

Consult North Somerset



Rewilding consultation



Jan 2020

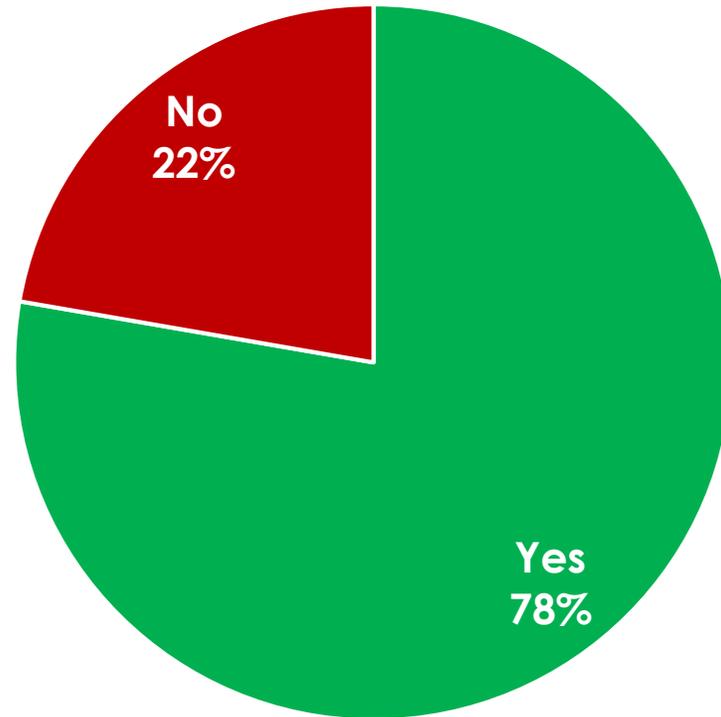
Background

- The rewilding consultation ran from 11 November 2019 to 24 Jan 2020.
- The rewilding project was specific to areas of parks and open spaces that are subject to regular and frequent grass mowing (amenity grass).
- The consultation asked for views on support for rewilding across North Somerset and sought to recruit volunteers to help with efforts to plant trees/rewild.
- In total there were 494 responses to the consultation from across the area. *Please note, these are not a representative sample of the residents of the area.*
- These slides give the results of the analysis.

Do you support the proposed rewilding in North Somerset?

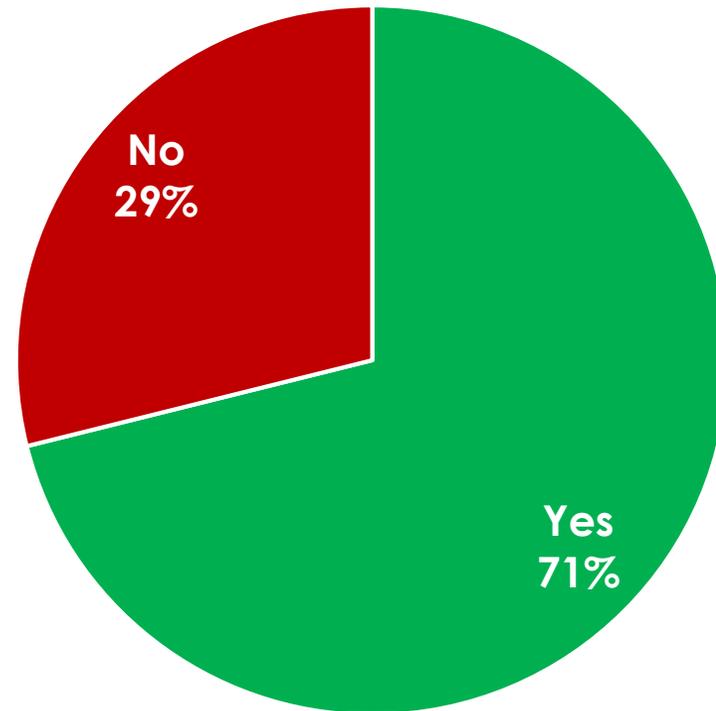
78% of respondents (384 out of 494) were in support of rewilding **overall in North Somerset.**

(combination of question responses and analysis of comments for key words)



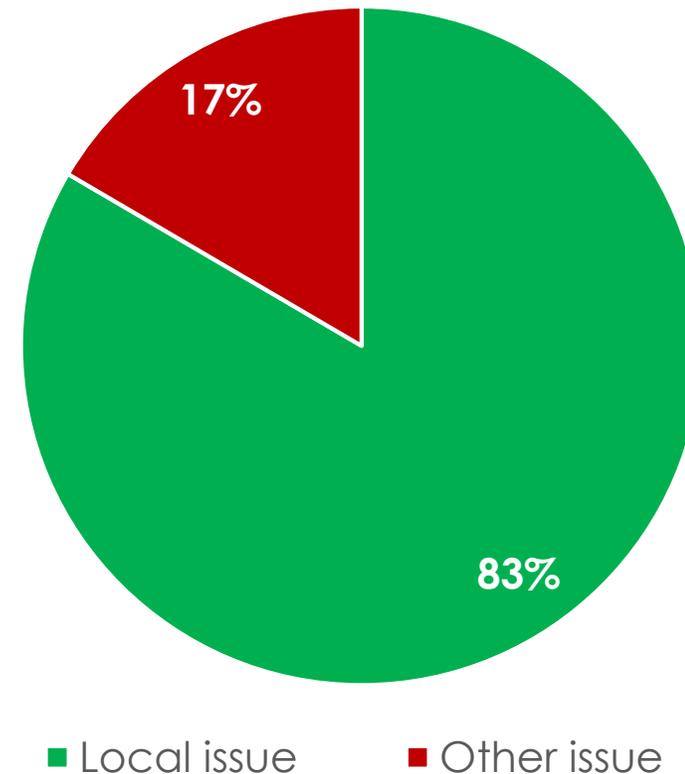
Do you support the proposed rewilding within your neighbourhood?

71% (347 out of 486) were in support of the proposed rewilding within their neighbourhoods (wards).



Those that were not in support of rewilding...

Where respondents were **not** supportive of rewilding over 80% were concerned due to a local issue with a high proportion of those related to proposed rewilding in specific areas of Portishead.



Summary across wards

- 14 out of 35 wards with support for rewilding their area above 90%
- 22 out of 35 wards with support for rewilding their area above 80%
- 27 out of 35 wards with support for rewilding their area above 70%
- Just 8 out of 35 with support for rewilding their area below 70%

- Very mixed in terms of responses with Portishead South, Long Ashton, Yatton, Portishead West, Portishead North and Portishead East between 23 and 98 responses but some areas of Weston only 1 response.
- *The percentage of support should be taken within the context of the number of responses.*

Actions raised as a result of the consultation feedback

- Whilst there was an overwhelming support of the rewilding project, the consultation did highlight several sites which raised concerns with local residents.
- These sites include (but not limited to):
 - Blackdown open space
 - Kittiwake Drive/Kingfisher Road
 - Marshalls field
 - Prince Consort Gardens
 - Areas of Yatton
- Further consideration will take place over the future management of these site which may include additional consultation with the residents, changes to the original proposal or for the site to be omitted altogether.

Other suggested areas for rewilding...

238 suggestions were made for other areas of possible rewilding/action, some specific areas, others for over-arching suggestions:

- *Rewilding grass verges where possible across North Somerset*
- *Encouraging local businesses to rewild their land*
- *Encourage local land owners to rewild and plant more trees*

'Any area that is able to support trees should be planted in my opinion.'

'Any new developments to include a "wild patch".'

'All of the grass verges should be allowed to grow wild. With or without wildflowers. Don't mow the roundabouts.'

Volunteering... Can you help with planting trees and carrying out other rewilding?

Almost half of all respondents have volunteered to help with rewilding across North Somerset.

