



Park User Survey Key Findings October 2022

www.friendsofredcatchpark.com hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

Introduction

Redcatch Park is a much loved and **highly utilised** green space in the heart of Knowle. It offers a valuable green haven within an urban setting, bridging gaps in the community by welcoming and actively bringing together all ages, socio economic groups, ethnic groups and those with disabilities.

The advent of **Redcatch Community Garden** in 2017 has further cemented the park's value to the community. It offers a broad variety of workshops and events including weekly school educational groups, art therapy, school holiday clubs, dementia support and adult life skills building sessions. It is now considered a necessity in the park and helped many people to stay connected during the pandemic.

The Friends of Redcatch Park (FORP) has been operating since 2002. It has achieved a huge amount over the preceding 20 years helping to transform the park from a place to be avoided to the welcoming space it is today. FORP membership has fallen off in the last few years due to the pandemic and general attrition from lack of activity. But the group has now relaunched with a new committee new, branding, website and a host of other initiatives to continue the work of the alumni.

The greatest challenge for the new group is in relation to the **Redcatch Quarter Development**; the largest single event to happen to the park in 100+ years. To rise to that challenge, it is incumbent on FORP to ensure that the needs of the park and its community are properly served in the plan and execution of the development should it proceed.

To begin that process, we conducted a Park User Survey during September 2022. This was to ascertain the wishes, hopes, concerns and ideas of the people that use the park in general and specifically about RQ.



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

Methodology

FORP is a not for profit organisation which depends on grants, donations and (in future) a small annual membership subscription from park users.

In order to conserve what little funds we have currently, we chose to use the **free resource**; Google Forms as the platform on which to execute our Park User Survey. This meant that the form could primarily only be accessed by people with internet access and a Google account. There were a few users who were not happy to open a Google account to access the survey and others that were happy to, after a simple explanation of how to do this (a Google account is free and opening one takes just a few minutes) There were other users that we knew (especially in the cohort over 65) who are not digitally active. We addressed this by offering sessions in person via the posters and via our Facebook page.

We advertised the survey via posters in the park and RCG and posts, on our Facebook page, RCG Facebook page and other local community Facebook pages including BS4, Redcatch Community Centre, Knowle Neighbourhood Planning Group (KNPG) and others.

The survey was open from September 12th September 30th (19 Days)



Friends of Redcatch Park



PARK USER SURVEY

Please complete our online survey, so we can get your thoughts and ideas about Redcatch Park to help make it better for everybody

We need your help!

DEADLINE 30th SEPTEMBER

No Internet? No Problem!
Contact us below and we'll arrange to assist you



SCAN ME

www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com
07976 733677



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com
Taking care of the park for now and future generations

How **utilised** is Redcatch Park?

Annual Total Visits to Redcatch Community Garden
200,000*

Average Individual Visitors to Redcatch Park
September 2022 Within One Hour Over 14 days
106**

* Calculated from RCG receipts, workshop bookings, pop-ups and other events

** FORP clicker count conducted for 14 days during September during a one-hour daily visit

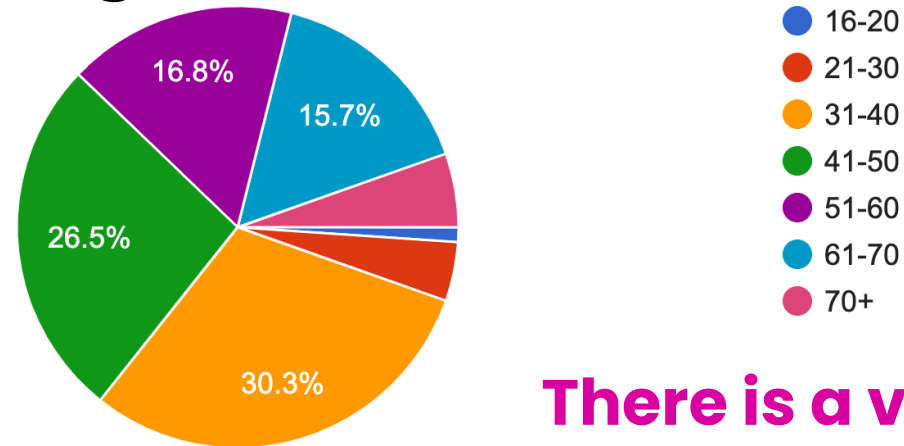


www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

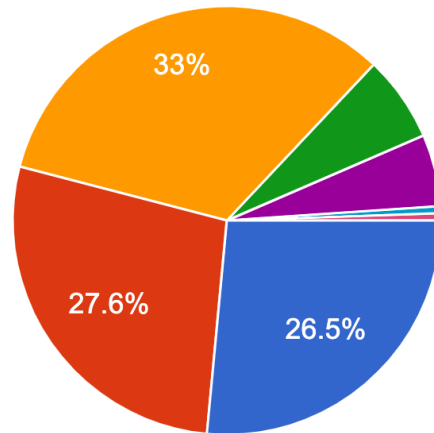
Park User Survey Key Findings | September 2022

185 Respondents Age Range



There is a very good spread of age groups using the park

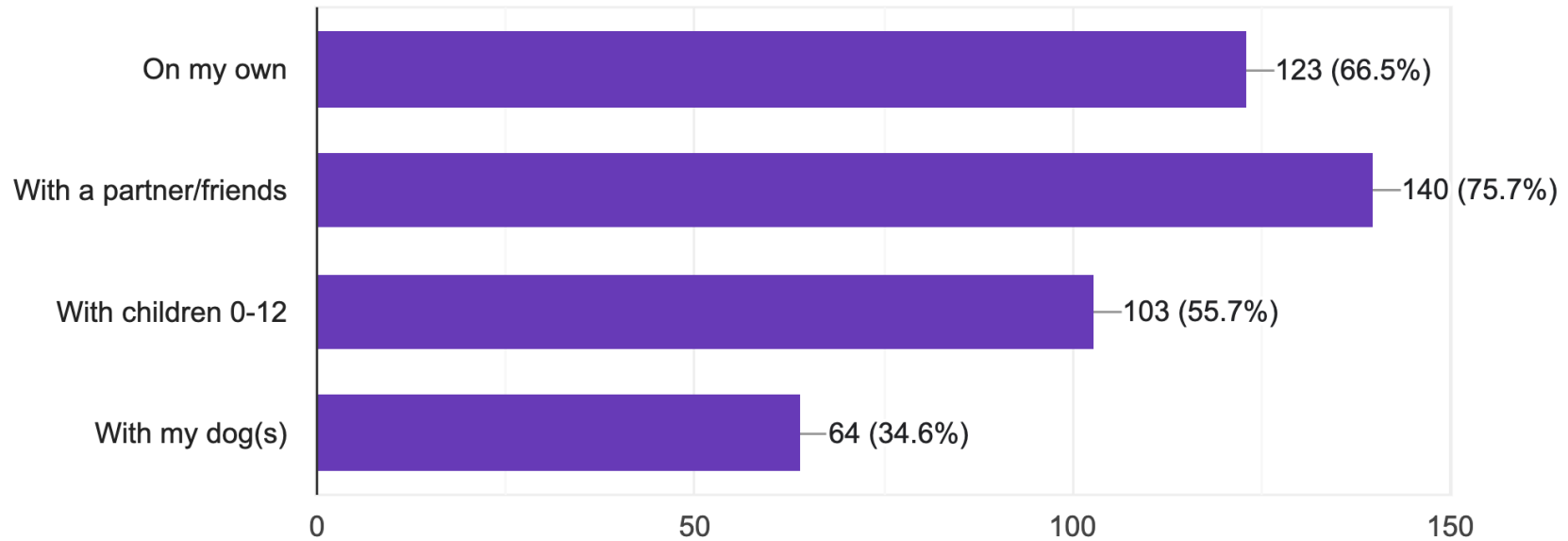
How often do you use the park?



- Every day
- Once or twice a week
- Three times or more
- Just at weekends or for events
- Once a month
- Almost everyday
- Most days

60% of respondents use the park more than three times per week

How do you use the park?



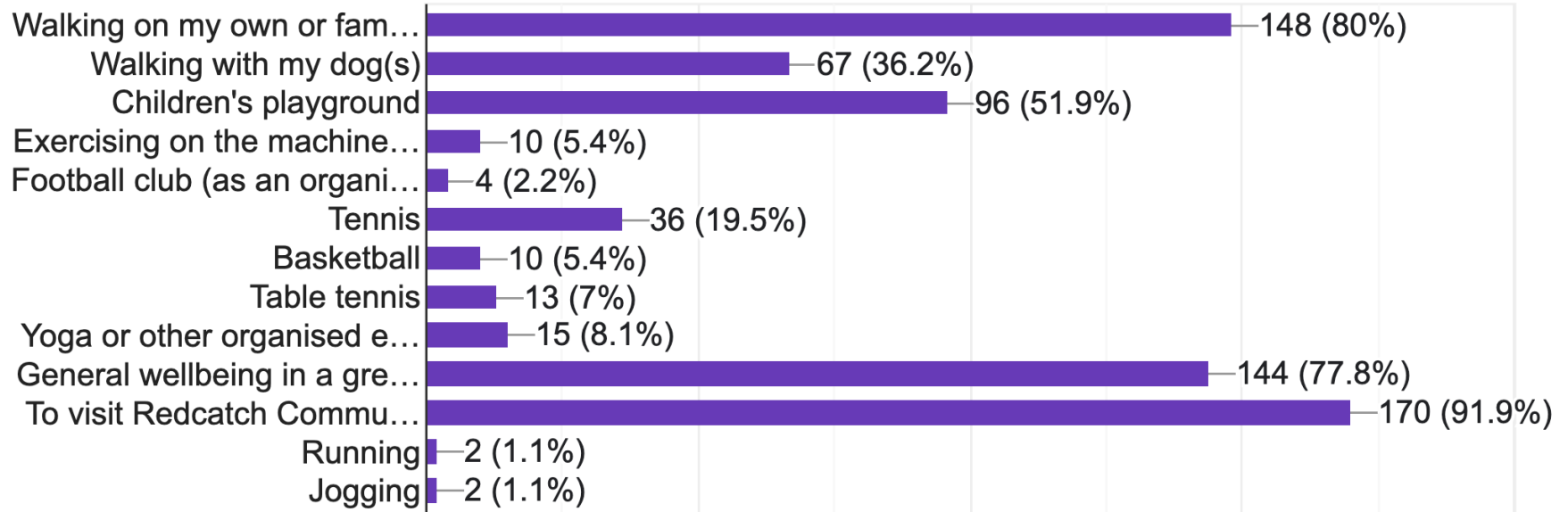
56% have children
35% have dogs



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

What do you use the park for?



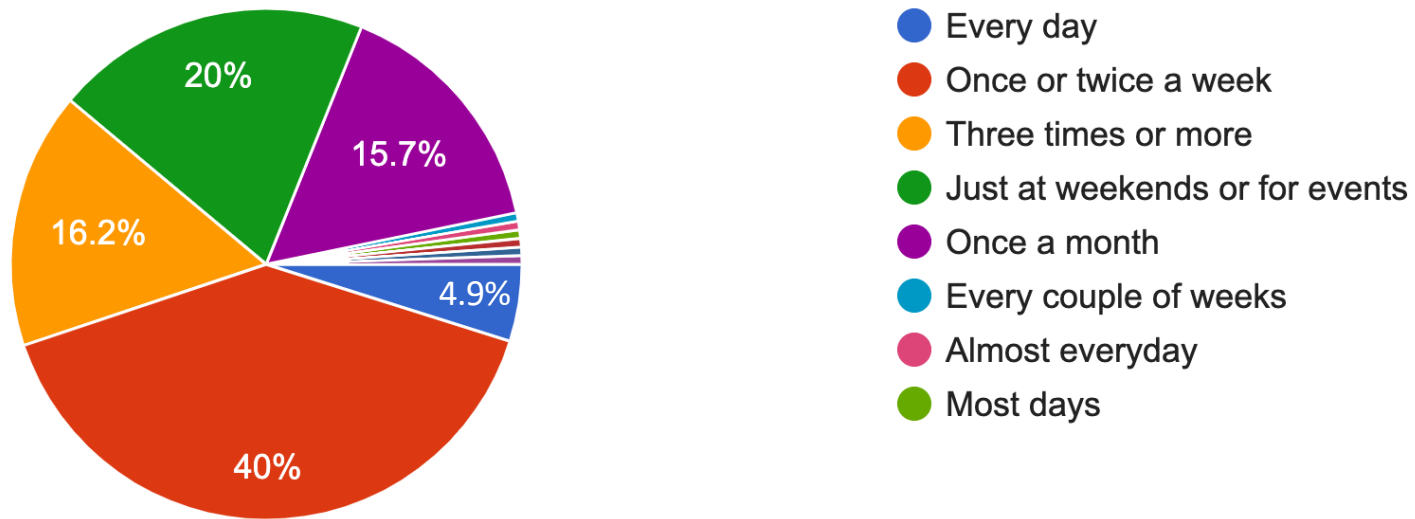
92% visit for RCG
79% use it for wellbeing



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

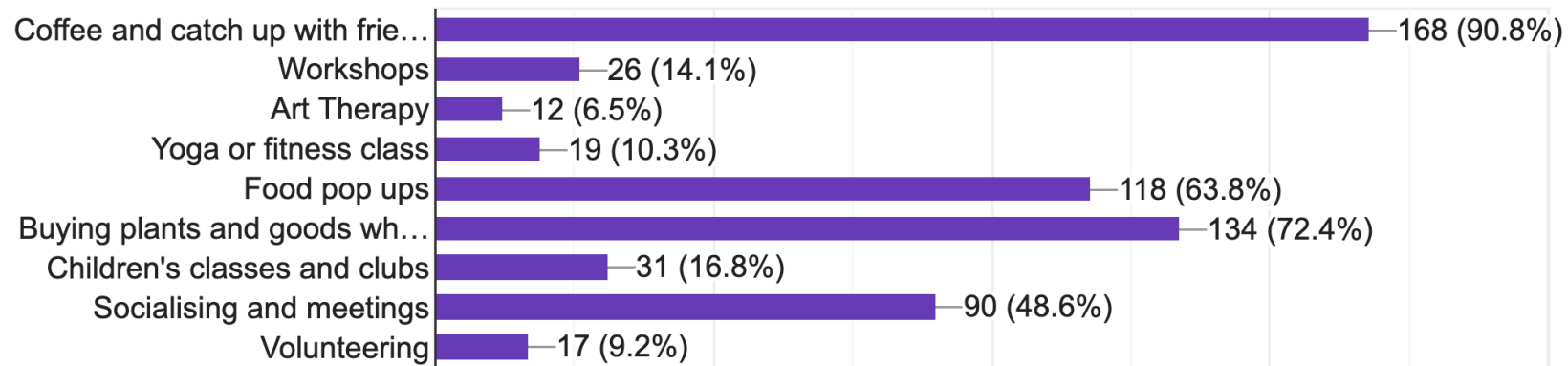
Taking care of the park for now and future generations

How often do you use the Community Garden?



40% visit RCG almost everyday!

What do you use the Community Garden for?



**91% use RCG to catch up with friends.
It really is a Community Garden!**



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

How do you feel about Redcatch Park?

It's an amazing small park that punches well above its weight.

Redcatch Park lifts my spirits and gives me a place I feel I belong and has helped me find my happy space through art, community and volunteering.

It's vital to my wellbeing, sense of place, my entire quality of life.

It is a beautiful space to just let your head clear, enjoy nature and watch how the seasons change our landscape.

This is a small selection of 185 long-form replies.



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

How do you feel about the Community Garden

The Community Garden is the jewel in the crown of the park.

It's an asset to Knowle and the community

I'm so proud to have this energetic and beautiful expression of community on my doorstep! I love to go and love to take guests.

It's such a special place, we regularly pop in to buy a coffee and have a look at the plants. We also love the pop-up food stalls. I go to yoga in the garden every Monday and it's just the most wonderful, peaceful setting.

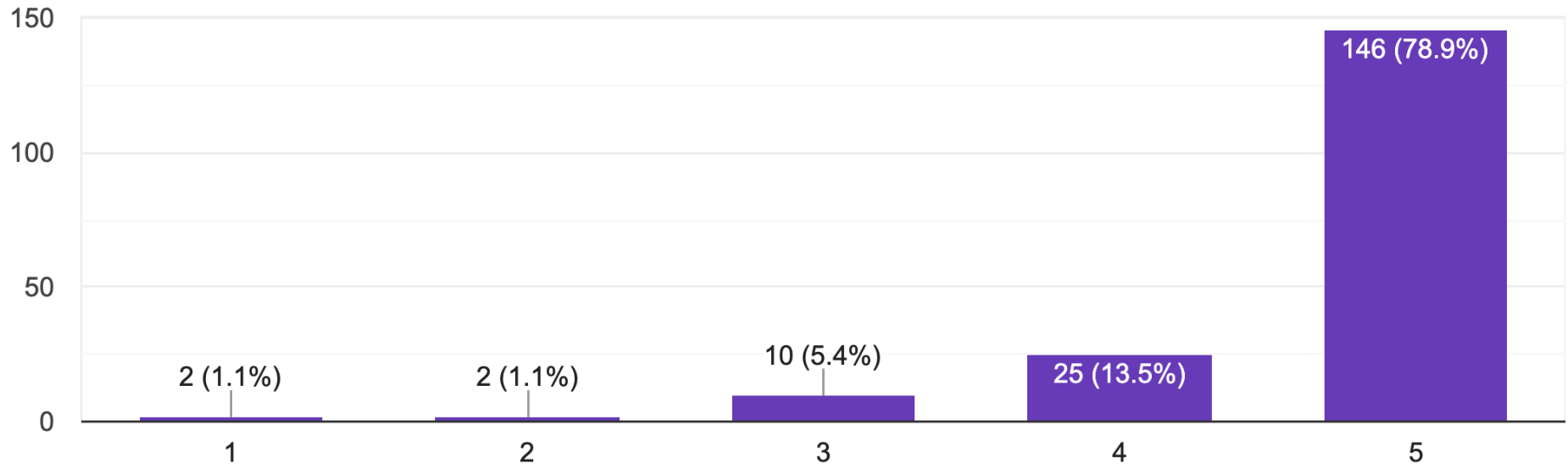
This is a small selection of 185 long-form replies.



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

How important do you consider the public toilets to park users?



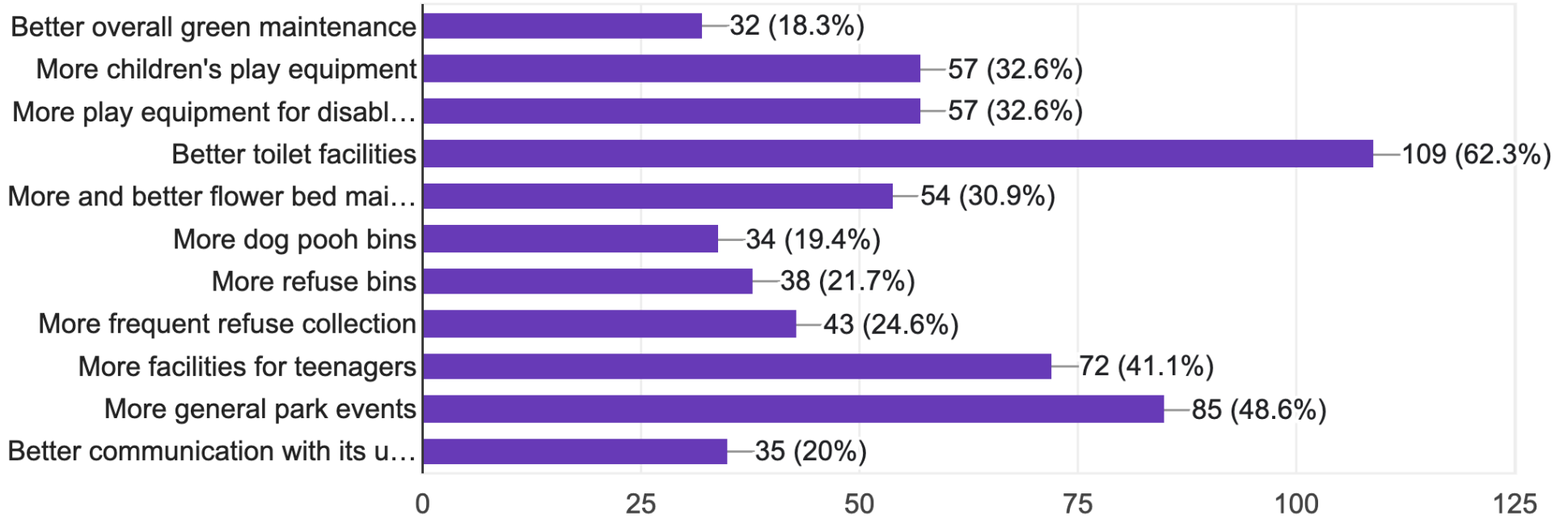
20% of people that commented on their single biggest bugbear about the park said the state of the toilets! The highest single complaint.



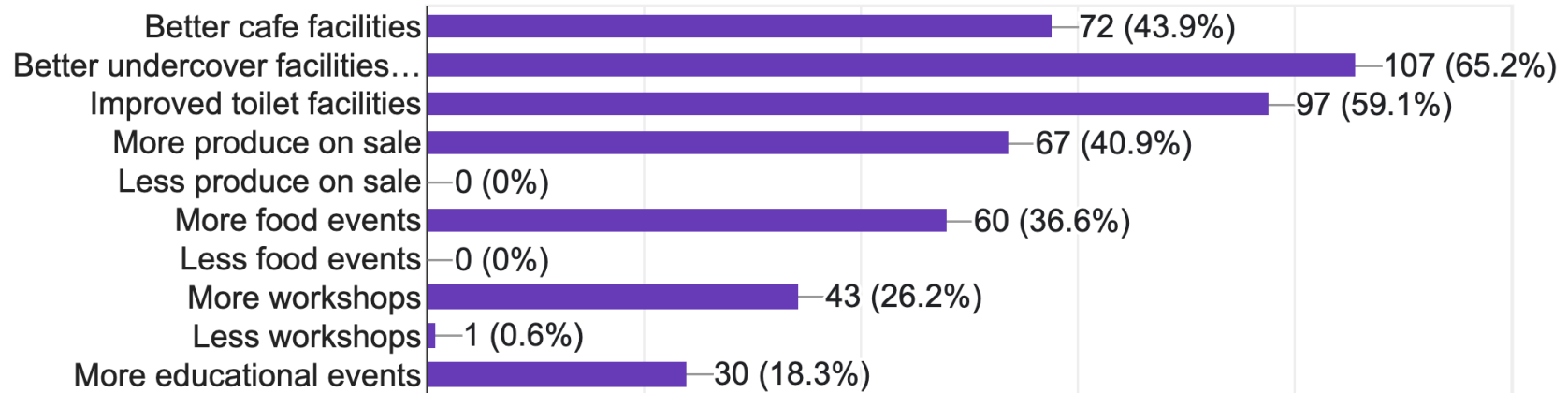
www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

Which of these does the park need?



Which of these does the Community Garden need?



87% of respondents consider RCG to be very important to the park



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

The Park & Redcatch Quarter Development



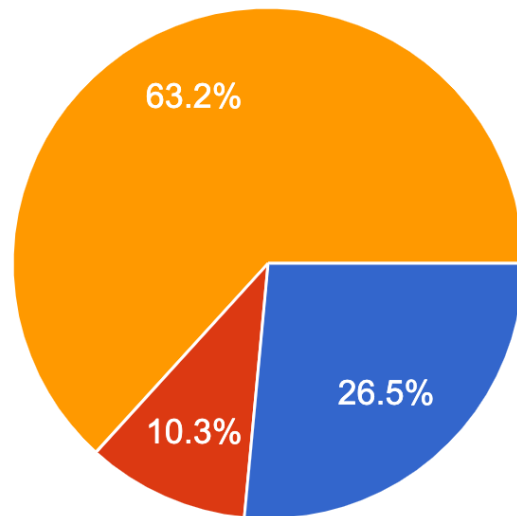
The most significant thing to happen to the park
and Knowle in over 100 years



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

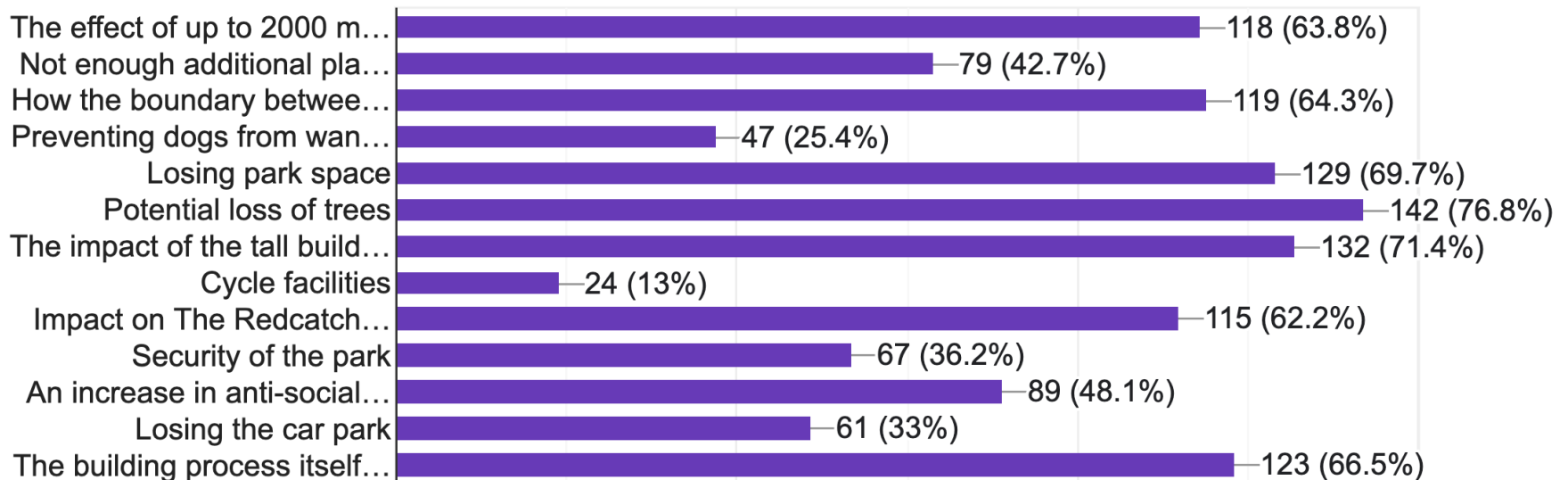
Are you in favour of Redcatch Quarter Development



- Yes
- No
- Depends on the size and the facilities

Only 10% are not in favour of RQ

What are your main concerns for the park and its users in relation to RQD



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

Summary conclusions in relation to RQ

Overall, there is great community support for the Redcatch Quarter development. But this is clearly dependent on many aspects of concern shared within the cohort. What we all want is a development that honours the park and its current users and which mindfully creates a development that works for us all.

Top 10 Concerns

1. 77% Loss of trees
2. 71 % Impact of tall buildings in relation to the park
3. 66% The building process itself and how that will impact on the park
4. 64% How the boundary between park and RQ will look and function
5. 64% Effect of 2000+ people using the park
6. 62% Impact on the Community Garden
7. 48% Increase in anti-social behaviour
8. 43% Not enough additional play and communal space
9. 36% Security of the park
10. 33% Losing the car park



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

Some comments about concerns...

“Making sure that there is sufficient services for the additional 2000 residents”

“It’s obvious that the park will be swamped”.

“I’m concerned that the development will create a huge back drop to the park which will spoil the existing feel of serenity and open space.”

“The buildings are very high and dense”.

“It’s not all bad, flats would provide natural surveillance when the gates are shut. they shouldn’t knock out too much sunshine. keeping trees will break up the bulk of the flats - they shouldn’t knock any tree down.”

“I’m afraid the park will appear to be just the garden for the development rather than a space for the whole community and it will put other people off using it.”

“Fear of losing space”.

“Scale is the big one. The traffic will increase significantly I’m up for a more vibrant and busy area, but the park will become the garden for another 2000 people”.

“Don’t let it erode the physical boundaries of the green space. Don’t cut back on trees and plant life”.



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

Summary conclusions for Redcatch Park

There is a general feeling of gratitude for and happiness with the park, though there is a clear need for some aspects to be addressed in the coming months and years. FORP will endeavour to tackle these in conjunction with Bristol Parks Department, Redcatch Community Gardens, volunteers and the wider community.

Based on the results of this survey, these are the top 10 areas of improvement users would like to see.

Top 10 Actions (General Park)

1. 63% Better toilet facilities
2. 49% More general park events
3. 41% More facilities for teenagers
4. 33% More children's play equipment
5. 33% More play equipment suitable for disabled users
6. 31% More and better flower bed maintenance
7. 25% More frequent refuse collection
8. 22% More refuse bins
9. 20% Better communication with its users
10. 19% More dog poo bins



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations

FORP Action Plan

FORP now have two clear lists of aims to achieve and concerns to raise. Some of these will need further investigation and research to ascertain feasibility, cost and timeframe in order to decide on the most effective action to take. They will also need to be prioritised in terms of importance and urgency. Some elements are already being actioned. The liaison between FORP and the RQ developers and other vested parties is on-going.

Both lists will be addressed and a report created and shared with the park community after the next committee meeting on 6th December.

We would like to thank each of the 185 respondents for taking the time to do the survey.

If you would like to speak to a representative from FORP about this survey, then please send an email to:
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com



www.friendsofredcatchpark.com
hello@friendsofredcatchpark.com

Taking care of the park for now and future generations