

# Dovehouse Green

## Analysis of stakeholder consultation

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# Introduction

## Background

The open space at Dovehouse Green, will be improved this year with hard and soft landscaping improvements such as new planting, paving repairs, street furniture improvements and new interpretation boards. The land is owned by the church and was laid out by the Chelsea society in 1977 so the fundamental design won't change. The works will be funded by a Section 106 contribution from a neighbouring development. The Council wanted to seek the views of local residents and users of the open space on their proposed improvements. Further details of the proposed improvements can be found on the next slide.

## Methodology and report

Design boards of the proposed changes were created and published on the Council's website. Alongside this, a short online survey was developed to capture feedback on the plans. A total of 69 completed online surveys were received as well as a number of email submissions.

Where graphs are shown, percentage figures are used. Where percentages do not total a 100 per cent, this may be due to computer rounding, where respondents have chosen not to answer a question or where respondents have been able to select more than one answer.

## Appendices

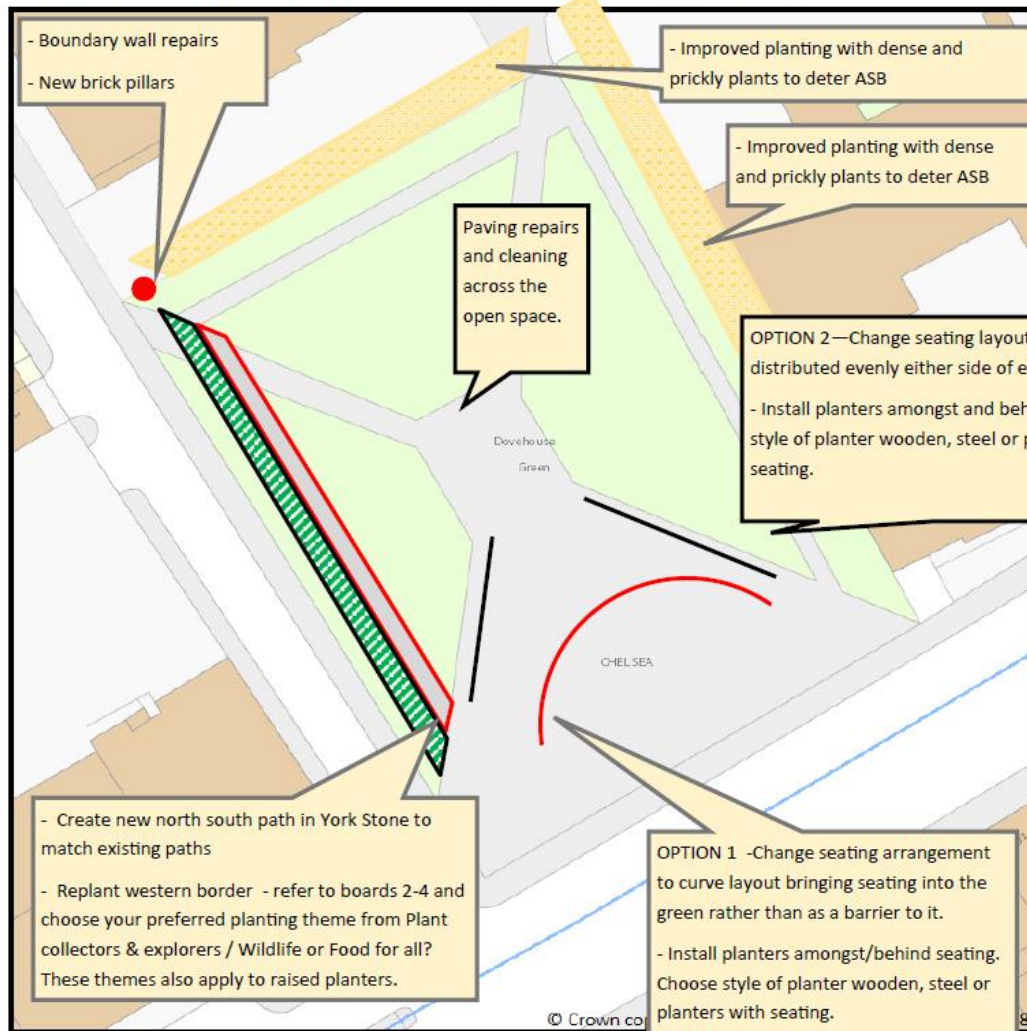
An appendix report is available separately. This contains the data tables of the results, all the comments made by respondents in relation to the open questions in the survey and all additional submissions made by email. All additional submissions have been given due consideration by the Parks Service.

## Acknowledgements

The Council would like to thank all residents that took the time to feedback their views as part of this exercise.



## Dovehouse Green Proposed Improvements - the land is owned by the church and was laid out by the Chelsea Society in 1977 so the fundamental design won't change



**New brick pillars**

**New litter bins**



**Choose Style of planters?**



**Interpretation signage**



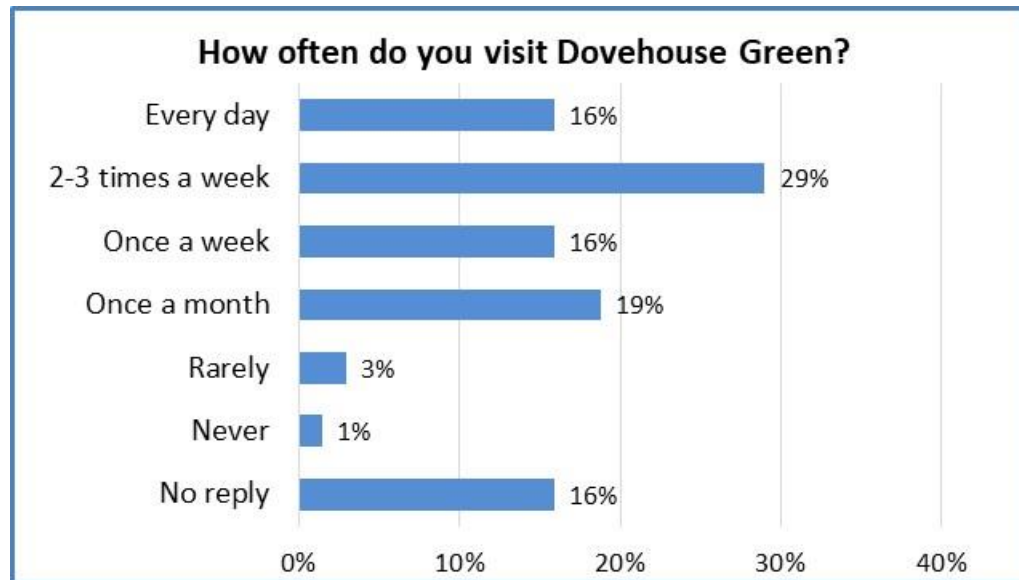
# Results at a glance

- **Visiting Dovehouse Green:** The majority of respondents were regular visitors to Dovehouse Green with sixteen per cent of respondents visiting every day and 29 per cent 2-3 times a week.
- **Overall Support:** Over three quarters (78 per cent) of respondents were in favour of the overall improvements to the outdoor space. Seven per cent stated they weren't in favour of the overall improvements and 12 per cent stated that they didn't know.
- **Seating and planters:** Over half of respondents (51 per cent) selected option 2 (seating and planters in a V formation adjacent to existing path network) with a third (33 per cent) selecting option 1 (seating and planters in a curved formation, facing out to Kings Road).
- **Style of planter:** Views were almost evenly split between the three options of planters with 33 per cent selecting the planter with seating attached, 32 per cent the wooden planter and 29 per cent the steel planter.
- **Theme for western border:** The most popular choice was wildlife chosen by over half of respondents (54 per cent), followed by plant collectors and explorers (26 per cent) and then food for all (12 per cent).
- **Theme for raised planters:** The most popular choice was again wildlife (42 per cent) but this was more closely followed by plant collectors and explorers (33 per cent) and then food for all (17 per cent).



# Consultation findings: Use of Dovehouse Green

The majority of respondents were regular visitors to Dovehouse Green with only three per cent stating they visited rarely and one per cent never. Sixteen per cent of respondents visit every day and 29 per cent 2-3 times a week. A further 16 per cent visited once a week and almost one in five (19 per cent) once a month.



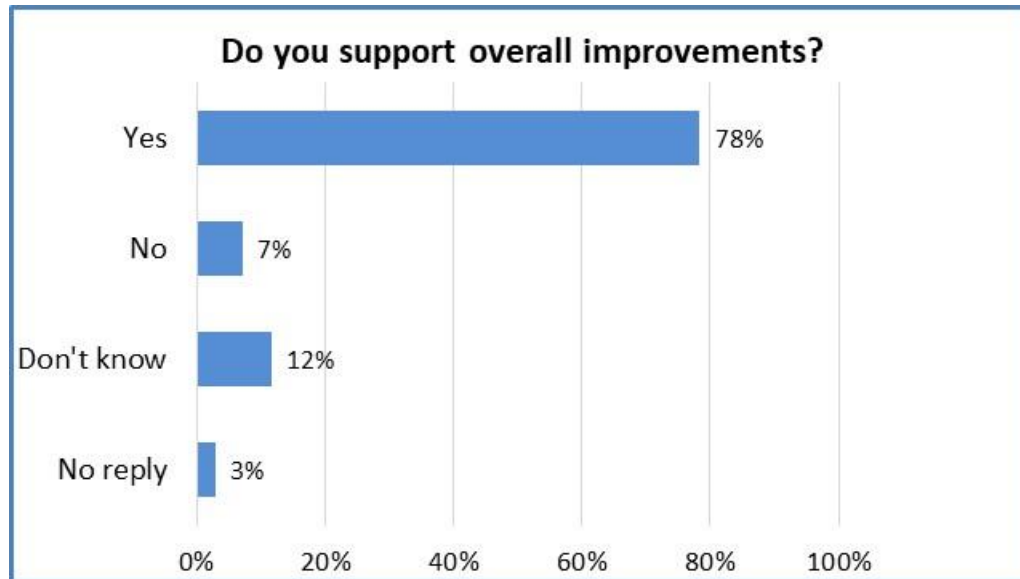
**Base: All responses (69)**



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# Consultation findings: Support for overall improvements

Over three quarters (78 per cent) of respondents were in favour of the overall improvements to the outdoor space proposed by the Council. Seven per cent stated they weren't in favour of the overall improvements and 12 per cent stated that they didn't know.



**Base: All responses (69)**

# Consultation findings: Additional comments

Those that stated 'no' or 'don't know' to the previous question about support for the overall improvements planned were asked to comment further. The comments have been themed (comments may contain more than one theme) and summarised in the table below. A selection of the comments made can be found on the next slide. The full list of comments made can be found in the appendix report.

Themes	Comments
Additional suggestions for changes	6
Planting	5
Seating	3
Support for plans	2
Opposition to plans	2
Planters	2
Other	1



# Consultation findings: Other comments

*Proper drainage. Better tended grass. New low-level lighting at back of Green to deter ASB. Safe paving/paths with level surfaces. Beds, possibly with low railings, instead of planters (less likely to be vandalised/littered.)*

*I support changes to Dovehouse Green to be more inviting and friendly to visit, and encourage community interaction*

*I am concerned that the plans modernise and thereby make bland the history of the space and its importance to Chelsea.*

*We think that the Green is fine as it is. It needs to be properly maintained and that no further trees should be cut down.*

*More wildlife options such as bee friendly flowers.*

*I think the v shaped seating will be more inviting to use the space.*



*I feel overall the plans are acceptable and will make a huge improvement to the green as it has been left unattended and uncared for. However, I am concerned about any planters as the green is used by alcoholic drinkers who smoke and leave rubbish and planters generally attract rubbish. I am also very concerned that the beautiful mature trees are not interfered with.*

*Like most of the proposed changes. Question changing the line of benches into a circle or a V. I think the current line of benches actually reinforces/protects the street edge of the green from traffic and busyness.*

*A border to the front of the garden. Low level box hedging*

*Want the tall lime trees to be preserved*



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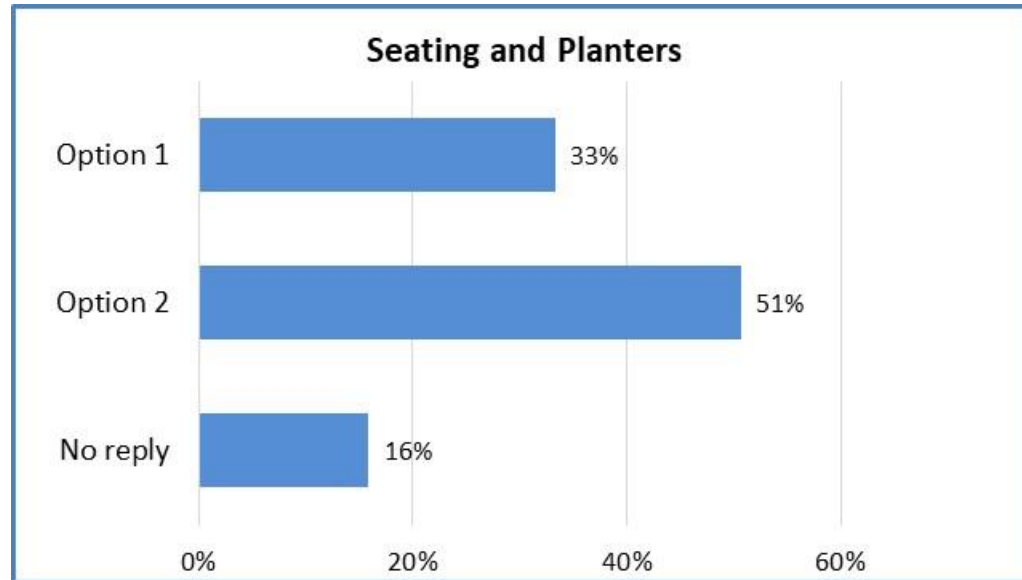


# Consultation findings: Seating and planters

Respondents were asked to choose between two possible options for the location of the seating and planters:

- Option 1 – seating and planters in a curved formation, facing out to Kings Road
- Option 2 – seating and planters in a V formation adjacent to the existing path network

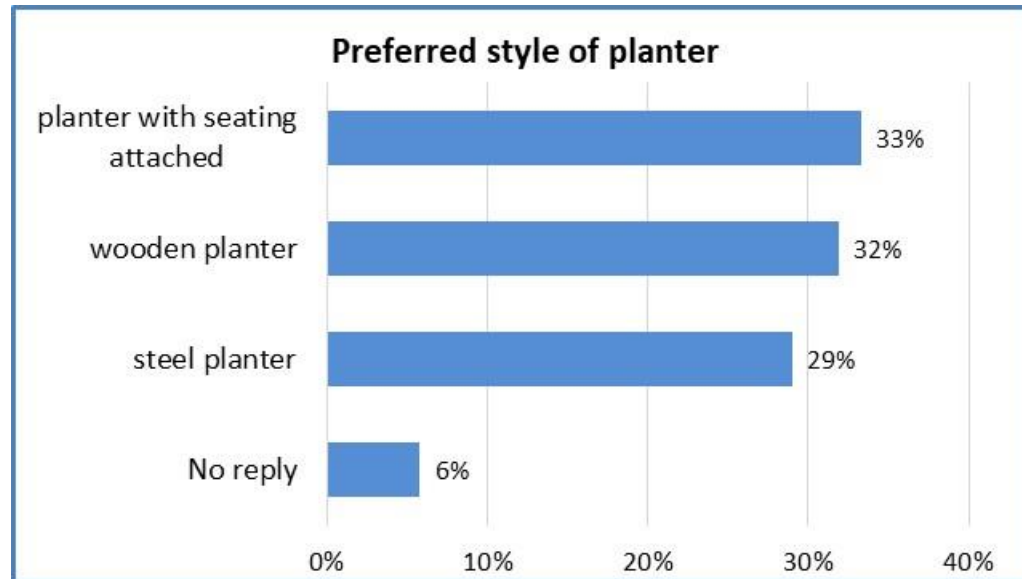
Over half of respondents (51 per cent) selected option 2 – seating and planters in a V formation adjacent to the existing path network with a third selecting option 1 – seating and planters in a V formation, facing out to Kings Road (33 per cent).



**Base: All responses (69)**

# Consultation findings: Seating and planters

Respondents were given the option between three styles of raised planters. Views were almost evenly split between the three options with 33 per cent selecting the planter with seating attached, 32 per cent the wooden planter and 29 per cent the steel planter.



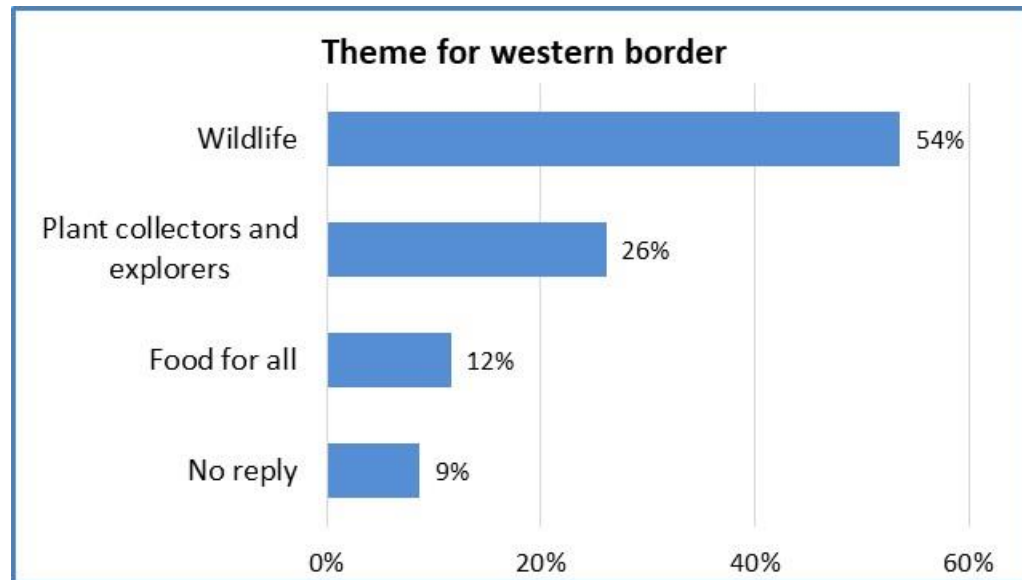
**Base: All responses (69)**



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# Consultation findings: Replanting of western border

As part of the improvements, it is proposed to replant the western border, respondents were asked to select a theme for this replanting. The most popular choice was wildlife chosen by over half of respondents (54 per cent), followed by plant collectors and explorers (26 per cent) and then food for all (12 per cent). More detail on the planting themes can be found on the next slides.



**Base: All responses (69)**



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# Dovehouse Green Planting Schemes

## Theme 1 Plant collectors and explorers

An homage to the Veitch Family Nurseries, well-known plant collectors who had a plant nursery in Chelsea and designed the formal gardens in St Luke's Gardens when the area was first opened as a public park.

Feature plants will be species introduced to the UK by Veitch Nurseries, or named after the Veitch family and the plant collectors they employed.

Lower level planting and spring bulbs, while not all linked to Veitch Nurseries, will complement the scheme and provide wildlife benefits.



**Tulip tree:** introduced to UK by Veitch Nurseries



**Magnolia stellata:** first plants to flower in the UK were collected and grown by Veitch Nurseries



**William Lobb Rose:** William Lobb was a famous plant collector who worked for Veitch Nurseries



**Echinops ritro 'Veitch's Blue'**



**Desfontainia spinosa:** a Veitch nurseries introduction



**James Veitch Rose**



**Berberis darwinii:** Discovered by Darwin and introduced by the plant hunter William Lobb for Veitch nurseries



**Clematis montana var. wilsonii:** wilsonii. Introduced by and named after Ernest Henry Wilson a plant hunter linked to Veitch Nurseries

This board gives an indication of the theme only; the plants on this board may not all be used in the scheme and more plants will be added to the design if this theme is chosen.



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# Dovehouse Green Planting Schemes

## Theme 2 Wildlife

This scheme has been designed to provide maximum benefits for pollinators and wildlife. Nectar-rich flowers, log piles, insect hotels, and berry-producing shrubs will support a wide range of invertebrate lifecycles providing food and shelter.

Plants in this scheme will be chosen from BugLife, Butterfly Conservation Trust and Bee Conservation Trust plant lists.



**Insect Hotels and Log Piles** provide shelter for solitary bees and other insects



**Perennial Wallflowers** flower from April through the summer and are great for butterflies



**Hawthorn:** Small native tree good for birds and insects



**Echiums and Honesty** are a magnet for bees and butterflies in the summer



**Hellebores** provide early flowers and will feed pollinators active on sunny winter days.



**Hebes** and other flowering shrubs provide shelter and nectar



**Broom** supports invertebrates at varying stages of their lifecycle

This board gives an indication of the theme only; the plants on this board may not all be used in the scheme and more plants will be added to the design if this theme is chosen.



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# Dovehouse Green Planting Schemes

## Theme 3 Food for all

Plants that are edible for both people and wildlife including herbs, fruit and medicinal plants.



Thyme, Marjoram, Sage, Rosemary, (clockwise from top left) - are just some flowering herbs that are great for wildlife and provide nectar for pollinators.



Borage and Echinacea: Medicinal plants that are also good forage for pollinating insects.



Fruit trees: such as elder, crab apple and sloe (top to bottom) produce blossom and nectar in spring and edible fruit in the autumn which is also good for wildlife.

This board gives an indication of the theme only; the plants on this board may not all be used in the scheme and more plants will be added to the design if this theme is chosen.



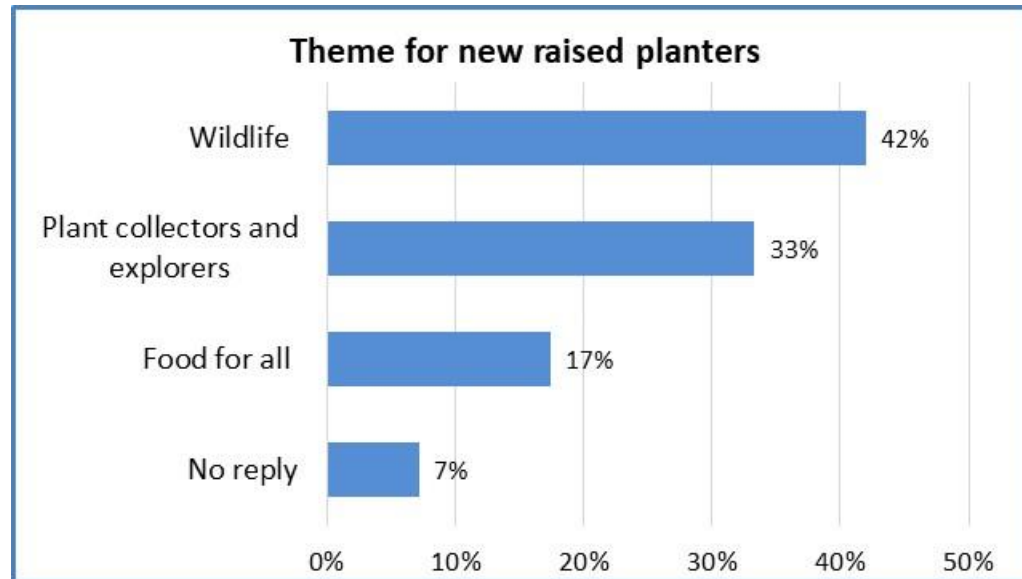
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# Consultation findings: New raised planters

Respondents were also asked to select a theme for the new raised planters. The most popular choice was again wildlife (42 per cent) but this was more closely followed by plant collectors and explorers (33 per cent) and then food for all (17 per cent) than for the choice for the western border. More detail on the planting themes can be found on the previous slides.



**Base: All responses (69)**



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# Consultation findings: Additional comments

Respondents were asked for any other comments they had about the plans for Dovehouse Green. The comments have been themed (comments may contain more than one theme) and summarised in the table below. Some examples of the comments made can be found on the following slide and the full list of comments made can be found in the appendix report.

Theme	Comments
Planting	15
Planters	7
Additional suggestions for changes	6
Seating	3
Community Events	2





# Consultation findings: Other comments

*The selected plants will need to be shade-loving, given the well-established trees on the Green.*

*Hardy less maintenance would be good. Being a gardener in Kensington Gdns I would suggest lavender, sage and rosemary all can be used for cooking attract bees and insects don't need too much water. This dotted with a few flowering plants would be really good, allowing people to brush the plants and smell the aroma.*

*Planters are fine for Chelsea Flower Show designs but are completely unsuitable for the King's Road. They are asking to be vandalised and it is unlikely that they will flourish under the trees which we would wish to retain*

*Please could there be a water fountain and could there please be some re-cycling bins or could the bins have two sections?*

*Bright colours, scents and a range of textures in the leaves. And please, planters with round borders Those hard squares are painful to bump into*



*You could have herbs n edibles in plants with seating so people can smell n also stroke the plants to release fragrance in them, lavender, rosemary, thyme etc etc*

*This green has never felt very safe until families visited during lockdown. Consider lighting and community events like a farmer's market.*

*We are benefitting - in these times of covid - from increased awareness of wildlife in the area, it would be positive psychologically and beneficial environmentally, to continue to develop and encourage this.*

*How about a mulberry tree given their historical (and continuing) prevalence in the area.*

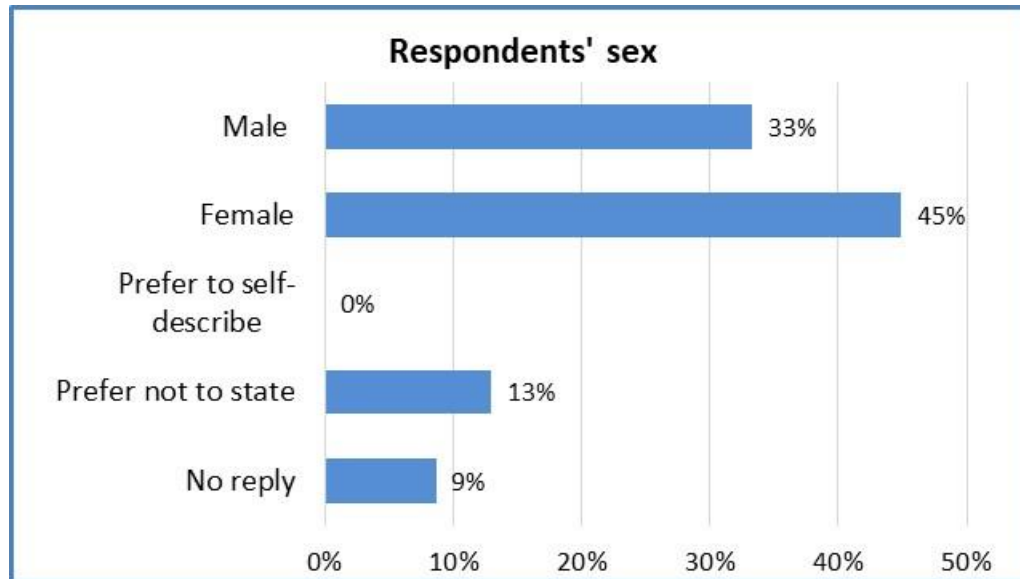
*Negative on raised planters. Why not beds? Important that plants suitable for mostly shade be used where tree cover is dominant.*



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# Consultation findings: Respondents

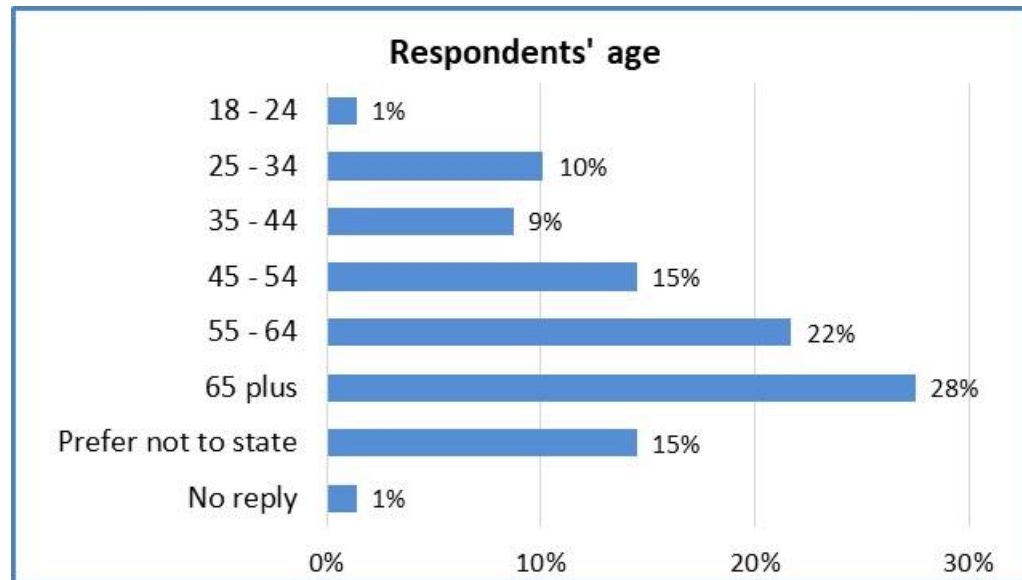
The majority of respondents to the survey were female (45 per cent) with a third (33 per cent) of respondents being male.



***Base: All responses (69)***

# Consultation findings: Respondents

The majority of respondents to the survey were aged over 45 with 15 per cent in the 45-54 age range, 22 per cent 55-64 and 28 per cent 65 plus. One per cent of respondents were aged 18-24, ten per cent 25 -34 and none per cent 35-44.



**Base: All responses (69)**