Surprise, surprise, just when you thought the post-65 generation youngsters might play with their votes, the voting patterns discerned by PAP leaders suggest otherwise. This was borne out by a street poll conducted by Insight this week. Sim Chi Yin, Oh Chian Lim and Jessica Lim find out why.

As Miss Lee Tan stepped into the polling booth last Saturday, she wondered for a moment. Then, against her earlier instincts, the 23-year-old first-time voter marked a cross next to the lightning symbol.

For the Ang Mo Kio GRC resident, it was a choice between the Prime Minister’s People’s Action Party (PAP) team and the Workers’ Party’s (“WP” “middle squad” led by 30-year-old Yaw Shin Leong.

Mr Yaw and his youthful teammates had addressed issues such as cost of living and help for small businesses, which were important to her and reinforced her view that the opposition “was quite strong”, she said.

But when it was time to bite the bullet, she concluded she played it safe. Why? “The WP team was impressive but inexperienced,” she said.

The candidate talked about current issues but what she wanted to know was what my future was with them.

What will it be like five years down the road? Young people vote for someone who can bring us economic security, jobs and good housing.

“It’s still safer to vote the PAP. More stable and we can see results,” she said with a smile.

By going an Insight street poll of 104 young Singaporeans conducted this week, Miss Tan seems to fit.

“Young voters understand what is at stake and they have voted very, very sensibly,” he said.

The election result was not surprising, early voting figures announced on Sunday said the PAP had won by 66.6 per cent of the vote.

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