

# Peckham Rye Park Adventure Playground

First Public Consultation Report

2023



# Summary

## 1. Introduction

Peckham Rye Park Adventure Playground will be refurbished as part of a programme of improvements to five of Southwark Councils Adventure Playgrounds. Improvements to the adventure play building have already been completed.

This consultation was about improving the play equipment and landscape. The results have been used to guide the design.

## 2. The Survey

The consultation was open to the public from 20 January to 20 February 2023. An online survey was available on [the council's Consultation Hub website](#) and a paper survey was available upon request.

Events were held at the Adventure Playground on Friday 27 January from 3.30pm to 6pm, and during half term on Thursday 16 February from 2pm to 4pm. The Project Manager was available to discuss the project, and was assisted by the Play Team staff.

The consultation was promoted through a poster / leaflet displayed in and around Peckham Rye Park, and delivered as a leaflet to 600 properties within a 250 metre radius of the playground. A project mailing list of interested people has been created, to keep updated about the project and to ensure they get a chance to take part in future consultations.

Local stakeholders, including the [Friends of Peckham Rye Park and Common](#) and Rye Hill Tenants and residents association were also consulted, and we also asked if they could promote the consultation. They were sent posters as requested.

The Play Team staff were extremely helpful in handing out paper surveys to children and families using the Adventure Playground.

## 3. Executive Summary

The consultation received a high number of responses (64), with many positive comments about the playground and Play Team staff, and useful suggestions to help shape the design.

The consultation showed an overall under-representation of people from ethnic minority backgrounds, and from girls. This has been taken into account when creating the playground design.

The following feedback from the consultation has been used to influence the first design for the playground:

- The big swings were popular and a variety of swings have been included in the design, with additional platforms and walkways to access them. As big swings were so popular, the design also includes a balancing rope swing for groups of up to 12 children and an accessible basket swing, which is suitable for children with disabilities when accompanied

by a carer. Both of these swings can be used by multiple children at one time. There was also the suggestion of replacing the tyres on the big swings with seats, which we will get more feedback on through the next design consultation.

- The zip-wire is popular and has been kept in the design
- The open space around the play equipment has been kept
- Opportunities to climb have been included in the design
- Accessible play equipment has been included, which would allow children with disabilities to play alongside their friends
- More benches and seats are included in the design, both within the 'active zone' where the play equipment is, and in quieter spaces, around the edges of the facility

#### 4. Results Analysis

There were 64 surveys returned which is an excellent response rate.

To analyse the comments, they have been grouped according to common themes. All comments are shown in appendix 2.

**Question 1: What do you like about the Peckham Rye Park Adventure Playground? This can be about the play equipment, layout or anything else.**

| Common theme in the response                                | Number of people who mentioned it | How the updated design reflects this   |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| I like the (big) swings                                     | 15                                | The big swings are in poor condition and will be removed. New big swings will be installed, with a similar design. The swings will be linked by walkways. The design also includes a balancing rope swing and basket swing that can be used by multiple children at one time. The basket swing is also suitable for some children with disabilities when accompanied by a carer. |
| I like the zip-wire   | 11                                | The zip-wire is newer than the much of the other play equipment, and has some life left in it. As it is popular, it will be kept. We will look at ways of improving it including having a seat that can be used by some children with disabilities.  |
| We like the feeling of open space outside, in the open air. | 10                                | In the new design, we have made sure that there is a large amount of open space, including grass lawn areas for running around.  |
| The playground is a safe environment                        | 9                                 | The adventure playground and ball-court are fenced and only open for visits when staff are on duty. All visitors are required to sign-in. This has created a safe environment, which many children and adults commented was one of the key reasons they visited. The improvements project will not change the fencing or staffing on site.                                       |

| <b>Common theme in the response</b>                        | <b>Number of people who mentioned it</b> | <b>How the updated design reflects this</b>   |
|--|--|---|
| People like the natural play environment of the playground | 8  | The setting within the park, the trees around the play equipment and the shrubs and woodland area at the back of the playground all provide 'natural play environments' which are popular with visitors. No trees will be removed, and we will look at using wooden play equipment where possible, as this feels more natural than metal equipment. However some respondents mentioned the lack of colour in the playground, so a mixture of wooden and coloured play equipment is included.                      |
| We like the witches hat                                    | 6  | The "witches hat" is a cone-shaped roundabout made from rope nets. It is popular and will be kept. It will also be linked to a new pathway, to make it easier to access.  |
| We like the football / cage / ball-court                   | 6  | The sports area inside the adventure playground will be kept.   |
| The adventure playground is good for different ages        | 6  | The adventure playground is aimed at children from 8 to 15 years of age, with a range of play equipment offering different levels of risk and challenge for children.   |
| Good risk offered by play equipment                        | 5  | The project will aim to increase the variety of play equipment and offer even more excitement, risk and challenge, while meeting all relevant safety standards.   |
| I like the staff   | 5  | Compliments about the staff have been passed on to the Play Team.   |
| We like the layout   | 5  | The new design has a similar layout, including areas with play equipment, a nature walk and areas of open grass lawn.   |
| We like the natural wooden materials                       | 5  | The new play equipment will be made from natural materials such as wood, wherever possible. A natural cork safety surfacing is being considered.  |
| We liked the platforms                                     | 4  | The platforms were removed during the demolition of the large climbing structure. The new design includes adventurous equipment with platforms and walkways.  |
| We like the grass surface                                  | 4  | Some people liked the grass lawn in the playground. When compared with traditional playgrounds, the adventure playground has more grass and less hard surfacing /rubber safety surfaces. However, grass can make it difficult for some people with disabilities, including people in wheelchairs. Therefore the design includes paths and surfacing to improve access for people with disabilities, and rubber safety surfacing where falling could cause injury. However we will keep as much grass as possible. |
| We like the play building                                  | 4  | Comments about the play centre building have been passed on to the Play Team. The building has recently been refurbished and decorated inside, and we are pleased this has been popular.  |

| Common theme in the response      | Number of people who mentioned it | How the updated design reflects this   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| I like the fact there are no dogs | 1                                 | The playground is staffed with controlled access, which means that a dog free environment can be enforced. |

**Question 2: What do you dislike about the Peckham Rye Park Adventure Playground? This can be about the play equipment, layout or anything else.**

| Common theme in comment  | Number of people who mentioned it | How the updated design reflect this   |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Playground seems to have irregular opening times                               | 12                                | The opening times can be found on <a href="#">the Adventure Playground webpage</a> .<br><br>The opening times are also displayed at the entrance. Staff shortages sometimes mean that the playground has to be closed at short notice.  |
| Playground often seems closed and we would like it to be open for longer hours | 11                                | The opening times are displayed at the entrance, staff shortages sometimes mean that the playground has to be closed at short notice.   |
| Swings/equipment are closed or have been removed                               | 10                                | Play equipment had to be removed due to its poor condition, before it became unsafe. This project will improve the adventure playground with new equipment  |
| Play equipment is dated / a bit worn   | 9                                 | We acknowledge that the play equipment is old, and through this project, many of the items will be replaced.  |
| Should be open all the time and never locked                                   | 5                                 | The playground includes items of play equipment, which are more challenging, and due to the increased risk this presents, can only be used under supervision. Therefore the playground cannot be open all the time. The adventurous play area at Peckham Rye Common is open all the time. |
| Vegetation is overgrown  | 3                                 | The natural areas are popular with some people, but others find the area feels 'overgrown' and not well maintained. The differing views should be balanced; the shrubs and trees will continue to be maintained so they do not become overgrown and encroach on the play equipment.       |
| There is not enough colour   | 3                                 | The design includes new colour, including on some play equipment and the multi-coloured play safety surfaces.   |
| I don't like that there are no lights  | 2                                 | The adventure playground is open during daylight hours, except during the winter term. In the winter, the play building and patio area are used, which both have outdoor lights.  |

| <b>Common theme in comment</b>  | <b>Number of people who mentioned it</b> | <b>How the updated design reflect this</b>  |
|---|--|---|
| Bring back the bridge / need more structures and variety of levels                                | 2  | A new bridge and new walkways are included in the design, with structures, towers, walkways and platforms at different heights.   |
| I don't like the dips in the ground or uneven surface   | 2  | The improvements include filling in any large dips or holes in the ground to make sure the surface is as level as possible.   |
| The playground needs more equipment   | 2  | We will increase the number of pieces of play equipment, but will be careful not to squeeze too much in, as people said they like the open space.   |
| Some play equipment is too hard for younger children / not enough for younger or smaller children | 2  | The adventure playground is suitable for children aged 8 to 15, and therefore equipment for younger children is not included.<br>There is play equipment suitable for toddlers in the two open-access play areas. One in Peckham Rye Park, near the pond, 100 metres from the adventure playground. The other is the adventurous play area in Peckham Rye Common, next to the café, about 500 metres from the adventure playground. |
| There are not enough shaded areas in hot summers or rainy days (for both children and parents)    | 1  | The play building and veranda currently offer shelter from the sun and rain. Play towers also create shelter, and the design includes covered areas with seats underneath the new swing platforms.  |

**Q 3. Do you have any suggestions of what you would like to see in the new design for the playground?**

**This can be play equipment, park furniture, the layout (how you move around the play area) or anything else? Maybe think about what you have seen or played on somewhere else?**

| <b>Common theme in comment</b>  | <b>Number of people who mentioned it</b> | <b>How the design reflects this</b>   |
|---|--|---|
| I would like more climbing (frame or walls)                             | 14                                       | Opportunities for climbing have been included in the design.  |
| I would like more seats and benches                                     | 13                                       | New seats are included in the design. Some seats will be grouped together, for children to socialise. Other seats will be set back from the play equipment, but with a good view over it, for guardians to relax while their children play. |
| I would like more rope swings   | 11                                       | Rope swings are included in the updated design, with additional platforms and walkways to access them. As rope swings were so popular, the design also includes a balancing rope swing for groups of up to 12 children.                     |
| Would like better or another zipwire                                    | 8  | The zip-wire is popular. We will keep the zip-wire and will look at ways of improving it including having a seat that can be used by some children with disabilities.   |
| Would like to see slides  | 8  | We have included a slide in the design. The slide is also accessible it has space for a child and carer to slide down together.   |
| More rope walkways, climbing and nets                                   | 7  | The design includes rope nets and walkways.   |
| We would like to see a vending machine or mini café for drink or snacks | 7  | Unfortunately this is not possible due to the ongoing cost  |
| Would like to see picnic tables   | 7  | This request has been passed onto the play team who manage the playground   |
| Would like to see trampolines   | 7  | Trampolines are included in the design  |
| Would like opportunities for hanging at height and from monkey bars     | 5  | We have added opportunities to hang off the main climbing frame and below the swing platforms, this play activity or play type is linked to the requests for climbing and the ladders achieve both.   |

| <b>Common theme in comment</b>  | <b>Number of people who mentioned it</b> | <b>How the design reflects this</b>   |
|---|--|---|
| Would like Astroturf added for football pitch   | 5  | The budget for this project is not enough to improve the football pitch. An Astroturf pitch is also expensive to maintain and the ongoing cost cannot be afforded. The council is planning to install Astroturf football pitches at Brimington Park, on Old Kent Road.  |
| Would like a den area possibly a tree den   | 4  | The design includes a den area.   |
| The design needs to focus on older children   | 3  | The adventure playground provides for children aged from 8 years, up to 15, with a variety of equipment for all children within that age range. The design includes a number of larger items of play equipment, which will be more of a challenge, and suitable for older children.   |
| Would like more greenery and planting   | 3  | The design will keep all the existing trees and shrub areas within the playground, and will improve the small garden area, located on the western side of the playground. New areas of plants and shrubs will be added where possible.  |
| The playground needs areas for quiet time   | 3  | The design includes areas away from the larger, busier items of play equipment. These areas of the playground will not contain play equipment, and will be available for children who want a quiet, relaxed space.  |
| Would like more table football  | 3  | Providing sports equipment to go inside the building is not possible as the budget is only sufficient for the outdoor play equipment, which needs to be replaced due to being in poor condition.  |
| Would like more swings for toddlers/ smaller children   | 3  | The adventure playground is for children aged 8 to 15 years, so no toddler swings or cradle swings are included. Toddler and cradle swings can be found at the open-access play areas, one is located near to the pond, 100 metres from the adventure playground. The other play area is in Peckham Rye Common by the café, 500 metres from the adventure playground. |
| We would like to have the play equipment forming a circular route (so we can keep off the ground) | 3  | The design includes a series of linked walkways and towers above ground but these do not form a complete circle, as there is not enough space without removing other play equipment from the design.  |



| Common theme in comment                                   | Number of people who mentioned it | How the design reflects this  |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Would like parkour equipment included in the playground   | 3                                 | <p>Parkour equipment will not be included because alongside the adventure play equipment, there is not enough space for specialist sports equipment such as parkour. However, the adventure play equipment will encourage children to develop skills in climbing, hanging, jumping and balancing; all of which are important in parkour.</p> <p>Parkour equipment is included at the proposed skatepark in Burgess Park. <u><a href="#">Please visit the Southwark Council website for more information about the proposed skatepark.</a></u></p> |
| Swings that are accessible for children with disabilities | 2                                 | The playground currently has a basket swing, which can be used by some children with disabilities, when a carer is present. Swings with secure safety harnesses are also included in the design.  |
| It needs to be colourful and eye grabbing                 | 2                                 | The new playground equipment will mostly be wooden. We are looking at how we can add more colour to the design.   |
| I would like a stage performance area                     | 1                                 | A stage / performance area can be popular with girls, whom research has shown are often under-provided for in playgrounds. A stage / performance area has not been added to the design due to lack of space.  |

## 5. Equalities information and the profile of respondents

71 people provided equalities information for this analysis, which is higher than the number of surveys completed. This is because in some cases, a group of people filled in one survey together with their profile information recorded individually.

Comparisons with the demographics of the local area are made using the 2021 census data for the Peckham Rye Common MSOA (Middle layer Super Output Area)

### Sex and Gender Identity

33% of respondents identified as male. The local population is 46.4% male, so this is an under-representation, particularly of male adult carers.

60% of the responses from children aged 16 years and under were from boys, showing that girls' viewpoints were under-represented (40%).

One response (1.6%) was received from a person who identifies as non-binary. No other respondent stated their sex was different from that recorded at birth.

This can be compared to 0.16% of Southwark's population who identify as non-binary and 0.63% who identify as having a gender identity different from sex registered at birth.

| Gender identity | number | Percentage |
|-----------------|--------|------------|
| Male            | 21     | 33.3%      |
| Female          | 41     | 65.1%      |
| Non binary      | 1      | 1.6%       |

8 people chose not to answer and they have been excluded from the analysis.

### Below: Local community profile for Peckham Rye Common MSOA (Middle-layer Super Output Area) from the 2021 census

#### Gender of Peckham Rye Common local community

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| Male   | 46.4% |
| Female | 53.6% |

### Ethnicity

79.4% of respondents stated they are from a white background. 73.1% of the local population identify as white so this shows that people from a white background were well represented.

People from ethnic minority backgrounds make up 26.9% of the local population, and 20.6% of respondents stated they are from an ethnic minority background, showing that people from ethnic minority backgrounds were underrepresented.

13.8% of respondents stated they are from a black background; 12.4% of the local population are from a black background so this is a fair representation.

The most under-represented ethnic group is Asian residents, with no responses received, where the local population is 4.5%.

13 residents (18.3%) did not answer the question, or provided an answer that did not allow us to compare with the local population data (i.e. English, English Canadian, Welsh-Scottish and French) and therefore they have been excluded from the analysis.

| <b>Ethnicity of respondents</b> | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percentage</b> | <b>Group percentages</b> |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Asian                           | 0             | 0%                | 0% Asian                 |
| Black Nigerian                  | 1             | 1.7%              | 13.8% black              |
| Black other African             | 3             | 5.3%              | 13.8% black              |
| Black Caribbean                 | 2             | 3.4%              | 13.8% black              |
| Black British                   | 2             | 3.4%              | 13.8% black              |
| Mixed White Black Caribbean     | 2             | 3.4%              | 5.1% mixed ethnic group  |
| Mixed White Asian               | 0             | 0%                | 5.1% mixed ethnic group  |
| Other Mixed                     | 1             | 1.7%              | 5.1% mixed ethnic group  |
| Other                           | 1             | 1.7%              | 1.7% other ethnic group  |
| White Other European            | 3             | 5.3%              | 79.4% white              |
| White Polish                    | 1             | 1.7%              | 79.4% white              |
| White British                   | 20            | 34.5%             | 79.4% white              |
| White                           | 9             | 15.6%             | 79.4% white              |
| White English                   | 10            | 17.2%             | 79.4% white              |
| White Scottish                  | 2             | 3.4%              | 79.4% white              |
| White Irish                     | 1             | 1.7%              | 79.4% white              |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>58</b>     | <b>100%</b>       | <b>100%</b>              |

**Below: Local community profile for Peckham Rye Common MSOA (middle layer super output area) from the 2021 census**

#### **Ethnic Group of the Peckham Rye Common local community**

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| White                                       | 73.1% |
| Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups                | 7.5%  |
| Asian/Asian British                         | 4.4%  |
| Black / African / Caribbean / Black British | 12.4% |
| Other Ethnic Group                          | 2.6%  |

## Age

38.5% of comments were from children under 16 years of age. The 2021 census uses slightly different age grouping, and states that 16.2% of the local population are children aged 14 and under.

Although there was an over representation of children, this is due to the project being focussed on a facility for children. Consultation was targeted, seeking views from the people who currently use the playground. Therefore, a higher proportion of comments from children was expected, and is a positive outcome for the project.

| Age of respondents | Number    | Percentage  |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Under 16           | 25        | 38.5%       |
| 16 – 24            | 2         | 3.1%        |
| 25 - 34            | 3         | 4.6%        |
| 35 - 44            | 19        | 29.2%       |
| 45 - 54            | 13        | 20%         |
| 55 - 64            | 2         | 3.1%        |
| 65 – 74            | 1         | 1.5%        |
| 75 plus            | 0         | 0%          |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>65</b> | <b>100%</b> |

The next largest group of respondents was from ages 35 to 44 (29.2%) which is an over representation compared with the local population of 18.5%. This is likely due to parents, guardians and carers of the children also taking part in the survey at the playground.

Ages 55+ were under represented, and older people ages 75+ were not represented at all. It appears older people are less likely to be visitors to the adventure playground, and it is important that their needs are considered. There may be barriers to them visiting with family members, and once these are known we can look at how to overcome them. An Equalities Impact Assessment is being undertaken, which will be key in finding this out.

6 respondents or 8.5% of all respondents did not answer this question.

### **Below: Local community profile for Peckham Rye Common MSOA (middle layer super output area) from the 2021 census**

#### **Age of the Peckham Rye Common local community**

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Aged 14 years and under | 16.2% |
| 15-24 years             | 8.1%  |
| 25-34 years             | 26.9% |
| 35-44 years             | 18.5% |
| 45-54 years             | 12.0% |

|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| 55-64 years | 9.5% |
| 65-74 years | 5.2% |
| 75+ years   | 3.7% |

## Disability

3.5% of respondents who answered the question stated that they have a disability; this is compared to 17.6% of Southwark residents, and therefore people with disabilities have been under-represented.

The adventure playground currently includes an accessible basket swing, which can be used by some children with disabilities when accompanied by a carer, but no other accessible items, which are suitable for visitors with disabilities. The new design includes several items of accessible play equipment that are suitable for children with disabilities, and has been designed so they can play alongside their friends.

## More information about the people who responded

| Area of residence | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------|--------|------------|
| Peckham           | 30     | 58.8%      |
| Nunhead           | 9      | 17.6%      |
| Dulwich           | 6      | 11.7%      |
| Camberwell        | 2      | 3.9%       |
| Bermondsey        | 1      | 2%         |
| Walworth          | 1      | 2%         |
| Catford           | 1      | 2%         |
| Sydenham          | 1      | 2%         |

We asked respondents where they live. This showed a good response from local residents who live nearby in Peckham and Nunhead, as well as in other parts of Southwark.

We asked respondents about the capacity in which they were responding.

| Capacity of respondent                             | Number | Percentage |
|--|--------|------------|
| I am a Peckham local                               | 33     | 63.5%      |
| I am a resident who lives elsewhere in Southwark   | 7      | 13.5%      |
| I am a parent / carer of a child at a local school | 5      | 9.6%       |
| I am a resident who lives in Rye Lane ward         | 4      | 7.7%       |
| I am a resident who lives in Catford               | 2      | 3.8%       |

|                                       |           |             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| I am a resident who lives in Sydenham | 1         | 1.9%        |
| Business owner or staff member        | 0         | 0%          |
| Representing an organisation          | 0         | 0%          |
| Staff at local school                 | 0         | 0%          |
| Child at local school                 | 0         | 0%          |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>52</b> | <b>100%</b> |

The majority of respondents said they were responding in the capacity of a resident of Peckham or elsewhere in Southwark. Five respondents stated they are parents / guardians of children at local schools. No responses stated they were a child at local school even, we know that many respondents were children so either respondents did not realise that they could select more than one answer, or children do not attend local schools.

| Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation? | Number    | Percentage  | Grouped Percentages           |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Heterosexual / straight  | 27        | 84.4%       | 84.4% Heterosexual / straight |
| Prefer not to say  | 3         | 9.4%        | 9.4%                          |
| Lesbian / gay  | 1         | 3.1%        | 6.2% LGBTQ+                   |
| Other (pansexual)  | 1         | 3.1%        | 6.2% LGBTQ+                   |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>32</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b>                   |

#### Sexual orientation of the Peckham Rye Common local community (2021 census)

| Sexual orientation             | Percentage  | Grouped Percentages |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Heterosexual / straight        | 84.55%      | 84.4%               |
| Gay or Lesbian                 | 4.36%       | 7.99%               |
| Bisexual                       | 2.99%       | 7.99%               |
| All other sexual orientations  | 0.64%       | 7.99%               |
| Prefer not to say / unanswered | 7.46%       | 7.46%               |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>100%</b> | <b>100%</b>         |

These figures are approximately in line with our survey responses.

55% of respondents did not answer this question. This is because children aged 15 years and under were not asked to respond to this question.

| What is your religion or belief? | Number | Percentage |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------|
| No religion                      | 20     | 51.3%      |
| Christian                        | 10     | 25.6%      |
| Atheist                          | 3      | 7.7%       |

| <b>What is your religion or belief?</b> | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|---|---------------|-------------------|
| Muslim                                  | 3             | 7.7%              |
| Buddhist                                | 0             | 0%                |
| Hindu                                   | 0             | 0%                |
| Jewish                                  | 0             | 0%                |
| Sikh                                    | 0             | 0%                |
| Other (please specify)                  | 3             | 7.7%              |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>39</b>     | <b>100%</b>       |

Most people who answered this question stated that they have no religion (51.3%). 25.6% stated they are Christian which is an underrepresentation compared with the local community who are 35.7% Christian. Muslim people were well represented (7.7%) when compared with the local population (3.3%).

Children aged 15 years and under were not required to respond to this question and a large number (45%) of people chose not to answer this question.

Three people selected “other”, but did not specify what religion they have.

#### **Religion of the Peckham Rye Common local community (2021 census)**

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| No religion    | 52.2% |
| Christian      | 35.7% |
| Muslim         | 3.3%  |
| Buddhist       | 0.6%  |
| Hindu          | 0.6%  |
| Jewish         | 0.6%  |
| Sikh           | 0.1%  |
| Other religion | 0.6%  |

## **6. Conclusion**

The consultation showed an overall under-representation of people from ethnic minority backgrounds, with people from Asian backgrounds not being represented at all. Black people and white people were well represented.

Although male adult carers were under-represented, this can be explained by the fact the majority of parents and carers who visit the facility identify as female.

The viewpoint of girls aged 16 and under was under-represented, making up 40% of the children who answered the survey. Research such as [Make Space For Girls](#) explores this issue and has helped us ensure that we provide for girls by including social swings, circular seating and musical instruments.

People who are Christian were underrepresented.

During the second public consultation we have sought more responses from people from ethnic minority backgrounds, with Christian religions, and from girls.

35% of responses were from children aged under 16, this is a positive result because the playground is a facility for children aged under 16 and their opinions are important. During the second consultation we would be happy to continue to see significant representation from children under 16.

The most popular item of play equipment was the big swings, which are an important part of the unique character of this playground. Big swings are included in the updated design, with additional platforms and walkways to access them. As big swings were so popular, the design also includes a balancing rope swing for groups of up to 12 children and an accessible basket swing, which is suitable for children with disabilities when accompanied by a carer. Both of these swings can be used by multiple children at one time. There was also the suggestion of replacing the tyres on the big swings with seats, which we will get more feedback on through the next design consultation.

The zip-wire was the second most popular item of play equipment. It is newer than the much of the other play equipment, and has some life left in it. Due to its popularity, it will be kept. We will look at ways of improving it including having a seat that can be used by some children with disabilities.

Some respondents mentioned that they like the feeling of open space outside, in the open air, due to the fact the facility is large and the play equipment is spread out, with lots of space between. In the new design, we have made sure that there is a large amount of open space, including grass lawn areas for running around.

When asked what they do not like about the facility, respondents mentioned the irregular opening times, and that it often seems closed. The opening times are displayed at the entrance, and staff shortages sometimes mean that the playground has to be closed at short notice. Comments about disliking the play equipment were less frequent and were not about specific items. Respondents said they do not like the poor condition of play equipment, and the fact the playground lacks colour.

One comment was about how the playground is not currently practical for children with disabilities such as developmental co-ordination disorder, and people with disabilities were underrepresented during the consultation. An Equalities Impact Assessment is being undertaken, to make sure people from marginalised groups, including people with disabilities, have their needs taken into account. We have been advised about how to providing play equipment for children who have developmental co-ordination disorder or 'dyspraxia'. This includes installing profiled handrails that can be grabbed easily, and are taut (rather than ropes) and suitable firm surfaces without large gaps. These are included in the design.

The most common request was for play equipment that provides opportunities to climb, such as a climbing wall or climbing frame. Previously there was a large play structure in the playground, which included ladders, platforms and walkways. This structure had to be removed, as it was in poor condition and was at risk of becoming a safety issue. The opportunities for climbing and being high up have gone, and this response shows that they are missed. The design includes increasing opportunities for climbing, including rope nets, ladders and wooden climbing walls with grips.



Currently, people only have the option to sit on the existing play equipment steps, platforms and walkways. Both children and guardians requested seats, for both for children to sit together as a group, and for guardians to sit and watch their children play. New seats are included in the design, some grouped together, and other seats set back from the play equipment, but with a good view over it, for carers to relax while their children play.

Slides were suggested, as there are currently no slides in the playground. A wide, accessible slide has been included in the design, which has space for a child and carer to slide down together, making it suitable for some children with disabilities. Unfortunately, there is not enough space to include more slides, however there is a big tube slide in the open-access, adventurous play area that is located close by, in Peckham Rye Common, next to the café.

### **Next Steps**

The results of this consultation have been used influence the design for the playground, and the second public consultation was held in August and September 2023.

[For more information, please visit the project webpage.](#)

## 7. Appendix 1. Promotional poster and leaflet

# Have your say on the Adventure Playground in Peckham Rye Park

Drop-in public meeting in the playground.

**Thursday 16 February – 2pm to 4pm**

### What is this consultation about?

The playground is located in an enclosed area of the park accessed off Homestall Road.

Works to the play building have been completed and we are now progressing improvements to the adventure playground.

To help shape the playground design this consultation is asking children, young people and families what they think about the existing playground and asking what improvements and new play equipment they would like to see.

Please give us your views by **Monday 20 February 2023**.

You can complete the survey online by visiting the webpage below:

[www.southwark.gov.uk/PRPadventureplayground](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/PRPadventureplayground)

If you have any questions and would like a paper copy of the survey, please talk to the Adventure Play team at Peckham Rye or email

[matthew.hill22@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.hill22@southwark.gov.uk)

 @lb\_southwark  facebook.com/southwarkcouncil



## Have your say on the Adventure Playground in Peckham Rye Park

Drop-in public meetings in the playground.

**Friday 27 January – 3.30pm to 6pm**

**Saturday 4 February – 12pm to 3pm**

### What is this consultation about?

The works to the building have been completed and we are now progressing the improvements to the playground.

To help shape the playground design this consultation is asking children, young people and families what they think about the existing playground and asking what improvements and new play equipment they would like to see.

Please give us your views by **Monday 20 February 2023**.

You can complete the survey online by visiting the webpage below and clicking on the Peckham Rye Park Adventure Playground consultation:

[Complete the survey online](#)

If you have any questions and would like a paper copy of the survey, please talk to the Adventure Play team at Peckham Rye or email [matthew.hill22@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.hill22@southwark.gov.uk)

## 8. Appendix 2. Table of all remaining consultation responses

| Q1; What do you like about the existing playground?                          | Number |
|--|--------|
| It provides exercise opportunities for children                              | 3      |
| The table tennis tables  | 3      |
| The climbing equipment   | 3      |
| It is free   | 3      |
| It is fun  | 3      |
| It is surrounded by trees, feels like you're in a forest                     | 3      |
| It is social place for children  | 2      |
| There are toilets, which are clean   | 2      |
| I like the veranda play items  | 2      |
| I like the mature trees give shade   | 2      |
| I like the bins  | 2      |
| I like the table football game   | 2      |
| I like the atmosphere  | 2      |
| I like the freedom   | 2      |
| The location is ideal  | 2      |
| I like that it is community focussed   | 2      |
| I like the fact it is accessible for children with Special Educational Needs | 2      |
| I like doing tricks on the swings  | 1      |
| I like the firemans pole   | 1      |
| I like the rope bridge   | 1      |
| I like the wide walkways   | 1      |
| I love everything about it   | 1      |
| I like the small tyre swing  | 1      |
| I like the ropes   | 1      |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| I like the fact there are no dogs                                    | 1 |
| I like the fact is quiet   | 1 |
| It is good for older children  | 1 |
| I like to sit outside and watch                                      | 1 |
| I like the fact it is a contained / fenced / controlled-access space | 1 |

| <b>Q2: What do you dislike about the playground?</b>   | <b>Number</b> |
|--|---------------|
| It is too muddy  | 1             |
| I do not like the lack of lights on the football pitch, which means it cannot be used in winter after dusk   | 1             |
| I do not like the rope climbing frame  | 1             |
| I would prefer it if children were separated by age / ability, by locating equipment for different age groups / abilities in different areas of the Adventure Playground | 1             |
| There are not enough ropes or climbing equipment   | 1             |
| It needs seats on swings, rather than tyres  | 1             |
| The higher areas need safety ropes   | 1             |
| I dislike huge swing   | 1             |
| I dislike the witches hat  | 1             |
| The zipwire could be longer  | 1             |
| More games for children are needed   | 1             |
| It is scary when dark  | 1             |
| It doesn't feel like local kids from the estate are welcome  | 1             |
| The wooden equipment looks rotten and unsafe   | 1             |
| There is a lack of equipment   | 1             |
| There are not enough shaded areas in hot summers or rainy days (for both children and parents)   | 1             |
| The playground is not practical for developmental co-ordination disorder   | 1             |
| The play equipment is not that challenging for older children  | 1             |
| The sections where you just walk around are more suitable for toddlers, and are a waste of space   | 1             |
| It needs more opportunities for open ended play  | 1             |
| Dangerous splinters (from wooden play equipment)   | 1             |
| Children are out of view, when in the wooded area  | 1             |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| The gate needs to be shut (though unlocked) when the playground is open, for autistic childrens safety | 1 |
| It needs to be maintained better   | 1 |
| The building needs TLC   | 1 |
| Don't like the surfacing   | 1 |

| <b>Q3: Do you have any suggestions of what you would like to see in the design?</b> | <b>Number</b> |
|---|---------------|
| A castle with turrets   | 2             |
| Another table tennis table  | 2             |
| Swings that are accessible for children with disabilities                           | 2             |
| I would like some equipment that is easier and safer for younger children to use    | 2             |
| Safety surfacing under big swings for safe landing                                  | 2             |
| Keep the feeling of being in a forest / use wooden equipment                        | 2             |
| The adventure playground should be open every day, and longer hours                 | 2             |
| More creative and imaginative play  | 2             |
| Balancing equipment   | 2             |
| More games  | 2             |
| See-saws  | 2             |
| A sheltered area for play   | 2             |
| It needs to be colourful and eye grabbing   | 2             |
| Proper football goal nets   | 2             |
| It needs to be challenging with height  | 2             |
| A stage performance area  | 1             |
| No sand in the playground   | 1             |
| More wood chip  | 1             |
| Add lights  | 1             |
| Add hiding places   | 1             |
| A pulley lift   | 1             |
| More shade  | 1             |
| Another pool table  | 1             |
| Make it more inclusive for children and carers with disabilities                    | 1             |

| <b>Q3: Do you have any suggestions of what you would like to see in the design?</b>  | <b>Number</b> |
|--|---------------|
| Add more structures  | 1             |
| More for smaller children  | 1             |
| More adventure   | 1             |
| Keep the youth workers on site   | 1             |
| Promote the playground more, to the Rye Hill Estate. Work with Tennants Association  | 1             |
| Activities and equipment for different age groups  | 1             |
| Activities and equipment for young black boys  | 1             |
| Round-about  | 1             |
| More flowers   | 1             |
| Leave space for children to explore  | 1             |
| Add to the obstacle course, making it longer   | 1             |
| Make sure maintenance is easy, to keep it looking high quality   | 1             |
| The playground is fine how it is. There is a new playground close by.  | 1             |
| The childrens play areas on Commercial Way, at Jowett Street Park, Brimington Park or yellow brick estate are more in need; they are in shocking condition | 1             |
| Add water play   | 1             |
| Add more opportunities for sport   | 1             |
| Need to consider and involve girls needs in the design (look at makespaceforgirls website)   | 1             |
| More shaded places where parents can sit down  | 1             |
| Soft padded mats on floor for so it can minimise injury  | 1             |
| Obstacle course with tunnels   | 1             |
| Furniture that doubles up for play   | 1             |
| Outdoor gym equipment  | 1             |
| Would like the adventure playground to be open at weekends   | 1             |
| Keep the football cage   | 1             |
| Add a meeting area for parents and carers, in the covered building.  | 1             |
| Add more woodchip pathways   | 1             |
| Clarify age of children the playground is aimed at   | 1             |
| Add nice flooring / better surfacing   | 1             |
| Super goals  | 1             |
| Firemans pole  | 1             |

| Q3: Do you have any suggestions of what you would like to see in the design?   | Number |
|--|--------|
| Pulley track   | 1      |
| Add a bigger basket swing  | 1      |
| Treasure hunt in playground. Set by staff, card/clue holders on play equipment | 1      |
| Include towers and walkways  | 1      |
| Add trail stuff (some children don't like height)                              | 1      |
| Add a bike / scooter area  | 1      |
| Include normal swings  | 1      |
| Include a Switch or PS5 (for play building)                                    | 1      |