

OUR FUTURE FAIRLOP

A collaborative report produced by the London Borough of Redbridge and Street Space to document the process and outcomes of Our Future Fairlop Phase 02 public engagement.

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Introduction

Our Future Fairlop Phase 02 public engagement was a collaboration between the London Borough of Redbridge (LBR) and Street Space to work alongside residents of Redbridge to create a vision for the future of Fairlop Waters.

Between May and July 2021 LBR and Street Space collaborated to devise and deliver a programme of online workshops to a representative group of local organisations and residents from across the Borough. The programme culminated in the creation of a vision document which consists of Core Values, a Vision Statement and Vision Principles.

This document seeks to provide an overview of both the process of engagement alongside the generated outputs as an ongoing resource for design and masterplanning of Fairlop Waters.

1.1

Headline Statistics

Between May and August 2021 we engaged with a total of 52 participants through an online programme of five, two hour sessions between 24th May and 19th July. Participants were made up of 35 randomly selected members of the public, 7 of which were under 18, and 17 local advisors with specialist knowledge and interests.

The follow up survey, completed by 28 participants revealed that 82% of participants feel the final outputs reflect the conversations shared throughout the programme well and 71 % feel pleased or excited about the final outputs.

The survey also showed that 82% of participants felt they were listened to by others throughout the programme and 93% felt comfortable sharing their thoughts with others throughout the programme.

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“I think it was a positive experience which brought together a diverse range of people and thoughts that were educational and challenging and which led to a very good arena from which many positive outcomes were achieved.”

2.0

Methodology

The methods used to engage with people throughout the programme combined the knowledge and experience of both Street Space and LBR.

The following pages aim to provide an overview of the tools and methods used throughout the programme to engage with local people and generate a shared future vision for the future of Fairlop Waters.

2.1 Participant Selection

35 participants for the programme were independently selected through the sortition process. The Sortition Foundation randomly selected 7200 households. These households received an invitation via mail, inviting them to register their interest in joining the programme. In addition to this, the opportunity to apply to participate in the group was promoted via council communications channels and to residents who had previously expressed interest in the Our Future Fairlop project. At the end of the registration period, The Sortition Foundation elected final participants using a stratified random selection process matched to the latest census data including age, ward, gender, ethnicity, economic status and disability. The result was a randomly selected and representative group of 35 local residents.

We also invited 17 supporting ‘advisors’ with local knowledge and specialist interests from organisations and interest groups in the area.

2.2

Programme Design

The programme was designed to produce three main outputs:

Core values aim to capture and communicate the beliefs behind what people in the local community deem important for the future of Fairlop Waters. Core Values aim to drive the decisions made about the future of Fairlop Waters.

Vision Statement is a simple sentence that communicates ambitions for the future of Fairlop Waters. The Vision Statement points towards what's most important for the future of Fairlop Waters and aims to paint an ambitious picture to strive towards.

Vision Principles aim to provide a series of objectives to capture and communicate what we want to achieve for the future of Fairlop Waters. The Vision Principles provide specific and clear aims for the masterplanners to work towards when designing the future of Fairlop Waters.

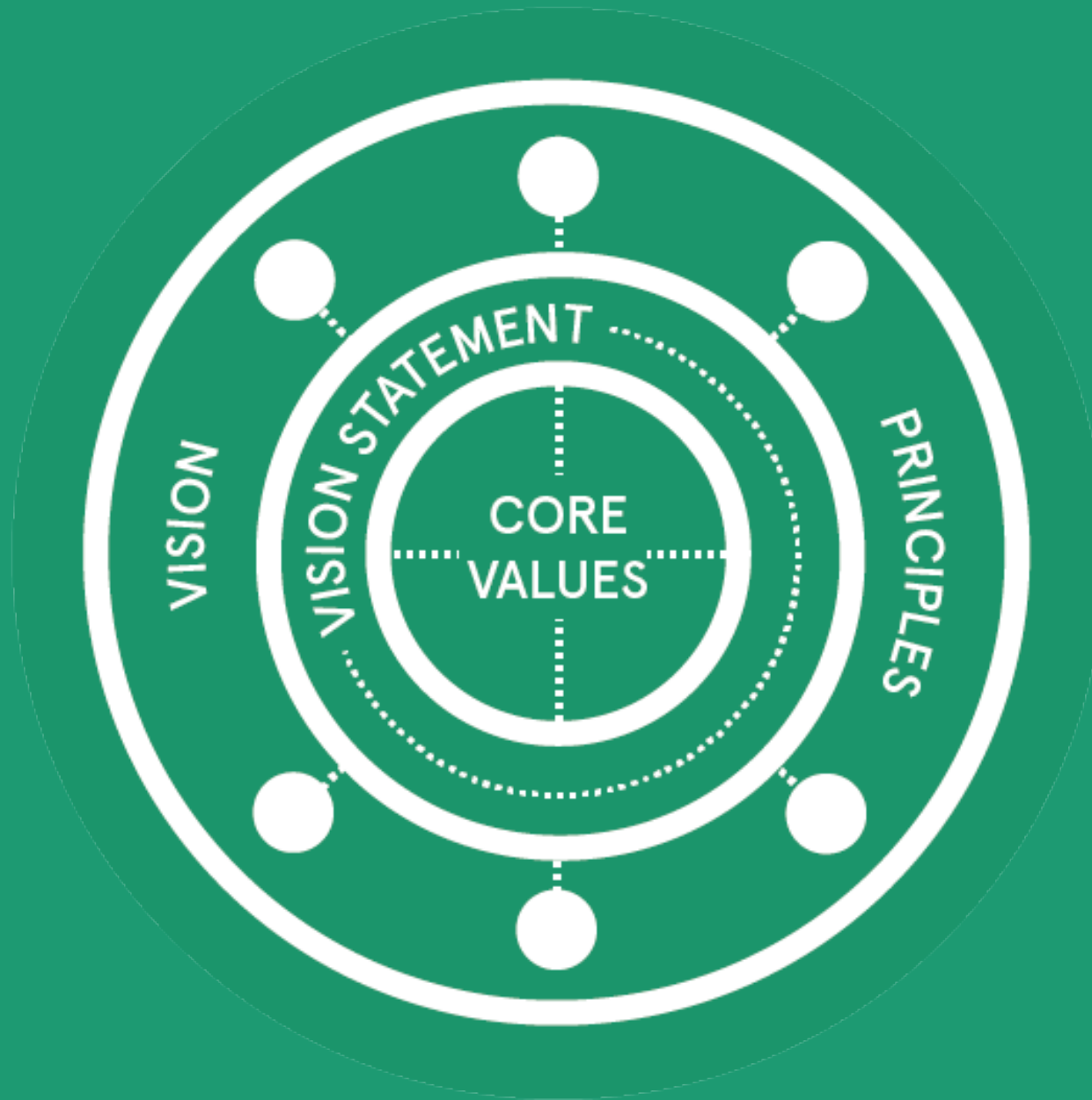


Diagram displaying the three outputs of the programme: four Core Values rooted at the heart of the vision; a Vision Statement that encompasses overarching ambitions and six vision principles providing clear aims for the future.

2.2

Programme Design

The programme was structured to prompt thought about the future of Fairlop Waters from different perspectives, across multiple scales. We zoomed in and out between the more conceptual overarching vision, to the more tangible, everyday design of Fairlop Waters.

The programme also made space for addressing the complexities and conflicts that emerged through the conversations, facilitating careful negotiation between different groups and their differing priorities.

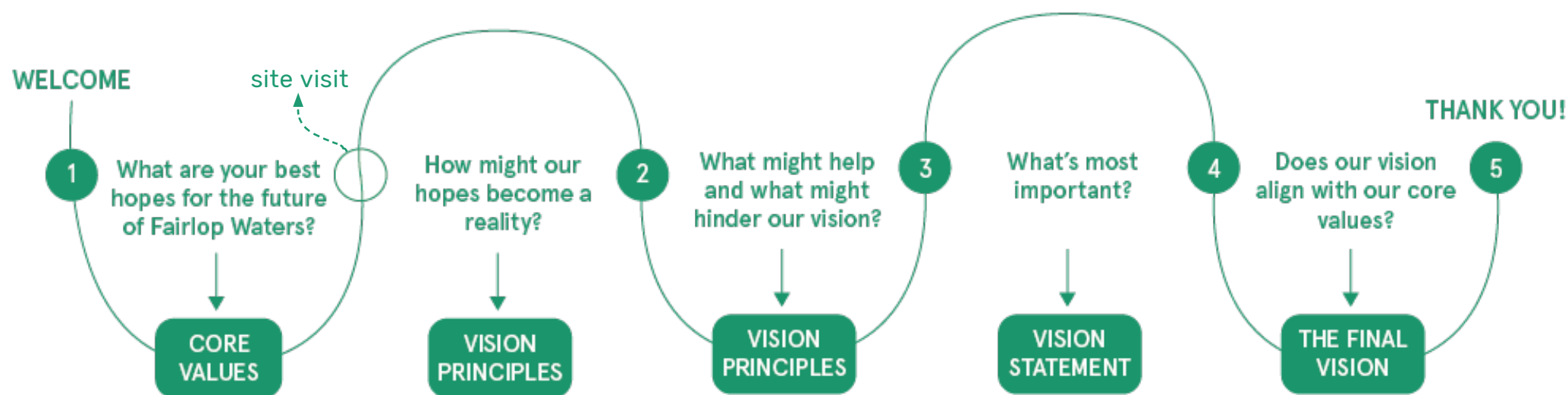


Diagram displaying the overarching journey of the programme, the key questions asked in each session and the generated outputs.

2.3

Tools and Methods

We used a number of different tools and methods to facilitate the programme and prompt more meaningful engagement.

Ice-breakers aimed to build connections amongst participants and encourage people to feel more confident and comfortable when contributing their thoughts.

Group Work enabled more constructive and inclusive conversations. At the beginning of the programme participants were divided into 6 groups that worked together throughout the programme. Volunteers from each group were asked to reflect back to the main group key insights from their conversations.

Prompting wider engagement was a priority to gain insights and feedback from the friends, family, colleagues and peers of each participant and to extend our reach beyond those in the programme. At the end of relevant sessions participants were given a question to ask amongst their networks to feedback in following sessions.

2.3

Tools and Methods

The Our Future Fairlop Miro Board was used as an ongoing archive to document the main activities from each session. The Miro Board was pre-prepared with information and resources for each session and activity. Facilitators allocated to each break-out room were responsible for recording and documenting insights from their conversations on the miro board and double checking what they have written with group members. Following each session participants were encouraged to visit the miro board in their own time and add anything they felt was missing.

Information Harvesting was led by the London Borough of Redbridge in between each session to reflect on the information collected and draft the outputs of the programme.

Follow-up surveys were circulated following each session to collect feedback on both the outputs generated and the experience of the workshop. This feedback was used by LBR to edit each output and Street Space to adapt successive session plans.

Technical Support was offered to participants prior to the programme to ensure online tools were accessible to all. Technical support was available throughout the programme.

2.4 The Sessions

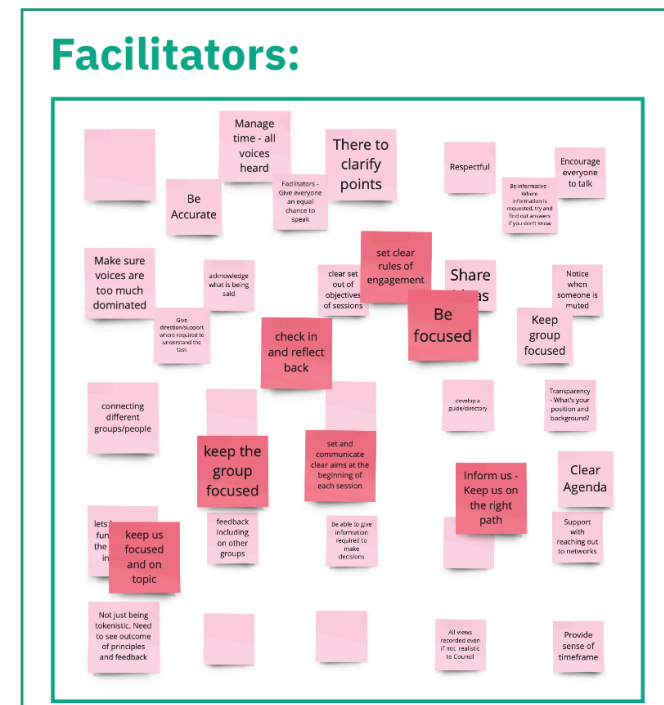
Session 01: A Warm Welcome!

24th May 2021, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Session 01 aimed to:

- Build connections amongst participants and encourage positive, inclusive and inspiring conversations where everyone feels valued and welcomed
- Clearly introduce project, team, timeline and brief
- Create & agree upon a series of expectations for how participants and facilitators will work together
- Consider top-level core values that will guide the development of a future vision

Through the session we created a 'working agreement' outlining expectations of both participants and facilitators and discussed our best hopes for the future.



2.4 The Sessions

Session 1.5: Site Visit

05th June 2021, 11:00am-13:00pm,
14:00pm-16:00pm

The site visit aimed to:

- Present the opportunity to visit the park for those who have never visited
- Relate some of the conversations we've had so far to specific places in the park
- Make observations about how people feel, think and behave
- Be inspired by the park and identify opportunities for improvements

During our site visit we conducted a sensory exploration of the park and journeyed around the different areas, stopping to share reflections and ideas for the future.



2.4 The Sessions

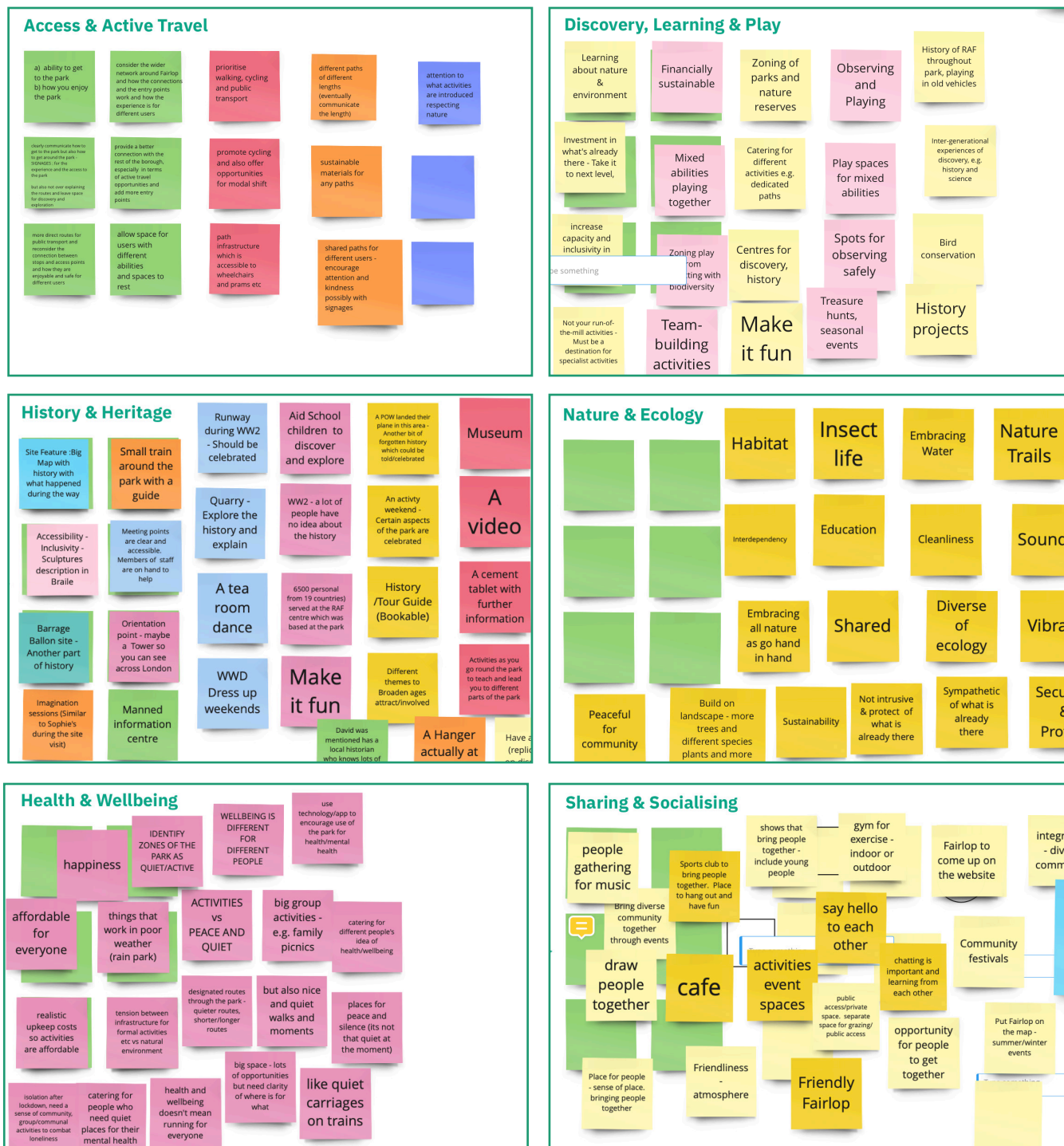
Session 2: Creating a Vision

7th June 2021, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Session 02 aimed to:

- Gain clearer understanding of the programme and how we will achieve our expected outcomes
- Reflect on our hopes for the future of Fairlop Waters and the core values that have been developed so far
- Share insights from previous engagement and allocate each group with theme to explore, edit + expand upon
- Create visions for the future to understand what is important and why

Throughout the session we worked in groups to draw and describe our visions. From these we created the beginnings of the vision principles.



Throughout the session we worked in groups to edit and expand upon vision principles created by other groups. This enabled groups to share their opinion on a total of 3 vision principles plus the opportunity to feedback on all via a follow up survey.

Sharing and Socialising

- Things:**
 - (S) Not sure what's meant by sharing? Keeping the park open for other activities are happening?
 - (S) Festivals can mean different things - food, drink or like Glastonbury
 - (S) Does having a big event mean people can't use part of the park
 - (S) Fairlop Fair is a future in the past, would be nice to build on that or repeat that
 - (S) Some clear limits as to what % of the space and time were happy to have everything taken away - maybe bank holidays only?
- Development / Management:**
 - (S) Development and management. Different areas would need to be managed differently.
- Places:**
 - (S) Shared places to be accessible and getting community involved.
 - (S) Sharing and Socialising need to be specified. Does it mean sharing with schools, community groups, etc.
- Park Features:**
 - (S) To keep park safe these actions
 - (S) To improve safety and security, CCTV cameras, infrastructure, more than 1000 trees, new enclosures, playground and pet free zone.
 - (S) To make the park more inclusive and accessible for all.
- Spaces:**
 - (S) Need to have more detail and principles on what role of activity is acceptable
 - (S) Barriers for music and dancing that can be used for mainstream music and older styles
- Principles:**
 - Create spaces and venues to bring people together, to eat, drink, listen to music and socialise, and to provide the infrastructure and venues for festivals, events and exhibitions. Areas for public and private access, including hireable spaces, should respect the natural setting and enable our diverse community to come together. This principle should build on the health and wellbeing principle, providing opportunities to connect with and learn from others, and to stay well.
- Implementation Details:**
 - Don't forget to go together with N&E principle**
 - Bearing attention to growing trees and the space available and building them and the space available and catch with that space. Why does the forest grow there, not elsewhere, cannot change.
 - Allotments in the area needs to be untouchable**
 - Need to understand scale of events - small-scale on a green area will disrupt existing natural landscape and not compatible
 - Need to be nature reserve - first an foremost. This principle goes against E&N principle**
 - Hanauk Forest already covers large estates - music festivals. Need to preserve this space of what it is.
 - Does this system to apply to what there now or what will be estimated. These areas need to be protected with two natural reserves**
 - Sharing of that education land, space allotments, activities. Ponds that you can begin to learn about trees with QR codes. Engaging all ages. How to use water. Respective of outdoor.
 - Fairlop Community nature reserve is up for changing - this needs protection**

2.4 The Sessions

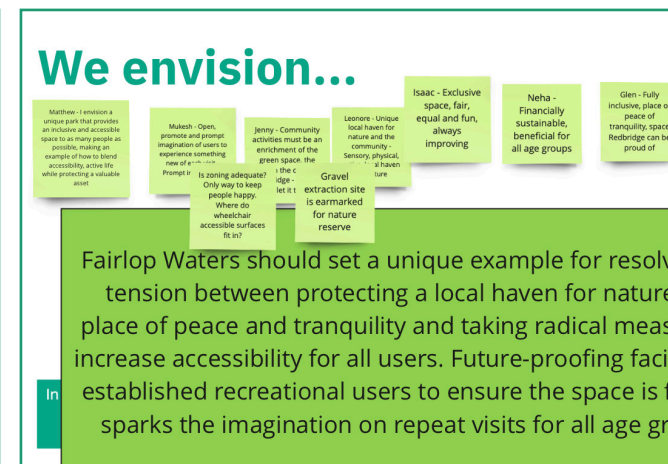
Session 04: Creating a vision statement

5th July 2021, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Session 04 aimed to:

- Build connections amongst participants and encourage positive, inclusive and inspiring conversations where everyone feels valued and welcomed
- Create the building blocks of a collective vision statement
- Reflect and revise our core values

During this session we looked at the bigger picture to establish an overarching vision statement that brings together the core values and vision principles developed throughout the programme.



2.4 The Sessions

Session 05: Checking-in and Checking-out!

19th July 2021, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Session 05 aimed to:

- Share a collective presentation to summarise final core values, vision statement and vision principles and give final feedback
- Explore ideas for test projects in the short term
- Reflect on the programme and process
- Meet the master planners and understand what will happen next

During the final session we reflected back what we've heard, presenting the outcomes to participants to critique, feedback and celebrate their creations!

Wheelchair accessible picnic table



Improve accessibility of e



- Which test project/s do you want to see?

cinema and the rea all o
tables for board games/chess
make sure we can common people w n't use
more seating - enjoy the park
benches
accessible picnic benches and sensory garden
seating, tables
putting green for families
will engage people and be
logo with mannoth people would
accessibility, community
positive ene children a

Update and enhance outdoor gym/trim trail equipment



Adventure Trail

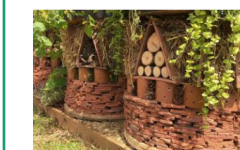


- Which test project/s do you want to see?

a good test project will really consider the location
gps grazing cows
information boards with scanning - unobtrusive
educating + give us information about
forest bathing
see how well they are used
think about what activities are purposeful and relevant to
points towards where fairlop is going
sorts out the grazing problem
images and interest positive press

- Why?

Sensory planting area



Sculpture Trail



- Which test project/s do you want to see?

Hidden disabilities - hard benches are v difficult for me
Material choices to support people with pain
New signage - to the second lake - try it out and see effective
Camp-fire feel for forest school activities
Make more emphasis of country park - trails and bike paths - hiking! Not a town park
Adventure playground - all natural
Bit more adventurous - less of the man made
Pavilion made from natural materials? To provide shade and outdoor classroom
Try out different seating and benches and see what's popular

3.0

The Vision

The following pages aim to provide an overview of the vision created throughout the programme and details the final core values, vision statement and vision principles for the future of Fairlop Waters.

3.1

Core Values

Fairlop Waters, a place of discovery... to provide benefits to all, through exploration, adventure and learning.

Fairlop Waters, a place of inclusion... to enable more people to access the park, expanding its value to a diverse and representative community.

Fairlop Waters a place of empowerment... to enable people to better care for themselves and their surroundings.

Fairlop Waters a place of sustainability... which celebrates the natural environment and ensures the park can be supported for years to come.

3.2

Vision Statement

Our vision for Fairlop Waters... is to conserve nature, ecology and biodiversity and to celebrate community. It will be an inclusive country park, balancing nature and community with health and wellbeing, creating opportunities for discovery, exploration and learning which visitors from every background can enjoy.

3.3

Vision Principles

1. Connecting People and Park.

Deliver an accessible park, easy to get into and to travel around, which welcomes and includes people of every ability, interest and means, and prioritises walking, cycling, public transport and disability access.

It should champion active travel through an inclusive network of pathways, resting points, spaces and zones, which are clearly signed and reflective of a diverse range of interests and abilities. This principle should support visitor's health and wellbeing whilst being respectful of nature & ecology, recognising that certain areas should be protected.

2. Discovery, Learning and Play.

Provide equipment, instalments and dedicated zones to allow visitors to have fun, to fire their imaginations and to learn from the beauty and the secrets of the park, and to build on its history, heritage, nature & ecology.

This should include facilities for schools, child & youth organisations trips and visits, and ensure that attractions are inclusive, multisensory and can be enjoyed by everyone, embracing the principle of accessibility and active travel and respecting dedicated conservation areas.

3.3

Vision Principles

3. Championing Health and Wellbeing

Create a diverse range of experiences, routes, trails and spaces, providing a variety of opportunities which support physical and mental health, and wellbeing by experiencing the park and lake.

This should include peaceful, quiet and reflective walks and quiet spots, as well as areas for people to gather and connect, including across generations, and an array of routes for different levels of physical activity: recognising the wide range of individual and collective needs for rest, recharging and reflecting. Features should enable park use in both good and bad weather, and consider how to enable the preservation and effective management of different unique spaces which support health and wellbeing in different ways, including as the park becomes more popular.

3.3

Vision Principles

4. Celebrating Past, Present and Future

Create dedicated features, installations and 'learning routes' which celebrate the history, heritage, present and future heritage of the park, establishing centres of intergenerational discovery and learning, building on the natural and historical features of the park.

This should support an annual calendar of diverse events throughout the year providing the infrastructure to support events and specialist activities for visiting individuals and organisations.

5. Nurturing Nature and Ecology

Protect and grow the biodiversity of the park, conserving and building on what is already there to strengthen and secure the nature and ecology of Fairlop Waters.

This should allow for the continued development, growth and protection of the natural environment, including bodies of water, on the site, with areas prioritised for nature and ecologies. Create accessible sensory, tranquil areas where visitors can enjoy and learn from nature.

3.3

Vision Principles

6. Empowering Communities as Co-Creators

Create spaces and venues to bring people together to connect, learn, share and celebrate and to provide the infrastructure for gatherings, events and exhibitions. Areas and spaces for public and temporary bookable use, should respect the natural setting and enable our diverse community to come together, enjoy the park and learn from each other. This principle should build on the health and wellbeing principle, providing opportunities to connect with and learn from others, and to stay well.

4.0

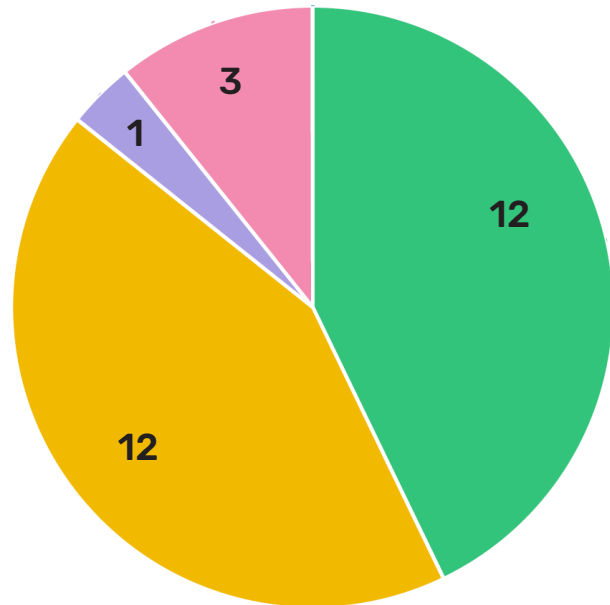
Evidence

The vision outputs present the main outcome from the activities and conversations throughout the programme. The wording of each output was drafted by the London Borough of Redbridge and pulls together feedback from a variety of sources including:

- 5x online workshops via Zoom, including conversations in breakout rooms and the main gallery with notes taken and checked by engagement facilitators
- Written feedback from 5x follow-up surveys
- Comments made on the Our Future Fairlop Miro board
- Email submissions

As evidence of the participant's support for the vision outputs, a survey was circulated following the programme. The pie charts on the following pages illustrate their level of support for each of the outputs.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Core Values when considered together?

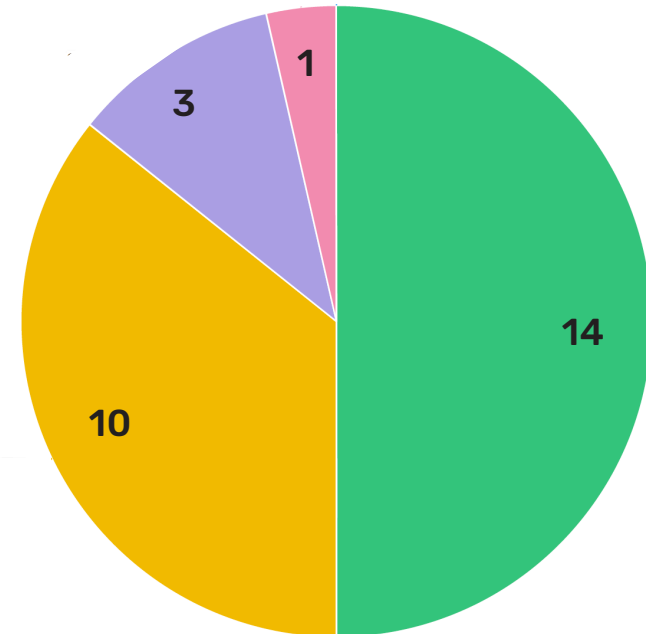


Question options

Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree Strongly disagree

Piechart displaying feedback submitted by participants following the programme.
Sample size = 28 people

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Vision Statement?

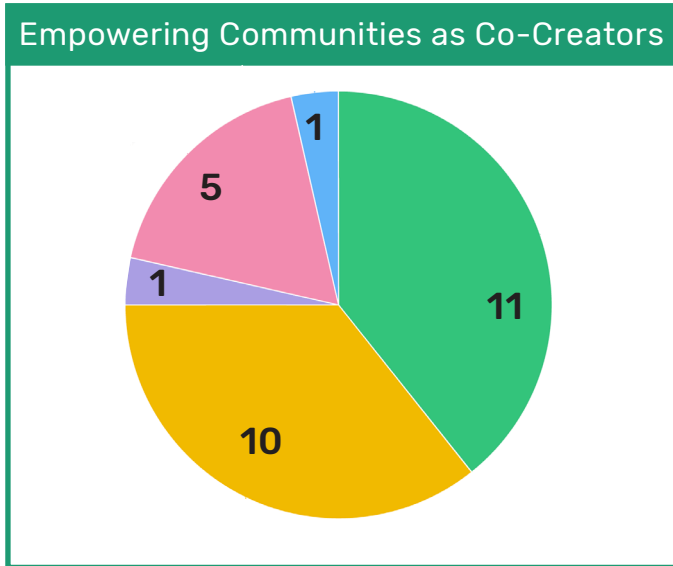
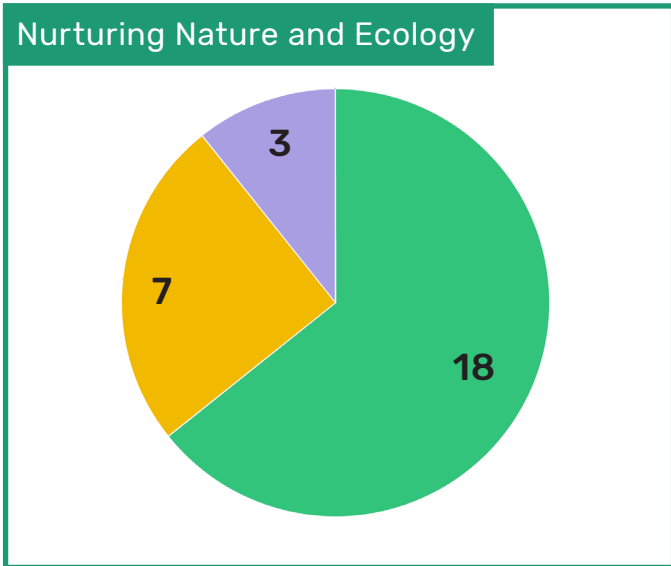
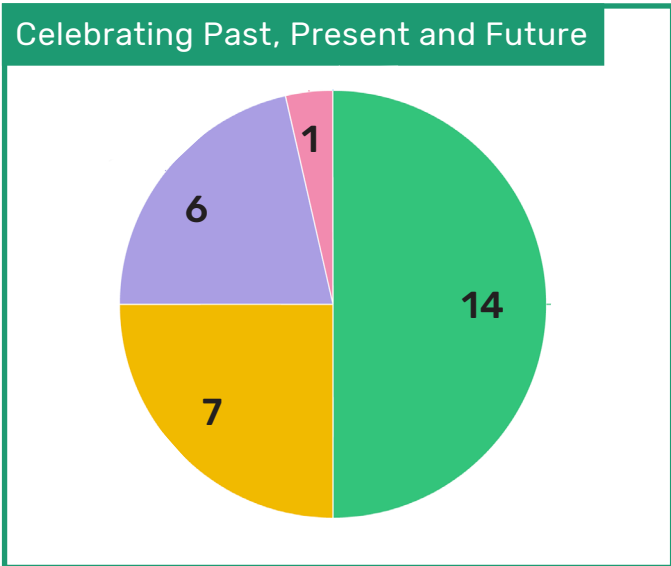
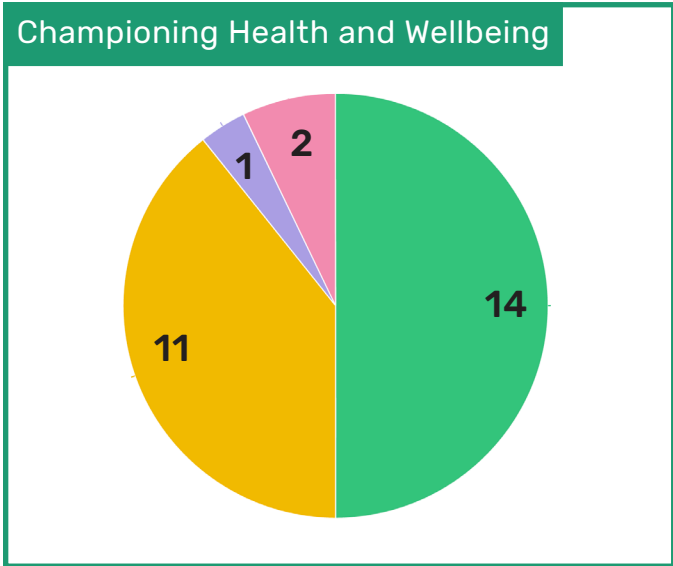
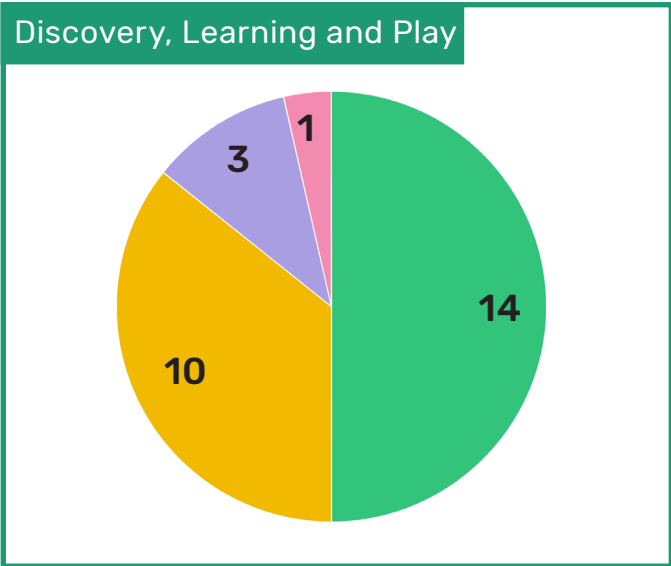
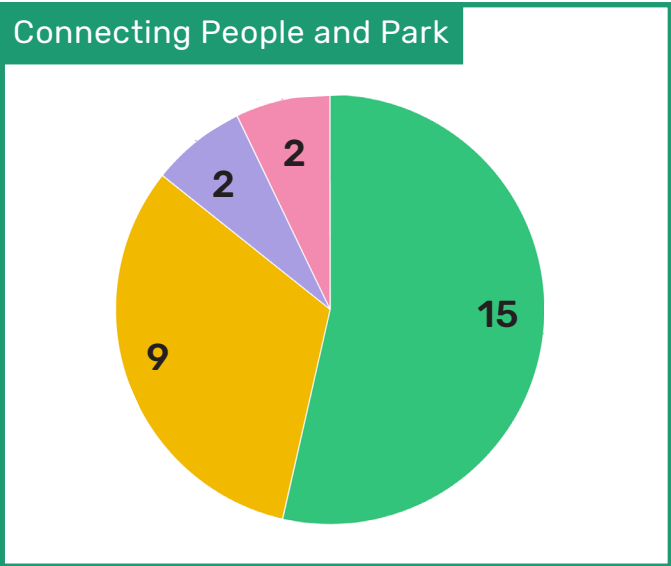


Question options

Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree
Disagree Strongly disagree

Piechart displaying feedback submitted by participants following the programme.
Sample size = 28 people

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following Vision Principles?



Piecharts displaying feedback submitted by participants following the programme.
Sample size = 28 people

Question options

- Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree

5.0

Next Steps

A multi-disciplinary consultant team has now been appointed to develop a masterplan for Our Future Fairlop. The masterplan will provide a spatial framework that reflects the vision statement and vision principles that have been developed through community engagement.

Contact

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

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