



people spaces places

Saughton Park Restoration Project

Phase 2 Consultation Report

Date: 17th April 2015

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Saughton Park

Phase 2 Consultation Report

Contents

1	Introduction.....	1
2	Respondent Profile	1
3	Analysis.....	5
3.1	Master Plan	5
3.2	The Old Stable Block & Yard	6
3.3	Walled Gardens, Bandstands & Winter Gardens.....	7
3.4	Areas outside the Walled Garden	8
3.5	Events & Activities	12
3.6	Visiting Saughton Park	13
3.7	Staying Informed	15

Appendix A – Open Responses Received

1 Introduction

In order to inform the development of the Heritage Lottery Fund Round 2 submission to restore and conserve Saughton Park in Edinburgh, a survey was conducted on the master plan proposals between 23rd February 2015 and 6th April 2015. The survey was hosted online, and available to complete at a series of events and exhibitions around the following local facilities:

- Carrickvale Community Centre;
- Central Library;
- Fountainbridge Library;
- Hermitage of Braid Visitor Centre;
- Sainsbury's, Gorgie;
- Saughton Park Winter Gardens;
- Slateford Green Community Centre;
- St Brides Community Centre.

The survey was also promoted online using the Council website and through social media and a total of 132 surveys were completed. Of the responses received, just over half were received from the online version of the survey (56.1%) and remainder (43.9%) were from hard copies of the survey, which were completed through the programme of exhibitions and events.

	n	%
Self-completed	58	43.9%
Online	74	56.1%
Total	132	100.0%

Table 1 Responses Received

2 Respondent Profile

A total of 132 surveys were completed by individuals, of which 66.9% were female, an over-representation of females compared to the profile of the catchment of Saughton Park. This is also similar to the gender profile of responses to the 2014 visitor survey where 66.2% of respondents were female. Three quarters of respondents (78.7%) described themselves as White Scottish which is fairly typical of the demographics of the Park's 1km catchment and that of Edinburgh as a whole. Only 9 respondents (7.5%) stated that they have a disability that affects their use of the Park.

Table 2 below shows the age profile of respondents compared against the profile of those people residents within a 1km catchment of the Park. This is based on a sample of 125 respondents providing optional demographic monitoring data.

Age of respondent	Survey		1km Catchment
	n	%	%
Under 16	9	7.2%	14.9%
16 - 24	4	3.2%	9.7%
25 - 34	16	12.8%	15.9%
35 - 44	29	23.2%	14.4%
45 - 54	26	20.8%	11.8%
55 - 64	27	21.6%	10.5%
65 - 74	12	9.6%	11.4%
75 and over	2	1.6%	11.4%
Total	125	100.0%	100.0%

Table 2 Age Profile

The largest proportion of respondents were aged between 35 and 44 years old (23.2%), however the proportion of the sample is greater than the proportion of people within this age range that live within the catchment of the Park. The views of those people under 24 and over 65 were generally under-represented.

In order to understand where respondents and users of the Park live, the survey requested the respondents home postcode. Figure 1 demonstrates spatially, the responses received across Edinburgh and shows that respondents were drawn from across the city, but particularly from those located in the south west of the city. Figure 2 shows that 55% of respondents that gave a valid postcode live within the 1km catchment of Saughton Park. Almost all respondents lived within the City of Edinburgh (93.0%) however responses were also received from West Lothian and elsewhere in Scotland.



**Saughton Park,
Edinburgh**

Figure 1
Location of
Respondents

LEGEND

● Location of Respondent

Boundary

■ Saughton Park

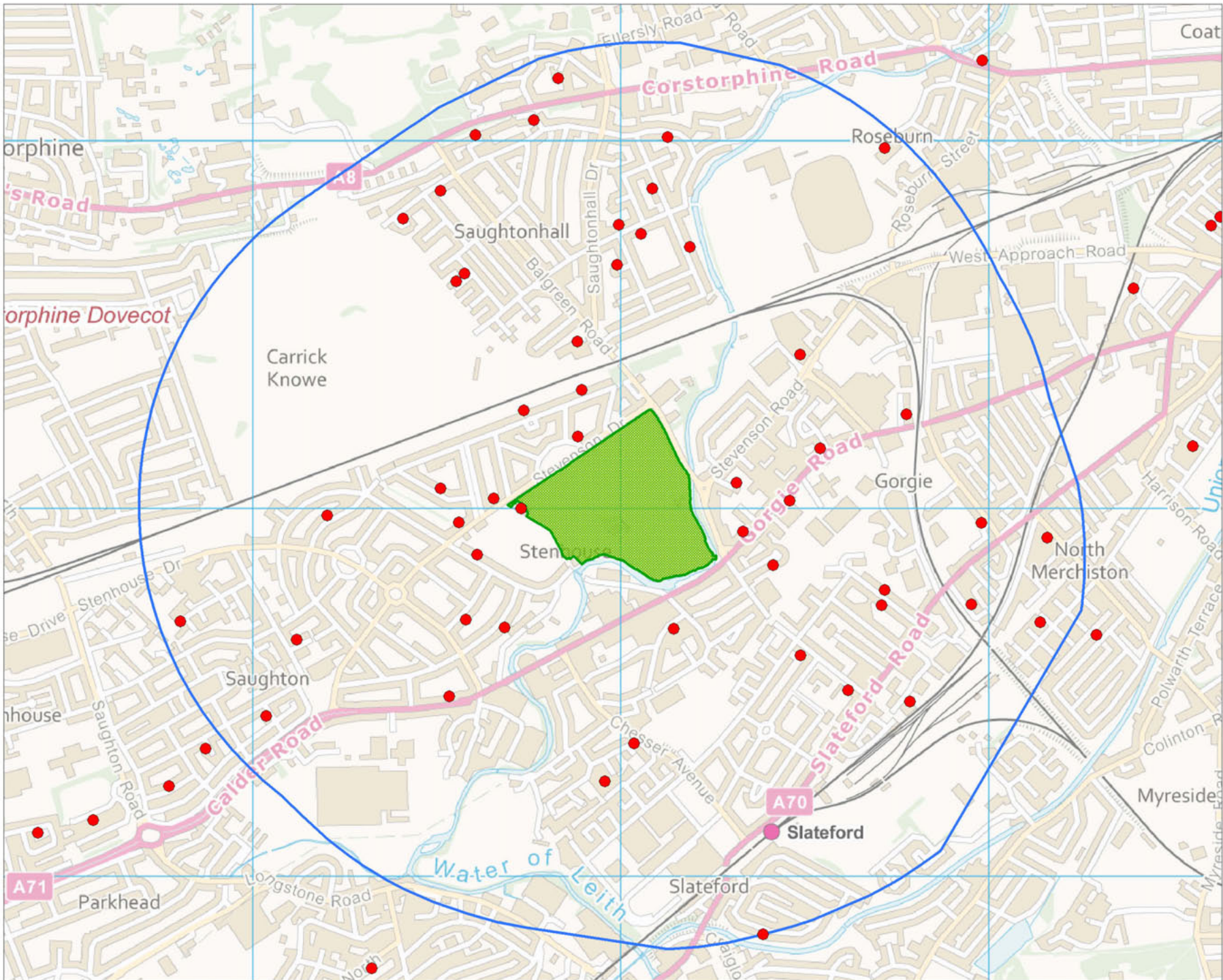
□ Local Authority

Buffer

□ 1km

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Saughton Park, Edinburgh

Figure 2
Location of Respondents

LEGEND

- Location of Respondents

Boundary

- Saughton Park

Buffer

- 1km

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Drawn by:	Checked by:	Date:
NE	IB	17/04/15

3 Analysis

3.1 Master Plan

Respondents were asked how they felt about the Master Plan proposals on the whole and table 3 shows that almost all respondents 93.0% rated the proposals shown as either very good or good.

	n	%
Very good	76	59.4%
Good	43	33.6%
OK	3	2.3%
Don't like some aspects	6	4.7%
Really don't like it	-	-
Base	128	100.0%

Table 3 Overall rating of Master Plan proposals

When respondents were asked to explain their reasoning for indicating that they liked or did not like the Master Plan proposals outlined, the vast majority of responses received praised the master plan, expressing excitement in what has been proposed. Where respondents didn't like some aspects of the proposals, then following reasons were given:

- Need to be clear on communicating the audiences for the park to ensure it is truly a premier park for all of Edinburgh;
- Not seen to be encouraging travel by car, but promoting travel by public transport and particularly people walking and cycling;
- Perception that the position of the café should be closer to the play park and skate facility.

Other items respondents indicated that they would like to see included in the Saughton Park restoration project included:

- Improved path network for walkers and cyclists;
- Shelter;
- Improved play facilities;
- Retail provision, possibly selling plants;
- Outdoor Table Tennis tables
- More activities;
- Improved facilities for disabled people;
- Better lighting;
- More planting;

- Improved skate park;
- More information or thought on environmental sustainability.

Copies of the open responses received can be found in the appendix to this report.

3.2 The Old Stable Block & Yard

The table below shows that the again a high percentage of respondents (93.0%) either liked or really liked the proposals to restore the Old Stable Block and Yard, with over half of respondents (52.7%) stating that they really liked the proposals.

	n	%
Really like it	68	52.7%
Like it	52	40.3%
OK	6	4.7%
Don't like some aspects	3	2.3%
Really don't like it	-	-
Base	129	100.0%

Table 4 Support for the proposals for the Old Stable Block & Yard

Where respondents didn't like the proposals shown, this was due to either the location of the café, concern that the designs for the café were too modern or that more consideration of the security of bandstand is needed. There was much praise from others for the proposals to restore this area of the park and many comments received expressed varying opinions on the level of refreshment provision that may be offered, opening hours and opportunities to use the café for training members of the local community. A full copy of responses received can be found in the appendix to this report.

All but one respondent felt that the overall layout of the buildings around the courtyard would work, as shown Table 5 below.

	n	%
Yes	104	99.0%
No	1	1.0%
Base	105	100.0%

Table 5 Agreement in the layout of the courtyard

Respondents were asked to indicate how they felt about the design for the café building. The table below shows that 87.1% of respondents felt the design was either very good or good, with the largest proportion of these respondents regarding the design to be good (47.6%).

	n	%
Very good	49	39.5%
Good	59	47.6%
OK	12	9.7%
Don't like some aspects	3	2.4%
Really don't like it	1	0.8%
Base	124	100.0%

Table 6 Overall rating of proposals for the cafe building designs

3.3 Walled Gardens, Bandstands & Winter Gardens

Table 7 below shows that on the whole, 92.7% of respondents felt the proposals for the Walled Gardens were either very good or good, with three in five respondents (60.5%) believing the proposals were very good.

	n	%
Very good	75	60.5%
Good	40	32.3%
OK	9	7.3%
Don't like some aspects	-	-
Really don't like it	-	-
Base	124	100.0%

Table 7 Support for proposals to improve the Walled Gardens

Again, table 8 shows that all but one respondent felt the position of the new bandstand was appropriate.

	n	%
Yes	96	99.0%
No	1	1.0%
Base	97	100.0%

Table 8 Agreement with the position of the Bandstand

Respondents were asked how they felt about the proposals for the Winter Garden and new entrance landscaping. The table below shows that nine in ten respondents (90.1%) either liked or really liked the proposals, with more than half indicating that they really liked the proposals set out.

	n	%
Really like it	63	52.1%
Like it	46	38.0%
OK	11	9.1%
Don't like some aspects	1	0.8%
Really don't like it	-	-
Base	121	100.0%

Table 9 Support for proposals for the Winter Gardens and new entrance landscaping

The open comments received relating to proposals for the Walled Gardens, Bandstand and Winter Gardens generally positive. For the walled gardens, respondents expressed praise for the inclusion of sensory planting and others outlined their views on the species of plants that should be used. Comments relating to the bandstand were largely regarding how the structure will be secured and others expressed opinions on the programme of performances that might be suitable. A full copy of the responses received can be found in the appendix to this report.

3.4 Areas outside the Walled Garden

91.9% of respondents felt the proposals to improve the Grand Avenue were either very good or good, with over half of respondents regarding the proposals to be very good (54.0%).

	n	%
Very Good	67	54.0%
Good	47	37.9%
OK	5	4.0%
Don't like some aspects	5	4.0%
Really don't like it	-	-
Base	124	100.0%

Table 10 Overall rating of proposals to improve the Grand Avenue

Table 11 shows there was widespread support for plans to create a new pedestrian and cycle path running adjacent to Balgreen Road, with only 1 persons opposing the plans.

	n	%
Yes	118	99.2%
No	1	0.8%
Base	119	100.0%

Table 11 Agreement with plans to create a new pedestrian and cycle path

Around three quarters of respondents (76.7%) felt that the playground at Saughton Park should be enlarged.

	n	%
Yes	79	76.7%
No	24	23.3%
Base	103	100.0%

Table 12 Agreement with proposals to enlarge the playground

In addition to making the playground more inclusive, respondents were asked if there was anything else they would like the Council and its partners to consider if the playground was to be enlarged. Whilst some respondents felt that the playground was already big enough and others stated that only improved maintenance of existing facilities is needed, the following additional features or facilities were requested:

- Greater provision for under 5's;
- Natural play;
- Facilities for disabled children;
- Outdoor gym;
- Shelter;
- Wet play.

The full list of responses received can be found in the appendix to this report.

Nine in ten respondents (90.4%) stated that they did not feel there were any issues with the plans for the sports pitches at Saughton Park.

	n	%
Yes	10	9.6%
No	94	90.4%
Base	104	100.0%

Table 13 Perception of issues with plans at the sports pitches

All but 2 respondents felt a circular route in the park was a good idea as part of plans to restore and improve the park.

	n	%
Yes	119	98.3%
No	2	1.7%
Base	121	100.0%

Table 14 Support for a circular route in the park

More than two thirds of respondents (69.1%) stated that they or their family would use outdoor gym equipment should be provided at Saughton Park.

	n	%
Yes	67	69.1%
No	30	30.9%
Base	97	100.0%

Table 15 Use of Outdoor Gym Equipment

Respondents were asked if they liked the proposal to create a new viewpoint at the Water of Leith and table 16 shows that two thirds of respondents (65.9%) really liked this proposal. The data below shows that overall, 92.7% of respondents either liked or really liked the idea.

	n	%
Really like it	81	65.9%
Like it	33	26.8%
OK	9	7.3%
Don't like some aspects	-	-
Really don't like it	-	-
Base	123	100.0%

Table 16 Support for proposals to create a new viewpoint

Table 17 below shows that 95.8% of respondents supported plans to improve the Balgreen and Ford Road entrances and car parks.

	n	%
Yes	114	95.8%
No	5	4.2%
Base	119	100.0%

Table 17 Support for improving Balgreen and Ford Road entrances and car parks

The survey asked respondents to consider whether the steel fencing around the north of the park needed to be replaced. The table below shows that the majority of respondents (63.8%) felt it was necessary to replace the fencing, whilst a third (36.3%) believed it was unnecessary.

	n	%
Yes, it's necessary to replace the fencing	51	63.8%
No, it's not necessary to replace the fencing	29	36.3%
Base	80	100.0%

Table 18 Support for replacing fencing around the north of park

A large proportion of respondents felt the fence should be replaced due to safety concerns, particularly for children and dogs but also to more clearly define the park boundary. Issues of visibility were raised by other respondents, whilst others felt the fence should be removed to improve visual amenity. The full list of responses can be found in the appendix to this report.

General comments received regarding improvements to areas outside of the Walled Garden included:

- Removing a playing pitch to create axial view;
- Encouraging public transport and ensuring car parking is not abused during events at Murrayfield and Tynecastle;
- Considering a 'natural' fence should the fencing be replaced;
- Improving entrances for pedestrians and cyclists;
- Provide cyclist parking;
- Encourage a broader range of sports to be played in the park, particularly to attract females;
- Provide sports changing facilities;
- Rotating pitches so they are orientated away from roads and car parks.

A full list of responses received can be found in the appendix to this report.

3.5 Events & Activities

Table 19 shows that 87.7% of respondents liked or really liked the proposed events and activities programme, with just over half of respondents indicating that they really liked the proposals outlined (51.6%).

	n	%
Really like it	63	51.6%
Like it	44	36.1%
OK	13	10.7%
Don't like some aspects	2	1.6%
Really don't like it	-	-
Base	122	100.0%

Table 19 Support for proposed events and activities programme

All but two respondents (98.2%) felt there was something in the proposed events and activities programme that would interest them or their family to visit Saughton Park in the future.

	n	%
Yes	107	98.2%
No	2	1.8%
Base	109	100.0%

Table 20 Interest in events and activities programme

The project team intend to continue to work with the local community to develop the programme of events and activities, however respondents were asked to outline any other events and activities they would like to see hosted at Saughton Park. The range of responses received included:

- Art exhibitions;
- Improved range of cultural events;
- Working with the range of festivals held in the city;
- Cookery classes;
- Opportunities for locally based performances;
- Kite Flying;
- Park Runs;
- Talks and walks;
- Yoga.

General comments received regarding events and activities were again, mostly positive, however some respondents expressed concern that the proposed programme is too ambitious and might not suit the demographics of the local area. Others picked up on the socio-economic background of many local residents and stated that events and activities should be low-cost in order for them to be successful.

A full list of responses received can be found in the appendix to this report.

3.6 Visiting Saughton Park

Respondents were then asked a series of questions that mirrored those asked in the 2014 visitor survey. When asked how often respondents visit Saughton Park, table 21 below demonstrates that a range of responses were received.

Around a third of respondents (34.9%) visit Saughton Park on a weekly or more frequent basis, however the the highest proportion of respondents (25.4%) indicated that they visit once a month or less often, with around half of respondents (56.3%) visiting the Park less frequently than once a month. Considering the responses from the 2014 visitor survey, it can be seen that a higher proportion of respondents indicated that they visit the park on a weekly or more frequent basis (41.7% in 2014) reflecting that fact that many more surveys were conducted in the park itself in 2014, rather than at venues elsewhere in the city.

	Phase 2 Consultation		2014 Visitor Survey
	n	%	%
Once a day	9	7.1%	2.9%
Several times a week	22	17.5%	22.9%
Once a week	13	10.3%	15.9%
Once a fortnight	11	8.7%	14.3%
Once a month	32	25.4%	21.9%
Less often	32	25.4%	20.6%
Never	7	5.6%	1.6%
Base	126	100.0%	100.0%

Table 21 Frequency of visit

The largest proportion of respondents (40.3%) reported their dwell time within Saughton Park is typically between 30 minutes to 1 hour and a similar proportion (34.5%) stated they visit for between 1 to 2 hours and these results are broadly similar to findings of the 2014 visitor survey.

	Phase 2 Consultation		2014 Visitor Survey
	n	%	%
Less than 30 minutes	19	16.0%	13.5%
30 minutes to 1 hour	48	40.3%	38.4%
1 to 2 hours	41	34.5%	37.4%
2 to 4 hours	7	5.9%	10.3%
4 hours or more	4	3.4%	0.3%
Base	119	100.0%	100.0%

Table 22 Length of visit

The most popular method of travel to Saughton Park reported by respondents was walking. Over half of respondents indicated that they travel on foot to the Park (56.5%), a greater proportion of respondents when compared to the 2014 visitor survey. One in five respondents stated they travel by car (19.1%), a lower proportion of respondents when compared to the visitor survey. Like the earlier survey, few respondents travel to the Park by tram despite the proximity of the Park to the Balgreen tram stop.

	Phase 2 Consultation		2014 Visitor Survey
	n	%	%
On foot	65	56.5%	48.9%
By car	22	19.1%	32.1%
By bicycle	14	12.2%	8.5%
Tram	1	0.9%	8.2%
Bus	11	9.6%	1.3%
Other	2	1.7%	1.0%
Base	115	100.0%	100.0%

Table 23 Method of Travel

The survey found that the majority of respondents use Saughton Park to enjoy the outdoors / fresh air (65.0%) and to enjoy the flowers and trees (60.8%). Walking (59.2%) and visits to the play area (46.1%) were also popular reasons for visiting.

	Phase 2 Consultation		2014 Visitor Survey
	n	%	%
To enjoy the outdoors / fresh air	78	65.0%	53.2%
To enjoy flowers and trees	73	60.8%	49.4%
To walk	71	59.2%	45.1%
To visit the play area	56	46.7%	58.1%
For peace and quiet	56	46.7%	33.4%
To relax	47	39.2%	36.7%
To enjoy birds and wildlife	44	36.7%	28.6%
To have lunch / picnic	38	31.7%	29.5%
As a shortcut / through route	33	27.5%	18.2%
To exercise / keep fit / improve health	32	26.7%	30.8%
To meet friends	26	21.7%	17.9%
To cycle	21	17.5%	12.3%
To attend events / activities	21	17.5%	8.4%
To visit the skate park	20	16.7%	24.4%
To walk the dog	11	9.2%	9.1%
Other	10	8.3%	3.6%
To play organised sports / games	6	5.0%	7.1%
To play informal sports / games	5	4.2%	7.8%
Base	120	100.0%	100.0%

3.7 Staying Informed

Around a third of respondents (32.6%) were interesting in joining the mailing list to get the latest news about the Saughton Park restoration project whilst a number of respondents were also interesting in joining the Friends Group or volunteering in the park.

	n	%
Volunteer to help out with surveys and events	12	13.5%
Join the mailing list to get the latest news	29	32.6%
Join the Friends of Saughton Park	11	12.4%
Not interested	50	56.2%
Total	89	100.0%

Table 24 Volunteering activities

Based on this information, a mailing list for volunteering activities has been generated

Appendix A

Open Responses Received

Q2: We are working with a limited budget but if there is anything else you would like to see included, please let us know:

I see you are making the pathway smoother and have only mentioned cyclists and pedestrians. As a roller skater I have to go through to the Helix to get a decent smooth skate so one thing I would like to see is a very smooth surface throughout so that this area can also be used by skaters such as myself which believe it or not there are hundreds of us in Edinburgh

Some outdoor concrete table tennis tables, preferably in a sheltered location. This will encourage a family friendly atmosphere and promote healthy living. Much like the tables in the PING! England project, or the table at Roseburn Park.

Remove the metal perimeter fence along the Whitson and Balgreen Road sides as the park should be open for people to enter. Improve the stonework at the Gorgie Road side and along the river

Alternative therapies on offer.

A tuck shop would be good somewhere near the skateboard park for younger people who don't want to go to the cafe for refreshments but want to a quick snack during their visit.

I think there should be plans at least, to be able to have open air sculpture exhibitions in the park. I am also hoping there will be a section with non-hybrid heritage roses, these are the kinds that still have the beautiful rose scent.

Difficult to see if through cycling route is proposed. Visuals show cyclists walking with bikes and one cyclist, on a bike, in the distance. This may have been dealt with - the plans do not describe that though!

Community food growing areas

On the paths that will be open later at night perhaps lighting on those would be beneficial , also more bins all the way around the park and possibly so cameras at the entrances to catch the fly tippers

Outdoor Activities such as orienteering and designated jogging track, Also a hedged maze would go down well

More information on disabled access/parking, flood protection

extend community engagement and marketing

basketball court

A path around the perimeter wide enough to be used for running/cycling/walking.

What are the plans for the bandstand, do we have room around it for people to sit and enjoy music?

An outdoor gym might be useful. Lots of cycle racks in view of the Cafe area. If you build them out of sight they will not be used. Cyclists like to be able to see their bikes.

Obstacle course. Could this be incorporated with the round park run track?

More access for disabilities- including physical- appreciate that you have said more inclusive but no detail as to what that is and even when people say this they do not think things through enough

Q2: We are working with a limited budget but if there is anything else you would like to see included, please let us know:

Cycle path, a little park for toddlers.

better access by public transport. bus stops are too far from park entrances

A lido

A small request from a local historian - would it be possible to mark in some way the location and extent of the original Saughton Hall? I was thinking about stones or plates marking the corners or building lines set into the grass or paths.

FRIENDS OF SAUGHTON PARK RESPONSE Friends of Saughton Park support the restoration of Saughton Park and the Master Plan proposals. We think this is a fantastic opportunity to improve the park environment and provide new facilities for the local and wider community making our community happier and healthier and more cohesive. We support the proposals to provide a more diverse environment and widen the range of facilities and activities in the park. We hope this will result in people who already visit the park enjoying their visits more and expanding their use of the park and also hope that more people from all parts of the community are encouraged to visit and use the park. We also support the creation of a community management committee that will allow the community to have more involvement in the management and maintenance of the park, and think this will help to ensure the park will continue to meet the needs of the community over the long term. Friends of Saughton Park would like to see in the final plans for the park further consideration of and information on: Sustainability - how the park will be sustainable so that the park environment is adaptable to future change and can be enjoyed by future generations. Some information has already been given e.g. long term maintenance plans and the cafe revenue providing income for community support, however we would like to see further information on: Sustainable energy supply, are there any proposals for alternative energy supply in addition to the hydro scheme or if the hydro scheme is not viable? Sustainable waste management, including waste from the park and cafe activities and also how visitor waste will be sustainably managed this should include plans on how waste will be reduced, reused and recycled. Sustainable water management. We would like to see further consideration of public toilet facilities near the play park and skate park and the opening times of public toilets to ensure they can be accessed when required particularly later in the evening when the skate park is still busy. Friends of Saughton Park welcome the amount of consultation on the restoration project that has been carried out to date and we would like to see consultation with the community continue at subsequent stages of the planning process.

I would like to see more information on: Sustainability - how the park will be sustainable so that the park environment is adaptable to future change and can be enjoyed by future generations. Some information has already been given e.g. long term maintenance plans and the cafe revenue providing income for community support, however we would like to see further information on: Sustainable energy supply, are there any proposals for alternative energy supply in addition to the hydro scheme or if the hydro scheme is not viable? Sustainable waste management, including waste from the park and cafe activities and also how visitor waste will be sustainably managed this should include plans on how waste will be reduced, reused and recycled. Sustainable water management.

Table Tennis table

More use and access to the athletics track at Saughton and tennis courts

Ice cream barrow

An outdoor table tennis table or two would be fantastic and inexpensive. Concrete would be ideal,.

Q2: We are working with a limited budget but if there is anything else you would like to see included, please let us know:

Would be interested to see options for franchising out the cafe for evening use in order to raise funds in the style of the Gardeners Cottage

an indoor area for picnics on cold /wet days would be great. Toilets that will be open when small children are in the park

could the 'enclosure' be incorporated in the plan?

If you were keeping the toilets in the winter garden this would be handy for people with disabilities / babies etc

make sure that there are toilets in the hothouse bit too (Winter Garden)

looks terrific

Consider extending or improving the skatepark. Younger children have confined space for them to use. They want some graffiti removed

A basket swing and plants for sale.

A "wildflower meadow"?

Some kind of water feature.

herbaceous borders

Potting shed area for holding workshops. Glasshouses would be very useful to kitchen garden volunteer groups.

Space dedicated to prams, scooters, etc clears up space in cafe area.

Shelter belt of trees by the playground, the wind is very cold off the playing field. The tunnel at Balgreen is horrid, could you help?

more playpark for younger children

More herbs

no

A roof over the skatepark so there can be a foam pit.

A foam pit and supervisors.

keep a perimeter fence of some sort , lighting on pathways

Continued support for progress, integration and peace.

Any plan to have low-cost rental workshops for artist, sculptors, etc? Would add something more to the plan for the community.

An indoor foam pit and a roof over it.

Q2: We are working with a limited budget but if there is anything else you would like to see included, please let us know:

Roof over the skatepark, foam pit for skatepark

Q3: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the overall Master Plan:

I feel that NOTHING in Edinburgh for Skaters, plenty for cyclists though. Its a disgrace I have to take my car to other areas in Scotland outwith the capital city

The park caters well for certain sports and recreations but not table tennis. This is a great family friendly sport that is very space and resource efficient.

I love the ideas that you are proposing, they look fantastic.

No Concerns - it all sounds fantastic

I hope the cafe will serve interesting, delicious and healthy food. If the cafe turns out well, it will be the magnet that draws visitors. If the cafe does not turn out well, this could have the opposite effect, so worth putting in a little effort in this area. No junk food, please!

Saughton Park is used by cyclists as part of the route along the Water of Leith. Shared use with pedestrians would be ok but if space permits a dedicated cycle way would be preferable

I simply love the new design and will be looking forward to its completion.

Is this really a 'local park' (if so, why so much tarmac and car parking) or a 'destination'. Need to be clear (and honest) about what this development is and who it is for.

Seems a very good integrated approach which takes account of the many diverse users of the Park

I think this way the park will be overall safer and better maintained with these suggestions implemented, saving money in the long run.

The above outdoor activities are in my opinion inexpensive to install within the park but would be a massive plus in ensuring the plan is a success

For disabled people like myself who cannot use public transport or walk to the park there is little mention of any parking facilities other than a vague reference to "car park improvements" on the map on page 3 and some talk of resurfacing and designated disabled bays to make the park accessible, albeit that the park is reasonably flat and smooth once you get there. On-site parking is currently very limited and I can't see how the Balgreen Road access can be significantly improved because of the adjacent bus lane, roundabout, traffic lights and heavy traffic (also true of Fords Road which sometimes floods). There is often inadequate provision of disabled parking bays in car parks. Also, is the park at risk of flooding given the proximity of the river? It's hard to tell from the diagrams provided where the river sits and where there could be open access for flood water. What measures will exist to prevent flood damage to any new developments?

I am not at all in favour of any public money being spent creating expensive new parking areas to the west of the site. I would like to see the scheme going all out to attract people by bike and on foot and only catering for blue badge drivers. The park could make a virtue of its green credentials.

comprehensive and inclusive plans that allow many people to access different experiences at the Park

There is limit places in Edinburgh to play basketball and it is such a great community activity

I think the plans are very positive and seem to be trying to restore rather than change too much..

Q3: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the overall Master Plan:

Not many years ago, our son had his wedding ceremony in the Italian Garden (followed by the reception in Bainfield Bowling Club). Although the weather could have been a bit kinder (even for May) the venue proved ideal. The invited guests were able to gather on the lawn whilst other friends were able to gather around the periphery and look down on the ceremony. The gardens provided wonderful opportunities for both group and individual photographs. Worth promoting to a wider audience? As Q28 does not enable further comment I would take this opportunity to say that, although our visits have been infrequent, we would certainly visit more often were the proposals to go ahead.

great plans

The cafe space and community activities sound like they'll make a massive difference to the park. I'll certainly make use of these

The positioning of the proposed Cafe on the masterplan is curious. The Cafe should be in the current greenhouse area, close to the Play Park and Skate facility. There are constantly lots of users in these two areas. Parents are likely to go straight to the Play Park with their children and if the Cafe is not within the immediate vicinity they may just pop along to Sainsbury's. The skaters/bmxers/scooters tend to go to Sainsbury's or bring their snack/juice with them.

It looks like something the community will get involved in

There are many disabled kids in Edinburgh - of which the council provides very limited resource play areas for them- two swings at the meadows and of course there is the private Yard which the councils relied on. However for the south side of town this is a long way to travel for a wheelchair user to use a swing or slide. Children are children and therefore should not be discriminated against and lack of thought does this so often

More than anything super excited about the better access from ford's road and improvements for cyclists!

Some new buildings may appear unsightly

I notice the skate park has been ignored. This part probably has more visitors than the rest of the park. It is not only youngsters who attend the skate facilities but parents who supervise their youngsters. I feel an opportunity is being missed.

the band stand might be a bit noisy for people walking in the evening

This park should be for the whole of Edinburgh, not just locals

We attended the bear hunt today which my 2 children really enjoyed. The storytelling session was also excellent. We often use the park as it a safe place for my children to run around. It also a great place for them to see the plants and flowers and learn what they are. It would be great to see the facilities upgraded.

The plan intends to develop a good community resource to become an excellent community resource.

N/A

Looks excellent. Good to have lots of community involvement and to make the park as accessible for all as possible.

Q3: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the overall Master Plan:

They have one at George V park in Canonmills and it is very popular

Only sport that seems to be offered just now is football

Toilets should maybe be separate from the café and open a bit longer for the skateboarders. The Park also needs longer opening times. It needs to be open in the evenings in nice weather.

The construction phase will take 1.5 years, but please don't close the place for that length of time - do the work in such a way that at least part of the playpark is always open., that some parts of the gardens are always open etc. I would rather no work took place than have the playpark and gardens

the enclosure has always been slightly isolated from the rest of the park

I like the plan a lot. It is already a good park, this will make it a great park

Graffiti that says 'no scooters' and 'scooters are gay' upset some of the primary school pupils

i am very happy about the plan

Rose beds will be re-planted with roses AND COMPANIONSHIP PLANTS - NO! Only roses please, don't dilute their splendour - they are Saughton's crowning glory.

Looks like a sensible balance of improving existing facilities, development and restoration.

Hugely important point for relaxation, healing, recuperation - hope as much wildlife, fragrances, as possible

Excellent

I just love herbaceous plants - though realise they're a lot of work

I am a new mum and new to Murrayfield so haven't used Saughton park much before but hope to visit more as baby grows older

I think the master plan is excellent.

We live next to it and spend a lot of time here. It is so beautiful here and has so much potential.

Please ensure cyclists are welcome to cycle along the main drive. It is exceptionally bumpy now and a new surface will be excellent. How about a separate cycle lane?

Lovely park - so much potential.

What will staffing levels be? Concerns re security/vandalism

small children from nearby playgroup, nursery and primary school

distance to cafe from winter garden, playpark and skatepark

Q7: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the Stable Block and Yard:

I really like the idea of having cafe facilities here. I used to work near here and my partner still works nearby. I would have appreciated cafe facilities in the park as I used to walk around the park during my lunch breaks. It'll also mean that if my partner is working, we could meet during his lunch and take a walk and grab a coffee/food before he has to head back. Adding some community space is also great - as it will allow people access to a different environment, out of the usual office-type locations etc. It's a really positive addition/change to the park and allows so many opportunities for use.

Will a cafe be used by the public?

It is great to see the park coming back to life

A cafe is long overdue and the terraced cafe area is a lovely idea for sitting outside on sunny days. Please ensure staff are well trained in customer care, plenty litter bins so tables aren't left cluttered with used crockery and litter, and a quality selection of continental teas/coffees and cakes at value for money prices.

I think this a great idea and has been a long time coming.

Exciting community possibilities as long as appropriate security to prevent the kind of petty vandalism/ anti social behavior which has caused problems.

The single largest part of this area is for tarmac - parking. Why not a 'car free' park (or disabled parking only)?

Anything other than nothing is always good in my book

I like the idea of the cafe having unobstructed views of the gardens. However, as before, when people hire halls they expect to be able to park cars easily and it's not clear to me how this will be accommodated.

Cafe building roof is too high, expensive to maintain inside and out. I would prefer more flat roof, planted with sedum and with space for solar panels

Cafe building looks lovely and hope it will be dog friendly

The sustainability of the cafe and its use is important. The staffing is also crucial to 'repeat visits'. Staff (even if they are volunteers) must be trained to maintain the environment and service to high, professional standards.

The positioning of the proposed Cafe on the masterplan is curious. The Cafe should be in the current greenhouse area, close to the Play Park and Skate facility. There are constantly lots of users in these two areas. Parents are likely to go straight to the Play Park with their children and if the Cafe is not within the immediate vicinity they may just pop along to Sainsbury's. The skaters/bmxers/scooters tend to go to Sainsbury's or bring their snack/juice with them. You should consider moving the gardening staff and their equipment into this area and capitalising on the Balgreen Road entrance/greenhouse as the Cafe.

Good but review practicality before final plan. Distance cafe to toilets for the poorly mobile? Goods into cafe and distance to service yard? Greenhouse in shadow? Where is Caley permanent base? Could you open some 'peephole' or larger 'window' views in the curved wall into the park?

please ensure it is fully accessible for people with a disability

Q7: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the Stable Block and Yard:

It is difficult to imagine the café space. I understand that this is also to be used for an events venue as well, therefore this will have to be a flexible space and kept at a very high standard. The Manager / Manageress will have to be fully competent and keep the standards high.

not enough detail about access & toilets. Is it accessible to all. Will there be disability toilets with enough space to change disabled kids not just babies- or will we have to resort to changing children and adults on the toilet floor?

It's a bit samey and modern - would prefer something with a bit more charm.

Care should be taken to conserve the historical integrity of the stable block - as well as care to the buried remains of the mansion.

The design for the café building would enhance the amount of people to see the beautiful gardens. An amazing Sunday afternoon in the gardens and then a coffee - what more would you want!

Too far to walk from public transport

I think the cafe should be open some evenings. There is a shortage of places to go in the evening in the area which are not focussed in alcohol consumption.

The roof space is over-sized compared to the cafe space. Better to have a lower roof, and if possible a green roof.

Friends of Saughton Park would like to see the impact on the archaeology taken into account during the plans for the stable bloc.

Don't think it should look too modern - traditional stone would be the most suitable to go with the gardens

The park needs these facilities to make it a good place to visit

toilets need to be easy to get to even when not using the cafe. an example of a perfect cafe is Saltyard in dalry. It is clean, staff friendly and welcoming + it has a play area for small children + lots of highchairs. Thier prices are reasonable the food is good and they do home baking.

not sure if the area would be difficult to access by people who have mobility problems as it seems rather large

A great addition and it will be well used

I like the fact that it could be hired by the community. The cafe looks good with views to the garden

It all looks good

very clever

New to the area, just getting to know the park.

It would be good to see a reasonably priced cafe not ver expensive food and foods with gluten free and other allergies catered for.

Q7: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the Stable Block and Yard:

Cafe should be an opportunity to train young people with disabilities in the local community.

Concerned that the building is too modern. Concrete, YUK. But having a cafe and new toilets is great.

Cafe looks large, light and airy.

Really love kitchen garden plan and hope this prompts cafe to take a plant-based focus. Hope some bat, swallow boxes etc added.

Is it big enough to cater for functions?

Good location in park. Good views onto kitchen garden. Kitchen garden needs maximum sun and some security but unobtrusive.

ensure good provision for cycle parking

incorporate reclaimed stone in the new structures

Nice, light and airy.

good ideas

There's no nice cafe near here, it's something I've wanted for years.

how will you deal with vandals etc

maximise reuse of materials

No use shown for Stable Block. Disappointing. Like to see this in public use as is part of history. Convert as the cafe? Stables at Newhailes House now cafe and toilets. Not enough info. Is this a new building or existing one converted? Only 1 plan, ltd visualisation, so hard to judge.

You will make it more popular.

Because it is old.

acoustics in cafe with design of roof

bandstand within the courtyard, more secure and protected

So we don't have to go far for food.

Q11: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the Walled Gardens, Bandstand or Winter Gardens:

I like the proposals here for this, I think they look great. I'm just not sure how much of an uptake there will be for the bandstand... I suppose it will depend on the types of performances that will take place and the appetite for such performances.

Amazing!

It will be so nice to see Saughton Park reinvented to its former glory. A bandstand venue for different types of music that creates a relaxing ambience sounds wonderful. Could fruit and flower produce from the walled garden be put on sale to visitors?

Cyclists using this too?

I have no concerns

I wasn't sure about the bandstand at first but if it is going to host open air music and such then I'm all for it.

For the park to work overall, it needs community buy-in to the design, maintenance and use.

Everything seems good, the ideas are attractive and interesting, based on its success I'd hope other green spaces around Edinburgh could be used in a similar way.

The positioning of the bandstand may be nice for audiences on a nice day. However there appears to be little shelter available for scheduled performances which happen to fall on inclement weather days and musicians (especially players of larger instruments) may not be so keen to have to carry instrument cases, stands and music over any great distance and the suggested positioning doesn't look to be particularly close to any park entrances or car parking facilities. What security will there be for instrument cases etc during performances?

Concerned re security at night- how will it be protected from vandalism

I am pleased you have chosen contemporary design for the Winter Garden instead of pastiche Victorian

Be good for it to be used for functions that involves the local community

See also comments at Item 3.

If you could view the bandstand from the cafe may be a benefit to both establishments

The bandstand is a great addition to the park. Acoustic Jazz, Folk, Rock, Classical concerts in the better weather. What about puppet shows in the school holidays for the locals?

I like the fruit trees idea a lot - fits with the horticultural heritage of nurseries in W Edinburgh + environmental education. Also the climbing roses - could we have some, with autumn hips, coming over the N boundary wall to be seen from the E-W pathway? That would be a great draw towards the facilities and cafe. Hoping the bandstand will work. The planting and landscaping / furniture solutions need to work for several different magnitudes of events.

It is essential that it is not too far away from the Café. The Bandstand will work, and again it must be used to the maximum, morning, afternoon and evening. This must have a varied weekly programme throughout the summer, whether it be a Brass Band, a wind band, a stand up comic, a jazz band or an orchestral evening. There must be something there and backed up by the café / refreshments.

Q11: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the Walled Gardens, Bandstand or Winter Gardens:

Again more detailed on access needed

I think the proposals would bring everything together

I would like to see emphasis on sensory smell in the planting. I did not see any mention of herbs and other plants with distinctive smells

Winter garden: people might pick the plants. Band stand: it might get in the way if people want to have a little sit down and read a book.

No direct path from Balgreen carpark to bandstand. Could there be a path round both sides of the Winter Garden.

All looks good

Friends of Saughton Park support the proposals for the walled gardens and winter gardens. We would like information on park improved including information on the history of the park and information on the plants and trees that are in the park.

I would like to see more information provided on the plants and trees in the park. I would also like to see more edible plants e.g. fruit trees and bushes planted that the public can pick and eat to encourage more interaction with the park, gardening and plants.

Can't be sure but overall delighted that something is being done with some ambition

I love lots of the gardens that are already there - I hope it doesn't change too much - some bits just need a few more plants and rockeries to make them look really stunning

it all looks lovely

Please keep some grass areas for little children to toddle or to have a picnic inside walled garden. Indoor picnic area with toilet for cold and wet days

I am afraid that people with mobility problems would find it all too large an area to cover more parking if possible

This is an area I use a lot and the fact that it will be developed pleases me a lot

I really like the landscaping around the bandstand

New to the area, just getting to know the park.

Only roses in rose garden please. I love the formal planting and hope bandstand doesn't eradicate too much of it.

Feel grandstand (sic) will immensely enhance this area.

The position of the bandstand is good. I would like to see adequate seating (benches and perhaps picnic tables) and ample grassy areas around to sit on.

Good lighting essential. Ensure no "hidden" spaces.

Q11: Please use this comments box to briefly explain the reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the Walled Gardens, Bandstand or Winter Gardens:

think the bandsytand if successful will provide the locals with more to do

Enhance pleasant experience

I like the mature hedges that give such a good sense of enclosure. I hope these are to be retained - not clear from drawings.

I like it.

Q15: In addition to making the playground more inclusive, please let us know if there is anything else you would like us to consider if we can make the playground larger.

Table tennis tables

i love these ideas, More flowers and plants, and a bigger play park would be nice.

Cycle/skateboard lanes need to be included on the main drive so older people and those with young children can walk freely without fear of collision. The playground would benefit from enlargement to incorporate an area for disabled children.

I think the playground is big enough as it is.

Not sure that the playground should be made bigger but maybe revamped.

Security issues as for other areas.

Community growing space. Flexible use space. Outdoor gym. Interpretive learning (not just standard info boards).

Again lighting and possibly cameras stop combat vandalism

Maximise the space, include mini soft ball tennis/badminton so local groups can emerge.

Where can I change my baby....

Grids at entrance to keep dogs out

I think you should do this first and defer the outdoor gym equipment. Establish exercise habits in children.

Think the playground is very good and not in need of more money to be spent on it

No mention is made of the skateboard park? It is hoped it will continue as it is a much used resource.

Linking up with the water of Leith and other cycling routes in the area is essential. The sports pitches tend to be inclusive to themselves. Sports teams tend to play their sport then disappear. I don't think they will be the main, even partial users, of the gardens. I think that the plans should concentrate on the gardens, skatepark, play park, cafe, cycling, bandstand and walled garden. You should also involve the local schools with individual plots for classes. I would seriously consider installing an outdoor gym. I wouldn't bother with the circular route - the sports fields are not of much importance to the other potential users.

To be honest I think a plan with a major path along the main axial view from Stevenson Drive and into the walled garden would be by far the best way to increase use of the park overall. I recognise it would mean resetting the pitches and the playground and so cost more. Is there any way something could be done here though?

please include some soft play / sensory elements to enabled children with learning needs, autism and in wheelchair to be able to participate

Have two of every item not just one, and that they be situated as a mirror image. This hopefully would prevent a queue and squabbling children.

You need to detail what you mean by inclusive- a slide for physical disabled kids to access?- a

Q15: In addition to making the playground more inclusive, please let us know if there is anything else you would like us to consider if we can make the playground larger.

wheelchair swing? a ground level trampoline?

Wild play options

Friends of Saughton Park support improving access to the play park for people with disabilities. We also welcome the diversification of park facilities e.g running and cycling routes in the park and welcoming areas of green space for informal recreational use. We would also like to see more diverse types of play equipment in the play park and improved access points to the play park.

Perhaps arranging activities by age / size.

There could be more equipment for very young children (aged ~1-2 years old) eg. smaller slides, 'play houses' etc.

I think the playground equipment is good but needs to be better maintained - if all the equipment is well maintained there would be no need to make the playground bigger

all of this makes real sense and will add value to the whole park

more access for younger babies

my five year old son says that he would like a little house in the park and also a pretend road Sand and bark is good safe surface but good to have paths for pushchairs

open paddling pool

cycle path all round with 'off road' facilities for mountain bikes

better climbing wall more adventurous and vandal proof things

A nature play area with logs and rocks.

more adventurous, landscaped for nature play

two flying foxes

maybe more swings

Perhaps add something like an adventure play area and/or assault course.

A wet play area (?) i.e. sprinklers.

More wind shelter

Shelter from the wind, i.e. tree belt.

water play area, sensory area, better climbing frame

A wilder play area without formal equipment - spiral mound, tree trunks and changes of level.

More baby swings, less heavy swings, flat surface rather than wood chips.

regular safety checks of equipment

Q15: In addition to making the playground more inclusive, please let us know if there is anything else you would like us to consider if we can make the playground larger.

Another entrance to the playground.

more seats, better flooring - improve accessibility

Toilets, coffee stall.

Only if cyclists have to dismount otherwise accidents to pedestrians could occur! (Especially children and the elderly)

Already have lots of space taken up for children with the skate park - more for the adults who actually pay for all this please!!

Q21a: Please indicate why you feel it is necessary to replace the fencing

Gym stuff could be a good laugh and better entrances will be really useful. The fence is horrid, but we need to think about the kids, so a little fence to stop them running into the very busy road is essential.

This will keep the park a little safer for children and dogs if to run out on the road

Help to prevent people simply wandering across pitches etc

I feel for parents and dog owners the fencing is a security, Stevenson Drive and Balgreen Road are busy roads.

Substantial barrier needed adjacent to busy road.

You could maximise the fence by adding an inside of fence climbing area actually on the fence, encouraging local clubs to emerge

Much as I'm not keen on fencing, there needs to be some means of preventing those using park (especially children and dogs) from running out into the road unobstructed and to stop toys from being sent accidentally into the path of oncoming traffic

Due to me using park with my dog....safer to be fenced

Due to proximity to a busy road. But could have more than one gate to enter by.

safety of park users

A public park should be clearly defined. Fences secure a park, help to protect children from roads and contain sports

there also must be a story of the historical value that the Water of Leith has given to the area over the past centuries .I think the outdoor gym would be a success for all ages. With gym membership being expensive a regular 5 minute practice would be good. The Park will have to sell the wellbeing and fun aspect of this emotional subject.....for the overweight's. The viewpoint would be good but there also must be a story of the historical value that the Water of Leith has given to the area over the past centuries .

It's hideous!

I presume it has a purpose and it's not clear where old fencing is to be removed.

Safety

I think this is good for childrens safety

For the safety of children and dogs to prevent them from running onto the busy main road next to the park.

keep kids and dogs safer. Less rubbish will get in

just for a wee bit of peace of mind for mums and dads whose kids will be running around

I feel it is necessary to be able to control access. It also makes the park more secure for children & dogs

Q21a: Please indicate why you feel it is necessary to replace the fencing

safety

safety for young park users

to stop people walking over it at any point and damaging flowers and shrubs

something basic like a low wire fence to stop children running into the road but it shouldnt be high or look like its to keep people out. Alternatively a hedge could be used

So everyone is safe

More likely to suffer from casual vandalism.

To keep it secure! To stop dogs running wild and kids from running on to road.

Keep whole park enclosed.

Safety aspect and feeling more secure within grounds.

Security

it;s quite intimidating for people

child safety

security

kids safety

road safety

young children - playgroup, busy roads at all times , poor visibility

People all take shortcuts through trees making unsightly paths and dropping litter.

That area of the park could get very messy with rubbish. It would be better if the park had a definite perimeter.

Q22: Please use this comments box to briefly explain reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the areas outside the Walled Gardens:

Regarding the steel fencing, it would depend on the reasons why it was placed there in the first place. I think the park would look better and more inviting without it - but is there an issue with it being near main roads etc? If so, would bushes/shrubbery be a better alternative?

The proposals for the regeneration would definitely make me use the park more. I've lived in the vicinity all my life and have fond memories of visits to Saughton Park and my grandparents (from England) always insisted on a stroll through the rose gardens when visiting us.

Will there be parking spaces for bikes in sufficient quantity?

The plan has to be attractive to all, as many activities as possible will ensure the parks success.

I think there needs to be clear demarcation of pathways for pedestrians and cyclists to keep them apart from each other. Cyclists can go quite fast compared to pedestrians and pedestrians (especially children) can easily stray unexpectedly from a pathway causing accidents or making cyclists have to swerve to take evasive action. I would anticipate that there might also be quite a number of buggies in use by visitors to the park with younger children and these don't mix well with cyclists either.

As previously stated - do not encourage car trips and spend money upgrading car parking. Also I don't think money should be spent upgrading vehicular access at Fords Rd and Balgreen Road.

I'd be concerned about increasing the attractiveness of the park as a destination for drivers, thus increasing the number of vehicles using the roads to the park. This concern is offset only a little by the proposed cycle routes through the park, as there are no proposals in this plan to improve the surrounding roads for cycling as a consequence of increased motorised traffic. I would strongly commend the improvement of the park entrances, including the removal of chicanes, and providing a "simultaneous green" at Gorgie Road to permit cyclists to access the park at that corner in safety.

Trees and bushes will form an adequate replacement for the fence. People will create break throughs at convenient points

Q18 - We are probably too old for the gym equipt but our family may use it (depending on where they are living at the time). Q19 - Having walked the full length of the Water of Leith I was disappointed that the path did not go through the Park.

Would be great to have some kind of natural 'fencing' which could be shrub bushes doubling up as a natural habitat as well as a boundary

Pitches, direction of play is onto roads and car parks. Layout ignores present land profiles

I understand that the iron work (Lights) on the bridge on the Balgreen Road is of historical importance. Perhaps that can also be included?

The cycle path is a top priority to increase safe cyclist access to the park. Much as I dislike car usage I think improving the Ford's Road access and parking significantly is a very high priority to be sure to reach visitor numbers and ensure accessibility e.g. for the elderly. I would lose a pitch to gain a path along the axial view. Net pitches still up if this is done? N perimeter - some 'soft' boundary/ transitioning to Stevenson Drive still necc at E end where few trees?

As much as I would prefer to see the fences not be replaced I fear that because of the safety aspect they must be replaced. We don't want footballs ending up on the mains roads!

Q22: Please use this comments box to briefly explain reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the areas outside the Walled Gardens:

I think as long it kept children,dogs etc safe

are there changing rooms for the sport pitches

What is needed is access to water of leith not a viewpoint. Car park not required if public transport and walking access is improved. Car parking more likely to be simply abused by people doing other things in the area eg murrayfield and tynecastle.

Friends of Saughton Park feel it is necessary to improve the entrances at Balgreen and Fords road to make them more welcoming but to also make them safer and take into account the impact of any increased traffic. We also welcome the proposals for the Water of Leith viewpoint, making a feature of the river and improving links with the river and the park and the Water of Leith walkway.

I support making the Water of Leith and the Water of Leith walkway a more integral part of the park. The Water of Leith has been used in many different ways on this site over time and it is an important part of the sites history and why we now have a park in this location. It is a beautiful natural asset that should be recognised as such once again.

It would be good to have improved pedestrian access to the Winter garden from the Balgreen Road entrance as you have to be very careful with young children passing through the car park. Improvements to the Main Drive cycle path are welcome to us providing that the disruption is short lived or an alternative route is in place. Otherwise it will prevent my partner from a safe daily cycling commute to work.

create a specific area for dog walkers to minimise dog mess in the walled garden as it is currently safe to sit in the walled garden without encountering dog mess

I enjoy walking in this park and to be able to walk round would be great

I feel that sports pitches take up a lot of space purely for football. The initial visitor survey recognised that 'the park' was used more by males than females and a broader range of sports on the pitch area would address that.

With regard to the viewpoint, could this include a "dipping platform"?

Nont steel - something "softer", e.g. shrubs.

veg patches would be good, Pleasae retain access to feed the ducks near micro - hydro scheme

Small children from playgroups, nursery and school. Added security for them and peace of mind for people looking after them.

as above

Re cycling - young children would not be able to run about on the walk way if people were allowed to cycle on the path. Perhaps a part of the car park could be for cycles to be secured.

Fencing is offputting and unnecessary

Do it.

Q25: We'll continue to work with the local community to develop this programme but if there is anything else you would like to see included, please let us know:

Outdoor table tennis tables

Using this venue to host arts exhibitions, teddy bear hunt/picnic etc. is a great idea - means you don't always have to go to the city with the kids. A story telling event for children with guest readers might be a good idea. As a child during the school summer holidays I remember going to Children's Hour which was great fun.

There's a total lack of culture in the programme. I'd like to see outdoor concerts with classic music, it sounds fantastic outside. There are offerings in the programme for the body, but none for the soul! I can envisage some live reading events done there during the Book Festival. I think Charlotte Square gets a bit claustrophobic sometimes - it would be good to have some activities in Saughton Park as well. You should liaise with Edinburgh City of Literature for some event ideas.

I love the wildflower area and I hope that this practice will continue as I loved the re-introduction of wildflowers to my neighbourhood. I hope that all the wildlife within Saughton Park, vibrant as it is, will continue to be protected. I know from making good use of this park over the years that we do have sparrow hawks nesting in the area.

music performances including new opportunities for locally based performers

As many activities as possible, use up as much of the space as possible.

What about building in a community veg garden ?

As said earlier a basketball court

Family gardening and veg cooking classes, c.f. www.squashnutrition.org

It would be good for the park to be used more for the local community, fete's, galas etc....

Depends on how far the catchment area is- limited local community

Flower fields

Arts and music events for grown ups

Friends of Saughton Park support the proposed events and activities and welcome the diversification of events and activities to cater for all parts of the community. We also support the creation of a community management committee that will allow the community to have more involvement in the management and maintenance of the park, and think this will help to ensure the park will continue to meet the needs of the community over the long term.

kite flying workshops

Table tennis tables

Park Runs would be great

my five year old son would like the chance to help in some way with gardening activities

perhaps a small library on gardening would be an idea

I am interested in nature play, nature connection for people living in cities. This could be

Q25: We'll continue to work with the local community to develop this programme but if there is anything else you would like to see included, please let us know:

included in the programme - Forest Schools club maybe

cake stall and ice cream van

A "wildflower meadow".

Some form of community yoga classes or free talks on the history, etc.

Concerts etc

Love the idea of local community family events - bringing community together.

We'd like to be more involved with the Park

maybe more wildlife talks and activities for kids

A cycle route between Ford's Road and the library would be good, even if it meandered around the pitches.

childrens holiday events and after school activities

Q26: Please use this comments box to briefly explain reasons for your responses or concerns you have about the proposals for the events and activities programme:

I like the proposed events and activities programme. Although I've said I don't think our family would take part, I think it is important to offer these as it's a good way to develop community spirit and provide opportunities for people who would be interested. Our family enjoy going out and walking around Edinburgh, we often walk along the Water of Leith and this part has always been a wee bit depressing to pass. It's great that these proposals are in place and it'll be interesting to see how the work develops.

I feel there is NOWHERE with a very smooth surface to skate, Crammond is like skating through sand and Portobello is extremely rough. Skating has taken off in a huge way over the last few years yet the council seem to completely ignore this group of people and leave us with no where to skate safely on a smooth surface

Optimistic given the socio-economics of the area - i.e. this is not like the Meadows. Would be beneficial for the bandstand to host events.

Things happening in the park will be super. Bring it on!

Notice Boards at all entrances which could market forthcoming events will help to bring people in.

Cycling needs to be more strongly featured in the proposals. While it may have been considered we need to have a better description and graphic of what is proposed.

Great to have a park for ALL residents to use.

I'm passionate about maximising green space for outdoor activity

I think the education and community aspects of the proposals are excellent and a good way of fostering community ownership of and pride in the facilities

Very exciting - spend a lot of time in park and winter gardens with my dog it will be FAB when all work is completed.....

N/A

Looks like lots of opportunities for people to get involved and have a say as well as making good use of volunteers.

I live very near the park and have 2 young sons and it would be great if there were events in the park for them to take part in

family activities in Edinburgh are limited and cost, this is a great idea to develop low cost activities

good range of type and size