

Cove Green Recreation Ground playground

Consultation report

June 2023

Consultation report by the Policy and Performance

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Purpose of the consultation

Rushmoor Borough Council plans to replace the Cove Green Recreation Ground playground with a new updated facility and invited the views of local residents. Funding for the renewal of playgrounds comes from contributions collected from local developers who are building homes in Aldershot and Farnborough. A budget of £150,000 has been secured for Cove Green Recreation Ground playground, with the aim of completion by the end of 2023.

Method

Letters (appendix A) were sent to 1,042 local residents, asking them to complete an online survey (appendix B). Paper copies of the survey were available on request. Posters were placed in the play area (appendix C).

The survey ran from 23 May 2023 until the 16 June 2023.

Response rate

In total 234 respondents completed the online survey (no one returned a paper copy).

150 respondents left email addresses to be involved and kept up-to-date on the development of the playground.

Consultation results

Summary

The majority of respondents did have children or grandchildren who use the playground (92.7%).

Respondents preferred age group for the new play equipment was 5-7 years (85.4%), followed by 1-4 years (77.3%).

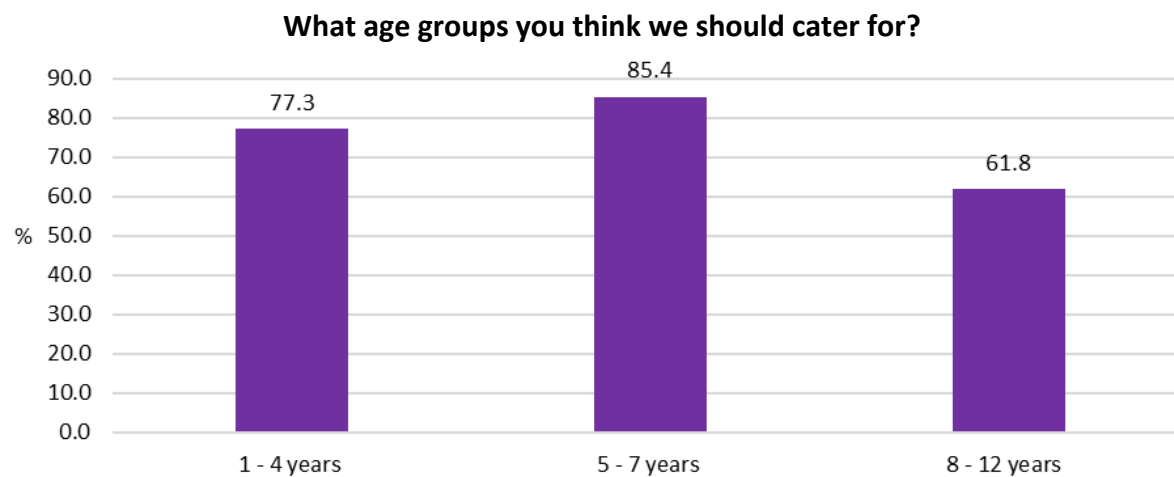
The most important play features, for the park, excluding swinging, sliding and climbing (these are considered essential and will be incorporated within the design) was play structures. The second most important play feature was balancing/agility. The third most important play feature was spinning/rotating.

Respondents were very positive about the playground being updated. However, there was some concerns about antisocial behaviour.

Detailed Responses

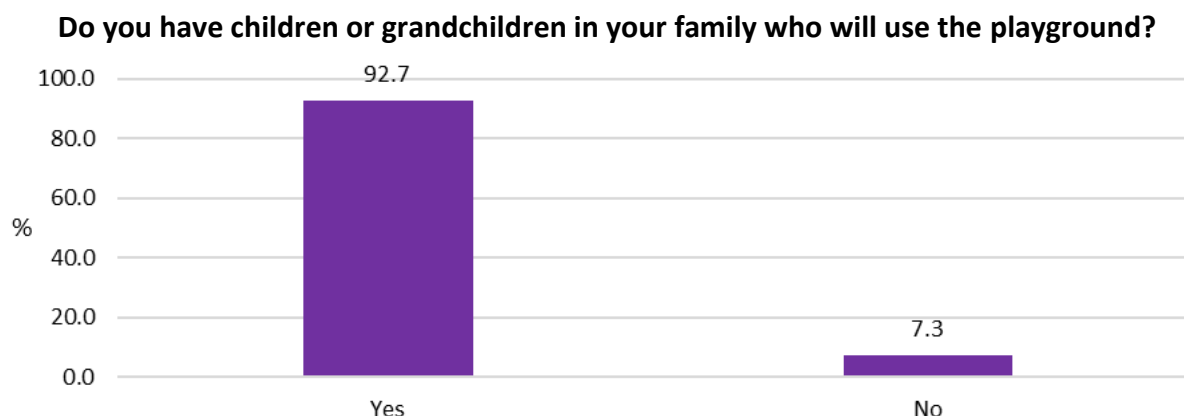
Question 1 - We want to make sure we provide the right facilities to meet local need. To help us, please tell us the age groups you think we should cater for.

In total 233 respondents completed question 1. Overall, the highest percentage was for the 5-7 year age group, 199 respondents thought this was the right age (85.4%). The 1-4 year age group was second with 77.3% (180 respondents).



Question 2 - Do you have children or grandchildren in your family who will use the playground?

In total 233 respondents completed this question and 216 respondents answered yes (92.7%).



Question 3 – Of the following play features please rank in order of importance. Please rank between 1 – 8 with 1 being the most important.

This question asked respondents to rank 8 play features in order of importance. Not included, in the list, were swinging (e.g. all types of swings, including basket swings),

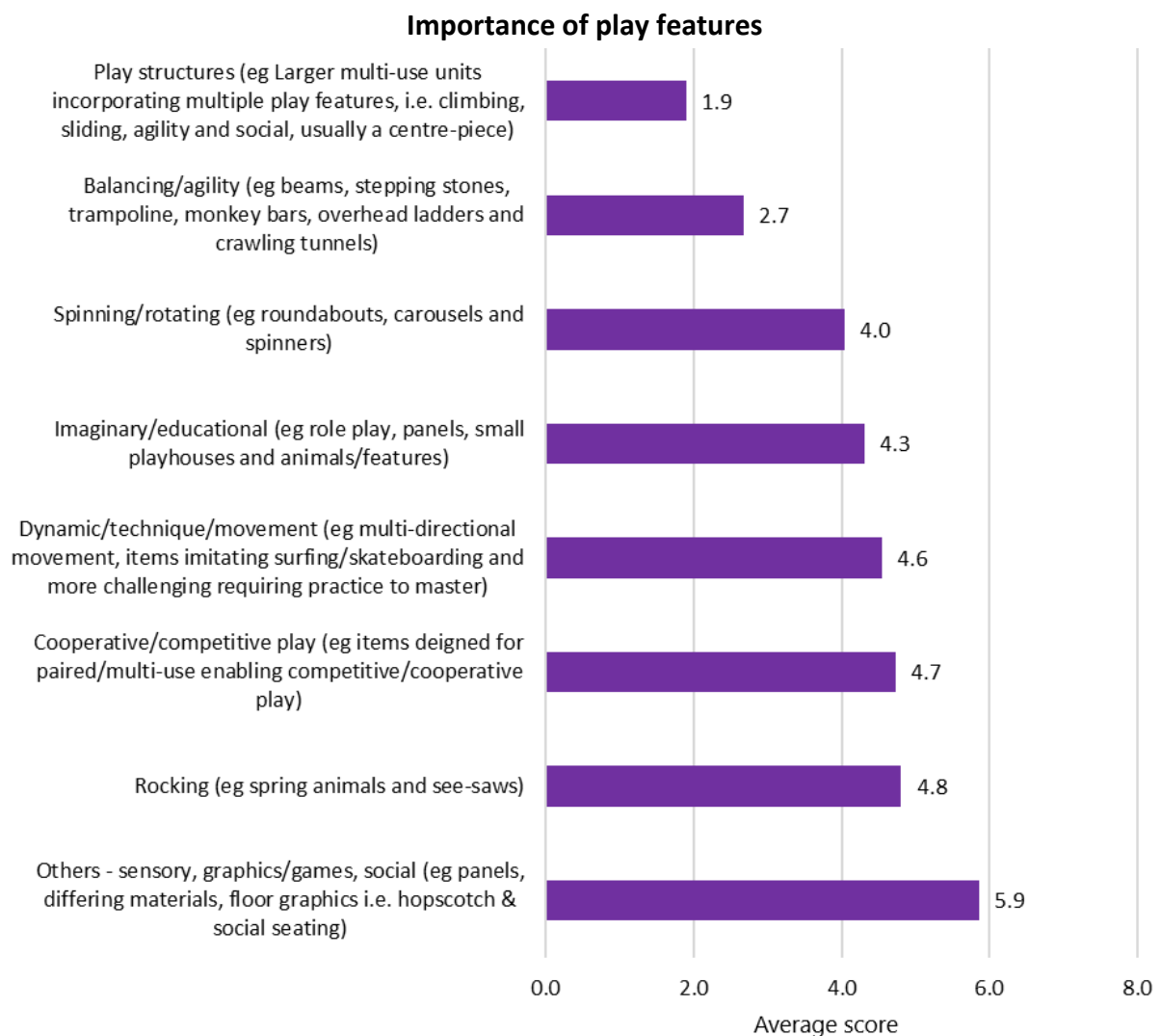
sliding (e.g. chutes and slides) and climbing (e.g. net climbers, climbing walls and climbing units), as they are considered essential and will be incorporated within the design.

In total 233 respondents answered this question. The following chart shows the average rating for each play feature. With 1 being the respondents' favourite play feature, the lower the rating the more popular the play feature was.

The most important play feature was play structures (e.g. larger multi-use units incorporating multiple play features, i.e. climbing, sliding, agility and social, usually a centre-piece), in total 184 respondents had this in as their top three most important play features.

The second most important play feature was balancing/agility (e.g. beams, stepping stones, trampoline, monkey bars, overhead ladders and crawling tunnels), in total 154 respondents had this in their top three most important play features.

The third most important play feature was spinning/rotating (eg roundabouts, carousels and spinners), in total 82 respondents had this in their top three most important play features.



Question 4: If you would like to provide any other feedback about the playground.

In total 131 respondent left a comment. The main themes of the comments were (all those mentioned more than 5 times):

- General positive and thank you comments (mentioned in around 25 comments)
- The need for swings / enough swings / more swings / different types of swing (mentioned in around 20 comments)
- Concern about antisocial behaviour / the behaviour of teenagers (mentioned in around 17 comments)
- A request for seating / benches (mentioned in around 14 comments)
- A request for slides (mentioned in around 14 comments)
- Keep the tree and bushes (mentioned in around 11 comments)
- A request for a zip line (mentioned in around 11 comments)
- Equipment suitable / safe for young children / toddlers (mentioned in around 10 comments)
- A request for a splash pad (mentioned in around 9 comments)
- A request for roundabouts (mentioned in around 8 comments)
- The importance of shade (mentioned in around 7 comments)
- The need for the equipment to be accessible (mentioned in around 7 comments)
- A request for a sports area (mentioned in around 7 comments)
- A request for monkey bars (mentioned in around 6 comments)
- A request for a sand pit (mentioned in around 6 comments)
- A request for exercise/gym equipment (mentioned in around 5 comments)
- A request for trampolines/floor trampolines (mentioned in around 5 comments)
- The need for something for older children / teenagers (mentioned in around 5 comments)

Appendix A – copy of the letter

RUSHMOOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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

Website: www.rushmoor.gov.uk

Contact:

Direct line: 01252 398399

E-mail:

Date: 22nd May 2023

Dear Resident,

Re: Proposed upgrading of Cove Green Recreation Ground playground

I am pleased to inform you that Rushmoor Borough Council plans to replace the Cove Green Recreation Ground playground with new updated equipment.

As you live nearby, we would like to hear your views.

The equipment is nearing the end of life, has limited play value and needs to be replaced with a good quality neighbourhood playground.

If you would like to give us your views, please visit www.rushmoor.gov.uk/covegreenplaygroundsurvey for the short online survey, which will take about 5 minutes to complete. Or you can scan our QR code, to the right of this letter, with your phone or tablet.



If you don't have access to a computer, please call (01252) 398399 and I will send a survey form to you.

We use the information you provide to influence the final design of the playground. I will also liaise with local schools & playgroups to gather ideas of what children would like to see at the site.

Companies will be invited to design a playground based on the feedback we receive and those residents who have shown interest will be invited to pick their preferred choice. The most popular will be built later in the year.

If you would like to provide your email address when completing the survey, I can keep you informed about progress. The closing date for completion of the survey is Friday 16th June 2023.

Yours faithfully,

Laura Smith
Projects Officer

Chief Executive Paul Shockley

• Executive Director Ian Harrison

• Executive Director Karen Edwards

customerservices@rushmoor.gov.uk

www.rushmoor.gov.uk

DX 122250 FARNBOROUGH 2

Appendix B – copy of the online survey



Cove Green Recreation Ground playground

Introduction

We will be replacing the Cove Green Recreation Ground playground with a new, updated facility. The current equipment is fairly old and some items are nearing the end of their useful life and have limited play value.

The playground is popular with families and groups. We would like to hear your views about what we could do at the site.

Funding for the renewal of playgrounds comes from contributions collected from local developers who are building homes in Rushmoor. We have secured a budget of £150,000 for this project so we can completely refurbish this facility.

We aim to have the new playground built by the end of 2023.

We welcome your views and will use this information to influence the final design of the playground. We will also be consulting with local schools & play groups.

The survey will only take a couple of minutes to complete, so thank you for your help!

Please make sure you give us your views by Friday 16 June 2023.

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



Cove Green Recreation Ground playground

1. We want to make sure we provide the right facilities to meet local need. To help us, please tell us the age groups you think we should cater for. (Please tick all that you think apply)

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1 - 4 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 - 7 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 - 12 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |









2. Do you have children/grandchildren in your family who will use the playground? (Please tick one)

- Yes
 No

With the available budget the following play activities are considered essential to be incorporated within the design:

- Swinging (eg all types of swings including basket swings)
Sliding (eg chutes and slides)
Climbing (eg net climbers, climbing walls and climbing units)

3. Please rank the following play features in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 8 the least. You can either select a number for each item or drag and drop the item into place (If you are using a mobile phone or tablet you may not be able to drag and drop the items into place, so please use the drop down to choose the number for each play feature).

	<input type="text"/>	Spinning/rotating (eg roundabouts, carousels and spinners)
	<input type="text"/>	Rocking (eg spring animals and see-saws)
	<input type="text"/>	Balancing/agility (eg beams, stepping stones, trampoline, monkey bars, overhead ladders and crawling tunnels)
	<input type="text"/>	Dynamic/technique/movement (eg multi-directional movement, items imitating surfing/skateboarding and more challenging requiring practice to master)
	<input type="text"/>	Imaginary/educational (eg role play, panels, small playhouses and animals/features)
	<input type="text"/>	Play structures (eg Larger multi-use units incorporating multiple play features, i.e. climbing, sliding, agility and social, usually a centre-piece)
	<input type="text"/>	Cooperative/competitive play (eg items deigned for paired/multi-use enabling competitive/cooperative play)
	<input type="text"/>	Others - sensory, graphics/games, social (eg panels, differing materials, floor graphics i.e. hopscotch & social seating)

Cove Green Recreation Ground playground

4. If you would like to be involved and kept up-to-date on this work, please provide your email address below (optional).

We will only use your email in order to continue to communicate with you about Cove Green playground, including the proposed designs and inviting you to select your preferred choice. We will also email you about the opening of the playground and inform you of any other news relevant to the playground.

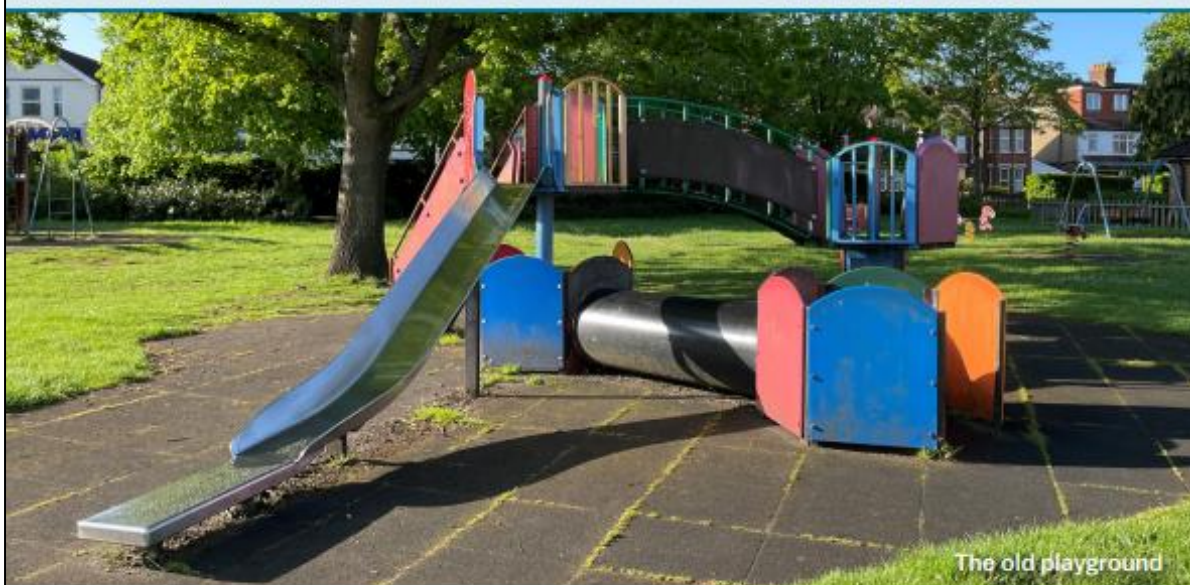
5. If you would like to provide any other feedback about the playground, please do so in the box below:

Thank you for completing our survey

PROPOSED UPGRADING OF

Cove Green playground

Public consultation - **what would you like to see?**



**We will be replacing this playground
with a new updated facility**

If you would like to give your views, please go to:
www.rushmoor.gov.uk/covegreenplaygroundsurvey
to complete the short online survey.
This will take about five minutes.

If you would prefer a printed copy, please call 01252 398 399.

The closing date for responses is
Friday 16 June.



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