

National Park Plan of Management Engagement activity report

17 November to 7 December 2020

Executive summary

To inform a review of the National Park Plan of Management, community engagement was carried out to help us better understand what people value about National Park and what needs improving.

Survey results

The online survey had 354 completes:

- 65% were aged 35-54
- 59% identified as female
- 8% have lived experience of a disability
- 90% were Newcastle locals
- 34% were members of a sporting group
- 26% live within a 5-minute walk

Visitation: There were fairly high visitation rates with 61% visiting the park at least weekly. Most commonly participants drove their car (59%) and/or walked/ran (54%) to the park.

Facilities: The facilities most used were the parks path networks (56%) and netball courts (47%). While netball is the main use of the courts, feedback shows they are multipurpose with many using the flat surface for children to ride bikes/scooters and skate.

Activities: The following activities were the most popular at the park; walk, run or cycle on the path network (51%), attend sporting event (49%) and pass through to get to another location (45%).

Issues: Current issues facing National Park are parking (52%) and a lack of shade (51%).

People would like to see more:

- **Recreation:** Participants would like to see more trees (60%), pop-up activities (47%) and exercise equipment (39%).
- **Amenities:** Participants said they would like to see more shade structures (57%), seating (50%), tables and benches (49%) and accessible toilets (48%).
- **Connectivity:** Participants selected in the future they would like to see improved walking paths (53%), improved bicycle paths (45%) and improved connectivity to surrounding areas for pedestrians (43%).

Social Pinpoint

We asked the community to provide ideas and suggestions, what they like, what should change and activities they do and where. 290 comments were received.

Overall, the top key themes in comments were:

Greenspace was the most common theme, this included comments surrounding the appreciation for the greenspace, more greenspace, gardens and landscaping (n=50).

Traffic was the second most common theme which included comments surrounding parking issues, pedestrian crossings and safety (n=49).

Children's area was the next most commented on theme which included comments identifying the need for an improved and larger play space with more facilities for children throughout the park (n=41).

Please refer to the body of the report for comments broken down into each park area.

National Park Plan of Management

Phase 1 - Engagement activity report

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1. Introduction

National Park is one of Newcastle's oldest and largest sportsgrounds and open space reserves, covering over 20 hectares near Union and Parry Streets in Newcastle West. It's home to a range of community facilities including sportsgrounds, netball courts, croquet courts and green space.

City of Newcastle (CN) and Gondwana Consulting (GC) are reviewing the current National Park Plan of Management (POM) to guide the long-term future of the site. GC prepared the original National Park POM in 2012.

2. Engagement objectives

To inform the review of the National Park POM, community engagement was planned in two phases:

Phase 1 - early engagement (late 2020)

- Inform the community about the development of the revised National Park POM.
- Involve the community and key stakeholders to understand what is essential to the community when developing the revised National Park POM.

Phase 2 - Public Exhibition (from early 2021)

- Prior to the exhibition, seek community input from community groups and workshop with Councillors
- Place on Public Exhibition for 28 days (with submissions received up to 42 days) and hold an information session at National Park (COVID permitting)

This report shows findings from Phase 1 of engagement, which was carried out from 17 November to 7 December 2020. Phase 2 of engagement will take place from early to mid-2021 and will include a public exhibition process, where CN will invite feedback on the draft National Park POM.

3. Engagement activities

During phase 1 engagement, we asked the community to tell us what they love about the park, what needs to be improved and what they would like to see in the future.

The community were able to provide feedback in a number of ways including:

- Onsite information session (45 attendees)
- Key stakeholder workshops (x2 with 15 attendees)
- Online survey and hardcopy surveys (354 completes)
- Social Pinpoint online mapping tool (290 comments)

Some community members also provided feedback through submissions to the project team during the engagement period.

Onsite information session

The drop-in information session for preparation of the revised POM for National Park took place on the 21 November 2020 on-site in National Park, with a total of 45 attendees.

Participants were able to discuss preparation of the revised PoM and their views about the Park with the personnel present. Additionally, attendees were invited to contribute their thoughts on sheets of 'butcher paper' across three headings:

1. Things you like
2. Problems you see
3. Changes you would suggest

Things you like: Across the 35 comments received, 13 discussed liking the open space and trees, 12 discussed sport and 8 mentioned the benefits of the area for the community and that it is needed in an area with increasing development.

Problems you see: Across the 42 comments received, 6 discussed the loss of trees in the area and the need for more shade, 6 discussed the need for more facilities, such as toilets, a canteen, bubblers and seating, 5 mentioned that access needs to be increased, with no fences or locked gates, 4 mentioned that the area needs to be a park for the community, not just for sports and 4 discussed poor drainage/blocked drains from grass cuttings.

Changes you would suggest: Across the 68 comments received, 18 discussed the need for more trees and plants in the area, 16 discussed the area focussing on open space and passive recreation, rather than formal sports, 9 mentioned wanting a bike track/area for children to ride their bikes, 7 discussed upgrading the playground and having play equipment for all ages, 5 mentioned a return of the tennis courts and having a tennis wall and 3 discussed wanting a community garden.

The full report and verbatim comments can be viewed in Appendix III.

Key Stakeholder Workshops

The stakeholder workshops were held on 24 and 25 November, 2020 at National Park (No. 2 Sportsground) with a total of 15 attendees. Attendance was by invitation only.

The purpose of the workshops was to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss and provide their views regarding National Park's use, character, issues, development and management to assist in preparing the revised plan of management.

Participants were invited to offer their comments on:

1. Their current use or interest in National Park, as well as trends and anticipated or desired future use levels
2. Current challenges or problems they encounter or see, and issues affecting their use/interest in National Park
3. Their preferred directions for the Park, and any changes they would seek
4. Any other inputs or views they would like to offer

Stakeholders representing the following groups attended the workshops:

Workshop 1 – 24 November 2020

Group
Athletics
Newcastle Athletic Field Management Inc.
Newcastle City Little Athletics
Cricket
Newcastle City and Eastern District Cricket Club
Croquet:
Newcastle National Park Croquet Club
Community and other groups:
Friends of National Park

Workshop 2 – 25 November 2020

Group
AFL
Newcastle City AFC (Seniors)
Cricket
Cricket NSW
Netball
National Park Netball Association (Newcastle Netball Association)
Rugby Union
Newcastle and Hunter Rugby Union
Wanderers Rugby Club
Wanderers Rugby Club
Soccer
Cooks Hill United Football Club (Seniors)
Cooks Hill United Football Club (Juniors)
Lawn Bowls
Newcastle District Bowling Association
Government Agencies
NSW Office of Sport

Stakeholder feedback from the different groups was quite varied. Please refer to the full report and details of each stakeholders input, see Appendix IV.

Online Survey and Social Pinpoint






The findings of the online survey and Social Pinpoint components of the engagement are outlined in sections 5 and 6 of this report.





4. Communication and promotion

During the phase 1 engagement period, a communications campaign was implemented to raise awareness of the project and promote the opportunity for community members and stakeholders to provide feedback.

Key communications activities are summarised below, and key pieces of communications collateral are available in appendix I.

Table 1 Communication

Channel	Description	Reach
 Have Your Say webpage and CN website	<p>A dedicated project webpage was created on CN's Have Your Say landing page. The page aimed to provide information and raise awareness about the survey, and to encourage people to complete the survey. Showcase tile on CN's home webpage 16 November to 1 December 2020</p>	<p>772 page visits</p> <p>45 click throughs, 36 unique visitors</p>
 Flyers and onsite signage	<p>Postcard flyers were distributed to those residents surrounding the park.</p> <p>Onsite signage was also installed.</p>	<p>1000 postcards</p> <p>6 corflutes</p>
 Social media	<p>The engagement was promoted via a paid post of CN's Facebook page on 3 December 2020. The post intended to raise awareness and encourage people to have their say.</p> <p>CN Facebook page 2020 (19,000+ reach), and Have Your Say post on 21 November 2020</p>	<p>19,837 people reached 1,362 engagements</p>
 Newsletters	<p>Various e-newsletters included information about National Park POM engagement. Stakeholders were also invited to share across their methods of contact.</p> <p>Newcastle Voice 26 November 2020</p> <p>Staff NovoNews email newsletter distributed on 18 November 2020 encouraging participation.</p> <p>Newy with Kids newsletter distributed on 19 November 2020</p>	<p>2500 subscribers</p> <p>900+ subscribers</p>
 Councillor Memo	<p>A memo was distributed to CN Councillors advising of the engagement and providing information on how constituents can provide</p>	<p>n/a</p>

	feedback and comment. 18 November 2020.	
 Media coverage	A media release was issued on 18 November 2020.	n/a
 Blogs	Newy with Kids blog post on 18 November 2020	n/a
 Direct emails	Personal emails sent to stakeholders to make aware of engagement and invite to workshops.	n/a
 Newspaper ad	Digital MREC advertising Newcastle Herald (20,000 impressions) 18 November to 7 December 2020 Print advertisement in Newcastle Weekly on 19 November 2020	n/a

5. Survey Results

The online survey asked questions about park visitation, travel, facilities used and activities at the park. We also asked participants what issues they believe are currently facing National Park, what they would change and what they would like to see more of. In total, 354 people completed the survey.

Who completed the survey

Most people completing the survey were either members of a sporting group (34%) or lived within a 5-minute walk of National Park (26%).

Figure 1 Respondent relationship with the park

And please select which, if any, of the following apply to you:

Total responses: 354

I am a member of a sporting club or group that regularly uses National Park



I live within a 5 minute walk of National Park



I live within a 10-20 minute walk of National Park



I live within a 5-10 minute walk of National Park



None of these



The majority of participants were aged 35-64 (65%).

- 20% were 35-44
- 25% were aged 45-54
- 20% were 55-64
- 59% identified as female
- 8% identified as someone with lived experience of a disability
- 90% were Newcastle locals.

Figure 2 Respondent age

Just a few questions about you... What is your age group?

Total responses: 354

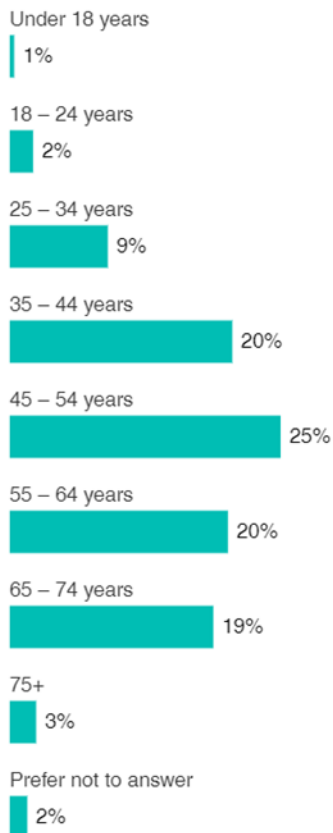


Figure 3 Respondent gender

What is your gender?

Total responses: 354

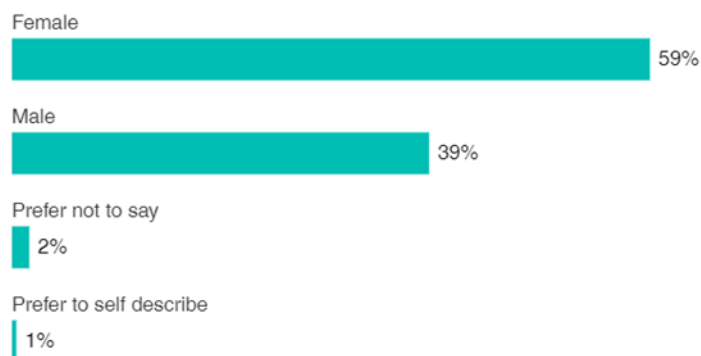


Figure 4 Respondents with lived experience of disability

Do you identify as someone with lived experience of disability?

Total responses: 354



Figure 5 Respondent local government area

Which local government (Council) area do you live in?

Total responses: 354



Table 1 Respondent suburb

Suburb	%
Cooks Hill	14%
Merewether	12%
Hamilton South	10%
Hamilton East	9%
Newcastle	6%
Newcastle West	4%
Hamilton, The Junction, The Hill, New Lambton	3% (each)
Adamstown, Lambton, Islington, Carrington, Bar Beach, Wallsend, Newcastle East, Mayfield, Maryland, Kotara	2% (each)

Stockton, Shortland, North Lambton, Mayfield West, Fletcher, Tighes Hill, Elernmore Vale, Broadmeadow, Adamstown Heights, Wickham, Waratah, Merewether Heights	1% (each)
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Visitation

There were fairly high visitation rates with 61% of participants visiting the park at least weekly.

Figure 6 Visitation

On average, how often do you visit National Park?

Total responses: 354



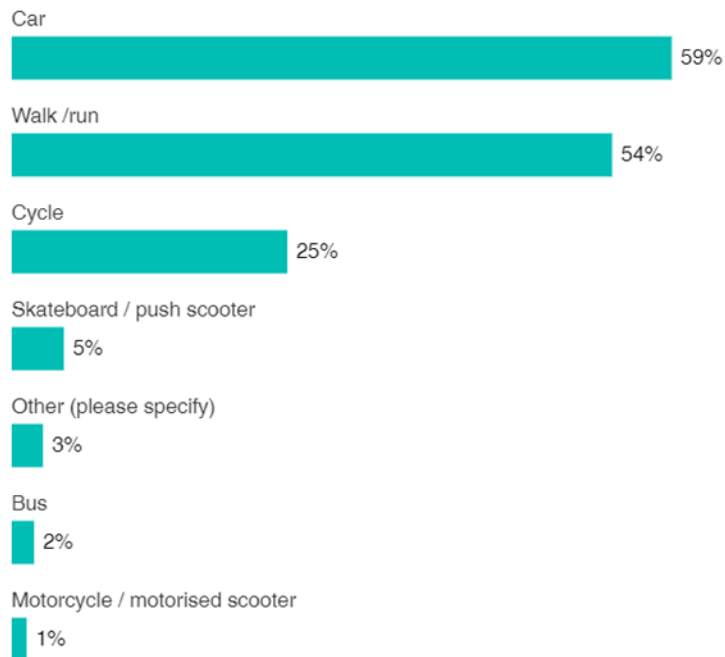
Travel

Participants were asked to select the methods they use to travel to and from National Park. Most commonly, participants drive their car (59%) and/or walk or run (54%) to National Park.

Figure 7 Method of travel

What type of transport do you use to get to or from National Park?

Total responses: 338



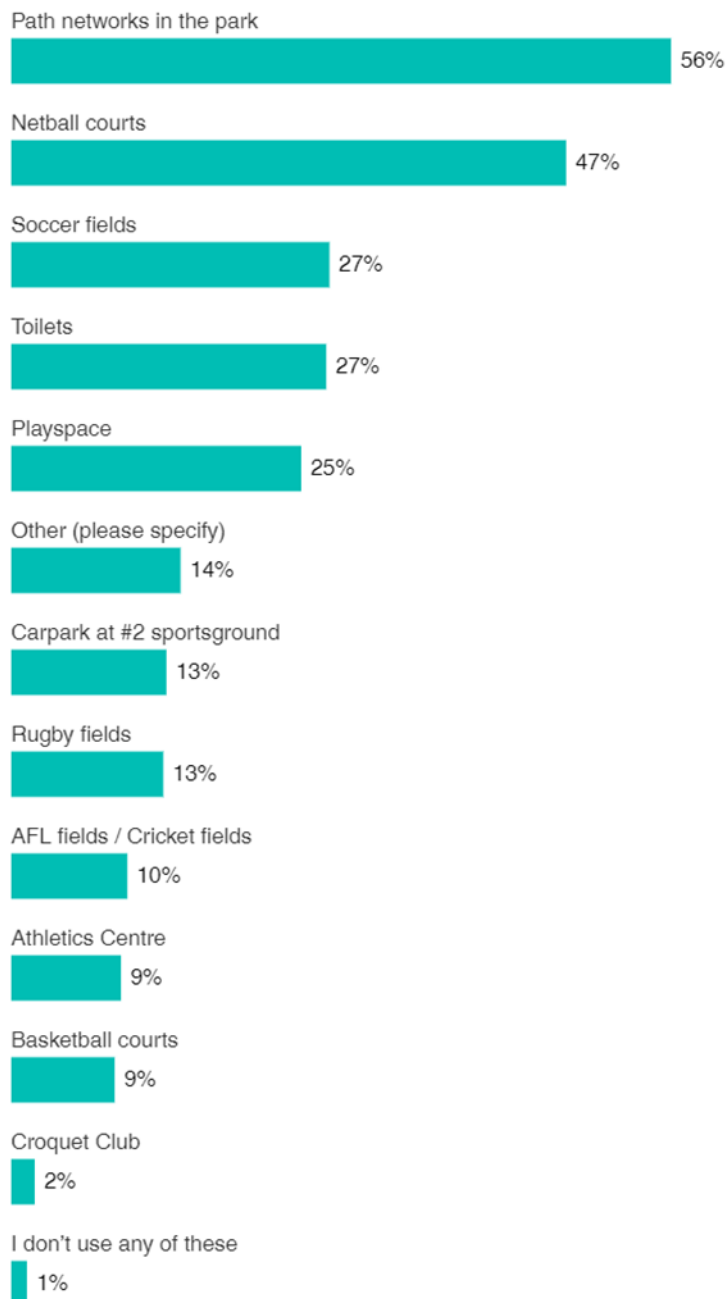
Facilities

The facilities most used in the park are the path networks (56%) and netball courts (47%). While netball is the main use of the courts, they are multipurpose with many using the flat surface for riding bikes, scooters and skates.

Figure 8 Facilities used

Which of the following facilities do you use at National Park?

Total responses: 338



Example of comments received:

"I enjoy the quiet green space"

"The green area on Parkway Avenue is lovely to relax in and exercise in"

"We use the netball courts for scootering, kicking a ball, etc - we've never used it for netball"

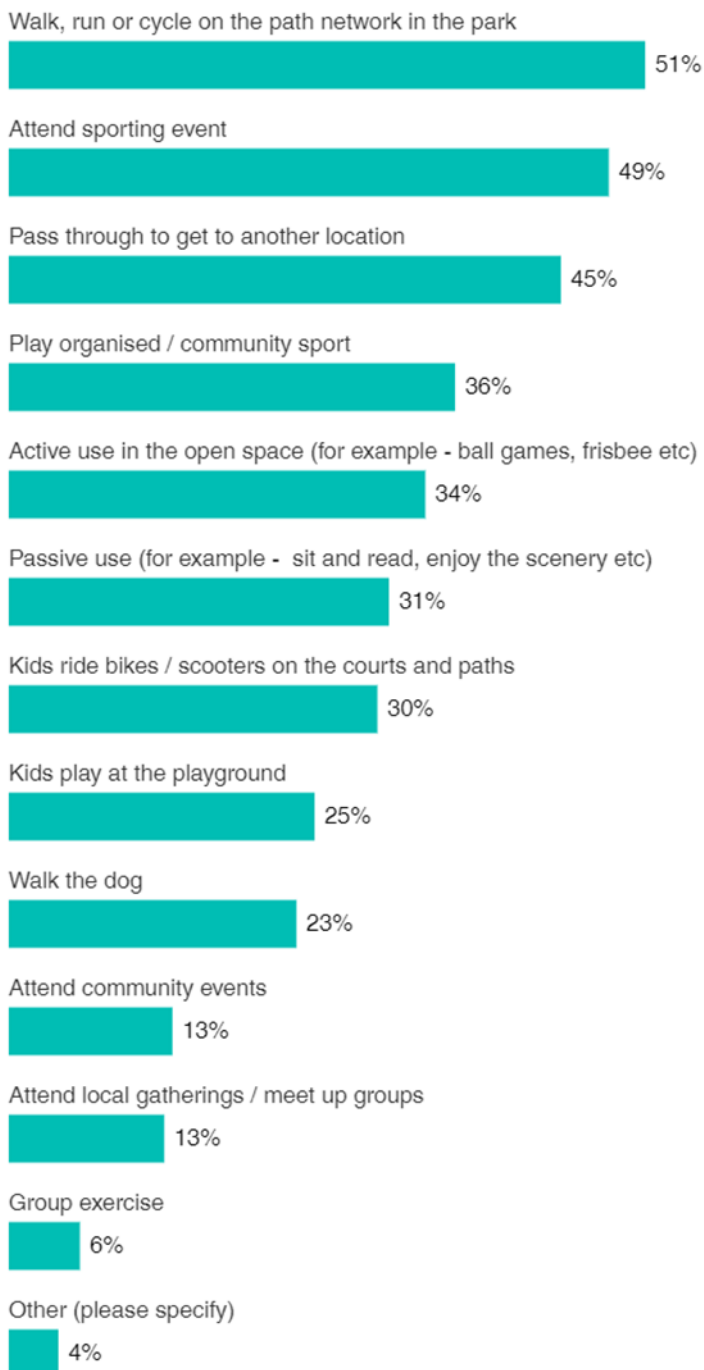
Activities

When asked about activities performed at the park, participants could select multiple answers. Walk, run or cycle on the path network in the park (51%), attend sporting event (49%) and pass through to get to another location (45%) were the most common activities.

Figure 9 Activities at the park

Which of the following activities do you do at National Park?

Total responses: 338



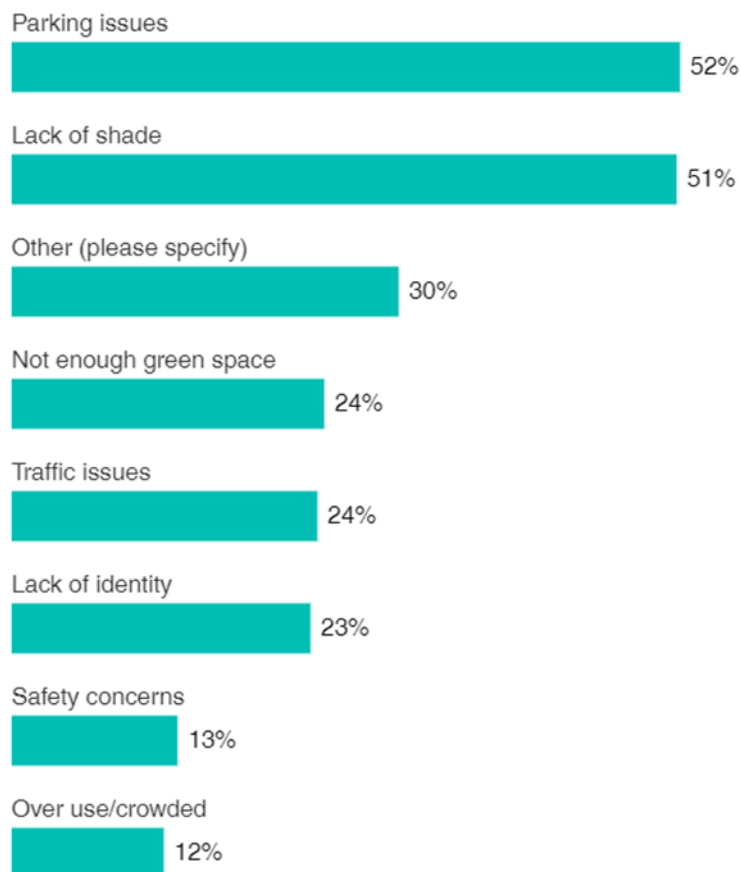
Current issues

The main issues at National Park relate to parking (52%) and lack of shade (51%).

Figure 10 Current issues

What do you think are the current issues facing National Park?

Total responses: 354



Those that selected other (30%) were asked to provide comment. A general other category (14%) consisted of one-off comments, e.g. no indoor courts, indoor courts, fencing, lack of amenities generally, mention of hard surfaces and provision for passive recreation.

Lack of amenities bathrooms (12%) was mentioned as an issue, followed by facilities including table, seating and picnic areas (12%).

Figure 11 Issues: Other

(Issues) Other (please specify)

Total records: 106 Tagged records: 106 Percentage Base: Total records

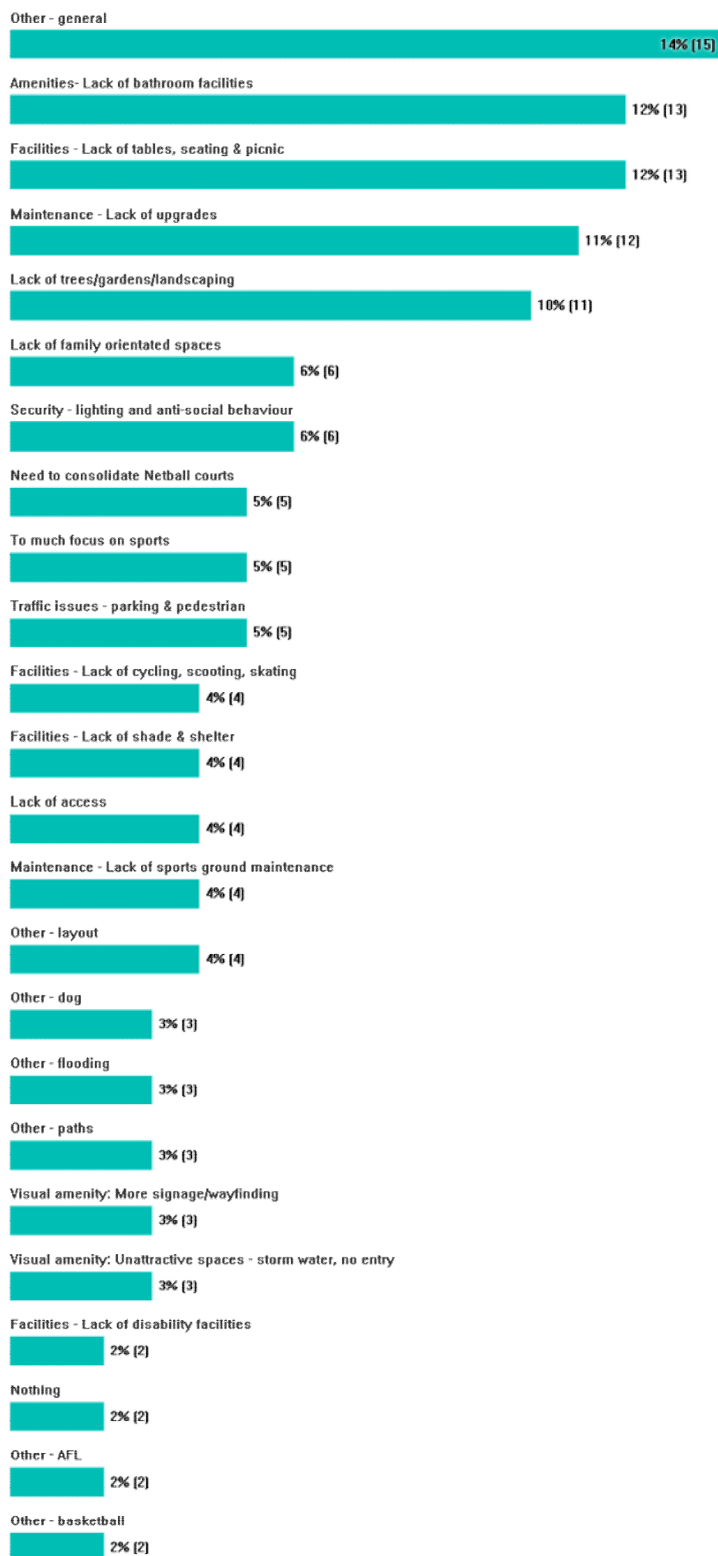


Figure 12 Issues: Word cloud



Example of comments received:

"Lack of public toilets. I don't know where there are any that are open to the public 7 days per week."

"Lack of specific areas for non sports population. A picnic area in a small botanical garden would be a usable space for families and seniors."

What would you like to see more of?

Participants were asked what they would like to see more of at National Park. Questions were broken down into the following groups recreation, amenities and connectivity.

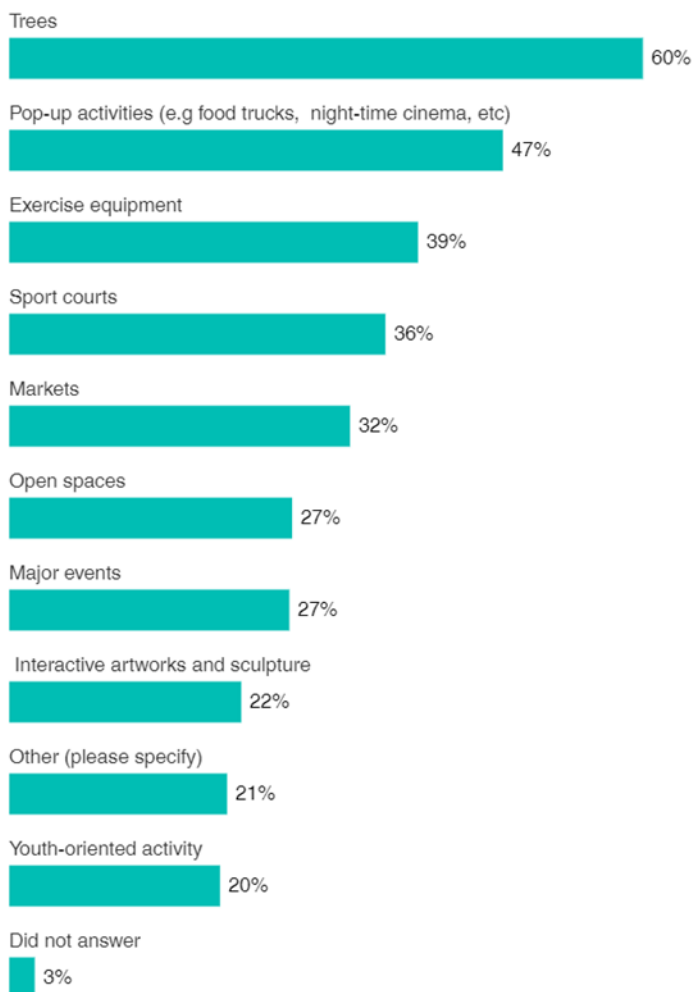
Recreation

In terms of recreation, participants would like to see more trees (60%), pop-up activities (47%) and exercise equipment (39%).

Figure 13 Recreation

In the future, which of the following would you like to see more of at National Park? (Select all that apply)

Total responses: 354



Those that selected other and specified were not coded as the response was under 100 (N=73). Responses are included in appendix VI. A word cloud is shown to provide a snapshot.



Figure 14 Recreation: Word cloud

Amenities

In terms of amenities, participants selected they would like to see more shade structures (57%), seating (50%), tables and benches (49%) and accessible toilets (48%).

Figure 15 Amenities

Total responses: 354

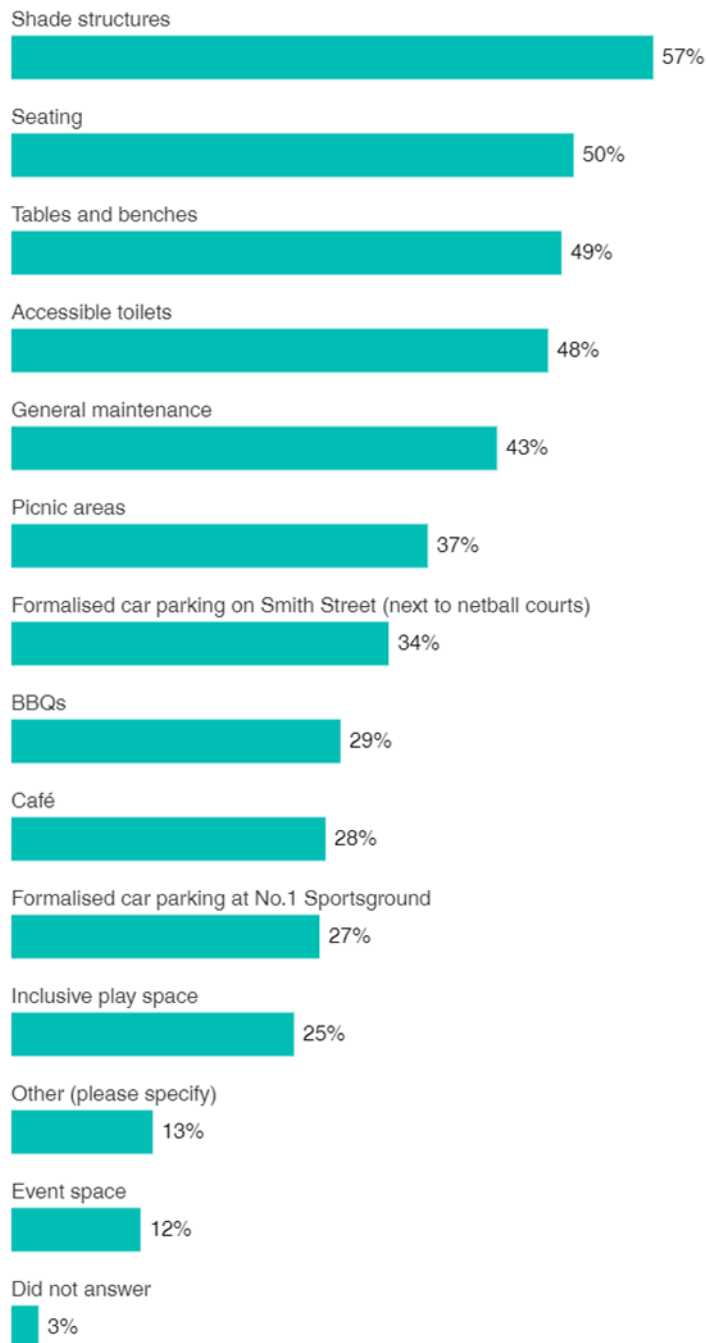


Figure 16 Amenities: Word cloud



Those that selected other and specified were not coded as the response was under 100 (N=45). Responses are included in appendix VI. A word cloud is shown to provide a snapshot.

Connectivity

In terms of connectivity, participants selected in the future they would like to see improved walking paths (53%), improved bicycle paths (45%) and improved connectivity to surrounding areas for pedestrians (43%).

Figure 17 Connectivity

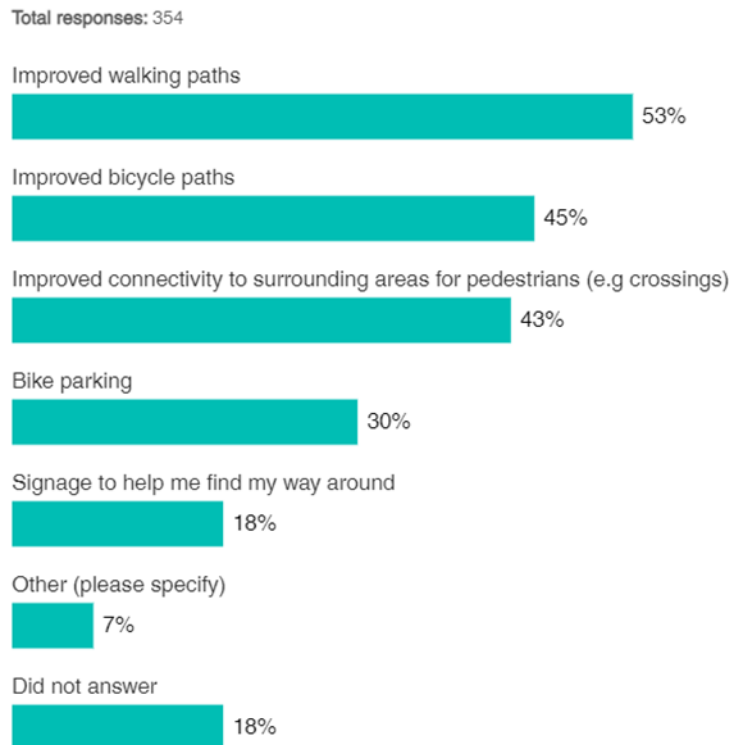


Figure 18 Connectivity: Word cloud

Those that selected other and specified were not coded as the response was under 100 (N=25). Responses are included in appendix VI. A word cloud is shown to provide a snapshot.



Other comments

Participants were asked if there was anything else they wanted to add. Data was not coded due to receiving less than 100. Comments are included in appendix VI. A word cloud was developed to give a general feel for themes that arose.

Figure 19 Other comments



Other comments

At the end of the survey, participants were asked to provide any comments regarding what they would like to see more of. The most popular comments surrounded the following;

Community park – passive use and more access (19%). Many felt the park was too focused around sport, preferring that it catered to the local residents, with more access and allowing for general use of the park such as sitting and relaxing, picnics and general family time. There was also discussion surrounding the need for this greenspace for the community being of high importance due to the growth of apartment living and not many large parks in the vicinity.

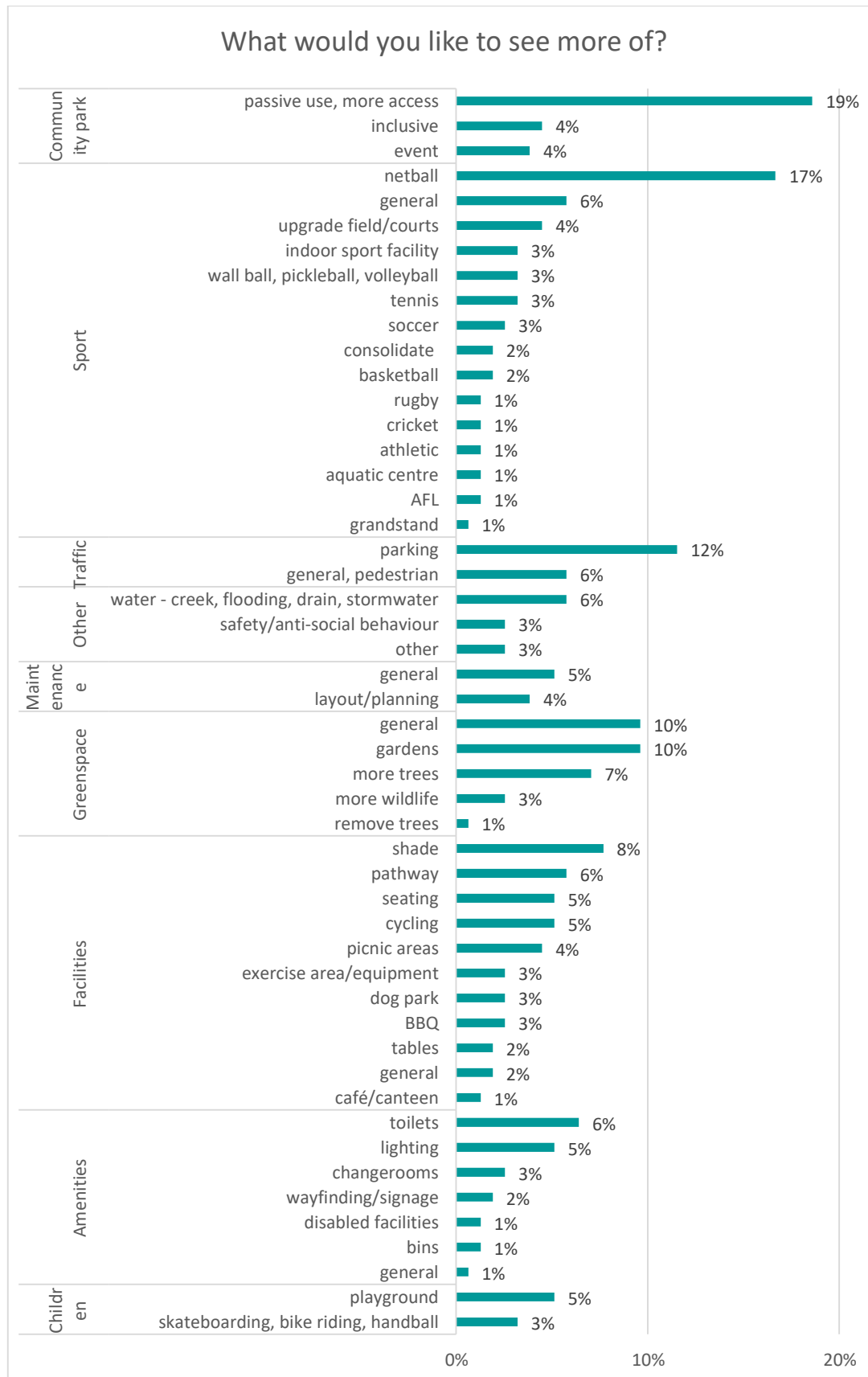
Netball 17% - this included general comments about Netballs importance and requiring more support. Also, mentions about consolidating the Netball courts.

Traffic parking 12% - Comments received surrounded lack of parking, a need for increased public transport, improved traffic and pedestrian safety measures.



Figure 20 See more of: Word cloud

Figure 21 What would you like to see more of?



Example of comments received:

“National Park could be made the open green space where residents could relax, enjoy the outdoors, and 'chill out'- essential for one's well-being.”

“The premier female sport in Newcastle, having been at the same courts for coming up to 70 years, Netball deserves a first-class facility. The Association pays its own way, effectively assisting Council provide facilities for the public use as well.”

“Parking is/will always be an issue given the number of users at National Park on weekends. Having a suitable number of "drop-off" points for young players would then allow parents to find parking at a distance and then walk to watch their children play.”

6. Social Pinpoint

Social Pinpoint is a location-based engagement tool. It helps increase the quality of data by letting participants show exactly where their feedback, ideas and concerns relate on a map.

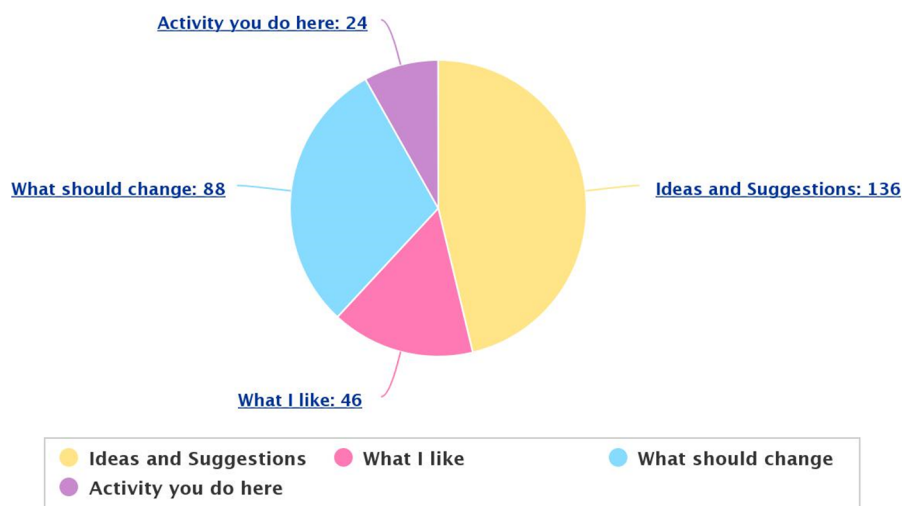
Using Social Pinpoint, we asked the community to provide ideas and suggestions, what they like, what should change and activities they do and where at National Park.

The National Park Map had 1,351 total visits, 496 unique users, 93 unique stakeholders, 290 comments received, and the average time spent on the page was 3 minutes.



Of the 290 comments left on the Social Pinpoint map, most were ideas and suggestions, and comments about what should change at National Park.

Figure 2 Social pinpoint category totals



The word cloud below shows the most commonly used words in participant comments.

Figure 34 Social pinpoint word cloud



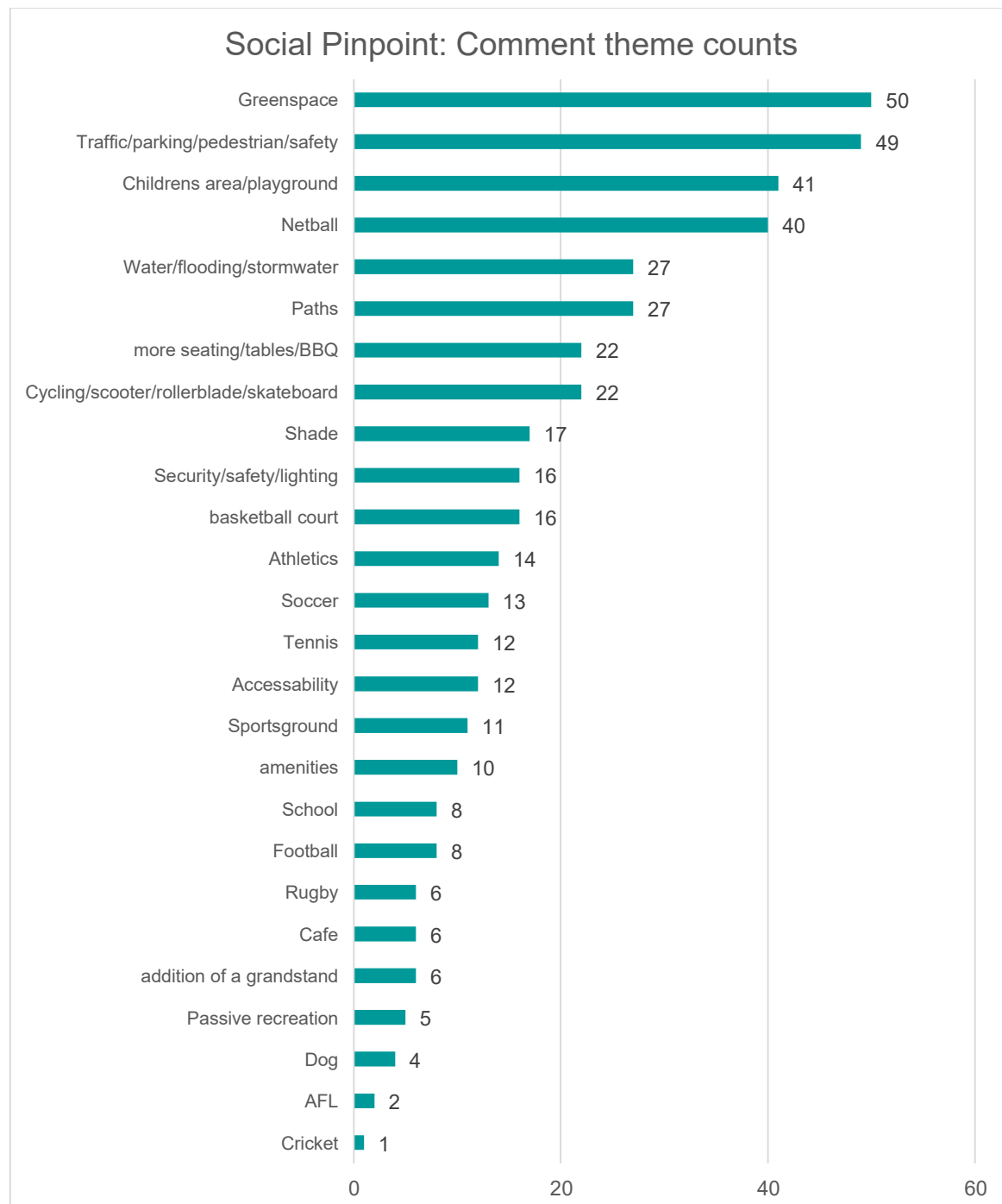
Below is a graph depicting the most commented on themes overall.

Greenspace was the most common theme, this included comments surrounding the appreciation for the greenspace, more greenspace, gardens and landscaping (n=50).

Traffic was the second most common theme which included comments about parking, pedestrian crossings and safety (n=49).

Children's area was the next most commented on theme, which included comments identifying the need for an improved and larger play space with more facilities for children throughout the park (n=41).

Figure 4 Comments theme counts



The following section of the report is broken down into the park areas, listed below and shown in map (figure 26):

- Athletics Track
- Basketball Court
- Netball Courts
- Netball Courts 2
- No.1 Sportsground
- No.2 Sportsground
- No.4 Sportsground
- No.5 Sportsground
- No.6 Sportsground
- Cottage Creek
- Croquet Courts
- Smith Street.

The following tables identify which drop pin heading the comments are associated with (activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions). The results also show marker numbers and if they had any votes (up – popular, or down – not popular) and photos that were supplied.

Figure 5 Social Pinpoint map areas



Athletics Track

The table below identifies all comments received about the Athletics track and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Activity you do here: Parking, convenient walkway

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 10 comments received (with 22 further up/down votes), 2 mentioned upgrades to the athletics track, including seating, lighting and toilets (5 people up voted these and 2 down voted). 2 comments also discussed opening the facility up during the day when the track is not in use. Other suggestions included adding a pedestrian crossing (5 up votes) an electric score board, fencing around the track and the use of grey/recycled water.

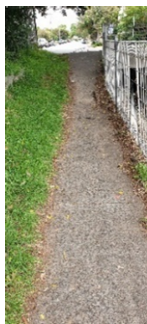
What I like: All 5 comments discussed the great track, with 2 specifically mentioning the wheelchair lane (8 up votes). One comment also discussed the benefit it has for the community and schools that use it.

What should change: Of the 9 comments received, 3 discussed the need for better maintenance, including grass cutting and clearing of drains (9 upvotes) and 2 mentioned improved disability access to the grandstand (7 upvotes). Other comments included upgrading the pathway for shared pedestrian and bicycle use, the addition of a café, timed parking and a 8.30pm curfew of training/matches.

Table 2 Athletics track

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Activity you do here	8	Athletics track	Athletics - park at the facility	0	0	
Activity you do here	11	Athletics track	This walkway is SOOOO convenient to be able to cut through the block and I use it to get to most of the park. Highly convenient and practical.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	20	Athletics track	Pedestrian crossing	5	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	3	Athletics track	The athletics track could be upgraded to a Mondo surface which would be longer lasting for all athletes including those with a disability. There needs to be more seating around the track.	3	1	

			Specialist meets held. The grandstand needs significant upgrading and disability access is a pressing need. The group running the track needs a long term tenure so that funding can be sourced. The users could run markets and other activities to raise funds for the facility. Lighting needs to be improved.			
Ideas and Suggestions	15	Athletics track	Upgrade the lighting for nighttime fixtures for soccer to be played. Fix the plumbing in the toilets so that they are operational at all times. Stop the leaks in the Grandstand so that meeting room is not wet after a downpour.	2	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	44	Athletics track	Electronic Score Board	1	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	20	Athletics track	Open the gate from National Park St into the Athletics Track during daylight hours. Mothers with toddlers and others will be able to enjoy the facility.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	50	Athletics track	Solar Panels	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	3	Athletics track	Allow greater access to the public. This great facility should be shared not closed and used by a few people.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	58	Athletics track	Grey Water and or recycled watering systems from storm water capture and or recycled water.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	112	Athletics track	fencing required around track	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	98	Athletics track	Fence off the carpark from the track area so the carpark can be opened for other sports users in the area when the track is not being used. Most of the time this carpark sits locked up unused on weekends and is a wasted amenity.	0	0	
What I like	11	Athletics track	The purpose built wheelchair lane on the athletics track. World Class!	4	0	
What I like	3	Athletics track	I love that the athletics track is blue. I love that it has the world's best wheelchair athletes but they need to be highlighted and supported more. I love the history of this athletics facility and this should be a place where those achievements should be recognised.	4	1	

What I like	8	Athletics track	The athletics track is an essential part of inner Newcastle. It provides facilities for both community use and for extensive use by schools.	3	0	
What I like	10	Athletics track	The upgraded athletics track is great	3	0	
What I like	28	Athletics track	Fantastic athletics track. Couldn't be named after 2 more deserving people.	0	0	
What I like	19	Athletics Track	This walkway between the school and the athletics track is really convenient	5	0	
What should change	15	Athletics track	Seating in the Grandstand. Nothing worse than sitting on cold concrete in the middle of winter when you want to watch a game of soccer.	5	0	
What should change	14	Athletics track	Disability Access to the Grandstand. This should be a priority as International Wheelchair Athletes train here on a regular basis.	4	1	
What should change	39	Athletics track	Mow grass along pathway more frequently and do edges. Also clean out drain on a regular basis.	3	0	
What should change	13	Athletics track	Wheelchair access via a lift so that athletes with a disability can access the grandstand. Better maintenance of grandstand by council	3	1	
What should change	35	Athletics track	Upgrade the path links for safe shared ped/cycle use. Plant the banks of the stormwater channel to improve the presentation and environmental qualities.	3	0	
What should change	23	Athletics track	This pathway is very convenient, but it isn't well maintained. Half the path is covered in grass and when mowed the cuttings end up in the storm water drain.	3	0	
What should change	10	Athletics track	This would also be a great location of a café as people walk past but the current users should be respected and if relocated found a space which is suitable for their long term needs. A multipurpose space perhaps.	1	6	

What should change	40	Athletics track	Need timed parking along National Park Street and side streets. Hopefully this will force people to use public transport or use bus from MacDonald Stadium (if reinstated).	1	0	
What should change	73	Athletics track	8.30pm curfew on regular soccer training/matches to maintain residential amenity (particularly lighting and noise).	0	0	
What should change	7	Athletics Track	A lift should be installed in the athletics field grandstand so that people with a disability can gain access.	1	1	

Basketball Court

The table below identifies all comments received about the Basketball court and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Activity you do here: I comment on an off-leash dog area

Ideas and Suggestions: Across the 29 comments, 7 discussed wanting a tennis wall or tennis courts (22 up votes, 5 down votes), 7 mentioned wanting more trees and green open space (22 up votes), 6 discussed the need for seating and picnic tables with shade areas (34 up votes), 4 mentioned a playground (11 up votes, 2 down votes) and 3 discussed a bike riding path/place for children to ride their bikes (5 up votes, 1 down vote).

What I like: Of the 11 comments, 6 discussed the trees, flowers and green space (14 up votes), 4 mentioned the new basketball courts (8 up votes, 2 down votes) and 2 discussed how the space is for all ages.



What should change: Across the 12 comments, 3 discussed removing the building for more green space (4 up votes, 2 down votes) and 2 mentioned relocating the bowling association so that the space could be fully utilised (13 up votes, 1 down vote). Other comments included the addition of chairs and tables for lunch/picnics (5 up votes, 1 down vote) and building a hydrotherapy pool (2 up votes, 1 down vote).

Table 3 Basketball courts

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Activity you do here	23	Basketball court	An off leash dog park would be good. Lots of people live in units in this area so a space where their dogs could have a run around would be great.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	19	Basketball court	A lovely park that is nice to have lunch in: it would be great to have benches and tables for seating, as there currently is none. Especially as there are many good takeaway options from Marketown, and limited seating.	18	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	21	Basketball court	A tennis wall would be a great addition to the new basketball courts	12	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	34	Basketball court	Adventure playground would be great	9	1	

Ideas and Suggestions	66	Basketball court	Please leave the green spaces! More trees Perhaps include a sculpture garden or landscape that incorporates seating	6	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	22	Basketball court	Additional bball courts or a tennis wall would be great here, surrounded by some nice greenspace	6	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	26	Basketball court	please consider adding community volleyball courts for diversity of sport use on this site	6	3	
Ideas and Suggestions	1	Basketball court	The space behind the basketball courts should be immediately allocated to passive space and planted out with trees etc.	5	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	35	Basketball court	A market bike path for kids to learn to ride their bike.	5	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	67	Basketball court	Meditation garden or outdoor gym.	5	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	65	Basketball court	Community garden, with perhaps an educational opportunity, or native bush garden. (like the Steiner School indigenous resource garden). Could this be something the high school developed?	4	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	83	Basketball court	Great new open space. Needs seating and tables for recreational purposes	4	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	41	Basketball court	Trees	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	30	Basketball court	Adding seating near the courts and also a drinking water bubbler would be good near the Basketball Courts.	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	92	Basketball court	This unused area should be included in green space for this corner of Nat Pk	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	68	Basketball court	Playground for kids and a tennis wall	2	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	69	Basketball court	Seating, shading and bbq area	2	0	

Ideas and Suggestions	31	Basketball court	Lighting for the basketball courts for winter training sessions.	2	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	70	Basketball court	Tennis Walls	1	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	26	Basketball court	A tennis hit up wall anywhere in National Park area would be a great asset and very popular as there are always queues at the hit up wall in Empire Park.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	116	Basketball court	The current frontage is very unattractive. Remove the existing fence and create a sloping grassed area that transitions onto the flatter areas.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	117	Basketball court	This whole area should be full of landscaped gardens with paths, seats etc for people to be able to sit and enjoy and walk through and enjoy. A must is public toilets in the area as there is nothing here now.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	111	Basketball court	I would like to see four to six tennis courts and a practice wall. Also amenities and shelters	0	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	121	Basketball court	Kids scooter park/track and a small playground. This area is close to coffee and shops and would be great for parents with young children	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	19	Basketball court	A children's playground area would be great here.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	21	Basketball court	Yes - Please, please, please add 2 tennis walls.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	103	Basketball court	Build a public swimming pool and water play park.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	92	Basketball court	Formal gardens that people can sit in or stroll around and enjoy. Look at Lambton park for inspiration.	0	0	

Ideas and Suggestions	118	Basketball court	Create a small roadway network which small children could ride their bikes/scooters around and learn road rules.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	115	Basketball court	Additional tree planting "urban forest" to attract native birds and urban wildlife.	0	0	
What I like	4	Basketball court	Retain this area in its current form, with the addition of BBQ and seats and table. I don't understand why these things were removed from the park area between No 1 Sportsground and Cottage Creek.	7	0	
What I like	7	Basketball court	Trees, flowers and passive recreation.	6	0	
What I like	12	Basketball court	Love the new basketball courts!!	6	1	
What I like	13	Basketball court	I enjoy the greenspace that is here now	4	0	
What I like	21	Basketball court	Trees	2	0	
What I like	5	Basketball court	The new courts are fantastic and the kids would like to double the number. They are so popular.	2	0	
What I like	33	Basketball court	Lots of shade trees, grass for picnics on the ground, area for small children to have a run and explore in the 'forest'.	2	0	
What I like	31	Basketball court	Trees, shade, green grass. BBall courts, informal play, for anyone, all ages.	0	0	

What I like	27	Basketball court	New basketball courts. Great idea.	0	1	
What I like	32	Basketball court	love the green open space, love seeing so many young adults playing baskets, a path through would be useful	0	0	
What I like	43	Basketball court	I would like to see two basketball courts and four to six tennis courts in this area. Also some shelters and amenity block.	0	1	
What should change	30	Basketball court	I think the bowling association people use this about once a month. the rest of the time it is prime park and totally unused and the building is an invitation for vandalism and anti social behaviour. Let the bowlers use council chambers for the monthly meeting and return this corner to the people	8	0	
What should change	11	Basketball court	This area, between Smith Street and National Park Street, is an area open for development of community access. Facilities for tennis, basketball, racquetball and bocce would all add to community involvement. These facilities could be hired by groups, used by individuals and used for competitions organised by local groups. A playground in this area would also facilitate use by families.	5	0	
What should change	26	Basketball court	It's time for the Bowling association to move on to new premises and open the corner here with tables and chairs and trees for people getting lunch from Marketown. Their carpark area behind is grassed and shady with tall trees.	5	1	
What should change	29	Basketball court	Council Hydrotherapy pool and rehab activity centre. With solar water heating complimenting pool heating and Solar Panels on the roof.	2	1	
What should change	55	Basketball court	Demolish the building and create as green space	2	0	
What should change	37	Basketball court	Remove building. This may allow room for a roundabout at Parry Street and National Park Street or some other idea to	1	1	

			improve traffic flow through this intersection.			
What should change	56	Basketball court	Remove the newly constructed basketball courts and relocate as a shared facility to existing netball courts. This corner of Nat PK to be created as permanent green space	1	1	
What should change	5	Basketball court	Basketball courts have recently been installed which seem to be well used. Yet the adjoining high school has basketball courts. Why not use those at the high school instead of duplicating this infrastructure. This just seems badly considered. Why not intergrade the school facilities with the park?	0	4	
What should change	32	Basketball court	the single gate on the National Park St side to access the new BBall courts could be much improved. Though I'm not sure how you are going to deal with the steep drop so some fencing will need to be retained	0	0	
What should change	5	Basketball court	School basketball courts are not within the precinct under consideration and are not accessible to the general public.	0	0	
What should change	59	Basketball court	Roundabout and pedestrian refuges required as at Parry/Union St.	0	0	
What should change	77	Basketball court	Make this intersection "no right turn" into Parry St from National Park St. It is chaos there of a morning, mostly due to "rat runners"	0	0	

Netball Courts

The table below identifies all comments received about the Netball court and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Activity you do here: Across the 8 comments, 5 mentioned using this location for playing netball. Other comments included bike riding, soccer and children playing.

Ideas and Suggestions: Across the 15 comments, 4 mentioned the need for picnic benches and shaded areas (1 up vote), 3 discussed a cycleway/walkway (6 up votes), 2 discussed the addition of a café (8 up votes, 7 down votes) and 2 mentioned the need for upgraded facilities, including spectator seating (4 up votes). Additional comments included better tree maintenance, planting more trees, better drainage and relocating the courts to increase the number of all weather courts and hold State netball titles.

What I like: Across the 9 comments received, 3 discussed being able to ride a bike, skate and roller blade there (13 up votes), 2 mentioned that the area is used by all ages, genders and abilities (6 up votes) and 2 discussed being able to play netball.

What should change: Across the 11 comments, 4 discussed consolidating the courts into one location (20 up votes, 8 down votes), 3 mentioned the need to build more courts (11 up votes, 6 down votes), 2 discussed fixing and maintaining the current courts (3 up votes, 1 down vote) and 1 mentioned the need for toilet facilities that are accessible all day (9 up votes, 1 down vote).

Table 4 Netball courts

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Activity you do here	4	Netball courts	Great place for children learning to ride a bicycle	0	0	
Activity you do here	10	Netball courts	Soccer	0	0	
Activity you do here	15	Netball courts	The kids love climbing these beautiful trees and they are fantastic for it	0	0	

Activity you do here	18	Netball courts	Newcastle netball committee member and grading convenor. Attend weekly during netball season and on meeting nights during week.	0	0	
Activity you do here	19	Netball courts	Committee Officer for running of Newcastle Netball Association	0	0	
Activity you do here	20	Netball courts	I am involved with Netball in many ways - originally as a player then as a parent now as a Executive of the Association and of a Club as well as Manager/Coach of a People with Disabilities Netball Team. National Park is known as the home of Netball in Newcastle and should be promoted as a high profile participant sport for Women and Men as well as those with disabilities.	0	0	
Activity you do here	21	Netball courts	Play netball	0	0	
Activity you do here	22	Netball courts	I have been playing netball since I was 7 years old. The netball association has been in National Park for nearly 70 years. It is a sport that is enjoyed and played by all age groups, genders, nationalities, and people of All-Abilities.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	13	Netball courts	This could be a suitable site for cafe coffee shop. The building should also include a first floor function/event area. This area could be hired by sporting clubs for special events as well as being hired for community events such as weddings, 21st birthdays, bar mitzvahs etc. In keeping with	7	7	

			expected community standards, it would not operate as a bar at any time there are junior sports being played.			
Ideas and Suggestions	25	Netball courts	These trees need a serious trim before someone sues due to all the slippery seeds and leaves it drops, some Saturdays the court is unuseable but if that's your allocated court you have no choice but to play on it due to no spare courts to move to. Council has a duty of care and safety so please do something about it.	7	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	2	Netball courts	Cycleway/walkway along canal easement	6	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	76	Netball courts	Upgrade the netball facilities to provide more courts and a centre court with proper seating. There shouldn't have to be a big effort to seat people during a grand final, girls should have the opportunity to have their skills show cased all year round. The goal should be to host state titles and other big events.	4	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	8	Netball courts	Add a café here. It may need to be raised to manage flooding issues but that might provide a raised viewing platform anyway.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	73	Netball courts	Passive areas like this should have park bench type seating provided, under shade trees and in sun (to suit use through all seasons) for city workers to utilise for lunch breaks.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	110	Netball courts	Remove courts to allow football games, safety concerns	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	51	Netball courts	Shade Solar Panels along the netball courts	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	51	Netball courts	Shaded areas, park benches. Pathway to be extended and upgraded. More parking made available as this is such a great area for everybody. Disappointing that the extension of netball courts have been taken out of the plans as this was such a good	0	0	

			idea. Upgrade of toilets on park			
Ideas and Suggestions	42	Netball courts	Trees	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	95	Netball courts	This whole area could be used for netball and soccer to warm up but the drainage here is very poor	0	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	96	Netball courts	Cycleway should be joined and extended along the park boundary along Union St and to The Junction (not along Corlette St as proposed)	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	80	Netball courts	The existing Parkway Ave Courts be relocated over to Union Street side. To be able to hold State Netball Titles we require a minimum of 32 all weather hard surface courts. On this side we have 14 all weather hard surface courts so a further 18 courts would need to be added.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	81	Netball courts	Facilities need updating but not at expense of open areas adjacent	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	105	Netball courts	This is a great spot for seating, tables, perhaps BBQs. Make the most of the beautiful trees here and perhaps plant some more	0	0	
What I like	17	Netball courts	Perfect place to learn to ride a bicycle, skateboard, rollerblade, scooter... or work on those new tricks!	7	0	
What I like	30	Netball courts	It's great that we have the area we have for both men and women, girls and boys as well as players with disabilities to come together across the many suburbs of Newcastle to play netball! Other associations in Sydney particularly and on some regional areas (like Maitland!) have areas like this and opportunities to conduct their competitions, gala days for schools, Indigenous gala days and host State Titles. City of Newcastle deserves to have similar facilities for their constituents!	4	0	

What I like	25	Netball courts	As well as servicing netball, the court surfaces are a great place for learner bike riders to safely practice their skills	4	0	
What I like	18	Netball courts	These trees are beautiful and kids absolutely love climbing on them	3	0	
What I like	23	Netball courts	The new shared path improves bike and walking access and I like the modern seating.	3	0	
What I like	34	Netball courts	National Park is centrally located and brings together thousands of netball players and spectators as well as numerous casual users of the court facilities - skate board riders, roller skaters, children and families on bicycles. It is a focal point for many sports e.g. rugby union, rugby league, AFL, Soccer and Cricket.	2	0	
What I like	17	Netball courts	Great open space for many varied activities. For Sport great to have a one locational area, not having to travel to other venues	0	0	
What I like	38	Netball courts	Love being able to play netball	0	0	
What I like	41	Netball courts	Netball courts	0	0	
What should change	4	Netball courts	The netball courts jutting out into the grassed field should be removed. Netball courts are scattered over the park. Could they be consolidated to one area?	10	4	
What should change	20	Netball courts	Toilets that are open somewhere in the park for daytime use and locked up at night for all users not just unlocked for sports teams. Would be great for the kids that use the courts for bike riding and scooters	9	1	
What should change	42	Netball courts	Yes the courts do need to be consolidated to one area and yes they do need to be maintained! But we also do need 2 more hard surface courts which are advocated in the Strategic Sports Plan! This will bring more business to our city with the opportunity to host State Netball Titles. And we need more parking close to	5	3	

			the courts! Not having No 1 to park in means a lot more difficulties for players and spectators to participate easily.			
What should change	21	Netball courts	Courts need to be re done, cracks and bumps everywhere. dangerous surface	3	1	
What should change	4	Netball courts	Extending all the courts in this one space would better align to good sport management and release the other 2 areas under court surface now to other uses. Good Lighting on one set of Courts would be more achievable. For a City of Newcastle size and prestige in GBs netball world the scattered court set up is an embarrassment	3	1	
What should change	48	Netball courts	Please consider moving all Netball to a more appropriate location with indoor and outdoor facilities- e.g. a broadmeadow sports precinct. Netball would like another 2 courts to host titles but there is just too much demand for the site given Soccer, Rugby Union, Ultimate Frisbee and usage by the Grammar School. Netball has steadily expanded its season and training to include almost every day of the week , summer and winter causing a huge strain on parking and noise - link to NCC parking review.	3	2	
What should change	63	Netball courts	Although I don't like the idea of losing more grassed area, if more netball courts are required then this area and the other side of the two current courts is suitable as it pretty much not utilised for any thing else.	3	1	
What should change	48	Netball courts	Consolidating the location of the courts to No 1. sports side would be a much better solution than having to move the 4000+ playing members. It would open up Smith Street to	2	0	

			be a green space and allow usage for soccer and ultimate frisbee.			
What should change	64	Netball courts	Implement current POM which says " Rationalise existing carpark and allow access from Union Street for sporting and community/special events"	0	0	
What should change	51	Netball courts	See previous comments	0	0	
What should change	53	Netball courts	The surface of the netball courts badly needs upgrading. The surface is uneven from tree roots and are often slippery in wet weather.	0	0	

Netball Courts 2

The table below identifies all comments received about Netball court 2 and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Activity you do here: 2 of the 3 comments mentioned this place being a location for children to ride their bikes and skate, 1 comment stated that it is a shaded area to relax in and watch their kids in the playgrounds


Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 6 comments received, 2 discussed upgrading the playground, 1 commented on the need for better lighting (7 up votes), 1 mentioned better tree maintenance due to safety issues (4 up votes, 2 down votes) and 1 discussed widening the road and adding more parking (2 up votes, 2 down votes).


What I like: Of the 4 comments received, 3 discussed loving the children's playground (20 up votes) and 1 mentioned the netball courts (2 up votes, 1 down vote).

What should change: Across the 16 comments, 2 mentioned the need for a pedestrian crossing (6 up votes, 1 down vote), 2 discussed upgrading the footpath and including a bike path (9 up votes). Other comments included more space for passive recreation (1 up vote, 1 down vote), upgraded lighting (1 up vote) and reducing netball activities (3 up votes, 12 down votes).

Table 5 Netball courts 2

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Activity you do here	7	Netball courts 2	Lots of learn to ride and skate lessons for the kids have happened here!	0	0	
Activity you do here	13	Netball courts 2	Perfect place to learn to ride a bicycle, skateboard, rollerblade, scooter... or work on those new tricks!	0	0	
Activity you do here	12	Netball courts 2	Enjoy the shade and seating whilst watching the kids play in the playground equipment	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	9	Netball courts 2	There is insufficient light over winter to allow teams to train safely on these courts in the evening. Lighting of similar standard to the remainder of the area would be welcome	7	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	24	Netball courts 2	These trees need to be trimmed right back away from the courts. They drop seeds and leaves every netball season. Somebody is going to be badly injured one day. Also no team enjoys playing under these trees due to the debris of fear of injury	4	2	

Ideas and Suggestions	36	Netball courts 2	This area with speed hump needs widening, even though Smith street is not a gazetted street. It should be made wider and parking provided along its whole length for sporting events. Keep it 2 way as it is used quite a lot as the intersection of Parry and NP Street is very busy and avoided.	2	2	
Ideas and Suggestions	77	Netball courts 2	The playground needs upgrading and the woodchip removed. It gets kicked around and blows onto the courts. It is hard to keep clean and makes the area look very untidy.	2	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	24	Netball courts 2	Upgrade the playground	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	108	Netball courts 2	There should be a descent play area like at speers point park in Lake Macquarie, with kids riding tracks and lots of play equipment.	0	0	
What I like	6	Netball courts 2	The children's playground is great but could be much larger. The shade there is excellent.	10	0	
What I like	14	Netball courts 2	I love the shading to the playground here	5	0	
What I like	20	Netball courts 2	We think this seesaw is the best one in newcastle. An adult and child can play on it and it's got room in the middle for others. Please don't replace it with an upgraded one. They are too stiff for the kids.	5	0	
What I like	40	Netball courts 2	Netball courts are good	2	1	
What should change	6	Netball courts 2	The road and parking near the netball courts in Smith Street should be formalised.	12	0	
What should change	18	Netball courts 2	This footpath could be upgraded and a bike path included	7	0	
What should change	19	Netball courts 2	Pedestrian crossing	6	1	
What should change	22	Netball courts 2	This road could be made into a one-way road to provide additional space to continue the footpath and bike path to increase safety.	4	4	

What should change	24	Netball courts 2	The road here needs to be widened or parking stopped on the inside corner as is very tight when driving through.	4	0	
What should change	3	Netball courts 2	There should be a reduction in netball activities	3	12	
What should change	3	Netball courts 2	You need to relocate the netball courts so they are all together. Netball is the MOST USED sporting area in the complex! It has the MOST members and needs to be upgraded like other councils are doing. Maitland council truly SUPPORTS its netball community, NCC needs to do the same thing.	3	0	
What should change	6	Netball courts 2	With the inclusion of safe cycle facility linking to No.2	2	0	
What should change	65	Netball courts 2	Too many sports fields, not enough nature engagement	2	1	
What should change	6	Netball courts 2	A pedestrian crossing would be good along this stretch of Smith St also. Very difficult to cross the road safely with the cars parked at full capacity which limits visibility especially for children. Cars drive quite fast around the bend also	1	0	
What should change	43	Netball courts 2	The trees create are lovely and provide lots of shade in summer time! If the courts were consolidated to one area there could be a better use of the space for recreational activities!	1	1	
What should change	54	Netball courts 2	The lighting on these courts needs upgrading. There courts are required for training at least 3 nights per week and poor lighting prevents them from being used and causes overcrowding on courts	1	0	
What should change	74	Netball courts 2	Fence off the roadside of the playground with child (pool) fencing. It gets quite busy and cars can't see the little humans very well - reversing into parking beyond the white car barrier) Accident waiting to happen.	0	0	
What should change	22	Netball courts 2	Pedestrian crossings along this street should be installed.	0	0	

What should change	49	Netball courts 2	Children's play area should be upgraded	0	0	
What should change	43	Netball courts 2	Too many netball courts and other alienated land already	0	0	

No.1 Sportsground

The table below identifies all comments received about the No.1 sportsground and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Activity you do here: All 3 comments discussed watching football at this location.

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 8 comments received, 2 discussed using the raised area under the trees for sculptures, artwork and a children's play area (12 up votes, 2 down votes). Other comments included a footpath with trees (3 up votes) park benches (2 up votes) and an off-leash dog park (1 up vote, 2 down votes).

What I like: Of the 4 comments received, 1 discussed it being a beautiful area to walk through (2 up votes).

What should change: Of the 4 comments received, 1 discussed improving the entrance, creating a grand entrance to the park (11 up votes) and 1 mentioned upgrading the area, including seating and another grandstand (7 up votes).

Table 6 No.1 Sportsground

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Activity you do here	5	No 1 sportsground	Watch Newcastle City AFL team play.	0	0	
Activity you do here	17	No 1 sportsground	Watch the local AFL - this is a fantastic ground and helps to showcase this sport in the city.	0	0	
Activity you do here	24	No 1 sportsground	Watch Cooks Hill United play on the soccer pitch	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	7	No 1 sportsground	The raised area under these trees should be beautified or could be used for interactive art or sculpture as people walk along here. Kids tend to climb up on the raised area so why not encourage it and make it fun.	8	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	5	No 1 sportsground	This small space could be used as children's play space or include sculpture and artworks.	4	2	
Ideas and Suggestions	61	No 1 sportsground	Make a proper footpath along the canal and plant an avenue of trees along it, making a shaded and peaceful walk.	3	0	

Ideas and Suggestions	72	No 1 sportsground	Passive areas like this should have park bench type seating provided, under shade trees and in sun (to suit use through all seasons) for city workers to utilise for lunch breaks.	2	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	48	No 1 sportsground	Solar Panels	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	90	No 1 sportsground	Share No1 as a leash-free dog park	1	2	
Ideas and Suggestions	64	No 1 sportsground	Improved canteen facilities to assist local sporting teams in being able to generate revenue. Also to bring the facilities up to first class standards to allow for top tier teams to use the facility and attract international sports.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	113	No 1 sportsground	Football to return for CHUFC as an NPL ground	0	0	
What I like	1	No 1 sportsground	Walking through National Park when it's early without sporting bodies and when birds are out singing. What trees there are wonderful but there needs to be ten times more. When it has been raining and the grass is healthy it is a wonderful place to sit, when you can find a seat, and enjoy the view. Such a view would be improved without all the fences which block the viewing line.	2	0	
What I like	29	No 1 sportsground	Great roundabout. Need the same at intersection of Parry and National Park Street.	1	0	
What I like	24	No 1 sportsground	Nice structural tree-lined perimeter	0	0	
What I like	37	No 1 sportsground	Like the upgrade	0	0	
What should change	8	No 1 sportsground	This entrance should be improved and enhanced. It is very unloved and ugly at the moment. It should provide a grand entrance to the park.	11	0	
What should change	12	No 1 sportsground	Number one sportsground has an iconic place in Newcastle's sporting history. However there is much that still needs to be done to bring this ground up to current First Class	7	0	

			standards. The addition of another grandstand, on the opposite side of the field, and further seating around the perimeter is necessary.			
What should change	57	No 1 sportsground	Why is this carpark only for the exclusive use of NCC employees ??	1	0	
What should change	46	No 1 sportsground	Open it up to other use - open air cinema, markets, music, cafe	0	0	

No.2 Sportsground

The table below identifies all comments received about the No.2 sportsground and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Activity you do here: 2 of the 3 comments mentioned playing and watching rugby, the third comment discussed exercise, eating and relaxing.

Ideas and Suggestions: The 15 comments varied greatly in their ideas and suggestions. 1 comment discussed adding play equipment for children, with BBQs and picnic tables (4 up votes, 2 down votes) and 1 comment suggested a new multi-level carpark (3 up votes, 5 down votes).

What I like: The 3 comments discussed how No. 2 Sports Ground has hosted international games, is a great facility and is utilised for games, club events and training.

What should change: Across the 8 comments, 5 discussed needing to include/extend the walking path and provide it with proper lighting (12 up votes) and 2 mentioned increasing access to the facility to the community and other football codes.

Table 7 No.2 sportsground

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Activity you do here	6	No 2 sports ground	Watch local and representative Rugby matches.	0	0	
Activity you do here	9	No 2 sports ground	Play rugby [family does also]	0	0	
Activity you do here	16	No 2 sports ground	Do a bit of stretching and sometimes some exercise. Eating and relaxing.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	6	No 2 sports ground	This space should be activated with play equipment for kids, barbecue area and tables. This would need to have the right security though.	4	2	
Ideas and Suggestions	4	No 2 sports ground	Multi level car parking which can be used for workers as well as on weekends for sports.	3	5	
Ideas and Suggestions	14	No 2 sports ground	Create more office space for sporting groups that use the area	3	3	
Ideas and Suggestions	45	No 2 sports ground	Better traffic management	2	0	

Ideas and Suggestions	17	No 2 sports ground	Electronic scoreboard.	2	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	49	No 2 sports ground	Solar Panels	2	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	16	No 2 sports ground	A second grandstand.	1	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	101	No 2 sports ground	Reinstate an estuarine wetland in this place to connect with nature in the city and to mitigate flooding and rising sea levels	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	4	No 2 sports ground	This is a people park it should not be a car park.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	62	No 2 sports ground	Make the goat track path across the grass into a proper path.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	52	No 2 sports ground	Grey Water and or recycled watering systems from storm water capture and or recycled water.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	53	No 2 sports ground	Grey Water and or recycled watering systems from storm water capture and or recycled water.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	89	No 2 sports ground	Share No2 as a leash-free dog park	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	49	No 2 sports ground	Did my comment re toilets make it through?	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	49	No 2 sports ground	Dear CoN, I suggest the toilets and change rooms at No 2 need to be open for other sports including spectators. The toilets in particular are desperately needed by netball and football spectators. Change rooms are ideal for women's participation in sport in National Park, just need to work out operations protocols. Toilets should be open to public and non-spectators when paid entry events are on at No 2. Again it is not hard to organise for this to happen. Glenn Turner AM	0	0	

What I like	9	No 2 sports ground	Number two sportsground is a purpose-built facility that was promoted by the local rugby club. It has already hosted international games. It is utilised for games, club events and training.	3	0	
What I like	26	No 2 sports ground	Wide coloured path link from Parry St - needs repeating from all entry points and through the park.	1	0	
What I like	36	No 2 sports ground	Great facility and good it is being used for higher profile sports. However, don't let it be lost to local sporting clubs	0	0	
What should change	25	No 2 sports ground	Formal walking path with solar lighting for safety.	12	0	
What should change	27	No 2 sports ground	No2 is the premier Rectangle Field for Local sport in the City. Using it one weekend a fortnight is a waste of the excellent space. If Rugby were to train on the outer fields at National Park and preserve No2 for Match days, they could share the facility with another Team/Code on alternate weekends during winter. This would ensure the wider community get access to this great facility	3	0	
What should change	72	No 2 sports ground	No 2 to be accessed by other football codes	0	0	
What should change	34	No 2 sports ground	Line of sight for exiting the car park is poor. lot	0	0	
What should change	33	No 2 sports ground	Improve the lighting along the path to the car park. It is quiet dark and scary to get you cars in winter evenings.	0	0	
What should change	25	No 2 sports ground	Shared walking / cycling with planted/naturalised interface and shade	0	0	
What should change	61	No 2 sports ground	Abandon the plan in the current POM to half close Smith St and make one way traffic south of Scout Hall to Dumaresq Street. Smith St needs to stay two way. The current plan to Install additional traffic calming measures along Smith Street	0	0	

			and enhance role as a pedestrian/cycleway route should stay.			
What should change	76	No 2 sports ground	This footpath leads to nowhere. It should continue all the way down past the park. It's hard to get past all the cars safely.	0	0	

No.4 Sportsground

The table below identifies all comments received about the No.4 sportsground and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Activity you do here: 1 comment discussed it being a great open grassed area good for a variety of activities and sports.

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 18 comments, 5 discussed making the area greener, with more plants and restoration of the creek (8 up votes, 1 down vote), 2 comments discussed reconfiguration of the netball courts so that they are all together/relocating courts here from Parkway Avenue (4 up votes, 2 down votes), 2 comments mentioned needing a fence around the creek to prevent balls going in (2 up votes, 2 down votes) and 2 suggested renaming the it the Mitch McPherson Field (1 up vote).

What I like: Of the 6 comments, 3 discussed the beauty of the area, with trees, shade and benches to relax on (7 up votes), 2 commented on the good condition and usefulness of the soccer fields (3 up votes) and 1 commented on the sentimental and convenient aspects of the bridge (2 up votes).

What should change: Of the 4 comments, 2 discussed relocating the netball courts so that they are all together (3 up votes, 3 down votes), 1 mentioned adding more trees along the edges (8 up votes) and 1 discussed needing toilets that are accessible all the time (1 up vote).

Table 8 No.4 Sportsground

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Activity you do here	14	No 4 sports ground	A great, level, open, free use grassed area. Perfect for running, sprint and other plyometric training, rehabilitation exercises or even team sport training and games	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	60	No 4 sports ground	Green the drain - look at other models from around Australia. Encourage native plants to grow.	5	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	23	No 4 sports ground	Move netball courts near smith street to the one area then soccer can have the space over there.	4	2	
Ideas and Suggestions	37	No 4 sports ground	These 'dead' spaces between fields and courts are valuable marshalling areas during Sat sports when all playing areas are occupied	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	100	No 4 sports ground	Renaturalise the creek, including beyond the park boundaries. Include a shared	3	0	

			landscaped path through the park along the creek.			
Ideas and Suggestions	46	No 4 sports ground	Possible mesh floor a carpark or implement ample drainage for a concrete carpark over the drain - could fit around 100 spaces in here, accessed off Parkway	2	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	47	No 4 sports ground	Require better fencing to the creek to stop the footballs from entering during training and games	2	2	
Ideas and Suggestions	79	No 4 sports ground	Reconfigure the space so all of the netball courts are together	2	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	84	No 4 sports ground	Move netball courts from Parkway Avenue to National park and No. 4 sports ground to move to Parkway, therefore allowing spaces to be more accessible and central to the type of community sport being played. This will open up Parkway to being an all green space and provide more space to add another soccer field.	2	2	
Ideas and Suggestions	55	No 4 sports ground	Grey Water and or recycled watering systems from storm water capture and or recycled water.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	28	No 4 sports ground	Rename to Mitch McPherson Field in honour of the greatest goalkeeper to ever play for Cooks Hill United.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	109	No 4 sports ground	High fence to prevent footballs going onto parkway avenue, a safety concern for motorists and players	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	43	No 4 sports ground	Install a children's playground.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	28	No 4 sports ground	Great suggestion! Club legend. The mention of his name is enough to intimidate the opposition.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	43	No 4 sports ground	trees	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	102	No 4 sports ground	Move sports facilities out of the park, away from prime green space in the city. Replace with beautiful public spaces and gardens.	0	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	87	No 4 sports ground	No more netball courts on National Park... anywhere	0	1	

Ideas and Suggestions	88	No 4 sports ground	Children's playground providing recreational area for flats opposite	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	106	No 4 sports ground	We have an incredible opportunity to restore our natural waterways. Fairfield City Council has done this. Check out the 'Restoring the Waters' project https://www.governmentarchitect.nsw.gov.au/resources/case-studies/2017/11/restoring-the-waters-creek-restoration	0	0	
What I like	16	No 4 sports ground	A beautiful shaded area, provided by gorgeous trees. The tables and benches in that shade make this such a tranquil and enjoyable area.	6	0	
What I like	39	No 4 sports ground	Soccer fields are an amazing asset for our community	2	0	
What I like	15	No 4 sports ground	LOVE this bridge and it has served as a hugely affectionate and convenient feature for many years. From high school at Newcastle High and many years of adulthood beyond. A feature of immense practicality and convenience.	2	0	
What I like	35	No 4 sports ground	Current usage is perfect. Balanced open space, sport and habitat. Leave this space alone	1	0	
What I like	42	No 4 sports ground	Football pitch in great condition	1	0	
What I like	15	No 4 sports ground	Beautify the creek, widen it, deepen and enhance the ecology. Not just a drain	0	0	
What should change	9	No 4 sports ground	More trees along the edges	8	0	
What should change	50	No 4 sports ground	Relocate the netball courts from Parks 5 & 6 and move the football fields to Parks 5 & 6	2	1	
What should change	66	No 4 sports ground	Netball courts should all be on this side of National Park to allow major netball events to come to town	1	2	
What should change	68	No 4 sports ground	It needs descent toilets that are open all day every day and cleaned and maintained.	1	0	

No.5 Sportsground

The table below identifies all comments received about the No.5 sportsground and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 9 comments, 2 discussed extending the concrete pathway (6 up votes), 1 mentioned needing toilet and changing facilities (8 up votes) and 1 suggested installing two grassed volleyball courts (5 up votes, 1 down vote).

What I like: Of the 11 comments, 4 discussed the need for a greater focus on netball, with the facilities/court surfaces upgraded (5 up votes, 1 down vote). 1 comment suggested formalising the bike path (15 up votes).

Table 9 No.5 Sportsground

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Ideas and Suggestions	12	No 5 sports ground	There is a need for toilets and/or changing facilities in this area. Particular for female competitors.	8	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	27	No 5 sports ground	Please consider installing 2 grass volleyball courts for diversity of sport presence in this space, for inner city community use	5	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	71	No 5 sports ground	Extend concrete pathway.	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	38	No 5 sports ground	No. 5 sportsground is used for soccer but has a surface that is unfit for purpose and dangerous. This should be resurfaced and regrassed	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	85	- No 5 sports ground	Construct concrete shared path	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	63	No 5 sports ground	More seating around the netball courts please	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	56	No 5 sports ground	Grey Water and or recycled watering systems from storm water capture and or recycled water.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	75	No 5 sports ground	Move all Netball to Broadmeadow or at least consolidate on this side.	0	0	

Ideas and Suggestions	94	No 5 sports ground	Build a multipurpose indoor sports facility in partnership with Newcastle netball to be utilised for netball on Saturdays and leased/hired out at other times for sporting groups for basketball/netball training, all weather soccer and rugby training. Preschool sport groups, active afterschool care, Indoor/outdoor cafe	0	2	
What should change	16	No 5 sports ground	This is an informal bike path which should be formalised to make it safe	15	0	
What should change	45	No 5 sports ground	Net has ball Association Newcastle has been striving to improve and increase Netball in Newcastle. We are concerned of the future and there is a feeling we are slowly being squeezed out of the National Park area and being restricted in moving forward. We are hoping the inactivity to respond to assistance requests is embodied in the outcomes of this enquiry.	3	1	
What should change	58	No 5 sports ground	The amenities on the Parkway Avenue side of the netball courts are disgraceful and in urgent need of an upgrade. There are no change rooms for athletes to use	2	0	
What should change	62	No 5 sports ground	Although there are suggestions to consolidate all the netball courts to the other side of Cottage Creek the courts in this area make the best use of the triangular shape which isn't suitable or big enough for a cricket /football field. Let alone the cost of relocating the courts.	1	0	
What should change	67	No 5 sports ground	More courts here	0	0	
What should change	52	No 5 sports ground	This area is a bit degraded currently. The usage needs to be defined properly but not at the expense of open space	0	0	
What should change	69	No 5 sports ground	Remove courts and place at Broadmeadow	0	1	

What should change	70	No 5 sports ground	This is No 6, surface needs to be upgraded for safety of players, many injuries sustained.	0	0	
What should change	71	No 5 sports ground	Near the playground I would like to see some picnic facilities, tables and benches. Water and Amenities would be good.	0	0	
What should change	45	No 5 sports ground	Not everyone plays netball cricket rugby or athletics. And not a car park for shops and accountants. It needs to be a park	0	0	
What should change	45	No 5 sports ground	Sport has always been played in this precinct.	0	0	

No.6 Sportsground

The table below identifies all comments received about the No.6 sportsground and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 7 comments, 1 suggested adding dog poop bag stations (3 up votes) and 1 suggested having an off-leash dog park. 1 comment discussed not wanting any green space to be removed (2 up votes) and 1 mentioned continuing the bike path (1 up vote).

Table 10 No.6 Sportsground

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Ideas and Suggestions	33	No 6 sports ground	Even though this is not a leash free area, there should be 'poop bag stations' for people that do use it as an exercise area for their dogs.	3	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	40	No 6 sports ground	Don't take any green space for car parks as happened with Foreshore Park.	2	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	39	No 6 sports ground	Continue the bike path west to National Park St. Another bike path along the creek from Parry St to Parkway.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	57	No 6 sports ground	Grey Water and or recycled watering systems from storm water capture and or recycled water.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	54	No 6 sports ground	Grey Water and or recycled watering systems from storm water capture and or recycled water.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	107	No 6 sports ground	A fenced off leash dog park would be great to have in town	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	120	No 6 sports ground	Toilet & change facilities (especially female)	0	0	

Cottage Creek

The table below identifies all comments received about Cottage Creek and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 5 comments, 3 discussed having a shared pathway through the park, including along the drain (6 up votes, 1 down vote). 1 commented mentioned needing to replace removed trees.

What I like: 1 of the 2 comments stated that the bridge is great, but that the pathway needs to be better defined (4 up votes), the other commented mentioned liking the trolley storage area (1 up vote).

What should change: Of the 6 comments, 3 mentioned needing a shared pathway along the canal (5 up votes) 2 discussed better care of the natural area, with more trees planted (5 up votes) and 1 suggested a reduction in netball activities (6 up votes, 9 down votes).

Table 11 Cottage creek

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Ideas and Suggestions	18	Cottage Creek	Cycle way needs connection along this drain and it would be great to renature the drain to a creek	5	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	74	Cottage Creek	To have a shared path through the park	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	114	Cottage creek	The drain should be opened up along both sides and Beautified for passive use, picnics, walking, meeting etc like Islington park. Also be flood mitigation. The park is alienated and alienating at present	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	82	Cottage creek	Replacement of removed trees desirable as is addition of seating areas for recreation	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	86	Cottage creek	Construct concrete shared path with lighting	0	0	
What I like	2	Cottage creek	This bridge is great but needs a better pathway defined on both sides of the creek. More defined paths could be included throughout the park. They would be great for kids to learn to ride a bike for example.	4	0	
What I like	22	Cottage creek	I love the trolley storage area :)	1	0	

What should change	2	Cottage Creek	There should be a reduction in netball activities	6	9	
What should change	1	Cottage Creek	More trees need to be planted and these trees and the area needs to be cared for more regularly. The grass needs to be watered for instance. Seating needs to be provided as currently there is not much and what there is services the netball and is not shaded.	4	0	
What should change	31	Cottage Creek	Fix the shared pathway connections	2	0	
What should change	44	Cottage Creek	With the courts consolidated to the other side of the park, this building can be taken away reducing the drug problem and maintenance of the site.	2	1	
What should change	38	Cottage creek	Formed concrete pathway along canal.	2	0	
What should change	36	Cottage creek	safety concerns along this walkway	1	0	
What should change	47	Cottage creek	More tree plantings, appreciate riparian corridor. Use the water. It is NOT just a drain!!! Birds & fish live there. Associated Water play facilities for kids?	1	0	

Croquet Courts

The table below identifies all comments received about the Croquet courts and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Summary

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 5 comments, 1 discussed the footpath needing to be resurfaced and more trees being planted (9 up votes), 1 suggested the addition of rebound walls beside the basketball courts (8 up votes) and 1 mentioned using two of the croquet areas for tennis courts (1 up vote).

Table 12 Croquet Courts

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
Ideas and Suggestions	32	Croquet courts	The foot path on National Park street is lumpy and bumpy. Better looking native trees could be planted on the other side of the foot path on the edge of the old tennis courts, Croquet garden and Athletics track.	9	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	10	Croquet courts	Rebound walls could be added beside the basketball courts. They are always packed with queues waiting at Empire Park and several more in the area would be great, keeping the older kids happy and occupied.	8	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	29	Croquet courts	2 of the Croquet areas could be used as tennis courts and the other 2 for Croquet.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	10	Croquet courts	This is a great idea. Those who just want to hit a tennis ball, or kick a soccer ball could use the wall.	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	59	Croquet courts	Sand Volley ball courts	0	0	

Smith Street

The table below identifies all comments received about Smith Street and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.


Summary

What I like: 1 comment mentioned liking the large grassy area with shade.

Ideas and Suggestions: Of the 5 comments, 3 discussed needing to add angled parking by taking a small strip of greenspace (4 up votes, 1 down vote), 1 comment mentioned adding a step revolving gate (2 up votes) and 1 comment suggested the addition of a traffic island to stop illegal right hand turns (1 up vote).

What should change: 1 comment suggested adding a pedestrian crossing.

Table 13 Smith Street

Type	Marker Number	Area of NP	Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes	Photo
What I like	44	Smith Street	In this large grassy area with shade I would like to see a picnic area with tables, seats and benches. A tap and an amenities block.	1	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	11	Smith Street	Could we take just a narrow strip along the edge for free angle parking. I know it takes a bit of green space but it is impossible to get parks for an hour or two to bring the kids to play for free. Plant more trees elsewhere to compensate!	4	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	78	Smith Street	Make a step revolving gate at entry so people can use it more of the time IE 1300 to 1500 or after 1900	2	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	104	Smith Street	Create a traffic island so that cars must obey the traffic sign and not turn right from the car park into Parry st. Right hand turners create enormous congestion.	1	0	

Ideas and Suggestions	11	Smith Street	This is a great idea as more parking is required in the area most weekends. If you limit the parking to 1 hour / or the length of a game then the turnover would mean quite a few would get the chance to park	0	0	
Ideas and Suggestions	99	Smith Street	Take a small strip of greenspace along here to change to 90 degree or angled parking and increase car spaces.	0	1	
Ideas and Suggestions	119	Smith Street	Close the street so both sides can be safely connected	0	0	
What should change	75	Smith Street near No.6	There needs to be a pedestrian crossing here. Walking with a pram there is nowhere to cross over safely with ramp, to get to the other side.	0	0	

Other areas

The table below identifies all comments received about other areas and are broken down into activities you do, what I like, what should change and ideas and suggestions. The results also show marker numbers, comments, if they had any votes (up or down) and photos that were supplied.

Table 14 other areas

Type	Marker Number		Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes
Ideas and Suggestions	97	Union street	There is ample room on the other side of this section of Union St to change to angle parking and increase available car spaces.	1	0
What should change	17	Union street near Parkway	The footpath here is wide and the road is very unsafe for bicycles- could a bike path be integrated around the park?	7	0
What should change	28	Union street near Parkway	Could possibly implement angle parking which would double the car spaces	2	1
Ideas and Suggestions	91	National Park St and Parry St	Upgrade this dangerous intersection	2	0

Ideas and Suggestions	93	National Park st near basketball courts	Replace the lumpy/bumpy bitumen footpath with reinforced concrete	1	0
What should change	41	Parry Street	Get rid of this Coles carpark ingress and egress and open up King st exit for traffic flow in and out of car park. Put another set of traffic lights in.	1	0
What should change	60	Parry Street	This car entrance should be closed or made entry only. Exiting traffic have no view of pedestrians on the footpath to the east. The King St entrance/exit to this car park is way underutilised.	1	0

Appendix I - Communications

Novonews



Tell us what you love about National Park

National Park is just a stone's throw away from our 12 Stewart Avenue base, and is one of our city's largest and oldest sportsgrounds and open space reserves. It's home to a range of community facilities including sportsgrounds, netball courts, croquet courts and green space.

We're reviewing the National Park Plan of Management to guide the long-term future of the site and this week commenced community consultation to inform the updated plan.

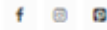
So, tell us what you love about National Park, what needs improving and what you'd like to see there in the future.

Get involved:

- Have your say online via our [survey or interactive mapping tool](#)
- Attend the drop-in session any time between 10am and 1pm on Saturday 21 November near the bridge located behind the sports pavilion in National Park.

[Find out more](#)

Newy with kids



HOME START HERE BY AGE ▾ FAMILY FUN ▾ GUIDES ▾ ABOUT ▾



Have Your Say About National Park

Newy with Kids | November 18, 2020 | Community Info & Useful Numbers

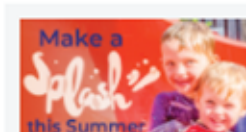
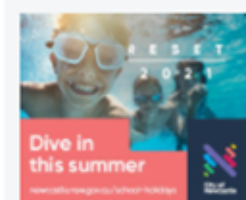
[Home](#) > [Community Info & Useful Numbers](#) > [Have Your Say About National Park](#)

National Park is an iconic park. Most Newcastle residents have spent time in one of Newcastle's oldest and largest parks, National Park, which is home to a range of community facilities including sportsgrounds, netball courts, croquet courts and greenspace.


Located between Union and Parry Street in Newcastle West, this 20-hectare multi-purpose reserve is a popular inner-city space.

A number of sports, both adult and kids are played here including soccer, netball, AFL, cricket, rugby league, rugby union and athletics. There's even a small playground on the corner of Smith Street and Dumaresq Street plus new basketball courts.

With so much space and potential, City of Newcastle is looking for input. They are revising the



Facebook




City of Newcastle

Published by Agorapulse · December 3, 2020 ·

⋮

Did you ever play netball at Newcastle's National Park in 1972? You could be in this photo! A lot has changed since then, but a lot more needs to change - which is why we're asking the community what they would like the future of the park to look like. Go to <https://bit.ly/3oiB3iK> and give us your ideas!



City of Newcastle

Government Organization

Learn More

19,837

People Reached

1,362

Engagements

Boost Unavailable

Boosted on December 3, 2020

Completed

By Aaron Darc

People Reached 1.3K	Link Clicks 7
----------------------------	----------------------

[View Results](#)

Appendix II - Survey

We'd like to hear about how you use National Park and what you'd like to see there in the future.

The information you provide will help us revise the National Park Plan of Management, which will guide future use and management of the site.

This short survey will take about 3-5 minutes to complete.



1. On average, how often do you visit National Park?

(select one answer only)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Daily | <input type="radio"/> Every 12 months + |
| <input type="radio"/> Weekly | <input type="radio"/> Never (go to Q5) |
| <input type="radio"/> Every few weeks | <input type="radio"/> Don't know (go to Q5) |
| <input type="radio"/> Monthly | |
| <input type="radio"/> Every few months | |
| <input type="radio"/> Every 6 months | |

National Park Plan of Management
Phase 1 - Engagement activity report

2. What type of transport do you use to get to or from National Park? *(select all answers that apply)*

- Car
- Bus
- Walk /run
- Cycle
- Motorcycle / motorised scooter
- Skateboard / push scooter
- Other: (Please comment) _____

3. Do you use any of the following facilities at National Park? *(select all answers that apply)*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Playspace | <input type="checkbox"/> Path networks in the park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilets | <input type="checkbox"/> Netball courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer fields | <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croquet Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics Centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby fields | <input type="checkbox"/> AFL fields / Cricket fields |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpark at #2 sportsground | Other (please comment) _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> I don't use any of these | |

4. Which of the following activities do you do at National Park?

(select all answers that apply)

- Walk, run or cycle on the path network in the park
- Group exercise
- Play organised / community sport
- Attend sporting event
- Walk the dog
- Active use in the open space (E.g. ball games, frisbee etc)
- Passive use (E.g. sit and read / enjoy the scenery)
- Pass through to get to another location
- Attend community events
- Attend local gatherings / meet up groups
- Kids play at the playground
- Kids ride bikes / scooters on the courts and paths
- Other: (Please comment) _____

Park Issues

5. What do you think are the current issues facing National Park?

(select all answers that apply)

- Parking issues
- Over use/crowded
- Traffic issues
- Lack of identity
- Not enough green space
- Safety concerns
- Lack of shade
- Other: (Please comment) _____

6. In the future, which of the following would you like to see **more of** at National Park?
(select all answers that apply)

Recreation – Passive and Active:

- Pop-up activities (E.g. food trucks, night-time cinema, etc)
- Interactive artworks and sculpture
- Youth-oriented activity
- Exercise equipment
- Sport courts
- Markets
- Major events
- Open spaces
- Trees
- Other: (Please comment) _____

Connectivity:

- Signage to help me find my way around
- Bike parking
- Improved bicycle paths
- Improved walking paths
- Improved connectivity to surrounding areas for pedestrians (E.g. crossings)
- Other: (Please comment) _____

Amenities:

- Seating
- Accessible toilets
- BBQs
- Tables and benches
- Shade structures
- Inclusive play space
- Picnic areas
- Event space
- Café
- Formalised car parking on Smith Street (next to netball courts)
- Formalised car parking (No.1 Sportsground)
- General maintenance
- Other: (Please comment) _____



7. *If you could change one thing at National Park, what would it be?*

8. *Please write in any other comments about what you'd like to see more of at National Park.*

Demographics

What is your age?

(Select one answer only)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Under 18 years | <input type="radio"/> 55 – 64 years |
| <input type="radio"/> 18 – 24 years | <input type="radio"/> 65 – 74 years |
| <input type="radio"/> 25 – 34 years | <input type="radio"/> 75+ Prefer not to answer |
| <input type="radio"/> 35 – 44 years | |
| <input type="radio"/> 45 – 54 years | |

What is your gender?

(Select one answer only)

- Male
- Female
- Prefer to self-describe _____
- Prefer not to say

Do you identify as a person with a disability?

(Select one answer only)

- Yes No

What is your suburb?

And please select which, if any, of the following apply to you:

(select all answers that apply)

- I live within a 5 minute walk of National Park
- I live within a 5-10 minute walk of National Park
- I am a member of a sporting club or group that regularly uses National Park
- None of these

End of survey, thanks for your feedback.

Appendix III - Workshop results



National Park – Revised Plan of Management Key Stakeholder Focus Groups Feedback

The following is a brief summary of the key information, discussion points, inputs and preferred directions as raised at two Focus Groups for key stakeholder groups with an interest in National Park.

The Focus Groups were held on Tuesday 24 November and Wednesday 25 November 2020, on site at National Park.

The purpose of the Focus Groups was to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss and provide their views regarding National Park's use, character, issues, development and management to assist in preparing the revised plan of management. The agenda for each session invited participants to offer their comments as to:

- their current use or interest in National Park, as well as trends and anticipated or desired future use levels;
- current challenges or problems they encounter or see, and issues affecting their use/interest in National Park;
- their preferred directions for the Park, and any changes they would seek (as well as changes to avoid or desirable features of the status quo; and
- any other inputs or views they would like to offer.

Attendance was by invitation only, with information about the Focus Groups and an invitation to participate, e-mailed to all targeted stakeholders (using a stakeholder and contact list supplied by CN). A full list of those groups invited to participate is provided at Table A. Reminder invitations were sent, by e-mail, to those groups who had not replied prior to the date of the first Focus Group. Follow-up e-mails were also sent to all invited stakeholders, who did not reply and/or were not able to or did not attend the Focus Groups, inviting their written submissions after these sessions had been held.

Both Focus Groups involved staff from the City of Newcastle and Gondwana Consulting.

City of Newcastle officers introduced each session explaining the need to review the current 2012 National Park Plan of Management, outlining the wider community engagement measures also underway, and giving an update on the Strategic Sports Plan and its relationship with the plan of management review. Gondwana Consulting then facilitated and recorded the discussion and input sections, which comprised the bulk of each session.

Discussion and comments were documented during each Focus Group for later transcription and summarising. A number of attending stakeholders, as well as others who were not able to attend or were not on the original CN stakeholder list, also took the opportunity to provide written submissions after the Focus Groups were held. These later written comments have been included in the summaries of comments and input below.

Glossary of terms used:

Term	Meaning
NP	National Park
CN	City of Newcastle
COVID	Coronavirus / COVID-19
DA	Development Application
LGA	Local Government Area

Focus Group No. 1

Meeting date:	Tuesday 24 November 2020
Time:	6:30-8.00pm
Venue:	No.2 Sportsground Function Room

STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPANTS	
Group	Representative
Athletics	
Newcastle Athletic Field Management Inc.	Sean Scanlon
Newcastle City Little Athletics	Crispin Lyne
Cricket	
Newcastle City and Eastern District Cricket Club	Steve Garrett
Croquet:	
Newcastle National Park Croquet Club	Derek Bull
Community and other groups:	
Friends of National Park	Carl Boyd

City of Newcastle and Gondwana Consulting	
City of Newcastle	
Rachel McConkey	Recreation Planning Coordinator
Natalie D'Arcy	Community Engagement Co-ordinator
Rodney Maughan	Recreation Services Projects Co-ordinator
Gondwana Consulting	
Alan Ginns	Director
Pamela Fletcher	Registered Landscape Architect

Summary of Comments and Input

Discussions during Focus Group No. 1 were largely on an individual participant basis, with each stakeholder representative presenting their/their group's view and little general discussion or comments/conversation between groups.

<p>Newcastle City and Eastern District Cricket Club (comments on the night and from a follow-up submission):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Use No.1 sportsground for top level/grade cricket (representative teams), both matches and training (although not recently due to ground construction works, looking forward to completion of construction) / have been the summer seasonal "tenant" of No1 sportsground since 2017 o Use No. 5 sportsground for lower grades of cricket (ground is less than standard size); o Use No. 6 sportsground for junior grades (ground is considerably less than standard size); o Used Nos 5 and 6 sportsgrounds for "many seasons"; o Use grounds for morning and afternoon games; o No.1, No.5 and No.6 sportsgrounds are extremely valuable to Newcastle City & Eastern Districts Cricket Club; o Supportive of current works to improve playing surface No.1 sportsground - however still a requirement to refurbish the amenities (including female specific), pavilion, scoreboard, and lighting; o Want to attract a Women's Big Bash games but the existing amenities at No.1 sportsground are not up to standard – require male and female amenities; o Concerned that redeveloped No.1 sportsground may be cost-prohibitive for their future use, worried about being "priced out"; o Refurbish the existing training wicket block beside No.1 sportsground (re-use the existing turf nets – best option is turf nets for seniors and grade and synthetic nets for juniors plus synthetic net for the public);
--

Newcastle City and Eastern District Cricket Club cont'd

- o Expand cricket nets (turf) between the canal and No. 1 sportsground and into triangular block to north / potentially develop this site as an enhanced cricket training facility;
- o No. 5 sportsground is also used in winter for rugby / retain and refurbish the turf match wicket square;
- o Support cricket use of No. 5 sportsground with amenities/changerooms, storage for cricket gear (covers, super sopper, etc.) and capital equipment (roller, mower etc.) or permit secure access to facilities at No. 2 sportsground;
- o No. 6 sportsground turf wicket could be replaced by a synthetic wicket suitable for junior cricket (now only suits junior cricket);
- o Alternatively repurpose under-used area as an Indoor Community Centre (for cricket with 4 synthetic training lanes and 4 turf wicket training lanes) also for use by inner-city schools and community groups;
- o Facilities at No.1 were rebuilt after the earthquake;
- o Junior girls number about 20% of players;
- o Starting juniors at a younger age – growth trending up – have had 110 MILO players in the past;
- o Potential for synthetic wicket bisecting (between ?) the soccer fields (east of canal) for social one-day matches and junior cricket for inner-city clubs and schools (to increase number of available match wickets within traditional inner-city suburbs optimise use of green space);
- o Some issues with season changeover when there may be a rugby final on the grounds / rain can also delay the opening of the cricket season at NP for up to a month (forced to play elsewhere);
- o Nos 5 and 6 sportsground have a poor grassed surface (current problem);
- o There are not enough amenities within the park (outside of No. 1 sportsground).

Newcastle Athletic Field Management Inc.

- o Management Committee programmes activities in order to minimise/manage possible conflicts;
- o Running track of 6 lanes is synthetic surface / Resurfaced since last plan / But track surface will need replacement in 4 to 5 years;
- o Bitumen track around the outside perimeter of the running track is used to train wheelchair athletes / Use a motorbike, running on bitumen track, as pace vehicle for the wheelchair athlete / One of only two such facilities in Australia / However black finish is a heat issue though;
- o Upgraded the canteen, referee/officials room, changerooms and amenities a few years ago;
- o 200 children attend on Monday for training;
- o Can accommodate state level meets (+200) competitors;
- o 40 school carnivals are held at the facility each year;
- o Do not set high charges to use the facility and have an electronic timer – major attractions for school use of the facility;
- o Offer sessions for casual users to use the facilities a few hours morning and afternoon (30-40 users in total);
- o Hold cross-country in the winter (wholly within their area);
- o Use shipping containers for on-site storage;
- o Have a full-time caretaker;
- o Have 40%+ female users;
- o Disabled athletes include physical and intellectual disabilities;
- o Have veteran competitors/users;
- o Operates 7 days a week / High turnover of users / Intensive usage;
- o Break even financially;
- o Club room in the grandstand / But could be upgraded to cater for more social activities;
- o A growing trend of people participating in recreational running;
- o Activities are confined to the facility and the remainder of NP is not used;
- o Soccer use the centre grassed area for games / Some conflicts especially on the nights Vet athletes train;
- o Want to irrigate soccer pitch but can't conflict with field events;
- o Prior to COVID the Croquet Club parked in the facility car park (have a key for access);
- o Is viewed as a community facility;
- o Could hold more activities e.g. markets / Want to make the facility "pay";
- o The presence of vandalism in the area means that gates must be locked when the facility is not in use;
- o Issues include:
 - tenure – operate from year to year (would like longer term to help with applying for funding);
 - limited disability access;

<p><i>Newcastle Athletic Field Management Inc. cont'd</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ future replacement of track surface; ▪ parking during school events; ▪ lighting is poor — need to light both the track and the soccer pitch (obtaining quotes to upgrade at present).
<p>Newcastle National Park Croquet Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Took over the old bowling greens (4x) / Club House was the former Women's Bowling Club; ○ Club House is an old building which needs upgrading; ○ Around 100 members; ○ Members from "all walks of life" — although an aging membership ○ Play 6 days per week (maintenance is on Thursday); ○ Play both standard croquet and Gateball (Asian form of the game on smaller greens); ○ Croquet Club is self-contained — pay a green keeper to manage the greens / Have applied for funding — recently purchased a mower; ○ Seeking to build numbers by attracting the youth — have approached the high schools and universities, but COVID has hindered efforts / Wanted to hold a "sausage sizzle" night to promote club and sport; ○ Greens also used by a special needs group; ○ Club is not licenced; ○ Are on a lease / But little engagement with Council (left to themselves by Council); ○ If had two additional greens they would achieve regional status (would set up 2 greens specifically for Gateball); ○ Happy with good quality grassed greens as hoops are moved around to avoid wear and tear on the playing surface / Synthetic greens are not desirable as cannot adjust positions of hoops; ○ Irrigation needs upgrading; ○ Lights on 2 of the greens allows night time use; ○ Capacity for parking of 8-10 cars in the unsealed area west of the Club house / Otherwise use the car park located in the athletics facility / On-street parking on National Park St adjacent to the clubhouse is limited to 4hours; ○ Existing facilities are fairly secure / No issues with break-ins / No high value equipment stored onsite; ○ Shed located on the northern boundary was burnt out and is not usable, although still standing / Storage capacity has been replaced by a container located south of the Club House (houses the mowers etc.); ○ Some issues with disability access — needs improving; ○ First priority is to upgrade the Club house.
<p>Friends of National Park (comments on the night and from a follow-up submission)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased residential development to the north and north-west of NP with more to come / Accessible open space (within walking distance) critically important to apartment dwellers; ○ Do not want NP to be any further isolated from public access and activity; ○ Fields have been fenced and locked (Nos 1 and 2 sportsgrounds) with no public access, except to events or games / NP has been increasingly monopolised by single-use organised sporting bodies — undesirable; ○ Many of the exclusive use areas (Nos 1 and 2 sportsgrounds) are unused for the majority of the week; ○ No 2 sportsground was proposed as being a multi-purpose community facility (e.g. open air theatre or cinema, markets, music concerts, rallies, etc.) as well as regional and international sporting events — but this has rarely happened; ○ Provide public access to toilets at No 2 sportsground; ○ Green space is becoming an ever-more precious facility/asset — must be conserved, not reduced; ○ No more hard surfaces / No more on-site parking / No more hard courts; ○ Existing netball goal posts (in western area) are not removable, it was previously agreed that they would/should be; ○ When large events/games are on parking is an issue — attendees even park on the central median in Parkway Ave; ○ Opposed to expansion / Need areas for passive activities and active informal recreation; ○ New basketball courts are well uses — a positive; ○ Existing remnant areas should not be redeveloped for sports but retained and embellished for passive use; ○ Need a tree-lined/planted perimeter to indicate a change from road reserve to park land;

Friends of National Park cont'd

- o Provide picnic areas, plus more planting and seating;
- o Provide paths, water stations, accessible toilets and lighting;
- o Motivated by the needs of future generations who will grow up living in flats without private yard space – they will need access to green space;
- o Experience of nature and green space is vitally important for health and wellbeing;
- o Add shade/ Increase canopy tree cover to reduce temperatures and heat stress affects / Increased urban forest;
- o Redevelop dis-used tennis courts as a major entry into NP from the north-west sector / Provide more landscaping, playground, café, pathways and shelters in this area
- o Do not see a need for BBQs;
- o Develop more of NP as accessible open green space for informal recreation and passive use asset for locals e.g. like Empire Park / To redress the current dominance of organised sports;
- o Community garden a worthwhile addition;
- o Tennis/rebound wall a worthwhile addition;
- o Children's adventure playground or more active/adventurous play equipment for the over 5 year olds;
- o Support initiatives of to foster "community connections" (e.g. Landcare groups, community gardens, fenced off-leash dog park, adventure playground, etc.);
- o Provide all-weather community meeting/gathering facility – Wal Young House may be repurposed for this use if vacated;
- o Do not support the expansion of Croquet;
- o Keep new structures to a minimum;
- o Curtail commercial interests;
- o Perhaps provide exercise hubs/stations;
- o Install public art (robust sculptures, community mosaics, etc.);
- o First Nation's historical information and interpretive spaces could be provided;
- o Enhance small creature biodiversity values (bees, butterflies and other animals – pollinators) / Increase in buildings and tar must be offset by plantings and wildlife corridors / Explore applicability of "woody meadows" concept;
- o Additional appropriate plantings along Cottage Creek riparian corridor;
- o Be innovative, develop a plan "that is radically different to the way in which the current use of National Park has developed".

Newcastle City Little Athletics

- o Also refer also to Newcastle Athletic Field Management Inc. comments above:
- o Little A's pay for use of the facility;
- o President of Little A's has a seat on the Management Committee;
- o Main use is in summer / Monday night competition with training on other days;
- o The site is well used / Usage level should not be underestimated;
- o Only synthetic running track in Newcastle;
- o A "district level" facility;
- o Were going to hold the 2020 Zone Carnival but was cancelled due to COVID restrictions;
- o The facility is the best it has ever been;
- o Records have been set on the track.

General Comments/Discussion

- o Hard courts for netball are not flexible / netball needs a new home
- o Maximise use of the facility / Cater for a wider demographic
- o Encourage other facilities in the area to open their doors to allow public use e.g. schools / Department of Education policy has changed and allows for this dual use
- o CN has relocated to 12 Stewart St Newcastle West (NW of National park) along with other government departments / CN and other businesses are a source of workers looking for somewhere to eat lunch;
- o A Livvi's Place (all-abilities playground) is being installed by CN at Honeysuckle.

Focus Group No. 2

Meeting date:	Wednesday 25 November 2020
Time:	6:30-8.15pm
Venue:	No.2 Sportsground Function Room

STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPANTS	
Group	Representative
AFL	
Newcastle City AFC (Seniors)	Luke Rawnsley
Cricket	
Cricket NSW	Neil McDonald
Netball	
National Park Netball Association (Newcastle Netball Association)	Cheryl Hernando
Rugby Union	
Newcastle and Hunter Rugby Union	Glenn Turner
Wanderers Rugby Club	John Langley
Wanderers Rugby Club	Les (??)
Soccer	
Cooks Hill United Football Club (Seniors)	Lee Bateman
Cooks Hill United Football Club (Juniors)	Matt Helsinki
Lawn Bowls	
Newcastle District Bowling Association	Warren Shipley
Government Agencies	
NSW Office of Sport	Colin Robinson

City of Newcastle and Gondwana Consulting	
City of Newcastle	
Charlene Wellard	Community Land Planner
Natalie D'Arcy	Community Engagement Co-ordinator
Gondwana Consulting	
Alan Ginns	Director
Pamela Fletcher	Registered Landscape Architect

Summary of Comments and Input

Discussions during Focus Group No. 2 were of a more conversational, interactive or flowing nature with considerable discussion and comments between participants and more diverse or wide-ranging matters raised.

Rugby Union (Newcastle and Hunter Rugby Union, and Wanderers Rugby Club)

- o Rugby Union uses Nos 2, 5 and 6 sportsgrounds;
- o Raised the *Draft Sports Strategy Plan* prepared by Council – National Park is allocated to sports use, and all users want more land and facilities / Can't see how passive use/space can be increased
- o What has changed between preparing the *Draft Sports Strategy Plan* and now ? / What more does CN want to know ?;
- o Rugby is happy to co-exist with other sports and passive activities on areas not located on rugby allocated grounds;
- o Currently all sports use the grounds intensively, and is likely to only increase in years ahead;
- o Existing allocated sports should have priority to grounds and facilities;
- o There are not many higher level rugby games played on No. 2 sportsground, and they do not displace junior grades to other fields;

Rugby Union (Newcastle and Hunter Rugby Union, and Wanderers Rugby Club) cont'd

- o No. 2 sportsground was developed in 2012 for regional and higher grade rugby and soccer games / belief that Council is reluctant to open No. 2 sportsground and its facilities to junior games;
- o Use of No. 2 sportsground is limited to a maximum of 12 hours playing time per week (according to terms of current agreement with Rugby) / Limited by current turf species, issues with turf and surface conditions (rugby is a high impact use compared to soccer and other sports);
- o No. 2 sportsground is not adequate for grade rugby union games– but can be remedied with appropriate grass species selection;
- o Rugby matches damage the turf which is a problem for soccer games;
- o *Draft Sports Strategy Plan* recognises surface condition problems No. 2 sportsground and recommends improvement;
- o Games held at No. 2 sportsground have included a Women's Rugby Test;
- o There are "huge numbers of people waiting to use the ground" (No. 2 sportsground);
- o Rugby league finals are not held at No. 2 sportsground;
- o No. 2 sportsground is not used for community events as the screen proposed in the original budget was cut due to insufficient funds / 2 banks of terrace seating were also cut from project/budget;
- o Rugby are happy to accommodate community events;
- o Nos. 5 and 6 sportsgrounds also used for touch football and by dog walkers;
- o Lack of toilets near No. 5 sportsground is a problem - but use of No. 2 sportsground may be a possibility;
- o Rugby teams warm up on No.5 sportsground before playing on No. 2 (also warm up on the grassed open park space north of No. 2 sportsground);

Cooks Hill United Football Club – Seniors and Juniors

- o Soccer uses Nos 2, 4, 5 and 6 sportsgrounds and the centre pitch of the Fearnley Dawes Athletics Track;
- o The pavilions located near No. 4 sportsground just includes changerooms (with toilets for the teams and storage) / Older building requires upgrade (needs minor rearranging of internal team benches) / Issues with accommodating male and female teams and home and away teams;
- o Grounds are showing wear and tear through use on Nos. 4, 5 and 6;
- o No. 4 ground has recently been re-turfed and can accommodate 30 hours of use per week (includes training and games – juniors)
- o Investigating use of "Star Express" – a new turf type (a form of couch);
- o The centre pitch of the Athletics Track is irrigated and is also used for soccer / Some issues with poor lighting;
- o The balance of fields for soccer at the moment is okay;
- o Some issues with occasional drug use behind the buildings west of No. 4 sportsground;
- o If the existing floodlights on No. 1 sportsground are going to be removed could they be relocated/reinstalled to serve the centre soccer pitch at Athletics Track.
- o Senior soccer matches on pitch in centre of Athletics Track need a warm-up space pre-match (ideally 2 spaces, 1 for home team and 1 for away) – could re-orient croquet courts to run along National Park St (former tennis courts) and provide grassed warm-up area on former eastern courts near Smith St (could also be available for use by teams warming up at No 2 sportsground);
- o A few years ago there was a proposal to provide synthetic soccer fields for training in the north-west corner of NP – but did not progress.

Newcastle Netball Association (comments on the night and from a follow-up submission):

- o Disappointed that *Draft Sports Strategy Plan* had been amended such that "the consolidation of all Netball courts had been taken off the table";
- o Consolidation of netball courts would "tidy the look" of NP;
- o Investigate removing sealed courts from western side of NP and duplicating same number of courts on No. 4 sportsground near existing array (and opportunity to create more green passive space);
- o Newcastle Netball Association requires a regionally significant sports facility (as is being provided for other users by redevelopment of No. 1 sportsground) that can showcase Newcastle netball;
- o Use hard courts (3 groups), and club building between No. 1 sportsground and netball courts and smaller building on eastside of No. 6 sportsground;
- o Club building (between No. 1 sportsground and netball courts) does not contain any toilets for netball use (use toilets located to east of this main building);
- o Small building on eastside of No. 6 sportsground is existing netball canteen and toilets – in poor condition, requires replacement;

Newcastle Netball Association cont'd

- o Current use of courts is at full capacity;
- o Courts are home base for 26 netball clubs that have no other netball court space for training (largest of these clubs has 73 teams);
- o Training conducted every weekday and evenings;
- o Winter competition on Saturdays (March to September) and spring and summer twilight competitions on two nights a week (October to February);
- o Are looking to play Friday afternoon/evening games so that they can accommodate numbers and programme all required games;
- o Courts are used weekdays by schools, "walking netball" groups and all-abilities activities (a disability group use the courts for activities – contact details available from Association);
- o Issues with lack of lighting for summer night competition, and training has to cease at dusk / Only 12 of current 30 courts have relevant sport standard lighting / Newcastle Netball Association is in process of providing new lamps for courts 1 to 14 (cost of \$100,000+);
- o Will need to floodlight all courts – now that consolidation is unlikely;
- o Have been at National Park for 70 years;
- o Require 2 more netball hard courts to allow club to host State titles;
- o Need 32 hard courts to host Netball State Titles – have 30 hard courts at present plus 2 grassed courts near No. 5 sportsground (can't be hardened as would interfere with use of No. 5 sportsground by cricket);
- o Netball cope with the lack of parking – has always been a "hot topic" / Players and spectators "rotate" through the site as games progress during the day;
- o COVID has decreased the parking issues as bigger gaps between games are programed to allow time for a complete changeover of players and spectators;
- o Investigate more regular buses to NP area on weekends, more bike racks, use/access to carpark in Union Street to address parking – and all sports co-ordinating timing of games to balance out parking demands;
- o Netball do not have an off season (courts are licensed for use 50 weeks a year, 7 days a week) so removable goal posts do not suit – existing goal posts rusted into pavement and cannot be removed;
- o Courts used by public for fitness, skateboarding, bike-riding, roller-skating, roller hockey and other passive/independent uses / maintenance cost from public use of courts (but not goal posts) borne by Newcastle Netball Association;
- o National Park Sports Committee desirable, with all sport stakeholders working together.

Newcastle City AFC (Seniors)

- o AFL only uses No. 1 sportsground;
- o AFL and cricket share No. 1 sportsground – AFL usually can't play a home game until their round 5 due to use by cricket (situation for last 15 years), need to find another ground for AFL training until No. 1 sportsground is available;
- o Prefer four change rooms (male / female for home and away) to allow quick change over of games;
- o Both AFL and cricket are having input into the plans for stage 2 of the upgrades to No. 1 sportsground – will recommend facility upgrades;
- o Lack of parking is an issue – but AFL has no immediate solutions;
- o Netball and AFL use the smaller carpark south-west of No. 1 No. 1 sportsground (off Union St) as a fundraising source;
- o The internal parking around the perimeter of No. 1 sportsground will be removed by the current field expansions/upgrades, but not a problem as AFL don't get many in-car spectators at games;

Cricket NSW (comments on the night and from a follow-up submission):

- o Uses Nos 1, 5 and 6 sportsgrounds;
- o Cricket requires all current pitches on Nos. 1, 5 and 6 sportsgrounds to continue to be available for cricket use – inner-city cricket club registrations are increasing;
- o NP grounds are "extremely valuable" to cricket in the region / Service grade, representative and club cricket, as well as youth and association carnivals, plus country competitions;
- o Aspire to deliver a wider "hub and spoke" model (with NP, and Hunter Park at Broadmeadow, at the centre) to service cricket at all levels and "bring elite cricket back to the Hunter region";
- o Cricket NSW (and Cricket Australia) aiming to establish NP, and No. 1 sportsground, as a "Regionally Significant Sports Facility" (RSSF) – as reflected in Office of Sport's *Draft Hunter Sport and Active Recreation Plan (2018-2023)*;

Cricket NSW cont'd

- o Recent investment in upgrading No. 1 sportsground is welcome, but still won't "meet the standards required to bring elite cricket content to the venue";
- o If No. 1 sportsground is to be a RSSF then Cricket NSW facility/infrastructure hierarchy requires "Regional Tier 1" facilities – including match standard lighting, electronic scoreboard, gym/fitness room and access to 3 or more satellite grounds with turf wickets;
- o CN should consult with Cricket NSW on essential infrastructure requirements for No. 1 sportsground if it is to be a RSSF;
- o To be a RSSF No. 1 sportsground requires significant upgrade to the grandstand and amenities, turf training facilities, scoreboard and other supporting infrastructure –as "a critical priority";
- o Acknowledges issues around season changeover by both cricket and AFL use of No. 1 sportsground;
- o Concerned over lack of availability of No. 1 sportsground due to non-sporting events / Concerned how other events will impact on use of No. 1 sportsground by the existing sports programme;
- o If No. 1 sportsground is developed as a RSSF then "all other non-sporting use should be relocated to alternate venues";
- o Cricket now play multiple days of the week;
- o General lack of toilets and storage for cricket at NP;
- o Amenities, change facilities, storage facilities and capital equipment (roller/mower) required to better service cricket at No. 5 sportsground requires as a high priority;
- o No. 6 sportsground is too small for cricket if the cricket NSW standards are applied (used by juniors and for practice);
- o Opportunity to re-purpose No. 6 sportsground by converting existing turf square into a training complex, or installing a synthetic wicket beside the turf square (creating a dual turf/synthetic pitch playing field to increase field use by junior club and representative teams);
- o The ground on Nos 5 and 6 sportsgrounds become very hard after rain;
- o Synthetic practice nets required at Nos 5 and 6 sportsgrounds to service cricket – as well as informal sports use by wider community;
- o Possible provision of synthetic wicket between soccer fields east of canal to increase NP capacity for cricket use and optimise use of green space;
- o CoN should consult with locals cricket associations/clubs to ensure that upgrades of No. 1 sportsground does not make it cost-prohibitive and restrict use for local cricket;
- o Establish a National Park Sports Alliance to enhance engagement and collaboration between CoN and all sporting stakeholders.

Newcastle District Bowling Association (comments on the night and from a follow-up submission):

- o Wal Young House is used by:
 - Newcastle District Bowling Association (NDBA) for administration purposes only (3 staff);
 - a local Macedonian Club (approx. 6 people per month); and,
 - for AA meetings (approx. 24 people every Friday) (were originally meeting at the Life without Barriers Building but had to relocate after the building was demolished – NDBA offered them a venue);
- o NDBA haven't heard officially from Council re plans for NP;
- o NDBA are happy to vacate Wal Young House and relocate their administration centre/functions – with Council's assistance;
- o May be able to find space in one of the existing bowling clubs in Newcastle area;
- o Currently have concerns re homeless people using the building for shelter and with levels of vandalism;
- o Operating on restricted hours due to COVID, have space for a staff of four, but only operating one day per week;
- o Wal Young House is a very old building / NDBA maintain the building but are not happy to commit funds without an understanding of their tenure;
- o Building is not fit for purposes / No fire sprinklers;
- o Building includes a kitchen and two toilets;
- o Council have removed the boundary vehicle gates to the parking area behind Wal Young House (on Parry St) to allow parking for people using the new basketball courts.

NSW Office of Sport

- o Confirmed that provision of changerooms and toilets for both male and female players is a State-wide issue – recommended unisex facilities.

Suggested Changes/Solutions and Other Comments

- Demolish the small toilet block between No. 1 sportsground parking area (off Union St) and the netball courts, and provide replacement toilets for netball in a new facility;
- Provide a new amenity / toilet facility at No. 5 sportsground to better cater for shared use (netball, soccer, rugby and cricket) / Ideally should include four changerooms (M and F for both home and away teams, investigate unisex changerooms);
- Review current use of all sportsground and reassess allocation based on capacity (exceed or under) and demand – don't enshrine current use levels/allocations;
- Sharing of facilities needs to be addressed (to deliver/encourage more efficient use of facilities);
- No. 2 sportsground could be open to other sports – has toilets and four changerooms, but is underutilised at present / Would need to reconfigure stairs and fencing to allow others to use the changerooms;
- Teams warming up pre-match at No 2 sportsground can (do ?) use triangular park area to north of ground;
- Need all-accessible facilities, including paths, through NP – including a shared path east-west between Nos 5 and 6 sportsgrounds;
- Perhaps a second creek crossing in south;
- More paths to activate areas between the existing buildings and along Cottage Creek;
- An exercise hub could be provide as part of redeveloping the north-west corner;
- Not many outdoor/public basketball courts available locally, so would be heavily used even if 4 or 6 courts provided;
- Could add lamps to floodlight poles at Nos. 5 and 6 sportsgrounds to improve lighting for netball use;
- Removable netball goal posts would allow for off season removal to cater/allow for other activities e.g. roller hockey or casual use;
- Synthetic grounds not favoured due to costs and potential for vandalism if open to the public;
- No sporting club sited at NP is looking to relocate to the "western growth corridor" as they are all local teams;
- Participants were not aware of any other sporting groups who wanted to use NP (that aren't already);
- Increase Council's Section 94 Levy under the Contributions Plan to fund the required local works / The levy appears to be low in comparison with other LGAs.

Additional Submissions

Submissions were received from the following stakeholders who were invited to, but did not attend, the Focus Groups as well as from other stakeholders who subsequently expressed an interest in National Park and preparation of the revised plan of management:

- NSW Cricket Zone Inc.;
- Newcastle District Cricket Association Inc.; and
- Cooks Hill Community Group Inc.

Summary of Comments and Input

<p>NSW Cricket Zone Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Newcastle Cricket Zone (one of eight regions in NSW Country) has played representative matches at No.1 sportsground since 1980s; o No.5 and No.6 sportsgrounds valuable as turf wickets – given increasing pressures on inner city playing fields for club cricket; o Participation levels for cricket increasing – across men, women, boys and girls; o Suggest provision of changerooms (male and female) and storage facilities adjacent to No.5 and No.6 sportsgrounds; o Suggest floodlighting at No.5 sportsground to allow for night matches; o Practice nets at No.1 sportsground require refurbishment o Additional practice nets should be provided, preferably along western edge of NP (running north-south); o Continue upgrades of at No.1 sportsground as planned; o No.1 sportsground to continue role as a used as a “regional facility” hosting country competitions, youth championship, holiday carnivals and junior/senior club competition.
<p>Newcastle District Cricket Association Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Newcastle District Cricket Association has been the Summer tenant at No.1 sportsground since it opened in 1876; o Has hosted club competitions, regional, country and State representative matches and carnivals. o No.5 and No.6 sportsgrounds valuable as turf wickets – given increasing pressures on inner city playing fields for club cricket; o Participation levels for cricket increasing – across men, women, boys and girls; o Upgrade facilities at No.1 sportsground to meet First Class cricket capabilities/requirements; o Provide changerooms (male and female) and storage facilities adjacent to No.5 and No.6 sportsgrounds; o Install floodlighting at No.5 sportsground to allow for night matches; o Refurbish practice nets at No.1 sportsground; o Provide additional practice nets on western side of NP between Smith and National Park Sts; o No.1 sportsground to continue to be used as a “regional facility” hosting country competitions, youth championship, holiday carnivals and junior/senior club competition; o Provision of quality playing and practice facilities at NP important in providing opportunities to play cricket in a leading regional competition and pathway to Sydney Premier Competition.
<p>Cooks Hill Community Group Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Cooks Hill residents are immediate neighbours and high users of NP; o Cooks Hill Community Group is a long-standing residents group for the Cooks Hill area, has previously been engaged with CN including representing residents during preparation of current plan of management; o Disappointed a representative was not invited to the “key stakeholder workshops”.

Participating / Contributing Stakeholders

Groups / stakeholders contacted and invited (Table A):

INVITED STAKEHOLDERS	
Stakeholder	Participation
Aboriginal Land Council	
Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council	Advised unable to attend
AFL	
Newcastle City AFC (Seniors)	✓ Focus Group No. 2
Newcastle City AFC (Juniors)	No response
Athletics	
Newcastle Athletic Field Management Inc.	✓ Focus Group No. 1
Newcastle City Little Athletics	✓ Focus Group No. 1
Community Groups	
Friends of National Park	✓ Focus Group No. 1, and written submission
Cricket	
Cricket NSW	✓ Focus Group No. 2, and written submission
Newcastle City and Eastern District Cricket Club	✓ Focus Group No. 1, and written submission
Newcastle City and Suburban Cricket Association	No response
Newcastle Cricket Zone	No response, but supplied written submission
Croquet	
Newcastle National Park Croquet Club	✓ Focus Group No. 1
Government agencies	
NSW Office of Sport	✓ Focus Group No. 2
Venues NSW	Advised unable to attend
Hunter Councils	No response
Lawn Bowls	
Newcastle District Bowling Association	✓ Focus Group No. 2, and written submission
Netball:	
Newcastle Netball Association (National Park Netball Association)	✓ Focus Group No. 2, and written submission
Rugby Union:	
Newcastle and Hunter Rugby Union	✓ Focus Group No. 2
Wanderers Rugby Club	✓ Focus Group No. 2
Schools:	
Newcastle Grammar School	Confirmed, but did not attend on night
Newcastle High School	Confirmed, but unable to attend due to illness
Scouts	
Scouts Association of Australia (NSW) (Hunter Region)	No response
Soccer:	
Cooks Hill United Football Club (Seniors)	✓ Focus Group No. 2
Cooks Hill United Football Club (Juniors)	✓ Focus Group No. 2
Newcastle Jets FC (Womens)	Advised unable to attend
Ultimate Frisbee	
Newcastle Ultimate Frisbee	No response

Other Groups / Stakeholder Submissions:

Stakeholder	Participation
Newcastle District Cricket Association Inc.	Supplied written submission
Cooks Hill Community Group Inc.	Supplied written submission

Appendix IV - Verbatim comments

Recreation - Other (please specify)
gardens
open air cinema, plantings along creek - make more beautiful and help environment
more play group equipment for children - must be high quality
Seating, picnic tables, shade trees
Passive picnic areas with benches, tables seats wind shelters and shade.
Perfect place for night time cinema - it is a sport precinct, so encourage more sports facilities - shared space with existing space
Community garden, encouraging social interaction. Wild-meadow to attract wildlife and encourage children exploring nature. Building a sense of community.
More appropriate trees to attract birds and urban wildlife concept of an urban forest. Basketball court is very popular which is great. Climbing wall and bat ball wall. For little children with bikes and scooters, small scale roadway layout with markings to help them learn road rules mall
nature walks, gardens etc
A cycling connection from Tooke St To Corona St, and one parallel to the drain to market town.
Green spaces are important for mental health and feelings of well-being.
tennis courts
better playing surface at No 6, less netball courts
Picnic tables
no markets please or night time events ..go to already available places for that
The main reason I never go is lack of trees and specificity of use. None of the above options are worth considering until more trees are planted and the specific grounds shared for other uses
Off leash dog areas
More green, less hard surfaces
Public toilets that are open.
Build a public swimming pool & Community garden area
Separated cycle ways
Indoor netball court/s
Community gardens and rugged play/adventure areas for kids-
To have major events involving netball we need more courts
Water park, dog exercise area with water feature as well
An olympic pool but thats not going to happen is it?
Dog exercise area
Netball courts TLC and upgrade
Tennis courts
Bat/ball wall like the one at Bar Beach
Single bench seat on the eastern side of shade(winter sun/summer shade. Fixed stables and bench in same aspect. More toilet facilities
organised pathways, signage, fencing, additional soccer fields space (currently over used)
More spectator spacing and catering

upgrade childrens play area
A landscaped pathway winding through the park from Parry/National Park to Parkway /Union
More Large Shade Trees, Gardens, Paths, Seats
Not just increased tree plantings or open spaces, but native planted areas so that there is a refuge in the heat for birds, lizards, nectar for bees, butterflies etc. This also provides interest & learning for children & pleasure for al ages; Activities that gt people together in doing thing birds,
connecting cycle paths, fixing layout to allow better use
Fenced areas to support Covid requirements; more netball courts in one block
Relocate all the netball courts together so not the "two sides"
Kid's playground and water play please.
Passive leisure, picnics, informal weddings,
leash free dog area
a little skatepark, community gardening space, improved play area
major sporting events. And also enlarging No 1 to full size AFL ground.
Waterplay facility/ enhanced kids playground
anything that will get normal people there and discourage the derros from congregating there
Basic Disability and Toilet Facilities!
Continued use of No2 Sportsground sharing with Rugby Union ,other sports and community activities
Prophets corner, lets look at great examples from around the world and implement them here. Please.
Cricket nets .
Acknowledgement of the history of the area (what Awabakal and Worimi peoples grew there, pre-colonisation). Community garden projects eg a mental health garden where people can have a sensory experience with herbs and fragrant flowers. More native plants and shrubs, with bushtucker!
Green space for a small botanical garden that will provide a peaceful and relaxing area. A community vegetable garden for apartment dwellers would be excellent
Water activities could be possible if the drain could be imaginatively created into a gently meandering creek. I think something along these lines has been done in the Lyneham area in Canberra
A one way running circuit with multiple entries - suitable for people running with stroller. Similar to Central Park in New York
Shaded picnic area
Pump track or skate facilities, and better space to hang out at playground
ANOTHER AFL/cricket ground!
NO More Locked Sports Grounds and steeling ground for parking areas
More seating areas, double sided tennis wall, barbecues,
Definitely not markets, food stalls, pop up activities, etc. definitely keep National Park to sports and recreation please
Run or cycle track around complex.
Formed and connected paths/cycleways
Tennis courts returned
Tennis wall
Pickle ball courts
Leave it basically as it is. Low key. Please no upscaling of commercial activity.

A large area of greenspace for passive leisure with shade trees and tables that can be used to sit and relax or eat your lunch
Fenced dog area
Improved athletics facilities
beautification & landscaping. Improved path ways
A skate park
I would like to feel a sense of pride in relation to the park. Currently it is not looked after properly, grass, railings along creek, trees cut down and not replaced. There needs to be somewhere for dogs to run leash-free as it is an obvious place given the lack of these facilities in the local ar

Amenities - Other (please specify)
accessible toilets - highest quality, frequently cleaned
Change Rooms
A shade structure over courts 11 and 12 would allow families to still take thier children bike riding in the rain
Community Gardens
Toilets/canteen/change shed at no.5
Appropriate and attractive landscaping. Cafe could be good but need to minimise any impact on existing local businesses.
water. bubblers.
tennis courts
Seating at No 4
no cafe please
Trees maintenance around netball courts
More car parking
A public swimming pool & dedicated community garden space
a pushbike library
exercise equipment stations
2 or 4 court indoor multipurpose courts
Better maintained public toilets
Sensory garden
Covered area over netball courts
Clean toilets
Netball courts
Courted game courts located in single area near amenities
Events such as outdoor cinema, music, markets would be a great way to spread the use of No 1 & No2 Sportsground so that they are used by general public, not just occasional use by prof or elite sportspeople. Not in green turfed grassy areas..
toilets especially for kids who attend
notjing that can be turned into a makeshiift home
Please keep the parking and the grass section of number 2 oval. It is a little Aussie local tradition, celebrate it?
Continued upgrade of professional sporting facilities. Including No. 1 & 2, athletics grandstand, and netball.

Water fountains or taps.
Garbages
Trees for shade
Swimming , paddling. (see Recreation) Maybe even canoeing .
Running track with exercise stations, a better children's playground suitable for different ages, BBQ's, picnic tabkes
Fix fences around the causeways and improve footpaths
Small café - like a pop-up
Proper AFL change sheds for the use of male and female sport. AFL female sport nationally, at state level and community level has exponentially grown in numbers and continues to. Council must support this growth
Rotunda trees paths - like Centennial Park
I like that there are not manmade shade structures and am a strong advocate for the natural shade provided by the Park's trees
Safer cyclist facility along Smith st near the informal car park. Improved soccer grounds on Smith St side (no. 6)
Toilets open and locked at night
adventure play space
Keep toilet block open 6am-8pm
Maintenance of fields (cricket,netball and football carnivals bring a lot of money to newcastle but the fields need to be maintained like in other towns
Dog poo bins
Accessible toilets should be there already!!!
carparking is currently used by day long workers the park is virtually locked out to people travelling by car. Require more timed parking areas around park - school buses double park to get school kids off the bus into the park safety issues

Connectivity Other (please specify)

Cycleway along Cottage Creek, linking through to both Bar Beach and harbour.
Please use hard pack fine gravel rather than concrete - like the paths by the rivers in Berlin and other parts of Europe. Concrete reflects the sun and make areas hotter in summer and less user friendly
signage to amenities
police the idiots
Outdoor roller skating rink
More free unlimited car parking
Great place for birds. Would like better setup to encourage them. More trees,softer structures for the creek. Attract more water birds.
Having all netball courts located in the one area, instead of being split up
Free car parking
See above longer answer
Cycle Pedestrian path from Bar Beach to Honey Suckle along Cottage Creek
NO more car parking. Encourage public transport if out of area for events & local people can walk or cycle.

the above without compromising the existing sporting facilities
THink and put all netball courts together - provide a shade structure
Netball courts to be all together so there is one area like most of the big Sydney Associations have. Maybe then Newcastle could host State Titles and showcase our beautiful city.
could there be some further bridges created over the drainage channel? They could even be cleverly done to hold soil and become gardens too!
Bike paths suitable for cargo bike (wide, shallow ramp access, no bollards) in and around park
Not everyone that uses it will be a local, signage would be helpful
better traffic solution at the northern end of smith street
trees trees trees
Lower speed limit for vehicles around the park areas
Rotunda trees paths - like Centennial Park interactive gardens
The resurfacing and widening of paths, particularly around the ending of the parkland, would be great to see. Some of the surfaces are quite rough and uneven for wheeled modes of transport; including those used by children to/in the park (bicycles, skateboards, scooters, etc)
MORE bike and walking paths that connect to the rest of the area's b & w paths.

See more of - other: Anything else?

Traffic: any proposal that generates more traffic than at present should not be considered. The streets surrounding the park are fully parked out mon-saturday. Saturdays in winter over 20,000 young women play netball. creates traffic problem for residents all day
we need to keep the area green as we missed an opportunity at Honeysuckle as it is now a wind tunnel of buildings , so we need a good community green space for all to use. My view woul d be to close Smith Street from Dumaresq st for safety and connectivity over all the park area.
Formalise current bike track that dissects no5 and 6 sportsground.
Better facilities - consolidate netball and make Parkway (Smith st side) all green
Situated within Garden Suburb Heritage area - reflect in any proposed park developments.
a multi use court for bike polo & wall tennis & skateboarding
Green spaces and places to exercise are important for mental health and feelings of Well-being. These amenities and parklands are important for people living in the inner city to use for sport and leisure.
More parking
Particularly for soccer and netball, consolidating their playing areas to distinctive sides of the park. It makes sense for better management of community sport and the experience by the members and athletes who enjoy playing their sport. Especially the netball courts, which are always popular!
swimming pool
please why do you need to develop it at all into a money making concern just let ordinary people enjoy odinary thing .not everybody wants to sit and suck coffee all day,,NO ALCOHOL IN PARK AT ALL

The area is completely divided into specific sports. I don't engage in netball, athletics, rugby, croquet but I bike ride and walk and love parks. So I don't use NP. it feels like a specialised dead zone. This area just seems completely specific and not integrated for all.
Stop making money off parking for kids to play sport. Netball is massive its forgotten around all and soccer have some indoor courts as well decent toilets for when kids train and parking for parents
Such a great space. Loving the new basketball courts. The space needs to be allow sports to have their identity and then also allow for recreation and family use. Bike tracks and exercise equip and parking.
more netball courts and seating to view games
The focus at National Park should be a mix of passive and active recreation. There should not be any more sorting facilities created where the public is effectively locked out. New facilities required are public toilets, seating, shade, walkways and bbqs.
I would like more attractive plants. Indigenous plants. Gardens that reflect the history of Newcastle. Gardens ,trees that reflect the different waves of settlers.eg a Mediterranean garden. Garden of plants from pacific islands. ETC. A beautiful park that reflects all people who have come to live he
Please upgrade/extend the bike path to the west (currently a worn gravel track through the grass)
Lighting
It is a perfect space for parkland close to the city. with shade, seating and exercise equipment it would be beautiful
Multipurpose indoor sports centre to include courts to be utilised by netball and basketball. Holiday programs and after school programs for local youth.
Needs to be maintained for sport and exercise area. Significant for Novocastrians for that purpose
Passive recreation green space
An indoor sports facility
Sensory area
Increase the amount of netball court facilities
Netball in one location
More trees and green space to encourage birds
Please allow dog friendly areas. There are a lot of apartments being built but not near enough open spaces for dogs to run around after being cooped up all day
Give love to the netball courts
Continuation of the bike path on the opposite side of the bridge
I think the new basketball courts are great & park looks really good where 'Life without Barriers ' used to be
Parking needs to be addressed. With so many sports of a weekend during netball and soccer season.
The cost benefit v usage of specific facilities needs to be know. Is all the area needed for most effective use. Perhaps some of the area adjacent to storm water drain could be developed as a storm water buffer storage to irrigate green field from.
increase number of netball courts
Stop hiving off parts of the park which are fined off from public use
I would like the 'heritage' structures to be carefully maintained and preserved.
Bat ball, tennis courts, cricket nets

Large areas of grass, used by soccer fields, mown & labour & carbon intensive should have more shade & tree plantings around them; Dog Park: Council has to come to terms with the fact that so many people are owning dogs in inner city & nowhere for them to be off leash in the new CBD;
re-arranging the fields to make better use of the space and give more football (soccer) fields and netball courts, naturalise the channel to fix flooding and create habitat
2 more netball courts as promised
A single block of netball courts rather than 3 split areas
More Netball Courts and relocation of all the netball courts onto the Union Side of National Park
Cover for at least 2 netball courts
Restrictions on alcohol consumption where kids are active.
tree roots not safe
The lack of facilities for the junior rugby club (esp this year with covid restrictions) is hard. My other concern is the park is used frequently by families for children learning to ride bikes etc.... the lack of toilet facilities means parents have to use trees for little ones.
Recognition + consideration of the markettown community of homelessness, alcoholism and drug dependency. I walk past the park and through markettown every day for work and it is confronting. Without treating this community with disdain, how do we keep the new facilities safe for all?
As above. Make No 1 the premier AFL ground north of Sydney.
lighting , police or private security patrols
I love love love the new basketball courts. I'm hoping NCC will be building more in the remaining space.
exercise equipment and de-stress areas.
At least two more netball courts
More trees and shrubs to create an urban forest feel in the small remaining areas that are not used for sport
Implement park and ride to events at national park. Focus on measures that improve use but reduce reliance on vehicles.
Cricket nets. Football (soccer) kicking wall
More trees lining bike and walking paths to provide shade in summer.
more picnic areas
I would like more natural parkland developed.
Tennis walls / half courts
Multi use INDOOR sports courts
Wall ball courts like what exists at Bar Beach
Continue the bike path west to National Park St. Another bike path north south along the creek, that wouldn't effect the playing fields. Don't take any of the green space for car parks as happened at Foreshore Park. There are plenty of options to get to the area.
Great ideas have been provided here. It is such a wonderful space which is underutilized
Fenced off area for dogs to roam and play(off leash area), with tap and drinking bowl.
More bins
Naturalise the stormwater drain and create educational opportunities around the restored 'creek'
community volleyball courts

Review the outdated strategic sports plan. You should not be modelling off this and should have been looking at the sporting trends at a higher level. Need to expand AFL club and additional full size ground. Many netballers are also trending to AFL. But the facilities and ground need to support this
footpath from bridge to Smith St.
Facilities for elderly and handicapped
Fix the drainage so netball courts don't get flooded
Union St between Parkway Ave and Parry St is a designated 60kmh speed zone. This is the only section of road in the whole inner city with this speed limit which is ludicrous especially considering the number of families and children that use the park on a daily basis. Change the speed limit down
Is the running track available for public use?
playground upgrade on Smith St
no parking signage on ambulance access on Union St btw #4 and #3. I have had to move motorbikes to allow an ambulance in.
Playground equipment
Complete the cycle way from Union St to Parry St / Marketown
Don't overdevelop or overcommercialise the park
Repair the Grandstand at the Athletics Field
Council to include upgrades/ maintenance to sporting venues in their budget
Improvement of verges from road to footpaths. Drainage is often blocked with leaves and it's impossible to safely push a wheelchair .
Stop workers parking along Smith Street all day.
Safe passageway between the sportsgrounds and Marketown. It's a bit scary through there during any time of day or night with the people that tend to use that pathway.
Improved path along parkway avenue over the drain between the two sides of National Park (it's currently very narrow for young children to navigate via bike etc)
rebound walls, more basketball boards, trees
Improved lighting over the netball courts
It's be great if you could fence off a leash-free area for dogs, include seats, shade & water access..
More car parking areas
Maintain the grass watering/care and don't wait years to do things like #1