



# Aden Country Park Playground Project

July 20th  
2014

[Report showing the results of a community consultation which has both helped establish the needs and aspirations of the local Buchan community, as well as identifying ways to fund, develop, improve, and make better use of the children's play provision offered in Aden Country Park.]

**Buchan Development Partnership**  
Neil Shirran – Project Development Worker

## Investing in Ideas Report



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## **1. Executive Summary**

The Aden Country Park Playground Project report has been produced as part of “Investing in Ideas” Big Lottery Funding. Buchan Development Partnership (BDP) are working in partnership with the local authority, Aberdeenshire Council, to establish the needs and aspirations of the local Buchan community, as well as identifying ways to fund, develop, improve, and make better use of the children’s play provision offered in Aden Country Park, in Mintlaw, Aberdeenshire.

The main points covered in this report include:

### **1. Community Consultation**

Community consultation set up to establish what the needs, gaps and aspiration of the community are regarding the playground provision offered at Aden Country Park.

### **2. Questionnaire Analysis**

Analysis of the results of the online and offline questionnaire covering: aspects about the existing children’s play facilities; the importance of accessible play equipment; possible improvements/developments; the type of play facilities respondents would like to see; natural play aspects; respondent demographics; and what age the play provision should be aimed at.

### **3. Options Appraisal**

An option appraisal ensuring that the project objectives are specific and measurable, provide a clear record of how each option has been evaluated, that they can be easily reviewed if new options are identified, and that they enable a simple value for money analysis to be undertaken

### **4. Location Map & Potential Play Sites**

Aden Country Park location map illustrating the location of the existing children’s play area, along with a number of potential new additional play sites.

### **5. Play Equipment Providers**

A review of the a wide range of children’s play equipment manufacturers and suppliers in the UK some of which Aberdeenshire Council has commissioned in the past for other play areas.

### **6. Duthie Park Play Park Model**

Using the results of the community consultation, options appraisal, and the play equipment providers research, a few successful play areas which closely matched the community needs and aspirations were identified. Duthie Park was identified as a good best practice model.

### **7. Russell Play - Design Proposal**

After reviewing the success of the Duthie Park playground model an approach was made to Russell Play, for both a quote and design proposal for the proposed Aden Country Park children’s play area development.

**8. The Next Steps (Action Plan)**

A basic action plan establishing a way forward for the project was developed, including potential partners, and sources of advice.

**9. Funding Opportunities/Income Streams**

Lastly, potential funding opportunities and income streams were identified.

## 2. Introduction

The Aden Country Park Playground Project report has been produced as a result of an “Investing in Ideas” Big Lottery Funding. Buchan Development Partnership (BDP) are working in partnership with the local authority, Aberdeenshire Council, to carry out community consultation to help establish whether the local Buchan community would like to see the children’s play provision offered in Aden Country Park, in Mintlaw, Aberdeenshire improved.

A Project Development Worker, Neil Shirran, was employed through BDP to research, co-ordinate, and consult with the local and wider community to help both identify the needs, gaps and aspirations of the community; and provide clear guidance as to how best to improve and enhance the play provision and play opportunities available at Aden Country Park. The Development Worker followed the six key aims outlined in the grant application, these were to:

- 1) Carry out detailed research into play equipment providers, the various costs, types, and options available to help improve the existing play provision in Aden Country Park.
- 2) Consult with the local community via questionnaires, options appraisal, focus groups, interviews, events & meetings, with regards to the existing playground provision, clearly identifying what the needs, gaps and aspiration of the community are.
- 3) Collate and analyse the results of the community consultation, options appraisal, and general feedback from the community.
- 4) Use the results of community consultation and options appraisal to liaise with playground suppliers and their design services to achieve a fully costed budget plan and visual representation of proposed improvements.
- 5) Develop a playground improvements feasibility study/project plan which includes possible income streams and future funding opportunities for the development of the playground provision in Aden Country Park.
- 6) Feedback the results of the community consultation, feasibility study/project plan, options appraisal, and proposed improvements to the local community.

As a result of the Big Lottery funding support we hope to demonstrate through this report that we have both identify the needs and aspirations of the local community, along with the feasibility and the viability of the Aden Playground Project idea. Ultimately we hope to use the attached findings of this report to help strengthen our ability to attract future funding to deliver the improvements identified by the local community and visitors to Aden Country Park.

### 3. Community Consultation

A fundamental aspect of the Aden Country Park Playground Project involved carrying out a broad consultation with the local and wider Buchan community, user groups, and visitors to Aden Country Park. The main aims were:

- To identify the aspirations of the community regarding the play provision offered in Aden Country Park
- To encourage the local community to become partners in the decision making and development process
- Demonstrate if there was a need for the play provision to be improved
- Gather opinions as to how the play provision in Aden Country Park should be developed and who and what age groups it should be aimed at.

To achieve this, the Development Worker developed an online and offline questionnaire which was both distributed widely locally as well as being used in face to face interviews in the existing play area in Aden Country Park. Local primary and secondary schools, uniform groups (Scouts & Guides), child nurseries, and toddler groups were all contacted and telephone interviews carried out.

Promotion in a variety of mediums was also important to be able to reach a wide range of audiences. Attendance at local forums along with a number of press releases being sent to local newspapers (Press & Journal, Buchan Observer, and the Advertiser Series). Online techniques were also adopted to both provide information and links to the survey on prominent local websites (Aberdeenshire Council, Aden Country Park, Community Planning Partnership, Facebook, Twitter, and the Buchan Development Partnership), help to inform local people about both the project and the potential for them to get involved.

### 4. Questionnaire Analysis

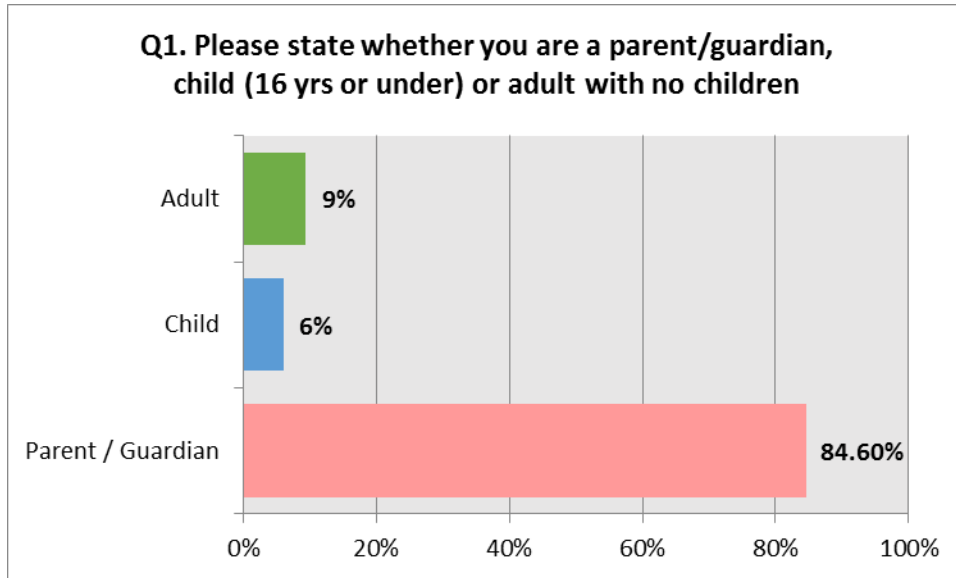
Following the broad based community consultation, a total of 182 respondents predominantly from the local Buchan area completed the online and offline questionnaire. The questionnaire was split up into three main areas, these were:

1. **About You** – demographics about respondents
2. **Existing Facilities** – current use and views on the existing play provision
3. **Possible Developments** – establishing what and how the respondents would like to see the play park provision developed

The results of the questionnaire are as follows:

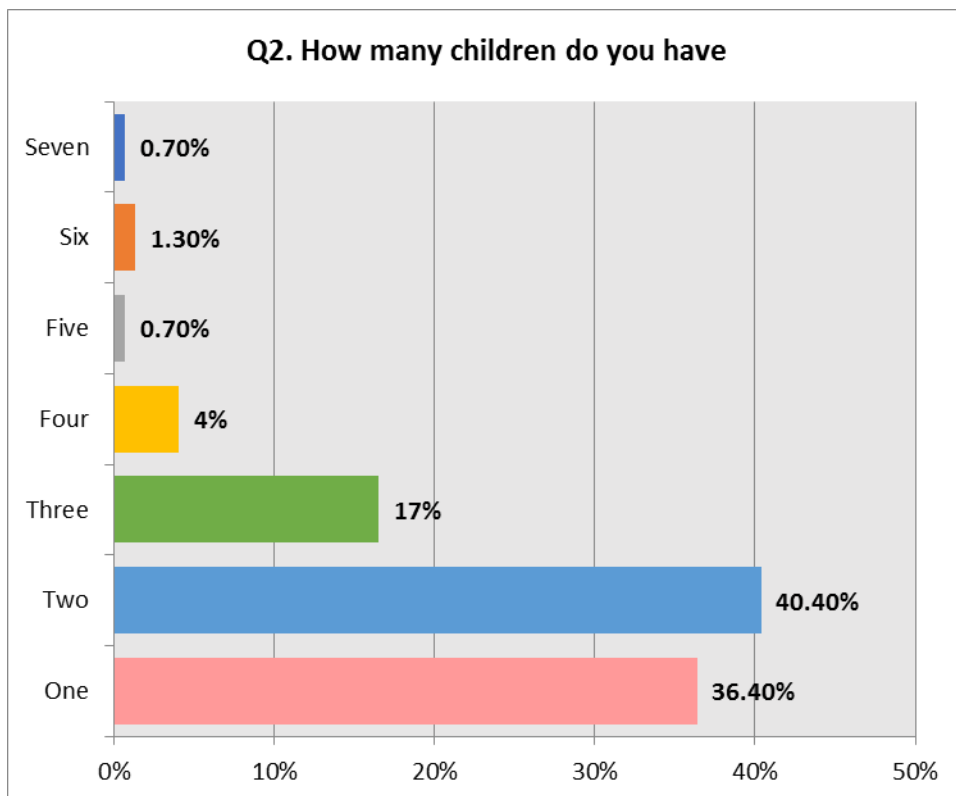
## 4.1. About You

**Q1. Please state whether you are a parent/guardian, child (16 yrs or under) or adult with no children**



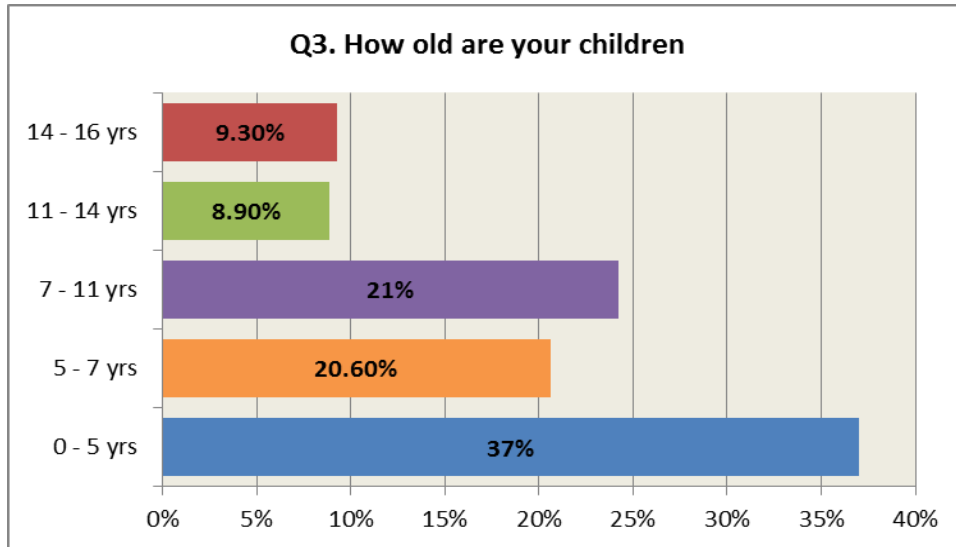
The majority of respondents (84.60%) are parents / guardians with only a small proportion either adults with no children (9%) or children (6%).

**Q2. How many children do you have?**



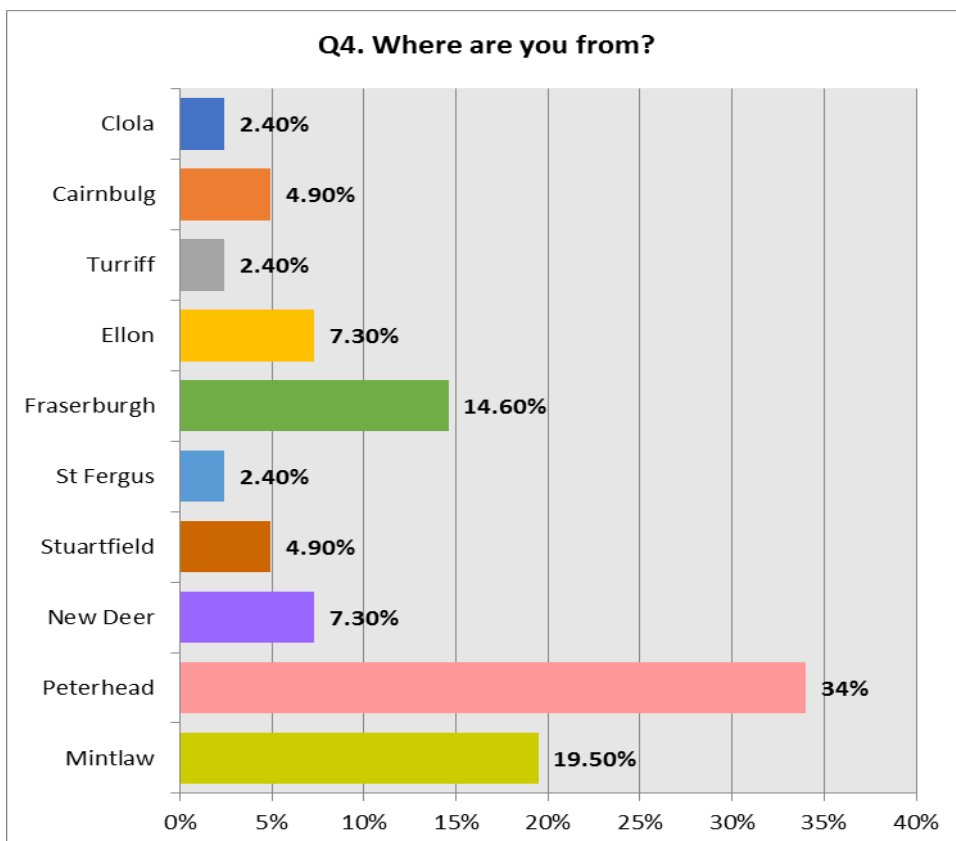
Of the respondents described as parents or guardians the majority had either two (40.40%) or one (36.40%) children, with the remaining respondents (23.2%) having between three and seven children.

**Q3. How old are you or your children?**



Just over a third of respondents (37%) has children under the age of 5 with a fifth of respondents between the ages of 7 and 11 (21%) and between the ages of 5 and 7 (20.60%).

**Q4. Where are you from?**

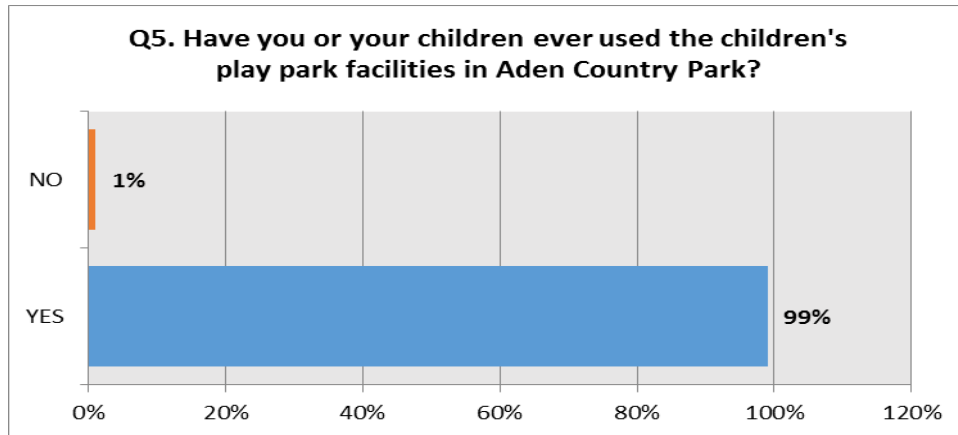




Not surprisingly the majority of respondents are from the local area. Just over a third of respondents are based in Peterhead with a fifth coming from the nearest village to Aden, Mintlaw and a further 14.6% visiting the park from Fraserburgh. Residents from a number of vilages within the local area form the remaining respondents (32%).

## 4.2. Existing Facilities

**Q5. Have you or your children ever used the children’s park facilities in Aden Country Park?**



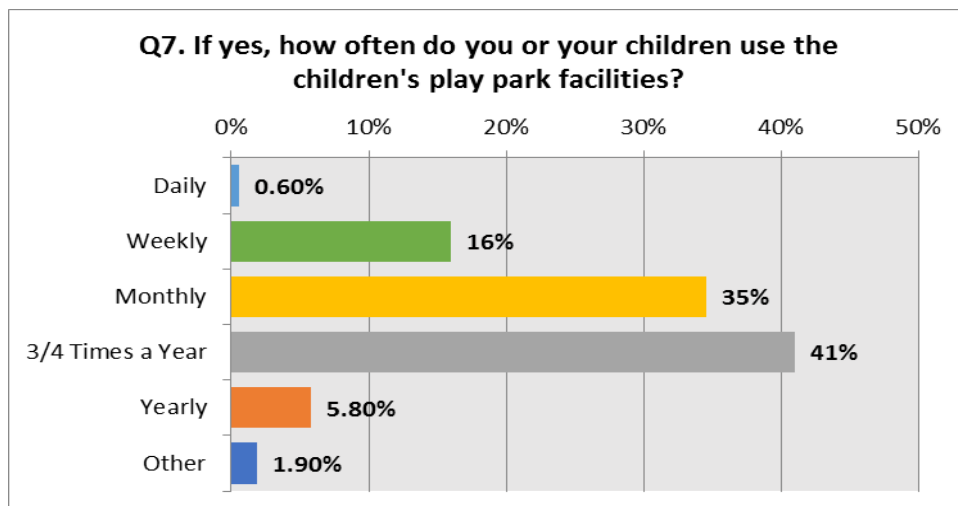
Not surprisingly the overwhelming majority of respondents (99%) given the large proportion of parents or guardians, had used the children’s play park facilities before.

**Q6. If no, can you provide any reasons why you haven't used the children's play park facilities?**

There weren’t many respondents who had not used the children’s play park facilities in the past so when asked if there were any reason why they perhaps hadn’t used the facilities a limited amount of feedback was gained. Respondents however did comment that:

- *Did not know about it*
- *Only thing suitable for 1yr old is the baby swings which were all in use on our visit*
- *Other play parks are better*

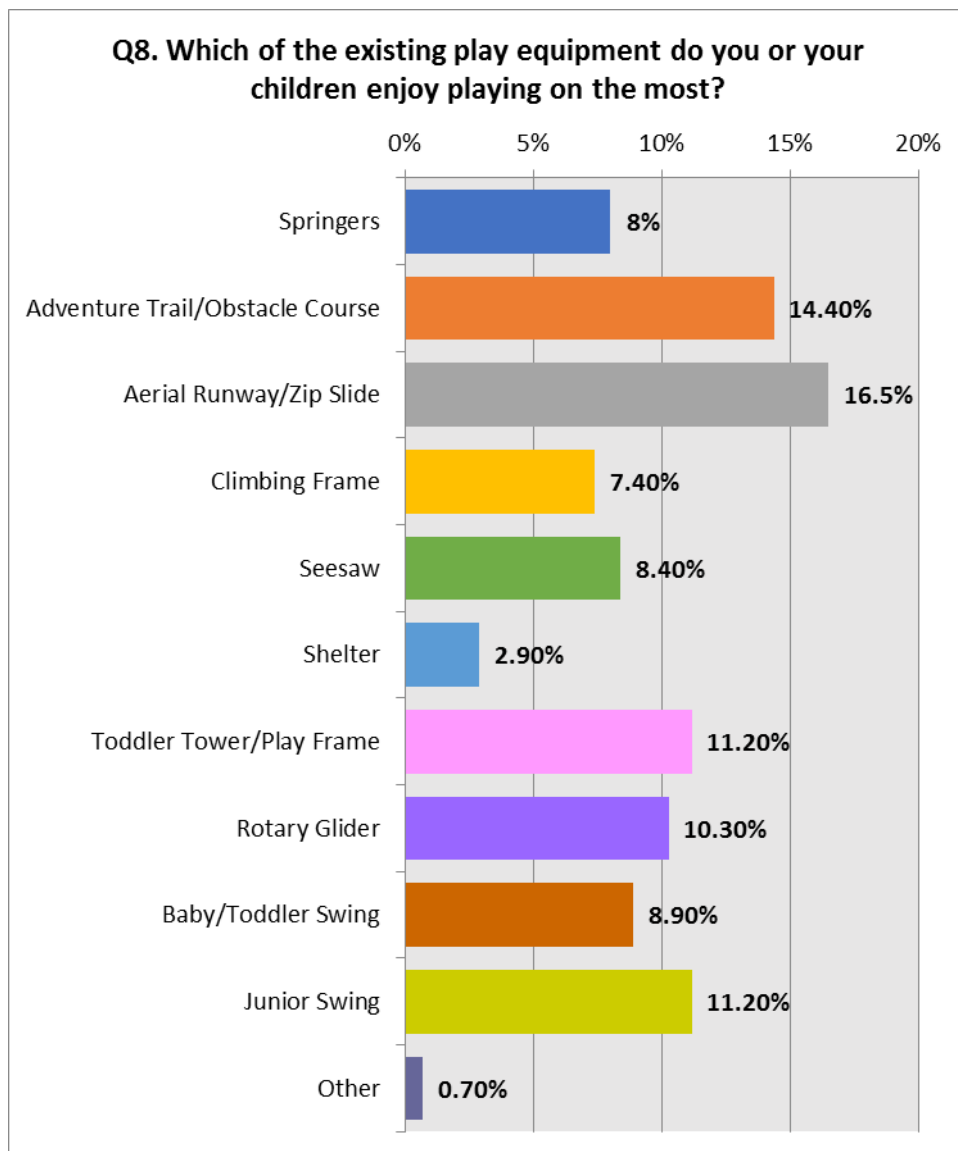
**Q7. If yes, how often do you or your children use the children's play park facilities?**



The majority of respondents (41%) stated that they used the play park facilities 3 or 4 times a year or on a monthly (35%) basis. Fewer respondents used the facilities weekly (16%) with less respondents using the facilities on a yearly (5.8%) or daily basis (0.60%). Comments included:

- *Go more in better weather*
- *Went more often when children were younger*
- *Not very often, normally just go straight to dog walking area. Wouldn't go to Aden for the play park or walking as we prefer Haddo.*
- *Ava goes weekly because she lives next door. We all go when it's sunny.*
- *2 or 3 times per month*
- *We stay at caravan site most weekends so use the play park a lot*
- *Once a week during the summer*

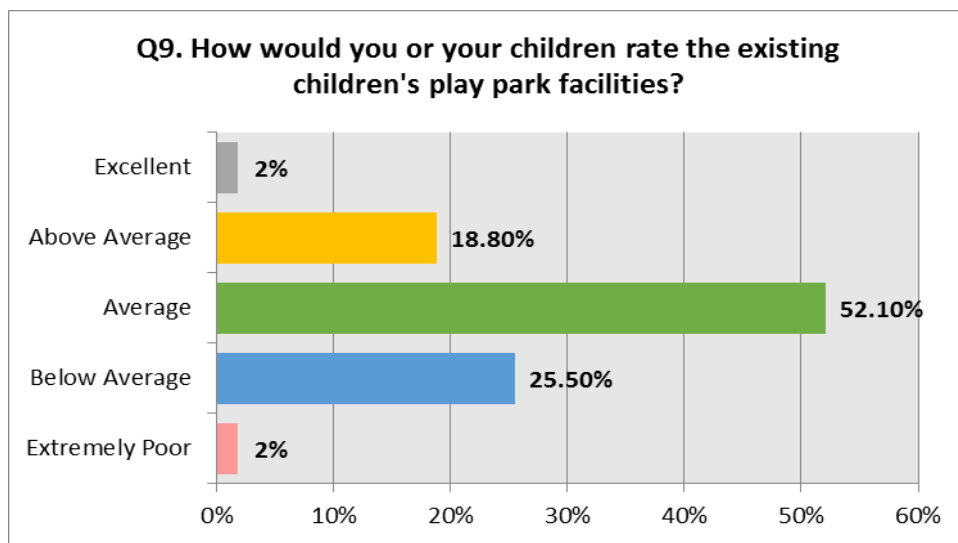
**Q8. Which of the existing play equipment do you or your children enjoy playing on the most?**



The majority of respondents identified that from the existing play facilities the aerial runway or zip slide (16.5%) was the most popular piece of play equipment, closely followed by the adventure trail or obstacle course (14.40%). Other popular play equipment includes the toddler tower or play frame (11.20%), junior swing (11.20%), rotary glider (10.30%), baby or toddler swing (8.90%). The least popular piece of play equipment was the small toddler shelter (2.90%). Other respondent comments included:

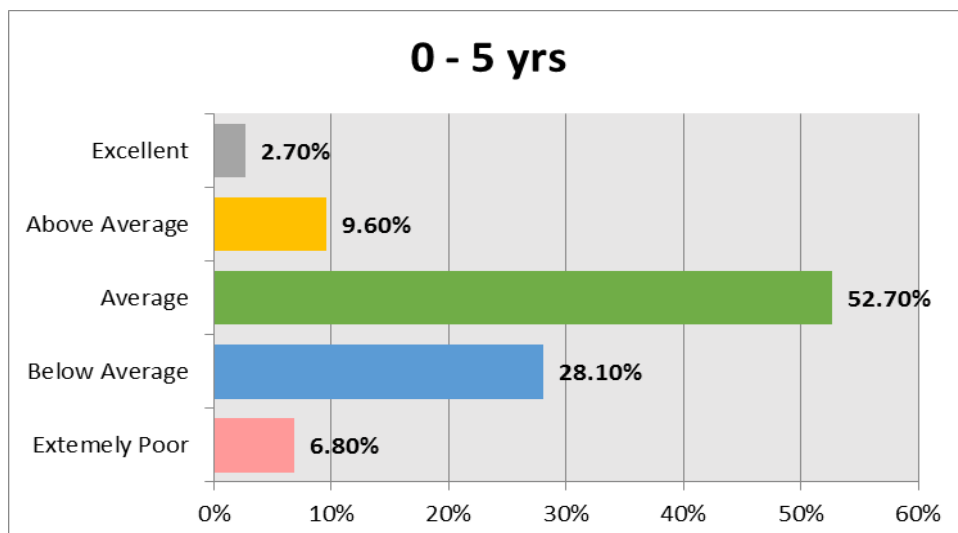
- *Exercise machines*
- *Cannot reach zip slide - too high*
- *Toddler slide would be welcome*

**Q9. How would you or your children rate the existing children's play park facilities?**

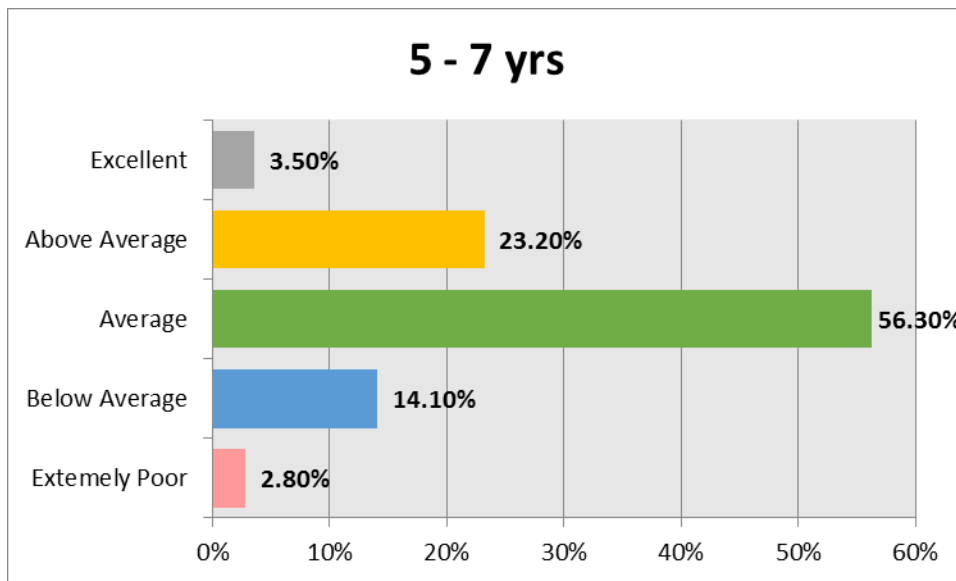


Crucially, the majority of respondents (77.60%) identified that the play park provision in Aden Country Park was average or below average, with only 18.80% of respondents rating the facilities as above average.

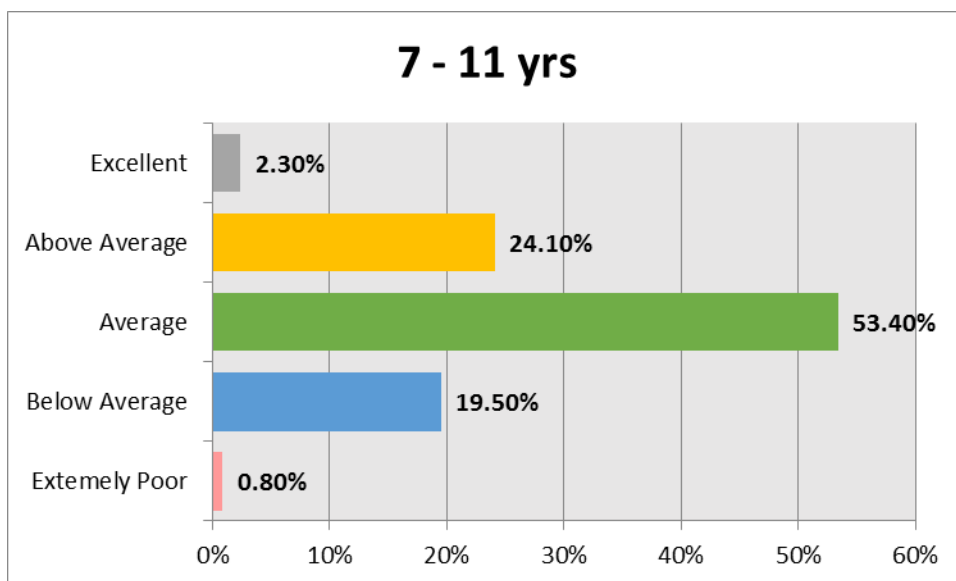
**Q10. How well do you think the existing children's play park caters for the following age groups?**



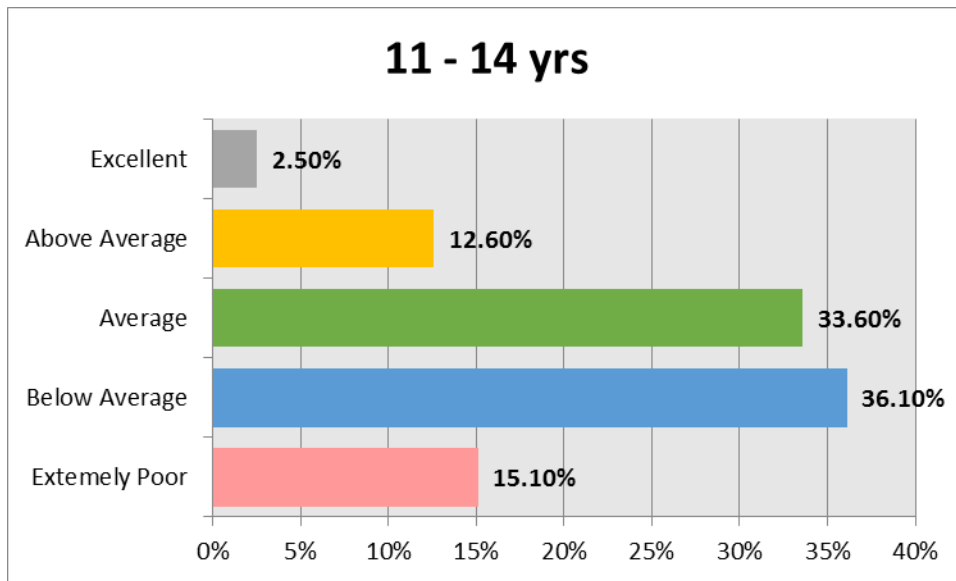
The majority of respondents (52.70%) judged the existing play provision for the 0 – 5yrs age group as average to below average (28.10%), with far fewer rating it above average (9.60%) or excellent (2.70%).



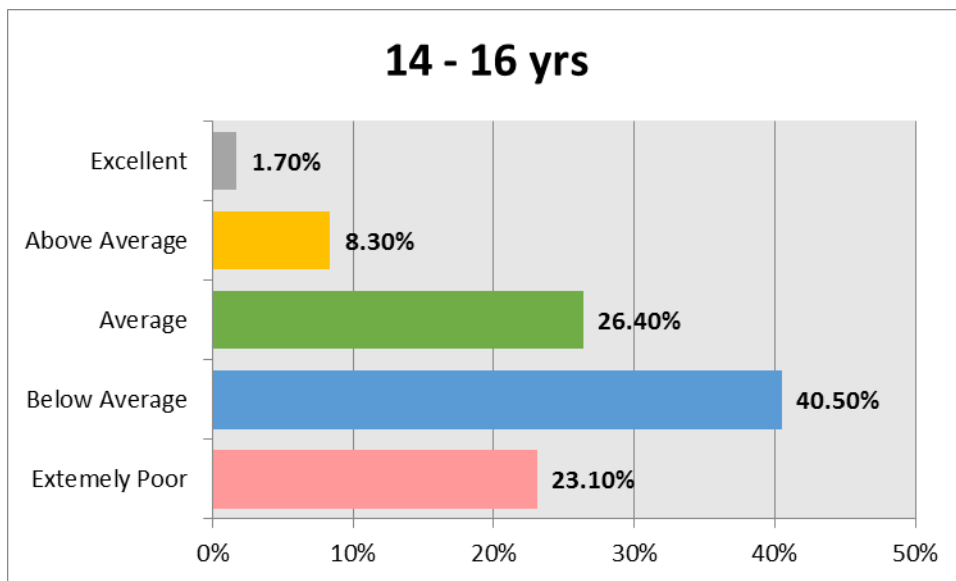
Similarly, the majority of respondents (56.30%) judged the existing play provision for the 5 – 7yrs age group as average. However 23.20% of respondents did judge the provision to be above average for this age group.



With a very similar pattern, the majority of respondents (53.40%) judged the existing play provision for the 7 – 11yrs age group as average. However 24.10% of respondents did judge the provision to be above average for this age group, 19.50% below average, with far fewer rating it excellent (2.30%), or extremely poor (0.80%).

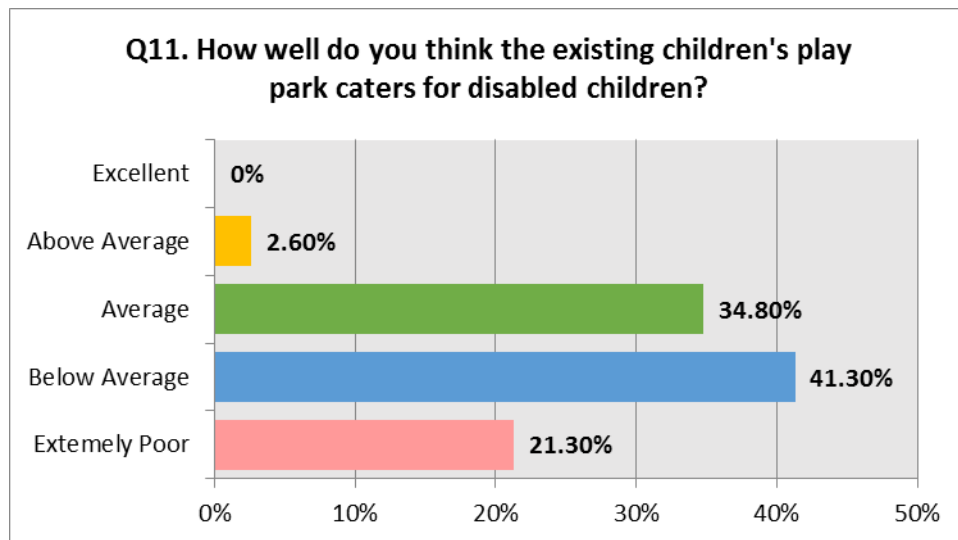


In contrast with the previous age groups, a different pattern emerged with the 11 – 14yrs age group, where the majority of respondents (36.10%) judged the existing play provision for this age group as below average or average (33.60%). Respondents then judged the facilities as extremely poor (15.10%), above average (12.60%), with very rating the facilities for this age group as excellent (2.50%).



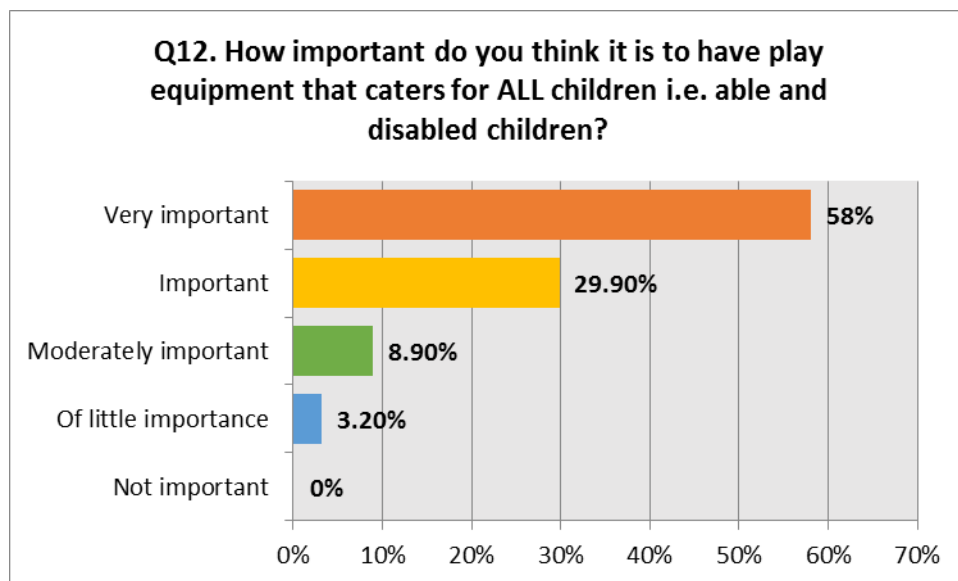
The pattern again changes for the 14 – 16yrs age group, whereby a clear majority of respondents (40.50%) were disappointed with the existing play provision for this age group. Furthermore respondents also rated these facilities as average (26.40%) and extremely poor (23.10), with far less rating the facilities above average (8.30%) and almost nobody rated them as excellent (1.70%).

**Q11. How well do you think the existing children's play park caters for disabled children?**



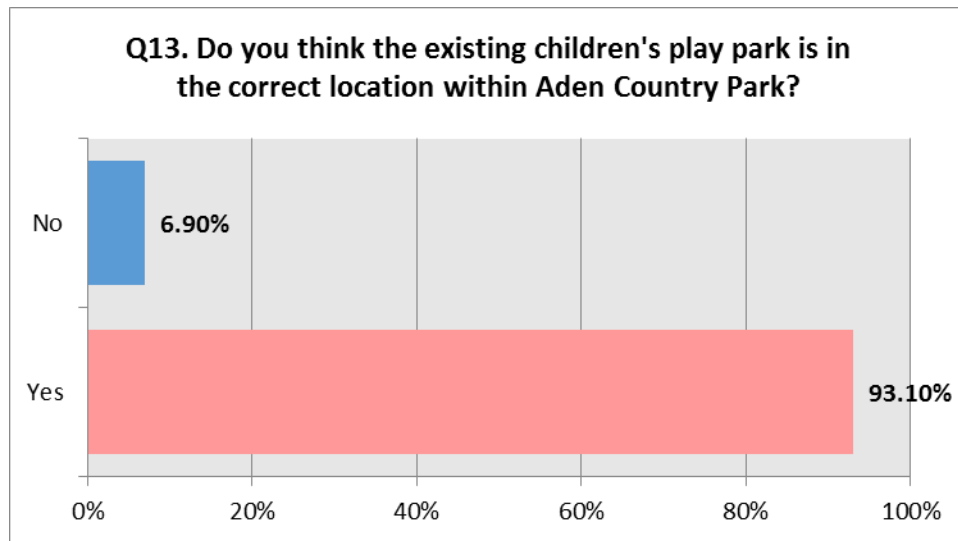
Respondents identified that the existing play provision in Aden did not meet expectations with the majority of respondents rating the facilities as below average (41.30%), average (34.80%), and extremely poor (21.30%).

**Q12. How important do you think it is to have play equipment that caters for ALL children i.e. able and disabled children?**



The majority of respondents recognised that providing play equipment for all abilities as very important (58%), or important (29.90%), with very few respondents stating that this was moderately important (8.90%), of little importance (3.20%) and no respondents believing that this was not important (0%).

**Q13. Do you think the existing children's play park is in the correct location within Aden Country Park?**



An overwhelming majority of respondents (93.10%) stated yes the play provision was in the correct location within the park.

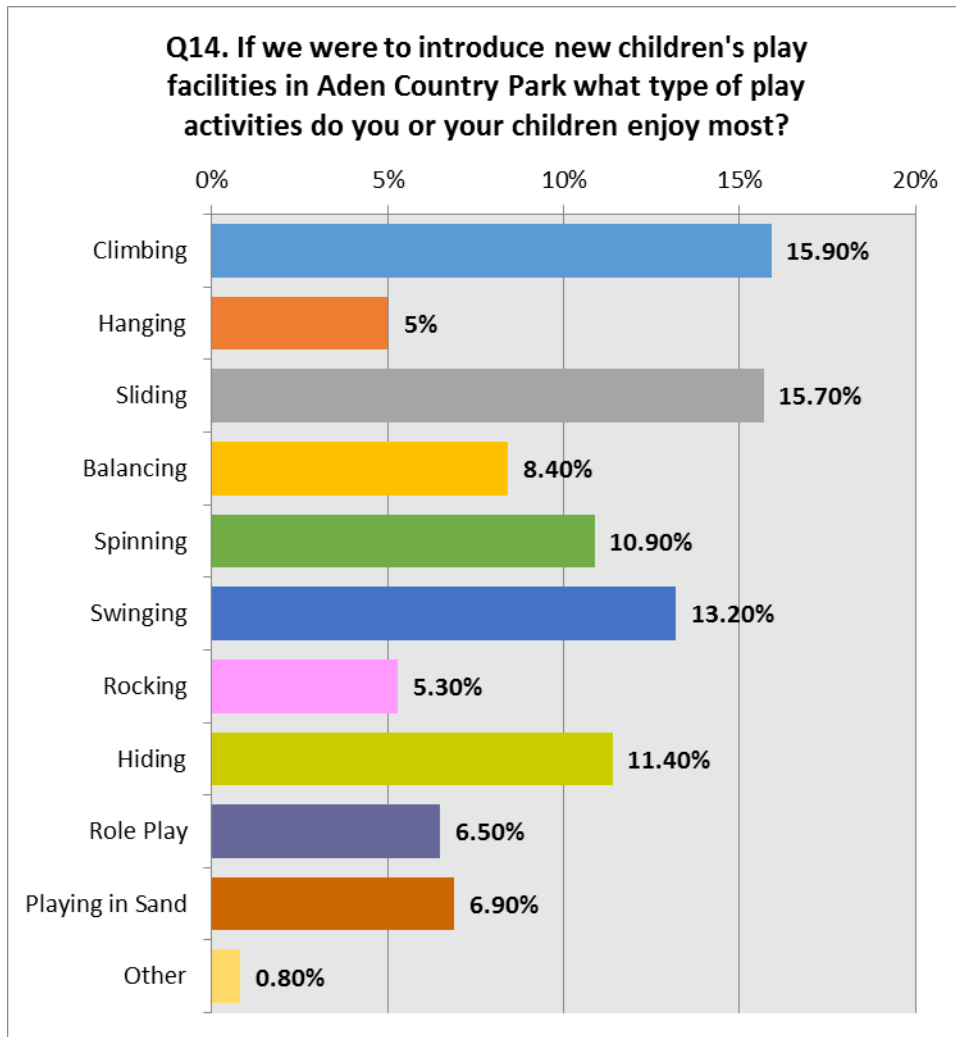
**If no, can you provide suggestions on where the play facilities should be located?**

Respondents were also given the opportunity to suggest an alternative location within the park for the play provision. Comments included:

- *It should be in the opposite field (near dog area, and should be fenced off so that it is safely away from pond/river)*
- *Yes but there is ample space to have more in the area beside Aden house... As like up in huntly castle park area which has two*
- *Too near car park, also dogs keep coming in with no leads on and messing*
- *Behind the house ruin*
- *I think the current location is fine for the main park but to encourage children to walk to different areas of the park you could consider having several locations around the park with smaller play zones and maybe even "hidden" play areas where finding them is half the fun.*
- *In a more sheltered area*
- *Yes it is fine there but could also be nearer the middle of the park nearer the house?*
- *The play park is in the perfect location*
- *Bridle way crossing between park & grassy area maybe not the best situation!*
- *Find it difficult as we have a dog. Could there be tying up area or pen to put the dog in while the children are at the play area We don't take the dog into the play area and if I am just with my youngest child I cannot watch her*

### 4.3. Possible Developments

Q14. If we were to introduce new children's play facilities in Aden Country Park what type of play activities do you or your children enjoy most?



There was a fairly even spread of views across the type of play activities respondents would enjoy most. The majority of respondents did view climbing (15.90%), sliding (15.70%), swinging (13.20%), hiding (11.40%), spinning (10.90%), and balancing (8.40%) as being the type of play facilities respondents would enjoy most.

Other respondent comments included:

- *A big slide*
- *Children's play tower like they have in other play parks*
- *Facilities at Haddo and duthie park are exceptional, these would be good models to follow*
- *Role play area*
- *Trampolines inset in ground*
- *Sports equipment e.g. football posts / net*
- *Climbing frames*



- *Enclosed seating area perhaps with a shelter*
- *Haddos new play area and Duthie parks new play area has lots of climbing and play equipment which helps open up the imagination.*
- *Helter skelter slide*
- *Zip line*
- *Water / Paddling pool*
- *Maze*
- *Driving car or tractor with steering wheel*
- *Adventure play - wild area for imaginative play*

**Q15. Are there any specific types of children's play equipment you like to see either improved or introduced in the play area in Aden Country Park?**

Respondents were then asked if there were any specific types of children's play equipment they would like to see either improved or introduced. Comments included:

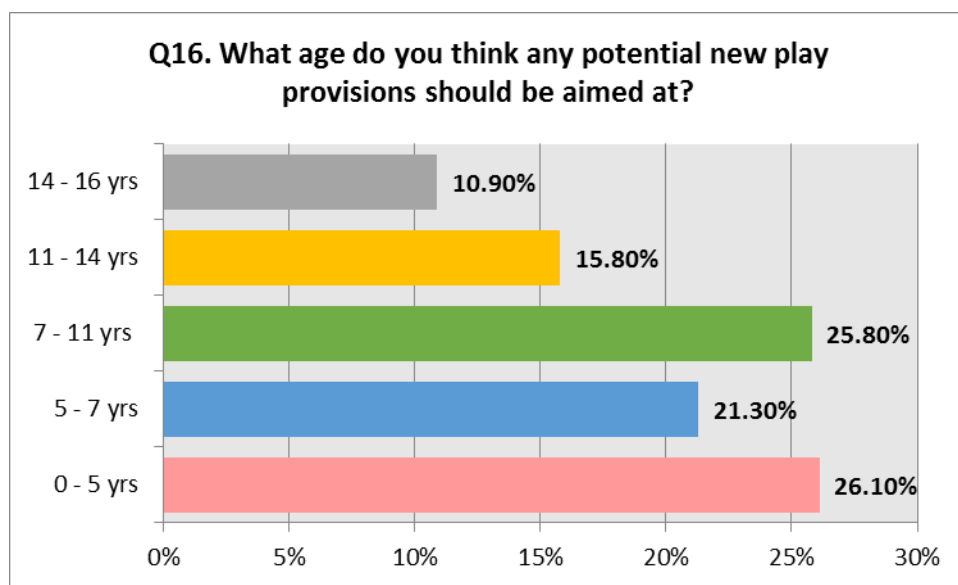
- *Lots of climbing actives for different levels, wooden tea houses with kids furniture like a children bench inside or something.*
- *The wooden obstacle course is very boring and takes up a lot of space in the play area. Definitely time for some new and exciting play.*
- *I would quite like to see big climbing frames made safer by utilizing nets, so children could really test and push boundaries.*
- *Not many swings, no big slide for older children, tyre swings, scramble nets etc*
- *More for under 5s as the park. What's there seem to be for bigger kids, also a fence so no dogs get in the park*
- *The climbing frame had been broken for weeks and I can't let my child play on it. So because of her age she is stuck to the swings only*
- *Larger climbing frame with taller more twisted slide, something with an Aden park theme, like a tree/ forest. Glasgow green play park comes to mind. Make a hidden forest cottage with pretend flowers*
- *The zip slide is the kid's favourite! How about another one to save the queues and one that smaller children can get up on easier?*
- *Net swing (like in Stuartfield), a large pyramid climbing frame (like in Fraserburgh), goal posts, water based activity*
- *Big flat round swing where parent could go on with child*
- *Helter skelter*
- *I cannot leave my son, who is 2, to go on anything on his own. It would be great if there was a smaller climbing frame and slide so that toddlers could manage without assistance e.g. the one beside happy plant or Fraserburgh "granda swings" saltoun place are excellent for the under 5 age range as they can safely play without requiring adult assistance to climb up every step!*
- *I would like to see more equipment for teenagers and disabled children of all ages.*
- *More slides and climbing frames accessible for toddlers and juniors*
- *Zip slide that young children can use by themselves - the current one is very difficult to use without an adult. The style that's at Mintlaw play park is much better. I would also love to see a big climbing frame - the sort that is in Peterhead Lido park and*

*Peterhead park behind Anna Ritchie school, consisting of ropes strung together (potentially with a large slide on it also).*

- *A good big slide*
- *Old tractor for children to climb and role play on.*
- *Race track area*
- *Skate park, webbed climbing frame, more swings, basket swing.*
- *Football "goals" possible through the trees from the play park. These wouldn't even need to be traditional goalposts but could be wooden walls. Wooden tennis "nets". Targets for ball games and Frisbees. Rounders markings. Forrest village similar to Duthie Park but in somewhere else in the park among trees. NOT sand, it gets everywhere and is so messy!*
- *In keeping with the country park setting it would be nice to see natural wooden climbing frames & expand on the existing assault course, spinners would be excellent.*
- *Secure climbing frames with slides etc that they cannot fall from, more equipment in general, more swings etc as they are popular, more made of the lake, more trails.*
- *Maze*
- *Natural play equipment. Tree trunks etc to climb on.*
- *More toddler swings. Slides to cater for other age groups.*
- *Monkey bars*
- *More choice/suitability for very young children ie 18 months. Disability play equipment would open up the facility to all users.*
- *Large scale segmented climbing area - castles, ships as can be found at theme parks. There is nothing else outdoors in the area. Closest might be Aviemore.*
- *Please remove the rotary glider. It's so dangerous. Young children frequently hurt as they don't understand older children will swing out as they rotate.*
- *Wide slide for older children. Methlick Park has a great slide suitable for both my children to go down individually or together. There is 9 years between my kids.*
- *More swings, chutes, climbing things for all ages.*
- *See play park at The Meadows, Edinburgh.*
- *Natural dens - the first place my kids go when arriving at the park are the bushes (on the left when leaving the car park and entering the play park) this could be improved and made part of the facilities. A maze would be well used imo Tyre parks go down well with kids.*
- *Sand diggers*
- *More equipment for disabled children, although my child is able bodied.*
- *A roundabout and a bigger slide would be nice to see in the park. Also a big climbing frame and a maze would be amazing!!!*
- *Something suitable for under 3*
- *Large slide. Spider nests (Haddo House)*
- *More suitable equipment for 10-24month old children*
- *Zip slide could cater for younger children with easier access to get up it - i.e. a ramp*
- *Large slide, large climbing frame*
- *I recently saw a sheep pen maze which might fit in with a farming theme*
- *Obstacle course*
- *There is not enough when it is busy, particularly swings.*
- *Old trees, hidden corners as above*

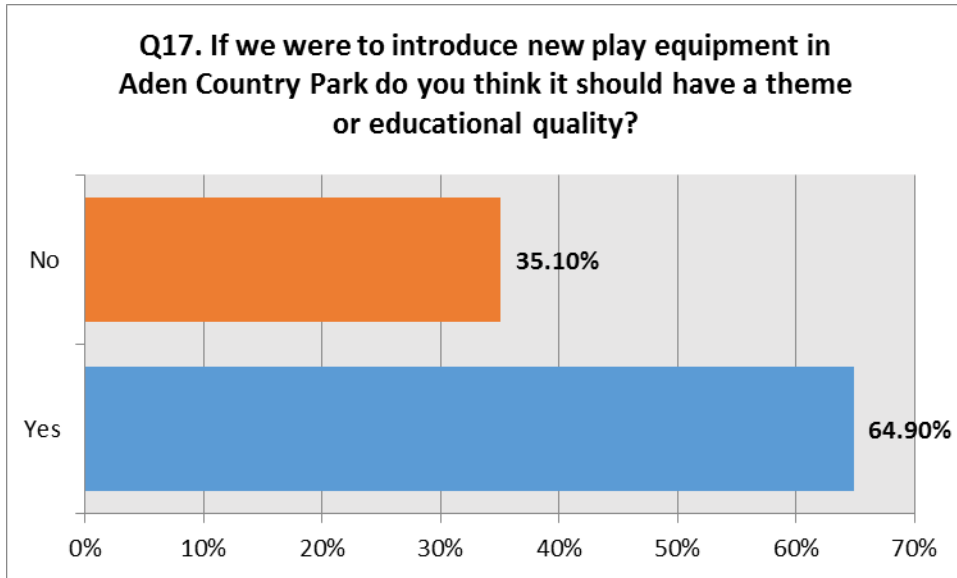
- Larger items so that many children can play together and interact like Hazelhead Park in Aberdeen
- A climbing wall, a bigger kids play frame, tunnels for little ones.
- More for toddlers including baby swings and small slides and climbing frames.
- Climbing wall, willow tunnel,
- More defined separate areas for pre-school and older kids. More adventurous climbing for older kids
- Improve zip slide
- Big bowl like the one in Old Deer Park
- Larger play tower, more toddler swings, adventure play, natural play, role play equipment & perhaps something like the play park in Duthie Park in Aberdeen.

**Q16. What age do you think any potential new play provisions should be aimed at?**



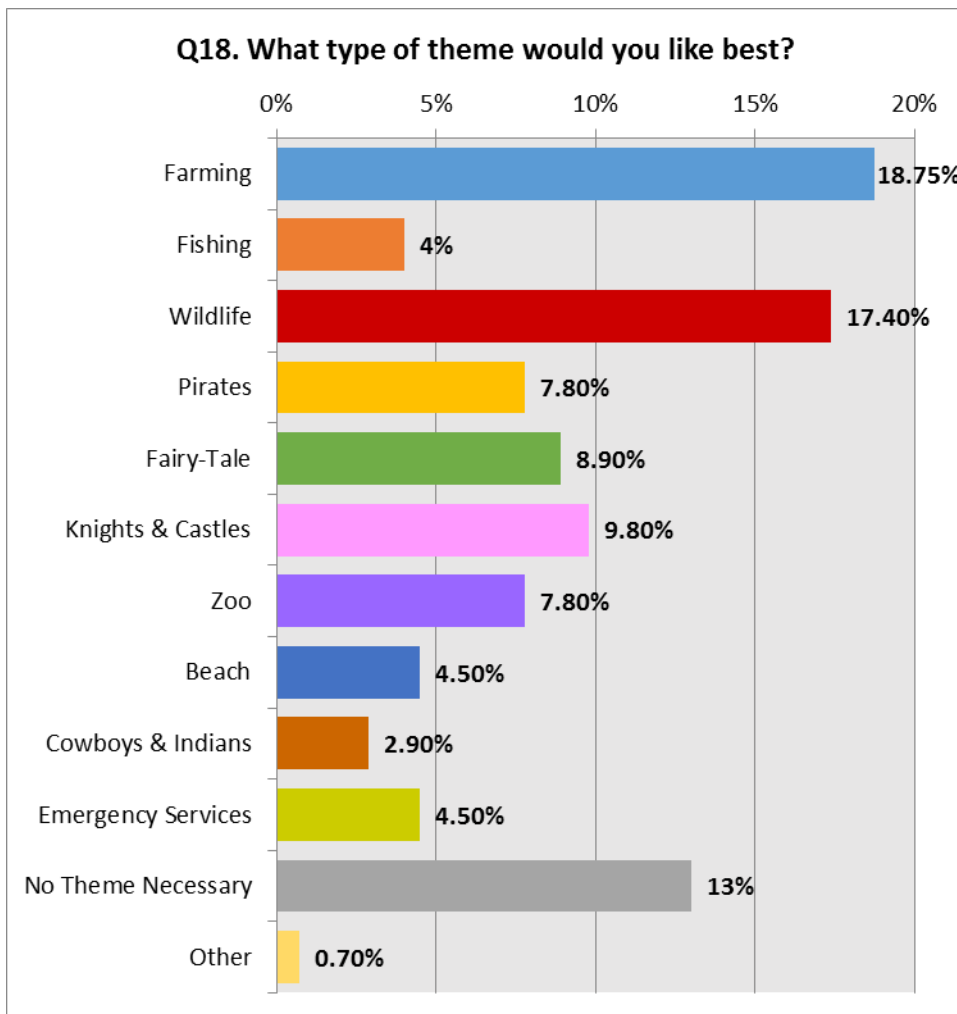
Although fairly evenly spread, respondents did identify that a redeveloped play area should be aimed at the 0 – 5yrs (26.10%) age group, 7 – 11yrs (25.80%) age group and the 5 – 7yrs (21.30%) as being the most popular. Overall it was felt that, if possible, there should be some play provision for each of the age ranges.

**Q17. If we were to introduce new play equipment in Aden Country Park do you think it should have a theme or educational quality?**



The majority of respondents (64.90%) said yes, any new play provision should have a theme or educational quality.

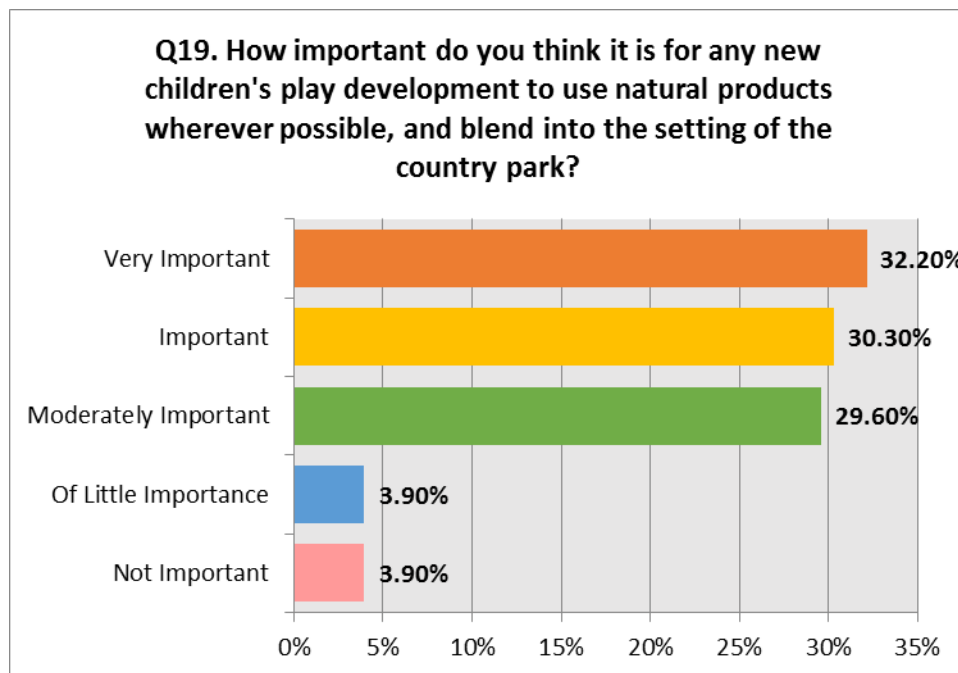
**Q18. What type of theme would you like best?**



The two themes which the respondents identified as being the best were farming (18.75%), tying in with the onsite Aberdeenshire Farming Museum, and wildlife (17.40%), tying in with the theme of a country park. 13% of respondents did not see the need for any theme. Other comments included:

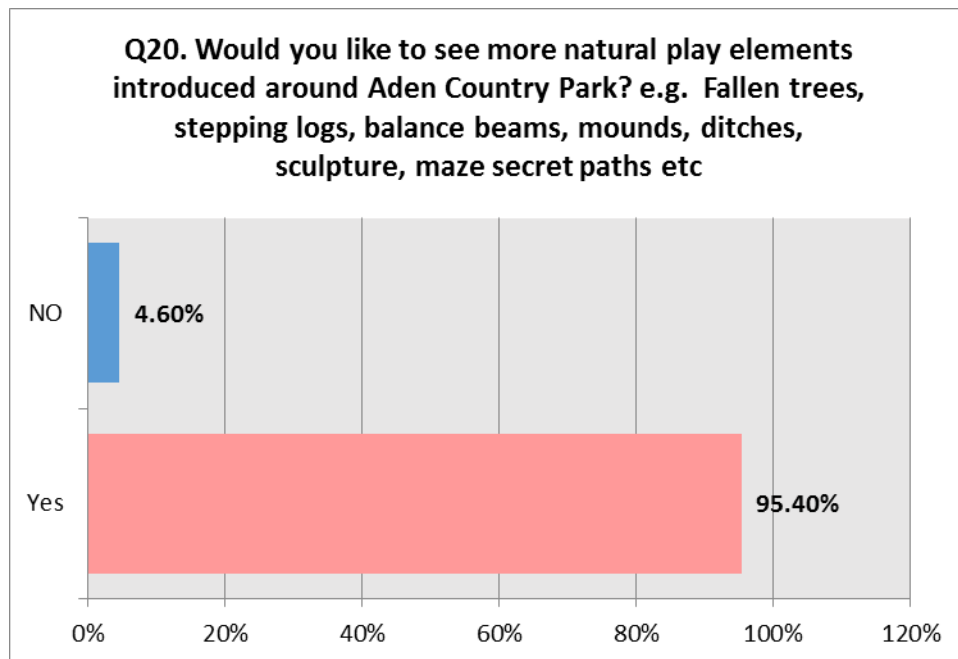
- *Keep it natural & let children use their imagination*
- *Educational e.g. numbers, words/letters/musical/imagination making*
- *Don't really need a theme but if one is adopted it should relate to the park i.e. wildlife, farming etc.*
- *Superheroes*
- *I don't think theme is too important, however I suppose with the castle and treehouse already there a knights and castles theme would be good*
- *World/Countries*
- *Sport zone*
- *Should keep it to do with things you might see in a big park like Aden. Stick to its roots.*
- *Countryside / nature / woodland*
- *Scottish*

**Q19. How important do you think it is for any new children's play development to use natural products wherever possible, and blend into the setting of the country park?**



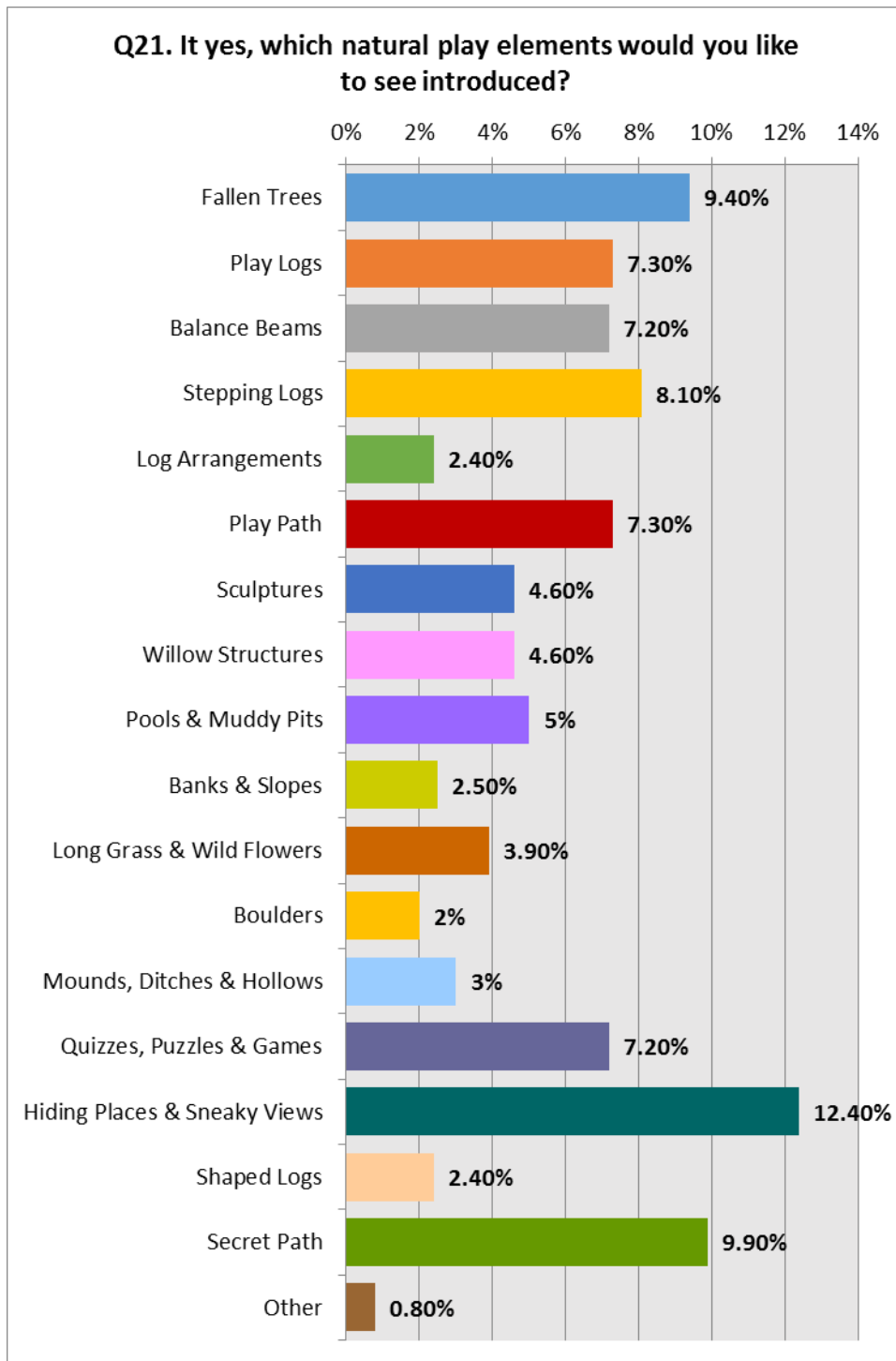
An overwhelming majority (97.10%) viewed the use of natural products, wherever possible, as very important, important, or moderately important.

**Q20. Would you like to see more natural play elements introduced around Aden Country Park? e.g. Fallen trees, stepping logs, balance beams, mounds, ditches, sculpture, maze secret paths etc**



The vast majority of respondents (95.40%) were in favour of the introduction of more natural play elements around Aden Country Park.

**Q21. If yes, which natural play elements would you like to see introduced?**

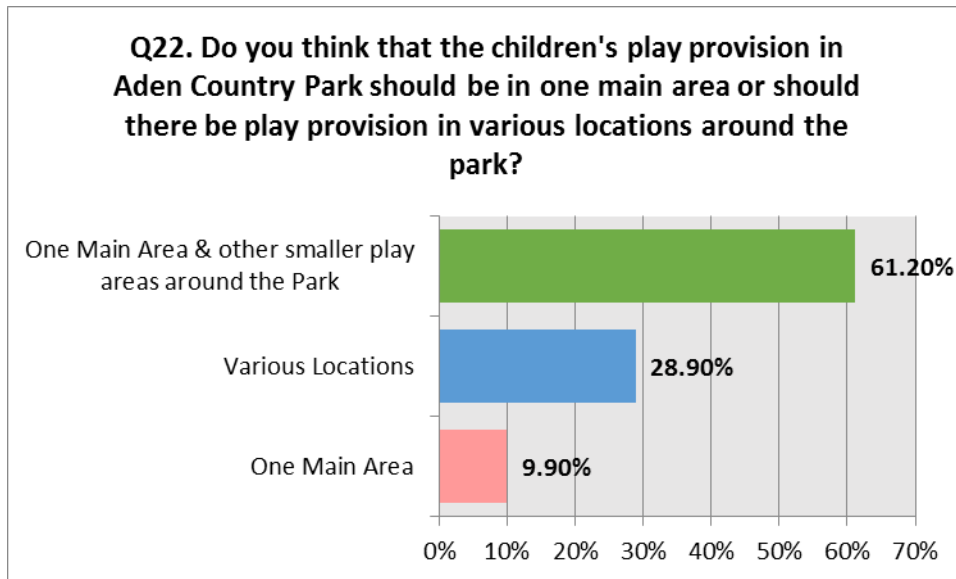


The reaction to this question was fairly well spread, with the majority of respondents being in favour of hiding places and sneaky views (12.40%), secret path (9.90%), and fallen trees (9.40%). Comments included:

- *Maze - one way gate*
- *Animal trail i.e. frogs, toads fox etc around the park*
- *Tree swings*
- *Sensory type things/musical*
- *Can I say yes to all of the options*

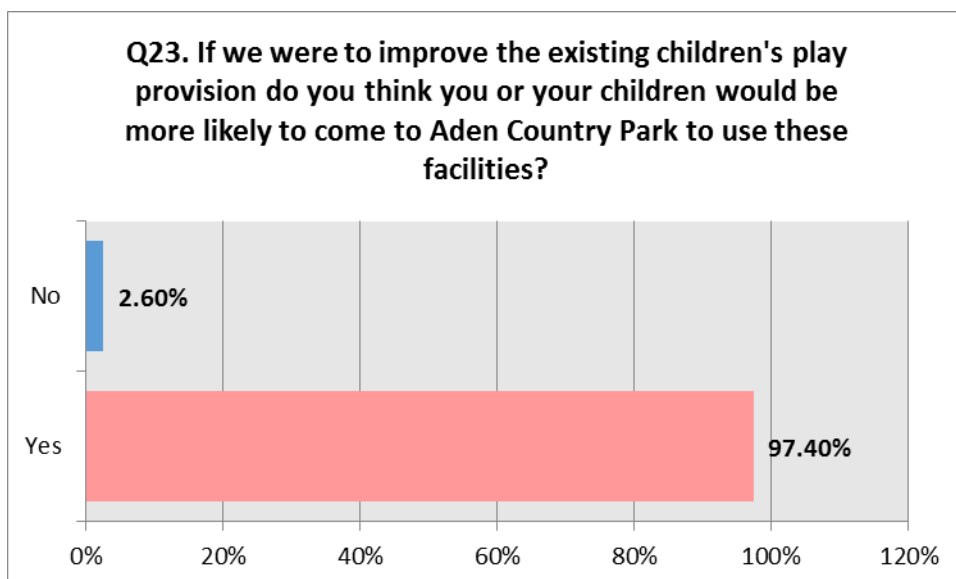
- *My 6 year old son wants a maze. We took him to the Hazelhead Park maze but he was meaning the ones you see in movies where they use bushes to make the paths. As there is no other mazes in Aberdeenshire we can't take him to one.*
- *A kids sculpture trail - Gruffalo, fox, owl, in the deep dark woods would be great*
- *Don't like muddy mucky things, kids get filthy, car gets filthy*
- *Love all of these ideas... these are fantastic!*

**Q22. Do you think that the children's play provision in Aden Country Park should be in one main area or should there be play provision in various locations around the park?**



By a clear majority (61.20%) respondents thought there should be one main play are along with other smaller play areas around Aden Country park.

**Q23. If we were to improve the children's play provision do you think you or your children would be more likely to visit Aden Country Park to use these facilities?**





Importantly, but perhaps not surprisingly the vast majority of respondents (97.40%) stated that they would be more likely to visit Aden Country Park if the existing children's play provision was improved.

**Q24. Do you have any other comments about either the existing children's play area in Aden Country Park or the idea of developing this site which hasn't been covered in the questionnaire?**

Comments included:

- *I think a proper maze should be created. Along with ideas taken from Haddo House and Duthie Park. I also feel that the play park should be fenced off with a gate on it to get in so that it is safe for children near the water.*
- *The wooden obstacle course is very boring. A proper chute or helter smelter. Maybe a few character/animal things resembling Story Book glen.*
- *Needs a lot more for younger kids*
- *Compared to the rest of the Park, the play park is a little disappointing. The children get bored quite quickly in it, or have to wait a long time in summer when busy to get onto swings etc. I love the idea proposed and would really like to see a new play area.*
- *Toy cannons, climbing wall, roundabout, a car, van or tractor that kids could pretend to drive would go down well with my kids.*
- *I'm happy with existing equipment, if more was added I wouldn't want it to take away from the naturalist overall park and spoil the scenery for others, especially as it used by many people without children. I love the separate aspect of the play area, I choose when to let the kids run free and play as it is in a specific area, I love the park for the history views and nature to teach and enjoy with my children.*
- *I love coming to Aden Park, and it's an excellent area for Aberdeenshire! Perhaps more should be developed in the area near the house, as I always see this as a big empty space, could have a small additional play area perhaps or a role play area - wooden playhouses or the likes.*
- *Toilets should be located near to the play park if possible.*
- *The play facilities needs to be checked more regularly for broken equipment and a fence erected around the play area to stop dogs getting in and children running out of the play area.*
- *More picnic benches/seating would be great. The location is great near to the car park so you don't have to carry picnic things far. More baby changing facilities which are easily accessible would be useful & child friendly toilets. A pet's corner would be something which would be enjoyed by my children.*
- *Sunny hot days a few, so any methods of creating wind breakers or overhead shelter would be an advantage*
- *We really enjoy Aden Park and visit in all weathers. So much potential for that amount of space in such a prime area.*
- *Is it possible to leave the toilets open later? We were there 28-4-14 and my son needed toilet, they were already locked at 16:35.*
- *We enjoy our trips to Aden. The only fault if you call it that is the play area isn't very big when it's busy. A few more play areas would be good, perhaps geared at different*

age groups? Although with my 2 having a big age gap may not always be practical but it may save little ones 0-5 age group getting in the way of 7-11 age group. It's difficult pleasing everyone but was nice to get a chance to air our views.

- I feel there's so much space with not enough items for children to play on. I've taken my children on many occasions and left as they end up having to que. So we leave disappointed and go to another well stocked play park.
- We use the play park on a regular basis but do feel that my son finds it a little tired. It is exciting to think new things may be happening, we look forward to it.
- In the local area, Aden is one of the better parks at the moment. More equipment across all age bands would be great but depends on budget. Would rather more equipment than theme, if that effects cost. Play areas through park would be great but not in all areas, as other users have varied reasons for using park & may not appreciate the intrusion in certain areas. Mixed usage. Keep up the good work!
- I have loved using the park over the last 35 years, here are some things I've done. Picnics, rounder's, frisbees, looking for conkers, Winnie the pooh sticks on the bridge, hide n seek in the big house, role play in the tree house, extreme slide, feeding the ducks, duck race in the Ugie, exercise equipment, sensor garden, wild about Aden, BBQ's, stung by wasps, walks.
- Play things kids can compete on, running barrels for eg Twin slides Mat slide Wooden fort for imagination, hiding and climbing
- Paying to park stops us visiting more often especially when other places are free
- Make it bigger! When busy kids can't get on anything, or get bullied by older kids
- The picnic area next to the old house could be done with replacing they are old and rusty looking, and a shop as well of a cafe
- Ground level trampolines and super slide grass sliding karts
- There should be play areas near the old ruin house.
- Big Sand Pit
- More provision for adults in the play area (seating etc)
- Provision of hard pathways leading to disabled seating/picnic areas
- Although the play park is not terrible it clearly needs money spent on it. Standards of play areas have increased and if you want to attract families/kids to the park look at the Duthie Park example
- For older children & adults the outdoor exercise equipment need to be better signposted or preferably moved to a more obvious location
- Would like more suitable things for under 5's
- Big climbing structure would be good
- A large shetler big enough for groups or large families to use
- Better facilities for BBQ's
- Toilet, shops, ice creams tea/coffee nearer play area
- Part of play area to be fence in for younger children
- Delighted to hear that you're planning to improve the play area, it hasn't changed in years. Access to toilets for younger children all year round would be great too
- Food catering and ice cream hut closer to play area
- Needs something for everyone with it being looked after so it benefits all
- It is pretty good as it is. I was quite surprised on our first visit how much there was. We will come regularly now

- *The park is not just about children. Balance areas for dog walkers, adult's teens and children. Try not to lose the positive things we have in the park. It is not all about visitors remember local people who use it day in and day out. Leave theme parks to the Americans.*
- *The zip slide is impossible for children to use without adult assistance*
- *No, but the logs near the mansion house are dangerous. Children roll them and are at risk of being crushed*
- *More fun activities and play stuff should be dotted around the park so that when the café, museum etc are closed there are still lots of fun things to do around the park. A family friendly sculpture trail would also be fab!*

## 5. Options Appraisal

Using the results of the community consultation and the objectives set out in the Investing in Ideas funding application an option appraisal was carried out to:

- Ensure that project objectives are specific and measurable
- Provide a clear record of how each option has been evaluated
- Can be easily reviewed if new options are identified
- Enable a simple value for money analysis to be undertaken

### Project Objectives

- **Increase opportunities to access inclusive play provision**  
Access to good play opportunities that are accessible to all, and that take positive action to remove barriers, promote integration so that disabled children and non-disabled children can participate together in inclusive play. Access to free and enjoyable play spaces is especially important for disabled children and children living with other forms of social or economic disadvantage.
- **Children and young people become healthier and more active**  
Play is crucial to good health and development throughout childhood, contributing to social, physical, intellectual, cultural, emotional and psychological development. The physical activity involved in energetic play provides children and young people with a significant amount of their regular exercise. Research shows that children get more exercise in free play than from most structured activities.
- **A decrease in antisocial behaviour**  
Good play provision offers those seeking it genuine challenge and excitement, it is a diversionary activity, and can help prevent bored children and young people expressing challenging behaviour in ways that are socially unacceptable, such as vandalism and underage drinking.

- **The local community becomes stronger and more resilient**

Play is an important factor in the development of healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities. Play connects families and communities and enhances networks. Outside play and recreation spaces has been shown to have a measurable impact on community interaction, new friendships, community cohesion and community safety. Play provision often acts as a focal point for parents and carers to meet and socialise.

## Options Available

- **Increase opportunities to access inclusive play provision**

- Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing
- Community travels to areas which allow access to inclusive play provision
- Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to provide access to inclusive play facilities
- Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to provide access to inclusive play facilities

- **Children and young people become healthier and more active**

- Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing
- Community travels to play facilities which encourages children and young people become healthier and more active
- Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to encourage children and young people become healthier and more active
- Improve/enhance or create a play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to encourage children and young people become healthier and more active

- **A decrease in antisocial behaviour**

- Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing
- Community travels to play facilities which offer genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity
- Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to offer genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity to the local community.
- Improve/enhance or create a play area, not in Aden Country Park, offering genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity to the local community.

- **The local community becomes stronger and more resilient**

- Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing
- Community travels to areas which allow access to inclusive play provision
- Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to provide the community access to inclusive play facilities
- Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to provide the community access to inclusive play facilities

## Advantages and Disadvantages of Each Option

- **Objective: Increase opportunities to access inclusive play provision**

Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing
<p>Advantages</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No advantages</li> </ol>
<p>Disadvantages</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local community and visitors to Aden Country Park don't get opportunity to access inclusive play facilities</li> <li>2. A lack of integration of disabled and non-disabled children &amp; young people</li> <li>3. Social or economic disadvantaged families don't get an opportunity to access free inclusive facilities</li> <li>4. Local community has to travel to access play facilities – incurring a cost implication</li> <li>5. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park</li> <li>6. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area</li> </ol>

Option - Community travels to areas which allow access to inclusive play provision
<p>Advantages</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local bus company and petrol station profits</li> </ol>
<p>Disadvantages</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cost implication involved in using public or own transport</li> <li>2. Puts a barrier in the way i.e. not every family has access to a form of transport</li> <li>3. Use of transport has an adverse effect on the environment</li> <li>4. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park</li> <li>5. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area</li> </ol>

Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to provide access to inclusive play facilities
<p>Advantages</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local community and visitors to Aden Country Park get an opportunity to access inclusive play facilities</li> <li>2. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children &amp; young people</li> <li>3. Social or economic disadvantaged families have same opportunity to access free inclusive play facilities</li> <li>4. Local community doesn't incur any travel cost implications to access play facilities</li> <li>5. Aberdeenshire Council own land and are happy to work in partnership on the Aden Playground Project so no lease or purchase of land required</li> <li>6. Play area in Aden Country Park in a central location i.e. good transport links</li> <li>7. Access to play area in Aden Country Park is good, toilet and parking facilities onsite</li> <li>8. Access to the additional facilities on offer at Aden Country Park i.e. museum, shop, walks etc</li> </ol>

9. An increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
10. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more visitors to the local area

**Disadvantages**

1. Local bus company and petrol station profits decrease
2. Funding required
3. Planning permissions required

**Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not in Aden Country Park, to provide access to inclusive play facilities**

**Advantages**

1. Local community and visitors to the local area get an opportunity to access inclusive play facilities
2. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
3. Social or economic disadvantaged families have same opportunity to access free inclusive play facilities
4. Local community doesn't incur any travel cost implications to access play facilities
5. Opportunity for other community group to apply for funding and work with local community
6. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more visitors to the local area

**Disadvantages**

1. Funding required
2. Land for alternative play area not identified
3. Dependent on ownership of land, a lease or purchase of land may be required
4. Due to ownership, more funding would be required for either purchase or lease
5. Planning permissions will be required
6. Uncertainty over location of playground i.e. good transport links?
7. Uncertainty over access to playground, toilet and parking facilities onsite?
8. No access to the additional facilities on offer at Aden Country Park i.e. museum, shop, walks etc
9. Uncertainty over who would lead on funding applications to develop facilities
10. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park

- **Objective: Children and young people become healthier and more active**

**Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing**

**Advantages**

1. No advantages

**Disadvantages**

1. Children and young people who are either local or visitors to Aden Country Park

don't get opportunity to become healthier or more active through access to inclusive play facilities

2. Not gaining access to inclusive playground facilities will have a negative effect on children and young people's social, physical, intellectual, cultural, emotional and psychological development.
3. Not gaining access to inclusive playground facilities will also have a negative effect on the amount of regular exercise children and young people can obtain through energetic play.
4. A lack of integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
5. Social or economic disadvantaged families don't get an opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development
6. Local community has to travel to access play facilities – incurring a cost implication
7. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
8. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area

**Option - Community travels to play facilities which encourages children and young people become healthier and more active**

**Advantages**

1. Local bus company and petrol station profits

**Disadvantages**

1. Cost implication involved in using public or own transport
2. Puts a barrier in the way i.e. not every family has access to a form of transport
3. Due to the rural nature of the local area it might not be possible to get access to transport when they require it i.e. parents taking car to work, can't get to bus stop
4. Use of transport has an adverse effect on the environment
5. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
6. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area

**Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to encourage children and young people become healthier and more active**

**Advantages**

1. Children and young people who are either local or visitors to Aden Country Park get an opportunity to become healthier or more active through access to inclusive play facilities
2. Access to inclusive playground facilities will have a positive effect on children and young people's social, physical, intellectual, cultural, emotional and psychological development.
3. Access to inclusive playground facilities will also have a positive effect on the amount of regular exercise children and young people can obtain through energetic play.
4. Play area in Aden Country Park in a central location i.e. good transport links
5. Access to play area in Aden Country Park is good, toilet and parking facilities onsite
6. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
7. Social or economic disadvantaged families have the same opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development

8. Local community doesn't incur travel cost implications for children and young people to become healthier and more active
9. Aberdeenshire Council own land and are happy to work in partnership on the Aden Playground Project so no lease or purchase of land required
10. An increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
11. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more visitors to the local area

#### Disadvantages

1. Local bus company and petrol station profits decrease
2. Funding required
3. Planning permissions required

### **Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to encourage children and young people become healthier and more active**

#### Advantages

1. Children and young people get an opportunity to become healthier or more active through access to inclusive play facilities
2. Access to inclusive playground facilities will have a positive effect on children and young people's social, physical, intellectual, cultural, emotional and psychological development.
3. Access to inclusive playground facilities will also have a positive effect on the amount of regular exercise children and young people can obtain through energetic play.
4. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
5. Social or economic disadvantaged families have the same opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development
6. Local community doesn't incur travel cost implications for children and young people to become healthier and more active
7. Opportunity for other community group to apply for funding and work with local community
8. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more visitors to the local area

#### Disadvantages

1. Funding required
2. Land for alternative play area not identified
3. Dependent on ownership of land, a lease or purchase of land may be required
4. Due to ownership, more funding would be required for either purchase or lease
5. Planning permissions will be required
6. Uncertainty over location of playground i.e. good transport links?
7. Uncertainty over access to playground, toilet and parking facilities onsite?
8. No access to the additional facilities on offer at Aden Country Park i.e. museum, shop, walks etc
9. Uncertainty over who would lead on funding applications to develop facilities
10. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park



- **Objective: A decrease in antisocial behaviour**

**Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing**

Advantages

1. No advantages

Disadvantages

1. Lack of play provision offering challenge, excitement and a diversionary activity could lead to a continuation in the current level of local antisocial behaviour.
2. A lack of integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
3. Social or economic disadvantaged families don't get an opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development
4. Local community has to travel to access play facilities – incurring a cost implication
5. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
6. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area

**Option - Community travels to play facilities which offer genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity**

Advantages

1. Local bus company and petrol station profits

Disadvantages

1. Cost implication involved in using public or own transport
2. Puts a barrier in the way i.e. not every family has access to a form of transport
3. Use of transport has an adverse effect on the environment
4. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
5. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area

**Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to offer genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity to the local community**

Advantages

1. Good playground provision offering challenge, excitement and a diversionary activity can help prevent bored children and young people expressing challenging behaviour in ways that are socially unacceptable, such as vandalism and underage drinking.
2. Play area offers opportunity for children and young people to have fun
3. Play area in Aden Country Park in a central location i.e. good transport links
4. Access to play area in Aden Country Park is good, toilet and parking facilities onsite
5. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
6. Social or economic disadvantaged families have the same opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development
7. Local community doesn't incur travel cost implications for children and young people to become healthier and more active
8. Aberdeenshire Council own land and are happy to work in partnership on the Aden Playground Project so no lease or purchase of land required
9. An increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park

10. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more visitors to the local area

Disadvantages

1. Local bus company and petrol station profits decrease
2. Funding required
3. Planning permissions required

**Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not in Aden Country Park, offering genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity to the local community.**

Advantages

1. Good playground provision offering challenge, excitement and a diversionary activity can help prevent bored children and young people expressing challenging behaviour in ways that are socially unacceptable, such as vandalism and underage drinking.
2. Play area offers opportunity for children and young people to have fun
3. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
4. Social or economic disadvantaged families have the same opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development
5. Local community doesn't incur travel cost implications for children and young people to become healthier and more active
6. Opportunity for other community group to apply for funding and work with local community
7. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more people visit the local area

Disadvantages

1. Funding required
2. Land for alternative play area not identified
3. Dependent on ownership of land, a lease or purchase of land may be required
4. Due to ownership, more funding would be required for either purchase or lease
5. Planning permissions will be required
6. Uncertainty over location of playground i.e. good transport links?
7. Uncertainty over access to playground, toilet and parking facilities onsite?
8. No access to the additional facilities on offer at Aden Country Park i.e. museum, shop, walks etc
9. Uncertainty over who would lead on funding applications to develop facilities
10. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park

- **Objective: The local community becomes stronger and more resilient**

**Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing**

Advantages

1. No advantages

Disadvantages

1. The lack of local inclusive play facilities discourages the development of healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities
2. The lack of local inclusive play facilities discourages parents and carers to meet, socialise and develop networks.
3. The lack of local inclusive play facilities discourages community interaction, new friendships, community cohesion, and community safety.
4. A lack of integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
5. Social or economic disadvantaged families don't get an opportunity to access free inclusive facilities
6. Local community has to travel to access play facilities – incurring a cost implication
7. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
8. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area

#### **Option - Community travels to areas which allow access to inclusive play provision**

##### **Advantages**

1. Local bus company and petrol station profits

##### **Disadvantages**

1. The lack of local inclusive play facilities discourages the development of healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities
2. The lack of local inclusive play facilities discourages parents and carers to meet, socialise and develop networks.
3. The lack of local inclusive play facilities discourages community interaction, new friendships, community cohesion, and community safety.
4. No opportunity to consulting or engaging with the local community throughout the project planning, implementation, and delivery stages, community not given opportunity of taking ownership and pride in the playground facilities.
5. Cost implication involved in using public or own transport
6. Puts a barrier in the way i.e. not every family has access to a form of transport
7. Use of transport has an adverse effect on the environment
8. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
9. No economic benefit for the local area i.e. no additional visitors to the local area

#### **Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to provide the community access to inclusive play facilities**

##### **Advantages**

1. Improving/enhancing of existing play facilities encourages the development of healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities
2. Improving/enhancing of existing play facilities encourages parents and carers to meet, socialise and develop networks.
3. Improving/enhancing of existing play facilities encourages community interaction, new friendships, community cohesion, and community safety.
4. By consulting and engaging with the local community throughout the project planning, implementation, and delivery stages, the community takes ownership and pride in the playground facilities.

5. Play area offers opportunity for children and young people to have fun
6. Play area in Aden Country Park in a central location i.e. good transport links
7. Access to play area in Aden Country Park is good, toilet and parking facilities onsite
8. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
9. Social or economic disadvantaged families have the same opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development
10. Local community doesn't incur travel cost implications for children and young people to become healthier and more active
11. Aberdeenshire Council own land and are happy to work in partnership on the Aden Playground Project so no lease or purchase of land required
12. An increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park
13. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more visitors to the local area

#### Disadvantages

1. Local bus company and petrol station profits decrease
2. Funding required
3. Planning permissions required

### **Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to provide the community access to inclusive play facilities**

#### Advantages

1. Improving/enhancing of existing play facilities encourages the development of healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities
2. Improving/enhancing of existing play facilities encourages parents and carers to meet, socialise and develop networks.
3. Improving/enhancing of existing play facilities encourages community interaction, new friendships, community cohesion, and community safety.
4. By consulting and engaging with the local community throughout the project planning, implementation, and delivery stages, the community takes ownership and pride in the playground facilities.
5. Play area offers opportunity for children and young people to have fun
6. There is an integration of disabled and non-disabled children & young people
7. Social or economic disadvantaged families have the same opportunity to access free inclusive facilities that improve health and development
8. Local community doesn't incur travel cost implications for children and young people to become healthier and more active
9. Economic benefit for the local area i.e. more visitors to the local area

#### Disadvantages

1. Funding required
2. Land for alternative play area not identified
3. Dependent on ownership of land, a lease or purchase of land may be required
4. Due to ownership, more funding would be required for either purchase or lease
5. Planning permissions will be required
6. Uncertainty over location of playground i.e. good transport links?
7. Uncertainty over access to playground, toilet and parking facilities onsite?

8. No access to the additional facilities on offer at Aden Country Park i.e. museum, shop, walks etc
9. Uncertainty over who would lead on funding applications to develop facilities
10. No increase in the amount of visitors to Aden Country Park

## Assessing the Options

It was now important to assess each of the options by giving a series of scores to indicate how well it supports each of the project objectives. The project objectives are weighted enabling a single evaluation score to be produced for each option.

- **Objective: Increase opportunities to access inclusive play provision**

Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing			
Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	0	10	0
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>0</b>

Option - Community travels to areas which allow access to inclusive play provision			
Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	8	10	80
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>80</b>

Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to provide access to inclusive play facilities			
Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	10	10	100
Site Location & Access	10	10	100
Planning considerations	6	4	24
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>362</b>

**Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to provide access to inclusive play facilities**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>138</b>

- **Objective: Children and young people become healthier and more active**

**Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	0	10	0
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>0</b>

**Option - Community travels to play facilities which encourages children and young people become healthier and more active**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	8	10	80
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>80</b>

**Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to encourage children and young people become healthier and more active**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	10	10	100
Site Location & Access	10	10	100
Planning considerations	6	4	24
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>362</b>

**Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to encourage children and young people become healthier and more active**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>138</b>

- **Objective: A decrease in antisocial behaviour**

**Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	0	10	0
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>0</b>

**Option - Community travels to play facilities which offer genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	80	10	80
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>80</b>

**Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to offer genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity to the local community.**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	10	10	100
Site Location & Access	10	10	100
Planning considerations	6	4	24
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>362</b>

**Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to offer genuine challenge and excitement and a form of diversionary activity to the local community.**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>138</b>

- **The local community becomes stronger and more resilient**

**Option - Leave things as they are i.e. do nothing**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	0	10	0
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>0</b>

**Option - Community travels to areas which allow access to inclusive play provision**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	0	5	0
Social/wellbeing benefit	8	10	80
Economic benefit	0	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>80</b>

**Option - Improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to provide the community access to inclusive play facilities**

Factor	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Site ownership	10	10	100
Site Location & Access	10	10	100
Planning considerations	6	4	24
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>362</b>



<b>Option - Improve/enhance or create a new play area locally, not based in Aden Country Park, to provide the community access to inclusive play facilities</b>			
<b>Factor</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Weighted Score</b>
Site ownership	0	10	0
Site Location & Access	0	10	0
Planning considerations	0	4	0
Cost	2	5	10
Social/wellbeing benefit	10	10	100
Economic benefit	7	4	28
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>138</b>

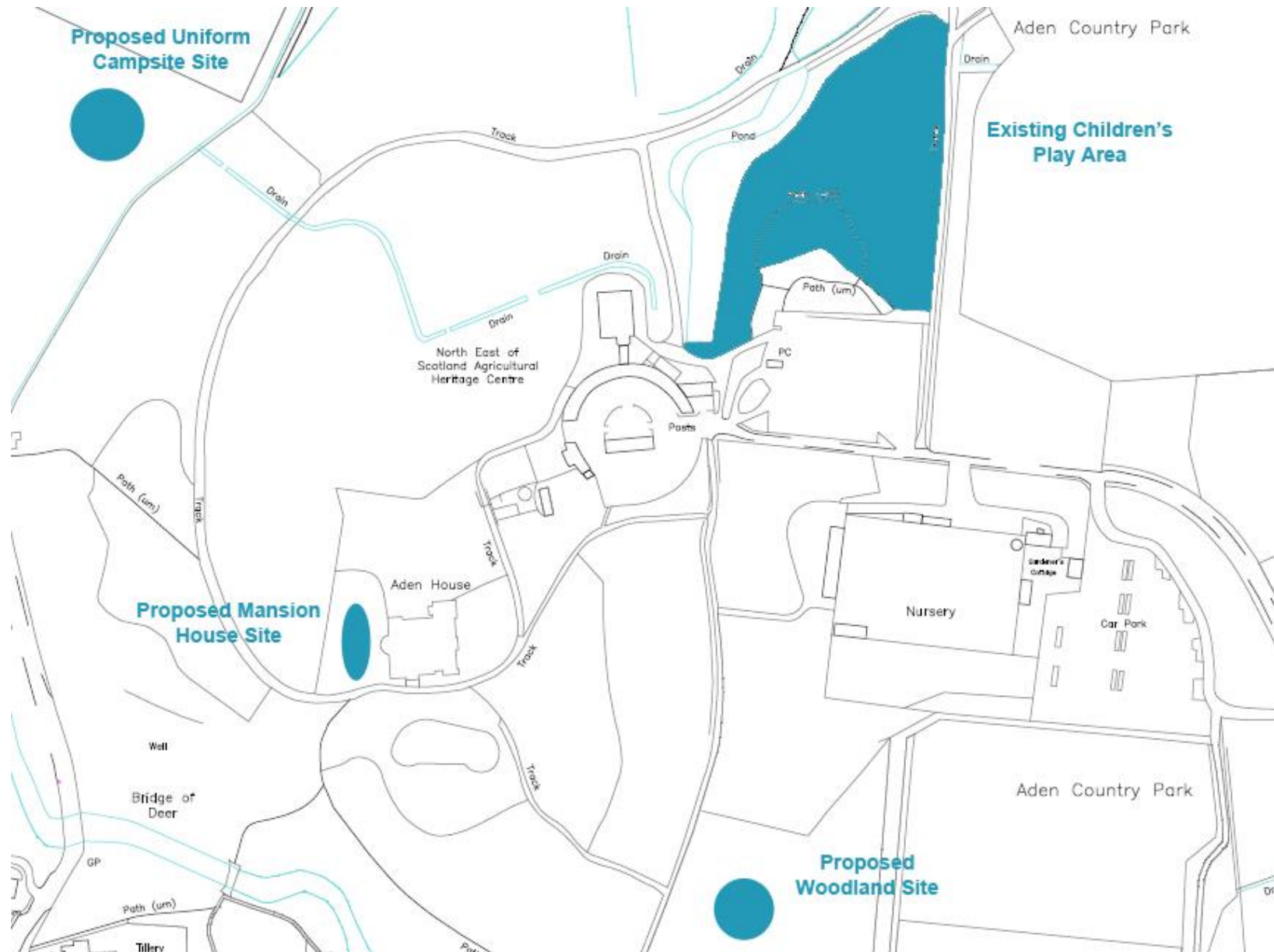
## **The Preferred Option**

Using the various community consultations carried out to establish the advantages and disadvantages of each possible option, in addition the scoring mechanism adopted above, we can clearly see that the preferred option (with a score of 362) for achieving our four main outcomes is to **“improve/enhance the existing play area in Aden Country Park to provide the community access to inclusive play facilities”**.

Following this analysis it is clear to see that to be able to achieve the four identified outcomes there is a need to install a range of inclusive play equipment targeting children and young people of all ages and abilities. With this in mind the project will now research play equipment providers along with reviewing best practice play areas.

## 6. Location Map & Potential Play Sites

The map below illustrates the location of the existing children's play area, along with a number of potential new additional play sites.



## 7. Play Equipment Providers

There are a wide range of children's play equipment manufacturers and suppliers in the UK. The Development Worker carried out research to help establish what companies were available, some of which the local Authority has used in the past for other children's play areas. Listed below are some of the main suppliers:

- **Playdale Playgrounds**  
Playdale have been designing, manufacturing and installing fun, exciting outdoor play equipment for over 35 years. Our playground equipment caters for local authorities, schools, nurseries, communities, architects, pubs and recreation grounds. We pride ourselves on providing an "Experience", not just playground equipment. From initial design through to Aftersales care, we are here to look after you.  
[www.playdale.co.uk](http://www.playdale.co.uk)
- **Jupiter Play**  
As an independent, design led company our goal is to create inspiring play spaces – wherever that may be – in public parks, schools, housing developments or within leisure facilities and attractions. Our focus as award-winning designers is in selecting landscape features and equipment that is right for each individual project.  
[www.jupiterplay.co.uk](http://www.jupiterplay.co.uk)
- **Kompan**  
KOMPAN is the world's No. 1 playground supplier. We develop, produce and market an extensive range of playground equipment that covers all age groups. All our playgrounds are designed from the ground up to improve childhood health and learning. And all our products offer compelling design, high play value, uncompromising safety, unique innovation and long-lasting quality.  
[www.kompan.co.uk](http://www.kompan.co.uk)
- **Russell Play**  
For over 30 years, Russell Play have been supplying Councils, Landscape Architects, Schools and Housing Developers with our extensive range of steel and timber play and sport equipment. We have developed our business to meet the changing needs of the market place, and our professional sales, design and installation team can guide clients through every phase of a children's playground design and Natural Play project.  
[www.russell-play.com](http://www.russell-play.com)
- **Scotplay**  
Scotplay was founded in 1999 and we are now one of Scotland's leading suppliers of Outdoor Play Equipment for Schools and Early Years Establishments. Our aim is to provide play equipment that is fun and exciting while also being education and curriculum based. Education is constantly changing and we provide innovative products that can develop in line with Scottish Curriculum for Excellence, enhancing the health and well-being of your pupils. Our customer base is Schools and Early

Years Establishments, Local Authorities and Active Schools Co-ordinators. We work closely with all of our customers to make sure that we can always provide the best service possible.

[www.scotplay.co.uk](http://www.scotplay.co.uk)

- **Inclusive Play**

At Inclusive Play our vision is to design, develop and manufacture quality products that enable children – no matter what their ability – to play together. We believe in the social model of disability. In other words, disability is a socially created problem and it is up to all of us to make the environmental changes necessary to allow for the full participation of people with disabilities in all areas of social life. With this in mind, we strive to create completely unique products that punctuate, not define a play space, embracing the true meaning of inclusion.

[www.inclusiveplay.com](http://www.inclusiveplay.com)

- **Sutcliffe Play**

Through creativity, innovation and conviction, Sutcliffe Play tries to contribute to the enjoyment and experience of children through play. We design to encourage creativity, leaving as much as possible to childrens' imaginations. Here at Sutcliffe Play, we build in an element of risk, to ensure play spaces are stimulating and challenging. We believe passionately in 'inclusive play', and we do this in an invisible way, allowing all children to discover and extend their own boundaries while playing side-by-side. In addition we believe that there are many other benefits that play brings to children and adults – physical health, learning, development, social cohesion, even regeneration within communities. But above all when designing, we focus on play for play's sake, as that simple, essential part of childhood.

[www.sutcliffeplay.co.uk](http://www.sutcliffeplay.co.uk)

- **Timberplay**

Timberplay's enviable reputation has been built on their ability to deliver outstanding play spaces including natural features, hard and soft landscaping plus equipment manufactured by their partner Richter Spielgerate. Also to diversify from environmentally sound, design led play areas. Timberplay have formed partnerships with like-minded ethos driven brands; sustainable lighting and street furniture from Santa & Cole who have attained cradle to cradle certification on some products, and bespoke wheeled sports park elements, seating stones and organic design from Concrete, as well as robinia multi use games areas from Transalp.

[www.timberplay.com](http://www.timberplay.com)

- **Caledonia Play**

Caledonia Play design, manufacture and install modular and standalone wooden play equipment for the garden, school and playground. We are a family run business with many years experience in the timber industry, the knowledge from which has been applied to creating new designs and structures.

[www.caledoniaplay.com](http://www.caledoniaplay.com)

- **Wicksteed Playscapes**  
 Wicksteed has been designing, manufacturing, installing, landscaping and maintaining playgrounds since 1918 and currently boasts the widest range of outdoor playground equipment in the UK. Wicksteed's expertise also extends to outdoor fitness equipment, multi-use games areas and impact absorbing surfacing, as well as ancillary items such as outdoor furniture and fencing. Catering for all age groups, Wicksteed is the UK's leading play equipment supplier to local authorities, architects, schools, builders, holiday and leisure parks and the community.  
[www.wicksteed.co.uk](http://www.wicksteed.co.uk)
- **Huck Play**  
 Huck Play pride themselves on being able to offer a full Design, Manufacture, Supply & Install service. HUCK's playground equipment is both innovative and fun for ages 0-99! Whether it's a Rope Climbing Tower or a Group Swing, everyone will love the challenge it possess whilst being safe in the knowledge that all equipment and surfacing conforms to BS:EN 1176/7 standards.  
[www.huck-net.co.uk](http://www.huck-net.co.uk)
- **The Great Outdoor Gym Company (TGO)**  
 The Great Outdoor Gym Company (TGO) aims to create a healthier planet through our innovative and ground-breaking outdoor gyms. The Great Outdoor Gym Company (TGO) is a family business manufacturing now 100% in the UK. With over 400 installations under our belt, we are just getting warmed up. We pride ourselves in providing the safest, best quality and most inspiring outdoor gym facilities for all ages and abilities.  
[www.tgogc.com](http://www.tgogc.com)
- **HAGS SMP**  
 At HAGS SMP, we care passionately about the physical and social development of all children, putting their needs and enjoyment foremost when creating play facilities. Over 50 years' experience gained in providing both landscaped and traditional play areas give us a unique ability to work with customers to provide the best solution for them.  
[www.hags-smp.co.uk](http://www.hags-smp.co.uk)
- **Husson International**  
 Husson International is a team of over 100 highly qualified, very responsible professionals, who invent, manufacture and install collective equipment, all over Europe, the Middle East, Asia and America.  
[www.husson.eu/en/](http://www.husson.eu/en/)

## 8. Duthie Park Play Park Model

Using the results of the community consultation as a basis, and the research carried out into the various play equipment suppliers, the Development Worker decided to look more closely at a few successful play areas which closely matched the needs and aspirations identified.

There were a range of play areas which each had elements matching the needs identified through the questionnaire including: Hazelhead Park (Aberdeen); Haddo Country Park (Aberdeenshire); Charleton Fruit Farm (Montrose); Drum Castle (Aberdeenshire); Camperdown Country Park (Dundee); Finlaystone Country Estate (Renfrewshire); and Duthie Park (Aberdeen).

The recently developed children's play area within Duthie Park in Aberdeen seemed to be the closest match to the needs identified through the Aden Play Park community consultation and further research was carried out in regards to this play park model. Duthie Park is a 44 acre site attracting thousands of visitors a year. After successfully applying for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People fund it has recently undergone an extensive restoration project to reinstate ponds, pathways and the iconic mound as well as to build a new playground.

Play equipment providers, Russell Play, were invited to design and build a natural play area that would serve as an attraction and boost visitor numbers. The design had to be in keeping with the surrounding area and make use of all the available space, existing trees and paths. Consideration to DDA requirements was also essential and the range of equipment chosen had to be suitable for all age groups, including adults.





The resulting playground at Duthie Park Play area has recently been awarded the Nancy Ovens Award 2013 in the category 'Best space for play'. The judges were amazed by the design of the play area and the integration in the specific area of the park with its beautiful trees and landscaping.

A press release encapsulating the success of the Duthie playground development stated:

**Duthie Park's new play area has been voted the best in the whole of Scotland.**

Duthie Park's new play park has lifted the Gold Award for Outstanding Contribution to Play, the most prestigious award presented at the Nancy Ovens Awards 2013, together with a bronze plaque for erecting in the play area, organised by the Nancy Ovens Trust.



The play park was funded through the generosity of the late Lorna Doreen Russell who bequeathed £834,000 to the park. She died in April 2009, making the City Council a beneficiary of her estate for the purpose of "extending, improving or otherwise refurbishing that part of the Duthie Park known as the Winter Gardens or providing further facilities at the park".

The £200,000 play park was built using part of her bequest to Duthie Park, which has seen the recent completion of a £5.38 million restoration funded by Aberdeen City Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund.



The bespoke play park, which was officially opened this Easter, was designed by Midlothian and Hampshire-based Russell Play specifically for the site, with the company invited to design and build a natural play area that would be an attraction and boost visitor numbers.

The design brief required the creation of a large bespoke family play space, where children were free to enjoy themselves and do as they wish without adult control or where children of all abilities, parent and carers could, if they choose play together in a safe environment.



The design had to include a number of large 'statement pieces' promoting imaginative play and possessing a strong aesthetic quality, incorporating existing site features and use of natural materials where possible, helping to enhance and preserve the site's mature trees.

Designer Chris Wellwood, of Russell Play, said: "The choice of material and colour are sympathetic to the site and create an

overall space which is popular with the council and members of the public. We targeted some items specifically for the toddler age range, which would help them develop both physically and mentally. The landscape was used to define our layout and the paths created access routes to all the equipment, giving the area a distinctive shape."

Housing and Environment Committee convener Councillor Neil Cooney said: "The new play area is absolutely superb and a worthy winner of this prestigious award. Full credit is due to the Housing and Environment, Design and Development team of officers and the imaginative designers from Russell Play. They have created a play area which is a wonderful added attraction in the park, which is proving hugely popular with children and families."

The Nancy Ovens Play Awards were launched in 2004 to recognise individuals, community groups, local authorities and others who have created top quality outdoor play spaces. Nancy Ovens campaigned for over 40 years to improve play and youth work opportunities for children and young people across Scotland, the UK and internationally.

In making the award, the judges took account of:

- involvement by children and young people in the design and management of the play space;
- a sympathetic response to the existing environment;
- the provision of imaginative play experiences;
- easy accessibility and compliance with disability discrimination legislation.

The Trustees involve children in the final decisions about who should receive the play awards.



Duthie Park is one of the most popular parks in Scotland, with over three-quarters of a million visitors a year. It was bequeathed to the city by Miss Elizabeth Crombie Duthie and was opened in 1883 by Princess Beatrix.

Another more recent press release adds further testament to the success of the recently developed playground area in Duthie Park.

### **Duthie Park adds another prize to its trophy cabinet**

Aberdeen's Duthie Park has added another prize to its trophy cabinet after being named Top Major Park by Playspotter - a website which reviews and rates more than 5,000 play areas across the UK.

Duthie Park. The prize was issued as part of the website's inaugural Playspotter Picks awards which identifies the top 10 places to play in various cities and regions.



Since the completion of its £5million restoration, Duthie Park has collected awards on the local and national stages and seen visitor numbers reach record levels.

In September [2013], the park was honoured with the Gold Award for Outstanding Contribution to Play, the most prestigious award presented at the Nancy Ovens Play Awards, which recognise top quality outdoor play spaces.



Aberdeen Civic Society named Duthie Park Best Overall Project at its annual awards ceremony in October [2013], commending the craftsmanship that went into the restoration project. The Civic Society Awards highlight developments and projects that contribute to Aberdeen's built environment and public amenity.

Duthie Park also received the Jim Murdie Trophy for Permanent Landscaping 2013 from Beautiful Scotland and became the first in Aberdeen to fly the Green Flag – a Keep Scotland Beautiful prize seen as the benchmark for quality green space.

Duthie Park manager Alan Findlay said: "The Playspotter award is further testament to the

efforts of park staff who work tirelessly, come rain or shine, to ensure the park is at its very best for visitors.

"The play areas are popular attractions within the park and we strive to ensure children and parents have access to the highest quality play equipment.

"I would like to congratulate everyone who has helped Duthie Park achieve yet another award and I hope to see many more visitors make use of these fantastic facilities in the coming months."

Aberdeen City Council Housing and Environment Convener Councillor Neil Cooney added: "This is great news. Park staff and the very supportive and proactive Friends of Duthie Park must be commended for the vital role they play in promoting the park to the wider community.

"We are grateful to everyone who has helped us achieve yet another award for Duthie Park and look forward to many more in the future." Duthie Park.

Friends of Duthie Park chairman Tony Dawson said: "The fact the park continues to pick up awards on a regular basis is great testimony to the hard work undertaken and a ringing endorsement to the top quality of the recent restoration work.

"The park has reported record visitor numbers for the opening quarter of 2014 and I have no doubt that is a trend that will continue going forward."

The Playspotter website was created by Gemma Sutherland, from Banchory, and her sister Gayle Veitch, from Aberdeen, with the aim of helping users find play areas close to where they live and read real-time reviews from other users.

Gayle said: "Duthie Park has always proved popular and it is wonderful to see the play facilities being brought up to such a high standard.

"Website users have commented how the park provides facilities for all ages, and the equipment encourages adventurous and imaginative play. Well done to all involved in the development and upkeep of the wonderful Duthie Park."

## **9. Russell Play - Design Proposal**

After reviewing the success of the Duthie Park playground model, coupled with the needs and aspirations identified through the Aden children's play park public consultation exercise, the Development Worker decided to approach the play equipment supplier Russell Play, for both a quote and design proposal for the proposed Aden Country Park children's play area development.

A meeting and site visit was arranged with Aberdeenshire Council Landscape Services officers, the Development Worker, and representatives from Russell Play. Discussion was had focused on the results of the community consultation and a design proposal based upon these results was then produced. The design proposal is as follows:



# Aden Country Park Junior Area





# Aden Country Park





# Aden Country Park Teen Area





# Aden Country Park







# Aden Country Park

Buchan Development Partnership



## 9.1. Russell Play - Quotation

From the analysis of the results of the community consultation it was clear that the community wanted to see any potential development to include climbing, sliding, swinging and hiding activities, to be aimed at a range of age groups including toddlers, junior, and teens, have a theme of farming and wildlife, be inclusive to children of all abilities, use natural products wherever possible, and to be mainly in one area of the park with other smaller play areas around the park.

It was felt that although just a starting point, the resulting Russell Play design proposal and associated quotation met the brief set.

A budget of £300,000 was allocated to the Aden children's play area development. A summary breakdown of the Russell Play quotation is shown below. A full version is shown in Appendix 1 Russell Play – Full Quotation

54000-001-001  
Aden Country Park - Buchan Development Partnership



### **Toddler Equipment: £89,926.89**

Combine Harvester unit with slide  
H30: Robinia balance beam  
H13: Robinia climbing path  
H14: Robinia stepping logs  
P41: Pig springer in hand-carved timber  
P40: Piglet springer in hand-carved and stained timber  
C0-3: Robinia shop playhouse  
A167: Robinia sand-play pulley (in sand)  
N41: Robinia cart slide  
Q29: Little birds nest swing  
Q1-1d: Double swing with 2 cradle seats  
2 x Trampoline  
Sensory walkway  
**Musical instruments:**  
Musical chimes  
Musical tubano drums  
Crawling tunnel  
Mound bridge

### **Junior Equipment: £154,312.72**

T18: Peter Pan multi play unit  
CA-02-0001: Access whirl  
Q1-4: Hexagonal group swing with tyre seats  
R3: Robinia hardwood seesaw  
Fallen trees (supplied by council) for balance beams  
H14: Robinia stepping logs  
I11: Climbing forest; climbing and hanging playground log unit  
Boulders  
Crawling tunnel

### **Teen Equipment: £32,137.56**

SS-02-0001: Surf spinner  
Q2-3: Hammock swing  
Q3-1b: Zip wire with ramp  
71.200.053.50: Single mast climber  
Boulders  
Maze  
**Sculptures:**  
Sheep  
Apple seat  
Mouse  
Rabbit  
Boar  
Chicken  
Corn  
Carrot

**Preliminaries: £4,937.50**

**Discount: -£9,685.33**

**Carriage: £9,000**

**Total: £300,000**



## **10. The Next Steps (Action Plan)**

Now that the community consultation has been completed and a design proposal and quotation has been developed, the next steps to making the proposed regeneration of the Aden playground a reality are as follows:

1. Work in partnership with all Aberdeenshire Council, the Friends of Aden Country Park, and any other interest groups who want to help develop the children's play park proposal.
2. Assign someone to project manage and push the proposal forward
3. Using the funding opportunities section below as a guide, identify which of the funding sources complements the Aden play park proposal, closely coupled with the need and aspirations of the local community and visitors to Aden Country Park.
4. Build up further relationships with the local primary and secondary schools. Further consult with these bodies to ensure that any proposal meets the needs of the community.
5. Involve the local Deer Community Council
6. Work with Aberdeenshire Council Services, the Aden Development Worker & Buchan Development Partnership on writing and submitting one or more funding applications.

## **11. Funding Opportunities**

Every year there are numerous groups or projects similar to the Aden Playground Project seeking funding to develop sites similar to that at Aden, so competition for funding is therefore increasingly tough. It is therefore important to demonstrate that the potential development at Aden Country Park offers good value for money and that the project is well managed.

Along with fundraising locally, the main way to fund a project such as the Aden Playground Project is to look at securing funding from other sources such as charitable trusts, government, the local authority, lottery, and companies. Key factors to keep in mind when applying for funding from these bodies include:

- What exactly are we hoping to improve or introduce on the site?
- Who will it benefit and why?
- When? An initial timetable is useful, even if you need to change it later.
- What will it cost?

Through the results of the community consultation shown in this report it is crucial from a fundraising perspective that any possible children's play area developments are in response to and reflect the needs of the communities in which they are based.

Furthermore that there is substantial research showing that play is crucial to good health and development throughout childhood, contributing to social, physical, intellectual, cultural, emotional and psychological development. The physical activity involved in energetic play provides children and young people with a significant amount of their regular exercise. Indeed, good play opportunities promote good social, mental and emotional

health, giving children and young people the chance to try out and experience a range of emotions in a 'safe' way. In addition it also allows them to learn and develop emotionally by promoting resilience and fostering self-esteem.

Playgrounds by their very name are grounds on which to play. But they are more than that, playgrounds are both areas which provide a focal point for the local community to meet and socialize, but also provide a safe environment designed specifically to foster and enhance the opportunities for a child to play alone, with a parent or career, or with other children. Given the importance of play in the development of a child, any space which gives a child free reign to do just that should be seen a crucial component in a child's life.

With this in mind the Aden Playground Project should match a variety of grant funders outcomes i.e. through encouraging the local community to come together; improve the local play provisions; encourage access and opportunities to inclusive play; help tackle mental health and anti-social issues; along with encouraging the community to become healthier and more active. In addition the majority of visitors to Aden Country Park are either in or from areas of multiple deprivation e.g. Mintlaw, Peterhead, Ellon, Fraserburgh, New Pitsligo etc so this might also help to demonstrate the need and eligibility of the area of the project.

There are variety of different funding opportunities and possible income streams to develop the Aden Playground Project. Some of the main funding bodies likely to fund such a project are listed below:

- **Parks for People**

[www.hlf.org.uk/HowtoApply/programmes/Pages/parksforpeople.aspx](http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowtoApply/programmes/Pages/parksforpeople.aspx)

budget : £250,000 to £5million

Parks for People offers grants for projects that regenerate public parks of national, regional or local heritage value.

The definition of a park for this programme is as follows:  
an existing designed urban or rural green space, the main purpose of which is for informal recreation and enjoyment. It includes parks, gardens, squares, walks and promenades.

**Programme priorities**

For us to consider your park for funding you must show us:

- the community values the park as part of their heritage;
- the parks meets local social, economic and environmental needs; and
- the park management actively involves local people.

Your project must deliver all the following five outcomes:

- increasing the range of audiences;
- conserving and improving the heritage value;
- increasing the range of volunteers involved;

- improving skills and knowledge through learning and training; and
- improving management and maintenance.

### **Application process**

We assess all applications in two rounds. There are two closing dates for applications. You can submit a first-round or second-round application at either date.

- 31 August for a decision in December
- 28 February for a decision in June

We strongly recommend you contact us for advice before making an application.

- **Legacy 2014 Active Places Fund**

[www.sportscotland.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/places/invest/legacy-2014-active-places-fund/legacy-2014-active-places-fund](http://www.sportscotland.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/places/invest/legacy-2014-active-places-fund/legacy-2014-active-places-fund)

In 2014 Scotland will host the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow – the biggest multi-sports event the country has ever hosted. The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring the Games will deliver a positive and lasting legacy for Scotland. We want as many people as possible to benefit.

The Legacy 2014 Active Places Fund supports the Scottish Government’s legacy ambitions to encourage more people to be active and take part in sport. Physical activity can help people become healthier and fitter. The Fund will do this by providing funding for capital projects which create or improve places in local communities where people can go to get active. Grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 are available for a very wide range of community-led projects such as new bike or skate parks, outdoor adventure facilities, walking routes, or new projects within school estates. (For projects that require funding of less than £10,000 please apply to Awards for All.) In total, £10 million is available until 2015.

Projects will need to demonstrate that your project will make a difference in terms of impact on physical activity or sports participation. This might be through creating new facilities, upgrading or improving the accessibility of existing ones, or reducing barriers to activity.

You may be able to make a joint application with other groups in your community. If you have an idea for a project that you need support in developing we would encourage you to contact your local authority.

You can also contact sportscotland’s facilities team by email on [activeplaces@sportscotland.org.uk](mailto:activeplaces@sportscotland.org.uk).

- **LEADER in Rural Aberdeenshire**

[www.aberdeenshireleader.org](http://www.aberdeenshireleader.org)

LEADER is an integral element within the Scotland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 (Due to re-open in 2014) which is a major £1.6 billion programme of support for rural Scotland up to 2013. The SRDP and LEADER are funded by the Scottish Government and the European Commission.

LEADER has been delivered across rural Scotland by Local Action Groups since 2008.

LEADER is an innovative rural development programme which aims to improve the quality of life and economic prosperity in rural communities through locally driven rural development initiatives and projects.

LEADER in Rural Aberdeenshire focuses on two key themes, namely:

- Revitalising Communities
- Progressive Rural Economy.

LEADER funds in approved projects require to be matched by a combination of public and private sector funds. Participants in the programme require to identify match funding which may come from a variety of sources, for example, public agencies and private contributions.

LEADER stands for: Liaisons Entre Actions de Developpement de L'Economie Rurale (Links between actions for the development of the rural community)

- **SITA Trust**

[www.sitatrust.org.uk](http://www.sitatrust.org.uk)

SITA Trust is an ethical funding organisation dedicated to making lasting improvements to the natural environment and community life. The Trust is a not-for-profit company, a registered and accredited environmental body that operates under the Landfill Communities Fund distributing funds contributed by the recycling and resource management company SITA UK.

Since 1997 when SITA Trust began its funding programmes the Trust has supported more than 3500 projects to a combined value of more than £99m.

**Enhancing Communities Programme**

Enhancing Communities is the name of SITA Trust's funding programme for community improvement projects.

We support projects that make physical improvements to community leisure facilities and historic buildings / structures.

Not-for-profit organisations including community groups, parish councils, local authorities and charities can apply.

Full information on eligibility requirements can be found in the application guide for each fund, which can be downloaded from the links on this page.

We can support projects in any of 100 funding zones around qualifying sites owned by our donor, SITA UK.

The Enhancing Communities Programme offers two funds:

### **Core Fund**

Grants of up to £60,000 are available to not-for-profit organisations whose community leisure amenity improvement project has an overall cost of no more than £250,000. Grants are available in 100 funding zones in England, Scotland and Wales.

There are 3 funding rounds each calendar year for the Core Fund.

### **Fast Track Fund**

Our Fast Track Fund provides grants of up to £20,000, available to not-for-profit organisations with a community leisure amenity improvement project that has an overall cost of no more than £40,000.

Applicants will find out whether their application has been successful within 60 days of the application deadline date.

We can support projects in any of 100 funding zones around qualifying sites owned by our donor, SITA UK.

To see if your project site is in one of our funding zones please visit our postcode checker.

There are 6 funding rounds each calendar year

- **Esmée Fairbairn Foundation**

<http://esmeefairbairn.org.uk>

The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation aims to improve the quality of life throughout the UK. We do this by funding the charitable work of organisations with the ideas and ability to achieve positive change. We take pride in supporting work that might otherwise be considered difficult to fund.

The Foundation is one of the largest independent grant-makers in the UK. In 2013 we committed over £38.8 million to a very wide range of work.

We respond to need. As an independent funder, we can take risks on work which breaks new ground, deals with challenging and difficult issues, or needs a more unusual form of financial help such as a loan. We aim to encourage enterprising people and projects and always look to support work which is sustainable and

responsibly planned. We also believe in stewardship - embracing the future while still valuing the past.

The majority of our funding is through the Main Fund. The sectors that we support are:

- Arts
- Education and Learning
- Environment
- Social Change

We sometimes run funding programmes outside the Main Fund focused on specific themes. All programmes running are listed on the sectors and strands page of our website. We currently have a Food Strand and a Merger Fund. We also have a Finance Fund that makes social investments.

- **The Robertson Trust**

[www.therobertsontrust.org.uk](http://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk)

The Robertson Trust is an independent Scottish grant-making Trust which exists to provide financial support to charities. In practice, this enables the Trustees to donate to a wide range of charitable objectives where the work takes place in, or has an impact on, Scotland.

Priority Areas

The Trust has four priority areas which are:

**Health**

This category includes activities which promote health, as well as those which seek to prevent or treat sickness and disease. Examples include projects which work with children who are at risk of misusing drugs or alcohol or are affected by parental substance misuse, and with people recovering from addictions to assist them to rebuild their lives.

**Care**

This category is broadly defined. Examples include palliative care, care for older people, people with disabilities, people with mental health issues, people who are homeless and offenders and their families. Support is given to charities working at both local and national level. The category includes sports and arts projects which have a specifically therapeutic purpose.

**Education & Training**

This category includes support for community-based education activities, capital projects at Universities and F.E. Colleges and provision for people with special educational needs. The Trust is particularly interested in supporting projects, which increase access and opportunity, develop recognised Centres of Excellence and contribute to the growth of the Scottish economy.

## **Community Arts & Sport**

This category is primarily aimed at encouraging young people to participate in artistic and sporting activities within their local community. Projects should demonstrate that they provide access and opportunity and/or support emerging talent. The Trust is particularly interested in supporting activities which increase the use of existing facilities; however, capital projects which seek to widen opportunity, access and participation, as well as improve provision, will also be considered.

While these priority areas account for approx. two-thirds of the Trust's expenditure each year, applications will be considered from most other areas of charitable activity, including:

- work with children, young people and families
- preservation of the environment
- the strengthening of local communities
- the development of culture, heritage and science
- animal welfare
- the saving of lives

Overall priority will be given to those projects and posts which relate to direct service delivery.

## **Types of Donation**

The Robertson Trust currently disburses around £9 million per year in donations. There are no minimum or maximum donations, but the following information should be noted. Donations are classified according to four main types, to which different guidelines apply.

**Small Donations** comprise revenue donations of up to £5,000 and capital donations of up to £10,000. The application process is designed to be straight-forward and this is an ideal starting point for charities who have done little fundraising before or those with one-off funding appeals.

**Main Donations** comprise revenue donations in excess of £5,000 and capital donations of between £10,000 and £100,000. Revenue grants rarely exceed £15,000 a year and may be for core or project funding for a maximum initial period of 3 years. Capital donations will be for a maximum of 10% of the total project cost.

**Major Capital Donations** comprise capital donations in excess of £100,000, for which the overall project costs will normally be in excess of £1 million. Major capital donations will contribute specifically to one of the Trust's priority areas other than where an exceptional case is made. Applications will be considered three times a year, in January, May and September, to allow the Trustees to compare the merits of different applications. Organisations considering applying for a major donation are advised to contact the Trust beforehand for an informal discussion on eligibility, process and timing.

**Development Donations:** A list of current special development areas can be found in the Development section of the website

### **Assessment Process**

The Trustees meet every two months usually in May, July, September, November, January and March. The Trust does not publish deadlines for each meeting and you are advised to submit your application when it is ready.

The next deadline for submitting applications is 15th December, with the Trustees meeting on the 31st January.

The Assessment Team tries to process applications as soon as possible and in most circumstances you should not have to wait more than three months. You may be contacted by a member of the Assessment Team for more information or to arrange a visit.

- **Awards for All, Scotland**

<http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/scotland>

Awards for All gives grants of between £500 and £10,000 for people to take part in art, sport and community activities, and projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community.

We can fund a wide range of activities through the Programme and want to support projects that meet our outcomes.

The outcomes for Awards for All Scotland are:

1. People have better chances in life.
2. Communities are safer, stronger and more able to work together to tackle inequalities.
3. People have better and more sustainable services and environments.
4. People and communities are healthier.

If your project could help us achieve one or more of these outcomes, Awards for All could be the right scheme for you.

You can apply for a grant from Awards for All if:

- You are a not-for-profit / voluntary and community sector group, community council, statutory body or school.
- You have a bank account requiring at least 2 unrelated people to sign cheques or make withdrawals.
- You have a management committee of 3 or more unrelated members.
- You can spend the grant within 1 year.

You can contact our Information Team for advice on 0300 123 7110 or email them at [Scotland@awardsforall.org.uk](mailto:Scotland@awardsforall.org.uk)



## Appendix 1. Russell Play - Full Quotation

ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £	
A	Thank-you for the opportunity to price these works. If you require anything further please do not hesitate to contact us on 01590 675652, or via info@russell-play.com, where we will be happy to assist you.  PLEASE NOTE: The total price is inclusive of installation but exclusive of VAT  <u>T</u> oddler Equipment  E F Combine Harvester unit with slide  G Install Combine Harvester  H Supply & lay black 'Safagrass' Safety Tiles; 1.5m x 1m x 23mm deep each, CFH 3.0m; laid, pinned and channelled-in around edges.  I J Supply and lay TechMesh Lite underlay; (30m x 2m rolls)  K <u>T</u> rail Area  H 30 Balance Beam in Robinia Hardwood  Install Balance Beam  H13 Climbing Path in Robinia Hardwood  Install Climber  H 14 Stepping logs; in Robinia Hardwood (price per log)  Install H 14 Stepping Logs  <u>S</u> and Pit Area  P41 Spring Pig in hand-carved timber	item sum	1	28,862.00	28,862.00	
B		tiles each	1	2,812.50	2,812.50	
C						
D				73	42.29	3,087.17
			each sum	2	177.00	354.00
			each sum			
			each sum	2	660.00	1,320.00
			each sum	2	375.00	750.00
			each	1	2,871.00	2,871.00
			each	1	750.00	750.00
			13	66.00	858.00	
			13	50.00	650.00	
			1	924.00	924.00	
c/f					43,238.67	
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £	

b/f A	Install Springer	sum	1	106.25	43,238.67 106.25
B C	P 40 Piglet Springy; in hand-carved and stained timber Install Springer	each sum	1	891.00	891.00
D E			1	106.25	106.25
F G	C0-3 Shop Playhouse in Robinia Hardwood Install Playhouse	each sum	1	4,653.00	4,653.00
H I	A 167 Sandplay Pulley in Robinia Hardwood Install Sandplay	each sum	1	1,125.00 1,881.00	1,125.00 1,881.00
J K L M	N 41 Cart Slide; play 'sculpture' in Robinia hardwood with stainless-steel slide Install Cart Slide	M2 ton m M2	1 1	375.00 5,379.00	375.00 5,379.00
N O	Create Raised Sand Pit Geotextile "Terram" liner - supply & install Play sand, to 300mm deep - supply & deliver. Supply and Install treated timber board edging, 6" x 2", pegged at 1.5m intervals; 150mm finished depth Spread sand on site		1 1 84 35	937.50 210.00 2.50 68.75	937.50 210.00 2,406.25
	<u>Swing Area</u> Q 29 Little Bird's Nest Swing in Robinia Hardwood Install Q 2-1 Basket Swing		33 84	12.50 2.50	412.50 210.00
			1	2,079.00	2,079.00
			1	375.00	375.00
c/f					64,385.42
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £

b/f	Q 1-1d Double swing; Robinia Timber Swing with 2 cradle seats, 2m high	each sum	1	1,947.00	64,385.42
A					
B	Install 2 seater Swing	M2 item	1	625.00	1,947.00
C	Create Raised Bark Pit	LM M2			625.00
D					
E	Geotextile "Terram" liner - supply & install		76	2.50	
F	Play bark, to 300mm deep - supply & deliver.		23	46.00	190.00
	Machined Round Poles, 100 mm dia. x 600mm chamfered and treated. Delivered		30	66.25	1,058.00
	Spread bark on site		90	2.50	1,987.50
G	<u>Trampoline Area</u>				225.00
	97000 Kids tramp 'Playground' 1.5x1.5m Trampoline, including: 97001 Impact protection tiles for Kids tramp 'Playground' 1.5x1.5m. (jumping area 1.07x1.07) Trampoline with vandal proof, steel reinforced jumping bed.	each each			
H	Install Trampoline	item item M2 m item	2	2,604.00	
	<u>Sensory Walkway</u>	ton each	2	656.25	5,208.00
I J	Supply and Install 1/2 Sleepers Supply and Install Decking Gravel Section Geotextile "Terram" liner - supply & install				1,312.50
K	Supply and Install treated timber board edging, 6" x 2", pegged at 1.5m intervals; 150mm finished depth		25	75.00	
L					
M	Baseworks Type 2 stone including excavation and removal of all spoil to approved tip. Supplied and laid		13	75.00	1,875.00
	Riverwashed Gravel at 8mm				975.00
N	Tree slices various sizes		27	2.50	
O	<u>Paving Section</u>				67.50
			54	12.50	
					675.00
			27	20.00	
			4.5	68.55	540.00
			10	66.00	308.47
					660.00
c/f					82,039.39
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £

b/f	Pressed concrete paving slab	ton item	10	25.00	82,039.39
A	Baseworks Type 2 stone including excavation and removal of all spoil to approved tip. Supplied and laid	m			250.00
B			10	20.00	
C	Supply and Install treated timber board edging, 6" x 2", pegged at 1.5m intervals; 150mm finished depth				200.00
		item item	20	12.50	250.00
		sum			
	<u>Musical Instruments</u>				
D	Musical Chimes				
E F	Musical Tubano Drums				
	Install Musical Instruments	item	1	800.00	800.00
		SUM	1	1,265.00	1,265.00
G			2	187.50	375.00
H	<u>Tunnel</u>				
I J	Crawling tunnel supplied and installed Brick retaining walls for crawling tunnel. Create Crawling Tunnel	M3 m3			
K	Mound	M2			
	Import additional topsoil		1	1,875.00	1,875.00
L	Create, move and sculpt mounds		1	1,250.00	1,250.00
M	Supply and Install Turf				
N		LM M3			
O		m3	20	16.25	325.00
	<u>Create mound bridge to swing area</u>	M2			
			20	12.50	250.00
	Machined Round Poles, 100 mm dia. x 600mm chamfered and treated. Delivered		40	7.50	300.00
	Import additional topsoil				
	Create, move and sculpt mounds				
	Supply and Install Turf				
			6	66.25	397.50
			8	16.25	130.00
			8	12.50	100.00
			16	7.50	120.00
c/f					89,926.89
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £

b/f	Junior Equipment	item sum	1	88,631.00	89,926.89
	T18 Multi-Play Unit	tiles each	1	5,062.50	
A	Install T18 unit				88,631.00
B	Supply & lay black 'Safagrass' Safety Tiles; 1.5m x 1m x 23mm deep each, CFH 3.0m; laid, pinned and channelled-in around edges.		103	42.29	5,062.50
C	Supply and lay TechMesh Lite underlay; (30m x 2m rolls)	each sum	3	177.00	
D					4,355.87
E	CA-02-0001; Access Whirl; 1.2m diameter rope roundabout on steel frame; galvanised and powder coated finish. DDA compliant	each sum			531.00
F			1	3,292.00	
G	Install Access Whirl	M2 item	1	375.00	
H		LM M2			3,292.00
I	Q 1-4 Hexagonal Group Swing with tyre seats; constructed in Robinia Timber (Hardwood).				375.00
J	Install Q1-4	each sum	1	7,095.00	
K	Create Raised Bark Pit		1	1,125.00	
L	Geotextile "Terram" liner - supply & install	tiles each			7,095.00
M	Play bark, to 300mm deep - supply & deliver.				
N	Machined Round Poles, 100 mm dia. x 600mm chamfered and treated. Delivered		157	2.50	1,125.00
O	Spread bark on site		47	46.00	
P			44	66.25	392.50
	R 3 Seesaw; 600mm wide x 4m long in Robinia hardwood and stainless-steel		157	2.50	2,162.00
	Install R 3 Seesaw				2,915.00
	Supply & lay black 'Safagrass' Safety Tiles; 1.5m x 1m x 23mm deep each, CFH 3.0m; laid, pinned and channelled-in around edges.		1	2,442.00	392.50
	Supply and lay TechMesh Lite underlay; (30m x 2m rolls)		1	312.50	
					2,442.00
			20	42.29	312.50
			1	177.00	
					845.80
					177.00
c/f				2	10,033.56

ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £
b/f	<u>C</u> limbing Equipment	each sum	4	2	10,033.56
	Use fallen trees for balance beams supplied by council		3		
A	Install Fallen Logs	each sum		0.00	0.00
B				375.00	1,125.00
C	H 14 Stepping logs; in Robinia Hardwood (price per log)		12		
D			12		
E	Install stepping stones	each sum		66.00	792.00
	I 11 Climbing Forest 'Ziefelfeld'; Climbing and Hanging Playground Log Unit, with balancing 'jungle' rope, hand-over-hand rope and balance logs leading up to a timber platform. All in Robinia hardwood	tiles each		50.00	600.00
F			1		
G	Install I11	item	1		
H	Supply & lay black 'Safagrass' Safety Tiles; 1.5m x 1m x 23mm deep each, CFH 3.0m; laid, pinned and channelled-in around edges.			15,411.00	15,411.00
	Supply and lay TechMesh Lite underlay; (30m x 2m rolls)	item	70	3,562.50	3,562.50
I			2		
J	<u>L</u> andscaping			42.29	2,960.30
	Glacial Boulders			177.00	354.00
K	Create mound including shaping and compacting, topsoil and turfing and reinstating existing area (Use spoil from excavations where possible)	item	3		
L		M3			
M	<u>T</u> unnel	M3	1	350.00	1,050.00
	Crawling tunnel supplied and installed				
	Create Crawling Tunnel Mound			5,520.00	5,520.00
	Import additional topsoil				
	Create, move and sculpt mounds		1		
			25	1,875.00	1,875.00
			20		
				16.25	406.25

				12.50	250.00
c/f				2	43,939.61
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £

b/f N	Supply and Install Turf	M2	40	2 7.50	43,939.61 300.00
c/f				2	44,239.61
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £



b/f	Young People's Area	each sum	1	2	44,239.61
	SS-02-0001; Surf Spinner; 2m long rocking spinner, Mild steel construction, Hot dip galvanised and powder coated (Silver Sparkle), for wetpour installation	M2 item	1		
A	Install Surf Spinner	m M2 item	28		
B	Create Raised Bark Pit		9	4,238.00	4,238.00
C	Geotextile "Terram" liner - supply & install				
D	Play bark, to 300mm deep - supply & deliver.	each sum	18	375.00	375.00
E	Supply and Install treated timber board edging, 6" x 2", pegged at 1.5m intervals; 150mm finished depth	tiles each	28		
F	Spread bark on site		1	2.50	70.00
G				46.00	414.00
H I	Mounds around surf spinner				
J K		each sum		12.50	225.00
L	Q 2-3 Hammock Swing; chunky Robinia Timber, complete with rubber hammock.		1	2.50	70.00
	Install Hammock	tiles each	1	900.00	900.00
M	Supply & lay black 'Safagrass' Safety Tiles; 1.5m x 1m x 23mm deep each, CFH 3.0m; laid, pinned and channelled-in around edges.		15		
N	Supply and lay TechMesh Lite underlay; (30m x 2m rolls)		1		
O				1,716.00	1,716.00
	Q 3-1b Zip Wire with Ramp; chunky Robinia (hardwood) cable ride, 20m long, complete with integral launch ramp.			375.00	375.00
	Install Zip Wire with Ramp		1	42.29	634.35
	Supply & lay black 'Safagrass' Safety Tiles; 1.5m x 1m x 23mm deep each, CFH 3.0m; laid, pinned and channelled-in around edges.		1	177.00	177.00
	Supply and lay TechMesh Lite underlay; (30m x 2m rolls)		28		
			1	7,293.00	7,293.00
				1,625.00	1,625.00
				42.29	1,184.12
				177.00	177.00
c/f				2	63,713.08
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £

b/f	71.200.053.50 SC Line 5350	each sum	1	2	63,713.08
A				10,943.00	10,943.00
B	Install Single Mast Climber		1		
	Create Raised Bark Pit	M2 item		1,875.00	1,875.00
C					
D	Geotextile "Terram" liner - supply & install	m	94		
E	Play bark, to 300mm deep - supply & deliver.	M2 item		2.50	235.00
F	Supply and Install treated timber board edging, 6" x 2", pegged at 1.5m intervals; 150mm finished depth	M2 m item	28	46.00	1,288.00
G	Spread bark on site	ton	45		
				12.50	562.50
H I			94		
J K	Glacial Boulders			2.50	235.00
	<u>Maze</u>	each sum	3	350.00	1,050.00
L	Geotextile "Terram" liner - supply & install				
M	Supply and Install treated timber board edging, 6" x 2", pegged at 1.5m intervals; 150mm finished depth	each sum			
			150		
N	Baseworks Type 2 stone including excavation and removal of all spoil to approved tip. Supplied and laid			2.50	375.00
O	Riverwashed Gravel at 8mm		195		
		sum		12.50	2,437.50
P			150		
Q	<u>Sculptures</u>			16.00	2,400.00
			25		
	N 9 Robinia Timber 'Sheep' Sculpture			68.55	1,713.75
	Install Sculpture				
	N53 - Apple Seat. Hand crafted in Robinia hardwood		1		
	Install Sculpture			1,122.00	1,122.00
			1	187.50	187.50
	N 69 Robinia Mouse Sculpture		1		
	Install Sculpture			759.00	759.00
			1	187.50	187.50
			1	693.00	693.00
			1	187.50	187.50
c/f				2	89,964.33
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £

b/f	N0-2 Robinia Rabbit Sculpture	each sum	1	2	89,964.33
	Install Sculpture		1		
A		each sum		726.00	726.00
B	N 12 "Wolfgang the Boar" Sculpture, in Robinia Timber			187.50	187.50
		each sum			
C	Install Sculpture		1		
D		item	1		
E F	N14 Robinia Chicken Sculpture			1,485.00	1,485.00
G	Install Sculpture	item sum	1	187.50	187.50
			1		
H I	Add Corn Sculpture to Post			330.00	330.00
			3	125.00	125.00
	Bespoke Robinia Post Designed as a Carrot	item item			
J	Install Sculpture	item	1	568.00	1,704.00
			1		
	<u>P</u> reliminaries			851.00	851.00
	Health and safety requirements / site facilities including security fencing and signage for duration of works.			187.50	187.50
K					
L	<u>D</u> iscount: <u>C</u> arriage <u>T</u> erms VAT not included.		1		
			1	4,937.50	4,937.50
			1	-9,685.33	-9,685.33
				9,000.00	9,000.00
c/f				3	00,000.00
ID	Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total £

b/f	<p>All play items listed conform to BSEN 1176 and/or BSEN 15312 and/or BSEN1177</p> <p>Russell Leisure terms and conditions apply (copies available upon request).</p> <p>Normal delivery time 6-8 weeks following receipt of written order, with order number.</p> <p><b>SPIELART PRODUCTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delivery can be approx. 11-13 weeks depending on the complexity of the units ordered.</li> <li>- Mechanical offloading and assembly is ESSENTIAL.</li> <li>- Sufficient access width and height required up to the build site.</li> <li>- Due to the high costs of transportation there is a minimum carriage charge of £600 for all Spielart items</li> </ul> <p><b>TOTAL PRICE ASSUMES, UNLESS STATED TO THE CONTRARY ABOVE, THAT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All ground is soft dig, with no underground obstructions, cabling, pipe work or any other form of service router.</li> <li>- Access is available for all required vehicles up to the construction area.</li> <li>- No reinstatements are required to access way or construction area.</li> <li>- The whole of the above equipment and works are ordered together. If part order is received, we reserve the right to amend our pricing.</li> </ul> <p>Russell leisure do not accept retentions from main contractors unless authorised by a Director in advance of order.</p> <p>Unless stated to the contrary, in the main quote, we have not allowed for a main contractors discount.</p> <p>If a 2.5% discount is required please add 2.5644% to the product price quoted.</p> <p>Payment is due strictly 30 days from invoice date for companies with an account. All non account holders and new customers with whom we have not previously traded, are required to pay pro-forma.</p>		3	00,000.00
	To Summary £		3	00,000.00