

Community Engagement Summary

Draft Fireworks Policy Consultation

About the consultation

1–29 August 2025

Community members were invited to share their views on the Draft Fireworks Policy to help inform Council's decision.

How people could provide feedback

-  Online survey
-  Email submissions
-  Phone calls
-  Hard copy forms at libraries and the administration building

How the consultation was promoted

 Comment on Cockburn e-news
11,146 subscribers invited to participate

 City of Cockburn Facebook post
3,838 views and 84 link clicks

 City website homepage
Project featured on the homepage

 Soundings Magazine
Delivered to all households in Cockburn

 Internal networks and reference groups
Shared through community and advisory groups

Community discussion

The consultation also generated broader community discussion, including:

-  Radio discussion on 6PR
-  Articles in the Fremantle Herald
-  Sharing across local Facebook pages, councillor pages and community groups



Engagement Snapshot

244 total submissions

- 227 online surveys
- 17 email submissions

 1,170 visits to the Comment on Cockburn project page

 Most responses were from Cockburn residents

Who participated

Responses were received from across many Cockburn suburbs.

- 206 online survey respondents identified they live in Cockburn
- 26 respondents indicated they live outside Cockburn
- 7 responses did not include a suburb

While all feedback was welcomed, identifying where responses came from helps provide context and ensures the results primarily reflect the views of the local community.

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Why we asked the community

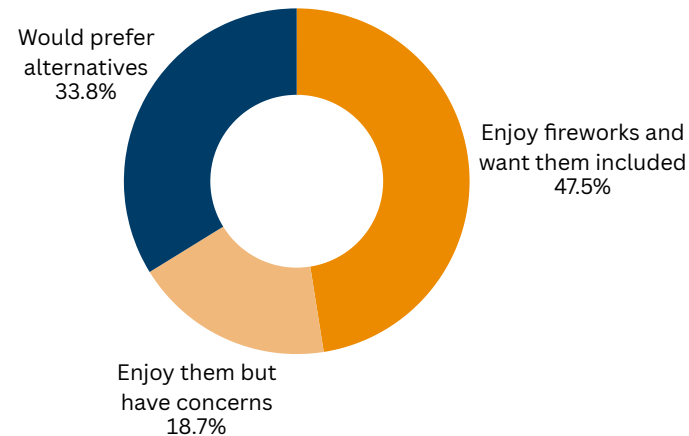
Council endorsed a Draft Fireworks Policy for community consultation to understand local views on fireworks at City events. The policy does not approve fireworks automatically, but outlines how the City would respond when the State Government seeks advice on fireworks displays in Cockburn.

Consultation ran 1–29 August 2025.

Fireworks at City Events?

How do people feel about fireworks at City events?

47.5% enjoy fireworks and want them included
18.7% enjoy them but have concerns
33.8% would prefer alternatives



Support for Draft Policy - allow fireworks at City-run events

- 55% support the policy
- 45% do not support the policy

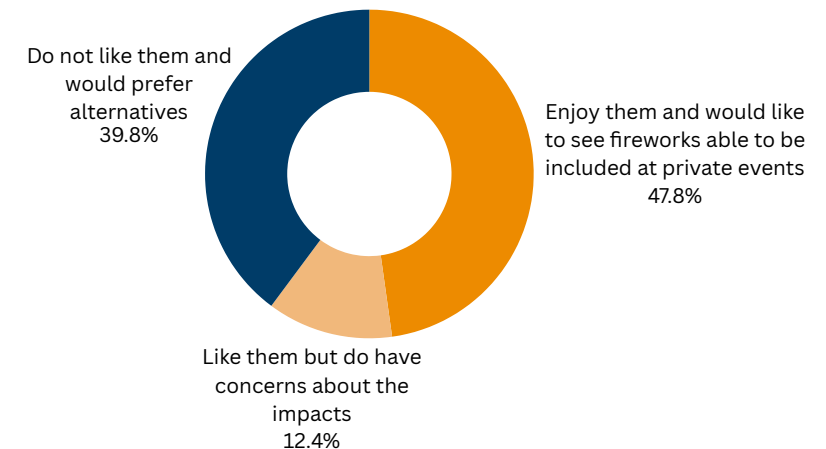
Community sentiment is mixed, with a slight majority supporting the policy to allow fireworks at City events.

Alternatives to fireworks

How important is exploring alternatives like drone or light shows?

- ★ Most common response: Very important (5/5)
- 📊 Average importance rating: 3.48 out of 5

Fireworks at Private Events?



Key insight

Community feedback on fireworks was strong and often polarised.

While many respondents highlighted environmental and animal welfare concerns, others emphasised the importance of fireworks for celebration, tradition and community events.

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Key concerns raised by community

Most commonly identified issues

- 🐾 Impacts on wildlife and the environment
- 🐕 Noise impacts on pets and animals
- 🔥 Fire risk
- 🗑️ Litter and environmental waste
- 💰 Cost to ratepayers

What people enjoy about fireworks

- 🌟 Visual spectacle
- 🎆 Sense of celebration
- 👨👩👦 Fun family activity
- 🤝 Brings the community together

Suggestions for improving the proposed policy

Strong opposition to fireworks

Calls for a full ban, with respondents describing fireworks as outdated, harmful or unnecessary.

Environmental and wildlife protection concerns

Concerns about impacts on wildlife, wetlands and bushland areas.

Preference for alternatives

Suggestions including drone shows, light shows, laser displays and cultural activities.

Funding priorities

Requests to redirect fireworks funding to other community or environmental initiatives.

Policy improvements

Suggestions for clearer controls, limits, and safeguards.

Support for fireworks

Some respondents supported keeping or expanding fireworks at City events.

Criticism of the policy

Comments that the policy is unnecessary or overly complicated.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about fireworks in Cockburn?

Most commonly raised themes:

- Environmental and wildlife impacts
- Fireworks cause distress to pets, domestic animals and people with sensory needs
- Support for fireworks and positive community experiences
- Alternatives suggested (drones, light shows, lasers, projections)
- Cost and value-for-money concerns

Other themes raised

- Fire safety risks
- Location matters, including avoiding wetlands and bushland
- Calls to ban fireworks entirely
- Support under strict regulation/safety controls
- Fireworks viewed as outdated or inappropriate
- Negative impacts on residents (noise, disturbance)
- Tradition, culture and community identity
- Criticism of Council process or frustration with consultation
- Views that environmental impacts are overstated or unproven