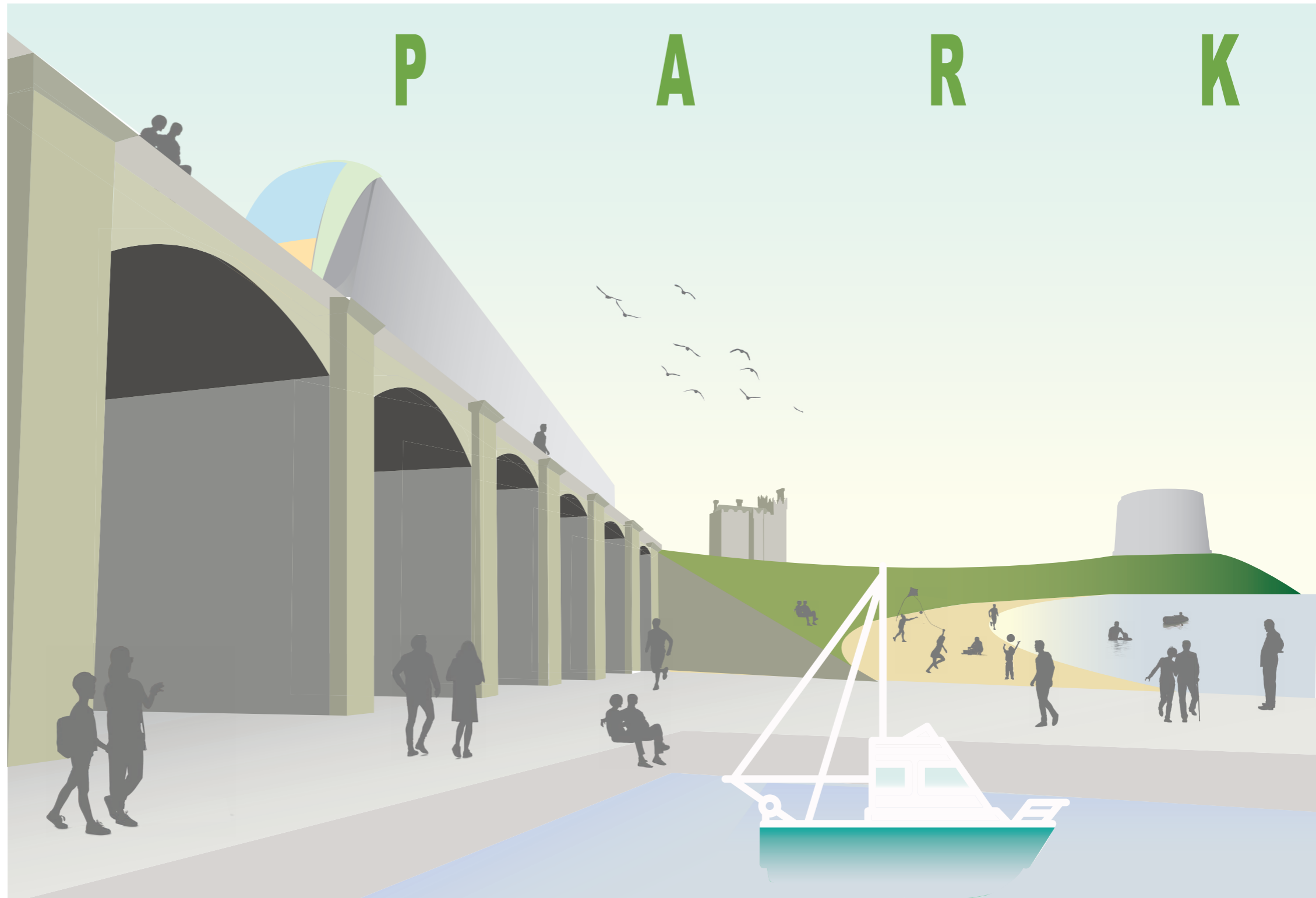


Bremore Regional

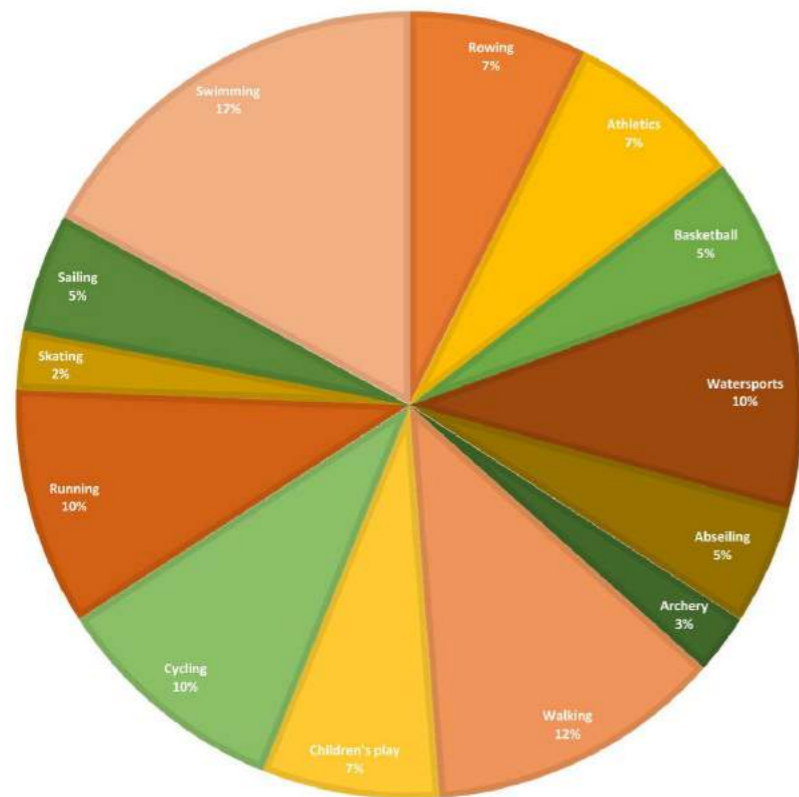
P A R K



Executive Summary

Fingal County Council is currently undertaking the process of developing a Park Development Plan for Bremore Regional Park. As part of that process an informal public consultation process is underway to glean local insight and knowledge to input into the park development plan design process.

The initial consultation workshop held in Balbriggan on July 30th 2019 gave members of the community the opportunity to input into the design process through verbally and visually communicating their thoughts and feelings for how the park should be designed and what function, activities and elements it should contain. An online forum for responses was also established for people unable to attend the workshop evening.



Suggested Park Uses & Activities



Image from workshop in Balbriggan, July 30th 2019

The full listings of the results from the evening's workshop tasks can be found later in this report.

The respondents of the evening's workshop listed a range of preferred park features, functions and elements they felt should form part of the 20 year development plan.

Ranking high amongst the response was that the park and by extension the beach should be inclusive and be accessible to all.

The existing historical structures and buildings on site and their sensitive restoration and reuse featured highly as an important element of the future park's development. As well as reuse of the existing buildings, proposals for a new structure for community use in the form of a pavilion building were also mentioned by some groups.

Unsurprisingly, given the parks coastal location, the provision of facilities to aid and support water based activities was a common theme across the workshop groups with the provision of a tidal pool and diving board ranking high in the feedback. Other highlighted activities included athletics, running, cycling, skating, basketball, abseiling and archery.

The need for Bremore Regional Park to support everyday use was also expressed through the need for basic infrastructural elements such as toilets/ changing facilities, park circulation foot paths/ coastal walk, lighting and signage as well as seating, car and bicycle parking highlighted in group's responses.

Facilities for children were also expressed as an important part of the parks design with play areas and fairy gardens being suggested as well as a Scout Den to form part of the plans.

Biodiversity and sustainability were also themes that came through from the groups as important to the community with requests for renewable energy and electric car charging points.

The ability for the park to cater for events was another notable theme to come through with an amphitheatre and events area being mentioned in responses.

Priorities

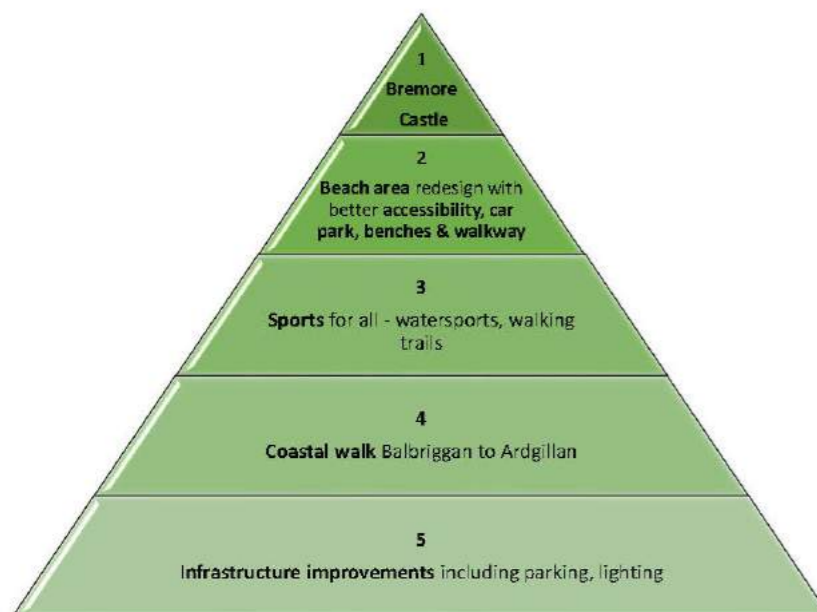
The consultation workshop groups were asked to list priorities as part of the evening tasks. Results of this task, shown in detail later in this report, once again list the idea of a park and beach accessible and safe for all to use as a top priority.

Park use and function also figure highly in response's with active recreation; running track, sport pitches, water sports and associated infrastructure figuring in the top 5 lists of the evening's attendee's.

Passive activity was an important element with the opportunity for coastal walks with linkages to the town, sensory garden and play areas being a priority.

General infrastructural elements such as toilets, coffee shop, parking, lighting & public seating were also amongst priorities listed along with elements pertaining to improving biodiversity such as wildflower meadow and native woodland planting.

The restoration and reuse of the historical buildings and features within the park was another top priority raised across many groups.



Example Priorities Result Graphic



Image from workshop in Balbriggan, July 30th 2019

Conclusions & Next Steps:

The consultation evening was in Balbriggan on July 30th was well attended and well received, attracting a wide range of interested stakeholders and members of the town's diverse community. It provided an opportunity for the people of Balbriggan to input into the shaping of Balbriggan Regional Park over the next 20 years.

The responses from the consultation workshop attendee groups and online submissions have been distilled down and described in this report and the combined results have formed a basis for the parks proposed high level design, with a view to successfully reflecting back to the community the preferred uses, features & character for the park within the outline design proposals.

This current informal consultation process is intended to have a follow up consultation evening where the initial high level design proposals will be displayed and comment and feedback received. Further to the consultation evening, the opportunity for stakeholders to respond via an online platform will also be provided.

As part of the upcoming formal Part 8 planning application, due to get under way in the 1st quarter of 2020, a formal consultation process will take place with further developed plans and proposals for Bremore Regional Park, informed by this current consultation process, placed on public display.

**Stage (i) Public Consultation 1
Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan, County Dublin
30th July 2019**

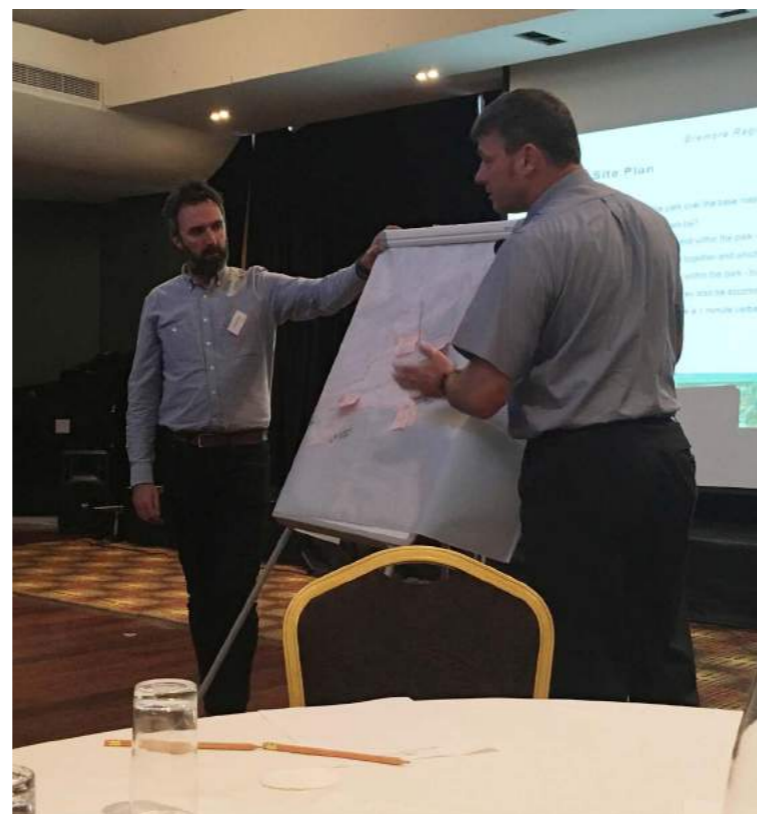
A public consultation workshop was held in the Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan on the evening of 30th July 2019. The workshop lasted a duration of approximately 2.5 hours with approximately 70 people in attendance.

A brief introduction outlining the extent of the study area and the scope of the project was provided by Kevin Halpenny and Marc Coyle from Fingal County Council. Following from this, Richard Jolly from Áit Urbanism + Landscape Limited outlined the site analysis undertaken to date by the project team and the format of the evening. The attendees were subdivided into nine groups of approximately 8 people and the workshop tasks were set.



The workshops proved to be very informative and useful in gaining an insight into the views of local residents and stakeholders. Attendees at the workshops included local residents, the local Gardaí and representatives from various departments of Fingal County Council. Representatives from local sports clubs and schools were also amongst stakeholders present.

The main suggestions for interventions within the park included a combination of recreational amenities and supporting infrastructure facilities. The most popular recreational suggestions were a tidal pool / swimming platform, running and walking trails and watersports. The restoration and re-use of heritage buildings within the park was highlighted along with the provision of changing facilities, coffee shops, parking and watersports storage. Improving accessibility for all and making the park inclusive for everyone was also a key subject issue raised.



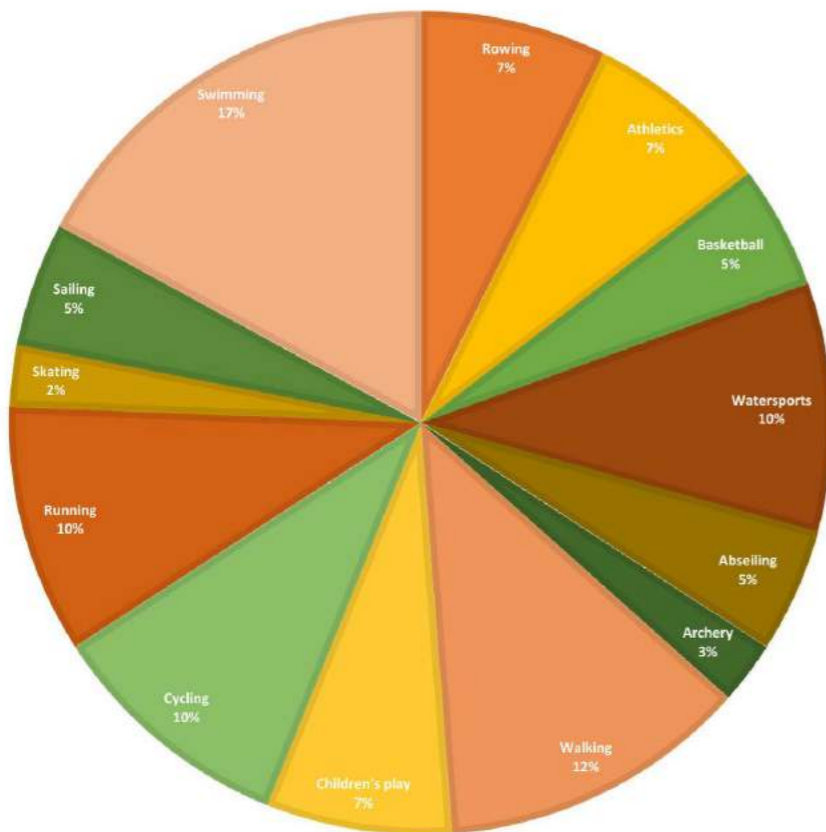
Public Consultation 1

Workshop Task 1: Uses, features and character

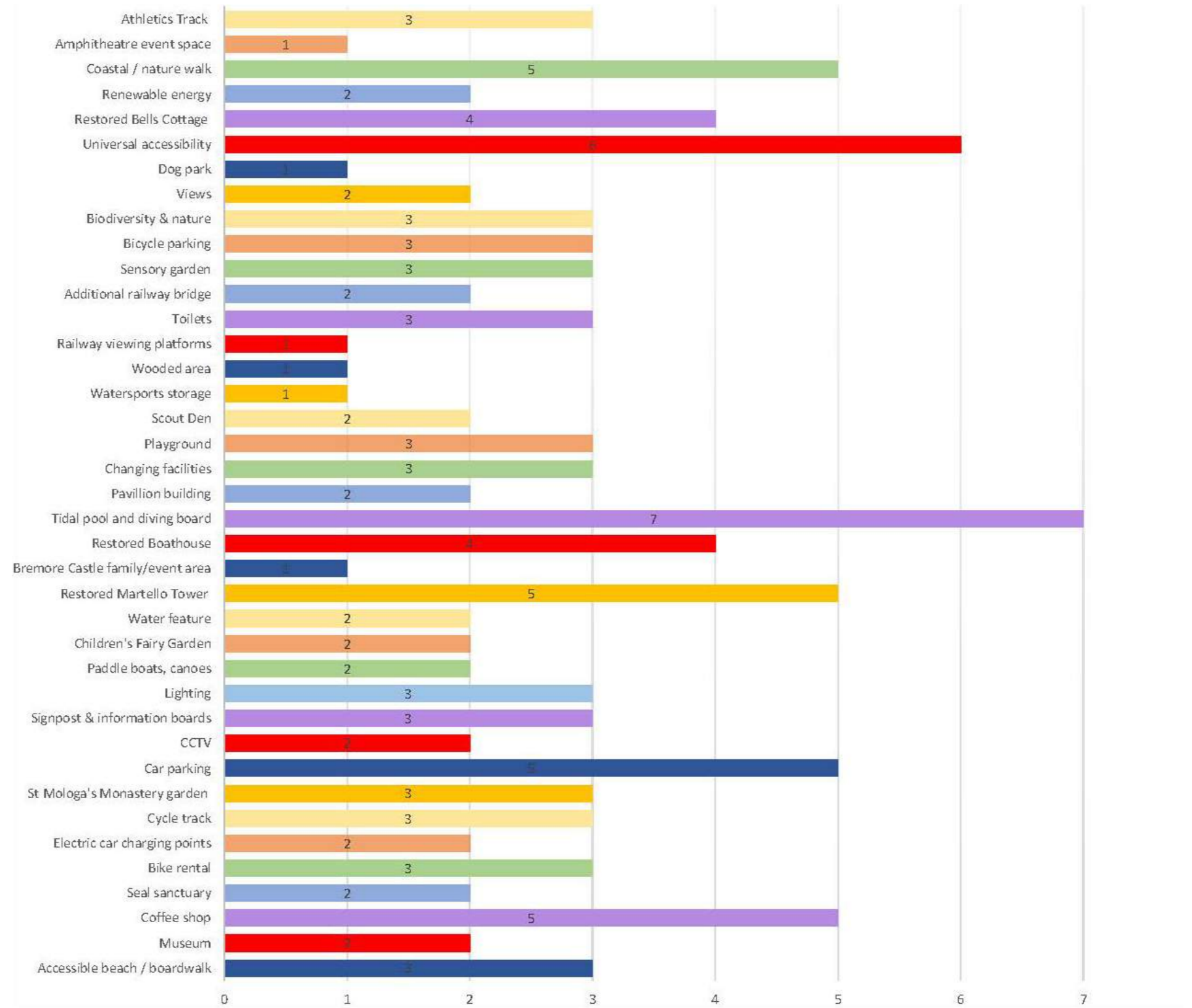
Task 1:

- What uses and activities should the park support?
- What features and facilities would be required? From big to small and in between.
- Character - what could or should the park look and feel like?
- Each group to give a 1 minute verbal presentation on their findings.

TASK 1: PARK USES & ACTIVITIES



TASK 1: PARK FEATURES & FACILITIES

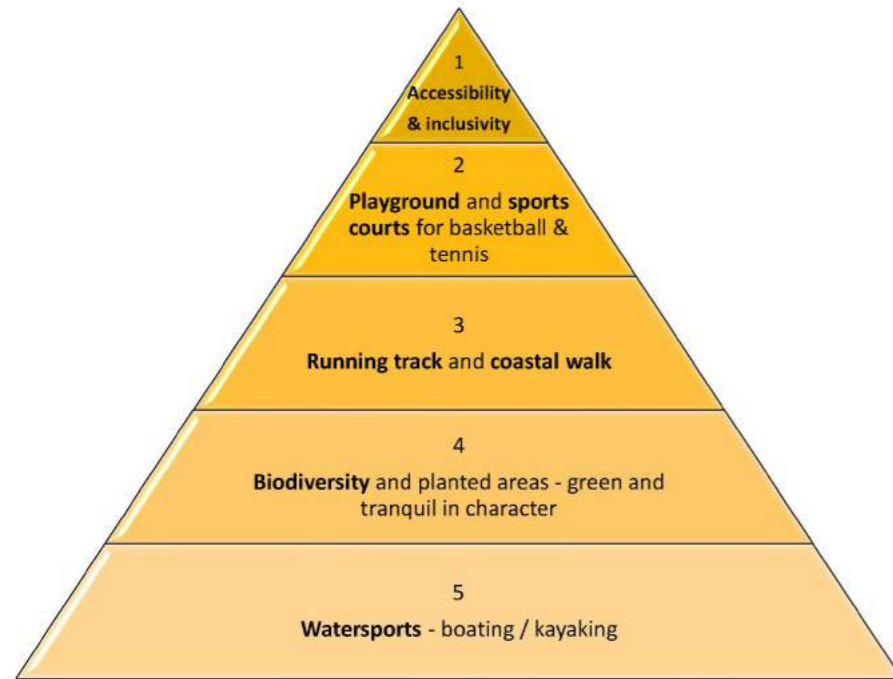


Number of groups

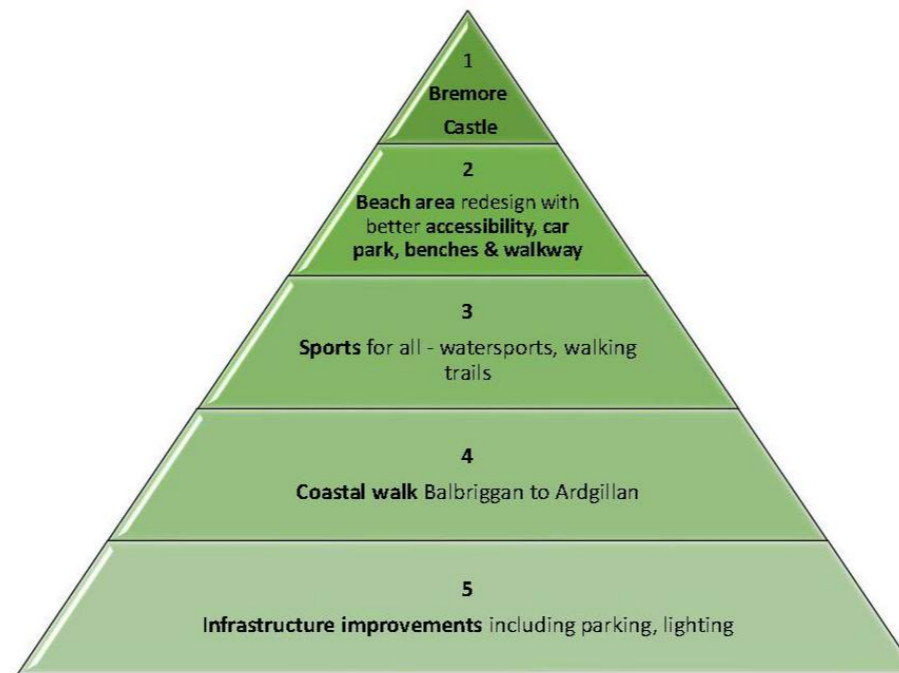
Public Consultation 1
Workshop Task 2: Priorities

Task 2:

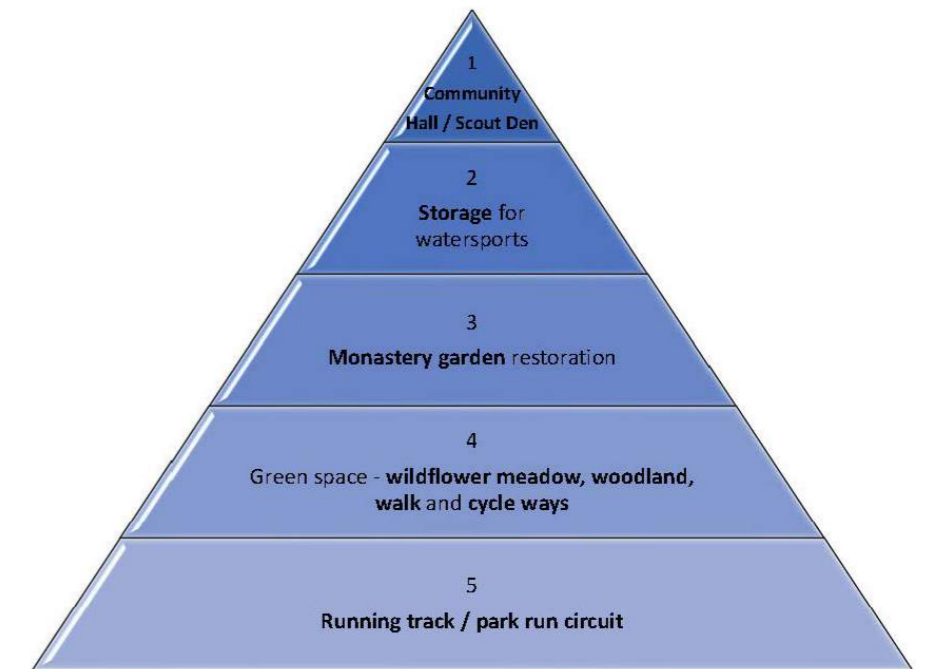
- Based on your outcomes for Task 1, as a group identify 5 priorities for the park
- Rank these priorities in sequence from 1 (highest) - 5 (lowest).
- Each group to give a 1 minute verbal presentation on their findings.



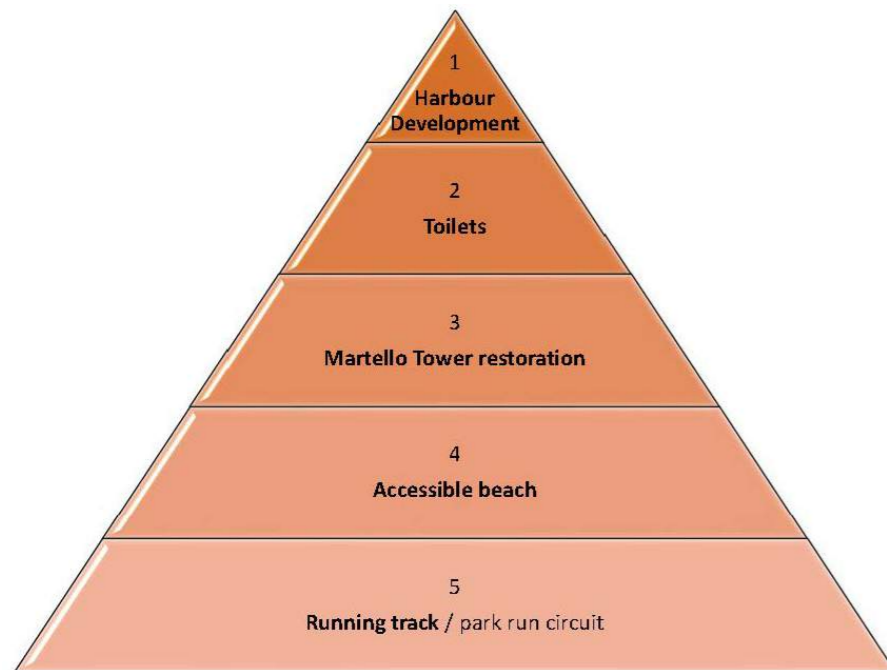
GROUP 1



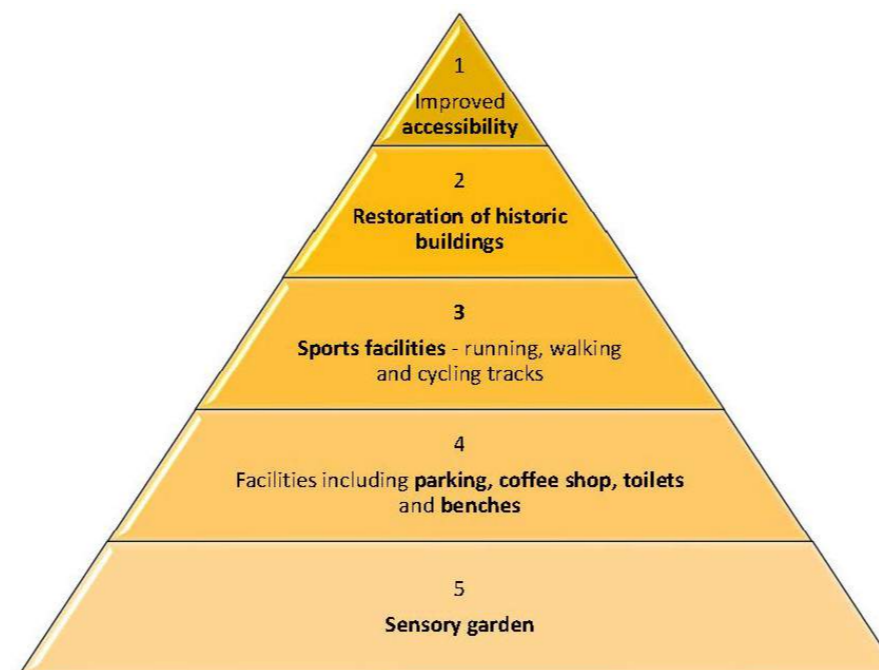
GROUP 2



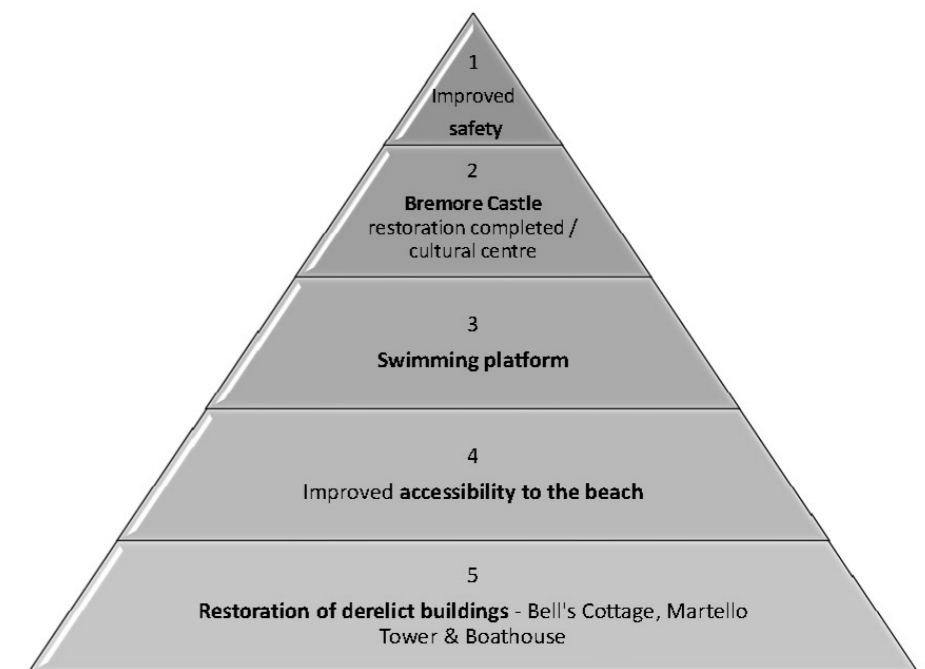
GROUP 3



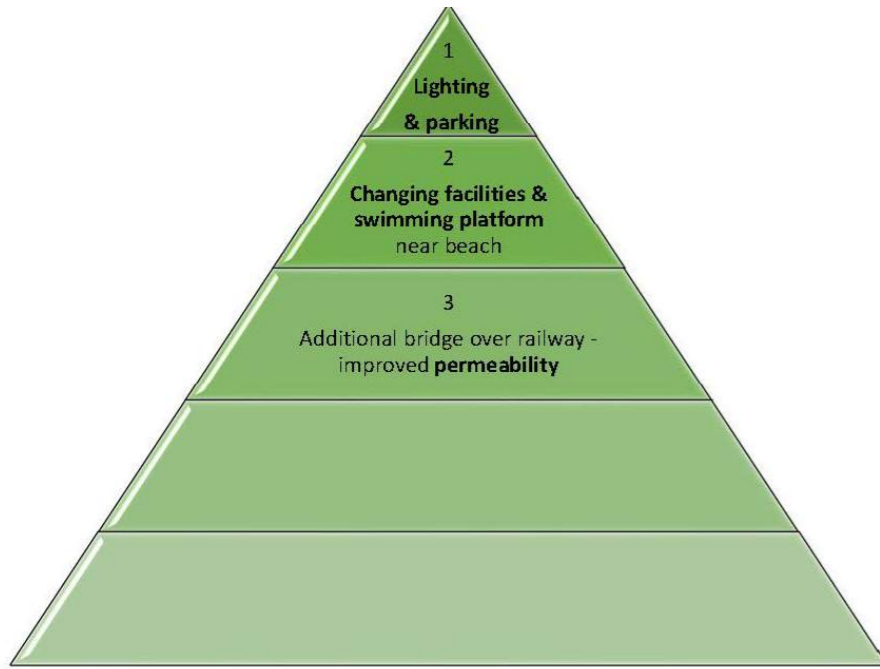
GROUP 4



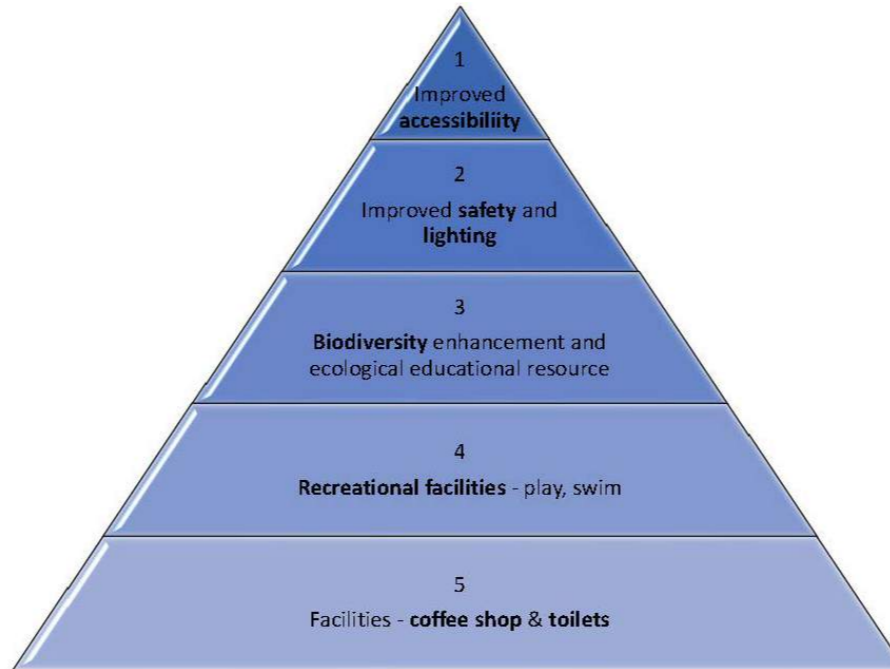
GROUP 5



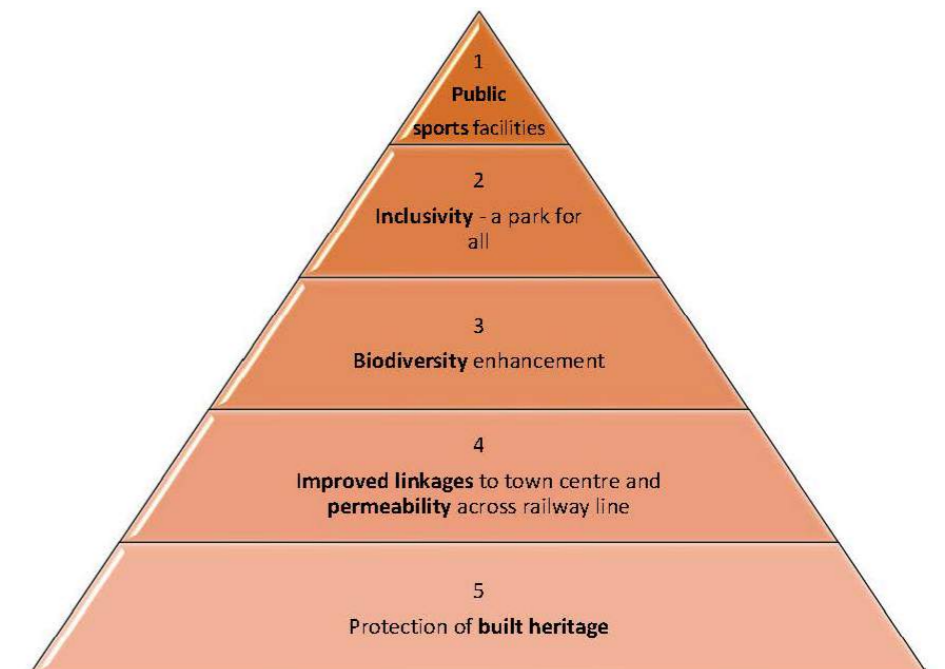
GROUP 6



GROUP 7



GROUP 8



GROUP 9

Public Consultation 1
Workshop Task 3: Site Plan

Task 3:

- As a group draw your ideas for the park over the base map provided.
- Where should the entrances to the park be?
- What are the important routes through and within the park - lines and arrows.
- As a group discuss what uses work well together and which uses are better separated.
- Locate your priority activities and features within the park - bubbles and words
- Consider other uses and features; can they also be accommodated?
- Each group to give a 1 minute verbal presentation on their plan.

GROUP 1



GROUP 2



GROUP 3



GROUP 4



GROUP 5



GROUP 6



GROUP 7



GROUP 8



GROUP 9



Stage (i) Public Consultation 1 Online submissions

In conjunction with the consultation evening held in Balbriggan on July 30th 2019, an opportunity was given for people who could not make it on the night to input their thoughts and observations on how the park should develop over the next 20 years.

The online themes raised were universal with those of the workshop attendees and included:

- Providing a safe and accessible park
- Sensitively constructed Unified and connected coastal routes
- Improvements to support ecology and biodiversity
- Park pavilion
- Cycle tracks
- Coffee shop
- Improved park facilities & infrastructure– paths, lighting, play areas, skate facility, picnic areas, and viewing areas
- Restoration and reuse of historic features and structures
- Facilities for water sports
- Tidal pool and diving boards
- Car & coach parking
- Facilities for dogs including active and stimulating activities
- Rejuvenation of the harbour area





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