

PAW survey findings report

For the pedestrian access way between Anthony Road and David Drive, Geographe

June 2014

Purpose

The purpose of the survey (refer to Appendix A) was to gauge the opinions about the PAW Lot 200 between Anthony Road and David Drive, Geographe; and the impacts of its trial closure from people that are within the vicinity of the PAW.

Survey audience

The survey was targeted at residents of property within the vicinity of the PAW and was not open to the general public. Only households within a specified area received a copy of the survey via the post. To encourage people to complete and return the survey, a self-addressed reply-paid envelope was provided.

Each resident was encouraged to complete a survey response (rather than just one per household).

Survey (walkable-distance) map

Referring to State Planning 'Liveable Neighbourhoods' document, a radius from a place of 800m represents a ten-minute walkable distance.

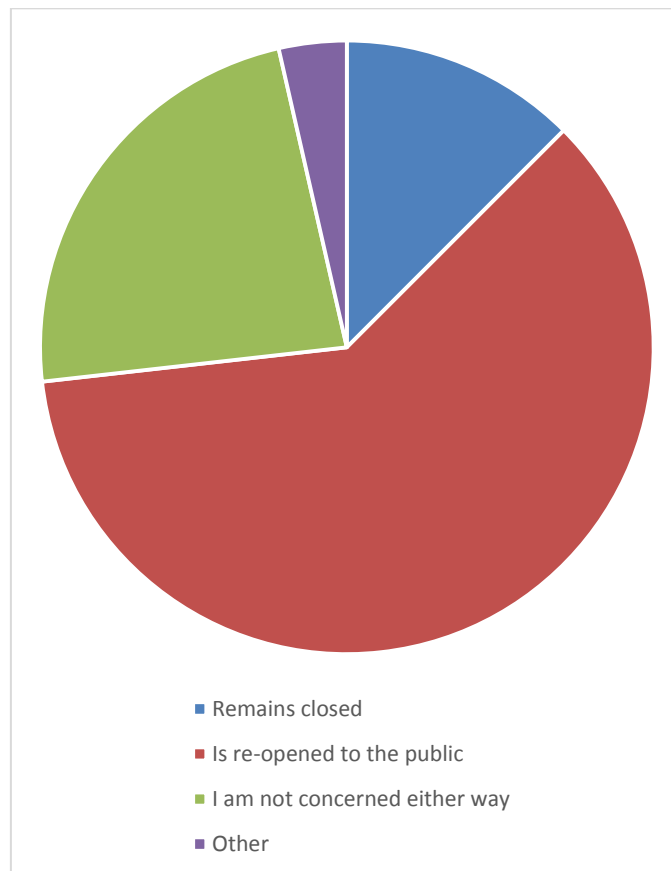
Two places were identified for the survey as key destinations that pedestrians would walk to within the vicinity of the PAW. These are the Busselton Primary School and the Guerin Street Park. Properties within a ten-minute walkable distance of these two key places formed the catchment area for the survey.

On a map, an 800m arc was drawn from each of the destinations. Where alternate and shorter routes could be used (rather than walking through the PAW) these were eliminated from the catchment. Referring to Appendix B, this method identified a survey catchment area with 284 properties.

Given the proximity of the Busselton Primary School to the Bayside Shopping Centre, the shopping centre may also be considered as a key destination that falls within the survey catchment.

Summary of findings

- The survey was distributed to 264 properties within a defined ten-minute walkable-distance area.
- 62 responses were received from 51 different households (or 19% of the distribution).
- 44% (27 of 62) of the respondents fall within the 18 to 65 age group.
- 42% (26 of 62) are within the over 65 age group.
- 48% (30 of 62) of the respondents used the PAW (when it was open) 1 or more days of the week.
- 13% (8 of 62) of the respondents noticed incidents of anti-social behaviour within the PAW of which 6 rated the worst as 'disturbing'.
- 58% (36 of 62) felt the PAW (when open) was kept mostly clean and tidy.
- Use of motorised vehicles was the form of anti-social behaviour most noticed by the respondents.
- 40% (25 of 62) of the respondents were inconvenienced by the closure of the PAW. 23% (14 of 62) were not concerned by the closure.
- 55% (34 of 62) of the respondents would prefer that the PAW is reopened.
- 11% (7 of 62) of the respondents would prefer that the PAW remains closed.
- 21% (13 of 62) of the respondents are not concerned whether the PAW remains closed or is reopened.



Survey responses

Households within the catchment area

Walkable distance	Posted	RTS	Distr.	Household	
				Response	Percentage
Within 400m of the school and the park	113	8	105	23	22%
Within 800m of the school	97	7	90	22	24%
Within 800m of the park	71	2	69	6	9%
	281	17	264	51	19%

'Posted' is count of surveys posted. 'RTS' is return to sender. 'Distr.' is surveys distributed.

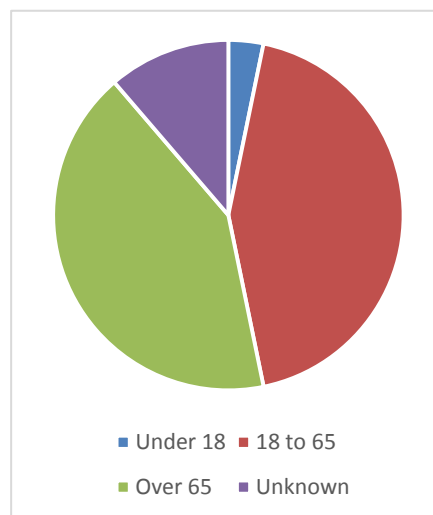
'Response' is at least one response received from the household. 'Percentage' is the percentage of households that received a survey and responded.

Respondents

The City received 62 survey responses from 51 different properties.

The breakdown of respondents by age group is:

Age group	Count	Percent
Under 18	2	3%
18 to 65	27	44%
Over 65	26	42%
Unknown	7	11%
<i>Total:</i>	62	100%



Q1. Usage of the PAW prior to closure

Prior to the closure of the PAW, I used the PAW:

Response	Count	Percentage
Never	6	12%
Rarely (few times a year)	6	12%
Occasionally (monthly)	7	14%
Frequently (weekly)	22	45%
Often (most days of the week)	8	16%
<i>Total:</i>	49	100%

Comments:

- Twice a day every day

Q2. Reason for not using the PAW

The reason for not using the PAW was:

Response	Count	Percentage
Did not have a need to use the PAW	10	67%
Did not know it was there	1	7%
Did not feel secure using the PAW	2	13%
Other reason	2	13%
<i>Total:</i>	15	100%

Comments:

- Do not feel secure at night time

Other reasons:

- Motor bikes, scooters, unruly children, teenagers, broken glass
- Too much broken glass and other litter

Q3. Condition of the PAW

When the PAW was open, I noticed that the PAW was (select all that apply):

Response	Count	Percentage
Mostly clean and tidy	36	60%
Littered (some)	8	13%
Littered (lots)	5	8%
Covered with graffiti	1	2%
In need of proper care and maintenance	2	3%
Other	8	13%
<i>Total:</i>	60	100%

Comments:

- The last time I saw it was years ago
- We cleaned this PAW to keep smell down. Pick up broken bottles and dog poo
- It was only due to residents constantly picking up litter that it looked okay at times

Other 'Condition of the PAW':

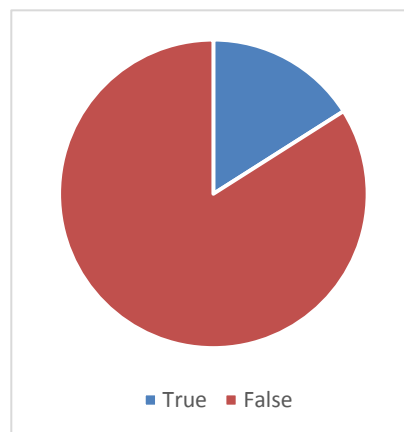
- Sex, swearing, drug taking
- Didn't pay any attention
- Littering was light and controlled (cleaned) by ourselves and others
- Always clean and tidy

- Usually clean and tidy. Slight graffiti at one time but not significant
- There was rare evidence of graffiti
- Usually clean and tidy. Slight graffiti at one time but not significant
- Sex, swearing, drug taking
- People behaving in an inappropriate manner

Q4. Anti-social behaviour in the PAW

When the PAW was open, I noticed incidents of anti-social behaviour:

Response	Count	Percentage
True	8	16%
False	42	84%
<i>Total:</i>	50	100%



Comments:

- Not used by me for years. It was OK then
- I never ever witnessed anti-social behaviour during the 20+ years I've used the PAW
- I have never noticed any anti-social behaviour or any significant littering

Q5. Type of anti-social behaviour

When the PAW was open, the types of anti-social behaviour I noticed were (select all that apply):

Response	Count	Percentage
Littering	6	19%
Graffiti	4	13%
Property damage	4	13%
Drunken behaviour	5	16%
Use of motorised vehicles	9	29%
Other	3	10%
<i>Total:</i>	31	100%

Comments:

- Large motorcycles
- Culprit now left area (with reference to 'Use of motorised vehicles')

Other:

- Drug dealing, fighting, sexual behaviour, dog walkers leaving dog poo
- Used as a toilet, used as an escape route from police, used to have sex by youth

Q6. Level of anti-social behaviour in the PAW

I would describe the worst of the anti-social behaviour in the PAW to have been:

Response	Count	Percentage
Of no real concern	1	10%
Undesirable but tolerable	2	20%
Disturbing	6	60%
Other	1	10%
<i>Total:</i>	10	100%

Comments:

- Continual fear of safety
- Always frightened
- Unsafe due to motor scooters, bikes, unruly teenagers, drug deals

Other:

- Drug related debt collectors and large gangs (up to 10) of youths, 15-16 year olds. A group of others running around with hockey sticks.

Q7. Impact of closure

During the period that the PAW has been closed (approximately 6 months) the impact on me has been (select all that apply):

Response	Count	Percentage
The closure did not concern me	13	20%
I did not have a need to use the PAW	6	9%
I walked/cycled the extra distance	14	22%
The closure caused me some inconvenience	15	23%
The closure caused me considerable inconvenience	9	14%
I feel safer with the PAW closed	1	2%
Other	6	9%
<i>Total:</i>	75	100%

Comments:

- Drug related debt collectors and large gangs (up to 10) of youths, 15-16 year olds. A group of others running around with hockey sticks.
- There has been inconvenience and loss of amenity for school students walking to nearby bus stops, including quite young children, and also for residents accessing shops and bus stops at the Bayside Shopping Centre.

Other 'Impact of closure':

- No rocks, bottles thrown on roof or empty cans in yard.
- Much quieter and safer.
- Much better civil society.
- With young grandchildren attending Busselton Primary School we used PAW AM and PM weekly. Then chose to take car because of dangerous curve in David Drive and inability to walk on the verge.
- There would be less inconvenience if there were a 'useable' nature strip and/or footpath.
- The closure has meant walking on the road with companions using mobility aids and pushing a pram as there is no other access.
- I am forced to walk on the road due to the closure.
- Used the car to school and shop.

Q8. Impact on anti-social behaviour

During the period that the PAW has been closed (approximately 6 months) the impact on anti-social behaviour has been:

Response	Count	Percentage
Considerably improved	7	13%
Somewhat improved	1	2%
No different to before the closure	34	65%
The anti-social behaviour is worse than before	1	2%
Other	9	17%
<i>Total:</i>	52	100%

Comments:

- We get to live without intimidation.
- The most peaceful and secure 6 months in many years.
- The neighbourhood looks less like a slum.
- No motorised bikes and small motor bikes.
- No different to before the closure.
- Seems to have bought more thoroughfare down Guerin Street.
- From my observations there has been no change to activities in the area.
- There was no anti-social behaviour in the first place.
- Did not notice before or after.

Other 'Impact on anti-social behaviour':

- More bikes/pedestrians in hard to see area of corner Anthony/David is dangerous.
- Don't live on the walkway. Never had any trouble.
- Not new enough to comment.
- None seen either before or since closure of the PAW.

- Never heard any problems.
- Not known to me.
- No known anti-social behaviour before or after associated with PAW.
- Unknown.
- No idea.

Q9. Usage following the trial closure

Following the trial closure period, I would prefer that the PAW:

Response	Count	Percentage
Remains closed	7	13%
Is re-opened to the public	34	61%
I am not concerned either way	13	23%
Other	2	4%
<i>Total:</i>		56 100%

Comments:

- Give us a break

Other 'Usage following the trial closure':

- The trial has been in my opinion a failure at the cost of many to satisfy a few.
- I would hope that the concerns/thoughts of the residents that are immediately affected by users of the PAW are respected and seriously considered.
- I would like it reopened as soon as possible.

Refer to Appendix C for a map of preferences.

Q10. Time of usage should the PAW reopen

Should the PAW be reopened, I would pass through the PAW during the following times of the day (select all that apply):

Response	Count	Percentage
I would not use the PAW	9	10%
Morning (6am to noon)	37	43%
Afternoon (noon to 6pm)	31	36%
Evening/Night (6pm to midnight)	8	9%
Early morning (midnight to 6am)	1	1%
<i>Total:</i>	86	100%

Comments:

- I would consider move after 22 years.
- Some days.
- I would average using the PAW five days a week, at all different times of day, but not after 8pm when Bayside IGA closes.

Q12. Mode of usage

Should the PAW be reopened, I would pass through the PAW by the following modes (select all that apply):

Response	Count	Percentage
Walking	43	59%
Bicycle	21	29%
A Gopher or pedestrian vehicle	3	4%
Pushing a pram	6	8%
Other	0	0%
<i>Total:</i>	73	100%

Q13. Comments

Please make any other comments about the PAW and the trial closure:

- No rowdy personal using lane. Apparently using Marine Terrace. Certainly very few people walking around since land closure as though it never existed.
- The closure of the PAW puts pedestrians at risk due to the absence of footpath. Due to the gardens that extend to the verge there is nowhere to walk except the road. The PAW is for public access. As such should stay open.

- I have to walk on the road and I can't see cars coming and it's dangerous. I could get run over. Please open the PAW please.
- It is safer for me to be able to use the walkway that walk on the road.
- Probably appreciated by those in close proximity.
- For the safety and well being of the children and elderly in the street I hope for a permanent closure of the PAW.
- It has been an inconvenience to have it closed especially in daylight. Surely a compromise could be tolerated and maybe have it closed a night.
- I live a little way from the closure so it does not impact me as it would living beside it. However it would be good to have access through there again.
- Since PAW was closed comment from other resident around area very positive about closure. Vandalism is less. Peacefull. Police have not had one call out to this area regarding any problems with hoons. Most comments from people are should close all PAWs too. Many problems with them.
- Don't use those streets to access shops.
- Would it be possible to open the gates during the day and close them at night time?
- Now the PAW is closed, I have to go round two blind corners in my wheelchair or on my bike. This is an unnecessary risk. The PAW was there before the houses were built.
- I have been able to enjoy my lifestyle free of the worry which the anti-social behaviour was causing. I am no longer worrying, nor am I having missiles (rocks, etc.) being thrown at my home.
- I have only ever used it very infrequently (<1 per year).
- We are new to the area and after speaking with extensively the neighbours believe that the PAW should remain closed.
- Anti-social behaviour before and during PAW closure is in Bayside Park. This should be reduced somewhat by current improvements there, particularly shrub clearing.
- Compromise... Close at night. No footpaths.
- I would hope that the concerns/thoughts of the residents that are immediately affected by users of the PAW are respected and seriously considered.
- I had always used the PAW to go on my gopher to Bayside shops, chemist and hairdresser and to visit friends in Anthony Road. I now have to negotiate the dangerous bend in David Drive (as shown on front map), where there are usually two cars parked and no paths either side.
- No reason to close PAW in the first place.
- Increase of motor vehicles on road.
- One of the reasons we bought our house was the appeal of direct pathway to shops and school only to face disappointment of lane closure. You only have to look at the location map to see it makes sense to have a PAW where it was originally planned.
- When it was open it was such a pain. Apart from all the anti-social behaviour, I felt it devalued our property so we were effected both financially and emotionally.
- Please reopen as soon as possible.
- Mr Stubbs the laneway should never have been closed in the first place. The biggest annoyance is one of the complainants dogs who never stops barking at you when you walk through the lane. The rubbish was exaggerated just to have the lane closed.

- It does not concern us if open or closed. Never heard any problems.
- PAW used occasionally when walking to the Bayside shop.
- If PAW remains closed, consideration should be given to providing footpaths to keep pedestrians off the road. We would very much like to see it reopened.
- The re-opening of the PAW will greatly reduce the risk of children/elderly being hit by cars as they speed and drive erratically round the very dangerous corner at David Drive - Anthony Road. It will also encourage more mothers and young children to use the revamped Guerin Street playground.
- Just open it. That's what they are there for.
- This walkway hasn't worried us. Don't walk that way.
- It should not have been closed because one couple got a shitty on with the Shire. They came up with this scheme to get it closed. Open it please. I never saw any of what they recon went on.
- Considering there are not footpaths in this area for children or the elderly which is appalling considering it is a school area, I think the PAW should be open.
- There is anti-social behaviour in and around the PAW. This level has increased over the last 5 years (resident 2-3 years).
- "I would like it to be reopened as my two children use it daily to walk to school. The corner (southern) of David Drive is "very" dangerous to walk on. Please reopen the PAW :)"
- The PAW provides the most efficient and safe way to walk to the Guerin Street Park. There are no footpaths around David Drive and the PAW reduces the need to have my young children walking/cycling/scooting on the road. We use both the Armitage/David Drive PAW and the Anthony Road/Luke Way to get to the park. We extend the walk/ride using the network of PAWs east of the park so as to avoid having children on the road.
- As everyone is forced to walk on the road anyway the closure doesn't really make any difference. A footpath on Grant Street would however make the closure of the PAW inconvenient.
- If that gets reopened it will be less people coming down David Drive so we don't get the riff raff throwing beer bottles and rubbish along our end. If you close one walk way both should be done. We had to put up with people so should those certain people have to put up with it. I wrote about the closure why it shouldn't have been closed. Thank you.
- I do use other walkways and do not encounter any problems. In fact I appreciate the cover shade during the hot weather.
- The closure has created a 'secret' space for the youth to use in the manor in which it was closed for in the first place. I miss the access, resent the danger it presents to myself and other pedestrians.

Appendix A - The survey



Survey

This survey is about the pedestrian access way (PAW) between Anthony Road and David Drive, Geographie



Please forward the completed survey to the City by Monday, 30 June 2014

PLEASE NOTE: The City will receive written submissions in addition to or instead of this survey, by the date referred to above.

Background information

For about 6 months, the City of Busselton has trialled the closure of the PAW between Anthony Road and David Drive, Geographie. The reason for the closure was to address anti-social behaviour occurring within the PAW.

This survey is designed to gauge opinions about the PAW and the impact of its trial closure.

Posting this survey

The completed survey may be posted to the City of Busselton as follows:

- By reply paid envelope as enclosed with this survey. No postage stamp required
- By post to: Locked Bag 1, Busselton WA 6280 (postage stamp required)
- By scanning (both sides) and emailing to: city@busselton.wa.gov.au
- By hand to: City Offices, 2 Southern Drive, Busselton

Additional forms

Should you require additional forms, please contact the City referring to the contact details below.

More information

For more information about the contents of this survey or about the PAW, please contact Andrew Scott at the City of Busselton on telephone 9781-0402 or by email to andrew.scott@busselton.wa.gov.au.

City of Busselton

2 Southern Drive, Busselton, Western Australia

All communications to: The Chief Executive Officer

Postal address: Locked Bag 1, BUSSELTON WA 6280

Telephone: (08) 9781 0444

Facsimile: (08) 9752 4958

Email: city@busselton.wa.gov.au

Web: www.busselton.wa.gov.au

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm

Please start here

NOTE: Multiple respondents should complete a separate survey form each. Please refer to back page for additional survey forms.

Your details...

To help with the analysis of this survey and so that the City may contact you to clarify information provided, please provide the following details about you and where you live:

Name: _____

Residential address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone/Mobile: _____

Age: Under 18 18 to 65 Over 65

Now let's move on to the questions about the PAW.

Q1. Usage of the PAW prior to closure...

Prior to the closure of the PAW, I used the PAW:

- Never → Please go to Q2.
- Rarely (few times a year) → Please go to Q3.
- Occasionally (monthly) → Please go to Q3.
- Frequently (weekly) → Please go to Q3.
- Often (most days of the week) → Please go to Q3.

Q2. Reason for not using the PAW...

The reason for not using the PAW was:

- Did not have a need to use the PAW
- Did not know it was there
- Did not feel secure using the PAW
- Other reason. Please describe... _____

→ Please go to Q7.

Q3. Condition of the PAW...

When the PAW was open, I noticed that the PAW was (select all that apply):

- Mostly clean and tidy
- Littered (some)
- Littered (lots)
- Covered with graffiti
- In need of proper care and maintenance
- Other. *Please describe...* _____

Q4. Anti-social behaviour in the PAW...

When the PAW was open, I noticed incidents of anti-social behaviour in the PAW:

- True → Please go to Q5
- False → Please go to Q7

Q5. Type of anti-social behaviour...

When the PAW was open, the types of anti-social behaviour I noticed were (select all that apply):

- Littering
- Property damage
- Use of motorised bicycles
- Graffiti
- Drunken behaviour
- Other. *Please describe...* _____

Q6. Level of anti-social behaviour in the PAW...

I would describe the worst of the anti-social behaviour in the PAW to have been:

- Of no real concern
- Undesirable but tolerable
- Disturbing
- Other. *Please describe...* _____

Q7. Impact of closure...

During the period that the PAW has been closed (approximately 6 months) the impact on me has been (select all that apply):

- The closure did not concern me
- I did not have a need to use the PAW
- I walked/cycled the extra distance
- The closure caused me some inconvenience
- The closure caused considerable inconvenience
- I feel safer with the PAW closed
- Other. *Please describe...* _____

Q8. Impact on anti-social behaviour ...

During the period that the PAW has been closed (approximately 6 months) the impact on anti-social behaviour has been:

- Considerably improved
- Somewhat improved
- No different to before the closure
- The anti-social behaviour is worse than before
- Other. *Please describe...* _____

Q9. Usage following the trial closure...

Following the trial closure period, I would prefer that the PAW:

- Remains closed → Please go to Q12
- Is re-opened to the public
- I am not concerned either way
- Other. *Please describe...* _____

Q10. Time of usage should the PAW reopen...

Should the PAW be reopened, I would pass through the PAW during the following times of the day (select all that apply):

- I would not use the PAW → Please go to Q12
- Morning (6am to noon)
- Afternoon (noon to 6pm)
- Evening/Night (6pm to midnight)
- Early morning (midnight to 6am)

Q12. Mode of usage...

Should the PAW be reopened, I would pass through the PAW by the following modes (select all that apply):

- Walking
- A Gopher or pedestrian vehicle
- Pushing a pram
- Bicycle
- Other. *Please describe...* _____

Q13. Comments ...

Please make any other comments about the PAW and the trial closure:

End of survey