

23 June 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-3160

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-153

I refer to your request for information dated 1 June 2023, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 1 June 2023. You have requested the following:

"Now the consultation period is over, can I have access to the feedback on Mauri Tuhono that the working group elicited from the wider public, please?"

I appreciate the privacy issues and I am not looking for any feedback to be attributed, I just want the raw feedback, preferably in a soft file."

Greater Wellington's response follows:

Greater Wellington Regional Council's Privacy Statement on the Mauri Tūhono website advises that for feedback on the Kaipupuri taonga ki te ao whānui proposed framework:

Compiled non-identifying information (e.g. submission themes) will be shared in summaries, reports and presentations to the Group members, Greater Wellington, partner organisations, and the community conservation sector. No individual will be named, or their specific feedback included, in these documents.

We therefore refuse your request under section 17(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, that, by virtue of section 7, there is good reason for withholding the information (being section 7(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons).

We have, however, provided you with a summary of all the feedback received in **Attachment 1**.

You will note this information is being released to you in an alternative manner to that you originally requested (a word document rather than a SOFT file). This is because we are unable to provide you with the individual feedback responses.

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Lian Butcher

Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao | Group Manager Environment

Attachment (1)

Kaipupuri taonga ki te ao whānui feedback summary

June 2023

How to read this feedback

We received feedback from a mix of 67 individuals and groups. This came through our online form (37 responses) as well as informal conversations, led by Mauri Tūhono group members, with individuals and groups from around the region.

When individuals responded using the online form, they weren't required to answer every question. 22 people started filling in their contact details, but did not answer subsequent questions about the framework, so we have excluded them from this summary. All of the 37 participants who we have counted answered some questions, but most participants did not answer all of the questions.

The informal conversations did not follow a particular structure and varied in duration.

The feedback has been grouped into themes. The tables below identify how many times any one theme was mentioned. Some individuals or organisations identified dozens of themes in their feedback. Some submissions or conversations were short and only one theme was identified.

People's connections to te taiao		People's understanding of the state of te taiao		Particular issues in te taiao that need attention	
Strongly connected to my local environment	16	Acknowledge all of the mahi already happening	7	Pest animals	10
Actively involved (eg. through work, volunteer)	10	It's a mixed bag / it has potential	4	Freshwater / marine issues / wetlands	8
We are part of te taiao / we're all connected / holistic understanding of te taiao and our relationship	8	Know a lot (not specific)	3	Negative impacts of human behaviour / our society / our culture / our legislation	6
Te Taiao provides for us	3	Te Taiao is in a bad state	3	Climate change	4
It is hard for me to access te taiao / concerned about limited access of others	2	Acknowledge benefits of areas which are protected, or that people are currently tending to	3	Weeds	3
		I don't know what te taiao means or understand the question	2		
		I don't know much	2		

What does the framework mean to you?			
Help people connect to a vision/ values / direction / shared commitment. It's uniting / it's a movement	17	Resonates with my values / generally supportive	17
Help groups connect and work together (ie community groups, mana whenua, government), help us listen better to each other	13	Inspire action / starting point for action plans	8
It will result in more support / resourcing/ celebration of grass roots effort	8	Getting more people / wider range of people and organisations involved	6
This can help our organisation move forward, I can already see how we could use it	6	Non regulatory / invitational	4
Making kaupapa Māori approach more accessible / I found this document accessible / easy to understand / this document provides me with a place to stand	4	Focus is everywhere – not just on “high value biodiversity” areas	4
This is bigger than just biodiversity	2	For te taiao to change, first we must change / this is paradigm shift / a systems shift	3
Knowledge sharing / storage	2	Leave environment better for future generations	2
If implemented we would see tangible results	2	Te Tiriti	2
Can use the framework to assess how a project is going	1		

PROACTIVE

I'm not sure about / I have questions about		I don't agree with / I'm not happy about	
Wondering about how it connects with other strategies / plans / regulations	5	No meaning / empty words	3
I'm only just beginning to understand it / needed help to understand / still digesting this	4	I don't connect with the framework / we don't need a framework	3
I'll believe in it if I see action happening	3	Don't think it will change anything / doesn't offer anything new	2
How much did this cost?	2	Document is racist / exclusionary / offensive	2
Why have there been so many project team members (this person thought "all of the people who helped along the way" were project team members)	1	This document is intentionally opaque - you don't want to give away what we're really up to	1
Found the document hard to navigate online	1	You excluded us from consultation	1
How do we measure success / outcomes	1	No need for a framework, just need more people / longer term funding / remove barriers to environmental action	1
Will this just add complexity?	1	Don't agree that mātauranga has been excluded from decision making and this affects the long-term integrity of the decisions being made. Since 1840 ecosystem knowledge has expanded greatly.	1
What will this look like on the ground?	1	Don't agree that a wider range of lenses are needed to influence restoration.	1
		This doesn't reflect my values	1

PROACTIVE

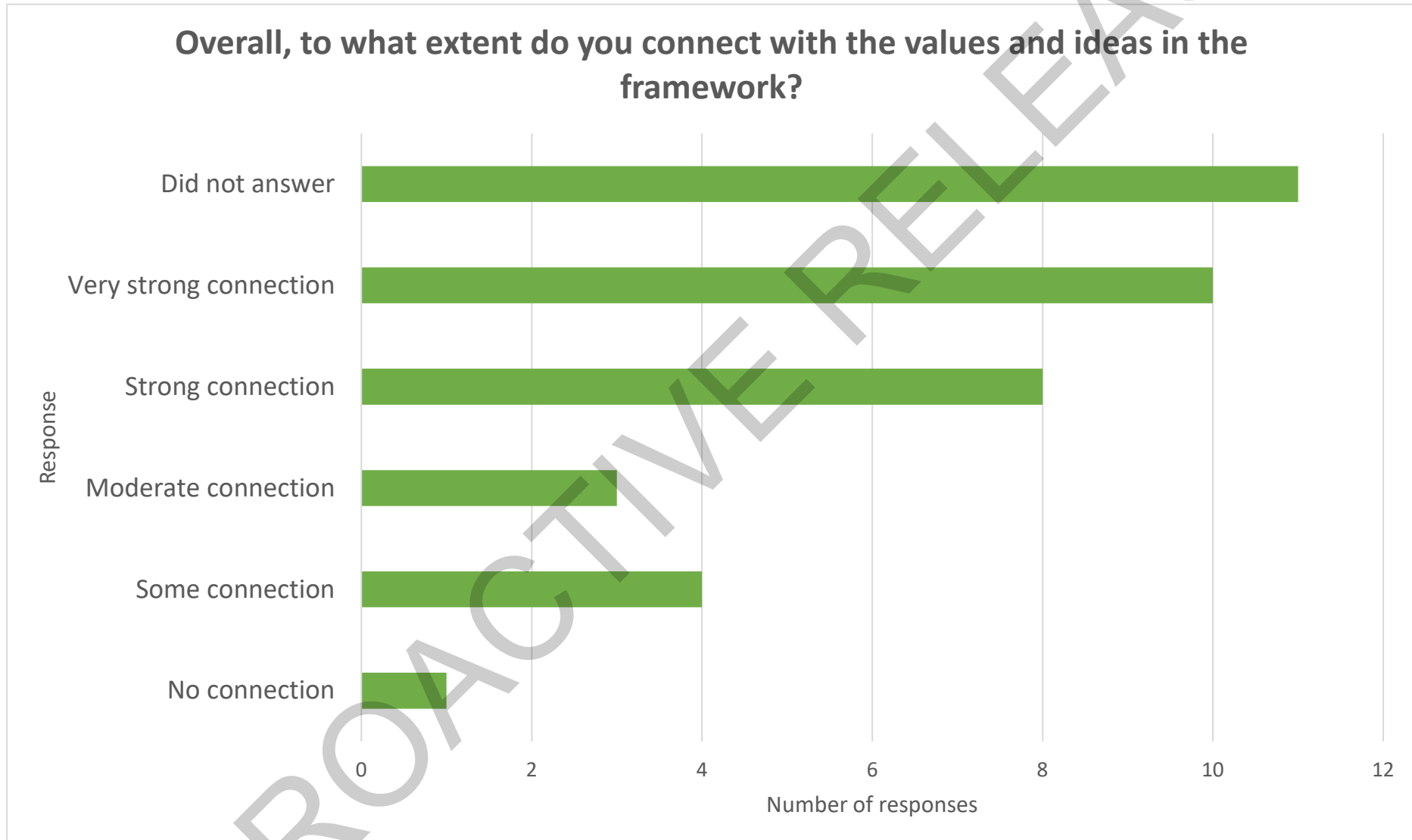
Implementation ideas and suggestions			
Councils / agencies need to protect environment better / more accountability /work together better (including health sector, philanthropic orgs)	8	Mana whenua / Māori leadership / Listen to mana whenua	7
Needs to provide different pathways to connect / need to help people from different background /experiences understand what this is / need to communicate more plainly or clearly and appropriately for diverse audiences / they need to understand what the tangible outcomes are	6	New organisation / entity with dedicated staff with MT principles guiding it	6
I'm keen to help with implementation	6	Don't know what is required for implementation / don't know how this will work in practice	6
Implementation is big / requires resource / could be difficult to secure funding	6	Young people need to be involved	6
Don't want to see this sitting on a shelf	4	I believe in this framework and working in partnership with mana whenua but it's hard and there are barriers. I don't have the power to make that work.	4
Make videos / comms resources explaining strands	3	More diversity of experiences and backgrounds are needed to bring this to life	4
Better connections with other sectors eg. health, arts	3	Need to create an action plan / next steps	3
More support and empowerment for grass roots action	2	Need buy in from senior leaders / elected officials in government organisations	3
Better coordination (eg. or pest control / restoration across landscapes)	2	Agencies just need to do their job better / protect the environment better	3
Better joining up of everything	2	Need to establish catchment collectives	2
Practical projects / small wins that can bring us together to work on this way of working and build that muscle.	1	Whakarongo ki te taiao / listen to Papatūānuku	2

Other		Suggested changes to document	
Congratulations to those who created this / thank you for your mahi on this	13	All Māori words should go in glossary (eg. mokomoko, moko kākāriki, Tūhono) – Mauri in in the glossary but not tūhono	2
		Needs executive summary	1
		Contents should be first	1
		Use “plain language” / English	3
		Make korowai metaphor more explicit / clear	1

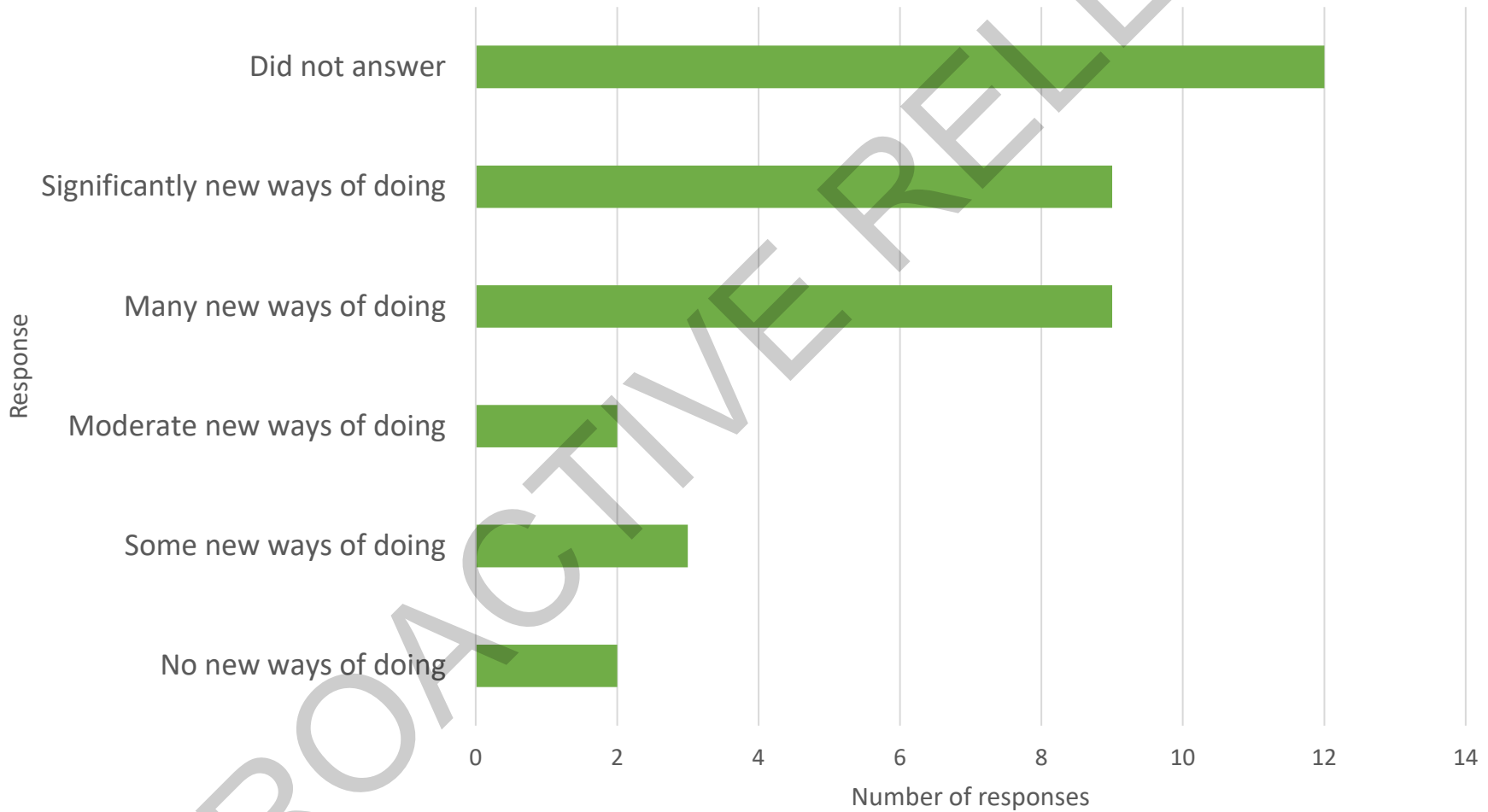
Other themes (voiced only once and didn't fit naturally within any above categories)

What the framework is		What this needs to be (implementation)	
Improving respect / understanding of mana whenua kaitiaki responsibilities	1	Partnership with mana whenua	1
This is a good start	1	Increased pest control	1
Great to see this coming to life	1	Just start!	1
Potential challenges		Important that it simplifies things, removes complexity in the long run	1
It's too hard to connect volunteer groups	1	Maintaining and enhancing public access	1
Working across cultures is a challenge	1	Using firearms for hunting	1
Volunteer groups may not want to sign up to a top-down approach	1	Better monitoring is needed	1
Not convinced about treaty partnership approaches	1	Support with succession planning for groups is needed	1
Concern this could divert resources away from actual mahi	1	Need to monitor outcomes	1
		Better mapping that informs action	1
Other		What this could be (implementation)	
Te Taiao is in good shape	1	Also need to improve connections nationally	1
Humans are creating too much waste	1	Multiple benefits of protecting the spine of the region is huge	1
Humans have lost their connection to te taiao	1	Bring in Environmental Psychology / Behavioural science expertise	1
As farmers, this is what we are doing anyway	1	Don't set up new entity	1
		The landscape is a framework	1
		We'd like to learn more about mātauranga māori	1
		Assessing state of forest parks	1

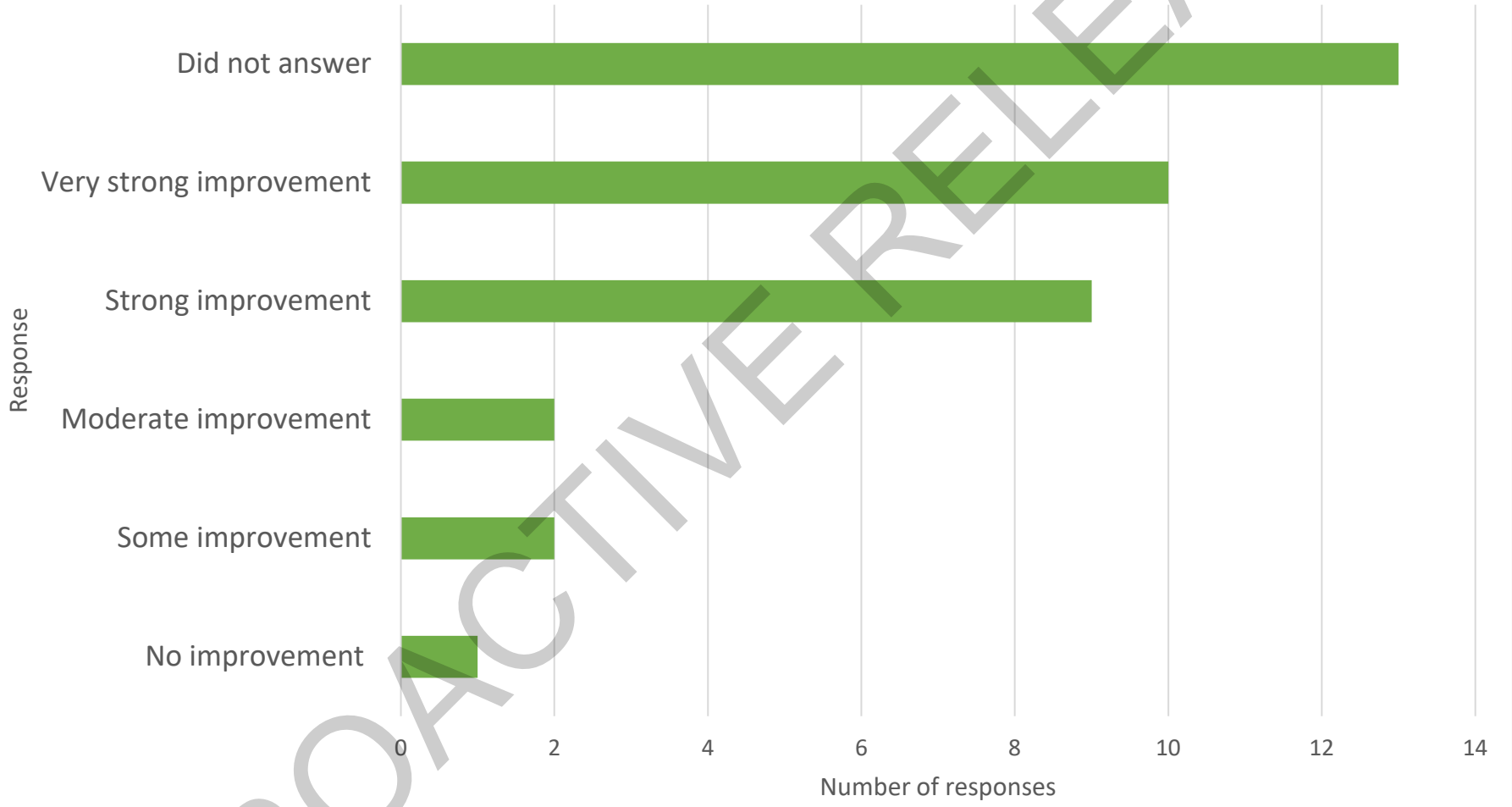
The following graphs show responses to “tick box” style questions on the Mauri Tūhono website



What difference could the framework make for the Wellington region and the place you live? and/or if put in practice, what kind of different ways of doing things would you see?



If implemented, would it improve te taiao and the wellbeing throughout the region?



PROACTIVE RELEASE