

COMMUNICATIONS

Community Consultation Report

Fitzpatrick Park Playground upgrade

15 November 2021

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1. Summary

Randwick City Council is planning to upgrade the playground at Fitzpatrick Park Kensington, to create a new inclusive play space where children of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds can play.

This report outlines the consultation program undertaken to consult with the community to help plan the playground upgrade in relation to its play equipment and landscaping. The community were invited to complete an online survey or share an idea.

The consultation received 295 unique visits to the Your Say Randwick webpage, 74 completed surveys, 13 ideas shared and two submissions.

The survey results indicate that most respondents visit the playground a few times a month (31%), will walk to access the playground (83%) and visit with children up to 6 years old (0-6 years 63%).

There is support for upgrading the playground to be inclusive for children of all ages and abilities (77% very important or important), additional seating (79%), fully fenced (72%), and a drinking fountain (67%). There is some support for more trees and plantings (56%), but 33% do not support more plantings.

Concept plans will be developed based on the community feedback and will go on public exhibition for further comment in early 2022.

2. Community engagement strategy

2.1. Background

Randwick City Council is planning to upgrade the playground at Fitzpatrick Park, Kensington, to create a new inclusive play space with new equipment, to repair the playground surface and consider more shade options.

2.2. Objectives

The consultation program aimed to:

- Determine the main users of the playground
- Determine support for adding new shade structures
- Gather ideas from the community for the playground design and equipment
- Determine support for adding features such as water bubbler and bike racks

2.3. Consultation period

The consultation was open 11 October to 7 November 2021.

The project was assessed as having a low-level local area impact.

IAP2 Consultation level: Involve

2.4. Consultation activities

Community engagement activities undertaken:

- Dedicated consultation website to complete the survey and share an idea
- Posters on site
- Mailbox drop to surrounding neighbourhood
- Email to Your Say subscribers (6770 subscribers): 12 October 2021
- Email to eNews subscribers who live in Kensington (2161 recipients): 12 October 2021
- Randwick News (weekly email – 51,405 subscribers): 13 October 2021
- Facebook post: 24 October 2021 (4913 people reached and 144 engagements)
- Listing on Randwick City Council's *Current Consultations* webpage
- Email to all precincts
- Councillor notification

3. Consultation outcomes

3.1. Your Say Randwick website

A dedicated Your Say Randwick website was created to host a survey and encourage the community to share their ideas on an ideas board.

<https://www.yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/fitzpatrickplaygroundupgrade>

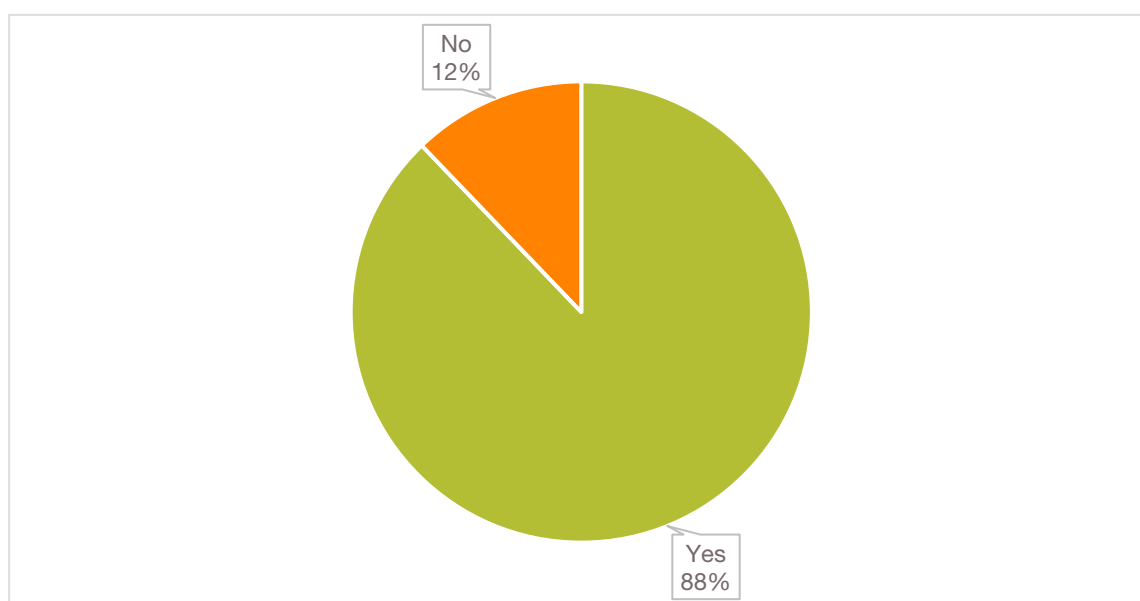
The website was launched on 11 October 2021 was open for 28 days, closing 7 November 2021.

During this time, the site experienced the following:

- 295 unique visits to the Your Say Randwick webpage
- 74 completed surveys
- 13 ideas shared

3.2. Survey results

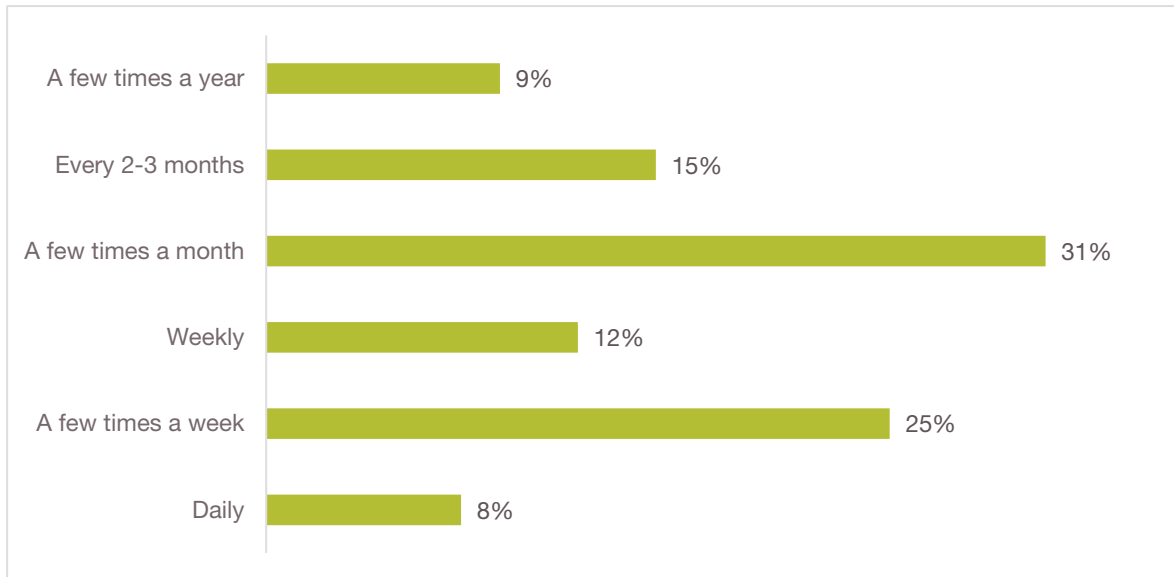
3.2.1. Have you visited the playground at Fitzpatrick Park?



Graph 1: (n=74) Have you visited the playground?

Graphs 2-7 are the responses to follow-up questions asked if a respondent indicated 'yes' they visit the playground.

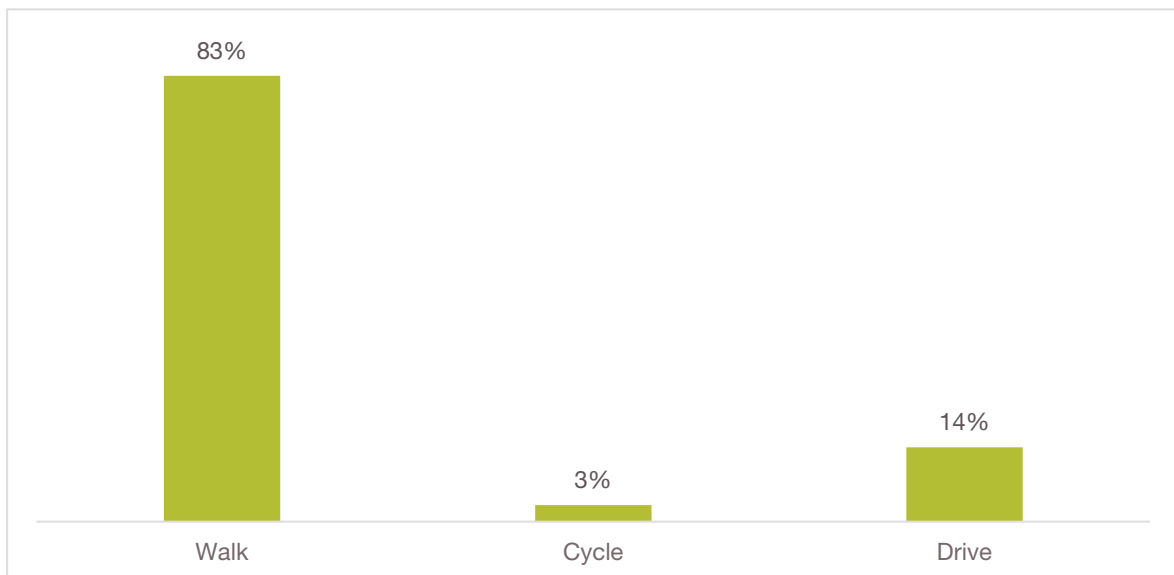
3.2.2. Which best describes how often you visit the playground?



Graph 2: (n=65) How often respondents visit the playground

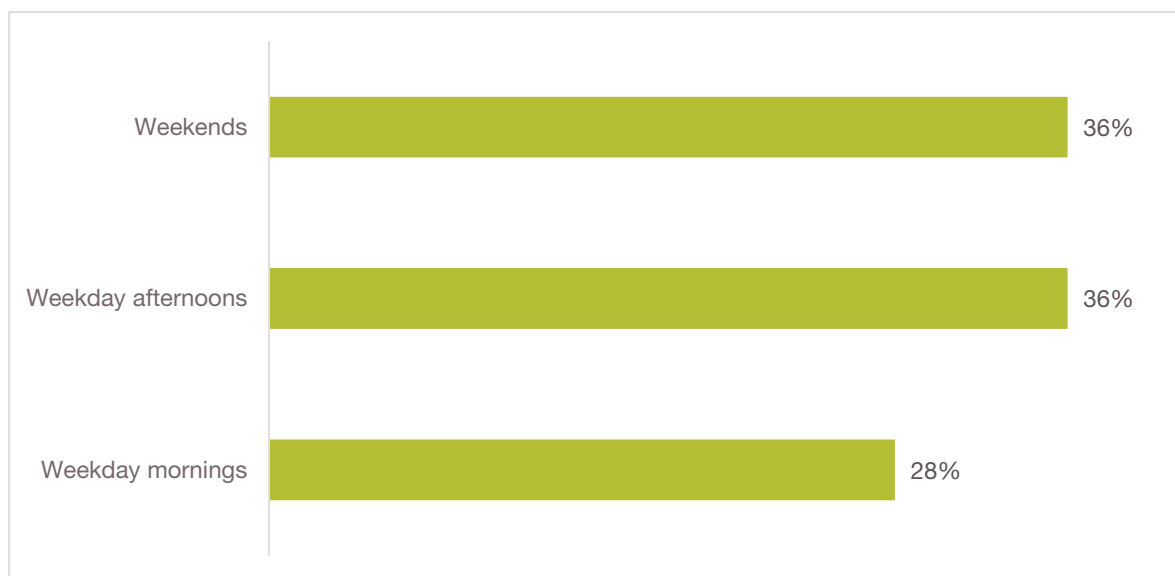
Most respondents visit the playground at least once a week, with a total of 45% visiting daily, a few times a week or weekly.

3.2.3. How do you get to the playground?



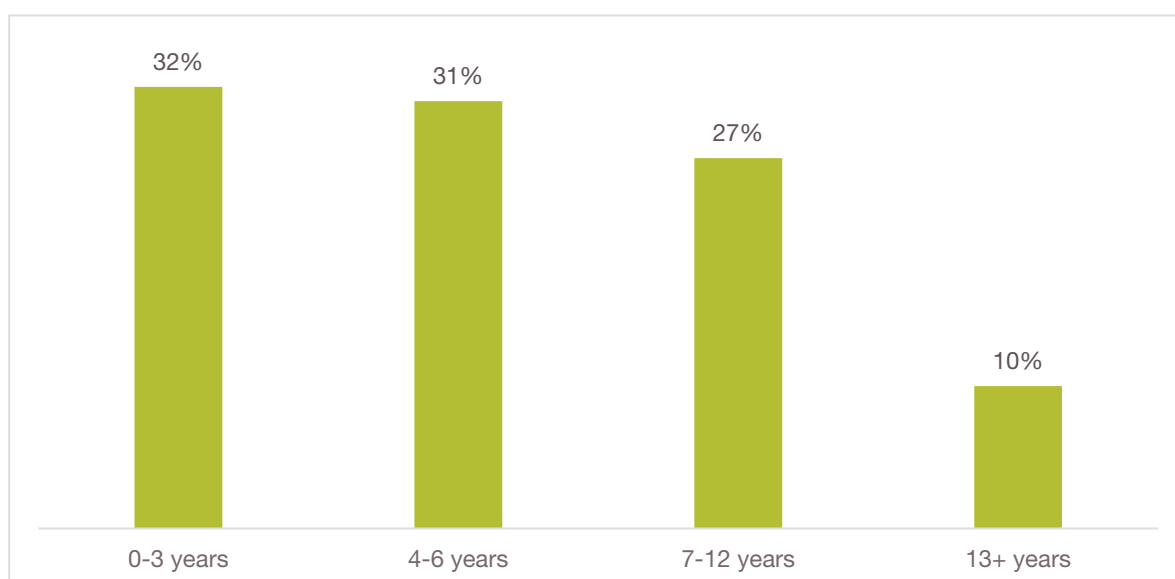
Graph 3: (n=65) How respondents get to the playground.

3.2.4. When do you usually visit the playground?



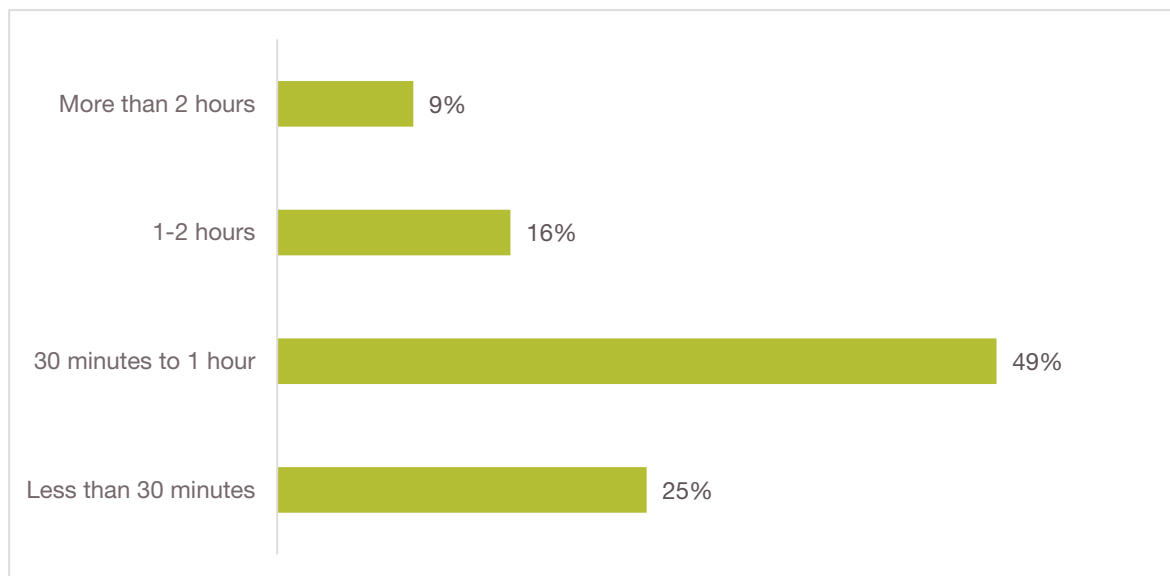
Graph 4: (n=10. Respondents could choose more than one response) Visiting the playground.

3.2.5. What is the age of the children you visit the playground with?



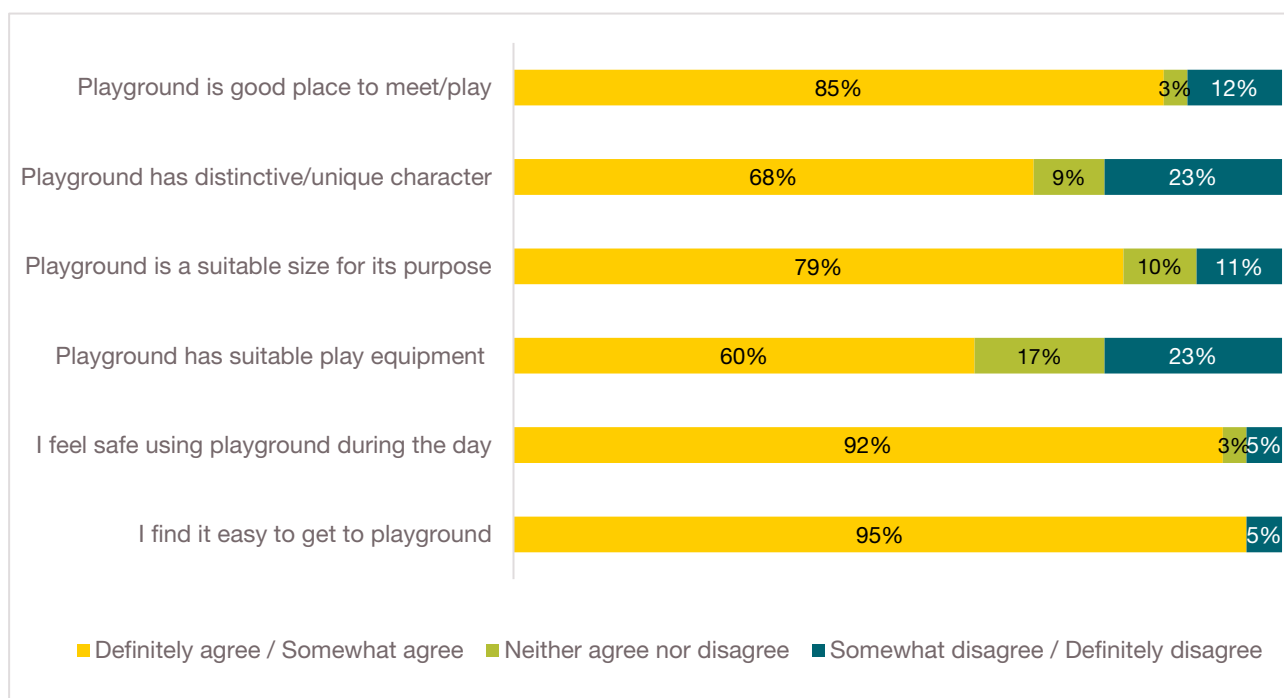
Graph 5: (n=97. Respondents could choose more than one response) Age of children who visit the playground.

3.2.6. On average, how long do you spend playing at the playground when you visit?



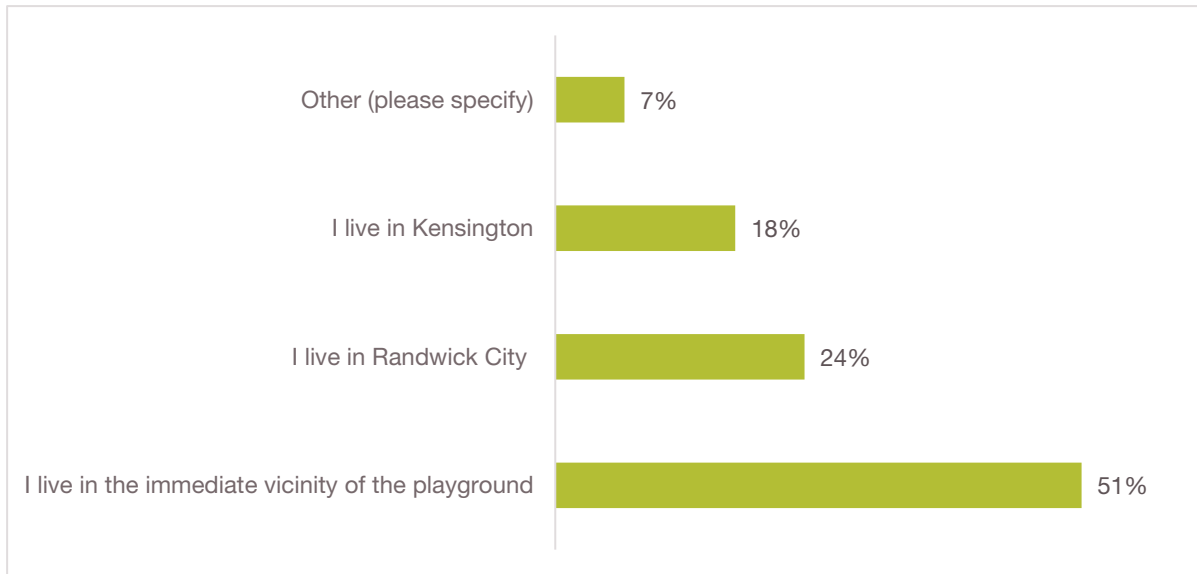
Graph 6: (n=75. Respondents could choose more than one response) Time spent at the playground.

3.2.7. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the playground?



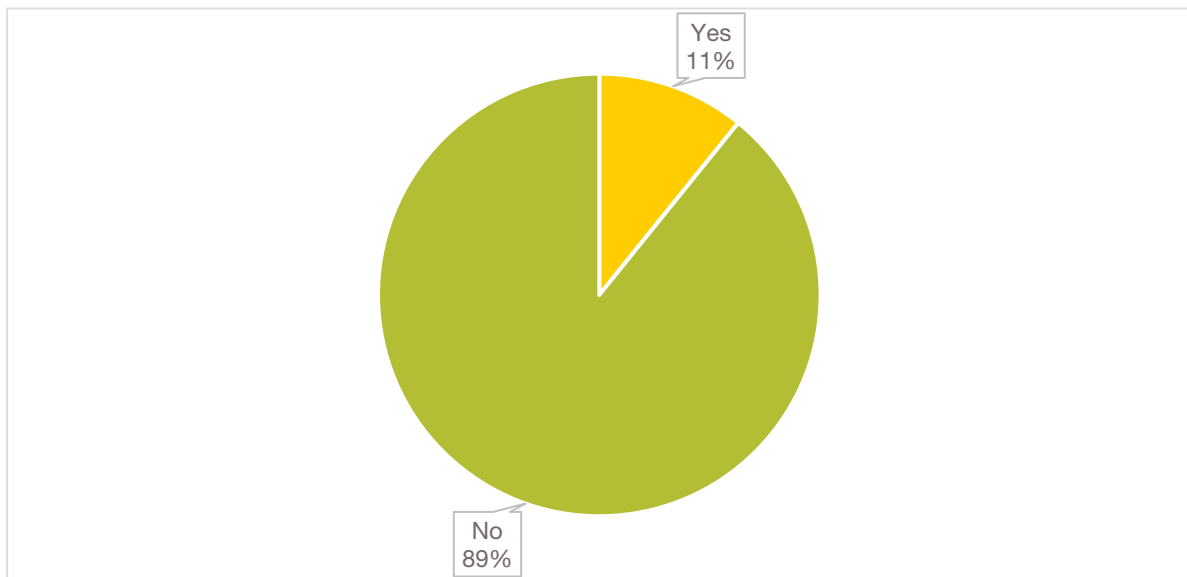
Graph 7: (n=60) Respondent's perception of the playground.

3.2.8. Which best describes you?



Graph 8: (n=75) Which best describes you?

3.2.9. Are you a parent or carer of a child with a disability?



Graph 8: (n=72) Are you a parent or carer of a child with a disability?

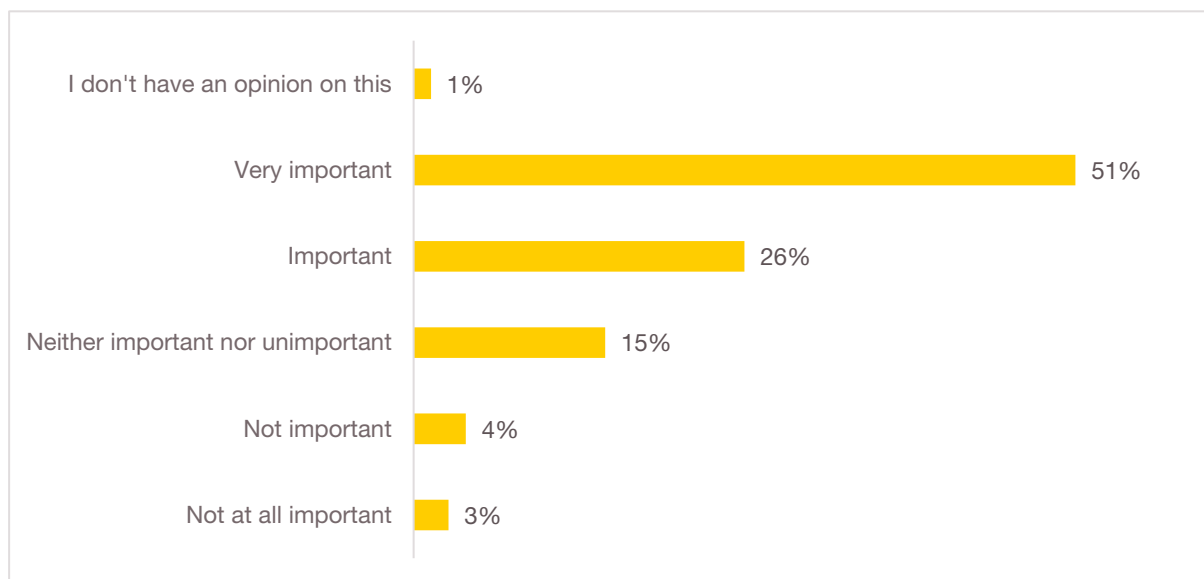
Graph 8 shows that 11% of respondents are a parent or carer of a child with a disability, which is equal to 8 respondents.

Of these 8 respondents, 6 indicated they live within the immediate vicinity of the playground, 1 lives in Kensington, 1 lives in Randwick City.

Further analysis of those respondents who identified as a parent or carer of a child with a disability provides the following insights:

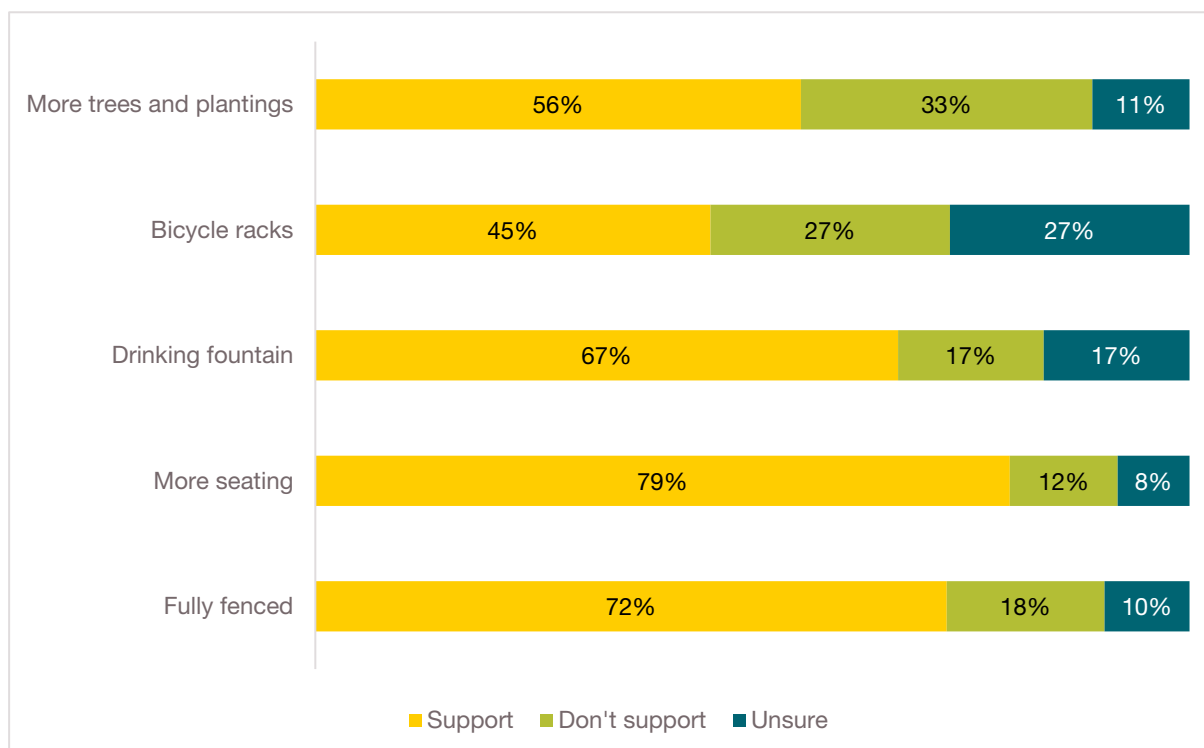
- 5 visit the playground a few times a week at a minimum
- 4 'definitely agree' that the playground has suitable play equipment, 2 'somewhat agree' and 1 'neither agrees nor disagrees'
- 4 believe it is 'important' or 'very important' that the playground is upgraded to be inclusive

3.2.10. How important is it that Council upgrades this playground to be inclusive for children of all ages and abilities?



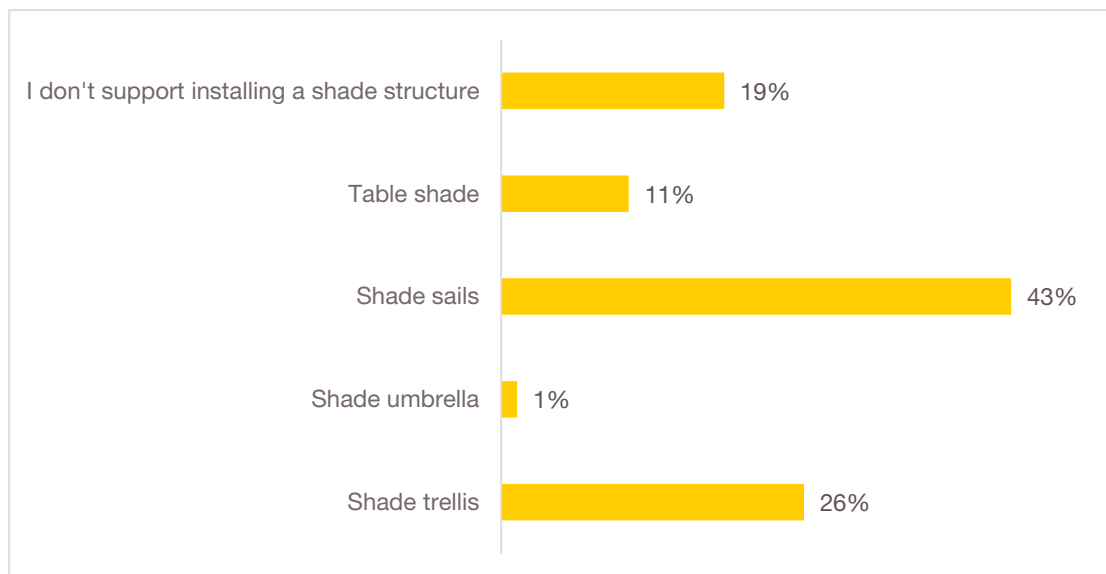
Graph 9: (n=74) Importance of upgrading the playground to be inclusive

3.2.11. How supportive are you for the following inclusions or upgrades within the playground?



Graph 10: (n=72) Level of support for playground inclusions.

3.2.12. Preferred shade structure



Graph 11: (n=74). Preferred shade structures

3.2.13. What would you love to see in this playground in the future?

	Comments
1	More swings for older kids. Decent sized slippery dip. No shade structure is needed due to the shade produced by the large trees.
2	Fitness equipment such as pull up bars and dip station.
3	I would love to see a basketball hoop and tennis wall to be included in this play area plus two picnic tables. These additions would enable a greater variety of people to utilise the park.
4	Bespoke / site specific play elements - not off the shelf items
5	Toilets Also Q 5, not everyone who visits the park has kids, there should also be a NA as an answer!!
6	Using more natural soft fall is critical - it gets so hot in summer - there are alternatives available. Please look into that.
7	More trees
8	Native plants and trees, picnic tables and chairs
9	Be aware of the proximity of playground to residential properties.
10	Please please do not cut down the huge fig tree. Shade cloth does not replace all the benefits of this tree. Please don't cut it down.
11	The park has to be safe for everyone, of all ages and abilities. Other exercises equipment should be added.
12	Shaded bench and seating area
13	The slide, play equipment and swings are very popular with the kids. I had a look at the additional play options and was surprised to find nothing that added to what is already there. More seating would be great though.
14	Some swings for children under 2 years old. The playground is mostly suited for older children.

	Comments
15	New updated equipment . Enlarged play area and seating
16	combination of sporting equipment for children <12 and children >12 and more seat for families to meet with other local neighbours.
17	It would be great to have a tennis wall like at Heffron and also a basketball hoop for the older kids and adults
18	I would love to ensure the beautiful fig tree remains within the space.
19	Definitely more seating and grandparents have difficulty sitting on the grass
20	Just an upgrade of equipment. Not too much new furniture It's mainly for the kids to play. The park has nice grass to sit on and the trees provide reasonable shade for the area. Keep it clean It does not need a lot of money spent on it
21	A tree house around the tree in the playground. More swings and climbing options.
22	I would love a sandpit with cover and real tree stumps etc included- a liar to the sandpit in queens park playground. Would also love a water play area! Would be amazing to see this park transformed- happy to help with the planting of trees :)
23	A water play area (like Mary O'Brien Reserve on Joynton Ave)
24	Picnic tables, upgrade to equipment
25	Dog bags and rubbish bin
26	More swings if possible, and low monkey bars for younger kids to go with the hanging bars already there
27	It's very dark at the moment and the "garden" in front of the playground isn't suitable to sit or even kick a ball on at all due to the amount of dusty dirt and tree droppings. I hope that area is being lightened up as well as the playground!!
28	Slide tunnel and higher stairs, New pole, Sandpit, BBQ
29	It's hard to find a safe parking spot especially on eastern avenue with the buses. The parked cars on either side of the road makes it tight hence I feel it's unsafe to get my child and the pram out of the car. Also there are bushes etc on day ave which makes it impossible to get my child out on the passenger side of the car and the footpath is too far from the kerb to place the pram on.
30	Bubbler, toilet, opened up so that kids can move between grass and play area, slide for bigger kids and smaller, monkey bars, swings, cubby house, treehouse in the climbing tree
31	Trim the trees to add more light to the park, maintain the grass and update the play equipment.
32	*Bigger playground facilities - taking up more space *Equipment for toddlers and equipment for 3+ *More swings (at least 4 - 2x baby) *Soft fall (NO sand or wood chips) *Slides, climbing equipment, sit/stand on and rocks, see saw, big round swing so a few kids can have a turn. *Seats to eat at *Keep the shade of the trees *Eliminate the tree roots in the playground
33	Something for older children eg ping pong table And maybe something for adults such as outdoor exercise equipment

	Comments
34	- Flying Fox (with a seat - not handle) - net swing (spider web swing) - giant tunnel slide - jumping pillow!
35	Natural materials - and an approach that improves the park amenity for all, not just as a playground.
36	Inclusive playground Suitable low equipment for toddlers as well as some equipment for older children. A water play playground in the Kensington area
37	Bbq area
38	Since the park is small in size, it would be good to reorganise the play equipment to make better use of space. Perhaps the play equipment could be updated as well.
39	I have concerns about the large tree in the actual playground. While it does provide fabulous shade, I think the risks it creates outweighs the benefits. Its roots are a trip hazard, and the berries and leaves are a slip hazard and aren't cleaned regularly enough. The shade also causes the play equipment to get mould which also creates a respiratory hazard. I would like to see more open style play equipment such as monkey bars including uneven bar sets and a rope swing,
40	Safe equipment for toddler age and young primary school. Paved paths to the fences to allow pram access. A toilet.
41	Council should retain the parks character as a quiet local community park. Existing trees provide excellent shade and should be retained. Avoid fixtures that encourage teenagers and others from drinking in the park at night
42	Would love for the park to feel like the Newmarket park in Randwick opposite the hospital on a smaller scale! They've got great in playspace seating where parents can sit and watch their kids play! - More modern play equipment - Sensory wall (spinning blocks + naughts and crosses): developmental learning equipment - Flying fox - Climbing spider web net - Spinning 'round about' equipment (the ones where you hop on and spin with your body weight)
43	Lots of various equipment with a theme perhaps like a pirate ship Equipment to be interesting and various levels of hardness so that children of various ages will find interesting. A cycle pathway through the rest of the park with interactive signs to teach children the road rules. If possible an exercise feature for adults similar to Kensington oval . More picnic tables . At the moment there is a lot of space which is not used . Make the whole park usable
44	Play equipment low to the ground for crawling babies. The solid/rubber floor is preferred over mulch for this reason.
45	More vegetation as well as upgrade existing play equipment
46	I am surprised by the proposal for a shade structure. This park is the most beautiful small park in the area and an asset for the community for one reason, it has magnificent fig trees for shade. Your own invitation to comment even recognises this with the statement "under the shade of a mature fig". While the playground could be refresh, it is great the way it is. It certainly does not need artificial shade, when it has the best natural option. The most important requirement would to consider planting a new fig tree, so that it might be at a level of maturity when the existing figs need replacing due to old age.

	Comments
47	Some fitness equipment and structures for older children 12+ years.
48	- flying fox - dual slide for races - multi age appropriate equipment - more swing sets - park to remain fully fenced - educational games eg tick tac toe Or pretend shop - cargo climb net
49	The kids use the playground every day with either us (parents), grandparents or nanny. I asked the kids and they would love to see more swings, climbing wall and/or structure to climb over. We as parents would love more seating areas with shade and also would like to see the playground floor be levelled as currently it is quite dangerous when playing chase etc as it is very lumpy and uneven due to tree roots etc. we would like to see the fencing go and possibly some of the tree canopy trimmed back to allow sunshine in (yes appreciate I asked for more shading on the seating areas!). The park can be quite cold and dark due to the tree canopy blocking out the sun. Would encourage more locals to use as a picnic venue etc
50	Round net swing. More small children swings, only one at the moment. Flying fox.
51	For it to stay as it is. Allocating valuable community funds to upgrade the perfectly good infrastructure that already exists and provide additional infrastructure would be blatantly irresponsible.
52	I'd like to see some climbing equipment that is for both the big and little kids. Something that enables little ones to take a challenge safely. Eg a high bridge with fencing almost covering the sides. Water play area/feature amongst some rocks. There is a lack of water play facilities in the area at parks. See steel park marrickville for ideas. In ground trampolines are also great and lots of fun for everyone.
53	We would love to see this playground continue to be suitable for all ages 0-12, please retain the swings and monkey bars as play features. It would be great to have more seating inside the fenced area, a water drinking fountain and we would hate to see any trees be cut down. Potentially a deck could be built over the large tree roots currently inside the fenced area. We love this playground, it could be made larger to incorporate the current grassed area, but having it fenced is important for families with smaller children.
54	I would like to see play equipment for all ages. Having a 2.5yr old and 12mth old, it's hard to find a park to accommodate both of them.
55	Inclusive play spaces for all ages. I have a 1 year old and 2 1/2 year old spaces that accommodate both age groups would make this park perfect outing for my family
56	More baby swing seats
57	A seesaw, they are so hard to find now. Some wooden equipment or climbing structure, not all just plastic.
58	the retention of the green spaces and trees around the playground is paramount. It gives the playground a 'secret garden' feel and provides much needed shade and breeze. I know some kids are also very partial to trees around the playground.
59	1. Improved connections between the perimeter footpaths and the playspace. 2. Seating opportunities with space to park a pram alongside.

	Comments
60	Barbeque
61	Challenges for children who are 5 and up.
62	a merry go round; flying fox ; a safer see-saw
63	My older child comes here for the 3 bars she climbs, I've seen adults using these bars too, it'd be great for an older section with monkey bars etc down the end where the current bars are.
64	I love this playground as it's great for my toddler and we always have a wonderful time here. Because it doesn't attract older kids like the other playgrounds. We love the twirly slide and the bouncy seater. It would be nice to replace the walker by the yellow slide as this is a bit rickety for small kids. Be noce to get extra seating and more play toys.
65	Please see my Submission of 1 November 2021. In addition: I felt I could not truly answer Q10. Of course, I believe in inclusivity but the question wording did not allow for qualification. It did not allow for agreeing to playground inclusive of multicultural, disability etc but with a focus for younger children. The whole size of the park is too small to start putting lots of equipment for older children/adults. They can enjoy the park in other ways. Plus Kensington Park is well equipped for that. Fitzpatrick Park has served the community well to this time with its focus on young children. Space for free play with a table/chairs set is essential within a fenced area as well as outside of it. Plus size of the outside free play area needs to be maintained for children plus adults wanting a quiet place to sit, have a chat, have morning tea/lunch etc at a table with seats or sit and read on a park bench. Question 12 did not allow for more than 1 shade structure. I selected table cover but would like to qualify to where there is no tree shade cover and if ok aesthetically. However, there also needs to be cover over playground equipment, not so much the trellis look because it seems that might get quite dirty on the top and looks too rigid, but dome/post type structures. I think St Spyridon School near Day Lane might have what I am thinking. I could send a photo in due course.
66	For playspace only: Flying fox Kids cycling track Net web swings For overall fitzpatrick park: Bbq area More bench seating Better grass to sit down on More sunlight
67	I like to see equipment for young children and equipment that children with disabilities can access and enjoy. This would provide a suitable and safe playground within easy walking distance. The park and playground are quite small, and even if extended somewhat, the playground is too small to cater for children of all ages. Older children can easily access Kensington Park that provides a wider range of activities. I like to see seating and at least one table in the playground, and more tables with seating in the park than currently. The Park itself is blissfully protected by shade, and some plants that would thrive could be beneficial along the borders of the park. Bus shelter upgrade desirable.
68	Swings Slide Monkey bars Fireman's pole Spiders web - climbing net

	Comments
69	Net swing broad swing monkey bars huge slide fire mans pole wobbly bridge
70	The tree in the park does cause problems. Children trip on the roots and slip on the berries and leaves. - swing set - net swing - large slide
71	•No shade shelter as we have big trees that already provide shade. •Please don't cut down any trees because they are fun to climb on and lots of birds and creatures live in them. We need more trees in Kensington and Randwick to make it look beautiful. •Space to run around and play without bumping into people ie not too much equipment. •Keep it the same size as it is because some of our family and friends have birthday parties & have Christmas lunches outside the playground area in the grass space as well as kicking footys. •Flying fox from the south fence to the north fence similar to the flying fox in Coogee park. •No fake grass. Please keep the real grass as it hurts when you fall on fake grass and natural grass is better for the environment. •Please no wood chips in the playground as they don't help when you fall and they are always so dirty especially after it rains. •Have a few more swings than the park has now and please add some monkey bars. •Pleas don't change the park to dramatically as we are close to two different styled parks a modern park (Barker St park) and near a grassy park (Kensington oval). We much prefer a minimal styled park where we can play whatever and use our imagination. Also we have many memories in that park. -Geneviève 12 and Henry 6

Table 1: Future aspirations for the playground

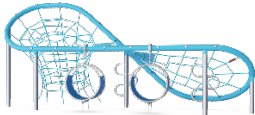
3.2.14. Pick your favourite play equipment

The following table shows how respondents voted for various pieces of play equipment from three key categories: inclusive play ideas, multiplayer equipment and other equipment.

Inclusive play ideas	
#1 Inground tramp 31 votes (incl. 6 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#2 Nest swing 16 votes	

Inclusive play ideas	
#3 See saw with back support 6 votes (incl. 2 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#4 Carousel with top brace 5 votes	
#6 Unity swing 3 votes	

Table 2: Preferred inclusive play equipment

Multiplay	
#1 23 votes (incl. 1 vote from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	Option 5 
#2 13 votes	Option 4 
#3 10 votes (incl. 3 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	Option 2 

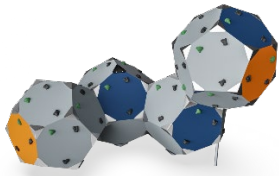
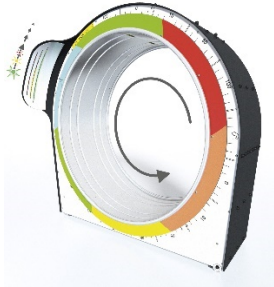
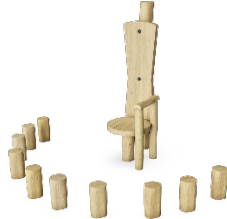
Multiplay	
#4 (incl. 1 vote from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability) 8 votes	Option 6 
#5 7 votes (incl. 1 vote from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	Option 3 
#6 1 vote	Option 1 

Table 3: Preferred multiplay equipment

More ideas	
#1 Swings with toddler seat 37 votes (incl. 4 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#2 Toddler play with tunnel 20 votes (incl. 1 vote from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	

More ideas	
#3 Run roller (ages 6+) 18 votes (incl. 2 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#4 = 16 votes Spinner (incl. 1 vote from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#5 Crawling pyramid 15 votes (incl. 2 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#6 Toddler play house 14 votes (incl. 3 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#7 Toddler play car 12 votes (incl. 3 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#8 Rubber sculpture tunnel 8 votes (incl. 2 votes from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	
#9 Fairy throne with seats 5 votes (incl. 1 vote from 8 respondents who identify as a carer of a child with a disability)	

More ideas	
#10 Quiet grove 3 votes	
#11 Timber sculpture 1 vote	

Table 4: Preferred other play equipment

3.3. Ideas Board

13 ideas were posted on the ideas board.

	Idea	Likes	Comments made on ideas
1	Jumping cushion! 	5 likes	This might work over the problem tree root area but in a much smaller version and in lieu of an in ground trampoline.
2	Flying Fox! 	7 likes	1. Awesome idea! 2. Park area is too small to accommodate but perhaps it could be considered for Kensington Park instead.
3	Monkey bars 	2 likes	Some sort of climbing/bars good but graduated for little ones upwards i.e at various heights. Keep it simple. Even though current equipment doesn't have bells and whistles it works well with different ways to climb. Monkey bars are simple U shape at different heights. Image here would appeal to older children.

	Idea	Likes	Comments made on ideas
4	Fitness equipment 	2 likes	Sorry don't agree as limited space can be better utilised.
5	Parallel bars - you slide down them 		n/a
6	All in one type of lookout, slippery dip/slide, swings, climbing but of stronger structure.		n/a
7	Fun shade cover 	1 like	n/a
8	Kids cycling track (smaller version of this) 		n/a
9	Net web swings 		n/a

	Idea	Likes	Comments made on ideas
10	More benches and bbq 		n/a
11	Jude (7) would like a spinning quadpod 		n/a
12	Sonny (10) would really like a flying fox 		n/a
13	Sonny (10) would like a very small dome please fore all kids how would like a tiny skate park 		n/a

Table 5: Ideas shared on the ideas board

3.4. Submissions

2 submissions outside Your Say Randwick were received and are shown in the following table.

	Submission
1	I would like to express my gratitude for you are upgrading Fitzpatrick Park. I have used it's facilities for many years. As mentioned on your flyer I will state my recommendations below. -Big round net swing -Seesaw -Merry go round -Flying Fox -Play equipment for kids with disabilities -Triangular Climbing net (Aged 10 years)
2	I live two streets away and have done for forty years. In my recollection, Fitzpatrick Park has had one upgrade in that time, when the rubber surface was laid. Unfortunately, trees had to be removed to do that making the Park extremely hot in summer, especially at the northern end or particularly windy and cold. There have been many times I would walk little ones to the Park only to have to turn around and go back home after a few minutes. While I have been an advocate to RCC for both Kensington Park and Fitzpatrick Park over many years, Fitzpatrick Park is my local park for taking little children. It is a shorter distance from my home. That makes a difference when walking with little children or for seniors. Kensington Park is just too far for little toddler legs to walk, even with a toddler bike or scooter. The child gives up half way and I have been left trying to carry a child and a bike. I think I only tried that twice and gave up. I guess what I am highlighting is that Fitzpatrick Park is ideal for the very young children who live close, can just make the short walking distance and they are the ones who most probably use it the most. Over the years, I have met many families at the Park who had walked there like me. Plus Fitzpatrick Park has two sets of tables and chairs, which Kensington Park does not – useful for feeding young children their snacks/lunch or for a comfortable catch up with other families/adults, especially during Covid. Fitzpatrick Park is a very small local park no bigger than a site of 1 or 2 houses, but is very much loved by families, especially those with little toddlers. It is usually safe and quiet for them. <u>UNEVEN PLAYGROUND SURFACE/TREE ROOTS/ACCESS GATES</u> It was great years ago, when the rubber surface replaced the plain dirt (children used to come home filthy), but before long the surface became uneven and unsafe. The tree roots pushed up making big cracks and hills. It had been like that for years until the recent temporary fix. Facing Eastern Avenue there are two gates. One double vehicle access gate and the adjacent second for pedestrian playground access – this pedestrian playground access gate was padlocked for many years, presumably due to the unsafe ground surface. There is a second pedestrian playground access gate facing Day Avenue. When I raised the issue of the padlocked gate with RCC I think there was a misunderstanding. The double vehicle access gate was not the gate in question. The padlocked pedestrian playground access gate adjacent to it was the problem. After the recent temporary fix to the playground surface the padlock to that pedestrian playground access gate was rightly no longer there. I know that RCC is aware of the problem and has been working on a solution, for which I

Submission

am grateful. The recent temporary fix is a step in the right direction and appreciated. However, the current upgrade needs to include a softfall surface/design that will remain safe as a long term solution.

It would also be helpful if there could still be two pedestrian playground access gates close to their current locations (one facing Eastern Avenue and the other facing Day Avenue). The reason being that many pram users/children with small scooters/tricycles come to the playground from different directions to those gates.

PLAYGROUND/FENCE/EQUIPMENT

It is commendable to consider Fitzpatrick Park for all but please bear in mind that it is mainly used by the very little ones. It is quieter for them away from big kids, who can often takeover in parks. It is good too for children with disabilities for the same reason (one of my grandchildren amongst them). Beautiful Kensington Park close by is a good option for others.

The current play equipment is great because it focuses on progression so children, who are mainly local, gain confidence ageing up to the next level of equipment.

For example, there is a small and large slippery dip now. A moving walkway and climbing grooves but not too high, low rocking pieces with progression to the seesaw, monkey bars, fenced area that allows room for free play area within to run/ ride tricycles/wheel in a pram, table and seats in that fenced area (as well as in the Park). I have always been happy with the current equipment.

I remember fondly one of my granddaughters being scared to go on the moving walkway, until one day when grown a bit and legs/arms had gained some strength gave it a go. It was delightful to watch the crouching down, holding on for dear life to the ropes at the side, psyching herself up aloud telling herself she could do it. She always went on the walkway after that.

Whatever equipment is chosen it would be great to see the same focus on progression, as well as a similar free play area inside (and outside) the fence.

Particularly when kids are toddlers it is good to be able to look out for them in the fenced area and sit at the table to give them snacks/lunch in the shade, put their bottles/bits and pieces down etc on a stable surface while they play. The fence and one of the table sets should remain within the playground.

SHADE COVER

As mentioned, the playground gets extremely hot or extremely windy, especially at the north end, and I have often not been able to stay more than a few minutes because conditions were so bad.

Shade cover needs to give really good protection. I am thinking maybe a structure or so over the equipment, rather than shade cloth.

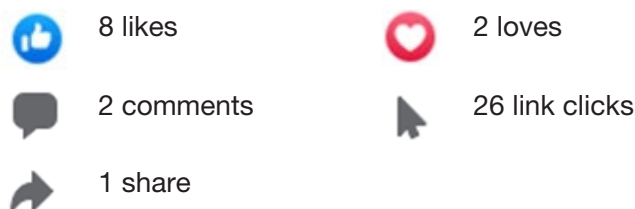
FACILITIES OUTSIDE THE FENCED PLAYGROUND

The unfenced area of the Park currently provides excellent space for free play, as well as a single bench seat on the side and a set of table/bench seats just outside the playground facing Eastern Avenue. I have used the outside table many times to feed children, when the playground is busy or to catch up with other adults for a peaceful chat. Even for meetings. These facilities should remain in the upgrade.

	Submission
	The bus shelter also needs some attention please. The covered shelter definitely needs to stay. However, when sitting it is difficult to see when a bus is on the approach. Maybe the Eastern Avenue tree line could be reviewed and see through panels might help. <u>MAINTENANCE</u> Fitzpatrick Park, years ago, was beautifully maintained with pretty flowers, regular lawn mowing etc. Sadly that is not the case now and hasn't been for many years. As part of the upgrade a beautification of the green space outside the fenced area would be wonderful please but along with an associated more frequent/regular schedule of a maintenance program. <u>OTHER</u> Having been a long term advocate for Fitzpatrick Park, particularly at RCC Budget time, if RCC is considering a focus group for the upgrade I would be excited to participate, as Council sees fit.

3.5. Facebook

A Facebook post on 24 October 2021 generated:



4. Next Steps

Concept plans will be developed based on the community feedback and will go on public exhibition for further comment in early 2022.

5. Communications material



Fitzpatrick Park
playground upgrade

Randwick Council is planning to upgrade Fitzpatrick Park playground in Kensington.

The upgrade will provide all new equipment, more shade options and improved connection to the grassed area.

We would love to hear from the kids of Kensington to help us design a new inclusive playspace.

To have your say

- Take our short survey to tell us your thoughts on the upgrade and use our 'ideas board' to share your great ideas. Visit yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au
- Send your comments to the General Manager headed 'Fitzpatrick Park playground upgrade' to council@randwick.nsw.gov.au or 30 Frances Street, Randwick 2031.

Consultation period
11 October - 7 November 2021

HAVE YOUR SAY


Randwick City Council
a sense of community

1300 722 542
yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au

Figure 1: Flyer and poster for Fitzpatrick Park playground upgrade consultation.

