

SCRUTINY BOARD (ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

Meeting to be held remotely via Public-I
Thursday 18 June 2020
10.30 am – 12pm

(A pre-meeting will take place for all Members of the Board at 10.00 a.m.)

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

B Anderson (Chair) - Adel and Wharfedale;
J Akhtar - Little London and Woodhouse;
J Bentley - Weetwood;
A Blackburn - Farnley and Wortley;
D Collins - Horsforth;
A Gabriel - Beeston and Holbeck;
P Grahame - Cross Gates and Whinmoor;
A Khan - Burmantofts and Richmond Hill;
P Gruen - Cross Gates and Whinmoor;
M Harland - Kippax and Methley;
N Sharpe - Temple Newsam;
K Brooks - Little London and Woodhouse;
T Smith - Pudsey;
M Dobson - Garforth and Swillington;

Note to observers of the meeting:

To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'View the Webcast' link which will feature on the meeting's webpage (linked below) ahead of the meeting. The webcast will become available at the commencement of the meeting.

<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1091&MId=9992>

Principal Scrutiny Adviser:
Rebecca Atherton
Tel: (0113) 37 88642

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25* of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded). (* In accordance with Procedure Rule 25, notice of an appeal must be received in writing by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting).	
2			EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC 1. To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report. 2. To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information. 3. If so, to formally pass the following resolution:- RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows: No exempt items have been identified.	

3		LATE ITEMS To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration. (The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)	
4		DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-16 of the Members' Code of Conduct.	
5		APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES To receive any apologies for absence and notification of substitutes.	
6		MINUTES - 5 MARCH 2020 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2020.	5 - 10
7		PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR TEMPLE NEWSAM To consider the outcome of the public consultation, launched by the Parks and Countryside service, on proposals for the area of land where Temple Newsam golf course is currently located.	11 - 84
8		SAFER LEEDS - VERBAL UPDATE To receive a verbal update from the Chief Officer (Safer Leeds) regarding the impact of the city's response to coronavirus, and the subsequent recovery plan, on the work of Safer Leeds.	
9		WORK SCHEDULE To consider the Scrutiny Board's work schedule for June – August 2020, along with provisional dates for the remainder of the municipal year.	85 - 102

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board will take place at 10.30am on Thursday 9 July 2020. There will be a pre-meeting for all Board members at 10am.

THIRD PARTY RECORDING

Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the contacts on the front of this agenda.

Use of Recordings by Third Parties – code of practice

- a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.
- b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.

SCRUTINY BOARD (ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

THURSDAY, 5TH MARCH, 2020

PRESENT: Councillor B Anderson in the Chair

Councillors J Akhtar, A Blackburn,
D Collins, A Khan, P Gruen, M Harland,
N Sharpe, K Brooks, T Smith and
R Grahame

89 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

90 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

91 Late Items

There were no late items.

92 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

93 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies were received from Councillors A Gabriel, J Bentley and P Grahame. Councillor R Grahame was in attendance as substitute.

94 Minutes - 6 February 2020

Matters arising

Minute 83 – Minutes of previous meeting. The Chair noted that further discussions had taken place prior to the meeting with Councillor A Lamb and relevant officers in regards to river cleanliness. The Board felt that the matter required further consideration, and therefore would recommend to the successor Board that an inquiry be conducted on a West Yorkshire basis.

Minute 84 – Fuel Poverty Update. Members were advised that the Shakespeare Shakespeare Court, Grange and Towers external wall insulation programme had commenced, but was not yet complete. Therefore, it was requested that the minute be amended to reflect the current stage of construction.

Draft minutes to be approved at a future meeting

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held 6 February 2020 be approved as an accurate record, subject to the amendment as set out above.

95 Housing Repairs Update Report

The Director of Resources and Housing submitted a report that provided an update on progress following the recommendations of the Board's Working Group in September 2018.

The following were in attendance:

- Jill Wildman, Chief Officer for Housing
- Adam Crampton, Head of Property Management
- Robert Goor, Responsive Repairs Service Manager

The following documents were appended to the report:

- Chartered Institute of Housing – Working Together to Rethink Repairs and Maintenance (Summary)
- Scrutiny Working Group – Environment, Housing and Communities Housing Repairs meeting notes 26 September 2018

The Head of Property Management and the Responsive Repairs Service Manager provided a PowerPoint presentation, including the following:

- Progress against Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Housing Responsive Repairs and Voids (RR&V), along with context to performance below target;
- Update regarding the RR&V Delivery Strategy approved by Executive Board in October 2019, incorporating the focus on developing local plans to address local needs, and a complete review of the whole voids and lettings process;
- Contribution to the carbon neutral target – rethinking repairs and driving environmentally friendly tenant behaviour, to also reduce fuel poverty.

Members discussed a number of matters, including:

- *Introduction of more online self-service.* As part of the 'Rethinking Repairs' project officers outlined an ambition to provide service users with an improved online self-service facility to book repairs at their convenience.
- *Reuse and recycling of unwanted items.* Members requested an update on initiatives to reduce waste by reusing and recycling items left in homes at the end of tenancies, and were advised that the team were working closely with the third sector;
- *Appointments kept and customer journey.* Members sought clarity regarding a target for improvement against the RR3 Appointments Kept KPI. The Board was informed that although measures were taken to ensure that such targets are met, the primary focus of the new strategy

is to improve the whole customer journey, which will include redesign of the internal process in advance of appointments, to ensure that appointments are not only kept, but are also productive;

- *Flexibility around reporting repairs and appointment slots.* It was suggested that support for reporting repairs be made available at community hubs across the city, particularly to assist residents with English as a second language. Members also noted that broad appointment slots up to a six hour period can have a negative impact on the most deprived communities in the city who are unable to work during this time;
- *30 day target for re-letting void properties.* Members commented on the restricted efficiency of a 30 day target for re-letting void properties, and suggested that a shorter target would save Council funds and reduce waiting lists. However, they also noted the opportunity this time provides to deliver energy efficient measures such as improved insulation and low energy light bulbs.
- *Tenant contents insurance.* In response to a query, Members were advised that the Council offers a contents insurance scheme for tenants, which is recommended at the outset of each tenancy.
- *Audit processes.* Members were advised that 10% of repairs are made available for audit, and requested that the most recent audit report for RR&V be circulated following the meeting.

RESOLVED – The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities):

- a) Noted the contents of the report and appendices, along with Members comments;
- b) Requested that details be circulated in relation to audit report for Responsive Repairs and Voids.

96 Reducing Repeat Customer Contact - Recommendation Tracking

The Director of Communities and Environment submitted a report that updated members on progress against the recommendations that emerged from the 2016/17 Inquiry by the then Citizens and Communities Scrutiny Board.

The following were in attendance:

- James Rogers, Director of Communities and Environment
- Lee Hemsworth, Chief Officer for Customer Contact and Welfare
- Adam Crampton, Head of Property Management
- Robert Goor, Responsive Repairs Service Manager

The status of the remaining recommendations were agreed as follows:

Recommendation 1: 2 (Achieved)

Recommendation 3: 1 (Stop monitoring)

Recommendation 4: 1 (Stop monitoring)

Recommendation 5: 2 (Achieved)

Recommendation 10: 2 (Achieved)

RESOLVED – The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities):

- a) Noted the contents of the report;
- b) Agreed the position status of the recommendations as set out above;
- c) Agreed to close the inquiry.

Councillor D Collins left the meeting during discussion of this item at 11:50 a.m.

97 Community Hubs Update Report

The Director of Communities and Environment submitted a report that set out the progress and development of Community Hubs.

The following were in attendance:

- James Rogers, Director of Communities and Environment
- Lee Hemsworth, Chief Officer for Customer Contact and Welfare

The status of the remaining recommendations were agreed as follows:

Recommendation 2: 2 (Achieved)

Recommendation 3: 2 (Achieved)

In relation to Recommendation 3, members relayed concerns raised by residents about the absence of suitable provision for private and confidential conversations to take place within mobile community hubs. The Chief Officer acknowledged the concerns at this early stage of implementation and assured Members that operational issues with the mobile provision would be carefully monitored going forward.

RESOLVED – The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities):

- a) Noted the contents of the report, along with Members comments;
- b) Agreed the position status of the recommendations as set out above;
- c) Agreed to close the inquiry.

98 Work Schedule

The report of the Head of Democratic Services submitted a report which invited Members to consider the Board's schedule for the remainder of the 2019/20 municipal year. Copies of the Board's work schedule were appended to the report, as well as a note from the Joint Scrutiny Working Group held 27

January 2020 and the draft minutes of the Executive Board meeting held 12 February 2020.

With no scrutiny matters to be considered at the meeting scheduled for 16 April 2020, the Chair confirmed the meeting was cancelled.

Members were advised that the 'Approach to the Disposal of Green Spaces' formal scrutiny statement had been sent to the Director of City Development for clearance.

RESOLVED – The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities):

- a) Noted the contents of the report and appendices;
- b) Noted that the formal scrutiny statement 'Approach to the Disposal of Green Spaces' would be circulated electronically to Members for approval in due course;
- c) Agreed for the meeting scheduled for 16 April 2020 to be cancelled.

99 Date and Time of Next Meeting

As per Minute 98, the meeting scheduled for 16 April 2020 will no longer take place.

The Chair thanked Board Members for their attendance and contributions throughout the municipal year. The Chair also noted that Councillor P Gruen would not be returning to the Council following the election in May, and wished him well in his future endeavours.

The meeting ended at 12:05 p.m.

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Report of Director of Communities and Environment

Report to Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)

Date: 18 June 2020

Subject: Public consultation on proposals for Temple Newsam

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s): Temple Newsam	☒ Yes ☐ No
Has consultation been carried out?	☒ Yes ☐ No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	☒ Yes ☐ No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	☐ Yes ☒ No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	☐ Yes ☒ No

Summary

1. Main issues

- Following a meeting of executive board in October 2019, the Parks and Countryside service launched a public consultation on proposals for the area of land where Temple Newsam golf course is currently located. This consultation exercise took place from December 2019 until the end of March 2020.
- The consultation received responses from 2,164 people and this report outlines the findings with comprehensive analysis contained in Appendix A.

2. Best Council Plan Implications (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

- The proposals that were consulted upon support the Best Council Plan, particularly the following priorities: Health and Wellbeing; Sustainable Infrastructure, Culture, and Age and Child Friendly Leeds.

3. Resource Implications

- The resource implications will be considered as part of any recommendations made in the light of the consultation findings.

Recommendations

Members of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) are requested to note and consider the contents of this report.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1. This report outlines the findings of the public consultation on proposals for the land currently occupying the golf course at Temple Newsam Estate.

2. Background information

- 2.1. The following was resolved in light of a report to the council's executive board on 16th October 2019:
 - a) That, in taking into consideration the comments made during the discussion on the submitted report, the Board's consent be provided for the Parks and Countryside service to commence a public consultation exercise on the proposed closure of the golf course and the proposed developments, as outlined within the submitted report;
 - b) That following the conclusion of the consultation exercise (as detailed in resolution (a) above), the outcomes from such consultation together with any proposals regarding the future of Temple Newsam golf course be submitted to Executive Board for consideration and determination, with it being noted that the relevant Scrutiny Board could consider such matters, should it wish to do so.
- 2.2. A comprehensive consultation exercise has been conducted and in line with the scrutiny board wishes, this report provides a summary of the findings along with a full analysis of the survey questions contained in Appendix A. The questionnaire is contained in Appendix B for reference.

3. Main issues

3.1. Public Consultation

- 3.2. The Parks and Countryside service launched a public consultation on proposals for the area of land where Temple Newsam golf course is currently located from December 2019 until the end of March 2020. A detailed analysis is contained in Appendix A, however a summary of the main findings are set out as follows.
- 3.3. A total of 2,164 people filled in the questionnaire of which 1,906 did this online and 258 submitted on paper. The paper returns included 242 handed to the council by Temple Newsam Golf Club (who also shared a separate official submission from the club) on 23rd March 2020. The Leeds Conservative Group Office also submitted a written response to the questionnaire. In addition, a number of face to face meetings were held with key stakeholders and three submissions were received from interested parties. The Ward Councillors Cllr Debra Coupar, Cllr Helen Hayden and Cllr Nicole Sharpe, are very supportive of the new proposals and the retention of Temple Newsam Golf Club.
- 3.4. The demographic and characteristics of the respondents were as follows:
 - The majority live local to Temple Newsam with 55% of them saying Temple Newsam is their nearest park.
 - 24% play golf at Temple Newsam (6% indicated that they are members of Temple Newsam golf club).
 - The majority are aged 30 or over with 35% aged 30-44 and 37% 45-64 representing the largest groups of respondents
 - 40% have children under 16 years old.

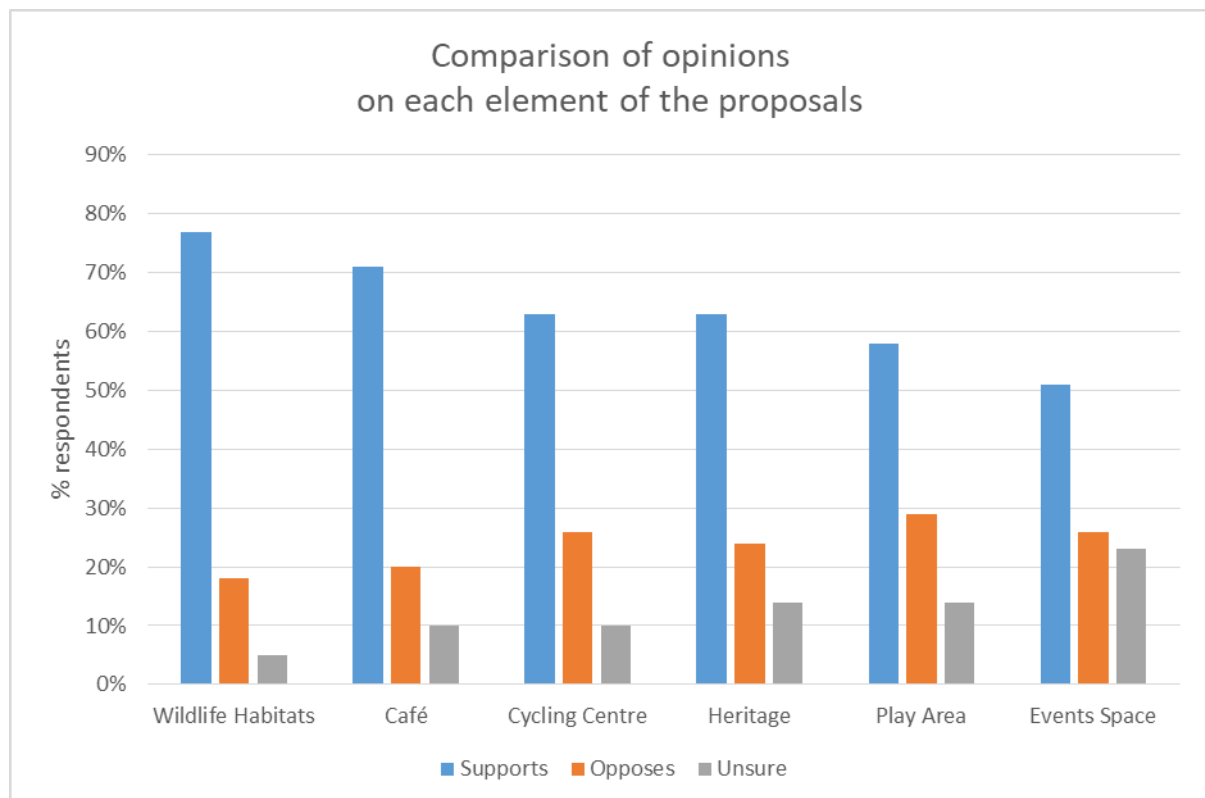
- 54% of them cycle.
- They tend to visit Temple Newsam reasonably often, with 40% visiting once a week or more, and 86% of them visiting at least four times a year.
- 61% of respondents indicated that they attend events at Temple Newsam.

3.5. One of the key questions in the survey was as follows: *Given the potential to create alternative visitor facilities in the area, which would be your preferred option for golf at Temple Newsam?*

- *To continue to provide the two golf courses at Temple Newsam.*
- *To reduce the golf provision at Temple Newsam (e.g. by reconfiguring the courses) to reduce the number of holes.*
- *To stop providing golf at Temple Newsam.*

3.6. The majority of respondents (54%) indicated that their preferred option would be for golf provision to be reduced, with 29% preferring ceasing to provide golf altogether and 18% wishing both golf courses to remain. A majority of all demographic groups, including Temple Newsam golfers, preferred the option to reduce golf provision on the site but not close it altogether. Reasons for their choices are outlined in the consultation report.

3.7. Participants were also asked if they supported the various proposals in the project individually *'If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled...'* The graph below summarises the results in order of popularity.



3.8. Wildlife habitats (including tree planting) and developing a café at the site both proved very popular, supported by 77% and 71% of respondents respectively. Though still generally supportive, respondents were less certain about the proposal for creating a new event space with 51% supporting the proposals and 23% saying they were unsure about it.

- 3.9. If implemented the proposed changes would result in 60% of respondents who indicated that, they, or their family would visit the estate more often or for longer. The remainder included 33% who indicated it would not result in them visiting more often and 9% who were unsure.
- 3.10. The findings of this consultation process support a reduced golf offer at Temple Newsam whilst seeking to improve the range of recreational facilities. This includes proposals to maximise the potential of the area for healthy activities such as walking and cycling, for wildlife and the environment, and for re-creating and engaging communities in the special heritage of the area along with a new café and event space at the southern end of the site.
- 3.11. During the consultation with local representatives of British Cycling and the Leeds Cycling Partnership, they suggested that providing a play area for younger children alongside the proposed cycling facilities would be a good way to introduce those children to cycling and would compliment other cycling in the city well to help support the *Leeds Cycling Starts Here* strategy. The consultation with local school children also suggested a play area, alongside the 'road-safety park' would be popular with that target audience.
- 3.12. Outside of the formal consultation process agreed at executive board, the council received two submissions and a petition with a summary of the submissions as follows.
- 3.13. Summary of Submission from Temple Newsam Golf Club
- 3.14. Temple Newsam Golf Club has provided a detailed submission contained in Appendix C. Notwithstanding a number of concerns raised about the process to date, the golf club wish to retain golf at Temple Newsam as part of an integrated solution incorporating a café, road safety park, cycling and play facilities by reducing the number of holes from 27 to 18 (with the option of two 9 hole offers included). The submission includes a new proposed layout on page 12.
- 3.15. Summary of Submission from Leeds Urban Bike Park
- 3.16. The submission from Cycle Pathway Community Interest Group based at Leeds Urban Bike Park at Middleton Park support any proposal to give more people access to cycling activities particularly people within the local area. They would like to have been consulted at an earlier stage and are concerned in particular about a shared walking and cycling trail. Their wish is to work in collaboration to seek funding from Sport England and British Cycling to complement the facility at Middleton and deliver cycling focussed activities that connect both sites.
- 3.17. Petition
- 3.18. A 'Stop Leeds City Council potential closure of Temple Newsam Golf Club / Course' petition was also submitted to Leeds City Council ahead of the executive board meeting in October 2019. This was before the formal consultation process began and therefore did not include the information about the scheme that accompanied the questionnaire. The petition received 725 signatories.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1. Consultation and engagement

4.1.1 This report summarises the response to a public consultation exercise undertaken by Parks and Countryside from December 2019 to the end of March 2020. The way the consultation was promoted is outlined below:

4.1.2 Online:

- On the front page of the Temple Newsam website and on the Leeds City Council, Parks & Countryside consultations web page.
- On Temple Newsam, Leeds Parks and local community committee social media.

4.1.3 On site:

- Posters in notice boards.
- Paper copies available in shop and café.

4.1.4 In the community:

- Letter sent to local residents.
- Local community groups were approached directly.
- Local schools were approached directly.
- Posters in local shops and other community centres like libraries.

4.1.5 Stakeholders:

- Relevant Leeds City Council officers and stakeholders such as Historic England were approached directly.

4.1.6 Additional submissions were received from the following organisations:

- Temple Newsam Golf Club
- Leeds Conservative Group Office
- Leeds Urban Bike Park

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 An equality screening has been completed and is attached to this document and once final proposals are developed for decision they will be subject to a further screening and impact assessment if required.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

4.3.1 An appraisal of final proposals developed for decision will be conducted to ensure alignment with council policies and the Best Council Plan.

Climate Emergency

4.3.2 The environmental impact will be considered when final proposals are developed for decision.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.4.1 An appraisal of final proposals will be conducted ahead of a report to executive board to inform decision-making in the light of the consultation proposals.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

- 4.5.1 Relevant legal issues will be considered when final proposals are developed for decision in the light of the consultation proposals.

4.6 Risk management

- 4.6.1 An appraisal of risks associated with final proposals that arise from the consultation findings will be conducted to inform a decision at executive board.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 Following a comprehensive and wide-reaching public consultation which received feedback from over 2,000 people, it can be concluded that a majority of consultees would like to see the size of the golf provision at Temple Newsam reduced. Furthermore the findings support the development of a range of visitor facilities including cycling and walking trails, a road-safety park, a café, a play area, a new event space and improvements to the landscape to improve heritage and habitat value. A report will be taken to the Council's Executive Board for decision – provisionally with a view to inclusion in July's agenda - in the light of the consultation findings and in line with resolutions stated at the meeting in October 2019.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Members of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) are requested to note and consider the contents of this report.

7 Background documents¹

- 7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Public consultation on proposals for Temple Newsam 2019 - 20

Methodology and Findings

1. Methodology

1.1. Consultation timeline

Date	Consultee	Format
Oct - March 2019	Leeds City Council colleagues as relevant to the proposals. Included site based staff, golf staff, Highways, Active Leeds, road safety team.	In person & in meetings
4 Oct 2019	Friends of Temple Newsam Chair & Vice-Chair	Meeting
24 Oct 2019	Temple Newsam Community Forum	Meeting
3 Dec 2019	Leeds City Council Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)	Meeting
Oct 2019, Dec 2019, Feb 2020	Temple Newsam Golf Club	3 meetings
Dec 2019 - March 2020	Online public survey	Proposals & survey online
Dec 2019 - March 2021	Paper versions of proposals and survey available on site and by email	Online survey
Jan 2020	Historic England	Meeting
13 Jan 2020	Leeds Cycling Partnership	Meeting
Feb 2020	Temple Newsam Golf Club	Meeting
8 - 9 Feb 2020	Public Open Days at Temple Newsam	Open Days with display and presentation
March 2020	Consultation with local school children	School council meeting
April 2020	Yorkshire Gardens Trust	Phone conversation

1.2. Promoting the consultation

To ensure as many people as possible could get involved in this consultation it was promoted widely as follows:

Online:

- On front page of Temple Newsam website and on the Leeds City Council, Parks & Countryside consultations web page
- On Temple Newsam, Leeds Parks and local community committee social media

On site:

- Posters in notice boards
- Paper copies available in shop and café

In the community:

- Letter sent to local residents
- Local community groups were approached directly
- Local schools were approached directly.
- Posters in local shops and other community centres like libraries.

Stakeholders:

- Leeds City Council officers and key stakeholders were approached directly

2. Findings

2,164 surveys were completed, with the majority of these completed online and 258 received as hard copies.

2.1 Demographics and characteristics of survey respondents

The following section outlines the characteristics of the people who filled in the survey.

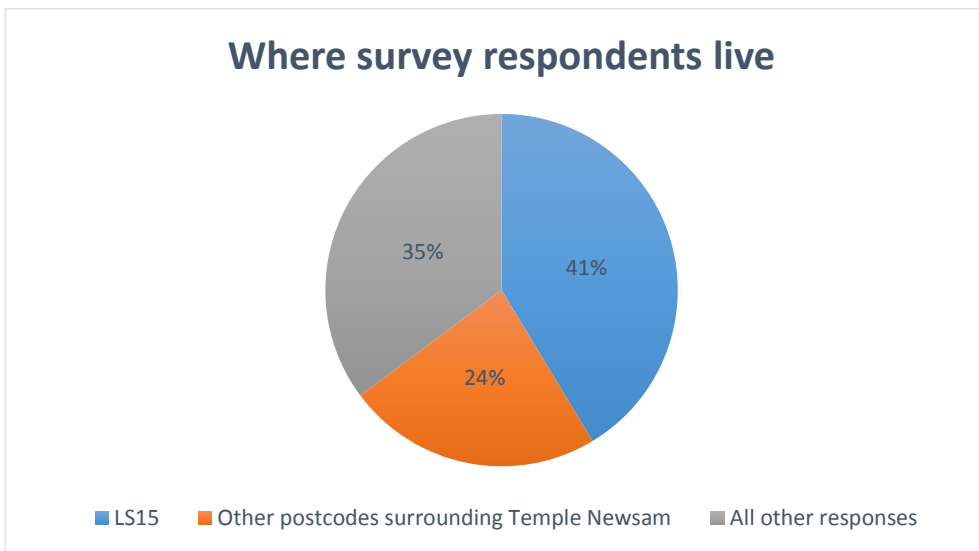
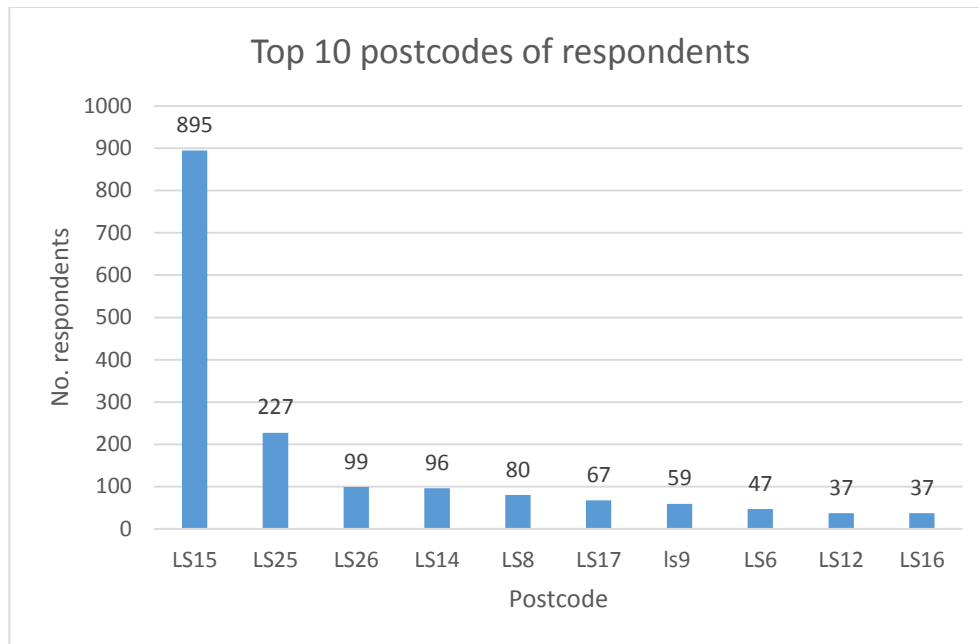
2.1.1 Locality

The postcodes surrounding Temple Newsam are LS9, LS10, LS14, LS15, LS25 and LS26.

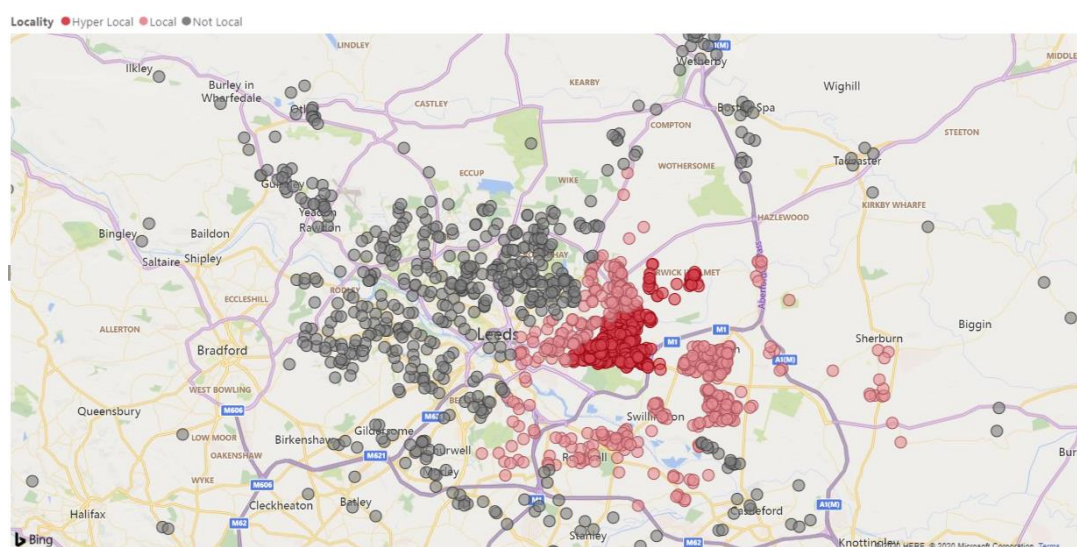
The largest number of survey respondents came from LS15 (895 respondents). LS15 is the postcode of Temple Newsam itself and most of the housing that is close to the site.

However, with Temple Newsam being one of the major city parks in Leeds, there were also a number of responses from further afield, including Wakefield, Otley and Wetherby.

55% of respondents indicated that Temple Newsam is their nearest park.



Map showing where respondents came from



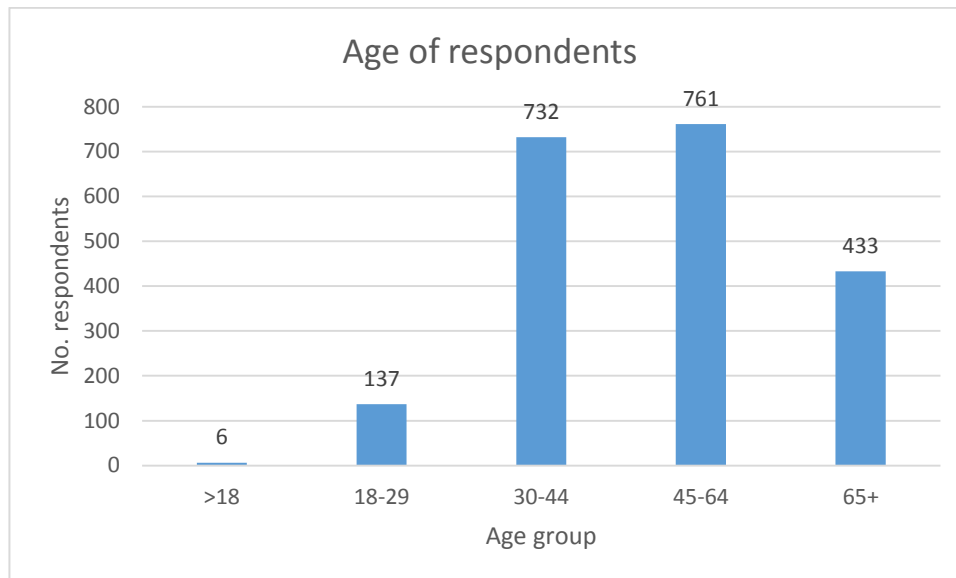
2.1.2 Gender

Female- 49%

Male- 45%

Other or 'prefer not to say' - 6%

2.1.3 Age



2.1.4 Ethnicity

94% of respondents described themselves as White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British. Other respondents were from a wide range of backgrounds with no other particular ethnicity making up more than 1% respondents.

2.1.5 Disability

7% of respondents consider themselves to have a disability.

2.1.6 Children:

40% of respondents have children under the age of 16.

2.1.7 Golfers:

- 25% of respondents indicated that they play golf
- 24% play golf at Temple Newsam,
- 6% (116 people) respondents indicated that they are members of Temple Newsam Golf Club.

2.1.8 Cyclists:

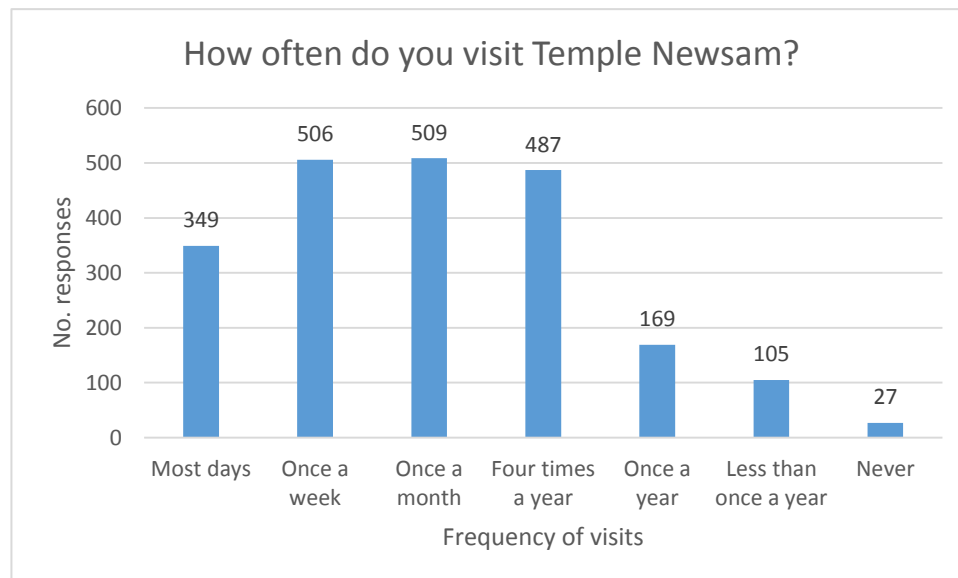
54% of respondents indicated that they cycle.

2.1.9 Friends of Temple Newsam

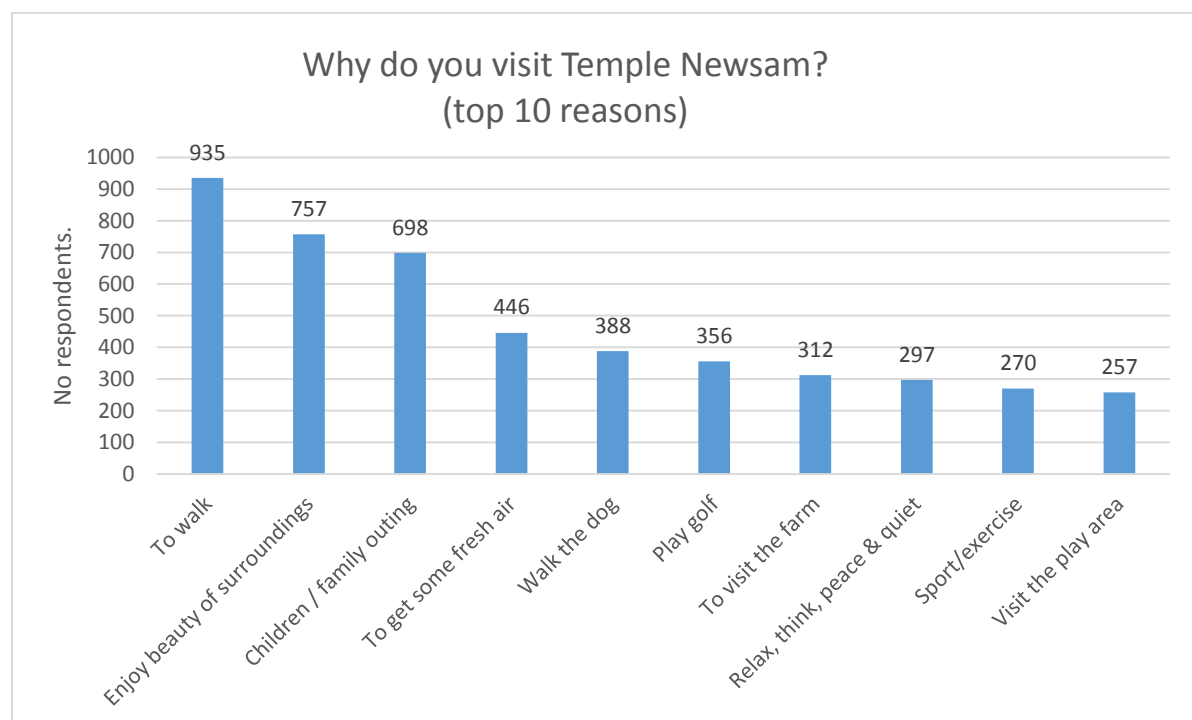
4% of respondents were members of the voluntary organisation, the Friends of Temple Newsam.

2.1.10 Use of Temple Newsam

Most of the respondents are regular users of Temple Newsam with the majority of respondents (86%) visiting at least four times a year, and 40% visiting weekly or more. 16% of respondents visit the estate most days.



Why respondents visit Temple Newsam



2.1.11 Events

61% of respondents indicated that they attend events at Temple Newsam.

33% of respondents who are local residents indicated that they are affected by events held there (e.g. traffic/noise)

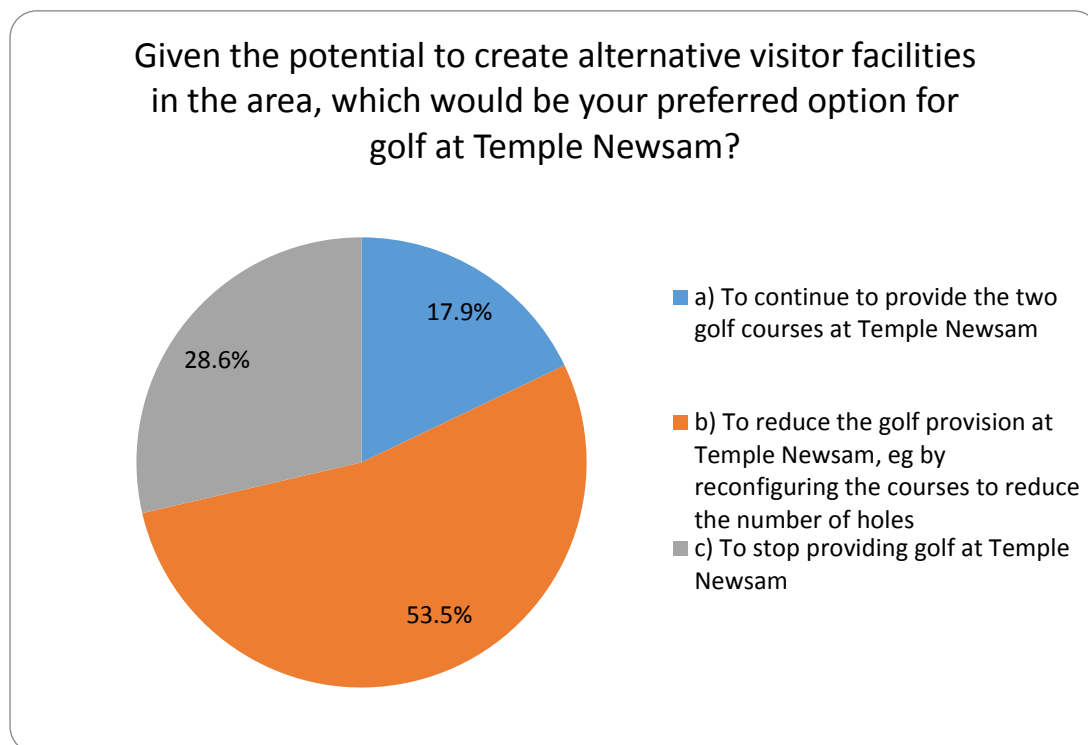
2.2. Results of the Survey

This section of the document explores the responses to questions about the proposals for Temple Newsam.

2.2.1 Overall opinion on the proposals

Question 9: *Given the potential to create alternative visitor facilities in the area, which would be your preferred option for golf at Temple Newsam?*

82% of respondents support a change to the golf provision at Temple Newsam with the majority of respondents (53%) indicating they would prefer golf provision to be reduced and 29% saying they'd prefer the council to stop providing golf at Temple Newsam altogether.



Reasons for answers to question 9

When asked to give reasons for their answer it was evident that many respondents on both sides of the discussion had strong feelings on the subject.

The ten most frequently cited reasons for ceasing to provide golf courses (in order of popularity) were:

Reason for wanting to close golf courses and provide proposed facilities	Example quote from survey
The proposed facilities would be used by more people	<i>I think the other family friendly options are much better use of the space and would attract more people</i>
There are lots of other places to play golf in Leeds	<i>Plenty of other courses in Leeds</i>
Golf is too costly for the authority to run	<i>Too costly for how many people use it.</i>
Golf isn't popular/the course isn't well used	<i>Does anyone use it? Don't see people on course at all. If they do it's a small minority.</i>
The respondent prefers the proposed scheme to golf	<i>Love the plans outlined!</i>
The proposed facilities are more family/child friendly	<i>More local off road cycle paths we could use safely as a family with children to get exercise & fresh air would be very welcome.</i>
Golf takes up too much space	<i>Currently a vast amount of green space....is being wasted serving a tiny minority of people.</i>
Golf is not an inclusive sport	<i>Golf isn't inclusive enough and doesn't appeal to a broad enough cross section of society to justify council expenditure</i>
The proposals are better for wildlife/the environment	<i>I feel that golf courses are very bad for biodiversity and that instead we should create diverse habitats - shrubs, trees, wild flower meadows to create more homes for nature.</i>
Golf is an expensive sport to play	<i>Golf is an expensive hobby and one I cannot afford. I would prefer activities that are free or lower cost e.g. bike hire.</i>

The ten most frequently cited reasons for wanting to continue to provide two golf courses (in order of popularity) were:

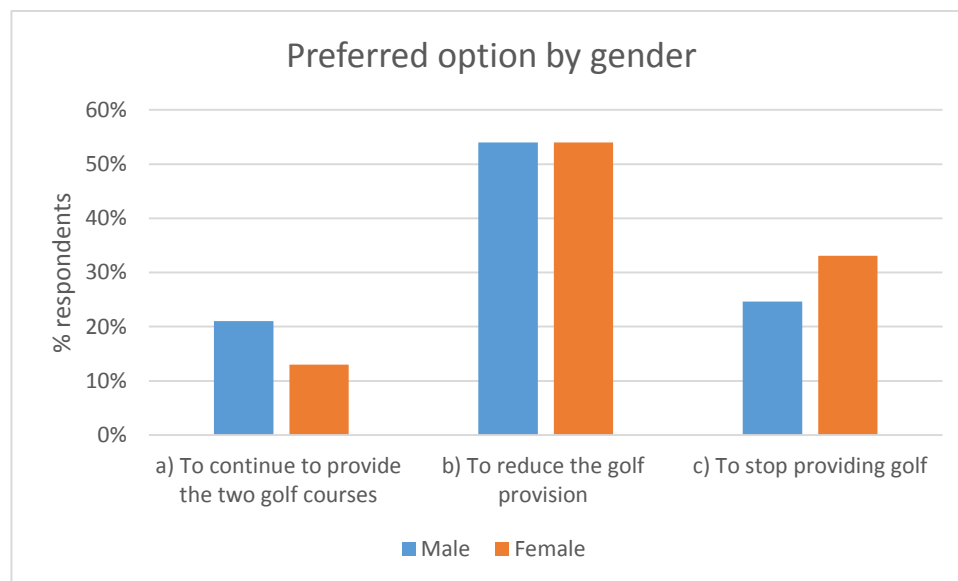
Reason for wanting to continue providing golf at Temple Newsam	Example quote from survey
The respondent plays golf or has another personal, family or emotional connection to the golf course	<i>I have played golf at Temple Newsam 60 years and a course of this quality is a must for Leeds.</i>
The health and wellbeing benefits of golf	<i>Golf is a great exercise for the members and a place for them to meet up and socialise. Closing the club would be detrimental to the health and wellbeing of all the members.</i>
The history and heritage of the golf course	<i>Golf has been a part of the local community for almost 100 years and should remain so</i>
Temple Newsam is a particularly good golf course (including because it has an 18 hole, and a choice of courses)	<i>Magnificent golf courses which would be criminal to lose.</i>
The proposed facilities are not needed	<i>There are enough facilities for families / cyclists across Leeds. We don't need another one. People can already cycle around Temple Newsam if they wish. We already have a playground and cafe so don't see the benefit of introducing more.</i>
The course provides affordable golf	<i>Not everyone can afford to join a private golf course</i>
If you invest in/promote the golf courses more people will use them	<i>I believe the golf resources are still commercially viable subject to more extensive and improved facilities, for example, a fully equipped and 21st century all weather driving range offering professionally graded tuition available all year round</i>
Golf is beneficial for people of all ages and older people in particular	<i>This gives pleasure and health benefits to a lot of the older residents</i>
The golf course provides social and community value	<i>It's not just about hitting a ball but the social aspect.</i>
It is important for municipal golf to be provided in Leeds	<i>As one of the largest cities in the UK it would be a disgrace if we only had one municipal golf course (9 holes at Roundhay GC)</i>

Variations in responses by demographic characteristics

Further analysis was undertaken of the responses to this question to find out if there was any variation between different groups of people. All groups prefer the option of reducing, but not stopping providing, golf at Temple Newsam. Variations in responses are outlined below.

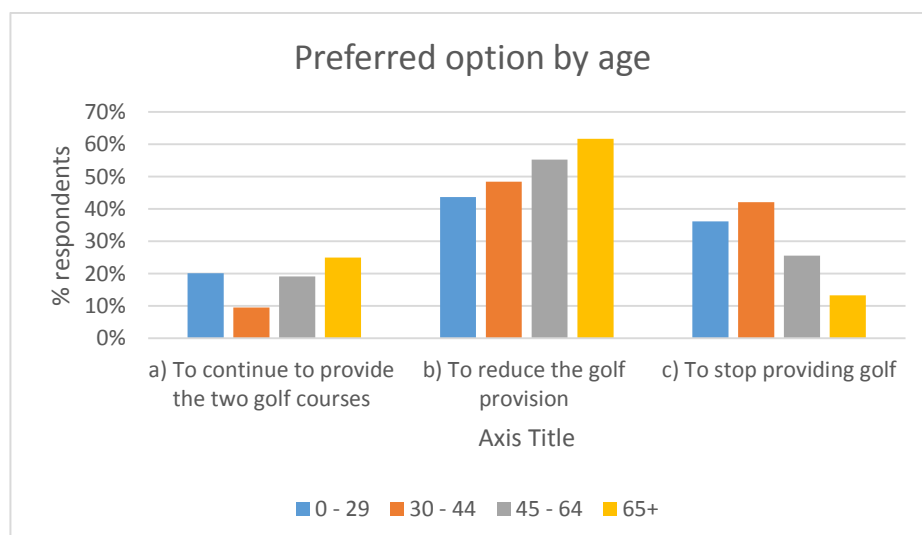
Male/Female

The favoured option for both men and women in equal measure is to reduce the golf provision but men are more likely than women to say they'd prefer to keep both golf courses.



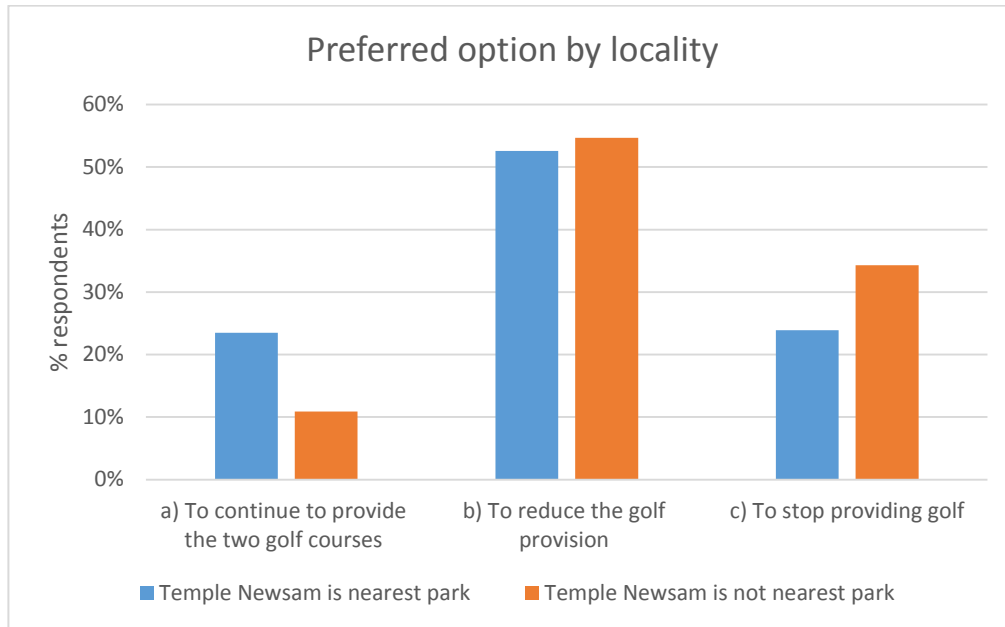
Age group

All age groups showed a preference for option b, to reduce the golf provision, with 30 – 44 year olds least likely to support continuing to provide two golf courses and people over 65 being least likely to support stopping providing golf altogether (the 0 – 18 category was combined with 18 – 19 because there were only 6 respondents in that age category).



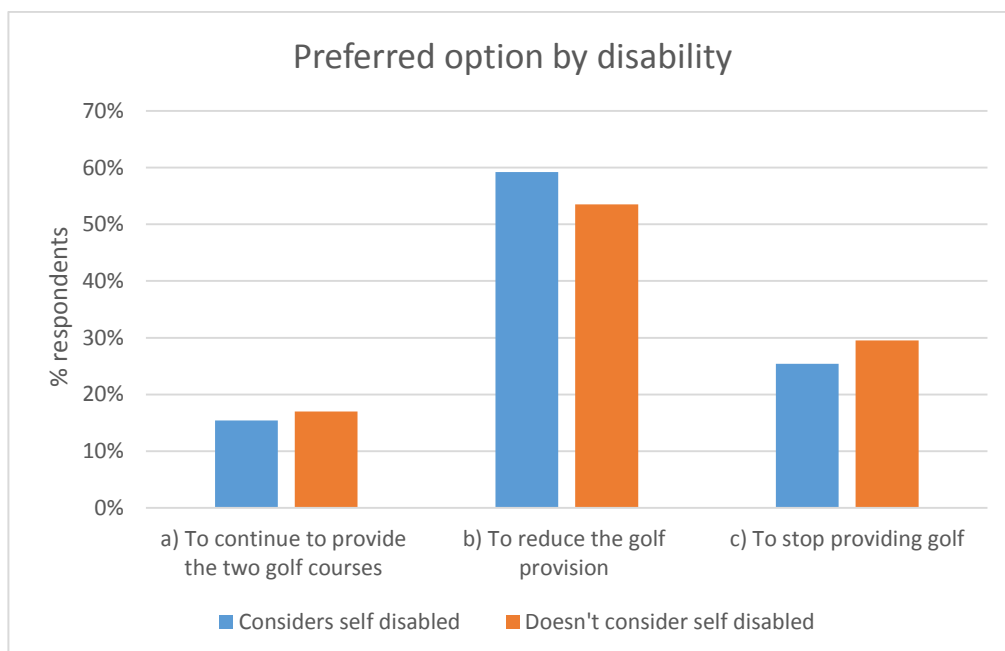
Locality

Again option b (to reduce golf provision) is the most popular option for those for whom Temple Newsam is, or isn't, their closest park. However, more local people would prefer to continue to provide two golf courses than those from further afield – more of those agreed with the option to stop providing golf.



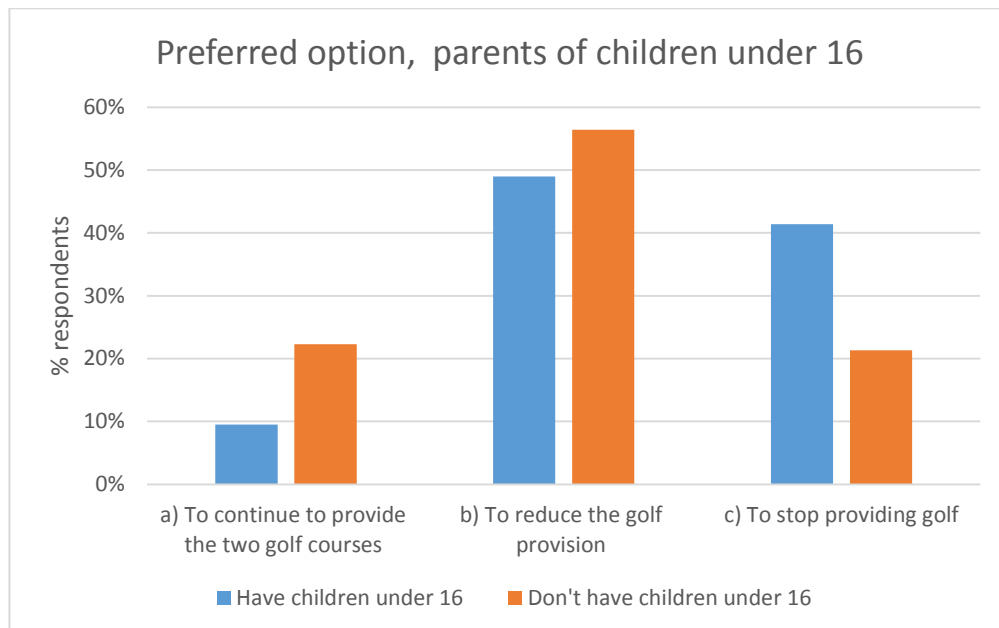
People with disabilities

Respondents with disabilities were more likely to favour the option to reduce golf provision than respondents who don't consider themselves disabled.



Parents of children under 16

Parents of children under 16 were more likely to favour the option of stopping providing golf altogether than respondents without children under 16.



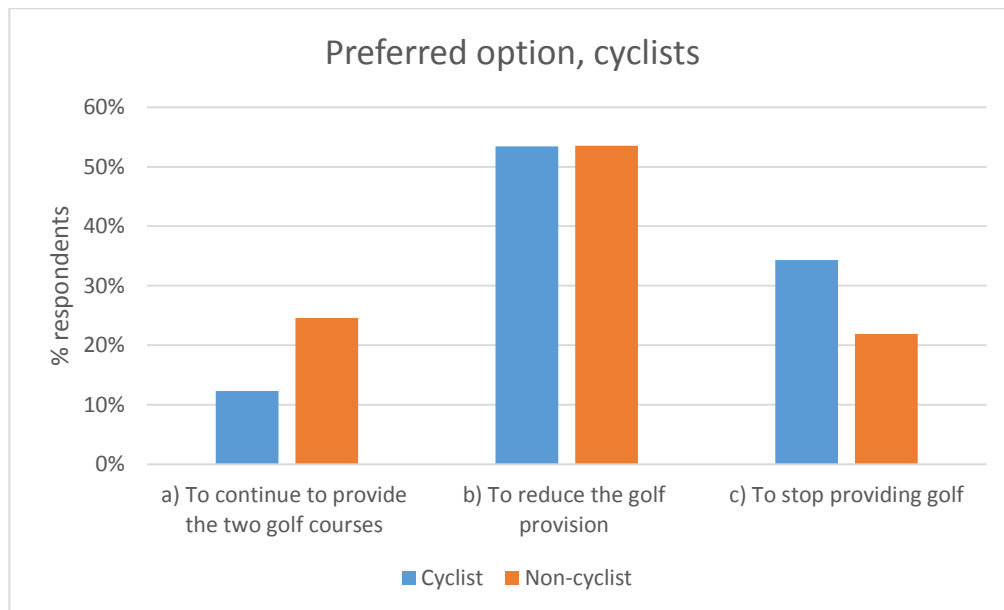
Temple Newsam golfers

Temple Newsam golfers were much more likely than other respondents to express a preference for keeping both golf courses at Temple Newsam and only 1% of them supported closing the golf courses at the site altogether.



Cyclists

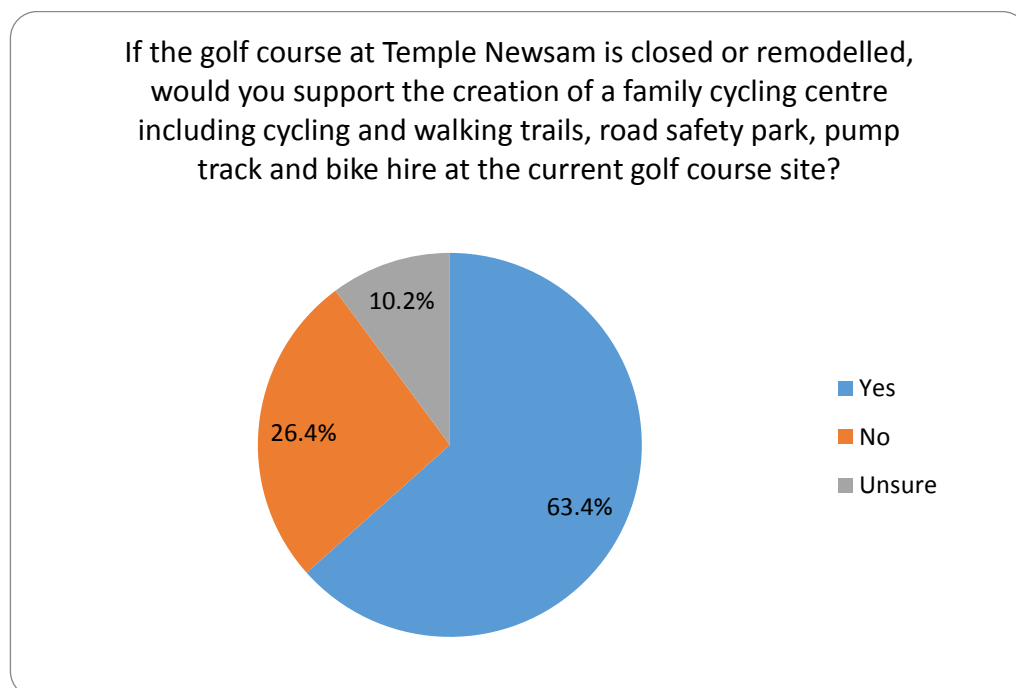
Cyclists (54% respondents) were more likely to support the proposals to stop providing golf altogether than non-cyclists.



2.2.2 Family Cycling Centre

Question 12: *If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a family cycling centre including cycling and walking trails, road-safety park, pump track and bike hire at the current golf course site?*

The majority of respondents (63%) were in support of creating a family cycling centre if the golf course was closed or remodelled.



Main reasons given for supporting a family cycling centre:

1. Would provide a safe environment for children to learn how to ride a bike e.g. *'This sounds like an excellent idea, would be good to have somewhere safe, where children can practice their cycling skills'*.
2. Would provide recreation for families e.g. *'I like the idea of a safe and beautiful space for the whole family to enjoy a healthy, active outdoor activity together'*
3. General enthusiastic support e.g. *'Would be a really useful way to use the space. We'd definitely make use of this facility'* and *'It would be a great visitor attraction'*.

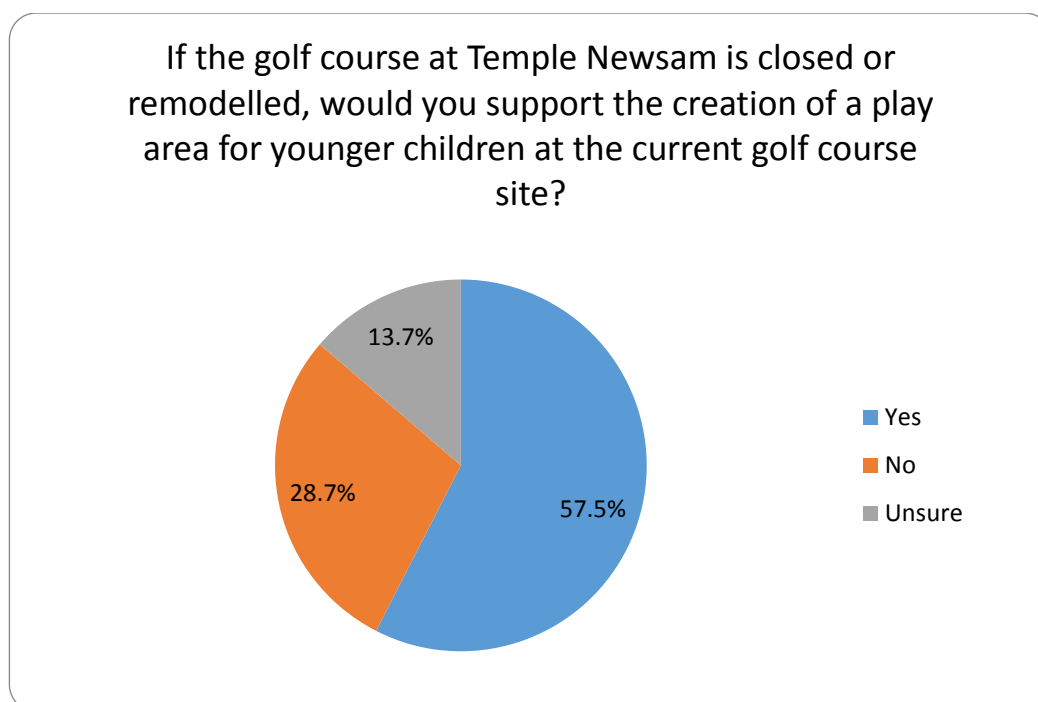
Main reasons given for not supporting a family cycling centre:

1. Would prefer to retain golf or combine golf/cycling e.g. *'I would not wish to see the golf course closed as it is a historic area and would prefer the golf course to remain, however, I feel golf can be played alongside other facilities - this would be my preference'*.
2. Cycling routes are already available at Temple Newsam/in local area e.g. *'It would serve no purpose to me. There are plenty of other places to cycle in the area. The Temple Newsam Estate itself has many areas that children can cycle without the need for a designated cycling centre'*.

2.2.3 Play

Question 13: *If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a play area for younger children at the current golf course site?*

The majority of respondents (57%) were in support of creating a play area if the golf course is closed or remodelled.



Main reasons for supporting the creation of a new play space:

1. Generally supportive e.g. *'Improved facilities are always a good thing for the community.'*
2. More play is needed in area e.g. *'my children love the existing play area but it does get busy.'*
3. Benefits of outdoor play e.g. *'Anything to get children outdoors is good'*

Main reasons for not supporting the creation of a new play space:

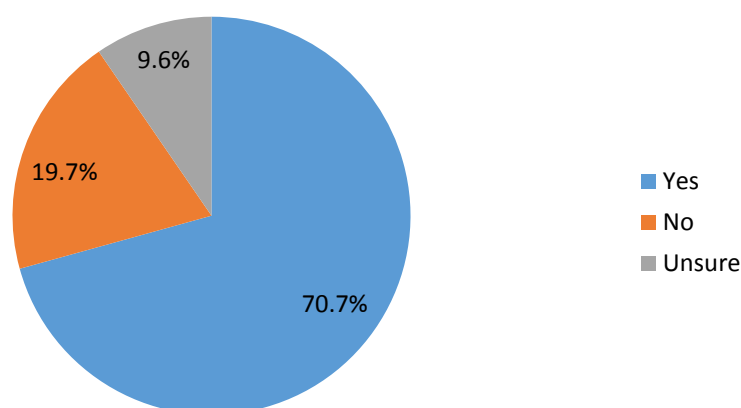
1. There are already play facilities nearby e.g. *'There's Halton Park & a play park at Temple Newsam - better to improve & maintain those.'*
2. Would prefer to retain at least some element of golf e.g. *'Would be unfair to close golf, but if course and house stayed open that would be ok. There are plenty of play areas in local vicinity, but no golf'.*

2.2.4 Cafe

Question 14: *If the new visitor facilities were developed as described above, would you support opening a café at the current golf buildings, overlooking the park and some of the new facilities?*

A majority of respondents (71%) were in support of opening a café if the golf course were closed or remodelled. 62% of respondents indicated that they would personally use such a café.

If the new visitor facilities were developed as described above, would you support opening a café at the current golf buildings, overlooking the park and some of the new facilities?



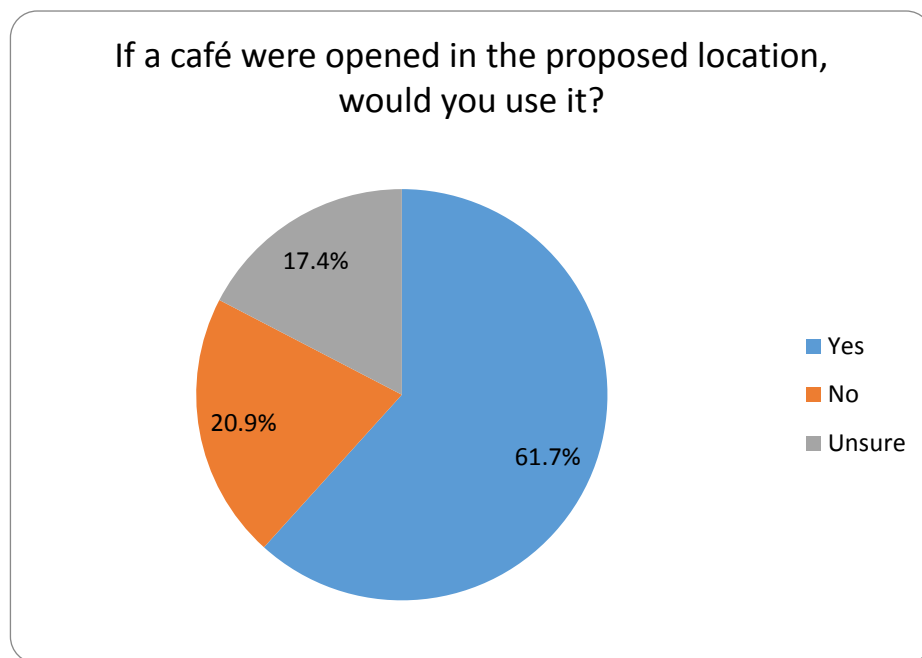
Main reasons for supporting a cafe:

1. Generally supportive e.g. *'It would be nice to have somewhere to enjoy a drink and a snack after a nice walk/cycle and is a change of scenery from the other TN café'.*
2. Other café is small/gets busy e.g. *'The cafe that is already there does get busy and it would be nice to have the option of another cafe at a different location'*
3. Would increase revenue e.g. *'Cafes are always popular and a great way of making more money for the council'.*

Main reasons given for not supporting the idea of opening a cafe:

1. There is already a café at Temple Newsam and others in the area. E.g. *'There is already a cafe and shops at Temple Newsam and plenty of shops and cafe bars and eateries in Halton Village'*
2. Prefers to retain golf (includes quite a few people saying they would support it alongside golf) e.g. *'I do not want the golf courses to close so would not support the café' or 'I would only support if the current golf facilities stayed open'.*

Question 15: *If a café were opened in the proposed location, would you use it?*



Top 3 reasons given for why respondents would use such a café:

1. Generally would like to use a cafe (if not too expensive and good quality) e.g. *'Always happy to travel around for a cafe with good food and coffee.'*
2. They would use the café in conjunction with other activities like walking or cycling e.g. *'Having a coffee with friends/family is always a pleasant break in a walk around the park. Having a cafe at the golf course site would mean an extra area in which to walk.'*

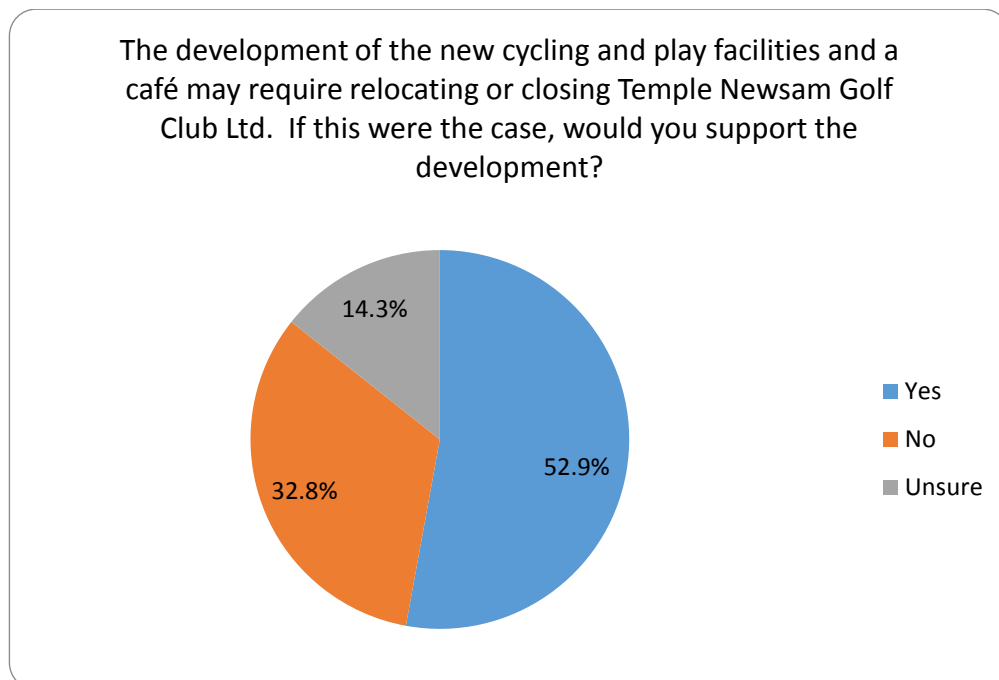
For those that would not use a new café, the following explanations were given:

1. There is already a café at Temple Newsam and others in the area e.g. *'I would still use the perfectly good existing one in the courtyard'*.
2. General no e.g. *'I very rarely go to cafes.'*

2.2.5 Golf club

Question 16: *The development of the new cycling and play facilities and a café may require relocating or closing Temple Newsam Golf Club Ltd. If this were the case, would you support the development?*

53% of respondents felt that they would support the development of new facilities even if it meant relocating or closing Temple Newsam Golf Club.



Amongst those who would support closing or relocating the golf club if needed, the main reasons given were:

1. Would like to see more people using the area e.g. *'I feel that the play area, cafe and cycling tracks would benefit a wider variety of people than it just being catered to golf'*
2. The golf course is not well-used e.g. *'The golf course does not seem to be greatly used and there is ample provision in other parts of Leeds.'*
3. The respondent does not play golf e.g. *'I don't play golf. I don't know anyone who plays golf.'*

Amongst those who opposed closing or relocating the golf club, the main reasons cited were:

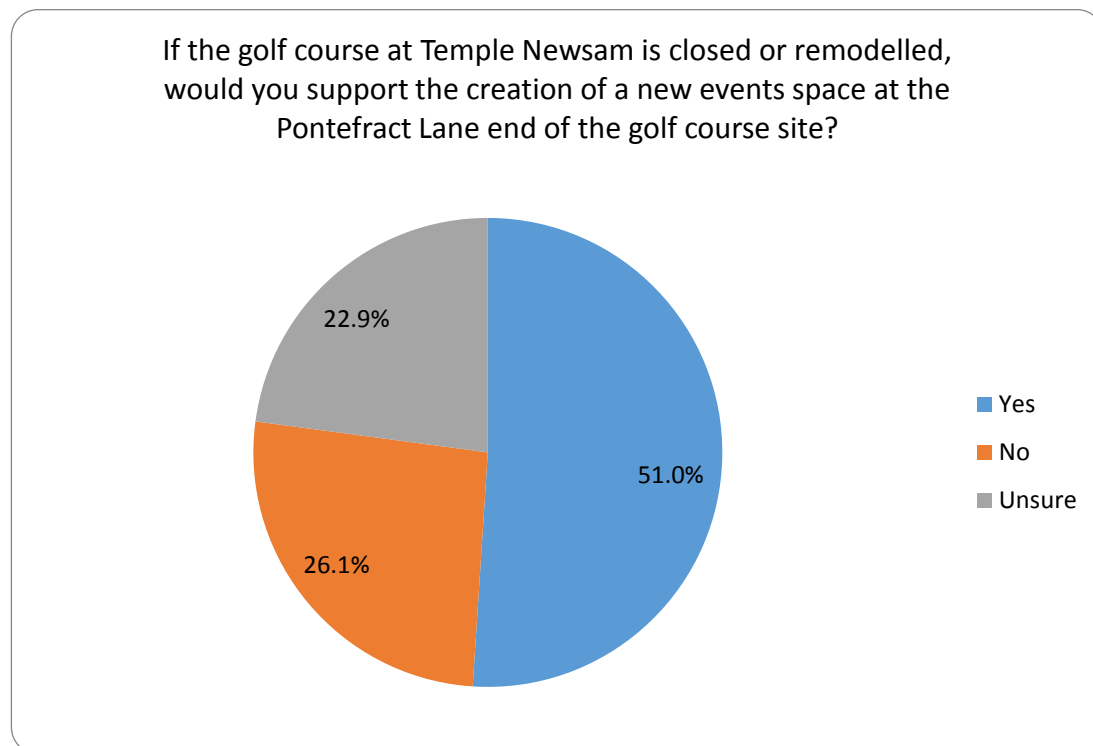
1. The respondent prefers to retain golf as is e.g. *'I want the golf course to stay open'*

2. The golf club can remain alongside any new facilities e.g. *'There is enough ground and space for both these options to run side by side and not for one to close so the other can be built.'*

2.2.6 New events space

Question 18: *If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a new events space at the Pontefract Lane end of the golf course site?*

51% of respondents supported the creation of a new event space at Temple Newsam.



Main reasons for supporting a new events space:

1. It would improve access to events e.g. *'Would be great access for out-of-region visitors, just off Junction 45 of the M1 and greatly reduce congestion on local roads. If I wanted to attend, it would be easy for me to walk or cycle.'*
2. It would have less impact on local residents e.g. *'My grandma is a local resident to temple newsam and can often hear things from her house, this would make her feel safer and more secure and ease parking around her street'*

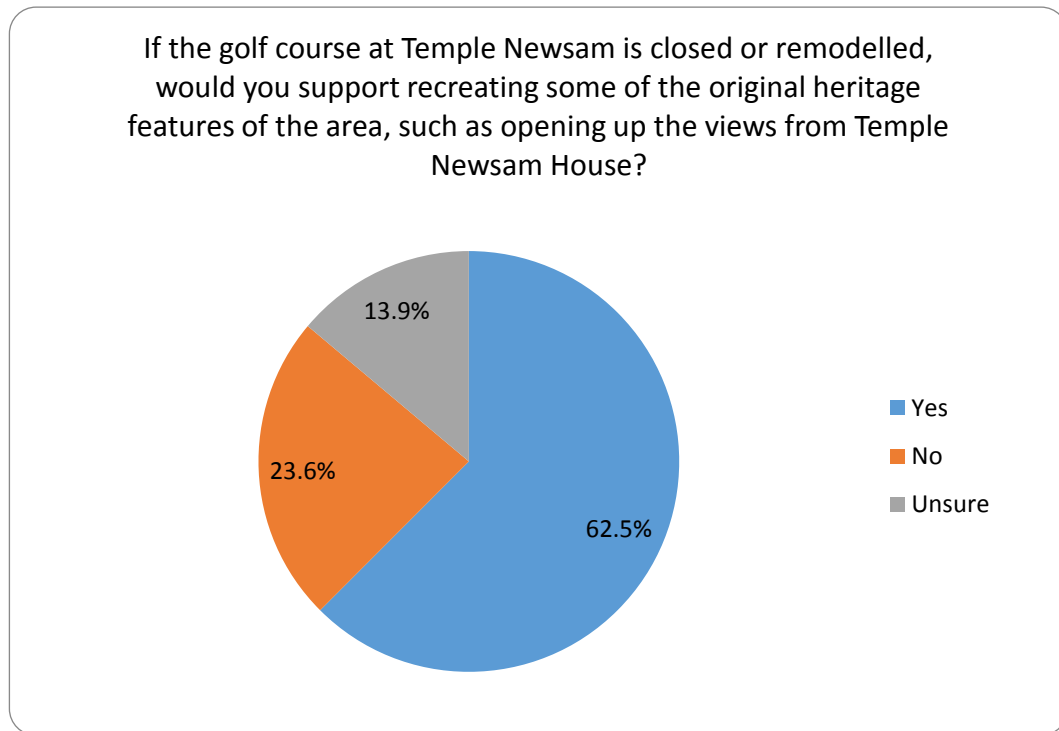
Main reasons for not supporting a new event space:

1. The respondent prefers to retain golf e.g. *'No I won't support the closing of the Golf course to enable these being created'*
2. There is already sufficient event space at Temple Newsam e.g. *'There is enough events space already at Temple Newsam'* and *'Leeds already has plenty of event spaces, I don't think it's necessary to create another one.'*

2.2.7 Re-creating heritage features

Q19. If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support recreating some of the original heritage features of the area, such as opening up the views from Temple Newsam House?

A majority of respondents (62%) supporting recreating some of the original heritage features of the area if the golf course was to be closed or remodelled.



Main reasons for supporting this proposal:

1. General support for the idea e.g. *'What a fantastic idea - would love to see this.'*
2. Preserving and/or sharing the history of the site is important e.g. *'At heart Temple Newsam is a historic site which should reflect its unique history'.*

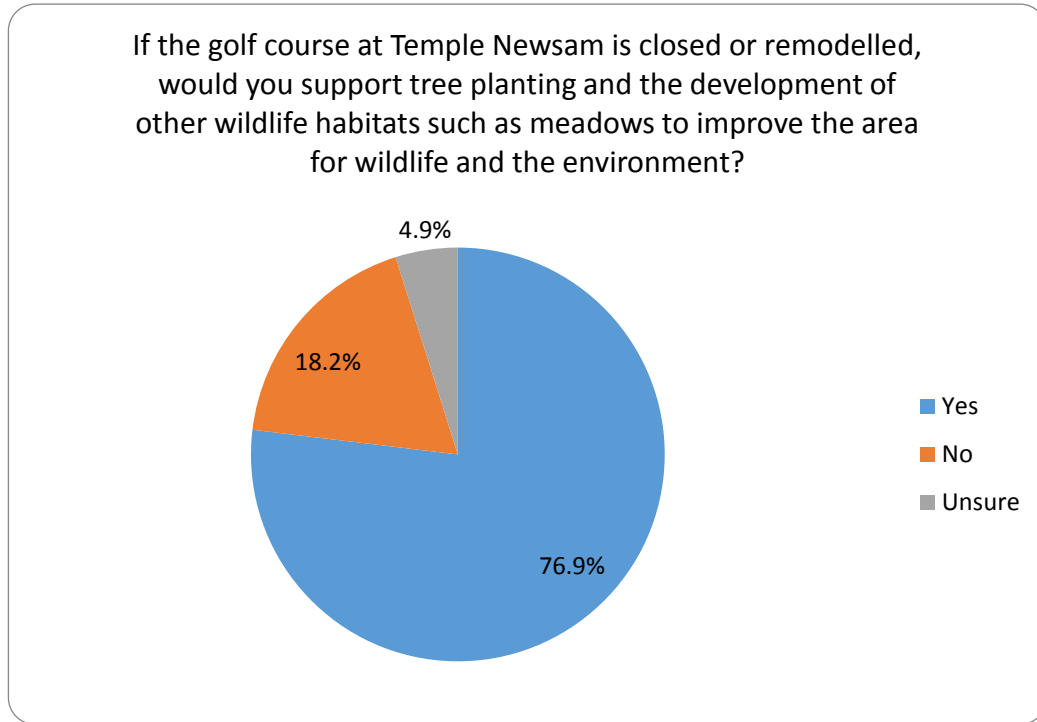
Main reasons for not supporting the proposal:

1. Prefers golf to remain as is (including references to the history of the golf course) e.g. *'The golf course is part of the heritage so why close it.'*
2. Already nice views there/not needed e.g. *'Unnecessary, the views are superb anyway.'*
3. You can re-create the heritage features without closing golf e.g. *'You can do this without closing the golf course'.*

2.2.8 Wildlife and the environment

Question 20: If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support tree planting and the development of other wildlife habitats such as meadows to improve the area for wildlife and the environment?

A majority of respondents (77%) indicated that they would support tree planting and the development of other wildlife habitats if the golf courses were closed or remodelled.



The main reasons given for supporting the development of wildlife habitats were:

1. The importance of protecting and enhancing wildlife and the environment e.g. *'It is very important to protect our natural environment and support the development of new habitats for wildlife in our parks.'*
2. General support e.g. *'How could anyone not support this? It's my biggest single reason for supporting the proposals.'*

The main reasons for not supporting the proposal were:

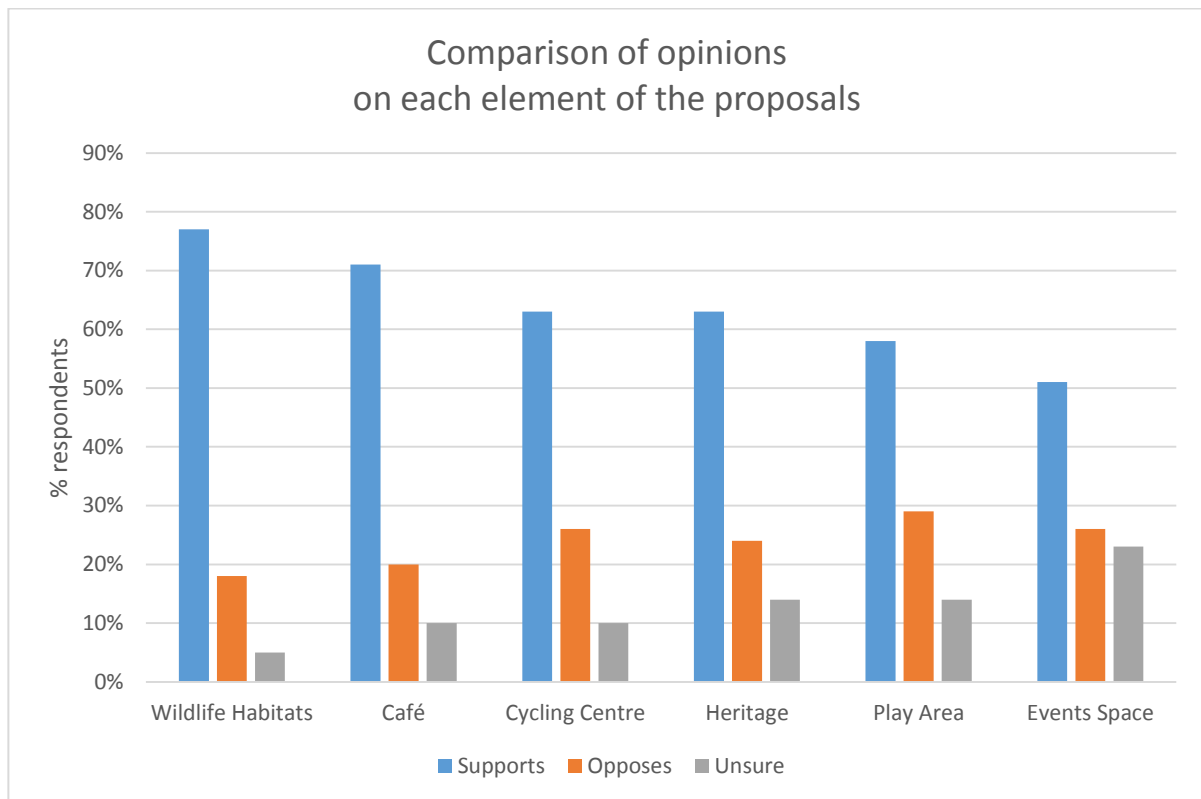
1. Believes these proposals can/should be done alongside golf e.g. *'All of the above can be carried out without closing the golf course.'*
2. The site is already good for wildlife e.g. *'We have plenty of wildlife already including deer, red kites etc.'*

2.2.9 Popularity of each proposal

Based on the responses gathered, it is possible to compare levels of support for each of the proposals

All of the proposals for alternative facilities had the support of over 50% of respondents.

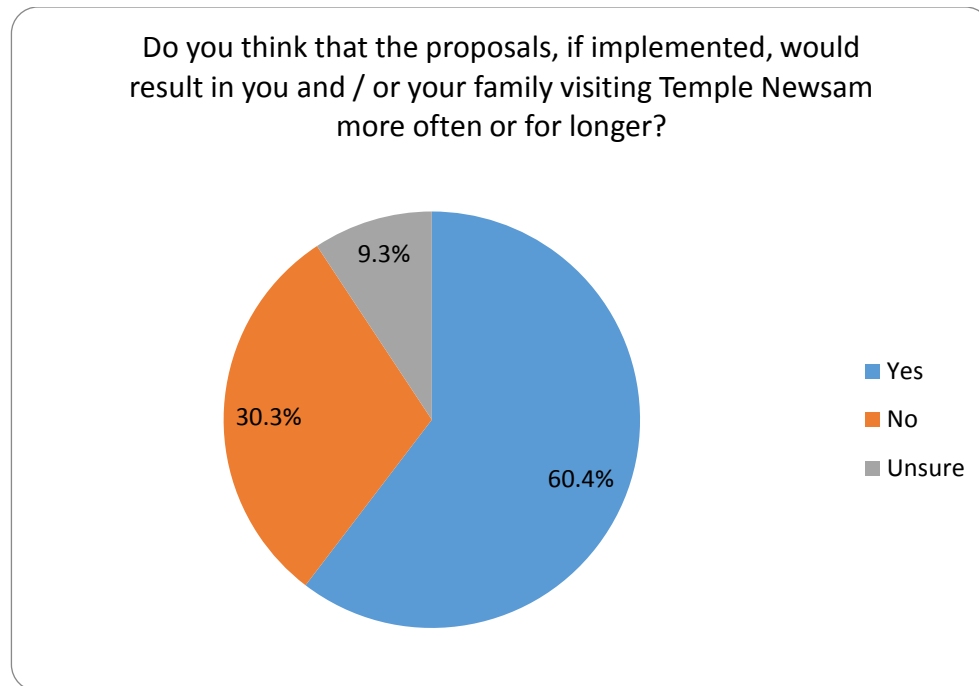
The most popular proposals are the wildlife habitat development (77% support), followed by a café (71%).



2.2.10. Likelihood of visiting

Question 21: Do you think that the proposals, if implemented, would result in you and / or your family visiting Temple Newsam more often or for longer?

60% of respondents felt that, if implemented, the proposed changes would result in them, or their family, visiting the estate more often or for longer.



For those that answered 'yes' to this question, the main reasons given were:

1. There would be more to do on offer e.g. *'We visit temple newsam a lot and have done all my life. I'm finding my children are getting a bit bored of seeing the same things and are a bit older now to enjoy the farm as much as they once did. These changes sound great, inject a new lease of life into the estate and find us a reason to visit more often'*
2. They would use the cycling facilities e.g. *'I feel the changes if done correctly would lead me to visit more. I hold Temple Newsam close to my heart due to its beauty and would love to travel round on my bicycle on the proposed new trails, especially in the summer.'*

For those that answered 'no' to this question, the main reasons given were:

1. They would prefer to retain golf e.g. *'I would end up visiting less by having to travel elsewhere to play golf.'*
2. They already visit the site frequently e.g. *'We already visit TN on a daily basis to walk our dog, take our granddaughter to the farm and/or playgrounds. We also attend football matches on a weekend.'*
3. The proposals do not appeal e.g. *'We are a retired couple who value the Temple Newsam estate as a place to enjoy the countryside. We do not need development for its own sake!'*

2.2.11 Other comments

The final survey question gave respondents the chance to express any other comments about the proposals, or suggestions for Temple Newsam estate. 712 people added further comments, covering a wide range of topics. Many of these were a repeat of the responses to the questions above, so the section below highlights recurring themes that *have not been mentioned already*.

Themes

Recurring themes (*not mentioned previously*) from any other comments section.

General

- There was concern about anti-social behaviour on the site and that any new developments may suffer as a result.
- The need to improve accessibility for disabled people in any developments, including providing accessible play/café/cycling/toilets, was highlighted
- Need for better public transport (buses mainly) to the site was highlighted
- The need to provide suitable amount of parking if developments go ahead
- Some concerns were raised that proposals will increase traffic to the site if implemented
- Request that fees and charges (e.g. for parking/café) are kept affordable.
- Concern about costs to council of the proposed facilities (some respondents questioned whether the costs in the proposal are correct).
- Please make provision for horse riding at the site by maintaining/increasing the number of bridleways.
- Several people suggested the proposals are implemented in a different location (away from Temple Newsam)
- Request to take older (as well as young) children into account if the proposals are implemented.

Community engagement

- Suggestion to involve communities in any new developments through volunteering opportunities like tree planting
- Request that activities (like nature trails) are provided for communities, families, children and schools
- Request for events like Leeds Festival, Opera in the Park and Party in the Park to return to Temple Newsam

Golf

- Suggestion to diversify the golf offer, e.g. by providing pitch n putt, crazy golf or adventure golf

2.3 Results of face to face meetings

Consultee	Feedback
Leeds City Council colleagues as relevant to the proposals.	Site based staff have fed into the proposals; Road Safety Team thought the scheme would complement their work well; Active Leeds keen to deliver maximum health benefits to people of Leeds and indicated that there might be opportunities to provide cycling events and activities at the site to help people of all ages gain confidence in cycling; Highways had no concerns re: event proposals.
Friends of Temple Newsam Chair & Vice-Chair	Meeting was just for information. Members responded to the consultation as individuals.
Temple Newsam Community Forum	Meeting consisted largely of golfers from Temple Newsam (many of whom who don't normally attend) who expressed their opposition to the proposals to close the golf courses. However, around 15 members of the public who were also in attendance expressed their support for the proposals.
Leeds City Council Scrutiny	Minutes of meeting can be found here (item 58): http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1091&MId=8621&Ver=4
Temple Newsam Golf Club	The outcome of these meetings was the formal written response available in appendix 1.
Historic England	This meeting was for information but they did express support for the idea of re-creating some of the heritage features to make the most of the landscape and Grade 1 listed House.
Leeds Cycling Partnership	Various suggestions were made at this meeting with regards the proposals, particularly in relation to a compromise option of providing good quality golf and cycling facilities in tandem at the site. It was suggested that any new facilities be aimed at younger age groups with play facilities and easy cycling routes to complement, rather than reproduce, the cycling facilities at Middleton Park. In addition, it was suggested the scheme has potential as a base for a bike library for people who don't own bikes and to provide adapted bikes for people with disabilities to use.
Public Open Days at Temple Newsam	It was requested that responses to the open days be given in survey form on paper or online so are picked up by the survey results.
Consultation with school children at Colton Primary.	Unfortunately, due to the Covid 19 lockdown coming into place it was only possible to visit one of the three schools that an appointment had been arranged with. The consultation workshop was kept fairly generic with the aim of finding out how children use Temple Newsam and what they would like to see there in future. The children liked the idea of most of the

	facilities including golf - they weren't asked to choose between the different facilities just to rate them on how much they liked them. Details below.
Yorkshire Gardens Trust	This meeting was mainly for information but they did express support for the idea of re-creating some of the heritage features, particularly opening up the vistas to/from the House, and they also indicated that a heritage impact assessment would need to be undertaken before the design could be approved.

School children

12 school children attended the consultation workshop. Half were female and half were male, ages ranged from 5 – 10 years.

When asked to say how much they liked the ideas for Temple Newsam, by scoring them out of 5 '*0 means you don't like the idea and 5 means you love the idea!*', the scores came out as follows in order from most popular to least:

Idea for Temple Newsam	Average score out of 5
Create a road safety park	4.25
Build a new playground	4.25
Make it better for wildlife	4
New café	3.6
Pump track	3.5
Create cycling & walking trails	3.4
Show more history	3
Keep the golf courses	2.4

2.4 Submissions

2.4.1 Summary of Submission from Temple Newsam Golf Club

2.4.2 Temple Newsam Golf Club has provided a detailed submission contained in Appendix C. Notwithstanding a number of concerns raised about the process to date, the golf club wish to retain golf at Temple Newsam as part of an integrated solution incorporating a café, road safety park, cycling and play facilities by reducing the number of holes from 27 to 18 (with the option of two 9 hole offers included). The submission includes a new proposed layout on page 12.

2.4.3 Summary of Submission from Leeds Urban Bike Park

2.4.4 The submission from Cycle Pathway Community Interest Group based at Leeds Urban Bike Park at Middleton Park support any proposal to give more people access to cycling activities particularly people within the local area. They would like to have been consulted at an earlier stage and are concerned in particular about a shared

walking and cycling trail. Their wish is to work in collaboration to seek funding from Sport England and British Cycling to complement the facility at Middleton and deliver cycling focussed activities that connect both sites.

2.4.5 Petition

- 2.4.6 A 'Stop Leeds City Council potential closure of Temple Newsam Golf Club / Course' petition was also submitted to Leeds City Council ahead of the executive board meeting in October 2019. This was before the formal consultation process began and therefore did not include the information about the scheme that accompanied the questionnaire. The petition included 725 signatories.

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About this consultation

[Temple Newsam](#) is a large country estate in Leeds which is managed by Leeds City Council. It includes a range of visitor attractions including an historic house, a working farm and a huge park including playgrounds, woodlands, lakes, gardens and golf courses. It also has a popular café and gift shop.

Leeds City Council is currently exploring ways to improve Temple Newsam so more people can experience and enjoy all it has to offer, and visitors will have more reasons to keep coming back. This consultation is part of that process.

We would like to hear your views on proposals for the area of Temple Newsam that is currently managed as two golf courses, the area covers 104 hectares of the parkland.



Temple Newsam Golf

Temple Newsam has 2 golf courses (one 9-hole and one 18-hole). They are supported by a range of facilities including a shop and a car park. There is also a club house which is rented by Temple Newsam Golf Club Ltd.

When income is set against costs, the net cost of Temple Newsam golf to the council was just over £220k in the 2018/19 period (which is representative of the costs for previous years).

Financial year 2018-19	£'000
Total income (from tickets, retail, rents)	157.2
Expenditure (staff, utilities, horticultural machinery, re-saleable food, drink etc)	-377.8
Estimated Overall Net Position	220.6

In the context of these costs, set against the relatively low usage of the courses, the council are proposing to find ways reduce costs to the council of providing golf (through remodelling, or closing, the courses) and get more people using this part of the estate for more popular, healthy, recreational activities.

There are over 30 other golf courses in the Leeds metropolitan district, many of which offer pay and play and/or season tickets comparable with those available at Temple Newsam. Leeds City Council aims to continue providing golf at Roundhay Park, which is around 15 minutes' drive from Temple Newsam.

Proposal for family cycling centre and other visitor attractions

If a decision is made to close or re-design the Temple Newsam golf course, it is proposed that it be replaced with a visitor attraction aimed at families, potentially including:

- family cycle trails and walkways – see appendix 1 at end of this document
- a road safety park – appendix 2
- play area
- a BMX pump-track
- a shop
- a café
- bike hire
- cycling workshops for schools and groups (depending on levels of interest)

The trails, road-safety park, play area and pump track would be free to use.

Leeds City Council are keen to promote cycling for its benefits to health and the environment as a sustainable form of transport. Leeds Cycling Strategy sets out our aim to '*inspire more people to cycle more often*' through expanding the Leeds cycle network; providing access to bicycles and providing accessible training at all skill levels.

It is anticipated that developing such a scheme at Temple Newsam would result in a considerable increase in the use of the historic landscape there, as well as providing a new visitor attraction for the local and wider community.

A similar transformation at the former Middleton Park golf course saw a transition from 6,873 pay-and-play golf sessions (and 42 season tickets) in 2013/14 financial year to an estimated 300,000 rides on the cycle trails and 100,000 café customers (previously there wasn't a café at that location) in their first year of operating (2018). Additionally, the new bike hub at Middleton has proved to have many other benefits to the local community such as provision of healthy activities, a chance for children to learn how to cycle in safe environment, job opportunities and things for young people to do in their spare time.

Family cycle trails

The vision for Temple Newsam is different to Middleton Bike Hub. The proposal is to create cycling facilities aimed at families and younger children, developing around 8km of trails which will also be accessible for walkers. The proposed trails would be similar to those found at Forestry Commission or CentreParks sites (see appendix 1 for a draft plan, and picture below), to take advantage of the large and beautiful landscape.

Example of a family cycle trail:



Road-Safety Park

A road-safety park is a scaled-down model of a road network including typical road markings and road signs so children can learn how to use highways and key aspects of the Highway Code in a safe space – they are fun to play on too! Appendix 2 shows a draft plan for a road safety park.

Example of a road-safety park:



BMX pump track

A pump track is an area of undulating ground designed to be ridden completely by cyclists "pumping"- generating momentum by up and down body movements, instead of pedalling or pushing. They are very popular, good exercise and help young people develop their cycling skills. The pump track proposed for Temple Newsam is aimed at younger age groups.

Example of a BMX pump track (below):



Other visitor facilities

The facilities currently located at the site provide the perfect opportunity to develop the scheme - the current clubhouse could accommodate a café with fantastic views; the shop could be used for bike hire and other buildings for storage of bikes, and perhaps even a classroom/workshop space. Toilets and car parking facilities are already available on site.

It is proposed that the Road Safety Park is placed near the building in the picture overleaf which could be used as a community café.

Potential café building



The image below shows the current view from the potential café building making it a potentially attractive location for cycling centre users and other visitors to Temple Newsam alike.



Play area

The cycling facilities proposed are aimed at promoting healthy activity and enabling children to learn to ride a bike and develop their cycling skills.

To complement those facilities and provide a further family attraction which should, in turn, facilitate the success of the café and shop facilities, it's suggested that an exciting new play space is developed.

Sand play is extremely popular with children, safe, and great for their learning and development. It also fits the age range of the children that are likely to be using the road safety park. There is an opportunity here to create a sand play area because there will be staff available as part of the scheme described above to maintain it.

Examples of sand play



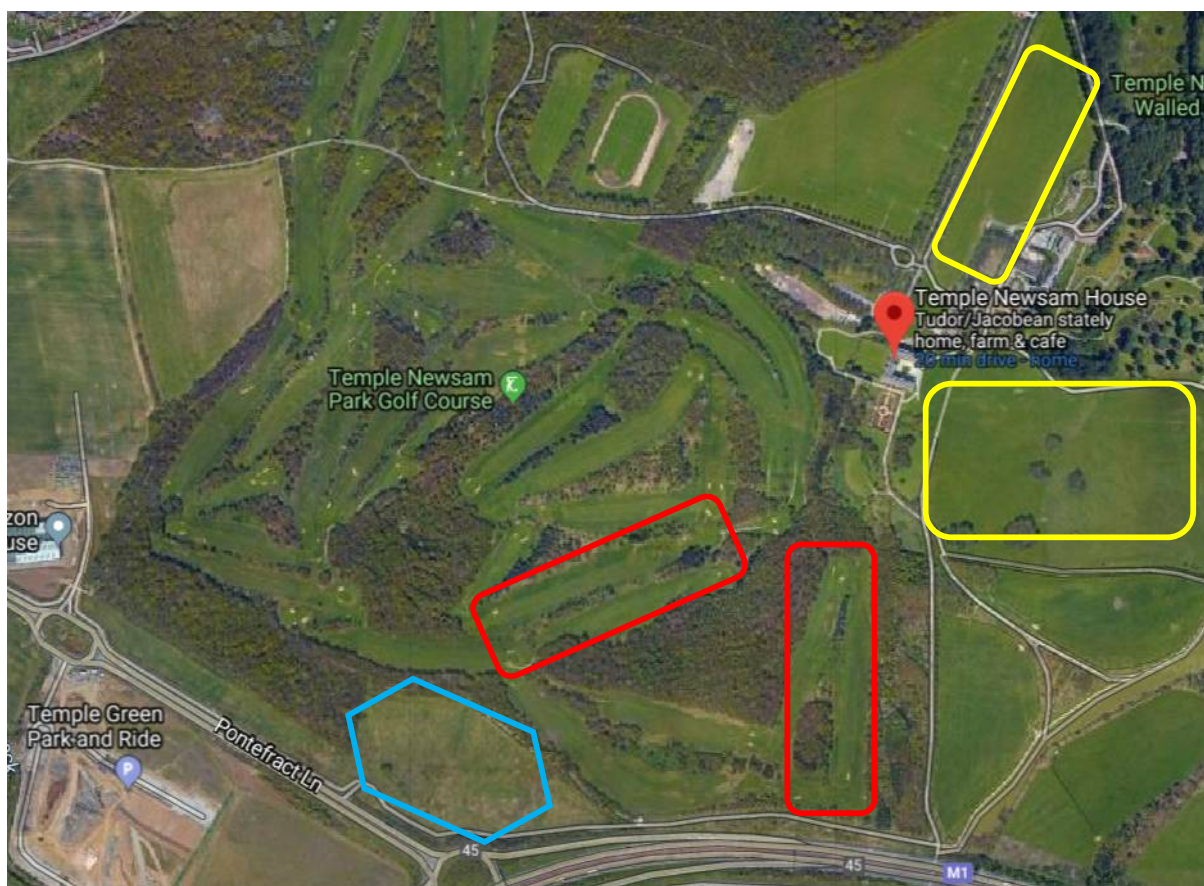
The benefits of creating a visitor attraction made up of the components described above are:

- Increased use of the area currently covered by the golf course
- More opportunities to explore the heritage landscape
- An attraction for local families to use within walking distance of large residential area
- Promoting healthy activity
- Provides opportunities to learn how to ride a bike and use highways in a safe environment
- Contributes to the aim to make Leeds a Child Friendly City
- The current facilities at the site including the golf clubhouse, the shop and the buildings will be given a new lease of life.
- Opportunities to generate a new income through café, shop and bike hire.
- Increasing visitor numbers from the local community, across the city and further afield to the wonderful Temple Newsam estate.

Proposal for investigating potential new events space

If the golf course is reduced or closed there is also potential for some of the land to be used as an alternative events space which would reduce pressure on the area of the estate most popular with visitors in general (the House, courtyard and farm). It would also reduce the impact of large events on local residents in terms of noise and traffic.

Temple Newsam hosts around 60 events a year ranging from sponsored walks to rock concerts. Over 70,000 people attend the events annually. The income to the council from the commercial events at Temple Newsam is over £40k per annum. Most of the events take place in the areas by the House and Farm (marked in yellow on the image overleaf).



It is proposed that the areas highlighted in red are investigated as potential locations for future medium to large scale events. Events that currently take place at in front of the House that would fit on the proposed site include *Let's Rock*, *Cocoon* and *Slam Dunk*. The area highlighted in blue may be suitable for event-related car parking.

The benefits of creating a new events space at this location are:

- Easy access for event organisers and attendees from M1 and Pontefract Lane rather than through local residential areas and the historic core of the estate.
- Events taking place on this space will be further away from residential areas so would cause less of a disturbance to local people in terms of noise and traffic.
- Visitors will be able to continue to enjoy the most popular areas of the estate (café, shop, House, farm) without disturbance while ticketed events are taking place – currently, visitor numbers to the rest of the estate drop when large events take place.
- It will reduce any impact of events on the land in front of, and surrounding the House, such as damage to grass, paths etc.
- It presents an opportunity to generate an income from new commercial events.

Image of one section of potential events space:



The golf course site is also a potential new location for other types of events such as the West Yorkshire Cross Country Championships which are held annually at Temple Newsam, and activities such as orienteering.

Proposal for managing the landscape – re-creating heritage

Even with the cycling facilities and event space, there is a lot of land at the site that won't be impacted by the proposals.

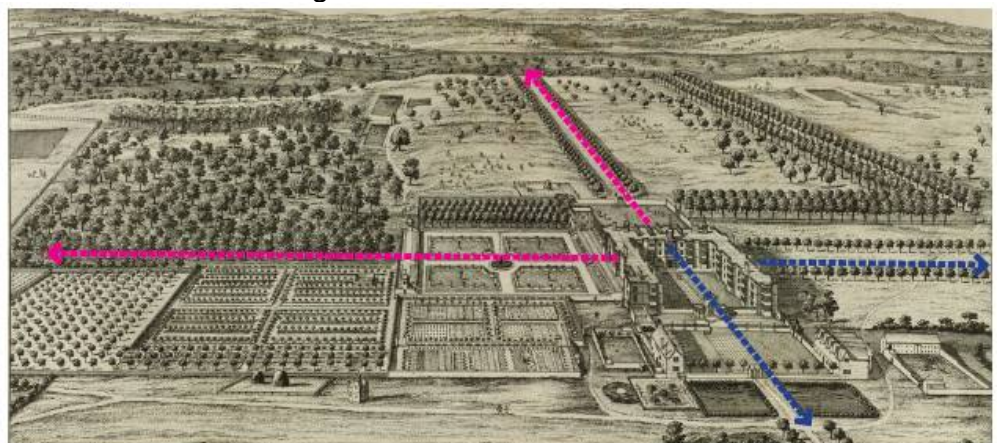
It is proposed that this area is landscaped to reflect the form designed by famous landscape designer Capability Brown in the late 18th century, and which includes

meadows, woodland with rides, and views across the estate. This will add interest and educational value, make it more distinctive and complement the other fantastic heritage on the estate.

Original Capability Brown plan for Temple Newsam estate:



Proposals to open up historic vistas from visioning document for the estate:



Knyff and Kip Plan

Obscured Views
The landscaping of Capability Brown removed the original formal gardens leaving open views to each aspect of the House. Views and vistas form key elements in the design of the landscape.

LEGEND
 Obscured views
 Existing key vistas



Present day - Drone Photography

Reflecting the heritage landscape, and making it more accessible to visitors, is consistent with the work of the Resilient Heritage project which has recently launched at Temple Newsam to help safeguard the historic aspects of the site for the long term. It will also

boost a potential funding bid to the Heritage Lottery Community Fund for over £5 million to help restore and protect various aspects of the historic estate.

Proposal for managing the landscape for the environment

There is also an intention to ensure the landscape is made better for the environment as part of this scheme - providing a variety of habitats for wildlife, and opportunities for mitigating the impacts of climate change through significantly increased tree cover and more diverse vegetation such as grassland meadows and heathland.

The impact of the plans for the site will be a significant net increase in the number of trees there through a comprehensive tree planting scheme.

Changes to the landscape will be promoted through the use of educational materials such as information panels and trails, so visitors can learn about the rich history and wildlife of the area while they visit.



Financial considerations

The cost of the proposed developments is estimated to be £1.35 million.

Capital funding of £350k has already been set aside for the creation of a road-safety park.

The 'spend to save' business plan for the project suggests that the remaining £1 million can effectively be funded by prudential borrowing, offset against any savings made by the re-modelling or closure of the golf course, and income from the café, retail and commercial events. The facility will be managed and operated by the in-house (Leeds City Council) estate team.

Consultation

We are keen to hear your views on the proposals described above.

Details of how to have your say are available here: www.leeds.gov.uk/parksconsultations

The closing date for this public consultation is **31 March 2020**.

Appendices

- 1.1 Draft proposed cycle trails, road-safety park and pump track plan – appendix 1
- 1.2 Draft proposed road-safety park plan – appendix 2

**TEMPLE
NEWSAM**



TEMPLE NEWSAM

Survey on Proposed Developments at Temple Newsam

An online version of this survey is available [here](#).

Introduction

This consultation is being carried out by the Parks and Countryside service at Leeds City Council. We would like to find out what you think about our proposals for Temple Newsam Estate.

We are currently exploring ways to improve Temple Newsam so that more people can experience and enjoy all it has to offer, and visitors will have more reasons to keep coming back. This consultation is part of that process.

Here is a summary of the proposals:

- Temple Newsam has two golf courses (one 18 hole and one 9 hole) which cover 104 hectares of the well-known heritage estate in East Leeds. A private golf club (Temple Newsam Golf Club Ltd) is also based at the site.
- Reflecting a national decline in the number of people playing golf, user and income figures for golf at the Temple Newsam golf courses has steadily declined over the last decade. As a consequence, managing the golf course is now costing the council over £200k a year.
- To increase the popularity of the area for estate visitors and reduce costs, it is proposed that the section of Temple Newsam estate currently used for golf is transformed into a visitor attraction potentially including family cycling and walking trails, a 'road-safety' cycle park, a play area for younger children and a small BMX pump track. The facilities would be managed and operated by the Temple Newsam estate team.
- A café, based in the current golf clubhouse, is proposed to provide refreshments for those using the cycling centre and generate an income to fund the developments.
- It is also proposed that the potential to create an events space in the area is explored, with the aim of increasing income from commercial events, whilst reducing the impact that some events can have on the estate visitor hub and local residents.
- Lastly, it is proposed that, where suitable, the area is landscaped to reflect its original, historic design (by famous landscape architect, Capability Brown) to complement the rest of the heritage estate and benefit local wildlife and the environment with significantly increased tree planting.

For more information, read the full consultation document provided with this questionnaire.

Instructions

It should take you about 10 minutes to answer all the questions. The last day that you can respond is 31 March 2020.

If you need to speak to someone about this survey then please email parks@leeds.gov.uk or telephone 0113 3786002.

Privacy notice (data protection)

Your response will be used to help us provide and improve public services. Your information will be kept secure and used in line with Data Protection legislation. When results are shared publicly or with other organisations, your response will be anonymised so it cannot be linked back to you.

Your data will be processed by the relevant teams within Leeds City Council. Our software supplier, SmartSurvey Ltd, will also process your data on our behalf but will never use these for its own purposes. We will store your response for up to 2 years.

General information about how Leeds City Council uses your data can be found at www.leeds.gov.uk/privacynotice.

Please Confirm...

- ☐ **I give my consent for my personal information to be used as described in the privacy notice.**

1. Your interest in Temple Newsam Estate

Is Temple Newsam your nearest park?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

How often do you visit Temple Newsam estate?

- ☐ Most days
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Four times a year
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Less than once a year
- ☐ Never

Why do you visit Temple Newsam? Choose no more than 3 of the options below:

- ☐ To relax, think, or for peace and quiet
- ☐ Enjoy the beauty of the surroundings
- ☐ To walk
- ☐ To get some fresh air
- ☐ To get from one place to another
- ☐ Play golf
- ☐ Children / Family outing
- ☐ Meet friends
- ☐ Visit the play area
- ☐ To eat/drink/ visit cafe
- ☐ Attend events / Enjoy entertainment
- ☐ To keep fit / play sports / exercise
- ☐ To visit the farm
- ☐ Organised educational visit / guided walk or talk
- ☐ Watch sport or games
- ☐ See wildlife like birds and butterflies
- ☐ Visit the House
- ☐ Ride a bike
- ☐ Walk the dog
- ☐ Explore the history of the area
- ☐ Other (please state):

Are you currently a member of the Friends of Temple Newsam or do you volunteer there?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

2. Questions about the proposals

Golf

Do you play golf?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If so, do you play golf at Temple Newsam?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Are you a member of Temple Newsam Golf Club Ltd?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Given the potential to create alternative visitor facilities in the area, which would be your preferred option for golf at Temple Newsam?

- ☐ To continue to provide the two golf courses at Temple Newsam
- ☐ To reduce the golf provision at Temple Newsam, eg. by reconfiguring the courses to reduce the number of holes
- ☐ To stop providing golf at Temple Newsam

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Cycling

Do you cycle?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If you have children under 16, do they cycle?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a family cycling centre including cycling and walking trails, road-safety park, pump track and bike hire at the current golf course site?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Play

If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a play area for younger children at the current golf course site?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Café

If the new visitor facilities were developed as described above, would you support opening a café at the current golf buildings, overlooking the park and some of the new facilities?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

If a café were created in the proposed location, would you personally use it?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Temple Newsam golf clubhouse

The development of the new cycling and play facilities and a café may require re-locating or closing Temple Newsam Golf Club Ltd. If this were the case, would you support the developments?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Event Space

Do you attend events at Temple Newsam?

- ☐ **Yes**
- ☐ **No**

Are you a local business or resident that is affected by events at Temple Newsam e.g. traffic/noise?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Comments:

If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a new events space at the Pontefract Lane end of the golf course site?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Re-creating Heritage Features

If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support recreating some of the original heritage features of the area, such as opening up the views from Temple Newsam House?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Improvements for wildlife and environment

If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support tree planting and the development of other wildlife habitats such as meadows to improve the area for wildlife and the environment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Overall

Do you think the proposals, if implemented, would result in you and/or your family visiting Temple Newsam more often or for longer?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please give reasons for your answer. Please use no more than 100 words.

Other comments

If you have any other comments on the proposals, or any suggestions relating to them which won't increase costs to the council, please write them here.

About you:

We would like to know a little more about you so that we can ensure that our consultation findings are representative of the people of Leeds.

What is your postcode?

How old are you?

What best describes your gender?

- ☐ Male (including Trans)
 - ☐ Female (including Trans)
 - ☐ Prefer not to say
 - ☐ Other (please specify):
-

What is your ethnic group?

White

- ☐ English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- ☐ Any other White background

Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups

- ☐ White and Black Caribbean
- ☐ White and Black African
- ☐ White and Asian
- ☐ Any other Mixed / Multiple ethnic background

Asian / Asian British

- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Pakistani
- ☐ Bangladeshi
- ☐ Kashmiri
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Any other Asian background

Black / African / Caribbean / Black British

- ☐ African
- ☐ Caribbean

- ☐ Any other Black / African / Caribbean background

Other ethnic group

- ☐ Arab
☐ Any other ethnic group

If you selected an 'Any other' option then describe your ethnic group:

Do you have children under 16?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Prefer not to say

Feedback

If you are interested in the outcome of this consultation, please leave your name and email address below and we'll let you know when it's finished.

Name: _____

Email address: _____

If you would like to receive the outcomes by post, please write your home address below.

Please return you completed survey to:

Temple Newsam Consultation

Leeds City Council

Farnley Hall

Farnley Park

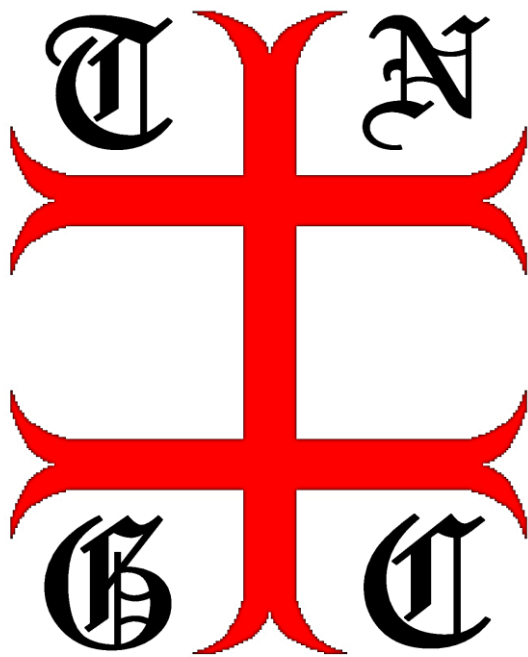
Hall Lane

Leeds

LS12 5HA



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EST 1923

TEMPLE NEWSAM GOLF CLUB'S
FORMAL RESPONSE TO
PROPOSALS TO REDEVELOP THE
GOLF COURSE INTO A FAMILY
CYCLING CENTRE AND OTHER
ACTIVITIES BY
LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

10 FEBRUARY 2020

Table of Contents

1	Executive Summary	2
2	TNGC's Appraisal of the Leeds City Council (LCC) Proposals	3
2.1	Introduction	3
2.2	Financial aspects	4
2.3	Decline in Golf	6
2.4	Alternative golf courses in the area	8
2.5	Heritage	9
2.6	Best Council Plan / Age Friendly Leeds / Health & Wellbeing	10
2.7	The 'Public Consultation'	10
3	TNGC's Alternative Proposal	11
3.1	Summary	11
3.2	The Proposed Layout	12
3.3	Key Benefits and Features	13
3.3.1	Targets the increasing demand for short & long form Golf	13
3.3.2	Retains increasing ticket revenues and drives footfall to the Café	13
3.3.3	An integrated approach = a chosen activity & leisure destination for all	14
3.3.4	Introduces new people to the game of golf	14
3.3.5	Incorporates all elements of LCC's Proposals	14
3.3.6	Preserves & Enhances Heritage for the City of Leeds	15
3.3.7	Delivers the vision of Best Council Plan, Active & Age Friendly Leeds	15
4	Conclusion	17

1 Executive Summary

- Temple Newsam Golf Club (TNGC) was not consulted or given any prior warning of these proposals by the Parks & Countryside dept (P&C) / Leeds City Council (LCC). TNGC was approached by P&C in October 2019 and told golf would cease by Christmas 2019.
- Since then, **Saving Golf at Temple Newsam** has received massive public support, with a petition of over **2600** signatories, numerous supportive press articles, as well as many letters and messages of support for TNGC and condemnation of LCC's intent.
- TNGC has lobbied hard with LCC, including with the Executive Board, Scrutiny Board, Ward Councillors and P&C. Thanks to this and intervention by Cllr Carter at the Executive Board, the original proposal of *closure* of golf has now become *closure or possible remodelling*, with the consultation process also being extended until the end of March 2020.
- The 'facts and figures' used as key rationale in the LCC Proposals and subsequent Public Consultation are potentially **misleading** and **biased**. Following Freedom of Information (FoI) requests and further investigations, TNGC has instructed a specialist legal firm to help challenge the legitimacy of the Public Consultation process:
 - The LCC claims their total annual expenditure on golf at Temple Newsam is £377,000, this is **£100,000** more than top private courses in the area.
 - If the LCC proposal to close golf and replace it with the new facilities was implemented:
 - the actual saving from closing golf would only be **£67,000** – this is far from the £220,000 net cost after income figure being highlighted in the proposals.
 - without the income from golf, LCC's running costs would actually increase by **£100,000+**, along with £1m of debt to be repaid.
 - There has been a change in the way golf is being 'consumed' over the last 10 years, away from fixed annual club memberships which have experienced a decline in numbers, over to flexible memberships, and specifically to **Pay and Play**, which continues to rise in popularity.
 - Since 2016 the number of Pay & Play ticket sales at Temple Newsam has actually **increased by 50%**, with an **increase in income of 19%** over the same period. This is an increase in golf at Temple Newsam, **not** a decline.
- TNGC alternative proposal is an integrated re-development of the site, that **retains golf at Temple Newsam** whilst incorporating the new facilities detailed in the LCC proposals.
- TNGC's alternative proposal is a more ambitious, compelling and **financially viable** route to take, and is seen as a '**win win**' for all, providing a more balanced 'multi-activity destination' for the City of Leeds, that can be enjoyed by everyone, of all ages, genders and abilities. It will:
 - Retain the growing **£160,000+** income from golf ticket sales, not discard it
 - Drive golfing footfall to the new café, incl related estimated revenues of **£51,000-£92,000** which would help, not hinder, this new LCC startup
 - Retain and celebrate the City's sporting & social Heritage, not destroy it
 - Best complements the ideals of the Best Council Plan, Active & Age Friendly Leeds

2 TNGC's Appraisal of the Leeds City Council (LCC) Proposals

2.1 Introduction

- TNGC are extremely disappointed that Parks & Countryside (P&C) did not engage with the club in any way whatsoever prior to developing and presenting their plans for the course / clubhouse to the Council's Executive Board.
- TNGC was approached in October 2019 and was told the consultation would run immediately and golf would be closed by Christmas 2019.
- As a key stakeholder TNGC would have welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the process in a constructive, collaborative and proactive manner, however that choice was never given to us.
- In order for TNGC to present the benefits of its alternative proposal, we must first highlight some of the **fundamental issues** associated with the LCC's published proposal(s) and subsequent public consultation, we refer to:
 1. The original Proposal ('P1') written and submitted by P&C to the Executive Board on 16th October 2019 as the rationale for re-development of the golf course and Public Consultation:
 - This proposal detailed the *closing* of the golf course, and replacing it with the proposed facilities, and is the one passed by the Executive Board with caveats to return to the Executive & Scrutiny Boards with findings post-consultation before any decisions are made.
 2. The re-drafted Proposal ('P2') published as part of the Public Consultation December 2019 – please note this version for the public omits a lot of the details contained in the first proposal:
 - Due to resistance & lobbying by TNGC and support from the public, this proposal now proposes the *closure or remodelling* of the golf course.
 3. The Public Questionnaire ('PQ') that accompanies this re-drafted Proposal.
- There are many elements within LCC's proposal(s) that TNGC would welcome, including:
 - Development of a café & associated facilities – this has been something the club has been asking for many years, out of 30 courses in the area only 2 are without café facilities, TNGC and Roundhay, which puts them at a significant disadvantage.
 - Making additional use of the space, including cycling activities, play areas etc
 - Increasing footfall to the area, and in turn to the golf courses / golf club
- However there are some key elements that underpin LCC's proposal and subsequent public consultation that are misleading and bias, which we must highlight as part of this response, these include:

- 2.2: The financial aspects of the LCC proposals
- 2.3: The decline in golf
- 2.4: Availability of alternative courses in the area
- 2.5: Heritage
- 2.6: Best Council Plan / Age Friendly Leeds / Health & Wellbeing
- 2.7: The Public Consultation

- Because of the above concerns, TNGC has also engaged a specialist legal firm to challenge the inadequacies, inaccuracies and misleading elements of the LCC Proposal / Public Consultation, with a view to challenge the lawfulness of the process and the methodology employed by LCC.

2.2 Financial aspects

- On publication of the **P1** proposal submitted to the Executive Board dated 16 October 2019, TNGC had serious concerns over the figures used and in the manner that they were being used, and indeed are now being used as part of the Public Consultation process, notably:
 - 1. Expenditure on running the golf course at £377,000.
 - 2. The Net Position / Cost to LCC after golf income of £220,000, which is a figure used to attribute golf's cost impact to the Council.
- In order to gain clarity on how LCC arrived at these figures, a TNGC member submitted Freedom of Information (Fol) requests to LCC in the last quarter of 2019. LCC was obstructive and sought to rely on various exemptions to not provide information which was readily available in Parks and Countryside. After much persistence over **8 weeks**, some data was eventually provided which enabled further analysis of the figures in the proposal.
- TNGC also approached some of the top private courses in the area to gain information about their equivalent annual running costs.
- As a result, our findings are:
 - 1. Expenditure on running the golf course at £377,000
 - This is more than **£100,000** per annum higher than any of the top private courses in Leeds that TNGC has contacted.
 - This gross overspend points directly to either:
 - The excessive and/or constructive apportionment of running costs by LCC **and/or**
 - the mis-management of the golf course finances and resources by LCC, rather than a failure of golf as an income stream.
 - These facts are inexcusable when you also consider the poorly maintained condition of the course(s), when at this expenditure level it should be at least in the best condition in the region, if not the UK.

2. The Net Position / Cost to LCC after golf income of £220,000, which is a figure used to attribute golf's cost impact to the Council as part of these proposals:
- On further investigation, using this figure as the cost of golf to the council is potentially **misleading**.
 - There are **no** intended redundancies post-potential closure of the golf course as staff and machinery will be 'redeployed', so the true cost of the golf course / savings from closing golf is actually only **£67,000**.
 - This is the figure the council have quoted in their proposal of 16 October 2019 as the savings from closure through '*less intensive maintenance*', a figure that has been excluded from the LCC's updated proposal published (P2) as part of the public consultation.
- From LCC's released information, TNGC has also calculated that if the LCC proposal was implemented to include the closure of the golf course (and therefore losing £160,000 of current income from golf):
 - the annual running costs to the Council would actually **increase by over £100,000**, coupled with the added burden of £1m debt '*prudential borrowing*' as part of their '*spend to save*' business plan.
 - Further to this, even after requesting some, there are no qualified figures for the levels of projected income or expenditure for the proposed café, bike hire and associated maintenance etc other than from referring to potential figures from a rival development at Middleton Park, that has a different offering with a different target market.
 - TNGC would like to highlight some further points:

Annual Clubhouse Rent

- We believe that the **annual rent paid by TNGC** to LCC for the clubhouse of **£12,500** has not received enough prominence in any of the LCC proposals:
 - this rental amount is actually equivalent to **31%** of the profit of £40,000 LCC manage to generate from delivering **60** events at Temple Newsam, a profit figure which the LCC has chosen to highlight in its published proposals.
 - TNGC also fully maintains the clubhouse at its own expense, and has spent IRO **£400,000** on maintenance since 1976 with no assistance from LCC

Closing golf holes does not result in savings

- In **2017 LCC closed 9 holes at the Temple Newsam**, which was approx. 28 Hectares or 25% of the land used by the golf course at the time, with similar arguments tabled at the time re cost savings / the environment:
 - There is no evidence in the financial information provided by LCC that there have been any savings resulting from closing these holes.

- This suggests that closing golf course land **does not** result in savings to the Council.
- In the 3 years since closure of those holes, which includes much of the land ear-marked as potential 'Events Space' in the current proposals, **no attempt** has been made by the Council to establish new planting or develop this considerable acreage. All now stands overgrown, unused and 'fallow'.

2.3 Decline in Golf

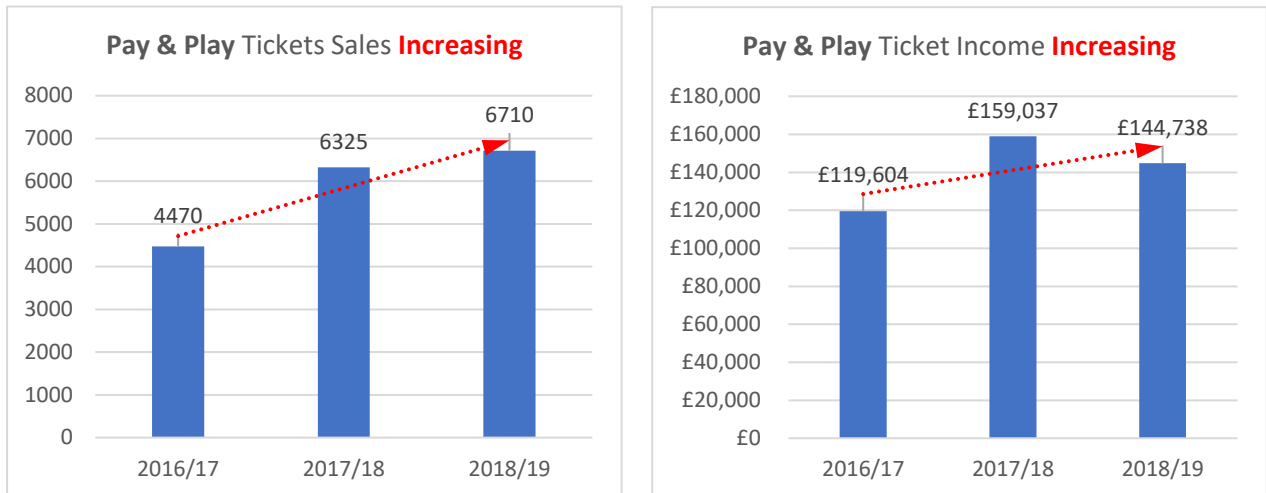
- The published Proposals and the first page of the Consultation survey contains the following assertion:

"Reflecting a national decline in the number of people playing golf, user and income figures for golf at the Temple Newsam golf courses has steadily declined over the last decade."

- We understand that the source of the 'national decline' assertion is based upon a KPMG report, however, this report just looks at *golf club membership*, not at golf participation as a whole, so is a narrow and bias viewpoint
- England Golf, the definitive authority on amateur golf in the UK, has confirmed that although there has been a decline in golf club memberships over recent years, which we believe is now stabilising, **pay and play golf** on 9 and 18 holes courses is actually continuing to increase in popularity, as are other forms of activity-based golf formats.
- In a recent radio interview on Radio 4, Sport England reinforced this by saying golf clubs are making **pay and play** more available and making nine hole golf more accessible to fit in with peoples lifestyles.
- This shift in the way golf is being *consumed* began coincidentally at the time of the financial crisis in 2008:
 - Many golfers had to make some difficult decisions on how they continue to fund their pursuit, with many having to move away from the financial commitment of an annual membership at a single course, and begin to **Pay & Play** on the same course or others, of both 9 and 18 hole format, as and when they had time to do so and at a price point that suited their disposable income.

Golf ticket sales & income is increasing at Temple Newsam

- The TNGC income breakdown presented in LCC's proposal of 16 October 2019 actually reflects this trend. Since 2016:
 - The number of **Pay & Play** ticket sales at Temple Newsam **increased by 50%**
 - Income from golf **also increased by 19%** over the same period.
 - This represents an **increase in people playing golf** at Temple Newsam, **not** a decline.



Demand for Golf is increasing at Temple Newsam even in the face of numerous negative factors

- Golf Pay & Play ticket sales and income have continued to rise at Temple Newsam since 2016, even though there are many factors working against it that most other courses enjoy:
 - No Café facilities – for golfers, golf societies and the general public to use. Out of all of the courses in the area only 2 are without café facilities, Temple Newsam and Roundhay.
 - Poor condition of the course(s) – although LCC claim to be spending £100,000 more than top private courses in the area, sadly this expenditure is not actually making its way to the course, which has been starved of investment over the past few years leading to a serious decline in its condition – this puts many players off
 - No online booking system – LCC does not provide an opportunity to book a tee time online, and TNGC has no presence on any of the popular Tee Time booking portals
 - No promotion of the course by LCC – although they claim they ‘increased efforts to promote them’ which simply has no evidence to support it
 - The ‘value’ of purchasing an annual season ticket has diminished as the other courses a player had access to as part of their season ticket have now been closed by LCC, but the subscription levels haven’t been adjusted / factored down accordingly
 - This lack of commercialism with the subscription fee structure, has meant many of TNGC’s young players have now been attracted to private courses who are offering cheaper deals for younger players on courses that in better condition, which also have cafés and practice facilities
 - Lack of a golf Professional: following removal of the pro by LCC in 2014, there is no access to teaching or quality practice facilities for those wanting to learn or indeed develop their skills / talent

- A City wide reduction in participation may be directly attributable to the impact of LCC's systematic closure of municipal golf in all other parts of Leeds, a reduction the LCC are now ironically quoting as a reason to possibly close golf at Temple Newsam.
- This reduction in access to other municipal golf, has removed the opportunity for many to play / take up the game, especially by the young and those on low incomes or pensioners.
- It is our view that LCC needs to capitalise on the increased popularity in Pay & Play golf, and other forms of golf which are also extremely popular, and not dispose of the established and increasing income stream.

Other supporting facts for Golf

- Golf is the fifth largest participation sport in the Country, with around 630,000 members belonging to one of 1850 affiliated clubs and a further 2 million people playing golf independently outside of club membership. (Source: Sport MR)
- Consumer spending on golf in the UK was found to be £4.303 billion which is equivalent to £67 per head of population, or more realistically £1,108 per adult golfer in the UK. The golf industry pays £1bn in tax. Golf equipment and clothing account for £939m of consumer expenditure and golf-related tourism, events and accommodation a further £775m. (source: R&A, Sheffield Hallam Research 2016)
- More than more than 4 million people have played golf on a full-length course in the last 12 months – this is an increase on previous years and highlights a growing golf participation market. Other notable figures regarding golf club participation in the last 12 months suggest a large and growing market of new and existing golfers (Source: Sport MR):
 - 2.6 million have used driving ranges
 - 2.1 million played a short course
 - 3.7 million played pitch & putt
 - 6.8 million have been to Adventure Golf facility

2.4 Alternative golf courses in the area

- The public consultation document states:

"There are over 30 other golf courses in the Leeds metropolitan district, many of which offer pay and play and/or season tickets comparable with those available at Temple Newsam. Leeds City Council aims to continue providing golf at Roundhay Park which is around 15 minutes' drive from Temple Newsam."

- The reality is:
 - There are only around 23 golf courses with LS postcodes.
 - Roundhay Park is only a 9 hole course – a fact which is not pointed out in the consultation document.

- Apart from the municipal course at Roundhay Park none offers season tickets and the only alternative is a much more expensive membership package.
- Pay and Play outside of formal membership is available at certain courses but these have to be pre-booked in advance, are at restricted times and at a much higher cost.
- As a result, the option of closing the golf courses at Temple Newsam would mean the end of play for many TNGC members & players, especially those retired and on low incomes, which would also remove the social aspect of membership, threatening many with isolation as a result.
- The consultation document therefore fails to provide accurate and relevant information about alternative golf provision in the area, and is misleading as such.

2.5 Heritage

Capability Brown & Heritage Lottery funding

- The Consultation incorrectly suggests that the golf course would need to be replaced / removed to allow for the restoration of the original historic landscape. The relevant question in the consultation asks:

“If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support recreating some of the original heritage features of the area, such as opening up the views from Temple Newsam House?”

- However, the facts omitted are that the great majority of the land now occupied by the golf course was not part of Capability Brown’s design but previously farmland and a deer park.
- Having investigated this further with the information readily available http://www.capabilitybrown.org/sites/default/files/capability_brown_at_temple_newsam_eaflet.pdf, it is clear that Capability Brown’s designed features are all forward of Temple Newsam House, **not** behind it where the golf course is situated. Furthermore, most of the current golf course cannot be viewed from Temple Newsam House.
- This should have been made clear in the consultation documents so that the golf course is not portrayed as an impediment to this part of the Proposals.

TNGC Heritage

- What TNGC cannot comprehend is why the potential removal of Golf at Temple Newsam, with all its heritage and provenance, and replacing it with sand play, a BMX pump track and cycle pathways, will be in the best interests of Heritage for the City of Leeds:
 - TNGC was established in 1923, and is approaching it’s **100 year anniversary**, which will coincide with the Leeds City of Culture celebrations in 2023
 - TNGC was designed by renowned and globally recognised course architect **Dr Alister MacKenzie**, designer of the famous Augusta National, Royal Melbourne and many

other courses around the world including many in Leeds (incl Horsforth, Garforth, Alwoodley, Sand Moor & Moortown).

- TNGC was also the home course for Poppy Wingate, who was the first woman golfer to enter a professional tournament, the Yorkshire Evening News, played at Temple Newsam in 1933.
- TNGC narrowly missed out on hosting the 1933 and 1937 Ryder Cups, to Southport and Ainsdale GC. A globally recognised sporting event which has grown in status year on year.
- TNGC's continued presence and equitable heritage would actually help to underpin a bid for Heritage Lottery funding.

2.6 Best Council Plan / Age Friendly Leeds / Health & Wellbeing

- The LCC proposal contradicts its own values and ideals detailed in of the Best Council Plan by removing this popular, municipally affordable and accessible sport from the people of Leeds.
- The golf course and the club is the cornerstone of many people's lives, not only as a means of getting some fresh air and essential exercise, but also as a means of socialising, and meeting up with friends and family.
- The importance of TNGC to Health & Well Being (Physical & Mental) of active members and visitors has been totally ignored by LCC's proposals.
- Potential closure of the golf course and the club would lead to social isolation for many, as well as an end to much-needed weekly exercise regime.

2.7 The 'Public Consultation'

- We are pleased to say that following intervention from Cllr Carter, and lobbying by TNGC, the results of the Public Consultation will not be decided upon by the Chief Officer of P&C as originally proposed by P&C to the Executive Board, but will now have to return with findings to both the Scrutiny & Executive Boards before any final decisions are made.
- Other than the flawed rationale and misleading figures within the LCC's proposals, TNGC also finds the questionnaire (PQ) issued by LCC as part of the Consultation as biased and almost impossible to complete in favour of retaining golf at Temple Newsam, for example:
 - If you want to retain golf and integrate it with the proposed facilities, and answer 'Yes' to those key questions, your answer could be counted as you wanting to close golf in favour of those facilities as most begin with '*If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled..*' without any separation of those potential options.
- At time of publishing this response, TNGC is unclear as how:
 - LCC intend to interpret the raw quantitative and qualitative data collected.
 - If the same raw data will be made available to stakeholders to interpret themselves.
 - If LCC will simply interpret the data as it sees fit and provide its conclusions.

3 TNGC's Alternative Proposal

3.1 Summary

- TNGC wants golf to remain at Temple Newsam, this is supported by the '**Save TNGC**' online petition which has attracted over **2600 signatures** at time of publishing this response.
<https://www.change.org/p/stop-leeds-city-council-potential-closure-of-temple-newsam-golf-club-course>
- TNGC sees an integrated re-development of the site, that **retains golf at Temple Newsam** whilst incorporating the new facilities detailed in the LCC proposals, as a more ambitious, compelling and financially viable route to take, and is seen as a '**win win**' for all.
- TNGC and its members have worked hard to develop an alternative to the LCC proposal that delivers the following benefits:
 - Retains golf at Temple Newsam whilst incorporating **all** elements of LCC's proposal.
 - Targets the increasing popularity of **Pay & Play** golf, as well as other fun formats of the sport.
 - Retains ticket revenues from golf of **£160,000+** which we would expect to continue increasing year-on-year if promoted and managed in the right way.
 - Drives golf related footfall for the new Café which we calculate would generate estimated revenues of **£51,000-£92,000** per annum – as well as counteract weekly fluctuations in Café users as many golfers play **Mon-Fri** not just at weekend, and will use the Café accordingly.
 - Provides a more accessible solution that better reflects the Best Council Plan, Active & Age Friendly Leeds.
 - Retains TNGC Heritage for the City of Leeds, and for any subsequent bid for Heritage Lottery funding, and a golf course of regional, national and global importance.
 - Reduces the potentially negative impact on local house prices should closure of the golf course take place.
- A quick guide to our proposed layout:
 - **Section A:** Road Safety Park, Sand Play, BMX Pump Track
 - **Section B:** Re-modelled Golf Course:
 - **1 x 18 hole golf course**, that is made of up 2 x 9 hole loops:
 - 1 x 9 holes 'Lord Irwin' top course
 - 1 x 9 hole 'Lady Dorothy' bottom course
 - **Section C** (+ surrounding marked areas): New Event Spaces, Cycle Trails, Pathways & Footpaths (new & existing)
 - **Section D:** Adventure Golf / Pitch & Putt / Teaching Facilities

3.2 The Proposed Layout



3.3 Key Benefits and Features

3.3.1 Targets the increasing demand for short & long form Golf

- The new layout targets the proven and increasing popularity of **Pay & Play (P&P)** golf by providing **1 x 18 hole course**, that is made up with **2 x 9 hole courses**:
 - These 2 x 9 holes can be played individually in 1-1.5hrs, or played one after the other as a 1 x 18 hole course 3-4hrs.
 - This provides a flexible choice to the public based on their available time and spend, reflecting market trends and consumer behaviour.
 - Maximises golf's reach & accessibility, as well as associated ticket sales at related price points.
- This will help increase both footfall to the area and golf revenue at Temple Newsam.

3.3.2 Retains increasing ticket revenues and drives footfall to the Café

- Retaining golf maintains the growing **£160,000** income from golf at Temple Newsam, underpinning cashflow for LCC and its proposed developments.
- Both 9 holes courses (or played as 1 x 18 hole course) loop back to the clubhouse, which will also increase the potential footfall from golf to the new café and other facilities provided:
 - For example, a golfer playing 18 holes will pass by the Café on 3 separate occasions, playing 9 holes they would pass the Café twice.
- To help quantify this, TNGC have estimated in 2018/19 over **20,000+ rounds of golf** were played at Temple Newsam:
 - If 50% of players stopped once at the new café facilities we estimate golfing related revenues of between **£51,000 to £92,000** for the Café depending on Average Transaction Value (ATV).
 - Café revenues from golfers will again help financially underpin the LCC Proposal.
- Weekly 'seasonality' of Café footfall will also be helped as many golfers play **Mon-Fri** not just at weekend, and will use the Café accordingly. This helps consistency of Café revenues, staffing and stock levels.
- Provision of a re-modelled course in combination with Café facilities on-site immediately makes Temple Newsam an attractive destination to **Golf Societies** locally, regionally and nationally – Golf Societies are a proven and valuable source of income and word-of-mouth promotion for many golf course around the country.
- In summary, retaining golf at Temple Newsam could potentially realise revenues of **£211,000-£252,000 per annum** in ticket sales and Café income. This represents a **significant income stream** for LCC.

3.3.3 An integrated approach = a chosen activity & leisure destination for all

- A more integrated approach to activity provision, with a fuller offering of choice, will make this area of the estate a multi-activity destination for individuals, friends and families, of all ages and abilities.
- Combining all activities will help drive footfall for all pursuits: the road safety park, play areas and cycling facilities can drive footfall to golf and vice versa.

3.3.4 Introduces new people to the game of golf

- We propose the introduction **of Adventure Golf and/or Pitch & Putt** to Temple Newsam in the land directly behind the current golf shop (see **Section D** of proposed layout).
- This could be funded through using some of the earmarked LCC re-development fund, or through a public private partnership through a concession based deal with a commercial provider – there are plenty of options to capitalise on this available space
- Adventure golf is an extremely popular, family-friendly and fun way to start to play, and a commercial opportunity / potential revenue stream:
 - Adventure Golf has proven popularity with over 6.8m participants in the UK.
 - Provides a variety of family orientated activities on-site, not just cycling related.
- We also propose the introduction of beginner / Junior Tees on the course new layout further forward than the adult tees:
 - this will create an even shorter course format that provides an ideal stepping stone for new players of all ages to move from pitch & putt to a larger format, building confidence and self-esteem.
- We propose the re-introduction of the teaching Golf Professional, to provide those wanting to pick the game up, and also to provide access for local schools, youth & community groups to come to Temple Newsam and get an introduction to the game, and all of its proven health & wellbeing benefits.
- Coupled with this would be a review and more thorough re-stocking of the golf shop, to better capitalise on the considerable amount of income generated from golf apparel and equipment. This is something the Golf Professional could also be attracted by.

3.3.5 Incorporates all elements of LCC's Proposals

- TNGC sees the integration of other activities at this part of the Estate as a real benefit for the people of Leeds, and indeed will attract new people to the game of golf at Temple Newsam.
- The road safety park, sand play area and BMX pump track can all be fully incorporated in **Section A**, the area directly in front of the current Clubhouse.

- This allows LCC to develop the café on the ground floor of the current clubhouse for parents/guardians to enjoy whilst in immediate proximity to the play and road safety area.
- Our proposed layout also incorporates a plethora of cycling routes, new and existing, that can be developed to deliver all levels of opportunity, for all abilities of rider.
- Land required for the development of new event spaces is provided in **Section C**. Of the 104 hectares that the golf courses cover we estimate that the remodelling of the golf course will release approximately 60 hectares for redevelopment.
- Gives further land back for improving wildlife habitats and the environment, including tree planting and meadows (**Section C**).

3.3.6 Preserves & Enhances Heritage for the City of Leeds

- The re-modelled course includes all of the holes originally designed by the globally renowned course architect Dr Alister MacKenzie, retaining the course design on the world stage, and indeed as proud Heritage for the City of Leeds.
- Retains the names of both Lord Irwin & Lady Dorothy course as they were originally intended.
- Retention of TNGC and its Heritage will add to the strength of any bid for Heritage Lottery funding.
- Gives land closest to the house back for Heritage Development, incl **Jacobs Well** and the area where the **Gibbet** was located (section C).

3.3.7 Delivers the vision of Best Council Plan, Active & Age Friendly Leeds

Health & Wellbeing

- Golf has been long regarded and evidenced as an ideal pursuit for building, improving and maintaining Health & Wellbeing, both Physical & Mentally.
- Since 2018/2019, Golf is actually being prescribed by parts of the NHS:
[extracts from related Telegraph article Jan '19, author Laura Donnelly, Health Editor]

"GPs are being urged to prescribe golf for their patients - after pilot schemes found it boosted levels of fitness, muscle strength and happiness."

Family doctors in London, Birmingham and Hampshire are being invited to take part in the programme, which sees the NHS offering golf coaching to patients with heart disease and respiratory conditions.

Pilot schemes in south London found that patients referred for golf saw levels of vigorous exercise triple, with significant boosts in life satisfaction, happiness and self-esteem.

The programme is part of a wider NHS policy of “social prescribing,” with plans for GPs to refer almost 1 million patients for classes and activities which boost health and reduce loneliness.”

- An investigation was undertaken by England Golf, Mytime Active and ukactive, with over 3,200 golfers at 12 Mytime Active courses surveyed:
 - The findings estimated that golf is saving local authorities in the survey area **£3.4m per year in health costs**, and the savings could increase if less-active golfers up their participation. (source: Golf Monthly 2018)
- The new course layout/footprint has been designed to be less physically demanding than the previous layout, making it more attractive to all golfers of all abilities including Ladies, Juniors, Elderly players and people new to golf.
- Gives the public more choice of which activity they want for keeping active, and is playable by all ages and abilities.
- Once people ‘get the golfing bug’ it’s a game they can enjoy throughout their entire lifetime, which will only contribute to life’s longevity.

Financially & Socially Accessible

- Retaining accessible Municipal golf in Leeds is essential, giving those on low incomes and retired of all backgrounds and ability, the opportunity to play, socialise and keep fit at affordable price points.
- Investment in the club house could create a Community Hub by using some of the empty space on the first floor of the building.
- Attracts all public, young and old, of all genders to enjoy both golf and cycling.
- Avoids the impact of social isolation for those players which would result from closure.
- Because of golf’s unique handicap system, players of all ages and abilities can play together as a group.

4 Conclusion

- TNGC and the general public have serious and valid concerns over the LCC's proposals as they currently stand, and as this document highlights.
- TNGC's alternative solution that combines a re-modelled golf course, and a re-aligning of the LCC's proposed facilities, will result in a '**win win**' for all.
- This integrated approach:
 - Preserves golf at Temple Newsam, its heritage and growing ticket revenues
 - Provides immediate revenues for the new Café facilities from the golfing community
 - Targets the increasing popularity of Pay & Play and other fun formats of golf
 - Is a more financially viable and compelling route to take
 - Provides improved facilities for all to enjoy
 - Delivers a real activity destination with more choice to individuals, families and groups of all ages, driving footfall to this part of the Estate
 - Introduces golfers to new activities, and vice versa
 - Preserves and enhances Heritage for the City of Leeds
 - Better reflects the ideals of Best Council Plan, Age Friendly & Active Leeds
- **The Council is a none profit making organisation that delivers public services for the benefit of the residents of Leeds** - we hope this continues to be the case for Golf in Leeds.

Report of Head of Democratic Services

Report to Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)

Date: 18 June 2020

Subject: Work Schedule

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	☐ Yes ☒ No
Has consultation been carried out?	☒ Yes ☐ No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	☐ Yes ☒ No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	☐ Yes ☒ No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	☐ Yes ☒ No

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the Scrutiny Board's work schedule for the initial meetings of the current municipal year.

2. Background information

- 2.1 All Scrutiny Boards are required to determine and manage their own work schedule for the municipal year. In doing so, the work schedule should not be considered a fixed and rigid schedule, it should be recognised as a document that can be adapted and changed to reflect any new and emerging issues throughout the year; and also reflect any timetable issues that might occur from time to time.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 On 16 March 2020, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, Leeds City Council took the necessary step to cancel a number of planned meetings of various Committees, Boards and Panels. This included all Scrutiny Board meetings and any joint scrutiny arrangements where the Council acts as the lead authority.
- 3.2 Scrutiny Board Chairs were jointly involved in the decision-making process to cancel Scrutiny Board meetings in what were unprecedented and rapidly changing circumstances.

- 3.3 Scrutiny Board Chairs were actively engaged in the review and clearance of key decisions necessarily taken under the Council's Urgency provisions during this time, and call-in arrangements continued.
- 3.4 In cancelling Scrutiny Board meetings it was acknowledged that, after the urgency of the initial stages of the pandemic response, there would be opportunity to reflect and identify any lessons learned across different service areas and statutory local authority scrutiny functions would have an important role to play in this process.
- 3.5 With Council services focused on the urgent pandemic response and subsequent city recovery plan, the usual collaborative process of annual work programming for Scrutiny Boards was suspended.
- 3.6 However, in May 2020 all Scrutiny Boards were briefed on decision making relating to the areas of the pandemic response that fell within their respective remits. The notes of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board briefing of 28 May are attached as Appendix 2.
- 3.7 In June 2020 public sessions of all Scrutiny Boards will re-start, albeit remotely. It has been agreed with Scrutiny Chairs that the first two sessions for each Board will be in a more streamlined format than traditional committee meetings. This is in recognition of the fact that new remote ways of conducting public meetings need to be tested and adapted, and many services are also continuing to respond to the consequences of Covid-19 and the subsequent easing of lockdown restrictions.
- 3.8 It should be noted that there remains a degree of uncertainty as to the final shape of the public committee calendar for the remaining months of the 2020/21 municipal year. This is due to the need to review the draft schedule in order to accommodate remote and/or blended committee meetings with very different resource requirements from the traditional buildings based sessions.
- 3.9 The initial iteration of the Board's work schedule for June and July is attached as Appendix 1 for consideration and agreement of the Scrutiny Board – subject to any identified and agreed amendments. It is anticipated that the Board will received a work programme for the remainder of the year at its meeting on **9 July 2020**.
- 3.10 Executive Board minutes from the meeting held on 19 May 2020 are attached as Appendix 3. The Scrutiny Board is asked to consider and note the Executive Board minutes, insofar as they relate to the remit of the Scrutiny Board; and identify any matter where specific scrutiny activity may be warranted, and therefore subsequently incorporated into the work schedule.

Developing the work schedule

- 3.11 When considering any developments and/or modifications to the work schedule, effort should be undertaken to:
- Avoid unnecessary duplication by having a full appreciation of any existing forums already having oversight of, or monitoring a particular issue.
 - Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.
 - Avoid pure "information items" except where that information is being received as part of a policy/scrutiny review.

- Seek advice about available resources and relevant timings, taking into consideration the workload across the Scrutiny Boards and the type of Scrutiny taking place.
- Build in sufficient flexibility to enable the consideration of urgent matters that may arise during the year.

3.12 In addition, in order to deliver the work schedule, the Board may need to take a flexible approach and undertake activities outside the formal schedule of meetings – such as working groups and site visits, where necessary and appropriate. This flexible approach may also require additional formal meetings of the Scrutiny Board.

4. Consultation and engagement

4.1.1 The Vision for Scrutiny states that Scrutiny Boards should seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director(s) and Executive Member(s) about available resources prior to agreeing items of work.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules state that, where appropriate, all terms of reference for work undertaken by Scrutiny Boards will include ‘to review how and to what effect consideration has been given to the impact of a service or policy on all equality areas, as set out in the Council’s Equality and Diversity Scheme’.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

4.3.1 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the best council objectives.

Climate Emergency

4.3.2 When considering areas of work, the Board is reminded that influencing climate change and sustainability should be a key area of focus.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.4.1 Experience has shown that the Scrutiny process is more effective and adds greater value if the Board seeks to minimise the number of substantial inquiries running at one time and focus its resources on one key issue at a time.

4.4.2 The Vision for Scrutiny, agreed by full Council also recognises that like all other Council functions, resources to support the Scrutiny function are under considerable pressure and that requests from Scrutiny Boards cannot always be met.

Consequently, when establishing their work programmes Scrutiny Boards should:

- Seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director and Executive Member about available resources;
- Avoid duplication by having a full appreciation of any existing forums already having oversight of, or monitoring a particular issue;

- Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.5.1 This report has no specific legal implications.

4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 This report has no specific risk management implications.

5. Conclusions

5.1 All Scrutiny Boards are required to determine and manage their own work schedule for the municipal year. The latest iteration of the Board's work schedule is attached as Appendix 1 for consideration and agreement of the Scrutiny Board – subject to any identified and agreed amendments.

6. Recommendations

6.1 Members are asked to consider the matters outlined in this report and agree (or amend) the initial work schedule (as presented at Appendix 1) as the basis for the Board's work for June and July.

6.2 Members are asked to note that a further iteration of the work programme for the remainder of 2020/21 will be presented at the Board's meeting on 9 July 2020.

7. Background documents¹

7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.



Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2020/2021 Municipal Year

June	July	August
Meeting Agenda for 18 June 2020	Meeting Agenda for 9 July 2020	No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.
REMOTE SESSION Outcome of the consultation on the proposals for the land currently occupied by Temple Newsam Golf Course Safer Leeds (verbal update)	*REMOTE SESSION* Volunteer Hubs – learning lessons to ensure the future resilience of the 3rd sector <i>[Cllr Hayden to be invited]</i>.	
Working Group Meetings		
Site Visits		

Scrutiny Work Items Key:

PSR	Policy/Service Review	RT	Recommendation Tracking	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring	C	Consultation Response



Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2020/2021 Municipal Year

Provisional dates for future sessions:

Day	Date	Time
Thursday	24 September 2020	10am [pre-meet 9.30am] <i>**Earlier start time due to subsequent Executive Board meeting</i>
Thursday	15 October 2020	10.30am [pre-meet 10am]
Thursday	12 November 2020	10.30am [pre-meet 10am]
Thursday	14 January 2021	10.30am [pre-meet 10am]
Thursday	25 February 2021	10.30am [pre-meet 10am]
Thursday	25 March 2021	10.30am [pre-meet 10am]

It is anticipated that the Board will received a work programme for the remainder of the year at its meeting on 9 July 2020.

Meeting of: Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)

Date: 28 May 2020

Subject: Working Group – Covid-19 response and recovery

Attendance

Board Members:

Additional Attendees:

Cllr B Anderson (Chair)	Cllr M Rafique, Executive Member for Environment & Active Lifestyles
Cllr M Harland	Neil Evans, Director Resources & Housing
Cllr A Gabriel	James Rogers, Director Communities & Environment
Cllr A Khan	John Woolmer, Deputy Chief Officer (Waste Management)
Cllr P Grahame	Rebecca Atherton, Principal Scrutiny Advisor
Cllr T Smith	
Cllr P Gruen	
Cllr N Sharpe	Apologies: J Akhtar, K Brooks, D Collins, D Coupar
Cllr A Blackburn	
Cllr J Bentley	
Cllr M Dobson	

1. This was the second Environment, Housing and communities Scrutiny Board meeting to be held remotely. It was a private working group session rather than a public meeting.
2. The purpose of this meeting was to provide Members with an overview of relevant key actions and decisions that have been taken by the Council as part of the response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
3. In the Board's pre-meet Cllr Anderson confirmed that he had not been required to authorise any decisions in line with urgency arrangements. He also outlined draft work programme items for public sessions in June and July, and noted a request for the Board to be updated on the impact of the pandemic on policing in the city.
4. Cllr Anderson welcomed participants to the Board and invited Neil Evans to brief the Board on decisions within his remit during the period following the last working Group on 13 May.
5. Neil provided an update to the Board on the reestablishment of some services that were reduced in the initial phase of the pandemic response. He highlighted a need to deal with the backlog of around 30,000 outstanding non-emergency repairs, which could not be carried out in recent weeks, and informed the Board that it would be a priority to bring 685 voids back into use.

6. It was noted that 7,000 essential repairs have been carried out during the lock down period, which equates to around 60% of the normal rate of such repairs. Some concern was expressed about a drop in demand for urgent repairs potentially reflecting an anxiety on the part of some tenants to progress such issues during the pandemic.
7. Neil confirmed officers are working with Trade Unions to ensure work can be carried out safely in tenant properties. He acknowledged that some tasks may take longer to resume if social distancing cannot be practiced. He informed the Board that external work has restarted in some areas including roofing, communal areas of multi-storey buildings and as part of the ongoing sprinkler programme.
8. The Board asked for clarity about the planned return of staff to local housing offices and the reduction in capacity due to staff being required to self-isolate.
9. Members were informed that the Council is still following national advice in encouraging staff to continue to work at home if they are able to do so, in order to reduce pressure on public transport and office accommodation. However, Neil noted that the council is anticipating more members of staff returning in the coming weeks - from around 5% to 10% - either because they cannot perform their role as effectively at home or for reasons of well-being. The Board noted the outcome of the recent staff well-being survey.
10. Work is being undertaken to ensure staff are able to return to work safely and that social distancing can be practiced. Staff need to inform managers where they are planning to return so that necessary cleaning can take place.
11. The Board welcomed the flexibility and commitment of staff who have been re-deployed as part of the Council's response to coronavirus. However, members also acknowledged the challenge of returning those members of staff to their substantive roles without causing disruption to key frontline services such as emergency food distribution and refuse.
12. The Board was informed that around 1000 members of staff are isolating, primarily due to shielding requirements rather than being symptomatic of Covid. It was noted that the reduction in capacity has not been felt consistently across services, with some areas having a higher proportion of staff members with pre-existing conditions that require them to be shielded.
13. An update was provided with regard to the installation of district heating in Lincoln Green. Neil Evans noted that work to lay out the spine of the network has been continuing throughout the recent restrictive period and, with less city centre traffic to contend with, the work has progressed more quickly than would otherwise have been anticipated. He confirmed that work to connect multi-storey buildings would resume in the first instance in communal areas. However, he noted that work to progress connections in individual homes would have to be done sensitively and in line with government advice about Covid-19.

14. James Rogers provided an update on the re-opening of Household Waste and Recycling Centres, noting the important role of re-deployed staff in supporting the service. He also reiterated the recently publicised changes to restrictions on services in chapels and crematoria. He confirmed policies would remain under review as lockdown restrictions are eased.
15. John Woolmer provided further updates in relation to brown bin collections, refuse services and composting.
16. James outlined the ongoing work to resolve the challenges of ensuring social distancing in outdoor spaces such as parks and updated members on plans for a phased re-opening of outdoor attractions.
17. The Board was informed that significant work has been carried out to ensure rough sleepers are effectively supported. The recent reduction in the numbers of people sleeping rough was welcomed but it was noted that there is still a cohort of individuals who are, for a complex number of reasons, not in emergency accommodation.
18. Members received an update on support for victims of domestic abuse, the role of environmental health officers in responding to reported breaches of covid-related restrictions and the work of volunteers in the city. The Board were informed of particular challenges around the registration of births and updated about procedures for the registering of deaths by telephone.
19. Further information was requested about work to support victims of domestic abuse given a rise in incidents during the lockdown period and the Board discussed the response of city partners to breaches of covid-restrictions, particularly where large groups of people come together.
20. The Board discussed the potential response to spikes in the 'R rate' in instances of local outbreaks and questioned whether government funding would be available to support the required response. In response James Rogers noted that the Council is awaiting further guidance particularly in relation to the recently announced 'track and trace' system, which will be public health led.
21. Members of the Board request a written update on the housing service.
22. The next Board meeting will take place on **18 June 10.30am – 11.30am**. This will be a public session.

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REMOTE MEETING OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

TUESDAY, 19TH MAY, 2020

PRESENT: Councillor J Blake in the Chair
(REMOTELY) Councillors A Carter, R Charlwood,
D Coupar, S Golton, J Lewis, L Mulherin,
J Pryor, M Rafique and F Venner

164 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the remote meeting of the Executive Board, which was being held as a result of the ongoing social distancing measures established in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair extended her thanks and appreciation to Council employees, together with all partner organisations and sectors across the city and the wider region for the extraordinary co-ordinated efforts which continued to be taken to safeguard and serve communities during these unprecedented times.

165 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED – That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt from publication on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:-

- (a) That Appendix 1 / A to the report entitled, 'East Leeds Secondary Place Provision – Proposed completion of Purchase of land at Torre/Trent Road from Arcadia', referred to in Minute No. 172 be designated as being exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the information contained within it relates to the financial or business affairs of the Council and/or another organisation. It is considered that the release of such information would, or would be likely to prejudice the Council's commercial interests in relation to other similar transactions. It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption from publication outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information at this point in time.

166 Late Items

Agenda Item 7 (Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan)

With the agreement of the Chair, a late item of business was admitted to the agenda entitled, 'Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan'.

Given the scale and significance of this issue, it was deemed appropriate that a further update report be submitted to this remote meeting of the Board. However, due to the fast paced nature of developments on this issue, and in order to ensure that Board Members received the most up to date information as possible the report was not included within the agenda as originally published on 11th May 2020. (Minute No. 170 refers).

Agenda Item 8 (Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) upon Leeds City Council's 2020/21 Financial Position)

With the agreement of the Chair, a late item of business was admitted to the agenda entitled, 'Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) upon Leeds City Council's 2020/21 Financial Position'.

Given the scale and significance of this issue, it was deemed appropriate that an update report be submitted to this remote meeting of the Board. However, due to the fast paced nature of developments regarding this issue, and in order to ensure that Board Members received the most up to date information as possible the report was not included within the agenda as originally published on 11th May 2020. (Minute No. 171 refers).

167 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests declared at the meeting.

168 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22nd April 2020 be approved as a correct record.

INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND CULTURE

169 Devolution Deal for West Yorkshire - Review, Scheme and Consultation

The Chief Executive submitted a report which provided an update on the latest stage of the process to implement the West Yorkshire Devolution Deal, as agreed between the region and Government in March 2020. The report included information on the outcome of the statutory governance review which had been undertaken and also sought approval to progress to the next phase involving public consultation on the draft Scheme, as appended to the submitted report.

In introducing the submitted report, the Leader highlighted that work on the devolution deal continued at pace, with it being reiterated that the intention was to progress in line with the timeframe as set out within the report. It was also highlighted that bearing in mind the current situation regarding the Coronavirus pandemic, discussions continued around allowing an element of

flexibility in the timeframe to ensure that all due diligence, consultation and scrutiny processes in respect of the proposals were fully undertaken as required.

In considering the submitted report, Members discussed and received further information on the following:-

- Given the current situation regarding the Coronavirus pandemic, emphasis was placed upon the importance of ensuring that members of the public and Elected Members of the Council were provided with appropriate opportunity to engage with and discuss the proposals as part of the consultation and communications exercises, which included the respective scrutiny functions at both the City Council and the Combined Authority. The importance of the democratic accountability and transparency of the process was reiterated, with the need for all Opposition Groups to receive briefings and communications on such matters, as appropriate, being highlighted;
- Proposals regarding the range of functions to be undertaken by the Mayoral Authority as part of the devolution deal were discussed, with it being highlighted that as a result of this process, no current functions would be transferred away from the City Council, unless by agreement of the Council. In response to specific enquiries, officers undertook to provide a Member in question with further information on how the function of housing and land acquisition would be delivered under the proposed model, with it being undertaken that a Member's specific comments around the setting of precepts would be fed into the relevant consultation processes;
- The potential economic benefits for the area arising from the adoption of the devolution deal for West Yorkshire were highlighted, with Members emphasising the importance of this, given the current financial position of Local Authorities in light of the Coronavirus pandemic.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That having considered the Governance Review, as appended to the submitted report at Appendix 1, the Review's conclusions be endorsed, including that an Order under S104 and S105 in relation to the changes to constitutional arrangements considered in the Review and the delegation of additional functions to the Combined Authority would be likely to improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to the Combined Authority's area;
- (b) That the Board's consideration and comments regarding the draft Scheme for the establishment of the Mayoral Combined Authority, as detailed at Appendix 2 to the submitted report, be noted;
- (c) That agreement be given for a public consultation exercise to be undertaken on the proposals contained within the Scheme, with the Board's consideration and comment upon the draft consultation questions, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the submitted report being noted;

- (d) That the progression of engagement with the Combined Authority and other constituent Councils, as described within the submitted report, be agreed, with the Board's agreement also being given that the Managing Director of the Combined Authority shall, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive of this Council, be authorised to take any steps to finalise the preparation and publication of the Scheme and progress the public consultation exercise, as set out within the submitted report;
- (e) That the updated timetable, as set out in Appendix 4 to the submitted report be noted, together with the next steps including, subject to the approval by constituent Councils and the Combined Authority, the submission of a summary of the consultation responses to the Secretary of State in August / September 2020, and to subsequently consent to any draft Order in September 2020 so that a mayoral combined authority model and associated changes may be adopted and implemented by May 2021, as set out in the Deal;
- (f) That the proposals, as outlined in section 3.49 of the submitted report around political engagement throughout the devolution process, be agreed;
- (g) That approval be given for all decisions taken by the Executive Board from this report, and as resolved above, be exempted from the Call In process on the grounds of urgency, as set out in paragraph 4.5.3 of the submitted report.

(The Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules state that a decision may be declared as being exempt from the Call In process by the decision taker if it is considered that the matter is urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's, or the public's interests. In line with this, the resolutions contained within this minute were exempted from the Call In process, as per resolution (g) above, and for the reasons as detailed within sections 4.5.3 of the submitted report)

170 Update on Coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan

Further to Minute No. 161, 22nd April 2020, the Chief Executive submitted a report providing an update on the coronavirus (COVID-19) related work across the city, being driven by the response and recovery plan, as previously reported to the Board. The report provided information on organisational issues arising from the pandemic as well as a citywide update, and noted that the response and recovery plan aimed to mitigate the effects of the outbreak on those in the city, especially the most vulnerable, and prepare for the early stages of recovery. The report also noted that the city's multi-agency command and control arrangements were set within the national approach and guidance from the Government, plus the context of resilience and health partnership arrangements at a West Yorkshire level, and the Combined Authority.

With the agreement of the Chair, the submitted report had been circulated to Board Members as a late item of business prior to the meeting for the reasons as set out in section 9.1 of the submitted report, and as detailed in Minute No. 166.

In introducing the submitted report and providing an update on the current position, the Leader, on behalf of the Board, extended her thanks to all of those involved in the development and implementation of the response and recovery plan to date, including the continued delivery of detailed communications with all relevant parties. The Chief Executive reiterated such comments, paying tribute to all those who continued to deliver services across the city in response to the pandemic.

Members discussed and received further information on a number of issues, including:-

- The national role being undertaken by the Chief Executive with regard to the programme of testing, tracing and containing the virus, with Members highlighting the need for appropriate procedures to be implemented in respect of this at a localised level;
- The significant impact of the pandemic across a number of sectors. In response to enquiries regarding the hospitality sector, the Board was provided with information on the support being provided to that sector, with it being highlighted that provision of such support would be a key area of activity for the Council moving forward;
- Responding to a Member's comments regarding the delivery of formal meetings whilst social distancing measures remained in place, it was noted that formal meetings held remotely continued to take place and be scheduled, and that preparations were being made to deliver meetings which could potentially be attended both remotely and physically, however such physical attendance at meetings would not be introduced until Members felt it appropriate to do so, and that further Member discussions on such matters were required;
- A Member highlighted the importance of the Council taking into consideration service users' feedback and the outcomes from engagement processes when reviewing the Council's response to the pandemic and the adapted delivery of services. Responding to such comments, the Board received updates on a number of service areas including those delivered in crematoria, the distribution of food in communities / the delivery of associated grants, and the delivery of actions addressing period poverty;
- With regard to support for the agricultural sector, specific reference was made to the Council supported 'Pick for Britain' programme. Responding to a Member's enquiry, officers undertook to provide the Member in question with further details on how the Council was engaging in this initiative;
- Also, the Board received updates from several Executive Members regarding related matters within their respective portfolios. These included:-
 - Council decision making processes during the current period;

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 24th June, 2020

- Communication processes established to ensure that local communities remained informed of the help and support available to them, with a number of specific examples being provided;
- The current position within Care Homes in Leeds and the actions being taken to address the challenges which continued to be faced in this area, with specific tribute being paid to the work of frontline care workers during this time;
- The monitoring of the health inequalities agenda;
- The ongoing work aimed at delivering greater active travel provision, and the level of public engagement to date with the 'Common Place' platform.

In conclusion, the Chair highlighted the need for the Government to focus its efforts upon a more localised approach moving forward, with the key role of Local Authorities in such an approach being emphasised.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, the Leader asked all Directors to relay thanks to their respective teams for their continued efforts throughout such challenging circumstances.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the updated national context and local response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the updated Response and Recovery plan, which includes the updated aims and objectives, be agreed;
- (c) That the approach towards and messaging for running a safe city, as detailed within the submitted report, be agreed;
- (d) That the submitted report and the comments made in respect of it during the discussion be noted in context with the more detailed report on the financial implications of the Coronavirus pandemic for the Council, as presented within Minute No. 171;
- (e) That all Directors relay to their respective teams Members' thanks for their continued efforts throughout such challenging circumstances

RESOURCES

171 Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Impact upon the Council's 2020/21 Revenue Budget

The Chief Officer, Financial Services submitted a report providing an interim briefing on the forecast position for the Council when considering the scale of the financial challenge faced by the Authority in terms of 2020/21 and future years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the agreement of the Chair, the submitted report had been circulated to Board Members as a late item of business prior to the meeting for the reasons

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 24th June, 2020

as set out in section 4.5.2 of the submitted report, and as detailed in Minute No. 166.

In introducing the submitted report, the Executive Member for Resources highlighted the scale of the financial challenge being faced by the Council, which it was emphasised remained an evolving picture. With regard to the recommendation that the Board write to the Government to ask for financial assistance to enable the Council to fulfil its requirements, it was highlighted that it was proposed that in addition to this, Government would be asked to provide support through the proposals, as set out within section 3.5.2 of the report.

Responding to a Member's enquiry regarding the options available to the Council moving forward, the Board was advised that a further report was scheduled to be submitted to the Board in June presenting the financial position over the next 2 years, which would also provide detail of the options available to the Council if further funding was not forthcoming from Government. Also, responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board noted that the issuing of a 'Section 114' report would only be undertaken as a final resort.

In response to a Member's enquiry, it was undertaken that Executive Members would continue to be briefed on relevant matters between this Board meeting and the next scheduled meeting on 24th June.

Members highlighted the need for local Government to continue dialogue with the Treasury in order to explore all potential options available to financially assist Local Authorities during this time and moving forward.

A Member requested an update on the Council's commercial investment portfolio during this challenging period, arising from the national press coverage given to the issues that some Local Authorities were experiencing in this area. In response it was noted that currently there were no specific issues to report on such matters.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the position, as outlined in the submitted report by the Chief Officer, Financial Services concerning Leeds City Council's financial position as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, be noted;
- (b) That agreement be given for Executive Board to write to Government to ask for financial assistance to enable the Council to fulfil its requirements to deliver services to the residents of Leeds, and that in addition to this, Government support be sought on the proposals, as set out within section 3.5.2 of the report;
- (c) That it be noted that a further report is to be submitted to Executive Board in June 2020 detailing the impact over the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22 of the COVID-19 pandemic, together with an updated forecast budget position for 2021/22.

LEARNING, SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT

172 East Leeds Secondary Place Provision - Proposed Purchase of Land at Torre/Trent Road from Arcadia

Further to Minute No. 177, 20th March 2019, the Director of City Development and the Director of Children and Families submitted a joint report which looked to bring together three interconnected workstreams that had been progressed following the Board's previous approval in March 2019 to enter into negotiations with the Arcadia Group Ltd. for the potential acquisition of part of their site at Torre Road for the creation of the new East Leeds Secondary School. The report set out the current position regarding each of those workstreams and presented the rationale for the requirement of the Council to enter into the final Heads of Terms with Arcadia Group Ltd. for the purchase of the site to ensure the delivery of a new Secondary School for opening in September 2021.

Members provided support for the proposals as detailed within the submitted report and appendices.

Following the consideration of Appendix 1 / A to the submitted report, designated as being exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting, it was

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the progress made to date regarding: the negotiations with Arcadia Group Ltd. for the purchase of part of their site for a new secondary school in East Leeds; the free school presumption under the terms set out in the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (section 6A) and the design development of the scheme to date, be noted;
- (b) That approval be given for the Council to enter into the final Heads of Terms for the acquisition of 2.77ha of the unused playing field land at Torre Road owned by Arcadia Group Ltd from REDCASTLE (FREEHOLDS) LIMITED who are part of the Arcadia Group Ltd., for the new East Leeds secondary school; and that approval also be given to authorise the Director of City Development to use his delegated powers to approve the exchange and completion of the contract for the land purchase by the 31st July 2020;
- (c) That 'authority to spend' the amount as detailed within the exempt appendix 1 / A to the submitted report on the purchase of the playing field land at Torre Road owned by Arcadia Group Ltd., be approved.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: THURSDAY, 21ST MAY 2020

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 5.00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, 29TH MAY 2020

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 24th June, 2020