

# Ealing regional park

Consultation results – questions related to the proposed closure of Perivale Park Golf Course

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EALING COUNCIL

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## Introduction

On 7 September 2023, Ealing Council announced its plans for the potential creation of a regional park in the Perivale area. It outlined the appointment of a specialist to develop plans for the regional park and a public consultation with the residents of the borough. An online survey was launched on 31 October 2023 on the GiveMyView website and closed on 19 December 2023.

The survey asked 16 questions about different topics relevant to the new regional park and the closure of the Perivale Park Golf Course. Additionally, there was a question about where people spend most of their time in the borough and a set of optional demographic questions looking at the age, gender, ethnicity, and disability status of respondents.

The online survey received 6,115 responses. This report looks at the findings from the questions specific to the proposed closure of Perivale Park Golf Course.

## Key findings

- Over 62% of respondents agreed with the proposed closure of Perivale Park Golf Course. Younger survey participants (aged 25-44) were generally more in agreement with the closure proposal (77%); on the other hand, fewer of those aged 55 and over were in agreement (52%)
- Responses from the Perivale area differed somewhat from the overall picture: here, only 47% were in favour of the golf course closure while 45% disagreed with the proposal (the remaining 8% said they were not sure)
- Nearly 5 in 6 respondents (84%) stated that they either did not play golf at all or never played golf at Perivale Park Golf Course, with 16% of respondents playing there at least a few times a year

- Only 10% of younger respondents (aged 25-44) played golf at Perivale Park, compared to 22% of older respondents (aged 55 and over), and only 8% of female respondents played golf there compared to 21% of male respondents
- 57% of respondents who disagreed with the closure of the golf course also expressed a negative view of the proposal to create a new regional park, with more than 40% of them having very negative feelings about it
- For participants who agreed with the closure of the golf course, the most frequently mentioned themes within their comments were that the land would become available for wider community use, that the golf course currently wastes space, and that there are enough alternative golf facilities available in the area
- For participants who disagreed with the closure of the golf course, the most frequently mentioned themes within their comments were that there are no similar provisions in the area, that Perivale Park Golf Course is accessible and inclusive, and that playing golf there is affordable
- In response to the open-ended question inviting any other feedback in relation to the regional park proposal, 13% of all respondents included a comment requesting that Perivale Park Golf Course remains open

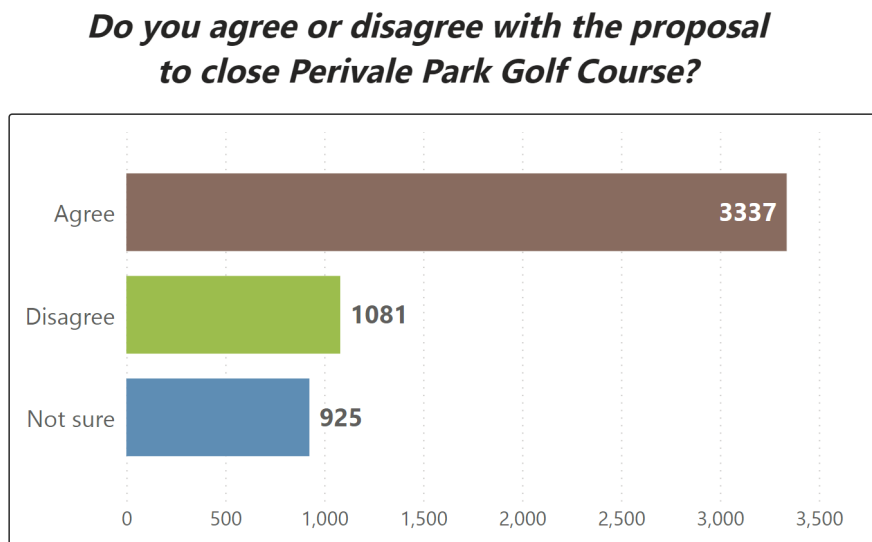
# Feelings about the potential closure of Perivale Park Golf Course

As part of the proposal for a new regional park, Ealing Council is contemplating the possible closure of the Perivale Park Golf Course.

The survey consulted respondents on how often, if at all, they played golf at the golf course. It then showed them a map indicating 35 golf facilities accessible to Ealing residents that are located either in the borough or within a short journey time, and asked if participants agreed or disagreed with the proposal to close the golf course.

In total 5,296 people answered how often they play golf at Perivale Park Golf Course, and 5,343 voiced their opinion on its closure. Figures 1 and 2 show participants' opinions on the closure of the golf course and its usage.

**Figure 1. Opinions about the closure of the Perivale Park Golf Course**



Opinion	Count	%
Agree	3337	62.5%
Disagree	1081	20.2%
Not sure	925	17.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5343</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As shown in Figure 1, the majority of participants (62.5%) agreed with the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course, with 20.2% disagreeing with the proposal and 17.3% stating they were not sure.

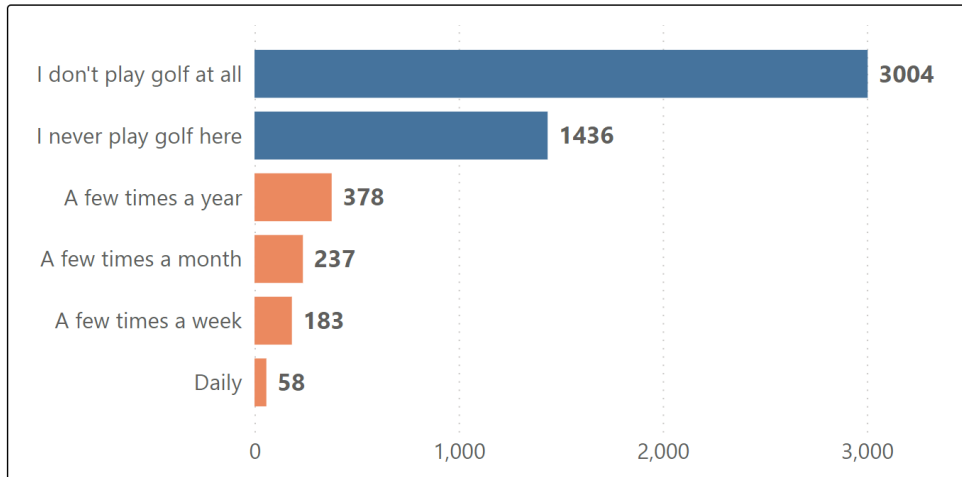
Further analysis by demographics provides some useful insights into who agreed and disagreed with the proposal. More of the younger participants (aged 25-44) agreed with the closure of the golf course (77%), while relatively fewer older respondents (aged 55+) were in agreement (52%).

23% of male respondents disagreed with the closure proposal, which was higher than the proportion of female respondents who disagreed (14%). A higher proportion of respondents who identified their ethnicity as asian were in favour of closure (73%).

Those who spend most of their time in Perivale had a more equally divided view about the proposal to close Perivale Park Golf Course, with 47% of these respondents agreeing with the closure proposal and 45% disagreeing with the proposal (the remaining 8% indicated that they were not sure).

**Figure 2. How often respondents play golf at Perivale Golf Course**

*Please tell us how often, if at all, you play golf at Perivale Park Golf Course.*



Frequency	Count	%
I don't play golf at all	3004	56.7%
I never play golf here	1436	27.1%
A few times a year	378	7.1%
A few times a month	237	4.5%
A few times a week	183	3.5%
Daily	58	1.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5296</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



As shown in Figure 2, 84% of respondents either did not play golf at all or did not play golf at Perivale Park Golf Course, with 16% of respondents playing golf there at least a few times a year.

When cross analysing the responses by the respondent demographics, some clear differences become apparent.

Younger respondents aged 25-44 were much less likely to play golf at Perivale Park compared to older respondents aged 55 and over (10% compared to 22% respectively). Similarly, female respondents were much less likely to play golf there than male respondents (8% compared to 21% respectively). Nearly a third (31%) of

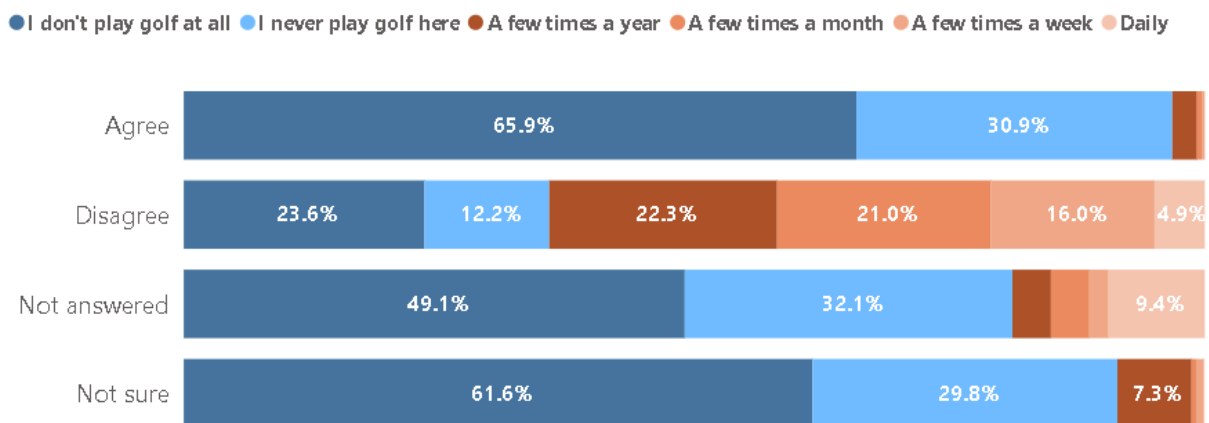
all male respondents aged 55 or older played golf at Perivale Park at least a few times a year.

44% of survey participants who spend most of their time in Perivale said that they played golf at the course at least a few times a year.

Some additional insight was found by analysing respondents' opinions on the closure of the golf course in the context of whether they play golf at the course, and by looking at how respondents' opinions on a new regional park correlate with their views on the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course. Figures 3 and 4 illustrate this.

**Figure 3. Opinions on the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course by how often participants play golf**

***Opinions on the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course by how often participants play golf***



The overwhelming majority of respondents who agreed with the closure of the golf course did not play golf at all or did not play at Perivale Park (97%). In contrast, 64% of respondents who disagreed with its closure played golf at Perivale Park at least a few times over the year. It is notable that more than a third of respondents who



disagreed with the closure of the golf course did not play golf at all or never played at Perivale Park Golf Course.

**Figure 4. Views on the new regional park based on feelings about the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course**

***Opinions on the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course by views on the new regional park***

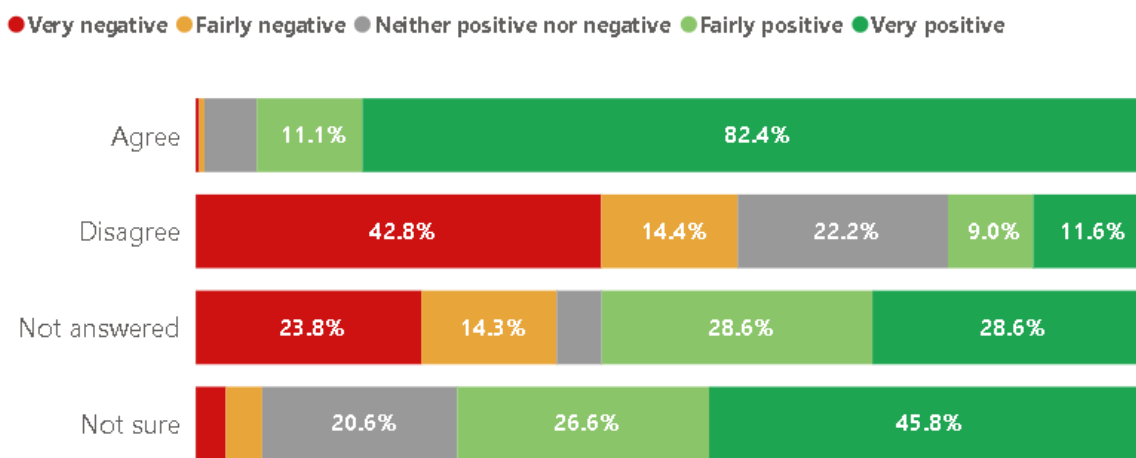


Figure 4 shows that 57% of respondents who disagreed with the closure of the golf course also had a negative view of the proposal to create a new regional park, with 43% of them having very negative feelings about it.

The survey also asked participants to openly share their opinions and feedback on the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course. 3,319 people voiced their views and comments on the proposal, with analysis identifying 16 common themes. Table 1 shows the response rate to the open-ended question, and Figure 5 illustrates the themes.

**Table 1. Responses to the open-ended question about the closure of the golf course**

Response to golf course closure proposal question	Count	Added a comment	% Commenting
Agree	3337	1941	58.2%
Disagree	1081	844	78.1%
Not Sure	925	528	57.1%
(not answered)	772	6	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6115</b>	<b>3319</b>	<b>54.3%</b>

Table 1 shows the number of respondents who took the opportunity to make a comment in response to the open-ended question about their feelings on the proposed closure of the golf course.

Over 78% of respondents who had expressed disagreement with the proposed closure also added a free-text comment, a much higher proportion than those who had said that they agreed with the proposal or that they were not sure.

**Figure 5. Tables showing common themes emerging from free-text comments about the closure of the golf course**

Key themes for respondents who <b>agreed</b> with the proposed closure (in descending order of mentions)	Key themes for respondents who <b>disagreed</b> with the proposed closure (in descending order of mentions)
<b>Close Perivale Park Golf Course</b>	<b>Do not close Perivale Park Golf Course</b>
Wider community use	No other accessible golf provisions in the area
Waste of land and space	Accessible and inclusive
Enough golf provisions in the area	Affordable golf
The golf course is not accessible	Negative effects on the community
Environmental concerns	Find a compromise
<b>Other themes within comments (in descending order of mentions)</b>	
Reference to other survey questions	
No new developments and buildings	
Improve other parks and areas	
Scepticism about Ealing Council	

For participants who agreed with the closure of the golf course, the most frequently mentioned themes within their comments were that the land would become available for wider community use, that the golf course currently wastes space, and that there are enough alternative golf facilities available in the area.

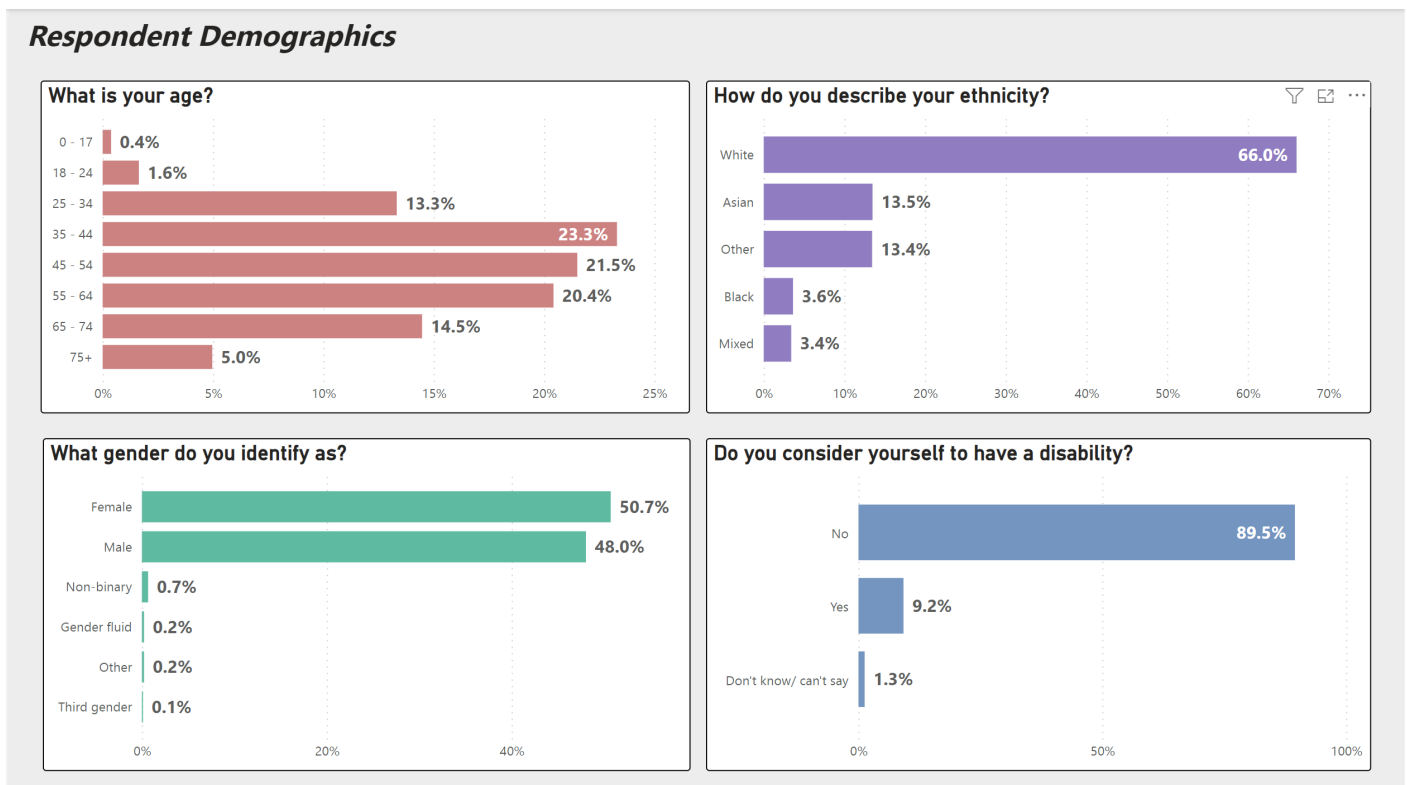
For participants who disagreed with the closure of the golf course, the most frequently mentioned themes within their comments were that there are no similar provisions in the area, that Perivale Park Golf Course is accessible and inclusive, and that playing golf there is affordable.

Other comments covered issues that were not necessarily directly related to the question about the closure of the golf course. The most frequent themes here included that there should be no new developments or buildings on the site, requests to improve other parks and open spaces, and expressions of scepticism about the council.

## Demographics and geography

This section provides an overview of the self-reported demographic and geographic characteristics of those who responded to the online survey.

**Figure 6. Demographic distribution by age, ethnicity, gender, and disability**



The majority of respondents (65%) were between the ages of 35 and 64, with 20% aged 65 or older. Those aged under 35 made up only 15% of all respondents.

In terms of ethnicity, two-thirds of respondents identified as White (66%) which is a higher proportion than overall borough resident demographics (43%). 14% identified as Asian, 4% as Black, 13% as other ethnicities, and 3% as being of mixed ethnicity.

Just over half (51%) of participants identified as female and 48% identified as male, with an additional 1% being non-binary, gender fluid, third gender, or other. 9% of all respondents considered themselves to have a disability.

**Figure 7. Geographic distribution by wards and area**

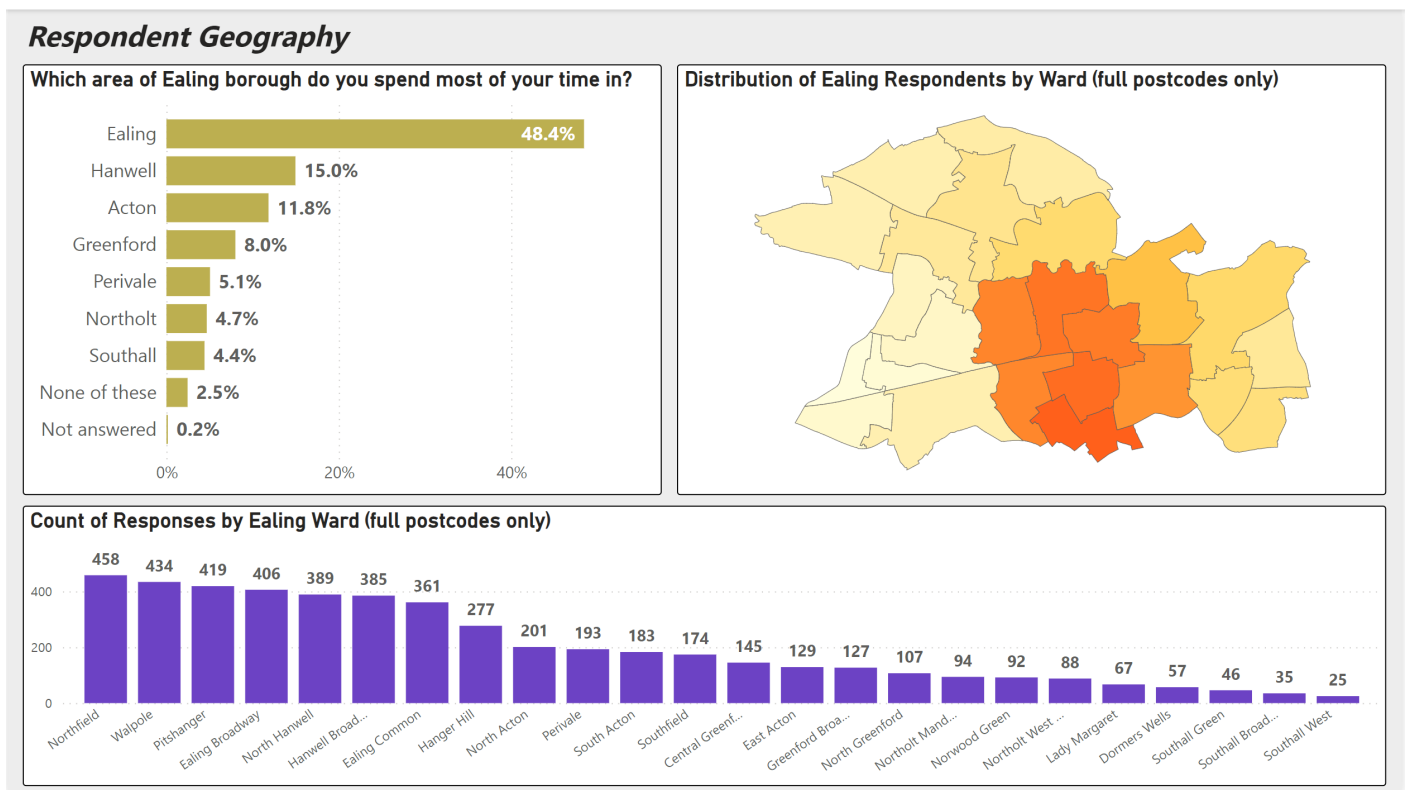


Figure 7 details the geographical distribution of respondents in the borough, based on answers to questions about people’s postcode and where they spend most of their time.

When asked where in the borough they spend most of their time, almost half of all respondents (48%) indicated this to be Ealing. This town area is over-represented compared to its proportion of the borough population (24.8%).

All other town areas were proportionally under-represented with the exceptions of Perivale which generated over 5% of responses (and has 4.4% of borough residents) and Hanwell, which provided 15% of responses (and has 8.3% of borough residents).

The thematic map and ward totals show a higher number of responses from wards in the Ealing and Hanwell areas, based on information from respondents who provided their full postcode.