

QUEEN'S PARK AND RECREATION GROUND



Community Consultation Report

By

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Introduction

The Queen's Park Working Group appointed Ironside Farrar to collaborate with the local community, park users, various organisations, and Glasgow City Council to create a long-term Development Plan for Queen's Park and Recreation Ground, spanning the next 15 to 20 years. Established in 2021, the Working Group aims to support the park's revitalisation.

The project's goal is to develop a set of costed development proposals for Queen's Park, grounded in broad based community and stakeholder support, and supported by realistic capital and revenue funding plans. Integral to the design process is support and involvement in the Development Plan. Successful community engagement will be achieved through a well-developed partnership with the client group, local authority officers, and other stakeholders.

The consultancy's output will be a clearly costed set of development proposals, backed by extensive community and stakeholder support and realistic funding plans. Central to this initiative is the creation of development proposals for Queen's Park, based on comprehensive community and stakeholder engagement.

The consultation report for Queen's Park and Recreation Ground compiles feedback from various engagement activities, including an online questionnaire, participation in AGMs with Friends of Queens Park and the Strathbungo Society, informal conversations with park users, workshops with Shawlands Academy pupils, the Woodcraft Youth Group, and a community drop-in session. This report serves as a thorough compilation of the community's input, designed to guide future decisions regarding the park's development.

The development trajectory, shaped by these engagement insights, considers the park's heritage, biodiversity, sustainability, and significance to the local community. This paves the way for a transformative Development Plan, aimed at establishing Queen's Park as a leading urban green space that enhances the lives of both current and future generations.

Introduction to Community Consultation Questionnaire 2023

The questions for the questionnaire were collaboratively developed by Ironside Farrar and the steering group to understand current perceptions of Queen's Park and Recreation Ground, its usage, factors that would encourage greater use and elements of particular importance. Located in the heart of Glasgow's Southside, the park is surrounded by dense diverse neighbourhoods with a high percentage of tenement flat dwellers with no access to green space. Thus, making it crucial for the consultation be as inclusive and reflective of this diversity as possible. The client group set ambitious targets for the number of respondents, prompting the creation of questions that were simple, quick to answer both electronically via Survey Monkey and in physical form. Access to the survey was facilitated through a website link and QR code, which were widely publicised through fliers, posters, and social media. Additionally, a prize draw for local business vouchers was offered to further incentivise participation.

Queen's Park & Recreation Ground

Welcome to the Queen's Park Community Consultation.

We're looking for your views on how to improve Queen's Park. Please give us your views.

* Queen's Park Working Group, a community and Council partnership, has secured Area Partnership funding to undertake a community consultation as an input to developing ideas of how to improve Queen's Park & Recreation Ground. We are grateful to you for taking the time to complete this survey.

1. How often do you use Queen's Park? (Tick all that apply)

- a. Walking / running
- b. Dog walking
- c. Children's play
- d. Playing nature / green space
- e. Meeting friends
- f. Exercise
- g. Attending events
- h. Other please specify

2. How often do you visit Queen's Park? (Tick 1)

- a. Most days
- b. 2-3 days a week
- c. Once a week
- d. Monthly
- e. Occasionally
- f. Never

3. What features of Queen's Park do you particularly like? (Tick all that apply)

- a. Pond area / model boat club
- b. Play area
- c. Glasshouses
- d. Queen's Park Faggoles area and views
- e. Arena
- f. Recreation ground
- g. Fosty garden
- h. Advertisements
- i. Tennis courts
- j. Skatepark
- k. Iron age fort
- l. Wilderness / biodiversity area
- m. Open spaces, slopes & terraces facing Victoria Road
- n. Other please specify

4. What 3 Improvements to Queen's Park would you particularly like to see? (Tick up to 3)

- a. Improved litter collection / bins
- b. More seating
- c. Better general maintenance
- d. Improved security
- e. Improved biodiversity
- f. Education activity
- g. Additional play opportunities
- h. Public artwork
- i. More organised social activities (walking, keep fit, children's activity groups etc.)
- j. Interpretation
- k. Improved paths
- l. Challenge water management
- m. Other please specify

5. What 3 things would encourage you to use Queen's Park more often? (Tick all 3)

- a. More accessible, attractive, and well positioned entrances
- b. More facilities such as play areas, toilets, cafes, glasshouses, cycle parking (please specify)
- c. More activities such as use of pond, galas, tennis, sport, yoga, conservation/volunteering, health walks, concerts (please specify)
- d. More interpretation, signage, and restoration of the park's historic and bio-diversity assets
- e. Improved paths and accessibility
- f. Other (please specify)

6. Which area do you live in? (Choose 1 and tick 'a' to 'i', with 'f' being most frequent)

- a. Queen's Park
- b. Govanhill
- c. Crosshill
- d. Mount Florida
- e. Balford
- f. Langside
- g. Shawlands
- h. Strathbungo
- i. Pollockshields
- j. Elsewhere in Glasgow
- k. Outside Glasgow (please specify)

7. Your Age

- a. Up to 15
- b. 16-24
- c. 25-44
- d. 45-64
- e. 65+

8. Your Gender

- a. Male
- b. Female
- c. Prefer to use own terms
- d. Prefer not to say

9. What is your ethnic group? (Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background)

- a. Asian / Asian British
- b. Black / African / Caribbean / Black British
- c. White
- d. Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups
- e. Other ethnic group
- f. Prefer not to say

10. Do you have any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activity or the work you can do?

- a. Yes, a physical condition
- b. Yes, a mental health condition
- c. No
- d. Prefer not to say

11. Please add any other comments you have about Queen's Park.

Thank you for your time. If you would like the opportunity to win a £20 voucher for Cibo on Victoria Road, please leave your email address below. Five winners will be randomly selected and informed by December.

Email address: _____

(Email address for including in draw only. It will not be utilised for any other purposes or passed to third parties and will be removed from our database following the draw.)

Please complete and hand to one of the team or follow the QR code to complete online.
Post to: Ironside Farrar, 8th Floor, 100 Buchanan St, Glasgow G1 2JA
To get in touch with the team email: info@ironsidefarrar.com

GDPR: All information provided will be held securely and in line with GDPR legislation. The responses will only be shared with the Queen's Park Working Group. No personal data has been captured. You can opt to be removed from the mailing list at any time.

The questionnaire was circulated throughout the park twice on the 29th of August and the 16th of September and supplemented by 10 visits between 30 minutes to an hour. These visits generally took place between 08.00 and 10.00, and 18.00 and 19.00 on weekdays, between 09.00 and 10.00 on a Saturday and from 11.00 on a Sunday. QR codes on fliers were distributed in various areas throughout the park, but there was concentration in areas of higher activity such as at Victoria Road, the pond area and recreation ground.

During these visits, the team engaged in informal conversations with approximately one hundred park users. These discussions included a diverse range of participants, such as members of ethnic minority communities, individuals with physical disabilities, parents supervising their children at the playground, parents involved in the school run, cycle commuters, skaters, and basketball players. This inclusive approach allowed the team to ask targeted questions tailored to the specific needs and experiences of these different groups, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the park's usage and areas for improvement. By consulting with such a varied demographic, the team were able to gather valuable insights that might otherwise have been overlooked.

The Community Consultation questionnaire ran from 29th August to the 1st of October, posters were also displayed around the park, in shops and other businesses. Paper copies were also available at the South Seeds shop and other locations.

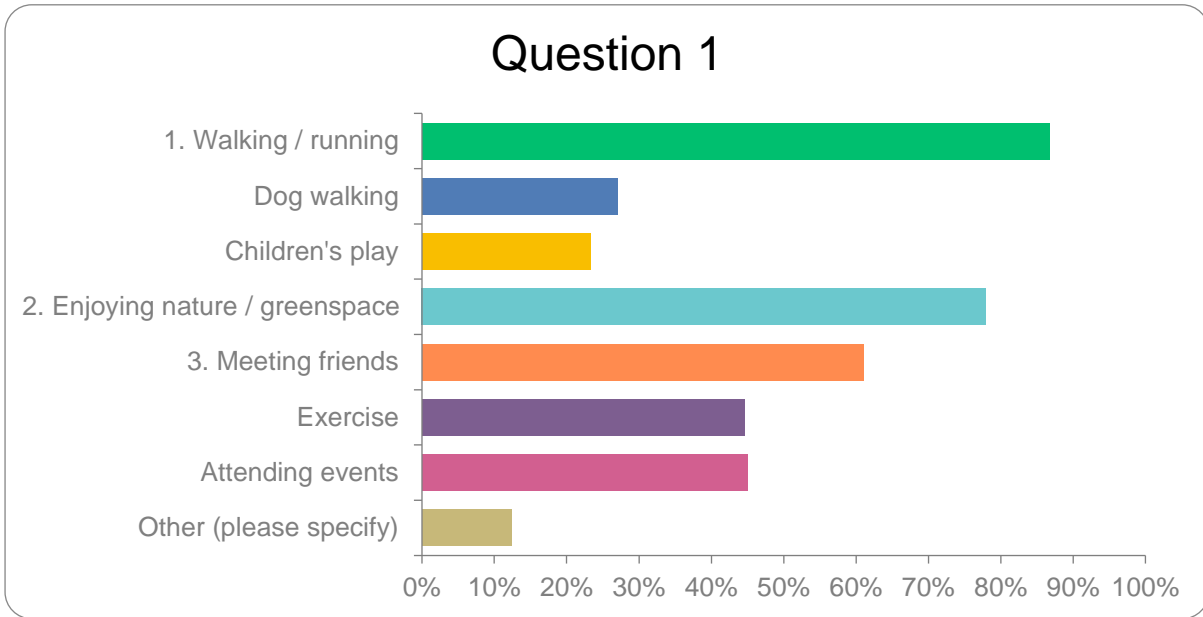
There were 1023 online responses, and seventeen written responses, **totalling to 1040 responses** to the questionnaire, over a period of four weeks. Please note that in Ironside Farrar's experience, the community consultation during the equivalent of RIBA Stage 1 was amongst the largest in the UK, reflecting the interest and value that the local community and individuals have for Queen's Park. This particularly high number, together with a relatively simple format, allowed for a robust analysis of the data, with an increased confidence of the validity of response. The data, gathered in Excel format is anonymous and has been forwarded to client to allow for future analysis and reference.

Engagement Outcomes – Quantitative Data

The following section summarises the findings of the questionnaire:

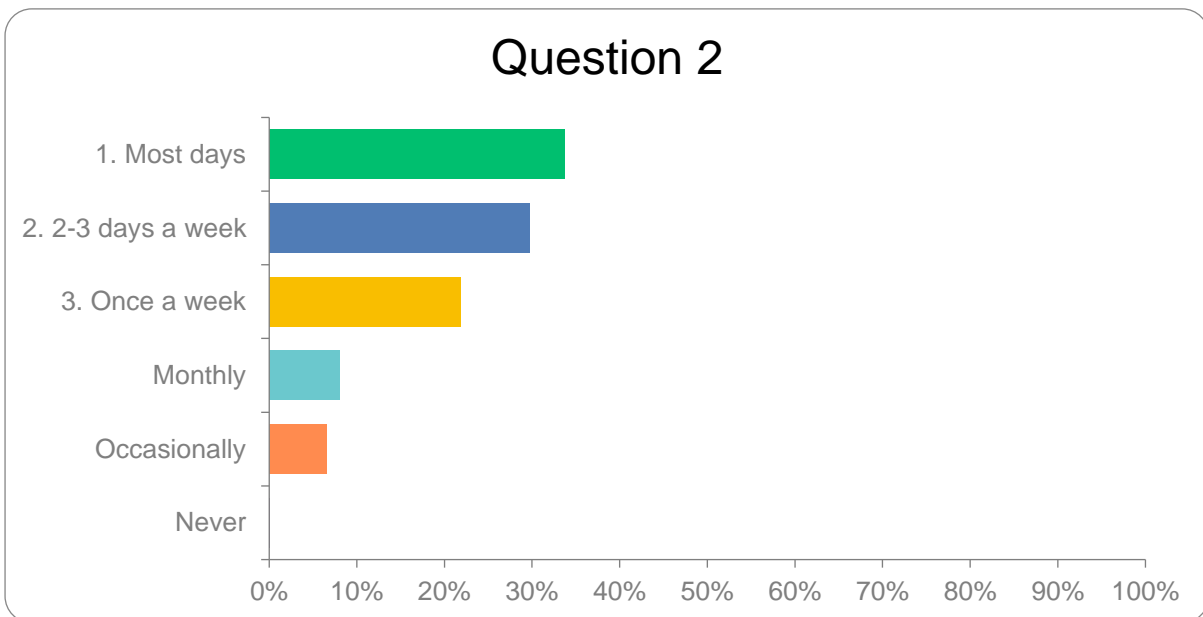
1. How do you use Queen’s Park? (select all that apply)

A total of 3927 responses were collected. The most common responses included 86.79% selecting ‘walking/running’, 77.96% selecting ‘enjoying nature/greenspace’ and 61.02% selecting ‘meeting friends’.



2. How often do you visit Queen’s Park?

33.75% of respondents said they visited Queen’s Park most days, and another 29.70% visited Queen’s Park 2-3 days a week, and further 21.89% said they visited once a week.



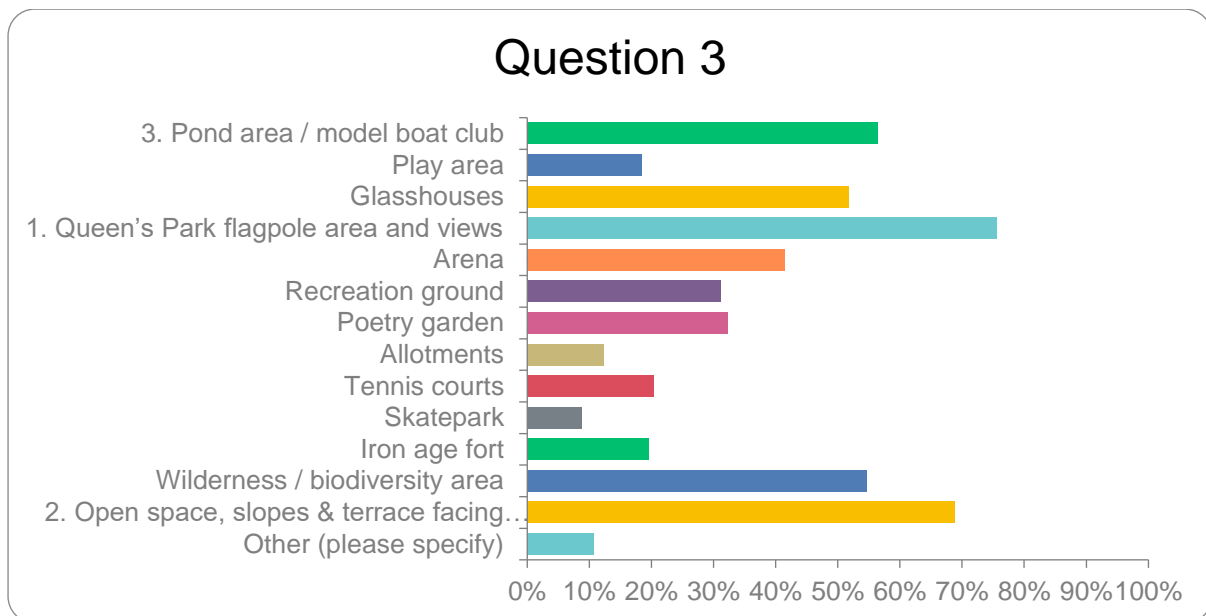
3. What features of Queen’s Park do you particularly like? (select all that apply)

A total of 5,193 responses were gathered for this question. The prevailing choice among respondents was the Queen’s Park flagpole area and its scenic views, selected by a significant 75.53% of participants.

When asked to specify additional preferences, 10.64% of respondents (110 in total) indicated other features they found appealing. Notably, the park’s natural beauty was evident with 21 respondents mentioning their visits were motivated by the diverse wooded areas, trees, and wildlife. Furthermore, 9 respondents specifically favoured the Orchard.

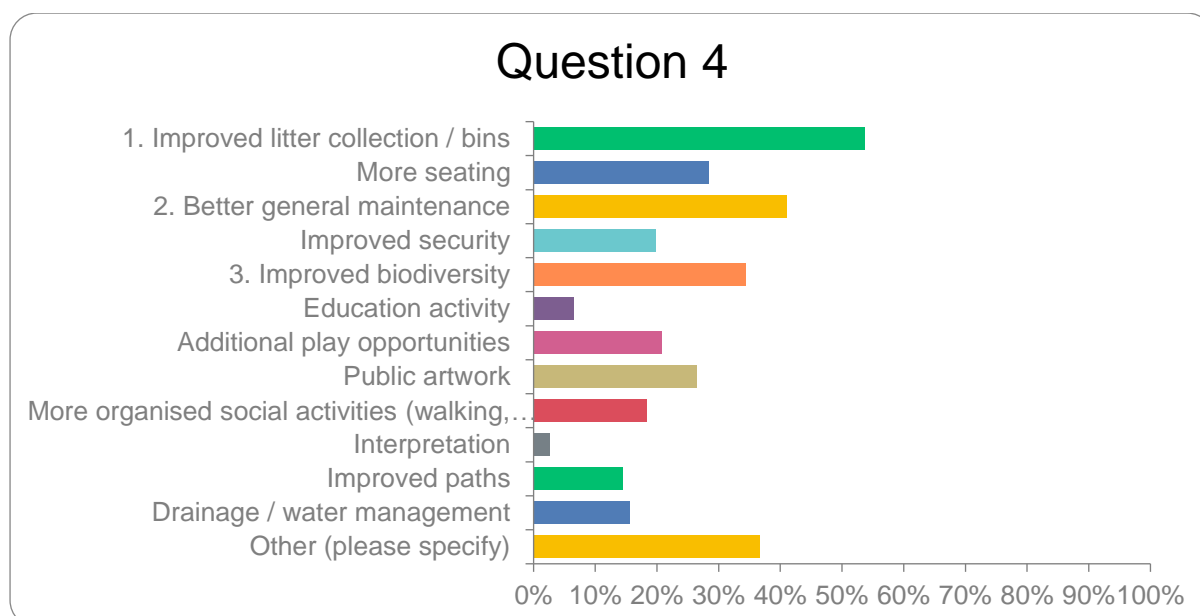
A further 19 respondents expressed liking the basketball facilities in the park. Additionally, the former Pitch and Putt area drew the attention of 15 respondents, who noted its transformation into a dog socialisation area – the main part of the park where dogs can roam off lead.

These insights offer a more comprehensive view of respondent’s preferences’, highlighting a further range of both natural and recreational features within Queen’s Park.



4. What 3 improvements to Queen’s Park would you particularly like to see? (select your top 3 priorities from the list)

Within the 16-24 age category, survey responses indicate that the top priorities are, in order of importance, improved biodiversity, public artwork, and better general maintenance of the park. This ranking may be influenced by several factors. These preferences highlight the importance of catering to the environmental and aesthetic sensibilities, as well as the practical needs of the 16-24 age category to create a park that truly meets the desires and aspirations of this demographic.



Despite public concerns, continuous on-site observations have noted that large capacity bins are regularly emptied, and there is a prompt response to litter on busy days within the park.

When asked to specify additional preferences, 36.68% of respondents (380 in total) indicated other improvements they would like to see throughout the park.

Within the 'Other' category, a significant number of survey participants expressed their desire for improvements in two key areas: enhanced lighting (a total of 60 respondents) and the introduction of public toilets (mentioned by 55 respondents).

It is also worth noting that a substantial 47 respondents emphasised the urgent need for repairs and maintenance in recreational areas, particularly in spaces like the basketball court and skate park.

20 respondents pointed out the need for enhanced general maintenance within the park, with many highlighting specific concerns regarding the pond area. Additionally, 18 respondents expressed their desire for the park to offer improved or additional play areas.

A further 14 respondents called for the reopening of the glasshouse, highlighting its significance. Equally, another 14 respondents suggested dedicated dog-specific areas within the park, indicating some demand for such a facility. This would require to be balanced with other competing demands.

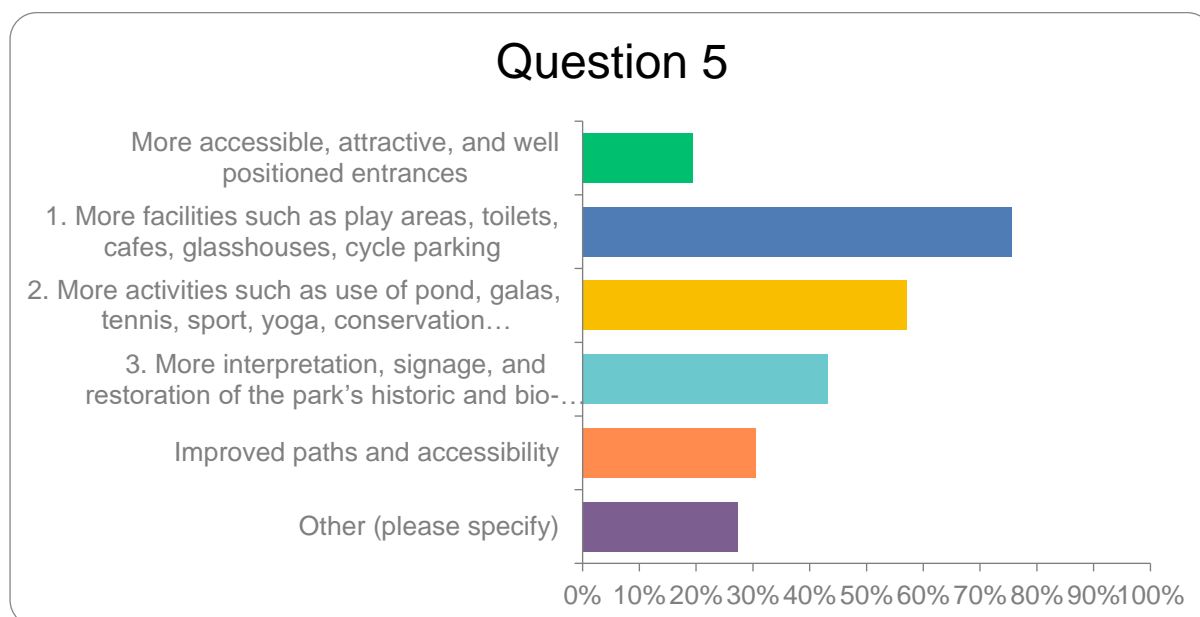
'Public artwork' received a relatively high percentage of 26.45% in terms of improvements respondents would like to see at Queen's Park.

These suggestions highlight a diverse range of interests and potential enhancements that should be considered in future park planning and improvements. The full list of suggestions is appended to this report.

5. What 3 things would encourage you to use Queen's Park more often? (select your top 3 priorities from the list)

A total of 2586 responses were recorded and 75.64% of respondents highlighted that they would like 'More facilities such as play areas, toilets, cafes, glasshouses, cycle parking'.

Additionally, 43.15% of survey respondents emphasised the need for enhanced interpretation, signage, and restoration efforts to preserve the park's historical and biodiversity assets. This reflects a strong interest in maintaining and showcasing the ecological and cultural significance of the park.



When asked to specify additional preferences in the 'Other' category, 27.30% of respondents (279 in total) indicated other things may encourage them to use Queen's Park more often. These are numerous and listed in full as an appendix to this report.

Similar to Question 4, a significant majority of respondents expressed a strong preference for enhanced park amenities, with 34 individuals specifically highlight the need for improved lighting. Moreover, approximately 31 respondents emphasised the importance of better overall park maintenance and in certain instances, requested additional bins and more efficient litter collection. Additionally, 14 participants indicated the need for public toilets to be situated either throughout or somewhere in the park.

Many of the respondents also highlighted the need to improve and maintain the current basketball court and play areas while advocating for the introduction of new recreational facilities. Specifically, around 39 respondents identified one or more of the following additions as factors that would motivate them to utilise the park more frequently, a skatepark, table tennis facilities, and additional play areas.

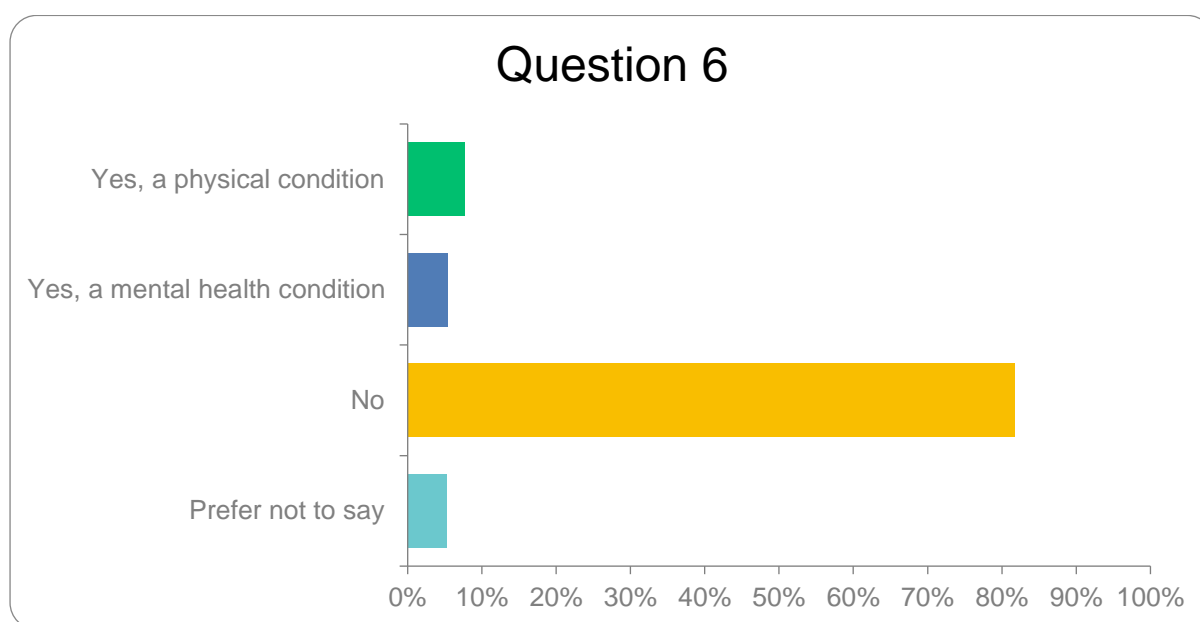
It is important to note that 57.14% of respondents highlighted that they would be more likely to use the park if there were 'More activities such as use of pond, galas, tennis, sport, yoga, conservation volunteering, health walks, concerts'. Which resonates with

the individuals who selected 'Other' and highlighted they would use the park more if there were better maintained and accessible recreation areas.

6. Do you have any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activity or the work you can do?

A total of 1027 responses were recorded and of that 81.69% of respondents said they did not have any long-term illness, health problem or disability.

Out of 1027 respondents, 79 (7.69%) reported physical health problems, indicating potential accessibility challenges. Notably, 35 of these individuals, also selected "Improved paths and accessibility" in response to Question 5, as an encouragement to use Queen's Park more often, highlighting the need for enhanced accessibility features in the park to accommodate for those with physical health issues.



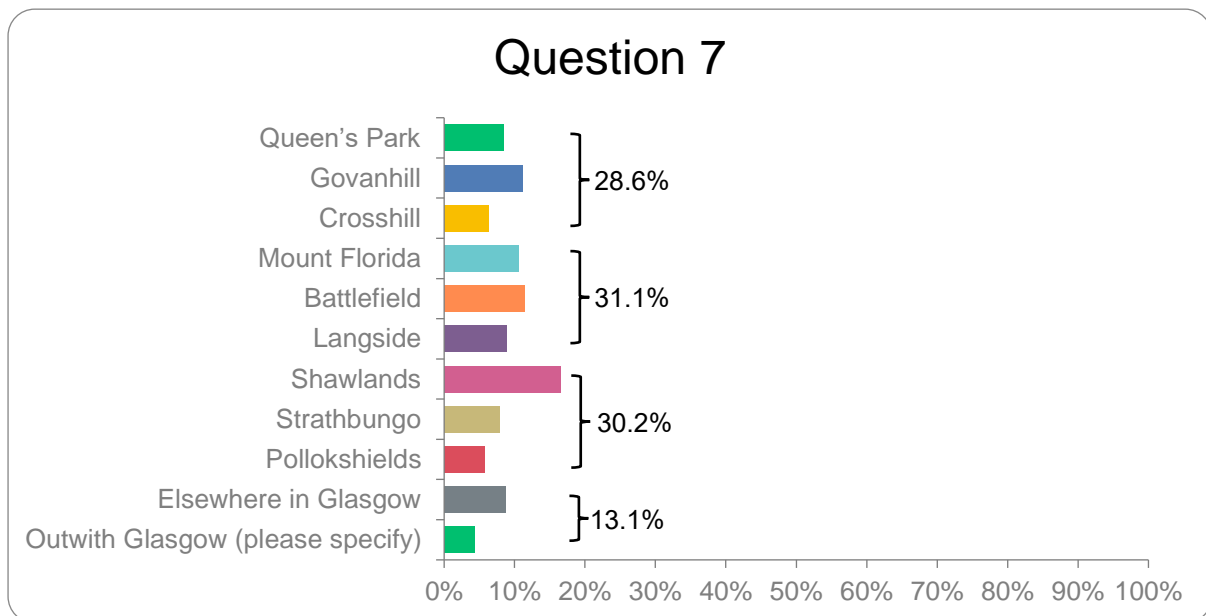
7. Which area do you live in?

This question can be categorised into 4 subsets.

The first subsection includes Queen's Park, Govanhill and Crosshill where residents most likely enter the park from the North. A total of 25.77% respondents are from these areas.

The second includes Mount Florida, Battlefield and Langside where residents most likely enter from the Southeast. A total of 30.99% respondents are from these areas.

The third subsection includes Shawlands, Strathbungo and Pollokshields where residents most likely enter from the South or Southwest, and the fourth subsection which includes elsewhere and outwith Glasgow. From the South or Southwest entrance points a total of 30.12% of respondents are from these areas, whereas a total of 13.12% respondents were from elsewhere or outwith Glasgow. The map below shows the location and a representation of the number of respondents from the various neighbourhoods surrounding the area.



8. Your age.

The most common age of respondents was between 25 and 44. Although paper copies of the survey were available, the responses are much lower in the 65+ category which could be due to the use of QR codes. This might be attributed to a number of factors such as limited familiarity, technology barriers, and accessibility issues. Upon examining the Glasgow City Council's Ward Factsheets for 2017, specifically focusing on Ward 7 (Langside) and Ward 8 (Southside Central), it was observed that the data pertaining to the 65+ age category in the survey responses closely aligns with the figures from the Factsheets.

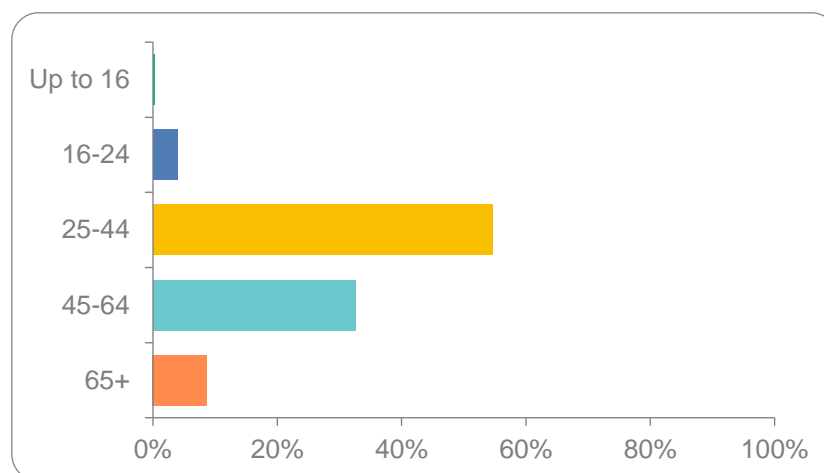
In Ward 7¹, with a total recorded population of 29,060, approximately 13.56% fell within the 65+ category which represented a total of 3,940 individuals.

Similarly, in Ward 8², out of a total population of 25,266, approximately 11.72% were in the 65+ category, accounting for 2,962 residents. When combined, these figures indicate that 12.70% of the Queen's Park surrounding area's population belongs to the 65+ age group.

Comparing this to the survey data, which reached a total of 8.69% within the 65+ category, it can be concluded that the survey still engaged with a significant portion of the 65+ demographic, albeit the group was under-represented.

With only 3.96% of respondents falling within the up to 16 or 16 to 24 age categories, it is clear that younger age groups were under-represented. It may be the case, that a future targeted approach, such as involving schools and youth groups, could prove beneficial for successful engagement, gathering their perspectives and ensure their voices are represented effectively.

The survey data revealed that within the 16 to 24 age group, a higher proportion of females responded compared males. This could be indicative of certain activities or aspects of the park are more appealing or relevant to females. Therefore, conducting more focussed, future engagement within this age group may provide insights into the specific factors influencing this gender-based response discrepancy.



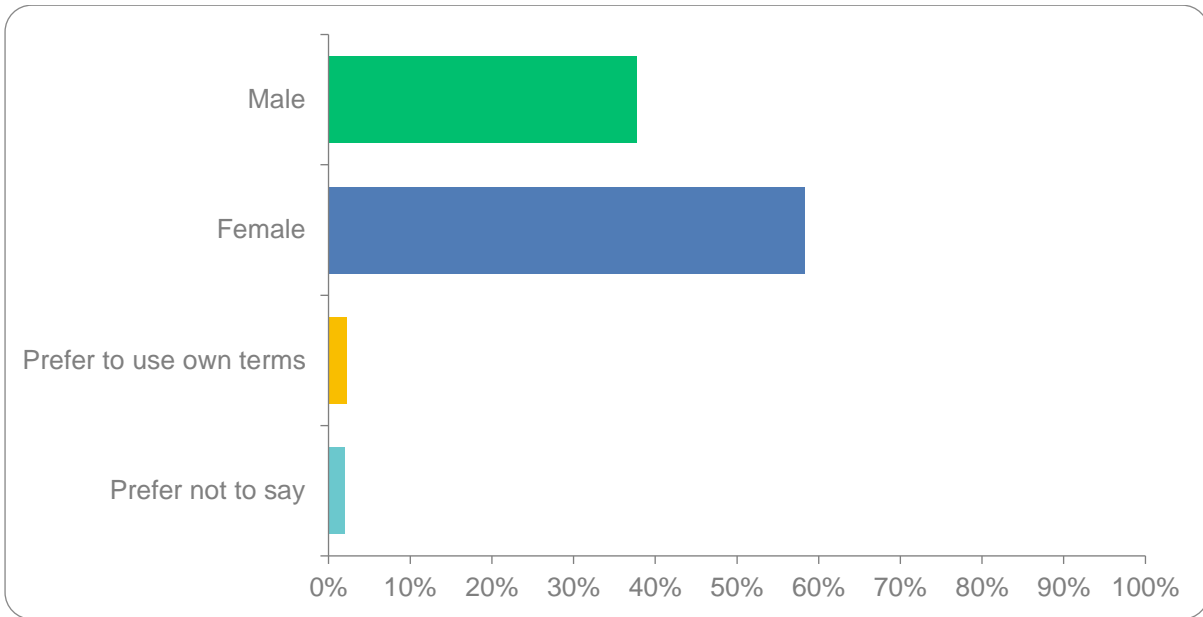
¹ [Ward 7 - Langside](#)

² [Ward 8 - Southside Central](#)

9. Your gender.

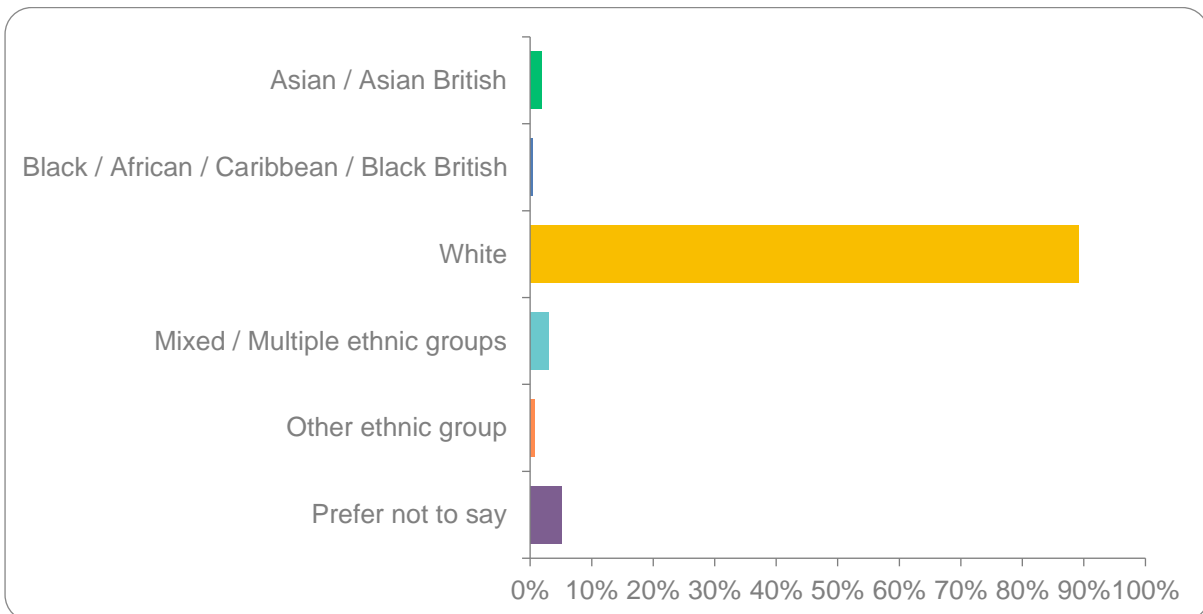
More females than males participated in the survey, a total of 58.29%, whereas a total of 37.76% respondents were male.

When asked what 3 improvements to Queen’s Park would you like to see (Question 4), 130 females selected ‘improved security’ and only 70 males selected this improvement, which indicates considerable difference between how females and males perceive safety in the park.



10. What is your ethnic group? (Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background)

The majority of respondents described themselves as white, a total of 89.21%.

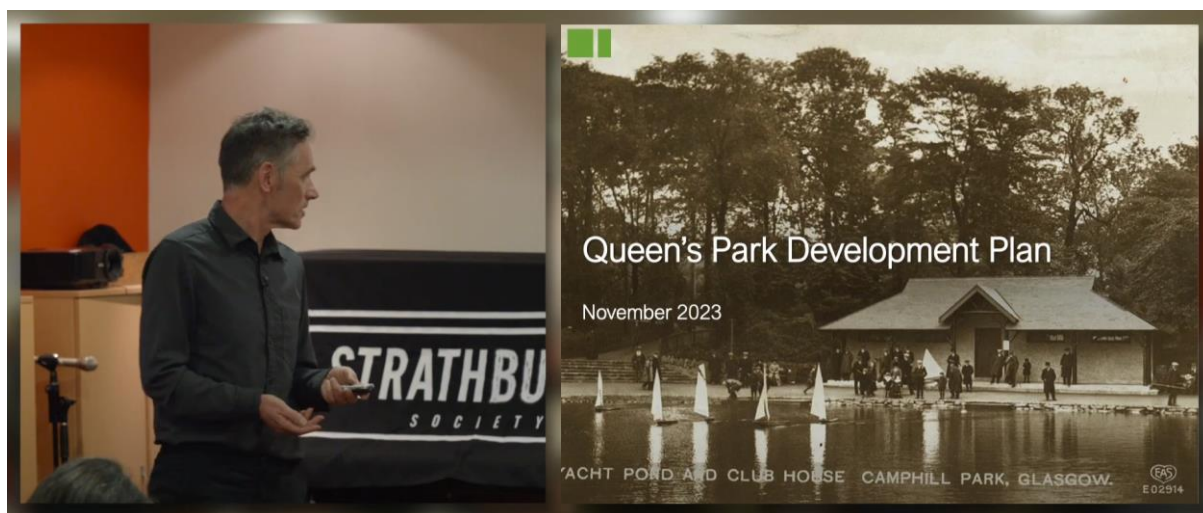


Respondents were given the opportunity to make any further comments. 500 people chose to do so. This provided invaluable insight into people's views of the park, its management, its value to them and their hopes and concerns about how it may be in the future. There were many suggestions for improvements and for priorities. In addition, read, as a whole, they provide an interesting barometer of the likely most appropriate approach for a Development Plan. Together with the other data in the questionnaire that provided a strong basis on which to build a draft list of proposals. These comments are included, in their entirety, appended to this report.

Face to Face Presentations and Consultation Feedback

Strathbungo Society AGM (November 2023)

The Strathbungo Society's Annual General Meeting on November 7th, 2023, featured a presentation by a representative from Ironside Farrar, focussing on the ongoing consultation regarding improvements to Queen's Park.



During the presentation, comprehensive details were provided regarding the proposed enhancements to Queen's Park, covering various aspects such as infrastructure, landscaping, recreational facilities, and amenities. The importance of community involvement in shaping the development plans was emphasised, with attendees encouraged to share their perspectives, concerns, and suggestions. The interactive dialogue facilitated a collaborative approach to decision-making, with attendees actively engaging in discussions and offering valuable insights.

The consultation process was outlined and the anticipated impact of the enhancements on the local community were highlighted, emphasising the collective commitment to ensuring that the development aligns with the neighbourhoods' aspirations.

The presentation served as an instigator for further collaboration between the Strathbungo Society, Ironside Farrar and the community – all committing to facilitating continued dialogue, refining development plans based on stakeholder input and tracking progress towards a shared vision for the enhancement of Queen's Park and the enrichment of the local community.

Friends of Queens Park AGM (November 2023)

The Friends of Queens Park Annual General Meeting was held on the 21st of November 2023, again featuring a presentation by a representative from Ironside Farrar, the primary focus of the presentation was the ongoing consultation process regarding the proposed improvements to Queen's Park.

Throughout the presentation, the representative from Ironside Farrar provided attendees with detailed insight into the consultation process and the results from the online survey. This involved explaining the various stages and methods employed to gather input from the community regarding the envisioned enhancements to Queen's Park.

The consultation process was highlighted as a vital component in ensuring that the proposed improvements are reflective of the desires, needs and aspirations of the local community. Attendees were briefed on the importance of their participation in providing feedback and suggestions, emphasising the collaborative nature of the project.

Furthermore, the presentation delved into how feedback collected during the consultation process would be analysed and incorporated into the development plans for Queens Park. This includes prioritising certain features based on community preferences, addressing concerns raised by residents, and refining design elements to align with the overall vision for the park.

Overall, the ongoing consultation process highlighted in the presentation served as a platform for community engagement and empowerment, allowing residents to play an active role in shaping the future of Queens Park. Highlighting the commitment of both the Friends of Queens Park and Ironside Farrar to inclusive decision-making and creating a park environment that reflects the values and aspirations of the local community.

Shawlands Academy Workshop (March 2023)

On 15th March 2024, a group of 17 pupils participated in an hour-long interactive workshop aimed at gathering their valuable input for enhancing Queens Park. The workshop allowed pupils to read the consultation boards which detailed the projects scope, insights gathered from prior consultation, key themes, and emerging projects. Additionally, the pupils were provided with a large zonal plan, allowing them to express their ideas freely using Post-its and drawings to suggest park improvements.



The pupils' contributions were diverse and insightful, reflecting their eagerness to contribute positively to their community's recreational space. Among the key ideas proposed was the expansion of seating and picnic benches, recognising the importance of comfortable and inviting spaces for park visitors to relax and socialise. Furthermore, the pupils advocated for the introduction of art galleries within the park to showcase work by local artists, promoting cultural engagement and artistic expression.

An innovative suggestion put forth by the pupils was the incorporation of stalls for various activities, offering opportunities for interactive experiences and community engagement within the park. Notably, unlike responses from previous consultation, this group expressed a preference for establishing dog-free zones rather than dog-exclusive areas, emphasising the need for designated spaces where visitors can enjoy the park without concerns about interacting with dogs.

Moreover, the pupils highlighted the importance of addressing safety concerns within the park, particularly by relocating the play area to enhance its safety and accessibility for younger visitors. Their suggestions aimed to create a safer and more inclusive environment for all park users.

Additionally, the pupils identified a need for facilities catering to roller skaters, emphasising the importance of providing diverse recreational opportunities to accommodate a range of interests and activities within the park. Their suggestions highlight a desire to ensure that Queens Park remains an accessible and vibrant space for all members of the community.

It is important to note that this workshop sought responses from younger and ethnically diverse individuals, recognising the importance of amplifying the voices of underrepresented groups within the community to ensure that the diverse perspectives and priorities were considered in shaping the future of Queen. Their efforts to engage a broader cross-section of the community enriched the consultation process.

Drop-in Community Consultation Event (March 2024)

The community consultation event for Queen's Park improvement took place on March 27th, 2024, from 4pm to 7pm at the Wellcroft Bowling Club, located within Queen's Park. Prior to the event, participants from the previous questionnaire consultation were notified via email about the upcoming event. They were invited to attend in person or participate via an online forum accessible through a QR code or hyperlink.

QR codes were distributed on fliers across various areas of the park, with a focus on high activity zones such as Victoria Road, the pond area, and the recreation ground.

Approximately 40 individuals attended the event, where they were asked to sign in to keep track of attendance. Each participant received a comment sheet to provide feedback, with 12 sheets completed and returned. Additionally, participants were given Post-it notes to place on a zonal plan expressing their support or suggestions, a total of 40 were placed on the plan.

During the event, individuals were also encouraged to place stickers on themes and emerging projects they supported. A further 25 comments were submitted online by participants unable to attend the event in person.



Summary of Comments Sheets from the Drop-in Event:

The community feedback on Queen's Park emphasises several key areas for improvement and engagement. Residents expressed a strong desire for increased community meetings and participation opportunities. There was a notable call for acknowledging the parks historical links, while also highlighting the importance of the sports activities/facilities, the flagpole area, pond, and woodlands. Suggestions for improvement focus on woodland access, feature maintenance, and litter collection. Collaborative opportunities with South Seeds and Archaeology Scotland were highlighted, particularly for garden revival and archaeological projects like the Iron Age Fort. Desired facilities include an expanded playground, a basketball court, and better lighting for safety. Preserving the parks wilderness and meadow elements and ensuring the main ponds accessibility and significance, were also highlighted as important. Strategies for community engagement include simplifying communication, involving youth in activities like tree planting and litter collection, increasing signage and creating interactive features for children. Concerns were raised about the community not being informed about the recently white line throughout the park, which was assumed to be a cycle lane, as well as the new solar lighting installed by the pond. These issues were subsequently addressed with a Glasgow City Council representative. Suggestions to use Langside Hall as a community hub also arose, alongside recommendations to establish partnerships with local colleges and sports clubs. While also prioritising the glasshouse and orchard facilities, improving drainage throughout the park, and enhance the local planning process for better communication with the council and community organisations.

These comments collectively address various aspects of improving Queen's Park and Recreation Ground, including heritage acknowledgement, community engagement, facility enhancements, preservation of park elements, and addressing specific complaints and concerns.

Summary of Post-its:

The community has identified several key areas for improvement in their local park and surrounding facilities. There is a strong demand for public toilets, more rubbish collection and better bin policies to enhance cleanliness. Advocating for grants to invest in renewable energy for park events and prioritising tree planting to replenish the woodland were identified as crucial steps. Educational initiatives on sustainability, littering and anti-social behaviour were also suggested. While some opposed to excessive lighting to protect wildlife, others argue that better light would enhance safety. Improved community access to the glasshouse and the enhancement of recreational facilities such as volleyball courts, football areas, and skateparks were encouraged. Additionally, concerns include the impact of events on the recreation ground, the need for flood protection, gritting and maintaining pavements. Specific requests include addressing traffic speed on Langside Avenue and utilising Langside Hall as a community hub for volunteers, education, and local artists. Overall, maintaining the park's current state while improving infrastructure, safety and access is a priority.

Summary of Online Comments:

The online comments about enhancements to Queen's Park reveal a diverse range of perspectives, emphasising the need for linking themes to projects, prioritising facilities like accessible toilets and flood alleviation, and ensuring outreach to diverse communities. Maintenance concerns were a recurrent theme, with mentions of addressing litter, broken paths, and poor lighting. There was a strong desire to preserve recreational grounds for dog walking and sports, alongside specific requests such as restoring the dome on the glasshouse and reopening the café. Suggestions include formal recognition of dog specific places, creating dog exercise areas, implementing speed control measures for cyclists, and improving access while preserving natural pathways. Environmental enhancements like wildlife ponds and recreational improvements including a new concrete skatepark, were also supported, reflecting a comprehensive vision for the park's development.

Summary of Key Themes Stickers:

Theme 1: Queen's Park and Recreation Ground shall be a welcoming, friendly, and safe place that invites regular use and provides enriching experiences.

Theme 1	Number of Stickers
Ensure secure and inviting entrances to the park from nearby communities	1
Promote the use of active transportation along designated routes within the park	1
Install appropriate lighting to enhance safety and encourage positive park use	6
Create diverse spaces within the park to foster social interaction	1
Support the inclusion of facilities offering freely accessible shelter and toilet amenities	6

This identifies a strong emphasis on safety and accessibility, with high scores for installing lighting, accessible shelter, and amenities. However, aspects such as connectivity, active travel routes, and social interaction spaces received lower scores. Recommendations include focussing on safety features like improved lighting and accessibility throughout the park, and ensuring access to facilities and amenities like public toilets. Addressing these aspects will further elevate the park's appeal and user experience, ensuring it meets the diverse needs of visitors while fostering a sense of community and enjoyment.

Theme 2: Queen's Park and Recreation Ground shall be a "dear green place" that celebrates the rich and diverse heritage of the park and its people.

Theme 2	Number of Stickers
Preserve and restore all significant elements of the designed landscape	2
Safeguard and improve key perspectives both within and outside the park	4
Provide opportunities for acknowledging and interpreting the parks heritage significance	2
Support the continued flourishing of well-established and popular events and activities	1
Foster the expression of cultural heritage through various means such as planting, play areas, interpretation, events and artistic initiatives	2

This reveals that safeguarding and enhancing the park's key perspectives were deemed as a priority. While there was recognition for preserving and restoring significant landscape elements, acknowledging heritage significance, and expressing cultural heritage through various means, scored slightly lower. Furthermore, supporting the continued flourishing of well-established events and activities scored the lowest. To optimise the parks potential, it would seem appropriate to prioritise strategies that not only maintain its historical and cultural integrity but also actively engage with its heritage while ensuring the sustainability of popular events and activities. This approach will contribute to the park's overall vitality and resonance within the community.

Theme 3: Queen's Park and Recreation Ground shall be a resilient, sustainable and biodiverse place to be enjoyed by future generations.

Theme 3	Number of Stickers
Eliminate encroaching invasive plant and prioritise planting of climate-resilient	7
Create opportunities for environmental education and involve the community in planting and park management	3
Implement Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to reduce flood risks and create habitats	2
Ensure construction materials used are sustainable, durable, and easily repairable	2
Promote sustainable and best-practice management methods to enhance the biodiversity of the park	7

The high scoring initiatives include eliminating invasive plants, promoting sustainable management methods, and integrating climate-resilient planting highlighting a dedication to biodiversity and ecological resilience. There was also recognition of the importance of community involvement and environmental education, indicating

opportunities and potential support in engaging residents more closely in park management. While initiatives like SUDs and using sustainable construction materials received lower scores, they remain integral to mitigating environmental risks and ensuring long-term resilience. Overall, scores from theme 3 reflect a collective vision for Queen's Park as a vibrant hub for recreation, environmental stewardship and community engagement, embodying principles of sustainability and inclusivity.

Theme 4: Queen's Park and Recreation Ground shall be a wellbeing place for all providing space and opportunity for recreation and participation.

Theme 4	Number of Stickers
Provide opportunities for children's play and education in the widest possible context	4
Provide opportunities for young people to socialise and be physically active in the park	7
Provide spaces that are as multi-functional as possible to maximise recreational use throughout the year	3
Ensure quiet, enclosed spaces that provide opportunities for contemplation are protected/enhanced	3
Ensure that the park provides opportunities for volunteering, training, lifelong learning and helps tackle social exclusion	7

High scoring initiatives such as providing opportunities for young people to socialise and be physically active, as well as facilitating volunteering and lifelong learning, highlight a commitment to fostering community engagement and social inclusion. Additionally, the emphasis on providing spaces for children's play and education highlights a dedication to nurturing the development and enjoyment of the park's youngest visitors. While initiatives like creating multi-functional spaces and protecting quiet, contemplative areas received slightly lower scores, they remain essential for maximising recreational use and catering to diverse visitor preferences. Together, these reflect a comprehensive vision of Queen's Park as a vibrant, accessible hub that promotes physical and mental wellbeing, lifelong learning, and social cohesion for all members of the community.

In summary, the community consultation event for Queen's Park and Recreation Ground highlighted the collective priorities of the residents. It is evident that safety, heritage preservation, sustainability and community well-being are paramount. Areas like community connectivity, event support and inclusive recreational spaces received lower scores. Through observation of the community's feedback, and implementing strategies to address these priorities, Queen's Park has the opportunity to become a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive space for all, reflecting the shared values and aspirations of its residents.

Woodcraft Youth Group (May 2024)

The consultation event with Woodcraft Youth Group took place on the 1st May 2024 at Queen's Park and provided detailed feedback from two age groups: 10 to 13 and 13 to 16 year olds, along with inputs from group leaders. During the event, participants engaged in a walk through and workshop, where various aspects of the park were discussed. One prominent issue raised was the perceived lack of safety despite existing lighting infrastructure. While lighting was acknowledged as beneficial, participants emphasised the importance of targeted illumination, particularly in high activity areas like the multi-use games area (MUGA).



Additionally, there was a consensus among attendees for the need for additional games courts in close proximity to the existing ones. The skatepark was also highlighted as a point of importance. As well as concerns regarding safety, prompting a desire for more opportunities for natural and adventurous play within the park.

Participants also expressed preference for specific areas within the park for various activities. The Cunnigar Loop was also mentioned as somewhere that provided activities suitable for older children, indicating a desire for diversified recreational spaces. Moreover, there was recognition of the ecological benefits of incorporating more water features in the park design.

Several suggestions were made for improvements to existing park amenities. The flagpole viewpoint was identified as a significant feature, with participants expressing a desire for its enhancement. Similarly, improvements to the glasshouse and

implementation of additional public toilets within the park premises were highlighted as important.

Furthermore, concerns regarding unleashed dogs in the wilderness sparked discussion about the balance between accommodating dog owners and ensuring the safety and comfort of park users, particularly those participating in youth group activities. While some participants acknowledged the benefits of dog free areas within the park, others expressed a more nuanced view, advocating for inclusive park usage.

Overall, the consultation event provided valuable insights into the perspectives and preferences of the Woodcraft Youth Group and highlighted various opportunities for enhancing Queen's Park to better meet the needs of its diverse user base, particularly youth groups and recreational users.

Friends of Queen's Park – Park Walk About (May 2024)

On May 29th, 2024, IFL organised a consultation event with Friends of Queen's Park which involved a walk through the park. This event included an IFL representative, a Queen's Park steering group representative, and four members from Friends of Queen's Park. During the walk, participants shared draft examples of reports and provided detailed explanations of the reporting format. Examining specific sections of the park where there are opportunities for biodiversity improvements, focussing on areas that might benefit from volunteer contributions. The primary purpose of this consultation was to inform attendees about the consultation and reporting process, discussing the gathered information, and promote information sharing and collaboration among stakeholders.

Friends of Queen's Park presented findings from a study on water management and ponds, discussing implications and potential actions. A key interest for Friends of Queen's Park was to establish stronger connections with Glasgow City Council. This conversation also included discussions about the glasshouses, highlighting the costs and approval processes associated with them, as this was a significant point of interest in previous consultations.

Wildlife and biodiversity were of particular importance to Friends of Queen's Park. They expressed a keen interest in conducting community-based activities to learn more about the plant and wildlife species within the park. They emphasised the use of iNaturalist, a tool that helps identify plants and animals while generating valuable data of various species and contribute to a broader understanding of the park's ecosystem.

Conclusion

The extensive consultations and community engagements regarding the proposed improvements to Queen's Park have brought to light the diverse and passionate perspectives of local residents and stakeholders. The collective input from various groups, include the Strathbungo Society, Friends of Queens Park, Shawlands Academy pupils, the general public at drop-in events, online participants, and the Woodcraft Youth Group, have highlighted several key priorities and areas for enhancement.

The 2023 Queen's Park questionnaire gathered substantial engagement, with 1040 responses collected over four weeks through a combination of digital and physical distribution methods, ensuring a wide reach. The survey provided a comprehensive understanding of how the park is utilised, valued, and could be improved, highlighting several key findings.

There was some mention for the inclusion of a lido. However, due to the scale, feasibility, and complexity of implementing such a project, the lido has not been included in the current proposals.

The table tennis club demonstrated keen interest in the addition of an outdoor table. Although not initially part of the project plan, its small scale allows for seamless integration into the current proposals.

Safety and accessibility emerged as paramount, with significant calls for improved lighting, enhanced playgrounds, and safer recreational spaces. There is a strong desire for more accessible public amenities, such as clean and functional toilets, better rubbish collection points, and infrastructure that supports a wide range of activities from sports to cultural events. Enhanced accessibility features were particularly important for respondents with physical health issues.

Community engagement and inclusivity were repeatedly emphasised. Participants advocated for ongoing, inclusive dialogue and engagement processes that ensure all voices, particularly those of underrepresented groups, are heard. There was a clear preference for a park that fosters social interaction, community connectivity, and cultural inclusiveness, with suggestions for youth involvement, volunteer opportunities and diverse recreational offerings.

Heritage preservation and environmental sustainability are critical to the community's vision for Queen's Park. Residents expressed a strong interest in acknowledging and celebrating the parks historical and cultural heritage while promoting sustainable management practices. Proposals included eliminating invasive species, enhancing biodiversity, and integrating climate resilient plantings, all aimed at creating a resilient and ecologically vibrant park for future generations.

Recreational and cultural enhancements received considerable attention. The community highlighted the need for diverse and engaging recreational spaces, from expanding seating and picnic areas to introducing art galleries and improving the skatepark. The emphasis on maintaining open spaces for activities and quiet contemplation, along with addressing mixed views about dog-specific or dog-free

areas, reflects a need to cater to a broad spectrum of park users. Public artwork was particularly popular among young users, reflecting diverse interests.

Maintenance and practical improvements were also prioritised. Participants highlighted the importance of regular maintenance, improved infrastructure, and addressing practical issues like drainage, lighting, and litter management. There was a consensus that the park should not only be a place of beauty and recreation but also well-maintained and safe.

With regards to usage patterns and frequency, walking/running, enjoying nature and socialising were the most common activities in Queen's Park, with a significant portion of respondents (34.28%) visiting the park almost daily, emphasising its role as a vital community space. The scenic views from the flagpole area, the park's natural beauty, wooded areas, and recreational facilities like the basketball court and dog socialisation areas were particularly appreciated.

The survey captured a broad demographic, though it noted underrepresentation in the under 16 age group, and the majority of respondents were ethnically white. The targeted engagement with Shawlands Academy pupils and the young people and leaders of the Woodcraft Youth Group, helped to ensure more voices were heard, though, it is recognised that more engagement will be required in the future to maximise representation. Gender-wise, more females participated, and security improvements were a higher priority for them, indicating potential safety concerns.

Overall, the consultation process has been a robust platform for community empowerment, allowing residents to actively participate in shaping the future of Queen's Park. The insights gathered reflect a community deeply invested in creating a welcoming, inclusive, and sustainable park that honours its heritage while evolving to meet contemporary needs. By addressing these diverse perspectives and implementing the suggested improvements, Queen's Park has the potential to become an exemplary public space that enhances the quality of life for all its visitors and stands as a testament to the community's collective vision and efforts.

The comments and feedback gathered through various parts of the consultation process have been instrumental in shaping the Development Plan and project list. For example, the flagpole/viewing area was identified as of prime importance, leading to proposals that respond directly to this need. Similarly, the basketball and skate park were also deemed as high priority, leading to their inclusion in the development plan. Opportunities for artwork were also identified, resulting in proposals for art installation along the terrace area. Additionally, lighting projects were highlighted and have been incorporated to enhance safety and usability during evening hours.

These targeted improvements, grounded in the extensive feedback from community members, ensure that the Development Plan for Queen's Park is both reflective and responsive to the diverse needs and aspirations of its users.