

Barbican Renewal

Report of public consultation held 30 January – 17 February
2025



Photo by Dion Barrett

May 2025

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Introduction

Barbican Renewal is the Barbican Centre's plan to ensure every part of its iconic site is restored, revitalized and relevant for future generations. At the heart of Renewal is a commitment to celebrating the architectural vision and heritage of the Centre, with a programme of sensitive conservation and upgrade to bring the buildings back to their best, while also delivering a place that is truly inclusive, sustainable and resilient.

Over the past four decades the Barbican Centre buildings have deteriorated significantly. Through Renewal, building systems and ageing materials will be upgraded and restored, while underused areas of the site will be unlocked, releasing their full potential for public, civic and creative use.

Barbican Renewal is already underway, with essential improvements being made to systems and visitor facilities. The next phase of work from 2025-2030 proposes complete restoration and refurbishment of key public spaces including the unique brutalist Foyers, Lakeside Terrace, and Conservatory. Subject to planning permission, construction will begin in 2027 with this first phase complete in 2030, ahead of the Barbican's 50th anniversary.

This report outlines the activity and responses to a public consultation exercise held from 30 January to 17 February 2025. The following sections describe first how the consultation was conducted before presenting the consultation feedback alongside project responses across four themes:

1. Renewal overall
2. Foyers
3. Lakeside
4. Conservatory

Summary of consultation activity

The consultation presented information in the four themes listed above, and covered the following areas:

Renewal overall outlined the need for the project and work to date since it began in 2021; set out four design principles that are guiding development of the projects; and presented information about the architectural heritage of the Phase 1 spaces.

Foyers, Lakeside and Conservatory highlighted the many varied uses of these spaces; detailed some of their key features; summarised the problems with them now; presented architectural proposals with drawings; and explained how these would meet the design principles.

The material was made available online at barbican.org.uk/renewal and presented at an exhibition in the Centre's Level G Studio in its main foyer from 1 to 16 February, which attracted almost 4,000 visitors across the two weeks.



Figure 1: images of the exhibition space with information presented on display boards and architectural models used to illustrate the spaces

The online content and exhibition were supplemented by a range of meetings and events, as follows:

- A pre-briefing meeting with ward councillors and representatives of the Barbican Association and Barbican and Golden Lane Neighbourhood Forum
- A webinar held and recorded on the day the consultation launched with more than 100 attendees and subsequently uploaded to the consultation website where it has been viewed almost 500 times
- Five drop-in sessions of three hours each, attended by the project team and architects, held in the exhibition space at a variety of days and times through the consultation period
- A presentation and question-and-answer session for Barbican Estate residents

These activities were widely publicised to the local community, stakeholders and Centre audiences using a range of methods including emails, digital newsletters (from the Centre, City

of London and Culture Mile BID), letter drops, flyers and posters. See appendix 1 for details and examples of the activity.

People were able to respond to the consultation via a range of methods:

- An online survey at barbican.org.uk/renewal
- A paper version of the survey available in the Centre and posted on request
- By email to barbicanrenewal@barbican.org.uk or letter to the Centre

Other information collected:

Following the main survey, consultees then had the option to include information about their relationship to the Barbican and complete the Centre's standard diversity monitoring form, which is anonymised and held separately to the consultation material. Data on the relationship to the Barbican is presented below.

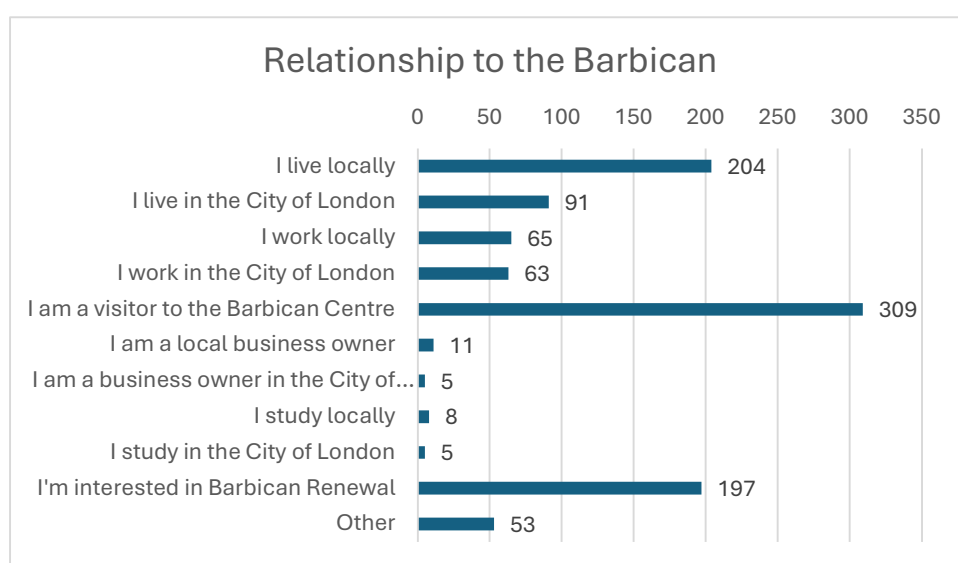


Figure 2: this chart shows responses given to the question about consultees' relationship to the Barbican Centre. It was possible to select all that apply.

The next section of the report presents the analysis of quantitative and qualitative responses to the consultation.

Analysis of responses

In total, 498 consultation responses were received. Most of these were from members of the public, but several were from stakeholder organisations as follows:

- Barbican Association Planning Subcommittee
- Barbican and Golden Lane Neighbourhood Forum
- Barbican Salvage Store
- House Groups for Frobisher Crescent, Gilbert House, Willoughby House
- Islington Society
- YMCA London City and North

The consultation survey asked questions across four categories:

1. The Renewal programme overall
2. Foyers
3. Lakeside
4. Conservatory

In each section, respondents were asked to answer a closed question, expressing their view of the proposals on a five-point scale from strongly disagree to strongly agree. They were also invited to submit any other comments in a free text box. Respondents were free to choose which of the questions they answered, although the online version of the survey required a response to the first closed question.

All the responses received, including some which were sent separately by email or letter rather than through the survey, have been analysed, coded and grouped into themes. These are reported in the following sections of the report along with a response from the project team. Stakeholder responses have been analysed alongside feedback from individuals.

Renewal overall: consultation findings and updates

Across the Renewal programme as a whole, 89% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with our proposals.

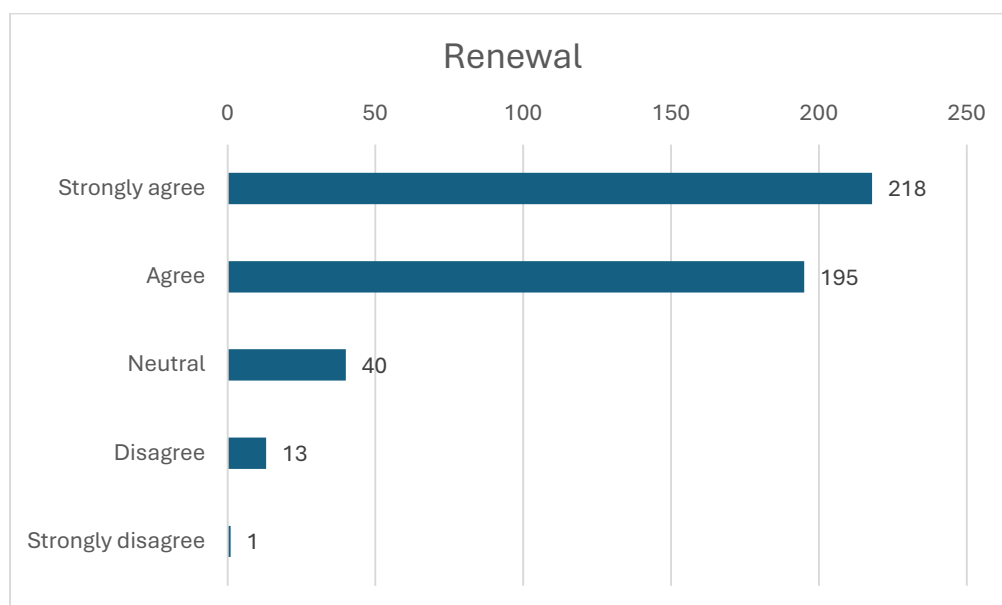


Figure 3: chart of responses to the Renewal programme overall

In written feedback a high level of support was expressed for the proposals overall as well as the design principles, including focusing on preserving and restoring the design and character of the Centre, and improvements to accessibility and sustainability. The following information summarises all feedback as well giving responses and updates from the project team.

General support for proposals:

Summary of feedback	Project response
The largest group of comments expressed general support for the need for Renewal and the proposals overall, including the design principles.	The responses are noted.

Planning matters:

Summary of feedback	Project response
A stakeholder response raised a concern about the lack of published listed buildings guidance for development at the Centre and proposed an independent heritage review.	Celebrating the heritage of the listed building is at the heart of the Renewal programme. As much as possible we are preserving and restoring original features, while making sympathetic upgrades where necessary to improve accessibility, reduce energy use, meet modern safety standards and improve visitor experience. Throughout this process we are advised by heritage specialists Alan Baxter Associates as well as engaging closely with key independent heritage advisors such

	as the 20 th Century Society and Historic England. Our plans will be further scrutinised through the planning process, including seeking listed building consent.
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Costs and budgeting:

Summary of feedback	Project response
A small number of responses requested further information about the funding, budget and costs of Renewal, including funding sources and where the investment will be spent. This included concerns about the structural integrity of the concrete and an assertion that Renewal would not be needed if regular maintenance was undertaken.	<p>The Renewal project has to date been funded by the City of London Corporation. This includes £25m to progress early, urgent works and a further £191m which will cover 80% of the costs for the Phase 1 projects. The Barbican Centre will be fundraising for the remaining Phase 1 budget.</p> <p>In addition to the visible improvements to the Foyers, Lakeside and Conservatory, a large part of the Renewal programme and budget will focus on the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems for the building. These include heating, ventilation and air handling, lifts, power distribution, lighting, fire systems, water supply and drainage. Even with regular maintenance such systems need eventual replacement and the Barbican Centre's outdated systems do now require complete replacement and upgrade, which is already underway. Investing in these essential areas means the Barbican will be able to continue to operate, with new systems functioning much better for visitors, artists and staff, as well as using significantly less energy.</p> <p>The concrete remains in good condition, but other parts of the building are life-expired and require replacement.</p>

Consultation and engagement:

Summary of feedback	Project response
A number of comments related to the consultation and engagement process. This included support for the process; concern that not enough detail has been provided for meaningful consultation; request for more information about co-design and how the Barbican can engage with a wide demographic range of audiences; and suggestions for engagement and partnerships with local community organisations.	<p>Renewal to date has involved an extensive programme of communications and engagement with local communities, stakeholders and audiences, including an initial consultation and listening exercise held in 2022, which helped shape the overall programme. For the Phase 1 projects the January/February 2025 consultation provided information about the main architectural moves proposed as well as our design principles and general approach to the project. The May/June 2025 stage of consultation is providing more information about key areas of interest, design updates</p>

	<p>and new images. More detail will be provided in the statutory consultation to accompany applications for planning and listed building consent in summer 2025.</p> <p>More information about our co-design process with young Londoners has been provided as part of the May/June consultation. In addition to this we are establishing an access and inclusive design advisory group for the project as well as engaging widely with local communities and organisations to ensure we hear from a wide range of current and future Centre users as well as those affected as local residents and neighbours.</p>
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Wayfinding:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Respondents expressed general support for wayfinding improvements along with a number of more specific comments, which covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion to learn lessons of previous changes, particularly where these are not considered successful • A small number of comments consider it unnecessary to improve wayfinding, including that wayfinding challenges are part of the charm of the Centre • Suggestion to restore historic signage and wayfinding systems • Retaining the current font for signage • Suggestions for different types of signage, e.g. colour-coded or tactile • Particular attention to the needs of disabled people • Usability testing 	<p>Improvements to wayfinding and signage will be a major part of Renewal, however design proposals are not yet developed so do not form part of this consultation. We are currently (May 2025) appointing consultants to work on this with us and all feedback will be shared with them as they start their work, which will be subject to future public engagement and applications for consent.</p>

Sustainability summary:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A range of support was expressed for prioritising sustainability in Renewal including making the building more energy efficient.</p> <p>There were individual suggestions to make Renewal part of the circular economy and to reuse materials wherever possible.</p> <p>A small number of respondents asked for more information about sustainability plans, including the energy source(s) and a very</p>	<p>Focus on sustainability is one of our four design principles across the whole Renewal programme and involves a wide range of activities, including installing more efficient building systems, upgrading facades to reduce heat loss, 'passively' controlling temperature in the Conservatory to minimise energy demand, installing new low energy lighting, and retaining and reusing as much original material as possible. The Centre is</p>

small number were sceptical about whether plans would achieve sustainability aims and questioned the need for net zero.	proud to be part of the City of London's work to reach net zero, which is essential as part of global efforts to mitigate climate change. More information about the Centre's work on sustainability is available at barbican.org.uk/our-story/our-building/sustainability
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Visitor experience:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Visitor experience was raised in a number of responses, with comments and suggestions covering aspects such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to focus on usability of the spaces • The spaces being confusing and stressful at times, particularly during performance intervals and when time-limited • Suggestion to create a calm atmosphere throughout the Centre with opportunities to relax • Positive features of the outdoor spaces • Suggestions for more exhibitions and interpretation of the architectural history of the Centre • Suggestions to use more technology and audio-visual experiences to bring the Foyers to life • Concerns about noise within the Centre e.g. in the Library when the Foyers are hosting events • Designing for children to actively engage with the space • A range of ticketing and customer information suggestions 	<p>Visitor experience is central to all the work through the Renewal project to revitalise the Barbican Centre. We are aware from audience feedback, staff knowledge and engagement and consultation of the current shortcomings of visitor experience and are seeking to make major improvements through Renewal. Our designs for the spaces seek to respond to all of the points summarised here, with a particular emphasis in the current phase of work on ensuring that the spaces are well set up for a wide variety of uses and needs.</p> <p>Some points raised here will be dealt with later in the programme, for example plans for exhibitions and other design details. In relation to events and noise specifically, it is our intention to move most commercial events and performances to Level -1, which will create more separation between these and the other open-plan spaces at Level G.</p>

Reactivating space:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Some responses focussed on the design principle of 'reactive space'. Most of these were positive and in support of making sure all parts of the Centre are well used and brought to life.</p> <p>There were some specific suggestions e.g. for local organisations and artists to activate the spaces; use of new technologies; and to avoid causing noise or nuisance to other areas. A small number of responses raised a concern about the Barbican becoming too</p>	<p>The positive responses have been noted. The Centre already works with a wide range of artistic and community partners and agrees with the feedback that Renewal creates an opportunity to activate the spaces more often. As part of our plans for the Foyers we intend there to be a more regular arts offering at Level G and we will also be programming more in the Conservatory as well as continuing our work to activate some of the outside spaces such as the Lakeside with public art. In doing this we will remain</p>

popular and crowded through this process and losing some of its 'hidden gem' charm.	mindful of our location and near neighbours. As custodians of a major public building and visitor attraction, and in line with the City of London's Destination City strategy, we do intend to grow visitor numbers and welcome a wider range of audiences. Renewal will allow us to accommodate this growth while ensuring that the Centre remains a pleasure to visit.
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Residents – noise and disturbance:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Local residents, while being broadly in support of Renewal, raised concerns about the potential for more activity in the outside spaces (Sculpture Court and Lakeside) that may cause noise nuisance. These concerns included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More eating and drinking on Sculpture Court and Lakeside terrace • Disturbance from the smoking area on the Sculpture Court • Suggestion to increase signage to avoid visitors encroaching on private areas • In general ensuring that changes and future operations do not impact on residents' quiet enjoyment of their homes through noise and/or light pollution 	<p>We are very conscious of being good neighbours and carefully balancing the operations and artistic programming of the Centre with the need to avoid undue noise and disturbance and prevent public nuisance.</p> <p>We will continue to work closely with residents' representatives (particularly the House groups, Barbican Association, Neighbourhood Forum and ward councillors) throughout the development of Renewal, including updating our Visitor Management Plan in consultation with residents to manage any impact on the local community.</p>

Residents – construction:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Local residents raised the need to consider construction impacts on their homes. Highlighted issues included maintaining access, air quality and dust, noise and light pollution, traffic management, working hours and the need for regular engagement. There was also concern about this work happening alongside other neighbouring developments.</p>	<p>We are aware that Barbican Renewal is happening alongside many other changes in the local area, including improvements to the Barbican residential estate, the proposed 'healthy neighbourhood' scheme affecting surrounding streets and developments of neighbouring sites. We are working closely with colleagues in the City of London, including with the Barbican Estate Office and City Surveyors team to coordinate work and minimise the impacts of multiple projects happening simultaneously.</p> <p>We are aiming to keep the Centre open throughout Renewal although different parts of it will need to close at times. We do not yet have details of the construction programme, though we are committed to working closely with residents and other local stakeholders to find ways to keep disruption to a minimum while enabling us to complete the projects.</p>

	We will have more detail on this ahead of planning applications in summer 2025.
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Residents – communications and engagement:

Summary of feedback	Project response
Stakeholder groups representing residents stressed the need for ongoing close engagement and pre-application meetings to understand the detail of proposals ahead of the planning application.	We are committed to keeping local stakeholders and residents informed, engaged and consulted throughout the programme. Since the first consultation we have met with key local stakeholders to discuss their responses and give more information on our plans.

General concern and suggestions:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A small number of other specific suggestions and concerns were raised in some responses, covering the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern that previous eras of Renewal have not always been successful and that these proposals are the right, lasting changes for the Centre's future • The need for ongoing maintenance to prevent the Centre returning to disrepair • Suggestions to compare with renovations to other similar age buildings • Concerns that the changes are too superficial or, conversely, too large scale 	<p>Barbican Renewal comes after more than 40 years of heavy use of the building and much of the focus of investment will be on conserving and repairing the original design as well as replacing building systems that are beyond their service life. Much of the work is essential if the Centre is to remain operational, such as replacing the failing glazing in the Conservatory and re-waterproofing areas that are leaking and causing damage to the building. Beyond this, many of the interventions are necessary and desirable to meet modern standards of access and inclusion and sustainability. Most of the architectural moves proposed are surgical and specific, while leaving much of the original design either untouched or restored. We are confident that this is the right approach and balance between preserving and celebrating the best of the iconic design while renewing and preparing the building for its next 50 years.</p>

Out of scope:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Out of scope summary:</p> <p>A number of responses raised issues that are out of scope of the current phase of Renewal, although some may be dealt with later in the programme. These covered the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the entrance from Level 2 high walks to the lift lobby • Suggestion for a ground-level bridge across the Lake from St Giles Terrace 	<p>While most of these areas are not currently planning for delivery during the 2025-2030 phase of Renewal the feedback has been logged and will be reviewed as part of future phases that may address some of these issues.</p> <p>There are some works taking place to the artistic venues that are not part of the Phase 1 proposals and do not require planning permission. This includes replacing the air</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving routes and wayfinding to and from the Centre via the podium from Barbican Underground station, Beech Street, Silk Street, from Moorgate, motor vehicle access via the Level -1 internal roadway, and providing more cycle parking • Improvements to the performance and exhibition spaces, including the Art Gallery, Exhibition Halls, Concert Hall • Renovating the large staircase from Defoe Place to the west side of the Art Gallery and Sculpture Court • Removal of the internal bridge, which is not original (and replacement of the original chandelier which hung in this space) • Improvements to backstage spaces for artists • Access to and from Cinema 1 / Pit theatre Foyer • Improvements to the wider Barbican Estate (including general maintenance, repair, lighting) • Improvements to the Members' Lounge 	<p>handling systems for the Art Gallery and Hall, back-of-house theatre systems, and upgrades to lifts and existing toilets across the Centre. Further expanded maintenance and improvement projects in these spaces could also be delivered during this first phase of work but are not part of this planning application.</p> <p>In relation to the internal bridge and chandelier, we do have a long-term aspiration to return to the original Foyer design, however this is not part of the current phase of work and would require an alternative step-free route from Silk Street to be created alongside alternative step free entrance routes into the Centre.</p> <p>Where some of these issues fall out of the Centre's authority (e.g. wayfinding and routes to and from the Centre on street and via the Estate highwalks) we will be working closely with the relevant authorities on their projects to try and ensure that visitors and audiences benefit from any changes.</p>
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Within the Renewal overall section of the survey, a wide range of issues were raised that relate to the individual projects for the Foyers, Lakeside, Conservatory and cafes and restaurants.

These topics are listed here, however, to save duplication, the specific issues have been addressed alongside other feedback on these projects and topics in the following sections of the report for the Foyers, Lakeside (including cafes and restaurants) and Conservatory.

Issues relating to the Foyers:

- Bars
- Carpet and flooring
- Box office removal
- Decluttering
- Prayer room
- Suggestions for different facilities and uses
- Shop relocation
- External doors to Lakeside
- Lighting
- Seating and furniture
- Toilets

Issues relating to the Lakeside, cafes and restaurants:

- Maintenance of the lake
- Shading of the ground floor café
- Lowering of the ground floor café windowsill
- Fountains
- Wildlife
- Catering provision

Issues relating to the Conservatory:

- General support or opposition to the proposals
- Water features
- Planting
- Public access

Foyers: consultation findings and updates

Consultation support for the Foyers proposals was very strong, with 88% agreeing or strongly agreeing with what was presented.

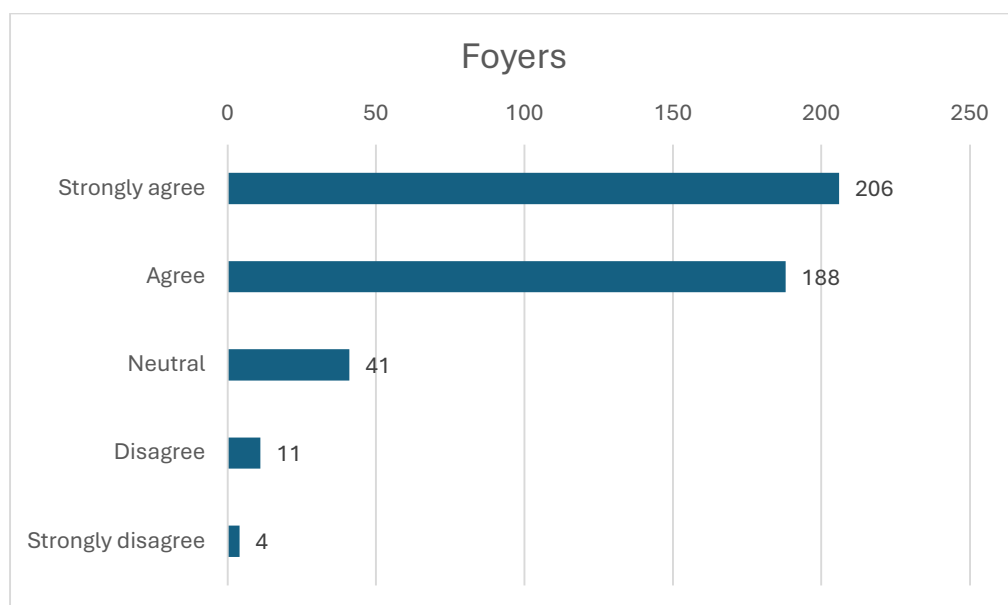


Figure 4: chart of responses to the Foyers project

The written feedback also reflected this positive response, alongside issues raised across a wide range of topics. The following information summarises all feedback as well giving responses and updates from the project team.

Seating:

Summary of feedback	Project response
There were numerous comments made in support of improved seating. Comments expressed support for additional seats to be provided across all levels of the building, as well as for seating to preserve original designs, including those by Robin Day. Some respondents suggested flexible work and study areas. A small number of people believed too many seats are currently being occupied by those who use the Foyers as a work or study space, and some respondents felt addressing this issue should be a high priority. Additionally, some people requested for more information about seating improvements and design proposals.	The Renewal programme will include significant improvements to furniture, with more places to sit and better and more flexible furniture for a range of needs and uses. The design of this will be developed at a later stage of the project and is not subject to planning permission, so no further details are available currently. We are however looking at zoning the spaces with the heart of the Foyers kept flexible for different uses and work/study areas provided separately to more social spaces.

Toilets:

Summary of feedback	Project response
There was significant support for improvements to the toilets, including	The Centre has always had too few toilets for the size of its venues and we propose to

<p>upgrading the existing facilities and providing more of them, particularly at Level G. There was also support for more accessible facilities including baby change. There was a clear theme that there should be more available for women to reduce queues. There was a small volume of feedback reflecting different opinions in relation to provision of unisex and separate sex facilities.</p>	<p>increase provision as much as we can within the constraints of a heritage building. We are also committed to making as many toilets as possible available for use by women. This includes providing more universal self-contained toilet cubicles, with additional new facilities at Level -1 and Level G and upgraded facilities at Levels 1 and 3, while retaining our main single-sex toilets at Level -2, along with those in the catering block. We will also be installing more accessible toilets of different kinds to meet all needs, with the aim that all visitors can conveniently access the right facility for them.</p>
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Doors to Lakeside:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>There was support for improving the connection to Lakeside including more accessible doors and increased transparency. Some concerns were raised about the proposals for a single line of doors due to possible noise escape and the potential for more heat loss in cold weather or heat gain in hot weather. A small number of responses also expressed a preference for the existing doors on aesthetic grounds.</p>	<p>The proposed design for the doors is intended to make them accessible for all users and to re-establish the historic link between the Foyers and Lakeside, which has been diminished by the later addition of a double layer of heavy, narrow doors. The set of doors by the main lifts will be converted to a fixed glass wall (not opening) and the three central bays will become the main route between the Foyers and Lakeside in line with the original architectural intention. We will no longer have the 'Free Stage' for performances at Level G, instead moving live amplified performance to Level -1, in a new location further from external doors, which will reduce sound escaping. Improvements to the building façade and glazing will help acoustic separation and reduce energy use, while an 'air curtain' will help to mitigate heat loss/gain.</p>

Lighting:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Support was expressed for improving the lighting in the Foyers, particularly where this preserves or restores the original design and character of the spaces. Several people commented on the design of the lighting, whilst a smaller number of people commented on the lighting conditions currently seen in the Foyers. There was one request for more information about the proposals.</p>	<p>Lighting designers have recreated the original light fittings using a low energy LED system. We intend to return lighting to each of the square 'coffers' in the ceiling of the Foyers which will create brighter spaces overall but also allow us to zone areas for different uses through adjustable brightness. The original scheme will be reinstated as far as possible</p>

General support:

Summary of feedback	Project response
Many comments offered general support for the Foyers proposals.	The feedback is noted.

Design and character:

Summary of feedback	Project response
Comments expressed support for proposals to preserve and restore the original design of the Foyers, and some were supportive of changes which improve views and sightlines in the Foyers. A few comments suggested that the original fixtures and fittings should be restored, and for original materials to be reused where possible.	The support has been noted. Renewal will retain and restore as many original fixtures and fittings as possible, and visitors should expect to see key features such as the brass handrails and door furniture, wood block flooring, terrazzo restored and retained, along with the monumental hand-hammered concrete. Where changes are being introduced, some of these will go back towards the original design (e.g. the doors to Lakeside, lighting fixtures) while new additions such as the proposed Foyer lift will be designed sympathetically to the originals.

Shop:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>There were a small number of comments on the proposals to relocate the shop. Some expressed concern due to the belief that the current location is effective, whilst the proposed location is harder to find. Others showed general support for the shop relocation. Some individual comments raised specific issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Suggestion to maintain the existing floorspace and branding in the new location• Concern that restored views across the Foyers might be blocked by the new lift shaft• Requests for more information on these proposals• Comments on the inaccessibility of the current shop	<p>The proposed relocation of the shop is designed to support several priorities of Renewal. It will restore key views across the Foyer from the Silk Street entrance, which are currently blocked. It will also help to activate the main heart of the Foyers, supported by the central bays of doors becoming easier to use. The proposed new lift will not block the view across the Foyers because it is being designed to fit into an existing concrete shaft. The branding for the new shop will be a later design detail and will be designed in keeping with the main Barbican brand. The floorspace for the shop is smaller than the current location over two floors, however it is sufficient for the Centre's retail needs and the new location will allow the shop 'spill out' into the Foyer if needed. The new shop location will be more accessible as it is on a single floor at Level G.</p>

Accessibility:

Summary of feedback	Project response
Proposals for increased accessibility to and around the Foyers was received positively. The most popular response included suggestions for practical improvements,	Design for all is one of our design principles for Renewal and accessibility for older and disabled people is a key part of achieving this. Renewal has already been informed by

such as handrails, wheelchair access, and engaging with visually impaired users to help develop designs. The second most popular response was general support for improvements to the Foyers and Curve Gallery.	specialist support from Arup Inclusive Environments as well as engagement with disabled stakeholders and Centre users. An Access and Inclusion Advisory Group is being established currently (May 2025) to ensure that disabled people's views remain central to the development of the project
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Bars and catering:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Some responses expressed concern about the bars proposals, and requested more information to understand the rationale for the changes. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether there would be noise impacts on the Concert Hall from a bar closer to the Circle doors • Concern about the removal of the Level -1 Theatre bar and that drinks will not be available at that level • Concerns that the current Martini Bar might not be retained • Suggestions that existing food and drink establishments should be retained <p>There was also support expressed for both the bars proposals and catering improvements.</p>	<p>Renewal proposes to return the Level G 'Circle' bar to its original location towards the back of the Foyer. This space will be designed to ensure that noise from the bar is not audible in the Hall. This bar will also double as a café facility as it will have the same length of service area as the current Circle bar and the Foyer café combined. Level -1 will continue to be served by the largest main bar opposite the Hall stalls doors. This will be redesigned to give more space in the Foyer and to work better for bar staff. We propose to remove the Theatre bar at this level to aid visitor flow and allow for future essential accessibility upgrades to the Theatre back-of-house. The Martini Bar is proposed to remain in its current position on Level 1 with improvements to the bar itself and nearby seating. The café and restaurants on Level G, 1 and 2 are proposed to remain as catering outlets following a full refurbishment and refit.</p>

Sustainability:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Feedback was generally supportive of proposals to improve energy efficiency, with one comment that this might not be necessary. There were some concerns raised that upgrades to the facades might spoil the original design.</p>	<p>Our response to issues raised in relation to sustainability is in the overall Renewal section, above.</p> <p>The energy upgrades to the building façade mostly relates to the glazing system and will not affect the appearance of the concrete or tiling. These are of great heritage value and will be carefully preserved and restored.</p>

Box office:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Several comments expressed uncertainty around the removal of a physical Box Office and its impact on ticket sales and wayfinding.</p>	<p>Since the first consultation we have been working on a new welcome, information and box office facility for Level G. This will be located near the main lifts so that it is central</p>

	in the Foyers and visible from all main entrance routes. Images accompanying the second consultation show an indicative form, but do not represent a final design.
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Visitor experience:

Summary of feedback	Project response
A small number of responses raised concerns about the visitor experience created by the proposals for the Foyers and whether the spaces would be sufficiently hospitable and vibrant for people to want to use them outside of performance times. These raised issues such as the need for them to be attractive and comfortable with more seating and ensuring that concessions and facilities are open as much as possible.	Our overall response to issues raised in relation to visitor experience is in the overall Renewal section, above. It is our intention that the Foyers will be better set up to serve a wide range of uses for different times of day, audiences and needs. This includes zoning of different areas, much improved and more seating, bringing art and performance into the public areas more often and ensuring that the architecture is presented at its best.

Resident concerns:

Summary of feedback	Project response
Several comments queried whether proposals would impact residents, specifically focussing on noise escape, soundproofing and potential for light pollution.	These concerns have been noted and as summarised in the overall Renewal section, above, we will continue to work closely with residents' representative groups as plans develop. Our updated images available with the new consultation show how the lighting has been designed to sensitively downlight, picking out key routes and entrances, without causing light pollution.

Prayer room:

Summary of feedback	Project response
A very small number of people commented on proposals for the Prayer Room with an even mix of feedback in favour of this change and opposing it, on the grounds that the Centre is not a religious building.	We are working on becoming a more diverse and inclusive organisation where all audiences feel welcome. Our existing prayer and quiet room is on Level 2 in an area of the Centre that many visitors will not readily come across. We feel that providing these facilities within easy reach of the main Foyer at Level G will make for a more inclusive experience reflective of London's diversity.

Miscellaneous comments and suggestions:

Summary of feedback	Project response
Small numbers of other comments and suggestions were made for different aspects of the Foyers. These covered the following topics:	Our proposed changes to the Foyers will mean changing how some of our existing events and performances take place. With the current Fountain Room being converted into the new location for the shop, quiet and

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns about the future provision of performance and event spaces, including retaining spaces for different functions, with improved sectioning for commercial events in the Foyers Concerns that the proposals might create crowding around the Freestage or Concert Hall. Suggestions for improved facilities including more cloakrooms and water fountains Mixed opinions on the carpet, with some suggestions for alternative flooring and some wanting to keep or replace the carpet 	<p>prayer room and additional toilets, we are looking to create alternative spaces for private and public events, including upgrading the Stalls Lounge and bringing the current lower level of the shop back into use as an event space. Our plan for Foyers performance is that these will move to Level -1, with new dedicated facilities. The Free Stage at Level G is not proposed to be part of the Foyers in future. We will be carefully designing the new café/bar on Level G to ensure a good flow around the Hall doors. We do not propose to add additional cloakrooms, but will be upgrading those at Level -1 (which will be easier to access via the new Foyer lift) and Level 3. We do not currently have proposals for more water fountains but will consider this in detailed design.</p> <p>We are proposing to retain carpet as the flooring in the Foyers where it exists currently and will be replacing it with a new design.</p>
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Out of scope:

Summary of feedback	Project response
A number of responses made comments and suggestions for changes which are out of scope for Phase 1 of Barbican Renewal.	The response to these issues has been summarised in the section on Renewal overall, above.

Lakeside: consultation findings and updates

Consultation support for the Lakeside proposals was very strong, with 91% agreeing or strongly agreeing with what was presented.

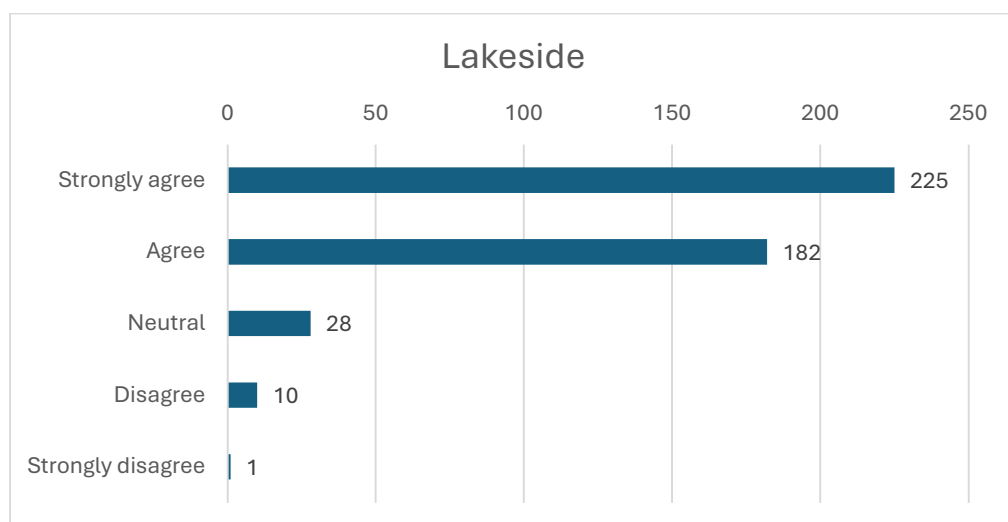


Figure 5: chart of responses to the Lakeside project

The written feedback also reflected this positive response, alongside issues raised across a wide range of topics. The following information summarises all feedback as well giving responses and updates from the project team.

General support:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>In line with the quantitative feedback, the most common response was general support for the Lakeside proposals, especially to preserve, repair and restore its original character and for access improvements. A small number of comments suggested that further or more ambitious improvements should be undertaken (these were not specified).</p> <p>One suggestion was made to additionally preserve and restore the original curved and domed glass feature stairwell.</p> <p>There were supportive comments in relation to improving access to the Lakeside including opening up the balconies. There was also support for the waterproofing plans along with a suggestion to harvest rainwater for other purposes.</p>	<p>The general support has been noted. The Lakeside is one of the most sensitive areas in terms of the architectural heritage and Grade II listing. Our approach is to restore it to its best condition, maintaining the original features as much as possible which making some sensitive changes such as the shading to reduce heat gain in the cafe and restaurants and installing doors that are closer to the original design. This includes restoration of the feature stairwell.</p> <p>We intend to have planting on the balconies in future and we do expect to be able to provide some level of public access to them, while being mindful of their proximity to neighbouring residences.</p>

Suggestions in relation to design and character:

Summary of feedback	Project response
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Some individual responses made suggestions in relation to design and character of the space. These covered removal of the white tiled facades on aesthetic grounds; suggestion of donating materials removed from the Lakeside for reuse in other projects; and criticism of recent additions to the area including pop-up catering outlets and furniture.	As noted above, the Lakeside is of great architectural value, including the vertical white tiles which will be fully restored in Renewal. We will seek to reuse materials as much as possible in the construction and will be implementing ambitious targets and making detailed plans for this with our sustainability consultants and design team. These will be further developed with our project management and construction suppliers as the projects advance. Pop-up catering is not within the scope of the Renewal programme and information on furniture is covered, below.
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Seating and furniture:

Summary of feedback	Project response
There was strong support expressed for seating and furniture improvements, especially where these will restore or enhance the original character of the Lakeside. Some respondents requested more information on seating improvements and proposed designs. Suggestions were made for seating improvements including more accessible and comfortable furniture, more shading and flexible seating areas.	As with the Foyers, the Renewal programme for Lakeside will include significant improvements to seating, with more places to sit and better and more flexible furniture for a range of needs and uses. The detailed design of this is for a later stage of the project, so no further details are available currently.

Design, artwork and activation summary:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Some comments made suggestions around additions to the Lakeside such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestions for public art on the Terrace • A concern was raised about the drawing of an art installation in the first consultation • Ensuring that additions are in keeping with the overall design • Suggestions to add temporary performance spaces and have more events • Suggestions to design more for families and children. 	<p>The Centre has a long history of presenting public artworks including in the outside spaces such as the Lakeside Terrace and Sculpture Court. The image in the first consultation was indicative of art being part of the Lakeside and should not be taken as representative of something that will be installed. As noted above, we are very aware of the architectural and heritage sensitivity of this space and will be making design decisions accordingly. We are not proposing to include performance spaces as part of Renewal but that does not preclude the Lakeside being used creatively in future subject to activities being appropriate for a residential area. The space is very popular with families and children and we are confident it will be even more so after Renewal, with the facilities and fountains looking and working at their best.</p>

Shading:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A variety of comments were made about the proposal to introduce shading outside the Level G café. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General support for the proposals • Suggestions for the shading being weather resistant (including rain) and to reduce the noise for residents living above the terrace • Concerns about whether the shading would block natural light into the café and whether it might block views and sightlines both from outside and inside • A concern that shading should not only be provided for paying customers of the café but for other Lakeside users also 	<p>Our design for the shading has developed since January and we are now proposing a lighter-touch awning design. This will be less intrusive while achieving the same aims of shading the seating area and reducing heat gain inside the building. Images of this new design are available as part of the public consultation from 19 May to 2 June at barbican.org.uk/renewal.</p>

Planting and wildlife:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Support was expressed for the proposed planting improvements including planting by the Lakeside and on the balconies. In addition, a number of comments called for more planting across the Lakeside and the balconies above it. This included suggestions to increase the number of plants and trees, denser planting to act as shade or windbreaks, planting to echo the Conservatory and planting that supports increased biodiversity. Some comments focussed on wildlife and improvements to the Lakeside that provide greater protection and support to ducks, moorhens and other birds, although a number of respondents wrote about pigeons contributing negatively to their experience of Lakeside.</p>	<p>The support and comments have been noted. Planting design for the external areas are being developed with the intention to increase the amount of planting at both lake and balcony level and for the design to be in keeping with the eco-Brutalism of the Conservatory. Planting will be designed to support biodiversity and the wildlife of the Estate.</p>

Doors:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>There was a small volume of mixed of feedback in relation to the proposal for the doors between Lakeside and the Foyers. Some respondents expressed support for the plans. Others had some concerns about having a single line of automatic doors and potential for noise to escape, impacting residents, and reduced thermal performance. A small number of people</p>	<p>Please see our response in the Foyers section, above.</p>

expressed support for the design of the existing doors.	
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Fountains:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A variety of suggestions were made for improving and upgrading the fountains, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for retaining seating around the fountains and sensitive restoration of the original design • Regular maintenance of the fountains to keep them in good working order • The need for the other lake water features to work reliably • One resident comment did not support the fountains due to the white noise they create and suggested replacing them with a different feature 	<p>Renewal will bring the fountains back to their best with a full restoration of the brickwork and the fountain mechanisms and pumps, which also control the other water features in the lake. The external design will stay the same, including the brickwork and seating areas. Lakeside lighting improvements will enhance these key features. Timings of the fountains are agreed with local stakeholders including the Barbican Association and the City of London School for Girls.</p>

Catering:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A number of responses focussed on the catering offer both on Lakeside and in the ground floor café (Barbican Kitchen). These covered the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestions for increasing the amount of outdoor catering on Lakeside • Improving the internal layout of the café • Reducing noise levels in the café • Improving the standard of food in the catering outlets in general • Support for improving the glazing of the catering spaces to better manage temperature and noise escaping 	<p>Renewal will include a full refurbishment of the café and restaurant spaces at all levels, with the initial scope of works to focus on building fabric and infrastructure improvements.</p> <p>We do not yet have designs for the interiors of the spaces as this will need to be undertaken with the companies who will run the future catering outlets. We expect that the upgrade will happen in 2027 with the facilities reopening in 2028. We are not proposing more outdoor catering as part of Renewal.</p>

Windowsills:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>The proposed lowering of the windowsills in the ground floor café to improve accessibility and open up the view across the Lake received several comments. Some of these were supportive, some queried the rationale for this change, some were concerned with the heritage impact on the façade, and some queried whether the outside seating might block the view.</p>	<p>The consultation in May/June 2025 includes images of the ground floor cafe with the windowsill lowered, which will open up the view across to the lake for people seated, including wheelchair users. We believe this is a very worthwhile change that can be made sensitively with minimal heritage impact on the façade. The design of outside seating is for a later stage, however we have noted the concern about this blocking the view and will take this into account.</p>

Impacts on residents:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A number of responses to the consultation were from residents and their representative groups and focused on the potential impact of the works and future operations on residential amenity and avoiding nuisance. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential construction impacts such as noise, dust and construction traffic • The closure of the terrace for works • Future operational impacts such as lighting and light pollution, noise and soundproofing and glazing of spaces to avoid sound leakage. 	<p>Please see the response to these concerns in the section on Renewal overall, above, including our commitment to work closely with local stakeholders and residents to mitigate these concerns.</p>

Lighting:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Comments in relation to lighting improvements included general support, concern about avoiding light pollution (and its impact both on local residents and on wildlife), that the lighting should be softer and that water features could be better lit.</p>	<p>Lakeside lighting will be sensitively designed, recreating or taking inspiration from original fittings while reducing light pollution and ensuring light is directed downwards. We will focus on lighting key routes and edges of the Barbican Centre building to help with visitor egress and highlighting the lake while leaving other areas in darkness. See accompanying images for details of the proposed design.</p>

Lakeside maintenance:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A number of comments were made in relation to the ongoing maintenance and management of the space. These included the need to clean and dredge the lake itself as well as plans to deal with litter and rubbish from visitors to Lakeside and avoid rubbish accumulating in the lake or planted areas.</p>	<p>A full-scale Renewal of the Lakeside will bring benefits in terms of maintenance in that infrastructure and systems will be replaced and upgraded (for example the drainage, electrics, lighting and pumps for the fountains) which will make them more reliable and better performing. Ongoing maintenance will be necessary to keep them in good condition. We will continue to manage litter and other ongoing problems on a day-to-day basis.</p>

Unsupportive comments:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A small number of comments were unsupportive in general, suggesting that the proposals are unnecessary, not a priority or fail to address the current or future visitor experience.</p>	<p>We have noted these objections however they should be seen in the context of very strong support for the proposals as well as the clear need to undertake essential works such as waterproofing and replacement of failed paving, glazing and drainage systems.</p>

Out of scope:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A number of responses referred to ideas which are out of the scope of the current phase of works or Renewal overall, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvements to Beech Street and the Silk Street entrance• Concerns about neighbouring developments• Creating a new step-free route to Lakeside that avoids Silk Street and the internal Foyer bridge• Refurbishment of Defoe Place• Suggestion of a north-south bridge across the lake at ground level• Signage across the Barbican Estate for wayfinding	<p>Responses in relation to these out of scope suggestions are covered under the Renewal section of the report, above.</p>

Conservatory: consultation findings and updates

Consultation support for the Conservatory proposals was very strong, with 89% agreeing or strongly agreeing with what was presented.

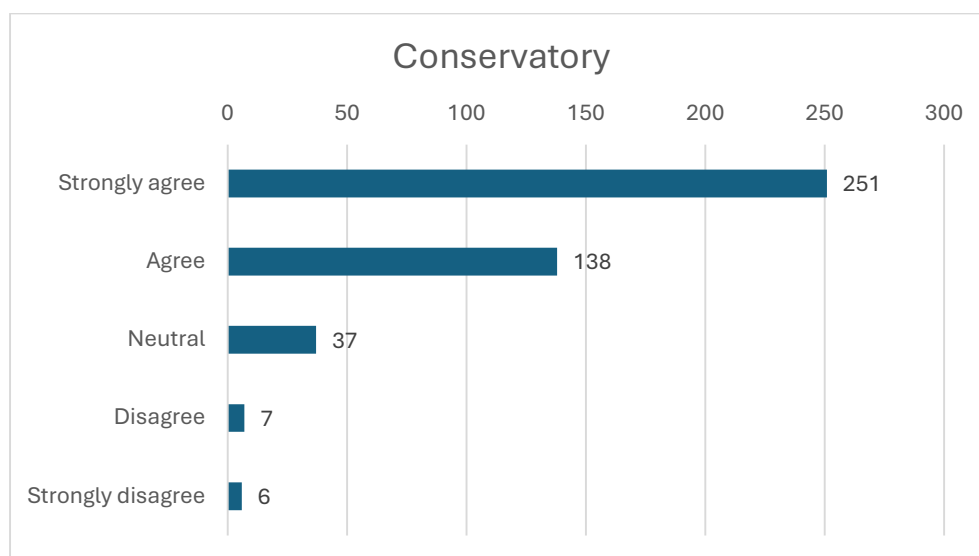


Figure 6: chart of responses to the Conservatory project

The written feedback also reflected this positive response, alongside issues raised across a variety of topics. The following information summarises all feedback as well giving responses and updates from the project team.

General support:

Summary of feedback	Project response
In line with the quantitative feedback the most common response showed general support for the Conservatory proposals.	The feedback is noted.

Public access:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>The second most common area of feedback was in relation to increased public access. Overall there was strong support for opening up the Conservatory to daily public access, which included some criticism of the current limited access. In addition, several specific comments, suggestions and concerns were raised, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents asked for more information on access to the balconies, detail on proposed opening times and proposals for event hire • There were suggestions for improvements to the booking system, charging an entrance fee, continuing to facilitate 	<p>There is a very compelling case for increasing public access to the Conservatory which is generally open to the public only one or two days each week. We intend to increase this to allow access to the main Conservatory on a close-to-daily basis, with private events still able to take place in the neighbouring Garden Room and the Conservatory Terrace, which will be newly glazed in as a separate space. Details of opening hours and booking system are not yet available; our proposal for this will form part of a draft Venue Management Plan in the forthcoming planning application.</p>

<p>hiring of event spaces and opening the outdoor balconies to the public</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small number of comments raised a concern that public access proposals would detract from the original character and visitor experience of the Conservatory 	<p>The plans for a new stair and lift adjoining the fly tower will enable public access to the balconies at different levels.</p> <p>We do not envisage charging entry for the Conservatory, with the intention to open it as a free space in the heart of the City.</p>
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Preserve, repair and restore design and character:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A number of comments expressed support specifically for improvements that preserve, repair and restore the original character of the Conservatory, focussing on its architectural importance and Brutalist design.</p> <p>There were a small number of suggestions in relation to this including the need to improve ongoing maintenance and to reuse existing materials wherever possible.</p> <p>A small number of individual comments made suggestions in relation to the design of the Conservatory including creating internal views of the plant room, creating focal point features amongst the planting and increasing the size of the structure.</p>	<p>The Conservatory is unique and of very high heritage value, particularly in respect of the bespoke steel structure and the style of the paths and planter beds. These features will be carefully preserved and reflected in the new design, while making changes that open up the space to all. Throughout Renewal we intend to reuse materials as much as possible, for example reusing some of the glass panels to create a new glass house for propagation in the external 'triangle' space.</p> <p>We are implementing ambitious targets and making detailed plans for material reuse this with our sustainability consultants and design team. These will be further developed with our project management and construction suppliers as the projects advance.</p> <p>In general we will not be able to enlarge the structure, although we are proposing a small adjustment to the façade on the Silk Street side to enable a new circular route around the fly tower.</p>

Accessibility:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>There were numerous comments in general support of accessibility improvements to the Conservatory. Some specific suggestions were also made including using automatic doors, facilitating wheelchair and buggy access, removing trip hazards and having step-free and wider paths.</p> <p>Some respondents wanted to know that access improvements would be achievable while retaining existing features such as spiral staircases, small spaces, walkways and winding paths.</p> <p>A very small number of comments were sceptical about access improvements including whether they are necessary and</p>	<p>Accessibility is at the heart of the Conservatory proposals with plans to ensure the space is 100% accessible for people who need to avoid steps and stairs, up from 30% currently. The space will be designed with more generous paths to enable people to get around while respecting the heritage of a more formal layout on the west side and more informal and flowing design on the east side. Images accompanying the May/June 2025 consultation are available at barbican.org.uk/renewal, including a view of the new lift and stair to enable access to the fly tower balconies.</p>

whether the lift design would detract from the space.	
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Planting:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>A number of comments expressed support for the planting proposals, including improved planting conditions and planters, the eco-Brutalist design principles and the new back-of-house area for the gardening team.</p> <p>There were also some suggestions made including introducing seasonal planting, retaining the Arid House, facilitating plant sales and urban farming and introducing more interpretation and information about the plant collection.</p> <p>A small number of responses raised concerns about the loss of existing plants when the Conservatory is upgraded.</p>	<p>The accompanying images help to visualise what the new planting design will look like within five years of opening, with different zones for temperate subtropical, temperate dry and arid planting. We propose to retain the Arid House as a propagation space for arid plants which will then be moved into the main Conservatory. It will also be used as a learning space on occasion. The existing plants have undergone an extensive audit to understand species and condition. Between 1/3 and 1/2 of the plants are in poor condition with pests and disease and cannot be re-used. A sustainable strategy for the current plant collection is being developed, considering which plants might be suitable for reuse, rehoming, or propagation.</p>

Impacts on residents:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>Local residents and stakeholders raised some concerns in relation to noise and disturbance during the construction period and in the future operation of the site. This included concerns about the plan to increase visitor numbers and private events, potential for noise from the new Sculpture Court entrance, the impact of the smoking area in the Sculpture Court.</p>	<p>Visitor numbers are expected to increase with the new Conservatory reopened to the public daily. We are preparing a Venue Management Plan for the space to make sure it is effectively managed. We will consult on this plan as the project develops in advance of the renewed Conservatory opening in 2030.</p> <p>The event spaces will continue to be used as they are now to host private events, with design improvements significantly reducing noise spill outside due to the new glazed containment. Lighting is being designed to improve performance and minimise pollution, lighting the interiors sensitively without disturbing neighbours.</p>

New water feature:

Summary of feedback	Project response
<p>There was interest in the location and design of the proposed new water feature which is being moved into the heart of the Conservatory and away from the north corner where the main pond is currently. Some respondents also expressed interest in the</p>	<p>The accompanying images show the proposed location and design of the new water feature in more detail. It is designed as a reflecting pool with seating around, encouraging people to dwell in this space. The new location will be much more suited</p>

future of the fish which live in this pond, and the terrapins in a separate smaller pond.	for growing aquatic plants. The Conservatory is not suitable for keeping fish and reptiles and these will be rehomed during Renewal.
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Visitor experience:

Summary of feedback	Project response
Some suggestions were made in relation to the future visitor experience, including education sessions, artwork and performances, information boards, gardening and plant care advice and ensuring that the space remains tranquil with potential for different sessions for people who want to experience it in different ways.	The future activation of the spaces is very much informing the architectural design. This will include programming of education, art and performance that respond to the Conservatory's unique environment. We are looking into how best to interpret the space and planting for visitors and decisions on this will be taken at a later stage. We envisage the Conservatory as a space for different uses at different times, including quiet contemplation, exploration, gatherings and events.

Opposition:

Summary of feedback	Project response
A very small number of comments were in general opposition to the proposals on the basis that they are unnecessary, that other areas should be prioritised for Renewal or that the use of Conservatory should change altogether (including a suggestion for it to become a visual arts venue).	These comments should be seen in the context of the high level of overall support for the proposals. The case for Renewal of the Conservatory is clear on several grounds, including the failing glazing, water leakage into the theatre block below, the very limited accessibility and public access. More details on the case for Renewal are available as part of the January/February 2025 consultation materials at barbican.org.uk/renewal .

Next steps

In the period since the consultation closed the Renewal project and design teams have been continuing to work on plans, which are informed by the consultation feedback. In light of the very positive response to consultation and ongoing work with key stakeholders, we are proceeding with most of the designs as set out in the consultation, however there have been some design updates as summarised in the project responses, above.

Updated designs are being presented in a further round of consultation from 19 May to 2 June 2025. This presents progress made since the first consultation round as well new images to help visualise the proposals. The consultation material is available to view at barbican.org.uk/renewal.

This second consultation will be analysed ahead of submissions for planning and listed building consent, expected later in summer 2025. A further report of all consultation and engagement activity, the Statement of Community Involvement, will be published as part of the planning documents. The City of London will then run a statutory consultation on the applications for a period of three months before decisions are made.

Appendix: consultation publicity

The consultation was widely promoted to local residents, stakeholders and Centre audiences.

Digital channels included emails to key contacts, e-newsletters from the Barbican Centre to its audience mailing lists and e-newsletters from the City of London and Culture Mile BID to their contacts.

Offline promotion included a letter-drop to over 7,000 residents and businesses around the Barbican Centre, including the Barbican Estate, Golden Lane, Little Britain and communities in south Islington. Examples of publicity are included below.

Barbican Estate residents

Barbican Estate bulletin, printed letters

To inform residents of the consultation, content was included in the Barbican Estate's weekly bulletin each week, from Friday 24 January to Friday 14 February.



Figure 7: example Barbican Estate Bulletin email

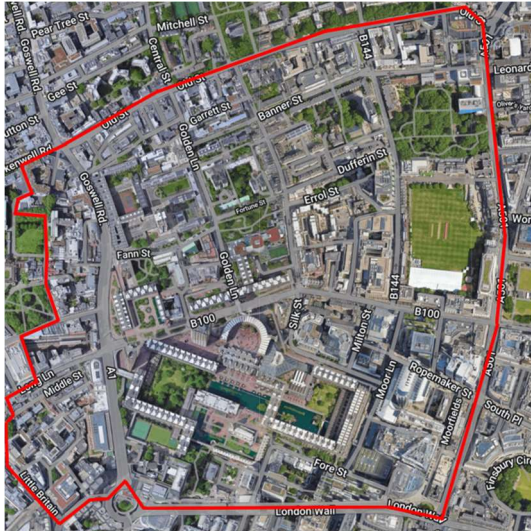


Figure 8: red line shows the distribution area of the letter drop

Residents also received a printed letter, hand-delivered by the Barbican Estate Office. This featured the webinar informing the public of the consultation proposals (which took place on Thursday 30 January), as well as highlighting an in-person event dedicated to Estate residents (Thursday 6 February).

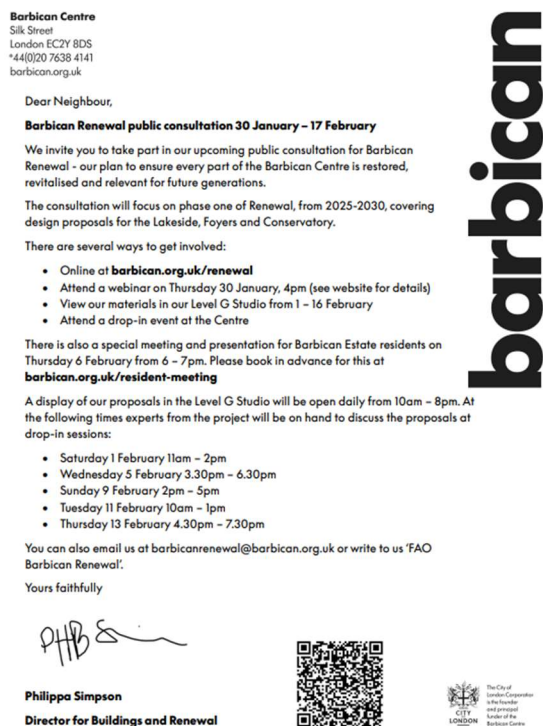


Figure 9: example of printed letter to residents

Wider local audience – communities

Golden Lane bulletin, City of London consultation webpage, leaflets, posters

Activities to reach a wider local audience included the consultation appearing as a section on the City of London Corporation's consultation website throughout the period.

Additionally, shortform content was included in the Golden Lane Estate’s monthly newsletter.

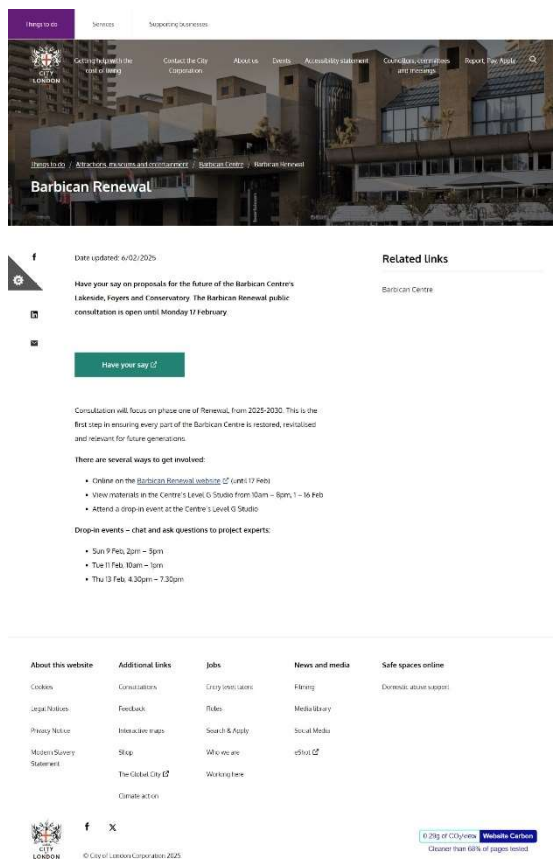


Figure 10: the consultation on the City of London website

Around 9,000 leaflets were distributed to local organisations by Culture Calling. These included community spaces in Farringdon and the City, as well as community centres in Shoreditch and Hoxton. 50 posters were placed in shopfronts and windows of local businesses in the City and Farringdon.



Figure 11: examples of the poster and leaflets



Figure 12: publicity distributed in local shops, cafes and restaurants

General audience – Centre audiences and wider public

Newsletters, emails

To target the Centre's national audience, the consultation was advertised on the Barbican Centre's LinkedIn platform.

Several newsletters were sent to different segmented audiences. A solus (dedicated) newsletter was distributed to on Tuesday 31 January. Separately, shortform content was included in both the Barbican's cross-arts weekly Thursday newsletter, as well as the Members' Wednesday newsletter.

Barbican Centre
86,085 followers
1mo • Edited •

🚀 Barbican Renewal: Shaping the Future of a Global Icon 🌱

Big news from the Barbican. Today, we launch our public consultation and unveil ambitious design proposals to transform the Foyers, Lakeside, and Conservatory - breathing new life into this world-famous multi arts centre ✨

🏗️ Led by architects [Allies and Morrison](#) and [Asif Khan Ltd.](#), and engineers [Buro Happold](#), the Renewal will celebrate the Barbican's bold architectural legacy while making it more inclusive and sustainable. Landscape designers [Harris Bugg Studio](#) are reimagining the Conservatory planting.

Key highlights:

- ♦ Foyers: Restoring iconic Brutalist design, improving accessibility & creating flexible, creative spaces.
- ♦ Lakeside: Upgrading fountains for passive cooling, enhancing biodiversity & reviving this unique public space.
- ♦ Conservatory: A fully accessible, lush urban oasis, open to more visitors year-round.


As we embark on this exciting journey to ensure every part of the Barbican Centre is restored, revitalised and relevant for future generations, we want to hear from you! Public consultation is now open—share your thoughts and help shape the future of the Barbican. 💡

📅 Visit the in-person exhibition from 1 Feb or view plans online until 17 Feb: <https://lnkd.in/eWDhRkaB>

To find out more sign up to our webinar at 4pm today
👉 <https://lnkd.in/ekN6nhZN>

Supported by a £191 million commitment from [City of London Corporation](#), which represents 80% of what's needed for phase one, this is just the beginning—construction is set for 2027, with this phase complete in time for the Barbican's 50th anniversary in 2032. 🏗️


#BarbicanRenewal #Barbican #DesignForTheFuture #LondonCulture #Architecture #Plants #Sustainability #Brutalism #ArtsandCulture



763 20 comments · 47 reposts

barbican
Read, Watch, Listen The Guide Shop Your Account


Dear Itasca, step into a world of powerful women protagonists that dismantles misconceptions of Balinese culture in this new exhibition 🌺



Citra Sasmita, *Air One* (detail) 2024, from *Into Eternal Land*, The Curve, Barbican, 2023. © Citra Sasmita

Citra Sasmita: Into Eternal Land
30 Jan–21 Apr, The Curve
Via painting, installation, embroidery and scent, take a sensory journey exploring ancestral memory, ritual and migration.
Opening this Thursday for free in The Curve.
[Peak behind the scenes](#)


We want to hear from you 🗣️



Barbican Renewal: public consultation
Share your thoughts on plans for the future of the Barbican Centre's Lakeside, Foyers and Conservatory.
The consultation is open 30 Jan–17 Feb.
[Have your say](#)

barbican
New on sale Read, Watch, Listen What's On Shop Membership

Dear Glenn, have your say on proposals for the future of the Barbican Centre's Lakeside, Foyers and Conservatory 🗣️



Barbican Renewal: Public consultation
We invite you to take part in a consultation on plans for the future of the Lakeside, Foyers and Conservatory.
Barbican Renewal will ensure every part of the Barbican Centre is restored, revitalised and relevant for future generations.
The consultation is open now until Mon 17 Feb.
[Have your say](#)

Spring at the Barbican Concrete Garden
Chiming with this time of year, our programming celebrates growth, renewal, and transformation.
[Explore our events](#)

To ensure the future of the programming you love and keep the Barbican a creative home for all, please consider supporting us. See how you can [get involved](#). [Donate](#)

Figure 13: Top right: Shortform content for Members, bottom right: Longform email content left: LinkedIn post



Barbican Renewal Public Consultation

📅 Thursday 30th January - Monday 17th February

We are writing on behalf of the Barbican Centre to let you know that the first public consultation on Phase 1 of Barbican Renewal has opened today and runs until Monday the 17th of February.

We encourage all Culture Mile members to participate in the consultation on the future of this landmark cultural asset in our district.

Renewal is the plan to ensure every part of the Barbican Centre is restored, revitalised and relevant for future generations. Phase 1, from 2025-2030, focuses on the Lakeside, Foyers and Conservatory.

You can also contact the Renewal team directly [here](#).

[Find Out More](#)

Figure 14: email sent by Culture Mile BID to local business stakeholders