COMMUNICATIONS

Community Consultation Report

Woomera Reserve playground upgrade

06 December 2022

Randwick City Council
a sense of community

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randwick.nsw.gov.au

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1. Summary

Randwick Council is planning to upgrade the playground at Woomera Reserve, Little Bay.

The following report outlines the consultation program undertaken to gather ideas from the community regarding what play equipment they would like to see as part of the upgrade.

The community were invited to take a survey, share in idea online or meet Council at a playground pop-up.

The consultation was promoted using digital and social media, mailbox drop and posters onsite.

The Your Say Randwick webpage had 531 visits and 84 engagements.

From the survey we learned that 81% of respondents live within a 10-minute walk of the playground. The playground is visited equally by children aged zero to 12 years and 76% visit regularly (daily, a few times a week or weekly).

The five most popular pieces of play equipment were trampoline, swings, flying fox, play tower and slide.

Most respondents are supportive of adding bike racks, more picnic tables, and an outdoor gym. Similarly, most respondents supported building the new playground on rubber softfall rather than mulch.

2. Community engagement strategy

2.1. Background

Randwick City Council is upgrading the playground at Woomera Reserve, Little Bay. The upgrade will include new play equipment, rubber softfall and seating, as well as a new path connecting Esperance Close with the playground.

2.2. Objectives

The consultation program aimed to:

- determine the main users of the playground
- gather ideas from the community for the play equipment selection and themes
- obtain feedback from the community using their local knowledge and experience
- better understand attitudes and challenges
- test the idea of outdoor gym

2.3. Consultation period

The consultation was open 26 October to 27 November 2022.

The project was assessed as having lower-level local impact.

IAP2 Consultation level: Involve
We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

2.4. Consultation activities

Community engagement activities undertaken:

- Dedicated consultation website to take a survey and share an idea
- Pop up at the playground: 15 November 2022, 3.30-4.30pm
- Flyer drop to residents around the playground
- Posters on site
- Email to Your Say subscribers: 26 October 2022
- Randwick eNews: Weekly listings for duration of the consultation
- Social Media: Facebook and Instagram posts 27 October and 12 November 2022
- Digital display screens across Customer Service Centre and all libraries
- 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 published to gather community ideas via a survey and online ideas board:

yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/woomeraplaygroundupgrade

The website was launched on 26 October and was open for 28 days closing 9am, 28 November 2022.

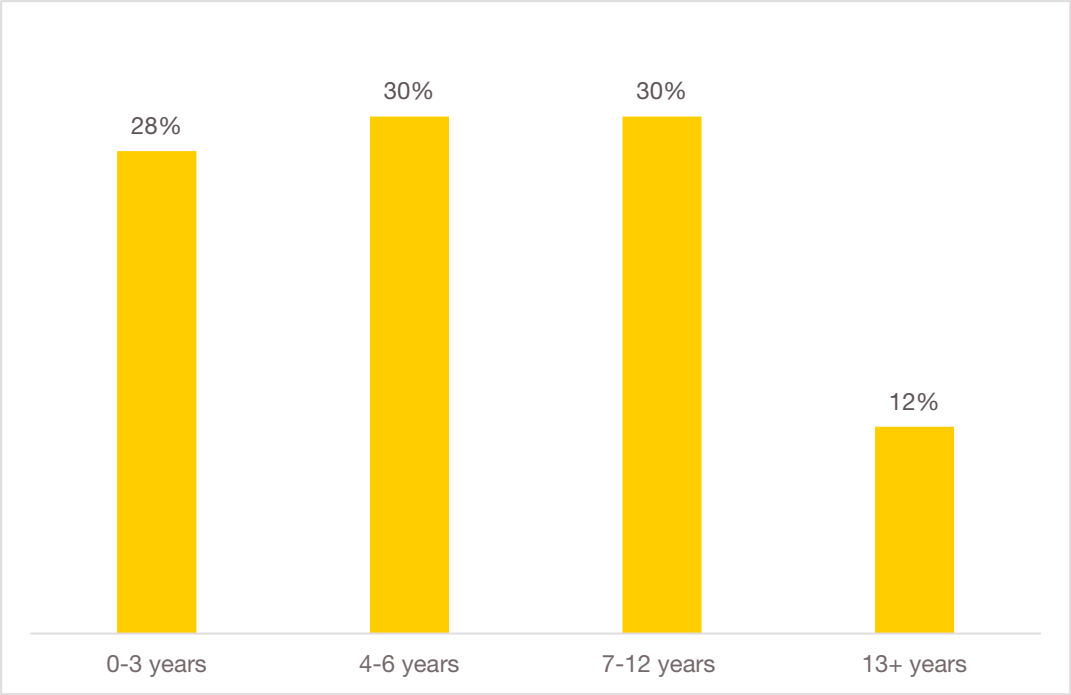
During this time, the site experienced the following:

- 531 visits
- 36 survey responses
- 14 ideas (plus 9 comments on the ideas and 25 up votes)

3.2. Survey

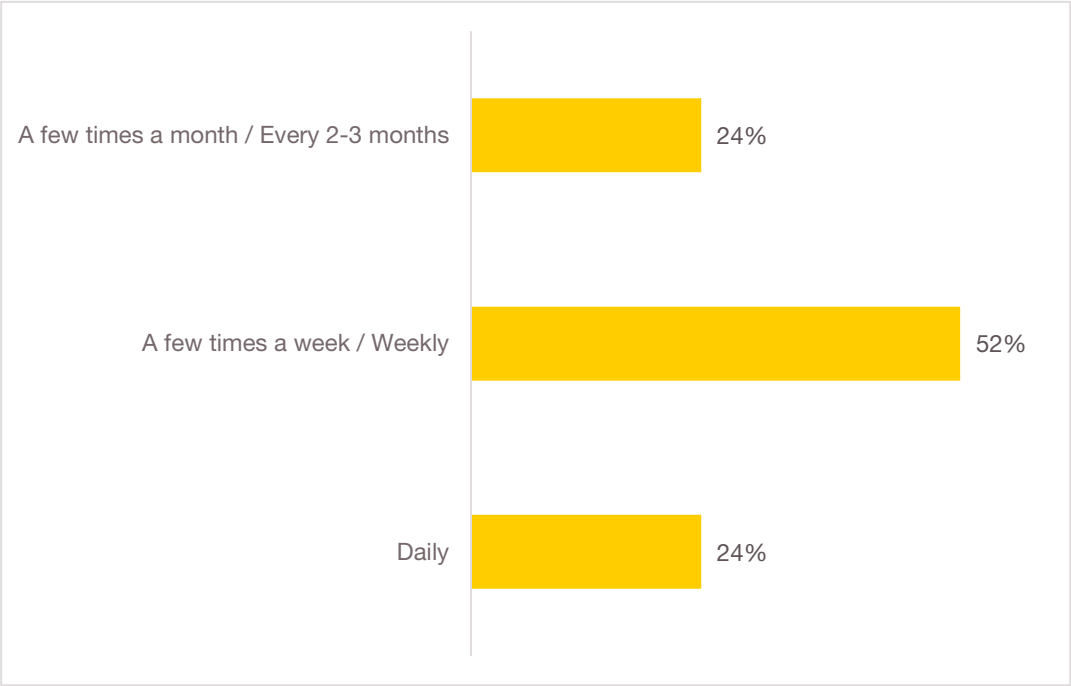
36 survey responses were received, with 33 respondents indicating they had visited the playground at Woomera Reserve. The survey results are outlined in this section.

3.2.1. What is the age of the children you visit the playground with? (choose all that apply)



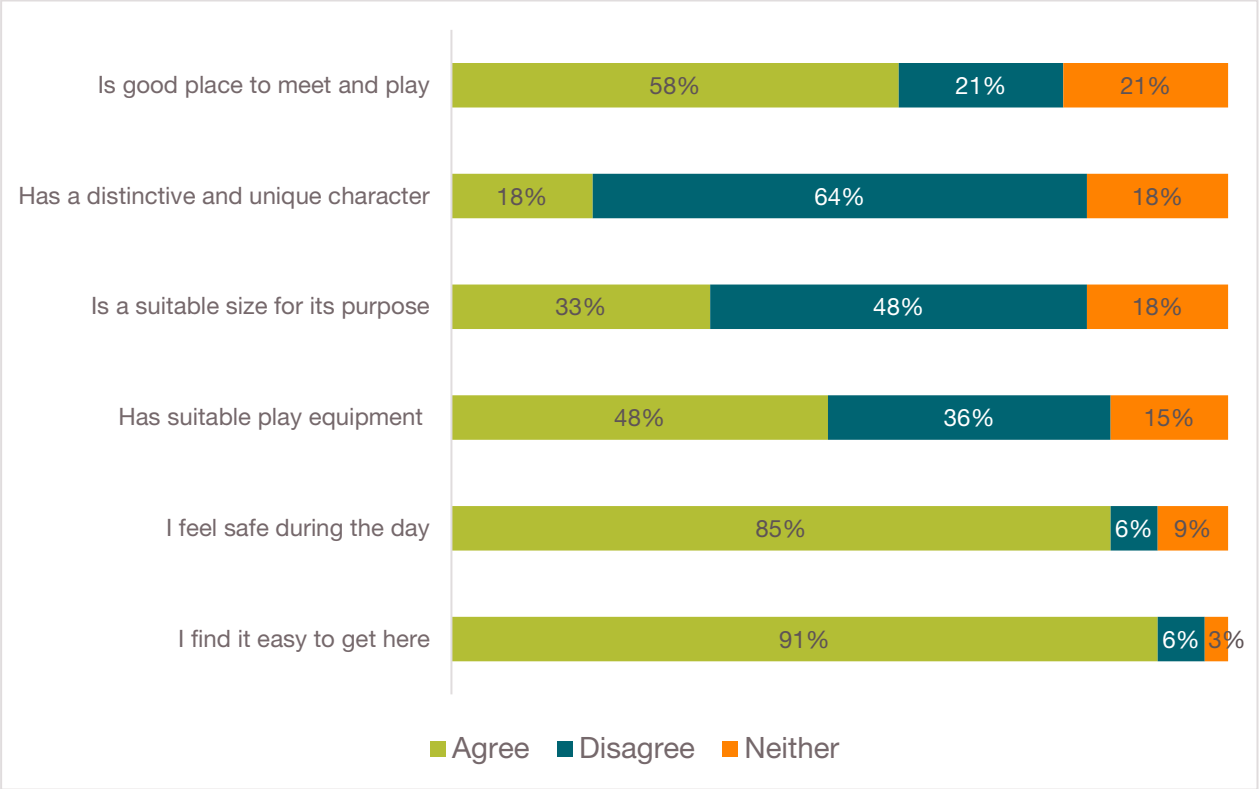
Graph 1: Age of children (n=-50)

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



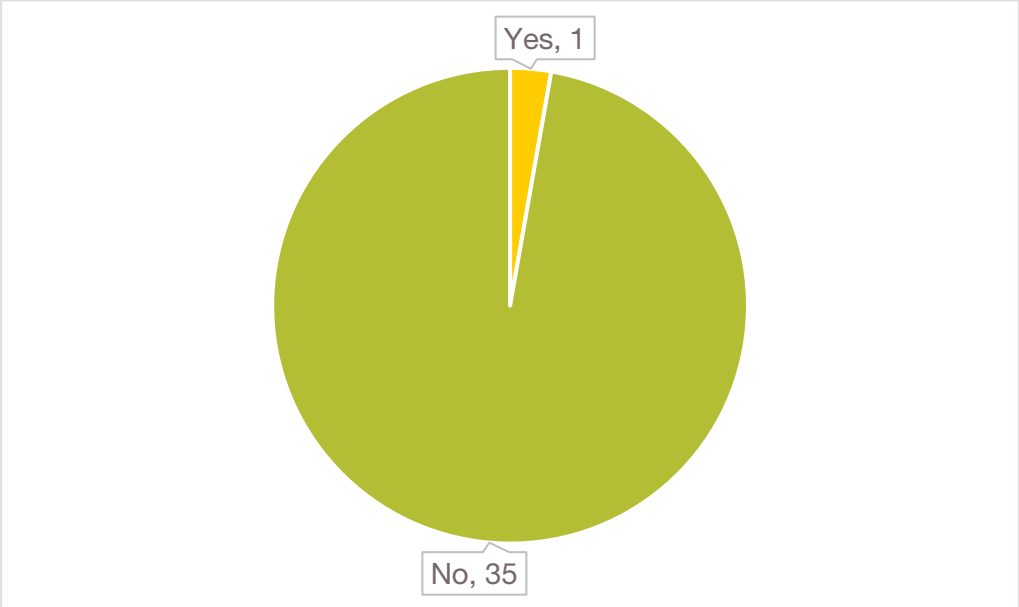
Graph 2: Frequency of visits (n=33)

3.2.3. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about Woomera Reserve playground?



Graph 3: Level of agreement with statements (n=33)

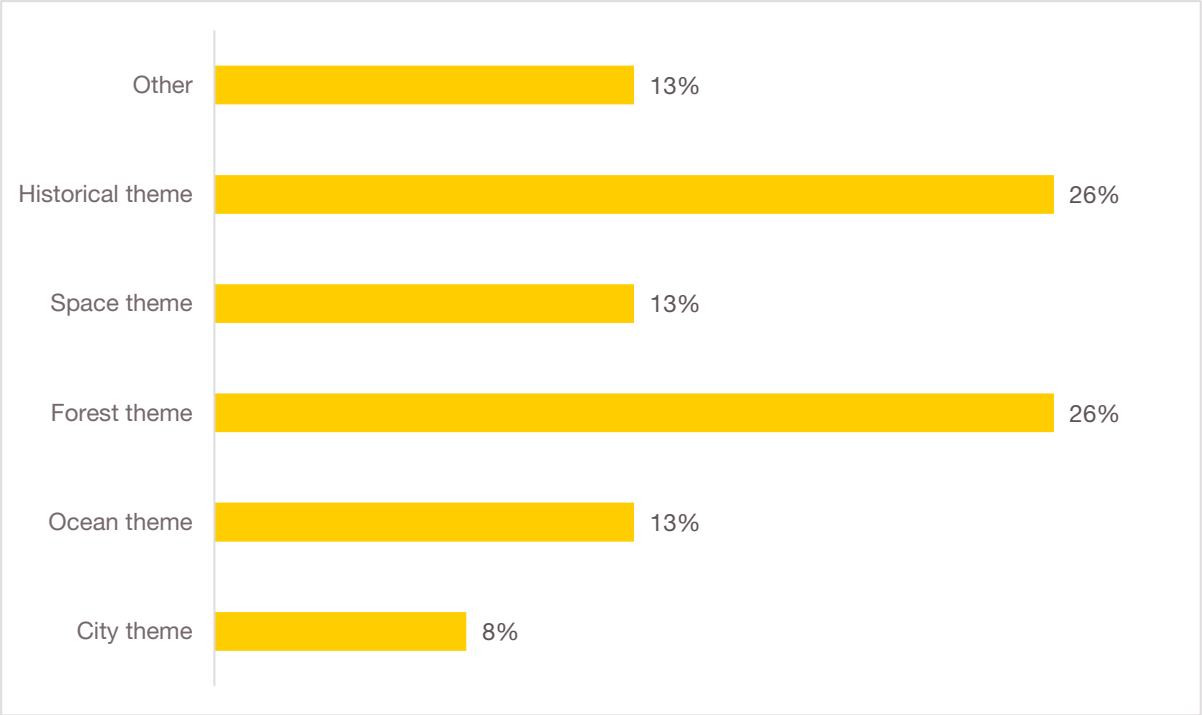
3.2.4. Are you a parent or carer of a child with a disability?



Graph 4: Are you a carer? (n=36)

One respondent identified as being a carer or parent of a child with a disability and indicated they visit the playground with children aged 0-6 years on a weekly basis. They disagree that the playground has suitable play equipment and disagree that it is a good place to meet.

3.2.5. What is your preferred 'theme' for the playground?



Graph 5: Themes (n=36)

'Other' preferred themes included:

- Ninja Warrior Theme with a warped wall.
- Artistic approach, for all ages the themes above are all babyish not for 7 and older. It needs to cater for all ages.
- No theme needed, inject the extra money into utilising the hill beside the park for potential slides, flying fox, climbing equipment. Playground equipment suitable for ages 1-teens. Extend footpath around oval periphery (with a connection to Esperance Close) for prams, walkers, kids bikes etc
- One vote for historical, one vote for ocean from my kids
- Nature play and science play i.e. mainly natural materials, and fun experimental play

3.2.6. Select your top six 'must have' pieces of equipment from the list

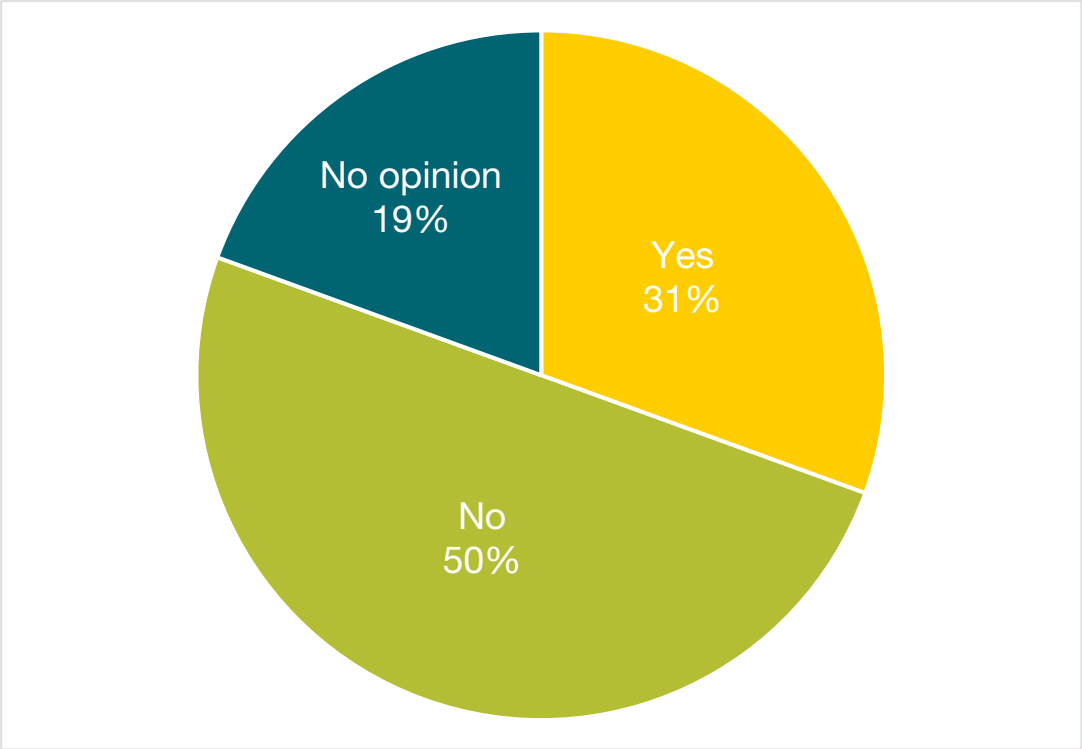
Equipment	Votes
Trampoline	26
Swings	26
Flying fox	22
Play tower	19
Slide	18
Climbing net	14
Climbing wall	13
Carousel	11
Water play station	11
Balancing equipment	10
Roll runner	8
Sensory play area	6
Hip hop	6
Other (please specify):	6
Seesaw	4
Group play area	4
Sound play	4

Table 1: Preferred play equipment (n=208)

Other ideas:

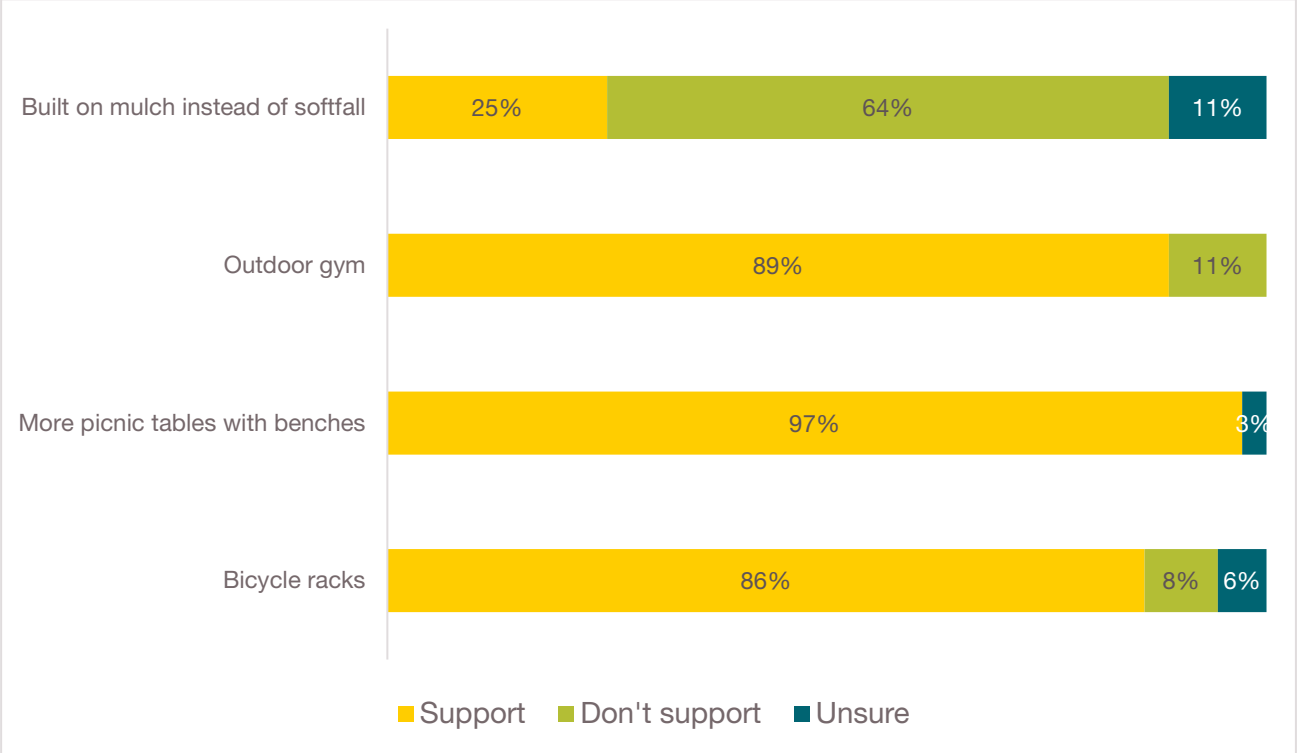
- A warped wall
- Flat Monkey bars - these are the best ones I've seen at parks. Only suggest fencing off due to dog park.
- Must have monkey bars!!! It's the reason we go every day.
- Utilising the hill beside the park for slides, flying foxes and rock wall grips. Playground needs to be fenced, we have a dog ourselves and take full responsibility picking up poo etc but others that frequent the off-leash park are not bothered.
- Play tower, carousel & trampoline are all great options too. Leave water facility outside playground for use with the dogs and filling water bottles."
- Skate Park
- Balancing on beautiful, salvaged logs and cut stumps; creating cubby houses; big water pump to flow through channels and for sand play; big, interesting play sculptures. Minimal plastic. Masses of beautiful endemic plantings, done as a community event so the children will care for the plants.

3.2.7. Do you think the toss ball tower should stay?



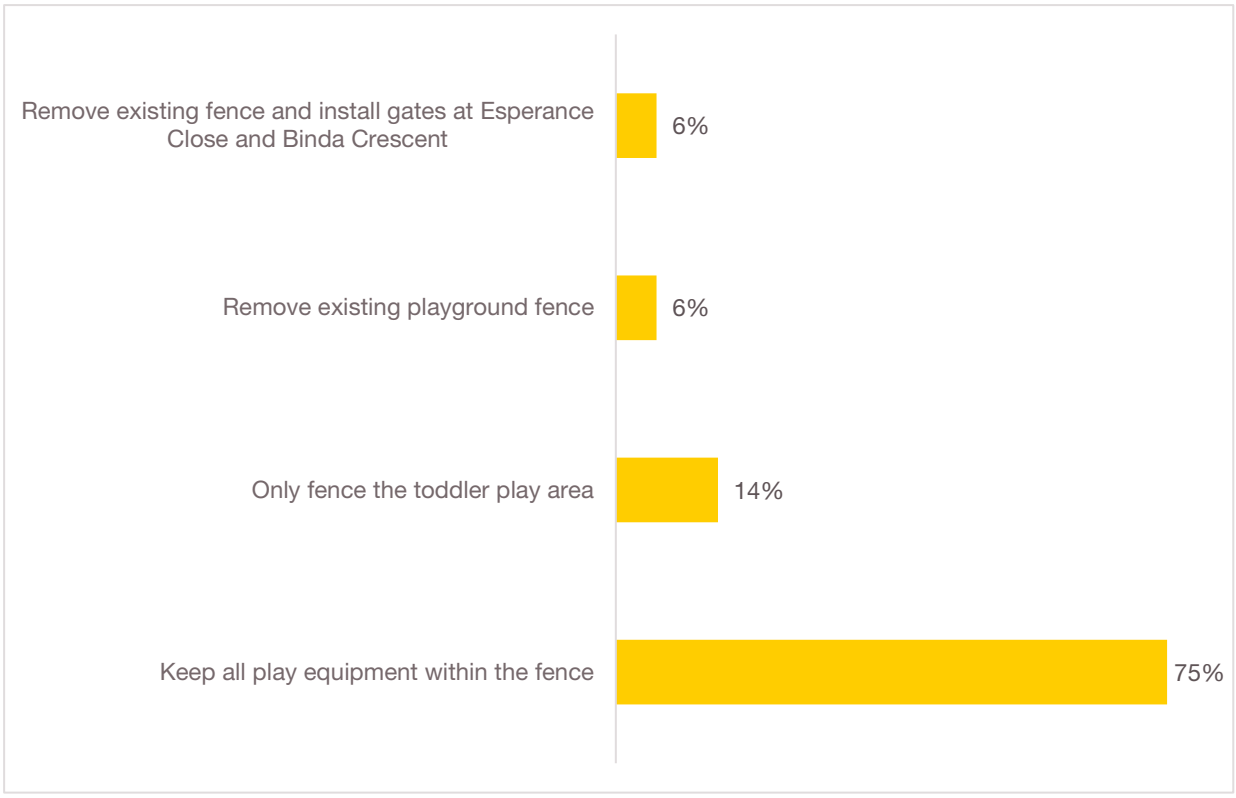
Graph 6: Retaining the existing ball tower (n=36)

3.2.8. How supportive are you for the following inclusions or upgrades within the playspace?



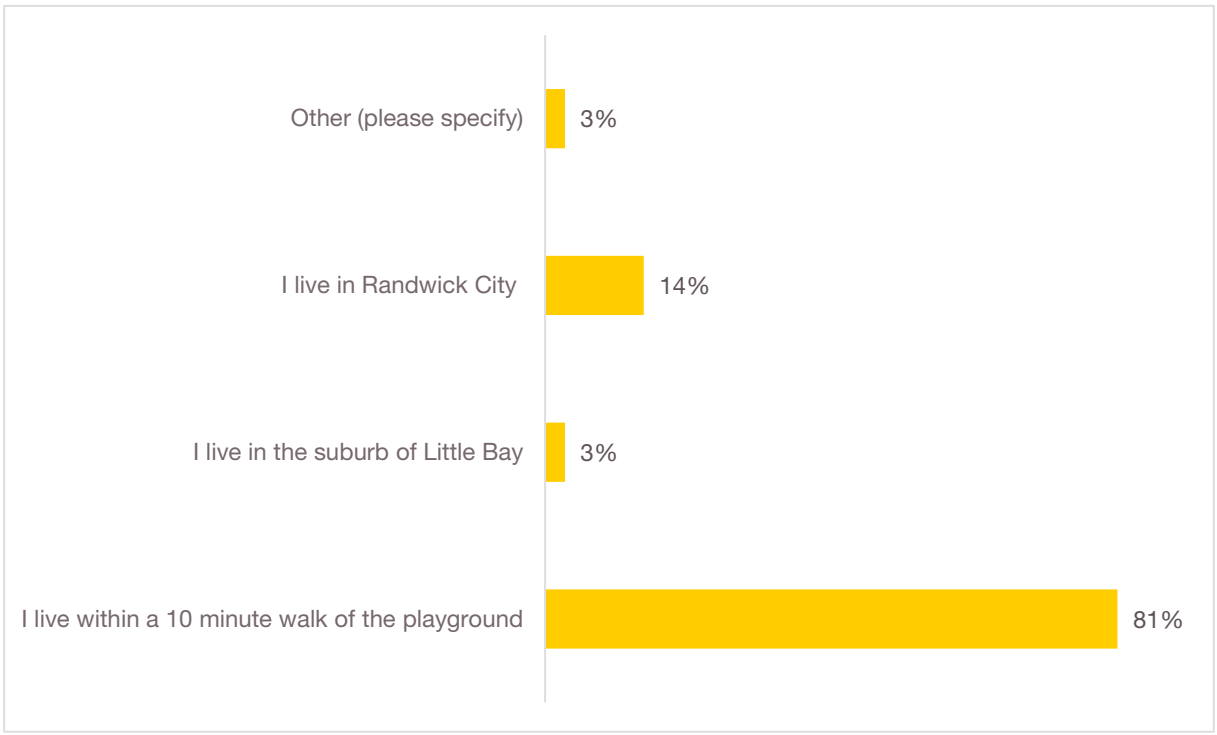
Graph 7: Level of support for additional features (n=36)

3.2.9. What is your preferred option for fencing the playground?



Graph 8: Preferred fencing options (n=36)

3.2.10. Which best describes you?



Graph 9: Relationship with the playground (n=85)

3.3. Ideas Board

	Title	Comments by others on ideas	Upvotes
1	Adult park gym next to Kids playground Allows parents to let their kids to play safely and allows adults to do some exercise at the same time	• This is a great idea • I agree, my kids love the outdoor gym's in Randwick	5
2	Extend the playground, there's so much wasted space, it could be such a great playground. It's used by ages 0-12 so needs things to suit all		3
3	Make the area bigger. And more things for older children. Upgrade the basket ball court and renew the cricket pitch With the path, ensure its not too close to the houses as this would be a security and privacy concerns for those houses If you are doing a path, why not go all the way around the park so kids can ride bikes, scooters and adults can jog		2
4	Play equipment suitable for all ages. Footpath around periphery of oval for kids/prams/walkers to enjoy park in all weather	• Agree to path around entire oval • Path around the perimeter of the park would be fantastic!!!	2
5	Extend footpath to Esperance Close in combination with path around oval. Make use of the hill beside playground with slides, flying fox	• Path around entire oval is a great idea, especially after a lot of rain it's not ideal crossing the grass with a pram • Path around the perimeter of park would be fantastic!!!	3
6	Outdoor gym like at Rosebery park Pls consider an outdoor gym for all ages as many people come to the park for many different reasons would be nice too see a new space all inclusive with things for everyone at all ages		3
7	My girls are asked by for more swings, a car to play in, a big slide and climbing		1

	Title	Comments by others on ideas	Upvotes
8	Enclosed/fenced dog park "Randwick Council recognises the importance of dogs and has created 14 off leash parks where dogs can be exercised without the need for a leash" and not one has an enclosed/fenced dog area. Woomera Reserve is one of the 14 listed. Children are protected with fenced playgrounds, would be nice to see Randwick City Council accommodate all and put in a fenced dog area to protect the pets as well	• All is needed, is to gate the 3 entrances to the park. The bush along bunnerong road, is enough of a deterrent	1
9	Bathrooms close by the playground that have child and adults size bathrooms as well as all accessibility bathrooms		2
10	Water Play. Something similar to the water play at centennial park?	• Yes absolutely second this.	2
11	Multi level slides to cater for different age groups. One of the best playground experienced was at Carberry Park Playground, Gundagai - climbing gym, flying fox, swings. Good to have some seating areas for adults too		1
12	An outdoor gym where parents and locals can exercise too like at La Perouse. Not everyone can use the equipment at Chifley Reserve		
13	Would love to see a Joey swing installed, perfect for little ones and parents alike		
14	Cater for older kids. Flying fox. Multi level structure like Newmarket park in Randwick on a smaller scale		

Table 2: Ideas shared on Your Say online ideas board

3.4. Pop ups

A pop up was held on Tuesday 15 November 2022 to provide a face-to-face opportunity for the community to speak with Council staff and share their ideas on the playground upgrade.

Approximately 20 residents (parents, carers and children) met us at the playground, and all were supportive of the upgrade. The participants were shown images of proposed play equipment and asked to choose their favourite pieces using stickers. The following table shows the outcomes of the voting.

Equipment	Pop up votes
Trampoline	15
Flying fox	11
Play tower	10
Swing	9
Climbing wall	8
Roll runner	7
Hip hop	6
Climbing net	6
Slide	5
Carousel	4
Balancing equipment	3
Rocker	2
See saw	2
Sound play	1
Group play area	1
Sensory play	1
Water play station	1
Other suggestions:	
Monkey bars	6
Path around entire reserve	5
Tree house	2
Water park	2
Ping pong table	1
Parkour	1

Table 3: Voting at the playground pop ups





Images: Pop ups at Woomera Reserve

3.5. Submissions

Three submissions were received via email to Council.

Submission
Hi, I just saw that during this upgrade there will be a path from Esperance close. The residents of … Binda would be concerned at how close to our rear walls this would be as it would affect safety and privacy on our properties
Hi General Manager, Just added my comments to the upgrade of the Woomera Playground as there was no spot on the survey to leave open ended comments and feedback. There is definitely an opportunity to make the playground a little bigger and even have a small kids bike track within the fenced area kinda like it's currently got. Needs a few more chairs/benches to sit. It is really important to keep it all fenced, there are a number of unleashed large dogs that use the dog park area and kids need to be able to play safely within the playground. The number of times people have let the dogs in the playground area or not stopped the dogs going up to kids is a lot. Some of these dogs are bigger in height than the kids and even though owners say the dogs are safe, kids can still be a bit scared.
I am deeply concerned for the parking in Esperance Close for the residents. Esperance Close is a narrow street with limited parking due to the no though road access… My house sits directly next to the entrance of the park and I am concerned we will never have access to street parking due to the fact there are only a couple of spots in this street to actually park… Id like to see some signage that parking is for residents only and I would like it made clear no parking allowed on grass area as when there are parties or cricket games in the park, people actually park on the grass area etc.. This neighbourhood is community title and we pay extra fees…to live in this quiet street and the access from the pathway going all the way to the park etc makes way for a lot of traffic and people wanting to park when there is such limited street parking already.

Table 4: Submissions

3.6. Social Media

Facebook posts on 27 October and 12 November reached 2,200 users and generated more than 90 engagements*, including:

6 likes and 4 shares

75 link clicks

Instagram story reached 1,900 users and generated 22 engagements, including:

20 likes

0 comments

**Engagements is any action taken on a post; reactions, comments, shares, or clicking on a link.*

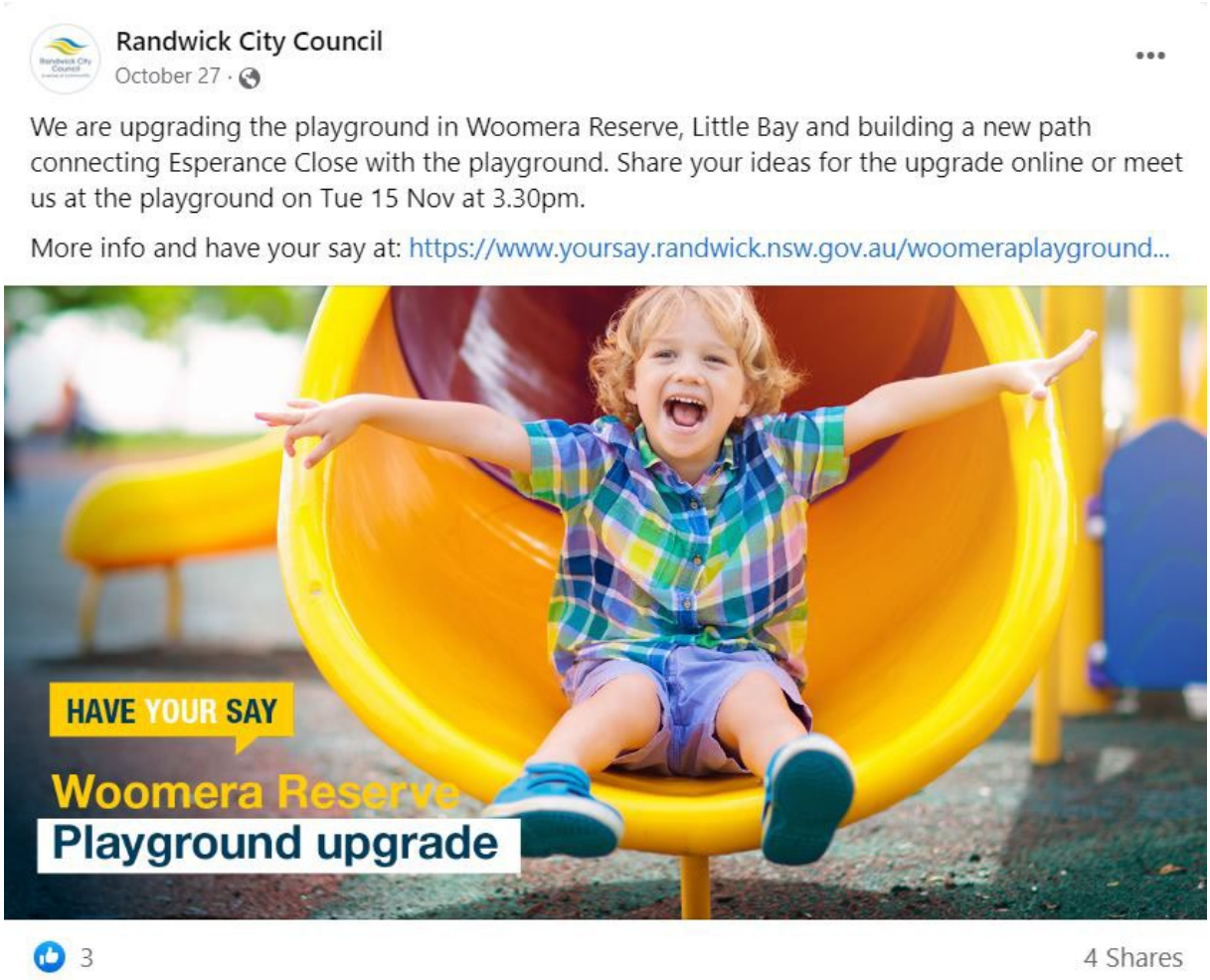


Image: Facebook post 27 October 2022



Image: Facebook post 12 November 2022

4. Next Steps

Using the community's feedback, a concept plan will be designed and put on exhibition for community feedback in early 2023.

5. Community engagement material



Image: Flyer and poster

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