



OUR FUTURE CITY PLAN

'SHAPING OUR CITY TOGETHER'

CONSULTATION REPORT

2023

1. Introduction and purpose of Consultation Report

- 1.1. Birmingham City Council consulted on the 'Our Future City Plan: Shaping Our City Together' between 26th January to 26th March 2021 during Covid-19 restrictions. This consultation report sets out the engagement strategy, describes the level and type of responses received, the main issues raised and how they have influenced the drafting of the 'Our Future City: Draft Central Birmingham Framework 2040'. This report demonstrates the process has been in accordance with the adopted Birmingham Statement of Community Involvement and its additional emergency provisions in place at the time due to national COVID-19 restrictions.
- 1.2. The 'Shaping Our City Together' consultation sought views on the vision and aspirations for future development growth and regeneration objectives in the central area of Birmingham.

2. Stakeholder Mapping

- 2.1. Prior to the formal consultation period, the council undertook a stakeholder mapping exercise to identify the communities, stakeholders and partners who would be most impacted upon by the proposals. This also helped identify any 'seldom heard groups' across Birmingham allowing for a targeted approach towards engagement. This involved working with the council's Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit to identify key channels of communication within each of the wards covered by the plan, reaching out to organisations and community groups and using these networks to help promote the engagement. An email was sent to the organisations identified from the stakeholder mapping work, and example of this can be viewed in Appendix A.
- 2.2. Additionally, a profile of each ward was produced looking at local demographics and the proportion of the population within ethnic minority groups. Using 2011 Census data, the profiling found that approximately 64.4% of the city centre population (i.e. all wards falling within the Plan's boundary) belonged to BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) groups. The profiling identified that many inner-city wards such as Lozells, Newtown, Bordesley & Highgate, Balsall Heath and Sparkbrook have high concentrations of BAME groups, as well as high proportions of younger people (under 18 years of age). In response, there was more targeted engagement towards faith institutions and other groups representing the ethnic minority communities in these areas.

3. Expression of interest

- 3.1. All stakeholders listed on the planning strategy and city centre team database were sent an 'expression of interest' form, which allowed the request for more specific engagement on the Plan both during the consultation period as well as after the consultation's closing date (as ongoing engagement). Options for additional engagement ranged from circulating consultation materials to other groups within a stakeholder's network to requesting focused meetings or workshops with council officers to offer feedback on the Plan's content. The expression of interest form and the list of organisations who responded to the form can be found in Appendix B.

4. Formal Consultation

- 4.1. An eight-week public consultation was held from 26th January to 26th March 2021.

The consultation was supported by a comprehensive engagement strategy. The strategy aimed to ensure all individuals and organisations in the city had the opportunity to have their say on the vision document and express their thoughts and suggestions on what the next stage of the plan should consider.
- 4.2. The consultation was undertaken during the national COVID-19 restrictions in early 2021. As a result, all engagement was undertaken virtually over the internet, mostly using conferencing applications such as Microsoft Teams and Zoom.
- 4.3. The objectives of the consultation were to:
 - Test the draft vision, principles, and city themes
 - Gather views and ideas to support the production of the Central Birmingham Framework 2040
 - Build excitement around proposals
 - Spark debate and engagement with entire community
 - Build market and business confidence in the vision
 - Show the city has opportunities and aspirations
 - Focus on seldom heard groups
 - Develop relationships with stakeholders and foster ongoing engagement
 - Build trust with the community
- 4.4. The engagement strategy was based around ‘Shaping our City Together – The Conversation’ and was eight weeks of intense activity inviting people to join in with a conversation about the future of our city. The eight weeks were split into the six City Themes, with an introduction week on the vision and principles, then a concluding week on key messages and next steps. Each City Theme was launched with a video and social media posts to help explain the theme, spark debate and promote the events. The events involved a mixture of methods, but the main tool was online panels to facilitate real discussions around the future of Birmingham’s central area. These conversations were not always council-led but chaired by our partners to reach out to a wider audience and generate meaningful discussion. Community representatives and champions were invited to join and partake in the online sessions.
- 4.5. Online events were also supported by activities such as calls for information sharing by our stakeholders through their networks and an active social media presence. Officers attended community group meetings, such as Birmingham Open Space Forum to promote the consultation. The aim of this was to reach audiences that do not usually take part in planning consultations.
- 4.6. A key element to the engagement strategy being successful was reaching groups who are seldom heard in planning, and ensuring they have an opportunity to shape the future of their city. In addition to the approach set out above, activity was tailored to overcome the barriers faced by some groups when engaging in planning to encourage meaningful involvement from all our

community. This included a shorter survey, information sharing through community networks and working with the Citizen Engagement Team.

- 4.7. Reaching young people was also key to the engagement strategy. Youth Services were commissioned to undertake consultation on our behalf. This included a survey young people designed and shared with their peers, on street interviews on what is important to young people and a design competition focussing on part of the city. Engagement was also undertaken with universities.
- 4.8. Due to the Covid restrictions in place during the consultation activity had to be predominantly online. The reliance on digital engagement processes during the consultation period was advantageous for some, as people wishing to attend meetings did not have to travel to the council offices in Birmingham City Centre or to another physical venue elsewhere within the city, and instead could do so easily from home. In addition, meetings like the Future City Plan events hosted over MS Teams were held over the traditional lunchtime period (12pm to 2pm) allowing for a larger potential audience of people; as a result, these events experienced a strong turnout from members of the public, business owners and local community group representatives.
- 4.9. Where individuals were not able to access information online, they could request paper copies to be sent via the post.

5. Consultation Materials

- 5.1. The consultation document was published online and all those on the Planning Policy Consultation Database were notified, along with specific stakeholders. The council's social media was used to promote the consultation and raise awareness. This included asking several questions (polls) on social media to provide a snapshot response on key issues. The results on these polls can be found in Appendix C.
- 5.2. The council's online consultation portal BeHeard was used to capture feedback on the document's proposals along with email and written responses. The questionnaire on BeHeard can be viewed in Appendix D.
- 5.3. A summary leaflet with a shorter survey was also used. The questions included in the shorter survey can be viewed in Appendix E. It was circulated through the community networks identified through the community mapping and was available online via the council website and social media channels. The purpose of this was to provide a faster and easier way for people to engage with the consultation.
- 5.4. Along with the methods to promote the consultation several online events were held to provide the public an opportunity to have their say and discuss the proposals with officers. The events were advertised on the council's website and through social media.

Promotion and publicity

- 5.5. The 'Shaping Our City Together' consultation was publicised online across numerous websites, social media channels, via local news publications and online news outlets covering specific industries. Internally, the consultation was publicised on the council's social network 'Yammer', in the council's weekly newsletters and in the Chief Executive's fortnightly email bulletins, sent to all employees. A link to the consultation was also provided in a popular newsletter that provides information on what's on in Birmingham.
- 5.6. Social media publicity was mainly carried out via Birmingham City Council's Twitter page. There was also some publicity carried out via the council's own social media platform 'Yammer'.
- 5.7. A video was produced for each of the six city themes in the document. These were available on YouTube and social media channels. The purpose of the videos was to start conversations about the future of Birmingham and engage a wide audience. The links to the videos are included in Appendix F.
- 5.8. Following the launch event, several articles were published by local media outlets and industry-specific news websites. A section of articles can be viewed in Appendix G.

Launch Event

- 5.9. The consultation was launched on Tuesday 26th January 2021 with a livestream hosted by Estates Gazette (EG) on their website and via their Twitter and LinkedIn accounts. The livestream included a presentation on the document and a roundtable discussion with stakeholders from the property and development sector. On the website, LinkedIn and twitter the launch was viewed live by approximately 1,600 people and has since been viewed approximately 4,000 times.

BCC online events

- 5.10. Council officers hosted eight online seminars over Microsoft Teams held between 12pm and 2pm each week of the consultation period. Each event focussed on the city themes and included a presentation from officers explaining each theme and some of the key ideas included in the document. The rest of the event was allocated for discussion. The events were publicised via the council's website and Twitter account. The events were open to all, though to control demand, there was a booking requirement.
- 5.11. For more information on the online events programme, as well as summaries of all the issues raised during each event, please refer to Appendix H of the document.

Panel discussions

5.12. A series of five pre-recorded ‘panel discussions’ were produced over the course of the consultation. The aim was to have a city-wide conversation about the future of Birmingham with a variety of voices to capture different views and explore the key themes. It was also to generate excitement and encourage people to find out more and have their say on the plans. The details are set out in the table below:

Panel discussion title:	Date:	Panellists:	Total views:	Link to panel discussion:
The Green Recovery	Thursday 25 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adrian Bland (Urban Land Institute) (chair) • Maria Dunn (Birmingham City Council) • Louise Brook-Smith (Shakespeare Martineau) • Bek Seeley (Lendlease) • Dav Bansall (Glenn Howells) • Ralph Minott (Calthorpe Estates) 	663 views	Our Future City Conversations - The Green Recovery - YouTube
Bringing Nature Back into Cities	Tuesday 2 nd March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Needle (Birmingham Tree People) (chair) • Jacqueline Homan (West Midlands Combined Authority) • Kathryn Moore (Birmingham City University) • Ric Bravery (Wolverhampton City Council) • Simon Slater (Eco Birmingham) • Tariq Sheikh (Gensler) 	683 views	OFCP Webinar - Bringing nature back into cities - YouTube
Celebrating our Unique Identity	Thursday 11 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jez Collins (chair) • Symon Easton (Birmingham City Council) • Jo Capper (Grand Union) • Aftab Rahman (WM Legacy) • Despa Robinson (BE83 Artists) • Dr Deborah Broomfield PhD (Planning Student) 	154 views	OFCP WEBINAR - Celebrating our unique identity - YouTube

Panel discussion title:	Date:	Panellists:	Total views:	Link to panel discussion:
Creating 15 Minute Neighbourhoods	Wednesday 17 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel Hickman (chair) • Hamira Sultan (Birmingham City Council) • Naomi Fisher (ROAM) • Biljana Savic (The Academy of Urbanism) • David Hardman (Bruntswood Scitech) • Maria Vassilakou (Vienna Solutions and Green Party politician) 	827 views	Our Future City Conversations - Creating 15-minute Cities - YouTube
Creating an equitable city	Monday 22 nd March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amahra Spence (MAIA) (chair) • Colette McCann (Birmingham City Council) • Sue Manns (Director of Sue Manns Associate, former RTPi president) • Andre Reid (Kiondo) • Bob Ghosh (K4 Architects) 	225 views	Our Future City Conversations - Creating an Equitable City - YouTube

Ward Member engagement

5.13. The consultation was presented to the council's Planning Committee on the 18th March 2021. Due to COVID-19 lockdown restrictions the meeting was conducted online.

5.14. Ward Members were also invited to four online briefing sessions with planning officers to discuss the document and share considerations for the next stage of the process. These were conducted on the following dates:

- Wednesday 27th January 2021 (2pm to 3pm)
- Thursday 28th January 2021 (10am to 11am)
- Friday 29th January 2021 (2pm to 2pm)
- Monday 1st February 2021 (2pm to 3pm)

5.15. During the presentation, members raised comments on:

- Housing aspirations appear to be 'high end' and do not consider housing needs for people on low incomes or young people looking to buy their first property;
- Tall building focus could be harmful to the city centre skyline;
- Lack of an effective and efficient transport system to get around the city centre;
- Residents need to be able to access their daily needs within a reasonable distance from their homes;
- Ambition was welcomed and builds upon the currently strong economy of Birmingham; and

- Recognise the unique history and heritage of Birmingham and the West Midlands in general.

5.16. Officers worked with the council's Citizen Engagement Team to utilise their People for Public Services network. This included an email that reached 16,000 citizens in Birmingham inviting them to an online session that introduced the Shaping Our City Together document. The presentation was designed with the Citizen Engagement Team to ensure it was accessible and engaging. The session was run in an interactive way to encourage ideas and questions to be shared. The event was attended by 310 individuals. Overall, this generated approximately 300 comments and a summary of these can be found in appendix I.

5.17. Officers led two online interactive workshops with students from Birmingham City University and the University of Birmingham. The workshops included discussion around the following topics:

- What makes a successful city and why
- SWOT analysis of Birmingham
- Discussion around the priorities identified and how the city can begin to address the challenges
- Methods of engagement

Young People Consultation (Birmingham Youth Services)

5.18. To ensure the views of young people were reflected, Youth Services were commissioned to undertake tailored engagement with young people. This included:

- A survey design by young people based on the formal consultation material and directed to their peers;
- Several focus groups with Aspiring Youth and Youth City Board, NEET (not in education or employment) young people, and children aged 10-13 and 14-17;
- On-street interviews with young people in their communities to capture their thoughts on the future of the city; and a
- A design competition based on the Gas Street Basin area of the city.

5.19. Below is a photo taken from the design competition focussed on the Gas Street Basin.



5.20. The tailored online survey covered a range of topics including:

- Provision of community facilities
- Public transportation
- Improvements to the canal network
- Improving inner city neighbourhoods
- Increase amount of and access to green spaces

5.21. The purpose of the survey was to engage with young people in Birmingham, understand what their needs are and how the city should change to accommodate those needs. A Consultation Report on the survey carried out by the Youth City Board can be viewed in Appendix J.

5.22. Approximately 450 people between the age of ten and nineteen were consulted. The online survey was completed by approximately 150 people. The largest demographic/cohort of respondents were the 15-16 age group (31.76% of total) but there were other sizeable proportions of responses from the 13-14 age group (25%) and 10-11 age group (19.59%).

5.23. Key themes from the youth engagement were:

- The city centre should be much safer and more welcoming for young people than it currently is (young people in Birmingham deem the city centre to be very unsafe at present)
- The city centre should provide more amenities and activities that cater exclusively towards young people
- Public transport should be made safer as currently, a lot of young people feel unsafe travelling alone on public transport especially young people from ethnic minority
- The canals need to be made more attractive, accessible, and safe
- The canals should provide more than just connectivity across the city centre (i.e. eateries opening onto the canals, recreational activities on the canals like canoeing and boat rides for tourists)

- There should be more green space or a dedicated, easily accessible 'mini park' in Digbeth.
- Parks and green spaces should provide more facilities to practice various sports (e.g. table tennis, basketball hoops, nets for volleyball and badminton etc.)
- Parks and green spaces should provide more activities for young people/children to participate in.
- Libraries should provide more computers, provide a greater variety of books, and provide more meeting/collaborative spaces.

6. Key findings from the formal consultation

6.1. Approximately 490 written representations were submitted to the consultation. A breakdown of how people responded to the consultation is included below:

- 217 BeHeard questionnaires submitted
- 233 summary leaflet surveys submitted
- 42 emails submitted

6.2. A variety of individual residents, developers, landowners, investors, government organisations, national institutions and local community interest groups responded to the consultation. A list of the organisations who responded is included in Appendix K.

6.3. A breakdown of the consultation's 'reach' is outlined below:

- The launch event was viewed live by approximately 1,600 people and has since been viewed approximately 4,000 times.
- The BCC online events were attended by over 50 people from a variety of backgrounds and representing a wide range of different stakeholders.
- Collectively, the panel discussions have been viewed by approximately 2,500 people.

7. Consultation responses and feedback

7.1. This section provides a summary of the responses received via the consultation channels. The main points raised during the consultation at events and in discussion with partners are summarised below:

Vision

- General support for the vision.
- Heritage and historic buildings should be protected, reused, and enhanced.
- High-quality affordable housing should be delivered with access to green space.
- Vision should address the climate emergency.
- Request for high-quality design and concern regarding impact of proposed tall buildings.

- Concern the vision doesn't cover outer areas of the city.
- The character of different areas of the city should be protected.
- Supports proposals to increase greenery.
- Supportive of improvements to public transport.
- Should address issues with pedestrian and cyclist safety.
- Need to provide appropriate transport, health and education infrastructure to meet the demand of new residential development.

Challenges and Opportunities

- Challenges identified included:
 - Delivery affordable housing
 - Avoid overcrowding
 - Support independent businesses
 - Deliver digital infrastructure
 - Address the climate emergency and lead on climate adaptation
 - Long-term management and maintenance of green spaces
 - Reduce crime and increase safety
 - Address wealth inequalities between areas in the boundary
- Opportunities identified included:
 - Deliver increased green spaces
 - Make use of canal network
 - Rooftop space to deliver green infrastructure
 - Deliver flexible mixed-use development that can respond to consumer patterns
 - Utilise existing buildings to reduce carbon emissions through demolition

City of Centres

- Support for protection of heritage assets.
- Centres should provide accessible and appropriate facilities for residents.
- Improve connections between local centres.
- Support local businesses.
- Seating and green infrastructure should be included in local centres.
- Build on the existing identities of local centres.
- More healthcare facilities are needed.
- Include opportunities for renewable energy and climate adaptation measures prioritise low-density housing.

City of Growth for all

- Concern regarding impact of tall buildings on feel of the city, public realm and environment.
- Improve quality of public realm.
- Deliver improvements to public transport network.
- Avoid gentrification and protect identity of existing centres and communities.

- Ensure new developments and open spaces are fully accessible.
- Support local businesses.
- Deliver employment opportunities for local residents.
- Invest in sport and leisure opportunities.
- Ensure new developments contribute to carbon neutrality.

City of Nature

- Support delivery of green open space and green infrastructure.
- Support repurposing roads to deliver green space.
- Increase lighting in parks and open spaces to improve safety.
- Support proposals to improve and maximise the canal network.
- Question what ongoing management and maintenance of new green space is proposed.
- Council should encourage community involvement to help local residents feel ownership of green spaces.
- Support for delivery of pocket parks in local centres.
- New development should prioritise active travel.
- More robust planning policies required to safeguard green spaces.

City of Layers

- Heritage and historic assets should be protected and enhanced.
- General support for City of Layers theme.
- Council must commit to safeguard the culture of the LGBT+ community.
- More investment in culture and cultural facilities.
- Historic buildings that are vacant should be repurposed.

City of Connections

- Support improvements to sustainable travel modes, public transport, cycling and walking links.
- Key facilities should be in walking distance for all residents.
- Concern cost of public transport is a barrier to use deliver additional electric vehicle charging points.
- Improve walking links from local centres to the city centre and between local centres.
- Concerns regarding pedestrian and cyclist safety.
- Need to ensure sustainable travel options are fully accessible.
- Concern funding to deliver proposals will be challenging to fund.

City of knowledge and Innovation

- Areas such as the Jewellery Quarter and Digbeth are creative and entrepreneurial and should be highlighted as well as the Knowledge Quarter.
- Need to incentivise businesses to relocate to Birmingham.
- Universities have a role in upskilling tech industries.
- Need to offer learning and education for all levels and abilities.

- Utilise existing libraries and community centres for people who don't have internet access.

City Heart

- A strong desire for a greener, safer environment that is welcoming and flexible for events, play, café-culture, more greenspace for relaxing and biodiversity is considered essential ingredients for the future city.
- The need for improved connections across the Queensway A38 to surrounding neighbourhoods and quarters.
- More facilities to make walking and cycling and easier option alongside further improvements to public transport.
- The protection and promotion of the night-time economy of Southside's Gay Village, Chinatown, and Westside's Broad Street.
- A revamp of older shopping areas and underused buildings and sites to provide a wider range of leisure, shopping, business, and residential space.
- A wider range of free events and activities that appeal to a diverse audience and greater emphasis on promoting the tourist economy.
- The importance of protecting the built and cultural heritage. The following Bold Proposals set a framework of opportunities that seek to maximise the potential of the City Heart.

Central East

- As a historic neighbourhood, the birthplace of the city and its rich and far-reaching legacy of industry and making, the quarter should be a celebration and promotion of its heritage buildings, industrious activities and people's stories.
- Quality of streets, squares, canals and parks within the whole area need to be improved – safety and maintenance being key.
- Connecting the opportunities within Digbeth and Bordesley should maximise the potential of surrounding neighbourhoods and their communities – the Knowledge Quarter to the north, Smithfield and Gay Village to the south, and through to the residents and businesses of east Birmingham, Small Heath and Bordesley.
- Capitalising on the benefits of HS2 to bring investment in all forms of commercial and residential development from the small start-ups to major employers at Bordesley Park.
- Curating Digbeth to ensure that its unique characteristics are amplified, with development that is incremental and fine grain at the heart of the Conservation Area, and utilising heritage assets to bring them back to life for new creative and employment uses.
- Recognition that there is a wealth of activity, but there is potential for more people to work and live in Digbeth and Bordesley that could support more sustainable local services and provide footfall to sustain local retail and leisure businesses.
- The importance of Digbeth's Irish community and celebrating and promoting it as an integral part of the quarter's branding and identity. The same also applies to many other communities that live in the area.

Central North

- Promoting more regeneration and residential opportunities within the city's Gun Quarter.
- Improving pedestrian and cycle routes across and around the Ring Road and along the canals to create attractive and safe connections between quarters and neighbourhoods.
- Making sure that the development opportunities around HS2 at Curzon Street maximise the potential of the location.
- Newtown and Duddeston estates needing a more attractive, safe, and useable network of green spaces with clearer defined purpose and improved facilities.
- Encourage and promote the continuing growth of the Birmingham Knowledge Quarter with a clustering of hi-tech/digital industries and businesses by identifying space to expand into Nechells.
- Support the growth of the universities, colleges and schools throughout the area, promoting the links to the jobs and growth of the tech, science and innovation companies within the Birmingham Knowledge Quarter.
- Maximise the untapped potential of the Birmingham-Fazeley and Digbeth Branch canals by improving access and quality of environment and promoting major canal-side redevelopment opportunities to create active destinations.
- The need to improve local shopping facilities and choice within more attractive centres as a focus for communities in Newtown and Bloomsbury.
- Remodel Jennens Road and James Watt Queensway to remove the dominance of vehicles and provide greener corridors with major interventions to provide safer and wider pedestrian and cycle priority across the roads to transform access to the Aston Triangle.

Central South

- The need to provide for identified housing needs including affordable housing for families and young professionals.
- Emphasis on the need to provide decent housing, built to the highest low-carbon standards, and housing densities that are maximised around key transport hub locations such as local railway stations.
- Support for the idea of a city of smaller centres in liveable neighbourhoods, where existing and new residential development have access to the key goods and services they need within 15 minutes' walk, new and improved civic and green spaces.
- Support that we should reduce car dependency alongside providing a range of quality public transport services and facilities as an alternative. This included the potential for an extension of the Metro down Pershore and Hagley Roads, the provision of quality cycleways segregated from the main highway, and the remodelling of main roads which currently act as a barrier separating communities.
- The need to improve access to and facilities at Five Ways railway station and support for opening a new station for Balsall Heath on the Camp Hill Line.
- We should be celebrating the cultural and historic fabric of the local area including its many visitor attractions.
- Maximising the use of the Worcester & Birmingham canal and canal-side development space to provide walking and cycling routes and add to the tourist and leisure offer.

- A key focus should be on improving access to the River Rea from Digbeth to Cannon Hill Park, managing flood risk and increasing biodiversity through increased naturalisation of the river environment.
- Highgate Park was highlighted as a key opportunity for major improvement with suggestions that there is a need for appropriate community and additional sports facilities to attract more visitors to the park.

Central West

- Supporting the role of the Jewellery Quarter as a mix of residential and industrial uses within a preserved historic urban form, with a focus on innovative and creative industries.
- Identifying support for those areas that have had little investment and for pockets of deprivation, with opportunities to create more and affordable homes and accessible jobs.
- Support for a transformation of the Hockley Flyover/Circus area to make it greener and more pedestrian friendly and encourage redevelopment in the surrounding area; the William Mitchell mural should be preserved as part of this.
- More attractive walking and cycling routes along the area's canal towpaths, as well as increasing greenery, biodiversity and recreational opportunities along the canals.
- The need to transform pedestrian and cycle connectivity throughout the area, particularly into the City Heart at Great Charles Street and across the Middle Ring Road and Sandpits.
- Repurposing and reconfiguring underutilised green and open spaces, particularly those in the Ladywood and Spring Hill post-war housing estates.
- Provision of affordable workspaces in the Jewellery Quarter.
- Opportunities for community orchards, allotments and community food growing initiatives.

7.2. Representations received by email and BeHeard have been summarised in a table contained in Appendix L of this report.

- 7.3. The summary leaflet survey was completed 233 times. Key findings from the survey include:
- 80% of respondents agreed with the central quarters and neighbourhoods identified.
 - When asked what four words they would use to describe their hopes for Birmingham's future, the following four words were submitted the most:
 - Green
 - Safe
 - Clean
 - Vibrant
 - When asked what main opportunities the council should prioritise the following three opportunities were identified/submitted the most:
 - Green space
 - Transport
 - Housing
 - When asked what main challenges their community faces the following three challenges were identified/submitted the most:

- Transport
- Green spaces
- Housing
- Crime

7.4. The Central Birmingham Framework’s key messaging, and Bold Proposals have been directly influenced by the feedback received. The importance of green spaces, better transport links, and the need for more homes, particularly those that are affordable for all. A summary of the comments received, and key themes are used directly in the framework as introductions to each of the five Central Areas and linking them to the Bold Proposals for each area.

8. Next steps

The ‘Shaping Our City Together’ consultation generated a large turnout from the people of Birmingham and stakeholders looking to invest in its future. As traditional in person methods were not possible due to a nationwide lockdown, the reliance upon digital platforms for engagement and publicity of the consultation proved more appealing for many people, who normally may not have been able to attend physical meetings due to time or locational constraints. Going forward, the council will continue to embrace digital forms of engagement as a main method of consulting with individuals and stakeholders on the Our Future City: Draft Central Birmingham Framework 2040.

Appendix 3A – Example email to community organisations

Dear Sir / Madam

I’m contacting you from the planning team at Birmingham City Council to see if you would be interested in responding to a current consultation we have on the future of central Birmingham and if there was any way you could support us with reaching our communities on this engagement.

On Tuesday 26th January 2021 the Our Future City Plan (OFCP): Central Birmingham 2040 ‘Shaping Our City Together,’ engagement was launched to kickstart the exciting conversation on the future development of Central Birmingham over the next 20 years.

The details and engagement document are available at: [Our Future City Plan Website](#)

What is the Shaping Our City Together Document?

We are producing a document for central Birmingham that will provide the blueprint for its future and we need your help to shape this strategy.

We want to create a vibrant city with a mix of activities including retail, offices, leisure, education, tourism, civic and community functions. With equal opportunities for all including access to jobs and high-quality homes. We all need to work together on a shared vision and agreed set of actions to achieve this.

The Shaping our City Together document has been produced to help start a conversation around the future of Central Birmingham.

I've attached a Consultation Summary document that provides a quick overview of the Shaping our City Together document.

Why should local groups get involved?

The publication of this document is the beginning of a continuous process of engagement to ensure all communities have an opportunity to have their say and influence the 'Our Future City Plan'.

As key agencies working in our city you will have an important role in identifying the key issues, opportunities and shaping the future direction for Central Birmingham. We would welcome your views on the Shaping our City Together document and encourage you to have your say.

How people can get involved?

People can get involved in the public engagement from the 26th January until the 26th March by:

- Heading to <https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/our-future-city-plan-shaping-our-city-together> and completing the online survey;
- Sending their on comments the Shaping our City Together document to CityCentreDevelopmentPlanning@birmingham.gov.uk;
- Attending one of the online events which will be advertised on the website with further meetings set up and publicised throughout the consultation period.

How you can support us with reaching our communities?

Your local knowledge and advice are sought on how to best engage with local community groups. We are asking for your support in reaching our communities in the following ways:

- Sharing an email promoting the consultation with your networks;
- Sharing the attached Consultation Summary and associated survey with your network <https://form.typeform.com/to/YNZp6kYK>
- Sharing the Birmingham City Council social media posts promoting the engagement;
- Hosting your own events / meetings / conversations with materials supplied by the Council and provide feedback on the document;
- Arranging a meeting for City Council officers to attend and discuss the document;
- Sharing your ideas for how we can ensure everyone is able to be part of this conversation.

On the website there is an expression of interest form to encourage interested stakeholders to engage fully with us. If you are happy to support with the engagement please complete and return the attached form to provide us with details on how your organisation can get involved. Please share this with as many interested parties as possible, as we would particularly welcome suggestions from local residents and organisations on how to shape change in central Birmingham.

This is the start of discussing how we want our future city to look and work. It's important you give us your views so we can reflect the hopes of all our communities and shape our city together. Please get in contact with us if you would like to support the engagement or if you have any questions.

Many Thanks

Appendix 3B – Expression of interest form and list of organisations who submitted a form



Our Future City Plan – Central Birmingham 2040

Shaping our City Together – expression of interest to support the engagement.

We would like your support in engaging with our communities and would welcome any community group or organisation that would like partner with us on the engagement to provide their details.

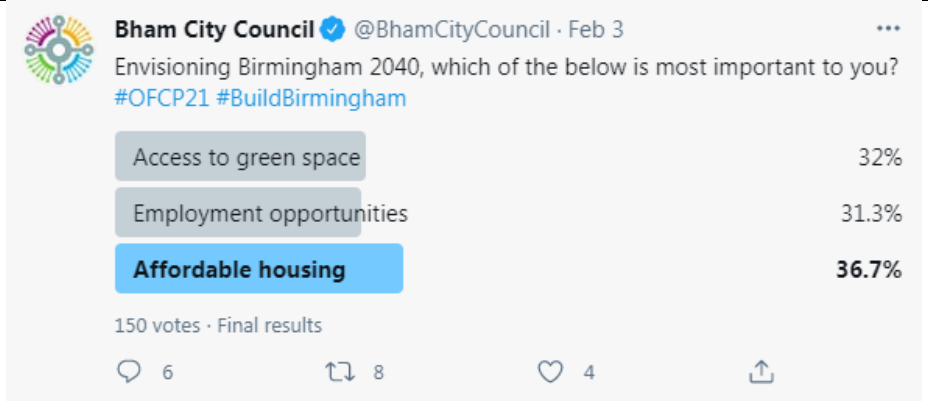

Community group / organisation name:
Community group / organisation purpose:
Geographical Area Served:
Are there any specific issues or topics you would like to focus on?
How could you support the engagement? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circulate engagement materials via your network <input type="checkbox"/>• Share engagement materials on social media <input type="checkbox"/>• Host your own events / meetings with materials supplied by the Council and provide feedback on the consultation <input type="checkbox"/>• Arrange a meeting for City Council officers to attend and discuss the plan <input type="checkbox"/>
Community group / organisation contact details:
Are you aware of other groups and organisations that we should engage with? If yes, please provide details.

Community group / organisation name:
Please return to: CityCentreDevelopmentPlanning@birmingham.gov.uk

The following organisations responded to the expression of interest request:

- Balsall Heath is Our Planet
- Birmingham Heritage Forum
- Birmingham Tree People
- Compass Support
- Convention Quarter Residents Alliance
- Friends of Handsworth Park
- Fruit and Nut Village
- Mott McDonald
- Gorilla Drones
- Holloway Hall Community Association
- Network Rail
- Recognise Black Heritage and Culture
- University of Birmingham School

Appendix 3C – Findings from council Twitter polls

<p>Vision & Principles</p>	 <p>Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Feb 3</p> <p>Envisioning Birmingham 2040, which of the below is most important to you? #OFCP21 #BuildBirmingham</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Access to green space</td> <td>32%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Employment opportunities</td> <td>31.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Affordable housing</td> <td>36.7%</td> </tr> </table> <p>150 votes · Final results</p> <p>6 replies · 8 retweets · 4 likes</p>	Access to green space	32%	Employment opportunities	31.3%	Affordable housing	36.7%
Access to green space	32%						
Employment opportunities	31.3%						
Affordable housing	36.7%						
<p>City of Centres</p>	 <p>Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Feb 11</p> <p>Which of the below City of Centres objectives is most important to you for Birmingham 2040?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improved, better-connected public transport ◆ Being able to meet daily needs within walking/cycling distance ◆ More things to do and see around the city <p>#OFCP21 #CityofCentres</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Improved public transport</td> <td>39.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Walking/cycling routes</td> <td>32.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More things to do/see</td> <td>28.8%</td> </tr> </table> <p>215 votes · Final results</p> <p>12 replies · 7 retweets · 4 likes</p>	Improved public transport	39.1%	Walking/cycling routes	32.1%	More things to do/see	28.8%
Improved public transport	39.1%						
Walking/cycling routes	32.1%						
More things to do/see	28.8%						

Vision & Principles

Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Feb 3

Envisioning Birmingham 2040, which of the below is most important to you?
[#OFCP21](#) [#BuildBirmingham](#)

Access to green space	32%
Employment opportunities	31.3%
Affordable housing	36.7%

150 votes · Final results

6 8 4

City of Nature

Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Feb 19

Thinking ahead to Central Birmingham 2040, which green target is most important to you?
 To find out more and have your say visit:
birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/our-f...
[#OFCP2021](#) [#BuildBirmingham](#) [#CityofGrowthforAll](#)

More green, open spaces	46%
More leisure spaces	14.3%
Renewable energy	27%
Biodiverse landscapes	12.7%

63 votes · Final results

1 3 2

Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Feb 27

Which of the following is most important to you?

Help us build a better [#Birmingham](#) by voting below and completing the Our Future City Plan survey here: birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/our-f...

[#OFCP21](#) [#BuildBirmingham](#) [#CityofNature](#)

Increasing biodiversity	18%
Urban farming opportunity	9.3%
More green and open space	72.7%

161 votes · Final results

Vision & Principles



Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Feb 3

Envisioning Birmingham 2040, which of the below is most important to you?
#OFCP21 #BuildBirmingham

Access to green space	32%
Employment opportunities	31.3%
Affordable housing	36.7%

150 votes · Final results

6 8 4

City of Connections



Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Mar 11

Which of these transport aims would benefit you most?

With two weeks left to have your say on the formal consultation, make sure you complete the survey below:

birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/our-f...

#OFCP21 #BuildBirmingham #CityofConnections

More safe walking routes	30.2%
More bus/train routes	28.5%
E-scooters / cycle hire	3.9%
Attractive cycling routes	37.4%

305 votes · Final results

8 10 4

Appendix 3D - BeHeard Questionnaire questions

Discounting questions regarding personal information

- 1) Do you agree with the central quarters and the neighbourhoods identified? If not please provide your comments?
- 2) Does our draft vision fit with your vision for Central Birmingham? If not, why not?
- 3) Do you think we have identified all of the key challenges and opportunities for the Central Birmingham area over the next 20 years? If not, please provide your comments
- 4) Have we identified all the principles that should shape our future city?
- 5) Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Centres support better connected, sustainable and thriving neighbourhoods? How would you improve this City Theme?
- 6) Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Growth for All support growth, investment and development for all of our communities? How would you improve this City Theme?
- 7) Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Nature support green, healthy and active communities? How would you improve this City Theme?
- 8) Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Layers support the promotion of our unique identity diverse cultures and history in our City? How would you improve this City Theme?
- 9) Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Connections support people-centred places and active travel within neighbourhoods? How would you improve this City Theme?
- 10) Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Knowledge, Technology and Innovation support a diverse set of innovative, digital and knowledge centres supporting the growth of our city and offering opportunities to our young people? How would you improve this City Theme?
- 11) The document includes a number of images to help bring the ideas to life. Do you have any comments on the images that should be included in the draft OFCP: Central Birmingham 2040?
- 12) Do you have any pictures of your local area you would like to share? if yes, please attach below.
- 13) Please provide your comments for the following image using the below text box - Birmingham Greenway



14) Please provide your comments for the following image using the below text box - Gas Street Basin



15) Please provide your comments for the following image using the below text box - Highgate Park



16) Please provide your comments for the following image using the below text box - Hockley Flyover



- 17) Do you have any ideas/proposals that you want us to consider? If you need to send further information please send to citycentredevelopmentplanning@birmingham.gov.uk
- 18) Do you feel that the information provided has enabled you to make an informed comment on the proposals? Answer 'Yes', 'No' or 'Don't Know'
- 19) Any further comments
- 20) Do you have any further comments to make?

Appendix 3E - Summary leaflet survey questions

What are the main challenges your community faces?

What are the main opportunities that we should prioritise?

Green, Equitable, Liveable and Distinctive are the four words we feel capture what our city should be in the future. What four words would you use to describe your hopes for Birmingham's future?

Do you have any other comments you wish to make on Shaping our City Together?

How did you hear about the Shaping our City Together engagement?

Appendix 3F – Web links to city theme videos

Overall Vision -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJkNqk1IV38&ab_channel=BirminghamCityCouncil

City of Centres -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZumJnIkTT90&ab_channel=BirminghamCityCouncil

City of Layers -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpmAmrBgFFI&ab_channel=BirminghamCityCouncil

City of Connections -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiP0D9_uhFI&ab_channel=BirminghamCityCouncil

City of Growth for All -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z57OVQMWmsc&ab_channel=BirminghamCityCouncil

City of Nature -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLiXWx4rPrY&ab_channel=BirminghamCityCouncil

City of Knowledge and Innovation -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plkUvw2IZO4&ab_channel=BirminghamCityCouncil

Appendix 3G – Links to media coverage

The Birmingham Mail – [Stunning futuristic images article](#)

Insider Media Ltd - [First step to transform city centre article](#)

The Business Desk - [20 year vision for Birmingham article](#)

RTPI Tripwire – [Tripwire Winter 21](#)

Appendix 3H - Summary of feedback received at council online events

Title of online event:	Date and time:	Summary of feedback:
Overview of OFCP: Central Birmingham, Shaping Our City Together document	Wednesday 3 rd February, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy needs of any current and future development must be considered in the plan. • The plan needs to consider the envisaged take up of electric vehicles over its term (charging infrastructure). • The plan should provide more focus on the importance of Birmingham’s heritage assets. • The plan should show how diversity of housing typology is going to change over the plan period. • Support for partnership working and action, citing Brindley Place as a successful example of this. • The CGI aspirations indicate a favourable approach to delivering much needed green infrastructure.
Vision and Principles	Tuesday 9 th February, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to protect the vitality of small centres and close-knit communities so they are able to grow and flourish and are not displaced by developments. • Ensure the plan provides a framework for relationships between different demographics to be enhanced, by supporting the development of the city centre’s cultural and leisure offer and facilitating social interaction. • Green infrastructure should be flexible in its use and be able to accommodate a multitude of functions (i.e. host events). • Important to provide high-quality open space within new development as social/community aspect of public open space is likely to be more valued post-covid. • The pan can be used to support statutory consultees seeking Government funding for projects identified in the plan.

Title of online event:	Date and time:	Summary of feedback:
City of Centres	Thursday 18 th February, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater clarity is needed on how the ‘city of centres’ theme applies to Birmingham City Centre itself. • Opportunities to downgrade and/or remove the ring roads around the city centre will require careful consideration and the plan should be consistent with aims of other strategies currently in place and being prepared (Clear Air Zone and Birmingham Transport Plan). • Asks if an additional levy/source of funding beyond traditional methods would be required to maintain the aspirational increase of public green spaces? • Research is required to understand the health of existing centres and whether new centres need to be supported via masterplans. • Community gardening and food growing should be supported. • Could the provision of ‘off-grid’ renewable energy sources be incorporated into green spaces?
City of Growth for all	Friday 26 th February, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the change in calculation of the housing need methodology, there is going to be need for higher numbers in housing need and the plan will need to be in a position to respond to that. • Impact of Covid19 – the city centre should meet the needs of today and of the future. • Concerning to see empty retail and office spaces. Need a holistic and flexible approach to supporting high streets. • Support the aims and objectives of the plan to ensure outer areas within the plan boundary benefit from city centre growth. • High quality design is important to attract people to live in the city centre. • Important to create safe and secure places to attract businesses and people. • Need to work with the West Midlands Combined Authority to bid for funding to invest in bringing brownfield sites forward for redevelopment.

Title of online event:	Date and time:	Summary of feedback:
City of Nature	Thursday 4 th March, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be the provision of colour-blind friendly maps in the final document. • The provision of any new cycleways needs to be built into the wider street design and not added to the periphery of roads. • Importance of new green spaces being safe to attract people to use them. • Importance of creating a green network that links new and existing green spaces. • Include short-term interventions and projects that can be delivered within the next five years. • Could new or existing green spaces look to help support recognised endangered species? • Green spaces should be prioritised in the most deprived neighbourhoods that are underserved by green space. • Central ‘city park’ proposal should be included in the next plan as it would likely be supported by the public. • Suggests parks and green spaces should accommodate allotments and space for local community to grow food. • The plan should promote and support the Canal & River Trust’s ‘urban orchard’ strategy. • Opportunities to invest and improve the canal network in the city are very important and some measures in the forthcoming Environment Bill will help support this. • New buildings should respond positively to the areas around them, so the ‘city of nature’ concepts need to apply to the built form as well. • Elevated green space such as roof terraces and gardens are a good way of increasing green infrastructure provision in areas where open space is limited. • There are problems with ‘land banking’ in Lozells where empty sites not being developed. How can we ensure these sites come forward for development and deliver green space on site? • Larger green space provision can be much more adaptable, being able to host a multitude of different events (e.g. concerts, festivals).

Title of online event:	Date and time:	Summary of feedback:
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan should support or facilitate the creation of ‘grassroots’ projects such as street adoption and other community stewardship initiatives. • Maximise the canals.
City of Layers	Wednesday 10 th March, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to ensure areas such as Digbeth aren’t gentrified. • Suggest designing public open spaces so they can facilitate ‘street sport’ activities. • Shops in the city core do not reflect the many cultures present in Birmingham, can the BIDs assist in bringing more independent, culturally specific businesses into the core area? • Cultural festivals need to be better represented in the city, support the return of Birmingham Carnivals. • Commonwealth Games legacy will be very important and presents a good opportunity to collaborate. • Develop a ‘digital visitor centre’ to promote the city. • Celebrate the city’s diversity through its branding. • Building trust in communities is vital to ensure that development ‘buy in’ from communities happens and they are able to take ownership of its implementation. • Support and promote the culture in Soho Road/Handsworth area more, as it currently feels cut off. • The different cultural areas/neighbourhoods in the city need to be better integrated.

Title of online event:	Date and time:	Summary of feedback:
City of Connections	Wednesday 17 th March, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of creating safer walking routes by designing out ‘hiding places’ and preventing ‘curb-crawling’ along streets. • The city needs to deliver a 24/7 public transportation service to sustain a strong night-time economy. • Restoring public confidence in public transportation should be a priority after Covid-19. • To lead to a modal shift, a dedicated city-wide cycle network should be delivered rather than creating piecemeal cycle lanes on major routes shared with vehicles. • Wayfinding infrastructure and signage for cyclists should be improved particularly on main city centre radial routes. • Sustainable travel modes need to be affordable to remove barriers.
City of Knowledge and Innovation	Wednesday 24 th March, 12:00 – 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan should consider the proposals in Central Government’s ‘Skills to Jobs’ White Paper. Potential opportunity to find new funding routes. • Digital skills need strong promotion towards younger generations to inspire more people to take up careers in this field. • Good placemaking principles should create spaces where new and emerging technologies can be experimented with. • The city centre’s reduced dependency on retail and shopping means more possibilities are available to transform the area into a more ‘experiential’ space using digital technology. • Important to understand the new digital/IT economies Birmingham is best placed to support. • Strong links should be sustained and enhanced between educational institutions and the digital industry sector.

Appendix 3I – People for Public Services Responses

Summary of points raised during the event which was attended by 310 individuals and that generated approximately 300 comments.

City of Centres

- Agree with the neighbourhood quarters and central quarters identified
- Support for the ideas behind City of Centres
- Suggestion that there is a need to work collaboratively with all the other neighbourhoods identified and bring the different neighbourhoods together
- Request for more detail on the mix of businesses, shops etc and if there be family accommodation with supporting services e.g. doctors and schools.
- Suggestion that the pandemic has created a new localism in cities and that the plan should capitalise on this as it could cut transport demands, diversify the economy, and make it easier to live in the city
- Support for local markets and pop-up street food events

City of Growth for all

- Several individuals questioned how we are going to make the homes affordable for both sale and rented. This was a key issue raised by a lot of the attendees
- Suggestion that the Council builds more affordable housing
- Request that we expand the tourism, retail and entertainment sector/opportunities into the communities on the other side of the inner-ring road
- Questioned what we are doing to bring larger corporations to the city
- Several statements from people requesting that the constant rebuilding of Birmingham should stop
- Questioned what is being done to support homeless people in the city
- Questioned if the Council is researching the effect on the occupancy of office blocks post Covid, stating that this will impact of the amount of people visiting and living in the centre
- Concerns raised around what will happen to the empty shops and office space
- Several requests that the needs of older people are considered when planning for the city
- Suggestion that the retail offer in the city centre needs to be more mixed as there are not enough affordable shops

City of Nature

- Support for more green infrastructure
- Questioned if measures such as the CAZ will go further as other areas of the city suffer air pollution
- Questioned if the introduction of Bham City Centre as a National Forest will change the visual and practical look of the wider city centre
- Questioned how proposing areas for redevelopment, knocking down and rebuilding – fits with a zero-carbon agenda.

- Questioned what difference declaring a climate change emergency has made
- Several points raised about the safety of green spaces, especially children's play areas
- Questioned if the strategy will involve encouraging green building technologies
- Argued that the strategy of growth is at odds with the city of nature theme
- Argued that the Council will not plan spaces for new parks, as it reduces income from Council tax
- Concerns that the green spaces in residential areas are being ruined by cars parked on verges
- Concerns over the removal of established trees and replacement with saplings
- Request for more support for community groups taking over the maintenance of parks

City of Layers

- Suggestions that we need to get better at marketing Birmingham
- Several concerns raised over the height of city centre buildings and a request for a lower-rise vision for the future
- Several individuals expressed support for the protection of the city's heritage
- Concerns about the level of arts provision in the city
- Support for the city hosting the Commonwealth Games
- Support for promoting heritage and green spaces for tourism
- Suggestion we need a good tourism office to co-ordinate as this is currently lacking
- Concerns raised over the impact of covid on theatre and live music and requests that the arts are supported more
- Suggestion we work with the football clubs to incorporate their ideas

City of Connections

- Lots of support for increased public transport routes – tram lines and new train stations
- Several requests for affordable public transport, including statements that it should be further subsidised or free to encourage people out of their cars
- Several statements that poor bus journeys and service, are putting people off using public transport
- Criticism of the public transport network for people with disabilities
- Concerns that the changes to the city centre road network to prioritise public transport are making the area un-car friendly and adding time to journeys
- Statement that the lack of car parking for new developments in the city centre are putting people off visiting
- Questioned what specific attention is being given to improved pedestrian routes and cycle routes
- Request that the city centre is made accessible for all
- Suggestion that the Clean Air Zone boundary is going to create a substantial demarcation between areas in terms of accessibility, road space usage, property and land value etc.

City of Knowledge and Innovation

- Support for new industry, especially high-tech
- Questioned what support was being offered to start-ups, especially for young entrepreneurs
- Suggested vacant shops should be offered to start-ups
- Suggestion that the priority should be incentivising small business
- Suggested a health centre around the Children's hospital
- Questioned what opportunities there are for local supply chains
- Criticism that employment land and skilled jobs in industry haven't been protected
- Suggestion we develop infrastructure "layers" across the City e.g., 5G and low carbon energy provision using our canals for energy provision via heat exchange
- Concerns raised around digital inclusion
- Suggestion of free Wi-Fi as part of new public realm

Other

- General support and excitement over the plans
- Support for the city moves overall
- Recognition that Birmingham has improved over the years
- Concerns that the images don't feature any wheelchair users
- Questioned what input disabled people have had into the process
- Questioned what we achieved with the Big City Plan
- Questioned why the city centre gets all the investment
- Questioned if other public sector bodies have been involved in the process
- Statement that we are planning in a very uncertain period and questioned if its possible to plan in a situation where shopping, employment and the council's future tax base are in doubt
- Questioned how we are funding projects without EU money
- Request to attend ward forums to talk to people about the plans
- Several statement that the City Centre does not feel safe and questioning what is being done to tackle this
- Request that we ensure the team working on the plans represents the diversity of the city
- Suggestion that we need to look at other cities for role models
- Concerns about the levels of litter and fly tipping
- Concerns over how deliverable the plan is
- Concerns that the need for new housing is resulting in bad planning decisions
- Request to work with Adults and Communities Social Care team to discuss the pan with their contacts
- Request we engage with schools and young people on the plans
- Questioned how new spaces will be maintained
- Questioned how those without internet access will be able to see and comment on the plans

Central Birmingham Redevelopment

Online Consultation Responses

April 2021



Report by:

Birmingham Youth Service Youth City Board

FOREWORD

This report is dedicated to Safaa Tabrez, Malika Habib, Hardik Singh, Victor Agbontean, Amirah Havey-Head, Sumaya Siad, Jack Hall the young people that played a pivotal role in supporting the Youth City Board, by leading on this consultation to ensure the voices of young people were heard.

This report presents the outcomes of the survey carried out by the Youth City Board on the Central Birmingham Redevelopment.

This survey was conducted in April/May 2021 and questions were designed by the young people based on what they felt their peers needed to ask to get the best selection of findings and feedback. They felt it was important to explore transport, wellbeing and opportunities to develop pathways to careers.

Questions the group believed were important centred around what specific spaces, resources, or programmes young people would like to see in Central Birmingham. Questions like these can assist massively in the considerations for development by revealing to us what specific sites and centres young people are interested in, and what they need.

The Youth City Board recognises how young people's views are a valuable asset to the Redevelopment of Central Birmingham. Including young people in the decision making and design process brings tremendous benefits to the city as a whole. Young people will feel valued in their city and have a sense of belonging and ownership if they are part of the process and see their ideas developed.

Furthermore, the Youth City Board also keeps young people's mental and physical health central to their work. We see that a great deal of young people are suffering physically and mentally. Meaning, we will need to try our best to positively impact young people's mental and physical health by designing a city that will support good physical and mental health through improving facilities, opportunities and services via informed redevelopment of our city.

We hope this report, along with the other youth consultation elements will influence the design and allocation of resources during Central Birmingham Redevelopment.

By: Hardik Singh

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METHODOLOGY

This report outlines the results and findings of the 'Central Birmingham Redevelopment Consultation. An online survey was conducted. A total of 15 questions were asked, 3 related to personal data, 11 were about Birmingham and 1 asked for any other comments.

Statistical analysis was conducted on the quantitative data. Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

SUMMARY

The 'Creating spaces and opportunities for young people across central Birmingham' consultation was held online via Survey Monkey during April/May 2021. The purpose of the survey was to engage with young people in Birmingham to find out about what they need in their city to help them grow and develop personally, socially and in their transition to the working world. To note as well as this survey, consultations were conducted using street and youth centre video interviews, zoom discussions, and art design. Using all of the mediums approx. 450 young people aged 10 to 19 have been consulted, in addition Birmingham Youth City Board (YCB) (35 YP) has explored this planning project and it will remain on their agenda. YCB City Redevelopment Theme Group (10 YP), born out of this project, will remain in place and continue to engage with the wider voice when and where necessary across the city where it is being redevelopment.

151 young people completed the online consultation. This consisted of young people from all year groups but the most popular age group being 15 to 16 which together made up 32% of survey respondents, 80% of respondents were female however young men feature higher in the other forms of consultation carried out as part of the project.

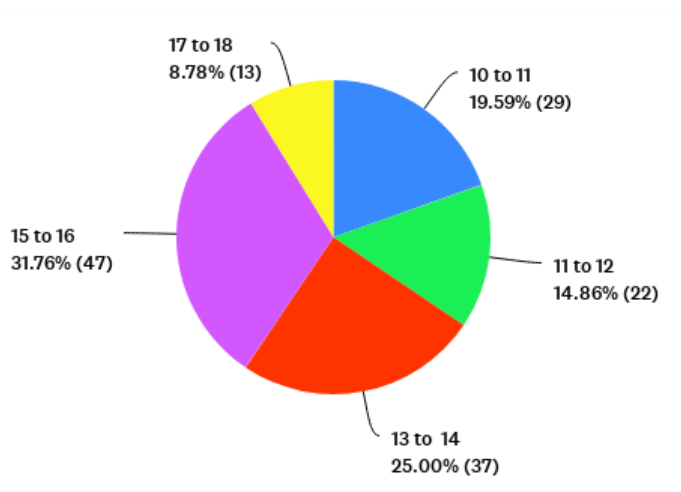
FINDINGS

The feedback for each question asked within the consultation is detailed below and grouped into the following themes (and noted in the summary);

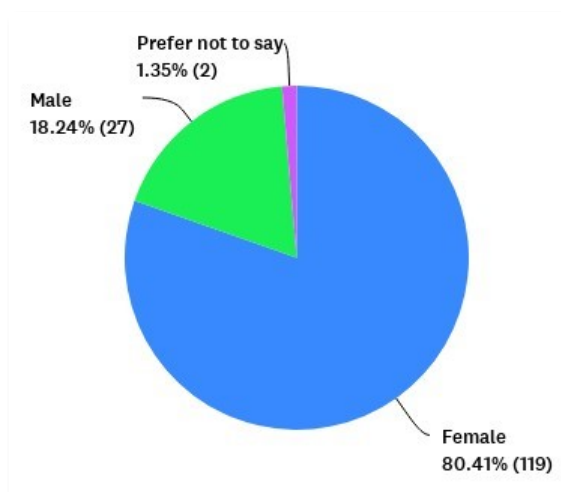
- Personal Data
 - About Birmingham
 - Transport.

PERSONAL DATA

Question 1: What age are you?



Question 2: What is your gender?



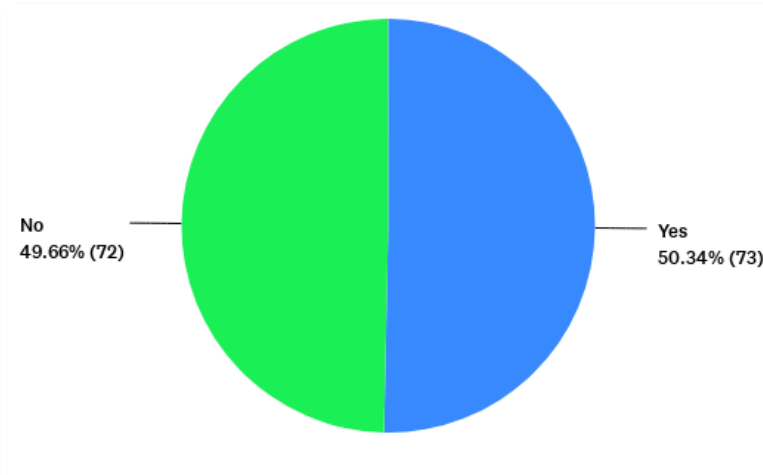
Question 3: What is the first part of your postcode?

Postcodes	Total Young people	Postcodes	Total Young people
Unknown	9	B24	1
B6	3	B29	1
B7	2	B31	2
B9	1	B35	1
B11	1	B38	2
B13	1	B42	1
B14	38	B43	1
B16	1	B45	2
B18	1	B70	1
B19	8	WS1	3
B20	41		

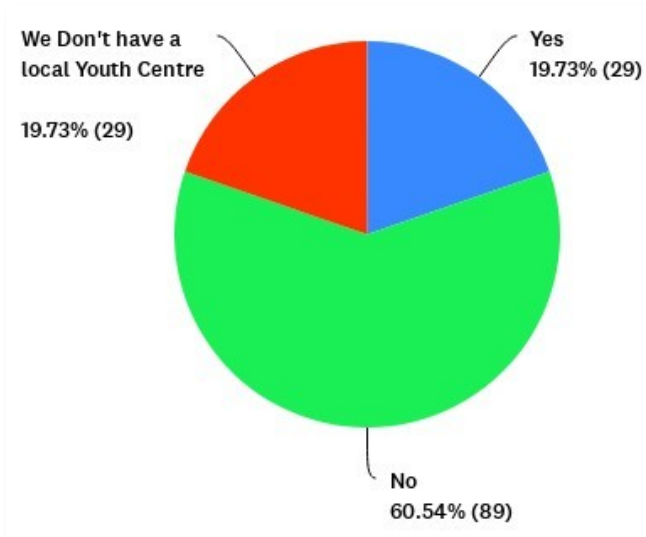
B21	24		
B23	3		

ABOUT CENTRAL BIRMINGHAM

Question 4: Are there enough places to go and spaces to visit in your community?



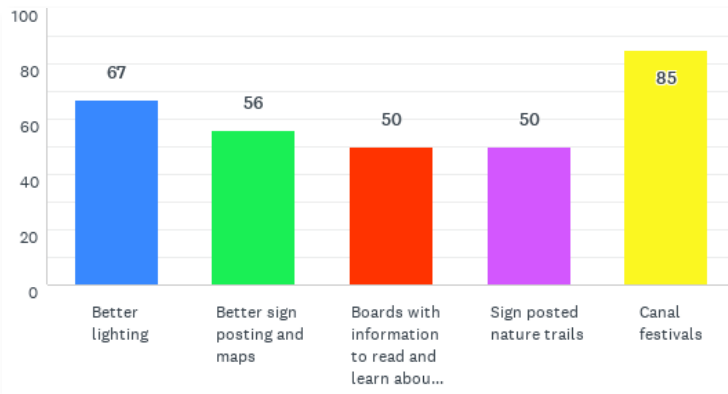
Question 5: Have you ever visited your local youth centre?



Centres listed in the comments box that young people had attended were:

The Lighthouse Young Peoples Centre
The Factory Young Peoples Centre
Concord Youth Centre
Maypole Youth Centre
Hawksley Youth Centre
Handsworth Leisure Centre

Question 6: How could we improve Canals in Birmingham so young people would want to visit them



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Better lighting (1)	44.37% 67
Better sign posting and maps (2)	37.09% 56
Boards with information to read and learn about the canals (3)	33.11% 50
Sign posted nature trails (4)	33.11% 50
Canal festivals (5)	56.29% 85
Total Respondents: 151	
BASIC STATISTICS	
Minimum 1.00	Maximum 5.00
Median 3.00	Mean 3.10
Standard Deviation 1.52	

The following comments were left in the feedback box:

“Parks” *“Nice floral decoration”* *“Parks and swimming centres”*

“More events and stuff” *“Reduce crime rate”* *“Cleaner water”* *“Concerts”*

“Being educational” *“Areas to sit and eat”* *“Boat rides in the canals”*

“Activity’s” *“Make the canals look beautiful”* *“Fun activities and like food stalls”*

“Activities, festivals, activity area such as skate parks and boat riding and bike riding”

“Advertising via social media platforms, perhaps quick advertisements or posts etc”

“Making it prettier and well kept” *“Make the canals more attractive”*

“So children can be happy about canals” *“Clean it”* *“Canoeing”* *“RIDES”*

“A railing or fence so people are not worried about falling in and a fishing or duck or fish one section”

“Have like swimming place in the canal” *“Get free rides organised”*

“Things to do at the canals”

“ARE THERE SITTING PLACES ON THE SIDES OF CANALS OR FREE WIFI WHERE STUDENTS OR FAMILIES COULD SIT DOWN”

Question 7: How can parks and green spaces be improved for young people

SAFETY:

Cameras, Parks and family fun areas less dangerous, Give the safety of younger youths.
Reduce crime and make a more enjoyable place, Tackle crime in the area so people feel safer
Cleaner and more security, More clean and safe, More lighting in dark areas

ACTIVITIES:

Activity where schools plant something local?, More events, More fun activities, Fun fairs more often
THERE SHOULD BE MORE SWINGS, Swings and run tracks
More equipment to play with, Wifi, have food stands, More fun activities
More swings there's literally none, More enjoyable and fun activities, improving safety of younger youths
More activities to do, Free teen bike rides and teen youth hang out clubs
Add a playground, More equipment for kids to use to play and like an adult area maybe
More rides, If there was a little bit of sand
Exercise machines or equipment, canals/boats, centres in the park like mental health ones so you
Things like Ping Pong tables equipped with ping pong bats and balls, Badminton nets, Volleyball nets and basketball hoops.
Have more apparatus, More rides for kids, Better outdoor playgrounds, Adding more equipment
More Add things like skate park's or More things in its activities available for young people.
Games, Rent a bike for the day, By making it more greener
Family activity, Skate parks, open areas and pathways for bikes and scooters, cafes located near
Put apparatus out, Skate parks, more seating areas, more rides for children to play on as well as adults.
Be more fun and engaging and do things young people like add basketball court, fresh grass, insect repellent too
More fun activities, More apparatus?
More activities
Have skating places
Add stations where kids can look at facts and play stuff.
More activities held there
More advanced or better parks, like better play areas, for example zip wires, and add some activities in the big green areas
Skate park and more trees
Swim
Get event and fares put on like what my dad tells me about
More areas to hang out like more pitches and apparatus and things. Picnic areas and different sporting grounds other than football and basketball.
Gym sets and picnic areas
More outdoor activities in place for young people to get involved in
Skate parks, Football pitches, better lighting, youth workers
More things to play with
Music, assistants
More games
Add more stuff in the parks the Walker park should have a slide and more swings and have abouncy part to it
More ball cages in open spaces
Climbing Frame
Playgrounds
More parks better ball cage and a lot of grass

Make a huge zip line

They can add more equipment to use at the parks and football goals for the grass.

Have free to use football and basketball pitches

Festivals and pizza areas at parks

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ENVIRONMENT :

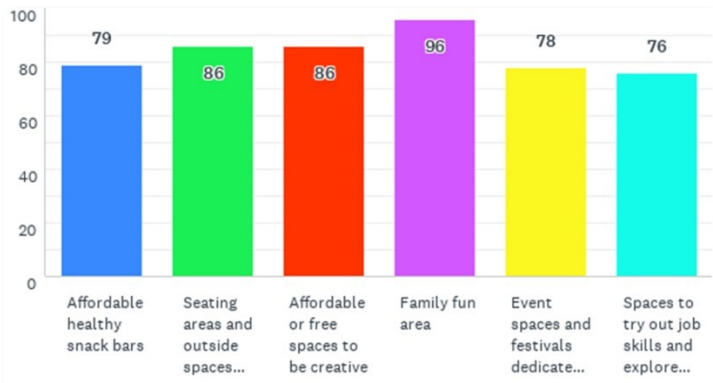
Less litter and more activities more play areas and safer
Cleaner, people who volunteer to pick up the litter, Widen the paths
Making it look more appealing/ more pretty benches, Good looking parks
Have a (with a young child) young children's parking space
A lot of young people have social anxiety and hate crowded areas
Larger scale however, leaving most of the areas clear, for greenery rather than equipment being installed. Cleaner surroundings, safe location, security
Don't have to worry about going far or people knowing- easier to access, food/drink shops , Beautiful flowers to be planted with benches
Make them bigger to run around it's healthy, Make it for fun by doing festivals
More entertainment, There should be more space so that we all can enjoy the nature and environment
Clean them , No pets in the area , More awareness that they actually exist
More space to run around
More seating areas
Tables and benches to sit
More bins for hopefully less litter and clean grass
Make it look inviting
Flower Gardens, more play areas and sitting areas
Be more fun
Make dogs parks for dogs and make local parks for family only not pets.
More kid friendly areas more food places
Have trailers and have people showing you around
More nice scenery
Better benches, nice affordable cafes
The grass to be more watered and cut often
More greenery like plants and blossom trees
More sitting areas and flowers
Keep it clean
More cherry blossom trees
More fun/ attractive
Make them cleaner and more presentable, maybe even put in some new rides
Keeping the area clean, have small things to do like hosted games
Be more open rather than in a corded where no one can see anything
To learn about the nether haw gins (to learn about nature and how it grows)
Make so like we should have more swings and bins
With more kids play stuff so it won't attract adults
By not allowing smoking around the area and by making it a law.
Add a ice cream van or refreshments stall or a patroller to stop drug dealers from hanging around and there's loads of laughing gas canisters there
We can get even more exercise
More activities, Less Litter
More greenery, parks, art buildings, it helps them learn
To stop littering and stop smashing glass
LET THEM GET MORE TIME TO CROSS
Gives young people an opportunity to get fresh air
More seating areas, more trees and more parks
Add more signs saying no littering
Food shops, More stuff baby and kids area and like teenagers area to
Stronger fences for safety
Make there be more space, MORE BENCHES, Seating area

Better areas to hang out with friends or spend time with family

Make secondary kids clean the trash in public places

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Question 8: How could Digbeth and the area around the Custard Factory be Improved for young people?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Affordable healthy snack bars (1)	53.38% 79
Seating areas and outside spaces designed by young people (2)	58.11% 86
Affordable or free spaces to be creative (3)	58.11% 86
Family fun area (4)	64.86% 96
Event spaces and festivals dedicated for young people (5)	52.70% 78
Spaces to try out job skills and explore career paths and interests (6)	51.35% 76
Total Respondents: 148	

The following additional comments were added by the respondents.

“Free activities and free food”

“You could have more swimming centres or a run track”

“Variety of snacks and healthy selections”

“A football team for girls or a little area for girls to play football”

“Free food samples”

“I think all the ideas above are good and should be incorporated as much as possible”

“I like the all”

“Swings and long slides”

“Mini Public Park”

“Have more stuff there”

“A building that helps people with school”

“Mini park”

Question 9: What could be added to Central Birmingham area to help you experience different job sectors and develop employment skills?

Listed below are all the young people's comments

Work experience taster sessions
Job centre for young people who go college and want to work
Teaching areas for young people to learn more
Maybe help in centres
Journalist clubs for teens
Maybe tuition
Have wider ranges of work experience
Somewhere where you can find a job easily- support/help career paths support just support or Centres in general for careers/jobs
Jobs that aim to employ teenagers that will help them develop employment skills.
Places to do practice working at, More stores accepting people for work experience.
More job vacancies, more workshops and webinars
More opportunities of summer jobs for people aged 16+
Little workshops or small jobs to improve the community through different jobs
More workshops and webinars
Maybe get paid for work experience
University stands
Buildings about different job sectors and that will help us develop employment skills
Volunteer work, work experience, career experiences and things like NCS
Job places
Like experience stalls
Have a lots of choices
More jobs
have specific places that are designated for young people and work experience
Dance studios and art studios
Workshops
Job centre
Sessions to see what it would be like to work as the job you apply for, and be realistic, don't fake anything.
Places for employment just for kids and help centres for employment for kids/ more opportunities
Maybe some kind of kidzania, but a more mature and educational version for older children/ teenagers.
Where they have the opportunity to try out different skills in different jobs and gain knowledge and experience
More jobs that are based around fandoms. And making more academic job sites more
More work experience for teenagers
Courses that help you find something that interests you, Hubs
To get more jobs, More interactive things
Probably to provide more creativity spaces for more painting experiences.
A little children's funhouse and vegetable shop
Jobs with a liveable wage
Add more fun jobs what people enjoy like peoples hobby's and be more fun that people want to stay as long as they want
Create more fun areas, Ice cream shops
Clubs for kids so they can learn things like pottery and stuff
There could be a planting club for ages up to 8-14
More fairs more restaurants
Kids job centre, Help people, A testing area
More space
More good buildings
Make us every week or so go to the jobs we would like to be when we are older
Jobs for local people

A chance to see how different jobs work

A jobs fair to go around and look at all the jobs on offer and maybe try skills in those different jobs to see which ones suit you

Safety to get there, More work experience, More places to work

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Question 10: What facilities and space would you like to see in central Birmingham for young people?

Listed below are all the young peoples comments

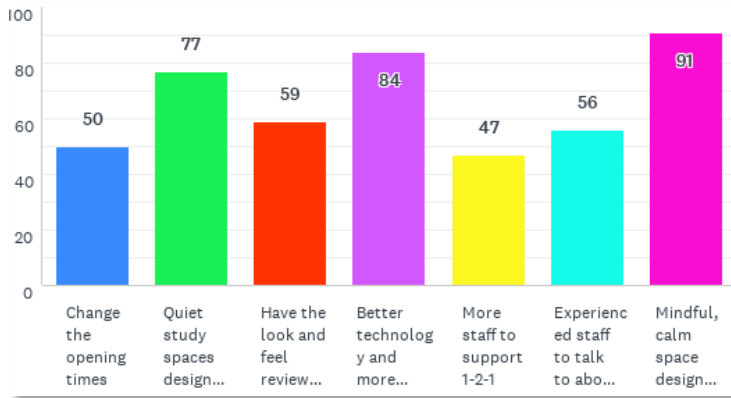
Fun fair rides for an affordable amount Tuition classes A place to chill with you friend s
Running races
Work area, picnic , More grand libraries, Parks
More mental health centres, youth centres
Study Cafe/ study shop where young people can go study somewhere quiet with free wifi
more leisure centres or community centres, Water fountains
Swimming centre send apple
Lots of exercise thingys like in china
More free clubs , Funfairs
Free spaces where we could sit around
Things for young kids and sporty people
Open spaces where we can network
More youth centres , Skate parks, arcades
Small concert areas, murals spaces
Skate parks, workshops, , Everything
Uhhh we can have more existing things
Skate parks, arcades, libraries, Green areas
Restaurants, leisure centre, Library
skate parks and rinks, biking, carnivals, youth centres and art galleries
More outdoor seating and more places to take nice pictures, Basketball court
More activity centres and nicer places to sit or take pictures
Clubs, Shops, Youth centres, cafes, More festivals and funfair
Community centres and workshops inside central Birmingham
Cafes and shops, sports places
skate parks, libraries, arcades, art museums, Seating areas, mini food shops
Indoor games, outdoor games, funfair, skate park, karaoke centre
More attractions for young people- start city used to be very fun as it had rides and restaurants and many different activities. Now most of the fun things have gone and it is quite limited now.
I don't really know. Community garden maybe, Clubs , Youth centres and clubs , Free sports facilities
So like football and basketball courts and tennis, Obstacles and competitions that help kids
An all sports area also including obstacles also including rock climbing and monkey bars but the grass should be Astro turf so if any one falls if they will be safe
A freddy fazbears pizzarea and for spaces a cinema
More fairs because there are not enough, and you have to buy a ticket then go on as many rides as possible because parents do not moan about the cost
Rides that come and go and other stuff people like
Fun places ballcages more access to friend, Picnic places, Next to parks
A massive park with a zip line, Sitting areas
Sports area with different sports
Funfair rides and Michelin star restaurant , More parks
Ice cream truck to give out ice creams to people
Fun stuff, A play ground witch would be big
A inside playground, Parks water fountains, More family friendly places
Parks and SKATE park, Play areas
A little building with a parkour course and indoor park

More areas to sit down , Happiness

Food, A youth hub , More clubs

Adventure play grounds, Football , ZOO, Places to eat

Question 11: How could libraries make changes to encourage young people to use them?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Change the opening times (1)	34.97% 50
Quiet study spaces designed by young people (2)	53.85% 77
Have the look and feel reviewed and redesigned by young people (3)	41.26% 59
Better technology and more accessible (4)	58.74% 84
More staff to support 1-2-1 (5)	32.87% 47
Experienced staff to talk to about learning and studying (6)	39.16% 56
Mindful, calm space designed by young people (7)	63.64% 91
Total Respondents: 143	

The following additional comments were added by the respondents.

“Selling food for free and activities for young people”

“Nicely decorated area “

“Used for studying rather than social spaces”

“Toys 🧸”

“Be open until late at night”

“Have more books like comics and manga. Make the place look engaging”

“Add snacks and like stickers so we can take home”

“Sections or categories for different type of books like adventure books”

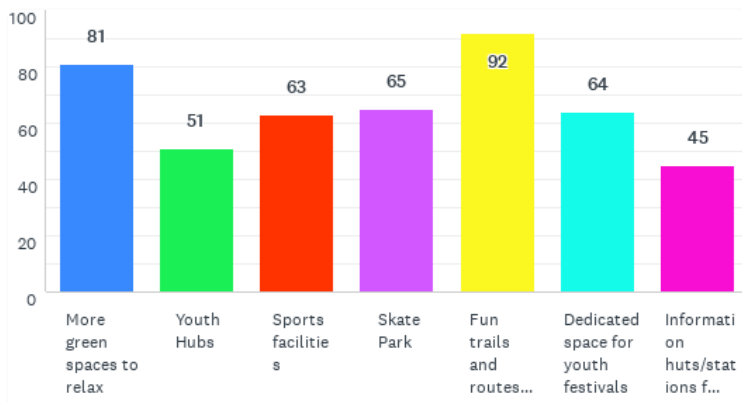
“A party area for the bday boy or girl”

“Add better books and no old librarians because they get tired all the time and just stare at you through their spectacles”

“More computers”

“To use laptops in library”

Question 12: Are there any specific space, resources or programmes you would like to see in Central Birmingham



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
More green spaces to relax (1)	57.86% 81
Youth Hubs (2)	36.43% 51
Sports facilities (3)	45.00% 63
Skate Park (4)	46.43% 65
Fun trails and routes to explore and follow (5)	65.71% 92
Dedicated space for youth festivals (6)	45.71% 64
Information huts/stations for young people (7)	32.14% 45
Total Respondents: 140	

The following additional comments were added by the respondents.

“More shops”

“A 'girls only' sports facility for females to feel more comfortable.”

“Basketball court

“I want more outdoor heated pools with a transparent roof because there’s only the lido park with that”

“Football pitches”

“Restaurants and Parks”

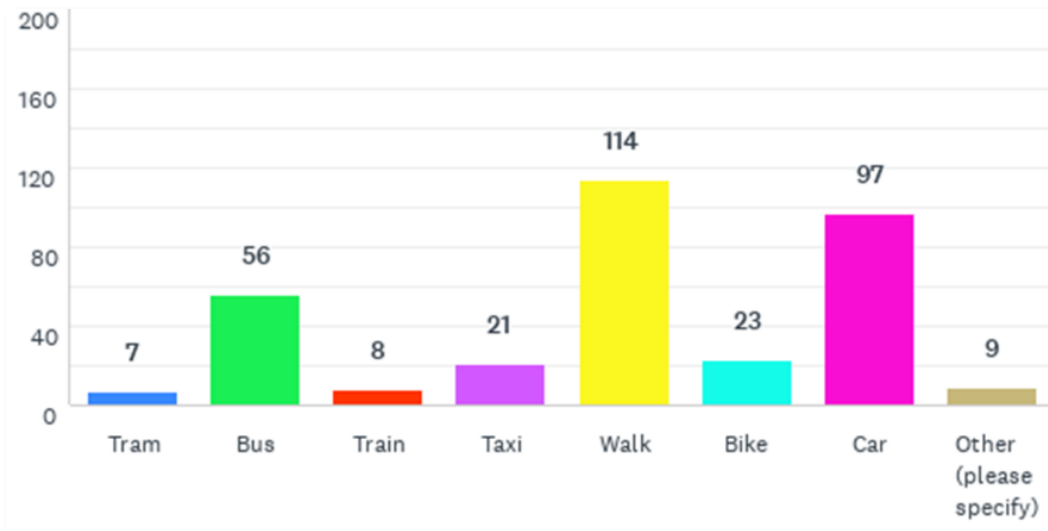
“Fairs more often”

“Skate parks”

“More green space”

TRANSPORT

Question 13: In a typical week which of the following forms of transport do you use?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Tram (1)	4.76%	7
Bus (2)	38.10%	56
Train (3)	5.44%	8
Taxi (4)	14.29%	21
Walk (5)	77.55%	114
Bike (6)	15.65%	23
Car (7)	65.99%	97
Other (please specify) (8)	6.12%	9
Total Respondents: 147		

Question 14: Do you feel safe using public transport?

109 people answered this question 60 people said they felt safe and 49 said they didn't, here are their comments

"Other people" "Sometimes I don't feel comfortable travelling in a public transport"

**"Inappropriate looks and disgusting comments from opposite gender/ child predators / sexual abuse/
Crime rate"**

"Crime rate, child predators, sexual abuse" "Sometimes depending on the hours" "Dirty seats"

"Older people/paedophiles" "Crime and paedophiles" "Many times on the bus there is drunk people"

"No, because you never know what could happen" "Strangers harassing me"

"Can be quite hesitant as many minor crimes have taken place on transport and in general."

**"But sometimes no because you don't know if the people there if they have washed there hands if they
have corona and you don't know where they have been"**

**"When people start following you As a muslim woman, who wears the hijab, it's always a worry about
Personal safety"**

"Men. men make me feel unsafe" "People staring at me, discriminatory staff working on the bus."

"A lot of strangers and people I don't know." "I sort of feel safe, because anything can happen"

**"The protection, e.g corona virus, people that make me feel uncomfortable, for example looking in
unnecessary areas of people, or nasty comments"**

"Men just staring or discrimination" "The people/ strangers, also am scared of getting lost"

"I feel unsafe because of people on the bus. Men mainly and older people"

"I feel fine but sometimes the bus driver takes the turns to fast"

"People don't wear masks get chewing gum stuck in the seats and people cough on you"

"But it's kinda unsafe because COVID 19" "Sometimes because sometimes there are big group"

“Something what makes me uncomfortable in public is not using a masc”

“I don't like crowded places” “No free wifi” “Unsafe because some buses are very high”

**“Most of the time yes but of a night time not so much the is no way to communicate with the bus driver
with bring attention to your self if u need help with cause a scene”**

CONCLUSION AND CONSIDERATIONS

The response rate for the survey was good, this survey along with the 3 videos, skate park survey, artwork and public open space consultation suggests young people are willing to engage and are interested in influencing the future of their city's development. In addition, some young people are also interested in the and results of the survey and some would like to not only have their voice heard and views and ideas consulted on but want to be activity involved at the next level.

Based on the findings from all forms of consultation undertaken for this project, considerations could be given to the following areas;

- Review of the service offered by Libraries and opening times to fit better with young people's needs
- Resources and budgets allocated to infrastructure and opportunities around work experience and exploration of careers i.e. an innovation hub
- Craft spaces in the Digbeth area affordable and attractive to young people
- Healthy affordable food outlets
- Parks and play areas in the city centre
- Trails and information around the city and along the canal
- Review of safe travel and easy links and access to information in relation to women and young people
- City centre skate area

Based further conversations and feedback from respondents:

- Young people would like to work with planners and developers to design and advice on basketball facilities for play and careers
- Young people would like to work on the design for the hockey flyover space
- Young People would to work with planners and developers to design a skate park
- The Youth City Board would like to continue to work closely BCC planning and redevelopment
- Young People would like to join planners and developers at the next level of planning, allocation of resources and meets with architects and designers.

The insight from the findings of the consultation can be used to help understand issues faced by young people and what they need to feel safe and valued. Findings should inform decisions around allocation of resources as well as design and planning.

APPENDIX 2: IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO TELL US

Handsworth hasn't got enough facilities and fun places or cafes for young people

Swimming centres I would love to have and some places for children to learn about the world

I think there should be patrol officers or something to keep an eye out for people feeling unsafe or uncomfortable when walking home or using public transport especially after what has happened on the news and around the world.

More space so it's less crowded around

central Birmingham More

entertainment/ space for younger kids

I think you should do free stalls for teens and more funfair

More shops, young people having a voice, later school starting times

Have a bigger place for kids Pls put some Koop events or mercy's for cheaper price like BT's bomb ;(

To be more safe

Funfairs, adventures, fun

sport, fun activities An

area where we can relax

More safe environment for young people

Buses that show you how to get to a specific school, college, university for those who may be travelling alone for the first time and don't really understand how public transport works.

We should have an eid party

More busses that travel the whole of

birmingham eg) the 11 bus More green

space, youth areas

Free wifi

We should have little stations at the bus stop where if you need a ticket you can buy it before getting onto the bus. Mural walls for the public use

More one day activities for

example marathons

Basketball area for more

upper body strength An

amusement park

More surveys

Free dance and gymnastics class

Could we have more police patrols to get a

better communitys Ice skating

Let under 16 year

olds ride e-scooters

We could have a

swimming pool for
free Parks and for
older kids
Free dance
and
gymnastics
class All of
the above
A hugeee climbing frame not baby one
More play grounds, Swimming parks, A play ship, Parks water fountains
More thing to do, places, Festivals, FREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE WIFIIIIIIIIII,
Probably a park or lakes If it a young city why not introduce fun stuff for young
people
Most young people like to eat out so a place to eat with a younger environment
might be nice to see More outdoor green spaces in central Birmingham to go and
chill at
More work experience for the youth More clean and safer space for sitting around

Appendix 3K - List of organisations who responded to the consultation

- Archdiocese of Birmingham
- Argent
- Arup
- Aspley House Capital
- Ballymore
- Balsall Heath is Our Planet
- Barton Willmore
- Berkeley St Joseph
- Birmingham City University
- Birmingham Lead Local Flood Authority
- Bruntwood
- Calthorpe Estates
- Canal & River Trust
- Cole Waterhouse
- Colmore BID
- Detail
- Environment Agency
- Friends of the Earth Birmingham
- Grand Union
- Hammerson
- Homes England
- HS2
- HUB
- Ikon Gallery
- Institution of Civil Engineers
- Jewellery Quarter Development Trust
- Lendlease
- Maizelands
- Mott McDonald
- National Express West Midlands
- Oval
- Road Haulage Association
- Sanctuary Homes
- Savills
- Shakespeare Martineau
- Sport England
- Stoford
- Tarmac
- Taylor Grange

- Theatres Trust
- Transport for West Midlands
- Turley
- Twentieth Century Society
- University of Third Age
- West Midlands Housing Association
- Westside BID
- Wildlife Trust
- Woodbourne Group

Central Birmingham plan area and boundaries

Question: Do you agree with the central quarters and the neighbourhoods identified? If not please provide your comments.

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 70% agreed, 24% disagreed and 6% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>The request for specific areas to be included, removed, or altered was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns that the plan ignores the suburban areas of the city including: Moseley, Harborne, Selly Oak, Handsworth, Saltley, Kings Heath, Longbridge, Yardley, Erdington and University of Birmingham. • Concerns over the omission of Edgbaston Reservoir and surrounding area, despite its close proximity to the city centre • Areas like Selly Oak, Kings Norton, and Sutton Coldfield town centre need regenerating and densifying. • Requests removal of Lozells, Soho, and Balsall Heath East as they are located some distance from the city centre. • Concerns that areas like the Gay Village in Southside and the Gun Quarter have not been included. • Include the Port Loop masterplan site within the plan boundaries • For the city centre/city core, the boundaries should be based upon Birmingham’s pre-war historical centre instead of the inner ring road built in 1960s. 	<p>The boundary in the ‘Shaping Our City’ document was not fixed, however as a replacement for the Big City Plan: City Centre Masterplan 2011 the ‘Central Birmingham Framework’ focuses on the city centre and has expanded its reach to cover adjacent inner-city neighbourhoods. The remit of the framework is not city-wide as wider suburban areas will be covered in the forthcoming Birmingham Local Plan and in future area-based plans.</p> <p>A Supplementary planning Document (SPD) was adopted for Edgbaston Reservoir in October 2022. As such, it has an up-to-date vision that the council is working with partners, stakeholders and the local community to deliver.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	<p>Soho Road and Lozells have not been included within the framework area. The boundary for Balsall Heath includes the local centre and the railway line forms the boundary for the framework, therefore Balsall Heath East is not included.</p> <p>Port Loop site is included as a Major Development Site in the bold proposals for Central West.</p> <p>The city core area has been identified as 'City Heart' with its boundaries extended beyond the former inner-ring road to include Westside/Broad Street and Southside /Chinatown and Gay Village. The area includes the main concentration of retail, leisure, office, civic and cultural focus, density and character. The nature of the city has changed significantly to that of nearly a century ago.</p>
<p>Several other comments were made including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns that some of the proposed, neighbouring areas have very different economies and needs (such as Digbeth in comparison to Bordesley and Highgate) and would benefit more from having their own strategies. • Concerns that the plan displayed in the consultation document is unclear as to which areas have been included and which have been omitted, as not all have been labelled. • Concerns over the plan seeking to 'compartmentalise' people. • Focus more on retrenchment rather than regeneration in response to the climate emergency and the pandemic. 	<p>The framework acknowledges some of the areas it covers differ and the communities within these areas have different needs. The proposals included in the framework set out a programme of work for the next twenty years.</p> <p>The framework includes maps and plans of the areas of the city it includes.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The names chosen for the areas in the document do not reflect those used most frequently by members of the local community. • Need to reevaluate the purpose of the city’s local centres following on from the pandemic. • Need to recognise the special characteristics and heritage in each of the areas that will be covered by the plan, particularly those with historical and community assets. 	<p>The framework and its proposals seek to be inclusive of all people in our communities and to promote and provide improved opportunities for connecting communities with proposals for improved walking, cycling and public transport routes.</p> <p>Location names are those acknowledged by local stakeholders (such as Business Improvement Districts), ward names, Ordnance Survey Mapping and previous planning documents. Any specific examples will be considered through the next stage of consultation.</p> <p>The framework acknowledges the important role local centres play and through the City of Centres and Neighbourhoods theme, sets out the need to ensure local centres meet the diverse needs of the communities they serve.</p> <p>The framework includes reference to heritage and the need to protect and maximise the benefits of heritage assets.</p>

Vision

Question: Does our draft vision fit with your vision for Central Birmingham? If not, why not?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 59% agreed, 34% disagreed and 7% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>Heritage was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wide-ranging contributions the historic environment makes to the city should be strongly acknowledged. • Consideration should be given to the re-purposing of historic buildings. • The distinct character of industrial heritage and industrial landscapes should be retained and not be included in the broad intention to ‘Green’ the city. • Suggests showing a ‘thread of thinking’ reflecting upon past urban planning initiatives that have shaped post-war Birmingham. • Suggests city-wide major interventions should be highlighted including HS2 and metro extension as they act as catalysts for regeneration. 	<p>The framework includes reference to heritage and the need to protect and maximise the benefits of heritage assets. It also includes reference to repurposing historic buildings. The framework supports protecting and enhancing the industrial landscape and heritage with reference to Digbeth.</p> <p>The need to protect the unique character and heritage is covered in the City of Layers and Distinctiveness theme. The intention to ‘green’ parts of the city is covered in City of Nature.</p> <p>The framework includes a timeline that shows how Birmingham has evolved and changed. It also references HS2 and the metro extension.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>Housing was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial provision of new homes for older persons is required in close proximity to the city centre. • New homes must be affordable, of a suitable size and enable a ‘sense-of-community’ to be established. • New homes should address concerns over community safety and street crime. • New homes should be linked to green spaces and should not all be high-rise developments. • New housing development must consider both social and environmental factors. • Issues related to overcrowding need to be addressed. 	<p>The framework sets out the need to deliver a mix of high-quality new homes to support a range of communities and integrate with existing neighbourhoods to ensure residents have access to high-quality green space, affordable healthy food, and key services and facilities. The framework includes Housing Action Areas which identify areas of the city that have potential for improvement to the quality of homes and neighbourhoods. This could vary from retrofit to improve energy efficiency, to redevelopment and replacement to meet local needs of affordability and families. Detailed plans will be developed with the communities within those areas.</p>
<p>Policy was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All strategies must translate into direct actions for Birmingham residents. Concern proposals included in past development plans haven’t been achieved. • Requests the Vision addresses the climate emergency through the adoption of more specific policies. • States the Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Plan and the Jewellery Quarter Neighbourhood Plan should be referenced. • Requests land use designations are reviewed. 	<p>The framework includes a delivery section which sets out how proposals will be achieved. The vision includes the need to be resilient to adapt to climate change.</p> <p>The framework references both neighbourhood plans.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	The Birmingham Local Plan review will review and update land use policies where appropriate.
<p>Public realm was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern over the loss of ‘true’ public spaces in the city – many new public squares and walkways will appear to be public spaces but will actually be owned by private parties and managed by private security. • Street furniture and kerbs on New Street, Victoria Square and Temple Street make it difficult for bicycles to travel across. • Concerns regarding maintenance of existing public realm. 	<p>Many new developments have included open spaces and squares available for use by both the occupiers of the development and the wider community, rather than privately accessed spaces with restricted access, therefore the benefits of the spaces can be enjoyed by many more people. The Framework does not distinguish between the ownership of open spaces, and where possible in Edgbaston is proposing opening up existing private and restricted open spaces for greater public access.</p> <p>New Street, Victoria Square and Temple Street are being redesigned as part of a current programme of improvements to the layout, surface materials, traffic access and street furniture. Comments have been forwarded to the team undertaking the detailed designs.</p>
<p>Design was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The general design intention for high-rise development fails to connect to Birmingham’s historic architecture. 	The framework supports the delivery of high-quality design and architecture that complements surrounding context including heritage assets. It

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower-level density of development should be considered. • New high-rise developments will contribute to a new skyline for the city and remediate rundown areas. • Proposed designs are aimed at the rented market and not permanent residents – these designs will not create communities with longevity. • Limited details provided on proposed designs, when viewed from street-level. • Designs appear focused on meeting the needs of business/offices and fail to consider small workshop/unit spaces for small businesses. • Proposals for high-rise development must include parameters, in regard to scale and location and not give blanket approval for this type of development. • Greater variety of design and materials should be proposed for new development, to create distinct neighbourhoods. All new residential developments should be designed with commercial units at ground-floor level to activate the street and make areas safer. • New development must reflect the proposed identity of the city in future years. • Tall buildings can create undesirable climate effects, such as ground-level canyons. Number of high-rise developments should be minimised, as will contribute to further over-heating of city centre and loss of existing urban fabric. 	<p>also sets out the need to deliver distinctive neighbourhoods that build on existing neighbourhoods and fosters community cohesion. The detailed design of new development will be considered as individual projects come forward.</p> <p>The micro-climate impact of tall buildings and clusters of tall buildings will be considered as part of detailed planning applications as each specific location and building design is unique. The Birmingham Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document provides design principles and guidance on mitigating negative impacts. The framework proposes increasing areas of green spaces within the area which helps to reduce the heat-island impact of urban development.</p>
<p>Several responses were made regarding specific areas in the city. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to discuss the ‘Outer’ areas of Birmingham e.g. Erdington. • The existing growth areas should be awarded greater prominence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - University of Birmingham - Science Industries in Selly Oak - Industries in Bournville - Stirchley High Street 	<p>A key focus of the framework is to better-integrate area of the city that have been physically, economically and socially separated from the growth at the heart of the city. The framework promotes and links opportunities and investment that meets community needs, to ensure the benefits of growth reaches more citizens. The framework replaces the Big City Plan: City Centre</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>- Kings Heath High Street</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No consistency in how areas for action have been identified. • The expansion of the city centre will lead to the gentrification of all of the areas identified. • Many neighbourhoods that surround the city centre are disconnected and are far behind the higher environmental quality standards. • Failure to reference the important role the city centre plays within the regional and national economy. • It must be recognised there are current discrepancies between areas, with many having had little investment to date and are now well behind advanced areas such as Westside. 	<p>Masterplan and is not a city-wide document. Other areas of the city will continue to be promoted in the Birmingham Development plan and forthcoming Birmingham Local Plan, and area specific planning guidance and frameworks.</p> <p>The framework does not seek to expand the city centre, it identifies different character areas and neighbourhoods and seeks to promote the opportunities and set out proposals that meet the needs of existing communities over a wider area.</p> <p>The framework introduction sets out the role Birmingham city centre plays in the regional and national economy.</p>
<p>Culture and character were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vision fails to identify the importance of attracting higher numbers of tourists. • The needs of the LGBT+ community and future of the Gay Village are not adequately reflected. • The existing character of the Queer night-time landscape in Westside is also at risk. • The canal networks are a key unique selling point of the city and should be identified as an area for new retail and hotels. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected. This includes building on the cultural diversity and identity within the city and the numerous assets the city has. A key part of the vision will be ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy. The council</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The skills of the existing cultural and arts communities should be used by the council. • The city has a good cultural mix but lacks a strong identify. • Birmingham is too multi-cultural in some areas and the promotion of a distinct culture should be avoided. • Anti-social behaviours are endemic across the city, with substantial problems related to drug and alcohol abuse and youth crime. • More free sports should be encouraged in the city. • The existing distinct character of the Jewellery Quarter and Digbeth must be safeguarded, as new development could dilute its value and attractiveness to creative industries. • The vision should align with the Commonwealth Games legacy, built around the slogan 'Be Bold Be Birmingham'. 	<p>will work with partners, stakeholders and communities to support, protect and enhance new and emerging culture in the city.</p> <p>The framework acknowledges the important characteristics of the Jewellery Quarter and Digbeth and supports protecting and enhancing them.</p> <p>The framework now proposes a Night-time Economy Policy that will be developed as part of the forthcoming Birmingham Local Plan. The policy will seek to protect and promote the range of late-night entertainment uses withing Westside, Digbeth, and Southside where Chinatown and the Gay Village are also highlighted as having significant community and cultural significance.</p> <p>The vision builds on the Commonwealth Games legacy and highlights the opportunity 'Bold about Brum' which states we need to celebrate and build</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	on our assets and the legacy of the Commonwealth Games.
<p>Sustainability was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the intention for Birmingham to act as a leader on environmental sustainability matters. • The vision for the environment and sustainability is good but should go further – the climate change emergency means that it should be assumed Net-Zero Carbon has been achieved. • An increased number of outdoor spaces are required to meet the impacts that will be created by higher temperatures. • Greater emphasis is required on the repurposing of existing buildings rather than clearance/demolition. • Improve education of business owners and householders on the management of waste. • It should be recognised that nature-based solutions are usually low cost but provide many benefits. • The proposals should achieve a better balance between the economy, social and environment. • Promotion required for new community gardens and high-rise allotments, to make food growing more visible and encourage participation. • Proposals for ‘freight consolidation centres’ are questionable, as suitable sites are restricted by land supply and introduces complexity to the supply chain. 	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. The City of Nature theme includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions. It also identifies opportunities for community orchards, allotments and community growing initiatives.</p> <p>The framework does not reference freight consolidation centres.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>Greening was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports concept of Park Birmingham, Greenways and plans for St Chads, Suffolk St Queensway and Hockley Flyover. • Not in support of Park Birmingham proposals, concern it will lead to the loss of key buildings and have a negative impact on the retail and hospitality sector. • The proposals for roof gardens are welcomed but greater support should be given for increased use of solar panels. • Re-greening opportunities must be expanded to compensate for HS2 – more projects similar to Digbeth Walkway Park. • More measures are required to ensure new buildings are carbon neutral and biodiversity matters should be discussed more. • Supportive of tree planting and rewilding of central areas. • Greening is supported in general but other ‘Brummie’ characteristics will be lessened and greening of the city centre will be at the expense of the economy. • Concerns greening around the Rotunda will mean existing shops are lost and should not happen. • Greening approach must be targeted, as city centre currently has a range of underused spaces. • Additional levels of green infrastructure and green retrofitting should be advocated. 	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. The City of Nature theme includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions.</p> <p>The framework includes images of Park Birmingham that are conceptual and details will be subject to detailed masterplanning in the future. Listed Buildings would be retained in any detailed plans, and replacement retail and hospitality space would form a key element of any redevelopment.</p> <p>The framework states that all future development should support our net zero and nature ambitions.</p> <p>Further detail regarding sustainability will come forward as individual projects are delivered and proposals will be assessed against policies included in the Local Plan. The greening of parts of the city</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	will create welcoming environments that help boost local businesses.
<p>Connectivity was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for the vision to reduce traffic in the city, to break down the ring road barrier, improved public transport connectivity within the city and to other metropolitan areas. • Do not support the intention for less personal car use – sufficient car parking provision should be made for those people that cannot use public transport (i.e. disabled, elderly and persons with limited mobility) • The proposed WMCA Birmingham Transport Network Masterplan should be incorporated. • Strong support for tram network to be extended out of the city to Birmingham Airport and along Hagley Road to improve links to the East. • Improvements to public transport should focus on the bus network. • Existing key routes into city centre arrival areas for train stations and key road junctions need improvements. • Proposals for demolition of key road infrastructure will increase congestion and deter affluent shoppers from visiting the city. • Increased use of public transport should be promoted by the council, with incentives rather than penalties. • The council will need to put support measures in place for delivery vehicles that are required on development projects due to road infrastructure works. • Car parks in the city centre should be closed to deter people driving into the city. • A greater emphasis should be made on all types of ‘active travel’. More support for the activation of the canal network and recognition given on how active travel, contributes to healthier lifestyles. • Canal network should be identified as an asset and improvements should be sought to improve accessibility to canals. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections and significantly reduce the role of the car in the city and the physical barriers large roads create.</p> <p>It also sets out that spaces should be accessible for all. Further detail will come forward as individual projects progress and proposals will be assessed against relevant policies.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan which seeks to improve active travel and public travel options. The delivery chapter sets out that close collaboration with key partners including the West Midlands Combined Authority will be required.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared cycle and pedestrian routes are dangerous, when trying to cross the city centre from New St Station to Colmore Row. • Concerns there is a discrepancy in the treatment of pedestrians in different neighbourhoods. • Full and easy access to new sites must be guaranteed for vulnerable groups – pedestrians given priority. • A hierarchy of streets is required with an associated plan for pedestrianisation. 	<p>The framework identifies opportunities to improve the canal corridor through the green and blue web proposals. It also sets out a long-term ambition, which will require further consultation, detailed design and phased implementation over the next 20 years.</p>
<p>Identity and community was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many people work in the city centre but live outside of Birmingham and their role should be recognised. • ‘Prosperity’ is mentioned, which infers the creation of wealth and should be changed. • Traditional skills should be recognised alongside innovation and new technologies. • The needs of the residents and communities in the city should take precedence over the needs of investors and developers. 	<p>The framework aims to create welcoming environments for all Birmingham residents and visitors to enjoy. A key part of the vision is to ensure the city’s prosperity is shared by all.</p>
<p>Challenges was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority should be given to security and improved safety for residents and the engendering of civic pride. • Covid-19 will not be the last pandemic and additional outdoor spaces must be created for residents. • There should be better promotion of local talent and talent retention or risk losing to rival cities. 	<p>A key part of the vision is to create safe spaces that Birmingham residents can be proud of. The framework aims to create a resilient city that is better-able to respond to unforeseen challenges. The vision has been amended to reflect responses received and a round of public consultation will enable people to provide further comments.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competing interests across such a wide area, means it will be very difficult to reach consensus on a vision. 	
<p>Delivery and implementation were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council should deliver new investment through council-owned/collective ownership of key infrastructure and utilities. The council needs to act faster to support project delivery and implementation. The council should take a more robust approach to consents that are due to lapse. Current instability in macro-environment means the vision needs to be more realistic and affordable. The council has limited funds and the aspirations for the city are unlikely to be resourced by private developers. The council should not rush large-scale proposals particularly in the city centre as poor development will be expensive to rectify. Digital advancements will be a major driver of changes in future years and must be fully adopted. The council needs to address the demands of the Health Services and Social Services. 	<p>The framework includes a delivery section which sets out how the council will take a comprehensive approach to planning, development, delivery, and stewardship. Over the next twenty years the council will seek to work collaboratively with partners, stakeholder and local communities to achieve the vision. The framework provides a basis for the council and partners to bid for funding to support the delivery of projects.</p> <p>The framework sets out that funding will support education, health, digital and community facilities, arts, culture, heritage and leisure offers, along with social initiatives including skills and training that are vital to creating attractive places to live, supporting both new and existing communities including businesses.</p>
<p>Several other comments were made including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The city cannot solely meet the pressures that are being placed upon its infrastructure and a region should be created with Coventry and Leicester. 	<p>The council is committed to working with key partners and neighbouring authorities. The</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry has been discouraged from the city centre and reduced the employment opportunities that residents need. Proposals for combined live and work neighbourhoods should be included. • New development poses risk of existing residents and small businesses being unable to afford to remain in existing neighbourhoods. • Concern it is confusing to have a vision and additional principles as well as city themes. 	<p>delivery section sets out the approach to how infrastructure will be delivered.</p> <p>The framework proposes a range of places within Growth Zones where, through more detailed master planning, the potential for combined living and working neighbourhoods will be explored.</p> <p>The framework recognises the need for a range of housing types and levels of affordability throughout the area and promotes the importance of a range of workspaces and proposes an affordable workspace policy to be developed as part of the forthcoming Birmingham Local Plan.</p> <p>The framework has removed the principles to make it simpler and avoid confusion.</p>

Challenges and Opportunities

Question: Do you think we have identified all of the key challenges and opportunities for the Central Birmingham area over the next 20 years?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 44% agreed, 52% disagreed and 4% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>A key challenge identified was the public transport network. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public transport options are currently limited, unaffordable and/or unreliable, need to extend the tram network further. • Lack of service integration between public transport modes. • Ensuring easy and low-cost visitor access to the city centre is critical in maintaining its vitality. 	<p>The framework identifies local connectivity as a key challenge and includes the City of Connections theme which supports the Birmingham transport Plan and aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections and significantly reduce the role of the car in the city and the physical barriers large roads create.</p> <p>The delivery chapter sets out that close collaboration with key partners will be required.</p>
<p>A key challenge identified was development growth. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan needs to consider the transition away from large purpose-built office development. • Careful balance of new housing against the needs of leisure/ entertainment uses in areas such as Southside. • Forecasting employment needs is very difficult in current times and is therefore equally difficult to appropriately plan for. • Lack of cultural attractions. 	<p>As a major regional centre, and largest professional services sector outside of London, the city continues to need and see market-led demand for high-quality purpose-built office space. The framework promotes a range of employment uses across all sectors and flexibility for accommodating the needs of different users at different times.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>A key challenge identified was housing and affordability. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to provide more affordable housing. • Apartments and flats being built in the city centre are too small. • Addressing overcrowding and the uncontrolled growth of Houses of Multiple Occupancy. • There may be less demand for small apartments and studio flats post-pandemic as more people work from home and prefer to live in suburban areas. • High rent and onerous business rates are pricing retailers out of the city centre. • Small independent businesses need more support. 	<p>The framework sets out the need to deliver a mix of high-quality affordable new homes to support a diverse range of communities. All future housing development will need to be in line with policy requirements for affordable housing.</p> <p>Houses of Multiple Occupancy can be addressed through the Birmingham Local Plan Review. The framework promotes a range of housing types and sizes that would meet local needs, additional larger homes would help to alleviate the problems of overcrowding.</p> <p>Levels of rents and business rates are beyond the scope of the framework.</p>
<p>A key challenge identified was infrastructure. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering commensurate levels of infrastructure for any residential development being planned for the city centre. • Recognition of developing and improving broadband and telecommunication infrastructure is needed. 	<p>The delivery section sets out the approach to how infrastructure will be delivered. The framework also sets out opportunities to improve digital infrastructure.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>A key challenge identified was climate change adaptation. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be more transparency on the urgency of the climate change agenda within the plan. • There needs to be more green spaces and tree planting in the city centre. • The long-term management of new and existing green spaces needs to be set out in the plan. 	<p>The framework includes the climate emergency as a challenge and sets a clear ambition to increase levels of green infrastructure in the framework boundary, including the city centre. Green infrastructure is included in the delivery chapter.</p>
<p>A key challenge identified was connectivity. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian environment in the city centre does not sufficiently accommodate the needs of disabled people, particularly the visually impaired. • Streets are unclean and have high quantities of litter. • Too much pavement parking is being encouraged across the city, presenting barriers to pedestrian movement. 	<p>The framework is in line with the Birmingham Transport Plan which seeks to improve active travel and public travel options. A key element of the framework vision is to reduce vehicular movement in the city centre and as a result significantly improve pedestrian experience.</p> <p>The framework sets out that spaces should be accessible for all. Further detail will come forward as individual projects progress and proposals will be assessed against relevant policies.</p>
<p>A key challenge identified was safety. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to address the safety of women in the city centre. 	<p>The framework identifies the challenge to deliver safe centres and neighbourhoods for residents and a key part of the vision is ensuring spaces are safe and welcoming.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>A key challenge identified was education and social. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing child poverty and safeguarding. • Improving quality of schools and the levels of attendance at schools. • Low productivity within deprived areas is a key challenge which needs addressing. • Social dysfunction is a significant challenge that has not been considered at this stage. • There is a need to increase civic responsibility, integration and participation. • Providing facilities to house homeless people. 	<p>The council is committed to working with a range of partners and stakeholders and find solutions to tackle all these challenges.</p>
<p>A key challenge identified was engagement. With the following comment made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of the competing and conflicting demands of the many different stakeholders in the city. 	<p>The framework has been informed by the consultation responses received and a further round of public consultation will enable people to provide further comments.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>A key opportunity identified was green infrastructure. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for more green spaces and tree planting in the city centre as well as generally across the city. • Support for the creation of a large centralised green space in the city core. • Need to ensure that urban greening and climate change adaptation measures are as inclusive as possible. • The canals are significant opportunities to create biodiversity and wildlife corridors in the city centre. • Maximise the use of rooftops as green spaces and for food growing. • Small, front gardens to properties should be prevented from being paved over. 	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and identifies the opportunity for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future.</p> <p>The City of Nature theme includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions. It also identifies opportunities for community orchards, allotments, and community growing initiatives.</p> <p>Paving front gardens are classified as permitted development.</p>
<p>A key opportunity identified was development / economic growth. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalise upon the growing importance of the eco sector of the economy (green industries etc). • Diversification of the use and purpose of city centre beyond traditional retail focus. • Opportunity to provide more flexible retailing and employment spaces. • Encourage more independent retailers to establish themselves in the city centre. • Prioritise restoring and improving existing buildings. 	<p>The framework sets out the need to continue to capitalise on and attract inward investment, deliver flexible and resilient development, and ensure all citizens share in the benefits of sustainable economic growth.</p> <p>The framework identifies the opportunity the green economy provides to support the city transition to a greener future. A key element of the vision is creating a</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	resilient future, so the city is better able to adapt to future shifts in work and consumer patterns.
<p>A key opportunity identified was climate change adaptation. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing higher quality and extensive infrastructure networks (more dedicated pedestrian/cycle routes, improved digital connections, electric charging points across the area) will help enable a quicker shift towards achieving net zero carbon emissions. 	The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and identifies the opportunity for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future to achieve net zero.
<p>A key opportunity identified was connectivity. With the following comments made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of cycle lanes that are segregated from main roads in order to encourage further uptake. • Providing adequate levels of EV charging infrastructure across the city centre. • The city's canal network can be extended and repurposed. • Reopen the railway line serving Balsall Heath, Moseley and Kings Heath (Camp Hill Line). 	The framework includes the opportunity 'central and connected' which set out the need to build on the Birmingham Transport Plan to transform Central Birmingham around new public open spaces and continue to deliver high-quality public transport to make active travel the first choice. It also identifies opportunities to improve the canal corridor through the green and blue web proposals.
A key opportunity identified was housing. With the following comments made:	The framework sets out the need to deliver a mix of high-quality new homes to support a range of communities.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More office space needs to be converted to high-quality housing given the significant changes of working patterns post-pandemic. • Large empty retail space in the city centre could be converted to residential or other uses. 	<p>Where buildings are suitable and viable for adaption to provide new homes this could form part of any detailed master planning or developer led proposals coming forward. The Growth Zones provide a range of opportunities where suitable properties could be repurposed for a range of other uses, including residential.</p>

Principles

Question: Have we identified all of the principles that should shape our future city?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 58% agreed, 38% disagreed and 4% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>General issues raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principles are too ambiguous and lack meaning or weight at present. • The principles should be more focused on people as opposed to large businesses/the economy. 	<p>The framework does not include the principles included in the Shaping Our City document.</p>
<p>Heritage and distinctiveness were a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The city needs to promote itself more and celebrate its distinctiveness and history. • Birmingham’s built heritage should guide the design of future development in the city. • Principles need to cover preservation of the city’s heritage and historic buildings/areas. 	<p>The framework does not include the principles included in the Shaping Our City document. The framework includes reference to heritage and the need to protect and maximise the benefits of heritage assets. It also includes reference to repurposing historic buildings.</p> <p>The need to protect the unique character and heritage is covered in the City of Layers and Distinctiveness theme.</p>
<p>Public safety was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comment was made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional principle should be ‘a crime free city’ 	<p>The framework does not include the principles included in the Shaping Our City document. A key part of the framework vision is ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	as well as visitors to enjoy. The council will work with key partners to improve safety and reduce crime.
<p>Route to zero carbon was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comment was made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principles need to be matched/aligned with the Route to Zero Carbon agenda. 	The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future.
<p>Digital infrastructure was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comment were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There needs to be consideration given to 'digital connectivity' under the theme of connectivity. • Support for the development of self-contained, small neighbourhoods that accommodate residential, employment and leisure use. 	<p>The framework identifies digital connectivity as a priority particularly for Digbeth, Bordesley and all communities of East Birmingham. The delivery section also identifies improved public access to digital infrastructure as a priority.</p> <p>The framework supports the delivery and enhancement of neighbourhoods and centres with a mix of uses to ensure they meet the diverse needs of the communities they serve.</p>
<p>Connectivity and mobility were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The city's poor quality transport network remains a significant barrier to improving the city and enticing investment. 	The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections and significantly reduce the role of the car in the city and the physical barriers large roads create.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prioritisation of active travel modes may discriminate against elderly and disabled people. • The principles should be focused on improving connectivity across the city centre for all. • Include WM Mayor’s aspirational transport network diagram for the West Midlands region. • The principles should consider the increased take-up of electric vehicles. • There needs to be better connectivity between the local neighbourhoods outside of the city centre, instead of just improving connections between the neighbourhoods and city centre. • Question the necessity of a Sprint bus between the city centre and airport over investing in other, more well-used bus connections elsewhere in the city. • The proliferation of HMOs in neighbourhoods is changing their social structure and impacting negatively upon social cohesion and community resilience. 	<p>It also sets out that spaces should be accessible for all. Further detail will come forward as individual projects progress and proposals will be assessed against relevant policies. The use of electric vehicles will be considered as future proposals come forward.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan which seeks to improve active travel and public transport options. The delivery chapter sets out that close collaboration with key partners including the West Midlands Combined Authority will be required.</p> <p>The Bold Proposals reflect Transport for West Midlands’ ambitions for potential rapid transit corridors, and new and improved railway stations and improved services.</p> <p>Houses of Multiple Occupancy can be addressed through the Birmingham Local Plan Review. The framework promotes a range of housing types and sizes that would</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	meet local needs, additional larger homes would help to alleviate the problems of overcrowding.
<p>Green space was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comment was made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A large park or green space is needed in the centre of Birmingham. 	<p>The City Heart section includes ‘Park Birmingham’ as a project which proposes a new green space in the city centre.</p>
<p>Other issues raised include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More investment is needed in the city’s theatre sector and preserving old theatres. • There needs to be recognition of the recently adopted Birmingham Design Guide. • Street cleanliness should be a priority across the city. • Too much reliance upon investment from businesses and organisations outside of Birmingham to regenerate the city’s economy instead of focusing on what local people and communities can do. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected. This includes building on the cultural diversity and identity within the city and the numerous assets the city has. The council will work with partners, stakeholders and communities to support, protect and enhance new and emerging culture in the city.</p> <p>The framework advocates for high-quality design and should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Design Guide.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	<p>The council is committed to ensuring the streets in Birmingham are clean for everyone to enjoy.</p> <p>The Framework proposes an Affordable Workspace policy (to be developed as part of the new Birmingham Local Plan) which could help to encourage new and existing local businesses to locate and invest in within the city.</p>

City of Centres

Question: Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Centres support better connected, sustainable and thriving neighbourhoods? How would you improve this City Theme?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 61% agreed, 38% disagreed and 1% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<p>Connectivity was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing local centres require better interconnections. • Extension of metro/tram routes down Bristol Road and Hagley Road would create significant opportunities within the south and western parts of the city, accommodating new growth hubs and improved local centres. • Support for Low Traffic Neighbourhoods but recognise they require enforcement. • Removal of the A38 Queensway and rest of inner ring road to help re-establish the pre-1960s pattern of centres and historic routes in and around the city centre. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections and significantly reduce the role of the car in the city and the physical barriers large roads create. The framework also aims to improve connections between different</p> <p>The framework is in line with the Birmingham Transport Plan which seeks to improve active travel and public travel options. A key element of the framework vision is to reduce vehicular movement in the city centre and as a result significantly improve pedestrian experience.</p>
<p>People was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centres should provide sleeping and washing facilities for homeless people, including drinking water and public toilets. 	<p>The framework seeks to ensure local centres deliver a broad range of facilities and services for residents. It commits to working with and empowering local communities to help shape future Birmingham.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and incentivise new community programmes which reward people for taking care of their local green spaces. • Support the introduction of neighbourhood forums to empower more communities in the city. • Emphasise the importance of utilising local people skillsets to help support their neighbourhoods and communities. • Need to improve outdoor play facilities for children, as existing facilities are in very poor condition within some of these areas/centres. • Regeneration should focus along Coventry Road. 	<p>The framework also advocates delivering family housing and facilities to serve families and improving the quality and safety of public realm to provide opportunities for play space.</p> <p>The framework outlines the opportunity to improve Coventry Road Centre.</p>
<p>Businesses were a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More emphasis should be put upon supporting growth in local businesses. • Encourage investment within manufacturing industries to broaden employment opportunities. 	<p>The framework identifies global investment and local enterprise as a key opportunity for the city to build on moving forward, this includes supporting growth in local centres and diversifying types of employment in the city.</p>
<p>Greening was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people should be able to access green spaces within five minutes from their homes. 	<p>The framework seeks to improve the availability of and accessibility to green spaces as well as increased green infrastructure within the public realm where possible.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to consider the ongoing maintenance of new parks/green spaces, who will be responsible for their upkeep etc. • Provision of seating and greenery in some parts of the city centre would help encourage further activity and usage. 	<p>The maintenance of green spaces will be determined as detailed plans come forward.</p>
<p>Identity/community was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain centres and neighbourhoods within the proposed boundaries lack an identity at present (Nechells and Bordesley cited as examples). 	<p>The framework identifies that the framework is made up of a diverse collection of centres and neighbourhoods with their own identity. It seeks to ensure future development contributes to local identity.</p>
<p>Infrastructure was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More healthcare facilities need to be made more accessible, in the form of purpose-built facilities combining medical services. • Important to recognise how the city core and the neighbouring local centres are able to complement each other in terms of employment and residential opportunities they can provide. 	<p>The delivery section of the framework identifies the need to ensure appropriate services (including health facilities) are in place to support new homes. It sets out that when new infrastructure is needed, innovative models for delivery and service provision as well as new approaches to management, operation, and stewardship could be explored.</p>
<p>Design and density were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit building heights to no more than 10 storeys. • More thought in how we deliver ‘mixed use’ developments, as they can often be disconnected from the rest of the urban fabric and feature underutilised ground floor uses. 	<p>As a major modern city, there is strong demand for new homes and commercial space, which can be accommodated in tall buildings, which are popular with many people and businesses as part of a range of building types across the wider city area. The Framework’s Bold Proposals provide opportunities for a range of building heights, with each proposal being considered as part of the detailed planning application process.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
	<p>The Birmingham Design Guide provides detailed planning and development guidance to support the need to ensure mixed-use development that is better connected and provides activity at street level.</p>
<p>Resourcing was key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on fewer neighbourhoods to ensure resources and funding are maximised for those areas instead of being spread thinly between a large number. 	<p>The Shaping Our City Document did not contain a specific boundary and suggested areas that could be included. The boundary for the Framework has been drawn to reflect this and similar feedback, to ensure focus.</p>
<p>Sustainability was key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to include opportunities for renewable energy generation as well as associated infrastructure (e.g. vehicle charging points) • Focus on 'locally grown' may be impractical; food and energy should be grown/generated where it is most economic and efficient, and this may not be in centres or urban locations. 	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. As the largest local authority in Europe, a major buyer of goods and services, and significant employer of the city, the council seeks to lead by example in its organisational practices as well as its delivery of public services and policies.</p>
<p>Housing was key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise lower density housing in centres to ensure better quality of life for new residents. 	<p>The framework sets out the need to deliver a mix of high-quality new homes to support a range of communities.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the draft Central Birmingham Framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to encourage more community living (co-housing, mixed tenure etc).	

City of Growth for All

Question: Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Growth for All support growth, investment and development for all of our communities? How would you improve this city theme?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 56% agreed, 39% disagreed and 5% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Design and density were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns over the focus on tall buildings and high-density development and public sentiment/willingness towards them. • Clusters of tall buildings can create unpleasant environments (wind tunnels, constant shadowing) so need to be very carefully designed and preferably limited in number. • The focus on tall buildings should be balanced with the need to provide ample public/communal green spaces and recreational space to make up for lack of private amenity space available for future residents. • Tall buildings should be promoted in specific, identifiable areas within the central core of the city centre. • Need to understand and address the lower demand for office space following the rise in home working. 	<p>The framework promotes a range of building types across the five Central Areas which includes tall buildings and low-rise homes; all remain popular with and meet different needs and preferences of different occupiers. Detailed master planning with residents will consider density in the context of surrounding character, green infrastructure and local services.</p> <p>The micro-climate impact of tall buildings and clusters of tall buildings will be considered as part of detailed planning applications as each specific location and building design is unique. The Birmingham Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document provides design principles and guidance on mitigating negative impacts. The framework proposes increasing areas of green spaces.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
	A key element of the vision is creating a resilient future, so the city is better able to adapt to future shifts in work and consumer patterns.
<p>Connectivity was key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large scale transportation network improvements would enable significant economic growth. • The quality of the city’s public realm in general is low and needs comprehensive improvement and needs to be recognised as an important factor in attracting employers and further investment. • Prioritise redevelopment opportunities around transportation nodes. 	<p>The framework outlines local connectivity as a key challenge moving forward and seeks to work with partners to deliver high-quality sustainable modes of sustainable travel. The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan.</p>
<p>People were a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to ensure any proposals for growth are inclusive towards disabled people and their requirements. • Acknowledge the strong links between economic prosperity of the city and the health and wellbeing of its occupants. • Community involvement should be happening at the start of the development process. • Redevelopment and investment directed towards the inner neighbourhoods (e.g. Balsall Heath) should seek to support existing communities and not overwhelm them or cause gentrification. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected. This includes delivering high-quality accessible places for all. The framework states that growth and investment in the city doesn’t always meet the needs of all our residents. Historically we have been inward looking and we now need to look beyond the city centre to ensure the benefits of inclusive growth are felt by all.</p> <p>The delivery section states there will be regular and meaningful engagement, and the role of the community will be built into governance arrangements.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
	It also sets out that spaces should be accessible for all.
<p>Businesses were a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest encouraging the formation of business partnerships with local communities. • Central market/exhibition space to promote the many independent businesses in areas like Digbeth and the Jewellery Quarter. • Reduce business rates for small local businesses. 	<p>The framework outlines the strong history of partnership working in Birmingham which has delivered major projects in recent years. It states this will continue with the Bold Proposals outlined that will be driven forward and co-ordinated through joint working between the City Council, West Midlands Combined Authority, Homes England, landowners, developers, local communities, health and education providers and other key organisations who have a stake in our city.</p> <p>Changing business rates is beyond the scope of the framework.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Infrastructure was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to provide sufficient infrastructure and public services to support the growing residential population in the city centre. • Proposals supporting the provision of new housing and employment spaces should be complemented by explicit references to creating inter-connected places and spaces, making use of existing assets like green and blue spaces. 	<p>The delivery section of the framework identifies the need to ensure appropriate services and infrastructure is in place to support new homes. It sets out that when new infrastructure is needed, innovative models for delivery and service provision as well as new approaches to management, operation, and stewardship could be explored.</p> <p>The framework seeks to improve the green and blue network in the city to create safe and sustainable connections between areas in the framework boundary.</p>
<p>Wellbeing was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a focus on improving quality of life of residents instead of simply increasing the number of new housing and employment space in the city. • Provide a more diverse range of retailing uses in centres to avoid proliferation of certain uses linked to unhealthy lifestyles. • Tall buildings do not often create community inclusion or provide health and wellbeing benefits. • More investment in sports and leisure opportunities. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected. This includes improving the lives of residents by delivering high-quality accessible green spaces and public realm for all. It sets out the need to ensure residents have access to high-quality green space, affordable healthy food, and key services and facilities. It also states the need to deliver sustainable neighbourhoods that are well-served and connected to reduce the need to travel. Making it easier to travel by walking, cycling and public transport will help tackle the climate crisis, improve air quality and create a healthier place to live, work and play.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
	Increasingly, tall buildings include areas of community space and facilities such as gyms, shared dining and cinema spaces, and co-working space that are available for the building's community to use.
<p>Sustainability was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new developments must contribute towards carbon neutrality. • All growth should be green and sustainable, utilising supply chains that are non-exploitative. • Prioritise redeveloping on brownfield land. 	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. As the largest local authority in Europe, a major buyer of goods and services, and significant employer of the city, the council seeks to lead by example in its organisational practices as well as its delivery of public services and policies.</p>
<p>Housing was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing requires proper definition as there are different forms. • Converting former office blocks to affordable housing should be minimised. • Need to focus on providing more low-density housing for families. • Manage the unchecked growth of back-land development schemes. 	<p>The framework sets out the need to deliver a mix of high-quality affordable new homes to support a diverse range of communities. All future housing development will need to be in line with policy requirements for affordable housing.</p> <p>If implemented carefully, the re-use of former office space or other commercial space for residential uses can provide a valuable contribution towards meeting the city's housing need, recycle a building and reduce the carbon footprint of demolition and new-build, and find new uses for heritage buildings.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
	<p data-bbox="1180 339 1879 451">The Framework includes Bold Proposals for Growth Zones and Housing Action Areas where there is potential for providing more family housing.</p> <p data-bbox="1180 560 1879 671">The Birmingham Design Guide and policies of the Birmingham Development Plan provide planning guidance and policy to manage back-land development.</p>

City of Nature

Question: Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Nature support green, healthy and active communities? How would you improve this city theme?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 77% agreed, 11% disagreed and 12% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Comments on specific areas included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supportive of proposals, as Birmingham should follow examples of other large cities like Bristol, which are already greener in character. Revival of historic Birmingham parks could also be considered. • Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Plan had identified issues regarding the enclosure of open spaces. • A park-and-ride scheme should be considered for outer-city neighbourhoods such as Kings Heath. • Will be difficult to 'green-up' Small Heath - very limited amount of land remaining. • Existing open spaces in Ladywood are not used and offer opportunities. • Southside has witnessed high volumes of recent residential development but no green spaces and are urgently needed. • The city centre should be made the priority for new green spaces, as there is very little currently. • Highly supportive of repurposing of roads. • More green spaces are needed in the north-west areas of the city centre, from Snowhill to Eastside. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Nature theme which includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions. It also identifies opportunities for community orchards, allotments and community growing initiatives.</p> <p>The framework references projects outlined in the Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Plan. The neighbourhood plan will continue to inform and shape planning decisions in the area.</p>
<p>Design was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p>	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. The framework acknowledges a number of</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biophilic design intensions are unrealistic and conflict with Birmingham’s Industrial character. De-carbonising the city, improving the environment and greater sustainability are all positives but other measures like retrofitting of existing buildings and heritage assets would deliver greater benefits. • Future proposals should include design considerations regarding shade shelter and natural cooling mechanisms. • Improved pavements and surfaces are required – with flatted levels to ease movement across the city. • Lighting of parks and opens spaces should be considered to increase usage and improve safety. • Redevelopment of Lee Bank/Park Central should serve as a successful example of how to reimagine a council housing estate, from lots of unused green space to a defined place with a park at its core. • Conservation Areas should be promoted. 	<p>interventions are required including embracing sustainable technologies and retrofitting existing buildings to meet the council’s net zero targets.</p> <p>Improving accessibility and the quality of public realm is a key component of the City of Centres theme.</p> <p>The framework highlights the need to increase lighting to improve safety and user-experience.</p> <p>The framework includes reference to heritage and the need to protect and maximise the benefits of heritage assets.</p>
<p>The canal network was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater emphasis should be made on initiatives to open up land around canals to create a full network of safe and active canal routes. • The ‘New Main Line’ canal system should be given more prominence in the document. • Proposal for Reaside Walk could provide good link from Digbeth to Calthorpe Park and Cannon Hill Park. Potential for new waterfront at junction of Birmingham and Warwick Canal and Grand Union canal. 	<p>A key bold proposal within the framework is the green and blue web which seeks to maximise on the existing green and blue infrastructure, improve quality of public realm and create safe, accessible routes for walking and cycling.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remediation of the canal network would make the places safer and would also enable the historic buildings/landscapes of the past to be celebrated. 	
<p>Resources were a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supportive of plans but on-going maintenance of all new green spaces will be critical to their success. Third sector and charity organisations should be involved. Investment is needed for existing, neglected green/open spaces, where fly-tipping and missing boundaries need attention. 	<p>The framework seeks to improve the availability of and accessibility to green spaces as well as increased green infrastructure within the public realm where possible. The council is committed to working with partners and stakeholders including third sector organisations to deliver and look after high-quality schemes that benefit Birmingham residents. The maintenance of green spaces will be determined as detailed plans come forward and the inclusion of a range of charity, residents' groups and other organisations will be encouraged to get involved.</p>
<p>Sustainability was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eco-landscape approach proposed should be more radical. Community involvement is essential and will enable projects such as 'Edible Brum' to educate on importance of gardening and horticulture. Youth volunteering could support maintenance of canals and provide access to new skills and sports. Residents should be encouraged to feel ownership of green spaces to support quality of life and invest in social infrastructure of the city. Need to share knowledge on green spaces between generations and preserve what is known for future. New parks should encourage active interactions and not just be valued for their green environment. They should include more sports pitches for young people. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Nature theme which includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions. It also identifies opportunities for community orchards, allotments and community growing initiatives.</p> <p>The framework seeks to improve the quality and quantity of green space and ensure they are accessible for all. There will be opportunities for further engagement as individual projects come forward.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing green spaces are being used to provide land for new homes and business, but these spaces must be protected. • Planning regulations should not allow back gardens to be developed upon and destroy natural/wildlife habitats. • Means for the city to better manage and reduce waste must be identified – council-run composting service and food recycling scheme for every home. 	<p>Residents paving their gardens is permitted development and is beyond the remit of the framework. Waste management is also beyond the scope of the plan.</p> <p>Detailed masterplans will be developed with communities to look at the use, location and qualities of existing green spaces to see how they could be improved, expanded, or consolidated alongside any new development potential. This will ensure green spaces are attractive, safe and meet local needs. The Bold Proposals include the potential for an expansion to Highgate Park, the opening up of the Rea Valley and Chadbrook Valley as new green spaces, a new Sky Park, and improvements to several existing parks, canal sides and waterways across the framework area. The Housing Action Areas and Growth Zones, including Park Birmingham, would also address the need for new/more access to green spaces.</p>
<p>Greening was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of smaller ‘pocket parks’ would be more sustainable than one or two new large parks. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Nature theme which includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions. The framework supports the delivery of green infrastructure</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for delivery of pocket parks. • More green walls should be installed in the city centre and greater focus on green construction. • Requests greater detail regarding the delivery of green infrastructure. • Supportive of tree planting, green rooftops, urban forest, and greening of canal network and walking and cycling routes – will all create an attractive environment and deliver health and wellbeing benefits. • Any new parks must be safe for all communities. • Trees play a critical role in some areas where traffic is heavy. • Tree planting and greening must be in appropriate locations as excessive planting could have adverse impacts for overall character of an area. • Green roofs should be targeted at commercial and public buildings only, as expensive to maintain. Trees on top of buildings may not be able to be sustained and promotion of green roofs should be supported instead. • Council should improve connections to key green stakeholders and professionals. • States the ambitions in the City of Nature theme could go further. • The term ‘re-wilding’ is unsuitable for a city landscape – should talk about ‘managed’ and ‘natural’ areas. 	<p>including increased tree canopy cover, green roofs and pocket parks. Increased green infrastructure will be balanced against the need to protect heritage assets. It also outlines the ambition to encourage communities to interact with nature through education and play.</p> <p>A key part of the vision will be ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy.</p> <p>The council is committed to working with a broad range of partners and stakeholders to deliver improved green spaces and infrastructure. The framework doesn’t include the term re-wilding.</p>
<p>Connectivity was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new developments should prioritise active travel. • Increased levels of public transport is needed and should operate 24 hours a to encourage car users to switch modes. • Not everyone is able to participate in modes of active travel or use public transport – disabled persons and the elderly must be able to travel to the new green spaces. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which sets out the ambitions to ensure roads are no longer creating barriers to people walking and cycling, create attractive sustainable transport choices in areas of high housing density to support a move away from private cars, ensure efficient access for goods and servicing to support economic activity and facilitate the</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-connection of Moseley, Kings Heath, Rotton Park Road and Edgbaston Railway Stations is required. • A large city bike centre should be established. • Walking and cycling routes should be kept separated and more cycle routes are needed in general. • Creation of Greenways to repurpose A38 and Suffolk Queensway should be prioritised, to address high pollution levels. Green corridors would encourage outdoor activity and play. Greenways could also support wildlife and plant life too and animal highways should be created. • Requests greater clarity on how greenway will be delivered. 	<p>provision of world-class digital infrastructure to homes, schools and businesses.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan which states innovative mobility options and their operations need to be safe and secure for all citizens. In addition, innovative mobility services need to allow all citizens to access benefit from them, and not perpetuate existing access barriers to mobility and opportunities.</p> <p>New Moseley and Kings Heath stations are currently under construction with services starting in 2024. The framework proposes new stations at Balsall Heath and the reopening of a station in the vicinity of the old Monument Road station.</p> <p>The framework’s Bold Proposals include Greenways for the A38 and other major highways.</p> <p>The framework includes a delivery chapter which sets out detail on how proposals will be delivered. It also commits</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
	to working with and empowering local communities to help shape future Birmingham.
<p>Delivery and implementation were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation must deliver green infrastructure and not allow it to be watered-down. • More robust planning policies are required to safeguard green spaces. • Proposals are supported but all elements must be taken forward together, as delivering only some of the elements won't address climate emergency. • Who will be responsible for maintenance of green elements in new developments – developers or homeowners? • The council should consider what employment and training opportunities are presented, for young people to care and maintain the new green spaces. • Council should incentivise homeowners to install green energies, as pay-back period is too long, and schemes have only been targeted at householders in receipt of benefits so far. • Requests Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems are included in future proposals. • Requests the council consider the forthcoming Environment Bill in relation to biodiversity net gain. 	<p>The framework sets out the council's clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. The council is aware a holistic approach is required to address the challenge and is committed to working with partners, stakeholders and local communities to deliver high-quality, sustainable green infrastructure.</p> <p>The framework seeks to improve the availability of and accessibility to green spaces as well as increased green infrastructure within the public realm where possible. The council is committed to working with partners and stakeholders including third sector organisations to deliver and look after high-quality schemes that benefit Birmingham residents. The maintenance of green spaces will be determined as detailed plans come forward and the inclusion of a range of charity, residents' groups and other organisations encouraged to get involved.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
	<p>The City of Nature theme identifies the ambition to encourage communities to interact with nature through education and play.</p> <p>The Housing Action Areas included in the framework include the potential for retro-fit of existing homes to introduce greater levels of energy efficiency and greener energy sources.</p> <p>The City of Nature theme also includes the ambition to create nature-based solutions to support environmental, social and economic outcomes including improved drainage and water quality.</p> <p>The review of the Birmingham Local Plan will consider the council's approach to biodiversity net gain in line with national policy.</p>

City of Layers

Question: Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Layers support the promotion of our unique identity, diverse culture and history in our city? How would you improve this city theme?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 56% agreed, 31% disagreed and 13% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Comments on specific areas included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic areas such as Digbeth are being rapidly bought-up by developers, meaning historic buildings and landscapes are already lost. Digbeth has been attractive to artists/creative industries due to its affordable spaces and development plans may change this and push these sectors out. New residential developments in Digbeth should feature mitigation against noise disturbance, as the night-time economy shouldn't be constrained. • Concern Gay Village is under threat from residential development, concerns it's vibrancy is being lost. • Concern residential development in the city is driving our creative industries. • Moseley/Stirchley and Kings Heath all have a unique identity and these areas should be better promoted. • Curzon Street area would be ideal location for a canal museum. • City should actively promote visitor attractions. • Concern there has been insufficient consideration regarding East Birmingham. 	<p>The framework includes proposals for the development of a Night-time Economy Policy and an Affordable Workspaces Policy as part of the review of the Birmingham Development Plan, which will seek to ensure a range of activity within Digbeth and the Gay Village/Southside, and Broad Street/Westside areas. Moseley, Kings Heath and Stirchley are not within the scope of the Central Birmingham Framework.</p> <p>The Canal & River Trust operate the historic Roundhouse at Sheepcote Street which provides a central base for canal heritage within the city. The framework proposes and Canals Action Plan which will seek to maximise the heritage assets, history, visitor and nature value of the canal network.</p> <p>The East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy covers East Birmingham in greater depth and area, with this framework providing a linking strategy between the City Heart, Digbeth and the communities of Small Heath and Bordesley.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Culture was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support 'City of Layers' theme. • In support of proposed Cultural Hubs but must involve local Creative Industries and local residents. • A key 'Cultural Quarter' should be created, similar to the Northern Quarter in Manchester. • The council must commit to safeguard the culture the LGBT+ community. • More investment should be made to attract specific cultures to the city. • More statues are needed, to celebrate people who are part of Birmingham's history. • The city should improve promotion of cultural assets. • The cultural needs of vulnerable groups should not be forgotten. • Supportive of plans to follow-up on success of Commonwealth Games 2022. • The wide variety of cultures and life histories of residents should be celebrated but not to the detriment of any other minority groups. • A landmark building for the city and a city flag should be proposed. • A Southside Cultural Action Plan is currently in development and should be referenced. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected. This includes building on the cultural diversity and identity within the city and the numerous assets the city has. A key part of the vision will be ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy. The council will work with partners, stakeholders and communities to support, protect and enhance new and emerging culture in the city.</p> <p>The council will work with partners who wish to develop a Southside Cultural Action Plan.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Heritage was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The historic environment should be a separate chapter, to give greater support to buildings, townscapes and archaeological remains. • The chapter should reference the Historic Environment Record and Historic Landscape Characterisation. • Requests residents are educated about the culture of Birmingham before visitors are. • Green heritage and landscapes must be protected, and the document must make more reference to the safeguarding of architecture. • Heritage buildings must be found new purposes and conserved spaces must have a regular use. 	<p>The need to protect the unique character and heritage is covered in the City of Layers and Distinctiveness theme.</p> <p>The framework includes reference to heritage and the need to protect and maximise the benefits of heritage assets. It also includes reference to repurposing historic buildings. The framework supports protecting and enhancing the industrial landscape and heritage with reference to Digbeth.</p> <p>Protecting green assets is included in the City of Nature theme.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with other planning documents and the Local Plan which has specific policies on heritage.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Challenges was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More ambition is needed. • Many deprived communities have been neglected and cannot access the opportunities that the city offers. • Lots of residential development is proposed but where are the proposals for new jobs. • Low aspirations are endemic across the city and improved education is required. Poverty and crime rates are high and must be addressed first. • Concern the city won't manage the demands of increased visitors. • A growing city will present demand for new sporting and leisure venues and the majority of demand will be at the community level. • The document should be made much shorter to encourage people to read and engage with it. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected. A key part of the vision is to promote and link opportunities and investment that meets community needs, and to ensure the benefits of growth reaches more of our citizens.</p> <p>The framework acknowledges that many of the challenges facing Birmingham and its communities stem from historic and structural inequalities within our society and economy.</p> <p>The framework aims to ensure spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy. The council will work with key partners to improve safety and reduce crime.</p> <p>Accessible and engaging material will be provided during the public consultation to encourage people to engage with and feedback on the document.</p>
<p>Identity was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In many areas a specific identity has been created due to support for small businesses being provided. If these spaces are used for new residential development, the identities and opportunities for new enterprises will be lost. • Communities should not have an identify imposed upon them, communities develop in own time. • More spaces should be provided for independent retailers. • City of Layers proposals will create more divisions and should be removed, or the terminology changed. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected. This includes building on the cultural diversity and identity within the city and the numerous assets the city has. A key part of the vision will be ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy. The council is committed to work in collaboration with local communities to deliver the vision.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Sustainability was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning should adopt a position of no demolition, with re-purposing and retrofitting of buildings to be the default. • Community assets must be conserved and not sold-off by the council. • Green job creation should be supported. • Enhanced community engagement and community action will lead to changes for Birmingham – the document itself cannot deliver sustainable change. • Public transport links across the city should be improved. • The Visitor Destination Plan should incorporate interactive maps to illustrate routes between destinations and public transport options. 	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. As the largest local authority in Europe, a major buyer of goods and services, and significant employer of the city, the council seeks to lead by example in its organisational practices as well as its delivery of public services and policies. Close collaboration with local communities and Birmingham residents will be required to ensure the city meets its net zero targets.</p> <p>The framework states that all future development should support our net zero and nature ambitions. Further detail regarding sustainability will come forward as individual projects are delivered and proposals will be assessed against policies included in the Local Plan.</p> <p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections.</p> <p>The suggestion to incorporate interactive maps has been forwarded to 'Visit Birmingham' and Transport for West Midlands to address as part of the Interconnect way finding system.</p>

City of Connections

Question: Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Connections support people-centred places and active travel within neighbourhoods? How would you improve this city theme?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 52% agreed, 29% disagreed and 19% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Comments on specific areas included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycle routes in the south of the city are inadequate as you have to use the main roads to get into the city centre and travel to other suburbs. • Some areas suggested for increased levels of walking and public transport use are currently unsafe and/or unpleasant environments due to antisocial behaviour. • Some areas outside the city centre have very infrequent train and bus services or no train stations at all. • Need to improve Jennens Road and reduce the number of cars. • Requests further detail is provided regarding plans to redevelop Snowhill Station. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections and significantly reduce the role of the car in the city and the physical barriers large roads create.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan which seeks to improve active travel and public travel options. The delivery chapter sets out that close collaboration with key partners including the West Midlands Combined Authority will be required to ensure a comprehensive approach is taken across the region.</p> <p>A key part of the framework vision is ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy. The council will work with key partners to improve safety and reduce crime.</p> <p>The framework includes the bold proposal to remodel Jennens Road and James Watt Queensway to remove the dominance of vehicles and provide greener corridors with major interventions to provide safer and wider pedestrian and cycle priority across the roads to transform access to the Aston Triangle. It also includes detail regarding the redevelopment of Snowhill Station.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Centres was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential facilities must be within walking distances of homes. • Promotion of local centres is a good idea – support independent shops and services. • Local community hubs could be extension of libraries. • Cheaper public transport that connects all of the local centres together is required. • Additional electric vehicle charging spaces will be required in local centres. • Co-working spaces are not mentioned in document and would enable people to travel to a local centre to work by means of cycling or walking. • More local provision for delivery lockers and delivery hubs to prevent unnecessary car travel. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Centres and Neighbourhoods theme which supports the delivery and enhancement of neighbourhoods and centres with a mix of uses and facilities to ensure they meet the diverse needs of the communities they serve. Creating safe and accessible sustainable travel routes between centres is a key part of the vision.</p> <p>The council will work with the West Midlands Combined Authority will be required to ensure a comprehensive approach is taken across the region.</p> <p>The framework states we need to ensure efficient access for goods and servicing to support economic activity.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Connectivity was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A central bus station is required so travellers can easily find connections. • The council should prioritise investment in new bus services in areas where there is no train stations or tram stops. • Good public transport interchanges should be delivered. • Different types of public transport m should be joined up to enable easy movement for users particularly those with disabilities. • Greater emphasis should be made on local walking routes from local centres to the city centre. • New connections must enable the easy and fast delivery of goods as new bus lanes and diversions could create delays. • Cycling should be encouraged by creation of routes that are completely separate from other vehicles. The switch from cars will only be achieved by making the routes feel safe for users. • An Underground Freight Transport system (UFT) should be considered, with underground tunnels to remove freight from the road network. • Existing rail linkages should be safeguarded for continued use as freight distribution corridors. • Roads could be repurposed for new green spaces to reduce noise and air pollution. • E-Scooters are dangerous and should be replaced by mostly traditional bikes. • Bike hire costs are a barrier to people using them. • Commitment to ‘Active Travel’ should include lighting programme for canal pathways, which are currently poorly light and make spaces unsafe to use • Car clubs offer alternative travel option and should be better supported. • Car users must not be demonised, if road network was improved congestion would be reduced. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections. It sets out the need to deliver sustainable neighbourhoods that are well-served and connected to reduce the need to travel. Making it easier to travel by walking, cycling and public transport will help tackle the climate crisis, improve air quality and create a healthier place to live, work and play.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan which seeks to improve active travel and public travel options.</p> <p>The framework also identifies opportunities to improve the canal corridor through the green and blue web proposals.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>City centre was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport deliveries to the city centre should be restricted to protect air quality. • Parking in the city centre is too cheap and encourages car travel, all parking spaces should be removed. • Pedestrian safety – maximum speed limits must be actively enforced, as its not currently. • Businesses have left the city centre due to the restrictions on car travel and more will follow – many workers have to transport work-related equipment, and this is not possible on public transport. • The A38 must be removed. • Installation of bus gates has created negative impacts for travellers – taxis cannot stop outside Moor St Station. New traffic controls must recognise the actual needs of users. • Proposed travel connections must link city centre to major urban areas outside of Birmingham like Lichfield, Coventry, Worcester and Sandwell. 	<p>The framework sets out the ambition to support delivery of the Birmingham Transport Plan to improve walking cycling and public transport connections. This will help tackle climate change and improve air quality.</p> <p>The framework sets out the ambition of the ‘Greenway’ which aims to repurpose parts of the existing Queensway and A38 roads into a green linear park where walking, cycling and public transport will be prioritised. Proposals will be developed in phases.</p> <p>Some of the suggestions are beyond the remit of the framework.</p>

<p>Challenges was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access for people with disabilities and older people is required. • Need to be less prescriptive on travel modes as travel options may change in future. • 5G infrastructure – what plans does the city have for the period beyond 5G, as by 2040 this will have been superseded? • Concern that funding to deliver the proposals will be a challenge to find. • Safety of women must be key factor in all new development plans. • Popularity of fast-food delivery vehicles will contribute to congestion, suggest a city-wide policy is introduced. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections for all.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan which states innovative mobility options and their operations need to be safe and secure for all citizens. In addition, innovative mobility services need to allow all citizens to access benefit from them, and not perpetuate existing access barriers to mobility and opportunities.</p> <p>The framework states that promoting the need for the latest and best digital connectivity will be a priority for the council. The council and partners will seek to ensure the best digital connectivity for residents, businesses and visitors as technology evolves.</p> <p>It also identifies the West Midlands City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement will support a number of proposals. Beyond this the Council and West Midlands Combined Authority will work with Central Government on future investment plans for delivering sustainable transport in the city.</p> <p>A key part of the framework vision is ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy. The council will work with key partners to improve safety and reduce crime.</p>
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Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
	<p>The framework sets a strategic framework for the central areas of the city. The comment regarding fast food deliveries will be fed into the consultation on the Birmingham Transport Plan for consideration. The Birmingham Transport Plan will contain more detailed, city-wide guidance and policies.</p>
<p>Sustainability was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tram system must be expanded as it offers a sustainable transport system that uses renewable energies. The tunnel network should be converted to a tram line to allow quick access through the centre. • The Combined Authority’s Sustainable Transport Plan should be included to show commitment to sustainable travel and provide confidence to investors. • Canal network should be used for goods delivery instead of road haulage. • E-bike Hubs should be established to develop network around the city. • Electric charging points and bicycle storage sheds should be planned for in apartment blocks. • Framework must be flexible and adaptable to respond to unexpected events in future years. • Roll-out of 5G should be reviewed due to potential health impacts. Free broadband should be provided to all residents to address ‘digital-divide’. • The disposal of waste building materials and chemicals, generated by new development should be better managed. 	<p>The framework aims to support the expansion and improvement of sustainable modes of travel in the future and references the expansion to the tram system. The council will continue to work with the Combined Authority to deliver public transport improvements.</p> <p>A key element of the framework vision is creating a resilient future, so the city is better able to adapt to future shifts in work and consumer patterns.</p> <p>The implementation of the 5G network is the responsibility of the telecommunications industry and its regulators and is therefore beyond the scope of the framework.</p> <p>The disposal of waste is also beyond the scope of the framework.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Greening was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support greening and tree planting – more places to sit and relax are required. • Increased greening will improve air quality. • Zoning new green spaces into existing street network will not create modal transport shifts. Concern new green infrastructure could create a new ‘collar’ like the concrete one that is being demolished. 	<p>A key part of the framework is increase and improving green infrastructure in the framework area. Green infrastructure will provide opportunities for walking and cycling routes and increase connections between different centres and neighbourhoods.</p>

City of Knowledge, Technology and Innovation

Question: Do the goals and actions outlined in the City of Knowledge, Technology and Innovation support a diverse set of innovative, digital and knowledge centres supporting the growth of our city and offering opportunities to our young people? How would you improve this city theme?

Of the people that responded to the yes / no element of the question, 67% agreed, 22% disagreed and 11% were unsure.

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>The Knowledge Quarter was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Knowledge Quarter is not the only area in the city where learning and new enterprises are based. The Jewellery Quarter and Digbeth are all areas where creative and entrepreneurial enterprises can be found. • Questions whether the Knowledge Quarter needs to be expanded. • Suggests greater detail should be included regarding the Knowledge Quarter including referencing the universities. • Suggests the Knowledge Quarter is renamed to ‘University Quarter’ to highlight the value of our universities and make it easier to understand its purpose. • Knowledge and innovation clusters are needed but shouldn’t be defined as a land use on a map or limited to specific locations. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Knowledge and Innovation theme which seeks to continue to invest in education and learning throughout Birmingham communities and provide everyone with the opportunity to learn new skills and share each other’s knowledge to create a unique and highly skilled workforce. It references the universities.</p> <p>The framework also seeks to support creative and entrepreneurial enterprises in other parts of the area boundary including Jewellery Quarter and Digbeth. The council also supports knowledge and creative industries that locate outside the identified ‘Knowledge Quarter’.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Challenges was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to ensure correct balance of new student development is identified. The mode in which students learn has changed post-Covid. • Apprenticeships need to provide effective training and development of real skills – too many are in low-grade jobs. • Advancement of technology must be of benefit to Birmingham residents – will greatly reduce volume of jobs in the city. • Health inequalities in children must be addressed. • Need to incentivise companies to establish their headquarters in the city centre. • Home-schooled children and those from disadvantaged backgrounds should be the focus of improvements in knowledge/learning, rather than education institutions. 	<p>The City of Knowledge and Innovation theme seeks to continue to invest in education and learning throughout Birmingham communities and provide everyone with the opportunity to learn new skills and share each other’s knowledge to create a unique and highly skilled workforce. Since the consultation, student activity at universities has increased. The need for new accommodation will be monitored in line with the policies and supplementary guidance of the Birmingham Development Plan.</p> <p>The framework acknowledges that many of the challenges facing Birmingham and its communities stem from historic and structural inequalities within our society and economy. It further states we need to continue to capitalise on and attract inward investment, deliver flexible and resilient development and ensure all citizens share in the benefits of sustainable economic growth.</p>
<p>Education was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities have role in up-skilling tech industries and creating a support network for them. • Education/University campuses in the city centre are needed but also in local areas. 	<p>The City of Knowledge and Innovation theme seeks to continue to invest in education and learning throughout Birmingham communities and provide everyone with the opportunity to learn new skills and share each other’s knowledge to create a unique and highly skilled workforce. The framework seeks to ensure local centres deliver a broad range of facilities and services for residents including educational facilities.</p>
<p>Greening was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework should highlight green innovation centres and set-up of Hydroponic farming and urban farms. 	<p>The framework sets out the ambition to be a global leader in a green future and states the green economy offers exciting opportunities to transition to a cleaner and greener place that can deliver jobs, homes and places in a sustainable way.</p>



Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Culture was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City must offer learning for all levels of ability and particularly those with no qualifications. Training for NEETs is needed and to break cycle of inter-generational worklessness. • Agree that lifelong-learning and up-skilling should be encouraged in the city – research and development drives economic growth. • Young people should be involved in shaping the future education proposals. 	<p>The City of Knowledge and Innovation theme seeks to continue to invest in education and learning throughout Birmingham communities and provide everyone with the opportunity to learn new skills and share each other’s knowledge to create a unique and highly skilled workforce.</p> <p>The framework commits to working with and empowering local communities to help shape future Birmingham.</p>
<p>Infrastructure was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nurseries and schools should be included to signal that learning is important at all ages and not just post-16 years. • Brownfield sites in Nechells should deliver new high-quality development and not large commercial sheds. • Existing libraries and community centres are important facilities particularly for those that struggle with online services. • New designated factory areas/spaces need to be created to attract industries to the city. • Data collected by the council, West Midlands Combined Authority and Transport for West Midlands should be shared with residents. • Investment is needed in data security measures to safeguard residents and intellectual property protection is required for local businesses. • Support needed for extra-curricular activities at schools. • Schools should be supported to open their sports facilities after school hours for use by the surrounding community. 	<p>The City of Knowledge and Innovation theme seeks to continue to invest in education and learning throughout Birmingham communities and provide everyone with the opportunity to learn new skills and share each other’s knowledge to create a unique and highly skilled workforce. The framework also seeks to encourage and attract new investment and provide job opportunities.</p> <p>Intellectual property, the storage and collection of data and school extra-curricular programmes are beyond the remit of the framework.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Sustainability was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical waste must be better managed – ‘Waste-to-Energy’ concept should be followed. • Improved knowledge and skills are intertwined with Zero-Carbon future – knowledge will drive the transition. • Repair shops/cafes should be set-up in local centres. • Low-tech solutions should be supported alongside high-tech ones. 	<p>The council’s Waste Strategy 2017-2040 sets out the approach to improving recycling, and waste to energy facilities which already exist in the city.</p> <p>The council’s ‘Route to Zero Call For Action 2020’ document recognises that education has a vital role to play in raising climate awareness. However, the council cannot directly alter the curriculum for Birmingham, as this is set at a national level. The council will continue to lobby for curriculum changes at a national level to include climate change in order to deliver consistency across schools. However, there is also an opportunity to explore what could be done locally, for example providing or signposting material to enable schools to teach elements of climate change through the existing curriculum as well as looking at how we can work with schools to engage children with specific activities related to climate change and sustainable lifestyles.</p> <p>Repair shops would be a welcome addition to local centres, however the framework is at a strategic level and does not make this detailed proposal. The provision of repair shops is not within the council’s control or resources at present.</p> <p>The framework proposes a range a range of measures to help tackle climate change, from promoting more green infrastructure, improved walking and cycling options, to generation of electricity via solar and water energy sources.</p>

Images

Question: The document includes a number of images to help bring the ideas to life. Do you have any comments on the images that should be included in the Our Future City: Draft Central Birmingham Framework 2040?

	Image in framework	Changes made to reflect comments
Greenway	 An architectural rendering of a vibrant urban greenway. The scene is filled with lush green trees of various sizes, including a prominent mature tree in the foreground. People of diverse ages and ethnicities are seen walking, sitting on benches, and interacting in the open space. In the background, modern multi-story buildings with large windows and balconies line the street. A distinctive cylindrical building with a grid-like facade stands out among the other structures. The overall atmosphere is bright and lively, suggesting a high-quality, walkable neighborhood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes colour• Greenery included is realistic and maintainable• Mature trees are included• Shows families• Includes spill-out space• Includes more architectural detail

	Image in framework	Changes made to reflect comments
<p>Highgate Park</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes greater detail • Includes colour • Greenery included is realistic and maintainable • Mature trees are included • Includes greater architectural detail • Includes leisure and sport facilities • Includes play facilities
<p>Hockley Flyover</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes colour • The image is clearer the flyover is proposed to be removed • Greenery included is realistic and maintainable • Mature trees are included • Includes people and cars

Ideas or Proposals

Question: Do you have any ideas / proposals that you want us to consider?

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>The following proposals in relation to social infrastructure were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework should be better advertised in all local communities to improve opportunities for engagement with it. • Increased role for community planning, rather than strategy being developed solely by consultants. • Local forums should be established as it is currently too difficult for residents to make direct contact with the council and discuss local ideas. • Big Local organisation has good ideas that the council could learn from. • Homelessness should be considered as a protected characteristic and framework should include plans for sleeping pods, access to drinking water and free toilet facilities in all centres of the city. 	<p>The council will undertake a further consultation on the draft Central Birmingham Framework 2040. The document and consultation materials will be advertised widely to encourage representatives of all communities to have their say.</p> <p>The framework commits to working with and empowering local communities to help shape future Birmingham. The protected characteristics are determined through the Equalities Act and are not controlled by Birmingham City Council.</p> <p>The inclusion of sleeping pods, drinking water and free toilets is beyond the scope of the framework and can be covered within the Birmingham Local Plan review.</p>

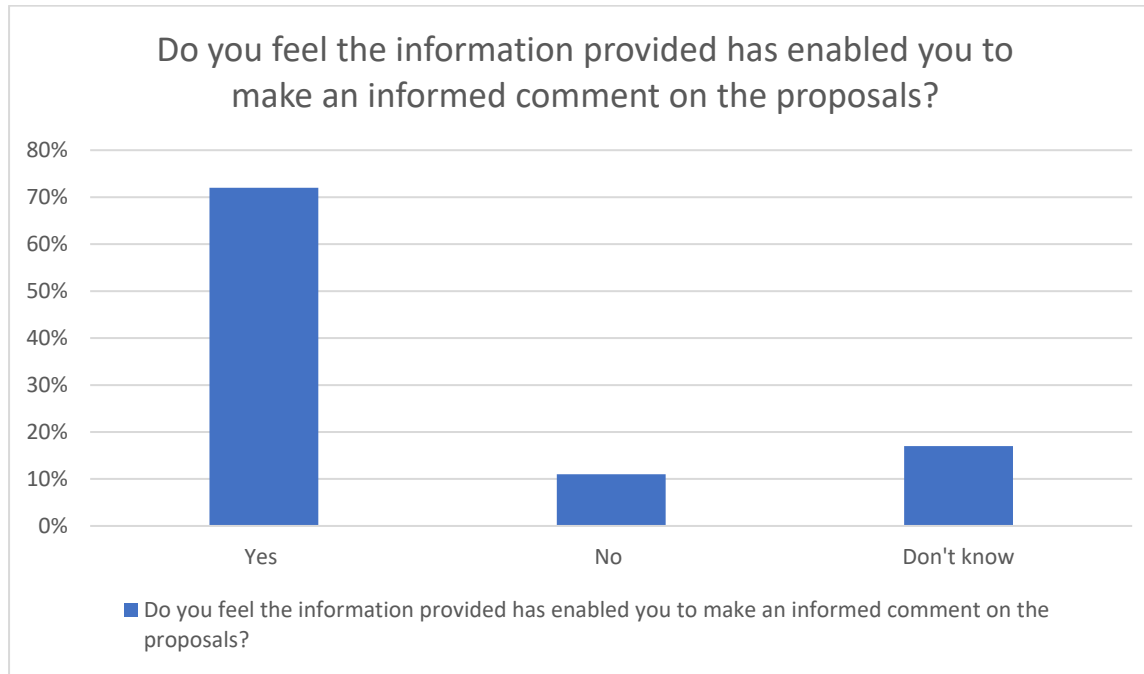
Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>The following proposals in relation to Transport were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Hill Railway Station should be re-opened and Camp Hill line extended. • Limitation on lorry weights should be introduced for lorries that travel into city centre. • A free or heavily subsidised bus service that travels around key areas of the city should be introduced. • Park-and-charge scheme could be developed for residents and visitors coming into the city centre. • More bike storage facilities are required in the city centre. • 'Eliminate-Minimise-Offset RHA Vision' document for decarbonising Commercial fleet vehicles should inform framework. • The ring road should be demolished. • Large roundabouts should be repurposed, for example be used as spaces for mini markets to improve safety and increase use of subways. 	<p>The framework states that the Camp Hill railway line is a major transport priority supported by the council and partners such as Transport for West Midlands, West Midlands Connect, and Network Rail. The reopening of a railway station at Balsall Heath is also proposed.</p> <p>The framework includes the City of Connections theme which aims to improve walking cycling and public transport connections and significantly reduce the role of the car in the city and the physical barriers large roads create.</p> <p>The framework should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Transport Plan which seeks to improve active travel and public travel options. The delivery chapter sets out that close collaboration with key partners including the West Midlands Combined Authority will be required to ensure a comprehensive approach is taken across the region.</p> <p>The framework sets out the ambition of the 'Greenway' which aims to repurpose parts of the existing Queensway and A38 roads into a green linear park where walking, cycling and public transport will be prioritised. Proposals will be developed in phases.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>The following proposals in relation to infrastructure were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified locations for new mental health facilities are required. • Plans should prepare for influx of new residents from South-East and London to access more affordable homes. • Re-locate the Indoor Market and develop a park around St Martin’s in the Bullring. • A large city centre public shelter should be created, to prepare for Climate Change impacts and safeguard residents. • A running circuit for children should be created in the city centre. • Delivery lockers should be created in central areas. • 24-hour lighting by companies should be prevented and restrictions applied. • More spaces are required to recycle large electrical items. • Community Energy Plans should be developed. 	<p>The framework sets out the need to deliver a mix of high-quality new homes to support a range of communities and integrate with existing neighbourhoods to ensure residents have access to high-quality green space, affordable healthy food, and key services and facilities (including health facilities).</p> <p>Proposals for the Bull Ring Outdoor, Indoor and Rag markets form part of the detailed plans for the proposed Smithfield development.</p> <p>Play and sports facilities would feature in the detailed design of new and improved green spaces and public realm.</p>
<p>The following proposals in relation to culture were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More prayers rooms for the Muslim community are required in city centre. • Thinktank should be substantially expanded. • More artistic areas are required. • More live music venues are required. • Theatre tickets should be subsidised. • New squares / plazas should be delivered for hosting events. 	<p>The City of Layers and Distinctiveness theme aims to maximise and support the cultural and faith offer and venues in the city to meet the needs of all communities. The framework includes proposals for improved museums and theatres, and a Streets and Squares Event Programme.</p> <p>Subsidising theatre tickets is beyond the remit of the plan.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>The following proposals in relation to greening were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More spaces for urban agriculture are required. • Community composting sites should be introduced. • A pilot should be created to green-over existing car parks. • Greenhouses could be installed between buildings around Paradise and used to harvest rainwater and grow a diverse range of plants. • Blue infrastructure should be expanded. 	<p>The City of Nature theme includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions. It also identifies opportunities for community orchards, allotments and community growing initiatives. The framework also identifies opportunities to improve the canal corridor through the green and blue web proposals.</p>

Information

Question: Do you feel that the information provided has enabled you to make an informed comment on the proposals?



Question: Do you have any further comments to make on the document?

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Delivery and implementation were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-Covid recovery must be a sustainable recovery, where social, economic and environmental factors are carefully balanced. Birmingham is slow to deliver change. Delivery speeds must improve, and good project management will be critical. • Ambitions for 2040 should be brought forward, with Framework for 2035. • Evidence base is essential to successful delivery. • Local companies should be used to create the new infrastructure for the city and must be encouraged to invest in its future. 	<p>The framework sets an overarching vision for the city to be inclusive, creative, resilient and connected and includes guidance to ensure social, economic and environmental factors are considered.</p> <p>The framework includes a delivery section which sets out how proposals will be achieved. It sets out that successful delivery will require regular review and should respond to the changing needs and priorities for the council, partners, and its communities. The framework provides a basis for the council and partners to bid for funding to support the delivery of projects.</p> <p>It is considered the 2040 date is realistic in relation to the scale of ambition and change proposed in the framework. The proposals range widely with those that can be delivered in the short, medium and longer terms, and in phased manner where appropriate. Developing detailed masterplans and projects with the community, partners, business, charities and other stakeholders needs to be factored in to delivery.</p> <p>The use of local companies to create new infrastructure is beyond the scope of the framework.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Design was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed designs are very conceptual so difficult to make informed comment. • The proposals for the Gun Quarter are poor with no active frontages at ground level and more high-rise, student apartment blocks. Concern the streetscape will remain a dark and hostile space and without any open/green spaces. • Proposed designs should show a greater awareness of the needs of older persons and those with limited mobility. 	<p>The framework includes greater detail advocates for high-quality design and should be read in conjunction with the Birmingham Design Guide.</p> <p>The framework is clear new development will be required to meet the needs of Birmingham’s diverse communities.</p>
<p>Infrastructure was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests more detail regarding how many new green spaces, sports facilities and cycle routes will be created. • A comprehensive metro system is required. • Passivhaus standards should be set if new zero carbon homes are to be built. • Electricity generation scheme is required. 	<p>The framework provides detail on the amount of green space and active travel routes that the vision aims to deliver by 2040.</p> <p>The framework aims to support the expansion and improvement of sustainable modes of travel in the future and references the expansion to the tram system. The council will continue to work with the Combined Authority to deliver public transport improvements.</p> <p>Passivhaus and zero carbon standards will be considered through the Birmingham Local Plan review.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Culture was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legacy of the Commonwealth Games must translate into real action and changes and communities must be more fully engaged in proposed future direction for the city. • The city needs to be made ‘more fun’ – more spaces for Art – to make, view and interact • Opportunities exist to discuss and better promote the history and heritage of different communities. • Should highlight the wide range of cuisine in the city. • Equality and inclusivity must be more strongly promoted and supported. • The document lacks a true sense-of-place for the future of Birmingham. The tone appears directed at external audiences rather than to Birmingham residents. An authentic Birmingham voice is needed. 	<p>The framework identifies the need to promote Birmingham’s heritage, world class arts, dance, music, food and cultural offer, and grasp the chance to build sporting excellence and long-term health benefits through the legacy of the Commonwealth Games.</p> <p>The City of Layers and Distinctiveness sets out the need to protect and celebrate Birmingham’s art culture and heritage – this can include different types of cuisine.</p> <p>The framework commits to working with and empowering local communities to help shape future Birmingham.</p>
<p>Greening was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality and clean water supplies should be a priority. • Adding trees in the city is heavily mentioned but this alone will not deliver a green city. • Food supplies should be a priority - Edible Birmingham should be a key focus of the sustainability ambitions. 	<p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. The City of Nature theme includes ambitions to deliver new green space that is biodiverse, encourage communities to interact with nature and create nature-based solutions. It also identifies opportunities for community orchards, allotments, and community growing initiatives.</p> <p>The framework sets out the need to ensure residents have access to high-quality green space, affordable healthy food, and key services and facilities.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Consultation was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only found consultation on Framework by chance, yet very interested in the issues covered – worried that many others people may not be aware of the proposals. • Keen to contribute to the consultation but time-consuming to complete and would be off-putting for many people. • Consultation documents are ‘text heavy’ which may mean disadvantaged groups are less likely to contribute. More efforts should be made to reach a wider variety of society. • Consultation documents were not accessible. • More effort is required to engage young people as they will be most affected by the proposed vision for the future of the city. • Include more maps. 	<p>A wide-reaching approach was undertaken to the consultation. However, due to Covid, all engagement was undertaken online. The next consultation will be a mix of in-person and online materials and events with the aim of reaching a wide variety of Birmingham residents including seldom heard groups.</p> <p>Alternative approaches were provided to respond to the consultation including social media polls and a short survey.</p> <p>Specific engagement exercises were used to engage young people. A similar approach will be used for the next consultation.</p> <p>The framework includes more maps to visually show proposals.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Other comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus for action should be on extending the current life expectancy in the city and areas where health levels are poor. • Make more training opportunities available for older workers. • Female leaders and professionals from the city should be made more visible / highlighted. • Requests more detail regarding specific sites. • States there is an anticipated shortfall of housing in Birmingham and asks how the council will deliver affordable homes. 	<p>The framework sets out that funding will support education, health, digital and community facilities, arts, culture, heritage and leisure offers, along with social initiatives including skills and training that are vital to creating attractive places to live, supporting both new and existing communities including businesses.</p> <p>Highlighting female leaders is beyond the scope of the framework.</p> <p>The framework includes greater detail regarding specific sites.</p> <p>The framework includes Housing Action Areas which identify areas of the city that have potential for improvement to the quality of homes and neighbourhoods. A strategy for how Birmingham will meet its housing target and deliver affordable homes will be set through the updated Birmingham Local Plan.</p>

Methods of Engagement

Question: How would you like to be engaged on the Draft Central Birmingham Framework in the future?

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>The following methods of engagement were suggested for future consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ward meetings • Advertising • In-person meetings and workshops in the city centre • Emails • Webinars • Social Media channels • Birmingham Live • Focus groups • Online surveys • Posters in local community centres • Involvement of Ward Members • Via community groups • Drop-in sessions • Creation of advisory / sounding boards 	<p>The council will undertake an eight-week public consultation on the Draft Central Birmingham Framework 2040. An engagement strategy has been produced which has taken the feedback into account.</p> <p>The consultation will use a mixture of engagement methods to try to reach a wide audience, details can be found in the Cabinet Member report this document is attached to.</p>
<p>The following further comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider requirements of visually impaired • Regular updates should be issued • Requests specific 'call for sites' consultation 	<p>The council will undertake an eight-week public consultation on the Draft Central Birmingham Framework 2040. The framework is fully accessible and can be accessed using screen reader technology.</p> <p>The council is committed to continued engagement. The framework commits to working with and empowering local communities to help shape future Birmingham.</p> <p>Consultation on specific sites is being undertaken through the Birmingham Local Plan review.</p>

Further comments

Question: Further comments?

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Consultation was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asks how the council made the consultation document accessible to those without a computer. • Asks how the council will identify community groups and engage with them. • States organisations and groups representing disabled people should be consulted. • Consultation document included lots of jargon and document was heavy-going to read and made very broad statements. • Consultation document was well considered and hopefully people will engage with the plans. • Asks if technology can be used to ensure people know what's happening across the city. • States the Our Future City Plan presents an opportunity for consideration to be given to partnership working between the council, developers, and cultural organisations. 	<p>The document was only available online as the consultation was undertaken during covid restrictions. The council will undertake an eight-week public consultation on the Draft Central Birmingham Framework 2040. The consultation will use a mixture of engagement methods including having the document available in local libraries, community spaces and the council offices. The council will undertake a stakeholder mapping exercise to identify organisations and communities within the framework boundary and reach out to them to get involved in the consultation. As part of this exercise the council will identify seldom heard groups and use existing networks to reach out to these groups in an appropriate way.</p> <p>The council will continue to use technology where possible and appropriate to try and reach and engage as many of Birmingham's citizens as possible.</p> <p>The delivery chapter sets out that close collaboration with key partners will be required to deliver the vision.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>The following general comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General support for proposals. • Concern over loss of manufacturing in the city. • Document should seek to reduce existing crime levels but there is no mention of this issue. • Document should reference the need to deliver an equitable city. 	<p>The framework states the city will transition towards green growth based on technology, innovation and manufacturing.</p> <p>A key part of the framework vision is ensuring spaces are safe and creating a welcoming environment for new and existing residents as well as visitors to enjoy. The council will work with key partners to improve safety and reduce crime.</p> <p>The framework includes the City of Knowledge and Innovation theme which has an ambition to seek to ensure equity in the provision of skills and growth across the city and support the development and growth of all our education establishments.</p>
<p>Delivery and implementation were key themes in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request more detail in terms of delivery, viability, management and monitoring. • Document fails to explain how local people can be involved in the proposals as they progress. • Suggests the council should focus on lower-cost projects that can be implemented quickly. 	<p>The framework includes a delivery chapter which sets out detail on how proposals will be delivered. It also commits to working with and empowering local communities to help shape future Birmingham.</p>

Issue raised:	How it has influenced the framework:
<p>Design was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests images show local landmarks. • Concern new high-rise developments will dominate and create an unwelcome sense of enclosure. • Retrofitting of existing buildings should be emphasised rather than creation of new buildings. 	<p>The framework includes images of local landmarks of across the area boundary.</p> <p>Detailed proposals for high-rise developments will be considered on a case-by-case basis, consideration of the surrounding character and buildings will be a key consideration. The Birmingham Design Guide provides detailed design policies and guidance.</p> <p>The framework sets a clear ambition to tackle the climate emergency and for Birmingham to be a global leader in a green future. The framework acknowledges a number of interventions are required including embracing sustainable technologies and retrofitting existing buildings to meet the council’s net zero targets.</p>
<p>Culture was a key theme in consultation responses. The following comments were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests vacant religious buildings are used for community buildings. • Requests more information in relation to how faith communities will contribute to the plans. • States the William Mitchell mural at Hockley Flyover should be preserved. • Restore Duddeston Viaduct. 	<p>The framework includes the City of Centres and Neighbourhoods theme which supports the delivery and enhancement of neighbourhoods and centres with a mix of uses and facilities to ensure they meet the diverse needs of the communities they serve.</p> <p>The framework clearly states the William Mitchell mural should be preserved. The framework also outlines the opportunity to deliver Duddeston Skypark.</p>

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