

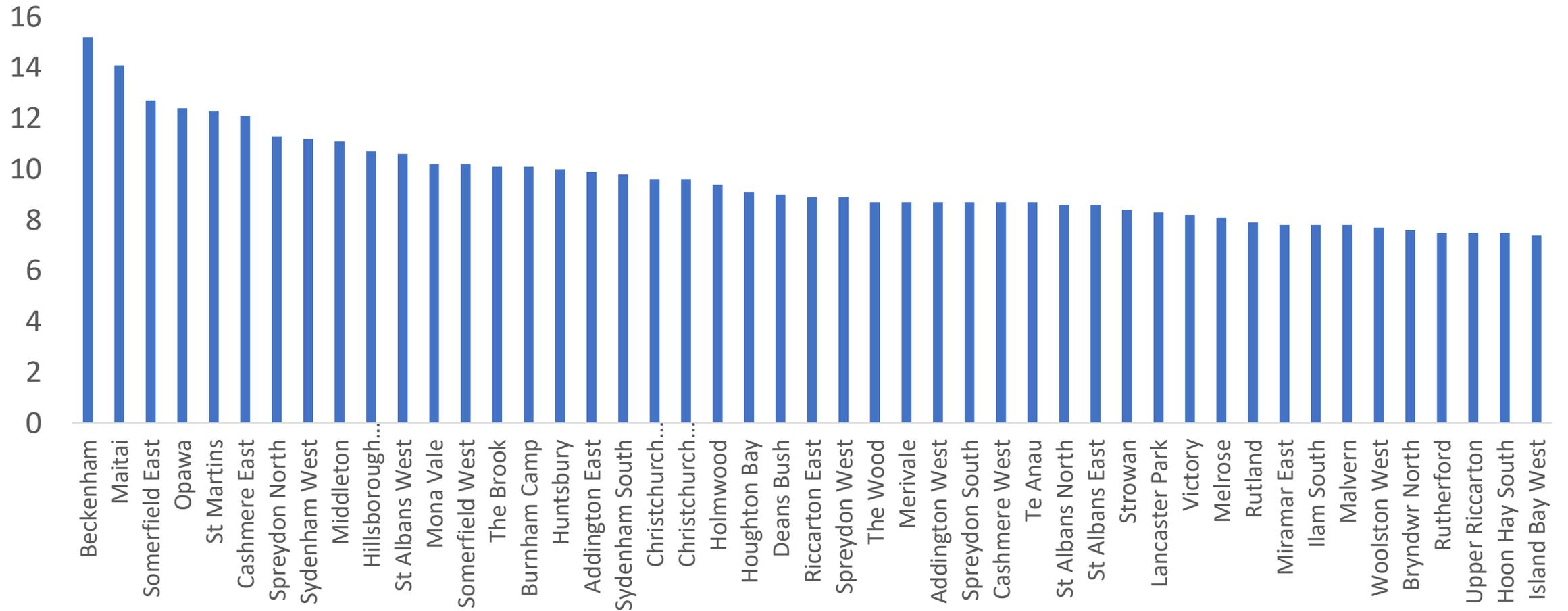
Understanding more by studying New Zealand's highest cycle commuting suburb

Lily Roling, Lexie Blanchet, Jack Lorimar, Zoë
Marshall-Means, Joe Young and Simon Kingham

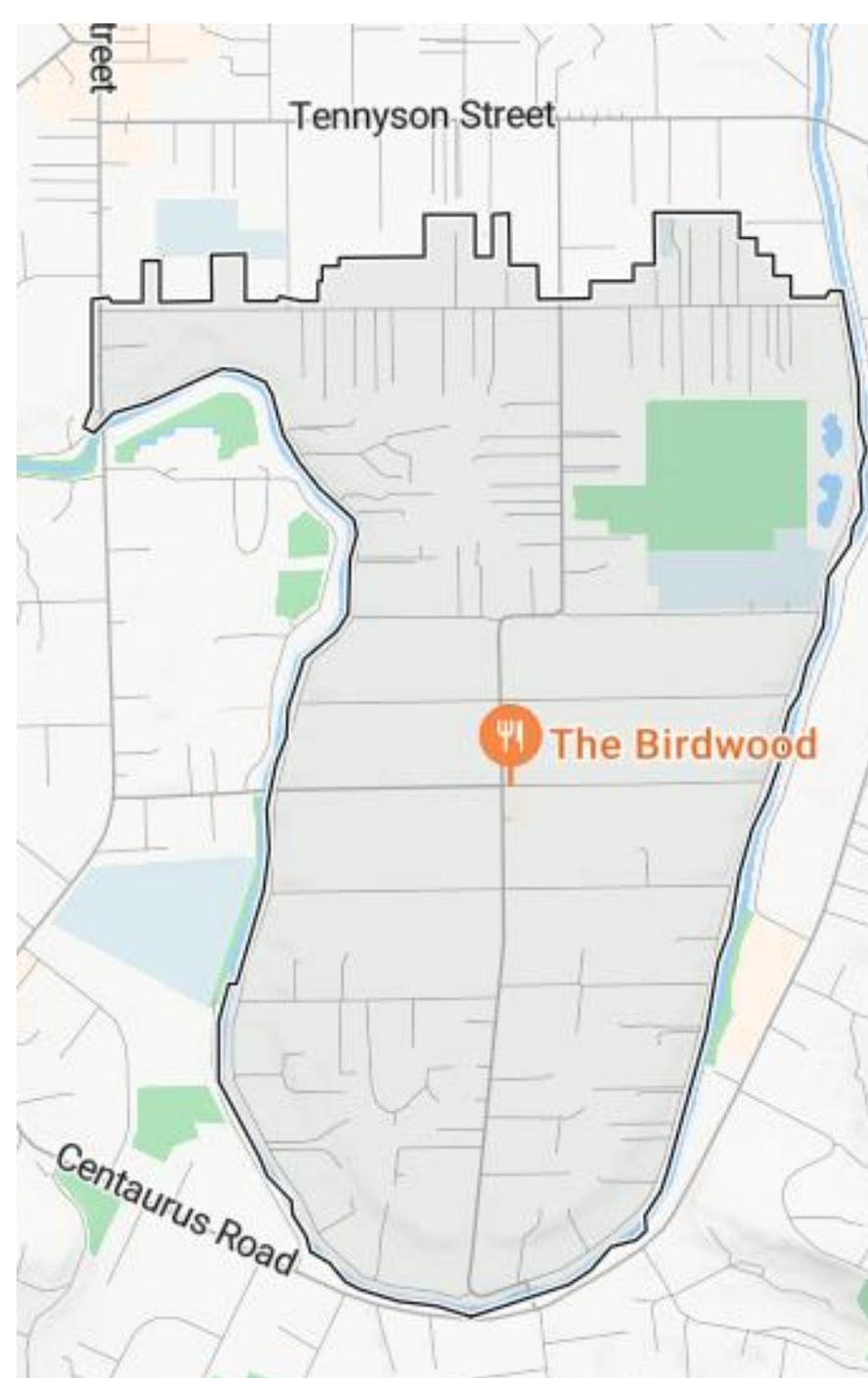
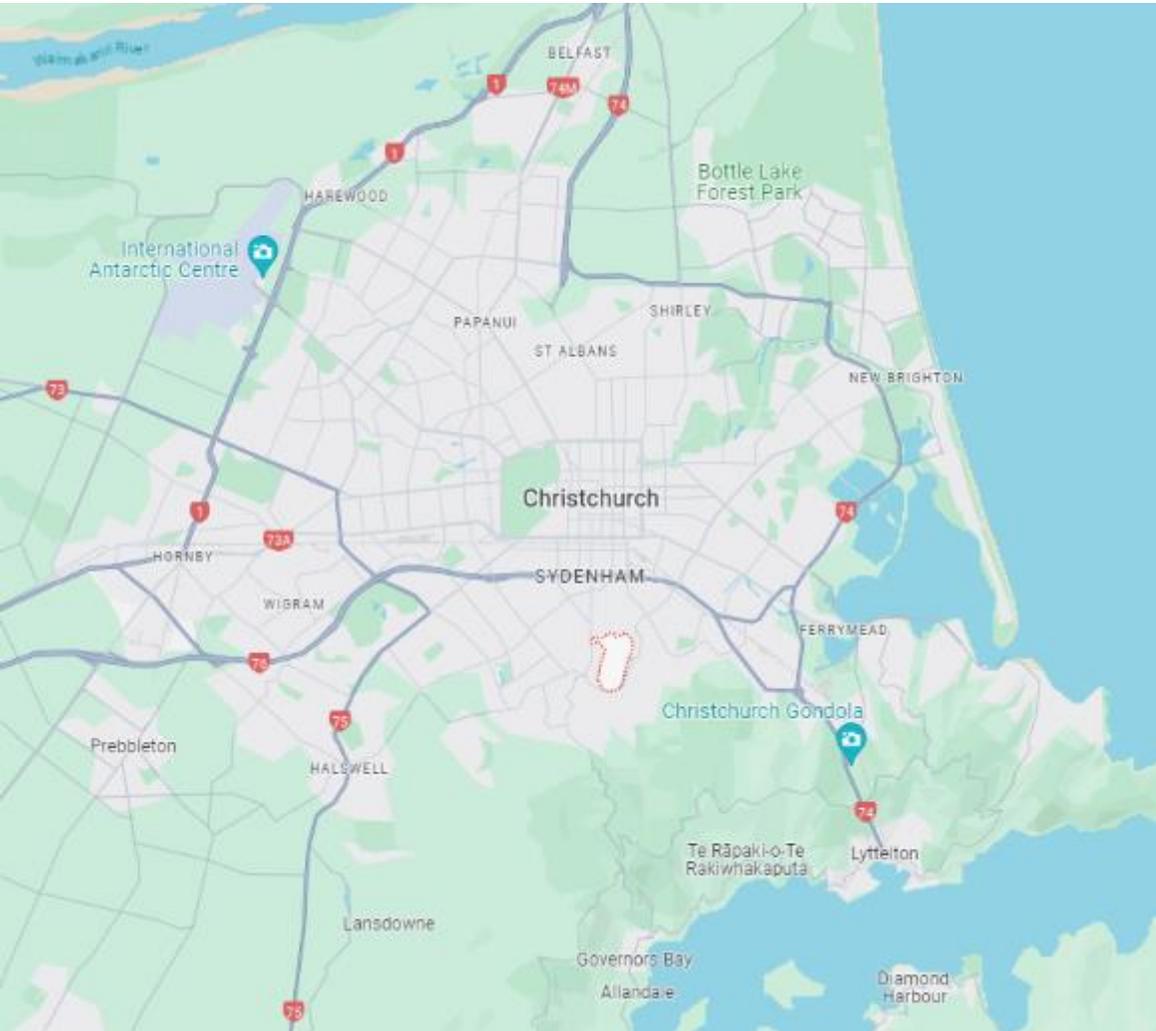
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury

Beckenham

% using bicycle to travel to work (of those travelling to work)



Beckenham



Research question

What factors influence the high rates of cycling in Beckenham, and are they transferable to other areas?



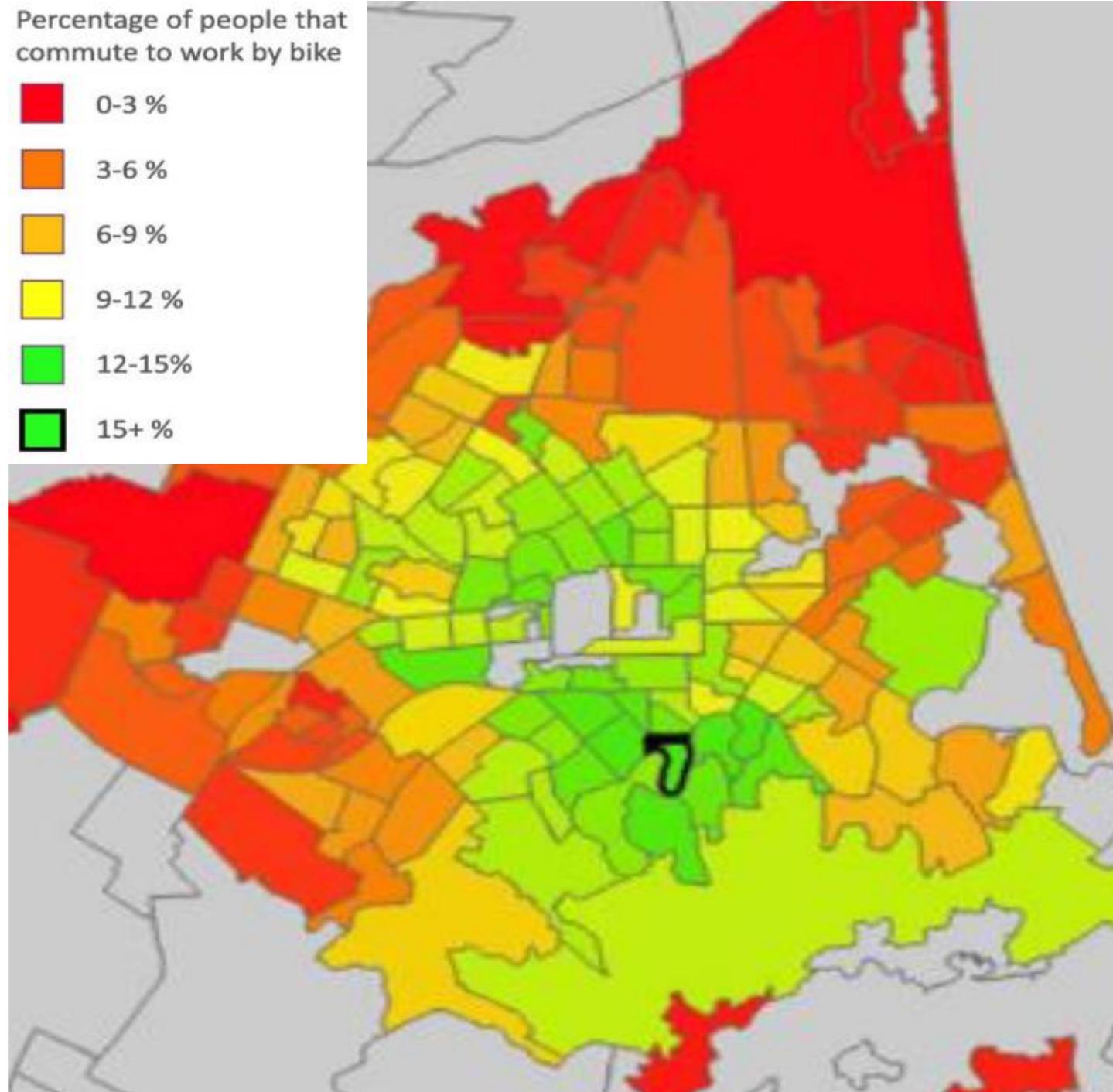
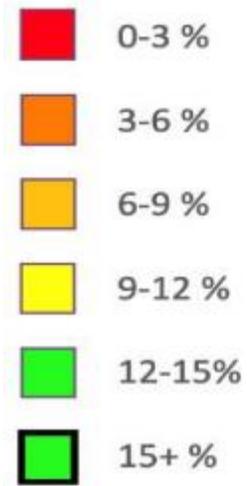
Data and Methods

- Census data
- Life in Christchurch survey (2022)
- Community survey (n=94)
- Focus groups (3 groups, 25 people)

Proximity

Proximity to central city

Percentage of people that commute to work by bike



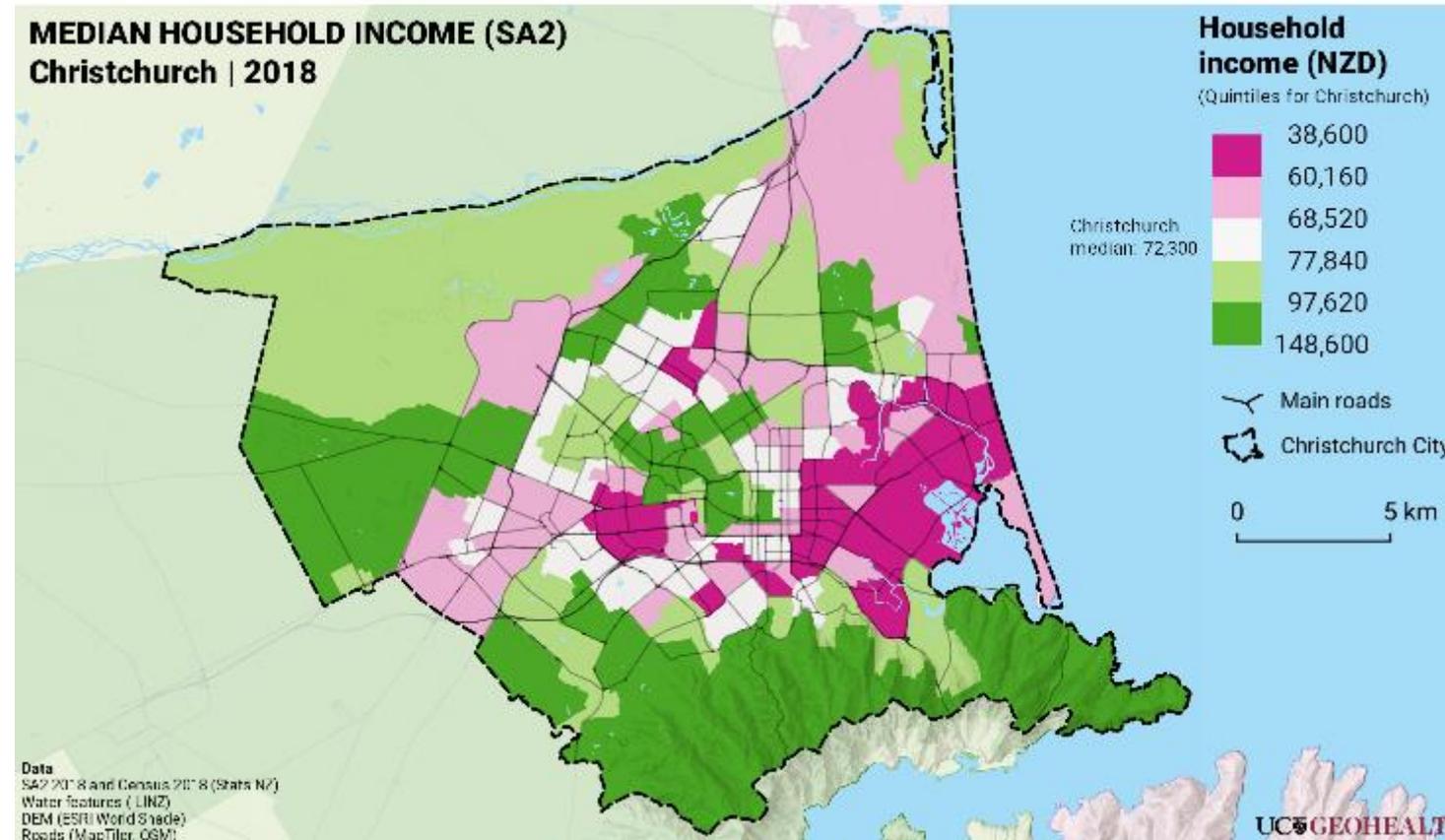
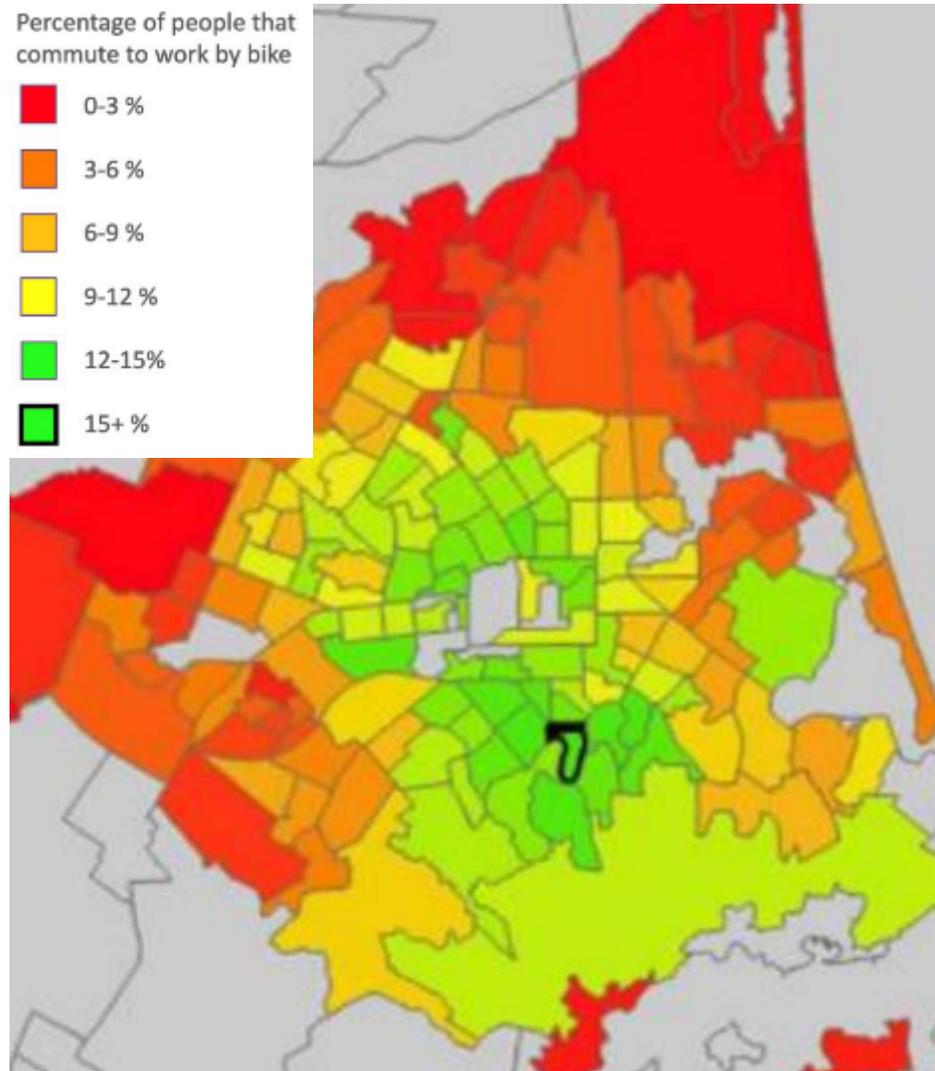
Proximity to Port Hills

"Beckenham attracts people who like the Port Hills, are environmentally focused, with a threshold fitness for cycling" Focus Group 2

"There is a reasonable level of cycling competence already built in due to proximity to the hills" Focus Group 3

People

Relatively affluent



Source: 2018 Census Stats NZ

**"The cargo bike becomes our
"2nd car" to transport kids
around" Focus Group 3**

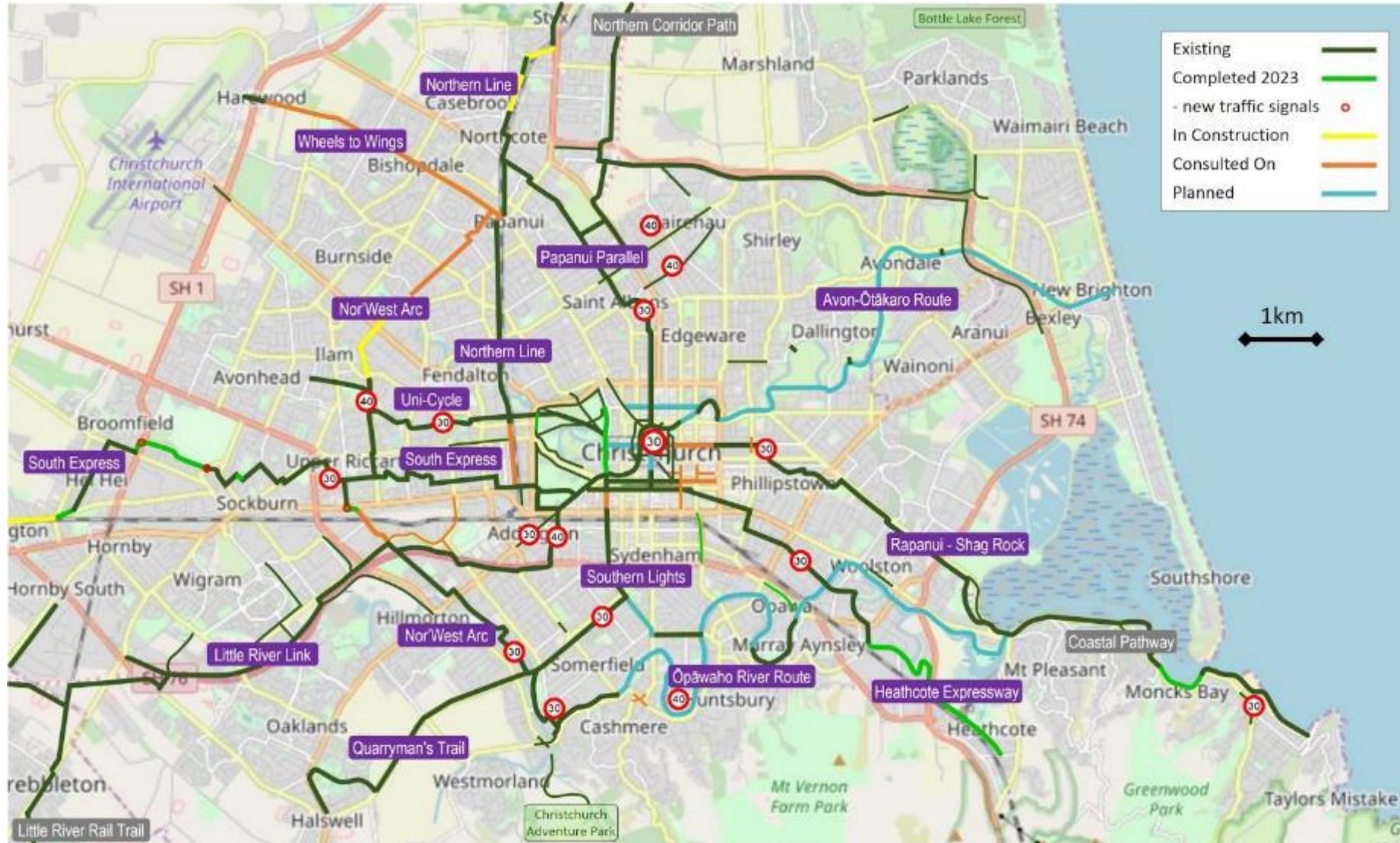


**"We must have like
the highest
proportion of cargo
bikes." Focus Group 1**



Infrastructure

Major Cycle Routes



Cycle infrastructure

Key



Cycleways - mainly separated from the roadway. The routes are a mix of one- and two-way separated cycleways, shared paths, and neighbourhood greenways along quiet low-speed streets.



Cycle routes - one-way only



Shared paths - separated from the roadway, paths are shared with people walking who have right of way. Everyone keep to the left

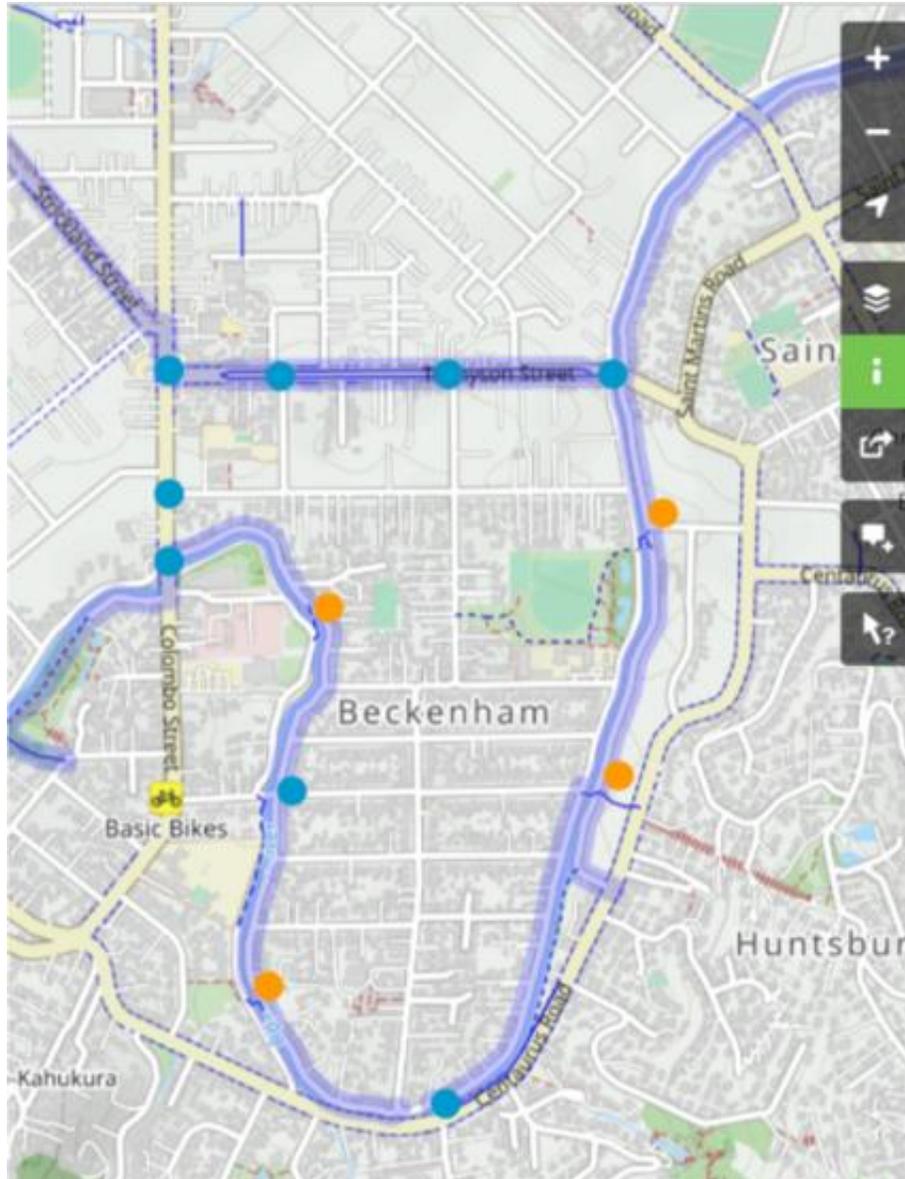


Cycle lanes - a designated strip on the roadway, mainly on busy roads



Place

Filtered Permeability



"There are a lot of alternative routes that you can take that can make you feel safe" Focus Group 3

Map Key

- Local cycleway
- Vehicle access
- Cycle and pedestrian access

Low Speed



"Beckenham feels quite safe, the roads are wide, speed limits are low" Focus Group 3

Topography

- Christchurch is mainly flat, including Beckenham



Pleasant environment

"[having a] sense of community, you are driving around people you know so you have a heightened sense of consciousness, within the loop people are much more cautious" Focus Group 3

"The river encapsulates [Beckenham] from traffic, have separate routes to avoid sections" Focus Group 1

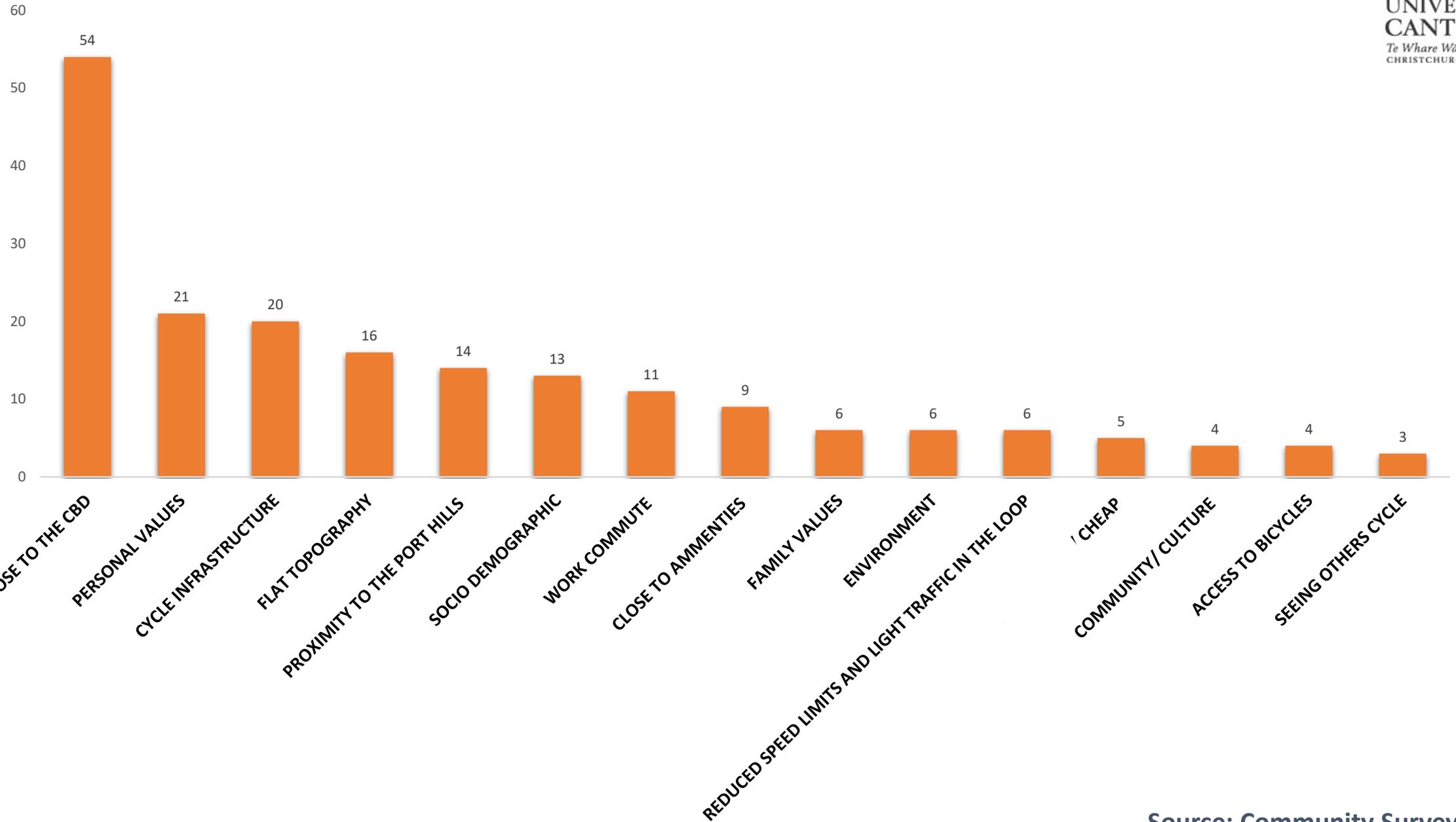
"The river creates a natural barrier.... Pleasant green space that is nice to go around... Beckenham attracts people that like cycling" Focus Group 2



Source: Focus Group and Community Survey

Residents Perceptions

Reasons why residents believe Beckenham has high rates of cycling



Main factors that influence cycling rates

- People
 - Socio-Economic Status
 - A sense of community
- Proximity
 - Close to hills and to CBD
- Infrastructure
 - Connections to key destinations
- Place
 - Filtered permeability
 - Slow speeds / low traffic
 - Pleasant environments for cycling



Applications to other areas

- Add filtered permeability through retrofitting street furniture
- Pleasant environments e.g. greenspace
- Cycling infrastructure
- Lower speed limits
- Creating a sense of community (e.g. cycling for mothers and children)
- E-bikes and Cargo bikes



Thanks
Questions?

