

Murray Park Fitness and Access Improvements Consultation

Summary of Results

1. Background

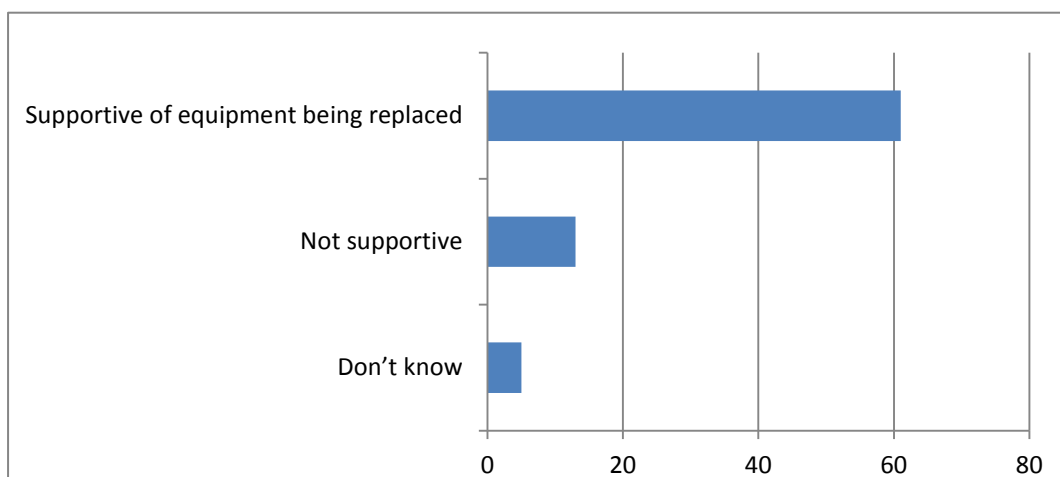
The Parks and Open Spaces Team carried out a consultation to propose the replacement of the current fitness equipment (FitPoint) located at Murray Park, with a new selection of outdoor fitness equipment and whether a new tarmac path to complete footpath links around the park would be supported. This consultation took place between Friday 8th July and Friday 5th August 2016.

2. Summary of Results

79 people responded to this consultation online. The Parks and Open Spaces Team received no paper responses and no phone calls, emails or letters were received in response to the consultation.

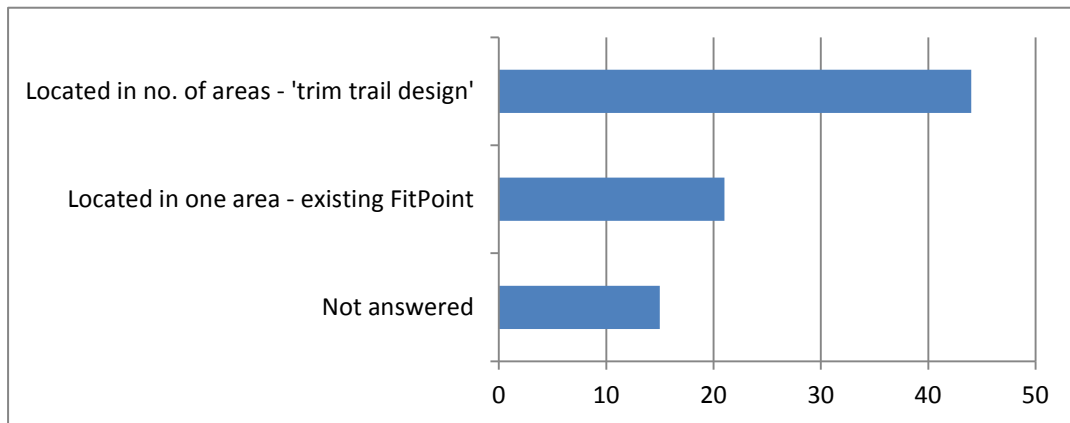
2.1. Replacement of Equipment

Out of the people who responded to the consultation, the vast majority (77.2%) supported the FitPoint being replaced. 2 respondents felt that even if the equipment was replaced, it would still never be used. Others who did not support this felt the money would be better spent on improving other aspects of the park. The remaining respondents were unsure. The results are shown in the graph below:



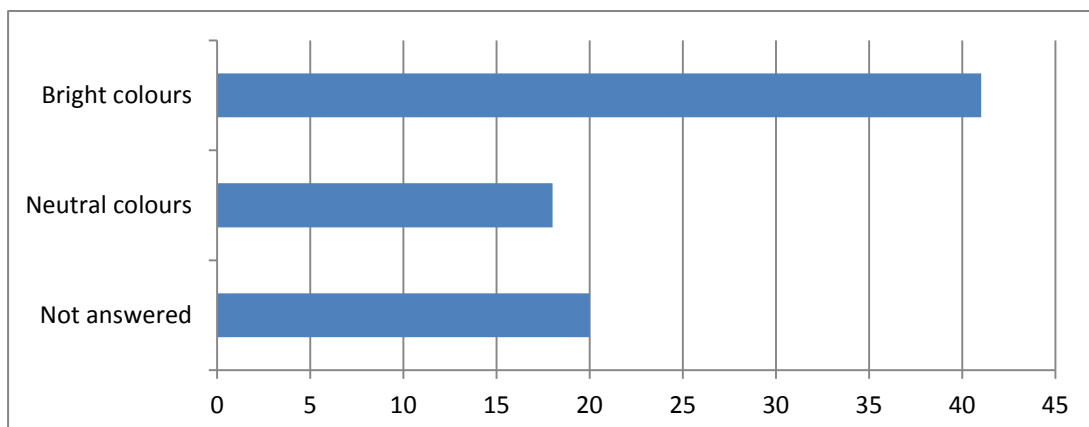
2.2. Location of new equipment

Consultees were asked their preferable location of the new equipment pieces. One option was located in several areas in a 'trim trail design', which proved most popular with 44 out of 79 supporting this (45.6%). The other option was equipment to be located in the same place as the existing FitPoint and was supported by 21 of the 79 consultees. The graph below shows the results:



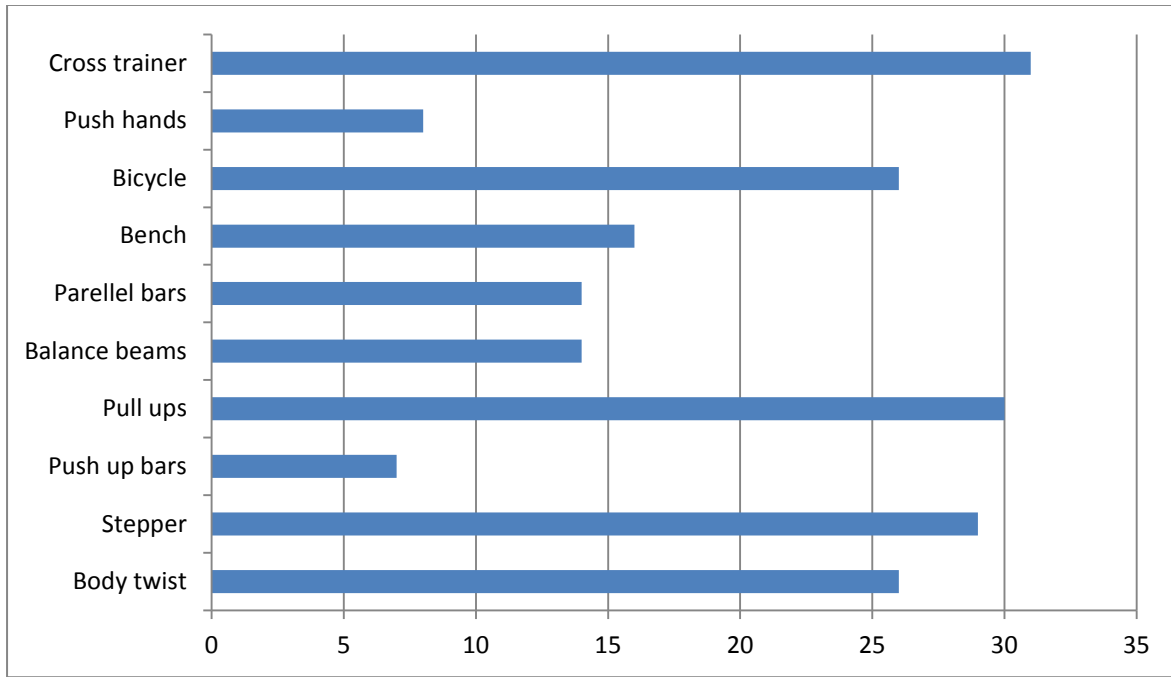
2.3. Colour combinations

Respondents were next asked what colour combinations they liked best. 41 of the 79 respondents favoured the mix of bright colours combinations. 18 out of 79 preferred neutral colours and 20 of the participants did not answer this question. Results shown below:



2.4. Type of Equipment

Respondents were then asked to pick five pieces of equipment that they would most like to see in the park. The graph below show the popularity of each piece amongst respondents:

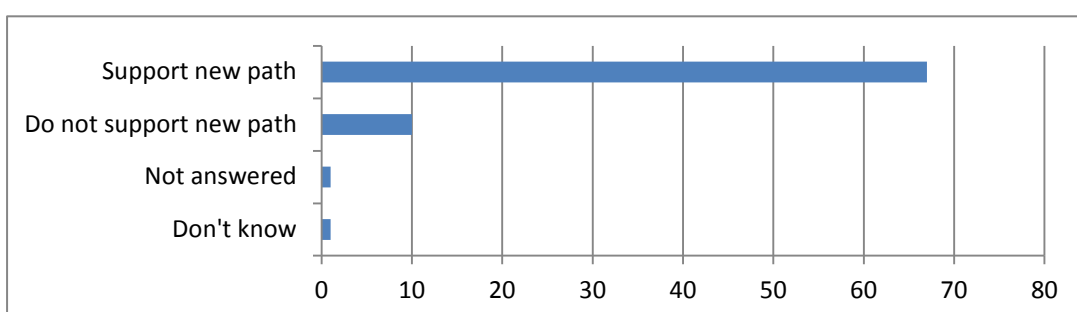


The five most popular pieces were as follows:

- Cross trainer
- Pull up bar
- Stepper
- Bicycle
- Body twist

2.5. New path

The installation of a new tarmac path, to create a footpath link and enable the 'trim trail' was proposed to Consultees and 67 of the 79 respondents proved supportive of this idea. 10 respondents objected the idea of any more tarmac areas in Murray Park. Please see results displayed below:



2.3. Other Comments

Although the vast majority of respondents supported the proposal to replace the fitness equipment and were in favour of a new tarmac path, there were a small number who appeared to be strongly against these ideas. Common concerns raised were that the current equipment does not get used and that the money could be spent on improving other areas of the park. Further to this common objects regarding the tarmac path installation were that there is already too much tarmac that takes up the park and the park is already easily accessible for those less able or buggies, so no other path is needed.

Just over half of those who responded to the consultation did so as local residents. The remainder of Consultees chose not to answer and one Consultee was representing a local business.

Some of the respondents provided additional points in relation to the consultation. Comments suggested:

- Installation of lighting around the perimeter
- A tennis court could potentially be a better community investment
- Materials used to improve the park should be complimentary to the natural environment
- Concerns with on-going ASB at the original fit point.
- An archaeological examination should be carried out before commencing with any works
- Should the fitness equipment be replaced, installations of a water foundation with dog trough would be beneficial for all
- Improved maintenance would have prevented the need to replace or upgrade

3. Next steps

The Parks and Open Spaces Team plan to:

- Share this report with the Friends of Murray Park to provide any additional comments
- Publish a brief report and summary of next steps on the Council's consultation finder website.
- Begin procurement of equipment ready for installation later in 2016.