

**City of
Newcastle**

Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan

Phase 1 Community Engagement Report

August 2020

Prepared by: Major Events and Corporate Affairs, City of Newcastle

Enquiries: engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au or (02) 4974 2000

Contents

Executive summary	6
Key engagement findings	6
1. Introduction.....	8
2. Engagement activities	8
Objectives	9
3. Communication and promotion	9
Online (internal platforms)	9
Online (external platforms).....	10
Social Media.....	11
Paid social media	12
Print media.....	12
Printed materials.....	13
4. Online engagement	14
Online survey methodology.....	14
Online survey findings	16
Social Pinpoint methodology	34
Social Pinpoint findings	36
Online workshops / information sessions	43
5. Face-to-face consultation	44
Variety – The Children’s Charity: School engagements.....	44
Intercept surveys	45
6. Next steps.....	46
7. Appendices	47
Appendix 1: Communications and promotion.....	47
Appendix 2: Online survey	55
Appendix 3: PDF survey	64
Appendix 4: Survey responses by suburb	72

Appendix 5: Social Pinpoint responses by suburb	73
Appendix 6: Written submissions	74
Appendix 7: Variety engagement report	79

Table of figures

Figure 1 Demographics - age	14
Figure 2 Demographics - gender	15
Figure 3 Demographics - LGA Ward	15
Figure 4 Visitation	16
Figure 5 Mode of transportation used	16
Figure 6 How do you generally use the Foreshore?	17
Figure 7 Other uses	17
Figure 8 Natural aspects that are important	18
Figure 9 Pedestrian / cycling aspects that are important	18
Figure 10 Facilities that are important	18
Figure 11 Want more - natural elements	19
Figure 12 Want more - amenities	19
Figure 13 Want more - variety of spaces	19
Figure 14 Want more - connectivity	20
Figure 15 Want more - recreation	20
Figure 16 What you would like to see more of at Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?	20
Figure 17 Describing the future of the Foreshore	21
Figure 18 What best describes how you would like to see the future of Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?	21
Figure 19 Plan of Management values ranking	23
Figure 20 Do you or someone you know have lived experience of a disability?	24
Figure 21 Lived experience relationship	24
Figure 22 Disability type / impact	25

Figure 23 Is there anything that takes away from your enjoyment of the Foreshore.....	25
Figure 24 What design details make the most difference to you having an enjoyable play experience at a playspace?.....	27
Figure 25 What kind of spaces would you like to have in the playspace?	28
Figure 26 Qualitative comments - what kind of spaces would you like to have in the playspace?	28
Figure 27 What do you like to do in a playspace?.....	29
Figure 28 What do you like to do? Other	30
Figure 29 Level of agreeance – retaining the frog pond.....	30
Figure 30 Retaining the frog pond - support by age and Ward.....	31
Figure 31 Preferences for frog pond use – quantitative responses	31
Figure 32 Support for frog pond being drained / repurposed / removed - respondent suggestions.....	32
Figure 33 Support for frog pond being maintained and filled with water - respondent suggestions.....	32
Figure 34 Support for general upgrades to frog pond area	33
Figure 37 Social Pinpoint map	34
Figure 35 Social Pinpoint respondents by age and Ward	35
Figure 36 Overview of Social Pinpoint qualitative responses	35
Figure 38 What is a big idea you have for the Foreshore?	37
Figure 39 What should change at the Foreshore.....	40
Figure 40 What do you love about the Foreshore?	41
Figure 41 How do you get around the Foreshore?	42

Table of tables

Table 1 Communication and promotion	9
Table 2 Qualitative comments – what would you like to see more of at the Foreshore?... 21	
Table 3 Qualitative comments – what best describe how you’d like to see the future of the Foreshore?	22
Table 4 Qualitative comments – what takes away from your enjoyment of the Foreshore?	26
Table 5 Qualitative comments – what design details make the biggest difference to your play experience?.....	27
Table 6 Qualitative comments – what kinds of spaces would you like to have in a playspace?	29
Table 7 Qualitative comments – what best describe how you’d like to see the future of the Foreshore?	30
Table 8 How would you like the frog pond space to be used? Sample of qualitative comments.....	33
Table 9 Community votes by comment in Social Pinpoint.....	36
Table 10 Sample of Social Pinpoint pictorial feedback	38
Table 11 Big idea – sample of qualitative comments	39
Table 12 What should change – sample of qualitative comments	40
Table 13 What I love - sample of qualitative comments.....	41
Table 14 Getting around - sample of qualitative comments	42
Table 15 Variety engagement snapshot	44

Executive summary

City of Newcastle (CN) carried out community engagement to better understand community values around the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore and to gather feedback about future uses of the Foreshore including what should be retained and/or changed in the area.

The following pages highlight the findings from the engagement period, which will help CN develop draft concepts for the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan.

These insights were collected from 9 June to 12 July 2020 using via an online survey and Social Pinpoint mapping tool. Over 1,000 people gave feedback. These activities were complemented by engagement carried out by Variety - the Children's Charity with Wallsend Primary School, Newcastle Senior School and St Columba's Primary School, Adamstown.

Alongside these community engagement activities, CN invited expressions of interest from the community to join a Harbour Foreshore Community Reference Group. This group will facilitate communication and engagement between CN and representatives of the Newcastle community as we develop a masterplan for the Harbour Foreshore.

Key engagement findings

Online survey (964 participants)

- Elements **most important** to the community:
 - Maintaining wide paths
 - Harbour views
 - Access to nearby restaurants/ cafes and
 - Accessibility are important to the community.

- The community want to **see more**:
 - Trees and shade
 - Accessible toilets
 - Picnic areas
 - Improved cycle paths, minimising cyclist/pedestrian conflicts on shared paths is important
 - More pop-up events and activations.

- With 71% of respondents visiting the Foreshore by car, lack of parking (25%) is said to be the key issue that detracts from respondent's enjoyment of the Foreshore
- Access to different spaces / zones for different age groups to relax and play in or enjoy passive recreation is important
- Climbing agility and challenging play experiences are desirable. Sensory spaces/ nature play and/or quiet spaces are also a strong preference for people with a disability and/or their carers/friends/family
- Level of agreement for retaining the Frog Pond is mixed in the quantitative findings. Majority of qualitative comments received about the frog pond (n= 309) support the area being drained, repurposed or removed.

Social Pinpoint (225 comments)

- The most frequent 'big idea' suggested was the request for more shrubs/native grasses (9%) and more spaces for play (7%) scootering / skating (7%) and showcasing indigenous heritage and stories (7%) were also suggested
- Some participants submitted 'out of the box' big ideas drawing inspiration from other well-known parks, which generated discussion and debate. Some of these ideas included elements like:
 - Activation signage
 - A lagoon / wave pool area
 - Artistic outdoor elements
 - A bike pump track.
- The most frequent comment for 'what should change?' was the planting of more trees
- 'What do you love' saw green space (28%) and open spaces (28%) as the most common aspects valued
- Better utilisation of the space for cycling (55%) was the aspect noted for those who commented on 'getting around' the Foreshore.

Recommendations / insights

- Community opinion on future use of the frog pond is mixed, with feedback split between keeping the frog pond with water or repurposing it for other uses. It is suggested that future use of the frog pond is further explored with the Community Reference Group
- Ensure future communications adequately describe the benefits and 'trade-offs' of the proposed concept designs options and empower the public to make the most informed choice possible.

1. Introduction

The 2015 Foreshore Plan of Management (PoM) states a detailed playground concept plan (for all ages and abilities) needs to be developed concurrently with the Landscape Masterplan. Any final plan should also intend to resolve the future use of the frog pond at Foreshore Park.

The Newcastle Harbour Foreshore masterplan will develop a strong, innovative and creative vision that respects the foreshore's history and highlights its future. It will also explore opportunities for locals and visitors to access, utilise and enjoy the space in line with current and future community needs and expectations.

City of Newcastle (CN) along with our external Consultant, Taylor Cullity Lethlean (TCL), and inclusive playspace partner Variety the Children's Charity (VCC) are committed to involving the community to help guide and shape the development of the masterplan.

Community engagement for the Harbour Foreshore (the Foreshore) took place between 9 June and 12 July 2020. This primarily involved broad online consultation and face-to-face engagement with schools in the local government area (LGA), in partnership with Variety – The Children's Charity.

This report outlines the key communication methods used to promote the engagement activities and presents the key findings from the data collected.

The engagement results will be used to inform draft concept designs for the Foreshore, for further community feedback in the later part of 2020.

2. Engagement activities

Engagement for the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan was carried out predominately online with some face-to-face consultation occurring with schools and intercept surveys at Foreshore Park.

This chapter has been broken into two sections:

- Online consultation using:
 - Online survey
 - Social Pinpoint mapping tool
 - Facebook Live session
- Face-to-face consultation involving:
 - School workshops
 - Intercept surveys

Alongside these community engagement activities, CN invited expressions of interest from the community to join a Harbour Foreshore Community Reference Group (CRG). This group will facilitate communication and engagement between CN and representatives of the Newcastle community as we develop a masterplan for the Harbour Foreshore. Selection of CRG members has been finalised and approved by senior management, and it is expected the first CRG meeting will be held from August 2020.

Objectives

The aim of the engagement was to target current and potential users of the Foreshore to better understand:

- Usage, expectations and future priorities
- Opportunities and constraints for the development of the precinct.

The feedback will help inform the draft masterplan and inclusive playspace concept design.

3. Communication and promotion

A Community Engagement Plan was developed to confirm the type of communication channels used to promote the consultation with the public.

The promotional channels used are outlined below. Where available, statistics summarising the reach and engagement of that channel have been provided. The promotional collateral can be found in in **Appendix 1: Communication and promotions**.

Table 1 Communication and promotion

Online (internal platforms)

Channel	Date Published	Key statistics
CN home page tile	9 June – 12 July	-
Media release	9 June	-
Have Your Say webpage	9 June – 12 July	1,725 views
Community panel (Newcastle Voice)	9 June	2,463 invited, 437 survey completions
	6 July (reminder email)	2,096 invited, 200 survey completions
Have Your Say eDM	23 June	2,466 subscribers
Creative City e-news	11 June	778 subscribers
	25 June	
	9 July	
Interagency Newsletter	18 June	619 subscribers,
NovoNews	17 June	1,289 recipients

Channel	Date Published	Key statistics
Email to CN Youth Council	8 July	-
Email to two local youth groups	8 July	-
Email to Disability Inclusion Action Plan subscribers	17 June	94 subscribers
Email to local schools	24 June	45 public schools across Newcastle LGA

Online (external platforms)

Channel	Date Published	Key statistics
Newy with Kids blog	9 – 16 July	326 page views
Newy with Kids Facebook post	10 June	10,440 people reached 1,059 clicks 137 reactions
	2 July	3,324 people reached 126 clicks 17 reactions
Newy with Kids Instagram	10 June	1,220 people reached 9 clicks 30 reactions

Social Media

Total number of posts: 15

Total reach: 112,632

Total engagement: 5,658

Total video views: 38,279

Channel	Date	Description	Impressions /reach	Engagement	Clicks
Facebook	9-Jun	News story (shared NBN video)	19,207	1414	1438
Facebook	10-Jun	Invite to join reference group (image)	433	5	4
LinkedIn	10-Jun	Invite to join reference group (image)	2,118	42	82
Facebook	12-Jun	Have your say (GIF)	11,285	450	465
Facebook	14-Jun	Join an info session (image)	5,811	118	116
Facebook	18-Jun	Join a Facebook live with Livvi's place	4,196	60	53
LinkedIn	19-Jun	Have your say (Fly-through)	2,796	60	47
Facebook	22-Jun	Have your say (Fly-through)	18,787	1034	1068
Facebook	27-Jun	Have your say (Fly-through)	27,087	1,403	1,391

Facebook	3-Jul	Join our zoom session (image)	4,374	53	33
Facebook	2-Jul	Facebook Live (zoom)	5,338	898	739
Facebook	2 Jul	Event for Facebook live with Livvy's place	11,200	64	NA
Facebook group	11-Jun	Join the info sessions	NA	3	NA
Facebook group	23-Jun	Shared facebook event for zoom session with Livvy's place	NA	53	NA
Facebook Group	2-Jul	Shared Facebook live with Lizzy's place	NA	2	NA
Totals			112,632	5,658	5,436

Paid social media

Channel	Reach	Impressions
Facebook ad	6,648	20,460

Print media

Channel	Date Published	Key statistics
Newcastle Herald	13 June	-
Newcastle Weekly	18 June	-

Printed materials

Channel	Date Published	Key statistics
Corflutes	Distributed on 10 June	A total of 9 corflutes distributed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreshore Park (x5) • Jesmond Park (x1) • Lambton Park (x1) • Islington Park (x1) • Gregson Park (x1)
Flyers	Distributed on the 11 June	600 distributed to Newcastle East residents

4. Online engagement

Online survey methodology

Questionnaire

There was a total of 3 demographic questions, 13 quantitative questions, and 5 qualitative questions in the survey. An additional 3 open-ended 'other' fields were incorporated within the survey to allow the participants to expand upon specific quantitative questions. Accessible versions of the survey were also available on the project website.

The full list of survey questions can be found in **Appendix 2: Online survey** and **Appendix 3: PDF survey**.

Data collection

The survey was open from 9 June to 12 July 2020.

The survey was promoted through social, digital and traditional media channels and was available to all community members via CN's website. The promotional channels and overall reach are outlined in **Chapter 3: Communications and Promotion**. Members of the City's community panel (Newcastle Voice) were also sent email invitations to take part in the survey.

Respondents

The survey was completed by 964 people from across the LGA.

Half of all survey respondents fell between the age group of 25 – 54yrs, followed by respondents who are 55 or older (42%) or youth under 24 (6%).

Whilst the number of submissions from youth were lower, youth insights were captured via engagement with schools completed by Variety – the Children's Charity. The school engagement findings are outlined in **Chapter 6: Face-to-face consultation**.

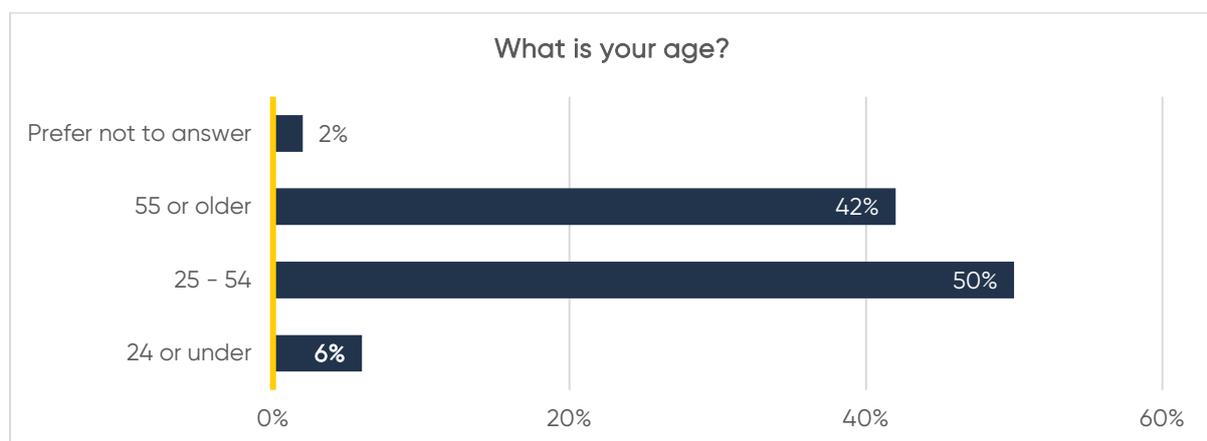
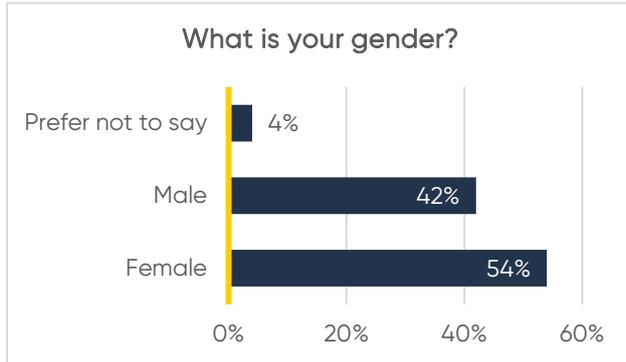
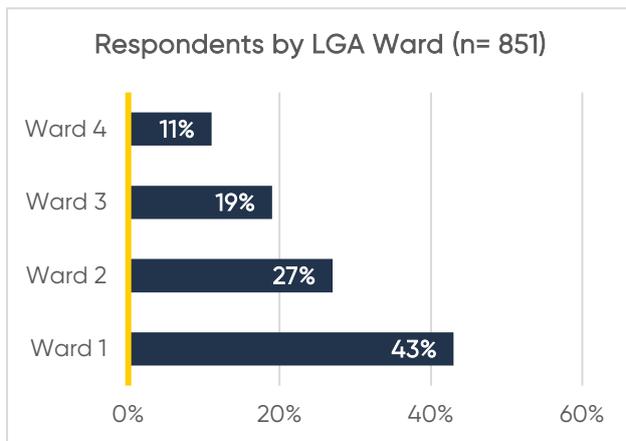


Figure 1 Demographics - age



More than half of the responses received came from women (54%), followed by men (42%).

Figure 2 Demographics - gender



A total of 851 survey participants identified themselves as living within Newcastle LGA. The remaining 113 participants said they live outside Newcastle LGA.

Of those participants who identify as Newcastle LGA residents, the highest number of responses came from people who live in Ward 1 (43%). The remaining responses (57%) came from Wards 2,3 and 4.

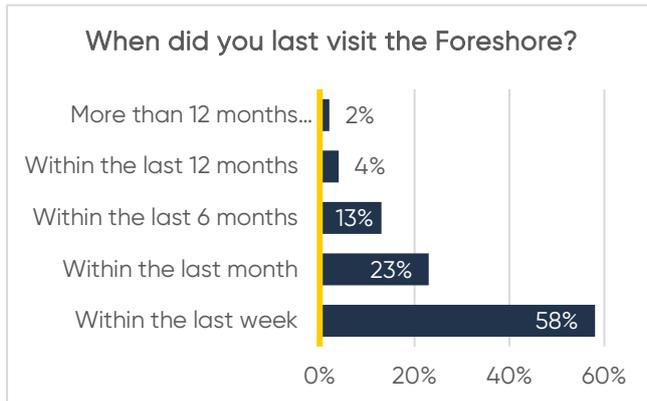
Figure 3 Demographics - LGA Ward

A full breakdown of the response counts by **suburb** can be found in **Appendix 4: Survey responses by suburb**.

Online survey findings

The following pages outline both the quantitative and qualitative findings from the online survey. All qualitative comments can be found in the attachment entitled **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan**.

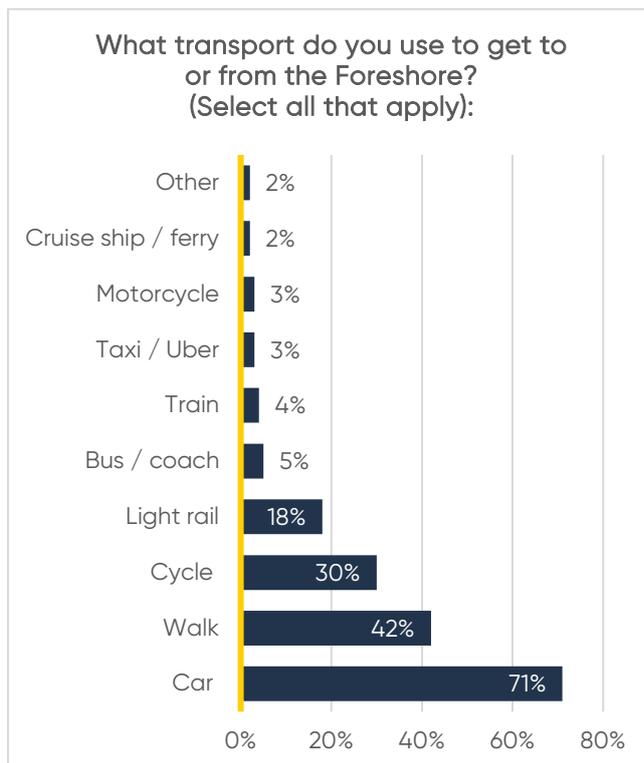
Visitation and use



The survey began by determining visitation frequency. Respondents were asked to indicate when they had last visited the Foreshore.

More than half of respondents said they had visited within the last week (58%). This was followed by those who had visited in the last month (23%) or within the last six months (13%).

Figure 4 Visitation



Accessing the Foreshore by car was the transportation choice for most respondents (71%).

This was followed by walking to the Foreshore (42%) or cycling (30%).

Figure 5 Mode of transportation used

For those who selected 'Other', skateboarding and running were listed most frequently.

Respondents were then asked to indicate how they generally use the Foreshore and could choose multiple options. More than half of all respondents said they use the Foreshore to:

- Walk, run or cycle (78%)
- Sit and enjoy the views (62%)
- Use the restaurants and bars (55%).

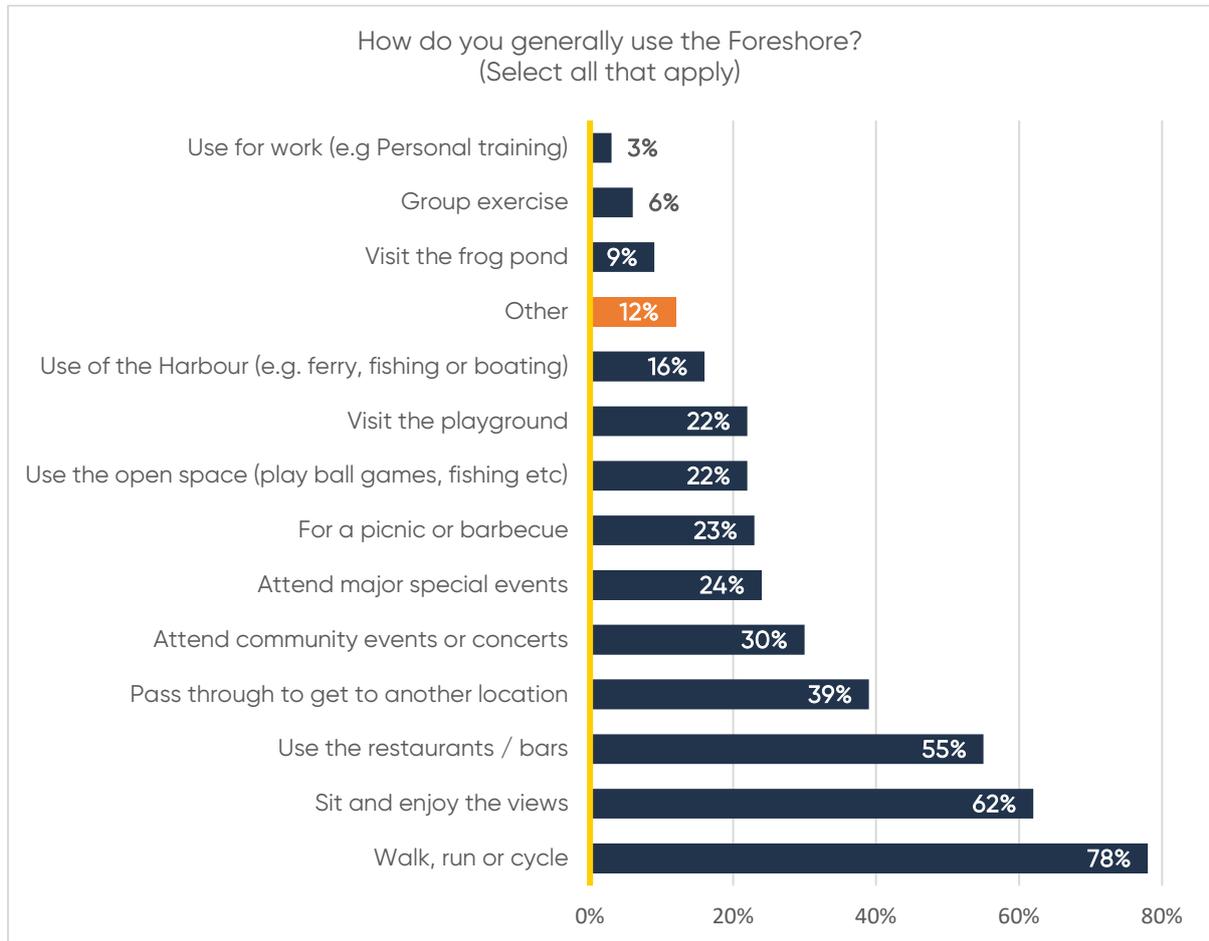


Figure 6 How do you generally use the Foreshore?

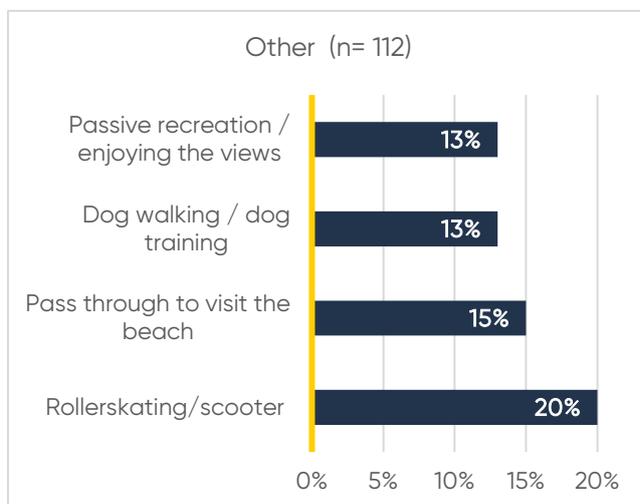


Figure 7 Other uses

Of the 112 comments received for 'Other' roller skating / scootering / skate boarding were listed as the most common uses of the foreshore (20%).

This was followed by passing through the Foreshore to get to the beach (15%) or using the space for dog walking/training (13%) or passive recreation (13%).

All qualitative comments can be found in the attachment entitled **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan.**

Aspects most important at the Foreshore

Respondents were asked to rate the importance of the different elements at the Foreshore, specifically relating to natural aspects, pedestrian/cycling provisions and facilities.

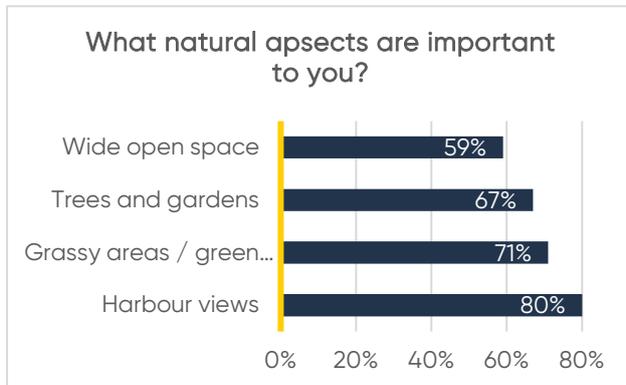


Figure 8 Natural aspects that are important

The majority of respondents (80%) said the most important natural aspect to them were the Harbour views.

This was followed by grassy areas/ green space (71%), trees and gardens (67%) and the side open space (59%).

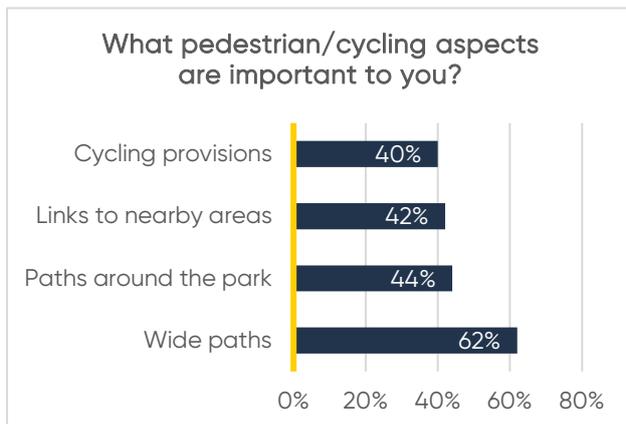


Figure 9 Pedestrian / cycling aspects that are important

Wide paths were selected by more than half of respondents as the most important pedestrian/cycling element.

This was followed by paths around the park (44%), links to nearby areas (42%) and cycling provisions (40%).

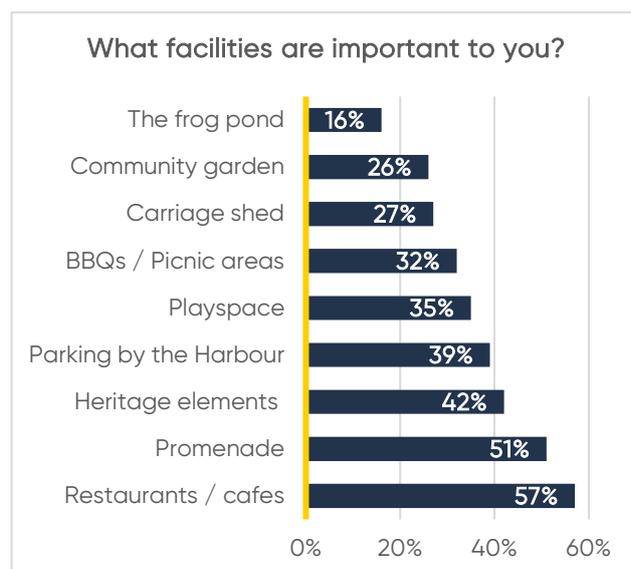


Figure 10 Facilities that are important

More than half of respondents said that the most important facilities to them are the nearby cafes and restaurants (57%).

This was followed by the Promenade (51%) and the heritage elements in the area (42%).

What respondents would like more of at the Foreshore

Respondents were then asked to select what they'd like to see **more of** at the Foreshore, specifically relating to natural elements, amenities, variety of spaces, connectivity and recreation.

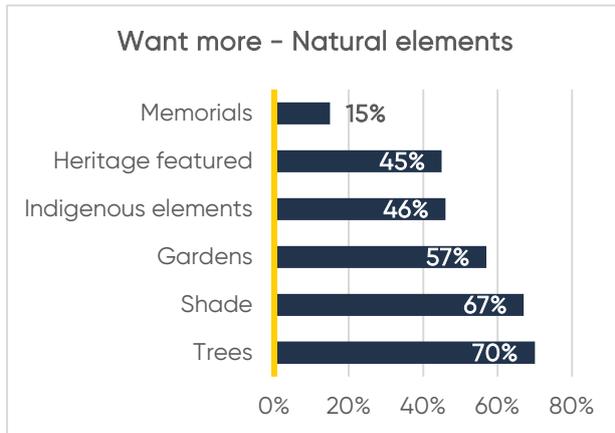


Figure 11 Want more - natural elements

The majority of respondents said they would like to see more trees at the Foreshore (70%) and shade (67%).

More than half (57%) said they would like to see more gardens at the Foreshore.

This was followed by seeing Indigenous elements (46%) and local heritage (45%) showcased in some way.

More memorials at the Foreshore was a feature nominated by 15% of respondents.

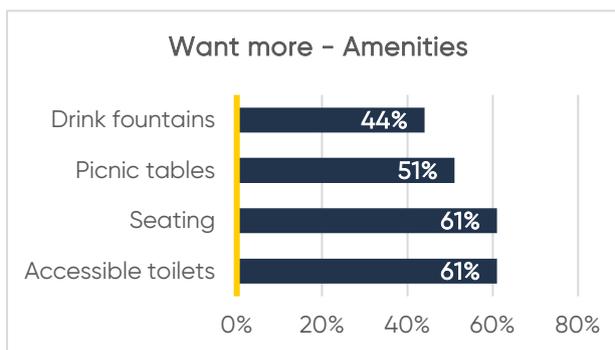


Figure 12 Want more - amenities

More than half (61%) of respondents said they want more accessible toilets and seating at the Foreshore.

This was followed by more picnic tables (51%) and drink fountains (44%)

For *variety of spaces*, almost half of all respondents (49%) said they want more picnic areas. This was followed by more viewing/lookout points (46%) and cafes (44%).

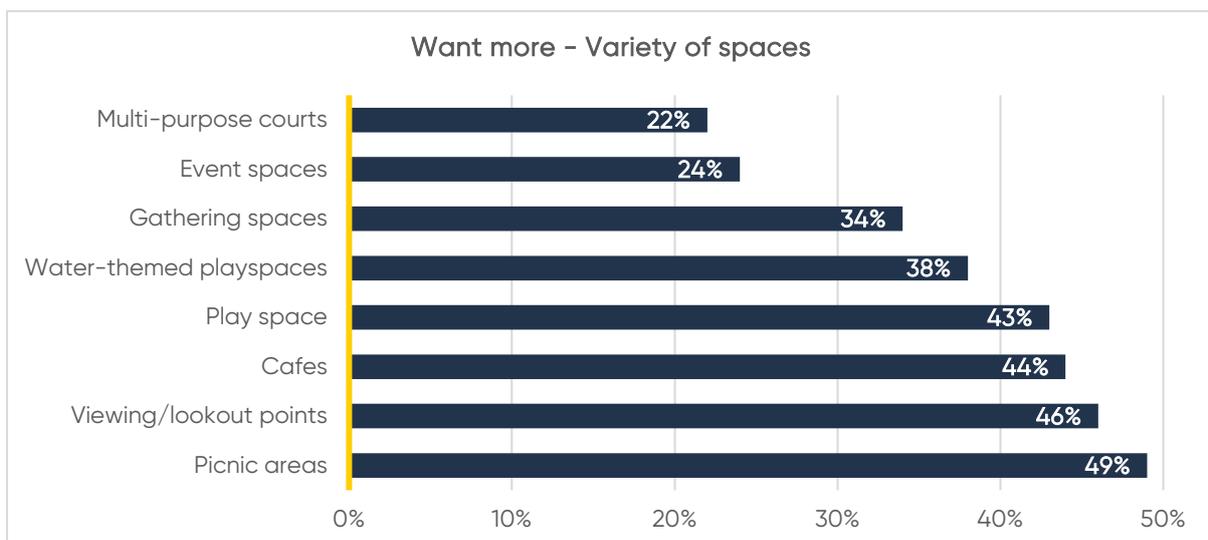


Figure 13 Want more - variety of spaces

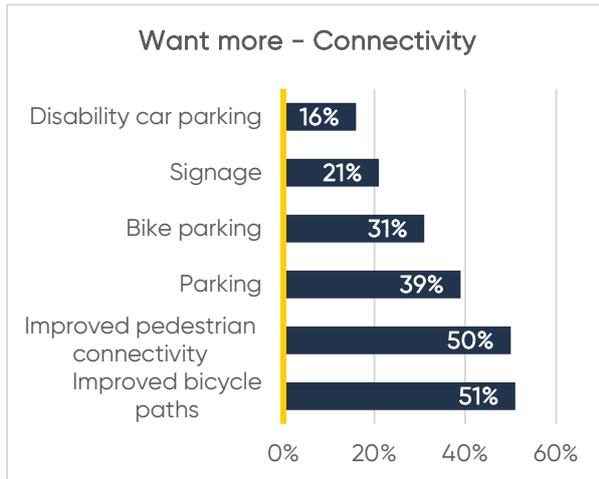


Figure 14 Want more - connectivity

To improve connectivity at the Foreshore, half of respondents said they would like improved bicycle paths (51%) and improved pedestrian connectivity to surrounding areas (50%).

This was followed by more bike parking (31%), signage (21%) and disability car parking (16%)

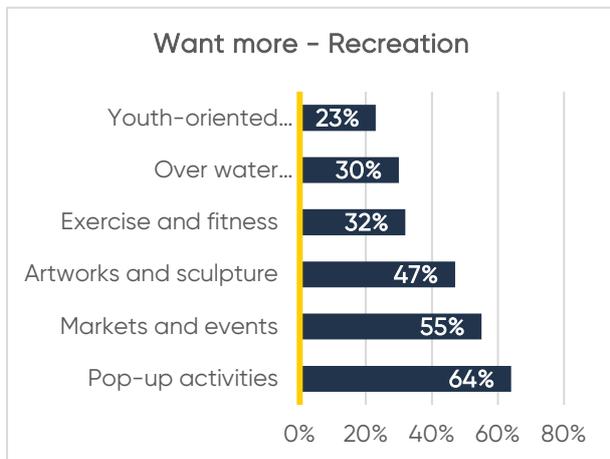


Figure 15 Want more - recreation

For recreation, more than half of all respondents (64%) want more 'pop-up' activities (e.g. food trucks/night-time cinema) and markets / events (55%).

Almost half of the respondents (47%) said they would like more artwork and sculpture to feature at the Foreshore in some way.

This was followed by exercise/fitness (32%), over water experiences (30%) and youth orientated activities (23%).

Participants were then asked: *Do you have any other comments about what you would like to see more of at Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?*

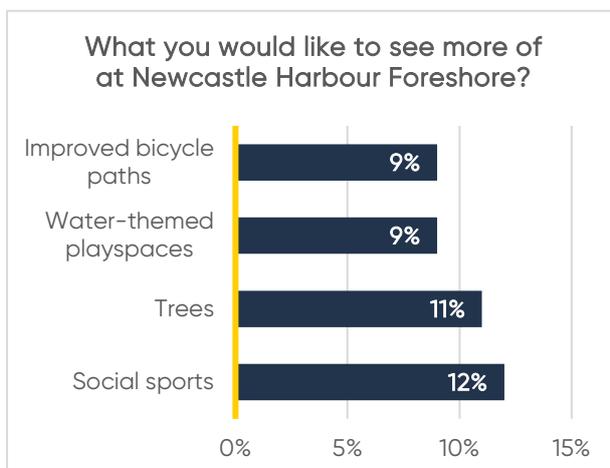


Figure 16 What you would like to see more of at Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?

Off the 411 comments received, 12% of responses indicated a desire to see the space utilised for social sports.

This was followed by support for more trees being planted (11%), water-themed playspaces (9%) and improved bicycle paths (9%).

Below are a sample of comments illustrating what participants would like to see more of at the Foreshore.

Table 2 Qualitative comments – what would you like to see more of at the Foreshore?

Needs better cycling links particularly around brewery and back to the city.

More shade trees to sit under and have a picnic. Could turn the pond into skate park for young kids. More gardens and inviting green space – it's like a big oval at the moment, which is boring.

More spaces for social sport such as basketball, racket ball, handball, roller skating.

I think a water themed playspace is a fabulous idea for this area. Somewhere over near the carriage sheds seems most appropriate.

Describing the future of the Foreshore

Respondents were asked to choose a phrase that best describes how they would like to see the future Newcastle Harbour Foreshore.

Representing the best of Newcastle was chosen by 48% of participants. This was closely followed by Vibrant (47%) and Authentic (45%).

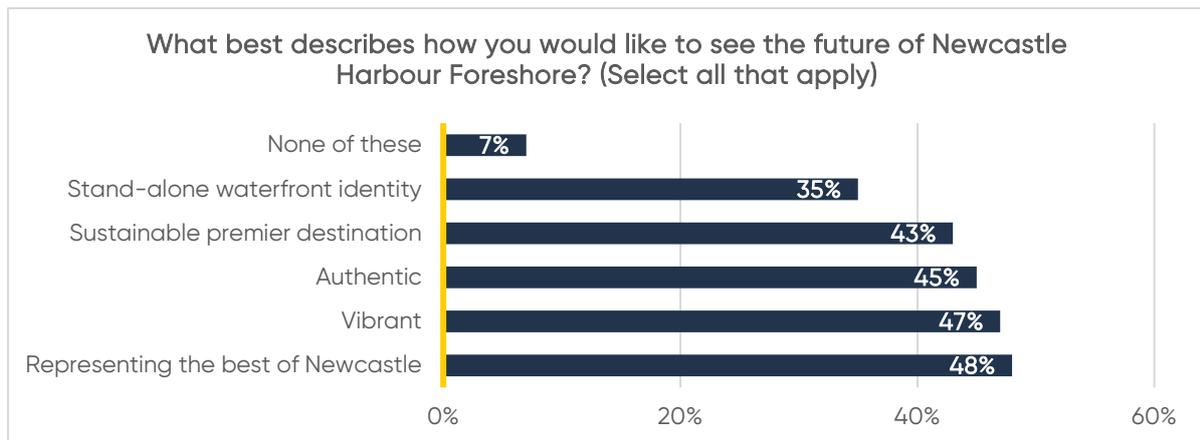
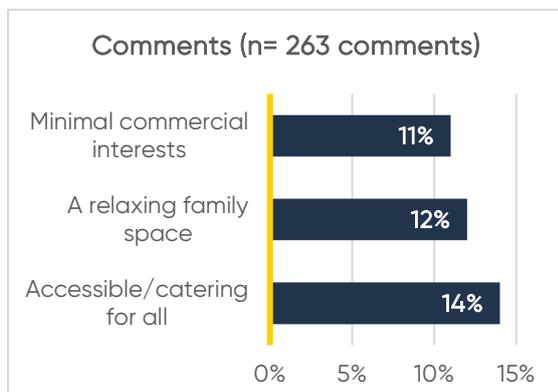


Figure 17 Describing the future of the Foreshore

Participants were then asked: *Do you have any further comments on what best describes how you would like to see the future of Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?*



Of the 263 comments received, 14% indicated that, in the future, the Foreshore should be known as an accessible space, catering for all (14%).

This was followed by a desire to see it as a relaxing family space (12%) within minimum commercial interests and/or developments (11%).

Figure 18 What best describes how you would like to see the future of Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?

Below are a sample of comments outlining on what best describes how participants would like to see the future of the Foreshore.

Table 3 Qualitative comments – what best describe how you'd like to see the future of the Foreshore?

Important to appeal to many age groups/demographics. Young families particularly need places to take little ones. Please consider free parking. So hard to do low cost activities on a tight budget.

I would like it to be a green space with gardens and trees that families can use as they are at present, (in huge numbers) for picnics, cycling, walking, playing. A relief from concrete.

It needs to be a space that intentionally welcomes everyone and acknowledges it is Awabakal land.

It should not be a constant "events" destination. Too much of a burden on and too much noise disturbance to the residents of Newcastle East.

All qualitative comments can be found in the attachment entitled **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan.**

Plan of management values ranking

Within the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Plan of Management (PoM), it was outlined that any future masterplan developed must be in alignment with the area's key values. These are listed as:

- Scenic
- Recreation
- Accessibility
- Heritage
- Community use and special events.

In the survey, respondents were asked to rank these values in order of priority to them.

The results show that *Recreation: the open space and grassed areas* (41%) is the highest priority value to the community.

This was followed by *Scenic: Expansive harbour and ocean views* (29%) and *Accessibility: The proximity to the city centre, public transport and connections* (13%).

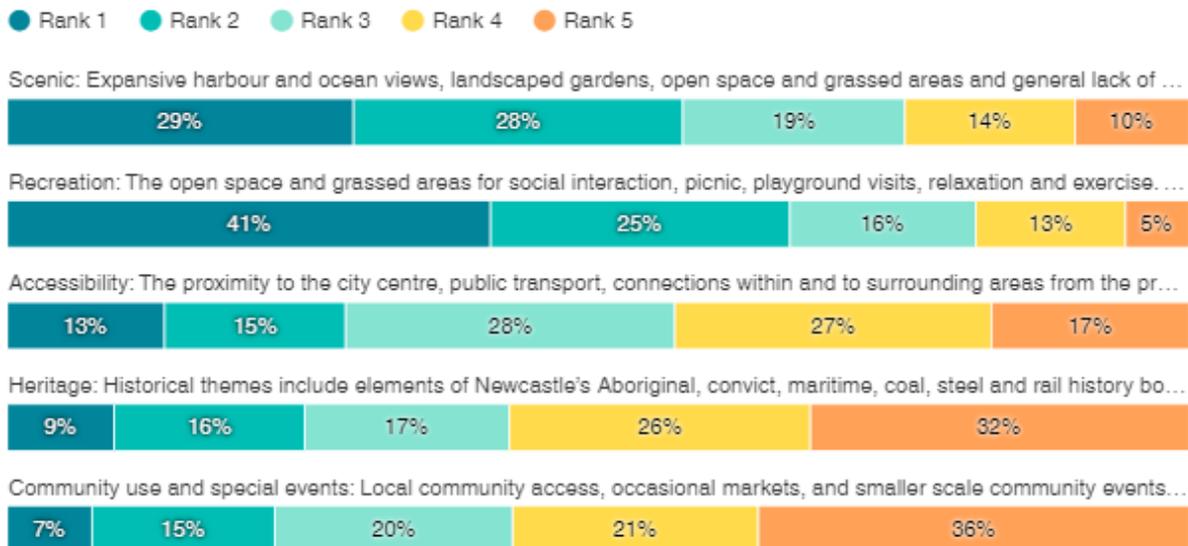


Figure 19 Plan of Management values ranking

Foreshore inclusivity and access

Of the 964 respondents who completed the survey, 251 (26%) indicated they, or someone they spend time with, live with challenges of a disability. The following pages compare the **quantitative results** of two key groups, in relation to playspace preferences.

These groups are:

- People with lived experience of disability OR the carer, family member or friend of someone with lived experience
- Those that do not have lived experience of disability or are unsure if they spend time with someone who does.

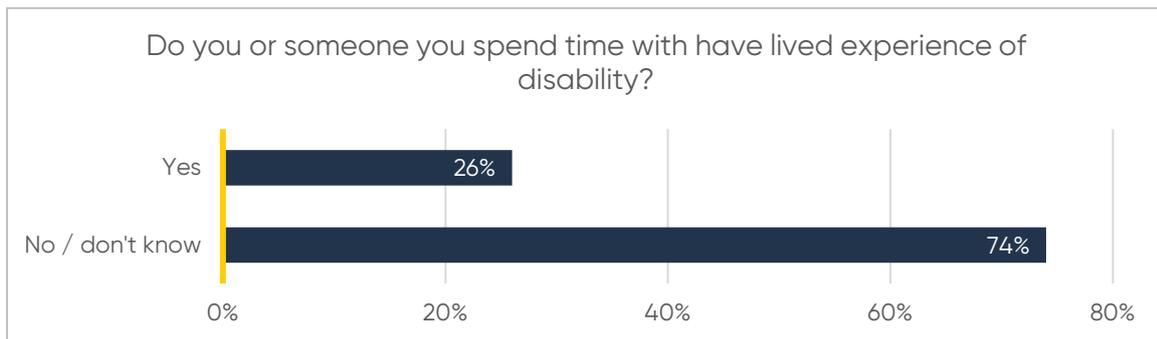
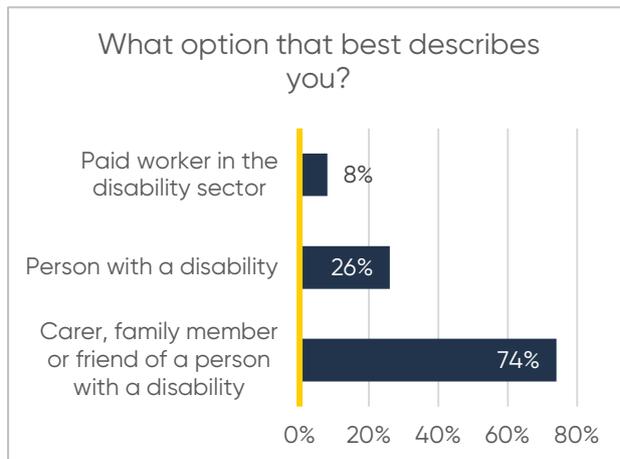


Figure 20 Do you or someone you know have lived experience of a disability?



Of the 251 respondents who said they or someone they know has lived experience of a disability, the majority of responses (74%) were received from a carer, family member or friend.

26% of responses from this group came from people with lived experience of a disability. This was followed by people who are paid workers in the disability sector (8%).

Figure 21 Lived experience relationship

Of the 251 respondents who said they or someone they know has lived experience of a disability, the main types of disability experienced are mobility/physical issues (72%), learning/behavioural (37%) and communication issues (35%).

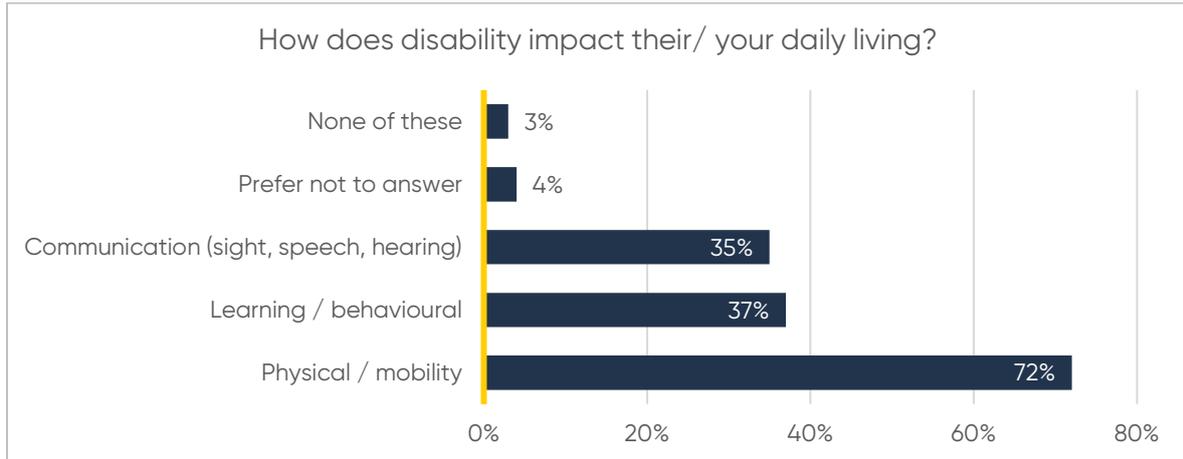


Figure 22 Disability type / impact

Participants were then asked: *Is there anything that takes away from your enjoyment of the Foreshore? (E.g. parking, lack of facilities, fencing, paths)*

Of the 651 comments received for this question, lack of car parking came through as the largest barrier to enjoyment (25%), followed by issues with pedestrian/cyclist conflicts on shared paths (16%).

Please note, open-ended comments have not been analysed for respondents as a whole, and not split out by group (those who have disability and/or spend time with someone with a disability, compared to those who do not). All qualitative comments can be found in the attachment entitled **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan**.

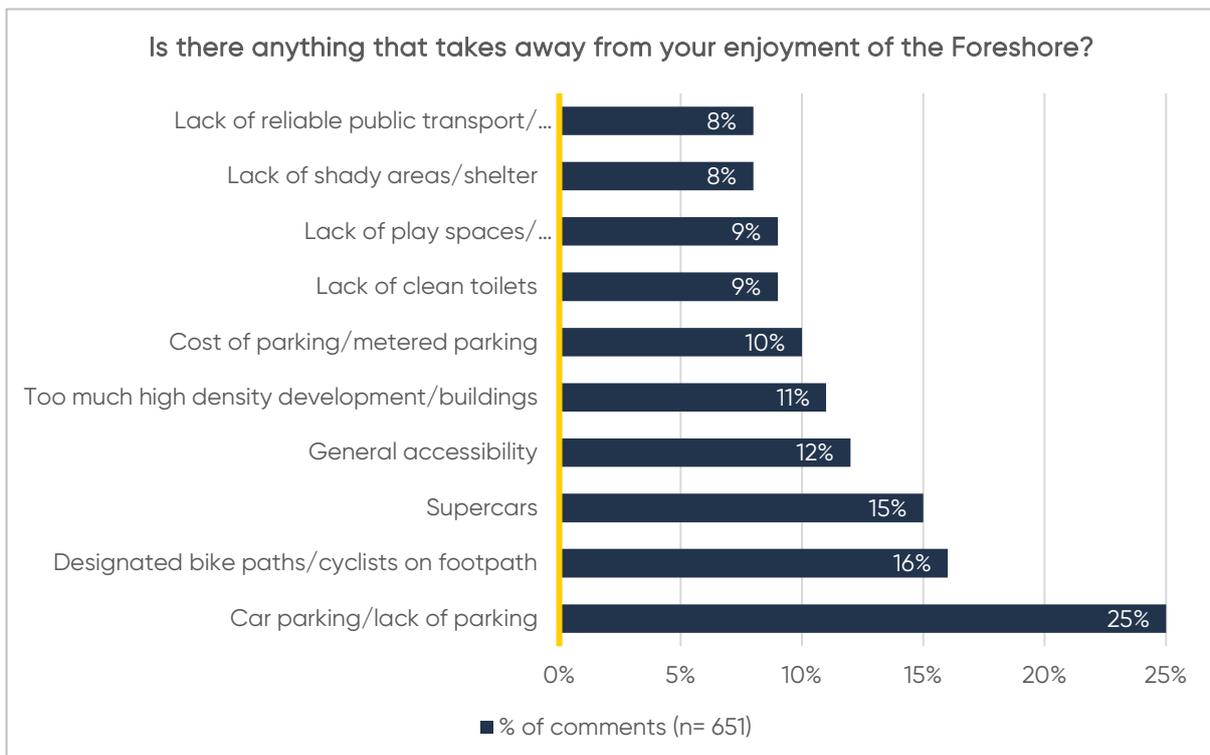


Figure 23 Is there anything that takes away from your enjoyment of the Foreshore

Below are a sample of comments outlining on describing what participants believe detracts from their enjoyment of the Foreshore.

Table 4 Qualitative comments – what takes away from your enjoyment of the Foreshore?

Lack of facilities and parking within easy reach of the area, particularly disabled parking.

Crowded nature of the foreshore due to being developed with apartments right up to the edge of the water with little green space and conflict between cyclists and pedestrians due to this.

Cycling access to the Foreshore needs to be addressed. With all the current building happening in the area cycling access has been badly obstructed.

Parking, lack of good cycle paths, too many things built in the area rather than keeping it natural with more trees gardens etc.

Playspace questions

In order to support the design and delivery of an inclusive play space for Foreshore Park, respondents were asked a series of questions about the elements that make a great playspace for them.

It is important to note that Variety – the Children’s Charity conducted engagement with a number of schools to obtain specific playspace insights from school aged children in the LGA. Insights from the school engagement can be viewed in this report under **Chapter 6 Face-to-face consultation**.

The playspace section of the survey began with the following open-ended question: *What design details make the most difference to you having an enjoyable play experience at a playspace?*

Of the 477 comments received, access to spaces for different age groups and abilities (23%) emerged as an important factor in the play experience.

This was followed by having adequate shade/shelter (21%) and access to comfortable seating overseeing the play areas (16%).

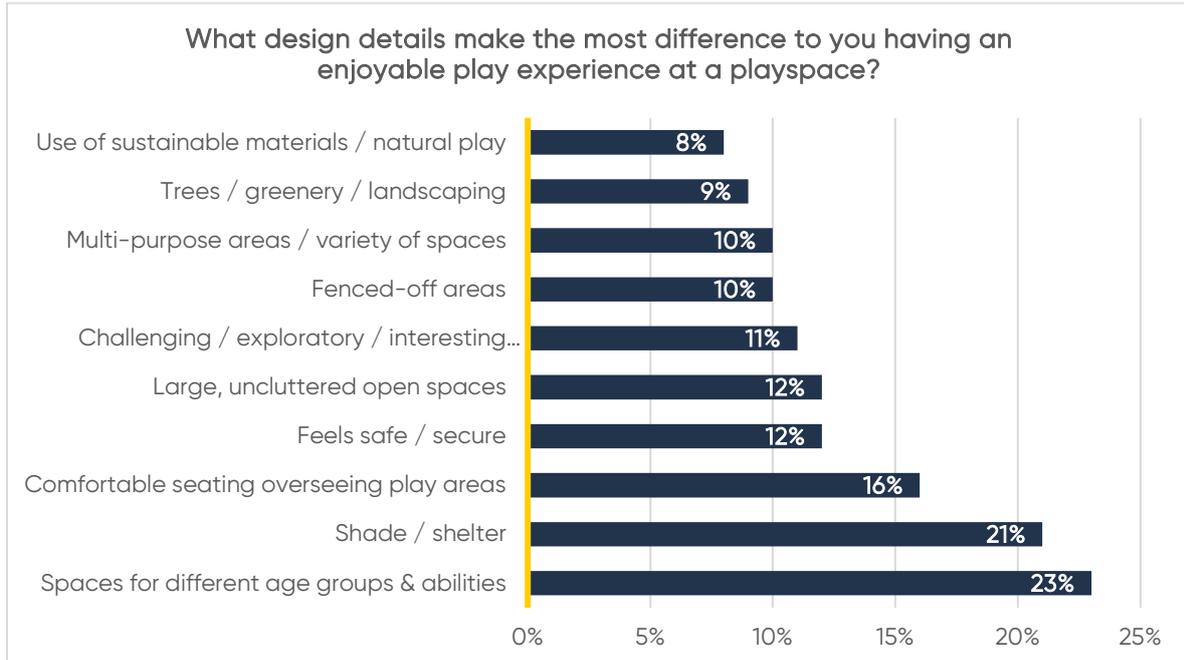


Figure 24 What design details make the most difference to you having an enjoyable play experience at a playspace?

Below are a sample of comments outlining on the details that make the biggest difference to the overall play experience for respondents.

Table 5 Qualitative comments – what design details make the biggest difference to your play experience?

Seating, shade, all ages equipment.

Open, shady space that we can move easily between.

Clean and maintained equipment.

Safety is paramount; good, secure, fencing around toddler areas is a must.

Safe from traffic and dogs. Access by public transport and bicycle which is safe. Places to sit and watch children play from a distance.

A wide variety of challenging & fun activities, spaces & equipment that can be used by children, young people & adults of all ages.

Respondents were then asked to select the types of spaces they would like to see in an inclusive playspace at Foreshore Park.

The top three aspects most favoured in a playspace are areas that encourage climbing agility (53%) followed by zones for different age groups (49%) and water-themed playspaces (47%).

The yellow line below shows the types of playspaces preferred by respondents with lived experience of disability, the people they spend time with, or disability workers. A preference for sensory spaces, quiet spaces and enclosed areas is noted for this group.

These spaces were less of a priority for those who do not have any type of disability challenge.

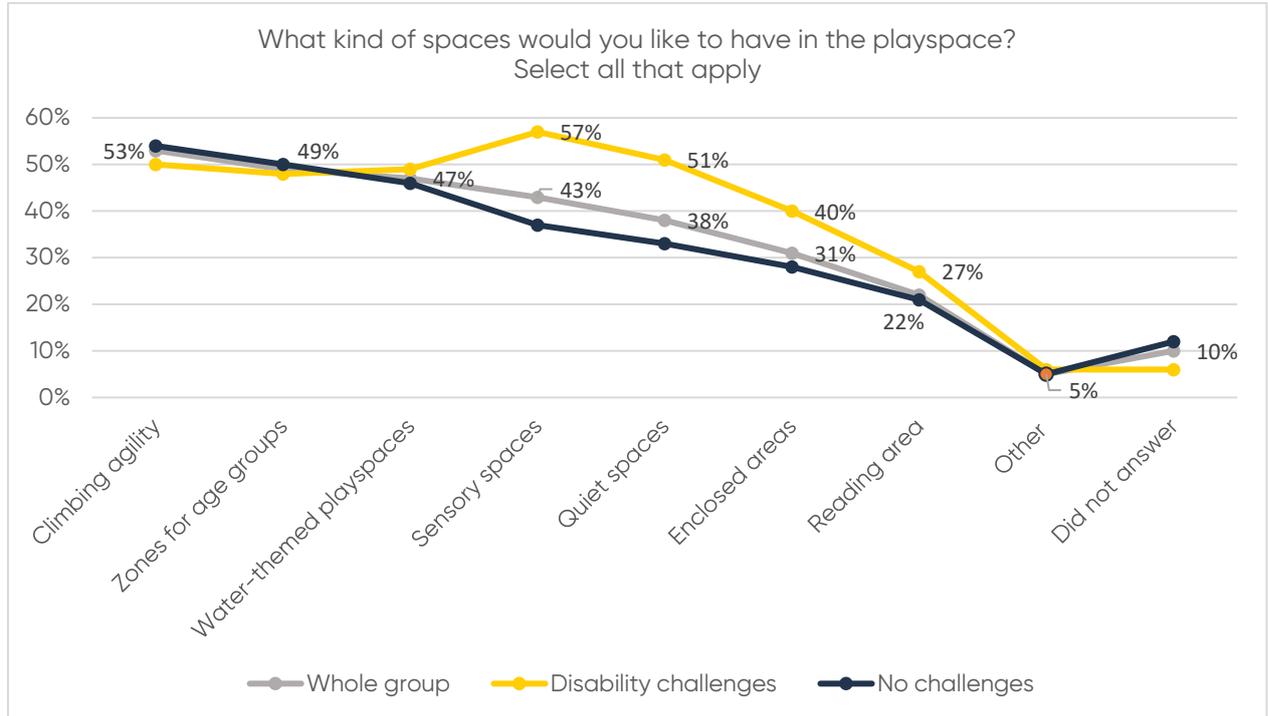


Figure 25 What kind of spaces would you like to have in the playspace?

Of the 122 comments received for 'Other', 16% indicated they would like areas suitable for scooters, bikes, roller skating etc. This was followed by zones for different age groups (13%) and exercise equipment/facilities (11%).

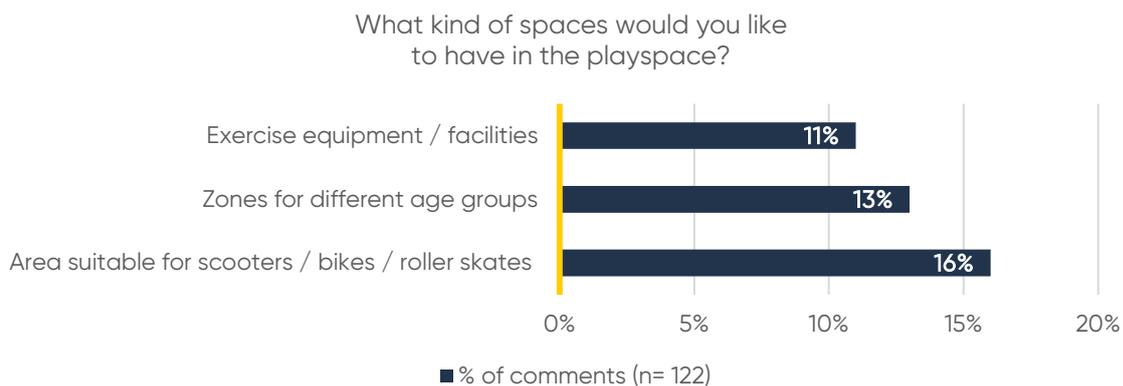


Figure 26 Qualitative comments - what kind of spaces would you like to have in the playspace?

Below are a sample of comments describing the types of spaces participants would like to see in a playspace.

Table 6 Qualitative comments – what kinds of spaces would you like to have in a playspace?

Zones for different ages is really important. You want to attract all families to use the space.

Places that include all (People with disability, etc.)

Fixed gym equipment for strengthening exercises.

A bike/scooter track.

Themed play areas, obstacles / activities of various difficulties, accessible to all abilities.

Respondents were then asked to select what they or their children like to do in a playspace.

For the group as a whole, the top three activities people like to do in playspace are physical play (63%) engage with nature (52%) and generally relax (44%).

The yellow line below shows that these activities are also highly valued by respondents with lived experience of disability, the people they spend time with, or disability workers. Gathering for celebrations came in as slightly higher for this group than those without any type of disability challenge.

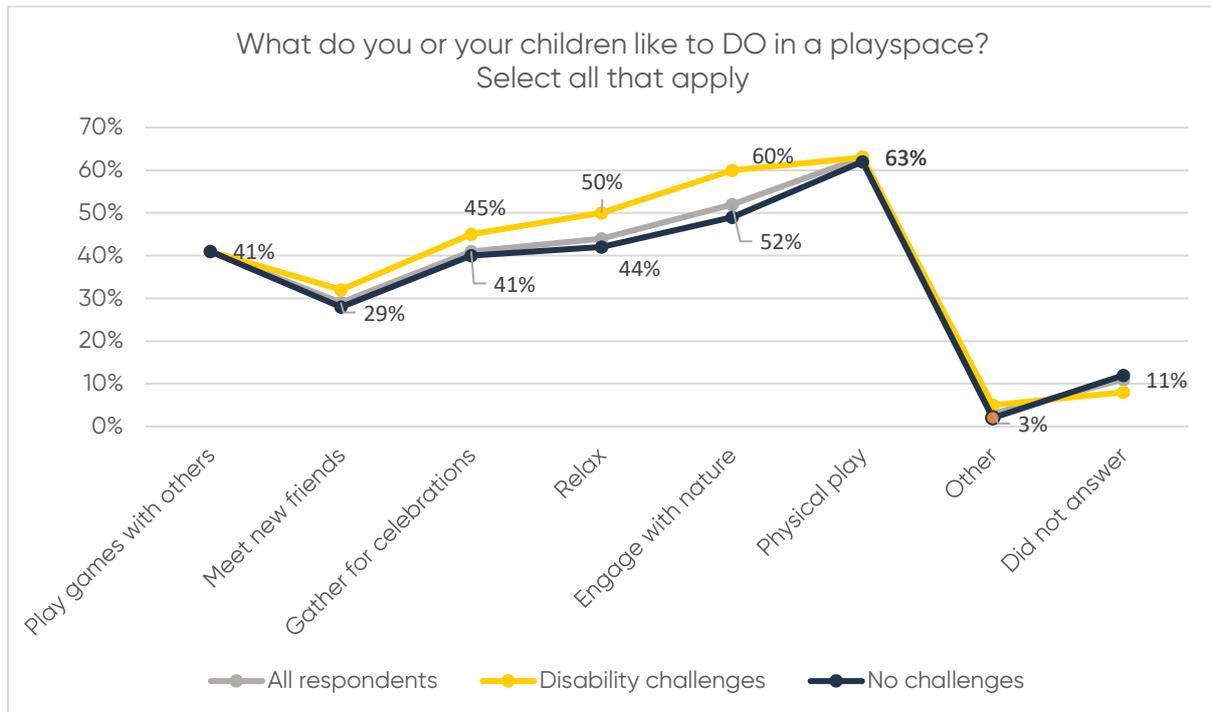


Figure 27 What do you like to do in a playspace?

Of the 64 'Other' comments received, 13% said they like to have fun and play games in a playspace, followed by playing on swings/slides (11%) or utilising the space to exercise (11%).

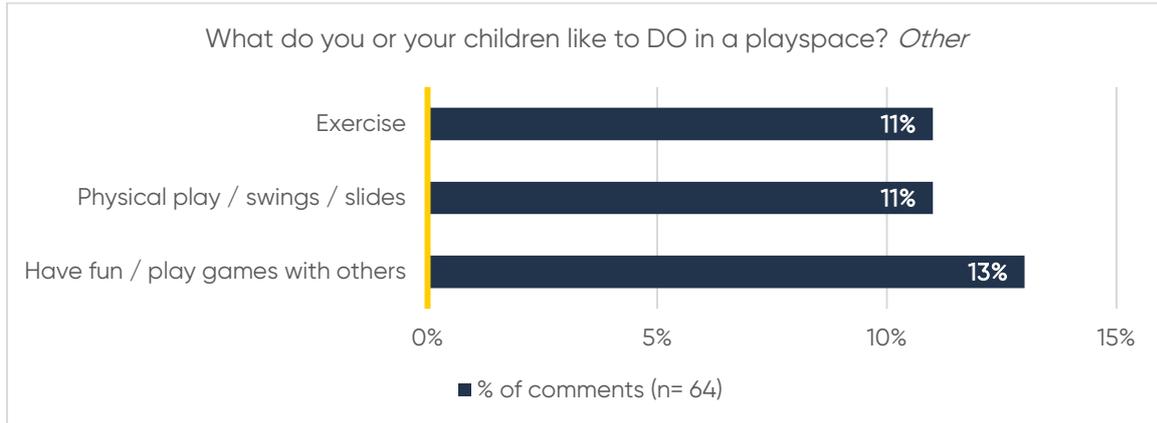


Figure 28 What do you like to do? *Other*

Below are a sample of comments outlining what respondents or their children like to do in a playspace.

Table 7 Qualitative comments – what best describe how you’d like to see the future of the Foreshore?

Kids love what’s there. need additional swings, climbing wall.

Physical exercise and enjoyment.

Play dates.

Frog Pond

Quantitative findings in the survey showed mixed opinion on retention of the frog pond, with 50% of respondents agreeing they would like to see the pond retained and 50% unsure or disagreeing with retaining the pond.

We would like to hear from the community about the future use of Frog Pond area of Foreshore Park. Please rank your level of agreement with the following options:

Total participants: 964

● Strongly agree
 ● Agree
 ● Neither agree or disagree
 ● Disagree
 ● Strongly disagree
 ● Don't know

Retain the existing frog pond as a central water feature to park.



Reduce the size of the size of the frog pond to allow for additional event space adjacent the railway sheds.



Remove the frog pond and provide a water-themed playspace to accompany the inclusive playspace.



Figure 29 Level of agreeance – retaining the frog pond

Of the 50% of respondents who support the frog pond being retained, the highest level of support comes from:

- People aged 55 or older
- Residents who live in the Ward 1 area.

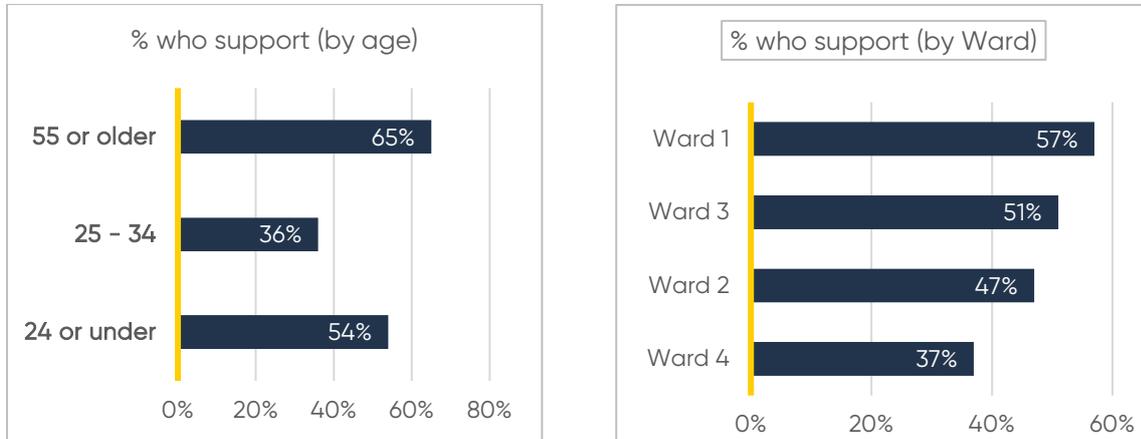


Figure 30 Retaining the frog pond - support by age and Ward

Reducing the size of the frog pond or replacing it with a water-themed playspace were not as strongly supported in the quantitative data. However, the qualitative findings outlined on the following pages suggest other uses, which was also supported by data collected in the Social Pinpoint mapping tool.

Within the survey, all respondents were asked the optional question *Do you have any other comments on how you'd like the frog pond space to be used?*

Of the 309 comments received, the following themes emerged in the data.

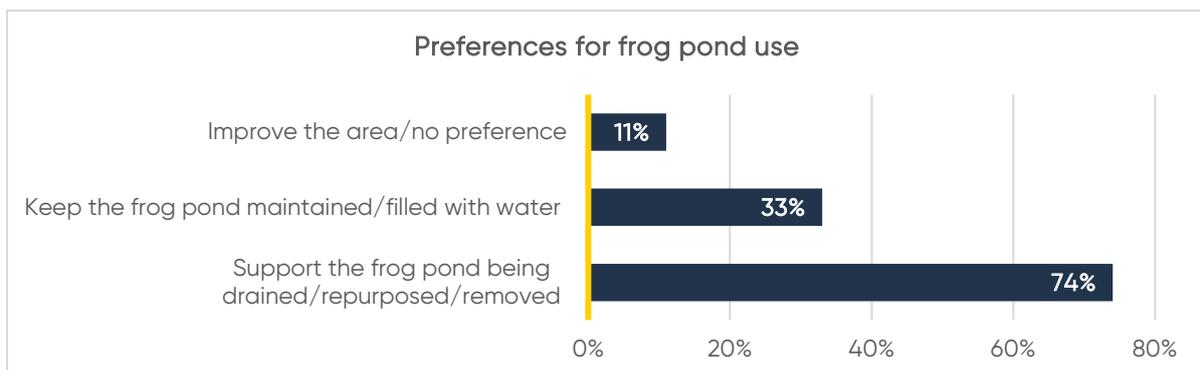


Figure 31 Preferences for frog pond use – quantitative responses

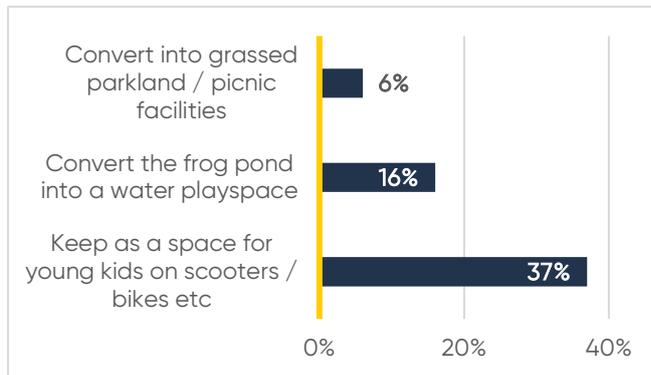
Almost three out of four comments expressed support for frog pond being drained / repurposed / removed (74%). This was followed by responses that support the frog pond being maintained and filled with water (33%) and comments that ask for improvements to the frog pond area, with no preference for what that should look like (11%).

It is important to note that in crafting an open-ended response to these questions, respondents could reflect more than one of these attitudes within their response. The data

outlined below shows the predominant perspectives of the 309 survey participants who answered the question.

Support for the frog pond being drained / repurposed / removed

This perspective was reflected in 74% of responses, contrasting with the survey data which showed stronger support for keeping the frog pond filled with water.



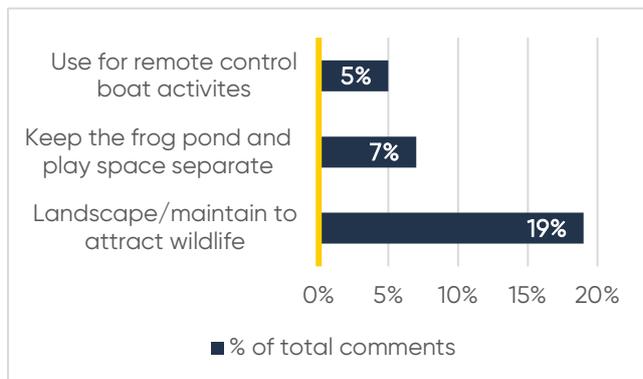
37% of these comments indicated support for the frog pond area to be kept as a space for young children with bikes and scooters.

This was followed by support for the conversion of the frog pond to into an inclusive water play space (16%) or seeing the area transformed into grassed parkland with picnic facilities (6%).

Figure 32 Support for frog pond being drained / repurposed / removed - respondent suggestions

Support for the frog pond being maintained and filled with water

A preference for keeping the frog pond filled with water was reflected within 33% of responses.

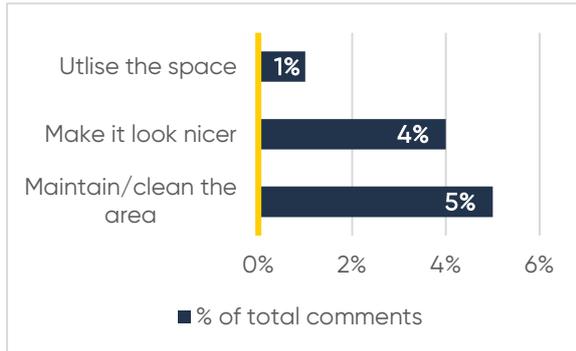


From these comments, landscaping and maintaining the frog pond to attract wildlife (19%) was noted as a key opportunity.

This was followed by a preference for keeping the playspace and water-filled frog pond separate (7%) or utilising the frog pond for remote control boat activities (5%).

Figure 33 Support for frog pond being maintained and filled with water - respondent suggestions

Support for upgrades to the frog pond area, without a preference for structural use



Some of the comments (11%, noting the small base size of n=309 respondents) did not show a preference for the structural use of the frog pond but indicated that some type of maintenance and/or cleaning needs to occur (5%).

This was followed by simply wanting the space to look nicer (4%) or generally just wanting to see the space utilised well (1%).

Figure 34 Support for general upgrades to frog pond area

A sample of comments reflecting these differing preferences are included below.

Table 8 How would you like the frog pond space to be used? Sample of qualitative comments

Smooth up cracks and leave it. It is always full of families and kids skating in it.

I would like it to be a water feature or a play space.

Add to the frog pond rather than removing or replacing.

Allow people to sail their model boats there.

It's dead space that nobody uses. If it isn't removed it should definitely be reduced in size as it is a barrier in the middle of the park.

Return it to grass parkland.

To remain as a water feature ... plant it up so it becomes a habitat.

Either readapt so that it is more useable or remove.

All qualitative comments can be found in the attachment entitled **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan**.

Social Pinpoint methodology

Social Pinpoint is an interactive online mapping tool that allows users to leave feedback in a dropped pin. The pins available on the Foreshore Social Pinpoint included:



Respondents were able to view feedback from other respondents and vote or comment on the feedback provided on a map of the Foreshore.



Figure 35 Social Pinpoint map

User profile

To help us understand who completed Social Pinpoint, respondents were asked to supply their age group and postcode. A total of 98 unique users completed the demographic questionnaire prior to using the Social Pinpoint mapping tool, however it was not mandatory for respondents to complete this in order to submit a comment. By default, users were also asked to submit an email address, which could be used for further correspondence about the Foreshore masterplan project.

Of the respondents who provided demographic information, most were aged between 25 – 54 years (78%). Responses came predominantly from people who live in Ward 1 (41%). Submissions from Wards 2, 3 and 4 comprised 40% of overall questionnaire responses, and 19% said they live outside of Newcastle LGA.

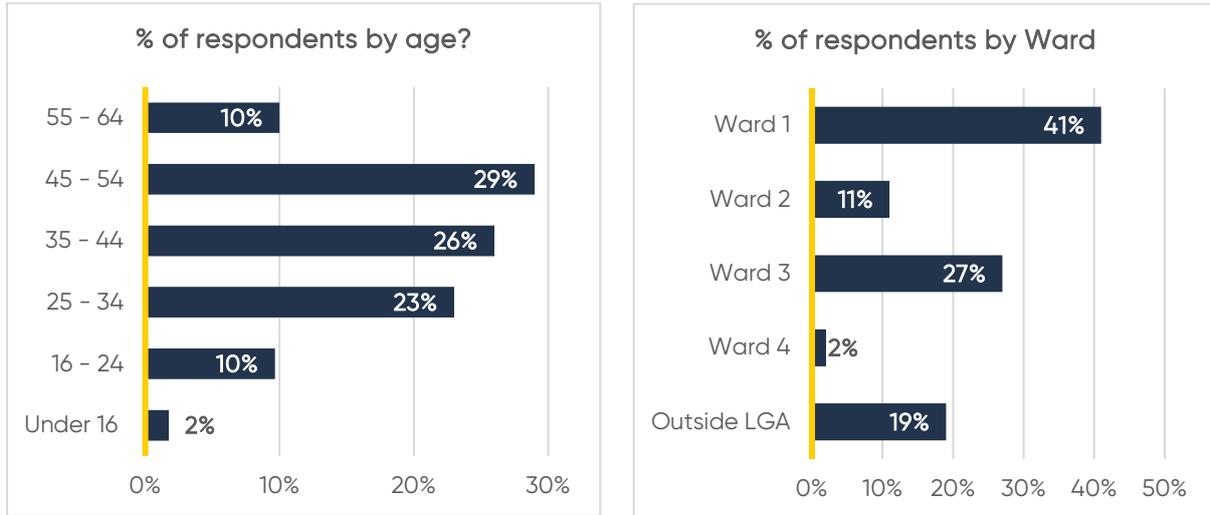


Figure 36 Social Pinpoint respondents by age and Ward

From these 98 respondents, a total of 225 comments were submitted in the Social Pinpoint mapping tool. Of these comments, almost half related to 'a big idea' that they or another respondent had suggested.

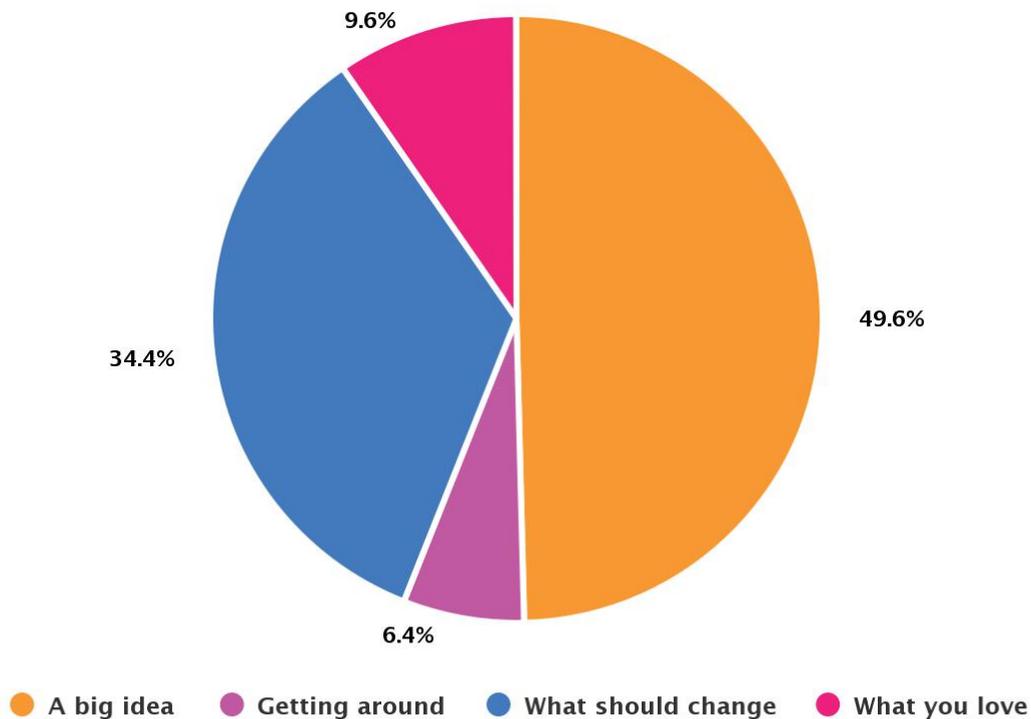


Figure 37 Overview of Social Pinpoint qualitative responses

Social Pinpoint findings

Comments that received the highest number of 'votes' are as follows. 'Up' votes indicate support for the comment and 'down' votes are from those that disagree.

The scope of this engagement was to consult with the public on future improvements to the park and precinct – not about existing operations and events. As such, comments about Supercars and operations at Queens Wharf have been excluded from the analysis.

Table 9 Community votes by comment in Social Pinpoint

Comment	'Up' votes	'Down' votes
<i>Cycling around Queens Wharf is difficult, need a better solution here.</i>	133	0
<i>I would love to see the pond turned into a rink for skating, scootering and roller-skating.</i>	126	6
<i>Improve connectivity through this area for bikes. Understand that cycling in front of the Brewery is probably impractical. However, the alternative route around the back of the buildings creates issues (especially with young children) given the narrow path and the need to cross the entrance and exit to the car park.</i>	121	1
<i>I would like to see a playground similar to Darling Harbour playground. With a range of activities for all ages including water games, ropes, swings and flying foxes. It will be a real statement for Newcastle being right on the foreshore.</i>	113	1
<i>For some of these less-used sections of the park that face away from the harbour, it could be nice to Plant native grasses, trees and shrubs to create a more natural Australian landscape. Whilst there obviously isn't as much room, the Native Grassland Circle in Royal Park, Melbourne and the Ramble in Central Park, NYC could serve as inspiration. This could serve as a refuge from the man-made street scapes of the city for both Humans and native wildlife.</i>	20	1

'Big ideas'

Big idea comments (n= 121) showed that adding more shrubs and native grasses are important to 9% of respondents. This was followed by support for play areas (7%), celebrating indigenous heritage and stories (7%) and providing community skating/scooter areas (7%).

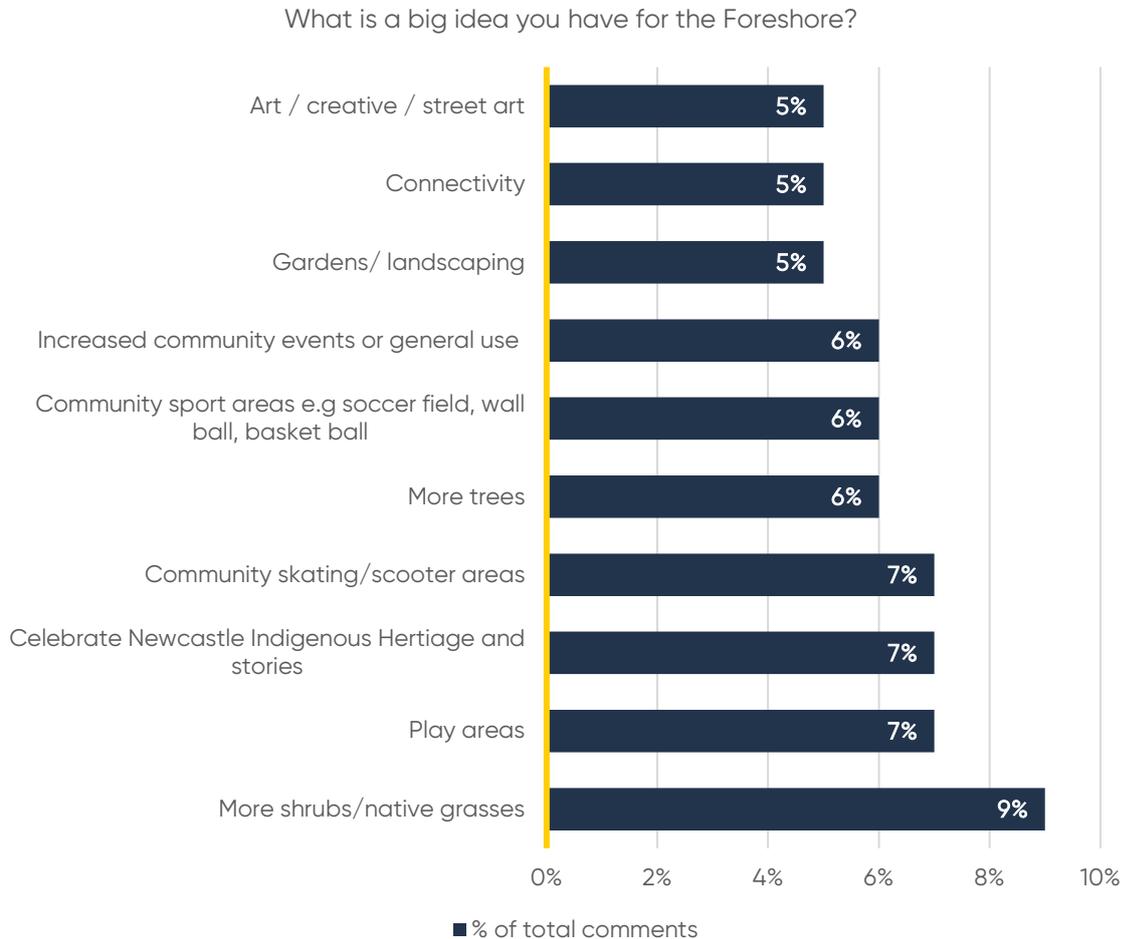


Figure 38 What is a big idea you have for the Foreshore?

Within this category of 'big idea', comments were received that showed a lack of support or opposition to:

- Suggestions of other sites people had been to (13%) that they did not deem suitable. Some of the more contentious ideas were around construction of an outdoor pump bike track and installation of a swimming pool / lagoon area
- Construction of a man-made beach due to the park's proximity to swimmable beaches (6%).

Participants could upload images of their ideas to generate discussion and inspiration. A sample of pictorial 'big ideas' has been included below.

A full list of images and their corresponding feedback can be found in the attachment entitled **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan**.

Table 10 Sample of Social Pinpoint pictorial feedback

Activation signage

Have a giant NEWCASTLE sign that kids can play on and lights up at night. And somehow ties in the history of the area.



Artistic outdoor elements



I would like to see a mural painted on the wheat silos in Carrington that are highly visible from the Harbour foreshore. This would be a feature as cruise ships enter the harbour. Historical pictures from Newcastle's shipping, Aboriginal pictures such as those painted by Adnateã near the Light Rail Interchange or pictures of prominent Newcastle identities could feature. Silo paintings

are very popular in Country NSW and I believe it would look amazing here in our beautiful harbour city.

Area for bikes and scooters

A bike pump track, area for bikes and scooters etc.'



Below are a sample of comments from other respondents who shared under the category of *Big idea*. All comments can be viewed in the attachment **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan**.

Table 11 Big idea – sample of qualitative comments

Would be great to have a wall-ball court in this area, similar to those at Empire Park, Bar Beach.

Planting of shrubs and native grasses. Could also have plants surrounding a sandstone amphitheatre

More interpretation and acknowledgement of the stories and significance of the harbour and surrounding areas to Awabakal people and our indigenous history

Keep the 'Boat Harbour' carpark and its surrounds, including former rail corridor as Open Space community land. Add it to the Market Street Lawn to make that space more viable. Also maintains visual connections from Hunter St to Harbour. No buildings here!

Needs some traffic calming or amber caution light on approaches to the pedestrian crossing

There is a beach around the corner. Real waves. Why would we spend money to make a fake waves? This is not Darwin.

'What should change?'

Comments suggesting what could be changed or enhanced in the area (n= 75) are as follows. In this category, 20% of the comments received highlighted a desire for more trees in the area. Respondents also noted a need to remove pedestrian/cyclist conflicts and choke points (16%), provisions of better bike paths (13%) and more shade (13%).

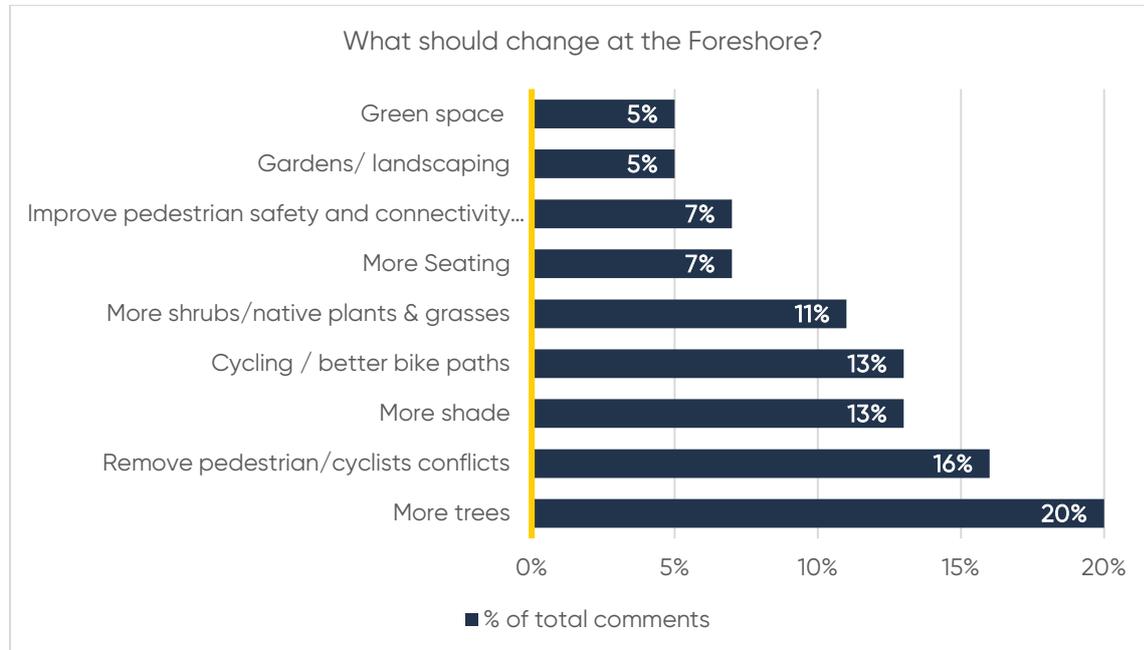


Figure 39 What should change at the Foreshore

Within the category of 'what should change?' respondents said they *want less*:

- Bitumen heavy areas (7%)
- Excessive choice of paths/ paths that lead to nowhere (3%)
- Loud music at night / noise pollution (3%).

Below are a sample of comments from respondents who shared under the category of *What should change?*

Table 12 What should change – sample of qualitative comments

Links are good, but maybe some directional signage from Beach light rail terminus to the new 5-star playground. Fix the gorgeous public art seat!

Yep, its unsafe to take kids across Pasha Way/Horseshoe Beach Road. Also, a danger for runners, cyclists. Put in zebra crossing and give right of way to pedestrians, cyclists, not cars.

CN announced Wharf Rd to have temporary 30kph speed limit. This should become permanent - it shouldn't be used as main expressway into town. Proposal for temporary bike lane should be made permanent.

This section of the park is perfectly suited for a tree filled, shaded picnic area. A mix of native species would create its own ecosystem. Botanic names and description of uses could be added.

'What do you love?'

The category of *What I love* received 18 comments. The data shows that green space (28%) and open space (28%) is highly valued by respondents in this category.

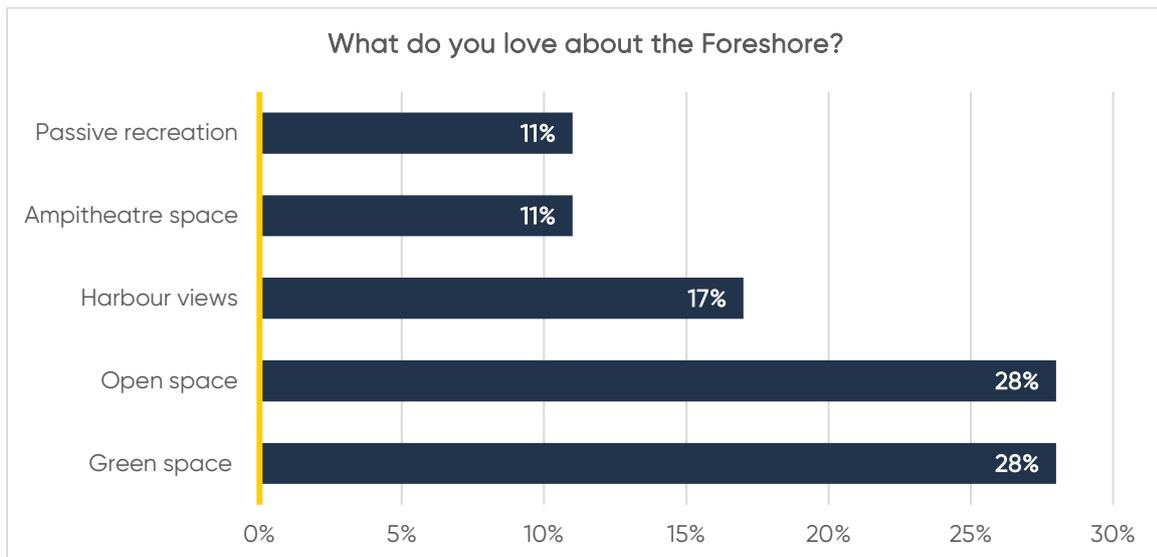


Figure 40 What do you love about the Foreshore?

Below are a sample of comments from respondents who shared under the category of *What I love*.

Table 13 What I love - sample of qualitative comments

The great thing about the amphitheatre is its human-scale size and its natural look. This part of the park shouldn't be changed. It encourages passive recreation.

Yes, the grassy mounds/knolls while not high, are effective in creating views and a feeling of being tucked away from the busy Promenade. Great spot!

Grassy area good for exercise.

the views of the harbour and the foreshore walk.

'Getting around'

A total of 11 comments were received for 'getting around'.

The main feedback was in support of better utilisation of space for cycling (55%), Improved pedestrian connectivity (27%) and minimise pedestrian/ cyclist conflicts (18%).

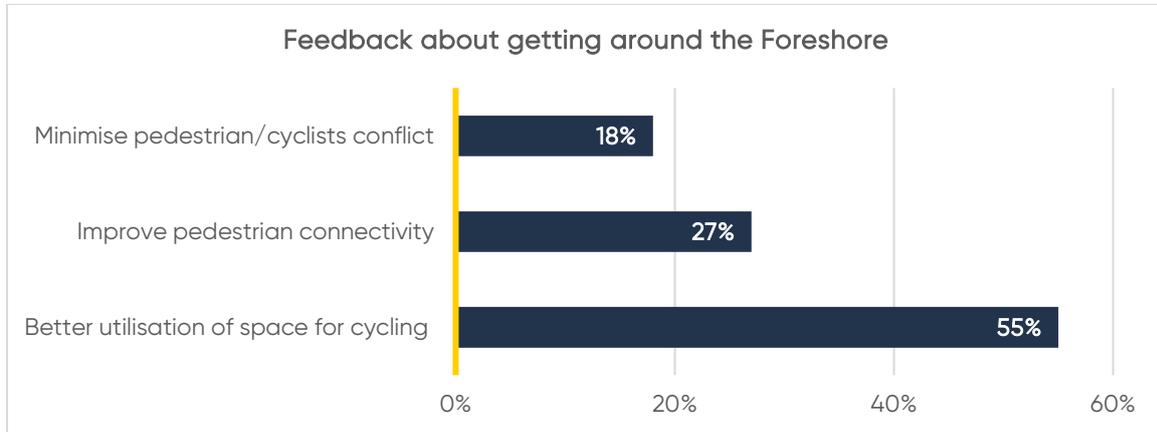


Figure 41 How do you get around the Foreshore?

Below are a sample of comments from respondents who shared under the category of *Getting around*.

Table 14 Getting around - sample of qualitative comments

Queens Wharf cuts the pedestrian (and particularly cycling) thoroughfare in half - would be good to have a separated bike lane either side of wharf road if cycling can't be maintained in an efficient manner on Joy Cummings Promenade.

Cycling around Queens Wharf is difficult, need a better solution here

Many pedestrians walk straight across this small carpark which can put them in conflict with cars. Not sure - maybe a footpath along grassed eastern edge leading to Promenade might help. Electronic sign indicating vacant spaces might help drivers?

Narrow the slip road to accommodate a bike lane and widen grassed area. There is nowhere to sit and linger along the narrow Promenade between Customs House and old cornish-style Boat Dock.

The Social Pinpoint data has highlighted some community members that may require additional consultation. This includes those who have concerns about loud music/noise pollution in the area and environmental groups who advocate for keeping the frog pond filled with water.

To see the full list of comments from Social Pinpoint, review the attachment entitled **Verbatim comments, Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan**.

Online workshops / information sessions

Whilst online information sessions and workshops were offered to the community and key stakeholders, they received few registrations. The following sessions were scheduled and cancelled due to lack of registrations.

- CN Information sessions
 - Saturday 20 June 2020 2pm – 3pm
 - Tuesday 23 June 2020 12pm – 1pm.
- Variety online playspace workshop
 - 8 July 2020 12pm – 1pm.

However, information sessions were held with:

- CN Youth Council
 - Wednesday 1 July 2020 (12 attendees)
- University of Newcastle School of Architecture
 - Friday 10 July 2020 (8 attendees).

A Facebook live session was also promoted with Variety – the Children’s Charity. The live session had:

- A total of 36 viewers watching live
- A reach of 5,338 people and 898 engagement on the CN Facebook page
- The Facebook live was also streamed to Variety’s Facebook page, which received 2,430 views.

5. Face-to-face consultation

Variety – The Children’s Charity: School engagements

CN formed a partnership with Variety - the Children’s Charity to deliver an inclusive playspace at Foreshore Park. During Phase 1 engagement, Variety conducted workshops with schools to obtain in-depth feedback from youth about playspaces.

A summary of the engagement has been provided below. For further details about this consultation, please see **Appendix 7: Variety – the Children’s Charity engagement report**.

Table 15 Variety engagement snapshot

Date	School	Number of children	Ages	# of children with lived experience of disability?
25 June 2020	Wallsend Primary School	60 students	Years 5 & 6	15
	Newcastle Senior School	15 Students	Senior Campus	15
1 July 2020	St Columba’s Primary School, Adamstown	25 students	Year 6	5

Key findings

Play elements requested included:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Play • Waterplay – with fountains and pebbles walks, sprayers/shooters, a pond to walk through • Progressive challenges (in climbing) • Variety of spaces to be able to “go to” within the playspace.
Areas identified as popular included:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed in spaces – caves, quiet spaces to relax/hide, reading/theatre outdoor space (with a shared library) • Area for small kids • ‘Chill Zones’ where they can relax with hammocks or big boulders • Scooter or bike track – with fun things/challenges • Art/cultural space – to play in and do art.

<p>What children said they most like to do:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tips and hide and seek games • Climbing • Parkour • Imaginative play • Chill out / eat
<p>Equipment children most enjoy:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big slides • Rock climbing - that gets very challenging • Flying fox • Large Climbing structure to get high • Variety if swings – 'swings we can all get on together'.

Intercept surveys

CN completed intercept surveys at Foreshore Park on Friday 10 July 2020 with people under 24 years old. The insights have been captured in the main online survey data.

6. Next steps

Alongside community engagement activities outlined in this report, CN invited expressions of interest from the community to join a Harbour Foreshore Community Reference Group (CRG). This group will facilitate communication and engagement between CN and representatives of the Newcastle community as we develop a masterplan for the Harbour Foreshore.

Selection of CRG members has been finalised and approved by senior management. We expect to hold the first CRG meeting in late August 2020.

Opinion on use of the frog pond is mixed, with feedback split between keeping the frog pond with water or repurposing it for other uses. It is suggested that future use of the frog pond is further explored with the Community Reference Group.

A Design Reference Group will be formed in the coming months to feedback specifically on the playspace designs.

Phase 2 of community engagement will take place later in 2020. CN will invite the community to provide feedback on draft concept designs for the Foreshore, that have been informed by the findings within this report.

7. Appendices

Appendix 1: Communications and promotion

Facebook posts

City of Newcastle
Published by Agoraspulse (1) · June 12

What do you love about Newcastle Harbour Foreshore? 🌿 🌊
What would you like to see here in the future?
Visit newcastle.nsw.gov.au/YourSay to tell us what you think and find out more.



It's time to dream big

11,285 People Reached 638 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

City of Newcastle
Published by Agoraspulse (1) · June 22

What do you love about Newcastle Harbour Foreshore? What would you like to see here in the future?
Find out more and help shape your city by having your say on this project: newcastle.nsw.gov.au/YourSay



16,787 People Reached 1,687 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

81 92 Comments 24 Shares

Like Comment Share

City of Newcastle
Published by Comms Newcastle (1) · June 27

Don't forget to have your say on Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan
You can find out more and get involved here: <https://bit.ly/2Z6dbnl>



WWW.NEWCASTLE.NSW.GOV.AU
Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan [Learn More](#)

Your Ad Has a High Relevance Score
Great work! Your ad has an average relevance score of 7, which means it's getting more positive feedback and is costing less to deliver than most ads on Facebook.

27,067 People Reached 2,138 Engagements [Boost Again](#)

Booted on Jun 27, 2020 By Comms Newcastle Completed

People Reached	20.5K	ThruPlays	6.9K
----------------	-------	-----------	------

City of Newcastle was live.
Published by Comms Newcastle (1) · July 2

We went Live with Variety - the Children's Charity to discuss all things INCLUSIVE PLAY!
Tell us - what makes a playspace great for ALL ages and abilities?
The Team from Variety are working with us to develop an inclusive playspace for Foreshore Park.
With your feedback, we can create a great space for everyone to enjoy.

Here's what we covered:

- 3:00 min: What is a Variety Livvi's Place inclusive playspace?
- 5:30 min: What is happening at Foreshore Park?
- 8:35 min: What does inclusion actually mean?
- 13:00 min: What is an inclusive playspace?
- 15:35 min: How have you been working with the Newcastle Community recently to gather feedback for the Harbour Foreshore Masterplan?
- 21:13 min: How can the community can provide feedback?

Get involved:
Have your say on Foreshore Masterplan by 12 July: <https://bit.ly/2VBm0ts>
Register for our online inclusive playspace workshop on 8 July: <https://bit.ly/2Z6BHRV>
Join Variety's Facebook group for updates: <https://bit.ly/2YOGeog>



LinkedIn posts

**City of Newcastle, Australia**
June 10, 2020 6:02 AM(UTC+10:00)   

Would you like to join our Harbour Foreshore Community Reference Group?

This group will play an important role, assisting the two-way communication and engagement with Newcastle community and Council while the Harbour Foreshore Masterplan is developed.

Everyone is welcome.

Applications are open until Friday 26th June.
Find out more: <https://bit.ly/3cMHeFA>

 *Image attached not displayed*

 42 • [Like](#)

**City of Newcastle, Australia**
June 19, 2020 3:01 PM(UTC+10:00)   

What do you love about Newcastle Harbour Foreshore? What would you like to see here in the future?

Find out more and help shape your city by having your say on this project: <https://lnkd.in/dKBmcUy>



 60 • [Like](#)  5 Comments

Media release

[Council](#) / [News and Updates](#) / [Latest News](#) / [Community invited to have their say on Newcastle Harbour Foreshore](#)

Community invited to have their say on Newcastle Harbour Foreshore

09 Jun 2020

Share

The community is invited to play a part in the revitalisation of the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore, which envelops Foreshore Park and the Joy Cummings Promenade in Newcastle's iconic East End.

City of Newcastle today commenced community engagement on the Harbour Foreshore Masterplan, which will help shape the blueprint to reinvigorate this important community hub with an inclusive playspace and improved recreation opportunities between Merewether Street, Newcastle and Foreshore Park.

In addition to having their say through online information sessions and workshops, surveys and an online mapping tool, Newcastle residents are encouraged to submit an application to join the Community Reference Group (CRG). The role of this group is to provide input on the project and achieve a shared, community-owned vision that respects the foreshore's history and paves its future.

Lord Mayor Nustali Nemes said Expressions of Interest (EOIs) in the CRG were now open, marking a significant milestone.

"The Community Reference Group will play an important, collaborative role in shaping and informing community outcomes, offering valuable insights into how this space might be used," the Lord Mayor said.

"Together we can transform the Harbour Foreshore into an area that our picturesque coastline has to offer, which is paramount to the future of Newcastle."

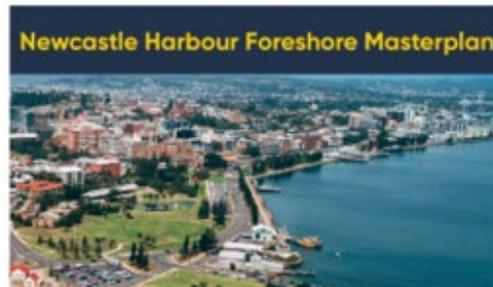
The CRG will consist of community members and stakeholders.

Newy with Kids blog



Home » [Campaigns](#) » [Help Reimagine Newcastle's Harbour Foreshore! New Playspace, Water Feature or Event Space?](#)

What would you like to see on Newcastle's foreshore? The City of Newcastle has started planning for the future of Newcastle's iconic harbour foreshore and they are looking for your input.



Is it a new playspace, a water play area, event space, exercise equipment, kids scooter track, bike maintenance station, street library or an art walk? Get creative and think about what you and your family would love to see on the foreshore.



COVID-19 UPDATE

Due to government directives regarding coronavirus, events & attractions listed on Newy with Kids may be cancelled or closed or reopened with reduced hours and COVID-19 protocols. Please check directly with organisers & venues to avoid disappointment.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL



Sign up for the Newy with Kids newsletter delivered weekly direct to your inbox packed with information about family attractions, adventures and upcoming events!

Email

First Name

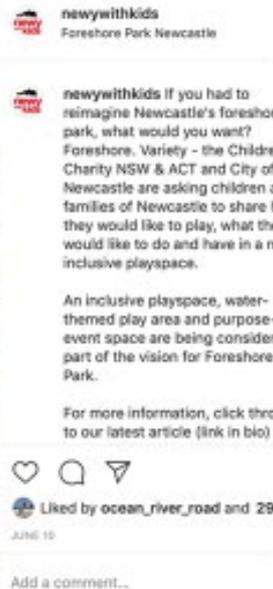
SUBSCRIBE



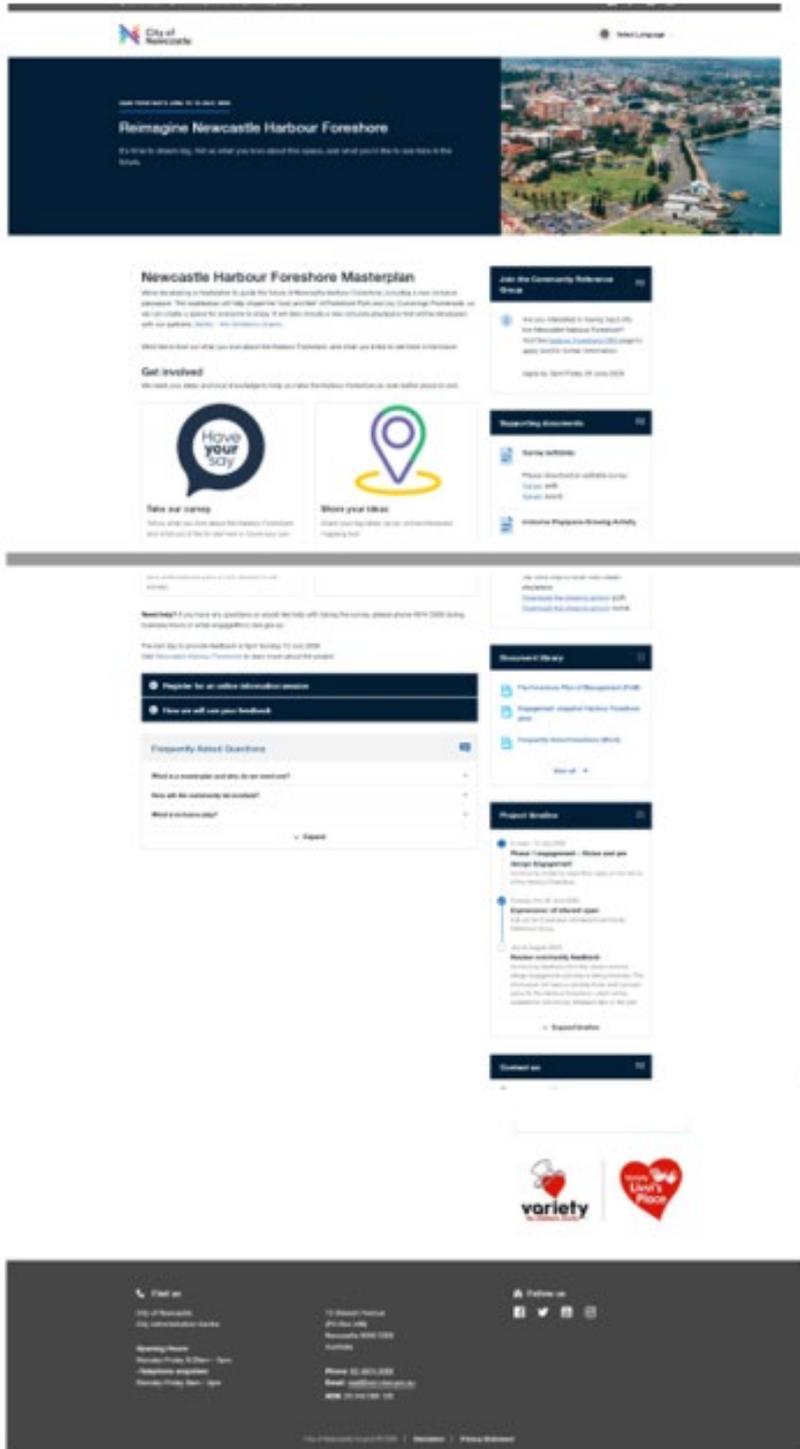
Newy with Kids Facebook



Newy with Kids Instagram



Have your say web page



City of Newcastle

Reimagine Newcastle Harbour Foreshore

Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan

Join the Community Reference Group

Get involved

Have your say

Share your ideas

Supporting documents

Project library

Project details

Contact us

variety

Lion's Place

Newcastle Herald ad



Help us reimagine Newcastle Harbour Foreshore

Help us create a masterplan that shapes the future look and feel of the Foreshore and its new inclusive play space.

Have your say

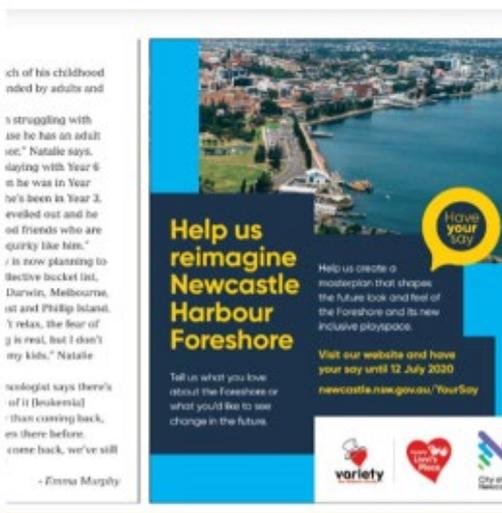
There are two ways to get involved:

1. Submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to join the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Community Reference Group (CRG). Submissions due by 5pm Friday 30 June 2020.
2. Visit our Foreshore Masterplan webpage to tell us what you love or what you'd like to see changed in the future. Have your say until 12 July 2020.

To give feedback and/or submit an EOI, visit our Foreshore Masterplan webpage: newcastle.nsw.gov.au/YourSay



Newcastle Weekly ad



ch of his childhood
ned by adults and

s struggling with
he he has an adult
oe." Natalie says,
aying with Year 6
as he was in Year 4
he's been in Year 3,
eviled out and he
ed friends who are
quirky like him."
/ is now planning to
fective bucket list,
Darwin, Melbourne,
ast and Phillip Island.
Y relax, the fear of
g is real, but I don't
my kids," Natalie

ecological says there's
of it [breakers]
than coming back,
en there before,
come back, we're still

- Emma Murphy

Help us reimagine Newcastle Harbour Foreshore

Help us create a masterplan that shapes the future look and feel of the Foreshore and its new inclusive play space.

Have your say

Visit our website and have your say until 12 July 2020
newcastle.nsw.gov.au/YourSay



Corflute / flyer designs



Help us reimagine Newcastle Harbour Foreshore

Get involved

We need your ideas and local knowledge. Share your thoughts online via a survey or the online mapping tool.

newcastle.nsw.gov.au/YourSay

Have your say from 9 June to 12 July 2020

Contact City of Newcastle on 4974 2000 or email mail@ccnsw.gov.au

Tell us what you love about this space, and what you'd like to see here in the future.

Your ideas will help us develop the new Harbour Foreshore Masterplan and shape the 'look and feel' of Foreshore Park and Jay Cummings Promenade. This will include a new inclusive play space that will be developed with our partners, Variety the Children's Charity.



Have Your Say EDM

Harbour Foreshore

We're developing a masterplan to guide the future of Newcastle Harbour Foreshore, including a new inclusive playspace that will be developed with our partners, [Variety - the Children's Charity](#).

We need your ideas and local knowledge to help us make the Harbour Foreshore an even better place to visit. [Jump online and have your say](#) by **Sunday 12 July**.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Novo News

Help us
reimagine
Newcastle
Harbour
Foreshore



It's time to dream big...

Help us create a masterplan that shapes the future 'look and feel' of the Foreshore and its new inclusive playspace.

There are two ways to get involved:

- Submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to join the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Community Reference Group (CRG). Submissions are due by 5pm Friday 26 June 2020
- Visit our Foreshore Masterplan webpage and tell us what you love or what you'd like to see change in the future. Have your say until 12 July 2020.

Give feedback and/or submit an EOI to join the Community Reference Group via the link below.

[Have Your Say](#)

Creative Cities Newsletter



Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan

Help us reimagine Newcastle Harbour Foreshore. It's time to dream big! Tell us what you love about this space, and what you'd like to see here in the future. [Have your say until 12 July.](#)

Interagency Newsletter



Help us reimagine Newcastle Harbour Foreshore

Tell us what you love about the Foreshore or what you'd like to see change in the future.

With your help, we'll create a Masterplan that shapes the 'look and feel' of the Foreshore, including an inclusive playspace.

Visit our website and have your say until 12 July 2020.

Have Your Say

Appendix 2: Online survey

The Masterplan covers Foreshore Park and Joy Cummings Promenade (between Rydge's and Nobbys car park).

1 When did you last visit Newcastle Harbour Foreshore? (Single response only):

- Within the last week
- Within the last month
- Within the last six months
- Within the last 12 months
- More than 12 months ago
- I have never visited the area

2 What is the type of transport you use to get to or from the Foreshore? (Select all that apply):

- Car
- Bus/coach
- Walk
- Cycle
- Taxi / Uber
- Motorcycle
- Cruise ship / ferry
- Train
- Light rail
- Other: please comment

3 How do you generally use the Foreshore? (Select all that apply):

- Walk, run or cycle
- Group exercise
- For a picnic or barbecue
- Use the restaurants / bars
- Use the open space (play ball games, fishing etc)
- Visit the playground
- Sit and enjoy the views
- Visit the frog pond
- Pass through to get to another location
- Use for work (e.g. Personal training)

- Attend community events or concerts
- Attend major special events
- Use of the Harbour (e.g. ferry, fishing or boating)
- Other: please comment

4 Below are some of the things people have told us they love about Newcastle Harbour Foreshore. Please select those that are most important to you. (Select up to five):

Natural Elements

- Grassy areas / green space
- Wide open space
- Harbour views
- Trees and gardens

Pedestrian/Cycling

- The paths around the park
- Wide paths
- Cycling provisions
- Links to nearby areas

Facilities

- Carriage shed

Heritage elements / nearby heritage

- Nearby restaurants / dining / cafes
- Playspace
- The frog pond
- BBQs / Picnic areas
- Community garden
- Promenade
- Parking by the Harbour

5 What would you like to see more of at Newcastle Harbour Foreshore? (Select all that apply):

Natural Elements and Heritage:

- Trees

- Gardens
- Shade
- Heritage featured in some way
- Indigenous elements
- Memorials

Amenities:

- Drink fountains
- Seating
- Accessible toilets
- Picnic tables
- Variety of spaces:
- Event spaces
- Gathering spaces
- Play space
- Cafes
- Picnic areas
- Multi-purpose courts
- Water-themed playspaces
- Viewing/lookouts

Connectivity:

- Signage to help me find my way around
- Bike parking
- Parking
- Disability car parking
- Improved bicycle paths
- Improved connectivity to surrounding areas for pedestrians

Recreation:

- Over water experiences
- Pop-up activities (food trucks, night-time cinema, etc)
- Artworks and sculpture
- Youth-oriented activity
- Exercise and fitness
- Markets and events

6 Do you have any other comments about what you would like to see more of at Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?

7 What best describes how you would like to see the future of Newcastle Harbour Foreshore? (Select all that apply):

- Authentic
- Vibrant
- Representing the best of Newcastle
- Stand-alone waterfront identity
- Sustainable premier destination
- None of these

8 Do you have any further comments?

9 The community have told us they value the following elements of Newcastle Harbour Foreshore. Please click on each value below to rank in order of importance to you: 1 = most important to you 5 = least important to you

Scenic: Expansive harbour and ocean views, landscaped gardens, open space and grassed areas and general lack of development

Recreation: The open space and grassed areas for social interaction, picnic, playground visits, relaxation and exercise. The promenade and pathways to walk, ride bicycles, jog, and access surrounding areas.

Accessibility: The proximity to the city centre, public transport, connections within and to surrounding areas from the promenade and pathways. All abilities access. Access to services including toilets, water, food and beverage outlets.

Heritage: Historical themes include elements of Newcastle's Aboriginal, convict, maritime, coal, steel and rail history both within the park and nearby sites.

Community use and special events: Local community access, occasional markets, and smaller scale community events, and wider community access to large scale special events.

10 We want Newcastle Harbour Foreshore to be a place we can all enjoy. Is there anything that takes away from your enjoyment of the Foreshore? (E.g. parking, lack of facilities, fencing, paths) Please comment (optional):

The new playspace at Foreshore Park will be a community destination where families and friends of all ages can gather, spend time and play. Everyone will be able to play side by side, feel welcome and included.

- 11 Do you or someone you spend time with live with challenges of a disability?
(Select one option only):
 - Yes
 - No
 - Don't know

Logic: If yes

12 Please select the option that best describes you (select one option only):

- I am a person with a disability
- I am a carer, family member, friend of a person with a disability
- I am a paid worker in the disability sector

13 Please give a general indication of how disability impacts your/their daily living or daily tasks. (Select all that apply):

- Communication (sight, speech, hearing)
- Learning, behavioural
- Physical, mobility
- None of these
- Prefer not to answer

14 What design details make the most difference to you having an enjoyable play experience at a playspace?

15 What kind of spaces would you like to have in the playspace? (Select all that apply):

- Climbing agility
- Reading area
- Quiet space
- Sensory spaces
- Enclosed areas
- Zones for age groups

- Water-themed playspaces
- Other

If other: please comment

16 What do you (or your children) like to DO in a playspace? (Select all that apply)

- Play games with others
- Meet new friends
- Gather for celebrations
- Relax
- Spend time engaging with nature
- Physical play
- Other

If other: please comment

An action from The Plan of Management 2015 states to “investigate future options for the Frog Pond through the Masterplan and Playground Detailed Concept Plan. Options may include reduce, retain or remove” p.44.

17 We would like to hear from the community about the future use of Frog Pond area of Foreshore Park. Please rank your level of agreement with the following options:

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Retain the existing frog pond as a central water feature to park.
- Reduce the size of the size of the frog pond to allow for additional event space adjacent the railway sheds.
- Remove the frog pond and provide a water-themed playspace to accompany the inclusive playspace.

18 Do you have any other comments about how you'd like the Frog Pond space be used? (Optional):

19 Age

Single Choice Question : Drop Down

What is your age?

- Under 12 years old
- 12 – 17 years
- 18 – 24 years
- 25 – 34 years
- 35 – 44 years
- 45 – 54 years
- 55 – 65 years
- 65 – 74 years
- 75+
- Prefer not to answer

20 Gender

Single Choice Question : Drop Down

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Transgender/Intersex/Other
- Prefer not to say

21 Do you live inside Newcastle LGA?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

22 IF Inside Newcastle LGA

23 Which suburb do you live in?

Adamstown	Maryville
Adamstown Heights	Mayfield
Bar Beach	Mayfield East
Beresfield	Mayfield West
Birmingham Gardens	Merewether
Blackhill/ Lenaghan	Merewether Heights
Broadmeadow	Minmi
Callaghan	New Lambton
Carrington	New Lambton Heights
Cooks Hill	Newcastle (CBD)
Elernmore Vale	Newcastle East
Fletcher	Newcastle West
Georgetown	North Lambton
Hamilton	Rankin Park
Hamilton East	Sandgate
Hamilton North	Shortland
Hamilton South	Stockton
Hexham	Tarro
Islington	The Hill
Jesmond	The Junction
Kooragang	Tighes Hill
Kotara	Wallsend
Lambton	Warabrook
Maryland	Waratah
	Waratah West
	Wickham

IF NOT Inside Newcastle LGA

24 What is your suburb?

Open Ended :

End Survey

Appendix 3: PDF survey

Reimagine Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Survey





variety
the national disability organisation



**Variety's
Place**

We need your help to make the Harbour Foreshore a place valued and enjoyed by everyone.

We'd like to find out:

- what you love about this space, and
- what you would like to see here in the future.

As part of the plan we will be creating a new inclusive playspace at Foreshore Park.

This survey will take 5 - 10 minutes.

What we will do with your feedback

Your feedback will help us:

- Create an inclusive playspace
- plan for better access and inclusion
- remove existing barriers.

An accessible community is where everyone can use the public facilities including:

- Using the footpaths safely
- Enjoying parks and playgrounds
- Accessing toilets and change rooms

An accessible community is also one where everybody can find information in a format that is useful to them.

Privacy

We will not record any personal information from the survey. All your feedback is anonymous.

Need help?

If you have any questions or require alternative supports to inform us or take the survey, please phone 4974 2000 during business hours or email engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au

The Masterplan covers Foreshore Park and Joy Cummings Promenade (between Rydge's and Nobby's car park).



- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 - Foreshore Reserve | 4 - Playground | 7 - Amphitheatre |
| 2 - Car park | 5 - Frog Pond | 8 - Amenities Building |
| 3 - Carriage Shed | 6 - Shortland Lawn | 9 - Community Garden |

1. When did you last visit Newcastle Harbour Foreshore?

- Within the last week
- Within the last month
- Within the last six months
- Within the last 12 months
- More than 12 months ago
- I have never visited the area



*If you answered more than 12 months ago or I have never visited the area. Skip to Question 5 in the survey.

2. What type of transport do you use to get to or from the Foreshore (Select all that apply):

- Car
- Bus/coach
- Walk
- Cycle
- Taxi/Uber
- Motorcycle
- Cruise ship/ferry
- Train
- Light rail
- Other: please comment

3. How do you generally use the Foreshore?

- Walk, run or cycle
- Group exercise
- For a picnic or barbecue
- Use the restaurants / bars
- Visit the playground
- Sit and enjoy the views
- Visit the frog pond
- Use the open space (play ball games, fishing etc)
- Pass through to get to another location
- Use for work (e.g. Personal training)
- Attend community events or concerts
- Attend major special event
- Use of the Harbour (e.g. ferry, fishing or boating)
- Other: please tell us other ways you use the Foreshore?

Below are some of the things people have told us they love about Newcastle Harbour Foreshore. Please select those that are most important to you. (Select up to five):

Natural Elements

- Harbour views
- Grassy areas / green space
- Wide open space
- Trees and gardens

Pedestrian/Cycling

- The paths around the park
- Wide paths
- Cycling provisions
- Links to nearby areas

Facilities

- Carriage shed
- Heritage elements / nearby heritage
- Nearby restaurants / dining / cafes
- Playspace
- The frog pond
- BBQs / Picnic areas
- Community garden
- Promenade
- Parking by the Harbour

4. What would you like to see more of? (Select all that apply)

Natural Elements and Heritage:

- Trees
- Gardens
- Shade
- Heritage featured in some way
- Indigenous elements
- Memorials

Amenities:

- Drink fountains
- Seating
- Accessible amenities
- Picnic tables

Variety of spaces:

- Event spaces
- Gathering spaces
- Playspace
- Cafes
- Picnic areas
- Multi-purpose courts
- Waterplay
- Viewing/lookouts

Connectivity:

- Signage to help me find my way around
- Bike parking
- Parking
- Disability car parking
- Improved bicycle paths
- Improved connectivity to surrounding areas for pedestrians

Recreation:

- Recreational water activities
- Pop-up activities (food trucks, night-time cinema, etc)
- Artworks and sculpture
- Youth-oriented activity
- Exercise and fitness
- Markets and events

Do you have any other comment?

5. What best describes how you would like to see the future of Newcastle Harbour Foreshore? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Authentic | <input type="checkbox"/> Do you have any further comments? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrant | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Representing the best of Newcastle | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stand-alone waterfront identity | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable premier destination | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None of these | |

6. Plan of Management (PoM) Values ranking

The community have told us they value the following elements of the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore. Please rate the following: 1 = most important 5 = least important Rank task, 1 to 5.

- | | |
|--|--|
| | Scenic: Expansive harbour and ocean views, landscaped gardens, open space and grassed areas and general lack of development. |
| | Recreation: The open space and grassed areas for social interaction, picnic, playground visits, relaxation and exercise. The promenade and pathways to walk, ride bicycles, jog, and access surrounding areas. |
| | Accessibility: The proximity to the city centre, public transport, connections within and to surrounding areas from the promenade and pathways. All abilities access. Access to services including toilets, water, food and beverage outlets. |
| | Heritage: Historical themes include elements of Newcastle's Aboriginal, convict, maritime, coal, steel and rail history both within the park and nearby sites. |
| | Community use and special events: Local community access, occasional markets, and smaller scale community events, and wider community access to large scale special events. |



7. We want Newcastle Harbour Foreshore to be a place we can all enjoy. Is there anything that takes away from your enjoyment the Foreshore? (E.g parking, lack of facilities, fencing, paths) Please comment:

Foreshore Park Inclusive Playspace

The new playspace at Foreshore Park will be a community destination where families and friends of all ages can gather, spend time and play. Everyone will be able to play side by side, feel welcome and included.

8. Do you or someone you spend time with live with challenges of a disability? (Select option only)

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

Please skip Q9, Q10 if you answered No or Don't know

9. Please select the option that best describes you?

- I am a person with a disability
 I am a carer, family member, friend of a person with a disability
 I am a paid worker in the disability sector



10. Please give a general indication how disability impacts your daily living or your daily tasks. (Tick all that apply)

- Communication (sight, speech, hearing)
- Learning or behavioural
- Physical, mobility
- Prefer not to answer

11. What design details make the most difference to you having an enjoyable play experience at a playspace?

12. What kind of spaces would you like to see in the playspace? (Select all that apply) Please comment

- Climbing agility
- Reading area
- Quiet space
- Sensory spaces
- Enclosed areas
- Zones for age groups
- Waterplay
- Other



13. What do you (or your children) like to DO in a playspace? (Select all that apply)

- Play games with others
- Meet new friends
- Gather for celebrations
- Relax
- Spend time engaging with nature
- Physical play
- Other

Please comment

14. Foreshore Park Frog Pond

An action from The Plan of Management 2015 states to "investigate future options for the Frog Pond through the Masterplan and Playground Detailed Concept Plan. Options may include reduce, retain or remove" p.44.

We would like to hear from the community about the future use of Frog Pond area of Foreshore Park. Please rank your level of agreement with the following options with a tick:

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree
Retain the existing frog pond as a central water feature to park.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce the size of the size of the frog pond to allow for additional event space adjacent the railway sheds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Remove the frog pond and provide a water playspace to accompany the inclusive playspace.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you have any other comments about how you'd like the Frog Pond space be used? (optional)

Demographics

13. What is your age?

- Under 12 years old
 - 12 – 17 years
 - 18 – 24 years
 - 25 – 34 years
 - 35 – 44 years
 - 45 – 54 years
 - 55 – 65 years
 - 65 – 74 years
 - 75 years or above
 - Prefer not to say
-

14. What is your gender?

- Male
 - Female
 - Transgender/Intersex/Other
 - Prefer not to say
-

15. Do you live inside Newcastle Local Government Area?

- Yes
 - No
 - Don't know
-

16. Which suburb do you live in?



Appendix 4: Survey responses by suburb

Merewether	8%
Newcastle (CBD)	7%
Newcastle East	6%
Cooks Hill	6%
New Lambton	6%
Mayfield	5%
Adamstown	4%
Wallsend	4%
Lambton	3%
Kotara	3%
Islington	3%
Carrington	3%
Hamilton South	2%
The Hill	2%
Hamilton	2%
Stockton	2%
Adamstown Heights	2%
Waratah	2%
Maryville	2%
Georgetown	2%
Newcastle West	2%
Fletcher	2%
Tighes Hill	2%
Hamilton East	2%
Elmore Vale	2%
Wickham	1%
North Lambton	1%
Shortland	1%
New Lambton Heights	1%
Merewether Heights	1%
Maryland	1%
Bar Beach	1%
Mayfield East	1%
Broadmeadow	1%
The Junction	1%
Rankin Park	1%
Mayfield West	1%
Birmingham Gardens	1%
Hamilton North	1%
Beresfield	1%
Waratah West	1%
Jesmond	1%

Appendix 5: Social Pinpoint responses by suburb

Suburb	Ward	Count	%
Carrington	1	44	39%
Mayfield			
Newcastle			
Newcastle West			
Stockton			
Wickham	2	11	10%
Adamstown			
Broadmeadow			
Hamilton			
Merewether	3	28	25%
Jesmond			
New Lambton			
Wallsend			
Waratah	4	2	1%
Beresfield			
Shortland			
Outside of LGA	NA	29	25%

Appendix 6: Written submissions

Written submission 1

Important: Do not develop or sell public areas next to water. Keep Public land and facilities for public thoroughfare & access, not private. There should be no blockage to waterfront walks and people-flow by privately owned places, hotels, development on the harbour.

Ideas:

- create stage and amphitheatre for Concert/band/performance (e.g.: concerts in the vines style events, cinema under the stars, outdoor performances like opera in the park, school holiday pantomime, fund raising concerts, local dance group performances, Australia Day events, Australian citizenship ceremonies ceremonies, etc.)

- create Art spaces and events like sculptures near the lake (Jindabyne) or by the beach (Sydney).

- plan & cater for car club events (

like 'cooly rocks') as milestone moments on the calendar driving tourism and related revenue & cultural events like bands and markets supporting visitor influx.

- Ensure Shaded areas for peaceful family/friend gatherings with garbage's, taps tables, BBQ and nearby take away food options. Free entry.

- Ensure Parks with play equipment are fenced for road-safety.

- Leave the ferry and tugboats - no not relocate they add interest to the harbour walk, and spectacle to the vista.

- Retain convict/ building facade historical elements & highlight aboriginal/immigrant history with history's information and photo opportunities.

- plan for Cultural events like food, music & market days - cottage industry retail stalls and themes. (E.g.: Temp event food stalls with themes like in Sydney where Chinese New Year theme with pop up international street eats/food stalls, Brisbane container pop up evening food stalls like "eat street' Brisbane, etc).

- Outdoor (free) gym / fitness equipment in parks.

- Create people-flow zones from honeysuckle workplaces to social zones - Friday night free shuttles or wide bike ways. Paid bikes or rickshaw-style rides to get to TOP-of-town.

- love the idea of a Speers Point style children's play zone

Encourage fun: skateboards, roller skates, roller blades, swimwear, buskers by ensuring wide paths, designated zones, flat path surfaces. Encourage California Venice beach vibe.

- photo moments. But not kitsch hearts please!

- connecting 'lanes' to hunter street could morph to themed event days e.g., fashion & food themes like Harajuku / Takeshita street in Japan/ cosplay clothing, manga art with Japanese street food and gyoza, skewers etc. Ideally align to Comicon in Sydney side trips etc. Star Wars nights themed to new movies. Gain sponsors from Netflix or PlayStation etc.

Written submission 2

While individuals of the club actively contributed to the online community consultation, we feel it would be beneficial to put forward a separate submission as a club.

Our proposal is to contribute to the provision of a dedicated sporting field at Foreshore Park as part of the redevelopment. We believe this proposal is well aligned with the Values of the 2015 Plan of Management, particularly through the provision of active recreation and will not limit the scenic qualities of the space or community access for special events.

In our own informal consultation with the local community there has been strong support for a dedicated field, particularly amongst those with young children. Furthermore, we believe this proposal uniquely contributes towards a solution for the *perceived lack of night time safety* (as highlighted in the 2015 Plan of Management). Having a club train/play out of Foreshore Park two-three nights a week would provide valuable night time activation of the space and contribute to the overall safety of the area in keeping with the Newcastle 2030 – Community Strategic Plan objective of Vibrant and Activated Places, specifically 3.2 *Safe and activated spaces day and night*. As an example, local residents have long complained about hoon behaviour in the car parks off Wharf Road and having up to 60 young men training adjacent will certainly provide strong passive surveillance.

Our club has a proud history dating back to 1894, counting ANZACs and some local sporting luminaries amongst its past ranks. Our club has a diverse membership of professionals and tradespeople with the means to contribute significant fundraising towards such an endeavour as well as the ongoing upkeep of the facility. With many young families in the club, the adjacent playground being installed as part of the redevelopment would be well utilised on game day. As an exclusively senior club we don't have the field requirements of other clubs with junior registrations and only require the use of a single field. In addition to our teams playing Zone League, All Age and Over-35s football we would look at providing a woman's team to capitalise on the growing participation of woman's football and the excitement of Newcastle hosting rounds of the FIFA Woman's

World Cup. Finally, a major benefit of a relatively small soccer club operating out of a very public location means the field would be available exclusively for community use for the large majority of the year. (Although one would hope that with increasing profile of soccer, the field would provide the ideal location for gala days of visiting teams like the Matildas in keeping with the community event goals for the park).

We understand there are existing event schedules to work around, however being a small club operating during a limited part of the calendar year we believe we are nimble enough to work around these.

We also acknowledge spatial limitations in the park but have sized a regulation football field over the current open green and believe with careful planning there is scope to safely provide a defined field without compromising the adjacent passive recreation and playground spaces (we are also happy to demonstrate this in a presentation).

Written submission 3

I live in a unit overlooking the Pond and Park area, having lived here for six and a half years, I have always had pleasure in being able to look out over the Pond and Park. Since the water restrictions stopped the refilling of the Pond, I have had much more pleasure in watching the Children, Parents, and Grandparents, playing within the Pond enclosure. It's great to see it being used so much, with tiny tots to teenagers all having so much fun there, and I feel it would be a shame if the Council refilled the Pond. I would suggest that the Council build a small Pond nearby, for those that want to sail model yachts and power boats.

Written submission 4

Whatever plan is drawn up for the foreshore please include disabled people, kids, adolescents and adults to include aged people. Disabled people particularly aged people are continually excluded largely in developments.

Written submission 5

As a local who walk Foreshore Park, I am so excited to see the Empty Duck Pond now being used by many young and older children.

Parents are having picnics & children on bikes, skateboards, rollerblades are using this space.

My suggestion is to convert half this space into a skate bowl (area past the bridge) and the rest a creative area for really young children to learn to ride their scooters & skateboards.

Also, please, please place a lot more TABLES & CHAIRS around the park as it is a great place for a family picnics & we do not want to have to picnic on the wet grass.

My local Park Pacific Park has No tables & chairs, many seats but No Tables.

Newcastle now has many apartments with no sun & people like to sit & eat, read & socialise.

Written submission 6

I'd like to provide an idea for the children's play area for the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan. We saw this on the Gold Coast at a playground (near Burleigh Heads), it was a ride peddled by parents and children alike and was lots of fun for both kids and adults. We thought you could contact the Gold Coast City Council to get information on it if it was found to be a popular idea.

Written submission 7

It would be good to have a stage area in the park for buskers and multiple users e.g. teachers with school groups, interest groups etc with some seating for audience / participation.

Written submission 8

Foreshore Park-- on the weekends is very popular with visitors from all over. Two car parks full and many walking.

What is missing is food

My friend in Sydney ran several "Asian street food markets on weekends--lunch and Dinner--most in parks.

I believe it would work here, Asian means variety--20 odd styles, each stall with 'specials"

Early evening is very popular in summer.

The parks opposite the Port Authority would be best.

The most popular, in my time, in Glebe / Black wattle Bay., but many councils have them.

Even a big one in Hyde Park.

The covered Train Shed in the Foreshores Park would be an ideal place to have weekend markets--even into the night-- particularly Street food.

Stockton Ferry should also stop at Honeysuckle and Carrington.

Appendix 7: Variety engagement report

The following pages outline the engagement activities carried out by Variety – the Children’s Charity for the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan.

Building an inclusive playspace at Foreshore Park - Newcastle



Schools Consultation Report
Prepared by Variety NSW for The City of Newcastle and T.C.L Landscape Architects - July 2020



The Process



Introduction

The City of Newcastle (NCC) has entered into a partnership with Variety - the Children's Charity to deliver an inclusive playspace at Foreshore Park, as part of the wider Harbour Foreshore Masterplan re-development. This new inclusive playspace, is to be known as Variety Livvi's Place Foreshore Park. This playspace will offer a unique and inclusive play experience encouraging play for all.

Well-designed inclusive playspaces activate the community and enhance social interactions by bringing people together to strengthen family and community bonds, encourage participation and healthy activity. The playspace is due for completion in 2021.

Foreshore Park has an existing, but aged playground, catering mainly to very young children. It also has a skateboard bowl, open space for free play, unstructured recreation and gathering on the beautiful Foreshore. It is well linked to public transport and new cycle ways. It is well visited for local markets and special events. There is a rich local history with old Customs House and tramsheds still standing. All of these factors, combined with extensive input from Current Novacastrians on the needs and desires for this exquisite site, makes it a perfect location to build a Variety Livvi's Place playspace.

This community project will follow the same ethos as 20 years ago and work with community members, local champions and corporate connections to create an exceptional playspace, where we can all have fun and create an inclusive community.

Future site of Variety Livvi's Place



The Community

Newcastle City Population is 155,411 (2016) and estimated current population 165,571

<https://profile.id.com.au/newcastle/population>

16.9% of the population is under 14 years old – 26,207 (2016)

9,197 people (or 5.9% of the population) in the City of Newcastle reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability.

Sourced: <https://profile.id.com.au> <https://profile.id.com.au>

What are we doing

This project lives and breathes inclusion. We engage with all members of our community for input and feedback, bringing stakeholders together, sharing each others' perspectives and learning from each other on what inclusion truly is. We undertake best practice to do this, with an inclusive and playful process to create an exceptional inclusive playspace and community hub.

The playspace will be an attribute for The City's vision as an accessible city that supports participation and promotes social inclusion. It will be included in the national network of Livvi's Places around Australia.

Variety worked with The City to support the online consultation. Variety has actively approached key service providers in the community to connect with children and families, particularly those living with disability, to engage in the consultation. Variety also undertook face to face consultation with the children from local schools.

Methodology

The Community Engagement Plan was established allowing consultation opportunities for the local community to engage prior to design work being undertaken.

Program	Group and location	Details	Objective	Attendees
25.6.20 & 1.7.20	Wallsend Primary School Newcastle School (Senior campus) St Columbus's Catholic Primary School	School Consultations 125 children worked with , approx. 30% ID as LWD or requiring support.	Engage with key stakeholders (the children) and explore design options for an inclusive play space. Draw on community knowledge and experience.	VNSW
25.6.20	Stakeholder Engagement calls	Face to Face calls and meetings	Intro to the project and encourage stakeholders to share the engagement with their networks and children and families they work with.. Explore design options for an inclusive play space and draw on community knowledge and experience.	VNSW
June 2020	Online Survey	964 people completed the survey. 251 (26%) said they or someone they know lives with disability.	An online survey was created and promoted.	VNSW NCC

The Imagineer Workshop

Variety facilitated the group to think and share on the following topics:

- What is Inclusion?
 - what does it mean when we say it
 - what does it mean we have to do or think about?
- What does it mean to play?
- What makes the space inclusive and what do we need to consider in our design that people can stay, be comfortable, safe, have fun and PLAY!

Following robust discussion about lived experience and the priorities of inclusive play, the kids broke into groups of 3-5 and drew their dream playspace for Foreshore Park. These were then presented and shared to the group.



Feedback – What is Inclusion...

We opened our consultations sharing thoughts and understandings of what inclusion meant to them what we needed to think about if we are to create an inclusive place at Foreshore park.

“Inclusion is making people feel they belong”

Our kids said Inclusion is...

- Making it fair for all
- Everyone can use it, everyone can join in and do the same thing
- Don't leave anyone out
- When we share and play together
- Everyone is welcome
- Being respectful of everyone, no bullying
- Exclusion is when people are different and we keep them out
- When someone is out of the game and can't get to the space
- People are appreciated for who they are

Feedback – Our Kids

About 125 children, from 3 local schools took part in our Imagineer workshop. These were mainly year 5 & 6 students and year 10,11 & 12 students.

80% of the kids had been to the park and the wider Foreshore area.



Feedback – How we play

What games we play

Hide and Seek
Racing and Chasing games
Imagination games - Treasure hunts/hairdressers/cooking /shops/mums and dads/warriors
Climbing and being high
Ninja Warrior
Sitting down and playing music
Sardines (squash into spaces)
Jump, fly and launch from high spaces and land
Spies and secret code breakers



How we like to play

Free Play – We like equipment that doesn't tell us how to play to what to do.

"We like to imagine the equipment to be an anything we want it to be"

Playing together –

*"We like to play with our friends and make new friends"
"We like equipment we can get lots of people on and play together with it"*

"Let's have a friendship seat"

Physical Play – running and races and climbing and HIDE and SEEK. Wrestling, skate park, Parkor

"We like tracks to run along and spaces to hide and squish in".

"We like to run around like we are going on an adventure and exploring"

"We want to climb really high, really high"

"We need a grass space to wrestle"

Relaxing time - Comfort, sit ,chat and hang out. Listen to music do drawing or art, read

"I like green space to be with nature"

Family Play – we go to the park with our families so need spaces for little kids and BBQs and seats and tables.

Feedback – What we would LOVE in our playspace

Flying foxes - A Double ride seat - two sizes - one you can sit, one you can hang on, 2 so we can race, running track next to it so you can race.

Slides - A big enormous slide and smaller slides, wide

Swings- Lots of swings, double swings, high swings, high backs on them, nest swings, boat swings, rope swings.

Swings we can swing together on.

Swings we can see each other – “A circle of swings”

- Rock Climbing wall – with ropes
- Climbing nets and ropes, monkey bars,
- balance beams
- Trampolines, a jumping pillow
- Ninja Warrior
- Parkour and free running
- A basketball court
- A handball court
- Space to run and play chasings
- A bike track and skate path



Group equipment - lots of kids can get on and play together – Spinner or carousel, see-saw or rocker, where we can get on it and play on it together

Feedback – What we would LOVE in our playspace

Tunnels and bridges and a track to explore and run around
Little caves, rooms, spaces we can squish into, spaces we can hide.
Sandpit with hidden treasure we can discover

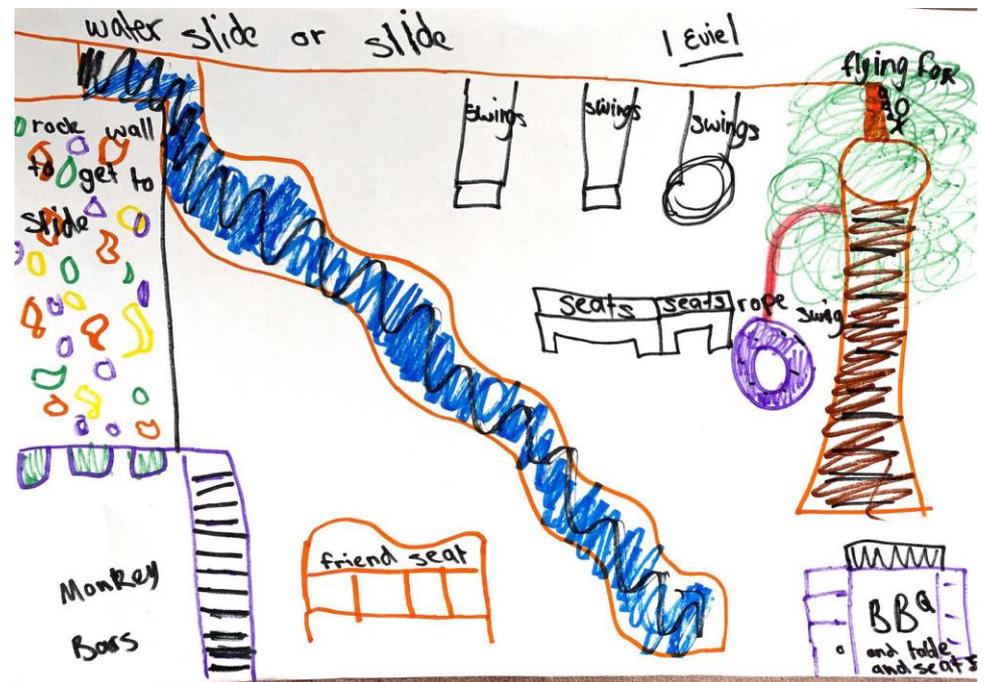
Things we can move that make other things happen – Cause and effect
Lots of TREES - Lots of real trees for shade and to climb and look out from

A tree house with a slide, places to hide, bridges, shelves and rooms inside, space to be together, toys to play with

A green space where we can relax
and be with nature and plants
A garden we can go in - a hedge maze
A green hill to sit on and roll down
Soft space to wrestle on

A relaxing space we can chill out
Where listen to music and hang out
Where we can dance
Where we can read
Where we can draw and do art
A place where we can hang with our friends

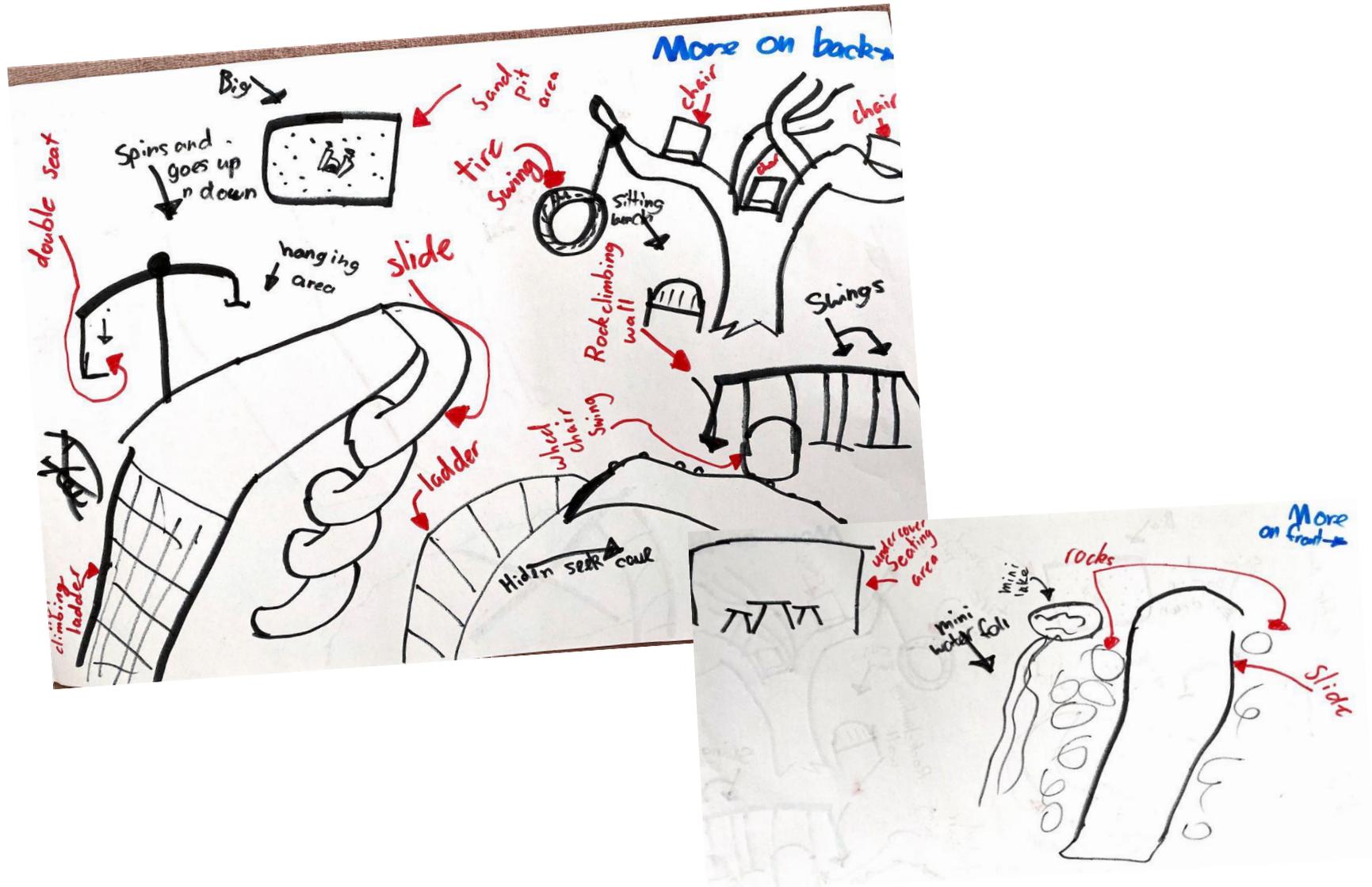
Indigenous artwork in the space.
Art and sculptures



Feedback – What we would LOVE in our playspace



Feedback – What we would LOVE in our playspace



Feedback – What we would LOVE in our playspace



What does **Inclusion** mean?

Inclusion means everyone can play and participate in something and no one is left out.

Why do you go? **Who** do you go with? Special events? **How often** do you go to a playspace?

I usually only go when sister goes with my family. Sometimes for events but not really. I probably go to the park 5-7 times a year. So not often.

What do you like to **DO** in a playspace?

I like to sit in the bushes and climb trees, or play sport if field, play with dog.

What games do you like to play? **HOW** do you play – physically, adventurous, explorative, with others, alone, imaginative, creative, spontaneous, passive...

I usually play alone and not on the actual playground but in the nature surrounding it.

What **spaces** would you like to have in the play area?

I would have a meditation zone because I like relaxing and not being in extremely crowded and noisy areas.

What would you like to see at **Foreshore Park Playspace**? Equipment, themes...other playspaces you may have enjoyed.

I would like to see a Greek or Tropical theme because they both are both calming themes. Tropical rainforests are calm places and Greece has the really clear water, nice environment and I love the colour scheme of Greece. (Whites/Blues)



What does **Inclusion** mean?

Inclusion means to let everyone be able to play together

Why do you go? **Who** do you go with? Special events? **How often** do you go to a playspace?

I go because of my baby sister. I go with my family. I go on birthdays. I go every week

What do you like to **DO** in a playspace?

once
Climb and swing and get messy.

What games do you like to play? **HOW** do you play – physically, adventurous, explorative, with others, alone, imaginative, creative, spontaneous, passive...

Hide n' seek, floor is lava, tips, @climb and with others

What **spaces** would you like to have in the play area?

Climbing, Hidey holes, swings, sandpit

What would you like to see at **Foreshore Park Playspace**? Equipment, themes...other playspaces you may have enjoyed.

a little water park, some equipment for babies and toddlers and a quiet space, and a area with things you can climb on

Feedback – What we would LOVE in our WATERplayspace

“Make it a Beach there”

A big fountain that spurts up

A water slide or slide we can splash in the water

A water maze

A waterfall – flowing water

Fish in a pond to feed

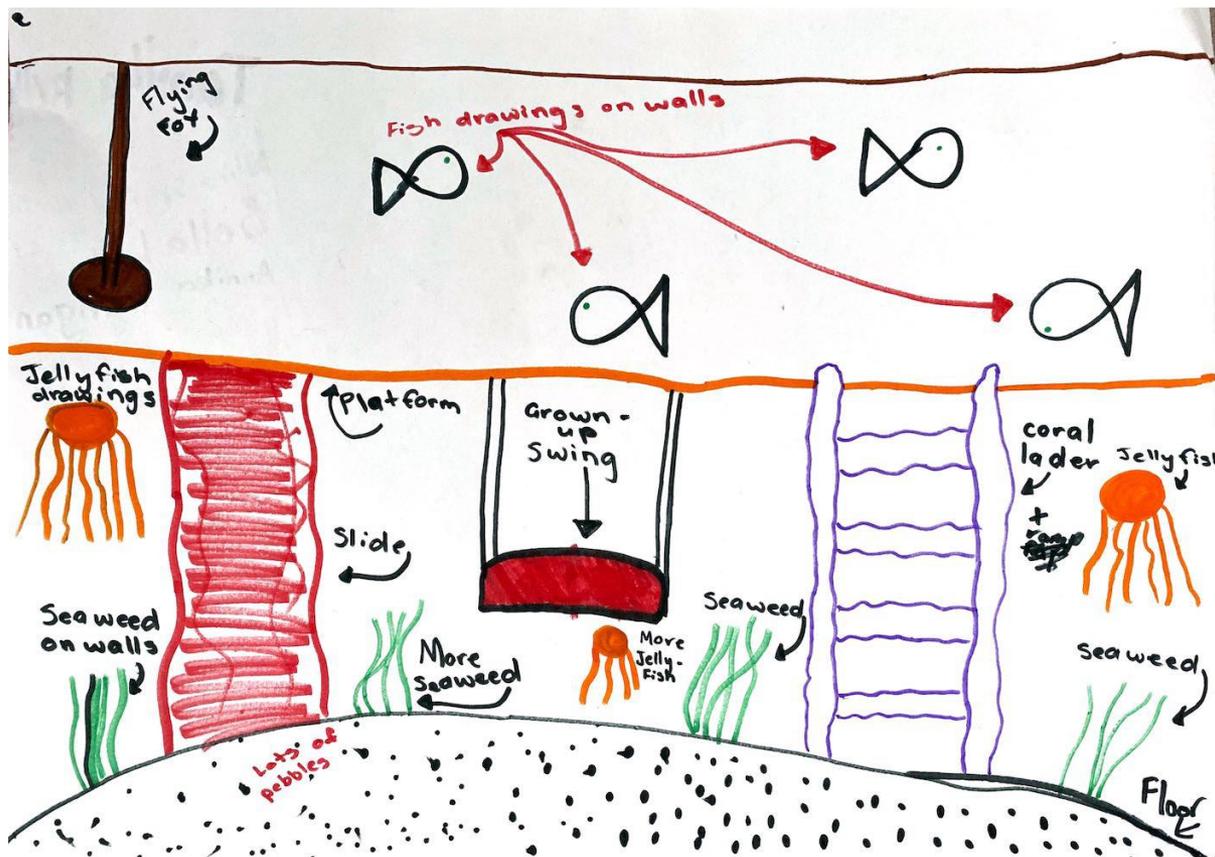
Bridges

A big ship or a boat

A dolphin swing

Underwater animals - fish, crocodiles and sea creatures

Water, water, water – Buckets to dump/ Pumps/ trickling water/water sprays tubes that show how it flows



Feedback – A family space

All kids shared they go to this place with their family, extended family and friends groups most often.

They all said there needed to be a special space/zone/area and equipment for younger kids – (or perhaps more play value for older kids!)

To be comfortable we need:

Bubblers inside

BBQ's

Tables and chairs



Lots and lots of seating and “places to sit” in an amongst the play equipment for their parents and older family members.

Places for disability parking, buses and coaches to park

Engagement and Communication

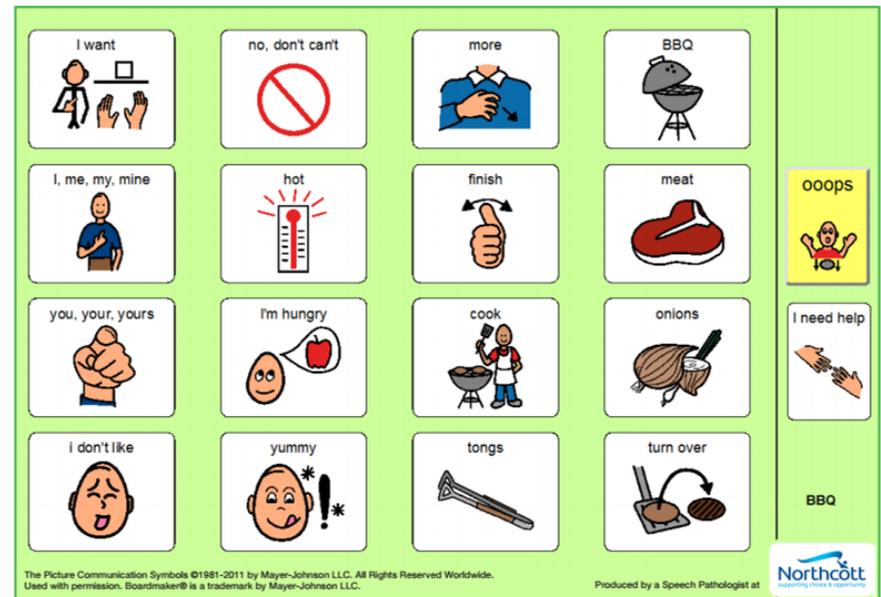
The children also discussed the need to incorporate:

Braille and PECS for a communication strategy.

Requirements to use signage to promote what an inclusive playspace is.

Require the opportunity to role model inclusion.

Look at integrating community, particularly Indigenous art.



Recommendations

All consultations heavily focused on:

- It is a social place where we all play together and go with our families and friends for an extended visit.
- A Connection to water – making it like a beach, focus on boats and fish and sealife
- Use of natural resources – with lots of trees for shade and to play in and on, gardens to explore, tree houses, caves
- High physical play value (for multigenerational play and recreation)
- Being connected to the wider park for big games like soccer, footy, skatepark, bike and scooter tracks.
- Adventure and exploration where we develop imagination
- Risk progression and universal design principals very important



Recommendations

There was a high regard for artistic stimulation and opportunity to be creative - art and sculpture incorporated into design and play opportunities – particularly Indigenous art.

