



Designating the Piper Alpha Memorial and Memorial Garden, Hazlehead Park, Aberdeen - Online survey

25/07/2023 to 06/09/2023

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

We have published responses to free-text questions 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.

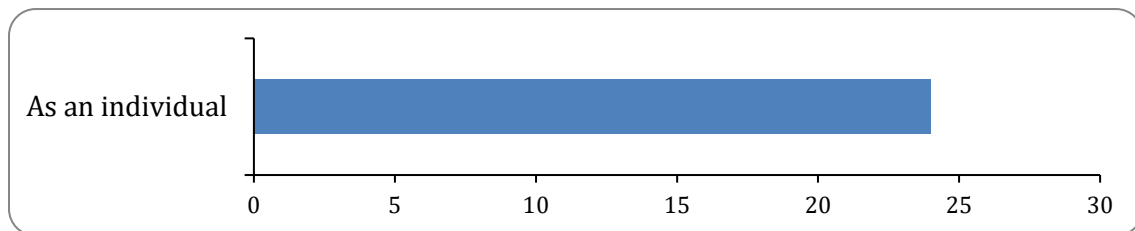
Responses to this survey: **24**

<https://haveyoursay.historicenvironment.scot/heritage/piperalpha>

Questions 1, 3, 4 and 5 concerned personal data and publishing preferences, which we have not reported on.

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

There were 24 responses to this part of the question.

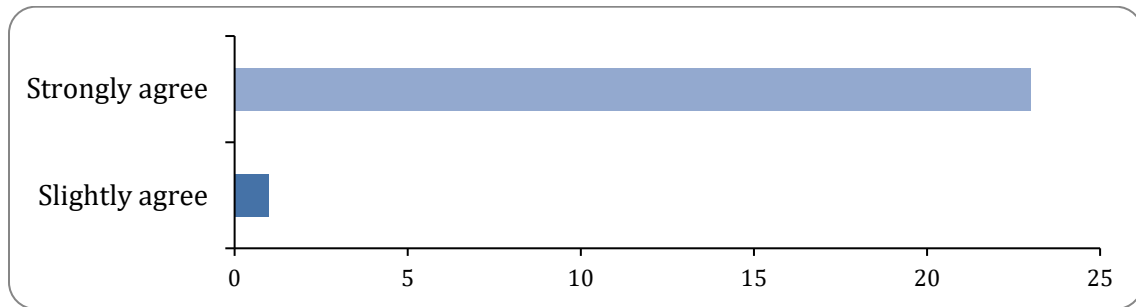


Option	Total	Percent
As an individual	24	100.00%
On behalf of an organisation, public body or charity	0	0.00%
On behalf of a local authority	0	0.00%
As a private business, such as an architect or developer	0	0.00%
Representing a community group	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%



6: To what extent do you agree with our proposal to add the Piper Alpha Memorial Garden to the inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes?

There were 24 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	23	95.83%
Slightly agree	1	4.17%
Neither agree or disagree	0	0.00%
Slightly disagree	0	0.00%
Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Add a comment here

There were 14 responses to this part of the question.

This needs to be preserved for posterity as a Memorial to all involved in this disaster both the dead and the survivors who carry the survivors guilt.	David Chapman
I have been and still am in the oil and gas industry coming up for 50 years. The souls who lost their lives on the Piper should never be forgotten. The price they paid has made the industry a far safer industry to work in.	Barrie Horsburgh
Any proposal to include the memorial garden to inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes needs to have majority approval of the relatives of those lost, along with survivors and their relatives	Mike Sinclair
The Piper Alpha Memorial is of huge significance to the families of those who perished in the disaster. Significant money was raised to erect the statue and build the gardens. The disaster culminated in significant safety related legislative changes, from which all of those who work in the North Sea now benefit. The memorial is a restful, fitting tribute to those unfortunate souls who perished due to lack of offshore safety controls. To change it would be a true act of wanton vandalism	Bell
The Piper Alpha disaster is a significant and historic event in the history of the North Sea Oil and Gas Industry. Therefore, I strongly believe that the memory of those who lost their lives should be kept in a memorial garden, similar to a War Memorial, so that they are not forgotten and the future generations can remember them, pray for them/their families and learn the	Matt Lebaschi



lessons from this terrible tragic event.	
The garden was created as a commemoration and I believe that it should remain as it was designed. If inclusion in the inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes strengthens the case for the gardens to remain unaltered then it has my full support.	Anonymous
[this would add another layer in the consultation process if changes were to be made to the gardens. Hopefully, this would involve the relatives of those that perished in the disaster to whom the gardens are dedicated. I feel strongly that those immediately involved in the tragedy by afforded the opportunity to express their wishes. There are monuments to similar events around Aberdeen. Having a dedicated place I imagine gives those involved a place to reflect. One must not lose sight of the changed the disaster brought to the industry in terms of health and safety.	Anonymous
Piper Alpha Memorial garden means a great deal to the people of Aberdeen, as well as people from farther afield. It needs to be protected.	Anonymous
This is an historical site for Aberdeen and surrounding areas, and should be treated as such. It is important for future generations in the area to know their history, and why this garden exists.	Anonymous
I was involved in the aftermath of the disaster XXXXXRedactedXXXX. I therefore witnessed first hand of the distress caused by the disaster, not only to those directly affected but to a huge number of others. The Piper Alpha Families Association and the Memorial Committee, raised the funds and had a direct input into Sue Jane'S sculpture. One of the survivors was her model. The planning of the memorial and gardens was undertaken with a consultation, with sensitivity that those who were affected would not be forgotten. The disaster is still the largest loss of life for the oil industry and it now surprises me that 35 years later, that some younger people do not know of what happened. Therefore I believe it is imperative that this site is protected as an important historical monument	Anonymous
I feel that adding the Piper Alpha Memorial to the Inventory gives it the necessary additional protection against any future attempts to change the purpose for which it was created.	Anonymous
It is very important to protect the status of the Piper Alpha Memorial Garden for the relatives and descendants of those who gave their lives in the disaster.	Anonymous
The Piper Alpha Memorial Garden/North Sea Memorial Rose Garden is a very poignant and peaceful place which is sheltered from the main busyness and noise of the centre part of Hazlehead Park by high hedges - on the left side which counter the noise of the childrens' play park and cafe terraces. The rose garden around the Memorial itself is an integral part of the calming and often highly scented atmosphere of this Memorial space. It is hoped the HES designation would protect the garden and The Memorial from being opened up to become a busy, noisy space which would not be in keeping with the area being a place of sanctuary and reflection. The garden is a very natural setting full of wildlife and with no artificial lighting. If the garden is to become designated, it is hoped that artificial lighting and artificial structures would not be installed within and around the garden. Artificial structures such as arches would spoil the view to The Memorial which is an arresting view from whichever angle one approaches it. The impact The Memorial has every time I walk into the garden is very powerful, as is fitting for such an important sculpture commemorating an appalling tragedy in Scotland's industrial history.	Anonymous



The Piper Alpha disaster was a tragic but important event in Aberdeen's recent history. The existing rose gardens and the memorial are a beautiful and fitting tribute to those who lost.	Anonymous
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7: Do you have any comments on the proposed name for the inventory site as 'Piper Alpha Memorial Garden/North Sea Memorial Rose Garden'?

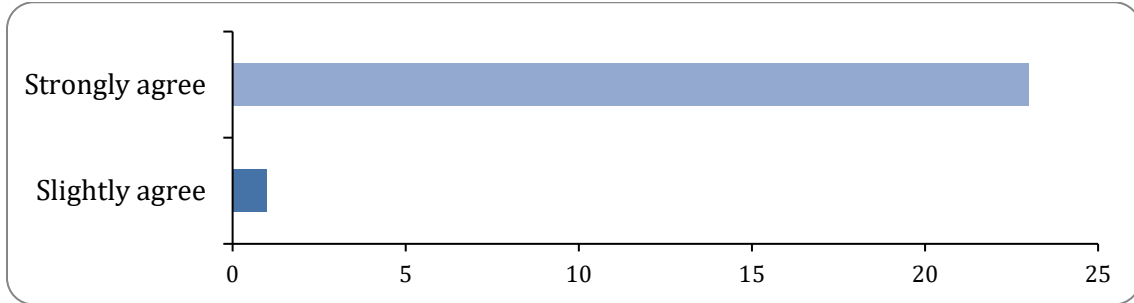
There were 19 responses to this part of the question.

Probably only need 'Piper Alpha Memorial Garden' or 'Piper Alpha Memorial Rose Garden'	Patrick Donnelly
Piper Alpha Memorial Garden for me.	David Chapman
Piper Alpha Memorial Rose Garden.	Barrie Horsburgh
No comment but see above comment	Mike Sinclair
It is, and must always remain "Piper Alpha Memorial Garden"	Bell
Reference to Piper Alpha should remain. Gives more significance and acts as a reminder to all in the industry.	Robert Bell
Piper Alpha disaster is synonymous with the worst tragic event that happened in the North Sea Offshore Oil	Matt Lebaschi
This name describes the purpose and type of the garden therefore I see no need to change it.	Anonymous
I am strongly in favour of the site being called "The Piper Alpha Memorial Garden"	Anonymous
Piper Alpha Memorial Garden. The gardens should be dedicated to those that lost their lives in the tragedy.	Anonymous
North Sea Memorial is quite general, and could stand for other loss of life in the north sea, but Piper Alpha sounds more personal and is more likely to encourage future generations to look at the history, after the incident has passed from living memory.	Anonymous
I do believe that the name should be Piper Alpha Memorial Garden. To not have Piper Alpha in the name	Anonymous
I would prefer Piper Alpha Memorial Garden.	Anonymous
I am happy with this name.	Anonymous
Such a long name loses the essence and poignancy of what it is. Piper Alpha Memorial Garden is enough.	Anonymous
I have no comments on the proposed name other than it is very long. I understand the wish to broaden the Rose Garden to include those who have sadly lost their lives in the oil and gas industry other than in the dreadful Piper Alpha disaster.	Anonymous
Piper Alpha Memorial garden is a good name, the Memorial Rose Garden should be dropped as it limits the landscaping around the memorial to being a rose garden	Anonymous



8: To what extent to do you agree with our proposal to list the Piper Alpha Memorial?

There were 24 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	23	95.83%
Slightly agree	1	4.17%
Neither agree or disagree	0	0.00%
Slightly disagree	0	0.00%
Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Please provide any comment here

There were 9 responses to this part of the question.

See previous comments	Mike Sinclair
To list the memorial by HES will ensure its longevity for the families and also Aberdeen	Bell
The Piper Alpha Memorial statue should be listed as a category B.	Matt Lebaschi
As with the garden, the memorial was created as a commemoration and I believe that it should remain as it was designed. If inclusion in the inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes strengthens the case for the memorial to remain unaltered and in its current location then it has my full support.	Anonymous
To ensure its protection for future years as a solemn memorial	Anonymous
The statue is more than a piece of incredible art. It also represents the recovery of one man caught up in the tragedy. Without a doubt this piece of sculpture should be protected by listed status.	Anonymous
The Piper Alpha Memorial needs to be protected.	Anonymous
It would provide a sense of security to keep the memorial as it is.	Anonymous
The Memorial Sculpture is a highly important commemorative work of art and should be protected in and of itself. Sue Jane Taylor is a highly accomplished artist who has chronicled the offshore and onshore oil and	Anonymous



gas industry for decades and the Memorial in its original form should be protected from future alteration and/or future planning developments which would adversely affect the impact of the Memorial Sculpture. Sue Jane Taylor worked tirelessly with the families of the Piper Alpha victims to reflect their wishes when creating the Memorial and the listing of the Memorial would protect this all important aspect of the Memorial Sculpture itself.	
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9: Is there anything else you would like to add?

There were 14 responses to this part of the question.

The Aberdeen City Council maintain the memorial and wonderful rose gardens. Annual remembrance services are held at the memorial for the victims of the truly tragic Piper Alpha disaster. The site has absolutely nothing to do with general North Sea activity.	Bell
I have seen images of the memorial on many offshore installations. It is known industry wide to specifically relate to piper alpha. While many accidents and incidents occur in the industry, Piper Alpha was a systematic failure which we must not repeat. By making it a generic memorial we risk eroding the memory.	Robert Bell
The Piper Alpha Memorial Garden is a place to remember a terrible tragedy and loss of life that happened over 35 years ago in the North Sea. Unfortunately, we don't have any place or anywhere to celebrate over 50 years of North Sea Oil and Gas Industry. The employment, wealth and technology that has been generated and still continuing for the future generations of Scotland and the UK as a whole. We should have learned from Norway.	Matt Lebaschi
I worked in the oil industry for almost 40 years and sadly knew people who lost their lives in the Piper Alpha disaster as well as a couple of helicopter accidents. This memorial acts as a place to remember those who have been lost in North Sea which is why it is significant and doesn't need updating or revamping.	Anonymous
I would very much welcome the addition of the gardens to the list. It is hugely important to the bereaved, the survivors and their families as well as the wider community in Aberdeen. I am of a generation that was profoundly affected by the disaster both professionally and personally. I feel strongly that the views of those directly impacted by the tragedy be consulted about any proposed changes to the gardens. Addition to the list would ensure their views are considered.	Anonymous
This site has great significance for a great number of people. Unfortunately with a disaster such as the Piper Alpha, many people do not have a grave site to visit. This provides people with somewhere to visit and celebrate their loved ones lives.	Anonymous
Memorials are so important, and this particular one is so important as for the 30 families whose loved ones body was never found, this is in effect their grave. The unidentified remains that were cremated were placed within the monument prior to it being unveiled. I also know that some survivors who have since sadly died have had their ashes scattered in the rose garden, the rose garden was particularly important to families	Anonymous
The Piper Alpha Memorial and Memorial Garden is not only a place for	Anonymous



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<p>families to grieve, but also for friends of those who either died or were badly affected by the accident. Hopefully it is also serves as a reminder for oil companies that they have a duty of care to those still working on oil rigs.</p>	
<p>I worked for 35 years in the oil and gas industry. I was working offshore in Norway at the time of the Piper Alpha disaster. This memorial means a lot to me as a place to go to pay homage to the many brave men and women who have given their lives working in the North Sea.</p>	Anonymous
<p>The flower display is beautiful and uplifting . A recent suggestion by Mr Rae to create a spiral path is not appealing,except perhaps for local scooter lads.</p>	Anonymous
<p>The site is a very important place for people to walk and sit in. Our family walk there almost daily. The Memorial is a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by so many men in a sophisticated major industry. It brings home the risks workers offshore face to bring energy to our country and it is always humbling to be near the Memorial and the beautiful garden. The Memorial allows for oral history to be told to our children and grandchildren so that they may understand this very important and tragic event in the history of the exploration and production of oil and gas. On each Anniversary of the Disaster itself, flowers and wreaths are still left in rows upon rows with heartbreaking messages from the families of the victims - whose names are inscribed on The Memorial. It is particular poignant to read the messages from the children of the victims who are now grown up, some with their own children. The devastating impact of a major industrial tragedy such as Piper Alpha must never be forgotten.</p>	Anonymous
<p>I would like to see a change in the landscaping around the memorial, there is already a rose garden next door (Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother) and these are very labour intensive to maintain. The landscaping is very bleak in the winter months, would be nice to see the area around the statue revamped as a mixed herbaceous perennial / shrub border.</p>	Anonymous