



# Falkland Islands Economic Development Strategy 2026 - 2040

Opportunity to comment – Summary outcomes

May 2026



# Consultation Overview

People were asked to comment on the draft Falkland Islands Economic Development Strategy 2026-2040 published on the FIG Policy website. Paper copies were also made available in the Secretariat.

A public meeting was held in Stanley on 13<sup>th</sup> March, and two briefing sessions in West Falkland took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March in Fox Bay East and Port Howard respectively. An online survey ran concurrently between 13-30<sup>th</sup> April, and people were also given the opportunity to feedback directly to the Senior Policy Advisor via email.

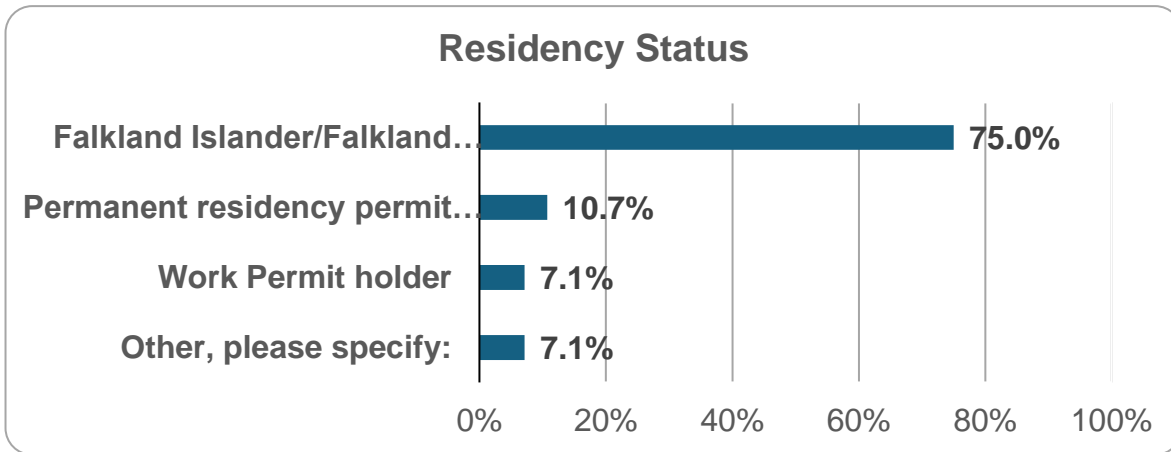
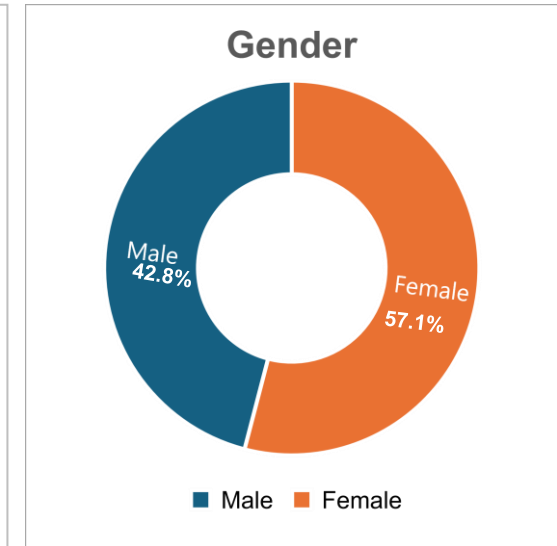
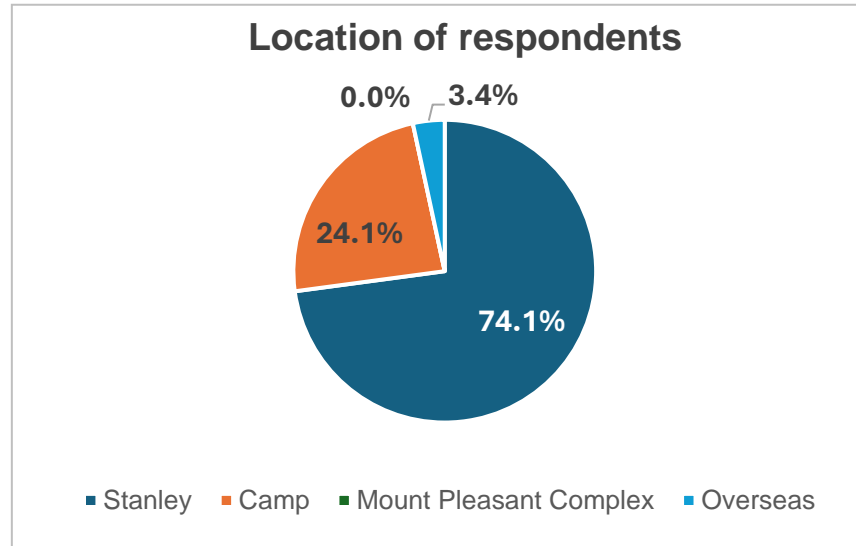
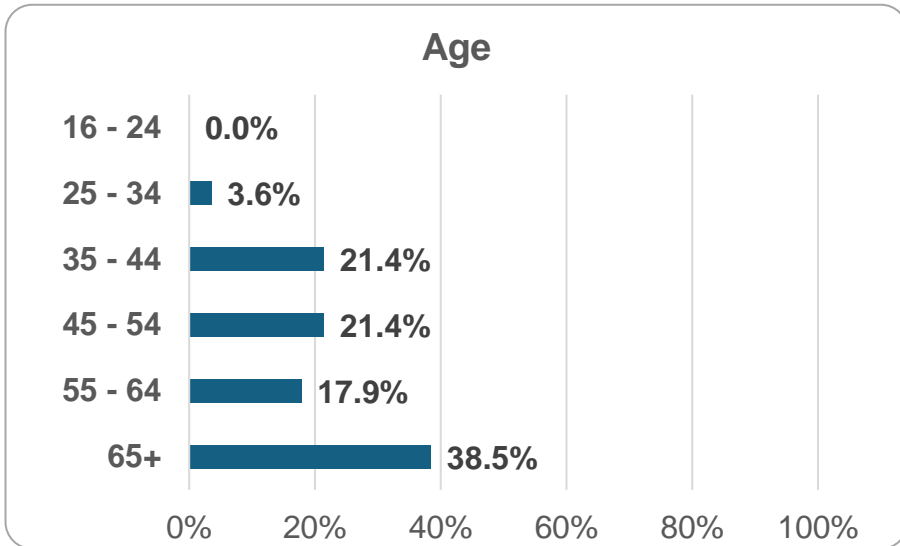
Key stakeholders were also engaged with both prior to and during the consultation. Views were sought in relation to the following:

- Vision statement and strategic priorities
- Economic actions and prioritisation
- Monitoring and reporting
- Specific issues or amendments required to the strategy





# Breakdown of respondents



Engagement was relatively muted with 29 respondents to the survey and approx. 20 attendees across the three meetings.

The survey attracted a good balance of male and female respondents with a reasonable age spread, though there was no participation from adults in the 16-24 bracket.

Geographically, there was stronger proportional representation of Camp residents, with no MPC engagement.

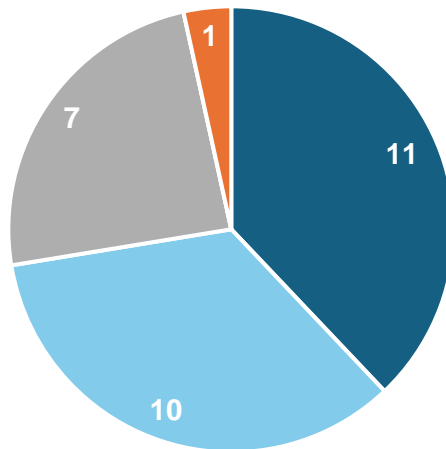
For residency status there was an under representation of PRP and Work Permit holders in responses received.



# Vision for 2040

“By 2040 the Falkland Islands will be a strategically important and resilient economy in the South Atlantic, supporting a prosperous and healthy population committed to self-determination in a unique, pristine environment.”

To what extent do you support this vision?



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Neither agree nor disagree ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree

Support for the vision was strong amongst respondents with an overwhelming majority, 21 out of 29 (72%), either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the vision. One respondent strongly disagreed, with the remaining 7 neither agreeing nor disagreeing with the vision.

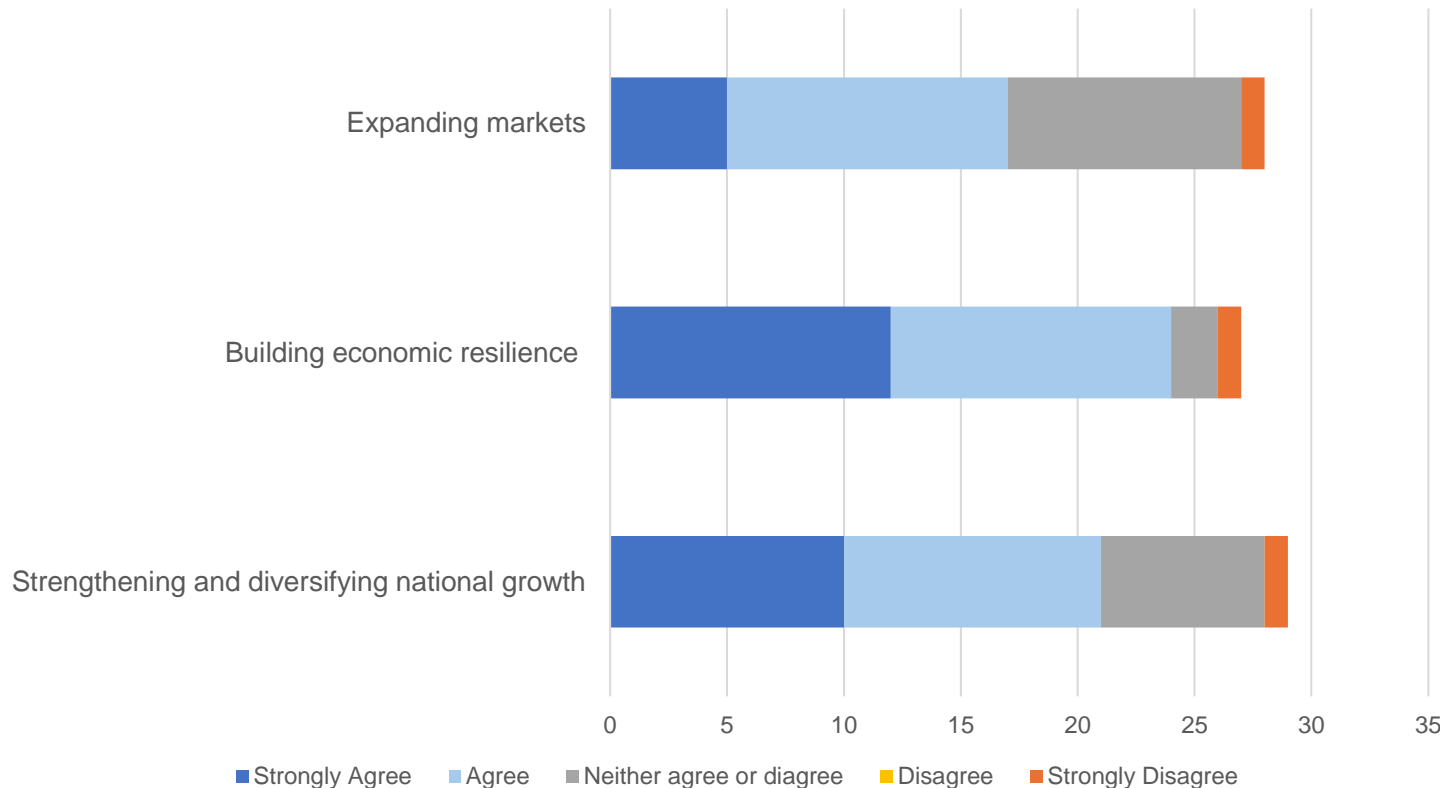
Relating to the vision specifically, two comments were received:

- **Use of the word pristine** – this doesn't accurately describe the majority of the Falklands given the significance of agriculture and other economic activities.
- **No reference to Camp** – the strategy needs to make clear it covers both Camp and Stanley when mentioning a prosperous and healthy population.



# Strategic Economic Priorities

## Support for the three strategic economic priorities



Support for the three economic priorities was high, with each having the majority of respondents either strongly agreeing or agreeing with their inclusion.

In terms of order the most supported priorities were:

1. Building economic resilience
2. Strengthening and diversifying national growth
3. Expanding markets (this had the highest number of neither agree nor disagree responses).

In terms of comments raised in relation to the strategic economic priorities, the following was received\*:

- Support for diversifying the economy, but not at any cost – some respondents particularly highlighted the impact of salmon farming.
- Ensuring that Falkland Islanders benefit from, and are at the centre of, a growing economy.
- Commitment to protect the Islands environment, heritage and culture.
- The significant impact of oil on existing businesses and government – across housing, the labour market and access to services.
- The importance of supporting the environment and effective management of it for those elements of the economy that rely upon it e.g. fishing, tourism, agriculture.
- Import substitution, inward investment and the growth of economically active people.

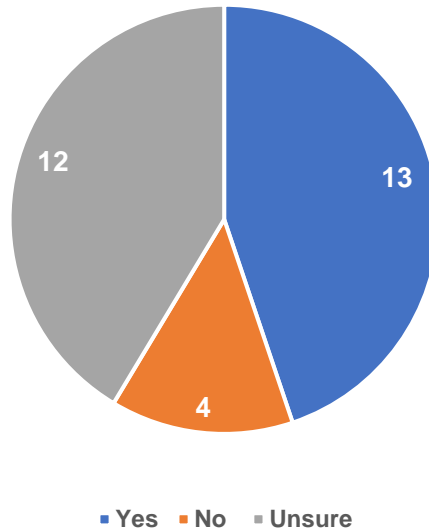
*\*this was from both the online survey and direct feedback.*



# Economic Actions and prioritisation

The strategy sets out 25 economic actions that are split into priority (next 5 years) and longer-term actions.

Do you support the actions that have been prioritised?



Respondents who replied no or unsure were offered the opportunity to give further comment. A summary of this is provided below:

**Environment** – Some respondents noted that economic actions should be prioritised after the environmental impact is understood, as well as funding and capacity concerns.

**Aquaculture** – The language in the strategy regarding aquaculture, particularly in respect of salmon farming, was considered unclear. Several felt they could not support the fishing diversification action whilst this was the case and that this would run counter to the environmental ambitions of the Islands.

**Hydrocarbons** – Lack of specifics in relation to the impact of the sector will have.

**Deliverability and capacity** – Funding for actions prioritised raised as a potential risk, given the restrictions of government funding over the near-term. Respondents felt some of the proposals were ambitious.

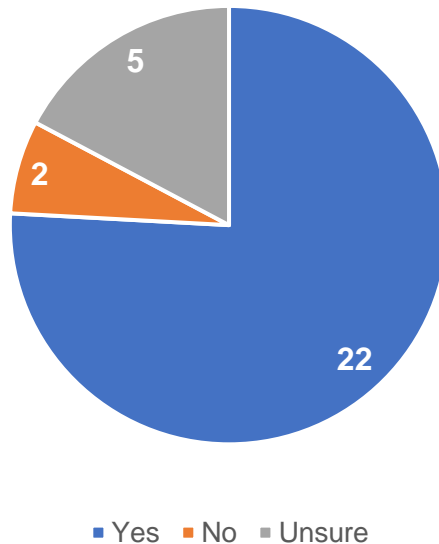
**Sequencing** – Some felt that longer-term actions could be delivered in the near-term by the private sector e.g. new civilian airport terminal.

# Monitoring and Evaluation

It is intended that the strategy would report annually on progress to ExCo, supporting accountability in the delivery of actions. This could be integrated with existing processes, such as Island Plan updates and state of the economy reports.

As well as this, it is proposed that the strategy would be reviewed at the 5- and 10-year milestone (approx. 2030 and 2035) to account for any significant shifts changes in the economy that would require response.

Do you support the monitoring and evaluation proposals?



Again, respondents who selected no or unsure were able to expand on their answer. These have been summarised below:

**Frequency of annual reporting** – One respondent felt this was too frequent and that progress reports take up a lot of government capacity. They felt that every 3-5 years would be more appropriate.

**Misalignment with political cycles** – A respondent noted the 4-year period for each assembly was not aligned with the review points (5 and 10 years) of the strategy.

**Scepticism about the strategy** – two respondents raised concerns in relation to the deliverability of the strategy and suggested that it be held over until the fiscal picture stabilises and oil activity begins.



# Stakeholder responses

In addition to the online consultation, key stakeholders provided written submission detailing their views on the draft documents or requested briefings to discuss it. A list of those organisations who engaged in the process is listed below:

- British Forces South Atlantic Islands
- British Antarctic Survey
- Falkland Islands Development Corporation
- Falkland Islands Chamber of Commerce Board
- Falkland Islands Tourist Board
- Falkland Islands Tourism Association
- Falkland Islands Fishing Companies Association
- General Employers Union

Several clarifying points were received (i.e. regarding a specific sector) which have been incorporated into the strategy.

Broader themes raised have been captured in the overall feedback and will be taken into account as part of the process for approving the strategy.





# Summary and next steps

Engagement from the broader community was lower than previous rounds of consultation on the EDS, though continued input from key stakeholders was still positive and constructive.

Respondents were supportive of the economic vision, the strategic priorities set out and the monitoring and evaluation process but gaps or areas where the strategy could be strengthened have been identified:

- **Environment** – the dependence of the economy upon it, particularly in terms of fisheries, agriculture and tourism, and the need to ensure that economic development is sustainable.
- **Retaining prosperity in the Islands** – ensuring that wealth and prosperity generated from new and existing industries is retained in the national economy as far as possible, with Falkland Islands businesses and people given the skills and opportunity to participate in all levels of the economy, with strengthened local content policy to back this up.

- **Hydrocarbons** – the impact of the industry on the existing economy and greater recognition of that within the strategy.

This feedback will be used to edit the next version of the strategy, along with some specific minor amendments to help clarify some actions, which will go to Executive Council for approval on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026.

