

# Torpoint Skatepark Community Survey



## Introduction

Torpoint, a town with a growing population and an expanding housing base, faces a pressing need to invest in youth-focused public infrastructure. The current skatepark, which serves skateboarders, BMX riders, scooter users and rollerbladers, is outdated and hazardous. Young people frequently travel out of town to Millbrook, Plymouth, or Newquay to access quality wheeled sports facilities- an economic, time and safety burden for families.

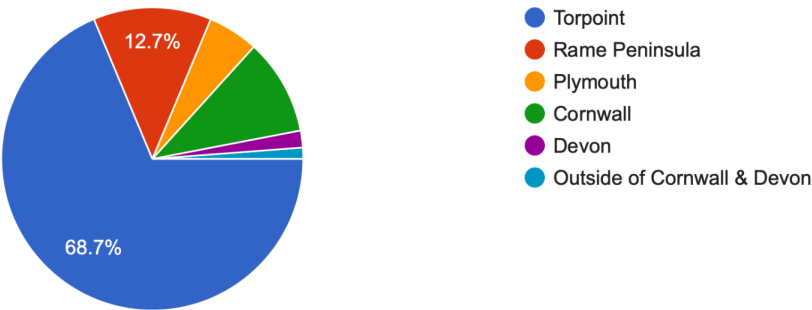
This interim report draws on 166 community survey responses about the Torpoint Skatepark. It presents an overview of community opinion, satisfaction and aspirations. The findings highlight the strong demand and overwhelming support for investment in a new facility.



## Survey Reach and Demographics

- Total responses: **166**
- Locations of respondents: {'Torpoint': 114, 'Rame Peninsula': 21, 'Cornwall': 17, 'Plymouth': 9, 'Devon': 3, 'Outside of Cornwall & Devon': 2}

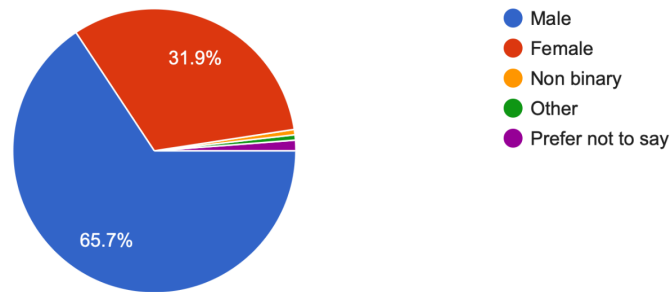
Where do you live  
166 responses



- Gender breakdown: {'Male': 109, 'Female': 53, 'Prefer not to say': 2, 'Non binary': 1, 'Other': 1}

Are you?

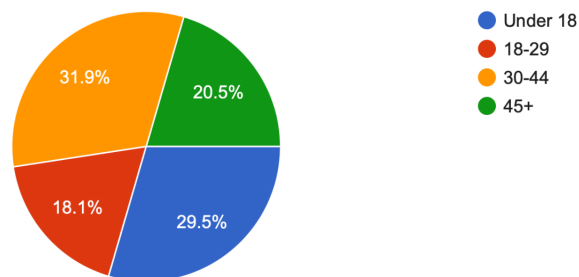
166 responses



- Age distribution: {'30-44': 53, 'Under 18': 49, '45+': 34, '18-29': 30}

Your age

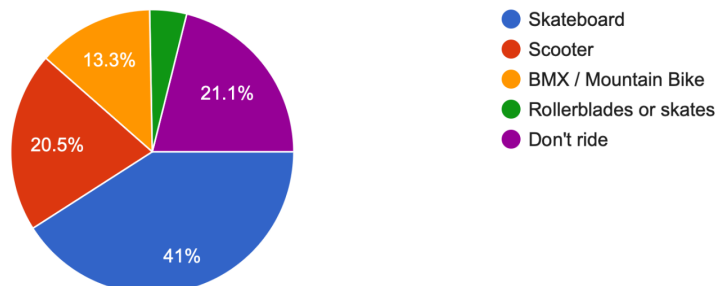
166 responses



- What people ride: {'Skateboard': 68, "Don't ride": 35, 'Scooter': 34, 'BMX / Mountain Bike': 22, 'Rollerblades or skates': 7}

What do you ride the most?

166 responses



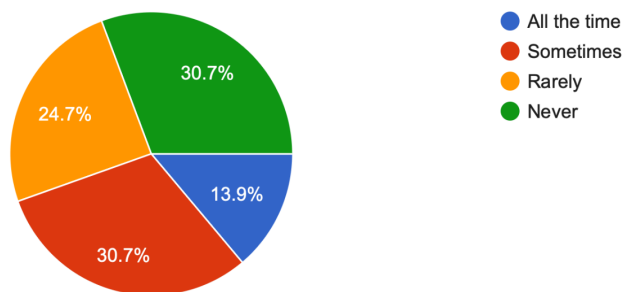
- Travel to a new skatepark likely methods: {'Walk, Skate, Scoot or Bike': 43, 'Drive': 25, 'Skate, Scoot or Bike': 21, 'Walk': 19, 'Walk, Drive': 11, 'Walk, Skate, Scoot or Bike, Drive': 11, 'Public transport': 11, 'Skate, Scoot or Bike, Drive': 7, 'Walk, Skate, Scoot or Bike, Drive, Public transport': 6, 'Drive, Public transport': 5, 'Walk, Skate, Scoot or Bike, Public transport': 4, 'Skate, Scoot or Bike, Public transport': 2, 'Walk, Public transport': 1}

## Current Skatepark Usage and Satisfaction

Current usage: {'Sometimes': 51, 'Never': 51, 'Rarely': 41, 'All the time': 23}

How often do you use Torpoint skatepark currently?

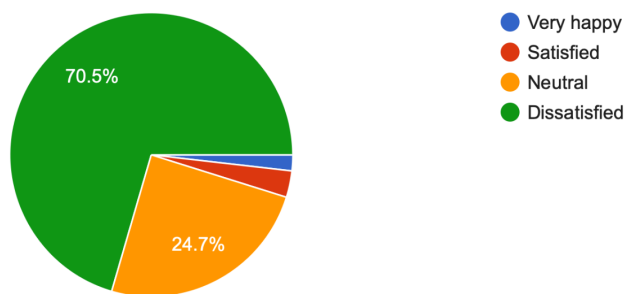
166 responses



Satisfaction with current skatepark: {'Dissatisfied': 117, 'Neutral': 41, 'Satisfied': 5, 'Very happy': 3}

How satisfied are you with the current Torpoint skatepark facilities?

166 responses

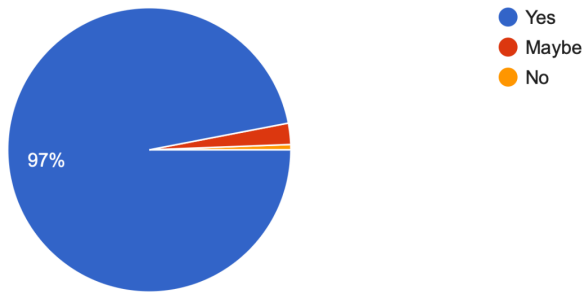


The overwhelming majority (70%) are dissatisfied with the existing facilities, and only 8 respondents (5%) expressed satisfaction or happiness.

# Support for a New Skatepark

Do you think a new skatepark will benefit Torpoint? {'Yes': 161, 'Maybe': 4, 'No': 1}

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166 responses

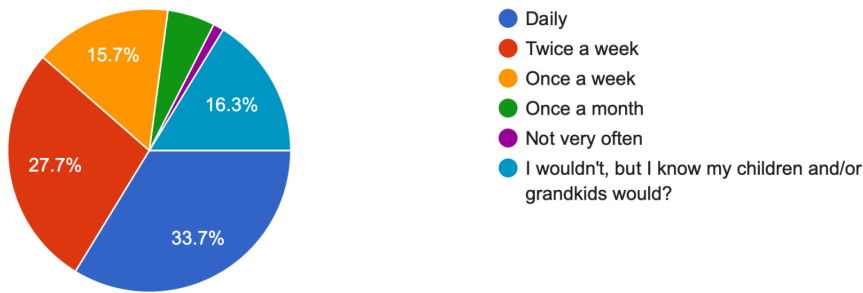


97% of respondents said 'Yes'. Only one respondent (less than 1%) said 'No'. This represents one of the strongest possible community mandates for change.

## Future Demand if Improved

Projected frequency of use: {'Daily': 56, 'Twice a week': 46, "I wouldn't, but I know my children and/or grandkids would?": 27, 'Once a week': 26, 'Once a month': 9, 'Not very often': 2}

If there was a new skatepark and it was safer and more accessible, how often would you or your family use it?  
166 responses



The survey shows a dramatic shift in usage if facilities were improved. 34% would use it daily, 28% twice a week, and 16% once a week. In total, nearly 80% of respondents and their families would use the skatepark at least weekly.

# Key Arguments for a New Skatepark

## 1. Overwhelming Community Backing

"Place for my kids to enjoy and helps out Torpoint on the map. Skateparks are destinations now."

"Invest in youth, invest in the future..."

"For mental health this is the best thing and it's for everyone"

"Skateparks offer an outlet for people, skateparks offer community"

## 2. Unsafe, Poor-Quality Existing Facility

"The current skatepark is dangerous, the ground needs completely resurfacing and the distance between the funbox and the quarter pipe is far too close considering the whip on the transitions."

"We've had nasty falls due to the concrete being very bumpy and covered in pebbles."

"Our skatepark is really bad and we want a new one with cleaner better surfaces."

## 3. Families Forced to Travel

"So my mum doesn't have to drive me to get to a good one."

"Because me and my friend group go there often but we have basically mastered everything in Torpoint skate park and we want to learn more but we are very limited... we go to Plymouth and Millbrook very often because there's more stuff to do."

## 4. Massively Increased Usage if Improved

"My young children love riding their bikes and scooters here. The facilities are very run down and would benefit greatly to be improved and updated."

"If there was a new skatepark and it was safer and more accessible, my family would use it daily."

## 5. Builds Health, Resilience & Mental Wellbeing

"Health and fitness, Builds friendships and a peer group, My mood and mental health is improved, Gets me off the screen and out of the house."

"Provision of decent local sporting facilities in critical for the health and mental wellbeing of the young people / others in our community. Wheeled sports provide a unique and extraordinarily beneficial outlet for people - helping them improve at a sport, build up resilience, socialise and interact with others. The advantages are endless."

"Sense of achievement from learning new tricks, Enhanced confidence and self esteem, My mood and mental health is improved, Gets me off the screen and out of the house."

## **6. Prevents Antisocial Behaviour**

"Keeps the children off the streets."

"Better CCTV coverage as a small minority cause unnecessary damage."

## **7. Pride & Identity for Torpoint**

"To give the local children a place to go and be proud of."

"Community."

"Place for fitness and community."

## **8. Desire for Modern, Inclusive Design**

"New ramps but kinda like levels so you can fly out of them without hitting a metal fence... add a bowl! Everyone would love it."

"A new skatepark for Torpoint is long long overdue, preferably concrete and much bigger/more varied than the previous effort."

"Perhaps a cafe, so some adults are around."

"Drainage better, like Millbrook, smooth, half pipe bowl."

## **9. Wider Regeneration Opportunities**

"An outdoor sports pitch... there could be pop up events like orienteering, running, foresting and many more activities that could be used by private pop up clubs, girl guides and scouts, and local schools."

"Arcades or place to make music."

"A youth centre that is something young people want, not just another generic space."

## 10. Long-Overdue Investment in Youth

"A new skatepark for Torpoint is long long overdue, preferably concrete and much bigger/more varied than the previous effort."

"Provision of decent local sporting facilities is critical for the health and mental wellbeing of the young people / others in our community."

**Conclusion - the community that has engaged in this survey has spoken with clarity and unity. The skatepark is outdated, unsafe, and under-used in its current form. A new, modern facility would be embraced daily by local people, create better health and wellbeing, reduce antisocial behaviour, and create a proud community landmark. With 97% support, this is a rare opportunity for Torpoint to make a lasting investment in its young people and families.**

### Case Studies and other links

#### Millbrook Skatepark (Cornwall)

A small rural village, Millbrook transformed community use of its recreation ground through a poured-concrete skatepark built by Maverick Skateparks. The facility is now regularly used by young people from across the Rame Peninsula and credited with reducing youth nuisance reports. Local businesses have noted a significant uptick in custom.

#### Dorchester Skatepark (Dorset)

Opened in 2016, Dorchester Skatepark is frequently cited in policing reports for having contributed to a reduction in antisocial behaviour in the surrounding area. According to Dorset Police (2017): *'Since the opening of the new skatepark, incidents of youth-related antisocial behaviour around the park and nearby streets have declined by 35%.'*

#### East Kilbride and Newquay

Both towns report successful use of skateparks as tourist destinations. Newquay has embraced wheeled sports as part of its youth and family offer, while East Kilbride integrated its facility into a wider youth engagement programme.

#### Ramps and Reel (film)

The Plymouth skate and scooter community and why skateparks matter

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtCRDtf3WWc>

### Torpoint Ramps Forum

[www.instagram.com/torpointrampsforum/](https://www.instagram.com/torpointrampsforum/)