



Designating Livingston Skatepark – Online Consultation Survey

21/11/2023 to 09/02/2024

This report provides summary statistics of responses to the above consultation.

We have published responses to the free-text question in full where we have the required permissions.

We have only provided responses with the names of individuals in the table row next to the comment if we have been given permission to do so

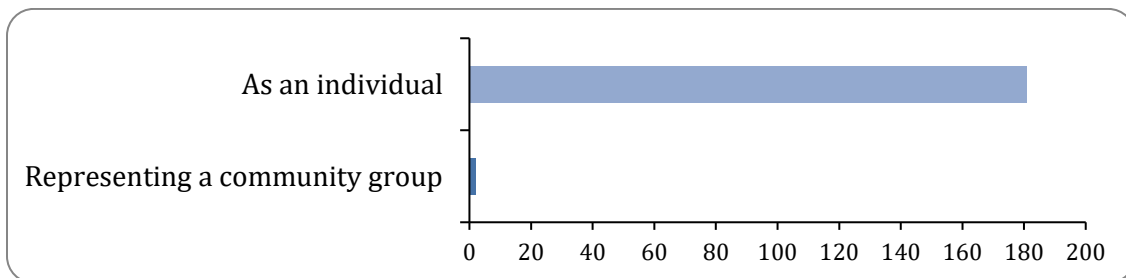
Responses to this survey: **183**

<https://haveyoursay.historicenvironment.scot/heritage/designating-livingston-skatepark>

Questions 1, 2, 4 and 5 concerned personal data and publishing preferences, which we have not reported on.

3: Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation, business or community group?

There were 183 responses to this question.

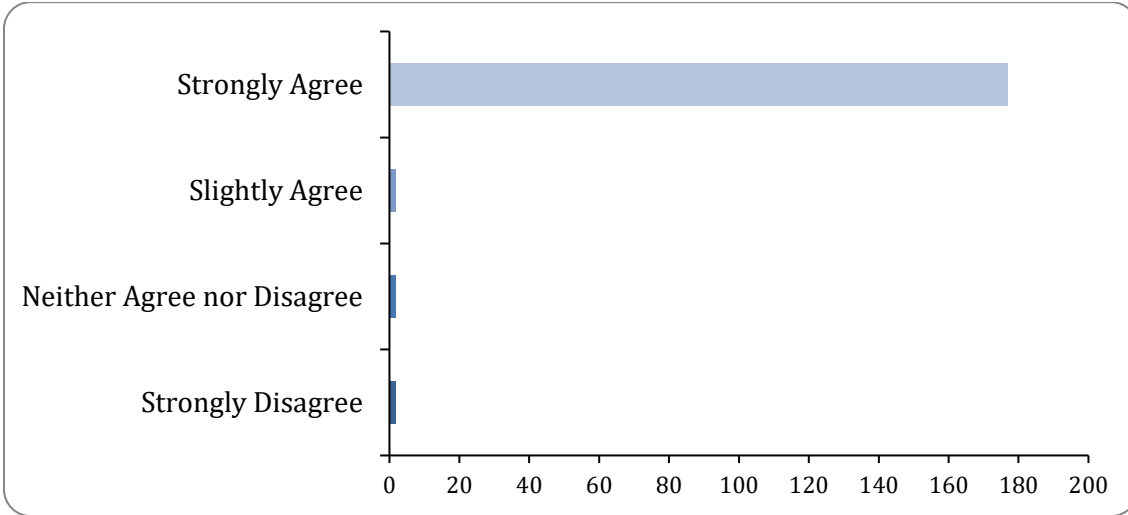


Option	Total	Percent
As an individual	181	98.91%
On behalf of an organisation, public body or charity	0	0.00%
On behalf of a local authority	0	0.00%
As a private business, such as an architect or developer	0	0.00%
Representing a community group	2	1.09%
Other	0	0.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%



6: To what extent do you agree with our proposal to list Livingston Skatepark?

There were 183 responses to this question.



Option	Total	Percent
Strongly Agree	177	96.72%
Slightly Agree	2	1.09%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	2	1.09%
Slightly Disagree	0	0.00%
Strongly Disagree	2	1.09%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

7: Do you have any further comments on the impact of listing or the accuracy of the information in the assessment?

Lewis Johnstone	Having been involved in the meetings etc I think listing the skatepark would be hugely beneficial for the community and for skatepark users as this would make sure the skatepark is looked after and kept for future.
Paul Gibson	Why does something need to be ancient to be protected for future generations. The skate park is world famous, local residents are proud of this unique facility.
James cameron	This skate park has been known as one of the greatest in Europe and known professionals skateboarders like Tony hawk and Rodney Mullen have been known to skated here
Christopher Love	Livingston is slowly losing facilities for kids (such as bubbles swimming pool) and I would strongly encourage this site to be listed and retained for leisure purposes for as long as possible to allow our children to enjoy healthy outdoor activities.



Bob Bertram	Having visited this site with an already involved adult grandson; my wife and I were impressed with the popularity and inclusive nature of this facility ie all genders and age groups.
Emma Forbes	This is a big piece of history in a small town and means a lot to its constituents. With the care home being built next door it would be a massive peace of mind knowing it has a certain protection status around it!
Norman Macdonald	Living Skatepark is one of the meccas for any skateboarder. As someone would be first on a skateboard in 1959, a skate park and shop owner, and a skateboard distributor in Canada for over 35 years, I have seen the impact that Livi had on skaters around the globe. It is a cherished legend the must be preserved and remembered
Daniel Milburn	To allow the skatepark to be protected especially with the nursing home being build next door to it and with the owners already complaining about the noise how long will it be till they shut it down
Miller	I am 50 years old I grew up at the skate park. It means a great deal to the people of Livingston and others. It's part of Livingston new towns history I moved to Livingston from Glasgow in 1979.
Fergus king	I think it's important to remember graffiti is also an important part of livi skatepark and the skate scene in general, I wouldn't like to see this effect the freedom of graffiti artists in any way, livi has always been a safe welcoming space for artists and we all benefit from their work. They shouldn't have to apply for a permit just as skaters shouldn't.
Stevens	This will help ensure its future and give kids somewhere to play for free when all else on livingston is slowly disappearing
Adam fleming	In the current climate these places need to be saved, not only for memories but for future generations too!
Caralee Ritchie	The skate park was a big part of my life growing up there's not much to do in Livingston for kids that's free and having a place to go learn a new skill and watch experienced skaters live is something we should protect for future kids and adults alike.
Peter McQuiston	This must be protected at all costs. It's a local treasure even if it's not used as much as it used to be. It must remain for future generations. Thanks.
Stephen Jenkins	This was my sons lifeline growing up, his place to practice and find calm in his chaos Allowed him to relax and practice street skating especially through lockdown It needs the be listed and repaired for future generations
Billy Mackenzie	The skate park has long been an area where people of all ages are able to go and partake in their hobby. It's status should be protected from knee jerk reactions whereby it could be demolished without consultation.
Frame	The skatepark as it currently stands was built in 3 stages, original stage in 1980, 2nd stage in 92 and 3rd stage in 2013. The last extension was badly designed and build quality is even poorer, does the historic status cover all of the skatepark? If it does, I strongly disagree. The original part of the skatepark was somewhat experimental and the sands of time are starting to show. I fear there will be a time where, due to questionable foundations and the continuing development of land around this area, that the skatepark as it is, simply becomes unusable or beyond repair. What will the historic status mean in this instance?
Lorrayne mckenzie	I grew up in Livingston, I spent most of my mid to late teens at the skatepark in the late 80's early 90's. Still go to visit when I'm Livingston. Love the place, have lots of great memories, great place to meet people, parties with Kenny Omond and family back in the day. Not much for kids these days, protecting this amazing skatepark is a must for the younger generations and for us oldies to re-live our memories.



Bob Winton	<p>In my opinion, in the preservation of this location is central to mapping the story of how urban/extreme sports have developed in Scotland.</p> <p>Although participants of these sports will have recognised their significance for many years, their inclusion in the Olympics have given them additional validity in terms of cultural importance and acceptance. With the passing of time, any doubt regarding this will dissipate and future generations want to trace and partake in the history of their beloved sports. A listed status will help preserve the location and allow this to happen.</p>
Kelly ainslie	<p>The skate park is a well known place for kids and adults to have fun and enjoy a place that people can train to do skateboarding or bike stunts, the park is also famous for Tony Hawk the skateboarder came to see and skated on the park. This skate park is an iconic place with loads of memories for all ages.</p>
Zoe leitch	<p>This is national treasure, being one of the first if not the first skate park in the UK the modern skate culture thrived here and it should be recognised as an iconic location.</p>
John Baldock	<p>Status would protect this community friendly meeting place, this is the future it remains so important!</p>
Nicola bradley	<p>Having it listed would help with the upkeep of the condition on the park and make it usable for next generations.</p>
Paul cheyne	<p>I don't think the last phase of the skatepark that was built should have any historical status. Only the first two phases of the skatepark should have historical status.</p>
Elizabeth Morrison	<p>It is very important for the community that the skate park is protected. My son used it nearly every day for about ten years. It provided outdoor exercise, risk taking development, motor skills development, social skills development and allowed him to become part of a safe community.</p>
George Henderson	<p>Great place for the young people to enjoy what they do.</p>
Diane Scotland	<p>Listing Livi Skatepark will secure it for the future, and hopefully prevent West Lothian Council from adding new "extensions" when they did not think to ask skate park creators on design etc prior to adding their existing "extension" which has brought nothing to the skatepark and was a complete waste of residents' finances! I also hope that this will see Livi skatepark cared for and repaired as it needs to be as it has been neglected by West Lothian Council for FAR too long!</p> <p>The youth of West Lothian have been stripped of all facilities they could use to keep them off the streets with swimming pools all closed there is very little for our youth to do within the region. Livi skatepark gives the community a place to meet up, to make new friends, the skating community welcomes everyone, no matter their level of skating, their colour, religion, sexual orientation etc, all are welcomed! Having outdoor spaces such as Livi skatepark, in my opinion, is vital, we need kids off their iPads, phones, games consoles and so on and out exercising, socialising, having fun, and where better than at Livi skatepark?</p> <p>Livi Skatepark was THE 1st of its kind and that in itself makes it a very special place, worthy of becoming a listed site, it made the Scottish skateboarding scene famous, as has been said, many pro skaters have been at Livi, many pro skaters have come from Livi, and, with skateboarding becoming an Olympic sport, it MUST be saved for the future, it is something Livingston residents are proud of and rightly so.</p>



<p>Moira Shemilt</p>	<p>I am an elected member for Livingston South and the Skatepark is in my ward. It was my motion to full council which generated the request to seek Historic Status for the park. The idea for the motion came from talking to skateboarders. The park has been an integral part of my family's life for many years. My sons were regular users of the skatey as was my son in law. It was the latter who nagged me to "do something" about the park as that there was a worry about it falling into disrepair. My grandkids are now regulars there, with my 9 year old granddaughter now asking for a BMX for Christmas, to use on the skatey.</p> <p>We want to see the park conserved, restored and improved, to bring it back to international standard. I the HES report it was mentioned that later additions to the park are less effective than the original bowls and half pipe. It's my hope that historical status could help secure funding for improvement.</p> <p>I'm aware that some skaters are of the view that historical status might impede or impinge upon the graffiti or restrict further art works. I'd like HES to strongly refute this and recognise that graffiti is inherent to the cultural context of the park and, as such, the ebb and flow of such work is understood to be integral to the skatepark.</p> <p>I am personally delighted and excited that HES is minded to grant Historical Status. It's such an optimistic thing to happen in an otherwise politically bleak Indscape,</p> <p>Thank you</p>
<p>Martin McDevitt</p>	<p>I grew up in Livingston and the skatepark was a great place to meet new friends. Given the lack of facilities in and around this area for kids to play, it is imperative for the skatepark to stay open, be upgraded as it will help with kids mental health, fitness and will also make the skatepark a potential visitor attraction for Livingston.</p>
<p>Andrew Williamson</p>	<p>It's been a really important part of the town's history. It's also very important for the skating community world wide and locally. It is used all the time by local skaters and is such an important part of the social fabric of the town</p>
<p>Ryan Mackinnon</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would graffiti still be allowed on the listed area of the skatepark? The park is known as a 'free wall' area, meaning artists can use the park as a canvas without worrying about prosecution for vandalism and such. 2. In terms of general maintenance (grass/hedge trimming, Litter etc.) Who would be responsible for that after listing? As a local I can say we try to keep the place tidy regularly and WLC has litter pickers that come round early morning and collect liter, would WLC still offer that help or would it swap hands to HES and the locals? 3. Who do locals turn to in times of repairs to the skatepark and How would locals make contact with concerns about repairs? 4. How long would an enquiry take for repairs to be completed? (roughly)
<p>Natalie Mayer</p>	<p>I'm interested in all things skateboard. I live in Jersey, CI. I'm aware of Livi, because it has a legendary reputation in the world of skateboarding. I've never been, but one day I plan to... as such I hope it remains intact. There are many more that feel like me, but most of them aren't minded to fill out online forms. Livi is an important part of skateboarding's cultural history.</p>
<p>Alan Armour</p>	<p>Livi is a significant piece of Scottish and British Skate history and should be protected, preserved and enjoyed for the generations to come.</p>
<p>Anonymous</p>	<p>It's good for the community well done 🍌</p>



Anonymous	This skatepark is a graffiti riddled eyesore, filled with drug addicts and troubled youth. It should be demolished not listed.
Anonymous	This is a well loved and well used skate park. Beloved by young and old alike and famous through the skating, scootering and BMX world. It is a safe place for people of all ages to meet and exercise as well as teaching the young kids who come how to interact with adults and learn many life skills.
Anonymous	My daughter uses the skatepark regularly and everyone who skates are so polite and friendly. There is nothing else for teenagers to do so listing it is a must to ensure it remains
Anonymous	I would love to see the skate park listed. I was born in 1981 in Livingston, I went there as a child, my 25 year old son is a skater and goes daily and my 13 year old son also uses the park regularly. The users are like a family, they are all there for each other and the skate park bring them together, gives them somewhere to go and also helps their mental health. Its part of Livingston.
Anonymous	Just to say that you are probably aware that unfortunately during the evening the location is a hub for anti-social behaviour. It would be a great shame if damage happed after restoration therefore I hope part of the plan includes provision for CCTV.
Anonymous	Beside a historical value it is crucial more than ever to give youth a selection of outdoor activities and places where they can meet and make friends.
Anonymous	This listing would hopefully protect our skatepark for generations to come.
Anonymous	Within Livingston the amount of activities for young people have declined within the last 5/10 years. Removing the skate park would leave this area without anything for young people or even older adults people to do. People have come from all over the country, (due to Tony hawks a famous skater who have used this park)to see this park and it's the only one within miles. I used to go to this park when they held festival (music) and skate competitions. Would be sad to see this childhood memory be removed like many other ones have been
Anonymous	Great historic and social value
Anonymous	Listing is a must !
Anonymous	It is very important that the skatepark should be preserved. All of the other community leisure facilities have been allowed to fall not disrepair and without this protection the council may do the same with the skatepark
Anonymous	This needs to be maintained as a working facility for the communities, I was one of the first users and it kept me fit healthy and focused, providing a place to go excersize and I would walk/skate 3 miles to get to it.
Anonymous	It is somewhere for the kids to go my own daughter used to go would hate to see it closed because they are building an old peoples home
Anonymous	The skate park needs listed so that it can't be demolished and the skating community can have a place where they can go to learn to skate or skate as they normally would. It's been there for decades and should be protected from demolishing. We have enough houses, fast food, petrol stations, etc. Leave something for the kids/adults to do with all the other leisure places closing.
Anonymous	it's had a very big impact in the skate world,I know this as I know the guy that designed it and all of how it came about well over 30 years ago,plus my dad actually dug out the foundations fir the original bowls. so many skaters have come from all over the world to skate there,it should be no less than a historic listed place
Anonymous	Must remain legal to paint graffiti there
Anonymous	The skate park needs to be renovated



Anonymous	I know many people of an older generation and specific groups will protest to this application due to their assumptions about those who utilise this park. However, Livingston is in dire need of a protected place for young and old people alike to be able to do something that isn't shopping or simply walking around. Even when I was growing up the skate park and the centre were the only places you could really go to do anything and to hang around with friends. If the site is protected it cannot be removed so easily like the skating rink and ampitheatre in the past. The youngest generations have lots of parks to play in, but nothing for them as they get older and our local government and people need to realise this sooner rather than later.
Anonymous	This skate park is just a place for teens to take drugs, no one actually skates here as it's falling down
Anonymous	Livingston Skate Park is a wonderful and unique key part of Livingston. From its conception up until the current day it has been admired worldwide and has always been a vital part of the community. Providing a world class one of a kind park its always brought everybody together, all ages, loved ones and strangers all share the fun together. Skaters and spectators of all ages, older teen skaters happy to make way for younger ones and teach them new tricks as Grandparents watch with joy. It is Livingston's crown jewel and Scotland's little gem.
Anonymous	The skate park is still widely used and is great exercise as well as having greats like Tony Hawks visit the park
Anonymous	My brother used this skatepark when he was a teenager and these days my grandson uses it. I believe strongly that it should have listed status so that it can remain an excellent skatepark for many generations to come. I would hate to see it replaced by houses or more shops!
Anonymous	Listing Livi Skatepark is big step toward preserving an important part of Livingston's history and highlighting it's impact on the world of sport.
Anonymous	Too many historic areas are being abandoned to modern 'monstrosities'. The past helps inform our future and the skatepark shows how adults were once cognisant of youngsters as opposed to financial 'deals'. If the skatepark is not listed it will probably disappear into yet another block of flats of which there are plenty in Livingston.
Anonymous	Let's be honest, livi doesn't have much else, culturally
Anonymous	I would hope that a listing will help secure the future of the skatepark for future generations.
Anonymous	It is and continues to be a place of inspiration and history for kids and adults alike. The health benefits it has brought to the town and much further afield is priceless