

Portobello Golf Course
Outcome Improvement Process Report
January 2020

Background

In October 2018 a Participation Request was submitted by Portobello Golf Course Action Group and Portobello Community Council to be involved with the process to look at potential changes to Portobello Golf Course.

An outcome improvement process was developed with input from both groups and Edinburgh Leisure.

Outcome improvement process

The Council convened a meeting with PGCG, PCC and Edinburgh Leisure in November 2018 to agree the Outcome Improvement Process.

It was agreed that the **Outcome** is – to consult with the community and stakeholders to determine potential options to increase the use of Portobello Golf Course.

It was agreed that the **Outcome Improvement Process** would operate by organising consultation events at locations around Portobello to engage with the local community. A maximum of five questions were to be asked to gauge views and opinions. Event venues included the swim centre, Tumbles, the library, local schools, the golf course itself and Portobello Town Hall.

An online survey was also to be organised, hosted on the Council's Consultation Hub. The survey would also gather information on the demographics of those responding. Questions for the online survey and engagement events were to be the same.

Partners' networks were to be used to promote the survey (email contacts / social media / web-sites etc) to stakeholders and the local community.

Public survey

The survey formed an integral part of an 'Outcome Improvement Process' which was agreed between Portobello Golf Club, Portobello Community Council, Edinburgh Leisure and the Council.

The Council worked with Portobello Golf Course Action Group, Portobello Community Council and Edinburgh Leisure to develop the survey questions to gauge views on increasing the use of Portobello Golf Course.

Both community groups contributed to the content and wording of the survey and agreement was reached on the approach by all parties prior to the start of the consultation.

The survey was available in paper format at five venues across Portobello and was promoted by members of staff at these sites.

The survey was also available on the Council's Consultation Hub and promoted by the Council and Edinburgh Leisure on social media. In total 662 responses were received.

Action Plan

Following completion of the survey findings report, the Council met with PGCAG and Edinburgh Leisure on 30 August 2019 to discuss the findings and determine the action plan. PCC were unable to attend the meeting but communicated their thoughts and views in advance of the meeting.

The agreed action plan is detailed below:

1. Edinburgh Leisure confirmed that there are no current plans to close the golf course or change from a 9-hole course.
2. Edinburgh Leisure's door is open and wherever possible any group can bring forward proposals to them to discuss.
3. Junior development. This requires disclosure checks and coaching qualifications. EL and PGCAG to collectively look at this. PGCAG will put this to the golf club committee.
4. Marketing (road/wayfinding signs). PGCAG to send CEC info.
5. Hickory day, family days, afternoon sessions that the club could organise. EL require club support to develop.
6. Ladies club have helped with promotion in the past and will continue to do so.
7. Facebook promotion to continue.
8. Promotion of Edinburgh Leisure app to be developed by EL.
9. Meeting with golf clubs and rugby club. PGCAG to get in touch with rugby club to organise.
10. No of men and women that are members/season ticket holders. EL to provide this info.
11. PGCAG to speak to disc golf organiser and liaise with Edinburgh Leisure.

Conclusion

The above action plan concluded the Outcome Improvement Process. The Council will circulate an update on progress with the above actions 6/12 months from the conclusion of the OIP to the groups involved and other relevant stakeholders.