

## Glasgow Parks Safety and Lighting Placemaking Project Report – February 2023



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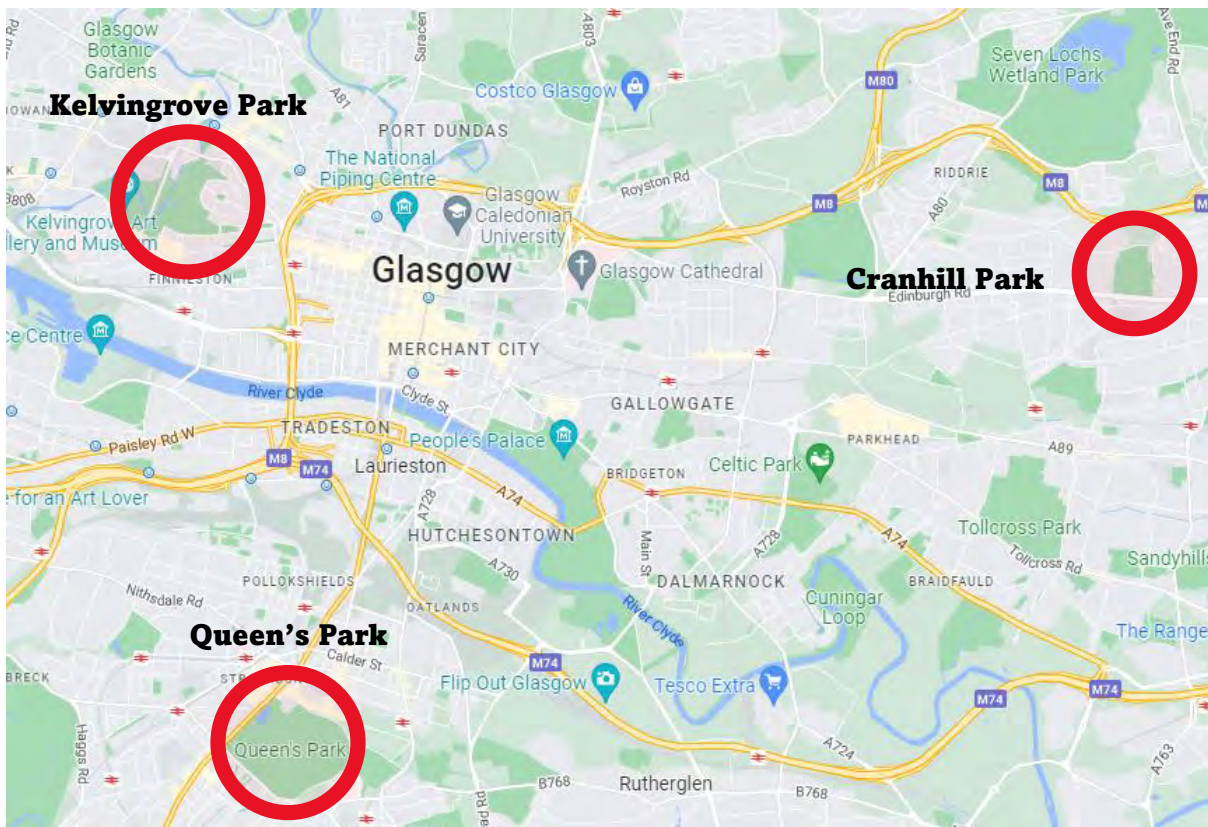
## 1 Introduction

This draft report outlines the outcomes, comments and ideas that have been gathered from the Glasgow Parks Safety and Lighting Placemaking Project that greenspace scotland have been working on in partnership with Glasgow City Council (GCC). The project started in late Aug 22 and will continue until Feb 23.

## 2 Background

Following the #LightTheWay campaign for lighting to be installed along main routes in Glasgow's parks, three Glasgow parks have been selected as testing grounds for community discussions on park safety and to review different approaches for lighting in parks across the city. Councillors at the Full Council meeting on 9 December 21 unanimously approved an evidence-led, place-based approach to addressing the issue that takes account of the different social and environmental concerns that have been raised.

To explore the benefits, issues and implications of lighting in parks greenspace scotland and Glasgow City Council are using a placemaking approach in three pilot parks - **Cranhill Park in the east, Kelvingrove Park in the west and Queens Park in the south of the city.**



## 3 Community Placemaking Approach

This is based on the community placemaking process greenspace scotland have been using with communities in Scotland since 2005. It is a multi-faceted approach to revitalising, planning, designing and managing places. It is based on the premise that successful places are characterised by lively, secure and distinctive public spaces that function for the people who use them. It involves working with people who live in or use a place to discover their needs and aspirations.

In this case the focus was on lighting and safety within the three pilot parks. This approach influenced the timing of the workshops to enable participants to experience the parks in dark conditions. The process involved desk-based research, information gathering/contextual research through a Park Managers Forum focused on safety and lighting, engagement with individual stakeholders, opinion gathering through an online survey for each park, a Place Evaluation and a Working Group workshop for each park.

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### 3.1 Identifying Stakeholders

As a starting point we mapped local stakeholders for each park alongside national and city-wide contacts with input from Glasgow City Council officers. Pre-event engagement took place to make contact with people and groups before the workshops which included women's safety groups and people representing biodiversity interests. There was also input from park users through the online survey on their perspectives of lighting and safety in the parks.

The stakeholder list had 426 contacts representing 148 different local, national and city-wide organisations. The stakeholders list was used to invite people to participate in an online survey and invite them to the workshops. From the online survey 198 contacts requested to be added to the stakeholder list. Local contacts were invited to relevant park workshops along with 62 contacts from national and city-wide organisation who were invited to all three workshops. **See Appendix One.**

### 3.2 Parks Lighting and Safety Online Survey

In advance of the workshops during the month of September, a survey for each park was made available for local residents and key stakeholders to gather information about how people use the park along with their views on safety and lighting. These were distributed to stakeholders on a geographical basis, as well as being locally advertised for local residents and parks users. Recipients were encouraged to share the email or survey link with their membership and communities to gather views from a wide number of people.

Submissions from city-wide residents and stakeholders were also welcomed. Everyone completing the survey had the option to provide contact details so they could be invited to the relevant park workshop and be kept updated. We had the following number of responses:

- Cranhill Park – 81
- Kelvingrove Park – 379
- Queens Park – 345

The information received helped to shape the workshops and provided the views of people who couldn't attend. A summary of the online survey results was presented at each of the workshops and is included in **Appendix Two.**

### 3.3 Community Place Evaluation Workshops

Invites to workshops exploring lighting and safety options within the parks were emailed to stakeholders for each park. The request was made for local knowledge and professional input to help develop ideas and invitees were encouraged to share the invite with their membership if they represented a community group or local organisation. They were asked to contact us if circumstances made it difficult for them to attend, such as transport or childcare. All workshops ran from 6.00 – 8.30pm. The timing and in-person format of the workshop were to allow a visit to the park at dusk/darkness.

#### 3.3.1 Workshop dates, invites and bookings

**Wed 12 Oct** - Cranhill Park Lighting and Safety Workshop  
Cranhill Development Trust, 109 Bellrock St, Glasgow, G33 3HE

**Tue 25 Oct** - Queen's Park Lighting and Safety Workshop  
The Point, 180 Queen's Drive, Glasgow, G42 8QD

**Tue 1 Nov** - Kelvingrove Park Lighting and Safety Workshop  
Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum Café, Argyle Street, Glasgow, G3 8AG

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A summary of invite numbers and organisations is below. Individuals such as local residents, online survey respondents, students and local workers are not listed due to data protection. Workshop invitees:

<b>Total invited to:</b>	<b>Total no (figs include 62 people invited to all 3)</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	116 (including 19 online survey contacts)
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	203 (including 89 online survey contacts)
Queen's Park Workshop	241 (including 90 online survey contacts)
<b>Organisations invited to:</b>	<b>No orgs (figs include 38 orgs invited to all 3)</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	58
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	68
Queen's Park Workshop	101

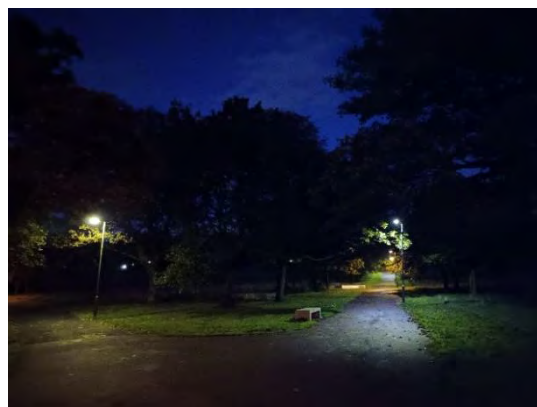
Bookings were made on Eventbrite, workshop booking numbers were capped at 40 with a waiting list option so a second workshop could take place for each park if the first workshop was fully booked. A second was not required for any park. Workshop booking and attendee info is below:

<b>Workshop bookings</b>	<b>No of bookings</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	15
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	33
Queen's Park Workshop	40

<b>Workshop attendees</b>	<b>No of workshop attendees</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	8
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	23
Queen's Park Workshop	26

<b>Organisations attended</b>	<b>No of orgs represented at workshop</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	5
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	18
Queen's Park Workshop	13

Attendees were welcomed with a bite to eat, followed by a brief introduction from greenspace scotland and Glasgow City Council. Before heading out into the parks in the dark there was an introduction to Placemaking and the Place Evaluation Tool that was used by attendees later in the workshop. On the park site visit attendees were in small groups led by greenspace scotland team members with GCC staff in each group. For Queen's Park and Kelvingrove each group covered a different area of the park due to the size of the parks.



### 3.3.2 Place Evaluation Observations

At the workshops we used the Place Evaluation Tool. After going into the park at night groups undertook a “rate the place exercise” where participants scored the park on aspects of four themes:



**Comfort and Image**



**Use and Activity**



**Access and Linkages**



**Sociability**

The scores gave a snapshot of how the groups rated the park and were used to aid discussion in the workshop session. The group discussions were focussed around 8 questions with time allowed for people to write down their own thoughts and views on each question before discussing.

1. What do you like best about this place?
2. What would you like to be able to do here at this time of day?
3. What aspects of the park make you feel safe?
4. What aspects of the park make you feel unsafe?
5. What would you do to improve feeling safe in the park that could be done right away?
6. What changes would you make in the longer term to make the park feel safe?
7. Are there any specific routes through the park that would benefit from lighting?
8. What local partnerships can you identify that could help implement improvements?

The following sections outline what the participants in the workshops told us about each park in relation to each of these questions with links to maps with the routes suggested and the comments on biodiversity. It also covers additional information related to the four themes.

### 3.3.3 Response Analysis

The information outlined for each park is a summary of all the written comments from each group combined. Following the workshop each written question response was reviewed by the greenspace scotland team and allocated to a category/theme for that question to allow summary interpretation of the comments and ideas. Each question had a range of fixed categories the greenspace scotland team could select from and these were the same for all three parks.

For example, the categories to select from for question one were:

• Q1 What do you like best about this place?
• Nature and wildlife
• Paths and routes
• Uses and activities
• Peaceful, relaxing and quiet
• Lighting
• Cleanliness
• Features, heritage, unique
• Access and linkages
• Sociability
• Location

The graphs for each question provide summary information and show which themes and written response types were most frequent across all the different groups. The categories shown in the graphs are different for each park as not all the written responses related to all the categories. All the responses in full and their analysis is shown in **Appendix Three**.

**3.3.4 Proposed short and long-term actions**

At the Place Evaluation workshops for each of the pilot parks views were sought on potential short and long-term actions. The responses and recommendations need to be fully considered by the delivery team at Glasgow City Council. Whilst some of these suggestions, may form part of 'business as usual' activities, others will require further technical appraisal and engagement. They may also require relevant capital funding bids. Some are also not operationally feasible or represent the views of only a small number of people. All the proposed actions are listed in **Appendix Four**.

**3.4 Working Group Workshops**

During Dec 2022 a Working Group workshop took place for each of the pilot parks. These were the important next stage in the placemaking process and involved technical specialists and stakeholders that could actively support or lead on recommendations along with community members that attended the Place Evaluation workshops. Specialists included lighting, biodiversity, greenspace and community safety professionals that were from external organisations and Glasgow City Council. All invited organisations are in **Appendix One**. During the workshops attendees:

- reviewed the outputs from the Place Evaluation workshops and the online survey
- carried out a park visioning activity
- identified pros, cons and considerations of the routes and ideas from the Place Evaluation workshops

Summary outputs are included in the individual park sections and listed in full in **Appendix Six**.

**3.4.1 Working group dates, invites and bookings**

**Thu 8 Dec** - Kelvingrove Park Working Group Workshop  
Blythswood Room, Mitchell Library, 201 North Street Glasgow G3 7DN

**Mon 12 Dec** - Cranhill Park Working Group Workshop  
Online teams meeting - this was originally at Cranhill Development Trust but as attendee numbers were low it was changed to an online meeting which increased the numbers able to attend.

**Tue 13 Dec** - Queen's Park Working Group Workshop  
The Point, 180 Queen's Drive, Glasgow, G42 8QD

Invite numbers and organisations are below. All people who attended the Place Evaluation workshops were invited to attend. In addition to this a number of stakeholders from external organisations and Glasgow City Council Officers and Councillors were invited.

<b>Total invited to:</b>	<b>Total no</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	38
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	54
Queen's Park Workshop	56

<b>Organisations invited to:</b>	<b>No orgs</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	8
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	20
Queen's Park Workshop	18

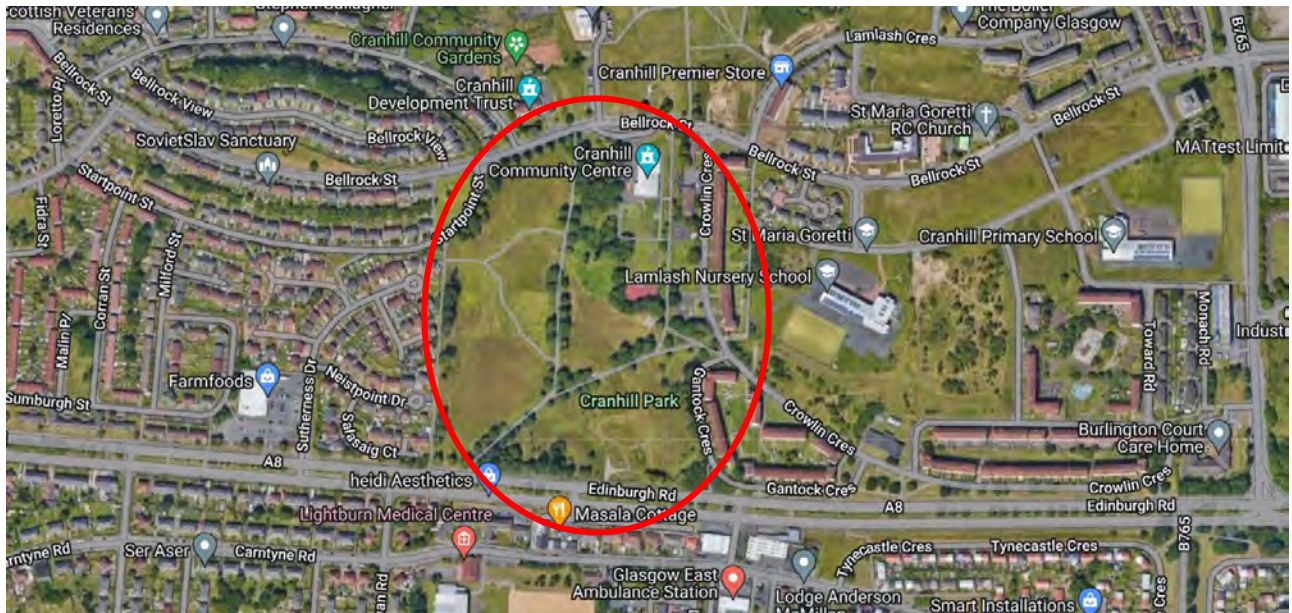
<b>Workshop attendees</b>	<b>No of workshop attendees</b>
Cranhill Park Workshop	10
Kelvingrove Park Workshop	18
Queen's Park Workshop	12

## 4 Cranhill Park

### 4.1 Cranhill Park Context

Cranhill Park was once a green gem in this area. It boasted a popular pitch and putt golf course, tennis courts, bowling green and play areas but it now has fewer facilities. Cranhill Community Centre, managed by Glasgow Life on behalf of Glasgow City Council, is located within the park along with an adjacent play park and MUGA. These facilities are contained within a fenced area but both Cranhill Park and the grounds around the Community Centre are seen as one facility by local people. The Community Centre known locally as The Beacon is currently closed.

At its northern end Cranhill Park gives way to high-rise flats and a footbridge over to Ruchazie Park. The Park is an important connecting route to public transport (bus and train), to the health centres and is used by young people getting to and from school. The most recent upgrading of the paths and installation of wildflower meadows, biodiversity friendly grasslands and new trees was part of a the [Greater Easterhouse Integrated Green Infrastructure project](#). Water vole interpretation and active travel signage has also been installed within the park.



## 4.2 Place Evaluation Workshop

<b>Date</b>	12 October 2022
<b>Total invited</b>	116 (fig includes 19 online survey contacts)
<b>Organisations invited</b>	68 (fig includes 38 orgs invited to all 3)
<b>People attended</b>	8
<b>Organisations represented</b>	5

The attendees were split into 2 randomly allocated groups:

- Blue – mixed male and female group made up of dog walkers, a member of Cranhill Area Association and a member of Cranhill Development Trust, a community police officer and ARUP (Lighting consultants).
- Red – mixed male and female group including a member of Cranhill Area Association, two local councillors and a community police officer.

### 4.2.1 Place Evaluation Observations

#### Site visit conditions and ‘rate the place’ observations

The site visit was at 7:15pm. It was dark and the evening clear and calm. Each group was led by two staff members both of whom had torches and high visibility vests or clothing. Both groups took similar routes, entering the park at different gates on Bellrock Street.



**Comfort and Image** – The concrete blocks at the entrances create a negative feeling and did not give a welcoming feel. The lighting along the path gave some security, but there were contrasting dark gaps between the white lights that did not feel safe. Seats at the junction (in shadow rather than in light) were pointed out by both the Police Officer and residents as a place where antisocial groups gather at night. There were none on the night of this visit. The long grass that covers most of the park has taken the place of areas where kids used to play, families used to have picnics and there was an annual summer gala.



**Access and Linkages** – the main path (Bellrock St to Edinburgh Rd) was being used by dog walkers and people walking from one side of the park to another. This is frequently used connecting route to public transport (bus on Edinburgh Rd and Carntyne train station).



**Use and Activity** – there were no activities or community events taking place in the park at this time. The Community Centre has been closed apart from use as a Covid vaccination centre recently.

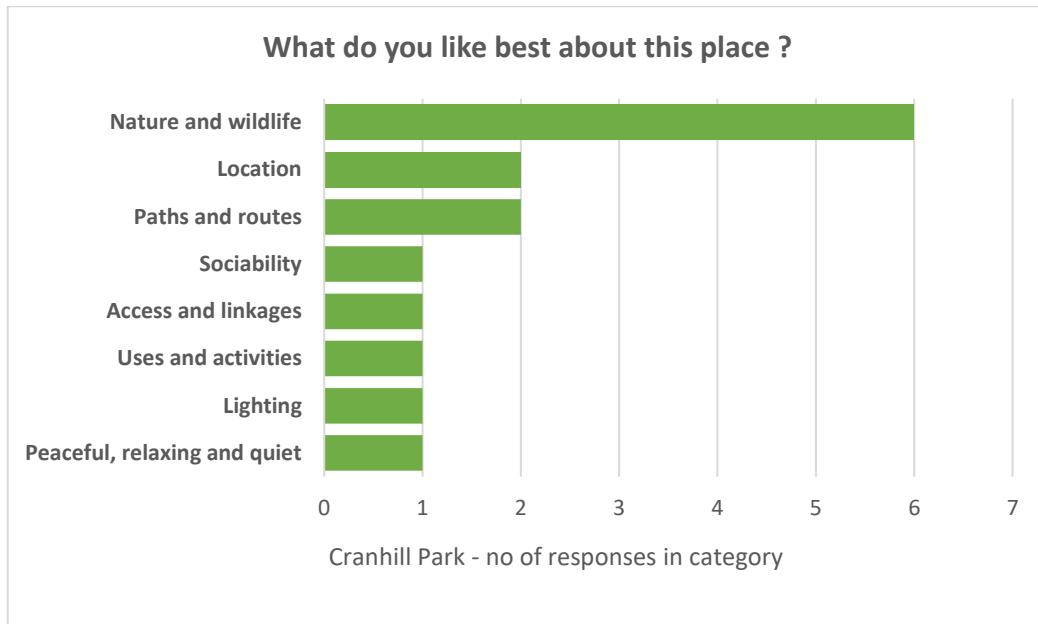


**Sociability** – there was a friendly group of younger secondary school age children in the play park beside the closed Community Centre. It was noted that when the Community Centre was open, there was a positive effect from a range of people coming and going. The MUGA was being used by a dog walker to let two large dogs off their leads for a run around. The second play park and ‘skate park’ by Crowlin Road were empty. There were a few people using the main south to north path.

**4.2.2 Place Evaluation Question Responses**

The graphs provide summary information and show which themes and written responses were most frequent across all the four groups. All the responses in full are in **Appendix Three**.

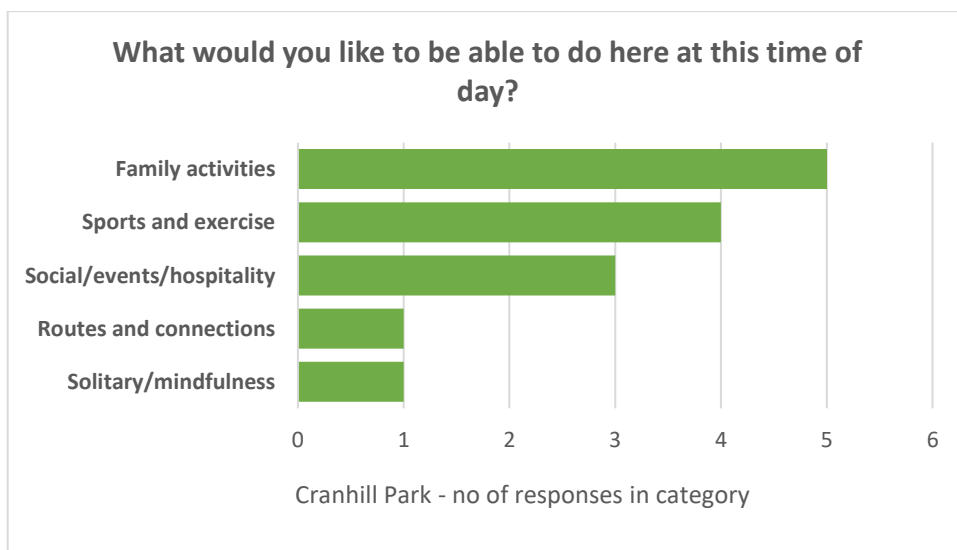
**Q1 What do you like best about this place (at this time)?**



Participants were asked to respond to this question specifically relating to the visit that they had just carried out in the dark. All the group/individual responses (15 responses) were categorised under eight themes. Most comments related to nature and wildlife.

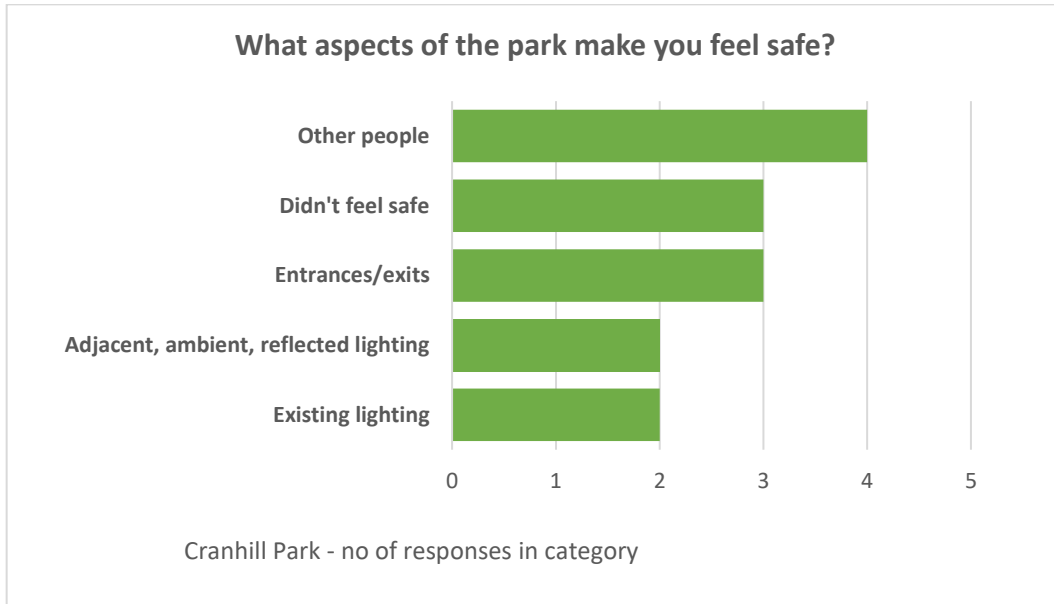
Although most appreciate the nature and wildlife of the greenspace, there were many comments about its use in daylight hours - the lack of close-cut grass meaning there is nowhere to sit on grass and picnic nor for ball games. This was contrasted with memories of how busy the park used to be.

**Q2 What would you like to be able to do here at this time of day?**



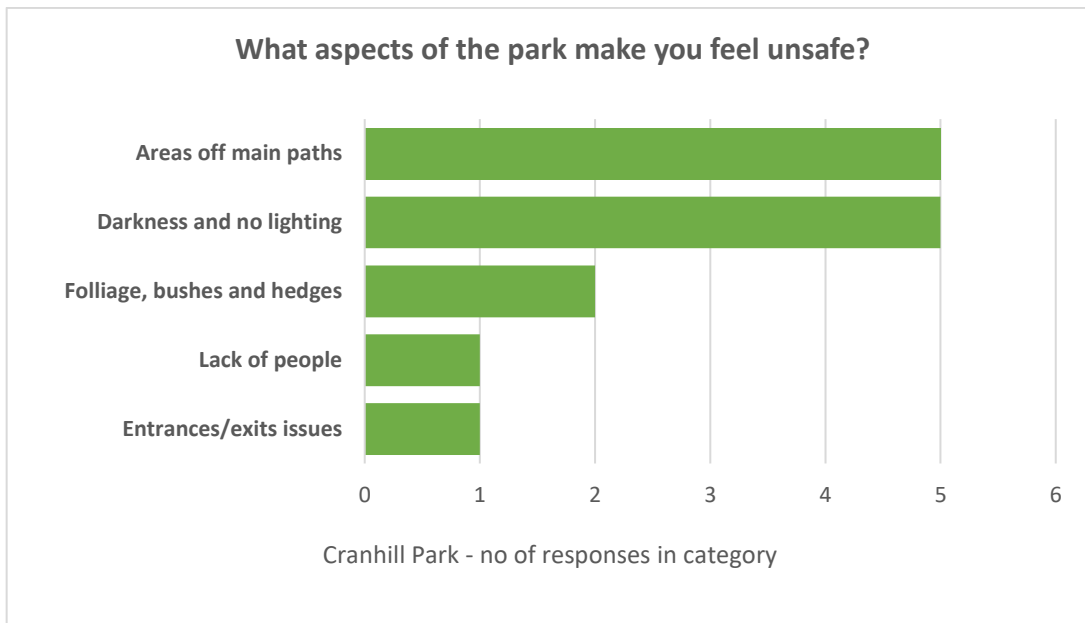
Again, responses to this question specifically related to activities in the dark in the late afternoon or evening. All the group/individual responses (14 responses) were categorised under five themes. Most comments related to family activities followed by sports and exercise.

**Q3 What aspects of the park make you feel safe?**



The responses to this question specifically related to the group visit in the dark. All the group/individual responses (16 responses) were categorised under five themes. Most comments related to the presence of **other people** followed by either **not feeling safe** or **only feeling safe at entrances/exits**.

**Q4 What aspects of the park make you feel unsafe?**



The responses to this question specifically related to the group visit in the dark. All the group/individual responses (20 responses) were categorised under five themes. Most comments related to **areas off main paths** and equally **darkness and no lighting**.

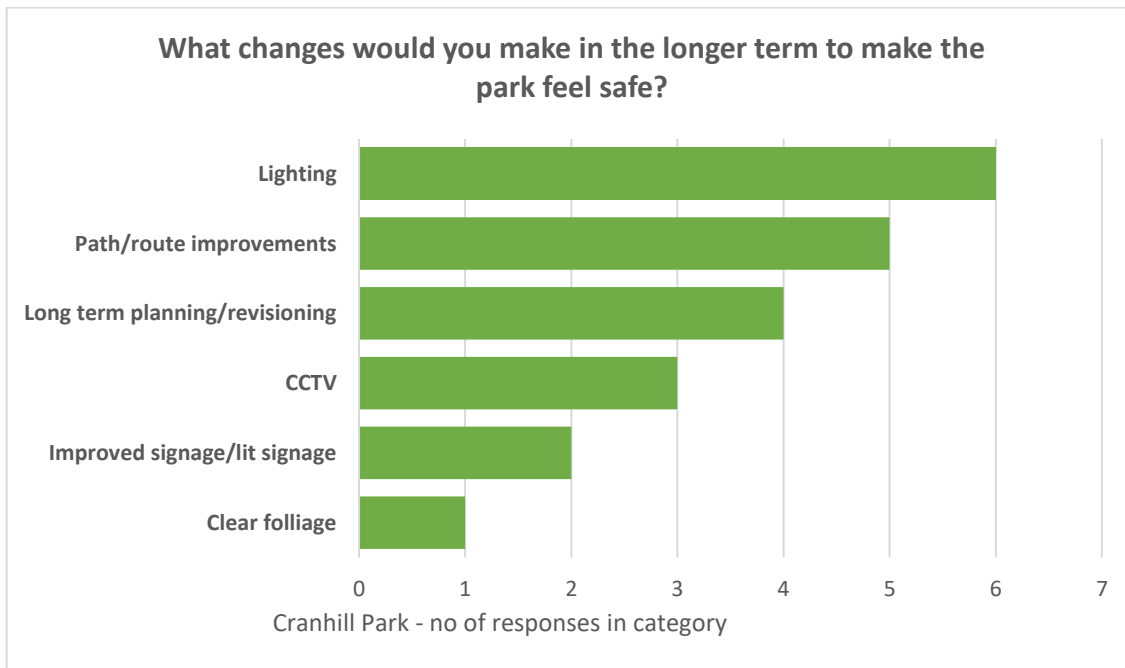
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Q5 What would you do to improve feeling safe in the park that could be done right away?



All the group/individual responses (22 responses) were categorised under six themes. Most comments related to **clearing foliage**, followed equally by **path/route improvements** and **signage/lit signage improvements**.

Q6 What changes would you make in the longer term to make the park feel safe?



All the group/individual responses (21 responses) were categorised under 6 themes. **Most comments related to lighting closely followed by path/route improvements**. The **path/route improvements** included **improving entrances and sense of welcome** and removing sections of old fence. **Long-term planning/revisioning** got an equal number of comments, with specific comments including **refurbishing the playpark** and providing early evening light for use after school, providing play equipment for secondary school age children refurbishing the MUGA (currently used mostly by dog walkers).

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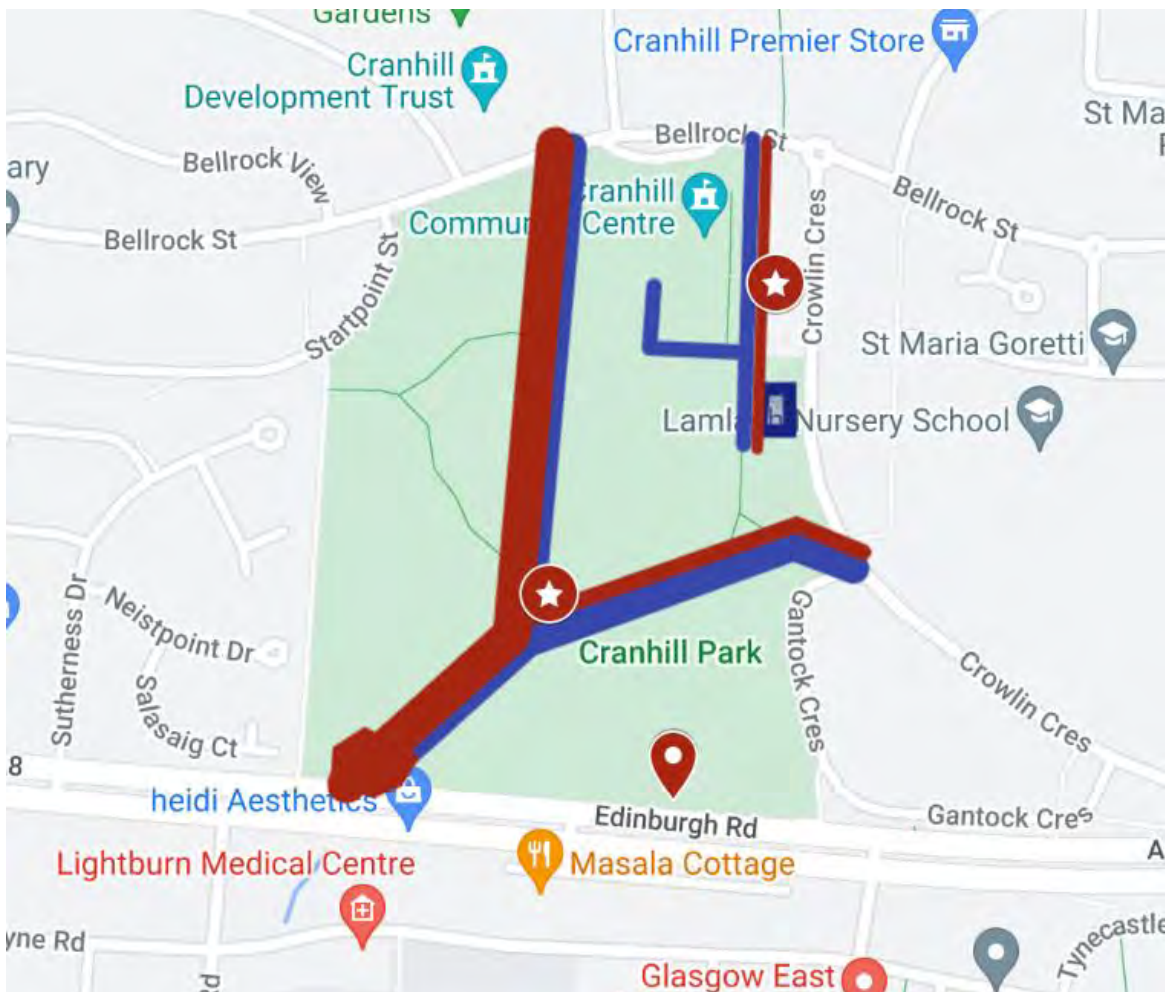
It was noted that the Community Centre being closed has a mixed impact – the grass around it appears to be better maintained (i.e. cut), but the fact that the Centre is closed means there are less people in the park, and more antisocial behaviour around it.

### Q7 Are there any specific routes through the park that would benefit from lighting?

Each group had a map to mark suggested routes for lighting or to note areas where there should not be lighting. These have all been added to a [google map](#), it is best viewed in a browser to see the full information included in the legend descriptions.

The individual group maps with legends are also shown in this report in the [Cranhill Park Route Discussion](#) section.

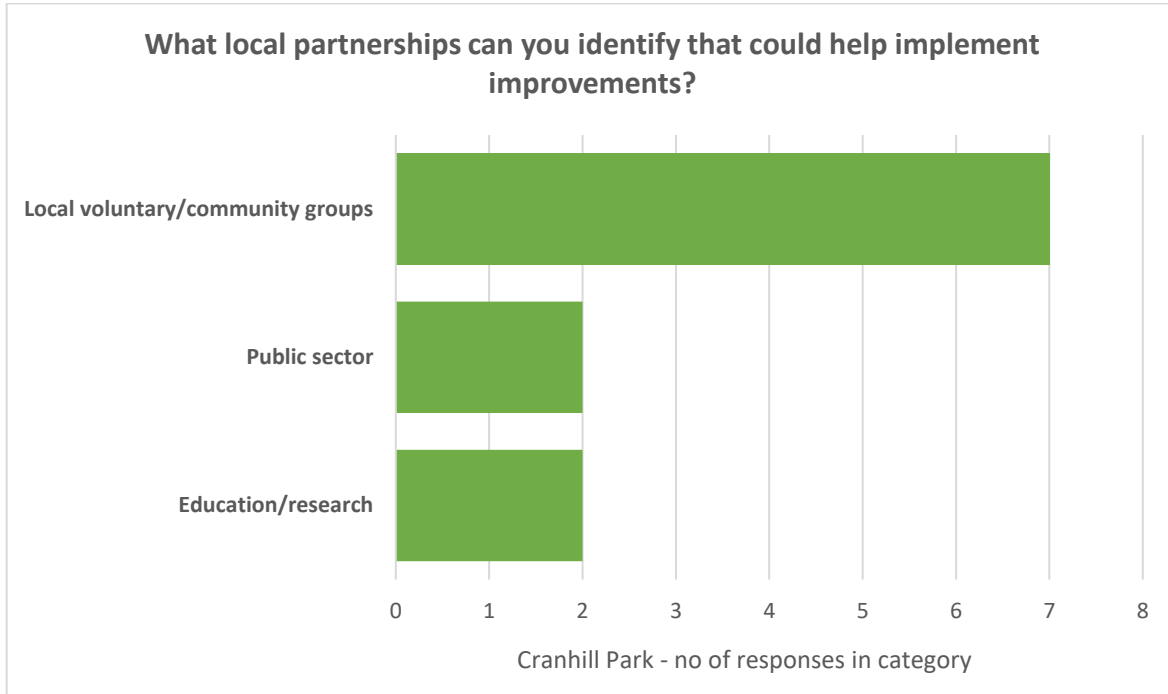
### Combined Group Map



There were comments made in relation to the need for good lighting along the main route through the park to the Edinburgh Road exit, plus along Crowlin Crescent.

**Q8 What local partnerships can you identify that could help implement improvements?**

The majority of suggestions related to local voluntary organisations, schools, the Housing Associations (Thenue and GHA) and tenants' groups. It was noted that a lot of local residents do not have a garden. There was some interest in setting up a Friends Group, when this was suggested by a Council employee. The full list of groups is listed in **Appendix Five**.



**4.3 Cranhill Park Survey Responses**

The background information about the online survey is in [Section 3.2](#). The 81 online survey responses for Cranhill Park need to be taken into consideration when deciding on priorities for action in relation to lighting and safety within the park. **Appendix Two** is the full survey report.

**4.3.1 Demographics and marginalised groups**

The majority of responses were from females 88%. As females are most impacted by safety concerns and incidences of anti-social, inappropriate, sexual or violent behaviour the survey results give an indication of how woman feel about the issue.

The charts and information to follow give the views of all the respondents (segregated data is available) as the views of all genders need to be considered.

For Cranhill 43% of respondents considered themselves to have a disability with 45% of these respondents having a long-standing illness. This is much higher than the results for Kelvingrove and Queen’s Park respondents.

Respondents were asked if they felt they belonged to a marginalised group, for instance if they belong to an ethnic minority, the LGBTQIA+ community or have a disability. Being mindful that most of respondents were women and a large percentage considered themselves to have a disability, a great majority of users (78%), replied ‘yes’. These respondents were asked whether they feel the park is just as safe for them as it is for others. The majority of respondents (61%) replied that it didn’t feel just as safe. It should be noted that the vast majority of respondents were white 93% so the views of those from ethnic minorities are not well represented in the results.

**4.3.2 Park use, activities and needs**

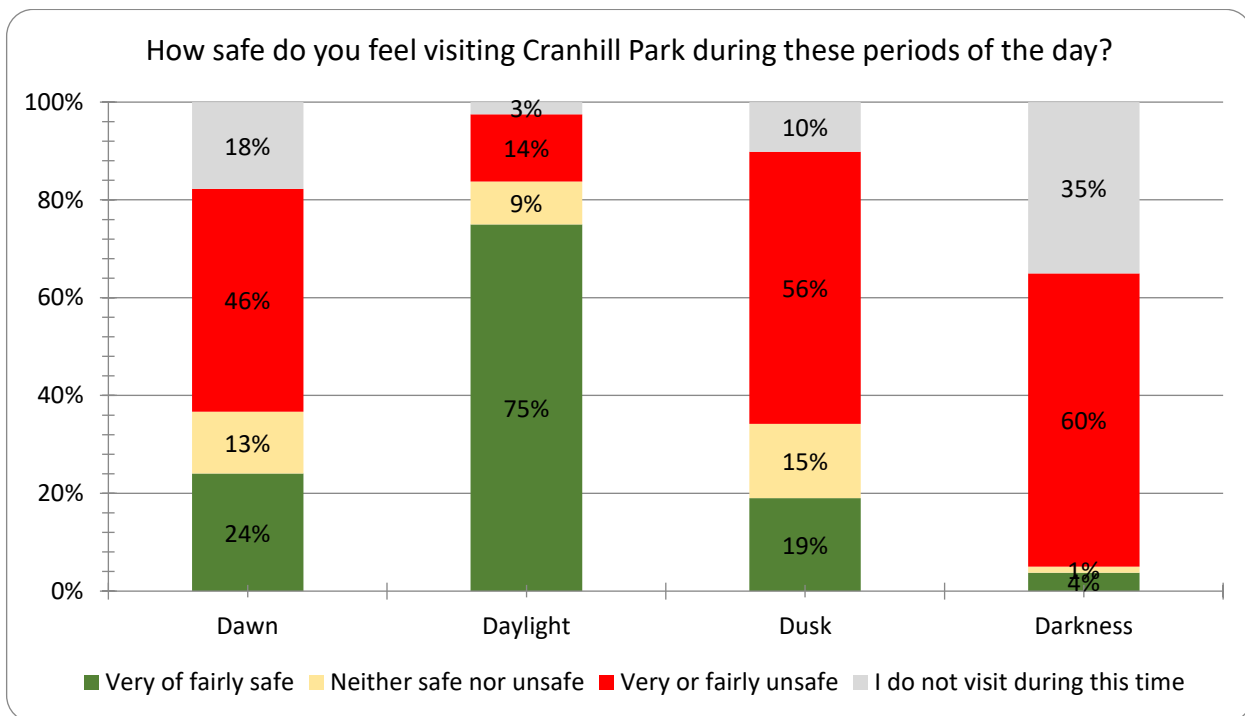
The great majority of respondents to the Cranhill Park survey (83%) said their connection to the area is that they live there. 78% of visitors to Cranhill Park visit the park several times a week or more. Cranhill Park is used for a variety of purposes, but respondents visit the park most 'to entertain a child' (43%) or 'to exercise a dog' (44%). This is quite different to Kelvingrove and Queen's Park where the majority used the parks 'for fresh air or to enjoy pleasant weather' and 'for health and exercise'. A significant percentage of visitors to Cranhill Park (28%) travel through the park without stopping.

For Cranhill Park only one in ten respondents to the Cranhill survey said the park meets their needs. 90% of people felt the park did not meet their needs this was much higher than both Kelvingrove and Queen's Park. Many of the comments related to safety, lighting issues, maintenance issues and the play areas needing upgraded and maintained.

**4.3.3 Daylight and darkness use**

The majority of Cranhill Park users (87%) use the park during daylight and around one in two users (46%) also visit the park at dusk. During the hours of darkness 33% use the park, this is higher than Queen's Park (22%) and lower than Kelvingrove (53%).

While three out of four respondents (75%) to the Cranhill survey feel safe visiting during daylight, 14% do not feel safe. One in two feel unsafe also during the dawn (46%) and dusk (56%), while 95% feel unsafe or do not visit during darkness.










**4.3.4 Daylight and darkness safety measures**

Respondents were asked to indicate measures that would make the park safer in the daylight, and for Cranhill Park the most popular options were 'visible CCTV cameras' (86%), 'increased lighting' (70%), 'better maintained pathways' (49%), 'police patrols' (48%), 'removal/cutting back of bushes and trees' (48%), and 'stricter enforcement of alcohol bans' (48%).

Respondents were asked what measures would make the park safer in darkness, the most popular response for all three parks was 'increased lighting'- Cranhill was 92%, followed by 'visible CCTV cameras' (89%), 'increased security at night' (73%) and 'police patrol' (62%). The majority of respondents (80%) said they would use the park in the dark if improvements were made.










### 4.3.5 Additional lighting

Respondents were asked what additional lighting, if any, would they like to see in the park. For Cranhill Park, the majority would like to see 'lighting in entrances and exits' (85%), 'lighting at play areas' (73%), 'lighting at sports areas' (60%), 'lighting on main routes only' (57%), and 'lighting on cycle/active travel routes' (62%).

11. What additional lighting, if any, would you like in Cranhill Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	No additional lighting		0.00%	0
2	Lighting on main routes only		56.96%	45
3	Lighting at play areas		73.42%	58
4	Lighting at sports areas		60.76%	48
5	Lighting entrances and exits to the park		84.81%	67
6	Lighting on national cycle/active travel routes		62.03%	49
7	Lighting specific areas in the park (please specify under 'Other' which areas)		30.38%	24
8	Other (please specify):		17.72%	14

### 4.3.6 Lighting concerns and benefits

When asked about concerns related to additional lighting being introduced in in Cranhill Park, the **great majority of respondents (79%) did not have any concerns**. This was significantly higher than the other two parks. Only (8%) were concerned with the impact of additional lighting on biodiversity and habitats.

12. Do you have any concerns about additional lighting in Cranhill Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Affects biodiversity and habitats (Light pollution / tree removal for lights)		6.76%	5
2	Encourages anti-social behaviour		12.16%	9
3	Creates noise		5.41%	4
4	Climate change/ increased energy use		6.76%	5
5	Maintenance issues/costs		12.16%	9
6	Expensive to buy		4.05%	3
7	Council budget better spent on other priorities		4.05%	3
8	No concerns		77.03%	57
9	Other (please specify):		4.05%	3

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Respondents were asked what the **benefits of additional lighting** in the park would be. For Cranhill Park, almost everyone said that additional lighting would make it **‘safer to walk through the park’ (99%)**, and most respondents said it would be ‘safer for users’ (91%), it would ‘encourage more people to use the park’ (83%), ‘extend the time children can play accompanied by an adult’ (80%). It would also be ‘safer to cycle’ (74%), ‘encourage active travel’ (69%) and it would encourage more evening activities (57%).

13. What are the benefits of additional lighting in Cranhill Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Safer to walk through the park		98.73%	78
2	Safer to cycle through the park		74.68%	59
3	Safer for users of the park		91.14%	72
4	Encourages active travel (walking, wheeling or cycling)		69.62%	55
5	Encourages people to use sports facilities		49.37%	39
6	Extends the time children can play accompanied by an adult		79.75%	63
7	Extends the time children can play unaccompanied by an adult		31.65%	25
8	Encourages more people to use the park		82.28%	65
9	Encourages more evening activities in the park		56.96%	45
10	No benefits		0.00%	0
11	Other (please specify):		2.53%	2

### 4.4 Cranhill Park Working Group Workshop

<b>Date</b>	12 December 2022
<b>Total invited</b>	38
<b>Organisations invited</b>	8
<b>People attended</b>	10
<b>Organisations represented</b>	4

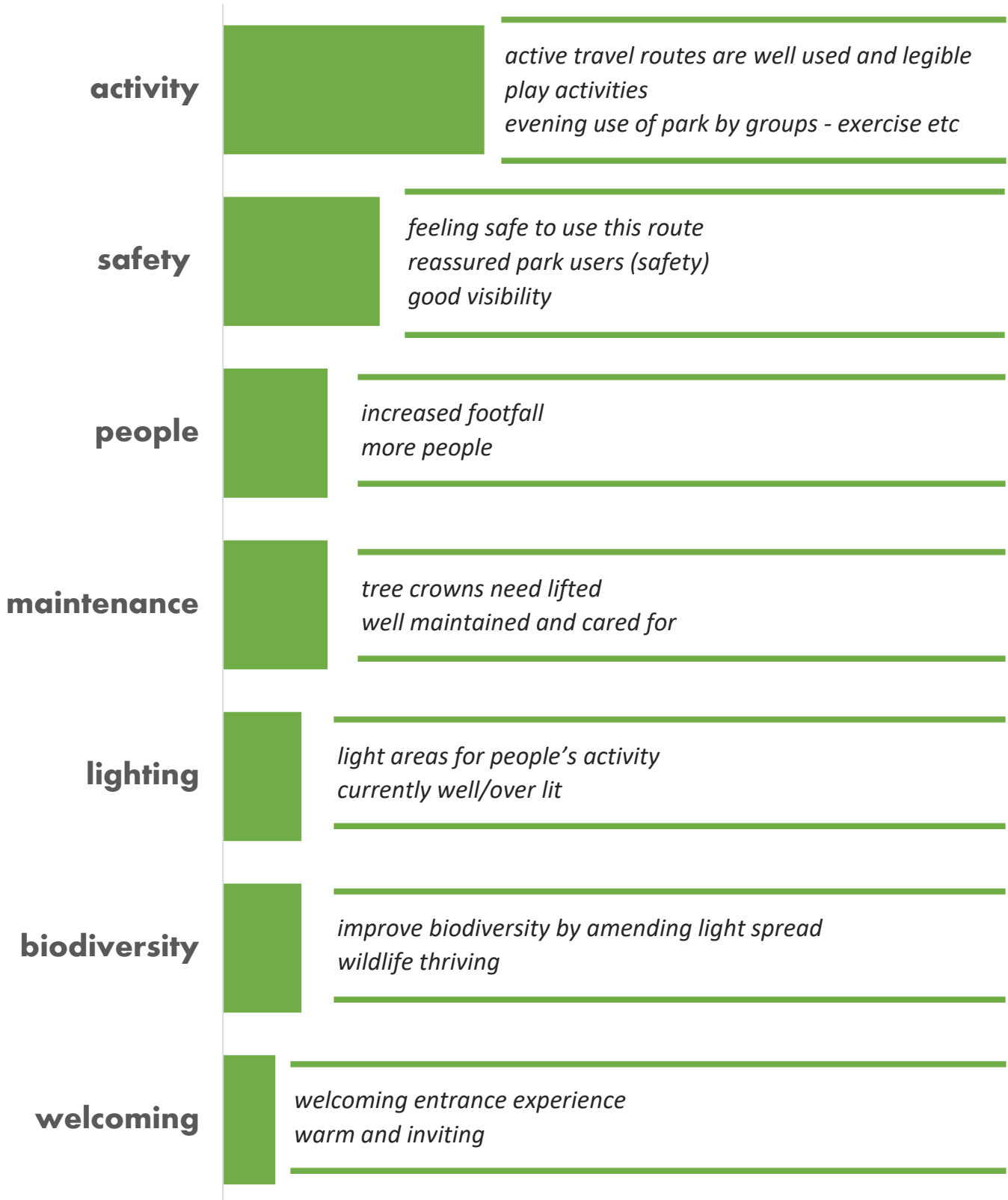
The attendees at the online workshop included representatives from Cranhill Development Trust, Police Scotland, Glasgow City Council and Arup. Specialists included community development, lighting, biodiversity, greenspace, women’s safety and community safety professionals. All invited organisations are in **Appendix One**. During the workshops attendees:

- Reviewed and considered the outputs from the Place Evaluation workshops and the online survey
- carried out a park visioning activity
- identified pros, cons and considerations of the routes and ideas from the Place Evaluation workshops

A range of views were represented. There was a strong focus on the general improvements required in the park. The community body representative felt these should be prioritised ahead of improvements to the existing lighting from her knowledge of the local community’s needs. Outputs are listed in full in **Appendix Six**.

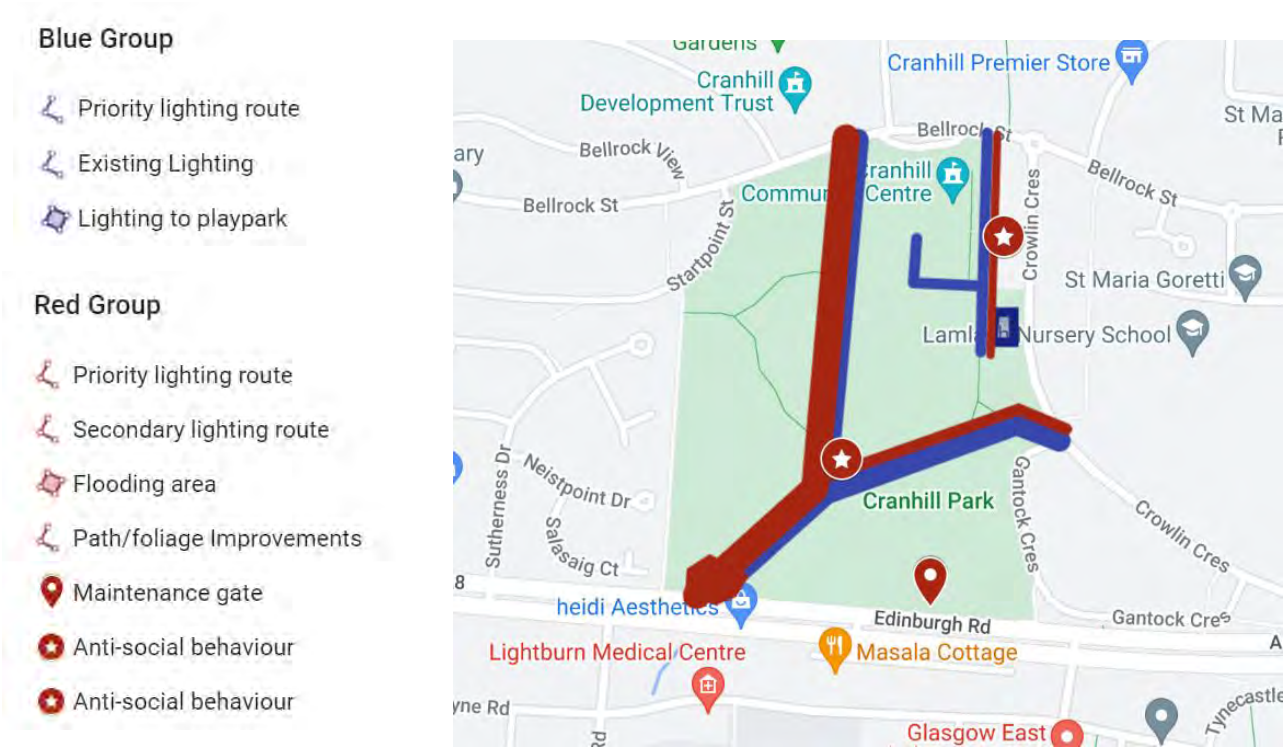
**4.4.1 Cranhill Park Visioning Activity**

The attendees carried out a visioning task to give their view of how Cranhill Park could be envisioned in the dark in winter 2024. Responses were single words or short sentences. All responses were grouped under the themes listed below. They are ordered from high to low by the number of responses under each theme. Some of the responses are given as examples alongside the themes.



**4.4.2 Cranhill Park Route Discussion**

The attendees discussed the route maps that were created as part of the Place Evaluation workshops. The Pros, Cons and any Considerations related to the route and idea noted on the maps were discussed as a group. The [google map](#) (illustrated below) is best viewed in a browser to see the full information included in the legend descriptions.



**Considerations  
Whole park**

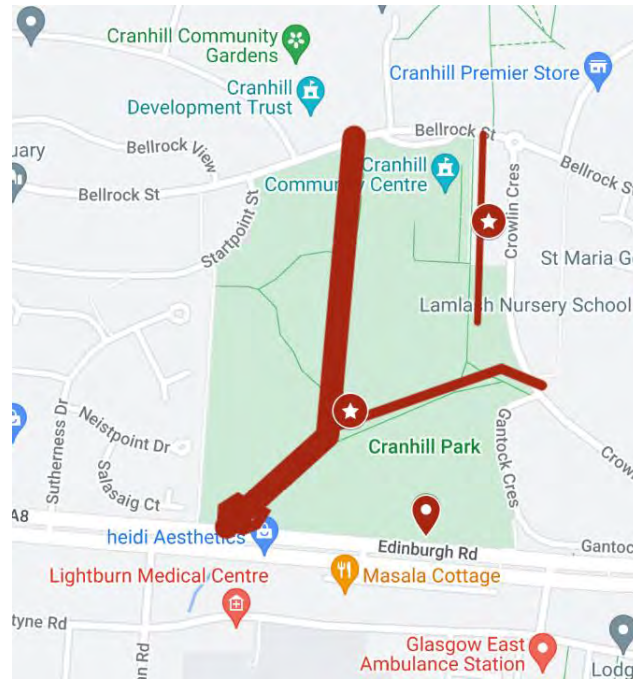
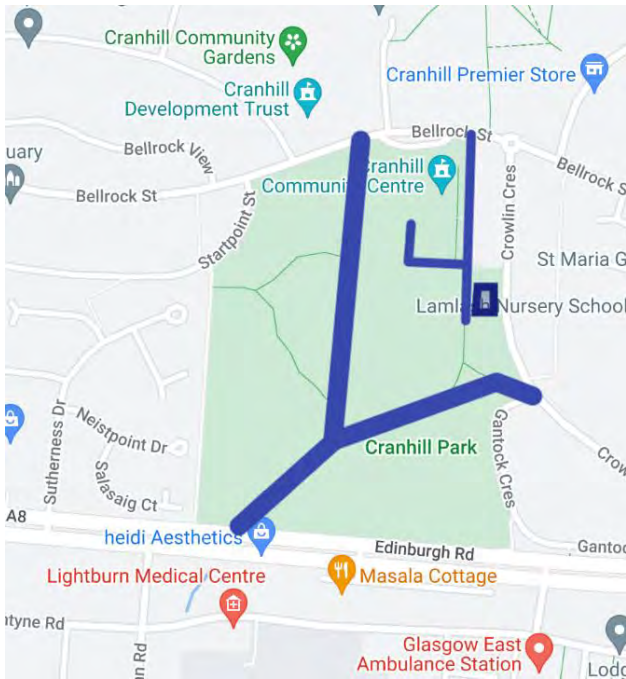
Points to consider from Police Scotland rep - Cranhill Park has well designed entrance points and good sightlines. There are two fenced off routes where the fence provides no escape route, beside the playpark and along the path on the western edge of the park. Removing the fence on the west side should be considered to open up the space. Concrete blocks at the entrances should be removed and alternatives considered. New seating could be installed using Safety by Design principles (rep happy to help with this). Better management of foliage needed in some areas. Policing - no grave concerns, low level youth disorder.

Rep from Cranhill Community Trust raised the point about there being very little to do in the park in the daytime and the decline over the years of the facilities. The community view is that play area is currently not fit for purpose. The park is a very poorly resourced area. The basics need to be fixed first. It is nothing like the standard any other local neighbourhood park.

Cranhill Development Trust are currently at Stage 2 of a community right to buy/lease of the existing Community Centre. If successful the community centre will be renamed The Beacon as that is how it is known locally. This bid will include the grounds surrounding the Centre that make up part of the Park but are currently seperated by a fence dividing the park in two.

Comment made that there is a need to get the fundamentals right to make sure to get it right for the community. Make it a safe and accessible route to and from public transport.

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### Pros Red and blue maps

Scope to look at existing areas such as play areas and removal of fences.

Good path structure in the park.

Existing infrastructure makes changes to lighting quite easy and a quick fix.

Need to consider the most appropriate lighting for the area. Twenty two lights in the park and the possibility to look at upgrades.

These are main routes through the park. Look at lighting and improving play areas (lighting timed in winter months).

### Cons Red and blue maps

Long term - lighting design for the park depends on budgets.

Important site for water voles - highest density of water voles in the UK. Changes to paths and lighting may have an impact on them. There is a 7 year cycle for water vole populations and a water vole conservation action plan is in place. There could be scope to do some study into the current population within the park.

The current path routes do not encourage people to wander round the park or stay within the park - they directly cross the park and emphasise it as a place to pass through rather than a place to spend time in or circulate around. There are a couple of circular cut grass paths, these mown grass routes are mainly just used by dog walkers.

The playpark area within the park boundaries is not fit for purpose and is not in the best location. This should be considered first before any plans for lighting it are progressed.

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### Considerations Red and blue maps

The local community feel marginalised and forgotten about. They understand the needs of the water voles and there has been plenty of education and resource put into educational projects. They feel local wildlife has more investment, the water voles are more important than their needs and that the community does not feel heard.

---

How can we tell the story and how can we help the community to take pride if they already feel marginalised?

---

Lighting at community centre is not maintained by GCC and the floodlights at the MUGA are not included on the lighting inventory.

---

The colour of paths can improve the overall lighting. Lighter surfaces perceive lightness of space. The use of 'slurry seal' on footpaths can be used to create a lighter surface - suggestion to talk to colleagues in roads dept. This surface is being used on some of the Avenues projects.

---

There are options to look at the existing lighting colour temperature, to consider sensors or dimming when no one is in the park.

---

In the dark having lighting that is too bright has been shown to make spaces feel less safe. It can also create sharp contrast and glare. It would be beneficial to even out the light levels to make users feel more comfortable in the park.

---

Limited or no research into the impact of lighting on water voles.

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Useful to look at contrasts for the area and to understand the protected zones for wildlife.

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Flooding at both gates/entrances needs to be addressed.

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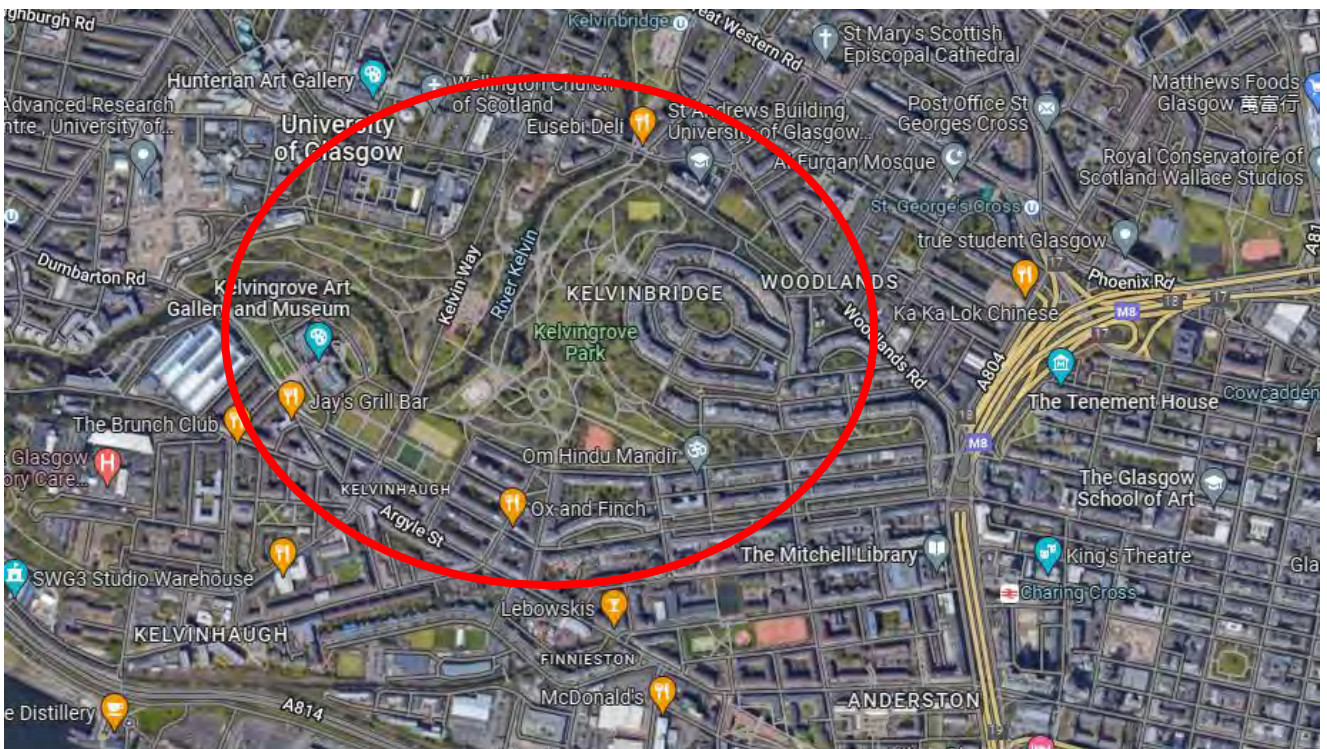
MUGA needs to be considered/moved/improved

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## 5 Kelvingrove Park

### 5.1 Kelvingrove Park Context

This large park is a busy, destination park in the west end of Glasgow. The site is 34 hectares/85 acres and is a classic example of a Victorian park designed by Sir Joseph Paxton. Its design and setting on the banks of the River Kelvin enhance and complement the many magnificent buildings which surround the world renowned Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum prominently featured within it. It is an iconic heritage landscape with many heritage features.



### 5.2 Place Evaluation Workshop

Date	1 Nov 2022
Total invited	203 (including 89 online survey contacts)
Organisations invited	68 (figs include 38 orgs invited to all 3)
People attended	23
Organisations represented	18

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The attendees were split into 4 randomly allocated groups:

- Brown – mixed male and female group that was mainly residents including students, business owners and long-term local residents.
- Orange - mixed male and female group with good representation from a diverse age range, including students, Council reps, Glasgow Life, University of Glasgow and Arup.
- Purple - all female group including local residents, two with children who had been or currently are at Hillhead Primary, a local councillor, a police officer, who regularly patrols the park and a community group member (Yorkhill Green Spaces). All frequent users of the park and know it well.
- Yellow - mixed male and female group, all local residents including a dog walker, a University of Glasgow employee and representatives from Friends of River Kelvin (FORK), Friends of Kelvingrove Park, Butterfly Conservation, RSPB Scotland and Yorkhill Green Spaces.

It should be noted that the yellow group members included people who already choose to walk in the dark at night, and people who actively work with Kelvingrove's natural environment. None of them wanted more lighting within the park, they felt that we have a biodiversity crisis and that what is in the park is fragile and should not be compromised.

### 5.2.1 Place Evaluation Observations

#### Site visit conditions and 'rate the place' observations

The site visit took place at 7pm. It was a clear evening with good outlook, there was lots of light reflected from the sky/clouds. Groups were led by two staff with torches and high-vis vests.



**Comfort and Image** – Most groups did not feel comfortable or safe in the dark, but many recognised that being in the group increased their comfort. The yellow group unanimously chose to have the torches off, as they felt comfortable walking in the dark and felt safe. This group knew the park and were aware of areas that they personally would not go to at night.



**Access and Linkages** - each group accessed the park from Kelvin Way, which is traffic free, well-lit and was very well used at that time of day in the dark. It was noted that that the lighting of the Kelvin Way had a positive effect for the area and one group felt it acted as an example of what could be done. Paths within the park were not lit but there were some reflective way markers. It was noted that visibility of the signage in the park was very limited.



**Use and Activity** - there were no events or community activities taking place in the park at the time of the site visit.

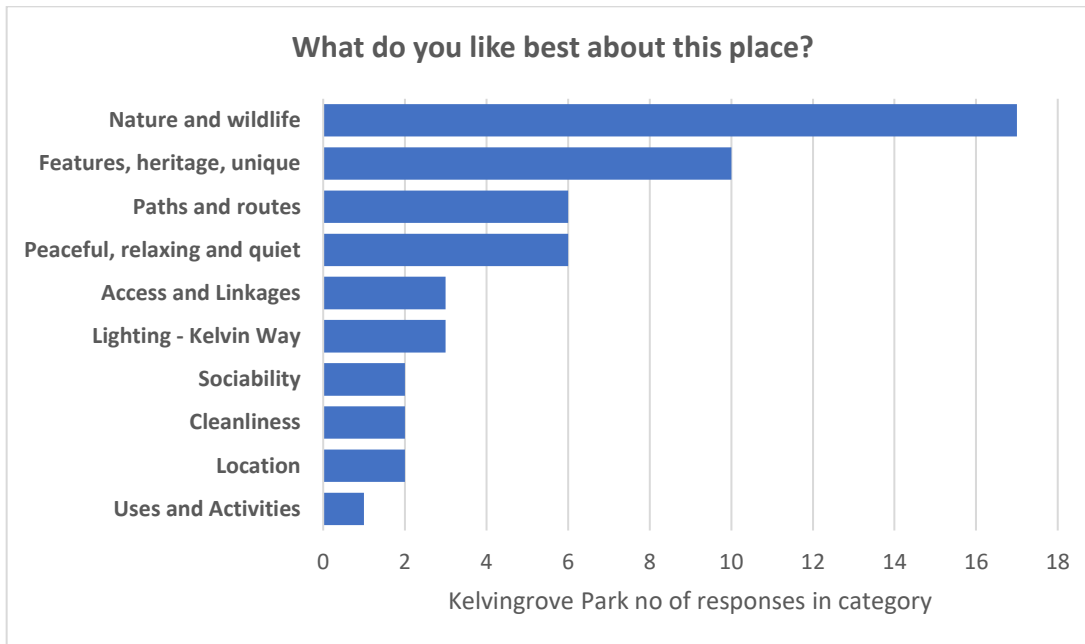


**Sociability** - mainly solo male walkers or individual cyclists on the main paths. There were very few dog walkers one group member observed it was less than usual within the park at that time. Some walkers were using torches or mobiles as they walked. There were no children, older people were not recognisable and there were no females identified.

### 5.2.2 Place Evaluation Question Responses

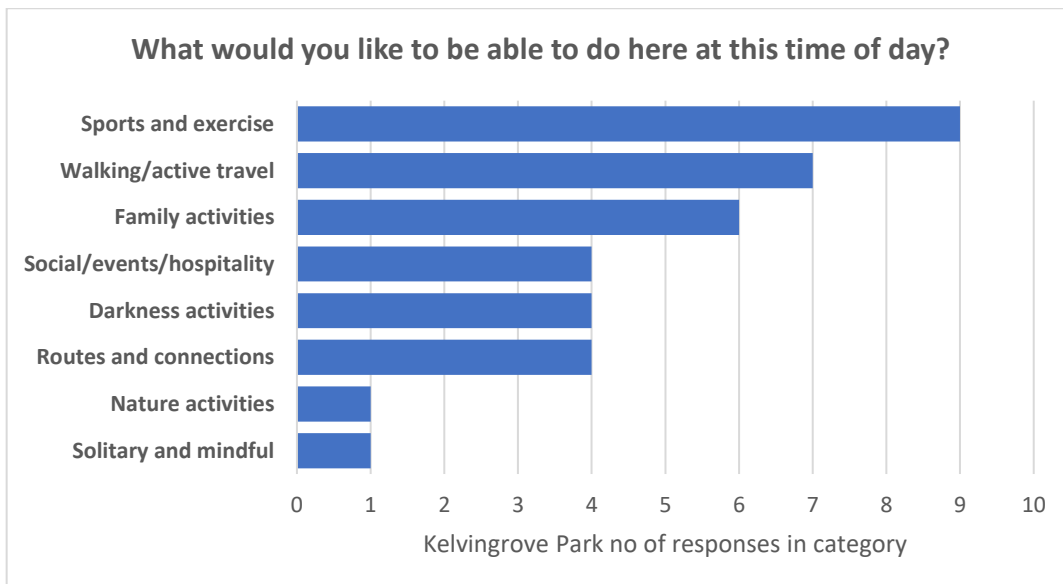
The graphs to follow provide summary information and show which themes and written responses were most frequent across all four groups. All the responses in full are in **Appendix Three**.

#### Q1 What do you like best about this place (at this time)?



Participants were asked to respond to this question **specifically relating to the visit in the dark that they had just carried out**. All the group/individual responses (52 responses) were categorised under ten themes. The majority of comments related to **nature and wildlife** along with comments about the **heritage, features and unique qualities of the park**.

#### Q2 What would you like to be able to do here at this time of day?

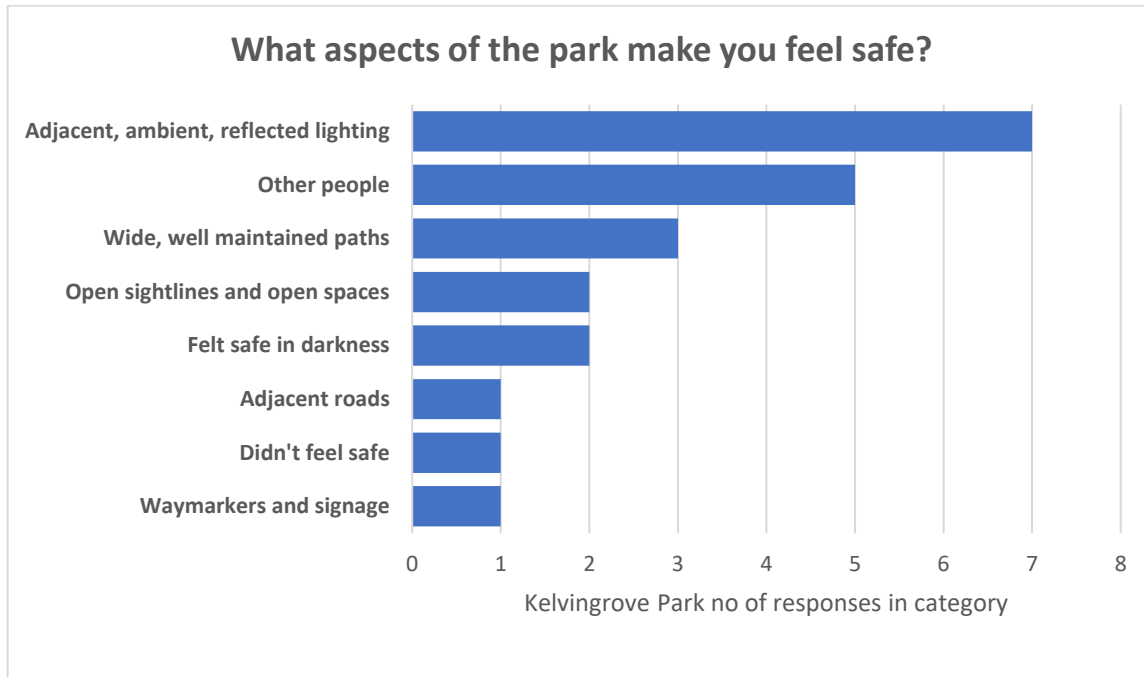


Again, responses to this question specifically related to activities in the dark in the late afternoon or evening. All the group/individual responses (38 responses) were categorised under 8 themes. The majority of comments related to **sports and exercise activities** along with comments on **walking, cycling and active travel** through the park. Comments also related to **family activities with children and for young people** such as using the MUGA, playparks and the skate park particularly

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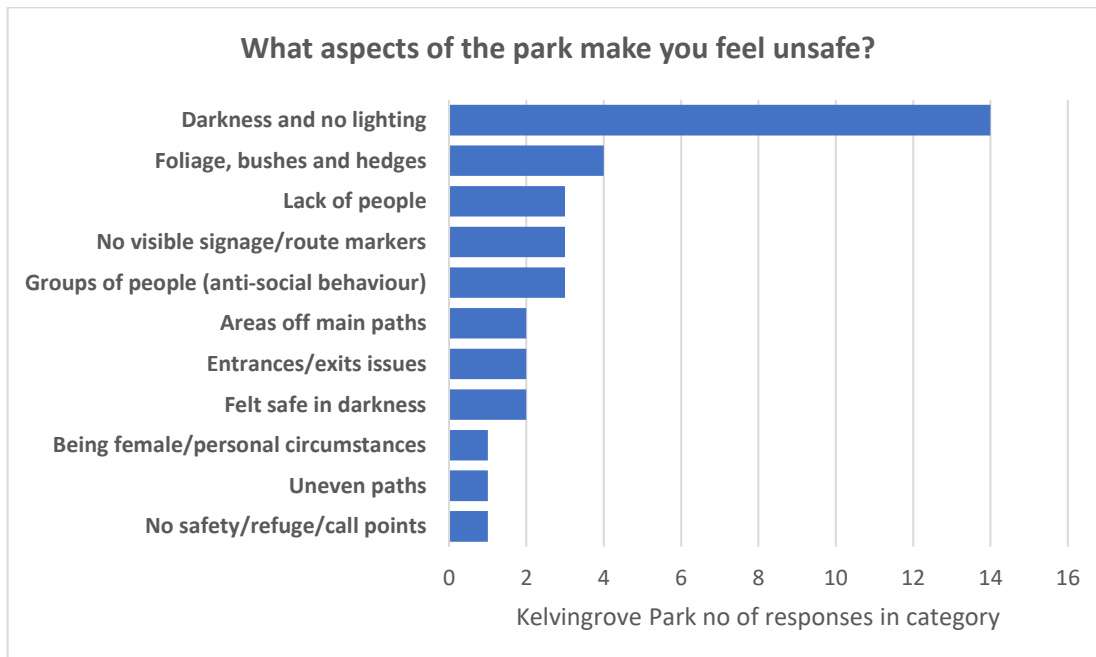
in the winter after school and early evening. A few participants wanted to do **activities that specifically required darkness** such as led evening walks.

### Q3 What aspects of the park make you feel safe?



The responses to this question specifically related to the group visit in the dark. All the group/individual responses (31 responses) were categorised under 10 themes. The majority of comments related to **adjacent, ambient, reflected lighting** and **other people** being around.

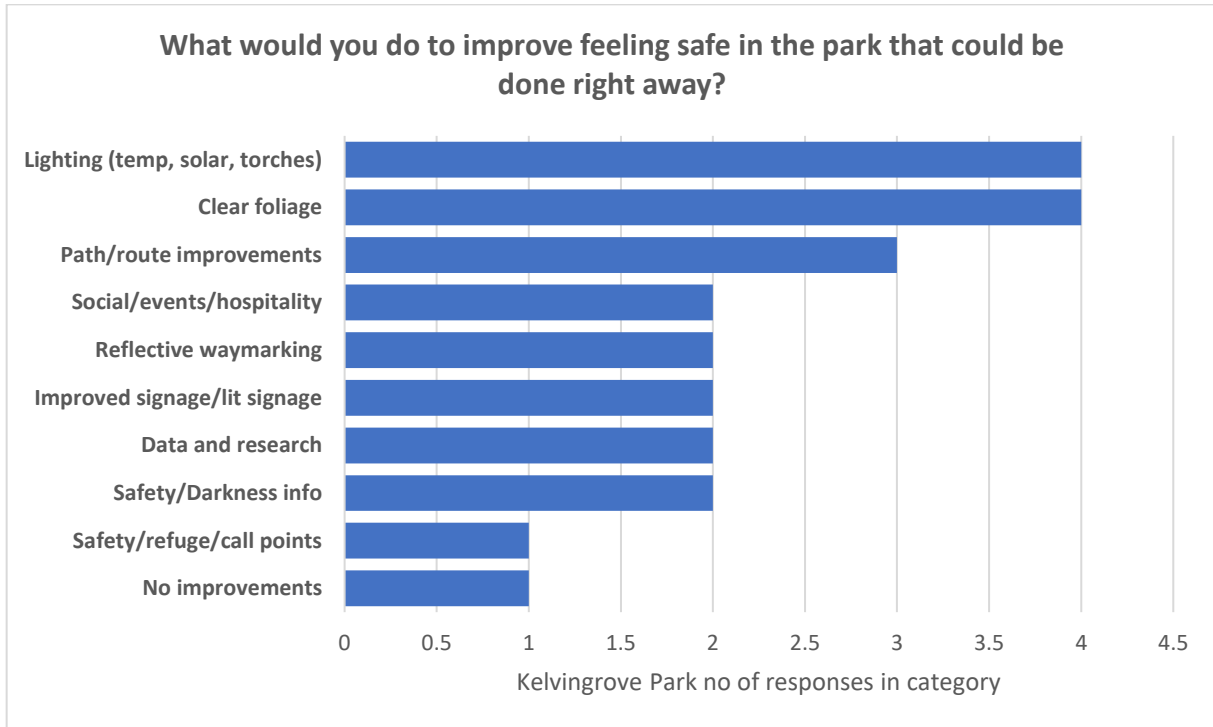
### Q4 What aspects of the park make you feel unsafe?



The responses to this question specifically related to the group visit in the dark. All the group/individual responses (36 responses) were categorised under 12 themes. The majority of comments related to **darkness and no lighting**. The comments about **feeling safe in the darkness** were from one group that unanimously chose not to have the torches on, as they felt comfortable and relish walking in the dark. They all knew the park and were aware of areas that they personally would not go to at night.

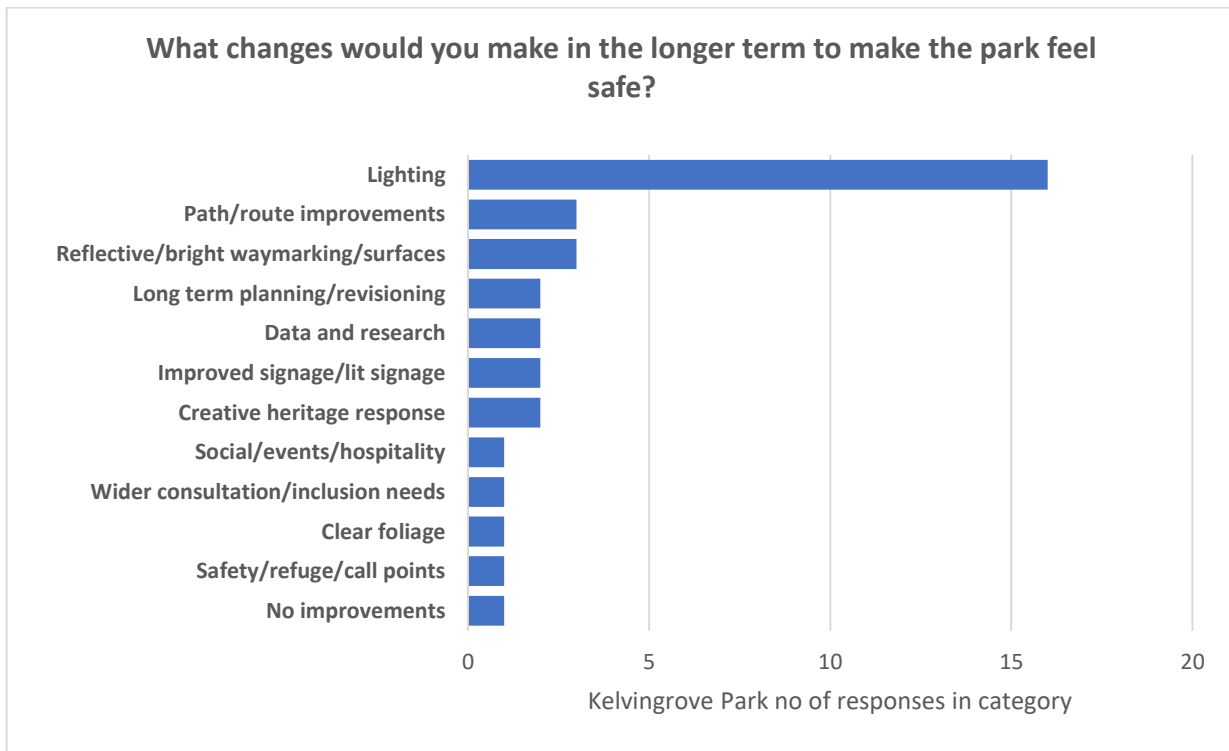
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Q5 What would you do to improve feeling safe in the park that could be done right away?



All the group/individual responses (23 responses) were categorised under 12 themes. The majority of comments related to **lighting, either temporary, solar or the use of hired torches** and **clearing foliage** in problem areas.

Q6 What changes would you make in the longer term to make the park feel safe?



All the group/individual responses (35 responses) were categorised under 12 themes. The majority of comments related to providing **lighting to specific routes**.

**Q7 Are there any specific routes through the park that would benefit from lighting?**

The four groups each had a map to mark suggested routes for lighting or note areas where there should not be lighting. These have all been added to a [google map](#), it is best viewed in a browser to see the individual group maps with full information including the legend and descriptions.

The individual group maps with legends are also shown in this report in the [Kelvingrove Park Route Discussion](#) section.



Workshop participants made the following comments in relation to:

**Habitat and biodiversity areas and balancing needs within the park:**

- “Consideration to any lighting around the pond area as it is a wildlife area was noted.”*
- “Wildlife survey data needed linked to biodiversity partnership and natural history society.”*
- “Requires a delicate balance for people and nature to ensure no negative effects for climate and ecological emergencies, whilst encouraging people’s enjoyment and safety.”*

**Links to active travel routes beyond the park:**

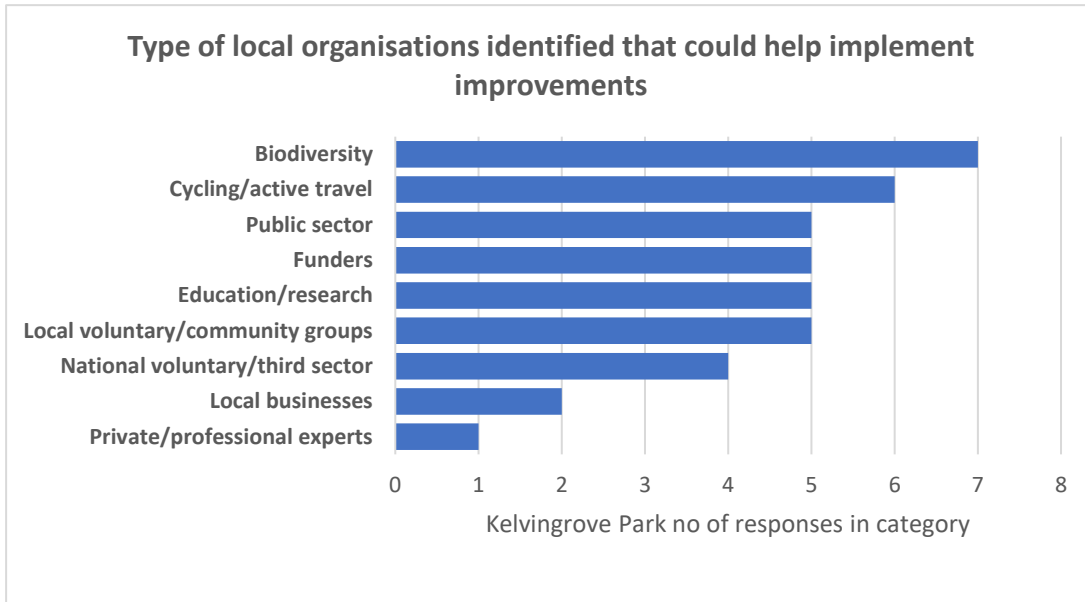
*“Suggestion of also looking at new pedestrianised and lit walkway through Glasgow University as a good example of lighting and how any lit routes through the park could link to this.”*

**Data and research for route planning:**

- “There should be an environmental audit, and a carbon audit of what might be planned.”*
- “What data is known about current use of different routes? Could sensors help to gather that data?”*

**Q8 What local partnerships can you identify that could help implement improvements?**

The majority of suggestions related to biodiversity organisations and to active travel organisations. One group acknowledged competing issues including biodiversity, climate emergency, net zero, cost alongside safety in making any decisions and felt that experts on these issues should be involved in the conversation. The full list of groups is listed in **Appendix Five**.



**5.3 Kelvingrove Park Survey Responses**

The background information about the online survey is in [Section 3.2](#). The 379 online survey responses for Kelvingrove Park need to be taken into consideration when deciding on priorities for action in relation to lighting and safety within the park. **Appendix Two** is the full survey report.

**5.3.1 Demographics and marginalised groups**

For Kelvingrove Park **the majority of responses were from females 68%**. As females are most impacted by safety concerns and incidences of anti-social, inappropriate, sexual or violent behaviour the survey results give a good indication of how woman (particularly young women as 56% were 34 and under) feel about the issue.

The charts and information to follow give the views of all the respondents (segregated data is available) as the views of all genders need to be considered.

Respondents were asked if they were female or felt they belonged to a marginalised group, for instance if they belong to an ethnic minority, the LGBTQIA+ community or have a disability. Being mindful that the majority of respondents were women, a great majority of users Kelvingrove (68%), replied ‘yes’. **These respondents were asked whether they feel the park is just as safe for them as it is for others. The great majority of respondents (76%) replied that it didn’t feel just as safe.** It should be noted that the majority of respondents were white 83% so the views of those from ethnic minorities are not well represented in the results.

**5.3.2 Park use, activities and needs**

The great majority of respondents to the Kelvingrove survey (64%) said their connection to the area is that they live there. 82% of visitors to Kelvingrove Park visit the park several times a week or more. Kelvingrove Park is used for a wide variety of purposes with most selected being ‘for fresh air or to enjoy pleasant weather’ (83%), ‘for health and exercise’ (74%) and ‘to commute or get to another location’ (71%).

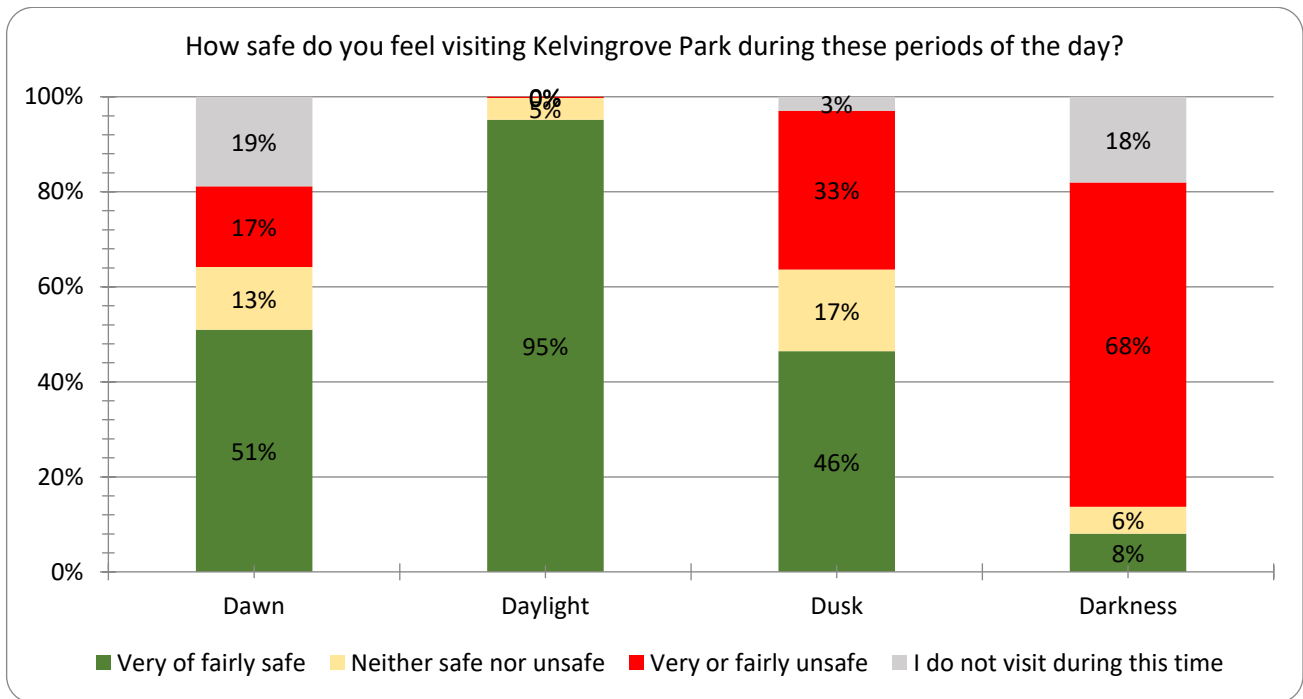
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For Kelvingrove Park 58% of people felt the park did not meet their needs and in response to the open question, **why does it not meet your needs, 81% of responses related to lack of lighting and darkness safety issues.**

### 5.3.3 Daylight, darkness use and safety

The vast majority of Kelvingrove Park users (95%) use the park during daylight. Around 4 out of 5 also visit the park at dusk (83%), this is significantly higher than the other two parks. Kelvingrove also has higher usage of the park during the hours of darkness (53%), compared with the other two parks.

In Kelvingrove Park, the vast majority feel safe visiting during daylight (95%), Kelvingrove feels safer than the other two parks at dawn and dusk, but **most respondents (86%) feel unsafe or don't use the park during the hours of darkness.**











Respondents were asked to indicate measures that would make the **park safer in the daylight**, and for Kelvingrove the most popular responses included 'free public toilets (staffed)' (55%), 'visible CCTV cameras' (38%), 'increased lighting' (33%), 'better maintained pathways (clear of debris, well pathed, etc)' (32%), 'Day time activity - events, organised sports, cafés or street food' (28%), and 'stricter enforcement of alcohol bans' (25%).

Respondents were asked to indicate measure that would make the **park safer in darkness**, the most popular response for all three parks **was 'increased lighting' Kelvingrove was 88%** followed by Increased security at night (56%). The majority of Kelvingrove (74%) respondents said they would use the park in the dark if improvements were made.

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### 5.3.4 Lighting and safety

Respondents were asked what additional lighting, if any, would they like to see in the park. In Kelvingrove park, the majority of respondents would like to see 'lighting on main routes only' (78%), 'lighting entrances and exits to the park' (74%) and lighting on cycle/active travel routes' (64%).

11. What additional lighting, if any, would you like in Kelvingrove Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	No additional lighting		7.20%	27
2	Lighting on main routes only		77.60%	291
3	Lighting at play areas		39.20%	147
4	Lighting at sports areas		36.53%	137
5	Lighting entrances and exits to the park		74.40%	279
6	Lighting on national cycle/active travel routes		63.73%	239
7	Lighting specific areas in the park (please specify under 'Other' which areas)		9.33%	35
8	Other (please specify):		10.40%	39

### 5.3.5 Lighting concerns

In Kelvingrove Park, two in five respondents (42%) were concerned with the impact of additional lighting on biodiversity, and one in three were concerned with the impact on climate change from the increased energy use (35%). Two in four respondents (41%) did not have any concerns.

12. Do you have any concerns about additional lighting in Kelvingrove Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Affects biodiversity and habitats (Light pollution / tree removal for lights)		42.42%	154
2	Encourages anti-social behaviour		14.05%	51
3	Creates noise		5.79%	21
4	Climate change/ increased energy use		35.26%	128
5	Maintenance issues/costs		20.11%	73
6	Expensive to buy		8.82%	32
7	Council budget better spent on other priorities		13.50%	49
8	No concerns		41.32%	150
9	Other (please specify):		8.82%	32

### 5.3.6 Lighting benefits

Respondents were asked what the benefits of additional lighting in the park are. In Kelvingrove Park **most respondents said it would ‘be safer to walk through the park’ (90%)**, ‘be safer for users’ (83%), ‘safer to cycle’ (80%), ‘would encourage active travel’ (74%), ‘encourage more people to use the park’ (66%), and ‘encourages more activities in the park’ (64%).

13. What are the benefits of additional lighting in Kelvingrove Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Safer to walk through the park		89.81%	
2	Safer to cycle through the park		79.62%	
3	Safer for users of the park		82.84%	
4	Encourages active travel (walking, wheeling or cycling)		73.99%	
5	Encourages people to use sports facilities		39.68%	
6	Extends the time children can play accompanied by an adult		47.99%	
7	Extends the time children can play unaccompanied by an adult		29.49%	
8	Encourages more people to use the park		65.95%	
9	Encourages more evening activities in the park		63.54%	
10	No benefits		6.17%	
11	Other (please specify):		2.14%	

The summarised outcomes from both the Place Evaluation workshops and the survey results were presented at the Working Group workshops that took place in Dec 22. This gave the attendees a full picture of the information and ideas gathered through these two different methods. Information on these workshops is in the following section.

#### 5.4 Kelvingrove Park Working Group Workshop

<b>Date</b>	8 December 2022
<b>Total invited</b>	54
<b>Organisations invited</b>	20
<b>People attended</b>	18
<b>Organisations represented</b>	8

The attendees at the workshop included representatives from Friends of Kelvingrove Park, Woodlands and Park Community Council, University of Glasgow (reps from the Institute of Biodiversity and the estates team), Police Scotland, Glasgow City Council and Arup. Specialists included planning, lighting, biodiversity, greenspace and community safety professionals. All invited organisations are in **Appendix One**.

During the workshops attendees:

- Reviewed and considered the outputs from the Place Evaluation workshops and the online survey
- carried out a park visioning activity
- identified pros, cons and considerations of the routes and ideas from the Place Evaluation workshops

The community group members who attended were all people who had been in the yellow group at the Place Evaluation workshop. Their personal view was that they did not want more lighting within the park, that lighting should be limited and restricted. They felt strongly that we have a biodiversity crisis (in response Glasgow City Council have declared a climate and ecological emergency) and that the biodiversity in the park is fragile and should not be compromised. The attendees from the Institute of Biodiversity at the University of Glasgow also agreed with this viewpoint. These views came across in the discussion of routes and was not fully representative of wider views from the previous Place Evaluation workshop. Outputs are listed in full in **Appendix Six**.

A representative from **Friends of River Kelvin** was unable to attend but **gave their view by email**, stating they feel a decision that lighting is the route to increasing feelings of safety has already been made. They think that experts on biodiversity and impacts of lighting on living systems - human and plants and animals need to be engaged with more to inform good decision making.

Included within this report on page 57 is information from Institute of Biodiversity at the University of Glasgow on [light pollution](#) and the effects it has on animals and biodiversity. It also includes ways to mitigate or minimise these effects.



**5.4.1 Kelvingrove Park Visioning Activity**

The attendees carried out a visioning task giving their views of how the Park could be envisioned in the dark in winter 2024. Responses were single words or short sentences. All responses were grouped under the themes listed below. They are ordered from high to low by the number of responses under each theme, quoted responses are given as examples alongside the themes.



### 5.4.2 Kelvingrove Park Route Discussion

The attendees discussed the route maps that were created as part of the Place Evaluation workshops. The Pros, Cons and any Considerations related to the route and idea noted on the maps were discussed as a group. The [google map](#) (illustrated below) is best viewed in a browser to see the full information included in the legend descriptions.



#### Considerations Whole Park

It may not be necessary to light full routes - light strategic paths, or nodes such as the fountain, statues, the skate park or bridges this gives users a point to move towards or an idea of where activity is.

Ambient light is very weather dependent, things like cloud cover affect it and so do water and reflections. Lighting proposals should take this into account along with different conditions along the route.

Have the current lighting levels been measured in this park? This should be done to create a baseline.





The existing lit route of Kelvin Way could be seen as part of the Park and a suitable pedestrian/cycle route. As the lighting was designed for car use the levels are likely to be higher than what is proposed for pedestrian only route. If the long term plan is to keep this pedestrian then it would be worth finding out from the Council if the fittings can be reduced in output and if this was lowered in brightness then a better transition zone into the park would be achieved. So you are achieving a better outcome with less energy use.

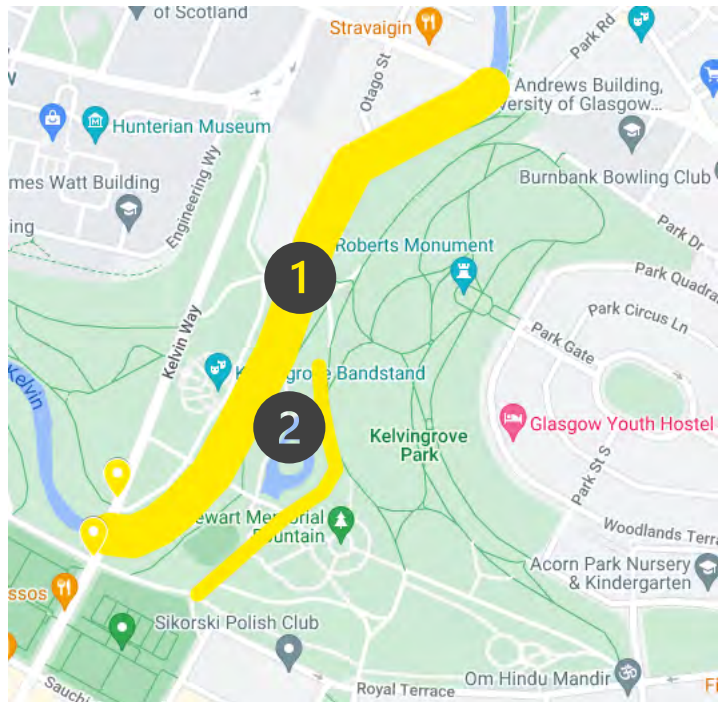
Where the ash tree's are being removed this is allowing more light to flood in from the streets and clearer sightlines - consider this when replanting.

Night time safety perception is an important issue and should not be discounted. It has an impact on many people not just women and girls.

Consideration of wildlife corridors beyond the boundaries of the park is needed. Perhaps wider localised approach should be taken.

**Yellow Group**

-  No lighting river corridor
-  Imaginative painting and/torches
-  Map at entrance
-  Map at entrance



**Pros  
Yellow map**

No lighting is beneficial for biodiversity - this option protects the biodiversity of the park, the River Kelvin (no 1) and wildlife pond (no 2) area.

Residual light creates more lighting - in the River Kelvin area (no 1) the water acts as a natural reflector. This would only be in areas where there is more open views to the river.

No increase in energy use benefits climate change.

Orientation would benefit if signage was improved and maps were added at the entrance gates to give more info on routes through the park in darkness.

**Cons  
Yellow map**

Does not support the activities people listed they wanted to do in the park in the dark or increase their perception of safety.

Does not support active travel in the park which in turn could reduce carbon and benefit the environment.

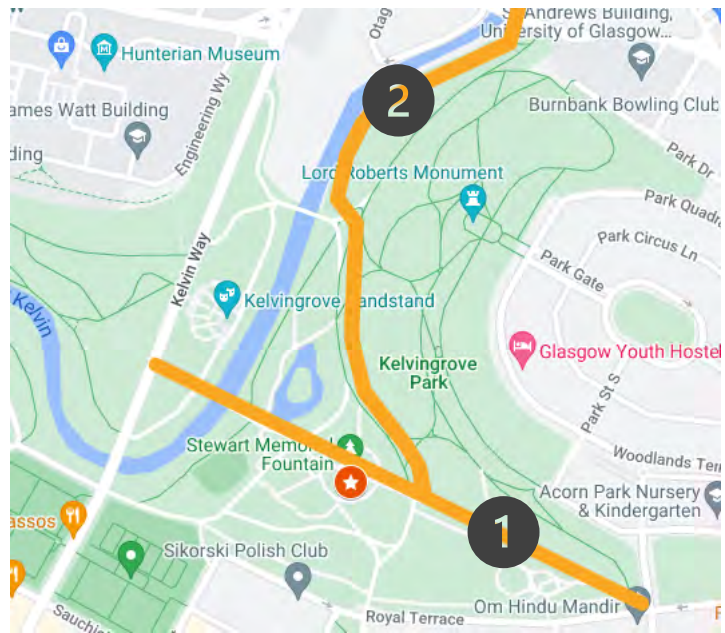
No additional ambient lighting so cyclists and pedestrians can be dazzled by bright bike lights. Providing separate cycle routes is more important in the dark due to this issue. Point raised about cycling education should include dipping lights on off road/dark paths.

**Considerations  
Yellow map**

Option to sell the point that Kelvingrove Park it is a dark space and promote it as a special dark environment within the city.

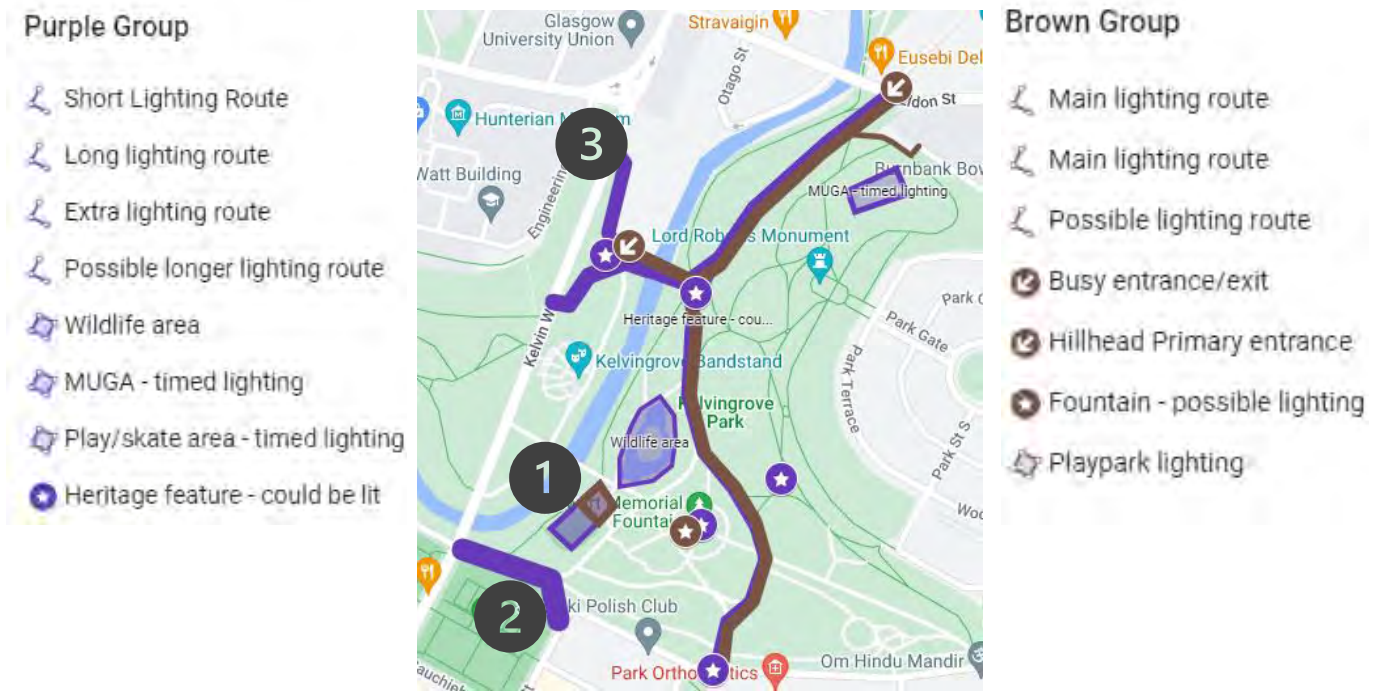
For perceptions of safety it is well documented that there needs to be visible escape routes and an adequate levels of lighting. No change to the current lighting does not address this.

For perceptions of safety moving from well lit areas like Kelvin Way into dark areas with no lighting makes these areas feel even darker and does not make people feel safe. See Whole Park Consideration on Kelvin Way light levels.



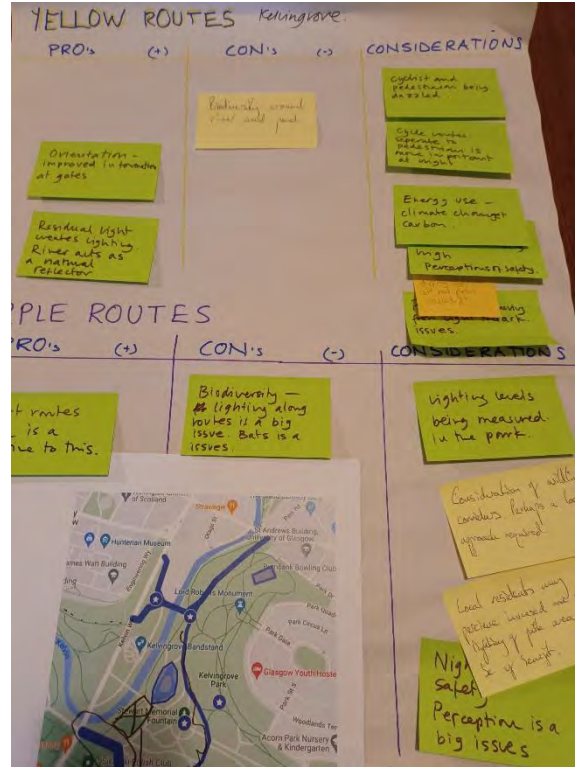
<p><b>Pros</b> <b>Orange map</b></p>	<p>The route through the herbaceous border (no 1) is a flat route with wide paths and connects directly with Kelvin Way.</p> <p>Route would pick up the fountain, this could be lit as a feature or a lit node.</p> <p>Marker lights at low level could be used for navigation along the herbaceous border section.</p> <p>For criminals you don't want to make them feel this is an unsafe place, you want it to feel safe, populated with people and activity.</p>
<p><b>Cons</b> <b>Orange map</b></p>	<p>Affect of lighting on biodiversity along the River Kelvin corridor and at the wildlife pond.</p> <p>No escape routes by river at the National Cycle Route path (no 2) is bound on one edge by railings along the riverside and a steep hill on the other side.</p> <p>Line of sight is limited due to height of the hedgerows along the herbaceous border section. These would need to be lowered.</p> <p>Infrastructural requirements - amount and cost of any lighting installations as this is a long route.</p>
<p><b>Considerations</b> <b>Orange map</b></p>	<p>There are plans to improve the biodiversity along the herbaceous border with the planting of fruit trees. Any lighting would need to consider the effect on animals, plant and tree species.</p> <p>Careful consideration is needed along the hedgerows as these are for pollinators.</p> <p>There is the option on this route to have nodes of lighting to enable access and points of activity rather than fill routes with lighting. This is more beneficial to biodiversity.</p> <p>Different uses and activities have different lighting needs and require different light levels. All lighting does not have to use standard lampposts there are multiple options including bollard and ground level lights.</p> <p>Marker lights at ground level have maintenance issues for Glasgow City Council, water is an issue and they don't give facial recognition. They are more suited to indicating a route and are better for biodiversity.</p> <p>Secure by Design - bollard lights do not give full facial recognition but have recently been installed at Pollok Park as part of the improvements.</p>

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These two maps have many similarities so comments have been combined where they apply to both maps. It should be noted that there was more limited time to discuss the purple route and some attendees had to leave.

<p><b>Pros Brown/Purple Map</b></p>	<p>Main thoroughfare across the park with wide paths.</p> <p>Well used route, with use already at that time</p> <p>This route picks up on lighting for activities and includes timed lighting for the playpark and skatepark (no 1).</p> <p>Playpark and skatepark lighting could enhance play opportunities, suggestions were given for lighting that is incorporated into play equipment - swings and lighting poles. Examples of playful incorporated light such as Stratford Park play swings and lighting that is activated by cycling.</p>
<p><b>Pros Purple Map</b></p>	<p>The purple map includes a short route (no 2) from Gray St/Royal Terrace. It runs close to the already lit Tennis Courts and was seen as a positive option for walking/active travel and has less impact on biodiversity.</p> <p>The purple map route that leads from Kelvin Way down by Hillhead Primary (no 3) and over the bridge was identified as a good off-road option for cyclists/pedestrians from the Glasgow University. See consideration about student Next Bike membership conditions.</p>
<p><b>Cons Brown/Purple Map</b></p>	<p>Affect of lighting on biodiversity around the Wildlife Pond and the River Kelvin where proposed route crosses the main bridge.</p> <p>Lighting along the full length of routes was raised as an issue for biodiversity particularly for nocturnal animals and specifically bats.</p> <p>Kelvin Way is already lit. Does this already provide a similar lit route to the main one indicated?</p> <p>Infrastructural requirements - amount and cost of any lighting installations as this includes a long route.</p>



**Considerations  
Brown/Purple  
Map**

Promoting existing lit routes like Kelvin Way rather than lighting new ones - through publicity/campaigns to highlight lit areas and the importance of dark areas.

Daytime and night-time access is important - it's about more than just being a shortcut to get from A to B it's about creating a different type of night time space but this does not mean it has to be lit at high levels or streetscape levels.

Local residents may perceive increased use and lighting of the park area would be of benefit.

Dedicated route for cyclists separate from pedestrians should be considered.

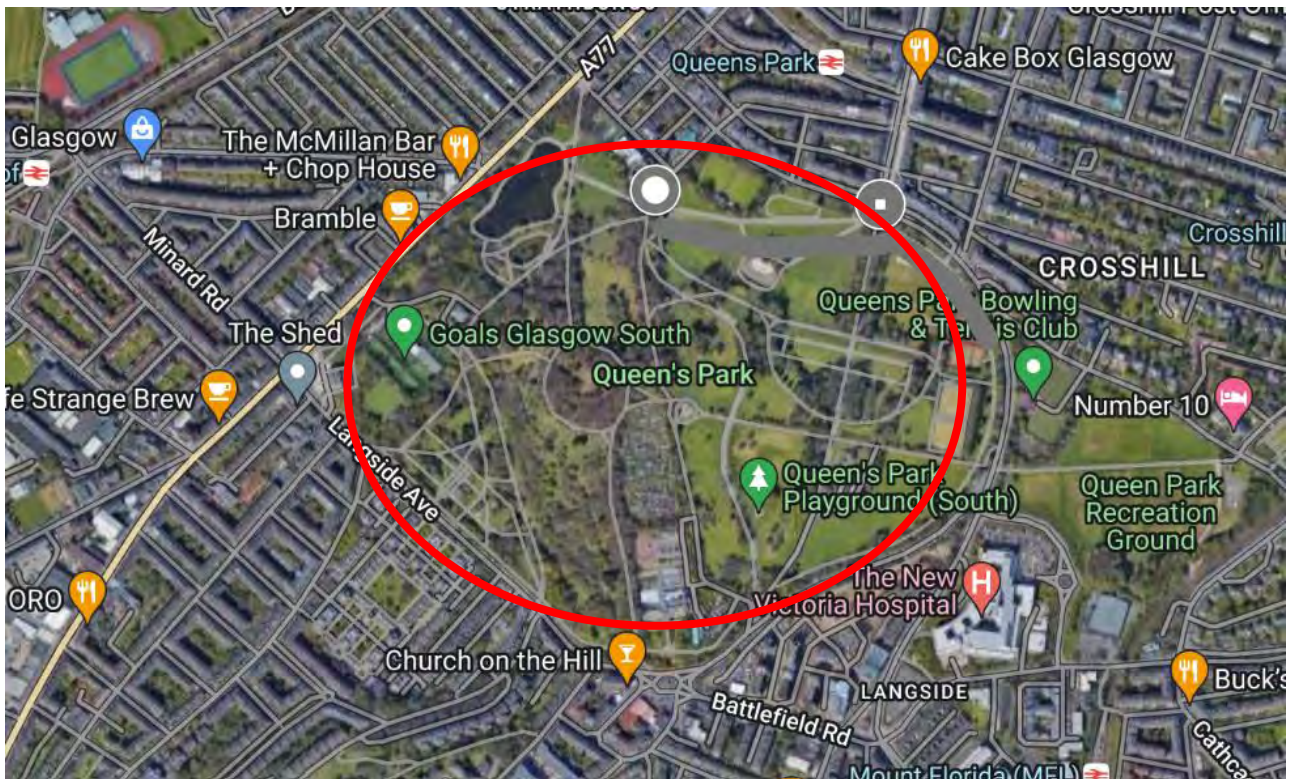
Free Next bike membership is available to students at Glasgow University, membership conditions requires students to keep off busy traffic routes if at all possible. Consider the access points and routes through the park that are used by students to achieve this.

Other MUGAs in parks across the city are positioned close to the streets (lighting) and have timed lighting to reduce noise and anti-social behaviour. Though access is available at all times as these are free play areas.

## 6 Queen’s Park

### 6.1 Queen’s Park Context

Queen’s Park, covering 60 hectares (148 acres) was created in the mid-19th century, designed by the renowned landscape architect Sir Joseph Paxton. It is the third oldest park in Glasgow and situated in the south of the city. It has large lawns, naturalised woodland rich in wildlife, play areas and a famous flag pole with views across Glasgow. The park is extremely well used and is busy all year round. A great range of sport and recreational facilities can be found here along with a boating pond and smaller nature pond. It is also home to Queen’s Park Allotments and the Arena that hosts events during the summer.



### 6.2 Place Evaluation Workshop

Date	25 October 2022
Total invited	241 (fig includes 90 online survey contacts)
Organisations invited	101 (fig includes 38 orgs invited to all 3)
People attended	26
Organisations represented	13

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The attendees were split into 5 randomly allocated groups. All were mixed male and female apart from Orange:

- Brown – Mixed male and female group with one resident from flats within park. Male runner who uses park after dark, female runner who does not (uses pavements around perimeter). Mostly local residents. Allotment holder and member of Friends of Queens Park.
- Grey – included member of Friends Group, Allotment Association and a local Councillor.
- Yellow – local residents, dog walkers, ARUP employee (lighting specialist company)
- Purple – Local residents, local Councillor, dog walker and member of Friends of Kings Park
- Orange – all female group, age range 40-60. One resident from flats in the park. Friends Group, Litter Picking Group and Community Council members. Local police officer who has patrolled the park, and a women's organisation staff member.

### 6.2.1 Place Evaluation Observations

#### Site visit conditions and park users

The site visit took place at 7pm. It was a clear evening, with good outlook and light reflected from the clouds and surrounding roads. Each group was led by two staff members, both had torches and high visibility vests or clothing. Each group was allocated a different section of the Park, as it is too big to cover the whole area in the time available. Those that had indicated mobility issues were allocated to the shortest route and all were given option to return to hall at any time.



**Comfort and Image** – The groups with a route through bushes and trees close to the path did not feel comfortable in the dark. Being autumn there were many leaves on the path in some areas. It was noted that these can be very slippery when wet. Although a dry evening, it was wet underfoot near the ponds where natural springs/drainage run across the path. This was reported to be treacherous when frozen. There was some discussion about safely directing this run-off into the wildlife pond.



**Access and Linkages** – it was noted that the lighting at some entrances made the interior look even darker and unwelcoming. What signs there are were difficult to read.



**Use and Activity** – there were no events or community activities taking place in the park at the time of site visit.

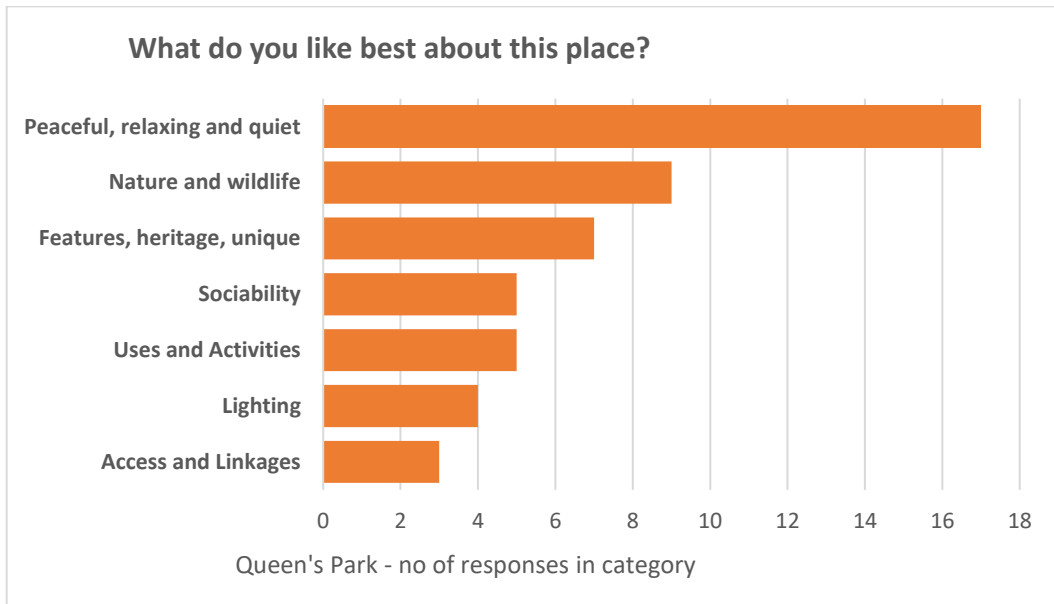


**Sociability** – the main routes were busier than many had expected – mostly dog walkers, runners, a skateboarder and cyclists. It was noted by one group that there were no children or older people using the park. One group did see one child cyclist with adults. Mostly those using the park at this time were of mid age and fit.

**6.2.2 Place Evaluation Question Responses**

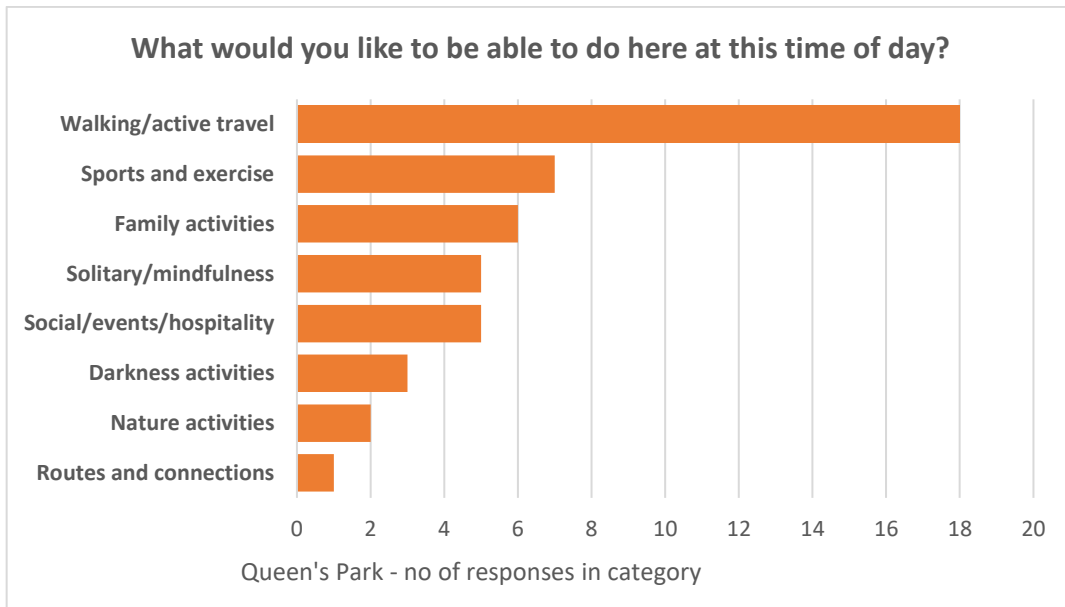
The graphs to follow provide summary information and show which themes and written responses were most frequent across all five groups. All the responses in full are in **Appendix Three**.

**Q1 What do you like best about this place (at this time)?**



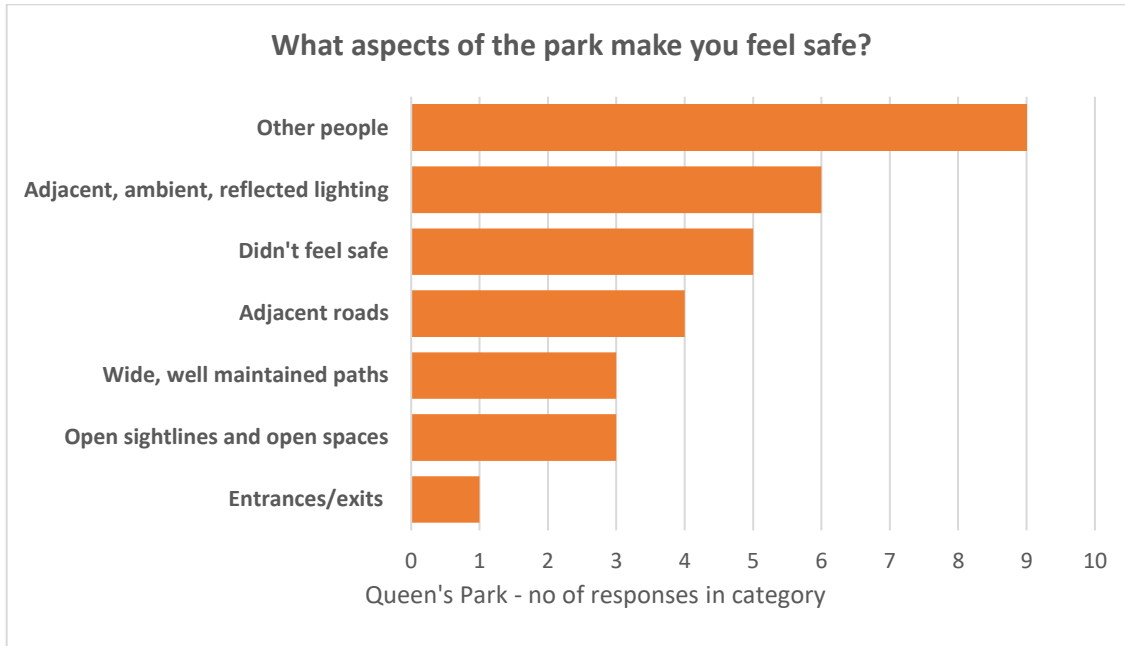
Participants were asked to respond to this question specifically relating to the visit in the dark that they had just carried out. All the group/individual responses (50 responses) were categorised under seven themes. The majority of comments related to **finding the park peaceful, relaxing and quiet** as well as comments about **nature and wildlife**

**Q2 What would you like to be able to do here at this time of day?**



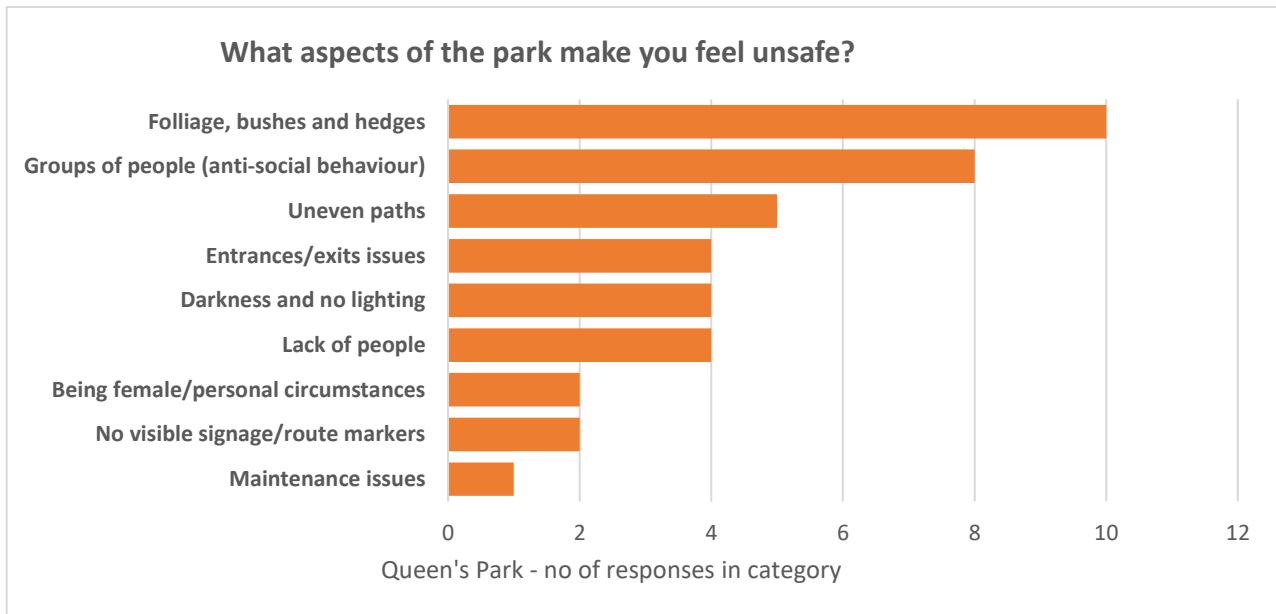
Again responses to this question specifically related to activities in the dark in the late afternoon or evening. All the group/individual responses (47 responses) were categorised under eight themes. The majority of comments related to **walking, cycling and active travel** through the park along with **sports and exercise activities**.

**Q3 What aspects of the park make you feel safe?**



The responses to this question specifically related to the group visit in the dark. All the group/individual responses (43 responses) were categorised under seven themes. The majority of comments related to **other people** being around, followed by the presence of **adjacent, ambient, reflected lighting**.

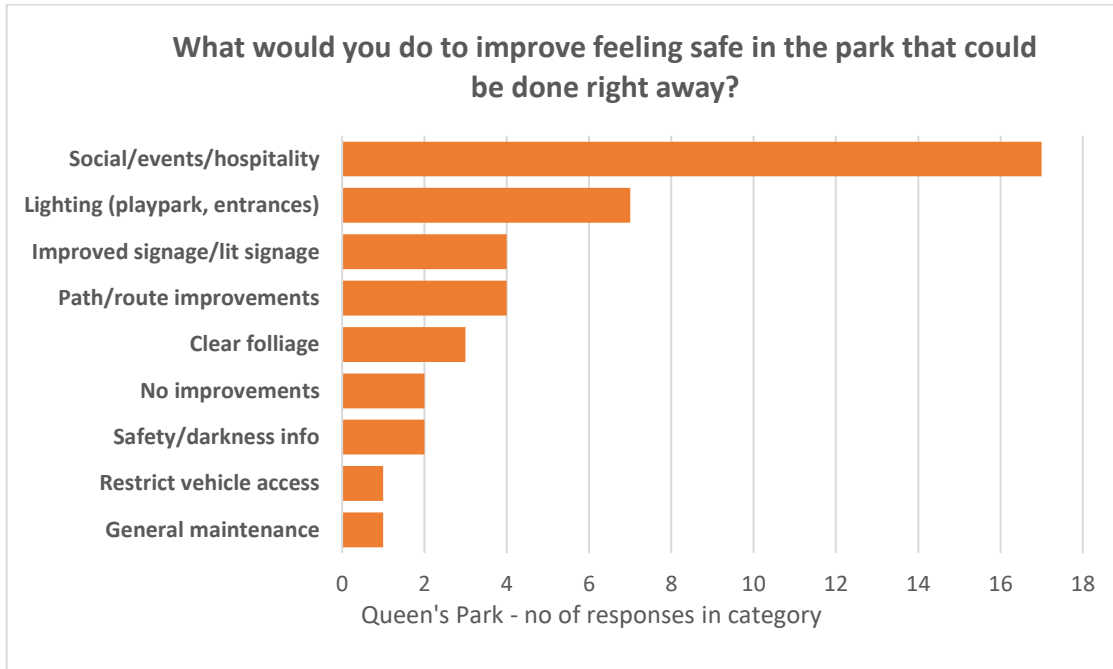
**Q4 What aspects of the park make you feel unsafe?**



The responses to this question specifically related to the group visit in the dark. All the group/individual responses (40 responses) were categorised under nine themes. The majority of comments related to the effect of **foliage, bushes and hedges** in certain areas **groups of people (anti-social behaviour)**

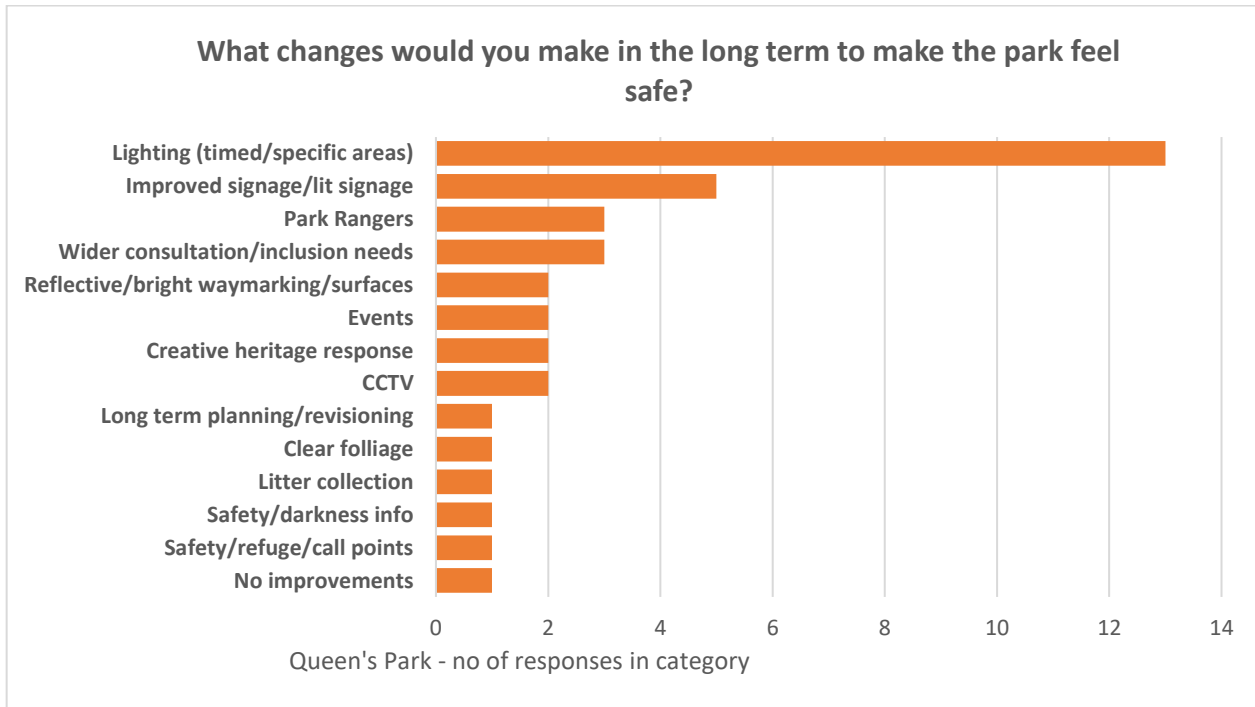
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**Q5 What would you do to improve feeling safe in the park that could be done right away?**



All the group/individual responses (41 responses) were categorised under nine themes. The majority of comments related to **having more social activities, events or hospitality** in evenings and **lighting specific areas (playpark, entrances)**.

**Q6 What changes would you make in the longer term to make the park feel safe?**

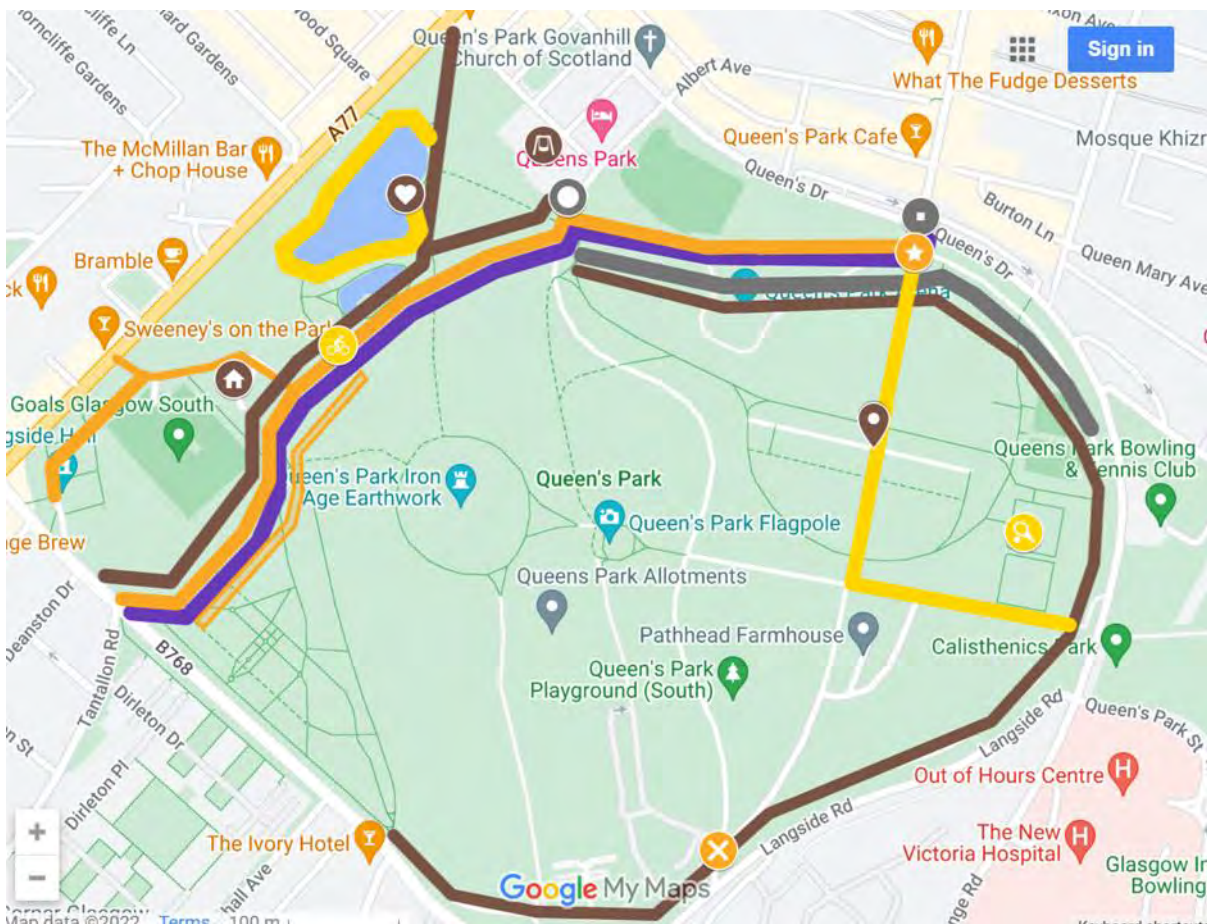


All the group/individual responses (38 responses) were categorised under fourteen themes. The clear majority of comments related to **lighting (timed or in specific areas)** followed by **improved signage/lit signage**

**Q7 Are there any specific routes through the park that would benefit from lighting?**

The five groups each had a map to mark suggested routes for lighting or note areas where there should not be lighting. These have all been added to a [google map](#), it is best viewed in a browser to see the individual group maps with full information included in the legend descriptions. The individual group maps are also shown in in the [Queen's Park Route Discussion](#) section.

**Combined Groups Map**



Workshop participants made the following comments in relation to:

**Lighting specific areas at specific times of the day:**

*“Areas which are naturally overlooked already should be promoted as lit spaces for example - play areas, recreation spaces, pond edges, directly accessible pathways from entrances/exits through the park.”*

*“Timed lighting in the play park in early evening – there are currently lights against the adjoining flats which are blinding and unhelpful.”*

*“The group that walked beside the pond felt this had a special atmosphere (reflected light and sense of space) and could benefit from gentle, sensitive lighting”*

**Lighting key active travel routes:**

*“Light the main steps up from Victoria Road entrance”*

*“Govanhill to Langside Ave. – school runs (shown on map)”*

*“Supplement the ambient light around the perimeter of the park”*

**Consideration for wildlife and people who live in the park:**

*“Lighting shouldn't negatively affect nature”*

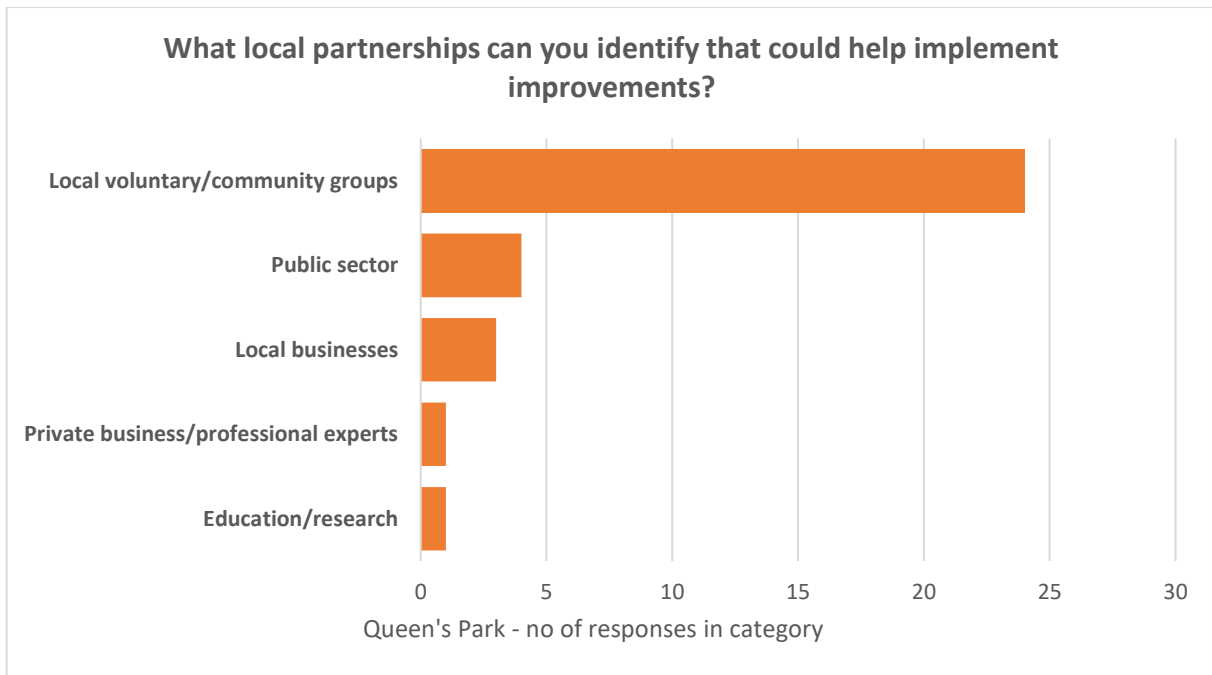
*“Do not light all the park – leave much of it dark. Just key routes and places.”*

*“Any lighting changes by the flats must be done with sensitive approach bearing in mind residents.”*

**Q8 What local partnerships can you identify that could help implement improvements?**

The majority of suggestions related to local voluntary and community groups. These include those that already use the park for sports activities and events (cricket, boxing, model boating on the pond, bowling etc) as well as groups that represent different sectors of the community who may or may not currently feel welcome to use the park. The full list of groups is listed in **Appendix Five**.

*“Need to take account of cultural differences to being outside in evening – to some it is normal and shouldn’t be seen as a threat”*



**6.3 Queens Park Survey Responses**

The background information about the online survey is in [Section 3.2](#) of this report. The 345 online survey responses for Queen’s Park need to be taken into consideration when deciding on priorities for action in relation to lighting and safety within the Park. **Appendix Two** is the full survey report.

**6.3.1 Demographics and marginalised groups**

The majority of responses were from females (74%). As females are most impacted by safety concerns and incidences of anti-social, inappropriate, sexual or violent behaviour the survey results give an indication of how women feel about the questions raised.

The charts and information to follow give the views of all the respondents (segregated data is available) as the views of all genders need to be considered.

Respondents were asked if they felt they belonged to a marginalised group, for instance if they belong to an ethnic minority, the LGBTQIA+ community or have a disability. Being mindful that the majority of respondents were women a great majority of users (76%), replied ‘yes’. These respondents were asked whether they feel the park is just as safe for them as it is for others. The majority of respondents (69%) replied that it didn’t feel just as safe. It should be noted that the vast majority of respondents were white (87%) so the views of those from ethnic minorities are not well represented in the results. This is particularly significant in this very multi-cultural area.

### 6.3.2 Park use, activities and needs

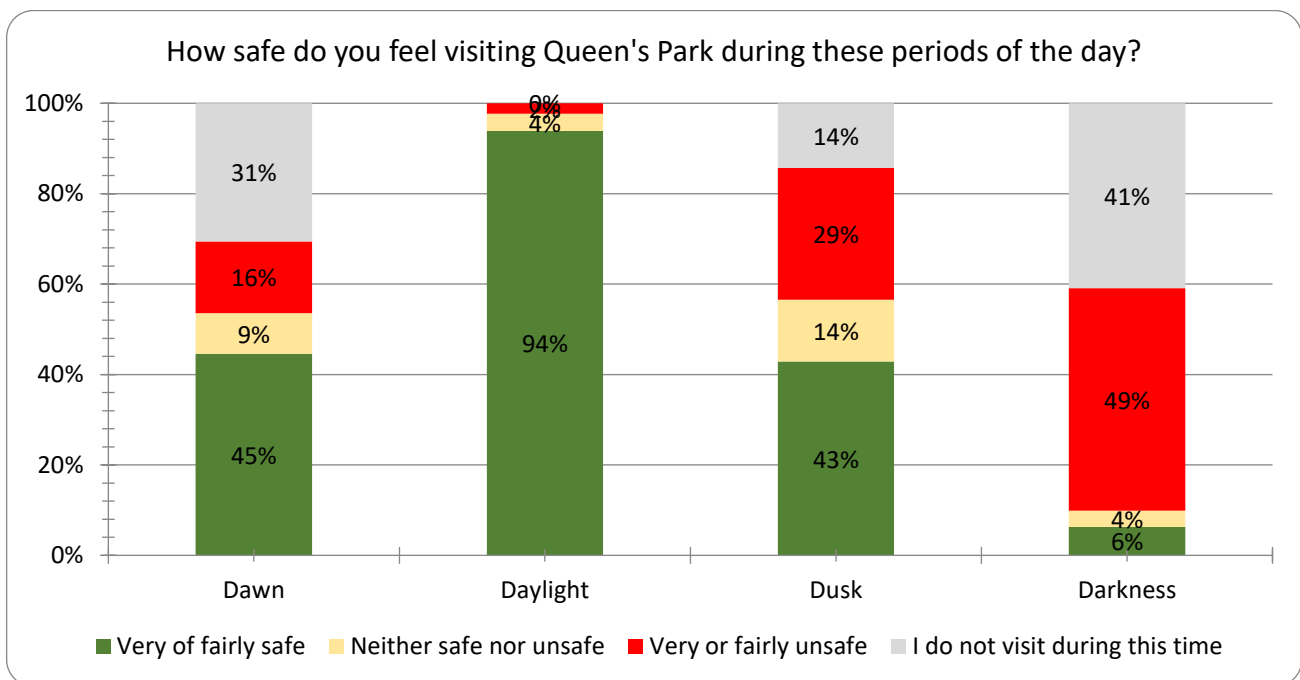
The great majority of respondents to the Queen’s Park survey (89%) said their connection to the area is that they live there. 71% of visitors to Queen’s Park visit the park several times a week. Queen’s Park is used for a variety of purposes but the most selected reasons were ‘for fresh air or to enjoy pleasant weather’, ‘for health and exercise’ ‘to spend time with family/friends’, ‘to be somewhere I like’, and ‘to relax and unwind’.

For Queen’s Park one in two (55%) of Queen’s Park respondents said the park does meet their needs. This was much higher than Cranhill Park (10%) and slightly higher than Kelvingrove Park (42%).

### 6.3.3 Daylight and darkness use

The majority of Queen’s Park users (96%) use the park during daylight and around one in two users (57%) also visit the park at dusk. During the hours of darkness 22% use the park, this is lower than Cranhill Park (36%) and Kelvingrove (53%).

For Queen’s Park, the vast majority feel safe during daylight (94%), while this decreases to only two out of five people feeling safe at dawn (45%) and at dusk (43%). For the vast majority of respondents (90%) they either do not feel safe or do not visit the park during the hours of darkness. One in three respondents do not visit the park at dawn (31%).



### 6.3.4 Daylight and darkness safety measures









Respondents were asked to indicate measures that would make the **park safer in the daylight**, and for Queen’s Park the most popular choices were ‘free public toilets (staffed)’ (60%), ‘a staffed facility within the park’ (36%), ‘visible CCTV cameras’ (34%), and ‘day-time activity - events, organised sports, cafés or street food’ (34%).

Respondents were asked to indicate measure that would make the **park safer in darkness**, the most popular choices were ‘increased lighting’ (81%), ‘increased security at night’ (58%), ‘visible CCTV cameras’ (48%), ‘police patrols’ (45%), and ‘night-time activity - events, organised sports, cafés or street food’ (39%). When asked whether respondents would use the park in the dark if improvements were made 60% said yes. This was somewhat lower than Kelvingrove (74%) and Cranhill Park (80%).

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### 6.3.5 Additional lighting

Respondents were asked what additional lighting, if any, would they like to see in the park. For Queen's Park, the majority would like to see 'lighting to entrances and exits' (71%), 'lighting on main routes only' (68%), and 'lighting on cycle/active travel routes' (58%).

11. What additional lighting, if any, would you like in Queen's Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	No additional lighting		10.81%	36
2	Lighting on main routes only		67.57%	225
3	Lighting at play areas		32.43%	108
4	Lighting at sports areas		34.83%	116
5	Lighting entrances and exits to the park		71.47%	238
6	Lighting on national cycle/active travel routes		57.66%	192
7	Lighting specific areas in the park (please specify under 'Other' which areas)		10.51%	35
8	Other (please specify):		12.61%	42












### 6.3.6 Lighting concerns

When asked about concerns related to additional lighting being introduced in Queen's Park, half of all respondents (48%) are concerned with the effect on biodiversity, and 37% being concerned with the effect on climate change from the increased energy use. One in three respondents (35%) did not have any concerns.

12. Do you have any concerns about additional lighting in Queen's Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Affects biodiversity and habitats (Light pollution / tree removal for lights)		48.33%	159
2	Encourages anti-social behaviour		17.93%	59
3	Creates noise		6.99%	23
4	Climate change/ increased energy use		36.78%	121
5	Maintenance issues/costs		28.88%	95
6	Expensive to buy		13.68%	45
7	Council budget better spent on other priorities		18.54%	61
8	No concerns		34.95%	115
9	Other (please specify):		11.55%	38

### 6.3.7 Lighting benefits

Respondents were asked what the **benefits of additional lighting** in the park would be. For Queen’s Park, most respondents said that additional lighting would make it **‘safer to walk’ (85%) or ‘cycle’ (79%) thought the park**, it would ‘encourage more evening activities’ (70%), it would ‘encourage active travel’ (68%) and would ‘encourage more people to use the park’ (66%).

13. What are the benefits of additional lighting in Queen’s Park? (Tick all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Safer to walk through the park		85.37%	286
2	Safer to cycle through the park		71.34%	239
3	Safer for users of the park		79.70%	267
4	Encourages active travel (walking, wheeling or cycling)		68.06%	228
5	Encourages people to use sports facilities		46.57%	156
6	Extends the time children can play accompanied by an adult		47.76%	160
7	Extends the time children can play unaccompanied by an adult		27.16%	91
8	Encourages more people to use the park		66.27%	222
9	Encourages more evening activities in the park		70.15%	235
10	No benefits		9.55%	32
11	Other (please specify):		4.18%	14

The summarised outcomes from both the Place Evaluation workshops and the survey results were presented at the Working Group workshops that took place in Dec 22. This gave the attendees a full picture of the information and ideas gathered through these two different methods. Information on these workshops is in the following section.

### 6.4 Queen’s Park Working Group Workshop

<b>Date</b>	13 December 2022
<b>Total invited</b>	56
<b>Organisations invited</b>	18
<b>People attended</b>	12
<b>Organisations represented</b>	4

The attendees at the workshop included representatives from Friends of Queen’s Park Glasgow, Queen’s Park Allotments, residents living in the Park, Police Scotland and Glasgow City Council (including a local councillor). Specialists included planning, lighting, active travel, greenspace and community safety professionals. All invited organisations are in **Appendix One**. During the workshops attendees:

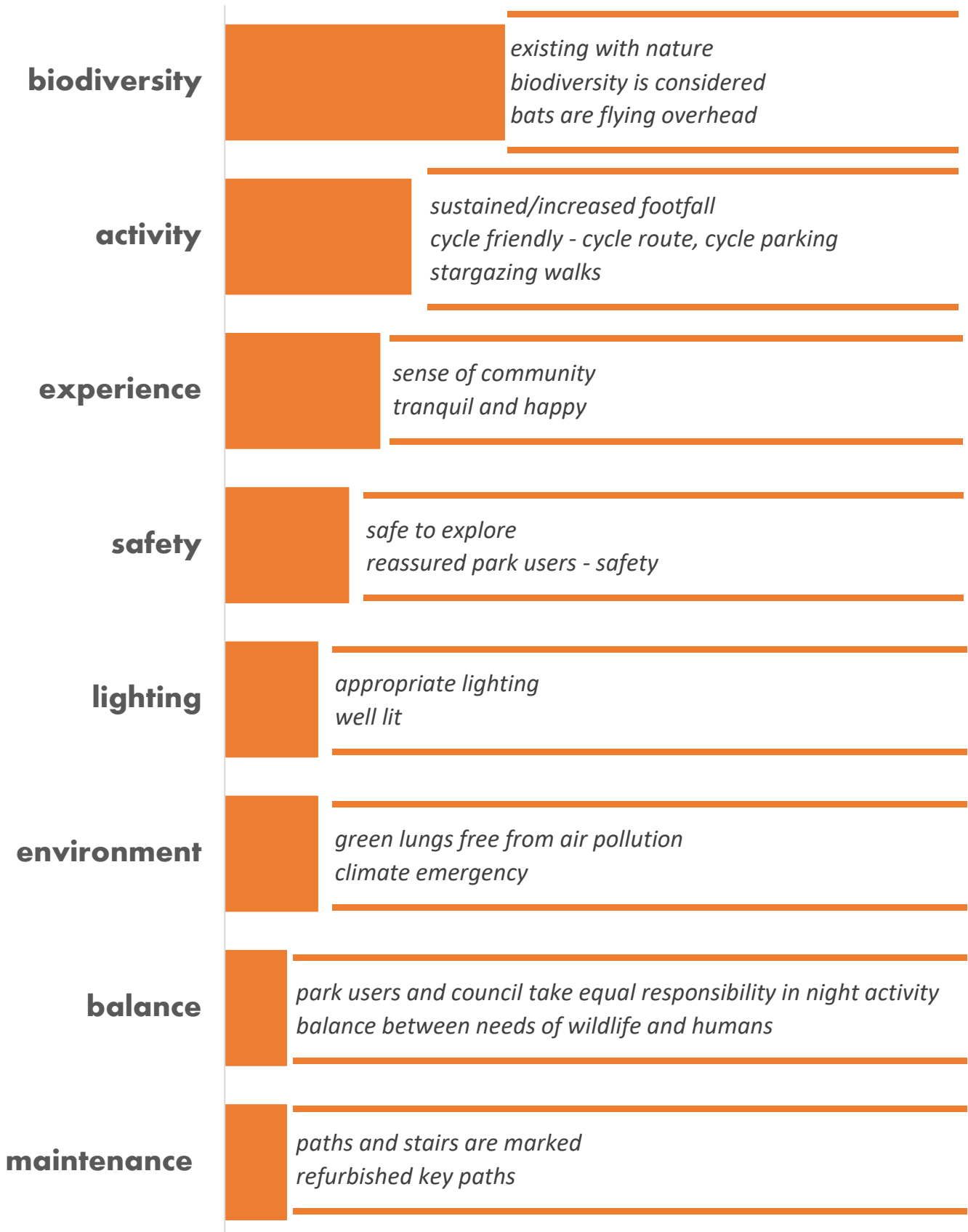
- Reviewed and considered the outputs from the Place Evaluation workshops and the online survey
- carried out a park visioning activity
- identified pros, cons and considerations of the routes and ideas from the Place Evaluation workshops

The community group members were all people who had attended the Place Evaluation workshop, four were members of Friends of Queen’s Park Glasgow. There were people who use the park for running, dog walking, solitude, food growing, walking and volunteering. There was a mix of personal views on the provision of lighting within the park. One person stated they felt strongly that we have a biodiversity crisis and that they were there to represent the wildlife within the park. Outputs are listed in full in **Appendix Six**.



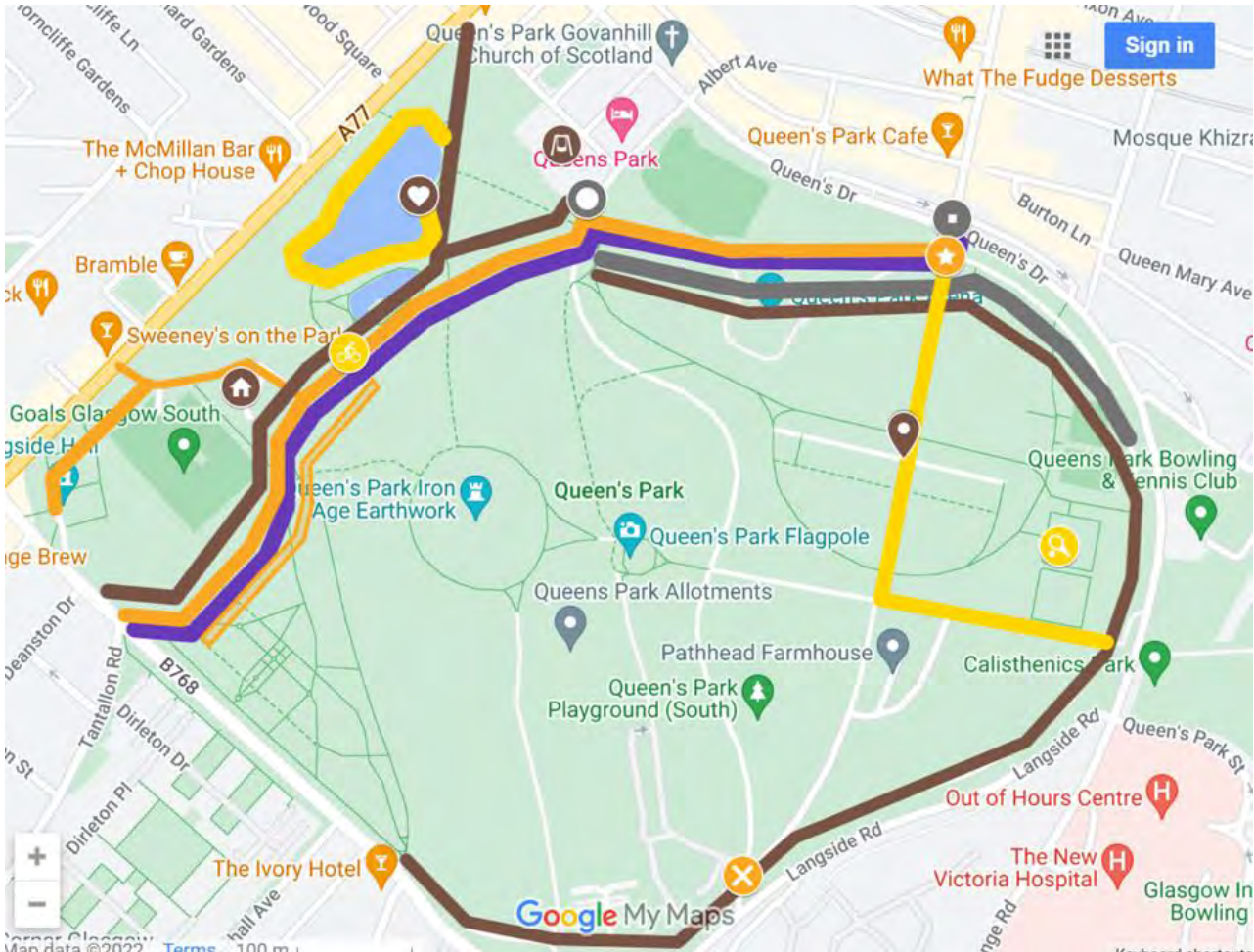
**6.4.1 Queen’s Park Visioning Activity**

The attendees carried out a visioning task giving their views of how the Park could be envisioned in the dark in winter 2024. Responses were single words or short sentences. All responses were grouped under the themes listed below. They are ordered from high to low by the number of responses under each theme, quoted responses are given as examples alongside the themes.



### 6.4.2 Queen’s Park Route Discussion

The attendees discussed the route maps that were created as part of the Place Evaluation workshops. The Pros, Cons and any Considerations related to the route and idea noted on the maps were discussed as a group. The [google map](#) (illustrated below) is best viewed in a browser to see the full information included in the legend descriptions.



#### Considerations Whole Park

Consider different types of technologies for the lighting.

Sensor lights are better for biodiversity and can be done in groups, individually or in banks of six. Question was asked if these could be triggered by foxes. See info on [lighting for Ecological management of the Parc de la Citadelle in Lille](#).

A long route has additional maintenance costs and issues - access into the park for vehicles required to access column lighting. It was confirmed that if new column lighting was installed it would be hinged and would not require a large vehicle to access it.

Question was raised on if Queen's Park Rec was going to be included or is going to be looked at. It currently has some lighting through the middle but is going to be developed to include a skate park.

**Brown Group**

-  Main lighting route
-  Perimeter lighting route
-  Heritage Stair Lighting
-  Existing lighting enhanced
-  Timed playpark lighting
-  Residential Flats



**Pros  
Brown map**

Keeps a dark centre to the park that benefits wildlife and users that enjoying using the park in the dark or want darkness activities.

Provides a route that it is close to the road with additional ambient lighting that gives easy access to entrances and exits. Provides some lighting for activities, walking and sitting near the pond.

Includes lighting to the playpark which would benefit families and give play opportunities in the winter.

Enhances existing lighting around the pond to create places to sit and enjoy the space.

**Cons  
Brown map**

The part of this route goes up the hill past the Glasshouses is very hemmed in with limited passive surveillance.

Biodiversity impact of such a long route. At Kelvingrove workshop lighting along the full length of routes was raised as an issue for biodiversity particularly for nocturnal animals and specifically bats.

Infrastructure costs would be high with such long routes

**Considerations  
Brown map**

The active travel and new infrastructure being developed for Battlefield Connections links into the circumference route proposed. Battlefield [Storymap](#) this will let you see the concept design around Queens Park

Lighting at the playpark could be used to balance out the glare that there currently is from lighting on the side elevation of the building facing the park.

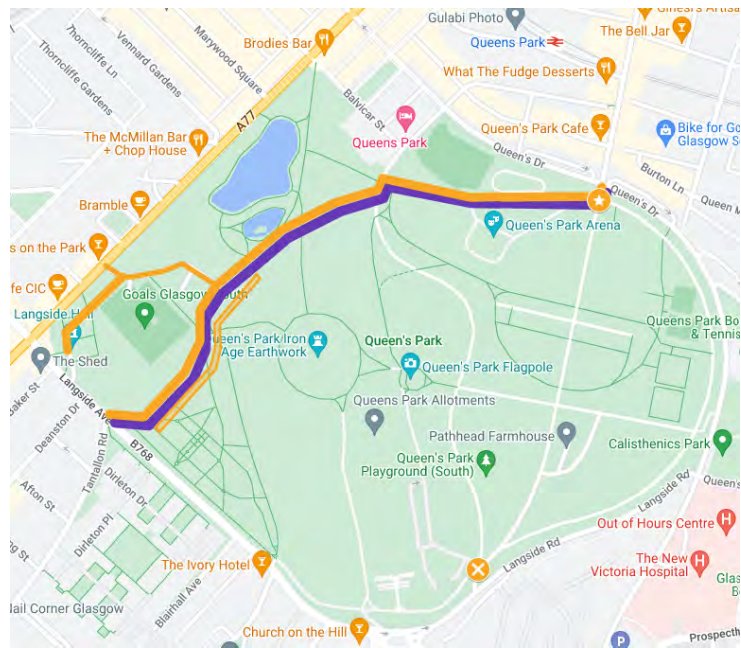
The circumference route picks up the area where new housing is being built that may provide additional ambient lighting. Consulting with them was raised by both developer and in the future the new residents.

**Purple Group**

- Active travel lighting route

**Orange Group**

- Possible lighting route 1
- Possible lighting route 2
- Existing Lighting
- Darker area with trees/bushes
- Busy entrance/junction 1
- Busy entrance/junction 2



<p><b>Pros</b> Orange/purple map</p>	Route is from one side of the park to the other.
	Creates a better connection between Victoria Road and Shawlands.
	Wide path (3m) so good for "busy" use.
	Connecting a popular school walking/cycling route, an active travel route and busy path used as a cut through off the street.
	Benefits running through the park - there are users who want to use the park for activity in hours of darkness am and pm.
	Part of the route is already lit.
<p><b>Cons</b> Orange/purple map</p>	Several very dark stretches of the park would be lit properly.
	Negative disturbance of peaceful night time atmosphere in the park.
	Path goes directly passed nature pond - impact of lighting on habitats and wildlife.
	Negative disturbing effect on wildlife and biodiversity impact.
	Large infrastructure requirement for full construction.
<p><b>Considerations</b> Orange/purple map</p>	Obscured sightlines at points along the path.
	It will be taking cyclists off main road - think about entrances/exits for onward routes.
	There is a need to think about shared use along this path and possibility of options to segregate cyclists and pedestrians and/or wheelers.
	Motion sensitive lighting solution could be appropriate with sensors along the route, consider the costs of this.
	Look at example of bollard level lighting on paths around the Burrell Collection.
There are existing embedded lights (not enough/not working). Clarify if they were effective and who is responsible for their maintenance.	

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**Considerations  
Orange/purple  
map**

Consider lit areas or points to sit and appreciate the park rather than full routes.

Blind summit on route, even when lit cannot see what is over it.

Prone to ice along this route.




Discussed that part of this route is now gritted for use walking, cycling and wheeling.

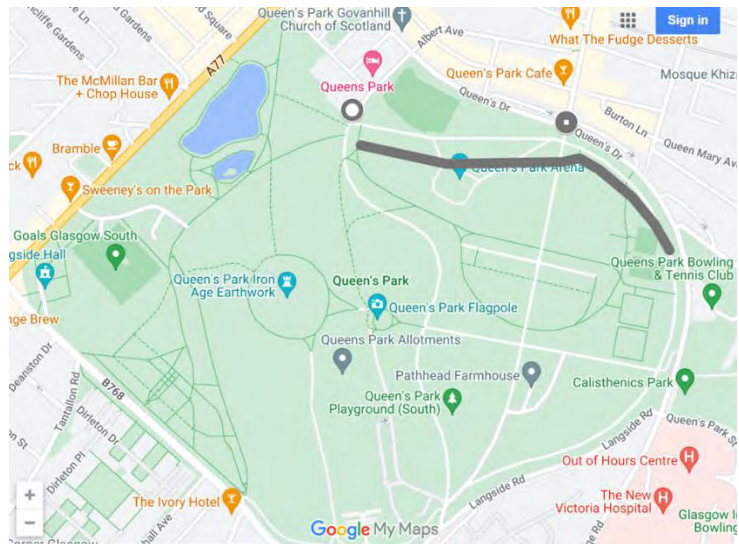
The park is used as a path when there are big events at Hampden - consider this when looking at lighting

Consider the events such as fireworks and new year and how that impacts lighting

It will be taking cyclists off main road - think about entrances/exits for onward routes.

**Grey Group**

-  No significant extra lighting
-  Entrance gate lighting repair
-  Entrance gate lighting glare



**Pros  
Gray map**

Adjacent lighting from Queens Drive is enough already

Popular route, well used already

**Cons  
Grey map**

Glare from lighting at Balvicar Drive is an issue when entering the park

This does not light the area of the path behind the bowling greens which has dense vegetation, limited sightlines through it and no ambient lighting coming from the street.

Exercise equipment would not be lit by ambient lighting





**Considerations  
Grey map**

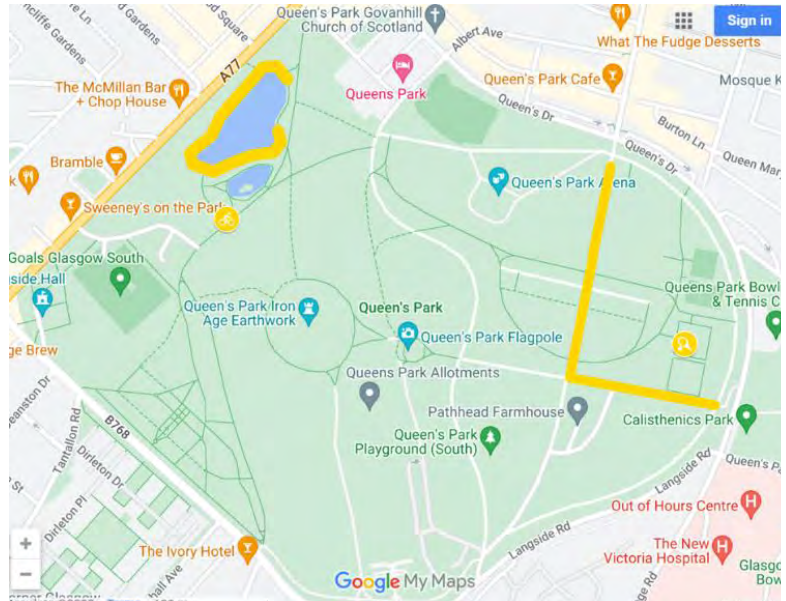
Existing ambient lighting from tennis courts is time limited and not on in the mornings. Does not help dawn use of the park.

Discussion around the lighting used when events at the Arena - how would this impact

Diffuse lighting from Queen's Drive

**Yellow Group**

-  Main lighting route
-  Sensitive lighting near pond
-  Lighting a park area
-  Motion sensor lighting



There was limited time to discuss the map as it was towards the end of the workshop and some participants had to leave.

<b>Pros Yellow map</b>	Incorporates a path that already has existing lights and these could be used as a pilot to trial other light options in this area.
	The right angle route near the tennis courts and lighting in this area could isolate lit activity away from the more natural areas.
	Creates a night-time activity zone around the tennis courts.
<b>Cons Yellow map</b>	This route does not provide a very good walking, running active travel route and is not great for people with mobility issues as it goes up a staircase and is up a steep hill in both directions.
	Possible light pollution if you are stargazing at the top of the hill.
<b>Considerations Yellow map</b>	Controlled or sensor lights are better for biodiversity but are more expensive.
	Question: Why would this route that goes up the main heritage staircase not just continue on to the exit on Langside Road?

## 7 Resource and Research Information

Over the course of this project greenspace scotland have gathered research from a number of sources on lighting, women and girls' safety and urban design for safety. These resources and reports have informed the project throughout and are listed below.

### 7.1 Women and Girls' Safety

#### Safety in Parks

Report on the views of women, girls and professionals in West Yorkshire with recommendations. [What makes a park feel safe? | Greenspace Scotland](#)

#### Glasgow: A Feminist City?

The Young Women's Lead social research on the subject of feminist town planning focusing on public parks and transport. [Young Women Lead Report](#)

#### Glasgow women's safety report

Wise Women, in partnership with Glasgow Girls Club, Commonplace and Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership, have developed a women's safety app. [Glasgow Women's Safety Survey](#)

#### Safe Spaces Now

UN Women UK's small charity team's national conversation helping to make our public spaces safe. [Safe Spaces Now - UN Women UK](#)

### 7.2 Planning, Design and Community Engagement

#### Creating Safer Spaces White Paper

A white paper produced in partnership with the Landscape Institute, with evidence-led guidance for landscape architects, local authorities, and developers to support the creation of safer spaces. [Creating safer spaces in the public realm white paper](#)

#### Make Space for Girls

Resources from of work done by various different organisations to engage with teenagers to make parks and public spaces which work for them. [Consultation - Make Space for Girls](#)

#### Women Transport Planners' research and toolkit

A toolkit of opportunities for every streetscape has been developed, focussing around those key decision points on our journeys, to promote safety and security for all. [Getting Home Safely](#)

#### Light in public space community collaboration guidebook

Signal Station North is an innovative district lighting plan and public space engagement initiative for Central Baltimore. The guidebook includes practical tools and inspiration for local projects. [Lighting Guidebook](#)

### 7.3 Lighting

#### Research into ambient lighting and safety

[Ambient lighting, use of outdoor spaces and perceptions of public safety](#)

#### Baltimore Projects - Community engagement enhances urban spaces

Active citizen voices help lighting designers balance concept, budgetary constraints, and execution in underserved neighbourhoods. [Projects - Community engagement enhances urban spaces](#)

#### New city park offering more greenery and safety

The city of Gothenburg developed a plan with local residents to upgrade a space into a city park. [Light and space for Gothenburg's oldest park](#)

## 7.4 Lighting and Biodiversity

Light is used by organisms in many ways. It is a source of energy and it is a source of information for all living beings. Organisms have evolved mechanisms and adaptations to make the best of natural light as a source of information and energy for millions, sometimes billions of years. The presence of artificial lights can disrupt these naturally evolved mechanisms.

### 7.4.1 Impacts and effects

The organisms that have been found to be most affected by light pollution are **insects (particularly flying insects like moths, which are important pollinators), birds and bats**. Through research scientists have started to show that effects on a particular group of animals might cascade on other groups:

- If insects are declining because of light pollution, then probably animals that normally eat insects (birds, bats) will also suffer, on top of the direct effects light pollution might have on them.
- Light pollution can push organisms away from an area to somewhere else, if they can. When that happens, it creates complex effect in the ecosystems, because suddenly there is restructuring of ecological communities that happens beyond the lit area.

Light pollution can affect wildlife broadly in three ways:

- By masking the natural light source that organisms use as a source of information. This is the case of species that use moon and starlight to navigate (for instance birds and bats) or to time specific behaviours. It can also result in animals being active at the wrong time, for instance birds that sing at night-time.
- By misleading animals to the wrong light source. This is the case for animals that move at night, which might mistake lit structures for the moon and stars, and then move towards them with the risk of colliding or getting stuck. Effects are seen not only by very prominent, massive light installations, but also at lighthouses and lit building in towns and cities.
- By distracting animals while they are performing a task. A famous example of this is wildlife crossing at roads (eg deers). Light beams from the cars can temporarily blind crossing animals.

### 7.4.2 Lighting and biodiversity solutions

Light pollution can be one of the easiest forms of pollution to solve. There are three major ways:

- Use light only **where** it is strictly needed. Point illumination towards the ground (there is no reason to point it to the sky and it will affect flying animals) and limit the area of the ground that is lit to what is strictly needed. The design of the lamp post and the intensity of the light bulb used are crucial aspects to consider.
- Use light only **when** it is strictly needed. Do not illuminate places or activity areas at times when nobody is using them or at anti-social times. Using LEDs can give a lot of flexibility, as they can be easily turned on and off or dimmed when light is not needed.
- Use light of the **right colour temperature**. Blue light is widely known to be bad for human and animals' circadian rhythms. Lots of the new LED installations use LED bulbs that are rich in blue wavelengths. Use lights that have a colour temperature with less blue wavelengths and more orange-red ones. In terms of colour temperature values (measured in Kelvin), choose bulbs with temperatures of 3000 K or lower.

The following links are a useful overview of the reported effects and reducing light pollution:

[Lighting for Policy Makers – International Dark Sky Association](#)

[Light Pollution Effects on Wildlife and Ecosystems](#)

[Relighting and rewilding our environment](#)

[The importance of conserving dark skies for people and nature](#)

[Global light pollution is affecting ecosystems—what can we do?](#)

*This lighting and biodiversity information has been provided by Davide Dominoni, School of Biodiversity, University of Glasgow. Davide attended the working group workshop for Kelvingrove Park.*