#### The Future of Warren Farm

**Public Consultation results** 

August 2022

**EALING COUNCIL** 



#### Overview of the consultation

- The Warren Farm consultation was carried out between 24 March and 20 May 2022
- A short online survey was launched using the GiveMyView platform, consisting of a series of open-ended questions inviting feedback on how the area is currently being used by residents and what preferences they have about its future

#### **Overview**

- ➤ A total of 1,520 responses were received, representing a strong community response to the consultation
- ➤ 45% of respondents were from Hanwell, 30% from Ealing town, 16% from Southall and less than 4% from each of the other towns.



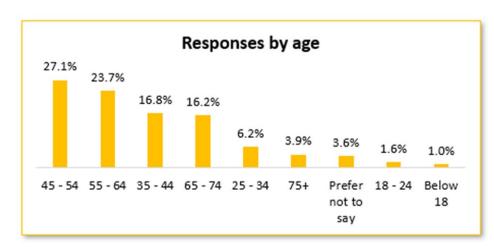
## **Summary findings**

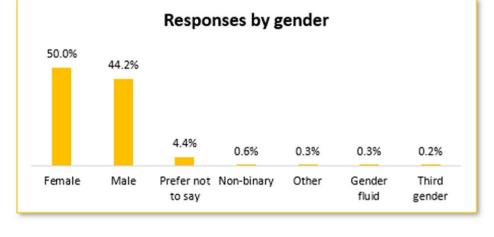
#### **Summary findings**

- Warren Farm is seen as being actively used for walking, running, exercising and enjoying nature (Note that formal sports facilities are not currently available on the site)
- A majority of people say it is a valued green space and a wildlife haven, and view it as a precious escape to nature for locals that should be preserved
- Residents ask to improve walking, cycling and running paths to continue these activities while enjoying the nature
- There is strong consensus that the old buildings at the site should be demolished and the land needs to be rejuvenated
- ➤ A number of residents support incorporating sports facilities into an enhanced and improved green space
- There are calls for a new swimming pool and a leisure centre in the area, albeit not on the grounds of Warren Farm



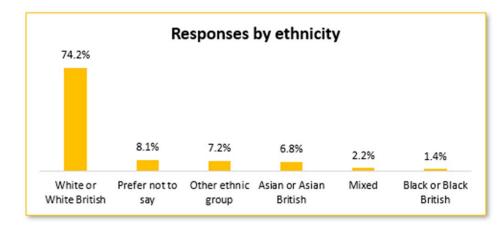
#### Responses by age, gender, ethnicity & area



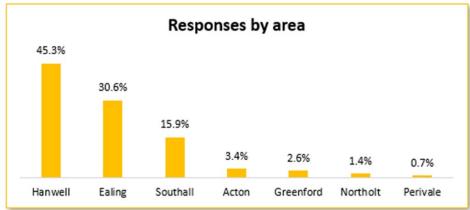


➤ Most responses received from people aged 35+

➤ Close to even split between responses from females and males



Nearly three quarters of respondents identify as White or White British



➤ Most responses received from Hanwell (45%), Ealing and Southall



Breakdown by subgroups

#### How do you currently use Warren Farm\*?

\*Note that formal sports facilities are not currently available on the site

Current
Usage of
Warren
Farm

Enjoying as a nature reserve, birdwatching and relaxing

(245)



Equine activities (riding, feeding, viewing, keeping horses, etc)

(38)

Don't use Warren Farm currently (260)





#### What do you like about Warren Farm?

It is peaceful and calm (273)

Location and ease of access (79) Biodiversity & open/green space (1,001)

Countryside feel (91)

Opportunity to revive Southall FC (89)



Total 1,428 responses

Likes

## What do you dislike and think should be improved at Warren Farm?

Dislikes & Improvements



Preserve/ improve the existing wild/ green space

195 Improve accessibility (paths and lanes for bikes, pushchairs, disabled people, etc)



Improve/ maintain facilities (cleanliness, parking, toilets, bins, etc)

Safety & Security (wire fence, entry gates, CCTV, etc)

Anti social behaviour and drug use



### Dislikes & Improvements

## What do you dislike and think should be improved at Warren Farm?

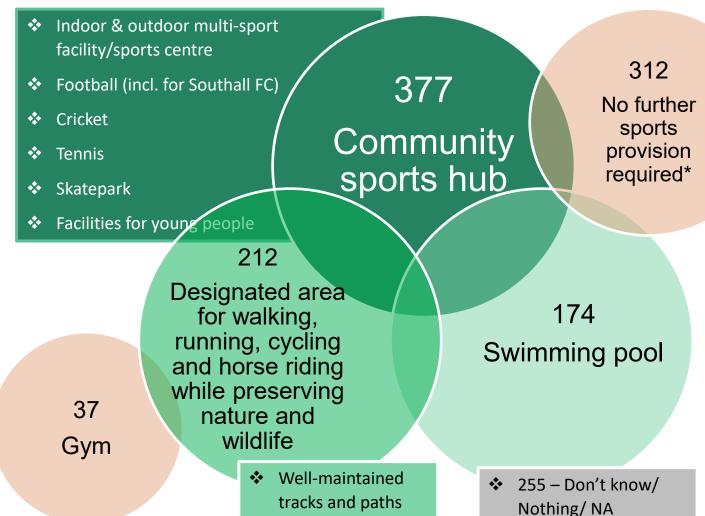
- Respondents to the consultation stated a strong negative feeling about the run-down buildings being an eyesore and a safety issue, and many made strong requests to immediately demolish them.
- Residents ask to substitute the old buildings with facilities such as toilets, benches, café, wildlife information and education centre, drinking water, more bins etc.
- ❖ A large number of people would like the current wildlife and greenspace to be preserved and improved further, allowing more ways to enjoy nature. Warren Farm is seen as important for people's relaxation and mental well-being, and they refer to it as 'rare' and 'precious'.
- ❖ A number of residents suggest the land could be utilised for sports facilities, provided this does not disrupt the wildlife and the peaceful vibe of the area. Residents state the need to establish clear pathways to preserve the bird nests, introduce dogs bylaws and ensure that any developments do not interfere with the wildlife.
- ❖ There are also suggestions for a balanced use of the area for instance, converting the old tarmac into a multi-use sports area whilst also planting more trees and meadow, encourage more wildlife and biodiversity and maximise the beauty of the area. Many, however, feel that there are already enough sports facilities nearby so this area should be preserved as it is\*.

\*Note that evidence from Ealing's Sports Facility Strategy supports a need for additional facilities in the area.



# Ideas for Sports provision

## What type of sports provision is needed for the Hanwell and Southall areas?



- A swimming pool and a leisure centre are widely requested, however these relate mainly to the closure of Gurnell Leisure Centre. Residents ask for a new provision with swimming and other facilities for the area but not on the grounds of Warren Farm.
- Many responses refer to preserving Warren Farm as a nature reserve and not utilising the land for sports facilities. Warren Farm is currently actively used for walking, running and relaxation residents ask to improve the paths and maintain them well.

Total 1,373 responses

