



people spaces places

London Road Cemetery

Household Survey Report

2016

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London Road Cemetery

Household Survey

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Respondent Profile	1
3	Visiting London Road Cemetery	6
3.1	Frequency of Visit and Method of Travel.....	6
3.2	Reasons for Visiting	7
4	About London Road Cemetery	9
4.1	Quality	9
4.2	Areas of Importance and Value	10
4.3	Barriers to Use	11
4.4	Heritage Value	13
4.5	Impact on the Local Community	14
5	The Future	15
5.1	Future Plans for the Anglican Chapel.....	15
5.2	Future Events and Activities	16
5.3	Future Improvements	18
6	Final Comment and Conclusions.....	19

Appendix A – London Road Cemetery Household Survey 2016

Appendix B – Collated Facebook Comments

Appendix C – Article in Coventry Telegraph

Appendix D – Responses to Open Questions

1 Summary

- There was an excellent response to the Household Survey with 237 surveys completed. 152 surveys were completed online which helped provide the views of people living all across the City.
- Responses were gained from a range of people although there were fewer responses from young people aged under 25 years and minority ethnic groups.
- Those people responding to the survey use the Cemetery frequently with one in five (19.5%) visiting the cemetery at least weekly and one in four (25.6%) visiting every month.
- Over half of respondents (50.5%) visit the cemetery by car. Around four in ten (42.4%) travel on foot.
- London Road Cemetery is considered to be high quality with 46% of respondents rating it as "very good" or "good". Over one in three (36.2%) considered the quality to be average.
- The main reasons for visiting include: to walk around or look at the graves & monuments (60.0%); to visit a grave (52.6%); to observe wildlife (38.6%); to walk around the open space (37.7%) and for walking / exercise (30.2%). Around one in seven (14.0%) of visitors use the cemetery for dog walking.
- The aspects of the Cemetery that are considered to be of highest value or importance include: gravestones and monuments (80.8%), quiet and peaceful setting (75.1%), that it is a place for the living to remember the dead (72.8%), mature and veteran trees (71.8%), designed landscape and vistas (54.0%), wildlife (52.1%).
- Nearly half (49.8%) of respondents cited barriers that affected their use of London Road Cemetery. The main issues were those relating repairs, maintenance and general upkeep and personal safety.
- 82.3% of respondents supported using the restoration of the Anglican Chapel for more community events and activities including weddings.
- There was a high level of support for future events and activities in the Cemetery with a cautionary note that this should be managed carefully.
- 58 people were interested in finding out more about volunteer activity and 118 people would like to be contacted about further consultation opportunities.

2 Introduction

To inform the HLF restoration and improvement project at London Road Cemetery a questionnaire survey was developed to gain the views of users and non-users of the Cemetery.

The survey was distributed to a random sample of 1000 residential households within 1 km of the Cemetery, along with a covering letter, plan of the project boundary and reply-paid envelope. Copies of the survey were also made available to the Friends of London Road Cemetery at their November meeting.

The survey was available as an online survey which was promoted through City Council mailing lists, including the GovDelivery system, a targeted email campaign to existing stakeholder groups, including the Friends of London Road Cemetery, and promoted through social media (Twitter, Facebook and Flickr). The Coventry City Council website was also updated to include additional information about the project and to host a link to the survey. Social media campaigns also included reminders as the closing date for the survey was approached.

In addition, the survey was also promoted by the Coventry Telegraph via their website. A copy of the article is included in the appendices to this report along with comments made through Facebook.

The survey period was between the 2nd November and 25th November 2016 and this report summarises the findings of the 237 responses to the survey. This includes 152 online responses and a further 85 paper copies received by the deadline.

A copy of the survey can be found in **Appendix A**.

3 Respondent Profile

Overall, 237 surveys were returned, including 152 online and 85 paper copies and this represents a reasonable level of response and a good sample size.

Female respondents made up 57.0% of the sample of respondents, which is significantly greater than the composition of the local area where 46.0% of residents within 1 Km of the cemetery are female.

Age Range	London Road Cemetery Household Survey 2016		Coventry (%)	England & Wales (%)
	n	%		
<16	1	0.4	21.0	20.1
17 - 24	4	1.8	14.8	10.6
25 - 34	23	10.2	14.6	13.4
35 - 49	55	24.3	19.6	21.3
50 - 59	48	21.2	10.5	12.1
60 - 69	54	23.9	9.0	10.8
70 - 79	32	14.2	6.2	7.1
>80	9	4.0	4.3	4.6

Table 1 Age Profile

As shown in **Table 1**, there was a significant under-representation of those aged under 24 (2.2%) compared to Coventry (35.8%) and England & Wales (30.7%). Over two thirds of respondents (69.4%) were aged between 35 and 69, a significantly larger proportion compared to the population of Coventry (39.1%) and England & Wales (44.2%).

Ethnic Group	London Road Cemetery Household Survey 2016		Coventry (%)	England & Wales (%)
	n	%		
White: British	197	87.9	66.6	80.5
White: Irish	5	2.2	2.3	0.9
White: Other White	9	4.0	4.9	4.5
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	0	0.0	1.2	0.8
Mixed: White and Black African	0	0.0	0.3	0.3
Mixed: White and Asian	0	0.0	0.8	0.6
Mixed: Other Mixed	1	0.4	0.4	0.5
Asian or Asian British: Indian	4	1.8	8.8	2.5
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	0	0.0	3.0	2.0
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	0	0.0	0.9	0.8
Asian or Asian British: Chinese	0	0.0	1.2	0.7
Asian or Asian British: Other Asian	0	0.0	2.4	1.5
Black or Black British: Caribbean	1	0.4	1.0	1.1
Black or Black British: African	1	0.4	4.0	1.8
Black or Black British: Other Black	0	0.0	0.5	0.5
Other ethnic group	0	0.0	1.6	1.0
Rather not answer	6	2.7	0.0	0.0

Table 2 Ethnicity

As **Table 2** shows, the vast majority of respondents identified themselves as White (94.1%), an over-representation compared with the national data (85.9%) and particularly in contrast with the Coventry data (73.8%). Within this segment there was a fair representation of people identifying as Irish (2.2%) and 'White Other' (4.0%) compared to Coventry (2.3% and 4.9% respectively).

Very few survey respondents described themselves as from Black, Asian or Mixed backgrounds. There was a particularly significant underrepresentation of Indian or British Indian respondents; only four people (1.8%) compared to the population of Coventry, where almost a tenth of the population (8.8%) identify as Indian / Indian British.

Religion	London Road Cemetery Household Survey 2016		Coventry (%)	England & Wales (%)
	n	%		
Christian	138	63.3	53.7	59.3
Buddhist	1	0.5	0.3	0.4
Hindu	2	0.9	3.5	1.5
Jewish	0	0.0	0.1	0.5
Muslim (Islam)	1	0.5	7.5	4.8
Sikh	1	0.5	5.0	0.8
Other religion	61	6.4	0.5	0.4
No religion / Religion not stated	14	28.0	29.4	32.3

Table 3 Religion

Almost two thirds of respondents (63.3%) were Christian (**Table 3**). This is similar to England & Wales (59.3%) but a larger proportion than within Coventry (53.7%). Furthermore, a large proportion stated that they practised ‘Other religion’ (6.4%) compared with Coventry (0.5%) and England & Wales (0.4%).

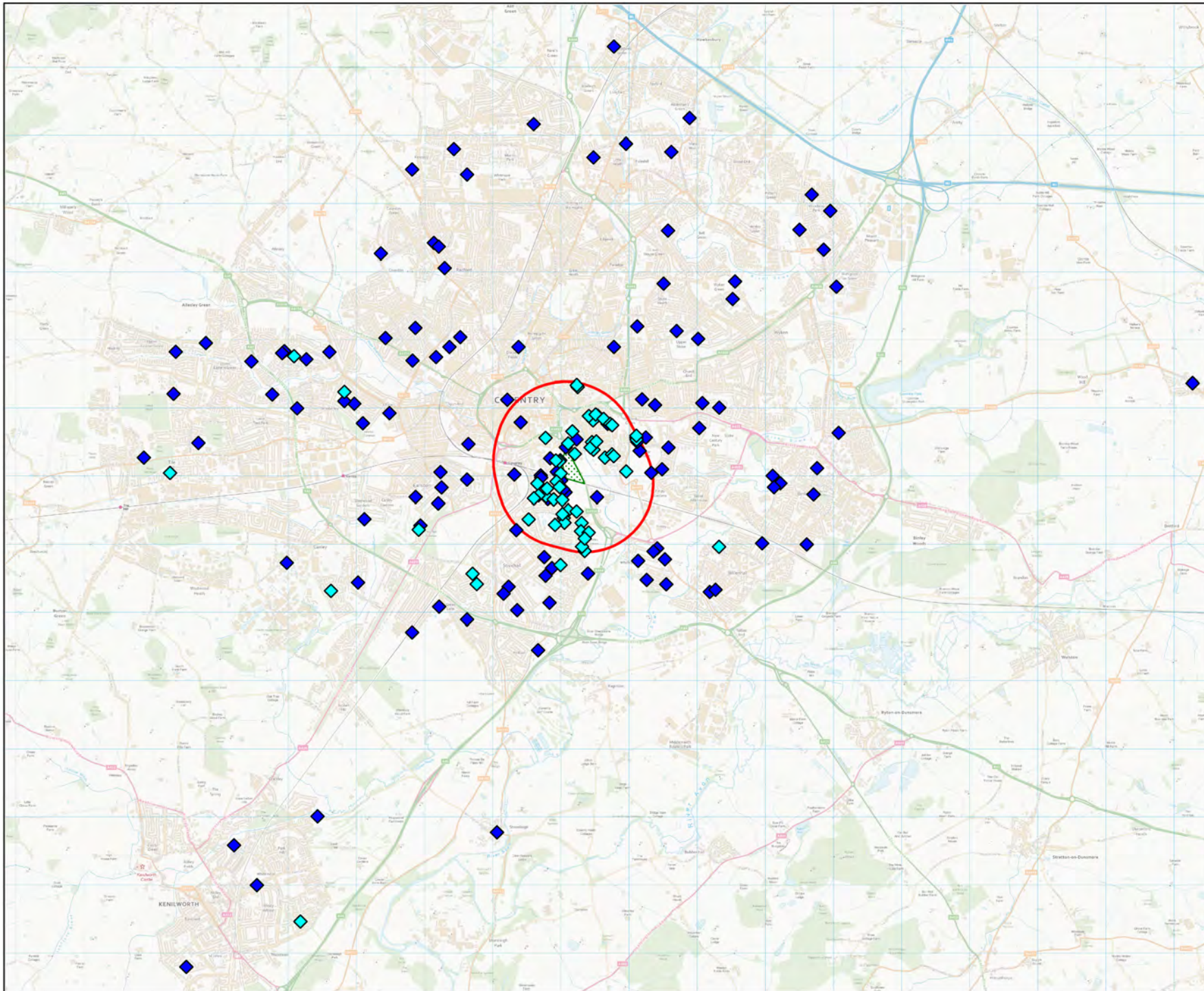
There was a significant underrepresentation of Sikh (0.5%), Muslim (0.5%) and Hindu (0.9%) respondents, particularly in contrast with the population of Coventry (5.0%, 7.5% and 3.5% respectively).

No one who completed a survey identified a Jewish. The Jewish population in Coventry is now relatively small with the proportions of Jewish people in Coventry comprising just 0.1% (compared to England & Wales at 0.5%). However, this is worth noting that London Road Cemetery contains a Jewish burial ground.

Almost a tenth of respondents (9.3%) considered themselves to have a long-term illness or disability (LLTI) that limited their use of London Road Cemetery. This is an underrepresentation compared to the population of Coventry, where almost a fifth of residents (17.7%) have an LLTI that limits their day-to-day activities and the population of England & Wales, where 17.9% of residents consider themselves to have an LLTI.

In total 235 respondents gave valid postcodes. As shown in **Figure 1**, the majority came from Coventry and surrounding areas. Online respondents tended to be located further away from the Cemetery, with only 23.0% located within the 1 km radius. Postal responses were not surprisingly more localised, since the survey was distributed to properties within a 1 Km zone of the Cemetery. Despite this, 15.6% of hard copy surveys were returned from further afield, although this also includes returns through the Friends of London Road Cemetery.





A small number of respondents came from further away, such as Brinklow (around 9.3 km), Dunton Bassett (around 24.1 km) and near Corby (around 58.5 km away). A minority of respondents were located outside of the West Midlands, including Luton (95.0 km), near Bracknell (129.1 km), Runcorn (132.0 km) and near Southend-on-Sea (168.6 km). This most likely reflects the greater reach online and using social media.



London Road Cemetery

Figure 1 Locations of Household Survey Respondents

LEGEND

-  London Road Cemetery
-  1 km Buffer
-  Location of Postal Survey Respondent
-  Location of Online Survey Respondent

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Drawn by: LH	Checked by: AS	Date: 30/11/16
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4 Visiting London Road Cemetery

4.1 Frequency of Visit and Method of Travel

Of the 237 respondents, 215 (91.1%) said that they had visited the Cemetery. The Cemetery appears to be relatively well used (**Chart 1**) with around a fifth of these (19.5%) visiting it at least once or twice a week. One in four (25.6%) of respondents visit on a monthly basis. Overall, nearly half (45.1%) of respondents visit London Road Cemetery at least monthly.

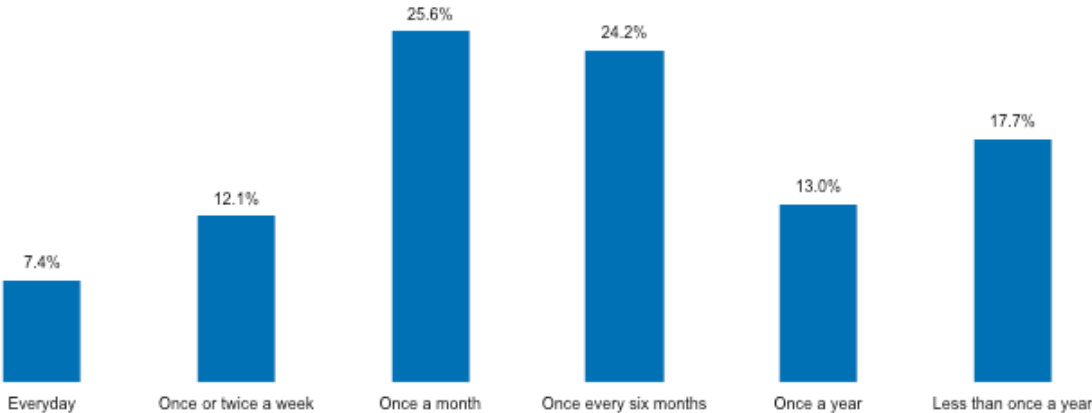


Chart 1 Frequency of visit

As shown in **Chart 2**, most respondents who do visit the Cemetery walk or drive (92.9%), with very few using public transport (4.3%) or cycling (2.9%).



Chart 2 Method of Travel

4.2 Reasons for Visiting

The reasons cited for visiting the Cemetery were very varied. While the most popular reason for visiting was to walk around and visit the graves and monuments (60.0%), other popular reasons included visiting a grave or to remember a friend or loved one (52.6%), observing and enjoying wildlife (38.6%) or walking around open green space (37.7%).

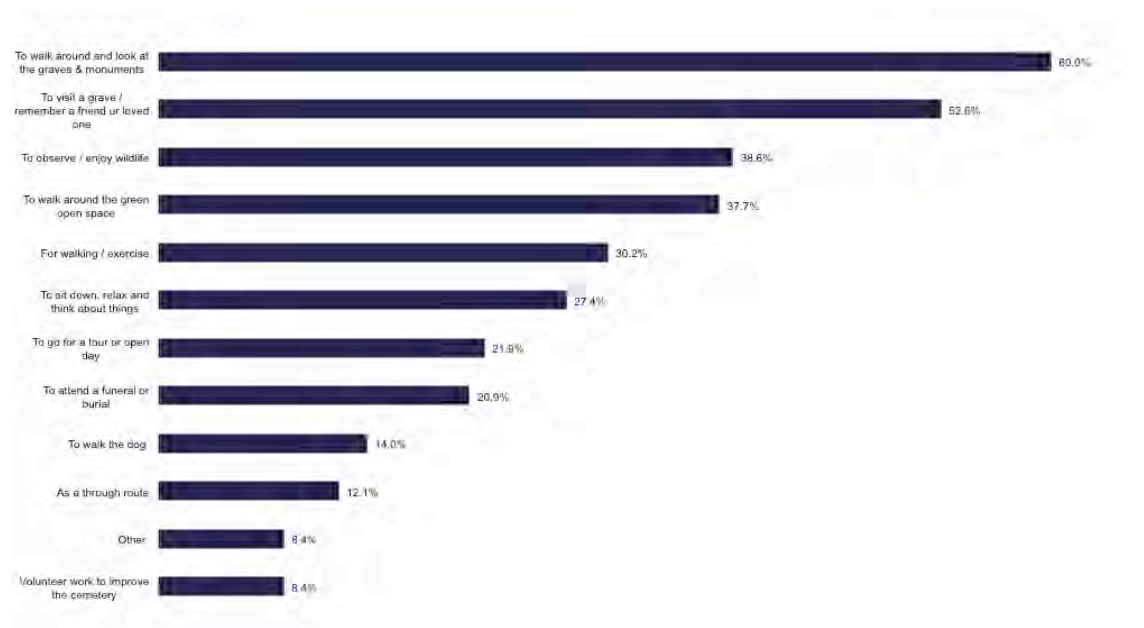


Chart 3 Reasons for visiting

In the 'Other' category respondents listed attending the trees, researching gravestones and family history, attending memorial services, making videos and even to play Pokémon GO (**Chart 3**).

Around half of the respondents said they do not usually combine their visit with any other green spaces (47.2%). Of those that do visit other green spaces, the London Road Cemetery Extension was the most popular (41.9%) (**Chart 4**).

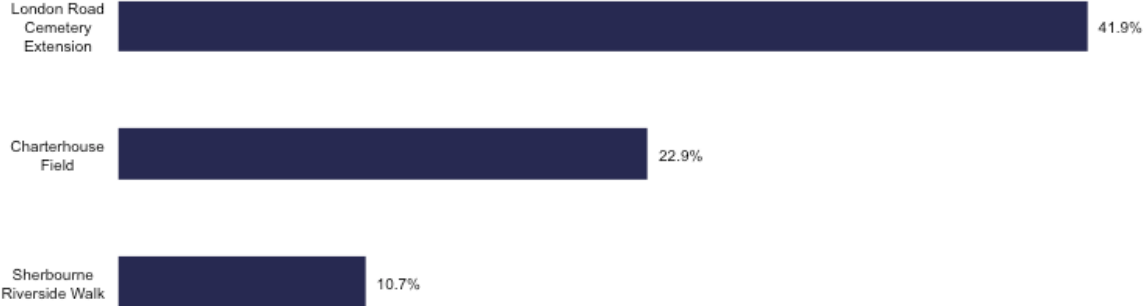


Chart 4 Visiting other green spaces

Of the 7.5% respondents who visit with a special interest group (**Chart 5**) most said they were part of the Friends of London Road Cemetery while another respondent said they came with tree wardens and friends who have an interest in trees.



Chart 5 Who respondents visit the Cemetery with

5 About London Road Cemetery

5.1 Quality

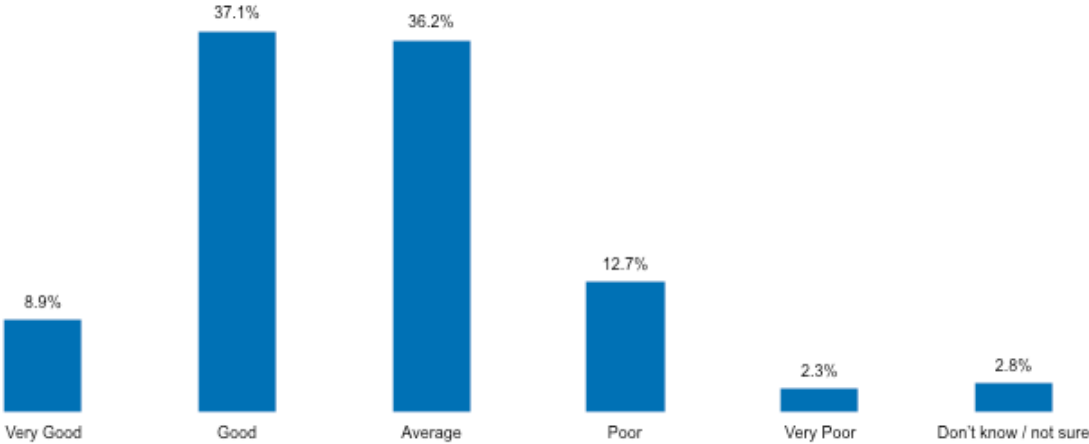


Chart 6 Quality

Generally respondents felt that the overall quality of the Cemetery was high with almost half (46.0%) considering it to be good or very good (**Chart 6**). However, almost as many respondents rated the Cemetery as 'average' compared to the responses for 'good'.

5.2 Areas of Importance and Value

The majority of respondents could list at least one area of the Cemetery that they felt was important or had value (**Chart 7**), indicating that many think it is a significant site.

The most valued aspects of the Cemetery were considered to be: gravestones and monuments (80.8%); the quiet and peaceful setting (75.1%); as a place for the living to remember the dead (72.8%) and the mature and veteran trees (71.8%). In addition, the designed landscape and vistas (54.0%) and wildlife value (52.1) were both cited by over half of respondents.

Interestingly, defining the Cemetery as 'a place for the dead' received a relatively low level of response (30.4%) compared to the other responses, suggesting that other areas characteristics or aspects of the cemetery are more important.

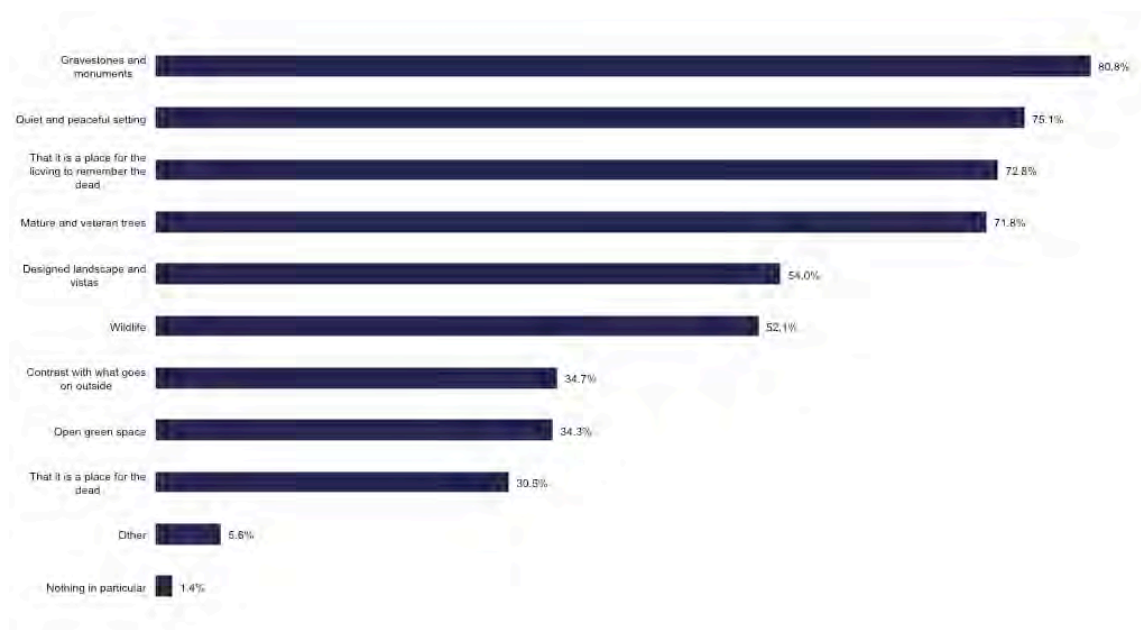


Chart 7 Areas of importance and value

Within 'Other' respondents felt that the Jewish Cemetery was a valued part of the Cemetery, as well as the chapel buildings, church and historic walls and gates surrounding the Cemetery. The heritage of the Cemetery, including the pioneers who are buried there and the mass war graves and were also cited as valued areas of the Cemetery.

5.3 Barriers to Use

118 respondents (49.8%) cited some form of barrier to barrier to using London Road Cemetery. These open responses have been classified and are shown in the table below. The full open responses are shown in Appendix D of this report.

Barrier to use	No.	% of all comments
Upkeep	39	26.5
Safety and security	28	19.0
No reason to go	9	6.1
Lack of parking	9	6.1
Time constraints	9	6.1
Difficult to navigate	8	5.4
Nowhere to sit	8	5.4
Busy road / traffic	7	4.8
People loitering	6	4.1
No buses	5	3.4
Dogs off lead	4	2.7
Lack of lighting	4	2.7
Lack of information	2	1.4
Barrier caused by railway line	2	1.4
Didn't know it was there	2	1.4
No public toilets	2	1.4
Pathways	1	0.7
Wanting to respect mourners	1	0.7
No dog bins	1	0.7

Table 4 Barriers to use

Both users and non-users were asked about what prevented them from visiting the Cemetery or limited their enjoyment of it (**Table 4**). The most common reason given, with a quarter of all responses (26.0%), was the upkeep including unmown grass, broken gravestones and a general lack of maintenance and untidiness. Many also stated that they felt unsafe or vulnerable in the Cemetery; with one respondent commenting it 'had a bit of a reputation for being unsafe...'. Another respondent said there had been incidents involving theft from parked cars and grave ornaments. A lack of lighting was associated with feeling unsafe, as was the presence of people loitering at the Cemetery, referred to as 'drunks' and 'homeless' by some of the respondents.

Other issues that were repeatedly mentioned were the lack of information and associated difficulty with navigating around the Cemetery. One respondent also cited a lack of dedicated pathways. Others commented that they had not known the Cemetery was there.

As well as a lack of information, a common barrier was a lack of facilities, including seating, bins and public toilet. Parking was also a big concern, particularly disabled parking, as well as no public transport (see **3.1**) and the busy road next to the Cemetery. Some said that they were even prevented from visiting the Cemetery as they did not feel the road was safe for pedestrians to cross.

Another barrier was the perception of the Cemetery. While one respondent said they did not want to impede on mourners, others said it felt unsafe / scary because it was a cemetery. Similarly, others perceived the space as a burial ground and either had no interest in going or did not think they could.

Notably, around two fifths (41.9%) of respondents who combine their visit with another green space said that they visited the extension, south of the railway (see **3.2**). Only two respondents said the barrier created by the railway line which runs through the Cemetery is an issue, with one asking whether there could be a pedestrian crossing put in. Therefore, it is likely to be a minority which have an issue with the barrier.

Further analysis showed that there was no significant relationship between gender and barriers to use; both men and women felt that there things preventing them from using and enjoying the space. Neither was there a relationship between age and barriers to use; barriers reported were proportional to each age category.

5.4 Heritage Value

As shown in **Chart 8**, when users and non-users were asked to rate their understanding of the heritage value of the Cemetery four fifths felt that their understanding was average or above average (80.4%).

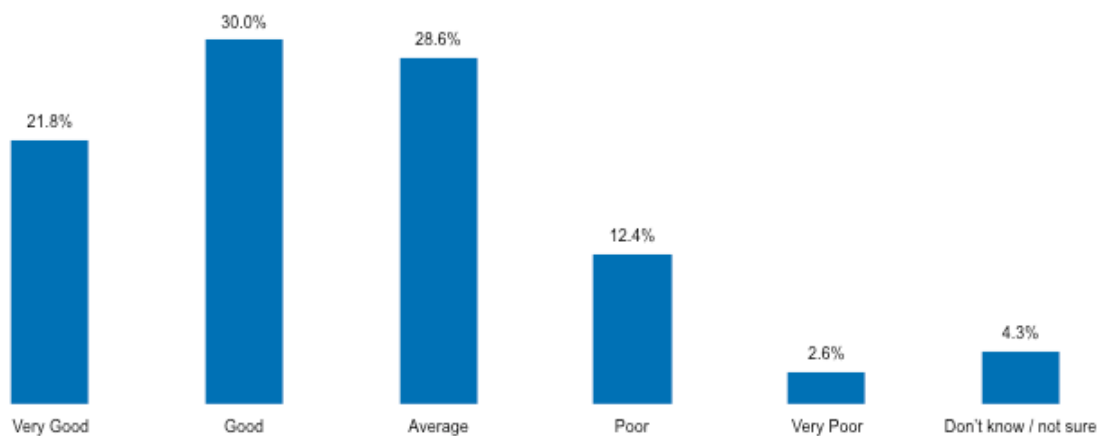


Chart 8 Understanding of Heritage Value

5.5 Impact on the Local Community

While a fifth of respondents (19.7%) neither agreed nor disagreed that the Cemetery had a positive impact on the local community, two thirds (64.1%) agreed that it had a positive impact, including those who had never visited (**Chart 9**).

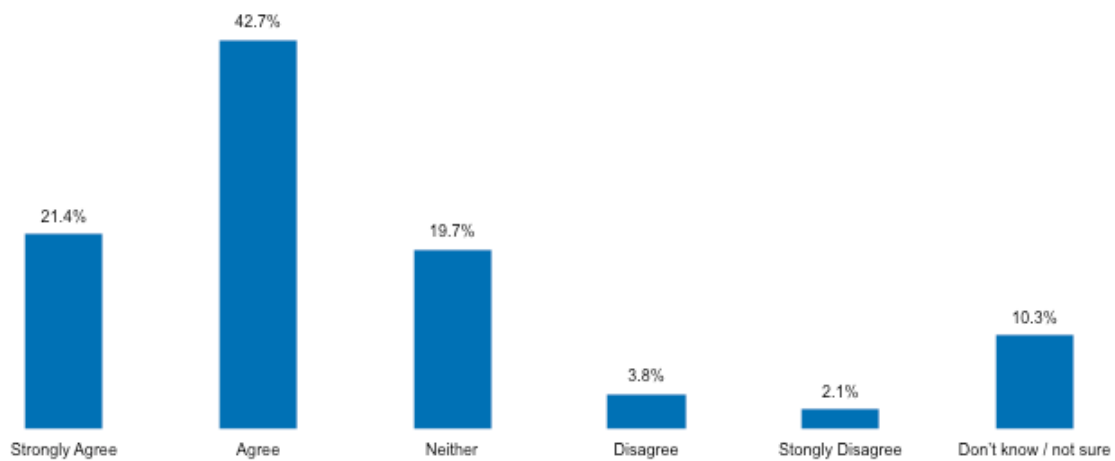


Chart 9 Impact on local community

6 The Future

6.1 Future Plans for the Anglican Chapel

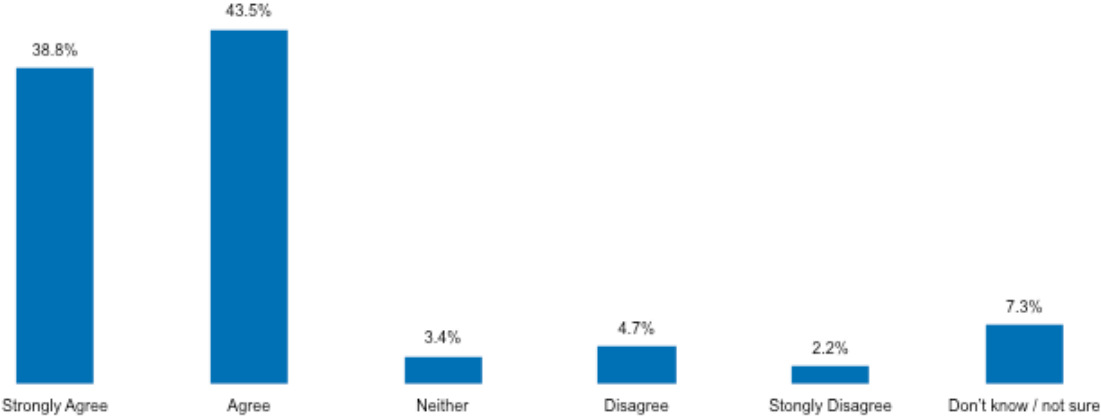


Chart 10 Agreement with proposals

With 82.3% of respondents agreeing, opinions on the proposed plans for the Anglican Chapel were generally positive (**Chart 10**). Suggestions included use as a heritage or historical site, such as displays relating to Coventry and the World War II blitz, as well as the architecture of the building and information on Paxton. Others wanted to see the space used for art exhibitions, children’s activities, a tea shop, a choir, films and music or talks on history and wildlife.

There were mixed opinions on whether the space should be used for weddings and funerals. Some respondents agreed with the idea and just wanted to see the building back in use, while others considered the logistics, such as necessary car park improvements, who would use it and whether it would be specifically for Anglicans. On the other hand, some felt that it should only be used for funerals and those events such as weddings would be unsuitable.

Overall, the most popular suggestion was for it to remain in use as a chapel or place for reflection and a common request was that any use should be respectful.

6.2 Future Events and Activities

Statement	n	% of all responses
I don't like the idea - cemeteries are for the dead and remembrance	27	10.6%
I would worry that the atmosphere could change and the sense of peacefulness could be lost	47	18.5%
It could work if managed carefully	102	40.2%
It's a good idea – more people should know about London Road Cemetery	78	30.7%
TOTAL	254	100%

Table 5 What do you think about having new activities in London Road Cemetery?

When asked about activities in the Cemetery in general, such as guided walks, community arts events or school groups, many respondents agreed that it could work if managed carefully (40.2%) and a further one in three respondents (30.7%) supported the idea of promoting the Cemetery to encourage greater use.

Less than one in five respondents (18.5%) were unsure about the plans and felt that the atmosphere would change or that a cemetery should be for the dead and the remembrance of the dead (**Table 5**).

Other comments (totalling 20 comments) included statements about the success of some of the friends group work and also suggestions for more guided walks. Some were keen to get across that the events should be well managed and respectful and that additional facilities should be put in place to accommodate. One respondent suggested changing the name to attract more visitors.

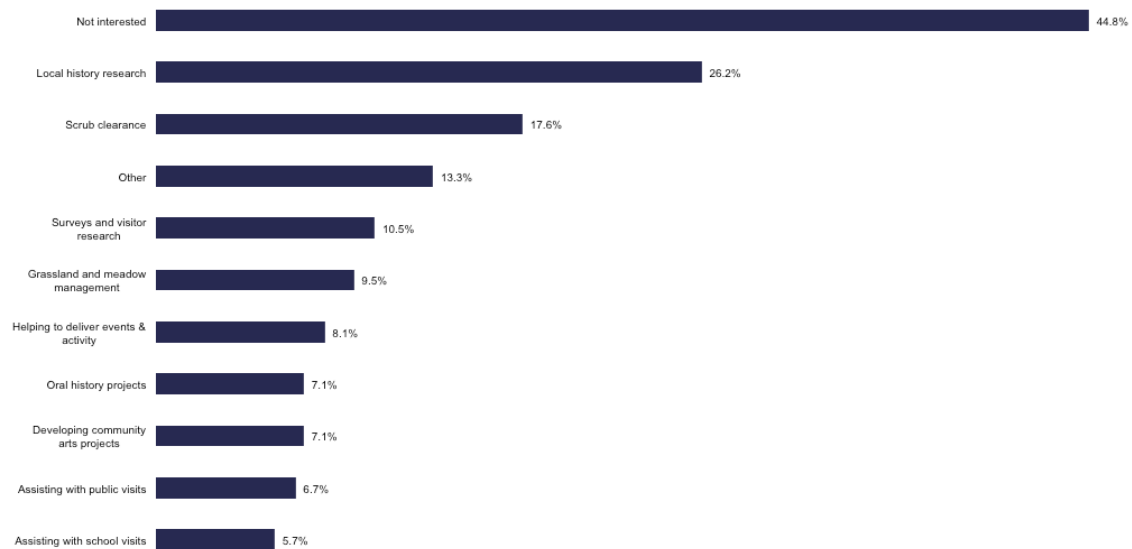


Chart 11 New volunteer activities

While the largest proportion of respondents (44.8%) said they were not interested in taking part in new volunteer activities at the Cemetery (**Chart 12**) some went onto comment that they would if not for work and other commitments.

Overall there was a strong response and many were keen to get involved and when asked about receiving new information about volunteering 58 people gave their contact details.

6.3 Future Improvements

Respondents were also asked to suggest further improvements to the Cemetery. Opinions were divided; with some not keen on the idea of future development or a “circus” of events somewhere that is a place for the dead and reflection. Meanwhile others suggested adding additional facilities such as a tea shop or café and changing the name from ‘cemetery’ to draw more people in.

Many wanted to see improvements which would make the Cemetery more accessible, such as improving bus routes to the Cemetery and making the surrounding road more pedestrian friendly. Respondents also wanted seating provision, footpath improvements, better disabled parking, and public toilets (particularly with the elderly in mind).

Regarding concern over safety in the Cemetery, many requested more lighting and security measures, such as CCTV or a regular patrol. Some respondents were also concerned about dogs being off lead in the Cemetery and asked that owners be made to keep them on lead.

Also, many respondents wished to see more information (notably about Paxton and the trees at the site) available about the Cemetery in the form of interpretation boards, a website or mobile app. Others wanted the records to be more readily available for people doing research into family history.

Some respondents also commented that the Cemetery should be restored as an arboretum, including floral displays and water features to make visits more pleasant.

Finally, a common theme among the comments was the need for improved upkeep and more care taken with the Cemetery. Many also wanted to see areas such as the Jewish burial ground and baby graves restored and the monuments repaired.

7 Final Comment and Conclusions

London Road Cemetery is clearly an important site for many of the local people. This is evident in the high ratings for quality and heritage value, as well as the number of people interested in becoming involved in the project (58 wished to find out more about volunteering and 118 wanted to be kept up to date with the project). However, poor upkeep and maintenance is a major barrier preventing people from enjoying and using the space.

Opinion was divided over the future plans, with some concerned about running activities in the Cemetery and hosting events like weddings onsite, stating that it was a cemetery and thus only a place for remembering the dead and quiet reflection. Meanwhile others saw the project as an opportunity to bring more people into the Cemetery and learn about its history and importance, with one even suggesting the name be changed to encourage more people to visit. However, all agreed that any development should be respectful and well managed.

Appendix A

London Road Cemetery Household Survey 2016

London Road Cemetery

Household Survey 2016



LOTTERY FUNDED

Coventry City Council has been awarded a Round 1 pass from Heritage and Big Lottery Funds to develop detailed plans to conserve and improve London Road Cemetery.

Please take a few minutes to tell us your views about London Road Cemetery, how you use the cemetery, and how it could be improved for the future.

This survey can also be completed online using the link: www.coventry.gov.uk/lrc

This information will be used for statistical purposes to provide evidence to the funding bid to Heritage and Big Lottery Funds.

Please complete this survey by the 25th November.

1 Please tell us your full postcode so that we can better understand how far visitors travel to London Road Cemetery

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Visiting London Road Cemetery

2 Have you ever visited London Road Cemetery?

Yes No (If so, please go to Q10)

3 On average, how often do you visit London Road Cemetery? (Tick one only)

Everyday Once a month Once a year
 Once or twice a week Once every six months Less than once a year

4 How do you normally travel to London Road Cemetery? (Tick one only)

Walk Public Transport
 Drive Cycle

5 Please indicate the reasons you visit London Road Cemetery. (Please tick all that apply)

To attend a funeral or burial <input type="checkbox"/>	For walking / exercise <input type="checkbox"/>
To visit a grave / remember a friend or loved one <input type="checkbox"/>	To walk the dog <input type="checkbox"/>
To walk around and look at the graves & monuments <input type="checkbox"/>	As a through route <input type="checkbox"/>
To walk around the green open space <input type="checkbox"/>	To go on a tour or open day <input type="checkbox"/>
To sit down, relax and think about things <input type="checkbox"/>	Volunteer work to improve the cemetery <input type="checkbox"/>
To observe / enjoy wildlife <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please state below) <input type="checkbox"/>

6 When you visit London Road Cemetery do you usually combine your visit to include any of these other green spaces? (Please tick all that apply)

London Road Cemetery Extension (south of railway line)
 Charterhouse Field
 Sherbourne Riverside Walk

7. Please tell us who you normally visit London Road Cemetery with? (Tick one only)
 Alone..... With family.....
 With friends As part of a special interest group (please state below)

8 Are there areas or aspects of London Road Cemetery that you consider to be particularly important or valuable? (Please tick all that apply)

Designed landscape and vistas..... <input type="checkbox"/>	That it is a place for the living to remember the dead..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Gravestones and monuments <input type="checkbox"/>	Quiet and peaceful setting <input type="checkbox"/>
Mature and veteran trees..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Contrast with what goes on outside <input type="checkbox"/>
Open green space..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Nothing in particular <input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please state below) <input type="checkbox"/>
That it is a place for the dead <input type="checkbox"/>	

9 How would you rate the overall quality of London Road Cemetery? (Tick one only)

Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Don't know / not sure
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Future

10 Please tell us about anything that prevents you from visiting London Road Cemetery or limits your enjoyment of the space.

11 How would you rate your general understanding of the heritage value of London Road Cemetery? (Tick one only)

Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Don't know / not sure
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12 Do you feel that London Road Cemetery has a positive impact on the local community? (Tick one only)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know / not sure
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13 What do you think about having new activities in London Road Cemetery? These might include guided walks, self guided trails, development of a smartphone application, community arts events, bringing in schools group or other activities.

I don't like the idea – cemeteries are for the dead and for remembrance
 I would worry that the atmosphere could change and the sense of peacefulness could be lost
 It could work if carefully managed.....
 It's a good idea – more people should know about London Road Cemetery
 Other comment (please state)

14 What do you think about proposals to restore the Anglican Chapel (in the centre of the cemetery) and use this building for community events and activities (which could include funeral services, weddings, community meetings, talks, private hire, small arts events).

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Disagree Strongly Disagree Don't know / not sure

15 Do you have any other suggestions about the future uses of the Anglican Chapel?

16 Would you be interested in taking part in any of the following volunteer activities? (Tick all that apply)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Scrub clearance | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assisting with public visits | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Grassland and meadow management | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assisting with school visits | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Local history research | <input type="checkbox"/> | Surveys and visitor research | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Helping to deliver events & activities | <input type="checkbox"/> | Not interested | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Developing community arts projects | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please state)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Oral history projects | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

17 Are there any other improvements that would make London Road Cemetery a better place to visit? Do you have any other comments? (Please state)

18 Would you like to receive further information about future volunteer activities or take part in further consultation?

- Information about volunteer activities.....
- Information about further consultation.....

Name:

Email Address:

Your contact details will be kept apart from your responses to this questionnaire to ensure confidentiality.

About You

Monitoring Data Only

The following responses will be used only for monitoring and broad statistical purposes only.

19 How old are you?

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 16 or under | <input type="checkbox"/> | 35 - 49..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | 70 - 79..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 - 24..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | 50 - 59..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | 80 and over | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 - 34..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | 60 - 69..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rather not answer..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |

20 Are you...

- | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Male..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Female | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rather not answer..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|

21 Do you consider yourself to have a disability or long term illness that affects your use of London Road Cemetery?

- | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rather not answer..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|

22 Which of the following best describes your ethnic group?

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| White - English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian/ Asian British - Bangladeshi..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White - Irish | <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian/ Asian British - Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller | <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian/ Asian British - Any other background..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White - Any other background..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British - African..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mixed/ Multiple ethnic groups - White & Black Caribbean..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British - Caribbean..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mixed/ Multiple ethnic groups - White & Black African..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British - Any other background | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mixed/ Multiple ethnic groups - White & Asian .. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other ethnic group - Arab | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mixed/ Multiple ethnic groups - Any other background..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other ethnic group - Gypsy / traveller | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Asian/ Asian British - Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> | Any other background | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Asian/ Asian British - Pakistani..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rather not answer..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |

23 Which best describes your faith or religion?

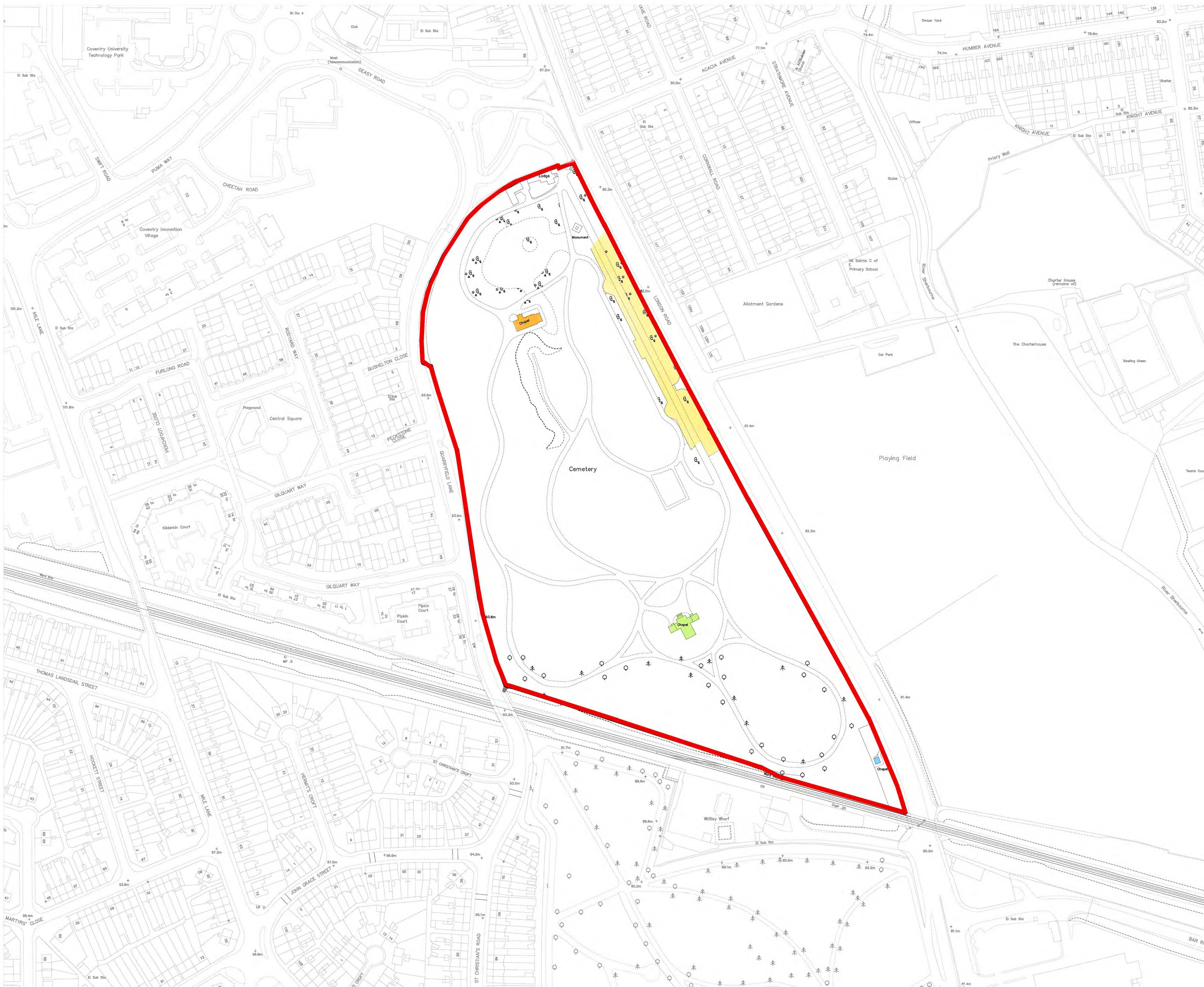
- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Christian..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Muslim (Islam) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Buddhist..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sikh..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hindu | <input type="checkbox"/> | No religion | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jewish..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other religion / faith | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Thank you for completing our survey.
The closing date for responses is Friday 25th November.**

Data Protection - How information will be used

The information you have provided will only be used for the purpose of statistical research for the purposes of informing proposals to conserve and improve London Road Cemetery. Community First Partnership (CFP) Ltd will on behalf of Coventry City Council process and analyse the data you have provided in accordance with The Data Protection Act 1998 and the Market Research Society Code of Conduct. CFP is registered with the Information Commissioner.

If you have indicated that you wish to receive further information about volunteering or to take part in further consultation your details will be added to a mailing list held and managed by CFP / Coventry City Council. Your personal information will never be shared with other organisations and you will be able to unsubscribe at any time.



- KEY:**
- Site Boundary
 - Anglican Chapel
 - Non-Conformist Chapel
 - Promenade Wall
 - Jewish Chapel

London Road Cemetery
Site Location Plan

Appendix B

Collated Facebook Comments

London Road Cemetery - Household Survey Facebook Comments

-  **Helen Hampton** First I've heard of it I have family buried there. Surely what ever it is should be dignified and the place kept tidy not made into a theme park.
👍 2 · 10 November at 17:49
-  **Paris Smallwood** My Mother & Father & Nan & Grandad & my Grandad & uncle are with you . we was Devestated when we visited last we could't find there graves was a disgrace & very upsetting. the grass was that high it took me a while to find my Grandad & Uncle Bill Small... See more
10 November at 15:43
-  **Jane Horner** There are families, whos loved ones fought in the war and died due to injuries sustained. Some of these graves are unmarked.
👍 1 · 10 November at 11:55
-  **Marie-Noëlle Poggetti** lam french and I live part of the year in beautifull Coventry . When the coach eventually reaches Coventry , from Luton , I know I am homeand it is not sad at all to see the cemetary then ! I like walking there too, Nothing morbid , just a very romantic place in the very old parts of it ..I read the old names,I love the Nature all around
👍 2 · 10 November at 22:24
-  **Sonia Jayne Luff** My great grandparents and grandparents are buried there. I don't get to the cemetery very often as I live in Lincoln but I have had cause to be disappointed in how it is kept.
11 November at 10:17
-  **Krzysztof Szczypka** a good clean up would be nice, cut the grass where its long more bins
👍 3 · 10 November at 14:02
-  **Michelle Fisher** headstones need securing, overgrown shrubs/bushes need chopping down, more bins & taps benches
👍 2 · 10 November at 10:50
-  **Barb Barbara** My beloved dad is there and I have been so upset at the state of the cemetery lately, that I actually put a complaint in!!
👍 1 · 10 November at 13:29
-  **Carol McGrath** Restore the grounds make safe the headstones this is a lovely cemetery and very peaceful
👍 1 · 10 November at 13:35
-  **Richard Gardner** Just needs a bit of love and care. But not a lot wrong with it. Peaceful oasis just outside the city centre. Lovely walks.
10 November at 14:38
-  **Marie-Noëlle Poggetti** lam french and I live part of the year in beautifull Coventry . When the coach eventually reaches Coventry , from Luton , I know I am homeand it is not sad at all to see the cemetary then ! I like walking there too, Nothing morbid , just a very romantic place in the very old parts of it ..I read the old names,I love the Nature all around
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-  **Carol McGrath** Restore the grounds make safe the headstones this is a lovely cemetery and very peaceful
👍 1 · 10 November at 13:35
-  **Richard Gardner** Just needs a bit of love and care. But not a lot wrong with it. Peaceful oasis just outside the city centre. Lovely walks.
10 November at 14:38
-  **Claire Herbert** fix the broken head stones I have babies up there and such a shame to see so many fallen or broken stones
10 November at 13:43
-  **Carol Lapworth** The headstones to be replaced where possible and rangers to patrol when open to stop any more damage.
10 November at 13:54
-  **Jack Stephenson** There is nothing wrong with the cemetary, leave it alone.
10 November at 15:03



Coventry Thank you very much for all of your responses. We will pass these on to the project team and they'll be included the feedback.

If you haven't managed to do so yet, please do take some time to complete the survey - and if you know of any others that are interested, feel free to pass it on to them.

11 November at 01:26

Paris Smallwood Thank you !! xx

11 November at 01:29



Arron Paul McCafferty I personally would restore the lovely Anglican Chapel and buy some lovely red chairs and holding concerts once a month also Carol services over Christmas would be lovely with candles...

Also restoring the grounds and making it more safer and user friendly for walkers and people who love history or general research.

12 · 10 November at 11:09 · Edited

1 Reply

Kim Webb A good tidy and repair. To make it look like it's cared for! Graves were placed far too close together which makes visiting loved ones very difficult. Not that the problem can be solved. When it's wet and slippery it's dangerous trying to reach some of the graves.... See more

1 · 10 November at 22:25

Angela Ryan New grass my mums grave never gets any where's it's positioned, it's always muddy, and cars constantly drive slightly over her plot as it's on road side. Also all the fallen headstones need to be sorted and certain areas look wild. A few more bins would be good too.

11 November at 02:40

Claire Harvey I love walking through the cemetery, I take me 3 boys on their bikes and scooters, it's a lovely peaceful place to walk I prefer taking them there than to whitley common. Maintenance of some of the paths would be good some are uneven, tidying up some of the very old cracked and 'forgotten' graves would be lovely such a shame to see them go to ruin

10 November at 12:17

Amanda Green I would like it to feel safer but I'm not sure how you could achieve it. I've visited the Baby Garden and felt very unsafe with some dodgy young men around and watching me, acting quite suspiciously. It makes you feel very sad.

John Watson, Sukhwinder Singh Chhokar, Ashley Higgs and 2 others like this. Most recent



Mike Perry The council will do whatever it thinks anyway

22 November at 13:48



Barb Barbara Trees cutting back regular too. My dad is in the old bit of London road and it's a sorry state!!!

22 November at 13:12



Mary Connolly Fisher Ensure grass is mowed and grass cuttings tidied up would be a great start

1 · 22 November at 12:50



Coventry

25 November at 01:18 · 🌐

Today is your last chance to fill in our survey on the historic London Road Cemetery and help to shape its future.

Coventry City Council has secured a development grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Big Lottery to help create plans for the £2million restoration and improvement of the Cemetery.

We want to hear your views on the Cemetery; how you use it, how you'd improve it and what you'd like done to protect it in future. ... See more



👍 Like 💬 Comment

Eve Bradley, Susan Mochrie, Lisa Penny and 8 others like this. Top comments ▾



Carol Crossan My Nan and grandad and great Nan and grandad are buried in the grounds plus my mother in law and father in law and our Nonna are as well. Xx

26 November at 13:46

Appendix C

Article in Coventry Telegraph

Making the most of a historic Coventry cemetery

Survey on London Road Cemetery's restoration will feed into City of Culture bid



BY ENDA MULLEN
16:14, 12 NOV 2016 | UPDATED 15:50, 15 NOV 2016

NEWS



Non-Conformist Chapel in London Road Cemetery

People are being asked about how they use one of Coventry's oldest cemeteries as part of the city's bid to become UK City of Culture.

Coventry City Council is inviting residents to take part in a survey about [London Road Cemetery](#) – how residents use the cemetery, how they would improve it and what they would like done to protect it in future.

The cemetery was created in 1845 by the world renowned designer Joseph Paxton, who also designed London's Crystal Palace.

Damage to graves at St Mary Magdalen Church in Wyken



It has been rated as one of the top five historic cemeteries in the UK.

Notable Coventrians buried in the cemetery include George Singer who founded the Singer Cycle Company. His works' football team, Singer FC, went on to become Coventry City FC.

It also contains a mass grave for the hundreds killed during the Coventry Blitz.



London Road cemetery

[A development grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund \(HLF\) and Big Lottery has been secured](#) to help create plans for the £2million restoration and improvement of the historic cemetery.

The project focuses on the oldest section of the cemetery - nearest the city centre, between Deasy Road and the railway line - which is of national importance, with a Grade I listing by Historic England.

The plans are part of a wider project that will create a 70 hectare Heritage Park in Coventry including the [Charterhouse](#), Charterhouse Fields and River Sherbourne.

The proposals will also support Coventry's bid to become City of Culture in 2021.

Councillor Jayne Innes, cabinet member for city services, said: "I would really encourage all residents that visit London Road Cemetery to take a few minutes of their time to fill in the survey and let us know their thoughts and ideas about it.

"The responses will help us to create the plans for the restoration of the oldest part of the cemetery, to make sure that we protect one of the city's most valuable heritage assets for the future."

The cemetery was designed as an arboretum, with many new species of trees and combines a cemetery and an arboretum park over a seven hectare site.

It also includes three chapels and the ageing cemetery and its buildings are now badly in need of repair.

The consultation will run until November 25. Residents can take part by visiting www.coventry.gov.uk/lrc

Appendix D

Responses to Open Questions

Please tell us about anything that prevents you from visiting London Road Cemetery or limits your enjoyment of the space.

- Grass isn't always mowed. Also some of the older graves are no longer kept clear
- I usually take a walk around during my lunch break so lack of time limits my enjoyment. I have recently found out that I have relatives buried in the cemetery but have not been able to find out where their graves are.
- Feeling safe.
- The dogs running loose!! The careless and fast driven traffic. The drunks and dossers.
- I have said the Cemetery is 'poor' because of the lack of care and maintenance, and in some cases the poor state of graves owing to vandalism, either criminal or in the name of 'safety'.
- the busy road - London Road
- Lack of somewhere to sit and take in this lovely cemetery
- Parking, safety, no where to go if it rains
- lighting, people loitering
- General Security.
- I wasn't clear about where best to park.
- Time is the only thing that prevents me visiting more often plus my family history research covers far more than just Coventry
- I do not want to intrude upon people who may be remembering their loved ones so I see it as a somewhat protected area that should only be accessed if it doesn't impede the use of the space as a cemetery.
- I have never grasped the geography of the place - it would help if, at the entrance, there was a map and indicators on paths.
- Difficult to park. There are no public toilets and I often have to cut my visit short. I used to visit my parents' grave alone but after a few incidents involving theft out of cars and ornaments taken from the grave I do not feel safe on my own and always
- Lack of maintenance
- Nothing
- Limited parking space
- Rubbish and dead flowers left in heap not putting in the bins provided. Head stones with the horrible tape around them, broken branches on graves.

- Some dogs are not on leads
- I have been visiting this graveyard throughout my life, since i was a child, either with family, friends, the dog or alone. All this time it has had a bit of a reputation for being unsafe, so going there alone sometimes feel risky. If it was made a m
- Lighting
- I like that it is quiet and peaceful. I would be put off from visiting if it became a tourist area. Needs to be kept for locals and relations of those buried there
- My fear of dogs that are off the lead or on the very long leads.
- It looks untidy and seems like noone cares. In places it is unsafe
- I think it's a shame that quite a few gravestones and monuments have come into disrepair and in some cases sank because of the ground and rain fall over recent years. It is a lovely cemetery but sometimes I find it difficult to find family graves bec
- Sometimes I can feel unsafe being on my own there if there are alcoholics sitting in the cemetery
- Not much disabled parking or a public toilet. Access awkward from public buses from my home, inc. crossing London Road
- i would, in the longer days of daylight, like to explore the area of the cemetery and its ruins. I usually go with family and would like to make more of the visit rather than just visit graves (6 in total spaced around the grounds). A seating area,
- Time
- Feel a little vulnerable visiting alone
- None
- BUS ROUTE
- Not enough water supply taps for such a large cemetery
- Time to get to that end of the City, not strairforward access.
- UNTIDY, GRASS NEEDS CUTTING ,FALLEN OR KNOCKED DOWN GRAVE STONES.
- Sometimes safety - but this is usually down to an over active imagination!
- Access negotiating the Ring Road. Why does Junction 4 have use of so much space! Access from the subways is always a matter of perception about safety and getting disoriented when arriving in the open air again
- Sometimes there are drunks sat on the grassed bank area bear to the london road enterance which spoils my time there
- the path is so muddy in wet weather, and the leaves falling down but other then that nothing stops me,

- The awful state of the Jewish part of the cemetery, it is a disgrace.
- Graffiti and vandalism and litter.
- It's in need of some TLC to restore it to its former glory. Also regular patrols from PCSO's would increase confidence of the elderly and female dog walkers etc.
- We tend parent's and other loved ones' graves, and find it sometimes impossible to get close to the site without parking on the grass. During the Summer I was asked to move the car from the grass as 'someone may be buried under there'. I pointed out
- Parts of the cemetery have fallen into disrepair, and often blocked off, it would be nice to be able to walk around all of it.
- I would not visit on my own as often feels quiet, with nobody in the vicinity & feels unsafe. The ground where our family grave is uneven and has contributed to the grave falling into disrepair
- Don't always feel as safe as I would like
- Concerns about personal security
- Vandalism to the church building, youths, etc.
- Distance from home
- I would love to see the chapel buildings improved and opened several times each year.
- Time, entrance is very small
- Lack of maintenance , Low life Dog wardens , you and do gooders cutting down healthy trees
- Nothing, except a lack of free time. As I am not from Coventry originally, I don't have family buried there, so no specific reason to attend, just out of interest.
- As a female, I am reluctant to visit on my own
- Feels a little run down.
- On Sun 13 Nov, I arrived at the cemetery at 2:40pm and parked at what I assumed was the Main entrance (only because there is a small car park) off the bottom end of Quarryfield lane. My intention was to attend the memorial service to civilians kille
- It is sad to see so many graves that have fallen or been pushed over and the weeds growing on them could be reduced.
- I wasn't aware that this was what might be called an amenity space. I thought it was just where people are buried.
- rumours of ne'er do wells at night.
- Can't cross over London Road apart from walking all the way to either ends of London road on the cemetery stretch.

- Maintenance is not upkept and it is distressing to visit our daughters grave and see rubbish, dog mess and just general untidiness in the grave yard (in the newer side). Grass is allowed to grow to high and then once mowed loose grass is left in lump
- Barrier/railway between old and new sections. The sorry state of some of the monuments. Lack of explanatory boards that explain the significance and history of the place. Lack of maps showing grave location of city worthies. Lack of information about
- Its a beautiful quiet oasis in the middle of cov. Love it there. Just needs a bit of tlc on some of the graves.
- The anger which is usually created by the lack of care and respect shown by those who are charged with caring for the grounds.
- Having to go out of the old part to walk around to then get into the new part. Can a pedestrian bridge not be constructed over the railway line?
- Insufficient care to grass cutting - my grandfather's grave is virtually covered by a bush, appalling. I have to constantly spray/weed around parents' and husband's grave.
- No reason to [visit].
- Sometimes there is no-one else around & I feel quite vulnerable - I don't walk to it alone any longer, just take my car as close as I can to the grave. Grave next to my family's joint grave has large, badly overgrown shrubs impinging on family grave.
- Given it's a cemetery it's not the first place you think of going for a walk.
- Cemetery is a precious place, can't just visit there without anything happening.
- No bus
- Very unkempt and untidy in places.
- [Lack of] Safety and poor maintenance.
- Lack of areas for people to sit and take time to reflect, no dedicated areas.
- It's kind of scary
- Parts are somewhat offputting with badly kept monuments
- The buses do not seem to go near the London Road Cemetery and it is too far to walk.
- I haven't really thought about visiting London Road Cemetery. No reason to go there I suppose.
- Nothing prevents me - it just needs some attention.
- We didn't know it was there.
- Lack of information - perhaps information boards could be placed along the walkways.
- The road and traffic is really bad - I would never walk to the cemetery!

- Needs better lighting at night.
- Ruined and closed crypts
- I didn't know it was there
- Poor roads around cemetery
- No time to go
- No reason to go - my family have been cremated and are at Canay
- Limited parking
- No disabled parking as far as I am aware
- Nothing
- It is a burial ground
- Illuminations in early evenings
- Not interested in going
- Overgrown landscape
- If it rains only
- Lack of free time
- Nothing prevents me or limits my enjoyment of LRC
- Unsightly bins, gates and sign at main entrance
- The unsightly bins, sign and gates at the entrance ruin what would otherwise be a beautiful entrance to the cemetery. The Paxton memorial needs some tax as that is a nice place to sit. When walking around the cemetery there isn't anywhere to sit and
- It could be maintained better. Grass cutting and debris are unsightly.
- Over the past few years many trees have been cut down when there doesn't appear to have been a good reason to do so. This has resulted in the stumps from these trees being left in the ground causing an eyesore at points throughout the cemetery and ha
- People dressed up taking photos for halloween, dogs off the lead, poorly maintained paths and grass etc around gravestones, neglected/ poorly shrubs and trees eg large yew at main entrance.
- the word cemetery does not prevent me personally, but I can see why it would to others
- Nothing prevents me from enjoying the space.
- Place to park close by - restrictions nearby in housing area make difficult. Feel vulnerable at certain times when alone.

- To be honest even in the daytime it can be a little intimidating with a worry about safety and strangers etc
- Knocked down grave stones. Homeless people. Muddy paths.
- We are now unable to visit as we can no longer drive.
- Some ancestors may be buried there but I need to check the transcripts.
- Limits my enjoyment - the clearance of scrub and the general tidying up has greatly improved the general appearance of the oldest part of the cemetery (North, nearest to the city centre).
- Seating areas,
- Maybe having somewhere to sit and could do with dog waste bins.
- Places to sit.
- It is sometimes very overgrown.
- Lighting overnight. Cleanliness. Dedicated paths. Benches.

Do you have other suggestions about the future uses of the Anglican Chapel?

- Any use should be within the remit of consecrated ground and be respectful to its environment. Concerts in the old cathedral ruins for example is a terrible idea.
- In general, Coventry's care of its heritage, and in particular the surviving post November 1940 buildings has been very poor. This project is an opportunity to make amends. As suggested above the chapel itself could be used for arts events, and perhaps a history of some of the lives commemorated outside in the cemetery.
- Any proposals should be sympathetic to Paxton's original vision for the cemetery. Interpretation of Paxton's vision, and some background to some of the people buried here. Perhaps develop the wildlife aspects?
- Museum, art space, tea shop
- more things for children to do, I live right opposite the cemetery, on St Christains Croft
- I believe that bringing the building into regular use would be really positive if properly managed.
- Maybe have a display there showing the development of the old cemetery and the expansion into the newer south side. Articles about the war graves and memorial to those killed in the Blitz
- I know heritage and Coventry's quite appalling legacy of not looking after it or promoting it. It is clear that buildings and other heritage assets must pay their way, so restoration and subsequent proper use of the Anglican Chapel is probably essential if it is not to be lost. It is

very well known that planners swept away more of the city's heritage than did the blitz. It is time to take care of whatever little is left.

- No objection funeral events - prayer vigils perhaps at significant dates, Remembrance Sunday and Coventry Blitz as examples.
- None I can think of.
- No
- Teach school children the history of the chapel and its grounds. Only children who visit family members know of the cemetery. It is not taught in schools about local history.
- If it was a popular idea locally, it could be an excellent venue for film screenings.
- Place to reflect / read / light candles to remember loved ones
- Redevelopment and a coffee shop somewhere to get a hot drink.
- I think it would be a great idea and could be used to have humanist burial services
- Religious + other meetings probably acceptable but not sure about weddings + what type of private hire?
- although I feel it is good that time and money is being spent to bring this area back into the community I would worry that it is only a limited number of people who will benefit from this and not necessarily for a wider audience.
- Would it be for use with any religion or just Anglican?
- I believe it still needs to be a consecrated space and available to families for services. I like the idea of exhibitions.
- Tea room
- Funerals and wedding services
- Not Weddings, it's not that big inside and very cold and damp. meeting, talks in connection to architectural design and Paxton, He was a Coventry MP. Horticultural, wildlife, very interesting residents are buried in The cemetery and amazing trees were planted for walks in the park.
- The problem will be the location of the chapel and what sort of access there is to it. It's dark at night!
- none
- Just to put it to some use so that it doesn't further deteriorate will be a good thing.
- Talks about the history and wildlife of the cemetery.
- where will the car park and toilets be?
- It would be fantastic to have the chapel restored and used, any monies made from hiring the chapel should go back into paying for the upkeep of the building and cemetery.

- I am happy with weddings and funerals but not community meetings, talks, private hire, small arts events. You'd make enough money from weddings and funerals and they seem appropriate but not the rest
- Tea shop so visitors could take refreshments, sell memorabilia, family history
- It's a Chapel.
- It is always lovely to see an old building brought back into use. Services and community meetings would be good, but I would not be keen on private hire for e.g. ghost parties, or Halloween themed events.
- I would only be happy to see this used for funerals and remembrance services
- Yes I have, it could become the heritage centre in Coventry to show everyone what all the people did during the war years etc
- Live music.
- You would need to improve car parking as well. + provide some info on how one can find out if one can reserve a burial or cremation plot/plaque there.
- Agree with restoration, but think serious consideration should be given to what it is used for. Some of the above suggestions perhaps. Would anyone want to get married in a cemetery? Goths?
- If it's Anglican shouldn't the Anglican church be looking after it? Saying it's Anglican implies it belongs to the church and isn't a public building at all.
- I'd suggest the primary function would be for funeral services.
- Open air film showings in summer similar to ones currently held in old cathedral in city centre.
- Show the history of the Joseph Paxton memorial garden: references to important people buried within the grounds. Historical photos, for example pictures of the old entrance where horses would bring the coffin into the grounds
- Have already arranged pre-paid funeral to be held in Chapel if applicable/restored at d.o.d. Essential to be considered for restoration.
- Future use of chapel or a designated spot for war remembrance to remember and honour the fallen.
- To use the chapel is important, also could be museum and promoted alongside other city sites. Very good to promote activities for all ages. Could be used also for plays and other conferences, weddings. What a beautiful building.
- Art display only about the cemetery or history (UK, Coventry, WWII)
- If it is kept as a chapel and used for funerals and marriage ceremonies that's fine, but events and activities need to be explained in more detail.
- As long as it is restored and used correctly and respectfully. It would be nice to see it utilised. I have seen this chapel since a child and not once have I seen inside - only by peeking through the keyhole.

- Information centre for the history of the cemetery in addition to the events noted above.
- We should have a place where it is quiet for people to pray and reflect on the person they are visiting.
- It should only be used for funerals. It's not a place for celebrating weddings.
- Sunday services
- If the above is instated security needs to be commenced
- Place of prayer and reflection
- As a heritage and cultural site it's main purpose main purpose should be to enhance the role of the cemetery
- I am a bit confused by this question as the Anglican Chapel is near to the main gate. The chapel in the centre(the one with the pillars) is Non-Conformist and my understanding is that there are no utilities available in that building. I therefore would be against using that building for the events suggested but it could well be used as a cremation mausoleum. I would however be in agreement to upgrading the traditional Anglican chapel near the main gate for the uses suggested as long as this does not impact on the peace and purpose of the cemetery.
- cafe and interpretation centre
- Music concerts
- Heritage centre with toilets and information. Tasteful café maybe too.
- Tea Room?
- A Christmas Choir Service
- Museum
- Funerals. Maybe a choir service. Weddings.
- Ok as long as well managed.
- Funeral services and weddings.
- Preserve as chapel - no to community meetings, talks, private hire and small arts events.
- Should be kept for funeral services. Possibly weddings but not for private hire.
- Funeral services and weddings.
- funerals, weddings and some open days.

Are there any other improvements that would make London Road Cemetery a better place to visit? Do you have any other comments?

- Are there any other improvements that would make London R...
- London Road Cemetery is a lovely place to wander around. However, without help it is not the easiest place to find particular graves. I suspect that all the records are there but not in an easily accessible form.
- Looking after the monuments and grave stones. A survey of inscriptions and assistance for family history.
- I, already take part in the above, and MORE.
- Its approaches and immediate surroundings need careful and sympathetic protection from local development
- There is a wonderful group called Friends of the London road Cemetery and they do a lot of great work. A Ian Woolley has a fantastic amount of knowledge on this cemetery and when ever I bump into him there, is always something new he can tell me about I.e a person with whom is buried there. I never get bored of listening to him talk about the place have been on some of his guided tours which are always different but do get tired as there is only one bench which u can have a rest on, and is where I go to sit daily. Been on other tours ar
- More vandal proof places to sit down for visitors, some good quality, tasteful interpretation boards to include maps, and information on Paxton, and some of the people buried there. Also the cemetery houses an arboretum of national significance and this needs to be reflected on the interpretation boards.
- Better upkeep of headstones and architecture. Increased security to keep out motorbikes and youths drinking etc What about the other buildings? Particularly the non conformist chapel?
- cafe
- Improved security (making people feel safer while in cemetery).
- The busy London Road puts me off. It is not pedestrian friendly.
- Maps around the place, clearly showing where you are on each, and some path markers.
- Public toilets are a must.
- Cameras to improve safety
- No
- It is a very old cemetery and has some very old monuments and headstones that should be made completely safe. Points of interest of the past hundred odd years should be visible to all, as well as services of remembrance for those killed in blitz etc.
- Grass around graves are not kept short enough and always have leaves in the autumn that are very slippy. I often have slipped and have stood on other graves as there is not even a foot width between graves. This is In the new part of the cemetery at the top left corner.
- Improve security to prevent vandalism

- More parking facilities and easier access from London Road
- would be cool to be able to go into the different buildings, and to learn the history.
- Benches and dim lighting for evenings
- Insist on dogs being on short leads.
- A good tidy and repair. To make it look like it's cared for! Graves were placed far too close together which makes visiting loved ones very difficult. Not that the problem can be solved. When it's wet and slippery it's dangerous trying to reach some of the graves. A tidy up and some TLC for parts of it are needed and would make such a difference. We need to remember it is a place to be laid to rest, some people only have the comfort of visiting their loved ones at a graveside. Some thought and tact needs to go into this before doing anything
- More promotion of the facilities there, information on how you can find a grave/monument, opening times, more PR about what is at the cemetery and its history, mobile application and maintenance of graves that are subsidised.
- Disabled parking, widening some paths to make driving possible to various parts of the cemetery for disabled/less mobile people. Accessible toilet for disabled+/ some older, less mobile people, Suitable benches (not wooden ones if exposed to the elements as unsuitable to sit on if wood is wet/mossy etc etc.) + shelters. Possibly a cafe
- I would very much like to see the area for the baby graves, my mother in law passed away 3 years ago and only recently discovered this was where the remains of her daughter had been laid to rest on visiting the site she was very upset in the surroundings of where the babies are, maybe some money could be set aside to improve this area and put up better signage for the years, as the babies are laid in year of death. many thanks
- Lighting, security, cameras. Volunteers perhaps. Site info at entrances. Website info.
- Some lighting on the main footpaths through the site would be good
- As before more taps at more points and general tidiness of the plots
- Lighting could be better, small brochures, and websites with historic interesting things and people to look out for to enhance people's visits.
- I am not able as I have ill health can not walk far or stand for long, I would if I could,
- Paths need resurfacing
- Improving the Jewish area which is sadly forgotten and gets overlooked.
- There is one blot on the landscape, that is the Jewish Chapel, which until recently I thought was an electricity sub-station building. I can't imagine that building being used for anything that is dignified.
- Regular gardening and weeding plus the restoration/repair of the buildings, gravestones and monuments. Also visible security patrols or at least signs/cctv to reassure the elderly and female dog walkers
- Please see previous comments. It is a lovely space. The Joseph Paxton section is still beautiful although run down and dilapidated. However, the other side of the tracks is also beautiful, also a place for Coventry's dead, and should be respected and improved also.

- Just make it safe, restore as much as possible and keep it as it would of looked originally, This is such a beautiful place, a world away from the city, the monuments and architecture are amazing, real treasures. We need to look after it.
- London Road is one of the most important early Victorian cemeteries in this country. Better care of the monuments is a must, as is a new guide to its wonderful heritage in trees. I'd also like to see a stronger programme of guided tours and talks. Handled sensitively, these could give us a compelling insight into Victorian Coventry.
- Change name from 'Cemetery' to 'Arboretum' or to 'Arboretum & Cemetery'.
- The historic grave stones and grave memorials need to be restored.
- The most important thing to me and my family is the graves of the people we are remembering. Some of the graves are sunken into the hill or ruined. I understand the costs of fixing these things are high but anything that involves digging and redistributing of soil wouldn't be so costly. I can volunteer some time to analyse research and survey data as I am a statistician / analyst, however I do work full time.
- Continue the clean up operations at present and bring back seasonal floral beds and quality along main drive
- Some form of tranquil water
- Yes Cut The Grass !
- It sounds like the group have things well planned. Guided tours when possible, and self guided leaflets when not are always welcome. A full survey of the graves there, with the information available on line for those who don't live in Coventry but are conducting family history research, would be very helpful. I managed to get one of these for an East Yorkshire graveyard, and it provided a lot of useful information. One of the stones has actually been removed since, but I now have a record that it was there, and what it said.
- It needs a small designated car park and communal area and tea/coffee etc facilities when events are on etc,remembering that it is mostly older people visit the Cemetery,that needs changing.
- Both of my parents are buried here, it makes life much more bearable to have such a beautiful place to visit and remember them at. However, a lot of the graves are uneven and extremely old with no one caring for them. I really think that these headstones could be removed, the ground evened up and it would allow many more families the luxury of having a grave in this cemetery.
- Yes - see my previous comments on confusing layout and lack of reliable maps & info.
- Clearing more of the cemetery along the London road, better signaget by the entrance near the rail bridge.
- Improvement in general maintenance.
- Finding ways of managing access by car as there are no obvious places to park and walk. Eliminating car access into the cemetery other than for special reasons eg disabled access. Enabling footpath access between both parts of the cemetery. Developing self guided trails based on the different aspects of the park - nature, history, landscaping, architecture, famous people buried there. It is too important a space not to promote and celebrate its place in Coventry's history.

- As stated before, somewhere to showcase the visual history of the cemetery, just a small side room though so as not to trivialise the importance of any religion
- Security for graves and people visiting.
- There has been a lot of subsidence over time - this creates an air of neglect. Trees - remove/replace some of the dark, gloomy planting, open the overall space up. Provide more waste bins and water taps.
- More entrances and exits. A link between the two sites. Tidier site in places.
- More benches for people to sit in this lovely quiet environment, especially for older people.
- Get a bus route
- A warden or park keeper for safety reasons would be nice and to stop vandalism.
- The cemetery needs a complete overhaul - trees trimmed, footpaths made safer to walk on, grave stones tidied and made secure.
- Bad planning and years of neglect will prove difficult to put right. Landscaping must be a priority.
- A fountain (with ducks and benches)
- At present I volunteer at St Nicola's strimming grass - I have a key to equipment, we meet Tuesdays and I go whenever it suits me. The church has a group of community people. [Presumably suggesting similar set-up for LRC??]
- My involvement with London Road Cemetery is only because my husband is buried there.
- If there was a bus stop near the cemetery that would suit me.
- Having seasonal flowers and shrubs nicely kept.
- I'd like to see the work and development carried on in the newer part as well.
- You want to turn it into a circus of different things and not a place of peace and reflection.
- A play area for children
- Improve the roads around the Cemetery
- Maps, more/better signage
- Leave the dead in peace. There are a lot more places in Coventry that need improving and could attract visitors and don't have rotting bodies under their feet.
- Directions to local coffee bars/amenities
- Make it cleaner. New gates and signposted entrance. Fix outer fences.
- Stop people walking dogs and letting them crap everywhere. Gates are never locked at night (another council cutback). Council could attempt to cut grass now and then.

- Public toilets are very important.
- Better car/bike parking facilities
- Sadly most of my free time is focussed around dog walking. With regard to improvements; I believe that the original London Road entrance should be restored for pedestrian access, and the ugly house brick additions around the old entrance be removed, and the catacombs (?) be open to the public. Also a guide book showing the most prominent graves would be interesting.
- None
- Better provision of parking outside the cemetery and benches for visitors
- Repair some of the broken monuments
- Better parking advice for visitors as In the past I've seen driveway/walkways blocked by cars in the cemetery and cars parked all over the grassed areas of the cemetery including right in front of the Paxton memorial. Benches around the cemetery. some information for people looking for graves or more information about the cemetery.
- Seating at optimum viewing points. Discretely sited waste bins. Aids to tree identification would all enhance the site.
- Proper dog waste bins would be most acceptable. Bird and insect boxes would encourage wildlife as would planting of wild flower areas especially on the earth/muddy banks that have been left as a result of shrub clearance. Many of the pathways need to be repaired. At this time of year it would be good if leaves could be cleared from paths.
- Regular high quality maintenance
- The cemetery has two main strong points its history and its wonderful and rare trees. Point them out, inform, promote and build on them.
- CCTV, visible warden on site to feel less vulnerable
- An attempt to save some of the oldest ancient Victorian monuments which I feel are of historical importance
- Its just a shame when you walk in and see all the broken headstone, my nan and grandad are at the top.
- Signs
- Benches. Signs. Dog Waste Bins.
- The repairing of certain damaged graves would add to the enjoyment of a well looked after cemetery.
- Seating areas. Dog poo bins. Signage to the civilian graves.
- Toilet facilities.
- Help to tidy up the graves,

- Nice to have benches and more waste bins (ideally dog waste bins).
- More seating and viewpoints. Restore some of the graves.
- Better signage to mass civilian grave. Restoration of headstones,
- Signs to the civilian graves. Benches.
- Just some benches and signs saying where the mass civilian grave is and the chapels.
- More bins i.e. for our dog waste, signage and benches.
- Have information available near the gravestones and memorials of interest so their importance is highlighted.
- Benches, regrass, cleanliness, paths / routes.