

Meon Close playground

Draft report

September 2026

Consultation report by Policy, Strategy, and Transformation

Contents

	Page
Purpose of the consultation	3
Method	3
Response rate	3
Consultation results	3
Summary	3
Results	4
Appendix A – copy of the letter	7
Appendix B – copy of the online survey	8

Purpose of the consultation

The play equipment at Meon Close has reached end-of-life and therefore should be removed. As Rushmoor is renewing equipment at Sunnybank Road playground, which is close to the site, both sites are being looked at together as they both serve the same catchment. As the playground at Meon Close is little used and given the proximity to Sunnybank Road the council thinks it may be better to concentrate the £100,000 investment available in the larger site at Sunnybank Road to provide more equipment and play value. The survey was designed to enable the council to make an informed decision and asked about how residents use Meon Close playground or may use it in the future.

Method

Letters (appendix A) were sent to 101 households on Dart Road and Meon Close, asking them to complete an online survey (appendix B). The survey ran from 7 September 2026 until the 18 September 2026

Response rate

In total 15 respondents completed the online survey, which is a response rate of 15%. This was a low number for a playground survey. However, the survey was not widely advertised as the park is a small local park and the responses of those living close were considered more important.

Consultation results

Summary

Nine respondents (around 60%) had children that use or had children who could potentially use the playground. The most common age for children that use or children who could potentially use the playground was 1-4 years.

Overall, five respondents (33.3%) thought the council should replace the equipment at Meon Close and 10 respondents (66.7%) thought the council should not replace the equipment and the funds should be used for Sunnybank Road playground.

However, of the nine respondents that had children that use or had children who could potentially use the playground five respondents (55.6%) thought the council should replace the equipment at Meon Close and four respondents (44.4%) thought the council should not replace the equipment and the funds should be used for Sunnybank Road playground.

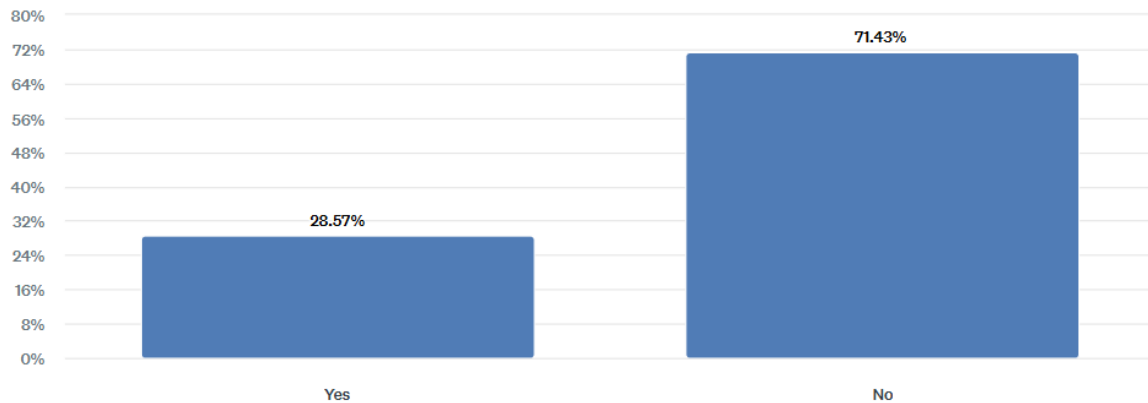
Comments ranged from keeping the Meon Close playground for toddlers, to not using the playground, to concern about the state and the age range of equipment at Sunnybank Road.

Detailed Responses

Question 1 - Do you have any young children that currently use Meon Close playground?

Overall, 14 respondents completed this question. Four respondents (28.6%) had young children that used the playground. 10 respondents (71.4%) did not have young children that used the park.

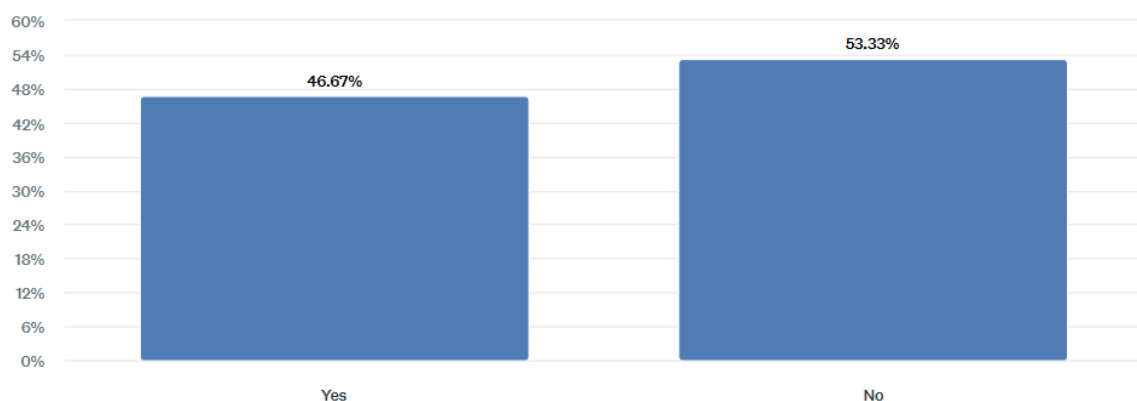
Do you have any young children that currently use Meon Close playground?



Question 2 -Do you have any visiting young children that potentially would use this playground (in preference to walking to Sunnybank Road)?

All 15 respondents completed this question. Seven respondents (47.7%) had visiting young children that used could use the playground. Eight respondents (53.3%) did not have visiting young children that may use the park.

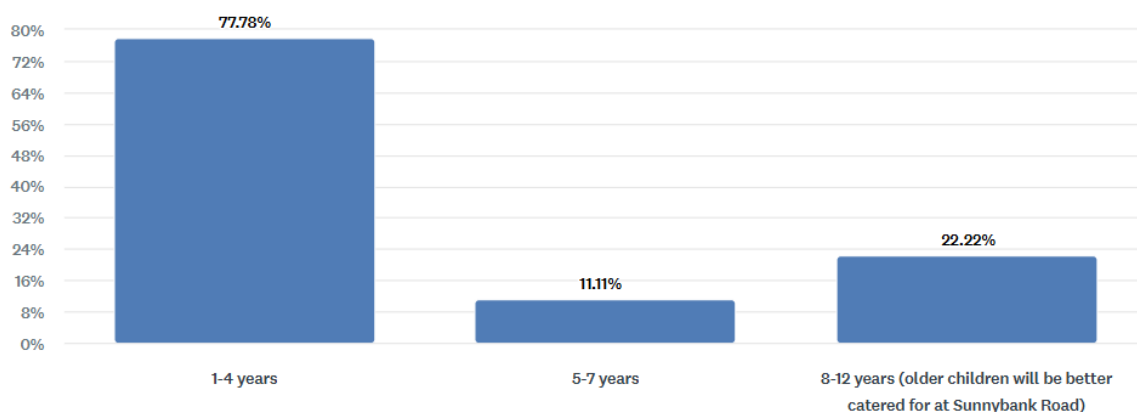
Do you have any visiting young children that potentially would use this playground (in preference to walking to Sunnybank Road)?



Question 3 –If you have answered yes to question 1 or 2, what ages are the children that use or potential use this playground?

Overall, nine respondents completed this question. Seven respondents (77.8%) had children aged 1-4 years old that use or could potentially use the playground. 1 respondent had children aged 5-7 years old that use or could potentially use the playground and 2 respondents had children aged 8-12 years old that use or could potentially use the playground.

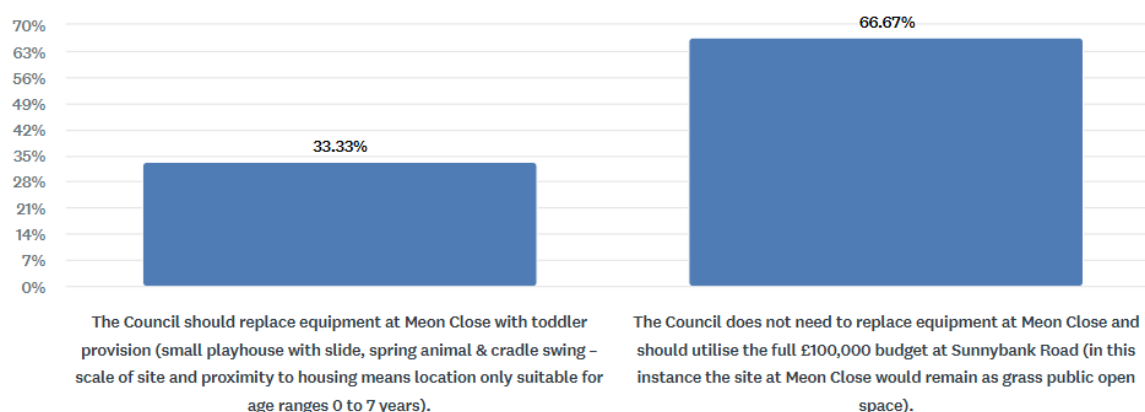
If you have answered yes to question 1 or 2, what ages are the children that use or potential use this playground?



Question 4: As we are investing in Sunnybank Road play area, which is close to Meon Close playground, we are considering not renewing the play equipment at Meon Close, so more funds can be spent on Sunnybank Road.

All 15 respondents completed this question. Five respondents (33.3%) thought the council should replace the equipment at Meon Close and 10 respondents (66.7%) thought the council should not replace the equipment and the funds should be used for Sunnybank Road playground.

As we are investing in Sunnybank Road play area, which is close to Meon Close playground, we are considering not renewing the play equipment at Meon Close, so more funds can be spent on Sunnybank Road. Please tick the statement that you agree with.



Of the nine respondents who had children that use or had children who could potentially use the playground, five respondents (55.6%) thought the council should replace the equipment at Meon Close and four respondents (44.4%) thought the council should not replace the equipment and the funds should be used for Sunnybank Road playground.

Responses of those who had children that use or had children who could potentially use the playground.



Question 5: Do you have any further comments about Meon Road playground?

There were 12 responses to this question. Comments ranged from keeping the Meon Close playground for toddlers, to not using the playground, to concern about the state and the age range of equipment at Sunnybank Road

Appendix A – copy of the letter



Council Offices, Farnborough Road,
Farnborough, Hants. GU14 7JU
Tel: (01252) 398 399

Website: www.rushmoor.gov.uk

Our reference:
MCConsultation1

Contact: Laura Smith

E-mail: Laura.smith@rushmoor.gov.uk

Date: 1st September 2026

Dear Resident,

Re: Upgrade of Sunnybank Road & Options for Meon Close

I'm pleased to inform you that Rushmoor Borough Council is renewing the playground at Sunnybank Road, removing old equipment and surfacing and replacing with new. As Meon Close is only 250 metres walk from this site the future provision at Meon Close is being considered at the same time.

These sites are included in the playgrounds in Farnborough & Aldershot that are set to be refurbished or renewed over the next two years after Rushmoor Borough Council's Cabinet agreed to a £400,000 investment programme. Sunnybank & Meon is due for completion by the end of March 2027.

The equipment at Meon Close is at end-of-life and therefore should be removed, we have a budget of £100,000 allocated for Sunnybank Road but that would also need to cover any provision at Meon Close should you tell us it is needed. The Council is unsure of the current and potential future use of Meon Close hence this survey to help inform us.

As you live immediately close to Meon Close playground, we would like to hear your views with regards the future playground provision specifically at this site. A separate consultation will be sent out at a later date relating to Sunnybank Road playground provision.

Please visit for the short online survey, which will take about 5 minutes to complete. Or you can scan the QR code included at the bottom of this letter, with your phone or tablet, which will take you through to the survey. If you don't have access to a computer, please call (01252) 398399 and we will send a survey form to you.

The closing date for completion of the survey is Friday 18th September 2026.

Yours faithfully,

Laura Smith (Projects Officer)

Ian Harrison – Chief Executive

Karen Edwards – Executive Director

customerservices@rushmoor.gov.uk

www.rushmoor.gov.uk

Appendix B – copy of the online survey



Dart Road / Meon Close playground

Introduction

The play equipment at Meon Close has reached end-of-life and therefore should be removed. We are also renewing equipment at Sunnybank Road playground, which is close to this site, so we are therefore looking at both sites together as they both serve the same catchment.

We think that the playground at Meon Close is little used and given the proximity to Sunnybank Road it may be better to concentrate the £100,000 investment available in the larger site at Sunnybank Road to provide more equipment and play value here.

To enable us to make an informed decision we want to ask you about how you use Meon Close playground or may use it in the future.

Please make sure you give us your views by Friday 18th September.

To view our consultation survey privacy notice please visit www.rushmoor.gov.uk/consultationprivacynotice

Meon Close Playground - distance to Sunnybank Road playground (250 metres) which is going to be renewed with new equipment and safer surfacing.



Please can you respond to the following questions.

1. Do you have any young children that currently use Meon Close playground?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Do you have any visiting young children that potentially would use this playground (in preference to walking to Sunnybank Road)?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

3. If you have answered yes to question 1 or 2, what ages are the children that use or potential use this playground?

- ☐ 1-4 years
☐ 5-7 years
☐ 8-12 years (older children will be better catered for at Sunnybank Road)

* 4. As we are investing in Sunnybank Road play area, which is close to Meon Close playground, we are considering not renewing the play equipment at Meon Close, so more funds can be spent on Sunnybank Road.

Please tick the statement that you agree with.

- ☐ The Council should replace equipment at Meon Close with toddler provision (small playhouse with slide, spring animal & cradle swing – scale of site and proximity to housing means location only suitable for age ranges 0 to 7 years).
☐ The Council does not need to replace equipment at Meon Close and should utilise the full £100,000 budget at Sunnybank Road (in this instance the site at Meon Close would remain as grass public open space).

5. Do you have any further comments about Meon Road playground?

Thank you for completing our survey