

FRIENDS OF CATOR PARK AND ALEXANDRA RECREATION GROUND

- Community Survey for Alexandra Recreation Ground
- Please would you take a few minutes to complete our questionnaire? Thank you very much.
- Survey Closes 13th December 2020
- The Friends of Cator Park & Alexandra Recreation Ground
- FB: @catorandalexandra
- Twitter: @catoralexandra

Community Survey for Alexandra Recreation Ground SE20

The Friends of Cator Park and Alexandra Recreation Ground voluntary group is seeking the opinion of members, residents, resident association groups inc Alexandra Cottages, as part of the next steps in our discussion with idverde and Bromley Council with regard to the future of the area of the park containing the paddling pool.

FRIENDS OF CATOR PARK AND ALEXANDRA RECREATION GROUND

The decades-old children's paddling pool in Alexandra Recreation Ground has been a well-loved feature of the park for many years now. The paddling pool has been used for the past 30 years by many young families who were able to use the free-to-attend pool in the school holidays. As we experience the effects of global warming and the longer, hotter summers the pool has become an important feature for families without their own gardens to cool off and enjoy the fresh air and outdoor space.

Community Survey for Alexandra Recreation Ground

Sadly, due to an increase in repairs and maintenance needs, the pool was only open for 5 days in Summer 2019 and a few weeks in 2018. Clearly, this is not sustainable, so we wish to propose a new project to idverde and London Borough of Bromley for a replacement for this recreational feature

We are now seeking your views on how you might like to see this area developed so that we can support any redevelopment project knowing we have the opinions of our members, the residents and park users

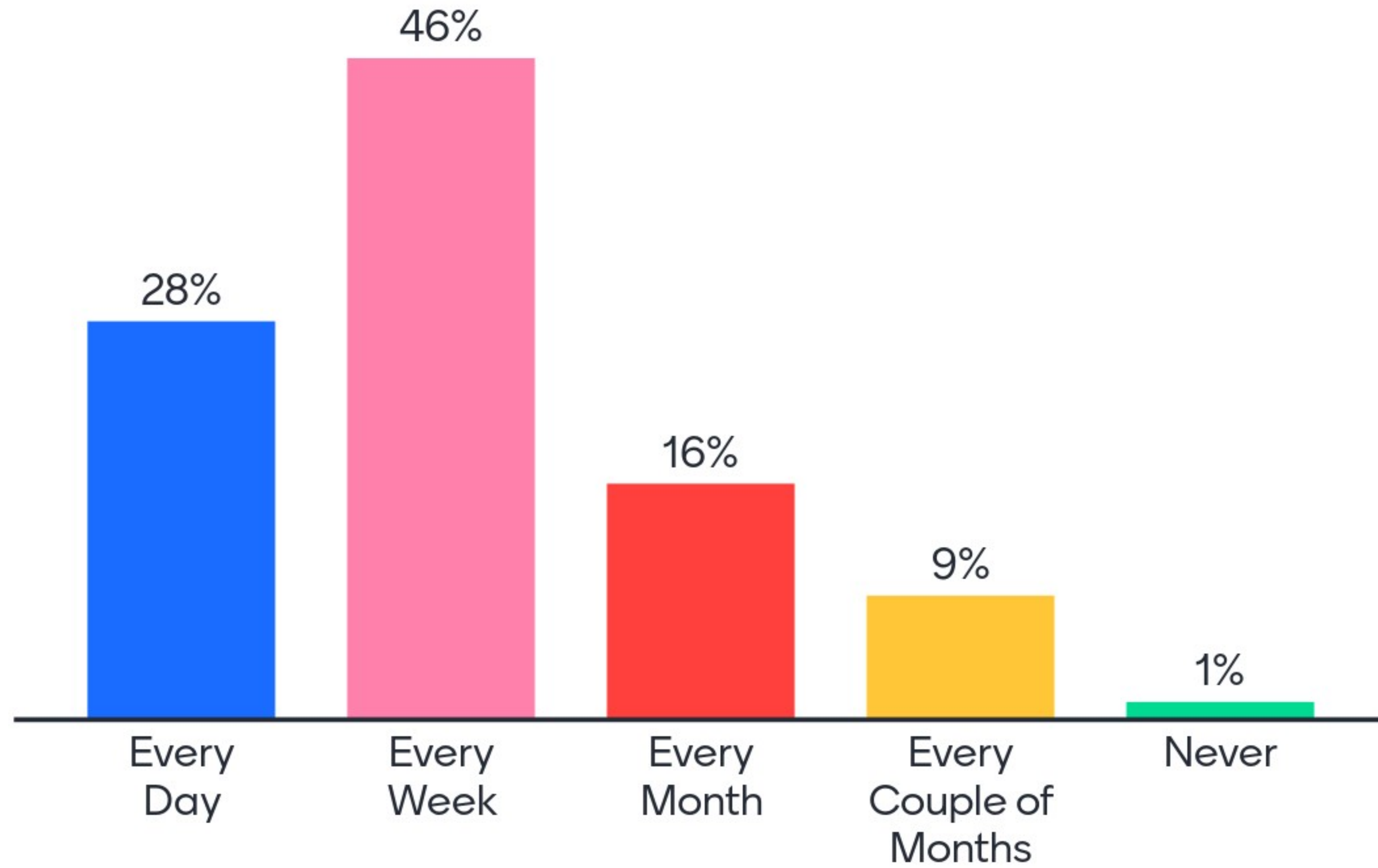
email us with any additional comments

friends.cator-and-alexandra@live.co.uk

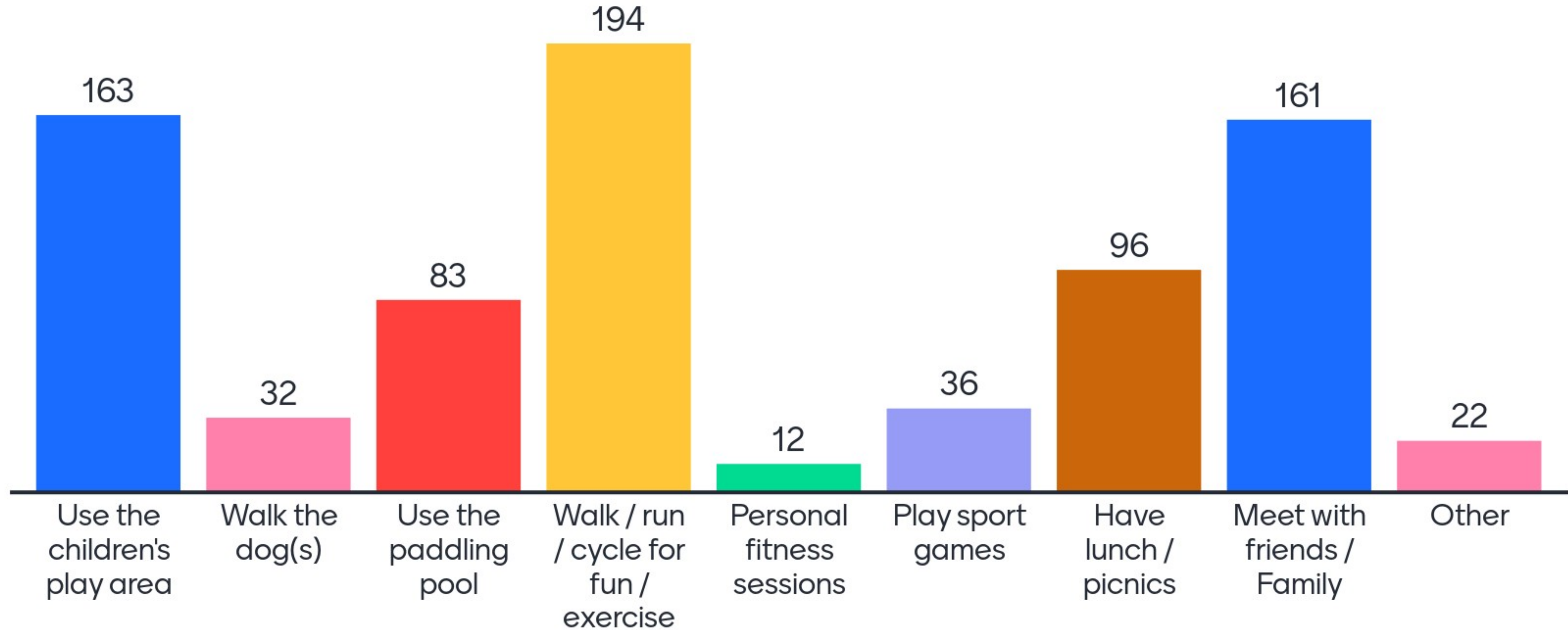
SURVEY CLOSES 6PM, 13TH DECEMBER 2020



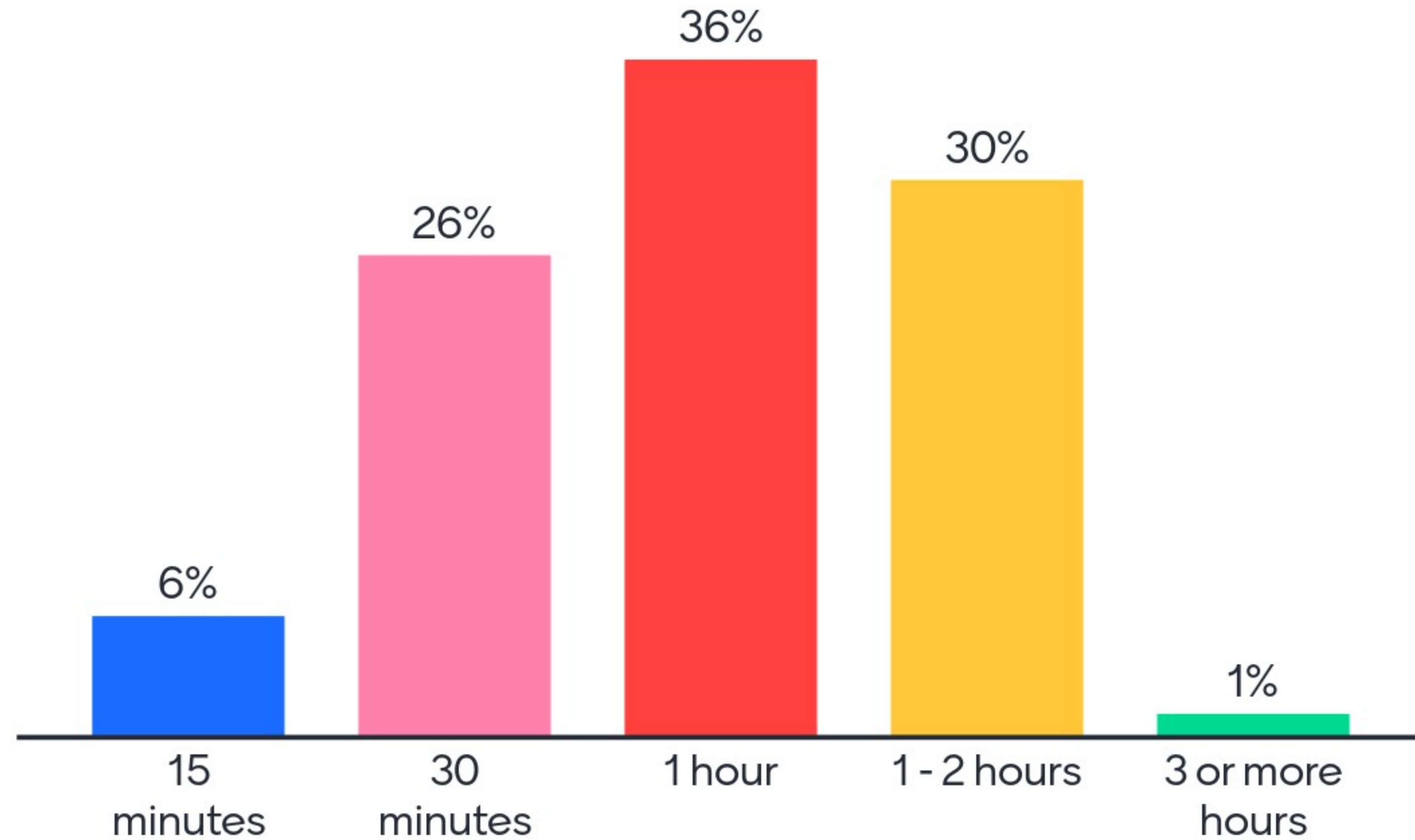
1. How often do you currently use Alexandra Recreation Ground?



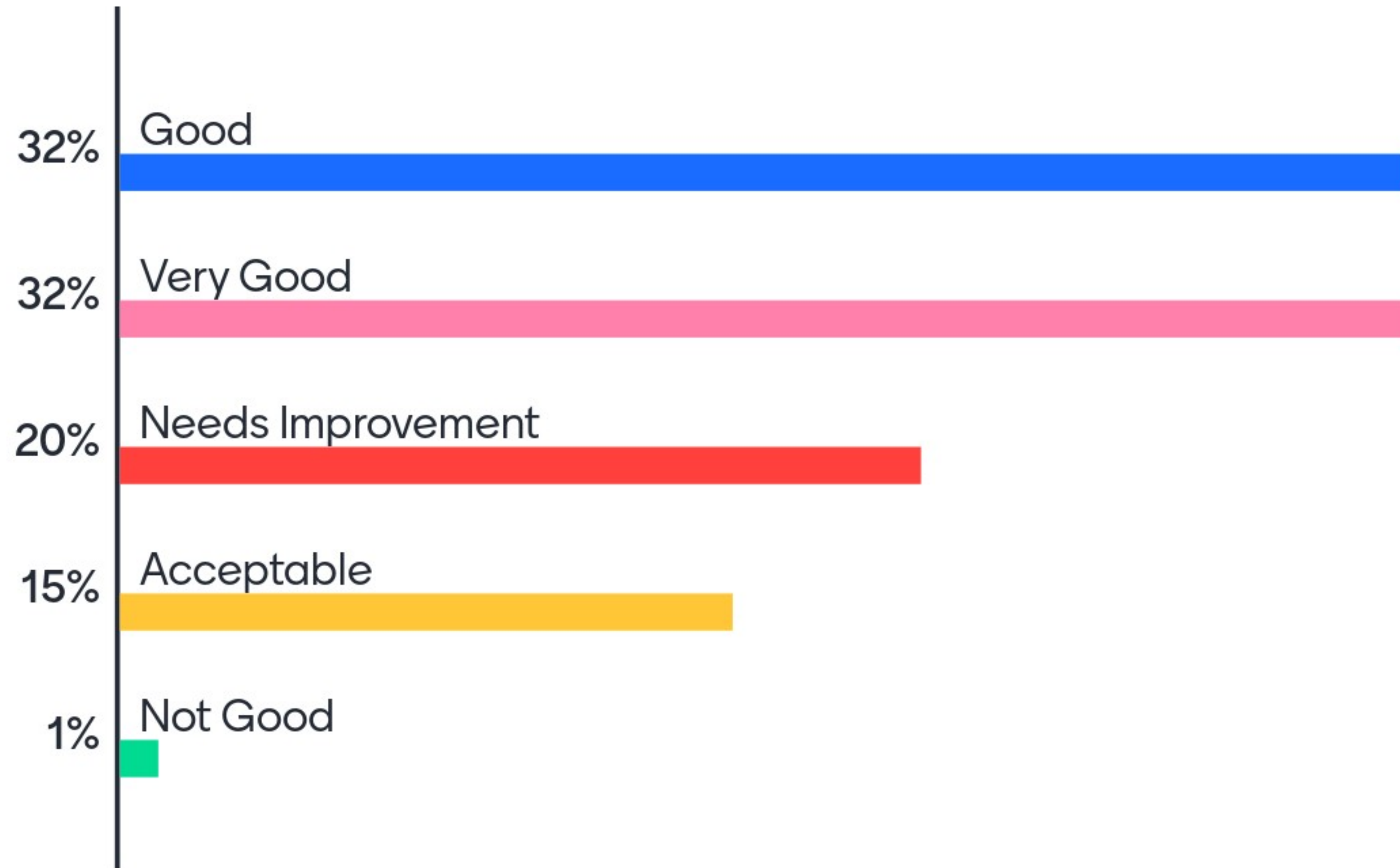
2. If you visit Alexandra Recreation Ground what is/are your reason/s? (Tick all that apply)



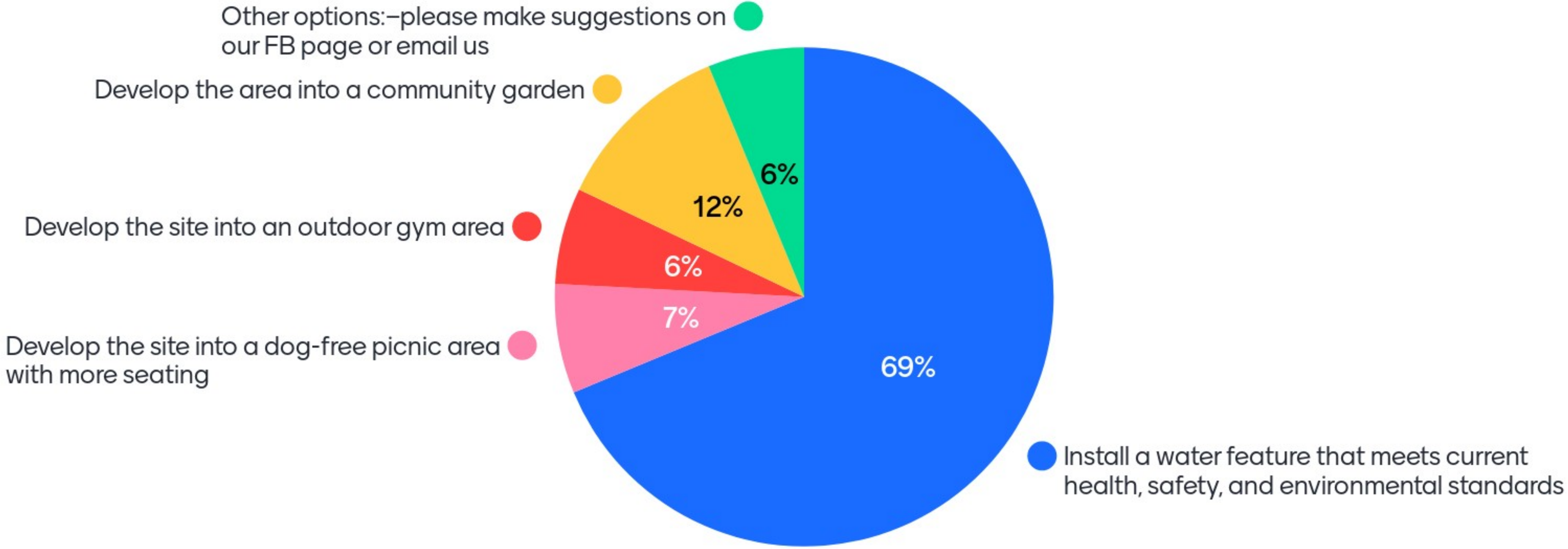
3 How long on average do you tend to spend at the park when you visit?



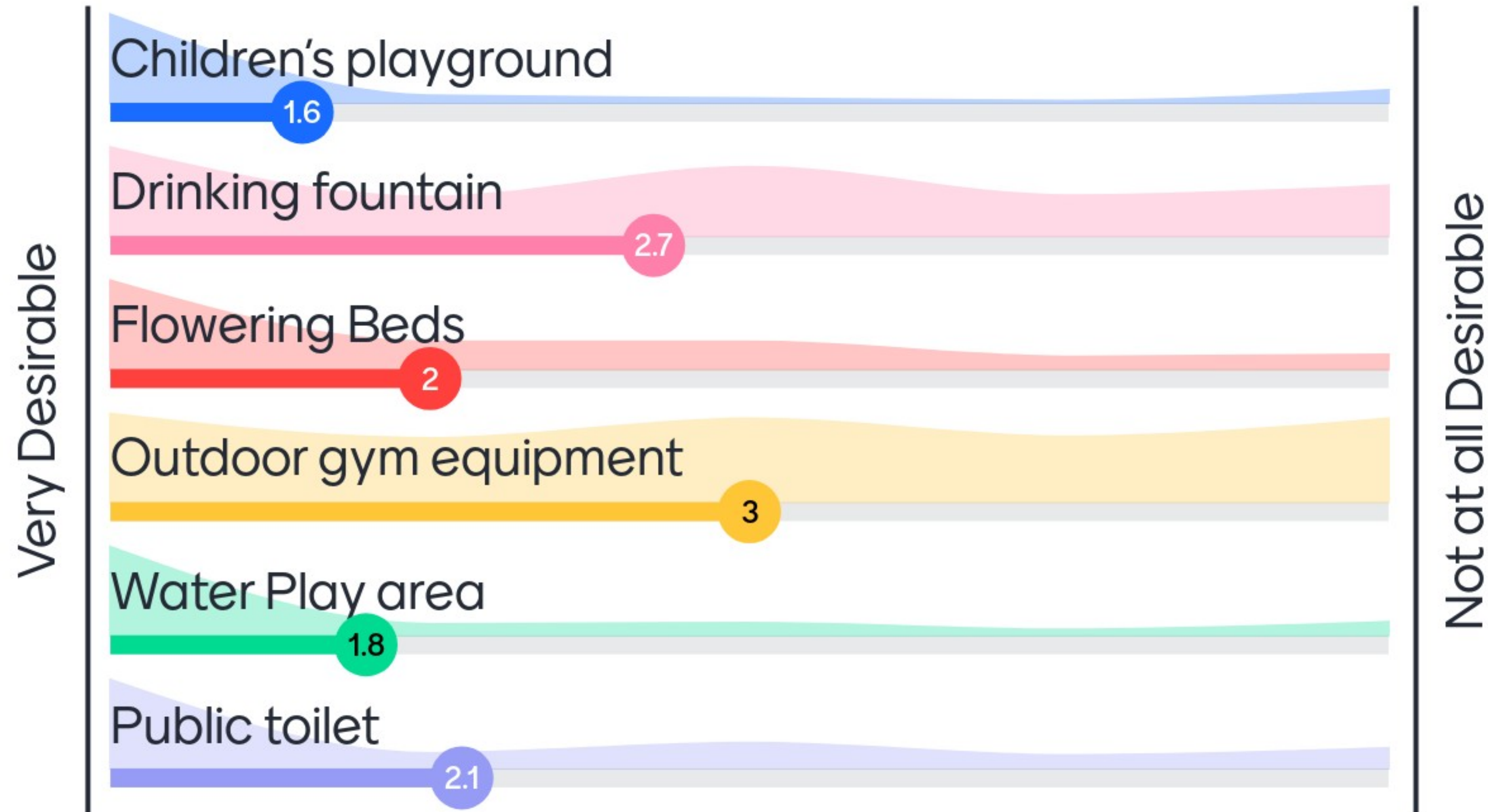
4. How would you rate the park as a place to visit?



5. Options for the paddling pool area



6a. Rank the following in relation to how desirable to you is having the following facilities in the park



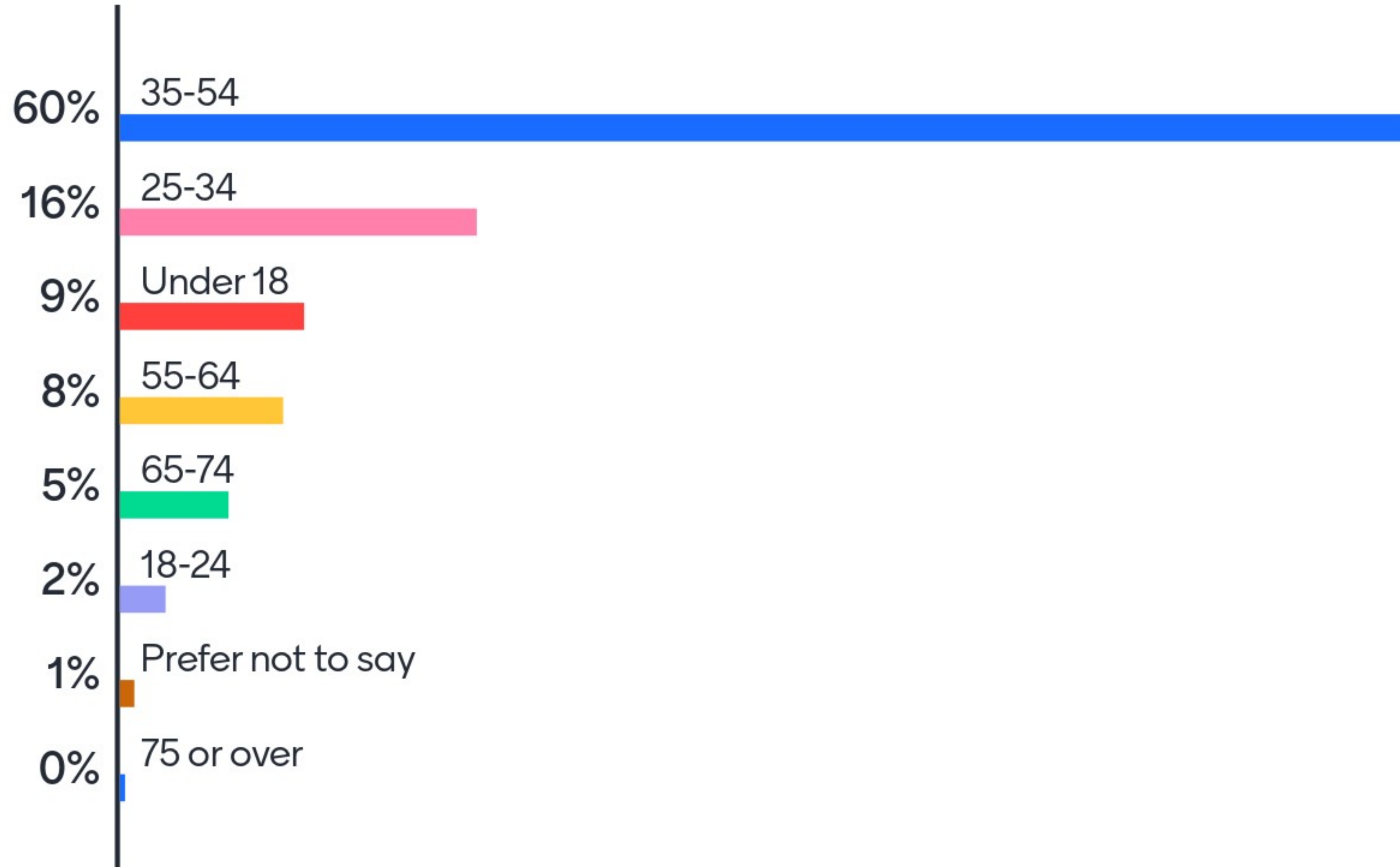
6b. Rank the following in relation to how desirable to you is having the following facilities in the park



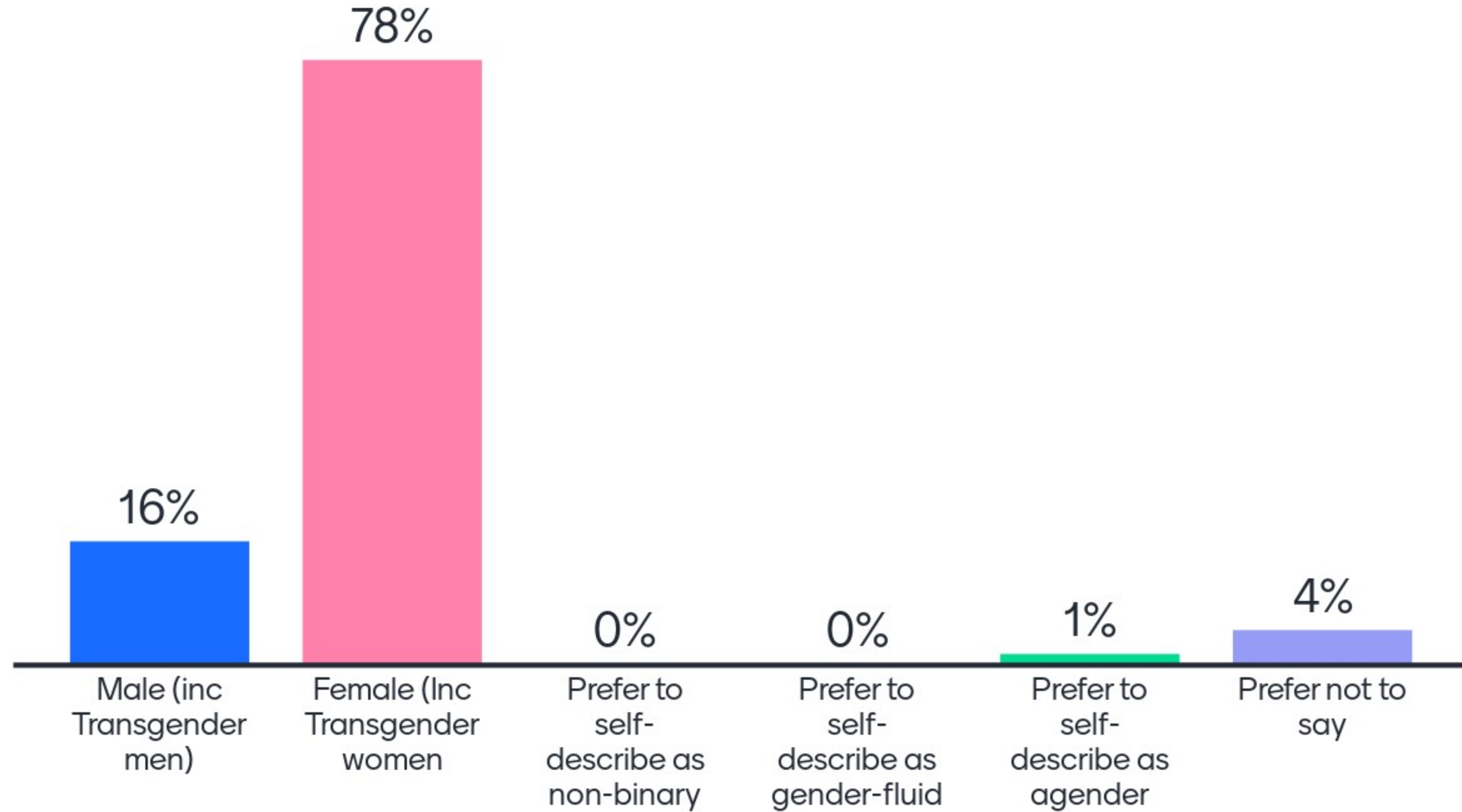
Demographics

So we can determine we have responses
from a wide selection of the community
please complete the following:

7. What is your age group?



8 . How would you describe your gender ?



Do you have any other feedback?

we need to have a water play feature as there is nothing for a few miles and we are in an impoverished part of the borough- with high volum of young families and social housing

Would have to still be no dogs, obviously. Thank you for this survey.

This is an incredibly poorly designed questionnaire. Not only is it riddled with errors, but more importantly it is difficult to work out how it's supposed to be completed. There will be a lot of false responses because it's so confusing.

We would love a sandpit area like the playground opposite Horniman has where paddling is now; less high maintenance than water with some taller climbing structures over than Crystal Palace. Maybe water like Coram's Fields but might overcomplicate.

This is a very badly-designed survey.

A water play area is desperately needed particularly as the weather heats up. A stepping water padded area would be ideal so children can play, stay hygienic and not waste water would be ideal. Something like Wells park.

Otherwise gym equipment would be better than nothing :) but sandpit would awesome.. don't see Horniman being maintained much either, just litter picking & it doesn't get as dirty as you'd think. Could be open all time too. And use current fences.

We have very few water play areas in the area. The one is beckenham is always so popular and busy as the Alex Rec one is rarely usable. I would strongly advise keeping a water play area there but enhancing it with maybe a small cafe / picnic areas.

Preference: Community garden to be sensory based and accessibility focussed. A small cafe/deal with a coffee/food can anywhere would be a massive boon for the park

Do you have any other feedback?

Ideally I would like paddling pool to remain, ideally suited for the park with play park so nearby & nowhere similar in the area

The survey is not the easiest to complete with the +10 /-10 options for questions that don't require allocating of points (eg: age)

Grouping female and transgendered females is offensive. I am female as per my birth sex and I'm entitled to my own representation, please do not erase the existence of women.

Bit of a strange survey. Consider changing point distribution q's to tick boxes. They are insanely confusing in current format.

No

We really need a water feature for kids in hot weather

A well used park area is a safer area

I would like to see more murals on the spare walls if possible- I really enjoy the ones on the club house and would love to see more.

Need to discourage gangs/drug dealers hanging around in the park. Must put in better lighting .

Do you have any other feedback?

It truly is a wonderful park, very well used and would be great to have the support of Bromley council alongside the great effort of the Friends

Somewhere for refreshments or a cafe would be particularly welcome - thanks!

A lovely way to spend a hot summer day in the sun.

Is it possible to get a different type of waste bin in the park that has a lid as foxes always seem to get in and spread the rubbish every morning

The survey's first question is confusing as asked if we use the paddling pool (obviously the answer is no as it's always closed). There were no options to continue the paddling pool which is a shame because that would be my preference as a parent

There is so much scope for the entire park area. Some options for slightly older 6ys + gym equipment, paddling pool and a cafe would be amazing. Brown and green tried hard to open a cafe in the park and it would have transformed the area.

Thank you

A pool essential for poor families unable to take their children on holiday in the long summer holidays. One of the few activities which all families can enjoy for free.

So many children use this park because it is the only play park in the area that has shade. It could be so much better than it is.

Do you have any other feedback?

I feel the park would be used more by families if there were toilet facilities.

Please try to keep the paddling pool. It is such an asset to the park. Really, can't we try to establish a grant/crowd funded system to keep it going?

Please try to keep the paddling pool alive! It's such an asset to the park. Can we not establish some sort of crowd funding system to help?

No

No! Thank you

I think the area should be repaired and kept as a paddling pool. Outdoor gyms whilst great tend to change the atmosphere and I love that the rec is a small, peaceful, family park.

Too much dog poo. Love the playground Would love a loo near playground Would love a coffee van near playground

I think the children's paddling pool should be revamped.

I would like to see the pool kept and open in the summer months. I would like to see the picnic table area open now.

Do you have any other feedback?

Definitely need a play water feature-would be great for families in summer. Playground is good and it has lots of shade in summer (shade makes it my favourite hot-day playground in the local area). I wouldn't use an outdoor gym, but others might.

The paddling pool has been a beautifully fun community activity. IDverde have been completely unresponsive when I have enquired about opening it. It could be open for a lot longer than just the summer holidays.

It's a great open space, good play area for kids with area to just be peaceful too

Would love a water play feature, it would def be popular in summer,

The paddling pool should be rebuilt for young children. We used it regularly in the 1960s. It is a special facility for local people and should definitely be rebuilt

Alexandra Rec is a great space to use with our children. A water park with sprinklers etc would be amazing to have in the hot summer months.

The pool should be open for adults only in the summer...then it wouldn't need supervision.

I've always loved the trees and the view walking to the station at Penge East it's great way to start the commute

Maintaining a water feature will be a real asset for the park. Either a paddling pool or smaller pools and sprinklers. Dog free with picnic tables.

Do you have any other feedback?

The park is lovely, would benefit from toilets a lot and if the paddling pool was up and running.

Please consider the impact of a change of use in the properties in and surrounding the park

Please bear in mind the impact of a change of use on the properties in and next to the park

The park is very well used for all ages, for lots of activities. The paddling pool not being open is always a disappointment. A mobile coffee cart wd be great and toilet facilities awesome.

Top choice = water area to play in. Our kids are 7 and 10 we would love to see something aimed at older kids eg skateboarding. Toilet/ cafe unnecessary as so small an area and may cause over crowding.

Alexander Park has been imperative for the wellbeing of local residents during lockdown. Very grateful that it is there

My grandchildren are very fond of the playground. Sadly they are outgrowing it now so an outdoor gym would be very good for all children aged over about 8

The paddling pool is such a great feature and it would be fantastic to invest and make it safe and useable again. It would benefit so many families in the area. I know many local families would contribute to be able to use it in the hot summer months

A fun water feature/park for children to play in would be a good alternative.

Do you have any other feedback?

We really need a Sheltered garden seated area, where we can meet friends outside with children and get a drink or a snack. With something to keep all ages entertained. And dog friendly too.

The paddling pool was a fantastic feature and well supported by the community, please bring it back!

Water feature used by kids would be great. An area that kids and dogs can play together e.g like Mayow Park. Lots of families have dogs and it's not fair having to leave the dogs outside the playground. Cafe and toilets would also be great!

Good to think about Cator and Alexandra together and facilities across the two

Install a water bottle refill unit, much more practical than a water fountain.

We don't like it when the footballers take over the whole field. They churn it up in the winter making it very muddy.

Hi

The park is a great asset that needs some support

Water paddling pool, shade & picnic tables a must! Ideally a van/ cafe too would be fab

Do you have any other feedback?

We live on Maitland Road directly outside park with young children. We use Alex Rec on a daily basis and it was a lifesaver during lockdown despite having a garden. A water play area would be an amazing feature. Like Streatham Common.

A natural kids play area where the paddling pool is. The kids love jumping on the fallen down trees

Please improve this park is it used by lots of people

We love the park and are there all the time with our young family. It's also our way through on the school run

No

The park should be for all ages and not just children.

The park is lovely but the unkept paddling area really lets it down.

Please improve this park it is loved and used by lots of people

Love the kids playground, it's a god send and an amazing link to the community, the children who go there all know each other. Would LOVE some evening lighting so it's usable past 4pm in the winter.

Do you have any other feedback?

Better investment will mean more use of this park. Pading pool is essential

Please give Transgender women their own section in the 'inclusion' survey, thank you.

Would love a mini go ape type thing for ages 9-19 kind

It has improved recently. However, in Covid 19 pandemic football has been played when it was against government regulations. This type of thing needs attention.

Spelling mistakes!

The playground is fantastic but the lack of a water play area and cafe/toilets mean we often visit further away parks for this, we would much rather stay local

Would love to have the pool back! But a community garden is so important as we face food shortages after brexit and due to climate collapse so we need to teach children and local families how to be self sufficient and sustainable

Would love a mini go ape type thing for slightly older children ages 9-19

Love this park but feel it has a lot less play equipment than other local parks. Wld B great to get better see saw and higher slide. Ideally renovate the paddling pool properly and keep it pls. Green gym too

Do you have any other feedback?

Great Park. Just a few tweaks would perfect it.

Children currently age out of the playground at about 9/10. A few extra swings and a higher slide would help with this.

I vote to keep & sort the paddling pool out.

The playpark has loads of natural shade so i dont think sheltera for shade are nexessary.

You'd to have the park used as a community resource for local families and young people engaging in sport.

Alexandra Rec is a great place to take the grandchildren. Please keep the paddling pool as it is the only one round here and makes this park special!

Thanks

A water area, with fountain or jets that's kids can run thru like Wells Park would be amaxing

I think the park shade provided by trees is great in summer, best by far in local area.It would be great to have a water area, something different to local parks such as Cator and Crystal Palace.More benches around the play area welcomed .

Do you have any other feedback?

Very good children's playground already in situ. Water feature very expensive to maintain. Community garden could also offer mental well-being service / kids educational programme, but dog free picnic area to be included ie do both

Improve the path circuit around the grass

Could we also have some lighting? As soon as the sun goes down the park is pitch black.

It's a shame the paddling pool has been allowed to decline, sadly my children are now too old to really enjoy it

Used the park every day when the kids were younger....always longed for the paddling pool

We look the park but feel it has so much more potential with adding a water play area and refreshments

Toilets and or a cafe would be great

During lock down we used this park every day and know all the trees! Some comments: the path can be a bit too bumpy for learner cyclist and there's a lot of rubbish at the back of the tree "dens". Multi-waste bins (for recycling) would be good

An up to date splash pool and picnic area with a cafe would be amazing .

Do you have any other feedback?

A kids water feature would be great. With water jets from underground for the kids would be amazing. Sydenham wells park has them and it's amazing for kids.

The park should have more security as large groups of youths congregate in the evenings in the paddling pool area.

This park is a wonderful resource. The playground was my saviour when my children were younger, now they enjoy it as a place to play sports.

Needs investment by the council for the local football club based there and the friends of alexandra park to use and attract more visitors.

I wish we could keep the paddling pool! There so few in the area and are so important for children

The paddling pool kept my children (and me) cool and entertained on many hot days. What was particularly lovely was that some of the pool and the grass was shaded for a lot of the afternoon

Last time i visited the paddling pool there was a gang of people with a child who hit the child (i did report) but did put us off because of large groups so another use would be great

We live opposite the paddling pool and have loved to see young children&families enjoy the pool, a water & sand play area for kids would be lovely as a free community activity that brings people together and can be used year round

It be lovely if the paddling pool area had a water feature as well as a dog free picnic area. There are very few water features for children in the surrounding area and it would be nice to have this on offer.

Do you have any other feedback?

During lockdown the park has been my sanctuary as I have no outside space so would be lovely to see more done with it. Having a designated area where people can go and sit is a great idea as there are so many dogs

Glad you are doing the survey and look forward to seeing the results.

Lighting in the play area would be wonderful

Would love to see table tennis in the park! Low maintenance too

We often use Alex rec and would love the paddling pool or splash park to be fixed/installed

A water play area for kids would be great! I'd happily pay an annual fee towards it.

Great park, it will be good when something can eventually be done with the paddling pool area. A good space for kids is important.

Mini skate park/scooter park e.g little ramps etc could be good?

It's such a shame that the water area has been dry all those hot days in previous years.

Do you have any other feedback?

A padding /water play area is hugely desirable - beck rec is always overcrowded & huge demand from families for this

The paddling pool is invaluable to the local community. We eagerly awaited it's opening each summer, as somewhere to go on balmy summer days, meeting with other families ahead of our children starting primary school. We had no garden. Special memories.

Not on FB to add additional comments but would definitely want to keep the waterplay/paddling pool area for that same usage.

I childmind and use the park daily not only with the children but as a fig owner. Last summer the pool was really missed, now with travel up in the air a new paddling poo would be welcomed. There is nothing on offer currently in the main park..

Other localities have a water feature for children (Croydon Road, Sydenham Wells, Brockwell Park). Come on Bromley Council. Please don't take such valuable resources and summer fun away from our local families.

I think we would definitely use this park more if the improvements listed (cafe/ picnic tables/ toilet) are added

Many people attend the park as it is and the playground end is anazing . It would surely attract many more if there were additional facilities comparable to other local parks such as a cafe/food van and shelter in Winter.

Life without the paddling pool across the long summer months whilst I had two pre-school aged children would have not been the same without the Alex paddling pool. It's hard finding cool spaces, within walking distance, where local families can meet.

Please add some covered bins in the park as the foxes go absolutely mad with the bins in the summer

Do you have any other feedback?

Do not like the fact, people go in the paddling pool area, with their dogs, which at times are quite problematic. Living close, am not keen on too much seating, as younger groups gather in the evenings. Thanks

Can the pool area be turned into a pond in order to encourage wildlife? As the park is small and residential, I am concerned that some options suggested will further encourage this to become a late night youth hang out and noise is already an issue.

The pool area as it currently stands, with its enclosure and picnic benches, encourages large groups to meet up drinking/drugs/loud music. This is mainly in the Summer & lasts until the early hours. Please also think about the residents when deciding

A wild flower meadow near the community orchard. A public toilet would stop people using the bushes. Improved, professional maintenance of the flower beds. Community vegetable patch. More benches.

Please keep a paddling pool in park, its a great asset to the park, but the area around does need improving, more seating etc

Would be great to have the water feature available at other times than school holidays.

a water play feature is essential - this park supports many impoverished families and a free to attend feature has been vital in past years - PLEASE replace with a splash play type feature

we would love to see toilets and a drinking fountain to encourage children / sports / people to use the park for longer and of course encourage a cafe to set up shop too - how about a built bbq feature to encourage safe BBQing

The water area was a complete life saver when my children were little but most recently it was our outside space during lockdown to blow off the cobwebs

Do you have any other feedback?

A small feature with water for the kids would be amazing

A feature with water for the kids and community to gather would be amazing

Any changes should be vandalproof...will minimum maintenance

Survey design is odd- why use points out of 100 to select age?

I'd be sorry to lose the swimming pool, might there be a way that Friends of Alexandra could take on the maintenance and upkeep of it

Would love to see the pool continue and be enhanced as a children's splash park. There are so many families in the area that are in need of recreation facilities particularly in the hot summer months

Think outdoor gym might be better at Cator Park than Alexandra Rec

I like the existing flower and shrub beds at Alexandra Rec. I don't think you need any more than you have or will be too difficult to maintain.