



# PHILIP AVENUE PLAY AREA

WEST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY CHOICES

SURVEY REPORT

JANUARY 2026



# INTRODUCTION

The existing play area at Philip Avenue, Boghall is reaching its end of life, and has suffered recent heavy vandalism. As such the Council has allocated funding to replace all the failing play equipment and carry out any other repairs as necessary.

The public were consulted on what type of play equipment they would like to see installed via a survey with a range of options to select from. The survey noted that Charles Crescent Play Area would also be refurbished as a Natural Play Area to improve variety in provision of play opportunities to local children.

The Philip Avenue Play Area site is currently designated as a LEAP type Asset in the Open Space Place, however it is not designated as open space in the West Lothian Local Plan (2018).

# INFORMATION GATHERING

Feedback from local stakeholders was gathered via an online survey. The survey period ran from 9th December - 20th January 2026.

Emails were sent to all known stakeholders, including council officers, local Community Council, local schools, relevant businesses & community groups and local Councillors. Fliers advertising the survey were put through neighbours' doors around the proposed location and posters were displayed in and around the space. The survey was also advertised through the council's Media team. A total of 40 consultees gave their feedback altogether.

# RESULTS SUMMARY

Key information found through the survey is summarised below:

- The play area at Philip Avenue is in a central location for Boghall, with children and parents regularly meeting there during play time and on their way from school. Unfortunately, this key space is very run down and this having a negative impact on the local community.
- The local community mainly uses open spaces close to their home.
- Improved seating and access paths would make a big difference to play area users.
- Positive natural elements and colours would benefit the community.
- The top choices for play equipment replacement is outlined below:

## LARGE ITEM

1

**JUNGLE GYM WITH A PLATFORM LEVEL**

## SMALL ITEMS

1

**MUSICAL PLAY**

2

**TODDLER SEESAW**

3

**TODDLER BALANCING BEAM / BRIDGE**

# FEEDBACK

## Q1.1 What people think about the Play Area?

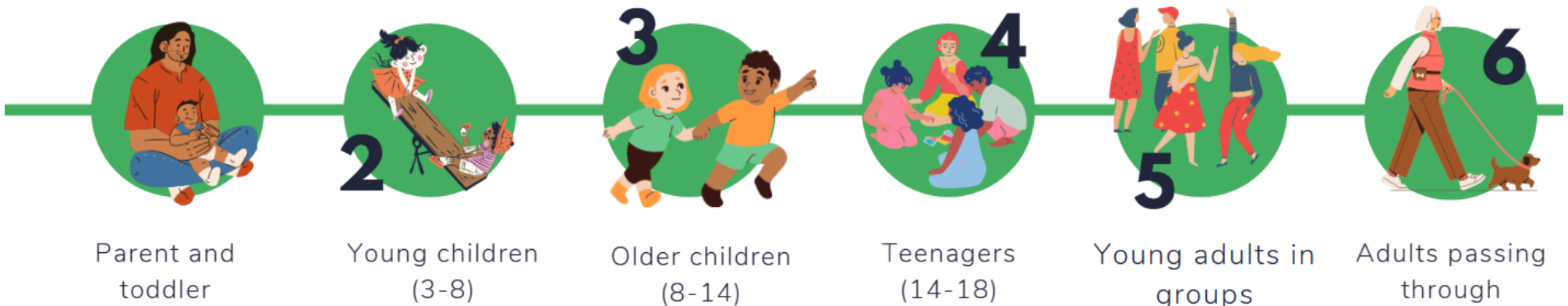
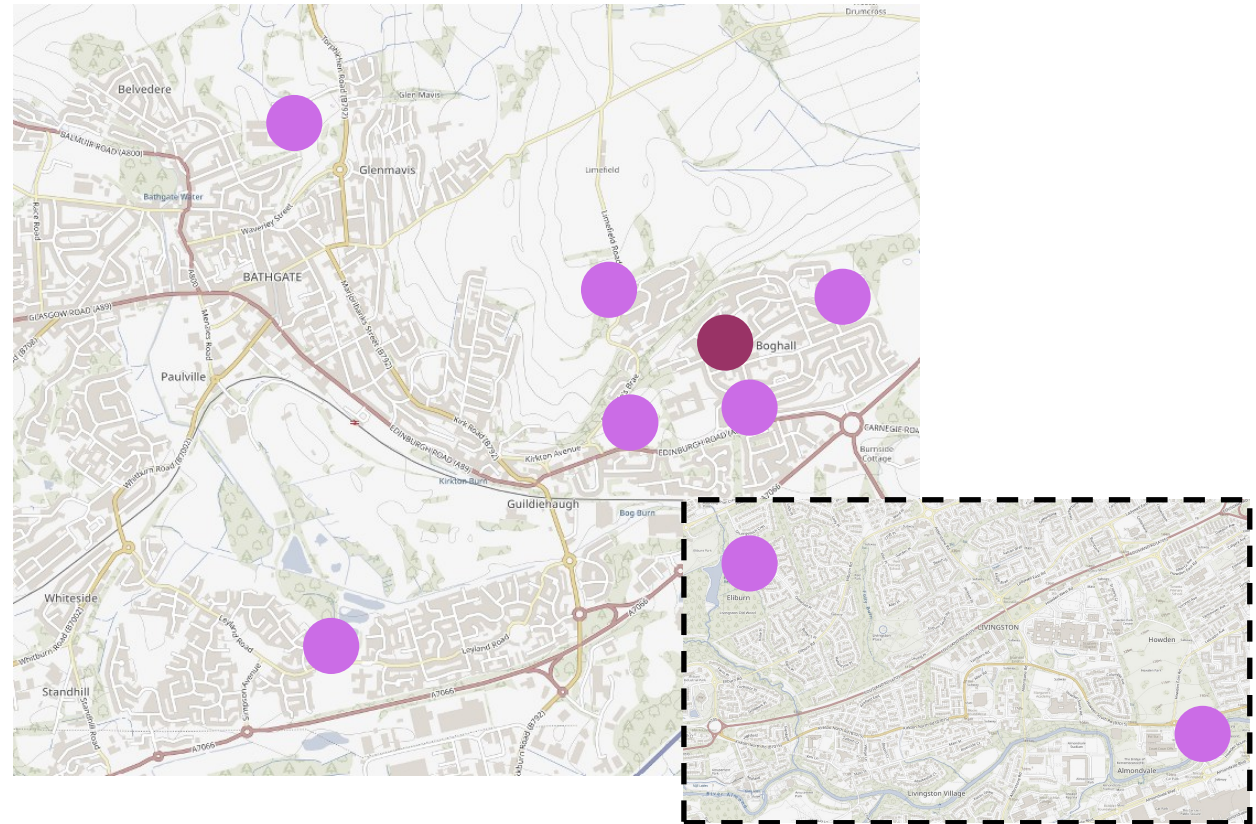
The most common positive response were that the play area at Philip Avenue is central and close to home. There was also some support for more natural play, particularly at Charles Crescent.

The overwhelming negative comments is that both Philip Avenue and Charles Crescent Play Areas are run down and outdated. It was also noted that Philip Avenue suffers from litter and the ground is often waterlogged.

## Q1.2 Current users

The public were asked which age groups currently use this Play Area the most. The results are shown in the diagram below.

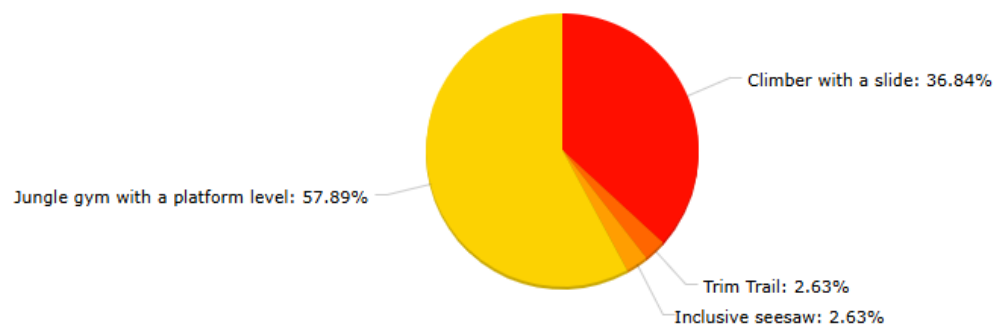
## Q1.3 Play Areas regularly used by consultees at the moment



# FEEDBACK

## Q2.1 Play Equipment Vote

The public were asked to vote on what equipment they would like to see replace the current climber with slide which is expiring. The results are shown below:



## Q2.2 Play Equipment Vote

The public were asked to vote on what equipment they would like to see replace the current trim trail which is expiring. The results are shown below:

	1.		2.		3.		4.		5.		6.		0	±
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%		
Springer	4x	10.53	12x	31.58	6x	15.79	6x	15.79	6x	15.79	4x	10.53	3.26	1.57
Musical Play	9x	23.68	8x	21.05	8x	21.05	3x	7.89	3x	7.89	7x	18.42	3.11	1.81
Games panels	-	-	3x	7.89	7x	18.42	16x	42.11	10x	26.32	2x	5.26	4.03	1.00
Toddler balancing beam / bridge	9x	23.68	6x	15.79	5x	13.16	8x	21.05	5x	13.16	5x	13.16	3.24	1.75
Toddler seesaw	11x	28.95	5x	13.16	5x	13.16	4x	10.53	11x	28.95	2x	5.26	3.13	1.76
Crawl-through Tunnel	5x	13.16	4x	10.53	7x	18.42	1x	2.63	3x	7.89	18x	47.37	4.24	1.95

## Summary of additional comments and suggestions

- Better seating, including picnic tables would be welcome
- The public would like to see more play opportunities for both older and younger children
- More colour and more natural play would be welcome, including habitat creation, wilder areas and, as requested by 1 consultee, daffodils in the woodland copse at Philip Avenue
- Other play equipment which the public would like to see is a trampoline, a roundabout, a big slide, a line bridge and somewhere for riding bikes and scooters
- Some consultees mentioned they would like a fenced toddler zone

## NEXT STEPS

This report will be posted on the parks webpage [www.westlothian.gov.uk/parkinfo](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/parkinfo)

Based on the feedback and recommendations in this report, designs will be drawn up and a play area constructed to represent these as best as possible. West Lothian Council aims to have the project completed by Autumn 2026.