



Young people and the climate emergency

How 15-21 year-olds view Jersey's carbon neutrality objectives



Summary

This study was made possible by EarthWatch in conjunction with the Government of Jersey. The purpose of this project was to engage with young people (aged 15-21) and identify their views on the Government of Jersey's target for carbon neutrality by 2030. I aimed to understand what young people expect to happen as a result of the climate emergency and obtained this by designing a survey and organising focus groups. The study found that: education, better and cheaper bus services, greater action from businesses, renewable energy and recycling were top priorities towards becoming carbon neutral. I also, surprisingly, found that there were high levels of fear and anxiety associated with the topic of climate change.

Introduction

Climate change has been a relevant issue for young people in Jersey for some time and they have shown their support for action for change through school strikes which contributed towards the Government of Jersey declaring a climate emergency on 2nd May 2019. This implies that young people in Jersey are aware and invested in the implications of climate change and this was reflected in my research. The survey received 659 responses and I spoke to 70 young people of different demographics through focus groups and drop-in sessions. These took place at Schools, Youth Clubs, Businesses and Cafes.

Methodology

The survey ([preview here](#)) was primarily promoted on Facebook, on both the eco active page and the Government of Jersey page. It was hard to know how successful the promotion was in terms of outreach. However, the post was shared by numerous pages including Liberty Bus, Cycle Jersey, Jersey Youth Service, Plastic Free Jersey and schools (engagement figures from the eco active page can be available). There were 659 responses from a total estimated demographic of 8,090. 293 of these were from the 19-21 age range. There were only 152 from the range of 15-16 (Figure 1). Facebook is less popular with younger teenagers and research suggests that Snapchat is the most popular form of social media amongst teenagers, but that Instagram is the most used (Figure 2; Digital Information World, 2019). If the government is serious about wanting to engage with young people, they need to utilise the channels that we were using as Facebook is more reliant on parents and friends. To improve response figures, it would have been beneficial to have had more posts on the Government of Jersey's Instagram page; perhaps if eco active Jersey was able to have its own Instagram account to engage with younger people this would also have made it easier for us to promote the research (and other issues/campaigns in the future). I also

believe that a wider audience would have been reached if a video had been made to promote the research, as originally planned.

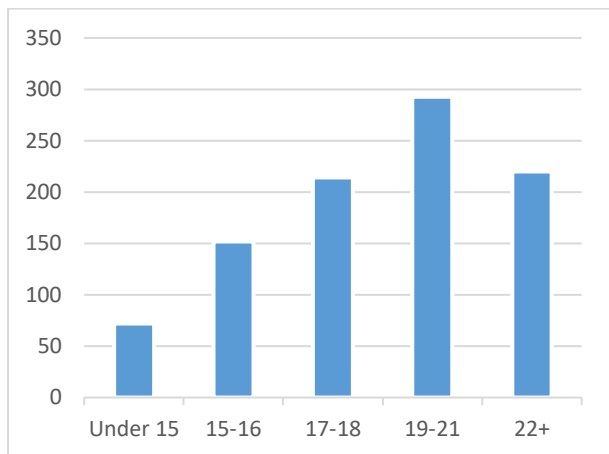


Figure 1 shows the breakdown in ages of the survey participants (those under 15 and over 22 were not eligible to take part).

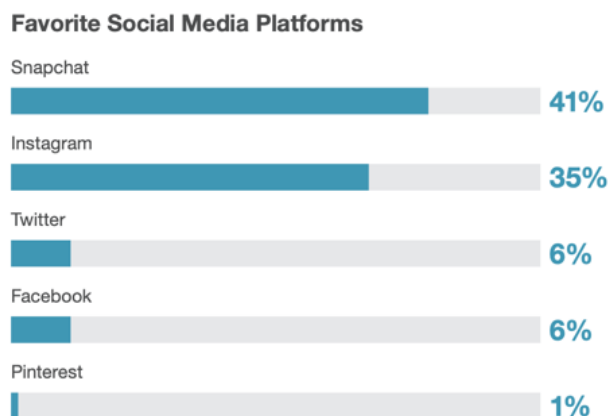


Figure 2 shows young people's favourite social media platforms (Digital Information World, 2019).

The focus groups held were between 45 and 90 minutes long. This was sufficient time to discuss ideas and engage with people and they were positively received. One participant stated, "me and my friends [sic] really enjoyed it, and felt it was a great way to get across our ideas and learn more about the issue" (Focus Group Participant, 15). Therefore, this method of open communication is something which I felt worked really well and should be continued in the future.

Results

1. Eco-Anxiety

78% of respondents are worried or very worried about climate change (Figure 2) "This whole thing scares the life out of me... Is there any point in trying to make something of myself in the world if everyone else is messing it up?" (Survey Respondent, 19-21).

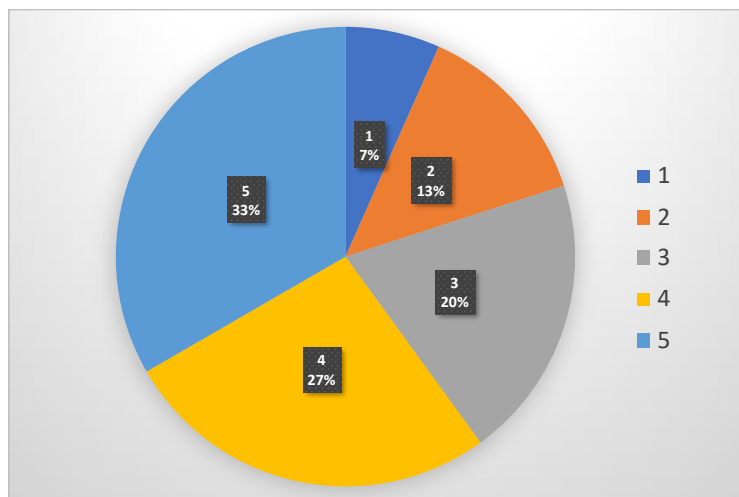


Figure 2 shows how worried young people are about climate change (where 5 is very worried and 1 is not worried at all)

83% are worried or very worried about the **threats** that climate change poses (Figure 3) *“personally, I’m concerned about dying to be honest. Plus, is there any point of me having kids if they’re going to drown, starve, have to fight over resources ...”* (Survey Respondent, 15-16).

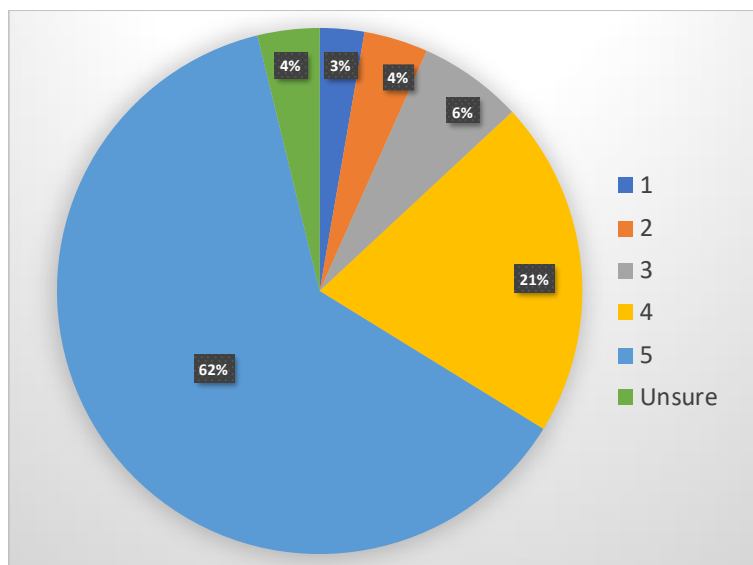


Figure 4 shows how worried young people are about the effects of climate change (where 5 is very worried and 1 is not worried at all)

These figures, amongst other responses, suggested that many young people, both spoken to and surveyed, are struggling with eco-anxiety. Eco-anxiety is the anxiety people face from constantly being surrounded by threatening problems associated with a changing climate (Hayes *et al.*, 2018). This was evident on a few occasions in focus groups where people were visibly upset and even crying on one occasion about the future of the planet. *“I don’t really think that I can stress enough how worried I am about the climate catastrophe happening. Ecologies worldwide are collapsing and we’re barely doing anything. I don’t believe our civilisation will survive the century”* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). One 21-year-old also stated, *“I have recently been made homeless due to high cost of living, but I am more concerned about the future of the world than my next meal.”*

Worrying about climate change has been shown to be detrimental to mental health (BBC, 2019). *“I am anxious for all the people around me. I am anxious because some don’t even believe in Climate Change! I waste hours of time at home thinking how tiny I am and how I cannot do anything because the older generations would not listen”* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). Ensuring the success of the Carbon Neutral Plan, engaging with young people and maintaining healthy attitudes about climate change will also be essential to the wellbeing of local people in Jersey as part of addressing the Climate Emergency.

2. Support for the Carbon Neutral Plan

88% of respondents support or strongly support the Government of Jersey's declaration of the climate emergency and the subsequent plan to become carbon neutral by 2030 (Figure 4). This large number really highlighted the support for this strategy; *"we're such a small island, [becoming carbon neutral] should definitely be doable and it would make such a good contribution and even lead others to do the same"* (Focus Group Participant, 20). Figure 4 suggests that 6% are opposed to the plan, however this is not the case as some stated that they are opposed because they believe *"2030 is too far away"* and that Jersey *"needs to act faster"*.

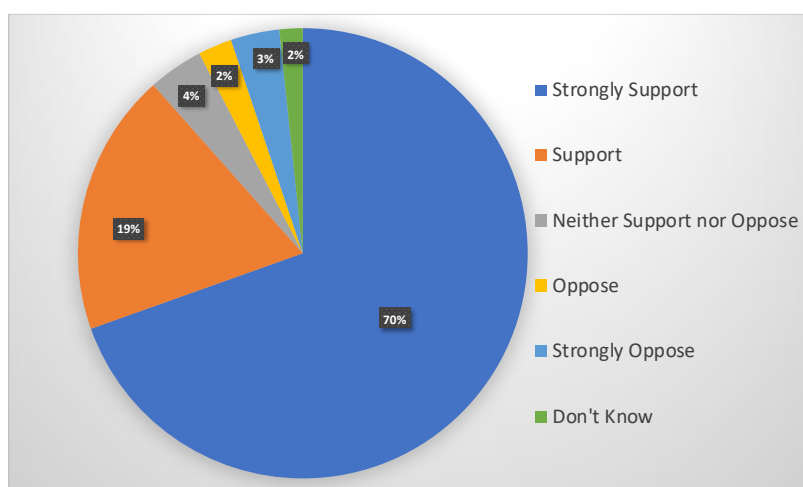


Figure 5 shows the extent to which young people support Jersey's aim to become carbon neutral by 2030

"We need to be carbon neutral BEFORE 2030, recent stats suggest we've only got 18 months to sort it out" (Survey Respondent, 15-16). *"Strong action cannot be taken soon enough; climate change poses an existential threat to the island in every respect from possible coastal flooding to a wider global food and refugee crisis"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). *"If we don't start taking direct measures now, we will still be in talks to decide what to do in 10 years' time. By then it will be too late for future generations to repair the damage"* (Survey Respondent, 17-18). *"Just look at the hospital or the new Les Quennevais school both projects took way too long to be built and implemented by the states chambers [sic]. If it takes that long to act there wouldn't even be any point"* (Survey Respondent, 15-16). *"This is an emergency, you should be panicking to fulfil this goal"* (Survey Respondent, 17-18).

The concern that progress would not be implemented in time was also raised in focus groups. Another issue raised was doubt over the capacity of the Government of Jersey to make the changes required to attain carbon neutrality. *"The people in control of laws and*

stuff aren't making changes like it's an emergency. They're more bothered about money and the economy and my generation are more worried about being able to live and not have the planet die around us and countries fall into war because of it" (Survey Respondent, 17-18).

Young people stated that they wanted their views to be acknowledged and the engagement in the survey also demonstrates this. An important finding, therefore, is that there needs to be some synergy between the Government of Jersey and young people to further support Government plans and ensure that young people feel that their views are represented within local politics as some were dubious that they would actually be listened to. *"Lots of young people have an opinion and a voice but older people don't always listen to them" (Focus Group Participant, 15). "I'm worried that nothing will be done" (Survey Respondent, 15-16). "Please give us, the younger people some peace of mind and get this island under control to a better future... because right now it's really not looking so bright for the younger generations" (Survey Respondent, 19-21). "In the words of Greta Thunberg Adults say they love their children above all else but are stealing our future from in front of our very eyes!" (Survey Respondent, 17-18).* Article 2 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) states that children have the right to have their views given due weight in all matters affecting them (Lundy, 2007). Article 12 has two elements: 'the right to express a view and the right to have the view given due weight'. In this regard, young people must be recognized with integrity and personality and the ability to participate freely in society. It was highlighted that young people need not only to be given a 'voice' but must actually be listened to. "Often children are asked for their views and then not told what became of them; that is, whether they had any influence or not" (Lundy, 2007, p. 938). This was reflected in my research at St Johns Youth Club where the children were dubious about whether what they were saying was going to make a difference. Therefore, "children and young people should be told that decision was made, how their views were regarded and the reasons why action had proceeded in a certain way" (Lundy, 2007, p.938).

3. Solutions

Figure 5 shows a word cloud of schemes suggested by young people for the carbon neutral plan. This shows that buses, education, recycling and renewable energy were priorities for young people.

Transport, especially cheaper buses, more bus routes and electric cars leaps out from this. The forthcoming sustainable transport policy which will complement the carbon neutral plan in Jersey is very relevant to this demographic they don't have control over issues like heating and homes but have control over how they get around and this is potentially why it is standing out more.

taken lot more seriously, and more people should be being informed about it" (Survey Respondent, 15-16).

It was suggested that schools should have mandatory classes on the environment during 'skills' lessons or 'form time' and that there should be schemes like 'environmental Wednesday' and eco clubs. These classes could include lessons on what can be done individually to reduce personal carbon footprints and how Jersey could specifically be affected by climate change. An example which seemed to have worked in schools was where one class brought in a weeks' worth of plastics- this really raised awareness and made people think of their waste and consumption habits.

There was huge agreement that more should be done to reduce plastic and waste in schools. Suggestions included canteens getting rid of single-use plastic and plastic cutlery; every student should be given a reusable bottle and a wooden spork and there should be more water refill stations.

It was also suggested that there should be more done in schools to connect students to nature. For example: *"everyone should plant a flower, so they feel like they've got involved and contributed"* (Focus Group Participant, 15). Connecting people to nature could include making more green spaces in town and preserving green areas which already exist. These could be linked to community schemes and pop-up green spaces (Ecological Society of America, 2019). The importance of being connected to nature is one which I have learnt from my training camp at EarthWatch to be vital in empowering and teaching people to value and care for the environment and the world around them.

It was also mentioned in a focus group that there should be a website for islanders to keep them informed of what is being done, what events are on and what can be done by them. There was also a request to form an official group of young people who are concerned about climate change in Jersey because currently efforts feel individual and alone.

Therefore, I believe that one of the highest priorities should be clear education both on how Jersey can be impacted by climate change and, most importantly to advise people on how to reduce their carbon footprints by lifestyle changes. *"People need to be educated about the problem and how they can fight against climate change with a positive attitude, especially highlighting the fact that changing our lifestyles is not as hard as we think it is"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). This needs to be for all ages, not just the young, as some respondents thought that; *"old people ... are very unaware, and they are often those who contribute most"* (Focus Group Participant, 18).

5. Transport

Figure 5 shows a high number of responses from young people regarding the Island's bus service. An overwhelming majority stated that bus fares should be cheaper, buses should be more frequent and that new routes should be introduced; *"bus routes should be introduced parish-to-parish as I live in St John and to get to Trinity, I'd have to go via town"* (Focus Group Participant, 18) *"or parish hall- to parish hall"* (Focus Group Participant, 20). They believed that with cheaper bus fares, young people would be much more likely to use the service. One young person stated *"my nearest bus stop is a 20-minute walk away from my house and with 3 other siblings it would cost £32 a week to get the bus. It ends up being cheaper and easier to drive"* (Focus Group Participant, 20). A criticism of the cheaper 'student ticket' offered by Liberty Bus was that it was not available for university students or other students visiting the Island. Bus tickets should also be *"valid for continued use within a 30 [or so] minute interval so that when you get a bus from the east you can travel the whole way to the west in one journey at a single price"* (Focus Group Participant, 17). Another recurring suggestion that was buses should be more appealing- this could be by introducing Wi-Fi on the buses or making them air conditioned. Electric buses were also suggested, such as those run by First in Bristol (BBC, 2016). Another suggestion, common in the 19-21 age category, was the introduction of a night bus. *"There should be a night bus on Friday and Saturday- perhaps going to the parish halls- this would reduce the amounts of Jersey lifts"* (Focus Group Participant, 20) and *"back from the Splash on Sunday"* (Focus Group Participant, 21). This could reduce the amounts of Jersey Lifts (7% of young people surveyed said that they had got a Jersey lift in the last week).

There was also general support for electric-cars (Figure 6). However, there were concerns about the number of charging points across the Island and the price of the cars. Many people would be in favour of buying an electric car if they were subsidized- *"one of the first things I'll save up for would be a car. I'd like an electric one if they were cheaper"* (Focus Group Participant, 21). Even though the response to electric cars was mainly positive, there were some concerns about where charging points would be stationed, especially in blocks of flats: *"I live in a flat with my parents, we have a parking space for our car which is not connected to the block of flats, if the government chooses to ban petrol/diesel and go electric how does the government propose we charge our car, along with our neighbors"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). There were also concerns from members of the Jersey Motorcycle and Light Car Club regarding the impact on local community events like the Jersey Rally as well as environmental implications like the production and disposal of lithium batteries: *"there is*

not enough lithium in the world to support so many electric car batteries... would this just solve one problem and create another?" (Survey Respondent, 19-21). Whilst the majority seemed aware of the positive environmental impacts of electric cars, many were unaware of the economic benefits. With a focus group conducted at EY, with local finance interns, none were aware of the cost of charging an electric car; some stated that they would consider buying one knowing how cheap they were to run. Perhaps the economic impacts of electric cars, and electric vehicles in general could be publicised more.

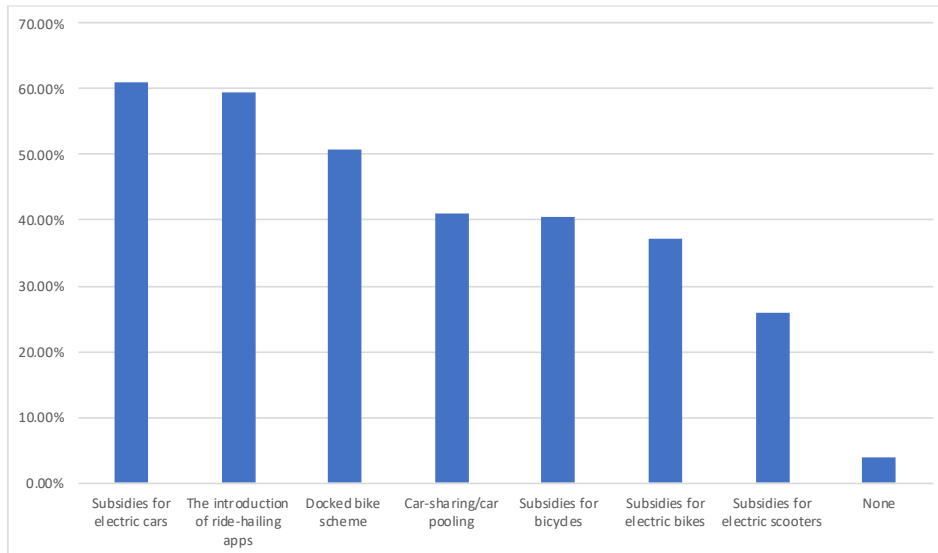


Figure 6 shows which transport schemes young people would make use of in Jersey

The suggestion to introduce a fuel tax and increase parking rates had mixed responses. One person mentioned that if car parking charges increased, they thought people would be less likely to drive thus cutting emissions, but the knock-on effect would be that it would “kill St Helier”.

There were also suggestions to introduce MOT's and to “put limits on car ownership and use: e.g. ban large or older diesels cars from entering town” (Survey Respondent, 17-18) (see examples in Paris, Madrid, Oslo; The Gulf, 2019) or “ban [cars] on a certain day when public transport is free and walking/cycling is encouraged. I don't think this exact model would work in Jersey, but I think we could learn something from this” (Survey Respondent, 19-21). A proposition to introduce a car-pooling app proved popular as “when the buses went on strike a few years ago, so many people car pooled to school” (Focus Group Participant, 20). It was acknowledged by those young people in focus groups who seemed more environmentally aware that “even though electric cars are better than petrol/diesel cars, they still don't change people's behaviours” (Focus Group Participant, 18). We need to

change the mindsets behind people's behaviour to encourage the use of more environmentally-friendly transport.

Regarding cycling, the general consensus was that most people would rather use a standard bicycle than an electric bike (as electric bikes were seen to be "for old people") but that cycling is not safe. "I love cycling and definitely would cycle more but I feel really unsafe cycling on the roads- there should be more cycle tracks" (Focus Group Participant, 18). There were numerous suggestions that there should be cycle paths like in Amsterdam, as well as bikes that have 'troughs' at the front so people can put bags in etc. However, students at Le Rocquier school stated that they would never cycle because: they don't know how to, they don't have a bike or because they would get "too sweaty". Furthermore, the introduction of a docked bike scheme also had mixed results as many believed "they would be good for tourism" but there were concerns that they were "clunky and don't have helmets provided" (Focus Group Participant, 15).

6. Energy

94% supported the introduction of tidal and solar power in Jersey (Figures 7 and 8). There were suggestions that there should be law on all new builds to include solar panels or that X% of energy should come from renewable sources. There should also be subsidies if people want to build solar panels on their houses or businesses and an option to sell back excess-energy to the government. There was a suggestion that something could be done like the Swansea tidal lagoon, for example in Havre des Pas or St Catherines- however they were uncertain about the impact on wildlife (Tidal Lagoon Power, 2019). There was complete support of tidal power as long as it did not affect ecosystems, wildlife or recreational activity (such as sailing and kayaking).

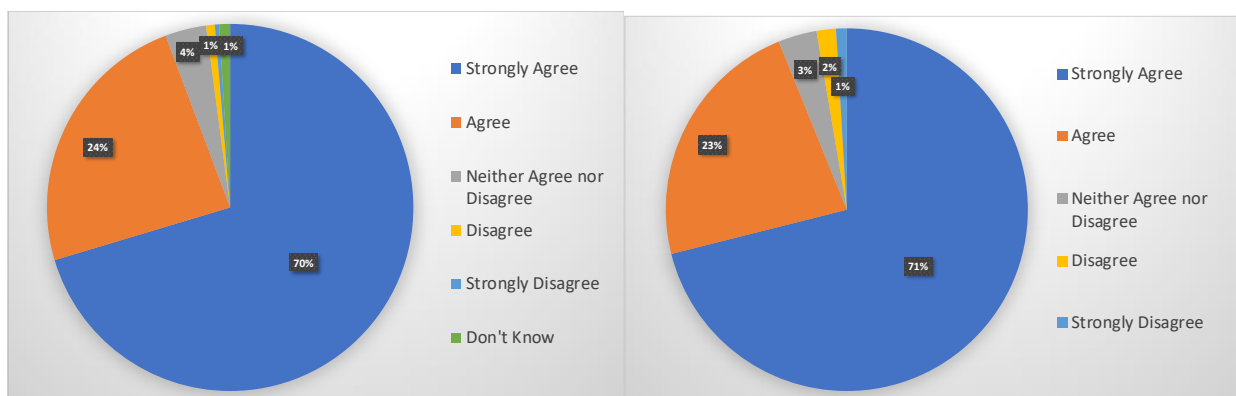


Figure 8 shows the extent to which young people agree with tidal power in Jersey

Figure 9 shows the extent to which young people agree with solar power in Jersey

reliability of energy production (Figure 9), however, many argued that "wind turbines would give a positive image" (Focus Group Participant, 15). "When people say that forms of

renewable energy 'ruins the view', it makes me angry because even if that views not great, its 1000x better than what the worlds going to look like even in 10 years from the impacts of climate change" (Focus Group Participant, 18).

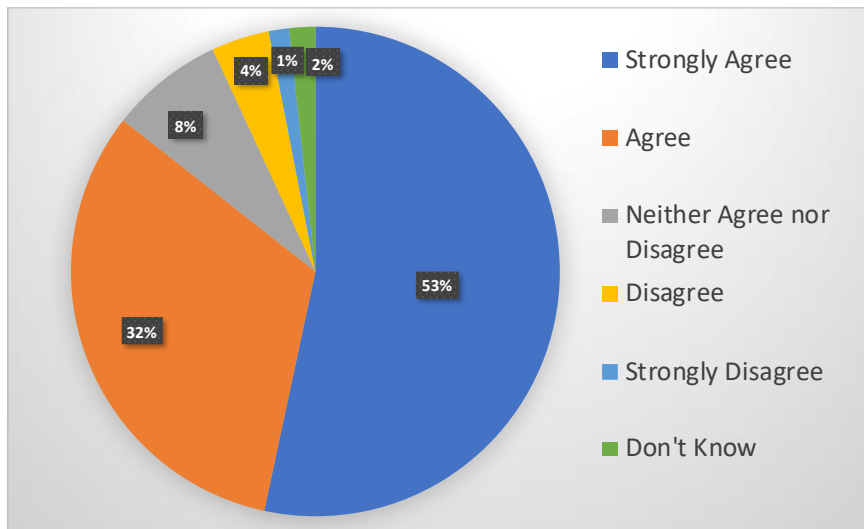
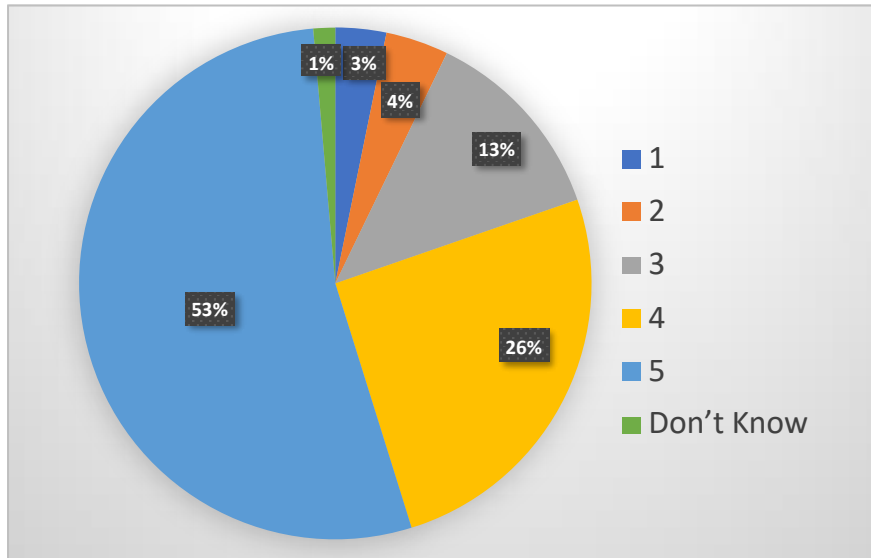


Figure 10 shows the extent to which young people agree with offshore wind power in Jersey

There were few concerns about these forms of renewable energies; only by the minority, that *"they would cost a lot of money and the construction would be polluting"* (Survey Respondent, 17-18) but the overwhelming consensus was that these costs would pay off in the long-term. In fact, there were numerous comments stating that *"Jersey could be a haven of power. We have one of the largest tides in the world and have some of the strongest winds in Britain"* (Survey Respondent, 15-16). *"I think it's a real shame that Jersey isn't already using the resources we have around us to produce our own energy"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21), and *"I strongly believe we could, and should, be pioneers on this front. For me personally, it would make Jersey indescribably attractive to live on"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21).

Water security was something of great concern (Figure 10). The potential shortage of supply was seen to be an issue, particularly in the light of the hot weather and declared drought during this summer. There were suggestions in one focus group that rainwater should be collected and used for watering gardens and flushing toilets and there should be financial incentives put in place for people to implement this, as well as it being a requirement for new

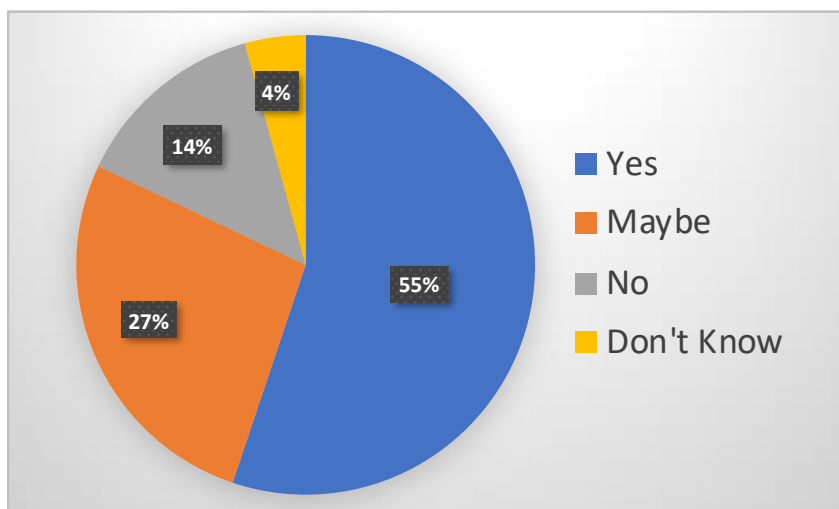


builds.

Figure 11 shows how concerned young people surveyed were about risks to water security in Jersey? (where 5 is very worried and 1 is not worried at all)

7. Food and Agriculture

It was raised in one focus group that people were really unaware of what foods had a large carbon footprint and that they would shop differently if there was more awareness, for example a traffic light system (The Local, 2018; The Conversation, 2018). 55% of



respondents stated that they would change the food that they bought if you knew that its delivery had a great carbon footprint and 27% said that they might (Figure 11). *"I would go however far necessary to reduce the carbon footprint of my*

food should I be told how to do so" (Focus Group Participant, 19). However, there were acknowledgement that this may be hard to calculate/implement.

Figure 12 shows if respondents would change the food that they brought if they knew that its's delivery had a great carbon footprint

75% of respondents said that we should be growing more diverse crops on-island (Figure 12). "90% of our food being imported by ferry is not at all sustainable. We will never be completely food self-sufficient, but we've got to aim for a higher degree of food self-sufficiency" (Survey Respondent, 15-16). "Diversifying crops is a great way to promote biodiversity and increase the quality of the soil. Also, when fields are not used let nature take its course - wildflowers can create a haven for bees and butterflies" (Survey Respondent, 20).

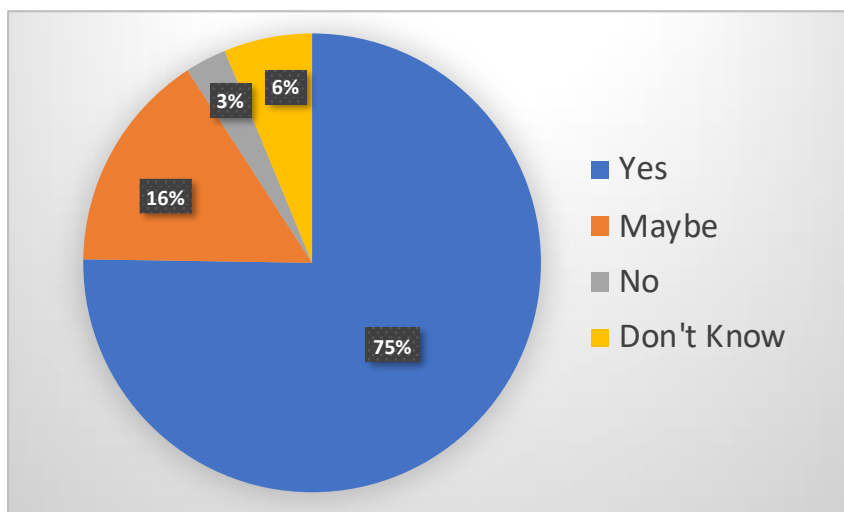


Figure 13 shows if respondents thought that we should be growing more diverse crops on-island.

There was an agreement throughout the focus-groups that 'wonky veg' should be sold in local supermarkets as it is often seen left over in fields. This is in addition to a reduction in plastic use in supermarkets. There were also ideas such as 'Meat Free Monday' in restaurants and cafes to reduce the consumption of meat, perhaps with a discount, and that there should be more water refill stations around the Island.

8. Waste

There was a noticeable surge in survey responses after Plastic Free Jersey shared the survey on their Facebook page; this is presumably because the page has a large number of young followers. It was highlighted that young people want there to be a reduction in plastic waste, as well as other forms of food waste. One individual suggested that there could be community composters which could reduce waste and encourage a sense of community. The application, OLIO (2019) should also be publicised more as "people in this age group would be interested in it" and it would be a step to reducing food waste in the community. Other suggestions were that there should be refillable, or glass milk cartons and that there could be a deposit scheme for bottles at supermarkets- this could somehow raise money for charities, as seen in Norway (BBC, 2018).

Recycling was mentioned by almost everyone in focus groups. Everyone specifically asked had said that there should be kerbside recycling in every parish and that 'older' people should be educated as to the importance of recycling. Throughout this project, I realised that a lot of young people were very focused on the topic of recycling in Jersey without being aware of the vast requirements for expenditure and resources, especially on an Island where waste needs to be shipped away. I believe that there should be more of a focus around reduction rather than recycling (Somerville, 2016) and that this could be achieved through education.

9. Economy and Offsetting

Figure 13 shows that 58% of respondents agreed that the environment in Jersey was more important than the economy. *"There can be no economy if Jersey is underwater; it is important to shift the way of thinking less towards making money primarily but considering the future of Jersey in a world where climate change has taken place"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). However, the responses to this were mixed: *"I don't believe the efforts made by such a small island will have even the tiniest impact on the global environmental crisis. I believe it would be more efficient to implement changes as they are made and invested by larger supporting land masses instead of 'going it alone'"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). However, the general consensus was that even though *"the impact from us as an island would be negligible, I still believe action must be taken now; setting an example is very important for others to follow suit."* (Survey Respondent, 19-21).

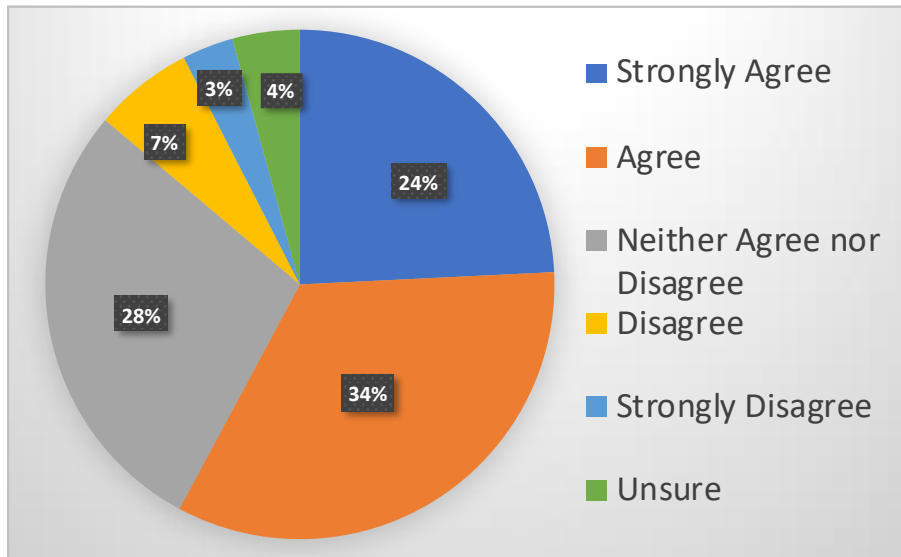


Figure 14 shows the results of the statement: "Is Jersey's economy more important than the environment?"

A few young people were concerned about the high cost of living in Jersey already and that schemes would "further highlight gross inequalities in our society; those who are well-off will be able to manage, but regular people will suffer and struggle" (Survey Respondent, 19-21). "This will cause us too much money, increase our taxes and make it even harder for the young adults, like myself, to afford homes due to a lower income amount" (Survey Respondent, 19-21).

In focus groups, when young people were asked who was most responsible for tackling climate change in Jersey, large finance corporations were largely targeted. It was acknowledged by many that everyone has to do their part however "while reducing individual climate change per person would help it wouldn't hold a candle to the amount that would be reduced if businesses reduced their carbon footprint" (Survey Respondent, 15-16). It was acknowledged that businesses have a great part to play in Jersey's carbon emissions and that there should be a small commercial tax, and this should go to environmental schemes or that businesses should invest into the environment as part of CSR or as required by law. "Businesses have the obligation as the highest power in our economic system to change the way they run, not just for the facade of satisfying consumers who desire ethical products, but also to the planet at large. Growth in GDP is all that matters right now, even at the expense of the earth. Businesses need to take the lead in climate change awareness and carbon neutrality" (Survey Respondent, 17-18). There were also suggestions that businesses should provide incentives to their employees, such as an incentive to get the bus or cycle into work. There was also a suggestion that businesses could reduce the number of flights that they

do, perhaps by having an allowance or budget. If this is exceeded, businesses could be fined/have to pay to offset. However, it was noted that these changes must be considered on a tiered level as not to affect smaller and local businesses but rather finance companies, larger corporations and supermarkets.

Responses regarding offsetting were mixed. I felt that many young people didn't really understand the concept, but those who did supported it but *"only when it is impossible to change / we have done all we can then we should look at offsetting"* (Survey Respondent, 19-21). *"I don't think it works to fix where we are now if we do the fixing somewhere else half way across the world. What will the unpollinated plants in Jersey do when all the bugs die, or what will we do here when there's a huge storm that floods the south coast? It's great to offset, but I'd like to do what we can to help immediately and which residents can see what their tax money or effort is doing/results"* (Survey Respondent, 20).

Responsibility

Figure 14 shows the breakdown of who young people surveyed believe is responsible for climate change. This is reinforced by how 83% of participants who stated 'other' believed that everyone is responsible for reducing their carbon emissions. This highlights that a collaborative approach is needed for Jersey to become carbon neutral.

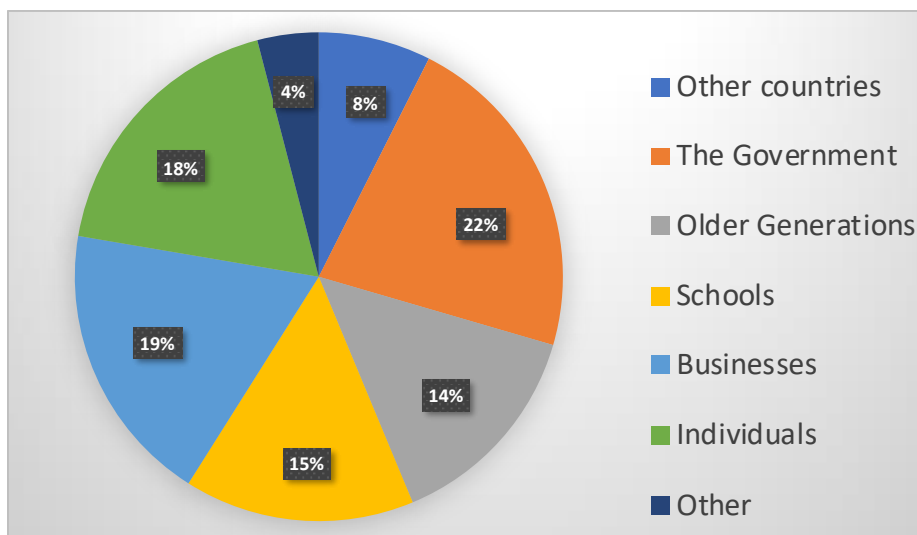


Figure 15 shows who young people believe are responsible for tackling climate change in Jersey

Methodology- Problems Presented and Recommendations

Although the survey was successful in the time constraints, with an extended time-frame, I believe the response rate would have been considerably greater as a consultation normally takes places over 12 weeks, and I only had 4-5 weeks. Response rates were also affected

by people being away over the holidays so not being able to attend focus groups. Schools were also closed for the majority of the time the research was being undertaken.

I would recommend that this study was undertaken further in September, when the new term starts but with caution to check that people had not already completed the survey. It would be interesting to then compare whether the responses in an educational environment were different to those already completed. I would suggest that the research is also expanded to include those of younger ages.

The people attending the focus groups and participating in the survey may have been biased in support of the topic of climate change. This could imply that there could be more people unaware and perhaps disinterested in the climate emergency and the Island becoming carbon neutral than it would appear in this research. As my research only covered a percentage of young people, there needs to be further study as to how educated young people are on the topic of climate change and carbon neutrality, and more education in schools as to the importance of environmental sustainability and reducing carbon emissions. There needs to be an understanding of what content is in the curriculum and what else needs to be included.

One of the main issues I faced was that those over the age range of 15-21 wanted to have their say. Although this presented a few problems, it highlights the fact that islanders care about the climate emergency and regard it as an important matter on which to express their views. There is the risk with this form of survey that it could be open to non-target group responses if people didn't answer the age question (Figure 1) honestly. Another potential issue with the survey is that participants can potentially fill out the survey more than once; which could have led to more responses than initially presumed.

As two of the governments five strategic priorities are 'to protect and value our environment' and to 'put children first' (Gov.je, 2018), I urge the government to consider Jersey's climate emergency with the utmost importance and that these suggestions from young people are taken into consideration in the writing and implementation of Jersey's carbon neutral plan particularly since they and future generations are going to be those most affected by the impacts of climate change. As Article 12 states, it would be encouraging for young people to know that both their suggestions and concerns are being listened to. *"I strongly believe that taking action to make Jersey carbon neutral and protecting our environment is vital if the States of Jersey are truly invested in safeguarding younger and future generations and our island as a whole"* (Survey Respondent, 17-18). Therefore, as previously mentioned, it needs to be enforced that young people's views matter. "Children and young people should

be told that decision was made, how their views were regarded and the reasons why action had proceeded in a certain way" (Lundy, 2007, p.938).

Concluding Statements

Therefore, I can conclude that this study was successful in having an insight into the views of young people aged 15-21 regarding climate change and the subsequent carbon neutral plan in Jersey. However, more research needs to be done, both in this age range and in other age ranges to obtain a more insightful study of the public's views on this important topic. From this study, the key changes that young people would like to see implemented in Jersey are:

- Cheaper and more frequent buses with more bus routes introduced.
- Kerbside recycling in every parish and recycling enforced in all schools and businesses.
- A switch to become more reliant on renewable energy, preferably tidal and solar.
- More responsibility being taken by businesses to become more sustainable and to reduce their carbon footprint.
- To have more education for all ages about the potential impacts of climate change in Jersey, why it is important to take action, and most importantly what changes and actions can be taken by individuals to reduce their carbon footprint.

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