

Kirklees Council

Heckmondwike Blueprint

Community Feedback Report

Reference: 02

Issue | 11 September 2023



This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

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1. Introduction

Arup has been commissioned by Kirklees Council to develop masterplans in the Kirklees District for Batley, Cleckheaton and Heckmondwike. This report covers the feedback received from the Heckmondwike public consultation on the Heckmondwike Blueprint which was live from 19 May 2023 to 19 June 2023.

The Heckmondwike Blueprint is being developed to guide investment in the town centre over a ten-to-fifteen-year period. It aims to identify areas where growth and revitalisation can occur, to support investment in the town. Kirklees Council, led by ward councillors, is working in partnership with local communities, businesses, developers and voluntary groups to encourage investment in the town centre.

Prior to this public consultation, the local community have been involved in providing feedback on their local area and identifying opportunities for improvements through the Kirklees Place Standard exercise. The emerging concept masterplan proposals and subsequent public consultation have built on the outcomes from the Place Standards process.

The aim of the Blueprint public consultation was to encourage the local community to take part and provide feedback to help prioritise the masterplan ideas and projects, which will influence the design development and delivery strategy. Engagement and consultation have worked hard to be transparent, inclusive and comprehensive.

1.1 Purpose of this report

The purpose of this document is to report on the public consultation carried out for Heckmondwike Blueprint. The report is set out as follows:

- Section 2 sets out the approach to consultation;
- Section 3 presents the analysis of feedback received and response to key themes raised regarding the design of the masterplan;
- Section 4 provides a conclusion to this report; and
- Appendices A and B include publicity and consultation materials.

2. Approach to consultation

2.1 Approach

This section sets out the approach to consulting with the local community about the proposed masterplan for Heckmondwike. The aim of the consultation was to raise awareness of the proposals among the local community, gather feedback from the public and stakeholders about the proposed masterplan and help to prioritise the proposed projects.

The approach to consultation has included a range of traditional and digital methods of engagement to help everybody access the information and provide their views. Traditional methods of engagement included sending notification letters to the local community, putting up posters in local facilities and hosting in-person consultation events for people to talk to the project team. Digital methods of engagement included hosting an online webpage using the Arup Virtual Engage platform where people could interact with consultation boards and find out more information.

The consultation period ran for 4 weeks to allow time for people to access information and to receive any hard copies of materials and questionnaires if requested.

2.2 Publicity

Table 1 provides information about the awareness-raising activities Kirklees Council undertook prior to the public consultation.

Table 1: Awareness Raising Activities

| Communication Channel | Who | Summary |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Notification letters | All households within Heckmondwike's wards. | Letters sent prior to the consultation starting to raise awareness of the upcoming consultation events and online Virtual Engage website and provide the opportunity to request a paper copy (example in Appendix A). |
| Posters and flyers | Public | Posted in shops and community facilities e.g., local shops prior to the consultation starting to raise awareness of upcoming consultation events. |
| Library | Public | Information was available in the library throughout the consultation period. |
| Media | Public | Social media posts via Kirklees Council Facebook, next door, Kirklees Together and Twitter pre-public consultation. Press releases pre-public consultation. Social media targeted polls on the consultation questions. |
| Project webpage | Public and stakeholders | A dedicated project page on Kirklees Council website to inform the public about the upcoming consultation events and provide a link to Virtual Engage. |
| Business Drop in | Businesses | Dropped into all businesses within the town centre to answer their questions on the proposals. |
| Business Masterplan Pack | Businesses | A pack including a covering letter (example in Appendix A), paper copy of the masterplan, questionnaire and free post envelope was sent to all businesses within 250m of the town centre boundary. |

2.3 Consultation activities

The public consultation was live from 19 May 2023 to 19 June 2023.

2.3.1 Public consultation events

The Council held four in-person public consultation events to provide an opportunity for the public to speak with members of the project team about the Blueprint and ask any questions. The events were held on different days, times of the day to reach a wide audience. Physical consultation boards were on display throughout the consultation period at Heckmondwike Farmer's Market, The Pavilion, Firth Park and Brighton Street Community Centre. Hard copies of the questionnaire were available for the public to submit their feedback upon request.

Table 2: Consultation Events

| Date | Time | Location | Approximate number of visitors |
|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 20 May 2023 | 8am – 12pm | Heckmondwike Farmer's Market | 35 |
| 25 May 2023 | 12pm – 2pm | The Pavilion | 25 |
| 08 June 2023 | 2pm – 4pm | Brighton Street Community Centre | 15 |
| 13 June 2023 | 6pm – 8pm | The Pavilion | 6 |

2.3.2 Virtual Engage

In addition to the in-person consultation events, Arup hosted an online website (Virtual Engage) where the public could interact with the consultation materials and submit their feedback by answering the online questionnaire. Figure 38 shows an example of the Virtual Engage webpage.

Table 3: Visitor stats from Virtual Engage

| Date range | Total Page Views | Total Users | Source (Top 3) |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|---|
| 19 May – 19 June 2023 | 925 | 148 | Kirklees.gov.uk Direct to the Virtual Engage website Statics.teams.cdn.office.net |

2.3.3 Consultation materials

Consultation materials sought to provide the public with insight into the proposals to enable them to provide their feedback and to facilitate discussions between the public and the project team. The following materials were provided online and made available in paper copy as requested:

- Virtual Engage consultation boards;
- Physical consultation boards on display at Heckmondwike Farmer's Market, The Pavilion, Firth Park and Brighton Street Community Centre; and
- Questionnaire (hard copies available at the consultation events and online on Virtual Engage).

The consultation boards provided information about the proposed masterplan which included: Heckmondwike baselining, spatial analysis, masterplan principles, phasing and projects, feedback and next steps.

3. Feedback Analysis

During the consultation period (19 May 2023 to 19 June 2023), a total of 234 responses were received through various channels, including virtual engagement, email, social media, and paper copies. The distribution of respondents is presented in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents by Feedback Method

| Feedback Channel | Number of Respondents |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Virtual Engage | 148 |
| Social Media | 47 |
| Paper Copy | 38 |
| Email | 1 |

The following section provides analysis of the responses and a response to key consultation themes.

3.1 Types of feedback

Feedback was received through the following channels:

- Virtual Engage questionnaire – responses submitted online via Virtual Engage website.
- Our Local Centres inbox – responses submitted via email.
- Paper copy responses – responses submitted via post.

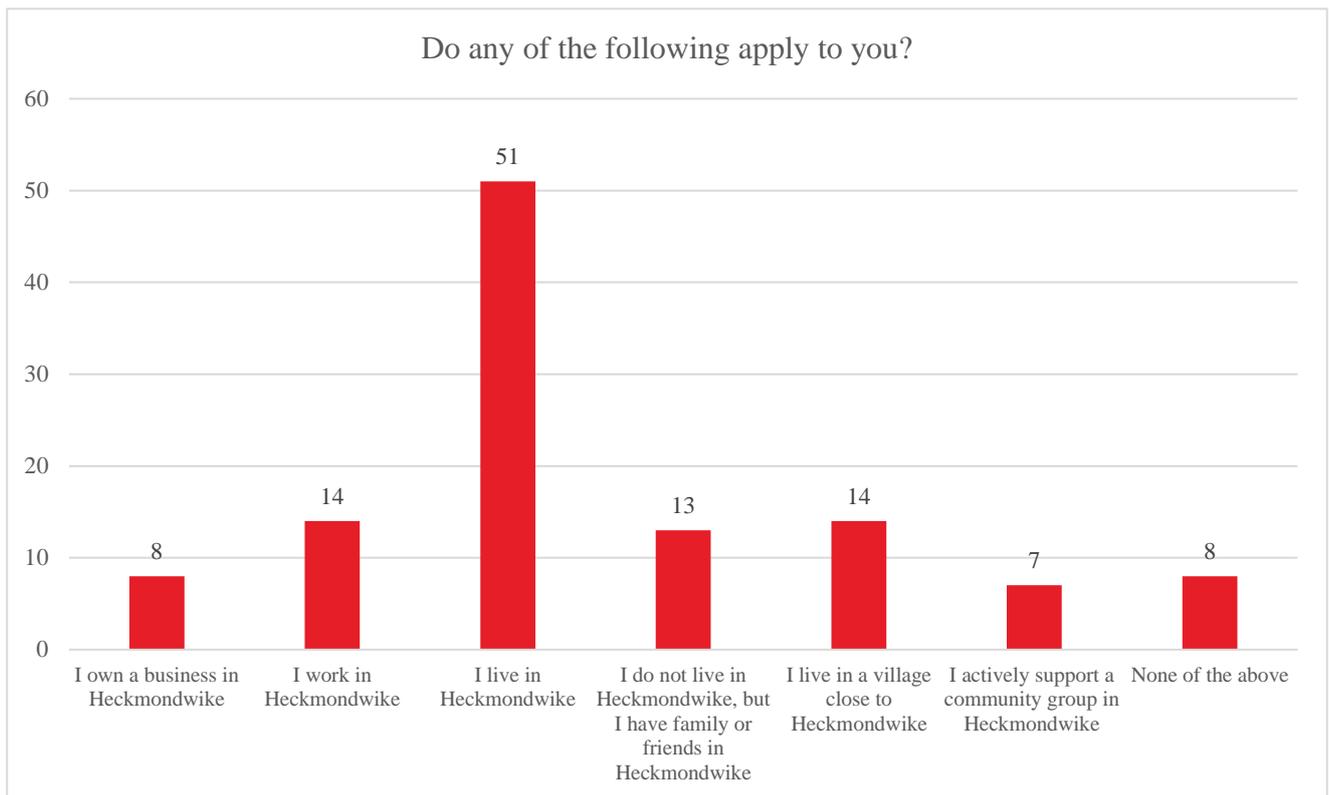
3.2 Questionnaire analysis

There were 11 questions in total, which included 10 closed questions and 1 open question. There was also a question regarding the respondents' age group to gather demographic information.

Question 1: Do any of the following apply to you?

97 respondents answered Question 1. Respondents could select as many options as relevant to them. The most frequent responses were 'I live in Heckmondwike' (53%), 'I live in a village close to Heckmondwike' (14%) and 'I do not live in Heckmondwike, but I have family or friends in Heckmondwike' (13%), as shown in Figure 1. This indicates that a significant portion of the respondents have experiences in Heckmondwike either by residing in the area or through family/ friends.

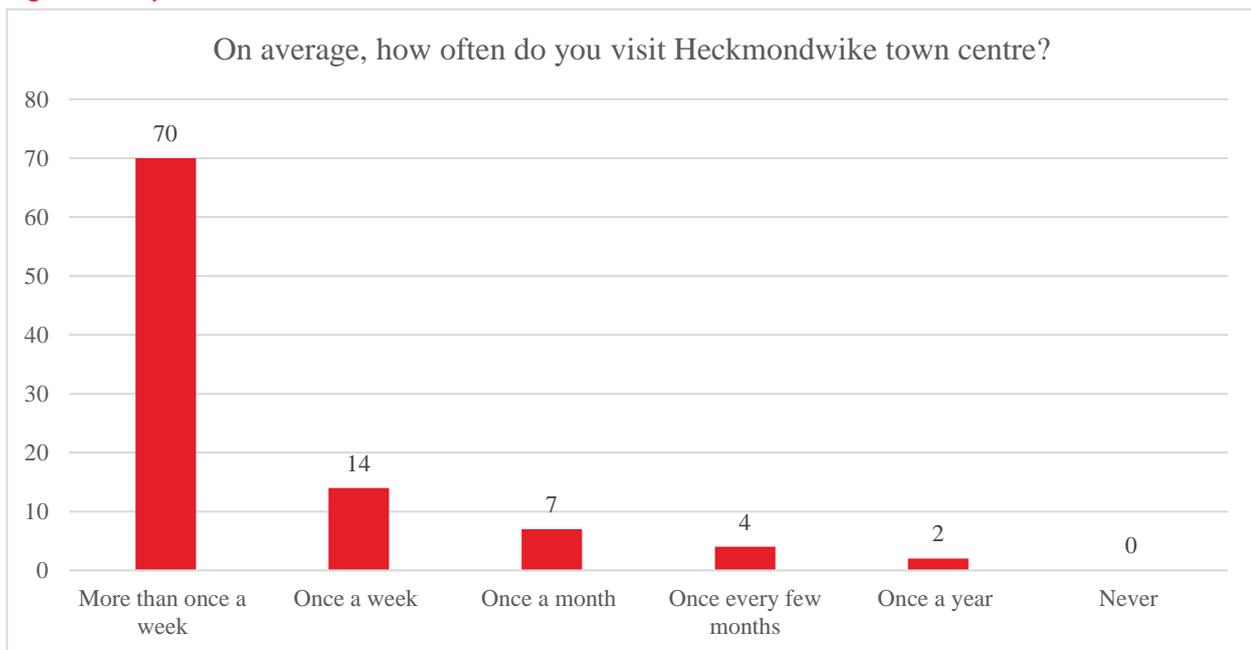
Figure 1: Responses to Question 1



Question 2: On average, how often do you visit Heckmondwike town centre?

98 respondents answered Question 2. Respondents were asked about how often they visit Heckmondwike town centre on average. The majority of respondents, approximately 71%, reported visiting Heckmondwike town centre more than once a week. Additionally, 14% of the respondents stated they visit the town centre once a week, as shown in Figure 2.

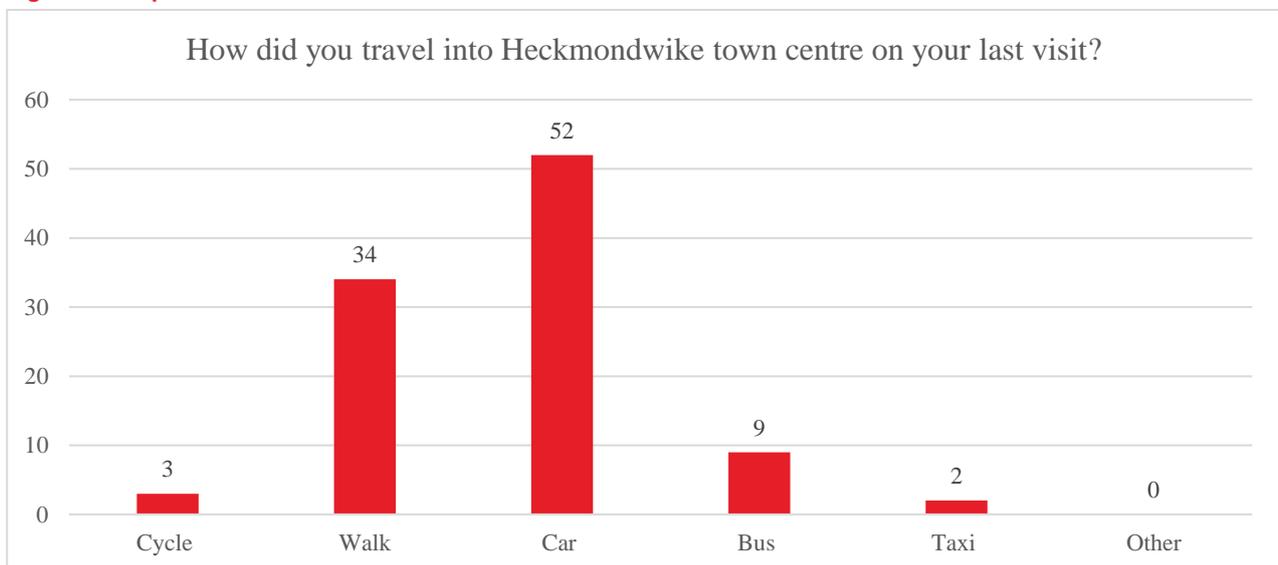
Figure 2: Responses to Question 2



Question 3: How did you travel into Heckmondwike town centre on your last visit?

98 respondents answered Question 3 regarding how they travelled into Heckmondwike town centre on their last visit. Approximately 53% of the respondents used a car as their mode of transportation, highlighting the reliance on cars to travel into the town centre. However, it is encouraging to note that 35% of the respondents chose to walk into the town centre on their last visit. Approximately 9% of respondents travelled by bus, whilst those using taxis and bicycles was limited to a few respondents, as shown in Figure 3.

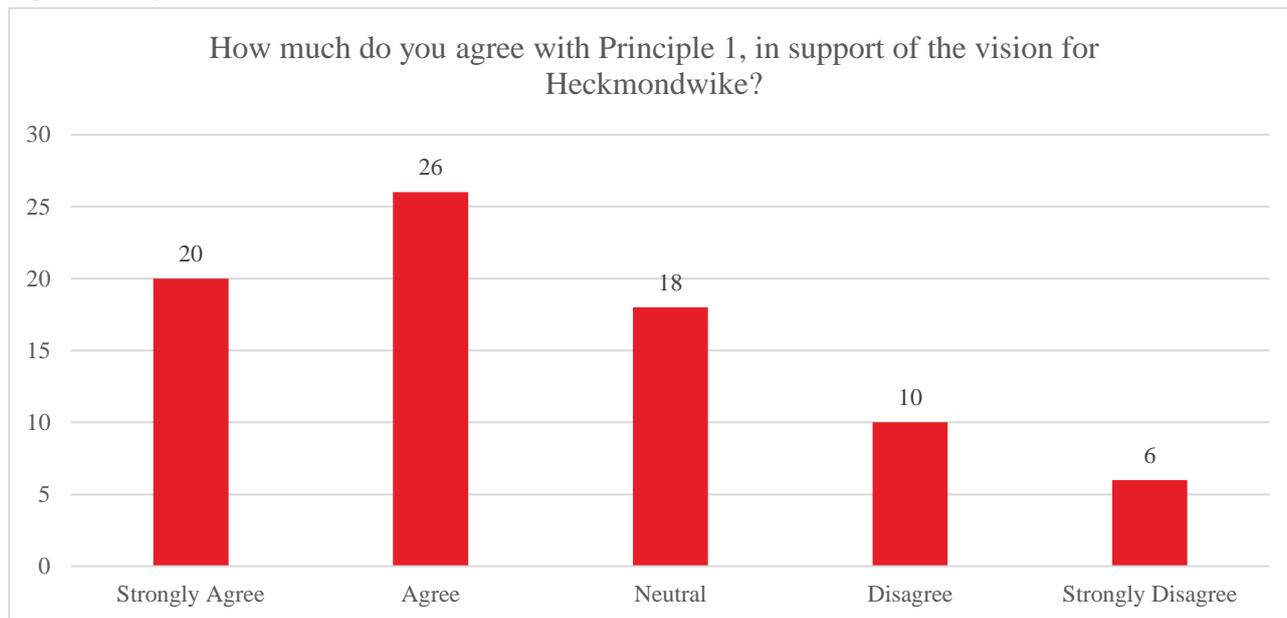
Figure 3: Responses to Question 3



Question 4a: *The town has a strong sense of place by providing and celebrating cultural assets through community events, markets and community facilities, which are engaging for all ages.* Principle 1 aims to celebrate community and inclusivity. How much do you agree with Principle 1 in support of the vision for Heckmondwike?

80 respondents answered Question 4a regarding their agreement with Principle 1, which focuses on fostering community cohesion and inclusivity. The results indicate a generally positive sentiment towards the principle as approximately 58% selected ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘Agree’. Around 23% of the respondents were neutral, while 20% selected ‘Disagree’ or ‘Strongly Disagree’ – as shown in Figure 4.

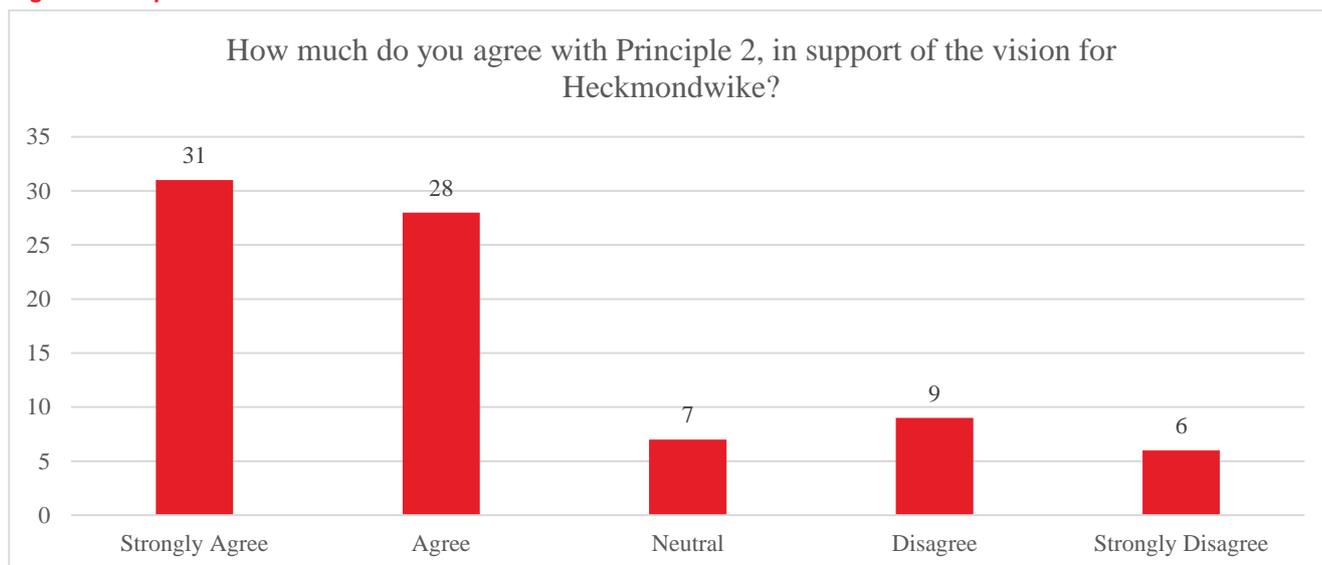
Figure 4: Responses to Question 4a



Question 4b: Improved connectivity and legibility throughout the town would support safe and attractive pedestrian and cycling routes. Principle 2 focuses on providing a vibrant and active town with strong connectivity for all users. How much do you agree with Principle 2 in support of the vision for Heckmondwike?

81 responses answered Question 4b, which aimed to assess the respondents’ agreement with Principle 2 in support of the vision for Heckmondwike. This principle focuses on providing a vibrant and active town with strong connectivity for all users. More than half of the respondents are in agreement with Principle 2 as approximately 38% selected ‘Strongly Agree’ and 35% selected ‘Agree’. Approximately 9% had a neutral stance to this principle, while 19% opted for ‘Disagree’ or ‘Strongly Disagree’, as displayed in Figure 5.

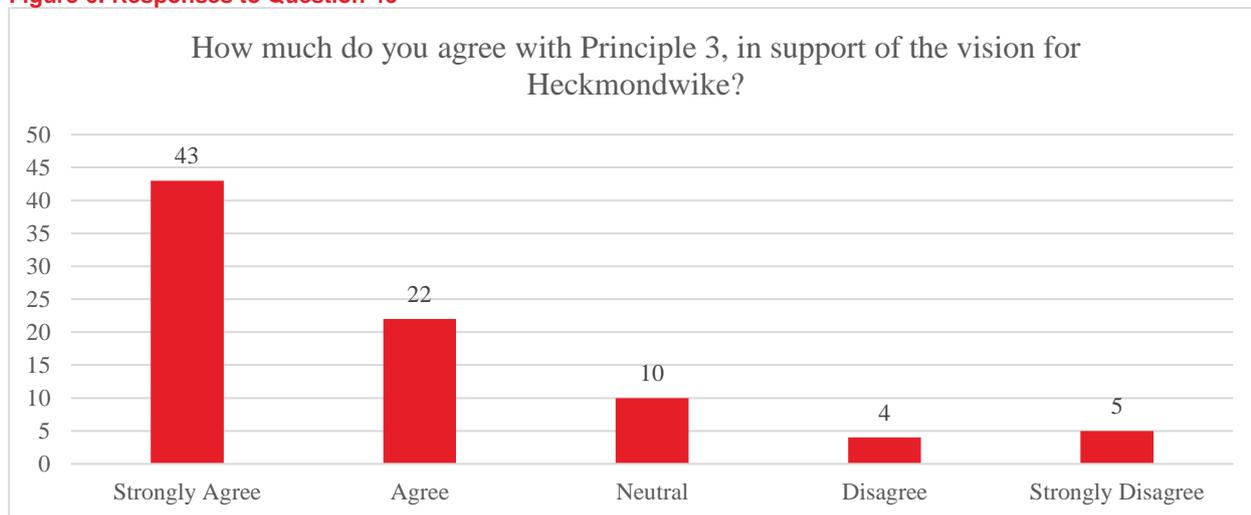
Figure 5: Responses to Question 4b



Question 4c: Enhanced natural assets and the creation of new green spaces and pocket parks can help support the wellbeing and health of residents and sustainability of the town. Principle 3 looks to promote a sustainable and healthy town with good access to parks and green spaces. How much do you agree with Principle 3 in support of the vision for Heckmondwike?

84 respondents answered Question 4c regarding their agreement of Principle 3, which focuses on promoting a sustainable and healthy town with good access to green spaces. As displayed in **Figure 6**, 36 respondents (approximately 77%) either ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘Agree’ with Principle 3 in support of the vision for Heckmondwike. Approximately 12% were neutral and 11% selected ‘Disagree’/ ‘Strongly Disagree’.

Figure 6: Responses to Question 4c



A set of projects have been identified and proposed to enhance Heckmondwike town centre and align with the vision and objectives of the blueprint. These projects include:

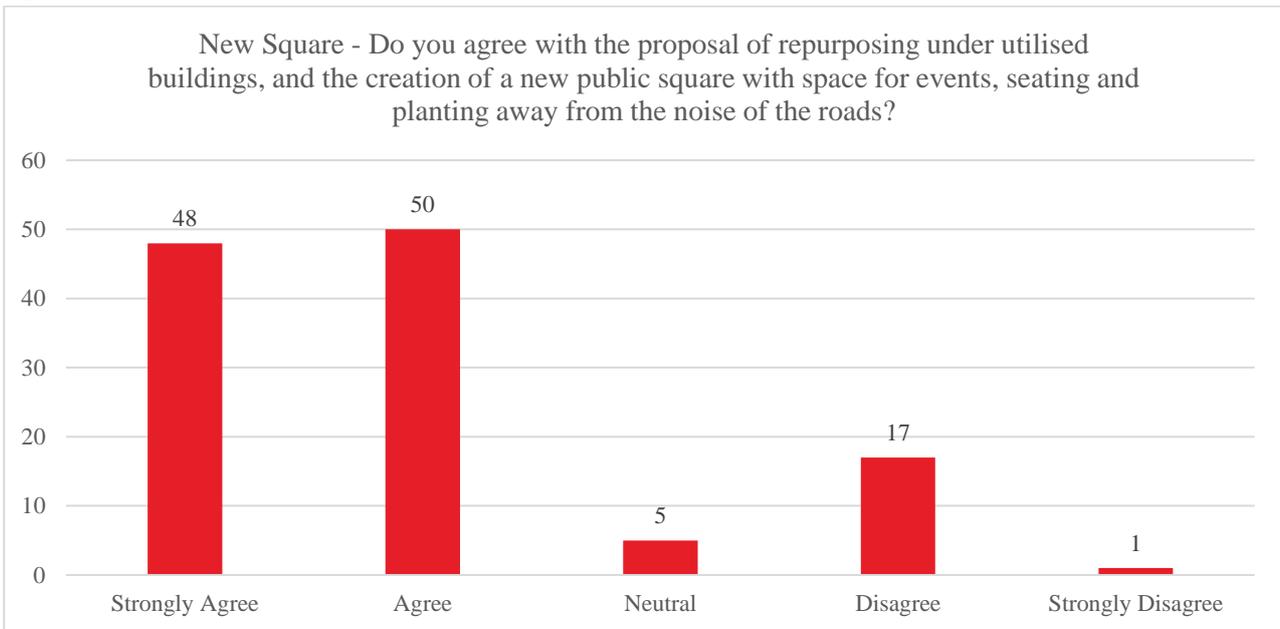
- New Square;
- A connected Green Park;
- Reworked Market Square;
- Algernon Firth Park;
- Greenway Link; and
- Bus Station.

New Square

Question 5a: Do you agree with the proposals in New Square to repurpose underutilised buildings and create a new public square with space for events, seating and planting away from the noise of the roads?

121 respondents answered Question 5a. Approximately 81% (98 respondents) selected ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘Agree’ regarding the proposals to repurpose underutilised buildings and create a new public square in New Square, as shown in Figure 7.

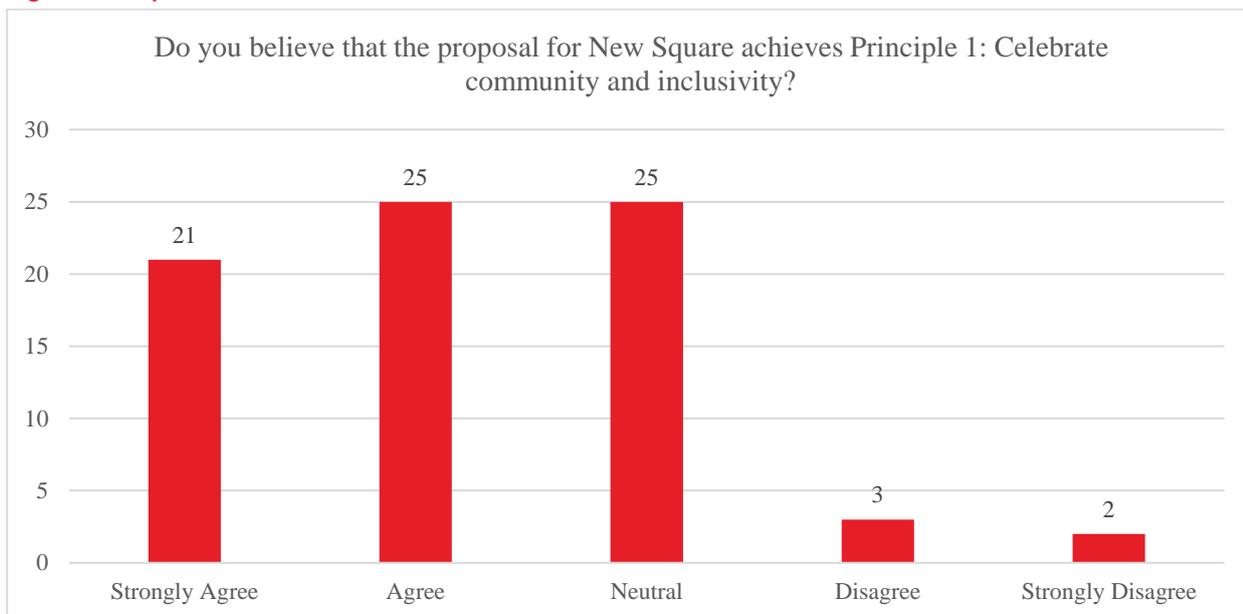
Figure 7: Responses to Question 5a



Question 5b: Do you believe that the proposal for New Square achieves ‘Principle 1: Celebrate Community and Inclusivity’?

76 respondents answered Question 5b. 46 respondents (61%) are in agreement that the proposals put forth for New Square align with Principle 1 to celebrate community and inclusivity. 25 respondents (approximately 33%) held a neutral stance, shown in Figure 8.

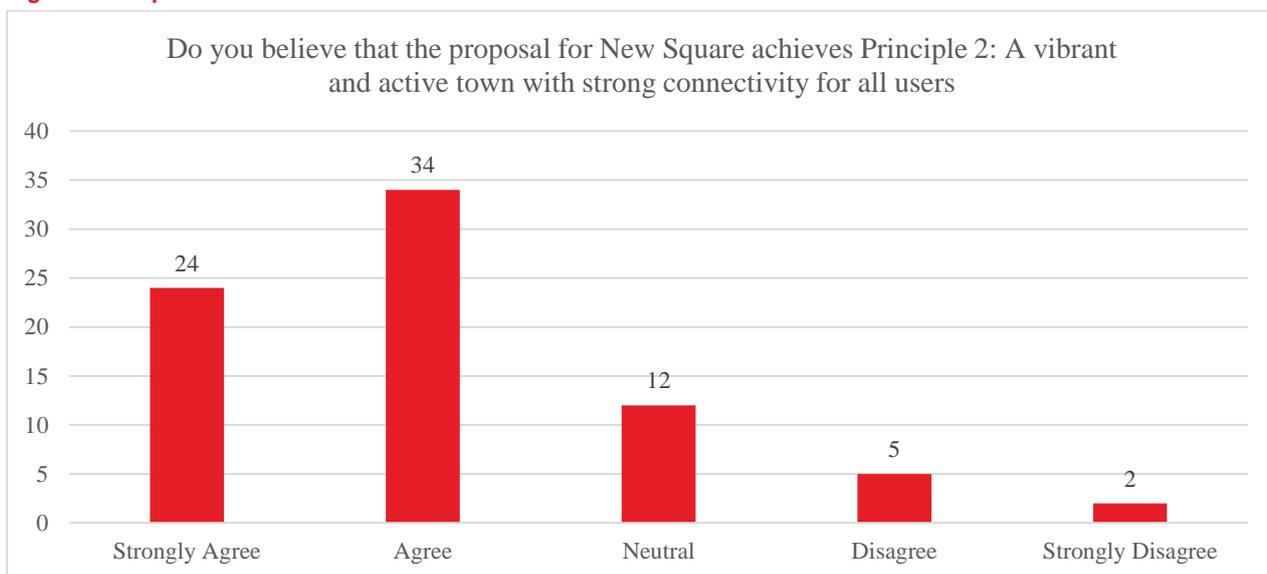
Figure 8: Responses to Question 5b



Question 5c: Do you believe that the proposal for New Square achieve ‘Principle 2: A Vibrant and Active Town with Strong Connectivity for All Users’?

77 respondents answered Question 5c. 58 respondents (approximately 75%) indicated their agreement that the proposals for New Square align with Principle 2. On the other hand, 12 respondents remained neutral, while 7 respondents were in disagreement, as shown in Figure 9.

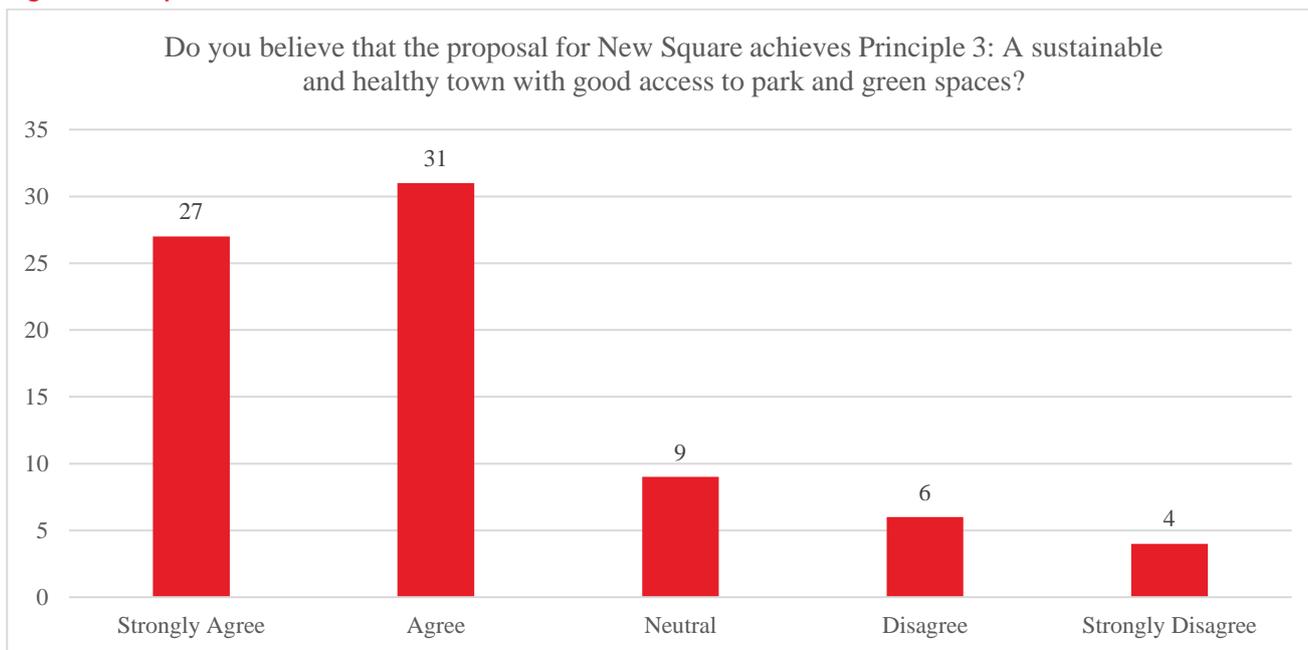
Figure 9: Responses to Question 5c



Question 5d: Do you believe that the proposal for New Square achieve ‘Principle 3: A Sustainable and Healthy Town with Good Access to Parks and Green Spaces’?

77 respondents answered Question 5d. Over 70% of the respondents are in agreement that the proposals for New Square achieve Principle 3, shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10: Responses to Question 5d

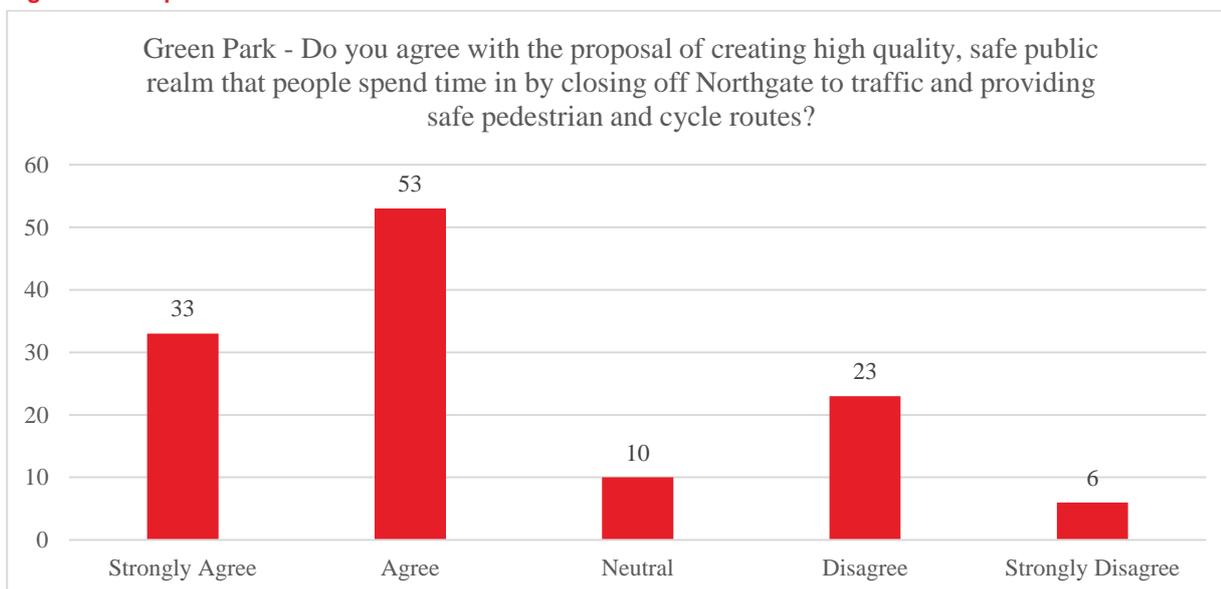


Green Park

Question 6a: Do you agree with the proposal in Green Park of creating high quality, safe public realm that people spend time in by closing off Northgate to traffic and providing safe pedestrian and cycle routes?

125 respondents answered Question 6a. Over 65% of the respondents agree with the proposals of creating high quality, safe public realm and providing safe pedestrian and cycle routes, as displayed in Figure 11.

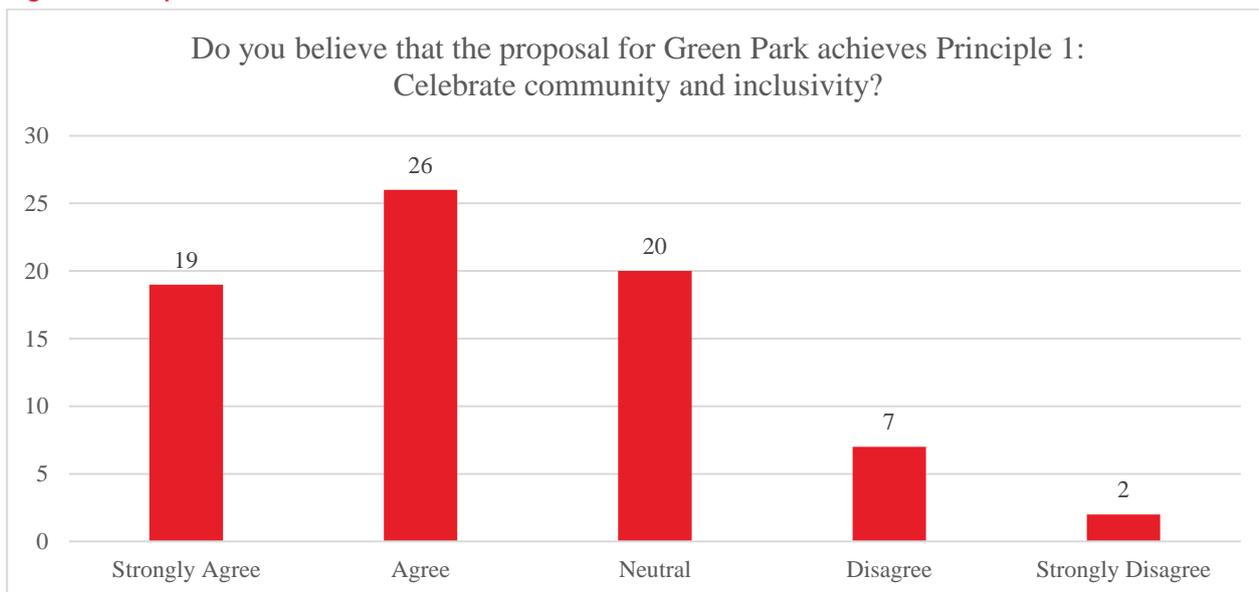
Figure 11: Responses to Question 6a



Question 6b: Do you believe that the proposal for the Green Park achieve ‘Principle 1: Celebrate Community and Inclusivity’?

74 respondents answered Question 6b. Most respondents (61%) agreed that the proposals for Green Park achieve Principle 1, whereas 20 respondents (27%) provided a neutral response, as shown in Figure 12.

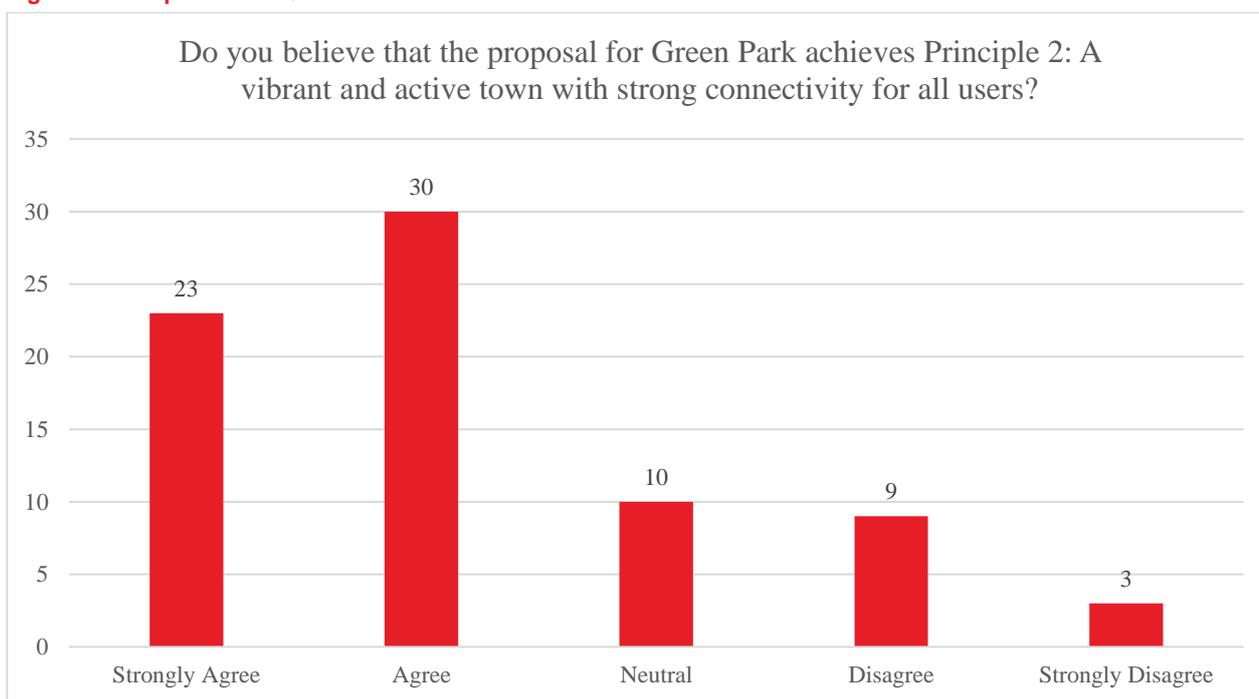
Figure 12: Responses to Question 6b



Question 6c: Do you believe that the proposal for the Green Park achieves ‘Principle 2: A Vibrant and Active Town with Strong Connectivity for All Users’?

75 respondents answered Question 6c. The majority of respondents (71%) selected either ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘Agree’, indicating that they believe the proposals for the Green Park achieve Principle 2. 10 respondents provided a neutral response and 12 were in disagreement, as shown in Figure 13.

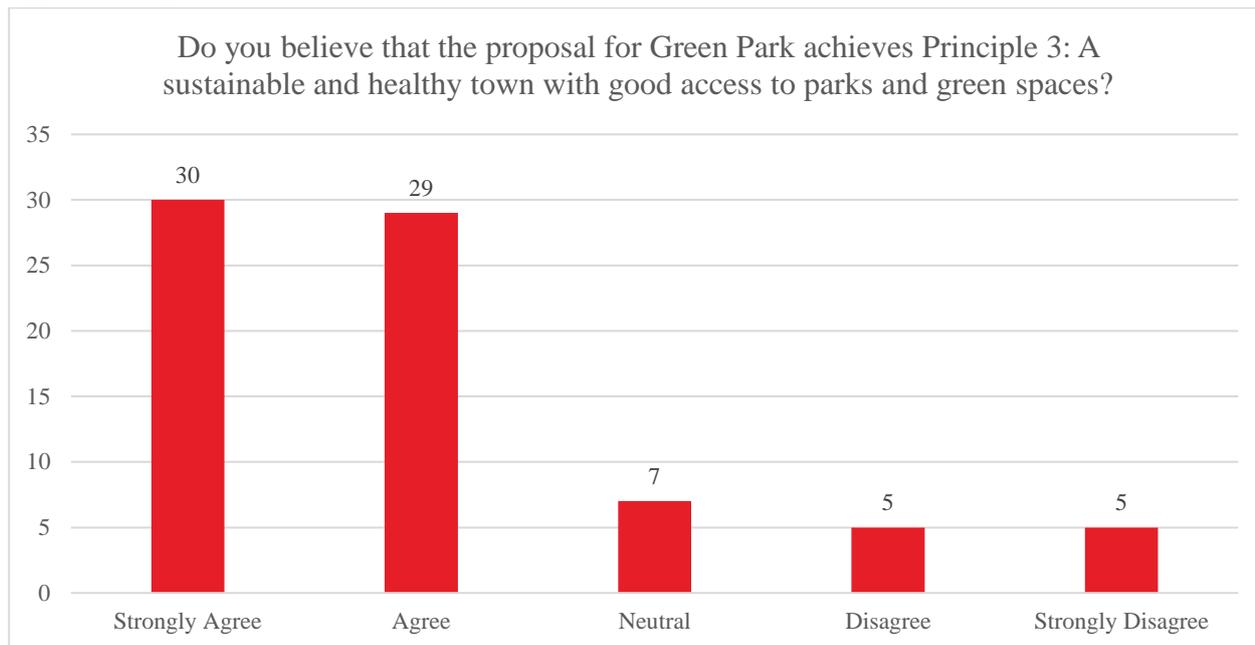
Figure 13: Responses to Question 6c



Question 6d: Do you believe that the proposal for the Green Park achieves ‘Principle 3: A Sustainable and Healthy Town with Good Access to Parks and Green Spaces’?

76 respondents answered Question 6d. Over 75% are in agreement that the proposals for Green Park achieve Principle 3, as shown in Figure 14.

Figure 14: Responses to Question 6d

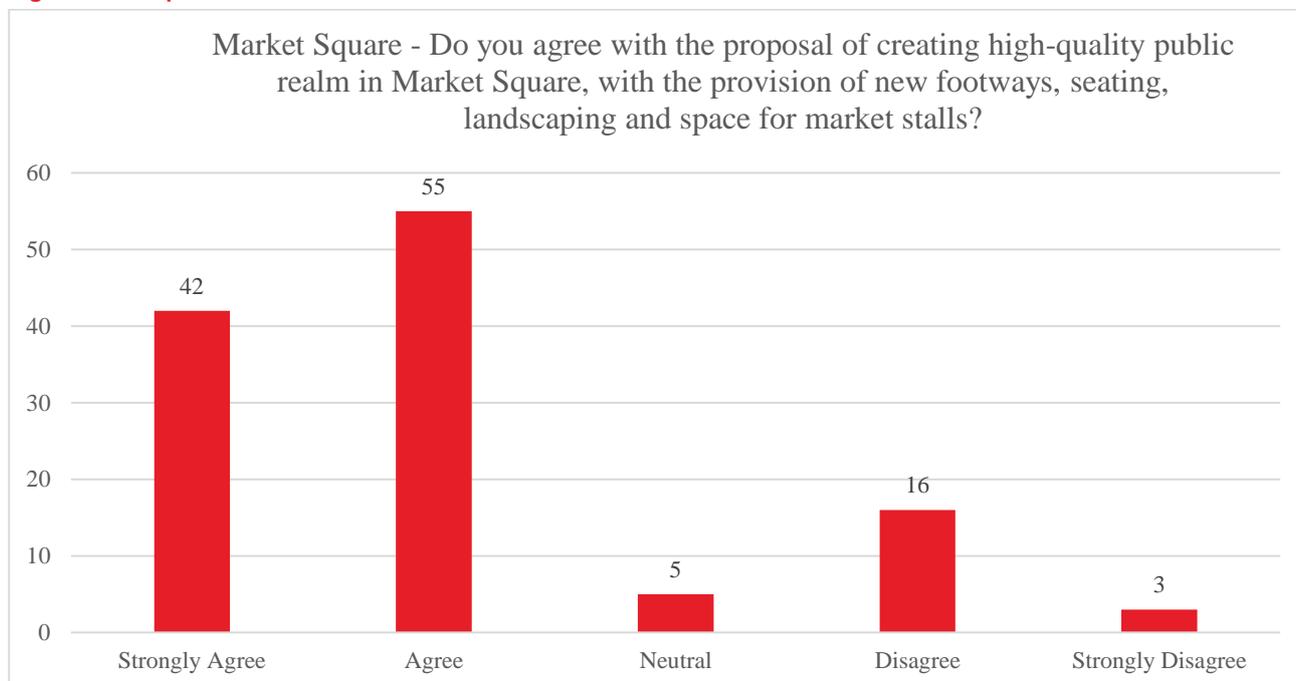


Market Square

Question 7a: Do you agree with the proposal of creating high-quality public realm in Market Square, with the provision of new footways, seating, landscaping and space for market stalls?

121 respondents answered Question 7a. Approximately 80% agree with the proposals of creating high-quality public realm in Market Square, as displayed in Figure 15.

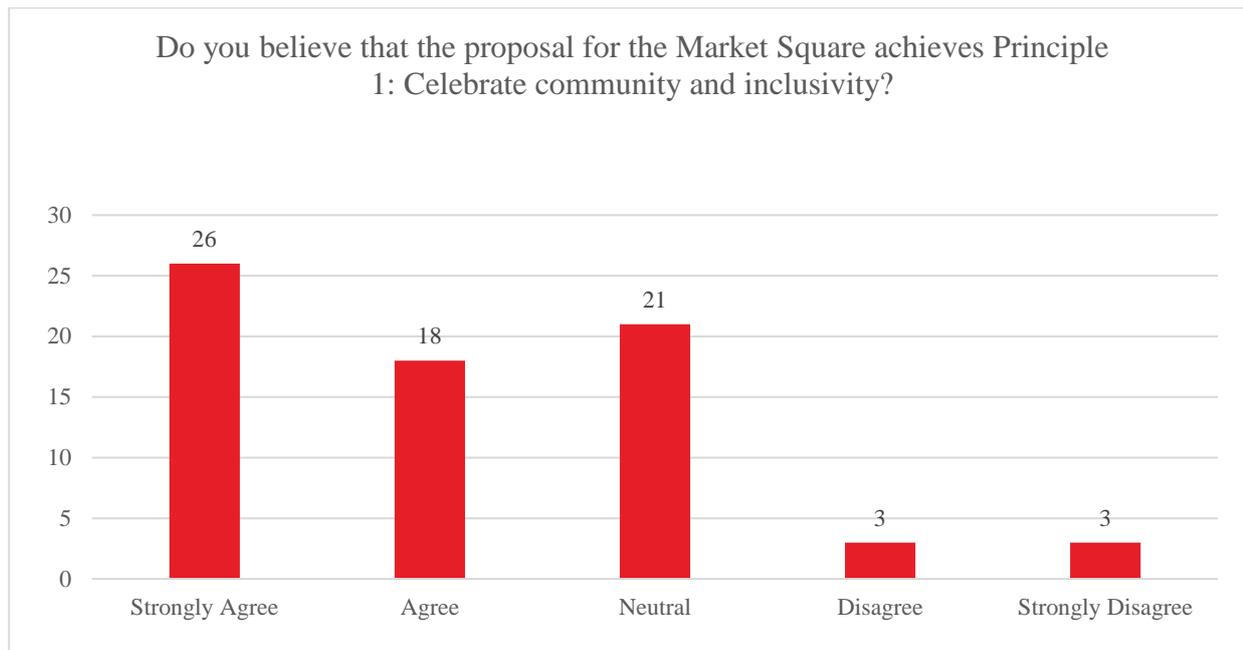
Figure 15: Responses to Question 7a



Question 7b: Do you believe that the proposal for the Market Square achieves ‘Principle 1: Celebrate Community and Inclusivity’?

71 respondents answered Question 7b. 44 respondents (approximately 62%) believe that the proposals for the Market Square achieves Principle 1, whereas 21 respondents (30%) were neutral, shown in Figure 16.

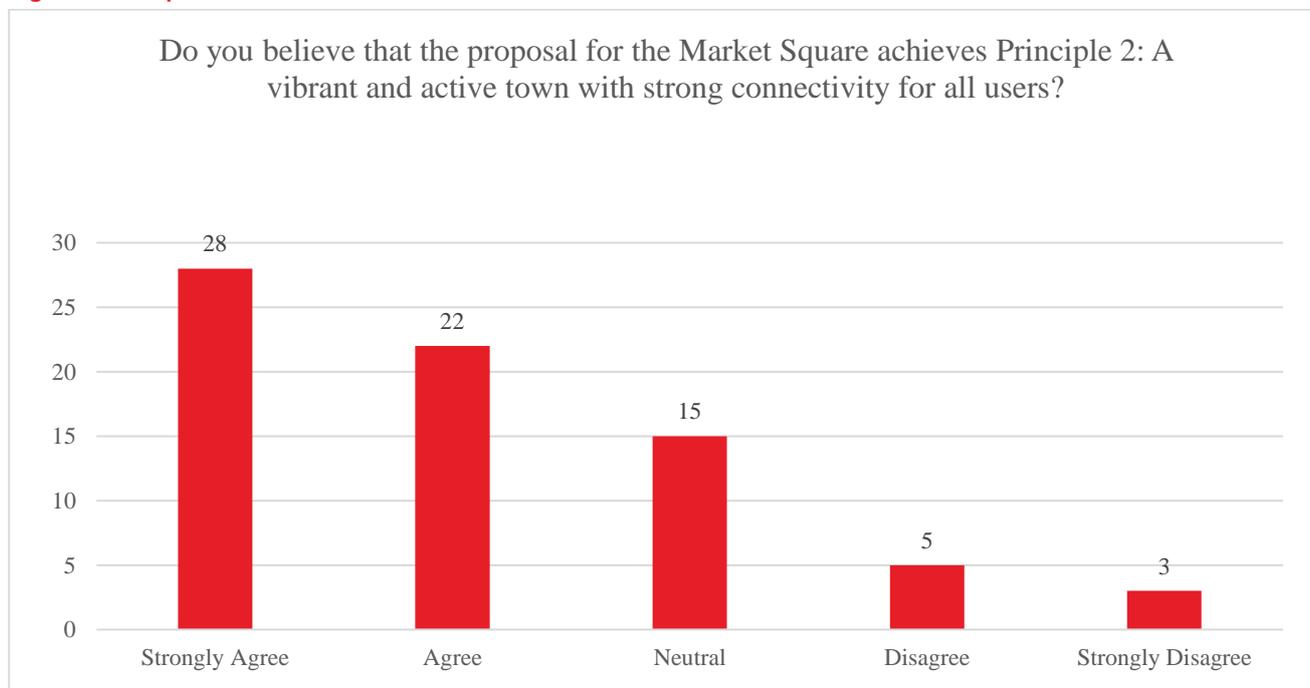
Figure 16: Responses to Question 7b



Question 7c: Do you believe that the proposal for the Market Square achieves ‘Principle 2: A Vibrant and Active Town with Strong Connectivity for All Users’?

73 respondents answered Question 7c. Most respondents (68%) were in agreement that the proposal for the Market Square achieves Principle 2 and approximately 21% were neutral, shown in Figure 17.

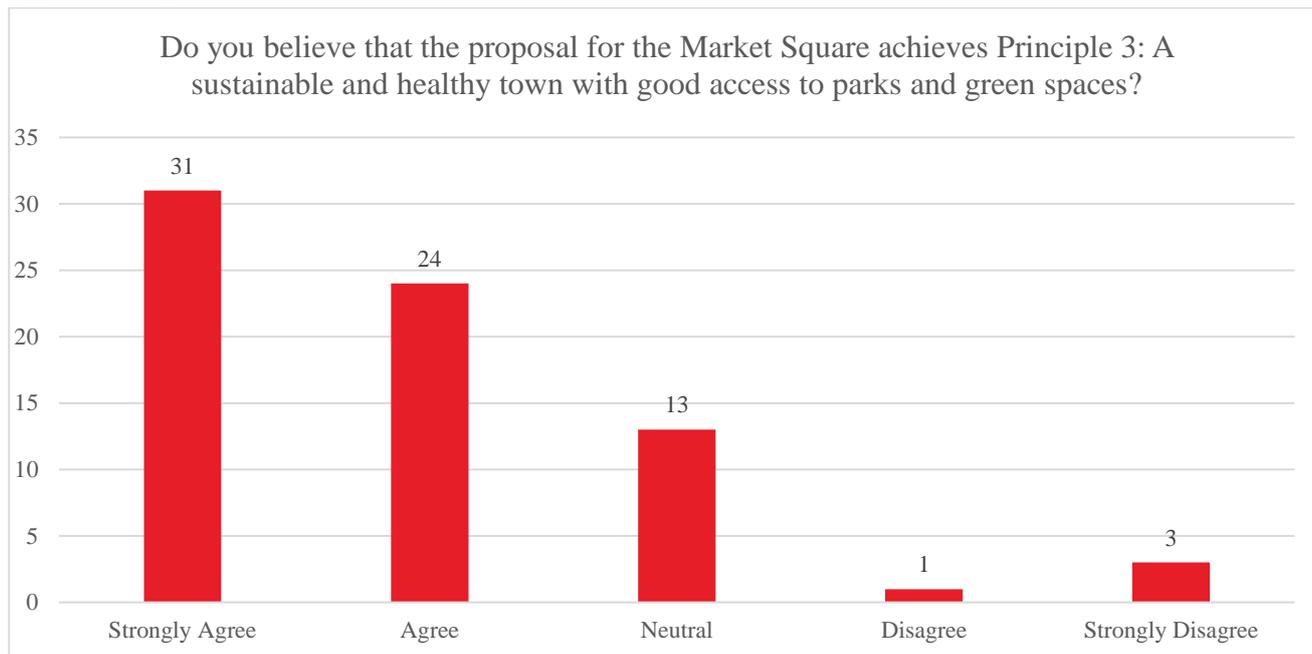
Figure 17: Responses to Question 7c



Question 7d: Do you believe that the proposal for the Green Park achieves ‘Principle 3: A Sustainable and Healthy Town with Good Access to Parks and Green Spaces’?

72 respondents answered Question 7d. Over 75% of the respondents are in agreement that the proposal for the Market Square achieves Principle 3 and approximately 18% are neutral, shown in Figure 18.

Figure 18: Responses to Question 7d

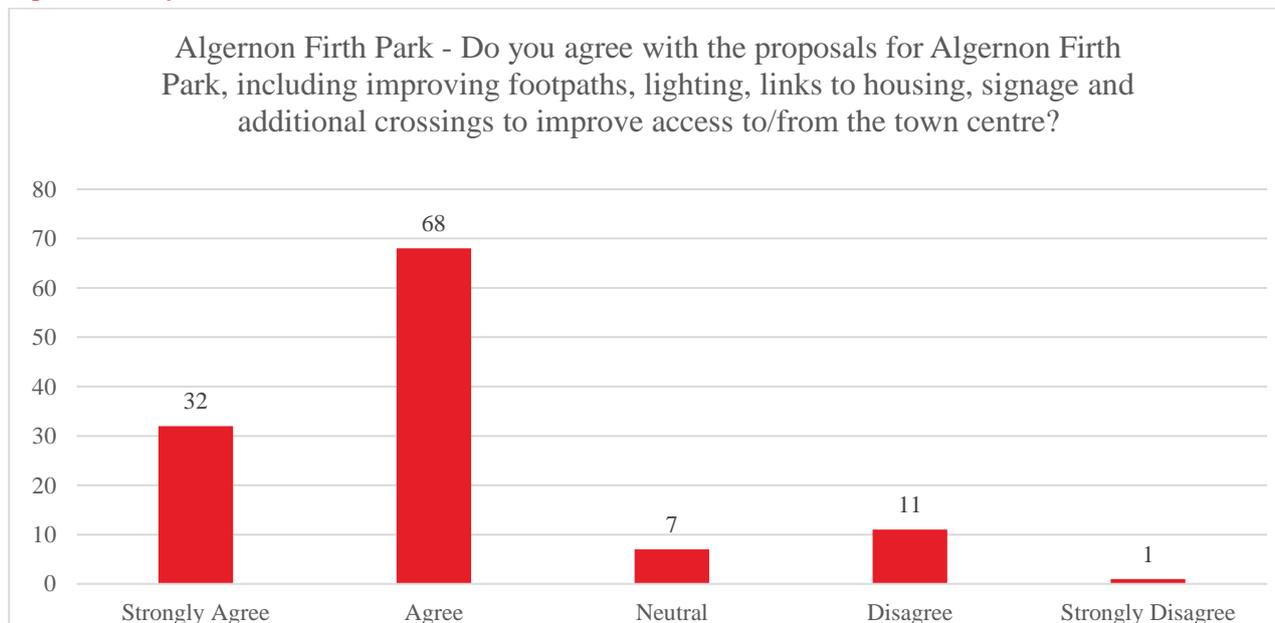


Algernon Firth Park

Question 8a: Do you agree with the proposals for Algernon Firth Park, including improving footpaths, lighting, links to housing, signage and additional crossings to improve access to/from the town centre?

119 respondents answered Question 8a. The most frequent responses were ‘Strongly Agree’ and ‘Agree’, with over 80% of the respondents being in agreement with the proposals for Algernon Firth Park, as shown in Figure 19.

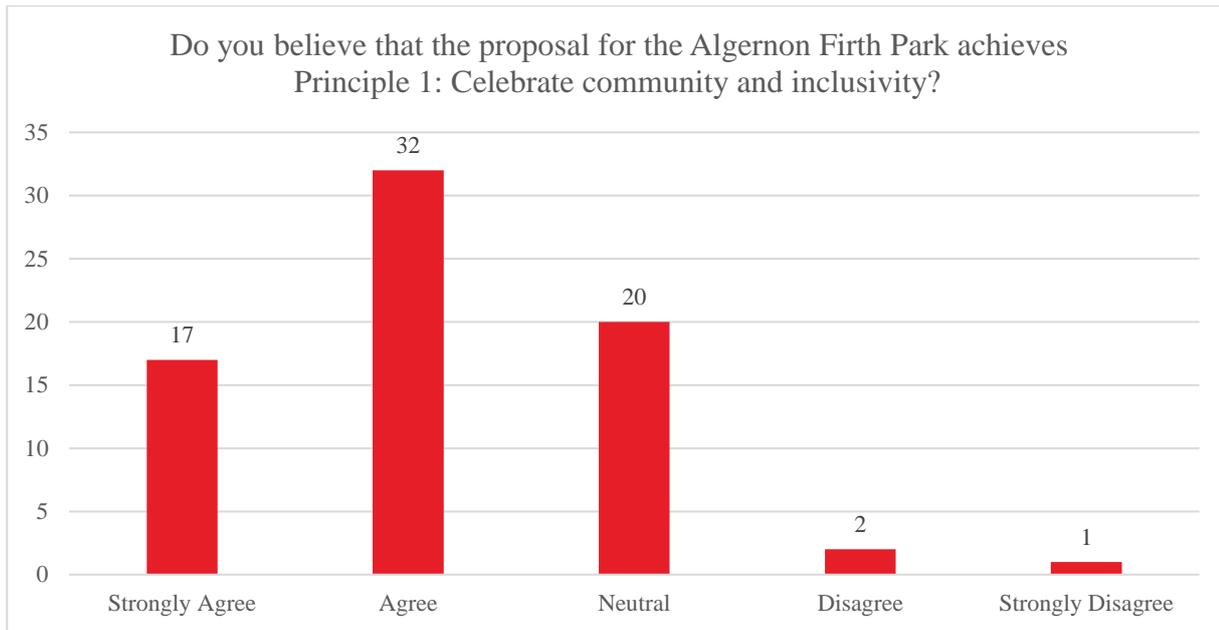
Figure 19: Responses to Question 8a



Question 8b: Do you believe that the proposal for Algernon Firth Park achieves ‘Principle 1: Celebrate Community and Inclusivity’?

72 respondents answered Question 8b. Over 65% of the respondents agreed that the proposals for Algernon Firth Park achieve Principle 1 and over 25% are neutral, as shown in Figure 20.

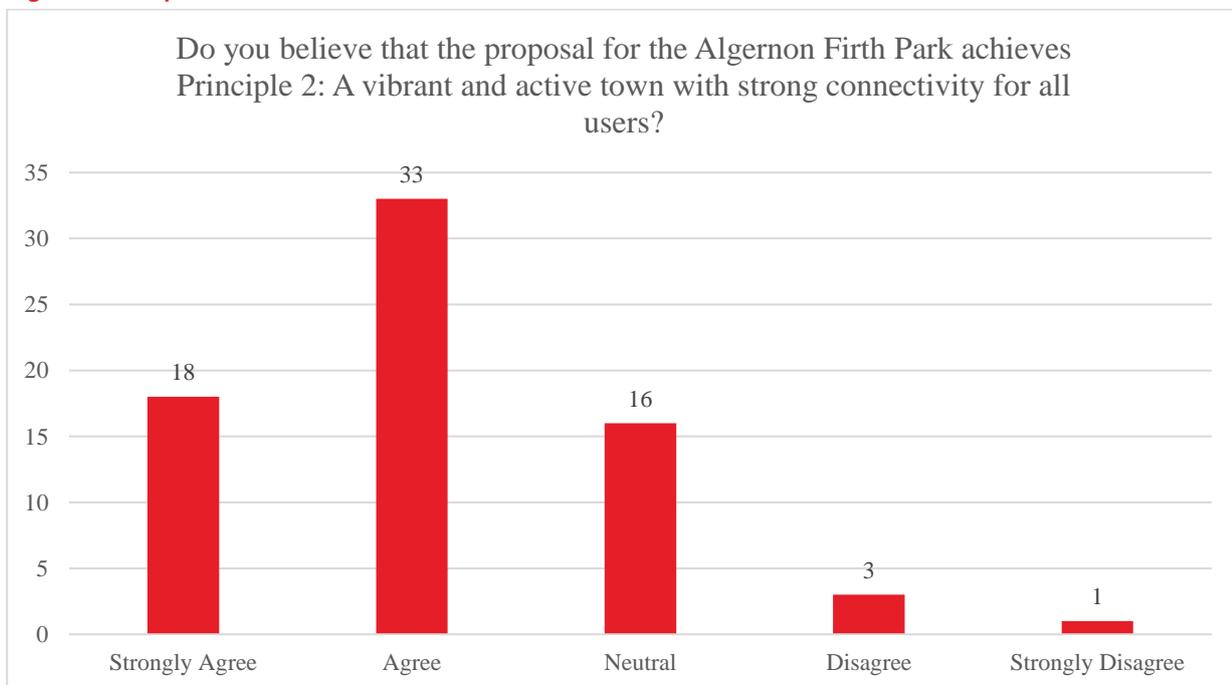
Figure 20: Responses to Question 8b



Question 8c: Do you believe that the proposal for Algernon Firth Park achieves ‘Principle 2: A Vibrant and Active Town with Strong Connectivity for All Users’?

71 respondents answered Question 8c. Most respondents (approximately 72%) are in agreement that the proposal for Algernon Firth Park achieves Principle 2 and approximately 23% had a neutral stance, as shown in Figure 21.

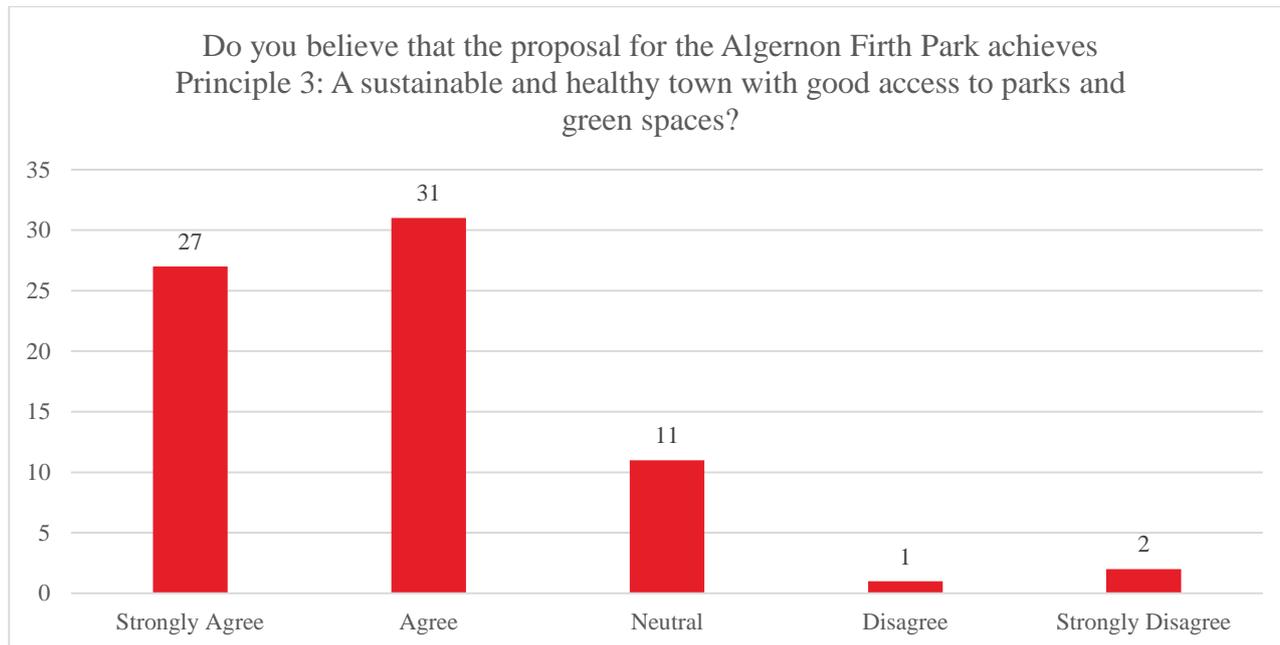
Figure 21: Responses to Question 8c



Question 8d: Do you believe that the proposal for Algernon Firth Park achieves ‘Principle 3: A Sustainable and Healthy Town with Good Access to Parks and Green Spaces’?

72 respondents answered Question 8d. The majority of respondents, approximately 81%, agreed that the proposal for Algernon Firth Park achieve Principle 3 and 15% were neutral, as shown in Figure 22.

Figure 22: Responses to Question 8d

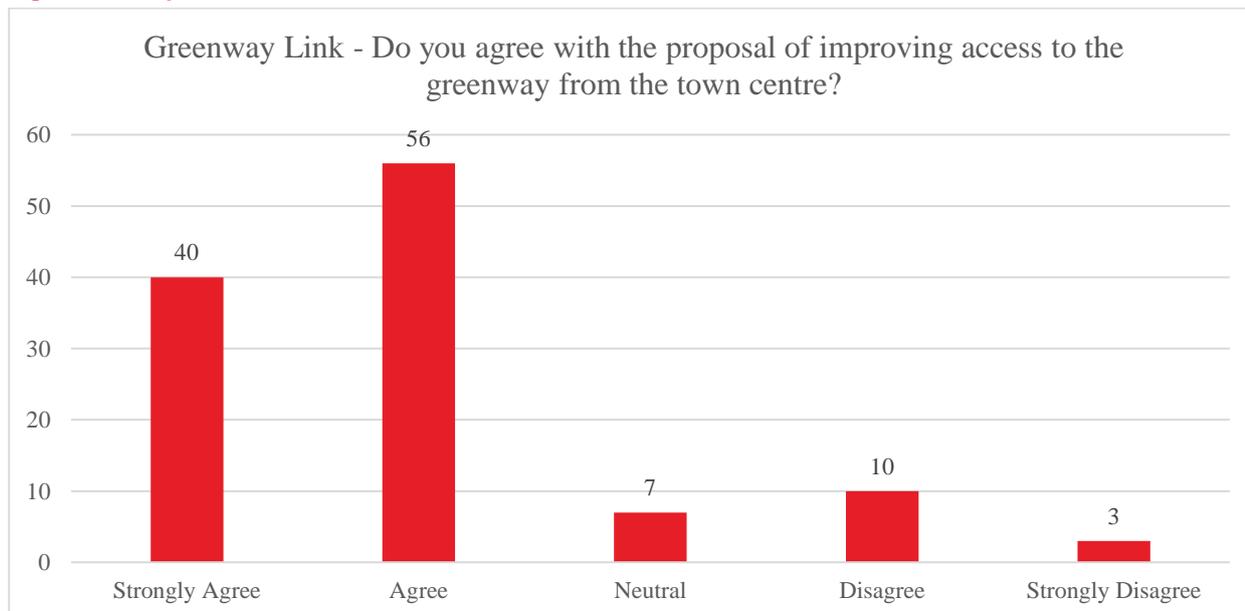


Greenway Link

Question 9a: Do you agree with the proposal at Greenway Link of improving access to the greenway from the town centre?

116 respondents answered Question 9a. Over 80% of the respondents agree with the proposal at Greenway Link of improving access to the Greenway from the town centre, as shown in Figure 23.

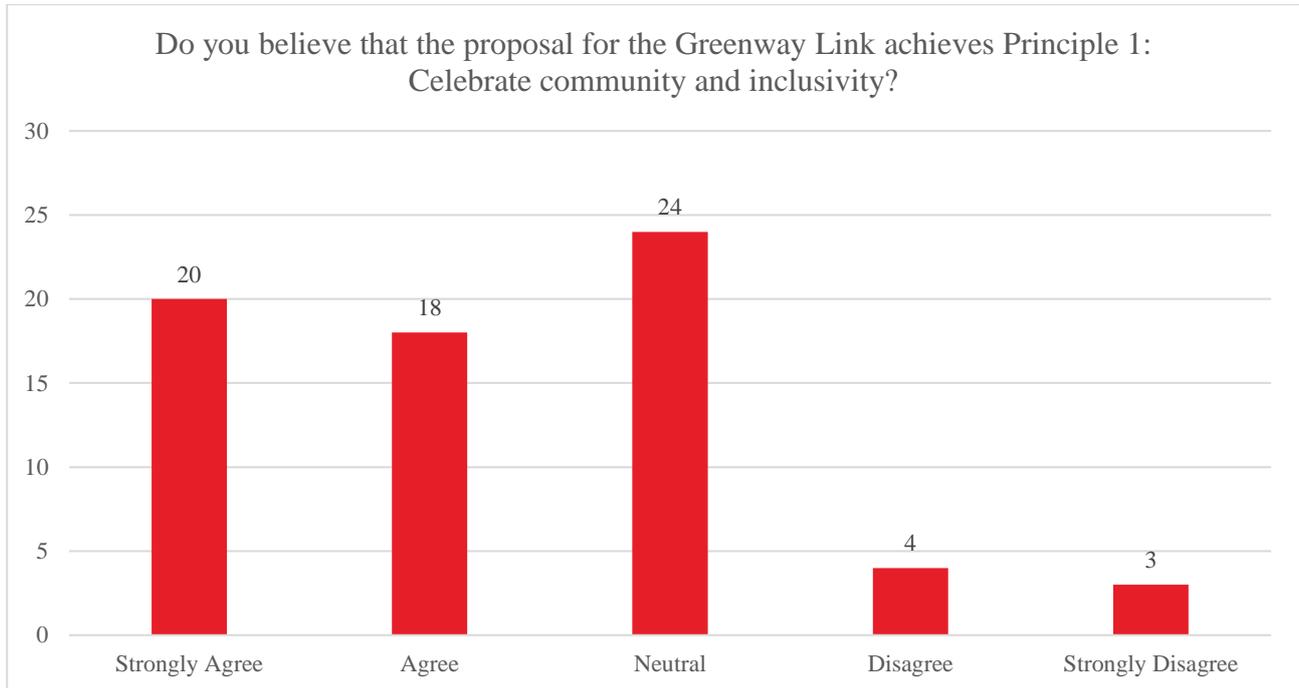
Figure 23: Responses to Question 9a



Question 9b: Do you believe that the proposal for the Greenway Link achieves ‘Principle 1: Celebrate Community and Inclusivity’?

69 respondents answered Question 9b. Approximately 55% of the respondents agreed that the proposal for the Greenway Link achieves Principle 1, whereas 35% were neutral, as shown in Figure 24.

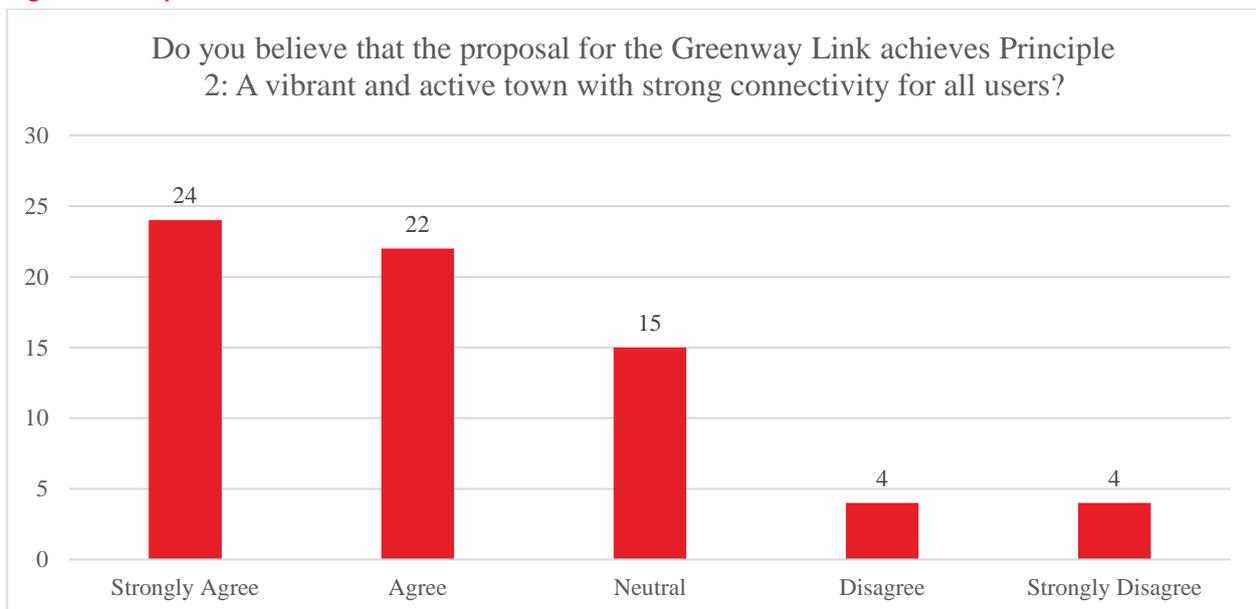
Figure 24: Responses to Question 9b



Question 9c: Do you believe that the proposal for the Greenway Link achieves ‘Principle 2: A Vibrant and Active Town with Strong Connectivity for All Users’?

69 respondents answered Question 9c. Over 65% of the respondents agreed that the proposal for the Greenway Link achieves Principle 2 and approximately 22% were neutral, as shown in Figure 25.

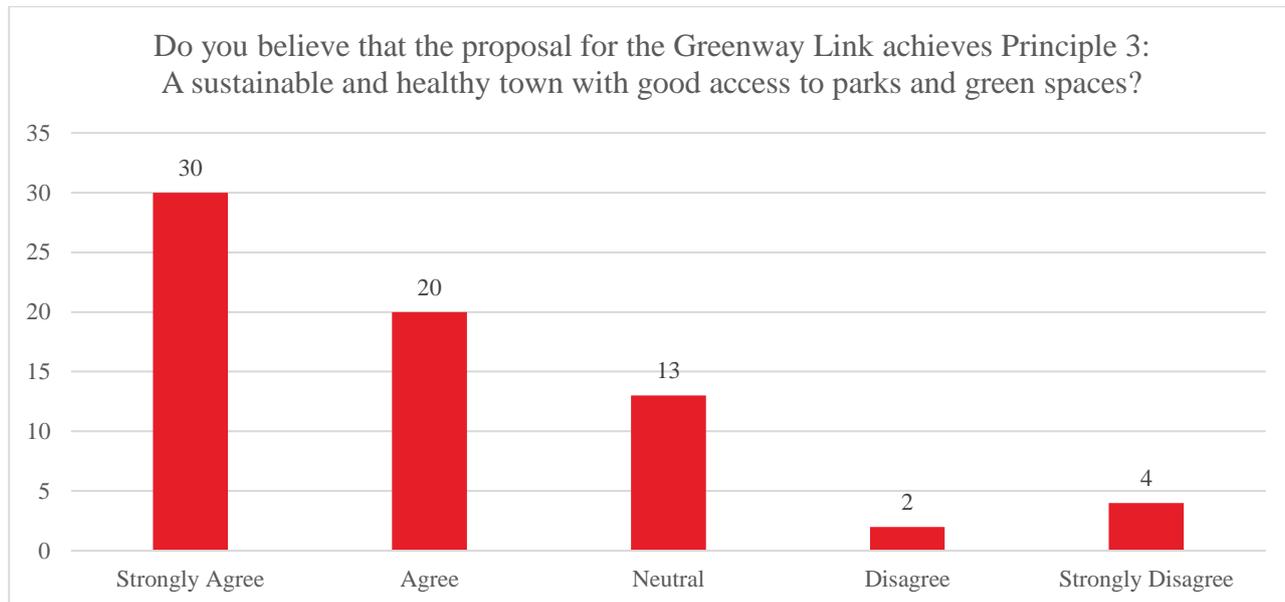
Figure 25: Responses to Question 9c



Question 9d: Do you believe that the proposal for the Greenway Link achieves ‘Principle 3: A Sustainable and Healthy Town with Good Access to Parks and Green Spaces’?

69 respondents answered Question 9d. Over 70% agree that the proposal for the Greenway Link achieves Principle 3 and approximately 19% were neutral, as shown in Figure 26.

Figure 26: Responses to Question 9d



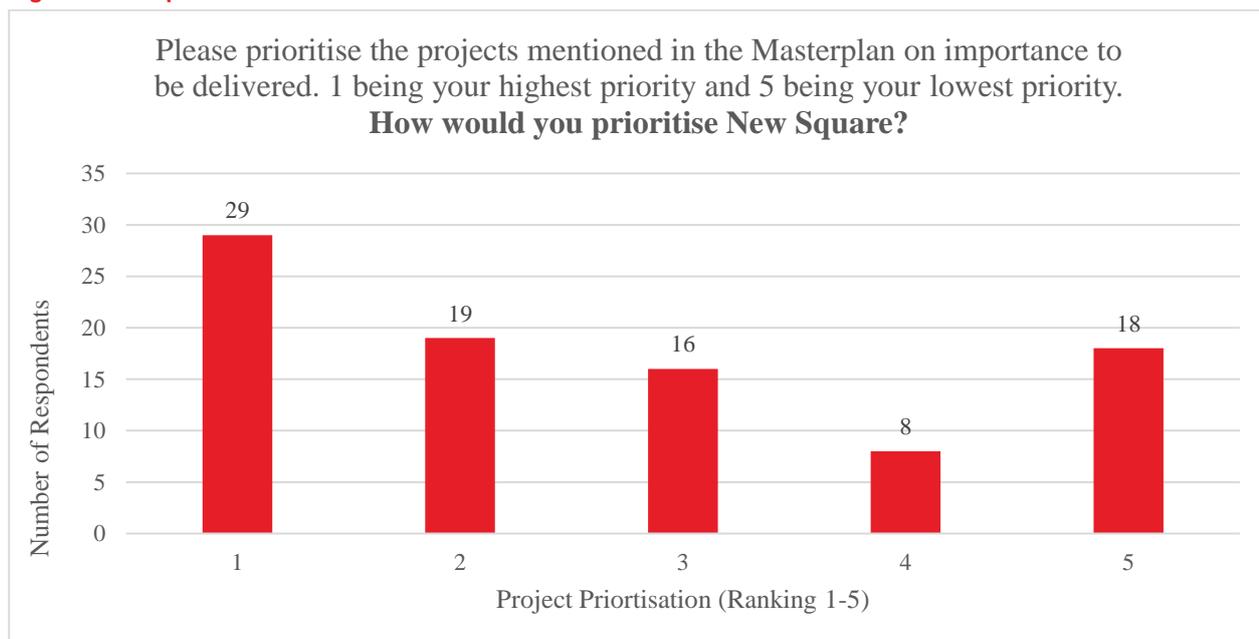
Question 10: Please prioritise the projects mentioned in the Masterplan on importance to be delivered. 1 being your highest priority and 5 being your lowest priority.

Question 10a: How would you prioritise New Square?

90 respondents answered Question 10a. 53% of the respondents rated New Square as being the highest priority, 18% rated it as mid priority and 29% rated it as lowest priority*, as shown in Figure 27.

**1-2 being highest priority, 3 being mid-priority and 4-5 being lowest priority.*

Figure 27: Responses to Question 10a

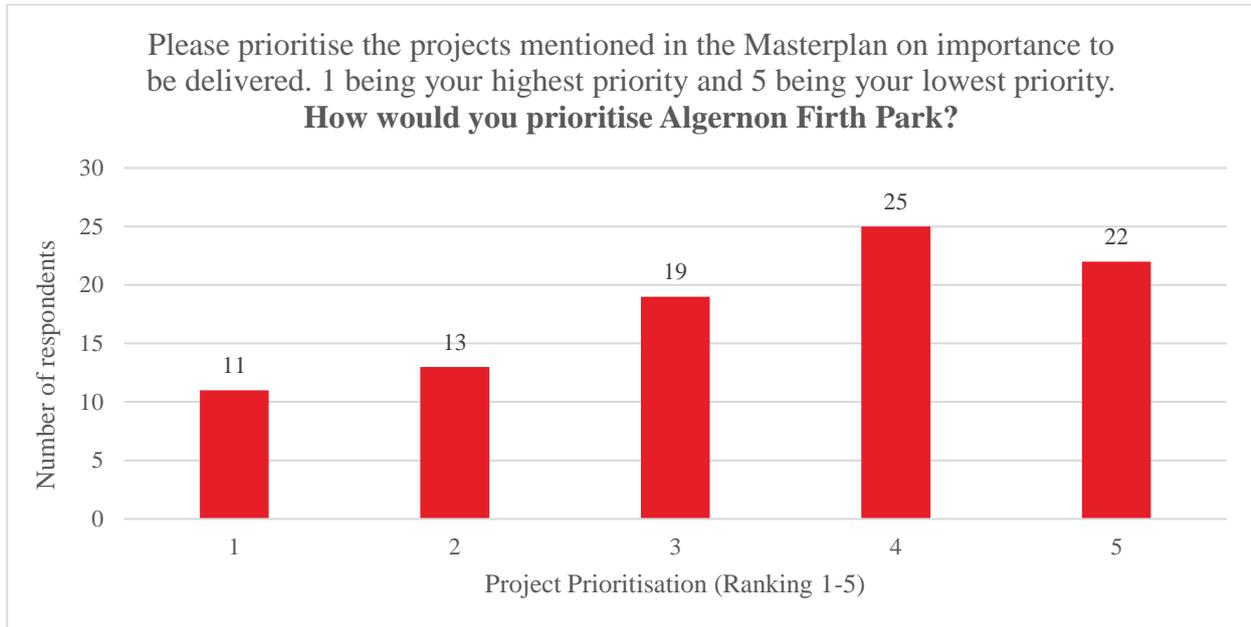


Question 10b: How would you prioritise Algernon Firth Park?

90 respondents answered Question 10b. 27% considered the proposals at Algernon Firth Park to be of highest priority, while 21% rated it as mid-priority. In contrast, 52% rated it as the lowest priority, as shown in Figure 28.

**1-2 being highest priority, 3 being mid-priority and 4-5 being lowest priority.*

Figure 28: Responses to Question 10b

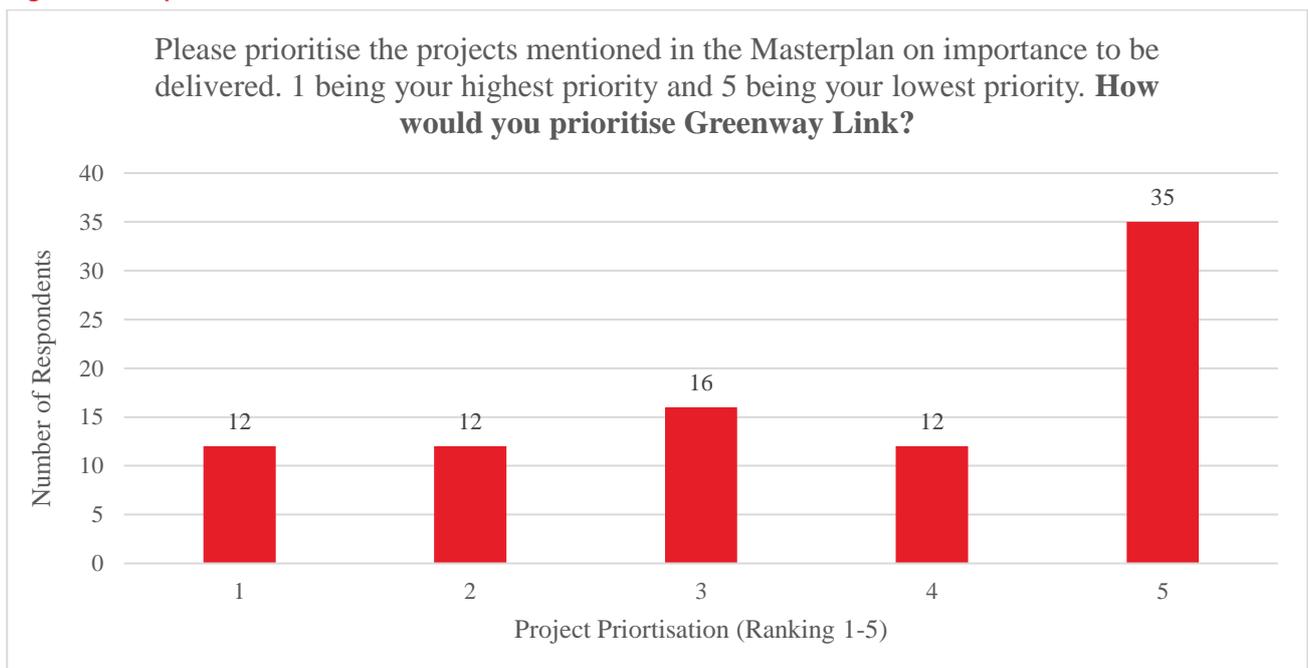


Question 10c: How would you prioritise Greenway Link?

87 respondents answered Question 10c. 28% prioritise the proposals at Greenway Link as the highest priority, 18% rated as mid-priority and 54% rated it as being the lowest priority*, as shown in Figure 29.

**1-2 being highest priority, 3 being mid-priority and 4-5 being lowest priority.*

Figure 29: Responses to Question 10c

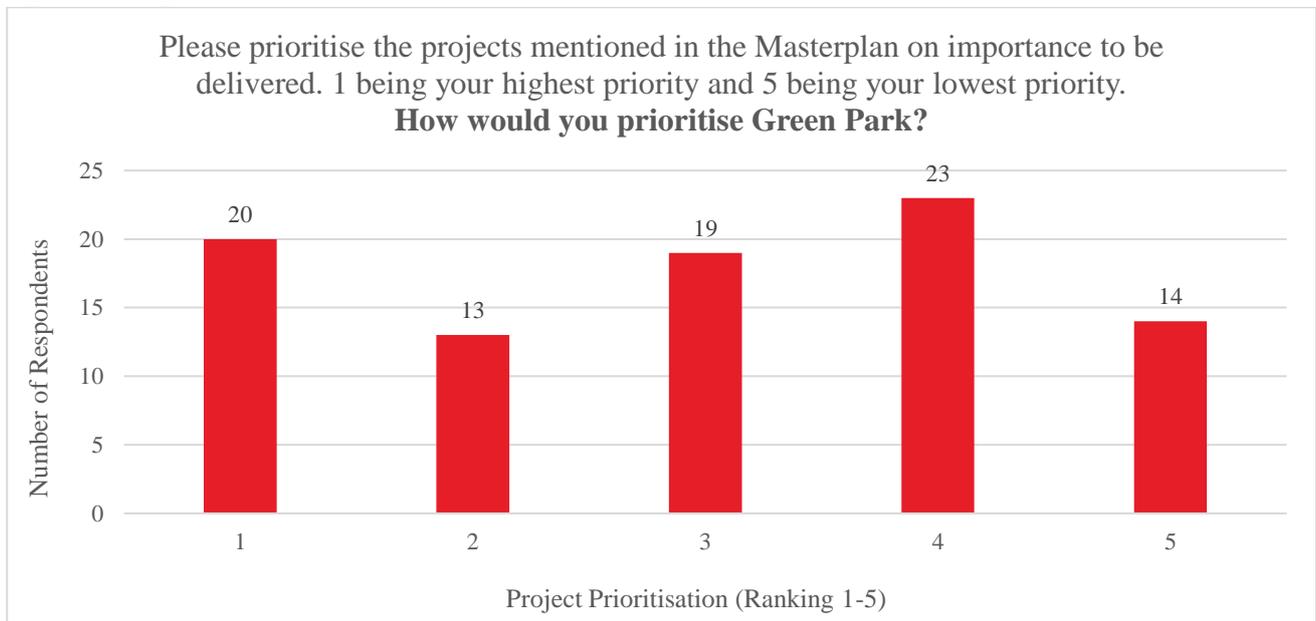


Question 10d: How would you prioritise Green Park?

89 respondents answered Question 10d. There was a fairly even distribution of responses, with 37% rating the proposals at Green Park as highest priority, 21% rating it as mid-priority and 42% rating it as lowest priority*, as shown in Figure 30.

**1-2 being highest priority, 3 being mid-priority and 4-5 being lowest priority.*

Figure 30: Responses to Question 10d

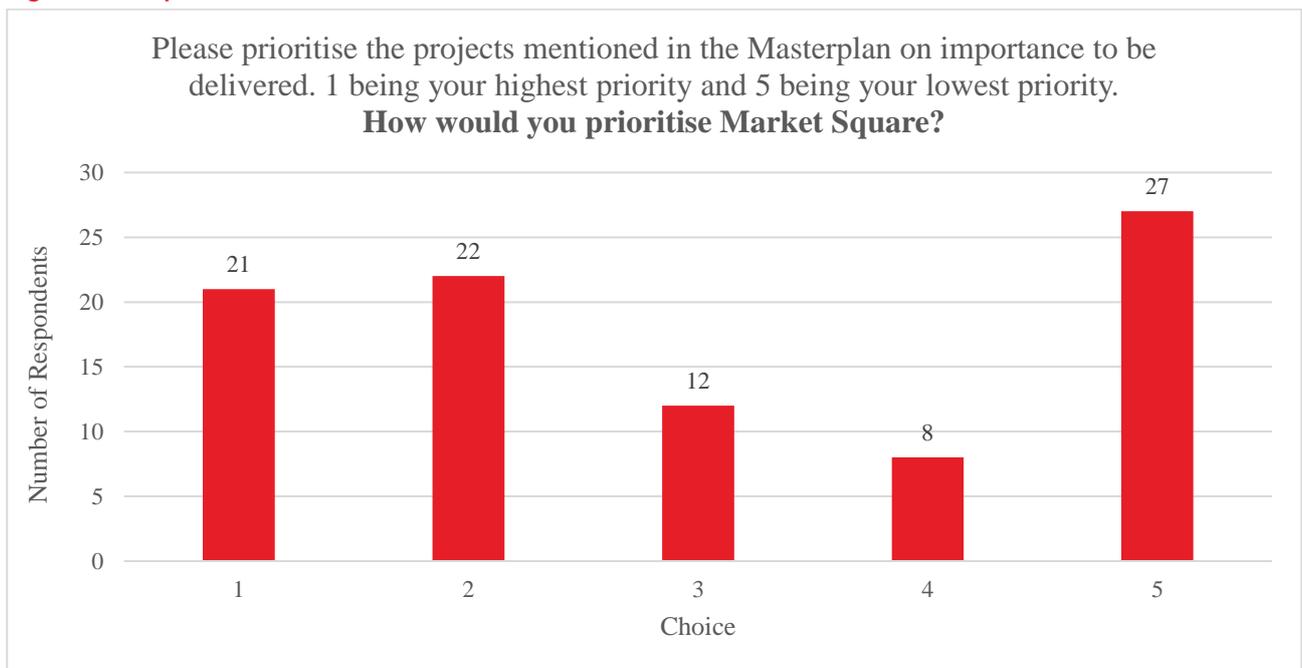


Question 10e: How would you prioritise Market Square?

90 respondents answered Question 10e. 48% of the respondents rated Market Square as being their highest priority, 13% rated it as mid-priority and 39% rated it as low priority*, as shown in Figure 31.

**1-2 being highest priority, 3 being mid-priority and 4-5 being lowest priority.*

Figure 31: Responses to Question 10e



Project Prioritisation – Summary

A total of 446 responses were collected for Questions 10a-10e on project prioritisation. Most respondents ranked New Square and Green Park as ‘1’ (highest priority). Conversely, Greenway Link and Algoner Firth Park were ranked as ‘5’ (lowest priority) by most respondents. The prioritisation of Market Square varied among respondents, with the majority ranking it as their highest priority (‘1’) and others placing it as their lowest priority (‘5’). The results are displayed in Figure 32 and Figure 33.

Figure 32: Summary of Project Prioritisation - projects ranked as highest priority ('1')

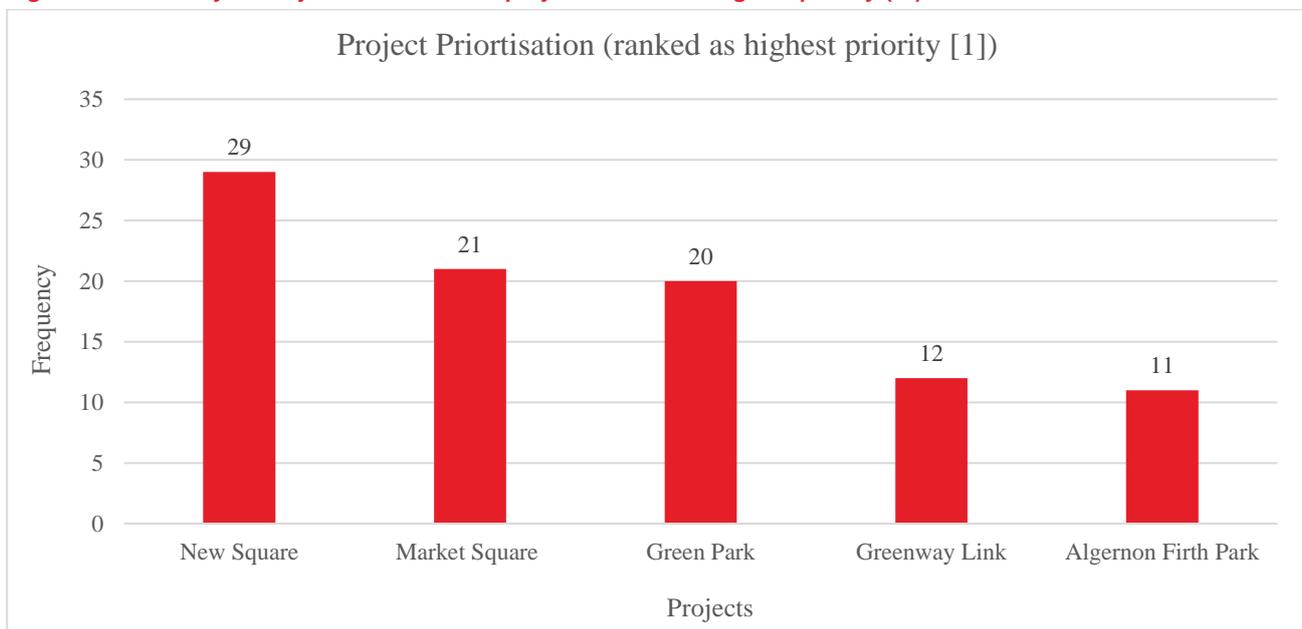
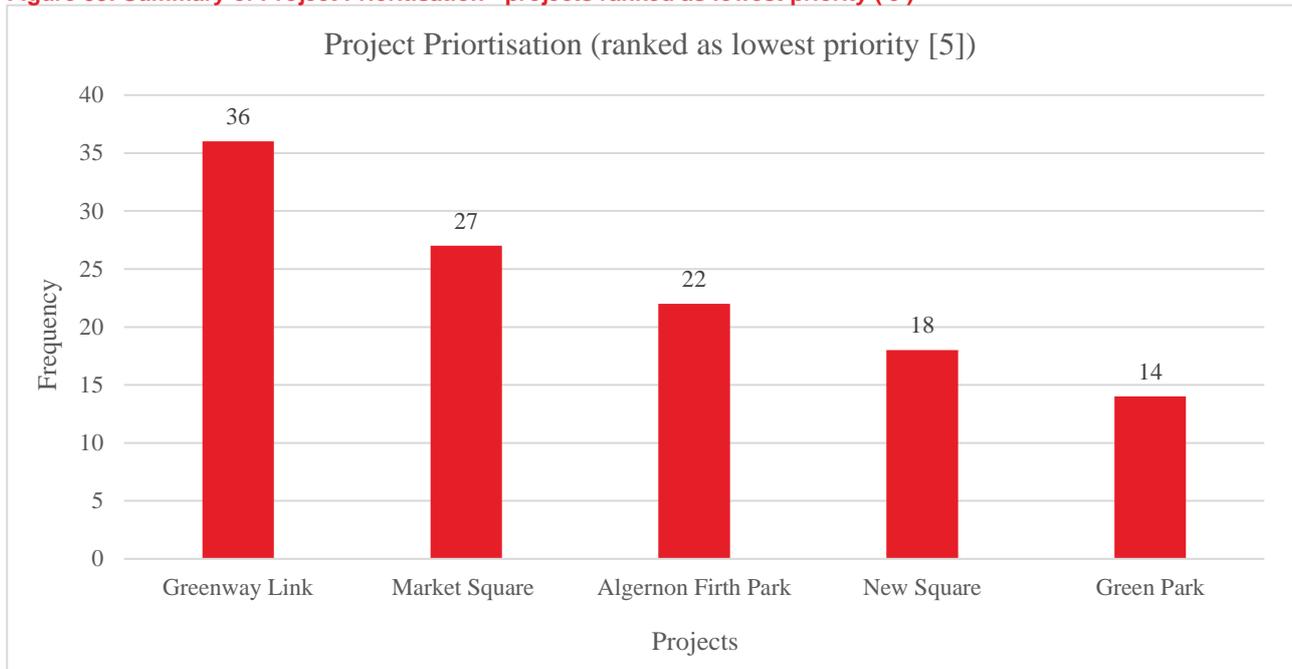


Figure 33: Summary of Project Prioritisation - projects ranked as lowest priority ('5')



Question 11: Do you have any further comment on the vision, objectives and potential projects?

Question 11 received responses from 78 participants, who provided further comments on the vision, objectives, and potential projects within the Heckmondwike Blueprint. The responses have been analysed and grouped into key themes. The three most prominent themes were grouped as follows:

- Provide new facilities and amenities, primarily targeting the young population;
- Improve traffic flow and road use; and
- Improve public transport and pedestrian / cyclist movements.

The other key themes and discussions are detailed in Figure 34 and Table 5.

Figure 34: Key Themes from Question 11



Table 5: Key themes and the corresponding details and frequency from Question 11

| Key Themes | Detail (and frequency) |
|--|--|
| General Support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General support for the Blueprint and proposed projects (6) • General support for the Greenway Link (3) • General support for the cycle lane (2) |
| Provision of new facilities and amenities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of a new skate park (11) • Incorporate more recreational spaces to cater the community’s needs, primarily young people – including new outdoor gyms and a basketball court (6) • Provide more facilities, including public toilets, benches, litter bins, etc. (3) |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install a water fountain in Green Park (1) |
| Traffic Flow, Road Use and Accessibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address congestion across the road network and improve traffic flow (6) • Complete Spen Ringway as a cycle and walking route (4) • Improve traffic management and address enforcement measures for parking to ensure safe traffic conditions (3) • Improve accessibility and transportation options to healthcare services, including routes to Brookroyd Surgery (1) • Allow vehicles to turn onto Market Street while maintaining a continued flow of traffic up High Street (1) • Uncertainty about how the rerouted traffic will flow when Northgate is closed (1) • Uncertainty about how the potential changes to Union Street and Greenside may affect traffic access to the town centre (1) • Allow traffic to flow smoothly during any construction or improvement works (1) • Uncertainty about the necessity of having three lanes of traffic on Greenside (1) • Concern about congestion and restricted traffic flow at Jeremy Lane (1) • Reduction of traffic at Market Place to foster a more pleasant environment (1) • Ensure road safety, particularly regarding the pedestrian crossings and the timing of traffic lights outside Betfred (1) • Discourage large lorries from travelling through the town centre (1) • Widen Westgate / High Street and include a bypass to the town centre (1) • Reroute road traffic to bypass Heckmondwike Town Centre (1) |
| Public Transport, Pedestrians, Cyclists and Parking | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate more car parking and address parking enforcement (7) • Improve pedestrian crossing facilities (i.e., pelican crossing at the Grammar School) (6) • Encourage pedestrian movement (i.e., provide walkways and wider pavements) (4) • Improve cycle infrastructure – cycle racks, parking, etc. (3) • Improve bus services (3) • Reduce car dependency and increase the use of public transport and active travel (1) • Do not remove the blue badge parking in Market Place (1) • ‘Missing link’ of Spen Ringway has no legal access and is difficult to pass (1) • The gateway on Greenside should be moved to other side of Cook Lane as this is a safer route to Spen Ringway (1) • Spen Ringway should be completed through the Heckmondwike Deep Cutting (1) • Pedestrianise the road between High Street and Oldfield Lane (1) |
| New Bus Station | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase capacity of the proposed bus station – provide more than 4 spaces (3) • General support of the new bus station with a push to prioritise this project (1) • Uncertainty about the necessity and rational behind the proposed bus station (1) • General objection to the bus station – preference for the existing bus hub was expressed (1) |

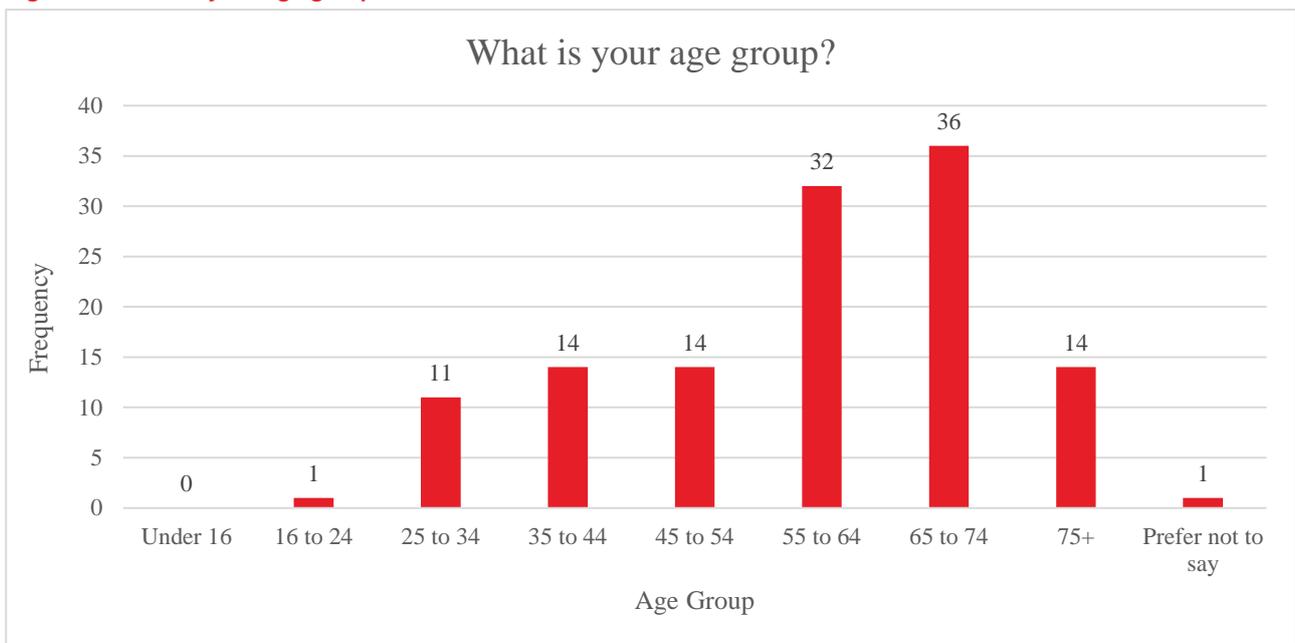
| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include facilities in the bus station, including toilets (1) • Move bus station to the location of where the bus depot is (1) |
| Green Spaces | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns about the proposed extension of Green Park, primarily how it would affect parking arrangements (3) • Ensure that the green spaces are well-kept and maintained (3) • General support for the extension of Firth Park (2) • Further extend Green Park (1) • Enhance Firth Park by providing more facilities, including picnic areas, toilets, etc. (1) • Preserve mature trees on Oldfield Lane (1) • Replace the existing parking between Oldfield Lane and High Street with green space (1) • Protect and maintain natural elements within the town (1) • Incorporate more flower bedding and greenery (1) • Concerns about the park design (1) • Protective screening around kids play area in Firth Park (1) |
| Library | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the ‘New Library’ is followed through with (1) • Respondents were expecting the new library to be mentioned (1) • It was anticipated that the library would move years ago (1) |
| Security and Cleanliness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address social issues, primarily safety concerns, homelessness and harassment of shoppers (3) • Enhancing cleanliness is a priority (2) • Consider the safety of certain areas, including the Greenway, and the lack of regular policing or rangers (2) |
| Funding and Maintenance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in shops and enterprises and create opportunities for local commerce (2) • Refurbish shop fronts, emphasising they appear run-down and in need for improvement (4) • Investment in the people and buildings of Heckmondwike (1) • Allocate more resources towards recreational activities within the park (1) |
| Retail and Leisure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring back yearly music festivals in Green Park (i.e., Crown of Lights music festival) (5) • Diversify retail offerings in Heckmondwike (4) • Provide more independent shops and markets (3) • Integrate important community infrastructure into the regeneration plans (1) • Engage the community through free town events and other activities (1) • Provide affordable farmer’s market (1) • Desire for popular chain establishments (1) |
| Vacant Buildings and Spaces | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise available land next to Firth Park and the unused car park space on Beck Lane (4) • Repurpose and utilise vacant land and buildings for community and economic revitalisation (2) |
| Visual Aesthetics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the appearance of the town, primarily the vacant and unkempt buildings, specifically the old Halifax Bank (1) |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| and Town Image | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain consistent aesthetics of existing and future developments (1) |
| Community Interaction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise community bounding and interaction in Heckmondwike (1) |
| Concerns and Other Suggestions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for more information on the relocation of public car parking, practicalities for market stalls on the modified Market Square, the closing of Northgate and traffic flow changes (3) • Address air pollution concerns in Heckmondwike (2) • Consultation process is not inclusive – needs to be simplified (2) • Error in the map presented in the Spatial Analysis – incorrectly shows the Ringway extending beyond Old Station Court (1) • Active involvement from the three councillors, considering its scale and potential for improvement within their wards (1) • Flood and drainage measures should be considered, particularly on Union Street (1) |

3.2.1 What is your age group?

123 respondents answered the question regarding their age group, with most respondents falling within the '55 to 64' or '65 to 74' age range, as shown in Figure 35.

Figure 35: What is your age group?



4. Discussion of consultation responses and next steps

4.1 Discussion

It is evident that a significant number of respondents frequently visit Heckmondwike town centre, with the majority visiting more than once a week either as residents or to visit family and friends. A few respondents also reported supporting a community group or having business ties in the town centre [Q1-2].

The majority of respondents accessed Heckmondwike town centre via car on their last visit. However, approximately one-third of the total respondents chose to walk to the town centre, reflecting a positive inclination towards active travel. Those travelling by bus, taxis and bicycles was limited to a few

respondents, however there was support for the proposed walking and cycling improvements as part of this blueprint, as well as support for the proposed improvements to the bus station. This highlights the potential of the proposed projects in promoting and facilitating more sustainable modes of transportation through enhancing the town's infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists.

The feedback indicates that a significant majority of the respondents agree with the following three principles in support of the vision for Heckmondwike:

- Principle 1: Celebrate Community and Inclusivity;
- Principle 2: A Vibrant and Active Town with Strong Connectivity for All Users; and
- Principle 3: A Sustainable and Healthy Town with Good Access to Parks and Green Spaces.

Most respondents expressed their agreement that the Principles would support in realising the vision for Heckmondwike. This highlights their recognition of the importance of establishing a lively and well-connected town, with a strong sense of place and community, complimented by accessible green spaces [Q4a-4c].

The proposals to repurpose underutilised buildings and create a new public square in New Square were supported by most respondents (81%). The respondents generally agreed that these proposals align with Principle 2 of creating a vibrant and active town with strong connectivity (75%). It was also agreed that the proposals can contribute to Principle 3, which focuses on building a sustainable and healthy town with good access to parks and green spaces (75%). This suggests that the respondents appreciate the potential benefits of revitalising underutilised spaces and establishing a new public square [Q5a-5d].

The proposals for Green Park, which include creating a high-quality, safe public realm by closing off Northgate to traffic and providing safe pedestrian and cycle routes, received agreement from the majority of respondents (69%). The respondents agreed that these proposals align with Principles 1 (62%), 2 (71%) and 3 (78%) [Q6a-6d].

The proposals to create a high-quality public realm at Market Square received significant agreement from most respondents (80%), with agreement that the proposals align with Principles 1 (62%), 2 (68%) and 3 (76%) [Q7a-7d].

Similarly, for Algernon Firth Park, most respondents agreed that the proposals would improve access to and from the town centre (84%), and they believed these proposals could contribute to achieving all three principles [Q8a-8d].

Regarding the Greenway Link, the majority of respondents supported the proposals for improving access to the greenway from the town centre (83%). They also agreed that the proposals support Principle 1, with approximately 55% agreeing and 35% neutral that the proposals support this principle. The majority also agreed that the proposals support Principles 2 (67%) and 3 (72%) [Q9a-9d].

In summary, most respondents expressed agreement with the masterplan projects and their objectives and agreed that the Principles would support in realising the vision for Heckmondwike.

When ranking the masterplan projects, the results indicate that, while most respondents agreed with the proposals for each project, there was an emphasis on prioritising the creation of a high-quality public realm at New Square, Market Square and Green Park. This includes the provision of elements such as new footways, landscaping, and the closure of Northgate to improve the overall environment and elevate the town's experience [Q10a-10e].

A number of respondents highlighted the importance of providing new facilities and amenities, particularly for the younger population [Q11]. This indicates a recognition of the importance of access to parks and recreational and community facilities which cater to the diverse interests and needs of the community.

Regarding transportation, respondents expressed a desire for improved traffic management and parking solutions, as well as active travel improvements and improved bus services. Respondents also highlighted a need for the proposed initiatives to consider congestion issues and traffic flow. Some respondents expressed an interest in Spen Greenway as a walking, cycling and running route that could benefit from improvements

[Q11]. The blueprint shares this ambition for the Spen Greenway, with plans to enhance this route and improve connectivity to Heckmondwike.

Many respondents placed an emphasis on ensuring that green spaces are well-kept and maintained, without solely relying on volunteers. This indicates a recognition of the importance of sustained financial support and dedicated resources to ensure that town's green spaces are well-preserved and kept in optimal condition. There was general support for the extension of green spaces and the inclusion of public amenities to foster safety, a strong sense of place, and a pleasing overall aesthetic [Q11].

Another prominent theme was focused on utilising available land, such as the space next to Firth Park and the unused car park on Beck Lane, to revitalise the economy and community. This highlights the community's interest in repurposing vacant land and buildings for the benefit of the town. By repurposing these vacant spaces, the community envisions the potential for new economic activities, such as establishing businesses or community facilities that can contribute to local employment and economic growth. Additionally, repurposing these areas can create gathering spaces and amenities that cater to residents and visitors [Q11].

Overall, the feedback from respondents emphasised the importance of providing access to recreational opportunities, addressing transportation challenges, ensuring the maintenance of green spaces, and effectively utilising available land.

4.2 Next steps

From the feedback received the following next steps are proposed:

1. The projects as presented in the consultation are retained and taken forward as part of the blueprint finalisation as many respondents expressed support for the blueprint and proposed projects. In particular, the creation of a high-quality public realm at New Square, Market Square and Green Park were perceived as a high priority by many respondents.
2. The following changes are considered to the projects as presented:
 - A notional allowance is made for “street scene” improvements, e.g., general maintenance, litter bins, seating, accessibility improvements, wayfinding signage, etc. with this forming an additional project (the exact scope of which will need to be defined through further work).
3. As projects are developed, some of the more detailed written feedback received is reviewed and considered, and there will be further opportunities to review and comment on the more developed proposals.
4. The feedback received under the “Provision of new facilities and amenities” theme emphasised the importance of providing new facilities and amenities to cater to the needs and interests of the younger population (e.g., play and recreational facilities such as a skate park and basketball court). Algernon Firth Park has recently been refurbished with a new playground, outdoor play/fitness area and picnic area, and the proposals in this blueprint will complement and enhance these recent improvements through the addition of new signage to inform people of the amenities, a new walking/running track in Algernon Firth Park, as well as improved access to the parks and new areas of public realm to cater for all ages. This feedback is to be reviewed by Kirklees Council to determine whether there are opportunities to introduce and further improve community and recreational facilities as part of ongoing investment programmes.
5. The feedback received under the “Traffic Flow, Road Use and Accessibility” and “Public Transport, Pedestrians, Cyclists and Parking” theme in Question 11 is to be reviewed by Kirklees Council's highway officers to determine whether there are opportunities to address any of the issues raised as part of ongoing investment programmes, for example the Transforming Cities Fund proposals. The feedback received also suggests there is a traffic regulations enforcement issue to address.

6. Consideration is given to revenue funding arrangements to allow some of the masterplan ambitions to be realised and the public feedback to be acted upon. For example, planning a programme of events and the ability to enhance the cleanliness of the town and enhance public realm.

5. Conclusion

The public consultation on the Heckmondwike Blueprint masterplan aimed to be inclusive and engaging, to encourage the local community and stakeholders to provide their feedback. A range of traditional and digital methods of engagement were offered to involve as many people as possible.

In total, 234 respondents submitted a response (although not all respondents answered every question) to the public consultation questions, including responses submitted via Virtual Engage, social media, paper copy responses and email responses.

The feedback from the public and stakeholders will be taken into consideration in the development of the Heckmondwike Blueprint masterplan and subsequent project and programme development. The final masterplan will be published in 2023.

Appendix A: Publicity

Figure 36: Heckmondwike Town Centre Consultation Letter to Business Owners





Kirklees Council
Heckmondwike Blueprint
Civic Centre 3
Huddersfield HD1 2EY
www.kirklees.gov.uk/heckmondwike-blueprint

May 2023

Dear Resident

Share your views to help shape the future of Heckmondwike town centre

Based on what we've learned from citizens through the 'Listening to Heckmondwike Place Standard engagement', we're now taking the next step and asking you to get involved in developing a vision for Heckmondwike town centre for the next 10 – 15 years. This will also help inform project development and prioritise investment in the town.

Investing in our local town centres

This consultation will highlight some fantastic potential projects that will build on and enhance Heckmondwike. Alongside existing projects the Town Centre Blueprint is delivering such as the new bus station which will upgrade the current 4-stand bus hub into a bus station with improved public realm, an indoor waiting area, a green roof and toilets. Aspirations of the Blueprint also include a new and improved library and community space, improvements to Green Park, better pedestrian & cycle links through the town centre, a bigger, more family-friendly Market Square and an improved public realm – all with more trees, plants and greenery being planted.

The public consultation on these proposals will run from the 19th of May 2023 to the 19th of June 2023. During this time, an online questionnaire will be live and there will be drop-in sessions at various locations around Heckmondwike where you can talk to a council officer, if you have any questions, at the following times and dates: -

- Sat 20th May – 9am to 12pm at Heckmondwike Farmer's Market
- Thurs 25th May - 12pm to 2pm at The Pavilion
- Thurs 8 June – 2pm to 4pm at Brighton Street Community Centre
- Tues 13 June – 6pm to 8pm at The Pavilion

We look forward to receiving your feedback – to access the consultation, please scan the QR code below to visit our website: www.kirklees.gov.uk/heckmondwike-blueprint. To request a free, hard copy of the questionnaire, information pack and return freepost envelope to be posted out, please email ourlocalcentres@kirklees.gov.uk or ring 01484 221000 and ask for a Heckmondwike Blueprint pack.

Thank you for taking the time to get involved – and please remember that your ward councillors are around to support you.

Yours faithfully,

David Shepherd
Strategic Director, Growth and Regeneration, Kirklees Council



Heckmondwike Councillors:

Cllr Aafaq Butt
Cllr Steve Hall

Aafaq.Butt@kirklees.gov.uk
Steve.Hall@kirklees.gov.uk

Appendix B: Consultation Materials

Figure 38: Screenshot of Virtual Engage



Figure 39: Consultation Boards



Our local Centres

Heckmondwike Town Centre

Kirklees Council's Cabinet has endorsed a plan-led approach to investment in local centres across the district. Initially, this programme will see £1.5 million invested into each of four town centres across the district: Cleckheaton, Batley, Heckmondwike and Holmfirth. This fund will support the delivery of projects aligned with the focus areas shown below.

Consultants Arup and Huso are working on behalf of Kirklees Council to produce a blueprint for Heckmondwike which seeks to build on the heritage of the town whilst looking to the future. This blueprint will guide investment in the town over a ten-to-fifteen-year period. It builds on the feedback received as part of the Kirklees Place Standard process.

We would like to hear your views on the emerging blueprint proposals. This will shape the final blueprint and help Kirklees Council decide which projects to deliver first, using the available funding.



Support for retail, employment, community, and local centre activity.



Sustainable travel and climate change measures.



Culture, art, and leisure activities.



Improved community safety.



Public realm/landscaping, heritage, conservation, and better design.

Below: Images showing Heckmondwike now



View from the bus station



View of the memorial



View from Northgate



Heckmondwike Baselineing

As part of creating a baseline for Heckmondwike, the project team have:

- Reviewed local and wider planning policy
- Reviewed previous public consultation feedback from the Place Standards Toolkit
- Analysed socio-economic data for Heckmondwike and wider Kirklees
- Engaged with elected members within the Ward
- Worked with officers from Kirklees Council
- Carried out site visits to Heckmondwike
- Carried out spatial and architectural analysis of Heckmondwike town centre
- Carried out a car-parking survey of all public car-parks within and adjacent to the town centre.

Ward Members



Councillor Arafat Butt



Councillor Steve Hall



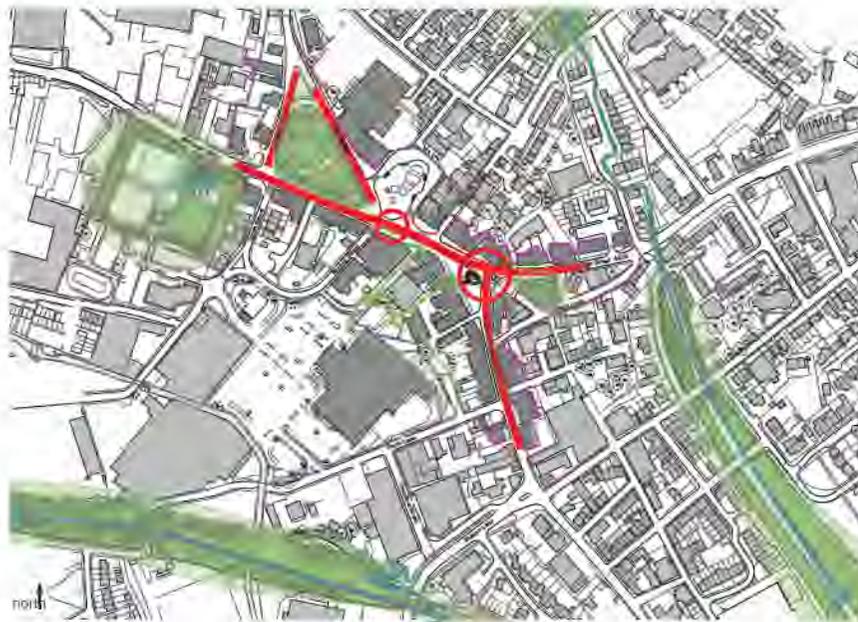
Councillor Viv Kendrick

We have appraised the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for Heckmondwike. These are summarised below and have guided development of the emerging masterplan.





Heckmondwike Spatial Analysis

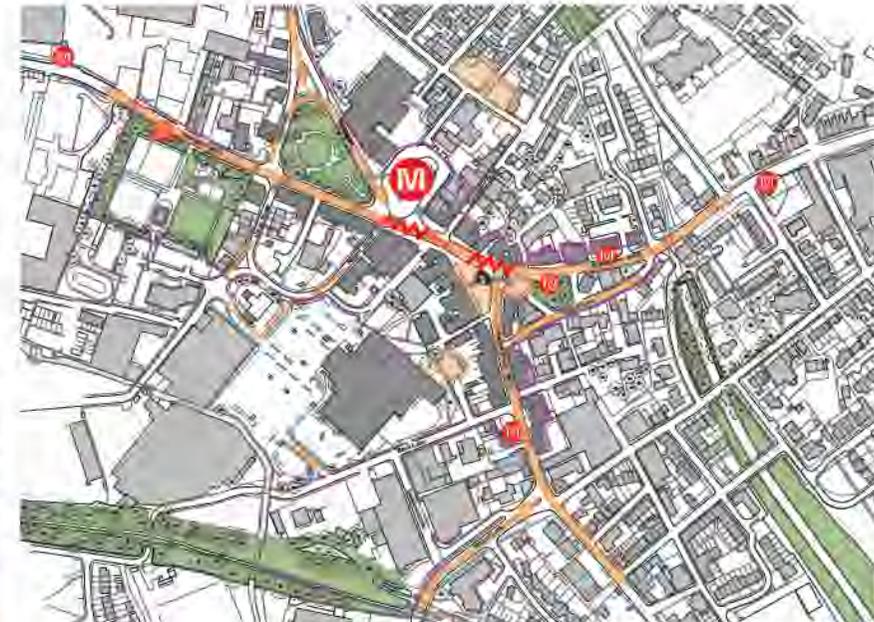


Green Space

Heckmondwike is well catered for in terms of greenspace. The town is connected to both the Spen Greenway which provides a six-mile-long linear park for pedestrians and cyclists to the south and the Spen Valley Ringway to the east. Within the town are Green Park and Algernon Firth Park providing space for exercise and relaxing. These are great assets for the town but all suffer from poor visual and physical connectivity. Market Square has been given over to parking in an already car dominated townscape, making the town centre feel unwelcoming.

Key codes:

- Good quality greenspace
- Other greenspace
- Playspace, poor quality
- Pedestrian routes
- Pedestrian barrier
- Dangerous junction with poor pedestrian crossing
- Pedestrian and cycle routes
- Study Area



Highways

The town is impacted by the A638 moving traffic west to east, this in turn impacts on Northgate and Greenside to the north and Market Street to the south. The high street is a major route for traffic and this dominates the street scene leaving little positive space for pedestrians. Crossing the A638 is constrained to a couple of barriered locations that inhibit movement across the street. Green Park, a strong asset for the town, exists as an island surrounded by multi-lane traffic. The bus station is situated in the centre of the town and is well-used. The space is unwelcoming however there are plans to upgrade this facility. There are small car parks around the town, along with the supermarket car park to the south that has strong pedestrian links with the Westgate & High Street.

Key codes:

- Bus Station
- Bus Stop
- Vehicle flow - two way
- Vehicle flow - one way
- Public car park
- Supermarket access
- Vehicular and pedestrian conflict
- Study Area

Heckmondwike Town Centre Blueprint

Heckmondwike has many strengths including a vibrant town centre with a strong heritage, Green Park, Algernon Firth Park and being in close proximity to the Spenn Valley and the National Cycle Network Route 66. This blueprint aims to build on these strengths.

We have developed three high-level principles for the town centre, using a place-based approach focusing on physical interventions to create change in the town centre.

The vision and supporting principles for the town centre blueprint are set out below. These have been developed following the spatial analysis and SWOT analysis, and have been used to guide identification of the projects in the town centre.

The Vision

Heckmondwike:

A healthy, vibrant town centre where people are proud to live and work, and relax.

Supporting Principles

- 
Principle 1: Celebrating community and inclusivity
 The town has a strong sense of place by providing and celebrating cultural assets through community events, markets and community facilities which are engaging for all ages.
- 
Principle 2: A vibrant and active town with strong connectivity for all users
 Improved connectivity and legibility throughout the town supporting safe and attractive pedestrian and cycling routes.
- 
Principle 3: A sustainable and healthy town with good access to parks and green space
 Enhanced natural assets and the creation of new green spaces and pocket parks to support the wellbeing and health of residents and sustainability of the town.

Keys:

| | |
|---|--|
|  Public Realm |  Road Amendments |
|  New Development |  New Crossing |
|  Gateway |  Improved Signage |
|  Pedestrianisation |  New Playground |
|  New Parking |  Walk/Run track |
|  New Community space / library |  Cycle lane |
| |  Cycle Parking |



Heckmondwike Blueprint Proposal



Heckmondwike Projects

This page provides a high-level description of the proposed projects in Heckmondwike town centre. These may be delivered by Kirklees Council, developers or other stakeholders. Further detail on the individual projects is provided on the following pages.

This blueprint will be developed following public consultation in response to the feedback received. Kirklees Council will then be able to assign the identified £15m of funding and apply for funding for future projects when it becomes available.

The phasing of projects will depend on feedback received, project prioritisation and the availability of funding.

Algernon Firth Park Refurbishment

- Extension of the park
- New crossing connecting Algernon Park with Green Park
- New signage and a stronger sense of place
- New walking / running track with water lighting

Bus Station

- Better and safer connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists
- New landscaping and comfortable seating areas
- Reduced vehicle dominance
- Toilets

Greenway Link

- Widened and improved access to the Greenway
- New signage
- New lighting
- A new cycle lane to create a safe connection into Market Square

New Square

- Reduced vehicle dominance
- New public square with seating and planting
- More space for private users
- Underused buildings refurbished

Market Square

- Relocate parking
- Green soft edge to the space to create a better environment for pedestrians and shoppers
- High quality public realm with seating and safe, protected footways
- Space for market stalls

Green Park

- Re-routing traffic to surround the park and reduce vehicle dominance and noise
- New high-quality public realm
- New landscaping, planting and seating areas providing comfortable areas to sit and enjoy





Heckmondwike Projects

Projects

The following pages provide some further detail on the proposed projects and how these will deliver on the blueprint aims of reducing the dominance of traffic, improving the environment, and giving more space for people to enjoy the town's culture, leisure, heritage and community offer.

Heckmondwike is currently dominated by traffic. The A638 between the motorway and Dewsbury runs through the centre and the locals are consigned to narrow pavements and complex crossing points. The main square has become a carpark and it doesn't feel like a place to spend time.

If it is not feasible to move the road and its traffic so the concept is to move the people. By creating a new pedestrian axis away from the A638 and rerouting cars away from the north side of the memorial park the town begins to have quality public realm on which to build a new future. Linking these spaces with the Greenway adds further to a new direction for the town.



New Square



New Square from above, with the Market Square in the background



View towards the New Square



Bus Station looking towards Green Park



Green Park extended up to the buildings



Green Park / Bus Station Crossing

New Square

Shifting the axis creates the opportunity to realise a new public square away from the noise and irritation of the traffic. This could include a new library and community building, new public realm with seating designed to encourage interaction. The bingo hall could be refurbished and reorientated to provide positive use overlooking the main space. A mural or artwork could be displayed on the rear walls of the existing Westgate retail units. The square would be designed to be informal and intimate whilst still providing enough space for flexible uses.

Bus Station

The proposed new bus station sits in the heart of the town. The proposal to close Northgate to traffic dramatically lessens vehicle flows in this area and makes the space more connected and safe. New landscaping will help soften the frontage and create a comfortable space to sit and wait.

Green Park

Green Park and its memorial, whilst a loved space, is completely separated from the town by busy roads on all sides. By rerouting the traffic off Northgate, the park can be extended up to the south-facing shops creating high quality, safe public realm that people spend time in. The formal elements of the space will be protected whilst the park can now have a soft welcoming edge that can be accessed without crossing between cars. This additional space also provides an opportunity to introduce a cycle lane alongside new footways, linking Green Park to the New Square and Greenway and enhancing connectivity for all users.



Heckmondwike Projects

Projects



Market Square for local communities to enjoy

Market Square

The Market Square should be the heart. Currently, apart from the listed clock, the space is just a hard surfaced car park with nowhere to sit and no landscaping. The space is completely open and dominated by Northgate and Market Street. We aim to relocate the parking onto Oldfield Lane (with potential to keep some accessible bays) and create a green, defensible edge to the space that creates a better environment for shoppers whilst making the town centre look cared for and attractive. Within the green edge we will create high quality public realm with seating and footways that are protected and safe. The space will be flexible and provide space for market stalls, bringing more vibrancy and buzz to the town centre.



New Park Entrance at Algernon Firth Park

Algernon Firth Park

Heckmondwike has so many positive elements. Algernon Firth Park has recently been refurbished with a new playground, fitness and picnic area. A new gateway has been constructed over the existing entrance, and we propose to add new signage on Westgate to help reinforce the connection with the town and green park.

The current pedestrian access from the town is along Westgate. We propose to add new crossings directly from Green Park, making the link as strong as possible with the constraints of the road network. New signage within Green Park will inform people of the amenities. The park also feels like a dead end so we are proposing a well-lit walkway / jogging track that reconnects the whole of the area. The site adjacent is allocated for housing and provides an opportunity to extend the park and its access into this space. This is critical to ensure the park feels safe and loved. The new housing should overlook the space to engender an element of community involvement and ownership.



Improved Greenway Link

Greenway Link

Another positive is the Spen Greenway that connects Heckmondwike to Cleckheaton, Dewsbury Moor and beyond. It is a well used walking, cycling and running trail that links poorly with the town. We aim to widen and improve the access point on Station Road and add new signage and lighting to improve the Greenways visibility. A new cycle lane along Swallow Street and Beck Lane will create a safe connection into the new Market Square and the centre of the town.



Main Vehicle movements Main Pedestrian movements

Heckmondwike concept showing key movements

Heckmondwike concept

This drawing aims to reinforce the concept. It highlights how changing the pedestrian axis creates comfortable safe environments for people away from the traffic. With well considered crossings and good clear signage the link to Algernon Firth Park can be improved upon too.



Feedback and next steps

Thank you for taking the time to read this blueprint. Your views are really important to us in shaping the future of Heckmondwike town centre.

The Consultation Period is from the 19th May to the 19th June 2023.

Please submit your feedback by 5pm on the 19th June through one of the following methods:



QR CODE

Virtual Consultation Room



OurLocalCentres@kirklees.gov.uk



<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/investment-and-regeneration/our-local-centres.aspx>



Town Centre Regeneration

PO Box 1720
Huddersfield
HD1 9EL

To understand more about the proposed blueprint and projects, feel free to come to one of our drop-in sessions, which will be staffed by Kirklees Council Officers:

- **Saturday 20 May** - 9am to 12pm at Heckmondwike Farmer's Market
- **Thursday 25 May** - 12pm to 2pm at The Pavilion
- **Thursday 8 June** - 2pm to 4pm at Brighton Street Community Centre
- **Tuesday 13 June** - 6pm to 8pm at The Pavilion

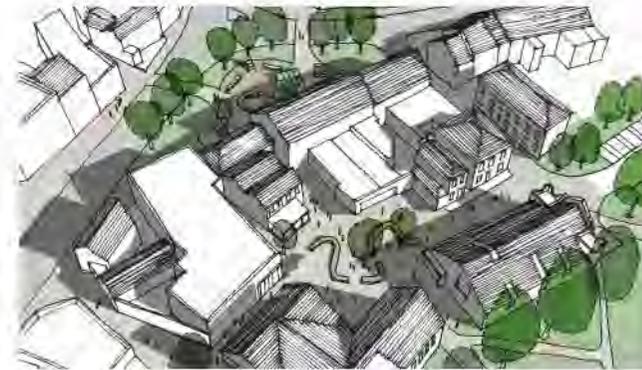
In addition, you can access the boards and the consultation room virtually throughout the consultation period and provide your feedback via the QR code or web link.

You can also request a paper copy of this pack by contacting the Council through any of the contact methods detailed on the left-hand side of this page.

Next steps

Once the consultation closes at 5pm on the 19th June 2023, all the feedback received will be reviewed and used to inform the final blueprint for Heckmondwike Town Centre.

We will set out the key themes and actions from this consultation feedback, and prepare a Community Engagement report. This will be published alongside the blueprint in 2023.



New Square from above, with Market Square in the background



Market Square from above, with New Square in the background

Draft blueprint and project development

Public consultation

Consultation

Review feedback and identify changes

Community Engagement report

Refine blueprint and develop projects

Cabinet approval of blueprint and projects

Develop investment plan for Heckmondwike

Assign £1.5m available funding to blueprint projects

Apply for external funding where opportunities arise

Deliver Projects