



## LAND & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

### ALEXANDRA PARK

### MANAGEMENT PLAN 2015 - 2020



Alexandra Park Main Avenue

#### **Alexandra Park Vision**

**To ensure that Alexandra Park continues to provide leisure and recreational opportunities for local people and contributes to outdoor education and the health and wellbeing of local communities.**

## ALEXANDRA PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL KEY OBJECTIVES

The Council has developed current Key Objectives in its Council Plan. These objectives set the framework for the Council's main aims for the years 2012 to 2017 and are supported by a list of targets and actions. A report on progress against these targets is reported each year through a short update on the Council Plan which is available on the Council web site [www.glasgow.gov.uk](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk) or by following link below  
<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=14572&p=0>

The five priority areas is to ensure that Glasgow has:

- **Economic growth; and is**
- **A world class city**
- **A sustainable city**
- **A city that looks after its vulnerable people**
- **A learning city**

### 1.2 LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MISSION STATEMENT

In cognisance of the Councils overarching key objectives Land and Environmental Services Purpose Statement is:

**Land and Environmental Services (LES) is committed to protecting the built and natural environment by; taking pride in what we do, taking pride in our people and taking pride in Glasgow.**

LES has set up priorities including the maintenance and development of Parks and Open Spaces to complement the Council Plan.

#### 1.2.1 Introduction to Alexandra Park

1.2.2 This is one of Glasgow's most significant parks, one of four designed by Sir Joseph Paxton. The 104 acre park takes its name from Princess Alexandra, the wife of the future King Edward VII, who officially opened the Park in 1870.

1.2.3 The highest point of the park gives views north to Ben Lomond and south to Tinto hills.

1.2.4 The City Improvement Trustees purchased the park in 1866 from Mr Walter Stewart of Haghill.

1.2.5 The central pedestrian entrance to the park is through ornamental gates from Alexandra Parade.

- 1.2.6 The park has outstanding features including the duck pond and McFarlane Saracen Fountain.
- 1.2.7 There are facilities to suit all ages and abilities including formal recreations such as bowling and golf, children's play areas and quiet areas for passive recreation and contemplation.
- 1.2.8 There has been recent investment in the park including installation of a new outdoor gymnasium, introduction of additional formal play equipment, wildflower meadow creation and a new mountain bike course to improve the visitor experience.

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### 1.3 Summary Information

Park Name:	Alexandra Park
Location:	10 Sannox Gardens Glasgow G31 3JE
Postal Address:	Land and Environmental Services Glasgow City Council Exchange House 231 George Street Glasgow G1 1RX
Size of Site:	42 Hectares (104 acres)
Telephone Number:	Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries Phone: 01412875064
Email:	<a href="mailto:les@glasgow.gov.uk">les@glasgow.gov.uk</a>
Ownership:	Glasgow City Council
Area Partnership:	East Centre
Electoral Wards:	Ward 18
	There is political interest from 4 City Councillors, 8 Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSP's), 3 Members of Parliament, and 6 Scottish Members of the European Parliament (MEP's).
Classification:	District Park
Lead Officer	Parks and Bereavement Services Manager.
Plan Written By:	Parks Development Section
Previous Plan:	This is year 1 of the Management Plan
Partners	Milnbank Housing Association in association with Glasgow Life – Redevelopment of the Golf Course and Bowling Green into a Sports and Community Hub Access Glasgow - Building maintenance GCSS – Security and Safety G P Landscapes - Green waste composting Cordia – Cleaning – Cafe Sustrans – Cycling network Historic Scotland – Heritage assets

## **1.4 Management Plan Framework**

- 1.4.1 This plan sets out the future management, maintenance and development of Alexandra Park and has been produced by Glasgow City Council with support from our working partners to provide not only a long-term vision but also details on actions required to achieve the vision.
- 1.4.2 The plan covers the period April 2015 to March 2020 and has a detailed activity of works for that period. These works will be reviewed annually to see how well we are doing.

## **1.5 Purpose of the Management Plan**

- 1.5.1 The purpose of this management plan is to:

“Provide a framework within which all future management of Alexandra Park will be carried out. The Plan enables any person involved in the park to understand how and why decisions are taken and the reasoning behind the policies and proposals for action.”

- 1.4.2 This plan's target audience is the local community and other stakeholders such as Friends of groups. Its style and content should ensure continuity of purpose and consistency in service delivery. It is intended to be a flexible, working document that will be reviewed and updated regularly.

- 1.5.3 The principal aim of this management plan therefore is;

- **To aid the efficient and effective development, management and maintenance of Alexandra Park.**

- 1.5.4 In doing so the Council will:

- Involve all stakeholders, officers and elected members to monitor, review and amend the Plan as necessary.
- Identify and bid for additional resources where necessary.

## **1.6 Green Flag Award Scheme**

- 1.6.1 The Green Flag award scheme is a nationally recognised quality standard for Parks and Gardens administered in Scotland by Keep Scotland Beautiful. As the extent of development works required to bring Alexandra Park to Green Flag standard is considerable it is not intended to apply for an award initially. Application for a Green Flag award or similar will be dependent on park user groups supporting an application.

## **1.7 How to use this Plan.**

- 1.7.1 This document describes the context of Alexandra Park Management Plan examines where we are now (Section 2), where we want to get to (Section 3) and the actions to be taken to get there (Section 4) . The plan of actions will be carried out over the next five years where resources permit. This Management Plan will be reviewed annually and updated.

## **SECTION 2 WHERE WE ARE NOW**

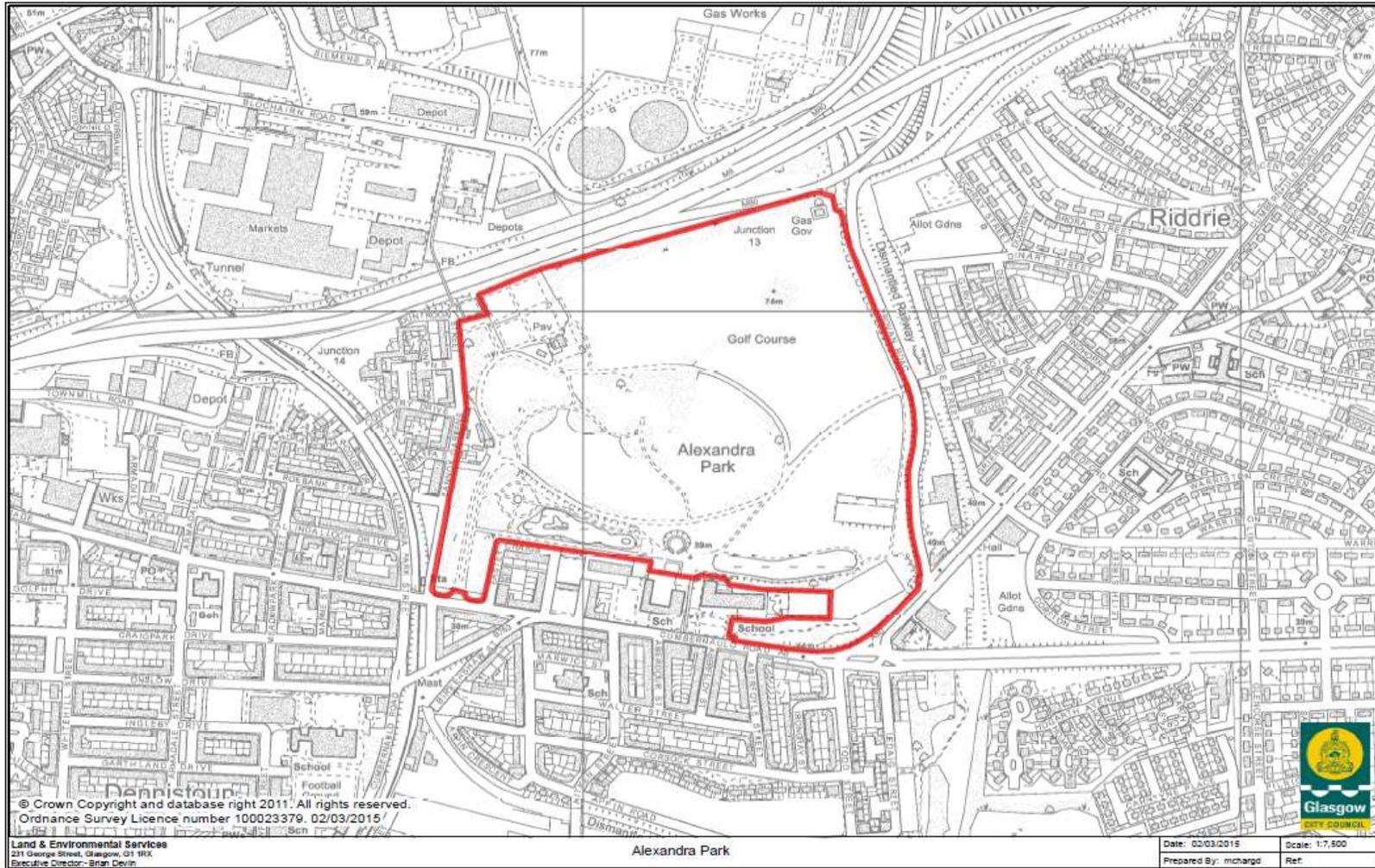
### **2.1 History**

- 2.1.1 The City Improvement Trust purchased the land for Alexandra Park in 1866 from Mr Walter Stewart of Haghill under special legislation, for the north eastern section of the City.
- 2.1.2 During the great trade depression, between 1867 and 1868, many unemployed labourers and artisans were employed to work on the initial layout and formation of the Park.
- 2.1.3 The Park was principally constructed on agricultural land held by the Stewarts family and initially extended from Monkland Canal to Cumbernauld Road, and was known as Wester Kenny-hill.
- 2.1.4 The proprietor of adjoining estate of Golfhill, Mr Alexander Dennistoun, gifted 5 acres of land to the City Improvement Trust. This land located near the south-west corner, adjacent to Alexandra Parade, now forms the main pedestrian entrance.
- 2.1.5 The Park is named after Princess Alexandra, the wife of King Edward VII, who officially opened the Park in 1870 when he was The Prince of Wales.
- 2.1.6 Over the past 5 years substantial development works have been carried by the Council and its partners including a new outdoor gym, Mountain Bike course, wildflower meadow creation, installation of a community growing space, a multi-purpose games court along with some improvements to play provision, and some initial pond naturalisation. An agreement between Glasgow Life and Milnbank Housing Association allowed for the refurbishment of the golf club house into a Sports and Community Hub offering access to golf, bowling, cycling, toilets, refreshments, internet access and bookable community rooms and a general place to meet.

### **2.2 The Locality**

- 2.2.1 The park is located 3 miles east of Glasgow City Centre in the Dennistoun area and is bound by the M8 motorway to the north, Alexandra Parade/Cumbernauld Road to the south, Provan Road to the east and Sannox Gardens to the West.
- 2.2.2 The park covers an area of 42 hectares (104 acres), and serves the people of Dennistoun, Haghill, Carntyne, Riddrie and surrounding areas.
- 2.2.3 Nearby local schools have the opportunity to utilise the park, its features and varying landscapes as an outdoor classroom in support of the Curriculum for Excellence.
- 2.2.4 The locality of the park offers itself as a destination for informal healthy walking and exercise initiatives.
- 2.2.5 The park lies within a densely populated area of the city and provides an outdoor space to relax and have fresh air. According to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2012 (<http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/Simd.aspx>), Alexandra Park is bordered by some of the most deprived communities in Scotland.

2.3 Location Map of Alexandra Park in Glasgow



## 2.4 Map of Facilities



## SECTION 2.5 ALEXANDRA PARK A WELCOMING PLACE



### Alexandra Park Main Entrance

Our aim is to ensure that Alexandra Park is welcoming and accessible to all users.

This section of the Management Plan examines Alexandra Park as a Welcoming Place under the following headings.

- **Entrances and Access**
- **Signage**
- **Park Furniture**
- **Accessible to All**

If you have a view about any of these headings tell us what you think.

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Web Site [www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks)

## 2.5 A WELCOMING PLACE

### 2.5.1 The Park

Alexandra Park plays an important role in the leisure and recreational activities of local communities of Dennistoun, Haghill, Carntyne, Riddrie and surrounding areas in the City of Glasgow.

It provides the visitor with a pleasant environment to relax and enjoy quiet contemplation. For the more active it is an ideal environment for informal exercise such as walking and cycling or to participate in the available recreation facilities such as mountain biking, bowling and golf or outdoor gym equipment.

The park is open from dawn to dusk, however the golf or bowling may have different opening times in line with Glasgow Life's devolved management of these facilities.

The Park has a variety of facilities catering for a range of age groups, varying needs, abilities and interests and provides a good multifunctional space.

Key features of Alexandra Park – see 2.4 Map of facilities – include:

- Saracen Fountain
- Multi Use Games Area
- Outdoor Gymnasium
- Cruickshank Drinking Fountain
- Children's Play Area
- Ponds and Local Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)
- Rose Walk to the Main Avenue
- Orienteering Course
- Mountain Bike Course
- The Hub sports and community facility offering:
  - Bowling Green (*Glasgow Life managed facility*)
  - 9 Hole Golf Course (*Glasgow Life managed facility*)
  - *Cycling workshop*
  - *Community meeting room, wi fi access*
  - *Toilets*
  - *Light refreshments*

### 2.5.2 Entrances and Access.

There are seven entrances into the park two of which can service vehicular access. The west side of the park off Sannox Gardens is access for Council maintenance vehicles and for public vehicle accessing the former golf course club house now known as the Hub and car park. The second vehicle access gate is off Provan Road and is solely for use by maintenance vehicles and access for larger vehicles during park events. All other entrances are pedestrian only access points with the main gate being off Alexandra Parade. Repairs are required to six of the seven entrances. In carrying out these works

LES will seek to ensure that accessibility improvements to the entrances will be undertaken as part of the works.

**Works are currently being carried out to the main gates which require quite extensive stonework repairs and re-pointing, the reproduction gates at this location will also be painted. Works are also currently being carried out to five of the remaining six other entrance points which includes: two cast iron heritage gates being refurbished new pedestrian and vehicle access gates at Provan Road and a new pedestrian gate to Cumbernauld Road**

### 2.5.3 The Main Avenue

The main avenue has become cluttered and has a number of inappropriate tree, shrub and seasonal bedding areas. These areas are not reflective or in the spirit of the original Paxton design concept. It should be acknowledged that certain landscape features are not contemporary with the original design and construction such as the clipped hollies and the central verge with its bedding displays; however, their presence does compliment the formality of a designed park landscape on the scale of Alexandra Park. It is proposed that as part of the regeneration of the park that alterations to the main avenue are made to open the area up by removing the inappropriate plantings and replace with species that are more in tune with Paxton's concept of having a wide open vista as you enter the Park.

**Renew and redefine central avenue bedding, rose displays, tree and shrub plantings from the Alexandra Parade entrance in the spirit of the original design concept of open vista and floral display.**

2.5.4 The paths are generally in good condition; however, a full park path survey has been undertaken and has identified those areas in need of repair. A hierarchy of need has categorised those paths most in need of investment.

**An assessment of the condition and where required repair of the path network and entrance points will be carried out as part of the Parks refurbishment works.**

### 2.5.5 Signage

In common with all of Glasgow's parks Alexandra Park has signage on the perimeter fencing adjacent to gates announcing the name of the park. There is one information cabinet located within the park at the Alexandra Parade main entrance containing a detailed map and key information about the facilities available in the Park.

**This existing cabinet requires intervention to repair and paint it. A further information cabinet is proposed to be installed at the Provan Road entrance to the Park in association with smaller information and event noticeboards at three other entrances**

### 2.5.6 Park Furniture.

There is an adequate seating provision throughout the Park although; there is variation in style and condition.

The park is further served by a number of litterbins with some older ones being of the open mesh basket construction; these are prone to scavenging by animals and birds.

There is an on-going process of removing these and replacing them with a solid litterbin structure and internal removable waste basket.

The locations of seats and litterbins should be reviewed to ensure they are meeting the needs of the park and visitor alike and if required they should be positioned to take advantage of landscape setting and views.

**Continue on-going policy of replacing wire basket litterbins. Review seating quality and location: replace and reposition as and when funds are available.**

#### 2.5.7 **Damage and Repairs**

Within the park damaged items of park furniture are either repaired or replaced as required. LES are currently compiling data, recording the condition location and numbers of benches and bins in Glasgow's parks. Items recorded as being in poor condition are scheduled for repair or replacement. It is intended that this data set will be reviewed on site on an annual basis by works supervisors.

**To demonstrate consistency of approach and presentation all items of furniture within Alexandra Park will be put on an appropriate annual inspection and maintenance regime.**

#### 2.5.8 **Accessible to All.**

Alexandra Park is well connected to public transport and offers access to all sectors of the community; there are no barriers to entry. You can travel to the Park by the following means:

- Bus - Various routes operate from the city centre to the park gates Alexandra Parade and Cumbernauld Road
- Rail - Trains operate from Dalmuir to Springburn and Cumbernauld via Queen Street Station through Alexandra Park Station which is situated to the west of the main gate on Alexandra Parade. Parking - On street parking is available on most streets around the park.
- Cycling - The Park is suitable for cyclists and is part of the City cycling route network in association with Sustrans\* (<http://www.sustrans.org.uk/ncn/map?lat=57.10045196488224&lng=-4.251709421875036&zoom=7&route-type=all-routes&region=Scotland>) .
- Walking - The Park can be accessed from Alexandra Parade, Cumbernauld Road, Provan Road, and Sannox Gardens and designated routes within the City's Core Paths Plan (<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3492>)

For travel information visit - [Traveline Scotland - Public transport information](#) or phone 0871 200 22 33 calls to this number are charged.

\*Sustrans is a British charity to promote sustainable transport. The charity is working on projects to encourage people to walk, cycle, and use public transport, to give people the choice of travelling in ways that benefit their health and the environment Sustrans flagship project is the National Cycle Network, which has created over 14,000 mile of signed cycle routes throughout the UK.

## SECTION 2.6 ALEXANDRA PARK HEALTHY, SAFE AND SECURE



### Alexandra Park Play Area

Our aim is to ensure the safety of all staff and users of Alexandra Park.

This section of the Management Plan examines Alexandra Park as a Healthy, Safe and Secure place under the following headings.

- **Equipment and Facilities**
- **Security**
- **Dog Fouling**
- **Health and Safety Policies**
- **Location of Facilities in the Park**

If you have a view about any of these headings, tell us what you think.

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## 2.6 HEALTHY SAFE AND SECURE

### 2.6.1 Security.

The Park has CCTV cameras on the Main Avenue and a second at the children's play area. These are monitored by Community Safety Glasgow. **LES will continue to liaise with Community Safety Glasgow (CSG) to promote Safe Park message to schools, local people and other park users.**

### 2.6.2 Dog Fouling.

Alexandra Park is used extensively by individuals to walk their dogs. Dog owners are encouraged to lift any dog fouling through the bag it and bin it posters located on the bins throughout the park. Dog owners who do not bag and bin dog fouling could face a fine. Currently there is little evidence that dog fouling is a major problem in the park. Maintenance staff monitor the park for evidence of an increased fouling and if observed the parks staff would request additional dog fouling enforcement. **Monitor the extent of dog fouling in the park and if an increase of incidence is observed seek CSG to instigate enforcement.**

### 2.6.3 Health and Safety Policies.

Land and Environmental Services (LES) has a dedicated team to develop, review, audit and monitor Health and Safety in all areas of LES responsibility. A copy of the Health and Safety Manual is available at the Parks Operations Depot at Greenfield. Regular revisions to the manual are issued and master records maintained by the Policy Development Team. **Ensure that the Health and Safety manual is updated in line with improvements to the Park infrastructure.**

Park users and other members of the public are encouraged to report damaged or dangerous items to the Council's Customer Care Team who will contact appropriate LES Section to remedy the problem.

### 2.6.4 Park Management Rules.

Park management rules are posted at entrances to the park. Further information on the facilities available and principal management rules are displayed in the park information cabinets.

### 2.6.5 Location of Facilities.

The Park has number of leisure opportunities set in an environment that further caters for a number of informal activities. These in turn support park usage by a diverse range of age groups, of varying needs and abilities and interests.

Key features of Alexandra Park – see 2.4 Map of facilities – include:

- Play Areas
- Multi-games Court
- Sports and Recreation: Outdoor Gymnasium and Informal Exercise, such as walking and cycling
- Orienteering Course
- Mountain Bike Course
- Golf Course
- Bowling
- The Hub

*Refer to Section 2.8 Conservation and Heritage for information on wildlife and historic heritage items in the Park.*

**2.6.6 Play Areas:**

Formal prescriptive play within the Park is congregated to the western end of the former Model Boating Pond and is easily accessible from anywhere in the park or directly from the Cumbernauld Road via the pedestrian gate adjacent to Haghill Primary School.

It comprises two fenced play areas: a smaller toddler's play area that is housed within the site of the original park bandstand. The second play area comprises of play equipment aimed at younger children.

The recent installation of swings out with these fenced facilities has widened the play opportunities. The swings are in close proximity to the dedicated picnic area and multi-purpose games court.

**An assessment of the play facilities has been undertaken. Future opportunities for play within the park will be explored with a view to creating more inclusive and dynamic play facilities.**

**2.6.7 Multi-games Court:**

Installed in 2007 an all-weather multi-games court offers casual football and basketball to children of various ages. The facility within the life of this plan will be floodlit extending the time when it can be utilised.

**2.6.8 Recreation/Sports Areas Outdoor Gymnasium and Informal Exercise:**

In 2013 the Council installed adjacent to the multi-games court a 5 piece outdoor gym facility. This facility offers in many ways a similar experience to equipment housed within a traditional gym in a leisure or fitness centre. The Park is also suitable for less formal exercise such as walking, jogging and cycling.

**Aim to expand fitness opportunities with static equipment located throughout the park on a designated running route.**

**2.6.9 Orienteering**

The park has a designated orienteering course with the start and finish adjacent to the play area and former model boating pond. The course consisted of 10 wooden post markers along a route.

**This course will be reinstated with new way markers being introduced and the route added to park plan updates in the future.**

**2.6.10 Mountain Bike Course:**

The purpose built track made of recycled material cuts down the hill through the centre of the park. The course was officially opened in 2011 and is only a short distance from the Sir Chris Hoy velodrome which was a venue for the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

**2.6.11 Golf Course and Bowling Facilities:** Alexandra Park Golf Club was originally built as an 18-hole course in 1896. It is now a popular nine-hole golf course occupying most of the north eastern part of the park. There is a pavilion offering toilet, locker and changing room facilities to both users of adjacent bowling green and the golf course. These features are currently managed by Glasgow Life\* who are responsible for the management, maintenance and development of the golf facilities.

\***Glasgow Life** and its sub brands: Glasgow Arts, Glasgow Communities, Glasgow Events, Glasgow Libraries, Glasgow Museums, Glasgow Music, Glasgow Sport & Young Glasgow are operating names of Culture and Sport Glasgow ("CSG"). CSG is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland with company number SC313851 and having its registered office at 220 High Street, Glasgow G4 0QW. CSG is registered as a charity with the office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (No SC037844). It operates and carries out its activities under the name Glasgow Life and/or the above sub-brands.

## SECTION 2.7 ALEXANDRA PARK: WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN



### **Colour in the summer**

Our aim is to maintain the highest standards of horticulture, cleanliness, grounds and building maintenance so that park users can fully enjoy the site.

This section of the Management Plan examines Alexandra Park as a well maintained and clean place under the following headings.

- **Litter**
- **Grounds Maintenance**
- **Vandalism and other Damage**

If you have a view about any of these headings tell us what you think.

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## 2.7 WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN

### 2.7.1 Litter

The current arrangement is for litterbins to be emptied three times per week in summer and once per week in winter though this is monitored by LES Parks Operations and additional litter removals instructed if required. Once removed from the park waste collected enters the council's normal waste stream where recyclables are removed.

### 2.7.2 Grounds Maintenance

Standard routine maintenance operations are scheduled on cyclical maintenance programmes which identify the frequency and timing of individual operations throughout the year. However, there are also works required that are categorised as reactive, infrequent, specific and/ or are of a specialist nature. Details of grounds maintenance works carried out by LES operations team can be found in section 5 of the Park Management Plans Supporting Information and Strategic Actions document.

### 2.7.3 Monitoring

The Parks Operations Manager is responsible for monitoring the standard of work to ensure that agreed standards and specifications are met.

### 2.7.4 ***Ongoing monitoring and review of the grounds maintenance operations carried out is required to ensure that Alexandra Park is maintained to a high standard and is fit for purpose.***

### 2.7.5 Building and Structure maintenance:

LES managers have a limited budget held in a dedicated cost centre for building and structure repairs from which works can be authorised. Where works are of a more substantial nature out with the scope of the budget, then the Service requires to identify a separate budget source to facilitate the works.

## SECTION 2.8 CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE



Our aim is to protect and enhance biodiversity throughout the site, promote understanding of and interest in biodiversity and to maintain and promote the historic significance of the park.

This section of the Management Plan examines Alexandra Park as a Conservation and Heritage place under the following headings.

- **Natural Features Wildlife and Flora**
- **Heritage Features**

If you have a view about any of these headings tell us what you think.

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## 2.8 CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE

### 2.8.1 Natural Features, Wildlife and Flora.

Alexandra Park has a network of interconnecting diverse habitats of varying importance for nature conservation.

### 2.8.2 Duck Pond

The former boating pond now known as the duck pond is to be found to the east of the Saracen Fountain. For many years the pond was a popular attraction with local children who would peddle flat bottomed boats during the summer months. As this form of park entertainment fell out of fashion the pond was allowed to naturalise and a small aerating fountain was installed.

The pond has been designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) because of its population of breeding Tufted Duck.

In past years breeding pairs of Tufted Duck have produced many ducklings at this pond. In recent years however, Tufted breeding pairs have declined due in part to factors such as undesirable amounts of dense overhanging woody growth, reduction in water quality and food source decline. Loss of marginal vegetation that offers both nesting habitat and refuge from predation of young by gulls is also a factor. Other breeding waterfowl using the pond are Mute Swan, Coot, Mallard and Moorhen although the breeding success of these species is also in decline

**The proposal is to improve natural aquatic habitats, reduce the amount of woody vegetation surrounding and overhanging the pond in association with the removal of vegetation on both the large and small islands. There will be an introduction of marginal plantings to create the nesting, feeding and refuge habitats required. This will afford better views and interaction of the pond by park users.**



*Moorhen on Nest*



*Tufted Duck*

### 2.8.3 Former Model Boating Pond

This is the larger of the two ponds in the park and was created by extending the model boating pond built as part of the original park design.

It is located in the south east corner of the park not far from the entrance at junction of Cumbernauld Road and Provan Road. It was laterally used for model boating and sailing

This lack of use in recent years has led to the development of a natural subaquatic ecosystem. This may have evolved due to plants and aquatic invertebrates arriving attached to the feet and feathers of ducks and swans. There has also been the illicit introduction of fish by persons unknown.

The former model boating pond has regularly, with intermittent success, supported two to three pairs of breeding Coots every year. However, as result of a Phase 1 Naturalisation Project in 2014, this breeding became more successful. This success was further confirmed by presence of a pair of Little Grebe who also raised two young.

**Works are currently being carried out to address several issues that need to be addressed prior to any development works being carried out. The pond is being drained and cleared of debris and silt, the pond overflow is being repaired and the surrounding footpath repaired. It is intended install more naturalisation to the eastern end of the pond.**

### 2.8.4 Grasslands

Grassland diversity varies greatly across the Park with the highly maintained grass of the golf course and bowling greens offering the lowest as would be expected under the intense mowing and maintenance regimes required. A similar regime is employed along the Main Avenue as a backdrop to the horticultural elements of the park.

The park has grasslands offering more of an opportunity to wildlife which although cut regularly it is not the same intensity as the recreational grass. The fringes along hedgerows and fence lines offer feeding and cover for insects, mammals and smaller bird species.

The creation of meadows to the south of the golf course and woodland understory plug planting has also contributed to the grassland diversity within the park.

There is also an opportunity to create suitable habitat for solitary bees which are recorded in the park. **A bee bank will be created adjacent to the wildflower meadows thus providing a refuge and nectar sources for the bees.**

**Native wild flower planting in the meadow areas and new meadows created together with hedgerow fringe planting and more woodland understory planting needs to be carried out to increase diversity and link up the more isolated habitats.**

### 2.8.5 Trees

The trees within Alexandra Park are integral to its sense of place. They provide scale and assist in compartmentalising the landscape creating vistas, screens, shade cover, seasonal interest as well as being an essential element of a parks biodiversity.

To ensure that the Council has full understanding of tree complexity and health within Alexandra Park a comprehensive tree survey was commissioned in August 2014. This report will assist the Council in managing the tree stock to ensure that any trees identified as unhealthy and therefore unsafe are addressed or monitored. It also enables strategic decisions to be made to how the tree cover will develop as different species have different growth patterns and life spans.

The completed tree survey report will further allow for the development of a replacement planting plan which will take the Park into the decades ahead.

**Undertake Duty of Care works in the first instance and further undertake thinning and crown works to enable the development of a diverse, healthy and sustainable tree cover to Alexandra Park. A planting strategy is to be developed with associated replanting to further enhance the parks diverse tree cover for future generations to enjoy.**

### 2.8.6 Historic Structures.

Many structural elements of the parks original design have s been lost and what now remains is a legacy to the past. Significantly what is left is of national importance and listed by Historic Scotland.

The two principal structures of historic significance at Alexandra Park are the Saracen Monumental Spray Fountain and the Cruickshank Drinking Fountain and their conservation is not only integral to the Parks future but are also essential elements of Glasgow's heritage.



#### 2.8.7 Saracen Fountain (Category A listed)

\*The 11.2metre cast-iron Saracen fountain is located in the south west area of the park and forms the centre piece of floral displays and maintained lawns. In 1901 the A listed Saracen fountain was sculpted by David Watson Stevenson and constructed in the foundry of Walter Macfarlane & Co. The 11.2 metre high / 12.2 metre basin cast-iron structure remains one of the most significant iron fountains in Europe. The Saracen Fountain was gifted to the City after the 1901 International Exhibition and remained in Kelvingrove Park for 12 years after the exhibition. In 1914 Glasgow Corporation took the decision to re-site this magnificent piece of industrial architecture to its present location on the main drive of Alexandra Park. Only three of these spray fountains were ever made – sadly the Warrington fountain in Cheshire was melted down in 1942, as part of the war effort, however the Pretoria South African fountain in Sammy Marks Park is still in existence.

Consisting of an elaborate 11.2 metre high, three stage fountain in the middle of a 12.2 metre wide basin. At the base of the fountain is a series of four rectangular buttresses projecting outwards in a cruciform arrangement from an arched octagonal chamber. The buttresses function as pedestals for four, life sized, classically draped allegorical figures identified clockwise from the North West as; Science (holding a retort), Literature (book open on her lap), Commerce (seated on a miniature ship with entwined sea monsters on the stern) and Art (with a theatrical mask and a lyre at her feet).

The middle stage is in the form of a circular peristyle of the Composite order, closely modelled on the choragic monument of Lysicrates (334 BC Athens). The octagonal drum on which it sits carries a series of relief panels illustrating the signs of the Zodiac and months of the year, while the entablature provides support for an intermediary water basin decorated with wave patterns, bunches of fruit and eight sea urchins at the top, all blowing pipes.

The topmost stage of the structure consists of a third water container, in this case in the form of a quatrefoil bowl supported by the entwined tails of inverted dolphins. Additional decorative features include friezes of shells and other natural forms in the cornices of the pedestals and also in the vousoirs of the central arches, lion masks projecting from the central chamber. The outside rim of the lower basin also features further wave patterns. The overall design of the structure allows water to descend from the rim of the upper bowl and from the mouth of the stylised Greek dolphins into the middle basin and also to enter the main pool through the mouths of the lion masks and the pipes of the urchins above the peristyle.

There are three prominent shields on the lower pedestals - these read as follows – Walter Macfarlane and co / Architectural / Sanitary and Artistic Iron founders / Saracen Foundry / Glasgow.\*

**The fountain underwent intervention works in 2000 by painting and some structural repairs, however the fountain does not function as intended and there is a need for further restoration works. The entire structure requires restoration by cast iron specialists painting and gold leaf applied; likewise works are required to the water recycling system to ensure that water streams from the rim of the upper bowl and the mouths of the dolphins and sea monsters. It is the aim that on a successful founding of the Friends of Alexandra Park that they will share a common goal with the Council in seeing this fountain fully restored for generations to come.**

#### 2.8.8 Cruickshank Drinking Fountain

\*The B listed Cruickshank Drinking Fountain with Cherub, circa 1880, is a rare cast iron former drinking fountain. It is enclosed in a canopy supported by four slender stanchions. The complete assembly consists of 20 separate castings, slotted together with leaded joints and pinned by cast iron bolts. The columns have enriched caps, spandrels and four medallions featuring the crest of Glasgow. The putto, the inverted crocodiles on the ribs inside the open enriched dome, and the drop tracery in the arches all draw comparisons to the recently restored John Aitken Memorial Fountain at Govan Cross – although that particular fountain features six stanchions. The canopy of the Alexandra fountain is approximately 3 metres high and some 90 cm square at the base; the cherub is 67 cm high. The cherub is naked apart from a cape over his shoulder; he is seated on a tilted pitcher and leans on a paddle.\*



The plinth on which cherub and water dish sit recently collapsed. This failure also brought to light the extensive deterioration to the cast iron base plate. The canopy also requires intervention but not to the extent that other elements of the structure.

**The entire structure is currently being restored by cast iron specialists, painted and gold leaf applied.**

\*Descriptions of the Saracen Fountain and Cruickshank Drinking Fountain are extracted from the Public Sculpture of Glasgow by Rae McKenzie with contributions by Gary Nisbet – Liverpool University Press 2002

### 2.8.9 Alexandra Parade Gate

The stone piers to the gate arrangement on Alexandra Parade require specialist stonemason intervention to ensure that erosion by wind and rain is held at bay.

The original cast iron gates no longer exist and what is present is a 1980's arrangement in mild steel. These gates although designed to be of interest are not to a design that would be applicable to the age of the gate array or time period of Mid-Victorian.

**Within the current contract to repair gates and entrances a specialist has been engaged to undertake a conditions survey of the sandstone gate piers and recommend the necessary interventions required to ensure longevity of them.**

### 2.8.10 Gates in General

As noted in Section 2.5.2 there are to be found 3 original single leaf gates in cast iron throughout the park. These cast iron features are an integral part of Alexandra's heritage.

**Within the current contract to repair gates and entrances these gates will be refurbished and rehung.**

### 2.8.11 Perimeter Park Railings:

The Park perimeter is fenced completely with vertical bar fence of a similar design and is of post 2<sup>nd</sup> World War installation. It would have to be assumed that the original railings were removed as many park fences were towards the war effort. However, within the Park to the rear of St Rollox Bowling Club there stands a length of approximately 80m of original railings.

**This section of fence is currently removed and is being assessed by a restoration specialist to restore these railings as part of the Parks history and legacy.**



## 2.8.12 DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### 2.8.13 Recent Developments:

As highlighted in previous sections projects have been undertaken in Alexandra Park over the past 5 years many as a result of partnership working.

In adopting this strategy Glasgow City Council and its partners have been successful in securing external funding to complement internal Council Parks Development Programme budget. This approach to partnership working has supported the delivery of projects targeting specific elements of Alexandra Park.

- 2.8.14 **Play Area:** The well-used play areas were expanded upon in 2011.
- 2.8.15 **Mountain Bike Course:** A new course was launched in 2011 with funding from Climate Challenge Fund on behalf of Milnbank housing.
- 2.8.16 **Park Interpretation Cabinet:** A new map board with updated information including Mountain Bike course.
- 2.8.17 **Wildflower Meadow:** The meadow around the Mountain Bike circuit was developed in 2012 to enhance biodiversity with annual cut and lift maintenance regime.
- 2.8.18 **Multi-Purpose Games Court (MPGC):** The games court next to the play area was upgraded in 2010 to include robust range of modern play facilities for 4 to 14 year olds.
- 2.8.19 **Formerly known as the Old Man's Shelter:** This is now a community growing space developed in 2011 with support from Milnbank Housing Association involving a number of gardening groups.
- 2.8.20 **Outdoor Gym:** This new outdoor gym was installed in 2013 as a free and accessible to use facility.
- 2.8.21 **Laser Scanning of Saracen Fountain:** This collaboration between the Council and University of Glasgow postgraduate project was carried out in 2013.
- 2.8.22 **Phase Naturalisation to Boating Pond:** A project to introduce constructed marginal planting beds to the ponds introducing biodiversity and an improved aesthetic to the park.
- 2.8.23 **Upgrade to the Golf/Bowling Accommodation:** This pavilion was upgraded in 2015 and now services the park as a café with refurbished toilets, bookable community room, free Wi-Fi, cycle hire and outdoor eating terrace. The works were funded by the Milnbank Housing Association.



#### 2.8.24 Development Proposals

2.8.25 There are a number of development proposals identified throughout this document and it is proposed that LES will continue representation at various forums to inform or consult stakeholders about developments in the park.

2.8.26 It is noted in section 2.2.3 that according to rankings by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, the park borders on some of the most deprived areas in Scotland. The park in its entirety presents opportunity to contribute to addressing issues of deprivation by working in partnership with local organisations

***It is recommended that the partnerships are established with local and other organisations to provide employment opportunities, training and social inclusion activities and health inequalities where possible.***

2.8.27 Play Area: A review and investment will be required within some aspects of play within the park.

2.8.28 The introduction of additional noticeboards to provide information on the park and up and coming events

2.8.29 Repairs and upgrades to the parks footpath and roadway infrastructure.

2.8.30 Refurbishment of heritage gates and the installation of new gates at strategic entrances

2.8.31 The combined activities of draining and clearing of the former boating pond and the introduction of a 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of naturalisation to the eastern end.

2.8.32 The diversifying of the parks natural habitats by creating varying meadow types and woodland under storey habitats

2.8.33 Works ensure that the duck pond designation as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINC) is maintained and strength by habitat management and diversification.

2.8.34 Investment in the parks heritage features.

2.8.35 Review the horticultural displays within the park

2.8.36 There is a proposal to develop a community orchard supported with training by the Helping Britain Blossom project creating Urban Orchards.

2.8.37 To investigate the potential for informal sports and recreation to compliment what already exists such as the orienteering course.

2.8.38 Assisting in facilitating the formation of The Friends of Alexandra Park

The Action Plan should be referred to for these and additional items.

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## SECTION 2.9 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.



*Photo of people at Alexandra Park Festival Day*

### **Park Visitors**

Our aim is to encourage community involvement in the park through consultation, events, projects and user groups.

This section of the Management Plan examines how we listen to our stakeholders and how we get them involved in Alexandra Park under the following headings.

- **Friends**
- **Partners.**
- **Volunteering**
- **Environmental Education**
- **Events**

If you have a view about any of these headings tell us what you think.

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries 01412875064

Email: [les@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:les@glasgow.gov.uk)

Web Site [www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks)

## **2.9 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

### **2.9.1 Friends of Alexandra Park**

An aim within this management plan is to support the newly formed Friends of Alexandra Park as the recognised vehicle for involving park users and wider community in providing a direction for the management and development of the park.

**Ensure the new Friends group become actively involved in the development and regeneration of Alexandra Park.**

### **2.9.2 Key reasons for establishing a Friends Group.**

- Friends Groups give local people interested in their park a representative organisation
- Friends Groups have the capability to work in partnership with the local authority and other local organisations to represent local views and improve and develop the park
- Local authorities are not always in a position to deliver all that a local community may want for and from its park however, a Friends Group can be an alternative delivery vehicle.
  - They have the ability to raise funds independently
  - They have the ability to arrange voluntary activities and agree action plans with the local parks management team
  - They have the ability to organise events with agreement with the local authority in the park
  - They can also become a point of contact/ hub and support organisation for other local groups wishing to utilise park facilities
  - Volunteering
- Friends groups may be able to establish themselves as charitable organisations and assist in raising funds from additional sources for projects that would not be accessible to local authorities

### **2.9.3 Funding and Partnership Working**

LES is committed to seek to involve partners in all park development works. The proposed park improvement works contained in this plan will involve some funding from ENV2 and the LES Parks Development Programme (PDP) which has been secured. ENV2 is a scheme established to accrue funds for the development of open space, play areas and sports and recreation pitches from adjacent new housing developments. ENV2 and PDP funds will not deliver all of the development actions contained within this management plan and LES will seek further partners within the life of this plan to assist with the implementation of the plan.

**LES will continue to develop appropriate partnerships to support further initiatives and improvements in Alexandra Park.**

#### 2.9.4 Volunteering

Has been attributed to have a positive impact on individuals, organisations and the wider community and in the current economic climate, it can help people to gain the new skills, confidence, experience and references required to secure employment.

Through the establishment of a Friends group LES will actively encourage the development of volunteering as a core activity for the local community to become involved with activities in the park.

**In conjunction with the planned park improvements LES intends to seek the establishment through the newly formed Friends of Alexandra Park a group of volunteers to help to support the Park.**

#### 2.9.5 Environmental Education.

LES delivers environmental education principally through the Countryside Rangers and the Natural Environment teams. Countryside Rangers organise events and opportunities for community involvement in caring for the City's natural heritage. This is delivered in schools, parks events and Local Nature Reserves citywide.

**The ponds, trees and meadows in Alexandra Park are part of the network of areas that are used to deliver this education.**

#### 2.9.6 Alexandra Park Events

There is an established formal events programme for Alexandra Park throughout the year. Like most parks, many of the events occur during the summer months and they range from charity events, sporting events, cultural events and local events. There are also informal events organised by local people and community groups who use the park.

#### 2.9.7 Events held in Alexandra Park include:

- Health Walks
- Summer Events
- Alexandra Park Family Day
- Cycling Proficiency Tests

#### 2.9.8 A considerable amount of work has already been done in identifying management actions required for the current and future improvement and maintenance of Alexandra Park through high levels of public consultation and community involvement, a range of improvements carried out over the last 5 years is as follows:

- Multi Use Games Court (MUGC) upgrade
- Play area improvement in 2011
- New Mountain Bike Course
- Outdoor Gym
- Wildflower Meadow

- Pond Naturalisation

**2.9.9** The delivery of these improvements shows what can be achieved through strategic planning and stakeholder involvement. Some of the actions for this plan require securing further capital funds that Land and Environmental Services considers achievable within the life of the plan.

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## SECTION 2.10 MARKETING



Alexandra Park Information Day 2015

Our aim is to actively promote Alexandra Park to all potential users.

This section of the Management Plan examines the Marketing of Alexandra Park under the following headings.

- **Other Marketing Tools.**

If you have a view about any of these headings tell us what you think.

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries 01412875064

Email: [les@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:les@glasgow.gov.uk)

Web Site [www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks)

## 2.10 MARKETING

2.10.1 A range of media is used to promote GCC parks events and the activities that occur within them which include GCC web site, email, twitter, My Park Scotland <http://www.mypark.scot/> web site television, radio and the press.

**LES will *Continue to promote events in Alexandra Park***

2.10.2 The Glasgow City Council web site contains information on all of the City's parks and the events and activities taking place. The site is regularly updated and a weekly events programme 'What's on in our Parks' is posted <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3618>

2.10.3 Historic and other relevant information about Alexandra Park is now available on the Council website. Health walks are led by volunteer Health Walk leaders provided by Glasgow Life on request.

2.10.4 Countryside Rangers and the Conservation team actively promote parks through the delivery of the curriculum for excellence by outdoor learning to schools; provide interpretation to the public through countryside events and carry out surveys and conservation work with volunteers and individuals seeking work experience <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3156>

2.10.5 **Excellence Awards** Consideration should be given to applying for a Green Flag quality award for Alexandra Park after the works are complete as this will identify the park as a quality park which has reached a nationally recognised standard.

**Consider applying for a Green Flag or similar scheme.**

## **SECTION 3 WHERE DO WE WANT TO GET TO**

### **3.1 VISION FOR ALEXANDRA PARK**

- 3.1.1 The vision statement has been developed to reflect the outcome of public consultation regarding Alexandra Park and the role the park plays in the life of local communities it serves.

#### ***Vision Statement***

***To ensure that Alexandra Park continues to provide leisure and recreational opportunities for local people and contributes to outdoor education and the health and wellbeing of local communities.***

### **3.2 ASSESSMENT**

#### **3.2.1 Alexandra Park Management Action Plan Aims**

- 3.2.2 Beneath the new vision are series of aims that have been linked to the Green Flag Award Scheme criteria.
- 3.2.3 The park management plan aims are set as follows. Each of these aims is further developed into targets, measures and timescales identified in the action plan.

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**The relationship between Green Flag Award criteria and Management Plan aims**

<b>Green Flag Criteria</b>	<b>Management Plan Aim</b>
A Welcoming Place	To ensure that Alexandra Park is welcoming and accessible to all users
Healthy, Safe and Secure	To ensure the safety of all staff and users of the park and to enhance range of facilities
Clean and Well Maintained	To maintain the highest standards of horticulture, cleanliness, grounds and building maintenance
Sustainability	To protect and enhance the areas of core nature conservation interest and adopt environmental management principles to help reduce the impact of management operations on the environment
Conservation and Heritage	To protect and enhance biodiversity throughout the site, promote understanding of and interest in biodiversity. Maintain and promote the historic significance of the park through education.
Community Involvement	To encourage community involvement in the park through consultation, events, projects and the User Groups.
Marketing	To actively promote the park to all potential users
Management	To provide an active, flexible and high quality management service

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## **SECTION 4 HOW WE WILL GET THERE**

### **4.1 Overview**

4.1.1 The Alexandra Park Management Plan is for five years starting financial year 2015/16. The completion date will therefore be 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

### **4.1.2 Action Plan**

4.1.3 This Plan sets out the actions aligned with each of the Green Flag criteria and, for reference, the relevant paragraph numbers and sections. It also identifies the information source used to lead to the recommendations. The action plan also contains a section identifying strategic capital projects which Land and Environmental Services will endeavour to achieve within the life of the Plan.

4.1.4 The timescales mean the following:

- Short: immediate action required within the first year of the plan.
- Medium: action required within the first three years of the plan.
- Long: may not be achievable within the life of the plan, but progress should be made within the life of the plan.
- Ongoing.

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**2.5 A Welcoming Place – Actions**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paragraph Number</b>	<b>Management Plan Section</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Estimated Cost £</b>	<b>Timescale / Update</b>
1	2.5.2	Entrances and Access	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Works are currently being carried out to the main gates which require quite extensive stonework repairs and re-pointing, the reproduction gates at this location will also be painted. Works are also currently being carried out to five of the remaining six other entrance points which includes: two cast iron heritage gates being refurbished new pedestrian and vehicle access gates at Provan Road and a new pedestrian gate to Cumbernauld Road	£50,000	<b>Short Term</b> – Contract let and works started November 2015
2	2.5.4	The Main Avenue	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Renew and redefine central avenue bedding, rose displays, Tree and Shrub plantings at Alexandra Parade entrance based on original concept of open vista and floral display.	Internal	<b>Medium Term</b> action required within the first three years of the Plan 2015-2017.

**A welcoming Place Continued**

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
3	2.5.5	The Path Network	Landscape Design and Development Manager	An assessment of the condition and where required repair of the path network and entrance points will be carried out as part of the Parks refurbishment works.	£60,000	<b>Medium Term</b> - action required within the first three years of the plan. 2015-2017
4	2.5.6	Signage	Landscape Design and Development Manager	This existing cabinet requires intervention to repair and paint it. A further information cabinet is proposed to be installed at the Provan Road entrance to the Park	£5,000	<b>Short Term</b> immediate action required within the first year of the plan.2015-2016
5	2.5.7	Park Furniture	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Continue on-going policy of replacing wire basket litterbins. Review seating quality and location: replace and reposition as and when funds are available.	£12,500	<b>Short Term</b> immediate action required within the first year of the plan.2015-2016

**A welcoming Place Continued**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paragraph Number</b>	<b>Management Plan Section</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Estimated Cost £</b>	<b>Timescale / Update</b>
6	2.5.8	Damage and Repairs	Parks Operations Manager	To demonstrate consistency of approach and presentation all items of furniture within Alexandra Park should be put on an appropriate annual inspection and maintenance regime.	£7,500	<b>Ongoing</b>  Expenditure Per Annum 2015 to 2020

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**2.6 Healthy, Safe and Secure**

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
7	2.6.1	Security	Parks Operations Manager	LES will however continue to liaise with Community Safety Glasgow (CSG) to promote Safe Park message to schools, local people and other park users.	Internal	<b>Ongoing</b>
8	2.6.2	Dog Fouling	Parks Operations Manager	Monitor the extent of dog fouling in the park and if an increase of incidence is observed seek CSG to instigate enforcement.	Internal	<b>Ongoing</b>
9	2.6.3	Health and Safety Policies	Parks Operations Manager	Ensure that the Health and Safety manual is updated in line with improvements to the Park infrastructure.	Internal	<b>Ongoing</b>
10	2.6.6	Play Areas	Landscape Design and Development Manager	An assessment of the play facilities has been undertaken. Future opportunities for play within the park will be explored with a view to creating more inclusive and dynamic play facilities.	£45,000	<b>Short Term</b> immediate action required within the first year of the plan 2015-2016.

**Healthy, Safe and Secure Continued**

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
11	2.6.8	Recreation/Sports Areas Outdoor Gymnasium and Informal Exercise:	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Aim to expand fitness opportunities with static equipment located throughout the park on a designated running route.	£30,000	<b>Medium term</b> action required within the first three years of the plan 2016-2017.
12	2.6.9	Orienteering	Landscape Design and Development Manager	This course will be reinstated with new way markers being introduced and the route added to park plan updates in the future.	£3,000	<b>Short Term</b> immediate action required within the first year of the plan 2015-2016.

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**2.7 Well Maintained and Clean**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paragraph Number</b>	<b>Management Plan Section</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Estimated Cost £</b>	<b>Timescale / Update</b>
13	2.7.4	Grounds Maintenance	Parks Operations Manager	A review of the current job ticket system for grounds maintenance is required to ensure that Alexandra Park is maintained to a high standard and is fit for purpose. There is a need to develop a snow/flood clearance plan for priority roads and footpaths.	Internal	Ongoing

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2.8 Conservation and Heritage

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
14	2.8.2	Duck Pond	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Improve natural aquatic habitats and reduce the amount of tree cover surrounding the pond along with the need to remove some of the vegetation from the island as it has become overgrown and is having a detrimental effect on the viability of the pond to support waterfowl in the near future if left unmanaged	£10,000	<b>Short Term</b> immediate action required within the first year of the plan 2015-2016.

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Conservation and Heritage Continued

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
15	2.8.3	Former Model Boating Pond	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Works are currently being carried out to address several issues that need to be addressed prior to any development works being carried out. The pond is being drained and cleared of debris and silt, the pond overflow is being repaired and the surrounding footpath repaired. It is intended install more naturalisation to the eastern end of the pond.	£20,000	<b>Short Term</b> Contract let and works started November 2015

Conservation and Heritage Continued

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
16	2.8.4	Grasslands	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Appropriate native flower planting in the meadow areas must be encouraged and new meadows created which should be done in conjunction with hedgerow fringe planting and more woodland understory beneath stands of trees. These meadows will create the connective habitats linking up the more isolated habitats.	£3,000	<b>Short Term</b> immediate action required within the first year of the plan 2015-2016.
				Create a Bee Bank including signage suitable for solitary bees, adjacent to the wildflower meadows	£500	Short Term 2016/17
17	2.8.5	Trees	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Undertake Duty of Care works in the first instance and further undertake thinning and crown works come winter 2015/ 2016. A planting strategy is developed and replanting to commence winter 2016 (first quarter).	£30,000	<b>Short Term</b> immediate action required within the first year of the plan 2015-2016.

Conservation and Heritage Continued

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
18	2.8.7	Saracen Fountain	Landscape Design and Development Manager	<p>The fountain underwent intervention works in 2000 by painting and some structural repairs, however the fountain does not function as intended and there is a need for further restoration works. The entire structure requires restoration by cast iron specialists painting and gold leaf applied; likewise works are required to the water recycling system to ensure that water streams from the rim of the upper bowl and the mouths of the dolphins and sea monsters</p> <p>It is the aim that on a successful founding of the Friends of Alexandra Park that they will share a common goal with the Council in seeing this fountain fully restored for the generations to come.</p>	£400,000	<b>Medium term</b> action required within the first three years of the plan 2015-2017.

Conservation and Heritage Continued

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
19	2.8.8	Cruickshank Drinking Fountain	Landscape Design and Development Manager	The entire structure is currently being restored by cast iron specialists, painted and gold leaf applied.	£75,000	<b>Short Term:</b> Contract let and works started November 2015
20	2.8.9	Alexandra Parade Gate	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Within the current contract to repair gates and entrances a specialist has been engaged to undertake a conditions survey of the sandstone gate piers and recommend the necessary interventions required to ensure longevity of them.	£25,000	<b>Short term</b> Contract let and works started November 2015
21	2.8.10	Gates in General	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Within the current contract to repair gates and entrances these cast iron gates will be refurbished and rehung.	£20,000	<b>Short term:</b> Contract let and works started November 2015
22	2.8.11	Perimeter Park Railings	Landscape Design and Development Manager	This section of fence is currently removed and is being assessed by a restoration specialist to restore these railings as part of the Parks history and legacy.	£10,000	<b>Short term:</b> Contract let and works started November 2015

**Conservation and Heritage Continued**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paragraph Number</b>	<b>Management Plan Section</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Estimated Cost £</b>	<b>Timescale / Update</b>
23	2.8.23	Community Orchard	Landscape Design and Development Manager	The aim is to develop a community orchard supported with training by the Helping Britain Blossom project creating Urban Orchards.		<b>Medium term</b> action required within the first three years of the plan 2015-2017.
24	2.8.25	Development Proposals	Landscape Design and Development Manager	It is recommended that the partnerships are established with local and other organisations to provide employment opportunities, training and social inclusion activities where possible.		<b>Ongoing</b>

**2.9 Community Involvement**

Item	Paragraph Number	Management Plan Section	Lead Officer	Action	Estimated Cost £	Timescale / Update
25	2.9.1	Friends of Alexandra Park	Landscape Design and Development Manager	Ensure the new Friends group become actively involved in the development and regeneration of Alexandra Park.	Existing Budgets	<b>Short Term:-</b> New Friends group launched 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
26	2.9.3	Partners	Landscape Design and Development Manager	LES will continue to develop appropriate partnerships to support further initiatives and improvements in Alexandra Park.	Existing Budgets	<b>Ongoing</b>
27	2.9.4	Volunteering	Landscape Design and Development Manager	In conjunction with the planned park improvements LES intends to seek the establishment through the newly formed Friends of Alexandra park a group of volunteers to help to support the Park.	Existing Budgets	<b>Medium term</b> action required within the first three years of the plan 2016-2020.
28	2.9.5	Environmental Education	Landscape Design and Development Manager	The ponds, trees and meadows in Alexandra Park are part of the network of areas that are used to deliver this education	Existing Budgets	<b>Medium term</b> action required within the first three years of the plan. 2016-2020

**2.10 Marketing**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paragraph Number</b>	<b>Management Plan Section</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Estimated Cost £</b>	<b>Timescale / Update</b>
29	2.10.1	Marketing	LES Events Manager.	Continue to promote events in Alexandra Park	£1,000	<b>Ongoing</b> Annual cost 2015-2020
30	2.10.6	Marketing	Parks and Bereavement Services Manager	Consider applying for a Green Flag on completion of the restoration works.	Existing Budgets	<b>Medium term</b>

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## SECTION 5 HOW WE WILL KNOW WE HAVE ARRIVED



Alexandra Park Main Entrance

This section of the Management Plan examines the indicators that we will employ to ensure Alexandra Park continues to meet the Green Flag standards as:

- A Welcoming Place
- Healthy, Safe and Secure
- Clean and Well Maintained
- Sustainability
- Conservation and Heritage
- Community Involvement
- Marketing
- Management

Progress with Alexandra Park will be identified under the following headings.

- **Management Plan Monitoring**
- **Budget and Service Plan**
- **Land and Environmental Services Annual Service Plan and Improvement Report (ASPIR)**
- **Online Survey and Customer Feedback**
- **Parks Development Programme Monitoring**

If you have a view about any of these issues tell us what you think.

Telephone Number: Land and Environmental Services General Enquiries 01412875064

Email: [les@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:les@glasgow.gov.uk)

Web Site [www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks)

## SECTION 5 HOW WILL WE KNOW WE HAVE ARRIVED

- 5.1 Introduction.** The effective management of the city's parks and open spaces requires Land and Environmental Services to regularly monitor performance and to report these findings to the public, the Council and other stakeholders. Land and Environmental Services use a variety of methods to report on performance.
- 5.2 Management Plan Monitoring.** There is a commitment in the Management Section of this plan to review progress on a yearly basis. The outcome of each review will be communicated to the Plan's target audience identified in paragraphs 1.6.1 and our partner organisations for comment. The outcome of each review will also be reported to the LES Senior Management Team for approval and action if required. Any proposed changes to the plan will be subjected to the same process.
- 5.3 Budget and Service Plan.** The Council's financial approach requires all services to combine their annual budget proposals with their annual service plan to produce an annual Budget and Service Plan. The Plan sets out the proposed service changes and financial efficiencies for a financial year in line with the Council's approved budget.
- This includes
- An overview of the Service with details of responsibilities, budgets and staffing
  - The opportunities and challenges currently facing Land and Environmental Services
  - Details of the service changes for 2015/16. These cover individual proposals for income generation and efficiency savings.
- 5.3.1** Our commitment to improving our parkland through the adoption of Green Flag standards, the targets for achieving Green Flag award and the resources required to do so will be clearly identified in this Plan.
- 5.4 Land and Environmental Services Annual Service Plan and Improvement Report.** The Annual Service Plan and Improvement Report details the achievements and levels of performance reached during the previous year. It also sets out new targets for service delivery in the coming year. The commitment to adopt Green Flag standards and achieve green Flag awards for some of our parks and Local Nature reserves will be clearly identified and progress reported on an annual basis.
- 5.5 Online Survey and Customer Feedback.** Land and Environmental Services have access to customer feedback system in house. The outcome from this system will be used to inform the management plan monitoring and review process.
- 5.6 Parks Development Programme Monitoring.** Park management plans will identify actions that could be funded by the Parks Development Programme (PDP) budget. Suitable projects are identified and entered into a bids process and successful projects have a budget allocated and added to the PDP programme. LES landscape design project manage most of the PDP programme. Major capital schemes are sometimes managed by LES Projects Team and this is dependant on the scale and scope of the project involved. All projects are tracked within a project management system to ensure quality outcomes. Monitoring of the PDP takes place every 2 weeks where the progress of every project is discussed both in terms of budgetary and physical progress and remedial action identified if required. On completion projects are signed off with a completion certificate retained within the project file and the completed site is passed to Parks Operations team for maintenance.

**SECTION 6 APPENDICES**

**6.1 Appendix 1 Alexandra Park Information Day Poster**

# Alexandra Park Information Day

Glasgow City Council, Land and Environmental Services  
invite you to join us to hear more and get involved in  
Alexandra Park



Information on works to be undertaken and developed in 2015 include:

- The launch of the Alexandra Park Draft Management Plan
- Historical features: the Saracen Fountain and the Cruikshank Cherub
- Tree Management
- Wildlife Enhancements
- Play Area Improvements
- Footpaths and gates

**Join The Friends of Alexandra Park and help to shape the future of the Park**

**On Saturday 14th March 2015**

**Time: 10:00 to 2:00**

**At the Alexandra Parade gate**



6.2 Appendix 2 Alexandra Park Information Day Questionnaire



### Alexandra Park Visitor Survey

Glasgow City Council is hoping to improve access and use of Alexandra Park. Could you help us by answering a few questions about how you use the Park?

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time:  Morning  Afternoon Interviewer \_\_\_\_\_

1. How often do you visit Alexandra Park?

- Daily  Weekly  Monthly  A few times a year  Less than once a year  It's my first visit  
 How many times per week/month/ year (depending on answer)?

2. What is your main reason for visiting the Park? TICK ONE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh air and a stroll                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking the dog              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise (walking, jogging, outdoor gym, etc)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Watching the birds/ wildlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Take kids for a walk/ play / play area                | <input type="checkbox"/> Play golf                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking children to school                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Play bowls                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collecting children to school                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To use the sports centre facilities at Haghill School |   |

3. How many people are visiting the Park with you today?

- On my own  Myself plus  adults  children

4. How long did it take you to get to the Park today?

- Under 10 minutes  11-20 minutes  21-30 minutes  31-45 minutes  
 46 minutes - 1 hour  more than 1 hour

5. How did you arrive at the Park today?

- On foot  By car/ motorbike  Minibus/ coach  Public transport  By bicycle Other \_\_\_\_\_

6. Are there any improvements you would really like to see in the Park?

- No  
 Yes - which ones? Please provide as many as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. We would like to know where people who visit the Park come from. Can you give us your postcode?

*Note: this information will not be used for any other purposes than calculating distance and plotting residence of visitors.*

First part \_\_\_\_\_ Second part \_\_\_\_\_

If you don't want to give your postcode, or don't know it, where do you live (nearest town/ village)?

\_\_\_\_\_

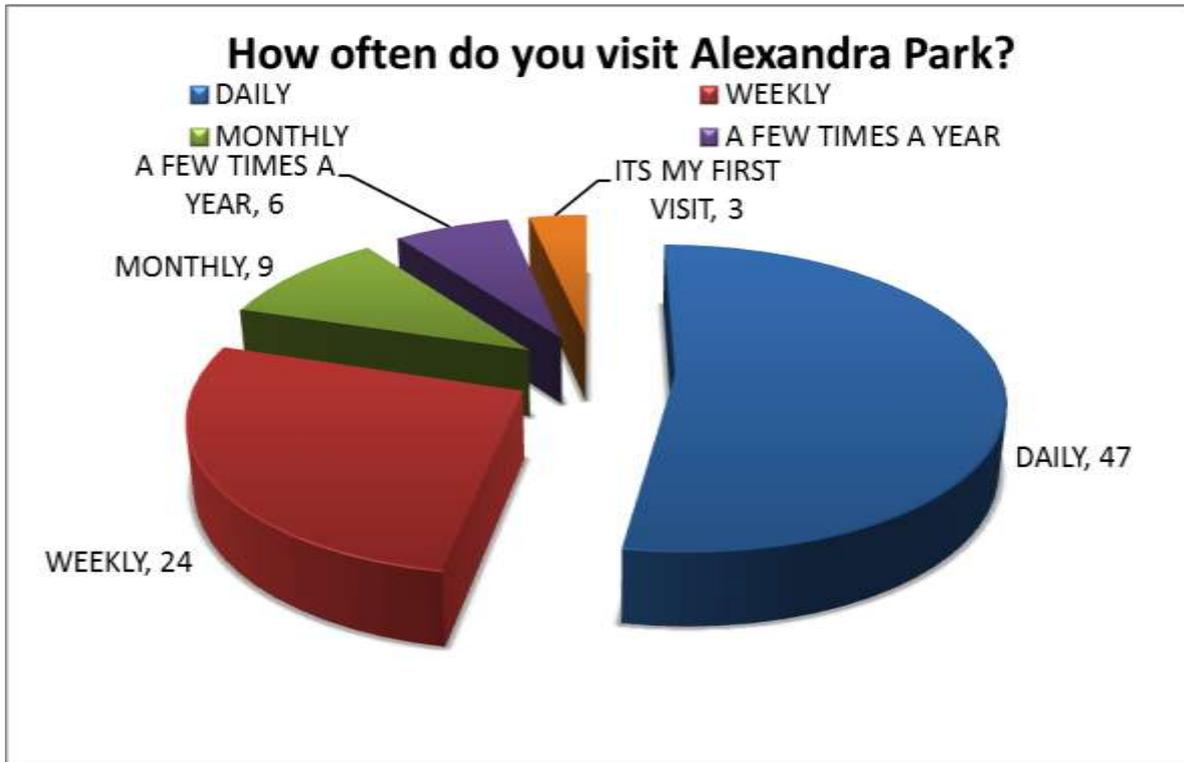
8. About you...

- What age group are you in?  16-24  25-34  35-44  45-64  55-64  65-74  75+  
 Gender  Male  Female

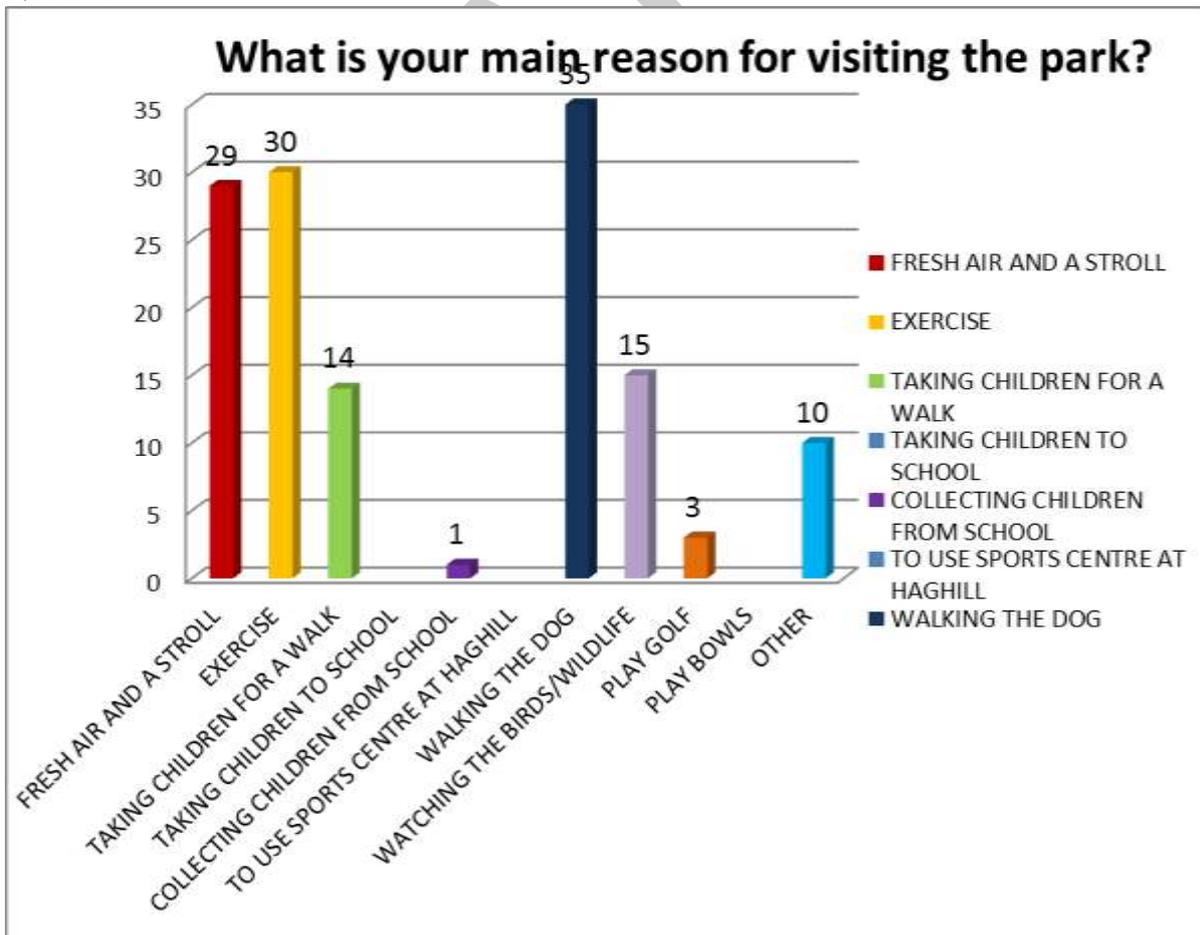
Thank you for your time!

**Appendix 3** Alexandra Park Information Day Questionnaire Analysis

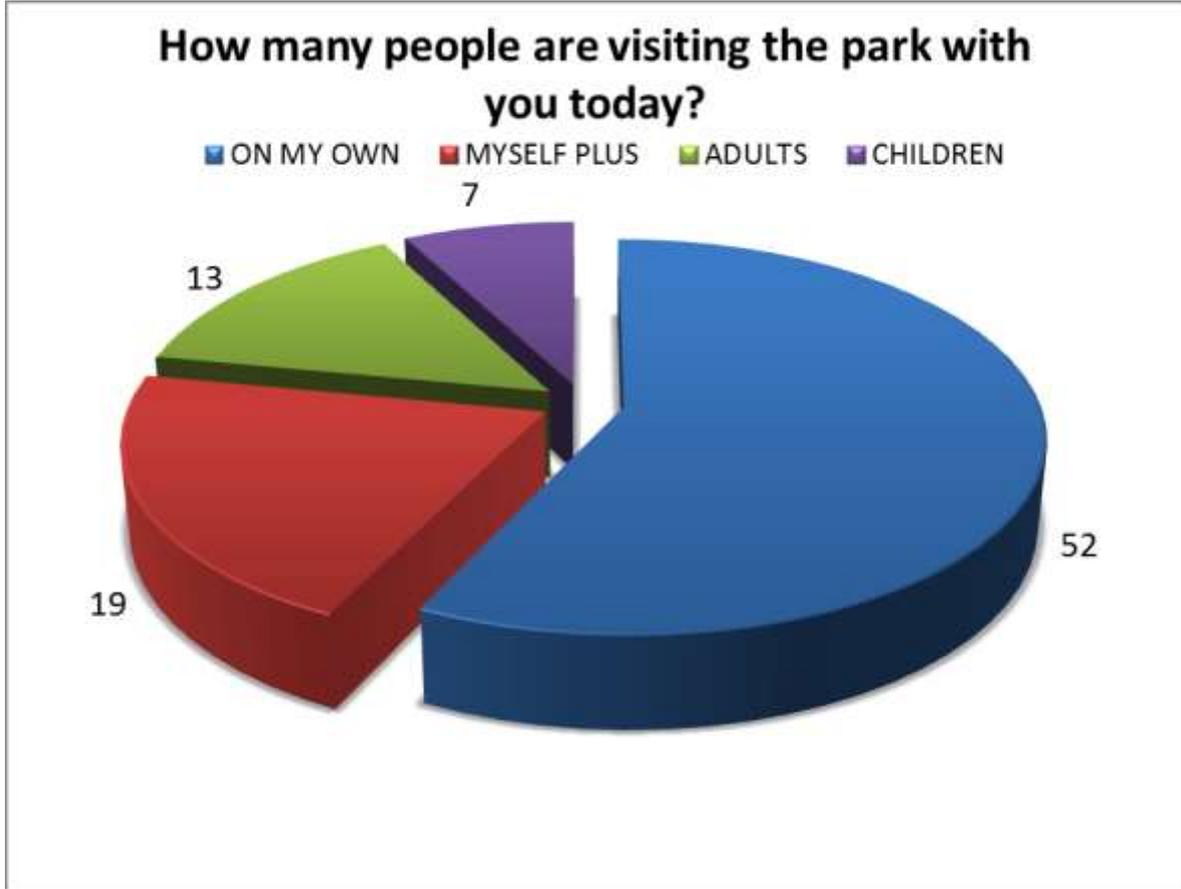
**Question 1**



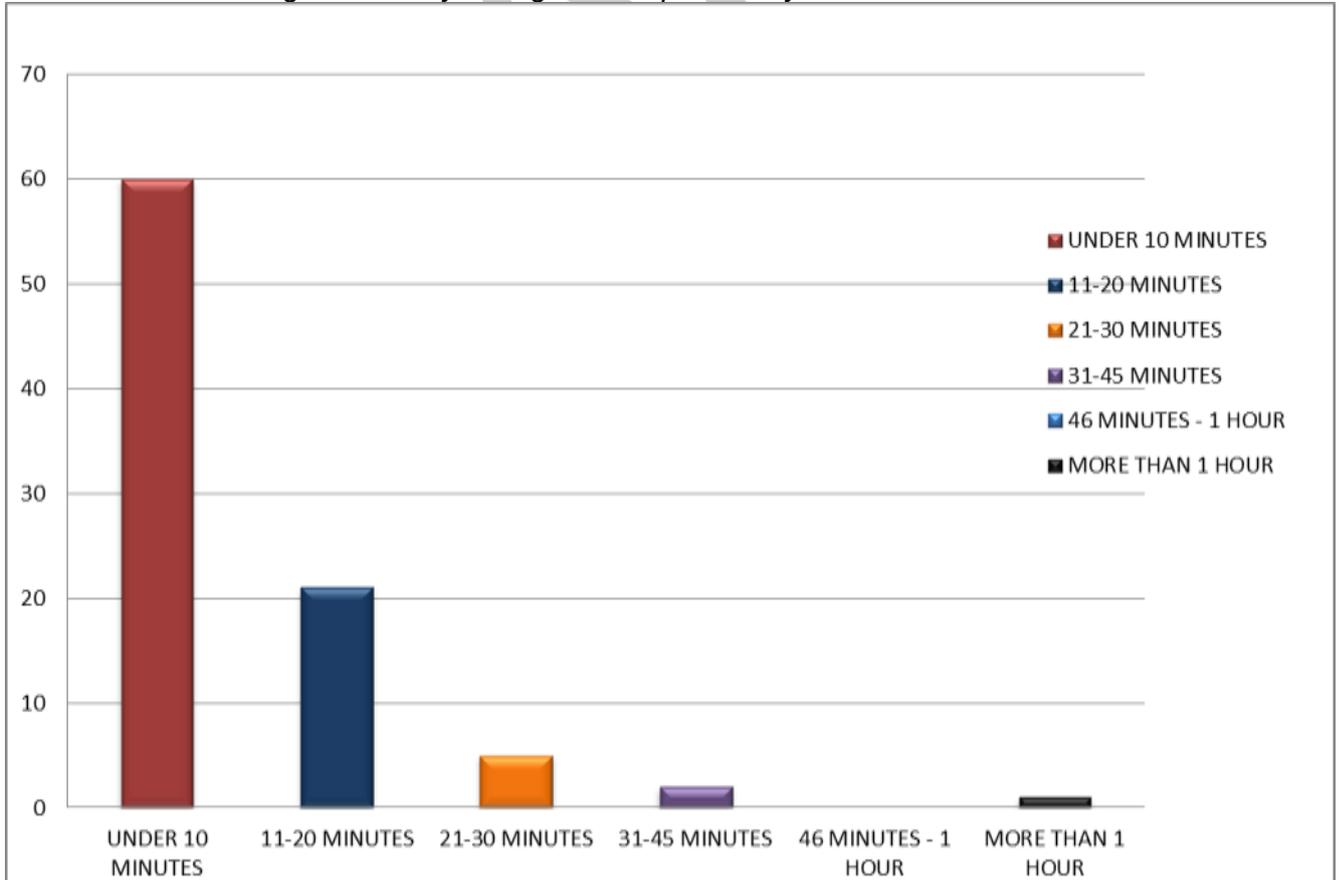
**Question 2**



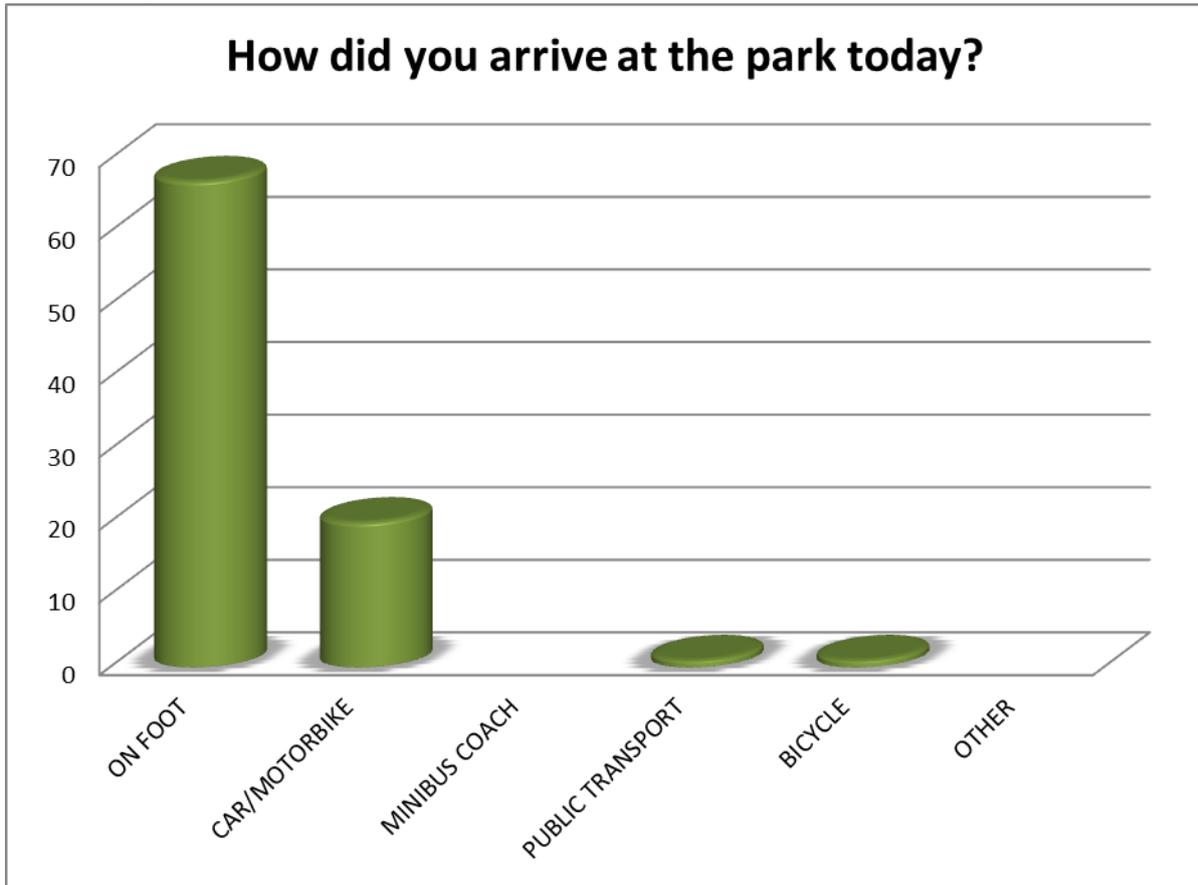
**Question 3**



**Question 4:** *How long did it take you to get to the park today?*

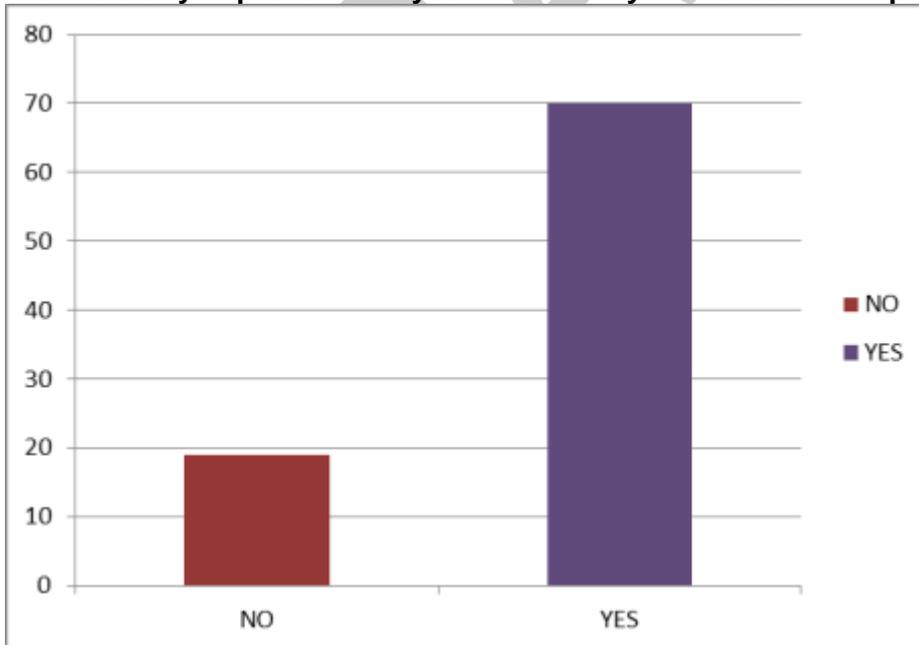


**Question 5**



**Question 6**

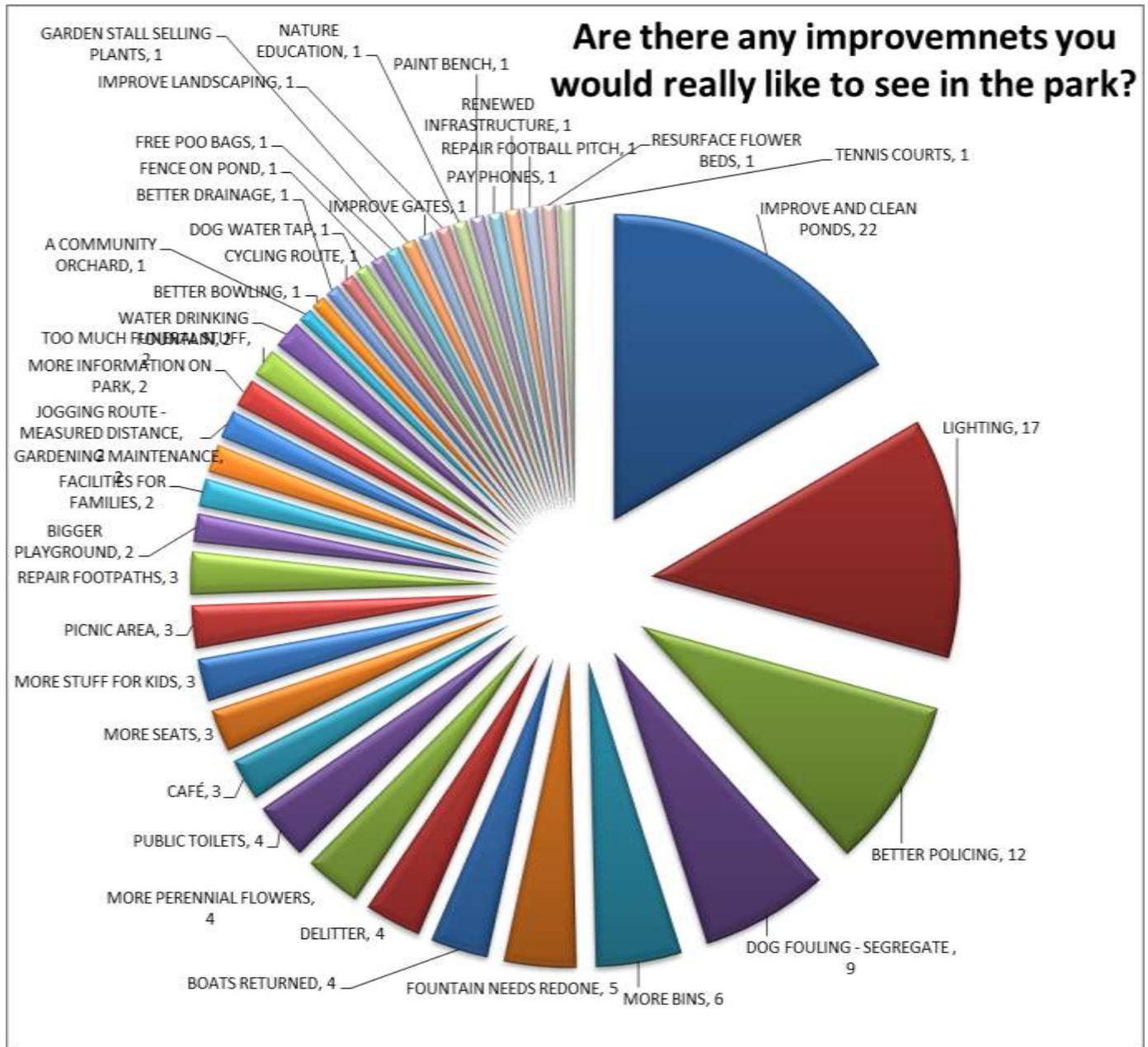
**Are there any improvements you would really like to see in the park?**



*19 out of the 89 questioned stated they liked or offered no suggestions on how they would improve the park*

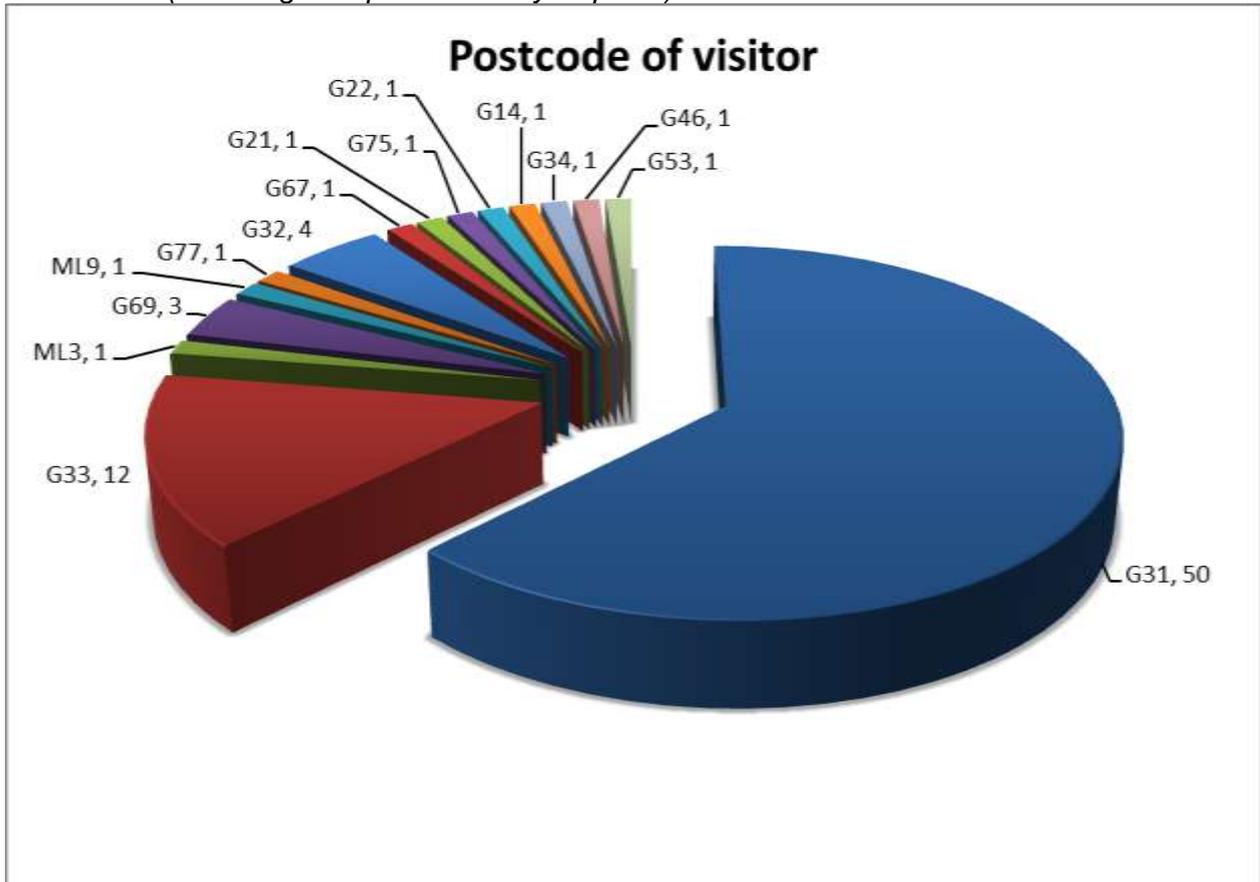
**Comments, ideas and suggestions for park enhancements and improvements presented in the questionnaires**

<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>	
IMPROVE AND CLEAN PONDS	22
LIGHTING	17
BETTER POLICING	12
DOG FOULING - SEGREGATE	9
MORE BINS	6
FOUNTAIN NEEDS REDONE	5
BOATS RETURNED	4
DELITTER	4
MORE PERENNIAL FLOWERS	4
PUBLIC TOILETS	4
CAFÉ	3
MORE SEATS	3
MORE STUFF FOR KIDS	3
PICNIC AREA	3
REPAIR FOOTPATHS	3
BIGGER PLAYGROUND	2
FACILITIES FOR FAMILIES	2
GARDENING MAINTENANCE	2
JOGGING ROUTE - MEASURED DISTANCE	2
MORE INFORMATION ON PARK	2
TOO MUCH FUNERAL STUFF	2
WATER DRINKING FOUNTAIN	2
A COMMUNITY ORCHARD	1
BETTER BOWLING	1
BETTER DRAINAGE	1
CYCLING ROUTE	1
DOG WATER TAP	1
FENCE ON POND	1
FREE POO BAGS	1
GARDEN STALL SELLING PLANTS	1
IMPROVE GATES	1
IMPROVE LANDSCAPING	1
NATURE EDUCATION	1
PAINT BENCHES	1
PAY PHONES	1
RENEWED INFRASTRUCTURE	1
REPAIR FOOTBALL PITCH	1
RESURFACE FLOWER BEDS	1
TENNIS COURTS	1

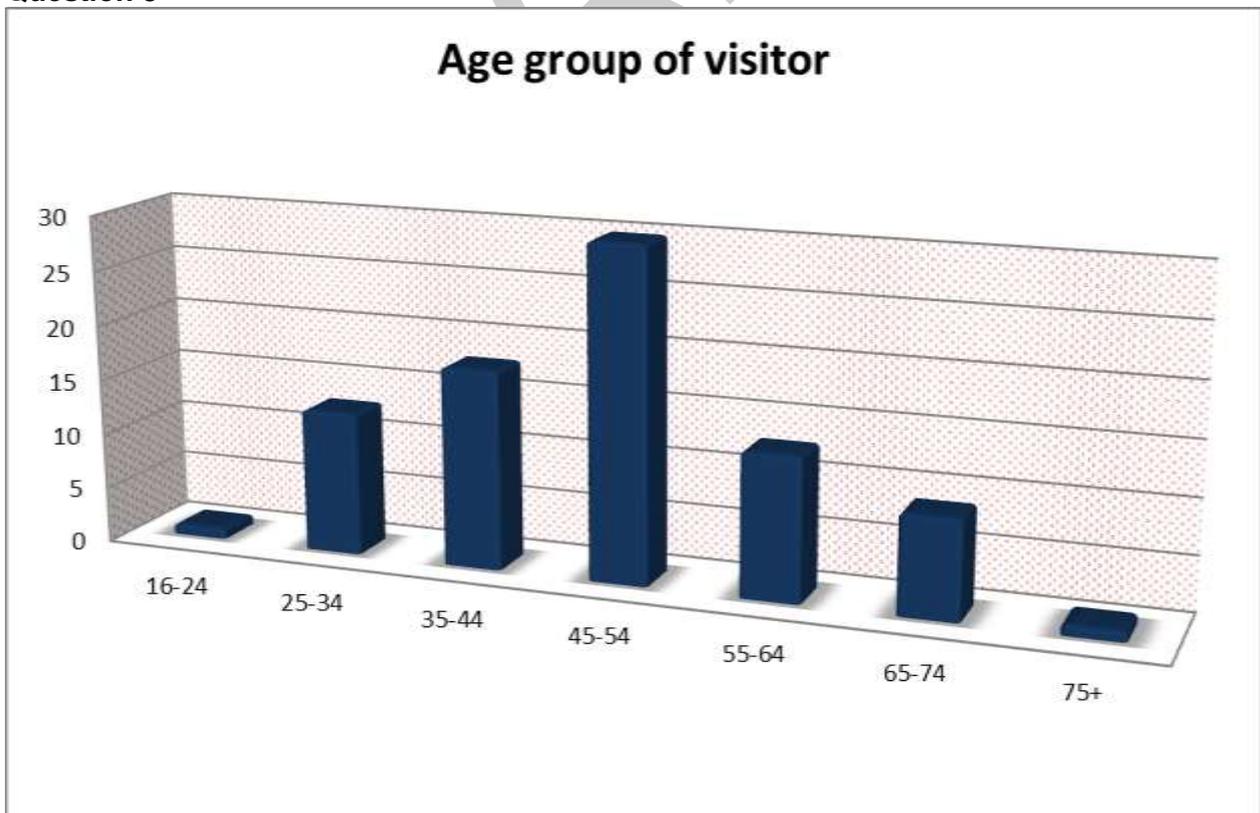


Each respondent was requested to provide only one answer and therefore focusing on the issue that they had most concern on. The 'say it, write it, post it' provided the opportunity for those visiting the display to offer as many suggestions they wished.

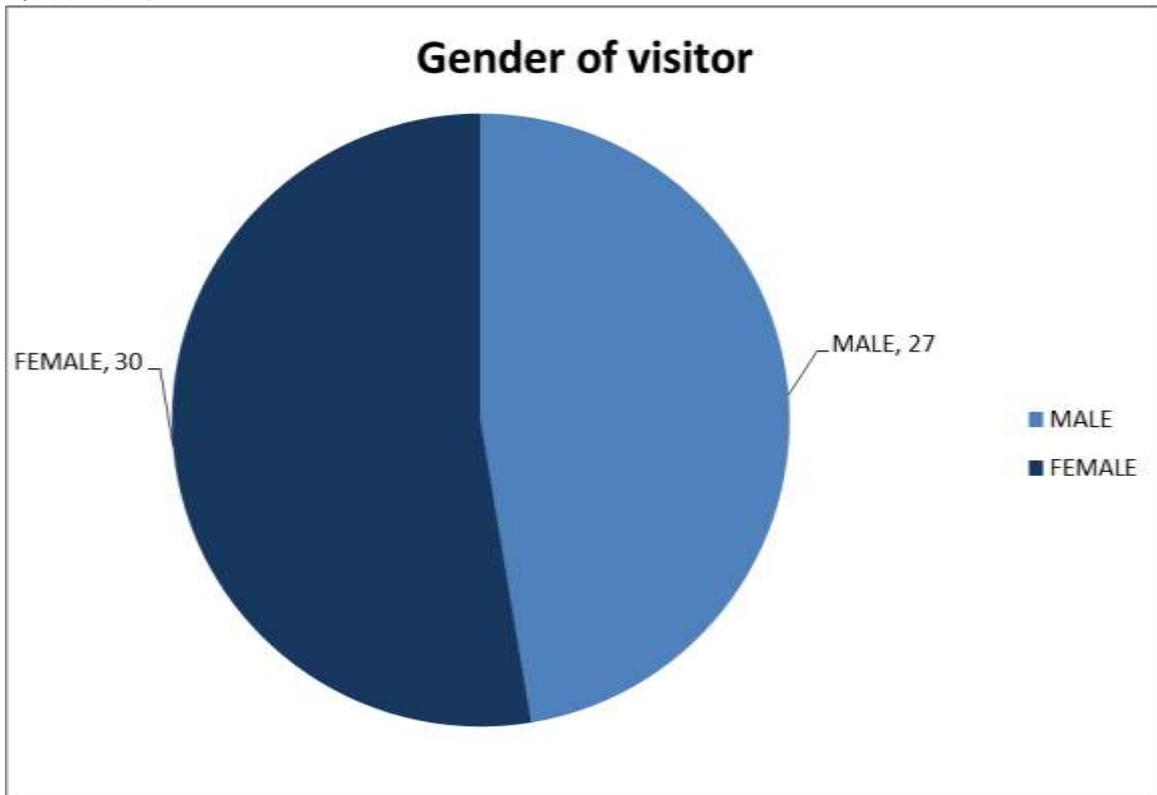
**Question 7** (first 3 digits of postcode only required)



**Question 8**



Question 9



*Not all respondents wish to offer this information when the question was asked*

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## Alexandra Park Management Plan 2015 - 2020

### Appendix 4 Alexandra Park Information Day Community Suggestions on the Day

SUGGESTION		SUB SUGGESTIONS
MORE EVENTS	4	YEARLY CARNIVAL
PROMOTE PARK FOR EVENTS	2	
DOG FRIENDLY	13	ENCLOSED DOG AREA, WATER TAP FOR DOGS, POOP BAGS, DOGS ON LEADS, POOP BINS
WALK/CYCLE/JOG ROUTES	6	WITH DISTANCES
FOUNTAINS REDONE	2	
MORE FLOWERS	8	POLLEN, NECTAR, TREES, SHRUBS, BEE & BUTTERFLY FRIENDLY, WILDFLOWER MEADOW, EDIBLE PLANTS
NATURE RESERVES	5	HABITAT PILES IN WOODLANDS, NEST BOXES
COMMUNITY AREAS	20	PICNIC AREAS, TOILETS, CAFÉ, DRINKING WATER, COMMUNITY ORCHARD, RAISED BEDS
PONDS REDONE	9	CLEAN, PUT FOUNTAINS IN TO KEEP CLEAN, NO FISHING SIGNS
MORE MAINTENANCE	3	DELITTER
LESS MEMORIALS	1	
SECURITY	4	NO JUNKIES AT PLAY AREAS, CLOSE PARK GATES AT NIGHT
BETTER PLAY AREA	4	FENCED AWAY FROM PONDS, CLIMBING AND WILLOW STRUCTURES, SKATE PARK, MAZE
TENNIS/BOWLING	3	
BETTER LIGHTING	5	
BANDSTAND AREA	4	
BIKE HIRES	1	
RETURN PADDLE BOATS	2	
NO SMOKING PARK	1	SMOKING AREAS
FLAGPOLE AT TOP OF PARK	1	
TRAINING AREA FOR SCOUT GROUP	1	

