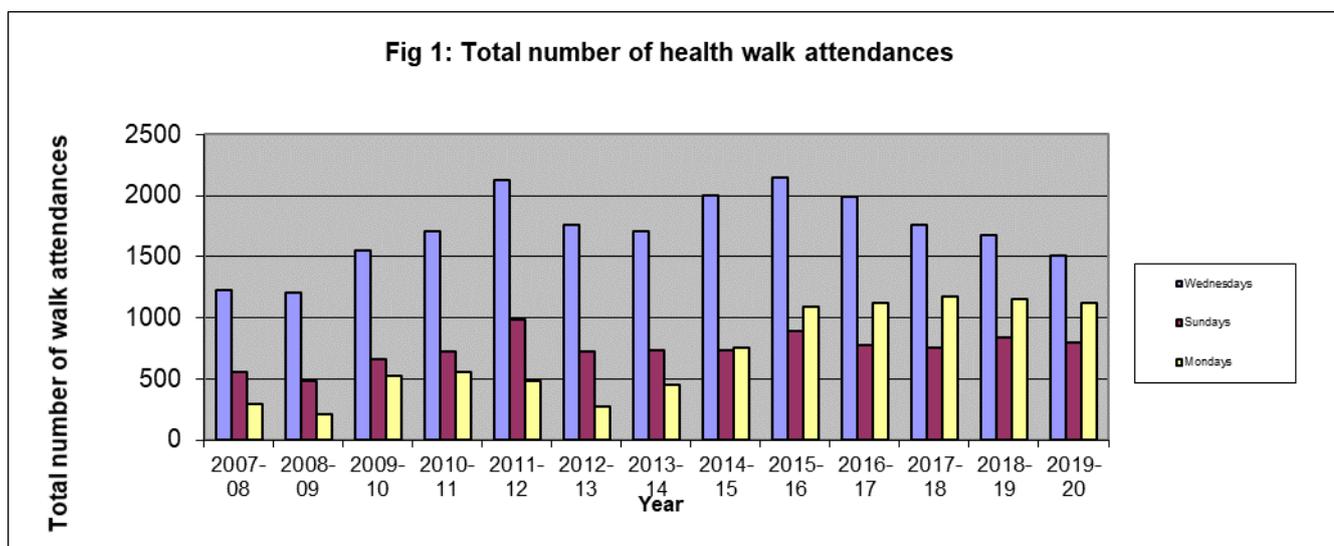


Summary

Total recorded health walk attendances in 2019-20 were 3,486, down 296 (8%) on 2018-19. This largely reflects the cancellation of 10 walks in 2019-20 - 6 due to Covid-19 and 4 due to bad weather. Compared to 2018-19, Wednesday attendances fell by 169 (10%) to 1,504, Sunday attendances fell by 49 (6%) to 792, Monday attendances fell by 26 (2%) to 1,123 and Tuesday attendances fell by 54 (45%) to 65. 260 different people came on walks in 2019-20 (down from 300 in 2018-19 and 270 in 2017-18) averaging 13.2 walks each (up from 12.5 in 2018-19 but down from 13.6 in 2017-18). Average numbers on walks in 2019-20 were 31 on Wednesdays, 18 on Sundays and 25 on Mondays compared to 33, 17 and 26 for 2018-19.

Findings

- Epsom and Ewell health walks in 2019-20 attracted 3,486 attendances, down by 296 (8%) on 2018-19 and the lowest number since 2014-15. This largely reflects the cancellation of 10 walks in 2019-20 - 6 due to Covid-19 and 4 due to bad weather. Wednesday walks had 1,504 attendances, down by 169 (10%). Sunday walks had 792, down by 49 (6%). Monday walks had 1,123, down by 26 (2%) and Tuesday walks had 65, down by 54 (45%). (Fig 1).

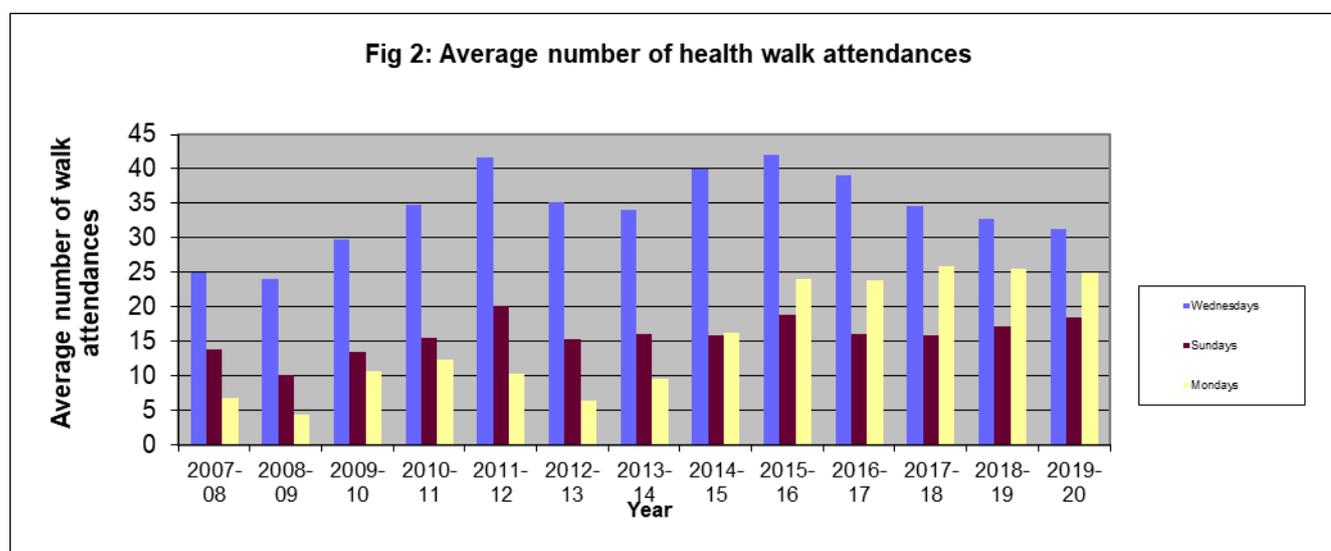


Sunday walks were fortnightly in Spring 2007 and weekly thereafter.

- 260 different people came on health walks in 2019-20, down from 300 in 2018-19 and 270 in 2017-18. The average number of attendances per person was 13.2, up from 12.5 in 2018-19 but down from 13.6 in 2017-18. The following percentages refer to 2019-20 (and are followed by corresponding 2018-19 percentages in brackets). 2% (2%) attended more than 50 walks, 24% (23%) attended more than 20 but not more than 50, 15% (13%) attended more than 10 but not more than 20, 15% (7%) attended more than 5 but not more than 10, 22% (27%) attended more than 1 but not more than 5 and 22% (28%) attended just 1 walk. 64% (65%) of people came on 1 hour walks only, 13% (17%) on half hour walks only and 23% (18%) on some of each. 66% (67%) were female; 34% (33%) male (the highest percentage in the last nine years).
- Average attendance for Wednesday walks in 2019-20 was 31 (down from 33 in 2018-19) (Fig 2). Numbers on Wednesday walks were mostly between 20 and 49. However the Banstead Heath walk on 14 August had only 4, the Epsom Common walk on 8 May had only 10, the Nonsuch Park walk on 15 January had only 12, the Banstead Woods walk on 16 October had only 14 and the Chipstead Road walk on 11 December had only 18; most of these walks were affected by rain. The highest attendance was 49 at Epsom Common on 6 November.
- Average attendance for Sunday walks in 2018-19 was 18 (up from 17 in 2018-19) (Fig 2). Numbers on Sunday walks were typically between 10 and 29 but 3 walks had between 1 and 9 (the Banstead Heath walk on 13 October had 4, the Headley Heath walk on 22 December had 6 and the Banstead Heath walk on 14 July had 8) and 3 had between 30 and 39 (the Horton Country Park walk on 28 April had

33, the Epsom Common walk on 5 January had 34 and the Ashtead Common walk on 3 November had 36). The Headley Heath walk on 29 September, the Chipstead Road walk on 9 February and the Bourne Hall walk on 16 February were cancelled due to bad weather.

- Average attendance for Monday walks in 2019-20 was 25 (the sixth consecutive year in which it has been in the range 24 to 26) (Fig 2). Numbers on Monday walks were typically between 10 and 39. The Epsom Downs walk on 10 June was affected by rain and attracted only 5. The Epsom Downs walk on 14 October was cancelled due to bad weather. The Epsom Downs walk on 9 March attracted 40 (a new Monday record for that location).
- Average attendance for Tuesday walks in Horton Country Park starting from the Old Moat Garden Centre which took place once a month until December 2019 was 7. Attendances were mostly between 1 and 9 but the May walk attracted 13 and the November walk attracted 12.



- There were 60 new walkers in 2019-20 who completed a Walker Registration Form (down from 82 in 2018-19 but up from 58 in 2017-18). For 8 of these their first walk was a Tuesday (down from 28 in 2018-19 and explaining most of the fall), for 13 it was a Sunday, for 26 a Wednesday and for 13 a Monday. 33 of these had been on at least one further walk by 31 March 2020.
- The postcode sectors in which the home addresses of these new walkers were located were:
 - 17 in KT17 (Epsom and Ewell (North East))
 - 13 in KT19 (Epsom and Ewell (North West)) which includes West Ewell and part of Stoneleigh
 - 10 in KT18 (Epsom and Ewell South, Epsom Downs)
 - 5 in KT21 (Ashtead)
 - 2 each in KT3 (New Malden), KT4 (Worcester Park), KT9 (Chessington), KT22 (Oxshott), SM3 (Sutton/Cheam) and SM7 (Banstead/Woodmansterne)
 - 1 each in KT7 (Thames Ditton), RH1 (Redhill) and SM2 (Sutton/Cheam).
- Of the 17 new walkers submitting health survey responses in 2019-20, 3 said that they heard of EEHW from local media and 3 said that they heard about it from a local web site, 2 from the WfH web site, 2 found out about it from a Library, 1 each from their workplace and a GP Surgery. 5 did not say how they found out about EEHW. None said that they had been recommended to the scheme by a Doctor or health professional.
- This report includes charts by locations restricted to 2019-20. However, it must be borne in mind that restricting the charts to this period means that there are only between 1 and 7 (mostly 4) observations for each day for each location and so the average attendance may be affected by bad weather on one or more occasions. To help overcome this charts covering the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2020 (11 years) are also included. Even for this period there are only between 13 and 76 observations for each day for each location and so the average attendance may still be affected by bad weather on one or more occasions.

- For Wednesday and Sunday walks the out of borough locations - Banstead Heath, Banstead Woods, Chipstead Road, Headley Heath, Oxshott Heath and Princes Coverts - tend not to attract as many walkers as other locations (Figs 3, 3a, 4, 4a). Possible reasons include the walks being more hilly, being further to travel from some parts of Epsom and Ewell, being more difficult for some to reach by public transport, lack of car park at Banstead Heath and Chipstead Road, car park charges for non-NT members at Headley Heath and lack of familiarity with the area.

Fig 3: Average number of health walkers by location: Wednesdays

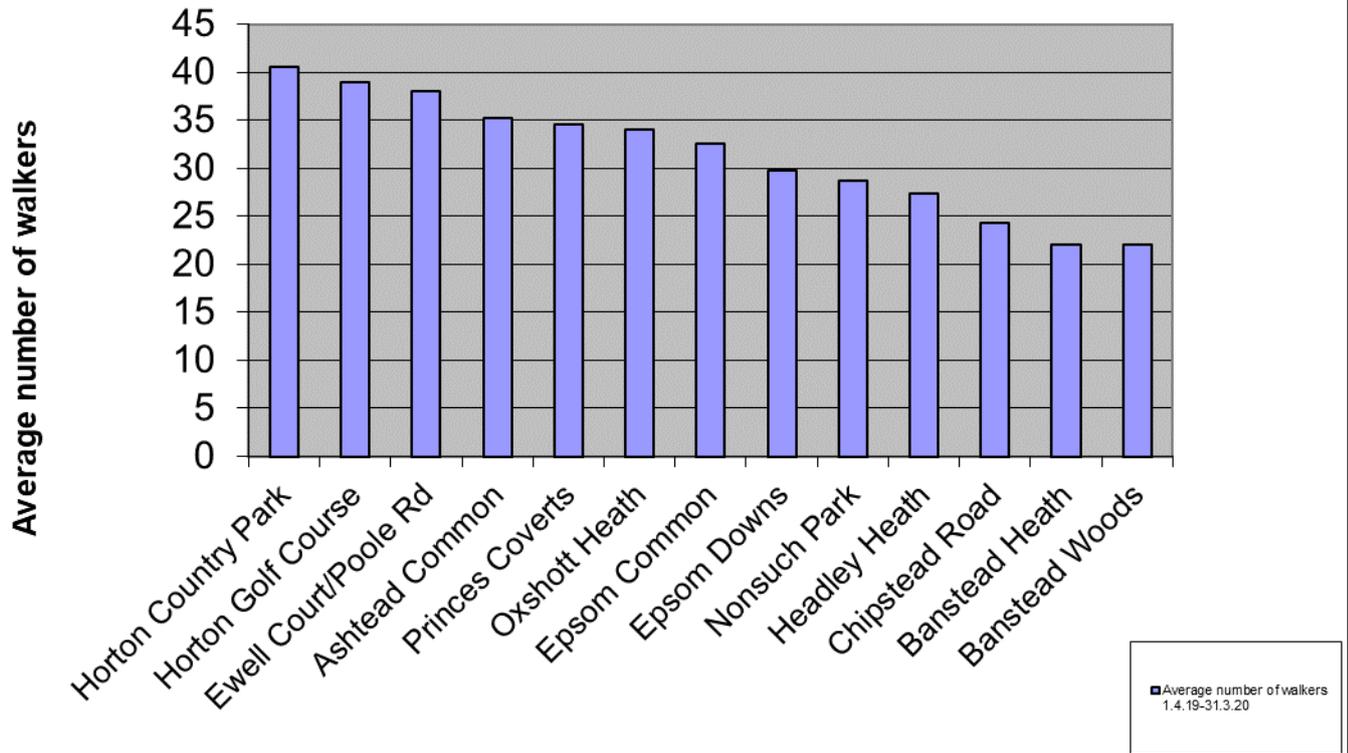


Fig 3a: Average number of health walkers by location: Wednesdays

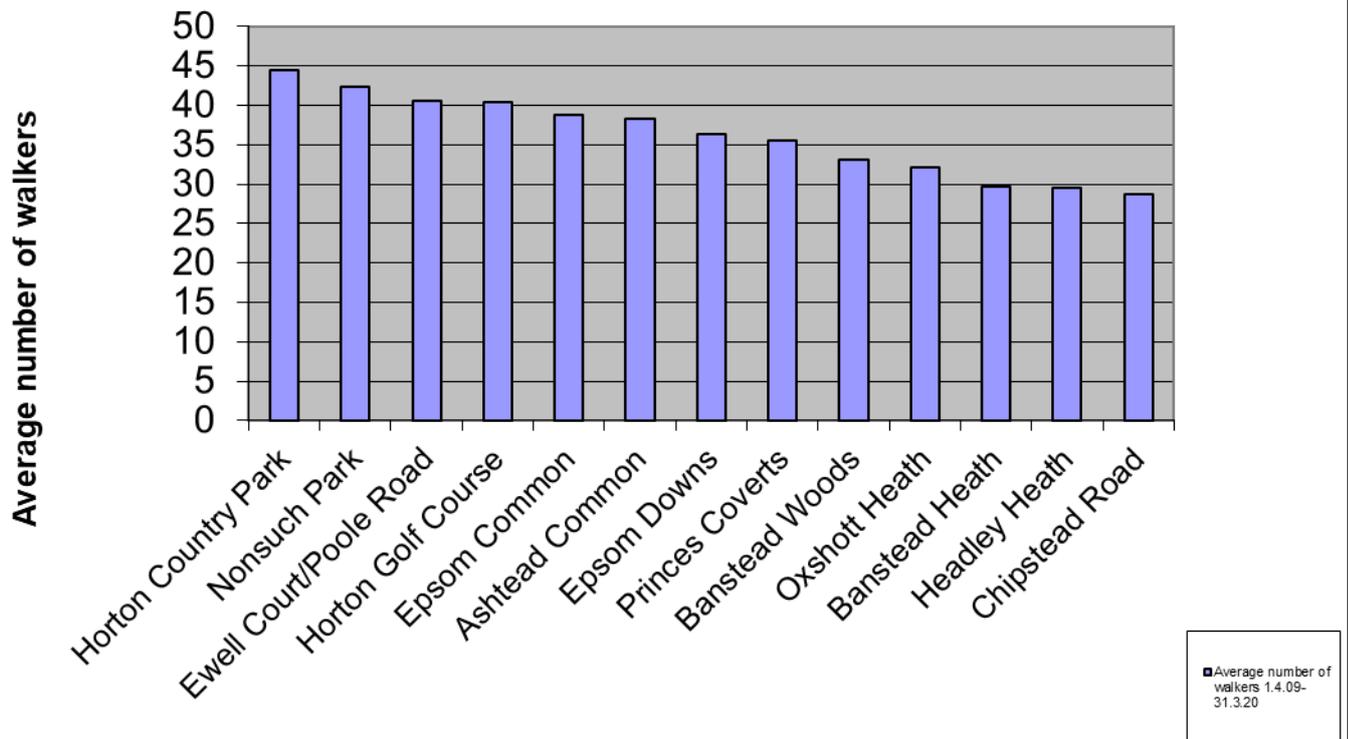


Fig 4: Average number of health walkers by location: Sundays

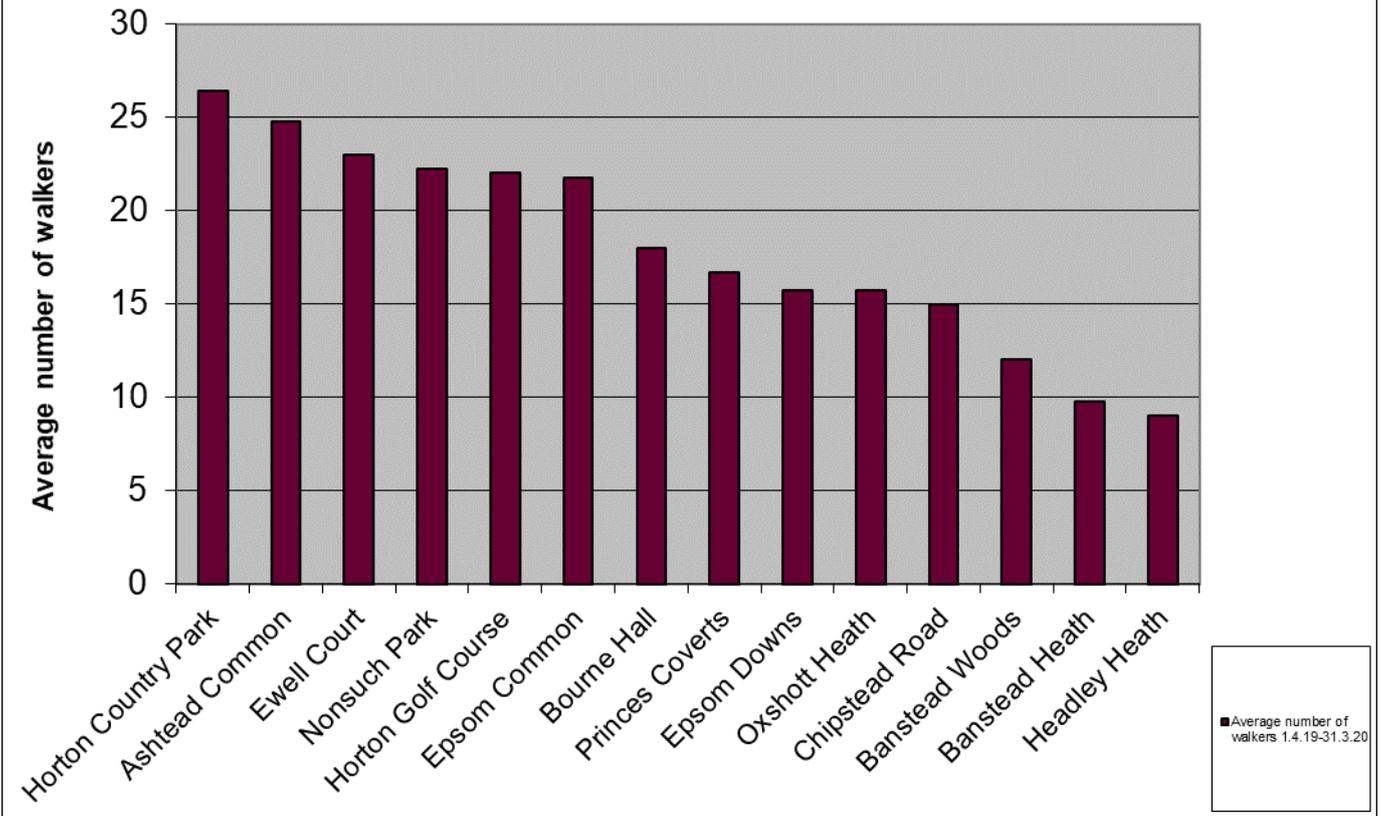
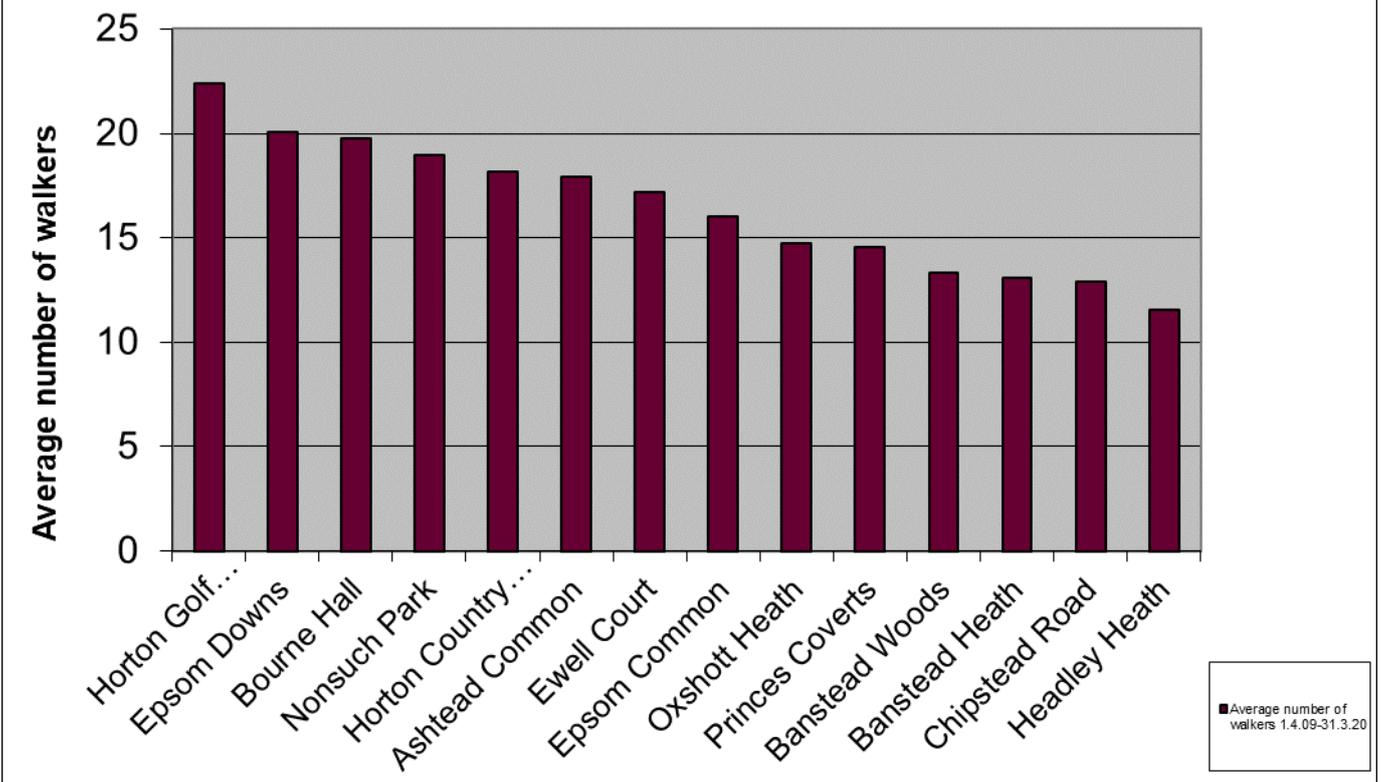


Fig 4a: Average number of health walkers by location: Sundays



- Figure 5a shows that the average attendance on Monday walks over the last 11 years was between 14 and 20 for most locations. The higher figures for Ashtead Common and Priest Hill are misleading as these locations were only introduced in 2016-17 since when all Monday attendances have been higher than in the past. Figure 5 which covers 2019-20 only shows that average attendances at these locations were similar to those at other locations.

