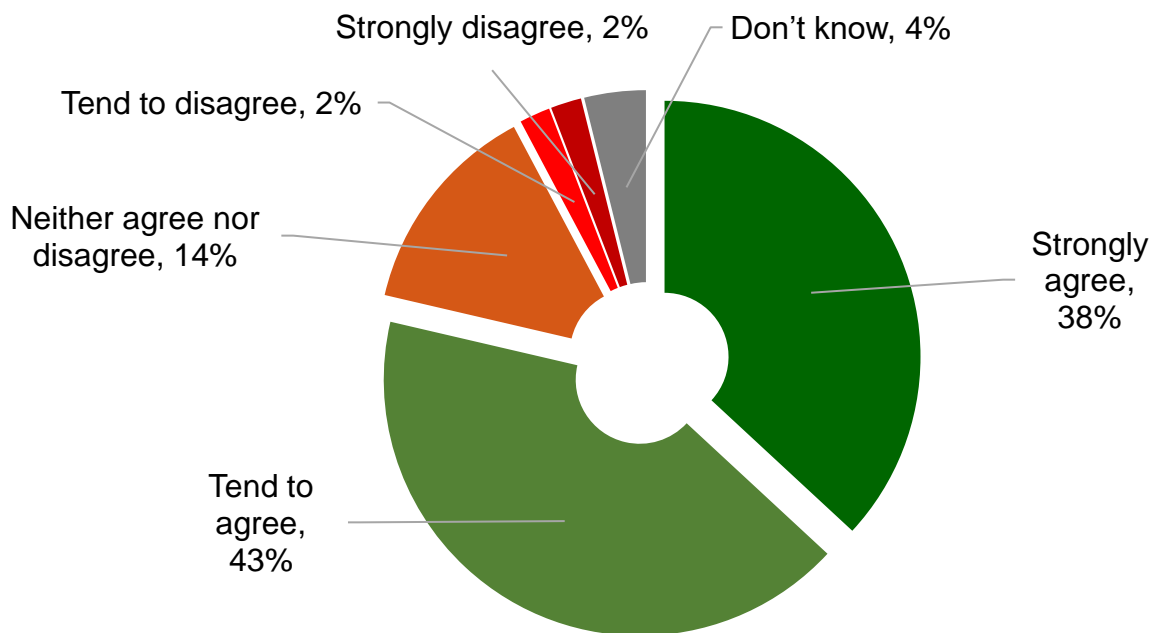
SUPPORTING DATA TABLE	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Objective nineteen	35%	43%	14%	2%	2%	4%

Consultees were given an opportunity to provide free text comments on their reasons for their level of agreement with objective nineteen. 19 comments were made to this question. An example comment supporting this objective can be found below:

"Although cost recovery is to be applauded, such a policy does not address the issue of under resources. It only serves to cover existing costs. Budget increases to provide additional staffing should be addressed before cost recovery charges are determined."

A few consultees commented that they were uncertain what this objective relates to and requested additional information:

"I think I probably disagree with this but, again, I really don't understand what you're asking me."

"It is unclear what this relates to, as most LPAs within Kent have a conservation/heritage officer who deals with the built historic environment."

OTHER COMMENTS ON DRAFT HERITAGE CONSERVATION STRATEGY

Consultees were given the opportunity to provide any other comments on the draft Heritage Conservation Strategy in their own words. For the purpose of reporting, we have reviewed respondents' comments and have grouped common responses together into themes. These are reported in the table below. 33% of consultees provided a comment at this question.

One in five commenting (20%) indicated they were in agreement with the vision outlined in the consultation. Many reiterated comments made in reference to the overall vision - 13% referenced it is crucial to preserve and protect Kent's heritage, 12% would like to see additional detail / information and 11% believe housing development / development on greenfield sites contradicts the strategy outlined.

11% highlighted additional areas / assets they believed should be included in the Heritage Conservation Strategy.

Do you have any other comments on the draft Heritage Conservation Strategy?
Base: all answering & providing a comment relevant to question (33% of respondents - 91)

THEMES AMONGST THOSE ANSWERING	%
In agreement with vision / support consultation	20%
Crucial to preserve and protect now and for the future	13%
Lacking detail / more info needed / questions posed / criticism of consultation	12%
Plans should include a variety of assets / other areas not included in strategy	11%
Housing development / development on greenfield sites contradicts strategy	11%
Consult with other organisations / councils	9%
Community / stakeholder engagement is crucial	8%
More promotion / awareness of heritage sites needed	7%
Can / will this be delivered	7%
Issues / concerns with specific sites across Kent	5%
KCC funds / resources better spent elsewhere	4%
Funding could be problematic	3%
Heritage should be a priority for KCC	3%

Some example comments highlighting the common themes can be found below:

"In an ideal world, it would be lovely to see this strategy implemented. However the world today is far from ideal and I'm not sure that KCC can afford or justify the sort of investment required to deliver these objectives when other essential services are struggling."

"The active involvement of local communities in redevelopment plans for areas should be heavily encouraged, so that heritage is not lost and places that people &/or communities prize are not lost."

"It ensures that the current generation's responsibility for maintaining and strengthening our heritage can be passed on in its entirety to future generations."

"This looks good on paper - however the task on the ground is vast. You list the World Heritage Site as the prime Kent Site yet its 2002 Management Plan was not implemented by 2017 and it has had the last 5 years without a formal plan. This should be the beacon by which all else is judged. So great to have a plan but what will be the reality of its delivery?"

RESPONSE TO EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Consultees were given the opportunity to provide any comments on the draft Equality Impact Assessment in their own words. For the purpose of reporting, we have reviewed respondents' comments and have grouped common responses together into themes. These are reported in the table below. 16% of consultees provided a comment at this question.

A third of those commenting (33%) believe an equality / diversity analysis is unnecessary. In addition, just under a third (31%) referenced that heritage should be accessible / inclusive to all.

We welcome your views on our equality analysis and if you think there is anything we should consider relating to equality and diversity, please add any comments?
Base: all answering & providing a comment relevant to question (16% of respondents - 45)

THEMES AMONGST THOSE ANSWERING	%
Equality / diversity analysis is unnecessary	33%
Heritage should be accessible to / inclusive of all	31%
History is history / should not be changed	18%
Diversity in posts / job roles required (related to heritage)	7%
Equality / diversity analysis is necessary	4%

Some example comments highlighting the common themes can be found below:

"There can only be some very specific occasions where your gender, sexual, age, disability, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, race or religion (or carer's) would have a different impact on anyone who is not one of the above. I find the question rather spurious and would need a very specific argument to answer this with any confidence. These characteristics are already protected by law."

"Today, equality and diversity needs to be woven into the fabric of our society - this is something we can take some responsibility for and try to make a difference. However, trying to view history through the prism of today and applying the same culture and values as we hold today does not work. If we start pulling at the threads of everything in the past that we consider to be inappropriate when we look at it today, there will be nothing left of history. We may not embrace it, but perhaps it is a reminder and we can learn from it?"

"Everything that can be done to allow everyone to access our heritage should be done - no one should be excluded and there should be a concerted effort to include."

"Only by having diversity on the HCS committee will true equality be achieved."

NEXT STEPS

The feedback from the consultation has been used to help finalise the Heritage Conservation Strategy. The final Strategy, alongside this consultation report and updated Equality Impact Assessment, will be presented to the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on the 18 March 2022 with a recommendation for its adoption.

Subject to the outcome of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee meeting in March 2022, the Strategy will be implemented in accordance with the medium-term plan set out at Section 10. During the implementation phase, there is likely to be further engagement with relevant stakeholders at key milestones. Overall progress on delivery will be monitored and reported to the Environment and Transport Committee at an appropriate frequency to be agreed in with the Cabinet Member for Environment.

APPENDIX – CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Q1. Are you responding as…?

Please select the option from the list below that most closely represents how you will be responding to this consultation. *Please select **one** option.*

☐	As a resident of Kent
☐	As a resident from outside Kent, including Medway
☐	As a representative of a local community group or residents' association
☐	On behalf of a Parish / Town / Borough / District Council in an official capacity
☐	As a Parish / Town / Borough / District / County Councillor
☐	On behalf of an educational establishment, such as a school or college
☐	On behalf of a business
☐	On behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation (VCS)
☐	On behalf of a professional organisation working in the heritage sector
☐	Other, please specify:

Q1a. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation (business, community group, residents' association, council or any other organisation), please tell us the name of your organisation. *Please write in **below**.*

Q2. Please tell us the first five characters of your postcode:

Please do not reveal your whole postcode. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please add your organisation's postcode. We use this to help us to analyse our data. It will not be used to identify who you are.

Q3. How did you find out about this consultation? *Please select **all** that apply*

- [ ] An email from KCC

- [ ] From my Parish / Town / Borough / District Council

- [ ] From a friend or relative

- [ ] Social Media (Facebook or Twitter)

- [ ] Kent.gov.uk website

- [ ] Saw a poster

- [ ] Newspaper

- [ ] From a local business

- [ ] Other, please specify:

STRATEGIC VISION AND AIMS

The proposed Vision for Heritage Conservation is to:

"Realise the substantial benefits and opportunities of Kent's rich heritage through its conservation, enhancement, and enjoyment."

Q4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed Vision for Heritage Conservation? *Select **one** option.*

- [ ] Strongly agree

- [ ] Tend to agree

- [ ] Neither agree nor disagree

- [ ] Tend to disagree

- [ ] Strongly disagree

- [ ] Don't know

Q4a. If you have any comments or suggestions on the Vision, please tell us in the box below.

Underpinning this Vision are four proposed Strategic Aims:

Strategic Aim 1 - Continue to improve the high quality and timely historic environment advice provided to KCC, local authorities and other bodies involved in growth and change based on accessible and up to date information and understanding.

Strategic Aim 2 - Ensure, working with new and existing partners, that KCC's historic assets are conserved, enhanced, enjoyed and valued by Kent's residents and visitors.

Strategic Aim 3 - Increase awareness, knowledge and understanding of Kent's rich heritage and increase involvement in heritage activities amongst its local communities.

Strategic Aim 4 - Work towards the service becoming financially self-sustaining.

Q5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the four Strategic Aims proposed for the Heritage Conservation Strategy? *Select **one** option for each aim/row.*

Strategic Aims	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Strategic Aim 1						
Strategic Aim 2						
Strategic Aim 3						
Strategic Aim 4						

Q5a. If you have any comments or suggestions on the Strategic Aims, please tell us in the box below. If your comment/suggestion relates to a specific Strategic Aim, please make this clear in your response.

OBJECTIVES

Each Strategic Aim is accompanied by Objectives. In several cases the Objectives relate to more than one Aim, so they have been placed under one aim with cross references to the others where relevant.

Some of these Objectives are required by the government's National Planning Policy Framework. Others are necessary to allow comparison with other similar authorities and to improve our practices. We have not included these objectives in this questionnaire as there is little or no scope to change them.

We welcome your feedback on the following Objectives:

- **Archaeology and development**
  Objective 2 – page 7
- **KCC-owned heritage assets**
  Objective 5 – page 9
- **Windmills**
  Objective 6 – page 10
  Objective 8 – page 11
- **Archaeological archives**
  Objective 9 – page 13
- **Community archaeology**
  Objective 10 – page 14
  Objective 11 – page 15

- **Metal detecting searching and chance discoveries**
  Objective 12 – page 16
  Objective 13 – page 17
  Objective 14 – page 18
  Objective 15 – page 19
- **Supporting the development of robust heritage strategies**
  Objective 16 – page 20
- **Benchmarking and resourcing**
  Objective 17 – page 21
- Objective 18 – page 22
- Objective 19 – page 23

You can answer all or as many of the questions as you like. If you would rather not provide feedback on an Objective, just move on to the next question.

Archaeology and development (Strategic Aim 1 - page 13 of the Strategy)

OBJECTIVE 2: Explore and determine the potential for requiring archaeological contractors who undertake archaeological assessments **on KCC projects** to be Registered Archaeological Organisations.

Q6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 2? *Select **one** option.*

☐	Strongly agree
☐	Tend to agree
☐	Neither agree nor disagree
☐	Tend to disagree
☐	Strongly disagree
☐	Don't know

Q6a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 2, please tell us in the box below.

[blank comment box]

Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that archaeological contractors who undertake archaeological assessments or fieldwork on <u>other</u> large development-related archaeological projects in Kent should be Registered Archaeological Organisations? *Select **one** option.*

☐	Strongly agree
☐	Tend to agree
☐	Neither agree nor disagree
☐	Tend to disagree
☐	Strongly disagree
☐	Don't know

Q7a.   Please tell us the reason for your answer to Q7 in the box below.

KCC-owned heritage assets (Strategic Aim 2 - page 15 of the Strategy)

Objective 5: Work across KCC to coordinate information on heritage assets and finalise the Kent Highways Heritage protocol.

Q8. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 5? *Select **one** option.*

	Strongly agree
	Tend to agree
	Neither agree nor disagree
	Tend to disagree
	Strongly disagree
	Don't know

Q8a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 5, please tell us in the box below.

Windmills (Strategic Aim 2 - pages 15 to 18 of the Strategy)

Objective 6: Follow a management approach to KCC-owned windmills, so that:

I. Mills capable of milling flour (Drapers Mill, Margate, and Cranbrook Mill) remain able to do so.

II. The weatherproofing programme will be continued across the timeframe of this Plan.

III. Static mills will be returned to visual completeness subject to funding

IV. Static mills will be made active wherever possible. [Also, Strategic Aim 3]

Q10. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 6 that we should follow a management approach to KCC-owned windmills, so that …? *Select **one** option for each row.*

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
I. Mills capable of milling flour (Drapers Mill, Margate, and Cranbrook Mill) remain able to do so.						
II. The weatherproofing programme will be continued across the timeframe of this Plan.						
III. Static mills will be returned to visual completeness subject to funding						

IV. Static mills will be made active wherever possible.					

Q10a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 6, please tell us in the box below.

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Objective 8: Explore alternative funding mechanisms for the windmills, including setting up a Charitable Trust to oversee management. [Also, Strategic Aim 3]

Q11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 8? *Select **one** option.*

- [ ] Strongly agree
- [ ] Tend to agree
- [ ] Neither agree nor disagree
- [ ] Tend to disagree
- [ ] Strongly disagree
- [ ] Don't know

Q11a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 8, please tell us in the box.

Archaeological archives (Strategic Aim 2 - pages 18 to 20 of the Strategy)

Objective 9: Assess options for the display and long-term storage of archaeological archives and ensure the KCC-held archives are placed in an appropriate repository. [Also, Strategic Aim 3]

Q12. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 9? *Select **one** option.*

☐	Strongly agree
☐	Tend to agree
☐	Neither agree nor disagree
☐	Tend to disagree
☐	Strongly disagree
☐	Don't know

Q12a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 9, please tell us in the box.

Community archaeology (Strategic Aim 3 - pages 20 to 21 of the Strategy)

Objective 10: Promote understanding and enjoyment of Kent's heritage using multiple media channels including digital media (the online Historic Environment Record, KCC website and social media), print media (publications and press releases) and through direct experience (community archaeology). [Also, Strategic Aim 2]

Q13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 10? *Select **one** option.*

	Strongly agree
	Tend to agree
	Neither agree nor disagree
	Tend to disagree
	Strongly disagree
	Don't know

Q13a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 10, please tell us in the box.

Objective 11: Develop and deliver a community engagement strategy and communication plan for the Heritage Conservation team. [Also, Strategic Aim 2]

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 11? *Select **one** option.*

☐	Strongly agree
☐	Tend to agree
☐	Neither agree nor disagree
☐	Tend to disagree
☐	Strongly disagree
☐	Don't know

Q14a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 11, please tell us in the box.

[blank box]

Metal detecting searching and chance discoveries (Strategic Aim 3 - pages 22 to 23 of the Strategy)

Objective 12: Agree and adopt a policy that metal detecting and 'by eye' searches will only be undertaken on KCC owned land as part of an approved project. [Also, Strategic Aim 2]

Q15. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 12? *Select **one** option.*

☐ Strongly agree

☐ Tend to agree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Tend to disagree

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Don't know

Q15a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 12, please tell us in the box.

Objective 13: Agree and adopt a policy that KCC should retain ownership of all finds found on its property in perpetuity unless special exemptions apply (e.g. loss of personal possession). [Also, Strategic Aim 2]

Q16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 13? *Select **one** option.*

☐ Strongly agree

☐ Tend to agree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Tend to disagree

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Don't know

Q16a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 13, please tell us in the box.

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Objective 14: Agree and adopt a policy (to be discussed with river and coastal authorities) that magnet fishing will not be allowed on KCC owned land. [Also, Strategic Aim 2]

Q17. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 14? *Select **one** option.*

☐ Strongly agree

☐ Tend to agree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Tend to disagree

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Don't know

Q17a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 14, please tell us in the box.

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Objective 15: KCC will work with coastal landowners to consider the benefits of a permit system for metal detecting in coastal and riverine foreshore areas.

Q18. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 15? *Select **one** option.*

☐ Strongly agree

☐ Tend to agree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Tend to disagree

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Don't know

Q18a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 15, please tell us in the box.

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Supporting the development of robust heritage strategies (Strategic Aim 3 - pages 23 to 24 of the Strategy)

Objective 16: Explore developing a county level Kent Heritage Strategy to assist district authorities who could draw upon it as a framework for their own strategies as many issues and themes are commonly held. [Also, Strategic Aim 1]

Q19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 16? *Select **one** option.*

☐ Strongly agree

☐ Tend to agree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Tend to disagree

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Don't know

Q19a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 16, please tell us in the box.

Benchmarking and resourcing (Strategic Aim 4 - pages 25 of the Strategy)

Objective 17: Develop a cost recovery strategy for providing archaeological advice to developers for major planning applications and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project proposals. [Also, Strategic Aim 1]

Q20. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 17? *Select **one** option.*

☐ Strongly agree

☐ Tend to agree

	Neither agree nor disagree
	Tend to disagree
	Strongly disagree
	Don't know

Q20a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 17, please tell us in the box.

Objective 18: Develop a cost recovery strategy for the creation of Historic Environment Record records as a result of development related fieldwork. [Also, Strategic Aim 1, Strategic Aim 3]

Q21. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 18? *Select **one** option.*

	Strongly agree
	Tend to agree
	Neither agree nor disagree
	Tend to disagree
	Strongly disagree
	Don't know

Q21a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 18, please tell us in the box.

[ ]

Objective 19: Determine and secure a funded approach to built historic environment advice. [Also, Strategic Aim 1, Strategic Aim 2]

Q22. To what extent do you agree or disagree with Objective 19? *Select **one** option.*

[ ]	Strongly agree
[ ]	Tend to agree
[ ]	Neither agree nor disagree
[ ]	Tend to disagree
[ ]	Strongly disagree
[ ]	Don't know

Q22a. If you have any comments or suggestions on Objective 19, please tell us in the box.

[ ]

ANY OTHER COMMENTS ON OUR DRAFT STRATEGY?

Q23.   Do you have any other comments on the draft Heritage Conservation Strategy? *Please write in below.*

SECTION 3 – EQUALITY ANALYSIS

To help ensure that we are meeting our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 we have prepared an initial Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) for each of the schemes.

An EqIA is a tool to assess the impact any proposals would have on the protected characteristics: age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, race, religion, and carer's responsibilities. The EqIA is available online at kent.gov.uk/greencorridors or on request.

Q24. We welcome your views on our equality analysis and if you think there is anything we should consider relating to equality and diversity, please add any comments below:
If your comments directly relate to a specific scheme/area, please include the name of the scheme/area in your comment. We ask you not to identify yourself within your response.

SECTION 4 – MORE ABOUT YOU

We want to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and equally, and that no one gets left out. That's why we are asking you these questions. We'll use it only to help us make decisions and improve our services.

If you would rather not answer any of these questions, you don't have to.

It is not necessary to answer these questions if you are responding on behalf of an organisation.

Q25. Are you…? *Select **one** option.*

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ I prefer not to say

Q26. Which of these age groups applies to you? *Select **one** option.*

0-15 ☐   16-24 ☐   25-34 ☐   35-49 ☐   50-59 ☐

60-64 ☐   65-74 ☐   75-84 ☐   85+ over ☐   I prefer not to say ☐

The Equality Act 2010 describes a person as disabled if they have a long standing physical or mental condition that has lasted, or is likely to last, at least 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. People with some conditions (cancer, multiple sclerosis and HIV/AIDS, for example) are considered to be disabled from the point that they are diagnosed.

Q27. Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010?
*Select **one** option.*

[ ] Yes

[ ] No

[ ] I prefer not to say

Q27a. If you answered 'Yes' to Q27, please tell us the type of impairment that applies to you.

*You may have more than one type of impairment, so please select **all** that apply. If none of these applies to you, please select 'Other' and give brief details of the impairment you have.*

[ ] Physical impairment

[ ] Sensory impairment (hearing, sight or both)

[ ] Longstanding illness or health condition, such as cancer, HIV/AIDS, heart disease, diabetes or epilepsy

[ ] Mental health condition

[ ] Learning disability

[ ] I prefer not to say

[ ] Other

Other, please specify:

Q28. To which of these ethnic groups do you feel you belong? *Select **one** option.*
(Source 2011 Census)

White English [ ]   Mixed White & Black Caribbean [ ]

White Scottish ☐ Mixed White & Black African ☐

White Welsh ☐ Mixed White & Asian ☐

White Northern Irish ☐ Mixed Other* ☐

White Irish ☐ Black or Black British Caribbean ☐

White Gypsy/Roma ☐ Black or Black British African ☐

White Irish Traveller ☐ Black or Black British Other* ☐

White Other* ☐ Arab ☐

Asian or Asian British Indian ☐ Chinese ☐

Asian or Asian British Pakistani ☐ I prefer not to say ☐

Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi ☐

Asian or Asian British Other* ☐

*Other - If your ethnic group is not specified on the list, please describe it here:

This report was produced for Kent County Council