

Appendix B: Comments from individuals on proposals for Whitfield Gardens (question 6)

Topic	Comment	No.	Officer response
Generally positive comments		32	Comments noted
Pedestrians	There will be more space for pedestrians	1	Comment noted
Cycling	Provide cycle parking	3	Additional cycle parking would be provided throughout the project area if the scheme were given approval.
Air quality	Will reduce pollution	6	Comment noted
Accessibility	Ensure accessible to disabled people / step-free	3	Due to the change in levels the proposals would incorporate some steps, however step-free access would also be provided.
Impact on residents	Will improve place for residents and visitors	2	Comment noted.
Public space	Support more plants / tree planting	21	The proposals would retain the existing trees while introducing new planting and seating into the space.
	Support more and comfortable seating	19	The proposals would incorporate more seating in the park.
	Space must be maintained and cleaned	17	The project team would work alongside the Council's Parks team to ensure the space were regularly maintained and cleaned.
	Address pigeon problem and prevent rats	6	The project team would work alongside the Council's Parks department to ensure the space were regularly maintained and cleaned. New rubbish bin designs would ensure that scavenging from pigeons and rats were minimised.
	Work with American Church to reduce street drinking and anti-social behaviour / design must discourage anti-social behaviour	5	Comment noted
	Encourage community space feel	4	Comment noted
	Ensure mural is restored	4	The proposals would restore the mural.

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	Not more planting but better plants	3	The proposals for the space would consider low level planting that would provide greater visibility and natural surveillance.
	It will make the area more pleasant	3	Comment noted
	No more seats	3	The proposals would introduce new seating to the space. These would be designed to discourage rough sleeping.
	Knock down Caffè Nero to create nicer contiguous space	2	This is beyond the scope of the project.
	More imaginative design including using coloured tiles such as in Spanish public spaces	2	The proposals for the public space have been designed in consultation with local residents, stakeholders and businesses.
	Remove seating for coffee shop and provide more public seating, box hedging on the boundary of the garden as a fence, grass mound along north side of garden which could be used as seating and would remove area used as a toilet	2	New low level planting would help deter anti-social behaviour and improve visibility.
	Support more public space	1	Comment noted
	Improve refuse storage from adjacent businesses	1	Comment noted
	Planting should be native to provide for local wildlife	1	Comment noted
	Need shaded areas	1	The proposals would retain the existing trees with new seating.
	Should provide space to relocate fruit stall outside Goodge Street – great asset to the area but blocks pedestrians in its current location	1	The location of street kiosks would be considered as part of detailed design.
	Support water fountains	1	The proposals do not include water fountains.
	Reduce / remove large trees to allow more natural light	1	The proposals do not include reducing or removing trees in Whitfield Gardens
	Improve hard paved area only	1	Comment noted.

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	Keep open to public	1	Comment noted
	Will encourage people to use it	1	Comment noted
	Use space for outdoor café; benches will encourage street drinking	1	The proposals are to create a vibrant outdoor park for residents and visitors to enjoy. New seating would be proposed that discourages rough sleeping
Traffic flow	Need more road space	2	The pavements are proposed to be widened on Tottenham Court Road to provide more space for the increase in the number of visitors due to the opening of Crossrail and to improve conditions for walking. It is the Council's policy to improve conditions for walking, cycling and using public transport.
Parking	As long as it does not affect residents' parking	1	This proposal does not affect residents' parking
Other	Do not know where Whitfield Gardens is	2	Comment noted
	Photos of Whitfield Gardens and Windmill Square were not shown properly in consultation material	2	Comment noted
	Do not relocate homeless people; improve social policies	1	This is beyond the scope of the project.
No change		3	Comment noted
Waste of money		7	Comment noted