



Business Scorecard 2024

Prepared for



Prepared by



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Strategic Overview

Vision



49

% agree

22% points <u>above</u> the industry average and up 12% points from 2023

Place to work or operate a business



70

Performance Index Score

10 Index points <u>above</u> the industry average and on par with 2023

Governing Organisation



64

Performance Index Score

14 Index points <u>above</u> the industry average and on par with 2023

Value for Money



59

Performance Index Score

59 Index points <u>above</u> the industry average and on par with 2023

Highest scoring service areas

- · Freight transport networks
- Waste management
- · Business events and networking opportunities

Stronger performance compared to other councils

- Local roads
- Council's leadership
- Communication
- Shopping area development and activation



Safety and crime prevention



Priorities

Parking management



Council's leadership



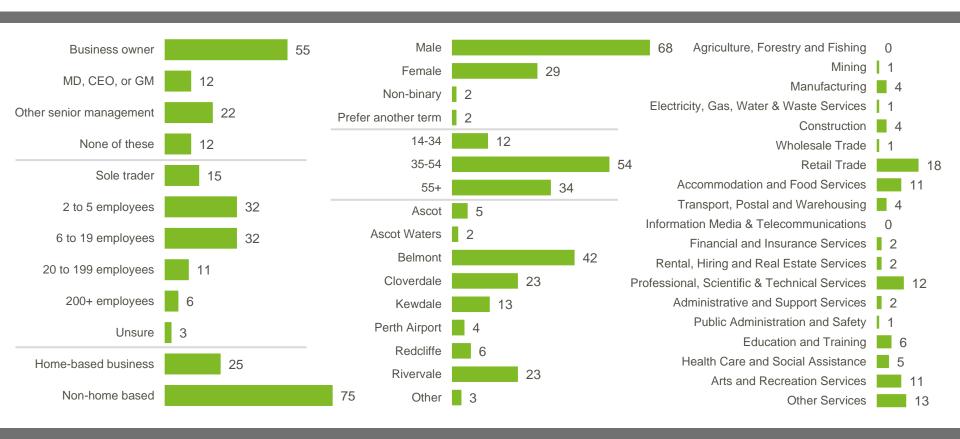
The study

The Study

In September 2024, CATALYSE® was engaged to support the City of Belmont with a MARKYT® Business Scorecard.

The study was administered digitally. Email invitations were sent to all businesses in the City's customer database and the City provided supporting promotions. **93 local businesses** took part in the study.

Data has been analysed using SPSS. Where sub-totals add to ±1% of the parts, it is due to rounding errors to 0 decimal places.





MARKYT Benchmarking Excellence

CATALYSE® has conducted community and/or business perceptions surveys for more than 70 councils across Australia. When comparable questions are asked, we publish high and average scores to enable participating councils to recognise and learn from industry leaders. In this report, average and high scores are calculated from a **subset of councils** that have completed a MARKYT® Business Scorecard or completed a MARKYT® Community Scorecard and invited local businesses to participate, within the **past three years**. The full list of program participants between 2003 and 2024 is provided below.

Perth Region

City of Armadale Town of Bassendean City of Bayswater City of Belmont Town of Cambridge City of Canning Town of Claremont City of Cockburn Town of Cottesloe Town of East Fremantle City of Fremantle City of Joondalup City of Kalamunda City of Kwinana City of Melville Town of Mosman Park Shire of Mundaring

City of Nedlands
Shire of Peppermint Grove

City of Perth Serpentine–Jarrahdale Shire City of South Perth

City of Subiaco City of Swan

Town of Victoria Park

City of Vincent City of Wanneroo

Peel Region

Shire of Boddington City of Mandurah Shire of Murray Serpentine-Jarrahdale Shire

Wheatbelt Region

Shire of Chittering
Shire of Dandaragan
Shire of Gingin
Shire of Merredin
Shire of Narrogin
Shire of Northam
Shire of Pingelly
Shire of Toodyay
Shire of York

South West Region

Shire of Augusta-Margaret River Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes City of Bunbury

City of Busselton Shire of Capel Shire of Collie

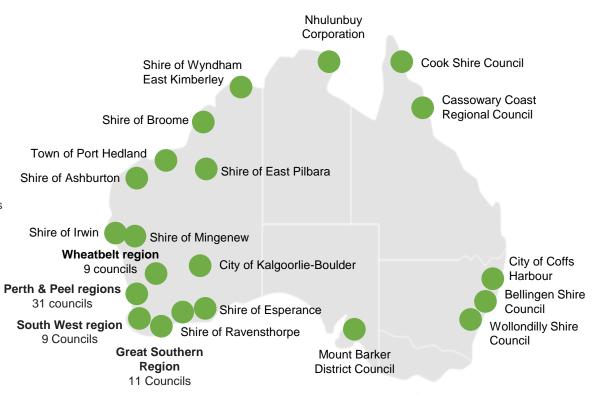
Shire of Dardanup

Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup Shire of Harvey

Great Southern Region

City of Albany
Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup
Shire of Cranbrook
Shire of Denmark
Shire of Gnowangerup
Shire of Jerramungup

Shire of Katanning Shire of Kent Shire of Kojonup Shire of Plantagenet Shire of Woodanilling





Business climate

Business confidence

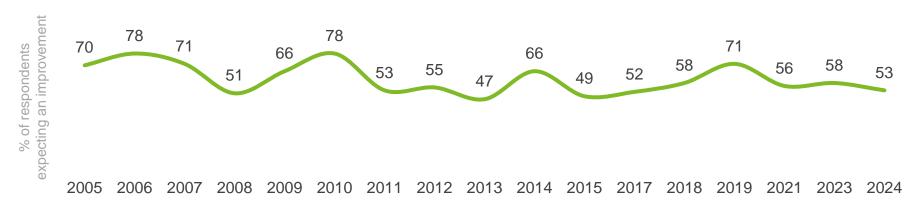
53% of business respondents think their organisation's economic situation will improve over the next 12 months.

A further 22% of respondents expect their economic situation to remain steady.

25% of respondents think their organisation's economic situation will decline.



What is your expectation for the economic situation for your organisation?





Risks or challenges facing local businesses

The top 4 issues facing local businesses overall are:

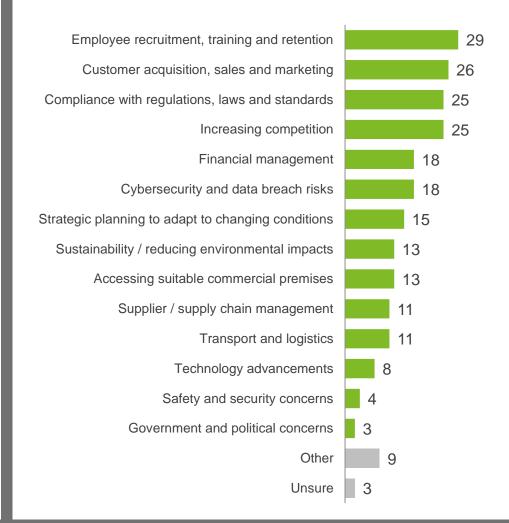
- Employee recruitment, training and retention
- Customer acquisition, sales and marketing
- Compliance with regulations, laws and standards
- Increasing competition

Issues vary by business size:

- Sole traders are mostly concerned with customer acquisition and financial management.
- Small businesses are mostly concerned with compliance and increasing competition.
- Larger businesses are mostly concerned with sustainability and reducing environmental impacts.

Issues or challenges facing businesses

% of respondents





Place and overall perceptions

Area to own or operate a business







Business variances

Performance index score

Note: apply caution with analysis by sub-groups due to small sample sizes

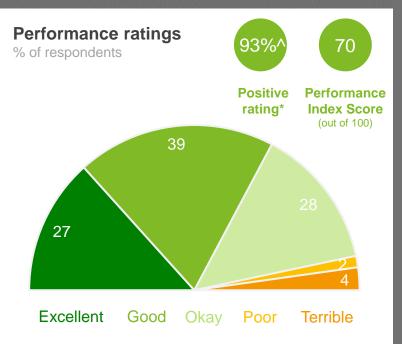
Total	Business owner	Executive / senior manager	Sole trader	2 to 5 employees	6 to 19 employees	20+ employees	Home-based	Male	Female	14-34	35-54	55+	Ascot / Redcliffe / Perth Airport	Belmont	Cloverdale / Kewdale	Rivervale
70	67	73	78	69	70	66	75	65	83	50	70	76	72	68	72	71

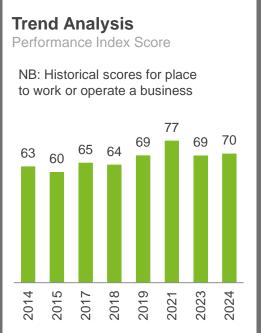
Q. Overall, how would you rate the City of Belmont in the following areas? Base: All respondents, excludes 'unsure' and 'no response' (n = 91).



^{*} Positive rating = Excellent + Good + Okay ^ +/-1% variance due to rounding to zero decimal places Trend analysis 2011 to 2023: Place to work or operate a business

Area to work







Business variances

Performance index score

Note: apply caution with analysis by sub-groups due to small sample sizes

Total	Business owner	Executive / senior manager	Sole trader	2 to 5 employees	6 to 19 employees	20+ employees	Home-based	Male	Female	14-34	35-54	55+	Ascot / Redcliffe / Perth Airport	Belmont	Cloverdale / Kewdale	Rivervale
70	67	72	80	69	70	61	77	67	80	47	70	77	73	72	69	69

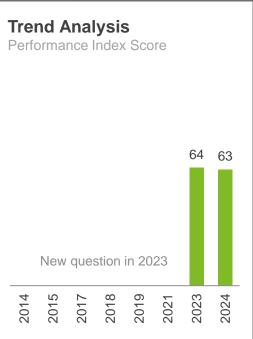
Q. Overall, how would you rate the City of Belmont in the following areas? Base: All respondents, excludes 'unsure' and 'no response' (n = 90).



^{*} Positive rating = Excellent + Good + Okay ^ +/-1% variance due to rounding to zero decimal places Trend analysis 2011 to 2023: Place to work or operate a business

Place to visit







Business variances

Performance index score

Note: apply caution with analysis by sub-groups due to small sample sizes

Total	Business owner	Executive / senior manager	Sole trader	2 to 5 employees	6 to 19 employees	20+ employees	Home-based	Male	Female	14-34	35-54	55+	Ascot / Redcliffe / Perth Airport	Belmont	Cloverdale / Kewdale	Rivervale
63	63	64	70	64	58	50	69	57	72	38	59	72	62	61	65	63

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Q}}.$ Overall, how would you rate the City of Belmont in the following areas?

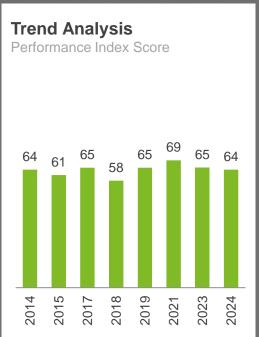
Base: All respondents, excludes 'unsure' and 'no response' (n = 91)



^{*} Positive rating = Excellent + Good + Okay ^ +/-1% variance due to rounding to zero decimal places

Governing organisation







Business variances

Performance index score

Note: apply caution with analysis by sub-groups due to small sample sizes

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Total	Business owner	Executive / senior manager	Sole trader	2 to 5 employees	6 to 19 employees	20+ employees	Home-based	Male	Female	14-34	35-54	55+	Ascot / Redcliffe / Perth Airport	Belmont	Cloverdale / Kewdale	Rivervale
64	62	65	78	69	60	45	75	60	75	46	62	73	65	62	70	65

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Q}}.$ Overall, how would you rate the City of Belmont in the following areas?

Base: All respondents, excludes 'unsure' and 'no response' (n = 85)



^{*} Positive rating = Excellent + Good + Okay

Overall performance | industry comparisons

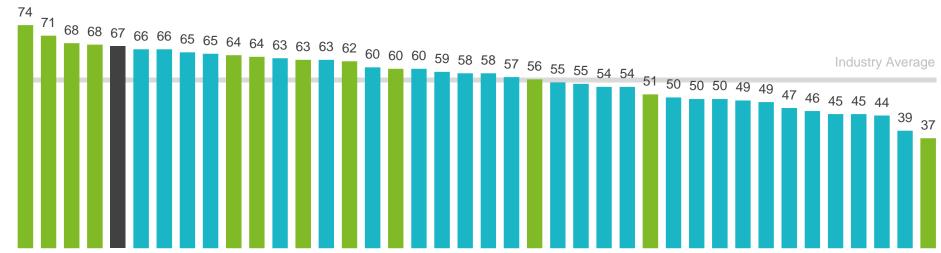
The 'Overall Performance Index Score' is a combined measure of the City of Belmont as a place to work or operate a business and as a governing organisation. The City of Belmont's overall performance index score is 67 out of 100, 10 index points above the industry average.

Overall Performance Index Score

average of 'place to work or operate a business' and 'governing organisation'

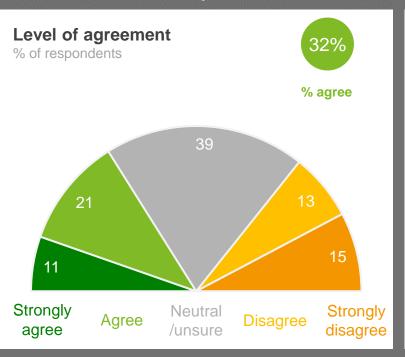
- City of Belmont
- Metropolitan Councils
- Regional Councils

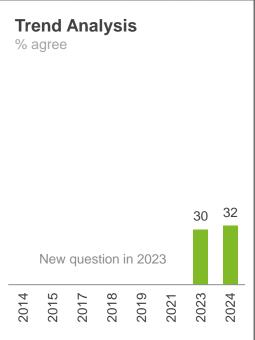




Business sentiment

Support offered by the City of Belmont is relevant to my business







Business variances

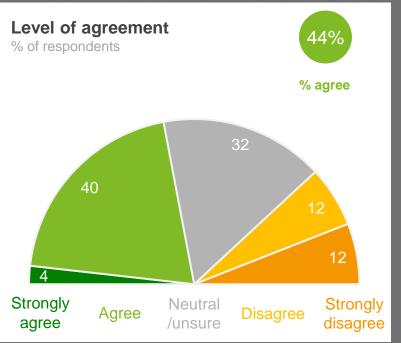
% agree

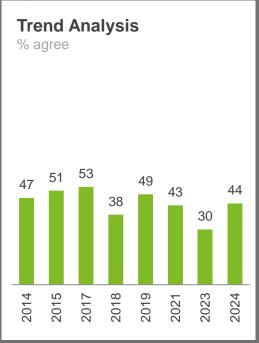
Note: apply caution with analysis by sub-groups due to small sample sizes

Total	Business	Executive / senior manager	Sole trader	2 to 5 employees	6 to19 employees	20+ employees	Home-based	Male	Female	14-34	35-54	55+	Ascot / Redcliffe / Perth Airport	Belmont	Cloverdale / Kewdale	Rivervale
32	28	41	30	45	14	18	31	23	32	25	24	32	36	29	31	30



The City of Belmont has a good understanding of issues and challenges facing business







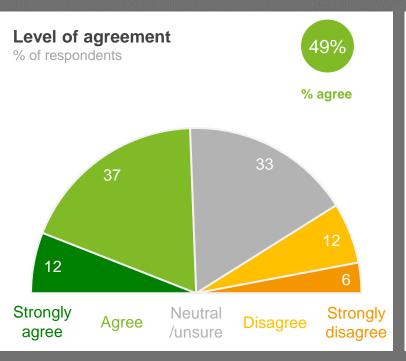
Business variances

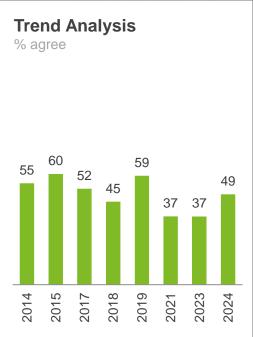
% agree

Note: apply caution with analysis by sub-groups due to small sample sizes

Total	Business	Executive / senior manager	Sole trader	2 to 5 employees	6 to19 employees	20+ employees	Home-based	Male	Female	14-34	35-54	55+	Ascot / Redcliffe / Perth Airport	Belmont	Cloverdale / Kewdale	Rivervale
44	43	45	60	50	29	36	56	37	53	0	41	55	50	41	48	35

The City has developed and communicated a clear vision for the area







Business variances

% agree

Note: apply caution with analysis by sub-groups due to small sample sizes

Total	Business owner	Executive / senior manager	Sole trader	2 to 5 employees	6 to 19 employees	20+ employees	Home-based	Male	Female	14-34	35-54	55+	Ascot / Redcliffe / Perth Airport	Belmont	Cloverdale / Kewdale	Rivervale
49	43	52	60	60	38	36	69	44	58	38	47	55	43	47	48	55

Service area performance

Civic leadership measures

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Performance ratings % of respondents										nd aı dex S				Indus	MARKYT stry Star nce Index	•
	Exce	llent Goo	d Okay P	oor 7	Terrible	14	15	17	18	19	21	24	Trend		Industry Average	Industry High
Council's leadership	17	36	25	1	1 11	57	56	57	50	56	57	59	A	59	43	61
Advocacy and lobbying on behalf of the business community	12	32	22	18	16	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	52	-	52	40	60
How the business community is consulted about local issues	15	23	28	15	19	54	53	55	46	54	51	50	=	50	38	52
How the business community is informed about what's happening in the local area	16	33	26	1	4 11	51	50	56	52	60	54	57	A	57	42	61
Ease of doing business with the City	14	27	25	18	16	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	58	51	•	51	52	62
How the City embraces change, innovation and technology	19	31	25	1:	2 13	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	58	-	58	46	62
Value for money from Council rates	15	36	28		12 9	55	51	47	42	52	60	58	=	59	39	59



Prosperity measures

										NV	//			$\backslash \backslash \backslash \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \!$
Performance ratings % of respondents								nd ar dex S				Indus	MARKYT stry Star nce Index	
	Excellent Good	Okay Poo	or Terrible	14	15	17	18	19	21	24	Trend		Industry Average	Industry High
Economic development (attracting public and private investment and supporting the attraction, retention and growth of local businesses)	13 33	30	13 13	53	53	57	46	57	60	55	V	55	45	59
Place marketing (promoting the area as a great place to live, work, shop and visit)	16 33	25	11 15	57	58	62	52	60	62	56	▼	56	51	56
Business events and networking opportunities	17 32	37	105	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	57	61	A	61	57	61
Assistance to navigate local laws, regulations and compliance requirements	6 37	31	8 18	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	51	-	51	NA	NA
Information on grants and financial assistance programs	5 33	33	19 12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	-	50	NA	NA
Access to business development advice, workshops and resources	14 30	32	18 6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	57	-	57	NA	NA
Access to education and training opportunities	9 30	34	20 7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	53	=	53	47	64

MARKŸT�

Place measures

											NV				$\backslash \backslash \backslash \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \!$
Performance ratings % of respondents									nd ai				Indus	MARKYT stry Star nce Index	•
	Exce	ellent Goo	od Okay Poo	r Terrible	14	15	17	18	19	21	24	Trend		Industry Average	Industry High
Planning and building approvals	10	31	24 <mark>12</mark>	24	NA	NA	56	46	53	54	48	•	48	40	57
Safety and crime prevention	8 1	7 3	19	22	54	52	53	43	56	56	43	•	43	44	66
Development and activation of Belmont city centre	8	32	44	8 8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	56	-	56	45	62
Development and activation of local shopping areas	13	39	25	15 7	NA	NA	NA	63	72	67	59	▼	59	44	62
Local roads	13	35	36	106	63	58	69	63	69	63	60	•	60	43	69
Freight transport networks (enabling efficient movement of freight through the City of Belmont)	13	42	33	94	NA	NA	NA	NA	65	64	63	=	63	NA	NA
Lighting of streets and public places	11	30	42	8 9	62	60	61	59	65	61	56	▼	56	50	65
Parking management	7	32	35	10 15	56	56	58	55	64	55	52	•	52	47	57
Footpaths, trails and cycleways	15	30	39	9 6	63	59	64	62	66	64	60	•	60	49	66

 $[\]ensuremath{\mathsf{Q}}.$ How would you rate performance in the following areas?



Planet measures

Performance ratings % of respondents				
	Exce	llent Good	d Okay Poor	Terrible
Efforts to promote and adopt sustainable practices	14	32	42	4 8
Waste management	19	30	38	5 8
Environmental health management (noise, pests, pollution, food inspections, etc)	10	32	34	10 14

10-year trend analysis Performance Index Score / 100								MARKYT � Industry Standards Performance Index Score / 100		
14	15	17	18	19	21	24	Trend	_	Industry Average	
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	53	60	A	60	49	62
66	65	71	64	66	66	62	•	62	57	68
61	56	61	60	62	60	54	V	54	53	66







Business Priorities

Safety and security

Business respondents were mostly concerned with safety and security. They would like improved lighting, security and surveillance measures to make the area feel safer and more appealing for customers.

"Providing a safe community for the city. Regular patrolling of security officers on the roads."

"There is a lot of crime and antisocial behaviour. Understand it happens in every area but it seems nothing is done about it due to political correctness."

"Work with the law enforcement to create a safer environment for people in general - and not have our customers to think that Belmont forum area is dodgy and unsafe. The visible presence of drunks, homeless people, drug addicts, and beggars that hover around the traffic lights, create that impression of Belmont area being dodgy."

"The increased focus on addressing anti-social behaviour is crucial, as it is having a significant negative impact on customers' sense of safety. Incidents such as finding used needles behind the venue, vandalism within the business, and break-ins involving customer vehicles have raised serious concerns. As a result, many customers are feeling unsafe and are opting to visit other locations that offer a more secure environment. It is essential to take measures to address these issues to maintain customer confidence and ensure a safe and welcoming atmosphere for everyone."

"The safety in Belmont is terrible. Our business has used our cameras to report a lot of crime and still nothing changes. People are scared to shop here especially at night. Nothing gets done and all your CCTV you put around prevents nothing."

"The street lighting in Rivervale is a complete joke. The streets on some nights is best lit up from the light coming off the moon. Crime flourishes in dark areas. An adequate, future proof upgrade with CCTV would be a quality investment for the security and safety for the neighbourhood."

"Improving local safety would boost appeal to customers and foster a greater sense of community. Many streets in the city of Belmont are poorly lit or not lit at all which increases fears for personal safety, discourages potential interactions in the community (e.g. too dark to take a walk with dogs or family when the sun sets earlier in cooler months and creates more areas for accidents or incidents where visibility is poor). Many systematic reviews in scientific literature have shown a reduction in crime due to increasing street lighting. I believe the City of Belmont is the perfect place to implement this because of its great potential as a thriving community. A trial could be held in select areas and observed over a period of months to see the effect."

"It's a crime riddled [removed] hole fuelled by a corrupt shire. Turning into [removed]."

"Cooperation with consultants, adoption of technology and coordination with nearby primary and high schools and CCTV camera."

"Focus and consult feet on the street look at the social issues in Belmont with the [sensitive remark removed] for a start this is driving people away."



Leadership, governance and communications

Respondents offered compliments, and constructive feedback to continue to strengthen leadership such as hosting more forums with talks from thought leaders and hosting more think tanks, issuing welcome packs to new businesses to promote other businesses in the area, and following up on strategic development goals.

"Excellent and friendly Mayors and [name removed] is amazing at organising events and comms on what is happening."

"Follow their strategic development goals. Think tanks for different business groups. Not have one person deciding on an issue.

Innovative thought and industry leaders and business leaders forum to host functions at the City office.

We are not sure if you still do this but when new people moved to the area you used to give out information on local businesses and we used to get a lot of work from this. It was a folder with leaflets/ business names of local companies.

Others were concerned with bureaucracy, customer service, value for money and a lack of consultation.

"Remove red tape."

"Adopt more of a user friendly attitude and address the bureaucratic bludger situation, in short inform businesses of rules & regulations instead of hiding them."

"Follow up on emails from local businesses no matter their size."

"Getting on with the jobs they say they will do 20 years still no underground power that they said they would do. Less glossy papers less staff more productivity the labour budget kills all the rates."

"Our rates are about \$25,000 - this is an extraordinary amount of money when considering the services we get from the Council (less than the typical household whose rates are 10% of what we pay). I am sure there are some services like verge collection/bulk bins, schedule security patrols and verge tree maintenance that would only have a marginal cost for the council but make business and commercial property owners feel they are getting better value."

"Having been a business owner for 40 years in Belmont, I have not seen any consultation with business or my business since [name removed] left City of Belmont. Place making seems to be inconsistent."



Business support

While some feel the City is on the right track and delivering excellent support, others would like more or better support. Suggestions include more marketing training, more opportunities to promote their business, less red tape for home businesses, improved engagement with Councillors to inform their decisions, and offering a discount or incentives program for local workers to help local businesses to attract and retain staff.

"The council is on the right track. As a brand new business I've found very positive reinforcement of my business and provided information to access the economic business development team which I will be utilising to grow my business in Belmont."

"Marketing training for businesses."

"Enhanced marketing promoting to use local businesses."

"Better promotion of local business and networking to provide better services to those who live locally."

"Employ companies that are in the area, not the companies that used to be in the area and nor having workshops."

"Supporting individual local business rather than franchises. Funding to help small local business get what they need to operate successfully. Support to find work or advertise work specifically for local businesses."

"Our application to host up to two staff members in our home-based business was successful, although the criteria you used to make that determination was not exactly transparent. Home-based businesses are likely to grow in number given IT improvements and increased connectivity - and Belmont has significant advantages in this area that could be capitalised on. Do such businesses cause any significant detriment to existing residents? The only factor that could cause issues is parking. Can this be dealt with by conditions, rather than a refusal? Could this be built into your policy?"

"The sheer volume of information received by the Council and its Councillors means that there is often a false narrative created around issues which are up for decisions at council meetings. It is very distressing to have to sit and listen to your case be completely misrepresented and then have to wait another month or two to "ask questions" in an effort to provide information on decisions which been made because decisionmakers have erred in their assumptions. Particularly non-profit community groups. We don't volunteer our time to be treated like we are trying to steal money from the Council, or provide community services for our own benefit. None of us are trying to create an empire and defraud, although we are often left feeling that the Council thinks of us that way. This leads to burnout and turnover of volunteers. The Council should be providing more assistance to volunteers who provide ongoing services, and less to fancy one-off events which cost a fortune, and largely benefit individuals from outside the City, and do not provide sustained benefit to the area."

"Discounts to employees working in the area to gyms etc."



Parking and walkability

Several concerns were raised with parking ranging from availability of parking for customers to difficulties finding parking for mobile businesses that tow a trailer.

"Continue the focus on parking availability for customers and visitors."

"People take up all the parking to catch buses. Customers and staff can't not even park hahahahaa."

"More kerb side parking spaces are required along Robinson Ave between Camden St / Wynyard St."

"As a mobile business that tows a trailer, I find it difficult to service some clients without breaching parking regulations."

"Focus on rental properties (commercial interest) compliance to maintaining property maintenance e.g. unmaintained trees overgrowing neighbouring properties, rental properties parking and blocking driver vision, restricting road access."

Others would like local amenities and aesthetics improved to make the area more attractive and appealing for customers and workers, with nicer, shaded streetscapes to encourage people to ride or walk around the area.

"Street scape improvement."

"Walkways, shade, bicycle paths for employees to ride/walk to work or walk at lunchtime for exercise."

"Improving the streetscapes and making Belmont a nicer place to visit for customers and visitors. Making it green and inviting, more trees and gardens, more parks and green spaces for workers to have lunch in. make it safe and nice area."

Some discussed the need to focus on reducing car dependency.

"I would like to see a focus on integrating residential and commercial zoning, in a way that reduces car dependence and promotes community relationships between businesses and the general public. Low-intrusion businesses such as small corner stores could greatly enrich the community if they were more widely dispersed away from shopping strips, which would help retain public spending."



Other suggestions

Other suggestions related to education, sustainability, road design and marine facilities.

"Education and high school rankings play a critical role in sustaining a growing economy. We cannot ensure long-term economic success if our younger generation is not properly equipped, trained, and educated. While our economy is currently experiencing rapid growth due to factors such as our central location and thriving mining industry, we face challenges in attracting and retaining white-collar professionals. Many are compelled to move to better suburbs for higher-quality education for their children, contributing to a growing brain drain. Therefore, to sustain a strong city, we need to focus on improving the quality of schools, not just on business development."

"Sustainable waste mgt, recycling wood etc options."

"I am a support worker. I have some clients in Kewdale and Rivervale. I would like to voice out the needs to have round about in Abernathy Road (Kew St, Keane St or Gabriel St) since this road is always busy and it will be the safest way to merge on the road. Thank you City of Belmont for doing your best for the benefits of your people."

"Development of Abernathy boat ramp from unsealed to a sealed boat ramp."

"Improve the Belmont boat ramp. Install shower facilities at the ramp."

"You could set up a go-fund-me page for [name removed] so he can retire and buy a nice boat to take the Councillors and staff over to Rottnest for weekends away :)"





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