

Mearnskirk Estate Consultation Feedback Summary

East Renfrewshire Council (ERC) undertook consultation for the proposed widening of the footway on the west side of Mearns Road (adjacent to the Mearnskirk estate) between Monday 2nd and Monday 23rd August 2021.

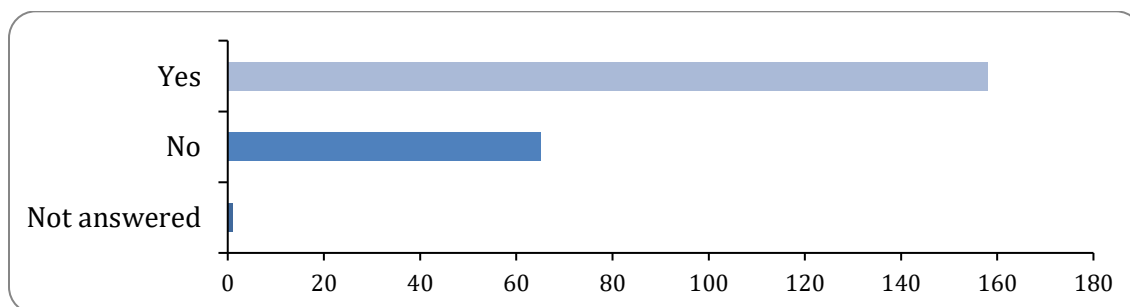
The consultation was predominately carried out online¹ however there were a small number of posted responses from information flyers delivered on behalf of ERC in the Mearnskirk estate.

In total there were **224** responses to the survey.

A summary of all responses is provided below.

1: Do you live in the Mearnskirk Estate?

There were 223 responses to this part of the consultation.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	158	70.5%
No	65	29.0%
Not Answered	1	0.4%

2: If you answered 'no', what area do you live in?

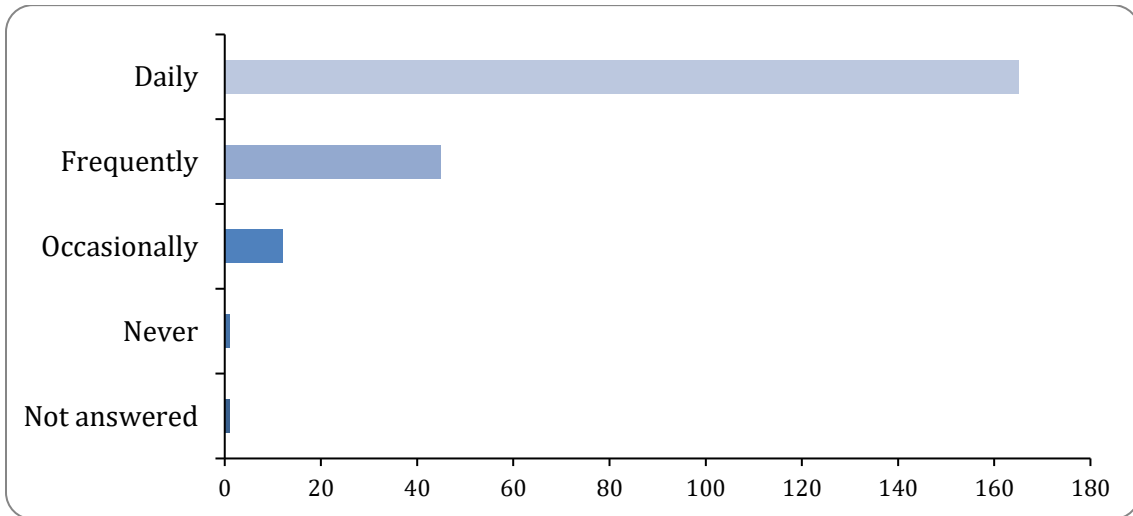
There were 64 responses to this part of the consultation. These include:

- 53 responses referenced places within a 10 min drive of the proposed project (including, amongst others, 'Newton Mearns, Mearns Road, Broom Estate, Paidmyre, Titwood Road, Newton Place')
- 9 responses referenced places outwith a 10 min drive of the proposed project (including 'Clarkston, Thornliebank, Stamperland, Netherlee, East Kilbride, G46')
- 2 responses referenced 'East Renfrewshire' as their residence

¹ <https://getinvolved.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/communications-team/mearnskirk-estate>

3: How often do you travel through the area?

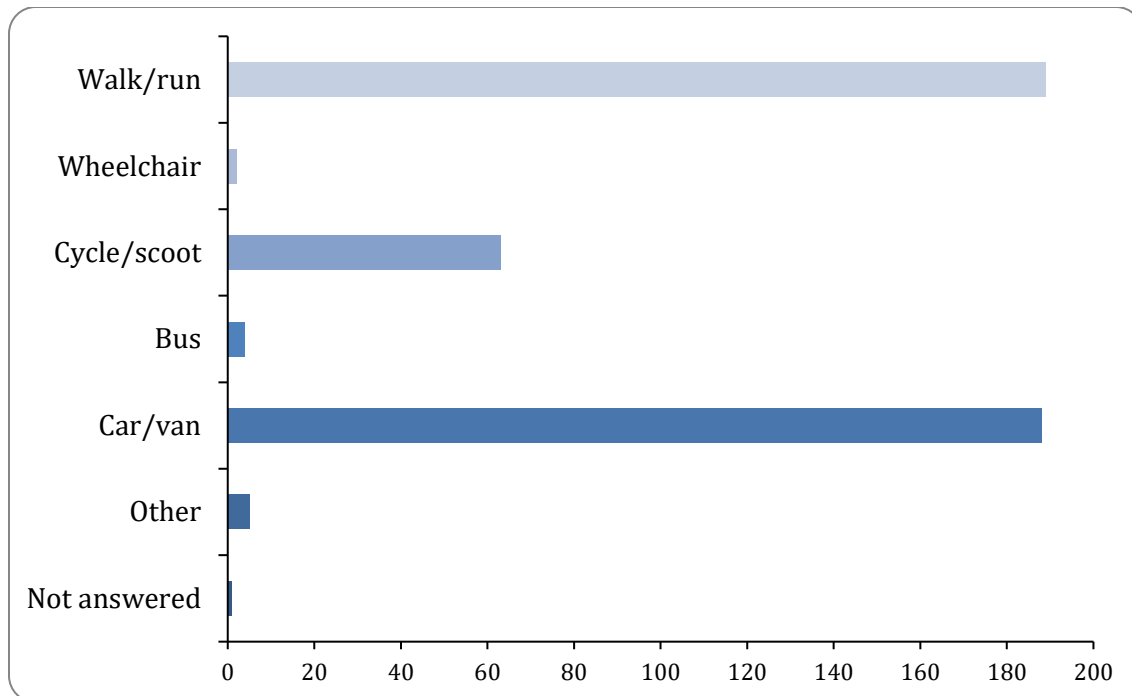
There were 223 responses to this part of the consultation.



Option	Total	Percent
Daily	165	73.7%
Frequently	45	20.4%
Occasionally	12	5.4%
Never	1	0.4%
Not Answered	1	0.4%

4: How do you tend to travel locally?

There were 223 responses to this part of the consultation. Each participant was allowed to select more than one travel mode.



Option	Total	Percent
Walk/run	189	84.4%
Wheelchair	2	0.9%
Cycle/scoot	63	28.1%
Bus	4	1.8%
Car/van	188	83.9%
Other	5	2.2%
Not Answered	1	0.4%

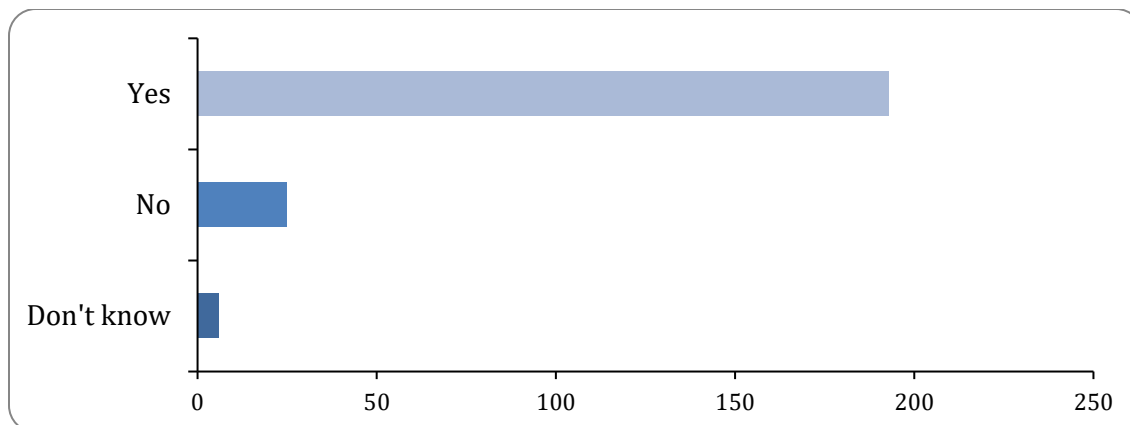
5: If you answered 'other', please state how you tend to travel.

There were 5 responses to this part of the consultation. These include the following modes, with the number of mentions in brackets:

- Tractor (1)
- Motorcycle (1)
- Horse riding (2)
- Walking with a buggy (1)

6: Do you feel the scheme is necessary?

There were 224 responses to this part of the consultation.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	193	86.2%
No	25	11.2%
Don't know	6	2.7%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

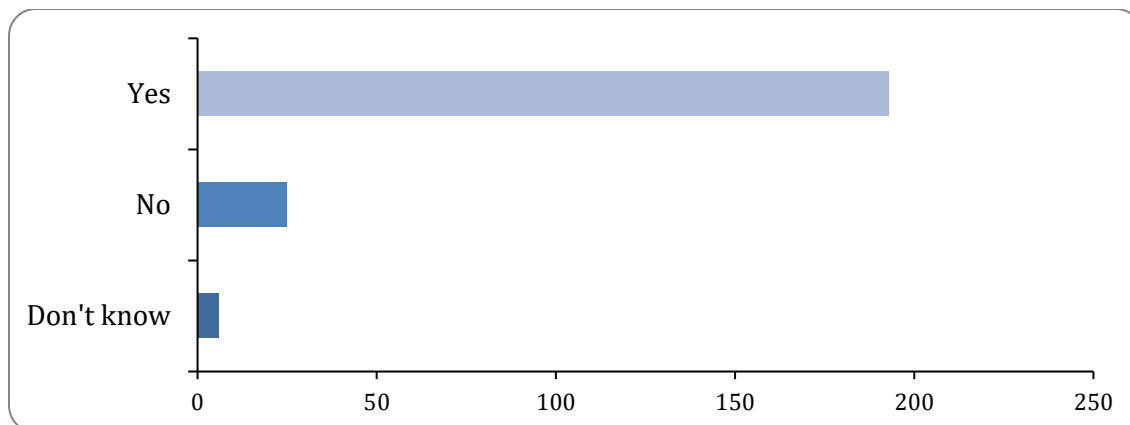
7: If you answered 'no', can you tell us why?

There were 24 responses to this part of the consultation. The categories, with number of occurrences in brackets, are shown below:

- Investment should prioritise improvements to roads (8)
- Existing footway is adequate (7)
- The scheme will negatively impact drivers (7)
- Footways in the area nearby are of low quality, scheme will not bring increase in usage (3)
- There are not enough users to justify improvements (3)
- There are not enough trip attractors to justify improvements (1)
- Investment should prioritise improvements to play areas (1)
- Investment should prioritise improvements to condition of footways (1)
- Vehicle speed is the main issue for footway users (1)

8: Do you think the scheme will help people to walk for everyday journeys and exercise?

There were 224 responses to this part of the consultation. The design of the questionnaire provided one opportunity to select a response to answer questions 6 (do you feel the scheme is necessary?) and 8 (do you think the scheme will help people to walk for everyday journeys and exercise?). Consequently, both questions show the same response distribution.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	193	86.2%
No	25	11.2%
Don't know	6	2.7%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

9: If you answered 'no', can you tell us why?

There were 22 responses to this part of the consultation. The categories, with number of occurrences in brackets, are shown below:

- Existing footway is adequate (11)
- Increase in available width will not encourage physical activity (5)
- Footways in the area nearby are of low quality, scheme will not bring increase in usage (4)
- There are not enough users to justify improvements (3)
- There are not enough trip attractors to justify improvements (2)
- The scheme will negatively impact drivers (1)
- Investment should prioritise improvements to condition of footways (1)
- Vehicle speed is the main issue for footway users (1)

10: Do you have any comments which you would like to be considered for the proposed scheme?

There were 173 responses to this part of the consultation. A first classification, shown below, presents results that show support, or lack thereof, to the scheme:

- 76 respondents expressed support for the scheme
- 7 respondents declared not supporting the scheme

The majority of responses included comments referring to different aspects of the scheme, identified issues, priorities and suggested interventions. These have been classified in categories, with the most popular (over 10 occurrences) shown below:

- 65 responses highlighted issues related to volume of road traffic and vehicle speeds. These were considered a key factor affecting the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.
- 46 responses expressed concern about safety for pedestrians between Mearnskirk and the new Co-Op store on 421 Mearns Road. This category includes issues of visibility around bends and lack of crossing facilities.
- 26 responses highlighted the need to improve the fence immediately adjacent to the proposed scheme, including the condition and the aesthetics, as well as enhancements to the section of land between the fence and the properties behind.
- 22 expressed concerns regarding the overgrown vegetation, and how it can affect movement on the footway as well as visibility of road traffic.
- 17 expressed concerns about safety for pedestrians accessing educational facilities, including pupils travelling to and from the nursery or towards schools in the area. The need for suitable crossing facilities was mentioned.
- 17 responses highlight the need to improve the footway network in the area nearby, to enhance the impact of the proposed scheme.
- 16 commented on road safety issues near the access to the Co-Op store on 421 Mearns Road.
- 16 expressed concerns about traffic management after the scheme is delivered, with numerous comments on the undesired reduction of carriageway width.
- 12 responses highlighted the need to replace the existing iron railings with a suitable standard. This category includes comments on the poor condition of the existing elements, and the need to provide a replacement that suits the aesthetics of the historic elements.
- 10 comments referred to the possibility of providing segregated cycling infrastructure.
- 10 respondents raised concerns about the condition of the road surface. This includes a preference for the Council to invest in improvements to roads, and references to the risk that this presents to cyclists.

11: What should be the Council's top 3 priorities in your neighbourhood to make it easier to travel on foot or by bike?

There were 194 responses to this part of the consultation.

The responses have been categorised into common themes, with the most popular (over 10 occurrences) shown below.

- 77 responses highlighted that the one of the top priorities should be to improve footways/footways. This includes widening and providing more footways and footpaths.

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- 51 responses stated that one of their top priorities was to improve the quality/surfacing of roads on Mearns Road (for cyclists) as well as other locations in East Renfrewshire in the form of resurfacing
- 51 responses raised concerns about dangerous driving and suggested that traffic calming, or speed cameras were required. Locations mentioned included, between the Co-op and Mearnskirk Roundabout on Mearns Road, as well as on Waterfoot Road.
- 31 respondents believed that a priority should be more segregated cycle lanes.
- 29 responses highlighted that a safe pedestrian crossing at new Co-op was required.
- 21 responses expressed concerns regarding overgrown vegetation on footways/paths and stated that a priority should be to keep this vegetation cut back. Locations mentioned included around Mearns Castle and on Mearns Road.
- 16 respondents wanted to improve pedestrian crossings (e.g. more signalised crossings, quicker response times to pedestrians waiting to cross).
- 15 responses highlighted poor/lack of lighting on footpaths/ways as an issue.