



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas

South Dublin
County Council

Playspace Consultation Clondalkin

**Created & Presented by
Public Realm Planning & Projects**

**May 20th 2026 Clondalkin, Newcastle,
Rathcoole, Saggart and Brittas Area
Committee Meeting**

APRIL 2026

Background of the Consultation

Play is a fundamental human right. It is also a huge part of growing up and is essential for children's health, happiness and development. Compared to previous generations children growing up in urban areas are spending less time playing outdoors and have less freedom to roam. This has led to lower activity levels, rising childhood obesity rates, poorer fitness, increased anxiety and mental health issues and fewer chances for children to meet, mix and develop social skills.

We want to change that.

Following the adoption of our new Play Policy, the Council is committed to making sure that all children growing up in South Dublin have access to good quality play spaces close to where they live.

For this consultation, we were focusing first on areas that our mapping shows have lower access to play facilities. We wanted to hear from people living in these communities so we can better understand what is needed and where improvements should be made. If there is clear demand in an area, the Council can then move forward with proposals through the Part 8 planning process.

The consultation ran from 2nd March – 27th March 2026. We also survey school children in these areas at the same time.



Survey Results

473 - Online Submissions
1032 - School Surveys

- Scoil Naomh Aine- 172 Students
- St. Ronan's- 143 Students
- Scoil Mhuire - 139 Students
- St Johns National School - 58 Students
- Gaelscoil na Camóige - 72 Students
- Clonburriss National School- 169 Students
- Talbot Senior National School - 188 Students
- Nano Nagle Junior National School - 91 Students



1. Do you think there is good play provision in your area?

Yes	251
No	220

2. Should play areas be provided in residential estates/parks/ or both?

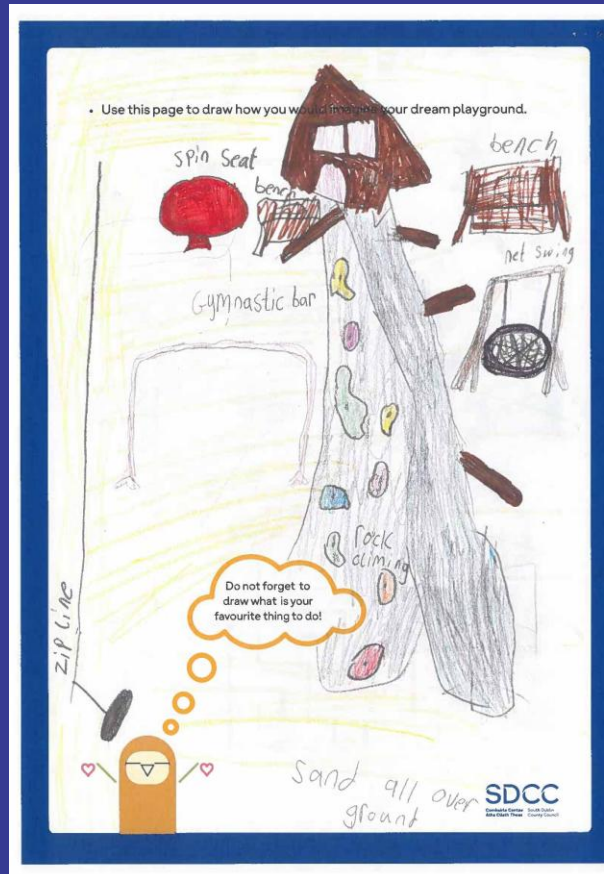
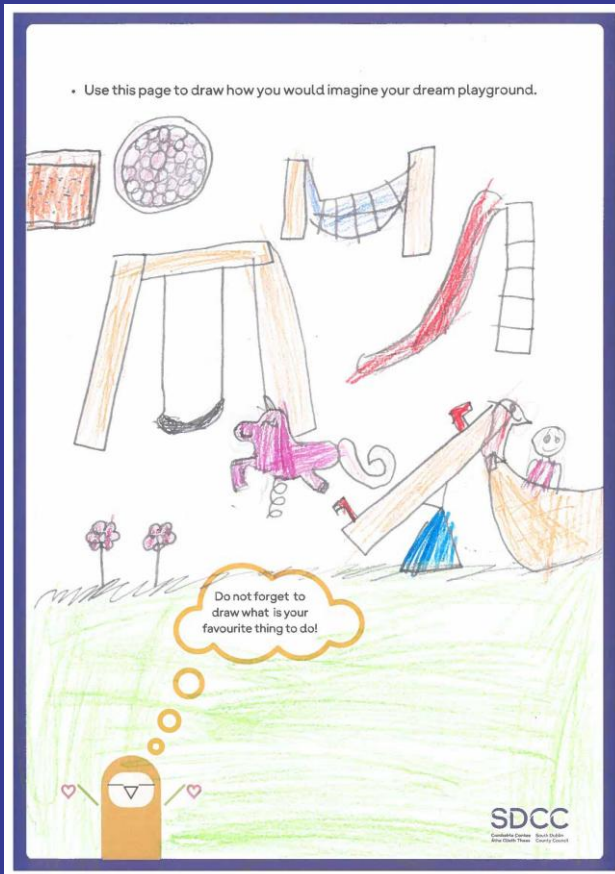
Residential Estates	16
Parks	245
Both	210

3. The SDCC play policy recommends play provision within a 400m (5 minutes walk) of all residential areas. Do you agree with this?

Strongly Agree	10
Yes	220
No	185
Partially	44
Strongly Disagree	9



Local Primary School Participation



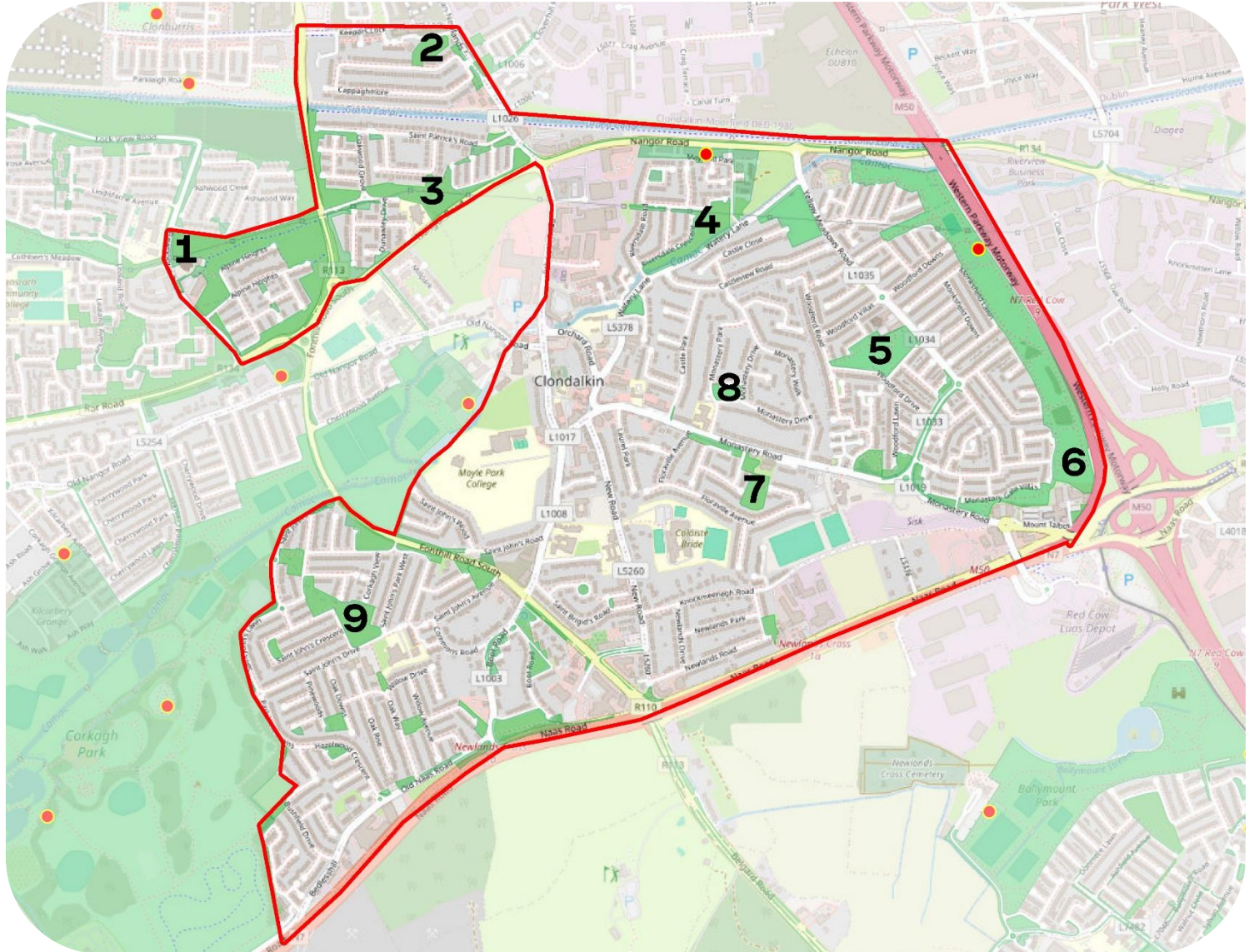
Less than 50% of children believed there was good play provision for Clondalkin

Only one third, 33%, of children report that they play outside every day with 84% saying they would play outside every day if there were play facilities where they lived.

This is a map of Clondalkin with the largest green areas numbered.

Residents voted on where they would like playspaces to be provided.

1	Bawnogue Road	102
2	Cappaghmore	82
3	Michael Collins Park	83
4	Riversdale	74
5	Woodford	97
6	Monastery Gate	106
7	Floraville	96
8	Monastery Drive	89
9	St Johns Drive	129
	None	177



Analysis

Less than 50% of children believed there was good play provision in Clondalkin and less than a third play outside everyday.

However, less than half of online respondents agree with the Council Play policy recommending provision of play facilities within 400m or a 5 minute walk of children's homes. Over a third of respondents were against any play provision in Clondalkin.

There were strong feelings expressed both for and against suggested locations. Many people believe that children need safe spaces to play close to where they live and others believe that playspaces only attract anti-social activity and exacerbate existing problems.

Some people think that it is acceptable to have to drive to playgrounds in parks while others believe they shouldn't need to drive in order for their children to access facilities.

The main reason stated for opposition to play facilities is a fear that they make antisocial activity worse than it is currently. Given the Councils vast experience in play provision we know that this fear is not backed up by evidence. Playspaces have a very positive impact in communities and we never have calls for playspaces to be removed. We therefore believe this issue can be overcome by consultation with communities so we are proposing to proceed to part 8 in 5 locations.



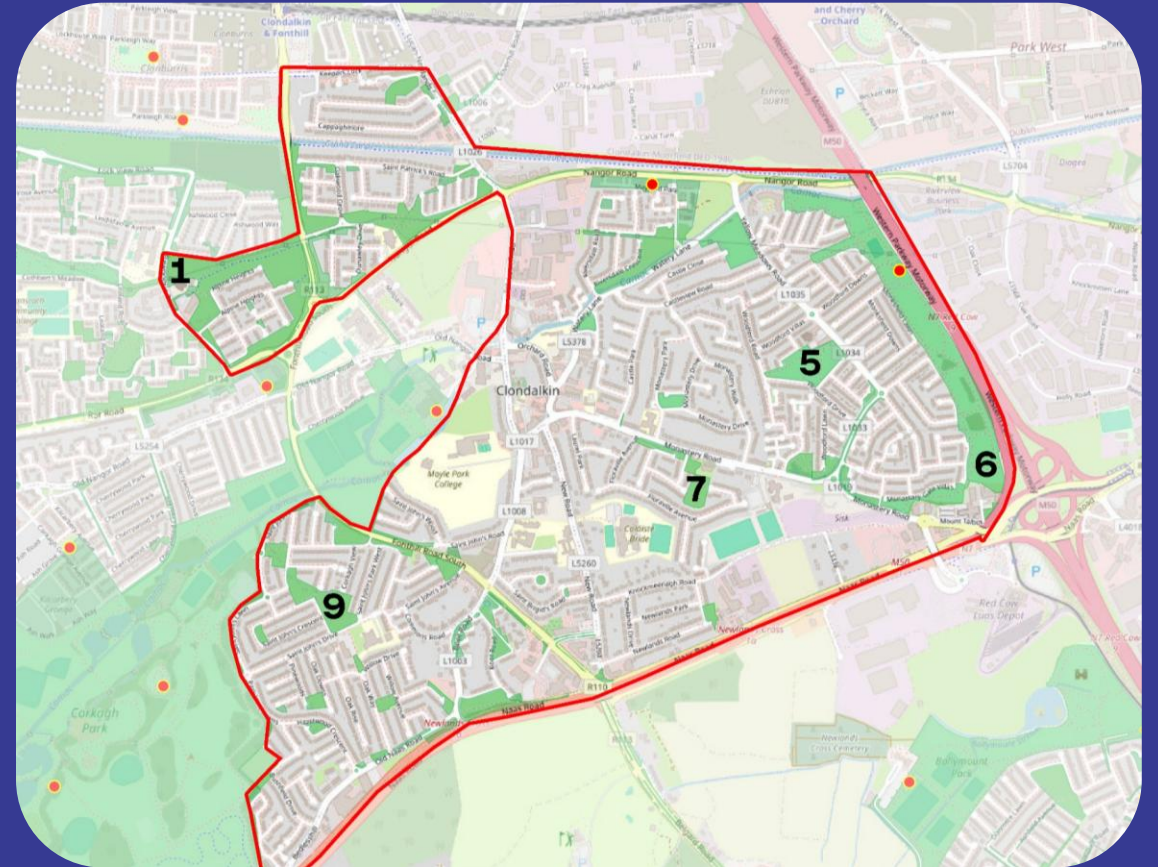
Recommendation

With 80% of total responses being in favour of more play facilities, Public Realm therefore recommend bringing 5 play facilities in Clondalkin to Part 8.

1	Bawnogue Road	102
5	Woodford	97
6	Monastery Gate	106
7	Floraville	96
9	St Johns Drive	129

This would give a good geographic spread of facilities for children living in Clondalkin.

Detailed consultation would be required to determine the scale and nature of play provision in each area.





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Thank you