

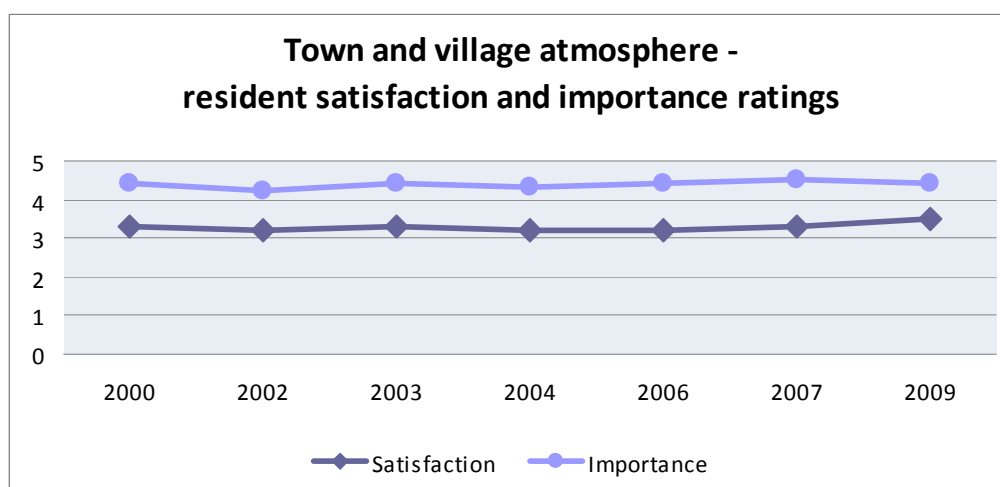
## Built environment – town and village atmosphere

### What are we monitoring?

*Difference between resident satisfaction with and their importance rating for town and village atmosphere*

### What is the trend?

Between 2000 and 2009 residents' rating of importance for town and village atmosphere fluctuated from a low in 2002 of 4.2 to a high of 4.5 in 2007. In 2009 residents rating for this issue returned to the relatively stable 2000 level of 4.4. However, satisfaction with town and village atmosphere has increased from 3.3 in 2000 to 3.5 in 2009. The gap between importance and satisfaction reduced between 2000 and 2009.



TOWN AND VILLAGE ATMOSPHERE							
Satisfaction ratings							
Year	2000	2002	2003	2004	2006	2007	2009
Rating	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.5
Importance ratings							
Year	2000	2002	2003	2004	2006	2007	2009
Rating	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.4

### Why is monitoring this trend important?

Town and village atmosphere relates to how people feel about their living environment. The satisfaction rating depends on subjective factors such as vibrancy, attractiveness, and how safe and friendly a village feels to local residents. Ideally, people in the Blue Mountains will feel good about their local towns and villages. In the 2009, survey respondents 90% ranked town and village atmosphere as a highly important planning and development issue. 50% of respondents ranked high satisfaction with this issue. The gap between importance and satisfaction suggests that more can be done to improve perceptions of town and village atmosphere.

**Source:** Blue Mountains City Council, Blue Mountains Community Surveys: 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2009. The Survey is conducted every one to two years. Ratings are given on a 1-5 scale, with 1 the lowest level of importance and satisfaction and 5 the highest.

[www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/yourcommunity/communitysurvey](http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/yourcommunity/communitysurvey)