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Quilpie Shire Adavale Research Report

January 2026 | 12909

MCGREGOR **TAN**
RESEARCH. STRATEGY. SOLUTIONS.

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Methodology

This research project was conducted by McGregor Tan from the 16th of November 2025 to the 5th of January 2026.



Objective

The research seeks to understand community preferences, perceptions, and priorities for the future of Adavale following the March 2025 floods.

It captures feedback on four options outlined in the discussion paper, rebuilding in place, improving flood resilience, relocating to higher ground, or introducing a voluntary flood buy-back scheme, and identifies the key factors influencing resident support, concerns, and readiness for each option.



Approach

Market research has been conducted in accordance with ISO 20252.

The survey was conducted via online invitation and hard copy surveys.



Sampling

The survey was distributed by Quilpie Shire Council to Adavale residents, landholders, and relevant stakeholders. Participation was open and voluntary, with responses collected online and in hard copy to maximise accessibility and community representation.

A total of 16 responses were received. All questions were optional, so response numbers vary by question and are noted in the footer where applicable.



Reading the report

Given the small sample size, results are primarily reported using total response counts and corresponding base (n) values, rather than percentages.

Percentages are used selectively for key headline measures, such as overall support levels, where they assist with high-level interpretation. This approach ensures the findings are presented accurately and avoids overstating patterns within a limited dataset.



Executive Summary

Key Takeaways



Safety drives appetite for change

Where support exists for relocation or buy-back options, it is primarily driven by safety, insurance access, and long-term certainty, rather than lifestyle or economic motivations.



Resilience upgrades depend on support

While retrofitting is the most supported option, uptake is highly dependent on grant funding, trades availability, and technical support, with limited capacity for self-funded action.



Clear divide, not uncertainty

Support and consideration for relocation and buy-back options are closely aligned, indicating firmly held positions rather than undecided views, underscoring the need for targeted responses rather than one-size-fits-all approaches.

Executive Summary

Strong attachment to place but awareness of risk

Community feedback following the Adavale flood shows a strong attachment to place, alongside a clear understanding that flood risk remains. Across all options, residents consistently pointed to safety, warning time, access to funding, fairness, and practical delivery support as the factors most influencing their views.

Status quo support driven by identity, not safety

Support for maintaining the status quo is driven more by a desire to protect Adavale's identity, lifestyle, and history than by confidence in flood safety. Those backing this option see improved warning systems, reliable communications, and clear evacuation arrangements as essential to making it workable.

Retrofitting preferred, but action constrained

The strongest overall support is for retrofitting and improving flood resilience, which many see as a practical middle ground that allows people to stay in town while reducing future impacts. That said, action on the ground has been limited. Where upgrades are happening, they tend to be small-scale or insurance-led, rather than larger or more comprehensive

measures. Willingness to invest is closely tied to grant funding, access to trades, technical advice, and help navigating approvals, and without this coordinated support, preparedness may remain largely reactive.

Support for relocation is divided

Support and willingness to consider this option sit with the same group of respondents, while others are opposed. Those in favour point to safety, insurance access, and certainty, while those against it raise concerns about loss of identity, community cohesion, and cost. When describing their vision for relocation, there is a strong preference for large blocks, low density, and preserving Adavale's rural character.

Buy-back seen as a limited, individual option

The voluntary flood buy-back option has the lowest level of support, with interest limited and highly conditional. Respondents who would consider this option consistently linked their decision to fair compensation, the value of the offer, and suitable relocation options, while most did not see it as relevant to their circumstances. Overall, buy-back is viewed as an individual choice rather than a preferred pathway for the broader community.

Consistent themes across all options

Across all options, some consistent themes cut through: funding and financial assistance are critical enablers; access to trades, approvals, and technical support remains a key constraint; early warning systems and reliable communications are widely prioritised; and community identity and cohesion sit at the heart of decision-making.

Option Overview



	 Option One Repair structures in place	 Option Two Retrofit and improve flood resilience	 Option Three Relocate Adavale to higher ground	 Option Four Voluntary flood buy-back program
Community Preference	25% Third preference	63% First preference	50% Second preference	0% Last preference
Community Support	56%	75%	50%	31%
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retains Adavale’s identity, history, and lifestyle Avoids further disruption to residents who want to remain Maintains existing tourism appeal and town character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strongest community support Improves safety and resilience while retaining town identity Enables targeted, staged upgrades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improves safety and peace of mind Reduces need for repeated recovery and rebuild cycles Potential to improve insurance access and future investment confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a targeted exit option for households at highest flood risk Reduces future exposure and repeat recovery costs for participating properties Voluntary participation preserves individual choice
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing exposure to flood risk, including washouts and inundation Continued reliance on early warnings, evacuation time, and communications Limited confidence in long-term insurability and recovery outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong dependence on grant funding and external support Trades, approvals, and technical complexity limit progress Upgrades may reduce impacts but cannot prevent flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community is evenly split, with strong identity-based resistance High cost and uncertainty about value and funding Support is conditional on design, block size, and whole-of-town participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low overall support and consideration across the community Requires substantial funding, fair valuations, and strong relocation support for the community to consider this option
Complementary Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced early warning systems and evacuation planning Improved communications reliability during flood events Targeted minor infrastructure upgrades (e.g. causeways, access roads) Clear evacuation routes and procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant funding and financial assistance to enable upgrades Technical and building advice, including certifiers and engineers Help navigating approvals and red tape Access to trades and project delivery support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of key community facilities (e.g. Hall, Sport & Rec) Large blocks and low-density design to preserve lifestyle Clear cost information and funding certainty Planning that maintains community identity and cohesion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair and sufficient buy-back offers (“money”, “like-for-like value”) Local relocation options, preferably within the Shire Secondary support, such as housing options and removal assistance Clarity on eligibility and conditions before decisions are made



Option One:
**Repair structures
in place**

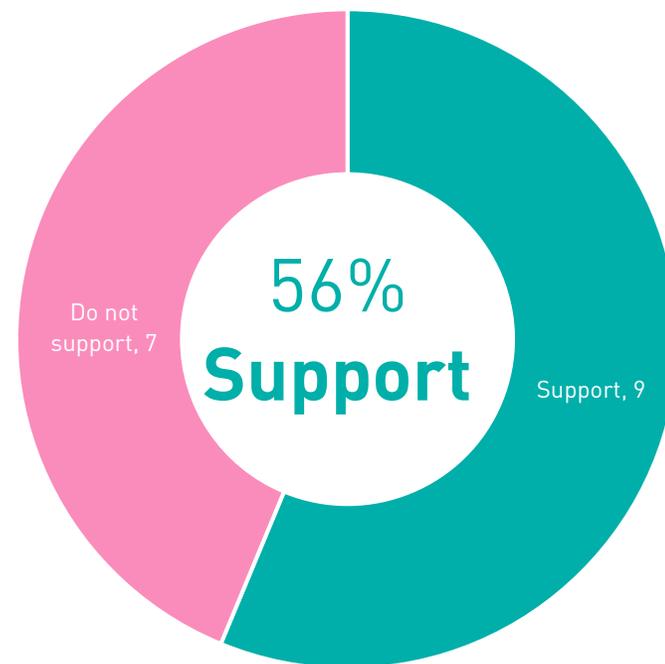
Option One: Repair structures in place ('Status Quo')

This option is to repair the township in place as it existed prior to the March 2025 flood event and make it safe.

Much of this work has already commenced utilising counter disaster operations (CDO) funding.

CDO funding is part of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Support for Option One



Concerns outweighed benefits, with most respondents highlighting flood risk, safety, and lack of long-term effectiveness

Overall, the “keeping the status quo” option appears to represent a preference for certainty, familiarity, and identity, rather than an endorsement of safety outcomes. The feedback suggests that without improved warning systems, evacuation routes, or mitigation measures, confidence in this option remains fragile and closely tied to emotional and historical factors rather than resilience.

Roughly 7 residents mentioned a benefit and 8 mentioned a concern.

Perceived concerns and benefits of the option



Adavale has been in its location for over 145 years, and no amount of flooding will move it.

Adavale's current location maintains the tourist attraction and historic aspect of the town - history and attractiveness to tourism.

Benefit – Lifestyle.

Concern - safety (e.g. washouts under house, instability). Another flood event occurring.

Concern - situation would re-occur.

I do not see any benefits by not doing anything - something needs to be done.

It is a waste of money - another flood will wreck the house completely. No housing security or asset value increase opportunity. No opportunity for business expansion. No improvement to personal safety.

It is my home and has been for 46 years.

Maintain livability standard whilst waiting for future decision on township.

Only support this option currently so we can all get on with life.

Recurring flooding. Access to appropriate insurance.

The March event has shown that we are at risk of flooding.

The March event shows that a better escape option is required, there is currently no warning system, and the roads are cut early.

This option is asking for trouble.

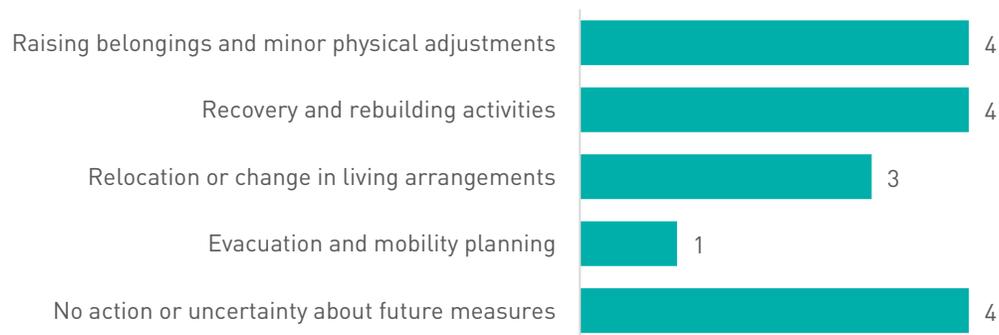
Traditional and family history. Attachment to home, connection to Adavale.

Preparedness efforts are mostly reactive, with limited confidence that individual actions alone will reduce future flood impacts without broader improvements

Of the 14 respondents, 4 have not taken or do not plan to take further preparedness actions. Where action has occurred, it has mostly been small, low-cost measures or insurance-led repairs, rather than proactive risk reduction.

Many residents remain focused on recovery, constrained by insurance, funding, or uncertainty about future flood risk, while others are reluctant to invest further due to perceived limited benefit or belief the event will not recur.

Steps or plan to make improvements



- Considered raising dwelling, however at this stage decided not to do anything as I don't believe there will be another event like this.
- How to be prepared for future flood events, lifting items up higher, remove vehicles from town to higher ground (airport).
- I am considering some form of mitigation that I wish to discuss with Council - options available in regard to placement of materials to prevent severe undermining and scouring in the future. Currently continuing to rebuild from flood event.
- I still intend to build a shed, but my preferred permanent abode will be a transient one such as a van home or RV so I can unhook from the utilities and move it from floodwaters.
- Look to lift most valuable items up higher, above the last flood height, in the event that it occurs again.
Moved from town to a safer location.
- Nil - nothing can stop a flood coming. Have put a ladder up to the roof (preparation for future).
- No communications (Telstra) made it very difficult, couldn't locate to higher ground as the water rose so quickly.
None.
- None - unsure of future. Based on accurate information and adequate warning, we would leave.
None to date.
- None to date - House has been stripped out by insurance company.
Shelving etc. has been raised above flood level.
Utilising SAG to repair damage to house from flood.

Community feedback strongly prioritises early warning systems, supported by better weather monitoring, forecasting, and flood gauges

Reliable communications and improved evacuation routes and procedures are also key concerns. Fewer responses focused on long-term structural solutions or waterway management, indicating a preference for immediate, practical preparedness improvements over large-scale interventions.

Ways the Local Disaster Management Group could improve flood preparedness

Catergorised from verbatim comments



- Better waterway and vegetation management (can utilise the timber removed from waterways in other areas). More flood gauges and early warning system.
- Early warning system to allow enough time to leave town while the roads are open.
- Early warning system, weather radar, more flood gauges, improved communication network (phone system that works).
- Early warning systems, maintain existing flood gauges, install additional flood gauges
- Early warnings to allow residents time to leave.
- Early warnings, accurate weather forecasting.
- Hard to say - too many variables. Radar, warnings, gauges, communications being online would help.
- Improve flood evacuation routes. Improve evacuation procedures. Early warning systems and additional rain and flood gauges would also help.
- Lack of communications (Telstra) was the biggest issue, more reliable communications needed.
- Lobby for a weather station, early warning system, uninterrupted phone services
- Move the town - Levy banks and warning systems are a waste of time. Clean silt out of creek system. Build bridges so the towns people can get out.
- Move the town. Too many variables for early warning system to be effective. Levee bank would be a waste of time and money. Plan some high points / refuse area (behind Narelle's near the bore).
- Nothing - more intel would be beneficial to know what's happening in the catchments.
- Raise the existing structures.
- Unsure - LDMG was very responsive and supportive during the last event.
- Warning systems, weather radar and observation.



Option Two:
**Retrofit and improve
flood resilience**

Option Two: Retrofit and improve flood resilience

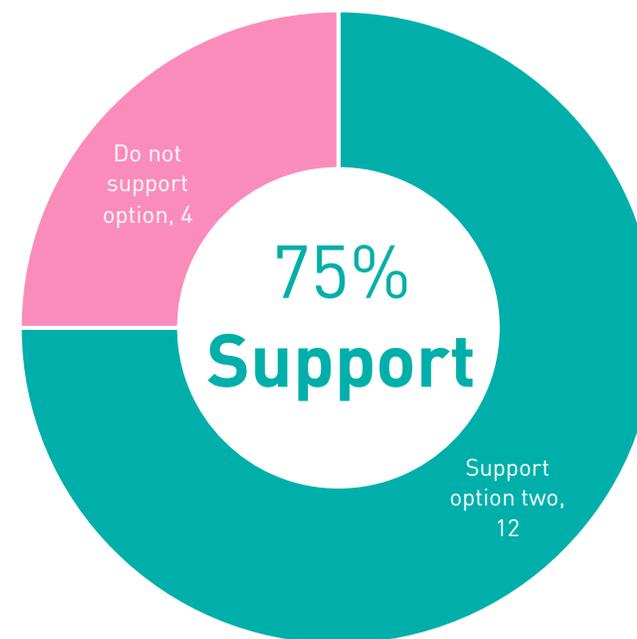
This option is to repair the township in place as it existed prior to the March 2025 flood event and make it safe per Option 1.

It goes further to encourage greater flood resilience through design of repaired buildings and infrastructure and the retrofitting of more flood resilient materials in existing buildings.

An additional focus of this option is to identify cost-effective improvements to flood evacuation routes and improving the evacuation process. This may include improvements to early warning systems and the installation of additional rain and flood gauges.

The option relies on the ability for property owners to have the financial means (or ability to access grants and/or lenders) to implement additional resilience measures and insure their properties.

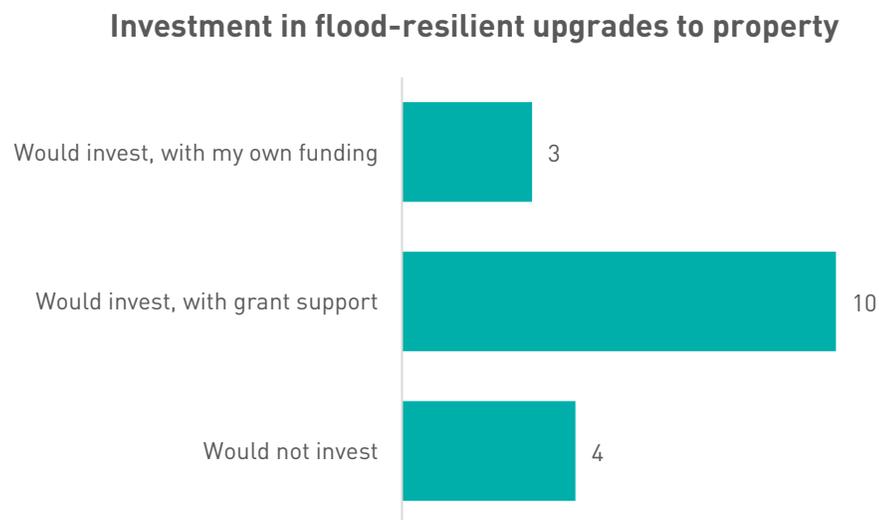
Support for Option Two



While Option Two has strong overall support, investment capacity is largely dependent on external assistance

Most respondents (10) indicated they would invest in flood-resilient upgrades only if grant support is available, compared to a smaller group (3) willing to self-fund improvements. A minority (4) would not invest at all.

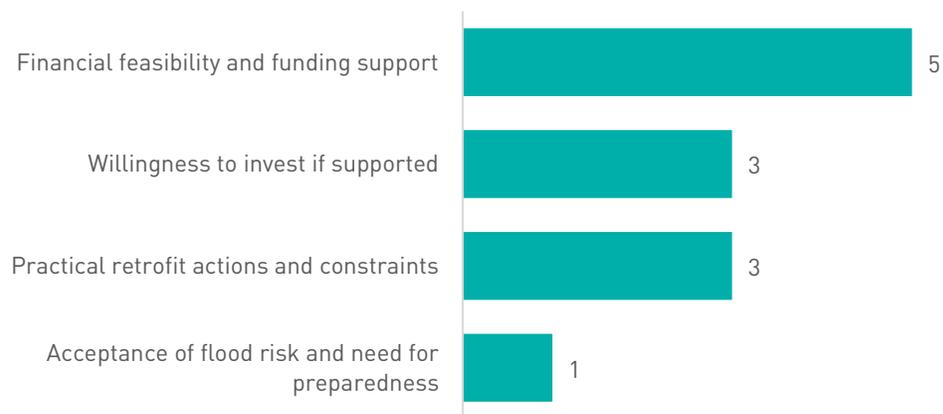
This indicates that uptake of retrofit and resilience measures under Option Two is highly sensitive to funding availability, with grant programs likely to be critical to achieving broad implementation and equitable outcomes.



Feedback on Option Two highlights that while the approach is generally supported, financial feasibility is the dominant concern

Most comments highlight reliance on grant funding, with limited capacity to self-fund and co-contribution only considered where value is clear. Respondents also noted practical and regulatory constraints to retrofitting, alongside acceptance of ongoing flood risk and a need for stronger preparedness and coordinated support.

Option two comments and suggestions
Catergorised from verbatim comments



After the disastrous flood of 1963 the old timers warned us that records were meant to be broken. This is something that was always in the back of mind, but just didn't want to believe/acknowledge that. Adavale will always be where it was created. It is just a matter of an appropriate warning system in place, flood preparedness and support from all levels of government.

Co-contribution - only if there was increased value assurance.

Could not afford it.

Did not qualify for SAGs due to means testing, does not expect to be eligible for funding in the future. Looking to increase height of building, however by raising the building any further, Ergon require a deck to be constructed to safely read the meter box. Will raise from 1.6m to 2.2m above ground level.

Funding would be needed. We are not millionaires.

How would you achieve it?

I would co-contribute if I had the funds.

Looking at a mix of funding to support upgrades - mainly lifting containers that store belongings and could serve as a place of refuge in a future event.

Pending what could be done under insurance.

Raised shelves above flood level.

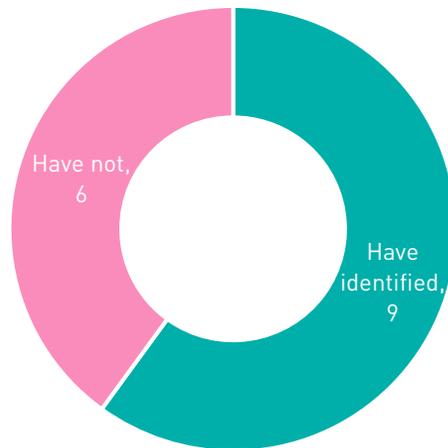
This option would be reliant on access to funding.

Would welcome grant support to ensure all intender improvements can be funded, will look to make improvements regardless with limited funds available.

Just over half of respondents identified specific flood-resilient upgrades, with common measures including raising buildings, power points, and storage above flood levels

Several also identified lifting or anchoring containers, improving vehicle access, and removing obstacles to improve water flow, while cost, technical complexity, and regulatory requirements were commonly cited as barriers, particularly for major works without funding support.

Identified flood resilient upgrades at property



Potential flood resilient upgrades

- Anchor containers and raise buildings.

- Have considered but could impact on accessibility, business aesthetics etc.

- I have not considered this due to affordability.

- Lift containers out of flood heights and create a loading ramp for vehicles to lift out of flood waters.

- Looking to raise building from 1.6m to 2.2m above ground level, this impacts Ergon's ability to read the power meter. Added costs of footings and deck. Also worried about the wind as increasing it to that height could need more structural work.

- No (x4).

- None that would not involve a considerable amount of money. e.g.: a levee to mitigate any flooding in the town.

- Power points have been lifted up higher to avoid flood heights. Will look to lift the house at least 300mm above the last flood.

- Raise building 1.5m.

- Raise the height of the building - 1.5m.

- Raising the building (not really interested at this stage). Raise power points (going to fund this work personally).

- Remove obstacles to allow water to flow through the property. Raise residence and secure other structures. Power box in higher position.

Successful delivery of resilience upgrades will depend on coordinated financial, technical, and delivery support, not residents acting alone

Most respondents indicated they would need funding support to proceed with flood-resilient works, along with access to trades and professional advice and help navigating approvals and technical requirements.

Additional support needed
Catergorised from verbatim comments

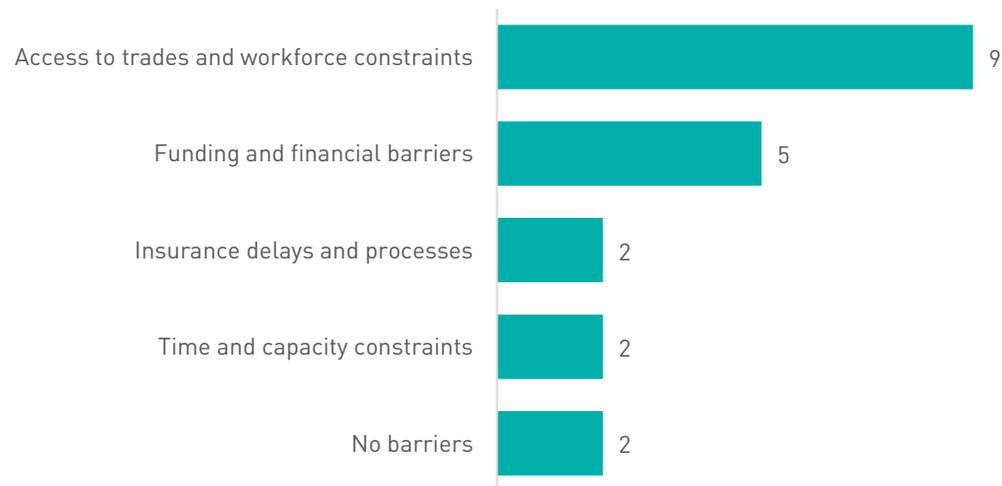


- Access to local trades people. Funding assistance.
- All trades to provide advice.
- Already reasonably informed on plans and have the capacity to manage the funding application and project management works.
- An early warning system so that residents can take appropriate action to secure their property, animals, cars etc. against future flood damage.
- Building / technical advice.
- Financial support. Advice from hydrologist.
- Funding and trades.
- Funding assistance.
- Funding, trades, advice from building certifier.
- Grant support - to apply. Assistance with building applications etc., Council were really supportive with the last process.
- None - have already implemented flood resilience measures (e.g. power box and inverters raised). Built from advice received from previous floods.
- Professional advice, design, funding.
- Support with the necessary building approvals etc.
- Technical advice, builder, funding, project management.
- Trades and funding.

Even where willingness to upgrade exists, delivery is constrained by workforce availability, funding access, and insurance processes rather than lack of intent

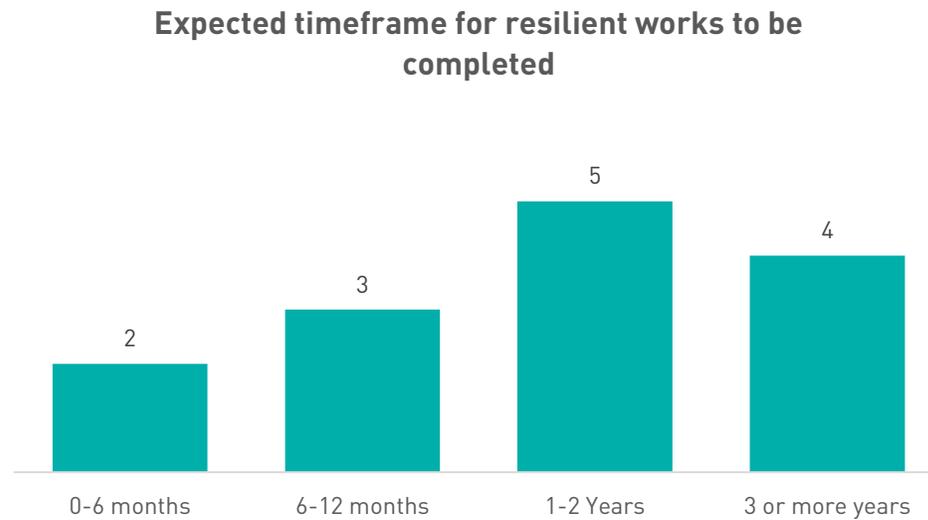
Addressing workforce availability and support mechanisms would significantly enable upgrades.

Barriers to upgrade progress
Catergorised from verbatim comments



- Access to builders / trades to complete the required works (stumps).
- Access to local trades people, time and money.
- Access to trades for activities that are required to be compliant.
- Access to trades is an Australia wide barrier. Currently waiting on an insurance assessor as the insurance company has only received quotes in excess of \$10,000 to attend. The insurance company is in weekly contact, but it is still not finalised.
- Accessing trades is hard, if owner builder approves will look to undertake the work themselves.
- Cannot access trades - value for money. No accommodation for trades people in Adavale.
- Engineering mitigation toward resilience. Raising air conditioners and inverters above flood level.
- Funding - do not want to upgrade current residence.
- Grants and or outright assistance from all levels of government.
- Insurance - delay in progressing claim and restoration works.
- No.
- No - only financial barriers.
- Not applicable.
- Trades and the wait times.
- Trades, funding.

Most respondents expect flood-resilient works to take one year or more to complete

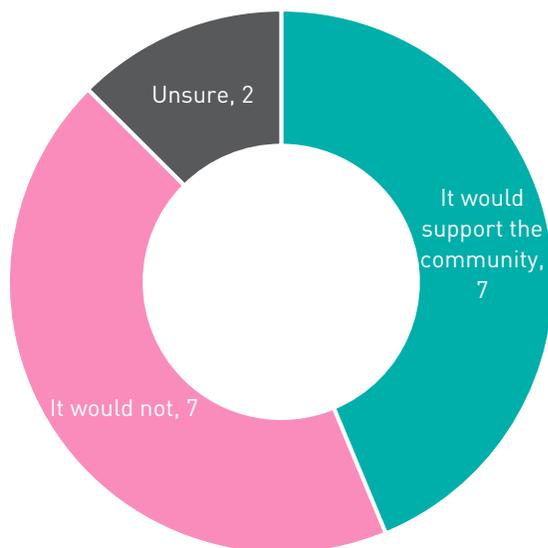


Responses are mixed, with equal numbers believing the measures would and would not support community health and safety

Supporters link improvements to greater confidence, preparedness, and reassurance, while non-supporters and undecided respondents point to uncertainty about future events and the scale of intervention.

Support the health and safety of the Adavale community

Categorised from open comments



Support

- Absolutely, and is of the absolute urgency as most long-term weather forecasters agree that major disasters are not probable but are most likely in the future.
- Absolutely, it would improve confidence in the community in regard to future events (providing the gauges and systems are working, have back up and are in optimum positions).
- Yes.
- Yes - including other options.
- Yes, in my situation - however each resident may be different.
- Yes, I believe to would give the community more confidence moving forward.
- Yes, it would give the community confidence in safety.

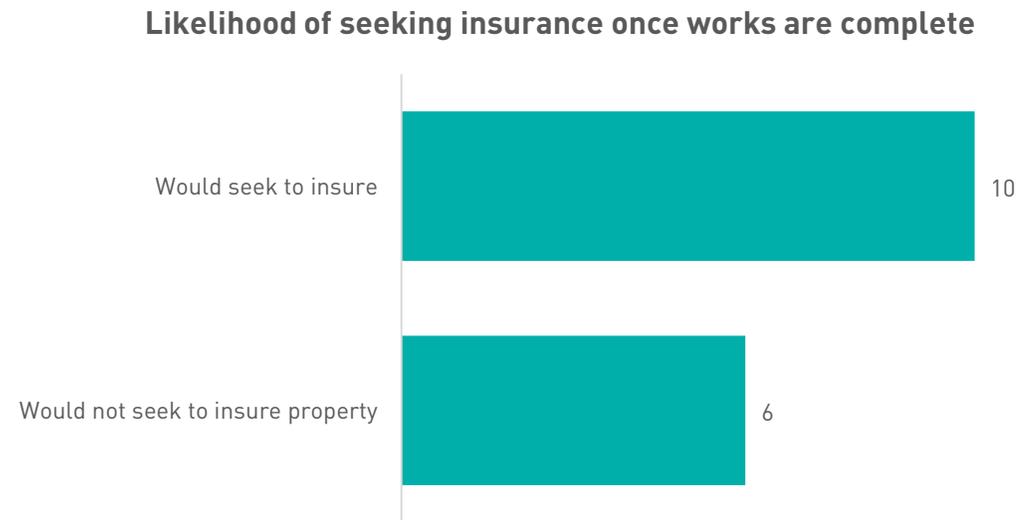
Would not support

- No (x2).
- No - it will never be 100% secure that you won't lose your house or it will not happen again. There are no guarantees, so the risk would still not be removed.
- No - scope is too wide.
- NO, NOT AT ALL.
- No, there would still be the fear of events recurring.
- No. It is unknown if this type of event would happen again.

Unsure

- 50/50 - depending how effected the community members are. We all had different experiences.
- Hard to say - future events may be larger, it's just too hard to predict, will just have to cop it sweet.
- Unsure.

Even after resilience upgrades, insurance uptake is likely to remain mixed, indicating affordability and insurer risk settings will continue to influence outcomes





Option Three: Relocate Adavale to Higher Ground

Option Three: Relocate Adavale to higher ground

This option is to move the existing township of Adavale to higher ground on the Quilpie - Adavale Road. Two locations have been identified by the community, 'Lot 17' and 'Lot 18'.

Lot 17 on MCK5322 is a reserve for Pasturage purposes under the trusteeship of the Quilpie Shire Council.

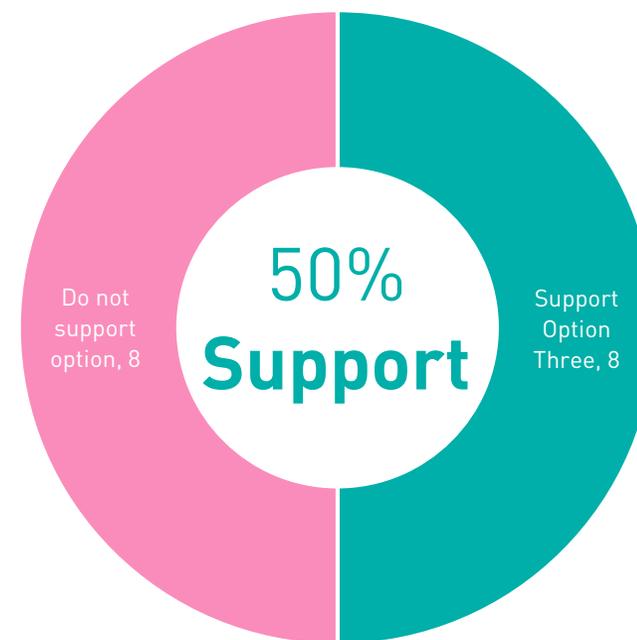
Lot 18 on MCY813196 is a Grazing Homestead Perpetual Lease issued to private individuals.

It is unknown at this stage if these properties are the ideal location for a new township.

It is this option that responds to the petition received, however requires significant further economic, technical, social and infrastructure analysis should it be pursued.

The option relies on the ability for property owners to have the financial means (or ability to access grants and/or lenders) to relocate to 'New Adavale' and insure their properties.

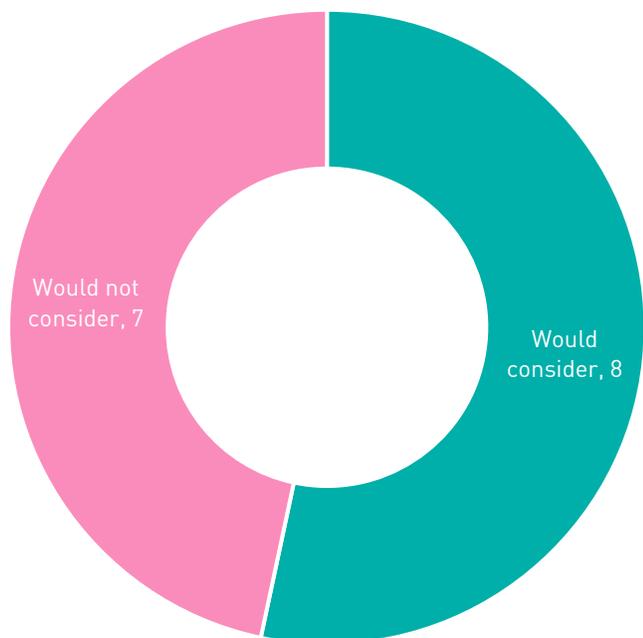
Support for Option Three



Support for and consideration of relocation are closely aligned, with the same group of respondents both supporting and willing to consider this option

Support is conditional and closely tied to funding availability, whole-of-town participation, and confidence in the design and delivery of a new township.

Consideration for relocation of Adavale



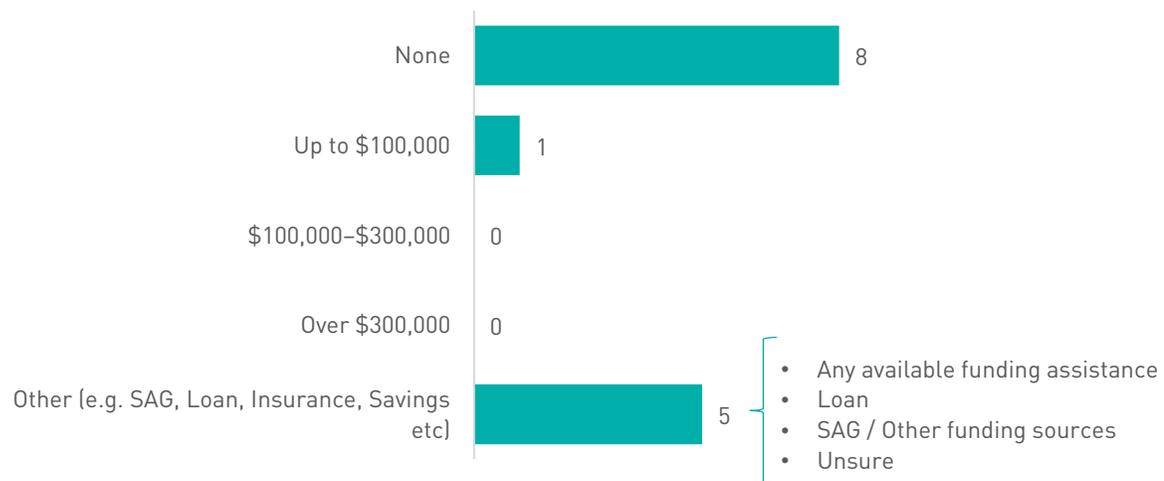
Comments and suggestions

- Adavale is Adavale because of where it is.
- Adavale will stay where it is.
- Dependent on funding support.
- Depending on what is on offer in the New Adavale - e.g. town design.
- Far too expensive and would not be the same.
- I would only relocate if the entire town was relocating and I needed too.
- It would not be Adavale.
- Not a good investment in funds.
- Not for any amount of money.
- There are no negatives in moving the township. It would be a permanent solution to a recurring issue.

Responses indicate very limited capacity or willingness to self-fund relocation

Half of respondents indicated they would make no personal financial contribution, and only one respondent indicated a modest contribution of up to \$100,000. No respondents indicated an ability to contribute higher amounts.

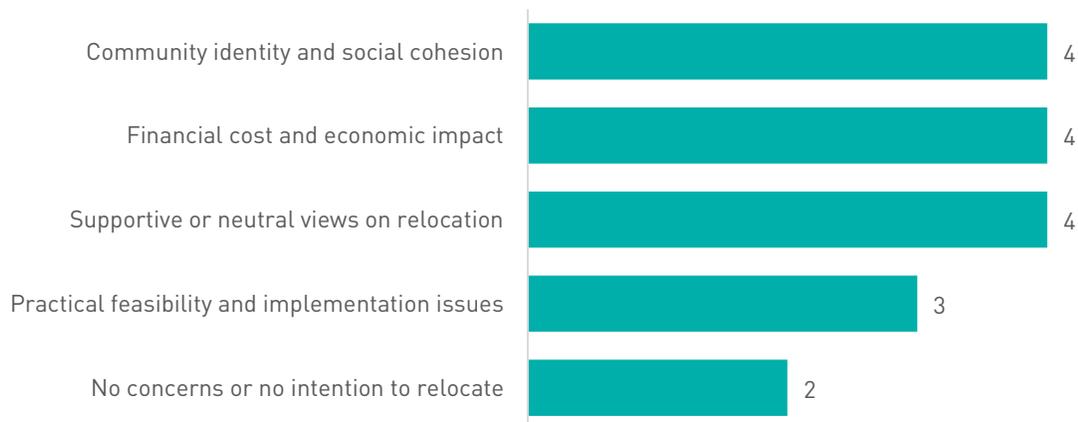
Financial contribution towards relocation



Feedback shows that concerns about relocation are balanced across social, financial, and practical considerations

The most prominent issues relate to community identity and cohesion, with respondents expressing strong attachment to Adavale’s history, lifestyle, and sense of place, and concern that relocation could further divide the community.

Concerns around relocation
Categorised from open comments

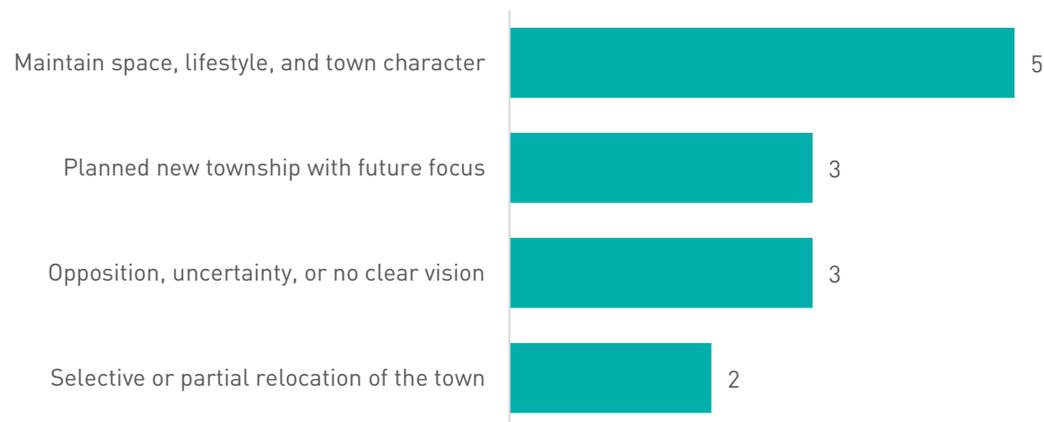


- Cost - unknown at the moment.
- Cost - waste of money. It would not be Adavale anymore. Moving the town could cause unnecessary public attention.
- Financial impact. Position of location for the new Adavale. Splitting of the town would have a negative effect on tourism, business and the community, specifically my business operations and promotion for tourism.
- It would divide the town even further.
- Loss of Adavale’s identity and community lifestyle. Loss of historic significance.
- Might improve community spirit. Adavale is not Adavale anymore, there is no social gathering of the community as a whole (like there used to be).
- Moving an older dwelling. Would consider purchasing a tiny home to put on land in new Adavale.
- No concerns - can only see positives in relocating - growth, safety, potential for investment.
- No concerns as I have no intention to relocate.
- None.
- None- willing to personally finance.
- None, as Adavale is not Adavale anymore (post flood).
- There is no indication currently of costs. No trades to do works. Positioning needs to consider inclusions - e.g. solar panels, locations to lend to current provisions to conduct successful business.

Residents favoured relocation that preserves Adavale’s space, rural lifestyle, and town character

A smaller group supported a planned new township, highlighting opportunities for appropriate zoning, future growth, and inclusion of cultural, historical, and educational elements. Some respondents also favoured a selective or partial relocation, retaining key community facilities while allowing other parts of the town to move.

Vision for relocation
Categorised from open comments

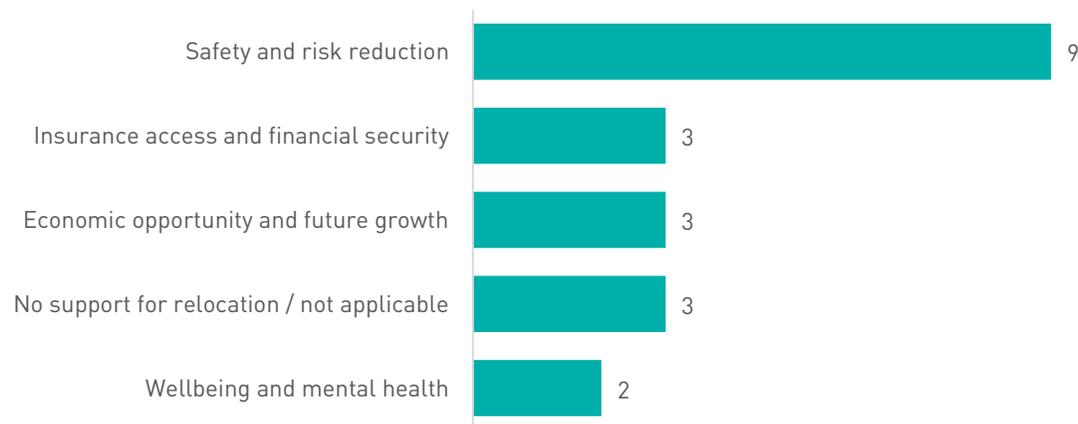


- 2-acre blocks to retain space between residences.
- Adavale Sport & Rec and the Hall stay where they are. The rest of the town relocate.
- Adavale Sport & Rec to stay and the rest of the town would move (whoever wants to move). Plus town hall and Council depot.
- As per plan I previously submitted (basically the same layout as the town is now).
- Designated precincts - commercial / appropriate zoning. Plan for future growth. Historical / cultural information sites also would have to be considered. Relocate hall, Sport and Rec stay. Educational opportunities - primary & tertiary.
- Neighbors would be too close. It would not be the same e.g. environment, views etc.
- New design - new township.
- No reduction in land size per block - the Quilpie Rural Residential would be the maximum size.
- None.
- Not good.
- One street with blocks either side (2 acres).
- Un-Australian.

Safety and risk reduction are the leading drivers for relocation

Secondary considerations include improved access to insurance, long-term financial security, and future economic opportunities, while wellbeing and mental health also feature but less prominently.

Primary reason for relocation
Categorised from open comments



- I have no reason to relocate.
- Mental health, safety, economic opportunities (new businesses). Access to insurance. Security of investment into plant / infrastructure. It would be a chance to rebuild the community from scratch. Opportunity for permanent schooling.
- Not applicable.
- Not happening.
- Safety (x2).
- Safety and fear of event recurring. Lots of economic opportunity for the future.
- Safety and Insurance (ability to insure as currently cannot).
- Safety would be my only reason to re-locate.
- Safety, potential to grow and attract tourists and businesses. Adavale will never be the same again in its current location.
- Safety. To minimise recovery and rebuild efforts to the town.
- Wellbeing and safety of everyone (mental health), insurance access and not having to worry about another flood!



Option Four:
**Voluntary flood buy-
back program**

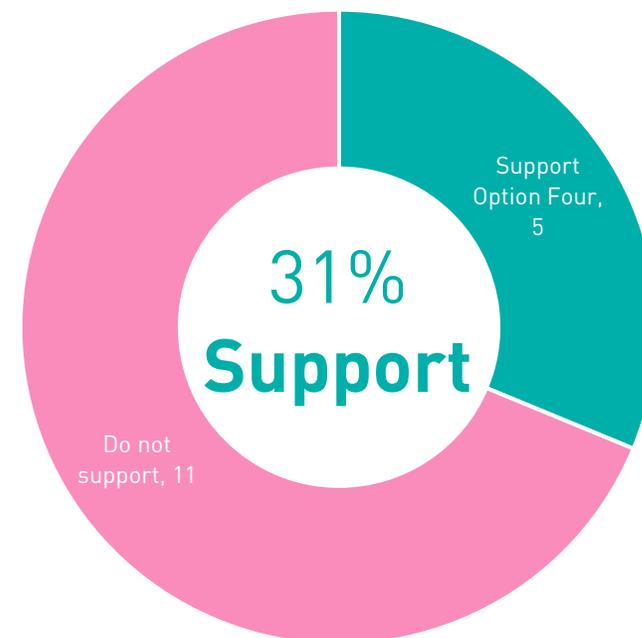
Option Four: Voluntary flood buy-back program

This option would be to target homes severely impacted by flooding, prioritised to those at high risk of severe structural damage.

A post-event flood study of the township would be required to assess the depth, volume and velocity of the of the water to prioritise those properties eligible for such a scheme.

The option relies on the ability for residents to have the financial means to relocate to another town and for QSC to have available funds to enact the scheme.

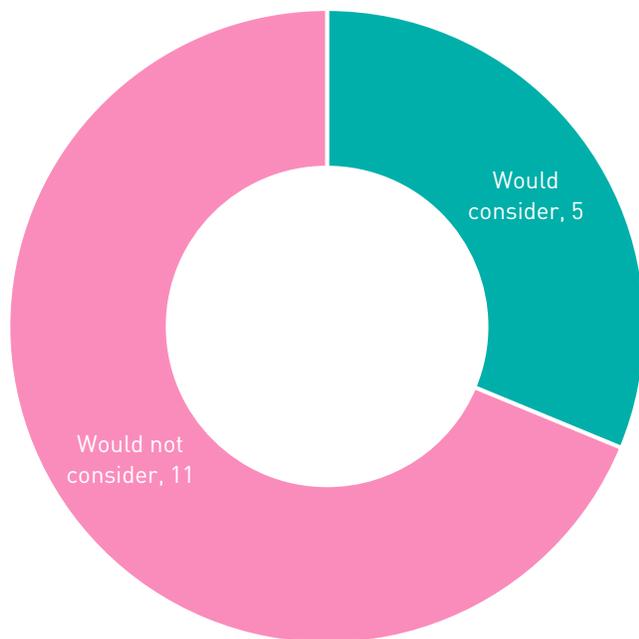
Support for Option Four



Consideration closely aligns with overall support for the option, with those open to the scheme also expressing conditional interest rather than firm intent

Where consideration exists, it is highly dependent on the offer, with respondents referencing value, personal circumstances, and whether future flood events occur. Overall, the feedback indicates that interest in a buy-back scheme is selective and conditional, rather than broadly supported.

Consideration of selling property under the buy back scheme



Comments and suggestions

Because they wouldn't pay you enough.

I support this option but would not take it up unless I was forced to.

I would consider if it was worth it.

I would maybe consider this option in the future, depending what the offer looked like.

Not suited for personal circumstances - currently provide accommodation and school building for governess services.

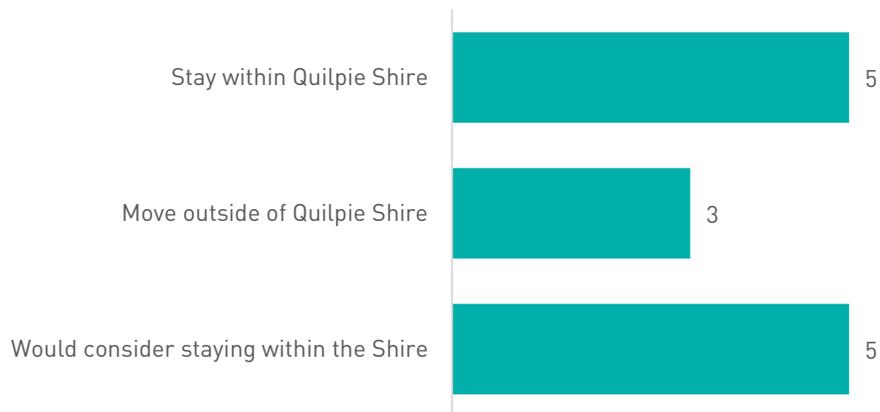
Only if it was an offer that was too good to refuse.

Would consider this option if an event as serious happened again.

Responses indicate that those who would consider participating in a buy-back scheme generally prefer to remain within the Quilpie Shire

A smaller number indicated they would relocate outside the Shire, while several responses remained conditional, dependent on factors such as cost, land availability, and employment opportunities.

Location of residence if participating in buy-back scheme

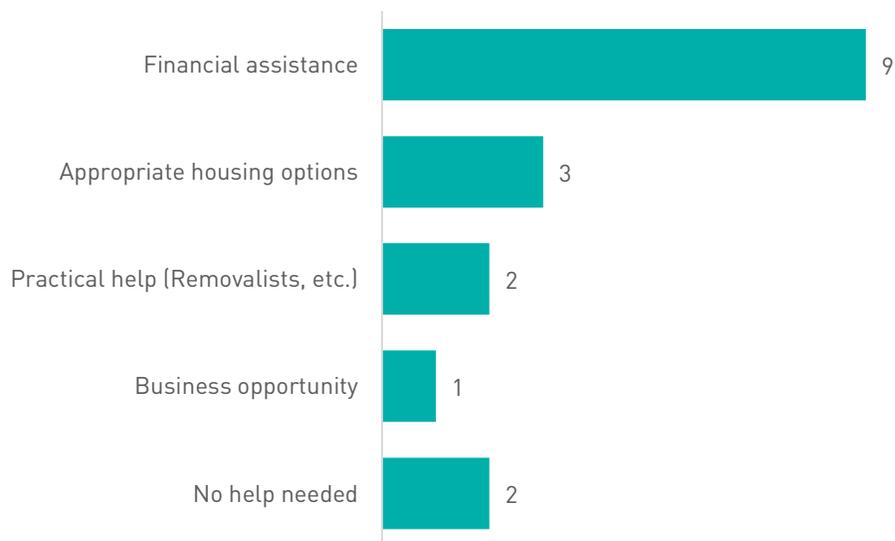


- Depends on the cost.
- I love Adavale - it would be a difficult decision, however initially I would move out of the Quilpie Shire due to family and other commitments.
- If land swap was available, I would consider it.
- If the town was not moved, I would move out of the Shire, totally at the Shires cost as I don't think they want us here or they would show more effort to move us.
- No.
- Possibly, but only if I had to.
- Potentially in the Shire - have grown fond of Quilpie since spending 2 weeks in town post evacuation
- Relocation site, higher ground.
- Unsure but would look to stay within Quilpie Shire.
- Within Quilpie Shire (x2).
- Would consider both - dependent on what could be purchased with the buy back \$ and work opportunities.
- Yes, in Quilpie Shire.

Relocation would be heavily dependent on financial and housing support to be feasible

Beyond financial assistance, respondents identified secondary support needs including access to suitable housing options, practical help such as removalist services, and, for some, employment or business opportunities.

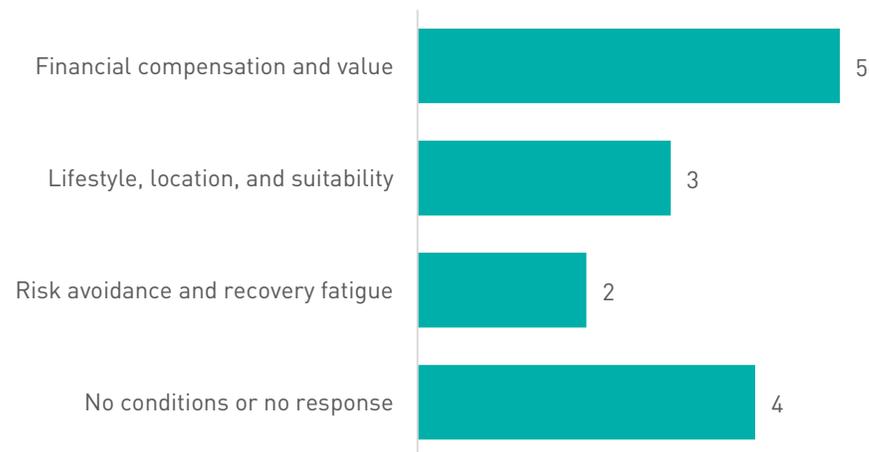
Assistance needed to allow for move



- An acceptable buy out offer and removal costs.
- Financial / funding assistance.
- Funding (x2).
- If my lad was to be taken from me then I would need to be compensated for that.
- Loan, housing to be available.
- Money.
- None.
- Nothing.
- Removal services, rest can be sorted.
- Removalist. Work / business opportunities, funding.
- See previous answer - land swap.
- Structural Assistance Grant will cover part of the relocation of our home.

Buy-back considerations surround compensation, lifestyle and flood avoidance

Buy-back considerations



- Cost / value - would be a like for like swap.
- Current proximity to station for kids to access.
- Do not want to remain in Adavale and be at risk of future events. We have been through 5 floods and a fire.
- If Adavale township didn't move and a similar event recurred, I would not want to go through trying to recover again.
- Money.
- Money - what would the offer be.
- My decision would depend on the direction that the rest of the community takes into the future.
- None (x4).
- None, unless they paid us what we want for it!
- suitable replacement options.
- We would not be offered the money required to re-establish to our desired standard in another location. Lifestyle options e.g. style has to suit location.

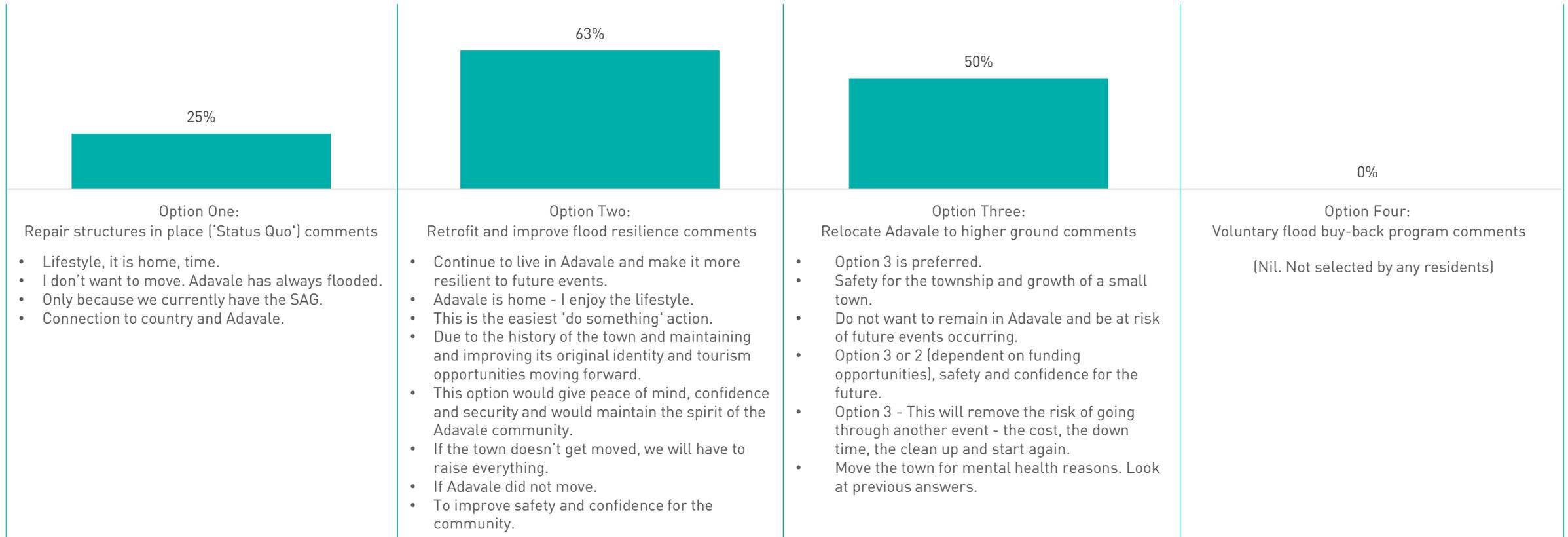


Option Preference and Suggestions

Option Two, retrofitting and improving flood resilience, is the most preferred option

This reflects a strong desire to remain in Adavale while improving safety and confidence for future events. Reasons focus on maintaining lifestyle, connection to place, and the belief that resilience upgrades offer the best balance between risk reduction and preserving the town’s identity.

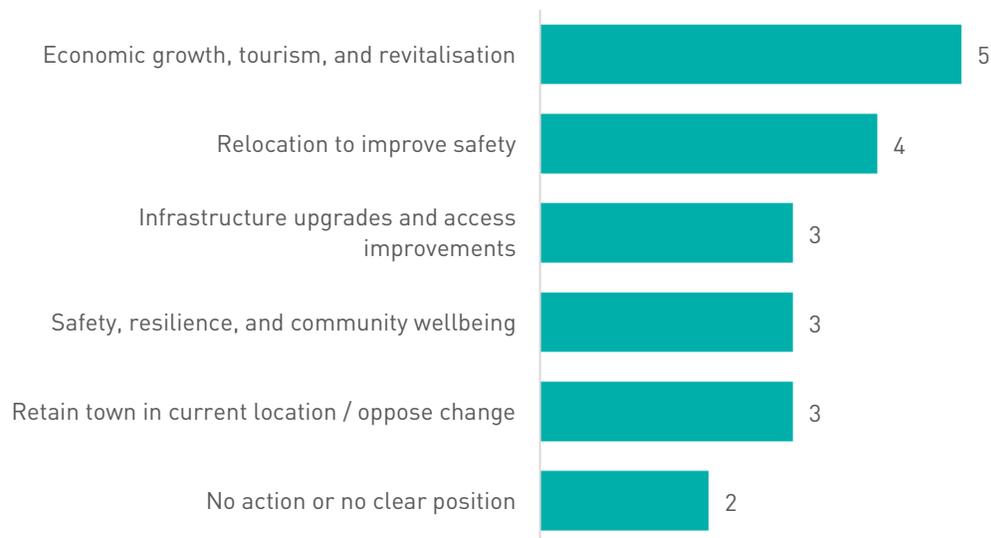
Preferred options and reasons for preference



The most common theme relates to economic growth, tourism, and revitalisation

Respondents suggested opportunities to strengthen the town's role through tourism, services, and renewed confidence, while retaining its historic character.

Suggestions, concerns or ideas for the future of Adavale



Adavale will take care of itself. Moving the town won't work, things would be too different.

Causeway Upgrade - lifting the entry/ exits to town to allow more time to escape in the event of future floods.

Could have a service station and caravan park out of flood water. We could bring Adavale back to life and would give people the opportunity to buy somewhere close to Quilpie for work purposes as Quilpie has none (land?).

If no action taken, there will not be an Adavale as we know it today in 50 years.

Just continue to support Quilpie shire's oldest town.

Leave it where it is.

Look at improvements to road access, clean up the river to allow better water flow. Look at other back up power sources, especially for communications.

Look to upgrade roads to provide more opportunities to leave during floods.

Measures to improve safety. This would bring back community spirit, cohesion and collaboration.

Move the township.

No (x2).

Relocate to make the community safer for future events.

Relocate township to higher ground.

There are currently no growth or sales opportunities. Relocating the town will instill confidence back into the community and will improve the health and wellbeing of people (positivity).

Yes - the historical tourism potential of the town is invaluable as it still has its originality which is rare. This enhances visitor / tourist experiences. There is also opportunity for some modernised development along the way.

Community feedback calls for clearer direction, fairer funding, simpler processes, stronger preparedness, and better support for local recovery

How about Council let local tradies out of town to work for flood affected Adavale and not play around with Council shit in town as it was not affected by the flood.

Improved preparedness e.g. evacuation processes, warning systems etc. Can we rebuild the mini museum that was demolished during the flood event. This is an important part of the Walk around Adavale tourism activity and experience.

Need a clear direction for the community to progress forward.

Red tape reduction - things are too complicated. Leading to emotional exhaustion and disengagement within the community.

Reiterate that there needs to be mitigation of vegetation / waterways in the future.

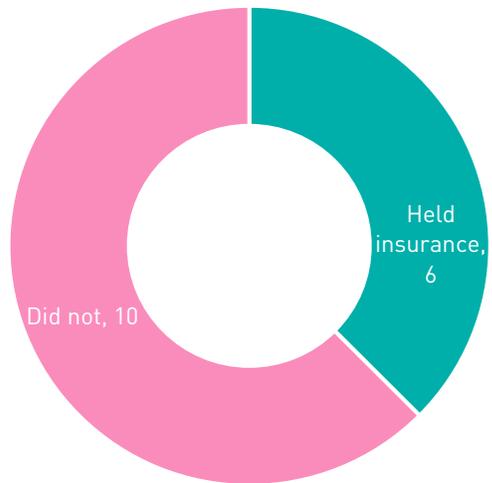
Structural Assistance Grant funding needs to be reviewed to make it fairer across the board for those who are not insured but are employed.



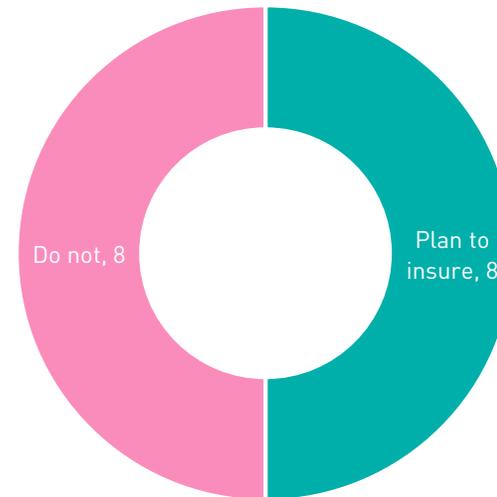
Grant and Insurances Status

Compared to the time of the flood, more residents now plan to hold insurance, indicating a slight shift in intent following the event

Whether insurance was held at the time of the event



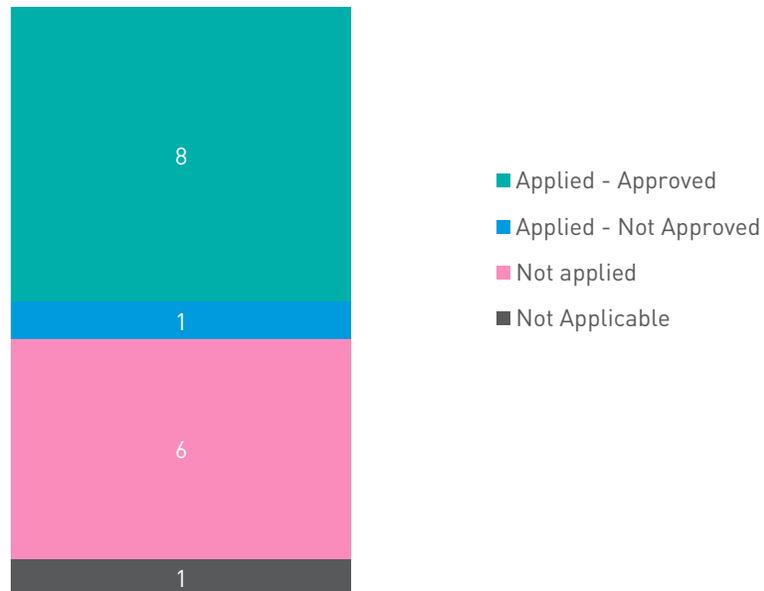
Whether they plan to insure into the future



Just over half of respondents applied for a Structural Assistance Grant, with most of those applications approved

Planned uses of the grant are largely repair-focused, including fixing stumps, bathrooms, flooring, roofing, and essential services, with some residents also using funds to replace or relocate dwellings, such as caravans or tiny homes.

Structural Assistance Grant (SAG) application status



Plans for how to use grant (verbatim):

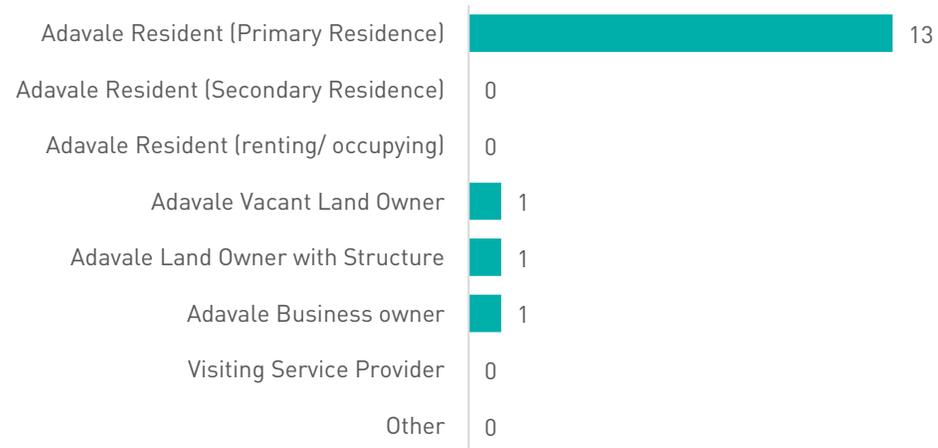
- Caravan Replacement - Primary Residence.
- Fixing stumps and trying to save where we can if we need to move it.
- New septic, stumping, bathroom, floor.
- Not planning to go ahead with the grant - according to the Structural Report, cost of works required outweighed the benefit.
- Purchase tiny home and relocate to rural property close to Adavale.
- Repair and replace as required - House and property. Levelling ground, replace air conditioner, solar.
- Roofing repairs, fixing stumps, new bathroom.
- Vinyl floor covering.



Appendix One: **Respondent Profile**

Respondent profile

Connection to Adavale



Length of time connected to Adavale



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THANK YOU