



Derby Park playground refresh survey results

1 July – 22 July 2026

Background

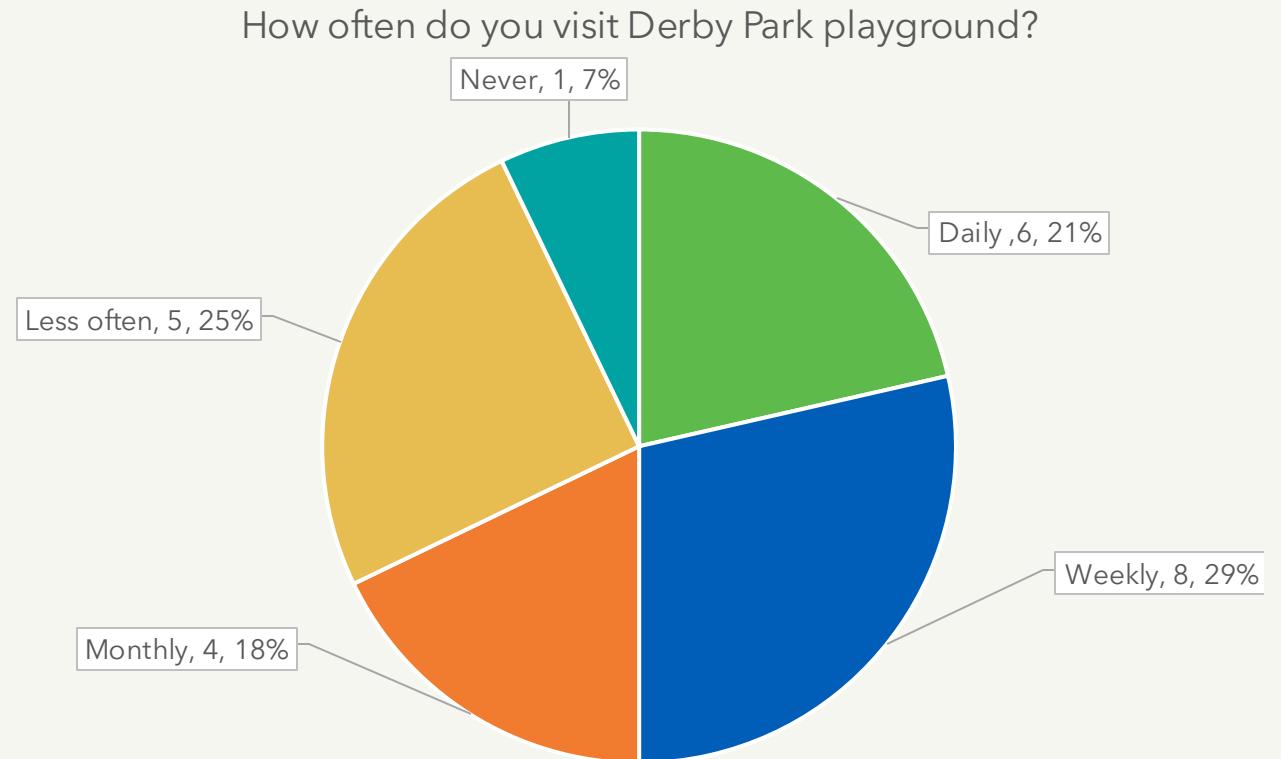
- This refresh is a part of our ongoing playground renewals programme; this programme means we look after the play spaces we have, so they will be in a good condition for the community to enjoy for years to come.
- The aim of this consultation was to hear what the community would like to see at Derby Park playground. We want to make sure their voice is factored into the playground design, within our renewal guidelines.
- We sought out community views via a survey; this was available for all Hamiltonians but included targeted tactics aimed at Derby Park (Nawton) locals.
 - Targeted tactics: letter drops to local residents, geotargeted social media advertising, signage installed at Derby Park, Antenno notice to Nawton residents, information drop-in session held at the park.
 - Widespread tactics: survey hosted on Council website, hardcopies made available in libraries and the reception of the Council Municipal building.
- This survey was live from 1 July to 22 July 2026. We received 33 responses in total (32 individuals and 1 organisation).

Processing feedback

- Any emails or hardcopies were entered into our online survey tool
- Duplicate responses were combined when name and email matched
- Any attachments were manually checked
- Counts and percentages were calculated using Microsoft Excel
- Free text comments are reported in full

Who did we hear from?

- 86% of respondents (n = 25) live nearby to Derby Park
- Half of respondents (n=14) visit Derby Park at least weekly



Background

Census Facts - Nawton

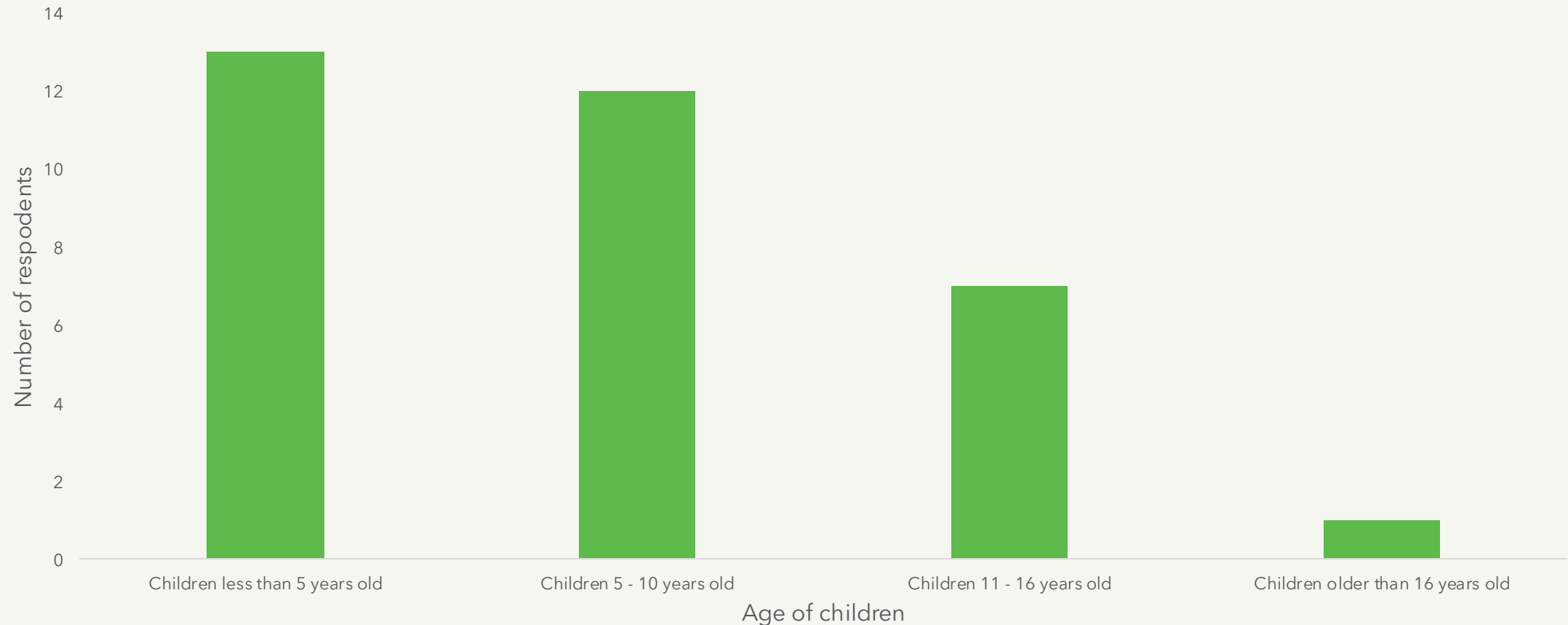
- Derby Park sits in Nawton, a suburb home to 11,391 Hamiltonians – including 2,010 families*
- About half of families have at least one dependent child under the age of 18
- Compared to the rest of Hamilton (7%), there are more children aged 0 – 4 in Nawton (9%).
- There are slightly more children of each age group than the age distribution in the general Hamilton population.

	Total population size	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years
Hamilton City	174,741 (100%)	12,075 (7%)	11,958 (7%)	12,540 (7%)	12,231 (7%)
Nawton	11,391 (100%)	972 (9%)	876 (8%)	870 (8%)	861 (8%)

Who did we hear from?

Age of children

What ages are the children in your household that would use Derby Park playground



Who did we hear from?

Disability

- Three respondents indicated someone in their household who uses a playground has a disability or special needs.
- Their feedback relating to difficulties experienced was:

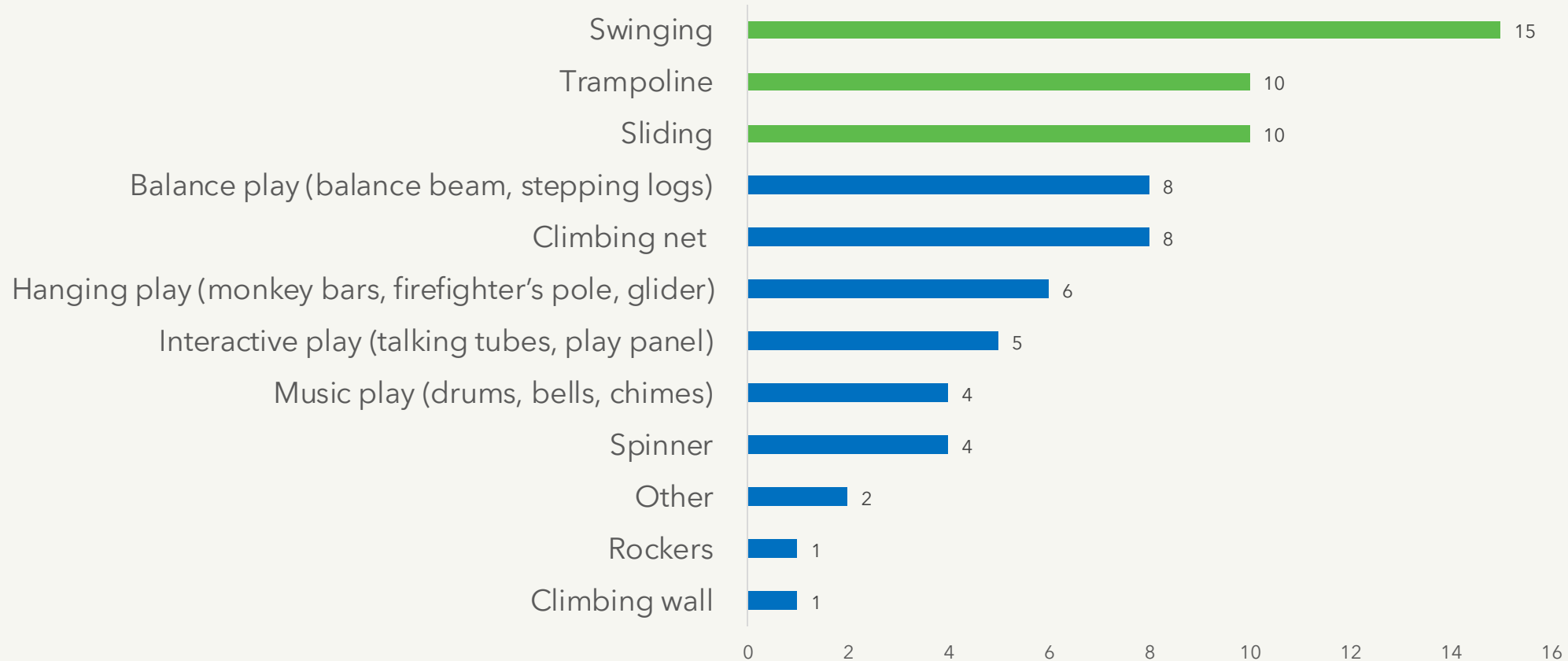
I care for a 3 year old in a wheelchair. It would be fabulous if there was a wheelchair swing for her to use. I also care for a child with ASD who runs. A fenced playground would be amazing!

Generalised low muscle tone/low strength

Unfenced area - child with AuAdhd who runs away. We prefer these smaller play areas than say the dominion destination for local visits as its easier to keep an eye on him or watch for roaming dogs

Preferred play equipment

Which play activities would you most like to see included at Derby Park playground?



*written-in responses to 'other play equipment'

Preferred play equipment

Top three preferences by respondent's child's age



<5 years old

- Swinging (n=7)
- Trampoline (n=6)
- Sliding (n=5)



5 – 10 years old

- Swinging (n=6)
- Climbing net (n=5)
- Sliding, trampoline, balance play (all n=4)



11 – 16 years old

- Swinging (n=4)
- Climbing net (n=3)
- Balance play (n=3)



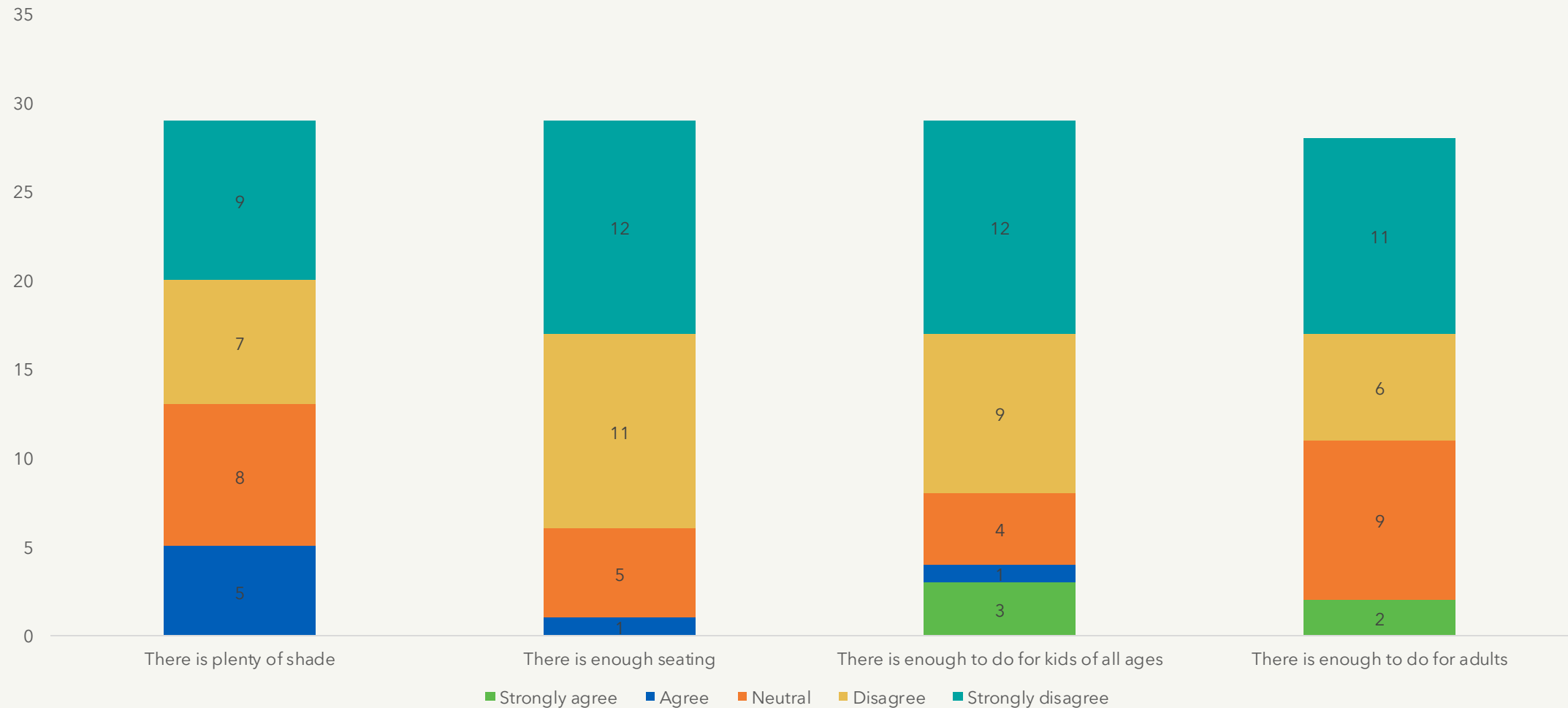
16+ years old

- Swinging (n=1)
- Sliding (n=1)
- Climbing net (n=1)

Note that some families have multiple age groups, so their preferred play equipment is counted in both groups

Views of current park

How much do you agree with the following statements?



Do you have any other comments about the playground renewal?

All comments

Would really like a picnic table
Path connection with skate/scooter elements on the path
Add a bball court to Dominion Park Playground
Little kids more likely to come here as Dominion is nearby and all the big kids go there

My family love going to the playground and having more to do helps my kids have fun and builds their confidence. I would love to see Derby park renewed bigger and better than ever.

I have lived in derby street for 12 years its about time the park had an upgrade. It would be great to see the park have a make over especially some seating as there is none at present. Children use the park often but with little infrastructure in the park children have to somewhat share resources sometimes.

Please ensure good shade and rubbish facilities

Would love to see some toddler friendly stuff!

Our area is not always considered the best part of town, so having a well-maintained playground at Derby Park is important for local families. Even though it is a small neighbourhood playground, it provides a safe place for children to play, be active, and connect with others. I support the renewal and hope it remains a welcoming space for the community to enjoy.

Some adult seating would be nice. More frequent mowing, hopefully with a catcher mower so there isn't ankle deep cuttings anymore.
A bike pathway for scooters and bikes connecting to the other entrance
A basketball hoop or netball hoops.

Perhaps consider a basketball hoop for older children? Additionally, perhaps a scooter pathway to connect cauliflower field green to the Newton link. Or a circle route for scooter/bike play

Feedback from community drop-ins

One-hour information drop-in session hosted at Derby Park playground

Attendees:

Three individuals (all from one family)

Feedback:

- Was told that little kids tend to go to this playgrounds as bigger kids go to nearby Dominion Park
- There is a want in community for basketball court

Feedback from one organisation

Te Kohao Health

"Make the No Vaping signs more prominent and clearly visible throughout Derby Park. Consider also reinforcing the existing No Smoking and No Vaping policy across all Hamilton City Council-owned properties, parks, and the CBD through consistent, highly visible signage.

Enhance the park's cultural identity by incorporating meaningful Māori art and te reo Māori throughout the space. Consider using pūrākau (traditional historical narratives) from Ngāti Māhanga to celebrate the area's history, strengthen cultural connections, and create a more engaging and educational environment for visitors."

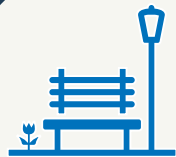
Summary of key findings



Mostly heard from locals with young kids who visit the park at least weekly



Most desired play equipment pieces:
Swinging, trampoline, sliding



Respondents said there is not
enough seating

Engagement

Tactics + results

Engagement tactics



Love to play?

Have your say!

Derby Park playground refresh

Visit hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay by 22 July 2026.



Love to play?

Have your say!

We will soon be refreshing the playgrounds at **Derby Park** in **Nawton** and would love to hear what you want included.

Have your say by 22 July 2026:

- online at hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay
- at your local library or the Council building on Anglesea Street
- at our drop-in session at Derby Park playground on **Saturday 18 July, 8.30am-9.30am**

Or scan me!



07 838 6699
info@hcc.govt.nz
HamiltonCityCouncil
hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay

Hamilton City Council
Te Kaitiaki o Kiriakira

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We will soon be refreshing this playground and would love to hear what you'd want included.



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Love to play?

Have your say!

We are planning to refresh the playgrounds at **Derby Park** in **Nawton**, **Donny Park** in **Chartwell** and **Ashurst Park** in **Pukete**, and want to hear your thoughts!

How do you currently use the playgrounds?
What play equipment would you like to see?
Have your say by 22 July 2026.



Hamilton City Council
Te Kaitiaki o Kiriakira

Engagement results

Reached

Heard about the consultation

- Letter drop to 253 nearby properties
- Signage in park
- Meta advertising targeted to surrounding area
- Antenno message to suburb
- Posters and letters delivered to nearby schools and ECEs
- Posters in libraries

Engaged

Sought more information

- 36,117 impressions and 300 link clicks on Meta ads
- 47 views and 9 link clicks on Antenno message
- 82 views on our consultation page

Heard

- 32 individuals provided feedback
- 1 organisation provided feedback

What's next?

Council will consider this feedback when designing a refreshed playground for Derby Park, within our renewal guidelines.

The final playground design is expected to be confirmed in the first half of 2027, with construction scheduled for the second half of the year.



**Hamilton
City Council**
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa