

City of Ipswich

Community Engagement Report

Camira Recreation Park

June 2026





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ipswich City Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners, the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People of the Yugara/Yagara Language Group, as custodians of the land and waters we share. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, as the keepers of the traditions, customs, cultures and stories of proud peoples.



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Disclaimer: Quantitative and qualitative data was collected from participants during the engagement, in accordance with council’s Information Privacy Policy. Quantitative data was downloaded from the various digital platforms and/or transcribed into a master Excel database by project staff. The data was cleaned, de-identified, aggregated and charted in the master database. Open thematic analysis of qualitative comments was carried out using Excel. For the purposes of this report, percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number, which may result in a total not equal to 100%.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ipswich City Council undertook community engagement from 20 April to 18 May 2026 to inform future planning for Camira Recreation Park, located at 74 Moss Road, Camira. The engagement focused on two key facilities within the park: the existing dog off-leash area and the netball courts, both of which are under review due to ageing infrastructure and site constraints.

The purpose of the engagement was to understand how these spaces are currently used, identify user groups, and gather community sentiment on several future options. These options included:

- Retaining the netball courts in their current form
- Converting the courts to open green space
- Removing some or all courts to allow for an expansion of the dog off-leash area

The dog off-leash area currently includes separate sections for small and large dogs. Due to flooding and overland flow constraints, any expansion of this facility would need to occur within the footprint of the existing netball courts. The courts themselves are significantly aged and would require substantial upgrades to meet contemporary standards; however, there are no current plans to refurbish them if retained.

Community members were invited to participate through an online survey, hard-copy submissions, direct email, and phone contact. All input gathered during the consultation period will be reviewed and considered as part of Council's next steps, supporting informed decision-making for the future of Camira Recreation Park.

The themes and stakeholder insights identified in this report will help inform the future of Camira Recreation Park, including the size of the dog off-leash area and the future of the netball courts.

WHY WE ENGAGED

Council has engaged to seek the sentiment of the park users regarding the current facilities at Camira Recreation Park, in particular the existing dog off-leash facilities and the netball courts. The engagement outcomes will be used to understand how the community currently use key facilities. In addition, the engagement explored community preferences for future options including:

- open green space with expansion of the existing dog off-leash area resulting from the removal of the netball courts,
- removal of some of the netball courts to allow for expansion of the existing off-leash dog area
- netball courts to remain unchanged.

Engagement



HOW WE ENGAGED

The engagement was undertaken between 20 April 2026 and 18 May 2026.

ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK CHANNELS

The community was able to contribute their feedback through the channels detailed below.

Shape Your Ipswich

Comments were captured via one engagement tool on the project page, www.shapeyouripswich.com.au/camira-recreation-park, hosted on Shape Your Ipswich. Survey questions can be seen at [Appendix 1](#).

Hard copy survey

Community members were able to complete a hard copy survey to share their feedback. The questions in the survey replicated the online version on Shape Your Ipswich. These surveys were mailed directly to residents surrounding the location.

Email

The community was able to directly reach out to council via communityengagement@ipswich.qld.gov.au with feedback on this project.

Phone

The community was able to directly reach out to council via 07 3810 6666 with feedback on this project.

PROMOTIONAL CHANNELS

To maximise awareness of the engagement opportunity, the following communication channels were used to reach the community and trigger awareness.

Shape Your Ipswich

One email campaign was sent out via Shape Your Ipswich on 20 April 2026 and was sent out to Shape Your Ipswich members who had selected any of the following categories of interest:

- Animals
- Parks and Recreation
- Camira

This campaign was sent to a total of 923 members, of which 377 opened the email.

Direct Mail

A formal notification was sent by mail to 657 Camira properties on 20 April 2026. The letter provided an overview of the project, hard copy survey with reply paid envelope, and directed recipients to Shape Your Ipswich for further details.

Signage

Signage was placed at Camira Recreation Park (74 Moss Road, Camira) from 20 April 2026 to 18 May 2026. To capture park users, there were four signs installed at key locations within the park. The signs installed included a QR code to Shape Your Ipswich and encouraged community to share their feedback. The signage design can be seen at [Appendix 2](#).

Media mentions

In addition to council-owned channels, media monitoring also recorded this engagement was mentioned in the following outlets:

- Charis Mullen MP | Facebook (21 April 2026)
- Springfield Lakes News | Facebook (8 May 2026)

Overall, these activities led to 710 views of the Shape Your Ipswich page and 227 contributions throughout the engagement as outlined in the table below.

ENGAGEMENT CHANNEL/S	CONTRIBUTIONS ¹
Hard copy survey	53
Email	5
Shape Your Ipswich	168
Phone	0
Total	227

¹ Total number of individuals who submitted feedback per engagement channel. Noting individuals may be counted multiple times if submitting multiple submissions across different channels.

WHO ENGAGED

Where reasonable, demographic data was captured as part of engagement activities. To understand how likely the findings in this report reflect the sentiment of the affected community, sample size and demographic representation have been considered.

SAMPLE SIZE

As part of community engagement planning, the following communities were identified as most likely to be impacted:

- Signatories of petition requesting alterations to the existing leash free dog area located at Camira Recreation Park, Camira
- Park users
- Residents living within proximity to the project site
- Local sporting groups

Some individuals may belong to more than one of the identified groups. Therefore, the impacted population has been estimated to be 10,000.

Based on a 95% confidence level, it is recommended that anywhere between 196-267 contributors participate to achieve a margin of error of approximately 6-7%. This range aligns with exploratory engagement activities seeking high-level insights into overall community preferences.

Across all engagement channels, a sample size of 227 was achieved, therefore fitting within the recommended sample size range to achieve a 95% confidence level and 6% margin of error.

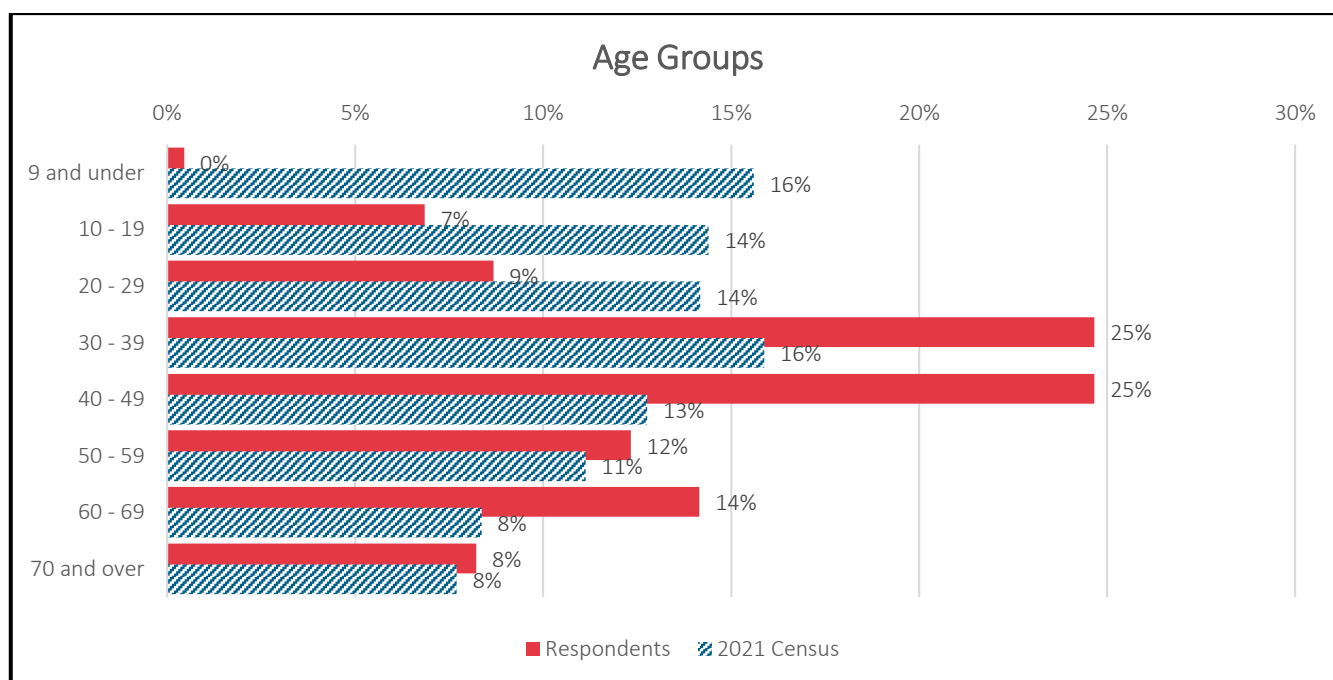
DEMOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION

Demographic information was collected through most engagement channels, except for email submissions, where requesting this information was not appropriate for the format. A minority of participants opted out of providing some or all demographic information.

Because reliable demographic data for the specific affected population is not available, the respondent profile has been compared against the broader Ipswich population. This benchmark provides useful reference points, while acknowledging that it may not perfectly reflect the demographics of those identified as most affected by this project.

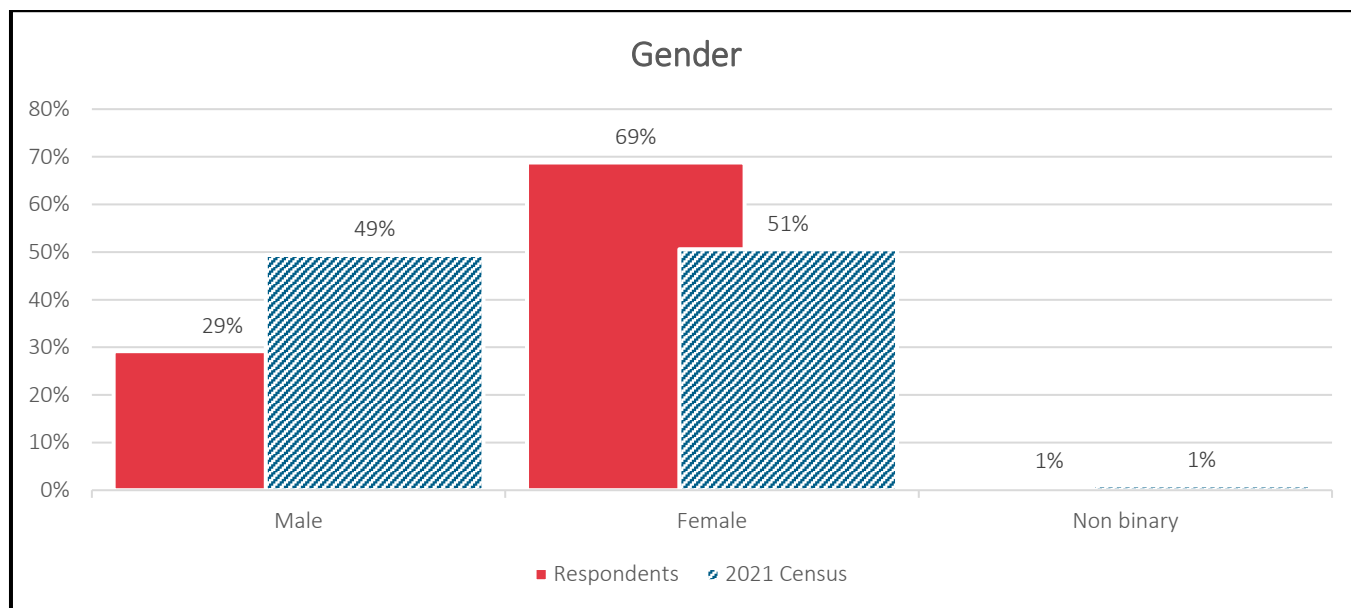
Age

The largest age groups represented in the survey were contributors aged 30 - 39 years and 40 - 49 years, each accounting for 25% of respondents. Smaller proportions of responses were received from children aged 10 - 19 years (7%). Respondents aged 20 - 29 years accounted for 9%, those aged 50 - 59 years for 12%, and contributors aged 60 - 69 years and 70 years and over each represented 8% of the sample. No respondents were aged 0-9 years.



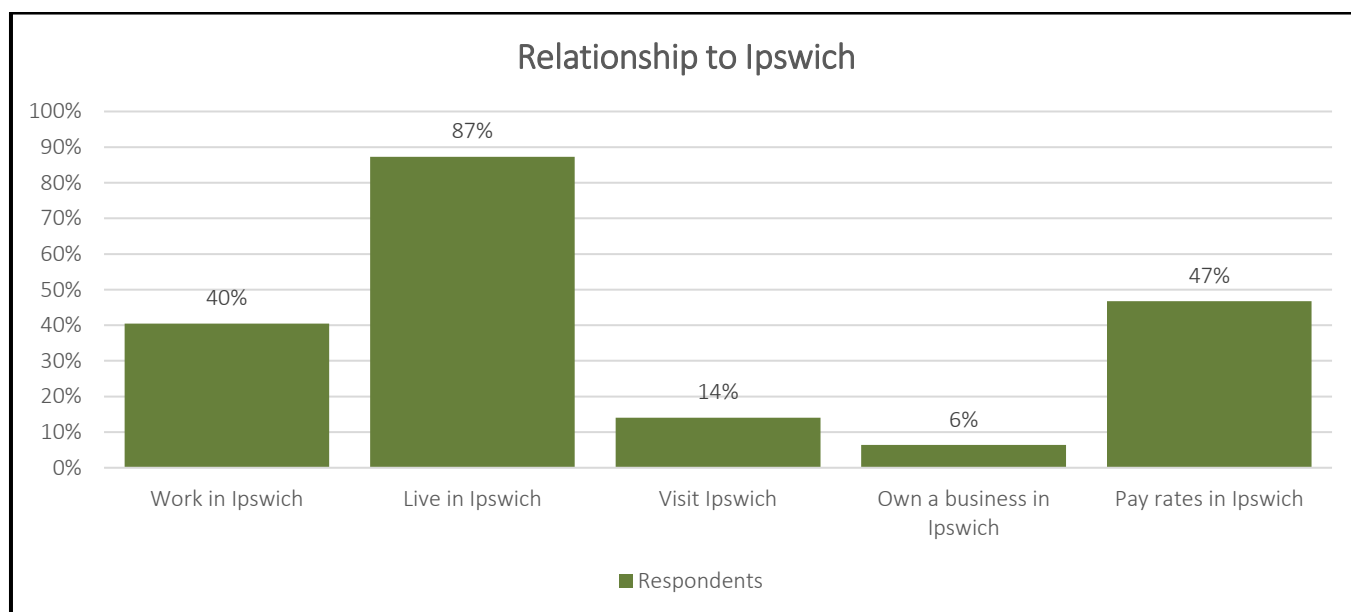
Gender

The majority of survey contributors identified as female (69%), with 29% identifying as male and 1% identifying as non-binary.



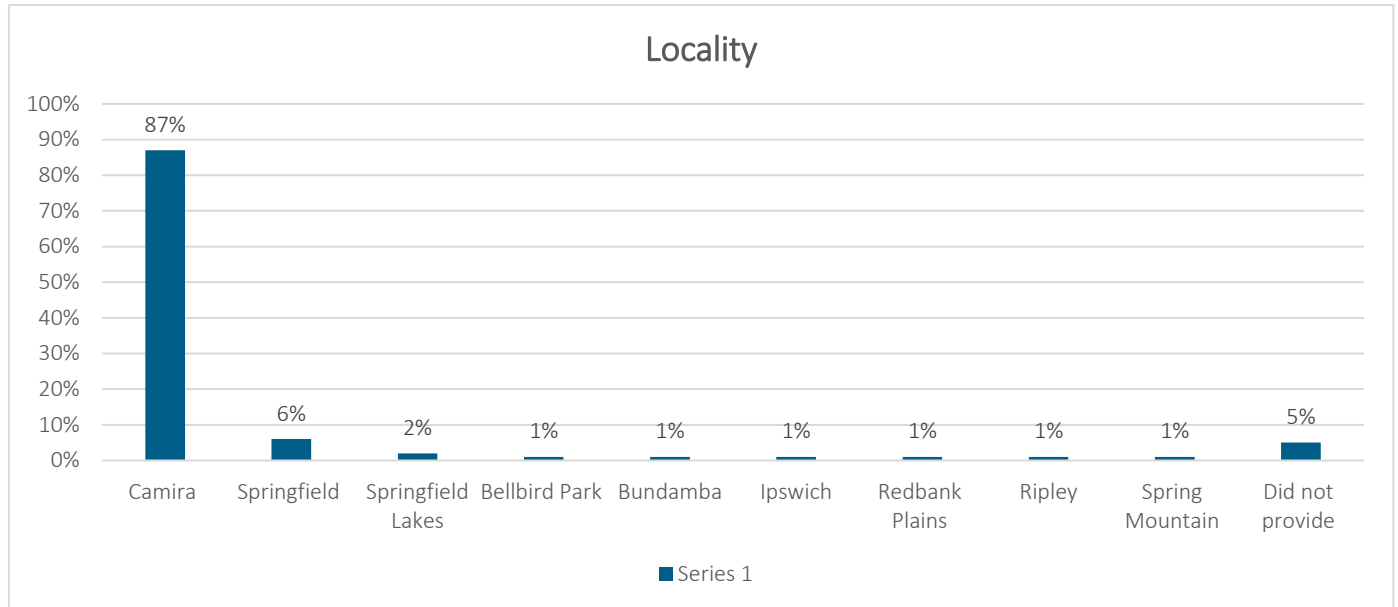
Relationship to Ipswich

87% of contributors reported that they live in Ipswich. 47% pay rates on properties within the city, 40% work in Ipswich, and 6% own or operate a business locally. 14% of contributors identified as visitors to Ipswich.



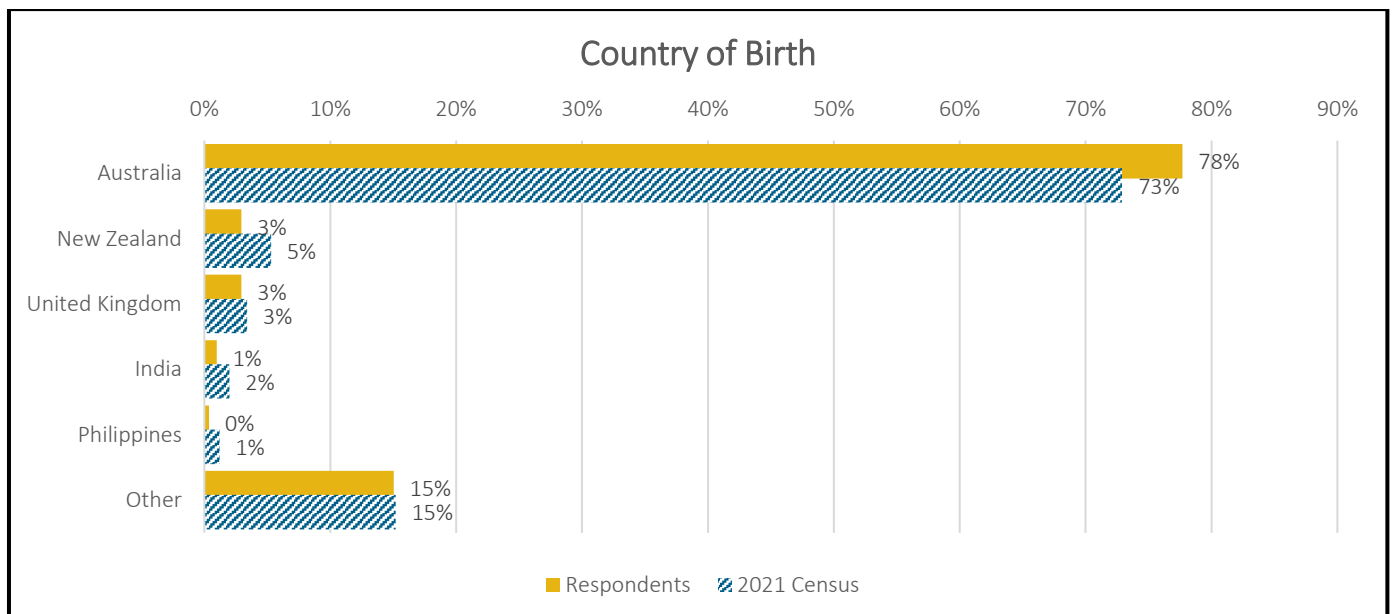
Locality

87% of contributors reported that they live within Camira. Springfield residents accounted for 6%, and Springfield Lakes for 2%. Bellbird Park, Bundamba, Ipswich, Redbank Plains, Ripley, and Spring Mountain each represented less than 1% of responses. 5% of contributors did not provide their suburb.



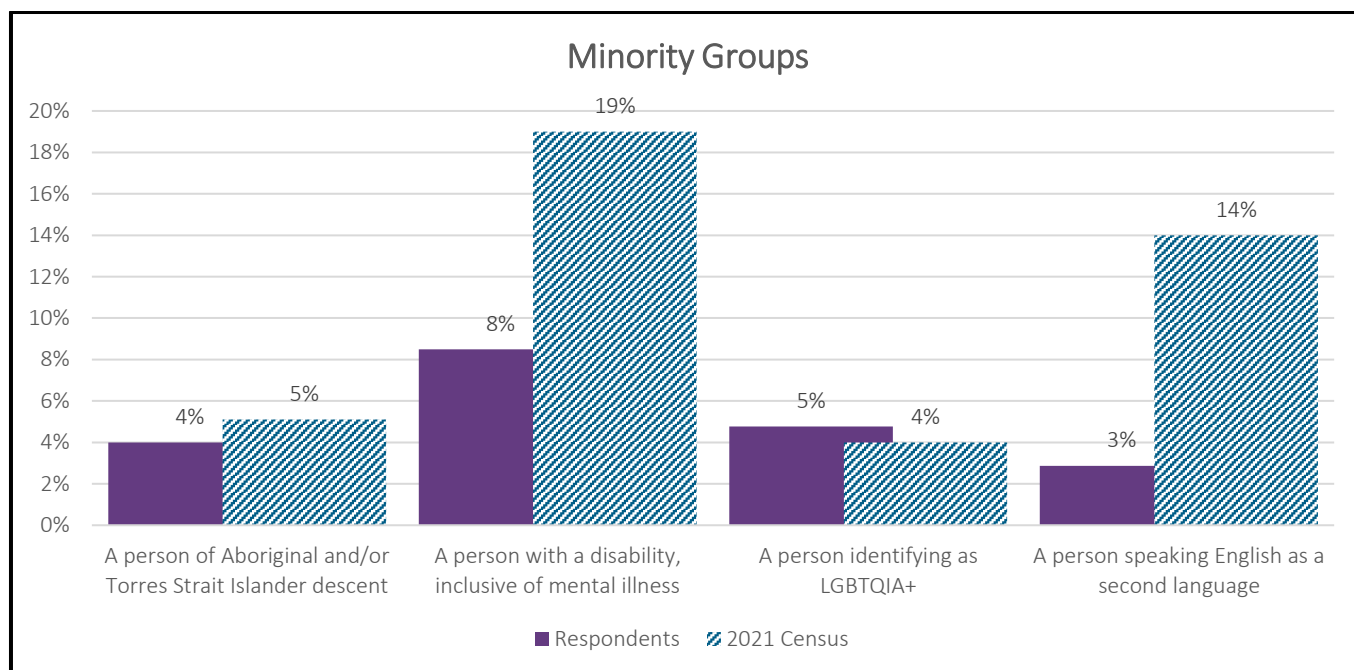
Country of birth

The majority of survey contributors (78%) reported Australia as their country of birth. 3% were born in New Zealand and a further 3% in the United Kingdom. 1% of contributors reported being born in India and less than 1% in the Philippines. An additional 15% identified other countries of origin.



Minority groups

8% of contributors identified as a person with a disability, including those living with mental illness. A further 5% identified as members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and 4% identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. 3% of contributors reported speaking English as a second language.



OVERALL REPRESENTATIVENESS

Given the representation from most of the identified characteristics of the affected community, in conjunction to meeting the recommended sample size with 227 contributors, findings outlined in this report are considered statistically representative of the affected community.

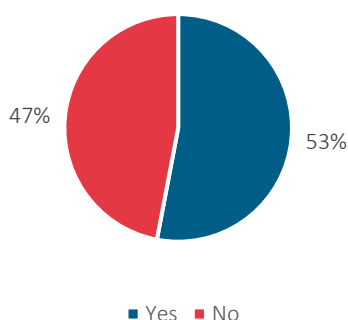
These findings may be less representative of males, people under 30 years old, people with disability, and respondents who speak English as a second language, due to the low number of contributors from these demographic groups.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US

Q: Do you use the Camira Recreation Park off-leash dog area?

Of the 227 respondents to this question, just over half (53%, 120 respondents) shared that they use the off-leash dog area, and the remaining 107 (47%) shared that they do not.

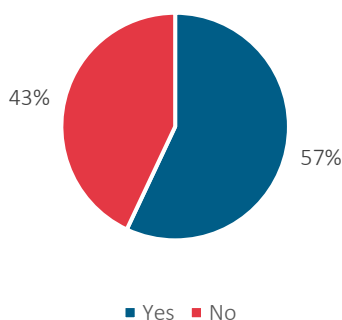
Do you use the Camira Recreation Park off-leash dog area?



Q: Do you use the Camira Recreation Park netball courts?

Similarly, of the 227 respondents to this question, just over half (57%, 130 respondents) shared that they use the netball courts, and the remaining 97 (43%) shared that they do not.

Do you use the Camira Recreation Park netball courts?



Q: Please list any activities you have observed taking place on the netball courts.

Of the 213 responses to this question, bikes and scooters were the most frequently mentioned activity, with 167 contributors (78%) reporting their use. 61 of these comments (29%) referred to learning or teaching others to ride or observing safe bike and pedestrian practice. 28 respondents (13%) mentioned the use of skateboards, roller skates or rollerblades.

General play was also commonly observed, with 118 contributors (55%) reporting activities such as hopscotch, chalk art, and general children's play. 82 respondents (38%) mentioned general ball games, while 77 (36%) specifically identified basketball and/or netball. Other ball-related activities were mentioned once per contributor and included handball (20; 9%), soccer (12; 6%), tennis (1; <1%), pickleball (1; <1%), T-ball (1; <1%), and cricket (1; <1%).

Exercise and fitness activities were noted by 24 respondents (11%), ranging from individual workouts to structured and informal group fitness. Observations included laps, drills and other training sessions.

There were five mentions of dog training occurring on the flat space (2%), and nine mentions of remote-controlled vehicles, including beginner drone use, remote-controlled cars, and children's ride-on buggies (4%). Two respondents (1%) also described the space being used for wheelchair activities.

Two contributors (1%) reported witnessing illegal activities, and 20 (9%) indicated that they had not observed any use of the site.

There	Number	Comments
Bikes and / or sooters	167	<i>"I have been riding my bike in the afternoon some days"</i> <i>"older kids riding a bike or roller-skates."</i> <i>"Learning to ride a bike or scooter."</i>
General family and / or small children play	118	<i>"I've seen being used with family members"</i> <i>"Children playing (esp when weather is wet)."</i> <i>"The only use I have been aware of, is the gathering of an Ethnic group 'get together' on an occasional Sunday"</i> <i>"Dancing"</i> <i>"There is also a good number of people with Pasifika heritage who occasionally pick the broad leaf vegetation in Sandy Creek and they access the creek through the netball courts."</i>
General ball games	82	<i>"Practicing hoops"</i> <i>"Ball games"</i> <i>"Shooting hoops practice"</i>
Basketball and / or netball	77	<i>"Children practising shooting hoops for netball"</i> <i>"People playing basketball with the netball hoop"</i> <i>"Netball"</i>
Learning to ride	61	<i>"Learning to ride bikes"</i> <i>"Toddlers learning to ride bikes, scooter"</i> <i>"Toddlers learning to walk and balance on a bike"</i>
Fitness and exercise	34	<i>"Fitness training"</i> <i>"Running - Nike Rodes"</i> <i>"Fitness training with music".</i>
Skateboard, roller skates, roller blades	28	<i>"Skateboard and scooter riding-and learning"</i> <i>"Some roller-skating"</i> <i>"Teaching kids to ride bikes/skates"</i>
Handball	20	<i>"Handball".</i> <i>"Heaps of kids use the netball courts daily for handball"</i>
Soccer	12	<i>"Soccer"</i> <i>"Kicking the ball around"</i>
Remote control vehicles	9	<i>"Small cars with a remote to operate them"</i> <i>"Remote control cars etc"</i> <i>"Drone operators"</i>
Dog training	5	<i>"Dog training"</i> <i>"People training their dogs"</i>
Tennis, Pickleball and / or Cricket / T-ball	4	<i>"Pickleball and tennis"</i> <i>"Pickleball we take out net down there"</i>
Illegal activities	3	<i>"Hoons terrorising dogs in the Large Dog area with their off-roads motorcycles, as well as cars, doing 'donuts' and further damaging the surface of the Netball Courts."</i> <i>"Cars hooning - zooming."</i>

There	Number	Comments
Wheelchair Accessible Play	2	<i>"My children love big open paved places because they are accessible to children in wheelchairs"</i>
No activities observed	20	<i>"Didn't notice any so far. "</i> <i>"nil"</i> <i>"none"</i>

Q: Extending the off-leash dog area would require removing some or all of the existing netball courts. Please share any views you have about this potential change.

Of the 212 responses to this question, 79 respondents (35%) were supportive of removing all or part of the netball court, while 123 respondents (58%) were not supportive. Two comments (1%) did not relate to the topic of the engagement.

Theme	Number	Summary
Positive / Supportive	79	<i>"The Camira dog park has needed an upgrade for years. An extension would allow more running space for both small and medium to large dogs, as well allowing improvements to owner seating and shading."</i> <i>"Great idea. The off leash dog park is desperately in need of an upgrade/extension."</i> <i>"Would be nice to expand dog area, maybe add some little jumps like at Redbank Plains."</i>
Neutral	9	<i>"Please leave a couple of the courts!"</i> <i>"Extending is good but leave some area for the children to ride their bikes on a solid surface."</i> <i>"I think all of the above ideas are pretty pointless to be honest. One netball court is more than sufficient for this area with no club in Camira anymore anyway, and surely the existing dog parks are fine"</i>
Negative / Not Supportive	123	<i>"I feel extending the dog park is unnecessary. The dog parks are currently bigger enough as it."</i> <i>"The dog park does not need to be extended it needs shade and maybe another seat extra seat in the small park. It is more than suitable as in size as it's never over crowded."</i> <i>"There are plenty of dog areas in our community already."</i> <i>"Absolutely not in favour of removing any of the courts."</i>
Ineligible	2	Comments received were out of scope for this engagement

Q: Please share any further comments, concerns, or suggestions about the netball courts or the off-leash dog park.

Of the 197 responses to this question, a range of comments were received that were considered out of scope for this engagement. These included requests for the installation of toilets, playgrounds, zero-depth water play, fitness equipment, and the refurbishment of the netball courts to competition standard.

38 respondents (19%) requested increased shade and shelter, particularly within the existing small off-leash dog area, and 25 comments (13%) related to general maintenance, including track upkeep and drainage improvements. There were 15 mentions of additional greenspace (8%) and five suggestions (3%) for an agility area for dogs. Seven comments (4%) highlighted the need for wheelchair-accessible play, and three (2%)

requested additional toilets. Support for a dedicated bike track was also noted, with 40 contributors (20%) raising this as a desired improvement.

A further 20 comments (10%) expressed a preference for little to no change, including opposition to the resumption of the netball courts for expansion of the dog off-leash area.

Theme	Number	Summary
Dedicated Bike and Track/s	40	<i>"A kids traffic area, so they learn road rules (traffic signal riding areas)."</i> <i>"Dirt bike track. Kids of all ages love that stuff."</i> <i>"The netball court area should be turned into a bike track or pump track for kids to ride their bikes"</i> <i>"If able to maybe put a bike track instead of netball courts"</i> <i>"cycle path for kids learning to ride"</i> <i>"young kids bike/roadway so that they can used their imagination with using bikes on a flat even ground and practice road rules"</i> <i>"A bike track on the courts"</i>
Increased Seating and Shelter	38	<i>"Shade and some more seating in the small dog park would be more than suitable."</i> <i>"It is a disgrace that people in small dog park have no cover or seating now."</i> <i>"It would be greatly appreciated if council could put up a shelter somewhere in the small dog park area, which we were told was only temporary"</i>
General Maintenance	25	<i>"Would be good to see this area upgraded to look better. Looks run-down at the moment"</i> <i>"Concrete path so kids in particular can ride around on."</i> <i>"Tidy up both parks. The netball courts are messy "</i>
Play Spaces	17	<i>"Could replace netball courts with a playground for kids"</i> <i>"A playground would be a great addition to the park "</i> <i>"Please turn into a pump track and/or a nice children's playground"</i> <i>"Could the surface be painted to be a play area as well"</i> <i>"The only thing the park needs is a small play ground for the children for attend the soccer."</i>
Netball Court Maintenance	16	<i>"Maybe if the netball courts aren't used for netball, have half court so kids can practice hoops, make art and some handball lines"</i> <i>"I am concerned the very uneven surface of the netball courts poses a danger"</i> <i>"The netball courts being redone would encourage more community usage in the area."</i> <i>"The court surface is quite rough and uneven"</i> <i>"Possibly add a basketball court, or refurbish the courts nearby."</i> <i>"The netball courts have not been properly maintained and are a safety risk in there current state. Large cracks, overgrowth, tree roots creating an uneven surface and rain causing said surface to become dangerously slippery."</i> <i>"I propose that the Council considers resurfacing and repurposing this area"</i>

Theme	Number	Summary
Green Space	15	<i>"More green space would be more appealing "</i> <i>"developing and maintaining a walking path that extends the existing pathway from the wooden bridge over Sandy Creek at the end of Moss Road"</i> <i>"There is an opportunity for Council to open up some of the remarkable bushland in Camira by embracing a broader vision about the sporting and recreational needs of the community members."</i>
Fitness Equipment	14	<i>"Exercise equipment, sit ups, chin ups"</i> <i>"Fitness equipment"</i> <i>"Another option that would be great is an exercise park, gym equipment"</i> <i>"Exercise equipment, sit ups, chin ups"</i>
Wheelchair Accessible Play	7	<i>"We have lots of dog friendly spaces, and very few welcoming spaces for young children and disabled children"</i> <i>"Pavement games, obstacle courses, bike ramps, parents seating."</i>
Dog agility equipment	5	<i>"Dog agility style equipment as seen at some of the inner-city dog parks."</i> <i>"More agility for dogs like Meadowbrook dog park."</i> <i>"Dog agility "</i>
Dissatisfaction with process		<i>"My primary concern is the apparent lack of appropriate community consultation regarding the scale and impact of this development. Many local residents feel that there has not been sufficient transparency or meaningful engagement with the community before progressing plans that will significantly affect the character and liveability of the area."</i> <i>"I think it's been going on for far too long and we've had a petition signed by 160 people to change it. "</i>
Toilets	3	<i>"There is always birthday parties held there, need more toilets."</i> <i>Additional toilets"</i> <i>"Another toilet would be good"</i>
No updates required	20	<i>"Please save rate payers money for more important infrastructure."</i> <i>"Please leave the netball courts as is, they get plenty of use."</i> <i>"It is fine how it is don't change it we love this area don't change it"</i> <i>"I use the dog park often and think the area is very suitable, it's never overcrowded."</i>

FINDINGS

Review and analysis of the data from all engagement activities identified the following key findings from the community.

Findings as outlined in this report are to be shared publicly via Shape Your Ipswich, along with relevant project updates to show how the community's feedback has shaped this project.

Satisfaction with current facilities

Overall, 58% of contributors reported being dissatisfied with the proposition of removal of the netball court. Many noted that if part of the court remains, it should be resurfaced. Respondents supported adding a basic hoop and painted lines to support bike learners, wheelchair users and general play.

Support for change

35% of respondents expressed support for removing half of the courts if required to extend the off-leash dog area, with comments suggesting this would improve the experience for dogs and dog owners

Use of the courts

57% respondents stated they use the netball courts. The courts are most frequently used for bike and scooter riding, reported by 167 respondents (79%), with a further 61 respondents (29%) observing learning-to-ride activities. General play and family/small-children play were also common, reported by 118 respondents (56%).

Additional themes and requests

When invited to share further comments, 40 respondents (19%) suggested converting the courts into a bike track. There was also support for incorporating more seating and shelter, playgrounds, green space, fitness equipment, dog agility equipment, wheelchair-accessible play spaces, dog agility equipment and toilets. Comments also requested increased maintenance of existing facilities.

Concerns raised

Community members raised safety concerns about the current condition of the courts, noting cracks and lifting surfaces. Several contributors also expressed feeling unheard, citing the long gap between the initial petition and the current consultation, the extended duration of the temporary off-leash area, and uncertainty about whether earlier concerns had been considered in this engagement.

The information may be used to inform next steps for this project.

APPENDICES

1. HARDCOPY SURVEY

Camira Recreation Park

SHARE
YOUR
FEEDBACK

Council is seeking your feedback on the future of Camira Recreation Park (74 Moss Road, Camira), including the existing off-leash dog area and the ageing netball courts. We want to understand how these spaces are currently used and gather community feedback on future options.

Time required to complete: 3-5 minutes.

Consultation period: 20 April – 18 May 2026

Surveys can be returned by:

- Posting to PO Box 191, Ipswich QLD 4305 (Attn: Community Engagement team)
 - Dropping off in person at 1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich
 - Scanning a copy and emailing communityengagement@ipswich.qld.gov.au
- Learn more about this project at <https://www.shapeyouripswich.com.au/camira-recreation-park>

Q1: Do you use the Camira Recreation Park off-leash dog area?

Required

Select one answer only

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q2: Do you use the Camira Recreation Park netball courts?

Required

Select one answer only

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q3: Please list any activities you have observed taking place on the netball courts.
This can include anything from learning to ride a bike to playing casual games on the courts.

Q4: Extending the off-leash dog area would require removing some or all of the existing netball courts. Please share any views you have about this potential change.

Q5: Please share any further comments, concerns, or suggestions about the netball courts or the off-leash dog park.

Camira Recreation Park

SHARE
YOUR
FEEDBACK

About you

We want to make sure we are hearing from people of all backgrounds. Please complete these questions to help us know who has or has not been represented through this survey.
Your personal information provided in this form will be managed in accordance with the *Information Privacy Act 2009*. To access your information, please contact our Information Privacy Officer at (07) 3810 6666. For further details, visit our Privacy Statement at www.ipswich.qld.gov.au.

Q6: Gender. **Required**

Select one answer only

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other identity
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Q7: Year of birth. **Required**

Year only

Q8: Where do you live? **Required**

Suburb only

Q9: What is your cultural background? **Required**

Country only

Q10: What is your relationship to Ipswich? **Required**

Select all that apply

- ☐ I live in Ipswich
- ☐ I work in Ipswich
- ☐ I study in Ipswich
- ☐ I own/operate a business in Ipswich
- ☐ I own property in Ipswich
- ☐ I am a visitor to Ipswich

Q11: Do you identify as a person with any of the following? **Required**

Select all that apply

- ☐ A person of Aboriginal descent
- ☐ A person of Torres Strait Islander descent
- ☐ A person with a disability, inclusive of mental illness
- ☐ A person identifying as LGBTQIA+
- ☐ A person speaking English as a second language
- ☐ None of the above

Thank you for completing the survey.

2. SIGNAGE



GLOSSARY

Affected community – People and groups who are most likely to experience direct or indirect impacts from the project.

Cleaned data – The process of checking and correcting data. This includes removing duplicates, obvious errors or incomplete entries. This work is undertaken prior to analysis.

Confidence level – The statistical likelihood that the engagement results reflect the views of the broader population within a stated margin of error.

De-identified data – Removal of personal identifies within data to ensure individuals cannot reasonably be identified.

Demographic representation – The degree to which the profiles of respondents reflect the affected community.

Exploratory research – Engagement designed to identify broad themes and trends.

Margin of error – A statistic expressing the expected range of difference between sample results and the true population view (smaller margins require larger sample sizes).

Open thematic analysis – A qualitative method for coding comments and identifying recurring themes and patterns without a predefined coding frame.

Sample size – The number of participants who provide input. This influences the reliability of findings.

Statistical representation – The extent to which a sample's size and composition allow findings to be reflective of the wider affected community.



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