

**Rowley Park Project
Phase 1 Public Consultation Report
July 2025**



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1.0 Introduction

Stafford Borough Council has launched a public consultation as part of a proposed masterplan to transform Rowley Park into a destination park that is more inclusive, engaging, and future ready. Feedback from local users has highlighted the lack of inclusive play areas, limited recreational options for older children and teens, and outdated multi-use games areas. The phase 1 consultation focuses on asking residents and stakeholders to provide general comments and set priorities for Rowley Park. This will inform the Draft Masterplan which will be consulted on as phase 2 public consultation in September 2025.

2.0 Methodology

A range of consultation approaches and activities were carried out as part of the Phase 1 Public Consultation to ensure that we reached out to a wide audience and demographic. The formal consultation was open from 20 June 2025 to 27 July 2025. The public consultation was publicised through a variety of media channels prior to and during the consultation period, these were as follows:

- Banners were erected on-site to announce the launch of the project with QR code to the new webpage
- SBC hosted a new webpage with information about the project to be updated as the project progresses www.staffordbc.gov.uk/rowley (live from 20 June 2025)
- An on-line public survey was available as a link from the website and on the Council's consultation page
- Hard Copy Adult Survey available in Rowley Park
- Hard Copy Children's Survey emailed to all local schools and available in Rowley Park
- Posters displayed in the park and community with QR code to new webpage
- Press release and social media updates
- Stakeholder Meetings.

2.1 On-line Survey

An online survey was launched on 20 June 2025. The survey outlined the intentions to provide a masterplan approach to the park and was divided into 6 sections: Your visits to Rowley Park, Play, Events, Sports, Other, and About You. A total of 252 electronic responses were received during the 5-week period.

The questions were a variety of multi-choice and ranking questions, and most provided 'Comment' and/or 'Other' boxes to provide respondents the opportunity to expand on or add their own answer. Some questions which were deemed essential were assigned as compulsory, so the respondent could not move on to the next question without answering the current one. Some questions were also formatted in such a way that they would automatically skip a question if they provided the trigger answer. For instance, if they answered 'no' to the questions asking them whether play/events/sport/other were important to them, then they would skip to the next section, so they weren't forced to rank elements they did not consider important.

2.2 Paper Survey

A hard copy of the survey was also published and distributed and was available at Rowley Park. The hard copy followed the same structure and contained the same questions as the online copy. Instructions for when to skip a question were provided in italics. A total of 11 responses were received during the five-week period. All hard copy surveys were manually input and are included with the online results.

The paper copy included a freepost address to encourage people to return them, or they could drop them off at Rowley Park.

2.3 Stakeholder Meetings

A selected list of stakeholders, decided on by the client team at Stafford Borough Council, were invited to attend a consultation meeting with representatives Stafford Borough Council. Invitations were sent out over email and followed up by a phone call where necessary.

List of stakeholder meetings held:

- Current Users
- Public Drop-In Session
- Internal Officers
- Inclusive Stafford and MP Representative
- Local Schools
- Young People
- Forest of Mercia
- British Cycling
- Freedom
- Sport England
- Local Councillors
- Marshlands

The stakeholder meeting structure was different for each group and focused on the specialist areas of the organisation. The focus of the meeting was based around the following questions:

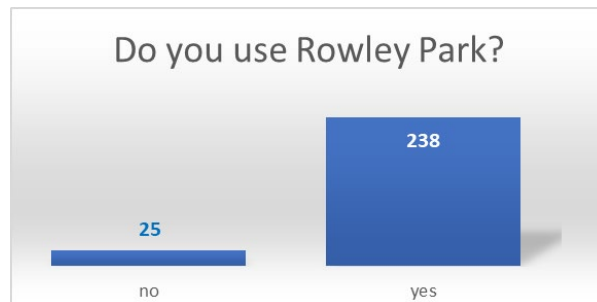
- What does your group/organisation do and how is it currently involved with Rowley Park?
- What do you feel are the current key issues for your group/organisation in relation to Rowley Park?
- What do you feel are the potential opportunities for your group/organisation in relation to Rowley Park?
- In the future, Rowley Park may include different facilities and opportunities for the community. At this stage there are no fixed plans so what do you consider could be the potential issues for your group/organisation that we need to take into consideration now as part of our thinking?
- Anything else you would like to discuss or raise at this point?

3.0 Survey Results

3.1 Summary of Main Survey Results

The results of the online and hard copy survey have been combined and are summarised below. A total of 263 responses were received including 11 hard copies

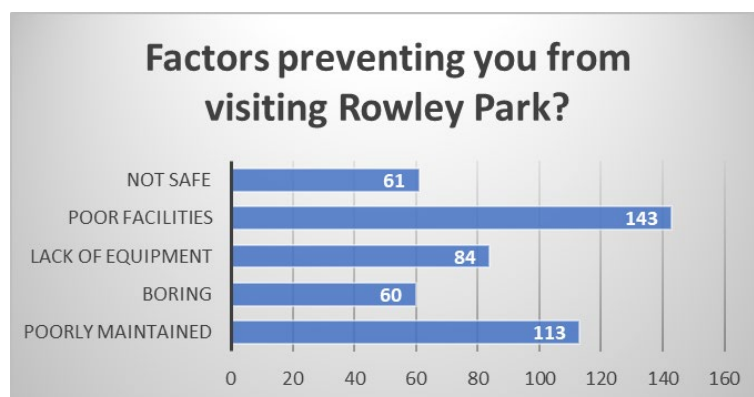
1. Do you use Rowley Park?



There were 263 responses with 90% respondents stating they use Rowley Park and 10% do not.

2. What factors prevent you from visiting Rowley Park more often or at all?

Respondents were asked about top barriers from using the park and were invited to tick more than one option if applicable. Poor facilities and poor maintenance were the most identified factors.



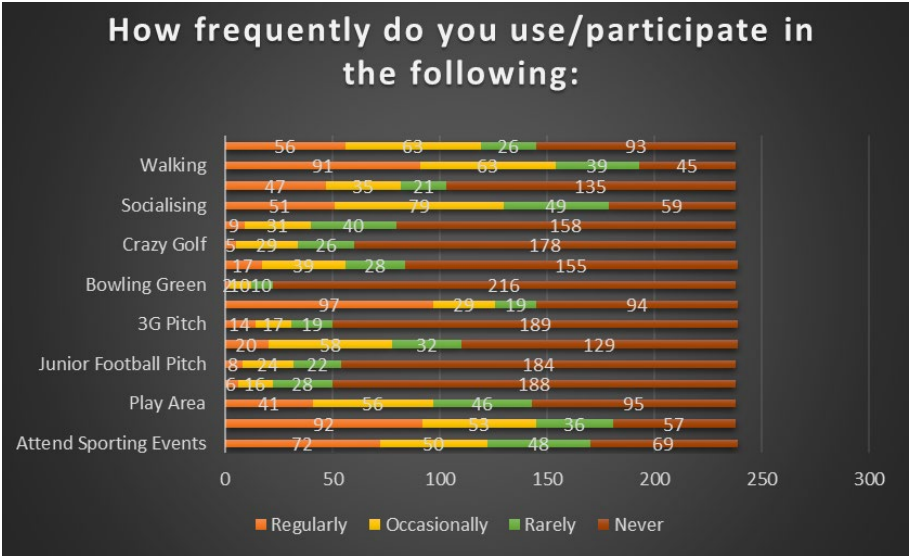
96 people provided additional comments, with 51 people referencing the poor condition of the play area and 15 responses about anti-social behaviour. The full list of comments is provided in Appendix 1.

Many respondents regularly use the park and would like to see further improvements that enhance its safety, accessibility, and appeal for all age groups including adding a perimeter path to improve access in all seasons.

The children’s play area was frequently mentioned as an area in need of attention (51), with reports of broken or outdated equipment and uneven surfaces making it less suitable for young children.

Suggestions were made to improve safety and cleanliness in the toilet and changing areas (11), as well as to increase staff presence during busy periods with 12 responses identifying poor maintenance.

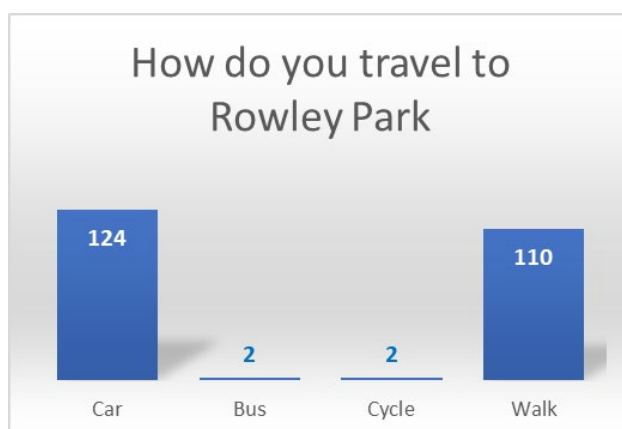
3. How frequently do you use/participate in the following activities:



Respondents were able to identify more than one facility or activity that they frequently used in the park and there were 628 responses relating to regular use. The most frequent activity is the athletics track (97) and car parking (92) closely followed by walking (91). A high number attend sporting events (72) with the remainder of frequent users jogging, walking the dog, and socialising. The responses showed only 41 people currently use the play area frequently. Very few of the respondents identified frequent use of the existing sporting facilities.

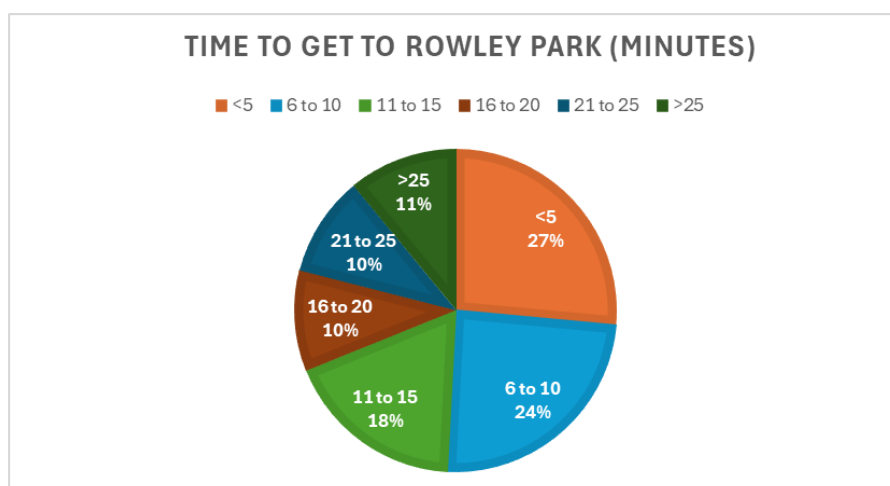
There were 15 other responses identifying walking and cycling as the most common other activities. The full list of comments is included as Appendix 1.

4. How do you normally travel to Rowley Park?



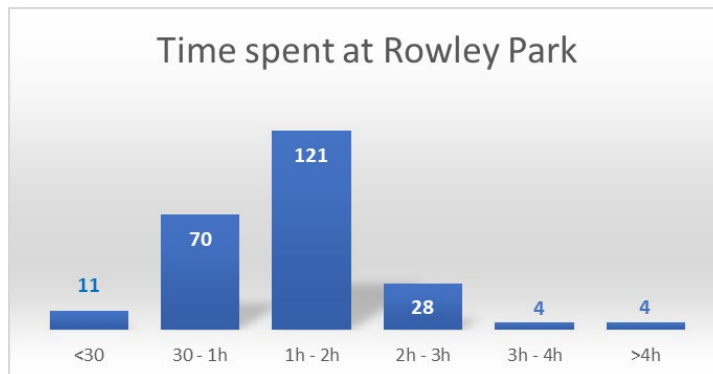
Of the 238 responses received 52% travel by car and 46% walk to the park. This shows a good split between local users and people travelling further for the park facilities.

5. How long does it take you to travel to Rowley Park?



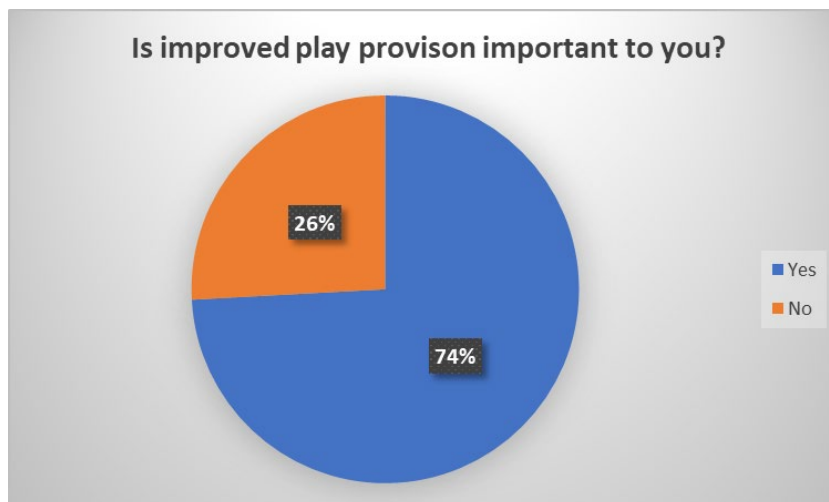
Over half of the respondents (51%) travel less than 10 minutes to use the park with only 11% travelling over 25 minutes.

6. How long do you normally spend at Rowley Park?



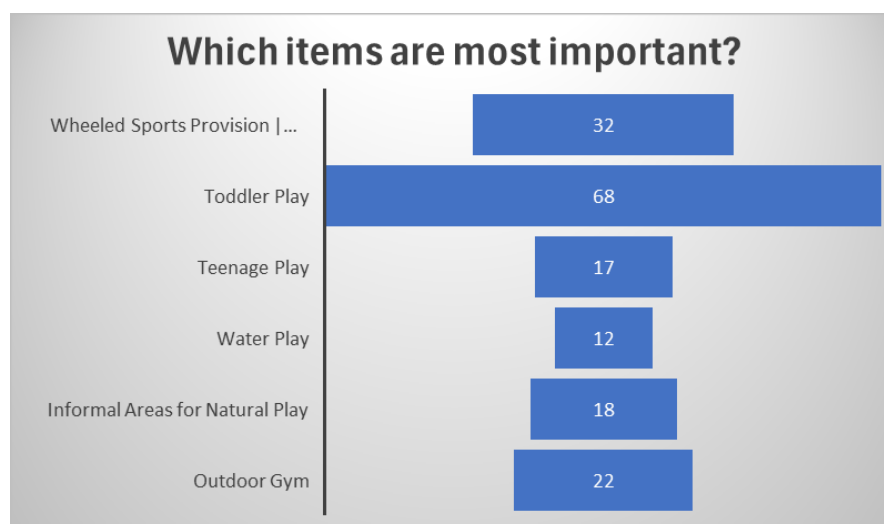
50% of respondents spend 1 - 2 hours in the park with only 15% of visitors remaining in the park for more than 2 hours.

7. Is improved play provision important to you within Rowley Park?



Of the 263 responses received 75% agreed play was important within the park.

8. The following list identifies a number of possible play facilities which could be incorporated in the new destination play space, however they may not all be achievable. Please rank the items in order of preference (1 being the most preferred) to enable us to establish what is most important for you?



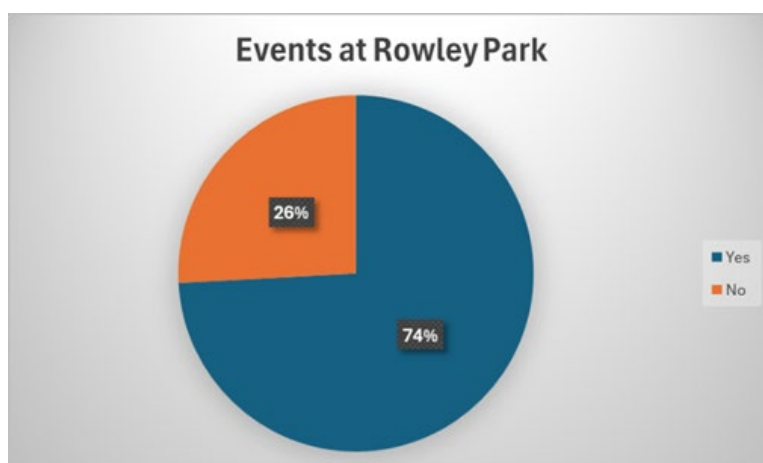
169 responses were received with 40% identifying toddler play as the top priority followed by 19% stating wheeled sports.

Other comments were received by 74 respondents of which 23 requested indoor facilities. The full list of comments is provided in Appendix 1.

A high response (23) requested indoor facilities such as track, gym and sports hall to enable all year training and a further 8 requested wheeled sports. Some new and interesting ideas were identified in relation to providing natural landscaped environments incorporating infrastructure to enable multi-generational use of the space with playscapes and zones to encourage non prescribed movement.

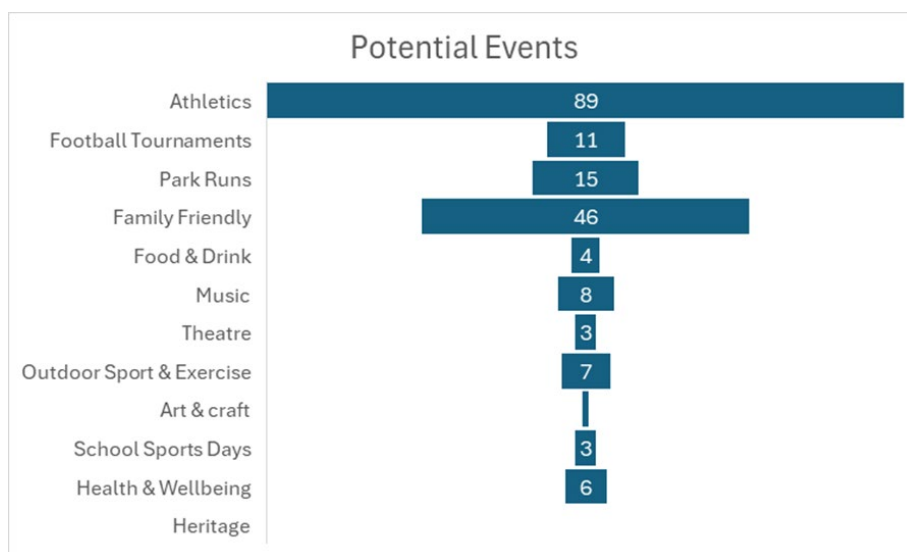
Comments were also received relating to inclusive provision for teenagers and adults and ensuring accessibility on all facilities for wheelchair users.

9. Are organised events important to you in Rowley Park?



Of the 263 people who responded, 195 identified events in the park as important to them.

10. The following list identifies a number of existing and potential events which could be hosted in Rowley Park. Please rank the items in order of preference (1 being the most preferred) to enable us to establish what is most important for you.



Top priority for events was Athletics with 46% of the 193 responses followed by 24% stating family friendly events.

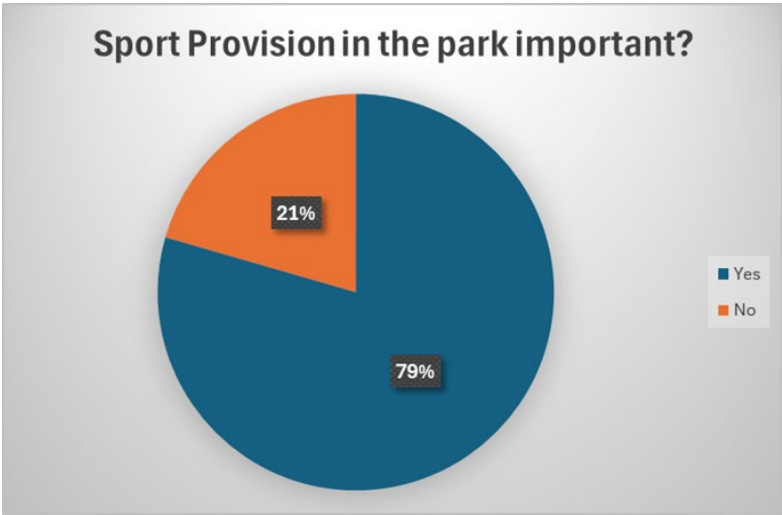
A total of 25 people provided other comments, and the full details are listed in Appendix 1

Suggestions included outdoor sports events (7) with a few requests for food festivals, markets, concerts, local fairs, arts and music events, skate competitions, and fun family days like those held in the past.

Some also suggested making sure events are inclusive, especially for children with special educational needs (SEN), and welcoming for older adults.

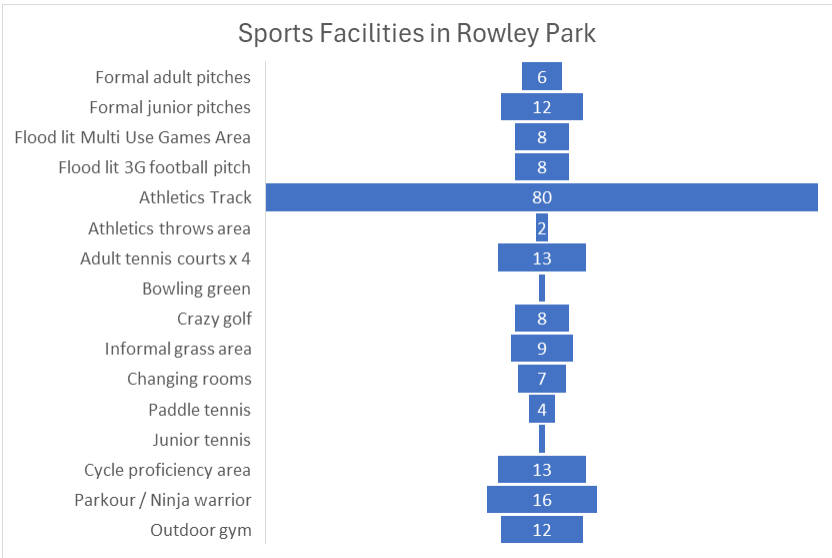
Indoor facilities were raised by (14) respondents and there was strong interest in fitness-focused events and facilities, including Park Run, athletics meets, and more use of the track and sports areas.

11. Is sport provision important to you within Rowley Park?



The vast majority of respondents (209) felt that sports provision was important in the park improvements. This question was answered by 263 people.

12. The following list identifies a number of existing and potential sports facilities in Rowley Park. Please rank the items in order of preference (1 being the most preferred) to enable us to establish what is most important for you.



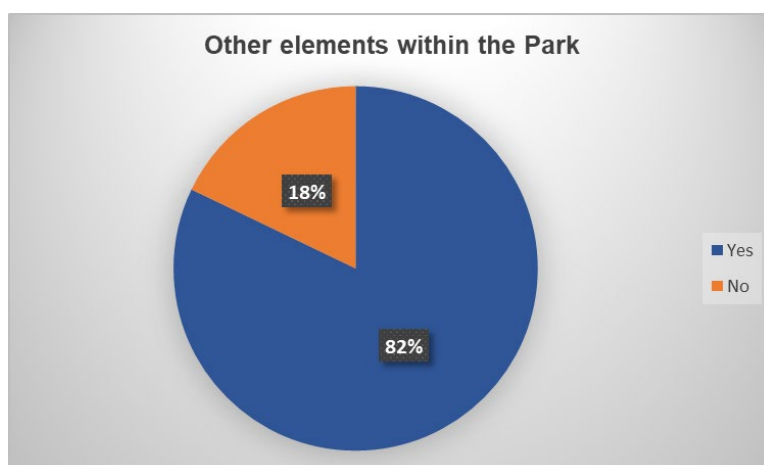
Athletics Track was stated as the most important facility for 40% of the 201 respondents.

There were 66 people who provided other comments which are detailed in full in Appendix 1.

Indoor facilities continue to prove popular with 36 comments and a few people asking for wheeled sports, improved athletics and football pitches and enhanced spectator's provision. Adding padel and pickleball courts, creating dedicated areas for children's play, providing accessible paths and facilities for all abilities were also mentioned.

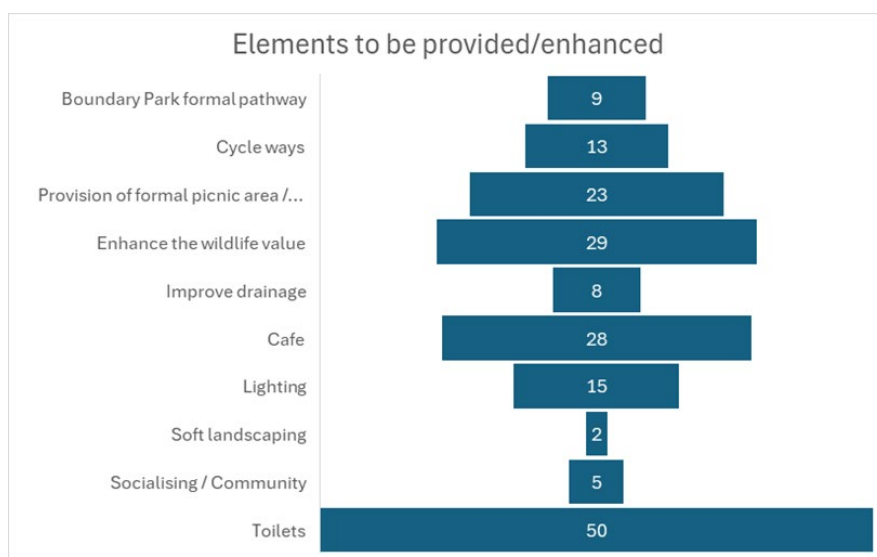
Upgrading amenities such as toilets, changing rooms, seating, and adding a café or social hub would greatly enhance the visitor experience.

13. Alongside the formal areas and activities at Rowley Park, there are other elements that could be provided or enhanced. Is this of any importance to you?



All 363 respondents completed this question and 216 felt other elements were priority within the park as opposed to 47 who did not.

14. The following list identifies a number of existing and potential other elements that could be provided or enhanced. Please rank the items in order of preference (1 being the most preferred) to enable us to establish what is most important for you.



The toilet facilities were identified as the top priority for 28% of the 182 respondents followed by enhancing the wildlife (16%) and a café provision (15%).

There were 58 other elements identified, and all comments are included in Appendix 1. 24 respondents requested indoor facilities, 6 people requested improved toilet facilities and café.

15. This consultation will help us look at the future layout and design of Rowley Park. In overall terms please tell us what your priority is for the park. Please rank in order of preference (1 being the most preferred).



260 responses received with 42% identifying Play as the top priority closely followed by 38% seeing sport as the priority for the park.

A total of 88 respondents included comments in the other option and full details of all comments are provided in Appendix 1.

The comments have a key focus on indoor facilities (22) with a café (10) and the park becoming a social community hub (7) . Ideas include enhanced wildlife and nature (8) with dedicated dog walking zones (6), and improved amenities like seating areas (7), and bike tracks (6).

16. Further Comments Relevant to Rowley Park

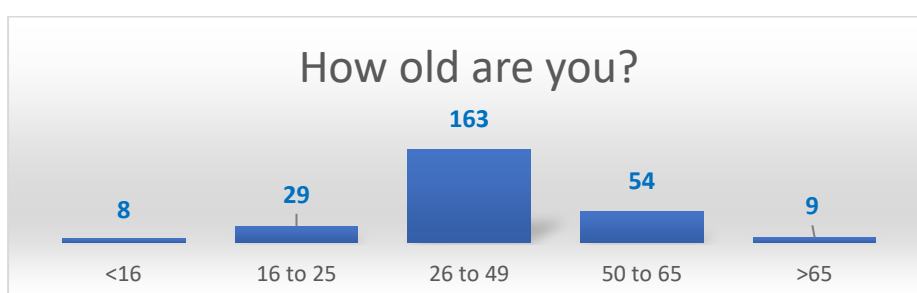
There was a final opportunity to provide any further comments relevant to Rowley Park which 100 respondents chose to complete.

Indoor gym or track facilities was identified with 24 comments supporting this idea and a further 8 requesting the Athletics track was made compliant to enable events.

There was strong support for a new play area (24) and a few comments focused on creating a shared space for all ages with 6 people requesting wheeled sports facilities.

Nature and wildlife enhancement was popular (10) alongside café (8) and social seating areas (6).

The final section of the survey identified the ages and location of respondents.



It is clear that the majority of responses (62%) were received from the 26 to 49 age group.

What are the first four digits of your postcode?

Postcode	Location	Responses
9RA	Unknown	1
B77	Tamworth	1
ST11/2	SOT	3
ST15	Stone	7
ST16/7/8	Stafford	203
ST19	Penkridge and Rodbaston	8

Postcode	Location	Responses
ST20	Woodseaves and Norbury	7
TF	Telford	1
WS11	Cannock	13
WS12	Rugeley	8
WS	Walsall	1
WS67	Cheslyn Hay and Gt Wyrley	2
WS 71/2	Burntwood	2
WS 87	Brownhills	1
WS 34	Wolverhampton	2
TOTAL		260

There were 260 responses with 203 respondents coming from Stafford and 21 from Cannock and Rugeley. As the Cannock and Stafford Athletic Club use the track to train this spread would be expected.

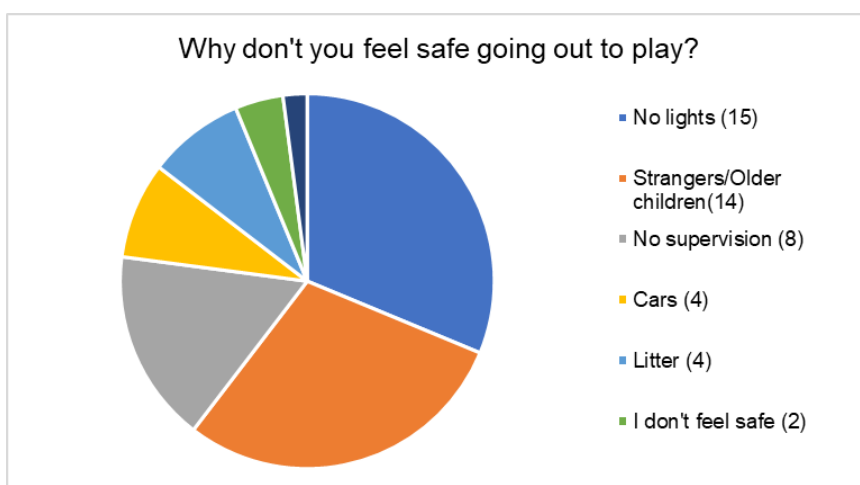
3.2 Child-Friendly Survey

A child friendly survey was produced to encourage young people to give their ideas for the park.

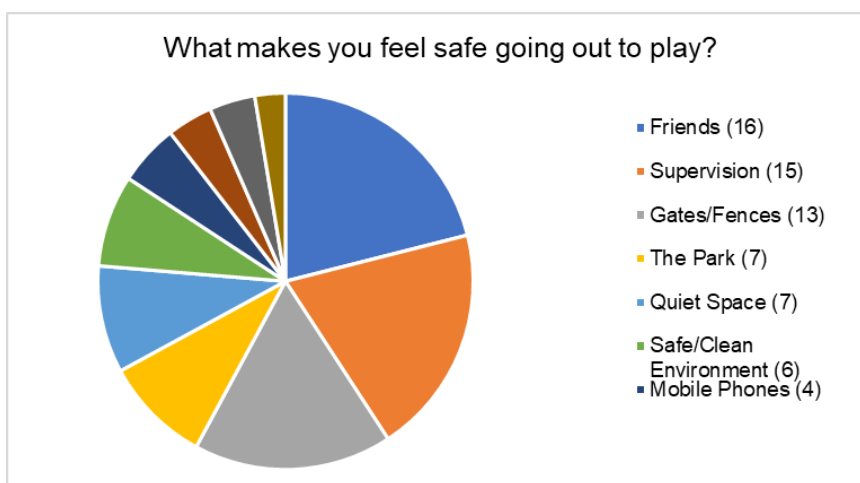
Within the survey for each question there was a large blank box to allow either a drawing or a written response.

There were 62 surveys returned from 10 different schools aged between 5 and 14.

Children are then asked what makes them feel safe and why they don't feel safe.



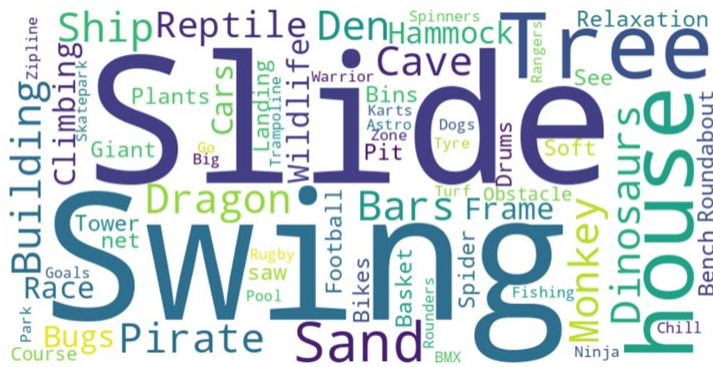
There were 76 responses as children could identify more than one item. 7 of the 62 returned surveys left this section blank. Children don't feel safe when it is dark, near cars, or not having trusted adults around.



There were 48 different responses and 20 of the 62 returned surveys left this section blank. The survey revealed that the children feel the safest going out to play when they are with their friends, when parents/carers can watch them, when fences and gates are provided and when they are away from cars.

The survey then asked 'What is good about going out to play and what would be in your ideal playground' with a final large space to draw their ideas

This is a word cloud that shows the answers to the question ‘What would be in your ideal playground?’ They could write up to 3 answers.



From the School workshops and the child-friendly surveys the top scoring pieces of equipment were:

- Zip wire
- Basket Swing
- Trampoline
- Ninja Warrior Course
- Monkey Bars
- Sensory Panels

Here is a word cloud showing answer to the question 'What is good about going out to play?'



4.0 Stakeholder Meetings and Representations

4.1 Stakeholders

The Phase 1 consultation included engaging with stakeholder and a number of meetings were undertaken as outlined in the table below:

Table 1: Stakeholder Meeting Information

Stakeholder	Detail
Current Users	All existing user groups were emailed by Freedom and invited to the drop-in session on 15 July 2025 from 6pm to 8pm. Poor attendance at the event.
Public Drop-In Session	<p>The public drop- in session was advertised in the local community, on the website, in the park and through press releases and social media advert. The event was held on 22 July 2025 from 6pm to 8pm with 17 members of the public attending.</p> <p>The attendees were very engaging and provided quality input and ideas for consideration. Some of the points that were raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not having a paddle board court near the residences due to noise concerns• Movement hubs at locations around the boundary path• Calisthenics/bodyweight movement
Internal Officers	Officers representing Streetscene, Asset Management, Climate Change, Development Control, Strategic Planning and Placemaking, Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing, were invited to attend meeting on 5 June 2025 and a further on-site visit 3 July 2025.
Inclusive Stafford and MP Representative	A meeting was arranged with Inclusive Stafford who are parents of SEND children in Stafford and are campaigning to the local MP for more inclusive play provision in the Borough. Meeting held on 20 June 2025

Stakeholder	Detail
Local Schools	<p>Planning for real exercise in three local schools with approx. 150 children at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Rowley Park Academy on 16 June 2025 with all year 5 and 6 children b. Blessed Mother Teresas held on 26 June 2025 with a group of mixed aged children who use Rowley Park c. Castlechurch held on 16 June 2025 with year 5 children <p>The children were given cards identifying lots of different types of equipment all with cost on. The were allocated a budget and asked to prioritise their favourite items.</p> <p>All other schools in the catchment were emailed with a link to the webpage, posters and surveys and offered hard copies.</p>
Young People	<p>Young People via Youth Net held on 14 July 2025.</p> <p>A meeting was held with a detached youth worker and two young people with strong interest in the project and provided constructive feedback based on their use of local skate parks.</p> <p>In response to design possibilities, they suggested the inclusion of flat banks, raised large boxes, and open areas for practicing tricks. While they expressed enthusiasm for pump tracks, they emphasised the need for features suitable for skateboarders.</p>
Forest of Mercia	<p>Meeting regarding potential funding opportunities with the Park to enhance landscaping and tree planting held on 24 June 2025.</p>
British Cycling	<p>Meeting regarding funding opportunities and cycling opportunities within the park held on 14 and 25 July 2025.</p>
Freedom	<p>Ongoing involvement and meetings with Events and Operations Manager at Rowley Park.</p>
Sport England	<p>Approached for early engagement but advised only offer one pre-planning meeting which will be conducted during phase 2 with the masterplan.</p>

Stakeholder	Detail
Councillors	Local Councillors for Rowley, Highfields and Western Downs, Forebridge had an initial meeting about the project and updates via email throughout the process.
Marshlands School	Approached for a session with young people but were unable to facilitate.

5.0 Summary

After analysing the survey results it became clear that the responses were mostly from current users of the park, they show that the park is well used across most age groups, with the highest levels of use among those aged 26 to 49. Usage remains strong among 50 and over age group but lessens with younger groups with slightly lower engagement from those aged 16 to 49.

The majority of respondents use the Park mainly for Athletics, Walking, Car Park or attending events. With the least used facilities identified as crazy golf, football pitches and bowls.

Most people spend less than 10 minutes driving or walking to the park and then 50% stay in the park for 1 to 2 hours.

There are multiple factors which prevent people from using the park more often or not at all including poor maintenance, lack of equipment, limited refreshments, and safety.

Overall play was ranked as priority by 42% of respondents closely followed by Sport with 38%.

The top three play facilities were toddler play, wheeled sports and outdoor gym.

The top event were Athletics and family friendly.

The resounding top answer for sports was athletics with 40% followed by Ninja warrior course.

The top 'other' elements were identified as provision of indoor facilities, enhanced toilets and a café area.

Most results are from people who live locally, especially in the ST16/7/87 areas but do extend to Cannock, Rugeley, Penkridge and Woodseaves.

Overall, respondents are clearly engaged and enthusiastic about enhancing the park and are keen to be part of future consultation and improvement efforts.

6.0 Conclusion

Rowley Park is clearly valued by its existing users, particularly for its sports facilities, open spaces, and community feel. However, feedback from both regular users and non-users highlights several key opportunities for improvement that will help the park better serve its current community and attract new visitors.

To move forward, the consultation would suggest that investment should focus on improving the play facilities and providing inclusive opportunities, upgrading the building and in particular the toilet provision. Consideration operationally needs to be given to a café and on-going maintenance.

Appendix 1: Adult Survey Qualitative Comments

Comments are displayed exactly as entered by the respondents.

Any identifying information has been removed in line with GDPR guidelines.

Question 2: If you don't think Rowley Park is safe, or have another reason for not visiting, please explain using the box below. 'Other':

1	The childrens play park is in a terrible condition with equipment broken and left out of action. We like the park but its no good for our children in its current state of managed decline.
2	Park is not good. When we've had rain it's full of water so can't be used. I live local with a 2 year old and there isn't a decent park close by. We have to drive to go to a nice park, where my son is safe to play
3	the children's play area is in need of a good overall as equipment is dated and not safe. Also there is a need for an 'improved Multi Use Games Area' to have a top netting and lockable gates. Apart from the gangs of youths that frequent it and cause problems we have an ongoing problem of footballs constantly coming onto our property. We have said for years the facility would be fine if in a different area of the park where it is not near to existing neighbours. If this isn't possible a covered netting as other football facilities have to stop the ball going over the fencing. Lockable gates on the MUGA would also stop use when the park is shut and youths trespass on the park out of hours. As a resident we feel strongly about 'improving' this facility and are very happy to discuss our findings and problrms this area causes. Also the park gates are in desperate need of replacing with stronger more secure gates as at the moment they are just being kicked open. Also cctv is a must especially after the vandalism experienced over the last few years and upgrading the new toilets etc. A designated dog walking area/ field would also be a good idea or even a fenced off 'lane' around the perimeter of the park? As said we are quite happy to be consulted on any aspect of the park.
4	I think the toilets are not safe for mid age children to visit alone during a training session.

5	<p>Its not staffed enough in busy periods. There are children for example the other day filling water balloons up in the only set of male toilets and throwing them at each other which then leaves the toilets in a pool of water. People from the local estate/passing through use the toilet facilities and leave them in a mess or leave behind discarded items eg. Vapes, rizla, alcohol empties etc. The park isnt suitable anymore. My son and daughter are members of the C&S AC. We use the track facilities at least 2 times a week. Theres no control over any changing facilities (that im aware of) and again not managed in a safe environment (anyone could walk in). It would be great to have access to changing facilities throughout the winter months. The opening of the gates at certain times doesnt really work as you can enter through them on entering the park but then have to leave through the main entrance to leave. A secure bike shelter would be great. Not to be completely negative. The parking is ok and free of charge which is great. Theres lots of bins, the park is well maintained in terms of rubbish/litter. The grass cut and kept looking lovely. The pitches are well looked after and any events that we attend are always well organised. The staff are friendly and helpful. A path around the whole of the perimeter of the park could be great so in the winter you can walk around without getting filthy.</p>
6	<p>I understand why dogs have to be kept on a league but there is a lot of free unused space in the park that could be used to create a fenced off area where people could let dogs off the lead.</p>
7	<p>The play area is very poorly maintained, pieces of equipment break and are never repaired or replaced.</p>
8	<p>As a 70 year old I am dismayed at the lack of safe and varied facilities for the toddlers, junior school and teenagers in rowley park. In this era when you want children off computers phones and television it's about time this park is improved.</p>
9	<p>Since Freedom Leisure have been in control of this park they cut staff and don't maintain the facilities in turn this has created a haven for anti social behaviour. Yet another example of outsourcing to an organisation that puts profit before people. Why do you continue to allow our taxes to be used to fund Freedom when it is clear they don't care about the facilities they are in control of.</p>

10	Rowley park play park I do not take my children to, there are large screws sticking up where the wooden fence by the slide has come away. The ground is all in even and dangerous nothing has been maintained. I often walk / run through living behind the park and its always so busy in the grounds. It would be lovely to see the play park maintained for us to stay local and not drive to additional parks without having the worry of the accident were waiting to happen using the current park! Wed love to see the zip wire still climbing walls trampoline and some good slides and swings.Even water park would be great !
11	Fences and gates around the childrens area is away broken/ missing which obviously is a safety concern when children are present. Sometimes not just for children leaving the park unattended, it could be dogs entering the play area
12	The playpark is an absolute disgrace currently. Poorly maintained would be an improvement, it's flat out not maintained at all and has been in a state of disrepair for a number of years
13	The gates at Mary Rand entrance are falling apart and although locked we regularly see people simply climb over them. The multi games area is 99% of the time just used by young lads playing football or simply messing about, we live in the old park bungalow and I would be a rich man if Id have re sold the amount of footballs that come into our garden.We have spent a lot of money and effort to try and stop this by planting a tall conifer hedge, but it still happens.A simple solution to this would be a high netting with poles attached to the original fencing which face the bungalow,the cost of this in the greater scheme of things really would be minimal.On another note we have spoken to the staff at various times on issues and have found them a pleasure to deal with.
14	Used by drug dealers, dropping in bins etc. toilets aren't safe for kids, park is unsafe, dirty and smelly. The rest of the park is pleasant but where the playing park is situated seems to attract the wrong people using it for dodgy dealings. Kids are left unsupervised and just generally not a nice atmosphere.

15	<p>The park needs to be a multi-generational facility - a park not just a sports stadium. It used to have a rose garden and seating area. Long since gone in place of sports facilities many of which are underused and poorly maintained especially around the perimeter. The site is used by a lot of dog walkers but there are no dog-friendly enclosed areas and insufficient poo bins.</p> <p>There also needs to be more benches placed around the site to allow older people to sit and rest while walking around the park. The alleyways leading to the park need resurfacing and better lighting and CCTV added - the one off Highfield Grove is regularly used by drugs dealers.</p>
16	Always been told 3g football pitches and running track are fully booked and not allowed to use.
17	Park equipment broken, lots has been taken away, potholes in the play ground a trip risk, benches collapsing as you sit on them
18	Park is broken and unkempt, it is unsafe for all ages
19	Nothing there for teens
20	<p>The park has broken post's around the sand pit with rusty nails sticking out. The ground around the play area is muddy and disgusting, even after adding fresh bark recently, the equipment and the kids end up coated in mud. So many pieces of equipment are out of use, it's just a really sad park to visit. We do use the rest of the park for dog walks bike rides, running and flying kites... The open space is great. It's really the play area that lets it down.</p>
21	<p>I am sure many parents would say this but it is not enclosed; meaning a parent with any child especially a neurodiverse child is not safe. I have been once or twice to this park and I wouldn't go again without my husband as I need to make sure if my son runs off then one of us can get him whilst the other stays with my daughter. It's too close to the car park and it's definitely not adequate enough for a Sen child. A perfect comparison would be the park baswich park. My only issue with that is it's not enclosed. But that would be a perfect park. perhaps even having designated areas for certain age groups.</p>
22	Where the play area is is also very exposed so it could really use some shelter. By this I mean shelter from the sun and the wind which is biting in autumn and winter.
23	I regularly use the park with my own children but I am not able to visit with my minded children as the park just isn't safe for them, or have any suitable facilities anymore.

24	Broken equipment, litter, lack of equipment.
25	Old play park equipment (that needs to be replaced) has gotten worn over time leading to jagged condition on the surfaces of the equipment.
26	Currently the Childrens play area is unfortunately half broken needs some tlc, no clear signage for baby change toilet? Not enough of functional benches for a picnic
27	Too many unaccompanied children who are unruly, inconsiderate and nasty to other children. I think the play area should be for all ages including teens but the children should be supervised by parents/ appropriate person to ensure decent behaviour.
28	There is no off lead dog walking area and if there was an area fenced off for this I would visit more. I understand why dogs need to be on a lead in most areas of the park but a specified area to let them off would encourage more visitors to the park. There is a toddler in our family who would love better and safer play equipment. Good baby changing facilities are required too.
29	Rowley park needs more accessible play items for those in wheelchairs or with limited mobility. It also needs an outdoor gym space like at wildwood park, we have none in the area and there is ample space at Rowley.
30	I am mostly thinking of the playground and play equipment for our young grandchildren. The area is an utter disgrace.
31	Some of the park is always out of order
32	The state of the childrens park is honestly disgusting, its dangerous and unsuitable for my 1 year old! Its self explanatory really, go and look at it!
33	There is lots of equipment that is damaged/ broken or fenced off not a nice environment for children to play around. Shame as such a lovely park.
34	Most of the children's play area is unusable and even the parts that are still accessible are falling apart. Also, £37 to use an astro-pitch?!? (which are always empty by the way) They should be free!
35	Park area for children is really outdated and damaged in many areas with certain apparatus even being cordoned off.
36	Would benefit from security cameras and having wardens monitoring the play area's. The toilet facilities need updating.

37	I have a 3 year old and it's very close but we don't go to often because it's very run down and in the summer the metal frames get very hot and children can't play on them. 2 spaces are not being used as ones gone and ones unsafe to clime when it's had a revamp I think the play area could be an asset to rowley park and I loved it years ago when my other children were younger.
38	It lacks facilities to stay longer hours, we visit after work hours. It doesnt have refreshments-shop to get water, snacks or coffee. Once we went and there were children spitting in all the equipment making it impossible for others to use.
39	I am a very keen Tennis enthusiast. The courts at Rowley are reasonable and dont need to be changed. It is however a sport that you cannot do on your own, unless that is you have a tennis wall !! A tennis wall would be relatively inexpensive, but would be a MASSIVE advantage in attracting users to Rowley and the courts. A tennis wall is very very useful for practise and would attract players and new players alike. I am more than happy to write up a more detailed proposal, but would sincerely hope that this addition would not be ignored without a proper cost/benefit analysis.
40	There has been equipment out of use for a long time. When it's rained a lot of the play area floods and is difficult to use. The equipment available is limited and not in great condition. It's a shame as this is our only park within walking distance but we don't tend to go and usually choose play areas further away which are better maintained and have a better choice of equipment. I have two young children.
41	I dont have any children to visit the park with. Dont do any outdoor sports to use the track/tennis court.
42	I last visited this year (in recent years we visited every week sometimes daily as its local) but the place is a danger and falling apart
43	Actually most of the equipment is old and fatigued. I'm a local childminder so health and safety it is so important to help children wih physical development.
44	I am living close to the park. My kids spending time there every week, a couple of times. Would like to get more activities, bigger playing area as well.

45	The park equipment isnt well maintain so we choose other local parks instead. This would be a fantastic park for the estate to promote use of the outdoors and yet it lets the local residents down by being unsafe for children. It would be great to have a local park be safely maintained, it would quickly get kids away from screens and become a hub for the local area. When new equipment is installed I would hope there would be a better maintenance regime be put into place to ensure the downfall does not repeat the cycle for future users.
46	There is a lot of broken equipment. There tends to be a number of intoxicated persons there which does not feel safe with small children. Hardly anywhere to sit of tired.
47	Equipment broken and in need of tlc
48	The facilities there are very out dated and need work to bring back to a decent quality for example the mini golf.
49	Play park area looks like it's falling apart
50	The playground is run down and dangerous and not suitable for my children. I often find that the playground equipment is worn out or looks unsafe. I am concerned for my children safety. Lots of the equipment is broken as well. If the play ground was nicer and there was a coffee shop- we would visit more often. In addition the spectating of the 3G pitches is poor as from the bleachers you are unable to see anything.
51	Kids messing around. Park not manned to ensure no antisocial behavior
52	The children's play area is in a disgraceful state.
53	Lack of places for snacks and drink, Lack of play equipment for disabled people young and old, and for wheelchairs. Not all disabled/special needs have the ability to coordinate themselves to be able to have fun on current equipment at the park, even with parent/ carers help. And not all are able to get out of wheelchairs to enjoy the same experience as others on parks. I think as a community park it should atleast try and cater for all abilities.
54	My child is non verbal autistic and tries to escape regularly, the gates are regularly broken making it easy for him to run out onto the car park, there are lots of bits of uneven ground too near the sand pit

55	I have a 2 year old and we love the park as we live near by, but the play area isnt safe for his age and is in poor condition.
56	Very out dated, broken or missed play equipment, limited facilities.
57	There isn't much available for my 2 year old in the play park, he does love to walk around the green space but would like to see more age appropriate things for him to do
58	Dog walkers with dangerous dogs off lead and I often see aggressive youths - for examples riding bikes on bowling green or on roof and reapedoned aggressively when asked to stop. No employees tried to stop them
59	Presence of people drinking and using drugs (marijuana) totally inappropriate for family with small kids
60	Play area has really gone down hill, not maintained. Looks sad.
61	Just no skate park
62	The park is in awful conditions, the toilets are either closed or filthy.
63	As a Parent to multiple children with additional needs, the Park does not offer a space which is safe and secure. There is no adequate perimeter fence to ensure that children do not escape onto a very busy car park. The equipment is very poorly maintained and in fact inaccessible for many children, not just my own.
64	Dont always have the time. I park here for school pick up and walk around the park before hand. If I have time the kids love to go to the park afterwards. Although old, the kids love the zip wire and the fact they can go get a slush! My partner also plays football here through the week.
65	Unusable and unsafe as everything lacks safety and almost nothing can be used. It isnt appealing as most of the park is falling to pieces including most of the park being locked up and out of use and then having nothing to do for free other than the park as everything is pricey. The toilets are an absolute disgrace and need to be cleaned and looked after by citizens and staff members
66	I would really value more information about sports groups that operate out of the park. I can see that the sports pitches and running track are well used, but it is not clear how to join in.

67	Current equipment is poorly maintained and the park has previously attracted kids causing anti social behaviour. Any new park needs to be properly supervised and action taken against those not behaving.
68	I visit Rowley Park regularly and there is nothing that stops me from visiting more often; however, we would visit more regularly when the grandchildren are staying if the play park was in a better condition.
69	There is no lighting on pathways/carpark
70	The main reason I do not use Rowley Park more is due to lack of infrastructure to afford broader opportunities for movement and fitness, recreation, play and other social activities.
71	I believe the facility needs updating and improving of which if completed correctly the Freedom Leisure company would increase profits to enable maintaining and potentially further improvement over time.
72	I have seen drug use it needs proper supervision at all times for lone females to feel safe. The toilets are not always open which can be an issue.
73	It doesn't stop visors, but not great with smell of cannabis when walking in park
74	Lots of anti social behaviour from rowdy children
75	<p>Lots of health and safety improvements could be made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - athletics track has a dip in one of the lanes - athletic hurdles- wooden ones are flaking cause cuts and grazes, some are so worn they do not click into place - changing rooms cant be used - equipment storage area is extremely dated, rotten and smells

76	<p>I enjoy walking or running around the perimeter of the park. In the winter certain areas become water logged and are either not accessible or dangerous under foot.</p> <p>I would like hardstanding to be provided to create a permanent path around the perimeter, with benches at regular intervals. This would allow walkers, runners and wheelchair users to access the park for exercise.</p> <p>Given the focus on sports and athletics I would like to see a calisthenics area of the park, which would promote outdoor exercise. Many other local parks have had poorly planned outdoor gyms which don't get used and fall into disrepair. Rowley Park should be the flagship park in the town and model how outdoor exercise provision should be done.</p>
77	<p>Local kids from the immediate area making a nuisance of themselves. Footballers using the 3G pitch deliberately kicking the football over the fence onto the track whilst it is in use.</p>
78	<p>I'd visit more if there was a broader range of adult sports facilities</p>
79	<p>I am a Cannock and Stafford athlete and would like more indoor and competition standard facilities so I have more motivation to training and compete.</p>
80	<p>Would be good to have a sports hall/gym</p> <p>Athletics club facilities</p>
81	<p>At the moment lots of play area activities are not safe to let kids playing. Many times we clean up glasses and other rubbish which has been left in kids play area.</p>
82	<p>Often smell of weed from people smoking in the park. Car park is very poorly maintained. There are craters in the ground.</p> <p>The footballs from the Astro come over the fence at speed and could kill a child or young athlete on the track: this happens every evening of the week. I have seen multiple people hit in the face and crying kids.</p> <p>The playground is full of nettles and is not maintained. The sand is full of dog shit. It is unsafe for children.</p>
83	<p>No indoor facilities- weather affects attendance.</p>
84	<p>Running track in poor condition along with the changing rooms</p>

85	The childrens play area is in severe disrepair. I do not feel it is safe for my children to play on it. The crazy golf area is also in severe disrepair to the point it cant be used.
86	The playground has been allowed to deteriorate, with equipment being fenced off and maintaince seems to have ended. The toilets have been upgraded I believe but kids rarely use them and go inside instead. Track is good and well maintained
87	Far too many disorderly youths for young kids to be around Drunk/drug using people frequenting
88	Playground is not safety enough.Playground is very old need someone should renovate asap.My child before love to go playground but not enymore
89	Have to travel all the way from Birmingham as there is no indoor track available anywhere in Stoke on Trent. So winter training is horrible outside in snow and rain and quite unsafe especially with balls flying everywhere. Would love an indoor track and suitable changing rooms to be made.
90	There are many youths roaming round on bikes, sometimes they come onto the athletics track. The footballers frequently kick the ball over the fence onto the track- it can be in your path as you are running - or, as I was, it can hit you on the head, The fence is not high enough. There are people smoking weed in the football enclosure which is not acceptable especially when young children are using the facilities. Football clubs should be made to sign an agreement to abide by the rules or be banned. Also when I go to the athletics track in the evening, the bottom car park is full, forcing me to park in the top car park which is not lit, and the surface is very uneven. As a lone woman this can be a challenge if there are no other of my fellow athletes leaving or arriving at the same time so we can walk together.
91	Rowley park would benefit from an indoor track and related facilities. The idea of having a football pitch in the centre of the track was a bad one. The constant barrage of footballs plummeting over the fences when children and young adult are trying to train on the track is dangerous. Experiencing winter training at the track, its unsafe for children and young adults, poorly lit surrounding areas and freezing in winter, having an indoor track would get children more engaged in these kind of activities and a willingness to partake, if there were comfortable facilities.

92	<p>The kids park needs condemning, I took my child on there other week.. Its in a really poor state!</p> <p>When it comes to the green metal fencing around the Astro football pitches that separates the pitch from the running track, this needs to be made considerably higher!!! The footballs come over at speed and Ive witnessed on so many occasions the ball hitting young athletes in the face !!! Please can this be sorted as a matter of urgency!!!</p>
93	Damage and vandalism and occasionally intimidation from ASBOs
94	The location
95	Indoor 100m athletics track for continuous athletics training/ drills/ sessions
96	Toilets are not always in a good state. Lighting is poor at night especially in the upper car park. The okay area is in poor condition and very muddy

Question 3: How frequently do you use the following facilities or participate in the following activities? Other:

1	<p>We often use the park to walk around while our children are doing sports. Football/athletics. We regularly bring the dog. Other paths to walk around the perimeter would be welcomed.</p> <p>In the summer we cycle to the park. It roughly takes 15-20 minutes</p>
2	I use the park primarily for for walking, but also bring the grandchildren and watch the football competitions.
3	Just enjoy open spaces without the need for specific equipment
4	Picnics
5	I would love to visit this park more but just for safety I don't. The car park is all open from what I remember. Uneven ground in certain areas. No seating and no designated seating for a disabled person.
6	It's a lovely place for a Quiet walk, sit down to take in the nature. I prefer that it's not like the Town park as in the fact, there are quiet areas away from the play equipment that you can enjoy on your own or with kids. We recently had a party at the park with lots of outdoor games and friends and it was a brilliant space for it.
7	We ride our bikes in and around the park, we have attended sessions that were put on for the children by Stafford Road club last year.

8	We rarely use the park due to safety but would use this on a multiple times a week basis if it was repaired and maintained well.
9	The Childrens area needs massive improvements. It needs much more color, engaging equipment, interactive features, and essential amenities like water fountains to create a vibrant, stimulating, and safe space where kids actually want to play and explore.
10	If there was a nicer more considered coffee shop (such as monk and smuggler or Alberts in town), I would visit just for the coffee shop!
11	Riding bicycles
12	Nordic walking Personal training/circuits sessions using the multi-use games area (our Nordic Walking coach Gareth Davies from Staffordshire Nordic Walking is now offering indoor circuits sessions at the boxing gym above the Reynolds Centre, but the outdoor sessions he offered were critical to my fitness and social wellbeing from 2020 to 2023, and others could also use it for that purpose.
13	We use Rowley Park regularly as above but we also will use the park for other activities such as playing ultimate frisbee, dodgeball and I also sometimes teach clients in the park (Natural Movement Fitness, Barefoot Fitness, Sprinting, Strong to be Useful drills (carrying other humans and objects simulating emergencies and natural disasters etc). We have also hosted community picnics in the park for our antenatal classes.
14	N/a
15	Would use the sacral park to run more if it wasn't used for local gangs to smoke weed

Question 8: The following list identifies a number of possible play facilities which could be incorporated in the new destination play space, however they may not all be achievable. Please rank the items in order of preference (1 being the most preferred) to enable us to establish what is most important for you. 'Other':

1	More for kids between ages of 5-12
2	The play area needs a major refurbishment. It needs to be inclusive to all children, toddlers and older children also children with disabilities.

3	dog walking area/field or a perimeter lane around the park for walking
4	Remove the football pitches and put the athletics area back
5	Junior facilities, the present play area is a disgrace. Several items not usable and bark on the surface gets flooded and unusable.
6	Trampoline / climbing walls Zip wire something to cater for all abilities Similar to yelverton park : westbridge park stone
7	Having an area to sit and watch my son play would be brilliant
8	Number 1 is priority this being a Sen area of play Number 2 toddler play area Number 3 water play Number 4 informal areas of natural play Number 5 teenage play
9	Play areas for children older than toddlers but not teenagers
10	Play for children 8-13
11	All of the equipment needs replacing, the skate park is a brilliant idea, but what needs to be kept in mind is that people dont always want to go to the park with their kids to play on the equipment.
12	Did you have a definition of teenage play? I think its incredibly important to have a teenage play area, but that might be achieved with the Wheeled Sports Provision and Informal Areas for Natural Play. The Water Play could also be incorporated into Toodler/childrens play
13	Would be nice to have an area to encourage wildlife, a small pond to attract ducks and a wildflower meadow for the pollinators
14	Fenced dog walking area Nature trails
15	Wildlife areas - woodland, more meadows

16	We have enough in stafford for babies and toddlers and nothing for teenagers or adults with special needs who still enjoy park areas. We are also independent desperate need of an outdoor gym.
17	There is a need for play areas for all ages and abilities. Toddlers and teenagers does not cover the ages from 3 to 12. This is needed as much as any other
18	Wheelchair accessible bikes with track/circuit to ride like Westport Lake. Fully accessible Gum equipment for those with physical disabilities to be able to use. Accessible picnic areas with sensory garden would be nice too.
19	Park accessible for special needs and wheelchairs
20	Sand play area would be beneficial, like what is at town park!
21	More picnic areas are needed more benches seating areas
22	Tennis/Raquet hitting wall
23	More seating
24	Pump track or biking area for children
25	Update crazy golf
26	Sandpit area. A pump track would be really good like the one at Castle view park. Play boat/ train. Trampoline, zip wire
27	Sand play
28	You have missed the ages of 4 - 12! There's a gap between toddler and teenager that desperately needs to be filled.
29	Picnic benches
30	More seated areas with tables More paths Obstacle course Small dirt humps for bikes Sheltered areas when raining Cafe which serves food and drink

31	Play for kids 4-12 is very important (not toddler or teenage). A good quality, well maintained park (e.g. Victoria park) would be brilliant.
32	Bike ramps
33	More sensory activities
34	The playground used to be nice, with a big basket swing, a climbing net and the rest. Now, the big swing has not been replaced, the climbing structure is unavailable etc. It is disappointing. We need more areas for children to play safely in. Wilwood park is much more appealing.
35	Floodlit tennis courts
36	Pump track for cycling. This is all ages all bike types friendly.
37	Primary age children play is important too
38	Implementing a flat terrain that is designated for skateboarders / BMXers / wheel device users to create / build whatever they desire would benefit Rowley Park remarkably. A D.I.Y type of section (constructing obstacles, ramps, ledges etc.) would amplify creativity and install a more thoughtful and stylistic approach to riding on a wheel device.
39	Skatepark
40	Pleaseeeeeee build a good skate park. If thinkn u should ask some skaters for help designing. If its made by skaters then us skaters will love it. Check tomas massey or slapramps, u will get some good ideas from em. Mae sure to ask opinions from other skaters too.
41	More accessible equipment for those children who may be older but have a delayed development so may require bigger equipment for younger intellectual abilities.
42	As a nearby resident I am very concerned at the additional noise a wheeled bike/skate park would make. Why cannot the park just be used as it is which at times is very busy anyway.
43	I would use the outdoor gym myself. I favour having a range of facilities for families (toddlers/children) and for teenagers, particularly since the sports groups using the park make it a comfortable and natural place for teenagers to meet up and hence good facilities for them would give them more to do.

44	<p>My selection of 'Other' reflects a strong preference for a multigenerational movement-rich playscape that blends natural and purpose-built elements to support play, fitness, and connection for all ages and abilities.</p> <p>Rather than separating play into fixed age zones, we should invest in inclusive infrastructure that brings people together parents moving alongside children, older adults training alongside teens, toddlers exploring alongside climbers. These shared spaces are not only more cost-effective, but far more engaging and better used over time.</p> <p>This could include log and boulder formations, natural inclines, climbing-friendly trees, and open-ended landscape features, made safe, but not sanitised. Layered into this, thoughtfully designed man-made structures could mirror natural curves or textures, offering scalable movement options for climbing, swinging, balancing, crawling, and strength training. The result is a space that encourages spontaneous play, functional fitness, sensory exploration, and social interaction, all without needing fences or fragmentation.</p> <p>While I strongly support informal play areas, outdoor gyms, teen zones and traditional play equipment, those categories often create division rather than inclusion. A well-designed movement landscape transcends age brackets. It welcomes neurodivergent users, accommodates intergenerational families, supports unstructured discovery, and inspires physical literacy in a way static equipment alone cannot.</p> <p>This kind of space is future-proof. It meets urgent local and national priorities: mental health, obesity, loneliness, active travel, and youth engagement not with slogans, but with soil, texture, trees, and steel. We have a rare opportunity to create a park that reflects how people actually move and relate not just how we've always divided them.</p> <p>The main destination space could act as a hub within a wider movement-rich park, with calisthenic stations integrated along a perimeter trail.</p>
45	Indoor facilities
46	Indoor running track Padel court
47	Indoor athletics track!!
48	Would be great to more athletics facilities including an indoor track
49	Indoor track/ sport facilities

50	Indoor gym Relaid athletics track
51	Indoor track and gym area
52	Indoor gym and indoor sprint running track
53	Indoor gym and training facilities
54	Sport hall indoor track
55	Each of improvements will be bonus for that lovely place. We dont want to loose green area and trees but kids expect some play area for them in the each group of age. Everyone expect from teenagers and children to spend more time outside but nobody ask the question what they need to do? Rowley park is very important place in Highfields area as there are lots of families who visiting that place not only for playing area but for tennis court and football area. I expect that you will not charge extra money for tennis and football Astro. If they play as a team is a different thing but if they play in two or three people it shouldnt be charge anything. Everyone should find something for themselves. I think that Rowley Park needs some proper coffee shop with some cakes, ice cream and something to eat. Every day lots of people visit that place so extra facility will bring that place more popular. I have already thought to negotiate with Stafford Borough Council an option to open coffee shop. I know that you have already been in local schools to discuss with kids about their expectations- children are very excited that will be some improvements in Rowley Park.
56	Running/walking/biking track around edge of the park. Covered sports area for wet weather
57	indoor facilities ie. indoor athletics track
58	Indoor running track
59	What SEN provision is being put in place. If we are looking at doing it at Highfields then it should be incorporated into all future design requirements.
60	More facilities for athletes
61	Indoor athletic track
62	Bowling

63	An indoor track is my number one priority there is nothing around Stoke on Trent you have to travel to Birmingham and thats shocking. I travel from Meir park way to get to Stafford to train and especially in bad weather we should have indoor track to train on.
64	Indoor athletics track More athletics equipment
65	Indoor running track,, the nearest one is Manchester!!!
66	Parkour trail
67	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority).
68	Indoors track
69	Indoor track/gym facilities for the users of the track
70	1) indoor track and 2) indoor gym facilities like a sports hall (1 highest priority)
71	Indoor athletics track
72	(1) indoor track (2) indoor gym facility
73	Improving the track and athletics facilities to run official athletics events should be a priority.
74	Indoor track/gym

Question 10: The following list identifies a number of existing and potential events which could be hosted in Rowley Park. Please rank the items in order of preference (1 being the most preferred) to enable us to establish what is most important for you. 'Other':

1	As an elderly person I would like to see all age groups regularly using the park.
2	Football facilities Tennis club
3	It's very lovely having all of these types of events and if they are inclusive meaning Sen then I would be more than happy to bring my children

4	Could Athletics and Football Tournaments come under Outdoor Sports?
5	Rowley would be amazing for food festivals, concerts etc.
6	Fetes, Gymkana, Fairs, Small local Arts, Music, Comedy of similar Festivals.
7	Hosting things such all food markets would be a nice use of the space.
8	Skate jams, skate competitions
9	There was a family day a couple of years ago that we really enjoyed with stalls and bouncy castles but there doesnt seem to have been any thing since.
10	<p>I would love a local ParkRun - the nearest for me is the Isabel Trail, so it would be good to have one on our side of town.</p> <p>The athletics and sports facilities are well used and I would like to see that continue for all ages (from school sports days to football tournaments) - they bring life to the park and also enable people to exercise together, grow their skills and strengths and compete. Ive enjoyed other events in the park too, particularly bringing people together post-COVID but these are a lower priority for me.</p>
11	<p>While Ive completed the formal categories, I want to caveat my responses by saying that the park should primarily be built around what it already does well: sport, movement, and active recreation.</p> <p>That doesnt mean excluding other uses far from it. Theres plenty of room in future for theatre, heritage, arts, and food. But, lets nail our colours to the mast and say clearly: Rowley Park is one of the best destinations in the borough maybe even the region for all-ages active leisure. Thats a brand and identity that people can rally around. Something that will pull in footfall, press attention, health partners, and regional visibility.</p> <p>Once the park has momentum, it becomes the perfect host for pop-up events and diverse programming not despite its niche, but because of it. People come for movement and recreation but are then more likely to come back for theatre, a workshop, or a farmers market. You build on a solid core rather than trying to be everything at once.</p> <p>This approach also has practical merit. Movement infrastructure whether it's a calisthenics station, climbing boulder, Ninja-style trail, or green gym loop is permanent, inclusive, low-maintenance and highly cost-effective. It benefits locals and visitors alike, across every season. You dont need an events team to run it. People use it every day, for years.</p> <p>Rowley Park already has the bones: tennis, athletics, play areas, fields. Lets evolve it into a flagship for multigenerational, health-supporting, movement-</p>

	<p>rich outdoor life. Once that gravitational pull is in place, the rest becomes easy and welcomed.</p> <p>For instance, A playscape amphitheatre could be a standout feature; designed for climbing, balancing and active play, but equally able to host performances. From kids showing off to parents to full outdoor events, it would blend movement and culture, inviting community without compromising the parks active identity.</p>
12	N.a
13	Indoor track would be great
14	Athletics open meetings would be a great option and bring more people to the track if it could be brought up to the relevant standard. Profit to Freedom would enable the facility to be maintained.
15	Indoor track and gym
16	Hosting athletics meets- C&S currently cannot do this because of football pitches
17	An indoor track would be a fantastic option for training especially in the colder winter months but also a potential to hold some indoor track competitions as the closest indoor track is in Birmingham
18	Cycling
19	Too much emphasis on football
20	<p>I personally think the athletics track should be just an athletics venue !!! It should not have football in the middle! Its a joke and very dangerous because as Ive mentioned before the amount of balls that come over the fence is very dangerous towards the athletes that are dunking on the track!</p> <p>Plus having football in the middle, prevents Cannock and Stafford hosting run meetings because it doesnt meet the league requirements.</p> <p>In the football pitches need to be completely separate to the track, maybe relocate them on the field where the athletics field events were moved to !</p> <p>Basically bring the field events that were moved back home where they belong in the middle of the track It should never have been separated in the first place</p> <p>Yes you earn more money off the football there I get it, but health and safety of the all users should be prioritised here</p>

21	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority).
22	1) indoor track highest priority 2) indoor gym and sports hall
23	Indoor track to continue our training throughout the year safely and effectively. We would be the only one in west Midlands it would be so popular
24	More athletics field provision Gym Indoor track
25	Indoor sports track and gym

Question 12: The following list identifies a number of existing and potential sports facilities in Rowley Park. Please identify your top 5 choices from the list to enable us to establish what is most important for you. Answered: 'Other':

1	Park run
2	Play park - 100%
3	Padel for sure!
4	Cricket wickets and nets
5	Places to enjoy informal sports with small children
6	A secure/ dedicated dog walking area would be great.
7	The survey isnt working properly. I had to select otherthe move on. Paddle tennis is my fifth choice
8	Toilet facilities
9	Picnic areas
10	There is nothing listed that looks inclusive? Can you ensure when planning that wheelchairs can access these facilities
11	Disabled sport area
12	I have used 1 as most important and 5 as least important in these scales.
13	Error 5 Flood lit Multi Use Games Area

14	T
15	Anything thats safe tbh
16	Toilets
17	Could do with a water area for young children
18	Tennis and football pitches should be a priority
19	Bike ramps
20	I actually think all of this is important, and love that all of this could be on my childrens door step as they grow.
21	Changing room: but wont let me submit answer unless I select other
22	Pump track for bikes
23	Anything that children or young people will be able to make use of.
24	Skatepark
25	Skate park
26	Id love an outdoor gym as Id be likely to use it regularly. Athletics, tennis and team sports (grass and hard courts/3G) are a high priority to maintain existing sports facilities. Ive never seen anyone using the crazy golf. Cycle proficiency and parkour sound interesting but I am not sure what these actually are (parkour could be particularly good for teens).
27	There is a lack of decent football pitches in stafford. Consider creating more / better football pitches for junior and improve the toilets and changing rooms. Spectator facilities are poor and should be improved. If this was done it would create additional revenue.
28	I would like to keep all the current facilities, although I'm not sure how much the crazy golf is used.

29	<p>While Ive selected my top 5, the format is too limited to reflect what Rowley Park already offers and what it could become. All existing sports facilities must be maintained and upgraded, including pathways, lighting, and seating. The changing rooms urgently need modernising, and a well-designed café or hub space would transform the parks social use, allowing it to serve more people, year-round</p> <p>The sports list provided is also too narrow. With the right design, Rowley Park could support 7 of the 10 fastest-growing sports in the world, becoming a true destination, not just for traditional sport, but for inclusive, innovative, family-friendly movement.</p> <p>Pickleball could be added quickly and cheaply using existing tennis courts, generating income and footfall. That revenue could support the future addition of padel courts, a fast-growing, social sport with huge booking potential.</p> <p>Parkour, Hyrox-style training, and functional fitness zones could be layered into the parks existing footprint, with calisthenics stations placed along a perimeter trail to create a movement loop usable by all ages. These spaces lend themselves to informal use as well as structured events like community health days or small-scale fitness festivals..</p> <p>Trail running and adventure-based movement are growing rapidly. By enhancing the parks natural terrain adding slopes, steps, and textured paths, the park could attract walkers, runners, and outdoor fitness groups alike.</p> <p>Disc golf is another low-cost, high-access sport that works beautifully alongside more naturalised park areas, and offers a welcoming route into movement for people of all ages and abilities.</p> <p>This is a chance to build on the parks strengths and create a modern, movement-rich space that reflects how people actually want to move now and into the future.</p>
30	An indoor track or sports hall
31	Parkrun location!
32	Indoor gym and indoor track (100m)
33	A path around the park would be good and assist with multi access which would be good.
34	Indoor athletics track
35	Indoor track
36	Indoor 60m track facilities. Indoor gym with equipment.

37	It would work better with just the focus being on athletics track. It causes safety problems with footballs being kicked onto athletics track. Would be better if football pitches located elsewhere and the track was just for athletics and field events
38	Gym/sports hall
39	Indoor Athletics track.
40	An indoor track would be a fantastic addition
41	Indoor athletics track/facilities
42	Velodrome indoor track
43	Indoor athletic facilities and gym
44	Indoor track facilities for winter training
45	Athletics track
46	Indoor athletics track
47	Indoor athletics track/ facilitys
48	indoor athletics track
49	Indoor athletics facilities
50	Indoor or covered area for sprints, maybe hurdles, and high jump. Really helpful for use in poor weather.
51	An indoor area would be useful
52	Indoor gym facility for athletes and coaches to use. Indoor area for athletics performers to use during the winter, including an indoor athletics track.
53	Indoor athletics provision - per previous answer - there are no facilities in the Midlands that are indoors so could generate income for the park with indoor comps as well as benefit athletes at the local athletics club.
54	Indoor athletics- this would be of huge benefit to the whole of Staffordshire.

55	Indoor running track facility is needed within Staffordshire. Or the very least the outdoor track needs to be used solely for athletics and not football incorporated in the middle !!!
56	Indoor track Decent café Club room for Cannock and Stafford AC
57	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority).
58	Indoor gym equipment and track.
59	1) indoor track 2) indoor gym and sports hall
60	Indoor running track
61	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority)
62	Indoor track Athletics field provision Indoor track
63	Adding an indoor track and a gym including a sports hall
64	Indoor sports track
65	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority)
66	Indoor track

Question 14: The following list identifies a number of existing and potential other elements that could be provided or enhanced. Please rank the items in order of preference (1 being the most preferred) to enable us to establish what is most important for you. Answered 'Other':

1	There is a huge captive audience with the numbers attending the park for sports. A proper cafe with barista style coffee would be a great way to commercialise the park and make it a meeting place. The current offering is poor. I visit the park several times a week but would never go into the shop/cafe/hut for refreshments.
2	as suggested the boundary lane could be used for dog walking
3	Bring back the athletes area
4	Dog area to allow dogs off lead
5	A cafe area extra facilities would be great if a park was updated the park itself would be busy and attract a lot of money following the events that already go on.
6	Just leave the park as a park
7	Entrances to park need improving and making safe.
8	Small provision for ice creams/drinks. Not a formal cafe
9	Same again. 5 is picnic area
10	The toilets were refurbished and then trashed again. There really needs to be a park ranger doing their job and walking round the park once in a while. The drainage is disgusting. No one uses the park in the wet weather because of this, it makes the park unusable.
11	Leaving gates open later in the darker months for better access to walking. I walk through the park to drop my young daughter at gymnastics at rowley park school (from Newport Road) and am unable to in the darker months which is frustrating as the park is open to cars much later.
12	A community hub which could attract volunteers etc to enhance planting, veg growing or all kinds of community activities.
13	Disabled sport park area

14	We just need a safe place for our children. It would be beneficial to secure the boundary so that when the park is locked at night, nobody can get in and destroy the areas (it is possible at the moment to gain access through the hedgerows from Kind Edwards High School). CCTV would also be good!
15	Error it wasnt letting me continue without selecting other. 5 picnic area/socialising
16	T
17	I think the current toilets are ok but the opening hours are extremely limited.
18	None
19	A nice coffee shop (similar to monk and smuggler or Alberts in town) would be great! Even better if it had breakfast/brunch and lunch options! Would make a lovely communal space.
20	N/a
21	Toilets (issue with form)
22	Fob Key for Rowley park residents to enter and exit the park after the gates close early hours in the morning and afternoon during winter time. This is such annoying thing. The porters are very strict and if you miss the time you have to walk all around Wolverhampton road!!!
23	seating in and around play area
24	Toilets Survey wouldn't let me continue without selecting 'other'
25	Perhaps more seating areas around the park. The lighting is good in the park and would not want to lose the toilet facilities. A baby change would be good
26	The cafe tends to be used by parents watching their kids play football etc - it would be good to see a wider offer here, which could serve as a meeting point. I have lived off Westway in Stafford since 2018 and found it hard to meet people locally because theres nowhere really to do so, and I work in Birmingham city centre

27	<p>Alongside my previous emphasis on the café, toilets, and changing rooms being essential upgrades for community use, I'd strongly advocate for integrating a permaculture-informed design approach across the entire park. This would not only enhance infrastructure like pathways, drainage, and planting, but dramatically increase the park's resilience, wildlife value, and long-term usability.</p> <p>rather than hard edges and isolated zones, paths could follow natural contours where possible; improving drainage, reducing erosion, and lowering long-term maintenance needs. This approach would also soften transitions between spaces, blending play, movement, and nature in a way that feels harmonious and welcoming, not segmented or over-engineered.</p> <p>Lighting, seating, and cycle routes can all be integrated in a way that complements this style, ensuring safety, accessibility, and comfort, while maintaining a calm, natural atmosphere. Well-placed benches and picnic areas offer space for rest and connection, especially when framed by native planting, meadows, or wildlife corridors</p> <p>Done well, this doesn't just benefit biodiversity, it becomes a living classroom and social catalyst. Families share lunch on warm boulders in a play-amphitheatre, kids and grown-ups alike spotting birds and bugs between climbing and resting, conversations flowing easily in a space that feels alive. This is what great public design can do: invite presence, curiosity, and belonging.</p> <p>By anchoring infrastructure upgrades in nature-led design, we not only solve practical problems like water management and path wear, we also invite cohesion, reduce conflict between users, and create daily access to beauty, movement, and wellbeing. A win for the land, and a win for the people using it.</p>
28	It would be great to have indoor sports hall and or indoor running track alongside gym to enhance winter training opportunities for local sports clubs
29	Indoor athletics track
30	Indoor track
31	Changing rooms facilities are really poor.
32	Athletics club house

33	Athletics clubhouse Sports hall/indoor lanes or gym
34	Indoor athletics track Indoor athletics sports facilities Indoor functional fitness gym
35	Indoor track facilities
36	Sport hall gym
37	Indoor running track and cycling velodrome
38	Indoor athletics facilities ie track, gym equipment
39	Indoor athletic facilities
40	The toilets are not great. However the local Kids have vandalised many times before. There will be a new arrangement where the kids hanging around are incorporated and not looking in from outside which breeds resentment.
41	Indoor athletics facilities for use during the winter. This will also support maintenance of things like high jump beds etc.
42	Indoor athletics track
43	Better lighting for athletics throwing area. Indoor gym for athletes and coaches to use. Indoor area for athletes to use during the winter, which could include a 60m Indoor track, with Indoor jumping facilities. Or a sports hall area for circuits and warming up.
44	Changing room for athletes
45	Indoor athletics. Visit the athletics provision in similar towns to Stafford- Tamworth, Burton on Trent, Nuneaton- far superior to what Stafford has to offer. We are the County Town and cannot even host an athletics match here. Its shameful really.
46	Better quality car parking

47	The green fence that goes around the football pitch at the very least needs to be considerably higher to stop the balls coming over and hitting people, which happens on a weekly basis !
48	Club room
49	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority).
50	Indoor track facilities and athletics gym
51	Adding an indoor track and gym including a sports hall
52	1) indoor track and 2) indoor gym and sports hall
53	Changing areas
54	Gym Track field provision Indoor track
55	Adding an indoor track and a gym including a sports hall
56	Indoor sports track
57	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority)
58	Indoor track and gym

Question 15: This consultation will help us look at the future layout and design of Rowley Park. In overall terms please tell us what your priority is for the Park. Please rank in order of preference. Answered: 'Other':

1	Socialising, family areas
2	dog walking
3	Dog walking
4	Walking, exercising, enjoying the green space
5	Live events such as food markets and fayre even car boots
6	Park run would be great!

7	General improvements and maintenance of the overall park
8	Left as informal grass not paid for entertainment
9	Making look more attractive and making it a facility for all...not just sports.
10	Accessibility- ease of booking facilities
11	Teen activities. Athletic activities for teens to go to.
12	Other is dog walking facilities
13	Number 3 other is Sen friendly events
14	Personal exercise - walking/jogging
15	Wildlife. Making the park more wildlife friendly. I love the wild flowers planted around the trees but would like to see more of this.
16	Wildlife
17	Community hub bringing people in to the park for all kinds of activities
18	An inclusive area that all can enjoy including those with physical disabilities
19	Safety for the young children, the park urgently needs to be made safe!
20	Cafe/facilities/community Water park?
21	Facilities- toilets and sitting areas
22	The numbers did not come up properly so do not reflect my priorities.
23	Dog walking
24	I've put other as number 3 thinking of community - family and friends time out with children.
25	It will be great to have a tennis tables around alongside with picnic benches
26	Become a hub similar to Victoria park where local events and local businesses can thrive. Bringing the community together. This would support health and well-being of local community.
27	Picnics and play dates
28	Eating and drinking places and areas

29	Water area
30	Bike pump trunk
31	Dog walking
32	Bike ramps for kids
33	Coffee/food space
34	Toddler/ family friendly area/ relaxing areas.
35	Cafe
36	Wellbeing and Health areas for everyone. Access to outdoor gym, areas of nature and places to relax.
37	walking
38	Refreshments
39	Skatepark
40	Skatepark
41	Skate park
42	Make it skateable
43	Relaxing area to walk round with seating and picnic areas
44	Sports and play are the two biggest priorities, with walking/dog walking included under sports here
45	<p>This should be used to hold primarily sporting events. We already have Victoria park for music and food festivals and that park is far better placed for that. Do not try and replicate Victoria park.</p> <p>Invest in decent cctv. Meadowcroft park and burleyfields park are now heavily vandalised and damaged due to anti social behaviour. If you dont invest in staff to supervise the facilities it will be damaged.</p>
46	I do value Rowley Park for its peace and its history - when I'm there on a quiet day, it's not hard to imagine what it was like back in the early part of the 19th century before even the Lawn Road terrace was built. However, I enjoy walking through and seeing the sports activities and children playing and consider it a highly valuable facility for local people. I just would not like to see it over-developed - being able to enjoy a sense of open air space locally is important.
47	Safe area for all

48	<p>This consultation is an incredible opportunity to do something bold: to honour what Rowley Park already does well movement, sport, and active play and build on it with intentional design that serves the whole community, across generations and abilities.</p> <p>Thats why Ive placed Play and Sport as my top two. Not as separate silos, but as core drivers of community wellbeing, cohesion, and identity. A truly inclusive, movement-rich design one that blends playscape, calisthenics, sport zones, trails, and natural forms would make Rowley Park a regional destination. A place where families, teens, elders, and athletes train, play, rest, and reconnect, day after day.</p> <p>My Other ranking includes all the supporting infrastructure and principles that allow that vision to thrive:</p> <p>Café, toilets, and changing rooms upgraded to a modern standard.</p> <p>Permaculture-informed design to guide drainage, biodiversity, path layout, and planting making maintenance lower and community engagement higher.</p> <p>Calisthenics and fitness stations, integrated into trails or pathways.</p> <p>Natural play features: rocks, logs, inclines, and spaces that blur the line between movement and nature.</p> <p>Lighting, seating, signage, wildlife integration creating spaces that are usable, beautiful, and safe.</p> <p>Events matter too but they work best when the park already has gravity. By becoming Staffords flagship for inclusive movement and active living, Rowley Park earns the right to host everything from health festivals and Hyrox heats to open-air theatre and food trucks. The footfall and feel-good factor come when the foundations are strong. This is a chance to get the foundations right rooted in active design, natural harmony, and long-term community benefit and let everything else grow from there.</p>
49	N.a
50	Indoor track facilities especially for winter training
51	<p>Indoor track or just 100m sprints section would be great. Wind protection to the track/football pitches would be good.</p> <p>An indoor gym space instead of the large changing rooms would be great, the number of athletes using this would be great. Cannock and Stafford have high numbers for use.</p>
52	Attracting younger people towards athletics. This is essential for the next generation of young people. We need a generation of people who are not on their phones and social media. athletics will promote this and develop a free thinking healthy generation free from the common mental health problems we are seeing today.
53	Indoor facilities/ track

54	Indoor track
55	Occasional music/theatre
56	Cafe with coffee stand, food choices etc
57	Indoor track for winter training and competitions
58	Athletics
59	Athletics
60	Athletics club events which can't be run due to central pitches
61	Athletics meetings (can't due to central pitch netting)
62	Indoor Athletics Track!
63	Indoor track facilities
64	Would like to see indoor sports hall and gym Also paddel tennis facilities Improve athletics track to higher competitive standards
65	Indoor athletics training facilities
66	Indoor athletic facilities and gym
67	It needs a cafe
68	Making the athletics track legal to hold events!
69	Rowley Arl used have a great stadium with competitions. Since the football pitch no athletic matches can take place. Football can go elsewhere where ie riverway .and reinstate the throws area in the stadium itself. In the long term it will bring the income for the council
70	Athletics facilities
71	Indoor or covered area for winter training, especially for explosive events such as sprints, hurdles and high jump, and for warming up for other events.
72	Some sort if indoor area if possible for when weather conditions not suitable for outdoor.
73	Athletics facilities and equipment is a priority. As well as changing facilities and toilets. A gym or some sort of indoor space would be brilliant too. Lighting on the top car park would be useful too.

74	Need new playgroud
75	Some indoor sports facilities, eg somewhere to do circuit training in winter. A covered area inside the track to keep bags dry. Higher netting to stop people being hit by balls from the 3G pitch
76	Safety - ASB has improved over the last 12 months but this improvement must be maintained
77	ATHLETICS
78	Higher the fence and indoor track !!! Separate the football pitches from the running track !!! This makes total sense !!!
79	A place to gather, play and move through nature, adventure trails with rest/picnic spots.
80	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority).
81	An indoor stack and gym would be beneficial for the athletes
82	Socialising areas
83	1)indoor track and 2) sports hall
84	Indoor training area/ track would be a huge asset to the area
85	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority)
86	Indoor sports track
87	Improvements to the athletics area to be able to provide a venue for official/certified athletics events and an indoor track/athletics facility.
88	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority)

Question 16 Do you have any further comments about any issues relevant to Rowley Park?

1	Please prioritise the play park for phase one with the available funding. The park could benefit from more shade, further tree planting would be great. Please consider climate adaptation for any new features.
2	The park should cater for children to play and families to socialise, to be outside and enjoy healthy activity. But any equipment must be maintained this time, as at the moment it is very sad how neglected it is and in places dangerous for young children
3	An enclosed area for dog walking / training and playing
4	happy to discuss any aspect of my suggestions as we know what encourages people to come here but also what the main problems are within and out of hours.
5	The athletic area needs to be looked at. Unable to hold meets due to the football pitches
6	Once any improvements are undertaken will maintenance be guaranteed, the park itself is fairly well maintained but the play area is very poorly maintained so the provision of any new or improved equipment or facilities within the play area and wider park needs to consider ongoing maintenance and repairs.
7	Just make Rowley park more inclusive for younger families to get outside and play.
8	Skateboarding parks will bring nuisance to local residents who need to be considered as well as those wishing to travel to use the facilities. Any noisy and local nuisance facilities should be built away from residential properties that border the park. Suitable parking should also be available and restrictions placed to stop parking on local residential roads. The park need to continue to offer the green space available now.
9	As expressed previously these changes will only be provided with assurance by an organisation that is invested in the town. You don't have that as it stands and how it goes
10	The park is beautiful, but currently let down in the worst way by the disgraceful play facilities for younger kids, like the rest of the town. A large, brand new playground would make all the difference and is literally the only thing you should focus on in my opinion. The 3g pitches are great, the athletics and tennis provisions are well maintained, but the playpark is currently unacceptable.

11	Rowley Park is surrounded by residential properties, nowhere in this consultation do you acknowledge this. Stop trying to extract every last penny out of the park. Leave it as a park, it isnt a sports stadium regardless of what name you try to attach
12	All other leisure/sports facilities nearby can be booked online and hired on an hourly basis.
13	There is already a childrens play area, give something for teens to do. Improve activities provided for teens to attend. Is there a tennis/football/athletics groups etc for teens to attend? Everyone only focuses on the little kids and forgets the older ones. Toilet facilities and onsite security would be good Some flower gardens would be nice and very relaxing
14	Play is our priority,
15	The play park needs a massive overhaul and improvements, I would definitely visit more regularly if it was improved. I also feel more sheltered areas, like from extreme sun or rain would be beneficial.
16	Its a captive audience and so much more could be done
17	Play facilities for young children and teens. Play facilities used to be first class but Play area gets a 2 out of 10 at the moment.
18	We do not want the park to become like Victoria Park, a busy area, it is good at the moment that there are areas where you can go and relax, stay away from thr park equipment and people, with nature and enjoy it. The equipment all needs updating, the drainage is poor and a skatepark is a great idea.
19	A cafe would be a lovely addition to the park where we could come to play, and have a hot drink or some lunch with family and a nice walk around after to feed the ducks and wildlife would be perfect, we love Rowley park, its the only playground that is walking distance for our little one without walking all the way too victoria park, its just a shame its very run down currently
20	There will need to be more staff available for security and safety of visitors

21	Many of the trees are veteran which is fantastic, but there are little to no other native trees of different ages and structure. Would be nice to see some of the mature oaks propagated and planted on site. Mowing around the base of trees could be reduced. Dogs should be allowed off lead around the parameters of the park, (unless event on) especially towards the far end. The hidden meadow near the overflow car park is absolutely incredible for wildlife, this area should be celebrated more. The diversity of plant, invertebrates is incredible, this could be replicated and tie in with some main areas of the park.
22	<p>Please, please do something not just about Rowley Park but about the childrens parks on Barnes Road and Morton Road - the children who live in this area (my son included) have nothing. I have to take my son to Wildwood for him to be able to play safely. Why not lock the parks up at night? It could easily be a community effort to do so, Id happily look after the Morton Road park if you wanted it locking and opening!</p> <p>Everything seems to get trashed by idiot teenagers!</p> <p>Please sort out the kids play area as soon as you can at Rowley, its so sad for our kids that they have nowhere to play.</p>
23	The park needs a major update and it needs to be bigger and cater to children with disabilities eg a disability swing
24	I use the park to meet family, have a quiet walk, and sit and chat. The y event added benches have helped.
25	Play area and fun for the kids thats safe
26	<p>My son is 12 years old, as a family used to lived locally we were visiting very often Rowley Park, even daily when the weather was good. Unfortunately for the last 3 years the park is getting a view as abandoned place. My son enjoys only the football area at the moment and honestly he doesn't visit the park often. My daughter (8y) loved it, but not anymore just because she wants to play on nice playground as was before. There was a tyre swing, a robe tower, nice sandpit all these are gone broken or just in not a safe place for anyone nit only kids. Was a lovely park to spend time, meet friends, have fun with family, to relax, to do sport, but not now.</p> <p>Please restore Rowley Park. Thank you Good luck everyone</p>
27	Play area is most important! Is not safety now and needs to be replaced/repared all facilities!
28	There needs to be a range of equipment suitable for older children as well as younger children, the park now is very run down and sometimes broken which can be dangerous

29	<p>To ensure dogs are on leads.</p> <p>Constant staff in view as it can be very quiet and if there with small children you can feel a little vulnerable.</p> <p>More info on facebook about facilities, costs, booking etc</p>
30	<p>Rowley park is a lovely area but needs to be a more community based space with areas for all ages from young to old and accommodate those who have disabilities where every possible to. Teenagers need to have an area to as a lot of the time teenagers are forgot about but also areas for the whole family like the crazy golf need to be maintained</p>
31	<p>Water area for children</p>
32	<p>The playground need to be a priority. The facility are generally fine but the playground at Rowley park is run down, poor and dangerous.</p>
33	<p>The park needs to be a good quality, and not break regularly, as well as being well maintained.</p>
34	<p>I like it quiet and you should encourage more nature in to the park. Wild areas.</p>
35	<p>Different levels of bike ramps</p>
36	<p>The play park area is very important. It has been allowed to deteriorate to a state of disrepair and yet is still well used. It needs to be updated and kept at a good level of upkeep to keep it safe. At the moment it is a disgrace.</p>
37	<p>Thinking about European parks with play areas which instigate imagination and learning opportunities. Role play. There was a great council run park which had elements of this in Newquay.</p>
38	<p>Please consider floodlights to the tennis courts. Many people are interested in playing all year round! Fob keys for residents are extremely important as well!</p>
39	<p>Skatepark/wheelbased sport</p>
40	<p>Stafford desperately needs a better skatepark</p>
41	<p>A skatepark would bring many visitors and opportunities to rowley park.</p>
42	<p>Skatepark</p>
43	<p>The park used to be a lovely place to go now it is run down, toilets are awful, or never open, cafe is never open park is dangerous and doesn't look great. 3G doesn't look like it's been brushed in months. Overall very sad about letting this park get in such a state.</p>
44	<p>Future facilities and amenities must be accessible and safe for all</p>

45	More seats dotted about the park would be great. More protection from the elements.
46	I think the staff have done a brilliant job at trying to improve the park. It will be brilliant to get some upgrades and potentially attract more of the community and show them what a great park it is.
47	The noise in the park for nearby residents is barely tolerable at times, adding more noise generating areas like wheeled sports etc will just make it much worse. The park should be for all users those wanting a quiet walk to enjoy the grounds as well as the sports area for the those wanting activity. Toilets and make everything look nice again as it was a well used place by many people for many activitys now it is just a waste land
48	Toilets and make everything look nice again as it was a well used place by many people for many activitys now it is just a waste land
49	Please don't just put a MUGA in, there are so many more creative things that can be installed that will achieve what a MUGA can. Do more consultation with teenagers around what they want. Don't just assume that they want a skate park/BMX track.
50	Sporting provision and increased usage has to be number 1. Improved play provision for youngsters. Something meaningful for teenagers so they then wont vandalise the kids play area.
51	<p>Thank you for opening up this consultation. Im passionate about seeing Rowley Park become a flagship example of what a modern, inclusive, movement-rich community park can be rooted in play and sport, but layered with nature, accessibility, and lifelong wellbeing.</p> <p>To support this vision, Ive compiled research and examples that I hope will be useful for the design and planning team</p> <p>This paper highlights the top 10 fastest growing sports globally and how Rowley Park could integrate 7 of them increasing usage, engagement, and reputation as a destination park for all:</p> <p>Together, these show whats possible when we move beyond the silos of play, sport, and events and instead focus on layered, shared, inclusive design principles.</p> <p>Id love to collaborate further as the masterplan develops. Lets create something well be proud of for decades and that reflects the kind of health-rich, connected, and movement-positive future we all want for Stafford.</p>
52	In regards to the play park, more shade needs to be provided so play can be accessed all year around. Also, a running track or bike track around the outside of the park so children can use their bikes or scooters and adults could potentially run whilst older children play in the park.

53	As outlined, updating the lowe carpark area and changing facilities would be good to allow for new changing, cafe and indoor sports hall and or running track (multi use area and flooring to allow spikes and other footwear to be used
54	Indoor sports facilities or an indoor athletics track would be amazing!
55	It would be great to have more indoor facilities e.g. indoor gym and indoor sprint track would be great and much appreciated.
56	Indoor track and sports facilities would be brilliant and bring a lot of benefits/income to the park.
57	The toilets and changing rooms need refitting in the clubhouse. Theyre dirty and old.
58	Any change for athletics facilities- indoor gym for strength training for all athletes.
59	Indoor running track and gym with site focus on athletics would be fantastic. Links with local schools would be good and ways to attract more coaches. Relocate football.
60	Please make rowley park track competition compliant so athletics competitions can be hosted there. The football pitch in the middle of the track makes it non compliant and also dangerous to runners as balls constantly come flying over and could hit people on the track
61	The central football pitches prevent running athletics comps at Rowley Bring back the throws to centre of track and can be used as a full size football pitch for football games but need the athletics comps to be bought back here Make a good club house for athletics events A gym or sports hall with indoor highjump or a 60m track You could get PT sessions run on these
62	I think Rowley park would benefit from a indoor athletics facility including a gym. The amount of people using the athletics facility is excellent & the age range seems to vary from children as young as 7 years old up to 70 year olds I have also seen para athletics on the track which in my opinion is a brilliant inclusive sport for all
63	The central pitches and fencing is a bad decision for the future of athletics in the area We could utilise central area for throws and holding athletic meetings which could be regular and bring in good money

64	<p>An indoor athletics track at or near Rowley Park would be a major asset to the local sports community- especially through the winter months when maintaining attendance, motivation, and performance becomes more challenging.</p> <p>Currently, the nearest indoor athletics facility is in Birmingham, approximately 24 miles from Rowley Park. Many athletes are forced to travel there and hire space just to continue training through poor weather- a costly and time-consuming option that limits accessibility for many.</p> <p>Introducing an indoor track locally would not only benefit athletics clubs, but would also attract CrossFit groups, personal trainers, school groups, and wider fitness communities in and around the area.</p> <p>Such a facility would represent a significant revenue opportunity for Freedom Leisure, with high demand for indoor hire across multiple sports and training disciplines year-round.</p> <p>This is more than a convenience- its a real opportunity to grow sport and wellness in the community m while supporting both athletes and the local economy!</p>
65	<p>There needs to be more dog poo bins. The children's play area was excellent but is now run down and not much fun.</p>
66	<p>I enjoy walking or running around the perimeter of the park. In the winter certain areas become water logged and are either not accessible or dangerous under foot.</p> <p>I would like hardstanding to be provided to create a permanent path around the perimeter, with benches at regular intervals. This would allow walkers, runners and wheelchair users to access the park for exercise.</p> <p>Given the focus on sports and athletics I would like to see a calisthenics area of the park, which would promote outdoor exercise. Many other local parks have had poorly planned outdoor gyms which don't get used and fall into disrepair. Rowley Park should be the flagship park in the town and model how outdoor exercise provision should be done.</p>
67	<p>An indoor facility for training would be amazing and would be very welcomed</p>
68	<p>Consider outdoor velodrome as few such facilities exist across the county</p>

69	<p>The central area of athletics tracks stops competitions being held here</p> <p>Would be good if track area was totally fenced off to rest of park and have to go through a building to access the area</p> <p>If the centre of track had the throws areas for athletics</p> <p>A sports hall/gym and athletics clubhouse</p> <p>Increase completions held at venue</p> <p>Charged race nights like Nuneaton or charnwood</p> <p>Hold county comps like stoke</p> <p>Would bring in good money and improve talent in area</p>
70	<p>if the 3G pitches were removed from the middle of the track and the track better maintained it would be possible to host registered athletics events at rowley park</p>
71	<p>*IMPORTANT* really feel the fences/separation between track and 3G pitches are far too low. The ball is constantly coming over when we are running on the track and it causes a lot of arguments.</p> <p>In an ideal world indoor track facilities would be amazing or alternatively 3G pitches moved and throwing facilities back in the middle of the track.</p>
72	<p>Cycling velodrome</p> <p>A velodrome and indoor running track in Stafford would promote year-round fitness, support local athletes, and offer inclusive access to cycling and running in a safe, weatherproof environment. It would also attract events, boost the local economy, and inspire young people to get active.</p>
73	<p>Each improvement will be a good choice as this place really needs renovation and coffee shop will be advantage for that place</p>
74	<p>To have an indoor athletic track / facility with gym would be a fantastic addition to Rowley park sports centre which would surly be very popular.</p>
75	<p>Winter running trail. Track 2/3 laps that would suffice for a park run.</p> <p>Proper netting on football to stop footballs always coming onto track.</p>
76	<p>Since Cannock stadium closed, we have used rowley park for athletics. The facilities have been greatly improved in the past year or so which has been great to see.</p> <p>It would be great to see more investment, such as an indoor athletics track to make these even better to attract a wider talent pool of athletes and to host events during summer to attract future talent, such as sports days this year that have happened</p> <p>The indoor changing areas drainage is often smelly which could be addressed.</p> <p>Overall, its been great to see the improvements and the passion thats gone into it from the rowley park team.</p>

77	<p>The general park is in excellent condition thanks to the efforts of the current team. The key enhancement required immediately is to the kids play park which is tired and broken. This has brought us years of fun but now needs replacing for a new generation of kids assp.</p> <p>Future enhancements like a perimeter track for walking/running/cycling, a covered sports area, a off road mountain bike track and improvements to the casual grass football goals would all contribute to really improving the park.</p> <p>Long term enhancements to build a cafe and bar would be really good to have alongside all the sporting activities.</p>
78	Indoor Athletics Track. Improving the outdoor track to be able to hold athletic competitions!
79	An indoor athletics facility would be amazing. My daughter is part of the athletics club and winters can be very harsh outdoors
80	Higher netting around the 3G pitches, as the ball goes on the track during training sessions. This is dangerous and inconvenient to the athletes.
81	The 3G pitch needs to be separated from the track and to allow full use of the track for events.
82	<p>Athletics facilities and equipment is a priority. As well as changing facilities and toilets. A gym or some sort of indoor space would be brilliant too.</p> <p>Lighting on the top car park would be useful too.</p>
83	Upgrade the running track. An indoor track to complement the outdoor track would be great
84	Improving the sporting facilities including lighting and changing rooms would attract more people. A cafe or food outlet would retain people and if done well, would bring in revenue too.
85	Indoor track and changing rooms

86	<p>1. Improvement in the throwing area and lighting. ie move the football pitches to the existing throwing area and bring the field events back in the running track. Allowing Stafford to host athletic events once again.</p> <p>2. Athletics equipment upgrade.</p> <p>3. Toilet and changing facilities.</p> <p>4. Indoor facility for winter use (which could include some indoor athletics track or futsal area)</p> <p>5. Lighting on the top car park for during the winter and improved car parking provision generally.</p> <p>6. Some sort of gym facility to use.</p> <p>7. Some sort of garden area (perhap sensory)</p> <p>8. Feel unsafe sometimes due to groups of people hanging around.</p>
87	Water station, picnic table with top roof
88	Closer working relationships with Staffordshire Police with regards to anit social behavior and drug use in the park
89	<p>Existing facilities could be further improved. For example, the netting to the football pitch along the home straight wasn't high enough when first installed resulting in too many balls being kicked into the track, striking athletes and meaning footballers have to cross the track to recover balls.</p> <p>It would be great to have some covered benching for the athletes to change and keep bags dry whilst training, possibly in the area from the gates to the timekeepers steps.</p>
90	<p>Higher the fence and indoor track !!!</p> <p>Separate the football pitches from the running track!!! his makes total sense !!!</p>
91	<p>Some great examples here I'd love to see Rowley Park inspired by:</p> <p>https://www.earthscapeplay.com/project/presidio-tunnel-tops-natural-playground-san-francisco-california/</p> <p>https://www.techrampsgroup.com/en/flowparks/street-workout-parkour-park-krakow-bagry</p> <p>https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/family-friendly/best-natural-play-areas-for-kids</p>
92	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority).
93	Athletics
94	I definitely think having an indoor track and gym for the athletes who use the park would be great because it could really improve the status of the park and attract more people.

95	Top priority: (1) Indoor track and (2) indoor gym facilities including sports hall (1 is highest priority)
96	Improved lighting in the winter
97	I think that a good addition for the park would be to add an indoor track and a sports hall with a gym which would improve it for athletes and bring in popularity to the park.
98	Improvements to the athletics area to be able to provide a venue for official/certified athletics events and an indoor track/athletics facility.
99	Improving play for young children; cafe and toilets and racket sports
100	Indoor track and gym