

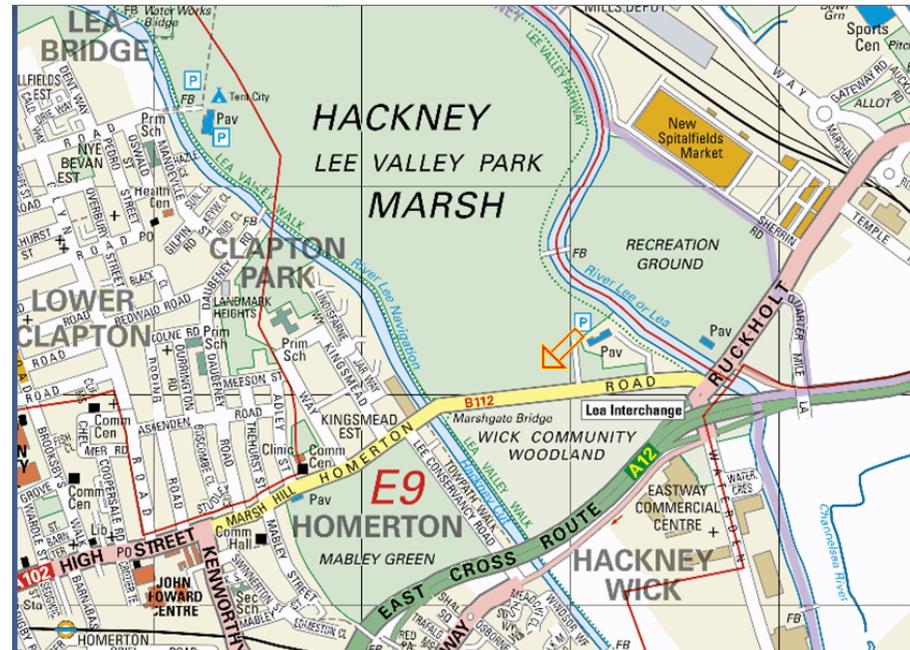
On the left side of the slide, there is a decorative graphic. It features a vertical stack of several thin, light blue lines of varying heights. To the right of these lines are several blue circles of different sizes, arranged in a cluster that tapers towards the bottom. The largest circle is at the top left of the cluster, with smaller circles below and to its right.

JUSTICE IN THE GREEN: MAPPING LOCAL PERSPECTIVES IN THE APPROPRIATION OF GREEN SPACES IN HACKNEY

**Jessica Gulhane, Naheeda Khan, Mehrunisa
Malik, Gbenekanu Mpigi, Omar Saeed, Sushmita
Seelam, Weiwei Sun**

BACKGROUND OF HACKNEY

- 100 languages
- ~212,000 people
- Olympic Borough
- Unusual amount of green space for such an urban borough
- 25% of population is under 19 years of age
- Unemployment rate of 10.2%
- Higher crime rate than most of its neighbours (141.7/1000 people)



Source: Hackney Council Website
streetmap.co.uk (2011)



UNPACKING OUR DEFINITIONS

COLLECTIVE SPORT

*A process that encompasses **physical activity** with the intention of promoting the opportunity for **friendly competition**, improved wellbeing and **community cohesiveness** through these social interactions.*



UNPACKING OUR DEFINITIONS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

*The **right** for all people, regardless of geographical location or socio - cultural background to **participate** in any sporting activity in the surrounding spaces of their environment. Any element of decision – making that has an impact on this right should be fully **inclusive, consistently informative** and offer the right for all people to participate.*



OUR HYPOTHESES

1. Hackney Marshes is not used for activities other than collective sport
2. Collective sports in Hackney leads to community inclusion and therefore social cohesion
3. The 2012 Olympics promotes and provides for the 'needs' of local collective sports





RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- How do the activities grouped under collective sports enhance the appropriation of Hackney Marshes and surrounding green areas?
- What are the potentials and constraints of Hackney Marshes and surrounding green areas to enhance environmental justice through collective sports?
- How can the appropriation of the Marshes be enriched through cross fertilization among the activities taking place across the six categories?



RESEARCH METHODS

○ Target Groups

- Children involved in sports: 7-11 years
- Adult Males: 16 – 25 years
- Adults associated with Clapton Rangers

○ Qualitative

- Observation Walk with local artist
- Transect Walk with local collective sports advocate
- Opportunity sampling
- Semi-structured interviews: 9 interviews
- Focus Groups: (Two conducted) 15 males, 1 female; 16 males
- Transect Walk with our partner
- Participatory Mapping with 20 children

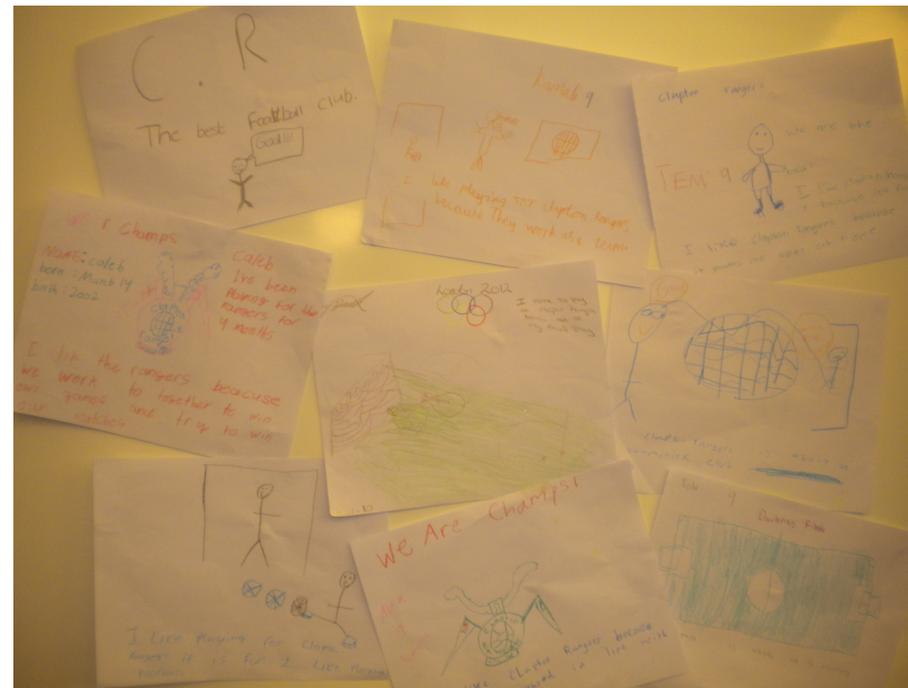
○ Quantitative

- Questionnaires – Random sample size 24

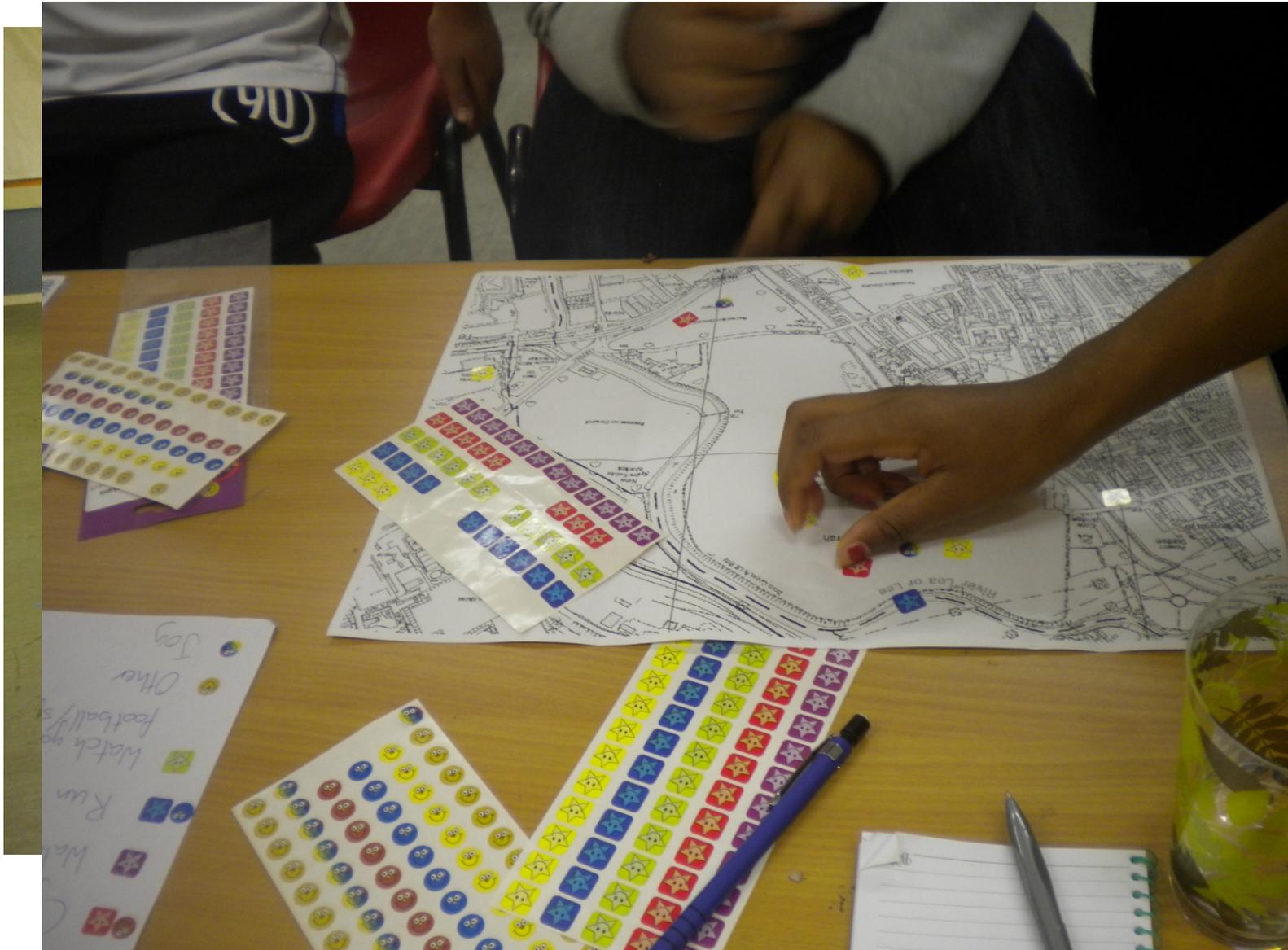


DRAWING EXERCISE WITH CHILDREN FROM CLAPTON RANGERS

The children were asked to draw and write what the Clapton Rangers means to them.



PARTICIPATORY MAPPING



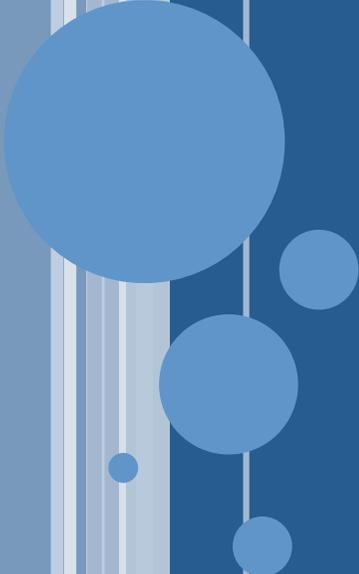
LIMITATIONS

- Limited time and resources
- Gender
- Sample range and size
- Age range
- Inability to conduct focus group with Clapton Rangers FC adult team





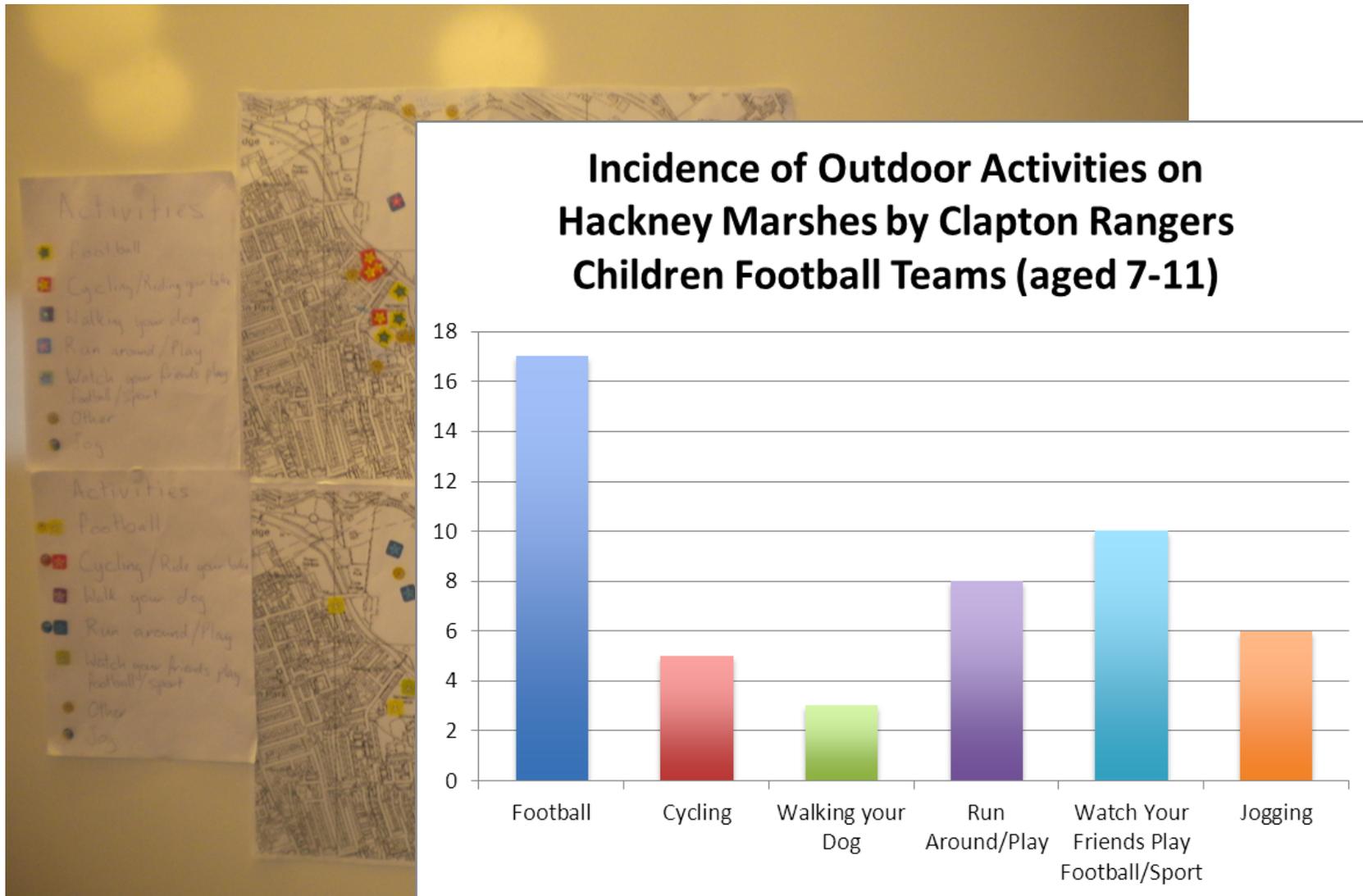
RESULTS AND FINDINGS

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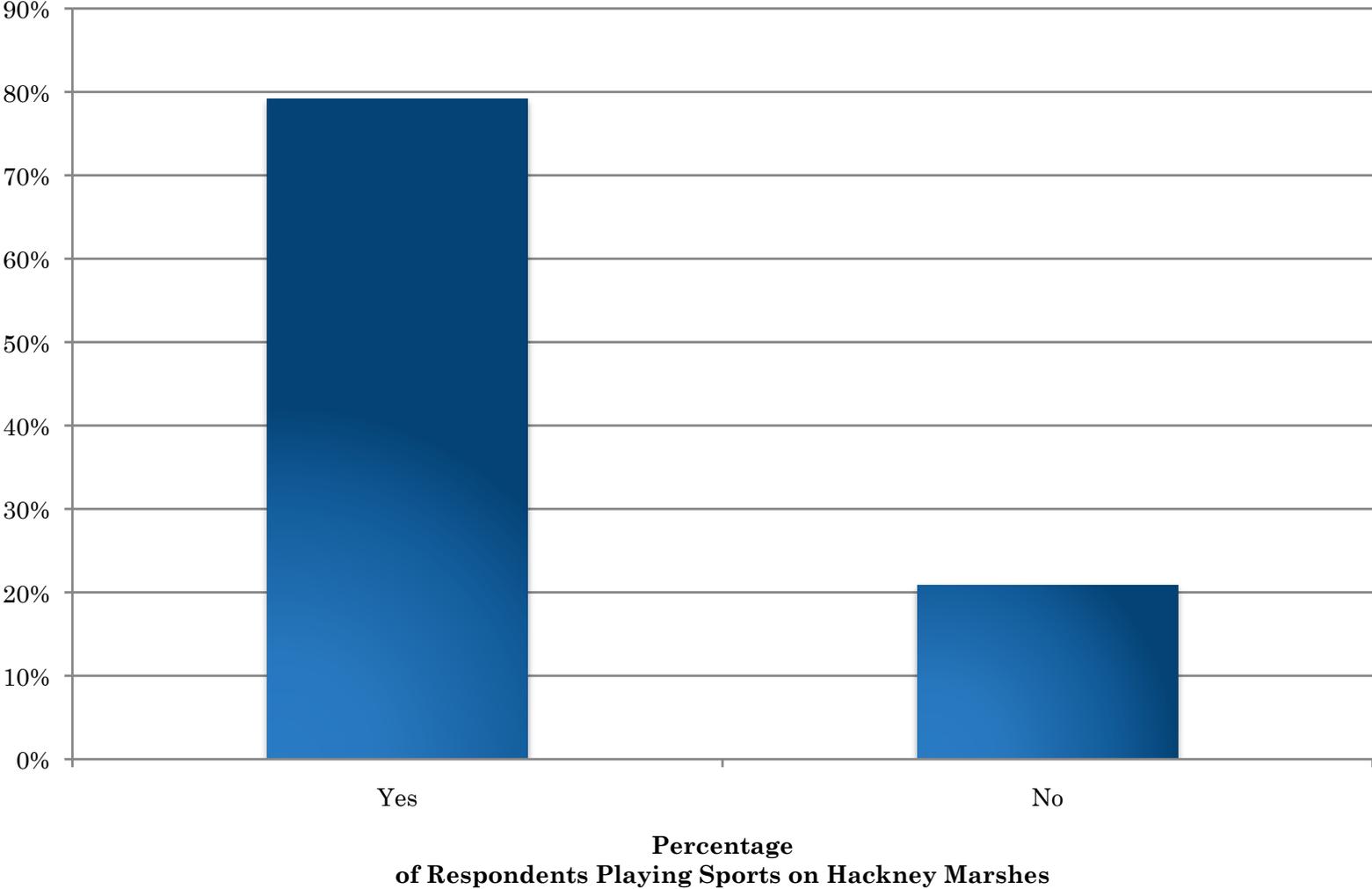
HYPOTHESIS 1

**Hackney Marshes is not used for activities
other than collective sport**

FINDINGS: USE OF HACKNEY MARSHES



A GRAPH TO SHOW THE PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS THAT PLAY SPORT ON HACKNEY MARSHES



FINDINGS: USE OF HACKNEY MARSHES

“It [Hackney Marshes] can be used for any sport.”
– Chris, 23

“The marshes should be used for football.”

“Watching football or taking my son for a kickabout is the only time I use Hackney Marshes.” – Reuben

“Taking it [the land] away from football is taking away a big part of Hackney Marshes.” – Calvin, 23

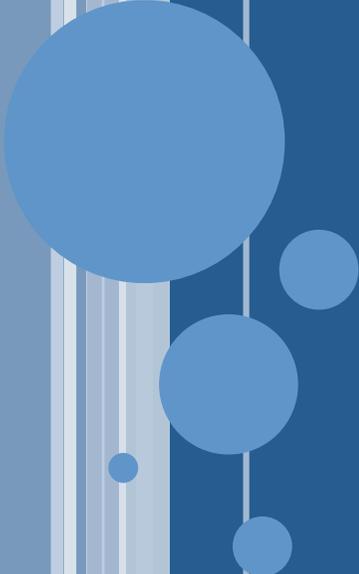
“We have had to move because of the footballers.” – James, 28



FINDINGS

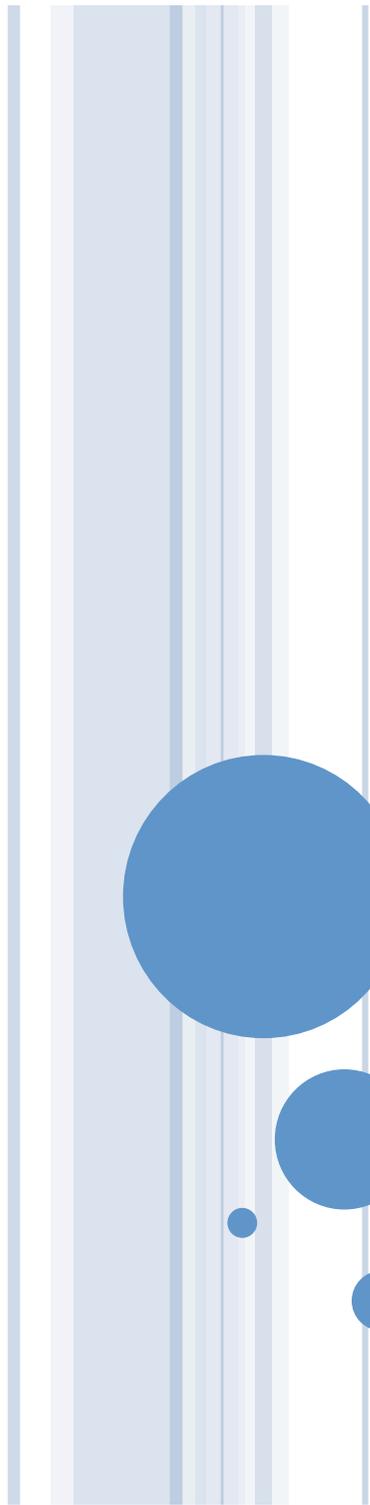
- Our research shows Hackney Marshes is primarily used for the purpose of sports
- Football is the dominant sport played on the Marshes
- The Marshes are also used for activities other than sports
- Other sporting activities take place on the Marsh
- Football provides a feeling of safety which encourages participation on the Marshes not limited to sports alone.





HYPOTHESIS 2

Collective sports in Hackney leads to community inclusion and therefore social cohesion



ANALYSIS

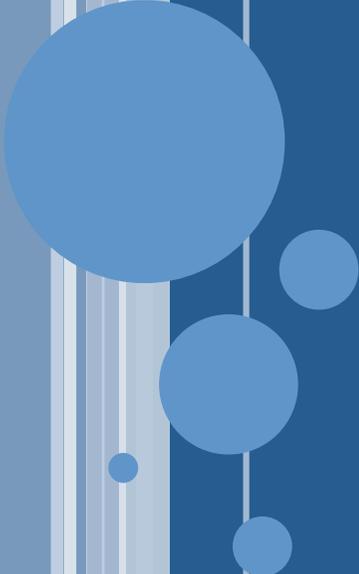
“Look how seriously they [Clapton Rangers] take it...football chose us.” - Mark

“You get more communication with people from different walks of life.” Chris.

- Collective sports can provide a platform for people carrying out other activities
- Collective sports bridges gaps between people from different areas
- Collective sport lends itself as a tool to achieve social cohesion
- Collective sport can enhance environmental justice

“The good thing about Clapton Rangers is that we get to meet new people.”

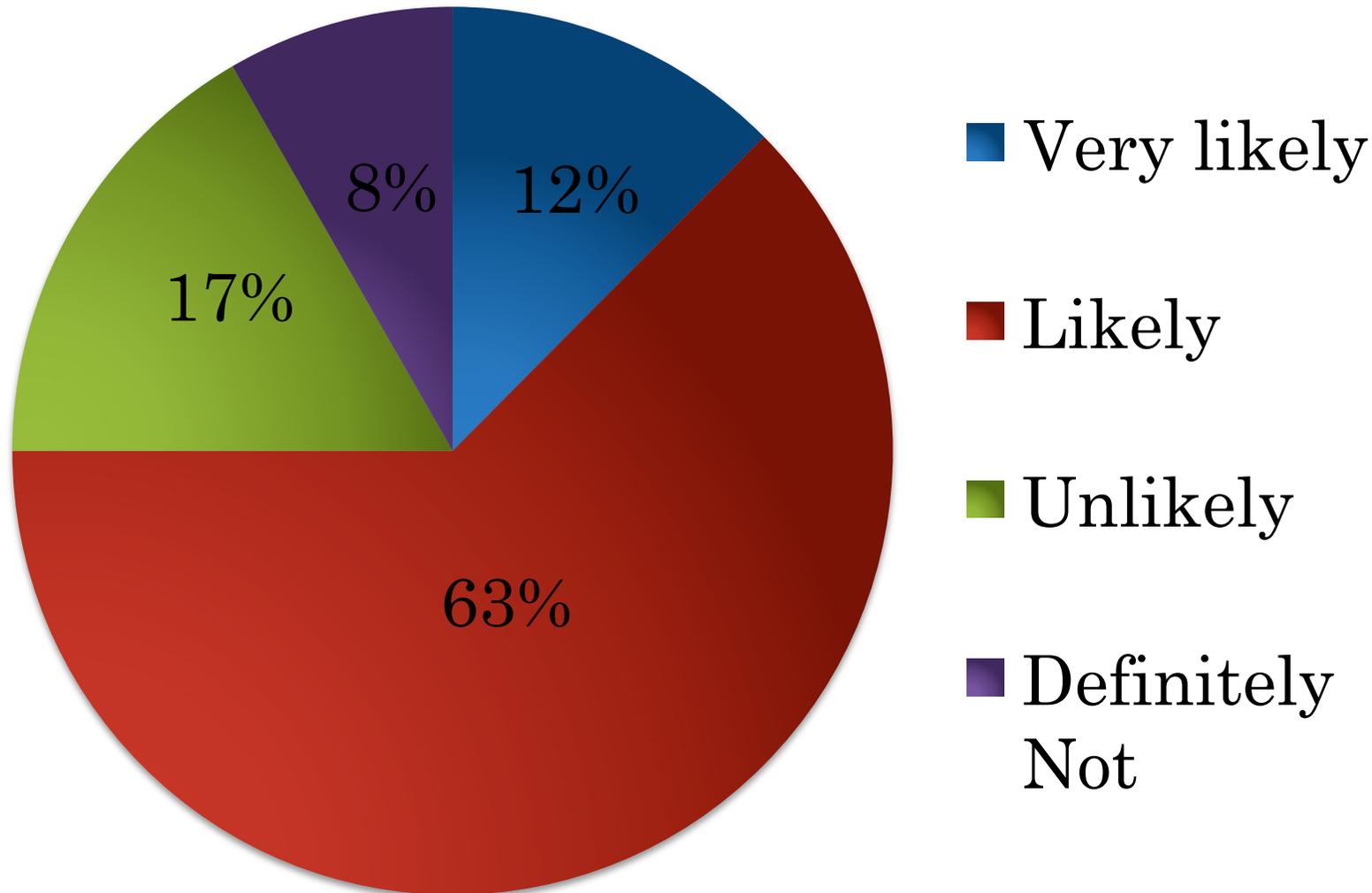
“We are a community whether we win or lose”



HYPOTHESIS 3

**The 2012 Olympics promotes and provides for the
'needs' of local collective sports**

DOES LONDON 2012 PROMOTE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTIVE SPORTS?

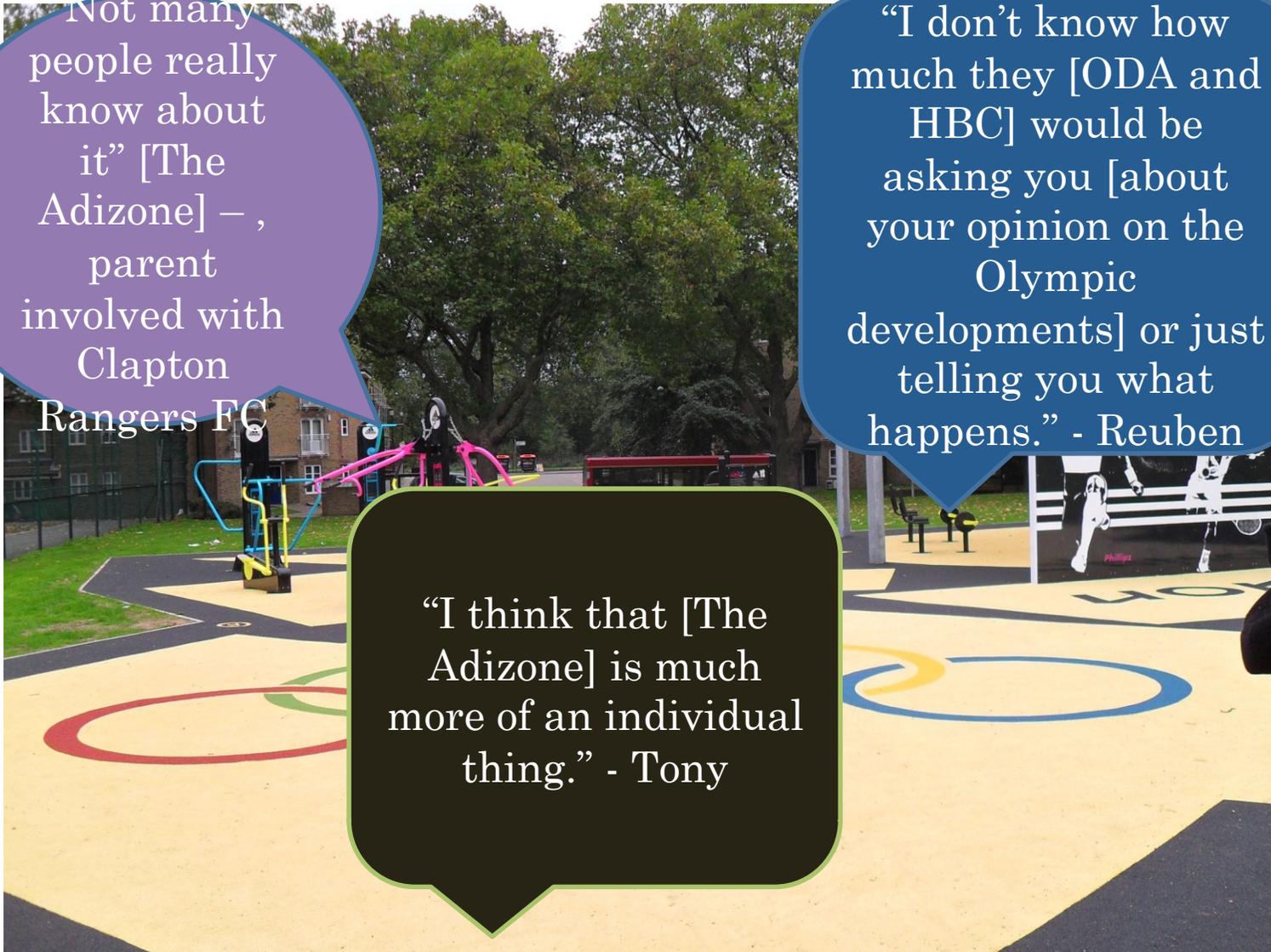


FINDINGS

“Not many people really know about it” [The Adizone] – , parent involved with Clapton Rangers FC

“I don’t know how much they [ODA and HBC] would be asking you [about your opinion on the Olympic developments] or just telling you what happens.” - Reuben

“I think that [The Adizone] is much more of an individual thing.” - Tony



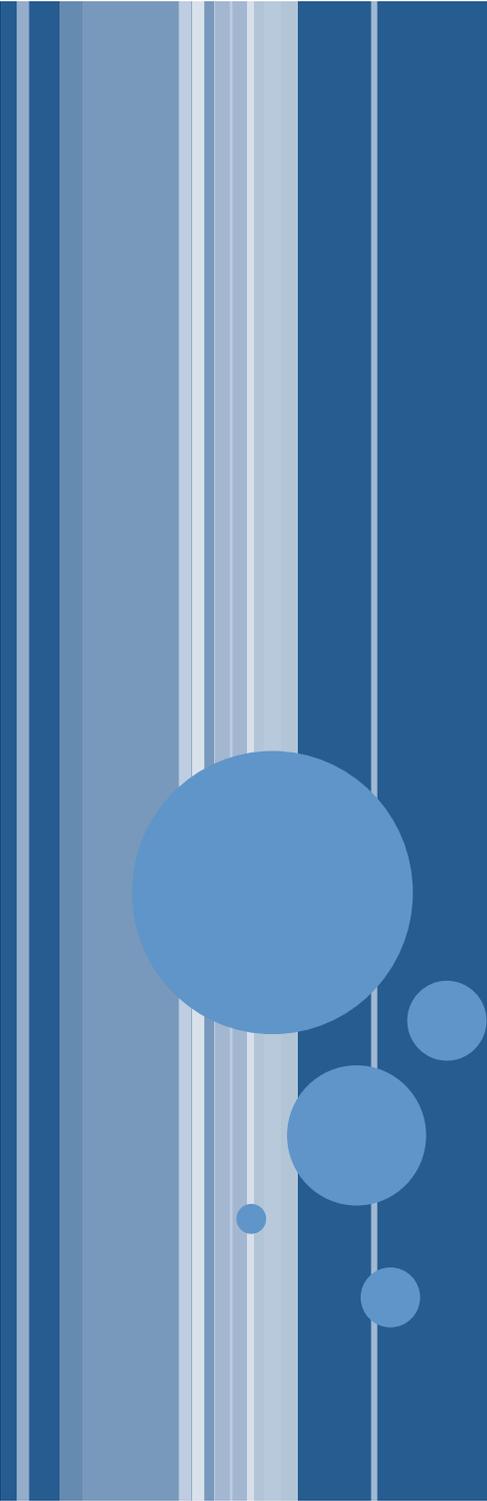
FINDINGS: DOES LONDON 2012 PROMOTE COLLECTIVE SPORT?

[Taking land away from Hackney Marshes] “Is killing the football.” – Tony, parent involved with Clapton Rangers FC
- Tony

“What they [ODA] are doing is just pricing people out of the area.” – Chris

“I got a few letters through the door.”
– Reuben

“I’m not happy with what they’ve taken away already.” –
Reuben



CROSS FERTILIZATION

CROSS FERTILIZATION

“I want the team [Clapton Rangers FC] to grow food and eat it together.” – Mark Whyte, Clapton Rangers FC

“We want to be able to grow our own grass and maintain it.”
- Mark Whyte, Clapton Rangers FC

“It feels good to get outside and take a breath of fresh air.”
– Calvin, Goalkeeper, Clapton Rangers

“You feel less threatened if you are running around with footballers. It creates competitiveness too because when the women running group pass the footballers, the group will run faster, just to show off!” – Brenda, Hackney Cycling Campaign in Hackney



CONCLUSION

- Hypothesis 1 – The primary use of Hackney Marshes is for collective sports (football)
- Hypothesis 2 – Collective sports in Hackney leads to community inclusion and social cohesion but simultaneously excludes people in its processes
- Hypothesis 3 – The 2012 Olympics does not provide for the needs of local collective sports



COLLECTIVE SPORTS & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Collective sports enhances environmental justice through participation (except Sundays)
- Collective sports can be exclusionary in terms of environmental justice
- Collective sports can contribute to social cohesion but it is a fragile concept
- Our own definition of environmental justice constrains our vision of appropriation of space.



AUDIO-VISUAL OUTPUT VISION

- Concept and self perception of being a 'Ranger'
- Clapton Rangers and society
- The way sports enhances the use of the Marshes.
- Olympics London 2012 – does it give or take?



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNER

- Mark Whyte,
Chairman of
Clapton Rangers
FC

Clapton Rangers FC



'much more than football'

