

Salisbury River Park: Masterplan and draft proposals for Phase 1 development

High level summary of public consultation, Nov 2020 – Jan 2021

The Salisbury River Park project is a collaborative project between Wiltshire Council and the Environment Agency to deliver flood risk alleviation, environmental improvements and public realm enhancements around the River Avon through central Salisbury.

The vision for the River Park is to deliver a legacy of riverside green space and urban wildlife habitat for the people of Salisbury and its visitors to enjoy well into the future. The River Park will better connect the linear riverside route from the Ashley Road Open Space towards Elizabeth Gardens, north to south through the centre of Salisbury along the margins of the River Avon. It will enhance the setting and quality of the river while delivering essential flood risk mitigation to protect existing and future residents and businesses, building resilience to the effects of climate change. Delivery of the Salisbury River Park project forms one of the central pillars of the Salisbury Central Area Framework (CAF), which presents a series of recommendations to help the city recover from the 2018 nerve agent attacks and the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic. The Salisbury CAF was endorsed by Wiltshire Council in August 2020, with the support of partner organisations including Salisbury City Council, the MP for Salisbury, and Salisbury Business Improvement District (BID).

The River Park is separate from, but nonetheless linked to Wiltshire Council's strategic objective to redevelop Salisbury's central car park as part of the Maltings and Central Car Park (MCCP) strategic allocation set by the Wiltshire Core Strategy. A masterplan for the Maltings and Central Car Park was endorsed by the council in June 2019, which included a requirement to deliver flood risk alleviation and biodiversity.

The Salisbury River Park proposals were the subject of public consultation that took place between Thursday 19th November 2020 and Friday 8th January 2021.

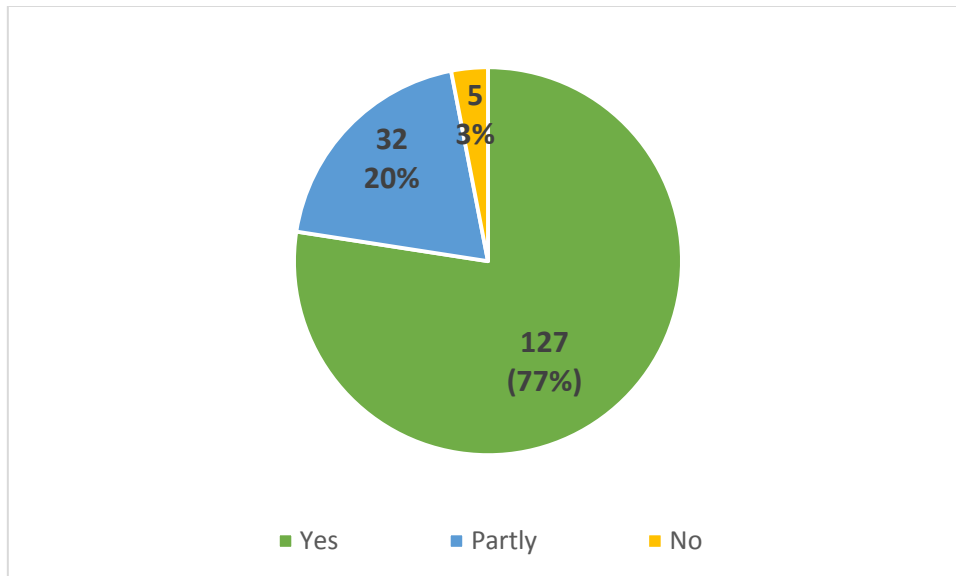
The consultation was split into two parts:

- Part 1: asked for feedback on the draft Salisbury River Park Masterplan, which sets the guiding principles for the development of the whole of the River Park, to be delivered over a number of phases.
- Part 2 asked for feedback on the Environment Agency's draft detailed proposals for Phase 1 of the River Park that will form part of a planning application in 2021.

Over the consultation period, **184 responses** to the Salisbury River Park consultation were received. Officers are now in the process of analysing these responses.

High level summary of results received in relation to Salisbury River Park Masterplan:

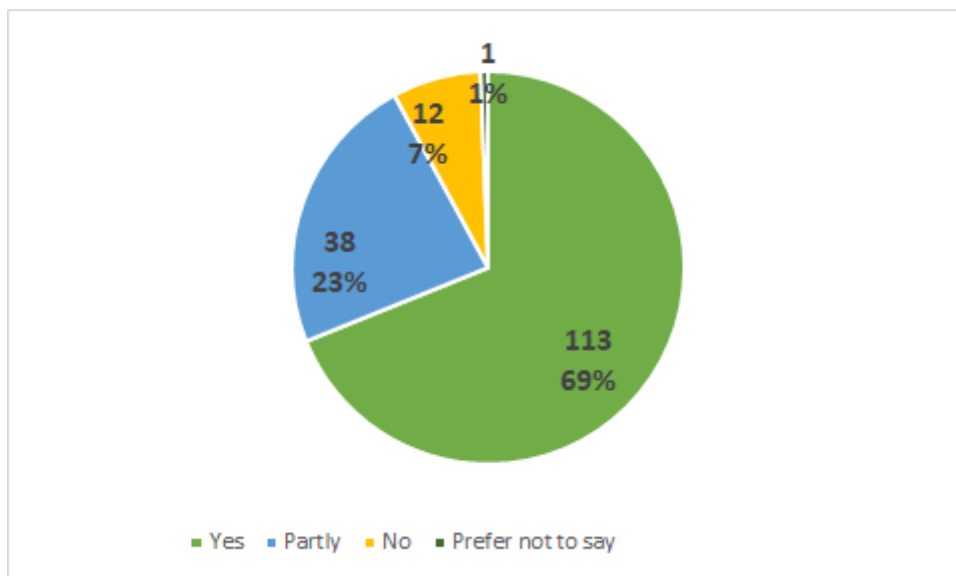
Of those that answered Questionnaire question 1, "Overall, do you support the proposals that are set out in the Salisbury River Park Masterplan?", the results were as follows:



A summary of the written feedback that was received will be presented and responded to as part of a Consultation Report to be prepared by officers at Wiltshire Council.

High level summary of results so far received in relation to EA Phase 1 proposals for CCP/coach park:

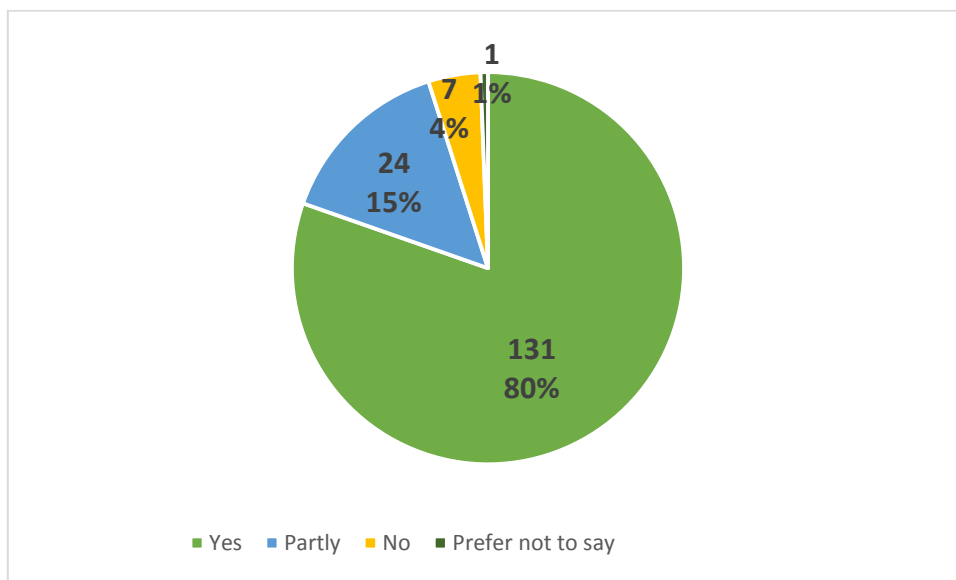
Of those that answered Questionnaire question 6, "Do you support the Environment Agency's draft proposals for the River Park at the central car park and coach park?", the results were as follows:



A summary of the written feedback that was received is expected to be presented and responded to as part of a Statement of Consultation Report to be prepared by the Environment Agency.

High level summary of results so far received in relation to EA Phase 1 proposals for Fisherton Rec/ Ashley Road Open Space:

Of those that answered Questionnaire question 13, “Do you support the Environment Agency’s draft proposals for the River Park at Ashley Road Open Space and Fisherton Recreation Ground?”, the results were as follows:



A summary of the written feedback that was received is expected to be presented and responded to as part of a Statement of Consultation Report to be prepared by the Environment Agency.

Next steps:

Officers in Wiltshire Council’s Major Projects team are currently in the process of analysing the responses that were received that relate to Part 1: the Salisbury River Park masterplan. A full summary, including responses to each of the points of feedback that were raised, will be presented as part of a Consultation Report. This report will be presented to the council’s Strategic Planning Committee alongside a revised version of the Salisbury River Park Masterplan for endorsement, which is expected to be in June 2021, alongside the Phase 1 planning application.

The Environment Agency will be using the responses received relating to the Part 2: Phase 1 proposal to inform the final designs for the Phase 1 proposals. It is expected that a full summary and responses will be presented in a Statement of Community Involvement to accompany the forthcoming planning application.