City of Cockburn

Comment on Cockburn

Arabella Park Half Basketball Pad

Community Insights Snapshot

The playground equipment at Arabella Park in North Coogee is due for renewal in the 2026-27 financial year. The City of Cockburn has received a number of customer requests for equipment for older children and young people in the North Coogee area, in particular, asking for a half basketball pad. The City engaged with local residents surrounding Arabella Park and the wider suburb of North Coogee, to determine the community sentiment for a half basketball pad to replace the current playground, or seek input into additional options, to ensure any upgrades reflect the needs of the community.

How we promoted the consultation

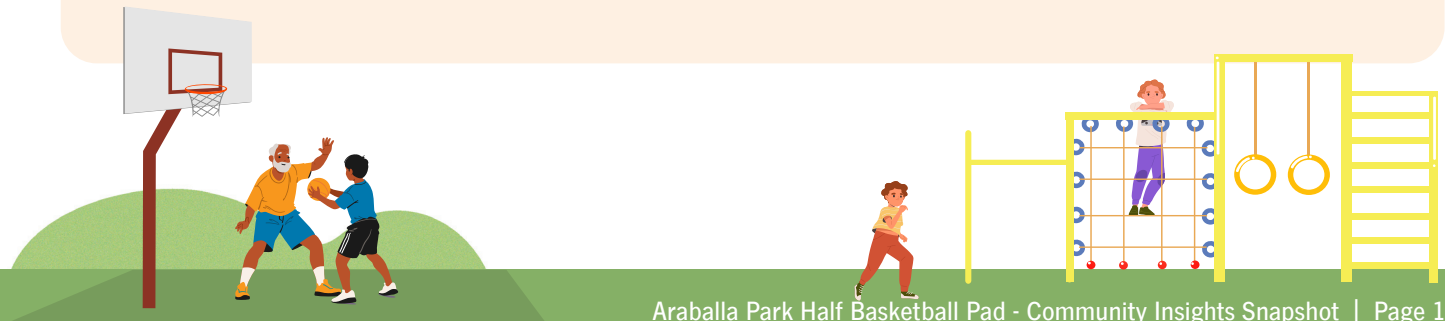
- Comment on Cockburn webpage
- Letters to households within 100m radius of Arabella Park
- Signage at Arabella Park
- Targeted social media
- E-newsletter to North Coogee Comment on Cockburn subscribers

Who we heard from

366
visits to Comment on Cockburn

83
people provided feedback via the survey

9
people provided feedback via email

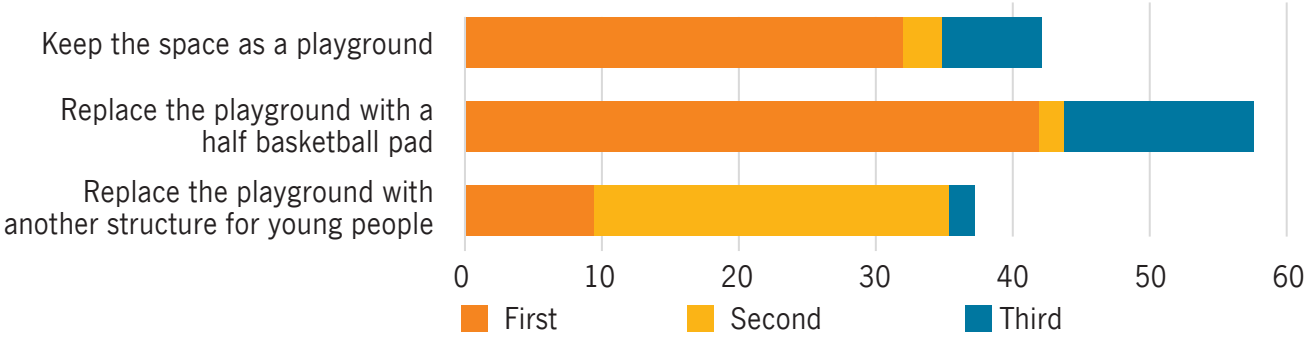


Key findings

Online voting

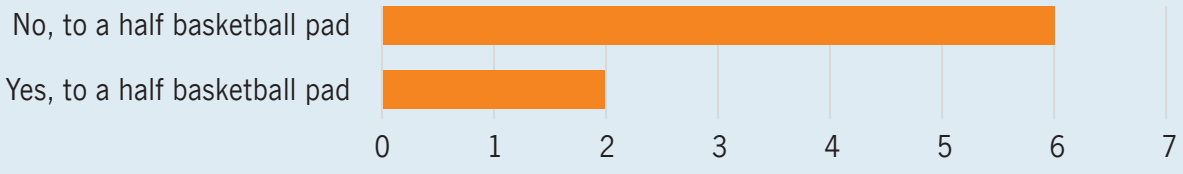
All online respondents were asked to rank the options provided for Arabella Park, as a first, second, and third preference, however some did not rank all options. The 83 survey responses indicated:

What is your preferred option regarding the Arabella Park playground?



*Ranking of preferences from survey respondents.
Some respondents did not rank all three options; therefore, totals vary.

Written feedback



*Sentiment from written respondents.

While the largest proportion of respondents selected the half basketball pad as their first preference, when qualitative feedback across all response channels (emails and online) was analysed, this type of feedback contained a higher volume of detailed objections compared with supportive comments.

Negative sentiment towards a basketball pad

Slightly more than half of respondents who provided qualitative feedback provided objection to a half basketball pad, noting:

- Noise concerns: bouncing balls, shouting, echoing between houses
- Fear of antisocial behaviour: loitering, swearing, late-night use, attracting teenagers from outside North Coogee
- Proximity to homes: park is too small and too close to residences
- Desire to preserve quiet space: preference for tranquillity or more greenery
- Belief the location is unsuitable, even if basketball is supported in principle.

Positive sentiment towards a basketball pad

Just under half of respondents who provided qualitative feedback expressed support for a half basketball pad, noting:

- Need for youth facilities in North Coogee
- Basketball's popularity and accessibility
- Health, fitness, and social benefits
- Fairness/equity for teenagers
- Seen as long overdue infrastructure.

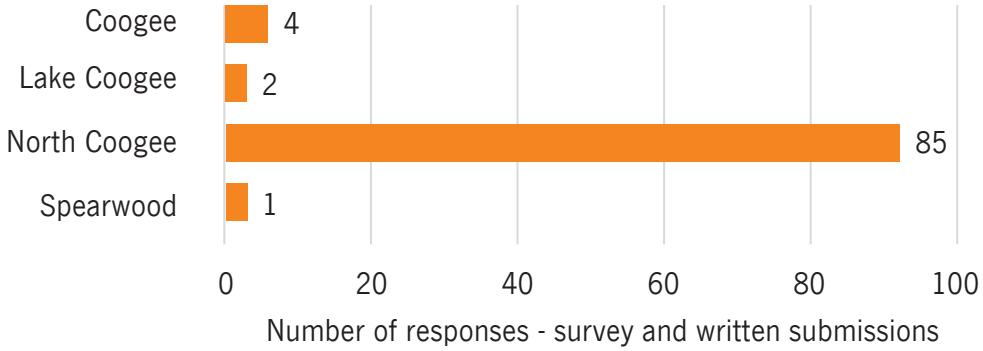
When asked for ideas, IF an alternative option were to proceed, respondents indicated:

- Improved play equipment options including: swings, slide, monkey bars, climbing equipment, cubby house, suspension bridge, see-saw, flying fox
- Multi-use games area including: four square, handball and pickleball
- Fitness equipment
- Soccer goals
- Football goals
- Bike track
- Community garden
- Skate park
- Pump track
- Nature playground.

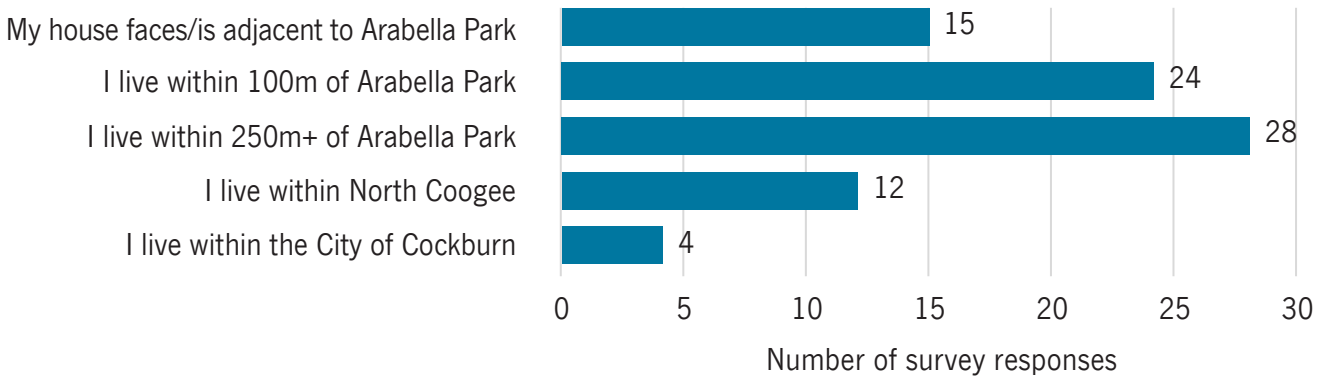
Respondents in favour of or responding to IF a half basketball pad did proceed, noted items to consider should be:

- Multiple rings for multiple users
- Various sized/adjustable rings for multiple users
- Incorporate a netball ring too
- Incorporate painted cricket wickets
- Noise mitigation, including noise reducing court materials, located within the centre of the park so it is not abutting houses, and adding more greenery as a noise buffer
- Soft-close or low-noise hoop and backboard to minimise sound for nearby residents
- Anti-graffiti coating
- Basketball court line markings
- Lighting, CCTV, and 24/7 security patrols
- Signage to advise of appropriate times of use
- Additional seating, shade, and a water fountain.

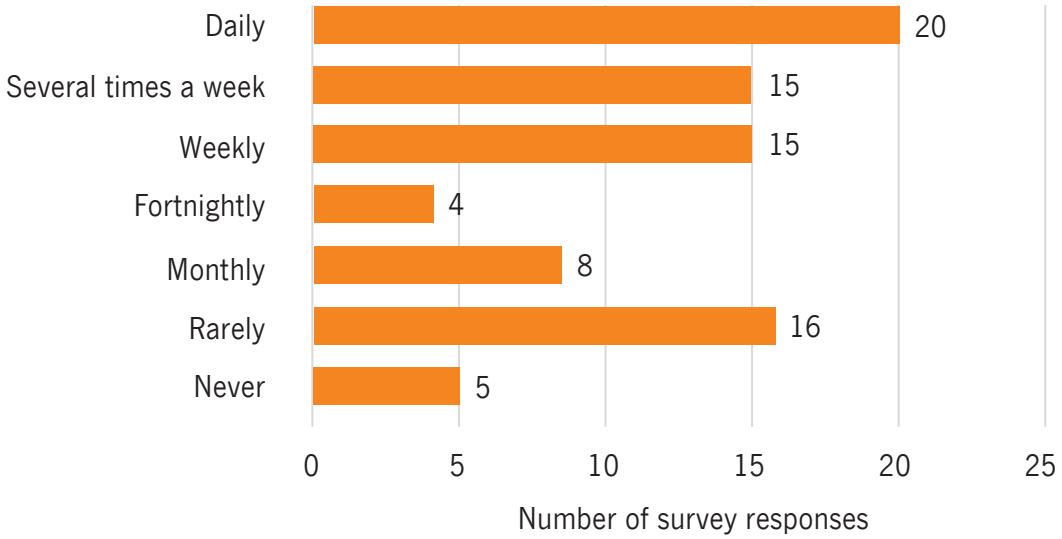
Suburb



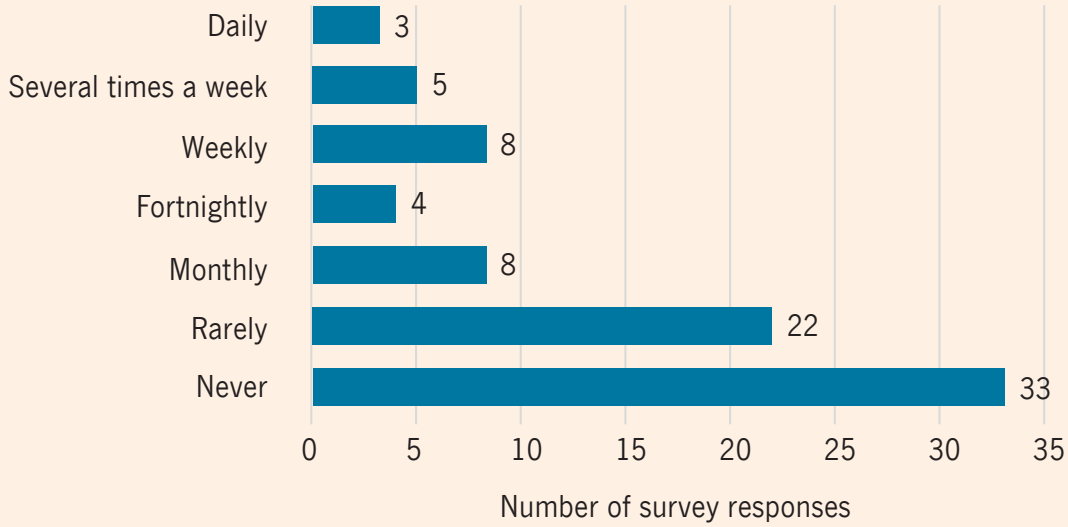
Relationship to Arabella Park



Frequency of visits to Arabella Park



Frequency of use of the play equipment at Arabella Park



Further information and next steps

The City of Cockburn would like to thank the community for their involvement in the community consultation process for a possible half basketball pad or alternative options at Arabella Park in North Coogee. Community feedback will be taken into consideration, with next steps, as well as any outcomes or decisions about this project published on the Comment on Cockburn website when available.

For further information, please contact the City of Cockburn 08 9411 3444 or email **comment@cockburn.wa.gov.au**

