



Armada Way Consultation Report

Written by ECF and commissioned by Plymouth City Council



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*Proposed New Scheme for Armada Way Engagement Consultation Report, December 2023.
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Executive Summary

Context

- Over the years, Plymouth City Centre has started to look tired and past its best. As such, Plymouth City Council (PCC) put forward a scheme to transform Armada Way into a place where people want to sit and relax, play, meet up and enjoy some of Plymouth's great cafes and shops.
- Following a change in administration and much unrest due to the felling of trees on Armada Way, PCC shared a proposed new scheme with the public and stakeholder groups for comment and feedback. As it was not a statutory consultation, the aim was to gather feedback to help shape key aspects of the design and understand any further impacts and/or issues to address.
- The consultation period began at 8am on Tuesday 17 October 2023 and concluded at 5pm on Tuesday 28 November 2023.
- This report summarises the consultation carried out by ECF on behalf of PCC regarding the proposed new scheme for Armada Way. It provides an overview of the feedback received during the consultation period and the conclusions which can be drawn.

Overview of the Consultation Process

- The consultation process section of this report sets out the detailed activities that were undertaken to raise awareness and gather feedback.
- The awareness raising mechanisms included: social media posts by PCC and through CAN-Digital; emails to over 250 stakeholder contacts; briefings with stakeholders, the local MP, political parties and councillors; vinyls on hoardings along Armada Way; press releases and video sharing; hard copy materials in the library, indoor market and the Theatre Royal; and postcard distribution to businesses, schools, wellbeing centres, residential areas, shopping centres and to people along Armada Way.
- Information was shared and feedback was gathered through: the dedicated project website, email and phone number; a survey hosted online, in hard copy and EasyRead format; 1-2-1 interviews with stakeholders; workshops with under-represented groups; and the submission of formal written responses.

Findings Summary

- Detailed findings can be found in Section 5 of this report and the full findings for each consultation activity can be found in the relevant sections.
- For the purposes of the executive summary, these findings have been shortened for brevity.
- Overall, more nature and greenery was welcomed in an urban environment and the importance of tree canopy was stated especially from mature and tall trees.
- The types of planting and trees was questioned by some expert groups with alternative suggestions made. It was felt that some of these suggestions could improve the biodiversity of the scheme and incorporate more native species.

- The views on the proposed translocation of the six trees was balanced, between those who agreed with it, those who did not and there were some who felt it was a 'waste of money'. Those who agreed with the translocation were in favour if deemed necessary by experts and a maintenance plan would be put in place for the trees. Those against translocation felt there would be a low survival rate for the trees, and instead the cycle path could weave around those trees negating the need to remove them. It was also felt by some groups that insufficient evidence had been presented as to why the trees would need to move to enable the installation of the SuDS.
- The SuDS was seen as being essential by some expert groups to deal smartly with the city's rainwater and prevent future flooding incidents.
- Questions were asked as to how the perceived rodent population in the underground tanks would be dealt with when the new system is installed.
- Parents, grandparents and the business community welcomed the play village as it was felt it would be an added attraction for families and potentially increase dwell time.
- It was asked that inclusivity for all types of children be taken into account in the design and as many natural materials as possible be used.
- Concerns were raised around the large size of the play village, with feelings that it could be difficult to maintain and would be intrusive for those who wouldn't use it.
- The lack of provision for young people was raised and it was questioned how the design would take into account skateboard, BMX and parkour usage.
- People felt the pop-up spaces could be used for entertainment, shopping and food outlets. It was requested that linkages with event coordinators and the creative sector be made to finalise the logistical elements required such as lighting, power, water and the ability to erect temporary canopies quickly for shade and shelter.
- A range of seating styles were requested, with the inclusion of tables, suitable seating for wheelchair users, lots of seating in the play village, sheltered seating and availability of seating throughout the scheme. There were also comments that asked for more bench space/informal/natural seating (e.g. benching near Guildhall, like the promenade in Penzance, and The Strand in London).
- People felt they would use the flexible spaces for socialising and picnics, and it was felt that they should not all be hard standing but could include lawned areas and more greenery.
- Although a dedicated cycle path was supported overall, concerns regarding its design were raised. These concerns included: where it crosses with pedestrians and how that would be effectively managed; insufficient width for cyclists to pass each other; the potential for unclear sightlines around planting; lack of education and waymarking at intersections; and misuse by e-bike riders. The importance of sufficient bike storage made of durable materials was also mentioned.
- Improved lighting to make Armada Way safer was supported, but it was asked that expert opinion be sought on its design to ensure it was appropriate for the area and wouldn't adversely impact on residents and wildlife.

- CCTV was welcomed as a deterrent against antisocial behaviour, but it was asked that there be sufficient to monitor potentially sheltered spaces, especially in the play village, and that it would be angled to enable clear viewing corridors.
- Maintenance of the scheme was an underlying concern, with requests for a long-term plan and a ring-fenced budget. The public and stakeholders questioned how PCC would ensure there would be sufficient resource in place to keep the scheme clean, free from litter and dog waste, without graffiti and damage. It was also requested that plans be put in place to maintain the greenery, water features and any translocated trees.
- When given a list of statements to agree with regarding the scheme, the most popular were: it will make the city centre more welcoming; it will be a greener space; it will help businesses attract more customers
- During any future construction phase, it was asked that thought be paid to disruption for businesses, deliveries into the area and the impact on the existing trees.
- It was suggested that implementation groups should be set up to assist with this phase and improve communications.
- Working with landlords was also seen as important to uplift the vibrancy of the city centre as part of its proposed regeneration.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1. Plymouth City Council (PCC) undertook a community and stakeholder consultation regarding the proposed new scheme for Armada Way in Plymouth City Centre.
- 1.2. [ECE](#), an independent communications and engagement agency, was commissioned by PCC to design, deliver and report upon the consultation.
- 1.3. Over the years, Plymouth City Centre has started to look tired and past its best. As such, Plymouth City Council (PCC) put forward a scheme to transform Armada Way into a place where people want to sit and relax, play, meet up and enjoy some of Plymouth's great cafes and shops.
- 1.4. The aim of the scheme is to lift and rejuvenate the city centre, making it more attractive to shoppers, residents, visitors and potential investors who are interested in coming to Plymouth, thus acting as a catalyst for local business growth.
- 1.5. On 19 May 2023, the new leader of Plymouth City Council, Councillor Tudor Evans OBE, set out 'his firm intention to rescue, reinvigorate and renew the city centre and reunite a divided city'. Within hours of becoming the Leader, he overturned the decision of the previous Leader to progress with the Armada Way scheme, that had been developed, and taken on 14 March 2023. This meant that the scheme agreed on 14 March 2023 would not be implemented and officers were tasked with working with members to bring forward revised options for the proposed regeneration project (bearing in mind the considerable work and cost associated with developing the previous scheme).
- 1.6. At the end of June/early July, the first phase of the clean-up commenced with the removal of the tree stumps (felled on the evening of 14 March 2023) from the footways between the sections on Mayflower Street / Cornwall Street and New George Street / Cornwall Street, temporary re-surfacing and the further pulling back some of the Heras fencing.
- 1.7. The next steps were to share a proposed new scheme with the public and stakeholder groups for comment and feedback, to help shape key aspects of the design and understand any further impacts and/or issues to address.
- 1.8. The consultation period began at 8am on Tuesday 17 October 2023 and concluded at 5pm on Tuesday 28 November 2023.
- 1.9. This report summarises the consultation carried out by ECF on behalf of PCC regarding the proposed new scheme for Armada Way. It provides an overview of the feedback received during the consultation period and the conclusions which can be drawn.

2.0 Consultation Approach

2.1 Pre-consultation engagement with stakeholders

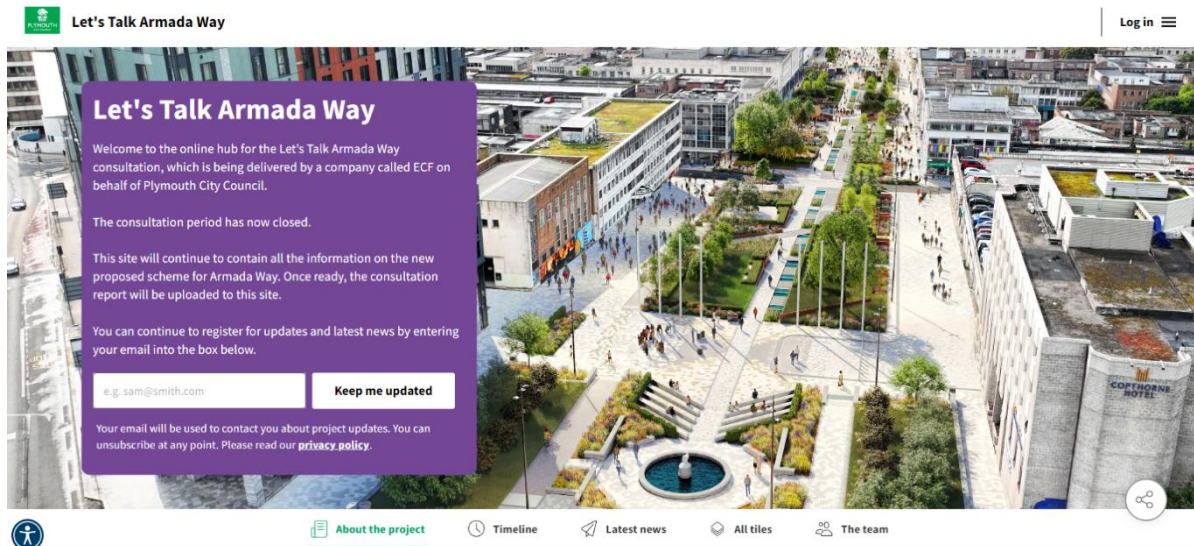
- 2.1.1 Between August – September 2023, key stakeholder groups were approached and offered 1:1 meetings to gather feedback on the consultation process and how they could facilitate discussions within their networks (Appendix 7.1).
- 2.1.2 Forty (40) 1-2-1 pre-consultation engagement meetings were held. A list of stakeholders who participated in these meetings is in Appendix 7.2.
- 2.1.3 In lead up to the consultation, the database of stakeholders (Appendix 7.1) were emailed updates prior to the launch and provided with information on how to get involved and distribute within their networks. On launch of the consultation, the project website was emailed to all stakeholders.
- 2.1.4 Councillor briefings were held to provide an overview of the consultation approach and how to gather feedback to contribute to the consultation process. Briefings were provided to the following:
- Luke Pollard, MP for Sutton and Devonport (19 October 2023)
 - Green Party Group (19 October 2023)
 - Conservative Group (26 October 2023)
 - Labour Group (6 November 2023)
 - Independent Councillors (7 November 2023).

2.2 Project website

- 2.2.1 A project page was launched on 5 September 2023 (<https://letstalkarmadaway.commonplace.is/>).
- 2.2.2 From the 5 September, anyone could register to stay informed on the project. Email updates were sent to website registrants in the lead up to the consultation advising how people could get involved and provide feedback.
- 2.2.3 The project website was launched on 17 October 2023 to communicate information about the project and engagement opportunity, including the online survey.
- 2.2.4 A detailed Frequently Asked Questions section was updated throughout the consultation in response to questions raised from the community. Project updates were communicated weekly through a 'Latest News Post' and this was emailed to all registrants of the project website.
- 2.2.5 On 20 October 2023, information on maintenance and construction was added to the project website and communicated through a 'Latest News Post' and

email to registrants. On 15 November 2023, information on nature and greenery, translocation and the play village was added to the project website and updated through a 'Latest News Post' and email to registrants.

2.2.6 From 5 September 2023 – 28 November 2023 there were 1568 subscribers to the project website and 24,066 visitors.



2.3 Survey

2.3.1 The survey was designed to gather a range of quantitative and qualitative feedback regarding the design elements of the proposed scheme, in addition to any overall ideas and concerns that respondents wanted to add. Open text questions were included throughout that have been coded for themes and thematic tables are included within the survey findings section that show the numbers of mentions for each theme. A copy of the paper survey is in Appendix 7.3.

2.3.2 An online survey was hosted on the project website using an MS Forms platform. Upon launch of the survey, it became apparent that a technical glitch occurred whereby respondents could not skip play village questions if they had selected they were not interested in that element of the design. However, this was rectified within two hours of the launch and instructions were added to make it clear that respondents could skip those questions. In addition, those that had completed the survey in that time were contacted to inform them that they could resubmit if desired.

2.3.3 On the 15 November 2023, additional information on nature and greenery, translocation and the play village were uploaded to the project website. An email was sent to all respondents to advise of the new information and offer the opportunity for respondents to resubmit their feedback. Respondents were

advised that only information from new submissions would be included in the final analysis. Throughout, only 12 resubmissions were made.

- 2.3.4 Printed copies of the survey were also made available at the Central Library, and on request from councillors and community groups. Surveys were also available in translated languages on request.
- 2.3.5 As well as the main survey, an EasyRead version was produced for those with learning disabilities. It was a distillation of the full public survey. A copy of the EasyRead survey is in Appendix 7.4.
- 2.3.6 The feedback from the EasyRead has been analysed in the same way as that of the online and hard copy survey.

2.4 Interviews with representatives of organisations and groups

- 2.4.1 ECF conducted a range of interviews with representatives of organisations and groups in Plymouth who were willing to provide qualitative feedback on the proposals. Most interviews took place on Microsoft Teams and the transcription feature was used to provide an initial transcription of the conversation. The transcriptions were then tidied up to avoid repetition and fix any errors made by the programme. In other cases, notes were taken manually during the conversation and typed up afterwards.
- 2.4.2 The interviews consisted of a one-to-one conversation between a member of ECF and a representative of the group or organisation. The representatives were asked to provide feedback on the five main themes of the proposals: nature and greenery, the play village, the pop-up features and solar canopies, seating and cycling, and lighting and CCTV, as well as any other thoughts or comments on the scheme.

2.5 Formal written responses

- 2.5.1 Written responses were submitted by 16 groups and organisations to provide qualitative feedback on the proposals.

2.6 Email and phone line correspondence

- 2.6.1 An email account (info@letstalkarmadaway.co.uk) was set up to allow people to send their thoughts on the proposals via email. The account was monitored by a member of ECF, and all correspondence and qualitative feedback was recorded and analysed.
- 2.6.2 A phone number was also set up to allow people to leave feedback verbally. People who called were asked to leave their phone number on the answering machine, and a member of ECF would call them back and record their qualitative feedback.

2.7 Workshops

2.7.1 ECF conducted four targeted workshops/meetings as part of the consultation process, each tailored to specific stakeholder groups. During these workshops, ECF focused on discussing elements of the scheme that were most pertinent to each group. For instance, in the workshop with older individuals, the key themes discussed were public space seating, the functionality of flexible spaces, accessibility, and safety. Additionally, ECF attended two family play groups to engage with parents.

2.8 Media and building awareness

2.8.1 ECF launched a CAN-Digital campaign which ran from 17 October to 28 November 2023. CAN-Digital is a paid for social media targeting service. The reach of the campaign was 182,000 devices. Three groups were targeted by the campaign: parents, businesses, and young people.

2.8.2 The campaign received:

- 1,310,652 impressions and 5,500 clicks from parents.
- 131,976 impressions and 1,257 clicks from businesses.
- 815,379 impressions and 6,780 clicks from young people.

2.8.3 All strategies were running until 1 November 2023 and then changed to focus on parents of children aged 0-5 only for the final phase with play creatives:

- From 6 November – 19 November 2023: 'If you want a play village on Armada Way, we need to hear from you now!'
- From 20 November – 28 November 2023: 'Last chance to have your say and bring the play village to Armada Way. Please share with other parents'

2.8.4 The project website contained a 'Latest News' section where updates on the project were posted, and people could subscribe to receive emails from the project team on the latest developments. Selected stakeholders also received regular updates on the project via email.

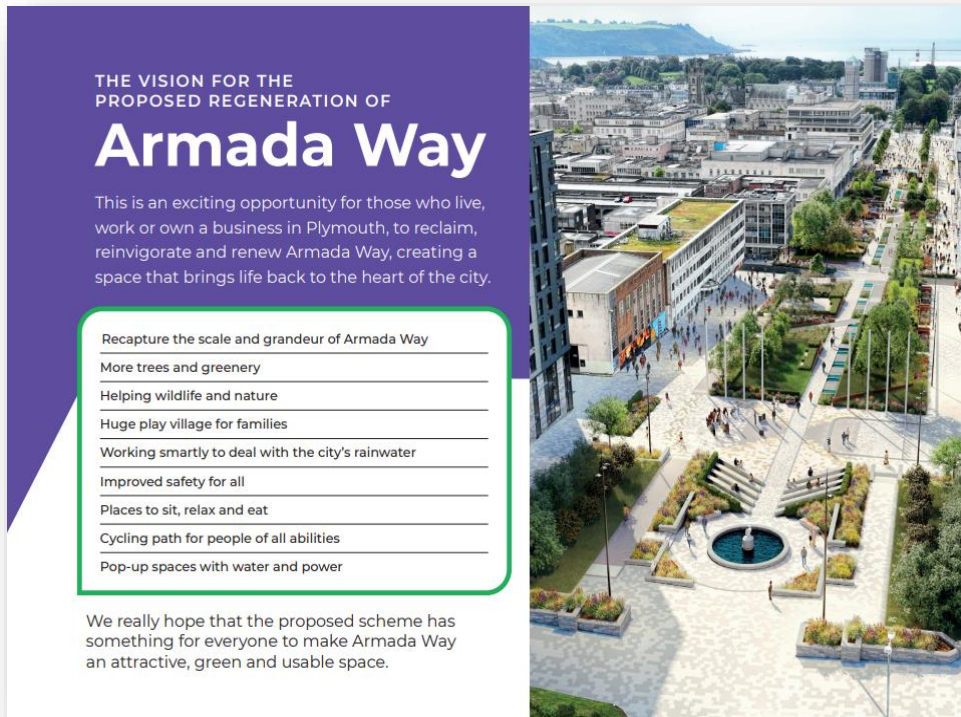
2.8.5 ECF distributed approximately 15,000 postcards directly to members of the public on Armada Way and to businesses located on and around Armada Way and within Drake Circus. Postcards were distributed in other areas in Plymouth including the Hoe, Stonehouse and Devonport (due to the proximity to Armada Way).


2.8.6 ECF distributed postcards outside of Mount Street Primary School, to staff and parents at St Peters Church of England School and St Andrews Primary School. Additionally, postcards were distributed to local libraries.

2.8.7 Postcards were also sent to Wellbeing Hubs, Barnardo's and Lark Children's Centres and leisure centres to be displayed in the reception areas to involve younger people and parents in the consultation process.

2.8.8 ECF attended the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Fair on 19 October 2023 to engage with people with learning disabilities. Additionally, ECF visited Ambito in Plymouth to promote the consultation and engage with people with disabilities, their families and carers.

Double-sided postcard:





If you really want to help transform your city centre and feedback on the proposed scheme, then please do make sure you get involved.

How to get involved

17 October - 28 November 2023

WEB <https://letstalkarmadaway.co.uk>


SCAN the QR code and complete our survey


VISIT Central Library, 167 to 171 Armada Way Plymouth, PL1 1HZ, to pick up (and return) a hard copy survey

TALK to one of our on-street team (wearing purple Let's Talk Armada Way tops)


EMAIL info@letstalkarmadaway.co.uk

CALL 01752 946604



Let's Talk Armada Way



PLYMOUTH City Council

2.8.9 ECF distributed posters to businesses, provided information boards to the Central Library, Plymouth Market and Theatre Royal Plymouth, placed vinyls on the hoardings along Armada Way, and distributed a digital pack to stakeholders (see Appendix 7.5).

2.8.10 PCC raised awareness for the proposals in the following ways:

- Providing stakeholders with a toolkit which included information about the consultation, links to the portal, and downloadable tools to encourage partners and stakeholders to aid with the publicity e.g. social media graphics / posters etc. This was sent to 114 stakeholders (including all councillors) and was downloaded by 83 people.
- Seven press releases between 17th October and 21st November which provided updates on the consultation and information on the proposals.
- Six videos between 17th October and 20th November which provided further insight into the proposals.
- PCC's weekly e-newsletter which is distributed to 26,000 residents.
- Media coverage across local and national news outlets.
- Social media posts on Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn and Nextdoor.
- Staff communications to encourage Plymouth City Council staff to participate in the consultation in their capacity as residents who live and work in Plymouth.

2.8.11 A full list of Plymouth City Council's consultation raising awareness activities can be found in Appendix 7.6.

3.0 Participants - Survey (demographic analysis)

3.0.1. The following section presents the demographic information that was collected from respondents to the full survey. The survey recorded key demographic data that aids the project team's understanding of who took part in the engagement exercise. Demographic data was collected in an optional personal information section of the survey.

3.1 Postcode

3.1.1 When completing the questionnaire, respondents were asked to provide their postcode. The number of survey respondents for this question was 1501. One respondent stated that they lived in the United States but visited Plymouth instead of providing their postcode and another respondent did not respond to this question.

3.1.2 Most respondents were from PL postcodes (96.4%); and 3.5% were represented by various postcodes, including 1.2% from TQ and 0.6% from EX.

3.1.3 The table below demonstrates the most common postcodes:

Postcode	Count	Percentage
PL1	260	17.3%
PL3	257	17.1%
PL4	226	15.0%
Total number of respondents	1501	100.0%

3.2 Age

3.2.1 The table below demonstrates a wide range of respondents from different age groups. This has also been bolstered with specific youth engagement activities.

3.2.2 The number of survey respondents for this question was 1480.

3.2.3 The age groups with the largest number of respondents were people aged between 65-74 (21%) and people aged between 55 – 64 (19%).

Age	Count	Percentage
65 to 74	315	21%
55 to 64	278	19%
35 to 44	235	16%
45 to 54	226	15%
25 to 34	174	12%
75 to 84	117	8%
Prefer not to say	73	5%
20 to 24	44	3%

Age	Count	Percentage
16 to 19	9	1%
85+	8	1%
15 and under	1	0%
Total number of respondents	1480	100%

3.3 Sex

3.3.1 The table below demonstrates the number of respondents by sex.

3.3.2 The number of survey respondents for this question was 1472.

3.3.3 Most of the respondents that responded to the survey were female (53%). 41% of the respondents were male and 7% preferred not to say.

Sex	Count	Percentage
Female	776	53%
Male	598	41%
Prefer not to say	98	7%
Total number of respondents	1472	100%

3.4 Gender identity

3.4.1 The number of survey respondents for this question was 1409.

3.4.2 Most survey respondents had the same gender identity as the sex they were assigned at birth (96.5%); 2.2% of respondents used the text box to describe their gender identity, 0.9% of respondents selected 'prefer not to say' and 0.4% of respondents had a different gender identity from the sex they were assigned at birth.

3.4.3 A list of responses from participants describing their gender identity is provided in Appendix 7.7.1.

3.5 Disability

3.5.1 The table below demonstrates the number of respondents by disability.

3.5.2 The number of survey respondents for this question was 1465.

3.5.3 The majority of survey respondents didn't have a health problem or disability that affected their day-to-day activities (71%); 16% of respondents were 'limited a little', 7% of respondents were 'limited a lot' and 6% of respondents selected 'prefer not to say'.

Daily activities limited due to health problem or disability	Count	Percentage
No	1043	71%
Yes, limited a little	230	16%
Yes, limited a lot	97	7%
Prefer not to say	95	6%
Total number of respondents	1465	100%

3.6 Ethnicity grouping

3.6.1 The table below demonstrates the number of respondents by ethnicity group. The survey collected demographic information by the groupings outlined in the chart.

3.6.2 The number of survey respondents for this question was 1463.

3.6.3 Most survey respondents identify as White (87.6%); 7.4% of respondents selected 'prefer not to say' and 2.4% of respondents used the text box to describe their ethnicity.

3.6.4 A list of responses from participants describing their ethnic group or background is provided in Appendix 7.7.2.

Ethnic group or background	Count	Percentage
White	1281	87.6%
Prefer not to say	108	7.4%
If not listed, please use this space to describe your ethnicity how to wish	35	2.4%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	20	1.4%
Asian or Asian British	10	0.7%
Black, Black British, Caribbean or African	7	0.5%
Different ethnic group	2	0.1%
Total number respondents	1463	100%

4.0 Engagement findings, by activity

4.1 Survey (online and paper)

4.1.1 The total number of responses to the full survey by close on 28 November 2023 was 1503. The following section sets out the full analysis with further data sets available in the appendices. Any demonstrable differences in findings by respondent type are stated within the commentary for those questions. Qualitative data has been coded for themes and one response may contain multiple themes, this means that the number of themes mentioned in a thematic table may exceed the number of responses to that question.

4.1.2 Responses in this section include feedback received from the online and paper survey.

Question 1: Who are you responding on behalf of? Tick only one.

4.1.3 Out of 1503 survey respondents, 98% (1475) responded on behalf of 'myself, as an individual'.

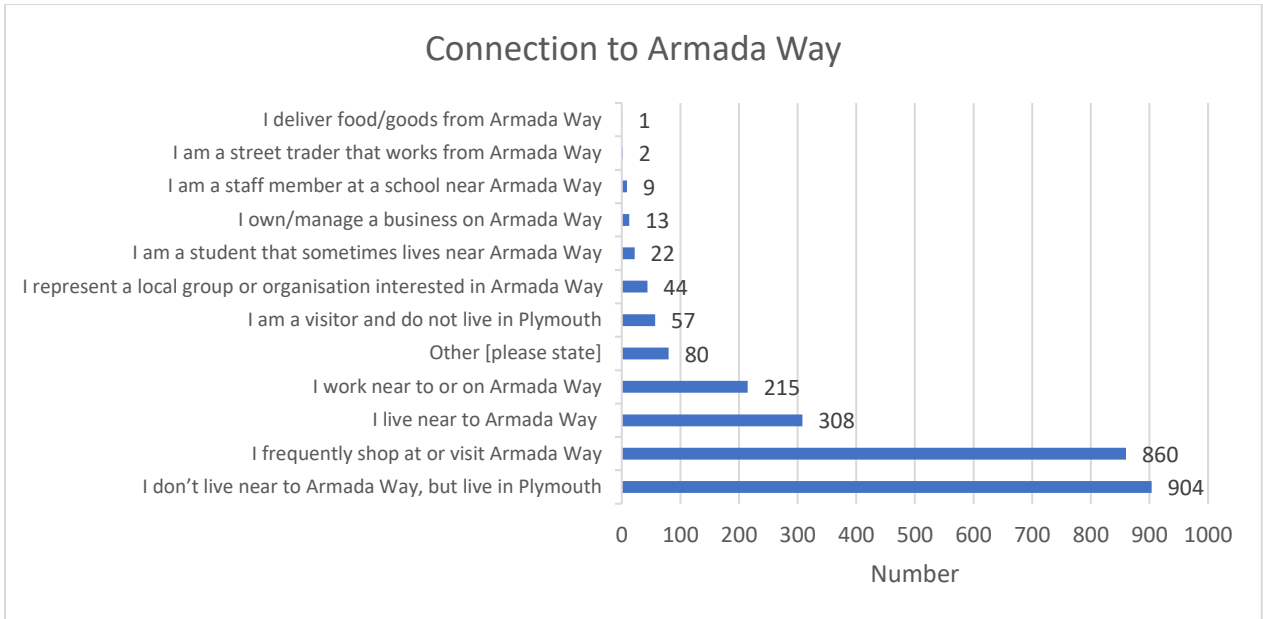
4.1.4 There was a total of 28 responses on behalf of an organisation, and these represented a range of businesses, community groups and a university. A list of organisations is provided in Appendix 7.7.3.

Question 2: How are you connected to the Armada Way Area? Tick all that apply.

4.1.5 The number of respondents to Question 2 was 1499.

4.1.6 The connection for most respondents was that they don't live near to Armada Way but live in Plymouth and/or shop at or visit Armada Way.

4.1.7 Those that answered 'other' were mostly people that had lived in Plymouth for all their life, were infrequent shoppers or visitors or worked in Plymouth or near to Armada Way. A list of these responses is presented in Appendix 7.7.4.

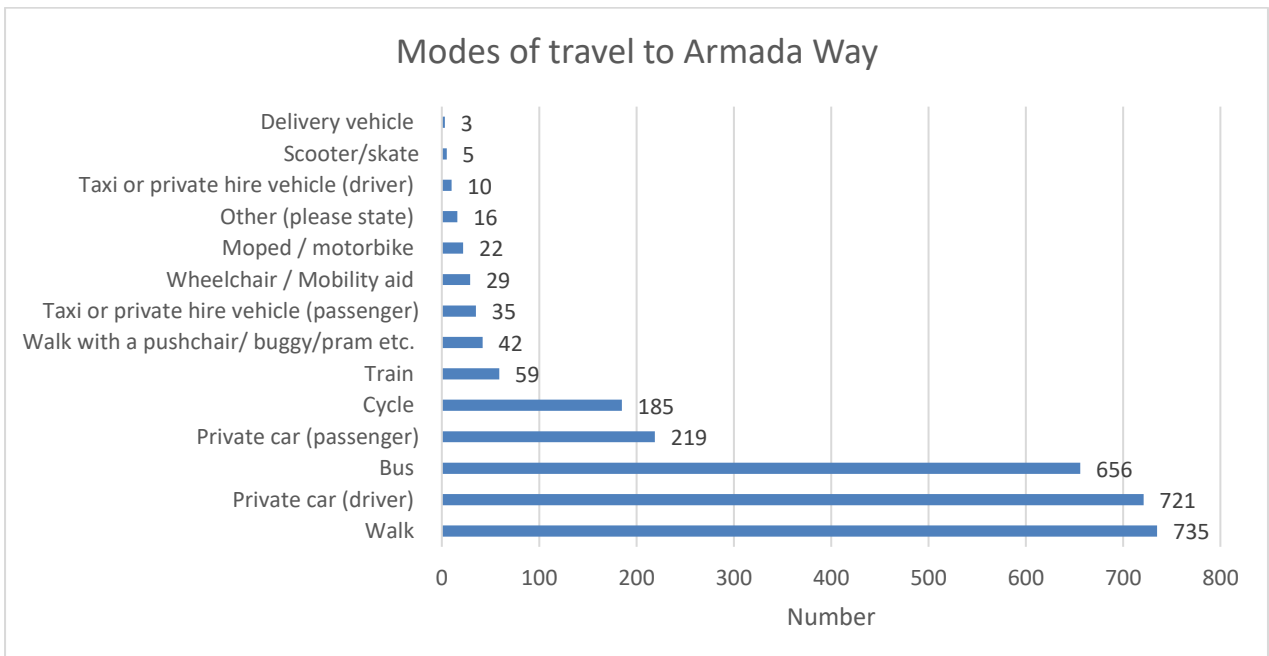


Question 3: How do you usually travel to Armada Way? Tick up to three.

4.1.8 The number of respondents to Question 3 was 1498.

4.1.9 Most respondents walked, drove a private car or caught a bus to Armada Way.

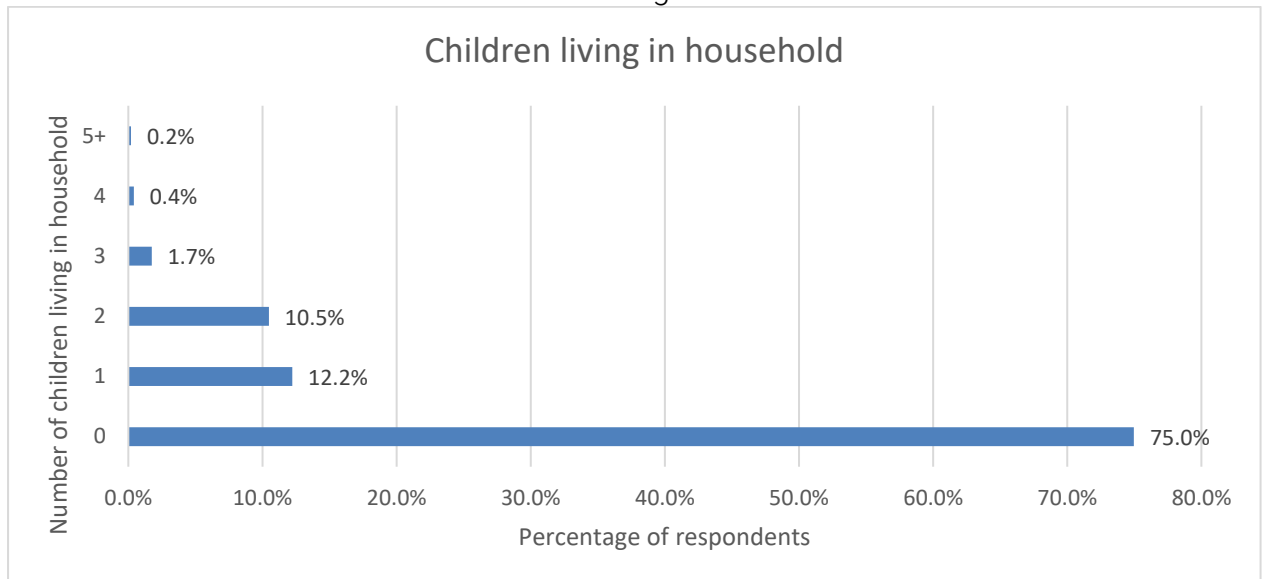
4.1.10 Those that answered 'other' gave a range of reasons including travelling by ferry/boat, running, or travelling on foot or driving. A list of these responses is presented in Appendix 7.7.5.



Question 4: How many children (0-17 years of age) live in your household?

4.1.11 The number of respondents to Question 4 was 1498.

4.1.12 Most respondents (75%) did not have any children living in their household; 12.2% had 1 child living in the household, 10.5% had 2 children living in the household and 1.7% had 3 children living in the household.

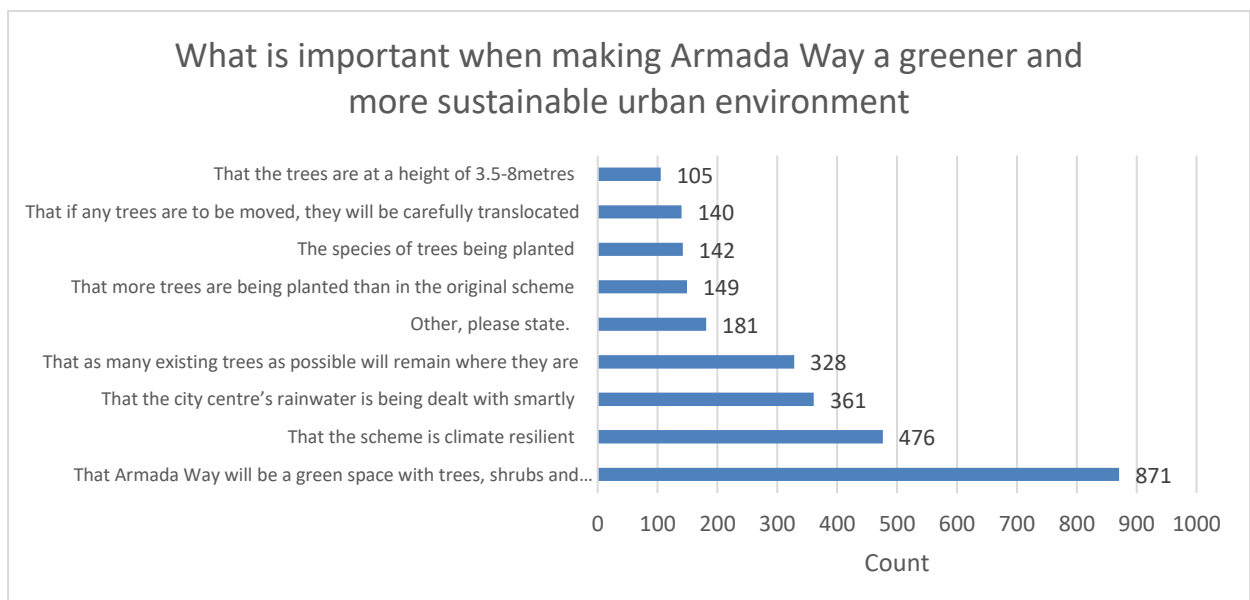


Question 5: From the list below, what is most important to you when looking to make Armada Way a greener and more sustainable urban environment? (Please choose your top two priorities)

4.1.13 The number of respondents to Question 5 was 1488.

4.1.14 Most respondents want Armada Way to be a green space with trees, shrubs and wildflowers. Climate resilience, smartly dealing with the city centre’s rainwater and keeping as many existing trees as possible were other important factors chosen by respondents.

4.1.15 Those that answered ‘other’ gave a range of reasons, including wanting to see all existing trees retained in the scheme, canopy cover to provide shade and protection from the sun, and more suitable variety of trees should be included. A list of these responses is presented in Appendix 7.7.6.



Question 6: There are six trees that are proposed to be moved from Armada Way to enable the development of the cycle route and SuDS (drainage system for rainwater). Please state any comments that you have regarding this proposed translocation.

4.1.16 The number of respondents to Question 6 was 1058.

4.1.17 The responses encompassed various sub-themes. Among them, 532 mentions expressed agreement with the necessity of translocating six trees for the scheme's implementation. Conversely, 386 mentions advocated for retaining the trees within the current scheme, opposing their translocation. Furthermore, 184 mentions voiced concerns about the low success rate of translocation and the perceived unlikelihood of the trees' survival.

Theme	Response	Number
Concerns	Don't remove the current trees/utilise trees in current scheme	386
	Success rate of translocation is low/ trees unlikely to survive	184
	Translocation is a waste of taxpayer money/ is expensive	59
	Not sure which trees are being translocated/ poor communication/ further questions	39
	Total Concerns	668
Agreement	Remove the trees/no concerns regarding removal/understand it is necessary for work to go ahead	532
	Happy with the new drainage system	40
	Total Agreement	572
Trees	Ensure the trees are moved properly/ carefully/ in conjunction with experts	81
	Ensure they remain alive and well	39
	Don't want trees moved outside of inner city	27
	Ensure more trees are planted	26
	Trees should just be felled/destroyed	22
	Current trees provide shade	7
	Move to location where it would improve biodiversity	3
	Ensure translocation complies with rainwater system	2
	Move to micro forest/ somewhere they can be enjoyed	2
	Trees should not encourage intrusive species	1
	Ensure trees don't obscure nice views	1
	Ensure they will have enough space to grow properly once moved	1
	Use wood from trees for benches/ art etc	1
	Total Trees	213

Theme	Response	Number
Cycling	Keep trees and relocate cycle path and SuDS	72
	Don't want cycle route in the city centre	30
	Keep cyclists separate from pedestrians/ cyclists' danger to pedestrians	21
	Cycle route important	5
	Cycle route should be weaved rather than linear	3
	Consult with cycling groups	2
	Cycle route not extensive enough	2
	Cycle path must be clearly marked	2
	Total Cycling	137
Maintenance	Ensure adequate maintenance is carried out	5
	No graffiti	1
	Total Maintenance	6
Other	Councillors shouldn't be ones to decide which trees are planted/ removed	4
	Ensure people are kept informed	4
	Unrelated	4
	SuDS wouldn't be needed if less granite was used	2
	Don't care	2
	Total Other	18
Groups	Council should not give in to groups	2
	Groups should be involved in the process	1
	Total Groups	3
Total number of respondents		1058

Question 7: Please use this space to give any other feedback regarding nature and greenery on Armada Way.

4.1.18 The number of respondents to Question 7 was 943.

4.1.19 Responses included several sub-themes, with 152 mentions highlighting the essential need for nature and greenery within the new scheme. Furthermore, 106 mentions emphasised the significance of trees in providing shade and protection from rain, while 66 mentions expressed the wish for the preservation of existing trees, opposing their translocation or felling.

Theme	Response	Number
Trees and Greenery	Nature and greenery are much needed	152
	Trees to provide shade/protection from rain	106
	Don't fell/ move any more trees	66
	Focus on native species of plants	49
	Tree/plant diversity	41

Theme	Response	Number
	Wildflower areas/flower beds/meadows/long grass areas	38
	Need tall trees	35
	More trees	34
	Less trees/trees don't belong in the city centre	25
	Trees shouldn't have been felled in first place	19
	Grow edible plants/herbs/fruit trees	17
	Proposed trees are not mature enough	15
	Employ community groups/experts to look after greenery	15
	Trees should not block light	13
	Must be sustainable	11
	Listen to Plymouth Tree People	8
	Think of all seasons, not just summer/spring	4
	Reuse wood from felled trees	2
	Want to know more about planting	1
	Add plants to shop fronts	1
	No wooden mesh on trees	1
	Don't plant 'Tree of Life'	1
	Nettles and brambles should be kept out	1
	Total Trees and Greenery	655
Maintenance	Concerned about level/cost of maintenance required	177
Positive	Happy with plans	125
Wildlife	Plants to attract wildlife	33
	Plants for pollinators	15
	Plants to attract wildlife like bug hotels and bird boxes	7
	Lighting will disturb wildlife at night and cause light pollution	6
	Concerned about birds/ rats/ insects in city centre	6
	Berries to support bird life	2
	Welfare officers to protect wildlife	1
	Total Wildlife	70
Water feature	Previous feature didn't work/new feature unnecessary	9
	Support a new water feature	8
	Likes reeds and water filtration	5
	Total Water feature	22
Other	Armada Way is a wind tunnel	22
	Trees hide people from CCTV which encourages anti-social behaviour	20
	Shouldn't be play areas in shopping/dining area	16
	Should be climate resilient	18
Cycling	Cycle path won't be stuck to/cyclists are dangerous	7
	Don't want/need cycle path	5

Theme	Response	Number
	Total Cycling	12
Design	Too much concrete	18
	City centre should be an open space	12
	Design is dull/ boring	11
	Don't listen to groups/green activists/people outside Plymouth	10
	Proposals for trees near Crowne Plaza unsuitable	10
	Convolutd design/too much going on	8
	Provide seating amongst greenery	8
	Ensure floor is not slippery with rainwater and wet leaves	7
	Too many empty buildings in city centre/centre looks run down	7
	Art/ entertainment/ educational signposts and programs	6
	Outdoor café/dining area	6
	Ensure it is accessible for wheelchair users	5
	Focus on increasing footfall	3
	Install sponge paving and unblock drains	2
	Wider walkways needed	1
	Covered walkways	1
	Space for dog walking	1
	Space for Christmas markets	1
	Add sensory garden	1
	New trees should be less than 2 metre tall	1
Area has suffered from previous interactions	1	
SuDS	Will costs be passed on to the public?	3
	Will surrounding properties benefitting from SuDS have to pay a charge?	1
	Total SuDS	4
General	Dislike current scheme in comparison to other schemes	12
	Should be drought resistant	4
	Likes drainage aspect of plan	4
	Consultation is poor/will not make a difference	3
	Make it bright	3
	Bins to prevent littering	2
	Prevent dog waste/provide dog waste bins	2
	Landscaped areas difficult to cross on foot	2
	Grey paving is depressing	2
	Improve transport links	2
	Not enough detail in plans	1
	More parking	1

Theme	Response	Number
	Likes rain garden	1
	Likes solar power aspect of plan	1
	Grab rails for people with mobility issues	1
	Need binding commitment from council to deliver scheme	1
	Rough sleepers are a problem	1
	Preserve space for Quakers	1
Diversity	Place diversity at forefront of discussion	2
Unrelated	Unrelated	7
Number of respondents		943

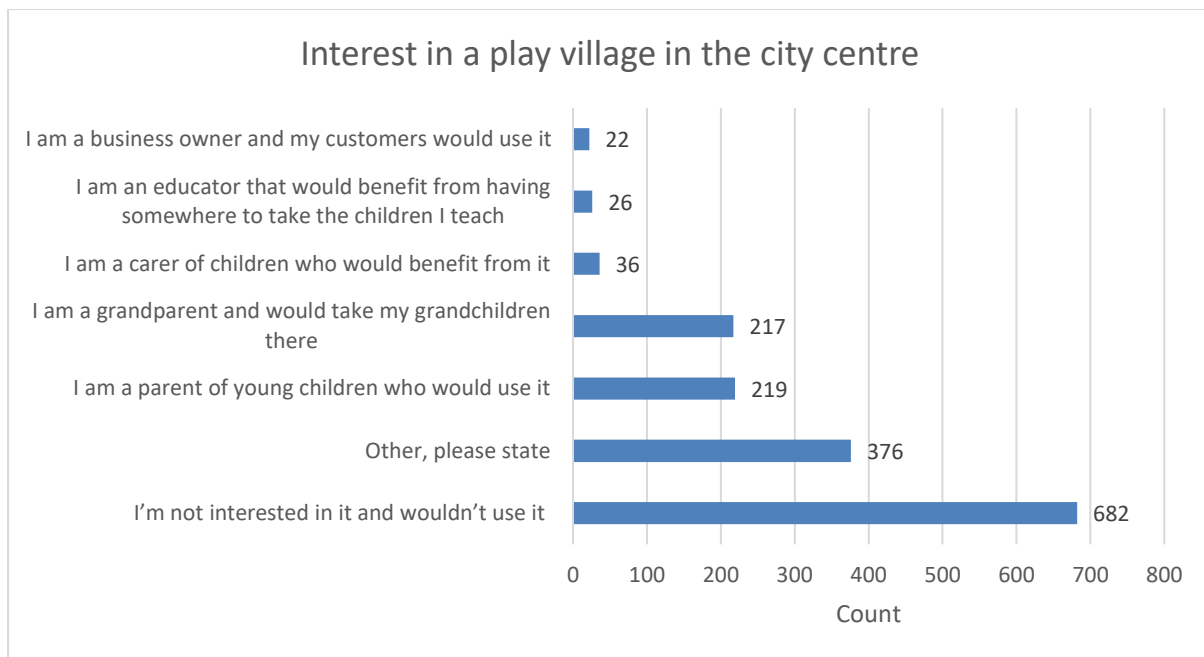
Question 8: From the list below, please select why you would be interested in a play village in the city centre. (Please select all that apply)

4.1.20 The number of respondents to Question 8 was 1475.

4.1.21 Most respondents reported to not be interested in a play village in the city centre and wouldn't use it.

4.1.22 Respondents who answered 'other' gave a range of reasons including, support for the inclusion of a play village in the scheme, the play village would attract families and others to the city centre, it would be used for family and friends and would provide a positive space for young people in the city centre. Other respondents wrote they would not use the play village. A list of 'other responses' is presented in Appendix 7.7.7.

4.1.23 When cross tabulating findings by number of children in the household, most respondents (75%) didn't have children. Respondents who weren't interested in the play village and wouldn't use it didn't have any children (Appendix 7.9.1).

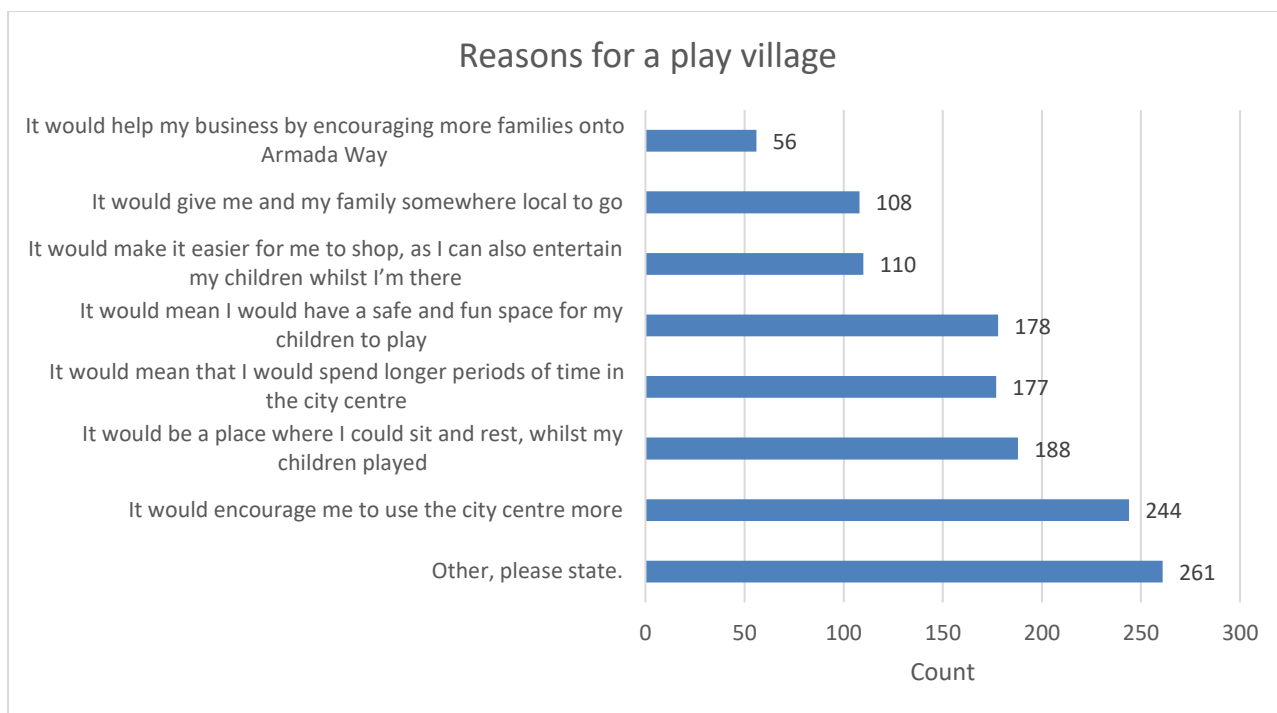


Question 9: From the list below, what would a play village like this mean for you?
(Please choose your top two)

4.1.24 The number of respondents to Question 9 was 774.

4.1.25 Most respondents reported a play village would encourage them to use the city centre more and provided other reasons.

4.1.26 Those that answered 'other' gave a range of reasons, including that a play village would attract families and visitors to the city centre and would encourage people to stay longer. Other respondents reported that the survey question wasn't applicable to them and that they didn't want a play village in the scheme. A list of these responses is presented in Appendix 7.7.8.



Question 10: From the list below, what's important for you and the children you look after when using a play space? (Please tick all that apply)

4.1.27 The number of respondents to Question 10 was 775.

4.1.28 Most respondents reported would like to see plenty of seats near the equipment, the play space cater for a diverse range of ages and abilities, use as many natural materials as possible and have visibility all the way through so they can see children play.

4.1.29 Those that answered 'other' gave a range of reasons, including the play space was not applicable to them, important that the play space caters for a range of ages, is accessible to a range of users including wheelchair users, and is a clean and safe environment. A list of these responses is presented in Appendix 7.7.9.



Question 11: What do you most like about the proposed play village?

4.1.30 The number of respondents to question 11 was 662.

4.1.31 The responses covered several sub-themes. A total of 111 mentions conveyed support for the proposed play village, while 81 mentions expressed a dislike for the plans. Additionally, 50 mentions highlighted their appreciation for the wide variety of facilities and equipment that the proposed play village would offer.

4.1.32 When cross tabulating findings by number of children in the household, most respondents (65%) didn't have children (Appendix 7.9.2). The findings infer respondents who didn't have children were both supportive of the plans and not interested in the plans.

Response	Number
Generally supportive of plans	111
Don't like plans	81
Variety of facilities/ equipment	50
Will attract people to the city centre	49
Good size	47
Children/families have been considered	48
Suitable for variety of ages	41
Adults can sit/chat/shop whilst children play	38
Environmentally friendly/green areas/sustainable materials	37
Vandalism/lack of maintenance a concern	37
Looks good/ natural/ unique	29
Allows children to play/ socialise/ exercise	26
Too large	24
Safe space for kids/families	24

Response	Number
Good location	22
Need more seating	14
Water jets	14
Pirate Ship/nautical theme	13
Play area shouldn't be in shopping/dining area	13
Open space	13
Sensory area	12
Accessibility/catered for disabled people	12
Gates to prevent children wandering off	10
Good for business	9
Diversity and inclusion	8
Weather should be taken into account	8
Will bring life to the centre	7
Unsafe	7
Repurposed chess boards	6
Lack of detail in the plans	5
Unsure of how accessible it will be for disabled people	4
Climbing frame	4
Wants CCTV/lighting	4
Link between station and Hoe	3
Ambitious	3
Will enhance the area	2
Lots of play equipment	2
Lack of greenery	2
Lack of toilet facilities	2
Hopes for wooden animals	2
Quiet space	2
Curved spaces	1
Toddler area	1
Slides	1
More likely to use other play areas	1
Council political game-playing	1
Survey question is misleading	1
Leave remaining trees alone	1
Plans will not be realised	1
Wants notice board for environmental issues	1
Needs tree shelter	1
Money could be better spent elsewhere	1
Should cater to all age groups	1
Keep clean	1
Should be variable surface levels	1
Café	1
Cushioned floor	1

Response	Number
Allows child learning opportunities	1
Wooden play areas	1
Vandal-proof play equipment	1
Dog-free	1
Will make area safer	1
Wants café for parents	1
Demarcation of zones	1
Shops should be improved first	1
Number of respondents	662

Question 12: What would you add to or change about the proposed play village?

4.1.33 The number of respondents to question 12 was 652.

4.1.34 The responses revealed various sub-themes. Among these, 84 mentions advocated for a reduction in the size of the play village, while 68 mentions stressed the need for proper maintenance of the space. Furthermore, 46 mentions advocated for the inclusion of a sheltered and shaded area within the proposed play village.

4.1.35 When cross tabulating findings by number of children in the household, most respondents (71%) didn't have children (Appendix 7.9.3). The findings infer respondents with children were more likely to suggest the addition of seating, toilet, area for teenagers, traditional play equipment and fencing. Additionally, respondents who didn't have children were more likely to suggest making the play village smaller.

Theme	Response	Number
Maintenance	Ensure adequate maintenance	68
	Measures to prevent vandalism e.g. robust materials	57
	CCTV/police presence	41
	Total Maintenance	166
Additions/ Improvements	Sheltered/ shaded area	46
	More greenery	39
	Seating	25
	Activities for disabled children	18
	Public toilets/changing area	14
	Quiet area for adults	12
	Area for teens	14
	Bins	9
	Add café/dining space	9
	Traditional play equipment e.g. slide, swings	9
	Outdoor gym	8
	Wooden animals (as in past)	8

Theme	Response	Number
	More open areas/less enclosed spaces	8
	Water play area	9
	More trees for shade	7
	Make the fountain/ water features safer	7
	Protections for children with sensory overload	7
	No changes	7
	Skate Park	7
	More interesting design/unique to Plymouth	6
	Area for picnic tables	6
	Well lit	5
	More inclusive for babies/toddlers	4
	Keep cyclists separate to pedestrians	4
	Environmental messaging	4
	Safety floor	3
	Covered band stand	3
	Should cater to different age groups	3
	Small zip wire	3
	Use timber from felled trees	3
	Use natural resources	2
	Drinking fountain	2
	Should be well thought out	2
	Involve 'Make Space for Girls'	2
	Defibrillator	2
	Sandpit	2
	Make it flexible to change if unsuitable	2
	Family play e.g. crazy golf	1
	Bigger pirate ship	1
	Restore roads	1
	Adhere to recognised standards of play	1
	Involve children in consultation	1
	Vegetable garden	1
	Space for creative events	1
	Make it good quality	1
	Hedges should be in open view	1
	Bug hotel/bird boxes	1
	Free parking	1
	Ensure it doesn't block views	1
	Litter education	1
	Bike parking spaces	1
	Wheelchair access throughout	1
	More play equipment	1
	Pop-up stalls	1
	Modern equipment	1

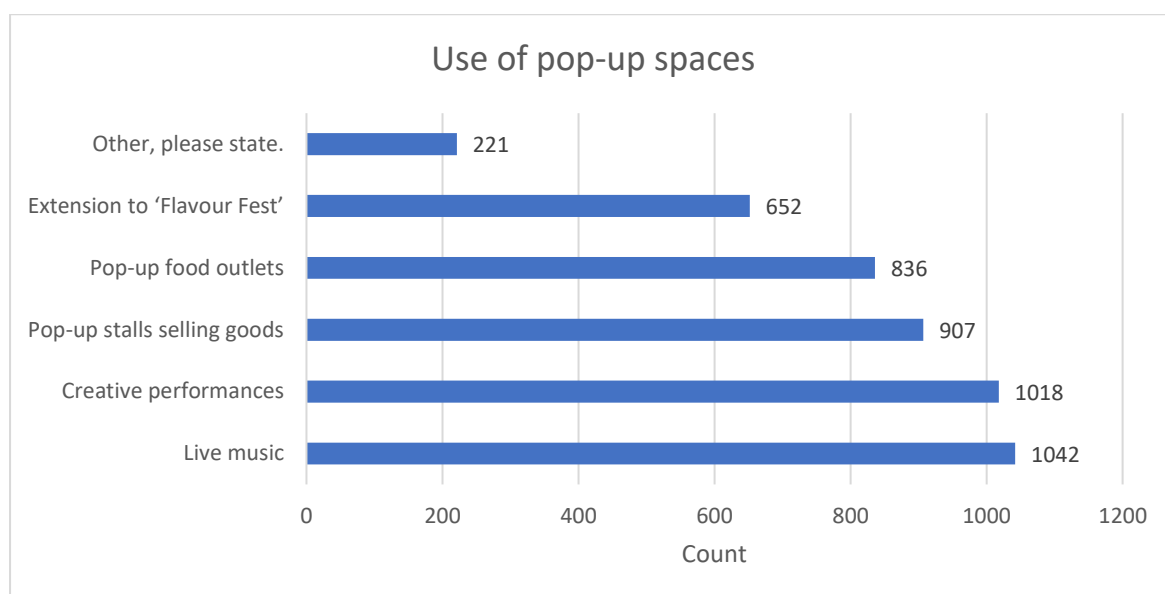
Theme	Response	Number
	Softer lines	1
	Use locally sourced materials	1
	Pushchair parking	1
	Change materials (i.e. Avoid wood)	1
	Incorporate education on nature/species	1
	Larger sensory area	1
	Total Additions/Improvements	344
Number/Size/ Location	Make it smaller	84
	Don't need more play areas	38
	Make it bigger	3
	Make it more central	3
	Total Number/Size/Location	128
Negative	Fencing to keep dogs out and children in	20
	Scrap plan entirely	15
	No sandpit	8
	Less trees	7
	Concerned about drunks/rough sleepers	4
	Remove water jets	4
	Scrap it if too expensive	4
	Change everything	4
	Should be able to skip this question	3
	Address wind tunnel	3
	Prevent teenagers from hanging out there	2
	Supporters of original plan should explain why they did so without play feature	1
	May be underutilised	1
	More images	1
	Anti-skateboarding features	1
	Don't allow marketing people	1
	Remove auditorium seating	1
	Too cluttered	1
	It's not a village	1
	Avoid straight lines in the design	1
Total Negative	83	
Positive	No changes	90
Unrelated	Unrelated	5
Number of respondents		668

Question 13: From the list below, please select how you would like to see the pop-up space being used. (Please tick all that apply)

4.1.36 The number of respondents to question 13 was 1440.

4.1.37 Most respondents would like to see pop-up spaces used for live music and creative performances.

4.1.38 Those that answered 'other' gave a range of ideas for use of the pop-up spaces including for community performers and charities, protests/activism and for green spaces. A list of 'other responses' is presented in Appendix 7.7.10.



Question 14: Please state any particular type of trader, business or performer you would like to see using the space.

4.1.39 The number of respondents to question 14 was 742.

4.1.40 The responses encompassed various sub-themes. Notably, 175 mentions expressed a desire for an increased presence of music performers in the pop-up spaces. In addition, 81 mentions expressed interest in having food and drink vendors, while 70 mentions advocated for more local traders utilising this space.

Response	Number
Music (general)	175
Food and drink vendors	81
Local	78
Variety/Unspecified street entertainment	78
Small businesses/local traders	62
Theatre	59
High quality/unique rather than fast food	53

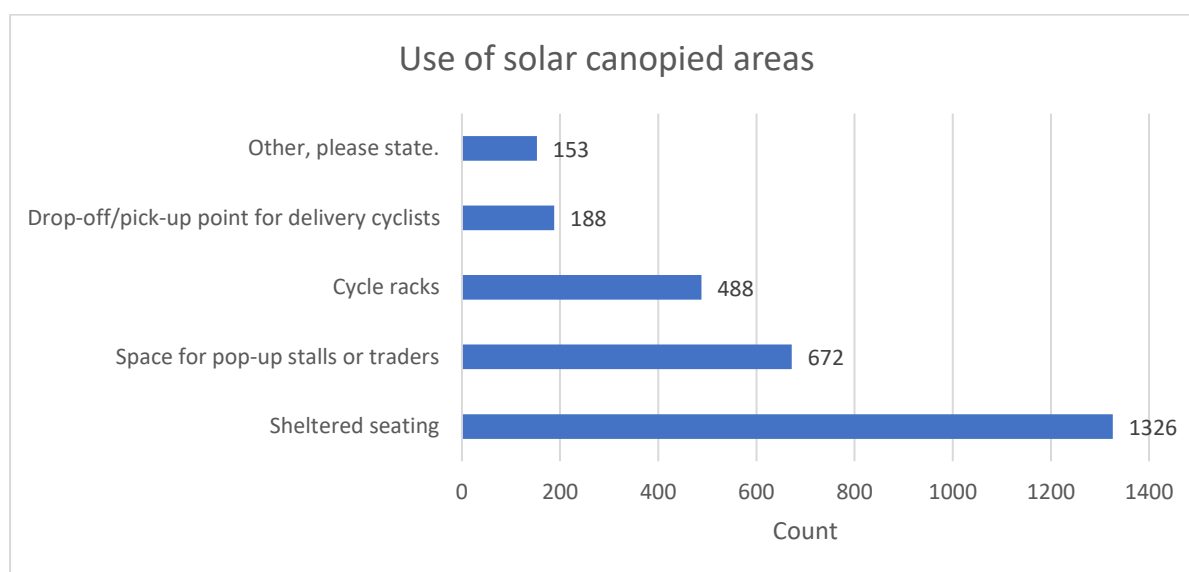
Response	Number
Craft stalls	48
Other types of street performance (e.g. circus, magicians, mime)	45
Market stalls with meat, veg, fruit, flowers etc	44
Charity stalls	33
Make events more frequent	29
Buskers	28
Student-led activity	27
Speaker's corner/place for political activity	26
Something for kids	26
Dancing	26
Seasonal	26
Coffee	24
Art exhibitions	22
International foods	14
Sports events screen	13
Vegan or vegetarian	13
Leave space open	11
Choir	9
Cooking class	8
Accessible for all	8
Climate/biodiversity activity	8
Ice cream	7
Repair business	7
Brass band	6
Water top-up station	6
Jazz	6
Area sheltered from rain	6
Sustainable goods	6
Acoustic	5
Outdoor fitness	5
Classical/opera	5
Health business	4
Poetry	3
Comedy	3
Clothes	3
Folk	2
Don't want pop up spaces/keep to piazza area	2
Rock	2
Pan pipes/Bagpipes	2
Drumming groups	1
Handwash basins	1
Amusement rides	1
Number of respondents	742

Question 15: From the list below, how would you like to see the solar canopied areas being used? (Please tick all that apply)

4.1.41 The number of respondents to question 15 was 1462.

4.1.42 Most respondents would like to see solar canopied areas used for sheltered seating.

4.1.43 Those that answered 'other' gave a range of reasons including not wanting the solar canopied areas included, providing suggestions for design elements and wanted the tree canopy kept. A list of 'other responses' is presented in Appendix 7.7.11.



Question 16: How would you most likely use the flexible spaces? (Please state)

4.1.44 The number of respondents to question 16 was 1094.

4.1.45 The responses encompassed several sub-themes. There were 457 mentions of people planning to use the flexible spaces for sitting down and relaxing, followed by 254 mentions of using these spaces for eating and drinking. Additionally, 168 mentions stated the intention to use the flexible spaces for socialising and meeting others.

Response	Number
Sit down / relax / take a break from shopping	457
Eating / drinking	234
Socialising / meeting place	168
Pop-up café	105
Entertainment / events	90
More trees / green space	84
Picnics	77

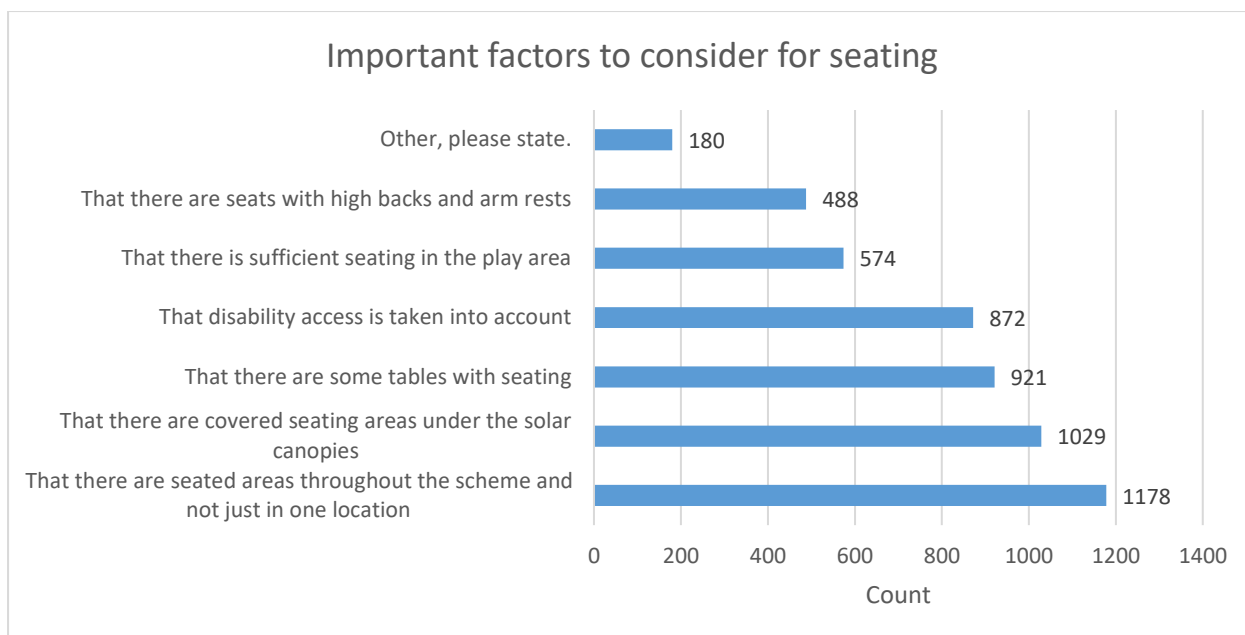
Response	Number
Shelter / shade	51
Traders / Local Businesses	43
Pop-up food stalls	39
Open space	39
Unlikely to use	33
Art on display	23
Educational purposes / information point	19
Meetings / work / study	17
Keep it well maintained	15
For play / recreational activities e.g. chess	14
Quiet area	12
Make accessible for disabled and elderly people	11
Skateboarding area	11
Sports / exercise	11
Should be space for charities and community groups	10
Should have water station	7
Dog friendly space	6
Space to learn about Plymouth's history	6
Cycle parking	4
Lawn	3
Dog-free space	3
Should be toilet facilities	3
Water feature / water play area	2
Farmers market	2
tables	2
Seagulls are a problem	2
Would use in summer	1
Non-smoking	1
Number of respondents	1094

Question 17: From the list below, what is most important to you in terms of seating?
(Please tick all that apply)

4.1.46 The number of respondents to question 17 was 1472.

4.1.47 Most respondents reported it was important that there are seated areas throughout the scheme and not just in one location, and that there are seated areas under the solar canopies.

4.1.48 Those that answered 'other' gave a range of reasons including seats under shady trees, a range of types and sizes included to suit all needs and that the seats are well maintained and cleaned. A list of 'other responses' is presented in Appendix 7.7.12.



Question 18: After looking at the scheme, please state any locations where you feel seating should be included that hasn't been mentioned.

4.1.49 The number of respondents to question 18 was 307.

4.1.50 The responses encompassed various sub-themes. Notably, 80 mentions expressed a desire for seating to be distributed throughout Armada Way, while 55 mentions considered the proposed seating plans to be satisfactory. Furthermore, an additional 25 individuals expressed a preference for seating to be placed under trees.

Response	Number
Throughout/more bench space/informal/natural seating (e.g. Benching near Guildhall, promenade Penzance, The Strand in London)	80
Seating plans already adequate	55
Under trees/existing trees	25
Suitable for elderly and disabled (e.g. at regular intervals), and families, larger seating options	24
Shade/ shelter/under cover seating	23
Can't see full details of scheme in plans/unsure	20
To be moved next to any events happening/pop-up spaces	15
Outside shops / food stalls	11
Away from play area	8
Royal Parade end/ near coach station	8
Near amphitheatre/ use curved seating & planters to enclose this area from cyclists	7
Piazza	6
Near toilets	6
Near fountain/ water features	6

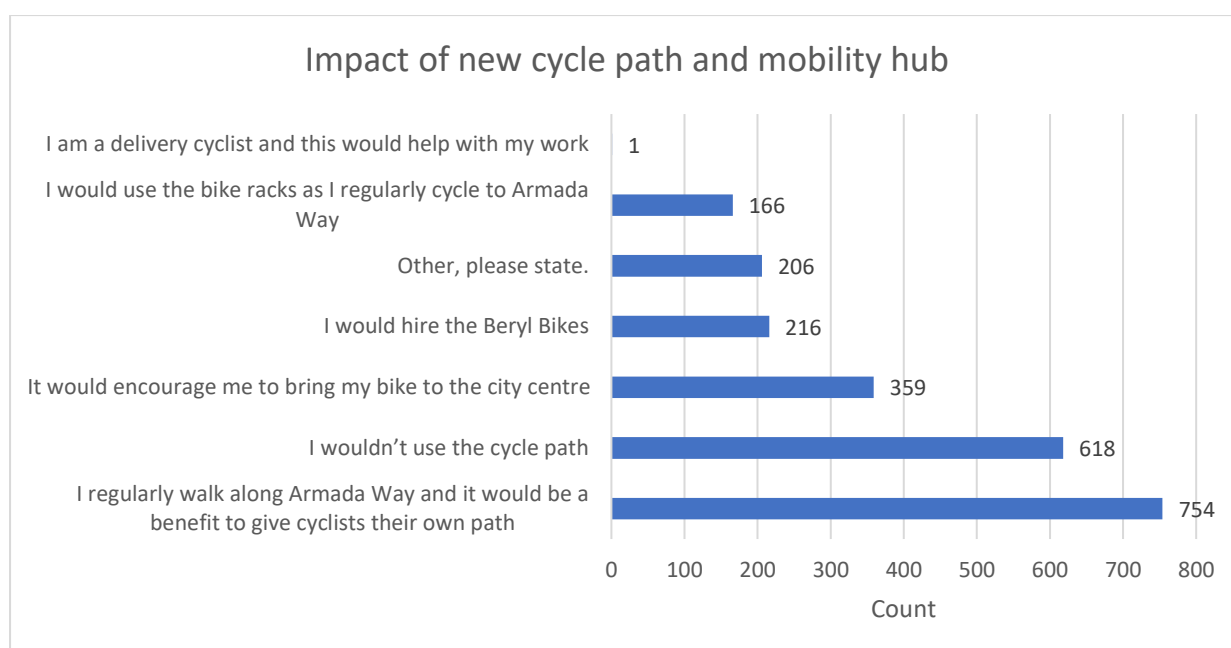
Response	Number
Armada centre	6
Sundial	5
Play park	5
Take weather into account/out of wind	5
Keep well maintained/ cleaned/add arm rests to stop rough sleepers/covered by CCTV/bins nearby	5
Near bus stops	4
Intersperse seating with greenery/ seating in green spaces/quiet spaces	4
Open area	4
made of appropriate weatherproof materials/ or timber	3
Grass/lawn areas	3
At the top	2
Avenues leading off Armada Way	2
Less seating	2
Not attractive to delivery drivers/ skateboarders	2
Near bike racks	2
No seating at expense of green space/trees	2
Picnic areas next to the Hoe	2
Spare/unused spaces	2
New George Street	2
Outside Plymouth Library	2
North Cross end	2
Seating that doesn't discourage rough sleepers and anti-social behaviour	2
Unrelated	2
Bins are required	2
Remove auditorium seating	1
Barbican	1
Promenade near war memorial	1
Getting people to visit should be focus	1
Covered band stand	1
Good views	1
Solar canopies should extend from station to the Hoe	1
Concerned existing cafés won't be able to utilise outdoor seating areas	1
Tables should be included	1
More seating is needed	1
Remove seating near foundation as children play on this	1
Number of respondents	307

Question 19: From the list below, please choose how the new cycle path and mobility hub is most likely to affect you. (Please choose all that apply)

4.1.51 The number of respondents to question 19 was 1447.

4.1.52 Most respondents reported that they regularly walk along Armada Way and it would be a benefit to give cyclists their own path, and that they wouldn't use a cycle path.

4.1.53 Those that answered 'other' gave a range of reasons including that cyclists and pedestrians shouldn't occupy the same path, and reported concerns over safety and monitoring of speed of cyclists. A list of 'other responses' is presented in Appendix 7.7.13.



Question 20: Please state any other feedback relating to cyclists, the proposed cycle path and the mobility hub.

4.1.54 The number of respondents to question 20 was 704.

4.1.55 The responses touched upon various sub-themes. Specifically, 124 mentions emphasised the importance of maintaining a clear separation between cyclists and pedestrians. Additionally, 93 mentions expressed concerns about potential risks posed by the cycle path to pedestrians, while 70 mentions voiced opposition to the proposed cycle path.

4.1.56 When cross tabulating findings by mode of transport to Armada Way, 12.3% of respondents cycled or scooter/skate to Armada Way (Appendix 7.10). The findings infer respondents who didn't cycle to Armada Way, generally were against the cycle path or suggested there should be a clear separation between pedestrians and cyclists. The findings also infer respondents who cycle to

Armada Way were more likely to suggest clear signage/marked paths and secure bike racks.

Response	Number
Cyclists and pedestrians shouldn't mix/ clear separation	124
Cycling is unsafe for pedestrians	93
Against cycle path	70
Clear signage / clearly marked paths	65
Cyclists don't stick to cycle lanes	59
Cyclists and e-bikes too fast	58
Supportive	60
Problem with delivery bike riders (too many, they cycle dangerously)	55
Speed limit / bumps for bikes / e-bikes / scooters	49
Ensure accessibility / protection for elderly and disabled	39
Requires areas to be policed / monitored	39
Ensure cyclists stick to lanes	39
Secure bike racks	29
Cycle path should be connected to other cycle paths	24
Pedestrians should have priority over cyclists	23
Penalties / enforcement measures for those who speed / don't stick to path	21
Cycle path should be sufficiently wide	18
Extend across city and beyond / create more cycle routes	17
Trees should not be translocated to make space for cycle path	16
Cyclists should have to dismount and walk through centre	15
Clear areas at junctions where pedestrians and cyclists cross	12
Cycle path should have a curved path	12
Path should be straight	9
Beryl bikes too expensive	7
Should be considered a shared path	6
Code of conduct for cyclists	6
Educate pedestrians and cyclists on cycling rules	5
Trees should be used to segregate cyclists from pedestrians	4
Use gates/hedges to reduce cyclists	4
Unrelated	4
Pedestrian path should be wider	3
Ban skateboarding/cyclists	3
Cycling is currently very difficult	3
Lack of safe crossing points for pedestrians across cycle lane	3
Cycle path should be placed more central on Armada Way	2
Do not use granite setts	2
Public pumps and bike repair stands	2
Risk assessment of cycle path and mobility hub should be published	2
Needs to be safe for pedestrians	2
Cyclists should have a number plate	1

Response	Number
Remove Beryl bikes	1
Measures to address people abandoning Beryl Bikes	1
Lack of space for a cycle lane	1
Should use robust tarmac	1
Paving must be flat	1
Install canopy and shade cover	1
Bike racks should have shelter	1
Bike racks should accommodate space for cargo bikes and child trailers	1
Solar canopies are a bad idea	1
Mobility is important	1
Cycle path should sit the area	1
I do not cycle	1
Hiring Beryl Bikes should be easy and convenient	1
Consideration for Plymouth's topography and hills.	1
Concern that cycling and mobility hub will not be implemented	1
Consider pedestrians	1
Install traffic lights for cyclists on a dedicated cycle lane	1
Having trees would improve cycling experiences	1
Cycle paths should be easily accessible for cyclists	1
Sheltered areas for bike racks are pointless	1
Raise the height of cycle path to make it more obvious to pedestrians	1
Install fewer cycle tracks	1
Use bells or alarms to warn pedestrians about cycle path	1
Consideration for how guide dogs will navigate past cycle paths	1
Stop cars from parking in cycle lanes	1
Charge on e-bikes	1
Rubbish collection points for cyclists	1
Recharging point for electric bikes	1
Number of respondents	704

Question 21: Please state any other feedback that you feel should be considered regarding the new lighting and improved CCTV in the city centre.

4.1.57 The number of respondents to question 21 was 816.

4.1.58 The responses explored various sub-themes, and notably, 157 mentions expressed approval of the proposed new lighting and CCTV. Among these, 83 mentions believed that these additions would contribute to enhancing safety along Armada Way. Furthermore, an additional 72 mentions emphasised the significance of lighting as a pivotal aspect of the scheme.

Theme	Response	Number
Suggestions	Lighting should be nature friendly	60
	Minimise light pollution	31
	More security/police patrols	31
	Lighting should be brighter/more lighting	24
	Lighting should be sustainable/energy efficient	24
	CCTV surveillance should be monitored	19
	SMART lights/ Reduced brightness during certain hours of lights to conserve energy	18
	Lighting should prevent shadowed spaces and to ensure safety is maintained.	18
	Lighting should be kept to a minimum (downward lighting)	14
	Maintenance in the future	14
	Lighting should be warm and create ambience	12
	More lighting beyond just Armada Way in the city centre	12
	Encourage businesses to be open into the late evening	11
	Lighting should be used for seasonal celebrations	10
	More events/venues should be organised to encourage the public to use the city centre at night.	9
	Use coloured lighting/ light up buildings	8
	CCTV needs to be high quality	8
	More CCTV	7
	Appropriate lighting should be installed	4
	Lighting should be switched off at night for wildlife benefit/light pollution	4
	Interactive/colourful lighting is a good idea	4
	LED Lighting	4
	Install movement sensitive lighting	4
	Lighting could feature works by artists	4
	CCTV should be linked to police	4
	No security/ police patrols	3
	No ground lighting	3
	Needs to be a balance between security and aesthetics	3
	Lighting should be entertaining for children	3
	Install ground lighting	2
	Holistic approach to tackling antisocial behaviour than just CCTV	2
	Lighting should be appropriate with people with visual/sensory disabilities	2
	Install light pillars/columns	2
Cycle path should be lit	1	
Don't use facial recognition cameras	1	

Theme	Response	Number
	Look at examples of lighting in other cities	1
	Different areas should have different mood lighting	1
	Maintain greenery so it does not obstruct CCTV	1
	Contract experts to tackle anti-social behaviour	1
	Install knee-level lighting	1
	Use warm lighting	1
	Use yellow lighting	1
	Council should engage with communities about best places for CCTV or improvements	1
	Council should take loans to build on top of current low-rise buildings	1
	Spaces need to be done	1
	Council should encourage leaseholders to install solar panels to assist lighting	1
	Cut down trees blocking view for CCTV	1
	Invest in the design	1
	Don't cut down trees blocking view for CCTV	1
	Consider the wider sources driving anti-social behaviour	1
	Businesses should be open much later into the evening	1
	Use fairy lights in tree canopy	1
	More lighting on piazza	1
	Plant more trees	1
	Total – suggestions	399
General	I like the proposals	157
	Lighting is important	72
	CCTV is important	54
	I don't like the proposals	27
	I agree in principle	11
	Extend light/CCTV to other areas in Plymouth	2
	I don't have information to comment	1
	Total General	324
Concerns - Future	Lighting could be harmful for wildlife	50
	Light pollution from upward lighting	45
	CCTV could be too intrusive	26
	Maintenance	23
	Lighting impact on people with visual/sensory disabilities	21
	Maintenance costs	14
	Vandalism	10
	Impact on residents	9
	No flashing/colourful lighting	6
Anti-social behaviour	4	

Theme	Response	Number
	Concern it could create more anti-social behaviour	4
	CCTV will not stop criminal behaviour	3
	Lighting should increase people's safety	3
	Lighting patterns do not look good.	3
	Creation of a wind tunnel	3
	Skateboarders will damage street furniture	2
	Glazing shades will obstruct CCTV views	1
	Greenery left on Armada Way will obscure CCTV vision	1
	Increase in homelessness	1
	Where will CCTV be sourced from? (Security)	1
	Total concerns – future	230
Positive	New lighting and CCTV will increase safety	83
	New lighting and CCTV will discourage antisocial behaviour/homeless	25
	New lighting and CCTV will encourage people to come/stay in Armada Way	9
	New lighting and CCTV will discourage crime	2
	New lighting/CCTV can encourage landlords to improve buildings on Armada Way	1
	Likes the patterned lights	1
	Total Positive	121
Concerns - Current	Anti-social behaviour	36
	Armada Way is currently not safe	25
	Safety for women/young people	16
	Homelessness	13
	City centre is currently dark/empty at night	9
	Vandalism	7
	Light pollution	2
	Theft/drug dealers	2
	Litter	1
	Total concerns – current	111
Installations	High quality CCTV to cover all areas	29
	Solar panels should power lighting	19
	Implement refuge/help lamp posts with a help button	14
	Install distinct lighting to enhance the character of area	4
	Ensure that only CCTV that are needed are installed	2
	Install more signage that the area is under CCTV surveillance.	2
	Interactive voice to remind people they are being watched by CCTV	2
	Moveable cameras	1
	Install sensor lighting to conserve energy and costs	1

Theme	Response	Number
	Use live web cam streaming on Armada Way	1
	Install high pitched sounds to deter loitering	1
	Install PAR 38 lights	1
	Install big screen for events	1
	Lighting	1
	Total – installations	79
Questions	How will the natural environment be affected by the lighting?	11
	Will the lighting be generated from solar panels?	10
	How will CCTV be monitored?	5
	Will there be security officers to enforce rules?	3
	How many hours will the lights be on for?	3
	How will long term maintenance look like	2
	How much light pollution will this cause?	2
	Will there be safety cameras?	2
	Will coloured lighting projections be on all night?	1
	How will you ensure CCTV is not obstructed by trees?	1
	Will bike racks be lit?	1
	Are the proposals climate resilient to future changes?	1
	How will the Phoenix fountain be illuminated?	1
	Total – questions	43
Negative	Colour/Light pattern projection is a bad idea	12
	I don't want more CCTV	11
	Lighting/CCTV shouldn't be implemented at expense of trees	9
	Proposals will not stop anti-social behaviour/improve safety	6
	Proposed trees will create blind areas for CCTV cameras	3
	Lighting is excessive/unsustainable	3
	Anti-social behaviour is not a problem	3
	Lighting scheme will not be a benefit.	1
	Proposals will not improve antisocial behaviour and homelessness	1
	Total Negative	49
Other	Unrelated	7
Number of respondents		816

Question 22: Please state any ideas you feel we need to include in the scheme, but haven't covered.

4.1.59 The number of respondents to question 22 was 667.

4.1.60 The responses encompassed various sub-themes. Notably, 46 mentions underscored the importance of diligent maintenance and cleanliness for the new Armada Way scheme. Additionally, 35 mentions advocated for the preservation of the proposed six trees as an integral part of the new scheme, while an additional 29 mentions stressed the significance of including an ample number of litter and dog waste bins in the new design.

Theme	Response	Number
Cleanliness/ Maintenance	Keep clean/ well maintained	46
	Litter and dog waste bins	29
	Public toilets	28
	Monitored with CCTV/ police presence	13
	Utilise abandoned buildings	12
	Formation of a community group of volunteer gardeners	11
	Clean buildings/improve frontage	8
	Maintain drainage system	6
	Use durable high-quality materials	6
	Publish a maintenance plan	5
	Maintain wildlife assets	4
	Prioritise safety	4
	Changing facilities	4
	Provide help for homeless	4
	Future proof infrastructure	3
	Turn empty buildings into residential housing	2
	Anti-vandalism measures	1
	Ensure play area is safe	1
	24h security	1
	Disability toilet	1
Gender neutral toilets	1	
Total - Cleanliness/Maintenance	190	
Environment	Retain existing trees	35
	More greenery	27
	More trees	27
	More canopy covering/shade	10
	More info on biodiversity net gain	8
	Environment must be priority	6
	Create an environmental hub	5
	Use sustainable materials	5
	Solar panels	5
	Larger trees	5
	Less trees	4
	Must be resilient to climate change	4
	Maintain green spaces	3

Theme	Response	Number
	Encourage community groups/ individuals to get involved in planting	3
	Wind turbines	3
	Lighting should not impact nesting birds	2
	Areas to plant fruit/veg	2
	Plant fruit trees	2
	Must be sustainable	1
	More sustainable wild planting	1
	Deter people destroying flower beds	1
	More soft planting	1
	Exhibition on the value of inner-city nature	1
	Low level planting (e.g. flower beds)	1
	Trees to be placed in the right areas	1
	Broadleaf trees that support wildlife	1
	Plant evergreen trees	1
	Flood prevention measures	1
	Measures to address seagulls and pigeons in city centre	1
	Uniformity of trees rather than diversity	1
	Reduce amount of concrete	1
	Total – Environment	169
Vehicles/ Connections	Better connection to the Hoe	10
	More curvy/ less straight design	9
	Less accessible by car	8
	Connection to train/ coach station	6
	Emergency vehicle access	6
	More parking	6
	Efficient walking route	4
	Efficient/ well connected cycle route	4
	Electric bike charging stations	4
	Tram connection from station to the Hoe	4
	Charging points for electric vehicles	3
	Places to cross from one place to another	3
	Cheaper public transport	3
	More accessible by car	3
	Reopening the underpass under Royale Parade	2
	Better access to taxi's	2
	Disabled access	2
	Stop cyclists using pedestrian path	2
	Subways	2
	Accessibility for drivers	1
	Accessible by everyone	1
Bus stop outside station	1	
Increased timings on all crossings	1	

Theme	Response	Number
	Less curvy, more straight design	1
	Motorcycle parking	1
	Roadway limited to taxis, buses and bikes	1
	Speed bumps for cyclists	1
	Total - Vehicles/Connections	91
Space	Strong/ safe paving	14
	Space for teenagers	9
	Water fountains	7
	Consider homeless people	7
	Quiet area	6
	More open space/ less clutter	5
	Address wind tunnel concerns	4
	Adult only area	4
	More signage	4
	Simpler vision	4
	Widen centre pathway	3
	Respect built environment	3
	Include references to pre-war Plymouth	2
	Breastfeeding friendly place	2
	Uphold standards and maintenance	2
	No/ limited advertisements	2
	Fixing points for festive decorations	2
	Space for dogs	1
	Concern over graffiti	1
	Reinstall wooden animals	1
	Reintroduce tiled flooring beside Royal Parade	1
	Quiet areas	1
	Minimise sound pollution	1
	Minimise light pollution	1
	Emergency help points	1
	More emphasis on attracting people to live in city centre	1
	Local materials (e.g. stone)	1
	Total – Space	90
Recreational	Skating facilities	16
	Art installations	15
	Big screen	14
	Water features	8
	Outdoor gym	3
	Band stand	3
	Giant chess set	3
	Stream down Armada Way	2
	Sensory equipment in the play park	2
	Audio system for events	2

Theme	Response	Number
	Make play area smaller	2
	Pop-up activities for health and exercise	1
	Weekend attractions for children	1
	Amphitheatre	1
	Community gathering space	1
	Covered walkways	1
	Space for sports	1
	More activities	1
	Total – Recreational	77
Business	Bars/ restaurants/ cafes	12
	Businesses open at night	12
	High end traders/businesses	8
	Local trader stalls	7
	Pop-up Food stalls/ market	4
	Mixed shopping/ residential area	3
	Implement a design guide for business signage outdoor furniture	3
	Low costs for traders to rent space	3
	Use empty shop fronts	2
	Street food	2
	Use schedules for food stalls and markets	1
	Small businesses	1
	Total – Business	58
Representation	Consideration for disabled people	21
	Inclusive for interests of BAME & LGBTQ communities	4
	Consideration for teens with nothing to do at present	3
	Explore options which can guide vision impaired people	2
	Measures to help & address homelessness	2
	Space for children with special needs	2
	Create mobility hubs to encourage disabled access at train and bus station	1
	Multifaith prayer room	1
	Consult with disability groups	1
	Consult Make Space for Girls	1
	Consideration for diverse range of people	1
Total – Representation	39	
Seating	Shaded/ sheltered seating areas. More seating	10
	Shaded/ sheltered seating areas	7
	Remove auditorium seating	2
	Seating to be covered	1
	Dedicated space for outdoor seating of restaurants	1
	Ensuring outdoor seating for food/drink businesses	1

Theme	Response	Number
	Total – seating	22
Cycling	Stop cyclists using pedestrian areas	3
	Implement straight line cycle lanes	3
	Stop cycling in the area	2
	Clear markings for cycle path/pedestrian paths	1
	Implement a code of conduct for cyclists	1
	Monitoring cyclists/ delivery cyclists	1
	Cycling should not be straight lines	1
	Implement two cycle paths, for each direction	1
	Install Bike racks	1
	Total – Cycling	14
Council	Council should engage with community and build trust	3
	Council should spend money in other areas	1
	Total – Council	4
Other	Canopies/ sheltering roofs to protect from wind/ rain	20
	I like the scheme	16
	Tourist info boards/ info centre	12
	Unrelated	9
	Start working on the scheme as soon as possible	7
	More information on SUDs system	7
	Everything is covered in the scheme.	6
	Add a heritage element	6
	Look at examples in other countries	5
	I need more detail	4
	Replace the proposed scheme with a new consultation and design	4
	More signage	3
	Defibrillators	3
	Deter anti-social behaviour	3
	Improvements to sundial	3
	More security	3
	Preserve the local heritage of Plymouth	2
	There needs to be a coherent plan for the wider city.	2
	More information on the importance of the SuDS system and how it will operate	2
	Rebuild the previous Armada Way	2
	Less seating	2
	Mobile phone charging points	2
	3D Name lettering	1
	Install handrails	1
	Move flag to original position	1
	Apology from Council	1
Pop-up spaces should have cooking facilities	1	

Theme	Response	Number
	Dogs should be kept on leads	1
	Make seating areas a no smoking area	1
	Reduce size of city centre	1
	Work on Armada Way one section at a time to minimise disruption	1
	Consult with the public about what would encourage them to come to the centre	1
	Create a design guide for business signage	1
	Take weather into account	1
	Paving should have a flowing design from one area to another	1
	Original water features should be reincorporated into design	1
	Deter electric bikes from accessing Armada Way	1
	Refurbish the sundial	1
	Install bird deterrent systems	1
	I do not want colour projected lighting	1
	Use QR codes to provide information	1
	Install two lion gargoyles next other Braille garden	1
	Phoenix Fountain should have water jet features	1
	Phoenix fountain should be illuminated at night	1
	Use warm lighting	1
	Concerned about cost	1
	Smoking zones	1
	Show costs of the project	1
	Total – Other	149
Number of respondents		667

Question 23: Please state any concerns you have about the scheme.

4.1.61 The number of respondents to question 23 was 932.

4.1.62 The responses touched upon various sub-themes. Notably, 197 mentions voiced concerns regarding the maintenance of the new spaces, while an additional 106 mentions were opposed to the proposed translocation of the six trees on Armada Way. Moreover, 77 mentions have conveyed apprehension regarding the delayed commencement and anticipated duration of the Armada Way project.

Theme	Response	Number
Maintenance	Concerns over maintenance	197
	Vandalism	61
	Illegal activity/ antisocial behaviour	49

	Littering	18
	Homeless people in centre	18
	Surveillance/ policing necessary	10
	Safety	10
	Suitability of SUDs system	9
	Clean buildings on Armada Way	4
	More security patrols	3
	Attract more high end shops to Armada Way	2
	Future proof designs to lower maintenance costs	2
	Not enough bins	2
	How will CCTV and maintenance be monitored	1
	Food vendors generate smell and mess	1
	Total - Maintenance	387
Timeline/disruption	Construction will take/ has taken too long	77
	Scheme will not be implemented as planned	38
	Effect on businesses	10
	Effect on access	2
	Noise pollution of construction	1
	Total - Timeline/disruption	128
Council/Groups	Concerns over cost and how money raised (e.g. council tax)	67
	Public won't be listened to or kept informed	29
	Groups hampering progress of scheme	25
	Money should be spent elsewhere	12
	Not enough detail provided	3
	Lack of information on plan to build residential homes	1
	Total - Council/Groups	137
Environment/greenery	Translocation of trees should not happen	106
	Not enough large/mature trees	27
	Maintenance of plants and trees	26
	Looking after plants and trees	24
	Not enough greenery/ flower beds	22
	Not enough canopy cover	18
	Too many plants/trees	12
	Concern over reaching 20% increase in biodiversity goal	6
	Not enough native trees	5
	Protecting existing wildlife	4
	Tree roots impacting paving/SUDs system	4
	Too little tree diversity	4
	Concern over attention given to natural environment	3
	Ensure forecasted tree numbers are accurate	2
	Sustainable materials	2

	Concern over growth of trees creating pockets of darkness	2
	Information on carbon footprint	2
	Remaining trees should be translocated	2
	Ensure forecasted tree numbers are accurate	2
	Ensure trees are suitable for local climate	1
	Trees need more soil	1
	Concern over use of pesticides	1
	Invasive Tree of Life	1
	Too much variety of tree species	1
	Total - Environment/greenery	278
Size/space	Play area too big	29
	Lack of open space/ too much clutter	12
	I don't like the play area	8
	Pathways too narrow	4
	Concern over skateboarders	4
	Paving/open spaces will radiate heat	2
	Skateboarders are not being considered	2
	CCTV to cover other areas of city centre	2
	Lack of quiet spaces	1
	Running water will pose a health hazard	1
	Play spaces should accommodate girls and boys	1
	Amphitheatre would be better placed on the Piazza	1
	Ensure playground is not vandalised or an area for anti-social behaviour	1
	Play area should be fenced	1
	Have a bandstand	1
	Total - Size/space	70
	Lack of public toilets/ changing facilities	49
Vehicles	Danger due to cyclist/ pedestrian conflict	15
	Don't like cycle path	6
	Lack of parking/ parking charges	5
	Cyclists speeding/ not sticking to cycle lanes	3
	Better transport connectivity and reliability	2
	Damage by heavy/delivery vehicles	2
	Cycle path not connected to anything	1
	Buses aren't reliable	1
	Delivery drivers dangerous	1
	Parking is too expensive	1
	Cycle path not connected to anything	1
	Delivery drivers dangerous	1
	Total - vehicles	39
Other	Too much hard paving and landscaping	26
	Bland design	20
	Too many straight lines	19

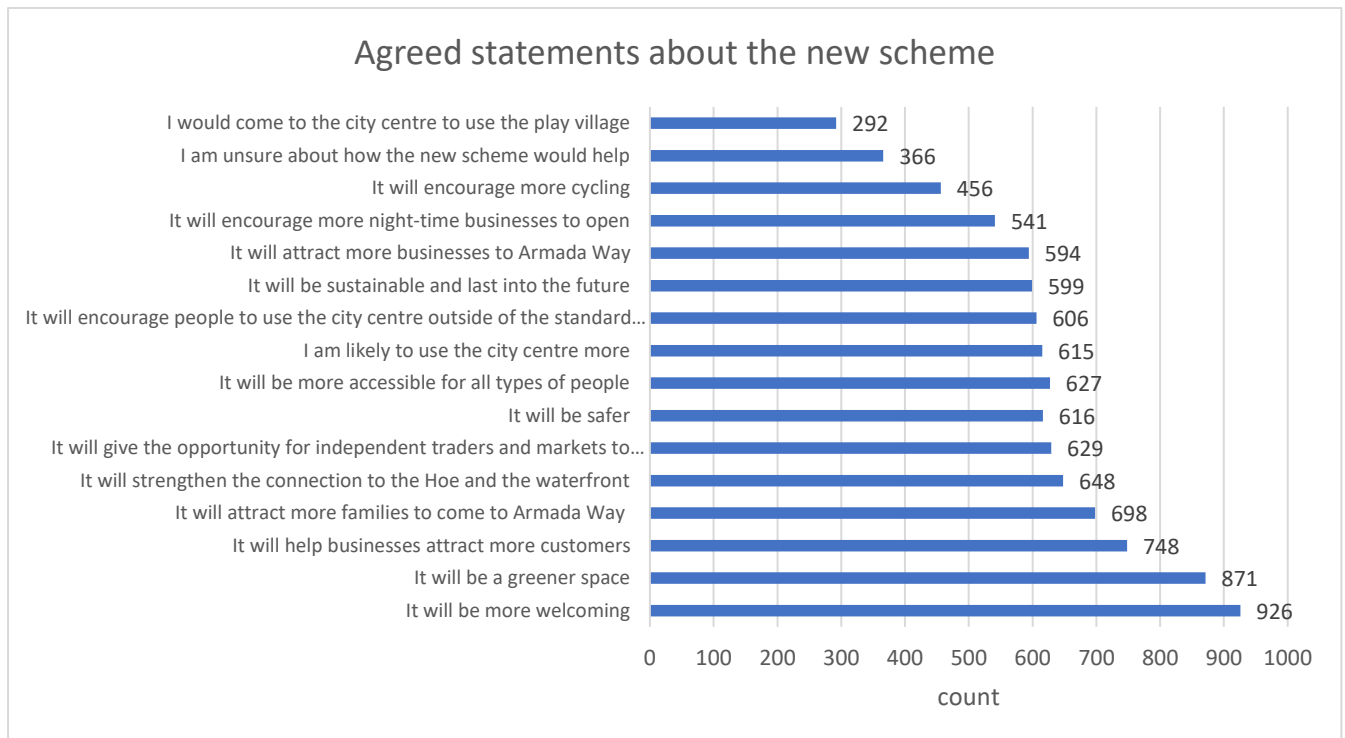
	Disability access	13
	Weather elements have not been considered	13
	Commercial interests prioritised over community interests	10
	Issues with shopping zone/ vacant buildings should be addressed first	9
	Lack of public toilets/ changing facilities	8
	Wind tunnel	7
	Lacks local character/ history	5
	Durable materials required	4
	Nothing for teenagers to do	3
	Slippery paving	3
	Not enough curves	3
	Light pollution	2
	Lack of support for drug users drives them to centre	1
	Design needs to be more simple	1
	Navigation is difficult	1
	What will happen lion gargoyles	1
	Total - other	149
Commercial	Businesses need support	8
	Empty shops/buildings	4
	Shop frontages look scruffy	4
	Commercial interests should not take priority	2
	People shop more online than in person	2
	Encourage more footfall in the evenings	1
	Economic impact on other markets	1
	Commercial interests prioritised over community interests	1
	Rent is too high for other businesses	1
	Total - Commercial	24
Cycling	Interaction between cyclists and pedestrians	15
	Suitability/danger of a cycle lane	11
	Deter cyclists from breaking rules/speeding	4
	Cycling path will encourage cyclists to speed	3
	Ban cycling	1
	Segregate cyclists and pedestrians	1
	Cycling path is too wide	1
	Cycling path to be wider	1
	Cycling path is too close to play area	1
	Hard barriers along cycle route will cause injury	1
	Scheme needs to ensure cyclists can access city centre safely	1
	Total Cycling	40
	Consideration for disabled people	6

Design and accessibility	Scheme should be completed one section at a time to minimise disruption	3
	Better transport connectivity and reliability	2
	Lack of privacy	2
	Size and design should be proportionate	2
	Cycling lane will discourage disabled people from coming to Armada Way	2
	Lighting could impact vulnerable groups	1
	White paving could be harmful to visually impaired people	1
	Water features pose danger to visually impaired	1
General	I support the scheme	34
	Concern over the consultation	8
	I do not like the aesthetic design of the scheme	5
	Lack of privacy from CCTV	2
	Scheme needs to be carefully considered	1
	Scheme lacks a lasting appeal to interest more visitors	1
	Water stream should have audible sounds of water rushing	1
	Retain sundial as part of the scheme	1
	Remove the merry go ride on Armada Way	1
	Some areas of Armada Way risk becoming bottlenecks	1
	Hire a team of people to manage city centre pedestrian areas	1
	Ensure that people are able to relax on Armada Way	1
	Concern over the quality of play area equipment	1
	Consideration for safety should go beyond CCTV and new lighting	1
	Proposed lighting could be harmful for visually impaired people.	1
	Reopen the Royal Parade underpass tunnel	1
	Provide a choice of schemes for people to choose	1
	Other areas in Plymouth need to be regenerated	1
	Remove amphitheatre	1
	No areas designed for smokers	1
Total – Other	65	
Number of respondents	932	

Question 24: From the list below, please tick all the statements that you agree with regarding the new scheme. (Please tick all that apply)

4.1.63 The number of respondents to question 24 was 1456.

4.1.64 Most respondents agreed the scheme would be more welcoming and would help businesses attract more customers.



4.2 Survey (EasyRead)

- 4.2.1 The EasyRead survey was completed by 5 people. The survey covered 5 themes: nature and greenery, the play village, pop-up spaces and solar canopies, seating and cycling, and lighting and CCTV.
- 4.2.2 Nature and Greenery: 4 respondents agreed with the plans for nature and greenery. 2 respondents asked for more flowers, 1 respondent wants signage to explain what is being planted, 1 respondent wants a learning station, 1 respondent wants a water pump, and 1 respondent wants a water fountain (Appendix 7.8.1).
- 4.2.3 Play Village: 4 respondents agreed with the plans for a play area. 1 respondent wants more colour, 1 respondent wants the play village and sensory area to be near to each other, 1 respondent wants the play village to be made smaller, and 1 respondent suggested including a quiet space for autistic people (Appendix 7.8.2).
- 4.2.4 Pop-Up and Solar Canopies: 4 respondents agreed with plans for solar panels, 3 respondents agreed with plans for pop-up spaces, 2 respondents agreed with plans for flexible spaces, and 2 respondents were unsure about plans for flexible spaces (Appendix 7.8.3).
- 4.2.5 Seating and Cycling: 4 respondents agreed with plans for seating, 4 respondents are concerned about potential conflict between cyclists and pedestrians, 3 respondents agreed with plans for cycling and walking routes, 2 respondents want covered or indoor seating, and 2 respondents stated that cycle and pedestrian paths must be kept separate (Appendix 7.8.4).
- 4.2.6 Lighting and CCTV: 5 respondents agreed with plans for lighting and CCTV, 2 respondents said the plans will make people feel safer, 1 respondent said they will encourage more people to use the centre at night, and 1 respondent said they will prevent drug dealing (Appendix 7.8.5).
- 4.2.7 General Comments: 3 respondents want more shelter for the homeless, 1 respondent wants construction finished as soon as possible, 1 respondent wants more dog litter and waste bins, and 1 respondent wants better drainage (Appendix 7.8.6).

4.3 Interviews with representatives of organisations and groups

4.3.1 Those stakeholders with a high stake in the proposed scheme were offered a 1-2-1 interview with a member of the ECF team, so that they could feed back the views of the organisations they represent outside of the survey. Some of the stakeholders who participated in an interview, also chose to submit a formal written response which can be viewed in section 4.4.

4.3.2 The full transcripts from these interviews can be viewed in Appendix 7.11.

4.3.3 The following interviews were undertaken (in alphabetical order):

- Chamber of Commerce
- Environment Plymouth
- Luke Pollard, MP
- Market Traders Association – Ray Robins
- Plymouth City Centre Company
- Plymouth Civic Society
- Plymouth Cycling Campaign
- Plymouth Tree People
- Theatre Royal Plymouth

4.3.4 It should be noted that interviews were offered to many more stakeholders, but the list above outlines those that were held once the date was agreed with the representatives. A representative of STRAW attended an interview, but did not comment and instead preferred to focus upon their written response.

4.3.5 Chamber of Commerce

Summary of Chamber of Commerce's Interview:

- **Nature and Greenery:**
 - The Chamber of Commerce expresses a positive stance and full support for the enhancement of nature in the area.
 - Supports additional trees but does not provide specific views on existing tree translocation.
- **Play Village:**
 - The Chamber supports the Play Village initiative.
 - Believes that attracting families to the city centre is a positive move to counter the decline observed in city centres nationwide.
- **Water Subsystem:**
 - Fully supports the SuDS but emphasises the need for proper maintenance.
 - Cautions against the previous water system which became neglected and turning into a literal rat run.
- **Cycle Path and Mobility Hub:**
 - Supports sustainable transport but emphasises the importance of considering safety issues.
 - Mentions concerns about accidents and highlights the need for safety precautions.
- **General Feedback:**
 - Expresses support for pop-up spaces and seating, particularly for the market-going crowd.
 - Notes the importance of proper seating, referencing past experiences in the city centre.
 - Emphasises the significance of appropriate lighting and CCTV for enhancing safety in the city centre during the evening.
- **Deliveries and Access:**
 - Raises concerns about access for deliveries during the redevelopment works.
 - Highlights struggles with deliveries during the construction, resulting in financial losses for businesses.
- **Overall Perspective:**
 - Stresses the importance of considering access for deliveries in a way that doesn't disrupt other businesses.
 - Indicates that safety and proper planning are crucial for encouraging people to use the city centre, especially during the evening.

4.3.6 Environment Plymouth

Summary of Interview with Environment Plymouth:

- **Tree Maintenance:**
 - Expresses concerns about the need for proper tree maintenance, including watering for at least five years.
 - Raises questions about the responsibility for maintaining new trees.
- **Preservation of Existing Trees:**
 - Objects to the removal of six mature trees, calling for a slight amendment to the design to preserve them.
 - Questions the justification for moving these trees, considering previous alterations to the design.
- **Water System and Rodent Infestation:**
 - Recalls concerns about rat infestation in the old water system.
 - Raises questions about potential issues with the new water system and the plan for dealing with rodents.
- **Tree of Life Concerns:**
 - Expresses worry about the inclusion of the "Tree of Life" in the planting, citing its reputation as an invasive alien species.
- **Overall Observations:**
 - Questions the willingness to amend the design based on feedback.
 - Raises the issue of rodent management and highlights potential environmental impact of certain plant choices.

4.3.7 Market Traders Association – Ray Robins

Summary of Interview with Ray Robins, Chair of the Market Traders Association:

- **Enhancement of Nature and Greenery:**
 - Represents traders and shopkeepers, with no objections to moving trees for the scheme.
 - Supports PCC's proactive approach to climate change, with a commitment to holding them accountable for results.
- **Play Village Impact:**
 - Views the play village as a positive addition, providing a reason for families to visit the city centre, potentially increasing dwell time.
 - No direct input into the design but sees it as an added attraction.
- **SuDS System:**
 - No specific feedback on the Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS).
- **Cycle Path and Mobility Hub:**
 - Expresses safety concerns regarding the cycle path, especially regarding the speed of electric bikes and their interaction with children.
- **Addressing Anti-Social Behaviour:**
 - Believes that enhancing the area can lead to reduced anti-social behaviour.
 - Acknowledges the citywide problem of anti-social behaviour with no long-term solution.
- **City Connectivity and Accessibility:**
 - Highlights the need to connect different parts of Plymouth city centre.
 - Calls for improved accessibility and parking to encourage people to visit the city centre.
- **Support for the Scheme:**
 - Generally supportive of the scheme, with the main reservation being the maintenance programme.
 - Emphasises the importance of cleanliness and maintenance to preserve the aesthetic appeal of the new scheme.
 - Believes that investment is a positive step that should encourage private landlords to invest in buildings/units.

4.3.8 Plymouth City Centre Company

Summary of Interview with Plymouth City Centre Company:

- **Enhancement of Nature and Greenery:**
 - PCCC welcomes the addition of more trees on Armada Way.
 - Supports the removal of central section trees due to their association with antisocial behaviour and safety concerns.
 - Expresses satisfaction with the inclusion of semi-mature trees and the concept of an avenue of trees with coalescing canopies.
- **Play Village:**
 - PCCC welcomes the play village, seeing it as beneficial for attracting families into the city centre.
 - Emphasises the need for proper maintenance, CCTV coverage, and a diverse High Street.
 - Stresses that the play area should cater to various age groups and offer spaces for relaxation.
- **Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS):**
 - Acknowledges a lack of engineering expertise but sees potential benefits in future-proofing the city for development.
- **Cycle Path and Mobility Hub:**
 - Supports the idea to encourage cycling into the city centre, with a call for education on cycling behaviour, monitoring with cameras, and clear enforcement strategies.
- **Lighting and CCTV:**
 - Welcomes improvements in CCTV, noting that the current setup is obscured by trees.
 - Highlights the importance of an open space for events and activities with potential for modern performances.
- **Performance Spaces and Weather Considerations:**
 - PCCC supports the idea of performance spaces but emphasises the need for collaboration with event managers and producers.
 - Suggests considering temporary outdoor structures and canopies for weather-related challenges.
- **General Scheme Feedback:**
 - Some feedback suggests the scheme is perceived as a bit bland, with calls for more grass.
 - Advocates for a clean, well-designed scheme that is easy to maintain.
 - Views improvement in public spaces as a catalyst for future private investment in run-down buildings.

- **Empty and Neglected Buildings:**
 - Urges an urgent and robust approach to deal with empty and neglected buildings, including Mayflower House.
 - Calls for penalties for landlords neglecting properties and the potential eviction of non-compliant property owners.

- **Conclusion and Additional Points:**
 - Urges the provision of more housing and more detailed plans.
 - Calls for action on homelessness issues affecting the city's image.
 - Welcomes plans for more outdoor seating and pop-up trading but advocates for high-quality establishments.
 - Recommends PCC to establish a design code to ensure quality standards for businesses.

4.3.9 Plymouth Civic Society

Summary of Interview with Representative from Plymouth Civic Society:

[NB – it should be noted that the representative from this group stated that a response had not been discussed with other members, and therefore this would be treated as an individual response from the PCS.]

- **Seating and Informal Gathering:**
 - Suggests incorporating seating to accommodate informal groups that may gather, creating a space for people to come together.
 - Proposes an area for games suitable for adults, such as chess, to add diversity to the space.
- **Cycling and Pedestrian Safety:**
 - Expresses concern about the cycling-pedestrian mix and recommends avoiding mixed-use paths for safety reasons.
 - Highlights the importance of considering the needs of people with disabilities in the design of pathways.
- **Safety and Security:**
 - Emphasises the importance of proper lighting and CCTV for safety and security, referencing past issues in the old Armada Way.
- **Overall Positive Feedback:**
 - Provides a list of positive aspects, including a greener and safer space, making it more welcoming.
- **Play Village:**
 - Indicates that individual views on the Play Village within the Civic Society have not been collectively discussed.
- **Clarity on Civic Society's Role:**
 - Clarifies that the Civic Society has not collectively discussed the survey but emphasises the importance of a proper engagement process.
 - Acknowledges the absence of a unified view within the Civic Society due to the perceived lack of a comprehensive engagement process.
- **Individual Members' Views:**
 - Refers to specific individuals within the Civic Society, indicating that their views will be communicated through their respective organisations.

4.3.10 Plymouth Cycling Campaign

Summary of Interview with Plymouth Cycling Campaign:

- **Nature and Greenery:**
 - Concerns raised about potential tree removal for the cycle path.
 - Suggested integrating the cycle path around existing trees instead of translocating them.
 - **Cycle Path Design:**
 - Highlighted concerns about path width for accommodating various bike types and differing speeds.
 - Inquired about the design of crossings on Mayflower Street and Cornwall Street.
 - Recommended installing bike racks along the path for convenience.
 - Raised concerns about the path's end integration into the city centre.
 - **Safety and Interactions:**
 - Emphasised the need to address potential speed differentials and interactions with pedestrians.
 - Mentioned concerns about potential obstacles like plantings affecting sightlines.
 - **Waymarking and Shared Responsibility:**
 - Advocated for clear waymarking and shared responsibility on the shared path.
 - Emphasised the importance of pedestrians being aware of crossing a bike path.
 - **Lighting and CCTV:**
 - Supported the inclusion of good lighting for safety, especially for bike storage.
 - **Play Village Feedback:**
 - Suggested boundaries and gates for child safety.
 - Raised concerns about fitting multiple activities into a small space.
 - **General Scheme Feedback:**
 - No additional feedback as a cycling organisation, keeping the focus on cycling-related aspects.
- **Post-Interview Notes:****
- Discussed the estimated number of cycle movements and path width according to LTN 1/20.
 - Advocated for increased enforcement against non-compliant e-bikes.
 - Shared observations from other European cities embracing active travel and investing in cycling infrastructure.

4.3.11 Plymouth Tree People

Summary of Interview with Plymouth Tree People:

- **Information Requests:**
 - Plymouth Tree People expressed dissatisfaction with the information received from Plymouth City Council.
 - They emphasised the need for detailed information, particularly regarding the rationale for translocating each of the six trees.
- **Council's Response:**
 - ECF representative explained that the information provided is based on what is available, and any limitations may be due to factors such as the absence of a final scheme affecting budget details.
- **Position and Feedback:**
 - Plymouth Tree People stated that they had nothing further to add to their statement from October 30th.
 - They expressed a willingness to reconsider their position or provide more detail if they had received the requested information.
 - Criticised the document received from the PCC as sketchy and lacking the detailed rationale they sought.
- **Listening Mode and Future Steps:**
 - ECF mentioned being in "listening mode" and collecting information to compile a report.
 - The report will be presented to Plymouth City Council, and further actions will depend on the PCC's response.
- **Conclusion of the Interview:**
 - PTP conveyed a sense of frustration, stating that there seems to be no point in continuing the discussion without the additional information they seek.

4.3.12 Theatre Royal Plymouth.

Interview Summary with Theatre Royal Plymouth:

- **Greenery and Nature in the Scheme:**
 - Expressed strong support for addressing the climate crisis through the Armada Way scheme. Emphasised the importance of creating an accessible, enjoyable, and safe space that adds to the environment.
- **Tree Translocation:**
 - Supportive of the translocation of six trees, considering it necessary for the city centre's further development and improvement of the carbon footprint (through the SuDS).
- **Play Village:**
 - Acknowledged the benefits of a proposed play village for Theatre Royal and the community, particularly in attracting families to the city centre. Emphasised the importance of ensuring accessibility for all.
- **Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDs):**
 - Endorsed the SuDs as a positive step forward, emphasising its contribution to sustainability and potential reduction of impacts on the water table.
- **New Cycle Path:**
 - Supported the new cycle path, considering it a positive move for promoting sustainable transport. Highlighted its potential to enhance safety and confidence for cyclists.
- **Timeliness of the Scheme:**
 - Stressed the importance of the scheme's timely implementation, expressing eagerness to see improvements to the city centre post-COVID for the benefit of the community and organisations like Theatre Royal.
- **Lighting and CCTV:**
 - Endorsed the proposal to improve lighting and CCTV along Armada Way, emphasising its significance in enhancing safety and accessibility for patrons, especially during evening hours.

4.4 Written feedback from organisations and groups

4.4.1 In addition to being able to respond to the consultation via the survey and by undertaking a 1-2-1 interview, stakeholders were also given the option to submit a formal written response.

4.4.2 The full set of written responses received can be viewed in Appendix 7.12. Responses were received from (in alphabetical order):

1. DOCO Plymouth
2. Environment Agency
3. Environment Plymouth
4. Food Plymouth
5. Hoe Neighbourhood Forum
6. Luke Pollard MP
7. Plymouth City Centre Company
8. Plymouth Civic Society
9. Plymouth Community Homes
10. Plymouth Culture
11. Plymouth Cycling Campaign
12. Plymouth Tree People
13. South West Water
14. STRAW
15. The British Land Company
16. Woodland Trust

4.4.3 The following section sets out a summary of the main themes from each of these responses. It should be noted that the responses were forwarded in full to PCC, as soon as they were submitted for consideration, as they set out very detailed feedback.

4.4.4 Response from DOCO (Designing out Crime Officer) Plymouth

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by the DOCO for Plymouth. The role of the DOCO is to review the design and layout of the proposed development, to provide advice and recommendations on designing out the opportunity for crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour.

It was stated that 'Crime, fear of crime and ASB are less likely to occur if the following attributes of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) inform the overall design and layout of the proposed regeneration scheme':

- **Access and movement (Permeability)** - Places with well-defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide for convenient movement without compromising security:
 - Assess how well pedestrian routes connect to publicly accessible spaces.
 - They must encourage legitimate users and deter unwanted activity.
 - Information boards, signage and wayfinding will be crucial to manage spaces and remove excuses for people to breach the rules of how a space is used.
- **Structure – (Design & Layout)** - Places that are structured so that different uses do not cause conflict:
 - The proposed mix of spaces has the potential to cause conflict, so there needs to be a clear definition between public and private spaces.
- **Surveillance (Natural, Formal & Informal)** - Places where all publicly accessible spaces are overlooked.
 - The proposed enhancement to lighting and CCTV are much supported, as it will make legitimate users feel safer and less vulnerable.
 - It is recommended that a 'passport to compliance document' is put in place to ensure the CCTV is fit for purpose, and the installation should be sited to maximise coverage and visibility.
 - Recessed, sheltered or concealed areas should be avoided as they can undermine surveillance opportunities and where unavoidable, the cameras must be placed in the best location to monitor them.
 - It is recommended that a qualified lighting designer is consulted to ensure the street lighting meets the British Standard, and that lighting is appropriate for different locations and settings.
 - Integral lighting should be considered for seating areas with clear sight lines to discourage antisocial use, loitering or gatherings.
 - Consider the standards and specification of the Secured by Design (SBD) Lighting Guide.
 - Consider existing overlooking buildings, trees and landscaping when assessing surveillance and lighting requirements.
- **Ownership** - Places that promote a sense of ownership, respect, territorial responsibility and community.
- **Physical protection** - Places that include necessary, well-designed security features as detailed within the SBD:
 - Consider secure storage for outdoor tables and chairs when not in use.
 - Add help points in prominent locations.

- Search accredited SBD member companies when commissioning bike parking and storage.
- **Activity** - Places where the level of human activity is appropriate to the location and creates a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times:
 - Seating, amphitheatre, steps and low walls must be covered by CCTV and lighting to deter antisocial gatherings.
- **Management and maintenance** - Places that are designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and the future:
 - Ensuring a well-maintained space will be crucial to create the impression it is 'owned' whereas deterioration indicates greater tolerance of crime and disorder.
 - A generous provision of rubbish/recycling/dog waste bins will be needed.
 - Consider anti-graffiti finish for ease of cleaning.
 - It is not clear whether designated social/play space for older children will be factored in or whether activities such as skateboarding and BMX bikes for example would be supported within the new space. If such activities would be discouraged and no designated space was factored in, the design and surface finishes of some external structures, such as low walls, steps, railings, hand rails, planters and seating for example will need to be carefully considered with this in mind.
- In support of the above comments please refer to SBD [COMMERCIAL_GUIDE_23.pdf \(securedbydesign.com\)](#) for best practice and principles in terms of designing out opportunity for crime, fear of crime and creating safe and secure environments.

4.4.5 Response from the Environment Agency

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by the Environment Agency.

- Have been working in partnership with PCC and South West Water for over 8 years to develop methods to better manage surface water and urban drainage across Plymouth
- Making improvements to flood risk and water quality are key outputs of this partnership.
- Armada Way is an area where most of the rainwater falling on the urban area is routed into a combined drainage system.
- The joint aim is to create a new surface water system within this area to allow surface water to be separated from the current combined system.
- This project is an excellent opportunity to realise this outcome.
- The inclusion of the SuDS is very much welcomed.
- It is designed for the future, with the ability to manage increased rainfall associated with climate change and helps support long periods of prolonged dry weather.
- The Armada Way system is part the overall strategy to manage the city centre's surface water and drainage systems, linking into the works for New George Street and other systems to be constructed in the future.
- The project's aims are well aligned with the Government's National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England
- The project will help manage the flood risk to Union Street area by improved capacity and water management.
- The project also supports the Government's' storm overflow discharge reduction plan by the removal of the surface water from the combined drainage system, which will maintain improved bathing water quality in Plymouth Sound.
- Keen to remain involved and support the development of this project.

4.5.6 Response from Environment Plymouth

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by Environment Plymouth.

- **Consultation** – there is a general feeling from members that the proposed plans are a ‘foregone conclusion’ and therefore the term ‘consultation’ is misleading. It is felt that groups and individuals should have been consulted at an earlier stage to feed into the development of the proposals.
- **Trees** – the additional trees to be planted are largely welcome with a number of concerns:
 - The inclusion of the ‘Tree of Life’ is concerning as it has a poor reputation, as it leaks toxins into the ground, can create a nauseating odour and is listed by the European plant Protection Organisation as being in the top 25 of invasive plants posing ‘an important threat to plant health, environment and biodiversity’.
 - Studies show that 40% of urban tree plantings die within seven years, far too early to realise their benefits which indicates it is better to preserve mature trees.
 - Evidence is therefore required regarding how PCC will manage and fund the long-term maintenance of the new tree plantings, as they face unique challenges such as excess warmth from urban heat, underwatering and the potential arrival of unhealthy microbiomes.
- **Translocation of existing trees** – highly concerned as the success rate is low, unless they are carefully handled during all stages of the translocation and then they need to be properly maintained.
- **Retaining existing trees** – the option to retain all existing trees was not included and it is felt that it should have been as the six trees in question are healthy and already benefit the environment.
- **Levelling work** – the levelling work could be moved a few metres without impeding users and would enable the retention of the mature trees.
- **Commitment to keep all trees** – the Leader and Labour Council committed to keeping all trees, yet they’re not which goes against their pledge. The feeling is that PCC planners do not want to alter the design and include the trees.
- **Lighting** – ensure lighting scheme reflects suitable day/night balances to ensure welfare of wildlife (birds, bats, insects and nocturnal feeders). Consider warm white instead of bright white LEDs.
- **Cycle path** – bikes crossing pedestrian areas is felt to be hazardous and electric bikes are already causing danger, especially to the more vulnerable. If the cycle lane changes from east/west to west/east were at the existing streets, people would be more alerted in the same way they are when they cross a road.
- **Rodents** – should be dealt with humanely and they infest the disused watercourse, which means they need to be controlled in a timely manner as advised by EHO.

- **Old water storage tanks** - there is a risk of existing biofilm contamination with inherent dangers to public health. Also, a Legionella Risk Assessment should be done.
- **Children's play area** – consider reducing the size as it may be an irritation to many people.
- **Felled trees** – will the chippings from the over 100 felled trees be used as a safety layer in the play area?
- **Water features** – the water features need to be maintained or else they will be abused.
- **Design** – consider shading and canopy for wide surfaces as climate change is bringing hot summers and wet winters. Canopy could be provided by sails and using spreading varieties of trees.
- **Chess tables** – incorporate into the design.
- **Bins** – clear notices required as to what can be put in recycling bins to stop contamination of rubbish.
- **Maintenance** – need clarification on the maintenance programme and fundings, especially for the newly planted trees.
- **Additional planting** – what will happen to the mature trees at Crowne Plaza if a new urban-forest is planted?
- **SuDS** – it is largely a good idea, but more detailed plans are required.
- **Costings** – these should be published for the different aspects of the scheme, such as translocation.

4.4.7 Response from Food Plymouth

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by Food Plymouth.

Introduction:

- Developed by Food Plymouth's Collaboratory collective, focusing on biodiversity, edible landscape, amenity, and community.
- Aims to positively influence Armada Way redevelopment for the benefit of people, wildlife, and Sustainable Food Places (SFP) priorities.

Rationale:

- Engages constructively to enhance the design and delivery of the redevelopment.
- Aligns with Sustainable Food Places (SFP) priorities, emphasising Food for the Planet, Good Food Movement, and Food Governance and Strategy.

Process:

- Collaboratory includes Food Plymouth members, partners, and stakeholders.
- Multiple workshop-style meetings, in-person and online, to formulate the response.

Collaboratory's Response:

- **Preamble:**
 - Focuses on forward-facing solutions rather than dwelling on recent losses.
 - Aims for a design that benefits both people and wildlife.
- **Context:**
 - Supports a mixed-use city centre, emphasising the importance of green spaces.
 - Advocates for multi-generational residential use, open-air community spaces, and 24-hour facilities.
- **Positives:**
 - Appreciates the proposed diverse design.
 - Acknowledges rainwater harvesting systems, reedbeds, and the inclusion of native wildflowers.
 - Supports the play park and suggests expanding it with a wildlife-friendly edible hedge.
- **Opportunities:**
 - Recommends underplanting for biodiversity net gain.
 - Suggests involvement of local community groups for diverse and interesting habitats.
 - Emphasises the importance of diverse tree plantings and community involvement.
- **Challenges:**
 - Notes the urban challenges for tree survival.
 - Expresses concerns about reduced green spaces and potential windier environments.
 - Calls for considerations of green, blue, black, and brown corridors for wildlife.

- **Reservations:**
 - Expresses concerns about the size and planting layout of new trees.
 - Highlights challenges with irrigation, soil specification, and tree relocations.
- **Specifics:**
 - Details the composition of new trees proposed in the Armada Way landscape design.
 - Highlights the importance of tree species selection, irrigation plans, soil specifications, and challenges of tree relocations.

Detailed Tree Considerations:

- Field Maple (*Acer Campestre*): 27 trees proposed.
- Tree of Life: 1 tree proposed.
- Alder (*Alnus Glutinosa*): 4 trees proposed (Nitrogen fixer).
- Cut Alder (*Alnus Glutinosa 'Imperialis'*): 5 trees proposed (Nitrogen fixer).
- Snowy Mespilus (Juneberry - *Amelanchier Lamarckii*): 6 trees proposed (Edible berries, variety-dependent).

Wildlife Considerations:

- Advocates for underplanting to create richer areas with biodiversity net gain.
- Emphasises opportunities for local community groups to contribute to diverse plantings and wildlife habitats.
- Calls for the inclusion of native species in wildflower meadows for better wildlife support.
- Suggests a community orchard, showcasing community food growing and nature connection work.
- Recommends incorporating solitary bee nesting spaces and bird nest boxes into the infrastructure.

In summary, the Collaboratory response provides detailed insights into tree types, planting considerations, and specific recommendations for promoting wildlife habitats and biodiversity in the Armada Way redevelopment.

4.4.8 Hoe Neighbourhood Forum

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by the Hoe Neighbourhood Forum.

Introduction:

- The aim is to collate a response from the Hoe Neighbourhood Forum (HNF) and encourage individual members to engage in the consultation process.

Meeting Highlights:

- **Accessibility Concerns:**
 - Concerns raised about the purely online nature of the consultation process.
 - Acknowledgment of potential accessibility issues; however, information indicates that paper copies were available at the City Library, and consultants were physically present in Armada Way during the consultation period.
- **Cycle Path Improvements:**
 - Positive feedback on the new cycle path.
 - Concerns raised about the 'amphitheatre' area at the northern end of the path and uncertainties about the route for cyclists at the southern end of Armada Way.
 - Concerns raised about the amphitheatre area, suggesting it lacks shade and has a pedestrian-cyclist interaction issue.
- **Maintenance and Budget Concerns:**
 - Questions raised about the maintenance budgets for new play areas, amenities, and the ongoing care of wildflower/green spaces/trees.
- **Play Area Size and Night-time Economy:**
 - Questions about the necessity of a large play area and its correlation with the proposal to encourage the night-time economy.
- **Seating and Accessibility:**
 - Queries about the amount of seating throughout Armada Way for visitors to rest.
 - Emphasis on the need for seating with backs for the benefit of all, especially those with low mobility issues.
- **Translocation of Trees:**
 - Concerns expressed about the 'translocation' of six trees, questioning the feasibility and appropriateness of the new locations.
- **Dense Tree Planting Near Crowne Plaza:**
 - Specific concern raised about the proposal for dense tree planting outside the Crowne Plaza.
 - Request for more information on this proposal and a desire to be involved in discussions as the Hoe Neighbourhood Forum, acting as a Statutory Consultee.

Conclusion: The Hoe Neighbourhood Forum and its members expressed a range of concerns and inquiries related to accessibility, cycle paths, play areas, seating, tree translocation, and specific tree planting proposals. The Forum seeks more detailed information and active involvement in the decision-making process concerning the Armada Way redevelopment.

4.4.9 Luke Pollard MP

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by Luke Pollard MP.

- **Introduction and Acknowledgment:**
 - Recognition of the cancellation of previous plans and appreciation for the open consultation process.
- **Positive Aspects of the New Plans:**
 - Praise for the decision to double the number of trees, opt for more mature trees, and include elements like bees, insect habitats, and low-maintenance planting.
 - Welcome the proposal for a large play area for children.
- **Concerns and Clarifications:**
 - Worries about potential conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians, seeking clarification on management strategies.
 - Consideration of accessibility concerns, especially for those with mobility and sight impairments.
- **Specific Design Issues:**
 - Seeking reassurance that proposed flower beds around trees in the Piazza won't hinder events and markets.
 - Inquiries about how skateboarding activities will be accommodated or discouraged.
- **Sundial Changes:**
 - Concerns about proposed changes to the Sundial, particularly the removal of stone seats showing the time.
 - Request for clear communication regarding the decision and its impact on civic art.
- **Construction and Maintenance:**
 - Questions raised over maintenance budgets for new play areas, other amenities, and ongoing care of green spaces, trees, and wildflowers.
 - Request for clarification on the sequencing of construction work and its potential impact on local businesses.
 - Emphasis on the need for a clear plan for the maintenance of new features, such as play areas and green spaces.
- **Tree Translocation and Replacement Guarantee:**
 - Acknowledgment of the necessity of translocating trees.
 - Request for a guarantee in the scheme to replace any translocated trees that do not survive with a specified number of new trees.
- **Conclusion and Future Engagement:**
 - Overall, recognition of the scheme's improvement over previous efforts.
 - Commitment to gathering further feedback from constituents for a final submission.
 - Emphasis on encouraging public input and the hope that specific concerns, including construction and maintenance, are addressed during the consultation process.

4.4.10 Plymouth City Centre Company

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by the Plymouth City Centre Company.

- **Introduction and Endorsement:**
 - Representation of the Plymouth City Centre Company's formal response to the consultation.
 - Acknowledgment of the long-standing request for the reinvigoration of Armada Way and enthusiasm for the scale and ambition of the new plans.
- **Endorsement of Vision:**
 - Full endorsement of the vision to recapture the scale and grandeur of Armada Way.
 - Applauding the decision to recreate the original Abercrombie vision of a tree-lined boulevard from North Cross to The Hoe.
- **Catalyst for Regeneration:**
 - Recognition of the new plans as a catalyst for regeneration.
 - Anticipation of the scheme unlocking further investment and addressing the changing nature of the high street.
- **Diverse City Centre:**
 - Belief in the scheme's potential to create a more diverse city centre with less dependence on retail.
 - Enthusiasm for provisions supporting housing, leisure, and year-round cultural events.
- **Specific Welcomes:**
 - Welcome for the Play Village and the performance space at the northern end of Armada Way and Mayflower Street.
- **Safety and Security:**
 - Emphasis on the top priority of a safe and welcoming city centre.
 - Support for improved lighting and CCTV, with a call for reassurance on their full funding.
- **Addressing Anti-Social Behaviour:**
 - Urgent talks suggested with relevant agencies to tackle recent increases in anti-social behaviour and shoplifting.
 - A call for exploration of additional opportunities for ring-fenced crime prevention funding.
- **Management of Empty Buildings:**
 - Urgent and robust approaches proposed for dealing with empty and neglected buildings, especially Mayflower House and the block owned by AEW.
- **Design and Construction Quality:**
 - Stress on the critical role of the look and feel of Armada Way in attracting visitors.
 - Urging PCC to commit to high-quality design and construction materials.

- **Maintenance and Upkeep:**
 - Welcome for assurances on maintenance, with a call for measures and resources from day one.
 - A plea for the highest priority in the upkeep of Armada Way.
- **Outdoor Seating and Trading Pitches:**
 - Welcome for plans for more outdoor seating and pop-up trading pitches.
 - Urging the Council to develop a design code to maintain quality along the whole length of Armada Way.
- **Cycling Plans and Enforcement:**
 - Welcome for plans to encourage more cycling.
 - Concerns raised about rules and enforcement, urging the Council to report back on its plans.
- **Collaborative Communication:**
 - Urging close collaboration with the City Centre Company in communications with businesses.
 - Emphasis on the need for coordination on phasing of works and minimizing disruption.
- **Hope for Swift Implementation:**
 - Overall welcome for the scheme with a hope for work to commence in the New Year.

4.4.11 Plymouth Civic Society

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by the Plymouth Civic Society.

- **Administration:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Conservative
 - *Current Proposal:* Labour
- **Purpose:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Better Places program reflecting Beaux Arts vision
 - *Current Proposal:* Vibrant, green gateway promoting development
- **Sponsor Department:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* PCC Strategic Planning and Infrastructure
 - *Current Proposal:* Same
- **Funding:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* £12.7m from Transforming Cities Fund
 - *Current Proposal:* Same
- **Regulatory:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Permitted Development with EIA exemption
 - *Current Proposal:* Same
- **Site Status:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Rundown with mature trees, broken pavements
 - *Current Proposal:* Derelict with some remaining trees
- **Main Features of Proposal:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Remove mature trees, replace with semi-mature ones
 - *Current Proposal:* Retain most trees, replace lost ones with semi-mature ones
- **Business:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Improved seating, refurbished Sundial
 - *Current Proposal:* Same
- **Families:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Play space, games area, amphitheatre
 - *Current Proposal:* Huge destination play village
- **Cyclists:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* New route, e-bike hire
 - *Current Proposal:* Same
- **Other Features:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* New lighting, upgraded power, CCTV
 - *Current Proposal:* Same
- **Irrigation and Drainage:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* SuDS System
 - *Current Proposal:* Same
- **Consultees During Proposal Development:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Statutory bodies, PCC Company, no public survey after finalisation
 - *Current Proposal:* Same, with public survey after finalisation

- **Proposal Status:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Cancelled due to public protest
 - *Current Proposal:* Largely fait accompli with limited amendments
- **Comments:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Ignored survey results, lacked community engagement
 - *Current Proposal:* Reduced grandeur, theme park focus
- **Conclusion:**
 - *Previous Proposal:* Site left derelict, Plymouth into disrepute
 - *Current Proposal:* Incoming administration focuses on improvements, generally supported by PCS.

4.4.12 Plymouth Community Homes

Responded via the survey on behalf of PCH, but emailed to confirm that Plymouth Community Homes is in full support of the proposed scheme for Armada Way and welcomes these proposals for the city of Plymouth.

4.4.13 Plymouth Culture

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by Plymouth Culture.

Introduction: The Creative and Cultural sector in Plymouth has provided valuable feedback on the proposed Armada Way scheme, aiming to contribute to the city's positive transformation. Acknowledging recent challenges due to tree felling, they emphasise the role of culture and creativity in Plymouth's regeneration plans.

- *Structural Suggestions:*
 - **Ground Levelling:** Concerns are raised about the ground's unevenness impacting performers, especially those in dance or wheelchair users. They recommend reconsidering the gradient reduction to avoid limitations.
 - **Skaters:** The importance of considering urban skaters' needs, involving them in discussions about street furniture, materials, and design to ensure a skate-friendly space.
 - **Play Area Shade/Cover:** Emphasising the need for a shade/cover over the play area for safety during varying weather conditions, aligning with European city practices.
 - **Cover for Pop-up Spaces:** Proposing exploration of undercover possibilities for pop-up and flexible spaces, including portable, temporary, and permanent options.
 - **Provision for Young People:** Noting the lack of provision for young people aged 20-24, suggesting further consideration through engagement with the creative sector.
- *Operational Considerations:*
 - **Effective Programming:** Stressing the importance of an effective programming and booking system for artists, creatives, and performers to activate spaces.
 - **Accessible Booking System:** Advocating for collaboration with Plymouth City Council and City Centre Company to establish a streamlined, clear, affordable, and responsive booking system.
 - **Revenue Budget:** Recommending a revenue budget during the development phase and two years post-completion to enable consistent activation, especially during the night-time economy.
 - **Updated Events Policy:** Requesting the development of an updated events policy in partnership with the sector, considering practical aspects of creative space utilization.
 - **Implementation Group:** Proposing the establishment of an implementation group focused on further developing event spaces.

- *Strategic Recommendations:*
 - **Integration within the City:** Emphasising that the Armada Way scheme should not work in isolation and advocating for strategic efforts to engage city centre landlords for overall vibrancy.
 - **Comprehensive Policies:** Highlighting the need for comprehensive policies like a meanwhile use policy, travel policy, and a night-time economy strategy for a joined-up approach.
 - **Central Role of Creative Sector:** Expressing the belief that the creative and cultural sector plays a crucial role in transforming the city and driving community engagement. Requesting involvement in decision-making beyond the consultation phase.
 - **Inclusion of Plymouth Culture:** Requesting the inclusion of Plymouth Culture in the decision-making group for Armada Way and city centre regeneration programs.

- *Conclusion:* The Creative and Cultural sector expresses enthusiasm, reiterating their desire to be actively involved in the scheme's development. The provided suggestions aim to enhance the scheme, contributing to a vibrant and culturally rich Plymouth.

4.4.14 Plymouth Cycling Campaign

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by the Plymouth Cycling Campaign.

Path Width:

- **LTN Interpretation:** PCyC questions the planned path width of 2.55m, deeming it too narrow for a two-way path, citing differing interpretations of LTN 1/20. They suggest a width of 3 or 4.5m based on volume as more desirable.

Crossing Mayflower St:

- **Pedestrian and Cyclist Crossing:** PCyC seeks clarification on how pedestrians and cyclists will cross Mayflower St, expressing uncertainty about the proposed intentions.

Uncertainty around Cornwall St:

- **Junction at Cornwall St:** There is a lack of clarity regarding the plans at the Cornwall St junction, prompting questions about its design and functionality.

Bike Racks and Parking:

- **Insufficient Bike Racks:** PCyC notes the absence of quality bike stands along the path and advocates for the inclusion of Sheffield Stands in multiple locations. They emphasise the importance of sufficient, well-distributed bike parking.

Cycle Path Operation:

- **Exiting the Path:** PCyC raises questions about the procedure for cyclists exiting the path to access shops or homes and whether dismounting is required. They link this concern to the number and placement of bike stands.

Geometry and Width Considerations:

- **Chicane Issues:** PCyC questions the suitability of the path's geometry, especially around chicanes, suggesting that bends may need smoothing for accommodating various bike types, including cargo bikes, recumbents, trikes, and tandems.

Sight Lines and Planting:

- **Sight Line Concerns:** PCyC emphasises the importance of unobstructed sight lines, particularly around plantings. They express concerns about the proposed 500mm high beds with hedging potentially obscuring visibility.

AECOM Audit and Public Domain:

- **Transparency of AECOM Audit:** PCyC questions the accessibility of the AECOM audit mentioned on the website, pointing out differences in opinion regarding LTN 1/20.

End of Cycle Path and Shared Spaces:

- **Termination Point:** Noting that the proposed cycle path ends at New George St, PCyC seeks clarification on whether bikes are expected to merge with general pedestrian flow as shared space.

Cyclist-Pedestrian Interactions:

- **Interactions Along the Route:** PCyC raises concerns about potential interactions between cyclists and pedestrians at various points along the route, emphasising the need for smooth coexistence.

Impact on Cycling Traffic Volume:

- **Anticipated Increase in Cycling Traffic:** PCyC questions whether the change in building use to accommodation and the aim to encourage more cycling will result in increased cycling traffic and what provisions are made for commuters.

Environmental Considerations:

- **Tree Removal Concerns:** While not within PcyC's remit, they highlight the potential environmental impact of removing trees, suggesting a route avoiding trees to align with LTN1/20 recommendations.

Summary of Responses:

- **Path Straightness and Interactions:** Respondents express concerns about the path not being straight and potential issues with cyclist-pedestrian interactions.
- **Distributed Bike Stands:** Recommendations include distributing bike stands along the route rather than limiting them to a single hub.
- **E-bike Concerns:** Some concerns are raised about e-bikes, particularly related to commercial delivery riders.
- **Overall Deterrence for Cyclists:** The multitude of raised issues is seen as potentially discouraging cyclists from using the path.
- **Preservation of Trees:** A strong stance is taken against further tree removal, emphasising their role as soft segregation.

Notes:

- Tables for Recommended minimum widths for shared use routes
- Guidelines on hedgerow maintenance and setbacks
- Recommendations on cycle parking proximity for convenience and safety
- Reference to Plymouth Strategic Cycling Network for broader context and planning.

4.4.15 Plymouth Tree People

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by Plymouth Tree People.

Introduction:

- **Consultation Request:** Plymouth Tree People expresses interest in the Armada Way regeneration scheme and highlights their intent to provide further comments as more information becomes available.

Specific Information Requested:

- **Dimensioned Plans:** Request for dimensioned or scaled plans for comparing hard and soft surface areas with previous designs.
- **Arboricultural Method Statement:** Call for the Arboricultural Method Statement detailing construction work near retained trees and translocation processes.
- **Rationale for Tree Translocation:** Seeking a detailed rationale for translocating the six affected trees, expressing the need for more comprehensive explanations.
- **Recent Biodiversity Net Gain Calculations:** Request for the most recent Biodiversity Net Gain calculations.
- **Long-Term Management Plan:** Inquiry about the long-term management plan for the proposed regeneration.

Acknowledgment and Positive Aspects:

- **Evolution of Design:** Acknowledgment of the design's evolution to incorporate various uses and successful inclusion of surviving trees.
- **Positive Tree Measures:** Appreciation for the commitment to improving rooting conditions for Liquidambers and excluding Koster Oaks, with the inclusion of Scots Pine and Stone Pine.

Design Critique:

- **Excessive Paved Surfaces:** Critique of the design characterised by extensive unshaded paved surfaces, questioning the prioritisation of surveillance over climate change adaptation.
- **Tree Spacing and Form:** Advocacy for more spreading tree forms like Acer Campestre 'Lineco' for better climate mitigation and overall aesthetic benefits.
- **Species Mix Concerns:** Concerns about the proposed 13% composition of field maples, exceeding recommended guidelines, and a call for a better species mix.

Specific Tree Variety Concerns:

- **Ginkgo biloba 'Mayfield':** Expressing confusion about the choice of Ginkgo biloba 'Mayfield' and citing concerns about its lack of vigour for male clones.

Topiary Roof Form and Maintenance:

- **Platanus x hispanica 'Malburg':** Positive mention of the topiary roof form, but scepticism about the maintenance regime, drawing on past experiences.

Additional Urban-Forest Project:

- **Urban-Forest Proposal:** Mention of a separate urban-forest project outside the Crowne Plaza, expressing concerns about the lack of detailed information and transparency in the design process.

Systemic Design Process Issues:

- **Opacity in Design Process:** Critique of the opaque design process for Armada Way and other public realm projects, suggesting a need for more inclusivity in stakeholder engagement.

Concerns about Miyawaki Forest Proposal:

- **Crowne Plaza Area Planting:** Speculation and reservations about the proposed Miyawaki forest in the Crowne Plaza area, questioning its compatibility with the site's historic context.

Consultation Meeting Requests:

- **Meeting Requests:** Requesting meetings to discuss options for reducing hard surfacing, increasing tree cover, and addressing the area in front of the Crowne Plaza.

4.4.16 South West Water

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted South West Water.

- *Introduction:*
 - Pennon Group PLC, representing South West Water (SWW), provides feedback on the Armada Way scheme.
 - Highlights alignment with SWW's 2025-2030 business plan and its focus on water-related issues.
- *High-Level Aspects Supported by SWW:*
 - **Water Efficiency:**
 - Emphasises the importance of water reuse, recycling, and rainwater harvesting.
 - **Drought Resilience:**
 - Stresses the need for strategies addressing flood and drought cycles.
 - **Combined Sewer Connection Restrictions:**
 - Supports reduction of surface water flows into the combined sewer network.
 - **Green Infrastructure Principles:**
 - Advocates for green infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).
- *Specific Suggestions and Concerns:*
 - **Surface Water Pumping Station Collaboration:**
 - Collaborative scheme with PCC and EA for a new surface water pumping station at Millbay.
 - Aims for surface water separation from the combined sewer network.
 - **Water Efficiency Planning Policy:**
 - Supports policy requirements for water efficiency, reuse, and rainwater harvesting.
 - Promotes SWW's efforts in water conservation, offering free devices and schemes.
 - **Future Development Impact:**
 - Inquires about potential water demand and sewage capacity increase due to residential development.
 - Seeks information on plans for water reuse, greywater recycling, and rainwater harvesting.
 - Questions the water source for features like the Phoenix fountain and splash play areas.
 - **Multi-Functional Green Infrastructure:**
 - Encourages exploration of multi-functional green infrastructure opportunities.
 - Highlights benefits for water quality, soil stability, nutrient neutrality, and nature-based solutions.

- **Urban Trees for Climate Regulation:**
 - Advocates for strategic deciduous tree placement for carbon storage, solar regulation, and temperature control.
- **Net Zero Aspirations:**
 - Supports the scheme's use of solar power and Net Zero aspirations.
 - Highlights SWW's commitment to Net Zero through environmental leadership and sustainable practices.
- **District Heat Network:**
 - Seeks understanding of future plans for district heat infrastructure.
 - Inquires about potential roles for SWW and assesses impacts, including water resources.
- *Appreciation and Collaboration:*
 - Expresses gratitude for the opportunity to comment and looks forward to future collaboration.
 - This summary captures the key aspects of Pennon Group PLC's comments, focusing on their support for sustainable water management, green infrastructure, and collaborative efforts in addressing water-related challenges.

4.4.17 STRAW

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by STRAW.

Introduction:

- Raises concerns about the consultation's information presentation, considering it overly detailed and potentially biased.
- Highlights discrepancies in the tree height information, indicating misleading details.

Concerns Regarding the Inclusion of Other Projects:

- Objects to the inclusion of a potential tree planting proposal outside the Crowne Plaza, stating it's irrelevant to Armada Way.
- Questions the rationale for including unconfirmed proposals outside the red line boundary.
- Requests forwarding the rationale for allowing the inclusion of this potential (as yet unconfirmed) proposal.

Survey Design Flaws and Bias:

- Expresses concerns about the survey question on existing trees' fate, suggesting a flaw in the design.
- Requests the rationale for opinions on survey bias.

Disappointment Over Tree Removal:

- Expresses disappointment in proposed tree removal, especially after public upset from previous tree felling.
- Questions the given reasons for tree removal, emphasising the importance of detailed SuDS plan disclosure.
- Repeatedly requested the detailed Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) plan as it was one of the reasons given for the removal of these trees and expresses dissatisfaction over not receiving it.
- Expects the detailed rationale for the change in opinion on translocating trees, given the previous definitive ruling against it.

Canopy Cover and Tree Contribution:

- Argues against moving trees to an area with higher canopy cover.
- Stresses the significance of established trees for canopy cover, social, health, and environmental benefits.
- Plymouth city centre's low canopy cover (approximately 5%) compared to an average in urban wards (17.3%) is highlighted.

Design and Green Coverage:

- Criticises the proposed design's low 'green coverage' (20%) and emphasises the importance of green spaces.
- Requests information on planting types beyond trees and expresses disappointment over the lack of details.
- Plymouth City Council's promise for long-term maintenance budget publication is awaited.

Long-Term Maintenance and Broken Pledges:

- Criticises the delay in publishing a budget for long-term maintenance.
- Accuses the Council Leader of breaking pledges to retain all trees and expresses disappointment in unfulfilled promises.

Consultation Process Concerns:

- Raises concerns about time allocated for modifications to the proposed scheme post-consultation and scepticism about qualitative data reliance.
- Requests information on how qualitative data will be analysed and reported.
- A recent FOI request has revealed that Plymouth City Council didn't actually count how many people expressed a desire for more trees to be kept. Asks for clarity on this and whether the results from this consultation are appropriate.

Meeting Requests and Stakeholder Equality:

- Expresses disappointment over refusal of a face-to-face meeting with ECF and PCC representatives (even though a 1-2-1 interview was offered).

4.4.18 The British Land Company

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by The British Land Company.

Introduction:

- British Land supports Armada Way Design Proposals.
- Acknowledges challenges faced by Plymouth City Council and Contractor.
- Reviews proposals alongside Landscape Consultants, Macgregor Smith.

Response to Consultation:

- **Transport and Movement:**
 - Supports limited vehicular access.
 - Raises concerns about the zig-zag cycle route, potential conflicts, and safety.
 - Questions on safety audit, DFT Cycle Review, PADAN Access Group should be taken into account, and capacity studies.
- **Floorscape:**
 - Supports high-quality natural stone but emphasises UK or European sourcing.
 - Questions adherence to Plymouth Paving Manual and consideration of the project's carbon footprint.
- **Trees:**
 - Supports a diverse selection of adaptable tree species.
 - Suggests reconsideration of tree species for a more significant impact.
 - Questions the tree planting strategy and its alignment with climate emergency goals.
- **Planting, Lawns, and Wildflower Meadows:**
 - Supports amenity lawns over wildflower meadows for flexibility.
 - Emphasises careful consideration of plant species for optimal maintenance.
 - Questions the relocation of wildflower meadow areas and review of hedges and rain gardens.
- **Street Furniture:**
 - Welcomes substantial street furniture distribution.
 - Questions the adequacy of seating provision, its impact on social interaction, and consultation with disability groups re: accessibility.
- **'Other Spaces' and Structures:**
 - Supports triangular PV solar canopy structures, pop-up traders, and external café terraces.
 - Questions the efficiency of solar canopies, management of pop-ups, and potential absorption of kiosk uses.
- **Wayfinding:**
 - Highlights the lack of information on the wayfinding strategy.
 - Questions the incorporation of wayfinding elements and connection to other initiatives.

- **Public Art:**
 - Advocates for clarity on the public art strategy for Armada Way.
- **Water Features:**
 - Supports water features but raises concerns about maintenance costs.
 - Questions funding for maintenance and ROSPA review.
- **Water Management:**
 - Supports sustainable water management initiatives.
 - Seeks more detail on water management components and planting proposals.
- **Play, Recreation, Health, and Wellbeing:**
 - Supports play integration with considerations for youths and accompanying adults.
 - Questions potential conflicts between cyclists and play areas and ROSPA review.
- **Change in Levels:**
 - Suggests a review of stepped areas and handrails to minimise access restrictions.
- **Lighting, Services, and Utilities:**
 - Supports enhanced street lighting but seeks consistency.
 - Questions coordination of lighting and CCTV systems, GOBO lighting projection, and coordination with existing services.
- **Heritage:**
 - Supports the expression of heritage and the use of granite and warmer tones.
 - Questions refinement of symmetry, scale, and the use of weathered steel edges.
- **Summary:**
 - British Land fully supports the transformation of Armada Way.
 - Emphasises the importance of cost management, maintenance plans, and long-term funding.
 - Welcomes the potential for knowledge transfer from Old Town Street and New George Street.
 - Calls for a detailed phasing plan, further engagement, and discussions as proposals develop.

4.4.19 Woodland Trust

The following themes have been extracted from the response submitted by the Woodland Trust.

Introduction:

- Woodland Trust (WT) welcomes the consultation and the chance to comment.
- Expresses disappointment about the proposed removal of some trees.
- Urges Plymouth City Council (PCC) to review the design to retain more trees through drainage scheme amendments.

Tree Retention and Translocation:

- Appreciates the retention of some existing trees.
- Requests a review of the design to explore options for retaining more trees.
- Advocates for translocation as a published trial with monitoring and reporting.
- Questions the cost-effectiveness and success rate of translocation.

Commitment to Trees and Woods:

- Commends PCC's commitment to trees and woods in the city.
- Encourages the administration's commitment to doubling tree cover in the city centre.
- Offers collaboration with PCC on a Tree Equity approach for equal access to trees in all Plymouth wards.

Plymouth Plan for Trees:

- Calls for an updated and resourced Plymouth Plan for Trees by March 2024.
- Expects clear ambitions for delivering tree-related commitments, involving partners, including the Woodland Trust.

Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest:

- Encourages PCC to support and promote tree delivery through the Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest.
- Highlights the role of the forest in ensuring healthy trees and woods throughout the city for future generations.

Plymouth Tree Panel:

- Urges the establishment of the Plymouth Tree Panel.
- Proposes the involvement of interested residents and organizations in turning plans into delivery.

2024 Plymouth Festival of Trees:

- Calls for PCC support for the organizations planning the 2024 Plymouth Festival of Trees.

Overall Impression:

- The Woodland Trust welcomes PCC's commitment to trees but emphasises the importance of preserving existing trees.
- Advocates for collaboration to achieve tree-related goals and stresses the significance of the Plymouth Plan for Trees.
- Looks forward to continued collaboration with PCC, organizations, and residents to enhance tree cover and promote tree-related initiatives in the city.

4.5 Email and phone line

- 4.5.1 There were 50 respondents who gave feedback via email or telephone.
- 4.5.2 Responses included comments in support of the scheme, related to design, maintenance, play areas, cycling, nature and greenery and seating. A list of responses is provided in Appendix 7.13.
- 4.5.3 There were numerous comments on the design of the scheme, with 4 people asking for the underpass to be restored, 2 asking for the Hoe to be 'spruced up', and 2 stating that there is not enough open space in the plans.
- 4.5.4 Maintenance was another common theme. 3 people stated their concern that the design would be open to vandalism, 3 expressed concern that the scheme will fall into disrepair due to a lack of maintenance, and 3 commented that the pavements are currently unsafe.
- 4.5.5 Cycling was also mentioned several times, with 4 people asking for the reckless behaviour of cyclists be addressed, and 3 people stating their concern about the intersections between pedestrians and cyclists being potentially dangerous.
- 4.5.6 Other common themes included greenery and seating. Regarding greenery, 3 people asked for more greenery to be included in the scheme, and 2 people asked for trees that would add colour to the design. And in terms of seating, 4 people asked for more seating to be included, and 3 people asked for seating with back rests.

4.6 Workshops

4.6.1 Workshops were arranged to seek feedback from under-represented groups, including older people, those with a disability, parents and younger people (13 to 17 years old).

4.6.2 Workshops were held with the following groups:

1. Older persons
2. Young people
3. People with vision impairment
4. Plymouth Area Disability Action Network (PADAN)

4.6.3 In addition to these workshops, ECF attended two family play groups through Barnardo's to speak with parents, complete paper surveys and encourage families to participate in the consultation online.

4.6.4 The following section summarises the key themes from the workshops and activities with families. Key themes were not recorded from the activities with families as paper surveys were completed with parents.

1. Older Persons workshop

ECF held a targeted workshop on 15 November 2023 with two participants who were identified as older stakeholders through the Elder Tree Befriending Network Plymouth. The workshop explored the key themes of public space seating, functions in flexible spaces, accessibility and safety.

The following themes have been extracted from the engagement workshop:

Cycling

- Cycle lanes should be segregated away from pedestrian walkways.
- Concern was raised over how the crossover between cycling lanes and pedestrian walkways will work. One participant asked whether cyclists would have priority over pedestrians or vice versa.
- Concern was raised over how delivery cyclists would be deterred from using pedestrian walkways.

Greenery

- There should be a balance between greenery and line of sights for CCTV cameras.
- Greenery was a good idea, and the CGI graphics looks promising.

Street Furniture

- The new proposed seating will be key for older people coming to Armada Way.

- A priority for one of the participants was that the new seating including back support and arm rests.

Safety, CCTV and Lighting

- Participants said that currently they do not feel it is safe to walk on Armada Way once it gets dark.
- The introduction of new lighting and CCTV would help the participants to feel safer.

Maintenance and waterway

- Participants liked the reintroduction of a new waterway that runs along Armada Way.
- Concerns over maintenance emerged as a key theme and one of the participants said that the previous water way which existed on Armada Way had not been maintained properly and was filled with litter.
- Anti-social behaviour was raised a big issue under the previous iteration of Armada Way and attention should be brought to how to prevent the new facilities from being vandalised.

Homelessness

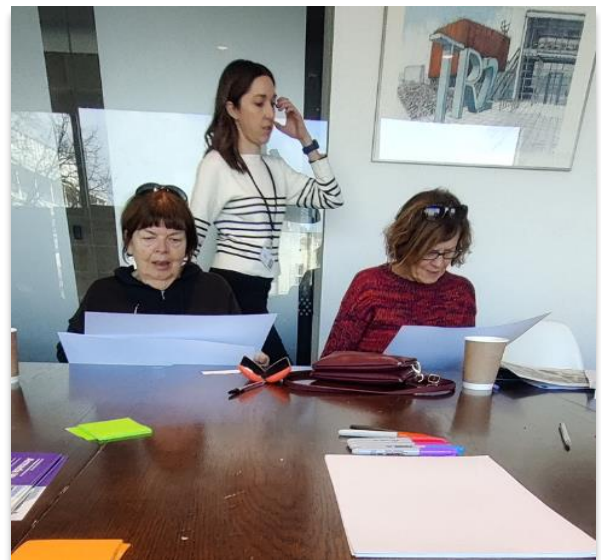
- Homelessness is an issue on Armada Way and participants said that measures should be taken to ensure that key areas such as the play village don't become areas for homeless people to congregate in.

Pop-up spaces

- Pop-up spaces could include areas for music and arts.

Summary

- The participants were broadly in favour of the proposed scheme as Armada Way has been in dire need of a regeneration and local businesses have seen economic impacts.



2. Young People workshop

The following themes have been extracted from an engagement workshop which ECF held with a group of young people aged between 13-15 years old on 15th November 2023. The group had been selected by the PCC Youth Service from their community outreach programme, as young people who regularly spend time in the city centre. The Youth Service officers supported with the delivery of the workshop.

The following information was taken from notes that the teenagers had made on maps of the new proposed designs for Armada Way and were tasked with suggesting ideas which they would like to see implemented on to the new scheme:

- Youth centre
- Arcade
- Rave area
- Sport facilities (Basketball)
- Accommodation/homes for homeless people)
- Ice rink
- Music
- Farm

The following was taken from sticky notes that students had written during a workshop exercise involving younger students.

Positive

- Tree
- Fountain
- Playground
- Greenery / lots of nature Water
- Flowers
- Seating
- Singing Cycle path
- Path
- View p
- Floor
- People
- Fruit basket/market stall
- Fish
- The space
- Talent show

Negative

- Dirty building
- Remove water
- Cycle lane
- People
- Benches
- Don't think there needs to be another fountain
- People could steal fruit in carts
- Too much wildlife
- Trees
- Fruit
- Police presence

Suggestions

- Add Basketball hoops
- Building need cleaning
- More seating in green spaces
- Space for young people to access and meet
- More seating
- Need spider man on building
- Football court
- Basketball court
- Add chairs facing each other
- Shelter spots
- Events but long term, not just after development
- Fruit trees/apples etc
- Family events e.g. Fruit picking
- Area for older young people e.g. 13+



3. People with vision impairment workshop

The following themes have been distilled from an engagement workshop conducted by ECF on November 15th 2023, with a group of people with vision impairment recruited by Improving Lives Plymouth. During the workshop, ECF facilitated a structured discussion that encompassed several aspects of the scheme, including surfacing materials, lighting, and concerns related to potential risks for those with visual impairments, such as the proposed cycle path and new lighting installations.

Lighting

- Participants stressed the importance of inclusive lighting that caters to individuals with visual impairments.
- They also emphasised the need for soft lighting to ensure that Armada Way remains accessible to everyone, including those with visual impairments.

Surfacing

- One of the participants pointed out that the materials used for surfacing Armada Way should not reflect light, as this could be detrimental to those who are visually impaired and deter them from coming to Armada Way.
- Additionally, the participants stressed the significance of having tactile paving which includes colour and grooves to assist individuals with visual impairments in navigating through Armada Way.
- Participants also stressed that having flat and even paving along Armada Way was essential for those with visual impairments to avoid tripping hazards.

Cycling and electric scooters

- Participants expressed concern that proposed designs where cyclists will cross with pedestrians poses a risk to visually impaired people.
- Participants recommended segregating cyclists and electric scooter users to minimise risks to pedestrians.

4. Plymouth Area Disability Action Network (PADAN) Meeting

The following themes have been derived from an engagement workshop held by ECF on November 10, 2023, following on invitation to attend the Plymouth Area Disability Action Network (PADAN) AGM. The engagement began with an introductory presentation that outlined key aspects of the new scheme, including street furniture, nature and greenery, and the proposed cycling path.

Cycling

- Several concerns were raised by PADAN members regarding the potential for conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians within the project.
- Some members inquired about the possibility of redirecting cyclists away from Armada Way, imposing stricter penalties for misconduct, or integrating barriers into the design to reduce cycling speeds.
- There were also concerns about the current accident rate and the potential for it to increase with the promotion of cycling.
- The issue of delivery riders and the perceived rise in e-bikes and e-scooters were mentioned as factors that could exacerbate conflicts.

Street furniture and accessibility for disabled individuals

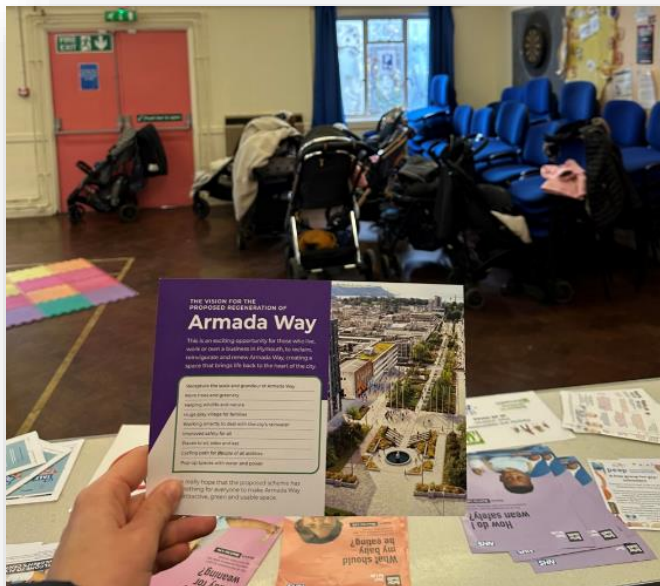
- Members sought more information in the consultation materials about the type of seating and whether it would accommodate wheelchair users alongside others. This was seen as a crucial topic for further exploration in their submission.

Diversity of trees

- One member inquired about the inclusion of details regarding different tree species in the project, which had not been previously addressed, expressing satisfaction that this aspect was now considered.

5. Families

ECF attended two family play groups hosted by Barnardo's Plymouth to speak with parents. ECF staff spoke individually with parents to gather feedback on the new proposals, assisted parents to complete paper survey and encouraged parents to participate in the online survey.



5.0 Main Findings

The following conclusions have been drawn from the responses to the survey, written responses, interviews, and workshops.

5.1 Relationship with Armada Way

- Most people who responded to the survey live in Plymouth and shop at or visit Armada Way, travelling to it predominantly by walking, driving their own car or catching a bus.

5.2 Nature and Greenery

- When asked what respondents felt was most important when making Armada Way a greener and more sustainable urban environment, the most prolific choices were that: they want Armada Way to be a green space with trees, shrubs and wildflowers; be climate resilient; and deal with the city centre's rainwater smartly. These were followed by respondents opting to keep as many existing trees as possible, and those who chose the 'other' option stated that they wanted all existing trees to be retained in the scheme to give canopy cover to provide shade and protection from the sun.
- When asked what respondents felt about the proposed translocation of six trees to enable the development of the cycle route and SuDS, it was balanced between those who preferred to keep all existing trees and were worried about the success rate of survival, with those who were happy for the trees to be removed if necessary for the work to go ahead and there were some who felt it was unnecessary as it would be a 'waste of money'.
- Respondents also stated that if trees had to be moved, it needed to be done carefully in conjunction with experts and a maintenance plan to ensure their survival. Some suggested that if the trees did not survive translocation, then other mature trees should be planted in their place.
- Written responses from some groups felt that the translocation was not necessary as the cycle path could be routed around the trees and there wasn't sufficient evidence presented that the trees needed to move to enable the SuDS. Requests were made that a full technical plan for the SuDS should be published to justify the removal of the trees. It was also stated that a previous pledge to keep all trees as translocation was not viable, was being reneged.
- However, other written responses and representatives from interviews stated that they were happy for the trees to be translocated, as it is essential the SuDS is implemented to effectively manage the city's rainwater and prevent potential flooding incidents.

- It was also requested that as part of any construction work around the SuDS, a plan should be put into place to deal with the rodent population living in the current underground tanks.
- Further themes regarding nature and greenery included: that tree canopy is much needed (especially from mature and tall trees) in an urban environment to provide shade from the sun and protection from the rain; that suitable planting for pollinators and edible plants for wildlife should be considered (with specific suggestions by Food Plymouth in their written response); that some of the tree species suggested were not suitable with specific mention of the 'Tree of Life' (with other suggestions from Plymouth Tree People); and that thought was needed to reduce the amount of hard/grey space.
- The suggestion of underplanting to increase biodiversity net gain was made along with the consideration of tree species selection (using as many native species as possible), irrigation plans and soil specifications. Greater clarity around the biodiversity net gain calculations was also requested.
- Continued funding and planning for the long-term maintenance of the trees and planting was also a key theme, with many people questioning how that would be achieved and what provisions the Council will make.
- The proposed micro-forest near to the Crowne Plaza was also questioned, with more detail required and objections to it being mentioned as part of the Armada Way proposal.
- As a lot of detailed suggestions and feedback regarding nature and greenery were issued through the written responses to the consultation, it is highly recommended that these are reviewed by the Council in full.

5.3 Play Village

- When asked what their interest in a play village would be, most respondents stated that they're not interested in it and wouldn't use it. However, it should be noted that most of those respondents were either older people and/or don't have young children in their households. Those that would use it were mainly parents of young children or grandparents. It should also be noted that those responses in the survey and written responses that represent the business community, were supportive of a play village as it was felt it would attract more families into the city centre.
- Those that wanted a play village felt it would encourage them to use the city centre more, would be a place to rest whilst their children were entertained and would therefore increase dwell time, which was also the hope of those representing the business community.
- When asked what the important elements of play are, the most common were that: there should be plenty of suitable seating near to the equipment; that it should cater to a diverse range of abilities; it should use as many natural materials as possible; and have clear visibility so that parents could watch their children play. It was

suggested by some stakeholders that the Council consult with 'Make Space for Girls' when designing the equipment as girls play in a different way to boys (it should be noted that feedback was requested from this group as part of the consultation, but they sought payment in return). Many also stated that it is essential that the full range of needs for those with physical and mental disabilities are considered throughout the play village, not just in the sensory garden.

- Suitable equipment for all ages was also mentioned, including teenagers (through the written responses) and it was asked what provision was being made to provide appropriate places for young people to 'hang out'.
- There were concerns regarding the size of the play village with it potentially being too large to maintain and intrusive for those who wouldn't use it.
- Dealing effectively with antisocial behaviour was also mentioned, as there were concerns the sheltered spaces would be used inappropriately and no-one would be responsible for deterring those activities and clearing up after them. In the written responses it was mentioned that appropriate lighting and angled CCTV would be essential to monitor the play village, especially at night. Having suitable public toilets with easy access and changing areas was also mentioned.

5.4 Pop-Up Spaces

- Live music, creative performances, pop-up stalls and food outlets, plus an extension to Flavour Fest were all seen as good uses for the proposed pop-up spaces. It was asked that high quality traders should be encouraged when it comes to food and drink, whilst ensuring that the local favourites would still be able to secure a place. More frequent events including theatre performances were also encouraged, in addition to craft stalls and street performance.
- The written response from the creative sector should be viewed as it sets out detailed suggestions to ensure the logistical factors are considered such as: power in the right places; appropriate lighting; and the ability to quickly erect and secure temporary canopies to shade from the sun or shelter from the rain. It also suggests that an implementation group should be formed with representatives to ensure the pop-ups spaces will meet the needs of event coordinators and those putting on cultural activities.
- Including street art installations and heritage aspects was also suggested, with clarity requested on how these would be incorporated into the scheme.
- There were also questions asked as to whether skateboarding and parkour users would be considered, as they are frequent users of the city centre and therefore seating, low walls, the amphitheatre etc should all be tailored to withstand that activity and be designed with that usage in mind.

5.5 Solar Canopies

- Most would like to see the solar canopies being used for sheltered seating, followed by space for pop-up stalls and bike racks. It was also mentioned in some comments that they could provide important canopies from the sun and rain. Support of sustainable measures such as solar canopies was welcomed by some stakeholders.

5.6 Flexible Spaces

- When asked how they would use the flexible spaces, most stated they would sit and relax, eat, drink and socialise. Using the spaces to add more greenery through lawns, planting or trees was also suggested.

5.7 Seating

- Most would like to see seating throughout the scheme, whilst also ensuring sheltered seating, seating with tables, disability access and seating in the play area are considered. Seats with high backs and arms rests was also an important factor. There were also comments that asked for more bench space/informal/natural seating (e.g. benching near Guildhall, like the promenade in Penzance, and The Strand in London). In the written responses, it was requested that the 'flag blocks' on the sundial be retained as part of the scheme as they are frequently used as seats by locals.

5.8 Cycle Path and Mobility Hub

- When it comes to the cycle path, out of the choices given, most respondents opted that they regularly walk along Armada Way and so would value a path that would be specifically for cyclists and some opted that it would encourage them to use their bikes more. A lot of respondents also stated that they wouldn't use a cycle path.
- Those that are cyclists or represent them were concerned about the path due to a number of factors: its width as it was felt that there would be insufficient passing space; safety factors where it crosses the pedestrian paths; the need for clear waymarking and education of its use; being misused by e-bike riders and especially delivery riders that cycle at speed; unclear sightlines around planting; the shape of bends as they may not be suitable for other bike types such as recumbents; and unclear rights of way or how to merge at points where it intersects with other streets.
- Ensuring that sufficient bike storage would be available throughout the scheme rather than being all in one place and that it would be made from durable materials was also mentioned.
- The written responses section contains detailed feedback regarding the proposed cycle path and mobility hub and should therefore be reviewed by the Council.

5.9 Lighting and CCTV

- Keeping lighting nature friendly to minimise light pollution was a recurring theme, with people also stating that it should be energy efficient and sustainable. The DOCO (Design Out Crime Officer) suggested that the lighting should be reviewed by a British Standard qualified lighting engineer and should meet the SBD (Security by Design) code. Maintenance of the lighting was also a concern, with comments made that lighting had fallen into disrepair in the past and had not been fixed.
- More lighting and CCTV was also welcomed by many especially in the interviews with stakeholders, as recurring antisocial behaviour on Armada Way has been well documented. The business community also stated a hope that improvements to Armada Way, including more lighting and CCTV with clear viewing corridors, would encourage the night-time economy and make people feel less vulnerable walking from the train station into the city centre.
- It was felt that sheltered or concealed areas should be avoided, as it prevents surveillance, and may encourage loitering or vagrants.

5.10 Maintenance

- Throughout all feedback, a plan for long-term maintenance of any new scheme for Armada Way was a key concern. They were calls for reassurance there would be sufficient budget and resource to ensure so that all aspects of the scheme, including trees, planting and water features, would be maintained and a ring-fenced budget would be put in place.
- There were also concerns regarding vandalism, litter, and continued anti-social behaviour, without sufficient deterrents or resources available. Suggestions made included: lots of dog waste, litter and recycling bins; anti-graffiti finishes on surfaces; and materials that will withstand activities such as BMX riders and skateboarding.

5.11 Disabilities

- There were requests to take the needs of those with disabilities into account as part of the final design and implementation of the proposed scheme. Suggestions made included: appropriate surfacing for people in wheelchairs, mobility and/or vision issues; the inclusion of appropriate lighting for people who are sensitive to hard lights; disability toilets and change facilities for children/adults with disabilities; separating the cycle path and pedestrian walkway to improve safety for people with disabilities; and the inclusion of seating and tables that cater for people in wheelchairs.

5.12 Construction and Other

- When given a list of statements to agree with regarding the scheme, the most popular were: it will make the city centre more welcoming; it will be a greener space; it will help businesses attract more customers.
- Concerns were voiced regarding the timelines around the construction of the scheme and how it would be phased. There were worries that it could cause further

revenue losses for businesses on Armada Way and disruption to deliveries. It was requested that there be detailed communication throughout the construction phase and involvement of stakeholder groups.

- Requests were also made for the provision of an Arboricultural Method Statement and a detailed tree plan, to confirm how construction will take place around existing trees and how any translocated trees will be moved.
- The suggestion of creating implementation groups was made to ensure that the construction would take into account the detailed requirements around greenery, events, play design, businesses, cyclists and those with disabilities.
- Working closely with landlords to ensure they will be involved in the implementation phase was also suggested especially to encourage future investment in buildings on Armada Way and its vibrancy moving forward.

6.0 Next Steps

- 6.1 Findings from this report will be presented and shared with Plymouth City Council. Councillor and officers will undergo a period of 'conscientious consideration' to decide how the findings will shape the scheme.
- 6.2 Once a final scheme is ready, the design will be submitted to the Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration, along with the consultation report. This is expected to occur in early 2024. The Council's Cabinet will then consider the design.
- 6.3 That decision process will then be shared on the consultation website and emailed to all that have registered an interest. The Council will also continue to work with local groups and organisations so that they can share information with members in their networks. The Council will also post updates on its website and across social media channels.

7.0 Appendices

7.1 List of Organisations and community groups contacted via email

Business	Plymouth Cycling Campaign	Healthy Ageing Partnerships
Plymouth City Centre Company	Sustrans Plymouth	Plymouth Area Disability Action Network (PADAN)
Plymouth City Bus	RSPB	Special schools
Devon & Plymouth Chamber of Commerce	Plymouth Civic Society	Stacey Drake – facilities for disabled children
One Plymouth	Hoe Neighbourhood Forum	Multiple Sclerosis Society
Destination Plymouth	Plymouth Against Retail Crime (PARC)	Access Plymouth
Plymouth Waterfront Partnerships	Plymouth Architectural Trust	Disability Enabling Network
FSB Plymouth	Twentieth Century Society	Sensory Solutions
South West Business Council	Civic Voice	Four Greens Community Trust
Plymouth Manufacturing Group	Plymouth Octopus Project	University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust
Plymouth Consumer Group	Theatre Royal	One Devon – NHS Integrated Care Board
Urban Splash	Plymouth Open Space Network (POSN)	Babcock International
Mobile Food Takeaway	Plymouth Children's Services	Royal Navy – HMNB DEVONPORT
Foot Solutions	NSPCC	Princess Yachts
British Land	Plymouth Parent Carer Voice	Plymouth City Council staff
Market Traders' Association	Plymouth Schools Sports Partnership	Plymouth Argyle FC
Street Traders	Plymouth soft play café	Plymouth Albion
High Streets Task Force Retail Expert	Little Angels	Plymouth Parkour
Plymouth Community Homes	Manor St Children's Centre	Prime Skate Park
Argyle Community Trust	Bambinos Childcare Centre	Johnny Mercer MP
Community Shopping Centres	Freshlings Nursery	Luke Pollard MP
Community Engagement Officers	Baby'roo	Gary Streeter MP
Environment Agency	University of Plymouth	Plymouth City Council All councillors
South West Water	City College Plymouth	Plymouth Herald
National Trust	Plymouth University Students Union	Plymouth Live
RIBA	Plymouth Marjon University	Plymouth Chronicle
Homes England	Arts University Plymouth	Devon Live
Historic England	UK Youth Parliament	BBC Spotlight
Living Streets	Plymouth City Council	ITV West Country News
STRAW	Plymouth City Council (Planning and Infrastructure)	Radio Devon
Plymouth Tree People	Plymouth City Council (Family Hubs)	Greatest Hits Radio
Environment Plymouth	Eldertree Befriending Plymouth	Gossip Girls
Woodland Trust		
Devon Wildlife Trust		
Devon Gardens Trust		

Plymouth Street Scenes	Hyde Park Infants/Juniors	St Peter's C of E
Plymouth Culture	Keyham Barton	St Peters RC
Local historian / Barbican Association	Kings School	Stoke Damerel
Nudge	Knowle	Stuart Road
Pillar Land Securities	Laira Green 1	Thornbury
Visa Properties Limited	Leigham	Tor Bridge Primary
Livewest	Lipson Vale	Victoria Road
PCH	Manadon Vale	Weston Mill
BCHA	Marlborough	Whitleigh
Sanctuary	Mary Dean	Widewell
Anchor	Mayflower	Widey Court
Sovereign	Morley Meadow Primary (was	Woodfield
Clarion	Dunstone)	Woodford
Salvation Army Housing Association	Mill Ford	Woodlands
Willow Tree Housing Partnership	Montpelier	Yealmpstone Farm 1
Aster Housing	Morice Town	Courtlands
The Guinness Partnership	Mount Street	Woodlands School
Hastoe	Mount Wise	Mill Ford School
Westward Housing	Oakwood	Brook Green CfL
ACE	One School Global, Campus Principal – Kirsty Matthews	Cann Bridge
Austin Farm	Oreston	Longcause
Beechwood	Pennycross	Mount Tamar
Boringdon	Pilgrim	Chapel Bridge School
Cathedral	Plaistow Hill	All saints
Chaddlewood	Plympton St Marys	Coombe Dean
College Road	Old Priory	DHSB
Compton	Plympton St Maurice	DHSG
Drake	Pomphlett	Eggbuckland
Edison Centre	Prince Rock	Heles - Chris McNamara
Eggbuckland Vale 1	Riverside	Lipson
Elburton	Salisbury Road 1	MAP
Ernesettle 1	Shakespeare	Millbay Academy
Fletewood School	Sherford Vale School	Mount Tamar
Ford	St Andrews	One School Global
Glen Park	St Budeaux	Plymouth High School for Girls
Goosewell 1 (Jan-July)	St Edwards 1	Plympton Academy
High Street	St George's	Scott College
High View	St Joseph's	Stoke Damerel Community College
Holy Cross	St Matthew's	Sir John Hunt
Hooe	St Paul's	St Boniface's

Tor Bridge High	Elder Tree Befriending	Fawcet Society
UTC	Diversity Business Incubator CIC	All Nations Ministries
Barnado's	Pride in Babcock	Plymouth Hope
Whitleigh	Intercom	Student Action For Refugees
DELL	Plymouth Parkinson's	ODILS
Crownlands	Care & Repaired England	Devon Mind
Four woods	PADAN	Mediation in Plymouth
plymbridge	Devon and Cornwall Refugee	Plymouth Humanists
Plum tree	Support Council	Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'i
plymstock	Age UK	faith
southernway	Horizons Plymouth	Transforming Plymouth Together
sweet pea	Plymouth Senior Citizens Forum	Refugee & Asylum Seekers
Tamar Folk	Living Options: Time to Talk	Network (POP)
Barn Centre	Improving Lives Plymouth	The Diocese of Plymouth
Nominy	Churches Together Plymouth	Out Youth Plymouth
Action for Children	Pride In Plymouth	Beyond Face
Green Ark	Plymouth Mosque (Plymouth and	Plymouth Romanian Community
Manor street	Cornwall Islamic Centre)	Plymouth and District Racial
Pop In	Plymouth Islamic Education	Equality Council
Lark	Trust (Piety Mosque)	Plymouth Autism Parent Support
Maurice Town	Plymouth Centre for Faith and	Group
	Cultural Diversity	Plymouth Borderline Personality
	Plymouth Kurdish Community	Support Group
Equality and Diversity	Kurdish Exile Group	Plymouth Mental Health Network
Devon and Cornwall Chinese	Not Alone Plymouth -	Plymouth Chinese Christian
Association	Transgender and Non-Binary	Fellowship
Sikh Community	Support Group	Plymouth's Orthodox Synagogue
Sikh Community Devon and	Out Youth	Plymouth Dolphins RFC -
Cornwall	Soroptimist International	Inclusive Rugby Team
South Asian Society	Plymouth and District	Plymouth LGBT Archive
Street Factory	Plymouth University Equalities	Proud 2 Be
Council For Faith and Belief	Team	RICOCHET
Street Pastors	Heads Count	X-Plore
Highbury Social Club - Plymouth	Amber Initiatives	Sudanease Community Group
Highbury Trust	Devon and Cornwall	START
Friends & Families of special	Constabulary Diverse	Plymouth Red Cross
children	Communities Team	
Shekinah	Yourway	

7.2 List of 1:1 Pre-consultation stakeholder meetings

Plymouth City Centre
Company
Plymouth Prints
STRAW
Green Estates
Manager
Plymouth Community
Homes
Community Shopping
Centres
Community
Engagement
Manager, Plymouth
City Council
Plymouth City Centre
Company
Environment
Plymouth

Plymouth Civic
Society
Natural Infrastructure
Projects and
Partnerships
manager, Plymouth
City Council
Plymouth Tree People
Plymouth Street
Scenes
Devon Chamber of
Commerce and
Industry
Plymouth Culture
British Land
Visit Plymouth
One Plymouth
Plymouth Cycling
Campaign

Sustrans Plymouth
Argyle Community
Trust
Community Builders,
Plymouth City Council
Elder Tree Befriending
Service Plymouth
Disability Enabling
Network
Improving Lives
Plymouth
Barnardos
Theatre Royal
Plymouth
Plymouth Octopus
Project
Plymouth Parent
Carer Voice

7.3 Hard Copy Survey

1

LET'S TALK ARMADA WAY

Plymouth City Council Armada Way Survey | October 2023

Over the past few months, Plymouth City Council has reviewed the previous consultations that have been undertaken regarding Armada Way and the feedback received. The insight gathered has played an important part in shaping the proposed new design, which is now being shared as part of this public consultation.

The Council seeks genuine feedback to understand how people feel about the proposed scheme, especially, those elements that are different to the old scheme. As such, proactive steps are being taken to reach out to local residents, businesses, shoppers and visitors in the Plymouth area, as well as those organisations that have an active stake in the project.

It's crucial that the opportunity is given for those seldom heard-from voices to also be involved, to ensure further ideas can be gathered to help rejuvenate and bring life back to the city centre. The new proposed scheme should play an integral role within the wider aim of transforming the city centre to make it a place where people want to live, work, shop and visit.

The consultation period runs from 17 October to 28 November 2023, and a range of activities will be carried out in addition to this survey (more information can be found at <https://letstalkarmadaway.co.uk>).

- On-street surveying with residents and shoppers
- Surveying of businesses
- Workshops with disability groups, elderly people and families
- Activity with schools
- 1-2-1 interviews with representatives of organisations and groups
- Digital engagement.

If you would like information in other languages or Easy read, please email us at info@letstalkarmadaway.co.uk or call 01752 946604.

Please note that you will be asked for a full postcode to take part. This is to ensure we capture a representative sample of the community's feedback. Other sections relating to diversity and equality are optional but will help us understand the range of people who have taken part. This survey also includes open text questions.

GDPR STATEMENT

Plymouth City Council is committed to protecting your privacy and works in full compliance with Data Protection legislation. Engage Communicate Facilitate; <https://engagecf.co.uk> has been appointed to gather feedback on the proposed scheme for Armada Way. This survey has been created for those willing to provide their feedback on the proposed scheme. The comments and information we receive will be reported on as part of the consultation report for this project. We will not use any personal data, such as your name and address, in the report. We will report on the relationship of participants with the area, but not at an individual level. Your information will not be used or passed onto another third party for marketing purposes. ECF is registered with the Information Commissioner and will process personal information fairly and transparently, as required by DATA PROTECTION LAW, including the General Data Protection Act (GDPR) 2018.

You have the right to access and update the data we have about you, and you can contact us regarding this at dataprotectionofficer@plymouth.gov.uk

If you would like to read more about the Council's data Protection and Privacy Policy, you can find this here: www.plymouth.gov.uk/privacy-policy.

- I have read the above and am happy for any personal data I provide to be used as described. Please note that we will not be able to process your response if you do not select this box.*

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Let's
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SECTION 1

ABOUT YOU

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Please be aware that your personal details will not be published, but we need the information for analysis purposes so we can understand the range of people who use Armada Way. Under the Local Government Access to Information Act 1985, your response will be available for inspection if required; however, your personal details will remain confidential.

Q1. Please state your full postcode (required)

Q2. Please state your full name

Q3. Please state your email address

Q4. Who are you responding on behalf of? (required – tick only one)

- Myself, as an individual
- On behalf of a group or organisation. Please name the group or organisation, if you are responding on behalf of a group or organisation (only one reply will be accepted).

Q5. How are you connected to the Armada Way area? (tick all that apply)

- I live near to Armada Way
- I don't live near to Armada Way, but live in Plymouth
- I own/manage a business on Armada Way
- I am a street trader that works from Armada Way
- I work near to or on Armada Way
- I frequently shop at or visit Armada Way
- I am a staff member at a school near Armada Way
- I represent a local group or organisation interested in Armada Way
- I deliver food/goods from Armada Way
- I am a student that sometimes lives near to Armada Way
- I am a visitor and do not live in Plymouth
- Other [please state]

Q6. How do you usually travel to Armada Way? (tick up to three)

- Bus
- Cycle
- Delivery vehicle
- Moped / motorbike
- Private car (driver)
- Private car (passenger)
- Scooter/skate
- Taxi or private hire vehicle (driver)
- Taxi or private hire vehicle (passenger)
- Train
- Walk
- Walk with a pushchair/ buggy/pram etc.
- Wheelchair / Mobility aid
- Other (please state)

Q7. How many children (0-17 years of age) live in your household?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5+

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SECTION 2

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This section has been split into the key components of the scheme so that people can shape individual parts of the scheme as well as being able to comment on it as a complete design at the end of the survey.

Nature and Greenery

It is proposed there will be a total of 202 trees in the north of Armada Way (between Royal Parade and North Cross Roundabout) compared to the 153 before the felling this year. In addition, to this scheme, we are currently working on plans for a separate new urban-forest project (a small, dense patch of trees planted closely together). This would be an additional 147 trees planted in the south of Armada Way (outside the Crowne Plaza) and would form part of the new administration's pledge to increase tree canopy cover across the city centre. Detailed information regarding the proposed urban-forest outside the Crowne Plaza will be published when this project is further developed. All the trees planted will be at a height of 3.5-8 metres and will be selected for their suitability for an urban landscape. More information can be found on the types of trees proposed to be planted and how the tree stock will be sourced in the nature and greenery section of the website or on the information boards on Armada Way.

Nature is at the heart of the new scheme. We want the new scheme to benefit nature as much as we can, which is why we want to add more trees and greenery than were in Armada Way before. In addition to the trees and shrubs, wildflowers will be planted to encourage pollinators like bees. Bug hotels and bird boxes will also be installed throughout to encourage wildlife. Reed beds will provide much needed natural filtration for the water being recirculated from the drainage system, so that chemicals don't have to be used. Vast amounts of water will be stored underground, which will be used to maintain the tree and plants, in addition to filling the shallow stream running down the scheme.

We understand the depth of feeling surrounding the previous decision to fell the trees, so we are committed to keeping as many of the existing trees as possible. We are NOT proposing to fell any further live trees on Armada Way.

The 16 trees in the Piazza will remain and be enhanced with their ground conditions improved. There will be 11 existing trees remaining in and around the proposed play area, with two further trees to be retained and integrated into the design near the underground toilets. However, we are proposing to move (translocate) a total of six trees, away from Armada Way, to enable the installation of the new sustainable urban drainage system, which is much needed to deal with the city centre's rainwater, prevent flooding incidents and help keep our sea cleaner. Some of the trees are also situated on the route of the proposed 12 metre wide cycling and pedestrian route through the centre - which plays a critical role in opening up the vista to the Hoe. In addition, we will be carrying out some levelling work, to ensure that all spaces are accessible to everyone, the location of some of the trees prevent that work taking place and therefore those trees need to be moved. You can find out more about translocation in the nature and greenery section of the website.

Q8. From the list below, what is most important to you when looking to make Armada Way a greener and more sustainable urban environment? (Please choose your TOP TWO PRIORITIES)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> That Armada Way will be a green space with trees, shrubs and wildflowers | <input type="checkbox"/> The species of trees being planted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> That more trees are being planted than in the original scheme | <input type="checkbox"/> That as many existing trees as possible will remain where they are |
| <input type="checkbox"/> That the trees are at a height of 3.5-8metres | <input type="checkbox"/> That if any trees are to be moved, they will be carefully translocated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> That the scheme is climate resilient | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> That the city centre's rainwater is being dealt with smartly | |

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SECTION 2 | THE NEW SCHEME

Q9. There are six trees that are proposed to be moved from Armada Way to enable the development of the cycle route and SuDS (drainage system for rainwater). Please state any comments that you have regarding this proposed translocation.

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Q10. Please use this space to give any other feedback regarding nature and greenery on Armada Way.

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Play Village

The proposed scheme features a destination play village at the heart of the city centre at a staggering 1120 sqm in size – the equivalent to nearly five tournament tennis courts, making it one of the largest city centre play spaces in the country! It will be space for children of all ages, with a separate, secure toddler play area. Young explorers can climb, swing, balance, run through water jets and build imaginary worlds in the natural habitats of the ‘play village’. There will also be plenty of seating throughout.

A sensory play zone will be located within a quiet area for those children that appreciate it, and accessibility will be a key element of the design for those with disabilities. Some of the historic chess boards from the original Braille Garden will also be repurposed and positioned with new seating across from the play space, to give a grown-up recreational area.

Q11. From the list below, please select why you would be interested in a play village in the city centre. (Please select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a parent of young children who would use it | <input type="checkbox"/> I am a business owner and my customers would use it |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a carer of children who would benefit from it | <input type="checkbox"/> I'm not interested in it and wouldn't use it |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a grandparent and would take my grandchildren | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please state. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am an educator that would benefit from having somewhere to take the children I teach | |

SECTION 2 | THE NEW SCHEME

Q12. From the list below, what would a play village like this mean for you? (Please choose your TOP TWO)

- It would encourage me to use the city centre more
- It would mean I would have a safe and fun space for my children to play
- It would mean that I would spend longer periods of time in the city centre
- It would give me and my family somewhere local to go
- It would be a place where I could sit and rest, whilst my children played
- It would make it easier for me to shop, as I can also entertain my children whilst I'm there
- It would help my business by encouraging more families onto Armada Way
- Other, please state.

.....

Q13. From the list below, what's important for you and the children you look after when using a play space? (please tick all that apply)

- A quiet area to take my child's needs into account
- Using as many natural materials as possible
- Sensory play is really important to me and my family
- Challenging my children as they need to be active
- Being able to cater for a range of ages and abilities
- Plenty of seats to sit near to the equipment
- Paths that are wide enough to get a pushchair through
- Having separate areas for children of different age groups
- Visibility all the way through, to see my children play
- Other, please state.

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Q14. What do you most like about the proposed play village?

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Q15. What would you add to or change about the proposed play village?

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Pop-Up Space

It is proposed there will be a couple of additional places which could be used for concessions, live events or other pop-up activity. These are located at the proposed amphitheatre on the north piazza just down from the restored Phoenix Fountain, and under the proposed solar canopies at 'Place de Brest' and near to the Sundial. Importantly these spaces will have power and potentially water supplies.

Q16. From the list below, please select how you would like to see the pop-up space being used. (Please tick all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live music | <input type="checkbox"/> Pop-up food outlets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative performances | <input type="checkbox"/> Extension to 'Flavour Fest' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pop-up stalls selling goods | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please state. |

Q17. Please state any particular type of trader, business or performer you would like to see using the space.

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Solar Canopies

As part of the Council's commitment to making the scheme climate resilient and Net Zero aspirations, it is proposed that solar panels in sail formations will be added along Armada Way. The solar panels will power the new sustainable drainage system and the panels will be placed on canopies along the scheme, which will provide roofs under which people can shelter from the rain and shade from the sun (in addition to the shelter the new avenue of trees will provide.). The canopies will be made of tinted glass so will be lit from the new overhead lighting and could be used for sheltered seating and cycle racks.

Q18. From the list below, how would you like to see the solar canopied areas being used? (Please tick all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheltered seating | <input type="checkbox"/> Drop-off/pick-up point for delivery cyclists |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycle racks | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please state. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Space for pop-up stalls or traders | |

Flexible Spaces

Throughout the proposed scheme there are areas that haven't been set aside to serve a particular purpose, these are referred to as 'flexible spaces'. These are a mix of lawned, seated or hard standing areas.

Q19. How would you most likely use the flexible spaces? (Please state)

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SECTION 2 | THE NEW SCHEME

Seating

It is proposed that the scheme will include seating for up to 500 people. The seating will be in various styles throughout Armada Way

Q20. From the list below, what is most important to you in terms of seating? (Please tick all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> That there are covered seating areas under the solar canopies | <input type="checkbox"/> That there are some tables with seating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> That disability access is taken into account | <input type="checkbox"/> That there are seated areas throughout the scheme and not just in one location |
| <input type="checkbox"/> That there is sufficient seating in the play area | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please state. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> That there are seats with high backs and arm rests | |

Q21. After looking at the scheme, please state any locations where you feel seating should be included that hasn't been mentioned.

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Cycling and Mobility Hub

Part of the proposed scheme includes an independently assessed cycle path that is wider than the one proposed in the old scheme, go to the website for more detail. It will assist cyclists of all abilities by giving them a safe route through Armada Way and includes measures to slow cyclists down in steep areas where they are likely to build up speed. The path will also be signed and waymarked to help pedestrians and cyclists understand how to travel through safely. There will also be covered cycle racks and a mobility hub, where Beryl Bikes will be located for people to hire, plus potentially a drop-off and pick-up point for delivery cyclists.

Q22. From the list below, please choose how the new cycle path and mobility hub is most likely to affect you. (Please choose all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> It would encourage me to bring my bike to the city centre | <input type="checkbox"/> I regularly walk along Armada Way and it would be a benefit to give cyclists their own path |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would use the bike racks as I regularly cycle to Armada Way | <input type="checkbox"/> I wouldn't use the cycle path |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would hire the Beryl Bikes | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please state. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a delivery cyclist, this would help with my work | |

Q23. Please state any other feedback relating to cyclists, the proposed cycle path and the mobility hub.

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SECTION 2 | THE NEW SCHEME

Lighting and CCTV

The new scheme will include much improved lighting running down the length of Armada Way, to improve safety and lengthen the time people feel happy to spend in the city centre. There will also be feature lighting projecting patterns and colours onto the ground, in addition to up-lighting on the trees and along planted areas. An enhanced CCTV system will also be installed, and the trees will be planted in a way that will enable clear viewing corridors to discourage anti-social behaviour.

Q24. Please state any other feedback that you feel should be considered regarding the new lighting and improved CCTV in the city centre. (Please state)

.....

.....

.....

General

Q25. Please state any ideas you feel we need to include in the scheme, but haven't covered.

.....

.....

.....

Q26. Please state any concerns you have about the scheme.

.....

.....


.....

Q27. From the list below, please tick all the statements that you agree with regarding the new scheme. (Please tick all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> It will be more welcoming | <input type="checkbox"/> It will be sustainable and last into the future |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am likely to use the city centre more | <input type="checkbox"/> It will attract more businesses to Armada Way |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It will be a greener space | <input type="checkbox"/> It will encourage more night-time businesses to open |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It will be safer | <input type="checkbox"/> It will encourage people to use the city centre outside of the standard shopping times |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would come to the city centre to use the play village | <input type="checkbox"/> It will give the opportunity for independent traders and markets to operate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It will attract more families to come to Armada Way | <input type="checkbox"/> It will strengthen the connection to the Hoe and the waterfront |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It will help businesses attract more customers | <input type="checkbox"/> I am unsure about how the new scheme would help |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It will encourage more cycling | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It will be more accessible for all types of people | |

UNIQUE REF NO: XXXXXXXX

w: <https://letstalkarmadaway.commonplace.is>
 e: info@letstalkarmadaway.co.uk
 t: 01752 946604



SECTION 3

9

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

You do not have to answer these questions, however the information that you do provide in this section will help us to identify if there are different needs and/or views between different groups of people.

The information you provide will be used appropriately and stored securely in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations. Any published information will be anonymous unless otherwise stated.

Age

Q28. What was your age on your last birthday? (Please select the most appropriate category.)

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 and under | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 to 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55 to 64 | <input type="checkbox"/> 85 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16 to 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 35 to 44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65 to 74 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 to 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 45 to 54 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75 to 84 | |

Sex and Gender

The following questions refer to your sex and gender identity - by 'sex' we mean the sex that you were registered with at birth or that which is stated on your Gender Recognition Certificate. We would also like to know more about your gender identity - question x provides you with the opportunity to do this.

Q29. What is your sex? (Please tick the appropriate box.)

- Female Male Prefer not to say

Q30. Is your gender identity the same as the sex that you were registered with at birth? (Please tick the appropriate box.)

- Yes No Prefer not to say

If no, please use this space to describe your gender identity as you wish

.....

Disability

Q31. Are your day-to day activities limited because of a health problem or disability, which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months? (Please tick the appropriate box.)

- Yes, limited a little Yes, limited a lot No Prefer not to say

Ethnicity

Q32. Please tick the box which best describes your ethnic group or background.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Different ethnic group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black, Black British, Caribbean or African | <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

If not listed, please use this space to describe your ethnicity how you wish

.....

Please return all hard copy surveys to Central Library, 167 to 171 Armada Way, Plymouth, PL1 1HZ.

Thank you for your time, we will send an update to your email address once the consultation has closed.

UNIQUE REF NO: XXXXXXXX

w: <https://letstalkarmadaway.commonplace.is>
e: info@letstalkarmadaway.co.uk
t: 01752 946604



Let's
Talk
Armada
Way

7.4 Easy Read Survey



Let's
Talk
Armada
Way

Plans for Armada Way

What do you think?



Easy
Read

Easy Read



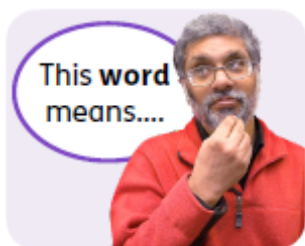
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read survey uses easier words and pictures. You may still want help to read it and answer the questions.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.

What is in this booklet

About this survey4

The plans5

The survey7

Thank you.....24

About this survey



Plymouth City Council has made plans to improve Armada Way in Plymouth city centre.



We want to make Armada Way an attractive place that everyone can use and move around easily.



Before we make a final decision about the plans, we want to know what you think.



To tell us what you think, please read this booklet and answer the questions.



We need your answers by Tuesday, 28 November 2023.

The plans

There are 8 main parts to our plans for Armada Way:



1. Nature and greenery.



2. Children's play area.



3. Pop-up spaces - these are areas that can be used for events and activities.



4. Solar panels - these will turn sunlight into electricity to be used on Armada Way.



5. Flexible spaces - these are seating, grass or flat areas that do not have a particular use yet.



6. Seating.



7. Cycling and walking routes.



8. Lighting and CCTV.



Next we will tell you a little more about each part of the plans and ask you what you think.



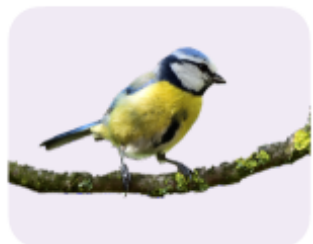
You do not have to answer all of the questions if you do not want to.

The survey

Nature and greenery



We want to add more trees and plants to Armada Way.



We hope this will bring more nature into the area, like birds and bees.



There will be a water system under Armada Way that will pump water up to feed the trees and plants.

What do you think?



Question 1: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for nature and greenery?



Agree



Not sure



Disagree

I think...

Question 2: Do you have any comments about our plans for nature and greenery?

Children's play area



We want to create a large children's play area called a play village.



The play village will be one of the largest city centre play areas in England.



It will have lots of fun things for children to do like swings, slides and climbing frames.



We will make the play village accessible for disabled children.



There will also be a sensory area for children who prefer quieter play.

What do you think?



Question 3: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for a children's play area?



Agree



Not sure



Disagree

I think...

Question 4: Do you have any comments about our plans for a children's play area?

Pop-up spaces



We want to create spaces that can be used for events and activities.



These will be called pop-up spaces.



The spaces will have power and maybe a water supply too.

What do you think?



Question 5: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for pop-up spaces?



Agree



Not sure



Disagree

I think...

Question 6: Do you have any comments about our plans for pop-up spaces?

Solar panels



Solar panels make electricity by turning sunlight into energy.



We want to put **canopies** along Armada Way that have solar panels built into them.



Canopies are structures with a roof that cover an area of ground. People can walk or sit under them.



The solar panels in the canopies will create power to pump water from underneath Armada Way and feed the new trees and plants.

What do you think?



Question 7: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for solar panels?



Agree



Not sure



Disagree

I think...

Question 8: Do you have any comments about our plans for solar panels?

Flexible spaces



We want to create some spaces that do not have any particular use yet.



These will be called flexible spaces.



They will be flat ground, grass or seating areas.

What do you think?



Question 9: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for flexible spaces?



Agree



Not sure



Disagree

I think...

Question 10: Do you have any comments about our plans for flexible spaces?

Seating



We want to create seating for up to 500 people along Armada Way.



This will include some covered seating to protect people from the sun and rain.

What do you think?



Question 11: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for seating?



Agree



Not sure



Disagree

I think...

Question 12: Do you have any comments about our plans for seating?

Cycling and walking routes



We want to create a wide cycle path that is easy for all cyclists to use.



It will include sections that help to slow cyclists down in steep areas along the path.



We will also make it safe for people who are walking to keep out of the way of cyclists.



There will be places to store bikes and hire bikes.

What do you think?



Question 13: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for cycling and walking routes?



Agree



Not sure



Disagree

I think...

Question 14: Do you have any comments about our plans for cycling and walking routes?

Lighting and CCTV



We want to include lots of lighting along Armada Way.



There will be streetlights to help people feel safe at night.



There will also be decorative lights that shine patterns on the ground and light up the trees.



We also want to have CCTV cameras along Armada Way to put people off behaving badly so that everyone feels safe.

What do you think?



Question 15: Do you agree or disagree with our plans for lighting and CCTV?



Agree



Not sure




Disagree

I think...

Question 16: Do you have any comments about our plans for lighting and CCTV?

Overall plans



I think...

Question 17: Do you have any comments about the overall plans to improve Armada Way?



Thank you



Thank you for answering the questions in this survey.



Your answers will help Plymouth City Council to make a final decision about the plans for Armada Way.



Please send your answers back by email to:

info@letstalkarmadaway.co.uk



We need your answers by Tuesday, 28 November 2023.

This Easy Read booklet was produced by easy-read-online.co.uk
The booklet includes images licensed from Photosymbols & Shutterstock.

THE VISION FOR THE PROPOSED REGENERATION OF

Armada Way



This is an exciting opportunity for those who live, work or own a business in Plymouth, to reclaim, reinvigorate and renew Armada Way, creating a space that brings life back to the heart of the city.

Have your say

17 October - 28 November 2023

To find out more, please visit:

<https://letstalkarmadaway.co.uk>

or scan this QR code:



Let's
Talk
Armada
Way



7.5.2 Info-Boards:

THE VISION FOR THE PROPOSED REGENERATION OF Armada Way



This is an exciting opportunity for those who live, work or own a business in Plymouth, to realize a vision for Armada Way, creating a new place for people to live, work and play.

Key messages:

- 1. **Exciting opportunity for regeneration:** Armada Way is a key location for regeneration in Plymouth, offering a chance to create a new place for people to live, work and play.
- 2. **Investment and growth:** The regeneration of Armada Way will create jobs, attract investment and bring new businesses to the area.
- 3. **High quality design:** The regeneration of Armada Way will be designed to high standards, creating a place that is attractive and enjoyable to live, work and play.
- 4. **Regeneration of the area:** The regeneration of Armada Way will help to regenerate the area, bringing new businesses and people to the area.
- 5. **There is a lot to be gained:** The regeneration of Armada Way will bring many benefits to the area, including jobs, investment and a new place for people to live, work and play.

Images of the proposed scheme



Design of the proposed scheme



How to get involved

If you really want to help transform your city centre and feedback on the proposed scheme, the place to make sure you get involved.

How to get involved (online and in person)

Online: You can provide your feedback on the proposed scheme through the online consultation platform. This is available from 10 October 2023 to 15 November 2023. You can also provide feedback on the proposed scheme through the online consultation platform. This is available from 10 October 2023 to 15 November 2023.

In person: You can provide your feedback on the proposed scheme through the online consultation platform. This is available from 10 October 2023 to 15 November 2023. You can also provide feedback on the proposed scheme through the online consultation platform. This is available from 10 October 2023 to 15 November 2023.

Have your say
10 October - 15 November 2023

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Why do we need to regenerate Armada Way?

Shopping habits and how people want to use public spaces are changing and city centres such as ours need to evolve and adapt.

Key findings:

- 1. **Changing shopping habits:** People are spending less time in city centres and more time in out-of-town locations.
- 2. **Changing public space use:** People want more green spaces, pedestrian paths, and public spaces in city centres.
- 3. **Need for regeneration:** City centres need to be regenerated to attract people back and create a vibrant, attractive place to live, work and play.

Where are we now?

We understand the depth of feeling surrounding the proposed Council Leaders decision to full the street on Armada Way and we are trying to ensure forward and create a city centre we can all be proud of.

Key findings:

- 1. **Strong support for regeneration:** Many people support the regeneration of Armada Way and believe it will bring many benefits to the area.
- 2. **Concerns about the proposal:** Some people are concerned about the impact of the proposal on the area, including traffic, parking, and the loss of existing buildings.
- 3. **Need for consultation:** The Council needs to consult with the public to understand their views and concerns and to ensure that the proposal is in line with their wishes.

What will happen to the findings?

This is a process where a wide range of feedback is being gathered to help shape the decision-making process around Armada Way.

Key findings:

- 1. **Strong support for regeneration:** Many people support the regeneration of Armada Way and believe it will bring many benefits to the area.
- 2. **Concerns about the proposal:** Some people are concerned about the impact of the proposal on the area, including traffic, parking, and the loss of existing buildings.
- 3. **Need for consultation:** The Council needs to consult with the public to understand their views and concerns and to ensure that the proposal is in line with their wishes.

A commitment to nature and greenery



Nature is at the heart of the new scheme.

It aims to achieve a biodiversity net gain of 20 per cent, meaning that it will positively impact wildlife in the city centre.

Water will be recycled in the new scheme. A 100,000-litre water tank will be installed to capture rainwater from the new buildings. This water will be used for irrigation and other non-potable uses.

Planting will be carried out in the new scheme. A variety of native and non-native plants will be planted to create a diverse and resilient ecosystem.

The City of London is committed to nature.

The City of London is committed to nature and greenery. It has a long history of planting trees and creating green spaces in the city centre.

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Why is it important to have greenery in the city centre? Greenery helps to reduce air pollution, improve air quality, and provide a natural habitat for wildlife. It also helps to reduce the urban heat island effect and provides a place for people to relax and enjoy the outdoors.

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What are the benefits of greenery in the city centre? Greenery helps to reduce air pollution, improve air quality, and provide a natural habitat for wildlife. It also helps to reduce the urban heat island effect and provides a place for people to relax and enjoy the outdoors.

What are the benefits of greenery in the city centre?

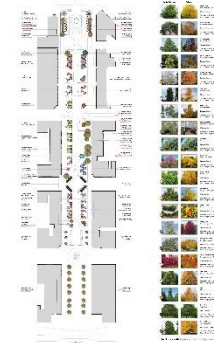
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Where will the trees be on Armada Way?

A pdf of this plan can be downloaded in the nature and greenery section of the website.



Working smartly to deal with the city's rainwater

We have developed a smart and sustainable way to deal with our city's rainwater to guard against flooding and provide water for the plants and trees.

Water will be recycled in the new scheme. A 100,000-litre water tank will be installed to capture rainwater from the new buildings. This water will be used for irrigation and other non-potable uses.

Planting will be carried out in the new scheme. A variety of native and non-native plants will be planted to create a diverse and resilient ecosystem.

The City of London is committed to nature and greenery. It has a long history of planting trees and creating green spaces in the city centre.

Why have we built the South Bridge?

The South Bridge is a new bridge over the River Thames. It will provide a new route for pedestrians and cyclists, and will also provide a new public space for the community.

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A destination play village to attract families into the city centre

The aim is to provide a free local play space for families with children of all ages, so that they can play, sit, relax and play.

The play village will be a free local play space for families with children of all ages. It will provide a safe and fun environment for children to play and learn.

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Spaces to relax, shop at or be entertained!

The proposed scheme also has a number of spaces that are flexible for people to use, and can be used with water and power to host markets, the entertainment and art.

The proposed scheme includes a number of flexible spaces for people to use. These spaces can be used for markets, entertainment, and art.

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Why are we doing this?

We are doing this to improve the quality of life in the city centre. We want to create a more vibrant and lively environment for everyone.

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Mixed use cycle path and mobility hub

The aim is to encourage more cycling in the city centre. We want people to stop their bikes and use a place to store their bikes.

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Why are we doing this?

We are doing this to encourage more cycling in the city centre. We want to create a more sustainable and healthy environment.

We are doing this to encourage more cycling in the city centre. We want to create a more sustainable and healthy environment.



Making it safe, well-lit and accessible

Anti-social behaviour has been an issue in Armada Way. We want to make the city centre safer, especially at night.

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7.5.3 Vinyls



7.5.4 Website Homepage

Let's Talk Armada Way | Login

Let's Talk Armada Way

Welcome to the online hub for the Let's Talk Armada Way consultation, which is being delivered by a company called ECF on behalf of Plymouth City Council.

The consultation period has now closed.

This site will continue to contain all the information on the new proposed scheme for Armada Way. Once ready, the consultation report will be uploaded to this site.

You can continue to register for updates and latest news by entering your email into the box below.

Your email will be used to contact you about project updates. You can unsubscribe at any point. Please read our [privacy policy](#).

[Home](#) [Have your say](#) [Timeline](#) [FAQs](#) [The team](#) [Latest news](#)

Click on the video below to learn about the proposed new scheme for Armada Way

HAVE YOUR SAY

4 proposals

- The Proposed New Scheme**
Information about the proposed new scheme for Armada Way
- Why Are We Consulting?**
Information about the Armada Way Consultation
- Next Steps**
Information on the next steps
- Construction and Maintenance**
Information about construction and maintenance of the proposed scheme

PROPOSALS

6 proposals



Active

A Destination Play Village

Read more about our proposal to create a destination play village to attract families into the city centre.



Active

Nature and Greenery

Find out more on how we have put nature at the heart of this new scheme.



Active

Working Smartly to Deal with the City's Rainwater

Read more on how we have devised a smart and sustainable way to deal with our city's rainwater.



Active

Cycle Path and Mobility Hub

Read more on how we have tried to encourage more cycling to and in Armada Way.



Active

Lighting and CCTV

Read more on how we have improved lighting and CCTV system to make Armada Way a safer place for all day and night.

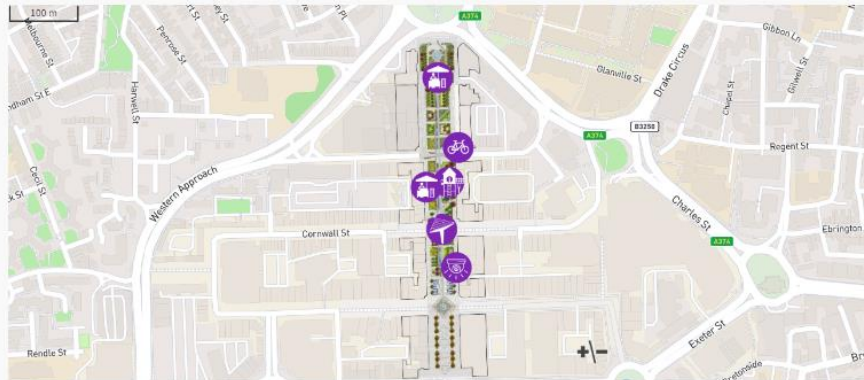


Active

Other Spaces

Read more on our proposed other spaces as part of the new Armada Way scheme to relax, shop at or be entertained!

LEARN ABOUT THE PROPOSED NEW SCHEME FOR ARMADA WAY



Move around the interactive map and hover over the icons to learn more about key features of the proposed new scheme for Armada Way
Zoom in on the map with your keyboard mouse to view details of the scheme

PROJECT TIMELINE

Learn more



End of the consultation

28 November 2023 • In Progress

LATEST NEWS

More news

Five days to go for Armada Way consultation

There are just five days left to [have your say](#) in the consultation on the proposals for Armada Way. Over the next six weeks, hundreds of people have been having their say on the designs that aim to create a greener, safer and more family

Posted on 23rd November 2023
by ECF



Armada Way scheme is long overdue, says city centre businesses

Businesses in the city centre have come out in support of the proposed new scheme to redevelop Armada Way, saying it will transform the city centre

Posted on 20th November 2023
by ECF



Smart system to stop city centre pollution flowing into the Sound

Safeguarding the city centre from the risks of future flooding and reducing the amount of pollution flowing into the Sound, are the main benefits of the new water management system proposed for

Posted on 17th November 2023
by ECF

MEET THE TEAM

[Learn more](#)



ECF



Plymouth
City Council



Studio Agora

CONTACT TEAM

Email: info@letstalkarmadaway.co.uk
Phone: 01752 946604

7.6 Plymouth City Council Engagement

STAKEHOLDER TOOLKIT

A toolkit including:

- Information about the consultation
- Links to the portal
- Tools to download to help encourage partners and stakeholders to aid with the publicity e.g social media graphics / posters etc

Sent to: 114 stakeholders (including all councillors)

Downloaded by: 83 people

PRESS RELEASES

17 October	Proposals launched for a vibrant, green, safe and fun Armada Way	https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/proposals-launched-vibrant-green-safe-and-fun-armada-way
26 October	Armada Way regeneration will be a cultural boost to the city centre	https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/armada-way-regeneration-will-be-cultural-boost-city-centre
2 November	Over 200 trees proposed to spruce up Armada Way	https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/over-200-trees-proposed-spruce-armada-way
7 November	Armada Way design is homage to the past	https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/armada-way-design-homage-past
17 November	Smart system to stop city centre pollution flowing into the Sound	https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/smart-system-stop-city-centre-pollution-flowing-sound
20 November	Armada Way scheme is long overdue, says city centre businesses	https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/armada-way-scheme-long-overdue-says-city-centre-businesses
21 November	One week countdown for Armada Way consultation	https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/one-week-countdown-armada-way-consultation

VIDEOS

17 October	Council leader introduces new Armada Way consultation	https://youtu.be/m88MLRqrmeo
26 October	The cultural impact of regeneration	https://youtu.be/1tSAvmDv4Z8
2 November	The vision for trees	Let's Talk Armada Way: The vision for trees - YouTube
7 November	The history of Plymouth's path to the Sound	Let's Talk Armada Way: The history of Plymouth's path to the Sound - YouTube
17 November	Understanding the SuDs scheme	https://youtu.be/IUT3b87ksP0
20 November	The traders take	Let's Talk Armada Way: The trader's take - YouTube

RESIDENTS NEWS – Council weekly e-newsletter sent to 26,000 residents

20 October	Latest Plymouth news and events (govdelivery.com)
27 October	Latest Plymouth news and events (govdelivery.com)
3 November	Latest Plymouth news and events (govdelivery.com)
10 November	Latest Plymouth news and events (govdelivery.com)
17 November	Latest Plymouth news and events (govdelivery.com)
24 November	Latest Plymouth news and events (govdelivery.com)

MEDIA COVERAGE

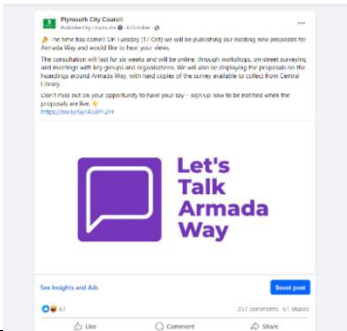

Date	What	Outlet	Link (if there is one)
17 October	More trees and 'safer' family-friendly spaced promised in Plymouth city centre	ITV	ITV
17 October	Plymouth council chief 'will double the trees' in city centre after felling controversy	The Telegraph	The Telegraph
17 October	Plymouth: Council plans to plant more than 200 trees	BBC	BBC Today Show

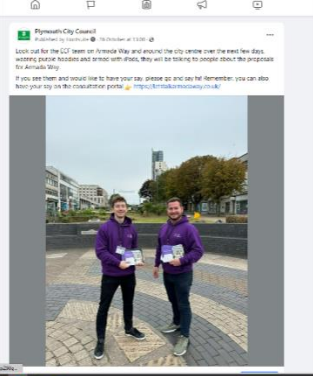

17 October	Proposals launched for a vibrant, green, safe and fun Armada Way	Invest Plymouth	Invest Plymouth
17 October	First look at Plymouth's Armada Way plans to revitalise area and save trees	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
17 October	Plymouth's Armada Way plans includes new 'play village'	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
17 October	Armada Way to get new play parks, solar panels, cycle route and more trees	Greatest Hits	Greatest Hits
17 October	Armada Way: Consultation opens on new plans in Plymouth	BBC	BBC
17 October	Plymouth to replace felled trees that helped bring down Tory council	The Guardian	The Guardian
18 October	Plymouth's Armada Way plan hailed as 'ambitious and bold'	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
18 October	Armada Way revamp revealed	Radio Exe	Radio Exe
18 October	Plymouth's Armada Way tree cull 'trashed city's reputation', says MP	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
20 October	Armada Way plan 'needs to happen soon' say traders	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
20 October	The Guardian view on protecting trees: planting is a gift to the future, but not enough	The Guardian	The Guardian



26 October	AW a 'cultural boost' for city	Insider Media	Insider Media
2 November	Armada Way: More than 200 trees promised in Plymouth city centre	ITV	ITV
3 November	More than 200 trees proposed for Plymouth after felling	BBC	BBC
6 November	200 new trees planned for Plymouth's Armada Way	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
22 November	Plymouth businesses back 'amazing' revamp that will revitalise city centre	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
27 November	Risky plan to shift Plymouth trees 'like Groundhog Day'	Plymouth Live	Plymouth Live
28 November	Now more trees could face chop in Plymouth's 'chainsaw massacre'	Daily Mail	Daily Mail

SOCIAL MEDIA

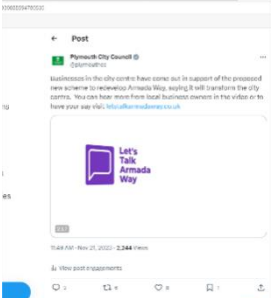

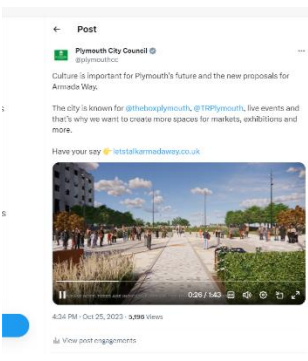

Facebook

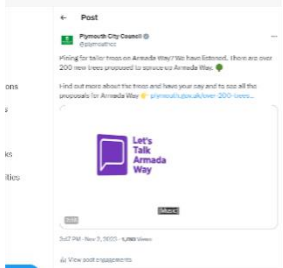

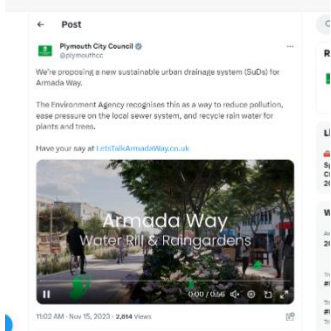
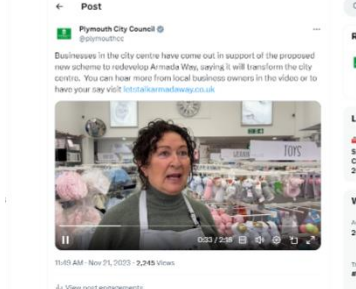
Date	Link to post	Impressions	Engagement
6 Oct	<p>(2) 📍 The time has come!! On Tuesday (17 Oct)... - Plymouth City Council Facebook</p> 	15,755	189
17 Oct	<p>(1) Facebook</p> 	4,200	257





<p>18 Oct</p>	<p>Here's some more views and different... - Plymouth City Council Facebook</p> 	<p>46,713</p>	<p>16,152</p>
<p>25 Oct</p>	<p>https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthCityCouncil/videos/7131353863543812/</p> 	<p>2,300</p>	<p>48</p>
<p>26 Oct</p>	<p>(3) Look out for the ECF team on Armada Way... - Plymouth City Council Facebook</p> 	<p>14,758</p>	<p>1,257</p>
<p>2 Nov</p>	<p>https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthCityCouncil/videos/234748386285089/</p> 	<p>9,500</p>	<p>220</p>
<p>7 Nov</p>	<p>https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthCityCouncil/videos/712831654041672/</p> 	<p>18,300</p>	<p>287</p>
<p>15 Nov</p>	<p>https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthCityCouncil/videos/317497304466275/</p>	<p>2,200</p>	<p>137</p>

			
21 Nov	https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthCityCouncil/videos/1298844400819998/	1,400	166
			
24 Nov	(6) Facebook 	6,318	830
27 Nov	(6) Facebook 	4,797	476
28 Nov	(6) Facebook 	8,104	808
29 Nov	(6) Facebook 	2,485	150


X (Twitter)

Date	Link to post	Impressions	Engagement
6 October	Link 	3,213	119
17 October	Link 	7,202	377
25 October	Link 	5,440	159
26 October	Link 	1430	37

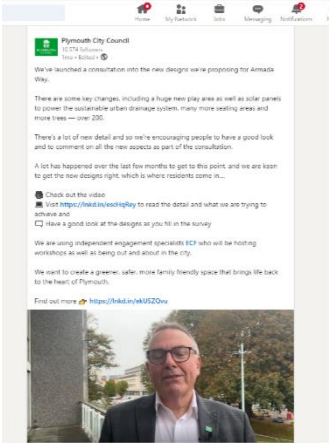
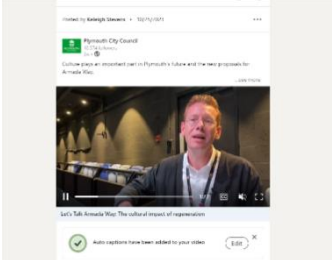


<p>2 Novembe r</p>	<p>Link</p> 	<p>1,778</p>	<p>70</p>
<p>7 Novembe r</p>	<p>Link</p> 	<p>2,725</p>	<p>131</p>
<p>15 Novembe r</p>	<p>Link</p> 	<p>2,610</p>	<p>65</p>
<p>21 Novembe r</p>	<p>Link</p> 	<p>2238</p>	<p>51</p>
<p>22 Nov</p>	<p>https://t.co/F9SPx9Xfmr</p>	<p>1,504</p>	<p>46</p>


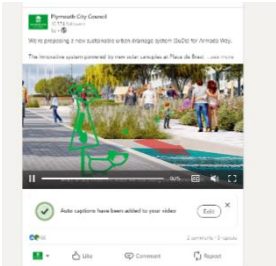
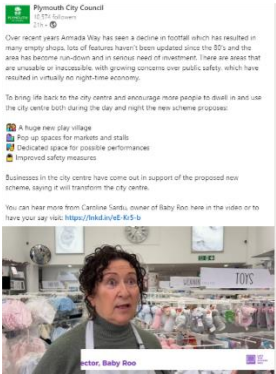

			
<p>24 Nov</p>	<p>https://t.co/vwLhL8DH2Y</p> 	<p>1,432</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>27 Nov</p>	<p>https://t.co/RDR95kShl4</p> 	<p>1,062</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>28 Nov</p>	<p>https://t.co/jV2kkqGm2a</p> 	<p>1,061</p>	<p>18</p>


Instagram

Date	Link to post	Impressions	Post interactions
17 October	<p>Link</p> 	1,109	104
25 October	<p>Link</p> 	335	11

LinkedIn

Date	Link to post	Impressions	Post interactions
17 October	Link 	1,136	67
25 October	Link 	1,480	56
2 November	Link 	1,805	86
7 November	Link 	1,149	62

			
<p>15 November</p>	<p>Link</p> 	<p>2,20</p>	<p>161</p>
<p>21 November</p>	<p>Link</p> 	<p>1,132</p>	<p>96</p>
<p>28 Nov</p>	<p>Link</p> 	<p>682</p>	<p>59</p>

29 Nov	 <p>After so many the Armada Way consultation is now closed. Thank you to all those people who had the time to fill out a survey, attend a meeting or an interview and express their views.</p> <p>Consultation now closed</p> <p>To keep in the loop, sign up for updates at https://letstalkarmadaway.co.uk</p> <p>Link</p>	404	16
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Nextdoor

Date	Link to post	Impressions	Engagements
17 October	Link	6,601	42
20 October	Link	2,901	21
25 October	Link	519	1
26 October	Link	2,323	15
17 November	Link	331	2
29 November	Link	419	0

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Promoting the consultation – encouraging staff to participate in their capacity as a resident who live and work in Plymouth.

Title	Tool	Date
Proposals launched for a vibrant, green, safe and fun Armada Way	Staff Intranet	17 October
New Armada Way proposals launched	Staff e-newsletter	18 October
Have you had your say in the Armada Way consultation?	Staff Intranet	3 November
Countdown to end of Armada Way consultation	Staff Intranet	22 November

7.7 Appendices for Survey (online and paper)

7.7.1. Other responses provided to *Question 30: Is your gender identity the same as the sex that you were registered with at birth? (Please tick all that apply) Please use this space to describe your gender identity if you wish*

Theme	Number
How is this relevant?	15
Prefer not to answer	1
I identify as non-binary	5
I don't subscribe to the existence of 'gender identity'	4
Agender	1
Fire engine	1
Gender fluid	1
I am A sexual	1
I was a male but now I am of mixed sex	1
Yes	1
Number of respondents	31

7.7.2. Other responses provided to *Question 32: Please tick the box which best describes your ethnic group or background. If not listed, please use this space to describe your ethnicity if you wish*

Theme	Number
You don't need to know	9
White British	5
Cornish	2
Anglo Irish	2
English	2
Immigrant	2
White English	2
A true brit	1
British European	1
British Sikh	1
Different ethnic group: Persian	1
European White	1
A green sea dweller	1
Janner	1
Latin American	1
Spanish Irish	1
Chinese	1
These categories are unhelpful. You can be white and an ethnic group	1
Number of respondents	35

7.7.3. List of organisations provided for *Question 1. Who are you responding on behalf of?*

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Silverstall | 11. Plymouth CityBus Ltd | 19. family friends |
| 2. Colebrook (SW) Ltd. | | 20. PRIMEdesign group |
| 3. The Original Pasty House Ltd | 12. Memory Matters CIC | 21. Julia stephenson trust for animals |
| 4. Antics | 13. Plymouth Religious society of Friends (Quakers) | 22. Coronet Engravers |
| 5. Asian supermarkets | 14. Aspire Student Living | 23. University of Plymouth |
| 6. London Camera Exchange | 15. Aikmo Trading Limited | 24. Outsight (UK(Ltd T/A Plymstages |
| 7. none | 16. Eat Work Art | 25. Bikespace CIC |
| 8. Escapism Plymouth Ltd | 17. The Ban children Center | 26. Plymouth Community Homes |
| 9. Pillar Land Securities Limited | 18. Daughters who own the prpoerty | 27. Eco Environmental |
| 10. Drakes jewellers | | 28. Food Plymouth |

7.7.4. 'Other' responses provided for *Question 2. How are you connected to the Armada Way Area? Tick all that apply.*

Theme	Number
Lived in Plymouth all my life / for years	16
Infrequent shopper / visitor	13
Work or worked in Plymouth / Armada Way	12
Run or intend to run a local business	9
I go to Amada Way for recreation / shopping	7
Concerned about the trees / ecology / carbon	6
Live near to Plymouth	6
Walk through the area / walking distance	5
Cycle through the area	5
I am a local councillor	4
Family / Partner live near Armada Way / Plymouth	4
I used to visit Armada Way frequently	3
Retired but worked in the City	3
Have an interest in Plymouth architecture	2
I am a local Council Tax payer so I fund it	2
Mental health worker concerned with trauma caused by PCC on Amada Way	1
I'm an artist who gathered natural materials from the trees before they were felled	1
Parent of a disabled child	1
Care about the quality of life in Plymouth	1
Lived here all their life and say the soil would have taken the moisture	1
Concerned about the distress caused and want to maintain integrity in Plymouth Council	1
My son goes to school near Armada Way	1
Student at Plymouth University living in the City	1
Local food Partnership - Plymouth	1
Professor of The University of Plymouth	1
Number of respondents	80

7.7.5. 'Other' responses provided for *Question 3. How do you usually travel to Armada Way? Tick up to three.*

Theme	Number
Ferry / Boat	4
Run / on foot	3
Drive and walk	2
Access Plymouth (Ring & ride?)	1
Lorry / HGV	1
Used the bus until service stopped	1
Walk with dog	1
Virtually	1
As a visitor	1
Company vehicle	1
Use a walking stick	1
Number of respondents	16

7.7.6. 'Other' responses provided for *Question 5. From the list below, what is most important to you when looking to make Armada Way a greener and more sustainable environment? (Please choose your top two priorities).*

Theme	Number
All existing trees are retained / over design elements	77
Canopy cover to provide greater shade / reduce solar heat	28
PCC are not listening / learning / keeping promises / Labour manifesto	26
Should be more suitable varieties / size of trees	25
That it can be maintained	24
Likely that trees would die if translocated	24
Waste of money / cost	14
Important that it is a safe usable space	13
Should be for shopping centre not ecology	13
Better carbon capture / environmental concerns	12
Increasing biodiversity is the most important thing;	11
Why not stick to the original plan	9
More green space than hard landscaping	8
Remove more / all the trees	8
All the options listed	4
Do not translocate the existing trees	3
Ashamed of the mess in the City Centre	3
That the work is finished as quickly as possible.	3
There is paths/routing for cyclists/plenty of bike parking around trees	3
That local businesses / shops are not badly affected	3
Not too many / too large / trees it will be too dark	2
Too many trees cut down already	2

Theme	Number
None of the options listed	2
Trees for stress relief	2
Survey script criticism	2
Shallow stream wil get abused / neglected	2
That the "Great view" looking south is enhanced	2
Drainage scheme design amended	1
The cabbage palms could be relocated	1
Trees felled to erdaicate the rat problem	1
Concerned about the number of seagulls / pests on Armada Way	1
Reuse older existing materials	1
A level walkway right through without walls and obstructions.;	1
Inclusion of a wildlife pond	1
That only a small area is for kids and a V2 a tennis court	1
Council doesn't install facial recognition technology without citizen approval	1
Why are there so many big shops that do not pay any UK tax	1
Illegal tree felling should be punished	1
That the city centre has a proper bus station	1
Cover it over with a glass roof	1
That the trees do not block CCTV coverage	1
Trees will not be planted in positions that block crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists or motorists	1
Number of respondents	181

7.7.7. 'Other' responses provided for Question 8. From the list below, please select why you would be interested in a play village in the city centre. (Please select all that apply)

Theme	Number
Support the initiative / Great idea	127
Attract families / visitors to the City Centre / upgrade City assets / library visitors	77
Would not use it	63
Would use for children in the family / grandchildren / nieces & nephews / friends children / future parent etc	60
To provide something positive for young people/ attract them to the City	58
I'm none of these categories	56
For children to have fun / playing / safe space	46
Must be maintained / low maintenance	44
Must be policed / potential for Anti-Social behaviour / vandalism / vermin / rough sleepers / drunks	37
Don't clutter - make good use of space / design suggestions	28
This space is too large - needs to be smaller	26
Needs to appeal to a wide age range / Skate Park as well as play equipment	21
Play areas and equipment should be in the parks / elsewhere	21
Will be too expensive / should be simpler	19
Cannot be at the expense of the trees	17
Need something for adults too / chess / seating	16
Would support City Centre retailers	14
My children are too old / grown up / to benefit	14
I enjoy watching children play / generate happiness	12
I have a disabled child / young adult who would benefit from it / sensory play	10
Would put them off visiting the City / Would not appeal	10
Would appreciate green and tranquil recreational space in the city centre	8
An interested local resident	7
Provide transparency / costings	7
A play village would spoil the view / walkway	6
Wooden horses were very popular	6
A nature trail would be a great teaching resource	3
Social / Youth worker who works with children	3
Survey is biased / not objective	3
Encourages better behaviour in children / citizenship	2
May use it / undecided	2
Open the town centre to cars increase free parking	2
Ward councillor interested in public amenities in the ward	1
Mental Health worker concerned with greenwashing and that the scheme excludes older people without children	1
I am an artist who draws children and parents in some art projects	1
It must be easy to remove it turns out to be unviable	1
Number of respondents	376

7.7.8. 'Other' responses provided for Question 9. From the list below, what would a play village like this mean for you? (Please choose your top two).

Theme	Number
Attract families / visitors to the City Centre / upgrade City assets / library visitors	50
I have answered this question / Not Applicable / Had to select 2 responses	46
Would encourage people to stay longer / use the city / vibrant	38
An eyesore. / not wanted / bad idea / waste of money	35
Support the initiative / Great idea	33
Would not use it	30
Must be policed / vandalism / vermin / rough sleepers / drunks	22
For children to have fun / playing / safe space	22
Would use for children in the family / grandchildren / nieces & nephews / friends children / future parent etc	21
Would put them off visiting the City / Would not appeal	19
Must be maintained / low maintenance	16
This space is too large - needs to be smaller	15
I have no children	15
Would support City Centre retailers	13
Provide something positive for young people / to attract them into the City	12
I enjoy watching children play / generate happiness	12
Don't clutter - make good use of space / design suggestions	12
Could create an unsafe area for children	11
Need something for adults too / chess / seating	10
Need seats / street furniture / comfort	10
Needs to appeal to a wide age range / Skate Park as well as play equipment	9
Needs protection from the weather / Rain / Wind /Sun	6
Play areas and equipment should be in the parks / elsewhere	6
Would appreciate green and tranquil recreational space in the city centre	6
I have a disabled child / young adult who would benefit from it / sensory play	5
Survey is biased / not objective	5
Open the town centre to cars increase free parking	5
I agree with all the options not just two	5
Bad news for the trees / do not remove trees	5
Wildlife areas are good for children	4
I don't think it will boost business	4
My children are too old / grown up / to benefit	3
Other Towns and Cities have one, so Plymouth should too	3
With population increase the park will be necessary for the City based kids	2
May use it / undecided	2
An interested local resident	1
Park is poorly planned / Council lack of understanding	1
A nature trail would be a great teaching resource	1
To have a closer play facility for some residents	1
What about CCTV plans?	1
Number of respondents	261

7.7.9. 'Other' responses provided for Question 10. From the list below, what's important for you and the children you look after when using a play space? (Please tick all that apply).

Theme	Number
None / Not applicable to me / Don't look after any children	47
A diverse range of areas / for different ages / boys and girls / activities / enough	18
Accessibility / Wheelchair users / Young and old	18
A clean / safe environment (no glass / cigarette butts / Needles)	14
Just a calming green space / trees / quiet	12
A high-quality bespoke design / support natural materials / where sourced?	10
Play equipment that's easy to maintain / replace	10
All the options	10
Sensory gardens for disabled users as well as children / height considerations	8
Should be in established parks	8
Need for cover from sun, rain or wind	7
Bad idea as it would be damaged / graffiti / unsafe / waste of money	7
Good places to eat and drink / seated area	5
Ban on bicycles / scooters / wheeled transport etc not safe	5
Funding to maintain / repair / replace	5
Too big in size	5
Questionnaire needs more options / complexity	5
Don't want noisy children in the City	4
Ban on dogs in the play area	4
Keep the trees	4
Something for the adults visiting Armada Way too	4
Should not be in the shopping / dining areas of the City	3
Important to include water feature / water jets	2
Provide bins	2
Public toilets	2
More vibrant City Centre	2
No drug users	2
Employ staff to avoid it getting damaged / vandalised	2
Wider family and friends visit the City	2
Children should be shielded from the City Centre / obstacles	2
A focal point or centre	1
Great space for families with children	1
Smoking / Vaping ban in play area	1
Crack down on antisocial behaviour	1
Re introduction of the wooden animals	1
Number of respondents	156

7.7.10. Other responses provided for Question 13: From the list below, please select how you would like to see the pop-up space being used. (Please tick all that apply).

Theme	Number
Create an inclusive community City space / performance / activities / charities	28
Activism / meetings / protests / environmental etc	22
Removal of trees has / will affect the acoustics / need the trees / green spaces	22
Events for cultural / historical / diversity / environmental and Wellbeing	20
All these ideas are pointless / wouldn't use it	19
Christmas Market / Extended Christmas Market / Seasonal activities	14
A big screen for films / sporting events / national events	14
A farmers' market	13
No pop-up food outlets or cafes / compete with existing shops	13
Temporary art installations	9
Not applicable / None	9
Craft and woodland fairs	8
There is insufficient seating	8
A Speakers Corner like in London	7
Health Social Care advice	7
All of the options stated	7
Needs a cover to keep the rain off the audience	6
Anything that brings visitors into the city	5
Antique and collectibles fairs	4
A repair workshop	4
Firms and organisations to promote their products and innovations	4
We already have event space in the Piazza	4
No pop-up phone accessory sellers please	3
A plant festival / exhibition to celebrate greenery, trees and plants	3
Buskers / unamplified	3
Move this proposal another location to try and encourage people into town	3
Has the case for pop ups been evaluated / costed	3
Build a bandstand	2
No amplified music	2
No fairground rides	2
Celebrating our military history	2
Dance events	2
Private hire events	2
Fill the empty shops	2
Will be untidy / litter	2
Many European cities have vibrant markets in their tourist areas	2
Offer residencies /stints to local universities and colleges to display their work	2
Street entertainers	2
Sport tournaments / basketball	1
Outdoor theatre	1

Theme	Number
Shop mobility hub to assist wider access	1
No party politics	1
No religion	1
No loudhalers	1
Citizens' advice / benefits advice etc	1
Job recruitment	1
Local history events	1
As a performer I wouldn't use such a space due to sound issues	1
Temporary locations for key Plymouth attractions eg. the Aquarium and the Box.	1
Popup book and record shops	1
Cafes / food outlets	1
Pop up bars	1
Quirky new outlets to increase footfall	1
Widen the central path into a Plaza	1
Sand sculptures	1
Events in the evening	1
Flavour fest is not very good / commercial	1
What about solar trees?	1
Need an ice rink	1
It's a good idea	1
Not at the expense of mobility / disabled access	1
Permanent chess tables	1
Use it as a skate park when there's no events on	1
Who will organise the events / activities?	1
Number of respondents	221

7.7.11. Other responses provided for Question 15: From the list below, how would you like to see the solar canopied areas being used? (Please tick all that apply).

Theme	Number
Don't want it (Solar canopies)	28
Design suggestions about solar canopies	25
Would be better to keep the tree canopy	20
Design suggestions about seating	14
Need shelter from sun too! (as well as rain)	14
Definitely not Drop-off/pick-up point for delivery cyclists / no cycles in the area	13
Somewhere to rest / more seating	12
Need shelter from wind too (as well as rain / sun)!	10
Could solar panels be put on the roofs of adjacent buildings instead/ not visible	10
Covered walkways	9
Great idea	8
Is there sufficient funding? Maintenance? Future proof?	8
Not applicable / None / Not interested	8
Flowers and shrubs too please	7
Charging ports for mobile phones / built into seats?	6
Exhibitions / pop up community projects raising awareness of the Town / with Wi-Fi / information desk	6
Concerned about crime	6
Anything which stores solar power for lighting at night	5
Wheelchair /. disability friendly seats and tables	5
Trees better for insect / birds / wildlife	4
Slight angle so that moss and debris / bird droppings / don't collect.	4
Canopies over the children's play area	3
How high would the solar canopies be? They could be vandalised if too low	3
All the solutions listed	3
CCTV on the bike racks for security	2
Sustainable	2
Anything to deter antisocial behaviour / loitering / street drinking	2
Concerned that homeless will invade the playground and benches	2
Beril bikes	2
Chess tables / picnic area	2
Rentable pop-up food stalls	2
Not being of any solid practical environmental benefit / Greenwashing	2
Shop canopies	1
Things for animals - dog parking, water	1
Alternative play spaces	1
Drop off / pick-up for cars	1
Exhibition on value of trees	1
Pop up plant and flower shop	1
Against anything "solar" or "net zero"	1
No overhead lighting as it's not good for wildlife	1
Would like to see things like pop up stalls and cycle racks mixed between	1

Theme	Number
A dashboard illustrating the level of energy generated /what it's being used for	1
Innovative activities - marine conservation for example	1
Job / charity workshops	1
Should have stalls for traders	1
Don't know	1
Please do not put anti-homeless benches in	1
Spaces for young people to contribute	1
Number of respondents	153

7.7.12. Other responses provided for *Question 17: From the list below, what is most important to you in terms of seating? (Please tick all that apply)*

Theme	Number
Seats under shady trees	38
A range of different types and sizes to suit all needs	37
Well maintained / easy maintenance / vandal proof / cleaned	29
Some need rain / wind / sun cover	24
Disability / elderly friendly / wheelchair and scooter access / no long arms	14
Should be kept as a green space / disagree	12
Less hard landscape and more soft park like materials	11
Deal with antisocial behaviour / drugs /skateboarding	10
Include seating manufactured from sustainable or recycled / natural materials	10
Just a few benches would be fine	9
Sufficient number of seats	9
Please make the benches homeless friendly	8
Comfortable seats	7
Not metal / stone as too hot in summer / cold in winter	6
Don't want seating / Don't need it	6
Quiet and peaceful	6
Not under solar	5
Plenty of rubbish bins near seats	5
Built in seating with the raised planters / seats in areas with flower beds	5
Alcohol free zone	4
Environmentally friendly seating	4
Keep cyclists / delivery cyclists out of the area	4
Cafes should provide seats too	4
That the view from seating is considered.	4
500 seats seem excessive	4
All the solutions listed	3
Needs to be free / no charge	3
Areas for mothers to breastfeed / suitable seating	3
Designated no smoking/smoking areas	3
Seats in sunny areas too	3

Theme	Number
Get rid of the seagulls in order to make this attractive	3
No more straight lines / visibility across the site	3
Seats are a waste of money	2
Chess tables / replace lost ones	2
Drinking water fountains near the seating areas	2
Mobile phone chargers / Wi-Fi included	2
No personal preference	1
People could bring their own seats	1
Built in highchairs	1
Colourful seating	1
Lively and entertaining	1
Stop paying people for meaningless objectives	1
Cycle parking	1
Seats in multiple locations is very important	1
Seating for outdoor cinema	1
Free clean toilets nearby	1
Don't need tables / creates mess / eat on laps instead	1
That some seating areas are covered with green living roofs	1
Has maintenance cost been factored in?	1
Light up the city at night	1
Uniform design across the City centre	1
Free from advertising	1
Number of respondents	180

7.7.13.Question 19: From the list below, please choose how the new cycle path and mobility hub is most likely to affect you. (Please choose all that apply)

Theme	Number
Cyclists and pedestrians should not occupy the same space / dangerous / safety issues	85
As long as the cyclists use the designated path / How will you "police" the cyclists only using the cycle path? CCTV?	29
Need to stop cyclists speeding	25
Against the cycle path / wouldn't use it	19
Cyclists would stop me using the area	15
Cycles around young children, disabled and OAPs is dangerous	14
In support of the cycle path	14
Need to stop delivery cyclists on bikes and the illegal e-bikes	13
Cyclists should dismount in the City	13
Too old to cycle / can't ride	12
Need an alternative cycle route away from Armada Way	11
Cycle path needs to be clearly marked / visually impaired too	9
Ebikes Monoboards should be banned from the City centre	8
Cyclists will take the shortest route	7
A number of bike racks have vanished so we need some new ones	7

Theme	Number
The design of the new path falls short of the recommendations of Plymouth Cycling Campaign	7
It would provide a safe cycle path for both North and South of the City	6
The cycle path would make people feel positive about cycling in the City	6
City is too cycle friendly	5
The previous cycle path was a disused eyesore / waste of money	5
Don't want the cycle path at the expense of the existing trees	4
Should have speed restrictions on cycle path	4
Stop skate boarding - an accident waiting to happen with the elderly and disabled	4
Would use cycle racks with cctv / security	4
A wider path would be better for mobility scooters	4
Cyclists and traffic should not occupy the same space / dangerous	3
Encourage locals and visitors to hire the Beryl bikes	3
Beryl bikes too expensive / more than buses	3
Covered cycle racks are needed not only on 'flagship' schemes but across the city centre	3
A cycle path doesn't have to be straight	2
Clear line of view for cycle path	2
Stop wasting money on expensive cycling initiatives	2
No room for shopping on Beryl bike	2
Electric bikes are a benefit	2
Availability of charging points - mobility scooters and bikes	2
How does this scheme tackle anti social behaviour	2
Cyclists should not be on footpaths	1
Colour the cycle paths red for easy recognition	1
It would benefit delivery cyclists and allow families easier access	1
Is there room for a small pump track nr the old civic centre?	1
Would not affect me	1
Cyclists avoid cycle paths with speed restrictions	1
Having a safe place is important for all residents not just cyclists	1
All cycle routes are good	1
All cyclist to wear front-rear registration plates	1
A dedicated cycle path would encourage people to hire beryl bikes or buy their own	1
Good to focus on environmentally sustainable transport	1
Plymouth is too hilly to cycle	1
Concentrate on public transport and walking instead	1
Beryl bike rack is an eyesore	1
But it needs to be a better design than that in the roundabout area at top of Armada Way	1
parking spaces for mobility scooters	1
Availability of repairing bike tools	1
Lockers are too expensive	1
Big 'bike racks' in a 'hub' are less useful than lots of individual places	1

Theme	Number
There should be an arial Cycle/Scooter only Route down the middle of Armada Way at least 3 metres off the ground	1
Ensure views of Plymouth Cycling Group are heeded	1
Get PlyMotion regularly on one of the adjacent pop ups	1
Consultation link doesn't work - page not found?	1
PCC have not tested this idea with cyclists	1
Hate cyclists	1
Always cycled with courtesy amongst pedestrians	1
It's also good to consider pram access	1
Opportunity to be leader in cycle/walkers provision	1
Bikes are cluttering the streets - see plans for London	1
Cyclists should use the road instead	1
Would still use a car	1
Number of respondents	206

7.8 Appendices for Survey (EasyRead)

7.8.1 Nature and Greenery

Theme	Number
Agree with plans for nature and greenery	4
Want more flowers	2
Want signage to explain planting	1
Want a learning station	1
Want a water pump	1
Want a water fountain	1
Number of respondents	5

7.8.2 Play Village

Theme	Number
Agree with plans for play area	4
Want more colour	1
Want play village and sensory area near to each other	1
Want play village made smaller	1
Should be quiet space for autistic people	1
Number of respondents	5

7.8.3 Pop-Up and Solar Canopies

Theme	Number
Agree with plans for solar panels	4
Agree with plans for pop-up spaces	3
Agree with plans for flexible spaces	2
Unsure about plans for flexible spaces	2
Unsure about plans for pop-up spaces	1
Space for pop-up stalls is too small	1
Spaces must be used regularly	1
Should be performances from schools/community groups	1
Unsure whether spaces will be bookable	1
Should be moved to an indoor area e.g. Guildhall	1
Unsure how solar panels will work without sun	1
Should be signage to explain how solar panels work	1
Should be a learning station	1
Want more shelter	1
Concerned flexible spaces will encourage skateboarding	1
Want grass for picnics	1
Want a crazy golf course	1
Want a cinema	1

Number of respondents	5
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7.8.4 Seating and Cycling

Theme	Number
Agree with plans for seating	4
Concerned about conflict between pedestrians and cyclists	4
Agree with plans for cycling and walking routes	3
Want covered/indoor seating	2
Must keep cycle and pedestrian paths separate	2
Want communal seating	1
Walking path should be narrow	1
Number of respondents	5

7.8.5 Lighting and CCTV

Theme	Number
Agree with plans for lighting and CCTV	5
Will make people feel safer	2
Will encourage more people to use the centre at night	1
Will prevent drug dealing	1
Number of respondents	5

7.8.6 General Comments

Theme	Number
Want more shelter for homeless	3
Want construction finished as soon as possible	1
Want more dog litter and waste bins	1
Want better drainage	1
Number of respondents	5

7.9 Play village cross tabulated data

7.9.1 Question 8 – From the list below, please select why you would be interested in a play village in the city centre? / How many children (0-17 years of age) live in your household?

	Number	%
With children	375	25.0%
Without children	1128	75.0%
Total	1503	100%

Response	Children		No children		Total		Var.
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
a) I am a parent of young children who would use it	215	57.3%	9	0.8%	224	14.9%	56.5%
b) I am a carer of children who would benefit from it	15	4.0%	21	1.9%	36	2.4%	2.1%
c) I am a grandparent and would take my grandchildren there	15	4.0%	203	18.0%	218	14.5%	-14.0%
d) I am an educator that would benefit from having somewhere to take the children I teach	11	2.9%	15	1.3%	26	1.7%	1.6%
e) I am a business owner and my customers would use it	10	2.7%	12	1.1%	22	1.5%	1.6%
f) I'm not interested in it and wouldn't use it	76	20.3%	613	54.3%	689	45.8%	-34.1%
Other	72	19.2%	330	29.3%	402	26.7%	-10.1%
Total	375	100.0%	1128	100.0%	1503	100.0%	0.0%

7.9.2 Question 14 – What do you like most about the proposed play village? / How many children (0-17 years of age) live in your household

Response	Children		No children		Total		Var.
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Generally supportive of plans	28	13.3%	83	20.5%	111	18.0%	-7.3%
Don't like plans/not interested	12	5.7%	57	14.1%	69	11.2%	-8.4%
Variety of facilities/ equipment	21	10.0%	29	7.2%	50	8.1%	2.8%
Will attract people to the city centre	21	10.0%	27	6.7%	48	7.8%	3.3%
Children/families have been considered	14	6.6%	32	7.9%	46	7.5%	-1.3%
Good size	21	10.0%	25	6.2%	46	7.5%	3.8%
Suitable for variety of ages	17	8.1%	24	5.9%	41	6.7%	2.1%
Adults can sit/chat/shop whilst children play	16	7.6%	22	5.4%	38	6.2%	2.1%
Environmentally friendly/green areas/sustainable materials	13	6.2%	24	5.9%	37	6.0%	0.2%
Vandalism/lack of maintenance a concern	6	2.8%	30	7.4%	36	5.9%	-4.6%
Looks good/ natural/ unique	12	5.7%	17	4.2%	29	4.7%	1.5%
Allows children to play/ socialise/ exercise	11	5.2%	14	3.5%	25	4.1%	1.7%
Too large	4	1.9%	20	5.0%	24	3.9%	-3.1%
Safe space for kids/families	6	2.8%	17	4.2%	23	3.7%	-1.4%
Good location/layout	8	3.8%	11	2.7%	19	3.1%	1.1%
Need more seating	1	0.5%	13	3.2%	14	2.3%	-2.7%
Water jets	6	2.8%	8	2.0%	14	2.3%	0.9%
Open space	5	2.4%	8	2.0%	13	2.1%	0.4%
Pirate Ship/nautical theme	7	3.3%	6	1.5%	13	2.1%	1.8%
Play area shouldn't be in shopping/dining area	1	0.5%	12	3.0%	13	2.1%	-2.5%
Accessibility/catered for disabled people	6	2.8%	6	1.5%	12	2.0%	1.4%
Sensory area	4	1.9%	8	2.0%	12	2.0%	-0.1%
Gates to prevent children wandering off	7	3.3%	3	0.7%	10	1.6%	2.6%
Good for business	4	1.9%	5	1.2%	9	1.5%	0.7%
Diversity and inclusion	3	1.4%	5	1.2%	8	1.3%	0.2%
Weather should be taken into account	5	2.4%	3	0.7%	8	1.3%	1.6%
Will bring life to the centre	1	0.5%	6	1.5%	7	1.1%	-1.0%
Repurposed chess boards	3	1.4%	3	0.7%	6	1.0%	0.7%
Unsafe/area for rough sleepers	1	0.5%	4	1.0%	5	0.8%	-0.5%
Climbing frame	3	1.4%	1	0.2%	4	0.7%	1.2%
Lack of detail in the plans	0	0.0%	4	1.0%	4	0.7%	-1.0%
Unsure of how accessible it will be for disabled people	1	0.5%	3	0.7%	4	0.7%	-0.3%
Ensure adequate CCTV/lighting	1	0.5%	3	0.7%	4	0.7%	-0.3%
Ambitious	1	0.5%	2	0.5%	3	0.5%	0.0%
Link between station and Hoe	1	0.5%	2	0.5%	3	0.5%	0.0%
Lack of greenery	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	2	0.3%	-0.5%
Lack of toilet facilities	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	2	0.3%	-0.5%
Lots of play equipment	1	0.5%	1	0.2%	2	0.3%	0.2%
Will enhance the area	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	2	0.3%	-0.5%
Shops should be improved first	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	-0.2%
Wants café for parents	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.5%
Will make area safer	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	-0.2%
Number of respondents	211	100.0%	404	100.0%	615	100.0%	

7.9.3 Question 15 – What would you add to or change about the proposed play village? / How many children (0-17 years of age) live in your household?

Theme	Response	Children		No children		Total		Var.
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Maintenance	Ensure adequate maintenance	19	14.1%	47	14.2%	66	14.2%	-0.1%
	Measures to prevent vandalism e.g. robust materials	18	13.3%	37	11.2%	55	11.8%	2.2%
	CCTV/police presence	10	7.4%	27	8.2%	37	7.9%	-0.7%
	Total Maintenance	47	34.8%	111	33.5%	158	33.9%	1.3%
Additions/Improvements	Sheltered/ shaded area	16	11.9%	30	9.1%	46	9.9%	2.8%
	More greenery	8	5.9%	29	8.8%	37	7.9%	-2.8%
	Seating	11	8.1%	13	3.9%	24	5.2%	4.2%
	Activities for disabled children	5	3.7%	12	3.6%	17	3.6%	0.1%
	Public toilets/changing area	9	6.7%	5	1.5%	14	3.0%	5.2%
	Quiet area for adults	1	0.7%	11	3.3%	12	2.6%	-2.6%
	Area for teens	7	5.2%	4	1.2%	11	2.4%	4.0%
	Add café/dining space	2	1.5%	7	2.1%	9	1.9%	-0.6%
	Bins	5	3.7%	4	1.2%	9	1.9%	2.5%
	Traditional play equipment e.g. slide, swings	7	5.2%	2	0.6%	9	1.9%	4.6%
	Outdoor gym	4	3.0%	4	1.2%	8	1.7%	1.8%
	Water play area/make larger	4	3.0%	4	1.2%	8	1.7%	1.8%
	More open areas/less enclosed spaces	4	3.0%	4	1.2%	8	1.7%	1.8%
	Wooden animals (as in past)	3	2.2%	5	1.5%	8	1.7%	0.7%
	More trees for shade	1	0.7%	6	1.8%	7	1.5%	-1.1%
	Make the fountain/ water features safer	2	1.5%	5	1.5%	7	1.5%	0.0%
	Protections for children with sensory overload	4	3.0%	3	0.9%	7	1.5%	2.1%
	Skate park	5	3.7%	2	0.6%	7	1.5%	3.1%
	No changes	0	0.0%	7	2.1%	7	1.5%	-2.1%
	Area for picnic tables	1	0.7%	5	1.5%	6	1.3%	-0.8%
	More interesting design/unique to Plymouth	1	0.7%	5	1.5%	6	1.3%	-0.8%
	Well lit	1	0.7%	4	1.2%	5	1.1%	-0.5%
	Use timber from felled trees	0	0.0%	3	0.9%	3	0.6%	-0.9%
	Small zip wire	0	0.0%	3	0.9%	3	0.6%	-0.9%
	Keep cyclists separate to pedestrians	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	2	0.4%	-0.6%
	Involve 'Make Space for Girls'	2	1.5%	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	1.5%
	Pushchair parking	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Change materials (ie. Avoid wood)	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Incorporate education on nature/species	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Larger sensory area	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Defibrillator	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Sandpit	1	0.7%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.7%
	Pop-up stalls	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Bug hotel/bird boxes	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Total Additions/Improvements	104	77.0%	186	56.2%	290	62.2%	20.8%

Theme	Response	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Number/Size/Location	Make it smaller	9	6.7%	75	22.7%	84	18.0%	-
	Don't need more play areas	3	2.2%	35	10.6%	38	8.2%	-8.4%
	Make it bigger	1	0.7%	2	0.6%	3	0.6%	0.1%
	Alternative location (eg. More centrally on Armada Way, or in a undercover shopping centre)	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	2	0.4%	-0.6%
	Total Number/Size/Location	13	9.6%	114	34.4%	127	27.3%	24.8%
Negative	Fencing to keep dogs out and children in	9	6.7%	11	3.3%	20	4.3%	3.3%
	No sandpit	2	1.5%	6	1.8%	8	1.7%	-0.3%
	Less trees/avoid translocation	1	0.7%	5	1.5%	6	1.3%	-0.8%
	Remove water jets	2	1.5%	2	0.6%	4	0.9%	0.9%
	Scrap it if too expensive	1	0.7%	3	0.9%	4	0.9%	-0.2%
	Address wind tunnel	1	0.7%	2	0.6%	3	0.6%	0.1%
	Anti-skateboarding features	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	-0.3%
	Don't allow marketing people	1	0.7%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.7%
	Remove auditorium seating	1	0.7%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.7%
	Avoid straight lines in the design	1	0.7%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.7%
	Total Negative	19	14.1%	30	9.1%	49	10.5%	5.0%
Total	Number of respondents	135	100.0%	331	100.0%	466	100.0%	0.0%

7.10 Cycling cross tabulated data

Question 23 – Please state any other feedback relating to cyclists, the proposed cycle path and mobility hub? How do you usually travel to Armada Way?

Response	a. Bus		b. Cycle		c. Delivery vehicle		d. Moped / motorbike		e. Private car (driver)		f. Private car (passenger)		g. Scooter/skate		h. Taxi or private hire vehicle (driver)		i. Taxi or private hire vehicle (passenger)		j. Train		k. Walk		l. Walk with a pushchair/buggy/pram etc.		m. Wheelchair / Mobilityaid		Other		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Against cycle path	34	10.9%	4	3.9%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	35	11.0%	8	8.9%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	3	21.4%	2	8.0%	21	6.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	18.2%	68	10.2%
Ban skateboarding/cyclists	2	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.9%
Beryl bikes too expensive	5	1.6%	2	2.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	1.0%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	8.0%	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	0.9%
Bike racks should have shelter	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Charge on e-bikes	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Clear areas at junctions where pedestrians and cyclists cross	9	2.9%	1	1.0%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.7%	2	2.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12	1.8%
Clear signage / clearly marked paths	27	8.7%	23	22.5%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	24	8.0%	7	7.8%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	2	8.0%	38	11.8%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	1	9.1%	65	9.8%
Code of conduct for cyclists	3	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	0	0.0%	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	0.9%
Concern of outdoor seating of businesses blocking cycle path	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cycle path should be connected to other cycle paths	6	1.9%	8	7.8%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	10	3.3%	2	2.2%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	12.0%	8	2.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	22	3.3%
Cycle path should be placed more central on Armada Way	1	0.3%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Cycle path should be sufficiently wide	7	2.3%	9	8.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	2.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	2.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	18	2.7%
Cycle path should have a curved path	3	1.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.7%	3	3.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	12.0%	7	2.2%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	0	0.0%	12	1.8%
Cycling is currently very difficult	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Cycling is unsafe for pedestrians	52	16.7%	9	8.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	40	13.3%	17	18.9%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	3	21.4%	1	4.0%	40	12.3%	0	0.0%	2	10.0%	3	27.3%	91	13.7%
Cyclists and e-bikes too fast	30	9.6%	4	3.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	26	8.7%	10	11.1%	0	0.0%	3	21.4%	3	12.0%	24	7.5%	0	0.0%	2	10.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	57	8.6%
Cyclists don't stick to cycle lanes	32	10.3%	4	3.9%	0	0.0%	2	20.0%	31	10.3%	9	10.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	21.4%	1	4.0%	23	7.2%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	57	8.6%
Cyclists should have a number plate	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Cyclists should have to dismount and walk through centre	6	1.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	2.7%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	2.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	18.2%	15	2.3%
Cyclists and pedestrians shouldn't mix/ clear separation	66	21.2%	13	12.7%	0	0.0%	2	20.0%	55	18.3%	15	16.7%	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	2	14.3%	3	12.0%	62	19.3%	2	28.6%	2	10.0%	2	18.2%	124	18.6%
Do not use granite setts	0	0.0%	2	2.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Educate pedestrians and cyclists on cycling rules	2	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.8%
Ensure accessibility / protection for elderly and disabled	24	7.7%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	21	7.0%	8	8.9%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	0	0.0%	20	6.2%	0	0.0%	7	35.0%	1	9.1%	39	5.9%
Ensure cyclists stick to lanes	15	4.8%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	23	7.7%	6	6.7%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	2	8.0%	13	4.0%	0	0.0%	4	20.0%	0	0.0%	37	5.6%
Extend across city and beyond / create more cycle routes	4	1.3%	5	4.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	2.0%	3	3.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%	7	2.2%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	0	0.0%	16	2.4%
Install canopy and shade cover	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Lack of safe crossing points for pedestrians across cycle lane	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Lack of space for a cycle lane	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Measures to address people abandoning Beryl Bikes	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Path should be straight	3	1.0%	2	2.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	2	2.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%	6	1.9%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	9	1.4%
Paving must be flat	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Pedestrian path should be wider	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.5%
Pedestrians should have priority over cyclists	10	3.2%	4	3.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	3.3%	2	2.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%	9	2.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	9.1%	23	3.5%
Penalties / enforcement measures for those who speed / don't stick to path	4	1.3%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	13	4.3%	4	4.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	9	2.8%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	0	0.0%	21	3.2%
Problem with delivery bike riders (too many, they cycle dangerously)	20	6.4%	9	8.8%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	28	9.3%	6	6.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	4	16.0%	26	8.1%	1	14.3%	2	10.0%	2	18.2%	55	8.3%
Public pumps and bike repair stands	1	0.3%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Recharging point for ebikes	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Remove Beryl bikes	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Requires areas to be policed / monitored	15	4.8%	3	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	22	7.3%	3	3.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	14.3%	1	4.0%	19	5.9%	0	0.0%	4	20.0%	0	0.0%	39	5.9%
Risk assessment of cycle path and mobility hub should be published	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	2	18.2%	2	0.3%
Rubbish collection points for cyclists	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Secure bike racks	16	5.1%	13	12.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	14	4.7%	3	3.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	17	5.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	29	4.4%
Should be considered a shared path	4	1.3%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	0.9%
Should use robust tarmac	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Speed limit / bumps for bikes / e-bikes / scooters	24	7.7%	3	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	10.0%	29	9.7%	8	8.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%												

7.11 Transcripts of meetings with representative organisations and groups

7.11.1 Interview with Stuart Elford of Chamber of Commerce, 16th November

Rowan Cole (ECF)

So the first one is any thoughts about the steps the council is planning to take around enhancing the nature and greenery in the area. So basically, what do you think the additional trees? Do you have any views on the existing trees translocation?

Stuart Elford

I'm all positive and completely support the nature side of it.

Rowan Cole

I think the purpose behind the Play village is to draw younger families so they've got a little bit of a space for respite when they're shopping. Do you have any thoughts about it?

Stuart Elford

I don't have kids, even older ones. So no, I wouldn't use it, but I'd strongly support it.

Anything that brings families into the city centre has got to be a good thing, because we all know that city centres around the country are dying.

Rowan Cole

What is your view of the subsystem?

Stuart Elford

Yeah, completely for it. I think it's brilliant as long as it's well maintained.

There was a previous water system through Plymouth. I don't know how long it worked for, but then for years it's it basically became a rat run, a literal rat run because there was no water going through it.

Rowan Cole

Have you got feedback regarding the cycle path and the mobility hub?

Stuart Elford

I have got a friend who was knocked over by a cyclist in the city centre and was actually quite badly injured – broke her shoulder, and they do go through there at speed.

So I support sustainable transport as long as the safety issues are properly considered.

Rowan Cole

So any generic feedback, around if there's anything in particular like seating, pop up space, what pop up spaces could be used for, the lighting and CCTV, anything like that or anything you know specifically from a business perspective that you think is either positive or negative about the scheme that we could look at feeding back to Plymouth.

Stuart Elford

I support the pop-up areas, and seating has always been an issue. I used to work in the city centre, and you'd go and buy yourself a sandwich and you can't find anywhere to sit. So sort of walking around with a sandwich in your hand like, well, where do I sit? So I support all the seating.

Rowan Cole

And then the other examples I had here were around lighting and CCTV.

Stuart Elford

Yes, proper appropriate security and lighting will make the city centre feel safe at night and encourage people to use it in the evening.

So the night time evening economy is really important, but if a place is dark and distillate and unsafe, they won't come in.

Rowan Cole

And then if there's anything else that springs to mind, now's the chance.

Stuart Elford

The only thing is I've got a very vocal member who's very lovely guy, but he's very vocal about deliveries and during the works he's really, really struggled with getting deliveries to his shop to the point that he's lost a lot of money by deliveries just turning around and going off.

7.11.2 Interview with Hugh Janes on behalf of Environment Plymouth, 22nd November

Hugh Janes

Who is going to be maintaining new trees because they require at least five years of maintenance. And what's happened in the past is that trees, new trees have been planted saplings. And then they've just been left. And of course the rate of disease or death is higher than it than it needs to be, and if the trees are properly maintained and watered, I mean, watering is obviously a key thing you got to try a dry period after planting then this is going to wreck them straight away and they need a lot of water. So 70 litres a week for a small tree would be a minimum.

Tudor Evans, the councillor has always said, I will not be taking down any trees, and the fact that they're taking down 6 trees for no real reason... I mean, it just needs an amendment, slight amendment to the design for these trees to be preserved. There's, good trees and mature trees. And we feel that there's that they should be kept. There is no reason. There's no justification for moving them because they've already altered the design from the previous one, and so there's no reason why the design shouldn't be amended again.

A friend years ago told me about the infestation of rats in the old water system. And I'm just sort of wondering if it's been mentioned as to what's likely to happen.

The majority of people recognise that that rodents are a hazard and a problem, and so simple dispersal doesn't seem to be the sensible way of going about it. So it's a question that's come up as to what the policy will be on how they're going to deal with them because they're going to find them.

The inclusion of a tree of life in the planting is worrying because it doesn't have a good reputation. It's in the European plant protection organisations top 25 of alien invasive species.

So yeah, it's called alianthus, but I don't know. I didn't look it up, so I don't know what it looks like.

7.11.3 Interview with Luke Pollard MP, 15th November (notes)

Nature and Greenery: Luke Pollard MP (LP) said he liked that more trees and older trees are being planted

He is concerned with translocation, however, citing that 4 out of 5 trees are killed in translocation and the surviving 20 per cent rapidly deteriorate

He understands their need to be moved for the scheme, but wants a commitment to planting more trees when the translocated ones inevitably die (e.g. 25 new trees for every translocated tree that dies)

He proposed publicly acknowledging that trees die in translocation and making this commitment to avoid critics and turn weakness into strength

Rowan Cole of ECF (RC) noted that the translocation assessment has been uploaded to the website but that feedback is welcome

LP also raised the planting in the piazza

He noted the many activities that happen there and raised the concern that it will turn into a muddy pit, therefore it will require maintenance which comes at a high cost

He also noted that most people don't see the piazza as part of Armada Way, and he hasn't had any emails mentioning trees in the piazza, therefore it may be an unnecessary cost given lack of demand

Play Village: LP said it is good to have a large play area and liked the '5 tennis courts' measure of size

RC asked if LP liked the 'catch-all' approach of targeting all ages

LP said that teens won't play alongside older kids – the play village is seemingly for primary school kids and below

If teens are being targeted, there needs to be more adventure play (e.g. zip wires)

He also raised a concern over potential vandalism in the evenings

SuDS: LP said he loved the inclusion of a SuDS system

He raised a concern over the upkeep of the wetlands

He is also concerned about the sequencing of the system, the maintenance required and its cost

Cycle Path and Mobility Hub: LP said he likes Berryl Bikes and that Mayflower Street is a reasonable location

However, the current area being proposed is outside a derelict building, hence when there is inevitably construction work on building in future the bikes will have to be moved, therefore they should be relocated now

He said the mobility hub was ambitiously named given it is just for bikes

He said that cyclists won't stick to cycle route – they'll take quickest route

There are also areas for cyclist-pedestrian conflict built into the scheme, for which mitigations should be made

His suggestions were for clear signage, physical obstructions and breaking up the straight line nature of the path – otherwise everyone will ride down the middle of the street and people will get hit (LP seemed particularly aggrieved about this aspect of the scheme)

He also asked for more space for bikes at the bottom of the scheme, near the civic centre (which he noted has been deleted from the map on the plans)

Finally, he noted that the proposals do not show alternative locations for Berryl Bikes

Additional Thoughts: LP noted there are lots of parts of the scheme (e.g. seating) that skateboarders will likely want to skate on, hence there should be mitigations for this He also noted that people have raised concerns over dark areas which may make people feel unsafe at night

He suggested looking at T-shaped LED lighting as the current lighting isn't too bright He said that people have raised questions about the sundial – RC clarified that the seats with flags won't be removed

LP raised concerns over sequencing – the scheme is starting in an area that people don't care about as much

May be better to start in Southern part of scheme (e.g. between Cornwall Street and New George Street) as people will realise positive impacts of scheme immediately, therefore relieving pressure on council

Or – it could be clearly communicated that the scheme will be introduced in phases to keep people from getting impatient

He also mentioned that people don't like the inability to go and see the scheme in person

A final issue raised was that the scheme only deals with what's on the ground and not on the surrounding buildings, many of which are derelict

Therefore, the aspiration for these buildings should perhaps be addressed

7.11.4 Ray Robins, Chair of the Market Traders Association (MTA) Interview on 17 November 2023.

ECF

What are your thoughts about the steps the Council would like to take to enhance nature and greenery in the Scheme?

Ray Robins

I represent traders and shop keepers; there's probably 200 traders and I don't know anyone that would object to those trees being moved. Nobody has come to me that is against the scheme.

We will be guided by the experts in terms of nature and greenery.

The Council are being proactive with climate change and that's supported. It would be our job to hold them to account if it doesn't work.

ECF

What impact do you feel the proposed play village could have on the city centre and how do you feel about it?

Ray Robins

It's going to be another reason to come into the city centre as children don't like shopping, so parents can take their children there which should increase dwell time. It would be an added offer.

No input into the design of the play village as we're not experts.

ECF

What is your understanding of the SuDS system?

Ray Robins

No feedback

ECF

Please give any feedback you have regarding the cycle path and mobility hub.

Ray Robins

Broadly looked at it and it's mainly an issue of safety, there are concerns about the speeds of electric bikes and especially if they have to cross the path of children.

ECF

Before we finish, please let me know about any other aspects of the scheme you'd like to feed back on.

Ray Robins

If you enhance an area you should get less anti-social behaviour. It's a problem with every city, it's something no-one has a long term answer to.

The top end of town seems to be doing OK, but there's no connection with the centre but hopefully a £15M investment might address that problem.

The footprint of Plymouth city centre is huge, so it's important to connect it to all other parts.

Need to improve accessibility and parking too, to encourage people into the city centre.

Generally, the MTA is supportive of the Scheme and the only reservation everyone has is the maintenance programme. Maintenance will be essential to stop it looking shoddy and to stop litter collecting in the reeds etc.

The streets aren't being swept or cleaned enough, and it will be key to keep the new scheme looking clean due to its styling.

Investment into any scheme is a step in the right direction and should encourage private landlords to invest in the buildings/units.

7.11.5 Interview with Steve Hughes of PCCC, 23rd November

Louise Bradley (ECF)

So what are your thoughts around the new scheme and the steps the Council are taking to try and enhance nature and greenery on Armada Way?

Hughes, Steve

So the fact that they're putting in more trees I think shows that they have listened to what was what was said about the trees.

The trees in the central section needed to come out because we felt that central section acted as a barrier rather than a walkway.

It did attract antisocial behaviour and it was a bit of a no-go area at night.

The antisocial behaviour is bad, the litter is bad, the safety for women at night is bad.

But yeah, I think generally we welcome the planting of additional trees.

We welcome the pledge to plant more trees elsewhere in the city centre.

We also were pleased to see some of the trees are semi mature. So they're not, they're not just saplings and little sticks.

I especially liked the sort of avenue of trees they're talking about creating by the library with the idea that the canopies will coalesce over time to form an archway.

So yeah, I think overall we're really pleased.

Louise Bradley

OK, so let's move on to the play village. What's PCCC's view on this and the view from most of the businesses that you've spoken to?

Hughes, Steve

From the city centre company point of view, we welcome it. I think it's exactly what we need.

I know there are some people who have said why do we need to play area in the heart of the city centre? Why can't it be on the edge or something? But I think it's exactly right.

Armada Way is a lovely wide street, so there's plenty of room, and we want a diverse High Street with more homes, more people living in the city centre.

Clearly it would need to be properly maintained.

We need good CCTV coverage for protection against vandalism and the wrong kind of people getting in there or getting in that area.

But we want to attract families back into the city centre, and that was the problem with Armada Way previously and I've said yes, this will be this will be great for us because people will pop in and get a coffee and a or a tea or something and then take the kids to the park.

It shouldn't just be for toddlers. You know there should be places, just that you can sit and have a sandwich on a sunny day. So it doesn't have to be all about activity, it can just be a nice space, yeah.

Louise Bradley

So you know that the new design involves the inclusion of a SuDS to deal with the city's rainwater. What's the feedback around that and what's the understanding of how that works?

Hughes, Steve

None of us are engineers, but we've had we had a good discussion with this with some of our directors and you know it's hard not to see the benefits really.

So I think from what we've been told, from what we understand, we think it's a good idea to future proof the city for future development.

So if we do get more housing, if we do get more buildings in the city centre, at least we've got the infrastructure to cope with it.

Louise Bradley

And what about the cycle path and the mobility hub?

Hughes, Steve

At the moment, lots of people avoid Plymouth. They'll go round the edges, but so we want them to come into the city centre, park their bikes and spend some money in our businesses.

So yeah, I think it's a really good idea to get that walking and cycling from the railway station right through the centre of the city centre up to the Hoe and wherever they want to go from there.

We do think there'll need to be a program of education for how cyclists should behave. We do think there should be cameras that monitor it and we do think that should be necessary. There should be a clear strategy about enforcement. Just Eat people on electric bikes, which go too fast.

Louise Bradley

And what about other elements of the scheme? So for instance, lighting and CCTV.

Hughes, Steve

Again, hugely, hugely welcome, one of the problems with the current CCTV was the fact that it was all obscured by the trees.

But the new performance space, for instance, we want to put on entertainment events and activities in Armada Way and opening up the space gives us the opportunity to do that.

Louise Bradley

And what about those performance spaces there? And how would you see those and improving dwell time in the city centre or creating opportunities for businesses as well?

Hughes, Steve

Originally we said we would like another performance space further up Armada way because you could take advantage of the natural slope to create that sort of Amphitheatre effect. So you've got natural stone seating and then what that enables us to do is you can put anything on from a bit of busking to a full scale theatrical performance.

And we do quite a lot of work with the Barbican Theatre at the moment, and we've already had really good feedback from the Theatre Royal who say they want to do more. They actually want to come out in the community and make the arts and culture accessible to everyone and that's really important for us in terms of attracting different audiences because as you know, Theatre Royal is incredibly expensive.

Louise Bradley

And some of the feedback we've had around that today has been one of the aspects to take into consideration in those performance outdoor spaces is the weather. If it's really hot in the summer or when it rains a lot, what would be done to be able to erect shelter very quickly in those performance spaces? Is there anything around that that you've talked about in the city centre company?

Hughes, Steve

And so I'm not an expert in this area, but we have had feedback from people like Mark who said, look, there's no point creating performance space without talking to events managers and events producers. So we would urge the Council to do that and not just with people like Mark, but with people like Theatre Royal and the Barbican Theatre.

It should probably have water as well, although the council seem to be a bit dubious about that.

I think a lot of these events companies are very good at putting up temporary outdoor structures, but anything that could facilitate that, would be welcomed.

Is there a way you can put up a fairly low cost canopy or canopies?

Louise Bradley

Is there anything else on different aspects of the scheme, such as the flexible spaces that you want to feed back?

Hughes, Steve

And I don't necessarily agree with this, but a few people are saying it's a bit too bland, still a bit too much. Could we have a bit more grass?

I think the city centre company's overall view is that we need we need a clean, tidy, well-designed scheme that is easy to keep clean and maintained.

We don't want a tree here and a tree there and lots of wiggly lines because in the morning we want to come through with the street cleaning machines and clean it all really efficiently.

I don't think we would have any objection to just very simple public space with not too much, just some places to sit on the grass or do cartwheels or hand stands.

So I don't think everything has to be full of plants full of trees or paving, it could just be a small area of grass. You don't have to fill every little bit of it with clutter.

Louise Bradley

And what's the view there on encouraging in new businesses or encouraging the landlords to spend money on the buildings?

Hughes, Steve

You know, you get a few rundown buildings and then suddenly the whole area becomes rundown. So this comes back to the diversity of the High Street. So potential for private apartments on upper floors, maybe a hotel, maybe some more leisure, that kind of thing.

So, the city centre companies view is that the first step has to be to improve the public spaces. That will then give developers and investors the confidence to say, OK, we see what's coming or we see what you've done.

So we believe the new look on model will unlock future investment, but would like an urgent and robust approach in dealing with empty and neglected buildings especially Mayflower House and the block owned by a EW and what we mean by that is they've been a bit too lenient with some of these property owners.

I think you can issue a landlord with an untidy site notice and there can be quite severe penalties if they don't tidy it up. So I think what we're urging is, look, if this guy who's bought Mayflower house doesn't want to get on and develop it, we've got to get him out.

Louise Bradley

Is there anything else, Steve, before we finish that you feel you want to cover off?

Hughes, Steve

They've either got to provide more housing and or more detail, and they've certainly got to be able to move all this sleeping stuff out of the doorways of shops because it just creates a horrible, horrible impression.

And then I think the only other thing is we welcome plans for more outdoor seating for businesses and pop-up trading, but we need high quality.

So we'd urge the Council to draw up a design code, so in other words, we don't want just lots of cheap burger bars.

7.11.6 Interview with Richard Sroka of Plymouth Civic Society, 22nd November

Rowan Cole (ECF)

I think it would be appropriate for you to advise on what you want to discuss.

Richard Sroka (Guest)

Well, let's take two, seating and cycling.

I think that seating to accommodate those kinds of little informal groups who have nothing to do with the play area, just so that they can gather as they used to might be something to consider.

And an area where people could gather for games. I mean, not children. But you know, adults such as chess or other games – that might be something to be considered.

The other thing on cycling. I'm sensitive to, you know, the idea of the cycling pedestrian mix.

And one of the questions says I wouldn't use the cycle path. Well, I certainly wouldn't use the cycle path as a pedestrian, but I would hope that cyclists wouldn't want to use pedestrian paths. So, I would say avoid mixed use as part as a safety feature as much as you can.

Consideration is important for people with disabilities.

There was something sinister that the old Armada away with the previous trees actually made certain areas kind of dangerous, you know, for drugs and so on.

Question 27 is like a whole list of what's good about it. And I think it will be more welcoming. It'd be a greener space. It will be safer. I mean, what's not to like there?

Rowan Cole

I would assume that your membership would have views on the play Village and other aspects of the scheme, because that's what we're after here [views from the group as a collective].

Richard Sroka (Guest)

They will do it and they'll be putting them through and through their own organizations.

Rowan Cole

So the purpose of this meeting is obviously to hear the views of the Civic Society as a whole rather than individual views.

7.11.7 Interview with Plymouth Cycling Campaign, 21st November

Louise Bradley (ECF)

So in terms of the new proposed scheme, I just wondered what your thoughts are as a representative of your group, around the Council's steps towards nature and greenery within the new proposal?

Andy Whitby

When we looked at your website and noticed that these trees might have to be translocated it kind of muddies the waters somewhat.

But I think the problem being basically that this is in context quite a small cycle path, and its already kind of twisty turny, and it's just like rooted around the trees. So if it was not necessary, don't remove the trees, please.

Louise Bradley

So in terms of the translocation, it's really you would prefer that the cycle path was rooted around trees rather than trees being moved in the name of the cycle path?

Andy Whitby

Yes, especially as it's such a sort of small piece of infrastructure and already quite twisty turny.

Louise Bradley

So what's your feedback around the proposed nature of the cycle path and the mobility hub as well?

Andy Whitby

So I think the first thing we looked at was the width of the path. You might not have straightforward bikes on there, but you might have recumbent trikes, cargo bikes, all things that require more, more width. And also, you know there will be a difference of speeds along that path as well. So yeah, that would be our contention there.

And then the second one would be the crossing of Mayflower Street. What is the intention there, will there be a Pelican cross or toucan crossing or something like that?

A similar question is around the Cornwall St. What happens that because it kind of appears to be a diamond pattern on the plan. But again, it's not really clear what actually happens there and how the interaction happens?

And then it's bike racks. I don't know if that's where the Beryl bikes are going, our preference would be for bike racks down through the actual path. So obviously you're not limited to where you're getting on and off or where you're leaving your bike.

And then another one that it's very much more to do with the bikes themselves. So the bends are quite steeply angled. And especially with the current width, we're wondering about the geometry. The geometry of the bikes is different. And obviously, we'd like to make sure that all bikes are able to use that.

And we do worry about the actual the angles on those chicanes. Ideally, you'd be wanting a straight path if you were looking at LTN.

So I did notice that it does mention that the trees will only come down to a certain kind of height, so you will have sightlines, but there's kind of hedging. And then you got hedging on top of that, and you know, we're worrying about planting, getting in the way of sightlines.

The path... It's kind of this path that's there and then it just ends. So it's kind of not really tied into the city centre as a whole. I kind of get why because obviously it's part of a development. But when you get to that end, I guessed bikes just blend in again into a shared space.

An argument there, obviously commuter bikes and the commercial riders would want a path that they can ride along. That was concerned about the multiple potential interactions on the way down through the path with pedestrians. So obviously you know with those multiple interactions that's going to be speed up, slow down, speed up, slow down, stop, to avoid hitting people which nobody wants to do.

Louise Bradley

What's an effective way to deal with speed on cycle paths, considering that it would be for people of all abilities?

Andy Whitby

Other than the geometry of different bikes and the fact it is a two way path and it is bounded by water and sort of some steel barriers for much of its length. Because you'll have speed differential on there. If people can pass on the road, you know if people can pass safely, then everybody's safe.

Louise Bradley

Are there is there any sort of preferred way of waymarking that you feel should be put forward as part of this scheme?

Andy Whitby

Well, from what I see the whole the path is fairly obvious. It's a shared space, it's a shared responsibility. Just making people aware that they are crossing a bike path.

Louise Bradley

And what about other aspects of the scheme that make it usable, such as lighting and CCTV?

Andy Whitby

If you're leaving your bike there, yeah, it was always going to make people feel safer if you got good lighting.

Louise Bradley

Part of this scheme is a proposed play village. Is there any feedback around that element as well?

Andy Whitby

My kids are 25 and 30. So you know, I did skip that part when I filled in the actual survey myself on a personal level, my only thought on that one is I did see like a boundary and a gate so that children wouldn't be able to nearly wander out of the play area into the path of a cyclist.

A place for kids, who wouldn't want that?

When I was looking at it as a whole, it seemed to be trying to fit an awful lot into quite a small space there, are you trying to fit too much in a small area?

Louise Bradley

Is there any other feedback you have about the scheme as a whole?

Andy Whitby

Not as a cycling organisation, no. You know, we've tried to keep it limited to cycling.

Andy Whitby (post-interview)

The estimated number of cycle movements obviously falls in the less than 300 bracket and therefore path would be of the lesser width (3m) according to our interpretation of LTN 1/20 but that is still wider than planned as per our original submission.

Regarding e-bikes and some of the less than compliant versions that seem to be prevalent, it would seem that more enforcement would be useful generally, before the problem gets worse.

Otherwise, there were observations of other cities and towns that some members have been to recently in Europe that are embracing active travel as the preferred mode of travel and making obvious investments in cycling infrastructure accordingly. Obviously, this a wider issue but worth passing on to our council generally.

7.11.8 Interview with Penny Tarrant of Plymouth Tree People, 22nd November

Penny Tarrant

Obviously, you've read our statement. Since that time we've asked for various bits of information. In essence, we don't feel that we've had the information that we requested.

Rowan Cole (ECF)

So we're only as good as the information we get from the City Council, and likewise the information that's fed back from you.

So I know for example on budgets because it's come up a couple of times that until there's a final scheme, Plymouth City Council can't provide an exact budget for maintenance, for example.

However, all the requests that you've sent us will have been passed along and any information that has come back to us will have been either sent back to your published online and we would have pointed it to you pointed in that direction.

Penny Tarrant

And we really have nothing further to add from our statement of the October 30th, we would have been prepared to add more colour and further detail to that or even shift our position if we felt we'd have the information that we've requested.

Within the information that we've asked for and really I think that's probably the, that's all we need to say at this point, sadly.

We've asked for the detailed rationale for translocating each of the six trees, and we've had a very sketchy and not at all detailed document back, which hasn't really helped to inform our opinion.

Rowan Cole

So at the moment we're in listening mode, we're pulling in as much information as we can. The ECF team will then put together a report with all that information and present that to Plymouth City Council and then it's up to them to then respond or react to the information that comes from that.

Penny Tarrant

OK, you've set out your position. We've set out ours and sadly there's just doesn't seem any point in carrying on really because we can't change our position from what we've already given you because we haven't had any further information back via you from them, City Council.

7.11.9 Interview with James Greenacre of Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) on 21 November 2023

Louise Bradley (ECF)

I wondered if as an organisation you have any feedback around nature and greenery in general for the scheme and as well as what you think of the steps the Council are taking towards enhancing nature and greenery in the scheme?

James Greenacre

The climate crisis is something that we're very in tune with here at TRP, and a key part of our mission and vision and values moving forward is our impact on the environment.

And so, as a stakeholder in the city, we think it's really important that it is addressed.

You know, it obviously has to be considered in the in the Armada Way scheme and I am aware of the rationale behind what has been undertaken and I'm firmly supportive.

As I understand the science behind it, and critically, we need to ensure that the space we are providing to the Community of Plymouth is one that is accessible as well enjoyable, and safe, but one that also adds to the to the environment, rather than detracts from it.

And taking into account the proliferation of the correct flora and fauna, making sure that they've got the right species, etcetera in there is massively important to ensure the longevity.

So what we're trying to do to hit Net Zero collectively.

Louise Bradley

And you'll be aware that the majority of the existing trees are being kept as part of this proposal, and there are six trees which the Council is proposing to translocate because of various reasons.

But it's mainly to do with the fact that they would be in the way potentially of the new SuDS system that's required to deal with rainwater as well as the proposed cycle path.

What are your thoughts around that proposed translocation?

James Greenacre

My thoughts on that are again supportive because it's necessary for the further development of the city centre and it's about being aware of what's happened and what is proposed to be to take place in the future.

It will continue to add to the improved carbon footprint, and it is a positive solution rather than a negative solution to that problem.

Louise Bradley

And there's proposed play village as part of this new scheme as well. What do you feel about that and how, if in any way, it would benefit Theatre Royal?

James Greenacre

I think it would 100% that benefit Theatre Royal.

And I think it would benefit every other user of our city centre and certainly as a parent of two young children myself, having something that would occupy my kids that's free and easily accessible and weatherproof, whilst I'm in town, would be a huge attraction to me actually and would mean using the city centre a lot more as a family.

And so I think looking at the top lens, anything that's getting more youngsters and groups of people into our city centre and whatever that purpose is, is a benefit to everybody because hopefully those kids, hopefully those families will take a wander down and the kids will actually glimpse again with a top lens, they catch a glimpse of the building (Theatre Royal) and go mum and dad, what's that?

And if that sparks a conversation and a passion for them to become either contributors or participants within the performing arts in the future, or just a great advocate and an audience member in the years ahead, then it's obviously a huge benefit for us and ultimately, if a family is spending more time there, even better so.

Louise Bradley

Is there anything in terms of the design of the play village, you feel specifically needs to be taken into account?

James Greenacre

I can't recall the overall designs, but I think the main consideration that I would have, where I was looking at this objectively, would be to ensure that what is provided is accessible to all.

That would be my key takeaway and obviously that materials used are from sustainable sources locally, wherever possible, etcetera, etcetera.

But the key for me, would be that accessibility point to ensure there's no barrier to a youngster or a family.

Louise Bradley

A really important aspect of this scheme, and one which people won't really see because it's underground, it's the new sustainable urban drainage system and it's felt that that's needed to deal with the city centre's rainwater and stop any potential flooding incidents as well.

Is there any feedback around that or anything else that you'd like to explore around that subsystem?

James Greenacre

I think it's just about sustainability and you know providing sustainable options for the city and it's going to provide an enhanced benefit for our constituents as it were.

It sounds to me like a really positive step forward.

If it helps reduce the impacts on the water table, at an immediately local level, then I'm all for it and believe it's a key part of the scheme.

Louise Bradley

And what about the new cycle path that's proposed? What's your feedback, if any around that?

James Greenacre

Again, I'm looking at this with our climate emergency hats on anything that we can do that promotes sustainable methods of transport is a huge positive.

But certainly, if I'm using Beryl bikes, which I have done for commuting, I think it's a huge a huge step forward.

I think it will enable those who are of lower confidence levels to feel that they can use it.

It takes away that fear factor of who has right of way. Is it me or the pedestrian?

And because it provides them with that safe space in which they can learn those nuances.

Louise Bradley

And then just any other feedback really that you want to give in terms of any aspects of the scheme or as an organisation as Theatre Royal, what you're hoping to see come forward from the scheme that will benefit you in any way, shape or form?

James Greenacre

And I think our main, input here is around you know the timeliness of the scheme and you know, we are keen to see as an organisation the improvements made to the city centre of which the schemes are a key part. And we want to see them happen as swiftly and as efficiently as possible for all concerned especially for the impact on the taxpayer, but also on the impact on the end user, you know the sooner the scheme is finished, the sooner the city centre will really be able to accelerate its return from a post COVID environment.

I think we're really keen to see as many physical bodies return to the city centre and you know it's going back to those 2019 levels and beyond we want to see an abundance of younger people in and around our city spending locally, driving our local economy and that's massively important to us because a strong and rising tide lifts all, so a stronger city is a strong region.

It's going to benefit all of us here at TRP, in that if people are seeing our building that otherwise wouldn't do.

So it triggers a memory of 20 years ago when their grandmother took them to their first show or maybe even their last show.

And if it triggers that positive memory means they want to come back, fantastic.

We're really keen to see as we've seen with all of the other projects in and around our city, we're keen to see them reach the positive outcome as quickly as possible to improve and provide the benefits, but also look at the impact they'll have on potential audiences of the future.

Louise Bradley

Actually, there's one thing we didn't cover off which is lighting and part of the proposal of the scheme is to improve lighting and CCTV down Armada Way.

And I'm interested in your feedback around that because obviously it's a key route, isn't it for people to come to Theatre Royal from the train station etc?

James Greenacre

Yeah, absolutely.

And again, anything that's going to improve the accessibility for our patrons and we've touched upon only on those that may cycle, but those that are going to use the bus network or walk or arriving, as you say from Plymouth train station, anything that means that they can then travel from their origin point to TRP and a way that means they feel safer is a major tick in the box.

And I think that's a huge tick in the box irrespective of looking at this from a TRP standpoint or just from someone in the city.

All that we can to make sure that people of any demographic and are able to use the outside world at any time, day or night, they shouldn't feel afraid to do so.

They shouldn't feel that, you know, there's no CCTV coverage, so I'm not going to use that way as part of my evening run when it's dark, because I feel vulnerable.

So the improvement of lighting along that network and improving the provision of CCTV again, I would say as a huge, huge positive.

7.12 Written feedback from organisations and groups

7.12.1 DOCO Plymouth

Good afternoon,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Armada Way regeneration proposals. My role as the Police Designing out Crime Officer (DOCO) for Plymouth is to review the design and layout of new development and provide advice and recommendations on designing out opportunity for crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB). The review also takes into account the Government's strategy to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), as well as other demographics within our communities, to ensure safety in public places. It is a multi-agency approach, involving local authorities, health services, education services and law enforcement.

Crime, fear of crime and ASB are less likely to occur if the following attributes of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) inform the overall design and layout of the proposed regeneration scheme.

Access and movement (Permeability) - Places with well-defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide for convenient movement without compromising security.

The proposed new publicly accessible space and how it will connect with existing pedestrian routes and built form must also be fully considered and take into account the safety and security of legitimate users.

Pedestrian routes must serve a purpose, facilitate natural and safe movement and be designed so they are appropriately observed and look and feel safe, as this is likely to encourage legitimate use and deter unwanted activities and behaviour.

The proposed information boards are much supported. Signage throughout the space should provide clear information, instructions, navigation and wayfinding.

Clear and well positioned 'rule setting' in the form of signage for example can help manage areas and remove excuses from persons when challenged for breaching the rules.

Structure – (Design & Layout) - Places that are structured so that different uses do not cause conflict.

The proposed mixed uses has the potential to create conflict, particularly over ownership, as such there must be clear definition between private and public space.

Surveillance (Natural, Formal & Informal) - Places where all publicly accessible spaces are overlooked.

The proposed upgrades with regard to lighting and CCTV is much supported, as this will enhance surveillance opportunities making legitimate users feel safe and those with criminal intent and the antisocial feel vulnerable at being noticed and observed.

It is recommended that a passport to compliance document is put in place to ensure that the CCTV system is fit for purpose and the needs of the end user are met. CCTV should be sited to maximise coverage and visibility.

Visibility throughout is a key requirement as this will play a significant role in encouraging legitimate use and reducing and deterring crime and unwanted behaviours and activities, providing opportunities to observe and be observed.

As such recessed, concealed and sheltered areas should be avoided where possible as these can undermine surveillance opportunities and provide cover for criminal activity and ASB. Where unavoidable, or where deemed necessary, the CCTV scheme must consider such design features and ensure cameras are positioned in the best location.

It is recommended that a qualified lighting designer is consulted to ensure that the street lighting meets the required British Standard BS 5489-1:2020, is co-ordinated throughout so that potential areas of risk are adequately covered and that the lighting solutions are appropriate for the different locations and uses.

Please be advised that low level bollard lighting should only be considered for wayfinding and not for security or safety purposes. Lighting levels from low level bollards are normally too low to aid facial recognition and the limited light they generally emit can be easily hindered. They can also be vulnerable to being damaged. If this type of lighting is being proposed for wayfinding it must be supported by the proposed column or 'on building' lighting solutions.

Adjacent and/or integral lighting for external seating areas should be considered in conjunction with clear sight lines to encourage legitimate use and deter ASB and unwanted loitering and gatherings.

It should be noted that when places that the public are permitted access are well lit but lack effective surveillance they can attract the antisocial to gather or create cover for criminal activity or inappropriate loitering and behaviour.

To assist please consider the standards and specification of the Secured by Design (SBD) Lighting Guide

https://www.securedbydesign.com/images/PCPI_LIGHTING_GUIDE_web.pdf

Landscaping, particularly trees, lighting and CCTV schemes should be considered collectively to ensure surveillance opportunities are not impeded.

The design and layout of the space should also make full use of existing overlooking buildings and the value in terms of surveillance that this could bring.

Ownership - Places that promote a sense of ownership, respect, territorial responsibility and community.

Physical protection - Places that include necessary, well-designed security features as detailed within the SBD [COMMERCIAL_GUIDE_23.pdf \(securedbydesign.com\)](#)

To reduce the potential for crime and ASB, secure storage provision for outdoors tables and chairs for when not in use should be factored in.

Are help points in prominent locations being considered?

With regard to secure cycle parking and storage, SBD currently have several member companies who specialise in cycle storage [Accredited Product Search \(securedbydesign.com\)](#).

Activity - Places where the level of human activity is appropriate to the location and creates a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times.

The locations of where gatherings and loitering could take place such as seating, amphitheatre, steps and low walls for example must be carefully considered so this does not create problem areas. Such space must be covered by CCTV and provided with good levels of lighting

Management and maintenance - Places that are designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and the future,

In terms of maintenance, it would be vitally important to keep the new environment well-maintained as this will create the impression that it is 'owned' and will enable the continued use of the space for its intended purpose, while any deterioration indicates a greater tolerance of crime and disorder, as the broken window theory suggests.

A generous provision of recycling/rubbish and dog waste bins in practical and easy access locations is recommended.

An anti-graffiti finish for ease of cleaning may need to be considered for some structures and surfaces.

It is not clear whether designated social/play space for older children will be factored in or whether activities such as skateboarding and BMX bikes for example would be supported within the new space. If such activities would be discouraged and no designated space was factored in, the design and surface finishes of some external structures, such as low walls, steps, railings, hand rails, planters and seating for example will need to be carefully considered with this in mind.

In support of the above comments please refer to SBD [COMMERCIAL_GUIDE_23.pdf \(securedbydesign.com\)](#) for best practice and principles in terms of designing out opportunity for crime, fear of crime and creating safe and secure environments

7.12.2 Environment Plymouth

Dear Louise, Rowan and Martin,

As you might imagine a range of issues have been raised by members and colleagues and I have done my best to list them under specific headings but in no particular order. Because the 'environment' is inter-connected the wide range of subjects covered is easily within our brief as an environmental organisation.

Consultation – the general feeling is that this word is misleading as we are being asked to respond to a plan that is already a presentation document. The 'consultation' should have occurred in advance of the plans being drawn up as they are now being offered to the community as a foregone conclusion. This design process is the same as before with no consulting or request for early input from the many interested parties. This is a failing that requires resolving, as presenting plans in this way allows little possibility for influence and leaves people marginalised or disinterested. It seems nothing was learned by PCC or its officers over the fiasco that became national news and an embarrassment to the City with the unnecessary felling of mature trees. Misleading the public, wasting money in challenging legal decisions and insulting concerned groups or individuals over their worries has become the Council's modus operandi. This is unhelpful in moving forward and a seeming derogation of civic responsibility. Consulting relevant groups and individuals at the early stage would have helped alleviate this problem.

Trees – we largely welcome the additional number of trees being planted but with a number of concerns; The inclusion of a 'Tree of Life' is concerning as it has a poor reputation. *"Ailanthus leaks toxins into the ground which prevent the germination and establishment of other species in its vicinity. It is very tolerant of pollution and soil disturbance and at home in an urban habitat, earning it the nickname 'Ghetto Palm' in New York. It is also fiercely resistant to human intervention and will respond to cutting by throwing out underground suckers which can damage pavements, drainage systems and building foundations. All parts of the tree produce a nauseating odour suggestive of rancid cashew nuts."*

Although The Environment Agency does not yet register Ailanthus as invasive it is listed by the European Plant Protection Organisation in the top 25 alien invasive plants posing 'an important threat to plant health, environment and biodiversity'.

Studies show up to 40% of urban tree plantings die within seven years, far too early to realise their benefits, which indicates it is always better to preserve more mature trees. Urban trees face unique challenges, such as excess warmth due to an urban heat 'island effect', a surfeit of nutrients from dog urine, and underwatering. Poor, under-resourced management is also a factor. Unhealthy microbiomes, which may arrive with new trees or develop as a result of poor management, or bad luck, are always a threat in a scheme such as this. Evidence of the long-term management plans and funding to deliver this would have been preferable. Lack of openness about this is in opposition to the Council's promises made earlier this year.

Replanting existing established trees – is a great concern to many of our members. The success rate is low unless they are really carefully and properly handled during all

stages of the transplant process and then properly maintained. There is considerable evidence that translocation (as practised in the UK) doesn't work. Sticking them in a hole and walking away is a remedy for their unnecessary deaths.

Retaining existing mature trees – it seems this option doesn't exist; it must. The design only needs minor modification to include them. The trees are; 007 – Cockspur Thorn; 045 - Whitebeam; 118 – Sorbus; 119 – Japanese Maple; 120 – Japanese Maple; 125 – Sorbus. The Cabbage Palms, which we thought were to be translocated and have a reasonable success rate, seem now to be incorporated. The threatened trees are all good and healthy and already benefit the environment in all the ways that trees do. They should be allowed to continue to provide advantages to the public health.

'Levelling work' - has been used as a reason for removal of some trees. This is a spurious excuse as the levelling can easily be moved a few metres without impeding users and then retaining mature trees.

The Labour council committed to keeping all existing trees, yet have allowed the designers to exercise their ideas over the fate of established trees. This is against the Council Leader's own pledge and the feelings of so many who expressed their wish to keep the remaining trees.

Our feeling is that PCC planners don't want to change the design to include these trees. The design has already been altered from the previous one and if this consultation is to be meaningful then modifications will be requested. Are they simply to be ignored?

Lighting – while the emphasis on good lighting is important it should not be at the detriment to nature. If this is to be a positive place for wildlife, then particularly birds, bats, insects and nocturnal feeders, need to be considered. Warm white as opposed to bright white LEDs would be preferred and care to ensure the lighting scheme reflects suitable day/night balances to ensure the welfare of the wildlife choosing to live there.

Cycle paths – this is a potential accident waiting to happen. Bicycles crossing pedestrian areas in the way they do seems hazardous. We already encounter the urban danger of electric bikes on pavements, with their users showing a total disregard of pedestrian safety. Toddlers, the elderly, phone users are among the obvious users at potential risk. If the cycle lane changes from east/west west/east were at the existing streets people would be more alerted, in the same way they are when they cross a road.

Rodents – it is suspected that rats and other rodents infest the disused watercourse underground. While there are several opinions within EP, including all life is sacred, it is more generally felt that the best action is for them is to be humanely killed rather than dispersed. Pest control must not be environmentally detrimental in the wider aspect. This will need to happen in a timely manner as advised by an EHO. There is a large risk of numerous diseases and infections through these animals. There is a high level of infestation currently in the city and a danger Plymouth will become Hamelin if not dealt with properly.

Old water storage tanks – here there is a risk of existing biofilm contamination with inherent dangers to public health. Also, a Legionella Risk Assessment should be done.

Childrens' play area – the size of this is likely to become an irritation to many rather than a pleasure to the few. Reducing the size could be considered beneficial.

Felled trees - it was suggested that chippings from the felled trees could be used as a safety layer in the play area, there is no mention of this. Are over 100 mature trees to be totally discarded from the design?

Water features – all water features are a risk and completely useless if unmaintained. The existing fountains in the city are regularly not working or abused. The potential exists for the same to happen to the new features. How is this to be prevented?

Design – shows wide unshaded paved surfaces. With climate change bringing hot summers and wet winters tree cover is essential for modifying the effects on people and places. Spacing of trees as well as numbers must be considered. Instead of tight canopy trees, thought should be given to more spreading varieties. Also, to shading sails, which have been incorporated elsewhere.

Chess tables – might be a nice addition. They exist in lots of cities and even if not used for chess double as regular tables. It allows players time to enjoy the nature too.

Bins – throwing contaminated waste into recycling bins ruins the whole collection. Clear notices should guide users as to what can and can't be put in the 'green' bin.

Maintenance – unfortunately past experience has shown that new schemes and especially new plantings are neglected immediately after installation. Trees need up to 5 years regular care to establish development. What is the maintenance programme? Is it fully funded? What is included in it?

Additional planting – reference is made to an additional 147 trees planted in the south of Armada Way. An urban-forest outside the Crowne Plaza? This grassy island has a number of mature trees on both sides, although a few have been lost in recent years it still means a very dense planting. Is this the aim and is it suitable?

Suds – is mostly a good idea but there is little information about the working of the SUDs system. No detailed plans have been provided despite requests from several groups. Can we see these details before the finish of the consultation, or is there a problem?

Costings – these must have been broken down for the different aspects of the scheme. Could we please know the costs, particularly for contentious aspects like the translocation, and for things like adapting the plans to accommodate changes requested from the consultation? Or is there no such proviso?

Hugh Janes, Chair, Environment Plymouth

7.12.3 Environment Agency

We welcome the opportunity to provide views on the proposals for the redevelopment of the public realm area of Armada Way in Plymouth city centre. This has been a long-awaited project and provides significant benefits for our areas of focus.

We have been working for over 8 years in partnership with your Council and South West Water to develop methods to better manage surface water and urban drainage across Plymouth as part of our Integrated Urban Drainage Management (IUDM) work. Making improvements to flood risk and water quality are key outputs of this partnership.

Armada Way is in an area where most of the rainwater falling on the urban area is routed into the combined drainage system, being pumped, and treated at Plymouth Central sewerage works. Our joint aim is to create a new surface water drainage system within this area to allow surface water to be separated from the current combined system. This project is an excellent opportunity to realise this outcome. The focus on water management with inclusion of the new Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) incorporated into the overall landscaping plan is very much welcomed. This provides a new system for surface water and helps achieve our joint aims. This system is designed for the future, with the ability to manage increasing rainfall associated with climate change and helps support periods of prolonged dry weather. In addition to managing the rainwater falling on Armada Way, this project is key to delivering the wider new strategic surface water drainage system for the city centre. Armada Way is a key jigsaw piece in the overall strategy as it will receive drainage from the new systems in the northeast part of the city centre. We are aware that the project's design team are working on these drainage designs, which will link into the works in New George Street and other systems to be constructed in the future.

Overall this project's aims are well aligned with Government's National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England, by increasing the resilience to climate change by utilising sustainable drainage solutions. This will help manage flood risk to the Union Street area by improved water management and capacity. The project also supports the Government's storm overflow discharge reduction plan by the removal of surface water from the combined drainage system, which will maintain improved bathing water quality in Plymouth Sound.

We are keen to remain involved and support the development of this project to help realise the environmental improvements.

7.12.4 Food Plymouth

Introduction

This response has been developed by a collaboratory collective of members and relevant stakeholders (hereafter referred to as 'the Collaboratory') from [Food Plymouth](#) – the city's established local food partnership. Food Plymouth is an award-winning member of the national [Sustainable Food Places](#) Network. The Collaboratory's response focuses on the realms of biodiversity, edible landscape, amenity and community. A full list of members of the Collaboratory contributing to this response is set out below.

Rationale

The Collaboratory has been brought together by two members of Food Plymouth's Core Enabling Team, drawing in relevant Food Plymouth partners, network members and stakeholders. The rationale is to engage positively and constructively with the opportunity to influence the Armada Way redevelopment for the greater good, and add value to the process and outputs, notably with a view to enhancing the design and delivery of the scheme to the benefit of people and wildlife. This will in turn contribute to Food Plymouth's work towards Sustainable Food Places (SFP) priorities, particularly: Food for the Planet; Good Food Movement; and Food Governance and Strategy.

Process

The Collaboratory comprises a collective of interested and relevant people and organisations involved in or associated with the Food Plymouth Partnership and Network. These are: Ian Smith and Tess Wilmot from Food Plymouth's Core Enabling Team; Food Plymouth Associate Dorothea Orme; Tony Hickey and Hannah Massey from Wise Roots CIC; Landscape Architect Jeremy 'James' Brown; Hazel Wooding of Primrose Landscape Architects; environmentalist Zoe Smith; and arboriculturist Jonathan Warren. In formulating this response, all of the above corresponded via e-mail, met in person and in some cases also met online. The Collective held three workshop-style meetings, each one of which has built on the previous session. Two of these were face-to-face and one was held online via Zoom. Inputs by e-mail were made by: Dave Curno of the All Ways Apples Festival and Plymouth Tree Partnership; Gin Farrow-Jones of Seeds 'n' Feeds; Owen Finnie from Pollenize CIC; Helen Moore of Inner City Seeds; and Food Plymouth Associates Jess Duffy and Rachael Gomery.

The Collaboratory's Response

1. Preamble

The Collaboratory appreciates the time, money and effort being invested in the Armada Way consultation process. We are happy to contribute our knowledge and skills to add value to this project. This is effectively extending Food Plymouth's existing collaboration with the Plymouth City Council and partners' *Green Minds* team

around permaculture design and ecological best practice into the Armada Way redevelopment.

The Collaboratory understands that many people are very concerned about the changes in Armada Way, notably the recent loss of so many established trees. However, our response is forward-facing, focusing on enabling the best possible new design and planting scheme. We recognise and support the imperatives to deliver 'quick win' benefits and longer-term solutions which will serve the evolving needs of the city centre to best effect in light of current circumstances and future conditions.

2. Context

The city is changing and it is important to future-proof it in the face of challenges like climate change and changing shopping habits. Mixed use city centre is inevitable as retail patterns are changing dramatically which has a more promising outcome as this keeps the city alive in the evenings with potentially more eateries/restaurants in and around Armada Way. Mixed use has been found to reduce unwelcome anti-social behaviour and security is increased as businesses and residents act as security 'eyes' during daytime, evenings and night time through this 'natural surveillance'. Residents of and visitors to Armada Way will enjoy the spaces there as a park and leisure setting. Good design will help to enhance mental and physical health as a result.

Multi-generational residential use of Armada Way would be particularly welcome, with students and younger people living alongside older people in flats with good access to green spaces. In this vein, some open air publicly accessible community meeting spaces would be very helpful.

Observation around the empty buildings and shops indicates that at present the city centre is larger than the population can support in modern times. Although the City Council and City Centre Management Company may not have a lot of control of who can do what in and over the shops, planning could be used to help make the buildings around Armada Way more inviting and create beneficial connections with the green spaces. This potentially could include 'meanwhile use', giving opportunities of local residents and community groups volunteering and getting involved in amenity areas of Armada Way.

Introduction of some areas with 24 hour facilities could be beneficial to keep Armada Way as a living social artery of the city, especially around transport hubs like the coach station which is just off Armada Way and Plymouth's main railway station which is nearby.

Addressing the issues of climate change and future-proofing, ecological considerations for the design and management of Armada Way must be paramount, notably around providing shelter from rain, wind and sun and making the most of links to the very useful over-hanging canopies of buildings in adjacent streets - a valuable legacy of the post World War Two Abercombe-Watson Plan for Plymouth. In this regard, the more recent Mackay Vision for Plymouth and aspirations for Plymouth City Centre to resemble Barcelona need to be fully realised in the Armada Way redevelopment.

Plymouth has a strong dementia friendly movement (championed by Memory Matters and Moments Cafe amongst others) and it would be amazing if this could be incorporated into the green spaces of the designs on Armada Way. A useful example of this type of design is figure of eight garden which Gale & Snowdon Architects created as part of a sheltered accommodation scheme for people with dementia, enabling them to keep walking in a safe space and incorporating contrasting paving.

3. Positives

The Collaboratory perceives the following positives to the design being consulted on:

From the illustrations provided, the new design being proposed appears to be more diverse and will therefore potentially have more benefits to people and wildlife than the proposal shared in 2022.

The rain water collection systems and the rain gardens are linked to the tree pit systems integrated into a pavement support which sits below the finished paving level and appears to be a good use of water through the landscape. The water harvesting in this urban landscape will be critical to successful establishment of the trees and their long term health. It needs to be designed sensitively to suit the individual tree sizes/needs and versatile to allow for extended periods of hot dry weather which can significantly damage or even kill trees within days if they don't get enough water in time. Even species which are drought tolerant can suffer during establishment and the genetic 'adaptations' don't come into effect until a tree is well established and thriving.

The inclusion of a reedbed to clean the rainwater harvesting system is a very welcome addition to the design.

We appreciate the intention to include wild flowers. We hope that these will include a high proportion of native plants rather than the ornamental 'wildflower' meadows. The latter, while decorative, contain few native wild plants, are sub-optimal in terms of value to pollinators and often need to be replanted each year.

We like the inclusion of the play park and sense that this element of the proposed design could be expanded to incorporate more community uses - for example by creating a small community orchard nearby. We perceive an opportunity to create a wildlife-friendly edible hedge around the play area – featuring blueberries or other non-thorny edibles and maybe heavily trimmed beech trees which would also serve as a rare habitat for low nesting birds.

4. Opportunities

We have studied the trees that are proposed but noted there is very little detail of any underplanting including bushes, herbs and plants. This is an opportunity to create richer areas with biodiversity net gain, plus education opportunities around the choices and uses of plants and the connections with wildlife. We suggest that there may be opportunities for local community groups to input into these schemes over the coming months as a result of the consultation with good design support to create

a range of interesting habitats and diverse plantings creating wildlife opportunities and resources, including edible plantings.

We spent time looking at the list of the trees proposed with 37 to be retained and 165 listed to be planted. We considered the wildlife benefits of the trees, including if there is all year around food for insects? What other edible trees / plants could be included? Knowing more about how the new scheme has changed the below ground structure / soil / conditions etc. are key to suggestions of beneficial trees to include. Please see section 7 of this response dealing with trees in the design scheme, comments on these and some 'even better if' suggestions.

We also want to share how the design can be improved for nature and the people using the Armada Way spaces. A lot of the emphasis in the designs is on the trees. Feedback from people involved in our response is that there is lots of scope to enhance the biodiversity net gain through the plantings below the trees and in the green spaces. In addition, this could include edible or useful plants and educational opportunities.

There are potential links with the good work being done in the infrastructure team at Plymouth City Council in parks and green spaces. Beneficial connections and making the most of local knowledge and skills could support and enhance the designs. We are curious about how everything in the design scheme is connected - this may be lacking as Armada Way is officially a 'road.' Regardless of this, opportunities exist to connect with people in the city centre through the plantings of trees, bushes and other plantings, with education being key.

One of the observations from the Collaboratory is around the changes in how the city centre is being used, with far more residents living in the city centre. Armada Way is therefore part of their local green space. There are opportunities around: Creating home garden areas; community gathering areas; spaces for community events; exploring nature; food growing areas; and foraging. These are all elements to include in the design with the potential for local people to help care for some areas. Having a community gathering space that could be secured during hours of darkness or alternatively a community building space opening onto Armada Way would encourage volunteers and foster community engagement. Having sheltered places (micro-climates) and seating will help with this.

Food Plymouth has been collaborating with the Plymouth City Council and partners Green Minds team, providing permaculture design training to community growers and professional people wanting to learn more about ecological design. Some of these people have supported this response and potentially more could be involved in working with the design teams to create a more diverse and productive underplantings. Four of these trainees were from the City Council's horticulture team and their experiences and knowledge could be a useful contribution to the design process. We suggest involving the Plymouth City Council horticulture team - who may appreciate the opportunity to be involved and sharing their knowledge on the ground too. This is an opportunity for healing from negative previous circumstances and perceptions and building a more positive future.

Within all this, the Collaboratory is keen to press for the inclusion of wildflower meadows featuring native species and are therefore better for the wildlife than decorative but less useful ornamental wildflowers which include many non-native species. Recent University of Reading research supports this position.

The Collaboratory is keen to see a cultural / meeting / gathering area in the design scheme. For example, the top section of Armada Way towards North Cross roundabout could include a space for performance or community gatherings. Having a more curved design would make this space work better.

As part of this, a community orchard – perhaps one of the Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest *processional orchards* - would be a brilliant showcase of the community food growing and nature connection work happening across the city. It could be created with lower maintenance fruit trees, including smaller fruits e.g. crab apples and some of the local Tamar Valley variety cherry trees, with the community involved in managing and harvesting these.

Having six or so fruit trees of various types and including local varieties - in a style similar to one of the groups of trees pictured above (including one or two of the productive and tasty Tamar Cherry varieties) - would suffice for this. Digital information accessible through QR codes about the trees - their names, uses, recipes for their fruit and stories about them would be part of this scheme.

Incorporating solitary bee nesting spaces into the recreational infrastructure and providing nesting opportunities for birds of many different species, including swift, swallow and house martin nest boxes, could be part of the redevelopment too.

Opportunities to create beneficial connections with the established woodland spaces at nearby Pilgrim Primary School and the trees of the world collection on the adjacent University of Plymouth Drake Circus campus should be explored and pursued.

Volunteering opportunities around care of the green spaces and natural infrastructure could and should be developed.

5. Challenges

The setting is by location and definition very urban. The setting is a challenging area for trees to survive in, due to paving and compacted soil and services below ground.

The design appears to have reduced the green spaces and increased the areas of paved areas with a very angular design with few curves or sheltered areas. The Collaboratory is concerned that the new design will potentially create a windier environment due to the removal of the sheltered spaces with microclimates resulting from straight lines of trees and landscaping: Instead of creating microclimates and slowing the wind down, the straight lines of the trees and overall design will create more of a wind tunnel effect.

The ecological considerations for future-proofing the design and delivery of the Armada Way redevelopment should include:

Creating Green Corridors throughout Armada Way - encouraging the connection of wildlife areas providing wildlife friendly and safe highways through the city centre to encourage more wildlife to pass through and reside in the city centre. The green corridors will offer more space for biodiversity and reduce noise and air pollution. The cooling effect of larger canopy trees during hot weather is also vital as climate change increases the frequency and intensity of higher temperatures. Having diverse plantings instead of block planting will be helpful. Likewise, buildings or new structures with green roofs will be very welcome.

Urban Blue Corridors - we are encouraged by the potential of the design to direct water from the pavements into the trees pits and the rain gardens, keeping the water in the landscape through the new Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS). The reed bed system for cleaning the water has wildlife benefits too. The design appears to be very angular / straight, and thought could be given to a more natural flow of weather through the landscape, with wildlife habitats like ponds and pools to create space for wildlife and connection to the sea scape which is not visible from the city centre. The reduction of pollution from waste in the drainage system going into the sea is a positive move.

Black Corridors - managing the artificial lighting is important to consider as the impact of strong lighting can impact nocturnal wildlife (e.g. moths, bats, owls) and the local residents. Down-lighting and motion activated lighting may help here by avoiding dark corners and areas being used as informal latrines while maintaining sufficient darkness for the wildlife.

Brown Corridors - the below ground living soil biology for the plants and trees that are being introduced and the quality of the soil and avoiding soil compaction is vital. More information about the underground structure around the trees would be appreciated. Much of the city suffers from rubble and debris left from the rebuilding of the city after the Second World War. This is almost certain to be true of Armada Way and so needs to be factored-in to the work. Other measures can be implemented for carbon sequestration in the interim period while the new trees recover from being planted as they will be relatively slow to get established as most of them are medium size and large specimens.

6. Reservations

The Collaboratory is concerned about the size of the trees proposed in the redevelopment scheme and the fact that all the new trees are likely to be of similar age. We noted that the retained trees will help increase diversity by being much older than the new trees, which is very welcome.

The Collaboratory includes people with experience of growing trees in a wide range of environments. There was discussion around how much harder it is to get a newly-planted large tree to survive. Ideally the design scheme would plant small trees. However, if larger trees are required for immediate impact our advice is that they should be less than 40 cm in girth. They will also need intensive care in order to root

well and thrive. Replacements will be very expensive if they are needed. Smaller trees are less expensive and more easy to establish than large ones.

The design appears to be for aesthetic impact with trees planted in blocks rather than more naturally interspersed. This is less beneficial for wildlife, creating isolated pockets of species and their associated eco-systems. This also creates the potential for diseases to spread more easily. The planting of 26 Himalayan birch trees in a very small area will create a dramatic impact visually, However, we are concerned that as they grow they will be overcrowded and some have to be taken out or die.

The trees need to be tolerant of harsh conditions in the urban setting. They also need to be available and may not be the size that the designers seem to prefer.

The collaboratory has particular reservations around:

The irrigation plan - This will be critical to the successful establishment of the new trees. It needs to be based on the individual tree size and be flexible to allow for periods of hot dry weather which can significantly damage or even kill trees within days if they do not get enough water in time. Certain species are drought tolerant but this resilience does not apply immediately after planting - these genetic 'adaptations' do not come into effect until trees are well established and thriving.

The soil specification - The tree roots will need sufficient access to large volumes of soil. A clay/loam is best as it can hold more water, nutrients and air.

The moving of the trees which are due to be relocated is a challenge and will require good planning. The timing of the move needs to be at the optimum time to enable the trees to survive and then continue to thrive. The best time is during the dormant season between November and March but the earlier in the season, ideally between November and January will allow the trees the best chance of success. Making sure the root balls are as large as possible and planting to the same depth as the current level will help.

7. Specifics

The Collaboratory's interpretation of the proposals being consulted on is that of the 202 trees in the design,165 are new trees. Our understanding is that the composition of these is as follows –

Trees in the Armada Way proposed landscape design		Number		Notes / Benefits
Field Maple	Acer Campestre	27		
Tree of Life		1		

Alder	Alnus Glutinosa	4		Nitrogen fixer
Cut Alder	Alnus Glutinosa 'Imperialis'	5		Nitrogen fixer
Snowy Mespilus (Juneberry)	Amelanchier Lamarckii	6		Some variety have delicious edible berries - check
Golden Birch	Betula Ermanii	10		
Silver Birch	Betula Pendula	3		Leaves slightly bitter, useful in salad and teas
Himalayan Birch	Betula Utilis Jacquemontii 'Doorenbos'	26		
Scots Pine	Pinus Sylvestris	1		
Love Tree	Cercis Siliquastrum	1		Judas tree has edible flowers
Cockspur Hawthorn	Crataegus Crus-galli	6		Particularly attractive to birds
Turkish Hazel	Corylus Columna	10		Edible nut, similar tasting to the common hazel
Maidenhair Tree	Ginkgo Biloba 'Mayfield'	10		Medicinal
London Plane (Topiary Roof Form)	Platanus x Hispanica	12		
Callery Pear	Pyrus Calleryana Chanticleer	6		Maybe have some Plymouth Pear instead?

Double Crimson Hawthorn	Crataegus Laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet'	10		Double flowers, so may not be so good for bees
Silver Lime	Tilia Tomentosa Brabant	6		Questions over impacts on Bumblebees (debated)
New Horizon Elm	Ulmus New Horizon	8		
Stone Pine	Pinus Pinea	12		
Norway Maple	Acer Platanoides	1		
	New Trees sub-total	165		
Retained trees				
Cockspur Hawthorn	Crataegus Crus-galli	2	Top end	T001 and T002
Wild Cherry	Prunus Avium	3		T003, T004, T082
Cockspur Hawthorn	Crataegus Crus-galli	2		T005 and T006
Sweet Gum	Liquidamber Styraciflua	16		T138 - T153
Tree of Life	Ailanthus Altissima	1		T008
Single Leafed Ash	Fraxinus Excelsior 'Diversifolia	2		T009 and T081
Norway Maple	Acer Platanoides	1		T078
Horse Chestnut	Aesculus Hippocastanu m	5		T079, T080, T083, T084, T085

Laburnum	Laburnum Anagyroides	3		T0075, T076, T077
Rowan	Sorbus	2		T121 and 122
37 trees are being retained and 165 new trees are to be planted, making a total of 202		<u>202</u>		Total trees in whole scheme

The tree planting proposal being consulted on is potentially sub-optimal in that it is lacking the diversity and resilience which is really key to this design. The Collaboratory recommends that the globally recognised 10,20,30 rule for enhancing long term resilience against the impacts of climate change, pests and diseases should be applied. The rule is no more than 10% of any tree population should be of the same species, no more than 20% of the same Genus and no more than 30% of the same family.

Looking at the proposed design as a population, the calculations of the proposed new planting raise concerns:

27 Field Maples - *Acer Campestre* - making up 16.4% of species to be planted and 13% of the total number of trees (exceeding the 10% recommended maximum)

There are 39 Birch trees proposed from three different varieties -

- Himalayan birch *Betula Utilis* makes up 15.8% of species (exceeding the 10% maximum outlined above)
- Birch - *Betula* makes up 23.6% of all the Genus (when no more than 20% is recommended)
- Betulaceae makes up 35% of the Families (when no more than 30% is recommended)

39 birch trees is a high number in the planting (33%). It includes 29 of the Himalayan Birch - *Betula Utilis Jacquemontii* 'Doorenbos' – planted in a very small clump which appears unrealistic. We are concerned that long term not all will survive as they are packed so tightly. The triangle area surrounding the clump of Birch trees has reinforced grass – this could be replaced by a more natural surface, for example sedums.

Trees with edible leaves are suggested as these often have little or no fruit, resulting in less anxiety around fruit dropping and attracting vermin. Edibles should be wholesome as Armada Way is a pedestrianised area with little traffic. The Collaboratory therefore suggest considering more trees with edible leaves for the planting scheme, for example:

Toon Tree (toona sinensis) - Onion flavour leaves and edible fruits

Beech – European, American, Japanese – Young leaves are edible raw. Not to be grown as a standard but could be included in hedges - for example around the play area.

English Walnut - Teas and nuts

White Mulberries – Leaves and fruit. Can be eaten raw or cooked. High protein. Good for teas. If planting a black mulberry it would need to be planted within a growing space rather than over paving due to the risk of staining from falling fruit.

Fig – teas, soups, jams

Lime (Tilia) – common, small leaved, large leaved - Young leaves are edible and flowers can be used for making tea. Note: Tilia trees are sometimes associated with large numbers of dead bumblebees. Scientific studies have demonstrated that this is not due to toxic nectar or pollen. It may be due to a complex interaction of weather and suboptimal nectar. It does not usually happen every year and tends to coincide with the natural end of bumblebee nests. It is therefore unlikely to cause any larger scale problems

American Magnolia - Petals

Goji – Leaves and berries, teas

Maple – Red, sugar, silver (10 months prep before eating)

Spruce, pine and fir needles – Teas - High in vitamin C

Toona tree - Edible leaves

Elderflower, including the dark elder - Flowers for infusions and cooking, and berries

Crab apples - Fruits are small but useful, very ornamental flowers in Spring

Hazelnut trees, including the Purple Hazel - Nuts

Please think about including a number of [Plymouth Pear trees](#) (Pyrus cordata) to increase diversity and interest, alongside the Callery Pear (Pyrus Calleryana Chanticleer)

8. Questions

These questions about the proposed design will help the Collaboratory to have more clarity / understanding / seeing reasons for choices made in the design. Some areas, for example the trees, have more information than other parts, like the understory and ground cover plantings:

One suggestion has been around the change of use for Armada Way from a road to a park to benefit from the Green Spaces work across the city. Our question is - Is this possible please?

What is happening underground? How is the redesigning of Armada Way ensuring the trees have adequate soil that is not compacted and trees have plenty of space for roots?

How will the planting scheme avoid using imported - and potentially damaging foreign mycorrhizals?

Is it practicable to add soil gathered from around the existing healthy trees of the same species so mycorrhizal fungi are present in the soil to help the trees to establish and continue to grow and thrive? (In urban centres the fungi may be missing which can reduce the health of the tree as the mycorrhizal fungi bring nutrients and water to the tree roots.)

Girth of trunk sizes 20 – 25cm max? What is the after care post planting plan? Is it sufficient? Girth of trunk size 40 - 45cm means more risk of the tree dying and having to be replaced at great cost.

Does this variety of **Juneberry**, (*Amelanchier Lamarckii*) named in the design have edible berries? Some Juneberry varieties are very tasty. Birds also enjoy them. These are good wildlife trees.

Will there be any green roofs to any new structures within the design?

9. Additional (general) comments and questions

Is it practicable to zone areas / the streets running through Armada Way with different and distinctive types of designs / patterns / colours in order to help local people and visitors to navigate their way around the city.

Where will the materials used in the redevelopment be sourced from? Are more diverse materials and recycled materials from Armada Way as it currently stands be incorporated into the new scheme? Will existing elements like the chess tables be re-used?

Is it possible to bring in wooden animals similar to those previously installed and very popular to be brought into the scheme?

Food Plymouth does a lot of work around food aid / food support. Is it practicable to make some safe and regulated measures in the design to meet the needs of homeless people and rough sleepers - for example similar to the sleep pods installed in the German city of Ulm?

10. Conclusion

The redevelopment of Armada Way is a golden opportunity to involve communities in the city's wider plan for plants in the green spaces. Bringing the skills and knowledge

of citizens and the City Council horticultural teams would be a vital step in this. There are opportunities to create designs for each area - not 'just' the trees.

The Collaboratory hopes that ECF, Plymouth City Council and the City Centre Management Company will be excited by these prospects that we and others can help with the designing and delivery of the redevelopment of Armada Way.

In this collaborative spirit, we wish to commend and endorse the engagement and inputs of Plymouth Culture and Plymouth Tree Partnership into the consultation process.

11. Acknowledgements

The Collaborative expresses its thanks to Plymouth City Council for setting up this consultation process and ECF for facilitating it.

We also wish to thank everyone who has input - directly and / or indirectly - in formulating this response.

12. Resources

Resources shared by members of the Collaboratory to inform this response include: Links to TDAG - the Tree Design Action Group <https://www.tdag.org.uk/> This contains a lot of useful information about planning urban designs.

Useful links to research trees – [Plants for a Future](#) and [The Agroforestry Research Trust – | Forest Gardening | Fruit Trees | Nut Trees | Perennial Vegetables |](#)

[Standard BS standard BS8545 2014](#) Book - £299 - British standards trees to planting including advice - eg water 25 litres every two weeks for two years. BS 8545 is a new British Standard to assist people involved in planning, designing, resourcing, producing, planting and managing new trees in the landscape. It describes a process for planting young trees that will result in them achieving 'independence in the landscape'. This means that they are healthy and have every chance of survival.

Other cities with good tree plans: Birmingham, Leeds plus Bristol has a plan integrating trees with SUDS - Sustainable Urban Drainage systems

CAVAT (Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees) provides a basis for managing trees in the UK as public assets rather than liabilities. [Cavat – calculating tree value](#)

[Tree survey on the trees](#) – gives financial value of ecosystems services. Pollution / absorbing rain water / slow down intercept.

Information about soil cells which may be used to make the soil less compacted so the trees can thrive <https://greenblue.com/gb/product-category/soil-cells>. The rainwater collection systems and the rain gardens are linked to the tree pit systems integrated into a pavement support which sits below the finished paving level

7.12.5 Hoe Neighbourhood Forum

PT asked the meeting to discuss initial thoughts on the new plans for Armada Way so the HNF can collate a response and to encourage individual members to engage with the consultation process. Initial comments were:

- A concern that the consultation process was purely online and therefore not accessible to all though information received since that paper copies may be available at the City Library and consultants physically present in Armada Way during consultation period
- That the new cycle path was an improvement, but there are still concerns where it passes through the 'amphitheatre' area at the northern end, and also where cyclists go once they reach the end of the path at the southern end of Armada Way
- Questions were raised over maintenance budgets for the new play areas, other amenities and ongoing care/cultivation of wildflower/green spaces/ trees
- Questions were raised about the need for such a large play area and how this relates to the proposal to encourage the night time economy.
- A concern that the amphitheatre area appears somewhat barren, lacking in shade and the gathering space has pedestrians through the centre of the amphitheatre's stepped seating area and the cyclists could be separated from the area by being taken behind the shown raised flower bed, if relocated. As there is already an open area (the Piazza), is another required?
- A question was asked about the amount of seating throughout Armada Way for visitors to the city centre to stop, rest and admire. And that seating should have backs to be useful to all, especially those with low mobility issues.
- Concern was expressed about the 'translocation' of the six trees and their new location given that previously it had been declared that it would be impossible to move and replant any of the existing trees."

Additionally, please note there is concern about the mention of dense tree planting outside the Crowne Plaza. We request more information about this proposal, as it does not appear to be appropriate for this location. We would like to be involved in discussions about tree planting in the Hoe Neighbourhood Forum area as a Statutory Consultee.

Regards - Penny Tarrant,
Chair, Hoe Neighbourhood Forum

7.12.6 Luke Pollard MP

Thank you for the time recently to discuss the revised proposals for Armada Way. I am pleased that the new council administration has cancelled the plans for Armada Way introduced by the previous council and are consulting on new plans.

I believe the new plans are a significant improvement and will go some way to undoing some of the considerable damage to Plymouth's reputation and economy caused by the actions of the last Council in chopping down over 100 trees in the middle of the night.

I welcome the open consultation approach by the City Council and support the hiring of an independent consultancy specialising in engagement to assist them. This is important not to repeat the same mistakes as the last Council made on Armada Way.

I was a vocal opponent of the last scheme and the decision to chop down the trees. We now need Armada Way to be restored as a green lung in our city centre, and invested in properly, with public input. I was grateful for the chance to talk through the plans with you so soon after they were launched. I present below my initial feedback from that meeting and also from correspondence I have received from the people I represent.

I welcome the plan to double the number of trees and to plant more mature trees rather than saplings. This will seek to restore the canopy faster than under the previous plan. I also welcome the inclusion of bees, insect habitats and low maintenance planting.

As a fan of the wooden animals outside Tesco on New George Street that are sadly no longer with us, I wholeheartedly welcome the large play area for children. Since the wooden animals were removed we have lacked an area for young children to play and a new area the size of five tennis courts will be a superb addition to our city centre.

There are some areas where I believe further thought or clarifications would benefit the scheme.

The first is the cycle path and how cyclists will interact with pedestrians. I am concerned that cyclists will use the direct path through the middle of Armada Way and not follow the curving cycle path. Cyclists tend to ride in straight lines, building speed and I think the thinking they will follow a sub-optimal route through the scheme is ambitious. I would like to understand better how the interaction between cyclists and pedestrians will be managed through signage and physical infrastructure. This is not yet clear from the consultation.

I have received a number of thoughtful messages from people concerned about accessibility of the scheme, how it will work for people in wheelchairs and whether the

floor signage will be effective. I understand you are looking at consulting with disability groups further and I hope the design can be adjusted to reflect the needs of those with mobility needs and sight loss in particular.

The proposal to plant flower beds around the trees in the Piazza may well protect the trees from damage but I would like to seek reassurance that this will not stop events and open-air markets from making full use of this space.

A number of people have asked me how skateboarding will be reflected in the plans. There is an active skateboarding community in the city centre and some of the new physical infrastructure may lend itself to skate boarding. This may, or may not be the City Council's intention. Can you better reflect the areas where this activity will be permitted or discouraged in your plans please?

There are three areas where I believe more information now – during the consultation - would be helpful to local people considering the scheme and submitting views.

Firstly, given the stalling of nearly all city centre projects and the dire state of the main shopping streets over the past year I think there is a priority to improving the look and feel of the main activity areas. I understand that the plans will take some 18 months to complete and may not be finished until 2026. As such, can I ask that the sequencing of work is made clearer to local people and local businesses. I also believe the work should begin from the sundial end and extend towards the train station end of Armada Way not start from the north and proceed southwards. If the inclusion of sustainable urban drainage prevents this more sensible sequencing, can that be explained in the consultation documents and website please?

Secondly, I would like the City Council to revisit the changes to the Sundial in the heart of our city in the proposed scheme. I am surprised that the council's plan for Armada Way seems to involve the removal of the stone seats that show the time for the Sundial.

The little seats with flags on are an integral part of the design of the Sundial – they literally have the numbers enabling a sun dial to work - and as stools are a key part of why generations of young people have met at the Sundial.

I believe plans to remove these seats, as I was briefed by officers, has been an accidental decision. I do not believe this has been included as a question in the consultation to the extent that would be required to make changes to this important piece of civic art. Can you be very clear that this was an oversight as removing the stone seats around the sun dial would be a huge loss to the city centre and highly unpopular? I am certain it is something that can be clarified quickly to reassure people it is not now part of the proper plan for Armada Way. It concerns me that this change is almost accidental and has not been adequately explained to people as I believe there would be near universal opposition to this measure from local people. I do not

believe the City Council wants this level of opposition to an otherwise good scheme and so can I encourage you to drop this element immediately please?

Thirdly, the reason most people are concerned about Armada Way is due to the fate of the trees that were cut down by the last council. This was a terrible decision and an act of environmental vandalism. I understand the new scheme involved translocating some of the trees that were spared the chainsaw. I understand that moving some trees is essential to delivering this new scheme and something I expect you will proceed with, but can I ask that you include a guarantee in the scheme that should any of these trees not survive relocation that you will replace them with, for instance, 25 trees each. I believe being open with the public about the chances of survival – and guaranteeing you will replace any tree that does not survive with 25 new trees - will help put people's minds at ease.

Overall, I believe this scheme to be a huge improvement over the politically naive and disastrous efforts of the last administration. With some slight tweaks I believe the scheme will be popular and start turning the page on a really embarrassing and damaging chapter of Plymouth's history.

I have asked the people I represent to share further thoughts with me and I expect to make a final submission to the consultation before the close of the consultation period. I am encouraging people to send in their views and I hope you will take mine on board.

7.12.7 Plymouth City Centre Company

I am writing in formal response to Plymouth City Council's consultation on the revised plans for Armada Way on behalf of the Plymouth City Centre Company.

As you know the City Centre Company and city centre businesses have been asking for the reinvigoration of Armada Way for some time and we are delighted with the scale and ambition of the new plans.

We fully endorse the vision to *Recapture the scale and grandeur of Armada Way*, and we applaud the decision to recreate the original Abercrombie vision of a tree-lined boulevard from North Cross to The Hoe.

It is just what the city centre and our businesses need as a catalyst for regeneration and will be fundamental in unlocking further investment, which is so desperately needed, given the changing nature of the high street.

We believe this scheme will enable the council and partners, including the Plymouth City Centre Company, to create a more diverse city centre with less dependence on retail and provision for more housing, leisure, and year-round cultural and arts events in a spectacular setting.

We especially welcome the plans for the Play Village which will go a long way in encouraging families back into the city centre and the performance space at the northern end of Armada Way and Mayflower Street.

Following discussions with our directors and city centre business owners and managers, we would like to make the following observations:

- The number one priority for our businesses is that the city centre should be safe and welcoming. We note and welcome the plans for improved lighting and CCTV and would like reassurance that these elements will remain as a fully funded part of the scheme. We would urge the council to go further and initiate urgent talks with the police, Plymouth Against Retail Crime, the Plymouth City Centre Company and other agencies to tackle recent increases in anti-social behaviour and shoplifting and to explore additional opportunities for ring-fenced crime prevention funding.
- We believe the new-look Armada Way will unlock future investment but would like an urgent and robust approach in dealing with empty and neglected buildings, especially Mayflower House and the block owned by AEW.
- The look and feel of Armada Way will be critical in attracting more visitors and customers and, as such, we would urge the council to commit to the quality of the design and use of high-quality construction materials.
- We note and welcome the assurances on maintenance and would urge the council to ensure that necessary measures and resource are in place from day one and that the upkeep of Armada Way is given the highest priority. The City Centre Company would welcome further consultation on this.

- We welcome plans for more outdoor seating for businesses and pop-up trading pitches. We would urge the council to draw up a design code, so that quality is maintained along the whole length of Armada Way. The City Centre Company would welcome the opportunity for further consultation on this.
- We welcome the plans to encourage more cycling but many of our businesses are concerned about the rules and enforcement. We would urge the council to report back on its plans for how cycling within the whole of the city centre will be managed and policed.
- We would urge the council to work closely with the City Centre Company in communications with businesses as the work on Armada Way progresses, especially in connection with the phasing of the works and minimising disruption.

Overall, we welcome the scheme and hope that work can start as soon as possible in the New Year.

7.12.8 Plymouth Civic Society

CONSULTATION PROCESS 2023	PREVIOUS PROPOSAL	CURRENT PROPOSAL
ADMINISTRATION	Conservative	Labour
PURPOSE	Part of the Better Places programme to reflect the Beaux Arts vision of the Abercrombie Watson Plan for Plymouth	To be a 'vibrant, green, safe and fun ... gateway' to Plymouth and promote future residential and mixed use development
SPONSOR DEPARTMENT	PCC Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Ditto
FUNDING	£12.7m budget funded by Government's Transforming Cities Fund and matched by PCC	Ditto
REGULATORY	Permitted Development and EIA exemption granted by Planning	Ditto
SITE STATUS	Rundown, unsafe and unattractive avenue with mature trees and shrubs (some not suitable for an urban environment), broken pavements and abandoned water feature - all detrimental to the well-being of businesses and people	Derelict site with some mature trees and shrubs remaining
MAIN FEATURES OF PROPOSAL		
Natural environment	Remove all mature trees and shrubs and replace with more resilient semi-mature ones and landscaping - the number of replacement trees to exceed those of before	Retain most of remaining trees and shrubs and replace those lost with more resilient semi-mature ones and landscaping - the number of replacement trees to exceed those of before
Business	Improved seating, refurbished Sundial, replaced paving, better customer environment	Ditto
Families	Play space and games area, dancing fountains, Braille garden, amphitheatre	To include a 'huge destination play village'
Cyclists	New route separate from main walking route, ebike hire	Ditto
Other features	New street lighting, upgraded power and water for public events, CCTV, planned trenches for district heating network, removal of current water feature	Ditto
Irrigation and drainage	SUD System	Ditto
CONSULTEES DURING PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT***		
Statutory	Yes	Yes
Plymouth City Centre Company	Yes	Yes
Constituted community groups	No	No
PUBLIC SURVEY AFTER PROPOSAL FINALISED		
Constituted community groups	No	ECF Yes
General public	Yes	Yes
PROPOSAL STATUS	Cancelled due to public protest over removal of trees, national humiliation and legal process	Largely <i>fait accompli</i> with opportunity for limited amendments
COMMENTS	Survey results and feedback ignored but early engagement with community groups would have avoided this disastrous outcome	Grandeur has been reduced in favour of a theme park while retaining the functionality of the earlier proposal
CONCLUSION	Site left derelict and an eyesore which brought Plymouth into disrepute	Incoming administration has inherited a derelict site and is now focussed on improvements which PCS generally supports
<p>***</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stakeholders, including constituted community groups, invited to express their desired outcomes of proposal early on. 2. Main design options described with stakeholder comments accepted and responded to in a considered manner as a dialogue. 3. Leading option developed with knowing how much support it has with stakeholders. 4. Stakeholders asked to work with the Council in promulgating the scheme's benefits and explaining the downsides. 		

7.12.9 Plymouth Community Homes

Hello, apologies for the delayed reply.

I have responded via the survey on behalf of PCH but just to add that Plymouth Community Homes is in full support of the proposed scheme for Armada Way, and welcomes these proposals for the city of Plymouth.

Thank you,

Mary

7.12.10 Plymouth Culture

Dear Plymouth City Council and ECF

We have gathered feedback from the Creative and Cultural sector in order to inform our response to the newly proposed scheme for Armada Way. We recognise the challenges that have been faced over recent months as a result of the tree felling, and we welcome the opportunity to contribute directly to the revised plans.

We want to see positive transformation of Armada Way, and across the city, so that we can show ourselves to be an ambitious but responsible city of the future. Continuing to establish ourselves as a cultural destination is an important component in this vision, hence the central role we feel culture and creativity can and should play in the city's regeneration plans.

Through the feedback and our experience within the city and the sector we have identified structural, operational and strategic suggestions relevant to the Armada Way scheme. We feel these go beyond just creative ideas and should be viewed as imperative to the success and longevity of the scheme.

Structural

- From our collective experience of producing outdoor artworks in places and spaces across the city, we have identified a number of areas of concern with the current plans that we believe need further development:
- The ground is not level which presents challenges for performers with some artforms, such as dance, and some performers, such as wheelchair users, disproportionately impacted. We understand the gradient is to be reduced but not levelled and we would recommend that this is reconsidered if you are to avoid limitations in the usability of the space.
- The skateability of the full site has not been sufficiently considered. Skating has a long history in our city and offers important social, physical and mental wellbeing benefits to those who engage in it as a sport or hobby. The urban skaters in our city are one of the few communities who make use of the city centre post 5pm and we would not wish to see them displaced. Rather, we ask that this community is involved in discussions regarding street furniture, placement, materials, desire paths and design to ensure the scheme is skate

friendly. More than simply designing to withstand skating, we would advocate for full skate integration, learning lessons from cities such as Southampton and Leeds.

- The extensive play park offers many social benefits for children and families and we welcome its inclusion within the scheme, and the conversations that are being held with Make Space for Girls. Given our changeable weather, something that is only going to get more extreme with the impact of climate change, we feel it essential that the play area has a shade/cover over it. This will make it safer during rainy and sunny periods alike and is a common feature across European cities.
- The need for shade/cover is not only applicable to the play area. For the pop-up and flexible spaces to be fit for purpose we need to consider undercover possibilities. We ask that portable, temporary and permanent undercover options are fully explored with the sector to identify suitable proposals.
- Acknowledging the play provision for children and families, we feel there is little to no provision for young people more broadly. As a city with a high proportion of residents and students aged 20-24 we would like to see further consideration for what they may want and need within the city. We hope this will come through the consultation process but the creative sector is well placed to engage with young people on this matter if there is further opportunity for conversations.
- Whilst we welcome the provision of pop-up and flexible spaces, these need to be better defined or there is a risk they will not meet anyone's requirements leaving them somewhat redundant. In particular each location needs to be checked for clear lines of sight, seating, power and pedestrian and cycle traffic to ensure they are usable, fit for purpose spaces. Renaming them as 'event spaces' would help to define usage. Again, we have experienced individuals and organisations within the cultural sector who can advise on these specifications.

Operational

Aside from the capital works themselves, careful consideration needs to be given to the programming of the space/s. It is unrealistic to think that artists, creatives and performers will simply activate the spaces without an effective programming and booking system.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with Plymouth City Council and Plymouth City Centre Company to establish an accessible booking system that would enable community and creative organisations to make use of the spaces. This will need to be streamlined, clear, affordable and responsive to enable great ideas to be realised in the city centre.

To assist with the activation of the space we advocate for a revenue budget to be made available during the development phase and for at least two years after the scheme is complete to enable creatives to activate the space. This is strategically important for driving footfall and creating safe spaces. When spaces are activated on a consistent basis, including as part of the night time economy, it creates a safe, welcoming and vibrant environment, acting as a deterrent for anti-social behaviour.

Much of the above would be addressed within an updated events policy, which we request is developed in partnership with the sector across the city centre. This will help to take account of the practical considerations needed to make creative use of the space a reality. It would be helpful to establish an implementation group focused on further developing the event spaces.

Strategic

Once complete the scheme will be transformational, but we want to stress the need for this programme of work not to sit in isolation. Further, strategic work needs to be undertaken by the local authority to engage landlords within the city centre to activate vacant units.

Every place and space within the city centre need to be vibrant and Armada Way should be seen as just one piece of this jigsaw. Just as we need an updated event policy to cover the entire city centre, we also need a meanwhile use policy, travel policy and a night time economy strategy to ensure a joined-up approach.

We believe passionately that the creative and cultural sector have much to offer in terms of transforming the city and driving community engagement. It is essential that we play a central role as part of the decision-making process and not simply as part of the consultation phase. We request that Plymouth Culture are invited to join the decision-making group for Armada Way and city centre regeneration programmes, with scope to engage other representatives and expertise from within the sector on specific matters.

We hope that these comments and recommendations will enhance the scheme further and we reiterate our desire and willingness to be involved in the schemes development as it progresses.

7.12.11 Plymouth Cycling Campaign

Hello.

Regarding the ongoing issue of the redevelopment of Armada Way. A consultation has been launched by ECF on behalf of the council, the plans including a cycle path. PCyC have been consulted as a stakeholder and our current thoughts are below. As a 'Stakeholder' PCyC will feedback to ECF on the current plans which can be found on the commonplace website [here](#) and a pdf [here](#)

According to ECF The plans for the cycle path have been audited to ensure they comply with the Government guidance for cycling infrastructure LTN 1/20 a copy of which can be found [here](#)

PCyC Comments

- Width of path. PCyCs interpretation of LTN 1/20 differs to the plan. The current planned width 2.55m seem too narrow for a 2-way path, bounded on both sides for much of its length by various features (Steel barriers that form the planting beds and the water feature). Our understanding of LTN 1/20 would indicate a width of 3 or 4.5m dependent on volume as the desirable width. ^{See Note 1}
- Crossing Mayflower St? What is the intention to enable pedestrians and cyclists to cross Mayflower St.
- What happens around Cornwall St? It isn't clear what happens at this junction.
- Where are all the Bike racks? The Website states, "There will also be covered cycle racks" Some can be seen on the plan, above Mayflower St to the right? PCyC contend there should be quality bike stands (Sheffield Stands) in multiple locations along the length of the path. ^{See Note 2}
- If exiting the cycle path to access shops or homes / accommodation, how is this done i.e. Do you have to dismount?
- Does the geometry / width work for etc especially around chicanes. Should the angled bends be smoothed out, especially to accommodate Cargo bikes, Recumbents & trikes. The website states "The cycle path has been designed to assist cyclists of all abilities by giving them a safe route through Armada Way".
- Sight lines should not be obscured by plantings etc, (plan is to have 500mm high beds with Hedging on top for some lengths of the path) ^{See Note 3}
- The website states that regarding LTN 1/20 this has been approved by AECOM can this be seen?
- Note the proposed cycle path ends at New George St, so the presumption is bikes will blend with the general pedestrian flow as a shared space.

- There are multiple potential interactions with pedestrians along the length of the route as stated on the website “In areas where the cycle path crosses over the pedestrian footway, cyclists will need to slow down and give way”.
- Currently this is a ‘Green route’ (slower / leisure cycling) on PCCs Strategic Cycling Network, Given the change of use of some of the buildings to accommodation / housing and as the website states “The aim is to encourage more cycling to and in Armada Way”. Is it anticipated the volume of cycling traffic will increase and what is the provision for Commuters? ^{Seen Note 4}
- Trees, although not a PCyC remit per se, environmental considerations can’t be ignored and the felling of any remaining trees to create the cycle route would be ‘problematic’. In fact trees are increasingly recognised as a useful form of soft segregation as per LTN1/20 7.4.6

7.12.12 Plymouth Tree People

Plymouth City Council has produced a revised scheme for regenerating Armada Way and invited comments through the consulting agency, ECF.

Plymouth Tree People has shared the proposals with its members and, after discussion, the charity’s Trustees wish to make the following comments based on the information presented so far. We may make further comments as more information becomes available and particularly wish to see:

- Dimensioned or scaled plans in order to compare the areas of hard and soft surfaces with those in previous designs.
- the Arboricultural Method Statement, which should cover the conduct of construction work next to the retained trees and the translocation processes.
- the detailed rationale for translocating each of the six trees affected. This should have been explained more fully in the consultation materials.
- the most recent Biodiversity Net Gain calculations.
- The long-term management plan.

We acknowledge how the design has evolved to accommodate a variety of uses and how the designers have successfully incorporated all except six of the surviving trees into the revised scheme.

As in previous consultations, the commitment to providing better rooting conditions for the sixteen Liquidambar in the Piazza is most welcome. We also note with satisfaction that Koster oaks are no longer to be included, and Scots pine and stone pine will be there to enhance year-round interest.

The design remains heavily characterised by the wide expanses of unshaded paved surfaces which are presumably to satisfy a requirement for close surveillance. We maintain this is a misguided priority when climate change will bring hot summers and wet winters, and tree cover becomes essential for mitigating the effects on people and places. Tree numbers are not the only consideration; spacing and choice of form

are equally relevant. The proposed design makes extensive use of *Acer campestre* 'Lineco' which is one of the tight-canopy field maple clones. More spreading forms are available, and ought to be used instead with consequential benefits for local climate mitigation, quality of place and peoples' perceptions. Such a substitution would have minimal impact on individual safety and, indeed, research suggests there is a strong link between better tree cover and reduced crime.

In the proposed planting scheme, field maples make up 13% of the total tree stock which exceeds the '10-20-30' rule advocated by the Tree & Design Action Group and the British Standard BS 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations. It should be quite possible to achieve a better species mix without compromising the design's overall integrity.

We are at a loss to comment on the choice of *Ginkgo biloba* 'Mayfield'. Male clones do not feature in the Hilliers catalogue whereas Barchams has this to say: *"Female plants fruit after 35 years or so and it is not possible to determine the gender until this event. Male clones such as Mayfield, Saratoga and Tremonia are disappointing in their lack of vigour. Lakeview and Princeton Sentry are the pick of the male types but remain difficult to grow, rarely come to market and command a tidy premium."*

The topiary roof form *Platanus x hispanica* 'Malburg' should make an attractive feature provided the annual 'trim and train' regime is maintained. Regrettably, experience of other schemes makes everyone very sceptical that this will happen beyond the initial establishment period, and it should be remembered that the need for cyclical pruning was one of the reasons cited against Armada Way's former street trees.

Although not directly related to the regeneration of Armada Way, the consultation materials include this statement: *"In addition to this scheme, we are currently working on plans for a separate new urban-forest project (a small, dense patch of trees planted closely together). This would be an additional 147 trees planted in the south of Armada Way (outside the Crowne Plaza) and would form part of the new administration's pledge to increase tree canopy cover across the city centre. Detailed information regarding the proposed urban-forest outside the Crowne Plaza will be published when this project is further developed."*

This illustrates how the design process has been opaque, not only for Armada Way but also for every other public realm project. It is a systemic failing and requires urgent resolution because the current practice of publishing fait-accomplis plans when there is very little scope to influence them leaves people angry or apathetic, neither of which is good for an engaged society. Enlarging the stakeholder base to include relevant constituted groups from the outset would be one way to address this.

We conjecture that the small dense patch being proposed for the Crowne Plaza area would be a 'Miyawaki forest' although no further details are available. Whilst we welcome the ambition and scale of such planting, we believe in the guiding principle of 'right tree, right place' and have serious reservations whether this can be achieved on a site that lies between two existing formal tree rows which frame views to the Naval War Memorial and set within a Grade II listed registered park and garden. Miyawaki

forests were developed in Japan to recolonise post-industrial land, and this has also informed their use elsewhere. The system has not been trialled in the UK for its long-term prospects in typical public-realm settings.

Meetings have been offered as part of this consultation and we request one be arranged to discuss options for:

- Reducing the area of hard surfacing.
- Increasing tree cover.
- Addressing the area in front of the Crowne Plaza.

Penny Tarrant
Chair
30th October 2023

7.12.13 South West Water

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the Armada Way scheme. Pennon Group PLC write on behalf of South West Water limited (SWW) in their function as Statutory Water & Sewerage Undertaker for all four Local Planning Authority areas.

To be consistent with our 2025-2030 business plan (available here: [Business plan 2025-30 | South West Water](#)), SWW wish to highlight some high-level issues and opportunities pertinent to achieving the vision described within the proposal. Many of the issues and opportunities have been addressed within the Armada Way proposal, for which SWW support. These high-level aspects include:

- Water Efficiency:
 - o Reuse;
 - o Recycle;
 - o Rainwater Harvesting;
- Drought Resilience:
 - o Flood and Drought Cycle Resilience;
- Combined Sewer Connection Restrictions:
 - o Adherence to the Disposal Hierarchy;
- Green Infrastructure Principles:
 - o Water Quality;
 - o Soil Stability;
 - o Nutrient Neutrality; and
 - o Slow the Flow.

SWW support the inclusion of sustainable water management through the inclusion of SuDS, rain gardens and rainwater harvesting. As Climate Change progresses, we are seeing increased impacts on our water resources and on the landscape itself. With the expected trend of hotter and drier summers, and wetter and milder winters, there is an increased risk of flood and drought cycles becoming a more regular occurrence. Utilising rain water gardens and rainwater storage will aid in reducing surface water run-off during flood events, reducing potential flows into the sewer network.

It is a strategic priority of SWW to reduce the current use of Combined Sewer Overflows (see more here: [storm-overflows-and-pollutions.pdf](#) ([southwestwater.co.uk](#))). Reducing potential surface water flows from development sites into the combined sewer network will be crucial to achieving this aim. Additionally, maximising the use of surface and rainwater on-site will aid in reducing flows entering the sewer network.

In the future we will be developing a planned collaborative scheme with PCC and the EA to install a new surface water pumping station at Millbay and implement a scheme to pick up and attenuate surface water connections from the City Centre, including the SuDS outlined in this proposal for Armada Way. The Armada Way proposal has been developed with collaboration in mind to enable simple connections at a later date, with consideration for potentially taking this proposal further enabling complete surface water separation from the combined sewer network at a later date. Whilst other opportunities for reducing surface water entering the combined sewer network such as permeable paving and green roofs have not been mentioned the potential inclusion of these may enhance the solution further.

SWW support the use of water efficiency and water conservation planning policy requirements for development within existing local plans, and would support specific policy encouraging/requiring water reuse, greywater recycling and rainwater harvesting. The promotion of these types of water efficiency techniques are a priority for SWW. As part of SWW's drive towards this aim, SWW have given away 240,000 free water efficiency devices along with the promotion of our Stop the Drop scheme (more info available: [water-quality-and-resilience.pdf](#) ([southwestwater.co.uk](#))). All of which aid in maximising the sustainable use of water resources and reducing stress on the sewer network.

In your proposal you state "Our ambition is to bring a large amount of residential development into the centre..." this would generate an increase in water demand and wastewater generation. Is there information that can be shared on potential domestic and commercial increases to understand the impact on water use and sewage capacity requirements? Are there plans to ensure this future development will implement water reuse, greywater recycling and rainwater harvesting? We would also like to enquire on the water source for elements of the proposal such as the Phoenix fountain and splash play areas. Are these going to need to utilise potable water or will it be treated surface water runoff?

An area SWW would encourage further exploration of opportunities would be through the use of multi-functional green infrastructure. It is noted that "Nature is at the heart of the new scheme" and the rain garden and reed bed elements of the project are good examples of this. This goal is additionally supported by SWW in the relation to the water quality, soil stability and nutrient neutrality benefits associated with the use of nature-based solutions and multi-functional green infrastructure, when partnered with Sustainable Drainage Systems. Earlier this year, SWW published our Green First Framework, which sets out SWW's intention to prioritise the use of nature-based

solutions where possible and practical (more info available: [our-green-first-framework_final.pdf](#) ([southwestwater.co.uk](#))).

The current Armada Way proposal includes use of urban trees for biodiversity net gain and support of wildlife in the city centre; however, SWW would also highlight their use for carbon storage, solar and temperature regulation. Particularly within urban centres where the urban heat island effect will be exacerbated by Climate Change. The use of strategic deciduous tree placement would enable solar regulation during summers and maximum solar gain during winters. Especially during the summer period, reducing the impact of the urban heat island effect will assist in reducing the need for water to compensate for the increased temperatures, assisting in the sustainable management of our water resources.

The scheme mentions use of solar power to help the Council's Net Zero aspirations is supported by SWW. It is essential that Net Zero is achieved to minimise the impacts of Climate Change, of which some have been discussed above. Net Zero is similarly a priority for SWW; during the process of building our 2025-2030 business plan a survey of SWW customers found 9 out of 10 consider it important that SWW are an environmental leader in the region ([net-zero-and-environmental-gains.pdf](#) ([southwestwater.co.uk](#))). Progress has already been made in this sector through SWW's continuing transition to an all-electric vehicle fleet and increasing our sustainable energy generation capacity.

It is noted within the 'Working smartly to deal with the city's rainwater' section there is mention of preliminary works for preparation of a district heat network. We would like understand your future plan for district this infrastructure and whether SWW has a role to play in this and to assess any potential impacts, for example water resources.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this draft document, and we look forward to further collaboration with you in future.

7.12.14 STRAW

Nature and Greenery

The information provided in this section is too lengthy and may appear overwhelming to many respondents. It gives the impression of a 'hard sell' which seems unusual for a consultation of this nature.

The details on the height of the proposed trees are misleading, stating that all new trees will be 3.5m-8m tall, whereas only one tree is stated to be 7m+.

The information on Plymouth City Council's plan to plant 147 trees (what we believe to be a Miyawaki forest) on the grass outside the Crown Plaza on the Hoe should not have been included in this consultation. We are surprised that ECF have allowed the inclusion of this element, given that it is not related to the Armada Way development (i.e. it is not within the red line boundary), has not yet been approved and might never

happen. This element is an irrelevant distraction from the point of the survey, and could be considered greenwashing. This would be in the Conservation Area, and this area is on the Historic England list of registered Parks and Gardens. We do not believe that planting a large, dense mass of trees here is appropriate for the Hoe. It is not, 'Right tree, right place'. Plymouth City Council have recently cleared an urban 'mini-forest' at the top of Armada Way, stating that it was attracting 'anti-social behaviour'. Why would this be any different?

We request that ECF forward the rationale for allowing the inclusion of this potential (as yet unconfirmed) proposal, that is not part of the Armada Way development plan.

We have concerns around the given responses that can be selected for this survey question, particularly: '*That as many existing trees as possible will remain where they are*'. The definition of what is 'possible' is not given, and it is stated within the consultation that the plan is not possible without the translocation of 6 trees. As such, this perhaps should be interpreted as '*retain the existing trees apart from the 6 that it is not possible to retain*'.

This survey question should include an additional selectable response: '*That all existing trees remain in situ*'. Leaving this option out essentially creates a bias and we believe this is a flaw in the survey design.

We request that ECF provide the rationale for leaving out an option to select '*That all existing trees are retained*' and ECF's opinion on whether this creates a bias in the survey.

The proposal to remove more trees is particularly disappointing considering the very public upset and anger caused by the council's decision to fell so many healthy, mature trees in Armada Way in March of this year. In doing this, Plymouth City Council ignored the results of their own consultation which showed that 'an overwhelming majority of respondents were against the scheme in any form'.

We do not believe convincing reasons have been given for the removal of a further 6 trees.

It appears from the information provided that the reasons for removing the trees are largely design elements which could be modified.

We have repeatedly requested the detailed Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDs) plan as this was one of the reasons given for the removal of these trees. Despite our requests, we have not received this information and therefore cannot be assured that this is a convincing reason for removal of further mature trees.

In January of this year, Plymouth City Council ruled out translocating any trees due to both the significant costs and the very high risk of them not surviving. Former Councillor Drean stated in a full council meeting "*All advice I have received, including from tree experts, the city council's own Natural Infrastructure team and the Woodland Trust was that it was not advisable, they will die*". Because of the definitive ruling out of any potential to translocate trees previously, we would have expected to see the

detailed rationale for this complete change of opinion. We note that Plymouth City Council announced at around the same time that *“Some 25 existing trees were identified as potentially possible for translocation, but this is now not being taken forward as it is not regarded as good arboriculture practice and the relocated trees are unlikely to survive the move”*.

The condition of the trees has not been cited as reason to remove any of these 6 trees and we presume that Plymouth City Council consider them to be in a good condition (as evidenced within the previous Arboricultural Method Statement) otherwise they would not be proposing translocation.

Plymouth city centre has very low canopy cover - approximately 5% - compared with an average in urban wards of 17.3%. The Woodland Trust have previously recommended a minimum of 20%. Established trees have a much greater chance of contributing to an area's canopy cover than newly planted trees (which are vulnerable and have lower survivability), and as such they should be considered of utmost importance. Moving these 6 trees from an area of such low canopy cover to an area with approximately 30% cover does not make good sense.

These existing mature trees are already providing the social, health and environmental benefits that cannot be provided by young trees for decades. Very few of the proposed trees will grow to be significant in size. Only 2 might reach the size of some of the trees felled in March.

The proposed design has only 20% 'green coverage' – it is not very clear what this means but it is even less than the previous design. Green spaces are important for people to escape the hustle and bustle and the mental health benefits are well documented. The design remains heavily characterised by the wide expanses of unshaded paved surfaces. Armada Way was, until recently, considered a Green Corridor by Plymouth City Council. This design will not bring back Green Corridor status. The lack of information on planting other than trees is disappointing. Armada Way is a very wide area and could support the planting of more significant tree varieties and could be made much greener and nature-rich.

We were informed by Plymouth City Council in February that a budget for long term maintenance of the scheme would be published in the summer. The design is very similar to the last one, so it is disappointing that this still has not happened. It is our understanding that S106 money cannot be used for long term maintenance.

The council leader has made repeated promises to retain all the trees, even using it as an election pledge, but has now reneged on this pledge. In June, Cllr Evans, expressed an opinion that “protesters”, by which we assume he means people who are associated with STRAW, cannot understand words longer than 1 syllable because we were sceptical of his claims that all the trees would actually be retained long term. These comments were insulting and it now appears that our concerns were valid.

The consultation material states that the report of the consultation will be complete by December 19th and that in early 2024 the council will publish the new design. It took 4

months for the council to finalise the design prior to the consultation. We question whether adequate time has been allocated for any modifications to the design based on the findings of the consultation.

Another concern is that the survey relies heavily on qualitative data. As demonstrated with the February consultation, comments are not represented in graphs. The report from February distilled all of the comments about retaining more trees into 1 sentence with no indication of how many people had included this in their response. A recent FOI request has revealed that Plymouth City Council didn't actually count how many people expressed a desire for more trees to be kept. We have been informed that all responses from the previous consultations will be relied upon but this figure appears not to have been calculated. Given the significant changes to the scheme, the lack of information provided at the time on the Armada Way scheme and the length of time since the 2018 'consultation', we do not believe it is appropriate to rely in any way on the results from this consultation.

We request that ECF provides information on how qualitative information (that respondents may submit in free text format) will be analysed and reported upon.

We recently requested a face-to-face meeting with ECF and a representative of PCC. We anticipated that the meeting would have been attended by representatives from STRAW, PTP and other stakeholders, such as Environment Plymouth. We were told by a member of the ECF team "*we acknowledge your request, however, but this is not something we have arranged with any other groups and therefore it would not be equitable to offer it to STRAW*". Following this refusal, we have learned that at least one meeting with ECF, representatives of the PCC design team and a stakeholder group was held and that this meeting was arranged by ECF.

We request that ECF provide the reasoning that stakeholder groups have not been consulted equally, given that other groups have met with the scheme's design team and Straw's request for this was refused.

7.12.15 The British Land Company

1. INTRODUCTION

As a major stakeholder in Plymouth, we write in response to the Plymouth City Council consultation on the Armada Way Design Proposals. We are encouraged to see the proposals progressing and positively support the consultation to secure the most appropriate design interventions for Armada Way.

Armada Way is an important central space connecting the city centre from the railway to the Hoe, extending 500 metres in length and circa 40-60 metres wide. British Land are fully aware of the challenges faced by Plymouth City Council and the Contractor seeking to deliver a project of this scale through our experience on other large-scale assets in London and throughout the UK.

We have reviewed the Armada Way public realm proposals alongside Macgregor Smith, our Landscape Consultants in Plymouth, and set out the following comments for consideration. Our response has taken into account the challenges of scale,

budget, maintenance, and effective management for sustainable urban development. The proposals for Armada Way will require a carefully balanced response to deliver regeneration alongside aesthetic appeal and practical functionality.

1.1. British Land in Plymouth

British Land's ownership in Plymouth comprises Drake Circus and the Barcode, alongside a number of high-street mixed-use assets along New George Street, Royal Parade and Old Town Street.

Drake Circus shopping centre, acquired in 2011, has over 70 retail and food & beverage units extending across circa 550,000 sq ft. The centre dominates the city's retail offering and benefits from annual footfall of over 19 million. The Barcode, developed by British Land in 2019, provides circa 110,000 sq ft of accommodation adjacent to Drake Circus, including a 12-screen Cineworld cinema and 14 restaurant/leisure units.

2. RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION

2.1. Transport and Movement

We understand the intention is for vehicular access to be limited to North Cross Roundabout, Mayflower Street and Royal Parade, the exceptions being drop off to Copthorne Hotel, maintenance access and emergency vehicle access, which is welcomed.

Promoting cycling routes through the city centre is welcomed and positive. However, further detailed consideration should be given to the routing of the cycleway along Armada Way. The zig-zag route through Zones 1, 2 and 3 could result in conflict between pedestrians and cyclists in numerous locations. Of particular concern is the proximity of the cycle routes to play areas and potential conflict with children. A more direct and clearly defined route would enable conflict to be minimised, and visitors to enjoy the retail experience and associated public realm, offering a safer route while promoting increased dwell time. The cycle connection through Zone 4 to Royal Parade is not clear from the proposals.

The use of dockless scooters and electric bikes along Armada Way could also cause conflict with pedestrians and restrict movement.

Questions to Consider

1. Can the zig-zag cycle route be reviewed to minimise conflicts and cycle speeds?
2. Has a full safety audit been carried out for the proposals?
3. Has a DFT Cycle Review been carried out for the proposals?
4. Have the PADAN Access Group been consulted?
5. Have any capacity studies been carried out in relation to pedestrian and cycle route flows and their dimensions?
6. Is more information available on the capacity and distribution of cycle storage?

7. How will Hostile Vehicle Measures be integrated into Armada Way and adjoining streets?
8. What is the strategy for addressing dockless scooters and electric bikes in relation to movement and parking zones?

2.2. Floorscape

The proposals identify the use of a high-quality natural stone floorscape along Armada Way which is supported. There is a reference to a preference for a buff, warmer-toned surface finish rather than a grey tone which is supported. The type and source of materials is not stated in the consultation documents but appears to be granite. In response to the climate emergency, circular economy, and carbon footprint, we are of the view that all natural stone should be UK or European sourced. We understand and support Plymouth City Council's ambition to use natural stone and maintain a consistent approach to get the most efficient use of stone for Armada Way and reduce the Carbon Footprint.

Current British Land projects indicate UK and European natural stone achieve significantly lower embodied carbon when compared to suppliers in China, India and Vietnam notwithstanding the circular economy benefits of local suppliers.

Questions to Consider

1. Recent projects, such as the Barcode, have followed the Plymouth Paving Manual. Will Armada Way follow this document to achieve a consistent strategy?
2. Has the carbon footprint of the project been considered in the selection of materials?

2.3. Trees

The proposed street trees on Armada Way are listed in the public consultation material, as follows:

- *Acer campestre* Lienco – Leinco Field Maple
- *Alianthus altissimma* – Tree of Life
- *Alnus glutinosa* – Common Alder
- *Alnus glutinosa* 'Imperialis' – Cut Leaved Alder Tree
- *Amelanchier lamarackii* – Snowy Mespilus
- *Betula ermanii* – Golden Birch
- *Betula pendula* – Silver Birch
- *Betula utilis jacquemontii* 'Doorenbos' – Himalayan Birch
- *Pinus sylvestris* – Scots Pine
- *Cercis siliquastum* – Love Tree
- *Crataegus crus-galli* – Cockspur Hawthorn
- *Corylus colurna* – Turkish Hazel
- *Gingko biloba* 'Mayfield' – Maidenhair Tree
- *Platanus x hispanica* – London Plane (Topiary Roof Form)
- *Pyrus calleryana* Chanticleer – Callery Pear
- *Crataegus laevigata* 'Pauls Scarlet' – Double Crimson Hawthorn

- *Tilia tomentosa* Brabant – Silver Lime
- *Ulmus New Horizon* – New Horizon Elm
- *Pinus pinea* – Stone Pine
- *Acer platanoides* – Norway Maple

We welcome a diverse selection of street tree species that are adaptable to climate change, drought, disease, and pollution. Consideration should be given to high, clear stemmed street trees to accommodate large emergency vehicles (circa 4.0m) and delivery lorries. The use of high clear stemmed, semi-mature trees will also enhance invisibility for pedestrians and views to retail frontages.

The detail of tree pits urban conditions will be critical to the long-term health and growth of the trees, although expect this will be considered in the next design phase. In this regard, the trees planted on Cornwall Street as part of the taxi rank works at the north entrance to Drake Circus seem to be thriving by comparison with the trees planted in conventional tree pits, which are showing signs of stress and limited new growth.

The tree planting strategy includes a significant number of small-scale trees. Given the quantum of space, we are of the view that the street would benefit from using more of the core large-scale trees such as *Platanus x hispanica* - London Plane, *Tilia cordata* – small-leaved Lime, *Ulmus New Horizon* – New Horizon Elm, and *Acer pseudoplatnus* – Sycamore, rather than the Alder, Pear Field Maple and Snowy Mespilus.

We understand the need to increase tree cover following the recent tree loss but would note that in some locations, trees are planted very close together and may require maintenance and thinning only a few years after planting. In Zone 1, for example, *Tilia tomentosa* 'Brabant' are to be planted in tight groups of three trees, where only one tree may be preferable. We note that the *Tilia cordata* are growing well in the city and support their use. *Betula utilis* - Himalayan Birch are planted in a group of 25 trees in a triangle. Native Silver Birch or Downy Birch may instead help to reinforce the placemaking and connection to the wider natural landscape. The grove could also be extended to a larger area rather than one triangle to respond to the scale of the street? In Zones 2 – 3, *Pinus pinea* – Stone Pine are proposed at the junction of Armada Way and Cornwall Street. We welcome some evergreen trees but this species of tree may cast shade on the PV canopy structures.

Questions to Consider

1. Can the tree planting strategy be reviewed to ensure the core tree species are providing a robust and large-scale legacy that responds to the scale of the street and maximises tree canopy cover and climate emergency?

2.4. Planting

Lawns and Wildflower Meadows

The proposed amenity lawns will be a positive offer to the city centre and enhance dwell time during the spring, summer and autumn months. We are of the opinion that while biodiversity is a priority, the use of wildflower meadow planting in the city centre reduces the flexibility of the spaces and carrying capacity. Areas of lawns would be more suitable and support increased dwell time.

Ground Cover Planting

Whilst urban greening is supported, there are significant areas of garden beds that will require significant maintenance and management. At the detailed design stage, the plant species and scale/complexity will need to be considered carefully to optimise maintenance and management, while responding to the large-scale space.

Hedges

The proposals incorporate several hedge gardens. The original Better Places proposals offered a simpler composition of trees and lawns that may have enabled better intervisibility, reduced maintenance and more flexibility for different uses and events.

Rain Gardens and Swales

The incorporation of swales and rain gardens in the designs are a positive.

Questions to Consider

1. Can the wildflower meadow areas be relocated to large areas i.e. The Hoe?
2. Can the rain gardens be strengthened along Armada Way?
3. Can the extent of hedges be reviewed to enhance security and reduce maintenance demands?
4. Is there an opportunity to strengthen rain swales to reinforce the functional water management initiatives as part of the street?
5. How do the swales and rain gardens connect to the drainage infrastructure that has been installed into New George Street?

2.5. Street Furniture

The distribution of substantial street furniture along the length of Armada Way is welcomed. Further consideration of seating with back support should be considered for older users and wheelchair access.

Questions to Consider

1. Has a before and after seating study been carried out to quantify the offer and deliver adequate provision?
2. Does the seating provision enable social interaction and improved dwell time?
3. Has the PADAN group been consulted on the proposals?
4. Can the weathered steel wall edges be reviewed to increase seating provision?

2.6. 'Other Spaces' and Structures

The plans incorporate triangular PV solar canopy structures centrally in the street. The inclusion of weather protection is welcomed and encouraged to enhance dwell time and enjoyment of the space throughout the year. The structures will, however, require regular upkeep and maintenance.

We are supportive of the plans for pop-up traders, although the quality of the operators will need to be carefully controlled and managed.

The provision of external café terraces is welcomed and supported in regenerating and enlivening the city centre.

Questions to Consider

1. Will the solar canopies provide good value in relation to power and energy production?
2. A holistic city centre energy strategy would be beneficial, utilising the substantial number of flat roofs in the city centre?
3. How will the pop-ups be managed to ensure quality is maintained?
4. Is there potential to absorb the kiosk uses into the shop frontages of vacant shops?
5. Has a strategy for external café seating been developed? Will the areas shown provide enough space for the existing requirement as well as the potential for future expansion?
6. Has consideration been given to simple canopies for the café terraces?

2.7. Wayfinding

Wayfinding is an important element within the public realm, particularly in this key location in the city centre. There is very little information (if any) on how wayfinding is to be incorporated into the designs.

Questions to Consider

1. Has the wayfinding strategy been considered, including details of elements and locations?
2. How will the wayfinding connect to other initiatives currently underway on Old Town Street, New George Street, Royal Parade and Civic Square?

2.8. Public Art

Plymouth City Centre has a collection of public art installations, which are an asset to placemaking, wayfinding, and community inclusion. Public art offers a unique opportunity to further amplify the special qualities of Plymouth City Centre. It is not clear from the proposals how public art will be utilised on Armada Way.

Questions to Consider

1. Is more information available on the public art strategy for the street?

2.9. Water Features

We welcome the use of water features in the city centre and the opportunity for playable elements, although they are very expensive to install and maintain. There have been several water features in the city centre in the past that have not been functioning that detract from the quality of the place. This needs to be carefully addressed in any future proposals.

Questions to Consider

1. Is there funding for the maintenance and management of the water features in the long term?
2. Has a ROSPA review been carried out on the water features?

2.10. Water Management

We support the use of sustainable water management initiatives through Armada Way.

Questions to Consider

1. Is more detail available on the water management components and planting proposals?

2.11. Play, Recreation, Health and Wellbeing

We support the integration of play and recreation in Armada Way, although the quantum proposed will be expensive and require adequate funding for ongoing maintenance.

Questions to Consider

1. Will there be a play offer for youths as well as younger children?
2. Can seating and café areas adjacent to play areas be enhanced for accompanying adults?
3. As already mentioned under section 2.1, can the cycle routes be adjusted to design out potential conflicts between cyclists and play areas?
4. Can the edges of walls be considered linear playable elements along Armada Way?
5. Has a ROSPA review been carried out on the play elements?

2.12. Change in Levels

We understand there is a significant change in level along Armada Way. There are several areas where steps are proposed, which may limit access and permeability of the space.

Questions to Consider

1. Can the stepped areas and associated handrails be reviewed to minimise access restrictions?

2.13. Lighting, Services and Utilities

We appreciate and are supportive of the enhancements to street lighting, to ensure a safe environment for all to enjoy throughout the day. The addition of feature lighting is also a positive addition.

Questions to Consider

1. Will the street lighting be consistent with Old Town Street and New George Street?
2. We understand that GOBO lighting projection is being proposed. Can this be coordinated with the light projection to Old Town Square? Further information on this would be helpful.
3. Are the lighting and CCTV systems coordinated?
4. Have the existing services and utilities been identified to enable coordination of work?

2.14. Heritage

The regeneration of Armada Way offers a unique opportunity to express the special qualities of the original bold Abercrombie vision and celebrate the mid-century heritage of the city. Elements of the 2018 Better Places proposals delivered a strong symmetry and scale that responded to the heritage of the architecture. The use of granite natural stone and warmer tones is supported. Weathered steel edging is shown on some of the visuals and identified to over clad existing concrete walls.

Questions to Consider

1. Could the symmetry and scale of the proposals be refined?
2. Does the use of weathered steel edges offer the best value and respond to the mid-century architecture?

3. SUMMARY

Overall, British Land welcomes and fully supports the transformation of Armada Way Public Realm. We trust that our comments are helpful and constructive, with the aim of helping to ensure maximum success of the scheme in transforming the city centre and acting as an enabler for future investment.

This is a large and challenging project and based on our own experience, we hope that sufficient consideration has been given to the cost management of the design proposals to help achieve the vision, ensure deliverability, and guarantee best value.

Inclusion of robust maintenance and management plans, and ensuring funding is in place for the long-term, is also paramount to ensure lasting quality.

We are encouraged to see New George Street taking shape. No doubt there is potential for knowledge transfer from Old Town Street and New George Street to ensure maximum success in the design and delivery of Armada Way.

The newly transformed Armada Way will help to unlock future investment in the city centre, although a robust investment strategy will also be required for the existing building stock adjacent to Armada Way, currently challenged by numerous vacant and neglected buildings.

A detailed phasing plan will be necessary to allow visitors, residents, and businesses to plan for future works and minimise disruption. We will require further information on this at the appropriate time.

We would welcome the opportunity for further detailed engagement as the proposals develop following the Consultation. We would happily attend further meetings to discuss the design and process.

7.12.16 Woodland Trust

The Woodland Trust (WT) welcomes the consultation process and the opportunity to comment.

While WT welcomes the retention of a number of the existing trees, we were disappointed to see a number still proposed for removal. We understand and appreciate the reasons given but would ask that PCC review the design and see if further trees can be retained through amendments to the drainage scheme, access layout and the proposals for compounds and works areas.

While it is testament to the Councils commitment to not lose any further trees, if the City Council intends to rely on translocation then WT would like to see that undertaken as a published trial to ensure monitoring and reporting. Our understanding of translocation generally, however, is that it is costly and likely to yield limited success. We would sooner see that resource invested in retaining the trees where they are, or to secure greater tree cover both within the scheme and across the city, ideally in pursuit of 5 points outlined below.

Overall, The Woodland Trust welcomes the City Councils commitment to trees and woods in the City and looks forward to continue to work with the City Council, other organisations and residents on:

- Bringing into urgent effect the administration's commitment to double tree cover in the city centre. The Trust welcomes the City Council's recognition of the significant health and wellbeing benefits that well located new tree planting brings for residents. The Trust has offered to work with the City Council to apply a Tree Equity approach to ensure that comparable targets are adopted

for all Plymouth wards where there is significant inequality of access to trees and green space.

- That the City Council set out their ambitions for delivering on these commitments (along with those of partners including the Woodland Trust) in an updated and resourced Plymouth Plan for Trees . That this be adopted by March 2024 for accelerated delivery in the next financial year.
- That the City Council continue to support and promote delivery of trees and woodlands through the Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest and celebrates the role the forest can play in ensuring healthy trees and woods throughout the city for future generations.
- That the City Council establish the promised Plymouth Tree Panel made up of interested residents and organisations who can work with the City Council to see the plans turned into delivery.
- That the City Council support those organisations putting on the 2024 Plymouth Festival of Trees.

I am handing over to Ian Froggatt as Regional Director and he would be very happy to pick up discussions with you and the City Council. Ian can be contacted at ianfroggatt@woodlandtrust.org.uk.

7.13 Coded feedback received from email and phone line

Theme	Sub-Theme	Number
Positive	Generally supports proposals	9
Design	Restore the underpass	4
	Not enough open space	2
	Spruce up the Hoe	2
	Too many open spaces	1
	Too much going on	1
	Tacky design	1
	Boring design	1
	Design should be curved	1
	Address wind tunnel issue	1
	Move Derry's clock	1
Maintenance	Open to vandalism	3
	Pavements unsafe	3
	Will fall into disrepair	3
	Committee should be set up to oversee changes	1
	Include waste bins	1
Consultation	Bad grammar	1
	Survey forces you to choose an option for every question	1
	Lack of consultation from previous administration	1
Play areas	Play areas shouldn't be in town centre	2
	Not enough play areas	2
	What is being included for disabled children?	2
	Include sheltered seating in play areas	1
Sensory garden	Include sensory planting	1
	What is in sensory garden?	1
Water features	Reintroduce water stream	1
	Include water feature	1
	Insufficient water treatment in plan	1
	Include modern fountain	1
Cycling	Address reckless driving of cyclists	4
	Intersections between pedestrians and cyclists dangerous	3
	Plenty of signage	1
	More bike storage	1
	Cyclists should be made to dismount	1
Greenery	More greenery	3
	Trees to add colour	2
	Include eco-trail	1
	Encourage planting from residents	1
	Trees create dark areas	1
	Not too many trees	1

Theme	Sub-Theme	Number
Shops	Lack of diversity of shops	1
	Open floors above shops to residents	1
Seating	More seats	4
	Seating with back rests	3
	Not too many seats	1
Other	Space for Quakers has been left out of plans	1
	Add drop kerbs for mobility scooters	1
	Space to showcase creativity	1
	Display featuring history of Plymouth	1
	It is difficult for businesses to get 'change of use'	1
Number of respondents		50