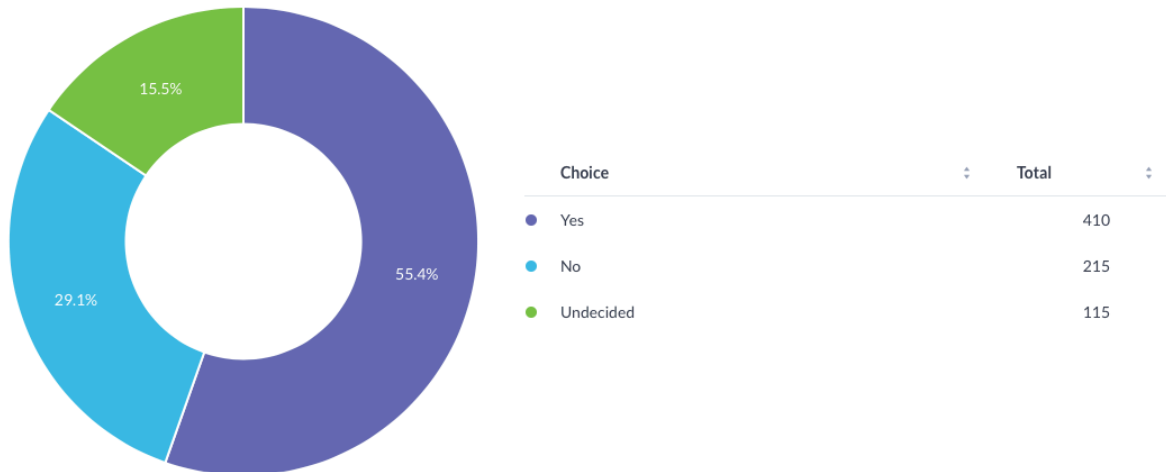


## Summary of Snap-shot survey: Canada Geese in Pavilion Gardens

Survey was open 23 May 2023 - 6 June 2023: 14 days. 740 respondents.

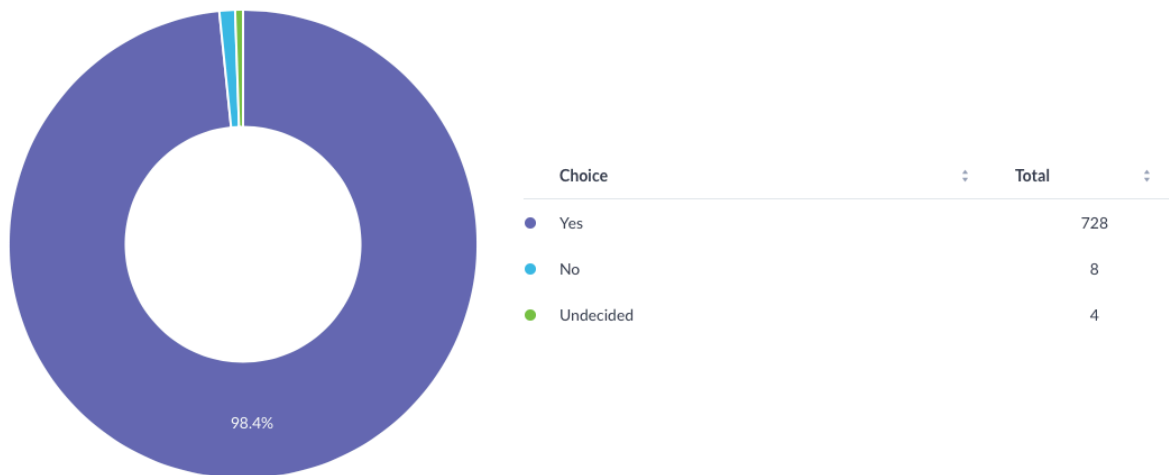
Q1

Do you like seeing Canada Geese in Pavilion Gardens?  
Multiple Choice



Q2

Do you like seeing other wildfowl - for example mallard, mandarin, muscovy ducks - in Pavilion Gardens?  
Multiple Choice



Most respondents like to see waterfowl in the park. Just under 2% don't like to see the waterfowl or are undecided. Views on the Canada geese are markedly different. 45% have some reservations about geese in the park.

96% respondents live in High Peak. The 28 respondents from elsewhere have a similar (wide) spread of views to views expressed by residents.

## Summary of Snap-shot survey: Canada Geese in Pavilion Gardens

Almost half of respondents (355) added comments. A full panoply of views were expressed from ship them back to Canada or kill them all through to leave them be, if you don't like them go elsewhere. (Table of all responses as received in date order provided as a separate document.)

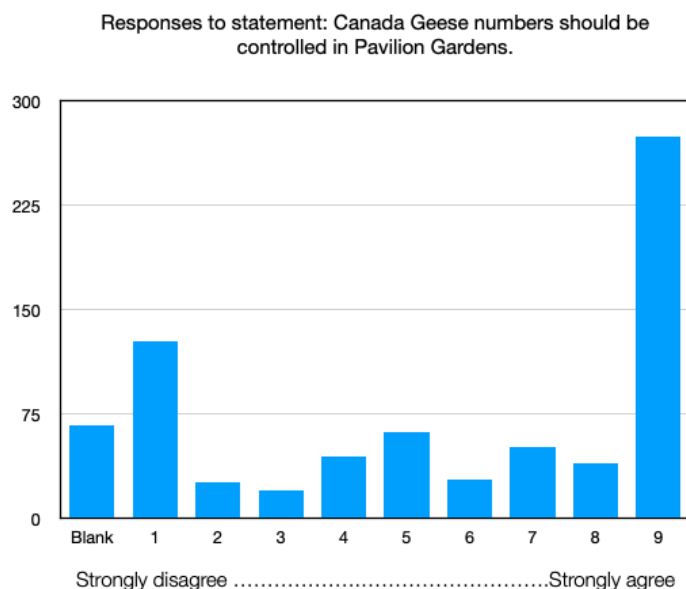
Many comments are along the lines of one; 'I do like having the geese in the gardens but the volume of droppings around the park is becoming a problem.'

A wealth of suggestions were offered for some rebalancing of natural wildlife and co-existence with human park life. Further suggestions were shared in facebook exchanges and emails.

Around 60% of respondents believe that the geese should be free to use public spaces. Some respondents criticised the survey for not making a distinction between open spaces and the public park.

The split of opinion over feeding geese was exactly 50/50.

Around 60% of respondents believed that geese numbers in the park should be controlled. The strength of views is particularly strong at both ends of the range of views. The number of 'abstentions' is explained in some comments stating that people don't know enough about the subject to offer an informed opinion.



On Wednesday 14 June 2023 Paul Finn from Sustainable Hayfield, now retired from his post as Countryside Management post but still a fount of knowledge, led a walk in the park accompanied by councillors (Madeline Hall and Jean Todd) and a council officer (Sally Curley). Options for trialling simple controls were explored. There could be a range of trials with different approaches. One approach, tried elsewhere, is ruled out currently. Culling adult birds is drastic, disruptive and distressing. It's expensive and short-lived as survivors may breed back quite quickly.

The next step is publication of factual briefings followed by further consultation on options that emerge. Whatever is done (or not) needs everyone to be prepared to give it a go.

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